

RUSSIA

L.P. - Sunoco - Thurs Sept 7, 1942 Sept 7th Cannon

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The battle for Stalingrad seems to be unquestionably the most ferocious conflict in the war thus far. All along, the Nazis have been ~~be~~ dwelling on the savage fight put up by the Red Army defenders - Berlin citing this as a reason for the delay in capturing Stalingrad. And now Moscow chimes in by telling of the fury of battle displayed by the Germans. The Soviet account describes the assaulting troops in these words:-  
"fighting like devils".

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This applies to German units that have battered their way into the outskirts of Stalingrad at the Northwest of the city. They are fighting in the streets ~~among~~ <sup>and</sup> houses - nine ~~of~~ to twelve miles from the center of Russia's industrial Pittsburgh. <sup>and</sup> The Soviet troops are defending street by street, house ~~by~~ <sup>by</sup> house. That's their orders - as is illustrated grimly today by a ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> proclamation ~~in~~ the Soviet Army newspaper, Red Star. It states ~~that~~ what sounds like a relentless paradox:- "Even a completely destroyed city can and ~~must~~ fight to the last", says the Red Star.

This refers to the virtual destruction of Stalingrad by Nazi bombers, which dominate the sky in overwhelming numbers and subject the Red Army to a frightful devastation of incessant bombing. The Soviet newspaper goes on:- "A defense can be organized amid ruins, a defense which no force can conquer. All the ruined houses", it commands, "must be transformed into machine gun nests. We must die rather than surrender a single house".

So A although the Germans are now in Stalingrad, are within the city limits - they still face a terrible battle.

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Several days ago the Nazis claimed the capture of the Stalingrad railroad station, and, stated that they had driven through the city to the Volga - cutting Stalingrad in two. But today the German high command had little to say except to tell of the fiercest kind of fighting - the city holding out, no matter what the previous German claims may have been.

It looks as if Stalingrad must surely fall within a brief time - so overwhelming is the force hurled against the

defenders. But the latest from Russia tonight told of some Soviet successes, attacks repelled, the Germans driven back at various points. And from the Nazi controlled radio at Paris we hear that Red army forces are launching violent attacks in the Stalingrad area - near the city. They are driving with furious assaults to hamper and check the German push into the great industrial center on the Volga.

MADAGASCAR

In Madagascar, negotiations for the complete surrender of the Vichy French there appeared to have broken down. The British have been pushing along to complete the occupation of the ~~fi~~ big island on the East Coast of Africa, and the logical thing seemed for the French authorities there to surrender, *Swice* They haven't ~~got~~ a chance anyway.

Negotiations were opened, and it looked as if the capitulation would be arranged. But now the latest word tells that the French authorities have refused to accept the terms offered by the British. And from Vichy itself, the Petain government announces that Madagascar will be defended - to the utmost limits.

There is a lot of wide space and jungle on that island of wilderness, and it may take the British forces some time to hunt down the ~~fx~~ defenders if these carry out their threat to resist to the limit.

NAVY

A late Navy bulletin tells of new successes by American submarines in the Pacific - four enemy ships have been sunk and four damaged by under water attack. The craft sent to the bottom were two large freighters, a medium ~~fix~~ freighter and a small patrol boat. One of the vessels <sup>la</sup><sub>si</sub> damaged was a big ~~XXXXX~~ tanker, torpedoed and left ablaze. The Navy specifies that these submarine victories were not connected with operations in the Solomon Islands. They were elsewhere - along the vastly extended line of Jap communications.

## BATTLE

Today from the far-off Solomon Islands came a vivid eyewitness account of a battle fought by the Marines, and won by the <sup>t</sup>~~y~~anks. It happened when the ~~in~~ Japs made recent landings on Guadalcanal Island. Seven ~~to~~ hundred and fifty of the enemy got ashore on the beach near the Tenru River, and they swarmed to attack a nearby force of leathernecks. This occurred in the moonlight, the ~~brilliant~~ brilliance of the south sea moon.

The story by United Press correspondent Robert C. Miller quotes a marine officer as follows:- "The Japanese," says he, "used the same tactics here that they employed in Singapore and the Philippines. They attempted to sneak in behind our lines. ~~our lines~~. You couldn't tell friend from foe. Several Japanese jumped into Fox holes occupied by Marines, ~~in~~ and were killed. Our main trouble", he states, "was with the snipers. They were everywhere, in the trees, behind logs, and all around us. It was worse than ever when the moon set. Tracer bullets were flying back and forth. Heavy shells ~~from~~ Japanese mortars were exploding all over the place.

At three P.M. he relates, "over they came, yelling and hollering. We gave them everything we had, and every Japanese that started across was downed, some of them falling practically in front of our guns".

The battle story goes on to tell how when morning came, the Japs began to fall back & only to find that they had been outflanked by another force of marines. "Then," relates an American officer, "we closed in cautiously," ~~xxxx~~ beating the Japanese out of trees and bushes as we went along. But they never gave up. They fired until either we killed them or they had to fall back to a new position.

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Then came the end, when a unit of American tanks roared into action. They rumbled in single file into a grove of coconut palms where the ~~xx~~ Japs held their position among the trees and brush. Tanks blasted in, flaming with machine gun fire. "It was pitiful," says today's account, "to watch the Japanese try to fight the tanks. They fired their ~~rigi~~ rifles and machine guns at the armored plating and the bullets pinged off harmlessly".

And so the Marines wiped out a landing force of seven hundred and fifty Japs, who had got ashore on Guadalcanal Island.



## FLAGS FOLLOW BATTLE

Today at the White House two flags were presented to President Roosevelt, and they got two very different kinds of reception. One was a Japanese battle flag captured by the Marines in their raid on Makin Island. The President's eldest ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ son, Major James Roosevelt took part in that raid - was second in command. ~~Make~~

Today Lieutenant-General James Holcomb, Commandant of the Marine Corps took the Japanese banner to the White House, and offered it to President Roosevelt. The President refused -- shook his head. "I am ~~not~~ not going to receive this Japanese flag. I'll look at it - but I don't think I want to touch it".

So the Jap flag, the Rising Sun ~~XXXX~~ crudely painted on canvas, will go to the archives of the Marine Corps.

The other flag was brought to the White House by a committee of flag seamstresses - women who sew the stars and stripes for the Army. They presented an example of their handiwork -- a splendidly made American flag.

This the President had no reluctance in touching and

accepting. "I'll put that flag right behind my desk," he told the group of flag seamstresses.

## INFLATION

It appears that the latest controversy between the White House and Congress is all because of the misinterpretation of a phrase ~~said phrase being one~~ employed by President Roosevelt in his message to Congress on the subject of inflation. ~~This explanation was given today, after a conference between the President and congressional leaders.~~

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The controversy concerns that old subject - farm ~~re~~ prices. The President, in his inflation message, demanded of Congress the restricting of farm prices to what is called parity. The Senate and the House are now considering bills to that effect. The bill in the Lower House would indeed put a ceiling on farm prices at parity, but it also calls for a recomputation of ~~maxxi~~ parity. In other words, figure it out all over again. And opponents of the measure claim that, under the kind of calculation proposed, parity would rise, ~~it~~ would be higher than ~~it is~~ right now, and the net result would be to boost farm prices - instead of freezing them. The President is against this, and today he told the leaders from Congress that he was unalterably opposed to any recomputation of parity. He

does not want that complicated thing to be figured out all over again - in a new way.

Yet it seems that the new computation idea was put into the bill because it was thought that the President himself had suggested it. This explanation is given by Senator Barkley of Kentucky, who said there had been, what he called - "a perfectly honest misunderstanding".

The new way of calculating parity, as proposed in the bill, would include the cost of farm labor in the equation - farm labor cost does not figure in the present way of reckoning parity. In his inflation message to Congress, President Roosevelt mentioned parity calculation, and said he thought it should include what he called - the cost of labor. A great many people, Senator Barkley ~~xxx~~ declared today, thought that the President meant the cost of farm labor. The Senator adds that this was not the case. The President meant the cost of labor that goes into the things the farmer ~~is~~ buys - and that cost is already in the parity formula. So it was a ~~wide~~ misunderstanding, and only ~~xxxx~~ goes to prove that we should be ~~xxxx~~ perfectly

## MUSIC

Today, the director of the office of War Information spoke out in defense of transcriptions of music, recordings. And, Elmer Davis also proclaimed himself in favor of juke boxes.

The head of the O. W. I. was testifying before a Senate Committee that is considering the decree issued by the President of the Musicians Union - the edict forbidding musicians to make musical transcriptions for radio broadcasting and for juke boxes. The union president is Petrillo, <sup>who</sup> ~~and he~~ has incurred a lot of ill will. He is accused of being a tyrant of music, a thing which even Beethoven never pretended to be.

Elmer Davis told the committee today that the ban on recordings for radio would seriously hamper the operation of the government's war information program. He explained that many small stations cannot afford to hire banks of musicians, and have to use transcribed music. If they can't get that, they will lose their listening audiences and will have to go out of business. And such stations, declared Elmer Davis, are needed for the dissemination of war information.

On the subject of juke boxes, the head of the O.W.I.

made a confession. Speaking of himself, he stated in measured tones:- "The director of this office is not personally ~~in~~ an addict of the juke box". I wonder what Elmer prefers, symphony or opera - or no music at all. ~~For my part, I prefer the juke box. The music I'll admit is usually terrible, a pain in the ears - if not in the neck. But, on the other hand, it costs only a nickel - which is a lot less than a ticket to the philharmonic or the Metropolitan. So every time I play the juke box I feel I have saved money. ~~xxxxxx~~ A fellow can save thousands of dollars that way.~~

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Elmer Davis, on the subject of the juke box, spoke as follows:- "it seems to be highly popular among soldiers and sailors and marines, and among factory workers as well". In other words, the institution of music for a nickel keeps the service men and war workers entertained - and that is important for national morale. Elmer likes national morale.

~~xxxx~~ His testimony ended in a fashion to warm the cockles of any radio man's heart. Members of the Senate Committee

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congratulated him on the briefness and ~~his~~ lucidity of the ~~testimony~~ testimony he gave. And they harkened back to those Elmer Davis news broadcasts - the ones that used to be featured on the air before he became the head of the office of War Information. Some of the Senators said that his testimony today was as good as those famous five minute news broadcasts of ~~his~~ his. And that's a high compliment.

~~The Elmer Davis <sup>s</sup> response was magnificent, completely~~  
~~to the point. He said he's <sup>d</sup> remember those kind remarks when~~  
~~he came to the committee to ask for money with which to ~~run~~~~  
~~operate the O.W.I. Good going, Elmer. When the <sup>boss</sup> ~~boss~~ pats you~~  
~~on the back - that's the time to ask for a raise.~~

## JAWBONE

Today, an Army institution, of long and venerable history, was abolished. The institution ~~is~~ called - jawbone. Meaning - credit. A soldier, ~~going~~, for example, going to the post-commissary for a pack of cigarettes, and charging it - that ~~is~~ jawbone; procured by the exercise of the jaw.

In every walk of life credit is a wonderful thing, and to no one more than to a soldier; <sup>h</sup> ~~H~~iking to the commissary, the post barber shop or tailor, ~~xx~~ and saying - put it on the cuff. In fact, if an artist has beauty in his ~~xxx~~ soul, a soldier has jawbone in his heart.

But that is all out. It has been found that the credit system at Army camps has produced altogether too much bookkeeping - the credit sheets, the addition and subtraction, the deductions from pay envelopes. And today Secretary of ~~the~~ War Stimson announced that jawbone will be abolished in the Army on November first.

~~So thereafter the soldiers can use their jawbones for reciting <sup>Poetry</sup> ~~Paul~~ Paul Revere's ride or saying their evening prayers.~~  
~~They will have to pay cash, and that hurts like a toothache.~~



SCRAP

All over the nation the scrap metal campaign is being pressed with increasing vigor - with patriotic Americans searching their homes for junk. They are turning it in to help their country win the war. In some cases there is a real sacrifice, as is illustrated by a news flash from Decatur, Georgia. <sup>TT</sup> There, a touching sacrifice was made by a patriotic Georgian. He today handed over the family whiskey still.)

Charles D. Livsey tells how the fifty pound copper still was in his family for four generations. It is so old that as far back as Nineteen Hundred it was registered as - out of use.

But in the days of yore <sup>when</sup> ~~that~~ Georgia still turned out ~~an~~ uncounted gallons of corn liquor <sup>it</sup> ~~it~~ may even have been used

for a bit of moonshine - a custom not unknown in Georgia. *Anyhow*

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It was a prized possession of the Livsey family, as dear to them as, for example, the little ~~XXXXX~~ brown jug can be.

But now, the family whiskey still goes into the scrap metal campaign, with other junk to be made into guns. And may those guns shoot bullets as powerful as the corn liquor the whiskey still used to produce.

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And Hugh have you a patriotic message for us?

Sarman.

Sept. 18<sup>7</sup>  
1942.