

ROOSEVELT

*U.I. - Standard. Friday, August 11, 1944.
Sunoco.*

President Roosevelt, ^{has just visited} ~~as it happens~~ has had ~~a most typical view of~~ the Aleutian Islands. Tonight the news was released that the President, upon leaving Hawaii, went on to one of the American bases in the Aleutians. There he had a visit with the soldiers, and shared their daily fare -- telling them, in a speech of congratulations, that they have done a great job in converting those North Pacific bits of land into a formidable chain of Fortresses. And adding -- that the Aleutians must continue as a stronghold of American power to check possible aggressions of Japan in the future.

The typical thing that the President encountered was an Aleutian storm -- and the way the winds can rage across those northern islands is a thing of terror. The tempest was so violent that the President, although aboard a new powerful cruiser, could not leave on schedule. His departure was delayed until the wind abated.

Meanwhile, the Chief Executive had a chance to

indulge his favorite sport -- fishing. Although the weather was by no means favorable to the art of Isaac Walton, the presidential line was cast into the sea from the cruiser. Did he catch fish? He sure did - a couple of northern trout.

PACIFIC

It looks as if the volcano islands might soon be on the list of places invaded. These bits of land so near ~~to~~ Japan are now targets for ^{our} land-based planes, which fly from the Marianas. The latest tonight tells of the opening of a land-based campaign, with a force of giant Liberators hitting the Japs on the volcano Islands with forty-seven tons of bombs.

SUPER FORTRESSES

The Army announces that three Superfortresses were lost in yesterday's twofold raid against the Dutch East Indies and Japan. One of the lost B-29s came down in the Indian Ocean -- making a forced landing because of mechanical trouble, and not because of anything the Japs did. Rescue was sent promptly to pick up the airmen.

A fourth super fortress made an emergency landing in China -- came down at an advance base. On the ground it was attacked by four Jap fighters -- in a strafing assault. At least two of the Japs were shot down by Allied fighters.

A record was established by the group of B-29s that assailed Palambang, ^{in the} Dutch East Indies. The round trip was more than thirty-six hundred miles -- the longest bombing raid ever flown. And at Palambang the bursting of bombs caused huge havoc among oil refineries from which the Japs got seventy-eight percent of their high octane gasoline.

The other arm of the twofold blow hit

Nagasaki, one of the best-known of Japanese cities. The harbor was blasted and set on fire, and here's a ~~significant~~ significant detail reported by the returning airmen. A tempest of flames went racing through the congested houses made of flimsy wood and paper -- proof of the contention that bombing will bring fiery devastation to the bamboo-built cities of Japan.

PRISONERS

Washington word is that the United States Government is investigatigg the Japanese account of the execution of three American prisoners of war. These were sailor Frank Meringolo of Brooklyn, Marine Sergeant Joe Chastain of Wāco, Texas, and Marine Corporal Victor Paliotti of Cranston, Rhode Island - killed by the Japs.

Tokyo claims that the three prisoners escaped, made their way toward Russia, and ended by killing a Japanese Police Inspector. For this they were tried and condemned.

That's the version ~~which~~ Tokyo gives, a version that our government is investigating.

If the story be ~~xxxx~~ true, the case is different from the execution of Doolittle fliers. That was an atrocity contrary to all International Law. But, it would be in accord with International Law to inflict capital punishment on prisoners convicted of killing in an escape attempt - which is the story the Japs tell.

JAPANESE SISTERS

At Denver today the three Japanese-American sisters were found guilty -- the three who were on ~~xxxx~~ trial for aiding German prisoners of war to escape. That is, they were convicted on one charge -- conspirac^y to commit treason. This carries a penalty of two years of imprisonment and a fine of ten thousand dollars. They were acquitted of another charge far more serious -- treason! If convicted on the accusation of treason, they could have been sentenced to death.

The defense of the three Japanese-American sisters was that, in aiding the escape of the German prisoners of war, they had been motivated by a sentimental attachment. They and the German prisoners had been doing war-time farm work, and love affairs had resulted. Which was a curious turn of romance on a western farm -- romance between Japanese-American women and German ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ prisoners of war.

The contention was that the whole thing was more a case of feminine folly than of treason to the United States. The jury agreed with this, and the

judge today remarked that he thought the conviction for the lesser crime was fair -- because he didn't believe the three Japanese-American sisters had any intention of helping Nazi Germany.



Now Roger, I wish you would give us your stand, of Calif. message and then we have more grand news from Europe;

SUBSTITUTE LEAD FRANCE

A late invasion story tonight speaks of "secret flying columns". That is, swiftly moving units of American armor that are out far in front, their movements kept a secret. How far they've gone will not be disclosed until the whole situation has been clarified - a situation confused by the whirling speed of American thrusts in what certainly is a lightning war. One insistent report is that the American drive has now carried to the outskirts of Paris, the environs of the French capital. This would seem to indicate a push of almost incredible rapidity. But the report persists -- that advance American forces have reached the outskirts of Paris.

And another late story tonight is that the Germans are evacuating the French capital, pulling out -- with the battle for Paris in full swing.

Earlier in the day we heard that the great invasion drive had pushed near to the cathedral city of Chartres, which is only forty-six miles from Paris. And other American forces were speeding toward the

historic city of Orleans, the capture of which would block the important railroad between Paris and Bordeaux. That kind of drive threatens to cut France in two.

All of this is part of a headlong push straight East from the captured highway city of Le Mans. But the smash eastward is not the only thing - and may not be the main thing. ~~More~~ More important still may be the American dash from Le Mans - north. The drive north threatens to cut right around the main German ~~Army~~ *Army*.

~~Army, etc.~~
which now is in a deep pocket. Strangely enough, the Nazi forces at the deep end of the pocket are still trying to batter their way forward. These are the Panzer

divisions which launched violent counter-attacks in the area of Avranches, trying to drive to the sea and cut the invasion armies in two. Their supreme attempt was hurled back, but they've been trying again, according to today's news -- and are still being repelled, while the big American drive threatens to cut behind them far to the rear.

The strategic aspect is one of a great pincers move, in which the American column surging north is pushing to effect a junction with the British and Canadians, who are still battering their way forward in the sector of Falaise. At last reports the Americans were only forty ~~six~~ ^{odd} miles from the British and Canadians -- forty ~~six~~ miles to go to close an encirclement around the whole German Seventh Army, ^{some} one hundred and fifty thousand men.

The weather in France was good today, which means that Allied air power had full scope. The big bombers took time off from long-range strategic work, and concentrated on tactical assaults against the

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German army in the pocket. That is -- they blasted centers of supply and communication in the rear of the enemy front. (A score of American and British aerial task forces hit German war centers all the way from southwestern France to the Belgian border, a total of ^{hundred} twenty-five bombers and fighters.

Summarizing the situation in France, we may well quote British General Montgomery, who today stated:

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"The great bulk of the German forces in northwest Europe are in a bad way. We are around and behind them in many places," said he, "and it is possible some of them may not get away."

RUSSIA

The Red Army has taken the offensive all along the Eastern Front. This ^{re}wod comes from Berlin, Moscow tells merely of a drive in southern Esthonia, a push on a forty-three mile front, which advanced as much as fifteen miles today. Berlin tells of that, and goes on to list a whole string of new Soviet offenses, which range from East Prussia to Warsaw and thence down to southern Poland - the Red Army driving everywhere.

WARSAW

The insurrection in Warsaw is likely to lead to new bitterness between the Poles and the Russians. Today's word is that the Polish patriots who, in their capital, rose against the Nazis are in a desperate plight. Their commander, the mysterious General Bor, sends wireless word that his partisan forces cannot hold out much longer against the powerful German drive to crush ^h the revolt. "Our heroic fight must soon come to a disastrous end," is the word that flashes to the Polish Government in Exile.

~~The Germans themselves claim that they have suppressed the insurrection, and the patriot forces report that the Nazis have, indeed, been able to open up several of the great avenues of Warsaw which the insurgents had blocked.~~

~~The wireless message from patriot leader General Bor makes the following significant statement: "We are without war material or moral help," says he, and ^{he} adds, "We have heard no gunfire from the Soviet-German lines since August third."~~

WILKIE

Rumors of a conference between President Roosevelt and Wendell Willkie are supported and amplified tonight. We have information about a Roosevelt-Willkie meeting from what the United Press calls -- a responsible source in Washington.

It has been a matter of gossip for some time that President Roosevelt had invited his nineteen forty rival to the White House to talk things over. Willkie thus far has given no hint of whether or not he will support Republican candidate Dewey, and the rumored White House visit aroused all sorts of speculation.

^{TP} So, now what do we hear?

The story relates that some while ago White House representatives approached Willkie and sounded him out on the question of dropping ⁱⁿ for a chat with F.D.R. Willkie replied that, naturally, he would not refuse to have a talk with the President on matters of national policy. But he would not go into any such conference, if the President talked as head of

the Democratic Party and a candidate for re-election.

The response to this was a letter sent just before President Roosevelt went to Hawaii for his war conversations with General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz. In the letter he invited Willkie to a White House conference, and assured him that there would be no discussion of campaign affairs -- no political talk. There would be nothing that might embarrass Willkie politically. Whereupon Willkie accepted the invitation, and is expected to see the President some time in September. Such is the Washington story attributed to

quote:-
-- a responsible source."

And now let's hear from a really responsible source, Bob Denton, speaking for my Sun Oil sponsor.