

*N.Y. - Standard. Monday, Dec. 11, 1944.  
Sumoco.*

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I am broadcasting tonight from the Grand Ball Room of the Waldorf Astoria in New York, from a great French banquet - French and American. The occasion is the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding ~~of~~ of one of the most famous educational institutions in the world: The Ecole Polytechnique of Paris. Not only the One Hundred and Fiftieth but also the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the exchange of ~~of~~ cadets between West Point and the Ecole Polytechnique. *H* Marshalls Joffre and Foch were graduates of this famous school. Also Bertrand, *Low-buff* and Henri Poincare the mathematicians, Lau Boeuf, designer of the first French submarine, Auguste Comte, the philosopher, Citroen the industrialist, and two Presidents of France, Carnot, and LeBrun, just to mention a few French products of the Ecole Polytechnique.

The ~~new~~ French <sup>Minister</sup> Ambassador Henri Hoppenot,

His excellency Archbishop Spellman, Under Secretary of War Robert Patterson, and a host of other famous and near famous, ambassadors, naval and Army officers of high rank, and adventurous background; engineers, writers and so on.

*and an unusually large number of beautiful women.*

I have just been talking to Archbishop

Spellman about his ~~recent~~ <sup>war time</sup> tremendous aerial journeys, during which he spanned ~~several~~ <sup>the</sup> oceans, <sup>and</sup> visited

*— 100,000 miles of flying.*  
~~four~~ continents. ~~I have been asking him what message~~

~~we could send to the men in the fighting fronts~~

~~that would please them most.~~

## WESTERN FRONT

On the Western Front, Patton's men have completed their occupation of Sarreguemines, one of the biggest factory towns in that region. East of there, is Zweibrucken, where the Nazis have built one of the ~~biggest~~ <sup>main</sup> fortresses of the inner circle of the Siegfried Line. Patton's artillery has begun shelling <sup>this</sup> ~~it~~, from a distance of ~~more than~~ <sup>some</sup> thirteen miles.

Practically the entire American front is blazing. The Germans are fighting desperately, especially in the Saar. But Uncle Sam's divisions <sup>fighting with the British & French</sup> are pushing them back slowly but surely. The Seventh Army has taken <sup>ahgeno</sup> Haguenau, the hinge between the Siegfried Line and the old French Maginot Line. General Patch's men broke in at seven o'clock this morning, after fighting in the suburbs of the town for the whole week. Tonight they are eight miles beyond Haguenau.

Then, looking north, we find the First Army driving the Nazis back on Cologne, on a ten mile front.

General Hodges's ~~doughboys~~ have taken Merken, twenty-one miles west of Cologne. It is worth remembering that after all these months of fighting, the taking of Merken means that we are just seventeen miles inside of German territory. ~~Get that point.~~

General Eisenhower broadcast another message to the people of Germany. He warned them that the Allied armies are eventually bound to overwhelm the Nazi Reich. When that happens, Eisenhower said, the German people will be living under a military administration. They will be demobilized and forbidden to join any organizations of a military character. Every attempt to preserve German militarism will be severely punished by the Allied military government.

## HERO

A slim young fellow stood in front of his General today and looked as though he were about to faint. He gulped nervously, kept his eyes on the ground as though he wished it would open up and swallow him. You might have supposed the General was about to pronounce a sentence upon him. Actually, the timid young fellow was First Lieutenant Walter Ehlers of Manhattan, Kansas, who, single-handed, had killed eighteen Germans.

On June Ninth, as a staff sergeant, he led an assault squad against heavy enemy fire, enabling his men to take an advance position. Then the Kansas sergeant went ahead all alone with the Germans concentrating heavy fire on him. He killed eighteen of them and enabled his own squad to knock out two of the Nazi mortar positions. On the following day a sniper shot Sergeant Ehlers in the back. Nevertheless, he went ahead, rescuing a wounded comrade. Even then he refused to go to the ~~camp~~ hospital, and returned to the lines after given first aid.

The next thing that happened to him , they made him a First Lieutenant, on the battlefield; and Lieutenant-General John C. H. Lee, also from Kansas, commanding the communications zone of the European theatre, has now presented him with the Congressional Medal of Honor, and his first rest from fighting since D-Day. They've also rewarded him with a thirty-day furlough -- a trip home to Kansas.

## BABY

In a small town on the Saar River, a French citizen approached an American military policeman, and implored help of some kind or other. The M.P., Private Luther Savage of Sherman, Texas, could understand no French. And what he himself wanted right then was a foxhole, to get out of the rain of enemy shells. But he yielded to the pleas of the French civilian, who led him into a cellar. There, lying on a pile of straw, was the Frenchman's wife, about to have a baby.

Private Savage took one look and decided it was no place for him. Rushing out into the street, he dodged shells until he found an American medical officer. Without any anesthetic, the medical officer helped a beautiful baby girl into the world, while the Texas M.P. held a flashlight -- to the exploding of German shells.

DEGAULLE

Not only the French people but the British are making ready to give a warm welcome to General DeGaulle who is on his way back to Paris. On both sides of the Atlantic the treaty of alliance that he negotiated with Soviet Russia has been reported with enthusiasm. The ~~LMA~~ London Times declares that the new Franco-Russian treaty will have as warm a welcome in Britain as in France and Russia.

The New York Times -this morning said it represented a new personal triumph for DeGaulle himself and a new triumph for France.

AIR WAR

The air war on Germany was resumed today with no fewer than ~~three~~ <sup>four</sup> thousand, ~~five hundred~~ of Uncle Sam's ~~war~~ planes in the air over the Reich. Of these, one thousand, six hundred were big bombers, Flying Fortresses and Liberators, the greatest single bomber force ever employed in history. The biggest concentration was over Frankfurt-<sup>-on-</sup>~~an-the-~~Main and nearby railway centers. One airmada was based on Britain, another on Italy. The latter attacked targets in Austria. All in all, they hit Germany with six thousand tons of bombs, <sup>seven</sup> ~~five~~ thousand tons !

## RUSSIA

Tonight, Budapest in flames. With the Nazis getting out as fast as they can; under a rain of bombs and shells from Soviet guns. The word is that the Germans themselves have set fire to the Hungarian capital. And they have left behind a suicide rear guard to protect the ~~XXXXXX~~<sup>retreat</sup> of the main body of the garrison, which is hurrying toward Austria through a corridor only thirty-five miles wide. Hundreds of Red planes are chasing the fleeing Nazis, turning their retreat into as much chaos as possible. One Soviet army is seven miles north of Budapest, another only five miles south, and still a third column is closing in from the east.

If what we hear is correct, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, in fact in the world, is being destroyed. Also, once one of the gayest. The Germans are reported to be taking away, as usual, everything portable, including machinery -- and the gold reserve of the Hungarian government. The Hungarian crown jewels are likewise being moved into Naziland.

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A report from Berlin brings word that the Russians are about to resume their drive in Poland. They have concentrated a huge army on the west bank of the Vistula, some four-hundred-thousand men, with three-thousand, -three-hundred planes and more than five hundred guns. Evidently, they are all set for a winter offensive aimed at Krakow and the German factory towns of Silesia.

LABOR

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the Tories after the war. But all motions in that direction were defeated, which indicates that the Right Wing still is in control of the British Labor Party.

~~And the Labor leader showed himself dead against any approach to unity with Communists, or with the Commonwealth Party.~~

Starting from the Marianas, they have visited Tokyo, western Japan, Korea and Manchuria. They dropped both explosive and incendiary bombs, with the incendiaries particularly on Tokyo and the other big industrial cities of Japan. Two of the bombers that attacked the Mikado's capital left fires burning that could be seen for eighty-three miles.

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## JAPAN

Over in the Far East, the Superforts of the Twentieth Air Force <sup>have</sup> continued their bombardment of Japan for five straight days. Apparently, the Twentieth Air Force is using new tactics. Instead of mass bombardment by a large formation, they are sending the great B-29s over in groups of two, even singly. Evidently the idea is to give the Japanese no rest. Also, these missions have had a double purpose, reconnaissance combined with bombing. Starting from the Marianas, they have visited Tokyo, western Japan, Korea and Manchuria. They dropped both explosive and incendiary bombs, with the incendiaries particularly on Tokyo and the other big industrial cities of Japan. Two of the bombers that attacked the Mikado's capital left fires burning that could be seen for eighty-~~three~~ miles.

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admirals, six of them quite recently. Since May  
Twenty-Third, eighteen of their generals have been  
killed. One of the admirals who died last July was  
Nagumo, commander-in-chief of the task force that led  
the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Under-Sec. of War  
Robt Patterson is sitting  
beside me. He has just  
addressed this great  
crowd and I am going  
to ask him to repeat one  
or 2 points. Sec. Patterson,  
how can we keep Japan  
& Germany from doing  
this all over again some  
years hence?

## PHILIPPINES

On Leyte the Yanks of the Seventy-Seventh Division have wiped out the entire garrison at Ormoc. General MacArthur's headquarters reports that this happened after fighting of the most desperate character. The resistance of the ~~Japs~~ Japs had become much more ferocious. But the Seventy-Seventh, veterans of the capture of Guam, took Ormoc by storm, and joined up with the battle weary Seventh.

MacArthur does not tell us how many Japs his men killed except that <sup>they</sup> ~~there~~ were many thousands strong. And, the destruction of that Jap garrison wipes out the entire southern segment of Yamasita's defense line.

## BRITISH\_FLEET

British Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser arrived at Melbourne today bringing news of the great fleet he will command in the war on Japan, battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers and many other vessels. In fact, there will be altogether two British fleets, and among them will be some of the newest and proudest of Britannia's men-'o-war. Sir Bruce Fraser himself will fly his flag on the great battleship HOWE, a forty-thousand tonner, completed in Nineteen Forty-two, one of the most powerful battlewagons afloat. Admiral Fraser will serve under either Nimitz or General MacArthur as the necessity arises.

DRAFT

There was quick action today upon the order of Mobilization Director <sup>James</sup> ~~John~~ Byrnes, the work-or-fight order. General Hershey told all the draft boards to cancel the deferrments of all men between eighteen and thirty-seven, who have left jobs in war plants. *Gen.* Hershey repeated the known fact that there is a ~~most~~ critical shortage in war activities. And there is also a continuing urgent need for combat replacements in all theatres of war.

Officials of the War Production Board are going to ask non-essential employers to lend help to war industries for ninety days. That means, owners of stores, banks and other similar civilian concerns.

## CRIME

After every big war there is a crime wave, and the F.B.I. tells us <sup>this already</sup> ~~that this~~ is beginning. ~~already.~~

J. Edgar Hoover reports that kidnappings<sup>s</sup> are on the increase; ~~though at one time that situation was under~~  
~~control~~ <sup>and</sup> Kidnappings had ceased entirely.

J. Edgar Hoover said further that bank robberies are being reported. A number of these ~~are being committed~~ by discharged veterans. ~~But, he added, they are~~ veterans who had criminal tendencies before they entered the armed services.

To meet this growing situation, he is bringing groups of his agents in the field back to headquarters in Washington for fresh training.

## WYOMING

Some western congressmen say it is time the government quit establishing new national parks in Wyoming. Already Uncle Sam owns thirty-two million acres of the "Equality" state. He also owns the mineral rights on eighteen million acres more. On top of that, the President proposes to take two hundred and twenty-one thousand additional acres and call them the Jackson Hole National Monument.

Representative Frank Barrett of Wyoming says that if this goes on, his state will have room for nothing but elks, and ~~that does~~ not ~~mean~~ the two-legged kind either. The two hundred and twenty-one thousand acres for the Jackson Hole Monument consist mostly of sage brush flats, Barrett said. There is only one building on those acres, and that ~~is~~ a log cabin where Jesse James once hid from the sheriff's posse. Says Barrett: "We would have parks all over the west if

we attempted to make a monument wherever some horse thief was caught."

Representative White of Idaho <sup>complains that</sup> ~~says~~ seventy-two per cent of his state is <sup>now</sup> under government ownership.

ahead six weeks for six-year-old Robbins.

Well, there is good news. A Denver surgeon operated. He took a big gamble, and the operation has turned out a success. Robbins is getting along fine, and the word today was that he may see many, many Christmases.

NUBBINS

Remember Nubbins, the little fellow out in Wyoming who had his Christmas on November Nineteenth? Or ~~rather,~~ rather, at a hospital in Denver, where the doctors didn't think he'd live until Christmas. So they put it ahead six weeks for six-year-old Nubbins.

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HITLER

Here is the latest on Hitler -- from a Swiss newspaper. According to this yarn, Der Fuehrer is insane, but cheery about it. That he believes the war is over and is now busy on reconstruction plans. According to an anonymous Nazi official visiting in Switzerland, the Nazi government has assigned a large engineering staff to work with Hitler at Berchtesgaden on reconstruction plans. And, as we have heard before, every day a special edition of his own newspaper is printed without war news -- just one copy for him -- for the now balmy Fuehrer.

1/2  
9  
And now some good sense  
from Hugh.

*Taken from early show.*

The Nazis and the Japanese will never give in.  
So said their two Foreign Ministers tonight. Ribbentrop  
in Germany announced that the Hitlerites will keep up  
the fight even though it costs the blood of their best  
and bravest.

In Tokyo, the Foreign Minister, Shigemitsu,  
~~declared~~ <sup>said</sup> there is no doubt <sup>but that</sup> the war will turn in their  
favor, and not an inkling of doubt that Hitler and  
Mussolini will save Europe.

Both Ribbentrop and Shigemitsu announced their  
complete conviction that the tide will turn in their  
favor. And then the Tri-Partite Pact will become one  
of the pillars of the new world order.

## TRAINS

The Office of Defense Transportation repeats the warning about holiday travel. That applies particularly to people who have their eyes on a winter vacation in Florida. For them the only advice is -- don't. You may be able to get there, but your chances of getting back are exceedingly slim. <sup>So says the O.D.T.</sup> Last February and March, many ~~people~~ found themselves stranded in Florida for weeks.

GREECE

In Greece, the situation is no better. There is a virtual state of war between the British and the Elás.

The British government has been obliged to send reinforcements to Athens, which are now under way.

The ancient capital has been comparatively quiet all day, but there are fifteen thousand Elás, well equipped and well organized fighters, opposed to the Popendreuou government in the city and the outskirts. The northern part of the country is controlled by the Elás.