

L.T. - SUNOCO, Friday, June 8, 1945

(Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews - L.T. in Pacific)

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

Japan is installing an all-powerful dictatorship, which will rule the enemy country in the desperate hours of defeat that are approaching. Hitherto, while the War Lords have been in control, the Japanese Parliament has been operating. Now that will end, and Japan will have an iron dictatorship.

This, as Tokyo explains, is a measure to cope with the increasing defeat, and to conduct a last-ditch fight-to-the-death against the American invasion, which the Japs expect.

(Also, ~~the~~ ^{is} combat defeatism. The indications are that President Truman's policy is having an effect in Japan - his policy of assuring the Japanese people that unconditional surrender does not mean that they will be destroyed or enslaved. The Truman declaration in pamphlet form has been showered on Japan by American planes. And the Japanese people have been reading what the American President has to say - a message emphasized

by the fire bombs that accompany the pamphlets.

How flamingly effective those bombs are is indicated vividly by word from Tokyo, which tells of honors paid to a Japanese Major General who perished while directing fire-fighting in Tokyo -- after one of the big American raids. The terror of flame in Japan must indeed be great, when a Major General is a casualty while commanding in a battle against fire.

The beginning of the end on Okinawa takes the form of a splitting of the remaining Japs into three pockets. American troops, cutting into the final line of enemy defense, have divided the Japanese into three groups - one of which was fortified on a plateau. This is a most formidable position, guarded by steep cliffs. The latest word tonight states that the Japs are making a fanatical last stand, and are being joined by women fighters - who throw hand grenades.

RESCUE

In a remote jungle valley, deep in the interior of New Guinea, three survivors of a plane crash are awaiting rescue tonight; two soldiers and a woman, She is a corporal ^{of} ~~in~~ the Wacs. With them are a group of Filipinos and an American officer, who came down by parachute to help them.

The plane crash occurred last month, when a big transport flying over the New Guinea jungles was forced down and all aboard were killed - except those three survivors. It is a great story of how a search was made for them, how they were spotted, the ~~the~~ place marked, food dropped to them by parachute, and then two Philippine medical aides were sent down by parachute to treat their injuries. Next, other Filipinos and an American officer descended, to build an airstrip for a rescue - by glider.

A glider doesn't need much landing space, but any kind of airstrip is a desperate job in ^{those} ~~xxxxxx~~ jungles. However, the landing ~~strip~~ ^{strip} has now been completed, and the next thing will be for a plane to tow

a glider over the area, and the glider will cut loose and make the landing. The survivors of the plane crash will be put aboard, and then the glider will be picked up by the snatch method; a transport plane flying over and snatching it off the ground.

POLES

In London today, the British Police arrested the editor of the Provisional Polish government. And they turned him over to the press agency operated by the Soviet sponsored London Poles on a charge of desertion.

Throughout the European war, the British government collaborated with the exiled Poles in maintaining discipline among the Polish troops fighting for the Allied cause. For example, if a Polish soldier deserted in England - the British police turned him over to the military authorities of the exiled government.

This is the regulation under which the British Police acted today - in arresting the journalistic official of the Soviet sponsored government and ~~handing~~ handing him over to the London Poles as a deserter.

The Soviet sponsored Poles are protesting violently, and the whole thing may turn out to be a headlines affair.

LAVAL

Laval is returning to France. The arch collaborationist is scheduled to take a plane from Spain to Paris, there to face French justice, which has condemned him to death as a traitor.

Laval flew from collapsing Germany to Spain, hoping to find refuge there. That hope having failed him, he proceeded to inform the Spanish government that he is willing to return to France. The result is, that a French airplane arrived in Barcelona today to take Laval back.

Meanwhile, Marshal Petain,, who has returned to France to face trial for having collaborated with the Nazis, as the head of the Vichy government, announces one point in his defense. He claimed today that, as the Chief of the Vichy regime, he acted in accordance with a pact between himself and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Petain insisted he had an agreement with Churchill all along, and claims that when the French fleet was scuttled to keep it from falling into the hands of the Nazis, this was part of the agreement.

AMERICAN ARMY

Figures for the victory in Europe were given out today by Secretary of War Stimson, who disclosed the magnitude of the armies of the western allies. He stated that at the end of the war in Europe, General Eisenhower had under his command ninety-one divisions of allied troops. Of these, sixty divisions were American - about two thirds. Of the remaining thirty-one divisions, (troops of other allies) fourteen divisions were British, five Canadian, eleven French, and one Polish. In addition to Eisenhower's command, there were the troops in Italy - seven American divisions there. In other words, we had in the European war sixty-seven divisions of American troops.

Secretary Stimson likewise gave figures for American prisoners of war. He said that forty thousand liberated from German prison camps are already back in the United States. Forty thousand more will arrive this month. And another ten thousand, the final contingent, will be back in July. Adding up the figures, we find that American prisoners of war released from captivity in Germany number ninety thousand.

BRADLEY FOLLOW AMERICAN ARMY

Other facts about the European war were disclosed by General Bradley, who commanded in decisive phases of the victory in the West. General Bradley has been named by President Truman to become the new Veteran's Administrator, and today he took part in the press conference given by Secretary Stimson. One point that General Bradley discussed was - why didn't the Americans keep on pushing to Berlin? To that question he replied: "The American forces never had any intention of going to Berlin". But, he admitted, "it was hard to keep them from going."

In the Nazi collapse, the United States armies were driving ahead for as much as fifty miles a day, and were obviously able to advance as far as they liked. But they were stopped at the River Elbe - their advance halted by a command from ~~the~~ Supreme headquarters. Today Bradley said that this was to avoid incidents between the Americans and the Russians. On the way to Germany, he pointed to the line of the River Elbe, and explained: "We planned to meet the Russians

along this line. We were less likely to have incidents".

General Bradley was in command of the Allied front in the sector where the Germans broke through in their last powerful blow - their final offensive. He said today that he had expected a counter-attack, and hoped for one. But when the German threat came, it was in greater strength than Bradley had anticipated. That was the surprise - the magnitude of the assault.

Today the General told how, when the enemy offensive broke ~~through~~ ^{through}, he was with Lieutenant General Walter Smith, Chief of Staff to Eisenhower. General Smith said: "Bradley, you wanted to be counter-attacked. There it is".

"Yes," replied Bradley, "but I didn't want it to be that big."

The result of the enemy break-through delayed the big drive the Americans had been preparing. But, in the end, it helped the Allies. "The German offensive", said General Bradley today, "upset our plans, and we launched our own offensive after one month's

delay. But, " he added, "the enemy was much weaker as a result". In other words, the German break-through, which eventually failed, helped to shorten the war.

JAP BALLOONS

Here's a wild west adventure - up to date. It tells about a western sheriff who got into a thriller with one of those Jap war balloons.

It begins to appear that the "bomb-carrying gas bags" released by the Japs have been more frequent than most of us have supposed - military censorship concealing the news, until recent official disclosures were made. We are now told that the balloons have come down as far east as Michigan. They have fallen in Canada and Mexico. They're being called Japanese lanterns.

They've done little or no property damage, but have killed six persons - people who were on a picnic in Oregon, when a balloon with bombs came down. One landed in a tree, and was found dangling seventy feet from the ground. Another hit an electric power line, but did little harm. Two children found a balloon bomb, and unscrewed its nose. They were lucky - it didn't go off. Airplanes have been shooting down balloons - and warnings are being issued based on the fact that the melting snows from the mountains may bring more balloon-

bombs to light.

The adventure of the western sheriff came when a rancher reported what he thought was a big parachute. The Sheriff knew better. From the description, he figured it was one of those balloons - Japanese lanterns.

So, with an F.B.I. man, he set out to capture it. They went to the place where the Japanese lantern had been reported, and there found that the gas bag had settled to the ground. Just as they approached, a gust of wind picked it up, and sent it drifting again.

The Sheriff made a dash, and grabbed hold of one of the shrouds attached to the balloon. Just as he got a good grip, another strong gust of wind picked up the gas bag, Sheriff and all. Before he could turn it loose, he found himself up in the air.

Then ensued one of the wildest rides in the history of the west - famous for wild riding. The Sheriff tried to climb up the shroud and get to the ~~the~~

gas bag - but couldn't make it. He was carried along for a mile or so. The Sheriff had ridden many a bucking horse, but no leaping bronco was ever like that.

Finally, ~~he~~ sank down near the ground, and was dragging near a tree. He managed to whip the shroud around the tree, and that stopped the balloon.

So now the Sheriff has one great story, which he is relating - and I suppose the story is not losing in the telling.

7 1/2 tells

CATFISH

This will sound like an old fashioned tall story - a yarn about a catfish milking a cow. But it happened, according to a news dispatch from Blencoe, Iowa. A farmer out there, named Marion Sweesy, saw it - the catfish milking a cow.

A local flood was on, the Little Sioux River overflowing its banks. The pasture was inundated, and that's where the cow was, standing up to her knees in water. And a big catfish in the flood water was having milk for breakfast.

It sounds fishy, but we have the farmer's word for it - and farmers never stretch a story. Or do they?

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DICE GAME

A dispatch from Washington tells of a tax collection on a year's income of thirty-eight thousand dollars. It was found that the thirty-eight thousand had been sent to a New York bank for deposit. Now, who was the depositor? That's the interesting question.

He is a Negro corporal stationed in Australia. We all know that soldiers in the Army don't get bank President's pay - so how did the corporal in Australia manage to acquire a yearly income of thirty-eight thousand dollars? You guessed it - the colored corporal is skillful with the dice. They must have some powerful crap games out there, when an expert with the galloping dominoes can pile up that amount of winnings.

The colored corporal sent the money back home - to a bank in Harlem. The government got wind of it, and the income tax on the ~~the~~ thirty-eight thousand dollar crap game winnings is eighteen thousand - leaving twenty thousand on deposit. I would suggest that the colored corporal might try to get that eighteen thousand back by rolling the bones with Uncle Sam - he'd probably win.

And now Goodnight

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