

In the Pacific, another atoll captured - this one the westernmost ~~of~~ the Marshalls. Ujelang Atoll is important for ~~the~~ reason ~~that~~ it's the nearest point in the Marshalls to that most important island group, the Carolines. These latter are the key to the oceanic power of the Japs, and newly conquered Ujelang is only two hundred and sixty miles from Ponape - off the eastern edge of the Carolines.

Today's Navy Department bulletin ~~says that~~ the atoll was taken with nothing more than weak resistance - a small Japanese garrison having to be overcome.

In New Guinea - an important political move, following great military action in the seizure of Hollandia. New Guinea, as we know, was divided between the Australians and the Dutch. And Hollandia, as you can judge from the name, was in the Holland part. Its capture, in fact, marked the first recovery from the

Japs of any territory in the Dutch East Indies which the enemy seized at the outset of the war. So now newly ~~captured~~ <sup>once again</sup> ~~seized~~ Hollandia is <sup>^</sup> under Dutch administration. A hundred Netherlanders promptly landed to take over political control.

ADD PACIFIC

The latest is a dispatch from Allied headquarters stating that Allied forces are closing in on three Japanese air bases. These are situated on Humboldt Bay, and are important objectives for *the author's* ~~men~~ <sup>men</sup> mopping up in the area of Hollandia.

BAT

We hear of various trophies taken by American soldiers from dead Japs, and tonight's news tells of one of the most curious - a baseball bat autographed by Paul Waner of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

A newspaperman, Ben Greenstein of Wilmington, Delaware, says the bat is being sent to him by a marine corporal who used to be a mail carrier at Wilmington. Some Japanese soldier, who must have been an ardent baseball fan, had it on Namur Island - when that isle of the Kwajalein Atoll was captured by the Americans. Markings on the bat show that it was manufactured in Tokyo, and the autograph on it is believed to have been signed by Paul Waner - at the time when big league players made a tour of Japan in Nineteen Thirty-One. Paul Waner was then at the height of his career as one of the greatest hitters in baseball, ~~and was a member of the team that made the trip to Tokyo.~~

INDIA

In India - more road blocks have been captured, those fortified barr<sup>icades</sup>~~ooks~~ established by the Japs to cut vital highways. The latest word is that British Imperial troops have cleared twenty-two miles of road to Kohima, which the enemy at one time had encircled and under siege.

In the Kohima sector, the Japs are reported to be in full retreat - after the sharp series of British victories that have been noted in the news for the past few days. <sup>TP</sup> All of which is much to the credit of the Jats.

--- J - a - t - s .

Not the Japs - the Jats. The war bulletins from

Mountbatten headquarters give prominent mention to

a Jat regiment. Who are these Jats? Traveling out in

India, I used to hear a good deal about them. They are one

of the curious and formidable people of Hindustan. <sup>a special</sup> ~~they are~~

• caste - India being full of castes. They come from the

northwestern part of the country, the Punjab sector -

and are a caste of farmers, with a long tradition of

agriculture and war. Time was when they formed a couple  
of independent principalities - the Jat States, these  
were called. And now the news features the doing of one  
of their regiments. Honor paid to the Jats - and I don't  
means Japs. The road blocks, established by the Japs,

~~was~~ cleared ~~out~~ by the Jats - though with a slip of the  
tongue you could easily get it the other way around.

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PATTON

Here's a headline remark made today by that explosive military commander - General Patton. ~~ixxxxx~~  
In an address over in England, he stated that it is the destiny of Great Britain and the United States to rule the world.

The General presided at a welcoming ceremony, and was quoted as saying: "The only welcoming I have done in some time has been the welcoming of Germans and Italians into hell. I have done quite a bit in that direction," he added, "and have got about a hundred and seventy-seven thousand there."

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PATTON

Another expression of dissatisfaction <sup>emanates</sup> ~~comes~~ from Senator Ellender of Louisiana, who says: "I don't like such a speech coming from one so actively engaged in the war theatre as General Patton - because it is bound to cause dissatisfaction among our Allies." ~~It is well to be reminded that~~ <sup>being</sup> One of these Allies ~~is~~ Soviet Russia, which might not altogether agree with the theory of British-American world domination.

Today's statement by General Patton comes as his promotion is about to be considered - that is, an elevation of his permanent rank as against his present war status. His promotion was up some while ago, but was halted in Congress because of the furore caused by the story of how Old Blood and Guts slapped the face of a soldier who was suffering from shell shock. Not only was the Patton promotion held up, but so also was that of thirteen other big name generals who were



on the same list as Patton for elevation of rank.

And now comes the latest, a new congressional

disapprobation. It is painful to think of the thirteen

other generals whose promotions may or may not be

affected by things, <sup>the explosive general</sup> ~~that Old Blood and Guts~~ may say or do.

~~Today~~ Once again the air war story ~~was~~ repeated, as it has been repeated for nine days in succession. Around the clock bombing <sup>of Eastern Europe</sup> on a basis of twenty-four hours a day.

Last night the British R.A.F. struck with the greatest incendiary attack on record - five hundred thousand fire bombs dropped on Nazi targets in France, Belgium and southwestern Germany. And the night ~~was~~ made as bright as day ~~by~~ the glare of fires that swept over war producing areas.

Today nearly two thousand American bombers and fighters continued the task. Of these, five hundred Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by seven hundred and fifty fighters, concentrated on Nazi airfields in France and in southwestern Germany.

~~At the same time, two hundred and fifty Liberators smashed the anti invasion fortifications across the~~

# FORTRESS

Here is something for the folks down at Phillips, Oklahoma - a message from the navigator of a Flying Fortress over in Britain. No, he's not a home boy, not from Phillips, Oklahoma. He is Lieutenant Elvin Andolshek of Crosby, Minnesota. Oklahoma! Minnesota! - How come?

~~Well, this is no case of a home boy sending greetings to the folks back in his native town. The connection between ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Flying Fortress Navigator Lieutenant Andolshek and Phillips, Oklahoma, is something else again.~~

It all goes back to a day last January, ~~January~~ <sup>When</sup> ~~thirtieth to be precise.~~ And they certainly had a hot time in Phillips, Oklahoma. Bombs hit the town - bombs from a Flying Fortress - a rain of missiles pouring right down into the streets and hitting houses. Luckily, they were practice bombs - not the exploding variety, or Phillips, Oklahoma, would have been wiped right off the map. <sup>TP</sup> The trouble was that the navigator in the Fortress made a

mistake. While on a practice bombing mission, he got balled up a bit - and missed the target, which was out in the open spaces somewhere. He steered the Fortress right over Phillips, and ~~then he~~ <sup>there they</sup> let go with the bombs.

The citizens down below were ducking in all directions, as the stream of dummy missiles hit their town. And were they sore!

The blundering navigator was Lieutenant Andolshek, and after he got through being red in the face, they shipped him over to Britain, where he proceeded to do the same thing all over again - but in a different way. This time he has been hitting Nazi towns with explosive bombs that have been blowing things to bits - Nazi war centers and things like that.

At a base in Britain today, he said: "We are now really bouncing them off the right targets. We have been at this base only ten days, and made five missions.

Yesterday," he added, "we made strictly no mistakes in blasting ~~at~~ airfields near Munich."

The Lieutenant ~~remfully~~ refers ruefully to that slight error at Phillips, Oklahoma, ~~and said that it was caused by some slight inexperience.~~ "I don't know exactly what happened," he observes, "but somehow we got mixed up." He says that he wonders whether the folks at Phillips are still mad at him. If so, he sends them the following apology: "They can figure," says he, "that we are doing the same thing to Nazi towns - only this time with live bombs - and no mistakes."

## WESTERN FRONT

*Second Front*

Today's indications of the invasion include an increase of German air activity over Britain - not bombing, but observation. The British note that Nazi planes are making more and more flights over the *English* ~~British~~ coast, obviously trying to spy out evidences of second front preparation. And the Nazi anti-invasion commander, Field Marshal Rommel, the one-time "Rat of the Desert", is described as being incessantly busy along the invasion coast - Rommel spending five days a week in constant inspections of the fortifications.

*and* The German radio gives a picturesque ~~omen~~ *of coming invasion* - ~~detail~~ something designed to transmit a formidable impression of the German *coastal* defenses. It tells how Rommel passed what it calls - "a beautiful landscape covered with flowers." And it quotes Rommel as saying: "The view is marvelous, if one considers that eighty thousand mines are hidden among those flowers."

ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt today had a conference with the Prime Minister of Australia. The President is vacationing in the sunshine somewhere down South, and Australia's Number One statesman wentt there to meet him. Mrs. Surtin was there too, as were President-Elect Picado of Coasta Rica and Senora Picado.

## VESUVIUS

Here is a singular recent event that, in terms of classical mythology, might be called -- the fire god, Vulcan, striking a blow against Mars, the god of war. It was told me in Washington by General Arnold, Commander of the Army Air Forces -- one of the strange incidents that attended the tremendous eruption of Vesuvius a couple of weeks ago. General Arnold told about it as we looked at films. Among the many things caught in the volcanic devastation, were seventy American army planes. He told me of that. Of the seventy, thirty-five were destroyed -- the other thirty-five damaged.

The planes were on flying fields near the base of the volcano, and the crater of the fire mountain blew up so suddenly that they could not be removed before the deluge of hot ash and burning volcanic debris descended. So there were the seventy American planes bombarded by Vesuvius - as the crater poured forth rivers of burning lava and hurled a ~~dx~~ deluge of ash



and pumice that covered the earth for miles around.

Nature's subterranean fires striking a blow at Uncle Sam's machinery of war, Vulcan against Mars. However, the god of war wasn't particularly bothered. Of the seventy planes, the thirty-five that survived were merely damaged and were promptly put under repair. Twenty of these are already in active service again, and the aerial operations were not appreciably affected by the anger of Vesuvius.

## RUSSIA

Things were comparatively quiet along the battlefronts in Russia today, the principal news from Moscow being a summary of events during the past months. We are told that the Germans have lost five hundred thousand men, killed and captured in southern Russia alone during the past nine months of the great campaign in which the Soviets hurled the enemy beyond the borders of the Ukraine. ~~And a Soviet spokesman tonight stated that the Red Army is now mustering its forces for a final blow inside the borders of Germany itself - and not merely the satellite countries like Rumania and Hungary~~

## APPROPRIATION

The Senate today passed the thirty-two billion dollar Navy bill -- that sum to be used to build ships and planes, more ships and planes, for victory.

The passing of the bill was accompanied by a comment that by the end of Nineteen Forty-five the United States will have a Navy as big as the fleets of all the rest of the world combined. <sup>And</sup> There were demands that this stupendous armada must be maintained after the war -- no peacetime cutting down of our naval strength.

Don't let the fleet <sup>say</sup> ~~fall~~ into weakness, as we did after the last war.

As a companion piece to the giant Naval appropriation in Washington we may note that across the water the British government today handed a budget to the House of Commons -- the ~~ix~~ seventh British war-time budget. <sup>Calling</sup> for the expenditure during the coming year of six billion pounds -- twenty-four billion dollars.

APPROPRIATION - 2

And that's an all-time record -- the greatest British budget in history. It was accompanied by lugubrious predictions in Parliament that after this frightfully expensive war, England ~~will~~ emerge a creditor nation -- in the red -- Britain owing money for the first time in <sup>modern</sup> history.





Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York. Dewey was not entered in the primaries, and yet enough voters took the trouble to register in his favor to make the result impressive - especially in Massachusetts. Other Republican aspirants, like MacArthur, Stassen and Bricker, had Massachusetts write-in votes - but Dewey was far in the lead.

And later news - Kentucky. Announced ~~there that~~ at the S.O.P. state convention there that the Ky. Republican presidential delegates will be for Dewey.

HITLER

Ordinarily on a news program like this there wouldn't be any place for a tribute to - Hitler. However, we discovered one that seems to contain an element of truth and good/sense - even though it is the most fulsome kind of flattery dished out to Der Fuehrer - and in verse.

~~we had it~~ From the Berlin radio <sup>too</sup> and it goes like this:

"If we love thee, our innermost soul, we love Germany.  
Thou art the sap, the seed, the root."

To which one can only echo, "Thou art the sap."

But not you, Roger - not you.