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BELGIUM:

THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY'S NEW ATTACK ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF RUNDSTEDT'S SALIENT IN BELGIUM HAS GAINED MORE GROUND. AT SOME PLACES YANK TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED $3\frac{1}{2}$ MILES ACROSS SNOW COVERED GROUND. IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT FIELD MARSHALL MONTGOMERY IS IN CHARGE OF THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN SALIENT AND LT. GENERAL BRADLEY IS IN CHARGE OF THE FIGHTING ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK. BRITISH TANKS AND INFANTRY HAVE JOINED THE BATTLE ON THE NORTHERN FLANK. THEY ATTACKED BETWEEN MARCHE AND HOTTON AND ONE COLUMN WAS LAST REPORTED WITHIN 5 MILES OF LA ROCHE. THE NEW ALLIED ATTACK IS GOING ON ALONG A 25 MILE FRONT OF THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE SALIENT AND THE GERMANS ARE FIGHTING BACK VERY HARD AND ARE WELL DUG IN. YESTERDAY FOG HUNG OVER THE BATTLEGROUND MAKING VISIBILITY VERY POOR. TODAY THE WEATHER WAS BETTER AND AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS FLYING IN FORMATIONS OF 30 AND 40 PINPOINTED TARGETS AHEAD OF THE ADVANCING ALLIED TROOPS. AT THE TIP OF THE GERMAN SALIENT, BRITISH FORCES HAVE JOINED THE BATTLE TO THE SOUTH OF ROCHEFORT AND THEY HAVE GAINED SOME GROUND.

GENERAL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY TROOPS DRIVING INTO THE GERMAN SALIENT FROM THE SOUTH ARE STILL MEETING FURIOUS COUNTERATTACKS AS THEY DRIVE FOR THE IMPORTANT ROAD CENTER OF HOUFFALIZE. THIRD ARMY YANKS ARE NOW ABOUT 14 MILES FROM AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS ADVANCING ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE SALIENT. TO THE SOUTH OF THIS SECTOR IN NORTHERN ALSACE THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO BREAK OUT ON TO THE ALSACE PLAIN BUT THEY HAVE BEEN HELD. THE NAZIS GAINED 7 MILES BETWEEN BITCHE AND SAARGUEMINES BUT HAVE SINCE BEEN THROWN BACK BY FIERCELY ATTACKING AMERICANS.

THE GREAT AERIAL OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY AND THE SALIENT IN BELGIUM WENT ON TODAY. MORE THAN 1000 YANK HEAVY BOMBERS ESCORTED BY 500 FIGHTERS TODAY HIT RAIL YARDS AND COMMUNICATION CENTERS IN WESTERN GERMANY. ALLIED FIGHTER BOMBERS WERE OUT OVER THE SALIENT TODAY ATTACKING GERMAN TROOP CONCENTRATIONS, TANKS AND SUPPLY POINTS. EARLY THIS MORNING A FORCE OF RAF LANCASTERS BOMBED THE GERMAN GARRISON STILL HOLDING OUT AT THE MOUTH OF THE GIRONDE RIVER IN SOUTHWESTERN FRANCE. LAST NIGHT RAF MOSQUITOS DROPPED IN ON BERLIN TWICE WITH 4000 POUND BOMBS. IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY, AMERICAN FIGHTER BOMBERS WENT FOR GERMAN TRANSPORT IN THE BITCHE AREA IN NORTHERN ALSACE AND BRITISH TACTICAL PLANES POUNDED TARGETS IN HOLLAND.

IN 1944 RAF BOMBER COMMAND DROPPED MORE THAN 525,000 TONS OF BOMBS ON GERMAN TARGETS.

RUSSIA:

THE GERMANS HAVE INCREASED THE INTENSITY OF THEIR ATTACKS IN WESTERN HUNGARY WHERE THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO BREAK THROUGH TO RELIEVE THE TRAPPED DEFENDERS OF BUDAPEST. THE NAZIS HAVE THROWN IN MORE TANKS AND INFANTRY INTO THE BATTLE ABOUT 30 MILES WEST OF THE HUNGARIAN CAPITOL. YESTERDAY THE GERMANS SENT IN WAVE AFTER WAVE OF ARMOR IN AN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A BREAKTHROUGH BUT THE RUSSIANS HELD THEM. THE RUSSIANS MANAGED TO COUNTERATTACK AND DESTROYED 50 TANKS. MOSCOW CLAIMS THAT THE LUFTWAFFE IS SUPPORTING THE GERMAN ATTACKS IN GREAT STRENGTH AND THE RUSSIANS SAY THAT BIG DOG FIGHTS ARE RAGING ALL THE WAY FROM THE BATTLEFRONT TO THE HUNGARIAN CAPITOL. IN THE FIGHTING IN BUDAPEST, THE RED ARMY HAS STORMED MORE BLOCKS.

ITALY:

CANADIAN TROOPS OF THE EIGHTH ARMY HAVE GAINED TWO MORE MILES NORTHWEST OF RAVENNA. OTHER EIGHTH ARMY FORCES HAVE MADE PROGRESS NORTH OF FAENZA. ALLIED PLANES FROM ITALY FLEW MORE THAN 2400 SORTIES YESTERDAY.

PACIFIC:

UNITED KINGDOM AND INDIAN TROOPS OF THE 15TH INDIAN CORPS HAVE LANDED AT AKYAB, THIRD LARGEST SEAPORT OF BURMA, WITHOUT OPPOSITION. BRITISH 14TH ARMY TROOPS IN CENTRAL BURMA HAVE ESTABLISHED A BRIDGEHEAD NEAR YEU.

TOKIO RADIO REPORTED TODAY THAT ALLIED CARRIER BORNE AND LAND BASED BOMBERS YESTERDAY ATTACKED TARGETS ON SUMATRA IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES. THE NIPS REPORTED THAT AN ALLIED FLEET WAS LYING OFF THE ISLAND.

AMERICAN SUPER FORTS FLYING FROM BASES IN INDIA HAVE ATTACKED TARGETS NEAR BANGKOK IN SIAM.

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PACIFIC CONTINUED:

AMERICAN CARRIER BORNE PLANES HAVE AGAIN BOMBED THE BIG ISLAND OF FORMOSA AND THE ISLAND OF OKINAWA SOUTH OF JAPAN. AMERICAN PLANES ATTACKING JAPANESE SHIPPING LANES OFF THE WESTERN COAST OF LUZON IN THE PHILIPPINES IN TWO DAYS HAVE SUNK OR DAMAGED 60 MORE JAP SHIPS. AMERICAN LIBERATORS IN A NEW ATTACK ON AN AIRFIELD AT MANILA HAVE DESTROYED 20 JAP PLANES ON THE GROUND.



AH, ITS NICE OUT HERE - BEAUTIFUL MORNING.