

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Excited Nazi broadcasts today declared : "This is D-Day." And the German controlled radio at Prais said: "The invasion might take place tomorrow."

So let's see why:

The all-out offensive in Italy is being called the first blow in the knock-out offensive, of which the Second Front Invasion launched from Britain will be the most important feature.

This is stated repeatedly in dispatches from Allied headquarters at Naples, and is termed "official." For example, take the lead in today's late story flashed by United Press Correspondent Reynolds Packard. He cables: "The Allied Fifth and Eighth Armies, in what was officially called the first blow of a final assault to crush Nazi Germany, opened a general offensive today."

Washington tells us General Clark, Commander of

American troops in Italy\* was recently in the United States, conferring with President Roosevelt at his vacation place in the South, and with Chief of Staff General Marshall.

at his vacation place in the South, and with Chief ~~staff~~ of Staff General Marshall. ~~(The obvious intimation is that General Clark, was ever here to talk over final plans for the big assault that began today.)~~ And this, in itself, would place portentous emphasis on the new climax of the battle in Italy.

From Allied headquarters at the Front, we are told that today's event was ~~xx~~ preceded by a complete regrouping of the Allied forces all along the war front across the Italian peninsula. For weeks, the troops were shifted, units realligned, ~~with the British Eighth Army taking over a much larger extent of the battle line than they had previously occupied.~~ The Eighth Army had been over on the Adriatic side, but now we hear that the British, in the great reshuffling of forces, moved over toward the Cassino area, ~~and now occupy the whole front except for that sector of such bitter fighting - Cassino.~~

Where the American Fifth Army is concentrated. This must mean a colossal massing of American force at that vital point. Cassino is the gateway of the broad valley that leads up to Rome, and the Major blow will be in that direction.



We are told that the great regrouping, going on for a week, was conducted so stealthily that the Germans had only the vaguest idea of what was happening. They were so in ignorance of it, <sup>that</sup> they threw propaganda leaflets at the wrong troops - the British getting arguments meant for the Americans, and so on.

With secrecy the policy, the assault began with the utmost suddenness. Right down to a ~~late~~ hour last night, the prolonged lull along the front continued. - And then, bang, with one sudden violent eruption, Allied guns opened the greatest cannonade that the Italian campaign has known thus far. Everywhere the deluge of shells descended upon ~~the enemy positions~~ the enemy positions. For two hours the cataclysmic barrage continued, and then the infantry went into action.

The latest news indicates ~~that~~ what is called "satisfactory progress." At one point after another the Allied troops forced their way forward. In particular, they drove across the rivers, on which the Germans had based their front. We ~~now~~ hear that the largest advance was in the neighborhood of Cassino - a push forward of two thousand yards. The idea is to drive around ~~the~~ and outflank





London tells us that the greatest air assault to date was launched against the Nazis today. Also, we hear that the greatest air battle on record was fought.

Forty-five hundred Allied warplanes assailed the enemy all the way from the invasion coast of France to Central Germany, and more than six thousand tons of bombs were hurled upon the Nazis by the time the day ended.

In all this widespread air activity, the major blow was struck by two-thousand American heavy bombers and fighters, which hit a center so vital that it might be called the very heart of the Nazi war machine. The targets were five great German synthetic oil plants, in the general area of Leipzig.

~~Oil is, of course, the life blood of any modern fighting force. The objective of the vast Nazi drives into southern Russia were the oilfields of the Caucasus. <sup>The Germans</sup> They went all out after them, but suffered at disaster. The only oilfields under German control are in Rumania, and these of late have been blasted by American air power based on Italy. The Rumanian oil fields have been heavily damaged and at least partly put out of commission. All of which~~

~~places increasing emphasis on German synthetic production, the~~  
~~great plants where they make gasoline out of coal. So no wonder~~  
~~that a spokesman~~ <sup>a spokesman commenting on</sup> In London, ~~commenting on~~ today's giant assault

against the synthetic oil plants in the following words: "Very  
 importance <sup>+</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> the entire course of the war".

The Germans too understood how important it was. ~~So far as~~

today's violent assaults against the invasion coast of France, ~~were~~  
<sup>concerned</sup> there was almost no enemy fighter-plane opposition <sup>there.</sup> Never mind  
 the invasion coast, said the German High Command, and ordered  
 everything to be concentrated against the forces attacking the  
 oil plants. The Nazis drew on their reserve of fighter strength,  
 which they had been saving up for the invasion, and the result was  
 - the greatest of air battles.

A thousand German fighters went whirling to the attack.

~~(There were four separate fleets of Flying Fortresses and Liberators,~~  
~~and each reported that it was being attacked by up to two hundred~~  
~~and fifty enemy planes.)~~

~~Tonight's~~ Tonight's dispatch from London  
 states: "The German pilots came out of the sun in groups of thirty  
 at a time. They came "in" singly and in pairs. They came in a  
 steady stream ~~xx~~ from below, their noses pointed at the under-



bellies of the American bombers".

The Nazi fighters flew into a hail of lead, everything that the American bombers and fighters could throw at them. They were shot down in flocks, their pilots ~~hate~~ bailing out by the scores. They were shot down so thickly that one American flier, upon returning to base, used this picturesque figure of speech.

He said he could have walked down to the ground on the tops of enemy parachutes.

And the anti-aircraft fire was equally intense. The bombers flew through a sky filled with flak. Innumerable guns on the ground hurled every shell they ~~could~~ could fire, and there were rockets too. The London dispatch states: "Ground rockets, spewing trails of fire and smoke, streamed upward toward the bomber formations -

exploding with great burst<sup>s</sup> of flame". *44 heavy bombers and ten of our fighters were lost. The Nazi losses are not estimated not yet.*

*If* Yes, the Germans went all out in defense of their synthetic oil plants, but the bomber squadrons got through. ~~(The Nazis had elaborately camouflaged the factories and had built dummies nearby to deceive the assailants overhead. But the weather was clear, visibility excellent,)~~ And the American bomber crews, upon returning, reported that ~~in~~ their high explosive had smashed the targets -

leaving huge fires sweeping those five vital synthetic oil

plants, at the conclusion of the war's greatest  
air assault and greatest air battle.

And the air assault is continuing tonight. Late word, just in, tells of R.A.F. bombers smashing the invasion shore during hours of darkness. As on previous occasions, the blasting of the French Coast along the Chamel is so violent that English towns are in trembling from the shock of the explosions.



Moscow announces that the number of prisoners captured,  
in the Crimean victory was the greatest since Stalingrad. In  
the thirty-five day campaign on the Black Sea peninsula, the Red  
forces seized one-hundred-and-eleven-thousand enemy troops, and  
killed more than forty-four thousand ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> them -- Germans and  
Rumanians.

## FRENCH ADMIRAL

The French Admiral who was on trial for his life at Algiers, has been sentenced to life imprisonment. The sixty-one year old Vice-Admiral Derrien, his uniform blazoned with military decorations, was ~~accused of on two counts. He was commander of the great French North African naval base of Bizerte when~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~was seized by the Germans early in the North African campaign. And one charge against him was that of having yielded the base to the Germans without resistance. The other was that of having turned warships over to the enemy.~~

~~Admiral Derrien's defense was that he acted on orders from his superior, Marshal Petain. And now after a dramatic trial, he is found innocent of the charge of surrendering the Bizerte Naval Base, but guilty~~ <sup>of handing over French</sup> ~~in the case of the warships to the enemy.~~

Either charge might have called for the death penalty, and there was much belief that the Admiral would be executed - as a number of others have been, doomed by DeGaulle's French National Committee. However, Admiral Derrien escapes with a lighter penalty - though this one is grim enough. The life imprisonment to which he is sentenced is called, in French terminology, "perpetual seclusion".

~~And this means that~~ He will be kept alone in a cell,  
solitary confinement, with only occasional brief periods of  
walk. And then when he does go for a long  
exercise outside - a stroll, a short ~~talk with~~ ~~and then~~ he will  
wear a hood over his head, a hood with slits for eyes - a kind of  
man in the iron mask.



PACIFIC

From the Central Pacific, a brisk air battle is reported over Truk. Meaning the big Jap base was ~~mm~~ smashed again. The bombers blasted the place with ninety-six tons of bombs, and this time the Japs offered some violent air opposition. Thirty enemy planes flew up to assail the squadrons of liberators. Six of the enemy were shot down, while two others were destroyed on the ground. We lost one bomber. The latest - still another assault on Truk - ~~sixty~~ sixty-two tons of bombs hurled on the Jap stronghold.

## SUBMARINES

Fourteen more Jap vessels sunk by American submarines, and on the list is another Jap warship -- a destroyer. Today's news announcement by the Navy Department raises the total of Jap ships sunk by American submarines to five-hundred-and-fifty-seven.

## POLL TAX

In the Senate today blasts of oratory were hurled at three rather oddly assorted people -- President Roosevelt, Mrs. Roosevelt and Governor Dewey of New York. Verbal brickbats flew in the course of that familiar debate <sup>on the</sup> ~~the~~ poll tax, the bill to abolish the southern device to keep the negroes from voting.

The Dixieland Senators were in high vocal form. Perhaps they were exercising for the filibuster they threaten, the plan to talk the ~~poll tax bill~~ anti-poll tax bill to death. Senator Ellender of Louisiana called the bill "a diabolical attempt". He stated it was an assault against the Constitution, and he added;-"The President should bow his head in shame for this political attack on that sacred document".

<sup>Then</sup> He went on to Mrs. Roosevelt, observing she had been cited as being in favor of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill. To which he shouted, "I am not going to say much about Mrs. Roosevelt, she has become so fanatical on other subjects".

It seems odd to bracket Governor Dewey of New York with the President and the First Lady, but the Louisiana Senator did. He referred to Governor Dewey's opposition to Poll Tax, and cried



"the upstart from New York is in a State which has no poll-tax-issue and says he is opposed to it ~ so that he may gather a few votes". Whereupon other Southern Senators joined the chorus, proclaiming they were for white supremacy.

As a postscript to all this, we may note a dispatch from Tennessee, stating that Tennessee Republicans have just concluded a State convention, with a declaration of almost unanimous support for Dewey as the G. O. P. nominee .

## MACHINE GUNNING

At last reports, it is not known ~~whether~~ definitely who machine gunned a passenger train in California. Just southwest of San Luis Obispo, the "Day Light Limited" of the Southern Pacific was speeding along and was raked by a fusillade. The passenger train was hit by nineteen slugs of large calibre which pierced the windows and ~~was~~ side of the dining car. Two negro cooks, women, were hit, and one has since died.

The train, when shot up was ~~was~~ passing camp Cooke, a big Army reservation. Some believe that the bullets came from a target range in the camp, although there is talk of a tank having done the shooting. A passenger tells of what looked like the fire of an anti-aircraft battery.

From a Hollywood court of law we have a singular drama of married life, ~~It~~ <sup>ing</sup> featuring an inter-action of baseball and wedded bliss. ~~and~~ The two characters in the domestic entanglement are Mr. and Mrs. Joe DiMaggio.

~~Today the missus got a divorce from Jolting Joe, and the grounds she gave dwelled upon the difference between the baseball season and those months of the year when there is no hitting or pitching strike-outs or home runs.~~

The missus charged that Joe was a neglectful husband - depending largely on whether he was playing ball or whether it was the off season. You might surmise, perhaps, that the mighty ball player was so absorbed in the game that he didn't devote sufficient attention to his wife, ~~while piling up batting records and making good fielding averages.~~ But no - it was the other way around. As a husband, ~~Joe~~ <sup>Jolting</sup> Joe was better during baseball season.

The complaint registered by Mrs. DiMaggio concerned <sup>Jolting</sup> Joe's <sup>Jolting</sup> ~~when as far as his wife was concerned he was~~ habits during the off season, "He left me home alone, very rarely took me out, and spent his entire life with his men friends", said he. And she added that he didn't come home until six or seven



in the morning - during the off season.

When he was playing baseball, it was different. "Things were better than", she testified. He ate dinner at home in those periods, and occasionally took me out".

~~It~~ In other words during the baseball season the mighty hitter was in training. He came home early and restricted himself to the delights of domestic happiness. But during the off season, Joe was out with the boys until six or seven A.M.

Today His Honor took all this into consideration and he was a sorrowful Judge. He said he was what he called "A great Joe DiMaggio fan". And it hurt him and it grieved him, but he thought the missus was right. The drama of baseball and domestic life was so affecting, that the DiMaggio fan on the bench granted a divorce to the wife of his hero.

## SPEED RECORD

Today a trip from San Francisco to New York was made in six hours and thirty one minutes. Figure out how long it takes you by train, and then compare it to that figure - about one fourth of a day. A new speed record was set - at an average speed of <sup>three hundred</sup> ~~three~~ seventy-eight and a half miles an hour.

An Army fighter did it, a fighter with the normal combat equipment and extra fuel tanks. The pilot was Colonel Clair M Peterson of Fargo, North Dakota. Colonel Peterson is Personal Pilot to General H. H. Arnold, Commander of the Army Air Force, and he shattered all speed records for Transcontinental Flying.

But that's only half of it. Another Mustang fighter which took off shortly afterward did almost as well -- and also broke the previous speed record.

At any rate now the new record from San Francisco to New York is 6 hrs. + 31 mins., which is going some, isn't it Roger?