

BERLIN

C. I. - Sunoco. Wednesday, July 4, 1945.

It is symbolically appropriate that the Stars and Stripes were raised over conquered Berlin on the Fourth of July. Last night we heard how the Americans had march<sup>ed</sup> in to take over their zone of occupation in the ruined German capital. Today, the occupation formally began - with an official ceremony.

(Military courtesies were exchanged between <sup>the</sup> Americans and the Russians. Military bands played national anthems, and the Soviet officers turned over the southern suburb of Berlin to the American Commander. He was General Omar Bradley, the retiring Commander of the Twelfth Army Group, who will soon return to the United States and take charge of the Veterans' Bureau at Washington.)

Simultaneously, the British took over their sector of Berlin - for the joint Allied occupation of Hitler's former capital, The occupation has been delayed, and comes about two months after the end of the European War. But it is fitting that the American flag should be raised in Berlin on ~~the~~ the Fourth of July.

## CHURCHILL

There is a London rumor that Prime Minister Churchill may meet President Truman before the Conference of the Big Three. The Churchill-Truman-Stalin get-together is said to be scheduled for the weekend of July Fifteenth at Potsdam, near Berlin. The London version is that the Prime Minister and the President have some important things to talk over before meeting Stalin, ~~and things, as therefore,~~ <sup>So, this time things again</sup> will follow the precedent set by the Yalta conference - when President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill met at Malta before going to Yalta. Malta followed by Yalta was statesmanship, as well as rhyming.

This time the rhyming will not be so good - Potsdam and Hendaye - if the London reports be correct. The place of a Churchill - Truman meeting, before going to Postdam, will be the French resort city of Hendaye - near the Spanish-French border. At least, that's the inference drawn ~~from word~~ that Churchill, during the next few days, is going to Hendaye for a rest.

They say the Prime Minister is exhausted

by the election campaign which now comes to an end, the British people going to the polls tomorrow. It has been a strenuous political battle, into which the seventy-one year old Churchill threw himself with vim and vigor. He loves an electioneering battle, and made a series of arduous tours and speeches. Churchill is said to be worn out, and hence will go for a rest to the resort at Hendaye, which is likely to be his meeting place with President Truman - always assuming that these London reports are correct.

## SAKHALIN

Tokyo reports that American warships have bombarded fortifications on the island of Sakhalin and that means the deepest penetration of the western Pacific by the American fleet.

Sakhalin, <sup>the</sup> ~~is~~ a long island to the north of Japan, <sup>the island half of</sup> ~~and~~ just across from Soviet Siberia, <sup>Half of it</sup> ~~is~~ held by the Japs, <sup>the other</sup> half by the Russians. American warships, to get to Sakhalin, had to penetrate one of <sup>Japan's</sup> ~~the~~ major lines of oceanic defense - the ~~long string~~ <sup>our men-o'-war</sup> of the Kurile islands. And, <sup>they</sup> ~~they~~ had to drive into the sea of Okhotsk, within a <sup>few</sup> ~~hundred and twenty~~ miles of Siberia.

<sup>There is</sup> ~~We have~~ no American confirmation of the report; but, Tokyo states that our warships shelled the city of Shikuka - a war center on Sakhalin.

BORNEO

In Borneo, Australian troops drove today to the oil city of Balikpapan. They crossed the final ridge separating them from the town, and found Balikpapan all but abandoned by the Japs. Only one small enemy force made a show of resistance.

The place is said to be blackened ruin - the great oil refining plants burned out. These were hit by Allied air bombarding and shells from naval guns - after which the Japs did a job of sabotage. Word from Balikpapan is that the destruction of the oil refineries is so complete, that it will be cheaper to build new ones than try to repair the fire-scarred wreckage.

DUTCH EAST INDIES

The Japs are considering a belated political move in the Dutch East Indies. A Tokyo dispatch states that Japanese commanders on Sumatra have a plan to offer - independence. ~~And~~ This independence offer to include the entire Dutch East Indies.

~~It seems rather late for the Tokyo boys, after their brutal rule in those islands, to be offering to the people of the Dutch East Indies the gift of freedom - as the Allied ~~army~~ forces are closing in on those islands, and soon will have them. But Tokyo seems to figure that an offer of independence may persuade the native population to help them against the British-American sweep. How much aid the Japs may gain by this ~~seems~~ <sup>is</sup> exceedingly doubtful. - ~~But, then~~ they are probably willing to try anything, <sup>in their hour</sup> ~~out~~ of desperation.~~

PHILIPPINES

General MacArthur today formally announced the liberation of the Philippines - the campaign completed. He stated that the mopping up of the Japs has progressed so far that the battle for the Philippines can be regarded as virtually at an end.

## DESTROYERS

The Navy announces the loss of two destroyers off Okinawa last month - one hit by a Jap suicide plane.

The Kamizad<sup>base</sup> came out of ~~an~~<sup>the</sup> overcast, ~~flashing~~  
~~out of the dianness of clouds. The suicide pilot~~ came in low, and struck the starboard side of U.S.S. William D. Porter. The explosion ripped the hull just aft of the engine room. The crew fought desperately to save the ~~ship~~ ship; but in vain. The skipper of the Porter, Commander Charles M. Keyes of Greeley, Colorado, abandoned his ship only four minutes before the Porter took her final plunge.

In the case of the other destroyer, the Navy doesn't know what kind of missile did the damage - the U.S.S. Twiggs was bombarding Japanese positions on shore during the final battle for Okinawa. A plane was seen, and there is mention of something that looked like a red ball, which zoomed over the bow of the Twiggs. This was followed by a shattering explosion, ~~mm~~ and the bow simply disappeared. The Navy thinks the



missile was an aerial torpedo. - a *balsa bomb*  
*with a Jap pilot riding in it.*

The casualties were heavy. All of the  
*on the ship*  
officers <sup>^</sup> were either wounded or missing. The Captain  
of the Porter - missing. He was at the bow when the  
unidentified missile hit. There was no officer in shape  
to take over the command, and the next in line was  
the Chief Pharmacist's mate - Joseph Deworocki<sup>ski</sup>  
of Long Beach California. *So he* <sup>^</sup> became the skipper of the  
Twiggs, but only long enough to give the order -  
abandon ship . The Twiggs was doomed, erupting and  
sinking.

The bloodhound of the Pacific is coming home. That's the word from the far Pacific. The blood hound is Captain Horace Taylor of Winnsboro, Texas, a B-29 pilot - who has won fame for something else than bombing. He has done plenty of that, too. He has hurled tons of bombs on the Japs. But they call him the bloodhound of the Pacific for an entirely different reason. "Bloodhound" sounds ferocious, but the fame of Captain Taylor had to do with mercy, sacrifice, taking deadly risks to help others. He is a rescue champion - saving the lives of airmen forced down at sea off the coast of Japan.

He has been on twelve air-sea rescue missions - thirty flyers saved. The method has been for Captain Taylor to find airmen on the ocean and then to guide Navy ships to pick them up. (~~Piloting the Southern Belle~~<sup>2</sup>) he has been out for as long as twenty hours per mission - and that's a long time for a Superfortress. His rescue flights have taken him to within eight miles of the Japanese coast - in saving

{ the lives of castaway airmen that near the enemy shore.)

His latest exploit was one of the toughest. A group of airmen were drifting for thirty-six hours. Taylor found them, and encircled them hour after hour. Bad weather, the ceiling five hundred feet, visibility a mere two miles. And he had to direct a submarine to the men drifting on the sea.

His record of rescue is so glorious, that the air forces out there in the far Pacific say that Horace Taylor can, in their words - "smell a castaway flier fifty miles away". That's why they call him - the Bloodhound of the Pacific.

Captain Taylor attributes his lifesaving success to something else, something called - Iwo Jima. That bitterly fought for and hard won island has turned out to be ~~immense~~ immensely useful. B-29s use it as a way station, where they can, if necessary, make ~~me~~ emergency landings between their regular bases and Japan. But Iwo Jima has been the regular base for Taylor and the Southern Belle in flying out to rescue B-29 crews forced down.

"It's sure a fine thing to have Iwo", he says, "we never would have been able to stay out there long enough to save those boys, unless we had Iwo to come back to. We would have had to leave them before the Navy arrived. That's what we had to do before we got Iwo, and sometimes the downed fliers we spotted were never found again".

~~So there's a new use for the craggy island that we won with such hard fighting and at such a heavy cost.~~ <sup>IP</sup> When I was out there only a couple of weeks ago, ~~I saw much evidence of both the bitter battle and the vital usefulness of Iwo.~~

~~As a matter of fact,~~ I saw Captain Taylor's plane, the Southern Belle and photographed it. I <sup>partic</sup>ularly remember the name, but I can't recall what ~~the girl's~~ picture <sup>the Captain had on his</sup> was, ~~on the~~ plane. ~~Only~~ Recently General Arnold gave the order that pictures of stream-lined girls should no longer be painted on B-29s. He thinks ~~that~~ <sup>the B-29s</sup> ~~as planes they~~ are too big and dignified for art of the pin-up girl variety. But, some still have the pictures.

There was one weather reconnaissance ship that I saw

at Iwo with a picture that was a masterpiece. The name of the plane was, "Warm Front" *-- a meteorological term, and the picture was all of that.*

*All of the fliers that I talked to, agreed with Captain Taylor -- that without <sup>that Volcano</sup> ~~Iwo Jima~~, the bombing of Japan would be a far more difficult and costly job, <sup>for us.</sup>*

I saw forty B-29s parked there after one big raid on Honshu and Kyushu, forty that might not have been able to make it on to their bases at Saipan, Tinian and Guam. *and that meant about 40 million dollars worth of airplanes.*

The miraculous thing about these sea rescues that are being made almost every day off the Japan coast is that even in ~~ix~~ impossible weather, rescue planes like the Southern Belle come out and spot fliers ~~mm~~ who have had to ditch their big ships on the homeward journey. They do this by the wizardry of new scientific devices. And in the same way, after locating the men who are down, they call destroyers and submarines to come and pick them up.

TRANS\*ATLANTIC

You wouldn't think that ships crossing the Atlantic would have perilous adventures - now that the European war is over. The Nazi ~~xxx~~ submarine campaign is a thing of the past, and the Atlantic ocean entirely in a state of peace and quiet. However, a troop transport carrying American soldiers home, put into New York harbor today with tales of assorted hazzard.

First immediately upon leaving France, it was fog. The ship's officer states: "The fog was as thick as custard, and we kept the whistle blowing for two days".

Next - it was whales, on the second day out, a big <sup>school</sup> ~~school~~ of whales was sighted, and the ship was in imminent danger of bumping into the mighty cetaceans. The transport kept ~~it~~ going full speed ahead, and blew ~~ix~~ ear-splitting blasts of the whistle to scare the whales off. The whales took the warning and got out of the way - which was lucky for them.

Afterward - mines. Half a dozen floating charges of high explosive were spotted, any one of

which could have sunk the transport. A crew of Navy sharpshooters opened fire, and exploded the mines ahead.

Finally - icebergs. The troopship didn't get fresh with them, and changed course, making a wide detour around the towering masses of ice.

By the time <sup>of</sup> the Fourth of July arrival at New York, the troops aboard ~~ix~~ were ready to say - after all those assorted perils: "bring back the submarines".

## CORPORAL

At Fort Worth, Texas, on this Fourth of July, a group of civilian physicians disagreed with the verdict of Army Doctors. This is in the case of Corporal Jim Newman, about whom we heard last night.

The story of the Corporal is making quite a stir, with sympathetic people sending a stream of gifts today to the Newman home. There is a profound human appeal in the case of the veteran of Bataan and survivor of Japanese prison brutality. When liberated, he was an emaciated skeleton - wasted away from Malnutrition and the tropical disease, beri-beri.

The Army doctors, after doing everything they could to save him, gave up hope, and he went back to his Texas home - to die, they said. Last night we heard how the Corporal seemed to be improving - because of Mother's home cooking.

Today once again, he had Mother's home cooking - and what a swell appetite. And he had something more. Among the gifts sent to the Newman home was a sixty pound watermelon. And into the sick



room walked Mother - with a great big slice, ice cold. The Corporal's eyes glistened, and he dug into that watermelon, eating enough for two healthy men who had never seen Bataan.

That made a profound impression down there in Texas, where the folks have so much regard for watermelon. Maybe it influenced the civilian physicians, who examined the Corporal today. Maybe those Texas doctors just figured- anybody who can eat watermelon like that, can't be so desperately sick.

*Civilian physicians today*  
~~In any case, they~~ took exception to the verdict of the army doctors, who said that Corporal Jim had only a few days more to live. The civilian medical men thought that he might get well. After all, said they, it was the spirit that counted - and the spirit of Corporal Jim has bucked up mightily at home, with Mother's home cooking - and Texas watermelon.

## FOURTH OF JULY

The Fourth of July news today has been telling how Vicksburg, Mississippi, finally consented to celebrate Independence Day. In the Civil War, Vicksburg, after a bitter siege, had to surrender to the Yankees on the Fourth of July <sup>— and</sup> never had much enthusiasm for the day ~~■~~ thereafter. That is - until today, when Vicksburg put on a celebration - ending the Civil War and rejoining the Union.

Less noticed by ~~the~~ news was the case of a place in Georgia - another stronghold of the Confederacy, which today <sup>also</sup> decided to ~~end~~ the Civil War. There is a county in northwestern Georgia which calls itself - the free state of Dade. That status of a free state was assumed in Eighteen Sixty, when the county seceded not only from the Union, but also from Georgia. There was some delay in Georgia's ordinance of secession, and the hot-heads in that northwestern county took action on their own account. They constituted themselves the free state of Dade and seceded all around.

FOURTH OF JULY - 2

Today's Fourth of July celebration <sup>there</sup> included an emotional ceremony, emotional for the ~~and~~ descendants of the fiery confederates of old, On a tall flagpole flew the colors, not the Stars and Stripes, but the flag of the Southern Confederacy - the Stars and Bars. The flag - under which Lee and Stonewall Jackson and Jeb Stewart fought, <sup>Today</sup> ~~Then~~ the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy were lowered, and in its place old Glory was hoisted, an American flag still creased and new, so obviously new that it added drama to the ceremony by which the free state of Bañe rejoined the union <sup>today.</sup>

So now lets all go and celebrate that - how about it Hugh?