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of New Orleans: "Says Chinese Army Learning"

New Orleans Item

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1944

## Says Chinese Army Learning

The Chinese army has been a great educational influence in China, and in recent years has abolished illiteracy in the ranks and has taught soldiers and civilians alike the democratic principles for which they are fighting, Miss Agnes Smedley, war correspondent, author and lecturer, said here today.

Miss Smedley, who is on a speaking tour of the country, spent 12 years in China, returning to this country before Pearl Harbor, because of illness. For four years she served a special correspondent for the English Manchester Guardian with the armies in the war zones.

"In spite of the bitter and hard life they are leading and the fact that many are hungry and cold and the armies have inadequate ammunition, morale is high, and the armies will not surrender," she said. Much of this feeling is due to the fact that in the best armies the soldiers have been given the education which clarified to them the ideals for which they fight.

Miss Smedley will speak at 5 p. m. today at a special Naval as-

sembly of Tulane student in McAlister auditorium. Tomorrow at 10:30 a. m., she will speak to Newcomb college students at Dixon hall under the auspices of the Newcomb student lecture committee. Saturday, she will be entertained at a reception at the Basement Book Shop on Zimple St. She is the author of "Daughter of the Earth," her autobiography which has been published in 13 languages, and "The Battle Hymn of China."