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1

In accordance with orders of 26 August, 1st Cdn and 2d Br Armies are moving rapidly N to eliminate enemy in Pas de Calais and Flanders and to capture Antwerp. Subsequently, when Germans are found to be in full retreat before 2d British Army and moving into coastal ports on L, 2d Army is ordered to take Brussels and Antwerp and establish bridgehead over Albert Canal, while 1st Army is to clear coastal area.

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps On R, Guards Armd Div makes rapid strides, by-passing resistance at Albert and Bapaume, on Amiens-Cambrai road, and at Arras; these towns subsequently taken; armd regt enters Douai and patrols reach Lens. Fiftieth Div following up. On L, Doullens, N of Amiens, falls to 8th Armd Brig (11th Armd Div) which continues N to vicinity of Ivergny; remainder of 11th Armd Div reaches Arras-St. Pol road at Aubigny and positions in Lens area. Brig of 50th Div (151st) now responsible for Amiens, relieving 159th Brig.

XII Corps Seventh Armd Div by-passes Airaines, NW of Amiens, and crosses Somme over bridges captured intact between Long and Bourdon. Fifty-third Div echeloned back to protect Corps L flank.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Fourth Cdn Armd and 1st Polish Armd Divs approaching the Somme E and W of Abbeville, respectively; opposition met and overcome at Airaines by 4th Cdn Armd. German 15th Army has abandoned coastal strip between Dieppe and Le Treport; former occupied by 2d Inf Div and latter by 3d Inf Div.

I Corps Br 51st Div now on line Duclair-Pavilly; Br 49th Div advancing westward toward Le Havre.

Enemy troops at Abbeville hit with 80 tons of bombs from 40 B-25s of 2d TAF. Second TAF fighters carry out

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numerous offensive sweeps against enemy transport in coastal areas of N France and Low Countries. P-47s of 8th AF harass similar targets in vicinity of Brussels and Antwerp.

ETO TAC Summary On the Western Front, bombers and fighters of 9th and 2d tactical air forces fly approximately 2,300 sorties, bombing strongpoints, disrupting rail and road traffic, and furnishing close ground support. Eighth AF fighter bombers also concentrate on enemy transport, particularly in N and E France.

Baltic Sea SS Moero (Belgian cargo ship, 6,111 tons) sunk by enemy action at 56-57 N, 24-09 E.

East Atlantic HMS Hurst Castle (British corvette) sunk by SS 30 mi. N of Ireland.

2

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd Div with Belgian Brig now under command takes Tournai, NE of Douai on Brussels-Lille road, and crosses the Escaut. Eleventh Armd Div moving NE along Lens-Lille road. Forty-third Div now under command of VIII Corps to the rear.

XII Corps Seventh Armd Div advances NE from positions N of the Somme, forward elements reaching Candas area by noon. By same time, 53d Div preparing to cross the Somme near Airaines.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Elements of 4th Cdn Armd Div cross the Somme E of Abbeville. First Polish Armd Div now just SW of Abbeville.

I Corps Along coast NE of Le Havre, St. Valery-en-Caux and Etretat reached by elements of 51st and 49th Divs, respectively. Nearer Le Havre, 49th Div closing in E of the city. Germans contained in small portion of tip of Le Havre peninsula; Allied line runs from point W of Etretat on the N to point W of St. Romain on the S.

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Fighters of 8th AF and 2d TAF sweep over Belgian coastal area, damaging transportation targets.

ETO TAC Summary On the Western Front, air activity greatly restricted by weather. Ninth and 2d tactical air forces fly about 600 sorties, chiefly in support of troops and against enemy movements in France and Belgium.

East Atlantic SS Fjordheim (Norwegian cargo ship, 4,115 tons) sunk by enemy action at 55-20 N, 09-58 W.

3

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Brussels falls to Guards Armd Div; Div enters the city during afternoon, after rapid advance of approximately 50 mi. from Tournai via Ath, and by nightfall controls all main exits. By-passing Lille, 11th Armd Div advances about 60 mi. from area NE of Lens, 20th Armd Brig reaching Wolverthem area, N of Brussels, and 159th arriving at point SE of Alost, NW of Brussels, by nightfall; 8th Armd Brig guarding S exits from Lille.

XII Corps After capturing St. Pol, forward elements of 7th Armd Div continue NE via Pernes to Bethune-Aire road at Lillers. Fifty-third Div now across the Somme and concentrated N and W of Doullens.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Early in the morning, 1st Polish Armd Div crosses the Somme W of Abbeville and establishes contact with enemy near Sailly le Sec. Later in the day, 4th Cdn Armd Brig (4th Armd Div) crosses E of the city over bridge constructed in vicinity of Pont Remy while 10th Cdn Inf Brig provides cover from N bank. Royal Netherlands Brig, under Corps command, concentrating in St. Remy-Boseroocourt area.

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I Corps From St. Valery-en-Caux, 51st Div has moved down coast to come in on R of 49th Div, and ring about Le Havre is tightened; line now stretches from area W of Etretat, W of Montivilliers, and S to Tancarville Canal.

Second TAF fighters sweep Calais, Dunkerque, Ypres, St. Omer, and Bruges areas, harassing MT and barges.

ETO TAC Summary Ninth and 2d tactical aircraft fly approximately 1,950 sorties, bombers striking in force at Brest and fighter bombers and fighters assisting troops and continuing effort to paralyze enemy road and rail traffic.

4

## BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Eleventh Armd Div enters Antwerp and secures city except for N suburbs adjoining dock area. Armd elements also take Malines and Louvain. Fiftieth Div (less 231st Brig under command of Guards Armd Div at Brussels) reaches Alost. Lille free of enemy; 8th Armd Brig under command of 50th Div.

XII Corps To avoid demolitions on Aire-La Bassee Canal, 7th Armd Div turns E, reaching positions E of Bethune; numerous enemy pockets remain between Bethune and La Bassee. Elements of 53d Div mop up St. Pol. Fifteenth Div near Feuille, E of Rouen.

Fighters of 9th and 2d tactical air forces sweep over Brussels and Antwerp areas, damaging enemy transport.

## CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Abbeville now secure. First Polish Armd Div advances rapidly NE against negligible opposition. Third Cdn Inf Div, after moving up from Rouen area, joins in Allied advance along Pas de Calais. General line running from Etaples on coast SE to Montreuil and Hesdin established. W of Abbeville, 4th Cdn Armd Div reorganizes near Pont-Remy.

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I Corps Investment of Le Havre continues.

ETO TAC Summary Tactical bombers grounded by weather. Fighter sorties of 9th AF and 2d TAF total about 750, consisting largely of armed recon missions and ground support for 3d Armd Div.

5

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd and 11th Armd Divs consolidating positions in Brussels-Louvain-Malines-Antwerp area.

XII Corps Twenty-second Armd Brig (7th Armd Div) moves swiftly NE, reaching outskirts of Ghent; remainder of Div S of Lille. Corps L flank protected by 53d Div in Lillers-St. Pol area. Fifteenth Div advances to Granvilliers area.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Northeastward advance along Pas de Calais from Etaples-Hesdin line continues, with 3d Cdn Div on L, 4th Cdn Armd Div in center, and Polish armor on R. Advancing rapidly up coast, 3d Cdn Inf Div by-passes Boulogne to reach Foret de Guines. First Polish Armd Div takes Aire, SE of Hazebrouck.

I Corps Preparations for all-out assault on Le Havre are in progress. HMS Erebus bombards the city until hit by enemy shell.

In effort to break down German morale at Le Havre, 310 Lancasters, 20 Mosquitoes, and 5 Stirlings of RAF BC concentrate approximately 2,000 tons of bombs on troop concentrations, thoroughly covering area 1,000 yds. square.

ETO TAC Summary Over 1,100 sorties flown by planes of 9th AF and 2d TAF during which bombers and fighters join in all-out assault on Brest, while other fighters continue interdiction of enemy transportation in battle areas and in front of advancing armies. Eighth AF fighters also operate against transport, particularly in Frankfurt, Stuttgart, and Rotterdam areas.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd and 11th Armd Divs continue to consolidate gains.

XII Corps Ghent captured by elements of 7th Armd Div.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps On R flank, Ypres falls to 1st Polish Armd Div. Fourth Cdn Armd Div advancing toward Bruges. On L, Calais is encircled by thrust of 2d Cdn Inf Div to Gravelines; this Div has recently moved up from Dieppe. Under cover of coastal batteries, large portion of German 15th Army ferrying the Scheldt to reach Dutch Islands.

I Corps Preparations for assault on Le Havre continue; 51st and 49th Divs have reached main defenses of the city.

Cooperating with ground forces, RAF BC aircraft (249 Lancasters, 20 Mosquitoes, 2 Stirlings) strongly attack Le Havre; 1,504.3 tons of bombs dropped despite unfavorable weather which grows worse as attack progresses.

ETO TAC Summary More than 1,500 sorties flown by aircraft of 9th AF and 2d TAF: Brest is again chief objective for bombers and fighters; other fighters cover U.S. First and Third Armies and disrupt enemy traffic during widespread sweeps. Eighth AF fighters strafe traffic on RRs and highways in vicinity of Rotterdam, Aachen, and Coblenz.

North Sea SS Breda (Norwegian cargo ship, 1,260 tons) sunk by enemy action at 53-47 N, 07-55 E. SS Rosafred (Swedish cargo ship, 1,348 tons) sunk by enemy action at 53-22 N, 07-12 E.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Advancing NE from Louvain, elements of Guards Armd Div take Diest, while others establish bridgehead over Albert Canal at Beeringen. Units of 50th Div at Brussels and approaching Antwerp: 151st Brig under Army command at former, and 231st under command of 11th Armd Div moving to latter.

XII Corps Fourth Armd Brig (7th Armd Div) frustrates enemy attempt to cut Div line of communications by moving E across Escaut R. and Lys Canal. Fifty-third Div concentrated W and NW of Lille. Fifteenth Div NE of Lille in vicinity of Courtrai, Menin, and Roubaix; 46th Brig now under command of 7th Armd Div.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps From Ypres, Polish Armor pursues retreating Germans to Roulers. Advance elements of 4th Cdn Armd Div within 10 mi. of Bruges by noon; other elements on Ypres-Furnes road. British 2d Army assumes command of Royal Netherlands Brig.

ETO TAC Summary Adverse weather grounds bombers and greatly restricts fighter operations. Ninth AF sorties limited to about 325, the bulk of them being in support of troops at Brest. Enemy movements in Holland harassed during night by Mosquitoes of 2d TAF.

8

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd Div expands its bridgehead over Albert Canal; from Beeringen, elements of the Div continue N to Bourg Leopold, taking it against strong opposition; others move E to Helchteren. Bn of 69th Brig (50th Div) crosses the canal S of Gheel against determined opposition. Hechtel, Peer, and Hasselt still held by enemy, but St. Trond, to the SE, free. Brig 151 reverts to command of 50th Div and is advancing toward Herpselt, NW of Diest. Twenty-ninth Armd Brig (11th Armd Div) concentrated S of Antwerp.

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XII Corps Fifty-third Div in Roulers, Moorslede, Menin, Zonnebeke areas. Germans hold positions N of Ghent-Courtrai-Menin road. Forty-sixth Brig, under command of 7th Armd Div, moving toward Ghent.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps After taking Roulers, Polish armor continues to Thielt where enemy is engaged; thrusting toward the coast, armd units enter Dixmude. Elements of 4th Armd Div reach outskirts of Bruges. Dunkerque encircled as elements of 2d Inf Div reach outskirts of enemy-held Bergues, SE of Dunkerque, and capture Bourbourg, W of the city; elements of 4th Armd Div seize Furnes, E of Dunkerque, and cut coastal road from Nieuport to Dunkerque near Coxyde. Germans remain at C. Gris Nez.

I Corps While engaging perimeter batteries at Le Havre, HMS Erebus is hit by enemy shell.

Le Havre attacked in force by RAF BC (94 Lancasters, 3 Stirlings, 12 Mosquitoes) with 535.3 tons of bombs; continued poor weather forces planes to abandon attack in later phases. Forty-five B-25s and 21 A-20s of 2d TAF strike in Boulogne area, concentrating approximately 100 tons of bombs on gun positions and strongpoints with fair to good results.

ETO TAC Summary Over 1,600 sorties flown by 9th AF and 2d TAF in support of armies and against enemy transport. Ferries at Breskens and Terneuzen (Holland) bombed at night by Mosquitoes of 2d TAF.

East Atlantic SS Tafelberg (British tanker, 13,640 tons) sunk by enemy action at 55-27 N, 08-01 W.

Kattegat German catapult ship (Westfalen) sunk, probably by mine, off Sweden.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps While Royal Netherlands group, under command of Guards Armd Div, defends bridgehead at Beeringen, Guards Armd Div clashes sharply with enemy in Bourg Leopold, Helchteren, and Heusden areas and repulses counterattack just S of Hechtel. Advance units of 8th Armd Brig in contact with enemy at Oostham, between Albert Canal and Bourg Leopold. Eleventh Armd Div, except for 29th Brig, concentrated in Diest area; 29th, temporarily under Corps command, protecting Corps flank from Louvain to Albert Canal. Fiftieth Div expands its bridgehead over Albert Canal at Gheel.

XII Corps Germans in N portion of Ghent are being engaged by 7th Armd Div; elements of 4th Armd Brig at Antwerp and in St. Nicolas-Lokeren area. Fifteenth Div along Ghent-Deynze-Courtrai road with 53d Ren Regt under its command in Courtrai-Menin area. Two Brig of 53d Div now at Antwerp and another moving up. Brussels defended by 1st Belgian Brig.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Polish armor overcomes opposition at Thielt and continues to Aeltre and Wynghene. Fourth Cdn Armd Div patrols find enemy holding E portion of Bruges. Despite determined effort of Germans to hold Ghent Canal to facilitate withdrawal from Flushing, 4th Armd Div establishes small bridgehead over it SE of Bruges. Along coast, Ostend and Nieuport entered by patrols of 4th Armd and 2d Inf Divs, respectively.

Adverse weather virtually cancels attack on Le Havre by 272 planes of RAF BC (230 Halifaxes, 22 Lancasters, 20 Mosquitoes); 16 of the planes release 7.1 tons of bombs. Forty B-25s and 24 A-20s of 2d TAF strike at Boulogne strong-points with 87 tons.

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ETO TAC Summary Ninth AF and 2d TAF, in approximately 1,900 sorties, continue close support of armies and interdiction of traffic in France, Low Countries, Dutch Islands, and Germany. Eighth AF fighter bombers also operate in some strength against enemy transport, striking at shipping between Dutch Islands and Belgium and rail and road targets-N of Frankfurt.

10

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

It is decided that an airborne corps shall assist British Second Army, whose supply line is now approximately 400 mi. long, to prevent enemy from establishing defensive positions on water obstacles in Holland; 17 September is date chosen for drop.

XXX Corps German resistance along Albert Canal line stiffening; elements of 1 Para Army from Nancy now appearing, and remnants of 15th Army attempting to make their way across Scheldt Estuary to this defense line. Germans recapture Bourg Leopold and offer vigorous resistance along road from there to Bree. Guards Armd Div launches northward attack during morning and by evening reaches junction of Eindhoven-Hechtel and Moll-Hamont roads near Dutch frontier. Eighth Armd Brig heavily engaged in Bourg Leopold area. Twenty-ninth Armd Brig (11th Armd Div) now in vicinity of Helchteren. Strong resistance met by 50th Div at Gheel bridgehead.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div concentrated in and near Antwerp. Fifteenth Div moving toward Malines and Antwerp. To the W, elements of 7th Armd Div opposed by enemy with tanks near St. Nicolas; other units of the Div still fighting in N outskirts of Ghent.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps First Polish Armd Div checked by strong opposition at Ghent Canal. Advance elements of 2d Cdn Inf Div reach Blankenberghe, NE of Ostend. Wissant, on coast NE of C. Gris Nez, captured by 3d Cdn Inf Div.

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I Corps All-out assault against Le Havre launched at 1745 hours, following aerial bombardment. Forty-ninth and 51st Divs breach minefields and break into defences. Naval support furnished by HMS Warspite and HMS Erebus.

Le Havre sustains record aerial assault as 901 aircraft (Lancasters, Halifaxes, Mosquitoes) of RAF BC concentrate 4,719.2 tons of bombs on guns, strongpoints, and pillboxes, and 60 others hit coastal battery with 266.1 tons.

ETO TAC Summary Ninth AF and 2d TAF sorties total about 2,000: bombers concentrate on Foret de Haye and Moselle R. bridges; fighters, in addition to usual support of armies and sweeps against transport, intensify efforts to disrupt enemy communication and supply lines by cutting rail networks in Germany. Enemy movements in Holland harassed by strong patrols of 2d TAF.

11

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd Div, continuing northward attack, secures bridgehead over Meuse-Escant Canal N of Overpelt, patrols crossing Dutch border to reach Valkenswaard. Eleventh Armd Div clearing area from Peer southward. Bourg Leopold falls to 8th Armd and Royal Netherlands Brigs. Gheel bridgehead strongly contested; 50th Div repulses a number of counterattacks by German 88th Corps.

XII Corps Fighting continues in N outskirts of Ghent where 7th Armd Div awaits relief by 1st Polish Armd Div.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps First Polish Armd Div en route to Ghent where it will relieve 7th Armd Div, British 2d Army, of responsibility for that city. Ghent Canal bridgehead enlarged by 4th Cdn Armd Div. Second Cdn Inf Div, except for a bn, moving to Bruges area to relieve 4th Cdn Armd Div; remaining bn of 2d Div reaches outskirts of Zeebrugge, on coast NE of Blankenberghe.

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I Corps Assault on Le Havre continues; 49th and 51st Divs succeed in entering the city and take high ground overlooking harbor.

In strong effort to wreck German defenses at Le Havre, RAF BC planes (103 Lancasters, 62 Halifaxes, 6 Mosquitoes) attack with 877.1 tons of bombs; good concentration reported.

ETO TAC Summary Approximately 2,500 sorties flown by 9th AF and 2d TAF, strongest attacks being in Metz-Thionville area. Continuing aerial assault on Dutch transport system, 46 B-25s and 21 A-20s of 2d TAF concentrate 93 tons of bombs on ferry crossings NE of Bruges; other ARAF planes engage in widespread sweeps against enemy movement in Holland, Belgium, and NW Germany.

Baltic Sea SS Rijn (Dutch cargo ship, 1,969 tons) sunk by enemy action at 60-26 N, 22-18 E.

12

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd Div firmly established across Meuse-Escaut Canal N of Overpelt, with elements at Lommel, to the W, and clearing enemy remnants from Hechtel, to the S. Gheel bridgehead gradually expanded by 50th Div in the face of repeated enemy counterattacks. Beerlingen bridgehead now defended by 231st Brig (50th Div) and Bourg Leopold, by Belgian Brig.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div guarding Antwerp docks and Albert Canal in this area.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Seventh Armd Div now relieved at Ghent by 1st Polish Armd Div; 10th Polish Armd Brig continues eastward to Lokeren and St. Nicolas. Fourth Armd Div clears Bruges and reaches Leopold Canal NE of that town; other elements to the clearing pockets

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along coast between Dunkerque and Ostend.  
Third Inf Div mopping up in vicinity of  
Roulers.

I Corps Le Havre garrison surrenders at  
1130 hours; about 12,000 prisoners taken.

ETO. TAC Summary Ninth and 2d TAF planes fly  
approximately 1,600 sorties, covering ground operations  
and continuing disruption of enemy traffic. Second TAF  
planes concentrate on enemy movement in Holland: 63 bombers  
(B-25s, A-20s) attack RR bridge between Zuid Beveland and  
mainland with 50 tons of bombs; Tempests, Spitfires, Typhoons,  
and Mosquitoes raid ferries, road junctions, and railroads.  
Two sqs of XIX TAC planes shoot down 30 of 40 intercepting  
FW-190s in Frankfurt-Mannheim area. One of the above sqs  
also destroys 8 enemy planes on airfield near Limburg.

13

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Guards Armd Div regrouping. Fiftieth  
Div (69th and 151st Brigs) relieved at Gheel  
bridgehead by 15th (44th and 46th Brigs); 15th  
Div expands bridgehead, occupying Moll and  
Meerhout without opposition.

XII Corps Fifteenth Div (less 44th and 46th  
Brigs near Gheel) established in vicinity of  
Malines with bn around lock gates at Herenthals.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Investment of Boulogne, Calais, and  
Dunkerque continues; coastal pockets being cleared.  
At night, bn of 4th Armd Div crosses canals NE  
of Bruges.

I Corps Mopping up completed at Le Havre.

Seventy bombers (B-25s, A-20s) of 2d TAF attack  
Mont Lambert in Boulogne area, achieving excellent results  
with 105 tons of bombs.

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ETO TAC Summary Although weather restricts air operations, about 1,200 sorties are flown by 9th AF and 2d TAF, during which ground support is provided and German transport system further crippled. Second TAF planes operate against transport targets in Holland: 34 bombers (B-25s; A-20s) strike rail and road crossing at Bergen op Zoom with 41 tons of bombs, while 39 B-25s release 68 tons on causeway between Walcheren and Zuid Beveland; Spitfires and Tempests with MG and cannon fire harass transport in vicinity of The Hague; during night Mosquitoes raid enemy movement on ferries, causeways, and roads.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Regrouping of Guards Armd Div completed. Fiftieth Div now clearing area SE of Gheel.

XII Corps Fifteenth Div (44th Brig), against determined opposition, secures small bridgehead across Meuse-Escout Canal at Aart, N of Gheel, and beats off vigorous counterattack during night. Fifty-third Div expands holdings in dock area of Antwerp.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

III Corps Fourth Armd Div clearing area between Leopold and Ghent canals; elements of Div relieved in Bruges by elements of 2d Inf Div. Remainder of 2d Inf Div closing in on Dunkerque.

Second TAF bombers strike at Boulogne; 45 B-25s and 22 A-20s hit strongpoints with 100 tons of bombs.

ETO TAC Summary Continued poor weather limits 9th AF and 2d TAF sorties to about 750, the main effort being against Brest and Boulogne; while patrolling over Holland in some strength, AEAFF fighters bomb Roosendaal RR center and damage rail, road, and canal traffic.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Repeated enemy counterattacks against Escaut bridgehead N of Overpelt frustrated by Guards Armd Div.

XII Corps Fifteenth Div expands its bridgehead over Escaut Canal, despite heavy enemy shelling which impedes bridging and ferrying. Fifteenth Div assumes command of 158th Brig (53d Div) which has moved from Antwerp to area S of Gheel; 71st Brig replaces 158th at Antwerp.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Germans making strong stand N of Ghent and along Leopold Canal. First Polish Armd Div NE of Ghent finds Moerbeke held by enemy, but elements reach Stekene and are almost at Dutch frontier; NE of St. Nicolas, Beveren Waes is reached. Patrol of 4th Cdn Armd Div crosses Canal de Derivation de Lys near its junction with Leopold Canal.

Assault on Boulogne scheduled for today but postponed because of weather.

ETO TAC Summary Approximately 1,000 sorties flown by 9th and 2d tactical air forces.

16

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Fiftieth Div (231st Brig) relieves 32d Guards Inf Brig (Guards Armd Div) at Escaut bridgehead. Other elements of 50th Div now in Lommel and Oostham areas. Forty-third Div concentrated NE of Diest.

XII Corps Fifteenth Div bridgehead over Escaut Canal still strongly attacked by enemy. Fifty-third Div relieved at Antwerp by 7th Armd Div; 71st Brig of former under command of 7th Armd Div.

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CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps NW of St. Nicolas, 1st Polish Armd Div makes small advances, elements crossing Dutch border to contact enemy at points SW of Hulst. Units of 4th Cdn Armd Brig which crossed Canal de Derivation de Lys yesterday continue E to Capryeke-Linde area; other elements of 4th Armd Div capture Eecloo, SE of Capryeke. In Dunkerque sector, Mardick and Ghyvelde (coastal towns W and E of the city, respectively) fall to 2d Cdn Inf Div, units of which also enter Bergues and find it evacuated by enemy. Elements of 2d Inf Div moving toward Antwerp.

ETO TAC Summary Total of 1,311 tactical sorties flown by 9th and 2d air forces. Seventy-seven A-20s, A-26s, and B-26s of IX BC render ineffective viaduct linking Walcheren with Netherlands mainland. Thirty-six B-26s and 37 A-20s also of IX BC attack RR embankment at Arnemuiden with good results, scoring hits on tracks, highway, and embankment itself.

In well concentrated night attack on flak positions, Moerdijk RR bridge hit by 54 Lancasters and 3 Mosquitoes with about 300 tons, Leeuwarden airfield bombed by 48 RAF Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes with 215 tons, and Steenwijk airfield target for 50 Lancasters and 4 Mosquitoes with 225 tons.

17

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

Following preparatory bombing, largest airborne operation of its kind gets under way between 1025 and 1155 hours when 3 airborne divisions set out for Holland to operate with British Second Army. Operation by 1st Airborne Corps designated as MARKET and that by XXX Corps as GARDEN; airborne units come under command of Second Army on landing. First Airborne Corps comprises 1st British Airborne Div (with Polish Parachute Brig) and 82d U.S. Airborne Div; 101st U.S. Airborne Div, for planning purposes, under command of XXX-Corps. Objective of airborne units is to secure vital bridges and positions along axis of ground advance; British Second Army, with XXX Corps spearheading assault and VIII and XII Corps flanking, is to secure corridor to Zuider Zee from general line of Albert and Escaut Canals in



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17 Cont Belgium, thus cutting communications between Germany and Low Countries. Specifically, Second Army is to secure positions astride Maas, Waal, and Neder Rijn rivers in vicinity of Grave, Nijmegen, and Arnhem. At destination 1,481 planes and 425 gliders from starting force of 1,544 planes and 478 gliders drop 20,000 troops, 330 arty weapons, 511 vehicles, and over 500 tons of equipment and supplies. Only limited opposition met in initial stages of landings, due to enemy's complete surprise.

I Airborne Corps Eighty-second U.S. AB Div ordered to seize bridges at Nijmegen and Grave and high ground between Nijmegen and Groesbeek; Maas bridge at Grave and Maas-Waal Canal bridge at Heumen taken intact; para regt enters Nijmegen but is checked within 400 yds. of Waal bridge by very strong opposition.

First Br AB Div is to take bridges over Neder Rijn at Arnhem; this div, dropping 5-8 mi. W of Arnhem because of terrain and flak nearer the city, takes about 4 hours to reach area W and NW of Arnhem, thus enabling enemy to organize defenses; Dropping Zones and Landing Zones secured, however, and elements of the Div seize N end of main road bridge against stiff resistance; RR bridge blown.

XXX Corps To 101st U.S. AB Div is assigned task of securing bridges at Son, St. Oedenrode, and Veghel; complete surprise achieved by this Div which, with little opposition and light losses, captures its objectives; bridge over Wilhelmina Canal near Son blown, but others taken intact.

Guards Armd Div spearheading break-out from Meuse-Escout Canal bridgehead N of Overpelt jumps off at 1435 hours and by 1500 hours crosses Dutch border. Break-out is difficult due to small bridgehead served by only 2 bridges, few roads, terrain which is wooded and marshy, and unexpectedly strong enemy reaction. With close support of arty and Typhoons, opposition from enemy dug in along both sides of road and attacking continuously with gas and mortars is overcome, and Div reaches the Rhine without a major nightfall.

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First and 3d Bns of German 6th Para Regt and 2 bns of 9th SS Div identified. Fiftieth Div, except for 2 bns which mop up in rear of Guards Armd Div, holds bridgehead.

VIII Corps On R flank of XXX Corps, 3d Inf Div prepares to secure bridgehead across Meuse-Escaut Canal near Lille St. Hubert.

XII Corps On L flank, 53d Div, in night attack, establishes bridgehead at Meuse-Escaut Canal N of Lommel and starts building bridge.

All air forces support Allied airborne operations, concentrating on vital bridges and AA positions to reduce effectiveness against Allied troop carriers: 8th AF bombers and fighters damage or destroy 139 AA positions in addition to much rolling stock and many trucks, tanks, barges, staff cars, 12 barracks, and 2 bridges; RAF BC attacks Flushing, Biggerkerke, and Westkapelle gun positions, Eikenhorst supply depot, and Steenwijk/Havelte airfield with approximately 700 tons; ABAF releases gliders, drops troops and equipment, and claims 59 barges, 1,700-ton MV, flak positions, MT, and rolling stock.

Typhoons of 83d Gp RAF in 550 sorties attack Eindhoven road and enemy positions and tanks in and around Valkenswaard, aiding and permitting Guards Armored Div to take town by nightfall.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Following preparatory air bombardment, 3d Cdn Inf Div with arty support launches assault on Boulogne at 1025 hours, making slow progress against heavy enemy fire from C. Gris Nez as well as the city itself. Garrison of about 9,000 men defend Boulogne which is surrounded by strong fortifications and extensively mined.

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Force of 325 Lancasters, 33 Halifaxes, and 32 Mosquitoes drops approximately 3,390 tons of bombs on Boulogne with fair results.

ETO TAC Summary Ninth Air Force flies about 490 fighter sorties. In support of Northern Army Gp 284 Spitfires and Typhoons of AEAFF operate in Holland, and in Calais, Boulogne, and Dunkerque areas; destroying barges and probably destroying 2,500-ton ship; jetties and barges strafed.

18

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Air drops continue over Holland; of 1,360 carrier aircraft and 1,203 gliders setting out, 1,338 aircraft and 1,182 gliders reach destination safely. At Nijmegen, very strong resistance from enemy in concrete pillboxes using SP guns and heavy MGs prevents 82d U.S. AB Div from securing bridges; Germans counterattack from Reichswald Forest with some success initially, pushing 82d Div back to Landing Zone in that area; attack eventually repulsed. Glider Inf Regt 327 successfully flown in.

To the N, 1st Br AB Div holds positions W and NW of Arnhem against severe opposition; 1st Para Brig near N end of Arnhem bridge is cut off from rest of Div and under attack by SS troops with Tiger tanks and SP guns; dropping of reinforcements delayed 4 hours because of weather, permitting increase in enemy build-up; reinforcements attempting to reach bridges are stopped just W of Arnhem. Four Para Brig and sub units of Air Landing and Divisional troops arrive on Div front. Bulk of resupply for the Div falls into enemy hands.

XXX Corps Attacking from Valkenswaard at 0600, Guards Armd Div moves forward against considerable opposition, particularly in Aalst and Eindhoven areas where elements of German 9th and 10th SS Panzer Divs are encountered; enemy supported by Panther tanks. Meanwhile, 101st U.S. AB Div consolidates gains and secures Eindhoven, and

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junction between this Div and XXX Corps effected by 1700 hours. Assisted by 101st U.S. AB Div, Guards Armd Div moves through Eindhoven to Wilhelmina Canal near Son where bridge is being constructed. E of main axis, 32d Guards Brig advances along secondary route to Leende where it is stopped by strong enemy fire. Welsh Guards Group overcomes determined opposition to reach area just S of Geldrop. W of Eindhoven, Grenadier Guards Group attempts to advance but finds bridges too weak for tanks. To the S, 50th Div holds Meuse-Escaut Canal bridgehead near Overpelt against repeated counterattacks from NE and continues mopping up operations; VIII Corps assumes operational control of the Div.

VIII Corps Third Inf Div secures small bridgehead over Escaut Canal near Lille St. Hubert against stiff resistance.

XII Corps Bridge completed across Escaut Canal N of Lommel and 2 brigs of 53d Div cross to N bank.

Weather limits general area support provided by AEAFF against AA positions. Estimated 246 escorted 8th AF B-24s drop over 750 tons of supplies with good to excellent results.

About 100-150 enemy sorties flown over Netherlands; at night 40 enemy light bombers make unsuccessful attack on Joe's Bridge over Escaut Canal near Overpelt.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Assault on Boulogne continues, with 3d Cdn Inf Div moving in slowly toward the city. Canadian and Polish forces continue to invest other Pas de Calais fortresses and push enemy slowly toward Scheldt Estuary.

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ETO TAC Summary Weather limits tactical air force's sorties to estimated 260. At night 14 Mosquitoes destroy locomotive and MT in mission over Germany and Holland.

19BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Situation at Arnhem deteriorating, contributory factors being 1st Br AB Div's lack of adequate re-supply, since the bulk of this again falls into enemy territory, and failure of most of Polish Para Brig to take off from UK due to weather. Near N end of Arnhem bridge elements of 1 Para Brig cling to positions in spite of fierce opposition and shortage of ammunition and supplies. Remainder of the Brig plus a bn each of 4 Para Brig and 1 Airlanding Brig fail in attempt to break through to the bridge and suffer extremely heavy casualties; Germans employ Tiger tanks against elements of 1st AB Div lodged in houses in W portion of Arnhem itself.

Eighty-second U.S. AB Div, in addition to operations in conjunction with XXX Corps described below, holds out against determined opposition in Beek and Groesbeek areas near Nijmegen. Because of weather and severe flak, only about 25% of the Div's re-supply reaches them, and the balance of the Div's glider lift (258 gliders) grounded.

XXX Corps Construction of bridge at Son completed by dawn; Guards Armd Div starts crossing at 0615 hours, continues NE to cross Maas R. bridge at Grave by 0830, and by 1400 hours reaches area just S of Nijmegen. In Nijmegen itself brisk fighting is in progress between 82d U.S. AB Div and German 9th SS Div and Flak troops. Combined attack by 82d U.S. AB and Guards Armd Divs to secure Nijmegen bridge over Waal R. starts at 1500 hours. S end of bridge, fortified by concrete pillboxes, vigorously defended by Germans with SP guns, and Allied onslaught fails to clear it.

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Meanwhile, to the rear, 101st U.S. AB Div and elements of XXX Corps clear pockets in Eindhoven area and repulse enemy tank supported counter-attack on Son bridge and vicinity aimed at cutting communication line. Germans remain in some strength at Helmond, E of main axis, and Schijndel, W of the axis. Only 212 gliders from 384 dispatched in support of 101st U.S. AB Div reach destination.

XXX Corps Hq accompanied by 44 Royal Tanks and SRY starts from Hechtel toward Malden at 1740 hours.

VIII Corps Eleventh Armd Div pushes to Leende and sends patrols to Heeze.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div makes limited gains in attacks to N and W.

Eighth AF P-51s in support of Allied operations encounter heavy opposition over Holland; more than 70 ME-109s and FW-190s engaged in Arnhem area, 30 near Wesel, and 20-30 near Ijsselton; claim 23-1-4 for loss of 9 fighters.

AEAF lands troops and provides area support striking MT, barges, and RR targets. At night Mosquitoes attack enemy movements from Walcheren to W Scheldt area. German planes bomb Eindhoven.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Third Cdn Inf Div closing in on Boulogne: S of the city, elements have crossed Liane R. and taken Mont Lambert; to the N, Wimille being cleared. Elements of 1st Polish Armd Div now across Canal de Hulst and near Zaamslag. Fourth Cdn Armd Div holds line along Leopold Canal from point N of Linde westward to point N of Bruges; movement in this area hampered by difficult terrain.

ETO TAC Summary Ninth Air Force flies estimated 211 fighter sorties. Ninth Bombardment Division begins concentration on RR targets along Rhine centers to German positions farther W to hamper enemy's movements along front and to place additional burden on MT and fuel supply. Most of these missions lie in U.S. First Army territory.

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Mosquitoes strike at enemy movements over Rhine crossings between Emmerich and Dinslaken and RR movements in Ruhr.

North Sea Norwegian cargo ships, SS Tyrifjord (3,080 tons) and SS Lynx (1,367 tons), sunk by enemy action at 58-59 N, 05-45 E.

20BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Situation of 1st Br AB Div at Arnhem now critical. Ammunition of troops cut off at the bridge is exhausted, and 300 wounded are surrendered. Perimeter defended by remainder of Div shrinks as more and more Germans infiltrate.

In addition to continuing operations in conjunction with XXX Corps at Nijmegen, 82d U.S. AB Div beats off counterattacks in Beek, Groesbeek, and Mook areas SE and S of Nijmegen; at Beek, where German Inf is dug-in and supported by tanks and 88-mm guns, fighting is particularly heavy. Enemy is building up in Reichswald Forest.

XXX Corps Preparatory to assault on Nijmegen bridge, 5 Guards Armd Brig (Guards Armd Div) starts at dawn to clear the town, working slowly but steadily from house to house toward S end of both the RR and road bridge. Enemy here has been reinforced by SS troops from Arnhem and holds strong positions, particularly in area S of road bridge. At 1500 hours 504th Para Regt (82d U.S. AB Div) initiates assault crossing of Waal R. W of the town, hampered by strong current and heavy enemy fire; small bridgehead secured at cost of very heavy casualties, and force turns E towards N end of the bridges at 1800 hours. By this time, elements of Guards Armd Div clearing town are fighting on approaches to road bridge and at 1930 hours storm the bridge and join U.S. Paratroops. Firm bridgehead secured by 2015 hours. Bridge is intact, although prepared for demolition.

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To the S, 101st U.S. AB Div continues to guard communication line and, with assistance of 44 R Tanks, SRY, and XXX Corps Main Hq, repulses attack from Helmond area. XXX Corps Hq reaches Malden area during evening.

VIII Corps Achel and Hamont secured by 3d Inf Div.

XII Corps Elements of 53d Div at Steensel, on Eindhoven-Turnhout road.

Total of 644 8th AF fighters supports airborne operations with main effort on flak positions; weather prevents any AEF action. Enemy planes fly 100-150 sorties against ground forces.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Third Cdn Inf Div continues assault toward Boulogne; outskirts being cleared. Zaamslag, Axel, and Hulst now held by 1st Polish Arm'd Div.

Force of 633 RAF bombers scores well in attack on enemy defense area 5 mi. W of Calais between Sangette and Cap Blanc Nez; 3,372 tons of bombs dropped. Four enemy aircraft bomb Ostend inflicting damage on civilian property.

ETO TAC Summary Ninth AF flies approximately 360 sorties.

North Sea SS Vela (Allied cargo ship, 1,184 tons) sunk by enemy action at 58-29 N, 06-01 E.

21

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps At Arnhem strong enemy pressure continues against 1st Br AB Div whose perimeter is further contracted during repeated counter-attacks supported by arty and mortar fire; perimeter now approximately 1 mi. by  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi. Troops holding area near N end of Arnhem bridge ordered to withdraw at 0500 hours; these, in small groups, are to attempt to reach main force. Arnhem itself



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now entirely held by enemy, and last southward route from the town is cut at 1700 hours when enemy seizes ferry over Neder Rijn at Heveadorp, W of Arnhem. Heavy casualties sustained and inflicted by 1st AB Div; 15 enemy tanks destroyed. Arty support of the Div is particularly effective.

At 1714 hours about 2/3 of Polish Para Regt dropped NW and N of Elst (SW of Arnhem) to reinforce 1st Br AB Div. Polish units, dropped nearer to enemy positions than planned because of heavy flak, sustain many casualties.

Eighty-second U.S. AB Div continues to protect R flank at Nijmegen; threat from Reichswald Forest increases with postponement of drop of 352d Glider Inf Regt due to weather.

XXX Corps Nijmegen now clear of enemy and bridges secure; RR bridge under repair. Guards Armd Div, relieved of responsibility for Nijmegen bridgehead by 43d Div, moves N toward Arnhem, making slow progress along single road which is about 6 ft. above surrounding country and has deep ditches on either side; strong antitank screen about 600 yds. to R of road near RR station at Bessm stops the column. Armd units receive only limited arty and air support.

Continuing protection of communication line, 101st U.S. AB Div clashes with enemy near Schinjdal and tank column moving up to Veghel from Erp.

VIII Corps Pockets S of Helmond and SE of Eindhoven being cleared.

XII Corps Corps continues clearing of positions around Eindhoven-Turnhout road.

Enemy air opposition considerable: 8th AF P-47s encounter 50 ME-109s and FW-190s in Nijmegen-Lochem areas; 30 ME-109s and FW-190s attack C-47s SW of Nijmegen; 20-0-2 claimed for loss of 4 P-47s. Additional fighter destroys MT and 3 FW-190s.

Poor visibility restricts tactical rcn enabling

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enemy to mass forces to cut main axis of advance.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Le Portel and Fort de la Creche at Boulogne are under attack by 3d Cdn Inf Div, other units of which are attacking to NE at Wimereux; still farther NE, high ground at C. Blanc Nez cleared.

Polish armor continues to push enemy back toward Scheldt Estuary on broad front; only small pockets remain between Ghent and Terneuzen and along left bank of Scheldt R., indicating that bulk of German 15th Army has withdrawn across the Scheldt. Strong resistance continues along Leopold Canal, S bank of which is patrolled by 4th Cdn Arm Div; elements of this Div reach area just S of Terneuzen.

Good results attained in attack on Fort de la Creche, 1 of enemy hold-out points at Boulogne, by 46 RAF BC B-25s and 16 A-20s with 96 tons.

ETO TAC Summary Estimated 1,300 sorties flown by tactical air forces. Interdiction program continues on all fronts.

22

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Germans maintain heavy pressure on 1st Br AB Div in Arnhem area. ~~XXX~~ Corps arty supports 1st AB Div. Contact between this Div and Polish Para Brig not yet established, but elements of former move up to Driel and S bank of Neder Rijn where 43d Div column is contacted. During night units of Polish Para Brig succeed in ferrying the river and taking small amount of supplies over, despite close range enemy fire and steep river banks which prevent use of DUKWS.

At noon 101st U.S. AB Div transferred from ~~XXX~~ Corps to I Airborne Corps. A number of clashes occur during the day along Corps line of communication. On R flank at Nijmegen, 82d U.S. AB Div expands its position.

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XXX Corps N of Nijmegen 43d Div resumes attack toward Elst at 0830, making only slight progress against determined resistance, but mobile column of inf mounted on tanks moves W to by-pass resistance and advances rapidly to Driel where contact is made with Polish Para Brig.

Enemy inf with tanks cuts XXX Corps axis between Uden and Veghel at 1300 hours. Guards Armd Div sends 32d Brig to clear road; moving SW from Nijmegen, Brig reaches Uden area by nightfall. St. Oedenrode shelled by enemy simultaneously with cutting of axis between Uden and Veghel, indicating possible concerted enemy effort against main axis.

VIII Corps Corps moving slowly toward Helmond against strong resistance and over difficult terrain. Weert falls to 3d Inf Div.

XII Corps On L flank, too, strong opposition continues, but Corps now has forward elements NE of Eindhoven.

Seventy-seven 8th AF P-51s patrol Arnhem battle area. Typhoons effectively attack large factory in Arnhem area which serves as sniper base and observation post against 1 British Airborne Div.

## CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Boulogne falls to 3d Cdn Inf Div; resistance ceases at 1700 hours. After overcoming opposition at Wimereux, NE of Boulogne, 8th Cdn Inf Brig (3d Div) starts N toward Calais.

Polish armor has cleared area from Terneuzen Canal to the Scheldt; elements of Cdn 4 Armd Div clearing region W of Terneuzen Canal, while other units of the Div remain S of Leopold Canal. Second Cdn Inf Div concentrating in Antwerp area; elements cross canal E of Antwerp near Wyneghem.

I Corps Hq and 49th Inf Div moving to Antwerp area.

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EFO TAC Summary Approximately 1,500 tactical air sorties flown by 9th and 2d Air Forces. Fighters and fighter bombers operate against communications mainly in area bounded by Rescheid, close to German border, Coblenz, and Trier.

English Channel SS Zuiderdam (Dutch passenger ship, 10,000 tons) sunk by enemy action at 51-55 N, 04-15 E.

23

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps First Br AB Div, now greatly reduced in strength, continues to hold out near Arnhem, although subjected to continuous attacks and suffering from acute shortage of food, ammunition, and medical supplies. Remainder of Polish Para Brig and 352d Glider Inf Regt (82d U.S. AB Div) land Grave during afternoon. At night 250 Poles are ferried across Neder Rijn, some of them joining 1st AB Div. Fly-in of Br 52d Div postponed indefinitely; original plan was to fly this Div in N of Arnhem where it would be concentrated in reserve.

II of Nijmegen, 82d U.S. AB Div continues to expand its holdings, clearing river bend as far as Erlekom; Coldstream Guards Group which has been operating under its command for the past few days crosses German border E of Beek.

U.S. 101st AB Div active in restoring communication line cut yesterday and repulses counterattack from Erp area during evening.

XXX Corps At dawn 32d Guards Brig attacks to clear axis between Uden and Veghel and, with assistance of 101st U.S. AB Div and 44 Royal Tanks, re-opens axis by 1530 hours, although the

Forty-third Div strengthens its corridor to the Neder Rijn and attacks Elst from the W; at 2200 hours elements of the Div are in outskirts of the town and fighting from house to house.

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VIII Corps Elements of 11th Armd Div fighting in outskirts of Deurne, SE of Helmond.

XII Corps Slight progress made in vicinity of Eindhoven-Turnhout road.

Eighth AF fighters again support Airborne Army in landing zones and combat areas: 35 flak positions damaged or destroyed. Estimated 200-250 enemy aircraft oppose troop reinforcements; 8th AF claims 27-2-6 for loss of 12 P-47s and 12 P-51s; all other support restricted by weather.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Forty-ninth Div concentrated SE of Antwerp with elements in Herenthals, now free of enemy, and others patrolling northward toward Antwerp-Turnhout Canal; Westmalle reached by these patrols.

II Corps Second Cdn Inf Div continues to close in on Antwerp: NW of the city, Wilmarsdonck and Oorderen occupied; Gravenwezel, NE of the city, occupied; canal crossed near Wyheghem; SE of Antwerp, advance units approaching suburbs.

Fourth Cdn Armd Div repulses counterattack SW of Terneuzen during night.

ETO TAC Summary Some 300 tactical sorties flown by 9th and 2d Air Forces.

English Channel SS Dinteldijk (Dutch cargo ship, 9,399 tons) sunk by enemy action at 51-55 N, 04-15 E.

24

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps First Br AB Div at Arnhem attempting to hold perimeter, now greatly reduced, against fierce enemy onslaughts. Supply situation still critical, and only about 150 Poles have succeeded in reinforcing the Div. Polish force which landed near Grave yesterday moves up to 130th Inf Brig's area; these units were to be ferried across river during night, but remain in position due to late arrival of assault boats.

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Eighty-second U.S. AB Div patrols E of Nijmegen and mops up in Mook area. German build-up in Reichswald Forest continues.

XXX Corps At 21st fighting rages between 43d Div and enemy reinforced with tanks and inf from Arnhem; Germans still in NE portion of village by nightfall. Attack launched on Bommel by Welsh Guards Group at 1600 hours, but determined resistance prevents Guards from entering town.

VIII Corps Enemy again cuts XXX Corps main axis, this time between Veghel and St. Oedenrode; attack is made from W by elements of German 6th Para Regt with tank support. U.S. 101st AB Div now under VIII Corps command; 506 Para Regt moves SW from Veghel to try to restore axis.

Deurne falls to 11th Armd Div.

In ground support over Holland, Typhoons boost morale of Allied troops by steady strafing of enemy infantry, mortar positions, and Hq building; MP and rolling stock destroyed in Arnhem area.

## CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Germans firmly established along N bank of Antwerp-Turnhout Canal; bridges over portion of the canal between St. Leonard and Turnhout destroyed and all approaches to Turnhout heavily mined. Forty-ninth Div has rcn elements in outskirts of Turnhout; other units near Oostmalle and crossing bridge just SW of Herenthals.

II Corps Sixth Cdn Inf Brig (2d Div), against strong opposition, establishes bridgehead across Antwerp-Turnhout Canal at point about half way between Antwerp and St. Leonard; latter reached by rcn units of 2d Div.

On coast, 3d Cdn Inf Div closes in on C. Gris Nez, between Calais and Boulogne.

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RAF Halifaxes, Lancasters, and Mosquitoes in well-concentrated attack drop 488 tons on Calais defenses.

ETO TAC Summary Tactical sorties by 9th and 2d Air Forces approximate 61.0. Force of 95 9th AF P-47s flies missions over E France and W Germany dropping 20 tons of bombs.

At night 25 Mosquitoes again harass movements between Rhine and Maas rivers, and in Scheldt-Utrecht-Apeldoorn areas with unobserved results.

25

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Starting at 0130 hours, 4 Dorsets (43d Div) force crossing of Neder Rijn; at dawn, when intense enemy fire halts crossing, approximately 350 men and 3 tons of stores are across. First Br AB Div not contacted. Since bridgehead N of Neder Rijn near Arnhem is no longer tenable due to difficulty of supplying troops, severe casualties sustained by 1st AB Div, and terrain unsuitable for expanding the bridgehead, it is decided to withdraw the Div. Withdrawal is carried out during night by 43d Div (4 Dorsets, 130th Inf Brig) with assault boats.

XXX Corps Elst falls to 43d Div (214th Inf Brig) by 1630 hours. Sixth-ninth Inf Brig under command of Guards Armd Div secures Bommel a half hour later.

VIII Corps Fiftieth Inf and 101st U.S. AB Divs attempt to clear main axis SW of Veghel; some progress made, but road remains closed. Third Inf Div takes Helmond and Gemert. Patrols of XXX and VIII corps establish contact in St. Antonis area at 1700 hours.

XII Corps Seventh Armd Div, from positions N of St. Oedenrode, operating to clear axis.

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Unsuccessful medium bomber strike by 74 RAF BC B-25s and A-20s against Arnhem gun and mortar positions, 2 of 12 attacking FW-190s destroyed; escorting fighters engage 40 enemy aircraft S of Hengelo and destroy 4 and damage 2. On defensive patrol Spitfires claim 16 enemy aircraft destroyed, 1 probably, and 9 damaged.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps From Coestmalle, regt of 49th Div moves NE to Antwerp-Turnhout Canal, constructs bridge and crosses the canal before dawn, and continues NE to vicinity of Lange Heide where resistance is met; other units proceeding N from Turnhout.

II Corps Strong German pressure against 6th Cdn Inf Brig (2d Div) across Antwerp-Turnhout Canal forces withdrawal to positions S of the canal. Fourth Cdn Armd Div, in addition to patrolling Leopold Canal, sends units to Hulst to patrol 1st Polish Armd Div sector; latter moving SE of Antwerp.

Seventh and 8th Cdn Inf Brigs (3d Div) launch all-out assault on Calais at 0815 hours following preparatory aerial bombardment; due to extensive flooding by Germans of areas E, S, and SW, city is attacked from W with good progress.

Fairly accurate bombing achieved in raid on Calais area defenses by 15 Mosquitoes, 56 Lancasters, and 209 Halifaxes with 1,288 tons.

ETO TAC Summary Ninth AF fighter sorties approach 150. Harassing attack against enemy movements in NW Germany and Holland damages rolling stock.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps By 0600 hours intense enemy fire prevents further withdrawals over Neder Rijn; at this time 2,163 men of 1st Br AB Div, 160 of Polish Para Brig, and 75 of 4 Dorset are safely across the river, but 180 men of 4 Dorset remain



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on N bank covering withdrawal; a few of these return subsequently.

Eighty-second U.S. AB Div clashes with enemy in woods S of Nijmegen.

XXX Corps Sixty-ninth Brig slightly expands bridgehead NE of Nijmegen, reaching area 1,000 yds. E of Bemmel against stiff opposition. Grenadier Guards Group (32d Guards Inf Brig) takes Heesch, E of 's Hertogenbosch.

VIII Corps Main axis between St. Oedenrode and Veghel cleared of enemy but still under fire. Belgian Brig now along Meuse R. from Maeseyck to Thorn.

XII Corps Seventh Armd Div clearing St. Oedenrode-Veghel-Schijndel area. Fifteenth Div meeting stiff opposition near Best, on road to 's Hertogenbosch. Fifty-third Div mopping up pockets along Eindhoven-Turnhout road.

Two gns of 8th AF fighters supporting airborne operations encounter 50 ME-109s and FW-190s in Munster-Haltern area; claim 32-1-8 for loss of 2 fighters.

Sixty-eight RAF B-25s and A-20s strike enemy strong-points and defenses at Breskens with 101 tons; good results.

Road and RR junctions at Cleve also attacked by RAF B-25s and A-20s with 98 tons.

Allied planes land on Netherlands airfields for first time.

Enemy planes make several unsuccessful attempts to knock out Nijmegen bridges, endeavoring to disrupt Allied lines of communication between Maas and Neder Rijn.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Forty-ninth Div expands its bridgehead over Antwerp-Turnhout Canal, despite continued determined resistance elements at Turnhout and across canal W of the town

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II Corps Second Cdn Inf Div remains S of Antwerp-Turnhout Canal at its western end.

Third Inf Div attack on Calais continues; high ground SW of Escalles captured.

Enemy gun positions and defenses S of Cap. Griz Nez attacked by 516 RAF bombers dropping 2,845 tons of bombs; 183 other RAF bombers achieve excellent concentration on Calais defenses.

ETO TAC Summary Tactical sorties of 9th AF total 342.

27

BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Eighty-second U.S. AB Div now concentrated SE and S of Nijmegen in vicinity of Wyler and Middelaar.

XXX Corps Sixty-ninth Brig resumes attacks E of Bommel against strong opposition which prevents substantial gains. Elements of Coldstream Guards Group now at Oss, between Nijmegen and 's Hertogenbosch. S of Oss, enemy sustains heavy losses in unsuccessful counterattack against Heesch during night. Elements of 43d Div engaging enemy who crossed Neder Rijn near Randwijk.

VIII Corps Units of 11th Armd Div at Boxmeer, S of Nijmegen.

XII Corps U.S. 101st AB Div, under XII Corps command, defending Veghel-Uden road; counter-attack from Schijndel area repulsed. Attacking NW of Veghel, 7th Armd Div takes Heeswijk, on 's Hertogenbosch-Veghel road. Fifteenth Div meeting stiff resistance at Best; elements moving NE of that town. To the S, 53d Div has units at Westerbeers and others, under command of 7th Armd Div, moving toward Schijndel. Latter strongly held by enemy.

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Thirty-six RAF B-25s and A-20s attack RR and bridge targets in Goch area, at Marichbaum, and at Wesel. In armed run over battle area 41 enemy aircraft destroyed, 2 probably destroyed, and 16 damaged in air; further 6 destroyed and 3 damaged on ground.

At night Mosquitoes harass enemy movements in Emmerich, Wesel, Apeldorn, and Walcheren areas.

## CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Patrols of XII Corps (British 2d Army) contacted by 49th Div patrols NE of Turnhout. Resistance continues strong along Antwerp-Turnhout Canal; 49th Div holding S bank NE of Turnhout and expanding positions near Ryckevorsel. Second Cdn Inf Div, at W end of canal, now under command of I Corps; 4th Brig takes over canal as far as lock 8.

II Corps Third Cdn Inf Div makes further progress at Calais, despite inundations and mines.

Calais defenses target for 220 Lancasters, 82 Halifaxes, and 21 Mosquitoes with 1,686 tons of bombs; large explosions result.

ETO TAC Summary Approximately 2,400 tactical sorties flown by 9th and 2d Air Forces. Total of 309 Spitfires and 170 Typhoons operates in Calais area and over Holland.

North Sea SS Knute Nelson (Norwegian cargo ship, 5,749 tons) sunk by enemy action at 58-33 N, 05-41 E.

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## BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps First Br AB Div moving toward Louvain from Nijmegen area. From Reichswald Forest, German inf, with tanks and arty support, counterattack at points E, SE and S of Nijmegen; despite vigorous fighting, 82 U.S. AB Div is forced to withdraw slightly.

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XXX Corps Guards Armd Div continues efforts to strengthen and expand bridgehead NE of Nijmegen. Forty-third Div clearing area SW of Arnhem; region S of Neder Rijn near Randwijk now free of enemy.

VIII Corps Elements of 50th Div in contact with enemy near Oeffel, S of Nijmegen, First U.S. Army assumes command of 1st Belgian Brig.

XII Corps N of Best, 44th Brig of 15th Div overcomes strong opposition to reach positions near Olland, held in some strength by enemy, and beats off small counterattack during afternoon.

Sixty-seven B-25s and A-20s score well in 113-ton attack on Emmerich RR and road crossings.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Forty-ninth Div continues active along Antwerp-Turnhout Canal. Elements of 2d Cdn Inf Div, after passing through 49th Div bridgehead S of Ryckevorsel, move to area just SW of Ryckevorsel. First Polish Armd Div, now under control of I Corps, SE of Antwerp.

II Corps Third Cdn Inf Div captures Calais Citadel and high ground dominating the city. In Dunkerque area, 154th Brig (51st Div) repulses pre-dawn attack against Bray Dunes, on coast NE of the city.

Defenses at Calais and Cap Griz Nez attacked by 266 RAF bombers with poor to good results; Cap Griz Nez receives more than 800 tons in preparation for final ground assault.

ETO TAC Summary Tactical sorties total about 2,580. Mosquitoes harass movements over wide area.

Baltic Sea SS Oslo (Danish cargo ship, 1,412 tons) sunk by enemy action at 55-20 N, 16-45 E.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps At night 82d U.S. AB Div attacks SE of Nijmegen, but is held up by strong opposition.

XXX Corps Little progress made by Guards Armd Div NE of Nijmegen. Forty-third Div responsible for close defense of Nijmegen bridges, relieving I Airborne Corps.

XII Corps Elements of 7th Armd Div have reached Doornhoek, on Veghel-'s Hertogenbosch road. Best now held by 15th Div. Reusel, occupied recently by 53d Div, again in enemy hands.

Thirty-eight RAF B-25s and A-20s escorted by 93 Spitfires attack Geldern town center with 58 tons; fair to unobserved results; fair results achieved on RR line NE of Geldern by 29 planes.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Along Antwerp-Turnhout Canal, 49th Div and 1st Polish Armd Div (which has moved up from SW) make progress in Ryckevorsel-Merxplas area. Elements of 2d Inf Div at and near St. Leonard; area N of the town being cleared.

II Corps At Calais, armistice is arranged for evacuation of civilians. Elements of 3d Div now in SW portion of the city and at Marck, E of the city.

On coast SW of Calais, 9th Cdn Inf Brig (3d Div) launches attack on C. Gris Nez, captures all heavy guns by noon, and overcomes all resistance by 1930 hours.

EPO, TAC Summary Estimated 2,850 tactical sorties flown. Typhoons, Spitfires, and Tempests strike in Holland and NW Germany; 33 enemy planes destroyed, 3 probably destroyed, and 13 damaged. Ninth Bombardment Division interrupts traffic.

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BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I Airborne Corps Eighty-second U.S. AB Div repulses another enemy attack from REichswald Forest during night.

XXX Corps All troops between Waal and Neder Rijn rivers now under operational command of 43d Div. Enemy counterattack in Bemmel area, NE of Nijmegen, fails. Hostile patrols and mortars active throughout the night.

VIII Corps W of the Maas, Germans remain in vicinity of Overloon and Geffel.

XII Corps Olland still strongly held by enemy. Fifteenth Div repulses counterattack near Olland. E of 's Hertogenbosch, Germans concentrated on line running generally S from Geffen to Berlicum.

Arnhem road bridge over Neder Rijn remains undamaged in attempt by 14 9th AF B-26s to render it ineffective.

Between 17-30 September, 7,800 sorties flown by Allied air forces in support of airborne forces in Holland.

Mosquitoes bomb and strafe Goch RR and road targets; explosions visible.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Slight gains made by 49th Div in Ryckevorsel-Merxplas area; latter town captured by 1st Polish Armd Div. Second Div moving toward Brecht from St. Leonard area.

II Corps With conclusion of armistice at noon, 3d Cdr Inf Div resumes attack on Calais, and organized resistance ceases by evening; mopping up initiated.

ETO TAC Summary Tactical sorties approach 1,110. Sixty-five Typhoons and 48 Spitfires over Holland and NW Germany claim 175 trucks. At night Mosquitoes over France and Germany harass enemy movements, attacking trains, barges,

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30 and MT with excellent results.  
Cont During month enemy shipping harassed by Beaufighters,  
Wellingtons, and Avengers with good results.

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## Section II, Part 4: EUROPEAN STRATEGIC AIR (Less Mediterranean)

- 1      RAF light and heavy bombers attack supply sites in Pas de Calais; 8th AF heavies hit bridge in Holland. At night Mosquitoes bomb Bremen and Munich.  
       France: Total of 121 Halifaxes, Lancasters, and Mosquitoes escorted by 59 ABAF Spitfires attacks flying-bomb dumps with almost 500 tons, damaging equipment in camouflaged area at Lumbres, and blocking tunnels at la Pourchinte.  
       Holland: Twelve B-24s of 8th AF escorted by 15 P-51s drop 24 tons on Ravenstein RR bridge with fair results.  
       Germany: In night operations, 34 Mosquitoes successfully bomb Bremen town center with 48½ tons; 7 Mosquitoes attack transportation targets in Munich.
  
- 2      Weather cancels all strategic missions.
  
- 3      RAF strikes airfields in Holland; 8th AF resumes attacks on German oil production.  
       Holland: Force of 307 Halifaxes, 303 Lancasters, and 5 Mosquitoes escorted by 36 P-47s and 204 Spitfires of ABAF accurately bombs airfields at Gilze Rijen, Eindhoven, Venlo, and Soesterberg with 2,639 tons, and achieves fair success in bombing of Deelen and Volkel airfields with 1,002 tons.  
       Germany: Synthetic-oil plant at Ludwigshafen is target for 343 B-17s which drop 649½ tons with unobserved results; 254 P-51s serve as escort.
  
- 4      Mosquitoes attack rail transport and airfield in Holland, and industrial city in Germany.  
       Holland: Mosquitoes hit trains and effectively bomb Steenwijk with 8 tons.  
       Germany: Approximately 40 Mosquitoes with 57½ tons of bombs make successful night attack on Karlsruhe town center.
  
- 5      Eighth AF heavy bombers attack aero-engine and synthetic-oil plants, chemical works, and RR yards in Germany. Fighters and fighter-bombers attack airfields and transport in Holland and town center in Germany.

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Holland: At night 12 Mosquitoes strike Steenwijk airfield with 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons of bombs.

Germany: Approximately 350 B-17s escorted by 155 P-51s drop 72.4 tons on Ludwigshafen synthetic-oil plant and chemical works with unobserved results; 185 B-24s escorted by 153 P-51s strike Karlsruhe RR yards and repair shops with 463 tons, attaining good results; about 200 B-17s achieve very good results in bombing of Stuttgart aero-engine plant with 464 tons, while 4 attack 4 unidentified targets in vicinity dropping 10 tons with unobserved results; airfields at Stuttgart strafed by escorting 160 P-51s; 29 P-47s and 48 P-38s strafe and bomb Hanau and Giessen airfields; over-all claims are 142-0-85 (ground) and 30-0-2 (air). Forty-three Mosquitoes in night attack lose 55.6 tons on Hannover.

- 6 Emden and Hamburg hit by RAF in day and night attacks. Eighth AF fighters and fighter bombers sweep Low Countries and Germany.

Germany: In daylight, city and dock areas of Emden are hit effectively by 104 Halifaxes and 75 Lancasters with 627 tons; at night 6 Mosquitoes drop 8 tons on city area. Thirty-two Mosquitoes drop over 34 tons on Hamburg, causing large explosions.

- 7 Mosquitoes are active over German town centers and Dutch airfield.

Holland: During night 12 Mosquitoes with 3.6 tons bomb Steenwijk airfield.

Germany: Forty-one Mosquitoes concentrate 50 tons on Karlsruhe town center with fair results; 6 others drop 4.2 tons on Emden.

- 8 Eighth AF heavy bombers attack town centers and tank and vehicle plant in Germany. Fighter bombers attack transport E of the Rhine, and strike Nurnberg, Emden, and airfield in Holland.

Holland: In night attack, 3 Mosquitoes bomb Steenwijk airfield with 2 tons.

Germany: Synthetic-oil plant at Ludwigshafen attacked by 348 B-17s with 1,008 tons, escorted by 88 P-51s; results unobserved; 247 B-24s escorted by 82 P-51s bomb Karlsruhe RR yards with 660.7 tons with good results; 356 B-17s escorted by 144 P-51s successfully bomb Gustaysburg tank and vehicle plant and Kastel ordnance plant near Mainz with 972 tons. On fighter sweep, 94 P-51s, 157 P-47s, and 48 P-38s destroy communications E of Rhine R. In night attack, 44 Mosquitoes drop estimated 60 tons of bombs in well-concentrated pattern on Nurnberg; Emden is target for 6 Mosquitoes which drop 3.6 tons of bombs.

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9 In Germany 8th AF heavy bombers attack armament factory, RR yards, and city areas, and 8th AF fighter-bombers operate against transportation targets. At night RAF bombers hit Brunswick and München-Gladbach and Mosquitoes strike airfield in Holland.

Holland: On night mission, 6 Mosquitoes successfully bomb Steenwijk airfield with 3½ tons.

Germany: Total of 120 P-47s and 76 P-51s attacks transportation in Frankfurt and Kassel areas with 40 tons of bombs. Force of 944 8th AF heavy bombers concentrates 2,498 tons of bombs on Duesseldorf armaments plant, RR targets at Mannheim, Mainz, Worms, and Coblenz, city areas of Bonn, Ludwigshafen, and Leverkusen, and 5 targets of opportunity with unobserved to good results. At night 39 Mosquitoes hit Brunswick with 55 tons; 137 heavy and light bombers attack München-Gladbach with 615 tons.

10 Eighth AF heavies and fighter-bombers and AEAFF fighter bombers attack air bases and industrial targets in Germany. Targets in and around Vienna hit by 15th AF. During night, Mosquitoes raid Berlin.

Germany: Twenty-two P-38s (AEAFF) strafe air base at Frankfurt; 135 8th AF fighters strafe airfields E of the Rhine, claiming 40-0-20 enemy planes. Total of 714 B-17s and 349 B-24s of 8th AF with 2,810 tons of bombs and escorted by 522 fighters attacks in 2 forces; first force scores good hits on Furth aircraft components plant, Nurnberg and Sindelfingen MT works, Geibelstadt airdrome, Gaggenau Deisel-engine plant, and Zuffenhausen, with best results at Gaggenau; second force attacks Darmstadt town center, Ulm and Heilbronn RR yards, and targets of opportunity; results are unobserved to very good. Escorting fighters strafe targets in Cologne, Frankfurt, and Kassel areas; claims are 119-1-73 enemy planes. At night, 47 Mosquitoes with 52½ tons bomb Berlin with poor results.

Austria: SE of Vienna, 160 heavy bombers of 15th AF concentrate 401 tons on Lobau and Nova Schwechat oil refineries; 180 heavies drop 415 tons on industrial targets in Vienna. Missions escorted by 119 fighters.

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- 11 RAF and 8th AF attack German industrial targets and town centers in day and night raids. Ninth AF hits airfield in Holland, and RAF fighter-bombers strike airfield and communications in Low Countries on night mission.
- Holland: Twelve 9th AF B-26s with 18 tons attain good to excellent results in bombing of Leeuwarden airfield. On night mission, 7 Mosquitoes effectively attack Steenwijk airfield with 2.7 tons.
- Germany: In 2 forces, 579 B-17s and 362 B-24s bomb synthetic-oil plants or city areas at Ruhlend, Magdeburg, Brux, Merseburg, Bohlen, Misburg, Lutzkendorf (oil refinery near Merseburg) with approximately 1,054 tons; unobserved to good results; 106 B-17s successfully strike Fulda RR yards and tire plant with 255 tons; 124 B-24s and 89 B-17s with over 510 tons of bombs attack Eisenach city and aero-engine plant, Rossla town center, Magdeburg city and ordnance plant, Stendal city and marshalling yards, and Diepholz airdrome with poor to good results; 88 B-24s hit Hannover engine plant with 298.7 tons in successful strike; 75 B-17s attack Chemnitz MT works, and escorted by 62 P-51s, proceed to Russian bases; 44 targets of opportunity receive 109 tons with unobserved results. Record claim of 175-32-70 for loss of 62 bombers and 32 fighters. In day attacks, 397 RAF heavy bombers attack synthetic-oil plants at Castrop-Rauxel with 439.3 tons, at Gelsenkirchen with 398.2 tons, and at Kamen with 586.4 tons; good to very good results. At night, 287 bombers concentrate on city areas of Darmstadt and Berlin with 927.6 tons.
- 12 Industrial targets in Central Germany again attacked by RAF and 8th AF in day and night missions; airfield in Holland also bombed. Fifteenth AF heavies strike at airfield at Augsburg and industrial targets near Munich and Ulm.
- Holland: In night raid, 6 Mosquitoes successfully bomb airfield at Steenwijk with 4½ tons.
- Germany: Operating in 2 forces, 601 B-17s and 225 B-24s escorted by 163 P-47s, 28 P-38s, and 388 P-51s bomb oil plants at Brux, Bohlen, Ruhlend, Hemmingstedt, Magdeburg, and Misburg, city areas of Hannover, Hemmingstedt, Bohlen, Lauta, Karlsbad, and Plauen, RR centers at Leharte and Northeim, Magdeburg ordnance plant, Kiel engine plant, Fulda manufacturing targets, and targets of opportunity with approximately 2,000 tons of bombs; results are unobserved to very good.

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Escorting fighters and bombers claim 107-16-51 for loss of 52 bombers and 14 fighters. Estimated 255 15th AF heavy bombers escorted by 153 fighters drop 588 tons on Lechfield near Augsburg with good results; 88 of its B-24s escorted by 107 fighters attack Allach engine plant near Munich with 174 tons of bombs, scoring many hits on E end of factory; Wasserburg jet-propelled aircraft factory near Ulm hit by 74 heavy bombers escorted by 39 fighters; 195 tons dropped. In day missions, 167 RAF planes hit synthetic-oil plant at Gelsenkirchen with 514 tons of bombs, 140 drop 438 tons on Wanne-Eickel oil plant, and 119 concentrate 403 tons on Dortmund oil target; city of Maenster is target for 124 RAF planes with 350 tons. At night, 604 Mosquitoes, Lancasters, and Halifaxes bomb Frankfurt and Stuttgart with 2,428 tons, causing large fires in both towns; 29 Mosquitoes hit Berlin with almost 40 tons.

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Eighth AF heavy bombers attack MT works, oil plants, RR yards, airfields, and town centers in Central and SW Germany. Medium bombers and fighters of AEAFA strafe and bomb transportation targets in Low Countries and Munich area. RAF hits synthetic-oil plant and Osnabrueck RRs and town center in Germany; 15th AF also attacks German oil targets; other attacks made in Poland and Hungary. At night Mosquitoes bomb Berlin and Karlsruhe.

Germany: Approximately 785 8th AF heavy bombers escorted by 424 fighters drop estimated 2,818 tons on oil plants at Ludwigshafen, Lutzkendorf, Merseburg, and Weissenhorn, MT works at Ulm, Sindelfingen engine plant, airfield at Schwabisch, RR yards at Darmstadt and Weisbaden, city areas of Mainz and Eisenach, and targets of opportunity; results are poor to very good. Total of 140 RAF light and heavy bombers attacks Gelsenkirchen synthetic-oil plant with 366 tons of bombs, while 118 others concentrate 485½ on Osnabrueck RRs and town center. Thirty-nine Mosquitoes hit Karlsruhe and Berlin with 50 tons in successful night attacks. Poor results attained in attack by 146 B-17s, 35 P-38s, and 97 P-51s of 15th AF on oil refinery at Blechhammer in Silesia; 288 tons dropped. Thirty-one P-38s, 30 P-51s, and 120 B-24s attack oil refinery at Odertal, SE of Breslau, with 273 tons of bombs with poor results.

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Poland: Oil and rubber plants at Oswiecim hit with 236 tons dropped by 101 heavy bombers escorted by 32 P-38s and 46 P-51s; 10 B-24s missing.

Hungary: Seventy-three B-17s escorted by 63 P-51s (which had shuttled to Russia from United Kingdom bases on 11 Sept) bomb ordnance factory at Miskolc and Gyor locomotive and engineering works; 263 tons of bombs dropped with good effect; landings made at Italian bases.

14 RAF heavy bombers attack munitions dumps and town center on German coast.

Germany: Thirty-five Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes successfully bomb Wassenaar ammunition dump with approximately 190 tons; Wilhelmshaven town center is hit by 184 RAF planes.

15 Eighth AF heavy bomber operations cancelled. During night, RAF heavies attack town centers of Kiel, Luebeck, and Berlin, and RR center at Rheine, 17 mi. E of Holland border, in area W of Hannover.

Germany: During night, force of 337 Halifaxes, 124 Lancasters, and 16 Mosquitoes bombs Kiel and Luebeck with accurate and concentrated 1,450-ton attack; fires started at Kiel visible on coast of Denmark; 24 Mosquitoes drop 35 tons on Berlin, and 7 others loose 6.2 tons on Rheine RR center.

Thirty-six 9th AF planes drop 18 tons on Neustadt RR targets.

Norway: More than 20 Russian-based RAF planes attack German battleship Tirpitz in Altenfjord with 108 tons; results unobserved.

16 Eighth AF fighters concentrate on airfields and MT in W Germany in daylight raids, while at night RAF planes strike at oil plants, airfields, and town centers in Germany and Holland.

Germany: Only 295 planes of 175 P-47s and 149 P-51s dispatched are airborne over targets; strafe Bremen, Hannover, and Osnabruck area, destroying and damaging locomotives, oil cars and tanks, RR cars, trucks, barges, and other vehicles; 83 drop 12.6 tons in Mannerheim-Kaiserlautern area and on Alhorn airfield. During night, 49 Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes with 220 tons concentrate on

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Hopsten airfield; 48 Lancasters and 3 Mosquitoes with 235 tons hit Rheine airfield; 26 Mosquitoes drop 30 tons on Brunswick town center and 3 Mosquitoes with 3 tons strike at Dortmund synthetic-oil plant.

- 17 RAF and 8th AF engage in tactical support of Allied Airborne invasion. RAF fighter-bombers hit Bremen and Dortmund town centers. Fifteenth AF active over Hungary.
- Germany: At night, good concentration attained in 57-ton attack on Bremen town center by 42 Mosquitoes; 5 explosions result and several fires started; 6 Mosquitoes drop 6 tons of well-placed bombs on Dortmund town center area.
- Hungary: Forty-eight B-24s escorted by 43 P-38s and by P-51s drop 136 tons on Shell oil refinery in Budapest area; target believed destroyed.

- 18 Eighth AF again supports Allied Airborne Army; RAF heavy bombers in night attack strike at Bremerhaven, Berlin, and Rheine town centers.
- Germany: Force of 200 Lancasters and 7 Mosquitoes accurately bombs Bremerhaven with approximately 863 tons of bombs, causing fires and large explosions; 22 Mosquitoes ineffectively attack Berlin with 35 tons; 6 Mosquitoes hit Rheine RR center with 6 tons.

- 19 Approximately 900 heavy bombers operate in NW Germany with main concentration on RRs, bridges, and town centers.
- Germany: Total of 679 8th AF B-17s escorted by 240 fighter operates in 2 forces against targets in NW Germany, dropping over 1,800 tons of bombs: 1 force hits RR yards at Coblenz, Dillenburg, Limburg, Raesfeld, Darmstadt, Wesel, and Rheine, bridges at Limburg, Coblenz, and S of Coblenz, chemical works and airfield at Weisbaden, factory at Wetzlar, cities of Emmerich, Hamm, and Osnabrueck, and river barges; RR targets, and other targets of opportunity with unobserved to good results; other force attacks RR yards at Hamm, Soest, and Muenster, and Dortmund-Unna depot; 10 B-17s missing for loss of 26-1-5 enemy planes. During night, 224 Lancasters and 9 Mosquitoes accurately bomb Muenchen-Graebach with 652 tons.

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- 20 Fifteenth AF operates over Czechoslovakia.  
Czechoslovakia: Fifty-six B-24s escorted by 47 P-51s drop 136 tons of bombs on Bratislava oil district; good concentration on main boiler house, oil treatment house, and small storage tanks.
- 21 Rhineland oil plant and marshalling yards are targets for heavy bombers.  
Germany: Total of 288 B-17s and 156 B-24s escorted by 117 fighters operates against Ludwigshafen oil plant, with 412 tons, and Mainz and Coblenz marshalling yards with 405 tons and 375 tons respectively; other targets of opportunity receive 38 tons; claim 20-0-2.
- 22 Kassel factory is primary target for 8th AF heavies. Fifteenth AF strikes Munich industrial area and targets in Austria and Czechoslovakia.  
Germany: Escorted force of 427 B-17s and 199 B-24s bombs Kassel (Henschel) MT Factory area, Wetzlar town center, and 6 targets of opportunity with a total of 1,708.6 tons; accurate flak encountered over Kassel. Force of 257 15th AF heavy bombers aided and escorted by 250 fighters drops 638 tons on Munich industrial area and on near-by Oberweisen airfield; 108 bombers escorted by 42 fighters attack Reim airfield at Munich.  
Austria-Czechoslovakia: Total of 126 B-17s escorted by 288 fighters drops 376 tons on Brux/Sergius oil plant, and 33.5 tons on Wels (Austria); results unobserved at Brux and very good at Wels; 2 B-17s lost.
23. In RAF bomber raid over NW Germany and Holland, industrial areas and coastal batteries attacked.  
Germany: On daylight raid, Domberg coastal batteries are targets for 6 Lancasters, 33 Halifaxes, and 10 Mosquitoes which accurately unload 192 tons of bombs; in unobserved night attacks, 335 Lancasters, 145 Halifaxes, and 7 Mosquitoes concentrate 2,660 tons on Neuss town center; 6 other Lancasters hit Dusseldorf with 33 tons. Thirty-three RAF bombers participate in 160-ton attack on Handorf airfield, 99 in 512-ton attack on Muenster aqueduct; alternate target for 65 Handorf Lancasters is Muenster town center which



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receives 387 tons; 42 Mosquitoes loose 60 tons on Bochum town center and 6 Mosquitoes drop 4½ tons on Rheine RR center; other targets of opportunity also hit.

24 No strategic operations.

25 Heavy bombers attack rail and industrial areas in W Germany. At night, RAF fighter-bombers attack Mannheim and Hoechst works.

Germany: Force of 858 B-17s and 257 B-24s attacks RR yards at Cohlentz and Ludwigshafen, oil plants at Ludwigshafen, and Frankfurt central industrial area with unobserved results; targets of opportunity receive 134 tons; total tonnage exceeds 3,000 tons. Forty-seven Mosquitoes drop 60 tons on Mannheim, causing scattered explosions; Hoechst chemical works attacked by 4 Mosquitoes with 4 tons.

26 In W Germany, rail and industrial targets again attacked by 8th AF heavy bombers while RAF medium and heavy bombers on night missions concentrate on town centers and oil targets.

Germany: In 2 forces, 795 B-17s and 275 B-24s drop 2,872 tons of bombs on Osnabrueck marshalling yards and steel works, Bremen MP and armd vehicle plants, Hamm marshalling yards, Rheine and Hesepe airfields, and Liesborn and Bremerhaven town centers, and on opportune targets with unobserved to good results.

At night, excellent results achieved in 1,000-ton attack on Karlsruhe town center; 2 of 222 Lancasters missing; 49 Mosquitoes make well-concentrated 60-ton raid on Frankfurt town center and oil depot; synthetic-oil plant at Homberg is target for 6 Mosquitoes dropping 4 tons.

27 Synthetic-oil plants, rail and industrial areas targets for heavy bombers.

Germany: Force of 810 B-17s and 283 B-24s escorted by 23 P-38s, 170 P-47s, and 448 P-51s blasts Ludwigshafen oil plant and marshalling yards, Mainz motor plant and marshalling yards, Cologne oil plant and motor plant, and Kassel armd vehicle and tank plants with almost 3,000 tons, while targets of opportunity receive 132 tons, all with unobserved results;

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10 B-17s, 32 B-24s and 10 P-51s missing with 36-0-7 as enemy claims. An estimated 200-250 enemy planes intercepted. In day mission 236 RAF Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes escorted by 157 fighters attack synthetic-oil plants and other targets at Bottrop and Sterkrade with 871 tons; additional 28 aircraft drop 110 tons on Sterkrade; explosions and smoke seen; 50 RAF bombers loose 191 tons on Duisberg. During night, 209 Lancasters and 10 Mosquitoes make well-concentrated attack on Kaiserlautern town center and RR repair shops, dropping 811 tons of bombs and producing many large fires; 24 9th AF fighter-bombers deposit 12 tons on marshalling yards. Kassel town center receives 60 tons from 45 Mosquitoes, Aschaffenburg RR center (SE of Frankfurt) attacked by 4 Mosquitoes with 7 tons, and Heilbronn RR center hit by 5 Mosquitoes with 9 tons.

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In day and night raids, heavy bombers attack industrial areas and RR and town centers in W Germany.

Germany: Heavy bombers of 8th AF attack in 3 forces; elements of 445 B-17s escorted by 263 fighters are intercepted by 25-75 enemy aircraft before raiding Magdeburg city area and synthetic-oil plants with 976 tons; Allied bombers claim 10 enemy fighters; Allied fighters claim 24-0-13 when 4 fighter groups encounter over 100 enemy aircraft; 2d force of 311 B-17s escorted by 231 fighters drops 773 tons of bombs on Merseburg synthetic-oil plant with poor to fair results; 18 B-17s and 4 fighters lost; 1 fighter group encounters 50-100 enemy aircraft; 3d force of 262 B-24s escorted by 171 fighters attacking Kassel motor works has good results with 701 tons; targets of opportunity also hit. Twenty-two 9th AF fighters attack Karlsruhe city area with 11 tons. At night, 50 RAF Mosquitoes concentrate main attack on Brunswick town center causing large explosions, and make smaller attacks on Aschaffenburg and Heilbronn RR centers and on Frankfurt town center.

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RAF fighter-bombers in night mission attack Karlsruhe town center.

Germany: Thirty-nine Mosquitoes drop 54 tons on Karlsruhe town center, causing large explosion.

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Marshalling yards and airdrome in NW Germany are targets for 8th AF, RAF heavies attack Bottrop in daylight raid while at night Hamburg docks and RR centers in NW Germany hit.

Germany: Force of 548 B-17s and 219 B-24s escorted by 16 P-38s, 183 P-47s and 475 P-51s strikes marshalling yards at Bielefeld with 596 tons, at Hamm with 561 tons, and at Muenster with 104 tons; fair to good results at Bielefeld, good at Hamm, unobserved at Muenster; Handorf airfield about 20 mi. SE of Hamburg, receives 42 tons with unobserved results; city of Muenster good target for 736 tons; other targets of opportunity receive 12 tons with unobserved results.

Twenty-eight Halifaxes, Lancasters, and Mosquitoes hit Bottrop area and synthetic-oil plant with 86 tons; 127 Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes, operating in 2 forces, bomb Sterkrade oil plant and town area with 434 tons; 1st force fires 2 oil tanks; 177 Spitfires and 65 RAF P-51s support above operations. At night, 45 Mosquitoes release 58 tons in well-concentrated attack on Hamburg; 6 Mosquitoes drop 11 tons on Aschaffenburg RR center and town area; 3 Mosquitoes hit Heilbronn RR area with 6 tons; Sterkrade synthetic-oil plant hit by 5 Mosquitoes with 2 tons.

England: Flying bomb activity continues on small scale throughout month.

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- 1      Russia: Germans report unsuccessful Soviet attacks, with tank and air support, NE of Warsaw and in triangle between the Bug and Narew rivers. Troops of 2d Ukrainian Army sweep 37 mi. S of Bucharest to the border of Bulgaria, capturing Danube port of Giurgiu; other units operating with 3d. Ukrainian troops completely clear the 149-mi. Bucharest-Constanta RR and seize RR town of Calarasi on W bank of the Danube, 75 mi. SE of Giurgiu. Gains of roughly 10 mi. scored by Soviets W and S of Ploesti.
- SAF makes heavy night attack on RR junction of Kretinga, 15 mi. NE of Memel, in Lithuania; large fires and explosions result.
- Hungary: Heavy bombers (15th AF) attack RR targets SE and E of Budapest in effort to block enemy escape routes and supply lines. Fifty-eight B-24s drop 135 tons of bombs on Szolnok and Mezotur bridges on Arad-Budapest line; results reported fair at Szolnok and poor at Mezotur; 1 P-51 lost. Marshalling yards at Szajol, 8 mi. E of Szolnok, hit by 54 B-24s which achieve good results with 127.5 tons of bombs. Forty-seven P-51s furnish escort for these missions. Eighty-four B-24s escorted by 45 P-38s unload 128.5 tons of bombs on RR yards at Debrecen, 110 mi. E of Budapest, and 27.5 tons on installations at Berettyoufalu (on RR line running W from Cluj) with very good results; 1 B-24 lost. Debrecen airdrome strafed by 51 P-51s; 63 enemy planes destroyed on ground and 4 in combat for loss of 2 P-51s.
- 2      Russia: Berlin again reports Soviet attempts to break through German positions NE of Warsaw and in area between the Bug and Narew rivers; both attacks frustrated. Russian and Rumanian thrusts S of Ghimes Pass in SE Transylvania withstood by Axis units, according to Hungary. Second Ukrainian troops occupy Oltenita, 35 mi. SE of Bucharest; other units with 3d Ukrainian forces clear remnants of German 6th Army from 144-mi. border of Southern Dobrudja.
- 3      Russia: Fluctuating fighting takes place W and SW of Siauliai; radio-controlled tankettes (beetle tanks) used by Germans in 1 sector without success. Berlin reports Polish resistance in "Old City" of Warsaw ended. Russians mop up scattered resistance S and SE of Bucharest; N bank of the Danube between Giurgiu and Oltenita cleared. Second Ukrainian units advancing N of Ploesti toward large road and RR junction

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of Brasov capture Valeni, within 37 mi. of objective.

German troop concentrations and equipment in Siauliai area heavily attacked by SAF.

Hungary: Fifty-four B-24s drop 116 tons of bombs on Szajol RR yards with fair results, and 6 tons on RR bridge at Szeged (about 100 mi. SE of Budapest) near the Yugoslav border. Szeged RR bridge is also target for 169 tons dropped by 58 B-24s; results unreported.

- 4 Russia: Heavy Soviet arty fire prevents German attempt to land troops on E shore of Lake Varts-Jarv, N of Valka. Russians renew offensive between the Bug and Narew rivers, striking toward RR towns of Wyszow and Ostroleka, NE of Warsaw. Arty barrage and bombing of Warsaw continues; Polish underground troops abandon the Sadyba district in SE Warsaw. Soviets maintain pressure toward Ghimes and Oituz passes, W of Bacau; stiff resistance encountered. Second Ukrainian troops and pro-Allied Rumanian troops cross the N Transylvanian Mt. chain and occupy Brasov, "gateway to Transylvania"; Targoviste, 25 mi. W of Ploesti, also taken; units driving along highway NW of Bucharest toward Pitesti are within 25 mi. of town.

Soviet aircraft give strong support to ground troops, bombing enemy communications and gun positions NE of Warsaw with good results. Enemy airdrome in E Prussia hit during night by Russian bombers. German 6,000-ton supply ship sunk by Soviet naval planes in the Baltic Sea.

- 5 Russia: Fierce fighting takes place N of Tartu where Russians repel German inf and tank attacks. Battle NE of Warsaw is intensified as 2d White Russian troops capture Wyszow and drive SW to point within 5 mi. of the confluence of the Bug and Narew rivers; spearhead is pushed 18 mi. NW of Wyszow to village on W bank of the Narew opposite Pultusk; gains also made by other units which seize Goworow on Wyszow-Ostroleka RR and reach the Narew at several points SE of Ostroleka. Red Army troops racing across Rumania toward Turnu-Severin reach Craiova, 112 mi. W of Bucharest and only 52 mi. from the Yugoslav border.

Ground troops in Baltic and central sectors supported by SAF. Moscow announces air strikes against German BB Von Trepitz in Altenfjord, in N Norway; some hits claimed on BB and other targets in Hammerfest area; an AA vessel,

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1 DD, and an AO reported set on fire and 16 more vessels damaged.

Hungary: Heavy bombers concentrate on RR targets in central and S Hungary: 159 B-17s escorted by 24 P-38s and 87 P-51s strike Budapest N and S bridges with 435.5 tons of bombs; 85 B-24s with 45 P-51s escorting bomb rolling stock and bridge at Szob (near Yugoslav border) with 208.5 tons; Szolnok bridge hit with 277.5 tons by 93 B-24s escorted by 45 P-51s; fair to excellent results achieved.

6 Russia: Despite stubborn enemy resistance; Ostreleka, 60 mi. NE of Warsaw and 26 mi. S of E Prussian border, falls to 2d White Russian Army; E bank of the Narew from this city S to the Bug R. cleared of enemy. Serious fighting continues in suburbs NE of Warsaw; Wolomin, a strongpoint in German defenses, which has changed hands several times in several days, retaken by Soviets, Elements of 2d Ukrainian Army penetrate Transylvanian Alps, N of Pitesti, and reach Campulung; other units clear Rumanian-Bulgarian border to Danube port of Zimnicea, 30 mi. SW of Giurgiu, and occupy RR town of Caracal, W of the Oltul R.; forces striking W from Craiova reach the Yugoslav frontier at Turnu-Severin on the Danube, just E of the Iron Gate; Red Army reported to be employing parachutists in westward advance.

Enemy troops and transport in Ostreleka area effectively bombed and strafed by Soviet planes; 29 enemy planes claimed shot down in combat and by AA fire. GAF concentrates on Russian supply lines in Baltic sectors and in Rumania.

Hungary: Eighty-four B-17s unload 250 tons of bombs on Oradea E marshalling yards (in W Transylvania, seceded to Hungary in 1940); Oradea W RR yards and 2 bridges hit with 165 tons by 55 B-17s; escort furnished by 63 P-51s; installations and bridges heavily damaged. Force of 111 B-24s escorted by 89 P-51s pounds Nyiregyhaza RR center, 30 mi. N of Debrecen; 274 tons of bombs dropped with good results.

7 Russia: Russians in Latvia make slight gains SW of Jelgava. Rumanians report clashes with Axis troops near Turda, Targul Mures, and Baraolt in S Transylvania; Russians are advancing N of Brasov to support Rumanian troops. Second Ukrainian forces overcome scattered resistance to enlarge base of salient to Turnu-Severin; Ramnicul Valcea

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on W bank of the Oltul, free of enemy troops. Reports (not confirmed by Moscow) state that Russians have crossed the Danube near Turnu-Severin and occupied the Yugoslav town of Kladova.

Soviet aircraft severely bomb and strafe German troops, transport, guns, and supplies in Baltic sector, N of Tartu.

- 8 Russia: Russians repel strong Axis attacks SW of Jelgava and Lomza. In W Slovakia, Partisans successfully operate against German communications; fierce fighting reported in the Zilina-Vrutky sector where Czechoslovak Army units cooperating with Partisans are reported on the offensive against 19th German SS Div. Indecisive fighting between Rumanians and Axis units continues along the Turda-Targu Mures-Baraolt Line in S Transylvania. Russians and Rumanians advancing N on highway just W of the Oltul R. reach Sibiu, within 70 mi. of Cluj. Third Ukrainian forces enter Bulgaria on a 135-mi. front between Giurgiu and Mangalia, occupying Danube port of Ruschuk, opposite Giurgiu, and the Black Sea port of Varna in 41 mi. advance; no resistance offered by Bularians. Moscow announces capture of 41 German generals on Eastern Front between 23 June and 8 Sept.

GAF bombs Soviet assembly areas in Tartu and Jelgava sectors; communication lines in Rumanian-held areas in S Transylvania also claimed hit.

- 9 Russia: Soviets maintain positions in areas SW of Jelgava and Lomza despite heavy enemy inf and tank attacks. Russian and Rumanian thrusts S of Ghimes and Oituz passes in SE Transylvania reach Frumoasa and Targu Sacuesc. Second Ukrainian troops approaching Cluj capture road and RR junction of Alba-Tulia, 40 mi. S of objective. Third Ukrainian troops continue offensive in Bulgaria, clearing Varna-Ruschuk RR and capturing Razgrad and R<sup>th</sup> town of Shumen, the latter 65 mi. SW of Ruschuk; Burgas, last enemy-held port on the Black Sea and within 45 mi. of the Turkish frontier reached by Soviet ground and naval forces; in 2-day offensive, 21,000 Bulgarian prisoners taken; 4,000 Germans captured at Razgrad, according to Moscow.

Gun positions and enemy strongpoints N of Tartu successfully bombed by Soviet aircraft; other Russian planes strike



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at ammunition dumps, MT, and enemy concentrations SW of Lomza. Russian and Rumanian supply lines in Rumania bombed by GAF.

10 Russia: Germans claim that numerous Soviet attacks in Kandalakshá area in N Finland have been repelled. Bitter fighting continues SW of Jelgava where Germans are attempting to keep narrow corridor open to E Prussia; in 1<sup>st</sup> sector enemy employs 12 beetle tanks, 11 of which are reported destroyed by mines and arty fire, and 1 captured. Red Army troops striking S from Rumanian province of Bukovina capture Vama, enemy stronghold in the Moldavita valley; at this point Russians are about 40 mi. from SE tip of Czechoslovakia. Second Ukrainian troops operating with Rumanians cross Transylvanian border N of Brasov and occupy Sfantu-Gheorghe; strong delaying opposition encountered by rearguard Axis units.

Both German and Russian planes are active against troops and supplies E of Riga. Enemy bombers attack Russian mtzd columns and fuel trains in N Rumania.

11 Russia: German forces, using armd cars and beetle tanks, attack Soviet positions W of Siauliai without gain; farther S in Lithuania, Russian patrols cross the Sesupe R. and penetrate E Prussian territory. First White Russian forces supported by Polish units maintain pressure E and NE of Warsaw in face of strong enemy counterattacks. Russian attacks S of Rzeszow toward Krosno result in slight gains. Soviet and Rumanian troops headed toward Cluj advance 22 mi. N of Sibiu, occupying Medias and Sighisoara; other units driving N on Craiova-Cluj highway reach Petrosani. It is estimated that at least half of Rumania's 30 Divs are now fighting the Germans. Soviet columns are advancing toward Sofia and toward the Aegean Sea, according to Bulgaria.

Both air forces support ground troops in battle area E and NE of Warsaw.

12 Russia: Second White Russian troops threatening Lomza, 80 mi. NE of Warsaw and 20 mi. from SE border of E Prussia, seize enemy strongpoints to S of city; stubborn resistance encountered. Berlin reports fierce fighting in Krosno sector, S of Rzeszow, where 4th Ukrainian troops are attempting to

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break through into Czechoslovakia. Despite mountainous terrain favoring Axis troops, Russians and Rumanians continue advance in SE Transylvania, taking Mercurea Ciucului, 20 mi. SW of Ghimes Pass on Brasov-Cluj highway; units approaching Cluj from S reach Aiud within 31 mi. of objective; other forces apparently headed for Szesged in SE Hungary advance 40 mi. N of Petrosani and turn W, capturing road and RR junction of Deva. Red Army troops effect juncture with Gen. Tito's Partisans near the Danube (in vicinity of Turnu-Severin), according to Yugoslavia.

13

Russia: Lomza, key city in German line defending E Prussia from S and Warsaw from N, falls to 2d White Russian Army after an all-night street battle. Bitter fighting rages on R bank of the Vistula SE of Warsaw; Berlin admits that Russian inf troops with support of numerous tanks and planes have penetrated their lines. Soviets capture Krosno, enemy stronghold in defense of Dukla Pass; advance continued S through difficult terrain toward the Czechoslovakian border which Russians report having reached. Partisan units reported to be gaining ground in central Slovakia. Soviets cut enemy's line of retreat in NE Rumania with capture of Campulung in Moldovita valley; units operating in N Transylvania continue advance against negligible resistance.

Both sides committed to air support in battle area E of Warsaw; Praga (Warsaw suburb) heavily shelled by SAE; 2 RR bridges across the Vistula below Praga claimed destroyed by German planes. Food and ammunition are dropped by Russian aircraft to Polish forces in Warsaw districts during night. GAF is active against Russian supplies in Krosno area and against Partisan units in Slovakia. Military and industrial targets in Budapest, Hungary, are targets for night attack by Russian bombers; large fires and explosions result. German 6,000-ton supply ship sunk in the Baltic Sea by Soviet naval planes.

Poland: Planes from a mission of 101 B-24s successfully drop 102 tons of bombs on 2 RR yards near Oswiecim, 30 mi. E of Krakow.

Czechoslovakia: Planes from mission of 146 B-17s (attacking targets in upper Silesia) drop 14 tons of bombs on Vrutky marshalling yards with good results.

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14 Russia: German naval craft land troops on Suursaari I. in Gulf of Finland, (NW of Narva) during night; beachhead is established in face of Finnish opposition. Soviets capture Nowogrod, on E bank of the Narew, 15 mi. from the E Prussian border; other attempts to cross the Narew SW of Lomza prevented by German counterattacks. Praga is won by troops of 1st White Russian Army and Gen. Berling's 1st Polish Army after fierce battle which raged throughout the night; Warsaw under heavy Soviet arty fire. Heavy enemy counterattacks along Polish-Czechoslovakian border S of Krosno prevent further Soviet gains; Slovak patriots continue to disrupt enemy communications in E and central Slovakia. Russians and Rumanians continue advance in NE Transylvania, reaching Gheorgheni; Praid RR junction, 25 mi. W of Targul Mures also captured; western arm of 2d Ukrainian Army closes in on Cluj with capture of Turda, 15 mi. to S. Rumanians fighting along Rumanian-Hungarian border N of the Muresul R. give up city of Arad to Hungarians.

SAF continues to furnish strong support to ground forces E of Warsaw. During night Soviet aircraft again bomb targets in Budapest area; good results achieved. Two small enemy vessels sunk by Russian naval planes in the Barents Sea.

15 Russia: Stubbornly-resisting Axis forces are driven back toward the Vistula on a 14 mi. front N of Praga by 1st White Russian troops supported by Polish units; Warsaw under heavy arty barrage. Polish underground forces establish contact with Soviets in Praga, according to Poles. Soviets SW of Sanok advancing toward Lupkow Pass into Czechoslovakia take Lesko; N of Dukla Pass, Soviet attacks are repelled. In N Transylvania, Russians and Rumanians make 10 mi. advance along highway NW of Gheorgheni. Hungarian troops continue attack against Rumanian units along border (near Arad) in rear of Bihorului Mts.

Both sides engage in strong air activity practically along entire front; Moscow claims 130 enemy planes destroyed. Debrecen in E Hungary is target for night attack by Russian bombers which score hits on trains, gas works, and military stores. Soviet naval planes sink an enemy 7,000-ton transport in the Gulf of Finland and destroy an AO and patrol launch in Barents Sea.

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16 Russia: Finland announces surrender of German forces on Suursaari I. in the Gulf of Finland. Berlin announces opening of new Russian offensive toward Riga in Valka and Madona sectors and reports fierce fighting here. Fighting continues N of Praga (Warsaw suburb) where Germans supported by Hungarian Cav units offer determined opposition; heavy shelling of Warsaw continues. Berlin reports that Soviet attempts (in 6 days of offensive fighting) to break through into Czechoslovakia, S of Sanok, thwarted. In NE Rumania, Russians move 12 mi. W of Campulung and capture Vatra Dornei road junction; mopping up operations in wooded area W of Bacau are in progress. Stubborn rearguard action is encountered by 2d Ukrainian troops and Rumanians advancing toward Targul Mures. Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, is entered by 3d Ukrainian troops heading W to cut German escape route from S Yugoslavia.

Russian naval planes destroy 6 German landing barges, a transport, and tug off Suursaari I. in the Gulf of Finland. Soviet aircraft bomb enemy ships and port installations at Liepaja, Latvia, sinking 3 supply ships totaling 12,000 tons and 3 SSs, and setting military store on fire; 19 German planes reported shot down. Both air forces are active over Baltic and Warsaw battlegrounds; SAF also attacks enemy tanks and MT in Sanok-Krosno areas and strikes at German troop concentrations in central Slovakia. During night Soviet aircraft attack RR junction of Satul Mare in N Transylvania, setting trains and ammunition dumps on fire; RR town of Cop, 25 mi. S of Uzhorod, is effectively bombed. Kirkenes in N Norway also hit during night by Russian planes which cause 5 large fires and several explosions in port area.

17 Russia: Berlin reports that Russian air-supported attacks SE of Riga have penetrated to point within 17 mi. of Riga; Moscow announces unsuccessful Axis attacks W of Jelgava. Continuous pressure maintained by Soviets NE of Warsaw and S of Krosno and Sanok. Russians and Rumanians occupy positions 3 mi. S of Turgul Mures; units operating to W and S of city are clearing enemy from mountainous areas. Both sides maintain constant air attacks in Warsaw area. GAF is active against Russian troops and equipment W of Riga; RR communications S of Deva in Rumania also bombed. Soviet naval craft and planes attack enemy shipping during night; 6 transports and 3 smaller vessels reported sunk in the Baltic

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Sea and in the Gulf of Finland; 3 transports, an AO, and an escort vessel sunk in the Barents Sea. In Hungary, RR junction of Debrecen is heavily bombed during night by SAF; Satul Mare in N Transylvania also attacked; many large fires and explosions result at both targets.

Hungary: Heavy bombers continue attacks on enemy communication lines in central and S Hungary: 153 B-17s escorted by 39 P-38s and 110 P-51s drop 378 tons of bombs on Budapest/Rakos RR yards; installations at Rakos also hit by 53 B-24s with 156 tons; Baja RR bridge (on E-W line near Yugoslav border) hit with 23 tons by 23 B-24s; Kobanya RR targets bombed by 40 B-24s, dropping 116 tons; 73 B-24s escorted by 43 P-38s and 47 P-51s unload 197.5 tons on Ferencvaros RR yards; good concentration at all targets reported.

18 Russia: In Latvia and Estonia, Russians are launching large scale attacks, according to Berlin; Soviet and German aircraft reported active throughout day and night. Heavy Soviet arty fire prevents enemy attempts to stabilize defenses on W side of the Vistula in Warsaw sector. Russians make 10 mi. gains S and SE of Sanok despite heavy shelling of area by enemy arty and MG from high positions dominating terrain. Mopping-up of liberated areas in Rumania continues.

Marshalling yards and military stores at Budapest and Cop effectively bombed during night by Soviet planes.

Poland: Force of 107 B-17s drops supplies to Polish forces fighting within Warsaw; fair to excellent results reported (Polish source states that supplies fell in places held by their forces several days ago); no air opposition encountered in target area; mission escorted by 137 P-51s, 64 of which continue to Russian airfields with B-17s, others returning to bases in England shoot down 4 fighters and destroy 3 more by strafing in Germany; 2 B-17s and 2 P-51s missing.

Hungary: Force of 107 B-17s escorted by 69 P-51s score direct hits with 247.5 tons of bombs at both ends of Szob RR bridge; good patterns also made on approaches. Sixty-seven B-24s drop 153 tons of bombs on Budapest N bridge; S bridge bombed with 193.5 tons by 83 B-24s; 51 B-24s drop 123 tons on RR installations at Szeged; results reported good at all targets; area cover for missions provided by 115 P-38s and 86 P-51s; 2 B-24s missing.

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19 Russia: Red Army forces in Estonia and Latvia score outstanding results: Valka, large RR and road junction on Estonian-Latvian border falls to 3d Baltic Army; 2d Baltic troops seize communications center of Plavinas on the Western Dvina, 60 mi. E of Riga; 1st Baltic troops establish a 75-mi. front E of Jelgava and push a spearhead to Kekava, 7 mi. S of Riga. Germans continue to launch heavy counterattacks W and SW of Jelgava. Berlin reports unsuccessful Soviet attempts to establish bridgeheads on W side of the Vistula in Warsaw sector. Following a 7-day drive through the Muresul valley in W Rumania, Russian and Rumanian troops reach city of Timisoara, within 35 mi. of S Hungarian border; spearheads are pushed N toward Arad.

SAF makes heavy night raid on Budapest, Hungary, hitting RR targets and rubber factory works and causing fires observed from a distance of 125 mi.; RR junction of Satul Mare in N Transylvania also bombed at night by Russian planes which destroy 3 ammunition trains by direct hits.

Hungary: During night 56 Wellingtons and 22 B-24s unload 200 tons of bombs on RR facilities at Skekesfehervar (35 mi. SW of Budapest), causing explosions and fires visible to 100 mi.; 7 Halifaxes illuminated. Ninety-three escorted B-17s (8th AF), flying to Italy from Russian bases, drop 191 tons of bombs on RR yards at Szolnok; target covered satisfactorily.

20 Russia: Moscow announces that, in 4-days of offensive fighting N of Tartu, troops of the Leningrad Army have advanced up to 44 mi. on a 75 mi. front, cutting Tartu-Tallinn RR with capture of Jogeva and reaching Edru station within 62 mi. of Tallinn; Lake Peipus virtually sealed off with capture of towns to W and N of lake. Simultaneously, in 3-day drive W of Narva, N arm of Gen. Govorov's Army advances 37½ mi., reaching Sonda within 16 mi. of Rakvere and approximately 75 mi. SE of Tallinn; Soviet ground forces supported by aircraft and by naval units on Lake Peipus. Red Army narrows arc around Riga with capture of Dzeni, Lizums, and Ergli, on RR lines running to Latvian capital from Pskov, Ruzhene, and Madona, respectively. Strong Soviet resistance prevents German gains in Jelgava sector. Berlin reports that Soviet units which had crossed to W banks of Vistula have been wiped out; 6-9 assault boats destroyed or captured. Bitter fighting is raging at approaches to Polish-Czechoslovakian border where Russians are advancing toward

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the Dukla and Lupkov passes. Russians and Rumanians in W Rumania encounter determined opposition by Hungarian border troops.

Port of Liepaja, main German base for supplies and U-boats in the Baltic, is target for night bombing by Soviet naval planes; 3 freighters and 3 U-boats reported sunk; 1 freighter and 1 transport damaged; installations and a floating dock heavily hit. SAF again makes strong night attack on RR junctions of Debrecen and Cop, causing further destruction and damage to RR installations and military supplies.

Hungary: Fifty-four B-17s almost completely destroy 1 span of Budapest N RR bridge with 153 tons of bombs; S bridge hit with 154 tons by 52 B-17s which score direct hits on 1 span and destroy approaches to viaduct; 40 P-38s provide cover for both attacks; 1 B-17 missing. Sixty B-24s drop 150 tons of bombs on Hatvan N RR yards (about 30 mi. NW of Budapest), causing severe damage to tracks and rolling stock; 50 B-24s cut all through tracks at S yards with 141 tons; escort of 46 P-38s encounter no opposition. Marshalling yards at Gyor bombed by 54 B-24s escorted by 45 P-51s; 128 tons of bombs dropped and E yard blocked; no enemy planes met. Fifty-six B-17s release 161 tons of bombs on Szob RR bridge with good coverage; hits made on both approaches. Night attack successfully made on Hegyshalen RR targets by 44 Wellingtons, 11 B-24s, and 6 Halifaxes with 130 tons of bombs; 4 Wellingtons missing.

Czechoslovakia: Force of 111 B-24s with escort of 103 P-51s strikes Malacky airdrome in W Slovakia; 249 tons of bombs dropped; 21 enemy planes destroyed; 1 B-24 and 1 P-51 missing.

21 Russia: Despite stubborn resistance, Red Army clears area N of Lake Peipus to the Gulf of Finland; Rakvere within 60 mi. of Tallinn on RR running W from Narva captured; N arm links up with forces moving N and NW from Tartu. Berlin claims that Russian attempts to cross the Vistula in Warsaw sector have been stopped at river islands. In Carpathian foothills, Soviets progress toward Dukla Pass, taking town of Dukla; several small villages to W toward Lukow Pass also seized. Russian and Rumanian troops fighting NE of Timisoara take Lipova, about 25 mi. from Hungarian border.

Communications, gun positions, and troop concentrations in Baltic battle areas attacked by SA which destroy about

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100 MT, 6 ammunition dumps, and several arty batteries; RR yards and supplies at Riga heavily hit. Russian naval planes and bombers strike German transport in port of Tallinn during night, sinking 3 transports and a patrol vessel and heavily damaging 4 more transports and a trawler. Ammunition and supplies dropped during night to Poles in Warsaw suburbs by Russian planes.

Poland: Supplies dropped during night on assigned targets in Warsaw by 3 B-24s (15th AF).

Hungary: Debrecen RR yards bombed by 103 B-17s and 28 B-24s which score direct hits on center of yards and on locomotive factory with 250.75 tons; 62 P-51s escorted; 1 B-24 missing. Fifty-six B-17s escorted by 33 P-51s drop 166.5 tons of bombs on Becescaba RR yards (on Arad-Budapest line) with good results; 61 B-24s dispatched to bomb same target hold bombs because of weather. Kiskore RR bridge, 65 mi. E of Budapest, effectively attacked by 30 B-24s escorted by 42 P-38s which register excellent pattern on target with 48 tons of bombs; RR bridge about 20 mi. N of Szeged hit with 20 tons. Thirty-two B-24s and 40 P-38s achieve good concentration on Tisza-Fured RR bridge (on Debrecen-Budapest line). Baja RR bridge hit with 149 tons of bombs by 55 B-24s escorted by 51 P-51s.

22 Russia: Finland reports that Finnish troops are moving N to attack German-held positions N of Oulu-Sotkamo line. Northward drive of Red Army climaxed with fall of Baltic naval base of Tallinn; Tapa road junction captured in 50-mi. sweep W of Rakvere; Paide, 27 mi. SW of Tapa and only 51 mi. NW of port of Parnu, reached. Berlin reports that evacuation of N Estonia is taking place "according to plan." Russian positions W and SW of Valka improved, despite stiffening enemy resistance. Enemy defense continues strong W of Jelgava where 1st Baltic troops are attempting to again cut RR running W from Riga. Russian drive toward Dukla Pass is momentarily checked; SE of Sanok, only slight gains made. Czech attacks drive Germans from positions at Telgart; Germans with strong air and tank support are attacking toward Svaty Martin; Czech AF also reported active. Arad, 10 mi. S of Hungarian frontier occupied by Russian and Rumanian troops during night; Axis resistance N and S of the Muresul R. is being eliminated.

Enemy vessels attempting to escape from port of Tallinn attacked throughout day by Russian bombers and torpedo-



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carrying planes; 11 transports claimed sunk; 3 other vessels and an AM damaged. Riga RR yards, as well as shipping in port of Parnu and military trains at Beregovaya are targets for night bombing by SAF which cause many large fires and explosions.

Hungary: Air operations from 22-30 Sept cancelled because of weather.

23 Russia: Red Army in Estonia sweeps SW of Paide, over-running Turi and Vana Vandra to capture port of Parnu on the Gulf of Riga; road and RR junction of Viljandi, 40 mi. E of port, also seized. Third Baltic forces driving toward Riga on a wide front. W of Valka cut Valka-Riga RR at Valmiera, 60 mi. NE of objective. Following heavy arty and air preparation, 2d Baltic troops E of Riga resume offensive W of the Gulbene-Madona-Plavinas line, making 18 mi. gains in some sectors. Heavy shelling of Warsaw continues; new German defense lines W and S of Warsaw reported to be defended by Viking SS, Elite Guard, Sude-Franconian, and Hermann Goering Divs. Bucharest reports that Rumanians cooperating with Red Army have crossed the Hungarian border W of Arad.

GAF lends strong air support to ground forces on the Baltic front. German shipping in the Baltic Sea heavily hit by Soviet naval planes; 3 transports and a patrol vessel torp and sunk NW of Oesel I. at entrance to Gulf of Riga; a 10,000-ton transport W of Liepaja and another transport SW of Ventspils also claimed sunk. Russians report 56 enemy planes destroyed in combat and by AA fire during day.

24 Russia: Marines of Soviet Baltic Fleet capture Port Baltic (Baltiski), 25 mi. SW of Tallinn; other German-held escape ports between Tallinn and Parnu threatened by capture of Marijamaa road junction and other towns 40-50 mi. to SW. Germans launch very heavy counterattacks SW of Valka but fail to recapture Valmiera; Rujiena road junction, 25 mi. N of Valmiera, seized by 3d Baltic troops. Second Baltic forces advancing along Pskov-Riga highway capture Smiltene and reach Rauna, 60 mi. SE of Riga; other units pushing W along RR from Gulbene reach the Gauja R.; troops driving W from Madona are within 45 mi. of Riga. Heavy but unsuccessful counterattacks are launched by Germans SW of

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Mariampole along E Prussian border. Radio contact between Soviets in Praga and Polish forces in Mokotow and Zoliborz suburbs, S and N of Warsaw, established.

SAF supports ground troops E of Riga, bombing and strafing enemy troops and supplies with good results. Stalluponen in E Prussia is target for damaging attack by Russian planes which start large fires among RR trains and fuel cars.

Russia: Eight P-51s provide escort for 10 B-17s (8th AF), which fly from Russia to Italian airfields.

25

Russia: Red Army forces in Estonia capture port of Haapsalu, 55 mi. SE of Tallinn, and virtually clear mainland of Nazi troops except for isolated pockets of resistance. W of Valka, 3d Baltic troops driving toward the Gulf of Riga on a 25-mi. front between Valmiera and Rujiena widen front with capture of Moisakala on Estonian-Latvian border. German defensive positions ("new winter line") about 55 mi. E and SE of Riga penetrated by 2d Baltic troops. Following arty preparation and divebombing, Germans attack Polish positions in Mokotow suburb; Poles report that Kierbedzia bridge across the Vistula to "Old City" of Warsaw destroyed; communication with Soviet Hq on E bank of the Vistula maintained; heavy arty and mortar fire exchanged throughout night. Czech forces are clearing area E and NE of Telgart, which dominates central RR running from W to E through Czechoslovakia. Sharp clashes reported in Targul Mures and Arad sectors in W Rumania.

26

Russia: Soviets reach Roosti RR station within 20 mi. of Virstu, last enemy-held port in Estonia. Third Baltic Army drives battle line toward Riga from N and NE, capturing port of Ainazi on Estonian-Latvian border and advancing to within 40 mi. of objective (on highway from Rujiena) with capture of Limbazi; strong enemy garrison at Cesis, 46 mi. NE of Riga, on main highway and RR line from Valka, falls to Soviets after fierce battle. Second Baltic troops attacking along Madona-Riga highway force German withdrawal from Madliena, 37 mi. E of port. Polish resistance elements in Mokotow suburb, S of Warsaw, heavily attacked by German tanks, arty, and dive-bombers. Fierce fighting continues in the Carpathian regions where Russians, with arty and air support, overcome stubborn opposition, capturing Radoszyce

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toward Lupkow Pass and less than 2 mi. from the Czech frontier, and Turka road junction within 12 mi. of Uzok Pass. Berlin reports violent fighting along Rumanian-Hungarian border in Arad-Oradea areas; Hungarians claim recapture of Turda.

German troop concentrations withdrawing toward Riga pounded by SAF; gun batteries and MT heavily hit; 29 enemy fighters claimed shot down. Stalluponen in E Prussia is target for night attack by 12 Soviet fighter bombers which cause large fires and explosions among trains and oil cars. Military supplies and food dropped by SAF to Poles in Warsaw suburbs. Moscow announces unsuccessful attack by 25 German bombers on an unreported airdrome in Rumania. German U-boat in the Gulf of Finland sunk by Russian naval units; 2 enemy transports totalling 7,000 tons torp and sunk in the Baltic Sea by Russian naval planes; enemy shipping in port of Vadso in N Norway also bombed.

27

Russia: Russians occupy Vormsi I. off W coast of Estonia; mopping-up operations on mainland continued. Soviet Baltic Armies tighten arc around Riga from NE, E, and SE and narrow front from Gulf of Riga to the Dvina to 65 mi., capturing village of Skulte, 22 mi. N of Riga, and Ligatne and Vatrane RR towns less than 40 mi. from Riga on lines from Pskov and Madona, respectively; Riga subjected to heavy mortar and arty fire directed from Soviet positions 7 mi. S of port. Berlin reports renewed Soviet offensive toward E Prussia; Moscow claims capture of 2 strongpoints SW of Mariampole. Mokotow suburb falls to Germans; Berlin reports liquidation of Polish resistance elements virtually completed. S of Sanok and Krosno, Russians edge closer to Czechoslovak frontier on a broad front, pressing hard at Beskid Passes and reaching the border at several points, including village of Wolosate. Germans in Czechoslovakia resume attacks toward Svaty Martin; Czech defenses in Nitra valley consolidated; lively air activity on both sides reported. Berlin again reports violent fighting along Rumanian-Hungarian border in Arad, Gyula, and Oradea sectors; Soviet units, W of Arad, have crossed into Hungary and captured Mako, 14 mi. from Szeged; according to Budapest; Moscow reports capture of Salonta, 25 mi. SW of Oradea. Russian troops have reached Caribrod, NE of Sofia, on Bulgarian-Yugoslav border, according to Yugoslavia.

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Soviet naval planes sink three small vessels in port of Vadso in N Norway; 26 motor boats and 5 barges also sunk in vicinity; a number of German planes shot down.

28 Russia: Soviets in Estonia occupy port of Virstu; mopping-up operations on mainland practically completed. Germans admit that evacuation of Latvia has begun; Soviet positions NE of Riga strengthened with capture of several strongpoints in Limbazi-Cesis area. German attempts to establish a bridgehead on L bank of the Narew near Ostreleka thwarted by Russians. German arty and bombing concentrated on Zoliborz suburb, N of Warsaw. Russians push 3-4 mi. across the Czech border through the Lupkow Pass, capturing several enemy defense points at approaches to Wlk Bukowiec Ridge; 6 mi.-gains made W of Turka toward Uzok Pass.

SAF continues strikes against enemy transport, troops, and supplies in Latvia with good results. German 4,000-ton transport and an AM sunk in the Baltic Sea by Russian naval units.

29 Russia: Finnish advance to force German evacuation of N Finland impeded by enemy demolitions and minefields along road and RR lines. Russians in Latvia improve their positions N, E, and S of Riga against increasingly stubborn opposition. Gains of approximately 10 mi. made S and E of Turka in the Eastern Carpathians; farther W, S of Delatyn (in the Stanislawow province) Russians overcome enemy minefields and make 15 mi. advance, reaching Jablonica Pass. Fluctuating fighting continues in Handlova-Vrutky sector in W Slovakia. Second Ukrainian and Rumanian troops seize large communication center of Targul Mures in Transylvania, and establish bridgeheads across the Muresul R.; Oradea, 80 mi. W of Cluj and 40 mi. NW of Debrecen, also captured.

Berlin reports successful shelling of Russian troops and supplies along E coast of Gulf of Riga and evacuation of troops, civilians, and equipment from Latvia by German naval units.

Barents Sea: SS Edward H Crockett (US cargo ship, 7,176 tons) sunk by enemy action at 72-57 N, 24-32 E.

SS Samusva (US cargo ship, 7,219 tons) sunk by enemy action at 72-58 N, 23-59 E.

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30 Russia: Russian activity along the Dvina and Gulf of Riga confined to regrouping and consolidation of positions. Polish resistance elements in Zoliborz suburb are heavily attacked by enemy inf with tank support. Russians and Rumanians driving W of Campulung cross the Bistrita R., N of Targul Mures; enemy attacks aimed at reducing bridgeheads on R bank of the Muresul R. thwarted. Hungarians admit that Soviets which crossed the Hungarian border W of Arad have occupied Mako and pushed spearheads to Foldeak but claim that strong German armd units have relieved situation at Oradea; Berlin reports Oradea now held by Germans. Moscow announces crossing of Danube by Red Army troops in force; thrusts made from Orsova and below Turnu-Severin; Yugoslav towns captured include Tekija, opposite Orsova, and Negotin, 29 mi. S of Turnu-Severin.

Soviet aircraft successfully attack enemy tank assembly and repair work shops near Przasnysz and airdrome in Ciechanow area, approximately 45 mi. NE of Warsaw; fires and explosions caused; 8 enemy planes destroyed on ground and 1 in combat. Two enemy transports (15,000 and 7,000 tons) scorp and sunk by Soviet naval planes in the Baltic Sea.

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