



VOLUME IV NO. 20

20 NOVEMBER 1944

FRANCE:

INFANTRYMEN, TANKS AND ARMORED CARS OF THE FIRST FRENCH MOTORIZED DIVISION AFTER A DRAMATIC DASH ACROSS THE PLAINS OF ALSACE HAVE REACHED THE RHINE RIVER NEAR WHERE THE COUNTRIES OF FRANCE, GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND COME TOGETHER. THE FRENCH CAPPED A 50 MILE ADVANCE IN FOUR DAYS BY REACHING THE RHINE AT DUSK LAST NIGHT NEAR THE SWISS BORDER OF BASLE. AS THE FRENCH TROOPS WERE DRIVING ACROSS THE ALSACE PLAIN AFTER BURSTING ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE BELFORT GAP THEY WERE GIVEN A WILDLY ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME BY THE FRENCH PEOPLE THERE. OTHER FRENCH FORCES OF THE FIRST FRENCH ARMY WERE LAST REPORTED TO BE LESS THAN 10 MILES FROM THE INDUSTRIAL CITY OF MULHOUSE. OTHER UNITS OF THE FIRST FRENCH ARMY LAUNCHED AN ALL OUT ASSAULT ON THE TOWN OF BELFORT THIS MORNING AND BY MID-MORNING THE FRENCH WERE FIGHTING IN THE STREETS AFTER OVER-RUNNING THE OUTER DEFENSES. THE REMARKABLE ADVANCE HAS NOW TURNED THE WHOLE OF THE LINE IN THE VOSGES MOUNTAINS AND FRENCH AND AMERICAN TROOPS OF THE SEVENTH ARMY ARE CHASING THE RETREATING GERMANS THROUGH THE PASSES OF THE HIGH VOSGES AND ARE PRESSING ON TOWARDS THE HILLS ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE MOUNTAINS. THE ALLIED TROOPS HAVE TAKEN ANOTHER 11 VILLAGES IN THEIR DRIVE AND THE GERMANS THEMSELVES ADMITTED THAT AMERICAN TANKS HAD BROKEN INTO THE IMPORTANT TOWN OF SAINT DIE.

GENERAL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY FORCES HAVE COMPLETELY ENCIRCLED THE FORTRESS OF METZ AND BITTER STREET FIGHTING IS GOING ON INSIDE THE CITY. THE AMERICANS NOW HOLD MORE THAN A THIRD OF THE CITY. NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST OF METZ, THE GERMANS ARE RAPIDLY FALLING BACK TOWARDS THE GERMAN BORDER AND ARE BEING HAMMERED NIGHT AND DAY BY THE AMERICAN AIR FORCE. THE GERMAN RADIO TODAY ADMITTED THAT THE WEHRMACHT IS FALLING BACK ON THE THIRD ARMY FRONT. NORTH OF METZ, AMERICAN FORCES HAVE GROSSED THE GERMAN BORDER AT SEVERAL PLACES. ONE SPEARHEAD HAS PENETRATED FIVE MILES INTO GERMANY AND IS ONLY FOUR MILES FROM THE SAAR RIVER. SOME OF THE THIRD ARMY TROOPS IN GERMANY HAVE COME UNDER FIRE FROM GUNS OF THE SEIGFRIED LINE. THE WHOLE THIRD ARMY FRONT NORTH OF METZ IS RAPIDLY MOVING TOWARDS GERMANY CLOSE TO THE SAAR BASIN. THE AMERICAN 10TH ARMORED DIVISION AND THE THIRD CAVALRY ARE TWO OF THE UNITS KNOWN TO HAVE GROSSED THE GERMAN BORDER. IN THE PAST 12 DAYS OF FIGHTING ON THIS SECTOR, 14,000 PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

THE AMERICAN FIRST AND NINTH ARMIES AND THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY HAVE ALL PUSHED AHEAD IN GERMANY. PATROLS OF THE AMERICAN FIRST WERE IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF ESCHWEILER LAST NIGHT. THE FIRST AND NINTH HAVE TAKEN ANOTHER SIX TOWNS ON A LINE BETWEEN THE TOWNS OF GEILENKIRCHEN AND STOLBERG. BRITISH SECOND ARMY TROOPS AND TROOPS OF THE AMERICAN NINTH ARMY HAVE PUSHED ON FOR TWO MILES PAST CAPTURED GEILENKIRCHEN. THE GERMANS ARE PUTTING UP STIFF RESISTANCE ALL ALONG THE FRONT IN THE AACHEN SECTOR. THE WHOLE GERMAN FRONT WEST OF THE MAAS RIVER SEEMS TO BE LOOSENING AND BRITISH FORCES ARE WITHIN FIVE MILES OF THE BIG TOWN OF VENLO. AMERICAN BOMBERS HAVE COMPLETELY DESTROYED THE CENTERS OF THE SUPPLY TOWNS OF DUREN AND JULICH. THE LUFTWAFFE SENT 70 PLANES OVER THE DUREN AREA YESTERDAY BUT THUNDERBOLTS QUICKLY BROKE THEM UP AND SHOT DOWN 13. ALLIED PLANES FLEW MORE THAN 4000 SORTIES YESTERDAY IN SUPPORT OF THE ALLIED ARMIES.

MORE THAN 160 FLYING FORTS TODAY HIT AN OIL PLANT AT GEISENKIRCHEN AND RAIL YARDS AT MUNSTER. OVER 700 FIGHTERS WENT ALONG AS ESCORT AND STRAFED TARGETS IN WESTERN GERMANY.

GENERAL DE GAULLE ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT "FRANCE WOULD HAVE A MUCH LARGER ARMY IN EUROPE IN A FEW MONTHS TIME."

TURN PAGE

RUSSIA:

RUSSIAN TROOPS IN HUNGARY HAVE MADE MORE HEADWAY ON THREE SECTORS NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST. THE GERMANS SAY THAT MARSHAL MALINOVSKY IS USING 35 INFANTRY DIVISIONS IN THE ATTACK ON THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL. THE GERMANS SAID THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN HEAVILY ATTACKING ALL ALONG THE HUNGARIAN FRONT TODAY.

SEVERAL HUNDRED BRITISH PARATROOPERS HAVE BEEN DROPPED IN ALBANIA TO HELP FIGHT WITH THE YUGOSLAV PARTISANS.

ENGLAND:

THE GERMANS LAUNCHED FLYING BOMBS AGAINST ENGLAND FROM OVER THE NORTH SEA DURING THE NIGHT. SEVERAL OF THE MISSILES WERE SHOT DOWN.

ITALY:

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST OF FAENZA. AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS ATTACKED OIL TARGETS IN THE VIENNA AND LINZ AREAS OF AUSTRIA YESTERDAY FOR THE FOURTH DAY RUNNING. MEDIUM BOMBERS WENT FOR TARGETS IN THE PO VALLEY AND OTHER HEAVIES AGAIN BOMBED THE BRENNER PASS. LONG RANGE MUSTANG FIGHTERS MADE A 100 MILE SWEEP OF THE AREA BETWEEN VIENNA AND THE HUNGARIAN BORDER AND SHOT UP 60 LOCOMOTIVES.

PACIFIC:

SINCE THE LANDINGS ON LEYTE ISLAND, GENERAL MACARTHUR'S FORCES HAVE KILLED OR WOUNDED OVER 45,000 JAPANESE. AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN THE SAME PERIOD ARE UNDER 5700. THE JAPS HAVE USED TANKS IN THEIR LATEST UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO BREAK THROUGH TO THE TRAPPED GARRISON AT ORMOC.

CHINESE FORCES HAVE ENTERED SHAMO IN NORTHEASTERN BURMA AFTER ALLIED FIGHTER-BOMBERS HAD DIVE BOMBED THE TOWN. AMERICAN WARSHIPS SOME DAYS AGO SHELLED AN ISLAND 75 MILES SOUTH OF TOKIO. AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS FROM CHINA HAVE BOMBED THE DOCK AREAS OF HONG KONG.