

② L.T. SUNOCO Thurs. Nov. 5, 1942

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

The victory in the Egyptian desert grows in dimensions by the hour. Some are even saying today that this may be the real turning point of the war. Be that as it may, dispatch after dispatch coming from Cairo and from the desert front confirm the word that Rommel's Afrika Korps is now on the run, with ~~Montgomery~~ Montgomery in hot pursuit. For instance, take this ~~xx~~ latest from Richard McMillan, United Press correspondent out there. This American reporter wires as follows:

"The Eighth Army is mercilessly mowing down Marshal Erwin Rommel's Afrika Korps."

And listen to this message rushed to

British troops from the headquarters of General Montgomery.

~~He said:~~ "The present battle now has lasted twelve days,"

he says,
^

"during which all troops have fought so magnificently that

the enemy is being worn down." Then ^{*it goes on! -*} ~~he says,~~ "The Allied

air forces are taking heavy toll of his columns ~~and~~

moving westward on the main coastal road. ^{*And*} ~~He continues~~

~~with~~ these ringing words: "The enemy is ~~now~~ in our

power and just about to crack. I call on all troops to

keep up the pressure and not relax one moment." ~~Then~~

TP In the same message to his men he adds: "We have a chance of putting the whole Panzer

army in the bag. We will do ^{*so.*} ~~so.~~ I congratulate all

troops," he continues, "on what has been achieved.

Complete victory is almost in sight." ~~He concludes:~~

~~"On your behalf I have sent a separate message to our~~

~~airforces, thanking them for their magnificent support."~~

TP When a British General risks his reputation and the spirit of his troops with such words, one assumes that he has

the best of reasons.

Rommel on the run! What ^a ~~ixxx~~ thrilling picture!

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One military spokesman in London says it is quite probable that Rommel himself was not in Egypt when the battle started. And that Hitler's favorite Field Marshal may have arrived just as Montgomery's Eighth Army began to roll.

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What does the enemy say? An Italian broadcast was overheard today admitting the defeat of the Axis forces in Africa. Also acknowledging that the British claim of having taken nine thousand prisoners may be considered reliable. All of which the German radio denies. But the Italians may be in a frame of mind to be more candid.

The Westward road along the desert shore is described as jammed with truck and transport columns racing West as fast as their motors can take them -- and as the circumstances permit. For they are under constant fire from Allied bombers and the machine guns of British

and American pursuit planes.

The word is that American medium bombers and fighter craft are playing a ~~xxx~~ heavy part. Keeping up a rain of fire on Rommel's retreating columns. Also U. S. heavy bombers have been attacking Axis shipping in Benghazi Harbor, and have landed direct hits on four vessels; possibly a fifth. Benghazi, five hundred miles to the west.

Here is a still later bulletin. Rommel is threatened with losing such tanks as he has left. According to British figures he now has less than two hundred and fifty. These he threw into a desperate rear-guard action to cover the retreat of his main columns. But Montgomery's Imperials, with the support of motorized heavy guns have been picking them off one by one.

Colonel Benson, British Military Attache in Washington told me today that the new American tanks, the General Shermans, are performing in great style in this battle, which he thinks may turn the tide for the

United Nations.

~~Phoney~~ Nazio -1

Today's news includes an amusing account of the escape of four British soldiers from Tobruk. One of the men describes his adventure in these words: "Our plan involved getting ourselves up to look as much/like Huns as possible without wearing their uniforms. We joined one of their armoured columns for twenty-five miles in a British vehicle." And he continued: "We filled up our vehicle right under the noses of some of Mussolini's army. (he goes on to say,) One Italian^{'''} spoke to us in his language. I answered 'YA. And one of the others in our party knocked him down for luck." The British soldier adds: "Apparently this is the usual kind of treatment the Jerries hand the Italians, for he didn't seem to mind very much."

The story continues: "We all tried very hard to put on Gott Strafe England expressions and to look as though we were about to die for Fatherland and Fuehrer."

Evidently their expressions were convincing

to such of the Nazis of the Afrika Korps as they met. After driving along with a German column for a while they parted company unobtrusively. For several days they lived on dirty water drained from the radiators of abandoned tanks. It took them days to reach the British lines. ~~B~~ut they got there unscathed.

CRIPPS

One of the top men in the British Government made the following comment on the battle in Egypt. Sir Stafford Cripps, Lord Privy Seal, and Government leader in the House of Commons, announced^S that the offensive in Africa is not the only diversion the British will make to help our Russian Allies. As British and Allied strength grows, other ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ offensives will be started in other areas, ~~he~~ said ^{he emphatically,} ~~positively~~. And he used these words: "Let me assure you that His Majesty's Government is as alive to the need for pressing forward as any one of you." ^{To which} ~~And~~ he added, "We require no prodding but we do not intend to throw away the prospect of victory by ill-conceived and premature action."

RUSSIA

there is better news,

And from Russia tonight ~~the news is better than~~

~~it has been.~~ Moscow reports that the Red armies have brought the Nazi offensive virtually to a standstill.

In the Nalchik ~~area~~ ^{area} of the Caucasus ~~that~~ is particularly

important. ^{And} The situation there has ^{clearly} improved. Soviet

artillery has ^{just} routed Nazi concentrations of infantry

and armoured troops. In fact, the German drive in the

Caucasus ~~is definitely~~ ^{not only has} slowed up, ^{but} ~~and~~ at some points ^{it}

~~has come to a full stop.~~

~~actually stopped.~~ The Germans have been weakened, by

heavy losses.

^{soviet}

The ~~red~~ army newspaper, RED STAR, also reports

that the Nazis ^{have} lost thousands of men in their latest

attacks on Stalingrad. ^{it adds that} But, the Germans are still ~~attacking~~

attacking fiercely.

Day after tomorrow is the anniversary of the

Russian revolution. Stockholm dispatches report that

Stalin is expected to order a strong Russian offensive

~~as a celebration.~~ ^{as a part of the celebration.}

SOLOMONS

also

From the Solomons we have ~~news that is~~ fairly encouraging ^{news}. Word that ^{the} our troops on Guadalcanal are attacking ~~our~~ enemy to the east - and to the west. ^{both sides, east and west} To the west on the enemy's

side of the Matanikau River they are advancing steadily, and have killed ^{some} three hundred and fifty Japanese; captured ^{ing} fifteen cannon and thirty machine guns.

East of ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Henderson Airfield the Japanese

landed more reinforcements Tuesday night. Our men

attacked at dawn and were repulsed at first. But they

attacked again and made some advances. ^{American} ~~Our~~ army planes

bombed enemy positions near Kokumbona, ^{and encountered no} ~~on account of no~~

^{Kokumbona} opposition. ~~They~~ is a Jap post six miles west of the

^{Henderson airfield.}

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ airport, which would put it on the West of the

^{TP U.S.}

~~Matanikau River.~~ The United States warships also ran

^{blasted Jap} inshore and ~~showed~~ ^{on Guadal} enemy positions without let or

^{canal,} hindrance. There have been no Jap airplanes over the

^{island we hear} ~~Guadalcanal~~ since last Friday, when our American fighters

bagged four ~~of their~~ Zeros. ^{And recent Jap} ~~the~~ only naval activity

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by ~~the Japs~~ was the landing of reinforcements east of Henderson Field, ~~and that was done~~ under cover of darkness.

KNOX

There has been much speculation about what the Japanese fleet may be up to since its withdrawal from the battle of the Solomons. Navy Secretary Knox ^{believes} ~~declared~~ ~~that it had~~ ^{it} sailed back to its bases to lick its wounds. And he went on to say that at ~~the~~ the moment it retired ~~he said~~ it was vastly superior ^{His view is that the Japs} in numbers to ours. ~~The Japanese, he said,~~ are getting ready for another attack, ^{which come at} ~~and when they come, we will be~~ ~~ready for them~~ any time.

MIDWAY

The Navy today published some figures about the battle of Midway ~~which has not been announced before~~ ^{figures we have not had.}
Three squadrons of our carrier base ^dtorpedo planes were virtually wiped out. However, the Japanese in that same engagement lost at least two hundred and seventy-five ~~war~~ planes.

American squadron Number Six attacked the enemy with fourteen planes, ^{of which} only four returned. Squadron Number Five lost ten out of ~~its~~ twelve planes. Squadron Eight, ~~was~~ completely destroyed, ^{as we already} ~~But that has been~~ ^{known, because} ~~reported before.~~ Only one man, Ensign Gay, survived ^{to} ~~from Squadron Eight.~~ ^{tell the tale.}

But, adds the ^{Pearl} ~~Exerly~~ Harbor command, ^{their} ~~the~~ courage and their sacrifices were not in vain. It was that courage and those sacrifices which enabled Navy dive bombers to inflict such heavy losses on the Japanese fleet.

DRAFT

There is considerable anxiety in army circles about proposals in Congress to restrict the use of eighteen and nineteen-year-old soldiers. The Senate has already adopted an amendment forbidding the army High Command from sending them abroad until they've had at least one year's training in this country. Secretary of War Stimson protested violently against ^{that idea} ~~it~~ today.

He said such a law would hamstring the High Command, ~~as~~

~~the army~~ ^{TP} War today requires the utmost flexibility,

he pointed out. And he ~~added~~ ^{said further: -} "Naturally we plan to

take all the time necessary to train our men for the

strain and exigencies of modern war. We are training

troops better than ever before, chiefly because we have

learned how. We have developed a most efficient system

of training them simultaneously." ^{TP} And he added: "We do

not take men of all grades and train them together.

When we organize a new division we train the Commanding

officers first of all for sixty days. Then we take a group of twelve hundred more experienced men and train them for sixty or ninety days. Meanwhile the balance of ^{the} ~~the~~ troops of the division are taking basic training, learning how to be individual soldiers."

The Secretary went on to explain: "Our best divisions must be made up of old and young. This legislation that Congress proposes would tend to segregate, making some divisions entirely old men and some divisions entirely young men. If an emergency came along, as has happened already many times, we would have to disintegrate our divisions."

There is going to be a showdown about that one year ~~s~~ training business when the law comes up in the House next week. Hitherto the representatives have rejected ^e ~~thi~~s one-year training amendment.

A protest against the ~~one-year's training~~ amendment came today from the student council of Dartmouth representing the Undergraduates of the college.

It was expressed in a telegram to Congressman May,

Chairman of the Military Affairs of the House. The *Dart-*

mouth protest read: "We credit ^{*America's*} ~~Americans and~~ military leaders

with enough intelligence and honesty to realize the

foolhardiness of sending untrained men into battle."

~~and it concluded:~~ ^{*it goes on to say,*} "Believing this," we think that the

Senate amendment would only hamstring our Generals at

a time when speedy action is necessary to our success."

FOOD

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard spoke an ominous warning to ^{the} Senators today. In the last year one million six hundred thousand workers have left the farms. Farm owners now are obliged to rely on older and less capable workers. Wickard then said that if another million six hundred thousand were to leave agricultural work for other industries, the effect would be so serious that we might not be able to supply our Allies with sufficient food.

Wickard said the problem was to prevent men from going into higher-paid work. He admitted it was a most difficult problem and suggested that this might be settled by putting a ~~class~~ clause into Government contracts forbidding the employment of men from the farms in war industry. He suggested that all farm workers should be deferred in the draft, particularly those who have dependants.

Meanwhile in the House Congressman Knudsen of
Minnesota told his colleagues that in Minnesota alone
there are ten thousand farms on the auction block this
Fall, ^{with} milk cows ^{now} ~~are actually~~ being sold for beef.

ELECTION

The number of Republican seats in Congress has continued to grow since last night. In the House they ^{ve} ~~have~~ definitely gained forty-four seats. ~~That means~~ they ¹ ~~will~~ have at least two hundred and nine representatives, ^{to} the Democrats ^{two} ~~have to~~ hundred and twenty. ^{with} Two contests ~~are~~ still undecided. If they ^{two} ~~should~~ both turn out to be Democratic victories, which is ~~most~~ probable, the Democrats will ^{then} have two hundred and twenty-two, ^{or} a plurality of only thirteen over the Republicans; ^{and} ~~They will have~~ a majority of only nine over ~~all the~~ other parties combined. The three seats which are still in doubt are held by Democrats who are leading in their races. ^{TP} There are two Progressive representatives in the House, one Farmer ^{Labor} ~~XXXX~~ and one of the American Labor party.

Political experts point out that the Republicans have carried twenty states with two hundred and eighty-seven electoral votes, more than a majority

of the ~~six~~ electoral college.

In the Senate the Democratic majority has *also* been considerably cut down, ~~They number~~ ^{to} fifty-six *seats* ~~now in the Upper Chamber.~~ The Republicans, ~~having~~ *with* captured nine new seats, *now number* ~~are~~ thirty-eight. ~~in number.~~

^{is} There ~~was~~ one Progressive Senator, LaFollette of

Wisconsin. *In other words, the Democrats have a*

margin of seventeen.

The White House has made no comment so far

upon the election. Vice President Wallace visited

there today, and as ~~ix~~ he left he told reporters that

President Roosevelt was apparently in quite good spirits.

Mr. Wallace himself ~~was perfectly~~ ^{seemed} cheerful. In fact,

he considered it a miracle that the Republicans did ~~it~~

~~not~~ do even ~~better~~ ^{better;} that they did [']not win actual control

of the House with a vote ~~of~~ so light as Tuesday's.

Said he: "In an election of this sort the well-to-do

are the ones who find time to vote."

Senator Tom Connally of Texas, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said the Republican gains were not due to any basic lack of confidence in the Administration itself. He ~~considers~~ ~~considers~~ them a criticism of Congress, ^{for} ~~Establishing so many overlapping agencies.~~ He said people also disapprove of officials appointed by the President having the privilege of rationing food and gasoline. Tuesday's vote, said Connally, is an expression of the irritation of the people against rationing regulations and the way war agencies are operating. (He also declared that there was resentment in the agricultural districts where it is felt that Congress has been too liberal with Labor and too harsh with farmers. The gentleman from Texas described Tuesday's election as perhaps ^{epochal,} ~~epical,~~ a great tribute to the American people and to our system of Government.

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Senator Vandenberg of Michigan said the elections showed the people are dissatisfied with the progress of the war and tired of the New Deal.

Congressman Rankin of Mississippi intimated that there is dissatisfaction even among the Southern Democrats. He declared that white Anglosaxons of the South are disturbed by Communistic crackpots in key positions.

*If well, I don't know.
What do you know Hugh?*

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Politicians are particularly interested in that the part ~~that~~ women played in the last election. It is a fact that fewer people registered this year than in previous years. But the falling off was mostly in the male vote. That was only to be expected. For one thing this is an off year. For another thing so many men are away in the armed forces, and a great many others are living temporarily away from home as defense workers. All the women members of Congress who ran for re-election