

L. T. SUNOCO 1-- Thursday, March 2, 1944

RUMANIA

The latest from the diplomatic front tonight is that Rumania is following the example of Finland. The report is that Rumania has had enough of the war. The story comes from Budapest, capital of Hungary, by way of Turkey. The word is that the effort has not progressed as far as the Finnish overtures for peace. Also that the Rumanians are working through Stockholm.

General Mark Clark's Fifth Army has <sup>successfully</sup> withstood the <sup>shock</sup> ~~supreme~~ ~~force~~ of Field Marshal Von Kesselring's third attempt to throw the Allies back into the sea. ~~We have taken it and we have thrown it back~~ But the best that can be said is that <sup>Clark's men</sup> ~~we are~~ no worse off than we were before.

Three crack divisions of shock troops delivered the attack, forty-five thousand Germans on a narrow spearhead front. They came in screaming "Heil Hitler", riding ~~gayly~~ on the tops of <sup>those</sup> ~~great~~ big Tiger tanks.

The momentum of their first assault was so ferocious that it carried them almost a mile, <sup>making</sup> ~~until they made~~ a considerable dent in <sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ Anzio beachhead. But they didn't stay there.

They were hurled back by a combination of artillery, bombing by the air force, American infantry and weather.

The air force <sup>evidently gave them</sup> ~~gave the Boche~~ something he did not expect. Flying Fortresses and Liberators <sup>swooped low over them,</sup> ~~came down upon them hedge hopping.~~ After the big bombers had disconcerted them, American sharp shooters sniped the ~~prize~~ Nazi shock troopers riding on the tanks. Then came

a terrific wind followed by a ~~poiting~~ downpour. For once bad weather intervened on our side. While the Germans were floundering in the mud American G I's filtered through and isolated <sup>quite a number of</sup> ~~cutting~~ German units.

At dusk last night the American<sup>s</sup> counter-attacked, drove the Germans back and regained two-thirds of the fifteen hundred yards ~~that~~ the Germans had gained on that beachhead. Later today, General

Clark himself visited the field of battle and found that we had recovered every yard of it. Clark narrowly escaped being hit by a

burst of German shells <sup>marks</sup> ~~which~~ <sup>that</sup> landed <sup>near him.</sup> ~~perilously close to him.~~ They say he is constantly taking chances like that.

~~the casualties were on the German side and the Allies captured many hundred prisoners.~~

~~The Germans <sup>are saying</sup> also claim to have sunk an Allied freighter <sup>at</sup> in the ~~Argis~~ <sup>Argis</sup> - which they <sup>say</sup> they picked off ~~the~~ <sup>at</sup> Port of Anzio with long range artillery, and have scored hits on other ships.~~

Another item reported by <sup>reports</sup> The Berlin radio <sup>is</sup> that the Papal secretary of state has handed to all the foreign diplomats at the Vatican the text of the protest of Pope Pius against the bombing of the Monte Cassino Monastery. <sup>TP</sup> Secretary of War Stimson today announced that the Allied forces in the country around Rome will do their utmost to spare all historic and religious buildings and monuments, provided they are not used by the enemy for military purposes. The Secretary said he had no <sup>knowledge of</sup> ~~information that~~ the summer residence of the Pope's at Castel Gondolfo <sup>being</sup> ~~had been~~ bombed.

Secy. Stimson also announced that during the last two weeks American casualties have <sup>been</sup> increased by <sup>an additional</sup> eight thousand and thirty.

Mr. Stimson further pointed out that the battle of Italy is the most expensive offensive that Uncle Sam's forces have undertaken, <sup>so far</sup> ~~yet~~ <sup>shy</sup> ~~we~~ <sup>Italy</sup> ~~we~~ already have lost about a thousand more men than we <sup>lost</sup> ~~did~~ in the Philippines.

Not only <sup>Secy.</sup> ~~Stimson~~ but ~~also~~ Navy Secretary Knox repeated today the warning that we have not yet begun to feel the full <sup>strength</sup> ~~might~~ of our powerful enemies. ~~Edward Stettinius~~ <sup>The</sup> acting secretary of state added <sup>to this, Messers</sup> his voice <sup>saying</sup> Stimson, Knox and Stettinius all ~~said pretty~~ much the same thing: <sup>that</sup> "There are trials and dangers ahead of us far greater than any <sup>that the</sup> that the nation has yet had to face." ~~The~~ impression held by some people that the war is <sup>about</sup> ~~nearly~~ over is not only <sup>wrong, but is</sup> ~~quite mistaken, but~~ <sup>That we</sup> more dangerous. ~~We~~ must be prepared for greater battles than we have ever dreamed of, ~~yet~~ with ~~such~~ bloodshed, sorrow and suffering.

Secretary Knox pointed out that the stiff resistance of the Germans in Italy is only a sample of what our fighting men will meet when <sup>they</sup> ~~they~~ <sup>really move in on Hitler.</sup> ~~attack Fortress Europe.~~

~~Stettinius uttered his share of the warning as he urged~~

TP Acting Sec. of State Stettinius urges

Congress not to relax our lend-lease program. "So long as the war

continues," he said "so long must the flow of supplies to the war

fronts be maintained." And he added that "victory is certainly only

so long as we remain united. <sup>That</sup> The chief hope of the enemy is to divide

<sup>us</sup> from our British, Russian and Chinese Allies."

The air war over Europe was on again today at top tempo. In the RAF attack on Stuttgart last night, the third in ten days, six hundred British heavy-bombers dropped a thousand six hundred and eighty tons and lost only four planes.

Then the big Blenheims and Wellingtons had hardly returned to base when a big formation of our Fortress and Liberators headed for Naziland. According to a secret radio station in Germany the American objective being Frankfort-am-Main, last bombed on February 11th.

Again today the Fortresses and Liberators had an advantage. Once again Germany was covered by a bank of clouds which kept most of the Nazi planes grounded. But which didn't keep our bombers from leaving Britain.

The 8th Air Force lost eleven bombers and three fighters. And they shot down at least eighteen of the enemy.

## RUSSIA

Marshall Stalin's armies are now within measurable distance of their first big objective, all Germans driven from Russian soil. Such was the announcement made today in the British House of Commons, by Sir James Grigg, Secretary for War.

From Moscow, we hear that Red battalions forced the passage of the Narva River Southwest of the city with tremendous loss of life, and then swung in Northward behind it. So the Nazis now can't even escape from Narva by sea, since the Russians also have them hemmed in from the shore of the Gulf of Finland. According to tonight's newspapers in Moscow the job at Narva is about cleaned up.

A still more violent battle is raging tonight at the gates of Pskov. The Germans still have one line out of Pskov running South and West of the city. But it's already under fire from the heavy guns of the Soviet artillery. With Pskov in their hands, the Russians will have an open road into Southern Estonia



and Northern Latvia.

And then - still a third major battle is being fought around Vitebsk, where the Soviet armies under General Bagramian are attacking from North, East and South.

The fall of Vitebsk will open the way into Lithuania.

GRIGG FOLLOW RUSSIA

The British War Secretary today also gave the British pretty much the same warning that Stimson, Knox and Stettinius gave us. That Germany still is fighting with the utmost resolution; and with consummate skill, except where Hitler's intuitions have been at work.

He told the Commons further that the entire British home army has been reorganized for the invasion of Europe, the best army Britain ever had. Britain's war secretary in expressing confidence that the invasion will succeed, pointed out that an invasion of the continent can only be attempted because of the British Navy and the RAF.

He went on to say that there is no question of the Allies being able to obtain a landing, but that they learned from Dieppe, and from Anzio, that a landing is not all there is to it -- in fact far from it.

Sir James freely admitted that Anzio so far has been a failure, the original ~~purpose~~ purpose of

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that beachhead was to cut the Nazi communications with Rome and capture the Eternal City. "So far," he added, "it is too early to say whether the failure was justified."

Tonight we have an interesting revelation about General MacArthur's invasion of the Admiralty group of island<sup>2</sup> in the Pacific, almost a hilarious revelation. When he sent that expedition on its way, he had not planned on invading the island of Los Negros. He merely sent the boys out as a reconnaissance force. But when that reconnaissance force arrived ~~there~~, they found the enemy garrison so completely taken by ~~surprise so they hopped right to it.~~ <sup>that they decided to take the place. As a</sup> consequence ~~was~~ the penetration, <sup>and turned</sup> which is now being exploited into complete occupation.

~~Today~~ MacArthur landed reinforcements <sup>there today —</sup> ~~they~~ <sup>ins</sup> included troops, artillery, and construction equipment, meaning engineers. They promptly swarmed onto the Momote airdrome began work on the airfield, and will soon have it in shape as a base for airplane attacks on <sup>more</sup> ~~the nearest~~ Japanese bases. ~~What is left of the Japanese garrison on Los Negros is attacking vigorously, but the beachhead is consolidated and our positions there are secure.~~

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The police of Washington D. C., moved quickly today in that case of murder within the precincts of the great Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul, Catherine Reardon the attractive ~~young~~ librarian of the Cathedral was reported missing at a quarter-past-one Thursday morning, her body was found this forenoon in the sub-basement of the library building within the Cathedral grounds. Early tonight the Washington cops picked up a suspect, a thirty-four year old negro named Julius Fisher. Later, the police announced that Fisher had confessed to having murdered <sup>the</sup> thirty-seven year old <sup>librarian</sup> ~~Catherine Reardon~~.

Fisher had been a handyman around the Cathedral. Miss Reardon had often complained about his work, said he was lazy and shiftless. The police reported that late yesterday afternoon Miss Reardon gave Fisher some instructions about cleaning up the library. The negro resented what she said, picked up a log from the fireplace, struck her down, then choked her and dragged her to the basement. That is the story told by the police.

LEPKE

When Thomas E. Dewey was prosecuting attorney of New York city he proclaimed that the most dangerous criminal in America was a labor union racketeer named Louis Lepke Buchalter. Lepke was then in hiding, a fugitive from justice. Dewey prevailed upon the authorities of New York City to offer <sup>2</sup> twenty-five thousand dollars reward for Lepke, The Federal government already having offered five thousand. Lepke came in; surrendered. Thereafter he was convicted all over the lot, convicted in the Federal courts, convicted in the state courts of New York. The District Attorney of King's county, which means Brooklyn, finally convicted him of murder. <sup>And said that the</sup> ~~for this~~ soft-looking, cow-eyed Buchalter was just as dangerous as Dewey <sup>had</sup> said he was. He was proved to have been the head of a ring of deadly assassins in Brooklyn known as "Murder, Incorporated."

Lepke was to have died tonight in the electric chair at Sing Sing at eight o'clock Pacific time. <sup>But he</sup> ~~He~~ did not die because Thomas E. Dewey, now governor of New York, in accordance with the law, granted Lepke another postponement, Governor Dewey acted according the the book, since Lepke's counsel had announced <sup>that</sup> he was applying

to the Supreme Court of the United States, ~~for a writ of certiorari.~~

The district court and Circuit Court of appeals had already turned down applications for a writ of habeas corpus,

The stay of execution granted by the New York Governor came rather as an anti-climax to a day of excitement in which the name of Lepke, ~~Lapke, Lepke,~~ flashed repeatedly over the wires. There was the report that Lepke had told the Sing Sing Chaplain he would turn state's evidence if the Governor would reprieve him. This ~~report was~~ base<sup>d</sup> on the fact that the Chap<sup>l</sup>ian of the penitentiary did arrive in Albany today and visited the Governor. But the Governor's office gave out no information on this<sup>e</sup> subject.  
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And while this was going on, Lepke's name was brought into another murder trial, which apparently had no more to do with Lepke than it had with the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. This was the trial of Wayne Lonergan, accused of having murdered his rich and beautiful young wife Patricia. Lonergan's attorney made an oration in which, according to reporters, he became so excited that his voice cracked. He declared that he was being framed, that his client was

being framed. He claimed that the New York Times was trying to railroad both him and his client. Then he charged that a former attorney for Lonergan named Willard Ellison, had taken money "to fix the Lepke case," as he put it.

The text of the oration was such that none of the reporters covering the trial could make head or tail of it. Lepke was convicted of a murder which took place in Brooklyn eight years ago. Lonergan, whose path in life was definitely different from that of Lepke's, was arrested last year on a charge of having murdered his wife. The connecting of those two cases in open court <sup>is indeed baffling.</sup> ~~has everybody on the Atlantic Coast baffled and bewildered tonight.~~

I should add that Governor Dewey has delayed Lepke's electrocution only until later in the week, which means just enough time for the Supreme Court of the United States to act upon his counsel's appeal. ~~for a writ of certiorari.~~ Buchalter tonight learned that his execution had been postponed; <sup>learned it from a</sup> ~~from a Catholic~~ Priest. He heard it just after he had said good-bye to his wife.



The quadruplets borne by pretty Miss Nora Carpenter of England are interesting people in this country almost as much as did the once famous quintuplets in Canada. The quads <sup>apparently</sup> will not suffer for lack of ~~the proper fixings~~ <sup>what they need,</sup>. Miss Carpenter received blankets, safety pins, night gowns, messages, everything a young mother could ask. The two boys among the quads have red hair just like their father, Staff Sergeant William Thompson, who goes by the name of "Red" among his mess mates. The young mother, who used to be a bar maid, also belonged to the A. T. S., auxiliary territorial service. When she found out she was going to have a baby - ~~she didn't know she was going to have four~~ - she and Red went to the commanding officer of the A. T. S., who gave Nora a discharge. ~~They never tried to hide anything.~~

Both Red and Nora hope to be married when Red's wife divorces him. But Mrs. Thompson, a beautician in Pittsburgh, is a Roman Catholic, her father spoke for her and said that his daughter would not apply for a divorce and he added that the book was closed and used the words - "let Thompson sweat it out."

Well Ben, we have had more crime - and, quadruplets, than war news tonight. Now what have you to add - something,

cheer me up I hope.

ITALY

Dropped from  
late broadcast.

The fighting men of General Mark Clark's Fifth Army have finally put a stopper on the third push that the Nazis made at the Rome beachhead. There were forty-five thousand of them, forty-five thousand Germans in the narrow spearhead-wedge that led the attack.

In the Van of it were three of General Von Mackenzen's best divisions.

*and they*  
rode into battle on huge Tiger tanks shouting "Heil Hitler!"

The momentum of the first assault was so powerful that it carried ~~the~~ *the Germans* through American minefields for almost an entire mile.

But there they were stopped. *And* ~~the air force came to the rescue,~~ *had much to do with*  
*stopping them.*  
*the big flying forts and Liberators* ~~taking~~ *played* the role of fighter-planes,  
hedge-hopping and bombing ~~the daylight out of them,~~ *and shooting up the* crack Nazi  
shock troops.

After the first wave of the attack had spent itself, ~~crack~~ *Gen.*  
*Charles's* infantrymen went to work on them, ~~American sharpshooters began picking the Germans off the tanks~~  
~~with superb marksmanship.~~ *and* Then the artillery, ~~got into action:~~  
*with* American Seventy-fives, ~~also the hundred-and-five~~ *S* and hundred-and-  
fifty-five-millimeter cannon, ~~started pouring death into the German~~

with ranks. ~~Then the~~ British seventeen-pounders and twenty-five-pounders completed the confusion. *blasting the Germans; who, we are told,* ~~The Germans~~ broke and retreated. To make their confusion more thorough, a violent wind followed by a pelting rain, swept the battlefield. *This time* ~~For once~~ the storm favored *the Allies,* ~~our side,~~ while the *Nazis* ~~were~~ floundering <sup>ed</sup> in the mud, with attack-formations flung out on either side, General Clark's infantrymen began filtering through, and succeeded in isolating large units of the enemy.

~~The Germans paid heavily for the fifteen thousand yards they gained on that first push. After the barrage had broken them, the Allied command gave the word for the counter-attack~~ *The Allies* ~~at dusk,~~ <sup>ed at</sup> the Americans charged, under a moving barrage. And at latest reports they had won back most of *what the Germans had won* ~~the yardage in the dent which the Germans had made in the middle of the beachhead.~~ *on their latest attempt to push our forces* ~~into that Tyrrhenian Sea.~~

The Nazi communique broadcast over the Berlin radio admitted the failure of Kesselring's third *drive at the Anzio* ~~attempt to drive the Allies into~~ *Beach-head,* and told <sup>of heavy casualties,</sup> ~~the S Tyrrhenian Sea.~~ *to be sure,* the enemy claimed to have inflicted great losses on us but as a matter of fact the overwhelming majority

An attractive young librarian attached to the protestant Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul at Washington, D.C., ~~failed~~ <sup>to return</sup> ~~to come~~ home yesterday afternoon, after her day's work ~~was done~~. Her family <sup>became</sup> worried, and a quarter past one ~~o'clock~~ this morning her aunt notified the police that she was missing.

The library is in the Cathedral precincts, in the shadow of the majestic building which is generally considered one of the most magnificent churches in the country. ~~It is a beautiful~~ <sup>a fine</sup> example of fourteenth century Gothic architecture. Neither the Cathedral itself nor the library is completed. <sup>Today - this</sup> ~~About the middle of the~~ forenoon, the Curator and a young woman in charge of the Archives went down into the sub-basement of the library building. There, in a narrow well formed by towering bookstacks they found the ~~dead~~ body of Katherine Reardon, the missing librarian. ~~She had been~~ <sup>B</sup> beaten to death, her skull fractured, many of the bones of her body broken.

The Washington <sup>Police</sup> ~~cop~~ announced that they are looking for a ~~man~~, an employee of the Cathedral who <sup>failed to</sup> ~~did not~~ show up for work

today. The entire homicide squad of the National Capital is on the job, and all the entrances to the Cathedral ground<sup>S</sup> were closed. ~~The police, however, did not find the weapon with which the crime was committed.~~

Miss Reardon's friends and family <sup>say</sup> ~~said~~ she had only two loves, her Mother and the study of <sup>met</sup> metaphysics. ~~They also say~~ <sup>and, that</sup> she was interested in ~~the study of~~ astrology.

~~Murder in the Cathedral precincts - a truly shocking tale for the National Capital.~~

New York today bristled with sensations from the criminal courts. First of all a report came from Albany that Louis Lepke Buchalter, founder and head of a murder ring in Brooklyn, was ready to turn state's evidence in the hope of saving his life. ~~As the whole country knows,~~ He was to have been electrocuted at Sing Sing tonight. But yesterday the Prison Chaplain went to Albany to see Governor Dewey. The report is that the Sing Sing chaplain had come to the Governor bringing a message from Lepke.

Next ~~thing~~ <sup>that</sup> we heard, Lepke's counsel had applied to the United States <sup>S</sup> circuit Court of Appeals applying for a writ of habeas corpus. Normally, this would have delayed the execution of the murder gang leader. But ~~for~~ <sup>the</sup> presiding justice immediately convened the Circuit Court, held a hearing of the appeal and denied it.

~~But~~ The most extraordinary event of all occurred at the trial of Wayne Lonergan accused of the murder of his <sup>beautiful and wealthy wife.</sup> ~~wife~~, Lonergan's counsel, Edward V. Broderick, in a tempestuous and turbulent speech, brought into that murder trial the name of Lepke.

Broderick had already provided many sensations during the

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conduct of that trial. He had obtained one delay after another, on one occasion failing to show up when the trial was called and excusing himself on the ground that he had to go to Canada to obtain information. This he did without the permission of the Court, and the Judge hinted that he would discipline Broderick after the trial is over.

Then, a few days ago, Broderick, <sup>in a</sup> ~~made a~~ violent oration in court, <sup>ed</sup> ~~demanding~~ that the Judge discharge the Jury panel and declare a mistrial. *And, in his*

~~In that~~ speech he made grave charges against the Prosecutor; ~~even~~ against the Judge *too*.

<sup>th</sup> *Again* Today he broke loose with a tirade during which reporters described him as bellowing and screaming so loudly that at times his voice cracked. *This time he* ~~He~~ accused the Prosecutor of trying to sell the innocent Defendant down the river. *Also, he* ~~He then~~ accused the New York Times of trying to have him, Broderick, disbarred. At the top of his voice he shouted that ~~The~~ Times was trying to put the electric chair in the ~~jury box~~ <sup>*jury box*</sup> so that Arthur Hays Sulzberger, publisher and principal

*the*  
owner of Times, could pull the switch on Lonergan.

*Next*  
~~Then~~ came the most bewildering accusation of all. Broderick declared that Lonergan's former counsel, Millard Ellison, one of three attorneys appointed by the Court to defend Lonergan, took money in the Lepke case after Lepke was convicted. Broderick used these words: "Ellison took the dough to make the fix and when the papers went after him he fell down and now they are trying to disbar me." So said Edward W. Broderick in defense of Lonergan.

Reporters promptly rushed to Ellison, who declared positively that he had never had anything to do with the Lepke case, directly or indirectly, never represented Lepke in his life, never got a nickle from the Lepke case and knew nothing about it. *And so on and so on.*

~~This extraordinary speech by Broderick followed on an action by the Prosecutor Jacob Grumet. When Broderick first moved to declare a mistrial, Grumet opposed it. Today Grumet asked the Court to reconsider and to grant Broderick's original motion. It was that which apparently infuriated Broderick. He used these words: "You~~



know you are licked and you are trying to crawl out, that's all."

When the Prosecutor objected to Broderick's remarks, Broderick replied: "What do you think this is, a cream puff fight?"

Then he declared to the Court that Broderick was responding to the pressure of the millions, owned by the family of Lonergan's dead wife and the Sulzberger family and the New York Times.

At the end of <sup>all</sup> this, ~~amazing scene~~, the Judge announced that he would take under consideration the motion to declare a mistrial in the Lonergan case.