

L.J. - Sunoco Friday, Sept. 13, 1940.

46

A new angle in the bombing of London was dramatized today by an official announcement - a denial. The British ministry of Information comes forward to contradict reports that the Government and the Royal Court are about to leave

the capital.) The statement reads:- "Allegations of this kind from German and German-controlled sources are to be expected within ^a~~the~~ few days, as the German propaganda Ministry is redoubling its efforts to convince the world that London's morale is cracking."

Unofficial sources in London point out that as long as two years ago plans were made for the government to evacuate the capital if such should become necessary. This dates back to the time of the Munich crisis, when war threatened in Nineteen Thirty-eight. The plan, however, is not now being considered. Such is the official word, which asserts that the British government and King George are not thinking of leaving. They're going to stick ~~x~~ it out.

47

Today's bombing would certainly make it appear that it's part of the German plan to drive government and King

away. That's the ^{new} ~~mx~~ angle of the terror hurled upon the British capital.

actually went to the limit of
The Nazi air raiders today ~~plunged bombs upon~~
flinging bombs upon
Buckingham Palace, the House of Parliament, and Downing Street - site of British ministries, *home of the Prime Minister.*

A British newspaper man gives an eye-witness account of the attack on the palace. He was nearby, and tells what he heard and saw. "The noise of engines was heard," he relates, "and then a plane was seen diving from the ~~xixixix~~ clouds. As the plane came over the center of the palace, the pilot appeared to cut his engine, and the machine lost speed. Then came the whistle of bombs, and explosions were heard in ~~xxx~~ rapid succession. The force of the explosions," he adds, "threw me to the ground and pieces of stone masonry fell in the Buckingham Palace ~~R~~ow."

King George and Queen Elizabeth were in the palace when it was hit - but they were uninjured. The monarchs, like any other Londoners, were in an air raid shelter - the under-ground refuge beneath the royal residence. They waited,

48

with Buckingham officials and employees - while high explosives crashed upon the stately ~~xfi~~ edifice. Three persons were injured, three plumbers who were at work and failed to go to the air raid ~~xfi~~ shelter.

Buckingham palace and
Five explosive bombs hit ~~the palace and its~~ grounds.

One smashed the private chapel in the south wing, blasted the chapel to ruins. Two exploded in the inner quadrangle. Two others crashed in the roadway between the palace gates and the Victoria Memorial.

One bomb broke a palace watermain, causing a fountain ~~w~~ to spurt high in the air. Another dug a crater ten feet deep and ^{feet} twenty [^] in diameter. The blast was so powerful that it twisted massive iron railings into tangled grotesque shapes. Yet, on the very edge of the crater the explosion left patches of flowers quite undisturbed, not a petal disarranged. In addition to the explosive bomb, incendiary missiles were showered on Buckingham Palace, but soldiers of the Guards at nearby ~~Willington~~ Wellington Barracks put out the flames.

49
—

The House of ~~Lxxx~~ Lords was hit, one wing of the stately Parliament Building. An incendiary bomb crashed onto the roof of the hall where the Peers of the realm hold their ~~delix~~ deliberation. And fire bombs were flung into Downing Street, near famous Number Ten - the Home of the Prime Minister.

The delayed ~~xixx~~ time-bomb at St. Paul's Cathedral is still unexploded. The story is the same as last night - the blast may go off at any time. The bomb is buried in the ground, near the cathedral, and seems to be a huge five hundred pound missile. Today a sandbag barricade was built around the menacing site, to minimize the burst, if and when it comes.

British censorship is releasing more information about the damage done in the London bombings. Today we have a list of places hit, and it sounds like a guidebook for sightseers in the British capital. Bombs played havoc with

such places as ultra fashionable ~~R~~otten Row, Somerset House where Shakespeare's ~~Will~~ is kept, St. Swithin's Church where

50

the poet Dryden was married, and other churches like St.

Magnus the Martyr, St. Mary's at Hill, ~~RexxEmxxxxi~~ St. Dunstan's

in the East, St. Clement Eastcheap, and the list goes on and on.

Today, London had the longest daylight air raid of the war, and the dispatches state that all normal life was dislocated.

- today -

Even in the daytime [^] the great capital had a ghostlike appearance.

Few people in the streets, everything closed ^{over} ~~is in~~ large areas,

- the Savoy, Carlton and so on -

street crowds taking refuge in swanky hotels [^] dock workers

and titled nobility hob-nobing in wartime democracy. All

day London was bombed in the longest daylight air raiding -

and tonight the attack continues with unabated fury. Yet

the British say that, if all this horror is intended to pave

the way ~~xx~~ for invasion, it ~~x~~ has failed. The damage ~~xxx~~ has

been enormous, but the essential British defenses are intact.

The bombing of London will not make the Nazi conquest of

England any easier - the invasion which is still ~~xx~~ expected

at any time.

the are
And British [^] ~~is~~ striking back harder than ever. Today

51

Berlin admitted that R.A.F. planes have bombed Essen, the Number one area of plants and factories in the industrial Ruhr. Royal Air Force bombers in the past twenty-four hours have smashed at the most vital of German transport and supply centers - although the weather was bad, "generally foul", says the London Air Ministry. British war planes attacked in the face of the greatest difficulties. In bombing Essen they ran into what is called - "Icing conditions," ice ^{forming} ~~falling~~ on wings. At another place two bombers flew through dense clouds to the attack, and ran afoul of a German balloon barrage. One bomber scraped a Balloon cable with its wing-tip but went on to do its job of havoc.

52

Heavy traffic in the Brussels freight yards was hit. The targets were long lines of freight cars crammed with war material. Bombs crashed, and the London Air Ministry describes what happened in these words:- "there was a series of green colored explosions," it says, "and a fire two hundred yards long was seen in the middle of the sidings."

Thus the two air powers hit back and forth - in this frightful war of the air.

PERSHING

General ^{Pershing}~~Pershing~~ got a birthday present today.

He's eighty years old, and an appropriate present it was for the distinguished soldier who commanded the A.E.F. in France in the first World War. In a White House ceremony President Roosevelt personally conferred the distinguished Service

Cross on Pershing. The decoration does not concern anything

that occurred in the days of the A.E.F. but points to an episode of earlier date - twenty-seven years ago, in the

Philippines. The citation reads: "Extraordinary heroism in action against hostile fanatical moros at Mt. Bagsak, Jolo, Philippine Islands, on June 15, 1913.

53
The United States troops were in battle with the Moros and were assaulting a position held by the fanatical tribesman. The advance line of American troops was only fifteen ~~xxx~~ yards from the ~~Mr~~ Moros position. Things were critical. The attack was ~~wavering~~ wavering. Pershing, then fifty three years old, personally assumed command of the line of assault and lead it in the final charge - capturing the enemy stronghold.

This exploit was not forgotten. In Nineteen
Twenty-Two Congress awarded General Pershing the Distinguished
Service Cross for the exploit in the Philippine Islands.
He refused it then, but today he accepted it from the hands
of the President - on Pershing's Eightieth Birthday.

WILKIE

The other evening we had the story of how Henry Ford had a conference with Wendell Willkie, and after talking things over with the Republican Candidate, he and his party had lunch in a ~~XXXXXX~~ restaurant. They were served by a nineteen year old ~~XXXXXXXX~~ waitress. Upon ~~x~~ departing, the Ford party left the waitress a forty-six dollar tip. Today we have another luncheon incident, but this time it ~~concerns~~ concerns not Ford, but Willkie.

54
Wendell Willkie

The ~~Republican candidate~~ was in Chicato today staging

what is called - "A whirlwind campaign." He dashed ~~hither~~ hither and thither in the windy city, and made impromptu speeches whenever called upon - which was often. He addressed ~~XXXXXX~~ railroad station crowd^s, a throng of cow punchers at the stockyards, a few thousand workers at a packing house, and an audience of factory hands at an electrical plant. It was all informal, rough and ready, right down to earth.

In the afternoon, Willkie spotted a lunch room where laborers had their meals, ~~In~~ he went with Mrs. Willkie for a bite of lunch. They had soup, sandwiches and coffee.

What about the lunch wagon proprietor? He was a bit surprised, but tonight he says he isn't worried. Maybe he's a Republican and thinks the price of the check is his contribution to the G.O.P. campaign fund. Or maybe he surmises that the Republican standard bearer for the presidency may send him a bank draft for the eighty-cents, or the dollar and a quarter, or whatever it was.

Yes, it was all so ^{completely} ~~very~~ unassuming, just a good fellow.

Especially when Willkie in making his series of impromptu speeches proceeded to express himself in slang. To the crowd at the Union Station he said:- ~~xxx~~ "You'll hear the truth ~~ixpxixm~~ in plain Indiana language that nobody will misunderstand."

At the stockyards he climbed on a green and yellow hay wagon and plaeged himself to an audience of five hundred cow hands and farmers. "If you elect me president," he cried, "I will ~~mxmxmxm~~ never send an American boy to fight across the sea. I want to make America free," said he, "so no dictator will ever strike here." He called himself "just an ordinary ~~mxix~~ raiser of hogs." And he added: "I worked

55

as hard as any guy in this crowd. I will do as much work with
my hands as any ~~do~~ gone one of you." ^{only} ~~And~~ he didn't say
"da^w gone".

56

He referred to rumors about what the ~~Kelly~~ Kelly-
Nash machine would do if Willkie invaded Chicago. But invade
Chicago he did - and how. Here's a ~~ix~~ late flash about the
Willkie whirlwind in the Windy City. The Republican candidate
was passing a W.P.A. ~~projecix~~ project building, and that might
not seem such a favorable locality for the opponent of a
third term. A throng of women workers crowded at the windows
to get a look at him, and they got - a thrill. When they
waved to Willkie, he winked at them. He winked repeatedly,
which made the women quite enthusiastic. A minute later it
was observed there was something wrong with the Willkie eye.
One of his party went to work getting a cinder out of it -
presumably the eye that had done the winking.

BASEBALL

What would you say about somebody who is considering the possibility of Brooklyn winning the penant? No doubt, you'd exclaim that it must be the wildest-eyed Flatbush rooter beyond the Brooklyn bridge. But no, not at all - it's Judge Landis. Not ~~w~~ that the Czar of Baseball has gone haywire as a Dodger fan. It's merely a case of Judge Landis announcing the schedule for the World Series. The National League gets the opening of the series, and we all know what that means - Cincinnati. However, the supreme arbiter of baseball cannot take anything for granted, and must give consideration to the ~~xxxxxx~~ merest mathematical possibility. Brooklyn still has a chance, although it is way down to the vanishing point. So Judge Landis makes his announcement as follows:- "The World Series will open on October Second - in Cincinnati or Brooklyn," *say the Judge.*

57

The first two games will be played there. What about the next two ~~games~~, or maybe three? Well, ~~there you have a wide selection indeed.~~ The American League pennant race is so scrambled that no less than five teams have a

mathematical chance. ~~The Chicago White Sox, the New York Yankees, the Detroit Tigers, the Boston Red Sox, or the Cleveland Indians.~~ In fact, ^{and} it's anybody's guess between the Yanks, Indians and Tigers.

World Series - if it goes the limit
If necessary, the ~~series~~ will adjourn back to the National League Park, either Cincinnati or Brooklyn, allowing for that last gasp of a Dodger chance.

THIRTEENTH

This being Friday the Thirteenth, let's take a look at a girl who is not superstitious. No, not at all - and she's good to look at too. She's Miss Frances Marie Burke - but her name is also "Miss America." She's the recent winner of the Atlantic City Beauty Contest. Today, Miss America celebrated Friday the Thirteenth with a brisk defiance of superstitious notions about hard luck and ill omens.

"Jinxes don't mean a thing to me", she proclaims.

58
"I got out of bed on the wrong side this morning, broke a pocket mirror from my purse, and went in and sat on the table." That's now the brave beauty & defied superstition on Friday the Thirteenth. In explanation, she adds:- "Wasn't my Number Thirteen in the Atlantic City Beauty Contest, and didn't I win?" Moreover, her number was thirteen in the Philadelphia competition of pulchritude, the winning of which put her in the Atlantic City finals.

Today, Friday the thirteenth, she signed her thirteenth contract for a modelling job, and is making her first public appearance as Miss America.

8/12

It's an encouraging thing to behold - a clear minded girl who is too intelligent and rational ~~to~~ to pay any attention whatever to any kind of superstition. Well - nearly any kind. There's one thing that Miss America won't do. ~~she won't do.~~ She won't pass anybody on a stairway - because that does bring hard luck, says she. ~~if~~ If she's going upstairs and see anybody coming down, she'll stop and wait. She explains it this way:- "I'll let all the black ~~xi~~ cats run circles around me - but I just don't like to pass anyone

59

So
on a stairway," says the almost not superstitious Miss America.

59 1/4

Hugh, you are not superstitious are you? And by the way have you anything in mind that will bring us good lucks on Friday the 13th?