

L. J. - Standard Tuesday, April 4, 1944.  
Sunoco.

## WISCONSIN

Returns from Wisconsin are slowly coming in. The figures we have of primary returns are exceedingly sketchy. However, we find Governor Dewey of New York in first place, in spite of the fact that Dewey refused to have his name entered in the primary.

Only <sup>119</sup> 78 of the state's more than 3,000 precincts have been heard from, and they give a leading place to three delegates supporting the New York Governor. Next in line comes Lieutenant Commander Harold Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota. General MacArthur is third and Wendell Willkie is last -- in these exceedingly scattered returns.

The whole thing may be reversed; but, right now, at this early date, the front runner is Dewey, who refused to enter the primary. And in last place is Wendell Willkie, who made such a vigorous campaign in Wisconsin.

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Another Dewey note concerns Oregon, with the New York Governor declaring once again that he is not a candidate for the Republican nomination and refusing to authorize the use of his name in the Oregon primary election on May nineteenth.

(end)

NEW GUINEA

A bomber assault of almost record breaking proportions has

hit the Japs at a ~~new~~ New Guinea base called Hollandia. Four hundred

tens of bombs shattered the place named after Holland. ~~and that~~ <sup>this</sup> for

the Southwestern Pacific, ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> second only to the pre-invasion bombing

our airmen gave to the Japs at ~~Cape Gloucester, in New Britain~~ on the island of New Britain.

end

TRUK

*Also,*

~~out in the Pacific~~

Truk has been hit again, for the

eleventh time in six days. The bombers flew from bases in the

Marshalls, and met little ~~was~~ enemy air opposition. Only three

Jap fighters rose to meet the latest air assault on Truk.

In the five-day offensive against the once legendary

Japanese fortress of the sea, the seventh air force, based on the

Marshalls, has bombed Truk six times, while General MacArthur's

bombers, coming up from the south, have hit the target five times.

Eleven in all.

end

PALAU FOLLOW THRU

I am in ~~Washington~~, D. C. <sup>again</sup> tonight; and ~~it~~  
was ~~disclosed~~ disclosed today that the mighty American task force

that smashed at Palau, also assailed two other important Japanese bases - Woleai Island and Yap. That name of "Yap" sounds reminiscently from the post-war years that followed the previous conflict - Yap Island having been the subject of dispute between the United States and Japan. Now Yap is a Japanese fortress, and <sup>it</sup> was pounded by American and Naval air forces that battered Palau - and also Woleai. All of which reveals that the Palau blow was on a greater <sup>scale</sup> ~~scope~~ than we had at first surmised.

The news was given out <sup>here</sup> ~~today~~ in Washington by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, who added that ~~the~~ rain of high explosives sunk or damaged every enemy ship found at Palau, Woleai and Yap.

How many were there? The Secretary said he could not estimate the number. <sup>Not yet.</sup> Three other Japanese vessels were caught in waters nearby, and were sunk.

The Secretary had nothing but a grin of skepticism for the claims made by the Japs today - that in the raid against Palau, two American cruisers were sunk, and two battleships and an aircraft carrier damaged - and eighty American planes shot down. The secretary

2 palau follow truk

stated that we lost twenty-seven planes. As for ships, he contented <sup>F</sup> ~~himself~~ himself with a smile of ridicule for the big Jap claims.

Palau is only five hundred and fifty miles from the Philippine Islands, and this nearness is reflected by a fact which Secretary Knox today called "a curious aspect". The attack on Palau coincided with an air raid alarm in Manila. The-Jap-controlled-Manila-radio issued a dramatic blast - a warning of possible attack by hostile planes. All of which might indicate that the Japs were jittery, and were afraid that the Palau blow might reach all the way to Manila. Today, Secretary Knox revealed that United States submarines have sunk fourteen more Japanese vessels, tankers and cargo ships, raising the wartime total score for the American undersea fleet to five-hundred-and-seventeen.

And here's a total for Japanese air losses. The Secretary stated that American planes have shot down four-thousand, three-hundred-and-sixteen Japanese aircraft; <sup>at a cost of</sup> ~~and have lost~~ nine hundred and twenty-one of <sup>our</sup> ~~their~~ own. The Jap loss does not include hundreds of planes destroyed on the ground or on the decks of aircraft carriers.

(end)

**HALSEY**

We hear from the Southwest Pacific that Admiral Halsey is to get a new command. This would seem to be in the cards, because "give 'em Halsey" has simply worked himself out of an active command. That is --- in the area assigned to his fleet, mighty few Japs are left. He has won so complete a victory in his sector, which includes the Solomon Islands, that there is little for him to do. Hence the logic of withdrawing him from these parts and giving him a new command, presumably in the red hot areas of the central Pacific.

**end**

## INDIA

We learn tonight that the Japs in India pushed their way to within ten miles of Imphal, capital of the Indian state of Manipur. This happened last wednesday - the Japs in sight of the town. The news was not disclosed at the time, and we hear of it today only in the form of a news story of how the enemy was hurled back.

The Japs had driven down out of the hills, and were on the plain near the city. And they were pushing on to storm Imphal, but massed British guns were waiting for them. The attack was knocked out by a deluge of shell fire, which was reinforced by swarms of bombers - which had a hundred per cent command of the sky. In the hurricane of fire, the Japs were compelled to withdraw - and scattered in the hills, where they were not such obvious targets.

Today Lord Louis Mountbatten's headquarters reports a lull in the ground fighting both in front of Imphal and near the stronghold of Kohima, where the enemy is threatening to cut the Assam-Bengal railroad. Action today was mostly in the air, with allied war planes smashing incessantly at the long drawn out lines of enemy communication - stretching through Burma and into India.

and

## RUSSIA

The Soviet forces are sweeping southward to cut off the Germans that still remain in the Ukraine. With the Red army in both Poland and Rumania, the Germans still retain a considerable salient that stretches eastward along the Black Sea coast - the sector of Odessa. Tonight's word from Moscow states that the Russians have now smashed to within thirty-seven miles of Odessa, and they are within five miles of the last railroad line which links that Black sea port with the Nazis in Rumania.

Moscow tells of the capture of more than a hundred and fourteen towns and villages today; with the Russians extending their front in Rumania to a width of a hundred-and-twenty miles. They seem about to capture the important Rumanian city of Jassy.

It

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## POLAND

There is ominous friction between the Polish underground and the invading Soviet armies. This was stated by the exiled Polish government in London, which asked the United States and Great Britain to help in preventing ~~and~~ any further trouble between the Poles and the Russians.

The statement indicates that in most cases, the underground Poles, who have been fighting the Nazis all along, are cooperating in satisfactory fashion with the Red forces; But there has been friction in a few ~~immense~~ localities. There the anti-Nazi Poles had trouble with the Russians, and that sort of thing might spread; - So warns the <sup>Polish</sup> ~~exiled~~ government in exile.

(end)

## ITALY

From Italy there is nothing but the sound of cannon fire - the news telling of huge artillery barrages hitting German positions and supply centers. And the work of the guns is carried farther on by bombers of the tactical air force, which are blasting Nazi communications behind the lines. This is the story both on the Cassino front and on the beachhead ~~in~~ below Rome - the same account applies to both.

One of the freakiest of happenings is reported on the beachhead, a million-to-one chance. Artillerymen figure that the likelihood of a bomber getting in the <sup>way</sup> of a shell from a cannon is about one in a million. Yet it happened in the ~~case~~ <sup>ground</sup> of a battery commanded by Lieutenant Roman Myre of Garfield, N. J. His guns were laying down a barrage of seventy-five millimeter shells to check a German night attack, and in the semi-darkness, a Nazi bomber swooped low - and got square in the path of a shell. There was an explosion, and the shattered wreckage of the plane plunged to earth.

and

## BRITISH CASUALTIES

Here are the British figures for war casualties. Since the beginning of the European conflict, British Empire forces have lost more than six hundred and sixty-seven thousand men, killed, wounded, missing and prisoners. Nearly a hundred and fifty-nine thousand killed, seventy-eight thousand missing, a hundred and fifty-nine thousand wounded, and nearly two hundred and seventy-one thousand prisoners. These losses do not include members of the merchant marine, or civilian casualties from enemy air attacks.

The information was given out in the House of Commons today by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who added that of the more than six hundred and sixty-seven thousand men in the casualty list, nearly three hundred and eighty-eight thousand were from Great Britain proper, more than half.

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~~A~~DD BRITISH CASUALTIES

Another and highly specialized British casualty list is found in a publication issued in London today, Debrett's Peerage for 1944. This blue book of British nobility lists eighteen peers and one baronet as killed in action; five other peers lost their lives in air raids; and, one baronet died a prisoner in enemy hands.

end

## ATLANTIC CHARTER

The British government today promised a new statement on the subject of the Atlantic Charter, and indicated that consultations concerning the matter are to be held by Great Britain, the United States, and Soviet Russia.

All of this transpired in the British House of Lords, where the peers of the realm seemed determined to have a debate on the scope of the Four Freedoms. They were, in particular, interested in the recent statement by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, that the Charter did not apply to Germany.

The Churchill government didn't want any debate, and to head off the discussion, Viscount Cranborne, leader of the House of Lords, announced that Great Britain has proposed a new discussion between what he called - "the principal allies." And, after this consultation has been held, the Churchill cabinet will issue a new official statement on the Atlantic Charter - "clarifying it", as said Lord Cranborne.

(end)

COURT DECISION

*Not only is the*  
~~The~~ decision handed down by the Supreme Court yesterday ~~is not~~  
~~only~~ *the talks of Washington today, but it*  
is not being taken any too graciously in the South - the decision  
against the exclusion of Negro voters from the Democratic primaries  
of Texas. The Texas primary system is common throughout the South,  
and it's a number one political instrument of preserving, what they  
call down there - "white supremacy." And yesterday the Supreme Court  
said - unconstitutional.

Today in Mississippi, Judge Herbert Holmes, Chairman of  
the State Democratic party, spoke what sounds like open defiance:  
"Negroes," he declared, "will not vote in state primaries despite  
the Supreme Court's ruling. Neither the Supreme Court nor any one  
else he added "can control a Democratic primary in Mississippi."

The Georgia state chairman, J. Lon Duckworth, gives his  
own angle. He states that the decision applies only to Texas, and  
not to Georgia.

*here in*  
The word ~~from~~ <sup>^</sup> Washington is that the court decision and  
the Southern reaction may have large political consequences below the  
Mason ~~and~~ <sup>^</sup> Dixon Line.

end

DECORATIONS

Today, here in Washington,

Today in Congress, a legislator had a few words to say on

the subject of - Military Decorations. His complaint was one that is likely to crop up in any war - too many decorations.

Congressman Martin of Iowa pointed out that thus far a hundred and seventy-five thousand medals have been awarded by the Army - "at an indiscriminate rate," said he. And he made the argument that too many medals were likely to diminish the public esteem of decorations for valor.

Our highest honor is, of course, the Congressional Medal - and only thirty-four of these have been granted to Army men in the present war. Not many, but it's more than during any similar period.

Here's a sidelight - A thing that <sup>Lieut.</sup> ~~Major~~ General Jimmy Doolittle told me. He said he felt he had not deserved the Congressional Medal of Honor bestowed upon him for the bombing of Tokyo. He argued that he had done no more than his companions - except that he had organized the whole thing. But the Congressional Medal is not to be awarded for anything like that. It should be earned by sheer courage, exceptional courage - heroism above and

2 decorations

~~shame~~ beyond the call of duty. Jimmy Doolittle contended that he had displayed no more courage than the others. So his attitude was that the Congressional Medal imposed on him the duty of doing a lot more - so that he might fully earn it.

I wonder whether this may not give us a bit of insight into the accounts of how ~~Major~~<sup>Lieut.</sup> General Doolittle, as an air force commander in North Africa, flew constantly in bombing raids and into air battle - risking perils that a Commanding Officer is not supposed to incur. Maybe he was trying to do that extra something, which he thought he should do to earn the medal.

~~In Congress today, Representative Martin pointed to the decoration that has been the most frequently conferred of all - the Air Medal and Oak Leaf and several leaf clusters. It is awarded to every airman who has been on five combat missions. And the Congressman referred to the Army's newest honor, the Bronze Star Medal for heroism or meritorious service not in aerial combat. And he thought that this might be awarded in even larger numbers - possibly exceeding all other decorations put together.~~

3 decorations

Well, in any war there are ~~times~~ likely to be remarks about too many decorations - remarks and also jokes; Like - "the General who got the Croix de Guerre and the son-of-a-gun was never there."

And in that last war there used to be another alidier whesse about the French Croix de Guerre. ~~She said~~ <sup>that the</sup> medals came along with the rations.

In the present war, one joke current among the American forces overseas tells about a new and marvelous bomb-sight which performs a double operation. With a single mechanical move, the bomb-sight discharges the bombs and pins on the medals.

(end)  
And now Hugh - lets  
hear from you.

## CHAPLIN

It was to be expected that the acquittal of Charlie Chaplin would lead to emotional demonstrations --- especially by the ladies. Film business is likely to evoke the more gaudy outbreaks of feeling, and the one time whimsical king of clowns, whose specialty was laughs mingled with a tear, is a figure to arouse flurries of reminiscent heart throbs.

For most of the day, Charlie Chaplin was a worried man. As he waited for the verdict, he looked older than his fifty-four years and he remarked -- "I am tired, very tired." At times Charlie Chaplin shut his eyes, and his lips moved -- as if he were praying.

He was sitting glumly with his elbows on a table tonight when the jury entered and announced it's verdict -- "not guilty."

His response to the good news is described in the united press bulletin in these words: "almost overcome with emotion, Chaplin blew his nose, and rushed to the jury box, where he shook the hand of each juror in the first row, and cried again and again, "I thank you, I thank you."

It was disclosed that the jury took four ballots. The first showed five votes guilty, one neutral, and six innocent. The second ballot, nine innocent and three guilty.

ADD CHAPLIN ~~III~~ ~~GURNEY~~

On the third vote only one juror held out for conviction. The fourth -- unanimous for acquittal.

The jury foreman states: "It was the general opinion that Chaplin was trying to get rid of her -- Joan Berry".

Another member of the jury, a woman, grew biblical. "Joan Berry", said she, "is the type of woman Christ died for. It was a red haired girl that put her head on Christ's feet before he died." I don't quite get the theology, but then a lot of other things were mixed up as Chaplin was acquitted. Chaplin himself, with his arms shaking and his eyes filled with tears said, "I believe in the American people, and their instincts are right." And before he could say another word, he was embraced by a middle aged woman. He was simply swamped with embraces and requests for autographs, and when he left the courtroom it took two policemen to get him through the effusive crowd.

Anderson let's see if we can get thru to you, Roger.

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When a father discovers that he is about to be drafted he always faces a lot of problems that have to be solved, in a hurry. Here in Washington, today, at the Willard, I discovered that this city has established a ~~XXXX~~ central clearing house of information for selectees -- especially fathers. It is the first "draft-aid-center" in the country. ~~The~~ idea is that it will be a model for other cities.

When you are drafted there are many questions that pop into your mind, and this draft aid center in Washington, D.C. under ~~the~~ the direction of Harry Somerville, ~~XXXX~~ <sup>Forner</sup> manager of the Willard, and a genius at making people feel happy about anything that disturbs them.

Many unusual questions are fired at the consultants ~~XX~~ who are always on duty at this clearing house of information for selectees. For instance one drafted man came in and wanted to know how he could get his dog into the Army so they could be together. The two commonest ~~XXXX~~ questions concerning allotments, and home sharing.

The First Lady today made an inspection of the center and expressed her approval.

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## CHAPLIN

At Hollywood, the jury is still out in the Charlie Chaplin case. The suspense was on hour after hour, and the one-time little fellow of the baggy pants, was a worried man. As he waited for the verdict, he looked older than his fifty-four years, and he remarked: "I am tired, very tired." At times, Charlie Chaplin shut his eyes, and his lips moved, as if he were praying.

The judge's charge to the jury was clear-cut. He said that, under the Mann Act, it was entirely a question of whether Chaplin had immoral intentions when he bought a railroad ticket to New York for Joan Barry two years ago.

(end)

WISCONSIN

~~HEX~~ No news, of course, from the Wisconsin primary  
elect<sup>low</sup> save that an unusually light vote was cast today, much  
lighter than in the nineteen forty primaries. Late reports indicate  
that in Milwaukee, for example, twenty-seven thousand five hundred  
votes were ~~cast~~ cast during the first six hours today. In nineteen  
forty, more than fifty-one <sup>thousand,</sup> ~~five~~ hundred people voted during the  
same hours - nearly ~~twice~~ twice as many.

end