

London gives us a report that the commander of the Second Front invasion ~~of the Nazi controlled continent~~ is expected to arrive in Britain in the next few weeks. Who is he? General Marshall, the United States Army Chief of Staff! So reports the London Daily Herald.

That British newspaper goes on to say that General Marshall is, in the words of the British paper-- "fed up with arm-chair polishing."

Well, when the time comes for the second front invasion, a commanding general like Marshall is more likely to polish the seat of a jeep at the fighting front--than any arm-chair. ^{Which} ~~Which~~ is what the London newspaper expects. General Marshall will be doing ~~the~~ soon--directing the blow against the Nazis to be struck from Britain.

But not only that--there is a report about President Roosevelt. The London Daily Herald gives the opinion that, when the second front is launched,

the President is likely to appear in Britain in his capacity as Commander-in-chief. The idea being-- that at the zero hour, ^{the} President ~~Roosevelt~~ will join in the completion of the final military plans.

The London newspapers does ^{not} give that as a certainty, ~~is~~ merely as what it calls "a strong feeling." *Just a British hunch!*

CONFERENCE

The war to end in Nineteen Forty-Four - that was the hope expressed today by ~~that~~ elder statesman of the British Empire, Field Marshal Smuts, Prime Minister of South Africa. He spoke of those recent great conferences, and said they would have immense results for Nineteen Forty-Four. He put his hope in these words: "I have no date for the end of the war. Very heavy fighting lies ahead, but," he added, "I hope next year will see the end of it."

As a follow-up to the British-American-Turkish conference, Cairo tells us that Turkey has been taking military measures for weeks - especially along the Dardanelles. ~~me~~ The Turks have been busy fortifying the area of those vital Straits - to protect them against a possible Nazi attack. ~~Cairo states that remarkably skillful defense positions have been constructed, and that the Turkish army leaders are said to be~~

~~confidence~~ ^三 that they can hold off a German assault.

~~At the same time we hear that Turkey has called to arms another million men.~~

All of which would hint strongly ^{of} ~~that~~ Turkish entrance into the war ~~at~~ perhaps ~~at~~ no distant date.

The Germans are apprehensive of this, and anticipate an Allied drive into the Balkans. In consequence, they are redoubling their ^{attacks} ~~efforts~~ against the Yugoslav irregular fighters - especially the guerrillas commanded by the leader called Tito.

Here's a late story from London, bearing on the Yugoslav situation. The British government is now giving most of its support to Tito and his Partisan army of guerrillas. This was officially disclosed by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the House of Commons.

~~This hits right in the middle of the Yugoslav dilemma with the~~ Civil war ^{is} raging between General Mikhailovich and his Chetniks on one hand, and Tito's Partisans on the other. Mikhailovich ^{is} Minister of War for the exiled Cabinet of King Peter, and the Partisans, who ~~xx~~ have a strong Communistic tinge, have announced the overthrow of King Peter's regime. *With*


~~And now~~ ^{now} Britain ^{ing} swings to the Soviet-supported Partisans. "For the simple reason," stated the Parliamentary Under-Secretary today, "that the

resistance of the Partisan forces to the Germans is very
much greater."

ITALY

The latest tonight from Italy is that the Germans have begun a retreat on the front of the Allied Fifth Army. The Nazi forces, according to British reports, are withdrawing in good order in the direction of Rome--leaving a fiercely resisting rear guard behind them.

The general impression at Allied headquarters in the Mediterranean is



~~Tonight's dispatch from Allied headquarters states~~
that the battle for Rome may now be expected to develop
into what the dispatch calls - "a dramatic campaign of
movement." This may happen at any hour, ~~now~~ ^{with} ~~the~~ speedy
thrusts launched by the Fifth Army. ^{All of which} ~~they~~ develops
from the news last night, which related that the Allied
forces have gained possession of the principal ~~peaks~~
that formed the Nazi mountain line of defense - that
Winter Line.

The British troops of the Fifth Army, having
finally gained permanent control of the much disputed
eminence called Monastery Hill, have established their
dominance over the area of Mount Camino. And the
Americans meanwhile are clearing out the remaining
German rear guards on the slopes of Mount Maggiore.
~~These two peaks were the key mountain strongholds along~~
~~the western extent of the Nazi fighting front.~~

The Fifth Army of British and Americans now look down on the lowlands, valleys dominated by the heights they have captured. A mere mile and a half from the Mount Camino-Mount Maggiore string of ridges - lies the Via Casilina, which is a Number One road to Rome in those parts. ~~The main entrance to the valley through which the road runs was still blocked by German forces, at last reports, but these are mere rear guards and are halfway surrounded and in danger of being cut off~~

~~When the Fifth Army units debauch down the slopes and onto the flat lands, they'll have comparatively open going - for a war of movement, rapid advances for the armored battalions and a good chance to strike mighty close to Rome.~~

~~The weather, which in the Italian campaign all along, has been a problem, has now turned into something of a paradox: It is one thing for General~~

The American successes have not been won without fierce fighting. A late story filed by war correspondent Reynolds Packard of the United Press describes Nazi counter-attacks that appeared to have been almost insane: "Yelling and shouting like madmen," ^{he wires,}

"German suicide forces attacked American troops on the northern slopes of Mount Maggiore!" ^{and the} ~~the~~ account goes on to say that the Germans attacked in that frantic fashion four times in the past twenty-four ~~ours~~ ^{hours,} only to be hurled back each time.

The American Operations in the steep mountains are described by ^{a U. S.} ~~United States~~ Brigadier General who was in command. "We have had many vivid descriptions in the battle accounts of this war, and that Brigadier ~~General~~ gives one of the most thrilling: ^{"They climbed} ~~He describes~~

~~the operations in his own words: "Surpassing any mountain fighting in military history"~~

~~And then he goes on to tell with flashing words the exploits of the doughboys. "They climbed," says~~

~~he,~~ "two of the most heart-breaking peaks that have been assaulted ~~in~~ battle. They did it in a rain which made the mountain sides slippery ~~like~~ treacle. Some of them fell," he adds, "breaking their arms and legs. Razor-edge rocks cut off the soles and heels of their shoes and even the straps of the leggings were slashed off by the rocks and the sharp, stubby undergrowth. At the same time," says the Brigadier General, "they were ^{being} shelled, machine gunned, and fired on by mortars and it would have been a steeple-jack's achievement in peace-time. But scaling such heights in the midst of a battle was a remarkable feat and I want those doughboys to get the credit for it."

Right! ~~you are,~~ General, ^{So we'll give them} ~~and we are giving them~~
a cheer. ~~some of us, perhaps, an outright noisy cheer~~

RUSSIA

London hears that the Germans are pouring fresh military forces into Russia - reserves of tank and infantry drawn out of western Europe. And this leads London to surmise that the Nazi high command is not apprehensive of a second front invasion right away.

The Germans are said to be determined to check the Red Army. ~~Not only that - they plan to regain as much as possible of the territory they lost to the Soviet offensive.~~ This explains the powerful attacks ~~that~~ they have been launching in front of Kiev - forcing the Soviets to retreat time and again. (Today's news tells of another ^{Russian} ~~Soviet~~ withdrawal at the ~~western~~ tip of the Kiev salient.

At the same time, Berlin claims that Axis forces have wiped out the Soviet invasion across the narrow water into the Crimea. Weeks ago, the Russians pushed across the Straits of Kerch and established a

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bridgehead. Today Berlin claims ~~that~~ this bridgehead has been destroyed - the Soviet soldiers mopped up by satellite Rumanian infantry. ~~Moscow gives no confirmation of this German claim.~~

In the big bend of the Dnieper, the news continues to be favorable for the Red Army, with the Russians cutting into the escape route for the large German forces within the bend. The latest states that Soviet troops have swung around the escape junction of Znamenka, and have cut the key railroad.

One important factor in the Russian campaign right now is the weather. This is December, and you'd expect the Russian winter to be a dominant and frosty theme. But this is not the case. Winter is delayed in Russia this year. We hear that the ground on the Kiev battlefield, though lightly covered with snow, is not yet frozen solid. So the winter war, of which the

{ Russians always expect so much, has not yet
really started.

L. G. Sanders. Wednesday, November 8, 1943

A late bulletin tonight tells us about the American attack on the Marshall Islands, This had been previously announced, but only in the meagerest way - the mere fact of the assault, without details; ~~this~~, ~~as Admiral Nimitz explains today~~ because the warships in the operation were observing a radio blackout - as warships do when there is a possibility of enemy attack. Now the blackout of the wireless has been raised, and into view flashes one of the most brilliant strokes of the war.

The Marshalls, lying to the north of the Gilberts, were assailed by an American task force, with accent on carriers and their aircraft. The Marshalls are powerfully defended, and the Japs ^{were} ~~are~~ on the job with plenty of action against the fleet. They concentrated on the carriers, as is the habit in this war of sea and ~~the~~ sky. Enemy bombers and torpedo planes

flocked against the carriers, ^{and} how many there were is indicated by the number the Japs lost. Seventy-two shot down, not counting others that were destroyed on the ground!

So you can see the picture of ships on the sea, the great flattops, ^{with} dive bombers trying to take a plunge at them and low flying torpedo planes skimming the water to get into ~~the~~ ^{with} range ~~of~~ their tin fish. And you can also visualize American planes from the carriers going after the attacking Japs, with intricate ~~mazes~~ mazes of dogfights up in the blue - while the guns of the warships blazed with incessant flashes of anti-aircraft guns, shooting down such Japs as managed to get within range. Seventy-two of the enemy sky fleet shot down! - And what loss did we suffer? Only one American surface vessel was damaged, and our aircraft losses are described with one word - "light." ~~So much~~

RETAKE

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^P So much
^

for the Jap attacks on our ships. - And what about our

assaults against theirs? The enemy had vessels of war

stationed ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ the Marshalls, and these were assailed by
^

the planes from the American carriers. Six were destroyed.

Three were cargo transports and one was an oiler.

The other two were fighting ships - light cruisers,

sent to the bottom. And the Japanese military

installations on the ^{re} island ^s were blasted and smashed
^

in our latest assault against the Marshall ^s ~~Islands~~
^

Japanese propoganda is changing its tune -- switching from unbroken victories and triumphas. Today the Tokyo radio admitted the overwhelming superiority of Allied air power on the South Pacific fighting fronts.

"The Allied air strength is so great," said a Tokyo broadcast, "that our troops look about, and say in surprise, 'Where have the Japanese planes gone?'"

And, that is likely to be an increasing refrain for the enemy soldiers to sing, as the war ~~g~~ continues. "Where have the Japanese planes gone?"

RELIEF

Today in Washington it was stated that, in supplying relief to the liberated countries, we are going to use hoarded food supplies found in the enemy nations. This idea was propounded by Assistant Secretary of State Dean Acheson, who presented his views to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives. ~~The Committee is considering a resolution to authorize the United States to take part in~~ ~~of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and Dean Acheson outlined some of the~~ ~~plans formulated by UNRRA.~~ ~~He~~ He pointed out that the Nazis and Japs have looted the food supplies of the oppressed people, and ~~then he~~ added: "There will probably be surplus supplies in enemy countries, particularly in Germany, which the military can make available to UNRRA for ~~military~~ use in liberated areas."

SOLDIER VOTE

In Washington today, a compromise bill was proposed to enable the soldiers and sailors to vote.

The quarrel all along has been over the question of whether the balloting by the service men should be

under the control of the federal government or of the

states. (Under normal Constitutional practice, of course,

the states regulate the voting in their own respective

areas. On the other hand, it is hardly possible for

individual states to run the voting by the millions of

men in the Army and Navy - particularly those overseas.

Hence the suggestion that the federal government should

do the job. But that, it is argued, it would violate

state rights.- and be unconstitutional.)

The Senate, ~~considering state control versus~~

~~government control of soldier ballots,~~ has voted in

favor of state control. This has raised a lot of

acrimonious argument - with angry charges hurled at

Southern Senators from poll tax states.

Now the compromise, which is offered today by Congressman Ramspeck of Georgia. ~~The Congressman argues~~ that the Senate resolution calling for the states to conduct the balloting in the Army and Navy was unworkable, and suggests that the federal government, through the army, should get the ballots to the service men, and then deliver these back to the states. The Ramspeck compromise would leave the states to handle the service votes from ^{that} point on, ~~according to their local regulation.~~

"This," says the Congressman, "would give the soldiers a chance to vote and leave entirely with the states the question of whether the vote is qualified."

MUSTERING OUT

Today the Military Affairs Committee of the House began work on a bill to provide mustering out pay for men of the armed forces when they are discharged.

The proposal, as okayed by the administration, would ~~grant~~ ^{grant up to}

~~grant up to~~ ^{grant up to} ~~hundred dollars to veterans for less than two months'~~

~~service, two hundred for from four to six months, and~~

~~three hundred dollars for those who have served six~~ ^{per veteran.}

~~months or more.~~ ^{FF} The Committee is determined to work

fast, and have the bill ready as a Christmas present.

Of course, most of the service men are not yet

eligible, not having yet been discharged. But six

hundred thousand have already been let out of the

service - and they ^{would get} ~~are eligible for the~~ mustering out

pay.

FATHER DIVINE

The United States Treasury is getting money from the angels. Not that Henry Morgenthau has been able ~~to~~ as yet to collect income tax from the celestial hosts of Heaven, but leave it to Uncle Henry--he'll try. The angels who at present are contributing to the Treasury are of the Father Divine variety.

It's part of the Father Divine regulations that all his angels must pay whatever they owe--either for back debts or valuables found or maybe even swiped. If the people to whom payment is due can't be located, then the sums of cash are turned over to the government to be used in paying for the war. At the present writing, the Treasury is getting more than a thousand ^{a week} dollars from the Father Divine Conscience Fund.

For example, there is the case of an angel called "Satisfied Love." She handed in twenty-five dollars to make up for money she found in the subway years ago. Another called "True Jacob" kicked in with ten ^{bucks,} ~~dollars,~~ because ~~while ago~~ he did that much loafing

on a job. Another angel has contributed railroad fare- because he once hopped a ride on a freight car, riding the rods.

Then there's "Willing Heart"--she has indeed a willing heart! She couldn't think of anything in ~~part~~ particular that she owed and yet into the Conscience fund she put a hundred dollars for the government. She just felt she owed it to Uncle Sam. Yes, Willing Heart indeed--and it would be better if a lot of us were

willing in the same way, and we shouldn't leave it to the angels, like Willing Heart and Satisfied Love, ^{now} should we George?