

# North American-Kansan

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## Kindelberger Reveals Kansas Plant Leads World in Medium Bomber Production

North American employees in Kansas City will hang up a world record in the production of medium bombers by the end of the year.

That insight into the tremendous production record by Kansas plant craftsmen was given the aviation committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City, Mo., yesterday by J. H. (Dutch) Kindelberger, president of the company. Mr. Kindelberger, invited to talk to the group, was openly proud of the job being done by the Kansas plant. He hinted that B-25s would soon give more rude surprises to the Axis. He touched on the work of North American's planes in the world's war theaters, on present manpower problems and Kansas City's future in aviation.

"I am very happy to report to you, and to the world," Mr. Kindelberger said, "that the Kansas City plant for which we broke ground less than two and a half years ago will have produced more medium bombers in 1943 than any other plant in the nation, and as far as I know, in the world."

### B-25s on Every Front

"The airplanes you have built at Kansas City have seen and are seeing action in every theater of this global war, and are performing just about every job that airplanes can perform—including high altitude precision bombing, low-level bombing, ground-strafting, torpedo launching, reconnaissance patrol, sub hunting, and aerial photography and mapping."

"On occasions they have turned in very creditable performances as fighters, engaging in dog fights with lighter and faster enemy pursuit types. In each of these types of military operations, without exception, the B-25s have performed brilliantly."

Mr. Kindelberger paid tribute to the men who fly B-25s.

"That our fighting pilots, navigators, bombardiers and gunners are themselves far superior to the enemy's, is implied in everything I have said about the B-25. Good men can



J. H. Kindelberger

usually put up a pretty good fight using poor equipment, but good airplanes mean little without intelligent and courageous men to fly them. Put an American pilot in an American airplane and you have an unbeatable combination."

The men and women of Kansas City who are employees at the plant deserve a great deal of credit for the manner in which they have become a producing part of the aircraft industry almost overnight, Mr. Kindelberger said.

"Most of them never saw the inside of an aircraft factory before they joined the North American organization," he continued. "Many of those who were first employed are now in responsible supervisory positions and are doing a wonderful job. And there are opportunities for many thousands more in coming months."

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## Operation Here On Threshold of Even Greater War Role

With the big production headaches behind, and the Army leaning more heavily on North American for its supply of medium bombers, the Kansas division is on the threshold of a vastly more important war role, J. H. (Dutch) Kindelberger, president of North American Aviation, Inc., told a large supervisory group at the Hotel Muehlebach Wednesday night.

In many respects the Wednesday night meeting was a historic moment in the lives of the Kansas plant and Modification Center. Besides revealing the plant as the world's greatest medium bomber factory, Mr. Kindelberger assured the supervisory group that "most of the hard work and grief" is behind and the plant is on the way to becoming "the best show in the North American organization."

At the same time Mr. Kindelberger revealed some of the feats of new types of B-25 Mitchells which have reached the war theaters; and he warned

against the attitude many have that Germany and Japan are toppling.

"Neither North American, nor the Army or Navy, can plan on a collapse of our enemies," he said.

"Even in Russia, Germany has not had losses greater than her capacity to train men and make war materials. Germany is still far away, surrounded by buffer states. We are not even fighting in the buffer states, except with our bombing planes."

Not even the most optimistic  
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## "Miss Pittsburg" Munches In Sun

Munching her lunch in the noon-day sun is Lois Thompson (55 Cst), who was named "Miss Pittsburg" in 1940 by a group of civic leaders in her home town. She was selected to represent Pittsburg in the "Southern Belle" contest sponsored by a mid-western railroad company.

