

LEAD ITALY

*L.I. Standard Tuesday Jan. 28, 1944.
Sun.*

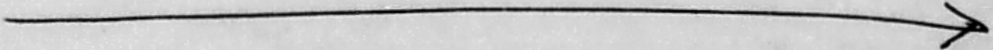
The first Allied soldiers to enter the town of Cassino in Italy was an American patrol of fourteen men led by Second Lieutenant Filbert Munoz of Kansas City. His detachment pushed through the streets and got to within four hundred yards of the center of the town. They met with few obstacles, ~~and~~ ^{inevitable} ~~save~~ for the ~~regular~~ mines left behind by the Germans; - and, later, German artillery opened fire from the surrounding hills. ^R The entrance into Cassino was made after a crossing of the Rapido River. That river ^{which} had been ^{so} violently defended by the Germans! ^{They had} ~~also~~ persistently made counter-attacks and hurled American advance detachments back across the stream. And we all know how stubbornly, for weeks, the Nazi troops defended the approaches to Cassino.

But now they have evacuated the town, and from this we go on to a statement in the late dispatch-

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that the Germans have started a general withdrawal from the front that they defended so bitterly and for so long. Word is that they are pulling out northward, and this of course is because of the American landings near Rome, which threaten to outflank them completely.

Today troops of the landing army cut the Appian Way - and that certainly has the right ring as a forerunner of the capture of Rome. The ancient road is just about the most historic of all highways.

In fact, 

ITALY

~~The Allied cutting of the Appian Way certainly~~
~~has the right ring as a forerunner of the capture of~~
Rome. ~~It's just about~~
~~the most historic of all highways, and fact~~

Appian Way is almost a synonym for Rome. Built by the Censor, Apius Claudius, in the days of the Roman Republic, long before the Christian era, the highway was ~~of~~ the first of those great Roman roads that have been tied insolubly with the history of the Eternal City.

The cutting of the Appian Way, which runs near the coast, was accomplished with only ^{that} a minor amount of fighting ^{which} ~~that~~ has been one of the bewildering surprises of the Fifth Army landing. True, the Germans did muster some opposition, and there were sharp engagements along a canal - a mere twelve foot ditch. ~~What is~~ Its name? - Mussolini Canal; ~~and it is~~ a reminder of the days when the one-time Fascist Duce of Italy engaged in the safer and more useful pursuits

of draining swamps, The draining, for example of those historic Pontine Marshes - before Mussolini passed over the threshold into mad folly, and plunged into disastrous war.

The fighting along the canal consisted of sharp encounters between armored units, with American troops battling their way across. The forces on both sides were small, the German units being described as - "battle groups." ~~These units are Nazi units~~

These seem to be ²~~the~~ Nazi equivalent of the American - "combat teams." ~~They Nazi units came up from the~~

~~south, withdrawn apparently from that stubbornly contested battleline not far north of Naples. And this, in turn, seems to have weakened the enemy resistance in that sector. The news today tells~~

~~that~~ the ~~the~~ heavy German counter-attacks ~~had~~ down there ~~at bitterly defended Cassino,~~ have ceased, with the Fifth Army resuming the

offensive.

And it is possible that that ~~segment~~ ^{segment} of the Fifth Army may have some fast marching to do -- this supposition based on the fact that the Germans appearing in the Rome area have come from the South. It's known that the Nazi command has strong reserve forces in north Italy, and the fact that these are not being used against the American landing army might seem to argue that the Germans plan a general withdrawal from the south for a stand along a northern line across the peninsula. And here's the latest: Allied troops have entered Cassino; that stubbornly contested place now abandoned -- abandoned by the enemy. And the dispatch says it looks like a general withdrawal. But will the Nazis be able to get out of the trap?

Anyway The Appian Way has been cut, and the Via Cassilina^(uh) is only a few miles further on -- with Fifth Army troops pressing toward it. Some patrols are even reported to have reached the ^(uh) Via Cassilina. If this highway is cut, it will mean the severing of all highway

connection of the Germans on the western side of the peninsula. And their forces that have been battling so bitterly around Cassino will be able to escape only by detouring through the mountains and to the highways running up and down the other side of the Italian boot; where the Eighth Army may get them.

FOLLOW ITALY

A late story relates that an anti-German offensive has broken out in the city of Rome itself - a campaign of sabotage. This comes from Switzerland, which states that the population of Rome is displaying open joy and jubilation over the reports that Allied troops are now only eighteen miles from the Eternal City.

RUSSIA

The latest from Russia tells of Soviet troops cutting the last railroad line linking the German forces on the Leningrad front. The ~~railroad~~ line is described as -- east-west. And a glance at the map would seem to indicate that the cutting of the last east-west ^{railroad} ~~line~~ would just about encircle the Nazi troops who held out before Leningrad for so long.

The late Moscow bulletin amplifies the story with the capture of a series of towns -- all connected with the railroad.

Today the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor ^{again} voted not to send delegates to an international labor meeting at London ^[This one to be held] in June. Hitherto the A.F. of L. has consistently refused to send representatives to the gatherings of the international labor group, and always - because delegates of Soviet Russia were included. [#] The Federation has taken the position that Soviet labor unions were not free, but were completely dominated by the Moscow government.

So what about A.F. of L. action today? Russia was not mentioned in the resolution, ^{which however} ~~but the following~~ ^{spoke of countries in which} ~~explanation would appear to amount to pretty much~~ ^{Labor is not free.} ~~the same thing: "delegations from some nations invited to attend," says the Federation, "cannot truly represent free and democratic labor - because no free and democratic union movement now exists in those countries."~~

Later on, newsmen asked Federation President William Green whether Soviet Russia was meant by that. To which he answered: "We don't want to get involved at this time in any controversial question that might ~~interfere~~ interfere with the close collaboration established in the winning of the war."

Another heavy blow against the Marshall Islands with the Navy announcing ^{a violent} ~~a heavy~~ air attack launched against one of the key ~~islands~~ fortresses of that archipelago. Long range Army bombers dropped fifty tons of high explosive missiles on the Wotje atoll.

In New Guinea the Australians are driving ahead, in Ramu Valley, and have hurled the Japs from all their positions around a ~~strong~~ string of hills called -- Shaggy Ridge.

And, a New Guinea air victory is announced.

This occurred when Allied heavy bombers hurled one hundred and five tons of bombs on the anti-aircraft positions at Wewak, the enemy's big New Guinea base. Japanese fighters ~~in~~ attacked the bombers in force and lost the battle decisively. Five Allied planes were shot down, while the Japs lost ~~from~~ between forty and fifty. 57 Japs shot down in all the New Guinea air fighting.

ARGENTINA

Tonight the Foreign Minister of the Republica of Argentina announced that there has been no change in the status of Argentine relations with Nazi Germany.

The Foreign Minister made this statement upon emerging from a conference ^{of what are} ~~of way~~ called "national leaders."

And other Argentine spokesmen denied that there has been a break with the enemies of the United Nations or ~~x~~ that any severence of diplomatic relations with them is impending.

^{is} The ~~is~~ followed insistent rumors from Uruguay that the Argentine Government had decided to line up with the United Nations to the extent of a diplomatic break, and even that Axis representatives had been handed a formal notice of termination of normal relations.

Such were the Uruguayan stories; and in Buenos Aires itself Argentine newspapers spread

excited headlines indicating that something big was
in the field of relations with the Axis.
about to break. However, all of this seems to be
now
exploded by the statement given out by the Argentine
Foreign Minister.

BOLIVIA

The British Government announced today that it

^{too}
x has not recognized the new regime in Bolivia. This

follows the declaration of the State Department in

Washington, which refuses to grant any recognition to

the revolutionary government, ^{at La Paz} which is suspected of

having anti-American and pro-Nazi tendencies. Today's

London statement was made by Foreign Secretary Anthony

Eden, who said: "The British Government does not

recognize the junta in Bolivia as a legal government."

~~All of which, moreover, was followed by further
action on this side of the ocean - action by Latin-
American nations. Today Colombia, Panama, and the
Dominican Republic, refused their recognition to the
powers-that-be at LaPaz. The reasons asserted are
expressed by the Foreign Minister of Panama, who
states that the new Bolivian government contains what
he calls, "elements dangerous to continental security~~

The Foreign Secretary connected this with anti-Allied activities in South America and ^{made} ~~said that~~ ~~subversive groups in the southern continent were in touch with the Nazi enemies.~~ ~~And he said~~ ~~He said that German agents were largely responsible for this.~~ ~~He~~ made the following significant statement: "There is a German Embassy in South America, and I hope one day we shall see the end of it. When that happens," he added, "I think the position will improve."

The mention of the German Embassy in South America pointed, of course, to Argentina ~~which still~~ maintains ^{ing} its neutrality and keeps ^{ing} up diplomatic relations with Hitler Germany.

~~Today's British declaration with respect to Bolivia was followed by further action on this side of the ocean - action by Latin-American nations. Today Colombia, Panama, and the Dominican Republic, refused~~

ANTI-SEMITISM

A statement was made in Washington today that anti-Semitism is being fomented throughout the Western Hemisphere. This opinion was expressed by Senator Gillette of Iowa, who spoke first of ~~the~~ ~~incitement of~~ anti-Jewish propoganda in the United States. "My conviction," said he, "is that there is ~~xxxx~~ a well define^d movement in this country to foment anti-Semitic feelings. It is," he added, "most noticeable in the citiés."

"It has also spread to Latin-America," he went on, "and there have been recent unfortunate manifestations of it in Peru." - ~~declared Senator~~
~~Gillette.~~

Whereupon he expressed the opinion that the United Nations' declaration of war guilt should make it clear that the Nazi persecutors of the Jews will be puhished.

ARMY TRAINING

From Washington we hear that there may be a recommendation to scrap the Army and Navy student training program - abolish the system of training servicemen at colleges. That is - with some exceptions. The Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has been inquiring into the matter, and they say a majority of the committee members are in favor of putting an end to ~~w~~ all the college training programs except those that have to do with medicine, dentistry and the ~~government~~ govern^{ment}~~ing~~ of foreign areas occupied by American armies. All of which would have the purpose of providing more young men for active service and thereby slow down the drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

“ One committee member stated today: ~~that~~ the students generally are fine, able-bodied young men who are just the type needed for combat duty.” And he added:

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"Just why we should be drafting pre-war fathers and
leave these boys in school is beyond me."

PEACE MOVEMENT

It is claimed tonight that a robbery has been committed in the office of an organization called - "Peace Now." This is a group advocating a negotiated peace with the enemy, ^{and it} has been hotly attacked on the grounds of including old-time isolationists, America Firsters, and even members of the Nazified German-American Bund. Peace Now is being blasted as subversive, fifth columnist, and pro-Nazi.

Tonight the secretary of the organization, Miss Bessie Simon, reported to the police that the files at the office of Peace Now ^{have} ~~had~~ been looted, and ~~their~~ correspondence ~~had been~~ stolen - including letters from Senator Wheeler of Montana, and copies of letters ^{sent to ex-} ~~to~~ ^{President Hoover,} Charles A. Lindberg, ^{h,} and General Robert E. Wood, former head of the America First Committee. ^{The} assumption being that the letters were swiped for publication.

VAN NUYS

From Indianapolis we hear that Governor Schreicker is going to appoint a Democrat to succeed Senator Van Nuys - the prominent Democratic Senator who has died suddenly. *Such an appointment* ~~This~~ is quite natural, since the Governor is the only Democrat holding an elective office in Indiana. All of which ~~xxxxxx~~ will leave the proportion of Democratic and Republican strength unchanged in the Senate.

~~The passing of Van Nuys of Indiana removes from the scene a significant political figure who had had an exciting career in the realm of election campaigns. He went to the United States Senate in the Roosevelt landslide of Nineteen Thirty-Two, and was a New Deal stalwart - until he broke with the President on that famous Supreme Court fight. And he also split with the Democratic organization in his home state. In Nineteen Thirty-Eight he threatened to bolt the party~~

LETTER

The affair of the Hopkins letter exploded with a bang today when a federal grand jury in Washington handed down an indictment. Formal charges are lodged against George N. Briggs, former assistant to the Secretary of ~~the~~ Interior Harold Ickes.

One count of the indictment against him charges forgery - it being alleged that he forged Harry Hopkins' name to the much debated letter which purported to show that presidential advisor Hopkins was taking a hand in the political aspirations of Wendell Willkie. ^W Another count charges Briggs with obtaining money under false pretenses; - this on the grounds that he sold the forged letter to C. Nelson Sparks, former Mayor of Akron, who published the alleged Hopkins letter in his book, "One Man - ~~With~~ Wendell Wilkie." Also that Briggs ~~stated~~ ~~Sparks~~ told Sparks that Secretary of the Interior Ickes knew

about the letter and believed it to be genuine.

Today's indictment clears Secretary Ickes

~~and all others concerned in the matter~~ of having had

any part in the affair of the Hopkins letter. ~~Briggs~~

~~alone is held to be responsible.~~

ENGAGEMENT

In England, a sixty-four year old nobleman today announced his engagement to his nineteen year old secretary. He is Sir Cuthbert ^{Giles} De Hoghton, whose baronetcy was created in Sixteen Hundred and Eleven, and whose ancestry traces back to the remote Middle Ages. The tower of Sir Cuthbert's ancestors is said to have been the scene of a legendary ceremony - the occasion on which the sirloin-of-beef got its name. King James the First is ^{reputed} ~~said~~ to have appreciated a magnificent cut of beef so well that he thereupon made that cut of beef a knight - dubbing it Sir Loin. Hence, sirloin.

^{Philomena Simmons,}
The girl secretary in the case, ^{is} a daughter of a tenant farmer of Sir Cuthbert's.

The marriage of the sixty-four year old nobleman and the nineteen year old ^{damsel, of} ~~daughter of a~~ ^{the lower classes,} ~~tenant farmer~~ naturally creates a good deal of ^{romantic} ~~dramatic~~ interest. ^{Thinks of the difference in ages,} ~~well,~~ today Sir Cuthbert made the

following explanation: "The fact that she is the daughter of one of my tenants does ^{not} ~~it~~ affect me in the least," he said. "We fell in love after we met and that is all there is to it. I have always been proud," he explained, "that I am a true Tory democrat, and I can see no social reason why a marriage of this character should not take place;" ^{the aged} ~~of~~ ^{said} ~~of~~ ^{Sir} Cuthbert. *There will always be an England,*

Dear old England! [^] The arithmetic of sixty-four

and nineteen doesn't count a bit. It's all a question of the aristocratic proprieties, ^{as} ¹⁰ ^{pertaining} to the 64 yr. old Sir Cuthbert and the 19 yr. old fair Philomena Simmons. — And now, Sir Roger Cuthbert de Krupp with a message about Standard.

AIR WAR

The Invasion Coast was blasted heavily again today, when hundreds of Allied bombers and fighters smashed at the Nazis along the shore of northern France -- the Calais area. London tells of squadron after squadron crossing the Channel all day long.

The Nazis meanwhile were reporting ~~in~~ what the news dispatch called "a mystery raid", this hitting Berlin. Something smacked the Nazi capital, but, the Germans are not ~~being~~ sure just what.

ARGENTINA

Here's a rumor concerning Argentina - with a newspaper at Montevideo stating that the Argentine Government today ~~breaks~~ ^{decided to break} relations with the Axis enemy. It has been ~~rumored~~ ^{reported} repeatedly for several days that Argentina might do just this. ~~though not much~~ ^{And now} ~~attention was paid to this.~~ ^{Now, however,} we hear ^{in rather definite form} that Argentina has lined itself along with the United Nations, to the extent of breaking relations with the enemy powers. Such is the Uruguayan rumor, which is being repeated in later dispatches.

The latest! - another Uruguayan newspaper story stating that this evening the Argentine Govt. handed to Axis representatives, a note breaking relations!

MYSTERY

In Massachusetts - the mystery of the missing bridegroom would provide a neat beginning for a detective story plot. That is, if foul play were the explanation - which the police think may possibly be the case. ^H On Saturday, an army officer, Captain Philip Beatman of New York was to have married Miss Helen Olsen of Newburyport, Massachusetts. The captain was to have traveled ~~from New York~~ to Newburyport for the ceremony. A couple of hours before the time set for the wedding, he telephoned his fiancee that he was in Boston and on his way to Newburyport - to take the train for that town, a short ride. And she went ahead and arrayed herself in her wedding gown, and family and bridesmaids gathered at the church - with flowers and everything. And there the bride-to-be waited. She kept on waiting - for the ^{who} bridegroom failed to appear.

What happened to ~~him~~? That was a mystery, and

the puzzle was made more perplexing today by something discovered in Boston. It was a bridal corsage, flowers *the Captain had procured* ~~for the groom~~ to give to ~~the~~ bride - ~~and it was~~

discovered checked at a Boston railroad station. The time of checking, ~~was~~ two hours after the hour at which the captain had telephoned to his fiancee that he was on his way.

Now the odd part is this - the corsage was checked at the wrong station. The railroad terminal for going to Newburyport is the North Station, while the wedding flowers have been found at the South Station - from which trains leave for New York.

How can you explain that?

The explanations for the captain's disappearance include suppositions of amnesia and loss of memory; and, the mere matter of a prospective bridegroom changing his mind. And also suspicions

of foul play. Any of these hypotheses, however, have to reckon with that puzzling fact - the checking of the bridal corsage at the wrong railroad station.

Hugh, I hope you are in front of the right microphone!

altogether. And the Indiana Democratic chieftains had him read out of the Democratic fold. Whereupon Van Nuys threatened to run as an Independent, and that would probably have brought about the election of a Republican. This combination of circumstances caused the Democratic leaders to change their mind. A truce was effected, and Van Nuys survived the purge, received the Democratic nomination, and was reelected.