

By Hal Boyle

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGERIA, Nov. 12.—(Delayed)—A newly married man is Sgt. Al Weiberg. He takes pride in his battle record of 17 years in the United States Army...

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Yankee Carriers Win First Major Duel With Rabaul

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC ALLIED HEADQUARTERS (AP)—American aircraft carriers have won their first big long range duel of the war with Japan's mighty naval air fortress of Rabaul.

They said that New Britain's stoutest line punch Thursday, sending in the bulk of more than 200 planes which sank a Japanese cruiser and two destroyers, damaged a cruiser and eleven destroyers and shot down 24 enemy interceptors.

Rabaul dispatched 70 revenge-bombing bombers and four fighters aimed at sinking one of the carriers. Sixty-four planes were in the air during an hour and twenty minutes of flaming action without accomplishing their mission.

Navy Secretary Knox said that "a not a dent" was made in the big carrier force.

Carrier planes were aloft in

batle readiness to tangle with the enemy bombers while carrier and escorting warships dived the sky with bursting sea mines.

Southern Allied planes were out in defending the carrier and in raising the toll of enemy warships at Rabaul this month.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters said that minor damages were sustained by some of the ships in the Allied carrier force.

There were casualties among the crews (The naval formation in the operation included "a strong force of carrier planes were aloft in

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Allies Lash At German Winter Line

Americans Take Two Towns

By EDWARD KENNEDY ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGERIA.—(AP)—American troops in sharp fighting have captured two more towns north and northeast of Venafro, and a British patrol has crossed the Sangro River along the eastern end of the Nazi Winter Line in Italy, it was announced today.

Dispatches from Italy disclosed for the first time that the enemy's bitter counterattacks of Thursday had succeeded in gaining ground on the Fifth Army's front.

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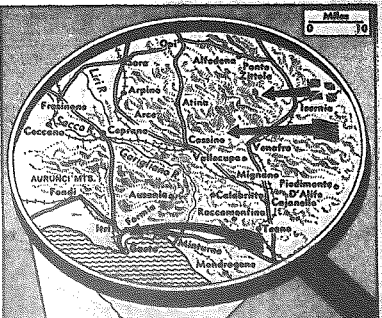
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WAR SPOTLIGHT MOVES CLOSE TO ROME—Rome is still out of the picture as Allied forces advance westward in their tenth week of fighting in Italy. Caserta, the Garigliano River and the mountainous hills beyond Venafro and Ischia are main battle sectors for Allied Fifth Army forces in Western Italy.



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Nazis In All-Out Drive On Leros

CAIRO.—(AP)—The Germans threw parachute troops, dive-bombers and seaborne reinforcements against British and Italian troops defending Leros Island today in what appeared to be an all-out effort to regain that Aegean stepping-stone.

A British communique acknowledged that the Nazis had been successful in reinforcing their beach heads in the second day of bitter fighting for the Dodecanese Island.

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Railroad From Leningrad To Odessa Is Cut

Russians Take Point 90 Miles From Poland And 120 Miles From Rumania

LONDON.—(AP)—Russian forces have captured Zhitomir, cutting the major German railroad from Odessa to Leningrad, an order of the day from Marshal Joseph Stalin said tonight.

Capture of the vital rail center 90 miles west of Kiev was announced in a special order of the day from Stalin to Gen. Nikolai Vatutin, conqueror of Kiev.

Zhitomir is a hub of rail lines and highways in the western Ukraine, and lies only 60 miles from the pre-war Polish border.

The city of 95,000 lies within 120 miles of Bessarabia, which Rumania annexed after the last war and which Russia reclaimed before the German invasion.

The cutting of the railway was one of the major Russian victories of the offensive, because it forced the Germans now to rely on a circuitous single-track system 100 miles west of the present fighting line. In effect, it did much to split the German armies of north and south Russia, apart and into Old Poland and the restive Balkans.

The secondary rail link upon which the western German army must now depend for bringing up supplies extends from Minsk through Baranovitch and Rovno, then eastward to Slobodka and southward to Proskura on the Odessa-Lwow line.

In his order of the day broadcast from Moscow and recorded by the Soviet Monitor, Stalin singled out the battle of Zhitomir as a major victory. He said that the capture of the city was a "great and brilliant victory" and that it was a "blow to the German army."

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Enormity Of Japs' Naval Lies Puzzle

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The greatest non-existent naval victories in history are being reported by the Japanese now and the extremity of their lies has the American High Command frankly puzzled.

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U. S. Fliers Raid Reich

LONDON.—(AP)—United States heavy bombers, supported by a force of fighting planes, attacked targets in northwest Germany this morning, American Air Headquarters announced.

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Push Made By Chinese

CHUNGKING.—(AP)—Chinese troops with American air support recaptured many towns and inflicted heavy losses on Japanese columns, reinforced to 80,000, along the staggering Tzuang Lake-Yangtze River front in central China, the Chinese High Command announced today.

Pressing their counteroffensive, which they announced yesterday under the name of the "Great Offensive," the Chinese recaptured a number of points in a co-ordinated pincer drive toward Japanese strongholds northwest of Hankow and killed several hundred Japanese in smashing Japanese positions north of Ichang on the Yangtze.

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Slavs Beat Off Nazis

Enemy Flanks Worried By Partisans

LONDON.—(AP)—Yugoslav Partisans continued to lead the German advance in the Balkans, according to a report from the British High Command today. The Partisans are systematically encircling and cutting off German columns, and are inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

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Badoglio Organizes Makeshift Regime

SOMEWHERE IN SOUTHERN ITALY.—(AP)—Wounded by battle attempts to obtain a representative Cabinet, said Marshal Pietro Badoglio in a "technical" Government consisting of himself as Premier and a series of untested and untried men.

Burglars Seize Gas Coupons

RACINE, Wis.—(AP)—Four burglars broke into a ration board office in downtown Racine, Wis., last night and stole 1,000 gas coupons.

British Appear Ready To Take Over Lebanon If Disorders Last

By RICHARD G. MASSOCK LONDON.—(AP)—British readiness to take control of Lebanon unless the British Government attaches to the crisis in that small Eastern Mediterranean country, was indicated by a dispatch today.

Berlin Sees 23 Ships In Convoy Hit Off Atlantic

LONDON.—(AP)—A DNB broadcast from Berlin said the German navy had been successful in attacking a convoy of 23 ships in the Atlantic.

Weather forecast for the next few days.