

*L.J. - Standard. Tuesday, July 4, 1944.
Sunoco.*

The Navy confirms the story of another American attack at the very doorstep of Japan. Tokyo gave an ~~xxxxxxx~~ earlier report of an assault against the Bonin and ~~Volcano~~ Volcano Islands, and added that a big sea battle was in progress out there. One enemy account seemed to indicate that American forces had landed on islands near to Japan, six hundred, and, seven-hundred-and-twenty-five miles from Tokyo, respectively. The Bonin and Volcano archipelagoes are, in fact, a part of the inner screen of the island defenses of Japan.

However, ^{the} official Navy dispatch states the assault was entirely from the air, a bombing attack by planes from American carriers - in the course of which seventy Japanese planes were shot down. This was the second blow, hurled by an American task force at islands so near to the enemy home-land, a long advance westward by the United States fleet - naval and air power, reaching to the inner line of Japanese defenses.

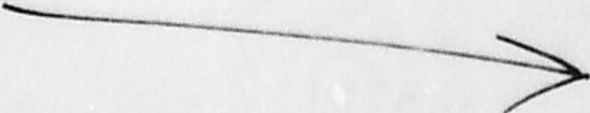
On Saipan, in the Mariana Group, the Marines have captured Garapan, capital of the island. That town was bitterly contested, the Japs putting up a stubborn resistance for long days. But now Garapan has been taken, and that gives our forces control of Tanapag Harbor, ~~This is~~ one of the best in the Marianas, a land-locked body of water ideal as a port.

Today's communique from Admiral Nimitz discloses that the Americans to date have buried more than seven thousand Japanese dead. ~~There is~~ in addition to numbers that the Japs themselves ~~have~~ disposed of. The total enemy force on Saipan was some twenty thousand to begin with - and that number has now been ~~probably~~ cut to half, or less.

ADD BONINS

A late dispatch from Saipan states that because of recent advances, the American forces now control seven-eighths of the island - after eighteen days of the most bitter battle of the Pacific War.

The Japs are now pinned in a narrow sector of northern Saipan.



FOLLOW BONINS

The Japs are confined to a pocket of nine square miles at the ~~MPF~~ uppermost tip of Saipan, and there they are fighting stubbornly - in one of those familiar losing battles that must inevitably end in the wiping out of the enemy force.

SOUTHWESTERN PACIFIC

In the southwestern Pacific, paratroopers have been floating down on Noemfoor Island, off the northwestern coast of New Guinea. These soldiers of the sky are reinforcements for the American troops that invaded Noemfoor on Sunday. There has been no heavy fighting - apparently because the Japs were caught so completely by surprise. Our troops have seized an airport. And this ^{facilitates} ~~facilitates~~ the landing of the paratroopers who are swarming down to complete the conquest of the island.

CHINA

The word from China is, that the Japs are ~~now~~ within a hundred and seventy-five miles of their objective of cutting China in two. That is - the main enemy offensive, driving south, is coordinated with the thrust by other Jap forces moving north, and they've ~~got~~ only a hundred and seventy-five miles ^{left} to go to effect a junction.

The strategy of the ~~the~~ whole thing is simple -- based on a railroad. China's number one rail line runs from Peiping in the north to Canton in the south. The Japs all along have had ~~the~~ stretch from Peiping to Hankow, in Central China. Their recent offensive drove south along the railroad from Hankow and captured such important places as Changsha and Hengyang.

Meanwhile, the Japs at Canton started pushing north along the railroad. Both forces have made such progress that Chungking ~~now~~ says that only a hundred and seventy-five miles ~~separates~~ separates them. Once they cover that distance they ~~will~~ will cut China in two and will have established direct land connection from Manchuria to Singapore - via Indo-China.

MONEY CONFERENCE

The international monetary conference was in session today - in spite of the holiday. The proceedings were marked by a Chinese appeal for American assistance in the post-war development of the great Far Eastern land. Dr. H. H. Kung, Chairman of the Chinese delegation, declared: "China will give protection to foreign investments". And he urged that American tools and machines, capital and engineering services be granted to China when the war is over.

Now Hugh, how about a
flash direct from ~~Standard~~
~~A California?~~ Washington.

RUSSIA

The Russians have captured the city of Polotsk, described as the gateway to the Baltic states of Latvia and Lithuania. This is the latest in the story of Russian victory, which tells of the increasing collapse of the German armies. Moscow states that in White Russia, the Nazis no longer have any definite battlefront. Their troops are ~~now~~ split up into units, often isolated from each other. The Russians are now within twelve miles of the frontier of Latvia - and a hundred and ten miles from the borders of Germany - proper, East Prussia.

ITALY

There ~~xx~~ are indications that the Allied forces in Italy are approaching a new line of German defense. This is ^{indicated} ~~indicated~~ by the fact that American and British troops are now encountering a type of weapon that they haven't faced for weeks. Nebelwerfers - a ~~kind of~~ mortar with many barrels.

In their previous stands, ^{along so-called} ~~xx~~ permanent lines, the Nazis relied heavily on fire from the Nebelwerfers. Then in their long retreat, the mortars with ^{multiple} ~~xx~~ barrels ^{were} ~~was~~ absent from the fighting - the Germans obviously pulling that kind of equipment back to their next line of permanent fortifications at Rimini. Now, with the Allied forces pushing up that way, ~~xx~~ the Nebelwerfers are in action once again - at many points along the front.

Enemy resistance is stiffening, as is reported by American troops pushing toward Leghorn. They ^{are} ~~xx~~ now fourteen miles from that important harbor. The Germans seem bent on putting up a hard fight for Leghorn, which is a ~~xx~~ vital center for their transport

of supplies by sea.

Inland, French troops that captured Siena have thrust ahead for eight miles and cut a road leading to Arezzo, which medieval city now becomes a major objective. And along the Adriatic, the British eighth Army is still fighting on toward the port of Ancona - moving slowly through difficult mountain country.

FRANCE

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They had a Fourth of July salute in France today. At the exact hour of noon, hundreds of guns thundered in a tremendous barrage. Celebrating Independence Day - but also doing a task of war. The Great salvo was part of the American drive southward from the Chebourg Peninsula.

Today our ~~xxxx~~ troops made a two ~~xxxx~~ mile advance, and captured two important ~~xxxx~~ points on high ground and fifteen villages. The battle is raging in a coastal country of marshes and sand dunes, and the drive along the shore threatens to outflank German positions farther inland.

At the other end of the battlefront, the eastern end, the guns today were thundering too - hurling a frontal attack the British ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ against Caen. They are now three miles from that old Norman city, which ever since D-Day has been a focus of the storm of modern war. The Nazis are defending Caen stubbornly *as they have* ~~as it had~~ been doing all along, though half ~~xxxxxx~~ encircled by salients that British and Canadian troops have driven on both sides of the town.

ADD FRANCE

The latest tells of the joining of forces by two of the British-Canadian groups attacking in the Caen sector, a junction that greatly improves the Allied position. And we are informed that the Army of invasion is about to capture the airfield at Carpique (Car-pea-kay). The fall of this important air base is "~~but~~ a matter of hours", says the communique.

DEGAULLE

From North Africa, we hear about a luncheon date at the White House in Washington. In Algiers, persons close to the French committee of National Liberation declare that General DeGaulle will have luncheon with President Roosevelt on Friday.

The DeGaulle visit to this country has been much talked about, after all the disagreement between the Americans and British on the one side, and the French committee on the other. The word has been that President Roosevelt himself has been foremost in blocking DeGaulle's claims that his group is the provisional government of France. And now the President and the General will thrash out the matter between themselves.

We are informed, additionally, that DeGaulle will go to Canada to confer with Prime Minister MacKenzie-King - before he returns to the other side of the Atlantic.

ACCIDENTS

The Fourth of July is a traditional day for warning about accidents, with the National Safety Council each year repeating its message of - be careful. And as it happens, this Fourth of July brings news of two ^{major mishaps} ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ - one an explosion, the other a railroad wreck. In both are elements of the fantastic.

The explosion occurred at Bedford, New Hampshire. There, for some reason not as yet determined, a storehouse crammed with high explosive blew up. A unit of an ammunition plant, the power house was deep in the woods, where the least harm might be done if anything should happen, but the blast was so violent that windows were broken as far away as Worcester, Massachusetts - a distance of seventy miles. In the town of Bedford, dozens of houses were knocked down, and panicky people thought it was a bombing raid. Yet, for all that violence, no lives appear to have been lost - only a few minor injuries are reported.

At the place where the storehouse of high explosive stood, there is now a huge crater gouged out

of the earth - a hole eighty feet long and from fifteen to twenty feet deep. Only a few yards away is another powder house - the same sort of storage place crammed with high explosive. It seems a miracle that this one, too, did not blow up. But it was undamaged - ~~yet~~ ^{yet} though so near ~~to~~ the stupendous blast.

In the railroad wreck - the late count is now five ~~persons~~ killed and some forty injured; Victims of the accident to one of the crack trains of the southwest, "the Santa Fe Chief". "The Chief" was speeding around a curve in the plateau country of Arizona, when something happened. ~~it has not been determined what~~ The cars went off the track, and piled up. And here's a freakish thing related by an eye-witness, Earl C. Jones, an executive of a New York dress firm.

"The strangest thing" says he "was the location of the ~~baggage~~ ^{baggage} cars. Two of them were lying forward of the engine - nobody seems to know how they got there or just what happened".

It does seem strange how in the wreck the baggage cars got out in front of the locomotive.

ADD ACCIDENTS

The explanation of the freak would seem to be that the locomotive hit a section of road-bed that gave way, whereupon the engine rolled over on its side, swung around and reversed its direction - while the baggage cars plunged on ahead.

~~(note out out statement that cause of accident is now unknown)~~

POLITICS

A report from Albany today tells us that the Dewey campaign during the next few weeks will be devoted largely to promotion of a maximum of unity in his party. The Chicago convention was a dramatic display of unity, and Dewey wants to keep the Republicans going along that way - in smooth working harmony.

Today the Governor in Albany stated that he will soon confer with his running mate - Vice Presidential Candidate Governor Bricker of Ohio. This, of course, is in line with Dewey's previous statement that he would consult with Bricker on all important matters. We are now told that he will see Bricker constantly during the campaign, and will not make any decision unless his running mate is completely in accord with it.

For example, here's one question up right now - should the Republican governors of the various states hold a conference for a discussion of campaign policy? Today Dewey said: "I haven't discussed the proposed Governor's Conference with Governor Bricker

yet, and I am waiting his view."

Meanwhile, the Dewey presidential campaign is faced with one most difficult, and perhaps even insoluble problem, the Governor plans to spend the coming weekend at his Quaker Hill home near the village of Pawling, New York, a thing he is likely to do on and off during the campaign. The perplexing dilemma lies in the fact that the candidate will be accompanied by the usual force of newsmen and photographers who cover a presidential campaign.

In this respect, President Roosevelt has the better of it. He lives in the same county, Dutchess, over at the Western end. And not far away from his hom at Hyde Park is the city of Poughkeepsie.

Poughkeepsie has its Nelson House, of which newspapermen covering Presidential affairs at Hyde Park have a most agreeable memory - especially a jovial haunt downstairs!

In Pawling, as they say when a localite becomes prominent - "You're an important man now, you should

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move to Poughkeepsie!" From which you can judge that the village of Pawling, in the campaign spotlight will have to exert itself to keep the oncoming invasion of newsmen happy.

And now Hugh, who is always happy.

GIGLI FOLLOW ITALY

01-26-11

From Italy we have a bit of news that recalls a famous statement made by Mark Twain years ago. A report was published that he had died. to which Mark Twain responded - that the news of his death was greatly exaggerated.

Yesterday, ~~in~~ we had ^{word} ~~report~~ of the death of the famous tenor, Gigli, once a star of New York's Metropolitan Opera House and today Gigli said that the report of his death was some more of those bad things that people have been saying about him/

The famous tenor has been in difficulties in Italy, because of his former cooperation with the Fascists - in the days when Mussolini was riding high. For this he is being attacked by anti-Fascist elements, and has been prevented from ~~sing~~ singing a scheduled concert for Allied soldiers. Gigli announces this as what he calls - "a campaign of villification". They are telling bad stories about him, says he. It is hard to see just how you villify somebody by saying he has died. But, to the Tenor, the report of his demise is another one of those bad stories. Bad, if true

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As for the Willkie side, we have a story by the United Press political correspondent - Paul F. Ellis. He says that President Roosevelt's rival in ^{nineteen} ~~nineteen~~ ~~xx~~ forty has not yet made up his mind whether or not to support Tom Dewey in the present campaign. However, ~~at~~ the U. P. political correspondent says the likelihood is that Willkie will back Dewey, and make some speeches.

He bases all this on information from ~~the~~ what he calls - "private sources". From these he has ~~learned~~ that Willkie ~~has~~ was impressed by Dewey's speech of acceptance in Chicago. It is well known, of course, that Willkie was irked by the foreign policy plank in the Republican platform. He called it - "ambiguous".

Then, upon Dewey being nominated, Willkie sent him a strikingly worded telegram of congratulation, saying that Dewey had an opportunity to make history. After which Willkie listened to the Dewey speech of acceptance, and studied its text - and found it okay.

The ² ~~story~~ ₁ adds that Willkie will not commit himself in the matter of supporting Dewey about the