

SOLOMONS

L.I. - Sunoco. Tuesday, Aug. 25, 1942 ✓
Laurie

The new sea and air battle off the Solomon

Islands has been going on since day before yesterday --

^{since} Sunday. ^{This} ~~It~~ was revealed by the Navy Department today--

with the mighty ~~the~~ conflict still going on.

^{This latest}
~~Today's~~ Navy bulletin gives a terse but vivid
account of the clashing ^{of South Pacific War.} ~~progress and events.~~ On

^{with} Sunday afternoon the Marines on Guadalcanal Island

~~were~~ continuing their battle against such Japs as

were left on that South Sea Isle, The United States

Naval Command was on the lookout for a Jap attempt ^{to}

^{support} ~~to support~~ their forces -- a blow by the enemy fleet.

So they were prepared when it came. ^{TP} First, ~~came a~~

^{was launched} a powerful enemy airraid against Guadalcanal. Great

squadrons of Japanese planes flew to attack the

Marines. They were intercepted by our own fighter

planes -- which obviously ^{now} are based on the Solomon

Islands that we have seized. The enemy air force was

heavily defeated -- twenty-one shot down. The Navy

describes our plane losses as -- "minor."

That defeated airraid was followed by naval action. Sunday night Japanese warships came into the picture. The shore positions on Guadalcanal were shelled -- enemy destroyers doing the bombarding.

47 The next day, Monday, naval units of the Jap fleet appeared on the scene -- a powerful force as is indicated by the fact that it included a battleship. It is believed that these enemy warships came from the great Jap naval base ^{at} in the Island of Truk, which is in the Caroline Group. The Japs have one of their greatest naval establishments at Truk -- based on a powerful natural harbor.

Off the Solomons the enemy fleet was hit hard by Army bombers -- Flying Fortresses roaring into action. They smashed ^{at} the big airplane carrier, and report four bomb hits. And they ^{blasted} ~~blasted~~ a smaller Jap carrier. Several enemy cruisers have ^{were} been bombed successfully -- and also a battleship. And this makes an imposing list of hits registered by bombs.

The new battle off the Solomons is described as being as great, or greater than the original clash that accompanied our landings on the islands. ^{In fact} The present conflict may be as great as the battle of Midway -- as it continues with monumental violence for the third day.

AIR ACTIVITY

In England acclaim is being bestowed upon the first American war pilot to bring down a Nazi plane, our first European Ace. He is Second Lieutenant Sam Junking of Natchez, Mississippi -- and he flew in the great commando raid of last week.

He had a breathtaking experience. He shot down that Nazi fighter, and a few seconds later was himself hit hard by another enemy plane. The Lieutenant got a bullet through his right shoulder, and fainted.

With the pilot unconscious, the plane went flying at random -- and the Nazi fighter was still on its tail, still shooting. Lieutenant Junkin drifted down to several hundred feet above the water, and then regained consciousness -- just in time, else he'd have been a goner. He came to, and tried to bail out. But the top of the cockpit had been damaged by German bullets and he couldn't get it opened. It seemed that he would be carried

down in the close cockpit -- plunging to the bottom trapped. But, after frantic effort he got the thing open -- and jumped.

The moment he pulled the rip cord of his parachute, he fainted again --unconscious all the way down. He came to once more just as he hit the water, and a commando boat picked him up.

RUSSIA

In Russia, the supreme crisis has come for the City of Stalingrad. Moscow reports that the Nazi war machine is plunging ahead both north and south of the city, - trying to close the two pincer claws around Stalingrad. The Germans are meeting with the usual dogged resistance, but they hurl such a weight of fire and metal that they continue to advance. At the north, they may have already cut the Stalingrad-Moscow Railroad - the city's lifeline.

The Germans are using large forces of paratroops, and Moscow gives a sombre picture of the operation. The battlefield is on fire. The Steppes are burning, flames racing across the dry vegetation of the plain. Everything lies under a pall of heavy smoke. And even in daylight the sun is no brighter than at dusk. Under the cover of this natural smokescreen, the Germans drop their paratroopers - in groups of a

50
hundred or more. They land behind the Red army line to break up communications. ^{TP} Many parties of the paratroopers are destroyed, but others keep coming out of the sky. In some places they are landed with small tanks, and in every case they try to dig in until transport planes can bring reinforcements to them. ~~So there is~~ a major Nazi air operation, to disorganize Soviet defense before Stalingrad.

To the south, in the Caucasus, we have the same story of German progress - the same as on previous days. The Nazis are pressing closer to the Soviet naval bases on the Black Sea, and ~~they~~ are continuing their long advance towards the oilfields at Grozny^h. In this move, they are ^{pushing} moving along ~~at~~ the foot of the mountains ~~in~~ the Caucasus, and today Berlin claimed that German troops have hoisted the Swastika on top of the highest Caucasian peak, Mount Elbruz. ~~Berlin also claims that~~

JUGOSLAVIA

From the Balkans come tidings, grim and fierce, for the Nazis and their satellites. (The Balkans are historically a place of bloodthirsty feuds, and now the old relentless tradition of the mountaineers is being applied to the cause of freedom.) The Balkans have long been familiar with secret ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ societies that decree penalties of death upon enemies, and this time Yugoslav patriots are inflicting doom upon such of their countrey^{as}men ~~who~~[^] are collaborating with the Nazi conqueror.

The story relates that the Yugoslav guerrilla chief, General Mikhailovitch, has established a vendetta system to deal with traitors - and this has been done in ~~xxxxxx~~ a formal sort of way. First Mikhailovitch and his fellow guerrilla leaders drew up a blacklist. - (the names of collaborators with the Nazis - these collaborationists to be assassinated.) He is said to

have sent the blacklist to London, to the Yugoslav government in exile. The exiled ministry, acting as a legitimate government of Yugoslavia, okayed the blacklist

(and gave Mikhailovitch the power to add any other names he might select.)

Then, back in the Balkan mountains, the list was distributed- and was posted in public places throughout Yugoslavia. The underground guerrilla organization did that - menace and terror for local puppets helping the Nazis. Meanwhile, General ~~Mikhailovitch~~ Mikhailovitch had organized a band of executioners - along the line of secret society killers, and these have begun their deadly work. We hear that the first ^{named} ~~man~~ to be wiped out is that of a Yugoslav professor who helped to organize a pro-Nazi group. The professor was killed recently under what appeared to be mysterious circumstances.

On the list of names is that of General Neditch, whom the Germans have made Premier of Serbia. And there is another name - one of sinister memory. Under the rule of the conqueror, the Croatian Chief of State is Dr. Ante Pavelic^{h.} A few years ago he was much in the news, as the arch conspirator who plotted the assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia - that startling crime which had a good deal to do with the events that led to the war. Dr. Ante Pavelic^h led a revolutionary terrorist society, and carried out political assassinations in the traditional Balkan way. Now, those same tactics are being applied to him and his pro-Nazi pals - the terrorist terrorized.

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Today, fourteen hundred and fifty-one Americans rejoiced with obvious emotion, as they set foot on American soil. Previously, some of them had burst into tears when they got their first glimpse of the Statue of Liberty. ~~They were~~ Americans returning home from Japan - diplomats and other nationals of this country.

Chief among them, ~~was~~ Ambassador Grew, who represented the United States in Tokyo when the Japs made their treacherous attack. Ambassador Grew stated:- "We have come home to contribute our maximum efforts to the winning of the war." And he added:- "We shall win."

The news men had a particularly interesting interview with Edward Crocker - ^{who was} first secretary to the American Embassy in Tokyo. It was he to whom the Japanese declaration of war was actually handed, that ~~declaration which was handed hours after the Japs had~~

~~already launched their sneak punch at Pearl Harbor.~~

He told how on the fateful day of Pearl Harbor he had a golf engagement in the morning - but first went to the American Embassy. There some embassy people asked excitedly - had he heard about the Jap attack? He didn't believe it. "Nobody," he explains, "expected the war would start so soon." And he adds:- "We knew of course that it would come eventually."

He says the declaration of war was handed to him at about eleven A.M. This was on December Eighth, Tokyo time - a day ^{after} ahead of ~~our~~ time. ^{And} Pearl Harbor ^{TP} had been under bombardment for hours. ~~And~~ the Japs transmitted the declaration in shabby fashion. "It was brought by a fellow named Ohno," states the embassy secretary. "He was of the second bureau of the American section." Meaning, a third rate employee of the Tokyo Foreign Office. "I suppose," says Crocker, "that it was

intended to be an affront. ^{TP} He left the note very formally," the Embassy secretary goes on, "and when he was through I said, "This is indeed a very tragic moment."

"He replied, 'Yes, it is. My duty is very distasteful.'"

Edward Crocker goes on to state that the shabby conduct of the Japs was continued in the treatment they accorded the American diplomatic staff. "At no time in the history of civilized nations," he states, "have diplomatic officers been treated as we were. We were incarcerated, for one thing, and what food we got we wrestled for ourselves."

The passengers arriving home aboard the GRIPSHOLM are being thoroughly investigated. This is much to the point after what happened the last time the GRIPSHOLM arrived at our shores. Then the diplomatic liner brought Americans from Axis Europe, and one of these, a man

named Bahr , turned out to be a Nazi spy - a citizen unmasked by the F.B.I. as a German agent. ~~By way of coincidence,~~ ^{the} today's arrival of the GRIPSHOLM coincides with the publication of the news that this same Nazi agent, named Bahr, has been convicted of espionage. After ^{an extended} ~~a long~~ trial under civil law, he has been found guilty - and faces the penalty either of death or ~~x~~ of a long prison term.

Apropos of spies, we may note that sentence today was passed on the Philadelphia Lutheran Pastor, the Reverend Kurt Molzahn. He gets ten years in prison, after having been convicted of cooperating with a Nazi espionage gang.

ROOSEVELT__

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This country is to have a couple of distinguished visitors soon - to add to our previous list of eminent arrivals. President Roosevelt today announced that he has invited the Prime Ministers of Australia and the Union of South Africa to visit him some time this year. The Australian and South African chiefs of state are requested to make the trip for the purpose of conferring with President Roosevelt on the progress of the war.

REPUBLICANS

The New York Republican convention completed its work today and adjourned - after naming the rest of the candidates on the Dewey ticket. ~~(The running mates~~

~~of the Racket Busting Thomas E. Dewey are - Thomas W. Wallace of Schenectady for Lieutenant-Governor; Frank C. Moore of Kenmore ^{and Buffalo} for Comptroller, and Nathaniel Goldstein of Brooklyn for Attorney General. These - and several others named for lesser posts.~~

Dewey, at a news conference today, reemphasized his Number One campaign idea - that this is strictly a state election with state issues. As for the war, he said that the national war effort would be helped if New York State were given what he called, "a fresh, new and vigorous administration without the accumulated rubbish of twenty years." And he ^{promised} ~~promised~~ a thorough house cleaning in the state government. ^{TP} Dewey indicated that he expected the support of Wendell Willkie in the

election. He said he had not received word from Willkie, but believed that he would. And added that he thought all New York State Republicans would support the Republican ticket this fall.

TOOTH

At Norwich, Connecticut, Mrs. John McWilliams had a swollen finger examined, and that would hardly seem to be news - somebody's finger starting to swell a bit. However, here is the story.

Twenty-seven years ago, Mrs. McWilliams had a bad tooth, a cavity, and had it filled. The dentist was clumsy, and broke ^{the} a drill in her tooth. He extracted a lot of pieces of the broken drill, and then went ahead and inserted the filling.

Ten years ago, Mrs. McWilliams had some more trouble with that same tooth, and had it pulled. And nothing more happened on the subject until a couple of days ago, when one of the lady's fingers started to swell. Today she had it examined, and an Xray showed that in the finger was a broken fragment of the dentist's drill. The tooth puller of twenty-seven years ago had failed to get all the fragments, and had filled the tooth over one piece of steel.

And that bit of metal had worked its way down through jaw, neck, shoulder and arm - and finally into one finger. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

We have all heard of cases like that - pieces of metal or something traveling around in the human anatomy - and the case of the lady at Norwich, Connecticut, is quite a classic example.

SIGN

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At Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, an employee of ^{the Wauwatosa} a utilities company named ~~Thayer~~ read stories from the east about signs on the ground arranged to direct hostile bombers. And he wondered, would military planes overhead really observe anything like that? He became so curious about it, that he thought he would try an experiment, *right there in Wauwatosa.* He picked out a thistle field near the great Allis-Chalmers plant, one of the most important of war ~~industries~~ industries; - aviation motors produced. He got a lawn mower, and in the thistle patch he mowed two strips in the form of an arrow - an arrow pointing right at the great war plant. Then he waited to see if army planes would note the sign - the marker on the ground.

8/2
They did! *the man from Wauwatosa* and today ~~he~~ he had quite a time

explaining to agents of the F.B.I. When last heard from, the ingenious fellow remarked contritely - "I got a severe ~~xxxxx~~ reprimand, which I richly deserved."

~~On that point he made no mistake -- about deserving~~
~~the reprimand.~~

~~And~~ He's the talk of
Wauwatosa tonight.

And, s-l-u-t-m-.

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