

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1943.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Still Another Italian garrison ^{has} surrendered!
The British and Americans now ^{hold} ~~have~~ the tiny island
of Lampione. ~~It does not need amount to so much~~
~~oversized pile~~ ^{It's hardly more than an}
~~just a chunk~~ of rocks sticking out in the Mediterranean,
eight miles west of Lampadusa. The garrison surrendered
to a joint British and American naval force, without a
shot ~~being~~ fired. ^{It} This happened soon after the
— another ^{Italian rocky fortress,}
surrender of Linosa. ^{While it seems unimportant, the}
taking of Lampione removes the last remaining lookout
post that the Axis had between Africa and Sicily.
^{Which} ^{Mediterranean islands are people and}
~~That makes four, islands that the British and Americans~~
^{the British}
^{have taken without losing a man, without indeed landing}
a soldier.

And now ~~the~~ Allied air power is being ^{which may be far far tougher,}
concentrated on Sicily. The pilots who bombed Pantelleria
into surrender are having a rest, and a well earned rest
it is. The air forces of the Middle East command are
taking a hand and seeing to it that the defenders of
Sicily get no rest at all.

According to correspondents, the pattern of the
attacks on Sicily indicate a softening up process, a
softening up preliminary to an invasion. The Sicilians
are being bombed all around the clock. But the heaviest
attacks are directed against the airdromes of Catania
and Gerbini.

The ^{air} fleets of the Middle East Command in
this operation apparently consist mostly of ~~powerful~~
Liberator ^S ~~bombers~~. They destroyed at least eight more
^{Axis} planes yesterday, ^{losing} ~~and lost only~~ one of ^{ours} ~~their own~~.

This ~~comes~~ on top of the hundred and fifty they wrecked

on Sicilian airfields on Saturday. Saturday night, Royal Air Force bombers from the Middle East Command took up the fight and left behind them fires that could be seen for miles around.

One Liberator, piloted by Lieutenant ^{Tommy} Ryan of Chicago, ~~ran into a dogfight with at least~~ ^{fought it out with some} twelve Messerschmitts. ~~all by itself.~~ Ryan's gunners ~~definitely~~ shot down three Germans, ~~and probably~~ ^{perhaps} two others, and ~~Ryan brought his Liberator~~ ^{the big American bomber got} back to base ~~in~~ safety.

When will we take Sicily?

~~The British say it is not possible to take Sicily~~

It's a big island with high mountains ~~and a lot of~~

As Col. Loring Pickering, of the Army Air Force, who walked across it once, said to me today: — "A determined army, if it had a mind to, could hold out for a long long time on Sicily!"

ADD LEAD

There ^{is quite a} ~~was an amusing~~ story about the capture of the island of Linosa. It was ~~captured~~ ^{taken} by the crew of a whale boat. To be sure, behind that whale boat crew were the guns of a powerful British cruiser, the flagship of its squadron, and two destroyers. When that Whale boat crew landed, they found that the garrison of Linosa had ~~already~~ heard about the capitulation of Pantelleria and Lampedusa. So they gave up without any unnecessary fighting. In fact, the Italians were not only willing to surrender, but eager. Just one man thought he was unlucky. He had been married on

— last Saturday —
Saturday and he was taken prisoner on Sunday, yesterday.

The taking of those four islands is now reckoned as proof of the value of combined operations. The high Allied officers, General Eisenhower, Admiral Sir Andrew Brown Cunningham, and Air Marshal Sir Arthur Tetter, had long been in favor of such combined

operations. They were carried out with complete
precision. The result is we ^{now} have more airdromes; in
good condition; ^{also} bases for submarines and motor torpedo
boats; ^{as well as} ~~also~~ observation posts and points for
communication.

SURRENDER FOLLOW LEAD

Our own high command today permitted for the first time a story describing the capitulation of Pantelleria. It was half past six Friday evening when a grey haired, red faced, man in a navy blue uniform covered with dust, signed the papers of capitulation. That was Admiral Pavasi, the officer commanding the island garrison. The papers were formally acknowledged and accepted by a British Navy general who commanded the Allied landing force, ^{and who} ~~he~~ took over the military command of the island in behalf of the Allies.

It took only an hour for Admiral Pavasi and the British general to agree upon the terms of capitulation. It would not have taken that long if they had not had to talk through an interpreter.

The unfortunate Admiral had sent a radio message to Mussolini on Thursday night. He told the Duce that the defenders of Pantelleria had neither

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food nor water for three days. They had reached the end of their endurance. All day long Thursday they had undergone the worst bombing of all. The situation was impossible, so Mussolini authorized the surrender.

As a matter of fact, the bombing continued for some time after Admiral Pavasi had thrown in the towel. He had ^{had} two huge white crosses made from rags and ^{he had} laid them out on the edge of the airfield. But Pantelleria was covered with such a cloud of dust that American pilots were unable to see the crosses.

The ^{actual} first landing was made by British tanks which began patrolling the roads. One of them came across Admiral Pavasi with his second in command. ^{Whereupon} ~~and~~ the ceremony of capitulation began.

The terms of course were unconditional surrender. One of the terms for which Admiral Pavasi asked was the evacuation for all civilians. He

appeared to be rather alarmed lest the British general would not admit that to be a part of the unconditional surrender. But the British had no objections. Pavasi assured the British general there were no mines or booby traps anywhere on Pantelleria. Just as he said that, there were three loud explosions. The British looked suspiciously at Pavasi. But it turned out that ^{these} ~~these~~ explosions were from Allied bombs, delayed action bombs that had been dropped a few hours before.

The Italian soldiers ^{were} ~~xxx~~ described as ragged, terrified and weeping. They were throwing their arms around each other, saying good-bye as though they expected to be separated. Meanwhile, some fifty captured German Air Corps ground technicians looked at them scornfully. *In fact they expressed* ~~They shouted~~ their opinions of their Italian allies for anybody who would listen. Their ~~own~~ defiant attitude never wavered. One of them said that

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Pantelleria would never have surrendered if there had been any German flak or even a few hundred German troops on the island. Apparently he'd forgotten what the Germans did in Tunisia!

AIR WAR

The British Royal Air Force ~~terminated~~^{tapered} off in its attacks on Germany last night. In the three previous days, they had dropped a total of more than five thousand, five hundred tons of bombs on Nazi Europe. Last night the British and Canadians took another crack at the German Rhineland factory district. This raid was a light one, but only by comparison, to those of the previous three days. In addition to bombing factories, the raiders bagged six ships out of a twenty ship convoy in the North Sea and scattered a profusion of mines in German waters. The British and Canadians lost only two aircraft.

On top of all that, our own Flying Fortresses paid a visit to Bremen and did what is described as "extensive damage" to naval installations at that German naval base. Photographs taken later show that there was a huge concentration of bomb bursts in one part of the

shipbuilding yards there. At the same time, other Flying Fortresses visited Kiel at the northeast end of the Kiel Canal. Everywhere they went the giant American bombers met huge concentrations of all types of German fighting planes. They seemed to rise from every field in Germany. Over Kiel the German interceptors were ~~so numerous that they had to dodge their own~~ *flying and fighting and dodging* through their own anti-aircraft fire.

Military experts tell us this means the Germans are about to execute a third major retreat in the air.

That The daylight raids by our Flying Fortresses and Liberators are compelling the Nazi high command to withdraw their pursuit plane strength from western France and the Low Countries. The Nazis cannot any longer afford to let their homeland be so mercilessly bombed in daylight raids. One fact pointing in this direction is that many American pilots report that they

were intercepted by German night fighters. These are planes covered with black paint which makes them fine targets in daylight, particularly against the blue

— when it is blue.

German sky, The Nazis are also using ^{vast} smoke pots to

plane and gun

screen their positions on the ground, ~~that speaks well~~ ^{as well as}

other vital installations, [^] All of which

as well for the accuracy of American bombing.

RUSSIA

On the Russian front, it looks more and more as though the big battle that everybody has been expecting would be around Orel. At any rate, the Russians think so. They have been carrying out attacks against German positions, not on a big scale, but in considerable strength. They stormed four inhabited places north of Orel. The Germans tried to recapture them several times but were thrown back. .
Evidently they ^{Reds} took the Germans by surprise and managed to consolidate before the Nazis had time to bring up fresh troops.

JAPAN

The official Japanese Radio sounded off today claiming a minor victory in the air over the Russell Islands. ^{Tokyo} ~~They~~ told of a large formation of their naval planes which started a raid over the Russells on Saturday and met several dozen of our aircraft. Radio Tokyo announced ^s that they had shot down thirty-three American ~~airships~~ ^{craft} and that only five Japanese planes ~~had~~ failed to return.

Evidently that was the engagement reported in a communique from our own Navy Department yesterday. ^{Washington} ~~The Navy~~ admitted that a large group of probably forty to fifty Jap planes had attacked the Russell Islands. But only six American planes were lost and at least twenty-five Japs were shot down and twenty-five more probably destroyed.

The Japs also mentioned the fighting in New Guinea for the first time in several months.

The Tokyo Radio said nothing about the withdrawal of Jap forces from Papua; but ^{did say} ~~said~~ that the Jap forces remaining on the island are facing obstacles that are almost unsurmountable. Among them are monster American ^{- as they put it -} guns ~~which~~ are working havoc without cease. Presumably, the Japanese high command is preparing its people for the news that they have withdrawn from Papua, ^{that is the} Australian end - the eastern half of New Guinea.

SUBMARINES

Here is ^{more} news from the Navy, about the war against Japan, ~~and~~ good news. ~~too~~. Uncle Sam's ^{under} ~~deadly~~ ^{sea} pig boats have dealt the Japanese the worst blow they have suffered since the Battle of the Bismarck Sea. They sank one destroyer, one large transport, five medium sized cargo vessels, one large trawler, one patrol vessel, one small supply vessel, two small cargo vessels. That makes twelve.

And besides that, the Navy reports one large tanker damaged, one destroyer damaged, one medium sized transport damaged and probably sunk, one medium sized transport badly damaged. Washington reports it ~~has~~ as the best catch ~~that~~ the Navy has yet credited to ~~our~~ ~~submarines, as~~ ~~these pig boats, and our own model submarines in the~~ Pacific are called.

All in all, our subs in the Pacific have now bagged a hundred and eighty-one Jap ships, definitely

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sunk, twenty-eight probably sunk, forty-seven damaged.

This rates all the more importantly, because recent

reports have indicated that the Japs are having

considerable difficulty replacing shipping and keeping

things moving along
~~out~~ their far flung supply lines.

FLAG DAY

The Supreme Court chose Flag Day as the date for an historic ruling about saluting the flag.

By a vote of six to three, the august judges decided that no citizen of the United States may be compelled to salute the Star Spangled Banner. So again the court reverses itself, for the second time within a month.

It was all over the much discussed case of the children of Jehovah's Witnesses. Three years ago, the court promulgated its famous Gobitis decision. At that time, by a majority of eight to one, the justices ruled that if the children would not take their part in flag drill, they could be expelled from public school. The minority of one in that decision was Harlan Fiske Stone, now Chief Justice of the United States. Naturally, he is among the majority of six today. But voting with him were three who thought differently three years ago. Justices Hugo Black, William O. Douglas and Frank

Murphy all thought in Nineteen Forty that children whose parents would not let them salute the flag were abusing their privileges. Today they concur in the latest ruling, ^{in which} ~~in that~~ the court laid down this principle: ^{It reads this way: -} "To compel anybody to salute the flag is to say that the Bill of Rights, which guards the individual's right to speak his own mind, left it open to public authorities to compel him to utter what is not in his mind." The six majority justices go on to say that they think the action of local authorities, in compelling the flag salute, goes beyond the Constitutional limitations of their power.

Today's decision was written not by the Chief Justice but by Associate Justice Robert H. Jackson.

The dissenting judges are Felix Frankfurter, Owen J.

Roberts and Stanley F. Reed, ^{who stand by their} ~~all of them were in the~~

^{opinion of} ~~majority~~ three years ago, ~~and all of them stand by their~~ ~~opinions of three years ago.~~

The Senate today passed a bill which many people in the government service in Washington will not like. It provides that some twenty-seven thousand employees of the government must be reappointed and confirmed by the Senate. These are people whom the President put into office without consulting Congress. They include the heads of many war agencies. ^{The bill} ~~It~~ applies to everybody who earns forty-five hundred dollars or more a year. It was passed by a vote of forty-two to twenty-nine. If the House approves it, President Roosevelt is almost sure to veto it.

APPROPRIATIONS

One of the first of the New Deal agencies is about to disappear. ~~That is,~~ The National Youth Administration which was created in the earliest years of the depression. The death blow was handed out by the Appropriations Committee of the House. The Committee refused to supply any more funds, and that will be the end of it.

The same committee also wrapped the knuckles of Paul ~~W~~ McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission. They cut more than a hundred million dollars out of the budget for which he had asked.

The Committee's report brings to light the fact that most able-bodied fathers will be drafted, no matter how many children they support. The Army wants to have ten million, nine hundred thousand men early in Nineteen Forty-Four. So all men under thirty-eight, whether they have children or no, will

be subject to the draft. But Major General Hershey says that does ^{not} mean ^{that} all able-bodied fathers ^{will} ~~would~~ necessarily be inducted. Exceptions will be made. ~~in particularly needy cases.~~

1/2 Some two million, eight hundred thousand men ^{we} had been turned down ^{so far} by Army and Navy physicians — ~~failure to~~ ~~because they did not~~ come up to the ~~strict~~ physical qualifications. But recently the Navy made its standards wider. So many of those two million, eight hundred thousand ^{now} will be reclassified and inducted.

9 And now Don Lowe, who is on for Hugh.