

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

And here's something about the way we have been fighting
Tonight we can all breathe more easily,
for
~~Because~~ at last we know the truth about Hawaii. The

frank ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ statement by Secretary Knox tells us much that is grim, tragic, shocking. But it also can't help but arouse a feeling of relief, ~~For~~ the truth though bad enough, is not as bad as the frantic rumors that were set afloat by doubt, or ^{as} the exaggerated, ~~fantastic~~ claims published by the Imperial Japanese Admiralty.

It turns out that our loss in battleships is less than two. Though both the OKLAHOMA and the ARIZONA lie at the bottom of Pearl Harbor, the OKLAHOMA, which capsized, can be ~~quickly~~ ^{easily} and readily salvaged. We also *as you no doubt* [↑] have heard, lost three destroyers, and, a mine layer which once had

been a passenger steamer on the ^{old} Fall River Line.

^{So} ~~And~~ that list, unhappy as it is, is ^{something} ~~obviously~~ less ~~grave~~ than the rumors and the enemy claims.

The most sorrowful ~~fact~~ ^{word that} ~~the pale and tired~~ ~~Secretary had to make known~~ ^{is} was the terrific death roll. The Navy alone ~~lost~~ ^{losing} two thousand, seven hundred and twenty-nine officers and men, ~~killed~~ ^{plus} six hundred and seventy-six wounded. ~~That's a~~ ^{And truly} terrific casualty list. ~~This was due in large part~~ ~~in any man's battle.~~ ~~It was due partly~~ to the fact

that the ARIZONA was destroyed by a direct bomb hit which fell ^{literally} down ^{her} the smokestack, burst ^{ing} the boiler, and, immediately afterwards, the forward magazine.

The Army at Hawaii also sustained severe losses in aircraft and the destruction of some hangars. But the report adds that replacements are either on the spot already or on the way.

Still another large navy ship was destroyed,

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the former battleship UTAH. Maybe that fact is responsible for the extravagance of the Japanese claims. The UTAH was dismantled by the Treaty of London after the last war, and has been used only as a target ship or a training vessel.

The Secretary adds that other vessels were damaged, but some of them have already been repaired and have either gone to sea or are ready for sea.

~~A few ships,~~ ^{that} He says further, it will take a month ^{or} ~~to~~ ^{so to repair several other ships} ~~several months to repair.~~ ^{including the to-be-salvaged} ~~In the last category, he adds,~~ ~~is the~~ OKLAHOMA.

Then here's a reassuring sentence: "The entire balance of the Pacific fleet, with its aircraft carriers, its heavy cruisers, its light cruisers, its destroyers and submarines, are uninjured and are all at sea seeking contact with the enemy."

^{admirable}
The ~~astonishing~~ candor of the Secretary's

report gives us the assurance that in this war our government does not intend to keep us in the dark, doesn't intend to buoy us up with spurious hopes. ~~It~~

is clear
That ~~is shown~~ particularly in the following lines, where he says, "We are all entitled to know whether (a) there was any error of judgment, or (b) any dereliction

of duty." He answers those questions with the words,

"The United States services were ~~not~~ ^{on the} ~~not~~ alert

against the surprise air attack on Hawaii." And he ^{continues:} ~~adds:~~

"This fact calls for a formal investigation which will be initiated immediately by the President." To which

he adds, "My investigation made clear that after the

attack our defense by both services was conducted

skillfully and bravely." ^{TF} Then follows a paragraph

the throat of
which ought to bring a lump to any American. "In the

~~XXXX~~ Navy's gravest hour of peril, the officers and

men of the fleet exhibited magnificent courage and

resourcefulness. The real story of Pearl Harbor," he says, ~~further,~~ "is not one of individual heroism, although there were many such cases. It lies rather in the splendid manner in which all hands did their jobs as long as they were able, not only under fire but while fighting the flames afterwards and immediately starting salvage work and reorganization."

The dying captain of a battleship, says Knox, displayed the outstanding and individual heroism of the day. As he emerged from the conning tower to the bridge, he was ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ laid completely open by a shrapnel burst. He fell to the deck. Refusing to be carried to safety, he continued to direct the action. When the bridge became a blazing inferno, two officers attempted to remove him. But he ordered them to abandon him and save themselves. *They then* ~~The latter~~ found themselves blocked by the flames, and only the *gallant* ~~heroic~~ efforts of ~~the~~

a third officer enabled them to escape. He climbed through the fire to a higher level from which he passed one line to an adjoining battleship, and another to his trapped shipmates. By this frail means they made their way to safety.

Elsewhere, the statement by Knox reports that entire ships' companies ^{exhibited} ~~showed~~ exemplary valor and coordination. ^R Drama was crowded into a few seconds aboard an aircraft tender, the target of the enemy's fiercest bombing. She was already afire from high altitude attacks, but her anti-aircraft batteries shot down a plane which crashed in flames on the deck. At this moment, the captain observed the shadow of an enemy two-man submarine approaching within a few yards. The aircraft tender fired on the submarine and exposed her conning tower. At that instant, a destroyer ^{which} stood

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down the channel passed directly over the submarine and sank it with depth charges. The tender ^ethan shot down a second plane which fell on land nearby.

In one case, the Secretary says, a single bluejacket manned a five-inch anti-aircraft gun after his ten battery mates had been shot down. He served as the entire crew of that gun, loading, pointing and firing ^(by himself.) ^{such desperate} After three rounds, a terrific explosion blew him over the side of the battleship, but he was rescued.

There seem to be enough of these rousing bits of drama in the Secretary's report to fill half a dozen broadcasts. But now we have to go on to a most important point brought out by a reporter's question at the Secretary's press conference. Was there any fifth column activity in Hawaii? ^{To this see,} ~~And~~ Knox replied, ^{Yes,}

"It was the most effective fifth column work that has

come out of this war except in Norway. The Japanese, he said, have absolutely perfect information concerning the military establishments at Hawaii.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

He then took occasion to contradict another ~~base~~ rumor. The charge that our ships took an intolerably long time to get steam up and get out of the way, was not true, he said. The Japanese, he then told us, lost three submarines and forty-one aircraft.

One of the submarines ^{being} ~~was~~ a two-man affair. Outside of

that, the enemy used no new type of weapon. But the fact that submarines were on the spot is more than ever proof of the long time over which they were preparing the attack. Obviously, they ^{set forth} ~~started on their~~ ~~cruise of treachery~~ either as soon as or even before Special Envoy Kurusu left Tokyo for Washington. The essential fact, says the Secretary, is that the

Japanese purpose was to knock out the United States before the war began. In this purpose, they failed.

~~And there is the gist of the most awe-inspiring~~

~~report ever made by a Cabinet Minister in these~~

~~United States~~

For Less than four minutes after the first alarm,

guns of the fleet went into action against enemy ~~aircraft~~

aircraft. ~~Seconds~~ Seconds later the first Japanese

plane was shot down. I can't resist telling ~~you~~

one more gallant story that the Secretary relates.

Its hero ~~is~~ ^a a blue-jacket, ~~recruit~~ recruit. "Even before

General Quarters sounded," ^{Sec.} said Knox, "this youngster

single-handedly manned a machine gun and blasted away

at an attacking torpedo plane as it ~~levelled~~ levelled

against his ship."

Just about

Such is the gist of ^{the} the most awe-inspiring

report ever made by a Cabinet minister of the United States.

GENERALS

The air force of Uncle Sam's Army is now commanded by a Lieutenant-General. That doesn't mean any reshuffling of the high command. It means that President Roosevelt has nominated Major General ^{"Hap"} Arnold to be a Lieutenant-General. The dispatch from Washington adds that this is important, a sign of the increased value now attached to the Air Arm.

Another promotion reported today is that of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt to be a Brigadier-General for the duration of this war. He is now in command of the Twenty-Sixth Infantry of the First Division, the same regiment with which he served in the last war.

WAR

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From Manila we hear tonight that the armed forces of Uncle Sam have taken the initiative, struck back against Japan in the Philippines, possibly even in the waters around Japan itself. General MacArthur's armies have cooped up the Japanese invaders of Luzon into three small areas. There, the Americans are blasting away not only at the Japanese on the island, but at the reinforcements that are coming up by sea.

In Malaya, the British are having a tough time, but they are holding their own. Advices from Singapore indicate that the Japanese had started a determined blitz clear down the peninsula. But so far they've been ~~held~~ ^{fought} back. The worst Japanese attack was

concentrated on the British Imperial forces at Kedah, in the northwest, near the Siamese border. The high command at Singapore admits that the Imperial Army retreated from Kedah, but are holding a strong line

across the Isthmus and have broken the force of the Japanese blitz.

There was excitement in the Mediterranean. British submarines dashed into the harbor of Candia, held by the Nazis on the northern shore of Crete. There they sank two ships, making five and six of vessels destroyed in the supply line of the Axis in the Mediterranean.

HITLER

One question being asked on all sides is:-

What will Hitler do next? There still is nothing to indicate whether he will attack in the Middle East, in the Mediterranean, or, the British Isles.

According to all the Soviet information channels, the Nazi Fuehrer still has his hands full in Russia. The Reds are pouring forth accounts of what they call the annihilation of the Nazis. A whole generation of Germans killed in the rout, says the Soviets. How true these glowing Russian reports are we just don't know. It would help a lot if Stalin would allow us to have some observers over there.

The Germans, for their part, haven't much to say except that their heavy guns are still battering away at Leningrad in the north and Sevastopol, the great Crimean fortress, in the south.

The Soviet spokesmen vow that they're not

going to let Hitler take it easy on the eastern front.

No comfortable hibernating in winter quarters, declares

Maxim Litvinov, the Soviet Ambassador to Washington.

ADD HITLER

The latest from Moscow is more illuminating.

In this the Soviet spokesmen make the definite claim that the Red Army has recaptured Klin, fifty-one miles northwest of Moscow. ~~Northwest - that has meaning.~~

Furthermore, the ^{Soviet} spokesmen declare that all the way from Leningrad to the Sea of Azov, Germans are being slaughtered, and ^{that} five hundred and seventy-seven more towns have been recaptured from the Nazis from the Reds.

PROPAGANDA

Here's a new wrinkle that the British have devised for propaganda aimed at the enemy. Broadcasts beamed on Germany begin with seven large measured ticks of a clock. Then a voice is heard saying in German, "Every seven seconds a German dies in Russia." Then the voice asks: "Is it your husband? Is it your son or your brother?"

NORWAY

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The Nazis have been trying to raise a Norwegian legion for service on the Eastern front. The job of recruiting it was given to Major ~~Vidkun~~ Quisling of unsavory fame, and evidently he didn't get to first base. At any rate, the job was taken away from him,

So says
~~that's according to~~ a Stockholm story. ~~And~~ a report was overheard from the British radio, that the Nazis are in such need of troops that they've had to ask Rumania for more divisions. ~~In fact, said~~ London ^{*says that*} the German Commander-in-Chief, Field Marshal von Brauchitsch, has ^S gone to Bucharest to ask for five more Rumanian divisions. [^]

HULL

We are not going to break with France.

Secretary of State Hull, said today that he knows of no plans for recalling Ambassador Admiral Leahy.

Reporters asked him to throw a little light on the somewhat cloudy situation of the Petain Government, and the pressure that has been brought to bear on it by the Axis countries. The Secretary replied in characteristically diplomatic verbiage. "Our Government," he suggested, "continues to hope that the free insitutions and liberties and the independence the people of France have enjoyed in the past may be preserved for the full enjoyment of French peoples everywhere in the future." And then he added that he firmly believed that they will know now, as ~~xxxx~~ they have in the past, how to meet theix present situation.

Vichy, by the way, has instructed its Ambassador at Washington to protest the removal of French crews from the NORMANDIE and other French vessels in our harbors.

Attacks on Germans in France are reported again. For one, a dynamite artichoke was thrown into a restaurant packed with dining Nazi officers. A French answer to the stern Nazi reprisals.

SABOTAGE

Death for sabotage -- according to a bill passed by the House today. Not all kinds of sabotage. But death for any sabotage that puts anybody in danger of serious injury.

The death sentence not to be mandatory: but up to the federal jury trying the case, if the offense has resulted in the death or serious injury of anybody or placed anybody in grave danger.

And the bill was passed in short order, with only Miss Jeannette Rankin of Montana trying to block it. The bill is now up to the Senate.

ISOLATIONISTS

Here's an interesting appeal for the solidarity of all the Republics in the Western Hemisphere. And who makes that appeal? Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, the Number One isolationist, and Senator George Norris of Nebraska.

Wheeler points out that if we should lose the fight here in North America, South America would be dominated by the Japanese and by Hitler. To this Senator Norris adds that the world has never been confronted with such a catastrophe as at present and he thinks there will be a united front of all the Western nations -- north and south.

CONDOR

The Condor Airlines in South America, controlled and operated by the Nazis, have gone out of business. Condor was quite a system, air lines shuttling back and forth for over eight thousand, eight hundred miles, over Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay. Nor has it been put out of commission by any political or government acts. A subsidiary of an American Oil Company simply refused to supply Condor with gasoline - whereupon Condor was forced to close down.

FOOTBALL

Football news which is also war news.

There'll be no Rose Bowl Game at Pasadena. By request of the Army. So, the annuel event which was to have been played at Pasadena between Oregon State and Duke University will be transferred to Durham, North Carolina - home of the doughty Dukes.