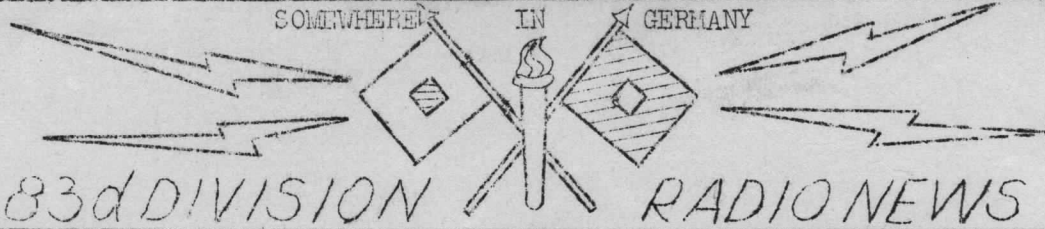


SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY



83d DIVISION RADIO NEWS

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BELGIUM:

THE GERMAN SALIENT IN THE ARDENNES HAS BEEN GREATLY NARROWED AND SHORTENED. IN THE SECTOR NORTH OF BASTOGNE, RUNDSTEDT'S SALIENT HAS BEEN NARROWED TO 12 MILES AT ONE PLACE. THE GERMANS AT THE TIP OF THE SALIENT HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BACK TEN MILES AND HAVE FALLEN BACK TO THE BELGIAN TOWN OF ROCHEFORT. THE AMERICANS WERE LAST REPORTED IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF ROCHEFORT AND BITTER FIGHTING IS GOING ON IN THAT SECTOR AS THE GERMANS ATTEMPT TO HOLD ON TO THE TOWN. IN THIS SECTOR THE NAZI SPEARHEAD REACHED A POINT ABOUT FIVE MILES SHORT OF THE MEUSE RIVER BUT NOW THE GERMANS ARE A GOOD 15 MILES AWAY. MORE GERMAN VEHICLES HAVE BEEN CAPTURED INTACT. THE VEHICLES HAD RUN OUT OF GAS. ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE SALIENT, HARD FIGHTING HAS CONTINUED AND THE AMERICANS HAVE GAINED BACK MORE GROUND BETWEEN MARCHE AND STAVELOT.

AMERICAN THIRD ARMY FORCES ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN SALIENT HAVE CONTINUED TO MAKE MORE GOOD GAINS. THE CORRIDOR TO BASTOGNE HAS BEEN WIDENED AND STRENGTHENED ALTHOUGH THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO CUT OFF THE CORRIDOR. THE GERMANS SEEM TO HAVE LOST THE POWER AND DRIVE THAT THEY HAD IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF THEIR COUNTEROFFENSIVE. THE AMERICANS NOW HOLD TWO ROADS TO BASTOGNE. ONE OF THE ROADS IS A MAIN ROUTE. GENERAL PATTON'S FORCES HAVE MADE MORE GAINS ALONG THE GERMAN BORDER PRESSING NORTHWEST FROM RECAPTURED LICHTERNACH.

IT IS NOW KNOWN THAT THE 80TH DIVISION PLAYED A BIG ROLE IN HALTING THE GERMAN DRIVE IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF THE COUNTEROFFENSIVE. THE 80TH WAS ON ITS WAY BACK TO REST WHEN THEY WERE ORDERED TO MOVE 150 MILES INTO LUXEMBOURG. THE TROOPS MADE THE TRIP IN OPEN TRUCKS AND HAD NO HOT FOOD OR DRINK DURING THE 15 HOURS THAT IT TOOK TO GET THERE. AFTER GETTING TO THEIR PLACE ONE REGIMENT OF THE 80TH SURPRISED A NAZI DIVISION. THE AMERICAN REGIMENT BUTCHERED AN ENTIRE COLUMN AND AS MORE GERMANS CAME THEY WERE MOWED DOWN.

FOR THE EIGHTH DAY RUNNING HEAVY BOMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES EIGHTH AIR FORCE WERE OVER WESTERN GERMANY IN FORCE. THE NUMBER AND TARGETS OF THE U. S. HEAVIES ARE NOT KNOWN YET. TWO STRONG FORCES OF RAF HEAVY BOMBERS LAST NIGHT WERE OVER THE REICH. ONE FORCE HIT A BIG SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT IN THE RUHR AND ANOTHER FORCE BOMBED RAIL YARDS SOUTH OF COLOGNE. IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY A FORCE OF OVER 800 YANK HEAVIES ATTACKED GERMAN SUPPLY AND COMMUNICATION LINES IN WESTERN GERMANY. FLYING WEATHER OVER THE BATTLE AREA WAS NOT GOOD YESTERDAY BUT AMERICAN FIGHTER BOMBERS WERE ABLE TO SUPPORT GROUND FORCES ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK OF THE NAZI SALIENT. STRONG FORMATIONS OF BRITISH HEAVY BOMBERS OUT IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY WENT FOR RAIL TARGETS BEHIND THE SIEGFRIED LINE. THE LUFTWAFFE SENT UP SOME PLANES AND 32 WERE SHOT DOWN. ALLIED LOSSES FOR THE DAY WERE 10 BOMBERS AND 25 FIGHTERS.

RUSSIA:

THE GERMANS ARE FIGHTING DESPERATELY FOR TIME AS THE RUSSIANS DRIVE INTO THE HEART OF BUDAPEST. SAVAGE STREET FIGHTING IS GOING ON IN THE HUNGARIAN CAPITOL WHERE THE NAZI HAVE FORTIFIED EVERY BUILDING. THE RUSSIANS HAVE TAKEN MOST OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE CITY. NORTH OF BUDAPEST IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA THE RED ARMY HAS FORCED A CROSSING OF THE HRON RIVER. IN A TWO DAY BATTLE ALONG THE RIVER THE RUSSIANS KILLED OR CAPTURED 10,000 GERMANS.

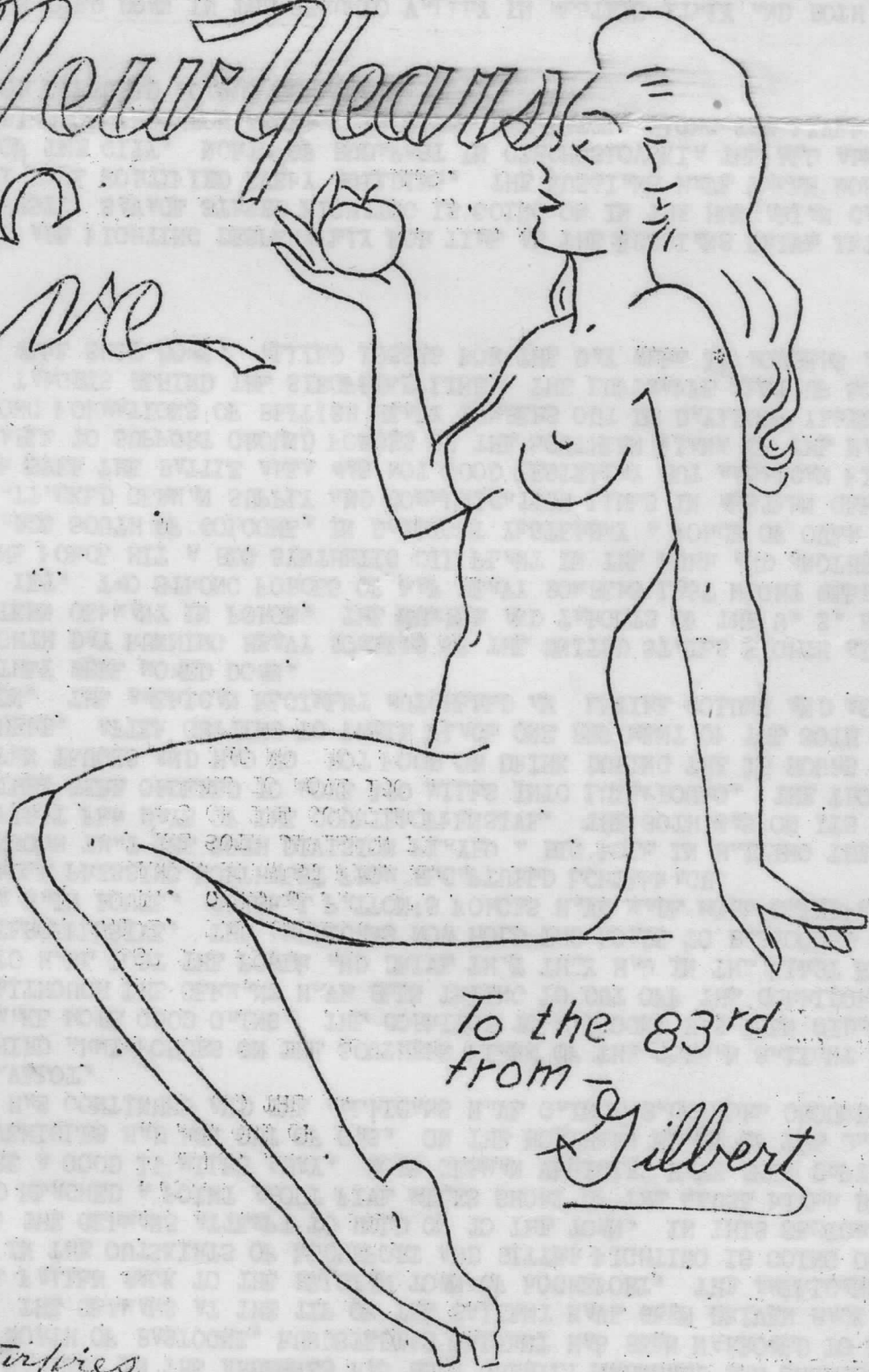
ITALY:

FIGHTING HAS DIED DOWN IN THE SERCHIO VALLEY IN WESTERN ITALY AND BOTH SIDES HAVE RESUMED PATROLLING. ALLIED PLANES FROM ITALY FLEW MORE THAN 2200 SORTIES YESTERDAY INCLUDING ATTACKS ON SOUTHERN GERMANY, AUSTRIA AND NORTHERN ITALY.

PACIFIC:

BRITISH TROOPS OF THE 14TH ARMY FIGHTING IN CENTRAL BURMA HAVE GAINED ANOTHER 46 MILES DOWN THE RAIL CORRIDOR ON THE WAY TO MANDALAY. THE BRITISH FORCES WERE LAST REPORTED ABOUT 90 MILES FROM THE GREAT JAPANESE BASE. CHINESE TROOPS THAT STARTED OUT FROM INDIA HAVE CROSSED NORTHERN BURMA AND HAVE ENTERED THE SOUTHERN PART OF CHINA.

New Years
Eve



To the 83rd
from
Gilbert

A.S. Finfies
308 ENGR. BN.