

L.T. - SUNOCO. TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1942

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In China, the Japanese attack on the important city of Chuhsien has reached the stage of street fighting. The Japs have the city surrounded, and have captured the strategic airfield. This is one of the major objectives, because ~~if~~ it is an air base that might be used for the bombing of Japan. The enemy has forced its way ~~into~~ the city, with the Chinese battling desperately - house to house fighting.

The Chinese recaptured the city of Tungsiang a significant place in eastern China. However, they held it only briefly because today's communique discloses that the Japs returned the attack and are again in possession of Tungsiang.

## RUSSIA

The war news from Soviet Russia today mentioned five fronts. This would seem to indicate a lot of war, but it does not necessarily mean that the all-out Nazi offensive has started. Moscow believes that the German commanders are launching attacks here and there to feel out the line, looking for weak spots - this a preliminary to the German offensive. Five areas are mentioned where the fighting is heaviest - five fronts.

One of these is Sevastopol, where the Nazis appear to be making a determined ~~eff~~ attempt to reduce the great naval stronghold. For the fifth day today, they battered away at the fortifications - bombing with large flights of warplanes. And on the ground they are assaulting in force. The Soviets announce that they are holding their own - or better.

## SOVIET GUERRILLAS

A dramatic phenomenon of war is revealed by an enemy news story. The Berlin radio tells how Soviet guerrillas raided a large Russian city behind the German lines. The name of the city is not given specifically, but apparently it is Kiev, capital of the Ukraine. The guerrillas carried on their fighting and destruction right in the heart of Kiev - striking time after time, day after day, for months. Where they came from was a mystery to the German military authorities. How did they get into the city? Or where were they hiding? The Germans finally found the answer, and it reminds one of the catacombs of Rome, so famous in the legend of Christianity.

The ancient City of Kiev has a lot of tunnels and excavations. Under the town is a veritable honeycomb of underground passages -- catacombs, on the order of those in Rome. They extend for miles, and in these the Soviet guerrillas had their headquarters. Their underground refuge was

SOVIET GUERRILLAS - 2

elaborate, equipped in up-to-date fashion. They had electric lights, well arranged kitchens, comfortable living quarters, and a wireless station. During the night, they would steal out and raid the Nazis. When pursued, they vanished mysteriously - ducking into a secret entrance of their subterranean world.

## RAIDS

Today the Nazis replied to yesterday's British warning to the French people along the invasion coast. London warned them to leave the areas along the shore because of what London called -- "coming military operations." Which might have meant anything from heavy bombing raids to actual invasion.

Today the Nazis retorted to the British warning by forbidding the French to leave. They were told that they would not be allowed to follow British instructions and move out.

This is in contradiction to the previous German policy, which tried to clear the coastal areas of the population. The idea was that shore line defense would be aided if the civilians were removed. But now that is reversed -- as a retort to the British. (The London interpretation is that the Nazis are holding the entire civilian population of the French invasion coast as hostages, hostages

hostages against a large scale British attack. It is not clear just what this would mean, just how the hostage plan would work in the case of an attack -- but it sounds plenty ruthless.

Meanwhile, that invasion coast was under air assault today -- flights of British war planes winging over for daylight bombing. This followed another night offensive by air, in which several hundred heavy bombers of the R.A.F. struck at war industry in the Ruhr Valley.

BIRTTISH SUB

A British submarine reports a brilliant exploit of war in the Mediterranean. The undersea craft is H.M.S. TURBULENT, and it performed in an exceedingly turbulent fashion -- sinking five Italian vessels, one of them a destroyer. The ~~xxxxxx~~<sup>height</sup> of turbulence came when the submarine spotted the destroyer, escorting two heavily laden cargo vessels. These apparently were on their way with war materials to the Nazi panzers in North Africa. The TURBULENT single-handed, delivered a series of attacks that sank the two supply ships, and also ~~x~~<sup>the</sup> destroyer.



## WIFE

Today in London they released from prison a woman, of whom the judge said -- that her's was the saddest story ever heard. She is Mrs. Louisa Ayres, a soldier's widow. A year ago her husband went with his regiment to the Far East, Singapore. In that parting he told her, "Goodbye dear. If anything should happen to me, don't take up the struggle alone, Follow me every mile of the way," he said to her, "and bring the babe with you." And she understood what that meant.

War came to the Far East, and overwhelmed Singapore. And presently Mrs. Louisa Ayres received an official notice that her husband had been killed in the fall of Britain's mighty stronghold. And promptly she set out to obey his last instruction to her when he was departing, his words - "Don't take up the struggle along. Follow me every mile of the way -- and bring the baby with you."

With her four year old daughter in her



arms, Mrs. Louisa Ayres threw herself into the river. Passersby saw it, and hurried to the rescue. They were able to save the mother -- but not the child.

British law is stern, and Mrs. Louisa Ayres was tried for murder. After the evidence was in, the judge told the jury. "In all your experience, this is the saddest story you ever heard." But, he added there was only one possible verdict -- and one possible penalty. So, Mrs. Louisa Ayres was sentenced to be hanged.

But there are limits even to the sternness of British law. The Home Secretary in the London Government intervened and granted a reprieve, and today the woman with the saddest story in the world was released from prison.

## RUBBER

President Roosevelt stated today that plans are being made for a nationwide campaign to salvage rubber. In this, the first step will be to find out how much scrap there is in the United States. The President said that right now, no two experts agree on the subject. There are low estimates and high, some think there is comparatively little scrap rubber in the country. Others say, there is a lot. If the lowest estimate turns out to be correct, the situation is bad, said the President. But if the highest guess turns out to be true, the military needs for rubber will be eased considerably - by a nationwide mobilization of the supplies of scrap.

## BUSES

Today all inter-city buses were replaced under war-time regulations. This was announced by the Office of Defense Transportation.

When is a bus in the inter-city class?

When it operates at distances of fifteen miles or more from the city, and when the average fare is more than thirty-five cents. Such buses, in the inter-city classifications, will have to make a lot of changes - beginning July First.

Under wartime regulations the Bus companies will be required to cut out a lot of competition and for all other reasons too.

## BLIMPS

The news today gives us details of last night's balloon disaster off the Jersey Coast. Two Navy Blimps were maneuvering out there in the darkness. They had nothing to do with the air patrol along the Atlantic Coast, not exactly at the moment. In the hunt for U-boats, Blimps are used but these two were of a different kind -- that type used for training. They were doing important scientific experimental work which had an element of danger. The Blimps were conducting their experiments when a fantastic thing happened -- a balloon collision at night -- and so far as I know this was the first time that dirigible air ships had ever run into each other. Blimps can travel at a considerable rate of speed and there was a rending crash in the darkness. Both plunged down into the sea. Of thirteen persons aboard only one was able to get clear and save his life -- Ensign Simpson Fahey of Scarsdale, New York. He contrived to get through a window and jump into the water as the tangle of balloons crashed into the sea by night.

## TROLLEY

At Providence, Rhode Island, an accident occurred today, fearful and wonderful to behold - a traffic car on the rampage, off the tracks, and charging down a busy street. In Providence the trolley tracks run through a tunnel and then go down a hill. The street car came speeding out of the tunnel and then jumped the track somehow, at the top of the hill. It swerved out onto the roadway for automobiles, and kept going down the slope.

The car was crowded with passengers, too -- and did they have a wild ride! The street was busy with traffic and two automobiles were barely able to get out of the way to keep from being run down by the berserk street car. The rampaging juggernaut, however, contrived to knock down two telegraph poles and then leaped onto a sidewalk and ran smashing into a building. Ten passengers were injured in the crazy career of the runaway trolley car.

## HEROES

At Logansport, Indiana, they cancelled a civic demonstration in honor of two war heroes. A large part of this country is going to see the official group of fifteen British and American medal winners who are now making a nationwide tour -- but Logansport was having a hero worship extravaganza all its own. The honored warriors out there were Kelly Albert, twenty-two and Robert Poynton, eighteen. They told of their exploits as members of the Roayl Canadian Force in England, deeds of bravery prodigious indeed. Between them they said they shot down a hundred and fifty-four German planes, averaging exactly seventy-seven for each. They were wined and dined and they related a string of breath-taking thrillers - there being an ample supply of thrills in the shooting down of one hundred and fifty-four enemy planes, seventy-seven for each. A plan was formed to stage an enthusiastic city demonstration <sup>to</sup> ~~of~~ honor these two intrepid knights of the sky.



This was about to be solemnized when something was discovered by Deputy Prosecutor Denasor Landis -- no, not the Czar of baseball, his nephew. The Deputy Prosecutor discovered that the two heroes were a pair of hoaxes. One actually being a private A.W.O.L. from the Canadian Army, while the other had been rejected from military service because of bad teeth. So instead of getting a civic demonstration the two paladins of air battle were locked up today. They are, however, to be released. I don't know whether they could be legally prosecuted for those hundred and fifty-four planes shot down -- seventy-seven for each, but anyway a public trial might be embarrassing for a lot of prominent citizens of Logansport who have been hearing those tales.-- And the boys, at least well, they ought to get this year's award from our long quiescent tall story club. I think -- in fact, I believe I'll go right now and instruct our Grand Juror to make out appropriate hand-tooled diplomas for the Logansport Aces. What do you say about that idea, Hugh?