

L.T. SUNOCO - MONDAY, August 10, 1942

Tanna

Good Evening, Everybody:

Today we are hearing it said with double emphasis that the Battle of the Solomon Islands is not an incident, but is of major importance.

The important late news is that our forces have landed in the Tulagi area. Tulagi being the capitol of those wild islands north of New Guinea.

And the word is that our forces have made a successful landing. In fact, not one landing, but several, just how many we do not know. What is more, MacArthur's men seem to have

caught the enemy by surprise. (The attack was carefully planned, the Japs taken unawares, and the landings were accomplished according to ~~those~~ plans.)

Admiral King, Commander-in-Chief of the ^{U. S.} ~~United States~~ Fleet, uses these words in his communique:-

"The objective of the current operations is to expel the Japanese from the Tulagi area and to make use of that area for our own purposes." And he adds:- "The enemy have been consolidating their positions, in which their purpose has been not only to deny them to us but to use them as a base of offensive operations against our positions which cover the line of communications between Australia and New Zealand."

Admiral King tells us ~~further~~ that the operations are under the immediate command of Vice-Admiral Gormley and under the general control of Admiral Chester Nimitz, Naval Commander-in-Chief in the Pacific. (Certain forces under General MacArthur,

he adds, are cooperating. That would indicate that the troops landed were not only marines but units of the American and Australian armies, and they are already fortifying the positions they have seized. As soon as our forces landed and the first surprise was over, the Japs counter-attacked immediately. And heavy fighting apparently is still going on. The Commander-in-Chief cannot tell us much, because, as he says, the fighters on the spot are using all available means for communicating with each other. Therefore, they have none to spare for making a detailed running report of what is happening. So far we hear we have lost at least one cruiser, with two cruisers, two destroyers, and one transport damaged. As for what we have done to the Japanese we are told little -- so far. But a large number of enemy planes have been destroyed, and, surface units have been put out of action as well.

Admiral King adds this warning:- "It should be understood that the operation now under way is one of

the most complicated and difficult in warfare."

"Considerable losses, says he, "must be expected as the price to be paid for the hard one of experience, which is essential to the attainment of far reaching results." Those are the last words of the communique signed, "E.J. King."

Most of us have heard and read enough since the war began to know that in such an attack our high command did take on a tough job. For the Japs in the Solomons, have all the benefit of planes based on land. And are trying to clear them out with planes based on ships, ships that are highly vulnerable targets.

This is the fifth day of the Solomon Island battle, the out come of which we know not. But we have faith in our men.

INDIA FOLLOW LEAD

From India come more tales of strikes, riots and fighting in the streets, with rioters and police killed or wounded.

The number of places from which these reports come would seem to indicate that a large portion of that vast sub-continent is seething. In fact the actual scope of the disaffection makes the historic Indian mutiny of long ago look like a pretty local affair. The great mutiny was a rebellion of native soldiers and confined to comparatively few centers in the heart of India. But the disturbances reported today range from Bombay to Calcutta, from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal

So far in most places the troops were merely ordered to stand by ready to back up the police -- if necessary. In Bombay the constabulary had to fire on the mobs ten times. There seems to be little of Gandhi's passive resistance or civil disobedience visible in Hindustan this week.

The trouble started with general strikes not only in the industrial parts of Bombay but in New Delhi the capital, and in Calcutta, center of heavy war industries. In Bombay, where the mobs attacked street cars and burned buses, eight were killed and a hundred and sixty-nine wounded, including twenty-seven police. The authorities had to use tear gas in Bombay, Poona, and Ahmedabab -- home of Gandhi.

There was a riot of university students at Lucnow, scene of the long and heroic defense and spectacular relief in the Great Indian mutiny. The students tried to parade with banners and defied the magistrate who ordered them to disband. The police charged with drawn batons and were thrown back. Then they fired on the students.

At New Delhi, official seat of the Viceroy of India, traffic was paralyzed and shops closed. The Moslem districts wanted to go on doing business but crowds of rioting Hindus forced the Mohammedan

shopkeepers to put up their shutters. An American reporter at New Delhi was almost lynched by a crowd, when he was taken for an Englishman. An Indian newspaper friend came to the rescue and had difficulty explaining to the mob that the chap was an American.

The first stories from Calcutta reported that the trouble was less acute there. But a later dispatch brings word that the number of strikers and factories closed is growing.

---0---

The Government of India today outlawed the India Congress Party. We should remember that the term "India Congress" does not mean Congress as we know it -- but a political party. Not only the All India organization but all the provincial congress party branches have been declared illegal. The Government of Mysore has issued a similar order -- in a principality.

More than two hundred leaders of the Congress Party are under arrest, including Gandhi.

Our own Lieutenant-General Stillwell,
Commander of the United States forces in southeast
Asia, arrived at New Delhi today. He was accompanied
by Lachlan Currie, special representative of
President Roosevelt.

RUSSIA

In the Caucasus, the Nazis are ^{still} ~~again~~ forging ahead. The spearhead of the panzer columns is coming closer and closer to the Maikop oil fields on two sectors. The Red army is retreating, fighting all the way but still retreating, with its back to the Caucasus mountains.

However, on one Russian sector the Soviet armies have won at least a temporary success. The Nazis themselves admit that the Reds have fought their way back across the Don River and ^{have} established bridgeheads on ^{its} ~~the~~ west bank in the Voronezh area, that vital region halfway between Moscow and Stalingrad.

2 But the Nazi high command also claims that its motorized divisions pushing east through the Caucasus have captured Piatigorsk, a hundred and twenty miles to the southeast of Armavir. If that is true, it puts the German vanguard almost within sight of the Caucasus Mountains and within striking distance of the Caspian Sea.

An unofficial story reports that Rumanian infantry ~~already captured one point~~ have captured a place called Yeisk, on the Sea of Azov, eighty miles to the southwest of Rostov.

In spite of all this, the Russians are able to maintain a conviction that somehow and somewhere their enemy will be stopped and thrown back. ^{FF} At the same time there are loud questions of where and when is the second ^{to come into being} front and complaints that Russia is carrying on alone.

Of course this is backed up by Nazi propaganda broadcasts and leaflets dropped by planes over Russian cities.

A.E.F.

The American Expeditionary Force in Britain grows apace. Another heavy contingent was disembarked today at a British port.

We gather there is quite a sizeable army now under the command of Major General Mark W. Clark, Commander of Uncle Sam's ground forces over there.

And General Clark made the statement today that the Yanks are not there to sit down, on the defensive. He used these words, "We think the men are pretty good now. Some of them may be a little soft, but they won't be so for long." He believes they are better trained than most of the units of the A.E.F. in the first World War. And they are going to be put through more toughening courses, including long marches with field packs, intensive training in amphibious warfare, and in cooperation between air and ground plus realistic battle drills with live artillery, and so forth.

Also, Major General Carl Spaatz, U.S. Commander

of Air Forces in Europe, declared officially that his bombers would soon join the Royal Air Force in the aerial bombardment of Germany. His words were, "within the immediate future operations will commence in accordance with plans that have been in the making between the R.A.F. and the American Air Force. And he added:- "We are proceeding ahead of actual schedule. Our enemy at the appointed time will feel the might of a thoroughly coordinated British and American air attack."

AIR RAIDS

There is a heavy pall of smoke over the town of Osnabrück in western Germany today. ~~It is~~ ^{the} *aftermath* ~~consequence~~ of a visit from the Royal Air Force, the fortieth/since the war began. This is also the first important raid in two weeks, because bad weather has hindered the R.A.F.

Osnabrück is one of the biggest places in Westphalia, and highly important to the Nazi war effort not only because of the railroad workshops there, but also because it is a center of copper and aluminum refining. The smoke is visible even from Holland.

Some time ago, the British and Canadians realized the necessity of training ~~the~~ young men of high school age who ~~will~~ ^{may} ~~undoubtedly~~ before long be fighting ⁱⁿ this war. The British organized the Air ~~Training~~ Training Corps of Great Britain, ^{and} the Candians formed the Air Cadet League of Canada, to give ^{boys} ~~the youths~~ pre-flight training. ^{and} We followed suit seven months ago with the Air Training Corps of America, ~~which of course is a non-profit organization.~~ The A.T.C.A., as it is called, announced today that it has made an agreement with the Air Cadet League of Canada, ~~that~~ ^Fifty students of the Air Training Corps of America will go to Canada, partly as a gesture of good-will but more important still to see for themselves how the Canadians are doing the job. In England, the Air Training Corps has already sent seventy thousand of its graduates to the Royal Air Force and two hundred thousand are in pre-flight

training. Thousands are in the Air Cadet League of
Canada. By Nineteen Forty-Four, the A.T.C.A. will have
two million young Americans in training for the air
forces of Uncle Sam.

SABOTEURS

Now that those eight Nazi saboteurs are out of the way, the Department of Justice has fourteen more to deal with. Persons accused of having helped the original eight. Attorney General Biddle will ask the grand jury to indict the fourteen alleged confederates for treason and knowledge of treason.

For treason they can be put to death if they are found guilty. Those who are convicted of guilty knowledge, which the lawyers call "misprision of treason" are liable to seven years and fines.

As might be expected, the Nazis do not appreciate the extreme care and fastidiousness of the proceedings with regard to the original eight saboteurs. The Berlin radio said today that our military authorities had not succeeded in proving the guilt of the accused and went on to declare that we have now forfeited the right to protest against the condemnation of saboteurs in territory occupied by the Germany Army

TRIBUNE

It looks as though there would be no end to the feud between Congressman Holland of Pennsylvania and the McCormick-Patterson newspaper family. You will recall that some days ago Holland, on the floor of the House, threw charges of moral sabotage against Captain Joseph Medill Patterson, publisher of the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, his sister Eleanor Patterson, publisher of the WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD, and his cousin, Colonel McCormick, publisher of the CHICAGO TRIBUNE. The NEW YORK DAILY NEWS retorted with a scorching editorial last Monday, headed with the words - "You Are A Liar, Congressman Holland."

Holland took the floor of the House again today, and repeated his attack. He called those three papers members of [^]the vermin press." He declared that their net effect was to ~~XXXXX~~ preach defeatism among our civilians, mutiny among our soldiers, and to spread

27

dismay among our allies and to create joy in the hearts of our enemies.

Senator Brooks of Illinois took up the cudgels for the McCormick-Patterson newspapers. He denounced the government for planning an investigation of a story published in the CHICAGO TRIBUNE last June. That story purported to describe the disposition and composition of the Japanese naval forces in the Battle of Midway. According to the Navy, that was a betrayal of secret naval information. ^{Sen.} Brooks declared that in this, the government was lending itself to a malicious purge and smear campaign.

~~Senator Brooks was helped in his election by the CHICAGO TRIBUNE, and he aimed bitter compliments at the Chicago Sun and the Chicago News which had done their best to defeat him.~~

BASEBALL

The ~~noble~~ game of baseball sometimes ~~did~~ degenerate into what the fans call bean ball. For the benefit of the ladies, it should be explained that a bean ball is one thrown by the pitcher ~~deliberately~~, ^{deliberately} not over the plate but [^] at the head of the batter or some other portion of his anatomy. Bean-balling in the past has resulted in some sad accidents and the ruin of more than one fine player, *such as Mickey Cochrane.*

28
There was a bean-ball battle at Boston last Saturday ~~in the game~~ between the Boston Braves and the Brooklyn Dodgers. Whenever either pitcher came to bat, his rival would improve the shining hour by trying to make dents in his person. In one ^{such} [^] inning, Pitcher Manuel Salvo of the Braves socked his rival in the ribs with a pitch, whereupon Pitcher ^h [^] Witlow Wyatt of the Dodgers threw his bat at Salvo. All in all, it was a riotous affair. Twice this duel caused the complete teams of

both sides to come charging out of their dugouts, and there were almost pitched battles on the field.

Today President Ford Frick of the National League took action to insure that there should be no more beaming, in his league at least. He fined both pitchers, slapping an extra penalty on ^hWitlow Wyatt of the Dodgers for throwing his bat at Salvo. After that, Frick, who is an ex-baseball reporter, telegraphed all eight managers in the National League ~~and informed them~~ that in future he would hold them accountable for every throwing of a bean ball. The next time ~~it happens~~, ~~the manager of the~~ ^a ~~team whose~~ pitcher throws a beanball ^{his boss} will be fined two hundred dollars. ~~automatically.~~

9 I know it.