

L.T.-SUNOCO. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1943

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

More excitement in the Pacific tonight; much more, But we don't know exactly what's happening. All we do know is that the force attacking Japanese held island of Nauru is nothing less than a U.S. battle fleet. With carriers of course.

The U.S. Navy has stepped up its power in that part of the Pacific--stepped it up to tremendous proportions. The armada that has been attacking the Marshalls and is now hammering away at ~~xx~~ Nauru is an enormous force. There tonight, in enemy waters.

Nauru is a Pacific island five hundred miles west of the Gilberts where the American flag now flies. But that little small point on the map if

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is of great value to the Japs because it is there they have to get the phosphates without which neither their war industry or their agriculture can carry on.

The only concrete facts we learn from Admiral Nimitz are, that an attack on Nauru by planes and by the guns of our men-o-war; and by four-engined Liberator bombers of the Seventh Air Force on the Maleolap Atoll ■ in the Marshalls has taken place. But ~~we~~ have strong reason to believe that a big fight is either now raging or close at hand.

NEW GUINEA FOLLOW LEAD

Also <sup>on New Guinea</sup> the Australians have bettered their way across the Huon Peninsula, capturing Wareo, anchor point of the Jap positions on that peninsula. Eleven miles from Finschafen.

Also more Australians have been driving up the Ramu Valley, and threaten to cut off the Jap garrison at Madang, the most important seaport still held by the enemy on the New Guinea coast.



## CHINA

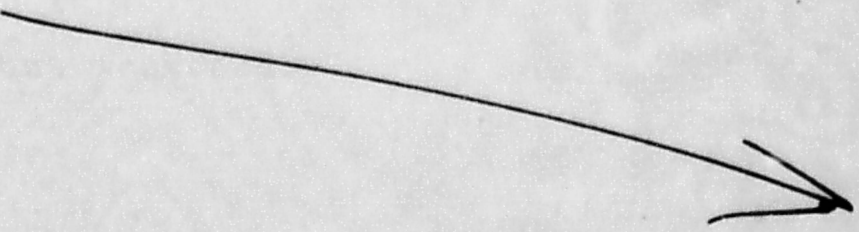
Good news from China. ~~for a change~~ The armies of Chiang Kai-shek have won themselves a real prize, the City of Changteh, an important junction of several highways in the Province of Hunan. . It is in the heart of that district of central China which is popularly known as the "rice bowl."

~~The~~ A campaign has been raging in that part of China for five weeks. As recently as Tuesday night we heard that the Japs had captured Changteh, ~~which is~~ on the west shore of Lake Tung Ting. But today comes word <sup>have won</sup> ~~the glad tidings~~ that the Chinese ~~got~~ it back; ~~also~~ <sup>also that they have</sup> ~~the Japs out, and incidentally~~ eliminated a threat to Changsha, the capital of Hunan, a hundred and ten miles to the southeast. <sup>TR</sup> The recapture of Changteh has also cleared essential supply routes to Chungking, the capital.

When they reentered Changteh, the Chinese found



themselves in possession of the smoldering framework  
of a city. While the Japanese <sup>were</sup> ~~are~~ there, they destroyed  
it completely, and it is now ~~just~~ a mass of rubble and  
ashes.



ADD\_CHINA

An American correspondent who has just returned from the Chinese fighting fronts warns us that we must not built too many hopes on such victories ~~ix~~ in China. *He says the* ~~The~~ recapture of Changteh does not mean that the Japanese military machine has been serious weakened.

Secretary of War Stimson this afternoon gave out a warning against the untimely wave of wishful thinking that has been sweeping the country. <sup>There is</sup> ~~The~~ worse ~~is~~ yet to come, he said, ~~categorically and~~ emphatically; both on the fighting front and on the home front. So far, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ declared the Secretary, the forces of the United States have barely entered the really <sup>tough</sup> ~~most difficult~~ phase of the war. "We are only beginning the period," he said, "when the weight of combat losses will bear heavily on our troops. <sup>And, we'll</sup> ~~We shall~~ not really know that we are in it until Europe has been invaded, and until the navy has grappled with <sup>the main Jap</sup> ~~the grand~~ fleet. ~~of the Japanese~~

— even here we haven't  
 "As for the home front, ~~we have not even~~  
<sup>And, we'll</sup>  
 reached the tough stage. ~~We shall~~ not reach it until the people of the United States are willing to accept a general service law. That," he said, "is in his ~~opinion~~



opinion the only fair and adequate way to cope with the problem of prices and wages."

Sec. <sup>then</sup> Stimson went on to <sup>state</sup> that of all the Allies, Russia is the only country <sup>that so far</sup> ~~which~~ has met the main forces of the Germans. As for us, we have just been trimming off the outer defenses of our enemies, both in Europe and in the Pacific. And, the overwhelming mass of the American army still is within the United States.

~~The Secretary <sup>of War</sup> ~~Stimson~~ thus corroborates what Captain Ralph Ingersoll has written in his <sup>fine</sup> ~~remarkable~~ book, called "The Battle is the Pay-Off;" ~~Incidentally,~~ <sup>a book that</sup> ~~that book is unique because it~~ tells us more of what actually goes on in an army, the actual functioning of its machinery and its units than in any other ~~book~~ I've read. ~~about the war~~ Ingersoll was writing not as a newspaperman but as an active artillery officer.~~

~~war will be more aggressive or more cautious. So says~~  
~~Captain Ralph Ingersoll of the United States Artillery.~~

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*Sec.* Stimson took the occasion of his press conference to <sup>*pay*</sup>~~throw~~ a tribute ~~to~~ Premier Stálin and Marshal Voroshilov. There were several long standing problems pending between the Allies. And, he reported, ~~Marshal~~ "Stalin's power of lucid analysis and the fairness of his attitude contributed strongly to the solution of those problems." *So says the Sec. of War.*

## RUSSIA

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In Russia, the Red Armies have just about completed a steel ring around the railroad junction of the City of Znamenka. <sup>Plugging</sup> ~~that plugs~~ up the most important road of escape for the German garrisons in the big bend of the Dnieper. The Soviet forces there now have cut three of the four lines that run into Znamenka. They are moving in from the north, east, west and south. ~~And a conservative guess is that it will be only a short time before the Russians are in there.~~

~~That second group of~~ <sup>Red</sup> ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> now threatening Kirovograd, a big industrial center and a major supply base for the Germans, ~~it is~~ twenty-one miles to the southwest of Znamenka. <sup>And, a</sup> ~~A~~ city only nineteen miles northeast of Kirovograd has already been recaptured by ~~the~~ Red armies <sup>that</sup> ~~which~~ rolled ahead twenty miles in forty-eight hours. They also retook an important



county seat to the southwest, and have cut the railroad from Znamenka to the Black Sea at another point. They were able to step up their speed because the cold has hardened the snow and <sup>made</sup> movement ~~much~~ easier.

Captain Sartorius, the Nazi military expert, declares that the ground which the Russians gained northeast of Znamenka will enable them to join up with the <sup>in</sup> forces ~~which are~~ attacking the bridgehead at Kirovograd. In other words, <sup>that</sup> the Red Army has closed a gap forty-five miles long.

In ~~fact~~ <sup>Russian</sup> one sector of that long line, the Germans are still <sup>holding</sup> ~~keeping~~ a substantial advantage; ~~that is~~ In the Battle of the Kiev salient. Moscow acknowledges that the Russians had to give up several places to the Germans but at ~~very~~ heavy cost to the Germans. *Later they stiffened their resistance, counterattacked and now have the Nazis there at a standstill.* And tonight the Soviets have a naval success

to report. Three German convoys, heavily escorted, were on their way to the Arctic ports of Finland.

Russian naval planes intercepted them, and attacked with murderous effect. They sank nine Nazi ships, damaged three, and shot down twenty-eight fighters.

More of Hitler's weak allies are trying to quit him, if we can believe the talk that is going around Europe today. Most of which comes through Sweden; but, it comes from various sources. For example, the Regent of Hungary called a special session of the Hungarian Parliament. For some time there have been stories that feeling was tense among the people of Hungary, as well as among the Bulgarians. But it's never safe to put too much stock in these stories. However, they have been increasing of late.



But there is a definite sign of bewilderment and despair in Bulgaria. Dispatches from the capitol, Sofia, report a turbulent session of ~~the~~ ~~Sabour~~, the Bulgarian parliament. The Deputies, ~~got up on their hind legs,~~ regardless of their <sup>today gave tongue to</sup> Nazi over-lords, ~~and held~~ violent criticism of the policy of the Foreign Minister. The leader of the opposition ~~xxxxxxxx~~ complained openly against the use of Bulgaria as a military base by the Germans. It will ~~xx~~ inevitably result he said in Bulgaria becoming a battle field. And he added that if the government cannot prevent ~~that~~ it must be replaced by a government ~~which is~~ better able to look after the interests of Bulgaria.

Thereupon the Bulgarian Foreign Minister resigned <sup>in</sup> ~~with dignity and~~ high dudgeon and the Premier took over the Foreign Minister's job.

So far this does <sup>not</sup> change the picture in that Balkan State. But it shows ~~xx~~ beyond doubt

that the Bulgars<sup>S</sup>~~ians~~ are anxious to throw off the Nazi terror.

This action was followed by a <sup>procedure</sup>~~vote~~ in the Bulgarian Parliament tantamount to a vote of no confidence in the government. There were demonstrations in the streets of Sofia and other Bulgarian cities. Processions of men carrying placards saying that Bulgaria must withdraw from the war.

## ITALY

In Italy, the American Fifth Army has made an almost clean sweep in those two mountains on the road to Rome. General Clark's men have cleaned the Germans out entirely except for one isolated peak. Early today the Nazis still held on to two of them. But, later in the day our foot soldiers charged uphill over rocks and crags and took one of those heights by storm. The Fifth is now ready for a descent in force down <sup>into</sup> ~~upon~~ the valley, a valley twenty miles long, on the road to Rome.

All the result of one week's fighting and many weeks of training. General <sup>mark</sup> Clark sent <sup>a</sup> ~~an~~ specially picked body of troops against the Nazis in those mountains. And he used only soldiers who could run four miles in forty minutes. This was in the most difficult sector of that German Winter Line, and on the last stretch they had to go straight up the mountain crags ~~xx~~ with ropes. <sup>TP</sup> One American Brigadier declared that the storming of Mount Maggiore and Mount Camino will go down in history as comparable to the storming of Quebec by the British troops of General Wolfe.



One town on the western slopes of Camino changed hands several times during the fighting. But our men have it now. <sup>And Marks</sup> ~~And~~ Clark's vanguard is now cutting its way yard by yard through <sup>the Nazi</sup> ~~xxxxxxx~~ pill box defenses ~~of the Nazi~~ fifteen miles north of the <sup>side</sup> ~~the~~ Camino and Maggiore sector.

On the Adriatic <sup>side</sup> ~~flank of the Allied line~~, the British Eighth Army <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ still fighting for Orsonia. The Nazis are throwing everything they have into the defense, including flame throwers; but, they are giving ground. ~~steadily~~

After Montgomery's guns had finished their cannonading at the Battle of the Sangro River, a pretty young woman ran wildly over the battlefield towards the advancing British soldiers. She was crying out as she ran, almost hysterically, calling upon them to stop, "Oh please stop!" The front files halted in

amazement and said, "Who are you?" The young woman replied, "I am an American. I am an American. I am from New York, New York." Then she went on to say that it was the happiest moment of her life and she could kiss them, she could kiss them all.

*She* was Bonita Caputri, American wife of an Italian naval lieutenant. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Castlegrand, life at 433 West 34th Street, <sup>N.Y. City.</sup> Bonita and her little daughter Barbara lived in a cave in No Man's Land through one of the <sup>heavy</sup> ~~greatest~~ bombardments of the war <sup>in Italy.</sup> With forty peasants from the countryside she had dug that cage with her bare hands. For eight days, the forty of them lived packed together in <sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ cave. ~~The~~ ~~atmosphere was well nigh unbearable, but the terror~~ ~~was worse~~

## MARSHALL

Again we have the report that General George Marshall is to be Generalissimo of the Second Front attack on Europe. A bulletin arrived from Cairo a few minutes ago saying it is definitely understood among officials of that city that General Marshall will head the invasion.

In fact, this was one of the first results of the conference between President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin, at Teheran, so says the story from Cairo.

When Gen. Marshall's appointment is announced there will also probably be a general shifting around of commanding generals in the various theaters of war. The purpose of all this will be to keep them in touch with the latest developments in the fighting. But, the positions of General Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Halsey will be unchanged, according to this latest unofficial report from Cairo.



## FIRES

Fires, at the Golden Gate, ~~But not in the city of~~  
San Francisco itself. ~~and~~ The damage <sup>has been</sup> ~~so far is~~ confined  
~~to the other side of the bay~~ <sup>to</sup> the Oakland and Buckley  
Hills district. ~~The damage amounts to~~ <sup>running into the</sup>

~~millions of dollars~~ <sup>I feel</sup>  
~~The trouble~~ began with a windstorm which  
smashed windows, <sup>uprooted</sup> ~~tore up~~ trees, <sup>and ripped</sup> ~~by the roots and even~~  
~~blow~~ <sup>And it</sup> roofs from houses. ~~It~~ blew down high tension  
power-lines. ~~and that is~~ <sup>That was</sup> how the fires began. The brush

caught fire on a hillside east of Oakland, and the  
flames swept ahead on a front a mile and a half long.

It began to threaten the expensive homes and blackened  
more than a thousand acres overlooking the city. The

Oakland Fire Department was unable to cope with the  
flames alone, so naval cadets and soldiers went to the

rescue. ~~There was some damage to the great~~

~~Keiser Shipyards at Richmond, California, where~~  
~~scaffolding was blown down and the operation of the~~  
~~great cranes was hampered. But there were no casualties.~~

That rebellion of Southern<sup>n</sup> Democrats against the New Deal ~~came to the surface~~ <sup>burst into the open</sup> at Washington today.

The spokesman for the discontented<sup>t</sup> Southerners was Cotton Ed, ~~Senator Ellison D.~~ <sup>All of which</sup> Smith. ~~to you~~ <sup>This</sup> was another outcome of ~~the~~ <sup>the one that</sup> statement by Democratic Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania, ~~which~~ caused such a hubbub in the Senate, the statement that Southern Democrats had made an unholy alliance with Republicans to spoil the Administration bill to give ~~soldiers~~ <sup>service men</sup> the vote.

Late this afternoon, Senator Smith said he wanted openly to nominate Harry Byrd for President.

And he called upon the Southern states to organize a real Democratic Party to back him up. (Smith went on

to point out that he has served as a senator under six presidents, and, ~~he~~ always enjoyed it until the New Deal, which he described as "this miserable thing."

## SINATRA

Warbler Frank Sinatra appeared before a draft board at Newark, New Jersey today and was classified Four F.

So he will be able to continue the crooning that causes the swooning. Sinatra himself is disappointed. He said he was looking forward to joining the marine corps.

There was a considerable force of police on hand to protect the crooner, but the cops were not needed. Only a handful of passersby and a few curious persons were on hand. No frenzied milling mob tearing off his coat buttons and clamoring for autographs. The only local demonstration was by a fellow draftee, who shouted: "Hurray for Bing Crosby."

And now, "Hurray for George Anslero."



STASSEN

*And,* The first of the Republican presidential boomS  
was launched today. Lieutenant-Commander Harold E.

Stassen of the United States Navy, former Governor of

8 1/2 Minnesota, *today became an out and out*  
~~became the first acknowledged~~ candidate

*P* for the nomination. The Assistant Secretary of State

of Nebraska *has* resigned his office to direct the Stassen

campaign in that state. At the same time he filed

notice of ~~his~~ intention to enter Stassen's name in

the Nebraska Primaries. For the qualifications of his

candidate he said that Stassen is a Midwesterner and

9 one of the first to revolt against the New Deal.