

GERMANS STAY OVER MEUSE Germans Battle To Escape Trap In Rhone Valley FIGHTS OVER BRUNNEN AND BRACON

Moving On Capital Of Bucharest May Already Be In Transylvania

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW—(AP)—Two great Russian army groups paced by colorful Cossacks advanced within less than 50 miles of Bucharest today in a drive swiftly overrunning the wealthy Ploesti oil region. An unconfirmed report said some columns had plunged also 50 miles into Transylvania.

The 16,642 square-mile northern section of Transylvania was cut away from Romania and awarded to Hungary by Hitler in the 1940 Vienna dictate. Yet there were no reports of Hungarians fighting alongside the Germans in that area.

(The German communiqué said "Counter-attacks by Hungarian and German troops to prevent the enemy from entering Hungary through the eastern Carpathians are making good headway. Russian attacks at Piatra-Neamt, at the edge of Transylvania were repelled. The Germans said the Russians "continued their attack" between Warsaw and East Prussia in the region between the Vistula and Narew Rivers and "reached the Bzura area.")

IN CARPATHIANS
The main Russian direction in Romania was toward Bucharest, but numerous columns moved off the Russian right flank into the Carpathians. It was one of these which was reported deep in Transylvania, which capitulated Romania has sworn to retake from Hungary.)

Striking air forces were bombing and strafing the disorganized German army and night.
East of captured Galati in the breached defenses in the gap between the mountains and the Danube mouth, advance Russian troops poured down the highway toward Bucharest on roads which skirt the Sargana steppe north of the Buzan frontier.
Front dispatches said Nazi storm

Say Reds At Hungary Line

LONDON—(AP)—Russian troops have reached the Hungarian border, the German radio asserted tonight.
The Russians were said to have reached the border at "one of the Carpathian passes," the broadcast added.
Though vague, the broadcast seemed to indicate that the advance was through Romania to the edge of Transylvania, the Carpathian Mountains pass since which Hitler gave in part to Hungary in 1940. However, the Russian Army groups in Southern Poland have been within 13 to 21 miles of five mountain passes leading into provinces which Hungary annexed from Czechoslovakia when that republic was partitioned.

Bob Hope's Communique

By BOB HOPE
(Now circulating our service men.)
I was standing behind T. J. J. McMahon of Los Angeles, Calif., the pilot, when the engine failed, and we started down.
People offered everyone to put on their Mac West's Jerry Colombo held out for a while for a Lana Turner, but he finally settled for Mac West.
We were flying in a Catalina Ferry boat, which later water to land on. But there was no water in sight. It was certainly thirsty out there.
We were ordered to throw everything out to lighten the plane. So we started throwing out personal baggage, the plane's tools and cases of character.
I said, "I hate to throw out this case of liquor. I'm saving it for a sick friend," I chattered.

PRISONERS RIDE UNDER SIFTEL TOWER—German prisoners, captured during the battle for the liberation of Paris, ride under the Eiffel Tower under guard of the first U. S. troops to enter the French capital. (AP Wirephoto via Signal Corps Radio.)

Bulgaria Will Get Surrender Terms

LONDON—(AP)—Surrender terms for Bulgaria probably will be handed to an emissary of that Nazi satellite in Cairo within a few days and armistice terms for Romania are expected to be signed shortly in Moscow, it was learned today.
Greek and Yugoslav interests are understood to have full participation in the terms to the Bulgarians, despite that Balkan kingdom's status as a last defense against the German advance. To retain parts of these Allied Nations which Bulgaria grabbed with German approval. Steps were taken to prepare the peace terms were prepared by the European Advisory Commission and submitted to Washington and Moscow for approval. Steps were taken to obtain Greek and Yugoslav consent.

The Russians asked Germany's remaining allies—Finland, Hungary and the rump state of Slovakia—to quit the Nazis before it is too late.
Urging other countries to turn against the Nazis, the official Communist Party organ Pravda said only thus could "escape the disastrous consequences of the criminal policies of their governments."
"Events are developing so rapidly," said Pravda, "that they leave no time for hesitation. The situation is quite clear. The Germans have no hope and he who does not break with them will share their fate."
While Russia is not at war with Bulgaria, Pravda's warning seemed aimed at her as much as at Hungary and Finland.
Moscow is believed fully informed of the armistice terms forwarded to Sofia. The terms were not disclosed, but it was believed that, besides demanding unconditional surrender, they included:

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"Who is the sick friend?" asked Colombia.
"Me," I replied.
I kept going up to the pilot giving him a big smile while my two raters of Los Angeles, Calif., the pilot, when the engine failed, and we started down.
People offered everyone to put on their Mac West's Jerry Colombo held out for a while for a Lana Turner, but he finally settled for Mac West.
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Nazi South France Fight Toll Is High Over Half Seen As Casualties

By GEORGE TUCKER
ROME—(AP)—More than half of all German soldiers garrisoning Southern France prior to the Allied landings are believed to have been killed, wounded or captured in less than two weeks, and the battered remnants were fighting a frantic battle in the Rhone Valley to escape a trap.
At least 50,000 enemy front line troops were estimated to have been knocked out of the war in the invasion of Southern France to the east.
The German Eleventh Division was being pressed from the south by other American units, dispatched to the area, and was being harassed by Maquis in the hills to the west and cut off by Allied artillery fire from the east.
The Germans were making a fierce effort to cut a way through to Valence, 25 miles north of Montelimar, it was said, but the Americans were confident of their ability to crush the breakout attempt.
The Germans were "controlled by the additional movement of 'Butler's Task Force'—the mobile command unit—by Brig. Gen. Frederick A. B. Butler, who arrived there had all but one day ago reached Grenoble, 70 miles northeast of Montelimar, and whose activities have not been reported since.

The Germans were attempting to withdraw northwest through the Rhone Valley along the river's east bank when a column from Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's advancing Army fell upon them and in a series of rough encounters killed untold hundreds, a headquarters announcement said.
While strong forces of bombers assaulted the heavily manned enemy coastal batteries on the fortified island of Ratoneau, which lies west of Marseilles, French infantry reported they had all but eliminated Nazi resistance in the great maritime port. All opposition was confined exclusively to the harbor area.

Pacific Air Blows Fall

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific—(AP)—Hitching its bases ever closer to Tokyo, Allied air power in the Pacific is heightening the tempo of its assault.
Reported over the week-end were some of the heaviest sustained bombing raids yet conducted simultaneously on a wide range of targets in the Nimitz-MacArthur theater—89 tons of bombs on two Japanese islands 750 miles south of Tokyo; 142 tons on Japan; more than 150 tons on the Philippines.
In these attacks, eight small Japanese watercraft were sunk or damaged and eleven enemy planes destroyed or damaged. Supplementing recently won air triumphs in the Philippines and Guam, in the Marianas, a newly-completed field on Midway Island off Saipan at the northwest tip of Dutch New Guinea.

Disclosure of the new airstrip, 200 miles from the Philippines, ground action there east and southwest of Saipan, American paratroopers, interceding units of Japan's Second Army attempting to escape westward from Manila, killed 220 enemy troops and captured 100.

Summary of the principal aerial attacks:
Lima Lima—Intense anti-aircraft fire, strong fighter interception, a night raid on Midway Island by an enemy plane. Damage estimated 100.

Weather
Occasional drizzle and light fog. Little change in temperature. Partly cloudy and warmer tomorrow.

Would Extend Benefits
Of "GI Bill of Rights"
WASHINGTON—(AP)—Benefits of the "GI Bill of Rights" would be extended to members of the Merchant Marine and the Women's Auxiliary Air Corps under a bill introduced today by Senator Thomas, Democrat, Utah.



ALLIES ON THE MARNE AGAIN—An old World War I battlefield flamed anew today as American forces rolled into the Marne River area. Allied threatening Reims are in position for a drive toward the Somme. Southeast of Paris they have reached Troyes in a push toward the Alsace-Lorraine border area. From Southern France a thrust toward Belfort appears likely. (AP Wirephoto.)

Yank Warplanes Rake Nazi Europe

LONDON—(AP)—American fighters and fighter bombers flew thousands of sorties from the West today beating up fleeing German troops, their airports and transport facilities all through Northern France. The Low Countries and as far into Germany as Frankfurt.

Starkling up from Italy, strong forces of heavy U. S. bombers blasted the Moosbrunn of refinery in Hungary on the Danube 50 miles northeast of Budapest. The Stukaes got past 100 miles northeast of Budapest, the Avro viaduct and the Orade bridge on the Brenner Pass rail line in Northern Italy. The Hunzair rail cars got by at junction of lines into surrendered Romania and over the Tisza River 55 miles in tactical support of the swiftly advancing Russian armies.

TROOP TRAINS HIT
Preliminary reports from British and French bases showed that about 500 American fighters alone had shot up eleven troop trains moving toward Budapest. The sky destroyed 500 freight cars and damaged 1,000 more.

They exploded an ammunition train, blasted many tons of explosives near Budapest, and a blast—started by a machine gun bullet—which jarred the countryside for miles around.

Fortresses and Liberators from Italy bombed the oil plants in Austria and Hungary through smoke screens. Fires and explosions blanketed the rail targets. A rail bridge over the Tisza River 55 miles southeast of Budapest received a good pattern of bombs, stopping for a time traffic from Hungary to the southeast.
Tactical planes operated with the Soviet Army in Southern France. They bombed three bridges near Lyon.
Other planes bombed the Villafraña di Verona and other ten miles southwest of Verona and harbor facilities at Trieste and Savona in the Italian Riviera.

Nazis Yielding Historic River Without Fight Meaux Captured And New Threat To Rocket Bomb Coast Develops

By JAMES M. LONG
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE—(AP)—American troops, sweeping in a wide area threatening German lines of retreat into the Rhine, have crossed the Marne and captured Meaux in the loop of the historic river 23 miles east of Paris.
The Germans were yielding the battleground of the First World War without a fight as the Americans swept on through Meaux unchecked. Sedan, a famous battlefield in 1870 and 1940, was 105 miles to the northeast.
Toward the sea the British established a fifth bridgehead across the Seine, swinging their forces across the river near Louviers, between Vernon and Point de l'Arche where the Canadians have crossed. For the first time in this war American troops were fighting on a battlefield of the First World War. The quaint town of Meaux marked the high tide of the German attempt to take Paris in September, 1918—an attempt which ended with the Allied victory of the First Battle of the Marne when the Parisian army stemmed the German tide.
The town is 24 miles southwest of Meaux, where the Germans were stronghanded behind the Meuse River and the Canal de St. Denis. The Allies had been in the Meuse since the First World War. The advance placed Eighth Army units in the Adriatic sector within five miles of the important port of Fiume and only a little more than twenty miles from Rimini at the southern edge of the broad Po Valley.

PORT EVACUATED
The little Adriatic port of Fiume was found clear of the enemy as the Germans scrambled to get out of the way of the hand-lighting Poles. The latter crossed the Arad River, which empties into the Adriatic a mile northwest of Fiume, only after a stubborn fight, however.
A prisoner from the veteran Ninth Fourth Parachute Division—one of three German divisions recently reported in action on the Adriatic sector—said orders for his unit's retreat from the Maturino lake could not be carried out because the hostile artillery barrage laid down by the Allies.
The withdrawal finally was effected only after heavy losses, the captive added.
Substantial gains were made by Sixth Army troops further inland where Allied forces crossed the Maggiore River in the mountains of the Nazi-occupied Balkans. The North and east of Florence the Nazi withdrawal into the Gothic Line continued. A British force pushing three miles north of the Arno River in the vicinity of Pontassieve, nine miles east of Florence, found the enemy covering his retreat with heavy cannon and machine-gun fire.

DEEPEN BRIDGEHEADS
Between Paris and the English Channel, American, British and Canadian Armies deepened four bridgeheads over the Seine and the Marne, where the Canal of Arc was tried and burned. Reims, thirteenth city of France, with 122,000 population now is the center of German resistance such as it is.
The Allies also virtually closed the great port of Le Havre and have opened the way into the Germans' flying fortress belt in the Pas de Calais farther north.

The American bridgeheads were at Mantes, the British at Caudebec, and the Canadians at Elbeuf and Pont-de-l'Arche.
U. S. Third Army infantry was striding into the great Army bulge between the Seine and the Marne forming a consolidated front. The Nazi withdrawal across the Marne in a great wheel around the still exuberant and virtually cleared French capital.

The push through Meaux, ten miles beyond the first-won foothold along the Marne at Lagny, was described as meeting virtually no opposition. It gave the Americans an assault line from which they could turn any Marne defense or stab north in a deep encirclement.
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Another Great Trap Fashioned By Allies

By JOHN F. CHESTER
BRITISH HEADQUARTERS SEAN THE SPINE—(AP)—The Allies established another "killing ground" today in the Rhone valley of the Seine in the loop west of the Marne. The British were pushing 20,000 men were poured from ground and air as they tried madly to escape across the stream and join the retreat to the east.
"There is another Cambodge situation," a senior staff officer said. He referred to the area where the Marne and the Seine are littered with bodies and skeletons of thousands of German soldiers destroyed when the Germans tried to break from the Argonne-Palaise trap.
The officer said the river's loop traps were east, west and south of the Marne and that all were interlarded with German divisions of three and two tank divisions were enclosed. The officer said these Germans had abandoned all their equipment in an effort to move swiftly from the lack of artillery and air bombardment.

Robot Bombs
Fall In London
LONDON—(AP)—Robot bombs fell in London and South England around noon today, being a full of more than 30 hours, and the attacks were "limited and short." Some came from directions which suggested that the Germans are using new sites, perhaps held in reserve, newly constructed or salvaged from other locations.
A communiqué said 400 robot bombs were launched from directions in the week ended at 8 A. M. today, making the total about 700 the biggest number since the night was one of the worst.