DOMESTIC -- One hundred and twenty-seven dead and 178 badly burned persons were removed from the ruins of the Ringling Brothers Big Top circus tent in Hartford, Conn., Thursday afternoon, after fire swept the entire tent. At least two-thirds of the dead and injured were children. Fire officials said that the fire apparently was started from a carelessly tossed cigarette. The fire is the worst in the nation's circus history.

NORMANDY -- Supreme Headquarters communique Friday said that "the battle of La Haye du Puits continues. East of the Carentan-Periers road we have advanced toward Sainteny. There is no change in the Caen sector." Front dispatches say that east of La Haye another column captured Le Mont. Canadian troops tightened their grip on Carpiquet. British troops continue to fight at Verson, south of Carpiquet. Allied aircraft Thursday continued to attack enemy supply systems and harass enemy troop movements around the battlefield.

The British Air Ministry announced Friday that heavy bombers attacked flying bomb installations and military objectives in Northern France and Germany, Thursday night.

ITALY -- An Allied communique issued Friday said that "the enemy continues to offer most stubborn resistance to the advance of the Allied armies all along the front." Front dispatches said counter-attacking German troops had temporarily halted Allied progress. Allied Fifth Army troops, in a house to house fight, now occupy two-thirds of Rosignano. Thursday, Mediterranean Allied air force aircraft attacked the air dome at Feuersbrunn, Asia and oil installations, rail communications and an industrial plant in Northern Italy. Five German planes were downed. The Allies lost four planes.

PACIFIC -- Admiral Chester A. Nimitz disclosed that the U.S. carriers attack on Bonin Monday cost the Japanese thirty-eight ships destroyed and damaged. Thirty-seven planes were destroyed. The U.S. lost thirteen planes.

General Douglas MacArthur announced that U.S. troops landed unopposed on Manus Island on Wednesday, July 5. The landing provides the U.S. troops with a flanking position against Nambor, the one remaining Japanese-held air dome on Noemfoor Island.

RUSSIA -- Soviet forces Thursday cut Baranovichi-Luninets railway, isolating Luninets from the rest of the German defense line through Baranovichi, Lida and Vilna to Drusk. North of Polotsk Soviet troops advanced one-third of the distance to Idrits.

* * *

Doc. No. 176