

Office of Facts and Figures

Box 161

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

*File SF O.F.F. Folder  
Personal  
Confidential 12-41*

To: Captain Robert E. Kintner  
From: Robert W. Horton  
Subject: SS Pink Star

Date: September 29, 1941

The <sup>M</sup>SS Pink Star<sup>\*</sup>, which was not a big cargo vessel, carried to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean when sunk off Greenland September 19 enough cheddar cheese to feed more than 3,500,000 manual laborers one week under current British rations. This cheese represented one year's milk production for more than 2,000 cows.

She carried in powdered skim milk the equivalent of more than 432,000 liquid quarts. The evaporated milk in her cargo represented a year's production for approximately 300 cows, and it was the equivalent of more than 1,250,000 quarts of fresh milk.

She carried sufficient concentrated orange juice to supply the Vitamin C requirements of 90,900 individuals for a period of 12 days.

She carried pork products which represented approximately 8,000 hogs and lard which represented the by-product production from some 87,000 hogs on hoof.

The corn she carried represented the production from more than 600 acres; the tractors in her cargo could have plowed 715 acres a day; the mechanical potato diggers could have handled 250 acres a day.

Included in the military supplies aboard were sufficient metallic links to belt enough 30 caliber machine guns to arm ten squadrons of fighter planes for combat patrol.

To replace the machine tools which were carried to the bottom would require the labor of 300 workers for four months, and the particular tools lost when she went down were primarily for use in the manufacture of aircraft engines.

The above represents important items in the Pink Star's cargo, valued at more than \$2,000,000, but not the entire cargo which included large quantities of metal shapes, building materials and miscellaneous items.

An important point to be considered in connection with these sinkings is the necessity of reordering the supplies lost. The over-all load and backlog of American production thus finds an increasing burden with every ship that goes down carrying food and materiel.

OEM-32

*\*450 gross tons  
6650 baryt.*

b

THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

Washington, D. C.

PSF: 56 242

~~Macmillan~~  
1-47

*file personal*

*Facts & Figures*

January 26, 1942

Dear Grace:

A small matter which maybe you <sup>will</sup> want to know about. I gathered from Lillian Hellman that some members of the cast of "The Watch on the Rhine" wondered why Mr. Shumlin was not at the President's table and that there was apparently some hunching that it may have been because of an item in Winchel's column sometime ago charging that he was associated with The American Peace Mobilization which picketed the White House. I have told Lillian to do her best to stop the talk from spreading and I am sure she will - for Shumlin's sake as well as for other reasons. Incidentally, Lillian tells me that the Walter Winchel story has no basis in fact at all and that Shumlin had no relation to The Peace Mobilization people.

I can't imagine that anything will come of this because it would sound pretty silly, even in a newspaper column, to complain about the place where a man sat at supper. But actors are funny people and I thought maybe you had better know that there were a couple of whispers around.

It was simply lovely seeing you last night - as always.

Yours,

*Luvi*

Miss Grace Tully  
Secretary to the President  
The White House

b

OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES

WASHINGTON

PSF.  
Office  
of F. & F.

THE DIRECTOR

*File  
Confidential*

February 3, 1942

Dear Grace:

You remember that the President expressed some interest in one of our earlier intelligence reports on domestic morale. I wonder if he would like to receive our regular weekly reports prepared for the Committee on War Information. Here is the current issue. If you would like to have future issues, they would go down automatically, but I don't want to burden you.

Faithfully yours,

*Amis*

Archibald MacLeish

Enclosure

Miss Grace Tully  
Secretary to the President  
The White House

*Grace:  
I want all of  
these from the beginning  
F&F*

OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES

WASHINGTON

February 10, 1942.

Raw File  
5-42

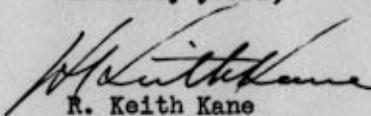
*file*

PSF  
Office  
of F&F.

My dear Miss Tully,

Mr. MacLeish asked me to send to you copies of the first nine Surveys of Intelligence Materials prepared for the Director of the Office of Facts and Figures and Committee on War Information. You will find the copies enclosed herewith.

Sincerely yours,



R. Keith Kane  
Assistant Director  
In Charge, Bureau of  
Intelligence

Miss Grace Tully,  
Secretary,  
President of the United States,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
**OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE  
OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES

December 15, 1941

To: R. Keith Kane

From: Alan Barth

INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 1

GOVERNMENT

The chief governmental statements of the week came directly from the White House. In a broadcast to the nation, President Roosevelt declared that this "will not only be a long war, it will be a hard war — The true goal we seek is far above and beyond the ugly field of battle ... We are going to win the war and we are going to win the peace that follows."

The President laid down certain general principles governing the official release of news about the war: "This Government will put its trust in the stamina of the people and will give the facts to the public as soon as two conditions have been fulfilled: first, that the information has been definitely and officially confirmed; and, second, that the release at the time it is received will not prove valuable to the enemy, directly or indirectly."

The White House issued a statement that "the Lend-Lease program is and will continue in full operation." The SPAB declared that "... from this moment we are engaged in a Victory Program" and OPM Director Knudsen announced a 168-hour production week.

Attorney General Biddle issued a statement urging the observance of civil liberties respecting aliens and announced the apprehension of 2303 enemy aliens suspected of subversive activities. Surveillance of aliens, he said, should be left wholly in the hands of the Department of Justice.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT...

- 2 -

President Roosevelt asked leaders of industry and labor to reach "a unanimous agreement to prevent the interruption of production by labor disputes during the period of the war."

THE AMERICAN PRESS

The dominant editorial theme is national unity. Newspapers reflect a general joining of hands in a common purpose. They report numerous instances of support from elements formerly opposed to the Administration.

Despite the large measure of unity, the press reveals certain fissures which persist among the American public. There is almost unanimous endorsement of forceful action against Japan; but the minority groups which opposed the Administration prior to the attack on Hawaii give evidence that they will continue to resist the larger purposes of the Administration in the prosecution of the war as a whole. If isolationism, as the commentators insist, is dead, a parochial spirit still exists.

The nature of the Japanese onslaught evoked an intense sense of outrage in the American press. Here and there, anger was expressed in terms of contempt for the Japanese on racial grounds.

The shock and awareness of loss occasioned by the attack gave rise to the expression of certain resentments in the press:

1. There was guarded criticism of the military and naval command in the Pacific.
2. Editorial writers exhibited some degree of skepticism in their acceptance of the President's principles on the release of information. There appears to be a strong editorial feeling that the Government failed to give a full picture of events in the Pacific.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
**OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT...

- 3 -

DOMESTIC RADIO

The President's message to Congress requesting a declaration of war on Japan received the largest daytime audience ever recorded for a radio broadcast in the United States. His address to the nation Tuesday evening commanded the largest American audience ever to hear a single speaker at any time.

In its editorial content, the American radio, like the press, stressed the theme of national unity.

Radio handling of news about the fighting was necessarily somewhat confused. The confusion may have been compounded by a readiness to dramatize events and to seize upon news stories before they could be reliably confirmed.

American broadcasters, like American press associations, made liberal use of Axis news sources. Although these sources were always identified, the use of them conveyed to the public an Axis version of combat results; their distortions served, perhaps, to cast doubt on the adequacy and accuracy of official American information.

A number of complaints were heard from domestic broadcasters respecting the Government's handling of news. Here too there appears to be a rather widespread feeling that information as to our full losses in the Far East was withheld.

In scattered instances, radio broadcasts tended to inflame feeling against aliens, counteracting the effects of the Attorney General's request for tolerance and justice.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT...

- 4 -

FOREIGN RADIO

German, Italian and Japanese short-wave broadcasts joined in an effort to portray a chaotically disunited American. The people of the United States, they blare, are full of resentment against the President because he led them into war against their will. London, Washington and Ottawa, according to a broadcast from Berlin, are quarreling over the far eastern command. Secretary Knox is to be impeached, military and naval officers are to be court-martialed, because of the disaster at Hawaii. Panic prevails in American coastal cities over air raid dangers.

The three main Axis radios combine, also, in charging that President Roosevelt is exclusively responsible for conflict in the Pacific. The highest level of vituperation in attacking the President was achieved, perhaps, by the Italians who accused him of employing the language of "a drunken scoundrel." The message to the Mikado, just prior to the outbreak of hostilities, is called an "ultimatum" and described from Rome as "an act of lunacy."

Most Axis broadcasts to this country seem designed to spread defeatism. The United States has a shortage of fighter planes, its fleet is inadequate, Tokyo declaims; an air attack on Tokyo is impossible. Germany stresses Japanese claims of a crushing victory over the American Navy and insists that Axis supremacy on the seas is now firmly established. Most significantly of all, perhaps, the Berlin broadcasts declare that Lend-Lease aid to Britain must now be decreased.

To: R. Keith Kane

December 22, 1941 No. 2

From: Alan Barth

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

GOVERNMENT

The week's outstanding statement of governmental policy came directly from President Roosevelt. Speaking in commemoration of the Bill of Rights, he declared its preservation to be "The issue of our time, the issue of the war in which we are engaged..." His address concluded with the assertion: "No covenant with each other before all the world, that having taken up arms in the defense of liberty, we will not lay them down before liberty is once again secure in the world we live in."

Navy Secretary Knox, reporting on the Japanese thrust at Pearl Harbor, acknowledged that U. S. services had not been "on the alert". He summarized the losses sustained, stressed the heroism shown by officers and enlisted men. The President set up a special Board of Inquiry to investigate the attack.

War Secretary Stimson stated that, despite a temporary stoppage, "very substantial quantities of Lend-Lease material" would be released. The President disclosed in his quarterly Lend-Lease report that the total of such support advanced to November 30 was \$1,202,000,000. Aid increased each month from \$18,000,000 in March to \$283,000,000 in November.

The President informed a press conference that a partly voluntary, partly compulsory censorship over information which might be helpful to the enemy will be exercised under the direction of Byron Price.

OPM Production Director Harrison announced that American and British

airplane output will surpass that of Germany by the summer of 1942, that machine tool production for critical items will probably be doubled in 1942.

President Roosevelt told industry-labor conferees he expected them to help win the war "just as much as if you were in uniform" and asked them to reach a unanimous agreement banning work stoppages.

#### NEWS

Newspaper headlines and radio news broadcasts have taken a markedly encouraging turn since the dismay which they reflected immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Defense of the Philippines has taken precedence over all other news stories. Minor American triumphs there have been given far more prominence than the sensational Red Army advance on the long Russian front.

Both press and radio gave wide publicity to Secretary Knox's report on Pearl Harbor, to the appointment of an investigating board and to the replacement of military and naval commanders. News stories represented the losses as less than had been feared and placed their emphasis mainly on the heroism of American officers and enlisted men. Air raid threats to the American mainland are no longer so prominent a subject of newspaper and radio speculation.

Axis radio broadcasts and DNB despatches continue to be used as news sources. But official American releases are now employed more frequently and prominently than at the commencement of the war; greater reliance now seems to be placed on regular Army and Navy communique.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Secretary Knox's report was received with warm approval by columnists, radio commentators and editorial writers. They regarded it as a full and fair account of the war's first blow, praising the candid acknowledgment that the American forces had not been on the alert. The report seems to have been largely successful in restoring public confidence both in the Navy and in the Government's policy on war information.

The appointment of Byron Price as censor was received, in the main, with tentative approval, based on respect for his standing as a newspaperman.

There has been keen editorial interest in the attitude of the Soviet Union toward the Pacific war. Although a number of commentators feel aggrieved that the Russians have not declared war upon Japan, most comment shows an inclination toward tolerance and patience. The importance of Russia's struggle against Germany is generally appreciated; Ambassador Litvinoff's pledge that his country would make no separate peace with the Nazis was greeted with considerable relief.

Both press and radio have speculated on the desirability of an allied command. There is general agreement that collaboration, at least with the British, in the overall planning of strategy is essential. The prevailing view is that the command should be located in Washington and headed by Americans.

The President's Lend-Lease report was received with some disappointment but without serious criticism. The bulk of the press urges increased arms shipments to Russia, as well as to Britain. Few editorial voices of influence have yet been raised to suggest directly that our armaments be hoarded for purely defensive purposes at home; but there are signs, in

the demand of erstwhile isolationists for a vast army, that this may become a major issue.

The Bill of Rights celebration on December 15 appears to have evoked a heightened awareness of the larger issues and the global character of the war. Comments on the President's speech subordinated the early harrow sense of outrage against Japan and stressed the need for destroying totalitarianism as a whole.

Beneath the surface unity, certain developing fissures are reflected through press and radio. There is a growing intolerance toward aliens, manifested in occasional violations of civil rights. The gap between management and labor is emphasized by editorial comment on the current conference in Washington; the press demands the outlawing of strikes with no apparent awareness that employers, as well as employees, may be responsible for work stoppages. Anti-Administration elements are fearful that the war may mask a continued social revolution under the New Deal; there appears to be widespread alarm, not confined to opponents of the Administration, that the costs of the war will undermine and alter the existing social structure.

#### FOREIGN BROADCASTS TO THE UNITED STATES

Radio broadcasts from Axis stations unite in claiming that the Axis has now won complete naval supremacy. Boasts of great Japanese gains in land operations are also made by Berlin and Rome, as well as by Tokyo; Hong Kong has been pronounced doomed on the air waves all week; Wake and Guam, according to Berlin, have been occupied by Japan.

German broadcasters have sought to break allied morale by de-

claring that British naval authorities express delight over American naval losses, while Americans rejoice over injuries to the British fleet. Tokyo's propaganda line is that Chinese sentiment favors joint action with Japan to drive white men out of Asia. Berlin joined the Japanese in urging orientals in American and British far eastern territories to come over to the Axis.

The German radio has devoted much time to explaining the Russian gains on the eastern front. Early assertions that the Nazi retreat was merely strategic in order to make possible "position warfare" have been succeeded by admissions that the Red Army had been able to bring up superior numbers and equipment.

Perhaps the most significant phase of the Axis radio "line" is the continued insistence by all members that American Lend-Lease Aid has ceased. Rome distorted Secretary Stimson's Lend-Lease statement to say that shipments would now be suspended.

Axis broadcasts made much of the British-Dutch occupation of Timor, prophecying dire effects in Latin America.

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Since a large proportion of foreign language publications in this country are weeklies, it has been possible to make only a partial survey at this time of their reaction to American involvement in the war. It is plain from their comments prepared prior to the attack on Hawaii that they were wholly unprepared for this development. Many of those published in the languages of Axis countries accused the Administration of seeking to foment war in the Pacific.

It seems significant that a number of German and Italian language

newspapers in the United States adhere closely to the attitude voiced in Berlin and Rome broadcasts. They insist vehemently that Lend-Lease deliveries be stopped at once. The Free American, for example, expresses the editorial hope "that the previously existing dispersal and waste of our national strength will come to a swift end."

There is also an apparent effort on the part of German and Italian publications to confine America's war efforts to the Pacific. The conflict is represented as a racial one. Within this limited area, almost all of the Axis-language publications self-consciously pledge their fealty to the United States.

#### NEGRO PRESS

Newspapers published for Negro readers reveal an intense and widespread resentment against the treatment accorded Negroes in the defense activities of the United States. "The average of a mass Negro group is almost pro-Nazi" says a writer in the Call of Kansas City. This paper remarks editorially that the ease with which white defense workers by the thousands are led into protesting the employment of Negroes indicates how far short we are of democracy in America today.

Other Negro newspapers protest with equal vehemence against flagrant racial discrimination in the armed forces. There appears to be a strong sentiment among Negroes that democracy, as it is practiced in the United States, has no real meaning for them, that the liberties granted to them here are scarcely worth defending.

This summary has been prepared on the basis of material, digests and analyses furnished by The Office of Government Reports, The Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of the Federal Communications Commission, The Public Relations

Intelligence Report - 12/22/41 7.

No. 2

Bureau of the War Department and The Organizations and Propaganda Analysis Section of The Department of Justice.

CONFIDENTIAL

December 29, 1941

To: R. Keith Kane

From: Alan Barth

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS NO. 3

Domestic News and Editorial Opinion

Churchill

Press and radio combined to extract all possible drama from Prime Minister Churchill's visit. The news of his arrival, his appearance with the President at the White House Christmas tree ceremonies, his address to Congress were headlined and reported with immense enthusiasm. Newsmen were plainly captivated by the Prime Minister's personality.

Mr. Churchill's presence and actions here seem to have made real for the first time a sense of alliance between the United States and Britain. The need for overall planning of grand strategy is now generally recognized. While domestic commentators would prefer that the direction of affairs be concentrated in American hands, they appear ready to accept a division of authority with the British in separate theaters of the war.

More than anything else, Mr. Churchill's words have fostered an awareness that the war is on a planetary scale. Editorial writers and broadcasters are now expressing with what seems to be genuine conviction the concept that allied forces must be marshalled with the whole world conflict in view.

### Orient

The tenor of the news about Far Eastern fighting has swerved sharply during the week. Press and radio, after an initial wringing of hands, concentrated their attention on minor gains scored by the American forces until the fall of Hong Kong, the successful landings in Luzon and Japanese advances in Malaya suddenly knocked the props out from under the complacency which they had created. In reporting Far Eastern fighting, both news and editorial comment are still prone to place their emphasis on the heroism of Americans at Wake Island and in the Philippines. The emphasis cannot fail to evoke wonder as to why the forces there have not been relieved.

Commentators themselves, however, have avoided queries of this nature. They have reported the Philippines as no more than a subordinate position in the grand strategy of the war. Despite the fact that American soil is now under direct danger of conquest, they have studiously pointed to Singapore as the essential allied bastion in the Far Pacific. Some have explained the failure to aid the Philippines by pointing to the Navy's manifold obligations. Much still needs to be done, nevertheless, in acquainting the American public with the problems of Pacific operations.

### Russia

The news of continued Russian advances has been heralded in the newspapers and over the air with growing enthusiasm. Most commentators have accepted without discount the admissions of a set-back, broadcast by the Nazis themselves. A few have pointed out that German withdrawals in Russia may be merely the preamble to a new drive through Spain to North Africa and the Azores.

France

Editorial comment on the agreement with French authorities at Martinique was not altogether favorable. Some commentators pointed out that the French warships and airplanes there might usefully be employed by the United States. There appears to be a widespread disposition to consider the Vichy government as now definitely in the Axis camp and to distrust any agreement made with it. Consequently, there is a good deal of impatience in comments on the State Department's protest over the DeGaulle seizure of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

Labor

The no-strike agreement reached by the industry-labor conferees received general editorial applause. A large percentage of editorial comment, however, argued that this truce would be meaningless unless supplemented by a Government fiat that labor make no further efforts to advance the principle of the closed shop. Newspapers, in particular, openly reflect their anti-labor bias by urging that existing employer-employee relationships be immutably frozen for the duration.

AXIS PROPAGANDA

Short Wave Broadcasts to the U. S.

All Axis radio transmitters are tuned to a single dominant theme -- concentration of American attention on the Far East. German and Italian broadcasters have softened their attacks on this country, suggesting that they have no real quarrel with us and no intention of attacking us. "Europe has no interest, and also no time, for any

aggression in the two Americas," says Berlin.

At the same time, Berlin and Rome magnify Japanese gains in the Pacific, asserting that U. S. sea power has been destroyed, that our west coast is defenseless. They also echo Tokyo broadcasts which stress the racial nature of the war.

Tripartite broadcasters seek industriously to sow discord between Britain and the U. S. They offer various interpretations of Mr. Churchill's visit here: he came because Roosevelt commanded his presence; he came to make a desperate plea for greater aid -- at the expense of American defense; he came to repair the disaster in the Pacific by offering his advice. "The United States will lose the Philippines but gain Canada," prophecies Rome.

Berlin broadcasts are specially designed to weaken American morale and diminish the war effort. They depict boundless confusion in Washington, predict serious shortages in food, and strategic materials, such as rubber and tungsten, declare that Americans are fighting only for Bolshevism and Jewry, that already huge casualties have been sustained, that American fliers are cowardly and incompetent.

All Axis broadcasts pay comparatively slight attention to the progress of the war in Russia and Libya.

#### MAIL

##### Unsolicited Letters Addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury

An analysis prepared in the Treasury Department reveals a significant change in the tenor of mail coming in to the Secretary. The bulk of this mail, heretofore sharply critical, is now almost wholly concerned with offers of assistance and support.

A great many cash contributions have been coming in to the Treasury; many Defense Bonds and Stamps are sent in for cancellation. Numerous letters report increased bond and stamp sales.

The suggestion most frequently expressed in these letters is that the name of Defense Bonds be changed to Victory Bonds. Many writers urge "Remember Pearl Harbor" as a slogan to be used on stamps, buttons, windshield stickers, etc.

A high percentage of the letters convey a genuine and moving sense of patriotism and of eagerness to participate in the national effort.

#### OFFICIAL POLICY STATEMENTS

The White House declared that the "defeat of Hitlerism throughout the world is the "one primary objective" of the conferences with the British delegation headed by Prime Minister Churchill.

Mr. Churchill before the joint session of Congress said that "if we had kept together after the last war, if we had taken common steps necessary for our safety, this curse would not have been visited upon us a second time." He proposed "an adequate organization" to preserve peace after the present war. The Prime Minister observed that one reason for the difficulties faced by American forces in the Pacific was the extent of aid sent to Britain in North Africa and the Atlantic.

Vice President Wallace, writing in the Atlantic Monthly, said seven basis problems must be considered in establishing sound peacetime relationships: (1) access to raw materials and protection of raw material producers from violent income fluctuations; (2) markets for goods produced; (3) tariffs and other barriers to imports; (4) use

of gold; (5) credit as a stimulus to international trade; (6) close relationship between stable national currency and the exchange of goods and services; (7) the role of adequate purchasing power and full employment within countries trading with one another. He said Britain and the United States should prepare for peace now by making contracts with producers of raw materials for delivery of goods during the war and after at reasonable prices and by encouraging raw materials producing nations to accumulate purchasing power in gold for buying finished goods.

The Special House Committee investigating air transportation returned from a tour of the American Republics and told the House it had uncovered evidence of extensive Axis aviation, radio and espionage activities in some of the Latin American Republics.

The OEM Division of Information announced war efforts will necessitate rationing and pooling of electric power in the Southeast, Southwest, Pacific coast, and part of the Middle West during 1942 and 1943.

William H. Davis announced that the industry-labor conference called by the President agreed that: (1) There be no strikes or lockouts; (2) All disputes be settled by peaceful means; (3) The President set up a proper war labor board to handle these disputes.

Labor Secretary Perkins announced that during the past year hourly earnings of factory wage earners increased 14.7%; average hours rose 4.8%; average weekly earnings of both full and part-time earners rose 20.6%.

OCD said organization is under way for a nation-wide program of

youth participation in civilian defense work of local and state defense councils.

This survey covers material furnished by the Office of Government Reports, The Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of The Federal Communications Commission, The Public Relations Bureau of the War Department and The Treasury Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

January 5, 1942.

To: R. Keith Kane

From: Alan Barth

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIAL - No. 4

News

Press and radio gave primary attention during the week to the battle for and the fall of Manila. Other war developments -- the progress of fighting in Malaya, Russia and Libya -- were accorded only secondary prominence.

Continuing interest was shown in Prime Minister Churchill's activities, with special attention to his address in Canada, and in the Anglo-American conferences. The 26-nation declaration of alliance against the Axis was treated as of major consequence in newspapers and on radio broadcasts but was subordinated to the fall of Manila.

Economic measures adopted for the prosecution of the war were given great importance by news editors. Chief emphasis was placed on the President's press conference assertion that 50 per cent of the national income would be devoted to war production and on SPAB restrictions respecting the sale of tires and automobiles.

There was a notable lessening of news attention to air raid threats and precautions.

In reporting war developments, editors showed decreased reliance on Axis sources. These appear to be more carefully labeled than formerly and are more frequently checked by U. S. Army and Navy communiques.

Comment

Editorial comment on the fall of Manila has sought to present the event in proper perspective -- as merely an initial phase in a worldwide struggle against the entire Axis. There is some evidence of editorial readiness to sugarcoat the shock of this defeat by calling it inevitable. Great emphasis was placed on the President's pledge to redeem Philippine independence; all editorial opinion shows a high degree of long-range confidence.

Commentators have been making industrious efforts to restore public confidence in the armed forces of the U. S. They hailed the shake-up in the Far Eastern command as promising greater alertness and efficiency. Only warm praise is expressed for General MacArthur's discharge of his command. The manifold problems confronting the Navy are repeatedly presented by editorial commentators in explanation of the failure to relieve the Philippines or to carry the war to the Japanese.

Nevertheless a strong desire for offensive action is evident in editorial thinking. The bombing of Manila inflamed anger against Japan. Churchill's rhetorical query, "What kind of people do they think we are?" inspired numerous newspaper comments demanding aggressive prosecution of the war in general and punishment by bombing of the Japanese in particular. A tough attitude is manifested toward Vichy. While many commentators condoned the State Department's protest on the seizure of St. Pierre and Miquelon, they did so with evident reluctance and with a clear air of apology; the majority express opposition to further placation of Petain as futile and undemocratic.

Commentators expect air raids on American coasts and urge effective precautions. A majority, while crediting Mayor La Guardia with having performed a valuable pre-war service in awakening the American people, now demand a full-time Director of Civilian Defense; many suggest Army control.

Axis Radio Propaganda

There have been no essential changes in the major themes of short-wave broadcasts directed to the U. S. from Axis sources. An effort continues to focus American attention exclusively on the Pacific. All three members of the Axis present the Pacific war as racial in nature.

Rome and Berlin radios aim at accomplishing the former purpose by blaring exaggerated claims of Japanese victories. They pay relatively slight attention to the Russian and Libyan fronts, but insist that U. S. naval power has been destroyed, that the American west coast is defenseless. Berlin adds harrowing accounts of the privations to be endured by Americans as a result of the economic demands of warfare.

Tokyo efforts to unite Asiatic peoples in a struggle against the white race are abetted by German and Italian broadcasts. Berlin in particular, is eloquent in the defense of Japanese virtues, stressing the conflict as designed to gain oriental freedom.

Axis radios place a good deal of stress, also, on the menace of Communism. Anthony Eden's trip to Moscow is represented as an attempt to promote the Bolshevization of Europe.

Certain admissions of weakness on the shortwave broadcasts may be designed to foster complacency in the U. S. The Germans report domestic hardships and confess the spread of typhus among their forces on the Eastern front; at the same time their transmitters emit vague threats that new campaigns are now being prepared.

Radio attacks against the British have risen markedly in the past week, both in intensity and volume. Tokyo, however, treats the Australians with great softness, assuring them that Japan has no hostile intentions toward their country. All Axis transmitters seize every opportunity to sow discord among the allied nations.

#### Foreign Language Newspapers

The most flagrantly pro-Axis of the foreign language publications in the U. S. having been silenced, German and Italian newspapers now show substantial agreement with prevailing American attitudes toward the war. They are evidently being edited with extreme caution. Editorially, they offer frequent pledges of loyalty to this country.

Readers of these publications are advised to refrain from political comment; and, to a considerable degree, the editors themselves take the advice they offer. The problems of aliens and foreign-born Americans are a principal subject of interest and discussion. The foreign-language press as a whole acknowledges that the treatment they have received thus far compares favorably with the experience in the last war.

#### Negro Newspapers

There is a decided improvement in the morale of the Negro press.

While complaints of discrimination are still frequent and bitter, the trend seems to be to view the war as an opportunity for Negroes to become a welded, instead of a segregated, part of American society.

This survey covers material furnished by The Office of Government Reports, The Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of The Federal Communications Commission, The Public Relations Bureau of the War Department and The Organizations and Propaganda Analysis Section of the Department of Justice.

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES

WASHINGTON

January 10, 1942

To: The Director  
From: Bureau of Intelligence

SECRET OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS - No. 5

News

The President's message on the state of the union topped all events of the week in news interest. The press presented it variously as an announcement of an AEF, a blueprint for industry, a defiance of the Axis. Some papers chose to headline as news the chorus of approval which was the national response.

The budget message, naturally, received less prominence. But its dimensions were startling enough to occasion banner headlines, too.

In the sphere of war news, the Philippines held first place by a wide margin. The keenest subsidiary interest was shown in Malaya. Increased attention was paid to the continued Russian advances; British gains in Libya received only minor headlines.

Radio newscasters and newspaper editors paid extravagant attention to every minor American triumph in the Pacific. Communique announcing even trivial submarine or bomber successes were blown up into major victories.

On the production front, interest centered round restrictions on the sale of tires and automobiles and the difficulties involved in the conversion of the automobile industry.

Opinion

The President's Message

Editorial response to the President's message was almost wholly favorable and fervent. There was no balking at the production goals set forth. The statement of them in terms of specific quotas for planes, tanks, guns and ships met with warm approval everywhere. Commentators agreed that the job could be done -- although only at the cost of radical alterations in American living habits.

Only the Patterson papers were feazed by Mr. Roosevelt's intent to carry the war to the enemy. An overwhelming majority of the press accepted the prospect of an AEF as wise and necessary.

General approval was expressed also for the President's promise "To maintain the security of the peace."

Response to the address by business leaders took the form of acceptance of a challenge. Almost all of them answered readily and vigorously that the goals could and would be met.

Preliminary reports of interviewing conducted in the Chicago and San Francisco areas indicated a thoroughly favorable public reaction to the President. The magnitude of his program rather staggered the imagination of the average citizen. But the general feeling among those interviewed was one of confidence in Mr. Roosevelt's appraisal of needs. The typical response was, "If it's got to be done, it's got to be done."

Short wave broadcasts from Axis radio stations attacked President Roosevelt's address while avoiding any specific mention of the

armament goals which it outlined. The propaganda line was to emphasize the sacrifices the program entailed for Americans. Fred Kaltenbach, in a special commentary on the talk for North American listeners, claimed the Axis could outproduce the U. S. and that, anyhow, American material could not get across the Atlantic.

For home consumption, Berlin broadcasts quoted the President's assertion that "The world is too small to afford living room for both God and Hitler" and called Mr. Roosevelt "a self-styled agent of God."

#### Progress of Production

Editorial commentators have long been dissatisfied with the tempo of the production effort. Their chief complaint against the Administration of this score concerns the failure to appoint a single responsible Minister of Supply to coordinate all procurement activities. America needs a Beaverbrook is a common editorial cry.

Public opinion sampling reveals a similar discontent with the armament program. Nearly half of those interviewed felt that we are not producing enough war material for our own needs and those of our allies. A recent poll shows that 43 per cent of the people think the arms program is moving too slowly. Remedies commonly suggested are: longer hours, conversion of industry to war production, stopping strikes.

Editorials now echo the popular demand for conversion of industries. A good many commentators write critically of the failure of automobile manufacturers to adopt the Reuther plan. At the same time they show resentment at the CIO insistence upon a voice in directing the conversion.

Rationing

Editorial reaction to the tire and automobile restrictions showed an eager willingness to accept curtailments in civilian consumption. The press, as a whole, urges that rationing be tempered by wisdom but that it be speeded wherever necessary.

A recent public opinion poll discloses that 75 per cent of the people believe the Government should have the right to tell factory owners and business men what they can make and what prices they can charge. This attitude is complemented by a popular readiness to make the sacrifices in living standards involved. All indications point to the conclusion that people are willing to give up much more than they have yet been asked to sacrifice.

Lend-Lease

The press continues to urge that the United States fulfill its functions as the arsenal of Democracy. On the whole, commentators argue that the war can best be waged by sending American supplies to the present fighting fronts. Most of them view the war on a planetary scale. They have consistently presented Singapore, rather than the Philippines, as America's chief fortress in the Far Pacific.

Interviewing suggests that the public only partially shares in this attitude. Only one-fifth of a small sample poll felt that our shipment of supplies to Britain and Russia should now be increased. One-third of the total felt that our Lend-Lease deliveries should remain about the same, while another one-third believed that they should

be decreased. People generally appear to favor continued aid to our allies, but relatively few seem to think of such aid as a fully integral part of our own fighting. The same interview which showed one-third of the sample as disposed to diminish our shipments to Britain and Russia also showed a majority of 72.2% believing that the war against Germany can best be prosecuted by cooperation with the British and the Russians; only 21.8% of this small sample felt that it would be preferable to concentrate on building up our home defenses; 6% of the sample gave a no-opinion response.

The thought motivating those who favored decreased Lend-Lease shipment was that our needs have grown in relation to our production levels. Most of them favored sending "what we can spare."

Axis radio broadcasts continue to highlight the theme that America is concerned solely with the Pacific and that the disasters suffered by our forces there require the concentration of all our efforts and resources against the Japanese.

#### Allied Command

The press was all but unanimous in its approval of General Wavell's appointment to supreme authority in the Far East. The naming of General Brett and Admiral Hart to limited commands under Wavell was taken as sensible and satisfactory. Editorial commentators urge and expect the creation of a supreme war council and assume that it will be located in and directed from Washington.

Preliminary results of interviews on an extremely small scale suggest that there is also general public acceptance of the Wavell appointment; 68% of those questioned approved; 22% disapproved; 10% gave a "don't know" answer.

#### Length of the War

Interviewing indicates that confidence in American victory is virtually unanimous. There is, however, a growing expectation of a long tough war, although relatively few of those questioned seemed genuinely aware of what this might mean in terms of personal hardships.

Of those asked to estimate the probable duration of the war by far the largest group guessed at a period of 13 months to 3 years. Another large segment expect the war to last even longer than 3 years. Newspaper editorials have done much to encourage this expectation.

#### Confidence in Information

Interviewing discloses an extremely interesting reaction to war news. Discussions concerned with the reliability of available information suggest that there is a widespread disbelief in reports about the war unless they are sponsored by some Government agency. One-half of a small sample believed that it would be desirable to have official Government spokesmen write the war news for the papers and broadcast it over the radio; only 41% of the sample desired to let newspaper reporters and radio commentators handle it as they are doing now.

There appears to be considerable popular feeling that news about the progress of the war is being withheld to some extent; but this withholding is generally accepted as wise and necessary to avoid giving aid and comfort to the enemy. An overwhelming majority of the public seems to be willing, at present, to accept the present quantity of war information being released. The handling of the news about Pearl Harbor was considered satisfactory by 4/5 of the people interviewed.

This survey covers material furnished by The Office of Government Reports, The Public Relations Bureau of The War Department, Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of The Federal Communications Commission, The Program Survey Section of The Department of Agriculture, The Office of Public Opinion Research, Princeton, N. J., The University of Denver National Opinion Research Center, special Defense unit of the Department of Justice.

CONFIDENTIAL

January 16, 1942

To: The Director, Office of Facts and Figures

From: Bureau of Intelligence

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS No. 6

Treatment of News by Press and Radio

Domestic news, directly related to the war, rivaled reports from the actual battlefronts during the past week.

Both press and radio gave major importance to the appointment of Donald Nelson as Chairman of the new War Production Board. In newspaper headlines the post was commonly characterized as "Production Czar". The naming of the War Labor Board was also given great importance. The price control issue was handled by editors and newscasters as one of high significance, involving a major internal rift in the Government. Senator Truman's report on the Government's procurement activities was presented as disclosing a shocking scandal. The Landis appointment to Civilian Defense occasioned keen interest.

The reports on Far Eastern fighting were divided rather evenly between heartening accounts of General MacArthur's continued resistance and gloomy admissions of Japanese gains in the Netherlands Indies and Malaya. Rumors of reinforcements for the Philippines were prominently reported. Headline writers and radio broadcasters continued to magnify minor American successes. The sinking of a Japanese liner, for example, was presented as a significant victory.

The chief war story of the week was the Navy Department's announcement that U-boats were operating off the New York coast.

Increased attention to Moscow communiques highlighted further Russian advances on the Eastern front. German losses of men and materiel were featured. The battle in Libya, however, has lately been relegated to a subordinate position.

Considerable interest was displayed during the latter part of the week in the opening of the inter-American conference in Rio De Janeiro. Argentine intransigence was the chief subject of news stories.

#### Editorial Opinion

Editorial pages are currently warning readers to beware of headline writers. Commentators express considerable suspicion about the reliability of news concerning Russian gains and weakened German morale. The warning issued in statements by Secretary Knox, Donald Nelson and Senator Connally received considerable applause. Nevertheless, some editorial writers encouraged the public to be extremely optimistic. Their own optimism was reflected in numerous editorials posing the projected armaments of the United States as invincible.

The appointments of Donald Nelson and of the War Labor Board were received with the warmest editorial approval. Indeed, these may be said to have come just in time to disarm growing editorial indignation over deficiencies in the production program.

Commentators have been expressing growing anger over alleged Governmental confusion in directing war production and also over the "business as usual" attitude of management. The press has shown particular impatience over the failure to build up adequate stock piles of strategic raw materials. A number of editorials severely criticize

Jesse Jones for his optimistic statement on the anticipated output of synthetic rubber.

There have been other symptoms, too, that the press is coming to grips with the war's realities and is impatient to see the country roll up its sleeves and get to work. All metropolitan newspapers vigorously support the President's opposition to granting Secretary Wickard control over farm prices. Stiffer rationing is widely advocated; there have been few complaints about restrictions on the sale of rubber and automobiles. Swifter conversion of industry to war uses is demanded. In general, newspaper commentators now seem convinced as to the urgency of an all-out production effort.

#### Labor Press

Analysis of the labor press suggests a real possibility that the cleavage between the CIO and AFL may be healing. Favorable news appears in CIO publications about the AFL and vice versa. One of the most bitter critics of the CIO, AFL columnist and press agent Philip Pearl, says: "We hail the spirit of unity that now unites the American labor movement and is growing stronger every day.... The signs are many that an informal, tacit armistice is in effect." In several states, all branches of labor united to form defense committees.

Labor newspapers are extremely vigorous in their criticism of "business as usual"; their particular complaint is the failure of industry to adopt the Reuther plan. But they are also caustic regarding the cupidity of businessmen as revealed in the concentration of

orders among a minority of big manufacturers. Considerable concern is expressed over defense unemployment; anti-labor activities by employers are charged by a number of newspapers.

All sections of the labor press are now heartily supporting the war effort. Most of them urge union members to give blood to the Red Cross, buy defense bonds, participate in civilian defense, enlist if possible. And some of them warn against regarding the Pacific as the major theater of American war interest.

#### Cost of Living

Preliminary results of interviewing reveal an interesting contrast between expectations as to the cost of living in rural and urban areas. Judging from replies made by a small sample, farmers are quite optimistic in regard to their financial prospects for the coming year. Nearly one-half of them expect to be better off than they are now; only 10% expect to be worse off. This optimism is generally based on an expectation of higher prices or continued good prices for farm products. Some concern was expressed over the cost of articles which the farmer must purchase.

Nearly one-half of the farmers interviewed believe the price of their major crop will increase during the next few months, while only 3% anticipate a price reduction.

City dwellers, on the other hand, show marked apprehension about price trends. Two-thirds of those interviewed assert that they already seriously feel the effects of price increases. Most of these find the major pressure in the cost of food. Rising food prices are widely expected to continue. There is a very strong feeling that the

Government should take action, through price control, to check increased costs; only one-sixth of those interviewed, however, complained that the Government is not now engaged in adequate preventive measures.

Of the urban sample, three-fourths expressed disapproval of stocking up on food and other goods. Unlike farmers, 45% of the city people questioned expect to be worse off next year than they are now; only 15% anticipate an improvement in their living conditions, while 23% reason that things will be much the same as they are at present.

#### Confidence In News

Final results of a poll concluded ten days ago on the subject of sentiment respecting the handling of the news about Pearl Harbor afford some interesting figures. Of the total sample 52.9% felt that it was probably best that the Government withheld news in order to avoid giving comfort to the enemy. An additional 27.8% declared that "we had no right at all to expect the story of our losses at Pearl Harbor any sooner than we got it." Only 6.7% regarded the withholding of news as unjustified; only 6.1% felt that the withholding, although justifiable, was unwise.

These figures should be considered in comparison with the responses to a query on the manner in which the Government ought to handle news of losses suffered by our armed forces. Of the same sample, 73.5% believed that news about such losses should be released as soon as it is confirmed, provided that the news is not of actual value to the enemy.

The superficial contradiction here seems to revolve around the definition of "aid and comfort to the enemy". Apparently, the public was, in large part, satisfied with the Government's judgment on this score, at least as far as Pearl Harbor was concerned.

It is possible that, as alleged eye-witness accounts of the Hawaiian disaster gain currency, confidence in the published news may be shattered or diminished. According to one astute and reliable observer in Chicago, there is now a tendency in some quarters in that locality to question the truth of what they are being told about the situation in the Pacific. It is said in sophisticated circles that stories are in circulation casting doubt on the accuracy or adequacy of the report about Pearl Harbor made by Secretary Knox. Some danger exists that the public may come to feel that information media are shielding the armed forces from justified criticism; it may be that repetition of the President's statement on Government information policy would be useful to reassure the public respecting the need for discretion in the release of news.

#### Axis Propaganda

Axis shortwave radios have joined in blasting at the Rio conference. Their line is that the Latin American countries ought to feel insulted because Sumner Welles, instead of Cordell Hull, is representing the United States. American imperialism is the chief theme of the Axis broadcasts.

German commentators have picked up and perverted American news stories concerning disorder and diminished morale in Germany. The

Nazi technique is to exaggerate the American claims and then to point sarcastically to evidence disproving their accuracy. One German broadcaster, for example, told his listeners that radio Schenectady had reported machine guns set up in Berlin to prevent a "coup d'etat" against the Hitler government. With great innocence, he declared that he had looked carefully for the weapons in the Wilhelmsplatz and had been unable to find them. Every false claim made by American and British shortwave stations is highlighted and refuted by the Nazi commentators.

This survey covers material furnished by The Office of Government Reports, The Public Relations Bureau of The War Department, The Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Services of The Federal Communications Commission and of The Coordinator of Information, the Special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice, the Program Survey Section of the Department of Agriculture, The Office of Public Opinion Research, Princeton, N. J., The University of Denver National Opinion Research Center.

Confidential

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS No. 7

January 24, 1942

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To: The Director, Office of Facts and Figures

From: Bureau of Intelligence

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

### Fighting Front

### Treatment by Press and Radio

Nazi submarine activities in the Atlantic	<u>reported with marked flare for the dramatic.</u> Both items played-up, shifting focus of attention on war news from land to sea.
American naval successes in the Pacific	
Fighting in Malay .....	<u>reports are gloomier than last week.</u> Repeated stand by British emphasized but stories give picture of consistent retreat.
General MacArthur's stand ..	<u>presented as heroic.</u> Individual acts of bravery featured but underlying tale is one of almost abandoned hope.
Russian advances .....	<u>receive growing emphasis.</u> The recapture of Muzhaisk is given special significance.
Fighting in Libya .....	<u>accorded comparative minor importance.</u>

### Domestic Front

Donald Nelson and the new War Production Board	<u>presented with obvious satisfaction.</u> Continues as principal item of interest on the domestic front - together with William Knudsen's appointment to a Lieutenant Generalcy and the shuffling of key production chiefs.
War appropriations .....	<u>headlined but not sensationally.</u> Magnitude of expenditures are taken, on the whole, as a matter of course.
The Vinson report .....	<u>handled with moderation.</u> Receives less attention than last week's disclosures by Senator Truman.

Projected shift to Daylight  
Saving time

occasions little stir.

Possible reunion of CIO and  
AFL

reported with sporadic interest.

Prime Minister Churchill's  
safe return to England

arouses much interest; is dramatized.  
Little concern is shown over debate he  
faces in the House of Commons on the conduct  
of the Far Eastern War.

Detention of U. Saw, former  
Premier of Burma

receives brief attention.

It is perhaps a significant commentary on the temper of public feeling that the biggest single news story of the week was the death of Carole Lombard. The press also found considerable space to recite the ceremonies attending the Army induction of Joe Louis. Items such as these relegated to virtual obscurity news which may prove of greater long-range interest, such as the Maritime Commission's report on the revision of its production schedule.

#### OPINION HIGHLIGHTS

##### East and West

American newspapers have found their attention drawn from the West to the East. Most of them retain their intellectual conviction that the war is indivisible. In general, they agree with Secretary Knox that the Pacific is no more than a secondary theater of the war. But their emotions are now mainly concerned with the Far Eastern conflict.

Such widely diverse publications as the Chicago Tribune, the Hearst newspapers and The Nation join in insisting that our first job is to smash the Japanese. The bulk of the press, while it does not go to this extreme, is fearful that if essential strongholds in the Orient are once lost to Japan they may never be regained.

The press takes a critical and pessimistic view of the Far Eastern fighting. British unpreparedness is frequently scored by American commentators; and there are numerous complaints that neither the Dutch nor the British have adequately scorched the earth which they were forced to surrender to the Japanese.

For General MacArthur and his troops there are frequent paeans of praise; but there is a growing tendency to blame unspecified authorities in Washington for their plight. Altogether, editorial opinion is in a state of considerable confusion and alarm about the Pacific.

This is a state of mind which the Axis radio stations are busily encouraging. To promote disunity among the ABCD powers, Tokyo broadcasts that Chinese troops were transferred to Burma in order to suppress independence riots there, that General Wavell has resigned his command due to the hopelessness of the Far Eastern military picture, that groups in the Australian labor party are ready to arrive at a compromise peace with the Japanese. The Germans make a contribution to this effort by interpreting Secretary Knox's speech as an American desertion of the Pacific; Great Britain, China and the Netherlands East Indies are reported shocked and demoralized.

Axis shortwave propaganda also continues to develop the now familiar theme of Asia for the Asiatics. The Japanese now have a new slogan --- "The Philippines for the Filipinos".

Russia and Germany

American commentators applaud the several official exhortations to discount good news from the Eastern front. Many of them tell their readers earnestly that it is fatuous to expect anything save a long and difficult war. But often these same commentators yield to the temptation to look hopefully on the news of Nazi losses and internal unrest.

There has been a gradual and significant change in the editorial attitude toward the Soviet Union. In the early stages of the Russo-German war, commentators made no favorable comment about the Red army without immediately professing their hatred of Communism. But nowadays there is unabashed admiration for the heroism and determination of the Russian soldiers. Fears are still expressed, not infrequently, that Stalin may not make an altogether sympathetic companion at the peace table. But the early fear and abhorrence of Russia have greatly diminished.

This editorial development finds some reflection in public opinion. Results of a Gallup poll not yet published show that 51% of the American people declare that, if they had to choose, they would rather live under the Russian form of government than under the German form of government; only 11% would prefer the German to the Russian. This represents a marked shift from the high percentage of no opinion responses made when the same question was asked some time ago.

This shift in sentiment may be considered heartening when viewed in the light of increased Axis efforts to popularize the crusade against

Communism. According to German broadcasters, Great Britain is now rapidly undergoing Bolshevization, while Italian radio points to similar tendencies in the United States.

#### Inter-American Conference in Rio De Janeiro

Axis shortwave radios made special efforts to disrupt Western hemisphere amity during the course of the Rio conference this week. "American imperialism" and "dollar diplomacy" were the chief themes of their broadcasts. As an illustration of American imperialist designs, Germany discussed last year's LIFE magazine article by Henry Luce, The American Century.

As a spur to the Latin American countries, Rome informed them by shortwave that the Pope desires them "not to declare war or sever their ties with Europe". The Communist theme was played up for this audience, too.

American editorial discussion of the Rio conference revolved principally around the Argentine position. Since this has been reported pro-Axis one day and anti-Axis the next, the editorial writers have generally found themselves puffing uncertainly a short distance behind the headlines.

#### Air and Sea Power

Japanese successes against British and American naval forces have pretty completely persuaded editorial writers that big warships are obsolete. Some of them recognize that the warship may still have great potency if given adequate aerial protection. But most comment tends to present aviation as the dominant feature in modern warfare.

Unpublished Gallup results indicate that the public is either signally responsive to or responsible for this editorial attitude. A popular preference for airplanes over battleships was expressed in a ratio of nine to one. In response to a question as to which arm of the fighting forces would be most important in winning the present war, air power received a six to one vote over sea power and a twelve to one vote over land power.

#### Domestic Affairs

The chief item of domestic editorial interest during the week has been the reorganization of the production program under Donald Nelson. The press is inclined to regard the appointment of Nelson as a feather in its cap. Consequently, it is now supporting him heartily. There was general delight over the delegation of power granted to him under the president's executive order and over his choice of key production executives.

Since the War Production Board remedies the chief complaint registered by the Truman report, editorial criticism which might otherwise have been directed against the Government in general is now leveled principally at the dollar-a-year men.

The censorship code promulgated by Byron Price was greeted with general, if tentative, approval. The rules are called reasonable and sensible. Apparently the editors are determined not to snap at Mr. Price until he attempts to put his regulations into force.

#### Labor Unity

Labor newspapers are beginning to shy away from the AFL-CIO "accouplement" which they recently encouraged. Some AFL papers are suspicious of John L. Lewis' proposed peace meeting. Philip Pearl, the AFL columnist who

not long ago spoke of a tacit agreement between the two branches of labor asks, "What new form of skullduggery is John L. Lewis up to now?"

The AFL position in regard to the conversion of industry is somewhat different from that of the CIO. The craft union denies any desire to invade the province of management in industry.

The general daily press reveals a great eagerness for labor peace on almost any terms. While almost all commentators distrust Lewis, they tend now to support his plan as a means of ending jurisdictional strife. The hope for labor unity is accompanied by a hope that the Government will be obliged to regulate a unified labor movement as a form of monopoly.

~~Confidential~~

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS No. 8

February 3, 1942

DECLASSIFIED

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To: The Director, Office of Facts and Figures

From: Bureau of Intelligence

February 2, 1942

SECRET

TO: The Director, Office of Facts and Figures

FROM: Bureau of Intelligence

Summary Report

The scarcity of conspicuous news and comment about Lend-Lease coincides with the apparent confusion of the public, which lacks information on what is needed under Lend-Lease and what can be spared.

Only 1/5 of a cross-section recently polled favored increased material aid to England and Russia. However, it appears that most people believe we should send "as much as we can spare" and a large majority favor cooperating with Britain and Russia wherever possible.

The Philippines, Macassar Straits, and Malaya, dominate the news. The surprise attack on the Marshall Islands was greeted with jubilation. Only secondary attention is given to the Russian advances and General Rommel's renewed vitality, but Press comment on the Red Army continues friendly. Films have shown the same attitude.

The Roberts' Report is praised in press and radio for candor; general complacency is blamed for the Pearl Harbor

disaster. Alleged withholding of a portion of the Pearl Harbor story has been generally accepted in the press as motivated by conditions of security.

Secretary Knox' restatement on the relation of the Pacific theatre to the Atlantic is generally approved. Nevertheless, anxiety in editorial comment grows as the Japs approach Singapore. A long and desperate struggle is foreseen if the stronghold is lost.

The resistance of MacArthur has stirred increasing praise in press, radio, and film.

Current comment on the engagement in Macassar Straits as well as on the landing of a contingent in Ulster generally reflects eagerness to meet the enemy on foreign fields wherever he can be struck effectively.

The relation of the far-flung military operations to our dependence on certain foreign raw material sources has not recently been stressed in editorials and news.

Approval of an all-out effort is almost everywhere in evidence. The daily press, labor publications and polls all show knowledge of the general need. But there is widespread uncertainty as to what is required of the average individual.

The labor press fears rising prices and shows some resentment over "business as usual" and "excessive profits". The general press is skeptical of the adequacy of the Price Control Bill just passed.

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Press and radio focused American attention mainly on the Far East during the past week. The pull of dramatic current events in the Pacific theater of war was supplemented by the week's outstanding item of news, the Roberts report. Only the landing of American troops in northern Ireland drew the anxious gaze of the American public from its absorption in the Pacific area.

### Fighting Fronts

### Treatment by Press and Radio

Battle of the Macassar Straits .	<u>dominated news pages and broadcasts throughout most of the week.</u> Was treated in both media with growing excitement as the first major victory over Japan.
General MacArthur's stand .	<u>news stories paid increased attention to the exploits of General MacArthur and his men.</u> Each Japanese attack repulsed was headlined, each individual act of heroism dramatized and the General himself all but apotheosized.
Fighting in Malay . . . . .	<u>atmosphere of deepening gloom and anxiety</u> characterized reports of continued Japanese gains near Singapore, together with landings in the Netherlands East Indies and New Britain. Australian appeals for assistance utilized to underscore the urgency of the Pacific situation.
Nazi submarine activities in the Atlantic .	<u>aroused continued excited interest.</u> Sinking of Lady Hawkins given greatest play. Tales of survivors featured.
Landing of American troops in northern Ireland.	<u>dramatically heralded by writers and newscasters.</u> In almost every case the contingent described as an AEF. The President's press conference statement that additional American troop movements overseas might be expected was also sensationally treated as forecasting six, eight or ten AEFs.

Russian advances .....	<u>accorded about the same prominence as during the preceding week.</u> Special emphasis on Red army gains in North.
Fighting in Libya .....	<u>aroused greater interest than preceding week</u> with emphasis on General Rommel's counterattack and the fall of Benghazi.
Inter-American conference at Rio De Janeiro	<u>conclusion of Rio conference featured</u> as a diplomatic triumph but reported as disappointing compromise. Trade agreement among Western Hemisphere nations received moderate, formal notice.
Vote of confidence secured by Prime Minister Churchill.	<u>taken as a matter of course.</u> Considerable interest was displayed, however, in his defense of far eastern policy and his pledge of increased American aid.
<u>Domestic Front</u>	
The Roberts report	<u>given sensational treatment in press and radio.</u> Many newspapers printed the report in full; the majority quoted extensively. Headlines stressed guilt of Kimmel and Short.
Knox speech .....	<u>highlighted as a restatement</u> of his views on relationship between the Atlantic and Pacific war theaters.
Activities of the War Production Board	<u>interest continued, though on a diminishing scale.</u> The chief item in this connection was Donald Nelson's defense of dollar-a-year men.
Price Control Bill .....	<u>made a bigger story than W.P.B.</u> Passage of the bill presented as triumph for the farm bloc with intimations that the President might veto.
Congressional appropriations	<u>were given considerable prominence,</u> especially those for Army and Navy planes.

## OPINION HIGHLIGHTS

Roberts Report

An overwhelming majority of the press regarded the Roberts report as a full, fair and clear appraisal of the Pearl Harbor tragedy. The chief division of opinion regarding it was between those newspapers which had consistently supported the administration's foreign policy and those consistently in opposition. The former, in general, expressed a belief that all Americans must share to some degree in the blame of the commanding officials singled out as guilty. The latter showed an inclination to place the blame on the President and his War and Navy secretaries. Curiously, newspapers such as the Chicago Tribune which repeatedly asserted that a Japanese attack was an impossibility, now charge that Administration complacency was responsible for the unreadiness at Hawaii.

The lesson most commonly drawn from the Roberts report is that unified command is essential. Commentators welcome the unification of command already effected in the New York area.

Almost all papers praise the candor of the Government in making the report public. It is noteworthy that the press commonly refers to Pearl Harbor as "the greatest disaster in American naval history", implying plainly that the losses suffered were greater than has yet been acknowledged. But along with the feeling that the Government has withheld a portion of the Pearl Harbor story, there is now a compensating feeling that the withholding was motivated genuinely by considerations of national security.

Axis propagandists, via their shortwave broadcasts, have sought to present Admiral Kimmel and General Short as scapegoats, cloaking President Roosevelt's responsibility for Pearl Harbor. Some broadcasters present the most ingenious interpretation of the Roberts report by declaring that the Japanese attack could not have been a treacherous surprise since Washington officials had given their Pacific commanders advance warnings to expect it.

#### Pacific Theater

Japanese advances, Australian demands for aid and the continued resistance of General MacArthur have drawn editorial attention almost wholly to the Far East. There is general agreement with Secretary Knox's restatement of his views about the relationship of the Pacific to the Atlantic theater of the war.

Almost all editorial comment now reveals an extremely high degree of anxiety over the failure to check Japanese gains. With essential outposts seriously threatened, it is felt that every effort must now be made to keep these from falling into enemy hands. There are signs that defeatism may set in, should the Japanese gain control of Singapore, Java or outposts threatening the security of Australia. Commentators warn that American supply lines depend on retention of these points. They foresee a long and extremely difficult struggle if they are once lost.

A sense of frustration has developed from the acknowledged inability to relieve General MacArthur. Employing the occasion of his birthday, commentators eulogized the resourcefulness, courage and steadfastness displayed by the General and his men. Newreels during the past week

played their part in glorifying the exploits of the American forces in the Philippines.

The battle of the Macassar Straits furnished the one bright patch in the news from the Pacific. While commentators counsel caution in assessing its significance, they agree hopefully that it demonstrated the effectiveness of cooperation by the United Nations and the weakness inherent in Japan's extended lines of communication. Editorial jubilation mounted with each succeeding day's report of American naval and air successes.

#### Vanguards

The bulk of the press showed no tendency to cavil at the dispatch of American forces to northern Ireland. Minority elements, of course, particularly Catholic and Irish journals, complained about aid to England and pressure on Eire. But the bulk of the press approved the step as another instance of allied unity and welcomed the President's press conference intimation that other American contingents would soon make themselves felt in several areas. The press as a whole shows an eagerness to meet the enemy on foreign fields wherever he can be struck effectively.

The reaction of Axis broadcasters to the landing of American troops was varied and imaginative. The contingent, they insisted, could be regarded as only a meaningless token force which America lacked the shipping to augment or supply. The landing was described as intended (a) to crush the Catholics in Ireland, (b) to take over the British Empire and (c) to bolster the tottering Churchill regime. It was also said to constitute an abandonment of the Philippines.

Russia

There is continued editorial optimism over the fighting on the Eastern front in Russia. Commentators still warn that the Nazi retreat may be only a strategic withdrawal; but they recite so many evidences of losses and suffering in the German ranks as to inculcate high hopes among their readers.

All media of communication reveals a much more friendly attitude toward the Soviet Union than existed before the Russian counter-offensive assumed formidable proportions. Newsreels during the week for example, contributed to Russo-American amity by showing pictures of Sikorsky and Stalin signing their agreement to fight side by side. Several film sequences were shown emphasizing Russian strength and resources, belittling the German blitzkrieg. Most newsreel producers gave considerable footage to the Red Square celebration of the Revolution's 24th anniversary.

Libya

The rejoicing over Libya has died away and given place to fresh alarm. The prevailing tendency is to discount General Rommel's Counter-offensive; nevertheless, there is a great deal of apprehension that British forces in North Africa have been weakened by the dispatch of equipment and troops to Singapore.

Price Control

The press was almost unanimous in characterizing the Price Control Law as inadequate. But despite its dissatisfaction, it showed signs of relief that some legislation to regulate the cost of living is at last on the statute books. Most comment reflects a kind of pious hope that somehow the President can make the patchwork Law operate effectively.

Labor newspapers displayed a heightened discontent over rising costs of living. They reflect an intense feeling that wages have not kept pace with profits and that labor has been called on to make greater sacrifices than businessmen or bankers.

#### Labor Attitudes Toward the War

The labor press, both CIO and AFL, show growing editorial awareness of labor's stake in the war. Editorials urge increased labor participation through the purchase of Defense Bonds and contributions to the Red Cross drive, British, Russian and Chinese relief, benefits for the men in service, blood banks and over-time work.

Virtually the entire labor press favors a seven-day production week. There seems to be unanimous sentiment that there must be no interruption of production for any reason. Numerous editorials insist that strikes, for any cause, must be abandoned for the duration.

At the same time labor editorials exhibit a resentment of "business as usual", profiteering and the failure to give labor a greater share in the determination of industrial and war policies.

#### Negro Attitudes Toward the War

A national cross-section interviewed on questions relating to civilian morale shows some interesting contrasts between the opinions expressed by Negroes and the opinions held by the group as a whole. In general, Negro attitudes correspond more closely to those held by White persons on the lowest economic level than to those of Whites of superior economic status and education.

In regard to the nature of the war, 53.6% of the Negroes expected it to be of long duration, as compared with a national percentage of 65.1

and 7% of the Negroes expect that the war will end in a draw as compared with a national percentage of 3.9.

A contradiction appears in the attitude of Negroes toward aiding our allies. On the one hand, 25.1% of the Negroes polled believed that Lend-Lease supplies to Britain and Russia should be increased, while only 20.7% of the national average held this view. But when asked to register a preference between cooperating with Britain and Russia or concentrating on home defenses, only 45% of the Negroes chose the former policy as compared with a national percentage of 84. The Negro preference for building home defenses was 41.5% as compared with 11% nationally; 13.5% of the Negroes gave a don't know response as compared with 5% nationally.

## C o n f i d e n t i a l

## SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS No. 9

February 9, 1942

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To: The Director, Office of Facts and Figures

From: Bureau of Intelligence

February 9, 1942.

~~SECRET~~

TO: The Director, Office of Facts and Figures

FROM: Bureau of Intelligence

Summary Report

There is growing editorial concern over the Japanese success in the Southwest Pacific and increasing attention to the threat to the Rangoon-Burma Road to China.

Though the loan to China received much favorable comment the news was not prominently reported.

Generally, isolated military successes and acts of heroism continued to be played up in the headlines in contrast to the more sober treatments by editorial writers and commentators.

Eagerness to take the offensive, especially in the Pacific area, is evidenced with increasing frequency in the press.

Activity in the Atlantic is comparatively neglected; indeed, a fairly influential faction of the press stresses the need for complete preoccupation with the Japanese.

~~SECRET~~

Summary Report

While the people seem to desire offensive action and all-out production and restrictions, the extent of the effort needed is little understood. Food shortages are widely anticipated. There has been no strong, widely disseminated authoritative policy statement on the need for civilian effort and sacrifice since the President's message to Congress January 6. Nor has the meaning of an all-out effort been brought home in other ways.

Hitler's speech of January 30 reverts to the thesis that the enemy is fighting the German people - not Hitler - not the Nazi party. Apparently he would have his people believe that they can expect no quarter from the United Nations even if the Germans changed their leaders.

There seems to be a great confusion throughout the country about the nature and magnitude of the alien problem. The data which the Government has on the subject have apparently not been sufficiently publicized and policies have not been clarified.

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Headlines in some newspapers showed a slightly improved tendency to treat the war news with realism. But the bulk of the press which is dependent for its circulation upon newsstand sales continued to put its stress upon good news rather than bad, reporting the war in terms of Allied resistance, rather than in terms of the steady Japanese advance. News interest centered heavily on the Far East. The battle of the Atlantic was relegated to comparative obscurity.

### Fighting Fronts

### Treatment by Press and Radio

Naval attack on Marshall and Gilbert Islands ...	<u>received extremely dramatic treatment</u> emphasis falling on seizure of initiative by U. S. fleet rather than on concrete gains secured. Most conspicuous news event of the week.
Pearl Harbor damage photos .	<u>prominently displayed in the press</u>
Siege of Singapore .....	<u>a prime focal point of continuing news interest.</u> General Wavell's message to defenders asserting that help would soon be at hand was played up.
Threat to Burma Road .....	<u>a close second in continuing news interest,</u> with attention to this front increasing daily. Featured were exploits of American fliers in the defense of Burma.

Fighting in Philippines .... presented with accent heavily on heroism and resourcefulness of MacArthur's men. A mistaken impression that reinforcements had reached MacArthur created a brief flurry of excitement. The General's birthday telegram to the President was hailed, almost unanimously, as an historic document, magnificently expressive of the courage and determination of Philippine defenders.

Battle of Macassar Straits . treated with continued though diminished interest. News stories gave little attention to the fact that a considerable portion of Japanese armada remained undestroyed or had effected landings.

Japanese attacks on Amboina and Socrebaaja; & American P-40 planes in Java ..... Great importance attached to attacks on these Dutch bases, and considerable interest shown in announcement of arrival of U.S. planes to aid in defense of Java.

Russian fighting ..... interest continued at about the same level as last week. Some notice given to stiffened Nazi resistance.

Libyan front ..... was accorded increased interest, but extent of British reverses not stressed or prominently reported.

Axis U-boat activities in the Atlantic ... held a subordinate place on the front pages. Sinkings not recounted with much awareness of their relation to the crucial Atlantic battle as a whole.

#### Non-fighting Fronts

Half billion loan to China . sudden interest displayed. Fresh attention drawn to China as a strategic factor in the war.

Proposed changes in Selective Service Law .. aroused considerable attention. Interest focused on proposed induction of married men and care for their dependents.

Dean Landis' reorganization of Civilian Defense .. occasioned unfavorable comment. During latter part of week the appointments of Melvyn Douglas and Mayris Cheney, together with congressional discussion respecting them, brought forth a barrage of major stories, most of them hostile.

Egyptian cabinet shake-up)  
Chilian election ) .. aroused mild interest.  
Elevation of Quisling to )  
Premiership of Norway)

Award by Congress of pensions to its members .. aroused a good deal of attention. The Bundles for Congress movement widely highlighted and reported with manifest glee.

#### OPINION HIGHLIGHTS

##### Attack in the Pacific

The naval attack on the Gilbert and Marshall Islands was received by every segment of the American press with relief and rejoicing. Commentators had felt deep anxiety concerning the Pacific fleet; almost all of them had refrained from asking the question uppermost in their minds -- where is the Navy? This Pacific action answered the question for them and was generally hailed as proof that the fleet still possesses striking power.

Commentators assess the raid on the Japanese islands with some caution. They recognize that the action was not conclusive. But their delight at American seizure of the initiative was so great as to override any considerations as to the practical results of the venture.

Axis shortwave broadcasts sought to belittle the attack. Tokyo radio presented it as a defeat for the American raiders, citing the loss of eleven of our planes and admitting only minor damage to the Japanese. Berlin echoed this appraisal. On the whole, Axis broadcasters have paid little attention to the engagement.

There is a prevailing desire in the press for offensive warfare. It appears to be motivated, not merely by an eagerness for revenge against the Japanese, but also by a recognition that only offensive strategy can bring the war to a successful conclusion.

This editorial disposition to assume the offensive is paralleled by an offensive psychology among the general public. No doubt the callousing of sensibilities wrought by two and one-half years of war in Europe has prepared Americans for a more ruthless attitude than they would ordinarily assume. In response to a question as to how the war against Japan should be conducted, 29.6 per cent of a sample said that we should attack "only their navy and other military objectives", while 58.9 per cent favored fighting "an all out war, including bombing of Japanese cities". Composing this major group were 49.5 per cent of the total who declared that they would be in favor of bombing Japanese cities, even though this meant that our own cities would be bombed in return; 6.5 per cent who favored bombing Japanese cities -- provided

we could escape retaliatory action of the same sort; 2.9 per cent who would also like to bomb Japanese cities, but weren't sure how they would be affected by reprisals. This poll was taken just after Christmas and is to be supplemented by a repetition of the same question. The preliminary results, however, seem to indicate a general recognition on the part of the American public that the best defense is to attack.

#### Defense in the Pacific

All editorial commentators disclose a high degree of alarm over continued Japanese advances on the several Far Eastern fronts. The seizure of Singapore, the threat to the Burma Road and the investment of certain portions of the Netherlands East Indies and of Australian territory have roused them to an urgent concern for allied fortunes. Newspapers which endorse, in general, the thesis that the war is indivisible today point to the Orient as its most urgent theater.

That segment of the press which has consistently opposed the foreign policy of the Government now opposes the Government's war policy. The newspapers comprising this opposition minority are few in number, yet considerable in circulation and influence. Chief among them are the Peterson controlled New York Daily News and Washington Times Herald, The Chicago Tribune owned by Col. McCormack and the fourteen papers which make up the Hearst chain. Some scattered satellites contribute to the neo-isolationist chorus.

In general, the line taken by these newspapers is that Japan constitutes the only real menace to the United States and that consequently all American strength should be concentrated in the Pacific. The antique

thesis that Lend-Lease aid to Britain and Russia constitutes a weakening of American strength is now refurbished in terms of war strategy.

One point on which all segments of the press appear to agree is that aid to China is desirable. The projected half billion dollar loan to support the Chinese currency was loudly applauded by almost all commentators. It served, apparently, to focus editorial attention on the strategic importance of China to the war as a whole. The Chinese coast, numerous commentators now point out, provides the best potential base for future offensive action, particularly for bombing raids, against Japan itself. For this reason, it is considered imperative to keep the Burma Road supply line from falling into Japanese hands.

#### Libya

The press has given the casual reader little awareness of the reverses suffered by the British in North Africa. In editorials, as well as in news pages, the shifting battle for Libya is presented as of minor consequence. Apparently it is not believed that Egypt or the Suez Canal is threatened by the current German drive; but there is real disappointment over the British failure to destroy the Axis armies under General Rommel.

#### Aftermath of the Roberts Report

Although a few opposition newspapers seek to make capital of the Roberts report and demand further investigation as to the ultimate responsibility for the "dereliction of duty" on the part of the Pacific commanders, the bulk of the press seems to regard the matter as a closed issue. Occasional editorials insist that General Short

and Admiral Kimmel be court-martialed; some of them are motivated by a belief that this procedure would embarrass the Administration. Other editorials argue that the failure of these officers to demand court-martial reflects a consciousness of guilt on their part. The prevailing feeling seems to be that the whole nation shares in some measure the responsibility for the disaster and that the best that can now be done is to profit from the lessons learned from it.

#### Hitler's Speech

The full text of Adolph Hitler's speech of January 30 to his party members at the Sportspalast in Berlin, as received by the Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of the Federal Communications Commission, has been analyzed and compared with earlier Hitler speeches, and particularly with the speech given on the same occasion in 1941. One significant feature, not generally noted in the press, was the considerable attention given by Hitler to the thesis that the United Nations are fighting, not Hitler, not the National Socialist Party, but the German people themselves. This theme has not appeared in any of Hitler's other speeches for a number of years, although it has appeared with some frequency in Goebbels's speeches over the last few weeks. Apparently Hitler wishes to convince the German people that they are now inexorably involved in the guilt of the Nazi party and can expect no quarter from the enemy if they should change their form of Government.

#### Aliens

Public sampling discloses a high degree of general ignorance and

confusion respecting the nature and the magnitude of the alien problem in the United States.

To begin with, there is a marked tendency to over-estimate the number of aliens in this country. In answer to the question "Would you say\*there are many aliens around here who are not loyal to the United States," 25 per cent of the sample gave no opinion, the balance being evenly divided between yes and no. The belief that there are disloyal aliens in the vicinity is highest on the West Coast and in the Middle Atlantic States, lowest in the South. Curiously, distrust of aliens is generally greatest in the higher education and economic levels. Germans are the chief object of suspicion. Thirty per cent of the total sample expressed suspicion of German aliens in their neighborhood as compared with 10 per cent who were suspicious of Italians and 9 per cent who were suspicious of Japanese. As is to be expected, distrust varies in accordance with the concentration of aliens. Suspicion of Italians is strongest in the Middle Atlantic and New England States; suspicion of Germans reaches a peak in the East and North Central area; suspicion of the Japanese is highest on the West Coast.

The degree of misunderstanding of the alien problem is perhaps best illustrated by the fact that about one-third of the sample, when asked how enemy aliens ought to be treated, answered "deport them". Another one-third favored interning them, and the balance suggested keeping them under observation; 11.5 per cent felt that the panacea was to make them become citizens.

There has been extensive press comment on the subject, particularly regarding the Japanese. Editorials, in general, urge readers

to allow the Federal authorities to handle the situation.

#### Civilian Defense

There has been a sudden renewal of press hostility toward the Office of Civilian Defense. The appointments of Helvyn Douglas and Mayris Cheney furnished the occasion for a barrage of criticism and ridicule, both in feature articles and in editorials. All of the morale aspects of defense now appear to be under fire. A few shots have been aimed at the Office of Facts and Figures; more can be expected to follow.

#### Opinion on the War Effort

The latest Gallup poll sheds some light on the views of the American people as to the magnitude of the war effort required of them. In response to the question, "Do you think the United States is doing all it can toward winning the war?" 78 per cent of the sample answered "yes", 17 per cent answered "no", 5 per cent indicated no opinion. This attitude may reveal a degree of complacency but it is more likely that it is due to failure to comprehend the size of the job confronting us.

#### Food Shortages

Some trial questions asked by Dr. Gallup indicate a widespread expectation of food shortages during 1942. Of the sample polled, 71 per cent believe that there will be a shortage of sugar this year; 29 per cent hold a contrary view. Fifty-two per cent anticipate a shortage of canned goods; 69 per cent a shortage of some kinds of clothing.

If the public responses to interviewers can be trusted on such

e subject, hoarding has been engaged in by only a very small minority of the people. Only 10 per cent acknowledged that they had stocked up on sugar, 7 per cent that they had laid in supplies of canned goods.

File and Forget

Another Gallup trial question, not likely to make its appearance in the public prints, sheds some light on the degree of public satisfaction about the present administration's conduct of the war program. Dr. Gallup asked, "If Republicans had more power in the Government do you think war production would go ahead faster, or not as fast?" The results were as follows:

Faster	10%
Would not make any difference	50%
Not as fast	20%
No opinion	20%

This survey covers materials furnished by The Office of Government Reports, The Public Relations Bureau of The War Department, special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice, Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of The Federal Communications Commission, Labor Division of W.P.B. and a number of other agencies public and private.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
**OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

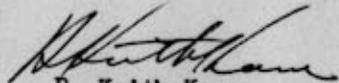
*PSF  
Office  
of F & F*

February 18, 1942

My dear Miss Tully:

Mr. MacLeish has asked me to send to you a copy of the latest Survey of Intelligence Materials prepared for the Director of the Office of Facts and Figures and the Committee on War Information. You will find a copy enclosed herewith.

Sincerely yours,



R. Keith Kane  
Assistant Director  
In Charge, Bureau of  
Intelligence

Miss Grace Tully,  
Secretary  
President of the United States,  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

~~SECRET~~

February 16, 1942

DECLASSIFIED

SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS No. 10

Office of Facts and Figures

Bureau of Intelligence

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### SUMMARY REPORT

The seige and the fall of Singapore have produced many references in the 'press to a long war. Admissions that the war can be lost have also made their appearance virtually for the first time.

News and editorial attention are now focussed on Burma, India, Australia, New Zealand and the Dutch East Indies.

Generally, the Phillipine campaign is being described in terms of heroism and MacArthur's qualities of leadership -- with eventual loss of Bataan taken for granted.

The battle of the Atlantic has continued in a secondary position in news and comment except for the Channel battle with German werships.

There has been less attention to the Russian front and Libya and little notice was given to Franco's statement that Spanish troops would help defend Germany against Russia.'

\*\*\*\*

The public seems fully aware that rationing of rubber and other commodities lies ahead but unfortunately minor attention was given to the joint statement by Messrs. Jones and Nelson.

Summary report

-2-

\*\*\*\*

Editorial pages have been blaming Government information policies for the alleged complacency of the public.

Nevertheless, while the public seems fully aware that some news is withheld, the need for reticence is recognized by most. There also seems to be full public realization that the war will probably be long.

Perhaps the most serious need of public information is as to the nature of the effort required -- the magnitude of the task -- the extent to which men and women are going to be needed in the all-out effort.

The urgent need for work and sacrifice has not yet been brought home. Information is lacking on precisely how all the people must and can participate. It seems that less than 25% of the people feel that their jobs are directly connected with the war effort and that nearly 40% feel that their present work is little connected or not connected at all. Many need to be shown why their work is now really contributing directly to the war program.

February 16, 1942

## THE FIGHTING FRONT

### Singapore

Singapore remained the focal point of news interest throughout the week. Japanese landings on the island were reported with growing alarm and consternation; by the end of the week, news stories reflected complete loss of hope for the British fortress.

The realization that Singapore may soon fall has been a profound shock to editorial minds. It has wrested from them a host of excited admissions that the war can be lost.

The potential effects of the Japanese victory are recited in the press with frightened speculation. While confidence in our ultimate victory remains high, a long and far more costly effort than originally anticipated is now considered inevitable before the United Nations can regain the valuable ground they have lately lost.

Axis shortwave broadcasts seek to play upon this editorial dismay. Those from Tokyo have for some time been representing the defense of Singapore as hopeless, citing British and American newspaper reports as acknowledgments of the impossibility of holding out. They refer to the siege of Singapore as "the greatest battle of the century" and predict that India, Australia and New Zealand will necessarily be withdrawn from the British Empire.

### Philippines

Accounts of General MacArthur's resistance on the Bataan Peninsula

continue to speak in glowing terms of the heroism of his forces; but they hold out little hope that he can overcome the superior numbers confronting him. The fighting in this sector, which rivaled Singapore for attention early in the week, later became subordinate.

Some newspapers have demanded the recall of General MacArthur from his post in the Philippines to be placed in supreme command of the United States Army. With the adoption of this theme by Wendell Willkie in his recent speech, it may grow in attention in the days ahead.

Japanese radio broadcasts have adopted a tone of great sympathy for General MacArthur. They keep asking solicitously why the President of the United States does not send the General the assistance which he so badly needs; the dispatch of a contingent of American forces to Ireland is cited as a wanton disregard for the difficulties faced by our troops in Bataan. "In the name of fair play and chivalry," one Japanese broadcast declared, "the Japanese nation demands that the United States give General MacArthur the reinforcements he needs, so he will be able to wage a war that would be to his satisfaction, win or lose." Berlin broadcasts echo this tactic of paying tribute to MacArthur and his troops in an effort to embarrass the United States Government.

#### Burma

Fighting along the Salween River was regarded as second only to the siege of Singapore in importance. With increased Japanese activity there toward the end of the week, Burma came into the headlines prominently.

Navy

Moderate interest was displayed in reports that a chain of bases had been established to New Zealand by the United States Navy. Comments suggested that this accomplishment gave further proof that the Navy still has power. Appointment of Admiral Helfrich to succeed Admiral Hart in the southwest Pacific command received general applause, along with tributes to Hart's distinguished service.

Atlantic

Interest in the Battle of the Atlantic gave way to the concentration of attention on the Pacific.

Channel

Late in the week the escape of three German warships from Brest was reported by both press and radio with the utmost drama. The escape was held to represent a serious threat to the United States-British life line. News stories reflected strong criticism of the RAF and dwelt heavily on the anger and consternation of the British public.

Russia

Throughout the week most newspapers gave the Russian front a single column on their front pages, but interest in the news from this area has plainly diminished.

Libya

The Libyan front was relegated to inside pages and treated as of minor consequence.

#### THE NON-FIGHTING FRONTS

##### Complacency

Editorial pages are full of accusations that the American public is complacent. And a number of newspapers now charge that the administration has contributed to this alleged complacency by withholding bad news -- although the accent on success permeating most news pages derives unmistakably from their own sugar-coating of Army and Navy communique. A further complaint now commonly voiced in the press is that the President has failed to make use of the newspapers as a means of explaining to the American public the nature and the magnitude of the difficulties confronting them.

It is clear from a recent sampling of public opinion that a large part of the American public believes that news is being withheld from it. Preliminary results of interviewing conducted during the week of January 28 to February 4 show that 57.8 per cent of those questioned believe that some important portion of the story about Pearl Harbor is still being held back, while 59.5 per cent feel that important news from the Philippines remains undisclosed.

On the other hand, as indicated through repetition of an earlier poll question, an overwhelming majority of this sample continues to believe that the withholding of information is wholly justified. In assessing the handling of news about Pearl Harbor, 50.4 per cent said "It would be nice to know immediately what happened, but it is probably best that the news was held back to keep from helping the enemy" and an additional

25.3 per cent said "We had no right at all to expect the story of our losses at Pearl Harbor any sooner than we got it -- in most countries we wouldn't get the real news at all."

Interviewing also makes dubious the charge of popular complacency. There is still a majority belief that the war will be of long duration -- 43.4 per cent of those asked to estimate how long it will last placed their guesses between 13 months and 3 years. Another 23.3 per cent figured its duration would be more than 3 years, while only 14.2 per cent felt that the war will be ended in less than a year. Nineteen and one-tenth per cent frankly answered that they didn't know.

#### Information

There are signs of some minor irritation over the operation of the newspaper and radio codes of self-censorship. About one-half of the comments on the subject show approval of the Government's information policies, although there is, as usual, a tendency to criticize the size and cost of operating the numerous governmental information agencies. The designation of the Office of Facts and Figures to the assignment of clearing speeches by Government officials received moderate endorsement, along with some measure of caustic comment and skepticism.

#### Rationing and Prices

Preliminary results of interviewing afford some indications of public opinion in regard to price control and rationing. A sample of 600 housewives was questioned -- 200 wives of white collar workers, 200 wives of manual laborers and 200 farm wives. They were almost unanimous

(94 per cent) in saying that prices have gone up. Three-fifths of them assert that prices have gone up considerably. This feeling, while strong in all three groups, was strongest in the manual labor group. (see Appendix 1.)

In a larger sample of the general public, 91.1 per cent said that prices had increased, 8.3 per cent said they had remained at about the same level, while only .6 per cent said they had gone down. Of those who believed that prices had increased, 62 per cent felt that they had gone up "quite a bit".

Among the housewives, 69 per cent of them expect prices to go up further during the next year; precisely the same percentage of the general public anticipates rising prices in the near future.

#### Rubber

Interviewing shows decided majority acceptance of the need for rationing of automobile tires. Of a sample interviewed, 76 per cent declared that rationing of automobile tires by the Government is necessary, 11 per cent held it to be unnecessary, with the balance giving a "don't know" response.

This high degree of public approval of governmental control over so common an article of use is no doubt due to newspaper emphasis upon the rubber shortage resulting from Japanese conquests in the Far East.

#### Gasoline

There is, however, no such public awareness of the possibility that the Eastern seaboard may soon confront a gasoline shortage as a result

of tanker losses. Much less attention has been paid of late to the Battle of the Atlantic. And the press so derided the campaign for gasoline conservation undertaken some months ago that it may be difficult again to awaken in the public mind any real awareness that a gasoline shortage exists. In response to a recent Gallup poll which asked, "Can you think of any products which you regularly use of which there will be a shortage within the next year," only 5 per cent named gasoline or oil.

#### Normandie

The burning of the Normandie at its pier in New York harbor was singled out by the press as an exemplification of governmental carelessness in the conduct of the war. All newspapers presented vivid and tragic photographs of the gutted liner. Their news stories and editorial comments were filled with speculations asent sabotage and accusations of negligence. The sabotage theory gains a slight degree of color from Berlin broadcast boasts that "the Normandie fire was of incendiary origin."

#### Civilian Defense

Press and radio interest in Congressional attacks on the Office of Civilian Defense was maintained throughout the week, although on a diminishing scale. Stories were replete with terms such as "frills" and "fan dancers", highlighting charges that appointments to high O.C.D. positions had been given to friends and proteges of Mrs. Roosevelt. Mayor LaGuardia's resignation shared the headlines with Congressional accusations.

How greatly this barrage of editorial criticism will disturb popular confidence in civilian defense organizations cannot now be determined. It

is clear, however, from interviewing conducted a fortnight ago that public approval of civilian defense had increased considerably. Forty per cent of those questioned declared that civilian defense was being run very well in their communities. An additional 21.6 per cent asserted that it was being run fairly well, while only 7 per cent complained that it was being poorly managed. But 31.4 per cent were unable to give any answer on this subject.

If, as Walter Lippmann insists, morale is a product of participation in the national effort, it is evident that the morale of a large minority of the public rests on insecure foundations. The preliminary results of our most recent poll indicate that only 23.1 per cent of the people feel that their jobs are directly connected with the war effort. An additional 34.4 per cent believe that there is at least an indirect connection between what they do and the national program. But 13 per cent are convinced that their work has very little if any connection, and 24.4 per cent think their jobs have no connection at all, with the war effort.

Only 30.3 per cent of the public answered affirmatively to the question, "Is there any sort of volunteer war activity you would like to do, and would have time to do, but are not doing?" And only 9.3 per cent answered negatively when they were asked if there were adequate opportunities in their neighborhoods for people who wanted to get into some sort of civilian defense work.

#### Diplomacy

Press and radio highlighted rumors of an impending break in relations between the United States and Vichy. Most of them gave prominence to

British charges that supplies had gone to General Rommel through Vichy connivance. Keen interest was also shown in the possibility of further French collaboration with the Japanese in the Far East.

Admiral Standley's appointment to Russia was treated as extremely significant.

Front page attention was given to the President's press conference outlining strategy on the war -- the holding of strategic points until sufficient strength can be amassed to crush the enemy. Secondary attention was paid to his request for a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  billion dollar Lend Lease fund.

#### Congressional Pensions

The press is busily promoting, through derisive publicity, the campaign initiated in the northwest to send bundles to Congressmen. Editorially, the newspapers have vigorously deplored the action of Congress which granted pensions to its members, asserting that it can have only the most unfortunate effects upon public morale at this time. In certain areas, the Treasury Department has already noted a refusal to purchase defense savings bonds for the specific reason that the money might be employed for the retirement of needy Congressmen. Quick repeal of the pension law is urged -- and commonly predicted. Press and radio featured the President's oblique observations on the subject.

This survey covers materials furnished by The Office of Government Reports, The Public Relations Bureau of The War Department, special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice, Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service of The Federal Communications Commission, Labor Division of W.P.B. and a number of other agencies public and private.



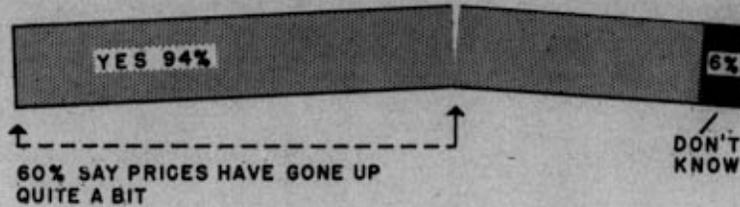
# Prices

PRELIMINARY REPORT  
 BASED ON THE ATTITUDES OF  
 600 HOUSEWIVES  
 FEBRUARY 16, 1942

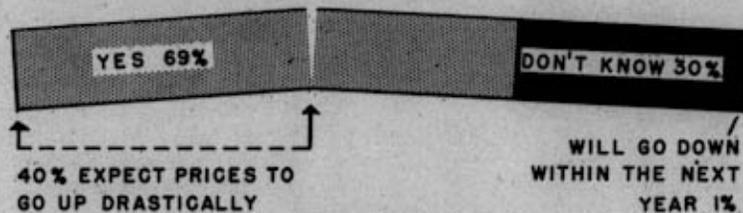
## QUESTIONS

## ANSWERS

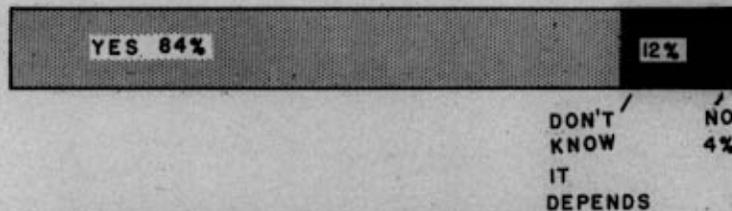
HAVE  
 PRICES  
 GONE  
 UP ?



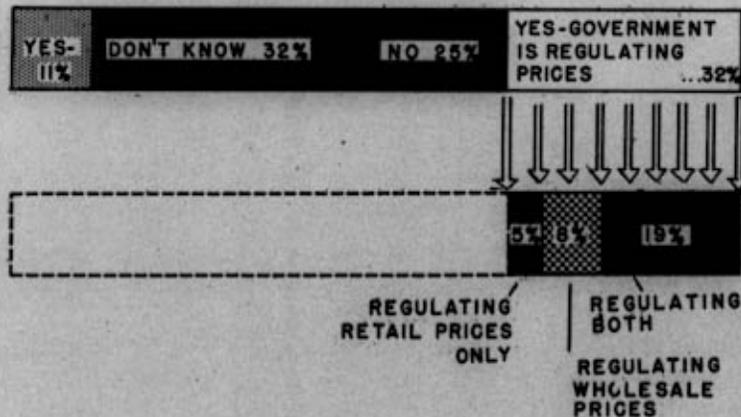
WILL  
 PRICES  
 GO  
 UP ?



SHOULD  
 THE  
 GOVERNMENT  
 DO  
 ANYTHING ?



IS  
 THE  
 GOVERNMENT  
 DOING  
 ANYTHING ?



PSF: Office of Facts + Figures

~~Mr. MacLeish~~  
1-42

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

ARCHIE MacLEISH:

I am told there are more than  
24 former members of the German Reichstag  
now living in the United States somewhere.

Would you look into this? Such  
a group might be assembled to make a very  
good publicity story.

F.D.R.

PSF: Office of Facts & Figures ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES

WASHINGTON

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personal*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
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THE DIRECTOR

May 16, 1942

Dear Mr. President:

I wrote you a little while ago about one of our recent Intelligence Surveys which contains information I thought you would find particularly interesting. The more I think about it, the more I think that it is information which ought to be made available to the American people. It is a heartening thing for any man to know that the best thoughts he thinks are shared by many others. I am wondering, therefore, whether, when next you have occasion to mention the Four Freedoms (which I hope will be soon) you might not wish to stress the revolutionary fact that a tremendous majority of the American people believe that these goals can be achieved and should be achieved.

Specifically, the result of our polling, and of a number of other polls in the same general area which we examined, comes to this:

Less than one person in ten now wants to follow an isolationist policy in the post-war world. Eight persons in ten are prepared to take a full and active share in some kind of world organization. The Four Freedoms, as you have stated them, have a powerful and genuine appeal to seven persons in ten, while another twenty percent favor some, but not all of them. (This last group needs to be shown how the freedoms depend on each other.)

Thus the American people show themselves idealistically in favor of guaranteeing freedom of speech and religion all over the world, of maintaining a world police force to guarantee against future wars, of helping to secure better working and living conditions for people all over the world, and guaranteeing that all nations get a fair share of raw materials. Furthermore, four out of five people believe that this country should and will help to feed the hungry peoples of the world after the war is ended.

The same survey, however, reported another situation which is closely related and which is also extremely interesting. The same people who express these ideals and believe in these promises of a better world have their private misgivings. Seven out of ten expect

to be personally worse off after the war. Six out of ten expect lower wages. Three-quarters expect there will be fewer jobs. This feeling that even the winning of the war may bring economic disaster presents a storm warning. It has been, and can increasingly be, fostered consciously by the divisionists; unconsciously by many others. But the fact that those who hold the doubts hold also to the ideals seems to me to present a golden opportunity. No divisionist can divide the American people once they become convinced that their ideals are practical, that they can be attained, that a better world of which we have always dreamed will be ours for the making, when we win.

In other words, a full knowledge of what we are fighting for, coupled with assurance that we can win our goals, can be a positive weapon in winning the war. And this, I submit, is the key to unity in fighting this war - the keynote of our ideological offensive.

Always,

Faithfully yours,

*Archibald MacLeish*  
Archibald MacLeish  
The Director

The President  
The White House

MISS TULLY:

MR. HOPKINS SHOWED THIS  
LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT.

LMB

PSF: *Office of Facts & Figures* ~~True Lush Folder~~

*file  
personal*

OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES

WASHINGTON

THE DIRECTOR

May 26, 1942

Dear Mr. President:

You will perhaps remember my writing you that I should be grateful for an opportunity to talk to you about my elimination as Director of the Office of Facts and Figures when the reorganization goes through. I know something of the demands on your time and I quite understand why it is impossible to arrange appointments for matters of this kind. I think perhaps I can say what I have to say by letter. I am anxious that you should know my position, for whatever it may be worth, before action is taken.

What it comes down to is this - that, in my opinion, my function as Director of the Office of Facts and Figures will have come to its rightful end when the reorganization goes through. I am assuming that the reorganization of the information services will go through, because I see no escape from that necessity.

The reasons for the opinion I state are these:

Upon any reorganization my present job as Chairman of the Committee on War Information and director of over-all policy on domestic information should be moved to the office of Director General. What is left will be a straight managerial job requiring technical knowledge of the press, movies, radio, etc. etc., and, as you know, I am clearly not the man for that job. This is not false modesty. I think I can administer an organization as well as the next man, as to which I am ready to put in evidence, as the lawyers say, the administration of the Library of Congress as well as that of the Office of Facts and Figures. But I have never had technical experience in press, movies, radio, etc. etc., and a straight managerial job, in any case, is not a job for me.

If by any chance the information services are not to be put together shortly, the job as director of domestic information policy and Chairman of the Committee on War Information will become

impossible for anyone. Without authority to do the whole job, no part of the job can be done effectively. Different agencies will go on telling the American people conflicting stories. Nelson Rockefeller will continue to play down in South America information about the Nazis that Bob Sherwood and I are emphasizing here and in Europe. And the bells will shortly be so badly out of tune that no one in the information services will be able to hear himself think. You will, I am sure, agree that one cannot run a domestic information policy under war conditions with peacetime powers.

I do not need to tell you again that all I have belongs to the prosecution of this war and is for your utilization in whatever way I can be of service and do a job. The attacks on me in the Hearst-McCormick-Patterson press, following my indictment of these people before the Associated Press, make me more, rather than less, confident that there may still be ways in which, in my capacity as Librarian of Congress, I can be used.

Faithfully yours,

*Archibald*  
Archibald MacLeish

The President  
The White House