



VOL 2 NO. 658

H.Q. NO. 11 L OF C SUB AREA

TEL EXT 129

SATURDAY 2 DEC '44

ENEMY RESISTANCE STRONGER

BITTER FIGHTING IN AIX LA CHAPELLE AREA

ROADS TO GERMANY CRAMMED WITH REFUGEES

Reports from Western Europe this morning, while not devoid of details of movements and engagements along the whole front, indicate that enemy resistance, generally, is stiffening. The Germans have lost men at the rate of 6,000 a day in the last few weeks, but have nevertheless been able to stabilize their line. Now the Allies face 70 German divisions on the western front; on D-day there were only 65 divisions defending France. An official German communique states that the Allies have lost 500 tanks on the western front since Nov. 17. This is not confirmed by any Allied source.

THIRD ARMY troops have closed up to the River Saar on a 9 mile front. Detachments in this sector have penetrated into the suburbs of an important industrial town but have still to cross the river. All bridges, say correspondents, were effectively destroyed by the enemy before retreating.

Further south, Siegfried line defences have been battered from the air. Returning pilots say that roads leading east into Germany are crammed full of civilian vehicles of all types fleeing at the Allies' approach.

In the Saarbrücken sector troops are only 9 miles from the great industrial town itself.

THE FIRST AND NINTH ARMIES are still engaged in bitter fighting in the Roer area. Small gains were made near Duren, but other troops who were caught in a difficult position were forced to call for immediate aid from the air. Within minutes planes had blasted a wide escape path for our troops.

HOLLAND. Asked to comment on progress by the British 2nd Army in the Maas sector, a correspondent said, simply - "Floods along the Maas are the worst since 1917."

ANTWERP REOPENED. Last night the B.B.C. reported that the great Belgian port of Antwerp had been cleared by minesweepers after the biggest job of its kind in history.

WORLD ITEMS

AIR WAR. Heaviest raids on Germany were made yesterday by bombers on Duisberg. In less than 20 minutes 2,000 tons of bombs and thousands of incendiaries were dropped. From the whole operation only 4 aircraft are missing.

Earlier, Spitfires made a daylight dive bombing attack on Dunkirk. Enemy H.Q., located in a farm house, was completely destroyed.

Of the large number of aircraft reported missing on an earlier raid on synthetic oil factories, 16 bombers and 17 fighters are now reported to be safe.

RUSSIAN TROOPS IN HUNGARY have made a 20 mile advance towards Budapest, admits a German report. Moscow's communique, however, does not confirm this and speaks of further progress in Czechoslovakia. The communique added that Soviet troops had captured 3,000 German and Hungarian soldiers in the last 7 days, and a further 5,000 in the initial stages of the Danubian offensive.

Hungarian officials are said to be preparing for the evacuation of Budapest.

POLISH GOVT. ANTI-SOVIET? Several London newspapers criticising the new Polish Govt. says that M. Mikolajczyk, former Premier, was forced out of office because he favoured a Soviet-Polish agreement. The new Govt. is anti-Soviet and reactionary.

MARSHAL TITO claims that Yugoslav partisan detachments are fighting inside the Austrian frontier.

THE NEWEST MUSTANG has a top speed of more than 405 m.p.h., a ceiling of 40,000 ft and a tactical radius of 700 miles.

IRE. The Govt. of Ire will give £100,000 for relief in Italy.

GERM. Grate is clear of Germans except for a pocket cut off in the N.W. corner, says a B.B.C. report. These 10,000 are cut off without hope of escape, but are known to have plentiful supplies of ammunition and food.

NEWS from HOME

AIR CREW SURPLUS

Acting Minister for Air, Mr. Lazzarini, announced a plan in the House of Representatives yesterday to deal with surplus air crew. Surplus had occurred, said the Minister because of the favourable war situation, and the casualties among air crews had been considerably below expectations. Partially trained air crew would be temporarily absorbed in the service by remustering to ground staff duties or transferred if qualified to administrative duties. Others might be released temporarily to Manpower on leave without pay for seasonal or temporary civil employment. Air crew who had finished their course would be retained and employed as soon as possible in operations and provision would be made for men trained at service flying training schools to meet operational training unit requirements and squadron replacements.

PAPUAN ADMIN INQUIRY. Mr. J.V. Barry K.C. began hearings yesterday as Commissioner to inquire into the suspension of Civil Administration in the Federated Territory of Papua to February 1942. Because of its nature, the inquiry will be held in Camera.

SOUTHERN CROSS MEDAL. Mr. Haylen, Labour, NSW suggested in the House of Reps yesterday that members of the fighting forces should be issued with a medal similar to the American Congressional Medal to be called "The Southern Cross". A/P.M. Ford said he would consider the suggestion.

THE "HEADS" ARRIVE. To celebrate the "Tehran Treaty" heads of Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill, 5 feet high, appeared yesterday outside the Anglo-Soviet House in Flinders Ln.

GOVERNMENT SECRET SESSION. Senator Ashley, acting leader of the Government would consider the holding of a secret session before the reassembly of Parliament next year to consider military matters including AIF units.

MELB. GIRLS NOT PIPE SMOKERS. A Melbourne tobaccoist said yesterday that Melbourne women have not followed their Sydney sisters by smoking pipes because of the acute shortage of cigarettes, but one retailer said women were much more persistent than men in trying to get smoking material.

WHAT A LOT OF BEER THAT WOULD BUY. Brigadier Cohen, Chairman of Directors of Carlton and United Breweries, said at the annual meeting yesterday that the company had paid about £5,750,000 in taxation in one form or another, during the past year.

WOOL CHEQUES COMPARED. Payment to Australian woolgrowers for six seasons covering war years amounts to £100,000,000. This contrasts with £284,000,000 revenue for six seasons preceding hostilities.

HOSPITAL APPEAL DOUBLED. £110,000 was subscribed this year to the Lord Mayors Hospital Appeal, making a new record. Subscriptions to the Appeal have doubled since Lord Mayor Rottelhof, first took office in 1942.

AIRCRAFT BUILDING TO HOME BUILDING. Aircraft Production Minister, Senator Cameron, told Senator Brand UAP in the Senate yesterday that a substantial diversion of manpower and materials to build war service homes was anticipated in the near future. Cameron added that Housing Commission Homes, built by various states would, up to 50% be reserved for ex servicemen or dependants of members of the fighting forces.

SPUDS AGAIN. Food experts expect that a record target production of 760,000 tons of potatoes set for last. this year will fall short by about 60,000 tons.

MENTONE SELECTIONS

1st Race	CARNHAM	1	MURALTA	2	IRISH GEM	3
2nd Race	KINDERCHICK	1	WINKA	2	MEDICINE	3
3rd Race	WENBOOTA	1	SCPIO	2	GORGEOUS STAR	3
4th Race	NIGHT LINK	1	APEROVE	2	SCION	3
5th Race	CLAYTON	1	GAY REVOLRY	2	CAVALLO	3
6th Race	KRAKSLR	1	GLONIA	2	KRALLIS	3
7th Race	LEADING MAN	1	DOMINATE	2	STAR VALLIE	3

The following should run well in ADELAIDE. AIR FOX, NIGHEAN, DEON, SELSTO, PARILA, METROPOLIS, TH. PALOO, GAY HIRTH.

SIDNEY SELECTIONS. Kitalurgy (12.15) Departure (1.20), Marlborough (1.55) Mapo (2.30) Air Link (3.5) Milanja (3.40) Mintage (4.15).

- AROUND THE AREA -

PICTURES: Camp: "God's Country And The Woman". Capitol: "China Girl" with Gene Tierney and Robert Montgomery and "It Happened In Flatbush". Pioneer "Skyhawk" with Ray Milland and Claudette Colbert and "Dancing on a Dime."