

Tonight's word is that the Americans have now invaded Germany at two points - the second one being near the great city of Aix-La-Chapelle. Today American troops drove across the border there.

This follows the previous thrust across the Belgian frontier in which General Hodge's first Army seized the German town of ~~Eupen~~ Eupen. The latest from that sector is that First Army units are fanning out toward the large city of Trier.

~~Likewise, the First Army today captured the historic fortress of Ebern ~~et al~~, etc.~~

WESTERN FRONT

~~The American push into Germany has pressed forward to the main fortifications of the Siegfried Line. This is across the border from Belgium, and General Hodge's First Army is fanning out toward the important city of Trier. And we hear, moreover, of another thrust into German soil - this one from Luxemburg. Likewise,~~

(the First Army today captured the ~~historic~~ historic fortress of Eben Emael (~~Aben Amel~~), near the border of Belgium and Germany. That stronghold made its appearance on the pages of history early in the present war, when the Nazis launched their onslaught against western Europe. It was one of the first great places to fall in the Blitzkrieg. Supposed to be a fortress of enormous power, Eben & Emael was captured by the Germans so ~~swiftly~~ swiftly that the world was startled.

Masses of men and armour are pouring to that sector of the front where the Americans are thrusting into Germany, and apparently the Siegfried Line there will soon meet its test - the test of the shattering power that the Americans in previous battles have shown

they can hurl.

Further north, British troops are advancing steadily into southern Holland, and far behind the lines

the great seaport of Le Havre surrendered today. The Germans held out stubbornly while the surge of war ~~xx~~ swept past them, left them isolated. Today they yielded. Their commander had been wounded by a bomb burst, and the surrender was made by the officer next in rank. The capture of Le Havre is of the utmost importance - providing a new great port just behind the battlefront.

To the south, General Patton's Third Army is ripping new gaps in the German line along the Moselle. We hear that Patton's troops, by forcing the river at various points, have now established eleven bridgeheads. The exact location of these is not known - hidden by military concealment. All signs, ~~however~~ point to a new thundering drive, which will hurl the Germans back to their Siegfried Line in that southern sector.

AIR WAR

A few days ago we noted that the real finishing blow in the knockout of Nazi Germany might come from the air. Hitler's Reich is under siege, and Allied air bases now are lined along the German frontier, from Switzerland to Holland. ~~Planes bombing Germany can fly from fields as near to Germany as they please - an enormous advantage in the war of the air, in which distance counts for so much. This might well be the decisive factor in ending the European war.~~

That assumption, raised the other evening, was illustrated today - by another stupendous air assault, in which every sort of Allied plane flew into Germany, from nimble strafing fighters to ponderous fleets of giant bombers. Today's dispatch declares that five thousand planes were in action over Germany, assailing everything in sight - from the fortifications of the Siegfried line on back to war plants in central Germany.

Hundreds of Havoc attack bombers and Marauder medium bombers of the American Ninth Air Force bombed and strafed pill boxes, troop shelters and anti-tank

emplacements of the Siegfried line. They hurled hundreds of tons of bombs on railways, motor highways, and enemy concentration points just behind the front. Squadrons of night bombers of the British Royal Air Force joined the daylight onslaught - though the night bombers rarely fly save in the darkness. Today they were used in the blasting of ^{the} synthetic oil plants of the Ruhr.

The fleets of heavy bombers were headed by a thousand American Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by seven hundred and fifty fighters. The giant Eighth Air Force divided its planes into seven task forces, which flew into central Germany and concentrated on German aviation and oil supplies.

Once again, as in yesterday's news, great air battles were fought. The Germans, themselves, have no illusion about the meaning of the massed air attacks based on flying fields just outside of Germany. They know that the decisive battle of the sky must now be fought, and once again the Luftwaffe went into action with all its force and fury.

We hear of German suicide attacks, with Nazi fighter pilots hurling their planes to ram bombers. In some cases, massed German fighters got through screens of American protecting planes by sheer weight of numbers, and swarmed upon the bombers. In a series of wild melees on high, fifty German fighters were shot down by Allied fighters alone, not counting the ones destroyed by the bombers. Today's figure brings the total since ~~Sep 1st~~ First up to seven hundred and fourteen German planes knocked out.

Strong as was the enemy fighter opposition, the Allied pilots say it wasn't as dangerous as the flak. They never met with such heavy anti-aircraft fire, with German ground gunners sending up almost solid walls of shells. This was the case at the oil refineries assailed - the Nazis understanding only too well the mortal peril of the Allied assault against the dwindling German oil supply. This, we are told, has now been cut sixty-one per cent since May first.

Today's devastating air action, based on Allied

flying fields in France, had the cooperation of a blow from the south - bombers from Italy. A thousand planes, five hundred bombers and five hundred fighters, flew from Italian bases and hit aircraft factories in southern Germany, as at Ulm. Their targets were plants where the new German jet-propelled fighters are turned out.

In the background of all of this is one general fact - the weather. It was good today. That permitted the Allied forces of the sky to fling their whole weight against the enemy. Which is another reminder that so much depends upon the weather. The forces on the ground, the Infantry and the Armor, are affected greatly by rain or shine, - and this is doubly true with the squadrons of the air. The weatherman is likely to have a decisive voice in setting the date of the final collapse of Nazi Germany.

INSIDE GERMANY

One theme for guessing has been how Allied soldiers would be received by the people in Germany. And today we have a graphic indication - in a United Press dispatch from War Correspondent Henry Gorrell. Hitherto, the troops of the Allies have been accustomed to a joyful welcome, amid the cheers of the civilian population - in every country they've invaded. This applies to Italy, formerly of the Axis, as well as liberated France - popular acclaim, enthusiasm, eager hospitality, kisses. But Gorrell says its different in Germany. ~~He was with the first of the troops that pushed across the Belgian border and occupied the town of Eupen (Copen), which is one of those half and half border cities - half Belgian and half German.~~

"There was no cheering," writes the U.P. correspondent. "There was no baby kissing. There were few flags, and those who gave us the V sign did so hesitatingly. "Here," he goes on, "Our troops were no longer conquering heroes." ~~I saw German women burst into tears, when they noticed three German prisoners riding~~

RUSSIA

Today's word from the Russian armies tells of further advances in the province of Transylvania, a push on a forty mile front, ^{taking} ~~which has now taken~~ the Red Army to within two-hundred-and-twelve miles of Budapest, the Hungarian capital.

In Poland, the word is that American and British planes have brought new supplies to the Patriot forces fighting in the Polish Capital. The legendary General Bor, in a communique today, states that a stubborn battle continues to rage in the center of Warsaw, with each house and each cellar the scene of hand to hand fighting. And he added that the Polish patriots were aided by new weapons and ammunition dropped to them by Allied planes which flew the long distance from Italy.

BALKANS

From the Balkans we hear that the Germans are getting out of Greece -- or trying to. They are making a last minute effort to extricate their garrisons, which are in an almost hopeless position because of the sweep of the Red Army and the changeover of Rumania and Bulgaria -- those two Balkan countries turning against the Nazi. Word is that there is heavy fighting between Bulgarian and German troops in Macedonia, just north of Greece.

Hugh, tell us about Stan.
of Calif. and then I have a
lot more news.

PACIFIC

Word from the far Pacific tells of a continuation of the blows delivered by a powerful American Task Force - the one that delivered a crushing assault against Japanese ships and strong points in the Philippines. After that it went on to Palau, those islands so near to Japan. The Japs on Palau were shelled and bombed, after which the task force went on to give the same medicine to enemy island bases in the western Carolines.

That's the news today, with added word of Army Air Force bombers hurling seventy-two tons of bombs on the one-time great Jap naval and air base at Truk.

ADD PACIFIC

The latest is another strike by MacArthur's bombers against the Japs at the northern tip of Celebes Island. The heaviest blow yet against the enemy in the Dutch East Indies, two-hundred-and-ten tons of bombs hitting the Japs on Celebes.

a great and glowing bouquet of roses, and presented it to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. Jack's thoughtful husband, who never forgets his and wife's wedding anniversary, and who always bestows on her some suitable attention. Today the Shurevilles were thirty-six years married, and the President and Mrs. Roosevelt added their congratulations.

If I seem to give more attention to the thoughtful husband angle than to the mighty new battle plans in the global war, it is because I know more about that. Marriage, after all, is simpler and less global than war, although it can be a lot of marriage, thirty-six years of it, for example. Years of happiness, years of bliss, years of "unbounded felicity" - as every

CONFERENCE

The news from Quebec features mighty military plans - and the thoughtfulness of a husband. Today President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill began their official talks, and gathered together with high ranking military authorities of the United States and Great Britain. But first - the Prime Minister took a great and glowing bouquet of roses, and presented it to Mrs. ~~Churchill~~ Churchill. Just a thoughtful husband, who never forgets his and wifie's wedding anniversary, and who always bestows on her some suitable attention. Today the Churchills were thirty-six years married, and the President and Mrs. Roosevelt added their congratulations.

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~~husband says who has been married that long.~~

However, let's get around to the war plans, about which we know so little. The only official disclosure that was made today came from Presidential Secretary Steve Early, who was asked if the Quebec Conference would take up the larger political questions.

Steve shied away from the word "political". He said

The Churchill-Roosevelt talks ~~were~~^{and} entirely military; ~~They had~~ nothing to do with politics, not even world politics.

However, the gossip at Quebec is that the large political questions cannot be excluded - world political questions. There is the absence of Stalin, for example, who explained that he was too busy running his end of the war to join in the talks at Quebec. ~~And~~ the comment in Quebec raises the point heard on previous occasions, that Soviet Russia is at peace with Japan, and therefore Stalin cannot with any propriety join in ~~war plans against Japan.~~

China ~~is~~ not represented either, and apparently

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was not invited. This was intimated today by ~~President~~ Presidential Secretary Early, who added that China, like the other United Nations, is being kept informed of the Roosevelt-Churchill decisions.

The subject of China is being embroidered with all sorts of speculation. It is noted that the far eastern land so much harrassed by war seems now to be in a bad way - the Japs having virtually accomplished their plan of cutting China in two. And, moreover, we hear that American and British calculations are more and more considering the fact that the Chinese fighting the Japs are divided into two bitter factions, the official Chiang Kai-Shek Government and the regime of the Communist Chinese. While fighting the Japs, they are also fighting each other.

Today's Quebec gossip holds that Chiang Kai-Shek would not be too well pleased to see Soviet Russia enter the war against Japan. It would certainly be sour for the Japs, but Chiang Kai-Shek is said to believe that the Soviets might have ideas of communizing

China or setting up buffer states in Chinese territory.
That is - depriving China of some more of its land.

These are among the large political questions that may force themselves before the Quebec conference, in spite of the angle that there is nothing political about it.

ADD CONFERENCE

Here is a Nazi opinion about the newest Churchill-Roosevelt conference. Berlin predicts that the President and Prime Minister will issue an appeal to the people of Germany to capitulate. And once again there is a Nazi propaganda intimation that Germany is quite willing to consider something less than ~~unconditional~~ unconditional surrender.

1928. And Congressional candidates backed by the Political Action Committee of the C.I.O. were snowed under.

All of which led Republican Candidate Governor Dewey to say today that the Maine election was, in his words, "a demonstration of the rising confidence in the leadership of the Republican Party."

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Another political angle concerns John L. Lewis. He has been expected to declare against a Fourth Term, and he did today. Speaking before a Convention of the

POLITICS

On the domestic political front today, some people were muttering: -- As Maine goes, so goes the nation. Well, this has long since ceased to be a political axiom, but returns from the election up there are stirring up plenty of G.O.P. encampments. The state went Republican for Governor and Congress by overwhelming majorities, the greatest Republican majorities since 1928. And Congressional candidates backed by the Political Actions Committee of the C.I.O. were snowed under.

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United Mine Workers he stated that President Roosevelt had, in the words of Lewis, "Publicly kicked every miner in the face." Which certainly sounds like quite a bit of athletics. There are a lot of miners in this country, and to smite each and every one in the face with a single kick would be quite an exploit - Presidential or otherwise.

instructions for the Electors to cast their votes, not for President Roosevelt, but for Senator Byrd of Virginia. And tonight one compromise suggestion is to have two slates of Democratic electors on the Texas ballot, one for a Fourth Term, another against a Fourth Term. The whole contention is sharpened by the knowledge that in a very close election, a swing of Texas electors against the President might be of decisive importance.

ADD POLITICS

In Texas, the Democrats have brought their factional fight to the climax of a State Convention, and today in a test vote the Pro-Roosevelt forces won out by the narrow margin of eight-hundred-and-three to seven-hundred-and-seventy-four. Of the State's twenty-three Presidential electors, fifteen have announced that they will follow instructions given at a former convention - instructions for the Electors to cast their votes, not for President Roosevelt, but for Senator Byrd of Virginia. And tonight one compromise suggestion is to have two slates of Democratic electors on the Texas ballot, one for a Fourth Term, another against a Fourth Term. The whole contention is sharpened by the knowledge that in a very close election, a swing of Texas electors against the President might be of decisive importance.

DORSEY

That famous party at the home of bandleader Tommy Dorsey has now resulted in indictments. Today at Hollywood, a Grand Jury handed down formal accusations against Dorsey and his wife, the beauteous Pat Dane. The indictments charge "assault with intent to commit great ~~and~~ bodily harm."

There was bodily harm for example to movie actor Jon Hall, the end of whose nose was nearly cut off. Serious indeed -- for his looks are an important part of his screen success and his nose is an important part of his looks.

And bodily harm was done to actor Eddie Norris, who was kicked in the ribs and who made a most unorthodox exit from the swanky Dorsey apartment. Today's Grand Jury proceedings produced a story of Norris being pulled down a flight of stairs by Dorsey, who had hold of one leg and yanked Norris along with the Norris head hitting every step -- bumpty, bump.

The lovely Pat Dane is indicted for a hair pulling match with pulchritudinous singer Jane

DORSEY - 2

Churchill, with whom she also engaged in a dress pulling-off contest. Testimony indicated that she also pulled Jon Hall's hair. He says that while this was happening he saw the flash of a bright instrument, and that was when the end of his nose was nearly taken off. He couldn't swear to what the instrument was, except that it was bright. Dorsey declared it must have been a geranium pot. The doctor thought it could only have been a knife.

In any case, all this now will have the further illumination of more court proceedings, following today's indictment.

And now H - a
word of good cheer
from you

AUTOMOBILE

It's wonderful what you can do driving at forty miles an hour. This was proved by John Cap of Easton, Pennsylvania. John ~~ixix~~ insists he was doing a mere forty, and here's what happened.

His car ran off the road, and travelled for a hundred and twenty-one feet, struck a curb, and blew out a tire - which bounced it back onto the road, where it ran for ninety-eight feet and hit an embankment, swerved, ran fifty feet across a lawn, hit a tree, kept on for another forty-one feet and knocked over another tree. Then it skidded sidewise for thirty-nine feet, and crashed into a house. The car itself was demolished, and one wall of the house was ripped out, a stairway torn down, and a lot of dining room furniture wrecked.

This was revealed in court today, and the report of the State Trooper concluded: "All this, at forty miles ^{an hour.}" Well, I think we can all sympathize with the pathos and slight skepticism of that explanation: "All this at forty miles."

1/2
And now Hugh, a touch of pathos, or skepticism, or good cheer, from you.