

C7. - Standard. Friday, Dec. 22, 1944
Simoco.

Western Front.....

The story of the western front changes almost every hour. It's a relief to know the worst, now that the supreme allied high command has decided to be ^{tell} frank with us. ~~The situation is serious.~~

Since the last report the Nazis have gained from nine to twenty miles on the central sector of the sixty-mile front on which they have broken through. They have practically the entire width of Northern Luxembourg. ^R In southeastern Belgium they have pushed two strong spear head columns no fewer than thirty miles into the American lines. ^{and} They have surrounded Bastogne which is only ^x thirty-seven miles from the historic fortress of Sedan. ~~and they were~~ ^{what they} are still advancing.

Von Rundstedt's panzer columns bypassed Bastogne and joined in back of it to complete the encirclement. That means a serious blow at General Omar Bradley's communication lines.

The consolation is slight. The yanks counter-attacked on the northern flank of the breakthrough →

And brought the German advance to a stop. Nevertheless ^{two}
~~a~~ Nazi column ^{3 have} ~~has~~ bypassed Liege, one of the most important of
our centers of communication behind the lines. As long ago as
Tuesday they reached a crossroad fourteen miles to the south of
Liege, and since then have advanced ten miles.

It's a seesaw battle all along the line. ^{one} ~~an~~ American
infantry division is reported to have recaptured Malmedy after
having been thrown out. ~~And there are other similar dingdongs,~~
~~to-and-fro movements.~~

Add Western Front.....

Another consolation comes from the weather, the weather which to begin with was our worst enemy. But for the fog and the pelting rain, Von Rundstedt would never have been able to take general Hodges by surprise. But for that same fog and pelting rain our command of the air would have broken up the great Nazi counter offensive. *At last* ~~But now~~ the weather is coming to our help. The Germans are bogging down in heavy snow and deep mud. The rivers are swollen to such an extent that supreme allied headquarters reports a great improvement in the ability of the allies to control the situation.

The report that Patton's third army is swinging north to head off the German advance comes entirely from Berlin. It is not confirmed by headquarters. That report is none too reassuring since it would mean weakening our line on the third army front in the saar valley.

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Eisenhower Follow Western Front.....

American hopes and expectations were expressed in terse and concise form today by general Eisenhower. The supreme commander issued an order of the day to the American army, in which he said the Germans are gambling everything on their offensive. And he sized up the prospects in the following words: by ^{re} pushing out of his fixed defenses, the enemy may give us a chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat."

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Russian Reaction.....

Here is some interesting opinion about the German Offensive on the western front-Opinion from Moscow. A Soviet commentator today called it-"an offensive of desperation launched for political rather than military reasons." The Russian View is that the German army struck out for the purpose of gaining some military success to lighten the gloom of Christmas in Nazi Germany this year-a sort of military narcotic.

~~And here is an opinion about the prospect of a new Soviet offensive. It comes from Washington, where military observers say they expect a big Red army drive in Poland-~~that~~ in the near future. However, they point out that such an offensive, even if it were started now, would not affect the result of the giant battle on the western front.~~

For →

Russian Reaction.....

~~(use first paragraph of this afternoon's story, then add following)~~

The wires were hardly cold from that story when Berlin reported⁵ the news we've been waiting for, and the news that the Germans have been dreading. I mean the beginning of the winter offensive of the Red army in the north. The Nazi radio declares that the Soviet generals have thrown huge divisions, anywhere from two hundred and seventy thousand to four hundred and fifty thousand men, against the German lines in Latvia. Moscow says not a word about this, talks only about the fighting in Hungary. But Berlin also reports that the battle of east Prussia has come to life again.

Tonight's report from Moscow of the battle for Budapest is pretty much the same as what we've been hearing. A few miles here and a few miles there, more towns captured by the Red armies.

But the big thing is that the winter offensive in

sheet 2 Russian Reaction

The northeast has begun. It will not affect the German drive on the Western front because the allied high command has definite information that Von Rundstedt did not draw away any divisions from the eastern front for his break through our first army line. Still, it is encouraging.

Greece.....

The picture changes in the fair isles of Greece. Evidently the
✓elas forces opposed to the government realize that they cannot
fight both the royal Greek government and the british empire.
So they have thrust out the olive branch.

All the while, fighting was going on, sherman talks
of united states manufacture pounding the elas forces, plus
British planes and artillery.

The gist of the proposal of the elas is for a
joint commission of British and Greeks to supervise disarmament
on both sides on that Greek civil war.

Anything which brings that to a close must be
welcome.

*Now still staying from
North Carolina with a message
from State of Calif. and then
from the Pacific*

Roosevelt.....

President Roosevelt talked once again today about the atlantic charter, which he previously said did not exist as a formal document, with signatures.

At today's white house news conference he was asked about that statement, and replied that the principles of the atlantic charter were, in the President's own words, "as valid as they were in nineteen forty-one."

F D R Referred to people who are saying that the ideals of the atlantic charter cannot be attained. To which he added that some people don't always live up to the ten commandments. Was he comparing the four freedoms to the ten commandments? the President hastened to add-no, no comparison, except that in both cases there was an effort for a better world.

Now Gil Stanger, from North Carolina with a message from Stan. A Calif. and then more news - from the Pacific.

Filipinos.....

2
Four days ago General Douglas Macarthur issued a triumphant
communique that all organized resistance by Japanese on Leyte
had come to an end. Tonight we have a bulletin from Macarthur's
headquarters reporting that the seventy-seventh division of
yanks under Major General Andrew Bruce on Leyte have just advanced
three miles west from the Ormoc corridor towards the port of
Palompon. That is a port on the west coast of Leyte and still
held by the Mikado's troops. So one might think that General
~~Douglas Macarthur's communique of four days ago was either premature~~
~~or what you might call wishful thinking. At any rate, uncle Sam's~~
Evidently our people
~~soldiers~~ still have a lot of hard fighting to do on Leyte, and
Japanese organized resistance has not ended, since we learn that
American heavy guns are bombarding the town of Palompon.

~~Lap M Paid Longren~~

~~Ap Newyork Ny Dec 22 1944~~

~~Lewell Thomas~~

~~Winston Salem, N.C.~~

Phillipine Captain.....

Back in the dark days of Bataan, the American

And Phillipine defenders were aided immensely

by the exploits of a Phillipine sea captain.

Ko nay Jay ro

Skipper Lino Conejero (Co-Nay-Jay-ro) was the

ace blockaderunner in the Bataan campaign.

For years he had Navigated among his
native islands, and now he ran the Japanese

blockade, and brought cargoes of food, ~~rice~~ - *rice*.

Three times he took his vessel through the

cordon of Japanese warships and the third

time general Macarthur Decorated him with

the American distinguished service cross.

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Macarthur went further. He promised that, if the Philippine skipper ran the Japanese blockade again, for a fourth time, with another cargo of rice-he would recommend him for the congressional medal of honor, America's highest military decoration.

Captain Conejero set sail again from Bataan, and once more got through the Japanese blockade-but he never returned. The Philippine skipper simply vanished. What had happened to him? no body knew. In fact, he was forgotten---forgotten by nearly everybody save Douglas Macarthur, who has a memory for such things.

Today, at Leyte island, a small boat came sailing ^{Kōway-jayro.} in-and there was Lino Conejero. He said he had come to report to General Macarthur, and give an account of why he had never returned with that fourth blockade running cargo, which would have won for him a recommendation for the congressional medal of honor.

Phil. Capt - 3.

Sheet 3.

Here's the story:-He was on his way in his ship, sailing for batan, when along came two cruisers flying the british flag. That looked good to the Philippine skipper, the sight of the union jack of Great Britain. Then, as the two cruisers drew near, they ran up something ~~else~~, another flag, a terrifying flag-the rising sun of Japan. And immediately they opened fire, and sank the Philippine Ship, with its blockaderunning cargo of rice.

Lino Gonejero and his nimble filipino crew, were able to get off and make their way in a small boat to shore-after which the Philippine skipper spent the next two and a half years on Luzon Island, dodging Japs.

Now with the American invasion of the Philippines, he was able to run a Japanese blockade once again, and navigate to Leyte Island-there to report to his old boss.

Saipan.....

Super forts of the twenty first bomber command made another attack on the great Mitsubishi aircraft plant at Nagoya on the main island of Japan. They ran into fiercer opposition than ever before. Evidently it was a sizeable fleet. The bomber command does not tell us how large, but the Jap broadcasts declared that there were at least one hundred of the giant B-29s.

The sky was overcast, but the yank bombardiers dropped their explosives with precision instruments.

It was the third attack on Nagoya in nine days. The B-29 destroyed a number of Jap fighter planes, just how many we do not know, but every superfort got at least one Jap.

Follow B-29 Rescue.....

Here is another air war Thriller-This one with a twist of bitter Mockery. It comes to light with the return of seven survivors of a navy liberator who had been missing since mid-October.

The liberator flew in the bombing of a Jap island base, was badly hit by ack-ack and crashed into the sea. Eight of the crew got out, some of them injured, and succeeded in getting to the shore of a nearby island. There they awaited rescue, and their hopes rose high the next day-when an American bomber appeared overhead.

But the bomber, instead of spotting the survivors on the island shore, got into a fight with a Japanese plane, and shot it down. That was okay, except for the fact that the American bomber never did spot the survivors, and the Japanese plane, in plunging to destruction

^landed and exploded on the island shore, right at
the place where the survivors ^{were.} ~~was.~~ ^{In fact one of them ^{were}} ~~was~~ killed
and others ^{were} injured-by the crashing enemy plane.

Still, there was one turn of benefit in the
mocking twist of mischance. The ^{now} seven survivors who
were left retrieved food from the wreck of the Jap-;
~~some-rice,~~
some rice, four cans of fish, ten packs of sweets.

That was lucky, because they had no other food-except
^{the} cocoanuts of the island.

The castaways got busy, and built a raft as
well as they could, with wood from the surrounding
jungle. Then, after six days, two of them set sail
to bring rescue-the pilot, Commander Justin Miller
of Missoula, Montana and Ensign H S McDaniel, who
hails from Illinois. Rowing the raft, they made their
way along island shores, until finally they met a filipino
fisherman. He took them to ^{the} headquarters

sheet 3 Follow B-29 rescue

of a Philippine guerrilla band ^{who were} fighting the Japs.

The story ends with a celebration. The Patriot band sent out a rescue party, which soon brought back the remainder of the castaways.

Then the Americans were treated to a party, a filipino fiesta—and were "treated like heroes", ~~as they said,~~ upon returning to the American forces today.

WINSTON_SALEM

Here in Winston Salem, a big city devoted almost wholly to King Tobacco, I thought surely I could find out the reason for the cigarette shortage. In the principal hotel, the Robert E. Lee, the cigar counter is piled high with oranges. Tobacco stock depleted.

But the answers I've been getting are confusing. Some say hoarding is to blame. Others that the Government cut down on tobacco growing a while back and now that's catching up with us. Others say black market, and so on. At any rate, I find the shortage just as acute here as in other parts of the country. And now in this hometown of cigarettes I think I'll go out and see if I can find some cigarettes to take home to my friends!

And So Long Until Monday, that is, So Long
Until Christmas.

B-29 RESCUE

Used in Early Show

We have known that some of the B-29s bombing Japan have been forced down at sea, and today brings us the story of a B-29 rescue. The whole thing might have turned into a grim tragedy, if it had not been for a hunch, or maybe the plain common sense of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Haines, who flew to the rescue. Lieutenant Colonel Haines of Hermosa Beach, California, a thirty-six year old officer who is growing gray and whom everybody out there calls * "Pappy Haines."

The plane forced down was commanded by Lieutenant Richard Ewing of Philadelphia, and took part in one of the big bombings of Nagoya -- hitting the Mitsibishi aircraft plants. Dick Ewing's Superfortress dropped its bombs and touched off a big explosion in an aircraft factory, and then started back to its base at Saipan. The B-29 never got there -- was missing.

Back at Saipan, Pappy Haines took off to make a search, and he scratched his gray head, puzzled. Other planes reported that Dick Ewing's B-29 must have been forced down on its way back, and several of them gave bearings on where they had last seen it. The trouble was -- these bearings did not agree. They placed the missing Superfortress in widely separated points.

In this confusion -- what to do? Pappy Haines had a hunch, or he just used some common sense. He considered the three clues, three mistakes in fact, and decided on a middle course. He flew in a direction in between the three separate bearings, a compromise. And half an hour after he had taken off, his navigator sighted a B-29 on the water -- with life rafts nearby.

The rescue was that prompt -- and none too soon. The forced landing had been such that the life rafts were damaged and the survivors had little food

or water. They could not have gone drifting for days as other castaway airmen have. It was mighty lucky for them that Pappy Haines had that hunch or rush of good sense.

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