

L.T.-SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25, 1942.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Once again Russia gives us the big story of the day. There is no longer any reason for doubt. The German high command, ~~unconsciously gave themselves away when they~~ admitted^s that their armies ~~were~~^a suffering strong infantry and tank attacks from the Soviet forces.

The Nazis even went so far as to acknowledge that the Russians had penetrated their lines in the ~~xxxxxxx~~ neighborhood of Rzhev. We have not heard that name in many a month. It was in the news a good deal some time ago, when the Russians almost crashed through there on the northeast of Moscow before the Nazis began their march to the Volga. ^{TP} The German high command tries to make light of this Russian success_^ by saying it was ^{near Rzhev}

only temporary. The fact remains that the Soviets have crashed through at an unexpected point, many a long mile from the Stalingrad front.

On that Stalingrad front, no fewer than three Red army columns are pushing ahead, ~~without stopping. Even at this moment,~~ The Russian advance continues. There is only a narrow corridor left by which the Germans who have been attacking Stalingrad can escape to rejoin their main ^{armies, and} ~~body~~. That narrow corridor is being whittled down all the time. At last reports, it was less than forty miles wide. ~~It seems~~ ^{So,} ~~quite sure now that~~ the long hoped for hour ^{may be} ~~is~~ at hand when the Nazi besiegers of Stalingrad will be cut off and annihilated.

One of ~~the~~ Timoshenko's columns is a hundred miles west of the Stalingrad area. Another has crossed the Don and is already thirty miles on the hither side

of that river. Equally important is the reported fact that Timoshenko has cut both railroad lines that were supplying the Nazi siege forces.

By now, ^{the} Russian victory is ^{every bit as} ~~already~~ ~~as~~

decisive ~~and sharp~~ as that of the British General

Montgomery over Rommel in Africa, and ~~of course~~ on a

^{larger} ~~far bigger~~ scale. ^{IF} Communiques are ^{coming} ~~being~~ ~~pouring~~

from Moscow, ^{every few hours.} ~~several times a day.~~ ^{And} The latest reported ^{s are} ~~ed~~

not only that the ~~south~~ Russian offensive ~~of the Red~~

Army is continuing, ^{full tilt, but the southern of} ~~but that they have killed six thousand~~ ^{the three prongs reports 6000 German killed} ~~of the enemy,~~ in one day, ^{and} In the past twenty-four hours

they have taken fifteen thousand more German prisoners,

^{and} ~~They~~ have seized three railway stations and eight

populated places.

Adding up, it looks as though ^{the} Nazis and their

vassals ^{--the} Rumanians, Hungarians, ^{and the reluctant!} ~~Italians, and so forth,~~

have lost more than two hundred thousand men in six days, ^{in Russia,} →

of which twenty thousand were killed or captured and more than a hundred and sixty thousand wounded.

~~There are even rumors in Stockholm~~ ^{From} ~~that the~~ ^{comes word}

German high command has lifted the siege of Stalingrad and ^{has} ordered its men to withdraw as quickly as possible,

to escape being surrounded. But, ^{that's} ~~those are just rumors~~

~~and~~ unconfirmed. ^H London believes the Russians have an ~~excellent~~ chance of surrounding no fewer than twenty-five

divisions in and around Stalingrad. ^H All military

observers acknowledge that a good deal of this is due

to the American-British invasion of Africa. ^{For} Hitler is

admittedly pouring his air army into Sardinia and

Sicily, intending to fight it out in the skies.

~~The south~~ ^{that} Russian front ^{near Stalingrad} has become so fluid

and has changed with such speed that it is difficult

to point to anything definite. But we do gather that

one Soviet column is driving west along the railway

from Stalingrad. Another has been striking down from the north to meet it. At last report, they were only thirty miles apart. When they ~~will~~ join up, the Germans will be really surrounded. Three hundred thousand Axis troops will be in a net, ^{which would mean} the biggest disaster that Hitler's armies will have suffered, ^{- if they do - and,} the biggest single disaster to any German armies.

~~One way of testing the accuracy of the claim of war communiques is place names. By that test we can tell that the Russians have been doing no less than they say they have.~~

~~When ^{and if} the German Stalingrad army is cut off, their spearheads in the Caucasus will also be isolated.~~

Already the Russians have captured thirteen hundred guns of all calibres, five hundred and thirty ^{land} motor vehicles, ^{- tanks & trucks -} sixty-two stores of food and other war material.

~~All in all, this looks like the biggest success the Allies have had yet in this global war.~~

AFRICA

When General Eisenhower's American expeditionary force landed in North Africa, the Axis made light of it. But now it has obviously become so important in Hitler's eye that he is even sacrificing his army at Stalingrad to meet the British and Americans in the Mediterranean. He continues to rush his airplanes from the Russian front to Sardinia and Sicily. Patently, he is desperate in his desire to get control of the air over Tunis. *And* He has again been reinforcing his divisions in Tunis with air borne troops. *Also* ~~And~~ his bombers have been making big raids on Allied shipping now in ports held by the Americans and British.

It was reported today that the Italian battle fleet was ready to join in the attack. Up to now *Mussolini* ~~Hitler~~ has kept it carefully in port, out of reach of the British Navy and Royal Air Force. If Hitler does insist on its joining in the Battle of Tunis,

a strong Allied fleet will be waiting for the Italian warships.

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The battle of the air is becoming bigger and fiercer every day. Our ~~own~~ War Department reports that aircraft of the Royal Air Force and the United States Army air forces have accomplished successful raids on a large scale against the enemy in Tunisia. Monday night, ~~Royal Air Force~~ bombers attacked the Nazi-occupied airfield of Bizerte, ~~They~~ ^{ing} caused one large explosion and more than thirty smaller ones. Last night they returned to Bizerte again, concentrating on the docks and the shipping in the harbor. ~~Observers espied~~ ^{And} ~~numerous bomb flashes,~~ There was one particularly big sheet of flame after the dropping of one bomb. Apparently ~~it was~~ caused by exploding gasoline. All the British bombers returned safely.

As for our Air Corps, P-Thirty-Eight fighters

of the Twelfth Air Force destroyed fourteen enemy planes in Tunisia yesterday. What makes that more important is that seven of them were Italian transports carrying troops. They were shot down at Gabes, on the east coast of Tunisia, south of Tunis. In addition to that, four transport planes, one seaplane and one tank on the airfield at Gabes were destroyed. Our planes returned safely, though four of them were damaged and one pilot was wounded.

~~About~~
~~As for~~ the operations on the ground, the Army gives us no details; ^{merely} ~~but just~~ says that British General Anderson's First Army is making satisfactory progress in the eastern forward areas.

FRENCH

The dislike of Darlan among the Fighting French in Britain has come to a head. Since Nineteen Forty, the DeGaulle organization has been broadcasting twice a day from London. These broadcasts came to a stop today. A spokesman for General DeGaulle said: "So long as Darlan is retained as head in North Africa, I feel I cannot conscientiously continue them." And he explained: "As I was talking on behalf of the French National Committee, I cannot take a position from any other angle." ^{Then} He concluded: "I have confidence, however, that the unhappy position in North Africa will finally be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned."

Several Britons are also making trouble about Darlan, including Laborite members of Parliament. ~~One of them offered a motion in the House which declared that relations between the Allies and Darlan~~

~~are inconsistent with the ideals for which we entered~~
~~and are fighting this war.~~

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The same member also spoke caustically about diplomatic agreements being made by an American general. He asked this question of Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden: "Have we reached the point where a general in the field decides the alliances of the United Nations?"

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To which Eden replied: "General Eisenhower's arrangements were made under his authority as Commander of the forces and under the supreme authority of President Roosevelt as Commander-in-Chief of the United States Forces."

CHINA

A rather favorable report comes from Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, commanding the United States forces in China. "Uncle Joe", as his men call him, announced that American warplanes have bombed and machine-gunned Japanese bases and installations in widely separated places during the past five days. They have been operating from advance bases in the Chinese Province of Hunnan. These Army Air Force planes used fragmentary, demolition and incendiary bombs combined with effective dive bombing and ~~skafing~~ strafing. General Stilwell enumerates the raids and the damage done.

From another source we learn that guerrilla bombers of the China Air Task Force have smashed two of the larger Japanese airdromes in South China today. This followed quickly upon the bombing of Haiphong in Indo-China last Sunday. All the bombers returned to their base without loss.

NEW GUINEA

In New Guinea ^{today its} ~~it is now a case of~~ hand to hand fighting. American and Australian ~~fi~~ troops fighting side by side are closing their ring ~~of men and steel~~ tighter and tighter around the Jap beachhead at Buna, ~~and Guna.~~ General MacArthur's headquarters report that Jap casualties were heavy. ^{TF} The Australians and American ^{have} silenced one machine gun nest after another. They have cleaned out many Japanese sharp shooting snipers and taken several positions at the point of the bayonet. The heavy fighting has been going on not only on land but in the air. ^{Also,} The Australians have been mopping up ^{as they} ~~the~~ advance. ~~The enemy found they had the advantage.~~ ^{TF} Until recently the Japs had the advantage ~~of us~~ in artillery, especially mortars. But now the Allies have received shipments of heavy guns and have been able to give them back shot for shot. In the air the Americans and Australians have ~~had the advantage.~~ ^{upper hand.}

SOLOMONS

~~A bit of excitement~~ in the Solomons -- not much but what there is, ^{sounds} ~~of it is~~ good, ~~for our side~~.

You may recall that yesterday the Navy told us ~~that~~ the Japs had established themselves in a position south of the United States forces overlooking Henderson ^{Air} Field.

As we ^{learned} ~~were told~~ yesterday the enemy ^{was} ~~is~~ on a ^{fifteen} hundred foot hill, in an excellent position to mount artillery to be aimed at the air field. Since then a Marine patrol wiped out that Japanese nest, killed seventy Japs and captured five machine guns. Only two of our men were wounded and none killed. While this was going on dive bombers and fighter planes from Henderson Field made a raid on a Jap base at a place called Munda; ~~this is~~ on the western end of New Georgia Island some one hundred and sixty miles northwest of Guadalcanal.

CONGRESS

There have been increasing signs in Washington that Congressmen are becoming restive against the large army of federal bureaus and agencies. Also, they view with alarm the growing number of employees in these agencies. This feeling began to break out on the surface today.

(Pick up "Lumber")

LUMBER FOLLOW CONGRESS

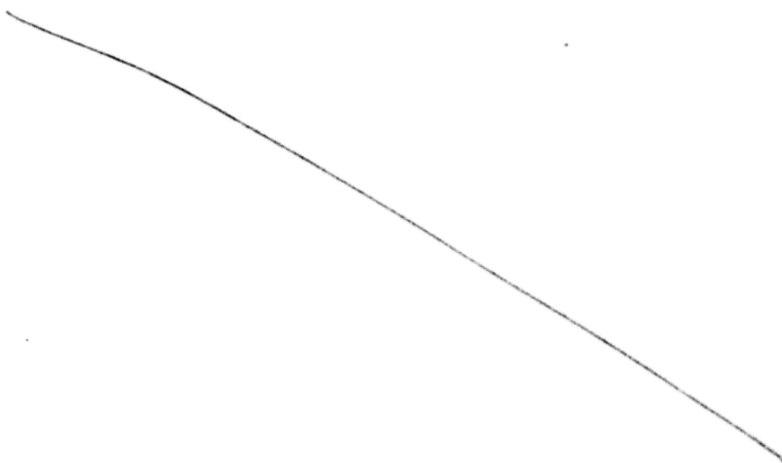
A group of northwestern Congressmen are exercised over lumber. The Lumber Coordinator of the War Production Board has forbidden the importing of any Canadian ^{timber} ~~lumber~~ into this country. ~~The~~ Congressmen declare that the United States at war has not enough lumber of its own to fill the needs for special types of wood. We need Douglas fir, for instance, ^{also,} spruce and other timbers, from our neighbors in the north.

Democratic Senator Wallgren of Washington appeared before the Senate Committee Investigating the War today and used the words:- "There is something smelly about the attitude of the War Production Board." Wallgren said further that Ben Alexander, the Lumber Coordinator, still is head of a company in Washington which ~~manufactures~~ manufactures a plastic wood substitute. The Washington Senator said if the people of Canada knew ~~of~~ all the facts, they would not permit the exportation of their lumber to be held up."

QUESTIONNAIRES - Follow Lumber

Another group of lawmakers are fed up with the numerous questionnaires that are being sent to the citizenry, particularly to business men. Too many official forms have to be filled out, at the cost of much time and trouble. So say the Congressmen.

Today, not one but two committees of the Senate announced that they would hold hearings to reduce the number of these questionnaires and simplify them. One of them is the Joint Congressional Committee on Non-Essential Expenditures, of which Senator Byrd of Virginia is Chairman. He says he is going to try to show how much manpower could be saved by eliminating part of that paper work. Byrd quoted a vitamin questionnaire that has been sent around to members of the food industry by



QUESTIONNAIRES FOLLOW LUMBER - 2

Leon Henderson's Office of Price Administration.

This one has three large pages of questions. With those come two pages of instructions ^{on} how to fill them out. The O.P.A. requires information to the nearest thousands of a cent of unit ingredient cost, unit fabric cost, unit packaging material and labor costs, and other items.

Senator Wheeler, Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee, is going to ask the Office of Defense Transportation about a questionnaire that ^{it} ~~they~~ sent out. Businessmen, said Wheeler, might be able to give the detailed information required by the O.D.T. But it is impossible for farmers and rangers to say when each truck tire was bought and how many miles it has run.

Senator Byrd also wants to reduce ~~the~~ the number of people employed in government bureaus, which he says are over-manned.

GASOLINE follow Questionnaires

The Senate Committee Investigating the War has ordered the appearance of several officials to explain the reasons for nationwide gas rationing.

Price Administrator Leon Henderson, Rubber Boss

William Jeffers, Petroleum Coordinator Harold Ickes

and Transportation ^{czar} ~~Boss~~ Joseph Eastman, ^{all} will ^{testify} ~~appear~~

before the Committee ^{on} Friday.

Senator Truman of Missouri, the Chairman,

says he himself is

~~said he was~~ convinced that nationwide rationing is

necessary to conserve rubber. But, he added, the

American people have not had this properly explained to

them. He hopes, therefore, to be able to give the

people sound logical answers to the questions they

have been asking. Meanwhile, Senator Truman urges

people to obey the order until his Committee reports.

There is a bloc of Congressmen working ~~might~~

~~and mean~~ to postpone nationwide gas rationing for six

months. Democratic Representative Anderson of New Mexico declares that there is enough crude rubber and scrap in the country to give synthetic plants ample time to come into production. ^{And he} ~~he~~ criticized ^s the report of the Baruch Committee which, he ^{says} ~~said~~ [^] had underestimated ^s the amount of scrap rubber ~~that had been~~ collected. These congressmen want the government to try voluntary rationing before [^] ~~it is~~ ^{resorting to} ~~made~~ [^] compulsory.

OIL - Follow Gasoline

~~But~~ People in the East with oil-burning furnaces will envy one particular man in Los Angeles. He has an oil well right in his own basement, producing two barrels a day -- and a good grade of petroleum at that. But the paradox of it all is that the man with the oil well in his basement thinks he ought to have condolences instead of congratulations. In the first place, he is an oil man himself; and in the second place he is already wealthy; in the third place the oil well underneath his house in a fashionable district is one long nuisance and headache to him. And, sad to relate, he has been trying to stop its flow. Life was ever thus. It's a cockeyed world, isn't it? Now, if that oil well was in my basement! -- anyhow, if you haven't an oil well in your basement, I hope you have a turkey in your icebox.

And - SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.