

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1943.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

At any moment now, you may hear of the fall  
of Kharkov. ~~Obviously,~~ <sup>has been</sup> The Nazi radio ~~are~~ <sup>^</sup> preparing  
the German people ~~of~~ <sup>H</sup> for the bad news. Moscow has <sup>not</sup>

as yet reported the actual entry of Soviet troops.

But, Berlin announced that fresh units of the Red Army,  
strongly supported by tanks, were attacking the Germans  
near Kharkov from the north and east. Radio Berlin then  
acknowledged that the Russians had succeeded in making

" a few penetrations."

<sup>It appears to be</sup>  
~~Obviously, it is~~ all over except the actual  
entry into that great center of the Ukraine, the bread  
basket of European Russia. Military observers in

London expect the Soviet high command to announce the

recapture of Kharkov in the late night special  
communiqué.

*table of*  
Moscow ~~reports~~ the beginning of the end, *in*  
*how* ~~the shape of~~ a fierce tank battle *took place* on the outskirts  
of the city. *It* Meanwhile, according to Russian observers,

the German garrison is evacuating the city by *train*  
*after* ~~train loads~~. The Red Army is advancing *on Kharkov* in five separate  
and distinct columns.

Coming on top of the fall of Rostov and  
Voroshilovgrad, as announced last night, *the fall of Kharkov* ~~this~~ means  
that the three main bastions of the southern extremity  
of the German line have collapsed. That backs up the  
prophecy of ~~the~~ *experts* military ~~sharks~~ that the Germans are  
preparing to withdraw to the Dnieper River line, a line  
extending from Riga *far to* the north, all along the line  
of the River *OVINA*, and then the great *DNIEPER* ~~Kneiper~~ to Kiev  
and Odessa.

An interesting part of the Nazi communiques,  
is that ~~they~~ <sup>Germans</sup> are constantly commenting on the strength  
of the Russian attack and <sup>of</sup> the Russian forces. In other  
words, the Russians appear to be ~~x~~ getting stronger  
every week. <sup>TP</sup> Radio Moscow announced today that a new  
class of recruits have begun military training. The  
Soviet High Command says:- "Our reserves are  
inexhaustible." <sup>and</sup> The same feeling is being echoed  
plaintively by the Nazis.

## RAIDS

The Royal Air Force last night dealt a couple <sup>more</sup> of  
terrific blows at the Axis. One, ~~was~~ another raid on  
Cologne, with those massive block buster bombs, <sup>while</sup> Cologne  
<sup>was</sup> still suffering <sup>from the bombing recently,</sup> ~~under the attack made by a thousand~~  
<sup>and, last year,</sup> ~~R.A.F. planes last year.~~ The British dropped not only  
~~their block busters but also incendiaries on the city.~~

Meanwhile, another R.A.F. formation was in  
southern Europe smashing at the great City of Milan and  
the foremost Italian naval base at Spezia. Even the  
Fascist radio at Rome admitted that Milan had suffered  
<sup>vast</sup> ~~great~~ damage.

On top of those night raids, the R.A.F. and  
American Liberator bombers followed up with daylight  
attacks. The Liberators paid particular attention to  
Nazi docks and shipping at Dunkirk, the scene of the  
famous British retreat at the outset of the war. The  
Liberators <sup>leaving</sup> ~~left~~ havoc behind them <sup>today - at</sup> ~~on~~ Dunkirk docks.

One pilot stayed behind to look <sup>it all over</sup> ~~at the damage~~ and came  
back reporting the greatest ~~and best~~ concentration of  
fires he had ever seen. The glow <sup>from which</sup> ~~could~~ be observed  
a hundred and fifty miles away.

## AFRICA

In Africa, our troops have taken the brunt of a ~~hard~~ <sup>hard</sup> ~~smashing~~ attack by one of Marshal Rommel's panzer divisions. The Germans and Italians gained on us from two points in the area west of Faid Pass. United States forces were pushed back eighteen miles.

Rommel's men advanced with tanks, infantry and motorized artillery. One American unit was caught like a nut between <sup>the attempts of</sup> a nutcracker. How badly it fared we do not know, but the official report says that the American unit suffered ~~xx~~ losses and then withdrew to avoid being surrounded. <sup>TP German</sup> This attack was heavily supported by dive bombers, <sup>but</sup> ~~xxx~~ the account of the fight does not mention what part our <sup>own</sup> aircraft played in that <sup>affair.</sup> ~~engagement.~~ <sup>TP</sup> When the show was over, Rommel's two columns were in a strong position threatening the American situation at Shbeitla, northwest of Sidi Bou Zid. <sup>TP</sup> The objective of Rommel's attack was to



widen the corridor for the retreat of his Afrika

Korps, <sup>so it can</sup> ~~so that it might~~ make a stronger stand

against the British Eighth Army when it catches up with them.

Meanwhile, ~~the~~ American Air <sup>Power</sup> ~~Force~~ in southern Tunisia have been trying to keep the Germans penned up in the area along the coast and ~~to~~ hold them until General Montgomery can strike. Altogether, it was one of those days from which the news is not so encouraging for our side.

## WARSHIPS

*From*  
Outside ~~of~~ the Russian news, our biggest  
*at the moment has to do with*  
cause for jubilation ~~is on~~ the seas. Four ~~more~~  
warships have been added to the fleets of the United  
Nations, one of them a big battlewagon. ~~They are~~  
French men-o-war that escaped from Brest; and ~~one of~~  
*ultra-*  
~~them is~~ the powerful modern Richelieu.

The others are cruisers, two small and one  
large. They are under the command of General Giraud,  
*They are all set to*  
~~the~~ French High Commissioner in Africa, ~~and will~~ take  
*sea*  
part in the ~~naval~~ campaigns against the Axis. *or*  
*about ready - having*  
~~They have~~ just arrived in United States waters  
after being convoyed across the Atlantic from Dakar.

*And*  
This is ~~really~~ *indeed* something to cheer about, *so much so*  
that the Office of Censorship makes an exception to  
its rules and allows us to mention that they are here.

*we are told by*  
The great thirty-five thousand ton Richelieu ~~is in~~  
*Washington, is in*  
New York harbor, about to be taken to the Brooklyn



Navy Yard. The big nine thousand ton cruiser MONTCALM is at Philadelphia, being repaired, and outfitted with the latest ~~things~~ in modern naval equipment. Two smaller, three thousand two hundred and fifty ton cruisers, the FANTASQUE and the TERRIBLE, are on their way to another port. These are really super destroyers.

A task force of the United States Navy convoyed these French vessels from Dakar to our Atlantic coast and a United Press correspondent was with the task force. This fighting French squadron is ~~immediate~~ under the command of Vice-Admiral Raymond Fenard, head of the French Naval Mission to the United States. *And*

*it* was Admiral Fenard who *today* released the news *here in* ~~at~~ New York.

*And* ~~today~~ This raises General Giraud's naval force to three battleships, three heavy cruisers, six light cruisers, one aircraft carrier, four big destroyers, five ordinary destroyers, ten to twelve sloops,

fourteen submarines and a number of accessory ships.

The RICHELIEU is one of the finest fighting ships afloat. She was only commissioned in Nineteen Forty, and carries a complement of one thousand, six hundred and seventy men. She mounts eight 15-inch guns; fifteen 6-inchers; thirty-six anti-aircraft guns, and four aircraft with two catapults. Admiral Fenard, in making the announcement, said all his men were most impatient to get to sea and glad to be fighting on the side of the United Nations after more than two years of inaction.

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Much of the refitting of these French ships consists of the mounting of more modern anti-aircraft equipment than was available when they were commissioned. Reporters asked whether the RICHELIEU had not already undergone a considerable storm. That question brought out a smile, because the allusion was to an attack made upon her by the British while she was in harbor at Dakar.

The French Admiral replied, "Yes, but we do not wish to exaggerate." He added that all of his ships are of the most modern type and constitute an invaluable addition to the force of the United Nations. <sup>JP</sup> Admiral Fenard added his conviction that all the French warships in harbor at Toulon were either scuttled or completely crippled when the Nazis grabbed the harbor.

## SOLOMONS

The war in the air over the Pacific is being stepped up. ~~considerably~~, <sup>So</sup> ~~as~~ we learned from the Navy this afternoon. American planes are attacking the Japs all the way from the Aleutians to the Solomons. Adding up today's and yesterday's communiques, twenty-three

Jap planes were destroyed and fourteen Americans.

<sup>Making</sup> ~~That makes~~ the American ~~proportion of~~ losses heavier

<sup>in proportion</sup> ~~than it~~ usually. ~~is. As a rule, the ratio is more in~~

~~our favor.~~ Four of the enemy aircraft were shot down

in the Aleutians, eleven in the Solomons. On the

night of February Thirteenth, a formation of

Liberator heavy bombers, together with <sup>Billy</sup> Mitchell

medium bombers, escorted by Lightnings, attacked the

Japs at Kiska. They reported damaging hits on the

target; and, they shot down three out of five Zeros,

plus an enemy reconnaissance plane.

On February Fourteenth, plane formations

attacked Munday on New Georgia Island, <sup>ing another</sup> started ~~a~~ large  
fire; <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ all <sup>our</sup> planes returned <sup>ing</sup> safely. At noon, on the  
same day, another American force landed three bomb  
hits on a large cargo ship in the waters around  
Shortland Island. Some twenty-five or thirty enemy  
planes arose to intercept the attack and eleven of  
them were shot down. But two <sup>of our</sup> ~~United States~~ bombers  
and six fighters failed to return.

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4 The Navy also tells us that within the last  
four weeks of fighting on Guadalcanal, eighteen  
Japanese were killed for every single American.



## BURMA

Burma! ~~is a long way off, and~~ The news coming <sup>from</sup> ~~out~~ <sup>of late</sup> has been rather meagre, ~~or there has not been so dramatic of late,~~ Nevertheless, what is going on <sup>out there</sup> ~~in those jungles~~ is of <sup>great</sup> ~~tremendous~~ ultimate importance. The Japanese <sup>s in Burma are</sup> ~~army there is~~ now on the defensive, <sup>Wavell and his men</sup> ~~the Allies very much offensive.~~ Our ~~side~~ for a while had the elements fighting for them.

Monsoon rains tore out the roads the Japanese were using, flooded their river supply lines and isolated their garrisons. <sup>Causing</sup> The Japanese ~~were forced~~ to withdraw their outposts to the valleys.

Meanwhile, the British and Americans under Sir Archibald Wavell were gaining strength. One factor to encourage us, is that the British and American pilots now are <sup>in command of</sup> ~~the best men in~~ the air. Heavy bombers of the <sup>U.S.</sup> ~~United States~~ Tenth Air Force <sup>are</sup> ~~have~~ <sup>ing</sup> ranged far afield, bombing as far away as Bangkok, where the Japs have <sup>a big</sup> ~~erected an important~~ supply base. Not only all Burma,



but most of Thailand, is now open to attack from American aircraft.

Over the weekend, <sup>U. S.</sup> ~~United States~~ pilots <sup>bombed</sup> ~~attacked~~ four Japanese bases <sup>in those parts</sup> ~~with bombs and machine guns.~~ ~~Reconnaisance~~ <sup>And</sup> Reconnaissance planes with cameras confirmed the fact that ten or twelve Jap barracks had been destroyed by fire. ~~At other points, the smoke from conflagrations could still be seen. United States~~ ~~planes~~ <sup>also</sup> ~~attacked~~ concentrations of railway rolling stock. In all these operations, not a single American plane <sup>has been</sup> ~~was~~ lost. The Royal Air Force joined in the fun and blazed away at all Japanese positions north of Akyab, the strong port on the Bay of Bengal, which is the first objective of the Allies in Burma.

It is ~~x~~ almost a year since the Japs closed the Burma Road to China, but today the Chinese are receiving more Lend-Lease goods from us than they did

when that road was open. ~~That~~<sup>It</sup> was announced today in a special Lend-Lease report made by the China branch of <sup>an</sup>~~the~~ Lend-Lease Administration. ~~That~~<sup>It</sup> report pointed up the promise made by President Roosevelt last Friday that the war would be carried to Japan, <sup>^</sup>in the skies over China and in the skies over Japan. New airfields have been built in both India and China, and the number of transport planes carrying goods in that ferry service has been greatly increased.

## SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court of the United States convened today with a full membership of nine Justices. There was a brief ceremony in which Wiley Rutledge took his oath as Associate Justice to succeed former Justice Byrnes, who retired to become Director of Economic Stabilization.

When the short ceremony was over, the court announced several interesting decisions. One of ~~those~~<sup>these</sup>, ~~was~~ in favor of the boss of the Musicians Union, James Petrillo. The Department of Justice prosecuted him for violating the Sherman Act because he forbade musicians to make records for radios or juke boxes. <sup>now</sup> The Supreme Court <sup>A</sup> forbids the prosecution.

Another interesting decision was in the case of William Dudley Pelley, the founder of the Silver Shirts, convicted of sedition. He appealed, but the high bench rules against him, says his

conviction was all right, and he must serve his fifteen year sentence.

The high court also decided against Louis Lepke Buchalter, whom Governor Dewey of New York, when he was District Attorney, described as the most dangerous public enemy in the United States. Buchalter and two colleagues were convicted of murder. They appealed, and the Supreme Court turned them down. Their only hope now is to be pardoned by Governor Dewey!

## FISHING

Here is <sup>one more</sup> ~~an~~ interesting aftermath to the rescue of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker and his mates. You have probably read how they were ~~only~~ kept alive while they were afloat <sup>for those</sup> twenty-one days ~~in the Pacific~~, by the occasional fish they caught. The Navy is taking advantage of that lesson. There is to be a compact fishing kit on every lifeboat <sup>on every ship</sup> of Uncle Sam's Navy and merchant marine. ~~ships of three thousand tons or~~  
<sup>And</sup> ~~more~~ Lighter fishing kits will be ~~part~~ part of the standard equipment of all life rafts carried by airplanes <sup>from now on.</sup>

Indirectly many worth-while things are coming from the experience of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions.

CONWELL - TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

In Philadelphia, at Temple University and elsewhere, they are celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of Russell Conwell, the man who broke all records with his lecture, Acres of Diamonds. Russell Conwell's central idea, you will recall, was that you don't have to go thousands of miles away to find opportunity, for your acre of diamonds is probably in your own back yard. There are many Americans, right now, in the present war emergency, who are proving this on a gigantic scale. For instance, until recently all of our rubber came from British Malaya and the Dutch East Indies. Now, we are making it here at home, and it is unlikely that we'll ever have to go to the East Indies for it again. Proving <sup>again</sup> that Russell Conwell was right.

And here's Hugh, who is nearly always right!