

L.T.--SUNOCO. THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1943

AIR WAR

Flying Fortresses have made another daylight raid on Germany. Described as "a powerful fleet of United States heavy bombers." They flew in almost at stratosphere level, through a temperature ~~at~~ of forty-five below Zero, and when they reached their target, they blasted a wide stretch of German territory on the Rhur and on the Rhine, a stretch fifty-five miles long. It must have been indeed a formidable fleet, for we hear that twenty-five Flying Fortresses did not return, although they were escorted by hundreds of American, Canadian and British fighter planes.

The most important of the towns they hit was Bonn. Tourists who have visited Germany remember Bonn as a picturesque place on the Rhine, the site of a great university to which Prussian aristocrats and

the Hohenzollerns used to send their sons. Musicians think of it as the place where Beethoven was born.

But ~~next~~ apart from all this, Bonn is a factory town and today a great center of war industries. The nearby cities which <sup>were also</sup> ~~our Fortresses~~ blasted are the sites of synthetic oil factories.

Among those who took part in the raid was a Captain Gable, <sup>Aerial Gunner</sup> ~~the~~ Clark Gable, <sup>who from</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> nose of one of the Fortresses, <sup>took pictures</sup> ~~taking photographs~~

of the raid. Although there were thick clouds, even at that high altitude, the crews of the raiders could see the smoke from huge fires which they had started.

## RUSSIA

On the Russian front, the war is <sup>still</sup> going badly -  
for the Germans. The Soviet army has Kharkov almost  
surrounded. Its Nazi defenders have only one escape left,  
along a thirty mile gap in the Russian line to the south  
of the city. And at this moment, tank columns, motorized  
infantry and mobile artillery of the Red Army are  
advancing on Poltava along a front thirty-five miles  
long. Poltava, as you will recall, is west of Kharkov,  
and once the Russians are there, the German garrison is  
doomed. Meanwhile, big forces of Soviet planes, wave  
upon wave of them, are battering at the bottleneck ~~xxxxxx~~  
fourteen miles south of Kharkov, where the railroad ~~xxxxxx~~  
branches off toward the Dnieper River.

In the official communique of the Nazi high  
command, all this is denied. But it is virtually  
admitted by the ~~celebrated~~ German military commentator,  
Captain Sertorius. He is what one might call the

*And in a*

Hanson W. Baldwin of Germany. ~~He~~ broadcast ~~a comment~~  
on the doings in Russia ~~in which~~ he indicated ~~practically~~  
~~that~~ it will not be long before Kharkov falls to the Red  
army. <sup>In fact</sup> He acknowledged that the German high command has  
abandoned an important sector in the Kharkov area.

Though the Russians have not broken through the German  
lines, according to Sertorius, nevertheless he admitted  
that the Red army pressure has increased intolerably in  
the last forty-eight hours.

Sertorius went on to report that in the north,  
the Red army is attacking in ~~enormous~~ vast strength, ~~with~~  
~~thousands of tanks and mobile artillery~~ from Yartsevo, north of Smolensk,  
all the way to another area north of Bryansk. And he  
observed that, whereas the Russians used to employ  
mostly infantry, they are now using a tremendous lot of  
tanks and mobile artillery, and only comparatively small  
forces of foot soldiers.

The Moscow dispatches report that the Soviet army is forging ahead steadily against ~~very~~ strong resistance by the Nazis, who have the advantage of swampy ground and thick forests. ~~to defend them~~. The Germans are using armored trains to make their front line more mobile. But, the Nazis also have another handicap. In those forests they are up against strong bands of Russian guerrillas.

A later broadcast from Moscow reports a still further advance by the Soviet troops marching on Bryansk. They went ahead ten to twelve kilometers, and captured numerous inhabited places. One of them ~~is~~ a town that ought to be a sixty-four dollar word in a spelling bee. It is called - Dímítrov<sup>!</sup>skor<sup>!</sup>lov<sup>!</sup>ski. ~~Maybe it was even~~ *But it may have* *been even* harder to capture ~~it~~ than ~~it is~~ to pronounce. ~~it~~. The Reds also took several places north and east of Karachev, which is a key city on the railroad from Orel to Bryansk.

The Russian advance guard is now only about four miles away from Karachev.

So much for that sector. The Soviet army advancing on Kharkov has also forged ahead and taken from the Germans more than twenty inhabited places, including six large towns.

~~GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:~~

Tonight's news from Sicily was well summed up in the words of a colonel of the American Army on the island. *Said he: -* "The boche is getting out of Sicily, but he still has a lot of sting left in his tail." ~~said the colonel~~

The evacuation of German and Italian troops from Sicily is now in full swing, according to a British correspondent on the spot. *Thousands of troops* <sup>getting</sup> ~~have been~~ *away daily,* ~~taken out~~ <sup>on</sup> aboard ferries and other small craft. *German* More than three hundred <sup>anti-aircraft</sup> guns ~~are~~ putting up a barrage to protect the evacuation.

*There is more in* ~~the report~~ <sup>the news today is</sup> ~~about the~~ <sup>that</sup> American division ~~which~~ landed on the coast in the rear of the German lines three days ago. *Now they are at* ~~the rear~~ <sup>it</sup> again. Carried in small boats,

they <sup>have</sup> stormed ashore east of Cape D'Orlando. Thus for the second time in a week, they <sup>have</sup> outflanked the German line and ~~have~~ joined up with the main body of the U. S. troops and have cut ~~off the German line and cut~~ off a large number of German and Italian soldiers at Cape D'Orlando.

~~It was a brilliant accomplishment, and the~~

<sup>R</sup> The commanding general described <sup>S</sup> it as the toughest assignment these American amphibious troops have carried out <sup>to date.</sup>

After they had established their beachhead, the Germans

~~made~~ a savage counter-attack, <sup>which</sup> against them from both east and west. At that time they were eight and a half

miles behind the enemy line. But they fought off <sup>And</sup> ~~them~~ then they effected their counter-attacks and made a junction with the ~~main attacking~~

<sup>American</sup> main attacking force. ~~of the United States Army.~~ This

landing, for the second time, took the enemy completely by surprise.

Meanwhile, another column on the right flank



was carving its way through the mountains, <sup>cutting</sup> ~~and~~ the road to Randazzo. ~~But~~ The Germans are still holding onto their hilltop positions, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ their demolition forces <sup>have</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>slowed down</sup> the Allied advance. ~~very slow~~

At latest reports the Americans were only three miles away from Randazzo, close enough to be able to shell the place. ~~heavily~~

<sup>And,</sup> The left wing of the British Eighth Army at the same time is driving on Randazzo from the south. The last we heard of ~~them~~, Montgomery's men were ~~having a fierce~~ battle <sup>ing</sup> with the Germans who <sup>are trying</sup> ~~were determined~~ to hold Randazzo, at all costs. <sup>Because</sup> Randazzo is the key to the last Axis defense line <sup>in Sicily. And,</sup> ~~because~~ they are hanging onto it to <sup>cover</sup> ~~protect~~ the evacuation. ~~But it cannot last long,~~

~~because the~~ <sup>Pr</sup> prisoners report that the Germans and Italians are on the verge of exhaustion from lack of rest, <sup>and from lack</sup> ~~also food~~ <sup>of food</sup> and water. <sup>Pr</sup> The right wing of the British Eighth Army has

driven fifteen miles north from Catania and <sup>has</sup> captured two towns only a short distance from the summit of Mt. Etna. <sup>They are fighting on the slopes of that historic volcano.</sup> The Germans are now so crowded in among the hills that they <sup>are unable to use either</sup> ~~cannot use~~ their tanks or artillery, and ~~consequently~~ they <sup>are</sup> ~~have to~~ fight <sup>ing mainly</sup> ~~almost entirely~~ with mortars and machine-guns.

Captain Sertorius, the German military

commentator, <sup>in</sup> ~~outlined~~ <sup>ing</sup> the plan of the Nazi high command for Sicily, <sup>tells how</sup> they intend to withdraw all the Axis forces on the island into a narrow bridgehead. <sup>Then</sup> They will try to hold onto this indefinitely <sup>in order</sup> ~~so as~~ to prevent the Allies from invading the Italian mainland. <sup>Which</sup> ~~This~~ is similar to what the Germans have done in the Kuban area, <sup>in</sup> ~~of~~ the Caucasus. <sup>There the Nazis</sup> ~~They~~ have held <sup>a</sup> ~~that~~ small bridgehead for a year, <sup>held it</sup> against all Russian attempts to take it. And, ~~now~~ they have prevented the Soviet armies from recapturing the Crimea.

It remains to be seen whether the same thing can be done in Sicily.

## ITALY

In spite of the strickness of Marshal Badoglio's rule in Italy, the press has a freedom it never dreamed of under the Fascisti. A Left Wing newspaper in Rome came out today with an editorial that would have landed the writer and publisher before a firing squad in Mussolini's time. The editorial warned Badoglio that by keeping the country in the war, he is asking for a revolution.

In several different ways it repeats the sentiment that the people want peace and wish to know nothing further of war. It demands that this be told to the Germans as well as to the Anglo-Saxons.

Simultaneously, a newspaper in Turin has printed a savage attack against the censorship ordered by Badoglio.

In case this news might lead us into any wishful thinking, it should be emphasized that this defiance of the censorship and clamor for peace comes from Left Wing Italian newspapers.

## MUSSOLINI

The other day I recalled that visit I paid to Ex-Duce Mussolini at the Palazzo Venezia in Rome. That palace is in the news today, and the news means that the next time I or anybody else visits it, it will be not to see Mussolini but paintings and sculptures. It is to be turned into a public state museum, and will still be one of the great landmarks of the Eternal City.

~~It was~~ Pope Paul the Second who built the Palazzo Venezia in Fourteen Fifty-Two, for his own residence. In Fifteen Eighty-Four Pope Gregory the Thirteenth lent it to the Republic of Venice as the residence of the Venetian Ambassador. When Austria conquered Venice, the Palazzo Venezia became Hapsburg property, and so remained until the downfall of the dynasty. Mussolini took it over on Christmas Day, Nineteen Twenty-Two.

There is a wealth of beautiful canvases and

superb statuary in the palace, and hitherto the general public has never been allowed to see them. They are all in storage now, where no aerial bombs can damage them. After the war they will be returned and on public view.

## SENATORS

A group of United States Senators visiting in North Africa are much concerned because they have just learned that Uncle Sam proposes to buy African wheat for two dollars and ten cents a bushel while here at home our own farmers are getting a dollar and a half a bushel.

These Senators have been making a tour of American bases in North Africa. The Democrats in the group are Russell of Georgia, Mead of New York, and Happy Chandler of Kentucky; the Republicans, Brewster of Maine and Lodge of Massachusetts.

This wheat deal even offends Senator Mead of New York who usually says yes to anything done by the Administration in Washington. Mead, in fact, points out that this wheat is being bought not for the army nor because of any military necessity.

The Senators are also reported to be shocked by the number of civilian cars in use in North Africa, cars using gasoline from America which our own civilians in the eastern states are not allowed to use. No doubt

we'll hear all about this when the wandering statesmen  
return to the Halls of Congress.

## KURILES

War news from the north Pacific. The Navy Department informs us that heavy <sup>U. S.</sup> ~~United States~~ bombers carried out a raid on the Japanese Kurile Islands. ~~This~~ ~~was~~ The second in three weeks. There were nine 4-motored Liberators in the raid, and two ~~of them~~ are missing. They made numerous hits on the Jap naval and air base at Paramushiru, <sup>where</sup> ~~the garrison sent up~~ a force of forty <sup>went up</sup> interceptor planes, to fight off our bombers. Five of the Jap planes were shot down.

The first news of this raid came from Tokyo, and the way it was phrased makes it evident that the Japs are exceedingly nervous about these attacks on Paramushiru. They are interpreted as positive measures to strike at the mainland of Japan.



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## GASOLINE

Secretary Harold Ickes as Petroleum Administrator tells us that his office has been working hard, trying to build up gasoline supplies on the east coast. For some time we have been promised that it would not be long before we had more Sunoco to put into the tanks of our cars, but the time is not here yet. ~~Mentions Sunoco to appease Hugh James.~~

1/2  
Mr. Ickes admitted that supplies on the east coast dropped five hundred thousand barrels last week, and the situation is nothing to cheer about. But he added that deliveries are increasing bit by bit, though they are not moving as fast as he would like. So far the extra supply coming to us in the east from the big inch pipeline is only a trickle. But in about a month, says Ickes, it ought to be pumping three hundred thousand barrels of oil a day into the states on the Atlantic seaboard. *And now Hugh, anything to add to this -*