

*Cannon*

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The nation was given an encouraging report today by Rear Admiral Blandy, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Ordnance. A report with a story of sea and air battle to illustrate. The Admiral has just completed a twenty-six thousand mile tour of American war positions in the Pacific, and he tells us how the United Nations forces now stack up against the Japs.

We now hold the balance of striking power in the Western Pacific, says Admiral Blandy.

He expressed particular gratification at the improvement of the anti-aircraft defenses aboard American warships, and describes the Navy's five-inch anti-aircraft gun as the best weapon of its type in the world. This point he illustrated with a thriller. It happened during the attack by the Marines on islands in the Solomon group. The Japs launched

an aerial torpedo and bombing attack against American warships and transports. The enemy came winging to the assault with twenty-seven torpedo planes and ten bombers. Our ships responded with a hurricane of anti-aircraft fire -- these five-inch guns of ours in the hottest kind of action. And over half the Jap torpedo planes were shot down. The enemy scored only one hit on a destroyer. The transports were unscathed.

## RUSSIA

Russian and German reports are at sharp variance tonight -- contradictory stories. Moscow states that Soviet air reinforcements have prevented a general Nazi break through at Stalingrad. Fresh units of the Red air force flew to the aid of the hard pressed garrison. Moscow explains that Soviet air power on the Stalingrad front is not strong enough to challenge the immense superiority of the Germans, but it was able to give the Russian ground forces sufficient support to check the German advance.

And Moscow states that Ground reinforcements have arrived at Stalingrad. Cavalry units are mentioned. The city is pretty nearly isolated, but the Red Army still holds some lines of communication which are slow and difficult.

On the German side, Berlin maintains that Nazi troops are advancing into Stalingrad from the North and South, and have cut off the city proper from its ring of outer defenses. Another German claim is

that the main railroad station at Stalingrad has been captured. However, Berlin admits that the Soviet forces still control most of the city, and are resisting street by street, house by house. A Nazi spokesman states that it may be what he called "hours" before Stalingrad falls.

## EGYPT

American air forces in conjunction with the British have been striking in great force against the Axis enemy in Egypt. They hit Tobruk again -- and one bomb alone touched off an explosion and a giant fire that could be seen for miles. This particular attack by the Americans was staged in collaboration with a commando raid against Axis-held Tobruk. "commando-like" is the expression used in the news dispatch from Cairo.

Yesterday enemy reports told of British landings at Tobruk, and stated that paratroops were used. Today Cairo denies the paratroop part of it, and explains that the enemy statement is an indication of the surprise and confusion caused by the raid. That is they thought it must be a case of paratroops -- so unexpected was the appearance of the commandos. These did their usual job of destruction, and ~~were~~ retired, while at the same time British naval forces bombarded another enemy stronghold along the coast.

The Axis defenders took some prisoners, and one of these appeared to be an American newspaper man, Larry Allen of the Associated Press. An Italian radio broadcast today stated that an unidentified American newspapermen had been made a prisoner and later the A.P. said it had reliable advices that Correspondent Larry Allen had fallen into enemy hands.

The latest on another American bombing raid was announced. This time against Crete. Flying fortresses carried out the attack, -- in daylight. Another example of the way these fortresses of ours can go bombing by day and beat off enemy fighter attacks.

## DIEPPE

Canada today gives out figures for the losses the Canadians incurred at Dieppe. We have heard from British sources that in that greatest of commando attacks, the losses were heavy. And now this is born out. The Canadians formed the bulk of the Commando force, and they suffered three thousand, four hundred and fifty casualties -- killed, wounded and missing. And the accent is on -- missing. More than twenty-five hundred Canadians failed to return from Dieppe. Some are presumed to have been killed, while the others are prisoners of war.



## FRANCE

Secretary of State Cordell Hull today denounced the sending of French laborers to work in Germany, -- according to an agreement between the Vichy government and the Nazis, French workers are to be exchanged for prisoners of war who were captured in the fall of France. Obviously French labor would be an aid to Nazi armament production. Secretary of State Hull used these words:- "Such aid to one of our enemies would be wholly inconsistent with France's obligations under international law."

At the same time, the Secretary of State denounced the Vichy government for agreeing to turn Jewish refugees over to the Nazis. He described such action in the following terms: "The delivery of these unhappy people to enemies who have announced an in a considerable degree has executed their intention to enslave, maltreat and eventually to exterminate them."



## WILHELMSHAVEN

Last night the British Royal Air Force did some particularly violent work at Wilhelmshaven, the great port where the Germans have busy submarine yards. Today crews of the returning bombers told what happened when their two-ton block busting bombs smacked into the shipbuilding center.

One pilot describes it as follows: "I saw several two-tonners burst in the target area in the normal way," he relates, "but on one occasion there was an astonishing red flash and volumes of black smoke." He adds that "probably a great oil storage had blown up."

## ERIE

I am in Erie, Pennsylvania tonight -- Erie, where the big ore boats of the Great Lakes come in and unload. Erie, of Mad Anthony Wayne fame. Erie, home of Hammermill, the first paper company to receive the coveted Army-Navy E Award.

In fact I was here for the presentation of the forty-ninth Army-Navy "E" Award -- presented by West Pointer Colonel Cavelli.

When the Colonel pointed out that there have been no work stoppages at Hammermill, the President of the great paper company, Norman Wilson, replied:-

"We are jealously proud of that record, and it would be shameful were it otherwise during these difficult, dangerous days."

Another remark made by this man who has come up through the mill from an errand boy, was this:-

"We," meaning the men and women of Hammermill, "realize no peace terms can be entertained until our foes have been completely defeated, and this time

permanently disarmed."

I mention this partly for the benefit of those in the East who too often say that people west of the Alleghanies don't know there is a war on.

## INFLATION

A Senate committee considering the anti-inflation bill heard its first witness today -- Price Administrator Leon Henderson. The bill has the backing of the administration, support of the White House. But Leon Henderson objected to a provision concerning farm prices. These would be kept down to parity, or to the highest market price between January First, Nineteen Forty-Two to September Fifteenth, Nineteen Forty-Two. Whichever figure were the highest would be the ceiling.

Leon Henderson stated that this would tend to freeze some prices that are already too high. The price administrator gave an example of this -- hogs. They are selling for too much money right now. He thought, and to freeze the present price would raise the cost of pork chops unduly.

Committee members argued that exceptional situations like that could be remedied through a clause concerning what the bill calls -- gross inequities

In the case of prices that are greatly out of line, the president would be empowered to lower the ceiling -- thereby remedying the gross inequities. The Price Administrator responded that the clause was too unclear and uncertain. He was asked about wages -- would it not be necessary to put a ceiling on wages, as well as on food prices? Henderson answered -- yes! "Wages have got to be regulated," said he.

In the background of all of this is a Henderson statement today -- rather rhetorical in form of expression -- he characterized the inflation threat in these words: "As deadly as a bomb and as treacherous as the Japanese."

## SOLDIER VOTE

American soldiers overseas will not be able to vote in the coming election. Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox spoke today about the possibility of sending ballots to the troops abroad. He called the idea -- "utterly impracticable."

He explained that if the men in the various A.E.F.s were permitted to receive and send back ballots, it would disclose to a great many people what army units were abroad and where, and that might reveal to the enemy the make-up of our forces.

Another factor is that of transportation. No use of sending the ballots by ship -- it would be too slow, and there is no room aboard the transport planes for the tens of thousands of ballots that would have to be sent. Right now even the regular mails have to be left off planes -- because of lack of space.

## BASEBALL

Today baseball commissioner Landis announced the time and place for the beginning of the World Series. The time is okay -- clear and precise, September Thirtieth. The place, however, is rather ambiguous. The first game of the series will be played at the baseball park of the winner in the National League. And who will that be? A lot of people will promptly reply -- St. Louis. But Brooklyn has not given up hope, neither the Flatbush Faithful nor the flattened out Dodgers.

It's a sad story, mates, how the beloved bums of last year were out in front nearly all of this year.-- But hope still springs eternal in the Brooklyn breaths, and the Flatbush Faithful are saying tonight that the series will begin in Brooklyn.

Judge Landis stated today that the entire proceeds of the annual baseball classic will go to the United Service Organizations. The amount, of course will depend upon how long the series lasts. It is



estimated that if it goes to the full seven games,  
the U.S.O. will get between six hundred and fifty  
and seven hundred thousand dollars.

## SCRAP

President Roosevelt today cited a personal experience to prove that people are not searching their homes carefully enough for scrap metal. They are passing up a lot of junk, which they ought to turn into the government to ease the war shortage.

The President told how his own Washington home has been searched -- the White House -- of course. That's a pretty large home. Most of us don't live in houses quite so stately and capacious. However, let's see how much scrap the White House yielded.

The President stated that a painstaking search was made for three months and it yielded five tons of metal to be turned over to the war effort.

The President observed that this nation at war has not yet reached the point of taking metal doorknobs and ornamental iron work for armament manufacture. But he added that if the people don't hurry up and turn in scrap metal, the government will have to step in and take it away from them, doorknobs and all, maybe. Then he told of an invention that

would be highly appreciated -- if somebody would get busy and invent it. There have been complaints because of the amount of tin and steel used by brewers and soft drink manufacturers, for bottle tops. About a hundred thousand tons a year. But what else can you use for bottle tops?

The President said that the nation's beverage bottlers would be undyingly appreciative if somebody would invent a non-metal bottle-top -- out of wood or glass maybe. Send in a good suggestion and I'll turn it over to my radio colleague Colonel Stoopnagle who is offering in return ten hand-crocheted bottle tops.

DRAFT

Here is an answer to a question that will interest many -- when will married men with children be drafted? We have an answer from Major-General Hershey, Director of Selective Service. He stated that married men would **not** be taken into the army before the last quarter of Nineteen Forty-Three -- next year. This was in response to a query by newsmen, and General Hershey employed the following words:- "If I were giving advice to a man with a child, I would say the last quarter of Nineteen Forty-Three."

For you, if you have more than one child I suppose that means Nineteen Forty-Four.

One of my colleagues Prosper Buranelli -- has twelve children. So he'll probably not be called up until Nineteen Fifty-Four!

And s-l-u-t-m.