

HEADQUARTERS
New York Sub-Sector
Ft Hancock, NJ

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM NO. 43-10 (Key Points in History - August - October 1943)

LJM/vob

24 October 1943.

1. Home Front Situation (critical events begin with **):

** The CBS radio news announced 17 October that Weather Reports will no longer be considered military information. The two day weather forecast will resume on 1 November.

On 1 October, Milk is rationed at June sales level. Farmers are now subsidized to pay for cattle feed. (TIME: 4 Oct 1943, pg 59)

Medical Director at Vultee Aviation institutes stretching exercises to help women deal with menstrual cramps. Result is 80% improvement in attendance and drop in on-the-job injuries for women. (TIME: 4 Oct 1943, pg 80)

Jack Benny returns from USO 10 week overseas tour. (TIME: 11 Oct 1943, pg 39)

ESQUIRE magazine cited by the USPS for "naughtiness" and may lose its second class postage rate. ESQUIRE received the support of Clergy as a moral builder. (TIME: 11 Oct 1943, pg 79-80)

** On Monday, 27 September, Bing Crosby, the Andrews Sisters and Bob Crosby make a record of "Pistol Packing Mama" - the first record made since the 1 August 1942 ASCAP strike went into effect. (NEWSWEEK: 11 Oct 1943, pg 87)

FDR's \$10 billion tax package is dead on arrival in Congress. The highest tax brackets (above \$150k) would have seen negative earnings once local and state taxes were factored in. Average salary for family of 4 is about \$3k. A Colonel would be taxed at 40% (\$5k salary) and a private (\$400 per year) taxed about 20% (NEWSWEEK: 18 Oct 1943, pg 72-75)

College Football - Notre Dame vs Michigan 35-12; Army vs Temple 51-0; Iowa Seahawks vs Iowa State 25-0. (NEWSWEEK: 18 Oct 1943, pg 96)

Professional Football players become Navy Ensigns - Dick Todd and Bob Timmons of the Redskins; Perry Schwartz of Brooklyn Dodgers; Vince Bannois of Detroit. (NEWSWEEK: 11 Oct 1943, pg 76)

Pittsburg Steelers and Philadelphia Eagles combine in 1943 to form "Steagles" due to lack of players - "Steagles" play NY Giants on 24 October and lose 42 to 12. They previously won 28 to 14

(<http://www.footballdb.com/seasons/nfl/1943>)

2. General military news:

The Navy announces that the "Battleship X" is really the USS South Dakota which shot down 32 Jap aircraft in the Battle of Santa Cruz in October 1942. The ships former captain is now Rear Admiral Thomas Gatch. (NEWSWEEK: 11 Oct 1943, pg 20)

Editorial by MG Paul Malone (Retired) notes Infantry is still the Queen of Battle and stated while the Nazis have 25 Armored Divisions and 10 motorized divisions, they have over 265 Infantry Divisions. He stated the US Army has the same general distribution of forces. "The Doughboy is the paramount soldier". (NEWSWEEK: 11 Oct 1943, pg 26)

Captain Clark Gable is awarded the Air Medal for five bomber missions over Europe. (NEWSWEEK: 18 Oct 1943, pg 9)

3. Fort Hancock and HDNY Specific:

7 August 1943, U-566 shoots down two PV1 Ventura patrol bombers over Cape Charles, VA during a bombing attack on the submarine. The PV1s were based out of Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, New York ("NAS New York"). (<https://uboat.net/boats/u566.htm>)

Coast Artillery Target Practice opened without issue on 28 August 1943. Routine firing of heavy seacoast guns by the Coast Artillery command of Fort Hancock opened today without incident after elaborate warnings had been circulated near the post. The firing will continue for several days and residents along the New Jersey coast are advised that any chance heavy explosions will be a result only of the practice firing and not a military emergency caused by invasion or enemy air action. (*New York Times*, 29 Aug 1943 - digital download)

Theater #1 is undergoing renovation after a fire damaged it in September (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 2 Sept 1943, page 1)

Fort Hancock Enlisted Club hosted a dance at the Gym for 200 soldiers and 400 ladies (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 2 Sept 1943, page 4)

SSG Percy catches 40-inch, 31 pound Striped Bass just off Officer's beach - a record for the season. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 30 Sept 1943, page 4)

Armed Forces Institute (correspondence courses) are a major hit at Fort Hancock and prepare soldiers for life after the war. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 7 Oct 1943, page 4)

T-4 Roslyn catches 41-inch Striped Bass, breaking SSG Percy's record. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 7 Oct 1943, page 4)

1st Sgt Lawrence Markle of the 7th Coast Artillery Regiment marries PFC Margaret Bechill of the WAC Detachment at the Post Chapel. BG Gage, 1LT Frances Hardin (WAC Cmdr) an SGT Walter Lowe were attending. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 14 Oct 1943, page 4)

The YWCA receives Christmas Cards for the Enlisted soldiers. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 21 Oct 1943, page 1)

1LT Frances Harden relieved by 1LT Caroline Hennick as WAC Detachment Commander. 1LT Harden reports to Fort Benning for assignment to the Infantry School support staff. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 21 Oct 1943, page 1)

Major blood drive at Fort Hancock - 60 soldiers give blood with a total of 200 registered. (*SandyHook Foghorn*, 21 Oct 1943, page 1)

On 20 October 1943 - Two (2) minesweepers failed to stop upon orders of the Guardship. Two (2) "Bring-To" shots were fired from Battery Gunnison/New Peck. Ships did not stop. 3rd Naval District expected the minesweepers and issued orders to the Navy Officer, Harbor Entrance Control Post to cease fire from the shore batteries. (*History of HECP Fort Wadsworth*, July 1945, page 11)

On 20 October 1943, "Bring To" shot was fired on a merchantman. The freighter stopped for a second, and then resumed its course at a slow speed. Harbor patrol intercepted and ordered the ship to return to the Guardship for proper clearance. (*History of HECP Fort Wadsworth*, July 1945, page 11)

4. Overseas War News (critical events begin with **):

** On 8 September, The Italian Fleet sailed to surrender to the Allies and with it went the modern battleships *Roma*, *Italia*, and *Vittorio Veneto*, the old battleships *Caio Duilio* and *Andrea Doria*, eight cruisers and several destroyers. As they sailed, the Nazis attacked *Roma* with a controlled heavy "glide bomb", and ignited her magazines - becoming the first and only battleship to be sunk by a radio controlled bomb. The remaining ships and their crews will fight with the Allies. (*TIME*, 20 Sept 1943, pages 30-31)

Winston Churchill advances cross-channel attack idea. Soviets call all operations in Italy and the Mediterranean "minor operations". The leading contender to command the Cross-Channel invasion of Europe is General Marshall. (*TIME*: 4 Oct 1943, pg 19)

** For the first time the Eight Air Force raids deep into Germany with about 500 bombers to strike Emden. (*TIME*: 4 Oct 1943, pg 25)

** U-boat packs are resurging in the Atlantic. Two destroyers and seven merchant ships were sunk by U-boats. Several convoys were attacked with significant losses in both warships and merchant ships. Brazil reported eleven sinkings total off the Brazilian coast. (*TIME*: 11 Oct 1943, pg 23-24)

U-Boats sink eleven ships off Canada - boats are well armed. (*NEWSWEEK: 11 Oct 1943, pg 20-21*) One Nazi U-Boat with at least 10 deck guns was able to damage a B-24 Liberator. (*TIME: 11 Oct 1943, pg 25*)
Army and Navy announce total casualties were 115,201 with 21,940 killed in action. Public told to expect far higher losses in 1944. (*NEWSWEEK: 11 Oct 1943, pg 40*)
The Allied advance in Italy begins to slow against increasing German resistance - Naples falls in October to LTG Mark Clark's 5th Army after losing 10,000 American and British soldiers. (*TIME, 11 Oct 1943, pages 22-23*)
On 6 October US Troops land and occupy Villa, the Capital of Kolombangara (Solomons Islands); a US force of warships sinks a Jap light cruiser and two destroyers. (*NEWSWEEK: 18 Oct 1943, pg 24*)
On 10 October, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek was sworn in as President of the Republic of China. (*TIME, 18 Oct 1943, page 35*).
** The 5th Army under LTG Clark reached the Volturno River (*TIME, 18 Oct 1943, page 17-18*)

By order of BG Gage:

(signed)
George A. Crocker
Lieutenant Colonel, GSC
Ass't Chief of Staff (G-3)

OFFICIAL:
David R. Sutherland,
Lieutenant Colonel, GSC
Ass't Chief of Staff, (G-2)