

D. J. - Standard. Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1944.  
Sunoco.

Montgomery, Ala.

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Theresa

~~One report is~~ that a junction has been effected between the two invasions of France--the northern and the southern. The rumor states that an advance party of General Patch's southern army today made contact with a unit of General Patton's force in the north. There is no confirmation of this, but it is possible. The latest official word is that sixty five miles now separate the two forces, but the troops commanded by General Patch are speeding northward against virtually no resistance, and advance parties may be far ahead of the main army.

End...

France-

In northern France and the low countries, the going was slower today. After the lightning speed of the past week, the pace had to slacken sooner or later. In one section, German resistance has suddenly stiffened, has become stubborn and violent. This is along the river Moselle where General Patton's Armor has been driving toward the fortifications along the German frontier, the Siegfried line.

As has been expected, the Germans, having pulled back so hastily for a defense of their own country, are standing their ground and fighting bitterly against Patton's third army. A crossing of the Moselle was forced today-after hard fighting, and late dispatches state that a firm bridgehead has been established on the other side of the stream, with troops and tanks pouring across for a new thrust.

Stories of the capture of two cities inside Germany turn out to be false, though American troops did cross over onto German soil. They were, however, just a reconnoitering party, doing patrol work. They crossed into Germany and came back without incident.

Summing up the situation, it would seem that the Americans have now reached the outer margin of the Teutonic fortress, and one phase of the battle of Germany is now on.

Can Patton crack the frontier with a headlong drive? Today ~~a senior American staff officer said without hesitation: "Of course the allies can break the Siegfried line."~~ And supreme commander, General Eisenhower, says ~~virtually the same thing:~~ "Battles will soon be fought on German soil!" ~~he declares.~~

The going today was slower too, in Holland-where the British have been driving so swiftly toward the great port of Rotterdam. In this case we hear that the pace has slackened because of the necessity of cleaning up nests of German resistance that the speedy offensive left behind. For example, the fortress of Charleroi, where a German garrison was by-passed. Charleroi was taken today.

The biggest nest of by-passed resistance is, of course, the sector of Calais, the rocket coast, where ~~the huge~~ force of the enemy has been trapped. In the big pocket the Germans are milling around, making frantic attempts to escape, and not knowing which way to go. They are described as exceedingly second rate, with a large

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proportion of old men and young boys, one prisoner captured today being a ten year old lad, in a full military uniform. It would appear that the pocket along the rocket coast will soon be cleared out. Canadian troops have cut through on both sides of Calais, and have closed in on the outskirts of Boulogne.

**Fellow France-**

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The latest from the battlefield is the disclosure that today Patton's army launched a powerful offensive, a drive toward the Siegfried line. And this may turn out to be the decisive battle of the European war. It is again reiterated that the conflict is one of savage violence with the Germans offering stubborn resistance.

And here's another of those picturesque details. At Antwerp, German prisoners of war and Belgian collaborators are confined in the Antwerp Zoo, for the lack of any other place to put them. Most of them are in the lion house, cooped up in the lion cages. And there, behind the strong bars, they look like anything but lions-more like rats in lion cages.

End..

**Balkans-**

A new outbreak of war in Europe, still another—this one between Hungary and Romania. Last night we had a declaration of war by Soviet Russia against Bulgaria. So while all the world is talking of the defeat of Germany and the return of peace in Europe, the boys over there are going into new complications of war.

Today's outbreak of hostilities between Hungary and Romania is a sequel to Romania's recent somersault—that Hitler satellite turning against Der Fuehrer and joining the Allies. Over here we talk about changing horses in the middle of a stream—over there they change sides in the middle of a war.

We hear today that Romanian troops, along with Russians, have crossed the border into Transylvania, a province long claimed by both Hungary and Romania. Hitler previously had taken it from satellite Romania and given it to satellite Hungary. Which made Romania sore. So now Romania, having joined the other side, is out to get it back. Whereupon Hungary goes to war with its former satellite partner. The Hungarians are reputed to be good fighters

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but it is hard to see what they can do against both Romania and the Russian Red army.

Meanwhile, in the new war between the Soviets and Bulgaria- the Bulgars have responded promptly, not with a violent offensive, but with a request for an armistice. A few hours after this particular war began, the Bulgarian government said-let's make peace, let's have a truce. Thus far there is no indication that Moscow is going to grant the armistice, and we hear of Russian troops pushing into Bulgaria.

In Romania, the Russians have pushed all the way across that country, and have reached the border of Jugo Slavica-capturing a city on the Danube. One major Soviet objective to join forces with the Juge Slavi partisans of Marshal Tito.

More important in a military sense is the news from Poland, where a big German stronghold northeast of Warsaw has been captured. The Red army break-through is progressing, a big time offensive designed to cut around and seize the Polish capital-in which city, we hear, the Polish patriots are still holding out, still battling the Nazis.

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Japan-

We are accustomed to warnings against over-optimism, and may be tempted to discount Washington statements of a long hard road *that* still lies ahead. However, here are some cogent words from Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, a line of logic that should make an impression on even the most light-hearted.

The Secretary tells us that Japan is figuring that we will not carry on to the end in the Pacific. "I think," said he, "the Japanese are counting on the assumption that we will be bored with the war, when the war in Europe is over. They still adhere to the belief," he continued, "that we are the kind of nation not willing to see it through to the limit."

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From which he went on to say that the conflict in the Pacific will be "a long and hard one." And he gave some pointed reasons for that. He said that the American victories in the Pacific, far from being decisive, may turn out to be a blessing in disguise for the Japs. We have taken or neutralized over fifty major island bases, as a result of which the Japs do not now have to keep those bases supplied with planes and equipment. They can concentrate their



planes in a much smaller areas.

"Not only will the enemy be able to concentrate his power," says Forrestal, "but he probably also will have more planes." And he added that there is evidence that the Japs have been saving their planes, and have been building much better ones, for a desperate fight in a smaller area.

End.

Jap Admirals-

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It is believed that the six Japanese Admirals, the killing of whom was announced by Tokyo today, may have been in a big Japanese transport plane that was shot down recently. Tokyo indicates that the six Admirals perished at the same time, as a result of "allied action." And Tokyo specifies that this occurred in the "command area of the Yokosuka Naval base."

At first it was thought that a bomb from a super-flying fortress may have ~~got~~ <sup>wiped out</sup> the enemy naval commanders, but it now appears that the B-29's have never bombed any target in the area named. The Yokosuka command area extends thousands of miles out to sea, and is believed to encompass the Bonin and Volcano islands. And in that sector on Monday a big Japanese transport plane was shot down in the Volcano Islands. Which makes it entirely likely that the six Jap Admirals may have been passengers aboard. On the other hand, there is a possibility that they may have been on a warship sunk by an American submarine-but the transport plane story seems to be the more likely.

Jap Admirals Sheet #2-

On the war front out there, the air blows are continuing, hitting the Japs at many places over great areas. Marcus Island bombed, and Iow Jima in the Volcanos hit again, also Davao in the Philippines. The remaining Jap positions on the Vogelkop Peninsula in New Guinea were blasted with thirty-eight tons of bombs-and the story might be continued indefinitely, the air blows falling thick and fast.

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**Kimmel-**

A son of Admiral Kimmel is-missing in action. This was announced by the Navy department today. He was in the submarine service, playing his part in the undersea warfare against the Japs in the Pacific.

Admiral Kimmel, himself, is one of the unfortunate figures of the war-charged with responsibility for the Pearl Harbor disaster, and scheduled for court martial. Controveray has raged around him, with demands that he be given his day in court, statements that the responsibility was not his. He still waits, a figure under a shadow.

And all the while his son was distinguishing himself in the war under the sea; lieutenant commander Manning H. Kimmel. He was diving officer aboard the submarine Drum, and played a great part in three superb cruises against the Japs. The sub struck afar into hostile waters, and scored crashing victories. During these forays into Jap infested seas, Lieutenant Commander Kimmel did his job as diving officer so bravely that he was awarded the Silver Cross, for what the citation called-"conspicuous gallantry."

Then he was promoted, given his own command. He became the skipper of the new submarine Hobale, and went out on cruise<sup>s</sup> against

Kimmel Sheet #2-

the Japs. The going has been tough out there in the far Pacific.

We have heard the ~~brilliant~~ <sup>brilliant</sup> word of the successes scored by the American undersea fleet, but its losses have not been so cheerful to mention. Today we have the news of the loss of the Hobbs-the twenty-eighth American submarine listed as missing. Its commander missing too-Lieutenant Commander Kimmel, eldest son of the Pearl Harbor Admiral.

End.

## Production-

There is much talk about plans for reconversion. That is turning industry back from war production to the manufacture of civilian goods. But in Washington today the following statement was made : "It will be unnecessary to have a planned reconversion." This was said by acting chairman Krug of the War Production Board.

Then, in explanation, he added that the nation will be amazed at the speed with which civilian goods will be turned out. In other words, industry will convert itself back to peacetime production at such speed that a lot of elaborate planning won't be necessary.

Chairman Krug today told of a leading automobile Manufacturer who says he will be turning out passenger cars in about three months after the end of the European war.

All of which follows yesterday's announcement that, as soon as Germany is defeated, almost unrestricted civilian production

will be permitted. And today Chairman Drug added that the war production board is not going to interfere. He promised that business will not have to go through what he called-"a lot of cumbersome red tape to get back into civilian output." And he added : "we can't wet-nurse two hundred thousand odd enterprises".

~~Moreover, the war production board itself will pass from the scene, when peace production returns it won't be needed. As rapidly as different functions dry up," said chairman Drug today. "We will liquidate that segment of WPB. Some of that is going on right now,"~~

## **Fellow Production-**

The latest is a Washington announcement that, after the defeat of Germany, the army is going to put into effect a thirty-seven percent cut-back. Meaning, that orders for war materials now in effect will be cancelled to the extent of thirty seven percent. And that gives added point to the rapid resumption of civilian production-which we will have to have to avoid a quick wave of unemployment.

**End..**



## **Espionage-**

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Tonight the state department confirms a story that diplomatic communications between Washington and London were cut off for two weeks in nineteen forty-because of espionage. This refers to the case of Taylor Kent, an American code clerk at our London embassy, who was convicted on spy charges.

Former ambassador Kennedy has told how the secret American codes had been turned over to the Nazis. And, when this became known, no further confidential communications were exchanged between the embassy and Washington until new codes could be established. This condition lasted for two weeks-during one of the most critical periods of the war.

The whole thing is decidedly complicated, but the simple facts are that, because of espionage, the Nazis had our secret diplomatic codes. And that caused a temporary blackout of American diplomatic communications-as revealed by former ambassador Kennedy, and now confirmed by the State Department.

End...

Dewey-

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Tonight we have another declaration of non-partisanship in foreign affairs—a declaration from republican candidate Thomas E. Dewey. This comes with the publication of letters exchanged between Dewey and Secretary of State Cordell Hull. They corresponded with reference to the conferences which Secretary Hull had with John Foster Dulles, who represented Dewey.

Both the Secretary and the candidate express great satisfaction with the agreements that were reached, agreements for keeping the question of post-war international relations out of politics. Dewey states the principle in these words:

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"We must wage peace as we wage war—on a non-partisan basis."

End...

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And now a few final non-partisan words from Leland Childs, speaking from Mont., Ala., for Stan. of Calif.