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NEWS DIGEST NO. 48

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(Information as of 1215 hrs 24 Nov 44)

ESTERN FRONT

French armoured forces have cleared the Germans from the entire western section of STRASBUURG. American troops of the Seventh army who are attacking this area from the WEST as the French approach from the SOUTH, have made further advances and have liberated twelve small towns and villages. The weather is very bad and our Allies are fighting under very difficult conditions. The only permanent bridges across the RHINE behind the Nineteenth German Army defending this sector are at STRASBOURG on the southern end of the front and at KARLSRUME to the NORTH. The STRASBOURG road and rail bridges are of course threatened by the French in their immediate vicinity.

The heaviest fighting on the western front appears still to be in the area NORTH and EAST of AACHEN where combined British and American forces are engaged.

The American Third Army is attacking strongly eleven miles northwest of MERZIG.

ALY

The Eighth Army has consolidated several small bridgeheads across the COSINA River opposite FAENZA against which point they are now thrusting.

USSIAN FRONT

A Moscow communique states that Russian forces have broken through the crust of German defences on the CZECHOSLOVAKIAN sector and have advanced ten miles.

URMA

British and Chinese troops are attacking BHAMO and KALEWA. The former is on the northern BURMA front where our Chinese Allies are fighting and the latter on the western BURMA front where the British are operating.

HILIPPINES

The Americans have captured the village of LIMON and the Japanese are now confined withinthe ORMOC corridor.

R

A powerful striking force of B-29 bombers has attacked TOKYO and the nearby port of YOKOHAMA in daylight to-day. This raid was made from bases in SATPAN and American authorities have announced that this is no hit and run raid but the beginning of a series of determined aerial assaults against the mainland of Japan which will continue until invasion day. The Japanese have admitted the raid and as usual state that only slight damage was done. It is known that fires were started in TOKYO but full details of the raid have not yet been published by American authorities.

(B.B.C. and Press Releases)

OTTAWA, Ontario.

D.M.I., M.I.l. General Staff.