

ARMY

P.T. - Suroco. ~~Friday~~, June 18, 1942.
Thursday

This evening's late army bulletin, just in, confirms the American bombing of Italian battleships in the Meditteraeon. The army identifies the Fascist vessels as the thirty-five thousand ton vessel Littorio and the 25 thousand ton Cavour. The number of hits scored by American heavy bombers is described as --
"considerable." ^{The word is that the} ~~The~~ Italian anti-aircraft fire was heavy, but not at all effective. The American bombers returned ^{ing} ~~ed~~ to their bases without a casualty.

PACIFIC

The Secretary of War stated today the danger of a Jap attack against our West Coast had been greatly reduced by the American victories in the Pacific. Because of the way we smacked them, they are much less likely to try to take a shot at our own coast.

Secretary Stimson made some comment about the Aleutian Islands. He said the Japanese landings on Attu and Kiska were small. He added that he couldn't say whether the Jap landing parties had been reinforced.

The Secretary of War went on to give some illuminating comment about the delay in releasing news of the battles in the Pacific.

"When you consider the fact," the Secretary reasons, "that literally hundreds of young men were flying and fighting at the same time, and shooting at the same targets, not knowing what the others were shooting at, and flying at three hundred feet a second, they had a very brief time to observe what was beneath them."

He said that when the reports of the battle came in, there was immense confusion, and that he himself spent several days trying to put together a complete picture of what had occurred.

CHINA

In China, the Japs are still advancing in their campaign to capture that vital stretch of railroad line. They are storming ahead at various places. Nevertheless, the Chinese are trying a stroke of their own; ~~They are~~ launching a drive against the City of Nanchang, ~~which is~~ the military center for the *entire* Japanese campaign. The Chinese have blasted so successfully toward Nanchang, ^{that} the Japs have had to hurry troops to ^{its} ~~the~~ defense - pulling these troops out of their attacking forces elsewhere. ~~And that is according to the Chinese plan. They are striking toward Nanchang as a diversion - for the purpose of weakening the Jap offensive.~~

On the side of the United Nations, one pressing demand is - aid to China. Though that is difficult to accomplish. The news today, ~~however,~~ tells that the Chinese will get some mighty effective

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aid. The United States bomber forces that have been stationed in India will be shifted across the mountains to China.

The news of these reinforcements accompanies the announcement of the appointment of a commander of the American air forces in China. He is Colonel Calbb V. Haynes of North Carolina.

INDIA

Today brings a new turn in the dilemma of India. This is in the form of a suggestion made by Gandhi, who proposes that the United Nations make a treaty with an independent India. The Mahatma's idea is that if the freedom of India be conceded at once, the newly independent country will join with the United Nations in the defense against the Japs.

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This is reported by the London radio, which states:- "Gandhi said that he would agree to the presence of foreign troops in India, provided they were allies of a free country under a treaty with India."

LIBYA

The latest from Libya is a British bulletin stating that tonight German artillery has the fortress of Tobruk under bombardment. This follows the fall of two key points in the defense in front of Tobruk - the Nazis capturing El Adem and Sidi Rezegh. When those two places fell, Tobruk was under siege again, under artillery bombardment tonight.

~~It is not at all clear what the strategic situation may be out there in the war of the desert.~~

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The Axis claim that General Rommel's panzers cut the British army in two, and have trapped part of it. This the British deny, saying they extricated their troops from the Rommel trap. ^{IP} It is uncertain how far the Nazi commander intends to go - in the direction of Egypt. The British, however, say they have no good defense line until the border of Egypt is reached. ~~Earlier advices today made it uncertain whether the~~

RUSSIA

The news tonight about Russia gives us a Nazi claim that German troops have broken through the northern fortifications of Sevastopol. They say that at that point they captured ^a ~~the~~ Number One stronghold, called "The Maxim Gorky Fort, named after the great Russian novelist. This, declare the Nazis, puts them less than two miles from the entrance of the harbor of the great naval base.

Moscow tells an entirely different story - declaring that the defenses of Sevastopol remained intact ^{after} ~~for~~ thirteen days of savage enemy attack. And Moscow adds that Red army forces recaptured a series of trenches today.

Similarly at Kharkov, further north, Moscow tells of the repulsion ^{of} ~~ion~~ of German attacks. And here we are given a picturesque detail. It is a vivid contrast of the old and the new - Cossacks

riding into battle with anti-tank rifles. They say that these traditional horsemen of the Steppes carry their modern weapons against tanks attached to their saddles -- like lances.

On another kind of front, Moscow tells us that the United States is going to send the Soviets three billion dollars' ~~ex~~ worth of war materials.

FRANCE

Nazi Germany has demanded that Vichy France make what is called -- "an enormous effort." And the Vichy collaborationist, Pierre Laval, has agreed to make it. The enormous effort is on the labor front -- Laval agreeing to mobilize French workers on behalf of German armament production.

The story comes from Vichy, and states that Hitler informed Laval that the Nazi war machine is about to begin its all-out campaign in Russia, and Hitler demanded that Vichy France do ~~xx~~ everything possible to help shatter the Red Army.

REVENGE

Today in London there was a demand for immediate reprisals against the Nazis for the killing of innocent people in former Czechoslovakia. In Parliament, the cry was raised -- "an eye for an eye."

This occurred as the Nazis made new and ferocious threats:-

In London, in Parliament, today, M.P. Sir Thomas Moore demanded that Germany be warned that Britain will take reprisals for outrages against the Czechs -- an eye for an eye, a village for village. In other words, the R A.F. would reciprocate by blasting German towns off the map.

This suggestion was deprecated by Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee. He said that the bombs of the R.A.F. will be aimed at the most effective points in Nazi Germany -- where they will hurt the most in a military way. "You will agree," argued the Deputy Prime Minister, "that it is not necessarily

the most effective use of the Air Force to bomb a number of separate villages."


Here is the latest -- a rumor. The Prague Radio has just announced that the killers of Heydrich the Hangman have been captured. The story describes them as Czechs, and states that they were dropped by a British plane. They were captured today, resisted, and one was shot. Prague Radio is, of course, Nazi controlled, so what it says must be taken with caution.

A.E.F.

Belfast, in the Orangemen's part of the Emerald Isle. But the folks there would seem to abide by a tradition commonly ascribed to Ireland of the Shamrock.

As everyone is aware, the United States has a large force of troops in northern Ireland -- a new A.E.F. And there has been some friction between our soldiers and the local inhabitants.

Several men were on trial today, charged with participating in a riot against U.S. army authorities. It came about in this way. There was some complaint about the behavior of American troops, and the United States military police was ordered to be on the alert. And soon a couple of M.P.s were called to



the scene of disorder, where a couple of American soldiers were misbehaving themselves. The M.P.'s arrested the onery pair - whereupon the Irish in the vicinity tried to rescue them. Some three hundred civilians attempted to get the two soldiers away from the military police, and there was a lively riot.

Today, an American lieutenant of ~~the~~ M.P.'s made the following statement to the Ulster Court:

"Civilians," ^{said he,} ~~he declared,~~ "sometimes complain about the behavior of American soldiers. But," he added, "when the military police try to make arrests, those same civilians try to interfere." To which he added ruefully, "It's a ticklish problem - something we never expected."

Certainly lieutenant, something you'd never expect - unless you were an Irishman.

HOOVER

Now about the new book just published by Herbert Hoover and Hugh Gibson. This volume, called ~~xxxx~~ "Problems of Lasting Peace", is memorable for the attempt it makes to analyze the interplay of factors that lead to war or peace. Certainly - few authors have been better fitted by experience to tackle this difficult subject. Herbert Hoover - the American President who had so much experience in international affairs before he entered the White House. And Hugh Gibson - who for years was America's Ambassador-at-Large, representing our nation in troubled European complications. ~~These two authors have written in collaboration - the statesmen arriving at similar ideas about war and peace.~~

They come to the conclusion that in international relations there are seven dynamic forces,

the interplay of which determines the cause of war and peace. They do not believe wicked men and wicked nations are the basic causes of war. These wicked ones merely exploit a situation that has already been created by the interaction of the seven dynamic forces.

In this book, "Problems of Lasting Peace," Herbert Hoover and Hugh Gibson devote their vast knowledge to analyzing all the devastating conflicts of the modern world.

WILHELMINA

Another ruling sovereign landed in the
Western Hemisphere today. ^{Exiled} Queen Wilhelmina of the
Netherlands arrived in Canada - on her way to
Washington to visit President and Mrs. Roosevelt.
She is sixty-one years old, the longest ruling
monarch alive. She has reigned over the Netherlands
for almost forty-four years. Queen Wilhelmina crossed
the ocean to Canada by airplane - it was her first
flight.

Right now, this nation has been entertaining
one monarch, King George of Greece. And now another -
Her Majesty, Wilhelmina of the Netherlands.

MEETINGS

From Washington we have an appeal to call off meetings of various kinds -- conventions, country fairs, tours made by groups. Director of Defense Transportation, Eastman, calls upon the country to abandon such gatherings for the duration of the war. The reason for this is a threatned shortage of transportation.

LOUIS

The War Department has ruled that Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis will not be allowed to take on a big fight until he has completed his army basic training. Joe wants to climb in the ring for a big battle so that he can pay off some of his income tax. He owes the Government a hundred and seventy thousand dollars. He has defended his title twice since joining the Army, both purses going to army and navy relief.

PRYOR

Tonight the death of the dean of American band masters revives many a story told about Arthur Pryor - of Pryor's band. For one thing, he was so exceedingly polite, a very model of formal courtesy. It is true that at time^s he would swear violently at his musicians, when they made a mistake. But he was so polite that he would always apologize first. He would beg their pardon - before launching into a string of blazing epithets.

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It would go something like this: ~~Arthur Pryor,~~
~~the dean of American band masters,~~ ^{He} would be rehearsing
his musicians, and a ^{sour note} ~~solemn oath~~ would ring out. He
would stop and say, "I am sorry, gentlemen, you must
forgive me - but that blankety-blank piccolo player
is nothing but a this and such." ~~Whereupon he would~~
~~go on with the rehearsal.~~

But tonight, Arthur Pryor of Pryor's Band

is in a paradise reserved for musicians, and there I
suppose he is rehearsing the angels playing on their
golden harps. And no doubt when a few seraphic false
notes are twanged out, the polite band master will
apologize before ^{speaking harshly to} ~~swearing at~~ the angels.

PROFESSOR

At Middletown, Connecticut, today a court of law considered the case of the professor who pushed a lady off a rock and into the water.

Professor Herbert L. Seward is a member of the faculty at Yale -- Professor of Marine and Mechanical Engineering. Mrs. Christine I. Peabody was a member of the smart seaside colony at Westbrook, Connecticut. They had adjoining properties, were neighbors.

One afternoon, Mrs. Peabody wandered over on the Professor's side of the line, and sat down on a rock just above the water of Long Island Sound. Nearby was a "No Trespass" sign posted by the Professor. He saw her there, and they had some conversation. Whereupon he pushed her off the rock and into the water.

Was the Yale Professor classifying the lady as a mermaid -- or as a sea urchin? Anyway she sued for damaged.

In testimony given today the Professor swore that he spoke to the lady "politely.", asking her to get off his property. The Professor also swore that the lady swore. In fact, he entered a counter-suit for one thousand dollars, because of what she said to him. -- "derogatory language", says the news dispatch.

Her remarks, he claimed, blistered his ears to the amount of a thousand dollars' worth of damage. That, says the Professor, is why he shoved the lady off the rock and into the water.

And now Hugh will you shove off!