

WORLD NEWS 1939-1944

Badoglio Letter Is Captain's Souvenir

By HAL BOYLE AN AMERICAN AIR BASE IN ITALY, Dec. 20—(Delayed)—(AP)—As the favorite souvenir of the Italian campaign, Capt. Harold E. Levitt of Los Angeles, Calif., has mailed home a handwritten letter of commendation from Marshal Pietro Badoglio, Chief of the Italian Government.

In this work it was necessary to move many Italian families to other locations. Badoglio wrote to the Allied Control Commission that Capt. Levitt "displayed extreme tact, courtesy and consideration in the handling of the civilian population."

"Such officers engender goodwill between our peoples and reflect credit upon your service," the Marshal wrote.

"I registered the letter in which I mailed his commendation home for \$250," said the pilot. "It had Gen. Duclotte's signature on it. I had insured it for \$1,000."

No glamour girl is "The Sophisticated Lady" despite her glamorous title, she is a pilot-tailed B-25 Mitchell bomber, one of the work horses of the medium

See REPORTER'S on page 4

Nazi War Machine Appears Falling Apart In Russia

MOSCOW—(AP)—The German High Command appeared to have lost control of its forces, at least temporarily, on the Russian front in the blackest period for the Nazis since their invasion of the Soviet Union. It is as apparent as the face on the Kremlin clock that Hitler or his generals or both, have guessed wrong again—have been outwitted by the Red Army General Staff and have made one of their greatest blunders of the war.

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Aim To Push Out Of Red Territory

LONDON—(AP)—The Red Army has broken the defenses of Zhitomir, a major prize of the Nazis' disastrous autumn offensive, Moscow announced tonight.

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Allies To Shift Strength: Japan Faces 1944 Attack

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Admiral Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the fleet, said today that plans are ready for shifting some of the United States into the war against Japan, probably sometime in 1944.

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New British Air Attack May Have Doomed City

By W. W. HERCHER LONDON—(AP)—RAF heavy bombers left great fires raging in Berlin again last night in a concentrated, 2,240-ton assault, and today great fleets of American heavy bombers and American and RAF medium bombers thundered to these trip-hammer blows.

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Slavs Strike Into Italy

LONDON—(AP)—Yugoslav Partisans, boldly striking 25 miles into northern Italy, have destroyed a German transport column near Gorizia, on the railway extending southward to the Adriatic port of Trieste, Marshal Josip Broz (Tito) announced today.

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Britain & Germany Claim Naval Victory

LONDON—(AP)—Both Britain and Germany today claimed an important naval victory from the Bay of Biscay in which British warships engaged a Nazi flotilla of eleven destroyers.

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Spain Denies Duce Report

MADRID—(AP)—Authorized Spanish sources denied today that Spain has recognized Benito Mussolini's new Fascist Government in Italy as claimed Tuesday in a Berlin broadcast.

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8th Moves Mile In Pescara Drive

By RICHARD G. MASSOCK ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGIERS—(AP)—Eighth Army troops have pressed a mile up the Adriatic coast from Ortona toward Pescara over a heavily-mined road.

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Ban Western Coal Orders

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Interior Secretary Ickes announced today that the hard coal shortage in the East is so severe that no more hard coal will be shipped west of the Ohio-Pennsylvania boundary until April 1.

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Jap People Living Harder

NEW YORK—(AP)—The Tokyo radio, in a review of changes which 1943 brought to Japan, said today they include the figure of the young girls of Japan who are now garbed in mumpsy kind of black and white instead of the traditional kimono.

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Clark Seen In Line For Field Commander

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE LONDON—(AP)—The pathfinding of Allied military leaders in London today formed a picture of a man directing the invasion of Western Europe may begin here, and the message came in the form of a put into final form.

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Tavern Manager Shot To Death

BUFFALO, N. Y.—(AP)—Whitcomb furnished police today with a list of names of those who were in a tavern manager to death, critically wounded a patron and killed another.

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Bulletin Allied Leapfrog Landing Reported

LONDON—(AP)—DVB in a Berlin broadcast today said the Allies had made a leapfrog landing on the Italian coast near the town of Pescara.

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Soldier Joins In Search For Son

BRADENTON, Fla.—(AP)—Sgt. James P. Davis, who went here by plane, bus and jeep from Camp Keesler, Miss., joined today in the search for his three-year-old son, Ronnie, who has been missing three days.

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Casualties Low On New Britain

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Casualties in American troops in the New Britain campaign have been low, it was reported today.

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Gen. Marshall 'Man of Year'

NEW YORK—(AP)—Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the United States Army, was named "man of the year" by Time magazine today.

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