MORNING EDITION

## WASHINGTON NEWS BULLETIN MT.

No. 24

July 17, 1944

8:30 A.M., FINAL

(Compiled by Overseas Branch, Office of War Information)

NORMANDY - American First Army troops closing in on St. Lo from the north and northwest have made significant advances in the heights commanding entrances to the important communications center.
Two other American units on the Normandy front also registered local advances and two British units on the front made advances.

American troops on the western sector of the front are fighting in the suburbs of Lessay, coastal anchor of the German defense line.

The Royal Air Force Sunday night again carried the aerial war to Germany's Ruhr Valley industrial targets after U.S. bombers had attacked targets in France and Germany during the day.

Weather over the battle area Monday cleared considerably

and large formations of U.S. heavy bombers headed over the Channel

and large formations of U.S. heavy bombers headed over the Channel for occupied Europe.

ITALY — The Allied Eighth Army has advanced several miles north and northwest of captured Arezzo, key Italian communication town and center of four rail lines and five highways, sixty kilometers southeast of Florence.

The Eighth Army also captured Civitella, Bardia Aganano and Ambra, in the area forty kilometers south of Florence. On the Eighth Army's left flank French troops of the Allied Fifty Army, in the face of fierce German counterattacks, have retained their hold on the road junction town of Poggibonsi.

American patrols of the Allied Fifty Army were reported eight kilometers from the west coast port of Leghorn.

The Mediterranean Allied air force, flying about 2,000 sorties Sunday, struck at targets in the Vienna area, Yugoslavia, western France and Belgrade, and also at objectives in the battle zone.

PACIFIC -- For the twelfth consecutive day Vice Admiral Marc Mitscher's "Task force" continued its pulverizing attack against Guam, southernmost of the Marianas. Carrier-based planes struck with bombs and rockets against buildings and bivouac areas.

ASIATIC THEATER -- Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stillwell,
Commander, U.S. forces in China-Burma-India, in a broadcast Sunday from North Burma praised the Chinese troops "whose courage has carried them at last to a line that had once seemed hopeless to attempt to reach." attempt to reach. "

Tokyo Radio Monday said that Japanese Navy Minister Shigetaro Shimada had resigned and had been succeeded by Admiral

Naokuni Nomura.. SOUTH AMERICA -- A United Press dispatch from Montevideo Sunday said the Uruguayan Government has ordered home its Ambassador to Argentina, Eugenio Martinez Thedy.