

AIR OPERATIONS 500 Allied planes bombed LUDWIGSHAFEN during the night.

EASTERN FRONT IPOLYSAG has been captured by the Russians.,in their first invasion of WESTERN SLOVAKIA.  
BUDAPEST is almost two-thirds encircled.  
No change reported in other areas this morning.

GREEK FRONT Fighting continues in ATHENS.  
An interesting sidelight of the fighting in Greece is the fact that American Air Transport Personnel have been carrying on in ATHENS while maintaining Neutrality. Members of the Unit are reported to have been commended by General ARNOLD for remaining Neutral in the fight. Pressure is being made by the British for a compromise. Canadian troops have extended their bridgehead across the NZVIGLIO Canal to 3000 yards,while British troops and Polish troops have renewed their attack SW of FAENZA.

ITALIAN FRONT

PHILIPPINES IS American troops have landed on MINDORO Island. This Island is 150 miles from MANILA.  
It is reported that extremely few casualties were suffered during the landings.  
The Americans are now firmly established on three beach-heads on MINDORO, and are pushing inland.  
This surprise landing has cut the PHILIPPINES in two, and gives the Americans control of sea and air routes from the SOUTH PACIFIC to the CHINA Coast.

WESTERN FRONT The American FIRST Army has made gains in the vicinity of DUEREN. They have taken over high ground commanding all the WEST bank of the ROER from DUEREN seven miles to the SOUTH.  
No change reported on the Canadian and British Armies sectors this morning.

OTTAWA-CANADA (CBC NEWS 0730 & 0800 Hrs 16 Dec 44) D.M.I.(M.I.1).  
GENERAL STAFF.