

THE SIEGRIED LINE CLEARED

THOUSANDS OF GERMANS THREATENED

Thousands Of Germans Threatened Three-Pronged Drive Made

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW (AP)—The Red Army smashed through the Balkans today in a three-pronged drive which promised to smash Hitler's last weakening hold on that vital area and trap thousands of his troops by cutting all communications with the homeland.

Advanced Russian units moved west toward a junction with Marshal Tito's force and Allied troops in Yugoslavia, while others advanced steadily toward the important road and communications center of Sibiu in Transylvania.

Official sources were silent on military operations against Bulgaria and there was no indication of any response to Bulgarian pleas for an armistice.

SAY GREECE REACHED

A German report said Russian troops "fanning out" across Bulgaria in a drive toward the Aegean Sea had reached the area of Thessalonica, Greece on the Turkish frontier.

The objective of the Balkan drive is to create a steel wall from the Black Sea to the Dalmatian Coast and pocket all the Germans in Greece, Bulgaria and Albania.

In Poland, Red Army forces edged forward north of Warsaw toward the southern border of East Prussia, fighting against stubbornly stiff German resistance that included large forces of tanks and self-propelled guns.

A Tass dispatch from Constantinople said that in the Bulgarian Black Sea ports of Burgas and Varna.

See **NATURAL ON PAGE 4**

Super-Fortresses Hit Targets In Manchuria Again

Japs Say More Than 100 American Planes Took Part In Assault

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new Super-Fortress raid on the Japanese arsenal of Manchuria was announced today by the Twentieth Bomber Command, and the Tokyo radio reported more than 100 planes had taken part.

The U. S. Army announced today that the "important industrial targets in Japanese-dominated Manchuria" were the prey of the B-29.

Tokyo quoted an Army communiqué as saying:

"China-based United States Air Forces raided Anshan and Penhsiao about 1:30 P. M. today with more than 100 planes. At least three enemy raiders were shot down. Some damage was caused on the ground."

Field Marshal Gen. Sugiyama, Japanese War Minister, told a Diet committee that the extent of the damage could not be ascertained pending completion of an investigation.

Tokyo said a previous broadcast referred to the raid as having been made by "several tens" of planes.

Anshan is a big steel producing city and Penhsiao is a coal center near Manchou.

AWAIT RETURN

As in previous forays, the 20th Bomber Command withheld announcement of results pending the return of the bombers to their bases.

"Our air units intercepted these raiding planes over Anshan and repulsed them after carrying out their raid and held at bay."

See **PLANES STRIKE ON PAGE 4**

Heavy Air Blows Rain On Germans Nearly 2,000 Big Bombers Strike

LONDON (AP)—Almost 2,000 American and British heavy bombers attacked installations in Southwest Germany and the besieged Nazi garrison at Le Havre today.

American bombers were accompanied by 500 Mustang fighters and battered chemical and oil plants at Ludwigshafen in the Siegfried Line zone, an industrial depot at Rheinland opposite Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's American Third Army, mauling in the Moselle River basin for a drive into the German fortifications.

WEATHER GOOD

The weather was the best in several days and the bombers were able to see their targets, except at Ludwigshafen where clouds were banked.

More than 1,000 four-engine bombers made a surprise attack on the industrial area of Ludwigshafen and aimed at the chemical and oil plants. The 3,000 German bombers based on the Rhine with perhaps 2,500 tons of bombs. The British flew with a low-level attack by French-based bombers.

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Mosquito bombers showed the Siegfried Line and West Wall the last of Germany's various "impregnable" fortified lines. A "defense in depth" is underground fortifications, tank traps, machine gun cross-fire set-ups and other features are reported to extend from 40 to 60 miles back from the frontier. Allied forces were striking in the forefield of the West Wall. The U. S. Third Army, battling into Metz, was twenty miles from the line. American First Army forces drove to the vicinity of Metz, 23 miles from the German border and 25 from Aachen.



Germans Kept Guessing As To Main Blow

British Break Albert Canal Defense; Americans Thrust Toward Border

By EDWARD D. BALL

MOSELLE RIVER FRONT—The Third Army threw three more bridgemaids across the Moselle River and enlarged two others against stiff resistance today.

The Americans smashed an attack by a force of 6,000 German army tanks which tried to cut behind the Third Army's rear between Metz and Verdun.

The Third Army now has five crossings over the Moselle. Two of the new crossings were made just south of Metz and the third in the Toul area to the south.

All bridgeheads the Americans were under heavy and continuing fire, while artillery duelled across the river in a day-long sniping match.

But it was announced officially that both infantry and armor were being shoved across the tank in spite of the enemy's sniping fire from strongly prepared positions.

By JAMES M. LONG

LONDON (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower swung a hidden punch at the Siegfried line today as four Allied armies broke the Albert Canal defense and thrust menacingly at possible invasion spots along a 200-mile assault front.

The attack carried to within 25 miles of the German frontier at three places—north of Belgium and at Metz in France—and the Seventh Army of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch moving up from the Mediterranean completed the line of threat by reaching Besancon, 50 miles from the Belfort Gap just above Switzerland.

While 2,000 American and British heavy bombers attacked the centers of the Siegfried Line and the besieged port of Le Havre, British troops of the Second Army poured across the Albert Canal, where objectives had been set within 10 miles of the Dutch border and 25 miles of the German frontier.

Tonight, Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters clamped a tight news blackout on developments, such as has screened sweeping developments in the past.

The Germans needed 40 or 50 divisions to hold all the Siegfried Line strongly-fortified line, but they apparently lacked—and Eisenhower's step was intended to take full advantage of the wide-open possibility of keeping the Germans guessing until too late to shift their reserves.

Whether the main blow would come across the level fields of the Dutch "appendix" province of Limburg or through the fortress chain around Liege, the Ardennes Forest, the Metz Gap or the Belfort Gap was left to the Nazi imagination.

The Germans, stiffening in apparent desperation along the whole front before the Siegfried Line and the Rhine, were putting up their fiercest fight since the start of the campaign. The French army along the Moselle River, where Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army was battling into Metz, was twenty miles from the West Wall.

WITHDRAW AT METZ

Supreme Headquarters announced that the city of Metz had been forced to withdraw. However, the Americans clung firmly to Toul, eleven miles to the west.

The British Second Army crossed the Albert Canal near Beersel, 27 miles northeast of Liege, and smashed on the left flank of the German army. Leopold, 40 miles east of Antwerp and about 23 miles from the German border, was eastward.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army captured Huy on the Meuse, after a new crossing of the stream in that area eighteen miles from the German border.

See **STRIKE BLOW ON PAGE 4**

Brownell Says Dewey Gaining

NEW YORK (AP)—Much independent support, particularly in New England and along the Eastern Seaboard, has been gained by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's call for a "non-partisan peace program."

Republican National Chairman Herbert Brownell Jr. says.

Making the statement at a press conference yesterday, Brownell declared he had conferred with Wendell L. Willkie three weeks ago. He said that the two men agreed on issues, but declined to say whether the 49 Republican presidential nominee had been asked to support Dewey.

Willkie, in a hospital for a physical check, made no comment.

Saying he had made an optimistic report on the campaign to Dewey, Brownell declared the Republicans needed only an average vote per cent shift over 1940 and the "polls" indicate greater strength than that.

Germans' Balkan Escape Roads Cut

ROME (AP)—All main German escape and supply lines from Vienna and Budapest to Bulgaria and Greece are impassable. The U. S. Fifteenth Air Force announced today while American bombers and fighters struck anew at rail ways and airdromes in seething Yugoslavia.

The fresh air blows supporting the offensive by Marshal Tito's Russian, last reported 90 miles east of Belgrade, led on rail and other targets near the Yugoslav capital, at Sis in central Serbia, at Brod and at Sarajevo, birthplace of the last war.

MINES IN DANUBE

The 15th Air Force said they threw traffic on the Danube had been hindered by RAF mines. Strategic air forces along in the Mediterranean theater have dropped 8,000 tons of explosives on Yugoslavia, Hungary and Romania since the campaign was launched.

The U. S. Fifteenth Air Force said it was announced. During the operations, few interceptors were seen, as was the case today.

Rail routes along which the Germans are attempting to evacuate and then retreat from Greece into Serbia and then into Hungary have been destroyed and Yugoslavia's whole rail system is so devastated that organized resistance to the Russian thrust to the Adriatic from Romania will be impossible, Allied Mediterranean Air Headquarters said.

"At the same time a barrier has, in effect, been laid across the Balkans from the coast of Greece to the Adriatic to prevent the possibility of any planned retreat back into Germany," said an official announcement.

Hot traffic at present is impossible from Greece to Belgrade, from Belgrade to Ljubljana, from Sarajevo to Uster, from Bihac to Zagreb and from Zagreb to Belgrade.

Continuing the line was an anti-aircraft barrage of Allied air onslaughts and demolitions by Mustangs and P-51 Mustangs.

The Bulgarians, however, are still in the hands of the Germans. The Bulgarians are still in the hands of the Germans.

The California Chamber of Commerce could have been proud of it.

I ran into Lighthouse Harry Wilson of Army Post Office fame at the beautiful little island called Treasure.

He took me for a ride in a South Pacific canoe—air corps style.

Two P-51 Mustangs landed together with a hole in each wing enough to dump their payload in it. It was a grand show.

Did three shows here and had a lot of help from a woman-aided band.

One of the best things this war has done is the development of some of the greatest men I can see.

Petrillo smiling from me.

Well, much much down to the west island. I have my pith helmet, too.

I should like to see this thing.

Travel out.

Met Ray Turk of the Cleveland Press who tipped me off we could get our laundry done.

Nazis Flee Toward Gap

By GEORGE BRID

ROME (AP)—American troops of the Seventh Army, pushing into the Siegfried Line, have a swift advance from Arnhem, were back in heavy fighting with the German forces attempting to cover the retreat of battered 19th Army division.

The 19th Army division, the Belfort Gap 50 miles to the north.

The gap—shaded in the lowlands between the Vosges range and the Swiss border at the lower end of the Siegfried Line—is the only area where there are German forces to block the Seventh Army's advance.

The Americans penetrated into the Siegfried Line in a series of sharp thrusts with the aid of heavy tanks and heavy machineguns, mortars and tanks in the first real resistance encountered by the Seventh Army.

There was no official confirmation here of reports from the front that elements of the Seventh Army had linked up with the First Army near the Third Army to the north.

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British Pour Over The Albert Canal

By ROGER D. GREENE

WITH THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY NEAR THE NETHERLANDS BORDER—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Sir Miles C. Dempsey's Army poured across the Albert Canal today, blazing a trail for the next phase of the Allied campaign as broken and bypassed German remnants fell back into Channel ports and tried to escape into Holland.

All avenues of the enemy's retreat to the east and southeast have been cut off, and prisoners confess that they are not eager to go back to Germany.

GENERAL DISGUSTED

Lt. Gen. Seyffert, commander of the 54th German Infantry Division, who was captured with the entire staff north of Antwerp yesterday, expressed disgust with attempts to continue the war without proper weapons.

When an escaping officer commented that he had seen with his own eyes the German planes, Sir D-Day, the general said bitterly, "you've seen the British planes, too."

Ugh-tempered bands of Nazis are still wandering along the backwaters, but they are not able to stand up to the British tanks and the British planes.

"There is a party of 6,000 Nazis wandering around in the area, a British staff officer said."

POCKETED REMAINS

Sizeable German pockets are retreating in the area northeast of Antwerp.

"The remainder of this dispatch was filed Sept. 6, two days ago and was the first in several days from the blocked-off, British front."

Front troops, trying for the moment, are ready to pour into Holland with more tanks and guns.

Headquarters staff officer today told the plan for the spectacular offensive, tomorrow, but all that can be said now is that by the time American newspapers reach this area, the British will have very far into another country.

There have been rumors that the British have been off the line, but they have been severely, but not the British, nor the Belgians are worried.

Lt. Gen. B. C. Horrocks, commander of the British First Army, said his first announced appearance.

Eighth Army Gains Mile

By NOLAN NORGARD

ROME (AP)—Eighth Army tanks and infantry fought forward another mile on the Adriatic coast yesterday and reached the banks of the Marone River, only four miles from Rimini, but 13 miles inland. The Germans, counter-attacking fiercely with tanks, blocked the Allied offensive to a standstill. Allied Headquarters said today.

Near the other end of the Italian front, the Tenth Army, who today finish a week's rest of combat on the Italian mainland, advanced to within two miles of Pistoia, the last important city south of the Gothic Line remaining in enemy hands.

Further west, patrols from the U. S. 9th Infantry Division pushed up the north of the coast. Near the coast enemy artillery opened up with heavy shelling of American positions.

In contrast with the precipitate flight from France, the Germans gave every indication that they intended to fight a rearguard action. The Fifth Army went ashore a year ago tomorrow morning—Casino or Rome.

Eighth Army units which slugged their way to the banks of the Marone River, the Nazis left strong rearguards "beyond which their main forces are gathered," said an official report from Gen. Sir Harold Alexander's Headquarters.

Among the main weight of the infantry, the Germans still held the line. They fought a fierce counter-attack yesterday, but were caught by the tanks and the Fifth Army's tanks and artillery.

Equally sharp fighting raged along the sector extending inland 12 miles to Castellana and Pian Sesto, with enemy defenses strongly bolstered by tank reinforcements of artillery and motorized infantry.

Bob Hope's Communique

By BOB HOPE

STILL SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC. Boy, what a dump of water. We were awakened by a sea drum (rock on our first morning) and on our first morning, the water was so calm that the daps beyond the perimeter which is about 1000 yards from the tent. It's a nice crew they're playing. I kept looking those shells at Top's phylaxia. I don't find them at the end of our show line.

It's a real little place. . . . Just to keep you interested that have a live volcano, Mount Hagana, located in the vicinity where our side is quartering.

They have one theater here. They named it "Leslie's Bon-Guilliville." I loved their change in to Paramount before I would go in. I won—they starved for entertainment.

There are a lot of Americans hanging in in this area. We played on the infantry division here from Ohio and I got a special kick out of the greatest men I ever knew from my home state, who really know the Japs first-hand. A lot of the guys knew me from Cleveland, but I hadn't met them before they landed too much.

Met Ray Turk of the Cleveland Press who tipped me off we could get our laundry done.

It Was A Good Story But It Wasn't True

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, commander of the American Third Army, has a story about him.

He appeared today in a recent report on military operations to Chief of Staff Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In a clipping which reached me from home, I saw some correspondence had stated that I arrived in Normandy having a \$100 bill and making his arrival in Normandy in a jeep. I have never seen a \$100 bill.

Eastern Philippine Approaches Attacked

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS Pearl Harbor—(AP)—Disclosure today of a Japanese attack on the Philippines, announced by the Central Pacific Air Force, said that the Philippines were the target of the attack.

The attack was said to have been made by a large force of Japanese bombers, which were said to have been attacking the Philippines.

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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy and cool with occasional light rain or drizzle.

Today's Temperatures: 23° P. M. 88°

Forecast: Partly cloudy with occasional light rain or drizzle.

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 5.