

FRENCH

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Sunoco.

The story in France tonight is attack and counter-attack. Allied forces have thrust forward in a brilliant drive, in one sector, while in the others the Germans are hurling a mounting fury of ~~counter-attacks~~ counter-assaults. The Allied surge forward is in the middle of the long beachhead line, while the German counter-attacks are at the sides, each end.

Last night we heard about the beginning of the Allied push forward, and today continues the story of its surprising progress. British tanks broke through, and kept on going, and at the center of the line a great wedge has been driven forward, southward. The Nazis have been hurled back before the fury of the offensive, and the British ^{reached} ~~captured~~ the town of Caumont, thirteen miles south of Bayeux. Tonight the Allied column is placed twenty miles inside of France - that far south of the original beachhead landings.

The bitterest kind of battle is on in that sector, ^a savage armor ^{ed} clash for the possession of a line of high ground that has the picturesque name of "Bird Cage Ridge". ^{and} The latest news tonight tells of one of the most violent barrages that ever thundered against ^{an} ~~the~~ enemy. As the Nazis rallied for the defense, ~~British~~ General Montgomery ordered ^{the kind of} ~~a~~ ^{ade} cannons that his soldiers have named after him, calling it -- "A Monty Barrage". Flames leaped from endless lines of guns, and a deluge of shells turned enemy positions into spouting volcanos. So in the surprising British drive forward, ^{at} the middle of the battle line, that's the latest -- a "Monty Barrage".

The German counter-attacks are described as five in number, two in the area off the Cherbourg peninsula. At Montebourg, the Germans are lunging. We heard last night that Montebourg was captured by American troops, and then retaken by the enemy.

And today our soldiers, having retired behind the town, were beating off furious assaults.

Another enemy counter-attack is at Carentan, which is at the base of the peninsula. Last night the word about that place was the same as ^{at} Montebourg - captured by the Americans and then recaptured by the Germans. Today's news, however, shows that the American troops are ^{now} in possession of ^{Carentan,} ~~Montebourg,~~ holding on in

violent fighting. And the latest on the wire tonight tells that American troops, beating off counter-assaults, are lunging forward again, resuming their drive across the ^{se of the)} ~~erbourg Peninsula~~ ^{The other three of the big German counter-}

attacks are at the other end of the battlefield, the eastern end. There the enemy is hurling his forces to relieve the hard-pressed Nazis at Caen. That town is half surrounded by a semi-circle of Allied steel, and the Nazi position grows more and more precarious there. Hence the counter-assaults, three of them - which are trying to lurch forward in the sector of Caen.

It is more and more clear that the enemy effort is mounting to proportions of the all-out counter-offensive, which has been expected. ~~The Nazi command is bringing up reinforcements as fast as it can - over communications blasted by Allied bombs. How well the Germans can do this is a big question - a question on which much depends, as the enemy attacks grow increasingly violent.~~ A dispatch from Allied headquarters describes the counter-thrusts as repeated and furious. And the military opinion is that the ^{toe-to}~~day-to~~ ^{toe}~~day~~ slugging will go on until one side or the other reaches exhaustion.

All of which gives us that contrasting picture - of a swift Allied drive crashing forward in fast and fluid movement, at the center of the line, while five Nazi counter-attacks drive in stubborn battles at the sides.

ADD_FRENCH

Tonight we have a statement about the losses in ships that were incurred in the D-Day landings. More than thirteen hundred American ^{vessels,} ~~ships,~~ not counting British and others, took part in the giant task of putting invasion troops ashore. And now Secretary of the Navy, Forrestal, tells us that the losses ^{of} the smaller landing craft were greater than anticipated; While losses of all kinds were less than had been believed possible.

Now H - give us your standard news item, and then I'll take over again.

DeGAULLE

Tonight, on an Allied beachhead in France, there is a French General - DeGaulle. It has been noted during the entire week of the invasion, that in the army for the liberation of France there was a conspicuous lack of French troops. Americans, British, Canadians - but no French. Now, however, DeGaulle himself has gone to the beachhead; ~~sector of his country that has been liberated~~ DeGaulle, head of the French Committee of National Liberation, which proclaims itself to be the provisional government of France.

This comes as a surprise, because of all the controversy between the DeGaulle people and the British and American governments. Today in the House of Commons, Prime Minister Winston Churchill refused to permit a debate on the question, ~~of the DeGaulle demand that his group be recognized as the provisional government of France~~ Churchill said gravely that this was no time

for a debate ^{on} a topic so delicate. ^{TR} ~~And~~ We have been hearing that DeGaulle refused to let French officers accompany the Allied army in the invasion of France. We've been told that French officers had been appointed to serve as liaison between the invading troops and the French people, but that DeGaulle called this off, - ~~refusing to give them permission to go. It was supposed that he was doing this to bring pressure to bear on London and Washington, pressure to persuade the British and the Americans to recognise him as the head of the provisional government of France.~~

^ At the last minute he relented a bit, and permitted some officers to go - but the whole business was of an embarrassing sort. ^{TR} All of which makes this late news a surprise, the news telling that DeGaulle today went over to France, aboard a French warship flying the tri-color of his country. What is the

DeGUALLE - 3

meaning of it? Has some compromise been patched up?

We don't know.

In any case, It is a striking development-- DeGualle setting foot on French soil for the first time in almost exactly four years. This is June Fourteenth, and it was on June Eighteenth of Nineteen Forty that the French General departed from his fallen country aboard a British destroyer.

~~DeGaulle left France just four days short of four years ago.~~

And now he is back in France - with his claim that he is the head of the provisional government of his country, which Great Britain and the United States do not concede.

AIR WAR

Another record was made in the air war today, when fifteen hundred American heavy bombers assailed the Nazis all over the map. That doesn't mean fifteen hundred planes, but fifteen hundred heavies, Flying Fortresses and Liberators, not counting the swarms of fighters that escorted them. (There were seven hundred and fifty of these, giving a total of twenty-two hundred and fifty planes - the largest force ever to engage in one day of daylight raiding. The losses of Britain based planes today were fifteen bombers and eight fighters.)

~~And another air blow was struck from Italy - by five hundred heavy bombers escorted by five hundred fighters, a thousand in all. They hit oil refineries in Hungary and Jugoslavia.~~

With this we have word of the total losses during the first week of the invasion. London states

that during the seven days the Allied air forces lost five hundred and fifty-four planes. A hundred and thirty-nine of these were heavy bombers, while four hundred and fifteen were medium bombers, fighter-bombers and fighters. The German losses were three hundred and ninety-six planes shot down in air fights, not counting planes destroyed on the ground.

ITALY

The new Nazi line of defense in Italy has already been broken. The fleeing enemy made a stand along a front passing through the town and vineyards and wine cellars of Orvieto, but the stand didn't last long.

Today's news tells how the pursuing Allied forces have broken through in three places. The British surges forward along the shores of Lake Bolsena, and shattered the new German positions. The British did the same sort of thing near the town of Terni, while the Americans staged a spectacular advance along the Mediterranean coast.

RUSSIA

The storm of war is pushing and roaring into Finland. The news tonight tells of Red army forces smashing their way steadily through the Karelian Isthmus - blasting their way. ~~We are told of~~ Soviet artillery so densely massed that the guns are wheel to wheel as they fire. The Finns are fighting desperately ~~and in places where the country is rough,~~ in bitter battles, hand to hand.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

Still another air blow against Palau, in the Pacific. ^{on} Four successive days, General McArthur's long range bombers have raided that great island base of the Japs, concentrating on the key air drome. The latest assault flung another twenty-three tons of bombs on the Japs there. Twenty enemy planes were shot down, twenty out of fifty that ventured to attack. And, says the communique, "many more were destroyed on the ground".

And along with this news comes word of

Another blow against the Kuriles, a Navy task force snashing the island of Matsua, which is a little more than a thousand miles from Tokyo.

PEARL HARBOR

~~That~~ ^{today} report on the mystery of Pearl Harbor is an amazing ~~mm~~ story. The Military Affairs ^{House of Representatives} Committee of the ~~Senate~~ has been making an investigation of the reasons why the Japs were able to get through with their sneak punch, and has discovered one big reason - the fact that aircraft warning systems, which had been ordered, had not yet been completed, were not in operation. ~~If the warning systems had been installed according to schedule, the Japs would not have been able to surprise Pearl Harbor.~~

3
The whole thing begins with one of those astounding coincidences, one of those tricks of circumstance that simply make you gasp. It goes back to December Seventh, Nineteen Forty - just one year before the Pearl Harbor attack. On that day, exactly one year before the disaster, a contract was signed for the construction of those aircraft warning systems, which should have given the alarm one year later.

In the awarding of the contract, the leading figure was Colonel Theodore Wyman, the District Army

Engineer at Honolulu at the time. The contract was awarded to Hans Wilhelm Rohl, the leading building contractor in Hawaii. Rohl was German born and a German citizen. He had lived in ^{U.S.} ~~United States~~ territory for twenty-eight years, without becoming naturalized - he became an American citizen later on, four months before Pearl Harbor.

The Congressional Committee report today state^s that Rohl was pro-Hitler, and hobnobbed with Nazis. He is characterized in these words: "arrogant, boastful and aggressively pro-German."

4
The Congressional report declares that Colonel Wyman and Hans Wilhelm Rohl were closely associated in matters of contracts, including secret military construction jobs. And Wyman is accused of what the Committee calls - "discriminating." That is, discriminating in favor of firms controlled by Hans Wilhelm Rohl.

So those two were the leading personalities in the transaction on December Seventh, Nineteen Forty,

On that day
just one year before Pearl Harbor. Rohl was awarded
one
a hundred and twenty-five million dollars worth of
contracts, and one of these was for the construction
of the anti-aircraft warning systems on the islands
of Oahu and Kausi. They were to have been completed
in six months, and that would have had them in
long before
operation ~~on~~ the fateful morning of December Seventh,
Nineteen Forty-One.

But the time schedule was not met. and the
Congressional report charges - mismanagement. It
states that Colonel Wyman - "established a reputation
for irregularities in the performance of contracts,
and failed to complete important defense projects on
time." Those are the words of the report. In
consequence, the aircraft warning systems ~~that were to~~ *were*
~~have been in operation on the islands of Oahu and Kausi~~
not completed
~~were not yet completed~~ and the Japs were not detected

TP
German - Pro-Hitler
contractor. But other officers are charged with also
being at fault, officers including Lieutenant General

Short, United States Army Commander in Hawaii.

~~The Committee goes on to say that Wyman earned, what it calls "an unfavorable reputation as to personal habits."~~ We are told about parties attended by both the Colonel and the German contractor - "wild drinking parties", says the Committee report. Some of these were aboard Rohl's fine yacht, and mention is made of what are described as "cheap looking girls."

This angle comes to a climax with an account of things that happened on the morning of Pearl Harbor, The ^e report states ^{ing} that Wyman spent the night at Rohl's home, and when the news came that Pearl Harbor was being bombed, the Colonel's conduct was wild. "He rushed to his office in civilian clothes in a drunken condition," says the report. "And," it ^{goes on,} ~~says~~ "he changed from his civilian clothes to a uniform in the presence of all of his office help, women as well as men, shouting orders to everybody."

The Committee notes one ironical thing, the fact that Colonel Wyman was later awarded the Distinguished

Service Medal for what the citation describes as "exceptionally meritorious service" in Honolulu during the time that he was army engineer there - that is, the time of the business with the German contractor, And afterward Wyman was put in charge of the Canol Oil Project in Canada - that Oil plan which has been so much debated.

There has been much surmise that strange doings were in the background of the mystery of Pearl Harbor, and today's report would certainly seem to bear that out - with its account of the contracts that were made on December Seventh, just one year before the Jap attack. — contracts with Rohl, the German.

PEARL HARBOR EXPLOSIONS

We heard last month that there had been an explosion at Pearl Harbor. An accidental blow-up at the Naval Base. Today, we get more about this, and also news of still another explosion -- this latter only a few days ago.

The mishap of last month occurred on May 21st, *and was a disaster of shattering havoc;* when ammunition was being unloaded from a group of

landing craft, *and* These were moored in Pearl Harbor,

and quantities of high explosives were being removed, *and*

What caused the disaster is not known. But there was

an explosion, causing a *long list* ~~heavy loss~~ of casualties,

one hundred and twenty-seven killed and missing, and

three-hundred-and-eighty injured *when explosions swept the landing boats in the crowded harbor.*

Last Sunday, several torpedo warheads were

being transferred from a truck to a platform. They

blew up -- three killed and seven missing.

ELECTION

Idaho is having one of the closest of election counts. In the race for the Senate, the three leading candidates are ^{so} bunched ~~so closely~~ that only one hundred and twenty five votes separate No 1 man from No. 3. --- the present incumbent, Senator ~~W~~ Worth Clark ^{being} No. 3. With seven hundred and one out of eight hundred and forty-five precincts in, the figure is James H. ^{Hawley,} ~~Clark,~~ ten thousand, one hundred and seventy-five. Cowboy Crooner Glenn Taylor, ten thousand ^{and} ninety-five, and Senator Clark, ten thousand ^{and} fifty. You couldn't arrange things much closer than that.

ENGLAND

Here's another one of those quirks of news from conservative England. At Biltsdale there's a tavern which, for five hundred years, has been rented by the Ainsley family. Apparently the Ainsleys have finally decided they like the place, because today, after five hundred years of renting, William Ainsley

~~bought~~ bought it. In dear old Biltsdale.

And now here's Jolly old H -

MONASTERY

We have word about the art treasures of the Abbey of Monte Cassino, that historic monastery, which was shattered by shells and bombs in the bitter struggle for Cassino. Some had feared that the treasures of art collected in the Abbey for centuries had been buried under the ruins, the tumbled masses of masonry. But in Rome it was disclosed today that the works of art had been taken away, and are now in the Vatican. This was stated at a press conference in Rome, at which Vatican authorities told the newspapermen that the Germans had packed up everything at Monte Cassino that could be ^{moved} ~~used~~ and had brought truckloads to Rome. These ~~items~~ were turned over to the authorities, and are now in the Castello San Angelo, the ancient fortress of the Vatican.

~~And word from the Eternal City tells of a fund to rebuild the Abbey of Monte Cassino. It will be~~

recalled that the ruins of the Monastery were captured by Polish troops, and the Poles are historically devoted to the Church of Rome. ~~The Vatican radio speaks of~~ *So the castors of*

~~Polish troops entering Rome as "worthy Christian knights" They are the ones who took Monte Cassino,~~

Monte Cassino

~~and have~~ resolved to aid in the rebuilding of the

celebrated shrine. ~~It is said that the~~ Polish troops

began a fund for the reconstruction, (and other

contributors ~~are~~ Polish residents in Rome. The fund

amounts to six hundred ^{*million*} Lire. At the exchange rates

~~that existed~~ before the war, this would mean thirty

million dollars. Although, of course, it's ~~very~~ much

less at prevailing rates.)