

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

News from the Egyptian desert. The Imperial Eighth Army has driven an even deeper wedge into Rommel's Alamein lines. The British are going all out trying to draw into battle the main armored forces of the Nazi Afrika Korps.

Rommel has launched several counter-attacks, which have been beaten back by the New Zealanders, Australians and British, and particularly by Scottish regiments.

The Nazi High Command admits that Rommel is facing a large-scale offensive by the British. But they claim that the Axis troops have defended themselves with success and have destroyed a hundred and four

British tanks. Berlin reports that fighting is going on day and night. It also claims ~~that~~ the British tried to land ^{on the coast} near Mersa Matruh Friday night. ^{Which} ~~But the~~ attempt was ^{the Nazis say was} beaten back by German heavy bombers.

The British, for their part, report that they forced the panzer divisions to fall back, leaving a lot of their machines ^{on fire,} ~~unfired.~~ ~~Thisxxxxxxx~~ An attack this morning by German tank forces, which were supported by infantry, was driven back by a heavy concentration of British artillery. The British infantry stood their ground until their tanks came to the rescue.

Montgomery, in ^{of the 8th Army,}
~~The British~~ command ^{has} hopes of making a clean break through Rommel's lines, with the ultimate object of winning back Tobruk.

American army air corps planes took a considerable part in the fighting. Fighter-bombers, and medium bombers, escorted by ^{U.S. Pursuit} ~~United States fighter~~ planes,

attacked the Axis forces on a large scale. The American communique declares that "direct hits by our bombers and fighter bombers on tanks, motor convoys, and motor vehicles, caused numerous fires throughout the battle area.

The American pilots belong to what is called the Black Scorpion Squadron. They shot down four Axis planes, damaged three others, and landed bombs on the airdrome at Daba.

An American correspondent reports that it is too early as yet to make any prophecies on the outcome of ^ethat battle. But, he declares, it can be definitely said that the Allies have definite superiority in the air. ^{As} ~~That is~~ proved ⁿ by the fact that ~~the~~ convoys ^{rushing} ~~carrying~~ supplies ~~on the desert roads~~ to the front ~~lines~~ are not being molested from the air, ~~at all~~. Not even at night, although the full moon is brought enough to read by.

The Axis now appears to be almost in the same position as the British expeditionary force was in Greece in Nineteen forty-one. The one main difference being that Rommel's communication lines are unbroken as yet.

A still later report from Cairo brings word that New Zealand troops have smashed through Rommel's lines.

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I have just come from Washington and Jefferson College, at Washington, Pennsylvania, and ~~whix~~ while there I encountered Mayor La Guardia, and the Mayor told me something I had not heard, that Nazi Field Marshal Rommel was in this country some years ago, in fact attended our army mechanized school, and learned about tanks from us -- graduating at the head of his class.

DAKAR

Vichy ~~Admiral~~ Darlan has returned from ^{his} a visit to
Dakar, that French naval air base on the west coast of
Africa. ~~You will recall that Darlan, although an~~
Admiral, ^{is still} ~~is~~ Commander of all the armed forces of the
Vichy government. ^{Reporting on} ~~As a result of~~ his inspection, he
announced that it would be unhealthy for anybody to
try to touch Dakar at this time. ^{That its} ~~The~~ defenders ~~of that~~
~~fortress~~ are ready.

On his way home, Darlan uttered a warning in
Morocco that in case of any attack on her African
colonies, Vichy, France, will not fail to use every
defense available. ^{FF} He said nothing about how well
Dakar would stand out against the Axis.

MILAN

The British Royal Air Force ^{evidently} ~~raid on Milan~~ took
the Italians ^{in Milan} completely by surprise. It was a large
force of heavy Lancaster bombers that made the raid.

The pilots of the bombers included two Americans.

They reported that people in the streets appeared dazed.

As the bombers flew across France, they were hedge-hopping
to evade anti-aircraft fire. Many Frenchmen waved at

them, ^{and} The British airmen replied with a "V" for Victory

sign. [#] ^{When they got to Milan} One squadron leader said he saw a four thousand

pound bomb burst, ^{sending one entire} ~~and that sent~~ whole buildings flying.

RUSSIA

Late news from Russia. Nazi divisions have pushed their way down the ~~XXXXX~~Black Sea coast of the Caucasus. They ~~have reached the region northeast of~~ ^{are now some} ~~Trapse. That is~~ eighty miles below Novorosisk, ~~It is~~ one of the last places of refuge from which the Soviet Black Sea fleet can operate.

This ~~bad~~ news was announced from Moscow by the Red high command.

SOLOMONS

President Roosevelt held a series of conferences at the White House today, and it was believed that the subject was the Battle of the Solomons. The President had summoned his personal Chief of Staff, Admiral Leahy; also Admiral King, head of the Navy. Earlier in the day, Mr. Roosevelt received Congressman Maas of Minnesota, who ^{is} ~~was~~ a reserve colonel in the marine corps and who recently returned from duty in the Pacific.

It is no secret that Maas is hot about the alleged rivalry between the army and the navy. He is a strong champion ~~of~~ for a united command.

At the same time, we hear that a battle is raging on Guadalcanal with no quarter asked or given.

The Japs are delivering one attack after another on Uncle Sam's marines holding Henderson airfield on Guadalcanal.

Our bombers damaged five enemy warships including three cruisers and one either heavy cruiser or battleship; also a destroyer.

Nevertheless, ~~xxx~~ do what they will, our

forces are still unable to prevent the Japanese from landing fresh reinforcements on the northwestern tip of the island. ^{The Japanese ~~seem to~~ have control of the seas thereabouts.} ^{TP} By way of consolation, we hear that the first attempt of the enemy on land to tear our marines away from their foothold, cost them dearly. Five enemy tanks were destroyed. The Japs have attacked several times within the last five days. They are trying to penetrate the western flank of the American line. The attack is virtually unceasing and our men are getting no rest. No mention is made of our having landed reinforcements.

EYEWITNESS

A gripping story is told by an American reporter who took part in an air battle on one of our flying fortresses. ~~Here are some of the things he tells.~~

~~I quote:~~


"Slugs from the seven point seven machinegun of a Jap Zero smashed the navigator's window and ricocheted clear through the nose of our flying fortress," ^{he writes.} "Another Zero in front speeded up to rake our formation." Then the report says: "I thought of saying the Lord's Prayer, but there was not time. As I stared at the on-coming Zero, a stream of tracer bullets burst from the tail gun of the fortress ahead. Immediately, the Japanese plane crashed, exploding on what our bombs had left of the airfield below."

^{He was referring to}
~~That is,~~ an airfield in the northern Solomons, ^{one} islands, held strongly by the Japanese. ~~The correspondent~~
~~vows that it takes a special kind of courage to fly over~~

The task of the raid by the American fliers was to cripple Japan's massed air and sea power, which is attempting to blast the Marines out of the Solomons. The pilot, a major, asked the reporter with a smile whether he felt scared. The newspaperman says: "I was petrified."

"It seemed touch and go," he continues, "until we shot down the first Zero. Two others disappeared, then we went speeding straight down Bougainville Island toward Shortland Harbor, where the Japs have massed a fleet including two battleships, cruisers, destroyers and transports."

"The battleship saw us coming," he says, "and opened up. One shell exploding below the bomber in which I had hitched a ride, and the



concussion blew us up a hundred feet. Then we dropped our bombs," he continues, "several hitting a cargo ship. A cruiser circling nearby got one bomb and another cargo ship was blazing in the tropical sunshine." ^{Then he adds! -} "Zeros came at us out of the clouds from all directions. We felt like a cat about to lose its ninth life. One of the Zeros exploded and another seemed to disintegrate, but they kept coming. Then we ducked into large cumulous clouds just ahead of the Zeros that were on our tail."

Another United Press correspondent reported that ^{life} ~~lived~~ on Guadalcanal had turned into "unmitigated hell." Henderson field on that island has been under continuous assault by battleship forces, huge bomber fleets and land artillery. The Japanese have put ^{some} eleven thousand ^{many} reinforcements ashore. ^{TP} One veteran sergeant of marines said this about the newspapermen: "If I'm going to get it, I'm going to get it. But I am not going to

get bumped off on the top of a hill like those dumb newspapermen with their cameras."

The American correspondents went all through the first six weeks of the Guadalcanal action and shared all the hardships ~~xxxx~~ with the marines. ^{And} They have learned that ^{the} ~~Japanese~~ give their snipers extra credit for potting an American reporter. So some have taken off their armbands which label them as correspondents. Their breakfast ~~consists of pancakes without butter, covered with a black concoction that is one part sugar and nine parts drainage from the crankcase of a jeep. This you wash down with a cup of chlorinated coffee and start your day.~~

~~Such is a newspaperman's life in the Solomons.~~

^{TP} The favorite song on the island is, "Say a Prayer for Your Pal on Guadalcanal." And the leathernecks mean it.

HONG KONG

For the second time in two days American bombers have raided Japanese installations on the British island of Hong Kong. They also dropped ~~their~~ ^{bombs} ~~deadly loads~~ on the Japanese ~~forces at~~ Canton. This ^{is} ~~was~~ announced ~~today~~ by Lieutenant-General Joseph ~~Stilwell~~ Stilwell, the Allied Commander in that part of the world.

The American raid ^{was} ~~was~~ eminently successful.

~~It~~ completely destroyed the important power station at Hong Kong. This is described as a major stroke.

That power station supplied ^{electricity} ~~juice~~ to the entire Hong Kong island. While the Japanese were besieging the colony, they were careful not to shell that plant. They wanted to use it after they had captured the island, and as a matter of fact they took it intact in their first landing.

At Canton, ^{airfield} ~~they~~ ~~attacked~~ the big Japanese held airfield in the ~~northwestern~~ part of the city. Many ~~fires were started~~ and at least one loud explosion was

~~heard~~ The Hong Kong raid was carried out without any interference. At Canton, Jap Zero planes and other fighter planes attacked the American bombers, and ten of them were destroyed.

Japanese Planes

MRS. R.

In London today, Mrs. Roosevelt had her first experience with an air raid alarm. Eye-witnesses report that ^{the First Lady} ~~our President's wife~~ paid no attention when the alarm sirens wailed, ^{she just} ~~and~~ went on talking. It was not a serious ~~air~~ raid. The only anti-aircraft guns that were fired were on the outskirts of the city.

Last night Mrs. Roosevelt was the guest of Prime Minister and Mrs. Winston Churchill at Number Ten Downing Street. ^{TP} The First Lady says ^{that has} what [^] impressed her most in Britain ^{is} ~~was~~ the spirit with which the women are doing so much that is vitally different from what they have been accustomed to do. Also, by the way the British women stick to their jobs, no matter what the weather.

^{TP} One of the sights she saw was that of female ground crews at the airdromes, women servicing planes, even doing repair work.

ADD MRS. R.

Later it turned out that enemy bombers had ~~indeed~~ flown across the Channel and carried out a raid on the country around the estuary of the ~~River~~ Thames. Two enemy bombers were shot down after the raiders had caused a few casualties.

LEND-LEASE

Here is news from the Lend-Lease Administrator. Edward R. Stettinius, the Administrator, reports an extraordinary achievement. In the month of September alone, goods and services were sent and provided for our Allies to the tune of two-thirds of a billion dollars. ~~That is~~ ^a new high record. ^{This} ~~It~~ is quoted as an example of what American free enterprise can do.

It took totalitarian Nazi Germany six years to make her intensive preparations for war. From the day the war began she ~~is~~ has been forcibly using the manpower, industrial capacity and agricultural production of all Europe. American free enterprise, on the other hand, cooperating with the government, has converted the United States to a war-time basis in ^a ~~just one~~ fraction of the time taken by the Germans. It has equipped an army of millions, expanded the Navy, built a new merchant marine, and turned out a record-breaking volume of farm

products. In short it has put the nation on a war footing with our armed forces now operating on every continent and on every ocean.

The Nazi empire employed the tyranny of government and authoritative management. While we have been working under a system of individual initiative.

COFFEE

Here is news about coffee that a lot of Americans will not like. After November Twenty-Ninth, one cup per day per person. Your ration will be one pound of the bean for every five weeks. And that only for people over fifteen. So you will not be able to chisel any extra pounds by demanding one for junior and another for little Mary and another for the baby.

After November Twenty-First, there will be no sales for a week. That will give grocers time to stock up. Your sugar rationing book will also be your coffee rationing book.

Leon Henderson made a statement that this ration ~~certainly~~ ^{which may} is not a drastic reduction. ~~That will~~ astonish ^{many - including Hugh,} ~~quite a few million people.~~