

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1942.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight we have at least a few words of
good cheer to combine with the bad news. It ^{concerns} ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Uncle Sam's Navy, which has been doing some fine work
in the Pacific. It sank two Japanese naval vessels
last week and put out of action four more. That's the
sort of news ^{we like to hear of course,} ~~of which we can use a good deal.~~

The American warships that did the damage
were submarines. ^{and} it's a relief to have ~~that~~ concrete
^{evidence} ~~proof~~ ^{own} that our under-water boats are ~~quite~~ as deadly
as those of the enemy.

The Japanese men-o-war sunk by our torpedoes
were one heavy destroyer - a destroyer leader, ^{it is} ~~as they~~
~~are~~ called - and a large naval tanker.

U. S. submarines also torpedoed and landed two hits on a Japanese aircraft carrier; and a Jap cruiser was put out of action. And -- two more cruisers were put out of action with one torpedo each.

Well, that makes the fourth Japanese aircraft carrier the U. S. forces have bagged.

It is believed that all this happened when a flötilla of our submarines intercepted a surprise fleet of the Japanese somewhere in the southwest Pacific.

Anyhow, this seems to be the biggest naval news since the attack on the Marshall and Gilbert Islands.

PHILIPPINES FOLLOW LEAD

As you may have heard earlier in the day the amazing resistance of General MacArthur and his men has brought about a shake-up in the Japanese high command. Lieutenant-General Yamashita the Jap who took Singapore, is now the Mikado's Number One man in the Philippines. He replaces Lieutenant-General Homma, who evidently is in disgrace because he failed to exterminate or capture MacArthur.

The story also said that General Homma who had been in command against McArthur, committed what the Japanese call "the happy dispatch," hari-kari. The Japanese are wont to boast that their generals, if unsuccessful, are never taken prisoner, and that when one fails, he is expected to kill himself.

General Yamashita has established his headquarters on the San Fernando River in central Pampanga, the province next door to Batan.

JAVA FOLLOW PHILIPPINES

news not so good! -

Now for ~~the bad news~~; the Japanese tonight

have Rangoon and south Burma; most of Java; and, a

strong beachhead in New Guinea. Actually, Rangoon

has been in their hands ever since noon on Saturday,

when the British withdrew. The invaders didn't get

much, just a heap of smoldering ruins blanketed by a

pall of smoke. It was really a dead city that fell

to the victorious invaders.

Characteristically enough, the British

now have ^{a new} ~~a~~ Commander-in-Chief on the Burma front.

General Harold R.L.G. Alexander is in command. But

the evacuation of the British troops was announced

from the headquarters of General Wavell, who still is

the supreme Commander in that part of the world.

The Japanese radio broadcast a story that

Rangoon had fallen after a hard battle at Pegu,

where the Japanese ~~had~~ ^{claimed to have} surrounded four thousand

Australian and Indian troops. But there is no confirmation of that.

The British report again that one of their chief difficulties has been coping with Japanese who filtered through the lines dressed like Burmese or Indians. The same tactics that enabled the Japanese to move so fast in Malaya. It seems that the British are as unable to distinguish a Japanese from a Burman as from a Malayan. And they all do look much alike to us.

With Rangoon definitely in enemy hands, the threat to India becomes more sinister every day. There is one report in London tonight that Churchill is about to send Sir Stafford Cripps to India, to offer complete political freedom to the people of India if they will back the British in fighting the Japanese.

Just how complete is the Japanese conquest of Java, we still do not know. All the radio stations of the Axis countries have been blaring out the

claims that the Dutch have asked for an armistice. Another version had it that they had surrendered unconditionally and the Tokyo high command claimed to have taken prisoner ninety-three thousand Dutch soldiers, as well as five thousand Americans and Australians. But the Dutch themselves say this is false.

Netherlands officials ^{who} have arrived in Australia include Lieutenant-Governor General Van Mook, who admitted that the Japanese have taken Bandoeng, the temporary capital. But he said there had been no surrender, that the armies of the United Nations are still fighting on.

Nevertheless, the Japanese persisted that they hold all of the vast and rich and teeming Dutch Indies.

~~Admitting that the claim is premature, they~~
All of which has
~~have gone far enough in the conquest of Java to~~

^darouse the Australians to a sense of imminent danger.

Gov.
^rVan Mook uttered the warning that there will probably
be a strong Japanese attack on Port Darwin and the
air base at Broome in northern Australia. He did not,
however, believe that they would try to invade
Australia on a large scale; *not just* ~~at any rate not~~ now.

TP Most ~~of the~~ observers believe that the next major
Japanese attack will be on India, *and* [^]that there will be
an attempt to join forces with Hitler. If that were
successful, it would shut the United States and
Britain off from many essential raw materials.

of Java
Van Mook [^]uttered one word of warning which
he hoped would find an echo from these shores. "I hope,"
he said, "Australia will get timely support." What
said,
happened in Java, he ~~points out~~ [^]is the consequence of

the collapse of the air arm of the United Nations.

have been
The Australians ^{have been} battered at the Japanese

beachheads on the north coast of New Guinea with

heavy bombing raids, but the Japanese are still there.

And They are now ~~xxxxxx~~ within easy raiding distance of
Australia.

FRANCE

An ominous report reaches us tonight in a round-about way. It says that Petain has turned over a number of French warships to Hitler. The rumor comes from Cairo. The Soviet Tass agency communicated it to Moscow, and the Moscow radio broadcast it. The story went into considerable detail, saying that about forty French warships of various classes had been handed over, ships that were not finished at the time when Petain surrendered to Hitler. Among these the ~~CLEMENCEAU~~
x CLEMENCEAU, a powerful battleship. Also, one cruiser and many submarines.

RUSSIA

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In Russia, the Red Armies are again pushing the Nazis back ~~on~~ the central front. ^{divisions} Hitler's ~~men~~ are resisting stubbornly, ^{we are told --} ~~they say~~ fighting every inch of the way. In one town, ~~whose~~ name is not given, the Red soldiers are having a house-to-house fight for possession of the place.

The number of Nazi troops ~~that are~~ trapped and surrounded at Staraya Russa has now grown in the reports to two hundred and fifty thousand. ^{And,} In the battle for Sychevka, an important railroad junction, ~~point halfway between Vyazma and Rzhev,~~ the Soviet report claims to have wiped out ^{Hitler's} ~~the~~ Forty-Eighth Infantry division, ~~almost completely.~~

Still more interesting is a story from Moscow, showing that the Reds are preparing most systematically for the expected Nazi drive in the Spring. They have removed numerous factories from the country near the

fighting front - taken them all the way to Tashkent, two thousand miles east of Moscow - in the depths of central Asia. Tashkent in fact is the capital of far off Uzbekistan, the region we used to call Turkestan.

The Soviet geologists have been nosing around in the mountains there and they say they have discovered tremendously valuable deposits of iron ore and other metals. The Russians are building a hydro-electric power plant at Tashkent, and there will soon be great blast furnaces going full blast in remote Turkestan.

ANKARA

Six Russians are under arrest in the capital of Turkey, some of them employees of the ^{Soviet} Consulate.

^{insists it}
But - the Turkish Government is not looking for

^{It} ^{all this is} trouble with the Soviets. ~~It's all~~ a result of that

supposed plot to kill von Papen, ^{Hitler's high} ~~the Nazi Ambassador~~ ^{fan nighler} and high pressure ambassador. He was not hurt, having been some distance away from

^{It} the bomb when it exploded. The ~~Tur~~ Turkish Government made

it clear that the Soviet Embassy at Ankara is no no

way implicated, ^{and that} ~~as a matter of fact~~ the Soviet

Ambassador has disavowed the suspects who are being held in prison.

All the same, there are disturbing rumors from ^{the Turkish} the land of the Turks. It is reported that ^{Foreign}

Minister, ~~Saracoglu~~, who is known to be a pro-Nazi,

is to meet Hitler's Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop

as well as Count Ciano and ^{chart plans for} ~~work up a~~ closer friendship

with the Axis. ~~These reports are denied and even ridiculed at Ankara, but they persist.~~

MEXICO

54 The Mexican Government announces that all Germans and Italians in the State of Sonora, just south of Arizona, must leave and report to a concentration camp at Guadalajara in the south. The Japanese in Sonora have already been moved out. Even those who become Mexican citizens have to move.

CARIBBEAN

Many people have cherished highly romantic ideas about the West Indies, and the islands that dot the Caribbean Sea. The average idea of life there is of an island paradise, inhabited mostly by rich planters who pass their days enjoying long cool drinks brought to them by competent and grateful servants.

The truth, of course, is quite different. For many decades ugly and difficult problems have grown up and increased in the romantic isles of the Caribbean and the West Indies -- economic problems, and social problems, that nobody has been able to solve. The Duke of Windsor, for example, has been working strenuously on such problems in the Bahamas where he is Governor.

With the advent of the war, these problems have grown worse. Consequently, today the White House announced that the Governments of the United States and Great Britain have set up a joint commission to study them and to cooperate in dealing with them; a

commission of six; three Americans, and three British. The British Chairman is Sir Frank Stockdale. The Americans on it are Rexford Tugwell, Governor of Puerto Rico, Cort DuBois, chief of the Caribbean office in the State Department, and Charles Taussig, President of the American Molasses Company.

The problems they'll have to tackle include such questions as labor, agriculture, housing, health, education, social welfare, and so on.

PRODUCTION

We are still not producing war munitions and supplies as quickly as our enemies. After all that has been said and written, that is a startling statement.

^{But}
^ it comes from a committee of Congressmen, the committee investigating defense migration. ^{TP} Our domestic front

for the battle of production has not yet been properly organized, says the committee. ^{Moreover} ^ The defeats that have

been sustained by our armed forces are traceable to our inability thus far to comprehend the nature and scope of modern warfare and the length to which our enemies

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have gone to prepare themselves. ^{TP} We have not yet begun to equal the output of our enemies, ^{says this Congressional} ~~the~~ committee, ~~adds~~.

^{it adds that}
^ And we won't achieve the goals laid down by President Roosevelt if something isn't done to unify procurement.

The committee says further that not only our people but some of our leaders have the grossly mistaken idea

that to appropriate is to produce. And there is also the belief that production can be brought to the necessary pitch by just shuffling around the ^{men of the} various production agencies. The committee report uses these words:- "The latest executive order has not changed that situation fundamentally, it has merely juggled the weight of authority." ^{Meaning} ~~That means~~ the executive order putting Donald Nelson at the head of the new War Production Board. Authority over procurement operations continues to be divided and outwardly suffers in consequence.

And now for something more on that subject: —

EDITORIAL

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Last week the New York World Telegram and other papers across this continent published an editorial article entitled WAKE UP AMERICA, IT'S LATE. The response to it was so great that it was today reprinted in full. Strong stuff, it is, too. For instance, take these sentences:-

"This nation needs to appreciate how badly we have been defeated in these three months. It needs to understand that it is possible for the United Nations and the United States to lose this war and suffer the fate of France. It needs to get away once and for all from the comforting feeling that, while we may lose at the start, we are bound to win in the end."

Then the editorial goes on to say that the only way to avoid defeat is on a basis of production twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week."

Will we do it? Can we do it? It answers

the questions in these words:

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"Not while there is greater concern ~~of~~ *about* overtime payment than overtime production. Not while farmer politicians are more interested in higher prices than raising more essentials. Not while government bureaus -- created to meet a depression emergency that is ended -- continue to grab for themselves money needed for armaments. Not while an army of Federal press agents clamors to promote and perpetuate activities that have no present need or value."

Such is part of the message of that powerful and much talked of editorial which is reprinted far and wide today.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

There has been a scandal about birth certificates in Connecticut, particularly Bridgeport. Connecticut has a peculiar law that anybody can obtain a birth certificate in the Nutmeg State if he just brings two ~~xxx~~ witnesses who will swear that he was born there.

5872 A New York newspaper investigated and brought to light the fact that something like five hundred of those birth certificates have been issued in the last few months in such circumstances at Bridgeport alone.

The reason was that there are a lot of munitions plants in and around Bridgeport and to get a job in one of them it is necessary to have an American birth certificate.

All this came to a head today when three arrests were made. The Bridgeport authorities, instead of *arresting the alleged operators of* ~~running down~~ the so-called birth certificate mill, swore out warrants for the newspapermen who dug ^{up} the scandal! ~~up~~

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BIRTH CERTIFICATE - 2

In order to expose the scandal, one of the newspapermen procured a phoney birth certificate for himself, he being a native of New Jersey. The police arrested the two men who testified that he was born in Connecticut, ^{ing the reporter} ~~and thus helped him to~~ procure the phoney certificate.

Now something a little
less complicated from
9 1/2 Hugh.