

P. J. - Standard Monday, April 3, 1944.
 Sunoco.

(15)

We still have no word from the Pacific about the results of the great attack by the American fleet on Palau. The Japs ~~do not say a word about it,~~ *are saying nothing about it,* and Admiral ~~Nimitz makes no mention of it,~~ *And Adm. Nimitz has given us no news today.* But, over the weekend, our air forces ~~carried on a~~ *did carry on continuing* series of raids on the Jap defenses in the western ocean. Liberators of the Seventh Army Air Force bombed the key naval base of Dublon Island in Truk Atoll. It was the second in two days, the fifth time in four days. This is interpreted as a part of Admiral Nimitz's strategy, a drive for the coast of China. The Liberators attacked under cover of darkness and escaped ~~xxx~~ Scot free.

Nimitz also announced attacks on Ponape for the twenty-fourth time, as well as raids on four enemy atolls in the Marshalls.

ADD PACIFIC

More important still, our forces have occupied eleven more of the atolls in the Marshalls. *Leaving* ~~That leaves~~ the Japs only four important bases in that group.

~~That means~~ We now have a total of fifteen atolls in the Marshalls, firmly *in the possession of* ~~occupied by~~ U. S. troops. We already had Kwajalein, Eniwetok and two others.

Admiral Nimitz reports that they were reconnoitered and occupied with little or no resistance. We now have bases extending across five hundred and seventy ~~xx~~ miles of the Marshalls Archipelago. ~~And~~ *These* ~~they~~ give us a stout barricade, in fact *an almost* impenetrable *one,* between the islands which Japan ~~now~~ still holds in the Carolines and the stranded Japanese garrisons on the four atolls to which they still cling in the Marshalls.

General MacArthur also has a report to make. The campaign for the Admiralty Islands in the

northern part of the Bismarck Sea is now virtually over. When Uncle Sam's dismounted cavalry first landed on Los Negros on February twenty-ninth there were some five thousand Japs in that group. Almost three thousand of them have now been killed and the fate of the others is obvious.

Chinese-American Army in northern Borneo must get supplies.

New Delhi tells of another enemy column being driven off in an attack on the road from Imphal to Tiddim.

Enemy guns are shelling the highway southeast of Imphal, and there is heavy fighting in the Naga Hills east of Imphal.

That's about all from the Burma Front

BURMA

The news from the Battle of Manipur is non-committal tonight. One dispatch from India reports that the Japs are trying to by-pass Imphal, in an attempt to try and cut all the roads between Assam and Bengal, the vital lines by which General Stillwell's Chinese-American Army in northern Burma must get supplies.

57
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RUSSIA

On the eastern front, the Germans are now fighting on Axis territory for the first time since they started their war against Russia. The Red Army is driving across Rumania, on a broad front. Moscow reports that some of the Nazi and Rumanian troops were running away in panic, no semblance of military discipline among them. We also hear that the German generals brought up special Nazi detachments that turned their machine guns on their own comrades in order to stop the rout.

34
One Russian correspondent, at the front, reported that the Soviet forces forced the passage of the Prut River at many points simultaneously. Nor did they even wait for boats to carry them to the west bank. Some of the Red troops were in such hot pursuit that they crossed on planks, boards, barrels -- anything handy.

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~~Berlin~~ There are units of both the First and Second Ukrainian armies now in Rumania, having advanced from Bessarabia and Bukovina.

Berlin says nothing about the Battle of Rumania which has commenced. But, the Rumanian high command has issued a bulletin admitting that the Russians are attacking north of that important railroad junction, the town of Jassy. The Rumanians claim that they have thrown the Russians back. A dispatch from a Swedish newspaper reported that the Russians had landed numerous units of paratroopers behind the Axis lines in Rumania. Another Swedish dispatch tells of the German commanders warning the Rumanian Government that all civilians and peasants will be shot if they block the roads in their flight from the Russians.

If we are to believe the Berlin bulletins, there will be a long drawn, desperate battle for Odessa. One German commentator says the main Nazi forces in southern Russia have been withdrawn to Odessa. Which would seem to mean that they intend to fight it out there

ADD RUSSIA

Later dispatches from Moscow report that the Second Ukrainian Army is fighting on a front sixty miles wide and has penetrated into Rumania to a depth of eleven miles. At the same time, the First Army of the Ukraine, which disposed of more than two hundred and eight thousand Germans in the last month, is mopping up the Rumanians of fifteen enemy divisions above Cernauti. *Chernavtse*
The Second Ukrainian Army has occupied more than fifty towns in Rumania.

In Washington, Secretary Hull was enthusiastic about that announcement from Moscow that the Soviet Union does not want any territory in Rumania. This makes it clear to the Rumanian people, said the Secretary, that the main business of the armies of Soviet Russia is to defeat the enemy in the field.

~~Diplomats in both in Washington and in London believe that statement by Molotov will have the effect~~

GERMANY

Here is a little item from the home front in Hitler's Reich. Nazi newspapers from now on are forbidden to publish maps, that is maps which show readers how the eastern front has changed. What is more, all maps of the theatre of war have been ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ torn down from public rooms and offices throughout Germany.

To balance that, here is a paragraph from London.

An eighteen year old British soldier was caught ^{in the streets} during

^{He was in an} a blackout. ~~in his~~ invalid chair, one of those chairs you ^{propell} drive yourself, by hand. ^{As he was propelling himself} ~~As he was driving it without a~~

^{to the nearest shelter}

^{for driving without a light.}

~~light,~~ the bobbies arrested him, ~~brought him into court~~

^{And he} ~~was~~

was fined twelve dollars.

~~And here is a little note from Tokyo. The~~

~~Japanese government has begun a campaign to make~~

~~Prime Minister General Tojo popular. They are popularizing~~

~~him as the friend of the young people of Japan.~~

ITALY

Von Kesselring forces armed with flame ~~that~~ throwers, made another attack at the Anzio beachhead last night, supported by a heavy barrage from artillery on the ground and in the air. They struck right where the British already had retreated for a mile and a half. But, this time the soldiers of our Allies were ^{set for} ~~maxim~~ them. And although the German attack was desperate, the British, we hear, didn't give a yard. The late word is that after suffering heavy losses, the Germans withdrew.

~~To the South,~~ Italian troops under General Mark Clark have captured a third peak in the mountains just north of Cassino; some fourteen miles northeast of Cassino. The Italians met only light opposition. So far they haven't tackled the main German line.

According to a broadcast from Berlin, General Clark has withdrawn his Indian and New Zealand troops and replaced them with soldiers from northern Ireland.

AIR WAR

The people of Budapest ~~today~~ had their first
taste today of ow,
~~experience of an attack by~~ American heavy bombers.

Major General Nathan Twining, ~~Commanding~~
Commanding ~~the~~ Fifteenth
Air Force in Italy, sent a large formation of Flying Forts
and Liberators ^{over} ~~to~~ the Hungarian capital, just as the Red
Army is pressing close to the frontier of Hungary. They
bombed the railroad yards and an aircraft factory.

~~This was the second heavy assault made by~~
~~General Twining's force in two days. Yesterday he sent~~
~~out some five hundred to bomb the aircraft and ball~~
air
planes
~~bearing plants at Styria in Austria, ninety miles~~
~~southwest of Vienna.~~

And from London we learn that the strategic
air forces of the United States in Europe dropped no
fewer than thirty thousand tons of bombs on German
targets in the month of March. ~~They destroyed one~~
~~thousand and eighty Nazi planes. That was~~ *at* the rate of

One thousand tons of bombs a day. *And they destroyed a thousand and 80 Nazi planes.*
And, From Washington we hear that the assembly


lines of our aircraft factories reached a new peak last month. They turned out nine thousand, one hundred and eighteen new planes. Nearly eighty per cent of them were fighter craft.

BOMBING

The bombing of that Swiss town by American planes has caused profound mental distress in Washington as might be expected. The first thing Secretary Hull did today was to guarantee that the United States Government will make all reparations humanly possible.

The total number of people killed at Schaffhausen is now estimated at Thirty-five.

In London, General Toughy Spattz, Commander of United States Strategic Bombing on the other side and our Ambassadoe Winant, made a call on



the Swiss Legation and expressed ^{deep sorrow and} ~~their regrets to the~~
~~diplomat in charge.~~ *Further appologies.*

So far there is no explanation except that it
was a tragic mistake. ~~Swiss editors~~ ^{newspapers} ~~today declared that~~
~~visibility over Schaffhausen was good, when our airmen~~
~~dropped their bombs. The Editors of Switzerland,~~ ^{have} ~~however,~~
discussed it ~~wrote~~ in moderate tone, [—] with one exception. They ascribed
the accident, for the most part, to thoughtlessness.
And they added that the geographical knowledge of our
pilots was evidently extremely poor. As one of them
put it - regrets do not bring the dead back to life.

SOLDIER VOTE

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The chance ^{for} ~~of~~ our fighting men overseas ^{to vote} ~~to vote~~ in time for the November elections appear to be doubtful tonight. Military officials have announced that they would be able to handle the ballot, but Postmaster General Frank Walker does not believe it. The Postmaster General, who was in Los Angeles today, says the mail ~~in~~ planes are already overloaded ^{— and that most} ~~most~~ of the voting mail will have to go by ~~xxx~~ sea, ~~says he~~. He pointed out that the Post Office handles mail for soldiers only from the sender to the mailing point from which it goes overseas. The increased volume, he added, would overtax existing facilities.

Furthermore, the Postmaster General doubts that our fighting men will be sufficiently interested in voting. He declares that it is ~~xxx~~ difficult ~~in~~ enough to persuade citizens at home to register.

CRITICISM

The high command of our Army was the target for criticism by two members of Congress today, both Democrats. One, ~~of them was~~ Representative Sabath of Illinois, dean of the lower House, ^{who} ~~he~~ told newspapermen that no fewer than thirty thousand officers of the Army of the United States are sitting around in cocktail lounges because the Army does ^{not} have jobs for them. Meanwhile, says Sabath, West Point graduates with twenty-five and thirty years ~~of~~ army experience, are being retired. Many of those thirty thousand who are sitting around idle, he added, were commissioned out of civilian life.

At the same time, Representative Ramspeck of Georgia complained that women pilots are being trained for the Wasps, while there are thousands of male pilots available but not used. ~~It costs up to twenty thousand dollars to train a woman pilot for the Wasps, added~~

CRITICISM

Graduates of the War Training Service of the C.A.A. also have a complaint. They say that some sixteen thousand of them with eighteen months' training and instruction as aviators are now being mustered into the ground forces as buck privates. Some of them are qualified student instructors. They say it cost the Government some two hundred and twenty-one million dollars to train them, which, they claim, is a high price for adding sixteen thousand buck privates to the armed forces.

TRUMAN

Senator Harry Truman of Missouri

intimated today at Los Angeles that he believes
the ~~xxx~~ reports ^{about} ~~that~~ Liberty Ships ~~have been~~ cracking
up in heavy seas are exaggerated. ^{He says he} ~~is~~ is not alarmed.
~~says the Senator.~~ And he reminds us that ~~xxx~~ when
we started out to turn out motor cars in mass
quantities they cracked up too. ^{He states that the} ~~The~~ number of
liberty ships reported to have been faultly constructed
is small indeed compared to the great number that
^{ve} ~~has~~ been launched.

Senator Truman has called a public hearing
at Los Angeles to question ship builders and operators
about those stories.

DRAFT

All women should be drafted, all between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. That does not come from a congressman or an official, but from a caucus of the American Legionnaires ~~■~~ assembled at Hollywood in advance of the ¹⁹⁴⁴ convention. [^] This, ^{we hear,} ~~■~~ [^] represents the opinion of more than thirty thousand veterans of the last World War. ^{TR} It was a caucus of delegates from Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and, Ventura County, California. ^{They suggested} ~~the suggestion~~ that women of that age be classified for selective service and inducted as "G I Janes" or ~~whatever~~ whatever they want to be called.

CHAPLIN

in the drama

The final act of the first trial of Charles Spencer Chaplin will begin tomorrow. Judge O'Connor will instruct the jury in the morning and they will then begin considering the verdict.

The last act but one took place today with a duel of words between Prosecutor Charles Carr and Defense Counsel Jerry Giesler. Carr made one point of ~~which~~ which Giesler made considerable capital. The prosecutor commented on Chaplin's being an actor. Said he was just ~~was~~ playing another role when he testified for himself in the witness box.

Giesler pounced upon that point, said he ~~he~~ wished Carr had not mentioned the fact that Chaplin is an actor. He is an actor, admitted Giesler. But he is not ~~in~~ in court of his own choice. He is ~~not~~ in court as a human being and not to be judged by ~~in~~ the ^{*innuendo*} ~~implication~~ that he was acting on the witness stand.

A newspaper in Mexico City had a report today that Chaplin has bought a large tract of land in the State of Morelos. ~~Even~~ near a sulphur springs resort ~~in~~ some forty-five miles southwest of Mexico City. The paper said if Chaplin is acquitted he is going there to live, ^{quit} the United States.

themselves in Papaya Island

ESCAPEES

2
The two Italian prisoners of war who escaped last night from the McDowell internment camp in Arizona have not been found yet. The authorities have been searching the ~~entire~~ surrounding area.

They are believed to be in the vicinity of Papago

Park, perhaps trying to disguise themselves as Papago Indians.

DESTROYER

President Roosevelt has awarded a special citation to the ^{U. S.}~~United States~~ Navy destroyer O'BANNON, ^{which} ~~The~~ gallant ship receives this distinction for outstanding performance in combat against ^{the}~~enemy~~ Japanese ~~forces~~ ^{between} in the South Pacific ~~from~~ October Seventh, Nineteen Forty-Two to October Seventh, Nineteen Forty-Three. The official statement describes the O'BANNON as an aggressive veteran after a year of continuous and intensive operations. The ship has taken a tremendous toll of ~~vital~~ Japanese warships, surface vessels and aircraft.

One of her achievements was a close range attack on enemy men-o-war off Guadalcanal on the night of November Thirteenth, Nineteen Forty-Two. The O'BANNON crew scored three hits with their torpedo tubes on one Japanese battleship, had a running gunfight with two other enemy men-o-war, and returned safely in spite of

heavy damage.

On October Seventh, Nineteen Forty-Three, the O'BANNON, in company with only two other destroyers, intercepted and drove away nine hostile warships off Vella Lavella. Two enemy ships were destroyed and others badly damaged.

The skipper of the O'BANNON is Commander Donald J. MacDonald of One hundred and ten East Eighth Street, New York City. *And, he's* ~~is~~ already the Navy's most decorated officer in this war; *with the* ~~He had been awarded a~~ Silver Star, a Gold Star in lieu of a second Star, a *in lieu of a third silver star,* Legion of Merit, a Navy Cross and Gold Star, a Letter of Commendation; and, now the presidential unit citation.

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And now Roger