

L.T. - SUNOCO. TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1942.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Let's begin with some news from Wall Street, the New York Stock Market. A mere financial item may not seem so exciting in these times of worldwide war. But I want to cite a ~~couple of~~ Wall Street quotations as hard boiled evidence pertaining to the Number One news event of the day. <sup>TP</sup> In the New York Stock Market there was a sharp rise today in the price of Australian bonds! The securities of the Land Down Under had been sagging, as the threat of Japanese invasion ~~has increased~~ increased. Today, that downward trend was reversed in sharply dramatic fashion. The price of Australian bonds jumped by as much as forty dollars per thousand dollars. And everybody knows the reason why.

I cite this as an expression of <sup>coldly calculating</sup> ~~cold-blooded~~  
financial opinion - to accompany the enthusias<sup>m</sup> that  
has greeted the assumption of the southwestern war  
command by General Douglas MacArthur, <sup>who</sup> tonight <sup>is</sup> ~~here~~ in  
Australia, taking charge of the defense of ~~Australia~~ <sup>that continent.</sup>  
<sup>Yes, today,</sup> ~~with~~ a chorus of worldwide acclaim and <sup>up go</sup> ~~a boost~~ for  
Australian bonds.

It isn't difficult to understand this -  
considering the personality of the man and <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ situation  
in the war. Douglas MacArthur stands as a personality  
(bouyant with the gifts of talent, good fortune and  
success. He was lucky in the circumstance of birth -  
the most favorable sort of origin for an army career.  
His father <sup>being</sup> ~~was~~ the youngest of the Civil War generals  
<sup>to</sup> ~~that~~ stay~~ed~~ in the army. The father's military career  
was brilliant, and the son carried it right on in  
scintillating fashion. That he should be admitted to

A West Point was a foregone conclusion, and at the military academy young Douglas MacArthur was a glittering student. He followed that with a phenomenal rise in the service. In the World War he was the youngest general officer) and distinguished himself. In the years that followed, he became the youngest chief-of-staff that the Army every had.

Afterward, he went to the Philippines and organized (the army of the Philippine Republic. That put him in the place that was destined to become a dramatic theatre of approaching war - and Lieutenant-General MacArthur was the kind of officer to make a masterful study of campaigning <sup>in</sup> the Philippines. So he was superbly qualified for the job when it came.

B A tough job - for everybody knew that the sprawling islands could not be defended against the power of Japan.

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MacArthur ~~was~~ assailed by a hugely outnumbered enemy, ~~and~~ did the brilliant thing - fighting a delaying battle and pulling his tiny army into the Batan peninsula. Since then, two names have fired the courage of the United Nations amid their heavy reverses. And those two names are - Batan and MacArthur.)

Tonight's dispatch of applause from Australia gives us the reminder that MacArthur is the only successful general the Allies have produced. And that judgment is ~~xxx~~ sharpened by the bad luck of the previous commanders in the southwest Pacific. The supreme direction was first vested in British General Sir Archibald Wavell. He had been a successful British commander - ~~xxxxxxx~~ defeating the Italians in north Africa. But the panzer units of the Nazis had tarnished that - followed by British disasters in Greece and Crete. As head of the

unified command against the Japs, Wavell did not last long - not with the British calamities of Malaya and

Singapore. The chief Allied ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ <sup>naval</sup> command was

~~passed on to~~ <sup>invested in our own</sup> Admiral Hart, but he was soon removed, <sup>to</sup> ~~he~~

~~he~~ succeeded by Dutch Admiral Helfrich, who retired

after the destruction of the United Nations fleet in

the Battle of Java. Military reputations out there

were sagging - all save MacArthur's, which ~~was~~ <sup>grew</sup>

constantly ~~growing~~ brighter.

True, the Philippine Islands were lost for the most part - but the long and successful defense of Batan has been a triumph. This has been vividly dramatized by the story of the suicide of the Japanese commander, General Homma - who committed hari kari in

the ceremonial Japanese way. ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> did it because of the

way MacArthur's men threw back his forces in the Batan

fighting. Tonight we have a confirmation of this story

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given by a Chilean journalist, who has just come out of Japan. He states that General Homma did indeed commit hari kari, and the dispatch gives the reason in these words - "because he failed to accomplish a quiet and total conquest of the Philippines."

( In consequence of all this, there have been insistent calls that MacArthur be placed in the high command. It was known, of course, that he would be reluctant to leave his little army in the Batan peninsula, <sup>and</sup> go to Australia to take charge. But, <sup>then</sup> ~~of~~ <sub>^</sub> ~~course,~~ he'd have to obey an order issued by his Commander-in-Chief, the President of the United States.

And it is revealed today that the President ordered MacArthur to Australia last month, February Twenty-Second. Even so, the General sought and gained a delay - so that he could complete his arrangements for the continuing

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defense of Batan. Then finally he obeyed the order,  
arriving in Australia today. <sup>TR</sup> The trip must have been

a thriller, <sup>with heart and</sup> ~~By~~ air. It's two thousand miles from  
Batan to Australia, - and no possible landing places

C ~~in between.~~ On this huge flight, <sup>General MacArthur</sup>  
was accompanied by several of his chief lieutenants and  
by his wife and son - a tiny lad of four. Mrs.  
MacArthur and the little boy had been sheltered at the  
fortress of Corregidor - that stronghold under long and  
heavy attack.)

MacArthur still remains in command of Batan. <sup>For</sup>

<sup>now</sup>  
His military scope <sup>^</sup> includes all of the Allied forces  
in the southwest Pacific - our troops in the Philippines  
included. The Batan Commander on the scene is General  
Wainwright, who has been MacArthur's right-hand man.

He's a hard fighter and a veteran of the Philippines.

<sup>TR</sup> Oddly enough, General Wainwright nearly gave ~~xx~~ away

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the secret last night. The departure of MacArthur was being kept in dark concealment, when a puzzling message was received at West Point. The Military Academy is celebrating its Hundred and Fortieth Birthday. There was a bit of ceremony last night, and ~~xxx~~ messages were received from various West Point graduates. One of these was from the Batan peninsula, and conveyed greetings

from West Pointers <sup>out</sup> there to their old Alma Mater <sup>on the Hudson.</sup> It

<sup>It</sup> was the signature appended to the message that

astonished the Military Academy - signed "Wainwright."

How come? It should have been signed by the Commander -

52 <sup>Oh, at West Point little did they</sup> MacA<sup>th</sup>thur. ~~They didn't~~ know that he was on his way to

Australia.

The appointment of the new <sup>Pacific</sup> war chief <sup>in the war</sup> against

Japan is accompanied ~~by~~ by other military developments

<sup>out there.</sup> ~~in the southwestern Pacific.~~ Simultaneously, we get

the revelation that considerable American <sup>armed</sup> military forces



have arrived in the Land Down Under. Their transport across the great spaces of ocean was a military secret, but now we are told that they are on the scene for the defense of Australia. So the new Commander, General MacArthur, takes charge of an Australian army reinforced by his own countrymen. All of which promises a warm reception for any Japanese invasion of the great southern continent that stands as the last stronghold for the United Nations in the southwestern Pacific.

FOLLOW MAC ARTHUR

Here's the latest from Batan. The Japs  
today ~~lost~~ <sup>launched</sup> a sudden raid against the American-Philippine  
lines. It was the first attack since March Eighth,  
nine days ago. Maybe they were trying to take advantage  
of the departure of MacArthur. If so, it didn't work.  
Tonight's late bulletin from the War Department announces  
that the ~~Jap~~ <sup>enemy</sup> attack was easily repelled. So I suppose  
tonight the Japs are saying -- the dickens, if it isn't  
MacArthur it's Wainright.

## EUROPE

In Europe two theatres of war are mentioned in the news today. One -- the Island of Rhodes. The British have staged a big scale surprise raid against Rhodes, and the attack was made not only by air forces but also by naval units. Sea bombardment plus sky bombing. Rhodes is an Italian owned Island so near the coast of Asia Minor that it would be a key point for any Axis attack on Turkey. And London gives us the comment that the British assault was made to check preparations for a push against the mainland. ~~Th~~

The other sector of action is Russia -- the Ukraine in particular. Moscow states that the Red Army smashed a big hole in the German line, which was followed by Nazi counter attacks -- the Germans throwing reserves into the battle and launching assaults with tanks.

*conflict there*  
The ~~battle~~ is still continuing.  
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ULSTER

Saint Patrick's Day had its customary  
jubilant celebration -- ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> the marching of the Irish.  
From various parts of the world come account<sup>s</sup> of the  
traditional Saint Patrick's Day Parade. There's one  
area, however that gives us news not altogether in  
harmony with the wearing of the green. It's a section  
a good deal in the news nowadays, because of the presence  
of American troops <sup>^</sup> Ulster -- where many prefer orange  
to <sup>the</sup> green. <sup>^</sup> In Ulster, Saint Patrick's Day was ushered in  
by police raids -- with seizures and arrests. The raids  
were made against Nationalists who support the Union  
of Ulster with the rest of Ireland. Many homes were  
searched -- and not all of them were Catholic homes.  
We are told that hundreds of Protestants were raided --  
including some Presbyterian Ministers. <sup>Yes,</sup> <sup>^</sup> they are  
supporters of a policy of greater harmony with the rest  
of Ireland.

# SHIPS

Uruguay joins the South American nations that are up in arms because of Nazi ship sinkings.

At Montivedeo today guards were placed around Axis owned establishments to ~~guard~~ <sup>protect</sup> them from riots. The Uruguayans

are angry because of the ~~U-boat~~ torpedoing of one of <sup>their</sup> ~~the~~ merchant vessels. And Chile is stirred by the

sinking of <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ Chilean freighter -- with less of life.

The United States Navy announces the sinking of another ship off our coast. And from the Bahamas there's word of a torpedoing. ~~The~~ Canadian story tells how a U-boat followed a ship for three days attacking it repeatedly -- before a torpedo finally sank the vessel. <sup>TP</sup> And, an American naval Ensign relates a story

of the possible destruction of a U-boat. He was in charge of a gun crew aboard a torpedoed freighter.

Although the ship was sinking, they stood ready with their gun. The submarine appeared, and was bold enough to send up a flare. <sup>so the gun</sup> ~~They began~~ open fire and nothing

more was seen of the sub.

LOTTERY

A figure has just flashed from Washington.

~~It is~~ - Three thousand four hundred and eighty-five.

That was the first number drawn in the national draft

lottery tonight. <sup>R</sup> Once again they ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> holding a lottery

for selective service, and right now the drawing is

going on busily - after the pulling of that first

number, Thirty-four Eighty-five.

LABOR

President Roosevelt had a conference today with leaders of the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. We are told that the White House is opposed to any hurry-up enactment of labor legislation by Congress. The President admitted that some sort of legislation to regulate labor might be needed in the long run, but he thinks it isn't required right now. Thus the White House stands in opposition to the drive in Congress for a quick move to suspend the forty-hour week and overtime pay, outlaw the closed shop and ban strikes.

~~After today's conference with A.F. of L. and~~  
~~the C.I.O. leaders,~~ <sup>TP</sup> The President <sup>is in,</sup> ~~was represented as~~  
~~being in~~ favor of retaining the forty-hour week.

He says there's a false public impression about this -  
the notion that employees are not permitted to work

{ more than forty hours a week. It's not that at all -  
they merely get overtime for more than forty hours, —  
time and a half. The President said that this has been  
the standard practice for years.) However, he does not  
agree with ~~the~~ labor leaders about ~~the~~ payment of  
double time for work done on Sunday.

The President <sup>today gave</sup> ~~gives us~~ the opinion that too  
much emphasis is being placed on strikes. ~~this~~ <sup>Creates</sup>  
a false belief by the public - <sup>makes</sup> us think that  
labor conditions are worse than they are. The President  
spoke of small scattered strikes, unauthorized  
walkouts, and added that these are being over-played.  
~~They get~~ <sup>Too</sup> much emphasis. <sup>TR</sup> His general attitude is  
that the labor situation is better than might have been  
expected.



DEBT

The Senate today passed the bill to increase the debt limit of the United States from sixty-five billion to a hundred and thirty billion. The measure has already been passed by the lower House and now is needed little more than the presidential signature.-- ~~and the~~  
*whereupon the*  
debt limit will be a hundred and thirty billion.

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## TAXES

\* The Treasury Department of the United States spent a busy day today -- counting the cash. The income tax returns have been the customary deluge -- with more money pouring in than ever. That was to have been expected, considering the tax increase. ~~The~~ Payments ~~are~~ running more than twice as much as last year.

## MUSIC

We hear a good deal about the benefit of military service to a fellow -- what the Army will do for a man. And here is something new along that line. Last night a private soldier in uniform conducted a Philadelphia symphony orchestra -- and that fulfilled the ambition of a lifetime.

Today the news tells us about Private Allen Farnham. Until recently the soldier was a musician playing in the Philadelphia orchestra -- a violinist. And, like every other orchestra player, he nursed the desire to wave a baton, and conduct the brasses, woodwinds and strings. But he never got a chance.

Some while ago, he was taken into the army and sent to Camp Lee in Virginia. Not so much Beethoven and Brahms down there. Then a day or so ago, Private Farnham happened to notice a concert scheduled at nearby Richmond. The Philadelphia orchestra playing -- his old orchestra. So he got a leave of absence, and went to the concert.

So there he was in the audience listening,  
and remembering the times he used to be up there playing,  
those days when his one dream had been -- to conduct  
the orchestra. The program went along in style, and  
then Conductor Eugene Ormandy turned to the audience,  
and called to the soldier, -- asked him to come up  
there and conduct the last composition for the evening.  
And so the life's <sup>b</sup>amition of Private Allen Farnham came  
true! He led the Philadelphia orchestra through the  
*final piece of evening,*  
~~martial rhythms of Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever"~~  
And the audience gave him an ovation.

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And now Hugh with the  
final piece of the evening.  
And I hope he gets an ovation.