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EUROPE.

GERMANY.

Model's troops in Holland have now been forced back to the Maas, of which they still hold the right bank. The official German bulletins report "bitter fighting" at every stage, both on Walcheren and the mainland, and some success in counter-attacks delivered within Germany, south-east of Aachen. They claim also the prevention of an American break-through in the Vosges. The O.K.W. speaks of advance in Croatia, a fighting retreat in Hungary and effective counter-attacks in East Prussia and Kurland; Russian troops in Goldap were on the 5th reported to be completely cut off, the actual recapture of the place was announced on the 6th. Air raids on the Reich have received daily mention; the communiqué of the 3rd November gave a total of 52 British bombers lost over Düsseldorf on the preceding night. (The actual number lost was 19.)

Comment on the news has made grateful use of Allied admissions of German tenacity. Mr. Churchill was stated to have "solemnly buried" one of the greatest Allied hopes by affirming that a political revolt could not be expected in Germany. *D.N.B.* thought this remark the more significant because the 20th July had revealed "direct contacts particularly with Britain." Strength through Time is still the slogan for much war comment. A broadcast on the last day of October said that "every week gained by Germany retards the Allied plans by months." On the other hand, a full-scale general offensive by Eisenhower is prophesied for the very near future. Until this materialises, Germans are told to consider the focal point of the western fighting to be in the Vosges. Public comment is most gloomy, not in the much-tried west, but in the south of Germany. A Munich paper has attempted to draw a moral from German setbacks. It admits that "undeniable mistakes" in German policy have given the world a wrong idea of National Socialism. Germany's pre-war "display of daring initiative" was construed as arrogance, and for this Germany has paid dearly. Things could, according to this writer, hardly have come to a worse pass: "the threat of death hangs over us . . . the pressure of war . . . intolerable sacrifices, demands that

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