

RUSSIA

P.J. - Lunoco.

Friday, May 29, 1942.

The Nazis announce that the battle of Kharkov is about over. They say that to the south of the city, they ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup> completed the final moping up of the remnants of the huge Red Army force they claim to have encircled and destroyed. <sup>TP</sup> Moscow on the contrary, tells us that the Kharkov battle is still on, decidedly so - with the Soviets launching a new drive at a new place. ~~They are~~ assaulting to the north of the city, The intention of this is to outflank the Nazi positions.

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Moscow explains that the German counterdrive south of Kharkov <sup>V</sup> had been fully repelled - with new Nazi assaults beaten back today. That section being taken care of, Marshal Timoshenko seized the occasion to strike on the other side of the city - to the north. Which renews the battle picture that we have ~~xxx~~ had all along - a picture of blow and counter-blow.

ASSASSINATIONS

The sombre word is that Czechoslovakia has been virtually turned into one huge concentration camp, all the savage arts of Nazi oppression are being lavished on that hapless country. Ferocious Nazi penalties are scheduled to be inflicted on masses of people, unless there is an arrest of the men who shot Heydrich, the Number Two leader of the Gestapo; Heydrich, called "the hangman". <sup>TP</sup> Two hundred prominent Czechs, ~~Heydrich, the Number~~ including several government officials, are being held as hostages - to be executed if the hunted men are not apprehended.

There was a rumor today that Heydrich, the hangman, had succumbed to the bullets. Berlin, however, says no more than that he is in a critical condition. Should ~~he~~ the hangman die the Czechs will face a still more brutal ordeal.

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Meanwhile, attacks against Gestapo leaders have spread to Norway. A Deputy chief of the Hitler police is reported to have been killed by Norwegian patriots near the city of Bergen. It happened in a village which was promptly looted and burned by the Nazis - and sixty Norwegians were thrown into a concentration camp.

LIBYA

From Libya we hear that the Axis drive in the war of the desert is lagging, diminishing in strength. Cairo puts it in these words:- "Losing its striking power". That, applied to Marshal Rommel's Panzer columns, is amplified by the further statement that the Axis armored forces are splitting up into small units, British attacks are breaking up the massive spearhead. This ~~xxx reports~~ after the Panzers drove deep into the British defense line. They reached a point to the east of Tobruk, by-passing that stronghold.

The fighting is going on in the most intense of desert heat- dry, dusty and almost insufferably hot. It had previously been considered that the summer heat of the desert made warfare impossible. Now we are told that the improvement of mechanism has enabled contending armored ~~xxx~~ forces to withstand the infernal blaze - and <sup>to</sup> go raging in battle <sup>in those</sup> ~~under~~ steel monsters, under the blistering desert sun. ~~This accounts for the fact that with summer flaming in the wilderness of sand, the Nazi Panzer columns were able to drive for long advances, breaking into the British positions, and smashing beyond Tobruk before being checked.~~

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BRAZIL

Brazil is virtually at war with the axis - no declared war, but active hostilities. Today the government at Rio promised an unrelenting campaign against what it called "organized piracy". The Brazilians are staging a determined hunt for Axis submarines, which have sunk a number of Brazilian ships. And the hunt is being effective. An official announcement states that one submarine has been sunk, another surrendered after being badly damaged, and there are reports that a submarine supply ship has been captured by the Brazilians.

The Brazilian hero is Captain Oswaldo Pamplona Pinto, a young army flier. He commanded a squadron of bombers that accomplished the destruction of the submarine that was sunk. And the dispatch from Rio tells us that Brazil's new hero is a pupil of our veteran master of air exploits - Jimmy Doolittle, who led the air raid against Japan. Captain ~~Oswaldo~~ Oswaldo Pamplona Pinto had American air training at Randolph Field, Texas, and then in Brazil he studied aerial tactics under Jimmy Doolittle - this at a time when Jimmy was a member of the United States air mission to Brazil.

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SINKING

In the <sup>1</sup>stores of submarine sinkings that came on the wire today, there was an instance of a <sup>cunning</sup> ~~low-down~~ Nazi trick.

~~A German submarine was disguised as a lifeboat - with a sail hoisted. The purpose of this sinister masquerade, was to lure a cargo ship to destruction.~~

At New London, Connecticut, Captain George Hazeleaf today told the story of how aboard his ship they sighted what appeared to be a lifeboat about five miles away. The distant craft had a sail, which certainly made it appear to be a case of survivors in distress. Captain Hazeleaf, filled with the impulse of humanity, headed his ship toward the craft, then the sail disappeared, and the lifeboat was seen to be an enemy submarine. The scheme was to draw the freighter to within torpedo range.

The ship tried to get away, but the U-boat was too fast. Another torpedoing - another sinking.

From the Mediterranean, old and historic, comes a story of weird beauty and mortal peril. At night - and on the black water, flashed gleaming streaks that were fraught with

deadly destruction.

A British naval squadron was attacked by Italian torpedo planes. The speeding aircraft, maneuvered cleverly, a bright moon was shining, hanging low in the sky - and you know how bright the moon can be in the Mediterranean. The ~~planes~~ <sup>planes</sup> put the warships between themselves and the moon so that the British naval craft was silhouetted sharply against the glowing orb of the queen of night. From the warships the torpedo carrying aircraft, opposite to the moon, were completely invisible against the black sky. No mark for the British guns to shoot at.

The birds of destruction sent their torpedos scurrying through the water, and these ~~they~~ were accurately aimed at the targets that stood ~~in~~ like shadows against the moon. Yet the ships were saved by another kind of light.

Anyone who has voyaged in the Mediterranean, knows <sup>w</sup> how phosphorescent it can be - one of its fascinations. In its balmy waters are infinite myriads of tiny sea organisms. And these, if disturbed, give forth a phosphorescent glow. Oars,

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dipped in the water, will stir up gleaming patches.

So with the Fascist torpedoes. They left phosphorescent streaks on the dark sea as they sped toward the warships. So the British could see the <sup>glowing</sup> torpedoes, ~~XXXXXXXX~~ and were able to manœuvre swiftly and cleverly to avoid them. Not one ship was hit - in that naval and air ~~is~~ drama of night, the moon, and the phosphorescence of the sea.

CANADIAN POLL

The Canadian attitude toward the United States is illustrated by a poll that Fortune Magazine has conducted.

The Canadians were asked several questions.

"Do you favor free trade with the United States, no tariffs?" More than ~~seventy-fives~~ seventy-six per cent answered "yes".

"Do you advocate free immigration between the United States and Canada?" Nearly seventy three percent of Canadians responded in the affirmative.

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United States public opinion also was polled on these two questions. <sup>Here the</sup> ~~The percentage~~ percentages in favor were considerably less. Sixty two percent of Americans thought well for free trade

<sup>And only</sup> with Canada. <sup>^</sup>Forty-three percent, less than a majority, said

"yes" to the question of free Canadian - American immigration.

<sup>that seems odd for the Canadians have been rather more careful than we have about</sup> Another question was - "Do you favor a union between

the British empire and the United States?" fourteen and six

tenths Canadians said "yes", while on the American side the

percentage in favor was only six and a half percent.

admitting immigrants from everywhere.



"Do you favor a union between Canada and the United States?" Twenty three and a third per cent of Canadians

responded - <sup>yes, they would</sup>  
~~okay, they do~~ like to see the Dominion join the U.S.A.

Perhaps not a very important poll - but it's interesting.

COMMUNISTS

In Ohio, the Communist Party will be barred from the forthcoming election. This was stated today by Ohio Secretary of State John E. Sweeney, who announced that he will not permit the Communists to place candidates on the Ohio election ballots.

DRESS

Here is a bit of news I will leave to you ladies for discussion and ~~exampl~~ explanation. It is rather beyond my mental capacity. At Jamestown, New York, today a young woman lost her skirt in a bus and walked home with out - never realizing what had happened.

*She* Was wearing one of those wrap-around skirts, and apparently it got loose. When she stood up it dropped off, ~~and she stepped out of.~~ Quite oblivious of ~~all~~ this, she left the bus and sauntered on home, skirtless. The news dispatch from Jamestown ~~modestly reports that she had on a slip.~~ *states that later,*

~~Later,~~ she phoned to the bus company, and recovered the skirt. ~~And I suppose the next time she takes a bus ride she will glue it on.~~

WEST POINT

Here is a headline - Americans to fight against the Nazis in France. This prognostication was made by a high authority - General Marshall, Chief of Staff of the United States Army. And it was given out at <sup>that</sup> an august event - - ~~West Point graduation~~ at West Point.

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The question of a United Nations invasion of the Nazi controlled continent, with the American troops taking part, is so lively in the news that even an indirect reference attracts quick attention. So let us see what General Marshall said - in addressing the graduating class at West Point.

"Today", he declared "you will find American soldiers throughout the Pacific, in Burma, China and India. They have flown over Japan. They are landing in England and", stated the Chief of Staff, "they will land in France".

Yes, only an indirect reference; but, important, <sup>as</sup> <sup>as it does</sup> coming from the highest officer of the United States Army.

Other graduation news from West Point is hardly that portentous - having nothing to do with battlefields, because ~~it~~ marriage, as we all ~~already~~ happily know, is the very

opposite of the battlefield. Marriage is a moonlit field of romance, where there are never any hostilities of any kind, only love and happiness, affection and bliss. You know - I always try to stick to facts.

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Anyway, graduation at West Point, in this year of war, has produced a rush of weddings. Today at the military academy, twenty-four cadets married the girls of their respective choice. And seventeen weddings are scheduled for tomorrow.

These do not include another number of other nuptial ceremonies at ~~nearby~~ nearby towns.

Well, in Army marriages there is never any discord.

All is happiness, ~~nothing else but~~ - as any Army wife will tell you.

GENERAL MCNAIR

I have just come from several ~~I spent a couple of~~ hours ~~today~~ on the outskirts of Washington, at the old War College, ~~which is~~ now the headquarters of Lieutenant General Leslie McNair, who is in command of Uncle Sam's Ground Troops, <sup>also with</sup> ~~and~~ Colonel Nelson M. (Johnny) Walker, who has done much toward developing our new mountain troops.

General McNair had one most encouraging thing to say <sup>that</sup> will interest all Americans.

He mentioned how in the last war we took men into our Army

and then almost immediately rushed them off to France. <sup>He tells me</sup> ~~he said~~ <sup>that</sup>

this time we ~~were~~ much better organized for the <sup>the</sup> emergency, ~~and~~

that we have been able to give all of our troops the important

fundamental training ~~that~~ they need before they <sup>leave for</sup> ~~are rushed off~~

to regions where they are likely to go into action.

I was surprised to find that General McNair has

himself had almost every type of military experience. ~~Just~~ For

example, on one occasion he took a part of Uncle Sam's Army

on an eight hundred mile journey, through and over the Rockies,

starting in Wyoming and going south across <sup>the lofty ranges of</sup> Colorado. Part of

the time, when they were crossing the recrossing the Continental

Divide, near Leadville, he even took his artillery to an altitude

of fourteen thousand feet, thereby establishing an altitude record

for the firing of artillery on this continent.

~~of course~~ <sup>of course</sup> The General is an authority on mechanized warfare. <sup>And, he</sup> He was once <sup>the</sup> ~~also~~ Commandant of our principle cavalry school, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. <sup>So he knows the old and the new.</sup> He -- and Mrs. McNair <sup>too --</sup> ~~also~~ --

are expert horsemen. Mrs. McNair proudly showed me pictures of the horse she is now riding and the ribbons he has won. And with even greater pride the picture of her own boy, who is now an officer with the Anti-Tank Troops.

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Mrs. McNair -- (I hope she won't ~~mind my mentioning~~ <sup>saying that</sup> ~~it was her idea~~) ~~this~~ -- wanted me to tell the mothers of all the boys who have been <sup>picked by</sup> ~~taken in~~ our Selective Service, that the officers of Uncle Sam's Army are giving <sup>their boys</sup> ~~them the~~ finest training possible, so that they will have every advantage, when they come to grips with the enemy, and every possible chance of coming home to enjoy the freedom they <sup>now</sup> ~~are~~ fighting for.

~~to~~

ILLITERACY

President Roosevelt today spoke of Army rejections because of illiteracy and inferior mentality. He said that a startling number of Americans lack the minimum amount of education and intelligence that the Army ~~considered~~ considers necessary for military service. (~~The President gave the opinion that in general it was the illiteracy that caused the low level of mentality - lack of education being responsible for the poor grade of intelligence.~~) He said that government experts are now studying plans to sharpen the wits of ~~the~~ men thus rejected - get them up to a higher level so that they can be taken into the Army.

The statement made at the White House was followed by some figures given out by ~~Dr. Studebaker~~, <sup>the</sup> Director of the United States office of education. ~~He~~ <sup>who</sup> stated that the number of men ~~who were~~ <sup>who were</sup> unable to meet the Army literacy test comes to four hundred and thirty-three thousand. Of these, two hundred and fifty thousand are physically fit <sup>for</sup> active duty - "enough for fifteen ~~divisions~~ divisions," said he.

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The entire nation, ~~has he~~ <sup>xx he went on,</sup> ~~xx went on,~~ has more than ten million people over ~~in~~ twenty five years of age who have not



passed the fourth grade in school. Of these, more than four million are native born whites. Two million, seven hundred thousand are negroes. Most of the remainder are aliens.

What state would you guess to have the highest

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rate of illiteracy? New York, the empire state. Pennsylvania

next, then Texas.

*What is the most literate state? Hold your hats. It's Iowa, Iowa which has the ~~sm~~ smallest proportion of people who can't read*

or write.

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And now our literate and melodiously articulate Sunoco spokesman Hugh James.

Where the tall corn grows