

STRIKE

L.J. - Standard.
Sunoco.

Tues. Feb. 22 '44
Tucson, Ariz.

tonight the U.S. Army is all set
At Los Angeles [^] ~~soldiers of the army~~ [^] are going to take over
and operate the municipal water and power system, which is tied up
by a strike. Mayor Fletcher Bowron asked the war department for
troops, and tonight he announced that under-secretary of war patterson
had said - okay.

Nearly half of the five thousand ~~and~~ seven hundred utilities
employees of Los Angeles have been on strike since February fourteenth.
Their grievance is that while they demanded a pay boost of fifteen
dollars a month, the increase allowed them was a mere five dollars.

The strikers refused to repair damage to water and power
facilities, and all of the schools in the city have had to close
down and there is no lighting for more than a hundred and fifty
war plants, [^] and a hundred and twenty-five thousand homes and business
places ^{are} ~~are~~ [^] blacked out. Now troops are being sent in, to get things
going again; and the soldiers are expected to arrive, as the mayor
said - "sometime after midnight," tonight.

TAX

The congressional response to the tax veto was prompt and angry this afternoon - with both Democrats and Republicans joining in criticism of the presidential message. Indignant comment was made by Democratic Congressman Doughton of North Carolina, chairman of the house ways and means ^{- the} committee *that* ~~which~~ produced the bill ~~that~~ the president ~~had~~ vetoed. Chairman Doughton announced that he ^(as a Democrat) would vote to override the veto. And Democratic Senator George of Georgia, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, declared that if the lower House votes to nullify the veto, the Senate will too.

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Republican opposition concentrated on the critical tone of the veto message - ^{the} sharp rebuke to Congress. They said it was all a part of what they call, the President's - "anti-congress campaign." This is along the line of thought which holds that President Roosevelt, in running for a fourth

add TAX - 2

term will virtually campaign against congress. And G O P leader of the lower House, Joe Martin of Massachusetts, predicted that the veto would be rebuffed in both houses by a close vote.

~~The President in his veto message pointed out that the administration had asked congress for more taxes to the tune of ten-and-a-half-billion dollars. To which the message adds:- "since then, persons prominent in our national life have stated in no uncertain terms that my figure was too low." That was an obvious reference to Wendell Willkie, who said recently that he thought the tax bill should be more like twenty billion dollars. Congress, however, had much smaller ideas, and the bill it passed came to a little over two billion.~~

Tonight Stalin of the Soviets made a formal announcement of a most impressive fact. He proclaimed that by now the armies of Russia have liberated almost three-quarters of all the Russian territory occupied by the Germans since they invaded in the summer of nineteen forty-one. At the same time, Stalin repeated the contention that there was only one real front; the battle line in Russia. No second front.

As for the major military event of the day, Krivoi Rog has fallen - the last ~~etc etc~~ *Nazi stronghold* →

RUSSIA - 2.

~~In Russia Krivoi Rog has fallen - the last Nazi stronghold~~


in the middle of the bend of the Dnieper. The first announcement came from Berlin, which stated that the Germans had evacuated Krivoi-Rog after bitter house to house fighting. Then Moscow proclaimed the capture of the great iron center.

The news is not surprising - if you take a look at a war map and see the kind of salient the Germans have been holding in the Dnieper bend. It looks as if it were subject to flanking almost everywhere. And today Moscow tells us that the Germans face another trap. Either that, or they will have to evacuate *their* *Dnieper bend army* ~~several thousand men~~ in a hurry.

AIR WAR

Today Allied air power launched the first coordinated attack from both Britain and Italy. For the first time, in unified operation, one bombing fleet took off from British bases, while another flew from Italian airfields. Headquarters at Naples announced that the Italian arm of the blow was the greatest bomber effort against a single target ever made from the Mediterranean sector. To which the information is added that the two-fold stroke of war was aimed at what the dispatch calls "the destruction of German capacity to maintain an aerial defensive against further bombing." That ~~is~~ is, it hit the Nazi fighter-plane factories.

The raid from the South struck at Regensburg, where German fighters are turned out in mass production. And the target for the British-based planes was likewise ^{a series of} plant^s making fighter planes.



air war - 2.

Today's one-two punch marked the third day of air action, three days of what the London dispatch calls - "the greatest sustained air attack of the war." And the three day bombing was ^{all} directed against the same kind of target, fighter factories - in an attempt to cripple ~~the~~ Nazi production of the kind of plane ~~that is~~ needed to resist the bombing of Germany. →

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The latest news tells of losses sustained in the one-two punch. Pilots returning to British bases describe the heaviest kind of opposition, intense anti-aircraft fire and fierce attacks by swarms of German fighter planes. They say it was worse than Schweinfurt where sixty bombers were lost.

"This was much rougher than any show we have ever been on - and that includes Schweinfurt," said Lieutenant George Spier from Miami, Oklahoma. ~~(correct)~~

Today's loss of British planes alone amounted to forty-one bombers and eleven fighters, while fifty-eight enemy aircraft were shot down.

The air fleet that flew from Britain encountered the heaviest opposition, with the Italian-based-squadrons reporting that their losses were - "not exceptional." They, however, had the length of the flight to contend with - one of the longest ever made from Italy. Such an extended flight, in fact, that it has been decided to credit the crews that made it with two missions, instead of one.

ITALY

One report from Italy tonight is that German and Allied artillery are firing with constantly increasing power - a rising crescendo of cannon. And this is taken to be a prelude to new violent fighting - after two days of comparative calm.

After the second major German offensive was smashed by the Allies on the ^{Angio} Beach head, both sides became relatively inactive - all tired out. For two days, only local actions were featured. - But one of these was a thundering melodrama; the Germans formed ^{ing} up with tanks and infantry in the Carroceto sector, planning a local thrust across a supply road, ^{And} they were knocked out before they got started, knocked out by what is called - "a timed crash." That is, , massed batteries of Allied guns fired with one simultaneous blast, a timed-crash that killed more than seven hundred of the enemy and broke the attempted thrust.

CHURCHILL

Here are some comments by Winston Churchill. Of late we haven't had anything much from him because of illness - following the Cairo and Teheran Conference. Now he has recovered, and today made his first full and formal address to the House of Commons since his return to London.

Churchill tackled that most asked of all questions when will the war end? Many have been saying "this year, Nineteen Forty-Four." But he held forth no such optimism.

As for the second front, there have been various reports about the proportion of British and Americans that would be used in the invading army. Churchill stated today that it would be about even - the British and American fifty-fifty; that is, at first. However, if the fight should be prolonged, the proportion of Americans will become greater than the proportion of British - because of greater American man power, said Churchill. And then he went on to define "unconditional

surrender". That it does not mean the German people would be enslaved or destroyed. Simply that conditions of peace will be dictated by the allies bound only by "our own consciences to civilization", was the way Churchill put it.

Another moot point of conversation is what the British call - "the rocket coast." Have the Germans a secret weapon which they have installed across the channel to strike at England? Churchill said that the Nazis have been preparing what he called "new means of attack, either by pilotless aircraft, or possibly by rockets, or both - on a considerable scale."

And now that burning subject - American politics in a presidential year. Churchill took a view both British and philosophic. "It is a election year in the United States," he pointed out, "and that is a time naturally," he reflected, "when a lot of rough things have to be said about Great Britain." After which he explained that a few remarks critical of the British

may sometimes gain a bit of popularity for an American candidate. "We ourselves" he declared, "are accustomed to the process of election, and I think we should not allow ourselves to be unduly concerned by anything that should be said or written in the United States in the course of the great constitutional process which is taking place.

In other words he thinks the Lion shouldn't roar when his tail is twisted a bit in an American election.

AXIS

The two remaining Axis nations, Germany and Japan, don't seem to be getting along so well. With the war looking sour to both of them, they have started to squabble among themselves. This is indicated in a report from Stockholm which relates that the Germans have protested to Tokyo about the seizure of an important patent. We are not told the nature of the patent, though some shrewd technologist might be able to make some sort of guess from the following: The protest was lodged by two big German concerns - one a big manufacturer of drugs. The other - the powerful Sieman Electrical equipment company. Drugs and electrical equipment - add those two together and what could they mean ? In any event, the patent is said to be worth millions - and the Japs have confiscated it.

Along with this we hear that the Nazis have noted a decided change in the attitude of the Japs, ever since Hitler's army stopped winning big victories.

Since the shadows of a Hitler defeat have appeared, the

IXIS.

Japs have been confiscating German properties in Japan, *and even*
~~and arresting~~ *have been* arresting Germans; - "without any reason
whatsoever," says the news dispatch,

OUSTED JAPS

Here is some Washington comment on the kicking out of the top commanders in Tokyo,)

Fleet Admiral Nagano, navy chief of staff, and Field Marshal General Sugiyama army chief of staff - tossed out of their jobs right after the brilliant American stroke against Truk. Today in Washington Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox stated: "there is no disguising the fact that this is an unmistakable sign of confusion among our enemies. It is an acknowledgment that their campaign against us to date has been a failure."

The Secretary went on to say that if the ousted Jap commanders live up to the code of the Samuri, they will commit Hara-Kiri. This I myself remarked last night, although-of course, Nagano and Sugiyama may follow the Western custom and write a book explaining how right they were.

This afternoon President Roosevelt commented on another statement by Secretary of the Navy Knox, his disclosure that during the first three weeks in February, American sea and air forces had sunk ninety-two Jap ships - not including barges. The President's angle was to stress the barges. He said that not enough attention is being paid to that kind of craft, and explained that the Japs rely heavily on barges for the movement of men and supplies between the islands in the Pacific. The President went on to say that during the past year our forces have sunk more than a thousand Japanese transport barges.

The Southwest Pacific flashes a bit of news that is none too exciting - but it is most important. Another air raid against the Jap base at Rabaul, with Billy Mitchell bombers hurling showers of high explosive on that powerful Jap stronghold. At least ^{Rabaul}~~it~~ was powerful, once upon a time.

Today's account is no thriller of air battle. Not a single Jap plane rose from Rabaul to offer the American planes a contest. There was no resistance at all to the American bombers, and that's an indication of how prostrate the incessant assaults have reduced the one-time ^{NOI Southwest Pacific}~~great~~ sea and air base of Japan.

The place seems to be almost useless now to the Japs, with a spokesman at General Mac Arthur's headquarters stating: "Rabaul's strength ^{is at}~~is at~~ an all time low.

MRS GANDHI

Today at the fabulous palace of the Aga Kahn, ^{at Poona in} ~~the hills~~ ~~back of Bombay,~~
a seventy-four year old woman died. Humble, patient, pious.

She was the wife of Gandhi. For sixty-one years she had shared the stormy career of the Mahatma, a career that included seventeen hunger strikes, uncounted periods in prison, and endless storm and turmoil. She followed him blindly, never questioning, through an existence that was an unrelenting ordeal for her.

They were wed in accordance with the child marriage customs of India - betrothed to each other when they were both six, and married when they were thirteen. ^{And} Neither was she ~~was~~ of this caste, though Gandhi went on to gain education, leadership and world fame. [^] His wife never learned to read or write, and he treated her as one of the uneducated. Gandhi once wrote: "it is likely that many of my doings have not Mrs Gandhi's approval. We never discuss them. I see no good in discussing them," he added.

Yet after his trips to London, his missions of state, his terms in prison - ~~he~~ always returned to her. The trials

to which ~~he~~ submitted her were terrifying indeed - in the eyes of an orthodox Indian woman. She herself observed the customs of caste, scrupulously and religiously - all the strange and minute observances of caste. Gandhi, on the other hand, constantly violated caste - to the horror of his wife.

She felt that he disgraced them both. Yet, she never questioned;

And now ^{she} has died, while sharing with him his latest imprisonment -

~~in the Aga Khan's palace~~ at Poona, the hill city of the Province of Bombay, in the Aga Khan's palace.

~~from Bombay to Nirvana~~ ^{And so} the obedient and placid spirit of the wife of Mahatma Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi goes on from Bombay to Nirvana.


And now ^{here comes} a Wash's birthday message ~~from Blue Sun~~ from my colleague, Arizona Ben.

Tues. Feb. 22 - Tucson.
These were Dropped from Late B'dcast.

add TAX — 3

Today the President's veto message argued that actually the bill would provide the treasury with less than one billion. This - because the bill freezes social security taxes, which were scheduled to be doubled. The automatic increase, which the bill cancelled out, would come to one billion, one hundred million dollars.

And furthermore, said the President, the tax measure that congress passed grants various forms of business relief from taxation to the tune of a hundred and fifty million, and possibly much more. "In this respect," said the message, "it is not a tax bill but a tax relief bill, providing relief not for the needy but for the greedy." *Those were Mr. Roosevelt's words.*

And then the President took congress to task because of the complications in the tax laws. 

add TAX-4.

He said the tax payers are flooded with what he called "forms so complex even certified public accountants cannot interpret them."

All of which he traced back to the ^{Ruml}~~Rouss~~ plan - pay as you go. And he called upon congress to simplify the taxes because the tax payers in this war are not, in the president's words - "in a mood to study higher mathematics."

DEMOBOLIZATION

In the Senate today, legislation was introduced to create a demobilization agency responsible to Congress. This followed administration action yesterday, a move to procure legislation to put the Baruch program into effect. There has been congressional criticism of that plan for post-war demobilization on the grounds that it would place the whole thing in the hands of the President. And today's bill sponsored by prominent Democratic senators, would give Congress control.