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NEWS DIGEST NO. 73

C254962

VOL. XX

(Information as of 1215 hrs 7 Dec 44)

WESTERN FRONT

The big industrial city of SAARBRUCKEN is threatened by American forces which are attacking from FORBACH. Other U.S. forces in the SAAREGUEMINES area are also moving in. SAARBRUCKEN is the centre of a big iron and coal basin. Americans in the SAARLAUTERN area were under heavy fire. In the SOUTH French troops are nearing COLMAR. The American First Army has made a further small gain in the AACHEN area. German patrols attempted to probe British lines NORTH of VENLO but were repulsed. Heavy explosions have been heard emanating from the German-held port of DUNKIRK and observers believe the enemy is preparing to surrender.

ITALY

Eighth Army troops have advanced six miles beyond RAVENNA reaching the LAMONE River at MEZZANO. A twenty-mile stretch of the right bank of the River is now in Allied hands. British troops extended their bridgehead across the LAMONE SOUTHWEST of FAENZA. Poles made a small gain to the left of the British.

GREECE

The Greek situation continues to occupy the attention of British armed forces. Progress is being made for law and order. Large areas are quiet. ELAS troops are being disarmed. One detachment was found to be commanded by a German officer. It has been stated in London that the part taken by the R.A.F. in curbing the rebels had been greatly exaggerated.

Premier Papandreaou in an interview stated the intention of the government to give the people real liberty but could not tolerate that armed forces should remain in the hands of a political party. He asked whether leaders of any democratic country would put up with having armies at the disposal of their political opponents.

EASTERN FRONT

Russian columns are moving northeastward in the direction of BUDAPEST but have struck resistance between Lake BALATON and the DRAVA River. The Germans are believed to have built strong defences protecting the Austrian border.

AIR

Synthetic oil plants near LEIPZIG were struck by the bombs of one thousand three hundred aircraft. Strong antiaircraft defences were encountered and there was a loss of twenty-one planes. Seventeen enemy aircraft were shot down. The LEIPZIG oil plants are now producing only one quarter of their former capacity. Other Allied planes went for OSNABRUCK and BERLIN.

CHINA

Maj Gen Wedemeyer described the military situation in CHINA as serious and stated that the Japs have made considerable progress in the last few days. TUYUN, fifty miles from KWEYIANG has been captured by the Japanese. Targets in MANCHURIA were attacked by Allied planes.

BURMA

The Japanese are making determined efforts to slow up the Allies in the CHINDWIN area of KALEWA. Patrols of the British Thirty-Sixth Divisions are advancing towards NABAW junction.

NAVAL

The Canadian Corvette "Shawinigan" with its entire complement of seven officers and eighty three ratings has been lost in the NORTH ATLANTIC.

(B.B.C. and Press Releases)

OTTAWA, Ontario.

D.M.I., M.I.1 (General Staff.)

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950,
MG 26 J 4, Volume 368, pages C254478-C255211

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