

Shortages Are Cited

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Forces participating in a recent landing operation failed to get half of the 150 millimeter ammunition needed, Maj. Gen. Louis D. Clay, director of materiel for the Army Service Forces told the Senate War Investigating Committee.

Clay, who appeared before the committee during its investigation of supplies and war shortages, said there were serious shortages in a number of categories, largely because of the manpower problem.

While the Army never has said overall production in America is "not magnificent," Clay told the committee, there are shortages in specific items which would require an extra 200,000 war workers to meet.

In July, he said, production deficits ranged up to 53 per cent, and revised forecasts for August showed deliveries would be down many millions of dollars.

Although steps have been taken to improve the manpower situation, the General testified, "optimistic war news has dulled the sense of urgency," fatigue has affected output, and "public discussion of alleged excess supplies may have psychological significance."

"In spite of all these factors, and with all sincerity," Clay asserted, "we believe that the urgency of need is such as to call for the determined output of both labor and management to produce the needed items."

SHARP DROPS

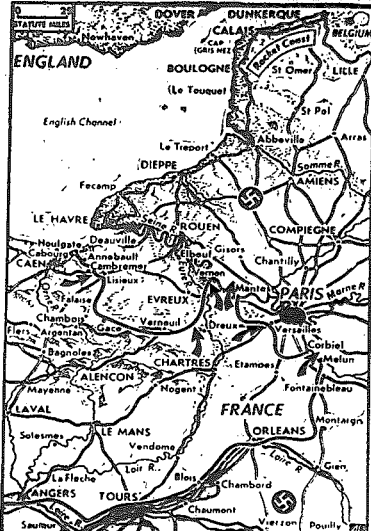
Clay advised the committee that domestic stocks of medium and heavy artillery ammunition have dropped sharply and that in war theaters they were being depleted so rapidly they will reach "dangerous points" at the end of the year unless production is doubled in the last half of 1944.

Because "we knew we couldn't make them," this country recently had to turn down an urgent British request for a thousand one-ton bombs, he said.

Doubling the situation in bus and truck tires as acute, the General said, "we cannot keep our present offensive going unless we have the large size tires needed for heavy trucks and combat vehicles of all types."

Clay said the Army would be short 50,000,000 yards of duck this year raising a problem in housing men on combat fronts.

Total deliveries of war materials in July, Clay declared, were 3 per cent below the June record. Even more serious, he said, were the programs in which the shortages appeared. He mentioned a 9 per cent deficit in heavy trucks, 5 per cent in bombs, 46 per cent in 16 millimeter shells, 46 per cent in 8-inch howitzer shells, and 46 per cent in 240 millimeter howitzer shells.



ALLIES SQUEEZE NEW POCKET—The arrows indicate Allied drives in Northern France where the Germans are being squeezed in a new pocket by troops driving eastward toward the lower Seine River and by Americans pushing north from the Dreux area. Other Americans were reported strengthening their Seine bridgehead. (AP Wirephoto.)

Action In A Foxhole

WITH THE U. S. ARMY, 1ST DIVISION, Southwest Pacific (Delayed)—(AP)—Pvt. Anthony Veltre, from Webster, Pa., was in a foxhole with a buddy who had just been killed by a bullet in the head.

The soldier, peeping out of the hole to spot the enemy rifleman, saw a Japanese officer, brandishing a sword, bearing down on him. He

lunged out, got a hold on the sword hilt and wrestled the officer in the foxhole.

Veltre was strangling the Japanese when a grenade landed beside him. He flung the officer on top of the grenade and held him there until it exploded.

The officer was killed instantly. The private uninjured.

Brownell To 'Meet Boys'

WASHINGTON—(AP)—National Republican Chairman Herbert Brownell Jr., temporarily shifted his base of operations to Washington today to try to interview more closely the campaigns to put more Republicans in Congress and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York in the White House.

Senate Republicans arranged a luncheon at the Capitol at which politics headed the party members in the House will get together with Brownell at dinner tonight.

Senator Brewster, Republican, Maine, new vice-chairman of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee, said a "favorable report" on Republican prospects would be given Brownell.

"LOOKS ENCOURAGING" "We've made a pretty careful survey," he said, "and the situation looks pretty encouraging."

The Republicans now have 37 Senate seats. Brewster said they were counting on eight to ten more. It would take twelve to give the party a majority.

House Minority Leader Marshall of Massachusetts said Brownell had expressed a desire "to meet the boys," and that an organization of freshman legislators, the 78th Club, would give tonight's dinner at a (Continued) Hotel. Republican Senators were told they could come, too.

Brownell already has conferred with numerous party wheelhorses in Congress, but there are dozens he hasn't met.

Former Senator John Townsend of Delaware, chairman of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee, was in Washington for today's parties. He has moved his headquarters to New York.

Enjoined From Threats To Cut Off Man's Head

PULASKI, Okla.—(AP)—District Judge S. J. Clendinning has enjoined John Ezell from further threats to cut off the head of W. D. Hamilton, his neighbor, with a cane knife.

Hamilton in his petition charged that Ezell threatened him and his family Sunday with a 30-inch knife, telling them that he was going to "cut plaintiff's head off."

Disabled Veterans In Hospital Help Make P-61 Night Fighters

VAN NUYS, Calif.—(AP)—Within the freshly painted, one-story buildings of the Army's new Birmingham General Hospital, Northrup Aircraft, Inc., has created an actual airplane production department.

Basically, it is no different from any other production department. There are machines, tools, all the equipment necessary for light metal shop work. But the workers—most of them overseas casualty patients—are men with legs or arms in casts. They are men in wheel chairs, a patch over an eye, or only one hand.

Yet, all are busy, fabricating, assembling inspecting parts for the Northrup Black Widow—the Army's deadly new P-61 night fighter.

Special equipment has been designed for these wounded, convalescing soldiers. Pulleys, conveyors, and straps that make it easy for them to work. For example, a drill press normally requiring the use of two hands, has been rearranged so that it can be operated by a foot pedal. Work tables, with

surfaces at extra height, have been created for wheel chair cases.

WORK IN BED Even bed-ridden patients are part of the program. Propped up in bed with specially designed trays, they spend several hours a day sorting, classifying or assembling small but vital parts of the planes.

Since members of armed forces are allowed to do outside work when they are off duty, Northrup employs these men just like civilian personnel.

There is a time clock in the hospital shop and records are kept of the work done. The men receive standard plant rates, which are in addition to their Army pay.

Most of the patients get a short training course in the theory and handling of tools before they begin work. Both training courses and shop operation are supervised by experts from the Northrup plant who consider each man's particular physical handicap as well as his psychological reaction from recent war experience.

For instance, in the case of

veterans suffering from shock—and many of them are—the element of noise has been considered. Men who cannot stand the sounds of saws, drills and rivet guns are placed in quieter surroundings.

At present the Northrup plant has 235 discharged veterans of World War II on its payroll and is prepared to employ any of the Birmingham hospital patients who want to continue if they are discharged from the Army.

Stimson Quoted As Favoring Training

NEW YORK—(AP)—Secretary of War Stimson was quoted as describing universal military training as "the most important provision which can be made by the Congress and the American people for the future defense of the nation." In a letter commending the recently formed Citizens Committee for Universal Service.

The word gospel formerly meant good story or glad tidings.

Strike On At Shipyard

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—(AP)—A walkout of 7,000 members of the AFL Boilermakers' Union today threatened to force closing of the Walsh-Kaiser Shipyard, where 18,000 are employed building combat cargo ships for the Navy.

The work stoppage began yesterday when the boilermakers left their jobs after General Manager John S. McDonald said the management had discharged four workers, members of the Boilermakers Union, because they refused to finish a job begun by riggers, members of another AFL union.

It progressed through the night shifts, and of 3,500 boilermakers due to report for work at 7 A. M. today, 1,000 entered the yards only to march out a few minutes after their arrival.

Both union officials and the shipyard management said they would make no further statements today. A management spokesman said the union's jurisdictional dispute began eighteen months ago.

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