



VOLUME IV NO. 18

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*Signal Co.*

FRANCE:

GENERAL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY TROOPS BEGAN AN ASSAULT AGAINST METZ THIS MORNING AND ONE COLUMN OF TROOPS HAS BROKEN INTO THE SOUTHERN OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY AND HEAVY FIGHTING IS GOING ON AROUND A GERMAN AIRFIELD THERE. THIRD ARMY PATROLS LAST NIGHT PENETRATED DEEP INTO THE CITY FROM THE NORTH AND SOUTH. NAZI PRISONERS SAY THAT NAZI OFFICIALS AND CIVILIANS HAVE LEFT THE CITY. AMERICAN ARTILLERY IS HEAVILY SHELLING ALL OF THE RAIL LINES AND ROADS THAT ARE NOT ALREADY CUT THAT LEAD OUT OF THE CITY INTO GERMANY. THE AMERICANS ALMOST HAVE THE CITY ENCIRCLED NOW. NORTH OF METZ, YANK TANKS AND INFANTRY HAVE BATTERED THEIR WAY INTO THE TOWN OF BOUZONVILLE, ONE MILE FROM THE GERMAN BORDER. PATROLS WERE OPERATING IN GERMANY LAST NIGHT.

THE AMERICAN FIRST AND NINTH ARMIES ARE NOW MEETING BITTER OPPOSITION TO THE EAST OF AACHEN. THE FIRST ARMY HAS GAINED ANOTHER MILE DOWN THE MAIN RAIL LINE BETWEEN AACHEN AND COLOGNE AND WAS LAST REPORTED SIX MILES FROM THE COMMUNICATION TOWN OF DUREN. THE NINTH ARMY HAS NOT MENTIONED ANY GAINS DURING THE DAY. THE GERMANS SAY THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE LAUNCHED A BIG ARMOR AND INFANTRY ATTACK HEAVILY SUPPORTED BY ARTILLERY EAST OF AACHEN AND IN THE HUTGEN FOREST. THE TOWNS OF STOLBERG AND GRESSENICH ARE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THE FIRST ARMY.

THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY HAS BEGUN ITS FINAL ASSAULT TO CLEAR THE GERMANS FROM THE WESTERN BANK OF THE MAAS RIVER. THE GERMANS STILL HAVE TWO SMALL POCKETS OF RESISTANCE ACROSS THE RIVER FROM THE TOWNS OF VENLO AND ROERMOND. THE BRITISH HAVE CUT THE MAIN ROAD RUNNING TO VENLO. TANKS ARE GIVING HEAVY-SUPPORT TO THE ADVANCING INFANTRY.

THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY HAS STORMED INTO THE BELFORT GAP ON A 13 MILE FRONT. ARMOR AND INFANTRYMEN ARE SPEARHEADING THE ASSAULT AND THE FRENCH FORCES HAVE PUSHED FORWARD THREE MILES AND WERE LAST REPORTED WITHIN FIVE MILES OF THE IMPORTANT TOWN OF BELFORT. THE TOWN OF MONTBELLARD HAS BEEN TAKEN.

THE GERMAN RADIO SAID TODAY THAT THE AMERICANS HAD OPENED AN ASSAULT ON THE CITY OF ST NAZAIRE IN THE BRITTANY PENINSULA AND THAT THE AMERICANS HAD BROKEN INTO THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY.

RUSSIA:

THE GERMANS ARE SPEAKING OF RUSSIAN AIMS TO ENVELOP BUDAPEST. THE REDS ADMIT THAT THEY ARE BRINGING UP THE RIGHT FLANK OF THEIR LINE EAST OF BUDAPEST AND CLAIM THAT THEY HAVE DRIVEN CLOSER TO THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL FROM THE NORTHEAST. THE RED AIR FORCE BASED IN HUNGARY HAS BEGUN A HEAVY AERIAL BOMBARDMENT OF THE GERMAN POSITIONS IN AND AROUND BUDAPEST.

ENGLAND:

THE AIRPLANE IN WHICH AIR CHIEF MARSHALL SIR TRAFFORD LEIGH-MALLORY AND HIS WIFE WERE TRAVELLING TO INDIA IS MISSING. SIR TRAFFORD WAS ON HIS WAY TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST OF AIR COMMANDER IN CHIEF, SOUTHEAST ASIA.

ITALY:

LAND FIGHTING IN ITALY HAS BEEN CONFINED TO PATROLLING. THE MEDITERRANEAN AIR FORCE FLEW MORE THAN 2000 SORTIES YESTERDAY. FIGHTERS, FIGHTER-BOMBERS AND MEDIUM BOMBERS WENT FOR TARGETS IN THE BATTLE AREA AND FOR COMMUNICATION LINES BEHIND THE BATTLE AREA. LAST NIGHT, HEAVY BOMBERS ATTACKED RAIL LINES IN NORTHERN ITALY.

PACIFIC:

AMERICAN TROOPS ON LEYTE ISLAND HAVE SET UP A STRONG ROAD BLOCK ABOUT FOUR MILES SOUTH OF CARIGARA BAY AND HAVE ENVELOPED A JAP REGIMENT. LIBERATORS HAVE HIT THREE AIRFIELDS IN THE DAVAO AREA OF MINDANAO ISLAND OF THE PHILIPPINES.

IN BURMA, CHINESE TROOPS HAVE TIGHTENED THEIR RING AROUND BHAMO ON THE IRRRAWADDY RIVER. THE JAPS ARE ENCLOSED IN AN AREA THREE MILES LONG BY TWO MILES WIDE.

LT. GEN. RAYMOND A. WHEELER OF THE U. S. ARMY IS TO SUCCEED GENERAL STILLWELL AS DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER IN SOUTHEASTERN ASIA.

