

"The battle of the break-through" is tough and stubborn going. Today, American First Army troops widened the gap that they succeeded in smashing through the Siegfried Line. They added another mile to the opening. And at the front edge of the wedge thrust forward through the gap they hammered along for further advances.

The enemy resistance is of a most formidable sort - the Germans making a fanatical suicidal fight for the soil of their country. The major elements for their defense are artillery and earth works. The Americans are advancing under some of the heaviest shellfire ever witnessed in war - the ~~gm~~ Germans having brought forward great masses of guns. Their infantry is holding out in earthworks, trenches of a modernized kind - ~~km~~ and these are said to be more formidable than the concrete pill boxes of the Siegfried line.

At one place in "the battle of the break through," hostilities have assumed something of the

aspect of the jungle fighting in the southwestern Pacific. On the plain before the city of Cologne, there's a wooded section called Hurtgen Forest - the usual maze of trees. American troops have driven into Hurtgen forest and are ~~now~~ in bitter conflict with the Germans. The tactics in the woods there are reminiscent of the ways of war in the dense jungles of the South Sea. But the similarity does not extend to climate, the wintry chill of northern Germany being mighty different from the dank heat of the equatorial thicket.

In the Hurtgen Forest, the Americans have reached their nearest point to Cologne on the Rhine - twenty-seven miles from the city. They have driven thirteen miles into Germany, and one spearhead is eight miles east of Aachen. Save for the Hurtgen Forest, the country is clear and open flat land - excellent for the tactics of tanks. But the Germans are fighting it out to the bitter end, and are making furious counter-attacks. These forced the Americans

back at a couple of places, but the First Army men have surged forward again and recaptured what they had lost.

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The Allied news tells nothing about events at the northern end of the battle line - in Holland. But Berlin announces that the British there have crossed the lower Rhine, and are driving northward. According to Berlin, a violent battle is going on, as the Germans try to hold a drive which threatens to cut the escape corridor for a ^{hundred thousand} ~~million~~ German troops in Western Holland.

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Along the coast of the English Channel, the battle for Dunkerque was resumed today - after a ~~gm~~ truce to permit civilians to be evacuated. Nineteen thousand people steamed out, in a huge procession. Today the truce came to an end, and the Canadian cannon opened fire again.

The Allies do ^{not} expect to have an easy time in capturing Dunkerque - they have evidence that the Germans will fight as long as they can. The

evidence consists of the attitude of German officers who talked with British commanders in negotiating the truce. The British say that these Germans were fanatical Nazis, who went so far as to try to convert the British officers to the cause of Hitler.

And they have told their troops at Dunkerque that if they can hold out a week longer, help will come, they will be relieved. How? By ~~xxx~~ victory for Hitler. The Nazi-theory at Dunkerque is that the long debated secret weapon, the V-2, is about to go into ~~xx~~ action - and the Allies will be overthrown. So the Dunkerque Nazis have only a week more to hold out before the coming of the triumph - the V-2. It all sounds rather like a lunatic asylum, but the British are of the realistic belief that the Nazi delusions will persuade the German troops at Dunkerque to put up the hardest kind of ~~gixkix~~ fight.

To the South, the sector of General Patton's Third Army, the cannon were roaring today - roaring their loudest. The Germans, in their defense, are

concentrating on artillery ~~fixxx~~ fire - and an American officer stated today that it was the heaviest cannonade of the war.

At Fort Driant, ^{at Metz,} the fantastic battle goes on with increasing weirdness and bitterness - the conflict between the Americans above ground and the Germans in underground passages. Fanatical Nazi fighters continue to swarm up out of their subterranean world ^{to the} ~~and make~~ counter attacks. These are beaten off, and today the Americans above ground scored a striking success. They captured one of the tunnels - and this may be the beginning of an underground war, a drive into the subterranean world.

ITALY

In Italy the American Fifth Army has progressed so far in its drive to break out into the valley of the Po that tonight American big guns are shelling the outskirts of Bologna. That city of course, is the key to the flat lands of the valley. Bologna is in artillery range now, which would seem to mean that the long hard battle to get through the mountains and onto the flat plain has been won.

GREECE

The war news from Greece tonight features one of the most celebrated of classic names - Corinth. British forces, having captured the port of Patras, are advancing along the gulf of Corinth.

~~That body of water reaches far into Greece, almost across the entire land - a great inlet of the sea. Its mouth at the west, where it opens into the Mediterranean, is a narrow strait. The British have seized control of this strait, and it is believed that British warships will steam into the Gulf of Corinth to support the advance along the shore.~~

This line of march will take the British to the Isthmus of Corinth, the narrow neck of land that connects the Peloponnesus with the remainder of Greece. On the Isthmus, in ancient times, stood the city of Corinth, a mighty metropolis that figured so greatly in the splendors of the classic past - the glory that was Greece.

~~There have been reports that the Germans intend to fortify the narrow isthmus of Corinth and hold~~

~~it against attack, but another good guess would seem to be that the Nazis are in such a position that they will be glad enough to get out of Greece ~~with~~ ~~xxxxxxxx~~ altogether. In which case the British forces would swiftly traverse the Isthmus of Corinth and that would take them promptly to Athens, which is not many miles from the classic neck of land.~~

We hear that the Germans have evacuated the island of Rhodes, famous in history for the giant sculptured effigy called the Colossus^s. The British, in their moves on Greece, are picking^{up one} ~~xxxx~~ island after another, and now - Rhodes.

SUBSTITUTE FOR LAST PARAGRAPH OF GREECE

The latest tells of Allied invasions of half a dozen Grecian Isles -- historic bits of land in the Aegean Sea. And the German garrison at Athens is said to be threatened with a pincers movement -- one jaw of which is the force moving toward the Isthmus of Corinth, while the other is an Allied Force that has seized the island of Andors, near Athens.

Siberian Soviet Troops have staged a three-day drive southward into Hungary. Passing from Hunedoara, they today captured the Railroad Center of Eufke which is only fourteen miles from the second largest city in Hungary.

Another report tells of a Russian naval success far to the North -- in the Baltic. A fleet of eight large German transports with ten thousand troops aboard, which were torpedoed and sunk by Russian submarines outside of the Harbor of Tallinn, the capital city of Estonia.

Wright - there is more news, but first will you take over for a moment.

RUSSIA

Russian Troops have reached Belgrade, That is to say, they are now on the river bank across the Danube from the Yugoslav Capital. Red Army Forces drove to the Danube opposite Belgrade on a twenty-six mile front, and have brought their big siege guns forward for a cannonade.

~~Other Soviet Troops have staged a thirty-nine mile advance into Hungary. Pushing from Rumania, they today captured the Railroad Center of Marko which is only fourteen miles from the second largest city in Hungary.~~

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MARSHALL

(We've all noted how this war has made a commonplace of the trans-Atlantic flights that used to be such headline exploits. The bombers in this war fly the north Atlantic ~~xxx~~ along ~~xx~~ a regular ferry line, and) today we have a climax of the old and heroic turned into the commonplace. Lindbergh's flight has been duplicated, non-stop New York ~~xx~~ to Paris - and just as a routine matter getting Chief of Staff General Marshall and mobilization Director Byrnes over to the war zone in France.

It was seventeen years ago this past summer that Lindbergh made himself the world's most famous flyer by piloting an old-time plane for the first solo flight across the Atlantic - New York to Paris.,

^{TR} For today's trip General Marshall and Mobilization Director Byrnes took a big transport fitted out especially for use by President Roosevelt - though he has not yet flown in it. At the controls ^{was} ~~was~~ the President's personal pilot, Lieutenant Colonel Henry T. Myers of Tifton, Virginia. When they landed in

Paris, Marshall and Byrnes stepped out spic and span, fresh and rested, to be welcomed by Generals Eisenhower and Bradley.

"The trip" said ^{the} Pilot, Lieutenant Colonel Myers, "was a ~~ix~~ lot different from Lindbergh's.

We had a pleasant jaunt, with steak for one meal on the way, and creamed chicken for another." The sky voyage took nineteen hours ^{the} first ~~that~~ ^{it} has been flown ^{non-stop} since Lindbergh made it in thirty-three hours those years ago.

battle - the Communist question, communist support for a fourth term. He disavowed the Reds, saying that he rejected the backing of the Communists.

I don't know whether the disciples of *the* Browders and Stalin are discouraged by this, but in Boston a lively row is on because of a bit of Communist fourth term electioneering. The Communist political association is sponsoring an anti-Dewey musical show, which is to have its premier at symphony hall tonight - as a part of a communist rally which Browder will address.

This has aroused the ire of organized women voters, and the Massachusetts Women's Political Club demanded that the city ban the Communist electioneering theatrical production attacking Dewey. The city censor said - no, he couldn't do anything about it.

So now the Women's Political Club announces that the show will be picketed. Some fifty thousand women members are urged to join the picket line at the Communist rally. I don't know whether all fifty thousand

of the ladies will respond, but if they should it would be something that even Marx, Lenin, Stalin and the party line would have trouble ~~in~~ in solving - a picket line of fifty thousand angry women!

FOLLOW ROOSEVELT

Here's the latest, Dewey's reply to President Roosevelt's rejection of communist support. This afternoon the Republican Candidate stated: "Mr. Roosevelt asked the American people not to look now, because somebody is following him".

In general agreement on the final draft of a world security organization formulated at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. This agreement with Dewey was affirmed today by the Secretary of State.

But, at the same time, some other members of Dewey's party do not agree with the agreement. Senator Cherry of Nebraska, for example, denounces the Dumbarton Oaks Conference and says the administration is concealing what the scholar called "a long list of shameful peace settlements already agreed upon in Europe". And the Senator added that because of the Dumbarton Oaks agreements we are, in his words, "being driven into a state of perpetual war". All of which, from a Republican source, is in contradiction to the agreement between Dewey and Hull concerning Dumbarton Oaks.

HULL

A paradoxical state of affairs is indicated in the case of the agreement on foreign policies between Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Republican candidate Tom Dewey. *(Negotiating through his emissary, Foster Dulles, Dewey and ~~the~~ Secretary of State, are in general agreement on the final draft of a world security organization formulated at ~~the~~ Dumbarton Oaks. This agreement with Dewey was affirmed today by the Secretary of State.*

But, at the same time, some other members of Dewey's party do not agree with the agreement. Senator Wherry of Nebraska, for example, denounces the Dumbarton Oaks conference and says the administration is concealing what the senator called "a long list of shameful peace settlements already agreed upon in Europe". And the Senator added that because of the Dumbarton Oaks agreements we are, in his words, "being driven into a state of perpetual war". All of which, from a Republican source, is in contradiction to the agreement between Dewey and Hull concerning Dumbarton

Oaks. And then there is Republican Senator Ball of Minnesota, who differs with Dewey on still other grounds - Senator Ball taking a still more internationalist position.

All of which is only part of the tangle - because on the Democratic side, too, There are members of Congress who do not see eye to eye with the Secretary of State in his championship of Dumbarton Oaks. Both Secretary Hull and candidate Dewey join in a call for non-partisan unity in dealing with our foreign policy - but there are both Democrats and Republicans who disagree with the two protagonists at the top.

POLYGAMY

In the Polygamy trial at Salt Lake City the jury's verdict is -- guilty. Thirty-one defendants who call themselves fundamentalists were found guilty tonight on the charge of conspiring to practice polygamy.

Their defense was that, in advocating and practicing plural marriage, they were merely following the original tenets of the Mormon church. However, the Mormon Church renounced polygamy years ago, and has been active in trying to eliminate any lingering practice of plural marriage.

The evidence showed that the thirty-one fundamentalists on trial were adherents, in theory and in practice, of the doctrine of many wives. And the jury's verdict is -- guilty, with sentences to be imposed on the thirty-one fundamentalists.

EIRE

The Emerald Isle of Ireland is a land of contradiction, as was noted by the late G. K. Chesterton, who wrote:

"The great Gael of Ireland! whom the Gods made mad, for all his wars are merry, and all his songs are sad".

Why this outbreak of hibernian paradox tonight?

There is news from Dublin, which tells us that Ireland may be ousted from the British Empire. No, the Irish won't withdraw, secede, revolt or rebel. It's the other way round. The British may eject Ireland from the British Empire - which might seem to inflict on the Irish ~~xx~~ the very thing they have been battling for ever since the first Irishman saw the first Englishman.

Ireland is, right now, virtually independent, and neutral in the war - the Irish stubbornly maintaining the right to be out of step in the big parade. But still, there are some more or less

indeterminate relations between the two ill assorted islands, and this we hear irks, not the Irish, but the British.

There is a good deal of indignation in England because Ireland has stayed out of the war, and prominent Britishers are reported to be saying - we won't have them in our empire any longer. The British, too, would seem to be afflicted with a bit of contradiction and paradox. Having fought so hard and not so successfully to keep Ireland in the empire, They now want to toss Ireland out. But, suppose the Irish should insist on staying in! well, it's all too confusing, and you'd have to have an Irish poet to figure it out. *Hugh, you're an Irishman. You figure it out.*

HOLLAND

*Taken from
early bc.*

The exiled government of the Netherlands today made the threat that at the peace table, after the defeat of Germany, Holland would demand a slice of German territory. This - not because the realistic Hollanders are ambitious, but because they might want reparation in terms of territory for the ruin that Germany is now inflicting on Holland.

Ante
Leaders of the exiled government stated today that their country faced the greatest calamity in its history, a German orgy of destruction by fire and flood. The Nazis are conducting ruthless demolitions, such as blowing up buildings and harbors, and they are doing even worse with the element of water.

The Netherlands, the low countries, are just that - nether, low lying. And great areas of sea have to be kept out ~~of~~ by those famous and historic dikes of Holland, the Dutch more than once having been known to flood their land as defense against a foreign foe. Now it ['] is the Germans who are doing the flooding.

The exiled government stated today that

already twenty per cent of the farmland has been inundated - which means that it has been ruined for months, or for years. And it is believed that the Germans may flood as much as forty-six per cent of the fields of the Netherlands. Moreover, they intend apparently to let the deluge into cities like Amsterdam and ~~the~~ Rotterdam - which are low lying and ~~partially~~ protected by dikes. They could flood these cities to a depth of from eighteen to twenty feet - bringing the ~~near~~ ocean in.

This is the sort of ruthless destruction which may persuade the Dutch government to demand German territory. One cabinet member of the exiled government today gave warning to the Germans that Holland may be forced to demand areas of Germany - "much as we do not like it", said he.

BASEBALL

~~I suppose I ought to~~ apologize for what I called the St. Louis Browns, ~~the~~ day before yesterday - Hitless Wonders. They were that during the first game, comparatively hitless, and altogether wonderful. However, it was a different ~~story~~ today. The Browns, supposed to be so feeble with the bat, turned into a bunch of deadly sluggers. ~~the kind that can put on a murderous rally with two out.~~ *This afternoon* They did ~~that~~ in their big inning, the third, ~~with two down,~~ they launched a five-hit attack and scored four runs - enough to win the game.

~~The Cards did considerable hitting against Brownie Pitcher Kramer, but he followed the procedure that the Browns featured all season getting into one jam after another, but getting out with superb displays of pitching.~~

So now the Browns are ahead in the series again, two games to one. And, after their prowess at the plate today, I am compelled to say - No, they are not hitless wonders. *Not today.* ~~At least, not always.~~