

== (Compiled by Overseas Branch, U. S. Office of War Information) ==

CHURCHILL -- Prime Minister Winston Churchill in a statement on Germany's new flying torpedos told the House of Commons Thursday that they have been falling on London and that up to 6:00 a.m. Thursday, which is midnight July 5 E.W.T., about 2750 flying torpedos have been discharged from launching stations on the French Coast since the start of the campaign three weeks ago. He said this weapon has killed 2752 people. He also said that about 8000 persons have been injured seriously enough to keep them in the hospitals. Churchill figures showed that more Britons had been killed by flying torpedos in Southern England than were killed in the first 15 days of the Battle of Normandy when a total of 1842 Britons were killed in that period in France. He said "as this battle may be a somewhat lengthy affair I do not propose to withhold the number of casualties. He said he would publish the figures monthly. The Prime Minister said the children already are being sent away from London and the evacuation of others is not being discouraged since "we do not want more people in London that are required for business and the purposes of peace and war". In answer to a question, "What are you going to do about it?", Churchill replied "everything in human power, and we have never failed yet.

FRANCE -- In Normandy Allied troops have taken the rail station at La Haye du Puits. The Allied forces are now pushing on to the south with the Germans contesting every foot of the ground in some of the bitterest fighting of the entire Normandy campaign.

Around Carpiquet the Germans are continuing their counter attacks. However, Allied troops have held their positions in this town.

In the air, operations were marked by fierce encounters with strong formations of German fighters. Considerable numbers of Allied fighters and fighter bombers vigorously supporting the ground troops joined in the air battles. Allied tactical planes attacked a wide variety of targets during Wednesday. At least 25 German fighters were shot down during the day and 4 more were destroyed on the ground. 15 Allied fighters are missing.

Allied heavy bombers attacked a railyard at Dijon in Western France Wednesday night and returned without loss. Allied light bombers hit rail junctions and bridges in occupied France during the night.

A considerable force of German E-boats and R-boats attempted to enter the eastern anchorage Tuesday night. The German naval units were intercepted and driven off. 2 German R-boats were sunk and a third heavily damaged.

General Dwight Eisenhower is back in Britain after a five-day tour of the Normandy battle fronts. A fleet of American heavy bombers and long-range fighters landed in England Wednesday after completing a 13,000 kilometer mission that took them to Russia, then Italy and finally back to England. On their return trip from Italy to Britain the American bombers and fighters attacked railyards in Southern France.

RUSSIA -- On the Eastern Front the Red Army has captured the rail junction of Molodechno which commands the approaches to both Vilna and the Latvian capital of Riga. Swift Soviet cavalry tank and infantry formations have already advanced over one-third of the distance along the rear from Molodechno to Vilna to capture the station of Smorogon, 75 kilometers from Vilna.

(Over)



East of Minsk the Red Army continued its battle for the annihilation of an encircled German group consisting of remnants of the German Twelfth and Twenty-seventh Army Corps and the Thirty-ninth Tank Corps. The ring of encirclement around the remains of the 3 German Army Corps is being tightened. Southwest of Minsk the Red Army is approaching the key rail junction of Baranovichi on a broad front. In the Northern Pripyet Marshes Soviet troops took the rail junction of Starushki and the district center of Turov.

Once again Soviet bombers struck ahead of the advancing ground troops. Soviet planes made effective attacks on rail and military targets at Baranovichi, Vilna and Lida Tuesday night.

The German radio in a broadcast to the Far East admitted that the Germans in Central White Russia have no regular front. The German radio stated "far in the rear of Soviet tank spearheads German units can still be found". Washington observers point out that these German units are being found and wiped out by the Red Army.

Nor are the Finns faring too well for their part. Soviet troops captured Salmi on the northeast shore of Lake Ladoga Wednesday and drove on in the direction of the important town of Sortavala. Over 900 Finns were killed on this front.

ITALY -- In Italy persistent German resistance has been encountered in most sectors of the front. Nevertheless progress has been made especially northwest and northeast of captured Siena, 50 kilometers south of Florence. Near the west coast close fighting is in progress near Rosignano and around Montecatini which is 20 kilometers south of Leghorn.

Further inland an Eighth Army spearhead is now threatening the main road to Florence, west of Arezzo, 60 kilometers southeast of Florence.

Indian troops after recent heavy fighting on Monte Acuto have reached the outskirts of Umbertide in the upper Tiber Valley. In the Adriatic sector Polish troops have made a further advance around Osimo.

In the air Allied heavy bombers on Wednesday attacked submarine pens and harbor installations at Toulon and railyards at Montpellier, both in southern France. Tactical aircraft maintained their operations against German communications and battle positions. During Wednesday night Allied planes bombed rail yards at Verona.

PACIFIC -- In the Pacific American troops on Saipan drove ahead 300 kilometers along the entire front extending across the northern tip of the island. The Japanese have been further compressed in a small pocket which is all that remains to them of this vital island base.

The U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander, Admiral Chester A. Nimitz said Wednesday that he believed the Saipan campaign is nearing a successful conclusion although he warned that the Japanese can still put up stiff resistance. Admiral Nimitz referred to his previously announced intention of driving to the Coast of China, saying that the Allied drive will go ahead as quickly as "availability of means" permits.

In the Southwest Pacific Allied troops have taken a second airdrome on Noemfoor Island, while Australian engineers are preparing previously captured Kamiri airfield for use.

Allied big bombers continued to pound by-passed Japanese bases in the Carolines. Other Allied planes hit Japanese airfields in Dutch New Guinea and in the East Indies.