

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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From the Ionian to the Aegean Sea, there ^{is} a battle raging such as hasn't been seen on Greek soil since the days of

Alexander the Great! In fact, even the conquering Macedonian and his invincible companions of the phalanx would have been amazed and startled by the ferocity of the slaughter ~~that is~~ now going on. And the irresistibile war machine built up by Alexander's father, King Philip, ^{of Macedon,} was mild and ^{gentle} ~~feeble~~ by comparison with the Nazi juggernaut. ^{TT} The British and the Greeks are facing two Nazi armies. Cairo reports that the forces of General Wavell are at grips with the enemy along the whole of their front.

Around classic Mt. Olympus, which the British ^{are} ~~have~~ holding, the Nazi attack is two-headed. The Germans make the boast that they have broken through around that ~~feeble~~ ^{have trapped a large} fabled mountain and ^{cut off a big} ~~British force into a trap~~

What say the British? Well, they deny that their line has been broken around Mt. Olympus and that the level plains of Larissa are open to the advance of the German Panzer columns. But they do admit that the Nazis took some prisoners -- British Australians and New Zealanders in the rearguard.

One rumor of a German break through came from Ankara, the capital of Turkey. But there's no indication that it's true, no corroboration in the shape of a change in the place names of the battlefield. One report from Ankara, however, seems plausible. Telling of the number of German troops engaged. The Turks have heard that the Nazis have from sixty to sixty-five divisions, one million men, along that Greek battlefront. Fully one-half of these are believed to be operating from Bulgaria, smashing at the British line around Mt. Olympus.


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The principal Nazi crowing today was at the expense of the Yugoslavs. They claim the second Yugoslav Army has capitulated, fifty thousand men and many officers including eight Yugoslav generals, all captured. In addition to that, six divisions of Serbian soldiers ~~were~~ have been annihilated by two divisions of Germans. So says the German Official news agency. Still another German division, it

reports, has captured eighteen thousand soldiers, thirty guns, and fifty-five trench mortars. And a fourth German division was held up because the roads were all clogged with Serbian prisoners. All of which is unconfirmed.

Two days ago the Germans were claiming that all Yugoslav resistance was demoralized, and that the German army was just mopping up. In Berlin the Nazis announce they have already begun the carving up of Yugoslavia among Germany and her allies. The only news in favor of the Yugoslavs comes from Athens, where the radio broadcast a report from Turkey that the Yugoslavs are pressing heavily on the Germans around Skoplje, and that the Germans have sent out an emergency call for reinforcements.

In Rome, the Fascists are boasting that they've occupied



the Yugoslav port of Spalato and driven the Greeks out of Eresaka, ~~that is~~ twenty miles ~~to the~~ south of Koritza. They say the Albanians are returning to Koritza and the civil authorities are in control once more.

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Now for the fighting in North Africa. No fresh

advance by the Nazis and Italians is reported tonight. On the contrary, the British Admiralty announces that British warships are attacking the Nazis and Italians from the sea. Also, they intercepted and annihilated an enemy convoy bound from Sicily to Tripoli last night, a convoy of five supply ships escorted by three destroyers.

Fierce battles continue to rage around Sollum, and also Tobruk, ~~which the Italians and the boche have not yet captured in spite of their claims made more than a week ago.~~ The British are rushing reinforcements ~~to Sollum and Tobruk,~~ and they say the situation ~~there~~ is now satisfactory.

ETHIOPIA

From East Africa comes news more cheerful for the Allied cause. The Duke of Aosta, Viceroy of Ethiopia, ^{has} sent staff officers to British army field headquarters at Diredawa, to surrender the remnants of the Italian forces. ^{Such is the definite} ~~That's a report~~ ^{ward from} London. There are still seventy-six thousands Italian soldiers under arms in Ethiopia. ^{TF} Another Italian force has just surrendered at Obbia, on the coast of Italian Somaliland.

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On the one hand, the completion of that east African campaign seems trivial in comparison to the deadly gravity of the situation of British forces in Greece and on the coast of Libya. But the surrender of the Duke of Aosta is important because it will release British forces in that part of Africa and enable the high command to reenforce the army embattled at Sollum and Tobruk.

BELFAST

A Nazi air raid on Ireland! Not on Eire, the country of President Eamon de Valera, but on north Ireland. The great city of Belfast, where the British build many of their ships. The authorities describe the bombings as vicious and indiscriminate. Meaning that many civilians were killed and wounded.

Hitler's bombers also blasted Liverpool, and all up and down the River Mercy.

The Royal Air Force, oneits part, made its thirty-eighth ~~ex~~ raid on the German naval base at Kiel, and also dropped bombs on other places in northern Germany.

FRENCH BASES

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Uncle Sam may have all the naval and military bases
on French soil
he wants in North Africa, West Africa and Indo-China. That is,
according to the French Vice-Consul at San Francisco. Monsieur
Paul Bibily said as much in a message to President Roosevelt.
To be sure, Monsieur Bibily is not the Vice-Consul representing
the Petain Government. Marshal Petain dismissed him some time ago,
but Monsieur Bibily refused to be dismissed and held onto his
office. He says that if Danish Minister deKauffmann can give us
bases in Greenland, he, Monsieur Bibily, can give us bases on
French ~~soil~~ *territory*.

ARMY

Uncle Sam's generals are getting ready for a much larger army. *This from* ~~The news was told today by~~ Robert Patterson, Under-Secretary of War. The military heads are about to survey sites for twenty-eight more camps, enough to accommodate eight hundred thousand to a million soldiers in addition to the one million, four hundred and eighteen thousand already provided for by Congress.

SAVINGS

Uncle Sam's defense treasury is going to try to induce working people to invest in defense bonds and savings stamps. The government printing presses are working overtime rolling out bonds and stamps by the million. The intensive campaign will start in earnest on May First. Labor union heads are for the idea, Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has a promise from President Green of the American Federation of Labor to help the campaign. The A. F. of L. unions will invest their own funds in defense bonds and will also encourage their members to buy individually.

From the Treasury comes words that there will be no such high pressure as was applied in the Liberty Loan campaigns of World War days.

PRICES

An official statement about the rise of prices comes from Donald Nelson, Purchasing Director of the Office of Production Management. He tells us that while some increases may be justified, what the government does not want is for wages and prices to be chasing each other in an everwidening spiral. Increased prices are reported in aluminum, leather, cotton textiles and certain grades of steel. The Purchasing Director tells us there is no reason to expect price control of foodstuffs, and that when it comes to food, the government is in a position to protect consumers. Uncle Sam having accumulated large surpluses of food that can be used both to protect consumers and producers.

LABOR

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox tells the country that he is against using soldiers to open up even the most necessary factory if the factory is closed by a strike. "Even in the worst of emergency, the use of troops is the last thing we ought to do - only a final resort!"

So much the Secretary of the Navy said while testifying before the Naval Affairs Committee of the House about the Vinson Bill for Compulsory Mediation in Strikes. Colonel Knox mentioned as an example, the recent Allis-Chalmers strike where many of the men wanted to go back to work and a riot followed. Said the Secretary, "We would have had to use troops in there unquestionably to get the men back to work and ^{I'M} ~~the~~ glad we didn't have to use them." He also recommends a cooling-off period before permitting a strike.

KNOX FOLLOW LABOR

Secretary Knox also announced that more and more British warships ^{will} ~~would~~ be coming into American drydocks. And he gave us the inside of an interesting story. You may recall the fuss that was made when His Majesty's warship MALAYA arrived at New York, and some papers published the news, ^{and} others didn't? *Sec.* Knox disclosed today that the British Admiralty had requested the utmost secrecy about the arrival of the MALAYA and then ~~it~~ ^{it} sailed into New York harbor on a Sunday morning, and, added the Secretary, "You all know what New York harbor is like on a Sunday morning." In future, he says, he hopes to be able to persuade the British not to bring their warships into our harbors in broad daylight, and, not to permit the sailors to run around shore with the names of ~~THEY~~ their vessels inscribed on their hat bands.

He was referring to a situation in Little Old Gotham that at present is quite farcical. Some newspapers have studiously refrained from mentioning even the proximity of a British warship. But New York's places of entertainment are filled with British tars wearing the insignia of their navy and their ship. Consequently, the neighborhood of a British man-o-war is just about as secret as a thunderstorm.

ARENA

That the ^{hand} ~~had~~ of Italian Fascismo has been stretched across to American soil and has taken the life of a Chicago editor is the belief of the Chicago police.

John F. Arena was editor and publisher of a newspaper called LA TRIBUNA, published in the Italian language. In the last few months he ~~x~~ wrote several editorials denouncing Italian Fifth Columnists in Chicago. In one of these articles he declared that Guseppe Dell-Agnol, the Italian Vice-Consul at Chicago, was the leading force and fuehrer of Chicago's fifth column. The Chicago police say that Mrs. Arena received a number of telephone calls and one letter last week, threatening her husband unless he ceased writing editorials against the Italian Vice-Consul. As recently as yesterday Arena had a meeting with an investigator from the Dies Committee. That investigator said Arena had told him the agents of the Fascist secret police had been in Chicago, ferreting our secrets about our national defense factories. Arena also said that people of Italian origin in Chicago had been blackmailed into paying money into an espionage fund. The chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Chicago stated that J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F.B.I., had written a letter last February, thanking Arena fro

information he had furnished.

In Washington it was announced that Arena had been one of the Dies Committee's chief informers on the activities of the Fascists in and around Chicago.

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Last night, Arena, with a companion, went to a movie. When he left the theatre and got into his car, two men came up and told him he had a flat tire. Arena got out to look and the two men opened fire. Thereupon they escaped in their own car parked nearby.

Such is the crime the Chicago police believe to have been committed, or instigated by Fascist agents. Chairman Martin Dies put out a statement calling on the Federal Bureau of Investigation to see that Dies Committee witnesses and the people who furnish him with information are protected. Dies then added that a number of his witnesses had been physically injured and intimidated.

DIES

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Congressman Dies would like to be a Senator. He was at his home in Orange, Texas, today and announced that he was a candidate to succeed the late Senator Morris Sheppard. As he puts it, he has decided to apply to the people of Texas for promotion, and he feels justified because of his long active service in Congress. ^{At any rate} ~~It has been predicted that~~ he won't get many Communist or Nazi votes, if there are any ~~such~~ in Texas.

EARTHQUAKE

The earthquake in Mexico that I mentioned last night killed at least a hundred and forty, and hundreds were injured. It was felt mostly in and around Colima, where it destroyed the Cathedral that had only recently been rebuilt after having been wrecked in a quake several years ago.

DIVORCE

We've heard of golf widows and tennis widows and even contract bridge widows. Tonight we hear of a bowling widow.

A lady in Miami brings a suit for divorce because her husband is more fond of ten pins than of rolling pins. He was, she said, such an enthusiast that each time he bowled a strike he would grab her by the ankles and raise her feet up in the air.

For that she wishes to be released from her bonds of holy matrimony.

Maybe she'll do better with a husband who collects stamps.

Now what news from you Hugh?

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