

C.I. - Sunoco. Wednesday, Aug. 11, 1943.

CHURCHILL

President Roosevelt ~~is going to~~ ^{will} meet Prime Minister Winston Churchill, in Quebec. ~~This is~~ ^{That's} the latest from Canada today. The dispatch states that the war conferences will be held in the old walled citadel of Quebec -- that famous fortress of times gone by. In these historic surroundings, the President and Prime Minister will lay what may well be the final plans for the overthrow of the Axis in Europe.

Meanwhile, the usual secrecy surrounds the character of discussions that are to take place, and there is plenty of room for guessing. Today in Quebec, Churchill met with the War Cabinet of Canada, and this led to the supposition that one theme of discussion is the employment of Canadian troops in the war. Dominion forces are engaged in the Sicilian campaign, but large numbers of them are still in Britain--- eager for action. In an invasion of Nazi shores from England, these Canadians would have an important part. So the surmise is that Churchill and the Canadian War Cabinet might have been discussing just some such thing today -- invasion of Europe from England

At the same time, in Washington, President Roosevelt met with the Pacific war council. This is taken to be a

preliminary to his forthcoming conference with Churchill, and ^{the} Pacific War Council of course points in the direction of Japan. Which leads to the belief the Roosevelt-Churchill talks will ^{also} have a good deal to do with the strategies of the Pacific and war plans against Japan.

Much speculation centers around the absence of Stalin or any Soviet representative. Neither Russia, nor China -- for that matter -- have any part in what is strictly an Anglo-American affair. Rumors in Quebec today were that Stalin had been invited as he had previously been to the Casablanca Conference -- and once again he had ~~refused~~ declined.

Some Canadian observers think that this is just another sign that Soviet Russia does not intend to join closely in United Nations planning. Others hold that the Soviet stands ^{aloof} ~~apart~~ from Churchill and Roosevelt because the United States and Great Britain must of necessity discuss their war with Japan; and, Russia is at peace with Japan.

Still other speculations concern much narrower matters, Canadian domestic politics. It is pointed out that Prime Minister Mackenzie King is given a large place in the proceedings of the

Churchill visit, and this might be to his political advantage.

Mackenzie King has been a staunch supporter of British War Policies, and is supposed to enjoy the high approval of Winston Churchill.

At the same time, the Canadian Prime Minister has been having some bad moments in local politics. In a recent election in the Province of Ontario, his Liberal Party, lost out badly -- much to the advantage of Mitchell Hepburn, Mackenzie-King's number one opponent.

In another election, on Monday, Mackenzie King's Liberal Party lost four contests -- in three of which left wing elements won out. And for the first time in Canadian history, a Communist seemingly has gained a Parliamentary seat. The Communist Party is outlawed in Canada, and the winning candidate was only recently turned loose from a Concentration camp.

All of these election day events suggest the possibility of stormy times for Mackenzie-King, and now comes the Churchill visit, ~~with~~ with the Canadian Prime Minister placed in the forefront, which might well be of political help to Mackenzie King.

~~(NOTE - Drop this Canadian political stuff, if necessary.)~~

RUSSIA

Moscow announced the capture of a big German base sixty-two miles northwest of Kharkov. At another point the Soviet drive has cut one of the important railroads leading to that key city of the Ukraine.

Kharkov seems about to go the way of Orel, and other cities recaptured by the Russians. The Red Army trap is closing swiftly, and the Germans in the stronghold appear to be doomed -- unless they get out in a hurry. London has word that Nazi troops and war materials are pouring out of Kharkov -- in a desperate attempt to avoid the trap.

SICILY

The news from Sicily focuses on a great towering mountain, famous in history for its smoke and fire -- Etna, the legended volcano. All along, Mt. Etna has been the dominating feature in the German defense of the eastern tip of Sicily. And now, with the inexorable advance of the Allied Forces, fighting has closed around the slopes of Etna.

Today Allied Ground Forces got their first glimpse of the Italian Peninsula. Across the Blue Mediterranean they spied a distant point of land, the ultimate toe of the Italian boot. This occurred when British units captured the town of Guardia, a village perched high on the Eastern slope of Mt. Etna. The lofty elevation gave the British soldiers a sweeping view across the Mediterranean. And they were able to catch sight of another lofty tip of land thirty-five miles across the water, ^{Cape} ~~Santa~~ Dell' Armi, the tip of the toe of the boot.

In the American sector, the middle of the line, we hear that United States troops have driven closer to the ~~key~~ key road junction at Randazzo. That town is also up high-- perched on the northern slope of Mt. Etna. Randazzo is a final hurdle to go.

Once they take it, the Americans will be over the hump and the going will be down hill -- to a level plain which ^has the musical name of Alcantara. ~~It sounds rather like the band playing~~

~~Alcantara. It sounds rather like the band playing Alcantara.~~

The plain will provide good going for the motorized equipment, which will be able to drive straight across to the coast. With the British coming the other way around, Mt. Etna will be completely surrounded -- its rugged approaches in Allied control.

The troops of the United Nations are finding the going slow and heavy. Not only is the Nazi resistance fierce, but the Nazi demolition is equally formidable. The story we had last night about dynamiting roads and bridges and cliffs is repeated today.

A United Press correspondent tells of a trip of ten miles during which eight blown-up bridges had to be by-passed. On another stretch of twenty-seven miles, they had to make detours to get around eighteen bridges that had been dynamited. When you figure that an average infantry division has in the neighborhood of a thousand two-and-a-half ton trucks, not counting swarms of other vehicles, it is not difficult to understand why the motorized advance ~~has~~ has to inch along.

The Italian boot itself has been hit -- and not at the mere toe either. British warships struck a blow up at the Bay of Naples. There a big naval base was blasted by salvos of shellfire. British cruisers fired hundreds of rounds and blasted the naval dockyard and repair base. ~~There are~~ ^A mere twenty miles across the bay from the city of Naples.

AIR WAR

That raid by the R. A. F. last night ~~last night the British Royal Air Force made a record for~~
~~set a new record for~~ flying distance and bombs. R.A.F. planes flew a thousand mile^s round trip and hurled ^{ing} fifteen hundred tons of bombs on the Nazi industrial city of Nuremberg. Never before had such a weight of bombs been dropped at such a distance.

Sixteen bombers were lost, but flames leaped high over Nuremberg, and the British airmen ~~spotted~~ spotted three or four huge^r explosions -- ~~in~~ like great stocks of munitions blowing up.

The news continues to tell of Nazi evacuations -- getting people away from the heavily bombed ~~dark~~ areas. The British radio states that four million civilians have already left the industrial areas of Western and Northwestern Germany, and we hear that a total of ten million are to be transferred to safer sections where such a magnitude of bombing is not expected.

SOLOMONS

In the southwestern Pacific, ⁱⁿ the Solomons, ^{on} New Georgia Island -- the remnant of the Japs is being pushed back toward the sea, and faces annihilation. After the capture of that one important place, Munda with its airfield, American Forces kept on through the jungle -- driving before them such enemy troops as got away from Munda. These, with their backs to the sea, seem determined to make another one of those last ditch stands of annihilation. On the other hand, it is possible that the Japs might try to make an escape across the water to the Island of Kolombangara. The strait there is only eight miles wide, and they might try to get away under cover of darkness. It is doubtful whether they could make it, since American warships command the stretch of water between New Georgia and Kolombangara.

STATE DEPARTMENT

Secretary of State Cordell Hull declared today that he knew nothing about reports that Under-secretary of State Sumner Welles is going to get a new job. The story has been published that Welles will leave his post in the State Department and be given a sort of roving Commission, going abroad for discussions of war and post-war problems. These insistent rumors follow charges that all is not harmonious in the State Department, and that a feud exists between Secretary Hull and Under-secretary Welles.

Today the Secretary said that there had been previous stories that Welles would leave the State Department, and all were false. And so is the present report.

RIOTS

Today we have a report on the race riots in Detroit in June. At the time of the disturbances, Governor Kelly of Michigan appointed a committee to investigate, and now we have the result of the inquiry.

The Committee places a major part of the blame on negro agitators for race equality. The report reiterates the contention that the riots were not inspired by subversive elements and were not organized movement. They were the result of a growing tension between blacks and whites, a tension caused largely by negro preachers of discontent.

One specific incident is mentioned -- that of a negro who is charged with leaping to a microphone in a Detroit dance hall and representing himself as a detective. He shouted that a colored woman and her baby had been murdered by whites, and called upon the five hundred negroes in the dance hall to avenge the atrocity -- and that touched off one of the individual riots in the carnival of violence. So the story goes.

PROMOTION

Over in North Africa, an enlisted man Richard Pollard, formerly a motion picture writer of Hollywood, was made an officer. He received his commission and proudly assumed the gold bars of a Second Lieutenant.

A couple of days later he was informed about a previous recommendation to promote ^{him to the} ~~him to the~~ rank of Private First Class. Now he had word about this -- recommendation denied. So there he was -- a Lieutenant, at the same time turned down as a Private First Class.

But then Pollard is used to Army quirks. Before he joined up, he wrote training material for the Army. Then, upon being inducted, he was sent to a school where this training material was used. "I had to sit and listen to all the drivel I had written months previously," says Pollard.

BOY

Today in Washington a flying veteran of the air war over the Mediterranean called on the commander of the Army Air Forces, Lieutenant General H. H. Arnold. This veteran of combat in the sky was former Staff Sergeant Clifford R. Whereley of Elmwood, Illinois, who has a record of having flown as Top Turret Gunner on twenty-two combat missions, including air raids against Tunis, Pantelleria and Palermo. On three missions he flew with Major General Jimmy Doolittle, -- of Tokyo fame. He is credited with having shot down fifteen planes, and has been decorated four times -- with an air medal and three oak leaf clusters.

Today this veteran of combat aloft talked with General Arnold about the prospects of getting back into the Air Force -- when he is seventeen. He is only sixteen now -- after two years of flying and fighting in the war.

Cliff Whereley was fourteen when he joined up. He was a big boy, and was not skimming altogether candid about his age. But he had his parents' permission, and they promised him that they wouldn't say anything about how old he really was. So he got into the Air Force, was sent abroad, and did so well that he was made a Staff Sergeant. By that time he was fifteen.

He distinguished himself on those bombing missions, flying with Doolittle, shooting down those enemy planes, and winning the four decorations. That was the trouble. Word of the honors he won drifted back to Elmwood. When his mother found out that her boy, so much under age, was in all that sky fighting and mortal peril, she broke down -- and forgot all about her promise not to say anything about his age.

She wrote a letter to his commanding officer, and the next thing you know the veteran of ~~the~~ air battle was called in and ~~she~~ shown the fatal document -- the disclosure how old he was, or rather how young.

So the Staff Sergeant was ignominiously discharged from service because of being under age, and told to go back to mama.

"I was pretty sore," he said today, and you can't blame him.

But home he had to go -- to wait until he was ~~x~~ seventeen, old enough to join up legally. When he is eighteen, he will be permitted to enlist as a cadet. Then the lad will have a chance to get into the battles of the sky again -- which will be an old story for him.

HAMBELTONIAN Are You interested in horse races -
trotting races I mean?

A great old race was run this afternoon - the

Hambeltonian. ~~for trotting horses~~ ^{And} The results are just in,

and they show that for the first time one driver has won the

classic four times - Ben white. The winning trotter was

Bolo Song, owned by W. H. Strang of Brooklyn.

Because of war time, the Hambeltonian was held this
year at Yonkers, instead of famous old Goshen. But the ardor
of the trotting horse enthusiasts ^{we hear} was as great as ever.

