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RUSSIA:

MARSHALL ZHUKOV'S WHITE RUSSIAN TROOPS ARE REPORTED BY THE GERMANS TO BE OPERATING ON THE WEST BANK OF THE ODER NEAR KUSTHIN. THE GERMAN RADIO REPORTS THAT ZHUKOV'S INFANTRYMEN ARE SAVAGELY ATTACKING IN THE KUSTHIN AREA AND THAT THE REDS ARE TRYING TO ENCIRCLE THE CITY. THE GERMANS CLAIM THAT ZHUKOV HAS ESTABLISHED A NUMBER OF BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS WIDE STRETCHES OF THE MIDDLE ODER EAST OF BERLIN. MOSCOW HAS SAID NOTHING ABOUT THESE REPORTED BRIDGEHEADS. SOVIET ARTILLERY MASSES ALONG THE EASTERN BANK OF THE ODER HAS BEEN POUNDING GERMAN POSITIONS ON THE FAR BANK WITHOUT LETUP FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS. ZHUKOV'S RIGHT WING HAS PUSHED NEARER TO THE BALTIC PORT OF STETTIN ON A 20 MILE FRONT. RUSSIAN CAVALRY AND INFANTRY WERE REPORTED BY THE GERMANS TODAY TO BE WITHIN SHELLING DISTANCE OF THE TOWN OF STARGARD, 20 MILES EAST OF STETTIN. IN YESTERDAY'S FIGHTING ON THIS FRONT THE REDS DESTROYED 84 TANKS AND DROVE TO WITHIN 15 MILES OF THE TRUNK RAIL LINE BETWEEN STETTIN AND THE PORT OF DANZIG.

MARSHALL KONEV'S FIRST UKHIANIAN ARMY IS REPORTED BY BERLIN TO HOLD BRIDGEHEADS ON BOTH SIDES OF BRESLAU ON THE UPPER ODER RIVER. KONEV'S 50 MILE WIDE BRIDGEHEAD SOUTH OF BRESLAU HAS BEEN FURTHER EXPANDED AND DEEPENED. THE GERMANS REPORT THAT THE RUSSIANS NOW HOLD ANOTHER BRIDGEHEAD NORTHWEST OF BRESLAU NEAR THE BIG TOWN OF STEINAU AND SAY THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE LAUNCHED AN OFFENSIVE FROM THIS NEW BRIDGEHEAD. BRESLAU ITSELF IS NOW THREATENED FROM THREE SIDES.

IN EAST PRUSSIA, MARSHALL HOKOSSOVOSKY'S SECOND WHITE RUSSIAN ARMY HAS COMPLETED THE ENCIRCLEMENT OF THE TOWN OF ELBING NEAR THE BALTIC COAST. SOUTH OF KOENIGSBERG, THE TOWN OF KREUZBERG HAS BEEN TAKEN.

BELGIUM:

CANADIAN AND UNITED KINGDOM TROOPS OF THE CANADIAN FIRST ARMY HAVE LAUNCHED A NEW ATTACK SOUTHEAST OF NIJMEGEN ON A 6-7 MILE FRONT. THE ATTACK WAS PRECEDED BY A 5½ HOUR ARTILLERY BARRAGE AND BY AN AIR ASSAULT. THIS AFTERNOON, THE ALLIED TROOPS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE ADVANCED UP TO 4½ MILES AT SOME PLACES INTO THE FIRST OF THE THREE BELTS IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN THE REICHSWALD FOREST. THE CANADIANS AND BRITISH FORCES WERE SURPRISED TO FIND THAT THE FIRST BELT IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE WAS NOT MADE UP OF CONCRETE FORTS. GERMAN RESISTANCE SO FAR HAS NOT BEEN HEAVY AND 1200 PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS BATTLING THROUGH THE HURTTGEN FOREST EAST OF MONSCHAU WERE LAST REPORTED WITHIN A MILE OF THE BIGGEST OF THE DAMS ON THE ROER RIVER. GENERAL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY TROOPS HAVE PUSHED TO LESS THAN A MILE FROM THE ROAD JUNCTION OF PRUM IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE. ACROSS FROM THE LUXEMBOURG BORDER, OTHER THIRD ARMY FORCES HAVE CONSOLIDATED THEIR 10 BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS THE RIVERS OUR AND SURE. IN SOUTHERN ALSACE, ALL ORGANIZED RESISTANCE IN THE GERMAN BRIDGEHEAD SOUTH OF STRASBOURG HAS ENDED. THERE ARE STILL SOME GERMANS LEFT ON THE WESTERN BANK OF THE RHINE BUT THEY HAVE BLOWN THE BRIDGES ACROSS THE RIVER.

A GREAT AERIAL FLEET OF MORE THAN 1300 U. S. HEAVY BOMBERS TODAY WERE OVER WIDE PARTS OF GERMANY. THE BOMBERS MAILED A BIG MARSHALLING YARD AT MAGDEBURG, A SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT WEST OF LEIPSIG AND AN ARMS FACTORY. DURING THE NIGHT, MORE THAN 1000 RAF BOMBERS BLASTED TARGETS IN THE REICH. A GREAT SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT AT POLITZ, NEAR STETTIN, AND ONLY 46 MILES FROM THE RUSSIAN LINES, WAS PLASTERED TWICE BY RAF HEAVIES. A FORCE OF MOSQUITOS DROPPED IN ON BERLIN AND TWO SEPARATE FORCES OF HEAVIES HIT A SYNTHETIC PLANT AND A RAIL YARD IN THE RUHR. IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY, ALLIED TACTICAL PLANES FLEW SOME 1500 SORTIES AGAINST A WIDE VARIETY OF TARGETS IN WESTERN GERMANY.

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ITALY:

FIFTH ARMY TROOPS HAVE MADE MORE GAINS IN THE SERCHIO VALLEY AND IN THE HILLS SOUTHWEST OF BOLOGNA. AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS FROM ITALY YESTERDAY ATTACKED COMMUNICATIONS IN THE VIENNA AREA OF AUSTRIA.

PACIFIC:

BRITISH TROOPS OF THE 14TH ARMY IN CENTRAL BURMA ARE REPORTED TO BE FIGHTING IN THE CENTER OF THE BURMA OIL AREA TO THE SOUTH OF MANDALAY. THIS IS THE DEEPEST PENETRATION REPORTED IN BURMA AS YET. ABOUT 40 MILES NORTH OF MANDALAY, OTHER BRITISH TROOPS HAVE WIDENED THEIR BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE IRRAWADDY RIVER.

THE AMERICAN 37TH INFANTRY AND 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISIONS ARE SQUEEZING THE LAST OF THE JAPS HOLDING OUT IN MANILA. THE JAPS ARE REPORTED TO BE DESTROYING PARTS OF THE CITY AS THEY FALL BACK.



"EPIDEMIC"