

Out in the Pacific, the biggest air blow of the war has hit Japan's number one oil producing center. Sixty Liberators of General MacArthur's air force flew to Balikpapan, on the Island of Borneo. The great oil field and huge refineries there were battered by seventy-four tons of bombs. Huge oil fires were started, so great an outbreak of flame that a mighty column of smoke rose six thousand feet into the sky. Thirty Jap fighter planes put up a strong defense. Seven were shot down, while three Liberators failed to return from the mighty raid against Balikpapan.

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CHINA

The Japs continue their advances in China with the fighting centered now at the City of Paoching - an important place in the province of Hunan. The Japs are driving westward from bases they have seized along the Hankow-Canton railroad, and Paoching is one of their important objectives. The Chinese report violent street fighting and the city appears about to fall.

And The Japs are threatening still another great center - the seaport of Foochow on the South^{China} Coast. The story comes from Tokyo and asserts that the blow was launched by sea - the Japs making a surprise landing near Foochow. They are now said to be closingⁱⁿ on the seaport.

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The President's remarks were a reply to yesterday's complaint from the Chinese - a Chungking military spokesman declaring that American lend-lease aid had been, what he called - "pitifully inadequate". The Chinese view is that the defeats that they are encountering can be charged to a lack of support by the United States, our policy being to lick Hitler first.

The President said today that the amount of aid that had been given to China has been small or great, depending upon what you consider little or big. And he added that twenty thousand tons of war materials have been going to China each month - by the air route alone.

He expatiated on the difficulty of getting material to China, saying that there are only two routes - one - by land, an enormous overland trip through Central Asia, from the Caspian Sea, across the great deserts, then through upper Tibet, and finally to Chungking. The other - by air, that stupendous sky

trial about which we have heard so many dramatic stories, over the Himalayas, over the hump. The President made no mention of a road from India across to China to take the place of the Burma Road - though we have been hearing ^{of} ~~an~~ such a highway through difficult mountain country.

Previous to his news-conference-remarks President Roosevelt conferred with the Chinese delegates to the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, and presumably the question of military supplies ~~for~~ for China was discussed.

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WESTERN FRONT

The drive into the Siegfried Line has broken through the crust of pill box defenses, and troops of the American First Army are now thrusting into what tonight's news dispatch calls - the human wall. That is - the masses of German troops in fox holes. All the way from the present battlefront to the Rhine.

In the break-through north of Aachen, the soldiers of General Hodge's ^{Army} made an advance of some four miles, enough to get them through the pill box system of the Sigfried Line. It was a tough battle against permanent fortifications, and the ^{going} ~~game~~ is expected to be equally tough - against the more flexible defense of soldiers in fox holes.

Comparatively few prisoners are being taken, because now the Germans are not giving up. They are fighting to the death, to make the going as slow and bitter as possible, as the First Army pushes toward the Rhine and the great city of Cologne - thirty miles away. One news dispatch tells us that the German defenders have been told that if any unit retreats,

it will be ~~punished~~ punished by having one out of every ten men shot - the grim and merciless business of decimation, as was practiced historically in the legionary armies of ancient Rome.

The latest is that the German commanders are ~~now~~ throwing in everything they can to check the ~~the~~ break-through, and prevent the American forces from exploiting it. They have amassed artillery and tanks, and are employing another one of their freak weapons, big robot tanks, called goliaths. These are described as being controlled and detonated by means of ~~the~~ cables, ~~which they~~ ^{that} trail behind them. The robot goliaths carry huge charges of high explosive, but seem to be none too effective. We are told of earth-shaking explosions, where the Goliaths appear to have blown up before ~~they came to the~~ ^{reaching the} American ~~positions~~ ^{positions} they were intended to blast.

And the Allied High Command gave warning today that the progress of the drive depends largely on the weather. That was not a good omen, because rain proceeded to fall, and tonight the troops that

have broken through the pill boxes of the Siegfried Line are carrying on in a chilly, shivery drizzle, which inspires United Press Correspondent Jack Frankish to begin his late story as follows:- "Newspaper maps back home", he writes, "will show a new American arrow stabbing into the German Reich. "But, he goes on, "this is a wet, cold, tired, spattered human spearhead, ~~mm~~ using its flame throwers to take the feel of winter out of the air, and the feel of fight out of the German defenders".

To the South, along the Third Army Front, we are told of a dramatic siege of a fort - a powerful position called Fort Driant, which guards the approaches to the great enemy war center of Metz. Fort Driant was defended by barbed wire entanglements five and six feet high and forty feet deep. Tanks blasted their way through that - after which the troops came to another kind of defense, a deep ditch, a moat. They brought up two big bulldozers, and these scooped up dirt and filled in the moat. So at last reports the

Americans were battling under the very walls of a
fortress.

Once before they fought their way to Fort
Driant, and had to withdraw, under heavy fire. Now,
however, they seem about to take the place.

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coast of the Adriatic, with a push into Albania, are
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pulling out from the southernmost of their dangerous
positions -- Greece, the Peloponnese.

*So much from the Peloponnese
now a few words from Stalingrad*

BALKANS

The Germans are reported to be evacuating southern Greece, the big southern peninsula of the ancient Hellenic land - the Peloponnesus. This appears to be an inevitable enemy move, the German forces in the Balkans being so ~~xxx~~ ominously threatened with encirclement. The Allied landings on the eastern coast of the Adriatic, with a push into Albania, are a menace to the German escape routes on one side of the Balkans, while the Red Army is driving from the other side, from Rumania. No wonder the Germans are pulling out from the southernmost of their dangerous positions -- Greece, ~~the Peloponnesus~~.

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now a few words from Stan. of Calif.

RUSSIA

Soviet troops are launching a new drive in Yugoslavia, and report the capture of a town thirty-seven miles north of Belgrade. They are threatening ~~xxx~~ to outflank the capital city of Yugoslavia, and that would split the German forces down that way from the Nazi Army fighting in Hungary. This newest thrust is the second Soviet invasion of Yugoslavia, and has already scored an advance of forty-five miles.

WARSAW

The patriot uprising in Warsaw has ended, the partisan forces fighting the Germans have had to yield, surrender. This was announced today by their commander, General Bor, who sends the following final communique: "Warsaw has fallen after exhausting all supplies of arms and ammunition on the sixty-third day of its struggle in the face of overwhelming enemy superiority".

The Polish Government in exile estimates that the anti-Nazi insurrection in Warsaw cost nearly half a million lives and that ~~more~~ more than eighty-five percent of the city was destroyed by shells and bombs.

~~Tonight's dispatch from London states:~~

~~"General Bor's slim forces fought with a minimum of food and ammunition against a ruthless enemy, who used every possible trick of military science. His men ~~in~~ wore tattered Polish uniforms salvaged from the pre-war Polish Army, German uniforms trimmed with Polish insignia, and ordinary civilian clothing. They fought with rifles, pistols and small machine guns~~

against enemy artillery mounted on trains, self-propelled guns, flame throwers, armored cars, tanks, dive bombers, heavy bombers, mine throwers and heavy calibre machine guns. They battled against disease, dysentery, ~~xx~~ scarlet fever and typhoid - and against starvation and food poisoned by the Germans".

That news description gives a vivid idea of the patriot ordeal in Warsaw - during which the partisans repeatedly appealed for help. They appealed to the Americans, the British and the Soviet Russians. And the women of Warsaw addressed a pitiful plea to Pope Pius the Twelfth, asking him to intercede in their behalf. But effective help never reached the ~~forces of General Bor.~~ Heroic attempts were made to supply the Polish patriots by air. American and British planes flew to Warsaw, and dropped food and ammunition by parachute. But today we are told that most of this went astray, sixty per cent falling into German hands. The Russians too dropped supplies from the air, but the packages were not sent down by parachute. They were just

dropped, and when they hit the ground the armament was smashed.

Tonight Moscow, in telling of the surrender of the patriot forces in Warsaw, continues its angry tone against them, saying that General Bor gave up without consulting the Allies. All along the Soviets have condemned the anti-Nazi revolt in Warsaw, saying it was premature, and should not have been attempted.

~~The Polish Committee sponsored by Moscow has threatened to try General Bor and punish him. This threat was made when the partisan commander was appointed Minister of War by the Polish Exile Government in London, appointed under his proper name, Lieutenant General Komorowski. All of which made the quarrel between the Poles and the Soviets still more bitter. And now, right after his appointment as Minister of War, the patriot leader, has to announce the surrender of the Warsaw uprising, of which he was the leader.~~

CARPENTIER

A new prominent name has been added to the list of people reported arrested in France on charges of having collaborated with the Nazis. Previously, we had heard of the famous comedian, Maurice Chevalier, the renowned actor Sasha Guitry, not to mention half a dozen others. And now - Georges Carpentier, the one-time French boxer so well remembered for his championship bout with Jack Dempsey twenty-five years ago. Carpentier, "the orchid man," who went on from his knockout by Dempsey to become a prosperous citizen in his native country. And now he has been arrested at Bordeaux, charged with having been a collaborationist. - So says the report.

CHURCHILL

Winston Churchill stated in London today that the Allies have made no decision about exacting reparations or ~~indemnity~~ ^d indemnity from Germany, after that enemy country has been defeated. Churchill seemed not too optimistic on the subject of huge sums of money to be paid by a beaten enemy. He remembered the reparations business that followed the end of the last war, and to the House of Commons he said: ^{TR} "We have considerable experience on this topic. After the last war the Germans were called upon to pay a fixed annuity of a hundred million pounds in gold". And to this he added sundry other sums that the Germans were supposed to pay. ^{TR} "These figures" he continues, "were afterward moderated and reduced almost to the vanishing point. Also," he ^{went on,} ~~continued,~~ "loans of nearly two billion pounds sterling were given to the Germans by the United States and to some extent by the British public, none of which, of course, were repaid". And he added that in the ~~xxx~~ reparations business, the Germans had the better of the bargain - which drew a round of mocking laughter in the House of Commons today.

Prologue to ~~THE~~ BRAWL

This is the kind of story troublesome to relate; - *for it's* sure to make some people protest - political feelings being always so warm in an American Election Year. Which is as it should be - a keen concern about political matters being the very lifeblood of our Democratic System.

Today I was the recipient of a few brickbats, complaints about last night's *United Press account of* ~~story about~~ the Battle of the Statler. One ~~is~~ a telegram from R.C. Pearce of Philadelphia. Brother Pearce accuses me of being a stooge and says: "Why didn't the Lieutenants have the Teamsters arrested, and the story come out then? Who is putting class against class now? Wonder if they could have been planted there?"

Well, it's Election Year all right, and I don't know what a newsman can do except buy a baseball mit to catch the bricks and go on telling the news. *For this story definitely is news,* ~~with news,~~ *after all,* the kind of thing that people are interested in and talk about. *And here's the* ~~xxxxxxx~~ latest on 'it': —

BRAWL

Today brought new repercussions in the case of the ~~the~~ ² mighty conflict ~~which~~ ^{that} they are calling the Battle of the Statler. A Congressional demand is made for an official investigation of the free-for-all fracas that formed a sort of impromptu epilogue to the President's first campaign speech. Congressman Rankin, the Mississippi Democrat, today called for an inquiry by the F.B.I. or the Navy - The Navy being mentioned because on the one side of the battle were two Naval Officers. The number on the other side has not yet been counted.

And today's news completes the disclosure of who the Naval Officers were. Last night we had the story told by one of them - Lieutenant Randolph Dickins, a veteran of the battle of Midway. He related how he and Naval Officer Number Two were in the Lobby of the Statler, when they were accosted by a party of Union Officials who were on their way from the Banquet Hall where President Roosevelt had just officially opened

his Fourth Term Campaign with an address to the Teamsters Union.

According to the story, the Union Officials asked the two Naval Officers about their Politics, whether or not they were in favor of a Fourth Term. To which the Naval Officers responded - that it was none of their business.

That's how the fight started, the pair of Navy men engaged in violent combat with the group of Union Officials. ~~It must have reminded Lieutenant Dickins of the Battle of Midway.~~ I don't know what exploits he may have performed against the Japs at Midway, but apparently he distinguished himself in action in the Battle of the Statler ^{for} he declares that he knocked down four or five of his assailants. And he adds that one of these was described to him later as a personal friend of the President. ^{TP} Lieutenant Dickins adds that his comrade Naval Officer was on the floor throughout the fight. So who was he, Naval Officer Number Two? Today he came forward and identified himself -

Lieutenant Commander James H. Suddeth of Greer, South Carolina. He's an Officer in the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics and was formerly Chief Maintenance Engineer of ~~the~~ Eastern Airlines. He corroborates Lieutenant Dickin's story on all points with one slight exception, one small correction. Lieutenant Commander Suddeth states: "Dickins says I was completely down throughout the fight. Actually," He protests, "I was only halfway down, and I was doing my mightiest to get back up." The Lieutenant Commander doesn't relish the humiliating, not to say, undignified, position - at least he was trying to get up.

~~In one version of the Battle of the Statler it has been rumored that among the Union Officials was Daniel J. Tobin, President of the Teamsters' Union, who presided at the dinner which President Roosevelt addressed and who made the speech introducing the President. This is utterly denied by Union President Tobin, who declares that the story is, what he calls, "Libel and Slanderous.~~

And he cries politics. "A political purpose," says he, "might be served by involving me in a disgraceful episode for the purpose of injuring the candidates of the Democratic Party."

Today Lieutenant Dickins was shown a picture of Dan Tobin and asked whether he recognized the Union President as one of the battlers in the headline free-for-all. He said - No, he did not recognize the picture.

The Navy Department was asked today whether an account of the Battle of the Statler would be included in the news flashed to servicemen overseas. The reply was - No, there was no room for such material. A Navy spokesman stated: "The limitations do not permit the inclusion of items of a controversial or political nature."

The Army, on the other hand, is including the Battle of the Statler in its news releases to soldiers overseas. Last night the Army wirelessly a two hundred word story, and this today was amplified by a four-hundred-and-fifty word communique - keeping the soldiers informed

*about the war news from Home!
And now if anything controversial from*