

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

After a long rest of four days, the first of that length that I've had in some years, here I am back with Hugh in our New York studio. And some of ~~x~~ the news I have tonight is fairly good, and some of the rest is, well, better than ~~xx~~ might be expected.

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But, first I want to salute Author Krishnahal Shri^dharani, foreign correspondent Henry J. Taylor, and Explorer-Author Roy Chapman Andrews for helping me out. They did it so magnificently that I'll not be surprised if my Sun Oil sponsors ask me to take more vacations!

But what about that good news? It comes from the Navy. Two more enemy submarines accounted for. Sunk by U.S. naval fliers: one of them was a young chap named Donald Francis Mason of Rochester,

Minnesota, of whom we've heard before.

Some weeks ago I told about a ~~fix~~ flyer who sent this historic message to his commanding officer: "Sighted sub, sank same". After that masterpiece of brevity, he was decorated, and now he has followed it ^{up} with another sinking. For the second job he was decorated again, and what's more, promoted out of the enlisted ranks, commissioned an ~~xxx~~ ensign.

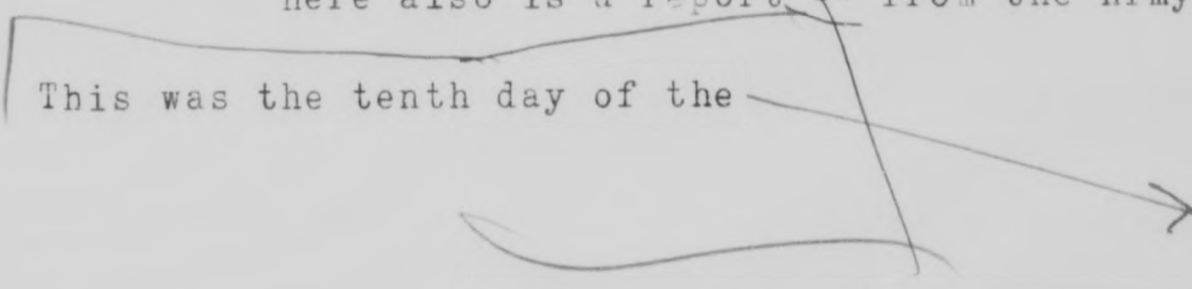
The other sinking was accomplished by Ensign Tepuni, a naval reserve officer from San Francisco. Which makes a total of twenty-five enemy undersea craft destroyed. off our coasts.

And, the Navy has evidence of additional sinkings, not fully confirmed.

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Here also is a report ~~from~~ from the Army.

This was the tenth day of the



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non-stop attempt by the Japanese air force to knock
out Corregidor. And its failure illustrates handsomely
the value of artillery with good gunners at the sights.

One thousand American and Filipino troops ^{under} of Lieutenant-

General Wainwright watched yesterday while the Ackack
^{sharpshooters} of Corregidor knocked two heavy ^{Jap} bombers, two of
the latest type, into the bay. ~~with their phenomenal~~

~~fire~~. This is how an anti-aircraft officer describes it:

"Two up, two down, and all clear." ^{And} ~~We are told that~~
^{at Corregidor} the troops cheered while the gunners were doing their
^{No wonder,} sharpshooting, ~~and they had good cause.~~

The Army tells us that when the ^{se} heavy raids
began, the Japanese came at Corregidor with squadrons
of nine and even eighteen planes. Evidently
Yamashita's air force has been reduced, because the
bombers come over now only two or three at a time.

^{coordination}
~~The night attacks have been foiled by skillful use of~~

Of American

~~of our~~ troops raided a supply base of the Japanese near Digos in the Gulf of Davao. Twenty-two enemy warehouses with large stocks of food, gasoline, ammunition and other supplies were burned to the ground, and several vehicles, and, other military equipment, destroyed.

In another raid, one of our native Sulu units made a sharp surprise attack on the City of Zamboanga, which is occupied by the Japanese. *Getting* ~~They got~~ into the heart of the city *they* and took the enemy completely unawares, *and* ~~They~~ accomplished the destruction of several machinegun nests and other military installations. *They* ~~and~~ *also* killed many Japanese.

In both these raids, in Zamboanga and Digos, there were no casualties on our side.

BURMA

In that ~~heart rending~~ battle of Burma, ^{the} ~~the~~ Japanese ^{are finding the going much} ~~are closer and closer to their goal, but~~ ^{tougher than} ~~they are having a harder fight for it than they did~~

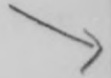
in the Malay Peninsula. Most of the dispatches from that front describe the desperate and valiant fighting by the Chinese, ^{who are helping} ~~allies of~~ the British. Toungoo, we learn today, was besieged for seven days, the garrison actually surrounded and outnumbered. But the Chinese fought their way out, what was left of them, and withdrew in good order to join the main Chinese Army in the northeast.

Along the Irrawaddy, the Japanese are fighting ~~xxxxxx~~ along towards Prome, but their main pressure is in the Toungoo Valley against the Chinese line defending the highway and railroad to Mandalay. ^R The dismal fact is that the army of Nippon now commands all the approaches to Burma, that strategic point,

and is within measurable distance of the rich oil fields in Burma, up the Irrawaddy at Yenanyoung.

INDIA

New Delhi has been full of rumors all day -- and few definite facts. One rumor was that the leaders of the All-India Congress were meditating an alternative proposal that had been drawn up by Gandhi and Henru. One step for which the Indian leaders are unanimously anxious, is to shake off the authority of the India Office in London. The leaders of the All-India-Congress have objected more and more to having their lives and fortunes regulated by the English Secretary of State for India. And it is pointed out that the plan submitted ~~by~~ by Sir Stafford Cripps includes no statement that the power



of the India Office on the banks of the Thames would be abolished.

There was an unofficial rumor that Sir Stafford ~~Cripps~~ had communicated with the Churchill Cabinet in London, ^{stating} that some compromise would be necessary to avoid a flat rejection of the plan he had been commissioned to submit.

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A good many people have expressed the wonder why so smart a man as Cripps would have undertaken such a difficult, eleventh hour mission. On my way back from the West I ran across a pen portrait of ~~the man~~ ^{him} in the ATLANTIC MONTHLY, ^{an} by ~~Oswald Garrison Villard~~, and ~~that~~ ^{that} article sheds a good deal of light. When the War broke out in Nineteen Thirty-Nine, Sir Stafford Cripps gave up his legal practice and offered his services as a technician to the government. ^{Oswald Garrison Villard told me that} ~~Aside~~ from being one of the two foremost lawyers of the English bar,

he is a particularly fine chemist. ~~And~~ During the last War ^{he} worked in that capacity in an explosives factory until he broke down from over-work. The Chamberlain Government declined to give Cripps any ~~war~~ work to do so he set out on a round-the-world tour. When he reached India, he passed months in conversation with Gandhi and Nehru, who had been a schoolmate of his at Harrow. All the Indian leaders were glad to see him because long before ^{then} he had often spoken up in Parliament in favor of self-government for India. And by the end of his sojourn there in Nineteen Thirty-Nine, he ^{actually} had ^{had} composed the draft of a constitution giving dominion status to India.

So we ^{can} ~~may~~ presume that the proposal he is now offering to the leaders of the All-India Congress ^{may be} ~~is~~ a compromise of the plan that he himself drew up some two years ago. And obviously the ~~XXXXXX~~ reason

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Churchill sent him to India was that there is no other man in the War Cabinet so well known and liked by the Indian leaders. ⁷⁷ ~~Of course~~ his plan was turned down two years ago by the Chamberlain Government. If it had been accepted, India today might offer ^a ~~an entirely~~ different picture.

AUSTRALIA

Though it's April First over here, it's April Second at General MacArthur's headquarters in Australia. Today's April Second bulletin from there was given out by Australian Prime Minister John Curtin who reported that Koepang on the Dutch Portuguese island of Timor and Salamaua on New Guinea, have been raided by squadrons of American and Australian bombers. Six enemy planes were destroyed at Koepang and six damaged. Our pilots, said the communique observed six explosions, and all our planes returned safely.

For the latest raids our men had to fly through tropical storms to their targets.

Prime Minister Curtin also announced that his government had ordered the Australian Army to be raised to full war strength.

Another announcement from Mac Arthur's

headquarters is made by Major D. H. Stephens of Pittsburgh, who is Post Office Chief of the United States Army for the southwest Pacific. And this is an announcement of importance to anybody who has relatives in those expeditionary forces. Letters, he said, are passing ^{freely} both to and from MacArthur's men. He urges ~~the~~ correspondents in America to be most careful to address the letters properly, with the rank, company, regiment or other unit marked on the envelope, and if possible the number of ^{the} army post office of the addressee's area. Be sure to put a return address on the envelope or package.

If mail is returned to you undelivered, it doesn't necessarily mean that anything has happened to the man to whom you sent it, you may have addressed it improperly.

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Remember that the censors work on the mail on both sides, therefore write on one side of the paper only, because the censor clips out those parts of the letter he doesn't like. ^R It is better to write a lot of short letters than a few long ones, because the short ones get the first attention, and the long ones are apt to lie over on the censor's desk.

You can send parcel post packages, ^{too;} but, they ~~must be of~~ ^{seventy} ~~have to be~~ less than ~~a hundred~~ pounds; and, not more than ^{one hundred} ~~seventy-four~~ inches long. Major Stephens ^{who is} is organizing his office so as to be able to find every soldier in Australia, ~~a mammoth army post office.~~

~~Major Stephens~~ used to be a postal inspector in Pittsburgh. ^R After hearing all those instructions from him, it's rather interesting to learn that Mrs. ^{Army Post Master Maj. Stephens} Stephens hasn't heard from ~~him~~ ^{him} for six weeks. ^{In fact} It wasn't ^{even} until today that she learned that her husband is with

General MacArthur in Australia.

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Here's another item from the Antipodes. A report that the Japanese are losing numbers of their trained pilots. This fact is becoming more noticeable, says Major Richard Carmichael of Uncle ^{Army} Sam's Air Force. All of which doesn't seem to prevent the Japanese from having complete control of the air in Burma. But Major Carmichael reports that the ~~Map~~ pilots being captured in the air war over the northern approaches to Australia are young and poorly trained.

Major Carmichael adds the information that not a single American plane has been lost in those air battles north of Australia, which began ~~in~~ more than a month ago.

POLES

It's one of the curious contradictions of this war to find Poles fighting on the side of the Russians. Late this afternoon came an official report that sixty thousand well equipped and completely mechanized Polish troops crossed ~~the~~ the Russian border into Persia. This news comes to us from Ottawa, where it was announced by General Sikorski, Prime Minister of Poland, who went on to say that the purpose of sending that Polish army there is to protect the British and Russians, to ward off the threat of any flanking movement by the Nazis.

BUSINESS

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The Senate took action today to help small business concerns and also ~~to~~ give a shot in the arm to war production. The bill that the Senators passed today sets up a hundred million dollar corporation, the Small War Plants Corporation, to operate under the authority of Donald Nelson and the War Production Board. The bill authorizes that agency to take over war contracts, and not only farm them out among small business concerns, but also ~~to~~ make loans to firms which need money to expand their plants. The directors of the Corporation will be named by Production Chief Donald Nelson.

That bill, by the way, was passed by a vote of eighty-one to nothing, ~~which you might call unanimous.~~

PRODUCTION

After this month, the war will affect even the playrooms of American children. Makers of toys will not be allowed to manufacture any toys that require the use of metals that are needed for war production. Out of six hundred such factories thirty have already gone from toys to war work. From toy guns to real guns.

Also, after April Fifteenth, no more washing machines and ironers will be turned out by the large factories, and smaller concerns will have to convert their plants a month later.

After May Thirty-First no more metal furniture.

The deadline for lawn-mowers will be June Thirtieth.

Altogether, the War Production Board has listed thirteen separate and distinct industries which will have to turn over their factories and their efforts to making munitions and war machinery

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instead of goods for civilians. Automobiles, laundry equipment, radios and phonographs, refrigerators, jute boxes, vending machines, vacuum cleaners and outboard motors; all to go out of production until we settle this business with the Nasis and Japs.

RUBBER

No fewer than twenty-five different corporations are getting ready to make synthetic rubber. That we learn today from Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones.

They include oil companies, chemical companies, and rubber-manufacturing concerns. Among them they ~~will~~ ^{will} be able to turn out seven hundred thousand tons of

synthetic rubber a year. ~~That is~~ ^{Which is} just about ~~what we~~ ^{the amount}

⁴ rubber we were using before the war began.

MARRIAGE

For ten years there has been a long hard struggle between love and the United States Navy. Today, the Navy declared an armistice. It's this way:- When a man is commissioned in the sea-going forces of Uncle Sam, either Navy or Marine Corps, he may not marry for two years. In fact, if he gets there by way of Annapolis, he signs an undertaking not to marry for two years! You can imagine, I assume you can imagine how much weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth has been caused by that ruling.

So, young men and maidens! you'll be glad to know that it's all off! But only for the duration of the war. A young American naval or marine officer may now marry whenever he has a mind to, plus, of course, a willing girl.

So love wins at least a temporary victory.

And, by the way, Hugh, thanks for temporarily taking my place ^{at} ~~of~~ the Movietone newsreel - while I've been out West!