

PHILIPPINES

C.T. - Sumoco. -

Friday, Jan. 30, 1942.

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The late War Department communique reveals a verbal attack by the enemy, the Japanese indulging in an assault of words. They dropped leaflets. ^{And} ~~galling upon~~ ~~the American-Filipino forces to surrender.~~ In ~~one~~ ^{in one} pamphlet, the Japanese commander addressed our General MacArthur in these words:- "Sir. ^{you} ~~We~~ are well aware that you are doomed. The end is near. You have already cut rations by half. I appreciate the fighting spirit of yourself and your troops. ~~who have been~~ ~~fighting with courage.~~ Your prestige and honor have been upheld." And then the enemy commander goes on to request that General MacArthur surrender. Needless to say, the request has not been fulfilled.

Another leaflet appeals to the Filipinos to desert their American comrades. The Japs assure the Filipinos that if they surrender, Japan will help to build an independent Philippine Republic. The response

MALAYA

The latest from Singapore, places the Japanese within eighteen miles of the great naval base. The enemy advancing steadily. The Japanese are nearest to Singapore in the central area, where they are pushing down a railroad line. On the west coast they are about twenty miles away -- but only fourteen miles from the southern end of the peninsula in that sector. It would appear that the British are conducting a withdrawal to the Straits of Johore, the narrow belt of water separating Singapore Island from the mainland.

that argument got, was a loud laugh, with jeering remarks in various Philippine dialects.

There's a lull in the fighting, with the enemy mustering new forces to hurl against that almost incredible defense line in the Batan Peninsula -- incredible because of the way it has been resisting against such outnumbering odds.

The remainder of the Philippine war news tonight tells of a birthday message sent by General MacArthur and his men to the White House. It reads like this:-
"Today, January Thirtieth, the anniversary of your birth, smoke-begrimed men, covered with the marks of battle, rise from the fox holes of Batan and the batteries of Corregidor, to pray reverently that God may bless immeasurably the President of the United States."

LIBYA

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In announcing the fall of Benghazi, Cairo expresses the fear that some British units might have been trapped by the swift panzer drive. Cairo tells of a ~~xxx~~ lightning ^{thrust} ~~drive~~ by heavy armored forces and states that these cut to the east of Benghazi before the city fell. ^{Field Marshal} ~~General~~ Rommel's tanks slashing across the road along the coast, the road by which Benghazi's defenders would have to escape. So, if there were any defenders left, they must have been cut off. So says Cairo, though London says it was highly unlikely that any number of British troops ^{remained behind} ~~were left~~ in the city.

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Benghazi is a blasted ruin tonight. It has been ^{blitzed} ~~blasted~~ several times before. This time with thorough devastation - as the British blew up large amounts of munitions which they left behind.

RUSSIA

The news from Soviet Russia gives us some more of those complicated Russian names - more towns recaptured from the retreating Nazis. The main Red army ^{now} push [^] is in the south, where Soviet forces are said to be nearing the big bend of the Dneiper. If they get to that river bend, they'll have the German ^S ~~forces~~ in a bad way - threatened with being cut in two.

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And here's one interesting detail: - ~~A~~ Moscow story which states that German synthetic gasoline turns into something else in the bitter ~~low~~ temperatures of the Russian cold. The gas in sub-zero weather is said to disintegrate and turn into a light kind of oil - more on the order of lubricating oil. This is the kind of thing that might explain a good deal of the Nazi troubles in Russia - ^{if} Not only the troops, but also their synthetic aviation gasoline ^{are} ~~is~~ unable to stand the bitterness of Russian cold.

IRELAND

Today once again the Dublin government of Prime Minister deValera protested against the presence of United States troops in northern Ireland. This is called "aggression against Ireland and a violation of Irish neutrality." A deValera spokesman stated:- "Eire is determined to remain neutral at any cost. It is of the opinion," he added, "that sending American troops to the north represents an effort to force Eire into the war on the side of the Allies."

Up there in ^{Ulster} ~~the north~~ where the American troops are, the air defenses went into action today on the occasion of what is described as "some slight enemy air activity." Apparently it was exceedingly slight, a Nazi ^{re-} ~~re-~~ connaissance plane flying over on a scouting mission, obviously. It was chased away by British flyers.

The Americans, meanwhile, are making a most

favorable impression. Apparently the north Irish expected something like the doughboys they'd been seeing in Hollywood movies, and they are pleasantly disappointed by the demeanor of our soldiers.

"They're nice chaps after all," an old Ulster farmer is quoted as saying. "We were a bit frightened ~~because~~ of an invasion by smart guys. But they're just modest, likeable young fellows."

Well, for one thing, the lads were warned in advance. And the warning was phrased eloquently - the more so as a number of the American units are from the south and were under ~~thexxxxxxxxxxx~~ General Ben Lear's command at the time of the famous yoo-hoo incident. Remember the discipline that General Lear inflicted on a detachment that shouted "Yoo-hoo" at some girls in shorts? When our soldiers arrived in north Ireland they were warned by their officers that

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the British were a reserved people, not at all
boisterous. And that therefore the American troops
were to behave themselves in a fashion described in
the following words, "act like gentlemen and don't
yoo-hoo." They ^{boys all} ~~all~~ thought of General Lear, and
proceeded to obey.

HITLER

Hitler made a speech today, but I don't suppose he was celebrating ~~xxxx~~ President Roosevelt's diamond jubilee. The most striking thing that the Nazi Fuehrer said was the following:- "I don't know whether the war will end this year." Hitherto, Hitler has always predicted victory and the end of the war during the coming year. He did a lot of haranguing as usual, denounced^{ing} President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and threatened^{ing} us with a U-boat blitz on our side of the water.

TANKER

The late Navy bulletin tells of another ship
sunk off our Atlantic coast - the tanker ROCHESTER.
The ship was abandoned five minutes after it was hit,
and the survivors have been picked up. They ^{are}~~are~~ being
landed at Norfolk. So the U-boats have claimed another
victim off our shore. But on the other hand the news
tells us that they missed one. The tanker PAN-MAINE was
supposed to have sunk, but the Navy today announces
that the ship is safe.

APPROPRIATIONS

There's news about the two giant appropriations -- one for the Army and one for the Navy. President Roosevelt today signed the bill putting up more than twelve billion dollars for Army air power -- the construction of thirty-three thousand war planes.

And, the Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee puts its okay on the biggest appropriation of all -- the largest in the history of any nation. Calling for twenty-six and a half billion dollars to be spent for warships and for Navy war planes to give us the greatest fleet air arm in the world.

PRICES

President Roosevelt today signed the Price Bill. He said it's worth having although he doesn't like some parts of it. He referred to the Farm Price part of it -- the bill permitting agricultural prices to rise to one hundred and ten percent of that theoretical and sliding standard they call parity. This one hundred and ten percent of parity feature is widely regarded as a measure to raise prices instead of holding them down. The President indicated his belief that the Farm Price part of the bill might be changed. "Ameddments may become necessary as we move ahead," said he.

PARASITES

President Roosevelt wants Washington to get ride of its - "parasites." At his new^s conference, he suggested that the newspapers in the national capital should decorate their front pages with the following question in big type:- "Are you'a parasite?"

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All of this concerns the fact that war-time Washington is a badly over-crowded place. People by the hundreds of thousands have flocked to our national center of government. Plenty of them are war workers, ^{are} ~~and~~ there for reasons of national defense. - But, plenty of others are not. And they ^{are} ~~are~~ the ones the President meant when he said - "parasites." His idea is that all people who have no real defense business in the national capital, should move out. He described several categories of persons. Some of them are in Washington for social purposes, other because their children are at school there. And people who go to

Washington just to have a good time. All these, aggravate the housing shortage, and the city would be much better off without them.

Meanwhile, the Public Building Committee of the House of Representatives was debating measures to relieve the crowded condition in Washington. And this, for some reason or other, got around to the subject of the girls who work in government bureaus. And they got a raking over the coals. Congressman Wilson of Indiana stated the following:- "These girls comes to work without breakfast, having been out late the night before. They are sleepy," he continued. "They go immediately to the ladies' rest rooms and spend about an hour putting their make-up on." Then, "the Congressman concluded, "they hang around impatiently until it is time to go to lunch." And that's a dickens of a way to run a government office, although I suppose it sounds like almost anybody's office.

The Indiana Congressman suggested a curfew - ten P.M. All the government girls to be in bed by that time so the next morning they'd report for work, as the Congressman said, "with breakfast in bed by that time so the next morning they'd report for work, as the Congressman said, "with breakfast in their stomachs and their make-up already on."

As if all of this weren't hard enough on the girls Congressman Manasco of Alabama had another accusation to hurl at them. The government girls, he charged, spend their working hours at an occupation which he described in these words:- "studying the scratch sheets to see how the horses ran." Now, now, girls, that's really going too far. But, if you happen to get a good tip, I wish you'd let me know.

BIRTHDAY

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They say that a punch in the nose was struck in the White House today, at the President's luncheon table. And it was a lady who got socked, a lovely lady, a movie star - Dorothy Lamour. Now who would ^{poke}~~stock~~ Dorothy right on her shapely ^{proboscis?}~~smoller?~~ I shudder to think of the guesses that might be made. However, here's the culprit - a four-year-old boy from hell's kitchen [^] in New York, where the scampering urchins are not sissies. His name is Gerry King, and he has spent two and a half of his four years in a hospital because of infantile paralysis. He was a guest at a special White House luncheon in celebration of the President's Sixtieth Birthday, and among the other guests were a number of Hollywood motion picture stars.

Gerry was the center of attraction, and Dorothy Lamour wanted to kiss him. Gerry didn't like that so much, but he finally consented. So she gave him a

hearty smack. Then somebody showed him his face in the mirror, and Gerry howled at what he saw - ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ a smudge of lipstick. "I don't want that red stuff on me!" he yelled, and made a gesture in Dorothy Lamour's direction. Apparently, it was the sort of gesture rather familiar in hell's kitchen, because the news dispatch describes it as a punch on Dorothy's nose.

The White House luncheon with these lively doings was just an interlude in the presidential birthday, which was also a work-day. Among other tasks, performed by the birthday celebrant, was a conference with the Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, Dr. van Kleffens. He and the President talked over plans for the Pacific war, and the report is that a Pacific War Council is in the offing. Representatives of such of the united nations as have vital interests in the battle of the islands and ocean, are gathering in the

national capital, and we hear that they ^{are}~~are~~ there to
plan a war-directing group - this to be permanently
stationed in Washington. In other words, our national
capital to be the control center for the war in the
Pacific.

CADDY

The Treasurer of the United States lost a case in court today, and was ordered to pay damages to the tune of five thousand dollars. If you'll take a look at a dollar bill, or one of any other denomination, you'll find that it's signed by two officials -- Henry Morgenthau, Jr, Secretary of the Treasury and W. A. Julian, Treasurer of the United States. ^R However the law suit today had nothing to do with federal finances. The trouble grew out of a game of golf. In court ~~today~~ at Lake George, New York it was told how United States Treasurer Julian, who is seventy-two years old, was going around the course, and he had a caddy -- one of those caddies, apparently, who takes a highly superior attitude toward the golfer. You know the kind -- the caddy that raises a superior eyebrow when you slice the ball, and can tell you how you should play a shot in the rough or on the green.

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Testimony today related that Treasurer Julian

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was playing the ball from a dirt road running through the course. He picked up the ball -- and that, he maintains, is permitted by the rules. But the 18 year old caddy admonished him; He said in a harsh voice:-
"You can't do that." ^{And} With ^a ~~that~~ superior air he proceeded to give an authoritative version of how to play the ball from a dirt road. ^H Treasurer Julian said today he didn't like being "pushed around" by a caddy. And so the argument grew thicker until the caddy yelled:- "I don't need your dollar, even if your name is on it. You can take your clubs." He followed this with a lot more. ^H The result was a lively fracas -- seventy-two years old versus eighteen. The caddy testified today that he was hit with a golf club and then kicked [^] implying, in a manner of speaking, that the signature of W.A. Julian was implanted on him -- though in a different way than the signature on the dollar bill.

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And many a golfer's heart will go out to the Treasurer of the United States, including my heart and yours Hush.

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