

1st
Jan 7,
1951

2 draft

All caps → WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN - WHAT?

(all caps) → RADIO NEWS FLASH: ^{of new design} ^{from the northwest} ^{continental} ^{quantities} ^{an unknown number of} ^{in this country}
 enemy aircraft, penetrated the radar and air defenses of the United States and ^{dropped} (atomic bombs) ^{at several} ^{conflicting and} ^{completely}
 Reports are as yet uncertain and confused, but it is believed ^{certain} that the Soo locks at Soo, Michigan were destroyed; that ^{initial} ^{unconfirmed} ^{as was persons} steel communities in the Ohio and Pennsylvania were devastated, and the ^{report of} ^{appear to have} ^{Emergency aid is being rushed to the stricken areas.} ^{surrounded the rail line} ^{presently somewhere in} ^{national} ^{emergency.} ^{He} ^{will speak to the nation} ^{in a few moments.} ^{Keep} ^{turned to this} ^{station.}

the vicinity of Silver Spring, Md.

(The President is alive and is ^{presently} ^{somewhere in} ^{the state of Virginia.} He asks the people to remain calm in this grave ^{national} ^{emergency.} He will speak to the nation ^{by radio} in a few moments. Keep ^{turned to this} ^{station.}

"Warning!"
second wave

(caps) RADIO NEWS FLASH: ^{now} ^{large} ^{second wave} ^{western} ^{apparently} ^{headed} ^{just} ^{Counter measures are being taken.} ^{Keep}
 A large but unknown number of enemy planes is reported crossing Canada for the Great Lakes region. The War Department has confirmed recent reports that vast armies of the enemy are poised for invasion across the Bering Straits separating Alaska and ^{Far} ^{East} ^{Siberia.} Keep calm."

Let's play a grim parlor game. * * * in the face of ^{ghostly} ^{imaginary}
 How would the American people react to this situation?
 Churchill enjoined the British to fight at the beaches and in the streets and alleys. There is no doubt

at last
the march.

Recent events in Korea and elsewhere have
rippled the blindness from our eyes. Savagery is on
loose, but she is not yet down. Civilization is on
the stamps of her

(copy) RADIO FLASH (three days later): "Thousands of enemy troops are parachuting down upon ^{at} various points ⁱⁿ of the United States from coast to coast. The invasion of the Alaskan peninsula is ^{now} in its third day, and the Department of Defense estimates that upwards of two million enemy troops have already landed ^{on this continent} and are engaging our outnumbered and retreating forces.



Let's play a grim parlor game: How could the American people react in the face of such a ghastly imaginary situation?

No living American has ^{ever} fought ^{in the} ^{to} defend ^{of} American soil.

Americans have not had to defend American soil since the War of 1812; nor ^{do} they have not fought on American soil since the Civil War. Now would our troops and civilian population behave if ^{conquering} ^{fanatic} hordes of ^{loving} troops descended upon us ^{to conquer us - all} in the wake of repeated atomic bombing? We of course do not know the answer -- yet. There are those ^{of course} ^{stunt} ^{patrots} ^{who} ^{will} ^{the} ^{life} ^{for} ^{murder}... Doubtless ^{rise} ^{is} ^{they} ^{may} ^{line} ^{up} ^{on} ^{it} ^{is} ^{even} ^{asked} ^{yet} ^{it} ^{is} ^a ^{fair} ^{question}, a pressing question, and one that ^{might} ^{become} real during any hour of any day. ^{after} ^{Bombing} ^{as} ^{he}

After Dunkerque Churchill enjoined the British to fight ^{along} ^{on} the beaches, ⁱⁿ the streets, ^{and} in the alleys... One does not need ^{not} ^{confess} ^{being} to be a blazing Anglophile to ^{somehow} ^{guess} how that cohesive island people would have reacted.

But Americans are ^a ^{poly} ^{got} people, said by many to be deeply split on basic political issues. Some say our people have ^{soft} ^{grown} ^{soft}; that our mass cultural ^{and} ^{entertainment} ^{forms} have eroded ^{our} ^{imaginative} ^{power}.

Yet ^{we} ^{could} ^{build} ^a ^{pretty} ^{dim} ^{picture} of what we Americans would do. ^{plausibly} ^{something} ^{like} ^{this}: We are a polygot people; deep cleavages exist among us: racial, religious, economic, and ^{political}. We harbor ^{large} ^{groups} ^{of} ^{restless} ^{and} ^{ranking} ^{minorities}; our machine ^{and} ^{latter} ^{civilization} has sapped our powers of make-do and improvisation; our mass mediums of so-called culture and entertainment have dulled our qualities of imagination and ^{personal} ^{responsibility}.

In short, we lack the guts and will to resist. Yet no American who reads ^{these} ^{lines} will believe that for a single ^{moment} ^{God} ^{darned} ^{minute}. Do you?

All right, we've got that squared away, but ^{let's} ^{go} ^{further}. Why is it that ^{you} ^{almost} ^{instinctively} ^{knows} that we would ^{rush} ^{out} to meet the enemy, ^{clanking} ^{horribly} ^{and} ^{almost} ^{gloriously}, ^{wielding} ^{every} ^{weapon} at our command, ^{even} ^{using} ^{pitchforks}, ^{conspiring}

The argument

...the life for murder...

average Manders that

irritated, Congressman might put it: Defense of rice
paddies seven thousand ^{follow} miles away ^{is} not even ^{who} on the
list. ^{god damn} agenda, list. ^{Yes, no} ^{American} ^{is} ^{not} ^{even} ^{of} ^{the} ^{line} ^{has}

There you have it. It's as simple as that.

^{over} yet, had to defend his own hearth and home - yet.

H. Let the enemy beware. ^{May God} ^{grant} ^{that} ^{we} ^{may} ^{never} ^{have} ^{to}

But as for the enemy, let him ^{read} ^{the} ^{signs} ^{and} ^{beware}.

Written by:
John D. Walker
Espionage, Michigan

3 final

(1-9-51)

WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN--WHAT?

RADIO NEWS FLASH: "Within the hour ~~fast~~ enemy aircraft ^{from the northwest} of new design penetrated the continental radar and air defenses of the United States and ~~here~~ ^{from the northwest} dropped an unknown quantity of atomic bombs ^{on this country}. Reports are as yet conflicting and confused, but it is believed certain that the ^{vital} Soo Locks at ^{in northern} Soo, Michigan were completely destroyed; ^{and that} ^{and important producing} that ^{vital} steel communities in Ohio and Pennsylvania were devastated; ~~and that~~ ^{and that} portions of Washington, D. C. ^{were likewise destroyed.} According to an unconfirmed report of a radio ham, the enemy planes appear to have overshot Washington, D. C. and instead bombed the vicinity of Silver Spring, Md. Emergency aid is being rushed to the stricken areas. It is now known that the President survived the raid uninjured and is presently somewhere in Virginia. He asks the people to remain calm in this grave emergency. He will speak to the nation by radio in a few moments. ^{Please stand by.} Keep dialed to this station."

RADIO NEWS FLASH: "Warning!" A second large wave of enemy planes is reported now crossing western Canada apparently ^{again} headed for the Great Lakes region. ^{The} Defense Department has just confirmed recent unofficial reports that ^{large} vast armies of the enemy are poised for invasion across the Bering Straits separating Alaska and Russian Siberia. Counter measures are being taken. Keep calm."

RADIO NEWS FLASH (three days later): "Thousands of enemy troops are ^{chuting} parachuting down at various points in the United States from coast to coast. The invasion of the Alaskan peninsula is now in its third day. The Department of Defense estimates that upwards of two million enemy troops have already landed on this continent and are engaging our outnumbered and retreating forces."

* * *

Incident

Incident

Let's play a grim parlor game: Let's try to guess how the American people would react in the fact of such a ghastly situation as we have here imagined.

Will recent American history help us? Not much. No living American has ever fought in the defense of United States soil. Americans have not had to so defend American soil since the War of 1812; nor have they fought on American soil since the Civil War. How would our troops and civilian population behave if conquering hordes of fanatic enemy troops descended upon us in the wake of repeated atomic bombings? We must conclude that we do not know the sure answer--yet--simply because we have never had to face such a situation. There are those stout patriots who will doubtless rise to an indignant boil that the question is even asked. Fine. They will please form a line on the left and be issued muskets... Yet it is a fair question, a pressing question, and one that in some related form might henceforward become very real during any hour of any day. Any hour of any day.

One still remembers Churchill's ringing phrases after Dunkerque, as he enjoined a British people at bay to fight along the beaches, upon the streets, and in the alleys... One need not confess being a blazing Anglophile to somehow guess how that cohesive island people would have reacted. Yet one can indeed build a plausibly dim picture of what we Americans would do. Just listen to our domestic prophets of doom and decay. The argument runs something like this: We Americans are a polygot people; deep cleavages exist among us: racial, religious, economic, and political. We harbor large groups of restless, rankling minorities; our machine and lathe civilization has sapped our powers of make-do and improvisation. We are a listless, confused and weary people; our mediocre mass ~~of~~ mediums of so-called culture and entertainment have gradually dulled our qualities of imagination and responsibility. In short, we lack the guts and the will to resist.

Yet no American who reads these lines will believe that for a single moment. Why is it that one almost instinctively knows that we would instead bind our wounds

and bury our dead and rush out to meet the enemy? Yes, that we would rush out pell-mell, cackling horribly and almost gleefully, wielding every weapon at our command, even using pitchforks, ballpin hammers and billiard cues when all else failed.

This is said not as a comforting ^{exercise} message in flag waving, a maudlin ^{message} gesture of cheap patriotism: today's pressures of reality are too near and grim to waste time at that sort of business. Nor is this situation a mere True Science flight into fantasy. Have not recent events in Korea and elsewhere at last ripped the blinders from our eyes? Is not massed savagery indeed on the prowl? And are not we here in America the chief spoilers and therefore the chief target? Yes, Civilization has already tottered to the stumps of her knees--but she is not yet down. In these seething times it is well, while yet we might, to calmly explore just why we know in our hearts that we would fight like the very turnbolts of Hell if any people ever invaded us. ~~Why~~ do we know this?

* * *

Twice before in our collective memories millions of Americans obediently left their farms and lathes and offices and ball games and Saturday night drunks and sailed to foreign lands thousands of miles away and there vigorously fought a people relatively like themselves. And for what? For a mere idea. ^{Don't all} ~~is~~ this ~~is~~ most remarkable? These abstractions had various resounding names: "Make the World Safe for Democracy," "Preserve the Four Freedoms," "Remember Pearl Harbor," "Defend Our Pacific Ramparts." Remember? Yet ~~no~~ one has ever said that these young Americans did not fight bravely and "die well," ~~as~~ that macabre saying goes.

Today thousands of Americans are again fighting and freezing and dying still farther away, and doing it for an even (intellectually speaking) more tenuous abstraction: to enforce the mandates of a new international organization devoted to the twin abstractions of freedom and international justice; the United Nations, of course. One may, if one wishes, quarrel with this last military enterprise.

Many Americans have. But this is not the place. It is enough here to say that, despite all the doubts and divisions and reservations and objections, thousands of outnumbered Americans are in fact out there fighting an implacable foe ~~and~~ ^{and} fighting him like chilled ^{young} lions.

Defense of home and hearth are everywhere recognized to be among the small list of basic primal instincts of man. These are indubitably things men will really fight for. As one of our average Neanderthal Congressmen might put it, "Defense of Oriental rice paddies seven thousand miles away is not even on the goddam list." But still we are doing it. And ~~then~~ none of us who live has ever had to defend his own hearth and home--yet. May God grant that we may never have to.

But as for our biding enemy, may he possess the low animal cunning to read the signs well--and beware.

recruit
Let's play a grim parlor game: How would the American people react in the face of such a ghastly imaginary situation ^{as we have here imagined.}

^{Let's try to guess how}
^{would}
No living American has ever fought in the defense of United States soil. Americans have not had to so defend American soil since the ^{War of 1812; nor have they} Civil War. How would our troops and civilian population behave if conquering hordes of fanatic enemy troops descended upon us in the wake of repeated atomic bombings? We do not of ^{course} know the answer -- ^{yet -- simply because we} ^{must conclude that we} have never had to face such a situation. There are those stout patriots who will doubtless rise to a rapid boil that the question is ever asked. They ^{will please form a} line up on the left ^{and be issued} for muskets... Yet it is a fair question, a pressing question, and one that ^{in some related form} might henceforward become real during any hour of any day. Any hour of any day.

One still remembers Churchill's ringing phrases after Dunkerque, as he enjoined ^{a peck at bay} the British to fight along the beaches, upon the streets, and in the alleys... One need not confess being a blazing Anglophile to somehow guess how that cohesive island people ^{domestic} would have reacted. Yet one can indeed build a plausibly dim picture of what we Americans would do. The argument runs something like this: We are a polygot people; deep cleavages exist among us: racial, religious, economic, and political. We harbor large groups of restless, rankling minorities; our machine and lathe civilization has sapped our powers of make-do and improvisation. ^{We} are a listless, tired people; our ^{confused and weary} mass mediums of so-called ^{mediocre} culture and entertainment have ^{gradually} dulled our qualities of imagination and responsibility. In short, we lack the guts and ^{the} will to resist.

Yet no American who reads these lines will believe that for a single moment. Why is it that one almost instinctively knows that we would bind our wounds and bury our dead and rush out to meet the enemy? ^{Yes, that} ^{instead} ^{fell-melt,} That we would rush out, cackling horribly and almost gleefully, wielding every weapon at our command, even using pitchforks, ballpin hammers and billiard cues when all else failed?

fought on American soil since the Civil War.

have in America the chief spoilers and therefore

→ *What is this situation*

Is all this a mere True Science flight into fantasy? Have not recent events in Korea and elsewhere at last ripped the blinders from our eyes? Is not massed savagery indeed on the prowl? *And are not we the chief target? how already tottered to* Yes, Civilization is on the stumps of her knees-- but she is not yet down. In these seething times it is well, while *yet* we might, to calmly explore just why we know in our hearts that we would fight like the very

(one word) turn bolts of Hell if any people ever invaded us. *combatting message* This is not intended as a mere exercise in flag waving, *or* a maudlin session of cheap patriotism: *the* *gesture* *sort of* *business?* *Why do we know this?* *to waste time at that business?* *pressures of reality are too near and grim for that.*

* * *

Twice before in our collective memories millions of Americans obediently *left their farms and lathes and offices and ball games and Saturday night drinks and* got on hastily constructed boats and sailed to foreign lands thousands of miles away and there *vigorously* fought a people relatively like themselves. And for what? *For* a mere idea. Is this not most remarkable? The *se* abstractions had various *resounding* names: "Make the World Safe for Democracy," "Preserve the Four Freedoms," "Remember Pearl Harbor," "Defend Our Pacific Ramparts." *Remember?* Yet no one has ever said that these young Americans did not fight bravely and "die well," as the *macabre* *queer* saying goes.

Today thousands of Americans are again fighting and freezing and *still* dying farther away *and doing it* for an even (intellectually speaking) more tenuous abstraction: to enforce the mandates of a new international organization devoted to the twin abstractions of freedom and *international justice;* peace; the United Nations, of course. One may, if one wishes, quarrel with this last military enterprise. *Many Americans have.* But *here* is not the place to *air our differences.* It is enough *now* to say that, *despite* all the doubts and *divisions* and reservations and objections, thousands of outnumbered Americans are *in fact* out there fighting an implacable foe *and fighting him* like chilled lions.

Defense *are indubitably* of home and hearth are everywhere recognized to be among the small list of basic primal instincts of man. *These things men will really fight for.* As *one of our* an average Neanderthal Congressman might put it, *or* Defense of Oriental rice paddies seven thousand miles away is not even

on the goddam list. ^{still} But we are doing it. And
Yes, ~~fellow Americans~~, none of us who live has ever had to
defend his own hearth and home--yet.

May God grant that we may never have to.

But as for our biding enemy, ^{may he possess the low animal cunning to} let ^{well--} him read the signs and beware. ~~He ain't~~
~~seen nothing, yet.~~

Written by
John D. Voelker
Ishpeming, Michigan

WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN--WHAT?

RADIO NEWS FLASH: "Within the hour enemy aircraft penetrated the continental radar and air defenses of the United States from the northwest and dropped an unknown quantity of atomic bombs. Reports are as yet conflicting and confused, but it is believed certain that the vital Soo Locks in northern Michigan were completely destroyed; that important steel-producing communities in Ohio and Pennsylvania were devastated; and that portions of Washington, D. C. were likewise destroyed. According to an unconfirmed report of a radio ham, the enemy planes appear to have overshot Washington and instead bombed the vicinity of Silver Spring, Md. Emergency aid is being rushed to the stricken areas. It is now known that the President survived the raid uninjured and is presently somewhere in Virginia. He asks the people to remain calm in this grave emergency. He will speak to the nation by radio in a few moments. Please stand by."

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* * *

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* * *

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BOND

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But as for our biding enemy, may he possess the low animal cunning to read the signs well--and beware.

EATON'S
CORRASABEE
BOND
U.S.A.
PERMANENT

Written by
John D. Voelker
Ishpeming, Michigan

WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN--WHAT?

RADIO NEWS FLASH: "Within the hour enemy aircraft penetrated the continental radar and air defenses of the United States from the northwest and dropped an unknown quantity of atomic bombs. Reports are as yet conflicting and confused, but it is believed certain that the vital Soo Locks in northern Michigan were completely destroyed; that important steel-producing communities in Ohio and Pennsylvania were devastated; and that portions of Washington, D. C. were likewise destroyed. According to an unconfirmed report of a radio ham, the enemy planes appear to have overshot Washington and instead bombed the vicinity of Silver Spring, Md. Emergency aid is being rushed to the stricken areas. It is now known that the President survived the raid uninjured and is presently somewhere in Virginia. He asks the people to remain calm in this grave emergency. He will speak to the nation by radio in a few moments. Please stand by."

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Yet no American who reads these lines will believe that for a single moment. Why is it that one almost instinctively knows that we would instead bind our wounds and bury our dead and rush out to meet the enemy? Yes, that we would rush out pell-mell, cackling horribly and almost gleefully, wielding every weapon at our command, even using pitchforks, ballpin hammers and billiard cues when all else failed.

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* * *

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