

I N F O R M A T I O N D I G E S T

Office of War Information Organization

Director Elmer Davis of the Office of War Information announced the organization of the OWI. Three major Branches were established under Mr. Davis and the Associate Director, M. S. Eisenhower, with an Assistant Director for each Branch: Domestic Information Operations, Gardner Cowles, Jr., President of the Des Moines Register and Tribune and President of Look Magazine; Overseas Information Operations, Robert Sherwood; and Policy Development, Archibald MacLeish.

In the Domestic Branch, under Mr. Cowles, are the News Bureau under Robert Horton, Chief; Radio Bureau, William B. Lewis, Chief; Bureau of Publications and Graphics, J. R. Fleming, Chief; Bureau of Motion Pictures, Lowell Mellett, Chief; Bureau of Public Inquiries, Katherine C. Blackburn, Chief; and Bureau of Special Operations, with Philip C. Hamblet, Special Assistant to the Director, Acting in Charge.

In the Overseas Branch, under Mr. Sherwood, are the Outpost Bureau, Harold Guinzburg, Chief; International Press and Radio Bureau (N.Y.), Joseph Barnes, Chief; Bureau of Overseas Publications (N.Y.), Edward Stanley, Chief; Bureau of Communications Facilities, Murray Brophy, Chief; and the West Coast Office, Warren Pierce, Chief. In the Policy Development Branch, under Mr. MacLeish, are the following Deputies for Departmental liaison: A. H. Feller, James Allen, Arthur Sweetser, Reginald C. Foster, Frank P. Shepard and Robert Huse. In this Branch also is the Bureau of Intelligence, R. Keith Kane, Chief. Of these persons, only Mr. Cowles is not in Government employment at present, Mr. Davis said. Headquarters of OWI are being established in the Social Security Building.

Mr. Davis presented to his press conference a statement describing the functions of the three OWI Branches. The Policy Development Branch "includes a small staff of deputies who will serve as liaison officers between OWI and the policy-forming officials of Federal Departments and agencies, as well as between OWI and representatives of the United Nations." These officers will adjust "inter-departmental policy differences that otherwise would result in public confusion and misunderstanding, and will recommend general policies and programs aimed at keeping the public accurately informed on all phases of the war effort," the statement said. The Bureau of Intelligence will "survey and analyze specific problems and provide OWI with current knowledge as to the adequacy or inadequacy of Government war information from the point of view of the public itself."

The Domestic Operations Branch "will handle the coordination and dissemination of war information in the United States through all channels of communication." The Branch will function through the following Bureaus: News Bureau "will function along the general lines of a city news room." Radio Bureau "will serve as the central point of contact between the radio industry and all agencies of the Government in matters pertaining to the dissemination of war information by radio." Bureau of Publications and Graphics "will coordinate or prepare and issue Government pamphlets, posters, and other graphics

JULY 10, 1942

pertaining to the war, and manage the distribution of these materials." Bureau of Motion Pictures "will coordinate the production and distribution of Government-made movies and will handle relationships with the movie industry in connection with pictures bearing on the war." Public Inquiries Bureau "will provide a factual information service for the public and other Government agencies, both at the Information Center in Washington and in the field. This was formerly one of the functions of the United States Information Service, Office of Government Reports. The former OGR field organization is being realigned to come within reduced appropriations. There will no longer be State Directors, or State offices as such. Of the former 60 field offices in 44 States, 29 are being discontinued; 31 will be retained in selected cities in 29 States to answer direct inquiries regarding the Government and to facilitate public contact with the Government agencies. Field offices of the OWI Public Inquiries Bureau will be staffed wherever possible by former OGR employees who know the Government thoroughly and can therefore be helpful to persons seeking information." Bureau of Special Operations "will include special foreign language services within the United States, and liaison with the advertising industry and with numerous organized groups that want comprehensive information about the war effort."

The Overseas Operations Branch, the statement said, "will handle all official information disseminated outside of the continental limits of the United States (except to South and Central America). The organization...is about as it was, except that domestic news gathering has been consolidated with the News Bureau of the Domestic Operations Branch."

OWI Regulation Number One Issued

In OWI Regulation Number One, Director Davis stated "The Federal Government will issue as promptly as possible all news and background information essential to a clear understanding of this Nation's war effort... The impact of the war on all phases of American life will be reported. So will the cooperative efforts of the United Nations. Only information which would give aid and comfort to the enemy will be withheld." The regulation is effective July 13, 1942.

"Information Activities of Federal Departments and Agencies. Within the framework of policies established by the Director of War Information, all Departments and agencies of the Government will continue to be responsible for and will release direct to the public information which relates exclusively to their authorized activities and which does not bear significantly upon the war information program and policies of the Government... Each Department and agency shall immediately review its information program and, in the interest of economy and effective war work, discontinue all nonessential phases thereof. An enumeration of the classes and types of information thus discontinued shall be reported by each Department and agency to the Director of War Information not later than August 15, 1942... Each Department and agency shall designate a representative with authority to cooperate with the Office of War Information in expediting the handling of those classes of war information requiring central clearance, as enumerated in succeeding sections of this regulation.

"News. General. News releases relating significantly to the war

JULY 10, 1942

effort or dealing with activities broader than the authorized work of the initiating agency shall, where possible, be prepared by the appropriate Federal Department or agency for clearance and issuance by the News Bureau of the Office of War Information. The Chief of the News Bureau will be responsible for clearing such releases with the appropriate policy officers of OWI and with the Departments and agencies concerned. Announcements, statements, material for radio news and newsreels, news pictures, and other material which have the same purpose as a news release shall be handled in the same manner as news releases... Information Involving the Armed Services. The Office of War Information will cooperate with the War and Navy Departments in facilitating the fullest possible dissemination of information involving military and naval actions. Whether specific military information would be of aid to the enemy will be determined by the War or Navy Department after consultation with the Director of War Information." Army and Navy communiques will continue to be issued by the War and Navy Departments, Mr. Davis said.

"Addresses. In accordance with directives heretofore issued by the President, all addresses by the heads of Federal Departments and agencies and by other policy-forming officials will be cleared by the originating agency with the Chief of the Bureau of Publications and Graphics of the Office of War Information...

"Publications. Most bulletins relate exclusively to the work of a single agency and do not involve war information policy; they will therefore continue to be prepared and published by the initiating Department or agency, without clearance. Publications relating significantly to the war effort, or dealing with activities broader than the authorized work of the initiating agency shall be cleared with the Chief of the Bureau of Publications and Graphics...

"Radio. Because radio time is limited, the Office of War Information will review and clear all proposed radio programs sponsored by Federal Departments and agencies (whether they directly bear upon war information or not), will allocate available time for such programs, and will serve as the central point of clearance and contact for the broadcasting industry in its relationships with Federal Departments and agencies concerning such Government programs. Federal Departments and agencies desiring to disseminate information by radio, will make necessary arrangements through the Chief of the Radio Bureau, Office of War Information; the Chief of Bureau will be responsible for consulting the appropriate policy officers and subject-matter authorities in arranging final clearance of such programs.

"Motion Pictures. The Chief of the Bureau of Motion Pictures, Office of War Information, will serve as the central point of contact between the motion picture industry and Federal officials to the end that the motion picture industry, both theatrical and non-theatrical, may make the maximum contribution to keeping the American public fully informed on vital aspects of the war. Official motion pictures of the Federal Government as a rule will be produced under the direction of the Chief of the Bureau of Motion Pictures; they may be produced by individual Departments and agencies after review, clearance, and approval of the Chief of Bureau.

"Posters and Other Graphics. To reduce costs, the Office of War

JULY 10, 1942

formation will maintain a central graphics service; proposed posters and related graphic material relating to the war effort shall be cleared with the Chief of the Bureau of Publications and Graphics who, after clearance of the initial plans, will make the services of the central staff available for production of such graphics.

"Advertising. To avoid conflict and confusion, the Advertising Division of the Bureau of Special Operations, OWI, will, whenever war information is involved, serve as a central point of contact and clearance between Government Departments and agencies and all branches of the advertising industry.

"Foreign Language Services. To reduce the cost involved when several Departments and agencies arrange for the translation of news, features, and other material for the use of foreign language publications and radio stations in this country and provide special services to such media, all war information proposed for dissemination to such media shall be handled through the Foreign Language Division, Bureau of Special Operations, Office of War Information.

"Comprehensive War Information. As contrasted to the specialized releases and information programs of the several Departments and agencies, the Office of War Information will prepare and publish comprehensive war information... The office will prepare and issue press releases, radio programs, publications, posters, motion pictures, and related materials which deal with subjects broader than the activities of a single agency, and shall have access to such information as may be necessary to carry out this task... The office will manage coordinated information programs involving the assistance of many Departments and agencies and the use of many media... The office will assign to specific Departments and agencies the responsibility for preparing for OWI materials needed in comprehensive information programs.

"Information in the Field. The News Bureau of the Office of War Information will maintain a restricted number of field offices, located at centers of greatest war activity and of concentrated news-dissemination facilities... The field services of each Federal Department or agency will be responsible for preparing and disseminating information not related significantly to the war effort. The head of each Federal Department or agency shall instruct his field employees to release in the field only such information as is within clearly defined policy and exclusively within the authorized activities of his agency... Releases which bear definitely upon war activities or policy or which include material broader than the authorized activities of the preparing agency shall be cleared with and issued by the nearest OWI field office... Radio programs relating to the war effort prepared by Federal agencies in the field for individual stations or regional or national networks shall be reviewed and cleared by the most convenient OWI field information office... Publications and graphics prepared and issued in the field and relating significantly to the war effort, or dealing with activities broader than the authorized work of the initiating agency, shall be cleared with the nearest OWI field office...

"Personnel. In view of the importance of providing all the people with information so presented that they shall be 'truthfully informed about the common war effort,' the Office of War Information and the Department and

JULY 10, 1942

agencies shall cooperate in insuring that informational work is in competent, experienced hands. As required by Executive Order 9182, the Director of War Information, after consultation with the appropriate Departments or agencies, will direct the discontinuance of the activities of persons performing unnecessary information work.

"OWI-OCD Cooperation. To meet the requests of discussion groups throughout the United States for facts on all phases of the war effort, the Office of War Information will cooperate with the Office of Civilian Defense in aiding such local discussion groups obtain special pamphlets and related materials on the war effort.

"Despite the distinctions made in this regulation between information issued direct by the several Departments and agencies and that issued by the Office of War Information, the appropriate media bureaus of OWI will, at the request of Departments or agencies which lack their own facilities, prepare and issue information materials for such Departments or agencies."

The War Front

U. S. Army Air Forces headquarters in China said recent Far Eastern events indicate "the turning point in air operations has been reached and the Japanese are now more on the defensive whereas the American air forces are on the offensive... We already have made several raids on Japanese bases and they will get it worse in the future." Allied airmen scored direct hits on numerous buildings in a raid on the Japanese barracks area at Dili, Gen. MacArthur's Australian headquarters reported.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, replying to a greeting from War Secretary Stimson on July 7, the fifth anniversary of Japan's invasion of China, said: "America's naval campaign against Japan, and China's on land, will undoubtedly prove decisive factors in determining the world's future destiny. I assure you that China will not rest until she has fulfilled her part in defense of civilization and has justified your high hopes of her."

Pacific Fleet Commander in Chief Nimitz escaped serious injury when an airplane in which he was traveling crashed at a west coast airfield, the Navy Department reported. Lt. Thomas M. Roscoe, co-pilot, was killed in the crash and several passengers received minor injuries.

The Navy said the following merchant vessels were lost in the Atlantic and Caribbean to Axis submarines: a small U. S., a medium-sized British and a medium-sized Belgian. Survivors have been landed at U. S. Gulf and east coast ports.

Navy

President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing \$8,500,000,000 for 1,200,000 tons of new naval vessels.

National Citizens Committee Chairman Dillon presented the Navy Relief Society with a check for \$5,000,000 and promised an additional sum of \$3,000,000, representing the surplus raised over the original \$5,000,000 goal, the Navy announced.

Army

The War Department said men from 18 to 30 are eligible to receive training as gunners with the Army Air Forces. Students will be chosen from men at Army Replacement Training Centers.

The Army Technical Training Command will take over the Congress and Stevens Hotels in Chicago as schools to train radio aviation operators for the Army Air Forces, the Department said.

Production

WPB Planning Division Chairman Nathan told the Automotive Council for War Production at Detroit that, while the U. S. already has spent nearly \$40,000,000,000 on the war effort, the country must not assume "the worst is past and we can coast from here on in," because it takes time for weapons to move from the production lines to the fighting front. "Before we can be optimistic about the outcome of this war, we must have accumulated a store of munitions which will fill all of the pipelines from the first assembly line to the last fighting outpost; and, further, we must have a current flow of munitions which will insure a sustained offensive action."

The Federal Power Commission reported electric energy requirements of principal public utility systems totaled 14,598,266,000 kilowatt-hours during May, 11 percent above May 1941 requirements. According to estimates made by Class I electric utility systems in their May reports, 1942 energy requirements will aggregate 189,161,844,000 kilowatt-hours, an increase of 16.5 percent over actual requirements for 1941, the Commission said.

Rationing

The OPA said local rationing boards may refuse to issue new tires eligible motorists if an inspector's report shows: (1) the tires to be replaced have been run beyond the point where they can be repaired or recapped; (2) dual tires have been improperly matched; (3) wheels were out of alignment; (4) tires were damaged from uneven braking or from running while flat.

Acting OPA Deputy Administrator O'Leary told local rationing boards to insist on strict proof of need and eligibility before granting supplemental gasoline rations. The Office said about 8,000,000 Eastern motorists will receive permanent gasoline rationing coupon books.

The Office in amendments to the sugar rationing order ruled: (1) a consumer who has lost possession of his ration book may obtain a new one from Local War Price and Rationing Boards without waiting for the two-month period; (2) ranchers, sheep-herders and other consumers handicapped by transportation difficulties, may purchase a quantity of sugar not in excess of 12 pounds each, as an advance against their regular rations; (3) an additional amount of sugar may be obtained for a consumer by a person not a member of his family unit; (4) an industrial user of sugar may transfer sugar to a manufacturer without exchange of stamps if the manufacturer uses the sugar in processing and returns the product to the original industrial user; (5) an institutional or industrial user may use sugar allotted for a specific product in another product in the same class.

The "bonus" sugar stamp, number seven in War Ration Book No. 1, may be exchanged for two pounds of sugar at any time until midnight August 22. Stamp number five will be good for two pounds until midnight of July 25, after which stamp number six may be used until midnight of August 22, the CPA ruled.

New restaurants, cafeterias, and other institutional sugar users will be granted not more than one pound of sugar for each 60 meals to be served during any allotment period of two months. This allotment may be reduced if it is found that the new user would otherwise obtain more sugar than restaurants of the same general type, the Office said.

Prices

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said higher prices for certain farm products, for gasoline and some types of west coast lumber caused its wholesale index of 889 prices to advance 0.1 percent during the week ended July 4. The level is now at 98.5 percent of the 1926 average and 12.3 percent above last year at this time. The Bureau also reported average market prices for 44 waste and scrap materials dropped 3 percent during June, and is now 157 percent of the August 1939 level. Waste paper quotations were 30.9 percent lower in June than in May and prices for scrap rubber and scrap metals were unchanged during June.

Department Store Sales Down

The Federal Reserve Board of Governors said value of sales at Department stores declined in June to 106 percent of the 1923-25 average, compared with 108 percent in May and 117 percent in April.

Priorities and Allocations

The WPB said, under the Allocation Classification System, monthly allocation of metals to a BRASS or BRONZE foundry will be made on the basis of the end-use of products shipped by the foundry during the previous month. Beginning July 31, foundries must report the final disposition of all products shipped by them during the previous month, including all shipments made after June 30. The Board said it will seriously consider allocation of copper to foundries to fill orders (even when they bear low preference ratings) from the following sources; public utilities (including transportation), mines, essential industries (maintenance and repair material), schools, hospitals, waterworks, defense housing agencies, and from persons or agencies making essential repairs on farm and food preservation machinery, elevators and road building equipment.

The Board prohibited production of MACHINE TOOLS calling for special electrical specifications after July 15, to eliminate bottlenecks in machine tool manufacturing.

The Board extended the freeze order on SOFTWOOD CONSTRUCTION LUMBER until August 13, to permit the working out of a system for distributing such lumber on a basis of the "relative essentiality" of its use for war purposes. The Board said requirements of the war program have caused serious shortages of some types of lumber since the original order was issued May 13.

A utility company may sell materials from excess stocks or inventories to any other utility company or war production plant on orders with a preference rating of A-5 or higher, the Board said.

The WPB authorized use of TINPLATE or TERNEPLATE cans for certain chemicals, paints, and other "special products" if the cans were on hand or in process of manufacture on July 1. A previous order authorized such use only if the cans were on hand or in process by February 11.

Cigars, cigarettes, smoking tobacco and snuff may be wrapped with all necessary paper trimmings for Christmas 1942 gifts, but such packaging will be optional with each manufacturer, WPB Tobacco Section Chief Jefferson said.

Petroleum Supply Down

Petroleum Coordinator Ickes said U. S. stocks of domestic and foreign crude petroleum at the close of the week ended July 4 totaled 253,280,000 barrels, a decrease of 84,000 barrels from the previous week. Rail movement of oil to the east coast during the week ended July 4 was at a rate of 720,510 barrels daily, a decrease of 210 barrels daily from the preceding week, Mr. Ickes said.

Labor

WMC Chairman McNutt said the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO) is conducting a drive for the employment and upgrading of Negro workers in 40 war production plants through the following program: (1) written letters will be secured from employers to the effect that they will employ minority groups, including Negroes; (2) the upgrading process will be encouraged in plants now employing Negroes and also in plants being requested to employ them; and (3) meetings will be held to educate both unions and management in the direction of infiltration of Negroes into new classifications.

The conference of State labor commissioners at Washington has reported approximately 3,000 permits have been issued to war industries authorizing variation from the State hours laws, the Labor Department said. The majority of the permits were granted for short periods to allow industries to train new help and supervisors for additional shifts.

Secretary of Labor Perkins certified to the War Labor Board the following disputes: General Chemical Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Shell Oil Co., Martinez, Calif.; Ampco Twist Drill Co., Jackson, Mich.; Worthington Pump & Machinery Corp., Buffalo, N. Y.; Republic Aircraft Corp., Detroit, Mich.

The U. S. Conciliation Service reported settlement of the following disputes: Clifton Iron Mill, Inc., Clifton Heights, Pa.; Foster Wheeler Co., Inc., Carteret, N. J.; Ray Bros. Glove Co., Chicago, Ill.; and American Steel Foundries (men returned to work but negotiations continuing), East St. Louis, Ill.

Relations with Greece

The White House announced a master Lend-Lease agreement has been

completed between the U. S. and Greece, similar to that made with Great Britain. Following a conference at the White House, President Roosevelt and King George II of Greece stated: "We are in complete agreement on the simple objective of prosecuting the war to a successful conclusion, at the earliest possible moment, with all the resources at the command of the two nations."

Saboteurs and Subversive Activities

Maj. Gen. Frank R. McCoy, President of the Military Commission convened by President Roosevelt to try the eight German saboteurs, said seven witnesses appeared for the prosecution during the day's session. He also said the Commission permitted the Army Signal Corps to make photographs and silent pictures of the trial scene before the Commission opened the third day's proceedings. Counsel for both sides have stated to the Commission that the great volume of evidence to be introduced is expected to prolong the trial, he said.

The FBI said Walter Gustafson, Minneapolis, Minn., was arrested for violation of the Espionage Act, after U. S. Customs inspectors at Pan American's Dinner Key Airport discovered Gustafson was attempting to smuggle a blueprint of a Caribbean Army Air Base into the United States.

Axis Property in El Salvador to be Sold

El Salvador will sell Axis-owned property and assets there to Salvadoran citizens, and liquidate such assets and property for which there are no national buyers, the Commerce Department reported.

Transportation

ODT Director Eastman said he will collect statistics to learn the extent of "wasteful use" of equipment caused by unadjusted State regulations for maximum weights that trucks are allowed to carry. He said trucks in some States are required to haul lighter loads than they can carry without detriment to their tires.

Agriculture

The Agriculture Department said 1942 corn production will be about 2,627,823,000 bushels, 44,718,000 bushels less than were harvested last year. Wheat production for 1942 will be about 904,288,000 bushels, 41,649,000 bushels below the 1941 crop, but an increase over the June forecast of 868,059,000 bushels.

The Agriculture Department requested farmers in Southern States and Middle Atlantic States to increase their winter legume seedings because 1942 legume seed requirements will be twice as great as in 1941. The Department announced the Commodity Credit Corporation will continue to carry 1941 cotton loans subject to the producers' right of repayment after July 31, 1942, the maturity date of the notes, to enable producers to repay their loans and obtain possession of the pledged cotton or to sell their equity in the cotton after July 31.

The Department announced the current purchase program for 1941 dry beans will close August 31, to clear the way for the 1942 crop price support program, which begins September 1.

Finances

Treasury Secretary Morgenthau invited tenders for \$300,000,000 of 91-day Treasury bills, to be issued on a discount basis under competitive bidding. The bills, which will be dated July 15 and will mature October 14, when the face amount will be payable without interest, will be issued in bearer form only and in denominations of \$1,000, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$100,000, \$500,000 and \$1,000,000.

Compensation for Holders of Public Land Grazing Permits

President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing heads of Government agencies and departments using public lands for war purposes to pay compensation to holders of grazing permits and licenses for losses suffered as the result of such use.

War Risk Insurance

BEW said authorized import shipments of coffee made on and after July 2 should not be covered by war risk insurance, because the Commodity Credit Corporation is assuming war risk on such shipments. Importers must, however, take out all other customary insurance, the Board said.

Appointments

HARLAND F. LEATHERS, former New York attorney, has been named CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL of the OPA Passenger Automobile Rationing Branch, the Office said.

ALEXANDER MacDONALD, former Los Angeles attorney, has been named DEPUTY WPB REGIONAL DIRECTOR for Los Angeles, the Board announced.

(All information herein is from official sources.)