

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group1 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Contact with XII Corps of U.S. Third Army maintained by elements of 106th Cav Gp near Mouacourt, above Parroy Forest. On opposite side of Parroy Forest, 44th Div conducts aggressive patrolling day and night. Seventy-ninth Div is in rest area vic Luneville. CCD of 2d Fr Armd Div completes occupation of Baccarat, 15 miles SE of Luneville, patrols toward Rambervillers and Bertrichamps, and occupies latter in afternoon. Patrols also enter Forest of Grammont, E of Baccarat. CCV captures Vacqueville after hard battle and reaches river Blette at Migneville. CCL crosses Meurthe R, at Menil Flin, traverses tip of Mondon Forest to Hablainville-Buriville area, and from there sends column across Verdurette R, at Pettonville to cut Ogeviller-Herbeviller road. Herbeviller is taken at 1430, despite violent enemy arty reaction. Another column crosses mine fields to capture Ogeviller and near-by Reclonville. Thanks to tank and arty cooperation, French losses in these operations are slight.

VI Corps Continuing advance toward Raon l'Etape, 45th Div outflanks and knocks out road block 4 miles SW of Raon l'Etape in Ste. Barbe Forest. Enemy is contacted in considerable force on W outskirts of la Salle, 5½ miles S of Raon l'Etape. The 399th Inf (-2d Bn) of 100th Div and the 117th Cav Rcn Sq are attached to 45th Div; 117th Cav Rcn Sq, which has moved rapidly through Menil, Nossoncourt, and Ste. Barbe, is to occupy high ground NE of Baccarat; 100th Div has arrived in VI Corps sector 11 days after debarking at Marseilles and will relieve 45th Div in vicinity of St. Remy--St. Benoit--Baccarat. In forested area to S, local attacks meet strong resistance. In repeated attempts to secure crossroads in le Haut Jacques, 7th Inf of 3d Div encounters mine fields and receives considerable enemy arty and mortar fire. Thirty-sixth Div continues to push through mountainous, forested area NW of la Houssiere. Enemy resistance most stubborn on slopes nearest la Houssiere.

The 103d Div is assigned to Seventh Army.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army GroupFIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Five miles SW of Gerardmer, elements of 3d Alg Div occupy Haut du Tot, which has been abandoned by enemy, and Hill 900 to the SE. Enemy is contacted at several points in this vicinity, however, and his patrols are active on N ridge of Travexin.

I Corps Normal patrol activity in 2d Mor Div sector, S of Lure-Belfort line. In sector held by 9th Col Div, enemy arty fire is received at l'Isle-sur-le Doubs, about 17 miles SW of Belfort, and at Pont de Roide, about 17 miles S of Belfort.

Alps Sector Fourth Mtn Div places 200 rounds of 105-mm. fire on enemy-held Col de Thuress, at Franco-Italian border 14 miles ESE of Briancon. U.S. First Airborne Task Force elements W of southern extremity of Franco-Italian border advance 1 to 2 miles against negligible resistance. Enemy withdraws from Sospel and Castillon.

First TAF (Prov.) XIII TAC furnishes close support to VI Corps and First Fr Army. Rail cuts made between Mulhouse and Senheim and N and SE of Colmar. Ammo dump SW of St. Die destroyed. Enemy gun positions bombed and strafed in Nempatelize-Hurbache area. Loco destroyed near Obernai. Four road cuts made in N part of First Fr Army zone and factory near Champagny bombed. (Near Third Army Group-Sixth Army Group boundary, fighter bombers of XIX TAC, Ninth Air Force, drop 30 500-lb. bombs on enemy arty SW of Lorquin.)

2 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Patrols of 44th Div SE of Parroy Forest find enemy has withdrawn from Domjevin, 9 miles E of Luneville, and Div moves forward slightly. Relief of 2d Fr Armd Div in SE of its sector is begun by elements of 117th Cav Sq and of 45th Div (VI Corps), but Fr units continue to hold positions along the Blette and Vezouse Rivers during next two weeks, under intense enemy arty fire.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps Scattered pockets of resistance, road blocks, mines, booby-traps, mortar and MG fire slow advance of 45th Div toward Raon l'Etape from SW. The 399th Inf of 100th Div is committed in S of 45th Div sector, relieving elements of 179th Inf. South of St. Remy, 15th Inf of 3d Div occupies les Faignes and Nompateize without fighting, but is engaged in SA fire fight in la Salle. RCT 442, attached to 36th Div, works down slopes toward la Houssiere against scattered resistance.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Rcn parties of 3d Alg Div push E in Rochesson and le Menil areas. Enemy places harassing fire on Cornimont, le Daval, and vicinity of Blancaing. Weak enemy arty activity on 1st Inf Div front, which stretches in northeasterly direction from vicinity of Ronchamp to vicinity of le Thillot.

I Corps Patrols of 2d Mor Div inflict losses on German patrol detachment in Bois des Guyottes, N of Mignavillers, 6 miles NE of Villersexel. In 9th Col Div sector harassing fire received at Pont de Roide, Ecurcey, and Autechaux; counter-barrage fired.

Alps Sector Arty harasses Col du Petit St. Bernard and Valgrisanche, NE and E of Bourg St. Maurice, in N of 4th Mtn Div front. A few enemy shells hit Bonneval in Isere sector. Rcn finds Lanslebourg and Lanslevillard unoccupied, but Germans are contacted in la Tomba region along Italian border E of Col du Mont Cenis. In Durance sector, arty strikes enemy CPs in le Chenaillet vicinity. Enemy harassing fire falls on Infernet and le Gondran, directly S, as well as on Briancon and Aiguilles.

3 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 121st Cav Sq of 106th Cav Gp maintains positions on high ground E of Parroy Forest. Elements of 44th Div moving E in area SE of Parroy Forest encounter extensive mine fields S of Leintrey. Patrols find Leintrey and Veho unoccupied by enemy.

UNCLASSIFIED

106
UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps Relief of 45th Div continued by 100th Div. Enemy dug in along trails and on hills in woods SW of Raon l'Etape place heavy SA and MG fire on patrols and advancing troops. Third Div units continue attacks on la Salle and le Haut Jacques; other elements maintain pressure on enemy dug-in positions on Hill 616, 3 miles W of St. Die. Enemy counterattacks from NE and N in Nompateize area repulsed after slight loss of ground. Enemy continues to oppose stubbornly units of 36th Div fighting in Forêt Dominiale de Champ.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps In limited objective attack toward Gerardmer, 3d Alg Div advances in area between la Forge and Rondfaing, in N of sector. In central part of sector patrols reach Cornimont. Slight enemy arty activity continues in zone of 1st Inf Div.

I Corps Enemy arty fire on area E of Pont de Roide and Autechaux continues.

Alps Sector Harassing fire continued by both sides in Isere sector. To the S, enemy arty also hits Sollicres-Sardieres, between Lanslebourg and Bramans. Farther S, in area E of Briancon, Fr arty fires on Claviere RR and Col de Thures. Arty also strikes at Echelle, N of Briancon. Enemy directs arty fire on Mts. Janus and Gondran, E of Briancon. In Durance sector, patrol engagement occurs at St. Paul, N of Tournoux, and enemy fires on Condamine, S of Tournoux. French special detachments are active in Maurienne and Ubaye sectors. First ABTF makes advance NE of Sospel.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC fighter bombers damage RR bridge across Rhine, at Breisach, and bomb and strafe troop concentration S of la Chapelle.

4 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Period inactive except for rotation of units and improvement of newly occupied positions, with arty fire directed on Veho-Blemercy area in 44th Div's line of advance between Leintrey and Domjevin.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps Enemy resistance stiffens on 45th Div N flank at Thiaville, NW of Raon l'Etape, but weakens slightly on the S, in vicinity of St. Remy, where 15th Inf elements of 3d Div are relieved by 399th Inf, 100th Div. Seventh Inf of 3d Div takes le Haut Jacques after long and bitter fighting. Fifteenth Inf moves N after clearing la Salle. Thirtieth Inf occupies Sauceray and enters Herbaville. SA, MG, and mortar fire fights delay advance to Mourthe R. Thirty-sixth Div's 143d RCT patrols aggressively from les Poulieures and Biffontaine. Elements of RCT 141 with Stack Force maintain contact with French on S flank.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div continues to make progress in direction of Gerardmer. Rochesson is occupied and la Roche des Ducs is mopped up and passed. Cornimont is under heavy enemy arty fire. Only patrol activity in 1st Inf Div sector.

I Corps Patrol activity and enemy harassing fire in 2d Mor Div sector. Ninth Col Div patrols skirmish with enemy at Pierrefontaine, 3 miles E of Pont de Roide.

Alps Sector Calm day in 4th Mth Div sector. Slight enemy harassing fire on Briancon, Gondran, Condamine, and Fort Tournoux. First ABTF occupies positions vicinity of Mt. Grazian, at Italian border NE of Sospel, against determined enemy resistance.

First TAF (Prov.) Twelve fighter bombers attack road net in vic Herbaville. Rail cuts made E of Colmar. Marshaling yards near Neustadt bombed.

5 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps No change in positions. Arty continues harassing fires and 44th Div patrols on entire front of its sector.

VI Corps Enemy improves defenses S and SW of Raon l'Etape by committing units of 361st Volksgrenadier Div. Elements of 157th Inf, 45th Div, are engaged in house-to-house

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

fighting in St. Remy-Etival-Clairefontaine area, less than 3 miles S of Raon l'Etape. The 180th Inf experiences close-in fighting near edge of woods immediately SW of Raon l'Etape. To the NW, elements of 179th Inf attack Thiaville from the SW, while 45th Cav Rcn Tr attacks from the NW--from Lachapelle. Town is entered from the S at 1530; 179th Inf units are engaged in heavy fighting remainder of day and withdraw from town for night. Units of 397th Inf, 100th Div, enter line in Baccarat area, relieving elements of 179th Inf. Third Div continues advance toward Meurthe R. in area between Clairefontaine and St. Die and mops up scattered pockets of enemy resistance in wooded areas. Town of Biarville is taken by 15th Inf after a sharp fight. Thirty-sixth Div attacks astride les Rouges Eaux Valley, against heavy resistance. Hill 699, in the forest to the SE, is occupied against SA opposition. Stack Force secures Rehaupal.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Patrols of 3d Alg Div advance through Lyris Forest. Enemy harassing fire falls on Saulxures, Cornimont, les Barranges, and la Croix des Moinats. Weak enemy arty activity continues in zone of 1st Inf Div.

I Corps Light arty activity.

Alps Sector Fourth Mtn Div arty fires on enemy truck convoy approaching Col du Petit St. Bernard and at enemy concentration at Col du Frejus. Usual exchange of harassing fire takes place in area NE of Briancon. Units of 1st ABTF following up enemy withdrawal on the S have reached Franco-Italian border and mission of U.S. troops on this front becomes entirely defensive.

First TAF (Prov.) Fighter bombers make 1 rail cut and damage 20 boxcars at Molsheim; also attack gun position in XV Corps area.

6 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Situation static. The 106th Cav Sq relieves 121st Cav Sq in area E of Parroy Forest.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER

Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps Elements of 179th Inf, 45th Div, attacking Thiaville are stopped by heavy enemy MG, mortar, and arty fire. Enemy holds dominating heights across the Meurthe R. House-to-house fighting continues in area NE of St. Remy. Third Div's 15th Inf clears and occupies Brehimont and la Vacherie; at 2200 elements attack E and NE from Biarville. Thirtieth Inf units occupy le Bihey, 1 mile W of St. Die. Thirty-sixth Div continues slow progress in forest between la Houssiere and les Rouges Eaux. RCT 442 still faces stubborn enemy opposition on la Houssiere slopes.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Advance to E of 3d Alg Div continues slowly in area SE of Gerardmer. Contact is established with 36th Div on ridge NW of Passage. Lively enemy inf and arty reaction forces units of 3d Alg Div to retire from Hill 1050 at S edge of forest area S of Lake Gerardmer. Since launching of offensive on morning of 3 Nov, Corps has succeeded in consolidating defenses at Haut de Faing and assuring security of communications in Vagney region. Situation remains static in 1st Inf Div sector.

I Corps Enemy patrols contact 2d Mor Div strongpoints at Clairegoutte and Frederic-Fontaine, 10 miles W of Belfort, and are repulsed, falling back under cover of mortar fire. Weak enemy harassing fire in 9th Col Div sector.

Alps Sector In Isere sector, enemy fires on Bourg St. Maurice area, and to the S enemy fire is received at Sollières-Sardières and Ternignon. In Durance sector enemy arty is directed at Valle Stretta and Salles. The 1st ABTF has passed Sospol, 9 miles N of Cap Martin, on a broad front.

7 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps No change. Patrols to Leintrey and vic of Blemercy report no enemy activity.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps Stubborn enemy defense of positions along W side of Mourthe R. S of Baccarat is marked by attempted infiltration, a counterattack, and aggressive patrolling. Enemy employs considerable 88-mm. bazooka fire in action NE of St. Remy. Third Div continues clearing enemy resistance from E edge of Mortagne Forest. Elements of 142d RCT, 36th Div, meet only scattered resistance in continued advance SE toward Vanemont. RCT 442 encounters SA and mortar fire as it tries to move down to road and RR E--W from la Houssiere.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div has now completely occupied the small woods N of Cornimont, along the Moselotte R. Two enemy counterattacks in region N of Haut du Rainde are repulsed by inf and by arty fire. Weak enemy arty continues on 1st Inf Div front.

I Corps Advance elements of 2d Mor Div improve their positions NE of Lemontot; no enemy reaction. Harassing fire exchanged on 9th Col Div front.

Alps Sector Arty of 4th Mtn Div shells about 50 enemy ski troops seen near Mont Genevre, NE of Briancon. Harassing fire received on advance posts in Bourg St. Maurice region.

8. U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Rainy weather hampers operations. Patrols of 121st Cav Sq report Xures, on Marne-Rhine Canal at NE tip of Parroy Forest, clear of enemy.

VI Corps Enemy counterattack in afternoon in 45th Div sector between St. Remy and Etival-Clairefontaine is repulsed after 6-hour fight. Relief of 45th Div by 100th Div is completed; 399th Inf of 100th Div prepares to move N to Baccarat. Third Div elements continue to clear la Salle plain; 15th Inf occupies le Menil and attacks Deyfosse. Seventh Inf occupies Xamfaing on Div R flank. Enemy resistance to 36th Div elements above la Houssiere continues. A combat patrol of 143d Inf seizes la Chapelle,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

near Neuve R. and 3 miles W of la Houssiere. RCT 142 is advancing toward Vanemont to relieve pressure on 442d RCT.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy harassing fire strikes Haut de Faing, 1 mile NE of Cornimont; Corps units occupied with consolidation of positions and rotation of units. Enemy patrols are active in Menil area.

I Corps Enemy arty fire received at Eboulet and Frederic-Fontaine in 2d Mor Div sector. Mortar fire received at Autechaux on 9th Col Div front.

Alps Sector Enemy arty fire received at advanced posts in Tarentaise, Maurienne, and Ubaye sectors.

9 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps High water continues to impede traffic over Vezouse bridges S of Parroy Forest.

VI Corps The 100th Div completes relief of 45th Div, which assembles in rest areas near Bains les Bains and passes to Seventh Army control. Fifteenth Inf of 3d Div continues advance toward Meurthe R. Heavy casualties and local withdrawals caused by intense enemy tank and SA fire in afternoon in vicinity of le Vivier and la Fosse. During night of 9--10 Nov, 7th Inf is relieved by 409th Inf of 103d Div. To the S, RCT 142 presses on toward Vanemont, with small fire fights along the line, and relieves RCT 442. Counterattack from vicinity of la Houssiere at 1600 is repulsed, as is another in area to NE.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy arty slackens in 3d Alg Div sector, but at 1510 several enemy planes drop total of 6 bombs in low level attack on Sapois, directly in rear of center sector of 3d Alg Div front. First Inf Div takes over part of 3d Alg Div sector in Cornimont area; Enemy patrols are repulsed in Travexin and le Menil region.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army GroupI Corps Bad weather limits activity to rcn.Alps Sector Moderate arty falls in Bourg St. Maurice and Lanslebourg areas. Fr arty strikes at enemy activity NE of Col du Petit St. Bernard. Arty concentrations also placed on le Chenaillet and on cable RR station at Claviere, in area E of Briancon. Between Ubaye Valley and Larche Pass, Germans set fire to villages of Meyronnes, Certamussat, and Larche.10 U.S. SEVENTH ARMYXV Corps 106th Cav Gp occupies Vaucourt and Hill 264, E of Parroy Forest.VI Corps Elements of 100th Div capture Pajaille, NE of St. Remy, with little difficulty. Enemy evidently withdrawing to E side of Meurthe R. On N flank of 3d Div, elements of 15th Inf clear Etival, having entered under cover of smoke screen; others occupy le Vivier and la Fosse. Fifteenth Inf now holds broad front NW of St. Die along the Meurthe formerly held by 399th Inf of 100th Div. Thirtieth Inf enters town of Chalet without resistance but meets heavy MG fire in house-to-house fighting at la Bolle. On night of 10--11, RCT 410 relieves RCT 30 of 3d Div along wooded high ground W of Taintrux R. from Herbaville to vicinity of Chevry. RCT 142 of 36th Div, attacking at 0900, finds la Houssiere and Vanemont clear and enter them without opposition.FIRST FRENCH ARMYII Corps Some enemy mortar fire falls on Hill 1013 in 3d Alg Div zone. First Inf Div front inactive.I Corps Enemy SP arty fire on Mignafans and Marvelise. Patrol on S flank of 2d Mor Div finds Vaivre woods unoccupied. Some patrol activity and harassing arty fire in 9th Col Div sector.Alps Sector Arty with 4th Mtn Div carries out program of harassing fire in Isere sector. Enemy arty shells le Gondran and Janus in Durance sector. Rcn finds vicinity of Meyronnes**UNCLASSIFIED**

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

still enemy occupied. Combat and recon patrols are active in southern zone held by 1st ABTF, relief of which has been begun by 44th AAA Brigade.

11 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Seventy-ninth Div begins move from Lunceville rest area to vicinity of Montigny, 5 miles NE of Baccarat.

VI Corps Front remains quiet in 100th Div sector S and SE of Baccarat. Relief of 3d Div elements by 103d Div units continues. Column of 30th RCT takes la Bolle, where it is relieved by 410th Inf. Fifteenth Inf maintains and improves its defensive positions. Intermittent enemy arty fire received. Enemy has withdrawn across the Meurthe R. RCT 411 of 103d Div trains behind the front lines for an attack on hill mass SW of St. Die. In Stack Force sector of 36th Div zone, Hill 701, NW of Champdray, is attacked through scattered SA resistance. Entire area is heavily mined.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Patrol activity by both sides; little enemy arty or mortar fire.

I Corps Situation static.

Alps Sector A few mortar shells fall on le Combottier in Isere sector. Mortar fire also hits Fort de Tournoux. Enemy continues demolitions in Larche Valley.

12 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Forty-fourth Div completes regrouping of units in preparation for attack. Five hundred feet of corduroy road constructed during night for benefit of TDs. CCD of 2d Fr Armd Div will operate in 44th Div's zone. Seventy-ninth Div elements concentrate in portion of 2d Fr Armd Div zone S of Blette R. CCL of 2d Fr Armd Div will operate in 79th Div's zone in the coming attack. CCV occupies Montigny, 5 miles NE of Baccarat. Elements of

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group12
Cont

CCR forestall enemy attempt to destroy RR bridge across Blette R. in Herbeviller, 4 miles NW of Montigny. During night of 12--13, Corps arty fires total of about 25,000 rounds in preparation for morning attack.

VI Corps The 117th Cav Rcn Sq holds Veney, Merviller, and Vacqueville, all a few miles NE of Baccarat. The 100th Div jumps off on its first full-scale attack at 0900, with 397th and 399th Regts attacking on Bertrichamps-Veney road, N of the Meurthe R. The 399th Inf turns NE toward Neufmaisons to block possible German movement S toward Raon l'Etape. While rcn troops S of river place diversionary fire on Raon l'Etape, 397th Inf attacks toward it. Dense woods, mud, snow, and considerable SA and arty fire make progress slow. Fifteenth Inf of 3d Div continues to man and improve defensive positions extending from Etival to la Vacherie. CG, 103d Div, takes command of Div Zone in area formerly held by 3d Div. During night of 12--13, 409th Inf outposts Rougeville and Richardville; 410th Inf receives light arty and ME fire. Elements of 142d RCT, 36th Div, continue to occupy hill mass at Mt. Thiriville, SW of la Houssiere. In center of div zone, elements of RCT 143 enter Aumontzey against SA opposition, while others proceed to slopes of le Cours Mt. Farther N, units of 143d Inf work into wooded hills S of la Chapelle.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Weak enemy arty activity.

I Corps No change in front lines. Heavy snowfall in 9th Col Div sector.

Alps Sector Fourth Mtn Div directs harassing fire on Valgrisanche, across Italian border E of Bourg St. Maurice, and on Chaberton and Chenaillet, E of Briancon. First ABTF elements raid defense works at Mille Fourches, near Authion, 8 miles N of Sospel, killing 8 enemy. Armd inf units of 14th Armd Div are temporarily attached to 44th AAA Brigade, pending time that 14th Armd is made operational in Seventh Army area.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group13 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps At 0700, 106th Cav Sq attacks through woods NE of Vaucourt against light resistance. In afternoon, 121st Cav Sq passes through 106th and continues attacks toward Lagarde, but is stopped at edge of woods by heavy enemy arty fire from N. Forty-fourth Div attacks E at 0700. Seventy-first Inf gains 1,000 yards before slowed by enemy automatic weapons, mortar, and arty fire. High ground beyond Leintrey is occupied. N of the 71st Inf, 324th Inf makes moderate advance, coming under heavy enemy fire from Remoncourt. Arty support given by 114th Inf. The 314th and 315th Regts of 79th Div jump off from Migneville-Montigny area at 0700 in attack aimed at Sarrebouurg along Ancerviller-Nitting axis. Little resistance met at first, but more SA and arty fire encountered as troops continue advance to NE. By close of day, elements of both regts have reached outskirts of Ancerviller and 314th occupies high ground 1 mile NW of town. Heavy SA fire from vicinity of Ste. Pole harasses div R flank. Second Fr Armd Div will support Corps attack led by 44th and 79th Divs and protect Corps R flank and rear. During night of 13--14, prepared arty fires are placed in area between Chazelles and Avricourt, across axis of advance of 44th Div.

VI Corps At 0900, 397th Inf of 100th Div continues attack toward Raon l'Etape from NW and N. German counterattack is quelled by heavy arty fire that kills about 75 of the enemy. RCT 442 moves to relieve elements of 142d RCT, 36th Div, in area between Mt. Thiriville and Vanemont valley. Aumontzey and Champdray are occupied.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Limited fire action and limited objective attacks to hold enemy reserves on this front.

I Corps Enemy patrol attacks strongpoint of 2d Mor Div S of Frederic-Fontaine and is repulsed. Raging blizzard causes postponement of attack scheduled to have begun this day.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Alps Sector Enemy harassing fire strikes at Claviere and Chenaillet. In Durance sector, enemy movements toward the Melmise point, Aiguille Rouge, and Meyronnes are observed. Some shells fall on Janus and Fort de Tournoux. High mountain detachments continue to carry out rcn missions in Brianconnais and Ubaye. Harassing fire by both sides, especially in Maurienne and Ubaye.

Western French Forces Command post of Western French Forces is transferred from Paris to Cognac at 1200. The Forces Francaises de l'Ouest are under command of General de Larminat. These forces have been assigned the area W of the Rhone and S of the Loire and have been given the particular mission of reducing the German pockets astride the Gironde Estuary, so that the port of Bordeaux may be opened.

First TAF (Prov.) Adverse weather restricts flying to five missions by XII TAC.

14 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Seventy-first Inf resumes attack at 0720. Advance units are soon pinned down by enemy SA, mortar, and arty fire, and only minor gains can be made. At 0700, 315th Inf of 79th Div, attacks toward Ste. Pole; village is not cleared until mid-afternoon. In the meantime, other elements of regt take Ancerville after house-to-house fighting. Advance units reach high ground S of Halloville, 2 miles NE of Ancerville.

VI Corps On third day of attack toward Raon l'Etape by 100th Div, 397th Inf occupies Clairrupt, just W of Raon l'Etape. In woods to the N, heavy casualties are caused by intense enemy fire. S of Neufmaisons, 399th Inf also strikes heavy resistance and fails to progress. RCT 442 holds defensive positions along W slopes of Vanemont valley. Elements of 142d RCT, 36th Div, clear Mt. Thiriville and push S across la Chapelle-Corcieux road. The 141st and 143d Regts advance SE without resistance. Advance elements of 143d are in Ivoux and Granges. On Corps S boundary 141st RCT sends patrols to le Tholy highway.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy arty fire received at Rochesson and Cornimont. Numerous fires observed in le Tholy and la Bresse and on neighboring farms. Enemy patrols active in 1st Inf Div sector.

I Corps Series of offensive operations opposite the Belfort Gap begins at noon on both sides of the Doubs, E of l'Isle-sur-le Doubs. Initial attack achieves complete surprise. Commanding General of the German 338th Div is killed during the arty preparation.

Alps Sector Enemy activity observed at Alpine passes of Mont Cenis, du Frejus, and d'Arronde. Enemy fire received at le Lavoir, Turra, and Bourg St. Maurice. In Durance sector, enemy patrol unsuccessfully attacks post at Sestriere woods. Enemy fire falls at Fort de Tournoux.

First TAF (Prov.) Thirty-four sorties flown in 6 missions by French TAC.

15 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 114th Inf of 44th Div attacks E between Remoncourt and Leintrey at 0755, into woods W of Avricourt. Enemy counterattack from S is repulsed by arty, mortar, and SA fire of 71st Inf elements E of Leintrey. Other Div units consolidate positions and give fire support to 114th Inf. With TD and tank assistance, 315th Inf of 79th Div drives enemy from Halloville during morning, destroying 5 enemy tanks and taking 91 PWs. Harbouey, directly NE, is taken in afternoon. Roads SE of Barbas, a mile S of Blamont, are cut by 314th Inf. Considerable arty and SA fire encountered. Patrols sent E toward Badonviller from Ste. Pole are forced back by heavy arty fire. A task force of CCR, 2d Fr Armd Div, takes up position to protect 79th Div's right flank and, if possible, to seize intact one or more bridges over Vezouse R. Rcn units enter Nonhigny, 1 mile S of Harbouey, but withdraw before dark.

UNCLASSIFIED

118
UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: -WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

15
Cont

VI Corps A bn of 399th Inf, 100th Div, takes Hill 432, S of Neufmaisons, dominating German line which had blocked advance of 397th Inf. Enemy withdraws and elements of 399th Inf move S astride Neufmaisons-Raon l'Etape road to just N of Raon l'Etape. Units of 398th Inf relieved by 15th Inf of 3d Div. Third Div spends next 3 days training for a river crossing and reconnoitering river banks. Germans have set N part of St. Die on fire. Local engagements delay elements of 36th Div in le Cours Mt. vicinity. RCT 442 attacks through elements of 103d Div in area 1½ miles SW of Taintrux.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Patrols of 3d Alg Div find le Tholy and la Bresse occupied by enemy. Bridge at Tholy has been destroyed. In advance coordinated with 36th Div, left flank elements of 3d Alg Div progress 1¼ miles beyond le Tholy. Enemy arty fire renewed on Rochesson and valley points. Light arty fire in 1st Inf Div sector.

I Corps General advance of from 4 to 5 miles has taken 2d Mor Div, on N side of Doubs R., beyond Montenois and Longres, while on the S side the 9th Col Div reaches Colombier-Fontaine and Ecot. FFI assists in local operations. Over 100 prisoners have been taken since noon of preceding day. In Pont de Roide area the offensive is carried right up to Swiss frontier. Many mines and booby traps are encountered. Aided by CC 4 of 5th Armd Div, 2d Mor Div takes important enemy strongpoint of Arcey, as well as Echenans, 1 mile NE. By evening elements of these units have reached outskirts of Ste. Marie, 2 miles SE of Arcey, and entered Mont Bart Forest.

Alps Sector Situation static.

First TAF (Prov.) In 3 missions supporting XV Corps, fighter bombers destroy 2 trucks, score 2 hits in Avricourt and 6 on tracks in marshaling yard near Molsheim. Ten 500-lb. bombs dropped on or near Igney.

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

16 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Forty-fourth Div conducts extensive patrolling and achieves limited gains in area W of Avricourt. Engr units clear mines along RR N of Leintrey, advancing 1,000 yards beyond front lines. At 0850, 314th Inf of 79th Div attacks to capture Barbas. Before noon, an estimated 300 enemy inf and 4 tanks have been driven out towards Blamont. Div elements in Harbouey area make slow progress in attack N to seize crossings of Vezouse R. near Fremonville, E of Blamont; enemy fire becomes intense. Second Fr Armd Div units are shifted to cover both flanks of 79th Div and protect its rear. Rcn elements of CCR take Nonhigny after brief fight and other elements capture Montreux, 1 mile to the S, after a stiff fight.

VI Corps High ground N of Raon l'Etape is taken by 397th Inf, 100th Div, which meets with little resistance there, though enemy arty fire is heavy in other parts of its sector. Three heavy counterattacks are beaten off by 399th Inf. In forest area W of St. Die, 103d Div enters combat for first time. Attack commences at 0900 after 15-min. arty preparation. The 411th Inf attacks through 410th Inf in region directly W of St. Die and is held up by heavy automatic weapons fire along road SE from la Bolle. In S of Div sector, 409th Inf attacks across Taintrux R. and in 3 hrs. has captured Hill 623, 3 miles SW of St. Die, taking 50 PWs. Elements farther to the R meet heavy mortar and automatic weapons fire and inf resistance in and around village of Chevry. The 410th Inf supports Div attack with arty fire and smoke screen. Thirty-sixth advances SE against light opposition; 142d Inf occupies Rennegoutte, W of Corcieux.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div makes slight progress against violent arty and mortar fire in approaching Genardmer from W on Corps L flank. Contact is maintained with 36th Div (VI U.S. Corps).

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

I Corps On Corps N flank 2d Mor Div has advanced about half the distance between Frederic-Fontaine and Belfort. Enemy opposition in Arcey-Ste. Marie area is broken up by bitter combat, with tanks of 5th Armd Div assisting 2d Mor Div in exploiting its gains. By end of afternoon, advance units of CC 4 have reached la Lisaine R. at Hericourt and Bussurel. CC 5 captures Ste. Marie after a stiff fight and pushes half way through Mont Bart Forest. CC 3 of 1st Armd Div captures Etouvans in Doubs bend. Ninth Col Div occupies Bourguignon and Roches les Blamont, N and NE of Pont de Roide, and to the E reaches the wooded area between Blamont and the Swiss border. Many enemy are killed in Grand Bois N of Vermondans by arty. Weather continues unfavorable for air support.

Alps Sector Weak arty activity. Bad weather makes liaison and communications very difficult.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC attacks secondary targets. Bombs marshaling yards at Heming, Strasbourg, and Molsheim. Claims include 8 locos, 45 boxcars, 3 trucks, and 4 88-mm. guns destroyed in Strasbourg-Brumath area.

17 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 121st Cav Sq moves through Bois de la Garenne toward Moussey. Patrols find Lagarde, beyond opposite (NW) end of woods, heavily mined and booby-trapped. Bois de la Garenne and Bois de la Baronne are mopped up by 114th Inf, 44th Div. Having moved to high ground W of Avricourt early in morning, elements of 324th Div attack at 0800 but are met by determined resistance and make little progress until afternoon when platoon of tanks and TDs is employed. Avricourt is taken by 1430; about 12 enemy MG nests destroyed in the town. Igney, 1 mile S of Avricourt, is seized by 71st Inf. Towns of Gondrexon, Autrepierre, and Amenoncourt, to the SW, are also taken. Very heavy enemy arty and MG fire prevents elements of 314th Inf, 79th Div, attacking N in area SE of Blamont from making much progress. Under protective arty barrage a bridge is completed at 2030 over

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group17
Cont

stream NE of Barbas. Further NE, bn of 315th Inf crosses Vezouse R. by 0930 and struggles to maintain a bridge-head against intense enemy cross fire. CCV of 2d Fr Armd Div takes over 400 PWs in vicinity of Badonviller. Against fierce resistance, the armd column pushes on NE to capture Bremenil. Other elements of the div enter Domevre from the S and follow 79th Div units NE toward Blamont. Rcn elements of CCR fight way into Parux, 2 miles E of Montreux, at dusk.

VI Corps Chevry and Taintrux, SW of St. Die, are taken by 409th Inf of 103d Div. Div consolidates positions on hill overlooking St. Die. Patrol enters St. Die and reports that enemy is leaving the city rapidly. As 142d RCT of 36th Div advances toward Gerardmer, elements become involved in house-to-house fighting in Mariemont, while others enter Barbey-Seroux without opposition. Patrols reach Corcieux. RCT 442 withdraws from the line. RCT 141 enters Liez y, about 3 miles ENE of le Tholy. Regrouping occupies 100th Div; 398th Inf assembles N of la Plaine R., about 1½ miles NE of Raon l'Etape.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps No change in front lines. Enemy has started numerous fires at Gerardmer. In 1st Inf Div sector enemy arty fire is received at Ronchamp, on extreme R flank.

I Corps Second Mor Div moves up on left (N) flank of attack zone. FFI assists in taking villages of Faymont, Lemont, and Courmont, N of Grange Forest. Fifth Armd Div's CC 6 attacks E from Berverne, 9 miles W of Belfort. Outer defenses of Belfort are breached. In center of 2d Mor Div's zone, action is extended northward by frontal attack on Secenans-Saulnot road axis and the taking of Champey, 3 miles NE of Saulnot. To the SE, CC 4, supported by 2d Mor Div inf elements, crosses Lisaine R. at Hericourt, Bissurel, and Bethoncourt. On S flank of div zone, near the Doubs R., CC 5, starting from Presentevillers, clears Dung, Allondans, Bart, and, after hard fighting, takes city and fort of Montbelliard. In Doubs R. bend, 9th Col Div, supported by CC3, 1st Armd

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Div, advances beyond Voujeaucourt-Mandeure bend S of Montbeliard. Between Doubs R. and Swiss border, troops find bridges across the Gland R. at Herimoncourt and Seloncourt. After a difficult crossing, CC2 and inf of 9th Col Div advance about 2 miles E and occupy Vandoncourt and Abbevillers by close of the day. Operations are supported by First French Air Corps. Over 2,000 prisoners are taken.

Alps Sector Sector calm. Weather conditions bad.

First TAF (Prov.) In support of XV Corps, fighter bombers attack enemy strongpoints of Igney and Foulcrey, as well as Blamont and Rechicourt. Planes supporting VI Corps bomb and strafe Hurbache, hill mass SE of la Voivre, marshaling yards near Rothau, enemy gun positions, a CP and strongpoint S of Moyermoutier, and area SW of St. Die. Six rail cuts made in Dannemarie-Altkirch area; 30 RR cars destroyed or damaged. Trucks strafed near Rougemont-le Chateau; 5 left burning. Direct hits made on trenches and other targets near Allenjoie. Eighteen Marauders of French Bombardment Wing bomb Neuenburg RR bridge but fail to put it out of use. Molsheim and Sarrebourg also bombed. Two direct hits made on mouth of tunnel SE of Sarrebourg.

18 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 106th Cav Sq attacks E at 0800, seizes Mousse, and assists 324th Inf, 44th Div, in clearing Rechicourt, 8 miles E of Parroy Forest and 5 miles N of Blamont. Advance of 71st Inf is carried directly E to point SE of Foulcrey and to Repaix. Bulk of 315th Inf, 79th Div, is across Vezouse R. by early morning. Enemy fire prevents further movement in daylight and troops are unable to move into woods N of river. Bn of 313th Inf relieves elements of 314th Inf SE of Balmont and enter the town, finding it clear of the enemy, who has blown all bridges. To the E, other elements of 314th Inf cross the Vezouse and enter town of Fremenville from the W; fighting continues there during night. With heavy fighting, CCV of 2d Fr Armd Div advances beyond Bréménil to Parux, then

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group18
Cont

attacks Petitmont, 2 miles to NE, taking it against strong resistance. On the L, coordinating its advance with that of CCV, CCR advances to Cirey-sur-Vecouse, where it is able to seize the bridges intact.

VI Corps Attack toward high ground SE of Raon l'Etape is launched by 100th Div. The 397th Inf moves through E edge of city and is stopped at outskirts by heavy fire from enemy entrenched in near-by quarry. To the NE, stiff opposition at la Plaine R. crossing near la Trouche permits only one co of 398th Inf to pass over to S side. In 3d Div sector, inf protection is ferried to E bank of Meurthe R. early in evening so engrs can begin bridge construction. In 103d Div sector, 411th Inf begins relief of front-line elements of 409th Inf and extends N flank to Lamnantille. Left flank elements of 36th Div approach heights overlooking St. Leonard and Anould and the Meurthe R. RCT 142 finishes clearing of Mariemont and finds Corcieux already clear. RCT 141 continues toward Gerardmer from direction of Granges.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps: Third Alg Div occupies Lebeillard, SE of Tholy and improves positions in Lansauchamp region. Several rounds of enemy arty fire fall on Ronchamp and Cornimont. Patrols are at shore of Lake Gerardmer, and la Bresse, 5 miles S of Gerardmer, is taken.

I Corps: W and SW of Belfort, 2d Mor Div captures Chenobier, Chagey, Luze, Vaudois, and Banvillars. There is hard fighting at fort on massif of Mont Vaudois. To the SE, in area N of Montbeliard, elements of 5th Armd Div push N along road to Belfort, liberating villages on W side up to and including Chatenois-les Forges. Units of 9th Col Div mop up bend of the Doubs S of Montbeliard. Other elements of this div, with attachments of 2 combat commands from 1st Armd Div, 6th RTM from 4th Mtn Div, and the 9th Zouaves, advance 7 miles through the Belfort Gap between the Vosges and Jura mountain ranges--the Rhine-Rhone Canal on their L and the Swiss border on their R, capturing Etupes, Feches les Chatel, Morvillars, Grandvillars, Joncherey, and Delle. Bridges over the Allaine

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

R. are taken intact at Delle and Morvillars. CC 1 of 1st Armd Div has been attached to 1st Inf Div and moved to latter's sector in II Corps zone.

Alps Sector Calm day. Ren more active. Arty fire by both sides, though still on reduced scale due to sleet.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC bombs 3 ammo dumps and destroys 15 vehicles in Sarrebourg-Saverne-St. Die area; 10 boxcars vic Molsheim destroyed; 2 locos and 15 boxcars near Boxwiller; 3 locos damaged near Hauenau; rail cuts made in Saverne area. Fighter bombers supporting XV Corps attack enemy installations at Foulcrey, Hattigny, Richeval, Fraquelfing, Ibigny, and St. Georges, and RR equipment and gun positions in enemy rear areas. Aircraft supporting VI Corps bomb and strafe enemy inf defenses along Clairfontaine--la Voivre road with excellent results. Villages of Himbaumont and le Viller are strafed, as are also towns of St. Jean d'Ormont, Menil, la Chapelle, and Denipaire.

19 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Immediate aim of Corps operations is to encircle enemy within its zone by seizing E exits of the Vosges passes between Dabo and la Petite Pierre. A complete breakthrough of the enemy's forward defense line before the Vosges is imminent and the enemy is disengaging and withdrawing into the Vosges forests. From positions SE of Foulcrey, 71st Inf of 44th Div attacks E at 1030, liberating villages of Ibigny, Richeval, St. Georges, Landange, and Neufmoulins--an advance of 6 miles. It is assisted in capture of St. Georges by elements of 324th Inf, which then turn N. Fremonville, E of Blamont, is cleared by elements of 314th Inf, 79th Div, and units on R flank pushing toward Richeval encounter only scattered MG and SA fire. Richeval is entered at about 1415 and regt turns E, taking Hattigny by 2100, after a fire fight. The 315th Inf moves up through Tanconville toward Hattigny. Fighting of past week has driven deep wedge into sector of German 708th Volksgrenadier Div. During morning, CCR of 2d Fr Armd Div enlarges Cirey bridgehead NE to Lafrimbole and Bertrambois. Advance elements are also at Hattigny,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group19
Cont

3½ miles N of Cirey. Advancing along Corps R flank, CCL is stopped by enemy barrier running from N of Lafrimbole to S of Niederhoff.

VI Corps On N flank of 100th Div, 117th Rcn Sq and 100th Rcn Tr occupy Neufmaisons, Pexonne, and Fenneville without opposition. The 397th Inf is still delayed by enemy resistance from stone quarry on edge of Raon l'Etape. The 398th Inf completes crossing of la Plaine R. and reaches high ground overlooking St. Prayel, which is 1 mile NW of Moyennoutier. Rear and L flank of div is protected by 399th Inf. Third Div continues preparations near St. Michel sur Meurthe. Foot-bridges are completed and troops cross during following night without interference. In 103d Div sector TF "H" (411th Inf) is created to hold line now held by 409th and 410th Regts and sends patrols to Meurthe R. along front S of Ste. Marguerite. On Div S flank, bn of 411th Inf assists 36th Div elements in attack through woods near Claingoutte, encountering many mines and booby traps. Thirty-sixth Div advances to E slightly; 143d RCT passes Sarupt, W of St. Leonard; 142d Inf moves SW from Corcieux area towards Gerbepal; 141st is clearing roads N and NW of Gerardmer. RCT 442. (-100th Bn) is moved to Nice, being relieved from attachment to VI Corps and attached to 44th AAA Brig. CCA of 14th Armd Div is attached to Corps as of 0600.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div continues to make progress eastward and occupies Gerardmer without resistance.

I Corps Second Mor Div, supported by 5th Armd Div, is within 3½ miles of Belfort, having captured Echenans, Dorans, and Bermont. First Armd Div spearheads attack towards Dannemarie from the SW.

Alps Sector Allos and St. Etienne de Tinee are officially placed within sector of 44th AAA Brigade.

First TAF (Prov.) Giving close support to Seventh Army, XII TAC claims for day include destruction of 75 vehicles, 22 HDV, 44 bldgs, 37 boxcars, and 15 locos. One ammo dump and 1 supply

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

dump are bombed in Sarrebourg-Saverne area. St. Jean d'Ormont and Robache are bombed and strafed. Warehouses at Selestat are blanketed by bombs.

20 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Engrs construct Bailey bridges over Vezouse R. at Domevre, Blamont, and Fremonville. On 44th Div N flank 324th Inf makes rapid advance, crossing Rhine-Marne Canal at 0830 and proceeding NE to take Langatte and assist 2d Fr Armd Div elements in seizing Haut-Clocher, a few miles NW of Sarrebourg. Forty-fifth Cav Rcn Tp, 45th Div, is temporarily attached to 44th Div to help protect Corps L flank, relieving 106th Cav Gp W of Etang de Rechicourt. Patrols of 106th Cav Gp reach Gondrexange. Advance NE of 71st Inf continues with even greater rapidity than on previous day. Xouaxange and Bebing are taken and Sarrebourg is attacked and cleared. Forty-fourth Div is moving too swiftly to permit of close air support. At 0730, 314th Inf of 79th Div attacks NE from Richeval-Hattigny area. Small pockets of resistance are cleared out near la Neuveville-les-Lorquin. Two miles NE, units find bridge across Sarre Rouge R. at Nitting too damaged for vehicles and under SA and mortar fire. Village of Nitting is cleared by 1800. On Div R flank, 315th Inf moves up behind the heavy Fr armd traffic, stopping at Niderhoff, 1 mile S of la Neuveville-les-Lorquin. The 313th Inf moves from Blamont to Niderhoff area. Niderhoff has been taken in vigorous dawn attack by the northern column of CCL, 2d Fr Armd Div, which then proceeds $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles ENE to Voyer. The southern column out-flanks anti-tank obstacle by turning eastward, crossing the Sarre Blanche. Hand-to-hand combat occurs in vicinity of the barrier. Resistance lessens after 1100 and the armd column reaches St. Quirin by 1400, then immediately presses on through Abreschviller and Walscheid to Dabo, a crossroads in a clearing in the midst of the Vosges forest, 5 miles S of the Marne-Rhine Canal. Hundreds of PWs are gathered up in the villages passed on the way. After moving to vicinity NW of Sarrebourg CCD is joined by 44th Div elements in taking Haut-Clocher, then proceeds NE and takes Sarraltroff.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group20
Cont

VI Corps The 100th Div completes occupation of hill SE of Raon l'Etape. Resistance at stone quarry on city outskirts is overcome and 397th Inf pushes on up the river to St. Blaise. Div and Corps arty, supplemented by direct fire of TD, tank, and SP AAA weapons, supports 5 bns of 3d Div which cross Meurthe R. before 0600 and launch coordinated attack E at 0645. Seventh Inf seizes heavily mined la Voivre and continues advance. Thirtieth Inf takes la Hollande and Himbaumont, receiving considerable SA fire, then begins clearing Clairfontaine. Enemy reaction in general is weak. In afternoon 7th Inf enters Hurbache. Two 103d Div regts move to Biarville area and follow 7th Inf of 3d Div across the Meurthe R. during the night. Bridges are in use by 3d Div and ammo and supplies for 103d Div units must be hand-carried across a single foot bridge. To the S, 143d Inf units of 36th Div occupy St. Leonard-Anould sector along Meurthe R., with some detachments across the river on high ground. Elements of 141st Inf which have moved N up Gerardmer-Gerbepal road meet 142d Inf units moving E through Gerbepal.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Advance carries E of Gerardmer on Corps N flank and through Plancher and Champagney on the S flank.

I Corps Units of 2d Mor Div enter Belfort. Advance elements of 1st Armd Div, pushing E of Dannemarie, have reached the Rhine at Huningue, NE of Basle. Most of St. Louis, near-by French suburb of Swiss city of Basle, is in hands of a Fr motorized rcn patrol, although enemy holds the section beyond the canal.

Alps Sector Active combat patrolling continues.

First TAF (Prov.) In support of VI Corps, XII TAC bombs and strafes enemy troop concentrations and strongpoints in area E of Meurthe R. and S of Moyenoutier. Fires are started in Hurbache. Towns of Himbaumont and St. Jean d'Ormont are also bombed and strafed. Claims for area of Saverne, St. Die, Colmar, Strasbourg, Speyer, include 18 vehicles, 4 TD, and 3 bldgs destroyed, and 9 vehicles, 2 TD, 1 car, and 7 bldgs damaged.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group21 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps On Corps N flank, 106th Cav Rcn Sq advances N against light resistance and occupies Goerlingen, Kirrberg, Baerendorf, and Hirschland, and 121st Cav Sq passes through it to the N to occupy Weyer, Eywiller, and Drulingen, cutting across lower portion of XII Corps front. Seventy-first Inf of 44th Div completes occupation of Sarrebourg. The 114th Inf is brought up from reserve to occupy high ground S of Sarrebourg; from here it advances NE, past Sarrebourg, to area S of Lixheim. The 324th Inf mops up Bois de Rinting, between Haut-Clocher and Kouaxange and later moves to positions E of Sarraltroff. Enemy is withdrawing across entire 44th Div front. At 0800, 314th Inf of 79th Div leaves Nitting and follows Fr armd units N on road to Hesse. Bridge over Rhine-Marne Canal at Hesse is seized intact and advance is continued on through Schneckenbusch and Niedervillar as far as St. Jean Kourtzerode. First Bn of 313th Inf is released to assist 2d Fr Armd Div by blocking W exits from the Vosges and guarding prisoners. Northern column of CCL, 2d Fr Armd Div, which halted at Voyer, and CCV are instructed to follow the southern column of CCL as rapidly as possible along the Dabo route through the Vosges, which is guarded by CCR and the motorized bn borrowed from 79th Div. Biberkirch, 2 miles NE of Voyer, is taken by a CCL task force after a violent fight in which 4 enemy tanks are destroyed. CCD is instructed to advance as fast as possible toward and through Saverne Pass. It reaches Maison Rouge, less than a mile W of Phalsbourg, where stiff resistance prevents further advance.

VI Corps The 100th Div attacks E through Moyermoutier, encountering no opposition, and advances over 2 miles farther, to just short of Senones, also on the Rabodeau R. Engrs working on bridges across the Meurthe R. are harassed by enemy mortar, arty, and occasional SA and MG fire from positions NE of St. Die. Third Div completes crossing of Meurthe R. Thirtieth Inf finishes clearing Clairfontaine. Hurbache, Denipaire, and St. Jean d'Ormont are occupied by 7th Inf, which overruns several enemy arty positions in rapid advance. Armd units cross Meurthe R. by trestle bridge near St. Michel for

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

21
Cont

attachment to 7th Inf. The 409th and 410th Regts of 103d Div attack through 7th Inf of 3d Div along front extending NE from St. Michel, on the river, to Hurbache, 2 miles E of the river. Resistance is light. By evening, 409th Inf, attacking E, has reached St. Jean d'Ormont, and 410th Inf, attacking SE, has captured hill mass immediately NW of St. Die. A task force is formed under 409th Inf for purpose of taking Steig Pass, 5 miles E of Bourg-Bruche. St. Leonard-le Souche-Anould sector along Meurthe R. is mopped up by 143d Inf of 36th Div. To the S, 141st Inf moves up to high ground overlooking Meurthe R. where it passes between Clofey and Plainfaing. CCA of 14th Armd Div moves along Rambervillers-Baccarat-Blamont-Cirey route.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Coordinating its advance with that of 36th Div (VI U.S. Corps), 3d Alg Div has advanced well beyond Nonrupt (E of Gerardmer) and is continuing toward the Pass of Schlucht. First Inf Div elements have reached Errevet, only 5 miles NW of Belfort.

I Corps Belfort is mopped up by 2d Mor Div, though small pocket of enemy resistance remains in SE edge of city. Advance units of div reach Hauteur de la Forge, NE of Belfort. Bulk of 9th Col Div is in position along Allaine R. between Morvillars and Delle. Violent German counter-attack toward Delle from the E and NE is in progress, enemy retaking Seppois and Suarce. There is also heavy fighting at Vellescot, 5 miles N of Delle. N of Vellescot, elements of 5th Armd Div cross Rhine-Rhone canal at Montreux Chateau and Eschene-Autrage. First Armd Div elements have occupied St. Louis and proceeded down W bank of Rhine to Swiss border. Thirteen miles N, other elements of 1st Armd occupy S and NE suburbs of Mulhouse and town of Hombourg to the E. Advance units of 9th Col Div, also, are in vicinity of Mulhouse.

Alps Sector Command of sector assigned to CG, 1st ABTF, passes to CG, 44th AAA Brigade, at 1800. Forty-fourth AAA Brigade will protect right (E) flank along Franco-Italian border S of Allos-St. Etienne de Tince-Cuneo line and establish contact with First French Army elements on the N.

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC destroyed 25 vehicles, 8 locos, 84 boxcars, 3 HDV, 1 bldg, and made rail cut in areas of Selestat-Lorquin-Haguenau.

22 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Advancing N, 106th Cav Gp takes over 100 prisoners and captures or destroys 1 tank, 1 armd car, 12 MT, and 11 guns; 121st Cav Sq moves N and E against light resistance to vicinity of Bettwiller, Durstel, and Tieffenbach. Advance elements of 44th Div are now at Schoenbourg, Eschbourg, and Hattmatt; latter is 17 miles E of Sarraltroff and about 5 miles NE of Saverne. Large number of prisoners taken at Vesheim, NW of Phalsbourg, by 114th Div, assisted by tanks. The 324th Inf meets harassing fire and light delaying actions in its advance from Sarraltroff to Schoenbourg. On 79th Div R flank, 315th Inf crosses Marne-Rhine Canal near St. Louis. Some light arty and scattered SA fire received, but main enemy forces are withdrawing into Saverne Gap. Elements of 314th Inf relieve French units at Mittelbronn, 1½ miles W of Phalsbourg. Second Fr Armd Div units pass Dabo after a short fight. Wolfsberg Pass is reached before noon, and at 1400 the first of the armd columns emerges on the Alsatian plain. Immediately turning N toward Saverne, it reaches Reinhardsmunster before night. Reutenbourg, midway between Saverne and Wasselonne, is held by attached bn of 313th Inf, 79th Div. CCV continues E, occupying Dimbsthal, Allenwiller, and Singrist. In the meantime, a column of CCD is stopped just W of Phalsbourg by strong enemy defenses. Farther N, another column moves through the Vosges by way of la Petite Pierre, 3½ miles N of Eschbourg, running into elements of German 361st Inf Div (retreating into the mountains before the XII Corps) and taking more than 1,200 PWs, as well as considerable materiel. At noon this column of CCD, having come down from Petite Pierre at record speed, meets CCL units on E outskirts of Saverne. An armd column of CCL at once starts W through the Saverne Pass to attack the Phalsbourg defenses from the rear. It takes the Quatre-Vents crossroads in heavy fighting and at day's

UNCLASSIFIED

131

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

22
Cont

end is only 3 or 4 miles from the blocked CCD units W of Phalsbourg. During following night, Div units are re-grouped in preparation for attack on Strasbourg. It is decided to terminate Phalsbourg engagement and concentrate all efforts on taking Strasbourg defenses in surprise assault, by-passing resistance on the way and paying little attention to prisoners except to disarm them. An attempt will be made to take the Kehl bridge, E of Strasbourg. Forty-fifth Div, VI Corps, and CCA of 14th Armd Div are attached to XV Corps. RCT 179 of 45th Div and CCA are in Cirey and St. Quirin area, prepared to cross Vosges Mountains to Romanswiller and Barenbach.

VI Corps TF Fooks is organized under 100th Div to press forward up the Rabodeau R. valley. Mined road blocks on outskirts of Senones at once slow down the advance, but elements of 397th Inf pass through the TF and, by-passing the core of enemy resistance, advance under heavy mortar, SA, and automatic weapons fire, occupying la Petite Raon, 1 mile NE of Senones, and Vieux Moulin to the S. Other elements of this regt take Senones against heavy enemy fire. Third Div advances rapidly. Following TF Whirlwind of 15th Inf, 30th Inf occupies Grandrupt and moves toward St. Blaise and Saales; la Fontenelle, Laitre, le Rouax, and St. Jean d'Ormont have been liberated. Seventh Inf overruns enemy force of about 50 at Nayemont. It is evident that enemy forces are badly disorganized and lack an adequate communications net. The 103d Div progresses rapidly SE. La Petite Fosse, 5 miles NW of St. Die is captured by 409th Inf; 410th Inf seizes Culotte, Pont des Raids, and Robache. Some resistance is met by 410th Inf at la Vigne Henri, and 409th receives heavy SA and automatic weapons fire from Dijon village. The 411th Inf forces a crossing of Meurthe R. near Saulcy, 2 miles S of St. Die and establishes a bridgehead after bitter fighting. In the meantime, reserve elements of 409th Inf have entered St. Die from the N with no resistance. Seven miles S of St. Die, 141st Inf of 36th Div crosses Meurthe R. near Fraize, only to be forced back to Clefcy by heavy SA and mortar fire. CCA of 14th Armd Div attacks SE from Cirey area in the direction of Barenbach, down the valley du Blanc Rupt. Forces are delayed by defended road block only 5 miles E of Cirey. During afternoon, CCA is relieved

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

from attachment to VI Corps and attached to XV Corps in position.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Second Mor Div assigned to this Corps effective 0001. Occupation of Belfort, in S of Corps sector, is completed. In the N, 3d Alg Div elements reach Retournemer, 5 miles E of Gerardmer, but progress is slow because of enemy mine fields. In center of sector, 1st Inf Div reaches points E of Giromagny.

I Corps A "Groupement d'exploitation" is formed to move N on Alsatian plain toward Strasbourg, mopping up remaining enemy forces and seizing Rhine bridges found intact, as well as blocking Vosges valleys entering the plain on its L. Mulhouse and Baldersheim are occupied. Fifth Armd Div repulses a counterattack in Suarce-Dannemarie area and regains some of ground lost on previous day.

Alps Sector No change.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC attacks troop concentrations and trenches in close support to Seventh Army. Claims 36 vehicles, 1 loco, 20 boxcars, and 1 bldg damaged in St. Die area and 1 loco and 3 bldgs destroyed in Wissembourg area, where two marshaling yards are bombed.

23 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy counterattack in late afternoon forces elements of 106th Cav Gp to withdraw from Eschwiller and Eyewiller. Since attack threatens security of Corps CP at Sarrebourg, the town is outposted by bazooka teams and Hqs personnel is organized for defense. Lixheim, new 44th Div CP location, is shelled by enemy. Elements of 324th Inf capture enemy supplies and many prisoners in advance through Eschbourg-Dossenheim Pass; Griesbach, 6½ miles NE of Saverne, is reached. Rcn elements are as far N as Petersbach, about 3 miles E of Drulingen. Germans have evacuated Phalsbourg during night. Seventy-ninth Div's 314th Regt moves E over Saverne Pass and

UNCLASSIFIED

133

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

23,
Cent

closes in assembly area near Saverne. The 315th Inf moves into Vosges forest E of Henridorf, clearing Dannelbourg, Lutzelbourg, and area S of the gap, including Garreboung. Blown bridges and abandoned road blocks are chief obstacles encountered. The 313th Inf (-1st Bn) helps protect Fr supply route in Hazelbourg vicinity, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S of Henridorf. Four armd columns of 2d Fr Armd Div commence dash for Strasbourg at 0700. While CCR makes a diversionary attack toward Wasselonne and blocks Wangenbourg crossroads in Vosges forest to the W, two columns of CCL approach Strasbourg from the NW and two columns of CCV near it from the SW. By 0900, the southern column of CCL has come in contact with outer defenses of the city and is brought to a stop by a strong anti-tank barrier. At 1000 the two columns of CCV are halted before the same defenses. At 1030 the northern column of CCL reports that it is in Strasbourg and on its way to the Kehl bridge. Latter is defended by casemated fortifications which stop the column a few hundred yards short of its goal with very heavy AT fire. CCV breaches the anti-tank barrier at 1300 and overruns the S part of the city. First Bn of 313th Inf, 79th Div, assists it in clearing of Neudorf district. By evening most of Strasbourg is in hands of 2d Fr Armd Div. In the meantime, CCR has taken Wasselonne and occupied positions on the crests SE of it. RCT 179 of 45th Div reaches Wasselonne, after traversing Vosges Mountains, and patrols to the S. CCA, 14th Armd Div, is delayed by numerous road blocks in passing through the Vosges forests along axis of advance paralleling Blanc Rupt valley.

VI Corps Enemy resistance slackens as 397th Inf of 100th Div leads Div drive E, from the Rabodeau R. valley, and the advance is hampered only by sniper fire, road blocks, and mines. Towns of Belval and St. Blaise are taken. TF Fooks remains behind, delayed by road blocks and craters, and is at le Vermont, 3 miles SE of la Petite Raon, at nightfall. Third Div occupies Saulxures, St. Blaise, and Saales and is fighting from house to house in Bourg-Bruche in the evening. The 409th Inf of 103d Div completes the clearing of St. Die, occupies Provencheres, and moves E along Ville road as far as Colroy le Grande. The 410th Inf reaches line Frapelle-Neuvillers, so that large

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

mountain mass NE of St. Die is now completely secured. On S flank, 411th Inf reaches line Coinches--la Croix-aux-Mines. Thirty-sixth Div's 143d Inf clears Venchères and Mandray. Latter is reached by elements of 142d Inf during afternoon as they move from vicinity of Sarupt toward Ban-de-Laveline. Against moderate resistance, elements of 141st Inf advance from vicinity of Clefcy toward high ground overlooking Plainfaing and from Ancould area to NW outskirts of Fraize.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div captures le Thillot. Strong resistance is met in advance toward Schlucht Pass. First Inf Div captures Chateau-Lambert, S of le Thillot, and advances past Ballon d'Alsace. Enemy situation in Mulhouse-Belfort area continues fluid.

I Corps First Armd Div occupies Ballersdorf, 2 miles E of Dannemarie, and Morschwiller le Bas, W of Mulhouse. Enemy counterattack throws the French out of Ensisheim, Battenheim, Sausheim, and Hombourg, points N and E of Mulhouse.

Alps Sector No change.

24 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 106th Cav Gp, holding line Struth-Asswiller-Drulingen, is heavily engaged all day in stemming strong inf-tank attacks from the N, especially in 106th Cav Sq sector on the L. On the R, 121st Cav Sq elements are forced back from Durstel to Asswiller, and Tieffenbach, also, must be vacated. Elements in Drulingen receive large volume of enemy arty fire. Assistance is given by 4th Armd Div, which has entered XV Corps territory to avoid unfavorable terrain W of Fenetrance in advance on Sarre-Union. Elements of 71st Inf, 44th Div, are driven from Rauwiller by enemy inf and tanks. Remainder of line along Div N flank is maintained unmolested. Other elements of 71st Inf establish defensive positions E of the Vosges in vicinity of Neuwiller. Div's new mission is to protect

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group24
Cont

rear (N) flank of XV Corps, extending NE from Phalsbourg to Griesbach. Shortly after midnight, 313th Inf of 79th Div commences to move E of the Vosges Mountains, from Hommarting area through Saverne Pass to vicinity of Brumath, 10 miles NNW of Strasbourg. The 314th Inf leaves Saverne area later in morning and is attacked 5 times by German planes while en route to assembly area E of Brumath. The 315th Inf marches through the gap to Saverne and entrucks there for area N of Brumath. A limited attack is necessary to dislodge enemy troops from Rottelsheim and enemy still holds Kriegsheim, immediately E of Rottelsheim. Div rcn elements reach points 6 miles E of Brumath, beyond rail line to Bischwiller, and block Weyersheim-Gambshheim road. Elements of CCR, 2d Fr Armd Div, move into Breuschwickersheim area W of Strasbourg, with purpose of preventing enemy from crossing Bruche Canal between Ernolsheim and Wolfsheim. Patrols find Molsheim unoccupied. Cleaning up of Strasbourg is completed and Div regroups. Losses inflicted upon the enemy by Gen Leclerc's forces in this very brief Alsatian campaign include 200 killed and 12,500 taken prisoners, and the destruction or capture of 16 Mark V or VI tanks, 23 Mark IV tanks, 800 half-tracks or armored vehicles, 8 SP guns, 120 AT guns, and 38 other large guns. The three regts of 45th Div take up front-line positions in widely separated sectors. RCT 179, which moved S from Romansviller area, is attacking Mutzig. The 180th Inf is moved from Bains les Bains rest area to Gougenheim, 7 miles NE of Wasselonne. On the other side of the Vosges, 157th Inf assembles in area NW of Sarrebourg, near Haut-Clocher. The 45th Cav Rcn Tr reverts to Div control. CCA of 14th Armd Div, progressing slowly through St. Quirin Forest, approaches Bruche R.

VI Corps Attacking NE in the Plaine R. valley, 117th Rcn Sq and elements of 398th Inf, 100th Div, pass Celles, Bionville, Allarmont, Vexaincourt, Luvigny, and Raon sur Plaine. Little enemy resistance remains in 100th Div zone; only sniper fire and mines hamper front-line elements. The 399th Inf passes through the 397th to take lead in attack NE toward Grandfontaine-Schirmeck road. Both 3d and 100th Divs are now attacking along the Bruche R. Towns of Plaine, Diesbach, and Fouday are captured during the day. Third Div advance NE and E

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group24
Cont

continues at rapid rate. In addition to Saulxures, towns of Nouveau Saales and le Han have been liberated. All regts overcome stubborn resistance of a local nature. Bourg-Bruche is cleared by 7th Inf against stiff resistance. During the night, 7th Inf elements capture 51 PWs in SA and MG fire fight about 2 miles N of Bourg-Bruche. Fouday receives 200 rounds of light enemy arty. NE of Lubine, 409th Inf of 103d Div comes up against well defended enemy position running N and S from Ranrupt around Climont Mt., through Fouillaupre gorge, and on to the S. The 410th Inf continues rapid advance, taking Ordon and Lusse, S of Colroy le Grande. The 411th Inf clears Ste. Marguerite and takes high ground NE of Combrimont. The enemy is surrendering in considerable numbers. The 142d Inf of 36th Div reaches Ban-de-Laveline and secures it with little resistance, then proceeds to take Wisembach, 2 miles NE. Fraize, 2 miles S of Mandray and on Meurthe R., is cleared by 141st Inf after overcoming moderate enemy resistance. Other elements occupy Scarupt. RCT 143 combats enemy harassing detachment above le Chipak-la Croix sector of road from Fraize to Bans-de-Laveline.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div is meeting stiff resistance E of Konrupt. First Inf Div captures Sewen, 8 miles SE of le Thillot, takes Petit-Magny, 6 miles S of Sewen, and continues drive E toward Masevaux. Second Mor Div is holding sector along Savoureuse R. from Belfort to Rhine-Rhone Canal.

I Corps Ninth Col Inf occupies Bourogne, 5 miles SE of Belfort and holds Rhine-Rhone Canal line S of Belfort. Fifth Armd Div regains all ground lost except Dannemarie. Enemy continues to infiltrate, reaching Rechesy, near Swiss border. Fr attack on Magny, SW of Dannemarie, is suspended because of heavy resistance. First Armd Div occupies Aspach, near Altkirch (E of Dannemarie). German troops are crossing Rhine S of Kembs, where they hold bridgeheads.

Alps Sector RCT 442 relieves 19th Armd Inf Bn, under the 44th AAA Brigade.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group25 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Strong enemy tank and inf attack strikes 106th Cav Sq near Schalbach. Elements of 121st Cav Sq are forced to withdraw from Tieffenbach to Struth, as enemy infiltrates to rear. RCT 157 of 45th Div is temporarily attached to 44th Div. Enemy inf and tanks counterattack 114th Inf positions at 0900. Near Metting, 4 miles W of Eschbourg, 17 enemy tanks attack the soldiers in their foxholes. Enemy forces withdraw before noon, after making slight local gains in two attacks and losing 6 tanks to TD and arty fire. Seventy-ninth Div patrols find enemy laying mines in front of Kriegsheim during night. Arty fire is placed on the village. Four miles to the E, a bn of 313th Inf attacks Gries in the afternoon, meeting moderate resistance from SA fire. Enemy withdraws from this town then fires into it from tanks. Witbruch, between Kriegsheim and Gries, is occupied. In the meantime, elements of 315th Inf assault Kriegsheim, which enemy defends with AT guns, howitzers, and mortars. Kriegsheim is taken by 1500, however. Motorized patrols of 314th Inf reconnoiter area between Brumath-Strasbourg line and the Rhine. Second Fr Armd Div maintains strong ren patrols in Strasbourg area. CCL attacks Fort Ney, NE of city, which surrenders only after receiving heavy arty concentrations. Over 600 PWs taken include the German Military Governor of Strasbourg. On opposite side of city, CCV captures garrison of Fegersheim. On Corps S flank, 179th Inf of 45th Div successfully attacks enemy's Mutzig position. Resistance in area before the forts N of Mutzig is broken and Heiligenberg is captured. The 157th Inf is attached to 44th Div. NW of Strasbourg many PWs are captured by 180th Inf, which maintains contact with 2d Fr Armd Div in Strasbourg and with 79th Div in Brumath. Practically no enemy resistance left between Gougenheim and the Marne-Rhine Canal. CCA of 14th Armd Div is relieved from attachment to this corps and attached to VI Corps.

VI Corps The 399th Inf of 100th Div moves on about 7 miles NE, through Freconrupt, Vacquenoux, Wackenbach, Schirmeck, Lutzelhouse, Urmatt, Niederhaslach, and

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group25
Cont

Oberhaslach. Patrol from 398th Inf enters Grandfontaine. Third Div continues rapid advance E, clearing several towns and proceeding N and E along the la Bruche Valley road. Thirtieth Inf units attacking NE from Barembach seize Russ and are fighting in Grendelbruch at end of day. In maneuver to outflank well-defended Provencheres-Lubine-Ville road, 103d Div attacks E: N of the road the 411th Inf advances E, while S of it the 410th Inf attacks along the hilltops; 409th Inf attacks positions in the pass area itself, with TF Hanes coming up through Saales and Bourg-Bruche on the northern approach to Ville and meeting stubborn resistance. RCT 411 meets strong opposition from enemy entrenched on Mt. Climont, 2 miles SE of Bourg-Bruche. On Div S flank, 410th Inf takes town of la Parice, after about 300 enemy Russians have withdrawn from the area, and proceeds on E over mountain trail toward Fouchy, which is seized before nightfall. Thirty-sixth Div troops reach edge of Plainfaing, while other elements to the NE are approaching Ste. Marie aux Mines from the N and W.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div is meeting stiff resistance E of Xenrupt. Boundary between 3d Alg Div and 1st Inf Div is moved from N to S of Moselle R., the 3d Alg Div taking over le Thillot area. First Inf Div advances rapidly and occupies St. Germain and Lachapelle-sous Rougemont on Highway 83, having attacked them by way of Rougemont le Chateau, 8 miles NE of Belfort. Second Mor Div elements hold line Vetrigne-Perouse-Meroux, running from N to S, immediately E of Belfort. Rapid advance of the 1st Inf Div has caused Germans to withdraw from forts E of Belfort and to fight a delaying action while in flight, abandoning line of the Savoureuse R. German defenses W of the upper Rhine are fast becoming chaotic; the German Nineteenth Army is badly mangled.

I Corps Fifth Armd Div mops up enemy infiltrations into Rechesy. Counterattack forces 1st Armd Div elements back to Habshcim, 3 miles SE of Mulhouse, on W edge of Harth Forest.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Alps Sector ETOUSA directs prompt movement of airborne elements of 1st ABTF to Soissons, Lyon, and Mourmelon.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC attacks dug-in tanks near Weyer, destroys 15 vehicles, 2 tanks, 2 AA guns, 1 ponton bridge, 10 ME-109s and 1 FW-190 (in Strasbourg area), and 1 loco, and effects 2 rail cuts S of Sarre-Union and 2 in western Germany.

26 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Units of 106th Cav Gp have moved E through the Vosges to area SE of Ingwiller. Elements still W of the Vosges contact 4th Armd Div forces of XII Corps in Rauwiller, Schalbach, and Drulingen. Also W of the Vosges, 1st Bn of 157th Inf, 45th Div, attached to 71st Inf of 44th Div, counterattacks enemy at Rauwiller and with support of a tank co retakes town by 0930. Remainder of 44th Div forces reorganize positions and patrol to the front. Forty-fifth Div units E of the Vosges organize defenses in Bouxwiller area, 8-10 miles NE of Saverne, with object of preventing enemy from withdrawing to the E from Vosges passes from Rhine-Marne Canal N to Ingwiller. Considerable harassing arty fire falls throughout 79th Div sector. Enemy troops are reported moving into Haguencau and Bischwiller. Rcn patrols of 2d Fr Armd Div sent SW to Giespolsheim, Fegersheim, Eschau, and Graffenstaden report area clear. CCR and CCV capture bridges across Bruche Canal and Mill R. About 1500 PWs taken during day.

VI Corps The 100th Div withdraws from VI Corps front and prepares to move N to Sarrebourg vicinity, where it will relieve elements of 44th Div, XV Corps. Fifteenth Inf of 3d Div moves from Schirmeck to Mutzig and takes latter after SA fire fight. Thirtieth Inf advances E from Wisches to Rosheim, Boersch, and Ottrott. Elements of 15th and 7th Regts are moving into Strasbourg area. The 411th Inf of 103d Div passes Climent on the S; some of its troops are pinned down by automatic weapons fire from Mt. Climent. Regt moves by forest trail to attack Steige and Maisongoutte, which are captured after heavy street and house-to-house fighting. The 409th Inf attacks

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group26
Cont

E on Provencheres-Lubine-Fouchy road against many pill-boxes and defended road blocks. At Lubine it receives mortar, arty, and SP fire, but pushes on toward Fouchy. TF Hanes on N flank takes la Salcee after a bitter fight. After overcoming numerous barricades and doing some hard fighting, 1st Bn of 410th Inf, attacking in conjunction with TF Hanes, takes Ville, under heavy enemy arty fire from surrounding hills. In SW sector of Corps front, 141st Inf of 36th Div relieves elements of 143d Inf in le Chipal and attacks heights S of Fraize. Plainfaing is entered without opposition. RCT 142 reduces stubborn road block and captures Ste. Marie-aux Mines and Ste. Croix; the 143d Inf assembles in this sector along N flank of div.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div captures Ventron, 2 miles SE of Cornimont, Col d'Oderen, about 2 miles farther SE, and Bussang, 4 miles S of Ventron. To the S, 1st Inf Div advances to Dolleren, Niederbruck, Masevaux, and vicinity of Lauw. Second Mor Div captures all remaining Belfort forts and reaches general line Rougemont-Bessoncourt.

I Corps First Armd Div captures Heimsbrunn and Galfingue, 5 miles SW of Mulhouse, and Didenheim, 2 miles SW of city.

Alps Sector No change.

Western French Forces German counterattack in La Rochelle area causes French forces to withdraw slightly in area E of Aigrefeuilles.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC destroys 1 loco and 20 boxcars N of Rastatt, 4 boxcars at Ansbach, 3 vehicles, 1 trailer, 1 half-track, and 1 loco near Edenkoben; makes single rail cuts at Selestat, E of Neuf Brisach, and Kaltenhouse, and 4 rail cuts E of Haguenau. An additional 29 boxcars are destroyed or damaged. Eight enemy aircraft are destroyed on ground and 1 FW-190 and 1 ME-262 probably destroyed in the air.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group27 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 157th RCT is released from attachment to 44th Div and reverts to 45th Div (VI Corps). At 1500, 71st RCT of 44th Div is attached to the 4th Armd Div of XII Corps. Other elements of 44th Div W of the Vosges conduct aggressive patrolling to the front. Troops of 100th Div, which is transferred from VI to XV Corps, relieve 324th RCT in afternoon at eastern exit of Eschbourg-Dossenheim pass through the Vosges and are attached to 45th Div. (The 324th Inf is moved back to assembly area near Brouviller; its 2d Bn leaves Strasbourg area where it has been attached to 2d Fr Armd Div and moves to rejoin it.) Other elements of 100th Div are in Sarrebourg area. Forty-fifth Div advances over 3 miles in eastern foothills of the Vosges. Niedersoultzbach, SE of Weinbourg, is attacked by 179th Inf against moderate resistance and occupied. Small counterattack from direction of Moder R. is repulsed. The 157th Inf attacks NE from Weiterswiller area toward Weinbourg, which is cleared after a brief engagement. Seventy-ninth Div patrols report that enemy holds Kilstett, Gamsheim, Birckwald, and towns directly E of Morschviller, and that mines have been sown on Div L flank between Hochstett and Mommenheim and on the R flank between Weyersheim and Kurtzenhausen. Second Fr Armd Div passes to VI Corps.

VI Corps The 100th Div moves to Sarrebourg and joins XV Corps. Third Div has come out on Rhine plain from la Bruche R. valley. Seventh Inf relieves 2d Fr Armd Div in W outskirts of Strasbourg. Thirtieth Inf gathers up enemy straggler groups in its sector. The 411th Inf of 103d Div clears le Hohwald and continues advance toward Barr, hampered by road blocks and 88-mm. fire. Units of 409th Inf engaged in house-to-house fighting in Dieffenbach and Neuve-Eglise during night. Other elements run into heavily defended road blocks just NW of Triembach. Attacking E and SE from Ville and St. Martin, 410th Inf receives considerable enemy arty fire. Albe, 1 mile NNE of Ville, is seized after heavy fighting, and units proceed E toward Bernardville. The 103d Div is to hold a line from Obernai S through Barr to St. Pierre

UNCLASSIFIED

143

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

28
Cont

and Tiefenbach. In afternoon, line is seized along RR N of Tiefenbach. Enemy mortar, arty, and MG fire received from high ground to the N. Forty-fifth Div attacks to establish line between Rothbach and Mertzwiller, N of Moder R. The 157th Inf attacks NE from Ingwiller and reaches vicinity S of Rothbach. The 179th Inf crosses Moder R. and occupies Menchhoffen, Schillersdorf, Nieffern, and Muhlhausen (2 miles SE of Rothbach), after several sharp SA fire fights and sometimes under considerable mortar and tank fire. The 180th Inf also crosses Moder R. Enemy SA, mortar, MG, and tank fire received from vicinity of Kindwiller. Farther E along the river there is strong SA and MG fire from Pfaffenhoffen. Enemy has only screening forces in area N of Ingwiller, beyond edge of Vosges forest N of Moder R., but offers real resistance farther E, particularly around Pfaffenhoffen. Elements of 79th Div attack at noon from Berstheim-Wahlenheim-Rottelsheim area, their objective the S bank of the Moder R., but are soon held up by stubborn enemy defense of the villages of Batzendorf and Wintershouse, 4 miles SW of Haguenau. Batzendorf is taken after 5 hours of fighting. On the L, however, a bn reaches Uhlwiller, 5 miles W of Haguenau. At 1325, 314th Inf attacks N from Weitbruch, 3 miles E of Rottelsheim, in effort to outflank enemy at Niederschaeffolsheim from the E and is at once met by heavy SA fire from town of Birckwald and from woods to N and NE. Birckwald is seized by 1410 and positions are taken up in the woods before dark. Fourteenth Armd Div (-CCA) is attached to XV Corps at noon.

VI Corps Seventh Inf of 3d Div takes over command of Kehl bridge defensive sector from 2d Fr Armd Div and patrols section of Strasbourg. Enemy arty interdictory fire received at E edge of city. Fifteenth Inf guards bridges over Ill R. and Rhone-Rhine Canal. NE of Strasbourg, small but well-armed, dug-in enemy force defends Gamsheim; enemy mortar and flat trajectory fire received at Kilstett by patrols of 117th Cav Rcn Sq. RCT 409 of 103d Div continues fight at Dieffenbach, where enemy units have been reinforced during night. Elements of 410th Inf at Howarth are pinned down by heavy SA and mortar fire from the N. The 411th Inf enters outskirts

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED



Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

28
Cont

of Barr and Andlau, reaching the Rhine plain. Both towns are vigorously defended. RCT 142 of 36th Div clears Musloch, enters Liepvre, 5 miles S of Ville, without opposition, and goes on to occupy high ground farther E. The 142d Inf pushes on in two columns, E toward la Vancelle and SE to Koenigsbourg Chateau. Resistance increases in 141st RCT sector, with SA fight at Col de Bonhomme. Second Fr Armd Div attacks SW from Strasbourg in two columns. CCD advances SW toward Benfeld and Gerstheim, along the main roads, and after overcoming obstacle of two blown bridges reaches Erstein, which is defended by estimated 500 enemy armed with MG, bazookas, and light AT guns. There is also heavy fighting at Osthause, Uttenheim, and Schaeffersheim, to the SW and W of Erstein. CCR attacks S from Obernai-Meistratzheim area and captures Zellwiller after stiff fighting. North of Erstein, CCA of 14th Armd Div is stopped by intense enemy resistance: 62d BCT loses 3 half tracks, 2 M4 tanks, 10 trucks and trailers, and one 57-mm. gun, and is forced to withdraw 3 miles to Hindisheim; 25th BCT is forced to withdraw N of the blown bridge outside the town. Nine miles to the W, other elements of CCA attack S to reach Barr, where 103d Div troops are contacted. Fighting within Barr becomes heavy, as U.S. tanks advancing down the narrow streets receive enemy bazooka fire from basement positions.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy resistance stiffens at Bussang and Oderen Passes. Many mine fields and road blocks delay progress in Vosges area. First Inf Div, advancing toward St. Amarin, on the Thur R., 15 miles NW of Mulhouse, occupies heights of Rimbach woods. Second Mor Div overcomes resistance in region of Lachapelle-sous Rougemont and occupies Mortzwiller and Soppe-le Haut to the NE. Crossing St. Nicholas stream, it takes Vauthiermont, Eteimbes, and Bellemagny, SE of Lachapelle. Enemy counterattack is repelled at Lauw. Elements of 2d Mor Div contact elements of 1st Armd Div at Soppe-le Bas and Burnhaupt-le Haut, cutting off large salient between Lauw and Heimsbrunn and extending S to Dannemarie.

UNCLASSIFIED



Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

I Corps Ninth Col Div proceeds with mopping up of all area S of the Rhone-Rhine Canal. Div captures Magny and Romagny, SW of Dannemarie, advances to Rhone-Rhine Canal between Montreux and Dannemarie, and holds along line of Canal on S bank. Fifth Armd Div recaptures Dannemarie and to the N, across the Canal, takes Elbach, Traubach-le Bas, Uberkumen, Balschwiller, and Falkwiller, thus approaching Mulhouse from the SW. First Armd Div in conjunction with 5th Armd Div occupies Enschingen, Ammerzwiller, Spechbach le Haut, Bernwiller, and part of Spechbach woods. NW of Mulhouse, Corps forces are on S outskirts of Lutterbach.

Alps Sector The 100th Inf Bn, RCT 442, relieves First Special Service Force on Franco-Italian front.

Western French Forces Germans evacuate Aigrefeuille, SE of La Rochelle.

First TAF (Prov.) XII TAC carries out one mission against Neuf-Brisach RR bridge, damaging it with 2 hits. Boat bridges are attacked at Rhinau and Schoenau, farther downstream, with no noticeable result.

29 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps RCT 71 of 44th Div is relieved from attachment to 4th Armd Div (XII Corps), but continues to give it close support. The 114th Inf attacks and captures Tieffenbach. Forty-fifth Div's 157th Inf, at edge of woods on E side of Vosges, advances NE to capture Rothbach and Ottwiller. In center of div zone, 179th Inf mops up Muhlhausen and is fighting in Uhrwiller at end of day. The 180th Inf, on Div R flank, has advanced along Moder R. to Ueberach and Grassendorf, which it enters, although Pfaffenhoffen and Kindwiller still hold out firmly against attacking forces. Elements of 314th Inf, 79th Div, attacking Niederschaeffolsheim, 3 miles SW of Haguenu, find little opposition and take the town by 0930, then in afternoon continue attack to NW and capture Harthausen, after running into somewhat more opposition. Other elements, in the woods to the E, find enemy well dug in

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group29
Cont

at crossroads NE of Niederschaeffolsheim. Bn which seizes crossroads is forced back by enemy counterattack supported by 2 tanks. The 315th Inf mops up in Batzendorf and Wintershouse and elements attacking N from latter take village of Ohlungen without difficulty, though met by scattered mortar and flat trajectory fire. At 1800, 1st Bn, 313th, reverts to Div when relieved of duty in Strasbourg with 2d Fr Armd Div.

VI Corps Seventh and 15th Regts of 3d Div maintain defensive positions W of Rhine R. in vicinity of Kehl bridge. A bn of 30th Inf is attached to 2d Fr Armd Div. Other elements of 30th Inf move to Oberhausbergen, 3 miles NW of Strasbourg, to serve as tactical reserve. West bank of Rhine R. N of Strasbourg is outposted by 117th Cav Rcn Sq. Fighting near edge of Vosges forest in the vicinity of Barr, elements of 411th Inf of 103d Div take village of Andlau against stiff resistance, while other units of this regt mop up remaining resistance in Barr. The 409th Inf captures Thanville under heavy enemy arty fire, establishes road block S of town, and clears St. Pierre Bois. Dieffenbach is finally cleared after a 24-hour battle; 120 enemy are killed and 70 surrender. West of Itterswiller and S of Bernardsville, 410th Inf is engaged in fierce combat against a heavily armed, highly mobile enemy force based at Epfig. Within the Vosges, elements of 36th Div overcome an enemy road block 1500 yards E of Liepvre and 142d Inf secures la Vancelle, to the NE. Second Fr Armd Div repulses repeated counterattacks and occupies Erstein, Schaeffersheim, Uttenheim, and Osthouse, which remain under heavy enemy arty fire. Units of CCA, 14th Armd Div, occupy Gertwiller and pass through Barr, moving SW to outskirts of Mittelbergheim. Other elements occupy Zellwiller, SE of Barr. Road E of Zellwiller is covered with mines.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy still confronts 3d Alg Div with strong resistance in the Vosges. Div front now runs along N-S line from Lake Longemer to Rimbach. First Inf Div reaches Oberbruck and Wegscheid in area directly SW of Rimbach. Second Mor Div is in contact with friendly

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov.
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

armd units along general line of Lauw-Mortzwiller-Soppe le Haut. CC 6 of 1st Armd Div, under control of 2d Mor Div, is pushing in direction of Guewenheim, 10 miles W of Mulhouse. Enemy forces immediately S of Doller R. are being eliminated in course of hard fighting by I and II Corps troops, which have made contact on the Plateau of Burnhaupt.

I Corps Ninth Col Div cleans up wooded area between the Largue and the Ill Rivers and follows up the armd forces along the Rhone-Rhine Canal. W of Mulhouse, the enemy has withdrawn from the area S of Doller R. Fifth Armd Div has destroyed enemy forces N of Dannemaric and established contact with 1st Armd Div in Burnhaupt sector, holding line Soppe-le Bas---Diefmaten---Gildwiller. Many prisoners and much booty taken. First Armd Div holds line along Doller R. E of Burnhaupt to Mulhouse, has captured Reiningue, on N side of river, and elements have reached Kembs. A strong enemy counterattack at Lutterbach is stopped short by arty fire. Fourth Mtn Div mops up in Harth Forest E of Mulhouse.

Alps Sector II/1 Moroccan Rifle Regt is relieved at Ubaye by Maury Bn of 5th Demi-brigade. Usual patrol activity along front lines. During evening, the 442d RCT area near Sospel is heavily shelled, causing 4 casualties.

30 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps The 114th Inf of 44th Div, advancing N from assembly area S of RR, in the draw E of Tieffenbach, is hit with heavy SA, automatic weapon, arty, and mortar fire, as well as with 20-mm. flak, and troops are pinned down as they attempt to cross the RR. A bn gets across by 1515. Regt digs in for night in vicinity of Weisslingen, which is cleared before dark. Forty-fifth Div's 180th Inf continues fighting at Kindwiller. Fighting is also heavy at Bitschhoffen, a mile ESE. Enemy withdraws slightly however, in area directly S of these villages, where Pfaffenhoffen, la Walck, and Ueberach are cleared. To the NW, 179th Inf resumes attack from Muhlhausen and Uhrwiller, reaching edge of woods to NE. Stiff fire

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group30
Cont

fight develops N of Engwiller and several tank battles occur. Elements of 157th Inf work E and NE from vicinity of Offwiller. Enemy defends Zinswiller approaches vigorously; combat patrols encounter SA, MG, and flak fire. Elements of 397th Inf (100th Div) hold position along edge of Vosges forest in Sparsbach-Weinbourg area, about midway between Saverne and Zinswiller. Seventy-ninth Div's 314th Inf recaptures crossroads NE of Niederschaeffolsheim, despite heavy SA fire. From this point and from Harthausen it attacks through the woods toward Haguenau. Enemy SA fire is heavy, the arty and mortar fire moderate; enemy tanks appear in support of dug-in inf and 2 are knocked out during afternoon. Advance elements of 314th Inf reach opposite edge of woods. From Ohlungen, 315th Inf attacks Schweighausen, which lies at NW tip of woods in which 314th is fighting. This town is taken after all-day fight and it is found that enemy has blown bridges over the Moder R.

VI Corps Old Maginot Line fort N of Mutzig continues to resist elements of 30th Inf, 3d Div. Attacking on R flank of 103d Div, 409th Inf captures Dambach-la-Ville, 3½ miles E of Thanville, taking over 200 PWs. The 410th Inf secures Itterswiller at 1900. RCT 142 of 36th Div moves SE to Koenigsbourg Chateau. SW of Koenigsbourg, combat patrol engages in street fighting in Thannenkirch. Other elements proceed E from la Vancelle, clearing Hurst. Advance units occupy high ground overlooking Chatenois and clear Kintzheim, which is only 2 miles W of Selestat. CCR of 2d Fr Armd Div seizes Stolzheim, slightly over a mile SSW of Zellwiller. CCD occupies Gertsheim, 3 miles SE of Erstein. Attached bn of 30th Inf, 3d Div, maintains road blocks near Valff and Zellwiller and protects flanks of CCR. CCA of 14th Armd Div occupies St. Pierre and clears Eichhoffen, both S of Barr.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Troops of 3d Alg Div are moving down the high valley of the Thur. Between Menil and the Thur R., Bussang Pass has been outflanked to the N. First Inf Div goes into reserve. Moving along the E slopes of the Vosges, 2d Lor Div has reached area about 3 miles from

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

30
Cont

Thann. Enemy reacts with SP guns and inf; enemy counter-attack repulsed at Bourbach le Bas.

I Corps In Mulhouse area, reduction of pocket of enemy forces N of Rhine-Rhone Canal continues, as does mopping up of S part of Harth Forest. Advance N across Doller R. by troops is delayed by blown bridge at Pont d'Aspach. Farther W, advance from Rimbach NE toward St. Amarin continues.

Alps Sector Quiet day. Some ren and harassing fire activity.

Western French Forces Enemy has reoccupied Aigrefeuilles.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

1 Germany Although weather restricts 8th AF operations, 256 heavy bombers, in 2 missions, concentrate on oil objectives at Gelsenkirchen: 143 release 389.9 tons on Scholven/Buer synthetic oil plant; 113 strike at Nordstern oil refinery with 277.2 tons; results of both attacks unobserved. Alternate target for 23 additional heavies is Hamm marshaling yards which receives 57 tons, also with unobserved results. Of 38 8th AF bombers setting out to attack Rudesheim RR bridge, 13 drop 30.5 tons on primary, while 24 attack secondary target, Coblenz marshaling yards, with 69 tons; weather again obscures results. Escort for 8th AF bomber missions provided by approximately 300 fighters which destroy 3 enemy planes for loss of 1.

Escorted RAF bombers (approximately 160 Lancasters and several Mosquitoes) attack Meerbeck synthetic oil plant at Homberg, dropping 955 tons of bombs; results obscured by cloud. In night attacks on German town centers, 197 Halifaxes, 73 Lancasters, and 11 Mosquitoes release 1,185.9 tons of bombs on Oberhausen, causing fires and explosions; 47 Mosquitoes achieve good results at Berlin with 63.8 tons; 10 Mosquitoes accurately raid Cologne with 11.4 tons; Karlsruhe and Mulheim each lightly raided by 4 Mosquitoes. Seven RAF bombers lost.

2 Germany Oil targets again heavily hit by 8th AF and RAF. Despite continued poor weather, 571 bombers of 8th AF unload 1,323.8 tons on Merseburg/Leuna refinery; 119 attack Sterkrade (Holten) oil refinery with 254.5 tons; 131 release 361 tons on Castrop/Rauxel synthetic oil plant; PFF (Path Finder Force) method employed at all targets, and results unobserved. Meerbeck synthetic oil plant at Homberg attacked for second successive day by RAF: approximately 180 escorted Lancasters accurately drop 952.3 tons, causing fires and large column of smoke.

Secondary effort of 8th AF is against rail objectives in W Germany: 120 bombers report good results against Bielefeld/Schildesche RR viaduct with 334 tons, while 51 others divide 142 tons between Bielefeld/Brake viaduct and Bielefeld marshaling yards; 20 strike at Rheine marshaling yards with 48 tons. Targets of opportunity for other 8th AF bombers include Bernburg and Halle; former hit by 35 planes with 76.5 tons; latter receives 57.5 tons from 23 aircraft; a number of minor targets of opportunity raided.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

Unusually heavy enemy fighter opposition put up in Merseburg area. Force of 886 fighters escorts 8th AF bombers, claiming 161 enemy planes destroyed, 5 probably, and 27 damaged; bomber claims against GAF are 19-5-43. Eighth AF losses total 40 bombers and 13 fighters.

In night attacks, 946 RAF bombers (Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes) concentrate 4,484.1 tons on Duesseldorf town center, causing large fires and explosions; 41 Mosquitoes hit Osnabrueck town area with 49.8 tons; single Mosquito raids steel works at Hallendorf. RAF bomber losses during day total 20.

3 Germany Weather grounds 8th AF bombers, but RAF attacks Berlin and Herford at night; 53 Mosquitoes release 71.8 tons of bombs on former, while 8 bombers drop 13.2 tons at Herford.

4 Germany Continuing strong effort against oil installations in Germany, 8th AF bombers attack as follows: 238 drop 701 tons on Hamburg/Harburg (Rhenania oil refinery); 186 strike at Hamburg/Rhenania (D.P.A.G. oil refinery) with 445.6 tons; 103 hit Bottrop/Welheim oil refinery with 220 tons; 133 drop 370.8 tons on Gelsenkirchen/Nordstern oil refinery; 211 unload 592.7 tons on Misburg synthetic oil refinery; 139 aim 391.2 tons at Neunkirchen benzol plant. All bombing done by PFF method with results largely unobserved. During attacks of 1st and 4th on Gelsenkirchen/Nordstern oil refinery, gas generator, pump house, storage tanks, and a number of buildings damaged. At Neunkirchen, hits scored on steel works, locomotive depot, and town area.

Other objectives for 8th AF bombers are marshaling yards at Hamm, Saarbruecken, and Neunkirchen: 26 planes drop 64.5 tons on Hamm, 35 hit Saarbruecken with 95.8 tons, and 25 release 66.7 tons on Neunkirchen. Nordholz is target of opportunity for 9 8th AF bombers; several other points hit by single bombers. Fighter support for 8th AF bombers furnished by 784 planes, 2 of which are missing; 5 U.S. bombers lost.

RAF planes (174 escorted Lancasters) unload 945.8 tons of bombs on Solingen town area with generally unobserved results. In night attack on Bochum, 705 RAF bombers (Halifaxes, Lancasters, and Mosquitoes) achieve good concentration in center of town with 3,332.1 tons of bombs; considerable flak, numerous searchlights, and many fighters encountered; 25 RAF bombers missing. Other town centers hit at night are Hannover and Herford, 41 Mosquitoes striking at former with 56.5 tons

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov.
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

and 4 others harassing latter with about 7 tons. Dortmund/Emas Canal (Ladbergen) is objective for night assault by 170 RAF bombers (Lancasters and Mosquitoes) which report excellent concentration of 930.4 tons in target area, Thirty-two RAF bombers missing.

5 Germany Rail targets in W Germany bear brunt of 8th AF attacks as 397 heavy bombers pound Frankfurt marshaling yards (M/Y) with 1,175.5 tons of bombs, 332 hit Karlsruhe M/Y with 1,029.5 tons, 218 concentrate 636.5 tons on Ludwigshafen M/Y, 33 drop 99 tons on Kaiserlautern M/Y, 36 raid Hanau M/Y with 108 tons, and 11 release 44 tons on Landau RR. Bombing done chiefly by PFF method. At Frankfurt, results reported as fair to good; 7 of the 12 RR lines here have been cut. Area W of Karlsruhe M/Y hit and a number of buildings, including main RR station and a probable control building, damaged or destroyed. Subsequent photographs at Ludwigshafen show moderate damage; tracks cut and footbridge over RR knocked out. Results at Kaiserlautern are unobserved and at Hanau are poor.

Ludwigshafen/Opau oil refinery is objective for 176 heavy bombers of 8th AF which release 504 tons of bombs, damaging a number of buildings in nitrogen and methanol plant and in intermediates and dyestuffs area. Other 8th AF bombers, operating singly, raid 8 targets of opportunity. Force of 650 fighters supports heavy bombers of 8th AF during the day. Twelve U.S. bombers and 5 fighters lost.

Ninth AF bombers strongly attack depots at Hamburg: 94 B-26s and 66 A-20s unload 262 tons of bombs, of which 182 tons are aimed at ordnance depot, 47.25 at ammunition dump, and 32.75 at supply depot; results unobserved at all targets.

RAF BC, for second successive day, attacks Solingen: 170 escorted Lancasters release 881.7 tons of bombs on town area in 10/10ths cloud condition with unobserved results. Stuttgart hit at night by 64 RAF BC Mosquitoes which cause explosions and fires with 79 tons; 5 other Mosquitoes harass Aschaffenburg rail center with 10.7 tons during night. One RAF bomber fails to return.

6 Germany Main effort of 8th AF heavy bombers is directed against oil targets: 142 attack Hamburg/Rhenania oil refinery with 423.5 tons of bombs; 138 strike at Hamburg/Harburg Ebano oil refinery with 413 tons; Bottrop/Welheim oil refinery receives 198.1 tons from 87 bombers; 134 bombers unload 434 tons on Sterkrade/Holten oil refinery; Duisburg/Meiderich benzol plant is objective for 65 bombers with 136.3 tons. Weather requires instrument bombing and prevents observation of results. Damage subsequently evaluated as follows: Two of the targets: during attacks on Sterkrade/Holten refinery on 2 and

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov
1944

Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

6 November, water gas plant of synthetic oil plant of Ruhr Benzin A. G. severely damaged and large gas holder SE of water gas plant demolished; planes attacking Duisburg/Meiderich benzol plant badly damage the phenol preparation plant.

Other targets hit by 8th AF are Mittelland Canal and aqueduct at Minden and marshaling yards at Neumuenster, Rheydt, and Hamm. At Minden, 209 bombers with 667 tons of bombs cause new craters near the aqueduct; 254 bombers apparently damage M/Y industrial establishments and residences at Neumuenster with 612.2 tons; at Rheydt, 44 bombers cut at least 7 tracks and damage buildings and wagons with 101.5 tons; 12 bombers release 27 tons on Hamm M/Y with unobserved results. Several targets of opportunity raided by other 8th AF bombers, usually operating singly. Fighter support for 8th AF bombers furnished by 757 aircraft which destroy 5 hostile planes and damage 16. U.S. losses are 5 bombers and 5 fighters.

In daylight raid on Gelsenkirchen town center, 693 escorted bombers of RAF BC release 3,288.6 tons of bombs, but rapidly deteriorating weather prevents accurate assessment of damage. Same target hit at night by 47 RAF BC bombers with 50.9 tons; good visibility permits accurate bombing; fires, estimated to cover 5-mile square area, observed still burning as result of previous attack. Other towns attacked at night by RAF BC are Coblenz, Hannover, and Herford. Of these, Coblenz is hardest hit, receiving 518.2 tons from 123 bombers; very good concentration achieved in clear weather, and fires apparently raging over entire town. Hannover and Herford receive 18.7 and 14.3 tons from 17 and 8 Mosquitoes, respectively. Night attack on Mittelland Canal at Gravenhorst by 235 RAF BC bombers virtually abandoned because of difficulty in marking target; 30 of the planes attack as scheduled, dropping 66.7 tons; fighter opposition encountered at target and en route home. Eleven Lancasters drop 49.1 tons on Rheine M/Y at night with unobserved results. Seventeen RAF bombers and 1 PFF plane missing.

8 Germany-Holland Eighth AF and RAF BC continue to pound oil targets. Force of 201 B-17s of 8th AF releases 480 tons of bombs on Merseburg/Leuna oil refinery by PFF; as result of this and earlier attack (2 November), a number of industrial buildings appear to be damaged and 3 gas holders and a shed demolished. Meerbeck synthetic oil plant at Homberg attacked for third time this month by RAF BC: 134 escorted Lancasters attempt to wreck plant with 731.5 tons of bombs; bombing visual and planned until target becomes obscured by smoke;

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

1 Lancaster and 1 Spitfire missing.

Seventy-seven B-24s of 8th AF, in 2 groups, attack Rheine marshaling yards with total of 208.2 tons of bombs; results believed to be fair. Nordhorn Canal and marshaling yards near Enschede, Holland, are targets of opportunity for 8 B-24s each of 8th AF; each objective receives 20 tons with poor results; 4 more bombers hit minor targets of opportunity with unobserved results. Ten of 808 escorting 8th AF fighters missing; 3 enemy planes destroyed. Three U.S. bombers fail to return.

In night attacks, 45 RAF BC Mosquitoes release 57.3 tons of bombs on Hannover through 10/10ths cloud, while 8 harass Herford with about 15 tons.

9 Germany Aside from tactical bombing in Metz-Thionville area, 8th AF activity limited to attacks on marshaling yards at Saarbruecken and on targets of opportunity at Saarlautern: 329 heavies unload 1,066.5 tons at Saarbruecken, bombing by PFF and visually with unobserved to poor results; 34 bombers release 115 tons at Saarlautern, also with unobserved results. Nearly 800 fighters support 8th AF bombers during day, 113 bombing rail and other objectives in Mannheim-Frankfurt area. Four U.S. bombers and 5 fighters lost during day's operations.

Wanne-Eickel is chief objective of RAF BC: 242 escorted Lancasters drop 1,280.1 tons on town area, while 6 Mosquitoes aim 3.1 tons at synthetic oil plant; cloud prevents visual identification of target and obscures results. During night, groups of 3-6 Mosquitoes harass Gotha, Pforzheim, and Kassel town areas and miscellaneous targets in vicinity of Schwelm, NE of Cologne. Two RAF bombers missing.

10 Germany Eighth AF bombers concentrate on airfields of tactical importance to ground forces in vicinity of Cologne (Ostheim and Butzweilerhof) and Frankfurt (Hanau/Langendiebach and Wiesbaden): at Ostheim airfield, 87 B-17s release 161.3 tons of bombs; 96 B-17s hit Butzweilerhof airfield with 177.3 tons; 250 B-24s concentrate 444.4 tons on Hanau/Langendiebach airfield; 100 B-17s drop 175.6 tons on Wiesbaden airfield. Although bombing is largely by instruments with results unobserved, subsequent assessment of damage follows: Ostheim airfield and dispersal areas cratered and buildings slightly damaged; about one-half of Butzweilerhof landing ground badly cratered, large administration building gutted, and other

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

buildings damaged or destroyed; greatest damage at Langendiebach is to hangar facilities, although landing ground is cratered and buildings adjacent to hangars damaged; at Wiesbaden, landing ground damaged by about 150 craters and N dispersal area by at least 25, and a number of buildings destroyed or damaged. Wiesbaden/Halle chemical plant is secondary objective for 76 B-17s which drop 123.7 tons by PFF method with unobserved results. Forty-one B-24s raid secondary target, Hanau marshaling yards, dropping 76.6 tons, also by PFF and with unobserved results. Ten 8th AF bombers release 19 tons on city of Cologne; 4 others raid minor targets of opportunity. Almost 700 fighters fly support missions for 8th AF bombers, patrol, and bomb and strafe miscellaneous targets in N Germany; 7 enemy planes destroyed on ground for loss of 1 fighter. Four U.S. bombers missing.

Fifty-seven RAF BC Mosquitoes, in 2 waves, attack Hannover town area at night, dropping total of 73.8 tons of bombs with results largely unobserved due to cloud. Several Mosquitoes harass Gotha and Erfurt during night.

11

Germany Although continued poor flying weather hampers and restricts operations, 8th AF and RAF BC again hammer at oil objectives. Force of 100 B-17s attacks Schölvén/Buer oil refinery at Gelsenkirchen with 237.7 tons, and 134 B-24s release 368.4 tons on Bottrop/Welheim synthetic oil plant. Both attacks made by PFF methods with unobserved results. Subsequent assessment of damage at above targets follows: at Schölvén/Buer refinery, overhead bunkers serving gas generator severely damaged, blower house adjoining generators further damaged, and several buildings and 3 cooling towers damaged; Bottrop/Welheim plant is out of action and surrounding area for several hundred yards cratered. RAF BC attacks oil installations at Castrop-Rauxel during daylight and at Dortmund, Harburg, and Kamen at night, bombing through 10/10ths cloud by glow of markers or by navigational aids at all targets except Harburg where weather is relatively clear. Castrop-Rauxel synthetic oil plant receives 593.3 tons of bombs from 114 escorted Lancasters; 206 bombers release 1,127.1 tons on synthetic oil plant at Dortmund; oil refinery plant at Harburg accurately hit by 233 bombers with 1,099 tons, and good fires observed; 34 Mosquitoes attack at Kamen, 17 of them dropping 25.9 tons on synthetic oil plant and remainder hitting town area with 30.1 tons. During attacks of today and 6 November 1 Mosquitoes, 180-t. tank and 3 small tanks in oil

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

refinery plant wrecked and several industrial plants and business and residential property damaged. Seven Lancasters fail to return from Harburg mission.

Marshaling yards also claim attention of 8th AF: 143 B-24s unload 396 tons on Oberlahnstein M/Y, 24 B-17s hit Coblenz M/Y with 68.5 tons, and 23 B-17s release 54.5 tons on Rhine M/Y; all targets bombed by PFF with unobserved results. Fighter support for 8th AF bombers furnished at Gelsenkirchen, Bottrop, and Oberlahnstein by total of 384 planes. One U.S. bomber and 1 fighter missing.

In night raids on town centers, small groups of Mosquitoes (2-12) harass Osnabrueck, Wiesbaden, Gotha, and Erfurt with unobserved results. RAF BC loses 7 bombers and 1 PFF plane.

12 Norway Twenty-nine Lancasters of RAF BC, each with a 6-ton bomb, sink German BB Tirpitz, largest ship of German Fleet, at Haakoy (near Tromsø) in morning attack; 1 Lancaster missing.

15 Germany Although continued poor weather prevents 8th AF missions, RAF BC attacks oil targets and town centers. Synthetic oil plant at Dortmund is chief objective, receiving 902 tons of bombs from 174 escorted Lancasters. Wanne-Eickel and Gelsenkirchen-Buer synthetic oil plants raided at night by total of 10 Mosquitoes; approximately 8 tons dropped at each target. Other Mosquitoes lightly raid Berlin, Gotha, and Karlsruhe during night: 34 drop 41.6 tons on Berlin, 5 release 8.9 tons at Gotha, 4 raid Karlsruhe with 7.1 tons. Results of all missions obscured by cloud. Three RAF bombers and 1 PFF plane lost.

16 Germany Entire effort of 8th AF and RAF BC directed against tactical targets at or near Eschweiler, Dueren, Juelich, and Heinsburg.

18 Germany In daylight attack on Muenster rail and road center, 444 escorted bombers of RAF BC drop 1,693.3 tons of bombs through 10/10ths cloud by means of markers or navigational aids with unobserved results. Wanne-Eickel synthetic oil plant receives 1,515.5 tons at night from 284 Lancasters and 11 Mosquitoes; although weather at target is poor, number of large explosions are noted. Mosquitoes hit 52

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

sorties, raid Wiesbaden, Hannover, and Erfurt town areas during night; 40.3 tons dropped at Wiesbaden, 23.3 tons at Hannover, and 4.5 tons at Erfurt. Single RAF bomber missing.

Eighth AF bombers still grounded by weather, but 382 fighters strafe oil storage depots and airfields in Munich and Frankfurt areas with very good effect; enemy plane losses on ground and in air total 103 destroyed (40 of which were jet propelled ME-262s on Leipheim airfield), 2 probably, and 41 damaged; 9 U.S. fighters missing.

20

Germany Eighth AF bombers, grounded by weather since 11 November, resume operations, attacking oil objectives at Gelsenkirchen as primary and marshaling yards at Muenster as secondary target: 60 B-17s release 141.1 tons on Scholven/Buer synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen, while 92 others drop 228.3 tons on latter. Force of 719 fighters supports heavy bombers and harasses various targets, including flak positions and transport, E of the Rhine from the Ruhr to Munich; 9 fighters missing.

For the fourth time this month, RAF BC strikes at Meerbeck synthetic oil plant at Homberg, 168 escorted bombers releasing 868.9 tons of bombs; same target raided at night by 11 more bombers with 9.6 tons. Fourteen Mosquitoes drop 11.8 tons on Castrop-Rauxel synthetic oil plant during night. Other night attacks by RAF BC made on Coblenz and Hannover town areas and aero-engine and AFV works at Eisenach: Coblenz receives 225 tons from 42 Lancasters, 58 Mosquitoes drop 66.3 tons on Hannover, 7 Mosquitoes aim 12.5 tons at industrial targets at Eisenach. Five RAF bombers lost.

All attacks of 8th AF and RAF BC hampered by weather which obscures targets and results.

21

Germany-Holland Eighth AF and RAF BC attack a variety of objectives, including oil refineries, marshaling yards, bridges, canals, city areas, and airdromes. Merseburg/Leuna oil refinery receives 433.5 tons of bombs from 210 B-17s of 8th AF; 174 B-17s strike at Deutsche oil refinery at Hamburg with 461 tons; 171 B-24s unload 475.2 tons on Hamburg/Harburg Rhenania oil refinery. Above attacks and others by 8th AF during day made largely by PFF methods with unobserved results. RAF BC concentrates on oil objectives at Homberg during daylight and at Castrop-Rauxel and Stenkrade at night: 154 escorted Lancasters release 806 tons on Meerbeck synthetic oil plant

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

at Homberg with fair concentration; 260 bombers attacking Castrop-Rauxel synthetic oil plant in good visibility accurately drop 960.4 tons; 274 bombers report bombing of Sterkrade synthetic oil plant with 868.9 tons well concentrated.

Attacks on marshaling yards and other communications objectives are widespread. Force of 161 8th AF B-17s attacks Osnabrueck M/Y with 446.8 tons of bombs; 79 drop 209.5 tons on Giessen M/Y; 23 bombers hit Coblenz M/Y with 66.7 tons; Huenfeld and Hersfeld M/Ys each receive 30 tons from 12 B-17s; 24 B-17s strike at Meppen M/Y with 60 tons; 21 bombers release 50 tons on Friedburg M/Y; Quackenbrueck RR yard receives 24 tons from 10 B-17s; 11 heavies drop 27.5 tons on Stolzenau RR bridge, while 21 more release 52.5 tons on Autobahn bridge. RAF BC at night strongly attacks Aschaffenburg RR center, Dortmund/Ems Canal at Ladbergen, and Mittelland Canal at Gravenhorst: at Aschaffenburg, 270 Lancasters and 3 Mosquitoes unload 1,362.4 tons on M/Y through 9-10/10ths cloud; Dortmund/Ems Canal receives 629.2 tons from 128 bombers; and Mittelland Canal 613.3 tons from 129 bombers; marking at both canals assessed as accurate and bombing concentrated. RR storage sidings at Wesel lightly raided by RAF BC at night: 4 Mosquitoes drop 21.4 tons with unobserved results.

Wetzlar, Apolda, Hannover, Stuttgart, and Worms town centers hit. Sixty 8th AF bombers drop 157.1 tons on Wetzlar, while 12 others release 29.8 tons on Apolda. Remaining towns raided by RAF BC at night: 24 Mosquitoes drop 34.8 tons on Hannover, 25 release 29.1 tons on Stuttgart, and 17 Lancasters strike at Worms with 47.5 tons.

Thirteen 8th AF bombers raid flak position 6 miles W of Merseburg with 28.9 tons; 11 drop 25 tons on Leeuwarden air-drome in Holland; 6 release 15.5 tons on Voerden airfield. Among the numerous opportunity targets for 8th AF are Lingen, Bad Oeynhausen, and Weissenfels.

During the day, 1,138 8th AF bombers participate in attacks during which 2,961.7 tons of bombs are dropped. Considerable reaction experienced from estimated 375-425 enemy planes, chiefly in Merseburg area. Fighters (868) supporting 8th AF bombers claim 80 enemy planes destroyed, 6 probably, and 25 damaged; U.S. losses are 14 fighters and 25 bombers. RAF BC loses 12 bombers.

22

Norway. Of 178 RAF BC bombers attempting to attack U-boat pens at Trondheim during night, all but 18 abandoned mission because of impossibility of identifying targets. 8 tons of

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

bombs dropped. Three RAF bombers and 1 PFF plane lost.

- 23 Germany Although weather restricts air activity, both 8th AF and RAF BC attack Nordstern synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen: 146 B-17s drop 319.7 tons; while 163 Lancasters unload 865.8 tons. B-17s supported by 84 fighters and Lancasters by 68. Duisburg marshaling yards is secondary objective for 13 additional B-17s with 31.6 tons. During night, 61 RAF BC Mosquitoes drop 79.8 tons on Hannover town area, 4 harass Hagen with 5.4 tons, 9 release 16.1 tons on aero-engine and AFV works at Eisenach, and 6 hit Gottingen RR center with 8.9 tons; weather obscures targets and prevents observation of results. Two RAF bombers missing; 1 PFF plane lost.
- 24 Germany Eighth AF grounded by weather. RAF BC, despite weather, strikes at Berlin and Gottingen during night; former receives 76.2 tons from 57 Mosquitoes; 6 Mosquitoes drop 8.9 tons on latter. Bombing largely by navigational aids with unobserved results.
- 25 Germany Merseburg/Leuna oil refinery and Bingen marshaling yards are primary targets for 8th AF: 671 B-17s unload 1,786.3 tons on former, and 252 B-24s strike at latter with 692.2 tons; weather prevents visual bombing and obscures results. Twelve additional bombers, operating in groups of 1 to 2, harass targets of opportunity. Bomber support furnished by 879 fighters which claim 9 enemy planes destroyed and 8 damaged; 8 U.S. bombers and 6 fighters fail to return.
- RAF BC raids town centers during night: 63 Mosquitoes drop 78.3 tons on Nuremberg; Hagen, Erfurt, and Stuttgart each bombed by 8 Mosquitoes.
- 26 Germany Misburg synthetic oil refinery attacked by 297 bombers of 8th AF with 858.5 tons of bombs; photographs reveal 2 large fires in vicinity of the plant. Altenbeken and Bielefeld/Schildesche RR viaducts are objectives for 113 and 240 8th AF bombers, respectively; former receives 337 tons with unobserved results; approaches to Bielefeld/Schildesche viaduct hit and viaduct itself possibly hit with 793.8 tons. Eighth AF bombers also active against marshaling yards: 19 drop 52 tons on

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

Osnabrueck M/Y; 18 hit Hannover M/Y with 48 tons; 264 unload 763.5 tons on Hamm M/Y; 37 drop 99.8 tons on Gutersloh M/Y; 25 release 74 tons on Herford M/Y. Thirty-six 8th AF bombers aim 103.5 tons of bombs at Bielefeld thermal power station with unobserved results. Misburg town is target of opportunity for 10 bombers of 8th AF with 30 tons; 9 other bombers raid minor opportunity targets. Above attacks made largely by PFF with unobserved results.

Very strong enemy fighter reaction evoked by 8th AF, particularly in Misburg area where some 400 enemy planes are encountered; bomber claims against enemy aircraft are 15-14-13, while the 681 escorting fighters account for 129-8-39; 34 U.S. bombers and 9 fighters missing.

In daylight attack on Fulda RR center, 71 escorted Lancasters of RAF BC release 328.3 tons through 10/10ths cloud. Force of 257 RAF BC bombers hits Munich town area at night with 780.8 tons; clear weather permits good concentration on target. Erfurt and Karlsruhe receive 12.5 and 5.5 tons from 7 and 6 Mosquitoes, respectively, during night.

27 Germany Marshaling yards at Offenburg and Bingen are primary objectives for 8th AF bombers. Force of 324 heavies unloads 875.4 tons on former with bombing visual in part; photographs reveal 5 concentrations in center of target, and resulting damage is believed severe. Attacking Bingen by PFF, 151 bombers drop 302.9 tons with unobserved results. Fighters, in total of 701 sorties, support 8th AF bombers and bomb and strafe targets of opportunity in Germany; offensive fighter operations limited, however, by intercepting enemy fighters, some 750 of which are encountered; hostile planes engage only the fighter bomber force which claims 102 enemy fighters destroyed, 4 probably, and 11 damaged for loss of 14 U.S. fighters.

In daylight attack on Cologne, 167 escorted Lancasters aim 860.4 tons of bombs at Kalk Nord marshaling yards, but ground haze prevents assessment of damage. Freiburg and Neuss town centers attacked in strength by RAF BC at night; 345 bombers unload 1,696 tons on former through 5-10/10ths cloud; 277 attack at Neuss with 1,194.2 tons through 7-10/10ths cloud; rcn planes report Freiburg ablaze and many fires at Neuss. Mosquitoes carry out smaller raids on town centers during night, 60 dropping 77 tons on Berlin, 7 hitting Mannheim/Ludwigshafen with 4.4 tons, and 5 dropping 1.1 tons on Nurnberg.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

Hallendorf steel works receives 7.1 tons in night raid by 4 Mosquitoes. RAF BC loses 3 bombers and 1 PFF plane.

28 Germany Eighth AF grounded by weather. RAF BC carries out 4 missions at night: 308 bombers drop 1,198.8 tons on Essen; 147 Lancasters release 731.8 tons on Neuss; 72 Mosquitoes strike at Nuremberg with 85 tons; 7 Mosquitoes aim 12.5 tons at Hallendorf steel works. All targets obscured by 10/10ths cloud. One RAF bomber and 1 PFF plane lost.

29 Germany Eighth AF bombers (404) unload 1,158.7 tons of bombs on Misburg synthetic oil refinery by PFF; photographs show further damage to target and largest laboratory destroyed. Altenbeken and Bielefeld/Schildesche RR viaducts again heavily attacked by 8th AF bombers, but weather necessitates PFF bombing and results are unobserved; 113 bombers drop 337 tons at Altenbeken viaduct, while 151 release 509.5 tons at Bielefeld/Schildesche viaduct. Marshaling yards at Hamm and Osnabrueck also hit by 8th AF: 281 bombers release 795 tons on former, and 32 drop 94.5 tons on latter; although bombing is by PFF at both targets, photographs reveal hits at Hamm in center of M/Y and on passenger station. Eight minor targets of opportunity hit by single 8th AF bombers. Bombers of 8th AF supported by 865 fighters. One U.S. bomber missing.

In strong daylight attack on Dortmund, 291 escorted RAF BC bombers attempt to smash industrial and rail objectives with 1,583.8 tons of bombs, but bombing is scattered because of poor visibility. Benzol plant at Duisburg receives 42.8 tons from 29 RAF BC Mosquitoes in daylight raid; results obscured by cloud. At night, 66 bombers of RAF BC drop 82 tons on Hannover. Six RAF bombers and 1 PFF plane missing.

30 Germany Eighth AF bombers again make strong effort against German oil refineries: 67 drop 165.7 tons of bombs on Boehlen refinery; 287 strike at Zeitz refinery with 691.6 tons; 250 hit Merseburg/Leuna refinery with 595.1 tons; 148 release 364.2 tons on Luetzkendorf refinery. Although bombing is visual in some instances, results are unobserved. Photographs of Merseburg/Leuna show fair to good results.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDNov
1944Section I: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air30
Cont

Attacking marshaling yards, 103 bombers of 8th AF release 251.3 tons on Homburg, and 181 drop 442.1 tons on Neunkirchen; both attacks made by PFF with unobserved results. Among the more heavily raided targets of opportunity are Bochlern city area and unspecified objectives at Gera, Ohrdruf, Rudolstadt, Wintersdorf, Fulda, Gotha, and Weissenfels, each hit by groups of 10-21 bombers of 8th AF; numerous minor targets of opportunity raided. Only slight opposition put up by enemy aircraft, but flak at oil targets is intense and accurate. Support of 8th AF bombers furnished by 907 fighters which destroy 4 enemy planes; 33 U.S. bombers and 3 fighters missing.

In daylight attacks, 60 Lancasters of RAF BC drop 311.6 tons on Bottrop/Welheim coking plant, 60 others release 312.2 tons on Osterfeld benzol plant, and 36 Mosquitoes raid Duisburg/Meiderich benzol plant with 50.7 tons. Visual identification of targets and assessment of results impossible because of 8-10/10ths cloud. At night, RAF BC planes bomb 2 town centers and a steel works through 10/10ths cloud; Duisburg receives 2,111.4 tons from 553 bombers; 51 Mosquitoes release 63.4 tons on Hamburg; 6 Mosquitoes raid Hallendorf steel works with 11.6 tons. RAF loses 5 bombers.

UNCLASSIFIED

