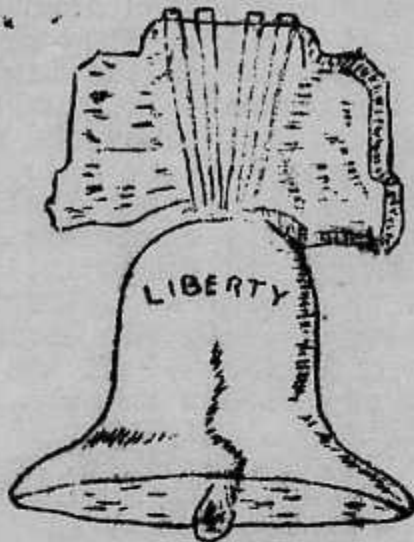


PHILADELPHIAN



RADIO PRESS NEWS

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Copied by:
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Naples, Italy

MONDAY

15 May, 1944

LUFWAFFE'S NAPLES RAID MAKES LITTLE NEWS:

The only mention made of the early Sunday morning Lufwaffe raid on Naples in today's Allied air communique for Italy was, "Early Sunday morning, a score of enemy planes staged a raid on Naples. Beaufighters accounted for three of them."

Well north of the Italian battlefields right, toward the German frontier, General Eaker's bombers are keeping up their round the clock bombings of Kesselring's vital rail links. Allied attacks continued all through Saturday and into the night against rail communications of Central and Northern Italy. In the day and a night Allied assault, the most northerly target was Brenner Pass, a daylight objective of Flying Fortresses. They attacked the Avisio viaduct, which carried the line over Avisio, a tributary of the Adige, thirty miles south of Bolzano.

Several hits were scored and a preliminary examination indicates that seventy feet of the viaduct were blown up, effectively blocking all through rail traffic over the pass. Brenner is the main channel for the flow of supplies from Germany to Italy. Another vital road and rail bridge further south across the tributary of the Targo River, on the line from Spezia to Parma, was severely bombed in a lowlevel attack by Wellingtons. The bombers came down to threehundred feet and hit their target with fourthousand pound blockbusters. Over the battlefield, Mustangs and Kittyhawks attacked gun positions and Spitfires have been playing their part in the general plan of the campaign. Late Saturday evening, they intercepted six R-boats - moderate sized troop carriers - filled with troops and supplies a half mile off the coast some distance from Genoa. Straying

ALLIED OFFENSIVE IN ITALY ROLLS ON:

ALLIED ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS, ITALY --- The first dents have been punched in the Gustav Line by General Alexander's armies. Attacking from the front, the center of the Liri Valley in the face of the strongest possible German defenses, British and Indian troops have pushed forward a mile. From their narrow four-mile long bridgehead on the west bank of the Rapido River, they have reached the village of Panaccioni. French troops of the Fifth Army thrusting steadily forward across the mountains in the upper Garigliano sector have captured Monte Majo, which gives them dominating observation over the Ausente Valley. The French have also wrested from the stubbornly resisting Germans of the 71st Division at least five more hill features. To the French have also fallen three towns including Castelforte, which has been the principal German stronghold in the Garigliano area. They captured about two hundred prisoners. On the left flank of the French, American troops are locked in bitter fighting with the German 94th infantry division. Fighting is in progress in the township of Santa Maria Infante, and the nearby town of Tame, which has changed hands three times in a few hours. Tame was captured early on Friday shortly after the offensive opened, but was retaken by the Germans. In the daylight the Americans threw them out again. American tanks are operating throughout the Garigliano sector. Some went into Castelforte with French troops.

Solacciano ridge, south of Santa Maria, is now firmly held by Americans and from it they launched an attack yesterday morning towards Cave Dargillo. This objective is a mile long road running north through the Austeni Valley. Some of the fiercest fighting on the whole battle line is in progress above Cassino. Here, Cassino hardened German parachutists have thrown in at least five rapid counter attacks against Eighth Army men holding the ridge. This mountain battle is proceeding well west of Cassino - about halfway towards Piedimonte, which is reputed to be the upper anchor of Adolf Hitler's line. But, it is at least a mile and a half north of the Rome road and thus far it offers no immediate threat of cutting off the Cassino garrison. German resistance from the main Gustav line continues to be strong. Progress here is slow and torturous with barbed wire and minefields as increasing hazards - cunningly sited artillery, machineguns and mortars are numerous here. Tanks and self propelled guns were rushed across the Rapido in the early hours of the assault and are in action trying to force a breakthrough into the valley. German infantry and selfpropelled guns have made determined counter-attacks from strongholds in the Gustav line in an attempt to drive the Allies back to the Rapido. Fighting has been extremely fierce and casualties are likely to have been severe in this "hammer and tough" battle in the opening at the mouth of the valley. In Saturday's first armored actions, the Germans were driven back every time to these lines and a number of their selfpropelled guns and tanks were knocked out. Italian sappers built two of the bridges across, which armor and material is streaming into the bridgehead. Boats are still being used to help speed the flow of men and material. Along the bridged sector below Cassino, the Rapido is fast-flowing and unfordable. It is between three and nine feet deep, with banks between two and nine feet high and varies in width between forty and ninety feet.

Friday afternoon, Eighth Army men had pushed across a road which runs parallel to the river below San Angelo and the bridgehead is steadily being widened. Indian troops have occupied parts of San Angelo township and elsewhere mopping up of small enemy parties continued throughout yesterday.

(continued)

Some Germans hid "Cassino fashion" in cellars and tunnels and had to be taken out by street fighting squads with small arms fire and hand grenades. In Castelforte, which fell on Friday night, the French took eighty-eight prisoners. Other towns taken by the French yesterday were Cerasola and Firaferano - the latter with one hundred prisoners. German units again counterattacking at Monte Fauto, ran into artillery fire laid down in preparation for an attack on Monte Feuci, which fell together with Monte Crisano to the west of Fauto by 1100 Hours yesterday (Saturday) morning. The most important of the French victories, was the capture of lofty Monte Majo - which was accomplished in ninety minutes.

ACTIVITY SEEMS LIGHT IN PACIFIC:

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC --- Today's General MacArthur communique says: Penfoci and Boeroe have been bombed heavily and many fires started. Damage was done to a aerodrome on Namlea, from which fires were visible for sixty miles. In the northeastern sector, including Dutch New Guinea and the Schouten Islands, aerial activity was maintained. In Holla ndia - Aitaipe area, patrols are mopping up many Japanese base supply troops, who fled inland in the face of our landings, which killed a further 101 of the enemy and captured 30, bringing the total Japanese casualties to 2,070, comprising 355 captured and the remainder killed.

RUSSIAN EASTERN FRONT APPROACHES CRUCIAL PHASE:

The possible shortage of tanks is threatening German troops as the Eastern Front approaches it's most crucial phase. While the Soviet press continued on it's note of steady confidence and declared "we have no doubt about fierce battles that are in store" - reports from the front today indicated that the Germans are showing increasing caution in their use of armor. German generals have been forced radically to revise these tactics in face of these huge tank losses during the recent retreat. Before throwing any considerable armored force into battle they try by every possible strategy to discover the nature and hiding of Soviet anti-tank defenses. German heavy tanks appear nightly and open fire from a long distance trying to tempt the Soviet gunners into retaliation while small groups of light tanks come racing to close the range and blaze away with a similar objective. The Russian reply is always to direct concealed fire in such a way as to lead the Germans into the most disadvantageous position for them. The success of these tactics can be judged by the fact that one Soviet artillery unit with twelve guns recently destroyed thirtyfive German tanks in eight minutes, an average of four to five shells being required to put each tank out of action.

NEW ALLIED OFFENSIVE IN ASIA:

KANDY, CEYLON --- A new Allied offensive has been launched against the North Buran Japanese bases at Kanning, Mogaung and Myitkyina. Chinese forces which stormed a two mile front with tanks, dive bombers and artillery, were successful, Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Headquarters announced today.

AIR OFFENSIVE DECLARED "PRE-INVASION" PREPARATIONS:

MAJOR LEAGUE PERCENTAGES

National League-

| | | | |
|-----------|----|----|-----|
| Cardinals | 15 | 6 | 714 |
| Blue Jays | 12 | 6 | 637 |
| Reds | 11 | 8 | 578 |
| Giants | 10 | 11 | 476 |
| Dodgers | 9 | 10 | 473 |
| Pirates | 8 | 9 | 470 |
| Braves | 10 | 12 | 454 |
| Cubs | 2 | 15 | 117 |

American League-

| | | | |
|-----------|----|----|-----|
| Yankees | 11 | 6 | 647 |
| Browns | 14 | 8 | 636 |
| Senators | 10 | 8 | 556 |
| Red Sox | 10 | 10 | 500 |
| Indians | 10 | 11 | 455 |
| Athletics | 8 | 11 | 421 |
| White Sox | 7 | 11 | 389 |
| Tigers | 7 | 14 | 333 |

Note: By games the Browns lead the Yankees by 1/2 game, although the Yanks have the edge by percentage.

FRIDAY BASEBALL(night games)

AMERICAN LEAGUE --- The St. Looney Browns "did it again" Friday night as they won over the Washington Senators, 6 to 4. The Browns opened the first half of the first frame in the Senators home park by blasting "the old apple" to score five runs. The Senators were able to score only one tally in their half of that frame. The Browns scored their other tally in the sixth, as Washington scored one run in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings. St. Louis out hit the Senators, 15 to 10, while the Browns had one error to Washington's one. Muncie and Mancuso comprised the battery for the Browns. Wynn started for the Senators, but was driven out by the Brown's mighty barrage in the first frame and was replaced by Candini who lasted till the eighth when Carrasquel took over duties on the mound - and completed the game. Guerra was behind the plate for the Senators.

The Philadelphia A's were able to "pull the trick" as they downed the Chicago White Sox, 4 to 2, in a game staged in their home park. The White Sox scored their two runs in the second, as the Mack-men scored once in the second, once in the fourth and twice in the eighth. The White Sox had five hits and played errorless ball, while the Athletics had four hits and made one mistake.

NATIONAL LEAGUE --- The Cards outplayed the Dodgers at their home park to win, 7 to 2. The St. Louis boys had ten hits with one error, while the Dodgers had seven hits with three mistakes. Lanier and J. Cooper comprised the battery for the Cardinals. Gregg was on the mound till the eighth when Webber took over for the Dodgers. Webber lasted only part of the eighth and was replaced by Ostermueller who completed the game, and Owen was behind the plate.

SATURDAY'S BASEBALL:

The Giants won over the Reds in a game played at Cincinnati, 7 to 4, as Weintraub got a homer for the Giants. New York had nine hits with two mistakes, while the Reds had 13 hits with the same number of mistakes. Adams started for the Giants and lasted till the the Reds' sixth inning rally when they scored three runs. Elashpolli then took over and completed the game - Lombardi was behind the plate. Ferguson started for the Reds and lasted till Salloy took over duties on the mound in the fourth. Salloy couldn't withstand the Reds'

At Pittsburgh Saturday, the Braves won over the Pirates, 16 to 2, as they racked-up 23 hits while making two errors. The Pirates not their two runs from four hits with two errors. Barrett pitched and Hofferth caught for the Braves. Rescigno started, Gee took over in the first, Wise, in the ninth, was on the mound for the Pirates, and Lopez caught.

St. Louis won over the Dodgers, 8 to 2, in a game played at home. The Cardinals got their eight runs from twelve hits with one error, while the Dodgers got their four runs from nine hits with three mistakes. Melton was on the mound and Owen behind the plate for the Dodgers, while Breccchen pitched and W. Cooper caught for the Cardinals.

The Philadelphia Blue Jays out played the "cellar dwelling" Chicago Cubs to win, 6 to 2. The Jays amassed nine hits with one error, while the "windy city" boys had seven hits and seven errors. Lee was on the mound and Finley was behind the plate for the "second place" Blue Jays the entire distance. Wyse pitched for the Cubs till the sixth when Flemming took over and completed the game.

AMERICAN LEAGUE --- The Yankees won over the Cleveland Indians in a game staged at home, 5 to 1. Cleveland scored their lone run in the seventh inning - and the Yanks scored two runs in the fifth and three in the sixth for their total of five tallies. The Indians had five hits with one error, while the New Yorkers had seven bingos and played perfect ball. Kleine was on the mound and Rosar did the catching for the Indians. Page did the pitching and Hemsley was behind the plate for the Yankees.

The Detroit Tigers were defeated Saturday by the "fourth place" Boston Red Sox, 4 to 2. The Tigers score one tally in the first frame plus one run in the sixth frame for their total of two runs from eight hits with no errors. The Boston Red Sox scored three of their four runs in the fourth inning and their other tally in the sixth frame, while getting eleven hits with one error. Gentry was on the mound for the Tigers till the eighth when Mooty took over the duties on the mound. Swift was behind the plate during the entire game for the Tigers. O'Neil was on the mound and Partee caught for the winning Boston Red Sox throughout the entire game.

In a game staged at Philadelphia, the Philadelphia A's smothered the league leading (by games) St. Louis Browns, 8 to 3. The Athletics got their total of eight runs from an amassed total of eighteen hits with three errors. The Browns got their three tallies from five hits with one mistake. The Browns scored once in the second frame, twice in the sixth frame, while the Philadelphia Athletics score once in the third inning, twice in the fourth, twice in the fifth, twice in the sixth, plus once in the seventh, for their over powering victory over the "strong" St. Louis Browns. Garrison pounded a night blow over the fence for a circuit bagger for the Athletics, for his second homer in as many games. Hollingsworth was on the mound for the Browns till the fifth when he was replaced by Jakueki, who didn't do any better, and was replaced by Zolfak in the sixth. Zolfak pitched the remaining innings, and Mancuso caught all the way. Black was on the mound and Hayes did the catching for the

NEW HOLLYWOOD PICTURES:

Jimmy Cagney's next movie is planned to be named, "a Story of Jap Military Ambitions." Jimmy's brother, William, bought the film rights for the picture. Bing Crosby, crooner of long standing in the Hollywood film colony, and Betty Hutton, hilarious comedian of the screen, will co-star in a new picture, to be entitled "Here Comes the WAVES."

TRAINS FOR SERVICE MEN:

Toy trains are being used for study by a parachute battalion at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. The troops asked for the toy trains to use in classes on railroad transportation problems. The soldiers were able to procure the toys by making an appeal through the newspapers. The battalion promised to return the toy trains "long before Christmas."

DIES MAY QUIT:

The decision of Chairman Martin Dies to retire from Congress will not affect the operations of the committee for the rest of the session, it was stated yesterday. Representative Thomas, Ranking Republican of the group, which is known officially as the Special Committee to Investigate Un-American activities said, Dies' decision not to seek reelection "should not be misunderstood, it will not change the functions of the committee for the remaining tenure of office, which expires next January 3rd."

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SHIP'S NEWS

| Time | Station | Channel |
|------|-----------|---------|
| 0630 | BBC | One |
| 0700 | BBC | One |
| 0800 | BBC | One |
| 0900 | BBC | One |
| 1000 | BBC | One |
| 1100 | BBC | One |
| 1200 | BBC | One |
| 1300 | BBC | One |
| 1400 | BBC | One |
| 1500 | BBC | One |
| 1600 | BBC | One |
| 1700 | BBC | One |
| 1800 | BBC | One |
| 1830 | SOUND OFF | Two |
| 1845 | SOUND OFF | Two |
| 1900 | BBC | One |
| 1915 | DOWNBEAT | Two |
| 1930 | DOWNBEAT | Two |
| 2000 | BBC | One |
| 2100 | BBC | One |
| 2200 | BBC | One |