



VOLUME VI NO. 2

83d Sig Co.

4 FEBRUARY 1945

RUSSIA:

LATE REPORTS FROM MOSCOW TODAY SAY THAT MARSHALL ZHUKOV'S TANKS HAVE BROKEN INTO THE OUTSKIRTS OF KUSTRIN, STRONGHOLD ON THE ODER RIVER 45 MILES FROM BERLIN. THE RUSSIANS ARE ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE REACHED THE OUTER DEFENSES OF FRANKFURT. THE GERMANS SAY THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN THROWN BACK ALONG THE FRANKFURT-KUSTRIN SECTOR AND CLAIM THAT THREE SOVIET TANK THRUSTS INTO KUSTRIN WERE BEATEN BACK. IN YESTERDAY'S FIGHTING ZHUKOV'S MEN TOOK ANOTHER 150 TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE PROVINCE OF BRANDENBURG. THE REDS SURROUNDED A LARGE FORCE OF NAZIS IN A FOREST SOUTH-EAST OF FRANKFURT AND WIPE THEM OUT, KILLING 8000 AND TAKING 10,000 PRISONERS. THE BERLIN RADIO DECLARES THERE IS GRIM FIGHTING GOING ON WHERE THE SOVIET RIGHT FLANK IS HEADING FOR STETTIN. THE GERMANS SAY THE RUSSIANS ARE ABOUT 20 MILES SOUTHEAST OF STETTIN.

IN EAST PRUSSIA THE RUSSIANS SAY THAT THE GERMANS BETWEEN DANZIG AND KOENIGSBERG HAVE BEEN THRUST BACK TO THE SEA AND SPLIT UP INTO SEPARATE GROUPS. THE GERMANS SUFFERED 6000 CASUALTIES IN THE FIGHTING IN EAST PRUSSIA YESTERDAY. SOUTHWEST OF BUDAPEST THE REDS HAVE SWITCHED OVER TO THE OFFENSIVE AFTER CHECKING FURIOUS NAZI COUNTERATTACKS AND THE RUSSIANS HAVE GAINED BACK MOST OF THE GROUND THEY LOST WHILE THE GERMANS WERE COUNTERATTACKING.

BELGIUM:

THE RAF CONTINUED THE NON-STOP NIGHT AND DAY AERIAL OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY LAST NIGHT. LANCASTERS BOMBED TWO SYNTHETIC OIL PLANTS AND OTHER TARGETS IN WESTERN GERMANY. ALLIED FIGHTER BOMBERS YESTERDAY RANGED ALL ALONG THE WESTERN BORDER OF GERMANY ATTACKING ROAD, RAIL AND WATER TRANSPORT. MORE THAN 1000 FIGHTER BOMBERS WERE OUT AND 14 FAILED TO COME BACK. RAF LANCASTERS YESTERDAY HIT E-BOAT TARGETS IN THE NETHERLANDS WITH 6 TON BOMBS. IN THE 45 MINUTE BLITZ OF BERLIN YESTERDAY MORE THAN 1000 YANK HEAVIES SCORED 8 DIRECT HITS ON THE GERMAN AIR MINISTRY, 5 MAIN RAILROAD STATIONS, MARSHALLING YARDS AND LUFTWAFFE AIRFIELDS WERE HIT SEVERELY THE BOMBERS AND THEIR ESCORT DESTROYED 35 NAZI PLANES. AMERICAN LOSSES WERE 35 BOMBERS AND 5 FIGHTERS.

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS HAVE PUSHED ANOTHER $3\frac{1}{2}$ MILES THROUGH THE SIEGRIFIED DEFENSES EAST OF MONSCHAU AND WERE LAST REPORTED 10 MILES EAST OF THIS TOWN. THE AMERICAN INFANTRYMEN ARE HAVING TO USE PATHS AND MAKE THEIR OWN ROADS AS THEY ADVANCE THROUGH THE THICK COUNTRY. SOUTHEAST OF ST. VITH, THIRD ARMY TROOPS HAVE GAINED $2\frac{1}{2}$ MILES AND ARE NOW 5 MILES INSIDE GERMANY. AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS HAVE TAKEN A TOWN 7 MILES SOUTHWEST OF HAGUENAU. IN SOUTHERN ALSACE, FRENCH AND AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE LIBERATED COLMAR AND HAVE DRIVEN 4 MILES SOUTH OF THE CITY. THE GERMANS ARE FIGHTING HARD TO KEEP THEIR FINAL ESCAPE ROUTE OPEN FROM THE COLMAR POCKET.

ITALY:

THE WEATHER HAS CAUSED ACTIVITY IN ITALY TO BE CONFINED TO PATROLLING.

PACIFIC:

CORRESPONDENTS SAY THAT AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE REACHED THE OUTSKIRTS OF MANILA. ONE COLUMN OF TANKS, ARTILLERY AND MOTORIZED INFANTRY RACED 60 MILES IN 24 HOURS TO REACH THE GATES OF THE CITY. OTHER FORCES HAVE PUSHED 8 MILES ACROSS THE BASE OF BATAAN PENINSULA. OVER 700 JAP PLANES WERE DESTROYED OR CAPTURED IN CLEANING UP CLARK AIRFIELD.

AMERICAN SUPER FORTS FROM THE MARIANAS TODAY BOMBED THE JAP CITY OF KOBE. TOKIO REPORTED THAT ABOUT 100 BOMBERS ATTACKED THE CITY.