

L.T. - SUNOCO. WED., JULY 8, 1942

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

An American submarine torpedoed another Jap destroyer off the Aleutian Islands. This is announced in a late Navy bulletin stating that the Jap war vessel was probably sunk. The victory of the American sub occurred in the vicinity of Kiska -- on July Fifth. This was the day after that Independence Day blow when U.S. submarines sank three Jap destroyers and left another burning fiercely.

## RUSSIA

4  
In the war in Russia, both sides were in general agreement today. Both Moscow and Berlin stated that the Germans were widening the great salient they created in their drive east from Kursk. They pushed a big bulge into the Red Army line, a pocket a hundred and twenty miles deep, and today they were battering at the edges of the bulge, widening the pocket.

The two sides are still in contradiction about the City of Voronezh, with Moscow denying the Nazi claim that Voronezh has been captured. Moscow tells of bitter fighting near the city, and reports success against the Germans along the River Don. The Hitler war machine has forced a crossing of that important stream, with bridgeheads established on the other side. The Soviet forces are assailing those bridgeheads, smashing at them with heavy violence, and Moscow states that the German units which got across ~~them~~ have been wiped out.

Also, the Red Army is striking at the sides of the Nazi salient. Yesterday, we had them driving into the north of the bulge, in the sector of Orel. They were still doing that today, and they were also launching a counter-offensive against the south of the Nazi pocket.

Moscow continues to emphasize the danger the Red Army faces.

The latest is a Moscow bulletin that the Germans have captured the railroad center of Stary Oskol. Still later -- the Russians have torpedoed and damaged the German Battleship Tirpitz.

EGYPT

47  
In Egypt, Rommel is reported to be digging in - going on the defensive. British headquarters at Cairo reports that the Nazi panzer army is building defense works along the line it holds - sixty-five miles from Alexandria. This would indicate that the Nazi Field

Marshal has abandoned any plans for an immediate resumption of the offensive - *--- that he hasn't* ~~has not got~~ the strength and materials to renew the drive that ~~got~~ *brought him* so near to *and the Suez Canal.* the Valley of the Nile. Cairo believes that Rommel's

~~xxxx~~ idea is to hold on where he is, hang onto his most advanced position; *and then,* ~~to~~ renew the attack whenever he can.

It is the British now who are attacking, the Empire forces slashing with rapid strokes. No large all-out offensive threatening to crush the Nazi panzers - not just yet. British mechanized units are ranging over the desert, hitting here and there. They are especially active toward the south, where the Nazi line

EGYPT

bends around to the west. That's where Rommel  
c  
can be outflanked.

SABOTEURS

48

Today in Washington the grimmest proceedings of this wartime began in the deepest of secrecy -- the trial of the eight Nazi saboteurs. The scene was the building of the Department of Justice, the fifth floor, an assembly room of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. What transpired there? We don't know -- ~~we~~ save for the general fact that the trial began this morning and continued all day, with the eight saboteurs facing the penalty of a military execution.

~~What we have to tell about the secret trial concerns only what could be seen and heard from the outside.~~ Shortly after nine o'clock this morning two vans drove through a gate of the Department of Justice Building, and disappeared down a ramp. It is understood that these two vans carried the eight saboteurs, who landed on our shores by U-boat, sent here by Nazi Germany to commit acts of violence and destruction against this nation at war. Shortly

afterward seven generals arrived at the Department of Justice Building -- members of the military commission who will decide the fate of the saboteurs.

Outside the building crowds gathered, gazing, talking among themselves. Vendors appeared, setting up stands -- and selling ice cream and frankfurters.

During the afternoon session one thing was noted just outside the trial room. The corridor there had been barricaded-- to insure secrecy. And out of the corridor, furniture was taken. This, to make room -- room for folding cots, apparently. The cots indicated that the saboteurs would be kept overnight, kept right there for the duration of the proceedings.

## RUBBER

Everybody in Washington was talking about rubber today, and no wonder. Some spectacular facts were told to a group of correspondents by Eugene Houdry, the scientist, one of the foremost petroleum engineers. Hitherto we've heard his name in connection with gasoline. He's the inventor of the catalytic process in the development of which the Sun Oil Company was a pioneer. On this broadcast we've often heard about that process - which has so revolutionized the industry that today more than a billion gallons of high octane gas are being produced each year.

Houdry has more than a professional interest in talking about rubber. Though born in France, he is an American citizen, and a leader of the Free French movement.

This morning his corporation published an advertisement which threw a bombshell into the



controversy of rubber. Newspapermen said what's all this? And Houdry met them this afternoon at the New Willard Hotel in Washington, where he stood a fierce crossfire of questions.

Here's the gist of what he had to say:

To make one pound of rubber, you need three-quarters of a pound of a substance called butadiene. Houdry told the newspaper men that by his process, butadiene could be made quicker and cheaper than by any other petroleum process. He stated definitely that if the War Production Board would give priorities for the building of fifteen Houdry plants, enough Butadiene could be made to manufacture a million tons of rubber a year. Furthermore, those plants could be built with one-third less ~~quantity of~~ steel than plants for any other petroleum process. And they could be constructed in nine months.

The newspaper men promptly asked whether the Government was about to use his process. The answer was no. Houdry stated that one oil company had applied for priorities to build ~~one such plant,~~ a plant which could produce 50,000 tons of butadiene a year - but had been rejected. Further questioning brought out the fact that the Rubber Reserve Division of the W.P.B. sent an engineer to Houdry. That Rubber Reserve engineer spent two hours with the inventor himself. He said he could not understand Houdry because of his French accent. Then he went back to Washington, and Houdry later received a letter stating that in the opinion of that engineer the process was not sufficiently developed. That, mind you, as a result of a two-hour conversation which the Rubber Reserve engineer said he had not understood.

Actually, said Houdry, the engineers of no

fewer than three of the largest oil companies ~~in~~ in the country have investigated at length and <sup>have</sup> approved the Houdry way of producing butadiene. A group of engineers from California spent not two hours but two months investigating the ~~Houdry~~ process. They returned to California two days ago to recommend it to their Board of Directors.

Then Houdry <sup>this afternoon</sup> made a statement in these words:-

"It would not be difficult to make all the rubber not only for the United States, but for the United Nations," ~~said he~~. And he even included all the rubber we would need for civilian use.

The newspapermen were greatly impressed, and the general agreement is that Houdry has started something from which more will be heard.

## GIRDLES

And now rubber takes us to a war-time declaration about feminine curves. Today's patriotic pronouncement concerns the more ample curves, the larger contours -- where the form divine bulges a bit, where the hips may slightly suggest the ferry boat moving majestically along. Do not make fun of those copious charms, says William R. Boyd, Jr., Chairman of the Petroleum Industry War Council. What does he know about it? Well, he's directing the scrap rubber drive, and it has to do with -- girdles, which contain rubber. I believe somebody has estimated that if all the girls in the country were collected, they would provide enough rubber to make tires for two thousand, seven hundred and twenty-six army trucks, and at the same time the expansion of the figures of the ladies would amount to a grand total of fourteen million, four hundred and twelve thousand, six hundred and ten cubic feet. Or about half the size of the moon. But it would all be patriotic.

The Chairman of the Petroleum Industry War Council stated today that many girls have contributed their girdles as scrap rubber. "They have given them up," says he, "to help this nation gather enough rubber to keep the Army and Navy rolling to victory."

So if they happen to bulge a bit, with that balloon effect in places, do not mock. "Curves and bulges are now patriotic", declares the Chairman of the Petroleum Industry War Council. The more curves the more patriotic.

## MARRIAGES

54  
Today still another type of wartime control was urged -- a control of marriage. Matrimony should be regulated by -- military power. So stated the M.D. who is the Chairman of the New York State Conference on Marriage and the Family.

The Doctor, it seems, has noted that in wartime, a lot of girls marry soldiers. As why wouldn't they -- when so many of the boys are in the army? If not a soldier -- then what?

The Doctor points out that a soldier has to go away, and when he returns from war to join his wifie, ~~in~~ the couple may find themselves, as the Doctor says, "utter and complete strangers."

Anyway, the learned M.D. thinks those hasty wartime marriages should not be permitted. Says he:-  
"The military power that undertakes to draft and train young men for war, should forbid a marriage to which no sensible person would give his consent in peacetime.

He does not say just how military power is going to prevent the marriages. (With some of these couples you see around, it would take more than the army, the navy, and the air corps. combined.)

## RESTAURANT

55  
This is the painful and even excruciating story of two Greek restaurant keepers in Cleveland, who were much too smart. Each tried to outsmart the other, and ended by each out-smarting himself.

Demetrios Diakandru and Tom Petropoulos had restaurants just across the street from each other, and there was keen competition. Each tried to get business away from the other -- by serving better chops and colder beer. The competition grew keener all the time, until the situation called for something really smart.

Ham-and-Egg-Man Diakandru thought -- "I'll fix him." Secretly, and all on the Q.T., he bought the property in which Steak-and-Onions-Petropoulos had his restaurant. Then he served a notice of eviction on his rival. Get out Petropoulos!

That was a real stroke of business -- but immediately afterward Diakandru had a notice of eviction served on him. It seems that Petropoulos



had been inspired by the same idea. He had secretly bought the place in which the Diakandru restaurant was -- and ordered him to get out.

So there they were, both dispossessed, each owning the other's place. And both had to get out. Yesterday Diakandru and Petropoulos moved, each across the street, each to the property he had bought. They passed each other with a procession of groceries, canned goods, ice cream, beer, and pots and pans. Same old competition, but on opposite sides of the street.

Today came the worst blow of all. The sheriff, who yesterday enforced the eviction orders, came back today with another kind of document. It was a stay of execution just issued by a court, a little late. The stay of execution meant that the two restaurant keepers had to move back to their original places - until a higher court handed down a verdict. So today

RESTAURANT - 3

Diakandru and Petropoulos once again moved across the street -- with their procession of groceries, canned goods, ice cream, beer and pots and pans. Diakandru was so mad about it all that it took the police to get him out.

57  
So now they are back in their original positions, and they don't know when some new court decision may compel them to move across the street again. They may have to keep shuttling back and forth -- depending on the legal proceedings. Diakandru and Petropoulos have already been to the municipal court nine times and to the court of appeals five times. Their case is still to be reviewed by the Ohio Supreme Court, and it may even go to the Supreme Court of the United States.

I'll bet that in all the history of the Greeks you will find no richer case of smartness - gone wrong. And what those two restaurant keepers are saying tonight in Greek must be shocking -- if you know Greek.

## SLEEP WALKING

This is about a traveling salesman from St. Louis, who is a sleep walker. He spends most of his nights in hotels, here, there and the next place. And sleep walking in a hotel can be doubly embarrassing. You might ramble into some lady's room -- before waking up. So Salesman A.C. Moha, before going to bed, takes precautions.

8  
He was at Clarksdale, Mississippi last night, and before hitting the hay, he barricaded the hotel room -- moved furniture against the door, and so on. The idea being -- that, while removing all that barricade, he would wake up.

However, Salesman Moha is a sleep walker of superior talent -- a super Somnambulist. And <sup>last</sup> ~~xxx~~ night people passing the hotel <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ Clarksdale, Mississippi, were astonished to see a man in pajamas emerge from a second story window and start climbing down the wall. He made his way down thirty feet of hotel wall, suffering from nothing more than torn

SLEEP WALKING - 2

8 1/2 pajamas and scraped shins. It was Salesman Moha -  
not only a sleep walker but also a sleep acrobat.  
A policeman went to him wanting to know what it  
was all about, and woke him up.

They then took Salesman Moha back to his  
room, but they could not get in. He had barricaded  
the door so successfully, that somebody had to climb  
through the transom and open the door.

And now Hugh! ~~ugh~~  
Hugh! wake up and give  
us yaw message!

59