

*P.J. - Sunoco. Monday, Sept. 6, 1943.*

It isn't often that an academic address at the awarding of a college degree is of great importance as news. Today, however, Harvard conferred a degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws on British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Churchill, in accepting, made a series of statements of number one consequence.

He made a frank and outright appeal for a continuance of the present Anglo-American tie-up, not only political, but also military - after the war. Churchill described the United States in these words - "in many ways, the leading community in the civilized world". And he contended that, along with power, we also have responsibility. We must bear responsibility of doing our part in forming and maintaining a world-wide peace arrangement.

Churchill pointed to the close military and political union between the United States and Great Britain right now - the war unity that is expressed by the collaboration of the British and American chiefs of Staff and by the position of American General Eisenhower as United Nations Commander in the Mediterranean.

"Now, in my opinion," said he, "it would be a most foolish and improvident act to break up this smooth-running and

immensely powerful machinery the moment the war is over. For our own safety, as well as for the security of the rest of the world," he added, "we are bound to keep it working and in running order after the war - probably for a good many years."

And he went further than that. He expressed the hope that some day the United States and Great Britain might have a common citizenship - this based on the unity of their language. And to support this point he quoted a German- Bismarck. He referred to Bismarck as saying "the most potent factor in human society in the Nineteenth Century, was the fact that the British and American people spoke the same language".

Churchill dwelt at length on the factor of language, and spoke of still another phase. He told of a British and American attempt to work out a kind of English that might have worldwide use. He said they're trying to shape a ~~six~~ system of basic English - a simple practical selection of basic words, which might be learned by people all over this globe. This basic English, as a sort of international ~~xxx~~ language, would be <sup>of</sup> great importance in spreading the influence of the two great English-speaking peoples said he.

The Prime Minister himself got a little tangled up with his basic English. Everybody will make a slip of speech once in a while - as we on the radio know so well. *I know I do - often.* And even so ~~great~~ great an orator as Winston Churchill can pull a bloomer - even in the highbrow academic halls of Harvard. He was in the middle of a flight of eloquence concerning the flight of birds and of airplanes. Discoursing on eagles and aviation, he mentioned what he called the "infernial combustion engine". He corrected himself quickly and said, "internal combustion engine". But I suppose that the havoc wrought by the bombing fleets might cause some future philosopher to say "infernial was right".



## AIR WAR

Germany and German dominated territories were smashed far and wide again today. London tells us of another of those great air raids by American Flying Fortresses. The monster bombers flew far, and hit ~~the~~ targets in southwestern Germany -- halfway across Europe. And other bombing fleets ~~at~~ blasted many targets not so ~~at~~ distant -- Nazi war centers across the English Channel.

These daylight raids followed the usual British night bombing, which struck hard at one of those inland ports of *the city of* Germany, Mannheim. In the dark of night a great armada of the R.A.F. dumped ~~in~~ two thousand tons of bombs on the important Nazi war center.

Day and night, night and day - a new spell of round-the-~~clock~~ clock bombing, which is now in its fifth day.



ADD AIR WAR

Switzerland reports that five American flying Fortresses made forced ~~land~~ landings in Swiss territory today. And from the German side we have an indication that these were planes that took part in the raid that devastated Mannheim. Switzerland is to the south of that target, and it might appear that today's bombing sortie was one of those shuttle affairs - in which the planes take off from England, bomb their target on the way, and then go on to the allied bases in North Africa, or maybe Sicily.

One of the Fortresses is said to have crashed into Lake Constance. It had been damaged by anti-aircraft fire, and hit the water about a mile from the Swiss shore. Swiss fishermen hurried to the rescue and found members of the crew inflating their rubber boats. One man had been lost - the others okay though several were wounded. The fishermen took the crew members to shore, and there they were taken over by the Swiss authorities.

## RUSSIA

The Russians announce the capture of a place called ~~Konin~~ Konotop, which is rated as the key to the defense of the capital of the Ukraine - Kiev. And from Konotop they are pushing on to still another vital center -- this place a railroad junction. One account places Soviet forces <sup>only</sup> eighty-five miles from Kiev.

In the Donets Basin they are only seven and a half miles from Stalino, the ~~twelfth~~ twelfth largest city of Russia. There the Red Army forces today made advances up to fifteen and a half miles, and captured a hundred towns.

<sup>The</sup> ~~This~~ familiar day-by-day story -- the Russians in full advance, the Germans in full retreat. — the Russians taking another hundred towns or so,

## NEW GUINEA

In New Guinea, Australian and American troops are pushing swiftly inland from the beachheads they seized in their surprise attack over the weekend. The point where the landings were made is highly strategic. On the north coast of New Guinea, the Japs control a section ~~of~~ to the west of the shoreline that we hold. So the allied forces have been pushing west, their first objective being strategic Salamaua. Further on to the west from Salamaua lies Lae, another ~~an~~ important enemy stronghold. The surprise landing was made west of Salamaua, between that place and Lae - in a position to cut the communications between the two.

The landing, apparently, was so little expected by the enemy that it encountered little resistance. Australian troops swarmed ashore, with American engineers helping them ~~to~~ land masses of jeeps, trucks, tractors and bullzoders - machinery for ripping paths through the jungle. They pushed ahead with a swift advance since the landing on Saturday, and are now ~~within~~ within nine miles of Lae. The Japs put up a fight at a place called Singaua plantation, but they were beaten back - and the jungle forward march continued.



## PILOT

Here's a story ~~about~~ that presents an extreme case of the ordeal of air battle. Out in the South Pacific, fighter pilot Bernard J. Fleming of Kansas City was in a dogfight with the Japs. He was on the tail of a Zero, and was shooting it down never knowing that another Zero was on his own tail. The Jap in front of him burst into flames and crashed, and just then the Jap behind him got in a destructive burst of fire.

Fleming's plane was a goner, and so he bailed out - took to his parachute. He had just jumped, when the Jap pilot machine-gunned him, and a bullet hit him in the left leg. Then the tail of his own crippled ~~plane~~ plane smacked him and broke both of his legs. Not only that, the blow struck by the tail of the plane tore loose the chest strap of his parachute, which he had not yet opened. The result was that he couldn't pull the rip cord to open the chute. That is - he couldn't for <sup>ten</sup> ~~too~~ thousand feet. *But he* <sup>kept on</sup> struggling as he fell.

He was perilously close to the ground when he managed to operate the rip cord. Then, as the parachute jerked open, he lost consciousness - and didn't come-to for some time. <sup>When he did he</sup> ~~he~~ found himself

on the ground, on a tropical island - with two broken legs, a bullet wound, and various bruises. *But lucky at that.*

Some natives found him - and they were friendly. They carried him on a litter to their village, and entertained him - and the next day took him to an American camp.

## DISEASE

Ever since the war began, people have wondered whether we would have a war epidemic--like the Influenza Plague of the Previous World War. From what we have been able to see, none has appeared--unless it's a Malady that has been something of an epidemic in the Army.

— Gen. Kirk —

A report issued today by the Army Surgeon-General tells us of what is called Atypical Pneumonia--a kind of pneumonia that is not typical, something different than the usual variety. <sup>And it's mild.</sup> ~~The~~

<sup>Kirk</sup> Surgeon-General states that of all the Army hospital cases last year, eight per cent were soldiers suffering from this Atypical Pneumonia. It ranked high among the ailments that caused a loss of man hours. ~~The disease is one~~ hitherto almost entirely unknown to Medical Science, ~~a new epidemic, and is almost completely a wartime development.~~

The mysterious illness ~~is~~ rarely, ~~if ever, fatal nor~~ does it permanently harm ~~the patient~~. It flattens <sup>you</sup> ~~him~~ out, and keeps ~~him~~ <sup>you</sup> in the hospital from ten to twenty-one days. ~~The symptoms are~~ high fever, ~~difficulties of breathing and some pain.~~ <sup>Now is</sup> Atypical Pneumonia ~~is not~~ cured or helped by the Sulpha Drugs, which are so effective in dealing with ordinary pneumonia, and the doctors have



## GRANDI

An Italian newspaper states that Dino Grandi, one-time Lieutenant to Mussolini, has left Italy and has gone to Latin-America. Grandi for a long time was Fascist Ambassador to London, and was considered pro-British and opposed to the war. He took a leading part in the downfall of Mussolini, and during the past few days has been frequently mentioned in connection with efforts to get Italy out of the war. There were even rumors that Grandi was in Washington, negotiating with President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill.

Today's story comes from Switzerland and quotes an Italian newspaper at Turin, which states: "Count Dino Grandi and his family left Italy several days ago. It is believed," the newspaper goes on, "that Grandi has already arrived in an unknown country in Latin-America".

And that, if true, might readily fit into the picture of Grandi playing a part in negotiations for the surrender of Italy.

## What news from the Invasion Front?

The British advance across the toe of Italy has now reached the central mountain chain. Down the middle of the toe of the boot stands the Aspromonte Range, which rises to six thousand feet. General Montgomery's Eighth Army has been climbing to the crest, for an advance of ten miles along a fifty mile front - latest being an announcement of the capture of ten more towns and villages.

Opposition ~~is negligible~~ is negligible, and today's news tells of only a few batteries of enemy mountain artillery, which did some shooting and were promptly knocked out. Yet the advance is slow - because of the difficult mountain country and the extensive demolitions ~~as~~ the enemy has been carrying out - the usual blowing up of roads and bridges.

Berlin reports that the toe of Italy has been evacuated, which might indeed be true. The Nazis might very well feel that an attempt to hold it would be poor strategy - because they don't know where the next blow will fall. Their forces at the toe of the boot might be swiftly cut off by the next blow, which the Germans are sure is coming. They believe that the present invasion by the

British Eighth Army is only a feint, a diversion, and that the real allied drive is planned for somewhere else.

Madrid says today that the American Seventh Army has left North Africa, and is expected to strike at Naples, way up at the shank of the boot, the shin. And Naples indeed would seem to be a likely place. A landing there would be of the greatest strategic consequence - a regular kick in the shin. Or, says Spain, the American Seventh Army may strike at Bari - that's <sup>at</sup> the heel of the boot. Bari would not seem to be so vital strategically, not exactly an Achilles Heel. Or the American Seventh Army might ~~perhaps~~ conceivably be on its way to Crete or Greece according to the Spanish report.

One difficulty about the whole story is the statement that the American Seventh Army has left North Africa. It is General Patton's force, which took so decisive a part in the conquest of Sicily. Was it later sent back to North Africa? That doesn't seem likely - but maybe so.

*(General Patton's)*  
~~In any case,~~ that Seventh Army is causing the Nazis a lot of worry. They're wondering what it is going to do. It's a good



deal of a mystery outfit right now - with the enemy looking in all directions and expecting to see the Seventh Army appearing almost anywhere.

The Berlin radio today states: "All indications show that in the very nearest future a large scale ~~an~~ Anglo-American landing operation must be expected at some other point".

The Italian Fleet, which has been so much like a vanishing ghost during this war, is said to be doing another vanishing act. We hear that Italian warships are moving up to the head of the Adriatic, to the Harbor of Pola, getting as far away as possible from onward moves of the Allies.

Meanwhile, United States Air power continues to hit military objectives in Central Italy. The spearhead of the aerial onslaught today was a squadron of Flying Fortresses, which blasted airfields and communications - concentrating on a big flying field north of Rome. British Wellington bombers blasted railroad yards near ~~an~~ Naples and formations of medium bombers contributed their high explosive to the general havoc.

An interesting note from the British Eighth Army states

that the troops invading Italy were provided with a sort of travel guide, each soldier was provided with a booklet giving sound advice about behavior in the conquered country. This booklet, called "soldiers' guide to Italy", recommends the utmost courtesy. "The Italian<sup>and</sup>~~s~~ it says, "are very susceptible to a civil manner of approach. You will, therefore, generally obtain more <sup>with</sup>~~than~~ a smile. We learned this in Sicily", it adds.

The booklet advises the soldiers to go to the opera in Rome or Milan. Which makes us wonder - is Milan's famous opera house still standing - La Scala? In all the news about the bombing of the big industrial city, I don't remember seeing anything

7/2 about that historic opera house - LaScala, where Mootyn Thomas, Carolina Segnera and so many of our opera stars first became  
The booklet also gives what you might call a "military

version of "advice to the lovelorn". The advice is phrased rather grimly. The booklet states: "A number of Germans came to an untimely end by trying to pick up respectable girls in Italy".

And now, and now, Hugh!