

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

~~The news from Egypt tonight shows clearly~~

~~that~~ Cairo ~~is anxious~~. Dispatches ^{tell of} ~~report that~~ a great dust cloud is rising from the Libyan desert. ~~That has~~ ^{that} ~~just one~~ meaning, Nazi Field Marshal Rommel's columns, after several ^{fight} ~~encounters~~ with British tank units near the Mediterranean, are swinging southeast ^{to} ~~against~~ the

Egyptian border. Dispatches from the front say ~~that~~

^{Rommel is} ~~he is evidently~~ moving in force; ~~he is~~ concentrating

on a swing southward from the Libyan town of Gambut, ^{by}

~~he is~~ heading for Sidi Omar, twenty miles to the

southwest of Bardia. In other words, he is trying to

surround the main frontier fortifications of the

British at Salum. ~~Much enemy movement has been~~

~~observed south of Gambut.~~

Meanwhile, the Royal Air Force ^{today has been} using bombers and fighter-bombers in one attack after another on enemy transport concentrations in northern Libya. British planes were patrolling the front lines all day yesterday and last night ^{rained bombs} ~~attacked in~~ ~~force on~~ ^{on} Rommel's landing fields at Ain el Gazala.

Reports received from London are even less encouraging. The LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH correspondent has informed his paper that the positions along the Egyptian border now held by the British are not strongly fortified. ^{And in London} the guessing is that General Ritchie probably will not make a serious attempt to make a stand there. ^{which} ~~It~~ recalls ~~the fact~~ that in September of Nineteen Forty, ~~General~~ Sir Archibald Wavell, then in command, ~~of operations,~~ made no attempt to defend the border at that point against the Italian invasion.

There is a rumor that General Ritchie has been removed from ~~the~~ ^{the} command of the British Eighth Army.

But that rumor comes from Paris, where the press is ~~completely~~ under the thumb of the Nazis. The rumor goes on to say that the British general staff has begged General Collet, who commands the Free French in Damascus, to take Ritchie's job. There is no confirmation of this report from either London or Cairo, ~~in fact the British have not even dignified it with any comment.~~

The Fascist high command makes the claim today that the number of British prisoners captured at Tobruk has risen to thirty-three thousand, ~~without a full count being in view~~

In Cairo, the Egyptian Premier, Nahas Pasha, issued an appeal to the people to remain neutral and avoid any action harmful to the British. The

government of King Farouk, ~~the First~~, he said, remains non-belligerent. And he announced further that it is vital to the interest of Egypt to support the stand of the British. Britain, he explained, has never asked Egypt to participate in the war or send troops to the front. He also urged the Egyptians to be on the alert ~~in~~ against rumors carried by fifth columnists, and ~~to be on the lookout~~ ^{watch} for spies.

In the British House of Commons, a motion was introduced ^{one} even more severe than the vote of no confidence offered yesterday. Part of the motion reads:- "This House is of the opinion that the disaster of Tobruk must be considered the direct responsibility of the government. And it continues:- "This House is further of the opinion that nothing short of reconstruction of the government, on the basis of merit and not of party claims, can restore

public confidence in the direction of the war effort. Accordingly, the House calls for this to be done immediately."

The situation became so serious this morning that the Labor members of the House held a secret meeting. But Clement Attlee, leader of the Party and Deputy Prime Minister, declared that the full facts about Libya were not known yet. *

TRQ
^ Conservative member of Parliament made a gloomy prophecy in a speech to his constituents today.

He declared that unless changes are made at once, there will be disaster in the Middle East. This member is one of those who wants attacks on Italy. If Italy were hit hard, repeatedly, he believes, she could be knocked out of the war.

RUSSIA

At Sevastopol, the Russians are still holding out.

The Berlin Radio claimed that German and Roumanian troops were closing in on the beleaguered Crimean fortress, and that all the Russians had been wiped out from the extreme tip of the isthmus north of the bay.

But The Russians are resisting so desperately

that some of them are even making human bombs of

themselves. One dispatch reports that they ^{*have been*} ~~is~~ ^{*try*} ~~land~~

^{*ing*} mines to their backs and throw themselves in the path

of on-coming tanks, thus blow ^{*ing*} the tanks to

smithereens, and themselves ~~as~~ as well.

ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt has called a special meeting of the Pacific War Council for tomorrow. It will be held at the White House and Prime Minister Churchill will be there.

Prime Minister MacKenzie-King of Canada is on his way to Washington, and he also will be at the meeting of the War Council and at later conferences, presumably with Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt. Representatives of Australia, New Zealand, China, the Philippines, Canada and the Netherlands will also be at that meeting.

TORPEDOINGS

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A shipmaster in New England, declares positively that Spanish merchantmen are helping Nazi ~~Ex~~ submarines to sink our ships in the Atlantic.

The name of that shipmaster is not given, but the story is dated from a port ^{somewhere} in New England. The method, ~~he~~[^] as he relates it, is this:- The radio operator aboard a Spanish vessel makes contact with any ships of the United Nations that happen to be in his vicinity. He broadcasts a radio message and asks other nearby ships to relay them. The U-boats listen for those rebroadcasts and by use of a radio compass, they are able to find on their charts the location of our ships, then track them down, and sink them.

ORTIZ

A political crisis in Argentina, ~~and it seems~~ ^{— which may}
~~mean much~~ ^{mean much} ~~a good deal~~ ^{mean much} to us. The liberal, democratic-minded

President Roberto M. Ortiz, a good friend of the United States, has resigned. *Thereby dropping the* ~~that drops the~~ presidency into the lap of Vice-President Ramon Castillo, who for two years has been Acting President.

Two years ago, Ortiz, who had been ~~suffering~~^{ailing} for some time, retired from active duty as President because he was then partially blind, ~~among~~^{— along with} other infirmities. According to the Constitution of Argentina, that left Vice-President ~~Ramon~~ Castillo in the legal position of Acting President. ~~xxxxxx~~

~~sixthxxxxxxxxxx~~ Castillo's politics are the opposite
to those of
to Ortiz's. He has been ~~decidedly~~ cool to the
United States and ~~has shown himself~~ friendly to the
Axis. In fact, it is owing to him that Argentina has

not joined other South American countries in breaking off diplomatic relations with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy.

Castillo calls his policy one of prudent neutrality. He proclaimed a state of siege and by virtue of that forbade the newspapers to criticize the Axis or publish anything unfavorable to the Nazis or Fascists.

Rumors of the resignation of Ortiz have been current for some days. *They are throwing* ~~these things all~~ the liberals of Argentina into dismay. Ortiz has hung onto the presidency all this time although unable to function because he hoped to recover and take charge of the government once more. ~~But~~ Now, they say, he has

given up hope. (Prominent liberals in Buenos Aires have implored him to reconsider his decision *but in vain*.)

The son of President Ortiz delivered his *father's*

resignation to the President of the Senate late today. It is reported that Dr. Ortiz also wrote a letter to Castillo and a manifesto to the nation, explaining why he hung onto the presidency these two years in spite of his infirmity.

It is reported that the resignation of Ortiz will be considered a misfortune by the governments of all the United Nations.

MIDWAY

From Hawaii comes a belated story of one of the epic incidents of the Battle of Midway Island. In that battle was Captain Richard E. Fleming of St. Paul. He was at the controls of a dive bomber. Fleming fought through two attacks of the Japanese and then when a third attack came he was almost exhausted, and, he had been wounded. In the third go at the Japs he flew into battle with one arm bandaged. In this set-to Dick Fleming's plane was badly hit by anti-aircraft fire, riddled with bullets and in flames. Nevertheless, he dived his plane at a Jap warship and was within three hundred feet of her when he let go his load of bombs. With a thunderous explosion, the Jap rose out of the sea and then plunged. And young Fleming's plane, in flames, hit the waves nearby.

After the battle Captain Fleming was listed as missing in action. And the story was not told until Captain Dick Fleming's mother could be officially informed by the Navy that he was missing.

MIDWAY - 2

His feat was observed and the whole thing is now
in the official record.

DIES

The Dies Committee today made a formal accusation that there is an organized effort to undermine the confidence of the American public in its Congress. Chairman Dies himself is absent from Washington, and the report was made public by Congressman Joe Starnes of Alabama, ~~the~~ Acting *of the Dies Committee.* Chairman, The report uses these words:- "The spearhead of the attack upon Congress as an institution stems from a group of men who have had long training and experience in the ideology of Karl Marx."

The Committee report lists five magazines and two newspapers; ~~as engaged in the effort. The~~ ~~magazines named by the Dies Committee are Henry~~ ~~Luce's~~ "Time", the "New Republic", "Champion", "Soviet Russia Today" and "The New Masses." The newspapers it names are Marshall Field's "P.M."

and "The Daily Worker." The report goes on to say that it does not charge that Henry Luce himself, publisher of "Time", is a Marxist or ^{even} a conscious collaborator with the Marxist inspired movement to discredit Congress. ^{also} The Committee _^ lists twenty organizations which it describes as Communist Front affairs.

DEFERMENT

Men with families will not be mustered into the Army until there are no single men available.

Such *that*
~~That~~ is the law, President Roosevelt signed ~~the bill~~

today. *The bill*
~~As you have heard, it~~ also provides for

allowances to the dependents of men in the army.

A wife with no children gets fifty dollars a month;

with one child, sixty-two, with two children ~~seventy-two~~

seventy-two. Of these allowances, twenty-two dollars

will be deducted from the husband's check, the balance

will be paid out of Uncle Sam's exchequer.
~~by Uncle Sam~~

This is historic; the first time in the history of the United States Army that the law has taken cognizance of the need for preserving the and homes families of men in service.

WIDOW

One day last March at Toluca, Mexico occurred the death of Zarate Albarran, Governor of the State of Mexico. The police arrested thirty year old Fernando Ortiz Rubio, son of the former President of Mexico. They accused him of murdering ^{that} governor, and ^{they} threw him into jail at Toluca. Today that young man became the subject of an action by the Mexican Senate.

The reason, was a complaint that young Fernando Ortiz Rubio had in some way obtained his release from the calabozo. He not only got out of prison but ^{he} hired an orchestra. Then he broke into the home of the late governor whom he was accused of having murdered. There, with the orchestra he proceeded to serenade the widow. The Mexican Senate said tut-tut and voted to send a commission to Toluca *to investigate this unusual escapade;*
~~to see that justice is done.~~

~~That seems to recall Shakespeare's Richard~~
~~the Third.~~

GRASSHOPPERS

The hero of this yarn is a twenty-four years old flier from Columbia, South Carolina. Stationed at Port Darwin, he was chasing Japs out to sea. He ran out of fuel, had to come down on the seashore and then walk inland. Fortunately, he had the sense to cut up part of his parachute and leave it near his plane to point the direction he had taken.

"I had to keep moving all the time because the mosquitos gave me no peace," he says. "Overhead the sun was burning so hot that going was difficult. After a while I could walk only two or three hundred yards at a time. Then I would have to lie down and rest for half an hour."

When he got tired of eating grasshoppers he was lucky enough to find an owl that had got stuck in the mud. As he could not light a fire, he had to eat the owl raw. And a tough old owl was he.

For salad, the young pilot had lily roots,

which he found quite palatable. ^{Which} ~~That~~ isn't so
astonishing, when we consider that the lily is
generically an onion. *A lily is just an
onion gone wrong.*

Thanks to his foresight in leaving an
indication of ~~which~~ ^{the} direction he had taken, he was
found by a plane and food was ~~brought~~ ^{dropped} to him, by
parachute. *And water too,* ~~It was~~ just as he was down to his last
drop! ~~of water~~

SCRAP RUBBER

Secretary Ickes today made a report to the President on the drive to collect scrap rubber. The Eastern and Southern states have fallen down, says the Secretary. But the Western states have done well. It is curious, declares Ickes, that the most populous regions are those that have made the poorest record. Then he issued this warning. "This drive," he said, "is putting it up to the people. The extent to which they turn in their rubber will determine whether they will be able to run their cars or not." Then said Ickes:- "Unless we get all the rubber in voluntarily, we will have to get it some other way." The total collected in the first six days of the drive amounts to one hundred thousand, four hundred and thirty-eight tons.

At Greenwich, Connecticut, a group of youngsters found what amounted to a rubber mine.

Twelve of them from the Greenwich Boys Club were fishing in the harbor. The other day at low tide, they noticed rubber sticking up in the mud. They started digging and inside of three days had three-fourths of a ton of old tires as well as old fire hose that the Fire Department had thrown there in Nineteen Thirty.

8 1/2 A man at Atlanta, Georgia, actually tore up his home to help the rubber drive. He is Agnew Field, a veteran of the first World War. His home, it so happened, was made largely of rubber. He built it in the days when used tires were cheap. Staircases were made of old tires, even flower beds and fences. He dismantled his home and his yard and came to town with somewhere between eight and ten tons of rubber, at least a thousand used automobile tires.

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