

L.J. - Standard. Denver. Thursday, June 8, 1944.
Sunoco.

APST.

the Invasion

The latest from ~~that~~ front is that the Nazis have proclaimed a state of siege in the city of Roan (~~ROOAN~~) with the ~~g~~ ~~at~~ent, only fifty miles from Le Havre (~~LE HAVRE~~) and half way to Paris.

30AP.

~~and supplies can pass in endless numbers and quantities.~~

~~So the report from supreme allied headquarters in London
that the fall of Caen is a matter of hours, if not minutes,
is important news,
~~becomes really something to get excited about.~~~~

~~The next most important piece of late news bears out
what Secretary of War Stimson told us this afternoon.
He warned us that the Nazis have large armies at their
disposal in northern France and will let them loose upon us
at the earliest possible moment. The latest tidings advise~~

Also, that Rommel and Rundstedt have already rounded up ten Full
large divisions, some one hundred and fifty thousand men and are
now counter-attacking Montgomery's columns.

29AP.

~~SECRET~~

~~NOTE: Drop first paragraph of Italy. Cut underground.~~

~~And cut Stinson.~~

~~Drop this afternoon's lead and substitute following:~~

At this moment British and American foot soldiers are

within hours, perhaps minutes of capturing the old Norman ^{city}

^{of} ~~Kah.~~ American travellers

city of Caen. ~~Most of us~~ know that name ~~only~~ by seeing it

on restaurant menus, tripe a la mode de caen. Tonight this

place, whose castle was ^{built} ~~founded~~ by William the Conqueror,

has a world-wide importance. In wars lasting over many

centuries, it changed hands several times. ~~But never was~~

~~there so much excitement or significance attached to the~~

~~capture of the town, which many of us know only because~~

~~a certain kind of tripe stew is named after it.~~ The occupation

of that old Norman stronghold means another link in the

chain of Allied strategy for the capture of the Cherbourg

peninsula. Cherbourg, in the hands of the Allies, ^{would} mean a

tremendous advantage, a great port through which reinforcements

could pour.

6

SLAP.

Another thing we learn tonight is that General Eisenhower also landed troops at Le Havre and at Bernier-sur-Mer (Bairneay-suer-Mare) in the Bay of Cherbourg (Shairbourg). On those beachheads the American fighting First and the British Fiftieth Infantry divisions are the shock troops. The Fighting First earned its first laurels in this war when it broke through the German lines in the final assault on Tunisia.

~~There is heavy fighting for the roads below Cherbourg. The attack of the Americans now only eleven miles from that great seaport, is one of the most dramatic and important, in this whole engagement.~~

The Fighting First is known throughout the army as Uncle Sam's No. 1 assault division. In the first world war it was the first American outfit to attack the Germans, and took one hundred German prisoners for every American loss.

32AP.

In this generation it helped defeat the Germans in Tunisia,
and then was the first shock division in Sicily.

-0-

194P.

INVASION:

~~For~~ ^{now} ~~night~~ ^{we} know definitely that the first phase of the great invasion is a success. ~~That~~ ^{is} admitted even at supreme invasion headquarters; and, the reports from there are consistently conservative. Aside from that, we have a concrete proof of initial victory in the fact that we are already using at least one important air base near the beachhead, a field large enough for medium bombers. So far it has been employed only to evacuate the wounded to Britain. But it will not be long before Allied fighters will be taking off from strips nearby.

The Nazi high command has not yet thrown its long expected mass of fighter reserves into the ^{air} battle ^{over} Normandy. Such opposition as Herman Goering's air arm put up has been scattered and never for a moment has it had superiority over the Allies ^{at} any ^{point} ^{single spot}. ^{So we are told,} ~~it~~ ^{the Luftwaffe} ~~had lost twenty-three~~ fighter planes, considerably less than the hundred and fourteen ~~that were shot down yesterday~~ ^{TP} ^{today} our own air forces carried out as many as thirteen thousand sorties. ^{with}

There were a thousand Flying Forts ^{needed} and Liberators

Invasion - 2

~~Exp.~~

of Jimmy Doolittle's Eighth Air Force giving tactical support behind the enemy lines to Montgomery's armies.

Particular heavy ~~raids~~ ^{bombing raids smashed at} were carried out on the railroad yards in the vicinity of Paris, ~~by that the strategic bombing command was preventing the movement~~ of German supply and troop trains from east to west.

Tonight it begins to look as though Sir Bernard Montgomery's armies were fast carrying out their purpose, to cut off the Cherbourg peninsula.

The toughest nut they have had to crack so far is the town of Caen. Twice already the ground troops fought their way ^{into Caen} ~~inside the streets~~ and for a while it looked as though we might soon ^{take it} ~~have it entirely~~. In fact, a radio at Algiers broadcast the premature report that the Allies had captured Caen. But this afternoon a dispatch reported that American Marauders were bombing the place. ^{which} ~~and that of course~~ means that our ^{ground forces} ~~men~~ were withdrawn so as to enable the air force to

Invasion - 3.

~~plan~~

soften up the Nazi garrison still more.

2 Captain James F. McCarthy, of Massapequa, Long Island, ~~tells~~

~~told a vivid story of what he saw over that town. He was~~

piloting a Thunderbolt, ^{was} flying low over Caen, ^{when} all of a sudden ^{he said he saw} the center of the town ~~was~~ completely to pieces,

~~he said.~~ Sidewalks, trees, houses and vehicles just melted

away. The pilot said he had never seen anything in his

life ^{that} which frightened him more. He was puzzled, ~~also,~~ until

he realized that the heavy guns of Allied warships at sea, ~~had~~

~~hurled a salvo that utterly~~ wiped out the center of the place. And he added:

"It is not pretty to see a town the size of a New England

~~village~~ with its ^{middle} ~~part~~ blown out in a twinkling, right before your eyes — just vanish!

3
3/21/47
ADD INVASION:

the old Norman town
The people of Bayeux ~~today~~ ^{wild} almost went off their heads ⁱⁿ with joy ^{today as} as the Allied troops poured into the town. The place has stood many a siege in 1,500 years, but not for centuries has there been such jubilation in that old Norman city, one of the oldest in France. ~~It has been the seat of a~~
~~bishopric ever since the fourth century.~~ The reports indicate that although the terrific Allied air and naval bombardment ~~have~~ ^{caused plenty of} ~~had wreaked~~ havoc, the beautiful old cathedral church, one of the finest in Normandy, is uninjured. The townspeople of Bayeux ~~reported~~ ^{told} an American reporter that Rommel had visited Bayeux recently, and boasted that their positions ^{there} were ~~was~~ impregnable.

~~vidently his rank and file did not believe him, because they told the French that the British and Americans are too strong for them. Nevertheless, they would go on fighting until the last man.~~

Richard Macmillan, ^{the} of United Press ^{made} was privileged to ride on ~~the train of the~~

add inv - 3

65AP

Harbors off the Malay Peninsula. Completely rebuilt, though ~~obsolescent~~ ^{obsolescent} ~~shabby~~ by modern standards, they are effectively disproving the theory of so-called experts that the capital ship is out of date. The Texas, Arkansas and Nevada, old-fashioned as they are, were invaluable as floating platforms for heavy artillery to pave the way for a landing in France.

The Arkansas is thirty-two years old, the Texas thirty, and the Nevada twenty-eight.

~~And here is a bit from a reporter who parachuted into Europe ~~on June 6, 1944~~, six and a half hours before the seaborne forces began the actual invasion. This reporter was hiding from a Nazi patrol near the shore as he watched the first allied infantry land on the beaches from the sea. He also saw thousands of paratroops and glider-borne troops, and says he, he thinks them the bravest, the most tenacious men he has ever known, as they held the bridgehead against overwhelming odds for over sixteen hours.~~

add Inv - 2

RETAKE

34AP.

a tower

of the territory inside the Atlantic wall now occupied by British and Americans. "Our tanks are widening the breach,"

^{MacMillan's} ~~said he~~ "We have penetrated for miles.. The wall was broken," ^{he adds} ~~reports MacMillan~~ "because it was really a big

bluff, at least in that sector. Fresh British, American and Canadian forces are pouring through the breach ceaselessly

night and day, with little interference from the Nazis. ^{They} ~~offshore~~ the sea is as filled with shipping as New York harbor,

he goes on to say that

with convoys that stretch back over the waters of the English channel for miles, ^{4 miles.} The sight of our tanks ^{pouring} over ^{roads} ~~roads~~

is an indication that we have captured a number of important points, ^{and} two or three miles offshore stand warships firing

at all points of Nazi resistance," ^{cables Dick McMillan}

Among the literally countless thrills in the story of this invasion, those warships figure largely. Three of our own veteran battle wagons, the Texas, Arkansas and Nevada, are doing yeoman service in the English channel today.

They were among our men-o-war that were blasted at Pearl

add inv - 3

85AP

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33AP.

NOTE:

~~Insert after paragraph telling about battleships~~

~~Arkansas, Texas and Nevada.~~

The high command tonight let us know that four divisions of German E boats did their ^{utmost} ~~hardest~~ to interfere with the landings of American reinforcements and supplies on the beachheads. The Allied warships drove them away scattering in the utmost confusion, sinking several of them.

The Allied command tells us further that the naval forces covering this operation include not only the American battleships mentioned, but also the cruisers Augusta and Tuscaloosa, a Norwegian destroyer and two Dutch gunboats. Besides these there are the great British battleships Warspite, Nelson, ~~and~~ Rodney and ~~Ramilles~~, six British cruisers, one British monitor with fifteen-inch guns, and two destroyers.

The British admiralty and the American navy department know that the German battle fleet still includes four heavy warships fit for battle. But these ten thousand ton battle wagons in perfect battle condition have

34AP

as yet given no signs of intending to leave their safe

refuge in the Baltic.

-0-

17AP.

EISENHOWER:

has given
General Eisenhower ~~gave~~ his first press conference since the landing, today. He told the newspapermen that his confidence in the Allied armies, navies and air forces had been completely justified. The cooperation of the two Allied navies, with navy units of the other United Nations, the planning and execution of the planning, have surpassed anything ~~Eisenhower has~~ *he had* ever seen or imagined.

Then Eisenhower added a word about General Montgomery, who is in immediate and direct command of all the assault ground forces. All the troops under ~~him~~ *Monty* are performing magnificently, said the Commander-in-Chief.

As for Montgomery himself, it was a particularly dramatic moment, the first time he had seen the shores of France since Dunkirk, the retreat in which he took part. On that day in nineteen forty, Montgomery said to an American correspondent: "Make it quite clear that whatever else happened, the British army stood no nonsense from the Germans."

Eisenhower - 2

~~REF.~~

Today the same correspondent said to Montgomery: "How is the hunting going, sir?"

And the general replied: "Very well, everything is going excellently."

The colorful British commander landed off a destroyer on the Cherbourg peninsula. He wore a windbreaker with a collar of lamb wool, fawn colored corduroy trousers, and a black beret with two insignia badges.

Yes, His return ^{to France was quite} ~~was indeed spectacularly~~ different ^{to} from his Dunkirk departure. ^{He has returned} ~~He came back~~ at the head of the ^{mightiest} ~~most~~ invasion army that ever swept ~~equipped armies in the world~~ down on Europe.

SAP

UNDERGROUND:

The French underground went into action today to help the invasion armies. Special sabotage units are in action on a large ^{scale,} disrupting German communications.

A spokesman for the patriots said he was confident much damage was being done, but we ~~cannot~~ ^{can't} expect any detailed reports for some days.

When the invasion started, a spokesman at Allied headquarters warned the French that ~~about~~ ^{our} air ~~forces~~ ^{men} would attack ~~severely~~ and on a large scale, a strip along the coast twenty-two miles wide. Additional orders were broadcast from headquarters today. The Allied air attacks will now go beyond that twenty-two mile strip. The spokesman said further that from now on the French populace should keep ready. A spokesman for the French Committee instructed the patriotic French to strike with all the resources at their disposal, immobilize enemy communications even in the deep interior of the country, and harrass the enemy by every means so that every German in France feels himself personally ^{imperiled.}

Underground - 2

Imperialist

Evidently the activities of the underground have begun to hurt, because Joseph Darland, the French Himmler, has ordered the mobilization of twenty thousand pro-Nazi militia to reinforce the mobile guards and the police. All the collaborationist leaders were ^{busy today} arguing the people to help the ^{Vichy} militia and the ^{Nazis} ~~German~~ armies.

36AP.

WDD UNDERGROUND

General Eisenhower has also issued a warning to the fishermen of the United Nations. He has notified the fishing fleets of Norway, Denmark, Holland and France to stay in port and remain there until June fifteenth. The radio spokesman used these words: "Follow this order strictly and quickly because failure to do so may be fatal to yourselves and will hinder the operations of the Allied forces."

-o-

Now let's listen to Mark
Crandall, ~~with a high~~
from Denver for a
moment.

STIMSON Secretary Stimson gave out a message today. The gist of it, an appeal to people at home to keep their heads, Avoid excesses of both optimism and pessimism

And he warned us that the German counter-attack will be terrific. He says they are gathering their strength and we must expect the full fury of savage counter-offensives at any moment.

Secretary Stimson points out that the Germans have troops in great numbers throughout Northern France. And he adds that although air opposition so far has been light, Nazi air power has been by no means driven from the skies. And that the Nazi High Command undoubtedly has plans of action, the effects of which we shall feel soon.

AP39

RUSSIA:

The Nazis all day have been talking about big soviet offensives on the eastern front. First they said the Red army had attacked heavily in Rumania. Later in the day, they put ^{out} a story of a gigantic attack on the central front, aimed at Berlin.

Moscow answered these reports with the words--"There has been no change on the eastern front all day."

13AP.

ITALY:

as one correspondent
In Italy, ~~the British and Americans are ramping ahead~~
radioed, "everything is hunky dory."
~~almost as though there were no enemy to stop them. Front~~

tells us
~~line~~ Dispatches report that the German Tenth Army is in such confusion that entire battalions are attaching themselves at random to whatever large body they can find. This was proved when a group of Nazis taken prisoner by the Allies contained men from no fewer than forty different Nazi units.

Here is the picture in Italy: The Allies are moving ahead in five columns: They are anywhere from fifteen to forty miles beyond Rome. Americans of the Fifth Army captured Civitavecchia (~~Cheezastahyakiak~~), the seaport of Rome. That means they advanced from the Eternal City forty miles in three days. Another column is twenty-five miles north along the main road to Florence. The Allies are advancing on a front seventy-five miles wide, all the way from the Tyrrhenian Sea to the Sabine Hills at Subiaco

(Soobeahoo) which the British Eighth Army has just captured. Subiaco is thirty-two miles East of Rome. The strongest resistance the Germans are putting up is against the Eighth Army, which has the most difficult terrain to cross.

One result of the capture of the Eternal City was that the people of Rome are now having white bread for the first time in years, And General Mark Clark had an interview with the Pope. A conference in the library of the Vatican, which lasted ten minutes. After his visit to the Pope, the General and his staff were taken to see St. Peter's Cathedral and all the sights of Vatican City.

16AP.

ADD ITALY:

7/2
Marshal Badoglio and Crown Prince Umberto, with a large party, arrived at Rome today. Evidently the people were delighted to see ^{the aged Marshal,} ~~him~~, because the Romans gave him an ovation. Badoglio announced that he had come to the capital to form a new government.