



VOLUME VI NO. 27

25 FEBRUARY 1945

GERMANY:

AMERICAN FIRST AND NINTH ARMY TROOPS DRIVING TOWARDS THE COLOGNE PLAIN ACROSS THE ROER RIVER ARE MAKING GOOD HEADWAY. THE TWO ARMIES HAVE LINKED UP THEIR ORIGINAL 21 BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS THE ROER RIVER AND NOW HOLD A BRIDGEHEAD 25 MILES LONG. MEN, ARMOR AND MATERIAL ARE POURING ACROSS THE STRENGTHENED BRIDGES.

TROOPS OF THE AMERICAN NINTH ARMY AFTER TAKING THE TOWN OF JULICH ARE REPORTED TO HAVE PUSHED 5 MILES ALONG THE JULICH-COLOGNE ROAD. TROOPS OF BOTH AMERICAN ARMIES ARE SMASHING THROUGH THE FIRST GERMAN DEFENSE BELT BEYOND THE ROER. GERMAN RESISTANCE SO FAR HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS FROM LIGHT TO MODERATE. THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE GERMANS HAVE BROUGHT UP SOME ARMOR. THE GERMANS HAVE ATTEMPTED SEVERAL COUNTERATTACKS BUT AMERICAN ARTILLERY HAS BROKEN THEM UP. NINTH ARMY TROOPS ALONE BAGGED MORE THAN A 1000 PRISONERS YESTERDAY.

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS HAVE CAPTURED THE GERMAN CITY OF DUREN AND HAVE PRESSED BEYOND IT AND WERE LAST REPORTED WITHIN 18 MILES OF COLOGNE. THE BIG MARSHALLING YARDS ABOVE DUREN HAS ALSO FALLEN TO THE YANKS.

GENERAL PATTON'S AMERICAN THIRD ARMY TROOPS HAVE WIPED OUT THE GERMAN SALIENT BETWEEN PRUM AND ECHTERNACH AND ARE PRESSING TOWARDS THE RIVER PRUM. NORTH OF THE TOWN OF ECHTERNACH THE YANKS HAVE CROSSED THE PRUM RIVER AT TWO PLACES. BOTH THIRD ARMY BRIDGEHEADS NORTH AND SOUTH OF SAARBURG HAVE BEEN WIDENED TO 2½ MILES. BEYOND THE SAAR THE AMERICANS HAVE REACHED HIGH-GROUND 10 MILES SOUTH OF TRIER. SOUTH OF SAARBRUCKEN, SEVENTH ARMY FORCES HAVE GAINED GROUND BEYOND THE SAAR RIVER.

UNITED KINGDOM TROOPS OF THE FIRST CANADIAN ARMY HAVE BEEN IN VERY HEAVY FIGHTING AT THE APPROACHES TO WEEZE.

MORE THAN 1150 AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS WERE OUT OVER GERMANY AGAIN TODAY. THEY HAMMERED TARGETS IN SOUTHERN GERMANY. A FORCE OF 200 AMERICAN FIGHTERS MADE STRAFING SWEEPS OVER WIDE AREAS OF WESTERN GERMANY. RAF LANCASTERS OUT IN DAYLIGHT TODAY ATTACKED A SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT NEAR DORTMUND. LAST NIGHT, MOSQUITOS POUNDED BERLIN FOR THE FIFTH NIGHT RUNNING WITH 4000 POUND BOMBS. ANOTHER FORCE OF MOSQUITOS BOMBED A RAIL CENTER NEAR DUSSELDORF DURING THE NIGHT.

RUSSIA:

FAR BEHIND THE FRONT LINES INSIDE GERMANY THE RUSSIANS ARE WAGING BATTLES OF ANNIHILATION IN THREE CITIES. IN EAST PRUSSIA THE REDS HAVE TIGHTENED THEIR GRIP ON KOENIGSBERG AND HAVE FURTHER REDUCED THE GERMAN POCKET ALONG THE COAST NEAR KOENIGSBERG. IN THE POLISH CORRIDOR THE RUSSIANS UNDER MARSHALL KOKOSOVOSKY ARE ENGAGED IN BITTER STREET FIGHTING IN THE ENCIROLED CITY OF GRUDZIADZ. KOKOSOVOSKY'S SPEARHEADS DRIVING ALONG THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE VISTULA BEYOND GRUDZIADZ HAVE MADE GOOD HEADWAY TOWARDS DANZIG.

MARSHALL IVAN KONEV'S MEN FIGHTING IN THE BIG SILESIAN CITY OF BRESLAU ARE NOW WELL INTO THE SOUTHERN PART OF THAT CITY. IN YESTERDAY'S FIGHTING THE REDS TOOK ANOTHER OF THE SUBURBS OF BRESLAU. THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN ATTACKING FURIOUSLY WITH TANKS AND INFANTRY IN NORTHERN HUNGARY ALONG THE BANK OF THE DANUBE NEAR KOMARON.

PACIFIC:

AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES FROM THE FIFTH UNITED STATES FLEET TODAY STRUCK AT MILITARY, NAVAL AND AIR INSTALLATIONS IN AND AROUND THE CITY OF TOKIO. SUPER FORTRESSES FLYING FROM THE MARIANAS ALSO JOINED IN ON THE ATTACK ON THE JAPANESE CAPITOL AND BOMBED INDUSTRIAL TARGETS. THE JAPS SAY THAT THE CARRIER PLANES CAME OVER THE CITY EARLY THIS MORNING AND ATTACKED FOR THREE HOURS. MORE THAN 200 SUPER FORTS, THE LARGEST NUMBER EVER USED ON A SINGLE RAID, FOLLOWED THE CARRIER PLANES OVER THE JAP CAPITOL AND ATTACKED INDUSTRIAL TARGETS. TOKIO RADIO SAYS THE SUPER FORTS ALSO HIT THE YOKOHAMA AREA.

SOME OF THE MOST BITTER FIGHTING OF THE PACIFIC CAMPAIGN IS NOW GOING ON ON THE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA WHERE UNITED STATES MARINES HAVE SLUGGED THEIR WAY TO THE CENTER OF THE SECOND AIRFIELD ON THE ISLAND. THE JAPS ARE FIGHTING FANATICALLY AND ARE DEFENDING THEIR POSITIONS TO THE LAST MAN. MOST OF THE AMERICAN PACIFIC FLEET IS HELPING THE OPERATIONS ON THE ISLAND.

CONTINUED

PACIFIC CONTINUED:

AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE OVERWHELMED THE LAST JAP POSITIONS IN SOUTHERN MANILA. OVER 12,000 DEAD JAPS HAVE BEEN COUNTED IN THE OLD WALLED CITY OF MANILA WHERE THE LAST JAP GARRISON HELD OUT. OVER 3000 CIVILIANS TAKING REFUGE INSIDE THE FORT HAVE BEEN FREED. ON THE ISLAND OF CORREGIDOR THE AMERICANS HAVE COUNTED 2300 JAPS DEAD SO FAR. SEVERAL THOUSANDS MORE ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED WHEN THE YANKS ELASTED THE ENTRANCES OF MORE THAN A 100 JAP DEFENSE TUNNELS.

ITALY:

ALLIED PLANES FROM ITALY FLEW OVER 2300 SORTIES YESTERDAY INCLUDING ATTACKS ON AUSTRIA, NORTHERN ITALY AND YUGOSLAVIA. THE GERMAN RADIO TODAY REPORTED ALLIED BOMBERS OVER BAVARIA FROM THE SOUTH.

