

The success of the Fifth United States fleet against the Japs off the Marianas, is ~~described in~~ ~~Washington tonight~~ as perhaps the most important

psychological triumph of the entire Pacific naval war.

~~So say the naval experts at Washington~~

The first accounts of that engagement sounded ~~not~~

spectacular, ~~and~~ hinted at the destruction of fourteen

capital Japanese ships. But as the official reports

from Admiral Nimitz were digested and analyzed, we

learned that this was not the big show-down battle

with the Mikado's grand fleet, the battle for which

the officers and men of our Navy have waited so

eagerly. ~~And, and it should be observed here and now that~~

the main body of ~~the~~ <sup>that</sup> enemy fleet is ~~comparatively~~ <sup>still</sup> intact.

However, the action fought by Admiral

Spruance was of great strategic importance as important

as the Battle of the Coral Sea, ~~the Battle of Midway,~~

~~and~~ the great sea battle ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> Guadalcanal. ~~For one thing,~~

~~it achieved the result of knocking out at least part of the Japanese fleet and give an indication where it had been hiding out for the last two years. Furthermore,~~

It forced the Japs to withdraw; <sup>and now our</sup> ~~and that enabled the~~ United States forces on <sup>can</sup> ~~the island of~~ Saipan ~~to~~ get on with the <sup>job</sup> ~~work~~ of conquering the island without <sup>too</sup>

<sup>much</sup> further interference from the enemy. The Japs fled

in the direction of the channel between Formosa and <sup>the</sup> the Philippine island of Luzon. ~~While they took to~~

~~their heels, Admiral Spruance was ready and anxious to get it up and sink it with the enemy ship for ship.~~

<sup>They ran away with</sup> ~~The Japs had~~ a powerful force, four or more battleships, five or six carriers, five tankers, and a strong screen of cruisers and destroyers. But they were taking no chances.

~~Now~~ Here is the score! - Spruance's fleet sank one Jap carrier of the new Hayataka class, and three of

the tankers which were serving the fleet; ~~and~~,  
probably, ~~sunk~~ <sup>Also</sup> one destroyer. ~~It~~ damaged one twenty-nine  
thousand ton battleship mounting fourteen inch guns,  
one twenty thousand ton carrier, another carrier of the  
Hayataka class, one light cruiser, one <sup>un-</sup> identified cruiser,  
two destroyers, two tankers. In other words, fourteen  
Jap units sunk and damaged. Furthermore, Nimitz reports  
the complete destruction of three hundred and fifty-three  
Jap aircraft.

<sup>sea and air</sup>  
The battle began on Sunday, when carrier borne  
planes from the Jap fleet attacked the American task  
force. One American battleship was damaged and two of  
our carriers, but only superficially. They kept on  
fighting with complete efficiency.

The second phase occurred when reconnaissance  
planes of Spruance's fleet spotted the enemy <sup>fleet.</sup> Thereupon,  
our own carrier planes attack <sup>ed</sup> and our main fleet under

Admiral Spruance and Vice-Admiral Mitscher closed in on the Jap squadrons. As they did so, darkness fell - ~~it falls~~ quickly <sup>as it does</sup> in those latitudes - and enabled the enemy to run.

Secretary of War Stimson said the Battle of the Marianas will be a mighty impetus to the speed of our advance across the Pacific and into the inner defenses of Japan. The Secretary then pointed out that landings on Saipan and the attack of the Super-Fortresses on Yawata, of themselves show how the Japanese lines of defense are going backward all the time.

Secretary of the Navy Forrestal <sup>now</sup> admitted that the conclusion of the battle, although it was a victory, was also a disappointment. "Our Navy," he said, "is not going to be satisfied until the Japanese grand fleet is entirely wiped out."

He reported that dispatches showed the Japs <sup>were</sup> ~~have been~~ excessively cautious and never came far enough This is an implicit acknowledgement of naval inferiority, east for the bulk of our forces to engage them. ~~The~~

<sup>decried</sup> damage ~~that~~ we inflicted on them was the result of just one air attack from our carriers, at long range, just before dark when the enemy fled.

Our land forces on Saipan are already taking advantage of the withdrawal of the Jap fleet. They have made a further advance of four miles on that jungle-clad island, <sup>more than making</sup> ~~and made~~ good their occupation of the big airfield at Aslito. <sup>And the</sup> ~~In fact, our Navy~~ Seabees

have worked to such effect, repairing and ~~also~~ extending the thirty-six hundred foot runway, that American planes are already using it.

ADD PACIFIC

To cap that climax, General MacArthur sends word ~~to the country~~ tonight that the conquest of Biak island <sup>Northwest of New Guinea,</sup> is so complete that all its ~~three~~ airdromes are now being used by the U. S. Fifth Air Force. General Kenny, has his heavy bombers concentrated there for attacks on Japanese installations and they have already ~~been~~ begun operations. They started working on an adjacent island northwest of Biak where they have caused large fires and explosions.

## INVASION

At this moment, General Omar Bradley's flying columns are locked in battle with the Nazis in an all-out attack on Cherbourg. This final stage of the assault would have begun two days ago, but for the bitter resistance that the Germans put up in the outskirts. The American divisions have fought all the way to the north coast of the peninsula on either side of the great harbor. Thus they <sup>have almost</sup> completely surrounded it on land, and cut the German line across the upper peninsula into three segments.

~~Thereupon,~~ In order to shorten the fighting and avoid too heavy infantry losses, the Allied command <sup>today</sup> sent ~~a huge force of bombers~~ <sup>a huge force of bombers</sup> ~~in their bombers who flew~~ over the city, in an unbroken wave, for two hours, dropping their <sup>explosives.</sup> ~~deadliest and most destructive bombs.~~ <sup>This</sup> ~~It is described as~~ the greatest concentration of air power ~~ever~~ <sup>was</sup> over that area <sup>so far.</sup> ~~of the~~ ~~battle ever since the first day of the landing.~~

Five hundred Thunderbolts began it; ~~and huge~~ <sup>Then came</sup> formations of Marauder medium bombers and Havocs, ~~followed by~~ British and American pilots as they returned reported that their bombs ~~have~~ <sup>converted</sup> turned the whole area occupied by the Nazis into ~~one flaming chaos~~ <sup>an inferno of flames</sup>. The Germans put up a terrific flak defense, but the attackers ~~were~~ <sup>went right at them</sup>

Soon after the aerial bombardment had begun, great concentrations of a hundred and fifty-five millimeter Long Toms and a hundred and five millimeter siege cannon opened up on the German fortifications.

One correspondent reported that from where he sat, the Germans were being blown to pieces by ~~one of~~ <sup>just about</sup> the greatest combined aerial-artillery barrages ~~that have~~ <sup>of the War.</sup> ~~ever been delivered. The bombardment was so terrific that it shook the earth.~~

After two hours of this, there was a sudden ~~halt and~~ silence, almost ~~as~~ <sup>as</sup> deafening ~~than~~ <sup>as</sup> the roar



of the cannon.

Then the infantry went to it, swarming over for the final assault. As yet the outcome is indefinite.

It is estimated that twenty thousand of the German garrison have withdrawn to the Northwest tip of the Cherbourg peninsula. There they evidently expect to put up a last stand after Cherbourg falls. That does not mean, however, that the Nazi garrison has been weakened; even though tonight Cherbourg is in flames.

ADD INVASION

*Estimates*

~~Predictions~~ about the capture of

Cherbourg vary ~~from one point to another~~ *greatly.* ~~Even~~ this

afternoon we ~~learned~~ *heard* that even official reports from

headquarters hinted at a capitulation of the German

garrison within forty-eight hours. A later and more

conservative calculation warns us that it is impossible

to predict how long it will take to get the place, *and*

*then how long to put it in shape*

~~such fashion that we can begin to use it.~~

*again, so it can be used.*

## PATRIOTS

The French underground organization of patriots appears to be ~~going ahead like wild fire!~~ <sup>doing a stout job</sup> This we have on the word of an official report from London. They have virtually isolated Paris, cutting the city off from telephone and telegraph communication from all major points. They have snarled German military transportation all over France. They have helped Montgomery's armies in Normandie and Brittainy with attacks on the Nazis behind the battleline. They have delayed reinforcements of men and materials for which Field Marshal von Rundstedt had called. They have sabotaged underground cables.

In the Province of Lorraine, all traffic is at a standstill. Troop and ammunition trains from Germany have been de<sup>r</sup>ailed. In the Vosges Mountains ~~in~~ in the lower valley of the Rhone, they have seized several important localities. They have joined battle

with large forces in Brittainy, preventing those forces  
from helping ~~to~~ resist the Allied invaders. <sup>And —</sup> They are  
also fighting with large German units in the French  
Alps.

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Now Hugh, let's hear from  
you while I look over my notes.

# ROBOTS

London <sup>is still being hammered</sup> ~~underwent another heavy attack from~~  
<sup>by the robot planes,</sup> ~~the Nazi flying torpedoes.~~ The Germans <sup>say</sup> themselves <sup>of the British capital</sup> ~~claim that~~ the metropolitan area <sup>of London</sup> has now been under fire for more than one hundred and sixty hours. But, ~~even~~ they acknowledge that the British interceptors <sup>have</sup> succeeded in interrupting <sup>this weird</sup> ~~the~~ barrage, several times.

Both British and American planes <sup>continue to blot</sup> ~~carried out~~ heavy bombardments <sup>across</sup> on the launching platforms ~~of that~~ <sup>the channel at</sup> ~~doodlebug flying bomb in the area around~~ Calais. They ~~in~~ bombed that region four times in less than twenty-four hours; ~~Not only~~ medium bombers, ~~and~~ Flying Forts and Liberators of the ~~U. S.~~ Eighth Air Force, ~~dropped their loads of bombs on the taking off points.~~ <sup>hitting</sup> ~~The~~ launching platforms <sup>that</sup> are cleverly ~~camouflaged,~~ ~~but they have been badly damaged.~~ Technical experts of the British and American forces have been ~~examining dud~~ <sup>robots</sup> that fell into their hands. Also ~~the~~

taking off ramps that the American <sup>troops</sup> ~~troops~~ <sup>have</sup> captured  
~~near~~ <sup>near</sup> Cherbourg Peninsula. ~~The Allies are constantly~~  
~~improving their technique of defense against the~~  
~~flying torpedoes.~~

The gliders came over the peninsula in the night. The  
troops went up such a thick smoke-screen that they could  
not see the gliders. They came down about  
four miles from the east coast of the peninsula. Some  
of the gliders were killed in the landing. The others  
were saved by the French underground. The gliders were  
loaded with paratroopers. Just as it was over the  
island of Mandeville, German flak hit the ship and  
knocked it out of control. The pilot ejected and  
was killed.

All these men were fourteen days behind the German  
lines, <sup>living with</sup> ~~with~~ the French people of the countryside. At  
first they were a little wary of them, but they soon  
became friendly.

# PILOTS

One of the harrowing incidents of the invasion was related today by four American flight officers. Three of them ~~were~~ <sup>glider</sup> pilot ~~of gliders~~, the other a transport.

~~This happened~~ <sup>It was</sup> in the early days of the invasion. The gliders came over the peninsula in the night, and the

Germans sent up such a thick smoke-screen that they ~~men~~ <sup>in the gliders</sup> could ~~not~~ <sup>well</sup> see the <sup>in</sup> tow planes. They came down about

four miles from the west coast of the peninsula, <sup>where</sup> some ~~of the men~~ were killed in the landings. ~~But~~ Others

were saved by the French underground. The transport was loaded with paratroopers. Just as it was over the place of rendezvous, German flak hit the ship and knocked it out of control. The pilot ordered everybody to bail out and then followed suit.

All these men were fourteen days behind the German lines, <sup>living with</sup> ~~the~~ the French people of the countryside <sup>who</sup> ~~at first~~ were a little leery of them. ~~But presently they~~

## RUSSIA

The principal news out of Russia today concerns the battle of Finland. This was the second day of the latest attack in that region. Marshal Govorov's Red armies have advanced <sup>north of Lake Onega</sup> more than nineteen miles along that most vital railroad from Leningrad to Murmansk, ~~north of Lake Onega~~. And the eastern wing of Govorov's Army has widened its bridgehead southwest of Lake Onega. At the present rate of progress Govorov's will soon have that life-line railroad completely cleared of the enemy.



## ITALY

Since ~~the~~ invasion of Normandy began, our people have failed to appreciate the importance of recent events in Italy. So we hear from Washington today, where military experts pointed out that the campaign north of Rome is not a side-show, but is a contribution vital to the success of the forces under Montgomery in the attack on Cherbourg.

However, human nature being what it is, this is excusable. Not only is the invasion of France a long-dreamed-of event, but the magnitude of the operation, the size of the armies and equipment engaged, is so much greater, that it is natural we should now be watching the news from Normandy.

Of course, each operation helps the other.

<sup>the</sup>  
^  
campaign which led the British Eighth Army, the American Fifth, and the French contingent past Rome, ~~and almost~~ <sup>on the way</sup> into northern Italy, has created a great drain on German manpower and equipment. For this we have ~~not only~~ ~~the inference but~~ the actual testimony of prisoners taken by the Fifth Army. Some of the Nazis captured there have been rushed to Italy from Belgium and northern France, a sure indication that the German high command has been obliged to weaken its garrisons in those parts in an effort to stem the tide of the Allied advance in Italy.

~~and~~ <sup>comes the</sup> tonight ~~we have the pleasant~~ news that the British Eighth Army advanced fourteen miles in one day up the Adriatic coast, ~~and~~ captured <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ Ferra<sup>o</sup>, ~~that is~~ <sup>only</sup> eighty-four miles ~~to the~~ south of Rimini, and ~~only~~ thirty-four miles away from Ancona, a big port ~~that~~ will be a great asset to General Alexander when it falls into his hands.

The much discussed G.I. Bill of Rights is an accomplished fact tonight. ~~It~~ Became law this afternoon when President Roosevelt signed it, using ten different pens. And so we have the most liberal measure to benefit veterans in the history of the nation or, for that matter, in the history of the world. Officials of the ~~War~~ Veterans' Administration estimate that it will distribute at least six and one half billion dollars, ~~and~~ it will give protection to all veterans of this war, including the one million or more who have already been discharged.

~~According to the law, the bill becomes effective immediately. But of course it always takes time to set up an organization to get things going, investigate claims, and send out checks.~~

~~Aside from <sup>the</sup> outright payment of money, it provides for a fund, financed by the government, for the~~

ARNALL

President Roosevelt today had a visitor from Georgia -- Governor Ellis Arnall. As he left the presence, Governor Arnall told newspapermen that he expects the President to make a public statement shortly, taking the whole country into his confidence and announcing his willingness to run for a fourth term. As Arnall put it, Mr. Roosevelt will abide by his party's decision, irrespective of his personal desires.

Backing up their governor, Georgia Democrats at Atlanta tonight choose a delegation solidly pledged to a Fourth Term.

Arnall said, moreover, that Vice-President Wallace will be renominated, and that is worth noting, since Arnall is a Southerner and the supposition is that Southerners as a whole do not share the esteem of New Deal Democrats for the Vice-President.

Governor Arnall admitted that he discussed politics with the President. And, he prophesied that Mr. Roosevelt's will be the only name submitted to the

Democratic Convention at Chicago next month.

On the other side of the fence the Republicans engaged in drafting Dewey at Chicago now, are moving smoothly. They are obviously confident.

The boom for Governor Bricker of Ohio, according to late reports seems to be petering out--although he has many supporters.

The California Republican delegates left Sacramento tonight with Governor Warren as their leader. The California Governor will play a prominent part in Chicago; his first appearance at a Republican National Convention as a leader of National stature. Governor Warren announced that the California delegation is not pledged to anybody and will not engage in any "jockeying or bargaining" as he phrased it. The delegates from California said Warren, should hold a caucus Monday, decide how they want to vote, then step up to the plate, and take a cut at the ball.