

COLOURED PAPER
PAPIER DE COULEUR

POOR PRINT
Epreuve illisible

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PAGE BARBOUILLÉE

NEWS DIGEST NO. 46

C254935

VOL. XX

(INFORMATION AS OF 1200 HRS. 23 NOV 44)

WESTERN EUROPE

British SECOND Army is within one mile of the river crossing of VENLO. SOUTH of VENLO British troops have reached the MEUSE River on a 16 mile front. U.S. NINTH Army have reached the approaches of the RHUR and are within 26 miles of COLOGNE. EAST of NANCY the U.S. THIRD Army has made an advance of 4 miles, and now control 30 square miles in the SAAR. A late report states that French elements have entered the suburbs of STRASBOURG. Units of the SEVENTH and THIRD Armies have linked up near SAARBURG and have reached the broad plain of the RHINE Valley.

ITALY

EIGHTH Army has reported fresh gains having captured a number of villages below the RIMINI - COLOGNA highway, while Indian troops have gained important high ground SOUTH of FAENZA. Polish troops have seized 3 towns beyond MOUNT FORTINO and FIFTH Army forces have made gains NORTH of MODIGLIANA.

RUSSIA

Russian troops have thrown back 12 German counter-attacks NORTHEAST of BUDAPEST and have pushed closer to 3 important railway towns in that area. A German reconnaissance inforce has been repulsed in EAST PRUSSIA.

PHILIPPINES

Four more troop ships and smaller craft bringing enemy reinforcements to LEYTE have been sunk or damaged by Allied planes. TOKYO radio admitted that the defense of LEYTE may collapse.

YUGOSLAVIA

The whole of MACEDONIA has been cleared of the enemy with the wiping out of over 3000 Germans in the final phase of the fighting in the UPPER VARDAR VALLEY.

CHINA

General Chiang has accepted the outline of a plan for distributing Chinese forces. The plan had been submitted by the C.in.C of American troops in CHINA Maj Gen Wedemeyer.

BURMA

West African troops have reached the point 11 miles WEST of KALEWA in the CHINDWIN HILLS. Chinese troops have driven a wedge a mile deep into the Japanese defense line NORTH of BHAMO.

(B.B.C. NEWS and PRESS RELEASES)

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