

# EVENING BULLETIN

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ROOSEVELT -- President Roosevelt said Friday at a press conference that his talks this week with General Charles de Gaulle will cover many things, but not the question of possible U.S. recognition for the French Committee of National Liberation. He said he and de Gaulle would discuss the Government of Liberated France. However, he pointed out that only one-tenth of one percent of the country has so far been liberated, and that this necessarily must remain for the present a zone of military, rather than civilian, government. He praised de Gaulle's representatives in Normandy for their friendly co-operation with the Allies.

President Roosevelt also said the war in China is not going well, and the United States is much concerned about it. He said the fighting in China does not seem to be stopping the Japanese advance. However, he added, the Japanese strategic position is poor, because their supply lines are so extended.

DE GAULLE -- General de Gaulle, in an address to the French Delegation in Washington, said that the "year 1944 won't pass without the last German in France being killed, captured, or chased from our soil." He said France must make itself "great, strong, and free," and added: "France knows that France must be great or disappear."

GERMANY -- Supreme Allied headquarters announced that U.S. Eighth Air Force fighters shot down 75 German planes Friday while accompanying a very strong force of U.S. heavy bombers which attacked targets in Central Germany. Fierce battles raged across hundreds of miles of German skies. Targets included oil refineries and plane assembly and parts plants at Mockau and Lutzendorf; oil plants at Bohlson in the Hanover area and Merseburg; and plane plants at Berberg and Aschersleben, the latter three within a fifty mile (eighty kilometers) radius of Leipzig. United States plane losses and the number of planes shot down by United States bombers were not immediately announced.

LONDON -- Dispatches from London said the Germans Friday resumed flying torpedo attacks on Southern England, including London, after an early morning lull.

FRANCE -- Supreme Allied headquarters announced early Friday that U.S. troops, in a dawn offensive supported by heavy artillery and dive-bombing attacks, crossed the Vire River and captured Airel, a village about eight miles (twelve kilometers) northeast of St. Lo, and are pushing westward toward St. Jean de Daye. The announcement said they had advanced more than a mile west of the River, and consolidated their gains. Field dispatches said the attacks were so rapid that the overwhelmed Germans abandoned a Vire River bridge intact. In the western end of the Cherbourg Peninsula battle line, announcement said U.S. First Army troops almost surrounded stubbornly defended La Haye du Puits. A late Reuters dispatch said U.S. patrols entered the town late Friday afternoon. No major action was reported on the Caen front.

CHINA -- A Chinese military spokesman in Chungking said Friday that Chinese forces have pushed through the Japanese siege ring around Hengyang, strategic junction on Hankow-Canton railway, and established contact with Chinese garrison there. U.S. 14th Air Force communique issued in Chungking Friday said U.S. and Chinese planes have killed more than 1500 Japanese troops and nearly 500 horses in Hengyang area in past two days. Also, Allied planes sank more than 60 river boats, shot down two Japanese fighter planes and probably destroyed two more.

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ARGENTINA -- Reports from Buenos Aires quote President Edelmiro Farrell of Argentina as saying in a speech there Thursday night that his country has given ample proof of its desire to cooperate with other American nations, and will continue to do so; but will not be influenced by outside pressure. He said Argentina is not understood abroad because of "deplorable confusion regarding our conduct among American nations."

Another report from Buenos Aires said Colonel Juan Peron, Minister of War, Friday was named Vice-President of Argentina by decree of President Farrell. General Luis Perlinger has resigned as Argentine Minister of Interior, and Rear Admiral Alberto Tessaire has succeeded him.

PACIFIC -- A U.S. Pacific Fleet announcement Friday said aircraft of a fast carrier task force attacked Guam and Rota, both in the Marianas, on July 5th and 6th. Air strips and other ground installations were "worked over with bombs, rockets, and machine-gun fire."

The announcement said ground forces on Saipan have continued their advance, reaching points less than two miles (three kilos) from the end of the island on one side, and less than four miles (six kilos) on the other side.

HOLLAND -- A British Air Ministry communique issued Friday said RAF coastal command planes Thursday night attacked a strongly escorted convoy of eight merchant vessels off the Frisian Islands. The merchant vessels were hit with torpedoes, and three others set afire. One escort ship was left blazing.

RUSSIA -- Friday's Soviet communique said 4,000 Germans were killed Friday and 6,000 taken prisoner -- including Major General Numer Dulov, Commander of the 246th German Infantry Division, and Lieutenant General Kraus of the 78th Assault Division. It reported further advances in Finnish Karelia. It also reported capture of 250 localities northwest and west of Minsk; and eighty localities, including several large ones, southwest of Minsk. The mopping up of encircled enemy troops east of Minsk is continuing.

BULLETIN: NORMANDY -- Text of Friday night's Supreme Allied Headquarters communique:

"Allied Forces have made some progress southwest along the Carentan-Periers Road.

"West of Airel our troops have captured a small bridge-head over the River Vire.

"Air activity over the beaches and battle area up to noon today was confined to reconnaissance patrols."

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