

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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For the first time since the War of Eighteen
Twelve, American territory has been invaded. ^{TF} The Japanese
~~succeeded in making a~~
~~achieved a~~ landing at Apari, near the northern tip of the
~~Island of Luzon, the island that includes~~ ^{large island on which} Manila. ^{is} ~~They~~
~~located.~~ ^{The Japs}
battled to consolidate that foothold through a ~~veritable~~
~~xxx~~ rain of high explosives from American bombers.
But so far there's no word that ^{that} ~~that~~ hail of bombs has
driven the yellow soldiers off.

The Tokyo high command also announced that it
had landed troops on Guam this morning.

The Japanese are attacking along a hundred and
fifty mile stretch of the northern and northwestern
coast of Luzon. ~~There were~~ Four flights of Japanese

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raiders flew over Manila, approaching in perfect formation, and broke up into small squadrons to attack particular objectives like Nichols Airfield and the naval base at Cavite. The City of Manila proper was untouched.

Tonight we have for the first time a war communique from the War Department of the United States, War Communique Number One. It reads:- "Information received last night from the Commander General, Far Eastern Command - that means MacArthur - reveals the defeat of a hostile attack against the west coast of Luzon between San Fernando and Vigan."

The Communique continues:- "Our first bombing attacks on six transports resulted in direct hits on three hostile ships and damage to the remaining three, One of the capsized and sinking immediately."

The communique adds that no operations have as

yet materialized in the southern islands. But that again is as of last ~~xxxx~~ night.

On the Malay Peninsula, the Japanese captured the British air base at Kota Bahru, some three hundred and seventy-five miles north of Singapore. That much is admitted in an official communique from the Imperial High Command, which ^{reports} ~~acknowledges~~ that the Imperial forces ^{have} ~~retreated and~~ dug in on a new line south of that strategic airdrome. Presumably it was in an attempt to fight off the attack on Kota ^{Bahru} ~~Habru~~ that the British lost the great men-o-war, the PRINCE OF WALES and the REPULSE.

The Japanese claim also to have sunk the KING GEORGE THE FIFTH, but that rumor the British Admiralty refused either to confirm or to deny. Unofficially, it is pointed out that it ^{must be} ~~is~~ either ~~deliberate propaganda on the part of the Japanese, or~~

The KING GEORGE and the PRINCE OF WALES were sister ships.

The Tokyo high command also claims the sinking of an American submarine off New Guinea. On that there is no comment from our own authorities, The Japanese admit they, themselves have lost thirty-eight planes, two transports sunk, and two others damaged.

Here's War Communique Number Two. It admists the landings of enemy forces on the northern coast of Luzon. That means Apari. And it adds these words:- "The Japanese attacks are in considerable strength and are supported **by** heavy naval forces. Military and naval installations on Luzon have been subject to intermittent Japanese air attacks throughout the day, that on the naval base at Cavite being particularly heavy."

ECONOMIC

There has been a good deal of wishful thinking that the Japanese could not stand the strain of total warfare for a year -- that they would run out of supplies. Well, the British Ministry of Economic Warfare tells us today that Japan has accumulated supplies in tremendous quantities, and has long been piling them up. And that she can stand a total war for at least a year -- do it without blinking. Also that it would take a blockade of four or five years to tie up the Japanese seriously. So say the British. And they should know for they have sold vast supplies to Japan -- as did we.

It may even be that in some respects the Japanese are better off than we are. For example, ^{Tesse} Secretary of Commerce Jones told a Senate Committee today that we have only enough rubber on hand to last a year. "It ^{can't} ~~couldn't~~ happen here." That was our philosophy.

Here's an important item:- Uncle Sam to begin building one thousand heavy four-engine bombing planes a month. Director Knudsen of the Office of Production Management, gave that out today at his first press conference -- his first since the outbreak of the Japanese War.

He said, ^{it} also means a schedule of a hundred and sixty-eight hours a week for five vital industries, the factories building planes, tanks, guns, ammunitions and ships.

SINKINGS

Prime Minister Churchill spoke tersely and solemnly as he told the London House of Commons today that the thirty-five thousand ton PRINCE OF WALES, the pride of His Majesty's Navy, and the thirty-two thousand ton battle cruiser REPULSE, had been sent to the bottom. He gave no details, because, he said, he didn't have any. But he added that concerning the general war situation favorable events have happened as well as disastrous.

One high government official declared that the loss of the PRINCE OF WALES and the REPULSE was the heaviest single blow the British have received throughout the war. Even Dunkirk, he declared, had been softened by the fact that the Navy had pulled the army out.

Some people have been guessing that the Japanese couldn't have achieved such successes unless they had German pilots flying for them. Against that theory is the argument that the Japanese have actually been more successful than the Nazis. For two years

the Nazi air arm has gone all-out against the British Navy, but never yet have they accomplished such a coup as the destruction of two British capital ships, at one swoop.

I heard an interesting explanation today. It is that the Japs have been using suicide flyers, men who start out ^{with} the deliberate intention of not coming back, ^{win}lose or draw. There is a certain plausibility to this theory. For years we have been hearing of Japanese units prepared for suicide work. The technique would be to fly planes full of explosives and crash them on the battleships, blowing up the pilot of course, but also blowing up the ship -- human torpedoes. This theory is being openly discussed in London tonight.

According to the Nazi news agency, the PRINCE OF WALES and REPULSE were sunk by a joint attack of air bombers and submarines off Kuantan. Off Malay a-south of the air base at Kota Bahru -- midway between there and Singapore.

LIBYA

In North Africa -- the British Imperial Army, has captured the main base of the Axis in Eastern Libya, a place called El Adem. That's not an official communique but it comes from semi-official sources in London. This would leave the Nazi General Rommel without any base east of Tobruk. And, of course, it raises the siege of Tobruk -- definitely. The military spokesman in London said that this is the greatest strategic victory that the British have won in this campaign so far.

RUSSIA

From Soviet Russia come glowing accounts of Red Army fighting in which Hitler's ar^mies were pushed still further back. The communiques from Moscow tell of another important Russian city recaptured from the Nazis, two German divisions annihilated, and the Red forces generally advancing on the south and ~~the~~ south^{west}. Furthermore, they announce that a Soviet battleship and other men-o-war from the Russian Black Sea fleet have sailed into the Sea of Azov and are shelling Nazi positions west of Taganrog.

DIPLOMACY

On the diplomatic front, our Government has proposed a conference of the Foreign Ministers of all American Republics. Secretary Hull suggested the idea to the Governing Board of the Pan-American Union, which accepted at once. The object of course will be to agree on a concerted plan for defending the hemisphere. The meeting ^{to} ~~will~~ be held at Rio the first week in January.

There's a dispatch ^{Just in} from Buenos Aires ^{stating} that

officials of the Argentine Foreign Ministry are confident ^{that} all the countries ^{of} ~~in~~ the Western Hemisphere will break off diplomatic relations with the Japanese, ^{and} possibly ~~also~~ with the other Axis nations ^{as well,}

In Montevideo, the Chamber of Deputies of the Republic of Uruguay voted a resolution expressing solidarity with the United States, and the Finance Minister of Uruguay has frozen all Japanese funds.

At Santiago, ~~de~~ Chile, the Foreign Minister made

a proclamation that the Chilean Government considered the United States a non-belligerent. Also that an agreement has been made with Argentina for both republics to fortify the Straits of Magellan. Rio de Janeiro's President Vargas has ordered the funds of the Axis nations and all ~~non~~-American nations, frozen. ^{TP} The Parliament of Peru adopted a resolution expressing solidarity with the United States.

President Avila Camacho today guaranteed ~~the~~ *that* *will stand with* ~~support of~~ Mexico ~~to~~ the United States. However, he did not ask his Congress to declare war ~~on~~ ^{on} ~~against~~ Japan.

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When it comes to actual declarations, Uncle Sam so far has nine Latin-American countries as allies:-
Cuba, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica, Salvador, Honduras, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

ALIENS

There are one million, one hundred thousand nationals of the Axis countries in the United States, Japanese, Germans and Italians. Attorney General Biddle tells us today that two thousand, three hundred and three ~~of them have been apprehended, but several of them~~ ^{— and that some of these} will be turned loose eventually.

The Government is going to follow the policy of the British in the handling of aliens. ~~The~~ ^{as} experience ~~of our allies~~ ^{the} ~~with xxxxxxxx~~ shows that the best system is to give ^{as} ~~the~~ ^{many as possible} ~~decent aliens~~ their freedom, ~~to~~ ^{under orders} put them on parole, permanent parole. ~~That means they'll have~~ ^{to} report to the authorities at regular periods. ^{if} The majority of those arrested will be put in concentration camps, ~~and those~~ ~~concentration camps will be~~ run by the Army.

* The Attorney General is most insistent that the handling of enemy aliens is a matter for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for the F.B.I. alone.

He expressed annoyance because of the Seattle incident in which Japanese were roughly treated. The rioters were foolish, he said, and added that there is absolutely no evidence of fifth column activity or sabotage. However, the Department of Justice has posted extra guards in all vital plants, taking no chances.

STRIKE

Even in the face of this crisis, there's a strike at an Army ordnance plant in Morgantown, West Virginia. That's a big plant which cost forty million dollars to built. And the strike is one of those jurisdictional affairs, an independent union squabbling with an American Federation of Labor Union for authority over the welders. Union officials have threatened to call a strike of welders throughout the country if this dispute is not settled their way. But the Army officers have informed the leaders that work must be resumed at once, or else.

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I've just talked to a Naval Commander in from the Greenland - Iceland patrol where he says our lads are having a terrific time - convoying through raging seas. And he says the men in the Navy are furious over the news coming to them about strikes at home. As well they might be.

DRAFT

Congressmen today began clearing the way for a law to allow the American high command to send troops anywhere. The War Department had already drafted a bill, but Senator Reynolds, Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, substituted one of his own. Most of the Senators were willing to begin considering it immediately, but Hiram Johnson of California blocked the way. He introduced an objection, with the result that the Senate had to continue with the business it had on hand, a bill concerning rivers.

The Reynolds bill would allow the use of our troops anywhere without restrictions during the war with Japan or any war in which the United States is engaged. ~~Senator Vandenberg of Michigan asked Reynolds whether he would object to specifying that there should be a declared war. Yes, replied Reynolds,~~

ADMIRAL

The Navy tonight announced⁵_^ the loss of an Admiral, Rear Admiral Isaac Campbell Kidd, killed in the Pacific attack on Pearl Harbor, Sunday.

Admiral Kidd was in command of the battleship division of the Pacific fleet. The dispatch from Washington says that presumably he was aboard his flagship at the time he was killed.

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ALARMS

New York had another alert today, another false alarm which didn't succeed in getting people very excited. It seems to have started at the eastern end of Long Island on another phoney tip. Upon investigation it turned out that the planes which were sighted were a United States Navy patrol.

REACTION

The volume of replies to President Roosevelt's radio speech last night, exceeded all previous records. Secretary Steve Early figures that ninety million people must have been listening in.

And here's a telegram from Washington, which says that its meaning for civilians, every man, woman and child of them, is that they should immediately increase their purchases of defense bonds and stamps, buy regularly, buy often.

58 1/2 A newspaperman at the White House press conference today made a complaint to the President of the United States. "Mr. President," said he, "we're getting the run-around from the Army and Navy officers." Then he went on to hold forth on Army and Navy refusal to give information to newspapermen.

The President took it mildly, and interrupted to suggest that the newspapermen should consider the psychological condition of officials of the Army and Navy Departments. To that the reporter replied: "What about our psychological condition?"

59 Some of the newspapermen gasped. They knew what a bombshell such a question would have been in Berlin. So what happened at the White House, Mr. Roosevelt leaned back in his chair, and roared with laughter. The President has promised that we shall have all the facts -- as soon as possible.

59 1/4 And now a most important announcement from Hush.