

L.T. STANDARD OIL - NOV. 22, 1943

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

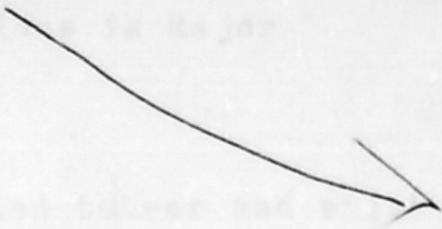
~~More~~ ^{More} news from the battle of the Gilbert Islands. ~~The United States is~~ ^{we are} attacking not only on two of ~~those islands~~ ^{them} but ~~on~~ three. ~~of them~~ ^{Today} ~~this afternoon~~ we learned that ~~the~~ ^{U.S.} ~~our~~ Marines and infantrymen had solidly established their beach-heads on the Makin and Tarawa atolls, although they ran into desperate resistance from the Japanese garrisons. Tonight Admiral ~~Chester~~ Nimitz tells us that another column has landed on an atoll called Abemama.

~~Now is that~~ ^{Now is that} ~~and that is not~~ all of it. The dispatch from the Admiral's ~~xxxx~~ headquarters notifies us that we may hear at any moment of the invasion of other islands on that fringe of defense which the

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Japs have created around the Gilbert and Marshall Archipelago. It's seignificant that this was passed by the censor at Pearl Harbor. For such news is not usually released until it has become an accomplished fact. So at this moment, we see the leathernecks and our Army fighters established on several of the Jap strongholds in that group; backed by US men-o-war.

Radio Tokyo describes it as an armada consisting of battleships and aircraft carriers but does not say how many of either. Nevertheless, our own Naval High Command has permitted dispatches to come through describing it as a gigantic force willing to join battle with the Mikado's grand fleet--not only willing but anxious. In fact, we heard this afternoon that Admiral Nimitz was hanging over the radio in his headquarters at Pearl



Harbor waiting to hear that the Japanese High Command had picked up the gauntlet that he flung down in mid-Pacific ~~with that great task force~~.

The American fighting ~~men~~ ^{men} ~~follow~~ who swarmed ashore from the landing barges on ~~xxxxxxx~~ those ^{of the Gilberts} three atolls, are Marine veterans of Guadalcanal, and foot soldiers of the Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry Division. ^P These operations in the central Pacific are under the command of Vice Admiral Raymond Spruance; the amphibious forces by Rear Admiral Richmond K. Turner, ^{and} the land troops are under what you might call a trio of Smiths. The Second Marines who landed on Tarawa are commanded by Major General Julian C. Smith; the ^{beachhead} ~~xxxxxxx~~ on ~~Main~~ established by the Twenty-seventh Division ^{led} by Major General Ralph Smith, and the officer commanding all the landing operations is Major General Holland McTavish Smith.

The fact ~~is~~ we most wanted to hear and which

Admiral Nimitz announces tonight is that everything is going ahead ^{according to plan.} ~~in Number One fashion~~. Wherever they have landed ^{our people} ~~our fighters~~ have widened their bridgeheads. ^{TPON Makin the} ~~That is true even on Makin where the~~ resistance was light at first ^{and then} ~~but where it had~~ ^{became} ~~become~~ suddenly ~~much~~ more intense.

We also hear that among the Marine Field Officers at Makin is Lieutenant Colonel James Roosevelt. ^{This} ~~is~~ is not ^{his} ~~the~~ first visit to that atoll. On August seventeenth, Nineteen Forty-two the famous Marine raiders under Colonel Evans ~~and~~ Carlson made a surprise raid on Makin and almost swept the atoll clear of Japs. Among Colonel Carlson's ^{junior} ~~subaltern~~ ^{in that show} officers was Jimmy Roosevelt.

Radio Tokyo this ~~afternoon~~ afternoon acknowledged American ~~landings~~ landings at Makin and Tarawa and admitted that our ^{men} ~~forces~~ had established beachheads. ~~Tokyo~~ Tokyo also told the subjects of the Mikado that a large American fleet was there

including battleships and aircraft carriers though not counting how many. And the Jap propaganda revealed for the first time that before the landings the big American fleet had shelled the Jap positions on the atolls for several days, while carrier based and land based planes had made bombing attacks.

An American correspondent reported that those attacks ~~have lasted~~ ^{went on for} eight days before any landing was attempted ~~and~~ ^{with} some of our bombers ~~had~~ swooped down at mast-head height.

If the Japs do ~~not~~ care to risk their grand fleet to combat this operation, they will at least be forced to send planes to protect their men. Or so ~~at least~~ our own military ^{observers} ~~commentators~~ ^{figure.} ~~are calculating.~~

As this attack on the Gilberts began General ~~Douglas~~ MacArthur launched an advance of Australian infantrymen on a Jap stronghold in north-eastern New Guinea. The Aussies ~~met~~ met with bitter opposition from the enemy but they progressed

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to within half a mile of Sattelburg on a zig-zag
road winding up a steep grade. At the same time
Allied airplanes raided Jap shipping in those waters
and sunk ~~xxx~~ nine vessels, freighters, and transports
mostly.

RUSSIA

The biggest thing on the Russian front tonight is no longer that battle of Jitomir. *That battle is important —*
~~still is a big show~~ and, if you want to know which way it ^{'s} ~~really is~~ going it depends on ^{whether} ~~xxxx~~ you prefer to believe Moscow or Berlin. On the whole, Moscow is the more convincing. ^P The Soviet Command reported that the Germans had tried to crash the Russian lines at a new point north of Jitomir. The Nazis admitted that this was an attempt to break through to Kiev but Moscow says that attack was thrown back with enormous losses. From these conflicting reports one fact emerges clearly:- The Germans brought up their reserves, trying out Soviet General Vatutin's line in different places looking for a weak spot, *and failed to find it.*

Moscow
But the latest [^] dispatches emphasize the battle around Gomel, the last big German base east of the Dnieper River. The Russians forced the passage of the Sozh River and captured a town called Radugi on the west bank of the stream. ~~They~~ ^{That} landed

them only eight miles away from the railroad between Gomel and Minsk; also, just a short distance from the highway between Gomel and Mogilev.

~~All this means that~~ The Red Army under General Rokossovsky is tightening the noose around the German garrison ^{at} ~~of~~ Gomel.

~~All in all, the Red Army spokesman gave glowing accounts of progress on many parts of that long cold front.~~

And here's another bit of ^{dramatic} ~~xxxxxxxx~~ news from that Russian campaign. It comes ^{not} ~~from~~ the Germans, ~~who~~ reported that one of ~~Stalin's~~ Stalin's armies and a huge one at that, has let loose a new attack up north on the Nevel front near the border of Latvia. There have been many tough battles on that sector but the Germans ^{say} ~~complain that~~ this one is so heavy that it makes all the others ^{insignificant} ~~insignificant~~ and small by comparison.

Still another Red Army is pushing ahead in

in the lower reaches of the Pripit marshes and has captured the railway station of Pripit itself as well as other important points.

And From the Germans ~~also~~ we learn that the Soviet Command has thrown against them an Army of forty-eight divisions at Krivoi Rog, capital of the iron ore country and Nikopal, ~~on the~~ center of the manganese mines. That means an Army of something like seven hundred thousand men. The Nazis claim ~~that~~ they have stopped those forty-eight divisions, but Moscow says no; so there we are.

AEGEAN

More bad news from the Aegean Sea front. The Berlin radio announced today that a Nazi task force had captured the island of Samos. The Allied command makes no comment, but does not deny it. This means that the Germans have the last strong point in the defense line that the British and Italians had established in the Aegean archipelago. The fall of Samos was inevitable after the enemy captured the island of Leros. In those parts the Germans have overwhelming superiority in the air.

LEBANON

More trouble at Beyrout, more serious than any before. The French authorities were making intense efforts to settle that Lebanese dispute. But today Cairo learned that the Lebanese have occupied the Chamber of Deputies at Beyrout, also police headquarters.

All this happened in spite of the release of all the officials of the Lebanese government whom the French had arrested. Angry crowds filled the streets.

ITALY

On the Italian front, the British Eighth Army has made another advance - four miles this time.

The British and Canadians have driven a wedge into the Nazi front. They captured San Pietro, and another important crossroads town near the headwaters of the Sangro River.

There are signs that the Nazis are getting ready to evacuate two more important strongholds of their Winter Line of defense. The outposts of the Allied armies have heard the roar of loud blasts rocking the entire countryside, followed by great plumes of smoke. ~~Indication that the Germans are again~~ on another a demolition spree -- evidently getting ready for another retreat.

But this may not mean that they are getting ready for a general withdrawal along their entire Winter Line. On the contrary, a spokesman at Allied headquarters says they are strengthening and reinforcing their line.

Our people under General Mark Clark are

enduring conditions that recall the campaigns in Flanders and northern France during the last war, the rain and morass that kept whole British divisions immoveable in the mud of Passchendale.

Meanwhile the airmen are busy; ^{they} hammered at a harbor thirty-eight miles northwest of Rome where they wrecked eighteen acres of waterfront, sank a medium-sized ship, and damaged a lot of German landing craft. ~~Other bombers blasted a point on the coast midway, on the railroad between Rome and Florence.~~

PRIMO FOLLOW BARBOUR

A former

~~And here is a bit about another~~ heavy-

of the world is in a jam.

weight champion, ~~but not an amateur. This item comes~~

comes word that

From Switzerland, ~~and it tells of~~ a former

has been

champ[^] condemned to death by the Nazis. Primo

Carnera, the only Italian who ever became ~~xxxx~~

heavy-weight champion of the world, was wounded and

taken prisoner while fighting with Italian patriots

against the Germans in Northern Italy.

ROOSEVELT

major problems and

We have a story tonight that one of the sons of President Roosevelt is a prisoner of war in Germany. The story is unofficial and unconfirmed and does not say which ^{one} of the Roosevelt ^{boys} ~~sons~~. Neither the White House nor the War Department has any such report, and a spokesman at the War Department says it ~~is~~ probably ^{is not true.} ~~is not true.~~

The story comes through Switzerland from the Berlin correspondent of an Italian paper controlled by the Nazis. It claims that this particular son of the President's ~~was~~ in a plane shot down in a raid on Germany and parachuted safely to earth to become a prisoner.

All four ~~sons~~ of the sons of President and Mrs. Roosevelt are in the armed services. The only one ^{who is a Colonel in the air reconnaissance} in the Air Force is Elliott, ^{Both the Navy and Marine}

Corps headquarters declare that it could not have been

branch. and Elliott is a daring chap - a particularly daring

Franklin, Jr., John or James, because they are all

on assignments in other areas. ^{So} the question
is, is it Elliott? [^]

HUMBERT

The United States is to have a visitor from Italy, none other than the Crown Prince Humbert. The story comes from a newspaper in Milan now controlled by the Germans. The tale is that Humbert has a lot of money on deposit in American banks and wants to come over here to invest it in the United States rubber industry. And his papa, the King, is also entrusting his funds including the crown treasures, especially the famous iron crown, without which nobody can become the legitimate King of the Italians. It is called iron because part of the rim is supposed to have been made out of a nail taken from the Holy Cross. Actually the iron crown is mostly solid gold. Such is ~~the~~ this tale from Nazi sources.

SUBSIDIES

This was to have been an important day in Congress. The House was scheduled to vote on the bill forbidding food subsidies after the end of this year, — a bill offered by Congressman ~~Henry D.~~ Steagall of Alabama. ~~There was a hot debate on it last week,~~ and the time had come for the final showdown.

Within twelve hours of each other, two exceedingly important members of the House died. First of all, Republican Congressman William Ditter of Pennsylvania was killed last night in an airplane crash. ~~and~~ He was the Republican leader in favor of the bill and opposed to subsidies. At half past nine this morning, the author of the bill, Congressman Steagall, died of heart disease in the hospital of George Washington University.

Speaker ~~Ray~~ Rayburn announced that this might delay the vote ~~upon~~ on the bill until after the funeral

of Representative Steagall, who was Chairman of the ~~exceedingly powerful~~ ^{important} House Committee on Banking and Currency. But later the leaders of the House decided to take the vote tomorrow, in spite of the death of those two influential members.

~~Congressmen of both political parties made speeches regretting the loss of Steagall and Ditter, and commented on their ability and high character.~~

BARBOUR FOLLOW SUBSIDIES

Late this evening still another prominent member of Congress died an exceedingly picturesque one. Senator Warren Barbour of New Jersey, passed away of coronary thrombosis.

Sen. Barbour was a large, lusty, and exceedingly vital man. He was one of the leading Republicans of the state of New Jersey. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Once upon a time he was the amateur heavyweight champion boxer of the United States.

SOLDIER VOTE

Congressmen and political party leaders are keenly exercised over the bill to provide for soldiers voting in next year's presidential campaign. The Senate this evening adopted an amendment by Senator Vandenburg of Michigan to provide that the commission to regulate the voting shall ~~be~~ consist of four members. Two of them must ~~be~~ be Republicans and two Democrats. And the majority vote must decide.

Later still Senator Taft of Ohio offered an amendment to forbid the broadcasting of campaign propaganda by any federal agency -- which means ~~principally~~ principally the O.W.I. -- or the distribution of any campaign literature, among soldiers.

FIREMAN

Passengers of a Pennsylvania train in Ohio today had reason to be grateful for the fact that a man in the United States Navy is equipped to meet any emergency. ^{TP} West of Trinway, Ohio, the fireman on the crack train known as The Jeffersonia ^M was badly injured. The train was held up and it ^{would have taken} ~~was taking~~ two hours to bring a man to take his place.

But on that train was Seaman J.C. Maurer of Brentwood, Missouri, on his way to training school at San Diego. Said Seaman Maurer to the engineer: "Give me a pair of gloves and I'll fire your engine."

The engineer looked at him and gave him the ^{1/2} gloves.

So for the eighty-five mile run to Columbus, Ohio, Seaman Maurer fired the ~~3~~ engine. And did it in style. And now something in style from you, Searge.