

*L.I. - Standard Thursday, August 13, 1944.
Success*

RUSSIA

At this moment Stalin's soldiers may be entering Germany.

rate The Third White Russian army tonight is at the gates of East Prussia. Soviet artillery is throwing shells into German towns on the border. The tanks and artillery of that army have swept away all German resistance, and are advancing on a twenty mile front.

Moscow reports it is even possible that they ^{may have crossed} ~~might~~ ~~XXXXX~~ over the border into East Prussia itself.

Then again, the tanks and cavalry of the First White Russian army have rolled into Praga, the great industrial suburb of Warsaw on the east bank of the River Vistula. Berlin admits the withdrawal of Nazi troops from positions nearby.

Looking south, we find the First Army of the Ukraine also crossing the Vistula and capturing the Polish city of Staszow, ~~that puts the Red~~ only a hundred miles ~~away~~ from German Silesia. Obviously, the major strategy of the Soviet high command is to outflank Warsaw

on all sides. In fact, the Nazi garrison there is already outflanked to the south and north.

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Much, much further north, we learn that ^Tthe First Baltic army is only fourteen miles from the great port of Riga; and about to ~~be~~ cut off another large German army.

INVASION

Moving at high speed the Americans today drove south from Avranches, advanced thirty-nine miles, and captured the town of Rennes, ancient capital of the Duchy of Brittany, one of the oldest cities in France, and the biggest the Allies have yet taken, bigger even than Cherbourg.

Rennes was a sizeable place when Caesar led his legions into the country and discovered that Gaul was divided into three parts. There the dukes of Brittany were crowned, in the Middle Ages. And before entering the city, which they always did by ^{particular} one gate, the Dukes had to take an oath to preserve the privileges ~~xxxxxx~~ of the church, as well as the privileges of the nobles and ^{Commons} ~~the commons~~ of their Duchy. From which we may infer that the Bretons had ideas of democracy as long as nine hundred years ago. The parliament of Brittany used to sit there.

But these, of course, are not the reasons why it was an important achievement. ~~ixix~~ Its importance

today lies in the fact that it's the hub of all the railway lines in Brittany. And to take Rennes means that the great harbor of Brest should soon be ours.

Before the city fell, a disheveled column of men marched out through one of the gates carrying white flags. They were ~~the~~ one thousand Nazi soldiers ~~left~~ of the garrison of Rennes, marching four abreast, led by their officers. They left their guns behind and stripped off their ammunition belts. Bleary-eyed, unwashed, and exhausted, their officers tried in vain to keep in them some semblance of military bearing.

They were so weary that they asked the American officers for lorries to carry them to the rear of the Allied lines. But all the transport vehicles were in use,

carrying American troops across Brittany. So one American officer just drew a map on a piece of paper, handed it to the ranking German officer, and showed him how to march his men to the prison camp in the rear. Every time they ran into an American unit moving to the front, they waved their white flags frantically so that our men might not shoot. When they reached the prison camp, they threw themselves down on the ground, unable to move.

~~From the other end of the invasion line, the news is ^{that} ~~not quite so cheery~~. The Nazi high command brought up a heavy reserve column of tanks, smashed into the British line, and checked them ^{Allies} ~~east of Vire~~, where they had broken through on such a big scale, ~~at the~~ ^{British front.}~~

~~At first it looked as though the Nazi counter-attacks were just nuisance thrusts. But the Germans brought up more and more armor; they had evidently been~~

INVASION - 4

On the other end of the invasion line, a peculiar situation developed. You may recall that the British yesterday broke through on a big scale East of Vire. This ~~is~~ threatened to isolate four whole divisions of Nazi troops. This morning the Nazis began ~~in~~ counter-attacking, first in small thrusts. As the day ~~is~~ developed they brought up more and more armor. Evidently they had been ordered to stop that British push at all costs. At one point ~~along~~ alone the Nazis had fifty tanks in action, punched holes in the British line and threw the infantry into the gaps.

The consequence was that British ~~is~~ advance was held back. And later it developed that the Germans were withdrawing ~~many~~ all their troops south of Vire to save those four threatened divisions.

STIMSON FOLLOW INVASION

Secretary of War Stimson today pointed out one most encouraging aspect of the invasion: ^{that} Uncle Sam's men in Normandy have wiped out the bulk of seven German divisions. In addition, they have taken more than twenty thousand Nazi prisoners and ^{have liberated} ~~set free~~ more than a thousand square miles of French territory. All this ^{in the latest} ~~in one~~ advance of sixty miles, ~~which they~~ accomplished in ~~only~~ ten days. ^{The total of prisoners since D-day is now more than seventy thousand.}

He added that the operations of the American, British and Canadian contingents are in complete coordination, and he said further that our swift advance in Normandy is the most satisfying accomplishment since the landings on the beaches; ~~It is~~ even more spectacular than the unexpected ^{ly} quick capture of Cherbourg. The Secretary used these words: "American armored forces had their first large scale test in France and passed it with flying colors."

In addition to eliminating those seven German divisions, the American advance has destroyed large numbers of German tanks and guns.

The attacks by our heavy bombers on German oil plants have been ^{useful} ~~quite fruitful~~, said Secretary Stimson, One result, said ~~he~~, ^{Secretary Stimson,} is that the Germans today have considerably less oil than they need for the functioning of their military machines.

ITALY

In Italy, the ^{men} ~~stout fighters~~ from New Zealand have stormed the heights of Mt. La Poggiona, five miles ~~to~~ the southwest of Florence. Meanwhile, other British units, including some from British India, established a new bridgehead across the Pesa River, a bridgehead two ~~six~~ miles wide and a mile deep.

Allied tanks are forging through the torturous mountain roads of that region, but Field Marshal Kesselring's Nazis are fighting for every foot of ground.

They show every intention of clinging to their much ^{holding it} vaunted Gothic Line, [^] to the bitter end. They have self-propelled guns, placed in good positions, and supported by heavy Nazi field artillery. ^{Apparently} The forcing of that line is going to cost the Allies much loss of life, unless we land another army in Italy — as the Germans suspect we are going to do.

TURKEY

Not until today did the Nazi government tell the Germans that Turkey has broken off relations with the Reich. Naturally, Propaganda Minister Goebbels broke into a tirade of indignation, accused ^{ing} the Turks of flagrantly violating the friendship pack they made with the Germans. Goebbels declared that the next thing the Turks knew they would find Soviet bases established in their country, thus ending all Turkish independence.

Goebbels was obviously using the occasion to try to drive a wedge into the relations between Russia, ^{on the one hand, and} Britain and America on the other. One of the Nazi commentators declared that the British and Americans are not strong enough in that part of the world, so the Soviets would take over.

Observers in London think ~~that~~ the failure of the Nazis to declare war on the Turks is a silent confession of weakness. A year ago, they would undoubtedly have invaded Turkish territory, or at least ^{would have} attacked it from the air.

NURSE

At the port of San Francisco today there landed a pretty and cheerful young woman who wore on her uniform the Distinguished Flying Cross, ^{also} the Air Medal, and the Purple Heart. She also had her right shoulder in a cast. All this ~~happened~~ as the result of seventeen months' service in the southwest Pacific, ^{Her name?} to Second Lieutenant Flight Nurse Kathleen Dial, of Florence, Alabama.

In spite of her injury, newspapermen report that she walked ashore blonde, dimpled and cheerful. She has more than seven hundred flying hours to her credit, the first flight nurse ^{to return} home from that theatre of war.

Her injury was the result of a crash. She was returning in a big ambulance transport plane, with eighteen patients aboard, ^{headed} from the front lines ^{for} Port Moresby. The pilot was forced to make a crash landing on Fishermen's Island, just off New Guinea. All of ~~these~~ ^{these} eighteen patients were mental cases.

And lo and behold

^ Lieutenant Dial reports that the shock of the landing

cured seven of those ~~bomb-happy fellows instantly~~ ^{mental cases. A strange}
and violent [^] cure!

What it did to the nurse was to send her crashing through
the door of the plane into unconsciousness for four days.

She woke up with a multiple fracture of the right shoulder,
a dislocated hip, and a concussion of the brain.

NELSON

Our war production program is behind schedule. So we hear from Production Chief Donald Nelson. At the end of the half year, we should have turned out munitions to the tune of thirty-four and a half billion dollars; but, we were two per cent short of that.

Whereupon Donald Nelson gives us a warning. This shows, says he, that we must not delude ourselves that the war production job is finished! Not by any means!

The reason given for the lag is shortage of manpower; and for several days, War Mobilization Director Byrnes has been talking all this over with Army and Navy officers and production officials. The lack of help is more acute in some areas and in some industries than others. Consequently, as Nelson points out, the two per cent shortage doesn't give a true picture of how serious the situation is. For while production is almost up to schedule in some items, in others it is far below. Nelson describes certain industries as being in serious ~~difficulties~~ difficulty.

TRUMAN

Senator Harry Truman has resigned as Chairman of the Committee that bears his name, resigned in order to *play an active part in the campaign.* ~~attend to his campaign for the vice presidency.~~ Some of

his colleagues in the Senate, including Republican Senators, had urged him to keep the chairmanship.

But he insisted on giving it up, ^{and} explained that he did not want to create even a shadow of a suspicion that the activities of his Committee were motivated by political considerations.

Sen. Truman sent his letter of resignation to Vice-President Wallace today. *Such was the irony of it: - Truman to Wallace.*

Republicans and Democrats alike acknowledged ^{Sen.} that Truman has ^S done a good job. In his letter of resignation, ~~Truman~~ ^{he} wrote that the accomplishments of his Committee were largely due to the fact that all its members, no matter what their politics, were able to work together in harmony, without partisan feelings.

There will be a meeting tomorrow to choose *his* successor. ~~to Truman~~ By seniority, the next in line is ^{*the*} Acting Chairman, Senator Tom Connally of Texas.

But he is already Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, ^{*which*} ~~and that~~ gives him quite enough to do.

Next in line to him is Senator Meade of New York, ^{*[of the committee]*} who became a member in March, Nineteen Forty-One.

REPUBLICANS

Out in St. Louis, the twenty-six Republican Governors issued a report in which they charge that if the voters continue the New Deal in office, they will invite a national disaster. They accuse the administration of listlessness, negligence, lack of leadership, and they added that the New Deal was now ~~standing~~ standing in the path of future employment of our returning veterans and millions of dislocated war workers.

Under the leadership of Governor^s Dewey of New York and Bricker of Ohio, the Republican chiefs of states have almost finished their job of drawing up a program to promote post-war employment and security.

~~They even accuse the New Deal of wishing to undermine the National Guard system, taking the control entirely away from the states, and have the entire military force of the country under Washington rule even in peacetime. This, the Governors declare, would~~

STRIKE

Late this evening President Roosevelt took a hand in that strike of street car and bus and subway workers in Philadelphia. He ordered the Army to take charge.

In peacetime, a strike of local rapid transit workers would never command the attention of the Federal Government. In Philadelphia, strikers had definitely interfered with the war effort of the nation, making it impossible for workers in war munitions plants to get to their jobs properly in the morning and return home at night.

Although the President was not in Washington he issued an order to the Secretary of War, authorizing Stimson to take possession and assume control of all the systems, plants and other assets of the Philadelphia Transportation Company. Stimson promptly ordered Major General Philip Hayes, Commander of the third Service Command to take charge. Thereupon, the ~~W Army~~ Army walked in.

The President acted upon request by Chairman Davis of the War Labor Board. Davis advised Mr. Roosevelt that it was quite clear there was no dispute between the company and the Union. ~~As most people know, this was~~ ^{This is} a wildcat strike, fomented by agitators trying to make trouble because some six or eight negro employees had been promoted. For this reason the white workers walked out, and tied up the transportation system of Philadelphia and caused a serious shortage of war work, in and around the City of William Penn.

TREASURE

A treasure hunt in Portland, Oregon where pioneers from Massachusetts once eagerly sought for quick ^{riches.} ~~wealth.~~ Background of today's treasure hunt is one of those tales of human eccentricity difficult for the rest of us to understand. In an old house -- not so very old since Portland dates from Eighteen Forty-five, in that old house lived a couple of elderly bachelors. They had one interest, the collecting of coins, principally gold coins.

When President Roosevelt took over all the gold in the country, these brothers paid no attention. They hid their coins here and there all over the premises. ^{They died recently and some of} ~~has been~~ Their hidden treasure ~~was recently~~ discovered, to the tune of some Six Thousand Dollars, mostly in gold coins. One of the currency pieces found was a dime minted in the United States Mint in Eighteen Fifty-two.

The lawyers for the estate believe that their may be quite a lot more. Some seven or ten thousand dollars worth.

When the

They left

~~Both~~ brothers died ~~within the past year,~~

leaving maps which may indicate where the treasure

hidden.

was ~~concealed~~. The searchers found Three Thousand

Dollars in an old stove in the basement, *also* ~~they found~~

a Mason jar full of Twenty Dollar gold pieces, ~~filled~~

~~is with ten and five dollar pieces.~~

~~Quite intriguing, this treasure hunt.~~ The

authorities are not releasing the name of the brothers

~~and~~ or the address of the house, because they do not

want any invasion of volunteer treasure hunters who

might wish to help and carry off *the gold.* ~~also many gold pieces.~~

~~What a human story may lurk behind the history,~~

~~of these two eccentric old bachelors.~~

PREACHER

In Santa Ana, California a preacher with a shooting iron on his hip went crusading against slot machines. He started with full authority of the law, having the badge of a special deputy sheriff of Orange County. The Sheriff of Orange County lifted the Reverend's badge, whereupon the Police Chief of Santa Ana gave him a special permit.

So the Reverend went around ~~the county~~ on a hunt for slot machines. By the time he had found sixteen of them, all the cars in his parade were full. He drove up to the Sheriff's office where they told him the Sheriff had no place to put it. So he stored the stuff himself and then the Sheriff agreed to take it over.

The Reverend asked the Sheriff to issue complaints against ~~in~~ the places where he had found those slot machines. The Sheriff said he would have to ask the District Attorney if he thought there was any evidence. The Reverend suggested that Fifteen thousand dollars worth of slot machines was quite a load

of evidence. So he put it up to the Attorney General of California. The Attorney General of California was in Mexico City and asked his Chief Deputy to have a look.

Whereupon the Reverend manifested a ~~hm~~ touch of humor. Said he, "The Deputy Attorney General will find that they look just like slot machines".

— 2 —
And what do things look like to you, Roger?

GUNMEN

War broke out today in Chicago. This time not over liquor. It all had to do with gambling.

It seems that some time ago, a well known Chicagoan passed away. He was known to his fellows as "the Enforcer", but his legal name was Frank Nitti, "king of the gambling underworld." When the Enforcer committed suicide, a throne fell vacant. There were two heirs-apparent, one a gent named Jack Guzik. The other, a fellow named Lawrence Mangano, known as "Dago." Both members of the old Capone mob.

Just as Jack Guzik was about to ascent the throne, he was abducted. But he didn't stay abducted long. He reappeared in his old haunts, unharmed, and the underworld gossip was that he had paid handsomely to be released. Whereupon Lawrence "Dago" Mangano assumed the royal purple of the realm of gambling, and on the surface all was tranquil.

Early this morning, the gambler king was driving quietly along the street with his bodyguard and a girl friend. Without warning, a black sedan pulled alongside. There was a salvo from shotguns and revolvers. And thus ended the short reign of King Dago. Mangano. Only the girl escaped. When the shooting began, she crouched on the floor.

Before Mangano died, the Chicago cops asked him who threw those shots, and he replied: "If I knew, I'd tell".

And what do you know Bob?