American troops have cut the Houffalize-St Vith highway, the last remaining supply route for the Germans in the Ardennes salient. The road has been cut about three miles east of the center of Houffalize. American First Army troops on the northern flank of the salient are driving forward on a 30 mile front. The Americans pushing down from the northern flank have been meeting very tough opposition but they have been driving relentlessly on. American Third Army forces on the southern flank of the salient have edged northward towards Houffalize. Yank and British forces have linked up near the western tip of the Ardennes salient and the two forces are mopping up pockets of resistance. American and British fighter bombers were out in strength yesterday giving close support to the ground troops. German supply lines and troop concentrations in the St Vith area were heavily pounded.

American Seventh Army troops yesterday drove the Germans back near Hatton north of the Haguenau forest in Alsace. Heavy fighting is going on near the towns of Hatton and Rittershofen near the Rhine.

American heavy bombers escorted by fighters were reported over western Germany today. Last night a force of 200 RAF heavies flew to Stettin to plaster an oil plant. Rail yards at Saarbrucken were also pounded last night. Saarbrucken was bombed in daylight too yesterday. A force of 500 American heavies yesterday hit seven out of eight bridges across the seine near Bingen and Karlsruhe.

KIEV

Marshall Koniev’s first Ukrainian Army, after breaking through the German defenses west of the Russian bridgehead at Banskia in southern Poland, were last reported within 30 miles of the Big Polish city of Cracow and within 70 miles of the border of German Silesia. The Russians in two days smashed three German defense lines and advanced 25 miles on a 40 mile front. A terrific bombardment from thousands of massed Russian guns left the Germans almost too dazed to fight and Russian infantry and white painted tanks poured through a great breach in the German defenses across the frozen roads and fields of southern Poland. The only big barrier left in the way of the onrushing Red Army is the River Oder. German Silesia is a rich industrial area and the arsenal for the Eastern front.

Moscow radio has said nothing about the reported Russian offensives in southern Czechoslovakia and in East Prussia. The Russians said today that the Russians were driving forward north of the Linstenbourough railway in East Prussia after a heavy two hour bombardment.

In Budapest the Soviets have captured two more railway stations and 100 more city blocks.

ITALY

The worst blizzard of the winter has halted fighting on the Fifth Army front. Heavy rain is falling on the Eighth Army sector.

PACIFIC

American Super Fortresses flying from Saipan Island today boomed industrial targets in Japan. Tokyo radio reported that 50 Super Forts boomed Nagoya. A force of Super Forts from China have boomed Formosa following a heavy attack on the island by long range bombers of General MacArthur’s command. RAF and American bombers have given the Buria city of Mandalay its heaviest pounding of the war. American forces on Luzon gained another 8 miles yesterday. Long range patrols have pushed inland for more than 20 miles from the beaches. American planes have sunk 50 small ships off Luzon and supply points around Manila have been boomed again.
PACIFIC CONTINUED:
BRITISH 14TH ARMY TROOPS IN CENTRAL BURMA HAVE REACHED A POINT 15 MILES BEYOND SHWALBO AND A LITTLE OVER 30 MILES FROM THE BIG CITY OF MANDALAY.

LOST:
STERLING SILVER IDENTIFICATION BRACELET IN VICINITY OF DIVISION C.P.
FINDER PLEASE RETURN TO LT. ROYCE C. MCDONALD, MESSAGE CENTER OFFICER.

LOST:
WHITE GOLD HAMILTON POCKET WATCH WITH INITIALS "S.G.H." ON BACK.
WATCH LOST IN VICINITY OF DIVISION C.P.
FINDER PLEASE RETURN TO:
LT. COL. HUGHES, DIV. G-4 OFFICE

GILBERT by Cpl. N. S. Firfires

GOOD WORK SERGEANT!