

P.T. - Standard.
Sunoco.

Chicago
June 7, 1944.

SUBSTITUTE LEAD INVASION.

The key note for the invasion news is a statement in tonight's official communique:-

"Things are now pretty well running according to plan."

However, the communique tells of increasing German resistance. The Nazis are bringing their reserves forward. Scouting planes report that masses of men and machines are converging toward the Cherbourg peninsula, and it appears that the conflict there is moving toward a crisis.

All of which was given close attention today by General Eisenhower---on the scene. *(Eisenhower)* He paid his first visit to the embattled Norman coast, making the trip aboard a British warship. He made a tour of all the beach heads, without however going ashore. The commanders of the troops on the coast went aboard the ship, one of these being assault force commander British General Montgomery. They gave their personal reports to the second front commander-in-chief.

In that way Eisenhower was able to get a better picture of the state of affairs than he could have acquired from dispatches to his headquarters across the channel in England.

2--SUBSTITUTE LEAD INVASION.

And the information he gathered indicated that the second front offensive was driving on, but also that there were signs of more formidable things to ~~which~~ come.

~~Continue with: "The news emphasizes heavy fighting," etc
which you will find on first page of Invasion.~~

INVASION.

Tonight's communique from allied headquarters tells of increasing German resistance. The Nazis are bringing their reserves forward---and it appears that the battle for the Cherbourg peninsula is moving toward a crisis.

All of which was noted today by General Eisenhower--- on the scene. He paid his first visit to the embattled Norman coast, making the trip aboard a British warship. The second front commander-in-chief found the offensive driving on, but the trained eye of Eisenhower also noted signs of more formidable things to come.

The news emphasizes heavy fighting---increasingly heavy.

The allied troops have cleared the Norman beaches which they seized, and ^{have} linked up ^{the} beachheads. ~~One report states that~~ The enemy coastal defenders ~~have been hurled~~ ^{back to} secondary lines, ~~running from five to ten miles inland.~~ In the fighting that ~~went on today,~~ ^{One} allied paratroop outfit that had landed inland broke open a line of communications with the beachhead, joining forces with the troops there---and thereby establishing a corridor to their inland position.

16

2--INVASION

Fierce fighting raged today at Caen, a big tank battle reported---a Nazi armoured attacked repelled. Apparently the allies intend to use ~~the town~~ ^{that town} as a hinge for their beachhead positions, Beginning at Le Havre and extend ^{ing} up along the beaches of the Cherbourg peninsula.

We remarked last night that the city of Caen brought back memories of William the Conqueror and those memories were repeated today with news about another place, Bayeux (By-yo-['] accent on the last syllable).

Our school text books of English history celebrate the Bayeux tapestry---which was woven by the conqueror's wife and her maids, a tapestry depicting the Norman conquest of England.

Well, today allied forces captured Bayeux, ~~as one report tells~~ ^{This is official} ~~and Allied troops are astride the Caen-Bayeux~~ ^{signs} ~~at~~ The Nazis are devastating the countryside, ~~and thus signs~~

that they may intend to abandon the Cherbourg peninsula.

The news features---reinforcements. The Germans declare that the allies have now landed between eight and eleven divisions, some hundred and fifty thousand men, Americans,

British and Canadian. And new masses of manpower and machine

3--Invasion


power were poured ashore all day. Reinforcements by ship---and by air---which takes us to the most spectacular news feature of the day. Glider troops and supplies were flown to the Norman beaches---in five great waves. And the gliders and planes that were towing them made an immense sky train, continuous for a distance of fifty miles. A fifty mile long train of gliders.

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One of the best breaks today was the weather. Not too good hitherto for the invasion, the skies cleared suddenly late this afternoon. All day long there were clouds and a gale---the rather stormy conditions of yesterday. Then shortly before sundown, the blue sky opened, the clouds drifted away and the setting sun shone brightly, with a climbing thermometer announcing ---fair weather. This means an immense lot for the allied flying forces. We have command of the sky, but a stormy sky is a poor thing to command. Yesterday allied air power struck its massive

4--Invasion

invasion blow under a considerable handicap. Now, fair weather will permit our planes to make their power felt to the full, completely out-matching the Nazi luftwaffe, as they do.



ADD INVASION.

A late dispatch from London states that all day long allied air power kept a constant cloud of two thousand fighter planes over the invasion forces. These, by a ration of two hundred to one, outnumbered the Nazi planes that ventured to put their noses into that area.

FRENCH UNDERGROUND.

Today radio messages were flashed from England to France--- messages couched in exceedingly personal terms. One said: Jacques LaPorte, please immediately deliver your fresh cakes to grandmother in Paris. Another was to Madeleine and it conveyed a pathetic word: "Madeline," it said, "the flowers which you planted have wilted." Still another had a most trivial tone: "Roger, your laundry will be ready Tuesday."

19

But England wasn't really broadcasting such nonsense to France. The radio messages were-- code. They were to the French underground, and signified orders for French partisan assaults against the Nazis behind the allied invasion line. ~~They directed sabotage, especially against attacks of German communications. And they warned the French people to get out of towns which were about to be bombed.~~

As a result of radio directions, given in such silly sounding code, formidable sabotage blows have been struck. For example, an important railroad which the Germans must use for transporting troops to the battle front in Normandy, was blown up at forty-two points .

2--French underground

All of which takes us to the way the French people received the news of the invasion yesterday. Word seeping through today tells of patriotic demonstrations in Paris, Lyon, Marseilles and other cities, When they heard that D-Day had finally come, crowds surged into streets singing the "Marseillaise." The enthusiasm rose to such a pitch that the Nazi authorities had to take action to suppress it. But they didn't call on German soldiers to chase away the crowds. They were afraid that the use ^{of} Nazi troops might provoke an explosion. So they turned the task over to the local forces of the Vichy government.

DEGAULLE.

The news that General DeGaulle had a conference with General Eisenhower on the eve of invasion, is amplified ^{now} ~~tonight~~ with details, ~~and these indicate that it was~~ ^a momentous pow-wow indeed. The

20
It was held at Eisenhower's headquarters, a secret place near the coast of England, ~~hidden~~ ⁱⁿ in the thick woods, ~~there~~ a trailer and ^a tent. The tent is ~~awastron~~ ^a where the progress of the battle across the channel is followed. There great maps are framed, charts of the plans, maps showing the progress of operations. ~~This~~ ^a tent is simply crammed with military secrets which would be ^a ~~in~~ valuable to the enemy, and it is under a vigilant guard of soldiers armed with tommy guns.

~~That's where the momentous conference took place.~~

And DeGaulle and Eisenhower were not the only ones there.

~~Prime Minister~~ Churchill participated---in fact he brought

DeGaulle to the Eisenhower headquarters in the forest. And

British foreign secretary ~~Anthony~~ Eden took part, ~~in the talks,~~

as did the British elder statesman, Prime Minister Smuts of ^{So. Africa.}

2--DEGAULLE.

South Africa.

21

There has been some friction between DeGaulle and his French committee on national liberation^{ion} on the one hand and the British and American governments on the other. Who should rule over French territory as the second front invaders occupy it? Should the DeGaulle people be recognized as the government of such areas? They think yes, But Messrs. Churchill and Roosevelt have indicated that it should be for the people in France to choose their government. So what would DeGaulle's attitude be in the invasion about to be launched? We are told that a full understanding was reached ~~at~~^{at} the DeGaulle-Eisenhower conference, in which Churchill, Eden and Smuts participated. They came to a cordial agreement.

However, it is specifically pointed out that the ~~discussions~~ discussions were entirely on the military side---political questioned ^s not included. ~~Nothing but problems of the armed operations were involved. And to make this more vivid, we are told the talks were held largely in that secret tent full of maps ~~at the Channel Coast~~ ^{meeting} let's turn for a moment to Jack Brickhouse in Chicago. ~~But only for a moment Jack~~~~

FALSE INVASION.

Remember the false invasion story of last Saturday?

Put out by one of the big news agencies, it stated that General Eisenhower had announced that American troops had landed in France, that day---three days in advance. The report got on the radio and was broadcast nationwide---only to be denied a few minutes later. It was explained as an accident, one of those mishaps.

Well, today the false report is the subject of comment from an American warship off the French coast. ~~The story comes~~ from Hanson Baldwin, military expert of the New York Times, who is aboard the flagship of Admiral Kirk. He tells how the ship's radio flashed the following ~~news~~ dispatch:

"Millions of persons, ~~it said,~~ were thrown into premature rejoicing, when an American press service falsely reported that allied invasion troops had landed in France."

To which Hanson Baldwin adds ~~the following~~:

"This report, coming at a time when some of the allied invasion convoys had actually left British ports, but had not

2--False invasion.

13
yet approached the French coasts, was serious as a possible tip-off to the enemy. ~~The invasion convoys subsequently, he goes on, "were recalled because of unfavorable weather--and the invasion was delayed."~~

The explanation of the false invasion story was, of course that a girl teletype operator in London had been practicing, on a disconnected machine, ~~and she had typed out the invasion bulletin just to limber ^{up} her fingers, something like "now is the time for all good men...."~~ Unfortunately the teletype strip of tape that she cut was not taken out--and it went on the cables the next time the machine was put into operation.

What was the response aboard the American battleship to the news telling about the false invasion report?

"Premature rejoicing," it said. And Hanson Baldwin writes:

"One word that particularly caught the eye of many ~~and~~ officers aboard this ship was the word 'Rejoicing.' That word,"

~~he goes on "stated"~~

3--False invasion

he goes on, "strikes an incongruous, almost a brutally callous note, here in the bay of the Seine, where American bodies lie fathoms deep near beaches, whose blood-drenched names will be forever emblazoned on the battle streamers of regimental colors. It is a word," says Baldwin, ~~"which epitomizes a lack of comprehension of the grim issues involved, of the long hard struggles ahead. It~~ ^{"that} signifies a sense of over-confidence," he explains, "and hence is repugnant to the men who are doing the fighting and who know the hard, relentless strength of the enemy."

All of which makes one wonder why, in the news dispatch to the battleship, that word was used---"Rejoicing." It isn't my impression that the false invasion report caused any happy jubilation over here. And surely yesterday's authentic announcement of D-Day was received, less with rejoicing, than with serious and earnest prayer.

ITALY.

24

In Italy, the allied advance is continuing at lightning speed, with a gain of nearly thirty miles in the past twenty four hours. The drive is along the coast, and British-American troops are approaching the port of Civitavecchia (Chee-vee-tah-vay-kyah). ~~That place is~~ forty miles from Rome, ~~and serves as a shipping harbor for the Eternal City.~~ ~~The question still remains--where do the Germans intend to make a stand? The answers are mostly guesses. As far north as the Po Valley, maybe.~~

CHINA.

The Japs continue to make progress in their big drive to open the railroad between Hangkow and Canton in south China. At one time or another for a week we've heard that the enemy was approaching the key town of Changsha. Today's dispatch from Chungking states that the Japs have penetrated the outer defenses of the town and bitter fighting is in progress.

BURMA.

The Japs in invaded India appear to be in a state of collapse tonight, with a British communique announcing that the enemy is running away so fast that imperial troops are unable to keep up. This is in the area of Kohima where not so long ago the Japs were a dangerous threat. They seemed about to capture the important Kohima base. Since then they've been heavily hammered and now are on their way out.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

25
An important victory is announced in the Southwestern Pacific---the Mokmer air base captured. Which brings to a triumph a military operation that had tough going for a while.

Mokmer airdrome is on Biak Island off the north coast of New Guinea, and The landings on Biak were easy for General MacArthur's men---things easy to begin with. However, when MacArthur's men pushed on toward the flying field, they ran into ~~some mighty~~ heavy going. The Japs were in force and fought bitterly, holding up the Americans for more than a week and a half.

Now, however, the Mokmer base has been captured---a flying field in striking distance of the Philippines for land-based planes. Less than nine hundred miles from Mindanao, the southermost island of the Philippines.

PEARL HARBOR.

Show down efforts to force Pearl Harbor court ^{martials} ~~contest~~ before election day have failed. Today in congress the senate and the house of representatives took action that will make it possible to postpone the trials of Admiral Kimmel and General Short. The action is in the form of an extension of the statute of limitations---which was to have expired at midnight tonight. The expiration of the statute would have rendered the Pearl Harbor commanders legally immune from charges, and now it is extended until December seventh, the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

26

DEMOTION.

Here is later news about the major general who was demoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and sent back to the United States from Britain. We heard earlier in the day that this was because of loose talk about D-Day; and now we have the story.

Two months ago there was a gay cocktail party in London, and among those who attended were prominent military figures and ladies of the London upper crust. One of the officers was the American major general, ~~his name is not given, but we are told it is well known, and was scheduled to play a leading part in the second front.~~ ^{Well, the General} ~~He~~ had his cocktails, and became talkative. ^{being} ~~And~~ the subject of his conversation ~~was~~ that most closely guarded of military secrets, D-Day, the time when the invasion would be launched.

The major general knew a good deal about that, and in his merry mood he vouchsafed some enlightenment to the others of the cocktail party. "On my honor," he is quoted as saying, "the invasion will take place before June thirteenth," which was not inaccurate at all, the actual date being June sixth.

2--Demotion.

One woman guest who heard this had serious ideas about military secrecy and the evils of loose talk---especially by a major general prominent in the invasion plans. So she reported the incident to the security police. The word was immediately placed before General Eisenhower, who took prompt action. He demoted the invasion major general to the rank of lieutenant colonel, and sent him back to the United States. This has been withheld by military censorship until now---because it might have given the Germans some inkling of that secret of secrets---D-Day.

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~~Note~~ In the Demotion story, add the following fact, which
has just come on the wires. The officer in question is Major
General J. E. Miller, commander of the ninth air force service
Command in Britain, He ^{now} ~~has been~~ demoted from a war rank of
major general to his permanent rank of lieutenant colonel.

LONDON TIMES.

There are occasions when one feels impelled to make a deep bow of homage toward some person or things. And tonight I am bending low in the direction of London, a newspaper there-- The London Times.

That old and stately paper has an enduring reputation for being conservative---never getting excited, no splash headlines, advertisements on the front page, the news discreetly paragraphed inside. So how did the London Times play up the news of D-Day--- the day of the invasion, which is at Britain's very doorstep?

We know what the headlines have been over here, and in Britain the afternoon newspapers yesterday and the morning papers today front-paged the second front in the biggest of type---all but the London Times.

That austere Institution never deviated the width of an eyelash from its traditional conservatism. This morning the Times put the invasion tidings on page four, the usual space reserved for foreign news. The magnificent London Times---dear ol
England!

And now, good old Hugh.