

L.T. SUNOCO, THURS., SEPT. 23, 1943

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

The fall of Naples is not far off, but when the British and Americans get there apparently they will find a mere skeleton of that once great city. A couple of days ago the Nazis got through sacking the place, such sacking as has not been seen in modern warfare outside Russia. And now they've turned the whole place into one mass of flame. The word tonight is that they have wrecked every ship Allied bombs had not already destroyed, and have demolished every wharf. So our people will have a lot of rebuilding to do before they can use Naples as a port. There are at least thirty ships either sunk at the bottom of the harbor or aground.

A division of General Clark's Fifth Army has just advanced six miles from Campagna and captured Acerno. Another column of the Fifth Army in the Southeast pushed

ahead ten to fifteen miles. The British Eighth Army has stormed and occupied Avigliano, ten miles northwest of Potenza, *the big railway center.*

There is an unusual spectacle to be seen in that part of Italy. The British and American armies ~~are~~ moving north; and the disbanded Italian army ~~is~~ heading in the opposite direction, trudging along to take refuge in southern Italy. They plod along the roadsides, disarmed, ragged; and, ~~many of them~~ barefoot. Many ~~of~~ *with* handkerchiefs or dirty rags tied around their heads. And they have even thrown away parts of their uniforms so *as to* ~~that they are~~ no longer look like soldiers. On their backs they carry bags with their personal belongings.

picture it as a
Reporters ~~declare that actually it is a~~
pathetic sight. Mussolini's erstwhile army *also is*
desperately hungry. The disarmed soldiers have nothing

to eat but such canned rations as they can beg from the American troops; ^{except that} they scour over the fields to pick what tomatoes or fruit they can find. They sleep in the open fields at nights. By dawn they are on the road again. At every little house along the route are women and children, waiting for their returning men.

But, there are ^{some} ~~few~~ houses in the regions from which ~~the~~ Germans have been expelled ^{— by force,} Whole villages have been pounded into heaps ^{of rubble,} first by Allied artillery fire and air bombardment; second by the revengeful Nazis. Whole families have been living in camps and caves in the hills. And they are moving back, frightened and confused.

^{Gen. Clark's} ~~The American~~ Fifth Army is now in full command of the mountain saddle from which the Germans tried to drive it from its beachhead at Salerno. The American's have turned the tables on the Germans, and are now

pouring artillery fire on the enemy in the field^s below. By this time they are in complete command of the wishbone-shaped strip of land between the Sele and the Colore Rivers.

The B^ritish and Americans are pushing ahead ^{like} ~~the~~ ^{the proverbial} steamroller. The retreating Germans have not even had time to bury all their dead. In fact, they have not even been able to place their mines and destroy bridges.

One incident illustrates the speed with which they are running away. Our troops came to a wooden bridge on the road. They found blasting charges in wooden boxes, wired to spans of the bridge. But the Nazis had to run before they could set the charges off.

^{TP} German units are still holding positions north of Bari, where they will probably make their next stand. ^{There} ~~they~~ ^{they} are trying to take cover from the heavy shelling

that American field artillery are throwing at them.

The United Press reports that its correspondent, Reynolds Packard, is with the American advance guard, on his way to reestablish U.P.'s Bureau in Rome, of which he used to be manager until the war broke out *When* ~~was~~ he and Mrs. Packard were interned.

~~THIRTEEN~~ Twelve thousand Germans are trapped on the island of Corsica, ^{and} General Eisenhower has taken steps to ~~make sure that they cannot~~ ^{keep them from} escape ^{ing} British and American naval and air forces are maintaining a close blockade of the seventy-five mile strip of water between Corsica and the Italian mainland. A mixed army of French colonials, American rangers, Corsicans and Italians are after the Germans ~~who~~ ^{we are told,} who have retreated to the northeastern part of the island; ~~and the report is that it was~~ ⁱⁿ a disorderly flight, ^{we are told,} ^{TP} General Henri Giraud, the French Commander-in-Chief in North Africa,

returned today from a flying trip to Corsica. The
people cheered him wildly. ^{Giraud} ~~He~~ brought ~~back~~ the news
that the mixed Allied army ^{now} has possession of two-thirds
of the thirty-four thousand square miles of ^{Corsica.} ~~the island~~
^{and that} it will not take more than ten or fifteen days to crush
the last German resistance.

LIDICE

You will remember the little Czechoslovak village of Lidice. Much pains are being taken to see that nobody forgets it. ~~It is~~ the village that the Nazis wiped out entirely. Just one man escaped to tell the story, a villager named Karl Horak. Himmler's Gestapo kept after him for twelve months ~~as he~~ travelled ^{- fled rather,} ~~some~~ eight hundred miles across Europe. The Gestapo wanted to get him so that he ~~should~~ ^{did} not live to tell that ghastly story. ~~But as a matter of fact he did tell it~~ ^{tell it he did —} at a dozen underground posts in Europe, where he hid for a while. ~~But~~ For three months now the Czech Intelligence Office in London has heard nothing of Karl Horak, and it ^{'s} believed ~~that~~ the Gestapo finally caught up with him.

GABLE

A Flying Fortress somewhere in England has been nicknamed the DUCHESS. The DUCHESS has just returned from taking part in a raid on German naval installations on the coast of France. On her way back, she ran into a flock of some fifty Nazi fighters who followed her all the way in. Consequently the DUCHESS came back full of holes.

As she landed, out stepped Gunnery Captain Clark Gable. His fifth mission with Ira Eaker's Eighth United States Army Air Force. Most of the way over Captain Gable was operating a camera, but as soon as they were over the target, he was manning the gun in the nose of the ship.

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He said the trip was not quite as tough as when he had taken part in the raid on the Ruhr. One enemy plane flew so close ~~that~~ he was able to see the features of the Nazi pilot. ~~Unfortunately, our men missed him.~~

The raid in which Clark Gable took part was a double surprise affair on the ^{French} port of Nantes. It followed close upon ~~the~~ ^a devastating night attack ~~that~~ the Royal Air Force made on the German city of Hannover. The R.A.F. has been kept at home for a whole week by bad weather. They made up for it at Hannover by dropping something like two thousand tons of blockbusters and incendiaries. The raid lasted only thirty minutes but in every one of those minutes they dropped more than sixty-six tons. Observers report the destruction was terrific. ~~It was~~ ^{The} forty-seventh raid on Hannover.

~~The daylight raid of American planes was a~~

RUSSIA

The Red Armies tonight have their feet once more on the soil of White Russia, ~~with~~ that rich and fertile region where so many campaigns have raged back and forth. They entered White Russia, ~~then~~ ^{after} they stormed and captured a place called Unecha. This is a junction of several railways, a strategic point seventy-two miles west of Bryansk. ~~It~~ ^{And} commands the railroad from Bryansk to Gomel. ~~Stalin~~ ^{He} made the announcement ~~in a~~ ^{in another} special order, speaking as Field Marshal of all the Soviet Armies. On that Gomel front, the Red columns drove ahead sixteen miles and reached the southeastern corner of White Russia at a point some forty-seven miles to the southeast of Gomel, which is a still more important railway ~~junction~~ center.

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Poltava, where the Soviet army is now in full

occupation. The Germans claim as usual that they evacuated without losing a man.

By the way, they are now using a new phrase to explain the retreat of Hitler's armies in Russia. They have worn out the term ~~of~~ "elastic defense" and "strategic withdrawal," so tonight they popped up with a new one. Propaganda Minister Goebbels' news agency used these priceless words: "In the Bryansk area, the bulk of the German troops reached a new line without fighting."

Whether there was fighting or not, they certainly reached a new line. The Moscow communique reported ~~that~~ that the Red troops had advanced to within ten miles of Smolensk. ~~But~~ the Nazi radio admitted ~~that~~ street that fighting had already begun at a place called Roslavl, ~~which is~~ a suburb of Smolensk.

TOJO FOLLOW PACIFIC

Tojo,
The Japanese Prime Minister, *has made* ~~General Tojo~~
another ~~made~~ speech to his people ~~that was~~ *either* not full of cheer.
All about how He ~~announced that~~ his government *must* ~~was enforcing even~~ *still*
more drastic regulations, and ordering ~~even~~ further
sacrifices from the people. *Also is* ~~He~~ warned the subjects
of the Mikado that Japan ~~is~~ now facing a grave war
situation; and he used these words:- "The enemy,
without learning their lessons, are persistently
attempting to counter-attack us." And he added that
the war situation is gaining in ferocity day by day.
That's right, Mr. Tojo.

PACIFIC

In fact General MacArthur's Australian troops are now cleaning the Japanese out of that part of New Guinea northwest of Salamaua. The other day they established a bridgehead on what is called the Maclay coast, not far from a place where the Japs had built a relay point for supplies. The Australians are now fighting southward toward ^{a port} ~~a place~~ called Finschhafen. Another column is advancing from Kaiapit, which is ninety miles inland, marching to make a junction with the Australians who are approaching Finschhafen. ^{Gen. Kenney's} ~~The United States~~ Fifth ~~arm~~ Air Force is backing them up, battering the Jap air bases and attacking the enemy line of communications across the strait to the island of New ~~Island~~.

The Japanese air force is fighting back ~~at them~~ and raiding ~~the~~ Allied shipping east of Lae. But the Japs have lost ^{some ten} ~~at least nine, and probably ten~~ planes, shot down by ~~our~~ P-Forty interceptors. Tokyo claims

Japanese
that the ~~enemy~~ set two Allied destroyers afire and hit two cruisers off the coast of New Guinea. Our own high command says nothing about that.

In the Solomons, the enemy is doing all it can to delay our capture of the *rather large* island of Bougainville. They attacked Guadalcanal again and did ~~x~~ superficial damage, but nothing serious.

Meanwhile, our own bombers dropped twenty tons of explosives on ~~the~~ Jap artillery *positions at the tip of* ~~at the end of~~ Kolombangara Island. On some of the other small islands there are still small pockets of the enemy *that we now* ~~are~~ being wiped out. *TP This new Jap* ~~The~~ attack on Guadalcanal ~~is~~ the fifth ~~at~~ this week, so *Taj's men are* ~~evidently they are~~ making an *complete* ~~serious~~ effort to stop our getting possession of the Solomon ^{S.} ~~group.~~

LEGION

The American Legion Convention at Omaha has endorsed the proposal that the United States, after the war, shall ~~be a party to~~ ^{become a member of} an international ~~organization~~ ^{of nations} organization to maintain peace. The ^{Legion} convention adopted a resolution that the United States should join other free and sovereign nations in such an association. But there was a string to the resolution, a line which read:- "Our own national interest must ever be our first concern."

One of the speakers at the convention today was Admiral ~~Ernest~~ King, head of the fleet. He told the Legion that the Allied high command has planned attacks against the enemy with all weapons that can be brought to bear, synchronized and coordinated with overwhelming assault. The ~~XXXXXX~~ recent raids by Navy airplanes in the Pacific on Japanese islands in the Pacific, he said, are in the shape of things to come.

And he further told the Legionnaires that American
naval aviation today is the most efficient in the world.
Even foreign powers have admitted it.

STIMSON

Secretary of War Stimson today made answer to

all these
X A
~~the~~ rumors about General Douglas MacArthur. ~~There is~~
said he. MacArthur
No truth to the story, ~~XXXXXXXXX that he~~ will be called
either,
home because he told the world the other day how
dissatisfied he was with the plans of the Pacific
strategy. *Sec.* ~~Colonel~~ Stimson said that the General is
at present ~~very~~ busily engaged and exceedingly active,
much too busy to come home.

7
On the subject of General Marshall, the
exactly
Secretary was not ~~very~~ talkative. He declined either
to deny or affirm reports that our Chief of Staff is
to be appointed head of the European armies of invasion.

Sec.
Stimson explained that generals are sent where they
Then he went on to say that
will be of the greatest possible use. ~~He was not~~
he was not
thinking of any individual, ~~he said~~, but just expressing
a general opinion. And he contradicted the idea that
any change of job for Marshall would be "a kick upstairs."

DRAFT

The Congressmen who opposed the drafting of fathers established a significant point today. They declared that there were at least three hundred thousand men in the civilian employ of the government who might be drafted but who have not been called. Those three hundred thousand are young fellows of military age on the federal payroll, *— men who are* single and childless. The Congressmen fired a question about them at Bernard M. Baruch, special advisor to James Byrnes, head of the War Mobilization Board. Baruch admitted that there was this available pool among government employees. So they asked him what he thought of getting some of those single men. Baruch replied: "I am with you."

One member of the Committee declared that the Department of the Interior, under Secretary Ickes, had listed six thousand of its men as essential.

The War Manpower Commission declined to approve his list and Ickes complained to the President. The Congressmen listed other departments, including O.P.A., as being largely manned by men who might be fighting. Baruch appeared to be quite in sympathy with them.

8 1/2
Officials of the War Manpower Commission said tonight that the fathers will have to be drafted no matter what Senator Wheeler and his followers in Congress think. However, they said also that the draft boards probably will give more consideration to those who were fathers before Pearl Harbor when allowing occupational deferrments.

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And now Hugh, it's up to you -