

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In the extreme northwest corner of the Marshall Islands is an atoll named Eniwetok; of which we have heard little. But it was important. For there the Japanese had one of their strongest bases. Tonight, all their buildings, and all their installations lie in smoldering ruins. Our Pacific fleet attacked Eniwetok with carrier-borne planes, attacked six times in three days. One of the most prolonged carrier-based-raids on record.

It was part of a well planned assault on that archipelago, the heaviest since the bombardment of Kwajalein. Not only Eniwetok, but six other atolls were raided.

RETAKE

LT from
St. Louis,
Mo.

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SUNOCO. (St. Louis, Mo.)

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Further southwest in the Pacific the forces of General MacArthur accomplished a surprise on the Japs. They occupied Rooke Island, a blob of land in the strait between New Britain and New Guinea, the strait named after one of the most colorful explorers in history, William Dampier. A curious fellow, Dampier. He lived in the time of King George the First, and some people called him a pirate. But the scientific men of his time recognized him as one of the world's great explorers. And Dampier Strait was named after him.

Rooke Island, only seven miles wide and only thirty-seven miles long, is fortified with heavy coastal guns and other installations and, in our hands gives the Australians and Americans complete control of the waters between New Britain and New Guinea.

And that's the most dramatic news we have from the Pacific war tonight.

volcano.

our fighting men on New Guinea have had the experience of being next door to a volcanic eruption. A hundred and thirty miles northeast of Port Moresby, is Mt Goropu, which started to spout last night. ^{Today} All of port moresby and the surface of the Coral Sea is covered with a powdery dust.

~~Good Evening From St. Louis!~~
Italy. ~~Good Evening Everybody!~~

general Mark Clark's fifth army is once more on the march. The British wing of the forces at the beachhead are on the offensive, ^{and} ~~once more~~. They have forced the passage of a stream in that sector, ^{have} and driven the enemy off a bridge that spans it. ^e That stream is described as being literally choked with dead bodies of German soldiers. ~~They~~ ^{were} piled so thickly that the surface of the stream rose for several inches. Apparently

This was a success of considerable importance. So long as the Germans held that bridge, they poured waves upon waves of troops over it. But, ^{all} ~~as~~ their attacks failed, ^{Then} the British, though weary from two weeks of fighting without rest, took a hitch in ^e their belts and rolled the Nazis back. The report ^{also} ~~says~~ ^{continues} that the Germans have surrendered in ^{considerable numbers} ~~sizeable lots~~.

The Germans have been attacking in such fanatic desperation, that it seemed as though they did ~~not~~ believe bullets could hurt them. The British troops kept firing until their guns were red hot, ^{ing} and literally mowed down Hitler's infantry.

TP the word is
However ~~it is known~~ that the Nazis have brought up still more ^{to hurl} fresh divisions against that beachhead. They are ^{reported to be} preparing

to attack even more ferociously than last week.

To the
Now South, at Cassino, the Americans have made a gain,

emphasizes
But, it helps us to ~~realize~~ realize how terrific the fighting
there has been, when we learn that our men gained just two

hundred yards.

Here's melancholy news:
Evidently, the time has come for the Allies to ~~aim their~~
turn their fire in the direction of
~~fire at~~ that old Benedictine monastery on top of *Monte* Cassino,
the oldest monastery in Europe,
Hitherto it has been spared at a cost of innumerable

American lives. But so long as the Germans hold on to that
which dominates the top of Monte Cassino
ancient abbey, the fifth army is helpless.

Today the Yorkshire Post, the newspaper owned by Foreign
Secretary Anthony Eden, had an editorial declaring that the
time has come to stop making this one-sided sacrifice of the
lives of allied soldiers. The Allied commanders have *so far* spared
that old abbey of St Benedict at the request of the pope
himself. Some of the shells fired by our artillery
contained eleven thousand leaflets. They read "Italian
friends be ware, we have until now been especially careful
to avoid shelling the *Monte* Cassino monastery." *Then* The leaflets

~~In the story slugged Italy retain first four paragraphs,
then strike everything from the words "Evidently the time
has come" and substitute the following:~~

When the Allies approached Mount Cassino they received an urgent appeal from Pope Pius to preserve the ancient monastery on the Mountain, the convent founded early in the sixth century by Saint Benedict. General Eisenhower gave orders that this request from the Pontiff should be respected.

(We are told tonight,)
He was obeyed and that obedience has cost many thousands of

For
American lives. The Germans took full advantage of our respect for that great abbey which has been for thirteen centuries the cradle of the Benedictine order. Time after time Uncle Sam's infantry fought their way up the slope off Mount Cassino, only to be driven back by withering fire from German machine guns and mortars ~~emplaced~~ around the monastery.

Finally it was too much. Yesterday the heavy guns of General Clark's artillery fired not only shells but some eleven thousand leaflets up the mountainside. The leaflets warned the Benedictine monks and other civilians to withdraw because

it was no longer possible for the Allied commanders to withhold their fire. Early today the heavy rifles of the Fifth Army started throwing a rain of shells on St. Benedict's monastery. ^W By this time ^{tonight} the Allied infantry is probably storming Mount Cassino in final assault. 1 0 Incidentally, ^{IP} a late broadcast from the radio at Bari, Italy, reports also that by the end of the day the fifth army had regained all of the ground it had lost at the Anzio beachhead since February third.

Finland.

The Finns are suing for peace, if a story from Sweden is true. The basis for it is that a former Prime Minister of Finland is in Stockholm at this moment. ~~It~~ ostensibly he went there on a private visit. But, Diplomatic quarters in the Swedish capital professed to have information that he was actually sent there to get in touch with Russians in Stockholm and try to negotiate an end to the war so far as Finland is concerned.

And
It is admitted in dispatches from the capital of Finland *itself* that the political situation in that country has changed. This most probably means that the Finns want to *set out of the war* ~~very~~ *quit*.

— 0 —
A dispatch from London reports that Stalin will probably reject any Finnish overtures for a negotiated peace. As we know, he agreed with president Roosevelt and prime minister Churchill that all enemy countries are to be treated alike. The only terms *to be* ~~are~~ unconditional surrender.

Norway follow Finland.

The Norwegian government in exile claims to have information that the Nazis are getting ready to evacuate part of Norway, — possibly all of it. This report is a consequence of the story about the Finns trying to make peace. Norwegian officials in London believe that the elimination of Finland will make it necessary for ^{Nazis to pull} ~~them to get~~ out of Norway.

Russia.

The principal excitement in Russia tonight was over the capture of Korsun, a strong German base in the heart of the Cherkassy pocket in the bend of the Dni^eper river. Korsun was the chief center of Nazi resistance in that pocket.

The soviet forces now have narrowed ~~it~~ ^{that pocket} down to an area twelve miles from North to South and six miles from East to West; ^{at the} ~~same time~~ ^{ing} they recaptured twelve other towns in the process.

The Nazis made a desperate effort to relieve the siege of those ten trapped divisions inside the pocket. They brought up heavy forces of tanks and infantry. ^{and -} Moscow acknowledges that they drove a wedge into the russian line; but only an ~~temporary~~ ^{insignificant} one, ~~so~~ they say.

On the Northern front, three Red Columns are driving from different directions toward Pskov. ~~that place is the gateway~~ to Latvia and Estonia. ^{helped considerably} ~~Moscow claims that the advance of the~~ ^{there} Russian armies ~~is limited only by the difficulty of the~~ ^{that is,} ground. ~~They have to push through forests and marshes, and~~ ^{they} ~~across badly swollen streams. They are considerably helped~~ by guerillas who are attacking the Germans from the rear.

According to the latest dispatch from the Soviet capital

they have conquered the entire Eastern shore of Lake
Peipus in Estonia. ~~And they have cleared some two thousand~~
~~square miles between that lake and Luga, cleared it~~
~~entirely of the enemy and ^{have} retaken six towns near Luga.~~
The Germans today, for the first time, admitted having lost
Luga, and acknowledged that the Russians have been renewing
heavy attacks on Vitebsk. ~~One German military commentator~~
~~admitted that the Reds had reached the outskirts of Lubny,~~
~~not far from ~~XXXXXX~~ Luts, in Poland.~~

U - Boats.

Lieut. Marion Vance Dawkins, a flier of the United States Navy, was patrolling the South Atlantic near Ascension Island. His co-pilot spotted a submarine. Lieut Dawkins dived nearly a mile out of the clouds and dropped his bombs, getting a perfect straddle. Just as he was ready to take a photograph of the injured U-boat with its crew ^{the members of} ~~men~~ on deck, there was ^{an} ~~a~~ ^{with} ~~forcible~~ explosion, debris were thrown two hundred feet in the air; and ^{a moment later,} ~~the underset boat~~ ~~sank.~~ no U-Boat.

Late^r a formation of six navy planes caught sight of another u-boat. There followed a running fight which lasted for five and a half hours. The ~~navy~~ planes ^{put} ~~lay~~ down a pattern of thirty-three depth bombs, and finally sank the ^{second one, too.} ~~German.~~

Argentina.

From South America come hints of another government up
upheaval in Argentina. It ^{may be} not be a revolution; but at
^{just} least it will be a change; and, from our point of view not
a change for the better.

Ever since the cabinet of General Ramirez broke relations
with the Axis, there have been violent dissensions among the
groups of the So-called Nationalist party. The new government --
-- when, ~~as~~ as and if it seizes power -- ^{some hear,} ~~will~~

^{will} probably resume diplomatic relations with Hitler and Japan.

As the censorship in Buenos Aires is rigid, the story comes

out of Montevideo, ^{just across} ~~on the North bank of~~ the river Plata. ^{And,}

^{the story} It is so definite ^{that it gives the} ~~as to name a positive~~ date for this: -- ^{all}

^{Sunday,} ~~upheaval~~ February twentieth, Sunday.

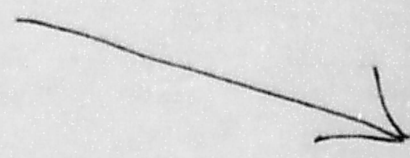
Planes.

^{experts}
~~TP~~ All ~~authorities~~ agree that ^{U. S.} United States industry has achieved a miracle ^{since Pearl Harbor, and} of quick production for the war. Charles E. Wilson, chairman of the Aircraft Production Board, today gives us illustrations of the progress that has been made in the making of planes. ^{TP} Since the defense program began, construction time has been cut by ninety per cent. For instance, it used to take a-hundred-and-fifty-seven-thousand-man-hours to make one ~~particularly~~ early type of fighter plane. ^{But,} By the time ^{we} they got around to building ^a ~~the~~ thousand of that type, the time had been reduced to seven-thousand, eight-hundred-man hours. ^{TP} For one kind of four - motored bomber, factories used to need two-hundred-thousand-man-hours. By the time they had made ^a ~~one~~ thousand of them, the time was sheared down to twenty-two-thousand, five-hundred; and, after ^{of them} two thousand, even that time was cut to ^{a mere} ~~thirteen~~ thousand-man hours. ^{TP} In one aircraft company, a plane has been coming off the assembly line every fifteen minutes of the working day.

^{And} Those reductions in time sound like far more than ninety per cent, but ~~who am I to argue with the chairman of the board about arithmetic.~~

Tax.

Income tax payers are advised that they probably will have a breathing space of thirty days. ~~This came from the treasury itself.~~ ^Q Spokesmen for Secy Morgenthau told newspapermen today that ~~taxpayers should keep their shirts on until they hear more about it. The reason is that~~ President Roosevelt has ^{not} yet approved the new tax bill; and, until he does that, the treasury cannot go ahead with printing the new forms. Hence the ^{breather.} ~~respites.~~ Apparently, the existing forms which people have already received are out of date on account of the new law.



Add taxes.

By the way
Leaders of congress today urged ^{the} President ~~Roosevelt~~ not

to veto that two billion, three hundred and fifteen million
dollar tax bill. Much as he dislikes it, they told him, if
he refuses to approve it, he will get nothing. That ^{it} will
probably be the last revenue measure which this congress
will pass.

Chaplin.

^{whimsical} The ^{funny} little tramp who made ^{all the world} millions laugh as he got into one predicament after another, Chaplin comedies went ~~thru~~ through many a dire predicament, now in real life seems to be ~~an~~ an even worse one. For) ~~real life,~~ Charley Chaplin himself. Today he went through

the ordeal of going to the federal courthouse, surrendering to the United States marshal and being finger printed.

While that was being done to him, the cameramen flocked around. Chaplin objected to being photographed, while in the process of being finger printed. The cameramen protested that they had always done it with other defendants. The United States attorney snapped out angrily that Chaplin was no different than anyone else. So he had to stand for it.

^{That} ^{ordeal} ^{long} This was only the first stage in the long ordeal which is ahead of the man ^{who has been acclaimed} generally accepted as the greatest living comedian, ^{the man who has brought more} the ordeal of standing trial on charges of a laughter to the world than any man violation of the Mann Act and, more spectacular still, of ^{who ever lived,} having conspired to violate the civil liberties of Joan

Barry.

pal Joey

president Roosevelt spoiled a good story today.

It was the story about that birthday party for Winston Churchill which Comrade Stalin^N threw during the historic conference at Töheren. The yarn goes that Old Marshal Timoshenko, a plain spoken fellow, got up to make a long speech. Neither Churchill nor president Roosevelt knew what he was saying, since he spoke, in Russian, but the expression on the face of Timoshenko's boss grew more and more sour. Finally, Stalin got up without a word walked quickly behind Marshall Timoshenko, and neatly ^{bopped} ~~knocked~~ him on the head with an empty vodka bottle. *One way to stop a speech.*

As John O'Donnell remarked in the New York Daily News this morning;—"What a marvelous way to stop an after-dinner speaker."

~~John went on to suggest that Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt might have rendered a great service if w she had done that to, Vice-President Henry Wallace wh ile he was sounding off.~~

~~at the last Jackson day dinner.~~

IP. But the F. D. R. spoils it all. He says
~~It may be too bad, but~~ the story is ~~not~~ true. Congressional

leaders were at the White House today conferring with

~~But F. D. R. spoils it all. He says the story~~
~~isn't true. Congressional leaders were at the White~~
~~House today conferring with President Roosevelt, and~~
they asked him about that incident. Timoshenko, the
alleged orator bopped on the noggin with a Vodka
bottle by Uncle Joe just wasn't there.

And now looking over my shoulder I think I'd better
duck - or -- or

But wait a moment, here's one more!

DEWEY

Most people have found it impossible to send Valentine messages by telegram. But a group of Republicans in Helena Montana, had better luck. They sent a valentine by wire to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York. Others may have done likewise to Gov. Bricker, Wendell Wilkie, F. D. R., and the rest of the candidates. But the only one to come over the press wires is this one to Gov. Dewey. It reads: -

"Please stop playing hard to get.

With that "I'm not interest' line.

Just say you'll be President

and be our valentine".

Well, - not - so bad, not -so-bad. Let's see what Valentine message Standard Oil of California has for us now.