

L.T. MONDAY. NOV. 20, 1944.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I'm broadcasting from Madison Square Garden, tonight. Before an intimate little crowd of about twenty thousand people. A huge rally for the Sixth War Loan.

Word is already coming in from some sections about the way this drive is going. From the West we hear that some communities are already oversubscribed. That's the news from Montana, Nevada, Nebraska, Missouri, Alabama and Florida. One county in Montana had bought one hundred per cent of its quota plus an additional thirty-eight per cent, by noon today.

We learn from several sources that there is the urgent need for us to buy bonds, right now; all we can afford, and more. The cost of living has jumped

nearly thirty per cent. So, there's danger of inflation. One way to hold that off is to buy bonds.

And then, from overseas General Eisenhower has just told us how urgent is the need for more supplies, more guns, more tanks, more planes - and more ammunition to fire at the Hun. And, the best way for us to help on this is, to buy bonds!

And how is the War going tonight? Well, here's the news:-

JAPAN

The Tokyo radio has won another victory. It has just broadcast a claim that their people have sunk two American cruisers and set fire to one of our battleships and one aircraft carrier east of the Philippines. Japanese planes did all this, they declare, in addition to sinking three transports and damaging four more, in the Gulf of Leyte.

They also tell of an attack on Manila by carrier-based American planes. Tokyo saying that more than three hundred of our aircraft made the attack, raiding not only Manila but also other ~~ex~~ targets all over the island of Luzon. They likewise report that our bombers hit Davao, chief city of Mindanao, south of Leyte. And, they claim that one hundred and eighty of our planes attacked the island of Tarakan near Borneo, while still another formation of our heavy bombers ~~xi~~ raided Paramushiro and other islands in the Kuriles, far to the North.

What do our own people have to say? A little

while ago the Navy announced that ten American naval vessels have been lost, but none of the large ones. One, a destroyer, four destroyer escorts; and the others, still smaller.

No cruisers, no battleships, no aircraft carriers either sunk or even damaged, as the Japs claim.

The Navy gives no details, merely says the loss was due to enemy action and perils of the sea.

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~~And now while our
lads are fighting thousands
of miles away from home—
fighting for us—well, the least
we can do is buy war bonds,
isn't it? And s-l-u-t-m.~~

ADD JAPAN

And here comes the important news of the day from the Pacific. ^{Yes,} Our carrier planes did attack the Manila area over the weekend. Admiral Nimitz ~~states in his report~~ tells us what radio Tokyo failed to say, that his carrier planes shot down one hundred-and-eighteen ^{enemy} aircraft, set two large cargo ships afire and one Japanese tanker.

Nimitz ~~also~~ also that our Liberators ^{did} raided the Kuriles, also the Bonins ^{— for} ~~and~~ the sixth time in eight days.

CHINA

From China we hear that Chiang Kai-Shek has fired six members of his Cabinet, top-ranking members. He even removed his brother-in-law, H.H. Kung, the Finance Minister. Also, General Ho Ying-Chin.

This is doubly interesting, because the Generalissimo has caused much ^{lifting} ~~fixing~~ of eyebrows in past years because he kept General Ho on the job. Ho was one of the men involved when Chang Hsueh Liang, the young Marshal, son of Chang Tso' Lin, kidnapped Chiang four years ago. Remember? General Ho has long been a target for bitter criticism. Many considered his direction of the Chinese armies singularly incompetent. Now, the man Chiang has selected to succeed him is considered the most able of all the chinese commanders. However, Ho is not thrown out completely. He remains as Chief of Staff, where he can still be in the way.

ADD_CHINA

One point of interest about this news from Chungking is the speculation it has aroused. I mean, the fact that Chiang has fired his wife's brother-in-law from his job as finance minister. What everybody wants to know is:- *does this* mean a rift between the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang? The Madame has been away from her husband since early last summer. First in Brazil, and now in the United States, for medical ~~treatment~~ treatment. And while ~~she was~~ away Husband Generalissimo *has gone* and fired her brother-in-law.

WESTERN FRONT

Tonight's big

~~If we needed any incentive to back up the attack, here it is. today's~~ news from the Western Front is

General Patton has taken Metz!

In fifteen hundred years no armed force has ever been strong enough to capture by direct assault that mighty fortress, the strongest in Europe. The last man to do it was none other than Attila the Hun.

George Patton's fighting men did it in thirteen days!

At Metz the end came in a hurry. For the last two days the Germans have put up a desperate resistance, first on the outskirts of the city and then in the streets. But late last night the German General commanding the garrison realized it was all up. A couple of Nazi officers, captured by our troops, reported that they had seen him jump into the river, in the darkness, last night, and swim across; to safety.

And that put an end to all organized resistance at Metz. There are still a few pockets of

snipers to be mopped up.

As the Commander has disappeared there can be no formal surrender at Metz. Hitler's men simply decamped. The city is fairly undamaged; the famous cathedral intact except a broken window or two. The Germans didn't have time to mine the streets, although they have mined the tunnels under the city.

The feelings of the townspeople were mixed. Some looked glum when our men came in. Others smiled and waved. These obviously being Lorrainers.

But that's not all. General De Tassigny, leading the first French army in a record overnight march of twenty-eight miles, has blasted loose the entire left flank of the Germans, and driven through the Belfort Gap, right up to the River Rhine. As a matter of fact, the Swiss in the nearby city of Bale report that Tassigny has built a pontoon bridge over the Rhine

and may be at this moment, with his Frenchmen across the river, in Germany. The Swiss say they can see the fighting quite clearly from Bale. Radio Berlin admits the outflanking of Belfort, and apparently the garrison there is now cut off, and doomed.

General Eisenhower, later announced that Belfort had fallen. ~~[And this, in a way, is one of the most spectacular things that can happen on the Western Front. For the Tassigny operation may be compared to a run around right end of a football field. Made by the French, at night.]~~

This is a great hour for the French. And a mighty sour time for the Germans. For the famous Watch on the Rhine is now being kept by the French. American correspondents and photographers, with General De Tassigny's fighting French troops, were on the heights overlooking the river, with a view of the spot where the borders of France, Germany and Switzerland meet. They were on German soil, watching De Tassigny's troops throwing a bridge over the Rhine

seven miles north of the Swiss border. From the right bank of the river German cannon were throwing heavy fire power at them, but the French went on crossing the Rhine. They have captured the big town of Colmar, as well as several other places between the mountains and the big river.

Going back to Metz, after its capture Patton took his men right on through, and now they are on German soil, six miles inside the frontier of the Saar district. He is now advancing on a twenty-five mile front toward the great factories and coal deposits of the Saar.

Further north the British Second Army has forged ahead three miles and is now only four miles away from the fortress of Venlo on the Maas River. Venlo protects the approaches to the Siegfried Line in front of the Ruhr Valley.

The Yanks of the First Army under General Hodges have captured another town east of Aix-la-

Chapelle and that puts them four miles closer to the Rhine.

At the same time the Ninth Army under General Simpson, has captured four towns and is now fighting in the streets of Eschweiler, a sizeable factory town northeast of Aix-la-Chapelle.

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Let's hear from Stan. of
Calif. for a moment. Then more
news.

RUSSIA

The Soviets have launched their big winter offensive on the Baltic front. Moscow so far says nothing about it. But, radio Berlin has announced it. Stalin's Baltic armies have ~~xxxxxx~~ begun to move on a twenty-five mile front. ~~They are~~ Advancing on the Courland Peninsula ~~on~~ the Baltic shores. The Nazis admit that the Red armies have driven wedges into their Courland lines with large ~~xxx~~ forces of tanks and Stormovik bombers. All this is a perlude to a new drive into ~~Ext~~ East Prussia from Lithuania.

Important news from Norway. The Nazis are in full retreat from Lapland. Now that might be encouraging but for the fact that they are scorching the earth as they go, and as earth has never been ^{scorched} ~~scorbed~~ before. What they are doing will probably leave thousands and thousands of square miles of territory in northern Norway uninhabitable for years. They are destroying all the Norwegian towns, cutting down all the forests, and burning all they can't cut down. Also killing all the reindeer, the chief source of food and livelihood in northern Norway. They are taking with them all civilians, men, women and children. Those who try to escape this evacuation are shot without mercy, and the Gestapo is setting savage dogs on the trail of those who try to run away.

All this information we have on the authority of Crown Prince Olaf of Norway, Commander-in-Chief of

the forces of his country. He says the Germans are planning to build a line of defense north of Narvik across a narrow neck of land between the sea and the Swedish border.

One Norwegian town, we hear, escaped total destruction because the Russians advanced from Finland so quickly that the Germans were not able to remove all the civilian population. That was the town of Kirkenes, way up in the Arctic Circle. But even there the enemy destroyed the buildings with such savagry that only twenty per cent remain fit for human habitation - or can be made so.

PETAINE

Since the Germans started on the run, out of France, we've heard almost nothing of Marshal Petain, Pierre Laval and other members of the one-time Vichy government. Well, today we hear they are still playing at being a government. That Petain maintains a sort of court in a small city in southern Germany, the city which used to be the home of the Hohenzollern family when they were just petty nobles - the town of Sigmaringen.

Petaine holds audiences daily and reviews his bodyguard as he used to do at Vichy. The soldiers of that guard wear German SS uniforms, with a tri-color patch.

When they fled from Vichy they first made their way to Belfort, still on French soil. Then, as the Americans and Free French advanced they crossed the border. The Nazis gave them a home at Baden Baden,

but even that was too near the French frontier. So, they fled on to Sigmaringen, where we hear that Petain spends much of his time walking around the cemetery where he expects to be buried. Laval is reported to be extremely depressed, his hair turning white because he knows he is high on the Allied list of war criminals. But, Laval is the only one of the group not treated as a prisoner. Where could he go? Petain and the others are said to be virtual prisoners. But not Laval, the outcast.

ITALY

In Italy the Allies have suffered a set-back.

Not important; but, over the weekend General Sir Maitland Wilson reported that the British Eighth Army had recaptured Monte Fortino, the hill that overlooks the main highway to Fienza. Today the Germans, in a violent counter-attack, drove off the Polish troops who had captured the hill.

CANDIDATES

People who run ~~his~~ for public office and are defeated may not deduct their campaign expenses in their income tax reports. The Supreme Court of the United States so decided today. But it was a five-to-four decision. Justice Frankfurter ^{wrote} ~~thought~~ the opinion just as Hugo Black and three others dissented.

The court made this ruling in the case of a former judge in Pennsylvania. He ran for re-election in Nineteen Thirty-nine and deducted thirteen thousand dollars from his taxes. Now he is definitely out of luck as are all others who ran for office.

The courts also turned thumbs down on the Community property system, which prevails in some states. In Oklahoma, for instance, a husband wife may split their income on a fifty-fifty basis, filing separate income tax returns and thus putting themselves in a lower surtax bracket than they would be if reporting in the single return.

CROMWELL

In the Reno District Court, Doris Duke Cromwell won the latest round. Changing to the language of golf, the tobacco multi-millionnaress is one-up on Jimmy, the Philadelphia Main Line socialite.

By now there are few who haven't
~~Probably few people are not familiar with~~
heard all the preliminaries,
~~all the battle in this extremely complex~~ but just
Duke - the world's richest woman,
to remind you, Doris won a divorce in Reno. Jimmy
then
prevailed upon a New Jersey Judge to say her Nevada
decree was null and void. Thereupon, Doris went
and told about Jimmy wanting
back to Nevada ~~said he wanted~~ seven million dollars
from her. To be explicit, ~~he~~ suggested she set up a
seven million dollar fund which would give ~~him~~ *her*
One Hundred and Ten thousand a year or more.

For all of Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell's
millions, she has ~~not~~ *two-bits* ~~not~~ worth of peace
in the last nine years. Her life has been just one
~~legal~~ legal action after another. In her latest ~~legal~~

~~process~~ the witnessed were hotel employees, social register luminaries, Reno firemen, business men, and ~~was~~ on.

Now, in this round

~~at any rate, the upshot of it was that~~

the Reno Judge wiped out the order of the New Jersey

- the one that
judge ~~which~~ declared ~~that~~ Mrs. Cromwell's ~~Nevada's~~ *Nevada's*

divorce decree ~~was~~ null and void. In short, the

heiress of tobacco magnate James Buchanan Duke has

positively got rid of Philadelphia Main Line Jimmy

Cromwell.

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And that's about all from me. Hugh, anything more from you?