

# ITALIANS SAID TO HAVE CROSSED RIVER ON WIDE FRONT

## Said To Have Crossed River On Wide Front

### Retreating Nazis Reported 15 to 20 Miles North of Volturno

LONDON — (AP)—The Cairo radio said today that Allied forces have crossed the Volturno River above Naples on a "broad front."

The broadcast said the Germans were retreating to new positions along the Garigliano River—some fifteen to twenty miles north of the Volturno.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGIERS — (AP)—Allied patrols have fought their way across the lower Volturno River in Italy where they are probing the strong enemy defenses on the north bank, and the Germans have flung another division, the Third Armored Grenadiers—into battle to hold that river line, Allied Headquarters announced today.

The strategic railway and highway center of Caserta, sixteen miles above Naples on the southern side of the Volturno, was captured as the Fifth Army mopped up the last enemy resistance below the Volturno and Calore Rivers, official reports disclosed.

American and British patrols forcing the Volturno encountered "small arms and light artillery fire," a headquarters officer emphasized that front reports indicated no major body of the Fifth Army had yet penetrated across the stream, and declared "there is every reason to believe that they will try their best to do so."

ASONG WHOLE RIVER—Allied forces have reached the Volturno along its length from the mountains to the sea, Associated Press Correspondent Roman Mott, with the Fifth Army, reported, and installed heavy traps in "every possible place. These have taken a heavy toll of Italian divisions."

The patrol actions were the first Allied operations on the north bank of the Volturno in the vital plain area stretching sixteen miles from the mouth of the sea. Further inland, Americans several days ago crossed the Calore River, and were in position to menace the left flank of the Germans manning to defend the lower Volturno up to Oct. 1, Allied Air Force Headquarters said today.

Of that number, 3,471 were destroyed in the heavy fighting, mostly wrecked by bombing, were found on captured Axis airfields, the headquarters said.

The number of enemy planes counted on fields occupied on the Italian mainland has mounted to 250. More than 600 were found in Tunisia, and more than 1,100 in Sicily.

The total does not include planes destroyed by bombings in fields still held by the Allies. The Northwest African Air Force also reported sinking of 185 ships totaling 112,000 tons.

The weight of bombs dropped on Italy in September was computed as 15,259 tons. This was over 3,000 tons more than the last previous high for this theater in August.

With the weather less favorable, smaller tonnages are likely in the coming months.

ARMY SWOLEN—The Volturno is swollen by heavy rains which produced flood conditions on many portions of the whole front from the Tyrrhenian coast to the Adriatic Sea.

Because of deep mud, many armed and motorized units of both the Allies and the Germans have been fighting disconnected actions.

ADRIATIC FRONT—On the Adriatic front, the fighting died down somewhat after the capture of heavy battling in which Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's Eighth Army knocked out the enemy.

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CUTTING OFF THE CRIMEA—With Red armies striking at Dnepropetrovsk, Melitopol and toward the Kerch Straits, the threat to Nazi armies in the south becomes grave. Once these barriers are passed, the Russians will be in position to cut off German forces in the Crimea. Broken arrows show possible routes of Soviet drives.

## Let Nazis Escape Italian 'Stand' In Corsica Was A Sorry Thing

By WES CALAHER  
AJACCO, CORSIKA — (AP)—Escape of 20,000 Nazi troops from Corsica during the recent campaign frustrated the defeat of 55,000 Italian troops, fully equipped with tanks and heavy armor, who held vital bridges against a few German patrols.

That is the conclusion this correspondent arrived at after reviewing the campaign with American and French officers who took part in the fight. It was not disputed by conversationalists with the Italians themselves.

The Corsicans were told yesterday by Gen. Gaullie that France would be freed as was Corsica, and that the island must give way to the Cross of Lorraine.

Standing in the shadow of the Bonaparte monument in Ajaccio, the Fighting French leader received the enthusiastic cheers of the Corsican press. After a rapid two-day fight for the island.

De Gaullie later told a press conference that the Italians see ITALIANS IN on page 2

## Five Jap Warships Sunk Or Damaged

### Enemy Suffers Defeat In Battle With U. S. Surface Forces

By Associated Press  
Japan counted five warships sunk or damaged today in a bitter naval engagement with lighter U. S. surface forces which frustrated the evacuation of enemy troops from positions no longer tenable in the central Solomon Islands.

The Japanese announced in a broadcast that they had sunk a Japanese big base on New Britain, 400 miles to the north, and four Japanese ships, in three groups, were intercepted by a force commander by Capt. Walker, and attempting either to pull off Nipponese remnants still holding out against the Americans on Vella Lavella or to complete the evacuation of Japanese from Kolombangara to the Solomons.

Without waiting for reinforcements, Capt. Walker maneuvered his force for battle against the Japanese. MacArthur's command was split into two groups, one to destroy a large force and another to destroy a smaller force.

The second Japanese group, probably destroyed, and the third, consisting of three destroyers, a combatant cruiser, saw at a distance the flaming action, then turned and fled, and retreated at high speed.

JAPS HIT HARD—The losses increased to more than 100 Japanese warships when the Japanese force was destroyed in the Solomon Sea current offensive on June 20. They lost approximately 1,000 planes, more than 100,000 men.

See FIVE JAPANESE on page 2

## Leaves From A War Correspondent's Notebook

By HAL BOYLE  
AN AMERICAN FIGHTER BASE IN ITALY, Oct. 2—(Delayed)—Not since the iron days back at Tophet at the start of the Tunisian campaign have American fighter pilots undergone the hardships they survived during the opening weeks of the Battle for Italy.

At Tophet the days were miserably cold weather and German JU-87's.

In Italy there have been dust, heat, and the swarms of Focke-Wulf 109's but the worst thing is over now for the young fighter pilots who have swept the German planes from the skies.

BOYLE  
There were nights when they slept in thorny blackberry bushes with the mosquitoes so thick one needed a blanket to keep them off. When not sleeping in their own planes, they frequently slept in the trenches sweating out German raids. Often their feet were so sore they had to be bandaged with cotton patches.

## Strike Deep Into Europe In Daylight Penetration

### Red Lines Fairly Close To Targets

By ROBERT STURDEVANT  
LONDON — (AP)—Strong formations of heavy American bombers flew deep into Europe today to bomb important targets in Pomerania, in Eastern Germany, Poland, and East Prussia, it was announced.

This deepest daylight penetration into Hitler's fortress from British bases followed up an RAF raid in great strength last night on the German rubber manufacturing center of Hannover and a lesser raid on the port of Bremen, which American bombers had left in flames yesterday.

LONG JOURNEY—(The round trip from the vicinity of London to East Prussia would involve a flight of at least 1,600 miles.)

Referring to yesterday's Bremen raid, the Berlin radio claimed that 43 planes of the "powerful" North American air formations had been shot down. The Americans announced the loss of 30 bombers yesterday.

It admitted "considerable" damage in last night's Hannover raid.

The night assault climaxed a day of intense aerial activity and preliminary reports showed the assault was concentrated. The British lost 31 bombers.

Today's flight all the way across Germany to East Prussia and Poland—at least 600 miles and 10,000 pounds of bombs to within 200 miles of the Russian front line.

GIEN DAY COMING  
It forecasted the day when Allied blows from Britain will be linked up with the vast ground front in Russia and provide a direct link to the footholds of the German effort to forestall what Berlin calls the "air terror."

See RANGE FAR on page 2

## Pin-Up Wives

Wives of Charlotte aviators are sending "pin-up" pictures of themselves to their husbands in uniform. A dozen of these attractive "pin-ups," which are being sent to the hands of our aviators, are shown in a special layout on page 3-A of this edition of The News.

## Rome Folk Concerned

### Enemy City May Be Battleground

By FRANK BRITTO  
BERN, Switzerland — (AP)—Removal of the Fascist Republican Government from Rome to Bolzano in the Italian Alps has called the attention of the Romans to the fact that the Eternal City may soon become a battleground.

Dispatches reaching Switzerland from Italy said that although few soldiers are visible in Rome tanks and motorized units are on the march from the Pizzo Del Popolo and the Corso.

CANNON FIRE HEARD  
East a dispatch to Die Tass "At intervals cannon fire can be heard from the south but after a P. M. Rome is blacked out and a dead city whose people appear apathetic to political questions."

Not so apathetic were those whose fathers, sons, brothers or husbands have been interned by the German Army. The Rome radio warned relatives that it was useless for families to request their liberation or to try to see them. The only concession granted was that they were to be permitted to receive mail.

There was also considerable speculation as to the whereabouts of the younger Italian men from 18 to 23 who disappeared from the streets when the German army moved whether they were merely interned or forced labor in Germany.

The move to Bolzano, only 30 miles from the German frontier, was explained in the German newspaper Berliner Boersen Zeitung as designed to provide closer contact with operational bases and Germany.

Another dispatch to Switzerland said that efforts were being made to meet the needs of the city by applying to open cities. Anti-aircraft defenses have been set up in the city and it may be possible to evacuate the city without molestation, the dispatch said.

The population of Rome itself was said to be apprehensive. Most shops were closed and there was little outdoor transportation. The use of private vehicles has been limited and the Germans have requisitioned 500 cars. The food supply system is crippled by irregular suburban traffic and there has been no milk supply from Northern Italy for some time.

On one of our best days we had a plane with a German convoy we were to buy that day. There were about 60 trucks, command cars, half-tracks and tanks. We kept after them all day long with our half-tracks—you know, flying through the air to clip the tops off their hubcaps—using four planes each time. On one trip we were to buy that day.

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## Great Struggle Rages About Kiev

### Germans Strive Desperately To Prevent Reds From Closing Pincers

By EDDY GILMORE  
MOSCOW — (AP)—German commanders threw a great weight of tanks and bombers into the battle of the Dnieper today in an effort to prevent the Russians from clamping a pincer on the Ukrainian capital of Kiev from bridge-

heads north and south of the gold-domed city. One of the most tremendous struggles of the whole war was raging near the high west banks of the river.

The Russians have steadily enlarged their bridgeheads north and south of Kiev and established a third crossing farther south between Kremenchuk and Dnepropetrovsk. Little news came from the front and this meant only that great battles were being fought and that the climax was not yet.

Front line dispatches said the Germans hurried tanks, artillery, planes and men to the critical sectors every hour through a gauntlet of Russian guerrillas. Red bombers blundered away at communications in full realization that, at the moment, traffic is the key to victory.

Every indication was that the German General Staff would do everything in its power, including the shifting of troops from other sectors, to hold the Dnieper line.

Polly aware of the tactical victories they have won in three major crossings of the waterways—Kiev in all Europe after the Volga and Danube—the Red Army used the darkness last night to force more reinforcements into their bridgeheads.

Trucks made in the United States were playing a part in this mighty transport of men and material across the barrier.

Planes made in the United States also are playing a large part in the heavy battles in which the Red Army is fighting to protect its lifelines across the Dnieper.

See REPORT LONG on page 2

## Japanese Massacred In Attempt To Make Central Solomons Flight

(Editor's note: Remember James, reported first here in the following dispatch, how American destroyers sank or damaged 10 Japanese craft, many of them attempting to escape Japanese troops from the Solomon Islands. The news was preceded by the actual naval battle between rival surface forces announced by General Douglas MacArthur Saturday, in which the Red Army was fighting to protect its lifelines across the Dnieper.)

and even rebuffs from the enemy's last Central Solomons stronghold.

Six Japanese flotillas were smashed by American destroyers during the night of Oct. 1, 2 and 3. More than 40 Japanese craft were sunk and the occupants were spilled into the dark waters of Vella Gulf. They evidently were headed for Choiseul Island to the north.

The months of blockade by the Navy after the capture of Munda, constant artillery shelling from nearby Anund Island and craft attacks finally forced the enemy into a desperate suicidal flight.

WATCHES SLAUGHTER  
On successive nights from the bridge of two different warships I watched this mass slaughter. The night seemed up within full view of the actions and within 100 miles of Oct. 1 when our destroyers got Japanese barges.

This was more than half the total number of enemy craft sighted. Naval officers estimated that possibly 4,000 Japanese were trying to escape on that occasion.

Each night performance was identical. American ships spotlighted the Japanese with star shells and then poured gunfire into their craft while heaping a sharp blast of enemy planes that hovered overhead in the darkness, dropping flares and bombs.

Japanese submarines lurked in the abdomen but the enemy was unable to furnish any surface warship protection for the evacuation barges.

The commanding continued for hours. Scores of star shells lit up the sea. The Japanese ships in which I rode each night seemed up within full view of the actions and within 100 miles of Oct. 1 when our destroyers got Japanese barges.

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