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FRANCE:

AMERICAN THIRD AHMY FORCES HAVE DRAWN CLOSER TO THE BIG FORTRESS OF METZ. ONE SPEARHEAD WAS LAST REPORTED ONE AND THREE QUARTERS MILES TO THE SOUTH OF THE CITY WHILE A SECOND FORCE WAS TWO MILES WEST OF THE FORT AND A THIRD FORCE WAS LESS THAN FOUR MILES NORTH OF METZ. GENERAL PATTON'S TROOPS HAVE TAKEN TWO MORE OF THE FORTS GUARDING THE APPROACHES TO THE CITY. GERMAN RESISTANCE CONTINUES TO BE LIGHT AL-THOUGH SOME OF THE ADVANCING YANKS HAVE BEEN SHELLED BY BIG GUNS INSIDE METZ ITSELF. THE GERMANS SAID TODAY THAT CIVILIANS ARE BEING EVACUATED FROM THE CITY.

TO THE NORTH OF METZ, THE AMERICANS HAVE LINKED UP THE BRIDGEHEADS AT THIONVILLE AND KOENIGSMACHER AND THE YANKS NOW HOLD ONE SOLID BRIDGEHEAD A DOZEN MILES WIDE. SOUTH OF THE LORRAINE MILLS AMERICAN AND FRENCH THOOPS ARE EXERTING STEADY PRESSURE ALL THE WAY FROM THE VOSGES MOUNT AINS TO THE SWISS BORDER.

THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY HAS LAUNCHED A NEW ATTACK ON THE RIGHT WING OF THE NET-HERLANDS SALIENT BETWEEN NIJMEGEN AND AACHEN. THE BRITISH FORCES LAUNCHED THEIR ATTACK AT DUSK YESTERDAY AND WERE LAST REPORTED TO HAVE ADVANCED THREE MILES. THE ATTACK WAS LAUNCHED UNDER THE COVER OF A SMOKESCREEN AND THE BRITISH FORCES WERE ACROSS THE FIRST CANAL WATER BARRIER BEFORE THE GERMANS HAD TIME TO COUNTER ATTACK. GERMAN OPPOSITION SO FAR HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS "MODERATE". THE NEW ATTACK IS AIMED AT THE BRIDGEHEAD WEST OF THE MAAS RIVER. THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN USING THIS BRIDGE-HEAD WEST OF THE MARS AS A FIRM BLOCK ON ALLIED MOVEMENTS AS THE ALLIES HAVE TROOPS ACHOSS THE MAAS BOTH TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE NEW ATTACK AND THE ALLIES NEED TO REMOVE THIS WEDGE IN THEIR LINES.

ON SUNDAY, A BRITISH NAVAL FORCE SANK NINE OUT OF ELEVEN SHIPS IN CONVOY OFF THE COAST OF SOUTHERN NORWAY. THE BRITISH SHIPS SUFFERED ONLY LIGHT DAMAGE.

RUSSIA:

RUSSIAN TANKS AND INFANTRY HAVE PUSHED CLOSER TO BUDAPEST FROM THE EAST ACROSS THE MUD-COVERED HUNGARIAN PLAIN. YESTERDAY, THE REDS TOOK ANOTHER 30 PLACES AND ADVANCED TO WITHIN 25 MILES OF THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL. THE GERMANS HAVE THROWN IN FRESH INFANTRY FORCES AND MORE GUNS IN AN ATTEMPT TO CHECK MALINOVSKY'S FORCES.

TO THE SOUTH OF BUDAPEST, THE SOVIETS HAVE DRIVEN THE GERMANS FROM A BRIDGENEAD ACROSS THE LOWER DANUEE RIVER AND THE GERMANS SAID TODAY THAT POWERFUL RUSSIAN FOR CES ARE ATTACKING NEAR THE JUNCTION OF THE DANUES AND DRAVA RIVER IN YUGOSLAVIA NEAR THE SOUTHERN HUNGARIAN BORDER. THE RUSSIANS HAVE TAKEN 8000 GERMAN AND HUNG-ARIAN PRISONERS IN THE PAST WEEK'S FIGHTING IN HUNGARY.

MARSHALL TITO'S YUGOSLAV PARTISANS HAVE LIBERATED SKOPLJE ON THE GERMANS' ESCAPE ROUTE IN MACEDONIA.

NORWEGIAN FORCES THAINED IN BRITAIN ARE NOW OPEHATING WITH THE RUSSIANS ON THE ARTIC FRONT. THE GERMANS ARE STEADILY RETREATING IN FINMARK AT THE TIP OF NORTHERN NO RWAY.

ITALY:

BEITISH EIGHTH ARMY TROOPS HAVE PUSHED ANOTHER TWO MILES UP THE ROAD BETWEEN FORLI AND BOLOGNA AND HAVE MADE A NEW CROSSING OF THE MONTONE RIVER TO THE WEST OF FORLI IN SPITE OF VERY STIFF RESISTANCE.

PACIFIC:

AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES HAVE MADE ANOTHER HEAVY RAID ON THE MANILA BAY AREA OF THE PHILIPPINES AND HAVE SUNK 2 DESTROYERS, 11 TANKERS AND FREIGHTERS AND HAVE SER-IOUSLY DAMAGED A JAP LIGHT CHUISER. IN ADDITION, THE PLANES HIT AIRFIELDS AND DOCK INSTALLATIONS INCLUDING A RAID ON THE GREAT CAVITE NAVAL BASE.

· AMERICAN FORCES ON LEYTE ISLAND ARE DEVELOPING A NEW THREAT TO THE JAP DEFENSE LINE BEFORE OFMOC. ONE COLUMN OF YANKS IS MAKING A FRONTAL ASSAULT ON THE JAP LINE WHILE TWO OTHER COLUMNS ARE MAKING ENVELOPING MOVES ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ORMOC ROAD AMERICAN ARTILLERY IS GIVING THE INFANTRY DIRECT SUPPORT AND IS HEAVILY POUNDING THE CONTINUED CE21 (19:472-61) JAP GUN POSITIONS.

PACIFIC CONTINUED:

THE JAPS HAVE AGAIN TRIED TO REINFORCE THEIR HARD-PRESSED FORCES ON LEYTE BY ATTEMPTING A LANDING WITH BARGES ABOUT 14 MILES DOWN THE COAST FROM THE PORT OF ORMOC BUT THE AMERICANS REPULSED THE LANDING ATTEMPT.

CHINESE TROOPS IN NORTHEASTERN BURMA ARE WITHIN FOUL MILES OF THE JAP FORWARD BASE OF BHAMO. THE FIFTH INDIAN DIVISION HAS JOINED UP WITH A FORCE OF EAST AF-RICAN TROOPS AND THE COMBINED FORCE IS CLOSING IN ON THE JAP SUPPLY BASE OF KAL-EMTO.

