

PACIFIC

L.I. - Standard. Tuesday, March 28, 1944.
Sunoco.

In the far off southwestern Pacific, today was the tenth day of almost continuous bombing of Japanese bases in northern New Guinea, Wewak in particular. Tonight's announcement from Allied headquarters tells of a hundred and fifty-eight tons of high explosive that hit buildings, bridges and barges, and sank one ship. A total of nineteen Japanese vessels sent to the bottom in ten days of bombing. Wewak is described in these words - "a graveyard for wrecked and burned Japanese ships."

And Rabaul got what tonight's dispatch calls, "a normal daily dose." This time the dose consisted of forty-six tons of bombs, and at the one-time great Japanese base, smoke rose to fifteen hundred feet. Rabaul has now taken its daily dose, without let-up, for eight weeks.

KURILES

In the north Pacific, the Kuriles have been hit again - that string of fortified islands which leads straight down to Japan. Bombs hit the big Jap base at Paramushiro, and we have a further illuminating tale - illuminating to the amount of five million candlepower. The American planes lighted up the targets in those bleak, dim and snowy islands - lighted them up with five million candlepower flashes, and in that way valuable reconnaissance photographs were taken.

BURMA

The first great battle of the Japanese invasion of India was raging today on the edge of the plain of Manipur. Four enemy columns have driven across the border from Burma. Three are being held in check in the hills, but the ^{other} enemy forces ~~is~~ ^{is} launching a fierce assault to smash down onto the plain and break through British forces guarding the city of Imphal, which place is the great supply center for the Allied forces on the Burma ^{front.} ~~plain. Headquarters of Lord~~ ^{High} Mountbatten ^{is} announces that the focus of fighting is now thirty-four miles from Imphal. Enemy pressure is increasing, and the Japs are making what Mountbatten headquarters call "determined attacks".

~~In another section, over in Northern Burma - the story is different. The Japs under attack. There the Allied forces consisting of American General Stillwell's veteran Chinese units ~~who~~ have trapped a lot of Japs in the upper Mogaung Valley and are tightening the encirclement. ~~said~~ today's news.~~

JUNGLE

Here's another old legend that is going through the debunking process - the jungle, with its tigers and cobras, ferocious beasts and deadly reptiles. The troops have found nothing of the sort. So says ^R~~the~~ War Department statement today. Even the insects are mostly harmless - "congenial insects", says the War Department report. That is - with a couple of exceptions.

One exception ^{being} ~~is~~ the mosquito - especially the malaria ^l kind. They are really ferocious, and the tale is told how one particularly ambitious mosquito carried off an under-sized lieutenant one dark night. The powerful insect left a tall fat ~~major-general~~ alone - out of respect for rank perhaps. Or maybe there is a limit even to the strength of the jungle mosquito.

But, as for the rest of the crawling things, they are hardly more than mere nuisances.

Take the Land Crab - "millions of land crabs," says the War Department. On New Georgia Island, when the moon is bright, they swarm down to the beaches from the jungle, and then what happens is told by the War

Department as follows: "These ungainly creatures, which can move in four directions by the use of their numerous legs," says the report, "caused much anguish during the battle for Munda airfield. They crawl^{ed} into the foxholes in the dead of night - and, since they are so clumsy, they sound^{ed} like a man moving through the jungle. And many troops", adds the account, "became trigger happy." That is - they opened^{up with} blasts of rifle and machine gun fire against the army of land crabs.

~~Then there are swarms of mongooses and millions of toads. These creatures, it appears, were introduced into the South Sea Islands for a benevolent purpose. The mongooses were imported to destroy snakes - they are the little animal that has an appetite for reptiles. And the toads were brought in to eat the insects. And now some islands ~~now~~ have a plague of mongooses and toads.~~

RUSSIA

Russian troops have smashed across the Prut River at two points. One drive has taken them into Romania proper -- near the important city of Jassy. The other river crossing ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{carried} one hundred and fifty miles to the Northwest, has ~~carried~~ ^{carried} them to within thirty-one miles of the old border of Czechoslovakia.

And still another big Soviet ^{success} ~~smash~~ was announced -- this in an official announcement by Stalin. The Black Sea port of Nikolaev has fallen. The Germans defended the harbor desperately and a savage street battle ^{with} ensued - the Russians conquering Nikolaev.

about some revision of tactical ideas in the war of the air - with less value being placed on the ponderous operations of the heavy bombers and more on the swift action of the lighter types. At Cassino, the underground Germans were able to submerge and get into position after the giant squadrons of the sky had gone, while the lighter and nimbler type of craft might have kept hitting them, ~~with tiny and accurate shots and~~ thereby ^{preventing} kept them from getting set ^A as the ground troops advanced.

The actual war news from Italy tonight is little.

At Cassino - artillery action, with shelling of German positions in the ruins of two hotels. And on the beachhead below Rome - artillery; the dueling of cannon all day long.

In fact, the war tidings from Italy are so scanty that the newsmen took time out today to play up a wedding - the first marriage celebrated on the

beachhead. First Lieutenant Thomas G. Rose of Lancaster, Ohio, went to the altar with Nurse, Second Lieutenant Genevieve Clark of Allison Park, Pennsylvania. The altar was made of a hundred and five ammunition cases, covered with pine boughs and flanked by plum blossoms. And there were bouquets of narcissus arranged in steel helmets. It was a front line ceremony in

~~almost~~ every sense of the word - the groom in full battle dress, while the ~~ceremony~~^{wedding} was solemnized to the tune of artillery fire, which virtually drowned out the

wedding march ^{on} of the wheezy organ. *Honeymoon in a fox hole, a trench, a tent - or somewhere.*

Much more grim than a wedding ~~is~~ word that comes from the Nazi side of Italy, via neutral Switzerland. It concerns the massacre of three hundred and twenty ^{Italian} hostages, killed by the Germans in Rome last week - in reprisal for Italian attacks on Hitler's troops. The story from Switz, fland reiterates the

DOOLITTLE

Tonight, General James H. Doolittle, Commander of the United States Eighth Air Force, disclosed that twenty-one hundred German warplanes had been destroyed during the past eight weeks - those twenty-one hundred to be credited to the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces based in Britain. In a radio address to the National Press Club in Washington, Jimmy Doolittle, famed for the bombing Tokyo, referred to the air squadrons that are hitting Nazi Germany as - "an invading force." He said that, engaged in this aerial invasion, were a-hundred-and-seventy-thousand American airmen, ^{who} since February First, ^{have dropped} twenty-six thousand tons of bombs ~~had been~~ ~~dropped~~ on Germany and an additional eleven thousand on the Nazis in France.

Today Song Writer Irving Berlin, who has been entertaining troops in European war zones, told how ^{he} ~~had~~ delivered a hundred and fifty personal messages from soldiers to people back home. He has been overseas ~~entertaining the troops~~ with his show - "This Is The Army", and the hundred and fifty messages were from soldiers playing in that ^{G.I.} ~~Army~~ production. ^{TP} Naturally enough, many of the missives were to the girls they left behind, the one and only - and that gave an air of sweet sentiment to Irving Berlin's task as a messenger boy of war and love. **B**ut the sentiment was a little sour ~~ing~~ in one instance.

"Two of the boys," says the famous song writer, "gave me the name and address of the same sweetheart, and, when I went to see her," he adds, "still another fellow was there."

Irving Berlin adds that he expects to write a

couple of new songs, and I ~~might~~ suggest that one of these ~~could~~ be called - "The girl ~~with~~ that two fellows left behind ^{them} and another was visiting."

Late today the State Department in Washington denied that it had ever asked Great Britain to censor political news destined for the United States. However, the State Department has sent to London protests against British violations of agreements regulating the release of news concerning international diplomacy. In other words, Washington complained about news leaks in London.

Some of these leaks are listed by the State Department - including the famous one which broke the news of the conference at Cairo.

The statement issued confirms information given out previously in the day by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who answered the charge made by Governor Dewey of New York . Several days ago, Dewey asserted that the State Department had induced the British to censor news headed this way - a charge

which Secretary Hull promptly denounced as one hundred per cent wrong. And today he still maintained that position - arguing that there is a distinction between censorship and the withholding of news concerning international negotiations. ~~The basis for the Hull controversy is found in statements by American correspondents in London~~ which restricts Jewish immigration after March Thirty-First.

The President himself had previously spoken against the White Paper, saying that this country did not approve of the policy of keeping Jewish refugees out of Palestine. But today he said the people's position was clear.

That might seem to be a contradiction, but the President argued that his attitude toward the Jewish homeland in Palestine was a civilized matter to be decided in the future - as a separate arrangement.

JEWS

President Roosevelt today defended the Army's opposition to any United States move to bring pressure on the British government in the matter of Jewish immigration into Palestine. Previously in the day, three Senators demanded that Congress override the War Department and voiced a demand that the British revoke their White Paper - which restricts Jewish immigration after March Thirty-First.

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That might seem to be a contradiction, but the President argued that his attitude toward the Jewish homeland in Palestine was a civilian matter, to be worked out in the future - as a peacetime arrangement,

while the Army considered the matter as a military subject - and only from the angle of winning the war. -

~~whether or not any American protest concerning the White Paper would be detrimental to military operations.~~

William L. Baigler, carrying the banner of the New Deal, was elected Congress man, defeating Republican E. G. Clark, who campaigned in opposition to the Roosevelt administration. The vote was twenty-one thousand to seventeen thousand, a majority of four thousand.

The Oklahoma congressional district, in which the balloting occurred, is normally Democratic, having some Republican only in the Harding landslide in Nineteen Twenty. Normally, it gives overwhelming Democratic majorities, though the last time, last year, Democratic candidate the ~~candidate~~ was run by only a few hundred votes.

ELECTIONS

Two elections held today were of national interest - one in Oklahoma, the other in New York.

In Oklahoma, tonight's final figures show that the Democrats have won a clear-cut victory.

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Democratic candidate the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ for Congress won by only a few hundred votes.

Today's affair was a bitter contest, with the Democratic leader in the Senate, Barkley of Kentucky, going to Oklahoma to campaign for his Party - while Democratic Senator O'Daniels of Texas intervened on the opposite side, campaigning against the New Deal. The free-for-all was regarded as a telling indication of the prospects for next November - for or against the administration, and an Administration Democrat has won by a majority of four thousand.

In New York they had a primary election, with the American Labor Party staging a civil war of ballots, a contest between the Right Wing, and the Left Wing supported by the Communists. ^{And} Tonight the ~~result is a Left Wing~~ ^{in the} ~~Left Wing leaders are claiming~~ victory, ~~though this~~ ~~is not conceded by the Right Wingers. The vote is~~ ~~incomplete - a vote to determine the control of the~~

^{has been} A.L.P., which ~~is~~ exerting a balance of power in New York elections.

LEAD FIRE

San Francisco is hunting for a lunatic, or criminal, or some kind of creature with a twisted brain - the type that sets fires, a pyromaniac. This follows the hotel fire of last night, the burning of the old New Amsterdam Hotel - in which at least twenty lives were lost. ^{TP} There are a whole series of sinister circumstances to make it appear a case of arson - with maybe more than one firebug involved.

~~Today brings the charge that the disastrous hotel fire in San Francisco last night was the doing of an arsonist. The old New Amsterdam burned, with the loss of at least twenty ^{-two} lives.~~

Last night, before the big blaze broke out, there were fires in three other places - small hotels and rooming houses. And in each case the firemen say they noted the smell of gasoline or kerosene. Then, in the New Amsterdam Hotel disaster, flames broke out simultaneously throughout the place. The building had four floors, and fires appear to have been started on all four. People say they noticed two men running from the hotel a few minutes before the place became an inferno.

Moreover, in Oakland last Saturday, fires were set in eleven hotels, and the police believe that this

firebug orgy was the doing of the same criminal-arsonists who ~~set~~ ^{started the} fires in San Francisco, last night. cri

One man was questioned today by the police,
a tenant of the New Amsterdam, ~~Hotel~~, who was found with
singed hair and bruised knees at another hotel seven
blocks from the fire. After the questioning, he was
taken off to a psychopathic ward of a hospital.

CHAPLIN

In the Charlie Chaplin case late today, the attorney for the defense made a long and fiery plea - demanding that the court direct the jury to return a verdict of acquittal. Of course, judges don't often grant such ^a motion by the defense - but there is no harm trying.

The legal oratory followed the final appearance of Joan Barry on the ^{Hollywood} witness stand, quite a cheerful appearance - following ^{her} ~~the~~ emotional dramatics on the previous days of cross-questioning. The court continues its refusal to permit the young woman's acquaintances with other men to figure in the Chaplin trial under the Mann Act. That's unfavorable for the defense, ^{and it} spared Joan Barry some scathing cross-examination. As it was, she had only to answer questions about such matters as asking the one-time king and clown of comedy for seventy-five thousand dollars for herself, and

BASKETBALL

~~The big basketball controversy came to a~~

There was a

decision tonight ~~on that~~ question of the giant player,
the seven-footer, ~~who actually~~ ^{more or less, who} acts as goal tender,

reaching high and knocking away the ball as it descends

into the basket. There has been much agitation for a

curb to be put on the Goliath goal tenders, and in

New York the college basketball authorities have just

voted ^{what to do} ~~to do precisely that~~. They amended the rules

in a way to prohibit any interference with the ball

on its downward arc toward the basket - thereby

minimizing the activities of the super-tall player, ^{high arc} the
man on stilts,

who, to all intents and purposes, tends goal.

RETAKE

seventy-five thousand more for her than expected baby.

There was a
This she denied, and further said she had never

more or less who
threatened to put Chaplin's name in headlines from

coast to coast if he refused to pay.

what to do

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BASKETBALL GAME

Tonight at New York's Madison Square Garden, they cheered a victory for Utah. And the ovation was the more enthusiastic, because it was for a triumph of the underdog. The University of Utah basketball team won the championship, by defeating Dartmouth in an overtime game - forty-two to forty. ~~It was~~ The biggest upset in the history of ^{this national} ~~the~~ tournament.

The ~~underdog~~ Utes were underdogs in winning their way to the championship opportunity. And they certainly didn't figure to win tonight. Yet they did! ^{high speed} Playing the ~~paper~~ Dartmouth team off its feet.

And now R - on your toes

Ann: - From early
Broadcast

statements that the British Foreign Office, at the request of ~~the United States~~ ^{our} Government, had placed two officials in the British Office of Censorship, to stop the transmission of news to which the Washington State Department objected.

ITALY

The failure of the Allied assault against Cassino is producing some revisionary military opinion in Washington - Second Front opinion. The violent attempt to capture the south Italian town was supported by a most intense kind of air action, almost unlimited bombing - yet the Germans were able to hold out in spite of a deluge of high explosive from the sky. And in the plans for a Second Front - that kind of air action has figured prominently. So the wondering in Washington is - Will it be as effective as has been hoped? ^{TP} The Cassino experience would not seem to give much encouragement.

At that town the Nazi troops were able to survive the tremendous air action because they had deep underground tunnels and caverns in which to take refuge. And it is known that ^{Hitler engineers} ~~they~~ have constructed the same sort of subterranean shelters along the invasion coast of France.

~~The experience at Cassino seems to be bringing~~

GHOST

Some fantastic testimony was heard in London today, where the British authorities are continuing their drive against fraudulent spiritualists. Prosecutions are being conducted under ^{that} ~~an~~ ancient statute - the Witchcraft Act of Seventeen Thirty-Five. But the purpose is decidedly modern - the authorities believing that fake spiritualism may be used to defraud the families of soldiers killed in battle.

Today in court, a woman told how at a seance she was kissed by her husband - who has been dead for five years. She said she knew it was her husband, because of his hands. She felt the hands of the spook, and they were gnarled and knobby - just as they had been in life, because of rheumatism.

Another witness told how the spirit of a cat was materialized at the seance. She was asked if she had seen the whiskers of the spooky cat, and replied,

No, she wasn't close enough to tell whether the astral feline had the customary cat's whiskers. All she knew was, that it was an astral feline.

RHODE ISLAND

Today the State of Rhode Island had its first Constitutional Convention^o in a hundred and two years. Just two years more than a century ago, the smallest state in the Union adopted its Constitution, and Rhode Island hasn't made a change ever since - until today, when an amendment was adopted to permit service men and women to vote. This is in line with the soldier vote bill passed by Congress, which requires a lot of state action.

HULL

Today in Washington, Secretary of State Cordell Hull said - yes, there have been times when our government has asked the British government to stop the transmission of news to the United States. This was in the case of stories of a political and diplomatic nature.

All of which has to do with the charge made by Governor Dewey of New York, who asserted that the State Department had induced the British to censor political news ^{headed this way,} ~~to the United States.~~ The Secretary of State later denounced this as one hundred per cent wrong. And today he still maintained that position - arguing that there's a distinction between censorship and the withholding of news concerning international negotiations.

The Hull contention was later expanded by a spokesman for the State Department, who said that leaks had occurred in London, and the State Department had protested to the British Foreign Office.

The basis for the whole controversy is found in the statements by American correspondents in London -

MILITARY COMMITTEE

The House of Representatives today created a super-military committee - to deal with army and navy policy to be pursued by this country after the war.

Its purpose is explained by Congressman Wadsworth of New York, who states that the committee would deal with problems of national security when the present conflict is over - "not the policy of an aggressor nation," *says he,* "but one which would protect us and keep us out of war."

previous
~~former~~

word that among those executed was the former Premier of Italy, Orlando, who represented his country at the Peace Conference after the last war. ~~also~~

~~Count de Revel, former Finance Minister of the Mussolini government.~~ But it seems doubtful whether the son of

Marshal Badoglio was among the victims. A sister of the

young Badoglio has informed a United Press correspondent

that her brother was not in Rome at the time of the

reprisals. She added that he has been in Germany as a

prisoner ever since his arrest in Rome - three weeks

ago.

YUGOSLAVIA

The capture of ^{an} island along the coast of Yugoslavia is being hailed as a fine strategic success - the island of Hvar. This bit of land lies along the shipping route the Germans have been using -- along the Eastern coast of the ^{Adriatic}. The seizure has been effected by mixed forces consisting of Yugoslav partisans and British Commandos supported by Allied planes and warships. ~~A three day battle was fought, ending in a successful seizure of the island of Hvar.~~

Major General Sir Alexander MacNeil

MANPOWER

~~An explanation of manpower policies was given~~

T Today ~~by~~ Manpower Director *W* Paul V. McNutt ~~He~~ told a congressional committee ~~about the difficulties in replacing men whom the armed forces are now drafting from war production plants. And he said~~ that the policy governing physically deferred men, 4-F's, will have to be strengthened. More 4-F's will have to be transferred to essential war jobs. ~~And the same sort of thing was~~

And
~~stated by~~ Selective Service Director General Hershey, ~~who~~ declared that he was ready to ask the Army and Navy to induct 4-F's into, what he called - "work battalions," if this appears to be necessary.

Manpower Director McNutt
At the same time, *give* some figures

showing that employment in armament production has more than doubled - rising from four million, one hundred thousand in Nineteen Forty, to nine million, seven hundred thousand at the beginning of this year.

^{So}_^ Manpower Director McNutt ~~points to the way that critical labor shortage problems have been solved, and~~ states that the nation's manpower mobilization has been a success.

In the congressional proceedings today, the problem of manpower was followed by the question of women's looks. ~~What lawmaker introduced the age old and ever-interesting theme of pulehritude? You guessed it, Congresswoman Claire Boothe Luce, ^{who is easy} ~~who is known for the possession of beauteous charm, and ability to talk~~ ^{on the eyes,} ~~about it. She~~ ^{women from} ~~on~~ the charge of being - too glamorous for war.~~

Several days ago, a stern accusation was made by a woman member of the British House of Commons, Dr. Edith Summerskill, who declared that American women war workers go in ^{too much} for sex appeal, ~~and that causes the men war workers to lose interest in the work they are~~

~~doing~~, And she advised ^{them} ~~American women~~ to skip what she called - "the glamor emphasis."

" To which Congresswoman Glairé Boothe Luce retorts: ^{Women} ~~women~~ have a right to look as attractive as they can, without cutting into war production." And then she went onto the subject of English women:

"The only reason they aren't paying any attention to glamor right now", ^{said she,} "is because they haven't got the

makings of it. The lipstick and silk stocking shortage in England would cramp any woman's glamor," ^{the comely Claire,} said ~~she~~.

Well, glamor certainly is not being cramped over here. We may have a shortage of manpower, but we ~~we~~ have a surplus of women's looks.