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Sunoco.

~~late~~ This afternoon President Roosevelt, in a move without precedent, sought to avert the resignation of Senator Barkley as Majority leader in the Senate.

This following the blistering attack that the Senator had previously delivered against the President and his veto of the tax bill.

Seven years ago American political history was made by a letter President Roosevelt wrote to Senator Barkley, a missive known to fame as the "Dear Alben" letter. And once again today the President addresses the Kentucky Senator as "Dear Alben".

"I regret to learn from your speech in the Senate," he writes, "that you thought I had in my message attacked the integrity of yourself and other members of Congress. For such, you must know, was not my intention."

And the President goes on to speak about the respective ways that he and the Senator felt about the tax bill. Then he says: "I sincerely hope that you will not persist in your announced intention to resign as majority leader of the senate. If you do however

I hope your colleagues will not accept your resignation. But if they do" the President went on, "I hope that they will immediately unanimously re-elect you."

In this hope the President seems likely to be gratified, because the feeling in the Senate tonight seems to be one of overwhelming support of Senator Barkley, in his break with the President. This -- with a determination that he shall stay on as majority leader In any case President Roosevelt, writing with lavish expressions of personal esteem for Senator Barkley, seeks to avert wide open warfare between the White House and Congress and the bitterest kind of feud within the Democratic party itself.

On the floor of the Senate today the scene was dramatic indeed -- a spectacular break between two men -- the smashing <sup>of a</sup> ~~two-man~~ political alliance that has been a dominant factor in the governmental affairs of this country for seven years. Administration leader Senator

~~Today's political sensation in Washington was one of the greatest in years. On the floor of the Senate - a dramatic break between two men, the smashing of a two-man political alliance that has been a dominant factor in the governmental affairs of this country for seven years. The two; administration leader Senator Barkley of~~

*Barkley of*

*^* Kentucky and the President of the United States. *For as you doubt-*

*less have heard today*

*^* ~~Today~~ *^* Senator Barkley *^* turned in opposition to the White House

and announced his resignation as leader for the administration, —

*all* because of the President's veto of the tax bill. The whole thing comes as a spectacular climax in the bitter battle that has flared between Congress and the White House on the subject of taxes.

The Barkley-Roosevelt partnership began in nineteen thirty-seven, when fierce congressional battles were on. It was at the time of the supreme court fight, when the President sustained a signal defeat at the hands of Congress. The administration leader at that time was Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the President's right hand man in the Congressional warfare. And then at the most critical moment Senator Robinson died, passing suddenly from the legislative scene.

Who should succeed ~~him as leader~~<sup>him</sup> as leader of ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> majority

Democrats in the Senate ? That produced another noisy scrap. There were two candidates - one the late senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi who was not too staunch a supporter of the New Deal administration. The other - Alben Barkley of Kentucky, a fervent Roosevelt man. The issue was decided by a letter from the President, known to fame as the - "dear Alben letter". That presidential intervention decided the issue, and Senator Barkley was elected Democratic leader - by a majority of one vote.

From that time on Barkley of Kentucky was a tower of strength for the President, supporting the White House through thick and thin. On some minor occasions he voted with other Southern senators against things favored by the administration, but on all major issues advocated strongly by the President, he gave his unwavering support - although they say he sometimes personally may have disagreed.

~~Now, however, comes~~<sup>Then, along came</sup> the tax bill with President Roosevelt vetoing the two billion dollar measure passed by Congress - the President wanting ten and a half billion, and sending a veto message



blistering with criticism <sup>of</sup> ~~with~~ Congress.  
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Congress is answering back, Democrats as well as Republicans.

The Democratic chairmen of the committees dealing with taxation in

both ~~in~~ the Senate and House have announced that they will vote <sup>to</sup> over-

<sup>the</sup> ride veto. And today even Barkley of Kentucky, the President's long-

time-coadjutor, joined the opposition to the white house.

Barkley was scathing. He called the veto message "a calculated and deliberate assault on the integrity <sup>of</sup> every member of the congress ~~es~~ of the United States."

He spoke of the President's contention that the tax bill would yield, in actuality, far less than the figure on the face of it - the more than two billions. He said that this was based on what He called, "one of the most unjustifiable methods of calculation possible." <sup>2</sup> An these calculations were, in Barkley's words, "probably handed to him by a mind that was more clever than honest."

His scorn was eloquent when He got around to the part of the veto message which talked about persons in public life who wanted even higher taxes than the President was urging - much more than the ten and a half billion. That was, in Barkley's words, "obviously a reference to Mr. Wendell Willkie, who <sup>as the Kentucky senator put it: -</sup> darts across the skies like a comet, illuminating the heavens with an array of figures that nobody can understand." <sup>Then he</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>this</sup> added a suggestion: <sup>that</sup> ~~as he said,~~ <sup>these are his words -</sup> "this celestial Nomad has frightened the President into asking a higher figure."

<sup>Sen.</sup> And then <sup>1</sup> Barkley called for congress to override the veto. "If congress has any self-respect left," he cried, "it will override the veto and enact the tax bill into law - the objections of the President notwithstanding!"

Having thus bitterly assailed the President, Barkley of Ky., completed the drama - by announcing his resignation as administration leader. <sup>Whereupon he</sup> ~~he~~ received an ovation, the cheers of his fellow senators.

All of which is regarded in Washington as one of the greatest political explosions in recent years, a blow-up that may have sensational repercussions. But, the President is already

busy, turning on his justly famous charm, and ability to win friends. He is trying to pacify the irate Kentucky Senator.

The Barkley rebellion was promptly followed by a similar insurgence in the lower House of Congress. There the attack on the Presidential veto was delivered by Congressman Doughton of North Carolina Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee -- the Committee that drafted the tax bill. Chairman Doughton is a Democrat and long an administration stalwart. But today he followed Senator Barkley's lead by calling upon the lower House of Congress to override the Presidential veto -- a call that was received with cheers.

And tonight the betting in Washington is that the veto will be overridden. We are told that even administration supporters are agreed that this is almost sure to happen. Their opinion is expressed by saying that in the lower House the President will be, in their own words, "lucky to get one hundred votes to sustain the veto."

Tonight Governor Dewey of New York asked the Republicans of Wisconsin to withdraw his name from the G O P preferential primary.

Dewey of course, has consistently declared that he ~~was~~<sup>is</sup> not a candidate; but, nevertheless his name was entered in the Wisconsin primary, along with that of Willkie. Now he asks his political supporters out there to withdraw his name -- whereupon the Willkie leader in Wisconsin calls the Dewey withdrawal "political expediency".



## STRIKE

Today at Los Angeles strikers returned to work with a song. "We are in the army now," they sang. This followed <sup>ing</sup> the army seizure of the Los Angeles municipal water and power system, which had been tied up by a strike of twenty-five-hundred-and-ninety employees -- leaving one-hundred-and-fifty Los Angeles war plants and <sup>tens of</sup> ~~twenty~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ thousand <sup>of</sup> Homes and business buildings without light or water. President Roosevelt today directed the War Department to take over after the Los Angeles mayor had asked for the soldiers to be put in control.

The President's comment was that the strike of municipal employees had impeded war production in the Los Angeles area. And so he ordered the army in -- the first time that the military forces have taken over a city-owned utility.

The strikers thereupon held a meeting, and listened to an appeal from Colonel Rufus Putnam, appointed to take charge of Los Angeles utilities. He urged them to return to work "as employees of the United States government." And the strikers promptly voted okay.

So  
^ They ended their ten day strike and returned to work singing -- "we're in the army now."

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~~A late navy bulletin tells us of~~ <sup>still</sup> another brilliant stroke in that American offensive which is stabbing so deeply into the Island empire of Japan. A navy bulletin tells of a task force of the Pacific fleet, the same sort of unit that assaulted the Japanese base at Truk -- ~~has carried~~ <sup>is carrying</sup> out a smashing raid against Saipan and Tinian. ~~These are~~ Islands in the Mariana group, ~~and are situated~~ northwest of Truk; six hundred and fifty miles northwest. <sup>And</sup> That's in the direction of Tokyo. In fact, the targets assailed in the Marianas, are less than fifteen hundred miles from Tokyo.

For days an obscure battle has been raging in that distant country of Burma. Bits of news have drifted in with indications that a British force invading Japanese-controlled Burma was in a most dangerous condition, threatened with encirclement by the Japanese. Today we hear <sup>that the</sup> ~~the issue of the critical situation.~~ The enemy has failed, with the British force winning a signal victory. →

~~The Jap attempt was ambitious, a plan to drive the British army into the Bay of Bengal, or force it to evacuate, for an Asiatic Dunkirk. The Jap strategy was carefully prepared - with a cunning scheme to throw flanking forces around to the rear of the British.~~

~~The key to the whole thing was an enemy raiding unit, which cut in behind the Seventh Indian Division, which was placed at a vital point dominating a mountain pass. The Japs figured that the moment the Indian troops found that the enemy had got to their rear, they would break and clear out. And this would expose the remainder of the British forces to swift encirclement.~~

~~The trouble was that the Seventh Indian Division~~



~~did not set according to enemy expectations.~~ Instead of breaking  
when ~~it found it was~~ <sup>they were</sup> outflanked, the troops from Hindustan held  
their ground. And that disrupted the whole Jap plan, with the result  
that the British were able to launch a successful series of attacks,  
~~they have wiped~~ <sup>wiping</sup> out a force of six thousand Japs - with mopping up  
operations now going on.

## RUSSIA

Soviet Russia reports the capture of the last major German base on the road to Pskov. This is on the Northern front, where the Hitler forces are now being driven back toward the Baltic states. Fighting is along a hundred and sixty five mile front, with the Red army surging forward everywhere.

To the South, in that other critical area of war, the Ukraine, Soviet armies are pressing forward along a two-hundred-and-fifty mile front. Everywhere they <sup>are</sup> hammering against the positions the Germans retain inside the Dnieper Bend. After yesterday's capture of Krivoi Rog, the key to the enemy positions in the river bend, Soviet troops kept right on going. And it looks as if the Germans would have to make a speedy withdrawal - if they are able to withdraw - from the big salient onto which they have been hanging grimly.

A report from Stockholm tells of a grim and gruesome visit that Hitler made to the Russian front some little while ago. The Fuehrer, they say, was so enraged by the German disasters, that he had a number of high officers shot. And -- General Lindemann, commanding the German troops in the Leningrad area, committed suicide. They say the Germans tried to keep this news secret, but it spread through the Baltic countries -- and finally got to Sweden.

ITALY

This was a stormy day along the West coast of Italy near Rome,

~~Rome - not stormy so much with the blasts of war, as with the rage of the elements. A violent tempest of rain and wind enveloped the beach head South of Rome, and this was a factor in the strategies of battle. Tonight's dispatch from Allied headquarters in Naples~~

and ~~reads~~ "the Nazis ~~are~~ reported massing under the cover of ~~a violent~~ <sup>the</sup> storm today, for a third major assault against the beach head."

The weather kept allied air-forces from operating to any great extent in that locality, and of this the enemy took advantage - to regroup his units and deploy troops and tanks and guns for another attack. At least this is the interpretation that the news gives of the German doings under cover of the beach-head storm.

Military action today was limited to little more than patrol attacks, with Germans stabbing here and there - probing the allied positions. <sup>and</sup> Two more ambitious German assaults were repelled near Cisterna. In both cases the push was led by tanks - and was repelled by American guns. All along the beach-head-line, there was extensive artillery fire today, with rival batteries flinging shells at each <sup>other</sup>.



Today American bombers based on Italy <sup>again today</sup> repeated their performan-  
ce of yesterday. They flew North across the Alps and smashed some  
fighter aircraft factories. ~~These were~~ in Austria, in ~~the town of~~  
Steyr, ninety miles West of Vienna. One of the factories hit was the  
famous Daimler plant which manufactures <sup>7</sup> fuselages and under-carriages  
for the Messerschmitt hundred and nine, ~~one of Germany's foremost~~  
~~fighter planes. Thus the job is continued, the job of knocking out~~  
~~Nazi fighter plane production.~~

At the same time we are informed of the losses sustained by  
the Mediterranean air force, in <sup>the</sup> ~~its~~ great raid of yesterday - ~~when~~  
~~the Italy-based planes collaborated with bombers based on Britain,~~  
in <sup>that</sup> ~~launching~~ the first coordinated two-way blow, from both south and  
North, against Naziland. ~~We heard yesterday that~~ The British <sup>all-</sup> based  
air fleet lost forty-one planes, <sup>while</sup> ~~and were informed that the plane~~  
~~casualties of the squadrons based on Italy were less. This is~~  
~~confirmed today by the announcement that~~ the Mediterranean force  
lost fifteen bombers, <sup>after shooting</sup> ~~They shot~~ down forty Nazi fighters, and, <sup>possibly</sup>  
~~probably destroyed~~ eighteen more.

The air fighting was heavy for the Mediterranean squadrons of the one-two punch. They were in constant battle for fifty-five minutes; and, over the targets they encountered those Nazi-rocket firing planes. All the German aircraft shot down are credited to the guns of the bombers, which would indicate that the American fighters did not do escort duty all the way from Italy-bases to Germany. Likely enough they may have stopped at the Alps.

Meanwhile, the Germans are countering by hurling raids at London. These have been occurring constantly, but haven't been headlines because ~~usually~~ they are rather small-time affairs. However, London points out tonight that the Nazi counter air attacks are increasing steadily in intensity, and the dispatch from the British capital reveals that last night about a hundred-and-seventy five German planes flew to bomb Britain. About a hundred of them reached <sup>ing</sup> London.

*IP* The latest is that the Germans are over London again tonight.

~~This does not sound like so much in comparison with the thousand plane raids that hit Germany so often, and in addition the Nazi bombers do not carry anything like the weight of bombs that are~~

Today's news brings another fine phrase of war, the cheery exclamation, "okay, Doc, we'll be right down." And that's music to the ears of a bomber crew, when their ship has been hit and they're in trouble.

Let's imagine the bomber, staggering along, fallen out of formation -- and Nazi fighters are ganging to kill the cripple. The pilot <sup>signals via</sup> ~~signals out into~~ his radio that they're in trouble and need help -- flashing the distress call to any American fighters who may be within radio earshot. Will there be any answer, any help? There's one regular form of answer. When a fighter pilot, flying on guard above the bombers, receives the call, he responds - "okay, Doc, we'll be right down."

Today the war department in Washington released a story to illustrate. Over in England there is a flying fortress named Decatur Deb - presumably after some debutante at Decatur, Illinois. And on a recent raid over Nazi Germany, Decatur Deb was hit hard by flak. <sup>3</sup> *Nearly had her tail torn off. She* ~~it~~ fell out of formation, and flew limping along - nearly all of <sup>her</sup> ~~its~~ guns had been silenced by the blast of anti-aircraft shells.



And just then three German fighters appeared for the kill. Things looked mighty bad <sup>for Decatur Deb</sup> and Lieutenant Robert Hubbell of Topeka, Kansas, sent out the call for help - fighter help. There was an intense moment of waiting and then the reply - "okay, Doc, we'll be right down."

The word was soon followed by action, as a pair of P forty-seven thunderbolts swooped out of the sun. Their guns were blazing, and soon two German fighters fell in flames, and a third ran away smoking. Whereupon Decatur Deb flew back to base in Britain.

And that Ben, is the cue for you to open up your <sup>-0.1</sup> Standard of California throttle and take off.