

EGYPT

L.S. - *London*. Wed., Nov. 4, 1942.

The battle of the desert took on a new spurt of vigor today. British General Montgomery's Eighth Imperial Army is pushing Rommel's Afrika Korps back in earnest. The Nazis and Italians are retreating along the coastal road. To be sure, Nazi propaganda ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ headquarters in Berlin denies it. Nevertheless, it <sup>'s</sup> ~~is~~ a fact.

6  
And today we learn for the first time that Montgomery's army has been increased by seven thousand Americans. Actually, they arrived in the Middle East last Saturday, forty-eight hours before Montgomery started his big push. **B**ut, the news was kept until today. *These troops* ~~They~~ include not only ground forces but air corps personnel.

Montgomery is throwing everything he has into the fight in an effort to turn the German retreat into a rout. Not only British Royal Air Force planes, but

American army aircraft hurled themselves into the attack and blasted for all they were worth at Rommel's columns. So far the Afrika Korps has proved to be too well disciplined an army to break. The Germans, in particular, fought a stubborn rear guard action, ~~and~~ and their retreat, though rapid, was quite orderly.

Rommel did not give the command to retreat until his Twenty-First and Fifteenth armored divisions had suffered heavily <sup>from</sup> crushing blows delivered by the British tanks. Berlin told us yesterday that this was the greatest tank battle ever fought in North Africa. *well, it turns out now*  
~~Actually,~~ Montgomery's desert battleships blasted themselves a gap three miles wide in the Nazi defense lines.

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Meanwhile, the Allied pursuit planes bagged eight German bombers, two Messerschmitt fighters, and damaged at least a dozen other aircraft so badly that

it is doubtful they <sup>got to</sup> ~~can ever reach~~ their bases. ~~again.~~

Four of the Messerschmitts were shot down on different parts of the battlefront. <sup>TP</sup> ~~The gap which Montgomery's tanks drew in the Axis lines is in the north-central sector.~~

While all this is encouraging, it is far too early to <sup>tell about the final outcome,</sup> ~~crow~~ <sup>^</sup> It appears that Montgomery now has the upper hand not only in the air but in tank strength.

But his men can expect tough resistance when they come up against the main body of the Axis army, <sup>which we hear is</sup> lying in wait behind the front lines. <sup>TP</sup> Many German and Italian groups

have been isolated and <sup>And a</sup> pocketed. <sup>^</sup> A lot of them will have to be cleaned up before the British advance guard can be ~~quite~~ safe from attacks in the rear. One advantage to the British of this quick advance, is that they will be able to reclaim and repair <sup>own</sup> ~~their~~ damaged tanks.

They will also prevent Rommel from picking up and

repairing his. According to reports from the front, these are numerous. Scores of broken Nazi <sup>armored</sup> rolling stock have been abandoned on the battlefield.

One American reporter watched this battle from an observation post inside ~~xxx~~ a damaged crusader tank. He reports that it looks like a dark hour for Adolf Hitler in Afrika tonight. German dead lay only a few feet away and the battlefield all around him was ~~fairly~~ strewn with wreckage, <sup>including</sup> ~~A couple of them were~~ British tanks blown up by the Nazi minefields. German machine gunners and riflemen were sniping at the Americans from dug-in positions only a few hundred yards away. A mile and a half away to the south, a tornado of sound bespoke the tank battle that was raging. Now and again he could see a group of tanks chugging out from the caldron and smoke and dust that enveloped them. Then they would dash in again with all

guns blazing.

While the American watched, the Nazi panzers counter-attacked, but the British anti-tank guns held them off. Dominion troops, <sup>he said,</sup> ~~he said,~~ were in the forefront of the action, cleaning out Nazi pockets with their bayonets.

ADD EGYPT

But here is a later bulletin from Cairo.

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Events have been <sup>moving</sup> fast and furious in the Egyptian desert today. <sup>The latest is that</sup> The Afrika Korps is now in full retreat, disorderly retreat. <sup>Also that</sup> The Nazi General <sup>who is</sup> second in command to Field Marshal Rommel, has been killed. <sup>said to be</sup> British and American air forces are <sup>^</sup> pounding the daylights out of the fleeing Axis army. A British communique at Cairo describes it as the greatest Allied offensive of the whole war, <sup>with</sup> The Eighth Army <sup>now</sup> ~~is~~ pursuing close on the heels of the ~~xxx~~ retreating enemy. <sup>TP</sup> The Axis losses of killed and wounded have been exceptionally high. The communique uses these words: "Up to date we have destroyed more than two hundred and sixty German and Italian tanks, and captured or destroyed at least two hundred and seventy guns." <sup>so far also</sup> The Axis losses <sup>^</sup> include nine thousand prisoners. <sup>including</sup> ~~Among them is~~ another Nazi General, and several senior German and Italian officers.

So tonight at a late hour that battle in the desert sounds ~~really~~ like a major victory for ~~our~~ ~~side.~~ the United Nations.



SOLOMONS

As for Tonight's news from the Solomons, ~~is favorable in~~  
~~a small way.~~ <sup>the U.S.</sup> Our marines and infantry have advanced  
again, ~~not much, but they did advance.~~ The communique  
from the Navy ~~xxx~~ expresses it in these words - ~~they~~  
~~made~~ "some small gains."

That means they are keeping up their offensive  
against the Japs to the west of Henderson Field on  
Guadalcanal. They captured about twenty Jap machineguns  
and a couple of small artillery pieces. Both army and  
navy planes operating from the field gave close support  
to the marines and infantry. They bombed and strafed  
both enemy troops and enemy positions.

We don't hear any more <sup>about these</sup> ~~of the~~ reinforcements  
that the Japs landed east of Henderson Field under cover  
of darkness on Monday. Our men are now hemmed in on the  
southeast, south and west, and on the north they are  
facing the sea.

## ELECTION

The election itself may have been listless and apathetic <sup>Yesterday.</sup> But its results are <sup>live and</sup> ~~certainly~~ <sup>Today.</sup> spectacular.

The Republicans, to be sure, do not have a majority in Congress. But they <sup>have</sup> won a formidable block of seats in both Chambers, thirty-two definitely in the House, eight in the Senate. By half past two this afternoon, Eastern War Time the fate of forty-five Representatives still was in the balance. In all probability, the Republicans will pick up some more seats. But ~~they~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~won't be~~ enough to <sup>get</sup> ~~seize~~ control of the lower House. The <sup>general estimate</sup> ~~betting~~ is that when all the votes are counted, the Republicans will have gained altogether thirty-nine seats.

The Republicans picked up Senatorial chairs in Delaware, Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, South Dakota, New Jersey and Michigan. There is also a fair chance that there may be another Republican Senator from



West Virginia.

The Democrats lost four governorships -

in New York, Connecticut, Michigan and California.

All in all, the Republicans <sup>now have governors in</sup> ~~have definitely won sixteen~~  
~~sixteen states,~~ <sup>sixteen states,</sup> ~~gubernatorial contests,~~ but twelve of them <sup>were</sup> ~~had been~~

Republican before. And there still is a ~~fighting~~ chance that a Republican may be elected Governor in Idaho.

~~Of course, the~~ <sup>MA</sup> most sensational of all was the landslide that carried Tom Dewey into the Governor's chair in New York State. It also carried his entire ticket,

although it was almost a photo-finish for the Lieutenant-

Governorship. Not ~~xxx~~ until early this afternoon did

the returns from up-state districts show the election

of Republican Thomas W. Wallace over Democratic Charles

Poletti, who has held the office for the last two terms,

~~He has~~ <sup>and who has</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>lieutenant governor.</sup> an exceedingly popular ~~one.~~ But Dewey

went in by a plurality of more than six hundred and forty

thousand. For that matter, he has not only a plurality but a majority.

There had<sup>s</sup> been much ~~betting on~~ <sup>discussion as to</sup> the effect of this ~~Republican~~ <sup>(New York)</sup> landslide on the political fortunes of ~~General~~ Ex-Postmaster Jim Farley. Many had predicted it would be the end of him. Jim himself refuses to be ended. He declared that he would hold onto ~~his~~ the position of Democratic State Chairman for the full term, which means two years from last August. Farley explained his defeat by attributing it to ~~a nationwide trend~~ <sup>forces uncontrollable.</sup> "A fine set of Democratic candidates went down to defeat," he said, "not because they were not qualified but because there was a definite trend throughout the nation."

Another ~~highly~~ dramatic landslide ~~occurred~~ occurred in New Jersey. That was also an upset to a prominent Democratic leader, Mayor ~~Frank~~ Hague of New Jersey, the Democratic National Vice-Chairman. ~~Hxxx~~

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Hague's candidate was William Smathers, one of the two United States Senators from New Jersey. The New Jersey voters just snowed him under, and elected ~~his opponent,~~ Albert J. Hawks. ~~There was high Republican jubilation over that.~~

In Pennsylvania, the Republicans have elected their candidate, Adjutant General Edward Martin, also enough Congressmen to control the Pennsylvania delegation in our national legislature. Republicans in the Keystone State now have eighteen seats to the Democrats' twelve, with ~~two~~ undecided. In the present Congress, the Democrats had seventeen against the Republicans' sixteen, with one vacancy.

In Minnesota, the Republicans made a clean sweep, not only reelecting Governor Harold Stassen for a third term but also nine Congressmen.

Some well known figures will disappear from

the national scene as a result of the election. ~~The~~  
Best <sup>known of</sup> ~~loved of them~~ all, ~~is~~ the Independent Senator  
George Norris of Nebraska. Uncle George did ~~not~~ want  
to run, ~~and thought it was inadvisable for him to run,~~  
but <sup>he</sup> yielded to the urgings of his friends.

In Michigan, a Republican defeated Senator  
Prentiss Brown who had led the fight for President  
Roosevelt's price control law and against the farm bloc.  
His victorious Republican rival is Judge Homer Ferguson  
of Detroit. Republican Secretary of State Harry Kelly  
will be the next Governor of Michigan.

In Oklahoma, the picturesque prohibition  
Senator Josh Lee was retired into private life.

~~One of the close and interesting fights was~~

~~In~~ Massachusetts. The present Republican Governor  
Leaverett Saltonstall, ~~as you will recall, was running~~  
~~against Democratic Mayor Roger Lowell Putnam of~~

Springfield. They were, incidentally, at Harvard together. Although Massachusetts is considered normally a Democratic state and anybody named Saltonstall is supposed to be an aristocrat, a blueblood, a patrician and all that sort of thing, <sup>^</sup>~~this~~ <sup>get</sup> member of the family broke all precedents. He got himself elected for a third term by a handsome plurality of probably more than a hundred thousand.

*Goes in for*  
*^*

It is a third term also for Republican Governor Bricker of Ohio. Not only did he carry his whole state ticket into office with him - <sup>but</sup> the Republicans won twenty out of the twenty-three Ohio seats in ~~the~~ *Congress*, ~~House~~.

There was a Republican sweep in Connecticut, too, <sup>where</sup> they elected a Governor, ~~Raymond D.~~ Baldwin, who held office before ~~until the Roosevelt landslide~~ deposed him two years ago. In addition to that,

*Also*  
the ~~Republicans have~~ all six Congressmen ~~from~~  
~~Connecticut~~, including the ~~much publicized~~ *brilliant* and  
pulchritudinous Clare Booth Luce.



5  
I have here beside me a young army officer who ~~certainly~~ must feel that he is back home -- here in Rockefeller Center. Lieutenant Herbert L. Lamme (pronounced Lammy). -- ~~whom the army presents as an~~ *And he's an* example of the opportunities given to eighteen and nineteen-year-old ~~youths~~ *lads* in the service.

Lieutenant Lamme is nineteen, just graduated from the Officer Candidate School, and one of the youngest commissioned officers in the army. A native of Georgia, he once worked here at Rockefeller Center - as a uniformed page boy. So ~~no wonder he must~~ *he ought to* feel at home.

The army is urging the eighteen and nineteen-year-olds to enlist, and points to the advantages that await them. Commissions as officers, for example, to those who qualify. Lieutenant Lamme can ~~certainly~~ testify to this.

LIEUTENANT:- I can, indeed, Mr. Thomas. In the  
army we work hard, and also have fun --- and we have  
every chance of advancement. So I want to advise  
every young fellow of eighteen or nineteen to enlist --  
join the army now!

## FOOD

Here is a bit of necessary and timely information about food. American diet authorities ~~have~~ pointed out that the problem of feeding ourselves and ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> Allies is vastly different from what it was during the last war. One factor is that we know so much more about food than we did twenty-five years ago. Such words as "calories", "vitamins", "metabolism", "assimilation", and all those other mysteries are today part of ~~the general~~ <sup>the general</sup> ~~everybody's~~ vocabulary.

~~The~~ Nutrition experts declare that most Americans get enough food, <sup>that is</sup> in quantity. But, far too many eat the wrong kind of food simply because they do not know what is good for them. The problem of the dietician is not only to teach us what we ought to eat but to make us like it. If we do that, there will be plenty for all of us, ~~and that~~ <sup>they say; which</sup> is reassuring.

Consider for instance our meat rationing.

We have been asked to limit ourselves to two and a half pounds a week. That means the standard meats - pork, beef, veal, mutton and lamb. <sup>and</sup> That is tremendous compared to the rations of people in other countries. The German, Frenchman, Italian, Norwegian, Netherlander, Belgian, Swede or the Bulgarian, is allowed <sup>only</sup> from five to twelve ounces a week - if he can get it. In Russian cities each adult gets eight point eight ounces a week. In Starving Greece there is no regular distribution of meat at all.

These figures make us realize how vastly higher is the American standard of living. ~~It is~~ high not only in food but in everything else. ~~that involves physical, social and spiritual welfare.~~ <sup>all</sup> ~~That is~~ because of the American way of life which gives a fair chance to everybody, the open road of opportunity, <sup>to all,</sup> ~~the green light to adventure, enterprise.~~ In short, ~~all the~~

~~things we are fighting to preserve.~~

*As we all*

*I know,* Before the war ends, we will be called on for still ~~much~~ greater sacrifices. Nevertheless, the food authorities tell us we shall all have plenty. There will be no privations such as Europe faces. The big problem of the authorities will be to induce us to use what supplies we have in the most effective manner.

That means, taking sound advice about our food and how to prepare it. If we do that, we shall come out of the

war the best <sup>*fed,*</sup> ~~fed,~~ healthiest and the longest lived

community the world has ever known. Into the bargain,

*stream-lined*  
we shall have fashion plate figures. ~~All of which~~

~~sums up into a piece of optimism I am glad to pass~~

~~along~~

## HIGHWAY

In the far northwestern wilderness of the Yukon, a couple of bulldozers crashed into each other. It was an accident, not serious, but historic. Corporal Sims from Philadelphia, a negro, was piloting one of the bulldozers. Private Jalfuka from Kennedy, Texas, was at the wheel of the other. They had crashed because they could not see each other in the thick under-brush of the Yukon wilderness.

That little collision marked the pushing through of the great Alcan Highway, the highway which will connect Alaska to the interior of North America. The negro corporal and the private from Texas are members of different crews working from opposite directions. When they bumped and ~~xxxxxxx~~ realized what they had done, they jumped out, shook hands, and gave a little cheer, as loud a cheer as two men can.

812 This great ~~and extraordinary~~ highway is almost



Today's news tells us that finished, ~~a model of engineering.~~ Only one section still has to be widened and improved. That is the section near the international boundary line. So near is it to being finished, that it will be formally opened on November Twentieth. This we hear from Brigadier-General O'Connor, head of the Northwest Service Command.

And what do we hear from you, Hugh?