

L.T. - Sunco. Tuesday, Sept. 1, 1942.

EGYPT

46

Today in the sky above the desert, the Americans were in action. The United States air squadrons played a vigorous all-day part in the battle against the new Egyptian offensive staged by Rommel. American bombers of several types joined with the R.A.F. in constant flights, hour after hour, against the panzers and their supply line. In particular, our own American warplanes took a Number One part in the violent blasting of Tobruk - that key port which is ^{now Rommel's main} ~~the Number One Rommel~~ war base and supply harbor.

The new outbreak of battle in Egypt may be described tonight as something of a violent puzzle. It may result in the whole African pot boiling up. If Rommel should crash through - Alexandria, Suez, the whole Near East, would be in deadly peril of the Nazi sweep. Or the outcome of battle might be a successful offensive by General Alexander ^{'s} ~~of the~~

British and Americans, and they might fling Rommel back, and even clear North Africa of ^{the} German panzers.

A These large and decisive things might be the outcome - if Rommel's present drive is the real thing, an all-out offensive, a gamble for spectacular victory. The British in Cairo do not know. Possibly, the Nazi commander is going all out, or perhaps he is merely making a local attack with some limited objective - something moderate and cautious.

While all this was in question, ~~Rommel's attack~~ Rommel ^{was} ~~attacking~~ ^{ing} the southern end of the British line, where it is anchored against the impassable marsh of the Qattara Depression. The first on-set gained ground, scoring an eight mile advance. The latest from Cairo describes the drive as - "gathering momentum slowly." Rommel is hitting with large forces which are estimated at between a hundred and a hundred and forty thousand

7

men - and some six hundred tanks. The United Nations

are striking back with an army heavily reinforced, *So*

the biggest
desert battle, ~~the biggest~~ ever, *with* The United States

air forces in all-day action. American tank units are

massed for a critical thrust at a decisive moment -

already
which may have come to pass.

RUSSIA

Tonight's news from Soviet Russia is concentrated on Stalingrad - as on previous days. The Soviets report good Red Army news ~~toward~~ ^{at} the northwest of the city, not so good in the south. At the northwest, Soviet forces have crossed the River Don, where the Axis line is held by Italians - and ~~they~~ ^{there the Reds} scored a sizeable advance, driving the Italians back. This is a highly strategic flanking operation, which would cut in behind the line of the German drive - if successful. If the Russians can continue to push on for any distance, they will threaten the whole system of German communications within the big bend of the Don.

48

At the south of Stalingrad, however, (Moscow admits that violent Nazi tank attacks ^{have} crashed through at Red Army defense positions. This might give some confirmation to the Berlin claim that the panzers were within fifteen miles of Stalingrad at the south.

One particular bit of action today was ^a heavy Soviet air ^{assault} ~~attacks~~ against a far advanced German supply column - a train of armored trucks trying to get to a panzer outfit that had still further advanced. These tanks ^{so far} ~~were~~ out in front ~~of Stalingrad and~~ were virtually trapped by Soviet ^{counter-} attacks. The Germans had ^{ve} been trying to supply them by parachute, but ^{can't} ~~can't~~ get enough material to them by the sky route. So the supply column is trying to crash through to their aid, and the Red air force is striking to wipe it out.

IRELAND

49
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The government of Northern Ireland announces the discovery of a sensational plot ^{for} ~~of~~ an armed attack against the British in Ulster -- an attack also against the American forces stationed there. The plot is said to have been ~~attempted~~ ^{hatched} by the Irish Republican Army. This secret anti-British organization has been outlawed by the DeValera government and the rest of Ireland -- and, of course, it is doubly outlawed in Ulster. ^R The news dispatch declares the assault against British and Americans was scheduled to begin tomorrow -- at the hour of ^{an} ~~hour~~ execution. In a death cell in Belfast there's a nineteen year old youth, Thomas Williams, sentenced to capital punishment for the killing of an Ulster policeman last Easter Sunday. At that time there was a gun fight between members of the I.R.A. and a squad of police, ^{and} ~~one~~ of the latter lost his life. ^{TP} Six of the I.R.A. men were tried and found guilty. The death penalties of five were commuted to prison terms. The execution of the

sixth is scheduled to occur tomorrow. And this, says the Ulster government, was to be the signal for an uprising by the Irish Republican Army.

The plot was discovered in a raid on stores of I.R.A. weapons -- hidden guns. Some of these

Two munition dumps,
guns are
~~have been~~ said to have been smuggled in from South

Ireland. Others -- stolen from the British and

American forces in Ulster. ~~R~~ And along with the

armament, a document was seized. A secret message.

"The terms of this document," say the Ulster authorities,

"make clear that this illegal organization has been

preparing for an attack on members of the armed

forces, Crown police and United States forces stationed

in Ireland."

In London, meanwhile, a number one government

official advises that mercy be extended to Thomas

Williams, who is to be executed tomorrow. General

Sir Hubert Gough, an organizer of London local defense

volunteers, has sent an urgent message to Prime Minister

Winston Churchill -- a message in which he points out that Englishmen seeking full reconciliation with Ireland are convinced that a reprieve should be extended. General Sir Hubert Gough uses the following words to the Prime Minister:- "I respectfully urge the cancellation of the death sentence as a general gesture of high policy in the face of widespread public emotion in Ireland."

51

JAPAN

A dispatch from enemy Tokyo states that the Japanese Cabinet has decided to create what it calls a "Ministry for Greater East Asia." Meaning - they intend to set up a government to include the whole of the territories they have seized. And this would seem to be a political form of the nightmare of Jap conquest and robbery.

The enemy report about this "Ministry for Greater East Asia," follows the resignation of Tokyo Foreign Minister Togo, and both serve to mark one of those curious coincidences that we find so often in history and the news. It occurs on the third anniversary of the outbreak of the present war - the beginning of the clash in Europe. And Japanese observers note that this is also another anniversary - that of the great Japanese earthquake.

Just nineteen years ago the densely populated areas of Tokyo and Yokohama were frightfully devastated by the violent shaking of the earth, and more than

ninety-nine thousand persons perished.

That was the time when American charity went to the rescue. This nation rushed swift aid on the largest kind of scale - our own people raising millions of mercy dollars for the aid of Japan in need. Which of course is to be viewed in the light of that later event - Pearl Harbor.

The official Tokyo account is that Foreign Minister Togo resigned because of what are called - personal reasons. Those who know Japan pay little attention to so lame an explanation. They immediately wonder what the departure of Togo means with reference to a Japanese attack on Soviet Russia.

The best analysis that I find is one by Robert Bellaire, the United Press correspondent who was in Tokyo when the war between the United States and Japan broke out. Bellaire is one of the newspapermen who returned recently aboard the evacuee ship - the GRIPSHOLM. He was U.P. correspondent in the Far East

for seven years, and is intimately acquainted with Japanese affairs. .

Bellaire notes that the removal of Togo furthers the ambition of the enemy Premier, General Tojo. This point is emphasized by the fact that Togo's post as Foreign Minister is being taken over by Tojo. An odd pair of names - Togo and Tojo. You might make a limerick about them. It might begin:-

"Two statesmen named Togo and Tojo,

Called Stalin and said to him, 'Oh Joe.'"

But you go ahead and make up the rest of the limerick.

U.P. Correspondent Bellaire, who does not go in for limerick, explains that Togo made his reputation as a diplomat when he was Ambassador to Moscow - when he was the Number One factor in maintaining peace between the Soviets and Japan.

"If the Japanese attack on Russia is imminent," writes Bellaire, "Togo has outlived his usefulness to

the army - although his resignation may be a personal futile protest against further extension of Japan's far-flung battlefronts."

Bellaire describes Togo - not the brusque Tojo - as a mild mannered civilian, weak and hesitant of speech - who was included in the Japanese War Cabinet as a bit of stage dressing for the double-cross of Pearl Harbor. He says that Togo probably didn't even know about the attack on Pearl Harbor until several hours before it began.

Bellaire tells about Togo's behavior during the fatal few hours before the Jap enemy struck the treacherous blow. It was he who received President Roosevelt's final appeal to reason, addressed to the Emperor Hirohito. He was handed this by our own Ambassador Grew. The time was midnight - five hours before bombs fell on Pearl Harbor. At that late hour Togo promised Ambassador Grew an audience with the Jap Emperor at ten o'clock on the morning of December 8th, Tokyo time. That appointment was for six hours after

the time when the Pearl Harbor assault was scheduled to begin.

All of which would indicate that the war makers of the Jap army used their own Foreign Minister as a puppet in what seems more and more to have been a secret gangster plot on a world scale.

I suggested a limerick in this Jap story, and now let us end it with a connundrum - a riddle that has a moody application to these war lords who dominate and destroy their fellow men. The riddle comes to me from a young woman, Elizabeth van Aken by name, who says it's an old Spanish proverb. It goes like this:-

"What is it that the common man often sees that a king or dictator seldom sees - and God never sees?" The answer - his own equal.

So maybe the war lord suffers from the madness of not tolerating an equal, thinking that he is Divinity. Tojo ousting Togo.

ELEANOR CLUB

Tonight we have a report on what are described as - "Eleanor Clubs." The announcement is made by Eleanor, the First Lady. She says she has been investigating stories about these clubs named in her honor. They are said to have a slogan, which is - "Not a maid in the kitchen by Christmas." Which sounds most inconvenient, especially in the south - and that is where the Eleanor Clubs are reported to flourish.

In the South colored house held is traditional, and in Dixieland there is an increasing employment of women in defense industries. So you can see what can happen to Mrs. Jefferson Davis Lee of The Old Mansion on the hill when Gladiola, Geranium and their mammy hike down to the parachute factory. Mrs. Jefferson Davis Lee might have to wash the dishes, and what would her pre-Civil War forbears think of that?

Somehow, the Jeffersons, Davises and Lees are said to be blaming it on Mrs. Roosevelt. Hence the

formation of the Eleanor Clubs, with their slogan -
"Not a maid in the kitchen by Christmas."

Today, the First Lady stated that her investigations failed to disclose the existence of these Eleanor Clubs. She thinks they are just a myth - a gag making the rounds. She says she is not to blame if the colored help is turning into war production workers.

"In the South," she explained, "the pay of domestic help has been very low. And," she adds, "if there is any opportunity to work in industry, the maids will try it anyway."

So there is a new idea to bristle the feathers of Mrs. Jefferson Davis Lee - the suggestion that she might raise the wages of the help. Maybe she might try paying Gladiola, Geranium and their mammy as much as they get making parachutes. Well, Appomattox was just too bad.

WOLF

Here is a story to remind you of Little Red Riding Hood. Remember Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf? Today's account tells how a girl had found a sure kind of protection against wolves. Of course, you might think that in this modern day, in a big city like New York, there would be little danger of wolves. However, here's today's tale of wild animal life.

~~The discoverer of the protection against wolves~~
~~is~~ Barbara Britton^{is} a starlet of motion pictures. She is blue-eyed and blond. Now Barbara has a boy friend - in fact, more than that. He is her "best boyfriend," says she. And he is in the Navy. Her new discovery is the wearing of a pin. It's in the shape of a heart, and she wears it over her heart. It's decorated with the letters "U.S.N." and an anchor -- indicating that he is in the Navy, and that she is anchored to that best boy friend.

This is charmingly sentimental in point of

58
love and romance -- but, strangely enough, it also has to do with wild animals. It appears that wolves are discouraged by a heart, the faithful anchor and the insignia of the Navy -- worn over a girl's heart. We must ask the professor of zoology about that.

Anyway, Barbara recommends her invention to other girls, and explains it in the following scientific terms:- "The idea," says she, "is just to win the wolf's respect -- so he won't get ideas." Now, what ideas would a wolf have? Something about pursuing a gentle doe? We'll have to ask the professor of animal psychology about that.

58 1/2
Barbara relates that during several days in New York she has been to the Statue of Liberty, to the top of the Empire State Building, through the subway - and she went to see the Dodgers play. And not a wolf has chased ~~her~~ ~~any~~ ~~one~~ ~~of~~ ~~us~~ ~~^~~

her - all)
because of the magic pin,

And that, my children, is more cheerful than the bedtime story of Little Red Riding Hood and her

WOLF - 3

Grandma, who so sadly were eaten. The modern Red Riding Hood has not been devoured by a wolf -- and neither has her Grandma.

9
And here is Grandpa saying
S-l-u-t-m.