

EVENING BULLETIN

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== (Compiled by Overseas Branch, Office of War Information) ==

NORMANDY -- Front-line dispatches say U.S. troops are now fighting in the streets of Lessay, at the western end of the Normandy battlefront. Other Americans were two miles from Periers, on the Lessay-St. Lo highway and the same distance from St. Lo, where a heavy artillery duel raged. Near Caen, British forces struck again into Maltot, which was lost to the Germans several days ago. The weather was the worst since D-day.

A spokesman for General Eisenhower Saturday warned Germany (in a broadcast over London radio) that the "French forces of the interior" are a recognized combat force and that reprisals against them, as practiced by the Nazis, "violate the rules of war". He said the F.F.I. has been designated by General Eisenhower as part of the Allied Expeditionary Forces and that Germans guilty of reprisals "will be brought to swift justice".

A dispatch from Allied Headquarters says Germany's flying torpedoes are so erratic and unreliable that several apparently launched from the Calais area sailed in an arc and crashed into the German lines in Normandy while Allied soldiers cheered.

RUSSIA -- Saturday's Soviet communique said the Red Army has captured OPOCHKA, central fortress of Germany's Pskov-Polotsk "barrier system" guarding the Baltic States. Previously-captured Idritsa, twenty-five miles to the south, and Polotsk also were part of this line, whose only remaining fortresses are now the northern cities of Pskov and Ostrov.

The communique said Soviet troops also took the railway station of Olita (Alytus) on the Niemen River thirty-three miles south of Kovno (Kaunas). They reached the Niemen on a seventy-five mile front, and crossed it at several points.

A Moscow dispatch said German language guide books are being distributed to advancing Soviet troops.

PACIFIC -- A Tokyo broadcast about U.S. superfortress bombings said Saturday: "Any Allied airman who falls or bails out over Japan will be executed. This is the Order of the Day."

The broadcast did not make clear whether this means that U.S. airmen lost in the first superfortress attack on Kyushu Island June 15 have been executed.

CHINA -- A Chinese communique Saturday said Japanese troops succeeded Thursday night in breaking into the besieged Canton-Hankow railway junction of Hengyang, but have been annihilated.

ITALY -- The Allied Fifth Army in Italy has taken 30,000 prisoners since the start of its present offensive at Cassino May 11.

About 750 Italy-based U.S. heavy bombers Saturday attacked five oil refineries and a pumping station at Ploesti, Romania.

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