

L.T. - STANDARD. Monday, Feb. 26, 1945.
SUNOCO.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I hope you have all heard the historic and stirring broadcast that has just come through from Manila - with MacArthur and Osmena speaking in person. So let's look at the Philippines first.

The most exciting news from the Pacific tonight is of a new amphibious operation in the Philippines. MacArthur reports that troops of the Twenty-Fourth Division of the Eighth Army landed on Verde Island, between Luzon and Mindoro in a completely successful operation. The Yanks went ashore with virtually no loss. They were veterans of Leyte. They took the Japanese completely by surprise.

Verde is a tiny island, but the force that holds it has the key to the control of the main route

through which any ships can sail, beteeen Mindoro and Luzon.

MacArthur also reports that the Five Hundred and Third parachute infantry has about finished mopping up the Jap resistance on the eastern end of Corregidor. At least three-thousand-~~and fifty six~~ of the enemy lie dead, ~~which does~~ not include ^{ing} those inside the tunnels or the others who tried to escape by swimming.

Just one thousand Japanese remain as survivors of the Manila garrison -- barricaded in three heavily fortified government buildings in the southern part of the city. They were called upon to surrender and refused, so today the Thirty-Seventh U.S. Division went into action with bayonets and hand-grenades, after a heavy artillery bombardment. Most of the suicide Japanese are sailors ~~an~~ or marines.

The best news from Iwo Jima tonight comes in the words of a high ranking officer who said: "The situation grows brighter every day." Still and all, the fighting is so tough that the marines are advancing only foot by foot. Nevertheless, they've ^{now} cut their way through the fanatical Jap battalions until they are less than two miles from the north coast of the island. ^{And,} In the center of the island, ^{a big} ~~they are about to cut the enemy lines. The~~ Japanese garrison ^{there} is being steadily reduced.

In the center is the Third Division of ^{U.S.} ~~marines~~, veterans of Guam and the Solomons. ~~They are fighting~~ across the central plateau of Iwo. ~~Since~~ They have already passed the center of Airfield Number Two and are only half a mile away from the northern edge of the ~~plateau~~ plateau. A good part of that mesa is now in American hands, including the government buildings and military installations. At noon yesterday, the observers counted

two thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven Japanese dead. And they couldn't count 'em all.

On February Nineteenth, the enemy had some twenty thousand troops on Iwo and it is estimated at least ten thousand effective Jap fighting men are left, which means that heavy battles remain to be fought.

Tokyo claimed their people had recaptured the summit of that volcano, Mount Surabachi, on Saturday, in a counterattack. They also claimed that American casualties now ere up to twenty-two thousand, and that Japanese planes had sunk an American submarine.

This afternoon Tokyo reported that two of our Superforts flew over the Tokyo area, apparently to photograph the results of yesterday's attack by two hundred B-29s, and more than a thousand carrier planes.

Vice-Admiral Mark Mitscher's task force maintained radio silence today.

ADD PACIFIC

In an evening bulletin from Guam, Admiral ~~Donner~~ Nimitz reports that our Marine airplanes are already using the southern airdrome on Iwo.

The first pilots who took off from the field were observers. But it will not be long before fighter planes ^{from there} will be escorting super-fortresses in their raids on Tokyo, thus cutting in two the distances which the B-twenty-nines had to make in their attacks on the Japanese homeland.

Fighting still yard by yard the Third Division of Marines has almost complete control of the central airdrome on Iwo, the larger of the two. Carrier planes are continuing their attacks on the other volcanic island north of Iwo. ^{And} Supplies, equipment and reinforcements are pouring ashore on Iwo in a steady stream.

A broadcast by the Tokyo radio tonight contained a virtual admission of coming defeat. Not only in the Philippines, but in the homeland of Japan. *R* The Japanese spokesman declared that the main field of battle between the troops of Japan and the United States would be on the Asiatic continent. He said further that the battle of Manchuria where the Japanese have transferred many of their industrial plants would become a crucial conflict.

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Now a few words from
Stan. of Calif. and then more
important news.


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WESTERN FRONT

Uncle Sam's fighting men -- armored units -- are only about ten miles from the historic city of Cologne tonight. In fact from the turrets of the tanks they can see the spires of the Cathedral and the rays reflected from the rooftops of the place that once was the headquarters of the Legions of Imperial Rome.

Our artillery has Cologne within range now. In fact the bombardment has begun, and the city probably will be in ruins by the time the siege is over.

Cologne came within sight when the First Army of General Hodges captured a place called Blatzheim,



after advancing several miles overnight. They advanced beyond Blatzheim, and the advance guard of the First is within three miles of the last natural line of defense the Nazis have before the Rhine, the River Erft. The Germans had only six divisions' guarding the great plain west of Cologne. The First and Ninth had the ~~invaluable~~ help of the Ninth Tactical Air Force, which isolated the battlefield so effectively that the pilots could see numerous trains standing motionless, which means that the Germans could not send their reinforcements to the front.

But the advance on Cologne is ^{far from} ~~not~~ the whole story of the Western Front tonight. The Ninth Army advanced towards the Ruhr, coming closer to the big manufacturing cities of Dusseldorf and Muenchen-Gladbach. Altogether, the First and Ninth between them captured thirty-one towns on the Rhineland plain. The Ninth is only sixteen

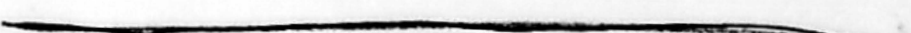
miles away from Dusseldorf, eight miles from Muenchen-Gladbach, now within range of the American Long Toms. The thirty-one towns captured fell with amazing ease, because Nazi defenses appeared to be crumbling. Newspapermen at the front describe the German armies in the west as demoralized.

Patton's Third also pushed ahead, capturing Bitburg (Bittboorj). At Bitburg, Patton's tanks have reached the Nims River, which protects Coblenz.

And the Canadian First Army in the north also advanced five and a half miles, on a five mile front.

All in all, Eisenhower's big push is rolling in high.

The Tactical Ninth Air Force and the Strategical Eighth are working harder than ever. Twelve hundred Flying Forts and Liberators, with an escort of more than



seven hundred fighters, attacked Berlin again. The raid lasted for more than an hour, and they dropped some two thousand, five hundred tons of high explosive and fire bombs on the Nazi capital, in an assault even more devastating and shattering than the cataclysmic blitz of February Third. The formations made a column in the air two hundred and thirty miles long. Late tonight, the German radio reported ~~that~~ another strong formation over Berlin again. The Nazis announced that the mass of our planes stretched all the way from Berlin to Brandenburg fifty miles to the west. The secret radio Atlantic announced today that Berlin was being consumed by the biggest fires ever seen. Railway stations were the principal target, railway stations jammed with trains.

BAAL FOLLOW WESTERN FRONT

Behind the victorious advance of one American division, the Eighty-Fourth, is a place called Baal(Barl). At the edge of it is a stout wooden signpost which reads: "Entering Baal, annexed to Texas February Twenty-Fourth, Nineteen Forty-Five."

An explanation was afforded by Sergeant Harry W. Pate, of Port Isabel, Texas, who said: "When we came in, it was pretty hot here and we fought darned hard for it, so we decided we might as well keep the place."

Private Harold Lane of Frisco, Texas, in between loading shells into a four-point-two mortar gun, then chirped up and spoke: "We annexed it, but I don't think the folks back home will want it because this town sure is ^a ~~one great big~~ mess." And he added: "However, we fought for it, so, we are going to claim it."

Then up spake Private Louis Wildman of Seven Seventy-Nine East a hundred and eighty-first street,

New York City. Said he in classical English: "Youse guys can have it. I want no parts of it. About all I want right now is to see the good old Bronx, and my mother!" Well said, Louis!

RUSSIA

The news from the Eastern Front tonight ~~is~~ comes from Berlin. The Nazis admit that the First Ukranian Army of Marshal Konev has fought into the outskirts of the fortresses of Forst and Guben, southeast of Berlin. The Germans say they have stopped the Russian advance in that direction.

A hundred thousand Nazis have orders from Hitler to fight to the death. However Radio Atlantic reports that Germans in Hindenburg Square, Breslans, are surrendering.

The Soviet communique also announces that the Baltic armies have repulsed continued attempts by the Germans to raise the siege of Koenigsberg. The Russians seem to have an unbreakable ring around the capital of East Prussia, although the Nazis claim to have cut a corridor into the city from the Samland Peninsula to the west.

Germany also announces that, on the Slovakian front, the Red armies have advanced ten miles, that much further along the road to Vienna.

~~President~~ of the Sun Oil Company and its subsidiaries.

He The American petroleum industry, last year, ~~he showed~~, was able to turn out aviation gasoline in quantities regarded as fantastic less than five years ago, *said* Mr. Pew.

The Sun Oil Company in Nineteen Forty-Four produced ^{*ing*} ~~ed~~ thirty-six per cent more oil than ~~it did~~ in Nineteen Forty-Three; eighty per cent more aviation fuel in Nineteen Forty-Four than in the previous year. In four months, the Marcus Hook Refinery blended more than one million barrels of one hundred octane gasoline for aviation fuel. The Marcus Hook Refinery, ^{*✓*} ~~said~~ ^{*^*} Howard Pew, now has the most extensive catalytic cracking facilities of any refinery in the world. ~~The~~

The Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in Nineteen Forty-Four delivered to the Maritime Commission sixty-nine ocean going tankers, six troopships, and six cargo vessels -- a total of eighty-one ships as compared

with seventy-three delivered in the previous year.

Sun Ship also built for the Army thirty-five car floats, ^{these} two hundred and fifty feet long; as well as ~~doing~~ a great volume of repair work.

All ~~that was~~ accomplished with fifteen per cent fewer employees than in Nineteen Forty-Three, since two thousand, nine hundred and two men left the Sun's shipyard for the armed services during the year. At the same time, four hundred and twenty-three employees of the Sun Oil Company left for military or naval service.

⁷ During the year, the ^{Sun} Board of Directors completed plans for the reemployment of Sun war veterans when they are discharged from the armed services. And during the year, the employees of ~~the~~ Sun Oil and ~~the~~ Sun Shipbuilding ~~Company~~ bought United States War Bonds with a face value of almost twenty million dollars.

^{Here is a} ^{from} ^{that is} ^{One} sentence ⁱⁿ the report ^{is} quite significant; - the words: "Again our operations demonstrate there is no profit in war for industry."