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NEWS DIGEST NO. 81

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(Information as of 1215 hrs 11 Dec 44)

WESTERN FRONT

Canadian First Army troops raided German outposts three miles northeast of NIJMEGEN. Allied planes have breached the dykes opposite NIJMEGEN flooding the German positions and drawing off some of the water from the flooded areas around NIJMEGEN. American First Army forces are now within two and half miles of DUEREN.

The American Third Army is fighting within SIEGFRIED Line fortifications around the town of DILLINGEN and have captured the railway station at SAARLAUTERN.

The Seventh Army has captured the French town of HAGUENAU. Other American troops are within three miles of COLMAR.

ITALY

Italian patriots have cleared the ADRIATIC town of PORTO-CORSINI NORTH of RAVENNA.

Heavy German counter attacks against the Eighth Army bridge-head WEST of the LAMONE River have been repulsed.

GREECE

There is little change in the situation in ATHENS. British troops are being reinforced. It is reported that there are ten to fifteen thousand ELAS troops inside ATHENS and as many more outside the town.

BURMA

British troops of the Thirty-Sixth Division have captured the railroad junction of NABA on the BURMA railroad and have advanced further SOUTH to occupy INDAW without opposition.

AIR

Sixteen hundred Liberators and Fortresses bombed railway lines leading to the Western Front to-day.

POLITICAL

Italy Premier Bonomi has formed a new government with one of his Vice Premiers being a Communist - Palmiro Togliatti. Count Carlo Sforza is not a member of the new government.

(B.B.C. and Press Releases)

OTTAWA, Ontario.

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