

L.I. - Standard
Sun.

Thurs. Feb. 24 '44
Tucson, Ariz.

Things have come to a climax in Argentina. According to word just in from Montevideo, President Ramirez Ramirez has resigned in the face of armed opposition led by his Minister of information, General Luis Pelinger. Reports reaching Uruguay say it appears that the move is a blow to allied hopes that the Argentine might declare war against the Axis.

The leaders of the new revolution are known to be more friendly to the Axis than was the Ramirez Government.

Late reports indicate the Coup d' Etat thwarted last minute efforts of Ramirez to form a liberal government. Pelinger was ready for the move with soldiers loyal to him. He surrounded the residence of Ramirez, forced him to hand in his resignation and now hold the President a virtual prisoner.

Troops now are said to be stationed all through Buenos Aires.

~~SECRET~~

Another victory in the Pacific. Uncle Sam's leathernecks early this evening got control of Parry island, the last stronghold of the ~~Shamoo~~ ^{Japan} ~~in the~~ Eniwetok Atoll.

It came at the end of ten-and-a-half hours of the toughest fighting our men have seen in the entire attack on Eniwetok. And it ends finally and forever Japanese rule in the Marshalls which has lasted twenty-four years.

The commanding officer of the Marines sent a message to the flagship in these words: - "we present you with Parry island at seven-thirty, as a Washington's birthday present. Will be glad to turn it over to the one-hundred-and-sixth infantry early tomorrow."

The capture of Kwajaleid and Eniwetok has left some Japanese units isolated on the Atolls of the Marshalls. Admiral ~~Shuster~~ Nimitz announced that they have been attacked by carrier-based, land-based planes and warships.

Other news coming from Pearl Harbor indicates that Admiral

Nimitz is now carrying his attacks ^{still further} into the Marianas, the island group West and slightly North of Eniwetok; ^{coming closer} ~~the attacks are~~ ^{and} ~~coming~~ closer ~~all the time~~ to Japan proper.

From the southwest Pacific we hear that American naval forces ^{are} tightening the blockade around isolated Japanese bases in the Bismarck Sea.. They have sunk a transport with three-hundred-and-fifty Jap troops, a cargo ship, nine barges and a Japanese destroyer.

General Mac Arthur declares that the enemy's air bases in the Admiralty, the New Ireland, and New Britain groups have been effectively neutralized. Rabaul has been bombarded again, also Kavieng.

Moscow says tonight that they have reduced the Germans to such straits that their reverses are almost in the proportions of a general retreat. The Red Armies are revelling in two more victories and those at widely separated points. In the North they took Dno, that town of three letters but many railroads, which makes it worth taking. It was the last big base that the Germans had been holding onto East of Pskov, the gateway to the Baltic.

Marshal Stalin announced the news in an order of the day, but the Nazis had beat him to it. They did this with the idea of establishing the propaganda that they left Dno of their own sweet will and accord. Stalin says it was taken by storm after an impetuous attack by the armies of Generals Govorov and Popoff. On the way to Dno those armies retook more than a hundred inhabited places, large and small. *by Gen. Popoff*
The retaking of Dno means that the Soviet forces in the North will soon have Pskov in their hands again. There are three armies now aiming in that direction.

But that was not the only big victory today. The central front suddenly came to life *in Russia.* We heard about this two days ago from the Germans, while Moscow was still silent about it, waiting for

something big to happen. That something big happened, it was the recapture of Rogachev by General Rogosovski. And there again the Red armies retook many other inhabited places. That battle lasted three days and the Russians went through the Nazi defenses on the thirty-one mile front for a distance of sixteen miles.

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Another all-American event in Europe. This was the fifth successive day of the daylight attack on Nazi aircraft factories by our eighth air force. Big bombers from Britain went for Schweinfurt and Gotha in the North. At Schweinfurt they ran into a sky thick with flak. At Gotha, however, the ground defenses turned out to be not so fierce. The weather was perfect over both targets and as they left there were great billows of smoke and flame, right into the heavens, from both cities.

As they crossed the channel, great flocks of German fighters rose from every airdrome on the line of flight. But the bombers, as before, had a spearhead of Thunderbolts, lightnings and ~~W~~ Marauder medium bombers to protect them, also R A F spitfires. They cleared the German interceptors out of the air to make way for our bombers. The Nazi fighters tried every trick they had in their repertory and fought with desperation. There were literally hundreds of them, with a second line of enemy ^{fighter-interceptor} reserves.

The German high command had massed so many of their fighters planes for the protection of their aircraft assembly line, that they had to leave other spots unguarded.

The consequence was that a fleet of two hundred and fifty marauder air plane^s were able to destroy three Nazi air fields in Holland without losing a single machine.

Meanwhile a force of bombers struck at targets in South Germany. They were heavy planes from the fifteenth air force stationed in South Italy^{— Foggia.} Their target for the second day in succession, was Steyr in upper Austria, where the Daimler Motors used to be made, ~~now~~ ~~Today it is~~ a center of aircraft-parts-production, second only to Schweinfurt. Photographs taken after the raid show spectacular damage.

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Meanwhile Londoners underwent their first daylight air raid alarm in almost seven months. The Folks on the banks of the Thames are returning to a condition of three years ago, when the blitz was at its height. Theatres are raising their curtains at half-past-five in the evening again, and in the streets of old London you see men going to work with helmets swinging on their arms.

Here's something further: —

The United States air forces lost forty-nine fortresses and liberators in the attack on Schweinfurt, Gotha and Steyr, out of twelve-hundred heavy and medium bombers. Allied fighters shot down thirty-seven enemy aircraft and lost ten of their own number. ^{But} London does not yet tell us ^{Just} how many Nazis were shot down ^{in all}.

There was another big league night raid on Germany by the R A F tonight. No details are available yet.

Then the cannon all trained on that one spot, let go all at once.

And then the Yanks shout "Bingo!" maybe.
 The effect is simply murderous. After one such bingo-barrage at Anzio

the ground was covered with literally hundreds of dead Germans who had been alive thirty seconds before,

~~Aside from the artillery, there was not much doing at Anzio today because of heavy rain which pelted down and made any movement impossible. It also prevented any activity in the air.~~

~~Premier General Badoglio made a statement today. He wants his country to be accepted on a basis of equality, as a full ally, and he wants to send Ambassadors to the Allied capitals.~~

~~The old Marshal~~ ^{today} told a newspaperman that Italy could give much more help to the allies if the allies would only give the Italian army more arms and other equipment, He pointed out that planes of the Italian air force have been flying supplies, and the Italian navy has convoyed a lot of allied shipping. And he suggested that our generals make more use of Italian foot soldiers. All Italian infantrymen, said Badoglio, are qualified as alpine troops. ^{And} Of course a great deal of the fighting has been in the mountains.

Again the big story of the day is ^{the} rebellion of Senator Alben Barkley. And right at his side in defiance of President Roosevelt, are most of his colleagues in both houses of the Congress. first of all the senators. The Democrats in the upper chamber obeyed Barkley's summons to meet and receive his resignation as leader. They promptly turned around and unanimously re-elected him. What a difference from that day seven years ago when he was first elected leader by the narrow margin of one vote! and that due to the then mighty influence of the President!

Yes, ^{and} The Democrats made it plain ^{today} that it was not ^{the} President Roosevelt letter to "Dear Alben" last night ^{that} ~~which~~ caused them to re-elect Barkley ^{this morning} --- the letter in which Mr. Roosevelt said he had not meant to impugn the integrity of any congressman ^{when he sent} in his blistering veto message, ^{the one} in which he also said he hoped "Dear Alben's" colleagues would either refuse to accept his resignation or immediately re-elect him.

Incidentally, "Dear Alben" has not yet replied to that letter from his erstwhile chief, and will take his time about answering; ^{so we hear.}

(the Senator did tell the)
 However, ~~he told~~ newspapermen he still has the deepest personal affection for the President.

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 The Democratic senators are anxious that the country should know they re-elected Barkley in spite of that letter from the president. As they left the room where they had been holding their caucus Tom Connally of Texas led the way, shouting - "make way for liberty! "

Thereupon Republican Senator George Aiken of Vermont declared;-
 "Barkley now is the real Senate majority leader, whereas there were times in the past when he actually has been minority leader."

Newspapermen were not slow to ask Barkley the crucial question: whether he is going to be leader of the Senate majority or leader for the White House. It has been freely said in the past that he has represented principally the President. He has often had to talk his colleagues around to the President's point of view. In his reply the Kentucky senator used these words with a grin:

"before making any statement as the new majority leader, I would like to confer with the old leader." Meaning Barkley
 talk it over with Barkley.

~~Just in~~
A ~~later bulletin from~~ Washington reports that ^{the} Senator ~~Alben~~

has been receiving thousands of telegrams --
~~Barkley received seven thousand telegrams up to half past three this~~

^{today} ~~practically all of them congratulating him.~~
~~afternoon. All but four or five of them were congratulations. They~~

~~poured~~ ^{ing} in at such a rate ~~that~~ the telegraph company had to put on

extra help. Other senators ^{were} ~~received~~ ^{ing} messages ^{today} by the hundreds, most

~~of which urged~~ ^{of them urging} the law makers to override the president's tax bill

~~veto~~ and preserve the independence of Congress.

Late today

~~and here is the latest, not off the wire,~~ Senator Barkley

sent a message to President Roosevelt formally notifying him that he had been re-elected as majority leader. But he added that he was sticking to that job only because his colleagues insisted. He said further, that he hoped his resignation and re-election would result in closer harmony between the President and the Congress.

~~Meaning Barkley talking it over with Barkley.~~

As for the men and women of the House, they were positively *tumultuous* in *uproarious* in the defiance of the president.

The few faithful administration Democrats who tried to raise their voices in protest were shouted down. When Representative O'Connor of Montana accused his colleagues of refusing to give the President money to carry on the war, the chamber rang with loud *boos*.

Whereupon the House overrode the veto with thirty-six votes to spare!

The final count, ~~was~~ two-hundred-and-ninety-nine to ninety-five.

The Senate was all set to follow the example of the House, until Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, a White House champion, moved to adjourn. Some of his colleagues were suspicious that there might be some skullduggery behind the Alabaman's tactics, ~~but~~ so many Senators feel the same way as Barkley that there seems not the slightest doubt that the tax bill will become law in spite of the president;-- with all its clauses, including the provision that labor unions

financial in the future.
 must file statements. Some people have said freely that that ^{was} the
 real and final reason why the President vetoed the bill.

It has been suggested ^{too} that Senator Barkley was motivated
 partially by election returns in Kentucky, the electing of a republ-
 can Governor and Legislature, and a Republican Congressman in a
 recent bi-election. An answer to that seems to be afforded by a story
 out of Washington which describes the innermost details of the
 writing of that speech. Normally, Alben Barkley is a slow writer. But
 he dictated that history-making speech ⁱⁿ forty-five minutes, just
 before he delivered it. His secretary told a reporter that she never
 worked under such pressure in all her life. She was shaking like a
 leaf, typing away against time. ^{In fact Sen.} Barkley began to speak on the floor
 of the Senate with only seven typewritten pages in his hand. It was
 a sixteen page speech, and his colleague Senator McKellar of Tenn.,
 acted as copy boy for him, rushing the pages in to him as fast as
 his secretary could bang them out. Which,

^{but what}
 5 ~~That~~ leaves not the slightest doubt ^{that} Senator Barkley wrote
 and delivered that speech at white heat.

Incidentally, it was the most sparkling and eloquent of his whole career. Normally he is a speaker of the decidedly sober and factual character. But this time under the influence of high indignation, he produced, in record time, a masterpiece. — as so often happens. That's the history of many if not most really great speeches. — firey eloquence, not measured eloquence.

And now a few eloquent words from you, Ben. Firey, or measured — whichever you prefer.

Thurs. Feb 24, '44
 Dropped from late broadcast

That ~~recent~~ storm in southern California ^{finally wound} ~~seems to have been~~
~~worse than we realize. It ended~~ up with no fewer than sixty-eight
 people marooned in the snow, ^{in the} ~~covered~~ mountain ^{s.} ranges.

The folks ^{in many localities} ~~on the coast~~ are still digging out. ~~From the debris~~

Late yesterday a forestry agent on snowshoes, after much difficulty,
 arrived at a camp in the Santa ^{Anita} ~~Ana~~ district and reported that forty-
^(in one area) eight persons ^{and at} were trapped by snow. ~~at one range~~ a camp for
 conscientious objectors, ~~nearby~~ twenty are snow bound.

~~The skies are still cloudy in California, but maintenance
 crews are at work clearing streets and highways. And the railroads
 have cleared their lines so as to resume service over both the inland
 and coastal routes between Los Angeles and San Francisco. For a
 couple of days more than three hundred thousand pupils of elementary
 and secondary schools had a couple of involuntary holidays, but
 yesterday they went back to their classes.~~

She being about as well known as the U.S. Army Air Corps & the "Tom and Joe"

You may recall that when General Jimmy Doolittle made his historic raid on Tokyo, President Roosevelt told newspaper men jokingly that his bombers had taken off from Shangri-la. Later it turned out that Shangri-la was the U. S. Aircraft Carrier Hornet, which the Japs subsequently sunk in the Solomons.

By way of commemorating the event, the name of Shangri-la was given to the latest aircraft carrier to be launched by Uncle Sam's navy. She is a magnificent affair, twenty-seven thousand tons,

cost ⁶⁶ ~~six~~ million dollars to build. Shangri-la is in the same class as the Essex. And there are ten others like her. She will carry eighty planes, more than two thousand men, and sixteen 5-inch guns.

It was eminently fitting that at her launching today, the

Lady who christened her was Mrs. James Doolittle, ^{the celebrated Joe} ~~and we cannot~~

^{Joe Doolittle} ~~wonder that she~~ ^{that} admitted she was ~~very~~ thrilled to be the sponsor of such a magnificent ship.

One of the guests of Uncle Sam's navy at that launching was The man who invented the name Shangri-la; James Hilton, the British author of the novel "Lost Horizon." He says he ~~says~~ coined the name

~~one night~~

of the "Tom and Joe" U.S. Army Air Corps

one night

While walking through the streets of London, trying to think what to call the Utopia that he was describing in his latest story. The name came to him suddenly, and he knew instantly that Shangri-la was what he wanted. But never in his wildest dreams did he imagine that he would one day be at a great American navy yard watching the launching of a ship carrying that name which he coined in London ten years ago.

Now from Shangri-la, ^{off in the Blue of Lost Horizon} let's turn to another magic-name -- Blue Sunoco.

Another shake-up in the cabinet of the government of Argentina. Buenos Aires will soon be like Paris used to be in its quick change of cabinets. The latest switch appears to be somewhat in favor of General Ramirez and the policy of collaboration with the other American Republics. In fact ~~the most~~^{an} optimistic report from Montevideo sees the possibility of a declaration of war against the axis by the Argentine government. But all this is unofficial.

~~There may be more definite news later.~~