

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

One gallant bit of news emerges tonight from the

day's record of disaster in Greece:- the English and the Anzacs

— on Greek soil.

are still fighting. They're battling on to the bitter end ^{almost} ~~even~~

to the gates of Athens, even
though the Greek armies of Epirus and Macedonia made their

unconditional surrender, ^{leaving} ~~and left~~ the British in a sorry position.

~~It's grim consolation for an otherwise total disaster.~~

At a mountain villa overlooking the seaport of Salonika, there was a meeting of high general officers this afternoon. That mountain villa is the headquarters of Field Marshal Sigmund von List, Hitler's man in command of the Balkan blitzkrieg. Brilliantly uniformed Italian and German generals were strutting their stuff as the Greek Commander, General Tsolakoglu, signed the capitulation. The Nazi and Fascist officers couldn't

resist the occasion to make speeches, ^(orations) ~~speeches~~ in which they
praised the valor of the Greeks. Behind their empty words was
the ^{doubt} ~~grim~~ fact that three hundred thousand of the defenders of
Greek soil had surrendered unconditionally. ~~They were the Men~~
of the armies that had fought such a brilliant campaign in
Albania, ^{— that is} so long as they were ^{just} facing the Italians, alone.

But when the Germans came along, the Greeks had to fight, ^{not} ~~not~~
^{only} ~~only~~ enormous tanks that tore through mountains which everybody
said could not be approached by such huge vehicles, ^{even} ~~the~~ ^{The}
fighting Greeks also had to withstand overwhelming fatigue,
having been constantly in the field for six months. Some ~~of them~~
were so exhausted they could hardly walk.

The ^e ~~completeness~~ of the disaster is admitted even
in the dispatches from England. As long ago as Monday, London
was obviously realizing that the retreat upon Thermopylae was
the beginning of the end. But now the blitzkrieg juggernaut
has crashed through Thermopylae. And although the British line
still holds, the question ~~now~~ is how much of the British

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expeditionary force can be saved? ^{For} The British line is ^{batling} ~~now~~

~~standing against~~ the full power of the German army. The ^{TP}

Nazis are crowing that the ^{decision} ~~position~~ has already been won

throughout Greece. And the spokesman in Berlin added that

it is no longer appropriate to speak of another coming

Dunkirk for the British in Greece. It is already, he said,

in progress.

But the Italian radio ^{put out} ~~broadcast~~ a report that some
sixty to eighty thousand troops have ^{been} ~~been~~ already ^{been} evacuated

from Greece. However, it is believed that such a figure is

larger than the total number of troops that the English sent to

Greece. The same Italian radio claimed that the Axis forces are

now only sixty miles from Athens. The German report is that the

Nazi troops are moving faster than the news.

And of course the worst of that disaster is its
possible consequences. The big enigma is, what effect will it

have upon the Turks? Will they come to terms with Hitler, and

give him access to the great oil fields of Iraq. And,

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supposing they should try to resist, how much better ~~is~~ equipped

is the Turkish army than ^{the Greeks?} ~~that of the Greeks?~~ How could they
withstand the ^{Nazi} onslaught [?] ~~of those huge tanks?~~

Another bit of consolation comes in a dispatch
from Cairo. British Middle East headquarters reported ^S ~~ed~~ that the
Australian troops in Libya are attacking, taking the initiative
away from the Axis forces.

BOMBARDMENT

An American newspaper man describes the British fleet's attack on Tripoli as the greatest naval attack in the war. That correspondent stood on the deck of a British warship and watched the ~~huge rifles of King George's Navy~~ ^{big guns of the King's} throwing more than a thousand tons of steel and high explosive on that Nazi ~~and~~ ^{and} Fascist base. ~~It was~~ ^{One} of the greatest concentrations of gun power ever ~~xxx~~ turned on a single target. The American saw the ~~big~~ ^{giant} shells exploding after which vast sheets of flames shot up from Tripoli.

Evidently that ~~the~~ ^e British attack caught the Nazis and Italians off their guard. First of all, from four o'clock till nearly five, a squadron of British bombing airplanes had been pounding Tripoli. Then in the ~~xxxxxx~~ early morning light, the battleships, cruisers and destroyers glided silently into the harbor. Six enemy vessels were foundered by direct hits from shells of the British. Then the railroad freight yards and power plants burst into flames. One ~~xxxxxx~~ British warship found an underground oil depot with its ~~xxxxxxx~~ armor-piercing shells ^E, some of which weighed a ton apiece. The flashes from the ^{naval} ~~heavy~~ ^{heavy}

^{guns}
~~rifles~~ were so vivid as to blind the eye of the beholder, ^{momentarily} ~~for a~~
^{TP}
~~moment.~~ As the fleet steamed out of Tripoli harbor, a heavy

pall of smoke and fog hung over ^{the city} ~~it~~ and sheets of ~~it~~ flame could
be seen leaping ^{skyward.} ~~up toward the sky.~~

KING

Until today, seven sovereigns have^d become fugitives as
a result of the Nazi-Fascist career of conquest. King George
the Second of Greece ^{is now} ~~today became~~ the eighth. With his entire
government ^{King George is} ~~he's~~ at Crete, the island home of one of ~~the~~ earliest
civilizations ^{of man,} ~~known to mankind.~~ British troops have been
fortifying it for months, even before the expeditionary force
was landed on the Grecian mainland. The Allies believe that
they ^{are} ~~are~~ entrenched in Crete strongly enough to dominate the
eastern end of the Mediterranean. ~~That remains to be seen whether~~
~~it is wishful thinking.~~

Late tonight, the Greek radio was heard in New York,
broadcasting a promise that this war will finally be won,
that no one must lose courage, and that Greece will rise again.

Meanwhile, the Nazis are moving in on islands close to
the Dardanelles. Yesterday it was reported, though not confirmed,
that they had seized the historic isle of Samothrace, quite close
to the territorial waters of Turkey. Today the official Turkish
radio reports from Istanbul that ^{the Germans have} ~~they've~~ also occupied the Greek
island of Lemnos.

PLYMOUTH

At home the British had the added burden of last night's bombardment of Plymouth, the second consecutive night of it. For hours Hitler's raiders poured a rain of explosive and fire bombs on that seaport in the southwest, the city ~~to~~ from which the MAYFLOWER sailed for Massachusetts. It presented today a picture of destruction and desolation almost unbelievable. In one section reporters could see literally nothing left but smoking ruins. Refugees were streaming from the city in all directions. Convoys of trucks and lorries brought food to the homeless. Thousands of these were wandering the streets, some of them in their nightclothes, bathrobes and slippers, wandering aimlessly, stunned by the horror of what had happened to them.

PLANES

The British House of Lords today heard a report from Viscount Beaverbrook, Winston Churchill's Minister of Aircraft Production. Beaverbrook told of the contributions made to Britain's airplane supply from America. - He said he already had received immense American deliveries, and has gotten from us -- already -- nearly one thousand assembled American and Canadian aircraft. Then he added that they are fine machines, ready to fly; ready to fight. The American aircraft engine, he said, is as good as any in the world.

KNOX

The British will soon be getting twenty more warships
from us - ~~not big ones, but little~~ ^{small} ones. The news comes from ^{the}
Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox. ~~Our Navy is delivering twenty~~
~~small fast torpedo boats. Some of them have already been placed~~ ^{in fact are}
in British hands.

^{See}, Knox announced also that the Navy is preparing to
pool its resources with those of ^a the Canadians. As part of the
arrangement, the Canadian shipyards will take over the business
of building small boats for the British, thus leaving our yards
^{free} for the larger work.

AXIS SHIPS

Those foreign ships in American ports -- what's to be done with them? The government of Uruguay has proposed that all the twenty-one republics in this hemisphere should come to an agreement establish and stick to a uniform policy. Diplomats representing ten of our neighbor republics had a conference at the State Department today with Under-Secretary Sumner Welles.

There is a bill Before Congress giving the President authority to take over all foreign ships. And it is thought in Washington that if any uniform plan is decided upon for all the twenty-one American republics, perhaps it will follow the pattern of that bill.

ARMY

Critics of Uncle Sam's army have been alleging that its high officers were not up on modern warfare. However Lieutenant Colonel Wilson of the General staff tell us that the blitzkrieg tactics of Hitler's army are simply what has been taught at our army vollege at Leavenworth, Kansas, for the last nine years. Blitzkrieg combat tactics, he says, have been planned at Fort Leavenworth and were tested out by the Army before the Nazi blitzkrieg astonished the world in Poland in Nineteen Thirty-Nine.

TAFT

A new idea for hustling up the defense program comes from Senator Taft of Ohio. He has introduced a bill to establish another government agency, a War Resources Administration.

His idea ^{is} ~~would be~~ to have that administration run by one head, ^{— one head,} to be appointed by the President; plus an advisory council.

The job of ^{the War Resources} ~~this~~ administration would be to formulate policies for the mobilization of our resources for war.

Sen. Taft has had this idea ^{in mind} ~~under his hat~~ for some time but ~~he has~~ held up the introduction of his bill in order to see how well the Office of Production Management would get along.

When he ^{saw} ~~perceived that~~ the Government ~~is~~ creating a lot of new agencies, ^{for} ~~such as~~ price control, ^{and so on Sen,} Taft introduced his bill, ^{which} ~~so as to~~

^{would} combine and coordinate the work of all the various ^{bureaus,} ~~agencies.~~

COLLEGES

There appears to be an epidemic of anti-war demonstrations in American colleges. Ostensibly they are demonstrations in favor of peace. But some three hundred and fifty of such rallies are being sponsored by the American Youth Congress, which has been quite openly stigmatized as **being** Red at heart, organized by Bolsheviks and directed from Moscow. The American Youth Congress is boasting that it will have a turn-out of half a million undergraduates at its rallies. Then there's another outfit calling itself the Youth Committee Against War, which is boasting that it controls ~~the~~ two hundred thousand young people at some hundred and twenty-five colleges.

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However, the so-called peace advocates aren't going to have it all their own way. There's also a third group called the Student Defenders of Democracy, ^{whose} ~~its~~ members will pay no attention to ^{at almost any price} ~~those~~ peace rallies except perhaps ~~to~~ picket them.

VON WERRA

Our government seems to be a bit annoyed over the flight of Baron Franz Von Werra, the German war aviator. Nor is the fifteen thousand dollar bond which the Nazi Baron forfeited looked upon as adequate recompense for his jumping bail.

When it became known that the Nazi Baron had run away, the German Consul General in New York took it as a joke. He chuckled audibly and visibly to reporters while he commented on the offense committed by his national. But Attorney General Robert Jackson calls it a flagrant abuse of neutral hospitality, and he has now given orders that henceforth no escaping prisoner of war should be admitted into the United States. If caught at the border, they're to be turned back with whatever force may be necessary.

On top of Attorney General Jackson's order, the State Department has started an investigation, and it is rumored that the incident may result in our government asking for the recall of at least one foreign official in this country, maybe more.

COAL

Another Senator ~~is becoming~~ exasperated over the deadlock in the coal business. Senator Truman of Missouri says that if the strike isn't over by Friday morning, his committee, the special committee investigating defense, will begin investigating that dispute between the operators and the union.

Sen. Truman declared that his committee was entirely in agreement with the proposal by ^{the} President Roosevelt that those miners and operators who have already come to terms, should get back to work at once and that those who have not reached an agreement should also get back to work, with a proviso that any agreement ultimately reached should work backwards. ^{Sen.} Truman ~~xxx~~ sent his warning in telegrams to John L. Lewis, President of the Miners, and the Presidents of both the Northern and Southern coal operators conference.

At the White House, Presidential Secretary Steve Early said ^{the President} ~~that Mr. Roosevelt~~ had wanted to take a short vacation at Warm Springs, Georgia, but had been obliged to put it off until that coal dispute is disposed of.

TAXES

Taxes, taxes! Uncle Sam's Treasury officials seem to have one set of ideas, while revenue experts of the Joint Senate and House Congressional Committee have another.

Here's a convenient ~~x~~ income figure -- three thousand dollars. At present a married couple with such an income must pay thirty-one dollars a year, providing they are not putting a lot of expenses in their report. Under the taxation scheme of the Treasury, that same couple would have to pay a hundred and fifty-two dollars next year. The Congressional Committee experts would have them pay only ninety-seven dollars.

Aside from this, there's going to be a long list of luxury and nuisance taxes. Cigarettes will cost more, your new car, your theatre tickets, movies also, soft drinks, candy, fur coats, clocks, even saxaphones. As for the Demon Rum, ^{taxes} on John Barleycorn are to be raised fifty percent. And now Hugh, what have you to cheer us up?