

The result of General MacArthur's great air victory at Rabaul is that the British and Australians now control the skies on a front a thousand miles long. It stretches from New Guinea all the way to the northern Solomons.

The destruction of those hundred and seventy-seven Japanese planes on New Britain in two days, ^{So. West Pacific} has definitely broken the back of the enemy's air front.

The sinking or damaging of a hundred and twenty-three Japanese vessels in ^{Rabaul} the harbor means that the enemy

will have more difficulty than ever in reinforcing ^{those} ~~these~~ beleaguered ^{Jap} garrisons on New Guinea, and on Bougainville ^{in the Solomons.}

The Foreign Minister of Australia announced today that ^{still} more Allied aircraft ^{will} ~~is going to~~ be sent to Australia. ^{That} President Roosevelt has ordered ~~substantial~~ ^{more} ~~number of~~ combat planes ^{rushed across} ~~to that front~~.

the Pacific. Also,

~~as well as those already allotted to the southwest~~

~~Pacific. In addition to~~ that, Prime Minister Churchill

is going to send more Spitfires, of the latest type. *And,*

The Australian government says ^{even} this is only a small

installment of what Britain will send out to crush

Japan.

~~Carson~~ Admiral Halsey is quoted as saying

that what the Japs have been getting is only a

foretaste of the bitter dose they must swallow in

the days and months to come.

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A curious broadcast from Tokyo was overheard

today. It came from the official Japanese news

agency and consisted of a prediction about American

strategy. According to that broadcast, the Japs

believe our Navy is about to try an attack in force

on the Gilbert Islands, twenty-four hundred miles to

the southwest of Hawaii. The intention of our high

command, say the Japs, is to try to turn the Gilberts into another Guadalcanal. The consequence will be a naval battle of huge scope, a battle which will decide the fate of Japan and the United States. *So say the Japs. Also they*

~~The Japs~~ believe that our Navy is going to start an attack on Jaluit Island, north of the Gilberts, on one flank, *and at the same time* ~~on the other flank, they~~ will redouble ~~the~~ attack on northern New Guinea and try to isolate the Jap base of Rabaul. *Perhaps the Nips are right. They further say that their navy is* ~~The Japs declare that the Japanese~~ navy is anxious to begin that big naval battle.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Allied armies in Italy have won one of the most important victories since they captured Naples. They have broken through the first line of Nazi defenses before Rome. ~~They~~ ^{Forced} the passage of the Volturno, ~~they~~ established bridgeheads, and ~~are~~ ^{now} control both sides of the main road to ~~the Eternal City~~ ^{Rome.} They are less than a hundred miles ~~away~~ from the ~~ancient~~ capital ~~and Italy.~~

~~All of which~~ ^{is} admitted by Berlin, The Nazi radio also broadcast that the British and American armies have been helped by the fleet. While ~~our~~ ^{over} troops ~~since~~ were crossing the Volturno, Allied warships stood off in the estuary of the river and bombarded the German positions inland.

Tonight the Fifth Army is pouring across the

Volturno, ~~several~~ men, trucks, tanks and artillery. For

they are using
 they ~~used~~ a newly designed assault craft *TP They* ~~to cross the~~

~~river, and some of the men even swam over. They had~~

encountered
 the heaviest kind of resistance *from* the German ~~have~~

~~seventy~~ divisions *ing* to hold the Volturno line. These

tried to stave off the Allied attack by attacking

first themselves. They actually succeeded in getting

as far as *the gates of* Capua, but then the Fifth Army reformed

and threw the Nazis back. *TP* There is still heavy fighting

on the north bank of the Volturno, but the bridgeheads

of the Fifth Army are secure and are being reinforced

every hour with heavy tanks, *with* also those mobile hundred

and five millimeter guns which can destroy any tank

that rolls. *TP* ~~Our~~ engineers have now strung several

pontoon bridges across the Volturno and every

moveable piece in the army is being brought across.

At the same time, both the right wing of the

Fifth Army and the left wing of the British Eighth Army ^{are} forging ahead steadily through the passes of the Apennines, making themselves a back door route ~~into~~ to the City on the Seven Hills.

Before ~~they~~ ~~crossed~~ the Volturno, the ~~divisions of the~~ Fifth Army captured Guardia, six and a half miles above the Calore River. At the same time, General Montgomery's Eighth Army entered Gilbone.

Army now called ^o Fifth Army and *Montgomery's* Eighth Army are beginning the third major battle in Italy. The first was Salerno, and the second was Naples.

Crossing the Volturno, was a *fine* present for the fifty-third birthday of General Dwight Eisenhower

We are told that the tactical air force of the Allies ~~xxx~~ played a vital part in the crossing of the river. While the artillery was booming away and the ~~ing~~ infantry were being ferried or swimming across,

our bombers hammered at a Nazi junction sixteen miles north of Capua and ~~xxxxxx~~ almost blew the town of Alife off the map.

We learn today one fact about the Nazi planes in Italy which has a significant sound. When General Montgomery captured Foggia, he took all its airdromes and destroyed many Axis planes. One member of the German air squadron was a Pole who had been captured four years ago in Poland. The Nazis offered him his choice between joining Goering's air arm or being thrown into a concentration camp. So he joined. But the day before Montgomery took Foggia, he escaped into the town and hid among civilians. He told the British intelligence officers that the Nazi planes which had been based at Foggia, had been brought south from ~~several~~ cities of south Germany. They had been stationed there to protect Munich and Vienna from

Allied air raids. If that is true, it means that Hitler is really getting short of planes.

There is one bit of bad news from the Mediterranean. Two of our destroyers were sunk, destroyers that were almost new. One of them was lost off Salerno last week, and the other went down yesterday. Both sinkings occurred as a result of under-water explosions, but our Navy Department does not tell us what caused them.

BALKANS

Today it became likely that in Jugoslavia the two separate armies of patriots fighting the Nazis may join, ~~forces~~. We have heard a good deal from time to time ^{about} of the forces under General Mikhailovitch, who was War Minister of Jugoslavia. ^{Also a} ~~But~~ another army ~~has~~ ~~been~~ fighting under the command of General Tito Brozovich. The latter is threatening the Nazi forces occupying the Italian port of Trieste. Meanwhile, the patriot divisions under Mikhailovitch have taken four large towns in Serbia and are coming closer and, closer to Belgrade, the capital of Jugoslavia.

There has been rivalry between these two generals. Mikhailovitch has been supposed to represent the conservative element among the Jugoslavs. Brozovich, on the other hand, a somewhat mysterious figure, is reputed to be pro-Russian.

The headquarters of Brozovich broadcast a

statement today that the German Commander-in-Chief in Trieste had sent a message to Field Marshal Rommel, begging him for reinforcements. In fact, that message went so far as to say that if Rommel did not send the reinforcements at once, the Jugoslavs might capture Trieste. The Germans are reported falling back in every part of Jugoslavia.

RUSSIA

The news from Russia grows even more dramatic tonight. First we heard that the Red Armies were pressing simultaneously on four great cities held by the Nazis. Fighting for Kiev, capital of the Ukraine, Gomel in White Russia, Melitopol near the shore of the Sea of Azov, and Zaporozhe on the flanks of the German line along the Dnieper.

And it looked today as though any moment might bring us news of the fall of at least one of those key positions on the Nazi defense line in Russia.

And so it turned out. Late this afternoon came a dispatch from Moscow, another general order of the day issued by Premier Marshal Stalin, telling how the Red Army stormed and captured Zaporozhe, the site

of the Dnieper Dam. This gives the Soviet forces the last great stronghold that the Germans held on the east bank of the Dnieper. What is more, it cuts the main line of German communications to the Crimea.

And, it puts the entire southern flank of the Nazi winter line in peril.

The capture of Zaporozhe is all the more a triumph for the Red Army, in that the German high command had ordered the place held at all costs. One thing is sure: it seals the fate of the one hundred thousand German soldiers in the Crimea.

A still later bulletin today brought the news that the Soviet forces have surrounded and isolated Melitopol. Also that they had cut the only rail-road to the Crimea.

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At the same time, the Red Army, in a pincer movement, is shutting down quickly on the oldest city in Russia, Kiev, capital of the Ukraine, with a terrific battle now going on to the north of that city, which is in flames with the Germans moving out--fleeing before Stalin's red tide. South of Kiev, the Nazis are said to be counterattacking with tanks and infantry, to try to prevent the Soviet troops from smashing their line completely at the

~~point~~ point where they broke through for four miles yesterday.

Gomel also is in flames. The Russian units which crossed the Sozh River yesterday, have been fighting in the streets of the Gomel suburbs through burning buildings, flying embers and clouds of smoke

The peasants in the countryside report that German demolition squads have been blowing up the city for days now, burning entire blocks at a time.

SPAIN

A story is current in London that ~~General~~
~~Francisco~~ Franco has withdrawn his Blue Divisions
— from Russia.
from the eastern front. The story is not official,
but it is described as coming from reliable diplomatic
sources. Dispatches from Madrid ^{say} ~~report~~ that already
Spanish units have been returning to Spain from the
Russian front and that Franco will send no more of them.
If this is true, ^{this} ~~it~~ means ^{at least} ~~the first~~ ^{another} important ^{diplomatic} ~~diplomatic~~
victory ^{for} the Allies ^{in 3 days.} ~~have won in three days.~~ The
first, ~~was~~ ^{those vital} when Portugal gave the British bases in
the Azores; and ~~the~~ second when Badoglio declared
war against Germany.

News from the Balkans ^{today} includes the report of
a crisis in Bulgaria. This ^{is from} ~~was~~ ~~is admitted~~ by the
Bulgar German news agency. The Foreign Minister resigned,
ostensibly because of illness, after only ^a ~~one~~ month
in office. ^{which} ~~which~~ ^{indicate} ~~seems to~~ ~~show signs~~ that the Bulgars
are getting shaky.

STRIKE

~~The prospect for warm houses this winter~~

More labor trouble!

~~became even darker today.~~ The strike of coal miners

in Alabama has been spreading. Production has been

cut already by twenty-five thousand tons, and if ^{this} ~~it~~

continues, it will interfere with the production of

steel at Birmingham.

Tonight ~~at least~~ ^{some} ten thousand miners are out.

What they are sore about is the return of the mines,

by the government, to private management. ^{We hear that} ~~it is an~~

^{this is an} ~~unauthorized~~ ^{that} strike, union officials do not approve. ~~It~~

~~A spokesman for the Union declared that the situation~~

~~looks quite serious in Alabama.~~ Half the mines of the

district around Birmingham are either closed or

expected to close tonight. All but one ~~of the mines~~

^{is} ~~belonging~~ to the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad

Company, are shut down.

FARM MANPOWER FOLLOW O.P.A.

Early this year, there was considerable anxiety that it would be impossible for farmers to harvest their crops of fruits and vegetables in many states because of loss of manpower. We learn today that this calamity has been averted in the State of New York. The fruit and vegetable growers have now virtually completed harvesting their entire crop of two and a half million tons, with practically no loss.

Early in the year, Governor ~~Tom~~ Dewey ~~of New~~
~~York~~ appointed a State Director for Farm Manpower, who
he immediately set about organizing a land army of
volunteers. ^{He even} succeeded in getting as many as a
hundred and eleven thousand men, women and boys to
help the farmers, their families and such hired hands
as they had left. The result was a complete success.

BLUE NETWORK

A check changed hands today between Edward J. Noble, Chairman of the Board of the Blue Network, and David Sarnoff, President of the Radio Corporation of America and Chairman of the Board of National Broadcasting Company. It was the final installment in the payment of eight million dollars cash for the one thousand shares of the capital stock of the Blue Network Company. The deal was finally approved by the Federal Communications Commission, the day before yesterday. Actually, the Blue has been operated as a separate network since July Thirtieth.

In return for the check, David Sarnoff not only handed over the entire capital stock of the Blue Network, but compliments and congratulations to Noble as well as the officers and staff of the Blue.

ALCOHOL

The War Production Board gave out some news about alcohol today. Distillers will not be allowed to make any for drinking purposes until Nineteen Forty-Five. Until then, every drop of alcohol will be needed for war purposes.

But an official of the W.P.B. also told the Senate Committee on Agriculture that we have sent sixty million gallons to our Allies, sixty million gallons of a hundred and ninety proof alcohol. Moreover, we are going to send about the same amount next year.

Senator Gillette of Iowa asked whether that alcohol could not be converted to drinking purposes. His inference was that our own thirsty folk may be going without, in order to supply drinks for the folks of the other United Nations.

The W.P.B. spokesman admitted that the

alcohol we give away might be so used. But he added that, so far as he knows, our Allies are not drinking it. To which Senator Thomas of Oklahoma said, "Well, but they could."

And now Hugh, could you - could you, add a word or two.