

Forts Hit Brunswick in Giant Air Duel

Allies in Italy Beat Off Big Beach Drive

Main Weight of German Counter-Offensive Still To Come, However

A series of heavy German counter-attacks against the outer perimeter of the Allied beachhead in Italy was beaten off yesterday, but it was believed that, despite their strength, the enemy thrusts represented mere probing of the Allied lines preparatory to the beginning of an all-out offensive to drive the invaders into the sea.

With the initiative having passed to Marshal Kesselring, the Allies were fighting a defensive battle in every sector of the beachhead, the entire front having erupted into blazing action.

Taking cognizance of the German counter-drive, Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson said in Washington that the beachhead was firmly established. However, he warned that the greatest weight of the German attack still was to come. The enemy threat was not to be minimized, he said, and he called the Nazi force of tanks and artillery in the area formidable.

3 Assaults West of Cisterna
In addition to heavy, massed attacks north and northwest of Carroceto, the Germans yesterday made three big assaults west of Cisterna and one on each coastal flank where the Allied line is anchored on the beaches above and below Anzio. All were beaten off, and American forces gained some ground in a small counter-attack of their own west of Cisterna after fierce fighting.

German artillery was shelling the entire semi-circle that constitutes the beachhead, while Nazi tanks made determined thrusts to crack the Allied defenses. Front-line reports said that the Americans were engaged in "terrifically severe fighting."

It was not all a one-sided affair, however. Taking advantage of aerial superiority and using a new airfield within the bridgehead, Allied planes pounded the Velletri-Cisterna highway to check the stream of German reinforcements pouring into position behind the front. Other formations blasted German gun emplacements strategically situated on dominant high ground.

Luftwaffe Is Absent
Tons of high explosive and incendiaries were dropped in the Campoleone area. All the sorties were flown against little opposition, the Luftwaffe being noticeably absent.

Meanwhile, in the grim battle for Cassino to the southeast, the Allies made slight progress, but essentially the position remained unchanged.

Nazis still held most of the town and the hilltop beyond, preventing the Americans from plunging through to the Rome road below. Savage fighting continued on the slopes of the hill, with Americans forced to knock out pillboxes and massively entrenched emplacements one by one.

West of Cassino, the enemy counter-attacked American positions atop Mt. Albaneta and were beaten back only after savage fighting; casualties were heavy on both sides.

British troops in the lower Garigliano sector made slight progress northeast of Casilforte, while on the Eighth Army front activity was confined to patrolling and artillery duels.

Rights of Jews in Italy Restored by Emmanuel

ADVANCED ALLIED HQ, Italy, Feb. 10—All anti-semitic laws were deleted from Italian statutes today by King Victor Emmanuel in a royal decree issued with a preamble by Gen. Mason MacFarlane, chief of the Allied Control Commission.

The decree, valid in all liberated Italian territory, ordered all Jewish governmental and municipal employees reinstated.

Gen. MacFarlane announced the control commission had relinquished to the Italian government civil authority in the provinces of Salerno, Potenza and Bari, and in Sicily. The commission henceforth will advise and assist Italian officials in administering 10,000,000 people in these and previously freed areas.

Ingrid Rings Bell Again
NEW YORK, Feb. 10—Ingrid Bergman, star of Ernest Hemingway's "For Whom the Bell Tolls," has been selected for a new Paramount version of Hemingway's "Farewell to Arms," the Herald-Tribune said today.

Calais Raiders Told: Smash Secret Targets at Any Cost

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

THE Allied air offensive against the mysterious "military objectives in northern France" entered its fourth month this week, with fleets of American and RAF bombers shuttling over the Channel sometimes twice a day to keep up the incessant pounding of the targets which neutral sources have described as the site of Hitler's secret rocket guns.

On five missions, beginning with the first on Nov. 5 and spaced through three months of bombing, this reporter has flown with American bombers to watch the progressive pulverizing of the unidentified installations.

Since the operations began, no matter what the opposition, not one American bomber has turned away from the vital targets because of the enemy. The paramount importance of the targets is emphasized not only by the frequency with which they are hit but by what the combat crews have been told:

"Your bombs must get in there. We've got to smash these objectives at any cost, no matter what opposition they put up."

All the attacks have been carried out in clear visibility to prevent harm to the conquered French in the vicinity.

In the three months, U.S. Marauders, under command of Brig. Gen. (Continued on page 4)

Reds Split Trapped Foe; 10 Mi. From Krivoi Rog

Battered remnants of Marshal Fritz von Manstein's Dnieper Bend army streamed southwest to Kherson and Nikolaev yesterday as Russian tanks pressed within ten miles of the nearly surrounded iron ore city of Krivoi Rog and other Red spearheads almost completed the task of cutting in half the ten Nazi divisions hemmed in the Kirovograd pocket.

Even as the Ukraine armies hammered home fresh blows against the enemy, formidable Soviet forces on the northern front drove within 18 miles of the Nazi Baltic base of Luga on the east and within a dozen miles on the north.

A new Russian offensive aimed at the Latvian border from north of Nevel meanwhile was reported by the Germans. Berlin reports said powerful tank and infantry forces were striking at the Kingisepp-Polotsk railway, one of the Nazis' few remaining supply lines in the north.

Though Krivoi Rog appeared badly outflanked with Gen. Malinovsky's columns cutting their way toward Kherson and strong Red forces poised north of the city, its fall was not expected until after the Russians' complete liquidation of the Kirovograd pocket. The forces now engaged in squeezing the trapped ten divisions there would then be free to complete Krivoi Rog's envelopment.

With Russian mobile units about 60 miles from Kherson and its large garrison, that port at the mouth of the Dnieper appeared in a precarious position subject to attack from north, northwest and east. Nikolaev, 30 miles northwest of Kherson, also was exposed by the fall of the Nikopol stronghold.

In the Kirovograd pocket, Soviet pincers biting in from southwest and northeast of Korsun were only six miles apart, practically slicing in two the battered trap running 27 miles from northwest to southeast at its longest and 22 miles at its widest.

Moscow dispatches said numerous groups of badly-mauled Germans had given up with their food supply in a pitiful state and ammunition so low orders had been given to fire only when objectives could be sighted.

Doolittle Shows King, Queen Around

'Darn Sweet Lady,' Says Flier After Royal Visit To U.S. Bomber Base

By Andrew A. Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A U.S. BOMBER STATION, Feb. 10—King George and Queen Elizabeth were escorted by Maj. Gen. James Doolittle, Eighth Air Force commander, in a tour of inspection here today.

The British rulers climbed aboard a heavy bomber to view equipment installed since their last inspection of a U.S. plane, and later talked informally at an hour-long tea with a small group of flying officers.

"By golly, the Queen is a darn sweet lady," reported Maj. John R. Roche, of Davenport, Iowa. Roche, who completed an operational tour with Ted's Traveling Circus, won the DSC for his part in the Ploesti oil-field raid last summer and holds the DFC with an Oak Leaf Cluster, as well as the Purple Heart.

"We mainly just talked about the base here and about where the fellows spent (Continued on page 4)



King George VI inspects the guard of honor at an American bomber base, escorted by Maj. Gen. James H. Doolittle, at the King's left.

Hordes of Fighters Fail to Stop Blow at Nazi Aircraft Plants

Terrific Dogfights Develop; New Luftwaffe Tactics Force Some U.S. Escorts Back; Libs Raid Holland

Flying Fortresses, striking a new blow in the concerted pre-invasion campaign to wipe the Luftwaffe from the skies, yesterday smashed through some of the heaviest fighter opposition yet encountered to carry out the Eighth Air Force's third heavy blow in 30 days on Brunswick, where a large portion of Germany's warplanes are produced.

The Luftwaffe, judging from early reports of returning American crews, hurled everything it had into a desperate—but vain—effort to keep the bombers away from the target.

For 2½ hours—from the time the Forts roared across the enemy coast for the 450-mile penetration to Brunswick, until they reached the Channel again on the way back—the bombers and their escorts blazed away continuously at swarms of German fighters. Many said it was the roughest mission yet for the U.S. heavies, and others ventured the observation that the Luftwaffe must have had orders to halt the attack at any cost.

Direct Hits on Targets

No official announcement of bombing results or its losses had been made at Eighth Air Force headquarters late last night, but preliminary reports of crew members indicated that the great central Germany aircraft manufacturing center had received a severe pounding. Direct hits upon the targets were reported.

Fortress bombing "raised hell in the center of the target" despite the heavy opposition, crew members said.

"We really got the target good today," 2/Lt. Orris Traub, of Mason City, Ia., bombardier, said. "I bet I saw a thousand fires."

Brunswick has at least four major aircraft component factories, manufacturing parts for Me110s and Me210s, plus large repair facilities and aerial-engine manufacturing plants. Gun and bomb sights, artillery tractors and tanks also are built at Brunswick.

As the Fortresses carried on the already-effective drive to cut into Nazi fighter production, Liberators pounded the German fighter base at Gilze-Rijen in Holland, and Marauders again lashed at the unidentified but much-battered secret military targets in France, though snow and sleet in the Straits restricted operations. Marauder crews again reported a minimum of fighter resistance, but heavy flak.

"Looks as if the raids on Nazi fighter factories are paying off," said one Marauder pilot.

Desperately striving to avert another crippling blow at its waning strength, the Luftwaffe appeared to have marshaled every fighter and used every tactic to stop the Fortresses. Ferocious dogfights raged between Allied and enemy fighter planes as the bombers plodded steadfastly toward Brunswick.

Many as 200 at One Time

Attacking the Forts themselves were never less than 75 fighters and sometimes as many as 200, said crews at one base. Sometimes German fighters 15 abreast plunged in at the bombers, while others dived through the formations in line from astern.

Hundreds of Me109s, FW190s and Ju88s mixed it up with the escorting Thunderbolts, Lightnings and Mustangs. One new trick reported in use by the (Continued on page 4)

Brrr! It's Really Cold in Midwest; 11 Inches of Snow

CHICAGO, Feb. 10 (AP)—A heavy snow storm which buried the Midwest to a depth of two to 11 inches, with a cold wave in its wake, developed in some areas today into the severest weather of the winter.

The snow cover deepened over northern Missouri and was from two to 11 inches deep in Nebraska, three to 11 inches in Iowa and five to 11 inches in North and South Dakota.

Weather Forecaster G. L. Canaday said railroads, dairies and other interests affected by the weather had been warned of severe conditions.

He predicted the mercury would fall tonight to 15 or 25 degrees below zero in northern Minnesota and 10 to 15 below in northwest Wisconsin.

The storm moved east from the Rocky mountains and strong winds drifted snow deep in some parts of Iowa, forcing the closing of some schools and rural roads.

