

PACIFIC

L.T. - 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 ~~not say a word about it.~~ ~~Admiral~~ ~~Nimitz~~ ~~has given us no news today.~~ ~~limits~~ ~~the~~ ~~attack~~ But, over the weekend, our air forces ~~carried on~~ <sup>did carry on continuing</sup> 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 ~~scot~~ 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 ~~this leaves~~ the Japs only four important bases in that group.

~~This leaves~~ We now have a total of fifteen atolls in the Marshalls, firmly ~~occupied by~~ <sup>in the possession of</sup> 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 ~~miles~~ miles of the Marshalls Archipelago. ~~and~~

~~These~~ <sup>an almost</sup> give us a stout barricade, in fact ~~impenetrable~~, 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 Burma and get supplies.

Now being told of another enemy column being driven off in an attack on the road from Taiping to Tiddim.

Chinese Army and British forces consist of Indian, and there is heavy fighting in the Seven Hills east of Impham.

That's about all for 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.

33  
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 Somra Hills east of Kohima.

That's about all from the Burma Front.

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.

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.

--o--

**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 *Chernooosteck* the Rumanians of fifteen enemy divisions above Cernauti. 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 torn down from public rooms and offices throughout Germany.

To balance that, here is a paragraph from London.

In the streets  
An eighteen year old British soldier was caught during a blackout. ~~in his~~ invalid chair, one of those chairs you ~~propell~~ <sup>He was in an</sup> propelling himself ~~driv~~ yourself, by hand. <sup>As he was propelling himself</sup> ~~As he was driving it without a~~ <sup>[for driving without a light.]</sup> to the nearest shelter. ~~light,~~ the bobbies arrested him, ~~brought him into court~~ And, ~~the~~ <sup>he</sup> was fined twelve dollars.

~~Also~~ <sup>PP</sup> ~~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  
~~ther~~ 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 <sup>set for</sup> ~~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 & now, experience of an attack by American heavy bombers.

Major General Nathan Twining, ~~Commanding~~ of the Fifteenth Air Force in Italy, sent a large formation of Flying Forts and Liberators ~~over~~ 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 <sup>air</sup> planes to bomb the aircraft and ball bearing plants at Styr 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 200 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~~ Spatz, Commander of United States Strategic Bombing on the other side and our Ambassador Winant, made a call on



the Swiss Legation and expressed ~~their regret to the~~  
~~diplomat in charge,~~ *deep sorrow and further apologies.*

So far there is no explanation except that it  
was a tragic mistake. ~~Swiss editor~~ today declared that  
visibility over Schaffhausen was good, when our airmen  
dropped their bombs. ~~The editors of Switzerland,~~ *have however*  
~~were~~ *discussed it* ~~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

*for*  
The chance ~~for~~ our fighting men overseas  
~~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 ~~is~~ planes are  
*— and that most*  
already overloaded ~~most~~ of the voting mail will  
have to go by ~~sea~~ sea, ~~says him~~ 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 ~~very~~  
difficult ~~is~~ 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, <sup>who</sup> 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 <sup>n't</sup> 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.

39  
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  
about  
the ~~xxx~~ reports ~~that~~ Liberty Ships ~~have been~~ cracking  
up in heavy seas are exaggerated. ~~He~~ <sup>He says he</sup> is not alarmed.  
~~says the Senator~~ And he reminds us that ~~xxx~~ when  
we started out to turn out motor cars in mass  
~~He states that the~~  
quantities they cracked up too. ~~The~~ number of  
liberty ships reported to have been faultily constructed  
is small indeed compared to the great number that  
~~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 ~~xxx~~

assembled at Hollywood in advance of the convention. <sup>1944</sup>

This <sup>we hear,</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>R</sup> represents the opinion of more than thirty thousand veterans of the last World War. It was a caucus of delegates from Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura County, California. <sup>They suggested</sup> ~~suggesting~~ 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.

H1  
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 ~~misbehavior~~ which Giesler made considerable  
capital. The prosecutor commented on Chaplin's  
being an actor. Said he was just ~~in~~ playing another  
role when he testified for himself in the witness box.

Giesler pounced upon that point, said 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 ~~an~~  
in court as a human being and not to be judged by  
*innocents*  
~~in~~ the ~~suspicion~~ 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. ~~near~~ 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, <sup>and</sup> quit the United States.

## ESCAPEES

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 ~~surrounding~~ surrounding area. They are believed to be in the vicinity of Papago Park, perhaps trying to disguise themselves as Papago Indians.

Papago Park. The official statement describes the escape as a "desperate attempt after a plan of concealment and a change of vegetation. The soldiers left a steaming bath of warm blankets with their traps, ponchos and rifles."

One of the escapees is said to have been seen riding on horseback near the McDowell camp on the night of October Thirtieth, Papago Park. The other was seen riding alone with his rifle strapped to his saddle on the same battlefield, the morning subsequent with his

DESTROYER

President Roosevelt has awarded a special

*U. S.*

citation to the ~~United States~~ Navy destroyer O'BANNON,  
*which*

~~This~~ gallant ship receives this distinction for

outstanding performance in combat against ~~enemy~~ Japanese

*between*

~~for~~ 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. ~~He is~~ already the Navy's most decorated officer in this war; ~~He had been awarded~~ Silver Star, a Gold Star in lieu of a second Star, a ~~in lieu of the silver star~~ Legion of Merit, a Navy Cross and Gold Star, a Letter of Commendation; and, now the presidential unit citation.

4 And now Roger