

ITALY

C.I. - Standard. Thursday, May 25, 1944.  
Sunoco.

We have been waiting for months for this news from Italy: The main body of the Fifth Army has caught up with the forces at the Anzio beachhead. That is a success of real moment. And that means that the Allied troops have pushed ahead ~~sixty miles in~~ fourteen days -- and are now fighting in Cisterna.

This is made the occasion for a special message of congratulations from the Allied Commander-in-Chief in Italy, British General Sir Harold Alexander. He tells us that it will not be long before the two fronts are firmly established as one; and then the Fifth Army will develop even greater strength.

Alexander paid a particular compliment to the men of Anzio. The beachhead force, said he, had played a most important role in the strategy of the Italian campaign.

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to sent reinforcements from other points, which he could  
ill spare.

Gen. Alexander <sup>also complimented</sup> ~~then went on to compliment~~ the  
bridgehead men on having frustrated all the heavy  
counter-attacks thrown at them by the German generals

The break-through on the Hitler Line was  
accomplished by a strong task force of Canadian fighters,  
tanks and motorized infantry, after the artillery had  
torn a gap two-thousand-five-hundred yards wide in the  
Nazi defenses. By the middle of the afternoon, the  
Canadians were face to face with the German rear guard  
with only the Mella River between them, a shallow stream  
easily forded.

Military experts in London predict that if the  
Allies ~~are able to~~ <sup>can</sup> move quickly enough they will be able  
to cut off seventeen of Kesselring's divisions. <sup>[That in any event]</sup> it will  
not be long before the Fifth and Eighth Armies are at the

gates of <sup>Rome.</sup> ~~the Eternal City itself.~~

Some Germans still held out at Pontecorvo on the Appian Way. <sup>So a</sup> ~~another~~ Canadian force just marched around, <sup>and</sup> ~~leaving Pontecorvo on one side, and~~ <sup>^</sup> ~~the Canadians~~ joined up with the French who had crossed the Liri River above Pontecorvo. The consequence is that large numbers of Germans are cut off at Pontecorvo and other places.

An American reporter following the advancing troops of the Fifth Army, found himself in an old stone house looking down upon Cisterna with German artillery pouring shells at him. ~~Outside the house, he said,~~ ~~blood red poppies were growing. A unit of American,~~ ~~Rangers had been ambushed in that field on January~~ ~~Twenty-Ninth. Some of the poppies were crushed to earth~~ ~~underneath the~~ <sup>bodies,</sup> ~~body of American dead who fell there,~~ today.

The correspondent thought he was alone in the house, but he was startled by a ~~xx~~ voice saying: "I wish

I was a civilian." It was the voice of Captain Leonard Weisenburg of North Hollywood, California. Captain Weisenburg and Colonel Duval of Spokane, Washington, ~~had been talking from that stone house~~ by field <sup>had been</sup> telephone, giving orders to the American squads lying in the tall grass. It was after two shells hit the house that Captain Weisenburg made his remark. He was blaming himself for standing around, lighting cigarettes and forgetting he was in the middle of a war. "Every time you forget there is a war on," said he, "A German jumps you. ~~■~~ But you can't teach anybody anything."

And he explained that when he wished he were a civilian <sup>he simply meant he were</sup> ~~he meant~~ a post-war civilian.

While Captain Weisenburg and the reporter were talking, a telephone rang from under a heap of rubbish. The Captain told the reporter to answer it. A voice on the other end of the line began asking technical questions. <sup>Replied</sup> ~~And~~ said the U.P. man, "I am ~~\*\*\*~~

a war correspondent. I don't know anything."

Then the voice asked: "What the blazes are you doing there?"

To which the reporter ~~ed~~ answered: <sup>"Why,</sup> "I'm getting ~~out~~ <sup>out!</sup>  
~~the hell out.~~ <sup>And, in a hurry!"</sup>

Another correspondent was with the Canadians on their advance from Pontecorvo. He said that after the Canadians broke through, the Hitler Line was nothing more than an unusually thick traffic jam on the road to Rome. Roads were clogged with transport. Engineers were busy repairing the roads, and building new ones. Some men were cut off from their units, wandering around looking for them. On one of the crossroads the newspaperman ran across a Canadian armored sergeant using highly picturesque language, <sup>and</sup> ~~it was~~ Sergeant Robert Gladnick of ~~Eight-Eighty-Seven Southern Boulevard,~~ the Bronx, who has been with the Canadians since Nineteen Forty.

Observers in London <sup>seem to be</sup> ~~are now~~ visualizing the ~~distinct~~ possibility of a crushing defeat over the Germans in Italy. So far the Nazi troops have just been pushed back, and are still intact. But their position grows worse every day. And, if such a defeat <sup>could</sup> ~~occurs~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~it will~~ <sup>obviously would</sup> be of decided help to ~~the~~ invasion on the western front.

Secretary of War Stimson said <sup>today</sup> that the swift advance of the Fifth Army in the past fourteen days was due to a new policy. There were new divisions in the Second Army Corps, fresh troops. The French also were fresh, explained Stimson. The high command, it was revealed, has devised a new system making it possible to throw fresh troops into the fighting and give a rest to the units that have become battle-weary.

The latest British and American air raids on Berlin have left <sup>Hitler's capital</sup> ~~the place almost~~ in a state of chaos.

In this, German reports agree ~~with those~~ with those of the Allies. Bomb explosions were observed in wide areas throughout the Nazi capital when the ~~American~~ Fortresses and Liberators followed up the mosquito bomber raid of the night before.

The Berlin correspondent for a Swedish newspaper, a pro-Nazi ~~news~~ newspaper, corroborated the stories of catastrophic destruction. Most quarters are ~~and~~ without gas, water or electricity; Street traffic has broken down; railway installations <sup>wrecked and</sup> ~~interurban~~ interurban traffic disrupted. One Flying Fortress crashed with its full bomb-load <sup>right in the center of</sup> ~~on an important open place in~~ Berlin, <sup>mer Platz. The plane</sup> ~~the Potsdam Square~~ <sup>fact in</sup> ~~It~~ literally burst into atoms, and the damage was beyond calculating.

Altogether in the last twenty-four hours,

some seven thousand, five hundred Allied planes were at work. And they dropped some eight thousand tons of high explosives. ~~Some of the Raids were~~ on Germany, ~~some on~~ France, and, ~~some on~~ Belgium. <sup>TP</sup> In today's attacks, three thousand, two hundred and fifty ~~Flying~~ Forts and Liberators were engaged, together with their fighter escorts. <sup>TP</sup> Heavy bombers from the Fifteenth Air Force, based on Italy, went all the way into France, attacked the railway yards at Lyons, and Hitler's U-boat base at Toulon as well as ~~the~~ rail yards. <sup>TP</sup> It is estimated that altogether the Allied air forces struck heavily at no fewer than twenty different Nazi strongholds.

This was the seventh successive day of twenty-four hour bombing. The fliers, as they returned, reported that the flak over the enemy coast was heavier than ever before. Nevertheless, they were able to climb over that barrage, and drop their bombs on the targets without any trouble.

BULGARIA

The Nazis have finally taken over Bulgaria.

From Turkey we learn that Hitler has sent in five German divisions, <sup>to</sup> ~~to take~~ <sup>over occupy</sup> ~~all the important points~~

~~Among them of course are all the seaports and beaches of the Bulgarian shores~~ <sup>along</sup> ~~of~~ the Black Sea. This is just

~~the same old story, the same works that they gave the Hungarians.~~

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Now Hugh James for  
a moment while I  
look over the news from  
the Pacific — a bulletin  
from McArthur —

Another story from General MacArthur. <sup>5</sup>

Uncle Sam's ~~daughboys~~ <sup>men</sup> have ~~grabbed themselves~~ <sup>seized another</sup> a new

airdrome on the coast of Dutch New Guinea. This is

at a place called Maffin. It was a formidable operation

with a tank column as a spear-head, fighter planes and

heavy artillery to prepare the way. They ~~bashed~~ <sup>smashed</sup> their

way through the Jap positions along the Tirfoam River,

~~The Nips did all they could to resist with small arms,~~ <sup>and overwhelmed the enemy.</sup>

~~mortars, and seventy-five millimeter cannon. But, the~~ <sup>So says the communique,</sup>

Americans, with an attacking column of General Sherman

tanks ahead of them burst their way through after a

battle which lasted several days.

MARCUS

~~Our~~ <sup>The</sup> Navy <sup>tells us</sup> ~~for the first time~~ has revealed the ~~truth~~ about that attack on Marcus Island, eleven hundred miles southeast of Tokyo, ~~it was~~ the closest approach by surface men-o-war to the Japanese home waters since ~~General Doolittle's~~ <sup>the</sup> bombing of Tokyo. It was carried out by a large naval task force under Rear Admiral Alfred ~~Q.~~ Montgomery. ~~This~~ <sup>the</sup> fleet approached the island from the north. Contrary to the extravagant reports of actions by Japanese interceptors, Admiral Nimitz tells us that our men saw only two Japanese aircraft. One, a medium bomber, shot in the air; the other, a twin engine plane <sup>that</sup> was damaged on the ground.

It was ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> third attack on Marcus; ~~island,~~ the last having been made ~~last~~ <sup>in</sup> September when eighty per cent of the Jap installations were destroyed. Four American planes were lost and three men. The

attack was a complete surprise, and ~~very successful~~. Our planes destroyed airdrome installations, ammunition and supply dumps, and gun positions, also set afire a ~~small~~ cargo ship. The planes ~~which~~ we lost were shot down by flak.

The completion of this attack means that ~~Admiral~~ Nimitz has moved his offensive line three hundred and thirty miles closer to Tokyo.

The raid actually was carried out last Friday and Saturday. It was followed up on Tuesday by a similar attack on Wake, where twenty buildings were destroyed and others damaged.

The news from Burma continues to be good, stories from China not so good. Stilwell's troops have pushed five miles further into the Mogaung Valley and are approaching Kamiang.

However, they have not yet cleared the Japs out of Myitkyina. *In fact the Japs* ~~They~~ delivered a heavy counter-attack at the Americans ~~at~~ on the airdrome, *which* ~~but it~~ was repelled

Fighting still rages on the Manipur front in India. Mountbatten reports that the Japs suffered heavy losses in futile attacks at the edge of the Imphal plain, *their vain* ~~this was part of a desperate~~ attempt to take Imphal before the monsoon. ~~But it was completely fruitless.~~

In China the Americans' and Chinese are also continuing their attack on the Japs before the Salween River and the Lido road. They are making slow but steady progress.

But the Japanese claim they have captured Loyang in the province of Honan, after a battle that lasted twenty days. If this is true, it is important,

because Loyang is the gateway to northwestern  
China, a key center on an important railway  
line.

The Chinese, however, deny that Loyang  
has ~~completely~~ fallen. They admit the Japs have  
penetrated into the city, but the Chinese garrison  
is still resisting with hand-to-hand fighting in  
the streets.

## PRODUCTION

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Congressmen heard some interesting figures about production today. Since Pearl Harbor, the war plants of the United States have turned out a hundred and sixty thousand <sup>air</sup> planes, two hundred and twenty-five thousand pieces of artillery, a hundred and thirty thousand tanks, one million three hundred thousand military trucks, thirty-one million five hundred thousand dead weight tons of merchant shipping, <sup>and</sup> four million displacement tons of warships.

The scientists in the Office of Scientific Research and Development have made several important contributions. One of them is a new explosive more powerful and better all around than T.N.T., plus methods for producing it on a gigantic scale. They have also developed a fuel which burns without shedding any light. ~~They have created new forms of rocket projectiles including bombs. And here is something which will be~~

## POLYGAMY

There were interesting moments at Salt Lake City today in the polygamy trial. It has come down to the drastic point where the Judge had to pronounce sentence. The Judge was about to sentence one of the convicted leaders of the polygamy sect, Joseph W. Musser. Up stood one of his oldest wives exclaiming in these words:- "The Wrath of God will be brought down on you Judge if you sentence that man". Thereupon the Judge started to sentence her to a day in jail for ~~xxx~~ contempt of court starting with his remark "Don't you realize that when the court" and at that point Mrs. Musser Number X interrupted saying, "Mister, I don't know nothing about law, I only know that I lived in his home and he is innocent".

So the Judge went on to give her a day in jail, at which this one of the several Mrs. Musser's said she was proud to pass that day in jail.

**A** Fifteen of those polygamous gentlemen heard the Judge tell them they would have to pass from one to five years in the State's prison.

HOOVER

For some time there has been talk that Governor Dewey of New York was Ex-President Hoover's pet candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency. Mr. Hoover today issued a flat, definite and categorical denial. He is not, he said, trying to push Dewey or anybody else.

Ill informed people, he said, have been trying to link his name with various possible nominees. Until now, he continued, he has ignored all these rumors. They have tried to link his name, he *added*, with not only Governor Dewey but also Governor Bricker of Ohio and General MacArthur.

The Republican Ex-President said definitely that he is making no efforts in anybody's behalf, has no pet candidate. In fact, ~~he~~ will not have the slightest part or share in the process of selecting the Republican nominee. Mr. Hoover then used these

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words: "The people and their duly elected delegates will take care of that themselves."

~~At any rate, that scotches the reports.~~

9 And now a pronouncement from Hugh.