NORTHERN FRANCE

Tonight's most sensational news from northern France comes from the enemy. Berlin reports a veritable explosion of American armored power from several directions. One column of American tanks is pictured as making a drive almost incredibly swift a sixty-five mile spurt, which has taken the rolling armor to the city of Dreux, only thirty-five miles from Paris. And The Nazis tell of another American force approaching Chartres, some forty miles from Paris. another column driving south to Tours. And one more reaching the area of the historic City of Orleans, sixty-six miles south of Paris.

E.J. Standard. Wednesday, Eng. 16, 1944.

There is no Allied confirmation of these multiple drives. The word comes from the official communique of the German general staff - which often is reliable. And The stories are probably true, with that hard and violent driver, General Patton, hurling

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his armored columns for dizzy drives in various directions - slashing at the Nazis in a style to remind one of what a blitzkrieg is really like, an explosion of American power!

All this while the battle of the "Falaise pocket" is still on. There have been some reports that the Germans have succeeded in getting out a lot of their armored equipment, but later reports do not seem to bear this out. It would appear that the bulk of the German forces which have been trapped are still in the trap, and the net around them is being relentlessly drawn.

Today the British pushed into the city of aise Falsis which dominates the escape pocket, a bottleneck that is now only five miles wide, and, at the same time American forces hit hard at the pocket itself, and collapsed its western side, driving forward for five

miles.

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One graphic evidence of what is going on is the sight of prisoners streaming along the French roads. The Germans are now being taken by the thousands, as the pocket is being crushed. Once it is done for, and the entire German Seventh Army is mopped up, then the great Allied forces in that battle will be available for racing ettacks, spurts of onward violence - such as the German high command pictures today.

SOUTHERN FRANCE

In southern France, American and British forces have captured that famous resort Town on the Riviera This was indicated by the radio at Algiers Cannes. and seems to be true. Also, the invading troops have smashed to within six miles of the great naval base at Toulon. These are about the only places definitely named on the southern invasion from tonight. The rest is vague, picturing the Allied forces pushing inland on a broad front between Cannes and Toulon, with advance on for miles beyond the coast. Also sirborne troops landing far inland, seizing important road positions, as the troops on the ground move toward them. The reason for the vagueness is that Allied headquarters deliberately refrain from mentioning places or giving definite facts about the progress of the newest invasion. There are a lot of facts that our

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commanders want to keep from the enemy. There always are in war, and this time there is a special motive. The German air force has been so thoroughly cleared out of the sky, that the German sir force is unable to do its job of scouting from above. They can't get their reconnaissance planes through, and so they lack that most vital factor in modern war - air observation. To an unusual degree, they are in the dark about positions and advances of the invasion forces, and the American command wants to keep them in the dark. Hence the lack of definite detail about the drive forward in the invasion on the Riviera. We only know that it is pushing on rapidly and against no formidableopposition. The Germans are putting up only minor and sporadic battles here and there - and we are given a reason for this. Once more, it is a matter of that specious element, the air. We are told that prolonged

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Allied air assaults against German communications have so depleted enemy transport in southern France, that the German commanders are unable to concentrate any large striking power to hurl against the advancing American and French troops.

no The commander of the south France invasion, Todan He is Lieutenant General Alexander Patch. named He is in charge of the ground forces - and what a veteran he is! General Patch made his military reputation in the southwestern Pacific - first at Guadalcanal. There he commanded the army troops in the final defeat of the Japs. on that first island that we took from the Fan Eastern enemy? Then later he directed the invasion of New Caledonia. Now he has taken his war-wise experience to France; Ne is in command of the Seventh Army, that outfit which drove so fast acposs Sicily under the command of General Patton. \ Five months ago we noted

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that the Seventh Army seemed to have dropped out of sight, after its victories in Sicily. The landings in Italy were made by the Fifth Army, so where was the Seventh? We asked that question at the time. Now we know that the Seventh was being prepared for the invasion of southern France.

Hugh, if you will give us Your Stan. of calif. message Ill be backs in a moment with more

ITALY_

Report has come in Here's the latest - a report that the Germans are

evacuating the Italian coast in the neighborhood of Genoa. This - in anticipation of more Allied landings. The Germans believe that there'll be another invasion blow on the northern Italian coast to collaborate with the new advance in southern France. Apparently they don't believe that they'll be able to cope with anything of the sort.

RUSSIA

A savage battle is raging along the borders of East Prussia. Powiet troops, having hurled back powerful German counter-attacks, are now respondingwith assaults of their own. The Nazis are fighting grimly to defend German soil, but Berlin admits that the Russians have made advances in the battle for East Prussia. And a late bulletin tells of a new flape of war a hundred and fifteen miles to the south of Warsaw along

where wand-to hand fighting is raging immediate the

the town under attack being on the left banks

WARSAW

The battle for the city of Warsaw takes a new turn, with the arrival of supplies for the patriot Poles who are fighting the Nazi - supplies from the sky. Word from London is that a force of British planes flew nine hundred miles to Warsaw, and there dropped guns and ammunition into the section of the city which the Poles are defending.

This brings wireless word of gratitude from the Polish commander, the mysterious General Bor. He tells how, when the planes came over, the people ran into the streets and cheered. They were peppered by falling fragments from anti-aircraft shells the German guns were hurling at the planes, but they stood in the streets looking upward and shouting - "They're ours, they're British!"

General Bor reports the Polish insurrectionists are still in possession of the town hall in the center of Warsaw, and they control the greater part of one of the important avenues

AIR WAR

The drama of war on land has tended to eclipse the war of the air - the long range assaults delivered by the heavy bombers, which have been pulverizing German war centers month after month. But the long range heavies have been continuing their Ka. word, as is illustrated today - by the news of a ponderous sky offensive against aircraft plants and oil refineries deep in Germany. A thousand Flying Fortresses, escorted by a thousand fighters, hit hard at the production centers of Nazi air power, which are so obviously on the warm ady for a vobal pir The air force, for a change, went into action with some powerful opposition. Twenty-three Flying Fortresses and Liberators failed to return,

while thirty-two German planes were shot down.

ROBOTS

rochet The news from London is that the bombs hit hard today - a new raid of the robot planes streaming across the Channel. And with this we have word bearing upon the a subject that has been rumored insistently. Namely, that the Nazis were getting set to hurl a new type of giant rocket at the United States. Today's confirmation of this comes from the chief of the Mexican Air Force, General Gustavo Salinas. The Mexican air commander has been on a tour of the Allied invasion front in Normandy, and now, upon returning home, he states definitely the Nazis were getting ready for a robot plane assault across the Atlantic. General Salinas puts it in these words: "Allied troops," he says, "discovered a giant robot launching ramp on the Normandy peninsula. It was designed," he adds, "to use sixteen ton robot bombs, which would travel in the stratosphere across the Atlantic and descend upon American seaboard cities."

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

Word from the South-West-Pacific tonight features a name that was much in the news almost three years ago ---- Davao. That harbor in the Phillipines figured prominently as a the Japs went sweeping in the conquest of the Phillipines. Now the tide of conquest has been reversed, and is going the other way with General MacArthur's forces moving inexoriably toward the Phillipine Islands. And so we hear tonight of a bombing attack against Davao in the Southern part of the island riaxfastax nothing new, In factor of Mindanao. This is its the the sixth attack on the area of Bar Davao, in the past few days. ^{IF}And, to complete the story, American bombers hit big Jap base at Halmahera. That's on the noal rode to the Phillipines, stepping stone to those islands MacArthur has vowed to reconquer. Halmahera blasted in what appears to be prelude to invasion.

MACHINISTS

The Navy today took action against union machinists in San Francisco, workers who refused to do overtime jobs. This occurs in machine shops which had been seized by the government. The Navy, operating the shops, ordered the overtime work, but the machinists refused. Almost unanimously they failed to report on the job for the extra hours. And this brings about the application of penalties.

Today it was announced that draft deferrments of the machinists in question had been cancelled, their gasoline rations curtailed, and the Manpower Commission will refuse them certificates of availability for other jobs. All of which constitutes sharp action by the government in a labor dispute. DEWEY LEAD

Here's a late and important story about the forthcoming conferences between the United States, Great Britain, Spviet Russia and China. Time will be merely a preliminary --- so says Senator Tom Connelly, Sanati of Texas, mfx Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee He adds that the asgatisians negotiations soon to be what he calls held will be followed by "a real conference on a higher level". He predicted that this real conference will produce the outline of a treaty providing for world organization. "This agreement", says he, "will be worked about will it be like? out and completed by Fall". The Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee stated "we aim to have a League of Nations, or whatever you want to call it --- that's a going concern before the end of the war".

This ties in most pointedly with the statement made by Republican candidate, Thomas E. Dewey today. He made reference to peace plans, etc. DEWEY

There has been question of why Republican Candidate Thomas.E. Dewey has not expressed himself more fully and forcefully in the realm of international perce. Dewey has bided his time, and apparently he thought that today was the time; for this afternoon he --and,in spake out - in forceful fashion. He made reference to peace-plans that would put the big powers in control. We have been hearing that such a plan has been advanced by Soviet Russia and President Roosevelt, and will be presented to the forthcoming conference between the United States, Great Britain, Soviet Russia and China.

Dewey today denounced the idea of the big boys ruling the roost. "There appears to be a cynical intention," said he, "that the four Allied powers shall continue for all time to dominate the world by force and through individual agreements as to spheres of DEWEY - 2

influence. I hope and pray," he continued, "that no such reactionary purpose will be allowed to dominate the conference, else the peace of the world will as surely as night follows day - again be destroyed." Dewey's idea is that the smaller countries of the world should have their say in the post-war family the world. nations , he said that the future peace should be, in his words, "a task of cooperation among equal and sovereign nations." Dewey went on to declare that force ent wave. He put it in these to prese necessary vords: "Force is essential in any realistic program for the permanent maintenance of peace. " | But, he argued that we must have no scheme for a world depinated by the four greatest powers. Rewey /c what he called the rights of people everywhere to live in peace and freedom, safeguarded from the coersion of the more powerful nations." And he added:

JOE DI MAGGIO

We hear of a heavy blow to the Seventh American Air Force, that's ----the baseball team of the Seventh American Air Force in Hawaii. That star outfit of baseball players has lost its most brilliant performer, whose name will be amply familiar, Joe DiMaggio. Jolting Joe is out of the line-up and in a hospital because of some stomach trouble. He's out of the game for the time being, not lining out long hits for the baseball team of the Seventh Air Force. This would not be so important if it were not that Di Maggio has become a legend in the Hawaiian Islands because he socked one that went on My for four hundred seventy five feet; That's the longest home run the Hawaiian Islands have ever seen and probably the longest in the history of x baseball. May be the excessive exertion of that record -breaking home run disturbed the DiMaggio stomach. In any case, Joe is out of the line up and in the hospital.

SUBSTITUTE LEAD IN HOLLYWOOD

In Hollywood, the District Attorney tonight drew up complaint of Felony against three movie stars who attended a big tea party at the home of band leader Tommy Dorsey. The complaints makes a charge of assault with a deadly weapon against somebody who took a swipe with a sharp edge at movie actor, Jon Hall. A swipe that almost hacked away the end of his nose. Jon Hall is renowned in the Movies as a gorgeous, "hunk of man and the shape of his nose has been an important part of the "hunk". So disaster was threatened when the tip of the nose was almost taken off. As the District Attorney's complaint is filed, there is still much doubt and uncertainty about what really happened at the large social function -) There are statements that climaxed X the party at Tommy Dorsey's house, where celebrities were beaten up, etc.

HOLLYWOOD

out In Hollywood, there is as much doubt and the party uncertainty as ever about the big braw, at the home of Band Leader Tommy Dorsey - the fraces in which Hollywood celebrities were beaten up, slashed with knives apparently, and crowned with bottles. The authorities are trying to get the story straight, and figure out what really occurred.

There is one person, however, who has no doubt or uncertainty, and she is out in Australia. Movie Singer Frances Langford, the wife of Movie Actor, Jon Hall - whose classic nose was slit in the big free-for all. One version of the trouble is that the fight began when Jon Hall made passes at beauteous Pat Dane, wife of Band Leader Tommy Dorsey. This Jon Hall utterly denies.

His wife, Frances Langford, is on a tour of the Southwestern Pacific with a troupe of Hollywood stars that includes Comedian Bob Hope. They are entertaining American soldiers out there, and today the singer expressed the utmost faith in her husband.

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"I know he would never make a pass at anybody else," exclaimed Frances Langford, "and even if he did, it wouldn't make any difference. We have a perfect understanding, Jon and I."

The expression of wifely faith was made complete when Frances Langford referred to the long trips that she has been making. "Do you think," she demanded, "that I would leave Jon and go on these tours, if I wasn't sure of him?"

Well, I've always admired faith, not to mention Bob Hope - and please receive this gag with charity.

And now let's hear from You - Hugh.