



DON'T FRATERNIZE! DON'T TRUST A GERMAN

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GERMANY:

TROOPS OF THE AMERICAN NINTH, THE BRITISH SECOND AND CANADIAN FIRST ARMIES HAVE CROSSED THE LOWER RHINE RIVER IN A MAJOR OFFENSIVE. THE CROSSINGS WERE MADE DURING THE NIGHT AND EARLY THIS MORNING AND WERE PRECEDED BY A TREMENDOUS ARTILLERY BARRAGE THAT SAW AMERICAN AND BRITISH CANNON FIRING FOR THREE HOURS WITHOUT A PAUSE. AFTER DAWN THIS MORNING, UNITS OF THE FIRST ALLIED AIRBORNE ARMIES, INCLUDING THE SIXTH BRITISH AIRBORNE DIVISION AND THE AMERICAN 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, DROPPED JUST BEHIND THE GERMAN FORCES ON THE EAST BANK. THOSE TROOPS WHO CROSSED THE RIVER IN ASSAULT CRAFT MET LIGHT OPPOSITION ON THE OTHER SIDE AND SOME UNITS WERE LAST REPORTED TO HAVE DRIVEN 2 MILES BEYOND THE FAR BANK.

AT SIX O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT, THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH ARTILLERY POUKED A HAIL OF STEEL ACROSS THE RIVER FOR THREE HOURS WITHOUT LETUP. AT NINE O'CLOCK, BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON, UNITED KINGDOM FORCES WENT INTO ACTION. HUGE NAVAL CRAFT OPERATED BY PERSONNEL OF THE ROYAL NAVY, WERE LOADED WITH TROOPS OF THE 51ST HIGHLAND DIVISION AND THESE TROOPS WERE CARRIED ACROSS THE RHINE ABOUT 12 MILES BELOW WESEL.

AT TEN O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT, BRITISH COMMANDOS SLIPPED ACROSS THE RIVER JUST DOWNSTREAM FROM WESEL. JUST AFTER THE COMMANDOS HAD REACHED THE FAR BANK OF THE RIVER, RAF HEAVY BOMBERS FLEW OVER TO PLASTER THE DEFENSES OF WESEL. AS SOON AS THE BOMBING HAD CEASED, THE COMMANDOS SLIPPED INTO THE TOWN AND TOOK IT. JUST ABOUT THREE O'CLOCK THIS MORNING, THE 15TH SCOTTISH DIVISION CROSSED THE RIVER FROM NEAR XANTEN.

UNITS OF THE AMERICAN NINTH ARMY WENT INTO ACTION AT FOUR O'CLOCK THIS MORNING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF WESEL FURTHER UPSTREAM. THE YANKS PILED INTO HUGE ASSAULT CRAFT OPERATED BY MEN OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND THEY QUICKLY CROSSED THE RIVER AND PUSHED ON. EARLY THIS MORNING THE AMERICAN 101ST AIRBORNE, THE HEROES OF BASTOGNE, AND THE BRITISH SIXTH AIRBORNE DIVISION WERE DROPPED JUST BEHIND THE GERMAN FORCES ON THE EAST BANK OF THE RIVER. CORRESPONDENTS SAY THAT 1500 TRANSPORT PLANES AND GLIDERS WERE USED IN THE MASSIVE AIRBORNE OPERATION. AMERICAN LIBERATORS HAVE ALREADY DROPPED SUPPLIES TO THE AIRBORNE UNITS.

GERMAN RESISTANCE ON THE EAST BANK OF THE RHINE RIVER IS REPORTED TO BE "LIGHT" BUT THE ALLIED TROOPS HAVE NOT YET RUN INTO THE GERMAN RESERVES.

ANOTHER ALLIED ARMY, THE UNITED STATES THIRD ARMY, UNDER LT. GENERAL S PATTON, HAS CROSSED THE RHINE RIVER. GENERAL PATTON'S FORCES WENT ACROSS THE RHINE ON THURSDAY NIGHT WITHOUT ARTILLERY OR AIR PREPARATION AND THEY ARE REPORTED TO BE ALREADY ENLARGING THEIR BRIDGEHEAD AND SHUTTLING TROOPS AND SUPPLIES ACROSS IN FERRIES AND ASSAULT BOATS. IT HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED YET WHERE THE THIRD ARMY CROSSING TOOK PLACE BUT THE GERMANS SAY THAT THE AMERICANS CROSSED NEAR OPPENHELM ABOUT 100 MILES UPSTREAM FROM REMAGEN. THE GERMAN REMNANTS LEFT WEST OF THE RHINE, ESTIMATED AT 20,000 MEN, ARE IN A VERY BAD WAY AFTER LOSING THEIR LAST ESCAPE BRIDGE WHEN THIRD ARMY YANKS TOOK SPEYER. THE CITY OF LUDWIGSHAFEN HAS BEEN CLEARED AND SOUTH OF THIS CITY THE NAZIS HAVE BEEN COMPRESSED INTO A POCKET 10 MILES DEEP.

THE ALL-OUT ALLIED AERIAL OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE REICH WENT ON AGAIN TODAY. MORE THAN 1000 AMERICAN HEAVIES BLASTED 12 MORE GERMAN AIRFIELDS ABOUT 60 MILES BEHIND THE FRONT LINES EAST OF THE LOWER RHINE. A FORCE OF 850 FIGHTERS ESCORTED THE BOMBERS AND THEY WENT ON ARMED PATROLS OVER NORTHWEST GERMANY. ALLIED TACTICAL PLANES WERE OUT IN VERY GREAT STRENGTH AGAIN TODAY HAMMERING AT TARGETS IN THE RUHR AND IN NORTHERN GERMANY. WATCHERS ON THE ENGLISH COAST SAID THAT THEY HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH GREAT CONCENTRATIONS OF AIRCRAFT HEADING FOR GERMANY AS THEY HAVE SEEN TODAY.

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#### GERMANY CONTINUED:

TODAY MARKED THE FOURTH DAY OF MASSIVE ALLIED AIR BLOWS AGAINST THE REICH. ALLIED AIRMEN HAVE PARALYZED COMMUNICATIONS IN THE RUHR VALLEY AND IN NORTH AND CENTRAL GERMANY AND HAVE CREATED UTTER DEVASTATION WHERE KESSELING IS TRYING TO ASSEMBLE HIS FORCES TO TRY AND STOP MONTGOMERY.

AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS FROM ITALY TODAY FLEW ALL THE WAY TO BERLIN TO POUND THAT CITY FOR THE FIRST TIME. THIS WAS THE LONGEST ESCORTED MISSION EVER FLOWN BY AMERICAN BOMBERS OF THE 15TH AIR FORCE. ALLIED PLANES FLEW SOME 2700 SORTIES YESTERDAY. MORE THAN 1000 MEDIUM BOMBERS ALONE YESTERDAY ATTACKED COMMUNICATIONS IN AUSTRIA AND NORTHERN ITALY.

#### RUSSIA:

MARSHALL KONEV'S MEN IN UPPER SILESIA HAVE BROADENED THEIR SOUTHWARD DRIVE AND ARE DRIVING TO BURST THROUGH THE SUDETEN GAP GUARDING THE APPROACHES TO PRAGUE. KONEV'S MEN HAVE TAKEN MORE PLACES ON AND NEAR THE CZECHOSLOVAK FRONTIER AND HAVE CUT THE MAIN GERMAN SUPPLY ROUTE TO THE MORAVIAN GAP AND NOW THREATEN THIS HISTORIC PASS THAT LEADS THROUGH CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO VIENNA. THE GERMANS SAY THAT KONEV'S TANKS ARE FIGHTING IN THE TOWN OF NEISSE.

MARSHALL ROKOSSEVSKY'S FORCES HAVE DRIVEN TO THE BALTIC BETWEEN DANZIG AND GDYNIA AND HAVE TAKEN THE PORT OF ZOPOT. THIS DRIVE HAS SPLIT THE GERMAN POCKET IN TWO. THE GERMANS SAY THAT MARSHALL ZHUKOV'S FIRST WHITE RUSSIAN ARMY GROUP IS 7 MILES PAST THE ODER DUE EAST OF BERLIN AND ONLY 33 MILES FROM THE GERMAN CAPITAL.

#### PACIFIC:

BRITISH 14TH ARMY TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED FAR SOUTH OF MANDALAY TO WITHIN 18 MILES OF MEIKTILA. THE JAPS ON THE MANDALAY PLAIN IN BETWEEN THE BRITISH FORCES HAVE LOST THE IRRAWADDY RIVER TOWN OF MYINGYAN.

SEVEN HUNDRED (700) JAPANESE AIRCRAFT WERE DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN THIS WEEK'S CARRIER BORNE ATTACKS ON JAPAN. THE AMERICAN ESCORT CARRIER, "BISMARCK SEA", WAS LOST OFF IWO JIMA LAST MONTH. TOKIO RADIO SAID TODAY THAT AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES WERE ATTACKING THE RYUKU CHAIN OF ISLANDS SOUTH OF JAPAN.

AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED AGAIN INTO NORTHERN LUZON AFTER CRUSHING 4 JAP COUNTERATTACKS.