

EVENING EDITION

M T. WASHINGTON NEWS BULLETIN

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(Compiled by Overseas Branch, Office of War Information)

RUSSIA -- Marshal Stalin in an order of the day announced Saturday that the Red Army has captured Baranovichi, which he described as "an important railroad junction and a powerful fortified area of the German defenses guarding the Bialystok and Brest Litovsk directions."

Saturday's Soviet communique said Red Army troops have entered Vilna and are fighting in its streets. Other Soviet forces have cut the Dvinsk-Vilna railroad. Vilna and the railway running north to Dvinsk are part of Germany's railway defense line -- the third enemy defense line to be cracked since the start of the Russian offensive two weeks ago.

The communique also says that Soviet troops occupied more than 500 populated places in their advance to and beyond Vilna. In three days more than twenty-eight thousand encircled Germans have been killed and fifteen thousand captured east of Minsk.

NORMANDY -- Frontline dispatches said British troops in their new offensive, advanced into the northeast outskirts of Caen Saturday night after capturing at least nine towns. Heavy naval guns and a land artillery barrage were supporting the advance. Authie, three miles northwest of Caen, was reported captured. On the east flank, troops had moved beyond Herouville, three miles northeast of Caen. A Supreme Allied headquarters spokesman said earlier in the day that the entire Allied line was within two miles of the heart of Caen. He said U.S. troops have widened and extended their bridgehead over the Vire River "well beyond newly-captured St. Jean de Daye." He also said the situation was "highly satisfactory with progress on all fronts."

GERMANY -- The U.S. Eighth Air Force announced Saturday that its heavy bombers hit and damaged five aircraft works, three synthetic oil plants, a ball bearing factory, and several unidentified factories in Friday's attacks on targets in Germany's Leipzig area.

WESTERN EUROPE, AIR -- A British Air Ministry communique Saturday said RAF bombers Friday night attacked St. Leu d'Esserent, thirty miles north of Paris, site of "one of the largest enemy depots" used for the storage of flying torpedoes. It said the depot, large enough to store hundreds of flying torpedoes, was "inside great limestone caves on the east bank of the Oise." Thirty-three planes are missing. The same target was attacked Tuesday night.

SOUTHERN FRONT -- A dispatch from Rome says that more than 500 U.S. heavy bombers Saturday attacked three oil refineries in the Vienna oil basin, including the Floridsdorf refinery, largest in Austria. They also attacked two airfields in the Vienna area, and one at Veszprem, Hungary, sixty miles southwest of Budapest.

A British Admiralty communique Saturday said British ships, in recent actions in Mediterranean and Aegean, have sunk two large transports, one large tanker, one medium supply ship, seven smaller supply ships, two troop carrying barges, two submarine chasers and two small naval auxiliaries.

B-29 BOMBERS -- U.S. Army Air Force communique Saturday said the B-29 Superfortresses, which Friday night attacked Sasebo and Yawata on the Japanese home island of Kyushu, also attacked Omura on Kysushu; Laoyao, shipping port on China coast north of Hangchow; and Hankow, 450 miles inland of China's Yangtze River.

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA-THEATRE -- An Allied South Asia communique issued Saturday says defenders of Imphal in Manipur State have killed more than 11,000 Japanese since the enemy entered India in March.

WASHINGTON -- General de Gaulle conferred with President Roosevelt for more than an hour Saturday but said he would make no statement until his press conference in Washington Monday.

(Over)



DOMESTIC — U. S. Vice President Wallace, flying back from China, landed Saturday at Great Falls, Montana, from Edmonton, Alberta, he is expected to continue on to Seattle.

PACIFIC — A U.S. Pacific Fleet announcement issued Saturday at Pearl Harbor said:

"Before dawn on July 6 (Thursday - Pacific date) several thousand Japanese troops launched a desperate counterattack directed against the left flank of our line on Saipan Island. In this attack our lines along the western shore were penetrated up two thousand yards (1818 meters) and the enemy reached the outskirts of Tanapag Town. The counterattack was halted before noon, and our troops began to push the enemy back. In this assault the fighting was very severe, and numerous casualties were incurred. It is estimated 1500 Japanese troops were killed. Meantime on the right flank our forces continued their advance, and are now a little more than a mile (one and a half kilos) from the airfield at Marpi Point."

The Japanese domestic news agency said Saturday that the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Tojo Cabinet has undergone "epochal changes" in its personnel "to activate the air defense administration and to strengthen the machinery of local government". Domei said the principal change was the appointment of Kenichi Kumagai, Governor of Yamaguchi Prefecture, as "fulltime" Vice Director of the Home Ministry's air defense general headquarters.

YUGOSLAVIA — Constantin Fotitch, Yugoslavia's Ambassador to the United States, Saturday issued a statement to the press in Washington, saying that he "refuses to recognize" the new Yugoslav Government of Ivan Subasitch formed in London because, he said, it "does not represent the views of the great majority of the people in Yugoslavia." He added, "The Serbian people ... stand faithfully behind their leader, General Mihailovich."

RUMANIA — Moscow Radio Saturday warned Rumanians "the temporary calm which reigns on the southern front furnishes you a good opportunity to get out of the war and save your country from the consequences of a terrible defeat."

FRANCE — London Radio said today that a French military court held its first session in liberated French territory (Cherbourg) Saturday to try two persons accused of espionage.

BULLETIN — Saturday night's Allied Headquarters communique said in part:

"Steady gains have been made on all active portions of the front.

"Our patrols now are in the town of La Haye du Puits, and we command all the high ground in the area. The bridgehead over the Vire River has been extended beyond St. Jean de Daye, and between that village and Garentan Allied troops have advanced to the Vire et Taute Canal.

"North of Caen, in heavy fighting, the enemy has been driven from the villages of St. Contest, Epron, and Herouville."

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