

C.J. - Standard.
Sunoco.

mon. Sept 4 '44
~~Stanton, Ala.~~
~~Montgomery, Ala.~~
Danville, Va.

PACIFIC

There certainly were great doings in the Pacific over the weekend - - as we now learn. An astounding array of american sea and air power bore down on the Japs along a two thousand mile front - - from the Kuriles away up north to the tropical atolls of the Carolines. The

story is now revealed with impressive details tonight.

3
TP Great fleets of American warships made a concerted three - day attack, in which salvos of shells from naval guns collaborated with bombs from the sky. And there was a further collaboration of land - based army air craft, with bombers from the carriers of the navy.

On the vast two thousand mile island front the heaviest weight of the assault was against those islands so near Japan proper - - the bonin and Volcano groups.

TP Three Japanese bases were assaulted, islands called Chichi Jima, Haha Jima, and Owi Jima. TP That one named Haha Jima

must have an ironical sound now for the Japs - - it was no Ha Ha for them when the guns of the warships roared and the planes from the carriers were joined by army land -

PACIFIC 2

based planes in the assault on island fortresses at the very doorstep of Japan. Military installations were shattered, a whole string of ships blasted, and scores of airplanes destroyed. On our side we lost only five planes; most of the airmen of which were picked up. Only one pilot and two others of aircraft personnel are missing.

TP In addition to that sweeping offensive in the central and northern Pacific, A pulverizing blow was struck in the southwestern sector of the greatest ocean. The army did it, MacArthur's forces - - with a heavy smash at Celebes, the weirdly shaped island which, on the map, looks something like an octopus. MacArthur's planes hurtled one hundred and forty tons of high explosive on Japanese bases, for the heaviest attack on the Celebes thus far. IV And four new powerful assaults hit the japs in the Philippines, on the big island of Mindanao.

LG-Pai-4

AP New York NY Sep 4 1944

Lowell Thomas

Denville Vir

Submarine.

SUMMARY

One of the strangest of rescue stories comes from the Far Pacific, and tells how Navy flier Ronald Brandt of Cincinnati, was saved from death or capture by the Japs.

In a bombing of Japs on an island, Donald Brandt's plane was hit by flak, and he had to bale out, parachuting down for twelve thousand feet. He landed only a couple of miles off the island shore, and it certainly seemed that he would either drown or that the Japs would get him. Off in the distance, however, was an american submarine, ^{that} had seen the parachute descend ^{descend} not only with but descend on the flier. So in came the sub. moving on the surface, to make what looked like an easy rescue. Then things began to happen. Japanese shore guns opened fire on the submarine. Shells burst in the water nearby

Submarine
SUMMARY-2

~~by~~ and the boat would certainly be hit and sunk,
if it didn't submerge in a hurry.

"Take her down!" The familiar command was
given. And the submarine slid below the surface - -
leaving En. Donald Brandt of Cincinnati floating helplessly
on the water. The skipper of the sub was in a quandry.
He couldn't abandon the American pilot to his fate.
And, at the same time, he didn't dare to bring his boat
to the surface again. So he tried something. He poked
his periscope up, and through it he could see the
flier. Then he moved over toward him - - keeping just
the top of the periscope above the water. The idea was
for the flier to grab and hang on. But that plan ran into
complications. Ens. Brandt thought the periscope might
be Japanese, and he veered away from it - the last thing
in the world that he wanted was to be made a prisoner
by the Japs. Which made the rescue problem decidedly tough.

Submarine
SUMMARY-3

8
The sub made three passes at the flier before he finally gave in - - so far gone now that he was glad to grab anything. He wrapped one arm around the periscope, and the submarine started out to sea. It was a two mile trip ^{Just to get} ~~two mile trip getting~~ out of the range of Japanese shells.

And the flier clutching the periscope was under water

half the time, as he was pulled along through high -

running waves. He was ^{very} nearly drowned; ^{and} ~~but~~ mighty happy

^{surfaced,} when the sub came up, and American voices greeted him with

"hi pal." ~~And now Hugh, in speaking from Danville, Virginia, tonight, saying to you: hi pal.~~

FRANCE

Tonight ^{the} Allies are across the border of Holland

- - a swift - moving column having reached the famous

old town of Breda this afternoon. That's six miles across

the border. / And, Antwerp has been captured. The late news

telling of the fall of the great ^{Belgian} port of Antwerp, one of

the most historic harbors of Europe, Antwerp was taken without

resistance, and so swiftly that the Germans didn't have time

to carry out their usual demolitions. In consequence, miles

upon miles of docks are tonight intact, ready to be used

by the Allies. ^R Another report tells us that the American

First Army, moving swiftly across Southeastern Belgium,

is approaching the great city of Aix-La-Chapelle, ^{he} which is

~~in Germany~~ just across the border. And farther south, in

front of the Siegfried Line, General Patton's Third Army is

said to ^{have} thrown patrols across the frontier - -

^{TP} The Americans on German soil. All of this, at breakneck speed,

FRANCE - 2

continues the story of the Allied-whirlwind racing forward against almost no opposition. The Nazis still pulling back, withdrawing for a last stand to defend Germany itself.

It still isn't quite clear where that stand may be - -

perhaps along the Rhine. ~~That historic river is a formidable barrier, and a line on the Rhine would figure to be a hard thing to storm. However, the German Rhineland is on this~~

~~side of the river protected by the forts of the Siegfried~~

~~Line. So it is possible that the final German stand in the~~

~~West may be made along a front that is partly river and~~

~~partly land fortifications.~~ ^{TD} In southern France the war of

motion is equally rapid. The American Seventh Army under

General Patch has driven forty - four miles from the captured

city of Lyons. It's a race, a race with the German nineteenth

army. ~~The Nazi force is getting out as fast as it can.~~

~~The question is whether the Americans can outspeed them and~~

~~cut around them for a trap.~~ The fighting is almost nil, the

retreating Germans putting up no fight at all - - just traveling.

ADD FRANCE

Tonight in Washington President Roosevelt issued a statement heralding the liberation of Brussels, the fourth European capital to be taken from the Nazis . The president said: "Brussels, the capital of another freedom-loving people, has been delivered from four terrible years of tyranny." And as an echo to that, here is a dispatch tonight which states that British troops made their formal entrance into Brussels today - - an entrance amid cheers and acclamation.

FREAK WEAPONS

London reports its third successive night of quiet - - no rocket bombs. Last night not one single robot plane came buzzing across the channel, and this was true of the two previous nights. For the week ending yesterday the total of buzz bombs was three hundred and seventy - - which brought the total of robots during the entire campaign to more than eight thousand. More than eight thousand of the terrorizing projectiles hitting Southern England, London in particular. And today we have figures showing that in the British Capital about a million houses have been damaged, and there have been ten thousand casualties, - which gives some idea of the terrible possibilities of the robot planes. Now, with the allied advance on the rocket coast, London hopes that terror campaign will be pretty much a thing of the past - - though the Germans may be able to launch the robots from some more distant

FREAK WEAPONS-2

base. Today people along the shore of the English channel heard welcome sounds - - great reverberating explosions.

The belief is that the Germans were blowing up their bomb installations. This in preparation for a swift withdrawal from the remaining sections of the rocket coast, that they still hold. ^{TP} ~~From the British forces across the channel~~

~~in France we hear of the capture of a whole section of launching platforms. These are described as cleverly~~

~~camouflaged, so well concealed that the German crews were~~

~~hidden from sight as they sent the robots on their way.~~

^{TP} Local people tell strange stories about the robots, some

of which didn't work right, - went haywire. One account

relates how a buzz bomb went out of control and proceeded

to do circles over the city of Rouen. Round and round the

robot went, and it would have been a ghastly disaster if it

FREAK WEAPONS-3

had finally come down in the city. But Rouen was lucky - - the buzz bomb after circling as long as it could came down in an open field and exploded there. ^{TP} Talk continues that

the Nazis have still other secret weapons in reserve, and today from the headquarters of the United States Ninth Air Force in France we have the belief stated that Hitler's

Luftwaffe, which seems virtually to have vanished from the sky, is now mustering its strength for a new last - minute

campaign - - a campaign with freak weapons. ^{TP} With the German

armies withdrawing for the defense of Germany itself, the Nazi air force is expected to strike a fantastic blow in the last - ditch fight - - a blow employing all the weird devices that German science has been able to dream up.

^{TP} One of these is the piggy back plane, an example of which has crashed and exploded in England recently. The contraption consists of a small plane riding a big one - - both being

HITLER - - FOLLOW FREAK WEAPONS

2

Here's a late story which tells us that Hitler was all set to make a speech about freak weapons - - and then didn't. Over the week-end news dispatches announced that Der Fuehrer would make an important address on Sunday - with startling disclosures. So there was plenty of expectancy on Sunday and then nothing happened' - - no Hitler speech. Which led to wondering and questioning - - why had Der Fuehrer failed to deliver his pronunciamento? Our story today is from Spain and is based on German sources of information. It tells us that Hitler had prepared a violent harangue for Sunday, and that in it he was going to repeat his threats about secret weapons - - only louder and longer this time. He was once again going to announce - - victory. He was going to promise the Germans a Nazi triumph by the use of new and fantastic kinds of armament. But he didn't do it. Why not?

HITLER - - FOLLOW FREAK WEAPONS-2

Because Der Fuehrer was too down - hearted - - disconsolate and lugubrious. The news dispatch goes on to say that just about the time Hitler was to have gone on the air, he got the news of the Allied capture of Metz and Nancy, and also that Allied troops are ready to enter Brussels. This

3 depressed him so much that he couldn't go through ^{with} the proclamation of victory based on freak weapons. It would have been too much of a farce. ^{TE} We hear that in the freak weapon business,

the Nazis have been handicapped by the fact that there has not been enough time to put newly invented devices into large production. Also - - because they are afraid that, if they started some more fantastic terrorism, the Allies would

reply with secret weapons of their own. ~~The Germans are~~

~~said to have an uneasy suspicion that the Soviets have developed some freaks, which they might use against Germany at any time.~~

59 ~~All of which was still more reason for Der Fuehrer to feel depressed - - too downcast to do any shouting act about~~

HITLER - - FOLLOW FREAK WEAPONS-3

secret weapons. *R* This freak topic takes us to another freakish thing - - that mustache, the spinach on the Hitler upper lip.

We are told that , with all the worry and misgiving, the

Hitler mustache *has turned white. And* ~~is turning grey~~ *Well, it is* no wonder!

~~The way things are going for Der Fuehrer is enough to make the tassels on a cornstalk turn grey.~~

And now a brief word from Stan. of Calif. and then more news.

FRENCH GESTAPO

A dispatch from Paris announces the discovery of - - a French Gestapo. That is, a French branch of the notorious German Secret Police. Arrests of its leaders were made today, and one of these is a Paris Police official who was involved in the sensational Stavisky scandal of Nineteen Thirty-Four* - - that affair of high finance^e and low swindling^x which^{brought} the downfall of the French government, riots in Paris and a series of killings and suicides. ^{TP} Another top official of the French Gestapo who was arrested today is a Paris gangster, an Apache criminal with a spectacular police record. Still another prisoner is a White Russian Princess, who is said to have played a sinister part in the French branch of the Hitler secret police. ^{TP} The French Gestapo is said to have consisted largely of criminals whom the Nazis turned loose from jails. They specialized in getting information for the German Gestapo, spying and betraying patriots. Some joined bands of the Maquis, and did a spy job.

FRENCH GESTAPO-2

They are accused of more than one thousand murders, and the stories tell of screams and shots heard at night, sounds coming from the French Gestapo headquarters - - and also from the home of the White Russian Princess, who was arrested today. ~~And~~ They are said to have kidnapped a niece of General De Gaulle. She vanished and nothing has been heard of her since - - a victim of the French Gestapo, they say. The De Gaulle government is taking relentless measures against this outfit - - and against other notorious groups of collaborators, and, today we hear of six traitors of the Vichy militia executed at Grenoble after the first court martial ordered by the De Gaulle government.

TP
and ^Q arrests are being made everywhere, with the police rounding up prominent figures of the Vichy regime.

ITALY

In Italy there is heavy fighting at both extremities of the line - - the stretches of coast lined along the Mediterranean and the Adriatic. In each case the Allied troops are trying to get around the great mass of central mountains, thereby outflanking the German Gothic Line.

FINALND

Finland is out of the war - - the Helsenki government has surrendered to Soviet russia. The order to cease firing was given this morning. The Germans are reported to be getting out of the country and across into Norway as fast as they can, and Nazi Berlin is delivering furious propaganda blasts against the Fins. The news of the Finnish - Russian Armistice comes from Helenski, and thus far we have no Moscow confirmation. But apparently there is a no doubt about it - - Finland is out of the war.

ADD FINLAND

Tonight's comment from Moscow merely states probabilities concerning the terms that the Finns will get from the Soviets. Finland is likely to retain its independence, and the conditions will not be excessively harsh. So says the Moscow story, and points to one thing worth noting - - that the Russians have not demanded unconditional surrender of the Finns.

RUSSIA

The Russians took the offensive again today in northern Poland. In Rumania the Soviets are, of course, sweeping on through that surrendered country. The going is relative easy there, but it has been tough in Poland, where the Germans have been putting up a savage battle. However, the Russians are surging forward once again, with Moscow announcing the capture of a hundred towns to the north of Warsaw.

7P The situation inside of the Polish capital is not clear,

~~and we don't know exactly what is happening to the Polish patriot forces that rose against the Nazis. Word today was gloomy from the legendary General Ber, who commands the Poles. But the latest intimation is that he and his partisan fighters will continue their battle, although they are in the most desperate of straits.~~

The Poles today made the bitter charge that the Warsaw Patriots have been abandoned by their Allies, and left to their fate. Their accusation applies especially to the Russians who have been expressing unfriendly opinions about the Polish uprising in Warsaw.

PEACHES

Science is always doing something new and wonderful,
and now has produced another miracle - - a way to
take the fuzz off peaches. which should bring happiness
to a lot of people who like the flavor of the peach,
but get the willies when they touch the fuzzy skin of
the succulent fruit. A company at Los Angeles announces
the development of a peach de - fuzzer - a machine that
operates with whirling brushes and blasts of air from
fans. Put a peach in there, and in a jiffy it comes out
as smooth as a plum or a pear. We are told that the
new de-fuzzer will de-fuzz fifteen tons of peaches
per hour at a cost one ^{hundred} ~~th~~ tenth of a cent per box.
Everything works perfectly - - ^{although} ~~except that~~ nobody has yet
figured out what to do with the fuzz. Mountains of peach
fuzz, which should be of some use. Maybe they could find

PEACHES-2

8 1/2 a way to put the fuzz on apples - - for people who might
like fuzzy apples.

9 Now Hugh you are in New
York and I'm in Danville,
Virginia. Can you hear me
clearly - or am I a-bit fuzzy?

FREAK WEAPONS-4

controlled by a single pilot in the smaller plane on top.

Near an objective he turns the larger plane loose and

guides it with radio control - - directing it to the

target. There the larger plane crashes and blows up - -

and it is loaded with an enormous quantity of explosive.

TP

Today's account gives a rather startling instance of the power of the contraption. One of the explosive planes crashed

recently in France, and the blast was so violent that a man

standing three miles away was blown off his feet. The

assumption is that the piggy back freak will be used in

the final Nazi fight, ~~on fortress Europe~~, together with other

fantastic weapons. ~~The American air men say they are not worried~~

~~by the German rocket - propelled fighter plane, the driving~~

~~power of which is the explosion of rockets. They explain that~~

~~its range is extremely short. It is very fast, but ^{it} can fly~~

~~at top speed only in brief spurts, because in full operation~~

~~the rockets heat up so much that they melt the metal of the~~

FREAK WEAPONS-5

~~plane. As for that other Nazi freak airplane, the jet-~~
~~--propelled fighter, the Americans declare that it, too,~~
~~has only a very short range. It can stay in the air for~~
~~only a few minutes, but it does get up terrific speeds.~~

TP Of the list of fantastic terrors that Hitler is rumored to

be ready to let loose, poison gas appears again today .

The story is that Allied forces in France have captured

great quantities of gas masks and other equipment, which

leads to the assumption that the Nazis were getting ready

for gas warfare. And we have new reports that the Germans

may attack England's cities with poison gas - - lethal

vapors sent over by rocket bomb or maybe by those piggy

back planes. 結束

7 from
Gunter Field,
Montgomery,
Alabama.

C.T. - Standard. Tues., Sept. 5, 1944
Sunoco.
Montgomery, Alabama.
Gunter Field.

Sept 5, 1944

TO: SAC

Montgomery, Ala.

Re Lead. France-

It is that American Troops may have captured the German
Saarbrücken and Aix - la - Chapelle. This is in no sense
a fact, official news from headquarters is conspicuous
by its absence - hardly more than an announcement that Namur in
has been taken,

~~the allied command has gone into another of its periods~~

~~of silence, etc, etc.~~

GROUP.