

DIES

L.J. - Standard. Friday, May 19, 1944.
Sunoco.

A political bombshell of the first magnitude ^{is} promised tonight - ~~promised~~ by Congressman Dies, of the Dies Committee. He says ~~that~~ he is prepared to release an expose of ~~communist~~ ^{subversive} activities in the government. He calls it - "the most important story ever to be told in this ~~story~~ ^{country.}" And he intimates that it will go up to the top and involve cabinet members and even the President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Tonight Congressman Dies states;- ~~my~~ ~~shakes~~ my challenge is this: For six years I have been telling the people that a group of men who don't believe in our form of government have entrenched themselves in our government, undermining it and seeking to destroy it. Now I propose to tell the whole story to the people. And to this he adds, "I naturally expect cabinet officers, the President and Mrs. Roosevelt to answer the facts which I propose to give to the nation".

PACIFIC

9 FROM THE VAST AREAS OF THE PACIFIC AND ASIATIC THEATRES OF WAR FLASH A WHOLE STRING OF NEWS DISPATCHES. THE LATEST TELLS US THAT AMERICAN TROOPS TODAY CAPTURED THE AIR BASE ON WAKDE ISLAND, ^{OK} NORTHERN NEW GUINEA.

9 AND WAKDE, MARKS ANOTHER STEP WESTWARD ALONG THE NORTH NEWGUINEA COAST, ANOTHER STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF THE PHILIPPINES.

9 AFTER WAKDE COMES WAKE, WITH THE NAVY TELLING OF STILL ANOTHER BLOW AGAINST THAT ISLAND MARKED DOWN IN HISTORY BY THE VALOR OF THE MARINES. THE ASSAULT WAS THE SECOND IN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS, WITH HIGH EXPLOSIVE S RAKING THE JAPS.

9 FROM THE ENEMY SIDE WE HAVE WORD THAT IS STRIKING. IF TRUE — AND IT PROBABLY IS TRUE. A CARRIER-BASED ASSAULT AGAINST THE GREAT NAVAL BASE IN JAVA, SOERABAJA.

Pacific

9 FROM OUR SIDE THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION OF THE NEWS, BUT THE JAPS SAY THAT SOERABAJA HAS BEEN BOMBED BY PLANES FROM CARRIERS. WELL, WE HAVE BEEN SURPRISED OF LATE BY THE WAY THE AMERICAN FLEET IS RANGING IN WATERS SUPPOSED TO BE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT ENEMY CONTROLLED. AND NOW THE SURPRISE IS MORE PLEASANT THAN EVER -- TO FIND A TASK FORCE CRUISING AND STRIKING OFF THE COAST OF JAVA.

9 THERE IS COMMENT FROM THE PACIFIC AREA ON ADMIRAL HALSEY'S MESSAGE OF THANKS TO THE FORCES UNDER HIS COMMAND. OPERATIONS IN THE SOLOMONS WERE ABOUT COMPLETED, AND THE HALSEY MESSAGE HAS SOMETHING OF A FAREWELL SOUND. THE IMMEDIATE SPECULATION IS THAT HE IS LEAVING, ON HIS WAY TO TAKE SOME NEW COMMAND -- PROBABLY IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC.

9 IN BURMA, IMPERIAL TROOPS ARE FIGHTING WITHIN THE TOWN OF MYITKYINA. HAVING HIT THE JAPS A STUNNING BLOW BY

HAVING CAPTURED THE ALL-IMPORTANT MYITKYINA AIRFIELD
YESTERDAY, THE BRITISH WENT RIGHT ON AFTER THE TOWN
ITSELF, BROKE INTO THE OUTSKIRTS, AND NOW APPEAR ON THE
VERGE OF TAKING THE WHOLE PLACE. THEY ARE BEING
REINFORCED RAPIDLY -- THANKS TO THE CAPTURE OF THE
AIRFIELD. NO SOONER WAS THAT IN ALLIED HANDS THAN PLANES
BEGAN TO LAND, PLANES AND GLIDERS -- CARRYING FORCES OF
AIRBORNE TROOPS. (1000P)--

ITALY

The war news from Italy today pictures Allied victories at the two ends of the critical battleline from ~~XXXXXX~~ Cassino to the sea, the front they call - the Hitler Line.

On the coast, after capturing the important port of Yornia, Fifth ~~army~~ Army troops pressed on today - with an unchecked advance. At last reports they were approaching a key point called Itri, which place indeed might be under ~~assault~~ assault right now, or even captured. And the Fifth ~~army~~ army forces have come to the historic road to Rome - the Appian Way.

This American advance is threatening to sweep around the Mediterranean side of the Hitler Line, and you'd think, with a threat like that, the Germans would be fighting hard. You'd think they'd be resisting with all the stubbornness that they have so amply displayed on other occasions. But the news indicates the reverse. The Nazis appear to be retreating in confusion, their retirement becoming a rout. They are ~~abandoning~~ abandoning huge supplies and equipment and large numbers of prisoners are being rounded up.

One supposition is that the Nazi Command made a mistake. We hear that the plan of the Germans had been to hold their previous

line, the Gustav line, only as a delaying action - in the face of the overwhelming allied attack. Hold on for so long - and then fall back to the more powerful Hitler fortifications. But the German command held on too long. And when the time came to retire from the Gustav line, the allied pressure was so heavy, the retreat turned into disorder - and thus the Fifth ~~XX~~ Army has been able to thrust along the coast in the face of disorganized opposition.

In any case, it would seem that, by driving to the place called Itri, the Allies are threatening to turn the Hitler Line along the Coast, outflanking it in that direction.

And it is something of the same story at the ~~XX~~ inland anchor of the Hitler Line, facing the Cassino area. There the British and Poles, having captured ~~XX~~ Cassino, continued on today. The latest tells of advances against a series of key points. One of these is a town called Aquina - and that name brings historic memories. The birthplace of the great medieval Saint and philosopher Thomas-of-Aquino, or, as he is more often called - Thomas ~~XX~~ Aquinas.

This drive may well cut around the Hitler Line on the

inland side. In that case, the ~~series~~ series of fortifications named after the Nazi Fuehrer would be outflanked at both ends, and could only disintegrate - just as the Germans at Cassino ~~we~~ were encircled, and had to surrender.

One most interesting claim emanates from the Nazis themselves, today, with German propaganda stating that there is no Hitler Line, and never was. This sounds as if it might be a prelude to news of a general ~~xx~~ German retreat.

In any case, today's advances by the Allies take them to the verge of fairly open plains leading northward to Rome and the Anzio beachhead. Once they have broken through the last ridges of mountainous terrain, they will be in country with few natural defenses, and allied leaders do not ~~xx~~ believe that the Germans have constructed permanent defenses between the present front and Rome.

ADD TO AIR WAR

American losses were twenty-six heavy bombers and
nineteen fighters. While one-hundred-and-twenty-five German planes
were shot down.

Now H — let's have
a Stan. bulletin from
you.

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INVASION

Washington tells us how the invasion news will be given out.

~~promise.~~ The promise has been all along that tidings of the great Second Front assault would be made public promptly, in as much detail as military safety will permit. And now we have the schedule for the communiques.

Second front assault

When the ~~invasion~~ begins there will be two news releases,

- one at eleven A. M. in London, and, another at eleven-thirty P. M. London time. Which means that on this side of the water, in terms of Eastern war time, the releases will be at - five A. M. and five-thirty P. M. This latter, we may note, will be on the wire as hot news over here - just about in time for us on this program.

The timing of the communiques was decided in London today at a meeting of the representatives of American, British and Canadian newspapers. ~~There was a natural difference of opinion between the papers on the two sides of the ocean -- because of the time differences. The conveniences of both sides were considered, and a compromise was made for the release of second front war news.~~

As for what ~~that~~ ^{the} news will be like, we have some high optimism expressed today by that elder statesman of the ~~the~~ British Empire -- prime Minister Smuts of South Africa. He reminded us that

the great multiple assault on Nazi Germany is imminent, and gave the opinion that the ~~war~~ war in Germany might end much ~~earlier~~ earlier than pessimists have been forecasting.

"The way of the transgressor is hard", said he, "and it may not be a long one - and the end may not be so far off".

The elder statesman tells us to keep our eyes on Italy. He said there should not be too much concentration on the Second Front in Western Europe -- because the war in Italy might turn out to be decisive.

And Smuts was equally optimistic about the war with Japan. He suggests that an invasion of the Philippines may not be far off, and he adds: "Japan may then be forced to face the combined Anglo-American air and naval fleets, with results which anyone can foresee". And he adds: "After the destruction of her Navy, Japan may herself have to surrender or starve and burn to death".

BRITISH PRISONERS

The news of the Nazi killing of forty-seven escaped British prisoners has an ugly look. The Berlin account states that some were shot while resisting recapture, others while trying to get away again after being seized. That might all be according to the laws of war, but there is an angle of concealment which can only arouse suspicion.

25 ✓
The German version tells of a mass escape from a prison camp at Sagan, which is in Saxony - northeast of Dresden. At that place air officers were confined and a getaway was effected by seventy-six -- they were mostly British, and from the British Dominions. It is not stated whether any Americans were in the prison break. Of the seventy-six, fifteen were retaken and returned to the camp. Fourteen are still at large - prisoners of war who presumably are in hiding somewhere in Germany.

The Nazis tell a story of how, when confronted with recapture, some of the escaped air officers fought back. Also, how others, after they had been seized and were being taken back, made new attempts to escape. In that way, ~~many~~ says the enemy, ~~many~~ forty-seven were killed.

The mass escape occurred on March twenty-sixth. And, according to international law, the fatalities should have been reported to the neutral Swiss government, which represents Great Britain in the matter of prisoners of war. But nothing was said, no report made. Then, during the next month, on April Seventeenth, an agent for the Swiss government, on an ordinary routine visit in behalf of ~~pi~~ prisoners, went to the camp at Sagan, and there he learned of the killing of the forty-seven.

The word was conveyed to the British Government, and today was made public - by British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden in the House of Commons. He stated that Great Britain through Switzerland, has sent to Nazi Germany a demand for an explanation of the killing of forty-seven prisoners of war.

LT kills
of Carrots
Wells +
minut bird
Raffles
coming into
office.

May 197
1944.

CARVETH WELLS

An old friend of mine, came into the studio, a moment ago -- Carveth Wells, who is widely known for his travels in Malaya, Africa and other parts of the world. Carveth is accompanied by his wife, ^{Zetta} and a bird. Some of you have already ^{met} ~~seen~~ this gifted bird. His name is Raffles. He's a minah bird, from Malaya, -- jet black except for a golden spot or two, and a bright yellow bill.

Carveth Wells tells me that their bird, Raffles, has far out-stripped ^{him} ~~her~~ and his wife, when it comes to fame. This inky black bird has actually been playing in the ~~max~~ movies, in Hollywood. In one film he played with ~~Bess~~ Dorothy Lamour.

How did you like Dorothy Lamour, Raffles?

Raffles actually gets paid a thousand dollars a minute in the movies. But they hold a stop watch on him so he won't be there too many minutes!

He also has taken part in war bond drives and all by himself has sold over a million dollars in bonds. Far more than that if you ^{count} ~~could~~ the radio appearances he has made with

Fred Allen, Eddie Cantor, and others. He doesn't say "pretty Polly"

and things like that. And so far as I know he doesn't do any swearing. But he does answer questions:- And, he talks more than any feathered creature that I ever saw or ^{ever} heard of.

Raffles, how do you like Blue Sunoco?

A group of Air Force officers and men and some of my neighbors are here in the studio with us. Raffles what song do you think of when you meet a crowd of young looking soldiers like these boys?

8/12
How do you like Hugh
James beautiful wife, Raffles?