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FRANCE:

BRITISH SECOND ARMY TROOPS IN A NEW SMALL SCALE OFFENSIVE HAVE CAPTURED THE SMALL DUTCH TOWN OF OBERLOON AND HAVE PUSHED ON PAST THE TOWN. THE DRIVE WAS MADE ON A FRONT OF ABOUT TWO MILES. THE GERMANS ARE FIGHTING BACK STUBBORNLY AND ARE USING TANKS IN AN EFFORT TO CHECK THE BRITISH. BOTH THE ALLIED AND THE GERMAN TROOPS FIGHTING IN THE SCHELDT POCKET HAVE BEEN REINFORCED. THE GERMANS WERE REINFORCED BY PARATROOPERS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CANADIAN TROOPS HAVE BEEN REINFORCED BY TROOPS WHO LANDED AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE POCKET. THE GERMANS ARE FIGHTING FIERCELY TO HOLD THEIR POSITIONS BUT THEY ARE SLOWLY BEING PRESSED BACK. YESTERDAY, LARGE NUMBERS OF RAF FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS FLEW IN SUPPORT OF THE ALLIED TROOPS BATTLING IN THE POCKET AND RAF HEAVIES RAINED 1000 POUND BOMBS ON GERMAN GUN EMPLACEMENTS. CANADIAN TROOPS HAVE ENLARGED THEIR BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE LEOPOLD CANAL.

IT APPEARS THAT THE GERMANS HOLDING OUT IN THE CITY OF AACHEN WILL FIGHT TO THE END. MORE GERMAN ATTEMPTS TO BREAK THROUGH TO THE BELEAGUED GARRISON HAVE BEEN SMASHED AND AMERICAN TROOPS ARE PROBING THE FACTORY AREA OF THE CITY. LAST NIGHT, GERMAN INFANTRY SUPPORTED BY 50 TANKS COUNTERATTACKED NORTH OF AACHEN BUT FIRST ARMY TROOPS THREW THEM BACK. AMERICAN BIG GUNS AND PLANES GAVE THE CITY ANOTHER PASTING YESTERDAY. THE LUFTWAFFE SENT UP 150 FIGHTERS IN A VAIN ATTEMPT TO HOLD OFF THE AMERICAN BOMBERS YESTERDAY BUT 12 NAZI PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN AND THE REST DISPERSED. AMERICAN LOSSES WERE FOUR FIGHTERS. AMERICAN BIG GUNS LOBBED 5000 SHELLS INTO AACHEN DURING THE FIRST DAY OF SHELLING AND EVEN MORE YESTERDAY.

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS HAVE REACHED PARROY ON THE MOSELLE FRONT. STREET FIGHTING IS STILL GOING ON IN MAIZIERES ABOVE METZ. GENERAL EISENHOWER SAID YESTERDAY THAT "WE HAVE A HARD JOB AHEAD BUT VICTORY IS CERTAIN."

RUSSIA:

THE GERMAN RADIO SAID: RUSSIAN TROOPS HAD BEEN LANDED NEAR THE ARTIC PORT OF PET-SAMO AND THAT GERMAN AND RUSSIAN TROOPS WERE ENGAGED IN HEAVY FIGHTING. THE NAZIS SAY THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE TRYING TO STOP THE GERMANS FROM PULLING THEIR TROOPS OUT OF FINLAND.

SOVIET COLUMNS ARE RACING ACROSS THE PLAIN OF HUNGARY TOWARDS BUDAPEST ON A 30 MILE FRONT. RUSSIAN TROOPS HAVE CAPTURED THE BIG RAIL CENTER OF ORADEA-MARE IN TRANSYLVANIA NEAR THE HUNGARIAN BORDER. THE GERMAN AND HUNGARIAN TROOPS CAUGHT IN THE TRANSYLVANIA ALPS ARE ALMOST SURROUNDED AND THE RUSSIANS ARE RAPIDLY CUTTING ALL OF THEIR ESCAPE ROUTES.

RUSSIAN TROOPS HAVE BEATEN OFF MORE DESPERATE GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS NEAR THE NORTHEASTERN BORDER OF EAST PRUSSIA. RED TROOPS HAVE ENTERED THE OUTSKIRTS OF RIGA, THE CAPITAL OF LATVIA. MOSCOW RADIO SAYS THAT RIGA IS BEING HEAVILY SHELLED AND THAT CLOUDS OF SMOKE ARE HANGING OVER THE WHOLE CITY.

ENGLAND:

RAF HEAVY BOMBERS LAST NIGHT HIT HAMBURG AND OTHER TARGETS IN WESTERN GERMANY. THE GERMANS SENT MORE FLYING BOMBS OVER SOUTHERN ENGLAND DURING THE NIGHT.

ITALY:

HEAVY FIGHTING HAS BROKEN OUT ALONG THE WHOLE ALLIED FRONT IN ITALY WITH THE COMING OF BETTER WEATHER. THE EIGHTH ARMY HAS ADVANCED SEVERAL MILES ON THE ADRIATIC SIDE OF ITALY. ALLIED MEDIUM AND HEAVY BOMBERS YESTERDAY HEAVILY ATTACKED GERMAN POSITIONS IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF BOLOGNA. CORRESPONDENTS SAY THAT THE RAID WAS GREATER THAN THE GREAT AIR BLOW STRUCK AT CASSINO. MEDITERRANEAN BASED ALLIED PLANES FLEW MORE THAN 2000 SORTIES YESTERDAY. EIGHTEEN GERMAN PLANES WERE DESTROYED FOR A LOSS OF 20 ALLIED AIRCRAFT.

REPORTS FROM CAIRO SAY THAT GREEK PATRIOTS HAVE LIBERATED ATHENS.

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PACIFIC:

UNITED STATES NAVAL POWER IN THE PACIFIC WAS REVEALED YESTERDAY WHEN TWO LARGE TASK FORCES STRUCK AT POINTS ABOUT A THOUSAND MILES APART.

PERHAPS THE LARGER OF THE TWO FORCES SENT ABOUT 1000 CARRIER BORNE FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS AGAINST THE SOUTHERN PART OF FORMOSA. THE PLANES DESTROYED 221 JAP PLANES IN AERIAL COMBAT AND ON THE GROUND. SIXTEEN JAPANESE SHIPS WERE SUNK AND 19 MORE DAMAGED. NO JAP WARSHIPS WERE FOUND. AMERICAN LOSSES WERE 22 PLANES. NONE OF THE AMERICAN SURFACE SHIPS WERE DAMAGED. THE JAPANESE RADIO SAID THAT THE ATTACK ON THE ISLAND IS GOING ON AGAIN TODAY AND SPOKE OF VIOLENT AIR BATTLE OVER THE ISLAND. IT FURTHER WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE WAR HAS NOW REACHED "A CRITICAL STAGE."

OTHER AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES CARRIED OUT A LARGE SCALE ATTACK ON LUZON, THE MAIN ISLAND IN THE PHILIPPINES. JAPANESE AIRFIELDS AND INSTALLATIONS WERE HEAVILY HIT.

THE AMERICAN BOMBERS THAT HEAVILY BOMBED JAPANESE OIL REFINERIES AT BILIK PAPAN ON DUTCH BORNEO YESTERDAY WERE ESCORTED BY 50 AMERICAN FIGHTERS. THIS IS BELIEVED TO BE THE LONGEST ESCORT MISSION IN HISTORY.



MORE, ICE CREAM?