



VOLUME VII NO. 5

DON'T FRATERNIZE! DON'T TRUST A GERMAN

17 MARCH 1945

GERMANY:

THE ENTIRE SAAR BASIN PRESENTLY HELD BY THE GERMANS IS IN DANGER OF BEING SWEEPED AWAY FROM THE REICH AS AMERICAN TROOPS OF THE THIRD AND SEVENTH ARMIES DRIVE FORWARD IN A GREAT PINCERS MOVEMENT. LT. GENERAL GEORGE S. PATTON HAS EXPLODED TWO ARMORED COLUMNS SOUTHWARD FROM THE THIRD ARMY BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE MOSELLE RIVER JUST SOUTH OF COBLENZ AND THESE TWIN SPEARHEADS ARE RACING SOUTHWARD ACROSS THE SAAR PALATINATE. THEY WERE LAST OFFICIALLY REPORTED "SOME 40 MILES" SOUTH OF COBLENZ. ONE REPORT SAID ONE OF THE COLUMNS WAS WITHIN 9 MILES OF THE BIG BEND IN THE RHINE RIVER AT BINGEN. THE TANKS AGAIN BEWILDERED THE GERMANS BY THEIR SUDDEN SWERVES AND TWISTS. GERMAN RESISTANCE HAS BEEN LIGHT. THE GERMANS THEMSELVES SAY THE SITUATION IS SERIOUS AND GIVE CREDIT TO THE THIRD ARMY TROOPS FOR THEIR RAPID ADVANCE THROUGH THE MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY AND THEY SAY THAT PATTON'S FORCES HAVE THUNDERED TO THE TOWNS OF KIRN AND BAD KREUZNACH ON THE RIVER NAHE SOUTHWEST OF BINGEN. TO THE EAST OF TRIER AND SAARBURG THE FRONT IS LOOSENING AND OTHER THIRD ARMY TROOPS ARE PUSHING AHEAD AGAINST DECREASING GERMAN OPPOSITION.

TROOPS OF THE AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY ADVANCED ON A 50 MILE FRONT BETWEEN SAARBRUCKEN AND HAGUENAU. GERMAN RESISTANCE SO FAR HAS BEEN SPOTTY AND THE TOWNS OF HAGUENAU AND BICHE HAVE BEEN CLEARED. EAST OF SAARBRUCKEN, GENERAL PATCH'S MEN HAVE ADVANCED 3 MILES IN THE OUTER BELT OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE. THE GERMANS ARE WITHDRAWING ON THIS SECTOR WITH SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS RIGHT BEHIND THEM.

THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE RHINE AT REMAGEN HAS AGAIN BEEN EXPANDED. THE AMERICANS ARE REPORTED TO HOLD A MILE LONG STRETCH OF THE SUPER HIGHWAY BETWEEN COLOGNE AND FRANKFURT-ON-MAIN. THE YANKS ARE MEETING INCREASED RESISTANCE AND HAVE RUN INTO MINES FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE GERMANS SAY THAT FIGHTING IN THE BRIDGEHEAD IS ON A "SERIOUS SCALE".

A FLEET OF MORE THAN 1300 AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS TODAY BLASTED OIL AND COMMUNICATION TARGETS AT HANNOVER AND MUNSTER AND AT A TOWN NORTH OF DRESDEN LESS THAN 30 MILES FROM THE RUSSIAN FRONT. BERLIN RECEIVED THE ATTENTION OF HARD HITTING MOSQUITOS FOR THE 25TH NIGHT IN SUCCESSION LAST NIGHT AND RAF HEAVIES ATTACKED WURZBURG BETWEEN FRANKFURT AND NURNBERG AS WELL AS NURNBERG.

RUSSIA:

THE GERMANS SAID TODAY THAT RUSSIAN TROOPS HAD LAUNCHED A POWERFUL ATTACK ON A WIDE FRONT ON THE PLAINS OF HUNGARY BETWEEN THE DANUBE AND LAKE BALATON AFTER A BIG SCALE ARTILLERY PREPARATION. ACCORDING TO THE NAZIS, THE REDS HAVE MADE SOME "PENETRATIONS". MOSCOW IS SILENT ABOUT THIS GERMAN REPORT. THE GERMANS HAD BEEN ATTACKING WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF TANKS FOR 11 DAYS IN A ROW IN WESTERN HUNGARY BUT THEIR ATTACKS WASTED AWAY YESTERDAY AND THE RUSSIANS TOOK THE INITIATIVE.

IN UPPER POMERANIA MARSHALL ZHUKOV'S FORCES HAVE FURTHER REDUCED THE GERMAN BRIDGEHEAD ON THE EAST BANK OF THE RIVER NEAR STETTIN. THE SOVIETS ARE CLOSING ON THE PORT IN A GREAT SEMI CIRCLE AND ARE REPORTED TO HAVE TANKS IN THE SUBURBS OF ALTDAMM. MARSHALL KOKOSHOV'S FORCES WERE LAST NIGHT FOUR MILES FROM THE BALTIC COAST AT A POINT BETWEEN DANZIG AND GDYNIA. IN EAST PRUSSIA THE GERMAN POCKET NEAR KOENIGSBERG HAS BEEN FURTHER COMPRESSED. THE GERMANS SAY THAT THE POSITION OF THE TROOPS IN THE KOENIGSBERG AREA IS GROWING DESPERATE.

PACIFIC:

AFTER 26 DAYS OF BLOODY FIGHTING, THE BATTLE FOR THE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA IS OVER. JAP LOSSES IN THAT PERIOD ARE OVER 20,000 IN KILLED ALONE. THE UNITED STATES MARINES LOST OVER 4000 DEAD AND MORE THAN 15,000 WERE WOUNDED.

CONTINUED

PACIFIC CONTINUED:

MORE THAN 300 SUPER FORTRESSES FLYING FROM THE MARIANAS EARLY THIS MORNING DROPPED ALMOST 2500 TONS OF FIRE BOMBS ON KOBE, THE CHIEF PORT OF JAPAN. THIS BIG CITY ON THE MAIN ISLAND OF JAPAN AND HAS VAST DOCKYARDS. THE GIANT BOMBERS HIT AN AREA OF 5 MILES SQUARE IN THE CITY AND FIRES WERE STILL BURNING WHEN RECONNAISSANCE PLANES FLEW OVER THE CITY LATER TODAY.

BRITISH 14TH ARMY TROOPS HAVE TIGHTENED THEIR GRIP ON THE 50,000 JAPS ON THE MANDALAY PLAIN. THE MAIN COMMUNICATION ROAD SOUTH OF MANDALAY HAS BEEN CUT. THE FRENCH ARE KEEPING UP THEIR RESISTANCE IN INDO CHINA AND HAVE SURROUNDED A JAP GARRISON IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY.



HE USE TO ROUND UP STRAYS FOR THE BARX OUT WEST.