

Nazis Stiffen at Border

Bowed Heads Bespeak the Eloquent Silence of the Vanquished



Some of them smile, some stare arrogantly, others simply bow their heads because they can think of nothing else to do. These German prisoners, brought in by an artillery captain, Philip Hawks, of Belmont, Mass., near Brest, apparently are of the head-bowing variety.

Firm Stand Being Made In 3 Sectors

Patton's Men Reported In Major Battle; First Shells Hit Reich

German resistance stiffened yesterday along the entire battle line near the Reich border and while a news blackout hid developments in a major battle fought by the U.S. Third Army along the Moselle River, the first Allied shells landed in western Germany.

Striking the initial artillery blow against Germany were cannons of Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' First U.S. Army. The shells landed at Balchen, a little less than a mile across the Reich's frontier from Belgium, after the First Army's advance to the area of Liaburg had brought it to within ten miles of the border at Aachen.

Correspondents reported that the Germans were making desperate efforts to slow down or delay the Allied advance if they could not stop it altogether. The three main areas where the Germans were making a determined stand were around the Albert Canal in Belgium, along the Luxembourg frontier and in the Ardennes along the Moselle.

Battling in Ghent

A report from SHAEF said the Germans had moved troops from Denmark to oppose the British Second Army, which was meeting increasing opposition between Ghent and Antwerp with fighting in Ghent itself.

Meanwhile, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third U.S. Army was reported to have captured its first Maginot Line fort in a three-day bayonet and grenade encounter at Fort de Ville-le-Sec, east of the Moselle. Observers said that its capture opened the road to Nancy, secured a bridgehead across the river and gave Americans commanding positions along a wide stretch of the Moselle. There were no additional details of the major battle being fought in the area.

American bombers from both French and British bases opened their first round of the "battle of the German frontier" by bombing immediately ahead of Patton's southern wing to remove barriers

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Two Columns Near Belfort

Two Allied columns, one American and the other French, were converging on Belfort yesterday while German rearguards stiffened their holding efforts to give the battered remnants of the German 19th Army an opportunity to flee through the escape gap between the Swiss Alps and the Vosges Heights into Germany.

The Americans, advancing on the left from Besancon, were 24 miles from Belfort, while French troops, on the right flank were within 16 miles of the city on a secondary road.

Substantial German forces were still trying to reach the Reich frontier at the Rhine before the Seventh Army closes their way of escape.

The Seventh Army's prisoner base now stands at about 76,000

Russians Enter East Prussia

Big Drive Takes Shape As Patrols Cross Line; Reds Gain in South

MOSCOW, Sept. 10.—Red army units were operating in the forests on the soil of East Prussia, while immediately behind them one of two giant assaults on the Wehrmacht took shape.

Reports from the front said that German divisions of German divisions comprising the belt before East Prussia had been smashed and that powerful Russian forces were making for an all-out offensive against the homeland of Prussian Junkers. Heavy fighting was reported in an area where Soviet troops forced an unbridged river, probably the Narew, which lies northeast of Warsaw.

Six hundred miles to the south, Marshal Rokossovsky's army group, along the mountain road to Budapest, was reported to be approaching Hungarian-occupied Transylvania.

German reports previously have said that Russian columns already had driven into that part of Transylvania occupied by Hungary. A Radio, quoting Hungarians, said that Cluj, capital of Transylvania, had been captured by the Russians. Cluj is less than 100 miles from Budapest.

Meanwhile, Russian advance from Rumania toward a link-up with Marshal Tito's Yugoslav forces continued. Col. Ernst Hahner, German news agency correspondent, said that Soviet paratroopers had landed in the vicinity of the Iron Gate of the Danube in Yugoslav territory.

Money 'Deals' Here, Army Warns Soldiers

Personnel were warned by the ETO fiscal director yesterday against planning dollars or English pounds in the hands of French soldiers.

Piecemeal Collapse of Reich Foreseen by Allied Leaders

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (A.P.).—Allied leaders now consider it probable that Germany will fall apart piecemeal, army by army, rather than surrender en masse.

Armistice terms, however, have been fully agreed on by Russia, the U.S. and Britain and are ready for use in either case.

Starting with unconditional surrender, they provide in effect that defeated Germany must become a prisoner nation for an indefinite period of strict military occupation.

Fate of the country after that period—there has been consideration of placing it on trial for several years—its relation to the rest of Europe and its place in an organized world may provide one of the principal topics for President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in their imminent conference.

The problem is complicated by the fact that if Germany is defeated piecemeal it will wind up in a state of political chaos out of which the Allies will have to build a new governmental structure virtually from the ground up.

Some authorities here wouldn't be

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oft-Bombed Renault Works Bare Effects of U.S. Air Blows

By Peter Lisagor, Staff and Stripes Staff Writer.

The Eighth Air Force came back to the Renault Works in Paris yesterday on a friendly mission, to inspect one of its juiciest targets in France in two years of strategic bombing. And the Renault people produced documented evidence of how great a monkey wrench was thrown into Nazi war production by Allied air raids, evidence more eloquent than the pictures of smoking wreckage carried back by the raiders.

It was at Billancourt, a few miles outside Paris, where the Renault plant spreads over 500 acres of an island washed by the Seine, that U.S. precision bombing as a major strategic weapon got one of its first real tests of this war. A Continental Henry Ford, Renault

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Premier, Aides Reach Quebec

Churchill and His Party Arrive for 2nd Parley There With FDR

QUEBEC, Sept. 10.—Prime Minister Churchill and his party of British advisers arrived in this historic Canadian city today for the second "Quebec conference" of World War II with President Roosevelt.

Although there was no indication as to when the talks would start, observers agreed that it would concern not only the closing phases of the war against Germany, but also the years of post-war settlement in Europe and team-work to be achieved by Russia, Britain and the U.S.

The two leaders are expected to deal primarily with: (1) the problems of joint occupation and policing of Germany by Britain, Russia and the U.S.; (2) the Polish border issue and the destiny of minorities and small nations generally; (3) the role of France, which has asserted her claim to the right to join with the major powers in mapping plans for post-war Europe; (4) the concentration of Allied forces against Japan after Germany is beaten and measures to be taken for the future control of Japan.

Marshal Stalin will not attend, since Russia is not at war with Japan, but both the Russian and Chinese governments will be kept informed of the conversations.

Churchill was accompanied by the British chiefs of staff, Lord Leathers, minister of war transport, and Lord Cherwell, scientific adviser.

Stillwell Flying to U.S. To Attend Conferences

CHUNGKING, Sept. 10.—Gen. Joseph L. Stillwell is flying to the U.S. to attend a conference on Allied plans for the offensive against Japan, it was announced today. Before leaving, Stillwell said the Allies would "make short work of the Japanese, however strong their positions might be, once the combined strength of the Allies was directed against them. The offensive will develop considerably faster than anyone expected a year ago."