

L.J. - Standard THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1944.
Sunoco.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight we can breath more easily about that body of airborne troops which for several hours had been completely surrounded by the Germans at Arnhem. The Nazis themselves announced that they had destroyed most of them. Which turns out to have been another gross exaggeration, although evidently they did suffer heavily. (We learn today that relief came late yesterday when a tank column of the British Second Army, ~~with Uncle Sam's paratroopers fighting from their turrets,~~ forced the passage of the highway bridge over the Rhine ~~(Neewaygan)~~ at Nijmegen.

This appears to have been just about the most serious crisis since D-Day. And correspondents tell us that the battle for that bridge, when it can be told,

will be a classic. For our men and the British captured the viaduct intact, making it possible for our armies to pour across the Rhine and sweep completely around the north end of the much vaunted Siegfried Line.

The taking of that ^{Nijmegen} ~~Nagwayan~~ Bridge being one of the greatest single blows in the March on Berlin.

What we hear about it so far is that it was a terrific battle. American paratroopers who had joined up with the British Second, crossed the river in boats and attacked the Germans at the north end of the bridge. Meanwhile, the British armor was hammering at the Nazi rear guard, protecting the second approach. You may ask, what about the usual German tactics of making certain to destroy all bridges? Either they were not set, or else the paratroopers and Dutch patriots disconnected the German demolition charges. At any rate, the word tonight is that we have the bridge - practically undamaged.

As Neewaygan is situated on five low hills, the arches of that bridge are unusually high. The old Carolingian emperors, descendants of Charlemagne, had a palace outside the town, a palace ruined by the French invasion of Seventeen Ninety-Four. Neewaygan also has a baptistry which was consecrated by Pope Leo the Third in Seven Ninety-Nine. But the history of the place is not what we are interested in. The important thing is that the British and Americans now have that bridge!

The Germans are still holding out in the place - isolated pockets of them. And they still control the railroad bridge across the Rhine on the northwestern edge of the town. But that big highway bridge is the vital one - much more useful for the armored columns.

After the capture of the bridge, the Allies were able to establish and widen a corridor

leading to the beleaguered airborne force at Arnhem. The Nazis claim that that corridor was under constant heavy shell fire. But since we took that bridge, it has been widened to twenty-five miles. Aside from that, air transport carried reinforcements and supplies to General Brereton's paratroopers.

— 0 —
A story from Madrid reports that Adolf Hitler held an emergency council of war and ordered heavy reinforcements through the Ruhr Valley to the Dutch frontier. The Nazis now expect us to break through in that area at any time.

— 0 —
While all this was going on, a column of the Yank First Army succeeded in another invasion of Germany. They broke in from Holland near Maastricht in spite of the terrific barrage from German heavy artillery. ~~This happened~~ eleven miles north of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Still other units of General Hodges's First Army

are in the thick of a violent battle for Stolberg, a German factory town six and a half miles east of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Further south, the Yanks of General Patton's Third are only six miles away from Metz, and pushing ahead in spite of terrific counter-attacks from Nazi armored columns.

STIMSON

The Allied armies in France to date have taken no fewer than four hundred and fifty-seven thousand Nazi prisoners, ~~and that does~~ ^{ing} not include those captured at Brest yesterday or at Bologne today. So says ~~Colonel~~ ^{the} ~~Henry L. Stimson,~~ Secretary ^{for} of War.

The Secretary had nothing to say about the German claims of having destroyed most of the First ~~Army~~ Airborne Division in the neighborhood of Arnhem. On the contrary, ^{Mr.} Stimson said the airborne landing had split the northwestern flank of the German defense lines in less than five days. Furthermore, an Allied striking power has been suddenly developed to threaten another section of the German frontier. At this point, the Secretary added, we are nearest to Berlin and the defenses are probably less formidable than any place elsewhere.

When the Secretary entered the room where the

newspapermen were gathered, he was surprised by a chorus of voices lifted up in song. The song was the old familiar one, "Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday dear Henry, ~~xxxxxx~~ Happy Birthday to you." *His*

~~It was indeed the~~ Seventy-Seventh anniversary, ~~of the Secretary of War,~~ and the congratulations of the newspapermen and women obviously delighted him.

The elderly cabinet
Officer ~~to~~ took occasion to deny some charges made in Congress recently. Those were ^{the} charges that before December Seventh, Nineteen Forty-One, the Australian government had warned the War Department that a Japanese task force was headed for Hawaii. Stimson then said that he would answer no more questions about the Pearl Harbor business until the Army had finished the investigation it is now conducting.

As a matter of fact, it has been widely printed several times that in January, Nineteen Forty-One, Ambassador Grew in Tokyo warned the State Department that the Japanese were planning a mass attack on Pearl Harbor.

ADD STIMSON

After the press ~~xxxx~~ conference there was a solemn ceremony in the office of Secretary Stimson. General Marshal, the Chief of Staff was there; ^{also} ~~and~~ General "Hap" Arnold, commander of the Army Air Forces. And there were also Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, widow of the late Brigadier General Roosevelt and other members of the family.

The Secretary of War then proceeded to explain that before General Roosevelt died, July twelfth of a heart attack, in Normandy, his superior officers had recommended the award to him of the Congressional Medal of Honor. The citation read that General Ted had twice asked permission to accompany the leading attack on the Normandy ~~xx~~ beaches. Twice his request was denied. Finally he made a written ^{appeal} ~~request~~ which was approved. The citation continues and I quote: " He repeatedly led groups from the beach, over the seawall and established them inland." And it continued, "his valor, courage and presence in the very front of the

attack, and his complete ^{unconcern} ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ at being under heavy fire inspired the troops to heights of enthusiasm and self-sacrifice".

still another glorious
This adds a paragraph to the history of a distinguished soldier, a gallant and ^{grand} ~~honorable~~ man, ~~very fine~~ American.

HITLER

The latest story about Adolf Hitler is that he now lives on an armored special train. During the day he moves from place to place. At night he hides in tunnels, strongly guarded. *Also that*

no longer goes
The Nazi Fuehrer ~~does not go~~ to his much publicized mountain top retreat at Berchtesgarden, *and* he has not slept there since they tried to assassinate him last June.

According to ~~the~~ Swiss newspaper, he does ~~not~~ even receive the news of the world any more, just brief communiques from the fighting fronts. *And* he never sees anybody but the heads of the Gestapo.

All of which may be entirely apochryphal. We shall not know the truth until the end of the war.

ROBOT BOMB

2

It came to light today that the inventor of the flying bomb, with which the Nazis have been bombarding London, is a Frenchman. He is Georges Claude, the same scientist who invented the Neon light.

Last week the French authorities arrested him on charges of having collaborated with the Nazis. He is now supposed to have confessed to having developed the robot bomb and, ^{to having} sold the patents to the Nazis.

That's a sad story Hugh,
How about some good news from
Stan. of Calif. before I continue?

RUSSIA

The Red armies have begun the ~~big~~ big battle for East Prussia. That word comes from the Nazis at Berlin. Since August 14th the Soviet Command has been concentrating huge forces of men and materials at a place called Osowiec, only seventeen miles from the Prussian frontier. ^{Now} They have ~~now~~ begun the attack, probably aiming for the German city of Lyck in Prussia.

~~A considerable ^{most} portion of our news about that eastern front comes from Berlin tonight. The Nazis also admit that one of the Red armies attacking Warsaw has established new bridgeheads on the opposite bank of the river from Praga. A Polish army under the command of Lieutenant General Berling is fighting side by side with the Russians.~~

According to the Moscow Government newspaper IZVESTIA, the Russians have ^{just about} ~~almost~~ won the campaign to liberate the Baltic states. One army has stormed into the suburbs of Riga, another is on its way to

Tallinn, capital of Estonia, and still a third is thrusting towards the Baltic northwest of Valga, and a fourth is advancing on Riga from another direction.

~~Moscow tonight announces the capture of a point~~
~~Ekivere, only ^{forty eight} ~~fifty~~ miles from the capital of~~
~~Estonia, and the ^{T Soviet} ~~four~~ ^{are now} ~~armies among them are~~ in a~~
fair way to cut off two hundred thousand Germans in the Baltic States.

In the south the first army of the Ukraine has captured a town ^{that} which is a key to one of the most important passes in the Carpathian mountains, ~~it is~~ only ten miles south of Krasnow in southern Poland.

~~And,~~ The second army of the Ukraine is poised for an advance over the great plains of Hungary toward Budapest. The ^{va} Red army has captured more than one hundred inhabited places, ^{with} Rumanian soldiers are fighting alongside the Russians.

FINLAND

The Russian press appears to be trying to work its people up into a new state of indignation against the Finns. Under the terms of the armistice, ~~the~~ ^{the} Finnish Government undertook to disarm all German forces remaining in Finland after September ~~fifteenth~~, and hand them over to the Allies as war prisoners. Both IZVESTIA and PRAVDA, official newspapers in Moscow, complain loudly that not a single German soldier ^{has as yet} ~~has~~ been disarmed. ^{yet.} IZVESTIA ^{adds} ~~declared~~ that the Finnish authorities ^{have been} ~~were~~ helping the Germans ~~to~~ leave the country and take ~~all~~ their arms with them.

CAFFERY:

The President made a sudden and unexpected diplomatic appointment today. Only this week Jefferson Caffery returned from Rio de Janeiro where he had served as our Ambassador to Brazil. The President has now appointed him as United States representative, with the personal rank of Ambassador to the De Facto French authority, meaning the provisional French Government under General DeGaulle at Paris. The announcement does not say who will be our new Ambassador to Brazil.

CARUSO

You may recall the shocking episode at Rome last Monday when the trial of the former police chief of the Eternal City was interrupted by the lynching of one of the witnesses. Today the trial was continued, and the High Court found Pietro Caruso guilty of having helped the Germans ^{or having} and brought about the death ~~of~~ or slavery of many Italians. For this the Italian ^{judges} ~~charges~~ sentenced Pietro Caruso to death. He burst into tears and collapsed. A firing squad will probably put an end to Pietro Caruso ^{tomorrow} ~~tomorrow~~ morning.

The Court also found his secretary, a twenty-six year old man, guilty in a lesser degree and sentenced him to thirty years imprisonment.

CHINA

A Chinese victory has revived hopes of stopping the Japanese in their drive to split China in two. After a desperate fight, the Chinese force has driven the enemy out of Yungming, seventy miles east of Kweilin. They have also put a stop, for the time being at least, to another Japanese column which was driving down the railway from Hunan to Kwangsi. They stopped it forty-five miles northeast of Kweilin. This check may be only temporary, but at any rate it is hopeful.

Meanwhile, the Chinese high command has executed one of its generals. ~~He was~~ ^{The} commander of the Ninety-Third Army, ~~and~~ ^{They} shot him because he failed to carry out his orders to defend, at all costs, Chuanchow, a strategic railway junction sixty-one miles northeast of Kweilin. The high command learned that this general did not even try to hold the town. He ^{Just} withdrew [^] when the enemy approached.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

The Congress of the United States today put itself on record in a fashion that may turn out to be of historic importance. The Senators and Representatives adopted a concurrent resolution, urging the government to enter into an agreement with the nations of the world, which will guarantee freedom of the press the world over. An international pact, said our Congress, should protect all our news gathering and news distributing agencies in free access to news everywhere, without discrimination as to sources, distribution, rates or charges.

The meaning of this is that some countries, ~~which it is better not to name at present~~ governments and cable companies, have favored the newspapermen of ~~those countries~~ *those countries*.

~~that country~~ The chief sufferers from this discrimination have been American newspapermen, since *happen to be the most numerous,* they ~~are~~ the most active, and, the most efficient.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS - 2

In certain countries, American newspapers have to pay
three times as ~~much~~ ^{heavy cable tolls,} sometimes ten times as ~~much~~ ^{heavy,} as
the newspapers of those countries.

CONGRESS

Congress adjourned tonight, both the House and the Senate -- a ~~large~~ leave of absence until November fourteenth. Senators and Representatives went home to attend to the process known as "mending fences", ~~in other words~~, get themselves reelected.

There is a string to this recess. If anything important crops up, the leaders in both chambers will call the law-makers back to attend to whatever is necessary.

As for the American League, the ~~news is~~ *news is* ~~in the balance~~, The Detroit Tigers are in the lead, ~~and going strong, but they still get lower~~ *but they* ~~The New York Yankees or even the St. Louis Browns~~ *will* ~~bring present of joy to St. Louis~~ ~~fans who would have had winners in their own~~ ~~team, enjoying the luxury of a ticket for world~~ ~~series. I shall see~~

BASEBALL

Here is news which will hardly be news to
canny baseball fans. The St. Louis Cardinals ~~have it.~~ ^{are in!}
~~Yes, they are in, beyond all mathematical possibility~~
~~of failure.~~ It has been in the bag for months, of
course, but, they clinched ^{the pennant} ~~it~~ tonight by beating the
Boston Braves ~~at Boston~~ five to four. ~~They are~~
~~Thirteen-and-a-half games ahead, with only twelve~~
~~more games to play. So if they lost all of these~~
twelve they ^{still} could not lose.

As for the American League, the ^{issue hangs} ~~game is still~~
in the balance, ^{with} The Detroit Tigers ~~are~~ in the lead,
and going strong, ^{But the} ~~but they still can lose. The New~~
~~York~~ Yanks or, ^{still} ~~even~~ the St. Louis Browns can win,
~~which would bring paeans of joy to St. Louis~~
~~fans who would have had both winners in their own~~
~~town, enjoying the luxury of a nickle fare world~~
~~series. But we shall see.~~

LATE

Here is a story from England ^{that} which shows what the British do to war workers who are tardy. One such had been persistently late for work. The bebbies arrested him, and in police court today he explained that his alarm clock was out of order, that he could not get it repaired, and that his wife was away from home.

The answer of the magistrate was a fine of twelve dollars ^{plus} ~~and~~ four dollars ⁱⁿ costs.

— 0 —
And now I'll be tardy
if I don't hurry up. Ole Hugh,

And in addition to the radio audience, more than a million persons have actually witnessed the program^{s.}
One hundred and twelve Name Bands have taken part, including such well-known groups as those headed by Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Harry James, Tommy Dorsey, Kay Kyser, and so on. In saluting them I also want to salute all the other entertainers who have done the same sort of job, and who probably get very little credit for it.

And it should be added that most of them are not looking for credit — because it's only the job that matters.

GRENADES

Somebody stole a truck in New York today. That of itself is not news in New York, or any other city. But this truck is news because its cargo is seven cases of hand-grenades, which ought to be on their way to an army camp in Massachusetts.

SPOTLIGHT

I hope the scores and scores of entertainers who have been visiting our military camps and bases and hospitals are getting the thanks that they deserve for the stout job they have done. In saying this I have in mind the tremendous number of these people whom we hear so much less about than we do of the Bob Hopes and Jack Benneys. What reminds me of this is that a moment ago, in the corridor here at Radio City, I met a friend who was telling me that tonight a program known as "The Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands" celebrates its anniversary and goes into its third radio year, with a record of six hundred and twenty-four broadcasts, each before a different army or navy or marine or coast guard audience, or before the boys who are sick and wounded and have been brought back from the battle fronts.

This, I hear, is
He told me this was an all-time record.

and He added that in the past twenty-four months it represents eight hundred thousand miles of travel. and