

P. I. - Standard. Monday, Sept. 11, 1944.
Sunoco.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

This is a big day in the history of the Second World War. On this day American troops crossed the German frontier and ~~we~~ are tonight fighting on the soil of the Fatherland.

It was a division of the First Army of the United States under Lieutenant General Hodges that had this honor. The official announcement tells us they crossed in reasonable ~~we~~ strength a few miles (tree-er) ^{trayv} below Trier, which the French know as Treves. It was one of the historic cities of old Germany, known to the Romans in twenty-eight B.C. It is full of architectural remains reminding us of the days when it was an important outpost of the Roman Empire. In the Middle Ages and down to modern times, it was the

see of an Archdiocese whose Archbishops were also electors of the Holy Roman Empire. All of which is quite secondary to the fact that the Yanks have invaded Germany, and begun the last act in the drama of the European war.

But there was another ~~xxx~~ thrill in ~~xxxxxx~~ today's news. The Nazis are pelting out of Northern Italy. The Yanks of the Fifth Army today made their first contact with the far-famed Gothic line. But news from the frontier between Italy and Switzerland indicates that the Germans are holding onto the Gothic line only long enough to get their troops and their booty through the Brenner Pass.

We have been hearing rumors ^{about} ~~xxxx~~ this for some time. But the story from the Swiss frontier is definite and circumstantial. It reports that the commander of Hitler's S.S. troops at Milan announced the evacuation in a speech to his lieutenants there.

The report even names the officer who made the announcement. It quotes him saying the Nazi authorities are carrying out their evacuation at top speed. In the last ten days five thousand trucks have crossed the Brenner Pass carrying loot to the Fatherland and that S.S. Commander is quoted in these words:- "We are forced by present circumstances to evacuate northern Italy, but I promise you that before long we shall return".

Returning to France, ~~we~~ we learn that the Yanks are also in the famous Maginot Line. We have heard that it was in a poor state of repair. American officers found long stretches of it in perfect ~~xxxx~~ condition. In fact, they are in such good order that ~~ixix~~ its big guns can be turned if necessary, against the Germans.

WESTERN FRONT

The British tonight are in Holland. Field Marshal Montgomery's armored columns have smashed their way across the Belgian frontier in ~~an interesting and spectacular bit of strategy. It is~~ a flanking movement, aiming for the northern end of the Nazi's west wall, the wakest end. The Germans ~~ex~~ never expected to have to defend the seventy mile stretch of the wall in that area.

We have ^{information} not much definite ~~news~~ about what's going on along the western front because again there is a news blackout so as not to tip off the enemy. Last week the Dutch Government in exile issued stories that the British had then driven into the Netherlands near Breda. But Queen Wilhelmina's government had it wrong. Montgomery's men were then not yet over the Belgian frontier. The place where they actually broke through was northeast of a town called Bourg Leopold. ~~They had~~

They had a hard fight to do it because the Germans resisted with everything they had, fighting to prevent Montgomery from widening his bridgeheads over the Albert Canal. But this time it ^{'s} official and accurate.

Mont^{gomery's} men have done the job again, and have advanced as far as the Escaut Canal, at Eindhoven. ^{only a} ~~previous~~ few miles now stand between them and the frontier of Hitler's Reich.

So furious was their assault on the German defense line at the Escaut Canal that they captured the bridge intact. Over that they poured their armor and self-propelling guns.

While the British were accomplishing this, the U.S. First Army under Lieutenant General Hodges was advancing on a solid front of a hundred miles. One column ^{is} ~~reached~~ within five miles of Germany. In fact, the secret Atlantic radio said ^a ~~the~~ First Army patrol had ^{near the city} already crossed the German frontier, ~~at a place~~ which the

Actually the first army broke into
Germans call Aachen, but which sounds much better under
its old French name of Aix-la-Chapelle, the ancient
capital of ^{the} Emperor Charlemagne, the watering place where
the field marshals of Augustus, Tiberius and other Roman
Emperors used to go to ^{boil out} ~~get rid of~~ their arthritis. *Three*
great historic treaties place congresses were held at
Aix la Chapelle. The American front stretches all the way from
(Aachen)
the Eupen area of Belgium to the northern border of
France. On their way to German soil, the First Army
set free the City of Luxembourg, capital of the tiny
grand duchy. That tank column is ^{now} only nine miles away
from the Saar Basin, upon which the Hitler machine
depends for a large part of its coal and iron.

Correspondents tell us that something big is
brewing on that western front, a heavy hammer blow at the
Nazi defenses, but naturally they are not able to tell us
where. ^{and} that is the reason for the partial news blackout.

TP General Eisenhower was in Brussels yesterday, conferring
almost all day long with Field Marshal Montgomery.

Patton's men have been having the fight of their lives, holding onto the five bridgeheads they have established on the other side of the Moselle River, a fight that has now lasted eight days. Hitler's generals threw their crack divisions into wave-after-wave of counterattacks on our Third Army. Patton's line held, but was unable to advance until today. ~~Shortly after noon,~~

At eight o'clock

this morning

Patton broke the stalemate on the Moselle River line, opening a blazing new attack south of Nancy, and sent his columns in a curving drive behind the two German strongholds at Nancy and Metz. The crossing of the Moselle is now hailed as one of the major operations of

Patton's divisions have established still more the war. bridgeheads several of them. And they have broken into the defenses of Nancy, by taking one of the forts without a struggle.

Further north also, the Nazis are doing

everything they can to prevent a breakthrough of their line in northeastern Belgium.

Through a broadcast from Paris we learn today

that Patton's army is now getting its fuel by airplane. He advanced with such speed that the engineers laying a large pipeline from Cherbourg, could ~~not possibly~~ keep up

A story from Sweden has it that the Nazi high command has replaced Field Marshal von Kluge as ~~Commander~~ Commander of the armies on the western front, with another general officer, Field Marshal Model, formerly Commander of the German forces on the ^{Russian Front,} ~~eastern theatre of~~

***.

Here's one! — ----

^ Our men captured a copy of a Nazi order forbidding German soldiers to commit suicide! The general, whose signature was illegible, said that two officers and one non-com had committed suicide in his corps. This, said the general, was desertion. A soldier has no right to dispose of his own life. ^{Adding that he} ~~He~~ who does so

is cowardly and despicable. So *Suicide is Verboten!*
The order did not say what punishment would be inflicted on those who disobey!

SOUTHERN FRANCE

Further (*in France*)
~~Down~~ south, General Patch's men have occupied not only Dijon, but also Vesoul, which is ^{but} ~~only~~ a short distance from the fortress city of Belfort, near the German frontier. If you ~~will~~ look at your map, you will observe that Dijon is almost two-thirds of the way from Marseille^s to the northern frontier of France. *which* gives us a fair idea of the progress made by that Seventh Army, ~~and how close they are to a junction with Patton's divisions.~~

Belfort is of vital importance because it commands and defends the approaches to the Belfort Gap, ~~that is~~ an open stretch between the two mountain ranges of the Vosges and the Jura. Through that gap is a classic road for armies moving between France and Germany.

Shortly after noon today came
~~And late at eight o'clock this morning came~~
the event for which both General Patch and General Patton have been striving so hard. They joined forces west of

Dijon. Officers representing the two armies shook hands formally at a place called Sombernon.

This drive of the Yanks and Frenchmen under Patch's command has been one of the spectacular successes of the war. The Seventh took less than a month to ^{fight} ~~drive~~ [^] all that distance through France for the meeting with the ^{their way} [^] Third ^{Army.} Accordingly, there is ^{tonight} [^] an unbroken ^{allies} [^] front of six hundred miles in western Europe, all the way from the Mediterranean to the North Sea. ^{and} [^] Along that front are five Allied armies poised for the final grand assault on Hitler's Reich.

But Patch's men still have to complete their race to Belfort, to take the fortress and shut off the escape gap for the remnants of the German Nineteenth Army.

— 0 —
H - now it's your turn for a moment.

DOGFIGHT

54
2
In the air over Germany, Uncle Sam's Eighth Air Force today fought the most spectacular aerial battle this war has yet seen. An airmada of one thousand, seven hundred and fifty American craft flew over to bomb the last of the oil reserves that Hitler has ^{left to him.} They attacked refineries at several places in central Germany, one near Leipsig, another near Hannover.

And for the first time since D-Day, the remnants of the once mighty Luftwaffe came up to meet our airmen. They turned out in terrific strength, with fighter planes and rocket planes, in groups of twenty to twenty-five. It was the answer to the often asked question, "Where is the Luftwaffe?" It was there, but tonight not so much of it! ~~is there.~~

Our pilots reported that the rocket planes came at them with terrific speed, speed so great that the enemy fighters had passed before the American

gunners could fire. Apparently ^{that} ~~their~~ speed was too fast to do much damage, because they flew right through the formations of Flying/Forts and Liberators. And, in spite of their unparalleled swiftness, our fighter planes defeated them. ^{For cover,} ~~flying~~ flying over the big bombers, were seven hundred and fifty Mustangs, Lightnings and Thunderbolts. The Mustangs were too good for even the rocket planes. Our fighters alone shot a hundred and ^{twenty} ~~ten~~ of them in the air, and destroyed thirty-nine on the ground, making a total of a hundred and ^{fifty-} ~~forty-~~ ^{and} nine. This does not take into account the enemy planes destroyed by the gunners of the Flying Forts.

RUSSIA

3

Not only American troops but Russian troops crossed onto German soil on this same ~~the~~ day. For more than a week we have been hearing that Soviet patrols were in East Prussia. Those tales were premature, but today it is official. Advanced guards of the Third White Russian Army have definitely crossed the river separating Poland and East Prussia, home of the German Junkers, the back bone of the Prussian Officer Corps, the ~~men~~ men who are never satisfied unless they are making war. Today the war has been brought home to them.

~~(pick up early story on Russia)~~

RUSSIA

~~More Russian!~~ The Second White Russian army has broken through ring after ring of strong Nazi fortifications around Lomza, the fortress in northern Poland which so far has protected East Prussia from invasion by the Soviets. ~~The spearhead of that Second White Russian Army is within two and a half miles of Lomza itself.~~

Other Red armies have forced the passes of the Transylvania Alps and ~~xxx~~ are marching over the Hungarian plains to Budapest. ~~They have captured a strong point only sixty-five miles away from the famous iron gate on the Danube River. Those particular Russian armies are taking the historic road by which invading armies from the east have marched to Vienna.~~

In southern Poland, still another Red army has captured the Nazi stronghold of Krasno, on the way to Krakow. Through Krakow lies the road to German Silesia.

ADD PACIFIC

Admiral Halsey ^{has launched our} ~~outfit~~ has made the first naval attack ~~of the war~~ on the Philippines. A task force of carrier aircraft, protected by cruisers and destroyers pounced ^{down} on Mindanao last Friday and the planes from the carriers swept ^{that great island} ~~Mindanao~~ from one end to the other. ~~xxxxxxx~~ They sank or probably sank at least eighty-nine Japanese vessels. The ~~aircraft~~ ^{also} ~~attacked~~ ^{blasted} five airfields ~~on Mindanao~~. Also waterfront installations. The greatest number of ships ^{Milads has} ~~the Japs have~~ ever lost in a single engagement.

of these 89 vessels

On its way, the task force came across a Jap convoy off the northeast tip of Mindanao, a convoy of thirty-two heavily loaded cargo ships, ^{most of} ~~in that~~ ^{which were sunk, on our} ~~engagement the Japs lost fifty-one cargo ships, and~~ ~~thirty eight small craft and many smaller boats. Our~~ ~~aircraft~~ losses were ^{very} light, ~~and~~ losses in surface ships none at all.

PACIFIC

~~A short story from the Navy.~~ ^{and} Uncle Sam's ^{under-} pig

^{sea} boats in the Pacific have sunk nine more Japanese vessels; ~~They~~ ^{ing} include three men-o-war; a destroyer; a gunboat, and an escort ship. ~~So~~ American submarines ^{now} have sent no fewer than seven hundred and thirty-two enemy ships to the bottom of the Pacific Ocean.

CHINA

~~More bad news from the Asiatic front. The~~

^{The} Japanese are ~~now~~ ^{than ever} deeper ^{deeper} into southern China than they

have been able to penetrate in more than seven years of

war. They are rolling across the Province of Kwangsi

and are ~~already~~ ^{now} within seventy miles of the key military

^{center}

~~base~~ of Kweilin. There the American air force has its

large st base on the Asiatic continent. The ~~Mikido's~~ ^{Mikido's} armies,

~~which~~ ^{that} have advanced a hundred and ten miles in ten days,

are smashing ahead so fast that they bid fair to take

Kweilin within a week. ^{And that} ~~It~~ will be serious, for ~~us~~ if they

do, ^{that} ~~because it~~ will hamper our air operations against

Japan.

ELECTIONS

You know the old legend:- "As Maine goes,
so goes the nation". *Only it isn't always so!*
~~It has not been so true in~~
anyhow,
~~the last decade. And,~~ this year the formula will
have another test.

The people of Maine pride themselves not
only on leading the nation in the returns, but also
in the day ~~of~~ on which they hold the election. They
voted today, and people interested in politics all
over the country are watching. The Political Action
Committee of the C I O went out of its way to try
to upset Republican ~~maine~~ traditions. At the end
of the day, all four Republican candidates *- for Governor, for Congress,* were leading
their Democratic ~~and~~ opponents, particularly two who
were endorsed by the C I O.

DEWEY

Republican Candidate ~~For~~ Dewey is in Des Moines, at present on his campaign swing around the country. He ~~did not make any~~ ^{made no} speech, ~~in Iowa~~, but he ~~told~~ ^{did tell} newspapermen that the Roosevelt administration was eight years in office while tremendous forces were rising toward war, and did absolutely nothing to prepare the American people for war. At the end of those eight years, Dewey continued, the New Deal had a limping, unproductive economy with ten million unemployed, and an army of seventy-five thousand men, ^{no preparations for national defense.}

Dewey added that the Administration now claims that it foresaw the war all along, foresaw that we would be dragged into it.

Governor Dewey's train leaves Des Moines for the west this evening.

caught him saying these words: "If you have a lot of money, bet on it." The reporters were unable to learn whether the President was talking about the end of the war, the election, or the weather. We may all have our guess.

~~Hugh, it's your turn.~~

CONFERENCE

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill are now in Quebec, engaged in what they call their "Victory Conference." Marshal Stalin had been invited, but declined the invitation with the explanation that he could not leave Russia while his armies are fighting on such a broad front and developing their offensives increasingly.

White House Secretary Steve Early emphasized the point that this is essentially a military and not a political conference. As Churchill greeted the President his first words were: "victory is everywhere."

Newsmen asked Steve Early whether the two chiefs of state would deal principally with the Pacific war. To which Early replied: "I think you will find it largely so."

Newspapermen overheard one remark that Mr. Roosevelt made privately to the Prime Minister. They

HELICOPTER

From Berkeley, California we hear ~~as~~ that Henry J. Kaiser, the man we've been hearing so much about in shipbuilding is going ~~to~~ into production of helicopter planes, mass production. And the fellow who is designing them is nineteen year old Stanley Hiller.

This young ~~guy~~^{chap} first showed his mechanical aptitude in the making of miniature automobiles. The fact that miniature racers cost two hundred dollars a piece nettled young Hiller. So he went to work and developed a model that cost twenty-eight dollars ^{each.} ~~a~~ And now ~~with~~ with the backing of Henry J. Kaiser he is ~~going~~ going into the business of making helicopters, twin-rotored affairs. His model will have an over-all length of twelve feet. According to the story Navy experts have praised the design. It will be so ~~as~~ simple that anybody can learn to fly it in two hours. So they say. And Hugh, what do you say?

MINERS

The Convention of the United Mine Workers of
at Cincinnati
America was enlivened today by a fist fight. It
started with an argument between a supporter of John L.
Lewis and one of his opponents. There is a big group
of insurgents ^{among} ~~in~~ the Miners who want autonomy for the
various districts of the Union.

The insurgents had called a meeting to plan
their strategy for the fight against Lewis. They called
the supporters of Lewis the payrollers. The argument
became hotter and hotter until finally knuckles flew
and the meeting broke up.

Thereupon the leader of the insurgents in the
Union charged the supporters of Lewis with having
deliberately broken up their meeting. He said that was
an index of how Lewis plans to run the Convention.

There were four hundred autonomists at that
caucus, but it took only twenty-five of Lewis's men to
break it up.

ITALY

In Italy, the Yanks of the Fifth Army have made their first contact with the redoubtable Nazi Gothic Line north of Florence. ~~The Americans crossed the Sieve River,~~ ^(Sieve) ~~thirteen miles from Florence, and sent their patrols~~ ~~rearing on into the mountains beyond.~~ One division captured Monte Mignano, eleven and a half miles north of Florence, and Usella, fifteen miles north. Other units also made advances, ~~and part of the Ninety-Second Division, a division composed entirely of negroes,~~ pushed three and a half miles beyond Lucca, ^(Sarno) ~~up the valley of the Sarno River.~~ ^{SEARNO}

~~On the Adriatic front, the Nazis counter-attacked savagely, but the Canadians and Poles of the Eighth Army threw them back.~~

~~Officers found on the persons of German prisoners a Nazi order of the day, containing an urgent demand on German soldiers to hold fast on what the order described as "a line of decisive importance."~~