GENERAL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY TROOPS DRIVING UP FROM THE SOUTH THROUGH NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG AND THE SOUTHERN PART OF BELGIUM HAVE FORGED A BIG DENT IN THE SOUTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN SALIENT. A THIRD ARMY AIRBORNE COLUMN HAS BROKEN THOUGH TO RELIEVE THE AMERICAN 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION THAT HAD BEEN HOLDING OUT AT BASTOGNE. THE AIRBORNE TROOPS HAD HELD OUT AT BASTOGNE FOR MORE THAN A WEEK ALTHOUGH THEY WERE CUT OFF. SUPPLIES, INCLUDING AMMUNITION, FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES HAD TO BE FLOWN IN TO THEM. THE 101ST AIRBORNE HAS BEEN WITHDRAW AND GROUND SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST OF THE TO NORMAN FLANK OF THE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION IN THE TOWN OF BASTOGNE.

THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS HAVE SURROUNDED A PANZER-GOULIAN BETWEEN ROCHEFORT AND CELLES AT THE TIP OF THE NAZI SALIENT AND THE GERMANS ARE BEING HEAVILY POUNDED BY ARTILLERY. MORE THAN 1000 PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN HERE. THE NAZIS ABANDONED MUCH OF THEIR EQUIPMENT INCLUDING TANKS. AT THE NORTHERN FLANK OF HIS SALIENT, MARSHALL, RUNDSTADT HAS BEEN MAKING ATTACKS BUT HAS GAINED NO GROUND AND HE HAS SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES.

FOR THE SEVENTH DAY RUNNING, AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBER S IN GREAT STRENGTH WERE OVER WESTERN GERMANY. LAST NIGHT, TWO SEPARATE FORCES OF HEAVY BOMBER STRUCK AT RAILROADS IN WESTERN GERMANY. A FORCE OF BRITISH MOSQUITOS LAST NIGHT MADE A SWEEP OF THE BATTLEFRONT. IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY MORE THAN 1200 AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBER PLASTERED 10 SUPPLY CENTERS BETWEEN THE RHINE RIVER AND THE BATTLEFRONT. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON BRITISH HEAVIES ATTACKED A MARSHALLING YARD AT COLOGNE. TACTICAL AIRFORCE PLANES WERE NOT OUT IN LARGE NUMBERS YESTERDAY DUE TO THE POOR FLYING CONDITIONS.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE IN THE ARDENNES FOREST IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE GERMANS HAVE LOST 700 PLANES. MORE THAN 5000 VEHICLES AND AN ESTIMATED 1000 TANKS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY ALLIED PLANES AND GROUND FORCES.

ITALY:

FIFTH ARMY TROOPS YESTERDAY MADE ANOTHER SLIGHT WITHDRAWAL IN THE SEACHIO VALLEY NEAR THE SOUTH COAST OF ITALY. THEY GAVE UP THE LITTLE TOWN OF BAGA. TODAY THE FIGHTING HAS DIED DOWN IN THE VALLEY AND ACTIVITY ALONG THE FRONT IN ITALY HAS BEEN CONFINED TO PATROLLING. ALLIED PLANES FROM ITALY YESTERDAY FLEW MORE THAN 2000 SORTIES ATTACKING OIL AND RAIL TARGETS IN GERMANY, AUSTRIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THE GERMAN RADIO REPORTED ALLIED BOMBER SOFT ON SOUTHERN GERMANY TODAY.

PACIFIC:

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S TROOPS ARE NOW IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF MINDORO ISLAND. IN THREE ATTACKS ON CLARK FIELD, MANILA, ON CHRISTMAS DAY, 114 JAP PLANES WERE DESTROYED.
GILBERT

by Capt. N.S. FIRFires

THANKS TO

V. D. DI MINNO

HE'S BEEN MAKING THAT MIDNIGHT MESSAGE RUN!