

L.T. - SUNOCO. THURSDAY, SEPT. 2, 1943.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight we begin with a strictly American piece of war news. The Japanese have evacuated the island of Santa Isabel in the Solomons. ~~It is the~~ ^{island} ~~Second~~ largest in that archipelago. Santa Isabel is six ty-seven miles east of New Georgia, across the body of water called "Solomons Slot." The enemy had a big seaplane base and naval stronghold there, and so long as they had it, they offered a serious threat to our forces in the Solomons.

This news does not come to us from ^{headquarters} ~~United States~~ in the S.W. Pacific, so it's ~~Pacific headquarters, and it is~~ not strictly official as

But)
yet. (It is highly plausible because American planes which conducted a raid on Santa Isabel last Monday

met with no opposition either from the air or from the ground. All previous raiders had to ^{fly} ~~pass~~ through heavy anti-aircraft fire, ~~enemy batteries~~. Furthermore, it was the only sensible thing for the Japs to do, since the capture of New Georgia, and, the ~~United~~ American troops on Vella Lavella had outflanked them completely.

^{From the Solomons}
The news [^] comes to us in a roundabout way. The

United Press overheard it in a broadcast from London.

London overheard it in a broadcast from Australia.

The authority for the information is ^a ~~the~~ reporter ^{for} the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

The Japs gave up Santa Isabel without a fight, but it was previous American conquests which compelled them to leave. Santa Isabel is about the size of Long Island, a hundred and forty-five miles long and eighteen miles wide. With our troops there, we ^{now} have a complete net around the Jap garrison on Kolombangara, which was

already hemmed in by American forces on the northwest and south. The possession of Santa Isabel furthermore enables our forces there to operate a pincers against Choiseul Island, to the north of Santa Isabel.

At the other end of the southwest Pacific line, the tide of war is also running our way. The Japs at Salamaua are now completely deprived of protection from the air. Australian and American troops on New Guinea not only have superiority but they have absolute control of the air. American troops have advanced three-quarters of a mile closer to the ridges that surround Salamaua, and Australian troops have crossed the Francisco River near the western side of the airdrome. The Aussies have reached a point only two miles from the coast.

ZEROS FOLLOW LEAD

In a raid on Kahili airfield, a number of American flyers were parachuting to earth after their planes had been put out of control by enemy fire.

As they were coming to the ground, a group of seven Jap Zeros came after them and tried to pop them in the air. ^{Which} ~~This~~ is considered highly unsportsmanlike by American pilots.

The crew of a ~~United States~~ Liberator bomber saw the plight of their comrades, ^{and} Lieutenant Homer Faucett of Bloomington, Indiana, ~~was~~ in command of ^{the} ~~that~~ bomber, ~~and~~ put the problem up to his men:- "Shall we go and save our pals or shall we stick with our formation?" ~~He asked them.~~

Every man in the crew voted for saving their pals. ^{So} Lieutenant Home Faucett turned his plane around and went after the Jap Zeros. There followed a running battle ^{that} ~~which~~ lasted for thirty minutes. One gunner,

a staff sergeant, bagged two Japanese planes and five others of the crew got one apiece.

They said afterwards that Faucett had flown that big four-motored plane ^{as deftly as} ~~as~~ though it were a pursuit ship. At one point he dived to within a few feet of the sea so as to keep the Japs from getting underneath him. Altogether, they bagged everyone of the seven Zeros.

Sports fans may recall that Lieutenant Homer Faucett is the Homer Faucett of Indiana who was national amateur wrestling champion in Nineteen Forty-One.

MARCUS ISLAND

From Tokyo we have further details about

our Navy
~~the United States~~ task force that attacked Marcus Island in
the Far-Pacific.

The Jap radio declared that the force consisted of two

aircraft carriers carrying a hundred and sixty planes. *And*

They claim to have shot ~~z~~ down twelve of those planes.

It's
~~is~~ curious ~~that~~ they make no mention of cruisers or

destroyers, without which no aircraft carriers are sent

Yesterday they spoke of battleships, but not today
~~out~~ on such a mission. *If they did shoot down twelve of*

our planes, that would be less than eight per cent of

the attackers. In airplane operations based on land,

ten per cent is considered *a fairly usual* ~~usual~~ percentage of losses.

In operations based on carriers, a much higher percentage

of losses is *generally* ~~usually~~ expected.

RUSSIA

In Russia, the Red armies are rolling on and on. In the Donets basin they have broken through the German lines and captured eleven more key towns. Not just one, but eleven; all of them important. They also advanced near Smolensk, west and southwest of Kharkov, as well as along the shores of the Sea of Azov. The Nazis offer the usual explanation, that the German front is being methodically shortened. The fact is that the German armies are retreating all along the line.

In the direction of Smolensk, the Soviet forces went forward from 4 to 10 miles and occupied more than a hundred inhabited places. There were heavy Nazi counter-attacks west of Kharkov, but the Red armies hurled them back and then pushed on.

But the victory of which the Russians are the proudest

today

is the capture of Sumy, eighty-seven miles southwest of Kharkov, ~~It was~~ an important point in the middle of the Ukraine, ~~and~~ where the Germans had created a great stronghold. Josef Stalin, as Marshal of the Soviet Union, ~~made~~ *today makes* a special announcement of that capture.

The Red armies are now driving on Stalino, which ~~xxxxxxx~~ in size is the twelfth city of Russia, and is the center of rich coal and iron fields. They took several cities around and about Stalino, and are gradually getting it encircled. ~~xxxxxx~~

On the Ukrainian front, they took not only Sumy and several other cities but a place called *Krol-yé-vets* Krolovets, only twenty-three miles away from the center of communications in that area. By this capture they have cleaned the Germans entirely out of the administrative district of Kursk.

, The Soviet armies are also advancing along the

coast of the Sea of Azov, where there is no railroad.

They captured a place called Budenovka, and are coming closer and closer to Marioupol, the next most important ~~town~~ ^{city} on the way to the Crimea.

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It seems ~~not~~ ^{not} so long ago that we were talking about the German steamroller. The German armies are now finding out what it is like to have one rolling over them.

AIR WAR

Allied bomber planes with fighter escort carried out another strategic blow at the Nazi military establishment. The Germans have made the canals of Holland an important part of their system of defense. They have used those inland waterways to carry troops and supplies to their fort^{ifications} along the coast. It was those water communications that the R.A.F. and ~~the United States air force~~ ^{our fliers} attacked today. They destroyed three locks at the end of the biggest canal in the Netherlands, and generally smashed up the Dutch inland waterways.

As to casualties, we hear that after Tuesday night's raid on Berlin, a quarter of a million people fled from Hitler's capital. ^{and} The damage from that raid was considerably worse than from the attack on August Twenty-Third.

Berlin is blazing, and a Swedish newspaper

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- reports that refugees are crowding the railroad stations and jamming all the roads. Tuesday's raid killed five thousand Berliners, and the Nazi authorities had to dynamite entire blocks of buildings to arrest the progress of the fires. These were so bad that they had to rush the fire brigades from Dr̄sden, Leipsig, Frankfurt and other cities.

Another dispatch reports that Vienna is being evacuated.

SWEDEN

There has been a good deal of speculation as to whether the top-ranking Nazis would flee to Sweden when Germany collapses. It now seems that the idea arouses ^{less than} enthusiasm among the Swedish people.

An influential Stockholm magazine has declared that the Swedish nation's conception of justice would be offended if the country were allowed to become a refuge for the Nazi war criminals. Swedes abide by the principle of asylum, says this magazine, but they also abide by international law and criminal law. ^{Then it adds:—} "If an attempt on the life of the head of a state is abominable, an attempt on the life of an entire nation, its systematic enslavement, torture and extermination are even more abominable and criminal deeds!" ^{So say} the Swedes.

BORIS

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The latest story about the assassination of King Boris of Bulgaria comes to us from Turkey tonight. Boris had been summoned to Hitler's headquarters, so the story runs. Hitler reproached him because no Bulgarians were fighting on the Russian front. Therefore, said Hitler, Bulgaria must take over the occupation of Greece in place of the Italian divisions that were being withdrawn.

The Bulgarian king took the bit in his teeth and refused. He had gained that much courage because he had received private information that the German military situation was highly unfavorable. Thereupon the Nazis decided it was time to liquidate him and put somebody in his place who could be more easily controlled.

Boris was arrested when he climbed out of his plane at the airport in Sofia. The man who arrested him

was his Minister of the Interior, a strong pro-Nazi.

But the Nazis decided they did not want to act so

quickly, so they intervened. Boris had subsequently

received further information about the weakness of

the Axis. He is reported to have told one of his

Ministers that if Italy asked for an armistice, he

himself would sue for peace twenty-four hours later.

Thereupon the Nazis had him murdered not by Germans

but by pro-Nazi Bulgarians.

CIANO

Since the fall of Mussolini, an Italian Royal Commission has been investigating the finances of former Fascist officials. Of course, it has been widely published that all of them, without exception, had *been ing — and had* grafted ~~unmercifully, and almost all of them had~~ become exceedingly rich.

The latest to be investigated is Count Ciano, Mussolini's Foreign Minister and son-in-law. In fact, the Commission even investigated Edda, Mussolini's daughter. Part of that report was made public today, ~~It was made public~~ not by Allied propaganda but by *South official* Radio Rome. The Royal Commission has ordered the seizure of the fortune of Count Galeazzo Ciano, as well as that of his wife. A large part of the immense fortune already has been seized, ~~That consists of~~ stocks, *and so on.* bonds, jewels, cash. But the Cianos, both he and Edda, invested their ill-gotten riches all over Italy, and there still is a lot of investigating to do.

McCLOY

The total casualties of the United States forces in Sicily were about seventy-five hundred killed, wounded and missing. This we learn from the Acting Secretary of War, John J. McCloy. American troops took about a hundred and twenty-one thousand prisoners, nearly all of them Italian.

McCloy also gave out the information that the Allied armies in Sicily are now resting and reorganizing. ~~They are~~ getting ready to deliver new blows at the Axis, which may carry them into the fortress of Europe.

MEDALS

General
Major Jimmy Doolittle has won another medal.

Only fifteen months ago, after the raid on Tokyo, President Roosevelt tied around his neck the Congressional Medal of Honor. Over in the Mediterranean, his title is "Commanding General of the Northwest African Strategic Air Corps." And we learn today that for his work there he has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. The citation reads that his "energy, good judgment, exceptional qualities of leadership, and whole-hearted cooperation were primary factors in the ultimate success of air operations in the Tunisian campaign."

Major General Lewis H. Brereton, of the Air Force, also received the same medal for "meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights between April Second, Nineteen Forty-Two and July Eleventh, Nineteen Forty-Three."

Major General Ira C. Eaker, Commanding General

of the United States Army Eighth Air Force was awarded the Legion of Merit because ~~for~~ his "work in organization, staff planning and cooperation" mark him as an officer of unusual zeal, energy and executive ability." *That's the way it reads.*

And Brigadier General Uzal G. Ent, Commanding General of the Ninth Bomber Command of the ^{U.S.} ~~United States Army~~ Army Ninth Air Force, gets an Oak Leaf Cluster ~~to add~~ to the Distinguished Service Medal he already had.

~~This he wins because "He has most successfully launched the unit under his command in destructive blows against vital Axis targets located in Sicily, Greece and Rumania"~~ The citation goes on to mention specifically

^{for} his success in the devastating, low level attacks

[^] *Rumanian* against the [^] oil refineries, at Ploesti, on August First.

MEAT FOLLOW POINTS

While the O.P.A. was trying to appease the consumers of meat ^{today,} the leaders of the livestock industry were uttering sharp criticisms. Fifteen hundred of them held a meeting at Kansas City, Missouri, with a dozen Congressmen present.

The President of the American National Livestock Association declared that the attempt of Washington to control meat by rigid price ceilings must be called a failure. Washington, he added, sometimes recognizes a failure but never admits it. He went on to say that ^{when a plan fails} the Washington idea ~~was a plan~~ ~~is~~ is to pile on more controls, one layer on top of another; ^{ing} each level of control adds more to the general confusion. So said the President of the National Livestock Association.

FOOTBALL

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Here is one for the football fans. The Army-Navy Game will be played as usual this coming fall. It has not yet been decided where, except that it will not be at West Point because of transportation difficulties. Senator Meade of New York suggested that it be played in the stadium of some large eastern city. West Point, says the War Department, will play a full football schedule. *And s-l-u-t-m.*

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