

Here's the latest -- still another air blow against the Japs, this one by MacArthur's planes. Their bases are now so near to the Philippines that even the fighters are going after the Japs on Mindanao. General MacArthur's report tells how a squadron of fighters surprised a big Jap motor convoy, and shot it to wreckage. The motor convoy consisted of sixty-two trucks and six staff cars, in which high Japanese officers may have been riding. If so, the Japs may presently be reporting some more commanders killed in action.

PACIFIC

As for The sea and air fighting off ~~the Island of~~
~~the word is that it is still on~~
Formosa, ~~continuing~~ a giant battle of the sky. No

mighty Naval Engagement between warships and their giant
guns. ~~We~~ ^{We are assured that the} main Japanese Fleet took a look, but that was
all.

For nine days ~~Admiral~~ ^{now} Halsey's ~~great~~ fleet has
been pounding the Japs along the line from the Ryukyu
Islands to Formosa. ~~And that's the line just south of~~
~~Japan.~~ Finally, the Mikado's Navy felt urgently called
upon to make an appearance. -- And, an appearance was all
that it made. Admiral Nimitz reveals that the War Fleet
of Japan came steaming to the outer range of fighting
distance and then withdrew -- Not liking the looks of
the American Squadrons of warships, the battleships,
the carriers, the cruisers, ~~the~~ ^{and other} craft of all sizes.

~~Maybe~~ the Japs were not so foolish. Because a dispatch
today from Pacific Headquarters tells us that Halsey's
Fleet out there is the greatest Naval Force ever
assembled on ~~the~~ ^{any} ocean.

Tokyo's claims of a huge victory are decisively negated by a dispatch from Admiral Nimitz today. The Japs have been claiming all sorts of battleships, carriers, and cruisers sunk by their forces. Nimitz informs us concisely that no American Battleship or Aircraft Carrier has even been damaged. The only harm our ships have suffered has been damage inflicted on two medium-sized craft -- presumably cruisers or destroyers. These two were hit by Japanese Torpedo Planes, and withdrew from the scene of action -- to get patched up.

The simple fact is that Halsey's Fleet is still out there -- off the Coast of Formosa -- still engaged in a great battle. But it is not a battle with the Japanese Fleet -- it's Air action, with Japanese Planes making frantic attempts to get at the American Warships - their dive bombers and torpedo planes whirling in swarms. They are being met by ^{the} fighter planes of the American Carriers, and huge sky fights are being waged.

One account tonight is from Lieutenant Luther Prater of Alger, Ohio, an Ace who has shot down three enemy planes in the present series of air engagements: "I never dreamed of such confusion," says he, "There were zeros all around us flying in ~~the~~ twos, threes and sixes. I would see a couple of zeros on somebody's tail, and try to shoot ^{one} down, ~~one~~. Then three or four would get on me," ~~He~~ he relates.

The latest is that the first line of Japanese Air Power is in action. The ace-air units of Japan are in action against Halsey's Fleet, and they are being shot to ribbons. In a large part, it's a contest between Japanese land-based planes and American Carrier Planes - and the result may be of utmost significance in the war. The supposition has been that Carrier Planes can't match land-based planes, but now we hear that Halsey's Fighter Pilots are doing just that -- as they cut to pieces the Japanese first line of air defense. All of which leads to the surmise that sooner or later this same sort of thing

may be done off the Coast of Japan itself, with American Carrier-based Aircraft defeating the Japanese land-based forces at home. If that should eventually happen, it might be the pattern ^{for} ~~for~~ the ultimate defeat of Japan.

Our own land-based bombers are playing a great part in the air action at Formosa, the super-flying fortresses, the B-29's. Once again they've struck - so we hear today. The super-fortresses, based on secret Chinese Flying Fields, delivered their third blow in the present engagement. They smashed once again at Japan's great Naval Base on Formosa, And today's word is that ~~they~~ they've knocked out the target.

Here's a statement from Major General Lemay, Chief of the 20th Bomber Command: "After today," says he, "Formosa no longer should be a target for the 20th Air Force." "Everything was smashed to the ground." And to this he adds, "For the first time we've completely destroyed a target."

~~and~~, As if that were not enough for the Japs,

their ships took an aerial beating near Hongkong. Liberators of General Chennault's China-based Air Force smashed them there -- sinking a cruiser and probably a destroyer, and blasting forty-six thousand tons of cargo vessels. The word is that the Japanese Vessels fled from the great battle area of Formosa and took refuge in the Hongkong Sector. They thought they'd be safe there -- only to take a pounding from Chennault's Liberators.

The most bitter kind of fighting is raging in Aachen. Most of the ruined city has been captured by the Americans, and the Germans hold only a small section of wrecked buildings and streets. We hear, moreover, that there are only a few of them, the count ranging from six hundred to two thousand. But they are putting up a desperate resistance. Not only that, but ^{they} are attacking.

Today the remnants of the garrison launched suicide counter-attacks against the advancing Americans, lashing forward with crazy fanaticism. They've been getting some supplies by air, and last night a few German supply trucks got through to them via a narrow corridor. Apparently they've been led to believe that they are about to be relieved, that a German armored force will soon drive through the American siege ring - and all they have to do is hold out. With this delusion they are making a final fight of violent desperation - in spite of which the final capture of Aachen can ~~be~~ only be a matter of a brief time.

AIR WAR (FOLLOW WESTERN FRONT).

Air power added its weight to the drive of the ground forces -- by hurling a record breaking assault against the city which is of such dominating importance on the Western Front, Cologne. Twenty-one hundred American war planes, of which thirteen hundred were Flying Fortresses and Liberators, aimed twenty-six ~~six~~ hundred tons of explosives and incendiaries at military targets. The principal of these were railroad yards -- The main purpose of the attack being obviously to cripple Nazi Transportation through Cologne, which is one of Germany's great rail~~road~~ centers.

The losses were almost negligible, though one returning airman describes what seemed to have been another one of those Nazi secret weapons. Sergeant Thuman Kell of Rocky Gap, Virginia, tells of a projectile that seemed to be about the size of a fighter plane. It had no wings, and therefore wasn't some sort of robot plane. The Sergeant says the new contraption exploded with

AIR WAR (FOLLOW WESTERN FRONT).

about the force of fifty anti-aircraft shells. Apparently the Germans were trying to throw the huge projectile up among the American Formations, in the hope that the violent explosion would get something. If so, their hope was disappointed, because the secret weapon blew up well to the rear of the American Squadron in its vicinity.

News of the war in the air continues with a southern angle -- Bombers based on Italy. Two hundred and fifty heavies flew from Italian Bases and smashed targets in Austria, Northern Yugoslavia, and Hungary.

HUNGARY

Part, at least, of the Hungarian Army, has gone over to the Soviets. This was indicated today in a dispatch stating that the Commander-in-Chief of the First Hungarian Army, General De Dalnok, has moved over to the other side, joining the Russians. And it is believed that the Commander of the Hungarian Second Army has done the same thing.

~~This follows the somersaulting series of events in Hungary, which began when Regent Admiral Horthy proclaimed an armistice with the Allies -- The Hungarian satellite deserting the Nazis, the same as other ~~at~~ satellites have done, changing sides.~~

~~Tonight we have no clear picture of the actual situation in Budapest. We know, of course, that the Germans moved promptly, ^{Regent Adm.} ~~ousting~~ Horthy, and putting a Fascist Leader in his place. And we had a report that Admiral Horthy had reversed his stand about an armistice, that he had changed around and proclaimed~~

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that the Hungarians, after all, would stick along with the Nazis. This, however,, is denied today, with Moscow stating that the report of the Horthy back flip was false -- Nazi Propaganda. Nobody seems to know where Horthy is right now -- Presumably he's being held by the Germans.

From Allied sources we have the word that in his Armistice with the Russians, Horthy agreed that Hungarian Troops should join the Soviet Forces in driving the Nazis out of Hungary. And this point adds importance to today's word that the Commander of the First Hungarian Army has joined the Russians - presumably in accordance with the promise that Hungarian Troops would fight on the side of the Allies.

Moscow has word that a General Strike is on in Budapest and that sporadic fighting is raging between Anti-Nazi Hungarians and Native Fascists supported by the Germans.

RUSIA

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Berlin reports that the Soviet Army has opened a great battle for East Prussia, and admits that Red Army troops have reached the East Prussian border at one point at least. ~~There is no confirmation of this from the Russian side, but it may be correct, although one has had the impression now and then that the Germans have invented great Russian offensives for the purpose of having them not get anywhere.~~

FOLLOW RUSSIA

Moscow tells of Soviet troops at still another border, that of Czechoslovakia. Pushing up from Rumania and driving through Transylvania, Red Army forces are within two miles of the frontier of the Czechoslovak ^{ia.} ~~nation~~. And they are only thirty-one miles from a junction ^{with} ~~at~~ the Soviet forces in Poland.

The war correspondent points out that since the great rush to the German border, the allied forces have gained little ground - a month of static warfare and everywhere the enemy appears to be operating on a plan of holding out through the winter.

Any good news from Stan.
of Cal., Hugh?

EUROPEAN WAR

Here's a battle front prediction about the war in Europe. United Press correspondent Walter Cronkite writes: "There are sixty-eight fighting days left until Christmas. And, barring the miracle of political collapse inside of Germany, we may as well face a hard fact. We won't be out of the fox holes by then". ^{TP} The war correspondent points out that since the great rush to the German border, the Allied forces have gained little ground - a month of static warfare. And everywhere the enemy appears to be operating on a plan of holding out through the winter.

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ELECTION

~~old~~ Election Day ~~is~~ just three weeks away, and I for one will be glad when it comes and goes. It's the same thing every Presidential Year -- A radio news man is on the spot. One side claims ^{you are} ~~is~~ favoring the other, and ~~you~~ gets to feel that anything ~~you~~ says about politics is likely to draw a barrage of brickbats.

This year it's more so than ever -- the ~~xxx~~ tenseness of the Election Campaign being so much greater.

And I feel mighty uncomfortable about some things that friends of the radio audience write; -- ~~and~~ sometimes

~~the~~ letters ^{that} are not so friendly. ^{Some in fact that} almost ^{blow me off the face of the earth.}

One charge is that, in telling the political ^{that} news, I favor Dewey. Any time we have a bit of news

about the Republican Candidate, that complaint is

likely to come in. ~~For example, here's a letter from~~

~~a listener in Rochester who writes: "You are usually quite successful in maintaining a fairly neutral~~

~~attitude toward the news, although anyone can tell~~

~~that you are a Republican." And then, John F. Lang of~~

Oaklyn, New Jersey, speaks of what he calls -- the
"Boost for your neighbor, Mr. Dewey."

Well, I do happen to live in the same
neighborhood as the Republican Candidate; and know
him quite well. But then, I also live in the same
county as President Roosevelt, and ~~we used to bring~~
we long have had
a soft ball series - F.D.R.'s team, and
a team over for a soft ball game. Those were the days
my 9 old men. - in the days
when the President had a bit of leisure for such

diversion. And I used to get complaints, because every
so often I'd tell on the air about one of those games --
complaints from anti-New Dealers
~~between our nine old men and President Roosevelt's~~

~~team of White House correspondents.~~

I don't think the neighbor part of it has
anything to do with the question -- save, perhaps, that
it caused me to make a special effort to keep an unbiased
balance. The trouble, I think, is to be found in the

essential news situation that exists when a President
is running for reelection. The Administration in
— almost daily.
power is necessarily in the news, The President in the

on beautiful Quaker Hill, near Pawling

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White House is in such a position that any public statement he makes is news. He is constantly in the public eye -- which is a tremendous advantage ^{when} ~~in his~~ ~~reelection campaign.~~ *campaign time comes round.* That's a part of our American Political System.

The opposition candidate, on the other hand, can only make campaign declarations and arguments, and people warmly in favor of the Administration don't consider this news -- especially in war time. But it is news, and should be considered as such. Even in war time, the American Constitutional processes are important, and how can our Constitutional Opposition be heard, if it's not considered news?

~~Yet, of course, some people will go on feeling that every time a news program recites an item about the campaign doings of Republican Candidate Dewey, it's a Dewey Boost -- in spite of the fact that President Roosevelt, running for re-election, *actually* ~~gets~~ *gets ten times as much* ~~more~~ attention -- because of the nature of~~

~~his office.~~

I suppose it is all as it should be — political warmth being the proper part of the interest of Americans in their Government. But, just the same, I'll be glad when Tuesday, November Seventh, comes and goes.

... the American League Baseball grounds. The grandstand and bleachers there will seat between thirty-five and forty-five thousand people, and a full house is expected.

Chairman Lawrence made the announcement after a visit to the White House today. He called on the President as a member of a delegation representing what is called -- Businessmen for Roosevelt. This group is one of the sponsors of the forthcoming Presidential Campaign Speech in the Ball Park.

There was some discussion about whether the President would accept the nomination.

ROOSEVELT

It is announced that President Roosevelt will make a mass meeting campaign speech in Philadelphia on October Twenty-seventh -- ten days before election.

This was stated today by David Lawrence, Chairman of the Pennsylvania State Democratic Committee,

Who ~~he~~ ^{that} said it will be a straight-out political rally held in Shibe Park, the American League Baseball Grounds. The grandstand and bleachers there will seat between thirty-five and forty-five thousand people, and a full house is expected.

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*T*here has been much discussion about whether the President would ~~or~~ would not make any more electioneering addresses, and whether he would make

any big time public appearances. Today's story gives us an answer in the case of Philadelphia at least. And there are surmises that the President will make other campaign appearances, possibly in Illinois, Ohio, Massachusetts and New York.

The give and take of the presidential campaign was lively in the news today, after Governor Dewey's address in St. Louis last night - in which he denounced the blundering in foreign relations by the administration. He said that this nation's representation abroad is now what he calls "on the brink of chaos".

~~From the Democratic side we have today a White House answer to Dewey's charges that President Roosevelt intends to keep the men in the Army and Navy longer than is necessary - delay demobilization. Dewey stated: "Delayed military demobilization has been strongly advocated". He referred to a report issued by the National Resources Planning Board. And today's White House declaration contends that the Republican Candidate failed to mention another statement in the report, a recommendation of what the report calls - "a general policy of speedily but orderly and controlled military demobilization". This -- combined with measures to increase employment.~~

WILLKIE

Today at Rushville, Indiana, a telling phrase was spoken at a funeral. They laid Wendell Willkie to rest in his Indiana home town, Willkie the author and protagonist of ONE WORLD. The funeral rites were conducted by the Reverend Doctor Frantz, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis, and here is the eloquent line he spoke. In behalf of Indiana, he said of Wendell Willkie: "We gave him to the nation, and the nation gave him to the world".

Yes, and the nation and the world will long remember Wendell Willkie.

~~Here's a late flash from Havana --~~

Business houses and theaters closed down tonight ⁱⁿ
^{Havana,}
as Cuba awaits a hurricane. The big blow is expected
to hit during the night, and Cuba is taking all
precautions against the violence of the wind. Florida
is getting ready too, as the hurricane is expected
to hit the southern part of the state. There is no
clear indication of its probable course after that.

~~And now our probable
course — in fact there is
no other — is to turn this
microphone in the direction of
Hugh James.~~

VETERAN

Today a man appeared before a draft board in Philadelphia, and went through the usual routine - which gave him a big laugh. He was Marine Sergeant Albert A. Schmid, the blind hero of Guadalcanal.

Home from his battlefield ordeal of valor, which left him with sightless eyes, he was given a hero's welcome by his home town, ~~Philadelphia~~. But he had enlisted in the Marines, and had never gone through the selective service red tape. And so presently he got an order to report to his draft board.

The blind hero of Guadalcanal retains his gift of mirth. "I laughed my head off when I received the paper", he said today. "Imagine me registering for the draft".

But he carried out the routine. He put on his Marine uniform, his purple heart, his Navy Cross, and the gold medal awarded to him by the city of Philadelphia. And to the draft board he went, escorted by his young wife, whom he married after he came back as a sightless veteran.

At the draft board they were somewhat astonished, but doggedly ^{they} went through the motions.

"They asked me my age, ~~my~~ height and number of dependents". Says the Sergeant. "Then they told me to return home and they would advise me later of my draft classification".

1/2 Here's the classification they should give him:-- as brave back home as he was in battle against the Japs.



And now another word or two from H. James.