

C254960

NEWS DIGEST NO. 71

VOL XX

(Informationas of 1215 hrs 6 Dec 44)

WESTERN FRONT

The American Third Army has crossed the SAAR at four more points near SAARLAUTERN. Tanks and tank destroyers are over the River and a bridgehead two and half miles wide is being deepened. The troops are six miles from SAAR-BRUCKEN and have entered SAARGUEMINES. In the SOUTH the French First Anmy is advancing down the passes through the VOSGES Mountains towards the city of COLMAR.

Allied heavy bombers today blasted the oil plants at MERSE-BURG near LEIPZIG also the rail yards at BIELEFELD. A total of three thousand tons of bombs were dropped. Yesterday five thousand bombers were in action over GERMANY.

British troops captured the Headquarters of the left wing EAM party. There were numerous clashes in the city but the British troops have the situation in hand.

ITALY

ATHENS

in RAVENNA Allied troops are mopping up isolated German resistance/ and have also made advances WEST of LAVENNA and WEST of GODO. The Fifth Army has captured a hill feature dominating the lateral road to IMOLA.

British Government is still opposing Count Sforza as Italian Foreign Minister, although the Americans do not object.

<u>S.W.P.A.</u> Tokyo claimed that Japanese forces from RABAUL made a surprise landing on the northern coast of NEW BRITAIN about two weeks ago . Fighting has resumed on LEYTE Island after a lull caused by rains.

Gen Blamey definitely stated that Australian troops will see action in the Western Pacific campaign.

(B.B.C. and Press Releases)

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