

From coast to coast the one topic of conversation today was Wendell Willkie's dramatic withdrawal from the Presidential race. The ex-candidate himself passed through Chicago, bound for New York, from Omaha. Everywhere the reporters were on his trail. But Mr. Willkie had nothing further to say, except that he is going to plant four hundred acres of corn on his farm near Elwood, Indiana.

But here's an interesting angle -- an intensely interesting one, fm from Washington: a rumor that F.D.R. will offer Willkie the second place on the Democratic ticket! This story comes by way of Boston. And, the authority for it is the BOSTON POST. The idea being a coalition government for the duration of the war and until the peace is settled. The POST says the President believes that a Roosevelt-Willkie ticket would have a bi-partisan appeal. It's all just wild rumor. And, it was only last night that Wendell Willkie lashed out at President Roosevelt in his final

speech, in Nebraska.

*Moreover, as many people remarked, he accepted the Wisconsin returns with the utmost good grace.*

Anyhow, it indeed would be interesting to

know just what the President thinks about it all.

Whatever his thoughts, he has kept them to himself.

In fact, today he stayed away from the Executive Offices, working in his study on the second floor at the White House. There were no appointments, although Steve Early said Mr. Roosevelt was feeling fine, and clearing up things that had accumulated during his recent illness.

Meanwhile, the First Lady made an interesting reply to a reporter's question. The question was -- would she like to sit in at the peace conferences? With ~~gix~~ great emphasis Mrs. Roosevelt replied, using these words: "Nothing on God's green earth could make me take a public job of any kind." Then she added ~~xxx~~ modestly ~~rx~~ that she did not feel qualified for such a post. However there are other women, she said, who are

decidedly entitled to such a position. And then she mentioned Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, Anne O'Hare McCormick of the NEW YORK TIMES, and "some Congresswomen," as she put it -- without saying which.

By the way, whenever Mrs. Roosevelt is asked the question, will her husband run for a fourth term, she repeats the formula she used at Puerto Rico recently, a formula expressed in these words: "I have absolutely no idea whether the President will run for a fourth term, because I have not asked him and I do not intend to ask him." To which she added: "Those things he must decide for himself."

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A columnist for the Evening Standard of London added himself today to the English voices urging a fourth term for the President. He said he wrote this on the basis of advices from a correspondent in New York. Mr. Roosevelt, as this Englishman put it, owed it to the American nation to run for another term. And he adds that his correspondent in New York informs him that

Wendell Willkie will throw all his weight behind Mr. Roosevelt and will urge his supporters in the Republican Party to do the same. Well, this English columnist could be wrong. As Quentin Reynolds would say: "could be, could be."

ADD WILLKIE

At Albany, New York, Governor Tom Dewey stood pat. His one reply to all questions was "no comment". And he repeated with these words:- "There will not be any comment on any political questions".

Throughout the day Dewey received messages from all over the country, lots of them. But he declined to tell newspapermen what they were about or who had sent them.

In California reporters were *buzzing around* Governor Earle Warren. When Willkie withdrew, the spotlight was action turned ~~to~~ on him. But Warren continued to be just as non-committal as Dewey. "He is no candidate" says he, ~~XXXXXX~~ "Either for President or Vice President." Someone asked him what he would do if he were drafted. Said Warren, "let's leave that the way it is". ~~Maybe they are both smart.~~

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The withdrawal of Willkie and the victory of Dewey in Wisconsin <sup>have</sup> ~~has~~ not discouraged Governor John Bricker of Ohio. On the contrary <sup>they have</sup> ~~it has~~ made him the more determined to get on the ball. He told newspapermen in Indianapolis tonight that he is going to redouble his efforts.

ADD PACIFIC

From General MacArthur's headquarters comes the news that planes under his command attacked Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea where the Japs have an air supply base. You may recall that <sup>Liberators raided</sup> Hollandia ~~was~~ ~~raided~~ on Sunday and wiped out all the planes ~~that~~ the Japs had left on that air field. A formation of more than two hundred and fifty bombers visited the wreckage <sup>again</sup> yesterday, and ~~they~~ as they left Hollandia a pillar of smoke rose fifteen thousand feet into the air.

PACIFIC

5  
In the Pacific, bombers of the Seventh American Air Force have attacked Truk again, for the seventh day in succession. The fifteenth raid in that direction by our heavy planes since the Fifth, Seventh and Thirteenth Air Forces started giving the Carolines a going-over. On the latest we lost two Liberators.

The raids are so constant that the Japs at Truk must be enjoying sleepless nights and workless days.

Four atolls that the Japs still hold in the Marshalls were also bombed, likewise the island of Ponape.

...the ... valley, ...  
... reports, ... Chinese-American army ... only  
... miles from a place called ...  
... a good water road leads to the big Jap base at  
...

... However, 120 Japs are still ...  
... they are north against Imbel, and their own ...  
... are describing it as a full-scale invasion of India.



## BURMA

At last some news from the Assam-Burma war; and, it is favorable. At least it sounds so. A bulletin from Mountbatten's headquarters reports that British Empire forces have broken up the Japanese attack on the road southeast of Imphal, a ferocious attack. Also, enemy columns north and south of the capital of Manipur have been ambushed, says Mountbatten.

And so far nothing that has happened in Manipur has interfered with the advance of that ~~fm~~ column led by General Stilwell, which has advanced two miles more down the Mogaung Valley, capturing two more villages. At last reports, this Chinese-American army was only eighteen miles from a place called Kamaing, from which town a good motor road leads to the big Jap base at Myitkyina.

However, the Japs are still pressing for all they are worth against Imphal, and their own bulletins are describing it as a full-scale invasion of India.

A British broadcast reports the arrival of a division of Indian troops to reinforce the defenses at Imphal. They reached the city after fighting their way through Jap interference on the highway to Tiddim.

This, by the way, was the division the Japs said they had trapped. Instead, they've not only broken through to Imphal, they also have inflicted eighteen hundred casualties on the enemy.

Mountbatten's headquarters also reports the ~~destruction~~ destruction of thirty-three Jap planes by American P-38s, lead by Colonel Philip Cochran.

## RUSSIA

7  
Moscow tonight tells a triumphant story of the imminent fall of Odessa. The Soviet troops have an army of Germans estimated now at a hundred thousand, with its back to the Black Sea. So they say. Those encircled Germans have shrunk considerably since previous Russian reports. But Moscow intimates that this is because so many of them have been killed.

The northwestern flank of the German army protecting Odessa has been driven back seventeen miles by the Third Ukrainian Army. <sup>TP</sup> The First Ukrainian Army has the remnants of fifteen enemy divisions pocketed at Skala, on the Polish border, ~~thirty-eight miles northeast of Cernauti.~~ Those fifteen divisions are being annihilated, according to the Soviet reports.

Still a third German army is encircled in southeastern Poland, around Tarnopol. A large force of Nazi tanks and infantry tried to break through the

Russian lines and lift the siege. But the Soviet First Army threw back this counter-attack.

On the Odessa front, the veterans of Stalingrad, commanded by General Malinovsky, have recaptured more than a hundred towns. That army is closing in on the great Black seaport from three directions - northwest, north and northeast. Spring rains alternating with snowstorms have turned the territory around Odessa into a sea of mud. Moscow suggests that this makes it more difficult for the Germans to evacuate. On the other hand, it might also make ~~repair~~ the path of the advancing Russians harder. Red cavalry are being used to pursue the German columns.

The Russians are now within artillery range <sup>of</sup> ~~over~~

Odessa and have begun to shell the city.

*fourteen miles away.*

~~In that pocket northeast of Cernavta, the First~~

~~the Russians have~~

~~Red Army, has taken Skala, which had been one of the~~

*As for*

principal centers of Nazi resistance. The Battle of  
Tarnopol, <sup>it</sup> has now been going on ever since the Ninth of  
March, and that makes it one of the bloodiest frays in  
the whole war.


The Germans have one narrow corridor  
left through which they can escape  
to Roumania.

## AIR WAR

The air war over Europe continues, with nothing particularly new or spectacular.

Liberators of the United States Eighth Air Force dropped bombs on the French invasion coast for the second time in twenty-four hours. And a report from Berlin indicates that General Twining's Fifteenth Air Force in Italy attacked the Balkans.

General Ira Eaker, Allied Commander of the Air Forces in the Mediterranean, tells us that in Sunday's raid on Styr, the Fifteenth Air Force shot down a hundred and fifty-seven enemy planes.



~~has been in the air also. Tactical units have cut every Italian railway running north and south which feeds the German fronts.~~

~~And~~ Today we learn, for the first time, of another mistake made by American bombers; ~~this happened~~ three weeks ago, but the story was delayed by the censor. ~~It was~~ during the attack on Cassino, and ~~was~~ the result of an accident. ~~A unit of some eight to ten~~ Liberators, taking part in the attack on Cassino, were over Venafro, ~~which for months had been in Allied hands.~~ Venafro is eleven miles east of Cassino, and looks rather like it from the air. A United Press correspondent was in one of the planes and saw the whole thing.

The accident happened this way. While the formation was over <sup>Venafro,</sup> ~~Cassino,~~ the bomb bay of one Liberator opened accidentally and bombs tumbled out. The bombardiers on the planes following this one thought

this was a cue. So they quickly opened their bomb bays and released their loads. The U.P. correspondent was on a plane whose bombardier refused to be stampeded. He looked at the place twice and then realized that it was not Cassino. So he held his ~~deadly missiles~~ until he was over the proper target. We are not told how much damage was done.



DRAFT

Late this afternoon the War Man Power Commission announced that it had drawn up a new list of essential industries. That means a new list of workers under twenty-six who will still be entitled to deferrment for war services that are essential. The list is not final yet.

Colonel Kenneth Leitch, Director of Selective Service in California, said this afternoon <sup>that</sup> some fifty-five thousand Californians under twenty-six who have been deferred hitherto will be called up by July first. He announced that all pre-Pearl Harbor fathers between eighteen and twenty-six will be called up by the same date.

In Wyoming the G-Men have arrested seventeen more Japanese Americans on a charge of trying to evade the draft. These are fellows who ~~are~~ were evacuated from California and have <sup>been</sup> held at the relocation center at Big Heart Mountain, Wyoming. <sup>A</sup> ~~the~~ campaign of passive resistance against the draft has been going on there. Altogether forty-one of those ~~is~~ American born Japs have now been ~~are~~ arrested.

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WAC

Army officers in Seattle have solved the mystery of the pretty young missing WAC, Private Joan E. Danielson-Ferguson from Depew, New York. After she disappeared last Saturday all sorts of melodramatic rumors have been current.

She used to be a dancing instructor in that small New York town. Two months ago she was assigned to the Public Relations office at Fort Lewis. She disappeared only three weeks after she had ~~XXXX~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ become a bride. Last Tuesday her uniform torn and <sup>blood-</sup>stained ~~with blood~~ was found in a suitcase outside a building in downtown Seattle. The small blood-stain on her torn uniform led to the <sup>belief</sup> ~~rumor~~ that she might have been murdered. But a more careful <sup>probably</sup> examination showed she <sup>^</sup> just threw it away because it got soiled.

The officers at Fort Lewis ~~XXXX~~ reported today that Private Ferguson had been seen in civilian clothes in Tacoma after her disappearance ~~s~~ was

reported. Her superior officers believe that ~~xx~~  
she is just A W O L and will soon report back to the  
the most popular Red Cross club there. Its Program  
post.

Director is a lady named Selva Elting of Boston.  
Incidentally her back day feelings were three American  
soldiers walked in yesterday with a basket, in which  
basket was a ~~1941~~ baby just three months old.

The expression on Miss Elting's face showed that  
she had jumped to conclusions. As one of the soldiers  
said: "Don't look at me that way. I've only been in  
this country three months." With that he showed her the  
spine, and explained that it was just a poor homeless  
baby, he and his two mates had picked up because it  
wasn't apparently his own.

Then they told Miss Elting the whole story. They  
met an English woman in a cafe, got into conversation  
and she invited the three of them to her apartment for  
tea. When they got there they heard a baby crying.

In London, there is a club called "Rainbow Corner", the most popular Red Cross club there. Its Program Director is a lady named Helen Elting of Boston. Imagine her Back Bay feelings when three American dougboys walked in yesterday with a basket, in which basket was a ~~little~~ baby ~~just~~ three months old.

The expression on Miss Elting's face showed that she had jumped to conclusions. So one of the soldiers said: "Don't look at me that way, I've only been in this country three months." With that he showed her the child, and explained that it was just a poor lonesome baby, he and his two mates had picked up because its mother apparently did not want it.

Then they told Miss Elting the whole story. They met an English woman in a cafe, got into conversation and she invited the three of them to her apartment for tea. When they got there they heard a baby crying.

The baby's mother then told the doughboys the baby got on her nerves and she was tired of it. So they volunteered to adopt it.

It so happened that they had driven to that Red Cross club in a taxi. And <sup>as</sup>soon as they got out of the cab, the cabbie notified the police. Just as the Red Cross officials were wondering what to do, in came a London bobbie, followed by <sup>a bobette - if that's</sup> ~~what you call a female bobbie.~~ ~~female for xxxxxxxx bobbie so I'll have to call her a~~ ~~police woman~~

The officers, male and female, were quite polite about it, thanked the American soldiers for their good-will, but said, as for the adoption -- nothing doing. The baby belongs to the state, and the mother is being investigated.

<sup>And now here's Hugh, who</sup> ~~Well, Hugh, what would you have done with a case~~ belongs to all of us. We've adopted ~~like that~~ him.

WRECK

Dropped from  
late broadcast.

4/6

~~One day last week~~ A big Liberator on its thirtieth mission was hit by flak, over southwest Germany. One of the engines was damaged. The ~~pilot~~ managed to stay in formation on ~~the~~ three remaining engines for a while. Then, ~~his gas began running out. So that pilot, who~~ was First Lieutenant Jack ~~D.~~ Black of Galveston, Texas, started to take ~~his bomber~~ down for a crash landing on the French coast, near Dunkirk.

But, ~~that part of the coast was too heavily defended.~~ German ~~ack-ack~~ guns opened up and Lieutenant Black had to keep going. ~~Four~~ <sup>A few</sup> minutes later, two more engines ~~peppered~~ <sup>went</sup> out. Then ~~the~~ co-pilot shouted for the crew to get ready as they were about to hit the ~~waters~~ <sup>sea.</sup> ~~of the English Channel. Everybody was calm, took it easy.~~

~~Radio Operator Sergeant Dweraczyk of Falls City,~~  
~~Texas, climbed out on a wing but could not get the~~

~~dinghys loose. So he climbed back inside and pulled the release handle. He thought he would never get out in time before the plane sank.~~

In no time the crew was spread all over the sea. The navigator, ~~was~~ holding up the co-pilot; but the effort was too much, ~~for his strength.~~ The co-pilot sank before <sup>others</sup> anyone else could reach him.

~~Most of the rest of the crew of that Liberator managed to climb~~<sup>ed</sup> ~~into two dinghys. Late Saturday noon the engineer died. Sergeant Dworaczyk said the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary, and slipped his~~<sup>body</sup> ~~into the sea, as gently as he could.~~

<sup>waves</sup>  
~~All this time they were in a rough sea and had to bail~~<sup>ed</sup> ~~out all Saturday night. Sunday they paddled all day and saw nothing except sea gulls. Sunday night they still were paddling, but they~~<sup>saw</sup> ~~did see~~ searchlights ~~from~~ the English coast. They also spotted the flashes of

~~flak shooting at German planes. The men took turns,~~  
~~paddling in shifts of about an hour and a quarter each,~~  
~~The others had to keep warm by wrapping their parachutes~~  
~~around them.~~

Monday morning they had the grim experience of  
 seeing a group of fishing boats and three mine sweepers,  
*but were themselves not seen,*  
~~but none of the fishermen nor men on the mine sweepers~~  
~~saw the crew of ~~these~~ those two wrecked Liberator naval,~~  
~~dinghys.~~ By that time they had paddled all the way from  
 Dunkirk almost ~~clear across~~ to the English coast *where*  
*they were rescued.*  
~~Finally they attracted the attention of another fishing~~  
~~boat by waving an ~~xxx~~ oar with a piece of parachute tied~~  
~~to it.~~

~~The story was told by Sergeant Dworaczak, who~~  
~~had tears in his eyes as he told of having to bury the~~  
~~engineer in the choppy waves of the English Channel.~~



SUBS

We may soon be hearing of more sinkings of Allied ships by Nazi submarines. So we learn today from Navy Secretary Knox. The government has information that Hitler has been concentrating on building submarines.

In fact, he has used the entire resources of his

*[And nothing else.]*

shipyards for U-boats. To be sure, Allied planes have

been bombing the U-boat installations <sup>*And*</sup> ~~the~~ factories.

*Sec.*  
But, says Knox, this has by no means put a stop to the production of submarines. Our Navy has a good idea of the rate at which the U-boats are being launched.

They will soon come out in great force, and we have to be prepared for it.

BALKANS

For three days a battle has been raging in the Balkans, and apparently the Germans had the best of it. A dispatch from Yugoslavia reports that a powerful Nazi armored force has fought its way to within five miles of the headquarters of Marshal Tito Brozovich. Fighting with the Jugoslavs were Italians. They lost heavily, though the Germans also suffered heavy casualties. Nevertheless, the Nazis broke through.

## EXPLOSION

Another explosion at a naval ammunition depot.

~~This one happened out~~ Near Hastings, Nebraska. Three ~~people so far~~ are known to be dead, one of them a woman; and, five others <sup>are</sup> missing and presumed to be dead, four of whom are also women. Some thirty-five ~~others~~ <sup>others</sup> suffered minor injuries. The explosion happened early this morning in a box car while it was being loaded with explosives.

Secretary Hull is getting ready to deliver another statement explaining the foreign policy of the United States. He will broadcast it Sunday. Only a couple of weeks ago, the Secretary recounted his Seventeen Points, as a rebuttal to Republican criticisms. But the criticisms are unabated, so the Secretary of State will take to the air and talk to the whole nation.

Last night Willkie, in his Nebraska speech began by asking the question: "Have we a foreign policy? If so, what is it?"