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#### FRANCE:

THE WHOLE OF BELGIUM IS NOW CLEAR OF THE GERMANS WITH THE SURRENDER OF THE LAST GERMANS SOUTH OF THE SCHELDT-CHANNEL IN THE "SCHELDT ESTUARY". THE LONG HARD FIGHT TO CLEAR THE APPROACHES TO THE PORT OF ANTWERP IS ABOUT OVER. BRITISH ROYAL COM-MANDOS WHO LANDED AT TWO PLACES ON WALCHEREN ISLAND HAVE BEEN REINFORCED BY BAT-TALIONS OF BRITISH INFANTRY AND THE COMBINED ALLIED FORCES ARE MOVING INLAND. IN SAVAGE FIGHTING AT THE WESTERN END OF WALCHEREN ISLAND, CANADIAN TROOPS WERE DRIVEN BACK ON THE SOUTH BEVELAND-WALCHEREN CAUSEWAY BUT THEY FOUGHT THEIR WAY BACK AND ESTABLISHED A BETTER FOOTHOLD THAN BEFORE ON WALCHEREN. THE GERMANS STILL ON THE BIG ISLAND ARE HOPELESSLY TRAPPED AS THEY ARE NOW CUT OFF BY LAND AND SEA BUT THEY ARE STILL RESISTING BITTERLY. TROOPS OF THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY ARE REPORTED TO HOLD A FIVE MILE STRETCH OF THE MAAS RIVER. OTHER TROOPS CLOSING IN ON THE RIVER NOW HOLD TWO BRIDGEHEADS GUARDING THE WAY TO THE RIVER MAAS.

THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY IN ITS NEW ATTACK TO THE SOUTHEAST OF AACHEN GAINED TWO MILES YESTERDAY AND WAS PUSHING ON STILL FURTHER TODAY IN SPITE OF STIFF RESISTANCE.

THE AMERICAN EIGHTH AIR FORCE AND THE RAF TEAMED UP DURING THE DAY AND LAST NIGHT TO DEAL TREMENDOUS BLOWS AT TARGETS IN GERMANY. YESTERDAY MORE THAN 1100 AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS ESCORTED BY ALMOST 1000 MUSTANGS AND THUNDERBOLTS PLAGSTERED TARGETS IN THE REICH. THEIR CHIEF TARGET WAS THE OIL PLANTS AT LEUNA. THE ONCE POWERFUL LUFTWAFFE ROSE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE IN GREAT NUMBERS. MORE THAN 400 GER-MAN FIGHTERS INCLUDING JET PROPELLED PLANES TOOK ON THE MASSIVE AMERICAN BOMBER AND FIGHTER FORMATIONS. IN THE ENSUING AERIAL BATTLE, THE GREATEST OF THE WAR SO FAR, 183 NAZI FIGHTERS WERE DOWNED AND ANOTHER 25 PLANES WERE DESTROYED ON THE GROUND. AMERICAN LOSSES WERE 41 BOMBERS AND 28 FIGHTERS. SOME OF THE FIGHTERS ARE BELIEVED TO BE SAFE. RAF LANCASTERS IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY BOMBED AN OIL PLANT AT HOMBERG. LAST NIGHT MORE THAN 1000 RAF BOMBERS WERE OUT OVER WESTERN GERMANY AND THE GREAT ARMAMENT AND ELECTRICAL CENTER OF DUSSELDORF WAS GIVEN ITS HEAVIEST POUNDING OF THE WAR. MORE THAN 4000 TONS OF BOMBS RAINED DOWN ON THE CITY. RAF MOSQUITOS WENT FOR OSNABRUCK DURING THE NIGHT AND SECOND TACTICAL AIR FORCE MOSQUITOS WERE OVER HOLLAND AND GERMANY SHOOTING UP AND BOMBING RAIL AND MOTOR TRANSPORT. FROM ALL THE NIGHT'S OPERATIONS, 21 PLANES ARE MISSING.

DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER THE RAF DROPPED OVER 50,000 TONS OF BOMBS ON GERMAN TARGETS. DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE UNITED STATES EIGHTH AIR FORCE DROPPED MORE THEN 40,000 TONS.

#### RUSSIA:

TWO POWERFUL RUSSIAN COLUMNS WERE LAST REPORTED TO BE WITHIN 20 MILES OF BUDA-PEST. MOSCOW RADIO SAID TODAY THAT MARSHALL MALINOVSKY'S FORCES SHOULD REACH THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL BY NIGHTFALL TODAY. THE GERMANS REPORT THAT THE PEOPLE IN THE CAPITAL CAN NOW HEAR THE ROAR OF THE BATTLE AND THE NAZIS ARE MAKING THE PEOPLE DIG MORE DEFENSE POSITIONS. THE RUSSIAN STEAMROLLER SWINGING UP THE PLAINS BETWEEN THE DANUBE AND TISZA RIVERS IS MEETING BITTER RESISTANCE BUT STORMOVIKS FLYING BEFORE THE ADVANCING REDS ARE BLASTING GERMAN ARMOR AND RUSSIAN TANKS AND INFANTRYMEN ARE PILING THROUGH THE GAPS IN THE GERMAN LINES. THE SOVIET FORCES HAVE TAKEN 7500 PRISONERS IN THE GREAT BATTLE BETWEEN THE TWO RIVERS. IN NORTHEASTERN HUNGARY, THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN ROUTED IN A BIG BATTLE NEAR THE NORTH-ERN TISZA RIVER.

MARSHALL TITO'S YUGOSLAV PATRIOTS HAVE LIBERATED THE BIG ADRIATIC PORT OF ZARA.

#### ITALY:

FOR THE SECOND TIME IN A WEEK HEAVY RAINS HAVE SLOWED DOWN OPERATIONS IN ITALY. THE BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY WAS LAST REPORTED TO BE CLOSING IN ON FORLI FROM TWO SIDES. GEN. ALEXANDER HAS DISCLOSED THAT THE EQUIVALENT OF 15 GERMAN DIVISIONS HAVE BEEN KNOCKED OUT IN ITALY IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS. ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT, BRITISH DESTROYERS SANK THREE GERMAN DESTROYERS IN THE ADRIATIC.

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PACIFIC:

UNITED STATES TWENTIETH AIR FORCE SUPER FORTRESSES TODAY FLEW FROM THEIR BASES IN INDIA TO ATTACK RANGOON IN SOUTHERN BURMA. THE SUPER FORTS CARRIED THE GREATEST BOMB LOAD EVER CARRIED IN AERIAL WARFARE.

AMERICAN FORCES ON LEYTE ARE CHASING THE JAPS INTO A WEST COAST PORT AND NOW HAVE THE JAPANESE HEMMED IN FROM THREE SIDES. JAPANESE LOSSES HAVE BEEN PUT AT MORE THAN 30,000 SINCE THE AMERICANS LANDED ON LEYTE.

BRITISH FORCES HAVE CLEARED 12 MILES OF THE ROAD BETWEEN TIDDIM AND FORT WHITE. CHINESE TROOPS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE CAPTURED A TOWN ON THE BURMA ROAD.

