

July 1944

U. S. Heavies Fire Refineries In Romania

French Targets Hit Through Heavy Clouds

London, July 9 (UP)—American heavy bombers from Italy set towering fires at two oil refineries in Ploesti, Romania, today in the third Allied assault in 24 hours on Germany's crumbling fuel industry, while Britain-based warplanes raced through thick clouds to strike Nazi airfields, supply depots and the flying bomb coast.

The Mediterranean heavyweights struck the Concordia-Vega refinery, Romania's second largest, in the northern section of Ploesti, and the Xenia Refinery in the northwestern part of the city. On Saturday night British heavy bombers smashed oil installations in Brod and Basanka, Yugoslavia, touching off fires visible 100 miles.

Vienna Area Attacked

By daylight Saturday, American bombers and fighters hit three oil refineries and two airdromes in the Vienna area and shot down 55 German planes during flaming air battles.

On Saturday night, Britain-based bombers smashed unspecified objectives in Germany's Ruhr Valley and planted mines in enemy waters without loss.

Sunday daylight operations from Britain were restricted by a wall of storm clouds rising 29,000 feet above the continent while light rain and a 1,000-foot ceiling pinned most Normandy-based planes to the ground.

Small bomber formations braved

the weather to raid German airdromes near Tours and Chateaudun and robot platforms in the Pas-de-Calais area.

Fighter-bombers, which ranged over France were disclosed to have destroyed or damaged 550 freight cars, 55 locomotives and 30 ammunition cars from Saturday midnight through Sunday daylight.

Headquarters announced that in all of Saturday's operations over Western Europe 24 German planes were destroyed aground and six in the air against Allied losses of 12 heavy bombers and five fighters.

Headquarters disclosed that bombers on Saturday put out of action three flying bomb platforms in the Pas-de-Calais area and possibly knocked out two more.

RAF BLOCKBUSTERS WEIGHING 6 TONS HIT ROBOT-BOMB DEPOT

By AUSTIN BELMEAR

Associated Press Staff Correspondent.

LONDON, July 8. — Mosquito bombers hit Berlin with 2-ton blockbusters Friday night while British heavy bombers attacked military targets in enemy-occupied territory. Soon after dawn 500 U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators escorted by 750 fighters pounded flying-bomb launching sites and other targets in France.

The Lancasters dropped 6-ton blockbusters on the robot-bomb depot, located in great limestone caves of St. Leu-d'Esserent 30 mile north of Paris. The Air Ministry termed the depot one of the German's largest, and disclosed it first was hit July 4 by Lancasters lugging 12,000-pound bombs. Photographs showed one of these missiles went through a hill above the caves and exploded in a cave below.

The American bombers blasted at least seven launching sites visually. The Mosquitoes also hit a synthetic oil plant in the Ruhr.

Blast Path for British Army

German radios warned today of Allied planes heading toward the Upper and Lower Danube River, indicating its 1-based planes were raiding as well.

The widespread night operations came a few hours after an RAF battering of German troop, tank, and gun concentrations just north of Caen in Normandy to pave the way for today's British Second Army assault.

British bombers hammered the Vaires railway yards on Paris' outskirts. Thirty-four RAF bombers were lost.

These non-stop blows followed a double-ply assault by U. S. bombers from Italy and Britain Friday against 13 high-priority targets in Germany. Friday's raids sent down at least 193 Nazi planes. Sixty American bombers and nine fighters were lost.

4500 Sorties Flown

Six more German planes were down by RAF Mosquito intruders Friday night over France, Belgium and Germany. During the day 4500 sorties were flown by Allied planes. More than 500 heavyweights from Italy struck oil plants near Blech-Hammer and Odenwald in German Silesia.

The force from Britain dropped 3000 tons of bombs in the Leipzig area, defended spiritedly by the long semi-dormant Luftwaffe. The targets were an oil refinery at Merseburg, synthetic oil plants at Litzendorf and Böhlen, fighter-plane assembly plants at Mockau, and bomber factories at Bernberg, Halle and Aschersleben.

Raging dogfights were reported by the American airmen, who said many of the German planes were Junkers 88s, not used usually for fighter combat. Heavy German smoke screens failed to hide the

Allied Planes Blast Flying Bomb Bases

Hungary, Yugoslavia Also Targets of Day

London, July 2 (AP)—American and British heavy bombers dealt powerful blows against the Nazi flying bomb platforms in the Pas de Calais area of France today as similar forces from Italy blasted oil refinery, rail and industrial areas near Budapest and in Hungary and Yugoslavia.

Bad weather held Allied air support in Normandy to a minimum for the second straight day, but the campaign against the flying bombs continued—the attack today being the fourth against the nests in 24 hours.

First, up to 500 U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by some Mustang fighters, dumped between 1,000 and 1,500 tons of explosives on the launching platforms and other military objectives in the Pas de Calais region.

Slammed in Daylight

Hardly had they returned when RAF Lancasters—now operating by daylight as regularly as American heavies—slammed similar installations under an escort of British Spitfires.

Allied fighters from Normandy downed 21 German planes late today.

Other Normandy-based fighters hit bridges over the Orne River and blasted mortar and gun positions.

The operations cost the

July 1944

U. S. Heavies Hit Munich In Record Force

6,300 Tons of Bombs Dropped in Two Days

London, July 12 (UP) — The greatest force of American bombers ever sent against a single target, more than 1,200 Flying Fortresses and Liberators, shattered Munich today with more than 3,300 tons of bombs in the second obliteration raid on that Nazi shrine center and communications hub in 24 hours.

The great fleet of bombers, escorted by more than 750 Lightning, Thunderbolt and Mustang fighters, met no German fighter opposition during the 1,000-mile round-trip mission to southwestern Germany, made simultaneously with a strike by 250 to 500 Italian-based Liberators against four rail targets in Southern France.

Antiaircraft fire over Munich was heavy, however, and 26 bombers were missing. Swiss dispatches reported Swiss fighter planes forced down nine bombers over that neutral country and another made a crash landing.

The assault on Munich marked the second in as many days that Lieut. Gen. James H. Doolittle's Eighth Air Force had broken a record. Tuesday's attack on Munich by more than 1,100 bombers was the previous largest force ever sent against a single city. It was estimated that more than 6,300 tons of bombs were heaped into the Bavarian Capital in the two attacks.

The Italian-based heavyweights

struck for a second successive day at Southern France, blasting the Nîmes rail yards, 60 miles northwest of Marseille; the Miramas yards, 30 miles northwest of Marseille; and the Var and Theole Sur Mer Railroad bridges along the Riviera coastal railroad between Nice and Cannes east of Marseille.

Nazis Battle U. S. Bombers Over Munich

Geneseo Pilot Leads French Area Attack

London, July 13 (AP)—Communications and other war targets concentrated around Munich lay twisted and smoking tonight, hammered into wreckage during the day by more than 1,000 American heavy bombers which smashed against this fourth largest German city for the third day in a row and finally forced the German air force to come up and fight.

The great fleet of Flying Fortresses and Liberators, completing an unprecedented 60-hour assault on installations confined to such a small area, also pounded Saarbrücken, 200 miles west of Munich, as the Allies pressed a gigantic campaign to isolate the German homeland from battlefronts on all sides.

Bombers Attacked

Unlike the previous two days, when the German air force failed to put a single interceptor in the air, Nazi fighters made attacks on the bomber fleet, adding to anti-aircraft fire described officially as moderate to intense. Ten American bombers and five fighters from an escort force of 500 failed to return. Eight German planes were shot out of the air, six by the bombers and two by fighters.

The daylight blow against Southern Germany followed night assaults by more than 1,300 RAF bombers which blasted railroad yards at Tours and Culmont-Chelindry, 100 miles south of Paris, flying bomb bases in France, and industries in the Ruhr.

The Munich assault brought the total of bombs rained on the Munich area in three days to approximately 9,000 tons.

The Swiss radio said that the American bombers again flew over Switzerland and that one crashed after the crew bailed out while others were forced to land by Swiss fighters.

Geneseo Pilot Figures

Unfavorable weather again held air activity over Normandy to a minimum, but American Thunderbolt fighter-bombers made their deepest penetration in France since D-Day and destroyed a large German fuel dump at Sens, 60 miles southeast of Paris.

"There is no doubt that the fuel dump at Sens was completely destroyed," said Lieut. Col. Ancell Wheeler of Geneseo, N. Y., who led the Thunderbolts.

Allied Mediterranean air force bombers, which thundered to southern France for the last two days, returned to the assault on the German oil supply today, striking storage tanks and rail facilities in southern Italy.

U. S. Bombers Fire 5 Ploesti Oil Refineries

Weather in Normandy Is Worst Since D-Day

London, July 15 (AP)—Five oil refineries and a pumping station at Ploesti were blasted today by U. S. heavy bombers flying from the Mediterranean, but the weather since D-Day frustrated allied air forces straining to get back into the battle over Normandy.

Columns of smoke 20,000 ft high towered over the Romanian oil center and crews looking down on their handiwork said the smoke was visible for more than 100 miles.

Escorting Mustangs downed a number of enemy fighters who challenged the big armada.

Supreme headquarters said the weather over France was so bad that it would go down in invasion history as the worst ever. Less than 50 sorties had been flown since noon and these were routine photo reconnaissance and patrol sweeps. "The weathermen have given us only one consolation," headquarters commented. "We have hit the bottom of the barrel. The weather can't get worse."

The great cloud banks covered the area all the way to England; the ceiling was from 1,500 to 2,000 ft and flying was made all the more miserable by a drizzling rain and ground haze and fog.

The Germans took advantage of the impasse and sent more flying bombs over Southern England, inflicting a number of casualties and wrecking buildings. Some victims were caught in the streets.

British Lancasters before dawn pounded railroads in the suburbs of Paris, while other heavies struck the flying bomb installations.

Mosquitos lanced into the Reich and dropped 4,000-pound bombs on Hannover, where two large explosions were observed. Others struck German positions behind the battlefront.

July 1944

Italian-Based U. S. Heavies Blast Ploesti

RAF Hits Robot Bases And Targets in Reich

By WALTER CRONKITE

London, July 22 (UP)—A great sky train of possibly 1,500 Italian-based American warplanes blasted the Ploesti oil field in Southern Romania today.

RAF bombers and fighters in relatively light strength struck through low-hanging storm clouds at Nazi robot bomb installations in Northern France late today and the German radio said small raiding formations were over North-western Germany, but the bulk of the British-based striking power was earthbound throughout the day.

The German radio said later that Allied "nuisance raiders" were stabbing at Berlin for the second straight night.

Germans Desperate

An estimated 750 American Flying Fortresses and Liberators sparked the shattering blow at Ploesti, the 11th assault of the war on that number one source of Axis oil production.

Long-range fighters, possibly in equal strength, accompanied the giant raiders and fought off swarms of German fighters all across Southern Romania.

Returning crewmen said the Germans put up a desperate defensive battle over the battered oil center. Massed antiaircraft batteries raked the high-flying bombers while the harassed Nazis threw a thick smoke screen over the entire target area, forcing the Americans to drop their bombs by instrument.

It was the first raid on Ploesti since July 15th, but the second on the Nazis' dwindling oil resources in as many days. Yesterday the Italian-based American heavies staged their deepest penetration of Axis Europe to blast the great synthetic oil plants at Brux in the Sudetenland area of old Czechoslovakia, only 150 miles south of Berlin.

Reconnaissance photographs revealed extensive damage to the sprawling oil installations.

Co-ordinated Attack

The assault on Brux was co-ordinated with a smashing attack by a great force of British-based U. S. Eighth Air Force raiders on Schweinfurt, the home of Germany's ball-bearing industry. Three major bearing plants were destroyed by the Eighth Air Force Thursday and a fourth was wiped out in Friday's attack. In addition, official sources said almost every building in the plant area was damaged.

Other heavies fanned out east of Schweinfurt to blast another plant at Ebelsbach, and the German radio said targets in Munich, Mannheim, and Ludwigshafen also were attacked.

RAF Mosquitos from Britain picked up the attack last night with a nuisance raid on Berlin, and the air ministry credited a force of British Beaufighters of the coastal command with smashing a convoy of about 40 German vessels off Helgoland shortly after dusk.

The Beaufighters claimed bomb or gunfire hits on practically every ship in the convoy, leaving at least two merchantmen in sinking condition and five escort vessels blazing fiercely from stern to stern. No British planes were lost.

44 Reich Blasted For 4th Day In Two-Way Blow

3,000 Planes Smash At Vital Objectives

London, July 21 (UP)—Nearly 3,000 American bombers and fighters, flying from Italy and England for the fourth consecutive day, roared through good and bad weather today to pound a dozen German targets in their non-stop offensive on Nazi war industry.

Marking also the fourth consecutive day in which more than 1,000 Eighth Air Force heavy bombers took part in the blasting of German factories, 1,100 Flying Fortresses and Liberators from British bases dropped 3,000 tons of high explosives on at least four targets in Southern Germany before noon, running up their 72-hour total of targets to around 20.

Nazi Fighters Scarce

Shepherded by 800 fighters, the Eighth Air Force crewmen returned to report that, with only one exception, the Luftwaffe again was absent from German skies.

Today's operations brought the U. S. Strategic Air Force's total sorties for the week to more than 6,500 for bombers and more than 4,500 for fighters, excluding today's 15th Air Force operations.

The Royal Air Force Bomber Command revealed that in the 12 hours up to 3 o'clock this morning, it had dropped more than 5,000 tons of bombs on targets in Germany, Belgium and France.

The Fortresses and Liberators scattered into numerous task forces over Germany and struck at an aircraft assembly plant at Regensburg, ball bearing factories at Schweinfurt and Ebelsbach, a bomber components assembly plant at Neuaubing near Munich, and at other Southern German targets.

Oil Plants Blasted

Other bombers hit the battered German synthetic oil plants at Homberg, Bottrop and at Welheim in the Ruhr, the rail junction of Courtrai in Belgium, the City of Hamburg, and flying bomb installations in Northern France.

At Homberg, pilots said they set off "the daddy of all explosions" which lit the sky to daylight intensity at 19,000 feet, illuminating the countryside for miles.

Mosquito bombers loosed two-ton bombs on Hamburg, while other Mosquitos roamed along the roads around Paris.

Up to 500 fighter-escorted Liberators and Fortresses of the 15th Air Force bombed railyards at Mestre, four miles west of Venice.

(The Swiss newspaper Basler Nachrichten, said the famous German Zeppelin works at Friedrichshafen had "disappeared" after yesterday's bombing.)

From today's operations 35 bombers and 11 fighter planes were missing from the Eighth Air Force, while the bombers destroyed ten Nazi fighters and the fighters six.

VASI
mu
ler
"A
be
W
fast
ann
the
to
eral
dits
A
the
inte
two
cut
und
A
the
thrc
The
Hitl
Lo
A
nich
ano
on
as
for
gres
toph
mot
tur
U
N
Reg
labo
ject
in
Ele
an
com

July 1944

U. S. Heavies Strike At Germany's Oil

LONDON, July 28 (AP).—A thousand U. S. heavy bombers escorted by 1000 fighters today smashed the Leuna synthetic oil works at Merseburg and other targets in Central Germany and 500 U. S. heavies from Italy bombed the Ploesti oil fields in Romania.

The raid on Ploesti followed by a few hours a night attack on the same target by Italy-based RAF bombers. The Americans bombed through a thick smokescreen and started great fires.

The Britain-based planes also hit the big aircraft and chemical centers of Dessau and Halle.

Another formation of U. S. Liberators bombed the Phlorina railway yards in Western Greece.

Night-flying RAF Mosquitoes laid 2-ton bombs in the fourth raid on Stuttgart in 5 days.

The German Transocean News Agency reported the bombing Thursday night of Insterburg, rail hub in East Prussia, and Bucharest.

In an attack on the Manfred Weiss armament works in the Budapest area Thursday, Italy-based Flying Fortresses and Liberators shot down 14 intercepting planes. Seven Liberators and five fighters failed to return.

In addition to attacking Stuttgart, the RAF Bomber Command sent Lancasters and Stirlings over Northern France Thursday night to blast again at launching platforms for flying bombs. From all the night operations, the Air Ministry announced, all aircraft returned.

The Germans fired more winged bombs on London and Southern England, inflicting casualties and property damage.

2 Major Nazi Oil Sources 44 Heavily Raided

London, July 28 (UP).—Up to 1,500 U. S. heavy bombers laid bombs across the great Leuna synthetic oil plant at Merseburg in Central Germany and the Romanian wells and refineries at Ploesti today in twin blows from the west and south against two main sources of Germany's dwindling oil supplies.

It was the second Allied attack on Ploesti in 12 hours. The U. S. Eighth Air Force attack on Merseburg was a continuation of the revived Allied campaign against Germany's war industry which included an attack last night by RAF Mosquitos against Stuttgart, now bombed three times in four nights.

One thousand Eighth Air Force heavy bombers and an equal number of fighters bored through flak so thick that at times its smoke dimmed the visibility of fighter pilots during the attack on the Leuna plant. The vast, sprawling works account for a large percentage of Germany's remaining synthetic fuel supplies and had been in 75 per cent production.

Few German fighters were reported by airmen of early formations returning to base, and some Allied airmen reported seeing none at all. An Eighth Air Force announcement said five German planes were shot down, seven U. S. bombers and two fighters failed to return.

Up to 500 Liberators and Fortresses of the Mediterranean Air Forces also were forced to use instruments in bombing the Ploesti area today, Rome dispatches said, as the Germans put up a heavy smoke screen to cover the oil fields. Intense antiaircraft fire slugged at the big American bombers, but crews reported seeing fires and explosions after the bombs were away.

July 1944

—Monday, July 31, 1944

1200 U. S. BOMBERS RAID MUNICH AREA, AIRFIELDS IN FRANCE

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR
Associated Press Staff Correspondent.
LONDON, July 31.—More than

1200 American heavy bombers, escorted by 1000 fighters, today struck Munich, other targets in Central Germany and airfields in France.

Some of the bombers dropped their loads visually but others encountered thick clouds, forcing them to use overcast bombing technique.

The German radio said Augsburg also was bombed. Both Munich and Augsburg are aircraft centers.

It was the sixth bombing this month of the Munich area by fleets of more than 1000 British-based American heavy bombers. The Nazi shrine city has five trunk railroads, one through the Brenner Pass to Italy. It manufactures chemicals used in flying bombs. American bombers from Italy hit it a seventh time in July.

U. S. fighter bombers based in Normandy maintained steady pressure on German transport in the battle area.

Targets of the British medium bombers in Northern France Sunday night included Seine River crossings and their approaches, railway installations and river barges.

RAF Bostons operated as far south of the battle area as Tour and Angers, while Mosquitoes swung north of Paris almost to the Belgian border.

One Boston and one Mosquito were listed as missing from the overnight operations. The Mosquitoes were credited with downing four German planes during the night, including three JU-88s over the Normandy beachhead.

Seven other German planes were shot down in a fierce battle within sight of the Norwegian coast Sunday by six Polish pilots of an RAF Mustang squadron who were outnumbered three to one. Flying more than 500 miles from base, the Poles tangled with 15 to 20 Germans off the southwestern tip of Norway.

Munich Hit By 1,200 Heavies

London, July 31 (UP)—Twelve hundred U. S. Eighth Air Force bombers with 1,000 escorting fighters dropped 3,300 tons of explosives today on the Nazi shrine city and rail hub of Munich and attacked other targets in Central Germany and France, while smaller forces of Mediterranean-based heavies bombed German oil sources at Ploesti and near Bucharest in Rumania.

Lieut. Gen. James H. Doolittle's Eighth Air Force was rounding out a month in which it had dropped an estimated 40,000 tons of explosives upon Germany's war-strained industry and transport. Targets in France today were some of the Luftwaffe's airfields, and the Berlin radio also said Augsburg, Germany, was bombed.

Up to 500 Liberators and Fortresses of Maj. Gen. Nathan F. Twining's 15th U. S. Air Force bombed the Prahova oil refinery and the Morgasaia fuel depot at Bucharest; the Targoviste storage area, the Creditul refinery and a third target, bombed through a smoke screen, around Ploesti, Rome reports said.

It was the fifth heavy blow in three weeks against Munich and the 13th of the month against targets in Germany by the Eighth Air Force alone. In addition, the Italy-based 15th attacked the Munich area July 19th, one of three heavy blows it struck against Southern Germany during July.

U. S. A:

Robots Still Hitting London

London, July 30 (AP)—British anti-aircraft units and fighter pilots scored new successes today over the sporadic salvos of robot bombs hurled at Southern England and the London area by the Germans, but some of the bombs broke through and caused damage and casualties.

Much of London's population had left the city for a holiday over the weekend. In spite of the improved defenses, however, reported incidents included robot hits on a children's playground. A YMCA building, a hospital and several houses. From these hits, four were seriously injured, all at the YMCA.

RAF heavy bombers returned to the Pas-de-Calais Coast last night and struck at a supply depot near Watten where the Germans' massive concrete structure was believed connected with their new threat to flying ten-ton rockets at Britain. More planes crossed the straits tonight in the same direction.

Bombs Rained On Paris Area

London, Aug. 1 (UP) — Some 1,750 American heavy bombers and fighters quartered the skies over Central France today, battering German airdromes and military installations in the Paris area and sowing new chaos among already-disorganized German communications behind the fighting fronts.

Escorted by 1,000 Mustang, Thunderbolt, and Lightning fighters, most of the raiding 750 Flying Fortresses and Liberators concentrated on the area near the French capital, including three big German repair and replacement airdromes at Chateau Dun, Melun, and Orleans-Bricy.

There escorting missions accomplished, the American fighter swarms wheeled toward the spreading battlefield to strafe roads and railways from treetop height. Earlier, Spitfires of the air defense of Great Britain command swooped down on an enemy radio station at Ouessant.

100 RAF Planes Bomb U-Boat Pens at Brest

LONDON, Aug. 5 (AP).—More than 100 RAF Lancaster bombers plastered the submarine pens at Brest today to prevent the Germans from pulling their U-boats out of the port threatened by the American advance in Brittany.

More than 1100 U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators, with a strong escort of Mustangs, Thunderbolts and Lightnings, today attacked German war industry centers and airfields. The targets included an oil refinery at Dollbergen, an oil-storage plant at Nienburg, an aircraft-components factory and rail yards at Hallsrleben, armament works at Magdeburg, airfields at Hannover, Langerhagen, and Halberstadt and unidentified objectives in the Brunswick-Magdenburg area on the western approaches to Berlin.

Friday, Italy-based Lightnings of the U. S. 15th Air Force, escorted by Mustangs, shot up communications in Romania and landed on Soviet bases.

Activity began with a devastating moonlight attack by Ninth Air Force Marauders on ammunition and fuel dumps in DeSille Forest 30 miles east of Laval that left the depots in flames.

In operations against Germany and France Friday, the Allies flew 4000 sorties, downed 50 enemy planes in the air and destroyed a number on the ground. Allied losses were 19 bombers and 22 fighters.

The Allies smashed airfields at Lille and Achlet; the railway bridge at Estaples; a coastal battery in the Pas-de-Calais, and oil depots at Pauillac and Bec D'Ambres near Bordeaux.

Canadians Bombed Accidentally by RAF

CANADIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, France, Aug. 16 (U.P.).—British bombing planes accidentally dropped a great weight of bombs, possibly 800 tons, on Canadian troops during a "saturation" raid on the German lines at Falaise Monday, it was disclosed Friday.

An unannounced number of Canadians were killed or wounded in the bombing, which occurred when more than 700 RAF Lancaster and Halifax bombers dropped some 4000 tons of fragmentation bombs over the enemy defenses in and around Falaise.

About 20% of the bombs fell short and landed in the Canadian lines.

56 Storage Depots For Robot Bombs Destroyed

London, Aug. 6 (AP).—Flying bombs exploded intermittently today in London and Southern England as rescuers dug the dead and injured out of last night's debris and the Air Ministry announced that 56 flying bomb storage depots in Northern France had been destroyed and 44 heavily damaged in recent heavy bomber counter assaults.

As the American Eighth Air Force for the third straight day hammered Germany with more than 1,000 heavy bombers, the Germans could do with the robots was sporadic cross-channel fire punctuated by fairly long lulls and strang combat by fighter patrols and antiaircraft fire.

Today's incidents did not compare with last night's attack when a bomb, which fell in Southern England, caught a number of villagers working in their gardens, killing 11 and trapping others in several smashed houses. There were many other incidents during the night causing multiple deaths.

In bright weather over the straits defenders had a good show today against the robots.

The Air Ministry, detailing results of the recent heavy assault on rocket bomb installations and depots, said Nazi fighter planes were appearing in increased strength to resist the Allied attacks, and that the Germans had erected flak towers to help defend the depots.

RAF Lancasters attacking a robot depot north of Paris during the day encountered 20 to 30 German fighters which were beaten off.

Widespread Nazi Fields Hit From Air

London, Aug. 15 (AP) — Three thousand American and British planes, two-thirds of them bombers, cast 8,000 tons of explosives on a score of enemy air bases and airdromes in Belgium, Holland and Germany today, while another powerful force of Italian-based heavyweights hopped the Mediterranean to Southern France and blasted a wide path for the new ground invasion there.

A force of 1,100 RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes and nearly 1,000 U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators churned up enemy air strips, wrecked buildings, and left flaming wrecks of 180 to 270 Nazi planes caught parked on the fields.

Fighters escorting the American bombers also destroyed a number of planes on the ground, disabled 62 locomotives, and destroyed or damaged 188 railway cars.

Moderate enemy opposition in the air was encountered, the bombers knocking down 13 planes and the fighters bagging 14 for a total of 27. Sixteen bombers and five fighters failed to return.

Last night RAF Mosquitos again struck Berlin, hurling blockbusters on the battered Reich capital. None of the Mosquitos, which also laid mines in enemy waters, was lost.

The fresh daylight attacks were aimed at squelching any attempts by the Germans to gather their depleted sky strength for support of their desperate ground forces back-tracking before victorious Allied troops in France.

Along the famous Riviera playground in Southern France the Allied planes not only ripped open paths for the invasion troops, but flew in air-borne soldiers. Attacks on the coast and strategic areas inland from the Mediterranean have been carried out for some time, climaxed by a thunderous three-day bombardment of beach targets ending Monday. Then the Allied tactical operations began in cooperation with naval gunning.

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

August 1944

2000 U. S. BOMBERS STRIKE AT TARGETS IN HEART OF REICH

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

Associated Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Aug. 16 — Another great American armada of 2000 planes, half heavy bombers, smashed today at aircraft and oil plants and airdromes in Germany, while other hundreds of fliers attacked enemy troops and defenses on the North and South French battlefields. Targets all were in the Leipzig and Magdeburg area in the very heart of Germany.

Striking from Italy, unescorted Flying Fortresses bombed strategic rail bridges in Southern France without encountering German planes while Liberators bombed a German chemical works at Friedrichshafen.

Berlin was bombed Tuesday night with 2-ton blockbusters with which RAF Mosquitoes disturbed the Nazi capital's sleep.

This was the fourth straight day in which the U. S. Eighth Air Force had sent 1000 or more Flying Fortresses and Liberators against continental objectives.

The Germans said bomber fleets from the west were over Saxony, Central Germany, Hannover, Brunswick and other sections, while other armadas were flying across the Alps from Italy into the Tyrol and Bavaria. An early Berlin report asserted that 20 bombers were destroyed.

Squalls in Normandy cut air support for the Allied battle of annihilation after a day in which a massive force of 1900 heavy bombers, with supporting fighters in great strength, mangled 21 German Air Force bases. Some 14,000 fliers supported the D-Day

operations in the south of France. On the Russian, French and Italian fronts, Allied communiques listed 71 German planes destroyed and 56 Allied craft lost.

Tactical air units in Normandy joined artillery in raining lethal blows on the beleaguered German Seventh Army, despite deteriorated weather. Mosquitoes on their nightly prowls hunting German transport in France were restricted by the weather but bombed three trains near Paris, eight barges on the Oise and 30 vehicles near Livarot.

Fighter-bombers based in Britain and France reported destroying or damaging at least 52 tanks and more than 350 vehicles in widespread operations Tuesday. They also silenced 30 guns and knocked out 30 locomotives.

Waves of Nazi Flying Bombs Blast England

Toll of Life Heavy; Crowded Shops Hit

London, Aug. 16 (UP)—Squadrons of flying bombs droned across the channel from the French Coast at dawn today, slipping through a dense mist and again taking a heavy toll of life in southern counties. The attack followed a bomb-free night, the first in six.

Waves of robot bombs continued to cross the channel in the early evening. Crowds of bathers and picnic parties on a beach at a Southeast Coast town continued about their pastimes while anti-aircraft shells being fired at the robots burst steadily a mile or so offshore.

Ack-ack gunners, perfecting a new technique to combat the Nazi system of hurling large groups of the bombs at one time, waited until the winged missiles approached their area, then filled the sky with a wall of steel. A large number of the bombs were exploded in mid-air and coastal towns were shaken by the recurring blasts. Thousands of coastal residents watched the barrage.

One bomb crashed into a row of shops at a street intersection in one town. The shops were filled and the streets packed with traffic when the bomb exploded. A number of persons were killed outright and many others were buried in the debris of the store buildings. A bus was wrecked, two others were badly damaged and two drivers were killed in their seats. Three hours after the explosion rescue squads still were digging living and injured persons from the rubble. Many of the dead and injured were caught beneath a toppling bus.

ALLIES BOMB BREST, GERMAN FACTORIES, ROCKET STRUCTURE

LONDON, Aug. 26 (AP).—Allied air forces pounded the Germans all along the Western Front for the third consecutive day in the wake of 1000-bomber night operations by the RAF and 6450 offensive flights flown Friday from British and French bases.

From Brest to the Baltic the Allied warplanes fought through increasing opposition. Heavy and medium bombers heavily attacked Brest in support of American assault troops.

The RAF sent "well over" 1000 bombers against Germany in the night. Their main objective was the huge Opel motor plant at Russelheim. The industrial and railway center of Darmstadt, between Frankfurt and Mannheim, also was attacked, while Mosquito bombers again attacked Berlin.

The RAF lost 27 planes in all its operations. Other air forces listed 40 planes missing in Friday's operations.

Rocket Structure Attacked

The British Air Ministry disclosed that before dark Friday RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes attacked "a large concrete structure believed to be connected with the enemy's threatened use of long-range rockets, at Wattem in Pas-de-Calais.

Against the Allied loss of 67 planes was the tally of 134 German aircraft destroyed in the air and on the ground. The amount of fighter opposition encountered was regarded here as a possible sign that the Germans now may be beaten to a point where they have decided to risk their remaining planes in a desperate defense of Germany itself.

Nazi fighters swarmed up from their new bases around Cambrai, Soissons, Reims and San Quentin—and the Ninth U. S. Force bagged 51 ME-109s and FW-190s in the air plus 41 on the ground. Ten more German fighters were caught in the Beauvais area.

29 Air Transports Destroyed

At Dijon, 29 clumsy troop carrier JU-52s were left smoldering as well as two fighters.

The Second Tactical Air Force alone destroyed on Friday 269 motor vehicles, 56 tanks, 29 barges, two motor vessels and two tugs.

British Beaufighters escorted by Polish Mustangs set fire to a heavily-armed escort vessel northwest of Borkum in the Frisian Islands and left two other ships ablaze in the 16-ship convoy.

Typhoons and Spitfires harassing the German retreat across the Seine saturated the lower reaches of the river with bombs and rockets. They set fire to at least two large ships which later were believed sunk.

RAF heavy bombers late Friday evening bombed robot-launching sites and the night's bombing activity, coupled with the continued lull in robot attacks, indicated the constant hammering of flying-bomb firing and supply points was proving effective.

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

August 1944

3,000 Planes Press Air War On Germany

Kiel, Stettin, Ploesti Plastered by Bombers

London, Aug. 17 (UP)—Paced by almost 1,200 of the RAF's heavy bombers, some 3,000 Allied planes, in a 12-hour offensive aimed at cutting German supply and escape gateways on the Eastern and Western fronts, today blasted enemy targets across a vast triangle from the Bay of Biscay to the Baltic Sea and south to the Balkans.

A force of 1,000 American bombers and fighters from Italy again lashed at the Romanian oil center of Ploesti and the Yugoslav air-drome at Nis, guarding the valley from the Aegean to Central Europe, after British bombers plastered the two great Baltic ports of Kiel and Stettin with about 1,000 tons of bombs each.

Fleeing Germans Battered

Hundreds of British and American craft of all types fought through heavy weather to strike new blows at the retreating German Seventh Army in Northern France, while Lancasters attacked enemy shipping in the besieged port of Brest.

Huge masses of flame and great explosions were reported by the RAF crews which raided Kiel and Stettin. The attack on Stettin aimed at choking the Berlin-Stettin Canal, being used increasingly by the Nazis to move supplies to East Prussia and remove evacuees.

16 Planes Lost

Sixteen British aircraft were missing after the night's opera-

tions, which included the third straight attack on Berlin.

Despite "soupy" weather which curtailed the Allied air offensive over Northern France, more than 250 U. S. Ninth Air Force bombers roared down behind the enemy's fleeing armor to bomb ten bridges over the little Risle River across which the Germans were struggling eastward to the Seine. Other craft at the same time ripped German communications over a wide area from Rouen through Brussels, Reims and Paris.

Bombers Blast German Plane And Oil Plants

23 U. S. Heavies Lost; 32 Nazis Shot Down

London, Aug. 16 (AP) — The Allies threw another one-two aerial punch at the German homeland today as more than 1,000 Britain-based American heavy bombers hit aircraft and Synthetic oil plants inside the Reich and Liberators from Italy bombed the Friedrichshafen chemical works.

A communique from the U. S. Strategic Air Force in Britain, Britain, calling the enemy opposition the strongest in weeks, said 23 heavy bombers and three fighters failed to return from Germany.

The American fighters reported shooting down 32 German planes in air combat, including two rocket-propelled planes, and on the way back to Britain shot up 23 locomotives and more

than 100 railroad cars.

At the same time medium, light and fighter-bombers harassed the Germans on the western and southern French fighting fronts and unescorted Flying Fortresses bombed vital railway bridges in Southern France.

Air support over the Falaise-Argentan corridor was somewhat reduced, however, by poor weather.

Following up the gigantic 4,000-sortie raids on the German air force in the field Tuesday, the American bombers assaulted a half-dozen aircraft plants and synthetic oil factories in Germany. Results were described as excellent.

Fighter opposition and intense anti-aircraft fire made the skies hot for the raiders, and their escort of nearly 1,000 fighters had a busy time keeping the interceptors off the big bombers. Many of the German planes were the new rocket-propelled fighters.

British Mosquitos dropped 4,000-pound bombs in Berlin during the night and also patrolled the front-line areas.

Allied Bombers Blast Nazi Barges on Seine

LONDON, Aug. 18 (AP)—A great fleet of Allied bombers and fighters streamed across the channel today toward Northern France, where the Germans were reported concentrating hundreds of river barges for a "Dunkerque" escape attempt across the Seine.

In a frantic move to stem the merciless Allied raking of retreating German columns from the air, the enemy threw up an unusually large swarm of fighters. Polish and RAF Mustang squadrons took them on and swiftly shot down 16 with a single loss.

A small force of American liberators, beginning the U. S. Eighth Air Force's third year of operations, continued a drive against the Germans' few remaining front line air bases with an attack on the field at Roze, 70 miles north of Paris.

British Mosquitoes attacked the western German industrial center of Mannheim Thursday night and plunged bombs into Germans fleeing toward the Seine Thursday from the Falaise-Argentan gap. Heavy bombers attacked shipping at besieged Brest, where elements of three trapped divisions might be attempting an escape.

Attacks on the retreating Germans, their highways and bridges continued over night.

Only one bridge is believed left standing over the Seine—at Conflans Ste. Honore, 15 miles north of Paris. The big stone bridge at Mantes-Gassicourt is shattered. Since Wednesday evening, 22 bridges across the Risle, which flows west and parallel to the Seine before their confluence, have been bombed.

A fuel dump near La Mailleraye Sur Seine was bombed; rail lines from Belgium to France were patrolled systematically; transport targets southeast of Paris and in Normandy were attacked. East of the Seine, 1000 locomotives and railroad cars were destroyed or damaged, complicating the German defenses.

The Mediterranean Air Force struck the Ploesti oil field installations in Romania again Thursday night in the wake of a daylight attack by about 500 U. S. heavy bombers and a large number of fighters.

August 1944

2 • World News

2300 U. S. PLANES RAID OIL AND PLANE PLANTS IN GERMANY

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Aug. 24.—A vast armada of 2300 American planes smashed a dozen targets in Germany and on the Czech border today while the RAF bombed and strafed a Nazi "Dunkerque" attempt from the great port of Le Havre at the mouth of the Seine, only a few miles beyond advancing Allied lines.

The attacks in Germany by 1300 heavy bombers and 1000 fighters constituted one of the greatest assaults ever mounted by United States Air Forces.

Targets included synthetic oil plants at Merseberg, Misburg and Ruhland in Germany and Brux on the Czechoslovak border. Also bombed were an oil refinery at Freital near Dresden, two airplane plants at Brunswick, German Air Force stations at Kolleda near Merseberg and Langenhagen near Hannover, a radio factory at Mielmar and other industrial targets at Kiel.

The daylight assaults came less than 12 hours after Mosquitoes of the RAF Bomber Command raided Cologne and industrial objects in the Ruhr without loss Wednesday night.

Despite unfavorable weather, British and Dutch Mitchell bombers blasted a German fuel dump at Arques la Bataille, south of Dieppe, and all planes returned safely.

Supreme Headquarters disclosed that more than 500 motor vehicles and 15 river barges were destroyed by fighter bombers in attacks Wednesday on the enemy's Seine escape routes.

Allied fighters, in direct support of the ground forces along the river, shot down 17 enemy planes and damaged 12 others. Fifteen Allied aircraft were lost.

Allied headquarters at Rome announced that Mitchell bombers attacked two road bridges, 40 miles north of Turin, Wednesday after it was reported two German panzer divisions were heading in that direction with the apparent intention of crossing into the French Riviera to attack Allied forces in Southern France.

Crewmen of Italian-based Liberators, which attacked the Fanto Vosendorf oil refinery 6 miles south of Vienna, reported many hits and much black smoke.

For the first time since the fall of Yugoslavia, Spitfire bombers piloted by Yugoslavs raided German army headquarters at Marcetec in Dalmatia on the Adriatic coast.

U. S. BOMBERS RAID ROCKET STATION

LONDON, Aug. 25 (AP).—More than 1100 American heavy bombers escorted by strong forces of fighters and fighter-bombers smashed today at ten North German objectives, including the Peenemunde experimental station north of Berlin where flying and rocket bombs are developed. Targets included four aircraft factories, three air force stations, a research center, a synthetic oil plant and the robot bomb station.

Simultaneously, nine waves of Marauder and Havoc bombers attacked the fortifications of the besieged Brittany port of Brest for almost a solid hour starting at 3 P. M. About 300 planes participated, Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters said. Elements of three German divisions have been locked

in the Brest forts for several weeks.

Peenemunde lies on the Baltic, 110 miles from Berlin, and has been a frequent Allied target. Recent advices have said the Germans were developing their "V-2" weapon there, variously described as a 60-to-90-ton rocket carrying a 10-ton explosive warhead.

Berlin radio reported that another formation from Italy was ranging over Austria on the second consecutive day of the renewed Allied aerial offensive.

The raids followed Thursday's record attack in which more than 1900 heavy bombers blasted oil refineries in Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Mosquito bombers hammered German transport in France and Belgium during the night, destroying 63 motor vehicles and 50 railway cars, including one staff car at the cost of one plane.

NEW ATTACKS END FLYING-BOMB LULL

LONDON, Aug. 28 (U.P.).—The Germans resumed their flying-bomb attacks on London and the southern counties shortly after noon today, ending a 31-hour respite from the terror raids.

The missiles which hit the affected areas today were the first since before daylight Sunday and followed speculation by London newspapers that the robot bombs might be on the way out.

The Daily Mail said the Russians had come across a place in Poland where the Germans have been testing super "V-2" rockets and had turned over the information to British experts.

Bombers Hit Lyon, Vienna

London, Aug. 23 (UP).—Up to 500 Italy-based American heavy bombers today for the second consecutive day attacked military installations in the Vienna area while medium bombers, flying farther into France than ever before, attacked Lyon, 170 miles north of Marseille.

Allied planes based in Britain roared over the Seine River area as skies cleared, slashing again at the Nazi "bridge of boats" and doing terrible execution among the fleeing Germans.

Simultaneously, Ninth Air Force headquarters disclosed that the Germans had lost 239 planes since D-Day attempting to penetrate the screen of American day and night fighters which constantly patrols American sectors in France. Probably destroyed were 209 more Nazi planes. Our P-61 Black Widow night fighters have been doing the bulk of the defensive fighting, with great success.

Other Italy-based heavy bombers attacked railroad bridges over the Po River at Ferrara in Northern Italy.

August 1944

600 U. S. HEAVIES RAID KIEL, BREMEN AND ROBOT SITES

8/30/44

Nazi Naval Base Target of
Fighter-Escorted Fortresses
—Pas-de-Calais Attack Co-
ordinated With Land Drive

By ROBERT L. FREY

United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Aug. 30 (U.P.)—Six hundred U. S. Flying Fortresses with 300 fighter escorts today attacked the German naval base at Kiel, targets in the Bremen area and eight flying-bomb sites in the Pas de Calais co-ordinating the latter raid with the British land drive on the same section. More than 250 heavy bombers struck the flying-bomb platforms.

The Pas de Calais raiders met no air opposition and little anti-aircraft fire. The target area, midway between the coast and a line drawn from Lille to Amiens, formerly sent up heavy flak barrages against Allied aircraft. One plane was lost.

A thousand RAF night bombers plastered targets in Germany from Berlin to the Baltic ports of Stettin and Koenigsberg.

Four-engined Lancaster bombers, striking in direct support of Russian troops on the Eastern Front, unloaded more than 1300 tons of high explosives and incendiaries on Stettin, stoking vast fires that sent smoke 26,000 feet into the air. Koenigsberg also received a heavy load.

Transport Lines Raided

Both Stettin and Koenigsberg are on major supply lines for German troops and equipment moving east. Koenigsberg, capital of East Prussia, is within 85 miles from the Russian front.

Mosquitoes dumped 2-ton block-busters on Berlin and high explosives and incendiaries on the wreckage of Hamburg. In the night operations 41 British planes were lost.

Despite unfavorable weather over the Northern French battlefield, Allied fighters and fighter-bombers wrecked or damaged 90 locomotives, 310 rail cars, over 300 motor vehicles, two roundhouses and two tunnels. They destroyed 20 German planes on an airfield.

1,900 Bombers Hit Nazi Oil, Plane Plants

Heavy Blow Follows Romania Capitulation

London, Friday, Aug. 25 (UP)—The U. S. Strategic Air Forces hurled 1,900 heavy bombers—the greatest force it has ever sent into a strategic mission over Europe—against oil refineries in Germany and Czechoslovakia yesterday, striking a hammer blow at Adolf Hitler's oil production within 24 hours of Romania's capitulation and the potential loss to the Axis of Ploesti oilfields.

More than 1,300 flying Fortresses and Liberators of the Eighth U. S. Air Force flew from British bases, and about 600 from the 15th Air Force bases in Italy. Very strong forces of fighters—probably another 1,900 planes—accompanied the raiders.

Their targets included four synthetic oil plants, three in Germany and one in Czechoslovakia; three oil refineries, one in Germany and two in Czechoslovakia; an aircraft engine plant, and a fighter and bomber assembly plant in Germany; two German air force stations in Germany and an enemy air-drome in Czechoslovakia; a radio equipment factory in Germany and industrial targets at the great port of Kiel.

Losses for the Eighth Air Force were 25 bombers and five fighters. Bomber crews and fighter escort for the Eighth destroyed 12 enemy planes in air combat, and fighters destroyed 14 more on the ground.

Victories and losses for the Italy-based 15th had not been received here late Thursday night. The communique reported good to excellent bombing results.

Other thousands of Allied planes scourged the battered and fleeing German armies in France. RAF Lancasters, with fighter escort, attacked German patrol boat shelters at IJmuiden, Holland, with 12,000-pound bombs, and another flight attacked German shipping at Brest.

Raids From Italy

British Beaufighters attacked with rockets five vessels in Heligoland Bight and left two flagships, an auxiliary ship and a merchant vessel in flames. Two planes were lost.

From Italy 750 U. S. heavy bombers struck in tactical support of Russian armies by bombing Hungarian rail bridges and yards at Szeged and Szolnok and enemy barracks and train. Some of these planes flew into Czechoslovakia and bombed steel works at Moravska Ostrava, the largest plate-rolling mill in Europe.

The Mediterranean air forces struck transport facilities in Northern Italy, Yugoslavia and Southern France. Twelve German and 21 Allied planes were lost.

Russian airmen bombed a German supply convoy off the Lithu-

1,500 Bombers Of U. S. Force Blast Europe

Other Planes Hit All Day From France

Copyright, 1944, by the New York Times

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces, Thursday, June 15—The U. S. Eighth Air Force set another new record yesterday when it launched more than 1,500 heavy bombers in an assault on the enemy in four countries.

The number exceeded by at least 100 the previous high mark for heavy bombers dispatched from Britain on a single operation, which was set by the Eighth on Monday.

The massive attack of the Flying Fortresses and Liberators was directed against Le Bourget-Paris field, airports at Creil, Etampes-Mondesir, Orleans-Bricey and Chateaudun in France; Brussels-Melsbroeck in Belgium; Eindhoven in Holland and the oil refinery at Emmerich just over the German frontier.

15 U. S. Bombers Lost

Their hundreds of fighter-escorts scoured the countryside for military installations. Fifteen bombers and eight fighters failed to return.

British bombers Tuesday night made their first after-dark flight over the Alps from Italy to attack the Munich area for the third time in four days. German sources reported American daylight raiders near Budapest, Hungary, and in Yugoslavia yesterday. Communications and oil were the primary objectives.

All day long from the Normandy beach-head Allied aircraft attacked Nazi bridges, freight yards, crossroads, troop convoys and concentrations and supply depots.

Fliers reported little German opposition in the air but many said anti-aircraft fire within the battlefront area was strengthening.

Marauders and Havocs carried out ten separate forays on enemy communications leading to the eastern flank of the battlefront.

From all operations, two Marauders and seven fighter-bombers are missing against three enemy aircraft destroyed.

September 1944

Mosquitoes Shatter More Bremen Docks

LONDON, Sept. 2 (AP).—British Mosquitoes hit the German port of Bremen in the night, piling more destruction on a 3-mile stretch of wreckage in docks and the commercial center of the city. The port was heavily raided Aug. 26.

German transport in France and the Low Countries was torn by fighters and light bombers which operated through bad weather Friday slashing at road, rail and canal traffic. Destroyed or damaged were more than 1800 vehicles, 127 locomotives, 987 railroad cars, 42 barges, 9 tanks, 19 guns, 12 gun-sites and 8 horse-drawn artillery pieces.

Typhoons sprayed canal and Somme barges with rockets.

A Thunderbolt group raked German ammunition trains between Aachen and Duren and blew up 20 freight cars northeast of Brussels which the pilots believed were carrying flying bombs.

The Eighth Air Force lost 8 fighters and destroyed 5 planes in the air and 5 on the ground.

The Ninth Air Force flew more than 24,000 sorties in August and destroyed 10,000 transport units, including railway cars. It destroyed or damaged 607 motor transport and 142 horse-drawn vehicles Friday.

American fliers skip-bombed caves on Cezembre Island off St. Malo harbor with incendiaries. The German garrison that had been sheltered from shells of the British battleship Malaya hung out white flags.

U. S. 15th Air Force Mustangs based in Italy destroyed 56 grounded enemy planes in a strafing attack on the Debrecen airdrome in Hungary Friday. Another Mustang formation strafed an airdrome at Kecskemet, south of Budapest, and 750 heavy bombers attacked the Nis airdrome in Yugoslavia and rail facilities in Northern Italy, Yugoslavia and Hungary.

Rhineland Points Hit In 3-Way Air Blow

LONDON, Sept. 5 (AP).—American heavy bombers smashed today at the Rhineland transport and industrial centers of Stuttgart, Karlsruhe and Ludwigshafen, all in the path of the advancing Allied armies of the West. Berlin said other American fleets from Italy were striking in Hungary, supporting Russian armies moving through the Transylvanian Alps.

Perhaps the most significant of the three-target attack by nearly 750 Flying Fortresses and Liberators from Britain was the attack on the rail yards and repair shops at Karlsruhe, just across the French-German border in the Rhineland. Mosquitoes dropped many two-ton blockbusters on Karlsruhe Monday night without loss.

The Russians also were hitting Germany from the East. At midnight, Moscow announced attacks on East Prussian airdromes, the sinking of a 6000-ton supply ship in the Baltic Sea, and the sinking of one and the damaging of two high-speed barges in the Gulf of Finland—part of the craft taking three German divisions from the southern part of surrendered Finland. The Russians destroyed 13 planes.

The daylight blows today on Adolf Hitler's swiftly shrinking holdings ended a 36-hour lull caused by muggy weather. Mediterranean air fleets kept busy, however. They bombed German submarines tied up in Genoa after escaping Southern France. They freshly interdicted the Brenner Pass supply and escape route, perhaps the only one left to Germans in the Gothic Line.

Bombers Continue Attack on Brest

SUPREME HQ., ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Sept. 6 (AP).—The text of Communiqué No. 151, issued at 5 A. M. today (EWT), said:

"In the Brussels-Antwerp sector, Allied forces were engaged yesterday in mopping up operations. Further west, forward elements of our armor have reached the southern outskirts of Gent.

"Allied troops continued to make good progress north of the Somme, reaching the line of Alre-St. Omer yesterday evening. Other forces bypassing Boulogne have reached the area of the Forêt De Guines.

"Further south our troops advancing into Belgium have freed Charleroi and Namur. Crossings of the Meuse River have been made at Dinant and Givet, where enemy opposition was light. Mopping up continued in the area south of Mons, where more enemy troops are surrounded.

"Fighters and fighter-bombers strafed and dive-bombed enemy airfields, road convoys and railway trains in Holland and Western Germany yesterday; 143 enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground, and 28 shot down in combat.

"Enemy shipping off the Dutch islands was attacked by rocket-firing fighters. One medium-size vessel was sunk and another left on fire, and three smaller craft damaged. During the night railway targets in Holland and Germany were attacked by light bombers.

"The aerial bombardment of the fortified area of Brest was continued during the day by heavy medium and light bombers. Troop concentrations at Le Havre were attacked by heavy bombers, which dropped more than 1000 tons of high explosives."

September 1944

Britons Told Robot Bomb Drive Smashed

Defense Chief Reports Death Toll Tops 5,000

London, Sept. 7 (AP)—War-worn Britain, after 80 days of punishment from Hitler's blindly destructive robot bombs, was told officially today that the ordeal has ended and that the oft-threatened V-2 reprisal assault was not likely to be serious.

"Except possibly for the last few shots, the Battle of London is over," declared Lieut. Col. Edwin Duncan Sandys, in charge of the defense against the flying bombs.

With the formally-declared end of the assault, censorship regulations were lifted to disclose that a total of 8,000 robot bombs were launched against London and Southern England since June 12th, but that only 2,300 got through. More than 5,000 persons were killed by these bombs which did land.

(The London Daily Mail gave these unofficial totals of robot casualties: 5,817 killed, 17,086 seriously injured, of which the civilian casualties in London were 5,181 killed and 15,550 seriously injured.)

Since 14 months before the first buzzbomb startled London June 12th, Sandys directed a desperate campaign to spare the civilian populace from the death and devastation the government feared.

When asked if the Allied drive along the French Coast also had knocked out the V-2 or pick-a-back launching sites, Sandys replied:

"I am a little chary about talking about V-2M. We do know quite a lot about it."

Sandys said American-built Mustangs along with late model British Spitfires and Tempest fighter planes shot down 1,900 robots. An anti-aircraft belt which included 800 heavy guns and 2,000 light pieces claimed 1,500 robots. An inter arc of 2,000 balloons which was the last line of defense in Sandys' scheme, intercepted 15 per cent of the bombs which escaped fighters and ground gunners.

U. S. Bombers Hit Transport In West Reich

Rake Balkan Areas; Hit Brest Twice in Day

London, Sept. 6 (UP) — American Eighth Air Force fighter planes dealt the road and rail transport of Western Germany today the same brand of high-speed destruction that crippled German armies in France, while about 750 American Heavy bombers roared up from Italy to tangle enemy rail lines in the Balkans.

Early reports indicated little German fighter opposition anywhere. About 250 Thunderbolt and Lightning fighters attacked transport in the Low Countries and

Western Germany. Early this evening the German radio said bombers were over Northwestern Germany.

Allied bombers continued the slow pulverization of German defenses at the French port of Brest. The U. S. Ninth Air Force sent 300 bombers in 16 waves against Brest, where their targets were gun positions, strongpoints and supply dumps.

In the afternoon, French-based Marauders made the second attack of the day and the fifth in four days against Brest, hammering the German installations for more than an hour.

Catching enemy troops moving to the north from below the Danube, a formation of Mediterranean air force Liberators bombed a concentration of enemy troops tanks and vehicles in Leskovac 150 miles south of Belgrade.

Fortresses reported good results in bombing the rail yards at Oradea, Romania, 125 miles east of Budapest near the Hungarian border.

1,500 Bombers Lash Nazis In Extreme Cold

London, Sept. 8 (AP) — Fighting their way through a storm and temperatures as low as 50 below zero, almost 1,500 Flying Fortresses and Liberators blasted four top priority German targets in the Rhineland directly behind the Siegfried Line today.

The targets for the big formations of U. S. bombers included the synthetic oil and chemical plants at Ludwigshafen, pounded for the fourth time in two weeks, the vital railway freight yards at Karlsruhe just behind the Siegfried Line, equipment at storage depots at Kastel and a tank factory at Gustavsburg, both on the outskirts of Mainz. This was the first air attack on the latter two targets.

Flak was especially heavy over Ludwigshafen and 20 of the great fleet of bombers were missing although all of the 500 escorting Mustang fighters returned safely.

U. S. heavy bombers of the Mediterranean Air Force also struck during the day at railroad yards and bridges throughout eastern Yugoslavia in direct support of the Red Army and Marshal Tito's partisans.

PLANES FLY GAS TO PATTON'S TANKS

U. S. THIRD ARMY HQ., France, Sept. 9 (AP).—A sky-train of C-47 transports has flown in gasoline for Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's thirsty trucks, jeeps and armor on the Moselle front.

Laden with thousands of gallons of fuel, the cargo craft landed on forward air strips two days ago to supplement the flow of gasoline over the lengthening highway supply line from Normandy.

The first planes were under the command of Maj. Daniel F. Elam of Duncan, Okla. They brought gasoline for the 19th Infantry Division. The bogged-down soldiers tossed helmets into the air at sight of the big air-freighters.

NOTE: Dad's gas runs during
the month of September to
France for Patton

Sept '44 & Jan '45

B

4

BUFFALO COURIER-EXPRESS
Saturday, September 9, 1944

Million Men Reach France In Four Weeks

Nazis' Secret Weapons Unable to Stop Ships

London, Sept. 8 (UP)—Although the Germans launched a series of secret weapons, including human torpedoes and explosive motor boats against our cross-channel shipping more than 1,000,000 men were landed in France in the first 28 days of the invasion of Northern France, high naval authorities disclosed tonight.

Revealing the effective fighting the "silent services" have waged since D-Day when the "Army was in the public eye only because of the work of the Allied navies," a high naval officer disclosed that up to D-Day plus 28, 183,500 vehicles and 650,000 tons of supplies also were landed on French shores.

During this time, the enemy used hundreds of U-boats, aircraft, human torpedoes and explosive motor boats against the Allied craft plying the channel and lying at anchor off the French Coast.

Attacks by torpedoes and motor boats reached a peak during the first week of August and they took a fair toll of Allied shipping—but their own losses were so large the raids were abandoned.

Since the invasion began there has been naval fighting in the channel almost every night, the officer disclosed. The Allies have lost frigates, motor torpedo boats and destroyers to the enemy. The Germans' last ace in the hole was the explosive motor boat—a launch filled with dynamite which was directed toward its target by lashing its tiller after which its crew abandoned the craft in a dinghy.

The Allied navies also battled mines literally running into millions.

It took a force of 2,000 to 3,000 craft and some 15,000 men to build artificial harbors of concrete piers and by sinking blackships on which work was begun on D-Day plus one. They still are used extensively, although Cherbourg already is taking a great tonnage of vital supplies.

Erring Navigator 'Chutes, Asks Way

Headquarters, U. S. 14th Air Force in China, Sept. 28 (AP)—The all-Chinese crew of a B-25 medium bomber in the Chinese-American composite wing recently showed the Americans something new in finding the way home—they dropped a man by parachute to enquire.

The Chinese crew reached the Yangtze River returning from a mission, but couldn't determine which way to go from there. So, the navigator who had muffed his job was ordered to bail out, and the plane circled overhead while he floated down, asked some friendly villagers for directions, and scratched an arrow in the sand beside the river. The navigator was left to walk back to the base.

Umm... Lickin' Good... Grennan
Cook Book Cake. 25c at Grocers.

—Adv.

BOMBERS ATTACK REICH FOR 13TH DAY

LONDON, Jan. 4 (AP)—German reports of Allied bombers approaching from the south, apparently U. S. 15th Air Force Flying Fortresses and Liberators from Italy, heralded the 13th straight daylight attack on the Reich today. Until noon there was no warning of bomber formations invading Germany from the west—a sign that the weather might be halting the record winter string of 12 consecutive days of raids by the U. S. Eighth Air Force from Britain.

Snow, rain and leaden skies prevented operations Wednesday by aircraft based in France, Belgium and Holland. Bombers flying from Britain had to drop their explosives through a heavy overcast.

Late Wednesday British four-engined Lancasters and Halifaxes bombed two German fuel plants near Dortmund in the Ruhr and long-range Mosquitoes carried the attacks through the night with raids on scattered objectives in Western Germany.

German flak defenses caused the loss of one bomber and two fighters from the RAF Wednesday and Wednesday night and three American bombers and two fighters. Seven other American fighters failed to return, but they were believed safe. More than 900 fighter bombers and fighters struck at enemy communications in a wide area in Italy and Yugoslavia Wednesday.

LUFTWAFFE'S RAID REPEATS A LESSON

By KENNETH L. DIXON
Associated Press Staff Correspondent.
WITH U. S. FORCES, Belgium,

Jan. 2 (Delayed by Censor).—The announced score of 363 German planes destroyed on New Year's Day by Allied anti-aircraft and fighters, representing the biggest single day's aerial toll of the war, recalled to the Allies a painful lesson.

It again taught them, first, that anti-aircraft pays for itself in protecting airfields and, second, that planes parked at the fields always must be dispersed.

Allied airfields unprotected by anti-aircraft guns suffered far more damage than others. Apparently aware of the unguarded nature of some Royal Air Force fields, Luftwaffe pilots took their own sweet time making strafing and bombing runs.

No reason was given why such airfields were left unprotected other than the assumption that superior Allied air strength had been relied upon to stave off any enemy air assaults.

In addition, despite the costly lessons of the past two or three years, some of the same fields had planes parked wing-tip to wing-tip.

Again in this instance, the only explanation seemed to have been overconfidence in Allied air strength, which never yet has been able to keep occasional low-flying enemy raiders from scoring.

Top U. S. Ace in Europe Has 35 Nazis to Credit

London, Jan. 1 (AP)—Lieut. Col. John C. Meyer of Forest Hills, N. Y., is the highest scoring active U. S. Eighth Air Force fighter ace in Europe with a total of 35 Nazi planes, the U. S. Strategic Air Force announced today.

The New Yorker has destroyed 22 German planes in the air and 13 on the ground. His 22d air kill was scored on a jet plane Sunday.

U. S. FLIERS DOWN 130 NAZI PLANES IN BIGGEST FIGHT

Pursuit Planes Clash With
Luftwaffe as Fleet of 1000
Bombers Attacks German
Oil Industry 9/11/44

By the United Press.

LONDON, Sept. 11.—The Luftwaffe, goaded into action for the first time in months by the approach of Allied armies to the Reich's border, rose to challenge a fleet of 1750 American warplanes today and lost more than 130 interceptor planes in aerial combat alone.

The Luftwaffe sent groups of 25 to 100 or more planes into the air to challenge the American formations, and the biggest air battle in Central and Eastern Germany since late February developed.

The 750 escorting Mustang, Lightning and Thunderbolt fighters found time between beating off the enemy attacks to sweep down and strafe German aircraft on the ground, destroying large numbers and adding to the total put out of action in aerial combat.

American fighters Sunday destroyed 125 German planes but 119 of these were caught on the ground. Today's bag made the two-day total 255.

It was the fourth consecutive day in which 1000 or more American bombers attacked Germany. The continental skies were saturated by Allied planes rising from bases in England, Italy, North and South France.

American losses were not immediately tabulated. A spokesman of the U. S. Eighth Air Force said the 130 was an incomplete count, but already a record bag for fighters. German planes destroyed by the bombers still were to be added.

A great fleet of British heavy bombers pounded besieged Le Havre with a deluge of bombs that probably exceeded the 5000 tons dumped on the besieged channel port Sunday. RAF Lancasters dropped 269,000 incendiary bombs Sunday on Meuchen-Gladbach and Brunswick in the Rhineland and Mosquitoes again bombed Berlin in the night.

Rocket-firing Beaufighters attacked shipping off the Hook of Holland and blew up an ammunition ship.

Spoke already was leaping from the 16th Century city of Le Havre, France's second largest port, when the Halifaxes and Lancasters combed without opposition. Up to 1000 Germans are besieged there by the Canadian First Army and the attack indicated an all-out effort to take the port and open a shorter supply route to the Allied armies.

Eleven hundred American heavy bombers from Britain attacked five targets in Southwestern Germany, Sunday, while 500 more from Italy struck oil refineries in the Vienna

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

September 1944

4 BUFFALO COURIER-EXPRESS, Tuesday, September 12, 1944

Yanks Battle Luftwaffe's Best and Take Heavy Toll

U. S. Fighters Alone Destroy 149 Planes;
Americans Lose 63; Raid Heart of Reich

London, Sept. 11 (UP)—Long-hoarded Luftwaffe fighters, including new rocket planes of terrific speed, came up in strength today for the first time since D-Day to engage a 1,750-plane American air armada striking at Germany's last oil reserves, and the enemy lost 149 planes to our fighters alone.

The U. S. Eighth Air Force, which for two days had pounded targets just inside the German border, switched tactics and sent more than 1,000 heavy bombers into the heart of the Reich against

oil and other targets. More than 750 Mustangs, Lightnings and Thunderbolts escorted the bombers and destroyed the greatest number of German planes ever bagged in the air in one day by American fighters.

Fighters Bag 149 Planes

The fighters shot 110 German planes from the air and destroyed another 39 on the ground. Reports from the American bomber gunners were yet to come in.

Fifteen American fighters were missing and preliminary reports indicated 48 bombers were lost, although the bomber total may drop to 44 when all reports are checked.

The American planes attacked oil plants at Merseburg, at Lutzkendorf, at Leipzig, at Misburg near Hannover, and other targets in Central Germany. Bombing was visual over the three targets named and by instrument over the others.

The final score of the Americans undoubtedly will disclose that the Luftwaffe's best met one of the greatest defeats ever inflicted on an air force, and that over its home territory, in this near-record air battle.

The toughest fighting was near Misburg, where German rocket planes in groups of 20 to 25 came up from below at terrific speed and bored right through the formations of American bombers. Bomber crewmen said the speed of the rocket-propelled fighters was so great that the enemy planes had passed before the U. S. gunners could fire.

The rocket planes, however, were immediately scattered by P-51 Mustangs which had been flying above the big bombers.

The Germans sent fighters in groups of 25 to 100 to challenge the raiders. There was no estimate of the total number of enemy fighters used, but some pilots said they sighted 150 in a single area.

Since September 1st, Eighth Air Force headquarters announced, fighters of the Eighth have destroyed 463 Nazi planes—eight more than they destroyed in the entire year of 1943.

1000 BIG BOMBERS HIT OIL RESERVES IN HEART OF REICH

**Fierce Nazi Opposition Met,
45 Enemy Planes Shot Down
—Factory of Jet-Propelled
Fighters Among Targets**

By the United Press.

LONDON, Sept. 12. — Seven American air armadas totaling more than 1000 heavy bombers struck for the second consecutive day at oil reserves in the heart of Germany today, and their escort of 750 fighter planes shot down at least 45 desperately-attacking German interceptor planes.

While the American raids were under way, 750 RAF Halifax bombers also struck at the *Mehrmacht's* fuel supplies, bombing synthetic oil plants at Scholven-Buer and Wanne-Eickel in the Ruhr Valley.

Meanwhile, 500 American heavy bombers from Italy attacked the Wasserberg factory at Ulm where the Nazis are building new, jet-propelled Messerschmidt-261 planes. They also bombed an airfield at Lechfeld where many of these aircraft have been seen.

In addition, American medium and dive-bombers operating from both Britain and France struck in and behind the Siegfried Line in advance of Lieut. Gen. Courtney Hodges' spearheads. Pilots reported the roads west of the line crowded with German military traffic in retreat.

Nazi Fighters Out in Force

The tool taken today by American fighters brought to 227 the number of Nazi aircraft destroyed in the last 24 hours. That figure did not include those shot down by bombers or machines destroyed on the ground.

Air battles raged today from Kiel on the Baltic to Brux on the Czechoslovakian border, with massed German fighters striking in force. The Nazi pilots flew at the bombers from every direction, ignoring fire from the Flying Fortress and Liberator guns. Some jet-propelled fighters were used by the Germans today, but preliminary reports indicated none reached the bombers.

The Germans put up a virtual curtain of shrapnel around the oil plants, the loss of which will directly affect the course of battle at the Siegfried Line.

Fortresses bound for Brux on the longest mission of the day were hit by group after group of interceptors which remained outside the target area while ground gunners sent thousands of shells screaming up at the bombers.

120-ROBOT TRAIN EXPLODED BY RAF

By ROGER D. GREENE

Associated Press Staff Correspondent

ON THE BRITISH FRONT, Belgium, Sept. 12 (AP)—I have just seen an area in which more than 100 flying bombs were exploded in one spot by an air attack. The nightmare scene is about a half mile from the Ceschulen railway station near the Albert Canal southeast of Diest. At 12:30 P. M. Sept. 11 a squadron of rocket-firing Typhoons pounced on a German-manned train of 40 cars, each car bearing three flying bombs.

The Typhoons blew up the locomotive first, blasting it off the tracks, and then leisurely circled around and around picking off robot bombs intended for England.

"We found parts of a German officer's jacket but nothing else, not even teeth," said the station master who witnessed the attack. "It is not believable how that I am alive; the noise was so formidable," he said. "My house is 3 miles away."

Holes were blown in the earth 50 to 60 feet deep, nearly twice as deep as the biggest craters made by

Allied blockbuster bombs I have seen in France and Belgium.

Train wheels were flung 200 yards or more from the tracks and where the railbed had been there was nothing but a series of yawning pits for a half mile. A roadside factory which produced coal gas for German Army cars was flattened.

Reich Bombed At Rate of 10 Tons a Minute

**Greatest Concentrated
Air Attack in History**

London, Sept. 13 (AP)—Overwhelming formations of between 5,000 and 6,000 Allied planes ranged ahead of Allied ground forces invading Germany in the greatest concentrated air attack in history today, dropping 10,000 tons of bombs between the Siegfried Line and Berlin and destroying at least 53 more planes of the fading German air force.

The Allied bombers peppered the attack area with an average of ten tons of bombs a minute, an efficient example of "carpet" bombing introduced in Africa by Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, now Gen. Eisenhower's deputy commander. Tedder has intensified the assault method so it leaves almost nothing untouched in the area under attack.

Thirty-three German planes were knocked out in the air and 20 destroyed on the ground.

The assault was continued at nightfall by medium bombers which attacked the causeway between Walcheren and South Beveland in Holland and strafed the roads and rail crossings on the south bank of the West Scheldt River.

The U. S. Eighth Air Forces lost 27 bombers and nine fighters. A force of 1,000 Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by 300 fighters, attacked three synthetic oil plants, two motor transport factories and other military targets.

British heavies blasted the Onasbruck marshaling yards, and bombed the synthetic oil plant at Nordstern.

More than 500 heavy bombers based in Italy hit two synthetic oil plants along the Silesian border and another near the Polish frontier.

Ninth Air Force Thunderbolts strafed trucks and trains hauling supplies to enemy forces in the vicinity of Nancy and cut railway tracks in five places near that city as well as destroying many gun emplacements near Metz.

Mustangs Scatter Enemy Planes

Suddenly the barrage lifted and the Nazi fighters swept into the bomber formation. Although outnumbered, the escorting Mustang fighters plunged into the Germans and scattered one formation after another. The Nazi fighters pressed the attack until the Fortresses turned homeward.

The Flying Fortresses and Liberators again bombed the enemy's diminishing oil stores, including those at Ruhland, Baalen, Magdeburg, Brux, Hammingstadt and Misburg.

Moscow reported scores of U. S. Eighth Air Force bombers landed on Russian bases Monday after bombing Chemnitz, 50 miles south-east of Leipzig.

Before dawn, Mosquitoes plunged 2-ton bombs into Berlin and RAF Lancasters pounded Darmstadt in the Upper Rhineland.

Mustang fighters made the long trip from England to Russia with the bombers. A communique from the U. S. Eastern Command bases in Russia said one fighter was missing on the shuttle run. No bomber were lost.

Thursday, September 14, 1944

BAD WEATHER ENDS SIX-DAY BOMBING OF NAZI FACTORIES

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Sept. 14.—Deteriorating weather kept Britain-based heavy bombers at home today after a six-day series of thousand-bomber smashes at Nazi war industries.

Wednesday night RAF Mosquitos blasted Berlin with two-ton blockbusters for the fourth night in a row, rounding out a 24-hour cycle in which more than 12,000 tons of high explosives were dropped on Germany in four massive bomber assaults.

Italy-based Allied warplanes teamed with American Eighth Air Force bombers shuttling from Russia in a devastating attack on German communications and industries in South Central Europe Wednesday.

The weather limited the bag by Mosquitos Wednesday night to one barge and one train in an attack on communications. Two planes were lost in the raid on Berlin, the 31st since Allied troops landed on the continent June 6.

Fires Seen in Darmstadt

The U. S. Ninth Air Force flew 500 sorties, devoting its attention to enemy positions between Aachen and Koblenz on Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army front, and around Nancy and Metz on Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army sector. Seven planes were missing from the operations.

Stuttgart, Osnabruck and Munster still were flaming from hundreds of thousands of incendiaries which the RAF dropped early Wednesday, reconnaissance planes reported. Fires still smoldered in the Hesse capital of Darmstadt, a city of 100,000 near Frankfurt. The British Air Ministry said Darmstadt, in the main fortifications of the Siegfried switch line, was "almost entirely devastated" Sunday night by upwards of 350,000 fire bombs.

Nazi Defenses Altered

Lightning and Mustang pilots of the Ninth Air Force reconnaissance group completed high altitude photography of 2600 square miles of the Siegfried Line and the Rhine River, two big barriers between the Allies and Berlin. The pictures disclosed alterations in German defenses, including improvised obstacles such as "sandtraps."

While 15th Air Force Liberators and Fortresses left fires in Nazi synthetic oil refineries at Odertal in Upper Silesia and Oswiecim in Poland, Eighth Air Force Fortresses, flying the second leg of the Britain-Russia-Italy shuttle, blasted the Doisygor Ordnance Factory in Hungary, 80 miles northeast of Budapest.

RAF Halifaxes, Liberators and Wellingtons Wednesday night made simultaneous raids on three air fields in the Athens area.

Only 200 Nazi Planes in Air During D-Day

Washington, Sept. 17 (AP)—The Luftwaffe was able to put a bare 200 planes into the air against 5,000 Allied aircraft thrown against the Germans on D-Day for the invasion of Southern France, the War Department reported today.

In its first summary of air operations in connection with the landings, the department said that August 15th saw the "greatest display of air strength ever witnessed in the Mediterranean," with more than 4,200 sorties flown.

By the end of the week (the landings were on Tuesday) Allied air forces had launched 9,646 sorties and put down 3,800 tons of bombs on the seven German divisions and the coastal fortifications in the landing area. The only German air reinforcements brought up were 30 ME-109's from Italy.

"Heavy losses might reasonably

be expected in such an assault operation against seven German divisions," the Army said, "but so overwhelming was the Allied power that casualties at the end of invasion week numbered only 1,529 killed and missing. German prisoners during the same period totalled 16,500."

PROBE IS PROMISED IN SAVAGE LYNCHING OF FASCIST OFFICIAL

By ELEANOR PACKARD
United Press Staff Correspondent

ROME, Sept. 19.—An official inquiry was promised today into the lynching of a minor Fascist official by a Roman mob, including hundreds of women, that broke into the Palace of Justice Monday and dragged out their kicking, screaming victim without more than token interference from Italian police.

Count Carlo Sforza, minister without portfolio in the Italian Government, told correspondents the carabinieri and officers who stood by while the mob killed Donato Caretta, assistant director of the Regina Coeli Prison during the Mussolini regime, would be punished severely.

But the count pointed out that Caretta was one of the most hated Fascist leaders in Rome and it would have been very difficult for them to fight off the enraged mob of more than 7000 men and women.

The lynching was an unbelievably-savage mixture of blood and laughter. The mob pounded Caretta's face against the pavement, knocking out his teeth.

Bathers Played With Body

They pulled handfuls of hair from his head and finally gouged out his eyes with their fingers. Then they dragged the body, unconscious but still alive, to the Tiber and threw it in near a bathing barge. Several bathers swam over and began pushing it about like a rubber water toy, diving under it and even playing tug-o-war with it. Women on the shore, unwilling to get wet, shouted, laughed and wept.

A number of men rowed out to the body in a boat and watched for signs of life. Each time it moved they cracked the bloodied head with their oars. Then the naked body was towed to the Mazzini Bridge about a half-mile away and pulled out into the street, where the mob dragged it by the feet. At intervals the ghoulis procession was halted while men and women jumped up and down on it.

Widow Watched Lynching

At the Regina Coeli Prison, Caretta's body was hoisted by the feet and left dangling at a rope-end from a second-story cell.

Most of the Rome press and the official Vatican Osservatore protested against the lynching today, excepting the Republican newspaper Voice Repubblicana, which said it was "justified" as one way of assuring that the "people's justice" will prevail. Some papers took the view that the lynching was due to the slowness of the government in trying Fascist criminals.

Il Tempo reported that Signora Caretta watched the lynching of her husband from a window of the Regina Coeli Prison, where his family still lives. As the battered body was hung from a window, the paper reported, "The cries of grief and horror of Caretta's wife were drowned out by the mob's cries of hate and triumph."

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

September 1944

Fog Ties Up "Game" Played By Nazis and Fighter-Bombers

By WILLIAM H. STONEMAN
Special Radio to BUFFALO EVENING NEWS
NEAR STOLBERG, Friday, Sept. 22.—The 105's and mediums were banging away and in Stolberg their staccato bursts sounded as if a firecracker factory were burning. There had just been a series of thumps in a nearby field as the Germans searched out our guns.

Overhead two Piper Cub observation planes fussed around and above them a squadron of Thunderbolt fighter-bombers came in on a strafing mission.

"Listen to the football game," said the major, pointing to the squeaking pint-size loudspeakers on the table.

An observer, huddled under a hedge on a hilltop across the ravine, was spotting German tanks and directing the leader of the Thunderbolts.

Fog Conceals Tanks

"They're right in the middle of a big field northeast of the church," he squeaked. "Two of them are camouflaged. Now you're just about over them."

"Which church?" squawked the Thunderbolt leader. "I see several."

"The one right under your right wing."

"Okay. I guess I see the field. Steer me around."

"Go out west and come in over

the church and you'll be right on them."

"I still can't see the tanks. There's too much ground haze."

"Well, then, you'd better do something else. There's a woods over to the northeast. You can see it. There're several batteries of German guns there."

"All right," said the squadron leader, 5000 feet above us. "Yes, I can see the woods, I think. We'll come around again and see if we can't get our bombs on it."

Game Ends in Tie

There was a lull of half a minute, then he broke in again: "We are starting our run."

Above we could hear the motors of the planes as they roared in. Then the Thunderbolt leader came on the air again.

"Sorry," he said. "We couldn't see the place well enough to take a chance."

"That's that," said the major. "That game ended in a tie, or was called off on account of fog."

The infantry and artillery went about their business, indifferent to ground mist or anything else that might be happening. Somewhere out to the west a dozen Thunderbolt pilots, who had risked their necks to do a job that couldn't be done, were speeding home.

But there would be other days and they could still count on leading the league.

Planes Strike Reich From West and South

LONDON, Sept. 23 (U.P.)—Strong formations of Allied heavy bombers and fighters swept over the channel today and Berlin reported Allied bombers approaching Germany from Italy.

From Britain and Italy, 1500 planes Friday struck the industrial city of Kassel and the Munich area and Allied fighters assaulted targets along the blazing battlefield despite heavy cloud conditions. The 650 Flying Fortresses hitting Kassel were unchallenged from the air but anti-aircraft fire was heavy and nine bombers and a fighter were missing.

Shuttle planes from an Italy-Russia-Britain mission returned to English bases, dropping supplies to Polish patriots and bombing enemy targets en route. One Flying Fortress and two Mustangs of this unit were lost. They knocked down nine German planes in a fight over Warsaw.

Five hundred Italy-based heavy bombers attacked an airdrome near Munich, railway yards at Lariss and targets in the Po Valley. Seventeen aircraft failed to return. Pilot recognized some jet-propelled craft but few gave battle.

RAF Mosquitoes went after railways and barges along the Scheldt River during the night and struck as far south as Emmerich, 15 miles southeast of Arnhem, on a gap through which the Germans might try to reinforce their armies in the Lower Rhine.

said, it must be assumed

U. S. Airmen Divided Over Firing at Parachuting Foe

Washington, Sept. 25 (AP)—A young Eighth Air Force fighter pilot, home on leave, confided to reporters today that the question whether Allied pilots should shoot at Nazi fliers forced to bail out in combat is one on which American airmen do not see eye to eye.

Maj. George E. Preddy of Greensboro, N. C. said in an interview at the War Department that "about half" of the American pilots don't take advantage of opportunities to shoot parachuting enemy airmen,

but that "some think it should be done, and some do it."

"We know that the Japs do it to us right along, and some of the Germans do it," Maj. Preddy said, "but there is something about shooting helpless men that causes you to hesitate. I never have done it myself but I think it probably should be done. I just haven't done it and I don't think I ever will."

Preddy, who is credited with 23½ German planes destroyed in the air and five on the ground, has had to parachute twice out of falling planes, once into the English Channel when his flak-damaged engine failed. On another occasion he landed in a jungle while he was on duty in the Southwest Pacific area.

750 BOMBERS HIT WESTERN GERMANY

LONDON, Sept. 30 (AP)—Between 750 and 1000 Fortresses and Liberators today attacked Munster, Hamm and Bielsfeld in Western Germany.

RAF Mosquitos bombed Karlsruhe in the night and laid mines in enemy waters. All returned.

Flying bombs killed at least six persons early today in the southern counties and the London area. One bomb crashed on a tenement house, killing three residents and injuring 12 others. Three persons were killed in a residential district, and a dozen homes were demolished. Many were injured seriously. Five persons were listed as missing.

The Germans have been launching the bombs from aircraft over the North Sea.

September 1944

HEAVIES ATTACK NAZI RAIL YARDS AT HAMM, SOEST

Air troops in Holland Aided;
Berlin Raided for 179th
Time; British Rain Fire
Bombs on Bremerhaven

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Sept. 19.—Seven hundred Flying Fortresses, attacked German rail yards at Hamm and Soest today while other hundreds of Allied planes reinforced and supplied the air-borne army invading Holland. Hamm is on the main Berlin-Cologne railway just behind the pierced Siegfried Line. Soest is in the same general area, 28 miles east of Dortmund.

Both rail centers supply troops in Northern Germany and Holland and both have been hit before by the RAF and USAAF. Seven hundred fighters escorted the bombers to Hamm and Soest. The Lightnings, Mustangs and Thunderbolts strafed targets on the way home.

During the night, heavy British bombers rained 420,000 fire bombs on the German port of Bremerhaven, lighting it from end to end. Mosquitoes attacked Berlin for the 179th time, using two-ton bombs.

[The FCC said the Budapest radio broadcast an air-raid warning this morning, suggesting the Mediterranean Allied Air Force also was out.]

Bremerhaven, at the mouth of the Weber River 34 miles northwest of Bremen, would be a logical debarkation point for German troops in the event of a withdrawal from Norway.

The attack upon Berlin was the sixth raid in a week. RAF night fighters and intruder aircraft supported the bombers and shot up German airfields. The Air Ministry listed total British losses in the overnight operations as four planes. Mosquitoes also attacked road transport and barge concentrations along the German-Netherlands border.

Fleet of 2,000 Planes Strikes German Plants

Rail Yards, Chemical,
Oil Factories Hit

London, Sept. 27 (UP)—A great fleet of nearly 2,000 American planes flew through storms, temperatures as low as 36 degrees below zero and fierce Luftwaffe opposition today to smash for the third successive day the railways and war industries of Western Germany.

Forty-three heavy bombers and nine fighters were lost.

More than 1,100 Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by up to 750 fighters, attacked a tank factory at Kassel, railway yards at Oppau, synthetic oil and chemical plants at Ludwigshafen, railway yards and an industrial plant at Cologne and an ordnance depot at Mainz. Bombing was done by instrument through a heavy overcast of clouds.

Beleaguered Troops Bombed

While the Americans were attacking the Rhineland, RAF heavy bombers made their fifth attack in a week on the Calais area, dropping 1,500 tons of bombs on defenses of the Germans beleaguered there. Flak was heavy at the beginning but quickly diminished. One bomber was lost.

The weather over Holland and Northern Germany was stormy with hail and rain alternating and extreme cold at high altitudes. Thick clouds blanketed Europe and furious air battles were fought entirely out of sight of the earth in the sub-stratosphere cold.

Heavy Loss of Liberators

The greatest of these was over Kassel, where the Luftwaffe threw more than 100 fighters against a single group of less than 40 Liberators. The Nazis, attacking head-on and 15 abreast with cannon firing 20-millimeter explosive shells, shot down more than half of the Liberators in one terrific sweep. Some 40 Mustangs rushed to the defense of the stricken Liberators. They shot down five German fighters to one Mustang lost. Surviving Liberator gunners claimed another five Nazi planes. The others escaped into the clouds.

The American heavies took up the job of pounding Western Germany where RAF night bombers left off. The RAF attacked heavily the Rhineland depots of Karlsruhe and Frankfurt, giant bombs sending pillars of flame and smoke more than 8,000 feet into the air.

1,200 Heavies Attack Reich

London, Sept. 26 (AP)—For the second successive day approximately 1,200 American heavy bombers smashed targets in Germany, dropping more than 3,500 tons of high explosives and incendiaries on Nazi warplants and railway yards jammed with Army supplies without encountering any fighter opposition and running through only spotty patches of flak.

Also for the second straight day RAF heavies—a fleet of 600 Lancasters and Halifaxes, carrying more than 4,000 tons of bombs—attacked German fortified positions at Calais in support of the Canadian drive to capture the channel port and former capital of the flying bomb country.

They also blasted one of the last German radio stations in France at Cap Gris Nez and nearby big guns that have been shelling the British Coast for three years.

September 1944

2 BUFFALO COURIER-EXPRESS, Friday, September 29, 1944

49 Bombers, 12 Fighters Lost in 4,000-Plane Blow

36 Enemy Planes Are Shot Down in Attacks On Nazi Garrisons, Railways and Factories

London, Sept. 28 (UP) — Four Allied Air Forces today hurled more than 4,000 planes against "hold-out" Nazi garrisons on the French Coast and war industry targets in the heart of the Reich, carrying into the fourth day one

of the war's greatest strangulation assaults in which 25,000 tons of bombs have been dropped on the enemy.

In one of the deepest penetrations of Germany to cut feeder arteries to the Siegfried Line, more than 1,000 U. S. Eighth Air Force heavy bombers convoyed by 750 fighters gave Kassel its third drubbing in 24 hours and blasted war factories and railroad yards at Magdeburg and Merseburg.

The Luftwaffe again fought back strongly southwest of Berlin against Fortresses which hammered Magdeburg's oil plants and railroad yards, and dog fights blazed all over the sky. But Liberators attacking Kassel, which they hit heavily yesterday and which the RAF pounded during the night, escaped interception to bomb the Henschel tank works in the face of moderate ground fire.

Fifty-nine heavy bombers, the greatest loss since last April 29th when 63 were missing after a

raid on Berlin, failed to return from today's operations. Most of them apparently were lost near Magdeburg where the Germans recklessly closed in, even ignoring U. S. fighters on their tails.

The American fighters were credited with destroying 26 enemy planes and ten more were downed by Fortress gunners. Twelve U. S. fighters were missing. Earlier, Allied headquarters announced that a total of 90 Nazi aircraft were wiped out in Wednesday's furious fighting, with ten Allied fighters lost, while a German communique claimed 75 Allied planes shot down yesterday, including 65 big bombers.

Continuing its heavy assault on German-fortified positions at Calais, the RAF sent two large forces of big bombers across the channel today. In addition to Kassel, British Lancasters during the night attacked Kaiserlautern, a Nazi supply and railway center 40 miles northeast of Saarbrueck, from an altitude of 3,000 feet, setting extensive fires, while night intruders sought out airfields well behind the German lines.

43 U. S. Fighters Bag 44 37 of Foe, Lose One

London, Sept. 26 (UP) — U. S. Eighth Air Force fighters scored one of their most spectacular dog fight victories of the war today, when a group of 43 Mustangs and Lightnings tackled more than 40 Nazi fighters near Haltern and in

15 minutes shot down or damaged 37 of the enemy with a loss of but one U. S. plane.

Led by the redoubtable Col. Hubert Zemke of Missoula, Mont., leading Eighth Air Force ace, the Americans waded in and sent the German planes "falling like leaves," with 23 definitely destroyed, one probably shot down and eight damaged.

The Germans were spotted at about 3,000 feet southwest of Muenster, "looking as if they were assembling to go somewhere,"

when Zemke's outfit pounced on them. Zemke, who himself destroyed two Messerschmitt 109s and damaged a third, said "We were getting ready to come home when I saw an ME-109 and took the boys down to investigate."

"Pretty soon we saw four 109s he recounted. "Then someone shouted over the radio 'Hell, I see ten.' In a few minutes there were over 40 and every one was fighting."

The battle swept the sky for more than a quarter of an hour, with the American guns firing until they were hot.

WAGES are good for IRC bus operators. Transit is vital in war and in peace. Classes forming now for men or women not in paid war work. Apply 855 Main St.—Adv.

OPPORTUNITY for men or women not in paid war work. Be an IRC bus operator. Good pay—even while you learn. Classes forming now. Apply 855 Main St.—Adv.

October 1944

AAF Plane Losses Hit 42,000, Says Arnold

Washington, Oct. 2 (AP)—Approximately 42,000 airplanes have been lost by the Army Air Forces since Pearl Harbor, the AAF disclosed today, with operational losses accounting for twice as many as combat operations.

Since the start of the war, Gen. H. H. Arnold said in a summary, the air forces have dropped a million tons of bombs on the enemy and destroyed more than 27,000 of his planes.

A total of 27,400 planes have been lost as the result of what the Army describes as "other than combat causes" since Pearl Harbor—17,500 in the United States. Presumably a substantial part of the planes lost in the United States were in training operations.

The 14,600 aircraft lost on combat missions included only powered aircraft. Gliders used in airborne operations were not included.

The battle casualty total for the air forces since the start of the war is about 72,000 dead, wounded,

missing or prisoners. (The overall casualty total for the entire Army, including all branches of the service, now is in excess of 337,000.)

In addition to the 27,000 enemy planes definitely destroyed by the AAF, Arnold said that 6,000 others probably were destroyed and 10,000 damaged.

DIAMONDS
OUT OF PAWN
At a Fraction of Original Cost
Why Pay More?
CASH for Your Diamonds
Old Gold and Jewelry
GET OUR PRICE BEFORE BUYING
OR SELLING ELSEWHERE
MUTUAL LOAN AND
JEWELRY CO.
269 MAIN near Swan

Bombing Floods Nazis' Antwerp Ports

LONDON, Oct. 3 (AP)—A strong force of British heavy bombers today blasted the seawall on Wachen Island in the Scheldt Estuary, whose heavy batteries denied the Allies use of the great Belgian port of Antwerp.

The sea poured through huge gaps torn in the dike by 6-ton "earthquake bombs."

The guns on the island could fire to Antwerp, 35 miles southeast.

The attack followed by a day Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's warning to civilians to evacuate that area.

More than 1000 American heavy bombers with 700 escorting fighters attacked war industries and airfields today at the southern German cities of Nurnberg, Gaggenu and Giebelstadt.

U. S. Bombers Deliver Warm Garb to Yanks

London, Oct. 2 (AP)—American strategic bombers have taken a major role in the vital battle of supply now being waged in France and Belgium by loading their bomb bays with winter overcoats and uniforms for shivering American troops instead of explosives for the enemy.

It is apparent that among the biggest problems confronting Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower is the race against winter and the struggle to overcome the handicap of long supply lines.

These obstacles must be measured alongside the problem of German strength. Headquarters now is faced with the question of giving munitions and gasoline higher priority than warm clothes.

Despite the known Allied power, it is apparent that the supreme command is preparing for a long winter campaign.

Troops are being given as much cover as France, Belgium and Holland afford. Mud and slush are ankle deep.

The early rains have robbed the Allied armies of one of their two greatest assets—mobility. The other, which they retain, is air superiority.

Rains have turned fields into quagmires, and American armored divisions now are confined to paved highways where they may be easily dealt with by the defense. It is the same with motorized divisions, and gains are now confined to the foot-slogging infantry.

France and Germany never freeze hard enough to allow tanks to operate in open country in winter and it is likely that the Allies' vast superiority in armored strength soon may be restricted by weather.

capital of ...

4 of Newest Nazi Planes in U. S. Bag

U. S. Eighth Air Force Headquarters, Oct. 7 (UP) — American fighter pilots claimed today to have destroyed four of the latest type German planes, three "flying wings" — twin-engined, jet propelled Messerschmitt-262's — and an ME-163, a rocket plane.

First Lieut. Urban Drew, Mustang pilot, Detroit, Mich., scored the first double kill against the flying wings, spotting two as they left an airfield near Osnabruck. He shot one down and exploded the other in midair. Maj. Richard Conner, Vicksburg, Miss., Thunderbolt pilot, outmaneuvered the other ME-262 in the same area.

Each of three Mustang pilots shared credit for the destruction of the ME-163.

Morgenthau Warns

October 1944

Brenner Pass, Munich Raked By U. S. Bombs

Russian-Based Planes Score Hit on Tirpitz

London, Oct. 4 (AP) — Up to 750 Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the U. S. 15th Air Force hammered Munich railroad yards and the Brenner Pass area today while RAF heavy bombers dumped thousands of tons of explosives on German U-boat pens at Bergen, Norway.

The air ministry revealed that RAF Lancasters which used a Russian airdrome as an intermediate base recently scored a direct hit with a 12,000 pound bomb on the German battleship Tirpitz anchored near Altenfjord, Norway.

5,000-mile Flight

The attack, made without loss, involved a round trip flight of more than 5,000 miles between bases in England and the airdrome in Russia near Archangel.

While Allied heavy bombers were busy, Ninth Air Force mediums destroyed ten enemy gun positions that had been holding up the U. S. First Army drive into the Siegfried Line near Aachen. Other warplanes, supporting the U. S. Third Army near Luneville, knocked out one gun position, 35 locomotives and a viaduct.

The heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force, flying from Italian bases, smashed points on the Brenner Pass railroad and other Nazi communication routes into Italy.

The plunge to Bergen by RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes, a 1,300-mile round trip, caught the Germans by surprise. It followed the spectacular puncturing yesterday of the seawall on Walcheren Island, which the Germans said trapped 6,000 troops in floods. A Berlin broadcast said "the fate of 3,000 others of our comrades who made for Flushing in small boats is not yet certain."

Sub Pens Blasted

Escorted by Mustangs and Mosquitos the giant RAF bombers flew unopposed to Bergen except for flak over the target which brought down one Lancaster. The submarine pens attacked were mostly under construction. The base is Germany's most advanced since the coast of France fell. Crews reported they saw vessels scrambling in all directions. Fires were started and a hit scored on a large ship as well as on submarines in their pens.

Wednesday, October 4, 1944

U. S. Airmen Destroy 1200 Nazi Planes

LONDON, Oct. 4 (AP).—The U. S. Eighth and 15th Air Forces destroyed more than 1200 German planes and dropped 60,000 tons of bombs on military and industrial targets in Europe last month, headquarters of the U. S. Strategic Air Forces announced today.

More than 35,000 tons of explosives were dropped in Germany proper, the heaviest tonnage ever released on the Reich in a single month by the American Air Forces.

With the Eighth flying from bases in Britain and the 15th coming up from Italy, no objective on the continent is out of reach of American bombers.

September victories showed 727 German aircraft destroyed on the ground and 530 shot out of the sky.

American losses were 340 bombers and 243 fighters. Of this total, 265 of the Eighth's bombers and 197 of its fighters were checked off as missing.

Two Air Cadets In 100 Killed While Training

Washington, Oct. 4 (INS)—The Army Air Forces reported tonight that approximately 11,000 men have been killed in 5,600 fatal flying accidents in the United States since Pearl Harbor.

The Air Forces pointed out that the accident rate had declined constantly as a result of measures put into effect by the Office of Flying Safety.

The present average in training today is one fatal accident for every 2,700,000 miles flown, a fatality rate of two for every 100 who enter training. Out of every 100 who complete their training, 95 will emerge without so much as a sprained ankle or a bump on the head.

Of a total of 17,500 plane losses within the United States the Air Forces said that 11,000 were planes lost in wrecks.

The Air Forces statement clarified the AAF box score of American and enemy plane losses. Of the 14,600 American planes lost on combat missions, 7,700 were lost either through enemy aircraft action or in circumstances in which enemy aircraft were pressed. An

additional 400 were destroyed on the ground by enemy craft.

These figures, lined up with the American score of 27,000 enemy planes certainly destroyed, give a box score of 3.3 to 1.

RAF RAIDS U-BOATS IN NORWEGIAN PENS

LONDON, Oct. 4 (U.P.).—RAF Lancaster and Halifax heavy bombers made a concentrated attack on German submarines and submarine pens at Bergen, Norway, today. The bombers had a fighter cover in the daylight attacks. An Air Ministry communique said one bomber was missing.

The Berlin radio reported Allied bomber formations over Bavaria in Southwestern Germany today.

RAF Mosquitoes in a night attack struck Kassel, site of airplane and other armament factories, and other objectives in Western Germany. The Henschel works at Kassel produce most of Germany's Tiger tanks. All the Mosquitoes returned.

American heavy bomber attacks have knocked out the I. G. Farben synthetic oil plant at Ludwigshafen for at least a month, it was announced.

1,300 Bombers Hammer Vital Reich Targets

4 German Airdromes, Railyards Pounded

London, Oct. 5 (AP) — American and British air fleets, totaling more than 1,300 bombers, pounded German air force concentrations and railway supply funnels today in operations directly supporting Allied ground forces.

Exploiting a letup in the bad weather, approximately 1,100 American heavy bombers, escorted by more than 500 fighters, hit four airdromes near Munster and rail yards at Rheine and Cologne. (Rheine lies between the Dutch border and Osnabruck.)

Thirteen heavy bombers and five fighters were missing from the American attack, the Eighth Air Force announced in a communique.

The RAF sent 200 heavies with fighter escort to bomb Wilhelmshaven in the morning, but clouds hampered observation and the result was undetermined. One bomber was missing.

The second tactical airforce sent 100 medium bombers and 100 Spitfires to bomb and strafe enemy forces near Nijmegen.

Fortresses and Liberators worked over important German air fields at Handorf, Lippstadt, Paderborn and Loddeneheide. All had been crowded with Nazi planes forced out of France and Belgium, including some of the new, jet-propelled fighters.

Today's operation was the eighth time in ten days that more than 1,000 American heavy bombers have been over Europe.

British Copy U. S. Style Of Pinpoint Bombing

LONDON, Oct. 5 (AP) — The RAF abandoned saturation night bombing during September in favor of smaller and more concentrated attacks adapted from the pinpoint technique of the American Air Forces, the British Air Ministry declared in a statistical review of air operations in September.

"The range of destruction of targets in Germany was increased by the use of comparatively small forces bombing with such accuracy that as much damage was done as in much heavier attacks of the past," the Air Ministry said.

CIAA (P) wirephoto

7,000 Planes Strike Europe Greatest Blow

16,000 Tons of Bombs Dropped in 24 Hours

London, Oct. 7 (AP) — Germany suffered the greatest aerial blow of the war today when 6,000 to 7,000 Allied planes rained thousands of bombs on the Reich, Austria, Hungary, and Nazi Western Front troops following a 1,000-plane RAF night attack which left Bremen and Dortmund burning fiercely.

More than 3,000 American and British heavy bombers from Britain and Italy participated in the widespread daylight attacks, which boosted to more than 16,000 the number of tons of bombs dumped on Axis targets in a 24-hour period. With 3,000 Allied fighters providing escort and making auxiliary attacks, the day's sorties surpassed Friday's 6,000 figure.

First reports indicated heavy fighter opposition in some areas.

In piling this fresh destruction on the Reich the Allies put an air army of roughly 35,000 men over the continent, with the bombers divided into three great armadas which split into still smaller groups in attacking a wide variety of targets simultaneously in more than a score of places in Nazi Europe.

The U. S. Eighth Air Force dispatched by far the greatest fleet, sending more than 1,400 Flying Fortresses and Liberators escorted by 900 fighters. These plastered more than a dozen targets in nine cities in Central and Eastern Germany.

Six synthetic oil plants were attacked, at Politz, near the Baltic; Ruhland, Magdeburg, Bohlen, Merseburg and Litzkendorf. The latter three are in the Leipzig area, and Ruhland is northeast of Dresden.

132 Nazi Gun Bases Raided

London, Oct. 8 (AP) — While industrial Germany still smoldered from Saturday's greatest aerial blow in history, Ninth Air Force fighter-bombers gave the Siegfried Line a super "buzz job" today, destroying 132 heavy gun positions that has been slowing down the American First and Third armies.

German communications and supply depots in the Rhineland also were raked as the Ninth Air Force planes flew about 1,500 sorties from Saarbruecken to Dusseldorf. Weather was described as "universally" good.

Lightning bombers smashed an ammunition train and a passenger train in Germany, while a Thunderbolt squadron headed by Col. James Tipton of Blytheville, Tex., raked German airfields, destroying three planes and damaging seven.

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

October 1944

683,000 Tons Of RAF Bombs Blast Europe

More Than Half Is Unloaded on Germany

London, Oct. 9 (AP)—From the beginning of the war to the end of September, 1944, the RAF bomber command dropped 609,868 long tons (683,000 U. S. tons), of bombs on targets in Germany, Italy and Occupied Europe, with more than half of the total weight falling on the Reich proper.

The figures were released today by the Air Ministry on the heels of the greatest 24-hour assault in the history of air war attacks which led the Daily Mail to predict:

"It is now considered conceivable that if Germany continues to fight until 1945, the end of the war will find her entire industrial power virtually out of existence."

The British dropped the first 100,000 tons during the first 3½ years of the war. Since the first of this year, they carried 362,082 tons over objectives with 124,519 tons labeled for targets in Germany. The total RAF tonnage on Germany alone was 328,173.

"The figures of bomb tonnage give to some extent a misleading view of the comparative weight of attack on Germany and the occupied territories," the Air Ministry commented.

It pointed out that in attacks on German industrial towns fire bombs form a high proportion of the load whereas targets in occupied lands usually were attacked with high explosive bombs. Incendiaries are more bulky. Hence the weight load alone does not always give a true picture regarding the scale of the attack.

Damage by fire bombs often is far greater than by explosives.

Less Butter Meat

Germans Report New Berlin Raid

London, Saturday, Oct. 28 (AP)—Fast Allied bombers were reported over Berlin early today by the German radio ending a daylong respite from air attacks for cities within the Reich.

Outlying posts were harassed by fighter bombers and mediums on regular patrol of roads and railways, but Eighth Airforce and RAF heavy bombers remained in their revetments in England yesterday because of weather.

Essen, Berlin Battered By 1,000 Bombers

Unusual Communique Reports RAF's Action

London, Tuesday, Oct. 24 (AP)—A mighty force of British bombers battered the German railway center of Essen and Berlin last night, the air ministry announced early today, following up daylight raids on Walcheren Island in the southwestern tip of Holland and shipping off Norway.

More than 1,000 heavy bombers carried out the night attacks.

The surprise announcement came just before 1 o'clock this morning and indicated that other targets also were hit.

The statement said:

"Last night aircraft of the RAF Bomber Command were over Germany in very great strength, with the great armament and railway center of Essen as the main objective. Berlin was also bombed."

Such an early announcement of a night action by the RAF was unusual.

In addition to the daylight blows by British-based U. S. bombers, Fortresses and Liberators of the U. S. 15th Air Force hammered objectives near Munich, Regensburg and Augsburg in Southern Germany and Western Czechoslovakia.

1,200 Planes Raid Germany

London, Oct. 26 (AP)—A force of 1,200 American heavy bombers hurled 3,500 tons of explosives on the Western Reich cities of Munster, Bielefeld and Hannover today, while RAF heavies helped clear the way for the U. S. First Army, striking just north of Cologne.

U. S. Eighth Air Force Liberators and Fortresses, making their 16th raid this month, flew through soupy weather in the bombing of gas works, oil refineries and railway yards. Approximately 700 Mustangs and Thunderbolts provided fighter cover.

One bomber and one fighter were reported missing.

British Lancasters followed the American heavy bombers across the channel and struck without loss the I. G. Farben Industry chemical works at Leverkusen, less than five miles north of Cologne on the Rhine River, the goal of Lieut. Gen. Courtney Hodges' Aachen veterans.

Yanks Hammer Oil Plants In 2 Reich Cities

London, Oct. 25 (AP)—More than 1,700 American planes struck in bad weather today at the German natural oil industry in the Hamburg area and at Hamm, a transportation funnel for war materials, without a sign of opposition from the German air force.

Germany's largest railway yards are located at Hamm, and through them have been moving supplies for the Western Front as well as raw materials for Hitler's factories.

The Eighth Air Force already having dealt body blows to synthetic oil plants deep in Germany, the bombing force turned its attention to the natural oil refineries in Hamburg.

More than 1,200 Flying Fortresses and Liberators made up the bomber mission, escorted by more than 500 Thunderbolts and Mustangs. Bombing was through clouds by instrument.

De Sa

RAF Pounds Cologne Again

London, Oct. 29 (AP)—British Mosquito bombers, taking advantage of a bright moon, pounded battered Cologne tonight for the third time in 36 hours.

The night attack on the German rail and industrial center just behind the battleline followed a Stockholm-reported British and American air foray today over Sweden, apparently the first direct air support of Russian and Finnish troops clearing the German 20th Army from Northern Finland.

Tonight was the second in a row that the Mosquitos have hit Cologne, following up Saturday's daylight raid by 750 Halifaxes and Lancasters. The Air Ministry said that returning crews tonight agreed "fires started in the daylight attack Saturday were still burning fiercely."

October 1944

BUFFALO
Monday.

Cologne Hit For 3d Time In 36 Hours

Allied Thrust Aimed At Isolating Front

London, Oct. 15 (AP)—Cologne, Rhine River city, 40 miles behind the Aachen battlefield, was battered today for the third time in 36 hours by hundreds of heavy bombers in a deliberate Allied aerial offensive intended to destroy German communications and isolate Nazi West Front troops from supplies and reinforcements.

The Sunday attack by 1,200 U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by 800 Mustangs and Thunderbolts, followed a 1,500-plane attack by the RAF during the night on the still-burning great German inland port of Duisburg during which 5,000 tons of explosives were dropped.

Other Cities Hit

At the same time other RAF squadrons attacked Brunswick, Berlin, Hamburg and Mannheim. The air ministry said the Brunswick attack was heavy and concentrated. The city is a center of aircraft and engineering industries.

Duisburg and Cologne in the last 36 hours have been battered by nearly 20,000 tons of explosives as the Allies turned loose a torrent of destruction upon vital communications centers.

Although overcast at Cologne forced most American bombardiers to work by instruments, at least two groups found openings in the clouds and dumped their 2,000 pounders squarely into the railroad yards that had been supplying Nazis defending Aachen.

Second Heaviest Attack

The Cologne raids go down as the second heaviest two-day attack anywhere by Eighth Air Force planes with the July 11th and 12th attacks on Munich still holding the record for bomb tonnage.

The Air Ministry said that when the big black RAF bombers roared over Duisburg last night fires started Friday night still were burning "and by the end of the second attack huge areas of fire were observed." During the previous assault 5,000 tons were dropped.

Lt. Vaughan's Mission #14

1,100 Planes Hit Cologne, Kassel, Bonn

Copyright, 1944, by the New York Times

London, Oct. 18—Despite adverse weather conditions, heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force and United States Eighth Air Force today continued their offensive against vital German communications and industries.

More than 550 Fortresses and Liberators escorted by some 600 Thunderbolts and Mustangs took part in the attacks. Some returned to Cologne for the fourth time in five days and attacked marshalling yards and factories, while others bombed similar targets in the Kassel area farther east.

Meanwhile, the historic German university town of Bonn on the left bank of the Rhine some 30 miles south of Cologne suffered a heavy attack for the first time. RAF Lancasters with escort dropped their loads on the freight yards and railway lines which form an important link with communications close behind the front. The town incidentally is reported to be full of German troops, probably reinforcements.

Judging from enemy radio reports early tonight, Allied raids on Germany were still going on after dark. The Frankfurt radio announced shortly before 7.30 p. m. that "fast enemy bombers"—probably mosquitos of the Royal Air Force—were approaching Southwestern Germany.

Lt. Vaughan's Mission #15

2000 U. S. PLANES RIP MUNICH; OTHERS STRIKE AT TOULON

By WALTER CRONKITE
United Press Staff Correspondent.

LONDON, July 11.—Two thousand American planes, including 1100 Fortresses and Liberators, defied bad weather and violent anti-aircraft fire today to attack the Munich area in Southern Germany while Liberators based in the Mediterranean area struck the port of Toulon in Southern France.

Supreme Headquarters announced that Allied aircraft flew 158,000 sorties since the invasion of France June 6, with a loss of less than 1%. The announcement listed 1284 Allied and 1067 enemy planes lost, exclusive of enemy planes destroyed on airfields and in attacks on aircraft plants.

Munich, with 830,000 population is a railway center for traffic into Italy and France and a frequent Allied target.

The Munich attack was the second massed American blow at the Reich in five days. Last Friday, a star-spangled armada bombed oil refineries and airplane plants around Leipzig, destroying 114 German planes at a cost of 36 bombers and six fighters.

Berlin, France Bombed

While one group of Mosquitoes gave Berlin another sleepless night, other formations coursed over Northeast France harassing German troop bivouacs and transport. Berlin said Mannheim, near the Reich's western border, was one of the industrial targets. One Mosquito was lost.

The Mosquito penetrations into France were concentrated in the Amiens-Lille-St. Quentin-Laon-Compiègne area, extending northeast of Paris to the Belgian border. Bridges over the Seine, used by the Germans to rush forces to the battlefield 50 miles to the west, were attacked once more.

In one of the few operations in Monday's murky weather, rocket-firing Typhoons, bomb-carrying Spitfires and RAF Mustangs pounded Nazi troops in the Caen area.

Toll of Two Mosquitoes

American fighter-bombers dive-bombed German gun positions and strong points southeast and southwest of Lessay and east of St. Lo.

Several Seine River ferries and six trains were shot up in the night forays and a big highway convoy near Compiègne was shot up.

Two Mosquitoes, each carrying a pair of 500-pound bombs accomplished this in half an hour: Ripped up the main railroad line near Ruffec, bomber the rear end of a camouflaged freight train as it entered a tunnel and shot up the front end as it emerged, bombed two transformer stations and shelled a third, shotup freight cars in three yards, blew up a locomotive and shot up three more trains.

ALLIES PELT REICH WITH 40,000 TONS OF BOMBS IN 40 HOURS

By HENRY B. JAMESON
Associated Press Staff Correspondent
LONDON, Oct. 16.—The tornadic

Allied aerial offensive swept over the great German ports of Wilhelmshaven and Hamburg Sunday night and even severe electrical storms failed to slow up the climax to an unparalleled week-end which broke almost every bombing record in the books. RAF bombers thundered across the North Sea to carry out the 14th and 15th major British-American raids on the Reich in 40 hours.

Halifaxes and Lancasters dumped the main load on Wilhelmshaven, while smaller, faster Mosquitoes struck Hamburg. Despite the weather, crews said they found openings in the clouds and bombed visually at Wilhelmshaven, key water and rail link with the northern sectors of the Western Front, and saw groups of fires "which seemed to be taking a firm hold."

40,000 Tons Dropped

Over the week-end more than 40,000 tons of bombs cascaded on Western Germany. More than 7000 planes participated in the 15 principal attacks.

Bombing reached its greatest intensity at Cologne and Duisburg, where four day-and-night assaults were carried out in rapid-fire succession.

Other attacks were against industrial and rail targets at Saarbrücken, Kaiserslautern, Berlin, Brunswick, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Mannheim, Reisholz and the big Sorpe Dam, 20 miles southeast of Dortmund.

The American and British fleets co-ordinated their work smoothly—the Eighth Air Force drawing Cologne and the RAF taking Duisburg, while more than 2200 Fortresses and Liberators hammered Cologne twice in daylight. The British broke two records on Duisburg Saturday morning, then returned with another 1000 bombers that night.

4500 Tons in 25 Minutes

In their first visit the largest force of RAF heavies ever dispatched in daylight dropped 4500 tons of bombs in 25 minutes. More fire bombs were rained on Germany in 24 hours than the Luftwaffe used on London throughout the blitz.

The total cost for all the raids was 71 bombers—37 American and 34 British—and 12 fighters. The RAF lost nine aircraft out of 1500 it had in action Saturday night.

While the shattering mass attacks were going on, American light, medium and dive-bombers were hitting front-line targets from Aachen to the Swiss border. Marauders showered millions of leaflets over the Siegfried Line, telling the Nazi soldiers their days were

1300 U. S. HEAVIES BOMB COLOGNE WITH 2600 TONS

Transportation Facilities in
Battered Rhineland City At-
tacked in One of War's
Greatest Daylight Raids

By LEO S. DISHER
United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Oct. 17.—The U. S. 8th Air Force today carried out one of the greatest daylight air attacks of the war against a single German city, throwing upwards of 1300 heavy bombers with an 800-plane fighter escort against the battered Rhineland center of Cologne, just behind the Aachen front.

Thirteen bombers and three fighters did not return.

The air armada dumped an estimated 2600-tons of high explosives and incendiaries on the Rhine city which probably has been bombed more consistently and intensively than any other Nazi center since the start of the war. The daylight air assault followed a night attack upon Cologne by RAF Mosquitoes.

It was the third 8th Air Force attack on Cologne in four days and the seventh in two weeks. The attack was directed against transport facilities to block supplies for the front.

The attack was paced by the 15th Air Force, operating from Italy, which reported strong heavy bomber formations Monday attacked oil refineries, aircraft factories and railyards at many points in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia. Size of the force was estimated at up to 500 bombers.

U. S. planes have dropped more than 10,000 tons of bombs on the Ruhr in the last 84 hours. Some 5400 American heavy-bomber sorties have been carried out over Cologne since Saturday.

Robots Hit Britain In 3 Night Attacks

London, Oct. 11 (AP)—Southern England suffered one of its steadiest poundings from flying bombs in months tonight when the Germans made three attacks within a few hours.

The first attack occurred before dusk and the others followed at about 90-minute intervals.

COLOGNE BOMBED BY 1000 HEAVIES; OTHER POINTS HIT

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Oct. 14.—More than 1000 American heavy bombers attacked railway yards and other targets at Cologne today, while other formations of Fortresses and Liberators blasted military objectives in the Saarbrücken and Kaiserslautern areas.

It was the second raid in less than 18 hours on Cologne, German industrial city less than 40 miles east of Aachen on the road to Berlin. British Mosquitoes gave it a softening-up blow Friday night.

Very strong forces of Eighth Air Force Thunderbolts and Mustangs, probably numbering 750 to 1000, escorted the bombers to and from the targets. Saarbrücken and Kaiserslautern, in the heart of the Saar Valley, also are important Western Front rail centers.

Before noon the German radio reported Allied bombers over Northwestern Germany and Austria.

The Nazi radio said a new type plane known as "blitz fighters" soon will be used against Allied air attacks and "will change the face of aerial warfare."

While the main force of Mosquitoes was hitting Cologne, a key railroad center, others were attacking unspecified targets elsewhere in Western Germany. All aircraft returned.

Rocket-firing RAF Typhoons Friday smashed their second Nazi field headquarters in three days. Both were located in Holland. The second attack, on three large buildings in the center of a country estate, was timed for 11 A. M., at which hour the German commander was said to hold a daily conference with his top officers.

"Yesterday that conference ended abruptly and violently," the Air Ministry said, "for the Typhoons put in an appearance at 11:05 precisely, taking 500-pound bombs and rockets to the party. Within a few minutes all three houses were razed to the ground."

48 U. S. Planes Missing After Reich, Austrian Raids

ROME, Oct. 14 (AP)—Thirty-six heavy bombers and 12 fighters of the U. S. 15th Air Force were reported missing today from raids on the Blechhammer south oil refinery 75 miles southeast of Breslau in German Silesia, and communications and factory targets in the Vienna area.

The big Flying Fortresses and Liberators with their fighter escort encountered terrific anti-aircraft barrages over the targets in Germany and Austria, but others, hitting at enemy installations in Hungary, met only moderate opposition.

Cologne Plants Blasted By 4,000 Tons of Bombs

London, Oct. 28 (P) — Cologne got its worse blasting of the war today during an increasingly ferocious aerial assault on the Reich that began when British Mosquito bombers struck Berlin last night and has sent 2,500 planes over Germany within 24 hours.

The German radio reported Allied bombers were approaching Western Germany again tonight. During the day 350 American bombers lambasted Munster and Hamm and about 250 RAF heavies struck the Dutch islands north of the Schelde River Estuary.

Cologne caught a blow from more than 750 Lancasters and Halifaxes that dumped an estimated 4,000 tons of bombs directly into the city's factory district.

Airmen returning from the late afternoon attack said that fires were out of control. It was the

JANE: Please come home. You needn't be ashamed of old grimy sofa any longer. Mystic Foam cleaned it beautifully. MOTHER. —Adv.

11th time this month that Cologne had been assaulted from the air.

Railway yards at Hamm and Munster were attacked by the Liberators and Fortresses, which drove through clouds so thick the crewmen could not see the defensive anti-aircraft bursts. About 200 American fighters as escort were unopposed.

Flights of fast little Mosquitos gave the German capital the RAF's answer to Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels' threat that a new German air force would destroy the Allied air force.

ROGERS PAINTS. KEM-TONE. POLLAK PAINT CO., 260 Pearl St. —Adv.

2½ Tons of Bombs a Minute

LONDON, Oct. 30 (P) — The U. S. Eighth Air Force has delivered an average of 2½ bombs per minute, day and night, against the enemy since it began operating in August 1942, it was reported over the week-end. In a recapitulation of its accomplishments, the Air Force headed by Lieut. Gen. James H. Doolittle accounted for 11,000 enemy planes destroyed, 9000 shot out of the air and another 11,000 either probably destroyed or damaged.

G
N

Cologne Fires Rage 4 Days In Row Unchecked

London, Oct. 31 (UP) — Fires were reported raging unchecked today for the fourth straight day in the wrecked German railway center of Cologne, after a record 4,000-ton RAF "obliteration raid" pushed to a new climax the developing Allied winter aerial offensive.

During October, it was disclosed, Allied planes based in Britain battered Germany with 2½ tons of bombs a minute, and the raiding fleets were reported in action again today, with radio Berlin clanging alarms all the way from Southwest to Northwest Germany.

While Mosquito bombers stabbed twice at Berlin with two-ton bombs, British and Canadian-maned heavies, part of a more than 1,000 plane force in action last night, crushed Cologne with a deluge of more than 100 tons of bombs a minute. The attack was the greatest of the war on the vital communications center feeding the western front 31 miles to the west, and the air ministry said the assaults would be kept up until the city was utterly useless to the Germans.

The 4,000-ton bombardment quickly saturated Cologne's anti-aircraft defenses and stoked fires which had burned steadily since last Saturday's massive assault.

The best unofficial estimates were that well over 100,000 tons of bombs and incendiaries were dropped by RAF and U. S. Eighth Air Force heavies during October, during which several of Germany's major cities were devastated.

It was believed that the month's final figures on the bomb tonnage hurled on Germany by the RAF would equal or exceed the record 64,400 tons it dropped during July

Cologne Fires Rage 4 Days In Row Unchecked

Air War on Germany Pushed to New Climax

London, Oct. 31 (UP) — Fires were reported raging unchecked today for the fourth straight day in the wrecked German railway center of Cologne, after a record 4,000-ton RAF "obliteration raid" pushed to a new climax the developing Allied winter aerial offensive.

During October, it was disclosed, Allied planes based in Britain battered Germany with 2½ tons of bombs a minute, and the raiding fleets were reported in action again today, with radio Berlin clanging alarms all the way from Southwest to Northwest Germany.

While Mosquito bombers stabbed twice at Berlin with two-ton bombs, British and Canadian-maned heavies, part of a more than 1,000 plane force in action last night, crushed Cologne with a deluge of more than 100 tons of bombs a minute. The attack was the greatest of the war on the vital communications center feeding the western front 31 miles to the west, and the air ministry said the assaults would be kept up until the city was utterly useless to the Germans.

The 4,000-ton bombardment quickly saturated Cologne's anti-aircraft defenses and stoked fires which had burned steadily since last Saturday's massive assault.

during which several of Germany's major cities were devastated.

It was believed that the month's final figures on the bomb tonnage hurled on Germany by the RAF would equal or exceed the record 64,400 tons it dropped during July.

3,000 Planes Hit Germany

London, Tuesday, Oct. 31 (P) — More than 1,000 RAF heavy bombers plastered Cologne again last night after 2,000 American planes had attacked Hamm, Munster, Harzburg and Hamburg during the day.

Berlin also was bombed for the second consecutive night, an announcement by the air ministry said.

The great industrial city of Cologne now has been assaulted six times in 48 hours and last night's raid brought the total bomb load dropped on it during October to nearly 20,000 tons.

While Allied planes continued their methodical destruction of Germany's industrial centers, carrier-based aircraft of the British Home Fleet yesterday attacked enemy shipping off the Norwegian coast, sinking six enemy vessels.

An Admiralty communique reported that its planes also had damaged and driven ashore a large U-boat and had damaged 19 other enemy vessels.

Heavies Blast Oil Plants In 3 Reich Cities

10,000 Tons of Bombs
Hit Cologne in 4 Days

London, Nov. 1 (UP) — The 'round-the-clock air assault on Germany continued today with American heavy bombers attacking synthetic oil plants at Gelsenkirchen and railway yards at Hamm and Coblenz. Not a single bomber was lost.

British bombers last night hit Cologne again with cascading 2,500 tons of bombs bringing the total dropped there in four days to approximately 10,000 tons. On Tuesday the RAF in a low-level attack wiped out the headquarters in Denmark of the Gestapo and the German counter-espionage organization.

The U. S. Eighth Air Force sent some 300 Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by more than 250 Thunderbolt and Mustang fighters, against Gelsenkirchen's two synthetic oil plants and the railway yards of Hamm, Coblenz and other targets in the Rhineland.

The strikes at these vital targets failed to goad Nazi fighters into action and no aerial opposition was encountered. As the bombers were returning over Holland from Gelsenkirchen, however, a few German jet-propelled fighters made what was believed to be their first attempt to attack formations of United States heavies. Previous jet-plane attacks have been against stragglers. The attempt was a complete failure. Three of the jet-planes were shot down.

Big Bombers Pound Fort On Moselle 44

Thick Snow Hampers
Third Army's Drive
Toward Saar; Troops
Advance Six Miles

Paris, Nov. 9 (UP)—Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. Third Army, attacking with at least seven divisions on an 87-mile front, forged a pincers around Metz today, supported by 1,300 heavy bombers which burned and blasted that historically impenetrable Moselle Gap Fortress in the greatest tactical bombardment since the St. Lo breakthrough.

A thick blanket of snow fell across the Western Front, hampering Patton's doughboys more than the German resistance as they drove toward the Saar, capturing nine more towns for a two-day total of 30 and extending their gains for that period to six miles.

Yanks Seize Initiative

To the north, the U. S. First Army seized the initiative from badly mauled German counter-attack columns in the Hurtgen Forest southeast of Aachen and advanced 600 yards through the snow, threatening the enemy-held towns of Hurtgen and Schmidt.

The Third Army swung into action on its north flank with a crossing of the Moselle at two points north of Metz by Brig. Gen. James Van Fleet's 90th Division, while another new, unidentified division crossed a tributary of the Moselle still farther north.

Maj. Gen. Stafford L. Irwin's Fifth Infantry then stormed across the Sielle and captured Cheminot, ten miles south of Metz, squeezing the southern arm of a clamp on the ancient fortress city.

U. S. Tanks Advance

Farther south, where Patton had opened his drive 24 hours earlier behind one of the greatest bar-
rages of the war, tanks of the U. S. Fourth Armored Division rumbled through an infantry-made breach in the Sielle Line and reached Delme, 14 miles east of Pont-à-Mousson and six miles from the starting point of the attack.

The Yanks also had by-passed on both sides the German stronghold of Chateau-Salins, six miles southeast of Delme, and a Berlin broadcast indicated it may have been lost, reporting that after heavy fighting at Chateau-Salins "our forces withdrew somewhat."

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

November 1944

Bomber pilots said that American troops coming up on the southeastern flank already were striking for the big German base of Dieuze, nine miles east of Chateau-Salins, reporting that a heavy artillery duel was under way just west of the city.

Front dispatches said the Third Army now was in action from the Rhine-Marne Canal east of Nancy to the German border area in Southeastern Luxembourg, an irregular front of 87 miles.

Cautious officials here declined to go farther than reporting local improvement of positions but the use of 1,300 heavy bombers in the Metz raid, supported by more than 500 fighters, was clear a suggestion that Patton means business in the current drive.

Clouds Hamper Bombers

Never have the planes been used on such a scale except in conjunction with a major breakthrough attempt, such as at St. Lo, where heavy bombers wrecked the German line so that infantry, and later Patton's tanks, could embark on a drive that was not halted until the battle of France was won.

Snow clouds handicapped the bombers over Metz but some formations found breaks through which they could attack visually, pilots reporting that huge fires sprang up over the sprawling Fortress area. Other Fortresses and Liberators blasted the railyards at Saarbruecken, principal city of the Saar and mobilization center of its defense.

Evidently the minor assault on Ft. Driant in the Metz defense belt last month had convinced the Allied command of the probable high cost of taking the city frontally, and Patton was now striking hard to encircle it.

November 1944

Air Battle Is Greatest Of History

41 American Bombers And 28 Fighters Lost; Nazis Hurl Jet Craft At U. S. Formations

London, Friday, Nov. 3 (UP)—American and German warplanes fought history's greatest air battle—involving an estimated 2,400 planes—over the Reich Thursday, American bomber and fighter gunners downing 183 enemy aircraft, and last night the RAF gave Dueseldorf its heaviest pounding of the war.

More than 1,000 RAF heavy bombers struck into Western Germany, with the Ruhr industrial center of Dueseldorf as their main objective, while a force of two-motored RAF Mosquitos attacked Osnabruck. The RAF air strikes were made only a few hours after the German-American air battles in which U. S. fighters set a new record for a day's actions.

The American losses were 69 planes, 41 heavy bombers and 28 fighters. Another 25 German planes were destroyed aground by strafing, making the enemy's losses 208, including at least four of the enemy jet-propelled planes which pressed home attacks against American bomber formations for the first time.

Description of the battle as history's biggest, from the standpoint of planes involved, came from the Supreme Allied Headquarters air conference at London.

The U. S. escort fighters alone shot down 130 enemy fighters. Bombers accounted for 53 more, and there was the possibility that some of the missing American aircraft may have scored kills which must remain unreported.

The figure of 130—13 more than the previous record of 117—represents a record total for American fighters in air combats on any single day, U. S. Eighth Air Force headquarters disclosed.

More than 1,150 American bombers headed into spotty clouds over Germany in the morning to strike at rail and oil targets in Rheine and Bielefeld in the Ruhr, the great Leuna synthetic oil plant at Merseburg, 92 miles southwest of Berlin, and other targets in Western Germany. Later RAF heavy bombers with fighter escort attacked synthetic oil targets at Homberg in the Ruhr.

Luftwaffe Gives Battle

It was over Merseburg that the bulk of the air battle was fought, fighter and bomber groups clashing in a cloudy sky with formations of 75 or more German fighters who darted through the sky in a desperate attempt to defend the vital oil works.

That part of the Luftwaffe which rose to battle was believed to represent the cream of German planes and airmen, and they were outfought.

Antiaircraft fire was heavy over Merseburg, and continued while German as well as American planes were in the air.

Lighter opposition was encountered at Rheine, on the Ems River, 17 miles from The Netherlands frontier, and at Bielefeld, 50 miles southeast of Rheine.

The British Air Ministry disclosed that RAF bombers dropped 56,000 short tons of bombs on Germany last month.

The air ministry said the tonnage on Germany alone was "by far the greatest of the war" for any single month, and in addition RAF bombers dropped 11,200 short tons of explosives and incendiaries upon objectives in occupied territory, nearly 9,000 tons of which were used against German gunposts and the seawalls on Walcheren Island in the Schelde Estuary.

NEW REICH RAIDS CLIMAX HEAVIEST ATTACK OF WAR

1800 Planes Strike at Oil Refineries and Industries, Carrying Sustained Assault Into Third Day

By HENRY B. JAMESON
Associated Press Staff Correspondent
LONDON, Nov. 6.—Eighteen

hundred American bombers and fighters attacked industrial targets in Western Germany today, carrying the mightiest bombing attack into the third day.

The main formation of 1100 Eighth Air Force Liberators and Fortresses went for oil refineries in the Hamburg-Harburg region. Industrial and rail objectives in the Ruhr Valley also were attacked. The bombers were escorted by 700 Mustangs and Thunderbolts.

British Mosquito bombers sailed deep into Southwestern Germany and attacked the rail city of Stuttgart twice Sunday night.

The Reich was battered over the week-end by 9000 American and British planes—virtually unopposed by the Luftwaffe today.

The double-barrelled attack on Stuttgart brought to 21 the number of German cities bombed between noon Saturday and Sunday midnight.

Solingen, the "Sheffield of Germany" on the southern fringes of the Ruhr, was bombed twice by RAF heavies.

Setting the pace for the two-way offensive aimed at knocking out Germany's synthetic oil plants and communications centers were 4000 American heavy bombers and 1500 fighters from British and Italian bases. The U. S. Eighth and 15th Air Forces struck Hitler's war machine in 13 vital spots from Vienna and Regensburg in the south to Hamburg and Hannover in the north.

The RAF, continuing its 1000-bomber raids, hammered the steel and coal center of Bochum in the Ruhr with 3400 tons of high explosive and fire bombs Saturday night.

U. S. Thunderbolts, Marauders and Havocs smashed a hydroelectric dam near Fritzlar and attacked half a dozen railway yards in Germany Sunday. RAF night-flying Mosquitoes shot up 15 trains in Holland.

Losses in all operations are not expected to exceed 120 aircraft. The Eighth Air Force lost 14 bombers and fighters out of a force of 1900 Saturday and the 15th lost 15 out of 1200 attacking Bavaria and Austria. Over Frankfurt and Ludwigshafen 24 bombers and 13 fighters were lost Sunday.

November 1944

Three Fleets Of Bombers Attack Reich

Pilots Plough Through Year's Worst Weather

London, Nov. 8 (UP) — Three fleets of American and British heavy bombers ploughed through the year's worst flying weather today to hammer the German cities of Merseburg, Homberg and Rheine in their night and day campaign to smash the Nazi war machine's fuel supply and front line communications.

The Luftwaffe, apparently either unwilling or unable to stand another whipping such as it suffered last Thursday in the war's greatest air battle over Merseburg, largely avoided battle with more than 850 U. S. Eighth Air Force fighters escorting the American bombers to the key oil center 90 miles southwest of Berlin.

Simultaneously with the attacks on Germany, large forces of bombers and fighters swept across the English coast in the direction of besieged Dunkerque. Indicating that German ammunition dumps were being blown up, British coastal observers heard explosions for several hours with the blasts rattling windows and doors on the English side of the channel.

Following up a morning attack by RAF Lancasters on the ersatz oil plant at Homberg, 49 miles northeast of Frankfurt, U. S. Fortresses dropped 500-pound bombs on the vast Leuna synthetic oil works at Merseburg while Liberators struck at the vital Rheine rail center, 20 miles west of the Netherlands frontier.

The RAF lost one Lancaster and one Spitfire in the raid on Homberg where large fires were left burning, while five American bombers and 42 fighters failed to return, although a U. S. Strategic Air Forces communique said most of the fighters were believed to be safe in friendly territory.

U. S.

2000 Yank Planes Bomb Wide Area of Germany

LONDON, Nov. 2 (U.P.).—More than 2000 American warplanes bombarded Nazi oil and railroad targets from the Ruhr and Rhineland to Central Germany today in a smashing daylight follow-up to the RAF's triple night strike at Oberhausen, Cologne and Berlin. A half-dozen aerial task forces, numbering well over 1100 Flying Fortresses and Liberators and 900 Mustang and Thunderbolt fighters, fanned out over the Reich for the great daylight assault.

U. S. AIRMEN GET 208 NAZI PLANES FOR NEW RECORD

Fighters Wreck 155 in Drive On Merseburg as Bombers Shoot Down 53 During Smash at Leuna Oil Plant

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Nov. 3.—A thousand British heavy bombers laid 4500 tons of explosives and fire bombs during the night on Germany's great arsenal city of Dusseldorf after a day in which U. S. fighters of the Eighth Air Force won "their greatest victory of the war over the Luftwaffe."

A special communique from U. S. Strategic Air Force Headquarters today told of the destruction of 208 German aircraft Thursday over the synthetic oil center of Merseburg. American losses were 40 heavy bombers and 19 fighters.

155 Nazi Planes Destroyed

One bomber and nine fighters previously listed as lost, landed at French bases. The communique said "still others probably landed behind our lines in Europe" and were unable to report immediately.

Fighter pilots destroyed 130 German interceptors in the air and 25 aground, some on Berlin airports 100 miles from Merseburg for a new record for one mission. Bombers shot down 53 while attacking the Leuna synthetic oil plant, which once supplied Germany with 50,000 tons of petroleum products a month.

Formations of Mosquitoes struck at the rail center of Osnabruck while RAF heavies were blasting Dusseldorf, whose Rheinmetal Bersig plant is the largest arms producer in Germany.

Many Jet Planes Used

The Luftwaffe sent up 400 to 500 planes, including scores of jet-propelled fighters, against a force of 1100 American heavy bombers and 900 escorting Mustangs making the assault on Merseburg and railroads at Bellefield and Rheine.

The jet planes attacked in formation, but only a few were able to penetrate the fighter screen.

Bomber pilots said jet planes zoomed "straight up" from the ground. At least four were shot down.

One fighter group commanded by Col. Joseph Mason of Columbus, O., set a record by shooting down 38 German planes.

Maj. George E. Freedy of Greensboro, N. C., became the highest-scoring ace active in the European theater by shooting down one plane, raising his total to 23½ in combat.

Ace's Total Bag Six Planes

He destroyed six more on the ground. Maj. John Edler Jr., Ebensburg, Pa., also shot down one in combat and bagged five on the ground.

Capt. Donald F. Bryan of Paicines, Cal., shot down five in the air and First Lieut. Arthur E. Hudson, Nashville, Okla., shot down four.

RAF bombers alone in October cascaded 56,700 tons of bombs on Germany, the 8th U. S. Air Force bombers in Britain contributed 43,600 tons, and the 15th U. S. Air Force in Italy added 13,100 tons.

The 8th Air Force in October suffered its smallest losses in recent months—122 bombers and 69 fighters—while shooting down 119 German planes in combat and destroying 339 on the ground.

Despite much adverse weather, the Eighth sent 18,800 bombers and 13,150 fighters over Germany in October, 10,000 more sorties than it flew in its first year of operation.

1800 AIRCRAFT SUPPORT PINCER ATTACK ON METZ

Cheminot Taken as Offensive Widens to 50-Mile Front; Nazis Say 500,000 Yanks Ready for Assault

By J. EDWARD MURRAY
United Press Staff Correspondent

PARIS, Nov. 9.—The American Third Army, supported by more than 1800 planes, today attacked the outer defenses of Metz in a pincers drive on that fortress which broadened the offensive to a 50-mile front.

Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's troops struck on both sides of Metz and 1300 fighter-escorted heavy bombers smashed at the sprawling Metz fortifications on which the infantry was closing from north, south and west.

The entire battlefield angling across Northeastern France was blazing up as Gen. Patton sent three new divisions into the drive along the approaches to the Saar basin, 20 miles away.

Rail and Oil Targets In Ruhr Are Bombed

LONDON, Nov. 11 (AP).—U. S. Eighth Air Force bombers and fighters, resuming their attacks against Germany's synthetic oil plants and railroads in the Ruhr, delivered an Armistice Day blow today at Gelsenkirchen and Coblenz. Approximately 450 Flying Fortresses and Liberators and almost an equal number of fighters participated.

At the same time, heavy bombers and fighters from the U. S. 15th Air Force in Italy attacked targets in Southern Germany, the Berlin radio said. The daylight blows, carried out despite heavy snowstorms over Germany, followed two concentrated attacks during the night on Hannover.

Objectives of the British-based bombers were two oil plants near Gelsenkirchen and the freight yards at Coblenz, a key Western Front rail terminal. RAF Lancasters, escorted by Mustangs, also attacked a synthetic oil plant at Castrop-Rauzel in the Ruhr today.

Eighth Air Force Headquarters said that in the past three days 27 heavy bombers and 22 fighters were lost in action against Ger-

400 American Fliers Destroy 86 Nazi Planes

Fighters on Strafing Mission to Munich

London, Nov. 18 (AP).—Eighty-six German planes were shot down or destroyed on the ground today by 400 hard-hitting American fighter pilots who hung up the second longest strafing mission on record—1,200 air miles to Munich and back.

Another 1,500 American fighters attacked bridges, factories, roads and German infantrymen falling back before Gen. Eisenhower's great offensive, while 1,000 Allied bombers pounded gasoline stores in Western and Southern Germany.

Action During Night

Tonight RAF Lancasters went back to the Ruhr after other British bombers hit Munster during the day. Target for tonight was the important synthetic oil plant at Wanne-Eickel.

During the afternoon 650 Liberators and Fortresses from Italy bombed oil targets near Vienna and their 300-plane fighter escort strafed airfields near the Brenner Pass.

German pilots came up to fight today for the first time since November 2d, in a vain effort to guard oil stores vital to Nazi rocket bomb attacks on England.

The Luftwaffe lost 25 planes shot down and another 61 on the ground. 30 Jet Planes Destroyed

Thirty of the planes raked into flames by streams of fiery tracers were jet propelled ME-262s. Most of the strafing was done from fence height at Lechfield airdrome near Munich, Leipheim near Augsburg and Mengen north of Lake Constance.

Oil storage tanks and parked railway fuel cars were left burning at Langensee near Hanau and Weissenhorn near Ulm. South of Ludwigshafen sure-shooting Yanks blew up 22 locomotives, 50 oil tank cars and 200 other railway cars.

Eleven of 16 American pilots who failed to return are believed to have landed in friendly territory.

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

November 1944

2,000 Planes Fire Synthetic Oil Factories

Reich Storage Plants
Also Hit by Bombers

By CLIFTON DANIEL

Copyright, 1944, by the New York Times

London, Nov. 25.—The effort to drain Germany's war machine dry of oil was resumed by the United States Eighth Air Force today with attack by more than 1,000 heavy bombers on Merseburg and Bingen inside besieged Germany. More than 1,000 fighters escorted the bombers.

For the fifteenth time Flying Fortresses and Liberators poured their fury on the vast Buna synthetic oil plant at Merseburg, one of the chief sources of German oil now that the natural fields of Romania and the Ukraine have been lost to the Reich.

Another part of the force attacked the oil storage tanks and marshalling-yards at Bingen, a new target for the United States bombers. It lies 22 miles east of Mainz on the Main River and is an important supply depot for the fighting front 60 miles to the west. The attack was, presumably, aimed at materials in transit to troops confronting the United States armies in the vicinity.

The journey to Merseburg, 27 miles west of Leipzig, and to Bingen was the first important bombing mission undertaken from the British bases since Tuesday when in a double day and night assault 2,500 British and American heavy bombers attacked Germany.

U. S. Raiders Destroy 129 German Planes

London Nov. 26 (UP)—Close to 2,000 American bombers and fighters blasted the vital Misburg oil refinery and other targets in Western Germany today, shooting down at least 122 enemy fighters in blazing sky battles that cost the raiding force 37 bombers and 13 fighters.

Escorting fighters accounted for 110 enemy planes as the Luftwaffe challenged the raiders in the third major air battle over vital German oil production centers this month. Bomber gunners shot down 12 more, while seven were destroyed on the ground for a grand total of 129 German planes.

The number of enemy planes shot down by fighters was the third largest in the history of U. S. fighter forces over Europe.

The Misburg battle was described as one of the soundest beatings yet administered to the Luftwaffe in the history of aerial warfare over the Reich. The Germans apparently are now throwing their planes into desperate back-to-the-wall defense of their vital oil production centers.

As many as 200 enemy planes—a large force for the weakened Luftwaffe—were sighted in the air over Misburg at one time as German pilots sought unsuccessfully to break up the raiding force of 1,100 heavy bombers and 700 escorting Mustang and Thunderbolt fighters.

YANKS SHOOT DOWN 94 GERMAN PLANES

LONDON, Nov. 27 (AP)—Five hundred American fighters shot down at least 94 German planes today during a wide-range strafing sweep that took them within 70 miles of Berlin.

American heavy bombers and fighters, 1300 strong, got into the front-line battle for Germany again today with raids on railway yards at Offenburg and Bingen and widespread strafing sweeps over the northwestern corner of the Reich.

The American attacks followed a pre-dawn assault by RAF Lancasters on Munich, and a big air battle Sunday in which approximately 450 German fighters rose to fight off 1800 American bombers and fighters assaulting the Nazi natural oil refinery at Misburg in a campaign which has showered nearly 7000 tons of bombs on German oil facilities in 48 hours.

Latest reports today said 132 of the enemy planes were shot down, including 16 by bomber gunners. Thirty-six bombers and six American fighters were lost in the Sunday fight.

Germans Lose 102 Planes In Record Battle

13 U. S. Fighters, One Bomber Missing

London, Nov. 27 (AP)—In the greatest all-fighter aerial battle in history, 500 Mustangs downed 102 German interceptors today, boosting American fighter kills in the last 24 hours to a record-smashing 216. This raised the total U. S. Eighth Air Force score for the same period to 239 German fighters downed.

Thirteen American fighters and one bomber were reported missing as a result of today's operations.

The American fighter pilots engaged more than 400 Focke-Wulfs and Messerschmitts while strafing airports and military transport centers in Northwest Germany. It was the greatest test of fighter against fighter and pilot against pilot of the war. The German area was filled with planes darting at each other in running dogfights which covered several hundred miles.

Rail Targets Hit

Upwards of 2,000 Allied war planes roamed over the entire Western Front and nearly to Berlin, plastering packed railway centers and other targets.

An Eighth Air Force spokesman said that the famous air battles which involved the 500 Mustangs developed in the Magdeburg, Munster and Brunswick areas.

The Nazis usually save their craft for defense of oil targets and sacrificed 130 to American fighters and bombers yesterday at the oil center of Misburg. Six raiding planes were unaccounted for.

Reconnaissance showed that the heavy bombers were able to score numerous hits on the Misburg plant, largest natural oil refinery still active in Germany.

Five hundred Fortresses and Liberators spilled nearly 2,000 tons of bombs today on the vital railway yards at Offenburg, ten miles east of Strasbourg, and Bingen, 15 miles west of Mainz on the Rhine.

Meanwhile, some 500 RAF Lancasters planted 3,000 tons of explosives on the railway yard in the Kalk district of Cologne.

Earlier today nearly 300 Lancasters dumped new six-ton "blast bombs" on the industrial center of Munich in a 15-minute raid.

Poles Are Near

UTTAHOE EVENING NEWS—Tu

1000 HEAVIES RAID NAZI SUPPLY BASES FOR WESTERN FRONT

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Nov. 28—At least 1000 RAF heavy bombers in pre-dawn raids today hurled 4000 tons of explosives on Neuss and Freiburg, German supply centers just back of the Western Front, as the sustained 72-hour assault on Nazi front-line rail and supply centers continued.

Freiburg lies behind the Mulhouse-Kolmar sector where the French First Army and the American Seventh Army are pressing toward the Rhine. American heavy bombers attacked German rail movements at Offenburg, north of Freiburg, Monday. Mosquitoes raided Berlin during the night.

Neuss is far to the north in the Dusseldorf area and is a junction point for rail lines to Aachen, Cologne and Gladbach where the British Second Army and the U. S. First and Ninth Armies are engaged.

American fighter pilots shot down 98 German planes Monday in the greatest all-fighter air battle of the war, and destroyed another four on the ground, bringing their kills for 24 hours to 212. The total for the entire U. S. Eighth Air Force, including bomber gunners, thus was raised to at least 239 German fighters downed for that period. Thirteen American fighters and one bomber were missing from Monday's operations.

The fighter plane battle, involving some 500 U. S. Mustangs against more than 400 German Focke-Wulfs and Messerschmitts, took place while the Americans were strafing airports and military transport centers in Northwest Germany.

56 U. S. Bombers,

Yanks Meet Solid Wall Of AA Fire

3,000 Warplanes Hit
Oil Refineries and
Railyards; Few Nazi
Fighters Join Battle

London, Nov. 30 (AP). — American Fortresses and Liberators, spearheading an attack by nearly 3,000 Allied warplanes on oil refineries and railyards in Germany drove into tremendous concentrations of antiaircraft fire today and suffered their heaviest loss of any recent operation.

Fifty-six U. S. heavy bombers and 30 fighters failed to return to their British bases from the raid, an Eighth Air Force communique announced, but the majority of the fighters were believed to have landed in friendly territory.

The sky was stained black with thousands of puffs of exploding flak as Nazi ground gunners claimed their biggest toll of the war. Today's was the largest loss in bombers since April when 63 went down over Berlin to combined ack-ack fire and fighter opposition.

The German air force refused to come up in strength and only four enemy interceptors were shot down.

Two Objectives Hit

The American phase of the day's big aerial assault was divided into two parts, with Fortresses striking four synthetic oil plants in the Leipzig area and Liberators hitting railyards in the Saarbrücken region.

The Germans shot clouds of flak into the sky over the oil targets and also sent up a few fighters in this area. A few members reported excellent bombing results.

Flak over the railyards, which were bombed by Liberators, was officially described as ranging from meager to moderate.

36-Hour Offensive

These blows topped a 36-hour aerial offensive which left the Reich erupting from an average of ten tons of bombs a minute.

30 Fighters

Missing in Attack

The planes, hitting targets at Bohlen, Zeitz, Merseburg and Lutzkendorf near Leipzig, roared into a 40-mile-square area defended by a concentration of heavy antiaircraft guns twice the density of that guarding Berlin. It is perhaps the most heavily defended area of its size in the world.

In one five-mile radius American crewmen touched a corner of hell as an estimated 225 ack-ack guns pumped up what veterans described as "a solid wall of flak."

"Flak burst in a mass—a forest of it so dense that we could only get occasional glimpses of the Fortress formations just ahead of us," said Sgt. Kirk O. Wels, 24-year-old radio operator from Brainerd, Minn.

Solid Wall of Flak

"It was a solid wall at the target and it lasted until we passed out of the area," related Capt. Joseph Y. Trapnell, Baltimore, Md., a lead pilot.

"Smoke from the target area rose 10,000 feet into the sky," said Capt. Robert H. Kanaga, Harbor Beach, Mich., a Mustang pilot.

Nearly 22,000 tons of explosives were spread over Germany in the 1½ days of scourging by 11,000 planes which flew on seven major missions and some 4,000 sorties in support of the six Allied armies advancing on the Western Front.

The windup blows made November the greatest operational winter month of the war.

Lt. Vaughan's Mission #24
11-30-19 to Merseburg

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

November 1944

NIGHT BOMBERS DUMP 3000 TONS ON 2 BIG CITIES

12/1/44

Hit Duisburg and Hamburg;
American Losses in Wall of
AA Fire Over Leipzig Area
Heaviest Since April

LONDON, Dec. 1 (AP).—Great waves of RAF bombers raided Germany during the night, sustaining the record-breaking Allied November air offensive that Thursday cost the U. S. Air Force its worst loss in heavy bombers since April—56 four-engined craft downed by ack-ack.

Thirty U. S. fighters also failed to return to their British bases after all-day pulverizing attacks by 3000 planes on synthetic oil plants in the Leipzig area and railyards in the Saarbrücken sector. The tactical Air Forces supporting ground troops lost three medium bombers and one fighter.

Thursday night more than 500 Halifaxes and Lancasters dropped 3000 tons of fire bombs and explosives on the Rhine-Ruhr city of Duisburg, and 2-ton blockbusters on Hamburg. Four of the raiders were lost.

Worst Loss Since April

Not since 63 U. S. bombers went down to combined ack-ack fire and fighter opposition over Berlin in April have Allied planes encountered such concentrated defense fire as they did Thursday, particularly in a 40-mile square area near Leipzig. Tempering the heavy losses was the belief that most fighter pilots grounded in friendly territory. The German Air Force declined to come up in strength but four enemy interceptors were shot down.

Fortresses struck at Böhlen, Zeitz, Merseberg and Lutzkendorf near Leipzig, roaring over the targets at 25,000 to 30,000 feet with a full escort of fighters. Results here were described as "very favorable."

The blows topped a 36-hour continuous aerial offensive which left the Reich erupting from an average of ten tons of bombs a minute from 11,000 planes flying on seven major missions in that period and some 4000 sorties in support of the ground armies.

Heavies Again Blast Rail Hub At Stuttgart

London, Dec. 16 (AP).—A force of 100 U. S. heavy bombers dumped explosives on railroad yards north of Stuttgart today, blasting the enemy transportation hub for the second time in eight days in support of Seventh Army columns invading Germany north of Strasbourg.

Pilots of 100 Mustangs which escorted the Flying Fortresses reported the Germans failed to intercept the attack concentrated on freight yards at Kornwestheim, northern Stuttgart suburb.

Today's mission was the smallest dispatched by the Eighth Air Force in many months, but warnings from the German radio indicated much heavier attacks were being carried out by bombers of the 15th Air Force, which sent its heavyweights from Italy toward Munich and into Czechoslovakia. RAF planes raided Siegen, 45 miles from Cologne.

Eisenhower Receives

2-Day Losses Summarized

Over-all losses for the two-day period, marked by the appearance of less than a dozen German fighter planes, were 76 bombers and 32 fighters. These were 12 British heavy bombers, four bombers and two fighters of the continent-based Tactical Air Forces, and 60 U. S. Eighth Air Force bombers and 30 fighters.

In the two days approximately 25,000 tons of bombs were dumped on these targets:

Essen, Neuss, Dortmund, Bottrop, Oberhausen and Duisburg—all Ruhr targets smashed exclusively by British bombers. Objectives were fuel plants and railroad yards.

Misburg, Merseburg, Zeitz, Lutzkendorf and Böhlen were pounded by American heavies. All are oil centers.

Liberators and Fortresses also bombed the railroad yards at Hamm and Saarbrücken and Mosquitoes attacked Hannover and Hamburg.

Almost one-third of the 11,000 bombing or strafing missions were flown by British and American ships based in France and Belgium.

SUPER-FAST PLANES IN USE BY GERMANS

LONDON, Dec. 4 (AP).—Germany has two super-speed fighter planes operating over the Western Front, one of them the rocket-propelled interceptor ME-163 capable of flying up to 600 miles an hour, Allied air sources disclosed today.

The other high-speed fighter is the jet-propelled twin-engined ME-262, capable of flying 450 to 500 miles an hour. Forty-one enemy ships of this type were destroyed recently by U. S. fighters in a strafing attack at Leipheim.

Range and endurance of both types are extremely limited, front reports indicate and they are regarded by Allied airmen as primarily defensive ships.

The rocket ship is a quick-interceptor fighter, but thus far has evaded combat. Pictures of it on the ground were taken by the RAF over Peenemünde, Germany's rocket experimental station.

AMERICAN HEAVIES RAID REICH BY DAY

LONDON, Dec. 18 (AP).—Hundreds of U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators sped across the English Channel today to give Germany a daylight dose of the punishment poured on Munich, Ulm and Duisburg Sunday night by 1300 British heavy bombers.

The big RAF planes dropped an estimated 7000 tons of bombs on the three German cities, all key points in the Nazi railway network.

American fighters with belly tanks of extra fuel ranged ahead of the American heavy bombers today to meet any challenge in the skies over Western Europe's flaming battle lines.

The triple blow Sunday night—one of the first struck by RAF heavy bombers in weeks—came in the wake of a day of bitter air combat between German and Allied fighters.

The Germans had 108 fighters and bombers blasted out of the air Sunday in air battles accompanying the enemy's ground attacks. Two RAF fighters were lost, both to flak, and 31 American craft were listed as missing.

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

December 1944

U. S. BOMBERS RAID 2 GERMAN TARGETS

LONDON, Dec. 6 (U.P.)—About 80 Flying Fortresses and Liberators accompanied by a like number of fighters attacked the Leuna synthetic oil plant at Merseburg rail yards at Bielefeld and other targets in Germany today. Weather conditions over Germany were bad and impeded the bombing the results of which generally were not observed.

The daylight attack followed a night raid by British heavy bombers on the Soest rail yards in the Ruhr Valley.

The attack on the Leuna plant at Merseburg was carried out by Flying Fortresses striking through one of the most heavily defended areas of the Reich. Liberators bombed the rail yards at Bielefeld at the northern edge of the Ruhr and mixed forces hit other unidentified objectives.

Wave upon wave of the black-winged British Halifaxes and Lancasters sped across the flak-studded Ruhr after nightfall to rip and burn the Soest yards, 15 miles southeast of the Hamm freight yard, pounded by RAF heavies by daylight Tuesday.

AIR FLEET BOMBS PANZER COLUMNS AS SKIES CLEAR

Change in Weather Enables
Planes to Attack in Force
On the Belgian Front After
Week of Inactivity

By the United Press.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Clouds of Allied fighter-bombers, bombers and fighters swarmed into the Battle of Belgium today in perfect weather, battering Nazi panzer forces from the Ourthe River to the Rhine.

It was the moment for which the Allied Command had been waiting—the first break in the weather since the Nazi offensive was launched a week ago. Thousands of American and British planes of every type, including a great task force of Flying Fortresses and Liberators, joined the battle.

Reports from the first 100 Ninth Air Force sorties said 12 tanks and 18 German planes were destroyed. The planes were shot down in two dogfights over the Trier and Coblenz areas.

AIR FLEET PANZER COLUMNS AS SKIES CLEAR

Change in Weather Enables
Planes to Attack in Force
On the Belgian Front After
Week of Inactivity

By the United Press.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Clouds of Allied fighter-bombers, bombers and fighters swarmed into the Battle of Belgium today in perfect weather, battering Nazi panzer forces from the Ourthe River to the Rhine.

Weather Is "Perfect"

American dive-bombers were crashing loads of high explosives on panzer columns and it was anticipated before the day was over they would roll up one of the biggest tank slaughters of the war in the west.

SHAEF characterized the weather over the breakthrough area as "absolutely perfect," with brilliant sunshine.

The attack was started by RAF heavy bomber formations that struck Rhineland transport centers and communications during the night. In early morning a great force of Flying Fortresses, diverted from their ordinary strategic bombing to tactical duties, roared over the confused battlefield.

Some 400 American heavies, with an escort of 700 Thunderbolts and Mustangs, smashed at rail and road targets just forward of the American lines in Belgium, at the packed railyards at Ehrang, near Trier, and Kaiserlautern, west of Mannheim.

Six Nazis Shot Down

The Ninth Air Force and the 19th and 29th Tactical Air Commands were out in full strength.

Planes supporting the British night raiders shot down six German planes, while the RAF lost three in all its operations.

RAF Mosquito fighter-bombers also got in several licks at German transport behind the Belgian battle front Friday night. One freight train loaded with ammunition "blew up from end to end," the Air Ministry said. One pilot shot down a Junkers 88 bomber near Verviers, Belgium.

American fighter-bombers operating farther south shot down six German interceptors but lost four

It was the moment for which the Allied Command had been waiting—the first break in the weather since the Nazi offensive was launched a week ago. Thousands of American and British planes of every type, including a great task force of Flying Fortresses and Liberators, joined the battle.

Reports from the first 100 Ninth Air Force sorties said 12 tanks and 18 German planes were destroyed. The planes were shot down in two dogfights over the Trier and Coblenz areas.

Weather Is "Perfect"

American dive-bombers were crashing loads of high explosives on panzer columns and it was anticipated before the day was over they would roll up one of the biggest tank slaughters of the war in the west.

SHAEF characterized the weather over the breakthrough area as "absolutely perfect," with brilliant sunshine.

The attack was started by RAF heavy bomber formations that struck Rhineland transport centers and communications during the night. In early morning a great force of Flying Fortresses, diverted from their ordinary strategic bombing to tactical duties, roared over the confused battlefield.

Some 400 American heavies, with an escort of 700 Thunderbolts and Mustangs, smashed at rail and road targets just forward of the American lines in Belgium, at the packed railyards at Ehrang, near Trier, and Kaiserlautern, west of Mannheim.

Six Nazis Shot Down

The Ninth Air Force and the 19th and 29th Tactical Air Commands were out in full strength.

Planes supporting the British night raiders shot down six German planes, while the RAF lost three in all its operations.

RAF Mosquito fighter-bombers also got in several licks at German transport behind the Belgian battle front Friday night. One freight train loaded with ammunition "blew up from end to end," the Air Ministry said. One pilot shot down a Junkers 88 bomber near Verviers, Belgium.

American fighter-bombers operating farther south shot down six German interceptors but lost four of their own in a dogfight east of Freiburg.

News clippings from
Buffalo Evening News &
Buffalo Courier Express

December 1944

Hundreds of Heavies Hammer Rhineland

LONDON, Dec. 16 (U.P).—Hundreds of British heavy bombers, striking just behind the Western Front, pounded the Rhineland chemical center of Ludwigshafen and the communications hubs of Hannover and Osnobruck Friday night, and Nazi radios reported Allied aerial formations over Western and Southwestern Germany again today.

A German broadcast reported "weak" forces over Danzig and East Prussia today.

The RAF night raiders, perhaps 500 strong, touched off scores of fires in Ludwigshafen, dumping the bulk of their load on the I. G. Farben chemical works extending for 3 miles along the left bank of the Rhine.

The night attack followed a daylight raid by 650 American bombers on Hannover and Kassel, key points on the German railway routes to the central section of the Western Front. There was no enemy fighter opposition and anti-aircraft fire was described as "not intense" but four bombers and two fighters were lost.

3,000 Planes Hit Rundstedt Supply Lines

U. S. Loses 4 Bombers In Sustained Attacks

London, Friday, Dec. 29 (AP)—A big fleet of RAF heavy bombers blasted railway targets at Bonn and Muncheon-Gladbach in Germany last night after a great daylight blitz by more than 3,000 Allied warplanes from Britain had pounded rail lines supplying Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's western salient.

While sleet cut off the erupting battlefront from close aerial support for the first time in six days, a lengthy skytrain of upwards of 1,200 Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by 700 fighters, dumped 3,600 tons of bombs on ten targets between the German salient and the Rhine. Four American bombers were lost.

Railway yards, bridges and other critical points in the Nazi transport network were attacked. At dawn, 500 RAF planes hit rail workshops at Opladen, 12 miles north of Cologne, where the Germans have been repairing military rolling stock. Later they attacked railway yards at Cologne to continue the pounding of Von Rundstedt's vital rail traffic routes.

The main weight of the American armada was hurled at rail yards and bridges at Neunkirchen, Kaiserlautern, Coblenz and Bonn.

Meanwhile, Italian-based U. S. heavies smashed at scattered German oil facilities in Czechoslovakia and hit Brenner Pass rail lines. The RAF also attacked V-bomb sites in Holland.

Destroys 34th Plane

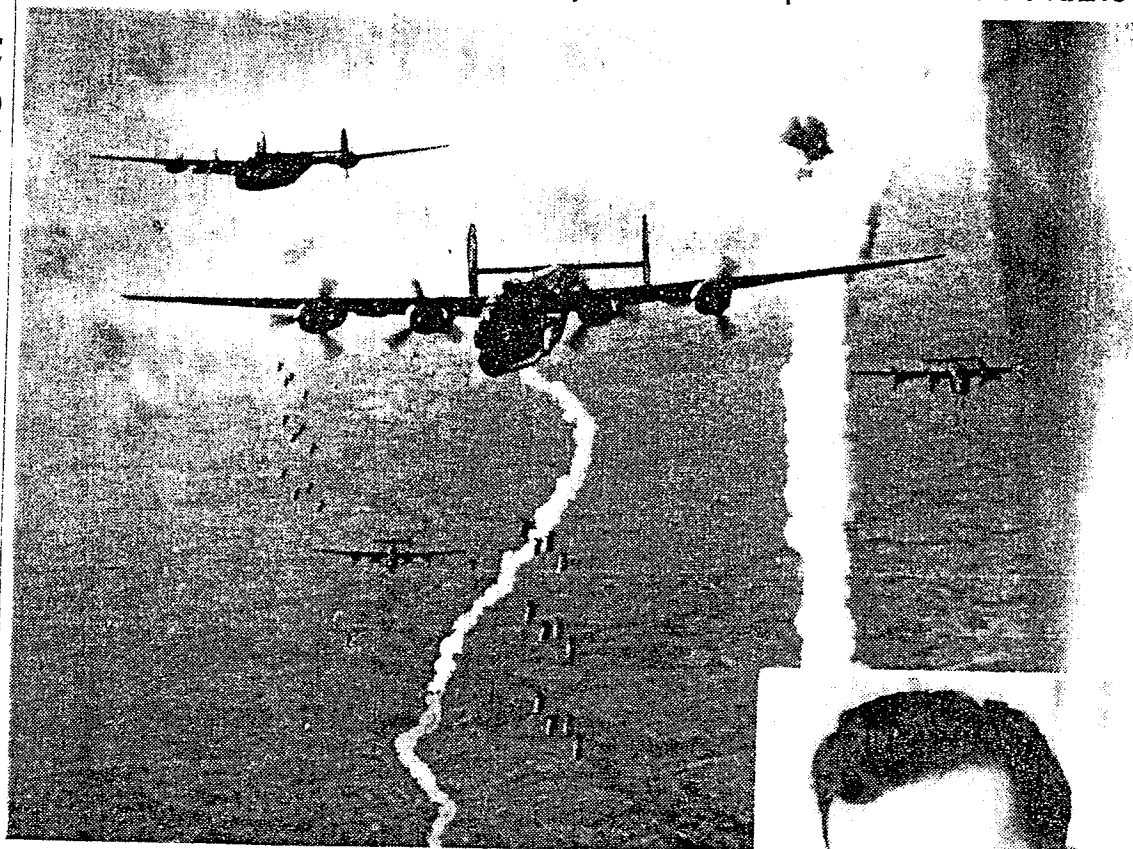


COL. DAVE SCHILLING

LONDON, Dec. 26 (AP).—Col. Dave Schilling of Traverse City, Mich., who was credited with five German planes Saturday, now is the leading American ace in the European theater of operations with 34½ enemy planes, 24½ of which were knocked out of the air and 10 on the ground.

11/29/47

Hamburg Flier's Liberator Squadron Drops Bombs on Nazis



Actual bombing mission in which planes of Lieut. Col. Solomon Cutcher of Hamburg took part. Smoke at right comes from smoke bomb dropped by lead ship as signal for all to drop missiles. Streak of white in center is believed to be enemy fire. Bombs are on their way.

Formation Raids Are Difficult, Says Honored Squadron Leader

Home from England awaiting re-assignment after a year and a half's intensive responsibility as an AAF squadron leader of B-24 Liberators, Lieut. Col. Solomon Cutcher was welcomed this week by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Cutcher of Taylor Rd. Hamburg. Despite months of strenuous command in which he led anywhere from 30 to 500 planes, he is anxious to be re-assigned to some active theater.

The same relentless strategic missions against military targets deep in the heart of Germany continued to characterize the work of the AAF up to the time he left, according to the flier.

"The only difference in our work after D-Day," he said, "was that at times we bombed in direct support of the ground troops, as at St. Lo and Metz."

"The hardest part of formation flying, a fact often overlooked by civilians, is the necessity of staying on your course in a bombing mission no matter what happens. You just have to calmly keep going through all kinds of attempted interception."

The squadron leader, who is just 28, modestly attributes to luck

the record for 25 combat missions without the loss of a ship or a crew, which won for his squadron a citation.

Asked if men in the big bombers ever got a good look at individual Luftwaffe pilots, Col. Cutcher related a humorous incident which happened on his first mission.

"We were green then," he said, "and while cruising peacefully along over enemy territory we were suddenly startled to see an ME-109 at the side of our ship, not more than 15 feet away. We had a very plain view of the pilot, although of course his face was covered with an oxygen mask. We were all so completely taken by surprise at the sudden appearance of a real flesh and blood Nazi high up in the heavens that not a gun was fired by our ship nor by his, either. He just swooped down and disappeared. We were never guilty of such an oversight again."

Col. Cutcher holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and two Oak Leaf Clusters. He has two brothers in service, Lieut. Abraham Cutcher now in India, and Pfc. Harold Cutcher, a Link trainer instructor in Reno.



LT COL SOLOMON CUTCHER

Twins Born in Auto Are Doing Fine

Twin boys born Tuesday morning in an auto en route from Silver Creek to Lackawanna are doing very well today. Their mother, Mrs. G. of Silver Creek, is attending to them. For further information, contact the hospital.