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PRIME MINISTER

House of Commons
March 26th, 1944

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The crossing of the Rhine has long been looked upon as indicating a final stage of the assault on Germany. Since the United States 1st Army established a bridgehead at Remagen, nearly three weeks ago, the stage has been set for a major assault, as a result of which five Allied armies are now fighting east of the Rhine.

I am indeed glad to be able to tell the House that the united assault against the Rhine barrier has been successful, and that satisfactory progress is being achieved at all points.

The people of Canada will have learned with pride that the Canadian 3rd Division, as part of the British 2nd Army under General Dempsey's command, has taken an important part in this great offensive.

According to latest reports, a crossing over the Ijssel river has already been secured. The Ijssel River is East and North of the Rhine. Immediately to the south of the British Second Army, the United States 9th Army is fighting its way into the heavily industrialized area of the Rhur.

In all parts of Germany, the demoralization of the industrial front is becoming more and more apparent.