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(Information as of 0800 hrs 6 Dec 44)

ATHENS

This morning Left wing militia snipers opened fire on a truck load of British troops, killing one officer and 1 enlisted man. Left wing forces are holding numerous roof tops, and British Reconnaissance troops report that heavy machine guns and one mortar are trained on the road. Left wingers are believed to have been reinforced by forces from outlying districts. The British have sent Sherman tanks into action to clear out the heavy machine gun nests.

ITALY

British and Polish troops of the Eighth Army in Italy have established a bridgehead in a drive across the L'ONE River southwest of FAENZA. Other Eighth Army units are cleaning out the isolated enemy groups in captured REVENNA.

Lieut.-General Lucian Truscott has succeeded Lieut.-General Mark Clark as Commander of the Fifth Army in Italy. Clark was recently named Commander of all Allied ground forces in Italy. Truscott is a veteran of the Anzio campaign.

~~P. tain~~ is standing firm on its objections to Count Carlo Sforzas proposed appointment as Italian Foreign Minister.

RUSSIA

Russian troops are progressing rapidly in their push through western HUNGARY. Some Soviet columns have reached a point within 40 miles of the Austrian frontier and now are menacing rear communications of the Yugoslav city of ZAGREB. In Yugoslavia Red Army troops and Yugoslav partisans have taken ALOK, 60 miles northwest of BELGRADE.

A Berlin broadcast states that Russian forces have established a new bridgehead on the west bank of the DANUBE River immediately below BUDAPEST. MOSCOW has not confirmed this new advance.

WESTERN FRONT

A despatch from PARIS this morning estimates that Allied troops now are inflicting about 9,000 casualties a day on the Germans.

Third Army troops have crossed the SAAR River at another point south of SAARLAUTERN. Allied troops in this operation pushed one mile beyond the river into the outposts of the Siegfried Line. Fighting continues inside SAARLAUTERN itself. The Third Army is now strongly entrenched inside Germany operating along a 40-mile front extending from east of the LUXEMBURG boundary to southwest SAARBRUEKEN.

The Seventh Army has captured SELESTAT about 10 miles from the RHINE

American First Army forces have fought their way into the village of BERGSTEIN, 6 miles southwest of DUEREN.

AIR

Last night 500 British heavy bombers attacked the rail center of SOEST. The Germans countered with renewal of their flying bomb attacks against England.

(C.B.C. News and Press Releases)

OTTAWA, Ontario.

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

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950,
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