

SWISS

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~~The Swiss are guarding every mountain pass along their southern and eastern frontiers. Their mountain passes have been~~
^{is} ^{Swiss} ^{(thought}
manned by Alpine troops all the way from ~~SEMIEKX~~ southern France to the Austrian Tyrol.

This action on the part of the Swiss government followed the news that the Nazi high command had ordered a huge shift of German reserves from the Russian front to Italy. ^{Which if} ~~if that is true~~ means that Stalin now has the second front for which he has been clamoring so long. And if the German front in Russia has been thus weakened, the Red Army should have ~~be~~ a walk-over for the rest of its summer campaign.

At any rate, ⁷ the Swiss government has advices that something like seventy German divisions are on the move to Italy. That means anywhere from seven hundred thousand to one million, four hundred thousand men. ⁸ With them ~~be~~ go sufficient supplies for a hundred divisions. This would indicate that Hitler and the General Staff have decided to stage a decisive battle against the allied armies in Italy.

INVASION

The British Eighth Army on the toe of the Italian boot was having a fairly easy time today and advancing rapidly. Montgomery's men met with little or no resistance from the enemy.

At the heel of the boot they have a line running straight from Brindisi on the Adriatic clear over to the Gulf of Taranto. On the gulf side of the heel, they have captured another seacoast town, Crotona.

But at Salerno, the soldiers of the American Fifth Army were having the toughest fight of their lives. The Nazis kept their strongest shock troops and their heaviest tank divisions to throw in against ~~Gen~~ General Clark's men. William Stoneman, representing the entire press of the United States, reports that no man who went through the fight around Salerno would [^]relive it for a fortune. In a ~~xx~~ nearby field there are already long rows of graves. The ~~xxxx~~ tank opposition was terrific. But the American ability to stop them is proved by the dozens of wrecked German tanks that are scattered around the countryside.

By taking Salerno, the Allies also captured its airfield. They had to drive off a brigade of the Sixteenth

German Panzer division to do it. But now United States Flying Fortresses are already using that field. North of Salerno, Mark Clark's Army has already fought its way ~~xxxxxx~~ two miles up the ~~xx~~ road to Naples.

East of Salerno, the Americans have crossed the mountains and advanced down the other side into the valleys.

The Germans are throwing in more and more reserves and evidently are bitterly determined to keep the Allies in the South of Italy as long as possible. But Uncle Sam's ~~army~~ doughboys repulsed all the heaviest German attacks and even counter-attacked. They suffered heavy casualties. ^P The allies have superiority in the air, fortunately.

SALERNO FOLLOW INVASION

American correspondents report that the Germans have completely looted Salerno. It was obviously done systematically and in anger. The Nazis were avenging themselves on the Italians for the capitulation. One story told by the inhabitants is that the Germans drove an armored car down the streets shooting everybody at sight, when the armistice was announced. They left ~~■~~ not a single scrap of food, not a vehicle that could move, no medical supplies. Before they left, they blew up the waterworks; so there is no water in Salerno.

MALTA

Into the harbor of Malta today, steamed a large Italian battleship, the Julius Caesar. With her was a converted seaplane-carrier and three destroyers. Altogether, there are now five Italian battle wagons in the Harbor of Malta.

Correspondents report that these ~~men-o-war~~ men-o-war appear spic and span and in first rate condition. Aboard them are four Italian Admirals of division.

One good thing about our having the Italian Navy, is that now a number of Allied battleships will be set free for service elsewhere; probably on the Pacific front.

It has been remarkable that with all those men-o-war in that harbor, there has been no bombing of Malta. This is taken to mean that the Germans have their hands full with the invasion of Italy and have no planes to spare for attacks on Malta.

MUSSOLINI

There are two versions today about the escape of Mussolini. The Germans invented a flowery tale that Adolf Hitler's own personal bodyguards had stormed an inaccessible mountain stronghold where the Duce was imprisoned. His Italian guards were under orders to kill Musso if it became necessary to prevent his being set at liberty. But that was prevented by the intrepid valor of the Fuehrer's guards.)

So runs the German tale. ^{TP} A more plausible one comes from Madrid. The Duce was being held at La Maddalena, an island at the northeastern tip of Sardinia, where the Italians have a naval base. A large German force landed there by ~~xxxx~~ sea and air and carried Mussolini away in a speed boat. The story describes him as being tired and mentally sick. ^{TP} ~~But~~ ^Q Stockholm dispatch reports him as having been taken to Hitler's mountain fastness at Berchtesgaden.

The Nazi radio broadcast fantastic stories of jubilation in the streets of Italian cities over the news of Mussolini's ~~xx~~ release. Of course that is made out of whole

cloth. A number of other Fascist leaders were released along with the Duce. But that Nazi radio said nothing about Mussolini being at Berchtesgaden, just said th^{at} he had talked with Hitler over the telephone.

London ~~XXXXX~~ hears that the Duce is about to form a new Fascist government under the protection of the Nazi army.

He probably will establish a temporary capital in northern Italy.

He will attempt to organize a Fascist Army to join the Nazis against

the allies. ^{And} That will create a picture of Italians fighting against Italians.

RUSSIA

The Red Army tonight is in the outskirts of Bryansk that German stronghold which has been the goal of so many offensives. At Bryansk the Nazis built the main bastion of the line guarding their central and southern fronts. It will be only a matter of hours now before Bryansk is once again in Russian hands. As it is, the Soviet troops are within eighty-two miles of Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine, ^{once} ~~and originally~~ the capital of Russia itself.

The Reds pushed ~~for~~ forward more than nine miles in twenty-four hours, which is extraordinary speed against fierce opposition. They have taken two of the railroad stations;— Bryansk number one and Bryansk Number two. ^{And—} They have set free more than thirty towns and innumerable villages. With the capture of those two railroad stations, they are now in command of the junction point for all the roads that radiate to Kiev, Smolensk and Gomel.

All along the six hundred mile front from Smolensk to the Sea of Azov, the Russians are attacking and the Nazi line is shaking. On five sectors, they have recaptured more than three hundred and forty inhabited places. Many of them are key

centers of communication, and their capture makes it ~~xxx~~ difficult for the Germans to reinforce and supply their garrisons. ^{IT} London estimates that the Germans are losing a ~~xxx~~ race against time in the northern Ukraine. They have been praying for rain, hoping that it would bring to their aid that useful general - General Mud. But the rain that has fallen in Russia ~~is~~ so far has not been enough to mire the plains.

If it is true that the German generals have withdrawn seventy divisions from Russia and sent them to the Italian front, it will not be long before the Red Army is once more in Kiev and has the entire rich territory of the Ukraine at its disposal, thereby ~~preventing~~ preventing the Germans from reaping the harvest.

SOLOMONS

In the waters of the Solomon Islands, Admiral Halsey's fleet and Air Force have sunk thirty Japanese barges in one week. Those barges were attempting to supply the besieged Jap garrison on Kolombangara. Twelve of ~~these~~² barges were sunk in one-₁twenty-four hour period.

Admiral Halsey sent this message to Major General Twining, Commander of Aircraft in the Solomons: "The air and surface war against Japanese barges is warming the enemy's seat", said Halsey. And he added: "Burn 'em up".

That barge traffic is the lifeline of the Japs, as they have no other means of supplying and reinforcing their garrison in the Central Solomons.

KURILES

The American Air Force carried out another raid on Jap positions in the Kuriles. This news we get from the Japs themselves, also the Germans. Tokyo announced that a force of eighteen United States bombers ~~we~~ had attacked the Kuriles at the northern approaches to the Japanese mainland. That appears to indicate that the target was the Jap naval base at Paramushiro.

The news was not confirmed by our own high command, which kept a strategic silence about the affair. But if it is true, it ^{is} the third raid by United States aircraft on the Kuriles.

ADD KURILES

Only half an hour ago our own ~~NY~~ Navy High Command confirmed the Tokyo announcement. It was Paramushiru that our Air Force attacked, ~~It was composed of United States~~ ^{with} heavy and medium bombers. The Navy says they scored hits on five enemy ships and also on the Jap ground installations. Enemy ~~na~~ opposition was heavy, and anti-aircraft fire especially thick. One enemy transport was left in a sinking condition. Twenty-five enemy fighters attacked our planes and there was a dogfight which lasted for fifty minutes. In that our bombers shot down ten enemy fighters, probably three more. We lost four planes in the fight, and six others failed to return.

PRISONERS

The International Red Cross has discovered that the Japanese forced six thousand white prisoners of war into work on the Japanese defenses of Burma. This of itself is a breach of international agreements. It is not lawful to force prisoners to work against their will, and especially not on war projects. The six thousand were working on roads for the Japanese in Burma and Thailand.

But aside from that, they were being brutally treated and large numbers of them have died, nobody knows exactly how many. The Red Cross intervened with the Japanese government, lodged a strong protest. *In this way* They forced the Japs to provide better food, better living quarters and medical attention. But the yellow men are still violating the Geneva convention.

SENATOR

From a Democratic Senator we have the statement today that the war against Japan is too much neglected. That opinion came from Senator Happy Chandler of Kentucky, one of the four *U.S. Senators* ~~members of the upper House~~ now in Australia. The strength of Japan, he declared, has been vastly under-estimated. The Japanese are a dangerous foe, and the Americans and Australians who are fighting them have been sent only a limited amount of materiel and equipment. *With* ~~that~~ that limited amount, however, they have done magnificently.

CHIANG

Tonight the Chinese people have a new President. His name, Chiang Kai-Shek, the Generalissimo of the Chinese Armies. He was elected unanimously today by the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang. In the temporary constitution of China, the Kuomintang has control over all high appointments. Chiang succeeds the late President Lin Sen, who died on August First.

There was much jubilation over the election of Chiang.

~~There were~~ Fireworks in the streets of Chungking, and jubilant editorials in the Chinese press.

The Chinese Minister of Information ^{states} ~~announced~~ that the Central Committee of the Kuomintang has announced that a national Peoples' Congress will be called within a year after the war. The purpose of the meeting will be to write a permanent constitution.

CONGRESS

Members of Congress are returning to Washington and showing a firm decision to oppose the proposal to draft pre-Pearl Harbor fathers into the Army on October First. Joe Martin, Republican leader in the House, declared that the ~~General~~ General Staff of the Army ought to prove that this move will be necessary to the satisfaction of Congress. The proof, he said, ought to come from a high commander of the army, preferably General Marshall himself. Joe Martin received support from several other Congressmen, including a number of southern Democrats.

COAL

The coal situation, says Secretary Ickes, is growing worse. The production of both anthracite and bituminous fell off during the week ending September fourth. And that means we are a long way from making up the deficiency of fuel supply caused by the strike last May.

~~There appears to be some hope that the deadlock between John Lewis's union and the operators may come to an end. But so far this is only a hope, based on unknown quantities. John Lewis today summoned the policy committee of the union to meet at Washington Thursday. When that committee is called, it usually means that an important decision may be expected. And that is all we have to go on.~~

POTATOES

We have one piece of good news from the world of agriculture. New England will have a bumper crop of potatoes. If this forecast is true, it means we will not next year have the shortage that we had last spring. The New England crop-reporting-service predicts that ~~the~~ New England crop will *have* more than seventy-four million bushels. Quite a lot of spuds.

PERSHING

At the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, the staff sergeant in charge of the kitchens baked a white cake today weighing thirty pounds and ornamented with four stars. ~~This~~
~~was~~ In honor of the eighty-third birthday of John J. Pershing, General of the armies of the United States. The aged warrior celebrated by having lunch with the young man who was his Aide-de-camp during the World War. That young man is General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff of the United States ~~Armed~~ Army.

Among the congratulations Pershing received, was one *in which* from President Roosevelt, ~~and~~ he used these words: "Today brings it forcibly to mind that you wanted to go through to Berlin in Nineteen Eighteen". *and* (That's a fact! *and* how right he

Gen. Pershing
was in Nineteen Eighteen! He warned the world that the Germans

ought to be broken into unconditional surrender and the country occupied by the allied armies. *well, the 83 yr. old general* ~~he~~ repeated today what he had said twenty-five years ago: - *That both* ~~both~~ Germany and Japan

must be whipped so completely that they will never again be able to attempt any further aggression.

And now Hugh. ~~Hope you had a fine vacation, Hugh.~~ Glad to see you back.