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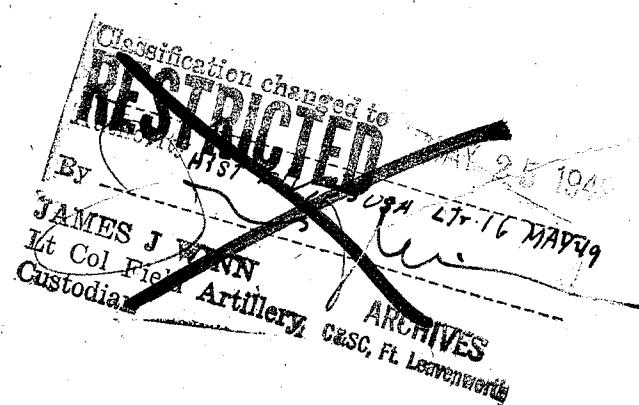
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WORLD WAR II

A CHRONOLOGY

SEPTEMBER 1944



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WAR DEPARTMENT SPECIAL STAFF  
HISTORICAL DIVISION

NP

19 JUN 1946

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Sept 1944      Section I: NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS

- 1      U.S.: According to an Army report, there are 243,848 prisoners of war in the United States as of this date: 192,846 Germans, 50,272 Italians and 730 Japanese.
- 3      West Atlantic: SS Livingston (British Newfoundland cargo ship, 2,140 tons) sunk by enemy action at 46-15 N, 58-05 W.
- 28     U.S.: Bill authorizing the women's reserve of the Navy, Coast Guard, and Marines to serve anywhere in the western hemisphere is signed by President Roosevelt.

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part 1: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

1 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF On R flank along Mediterranean coast, First Airborne Task Force is established along l'Escarène-Beausoleil line and has a bn CT NE of Barcelonnette. On entering la Turbie, N of Monaco, patrols receive arty fire from enemy, which occupies defense line Cap Martin-Sospel, 11 mi. E of Nice.

VI Corps NE of Lyon elements of 45th Div repel enemy counterattacks which had broken road block at Dagneux and were striking at Ain R. crossings at Loyettes, Meximieux, E of Chalamont, and at Pont d'Ain; enemy penetrations at Meximieux and Pont d'Ain are erased and some elements of the 45th advance 15 mi. through Pont d'Ain to establish road block at Treffort, E of Bourg. Thirty mi. S of Lyon, 36th Div elements attack N and E of Rhone, overcoming light resistance and advancing over 20 mi. from Beaurepaire-St. Rambert d'Alban area to St. Symphorien-Mions area S and SE of Lyon. While other 3d Div elements begin movement to Lagnieu-Amberieu areas, 30th Inf troops overcome enemy resistance in Pont de Cheruy area near Loyettes and occupy St. Laurent, making contact with nearby 36th Div elements.

FRENCH ARMY B

I Corps Second Moroccan Div relieves TF Bilbo near Briancon and 3d Alg Div relieves VI Corps troops at Grenoble.

Few Mosquitoes and Beaufighters of 12th AF harass transport near Lyon.

U.S. DDs attack enemy batteries, strongpoints, and troop movements in Cap Martin and Monaco area, accomplishing good results but drawing return fire.

2 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Positions on R flank consolidated.

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHG Advance)

VI Corps Troops of 36th Div advance to suburbs S and SE of Lyon, patrol contacts Maquis occupying S sections of city and helps neutralize remaining enemy pocket of resistance in wedge between Saone and Rhone rivers. Forty-fifth Div to N encounters heaviest resistance, elements maintaining strong hold on Meximieux area and entrucking to Meillonnas and Bohas E of Bourg while other elements advancing on Bourg from S under long-range tank fire take Donsonnas and la Trancliere and moving SW toward Bourg from Treffort area encounter SA, mortar, and arty fire and reach outskirts of Ceyzeriat; although resistance in Jasseron forces patrols to withdraw, high ground to E is occupied. Attempts of 117th Cav Rcn Sq to surround Bourg halted at Marboz and Montrevel. Third Div continues movement to assembly areas near Ambérieu.

FRENCH ARMY B:

Third Alg Div completes relief of TF Butler.

Despite poor weather, approximately 70 12th AF P-47s attack RR tracks and transport in Lyon-Macon area; tracks cut, many locomotives and RR cars destroyed or damaged, and barracks hit.

U.S. BDs make well concentrated attack on guns, mortars, troops, and tanks in St. Andre-la Turbie-Monaco area.

3

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps After destroying 2 M. IV tanks and 2 SP guns in attack on Montrevel, 117th Cav Rcn Sq loses almost all of Tr B and all but 1 Pl of Tr A in fierce fighting. Town is lost, and counterattacks with some 45th Div troops in support fail to regain it. Other elements of 45th take Ceyzeriat and Certines, SE and S of Bourg, after severe fighting, clear Jasseron, and establish road blocks. Third Div motor column moving NE reaches St. Julien, 18 mi. NE of Bourg. With Lyon completely in FFI hands by noon, 36th Div rcn elements approach Macon, N of Lyon; other 36th Div elements turn over positions to French assembled at St. Maurice, NE of Lyon, and start movement for Châtillon-Marlieux area between

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHG Advance)

Lyon and Bourg. Marlieux, St. Andre de Corcy, and St. Andre de Bourchoux have been evacuated.

FRENCH ARMY B

First Fr Armd Div and 3d Alg Inf Div protect flanks of VI Corps advance up Saone R. to N and to NE.

Twelfth AF fighters raid enemy movement in Macon-Dijon areas. Similar objectives in Strasbourg-Basel areas strafed by 9th AF rdn planes.

U.S. CL joins 2 U.S. DDs in brief, successful attack on troop movements in Monaco area.

4 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Units move NW from Levans to Puget Theniers and occupy positions along Contes-Luceram-St. Jean de la Riviere line. Enemy arty fire received in Jausiers.

VI Corps Troops of 3d Div reach Lons le Saunier-Arbois-Vers-Champagnole area with opposition limited to patrol fire fight at Mont sous Vaudrey, some elements pressing N to Quingey-Arguel area, S of Besancon, E of Dijon, over 100 mi. NE of Lyon. Breaking enemy resistance, 45th Div enters and clears Bourg by 1000 except for snipers neutralized by patrol. Troops reach assembly area E of Bourg. Meeting no enemy opposition, 36th Div reaches St. Laurent on Saone R. opposite Macon and follows 45th through Bourg, occupying line Pont de Vaux-St. Trivier-Varennes, 10-15 mi. N of Macon-Bourg area.

FRENCH ARMY B

Flank protection of VI corps movement to N continues.

Twelfth and 9th AF fighters harass transport in Dijon, Strasbourg, and Colmar areas.

5 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Patrol activity and planning of attack on Sospcz in progress.

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Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

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VI Corps. On L flank, 36th Div troops moving NE through Louhans, 20 mi. SE of Chalon, engage in brief fire fight with German delaying detachment at Neublahs, S of Doubs R., 24 mi. NE of Chalon, and reach St. Germain du Bois-Sens-Bletterans line about 10 mi. S of Doubs R. without other enemy encounters. Further to NE along Doubs R., 117th Rcn Sq patrols capture Chaussin, secure bridges in area, encounter considerable resistance and blown bridges in Dole area, secure two Loue R. crossings N of Arbois and one S of Besancon and reach Courtefontaine, 12 mi. SW of Besancon, with little trouble. In center, 3d Div, advancing by way of Salins, 20 mi. S and a little W of Besancon, secures Fontain after short fight, continues through Amancey and Ornans, reaches high ground facing Besancon from S and Tarcenay, makes enemy contact at Mamirolle, 6 mi. SE of Besancon, and aids the 4th RTT in overcoming strong enemy rear guard at l'Hopital du Gros Bois, 3 mi. SE of Mamirolle. In 3d Div sector, 117th Rcn Sq elements cross Doubs R. near Beure, cut highway 1½ mi. N, and set up road block; enemy opposition includes tanks, SP guns, and scattered inf elements; 60 enemy tanks coming S as reinforcement turned back without being committed. On R flank of Corps, 45th Div, advancing N chiefly through Pontarlier, which has been recently captured by 3d Alg Div, reaches Saules and St. Gorgon, patrols pushing 3 to 9 mi. farther to Etalans, l'Hopital, and Gonsans, contacting Fr at Etalans; only enemy elements in area are in le Valdahon vicinity.

## FRENCH ARMY B

Third Alg Div takes Pontarlier and Fr troops reach Etalans.

Twelfth AF fighters sweep over Rhone Valley and Lyon and Dijon areas, strafing enemy transport and armor; locomotives, RR cars, tanks, armd cars, and HV hit ME-109 destroyed on ground. Transport in Stuttgart area raided by 8th AF fighters.

One U.S. and 1 Mr DD fire on enemy troop movements between Monte Carlo and Sospel; U.S. DD attacks coastal batteries

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Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

from Monte Carlo to Menton and Fr DD attacks concrete emplacements N of Sospel; reply intermittent. Attack on U.S. and Fr DDs by 3 human torpedoes thwarted, mechanism destroyed and personnel captured.

6 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Patrols operate in Beuil-St. Sauveur-St. Martin Vesubie area some 30 mi. N of coast.

VI Corps On L flank of Corps, 36th Div concentrates in Poligny-Vaudrey-Mouchard triangle S of Loue R., makes rcn of villages in la Loyer-Crissey area, N of Loue, and near Rans on Doubs, preparing to move W of Besancon. Enemy bicycle troops observed moving E from Orchamps, 20 mi. W of Besancon, but resistance limited to minor patrol clashes. In 3d Div sector, 7th Regt occupies St. Ferjeux-Pirey-Ecole line 2 to 3 mi. W and NW of Besancon; 15th Regt elements overcome enemy resistance in Morre-Montfaucon-Saone-Gennes area, 2 to 4 mi. E of the city; 30th Regt prepares for attack from S. Delaying forces of enemy offer sporadic opposition to 15th Regt, using SA, mortars, MG, and a few tanks and SP guns. Units of 117th Rcn Sq operate along N bank of Doubs R. and in Foret de Chaux SW of Besancon, contacting FFI and 36th Div.

On R flank of Corps 45th Div flanking le Valdahon, where Fr elements were mopping up, overcomes resistance at Vercel with aid of the 4th RTT, reaching Gonsans-Cote Brune-Vaudrillers area 4-5 mi. S of Doubs R. and blown bridge opposite Baume, where 3d Alg troops are meeting enemy SA, mortar and tank fire; bridges in sector below Baume are blown. Some 45th Div troops continue NE on S of Doubs toward Clerval and l'Isle.

FRENCH ARMY B

Third Alg Div captures Maiche near Swiss border and swings NW, meeting enemy fire S of Baume; other elements of Army mop up in le Valdahon area.

P-47s of 12th AF carry out armed rch missions over Belfort and Dijon areas, destroying a number of locomotives;

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Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

rolling stock, MT, HDV, and guns; 2 troop-filled trains demolished at latter.

Allied planes over road net NE of Besancon-Baume area destroy or damage more than 100 MT, 30 locomotives, and 100 RR cars with enemy personnel and equipment.

**7 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY**

VI Corps On L, 117th Cav Rcn Sq continues harassing and screening operation against enemy movement N of Doubs R; and NE from Dole; 36th Div elements cross Doubs at Osselle, occupying positions 5 mi. N.

Third Div takes main part of Besancon by nightfall, 30th Regt attacking with 2 bns from S toward citadel against heavy SA, MG, and mortar fire, while remaining bn circles city for assault from N. Seventh and 15th Regts move in from flanks. Tanks, MGs, grenades, and SAs employed against heavy enemy opposition from numerous strongpoints. Enemy troops from 159th Res Div among prisoners after citadel falls before point-blank 155 mm fire of 9th F.A. Bn. While rest of Div mops up, 15th Regt is relieved by 141st Regt and strikes NE along route of enemy's withdrawal toward Vesoul.

In Doubs R. sector 10-30 mi. NE of Besancon, 45th Div elements make ferry crossings and take high ground N of Roulans, attack Baume, and encounter SA and mortar fire after crossing Doubs R. near Clerval; bridging stream and by-passing this opposition, elements continue toward l'Isle-en-Doubs either side of Doubs R. with increasing resistance against S force. At Baume, 180th Regt elements, after encountering resistance from tanks and flakwagons, attack following arty preparation, only to be forced out of town by tank and heavy sniper fire.

French CL and U.S. DD attack vehicle and troop concentrations W of Sospel.

**8 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY**

First ABTF Increased patrol activity with improved weather; added arty and mortar fire encountered from advanced strongpoints supporting reported enemy withdrawals to high ground generally along Italian border.

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

VI Corps On L, elements of 36th Div encounter enemy retreating from Dole area, engage in stiff fighting, take Chemaudin and Grandfontaine and overcome enemy opposition at Francois. SE of St. Vit, elements of 117th Cav Rcn Sq attack pockets of enemy attempting to escape N. In Besancon area, 3d Div clears all remaining enemy resistance in the city and spreads out 6-12 mi. N and NE, passing through Miserey Salines to just S of Ognon R. against strong opposition from organized defenses, engaging in fire fights with by-passed pockets, clearing Brailians and Bonnay and pushing through light opposition to high ground between Ognon R. and Corcelle-Mieslot.

Elements of 45th Div cross Doubs R. at Roulans, discover large fuel supply dump at Roche, occupy high land N of Baume with little opposition, assault Baume from NE and S and advance N toward Autechaux. Clerval is cleared and 45th Div elements advance toward l'Isle. Enemy rear guard action forestalls capture of l'Hopital and Soye, 1½ and 4 mi. NE of Clerval.

FRENCH ARMY B

II Corps Third Alg Inf Div encounters stiff opposition S of Belfort and is being reinforced by 9th Col Inf Div, elements of which are nearing Pontarlier. First Fr Armd clears enemy from Beaune and moves N toward Dijon. First Fr Inf Div N and NW of Lyon.

I Corps Second Mor Inf Div occupies Briancon.

Spitfires and P-47s of 12th AF sweep Belfort-Dijon-Briancon areas, hitting rail and road targets and personnel.

2 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Patrols locate enemy strongpoints near Castillon, 5 mi. N of Menton, requiring heavier than 75 mm or 155 mm bombardment to reduce them.

VI Corps Thirty-sixth Div occupies general area

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Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

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between Doubs and Ognon rivers from Ougney (16 mi. E of Besancon) to Audeux-Villers Buzon area (7 mi. W of Besancon), taking prisoners from 195th Res Div after overcoming resistance at St. Vit, encountering slight resistance in Audeux, Noironte, Recologne, and Chaucenne, and engaging in a fire fight on reaching Marney, N of Ognon R., which forces withdrawal from town. Elements of 3d Div clear Bussieres, on Doubs R., SW of Besancon, cross Ognon near Cussey, break 3 strong road blocks near Voray, capturing 3 88 mm guns, and reach Boulot, W of Voray. Other elements advance to within 500 yds. of Rioz, 12 mi. N of Besancon, against opposition; patrols reaching town are forced to withdraw. Loulans, 6 mi. E of Rioz, is entered by 3d Div troops against light opposition. Units of 117th Cav Rcn Sq locate 2 enemy batteries firing on Ognon R. crossings at Voray and Etuz, 3 mi. E of Voray. Forty-fifth Div troops meeting light opposition occupy Fontenotte, Luxioly, and Verne, receiving enemy tank and SA fire from high ground N of Verne, from which enemy infiltration is cleaned out. Other elements clear Autrechaux and occupy Vergranne, Baume having been cleared of enemy. Troops of 45th also cross Doubs near Clerval, establish road blocks to SW, clear Soye after short fight and move NE along S side of Doubs to point just below l'Isle, which patrols enter from N side of Doubs without encountering enemy.

FRENCH ARMY B

I Corps Third Alg Inf Div continues attacks N, with leading elements on line between St. Hippolyte, 14 mi. SE of l'Isle, and Clerval.

II Corps Sixty mi. SE of Besancon, 1st Fr Armd Div continues N of Beaune, elements being held up at Nuits St. Georges, 9 mi. N of Beaune, contacting enemy at Arnay le Duc, 18 mi. NW of Beaune, and at Nolay, 9 mi. SW of Beaune. First Fr Mtz Div, overcoming enemy resistance, clears Autun, 15 mi. W of Nolay.

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

Twelfth AF P-47s on armed rcn missions over Mulhouse-Freiburg-Belfort Gap areas heavily hit rail transport and MT and destroy 4 grounded aircraft.

10

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Contact established with 2d Fr Mor Inf near Fort Tournoux. L flank patrols operate from St. Etienne, more than 45 mi. N of Cannes to St. Martin-Vesubie, 24 mi. N of Nice. By-passing M. Agel, 2 mi. N of Monaco, troops advance to high ground along Roquebrune-Gorbio line,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E.

VI Corps On L of Corps, 117th Cav Rcn Sq elements find Dole controlled by FFI, take Auxonne on Saone R., 30 mi. W of Besancon, cross Saone 15 mi. N at Apremont, and send patrols to point NW of Gray, enemy strongpoint, 5 mi. NE of Apremont. Elements of 36th Div encountering enemy resistance at Bucey, 15 mi. NW of Besancon, cut off this force from Gray, 12 mi. W, by taking Gy, 2 mi. SW of Bucey. Oiselay, 4 mi. E of Bucey, is also taken. Elements of 117th Cav Rcn Sq approach Ray, on Saone R., 14 mi. NE of Gray, without encountering enemy resistance. Div captures prisoners from 198th, 716th, 388th, and 244th enemy inf divs.

Third Div encounters MG, SA, and flakwagon fire along Rioz-Vesoul road, taking Fondremont, Quenoche, and Pennessieres, N of Rioz, and fighting through Aubertans, 5 mi. NE of Rioz. They are held up S of Authoison, 2 mi. N of Aubertans, by heavy MG fire.

Elements of 45th Div overcome light resistance in advance toward Montbozon and Rougemont, 5 mi. apart, 10 mi. N of Doubs R. in Baume area, eliminating resistance and taking enemy mortars and MGs at Romain and capturing several other villages between Doubs and Ognon rivers. Farther E, other elements of 45th take Uzelle, push N to outskirts of Abbenans,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Villersexel, and, continuing gains against rear guard action, approach l'Isle from S, encounter SA fire to N of town, and clear Accolans, 4 mi. N.

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

FRENCH ARMY B

I Corps By noon, 3d Alg Div is advancing N on Pont de Roide against heavy resistance near Dambelin, SE of l'Isle.

II Corps In W of sector, 1st Fr Armd clears out Nuits St. Georges by noon and reaches point near W approaches to Dijon; 1st Fr Inf Div takes Autun and Arnay le Duc.

Communications in Dijon and Belfort areas successfully raided by fighter bombers and fighters of 12th AF.

11

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Advance along coast continues against stiffening resistance, moving through Menton, 4 mi. E of Monaco, and Castellar, 2 mi. W of Menton, to positions along high ground to E of these towns. Enemy resistance in Castillon, 4 mi. N of Castellar, holds up troops in that area. W of Sospel, 3 mi. N of Castillon, enemy strongpoints supported by arty and mortars are encountered at Col de Braus and Peira-Cava.

VI Corps On L, 117th Cav Rcn Sq patrols Saone R. road net from Auxonne through Gray to Port sur Saone, entered in late afternoon. Elements of 36th Div find Gray has been evacuated by enemy. Troops of 36th also overcome resistance at Grandvelle, 6 mi. NW of Rioz, and seize Chariez, Andelarrot, and high ground at Camp Romain, all N of Grandvelle. Other elements, facing little opposition, organize positions for securing Saone bridge at Port sur Saone, the town of Pusey, and high ground N of Vesoul, cutting escape routes from Vesoul to W and N. Some 3d Div elements advance through Filain and Dampierre, 9-10 mi. NE of Rioz, against light, enemy delaying action, while others, advancing directly from S against considerable MG, SA, and flakwagon fire, break through heavily fortified ~~High Block~~ and push to outskirts of Vesoul. High ground near Neurey, SE of Vesoul, is also taken against increased rear-guard opposition.

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Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

Units of 45th Div seize and clear Rougemont before noon, drive N from Uzelle and encounter persistent SA and MG fire to capture Abbenans and Bournois, NE of Rougemont. Cubrial, near Rougemont to NE, is found evacuated. Div arty counterbatteries considerable MG and enemy arty fire as troops close in on l'Isle. Using MG, mortar, arty, and 20 mm fire, enemy increases resistance near Ognon R., N of Rougemont, but is forced by 45th Div arty fire to withdraw, and 45th Div elements continue advance, taking Thieffrans and Bonnal. Cubrial is also occupied.

FRENCH ARMY B

II Corps During 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Armd Div has occupied Dijon and is moving N, contacting U.S. VI Corps units near Auxonne; patrols contact Third Army elements of 2d Fr Armd Div at 1500B at Sombernon, 14 mi. W of Dijon. First Fr Inf Div rcn units reach Saulieu, 22 mi. W of Sombernon, and meet stiff resistance W of Autun.

Fighter bombers and fighters of 12th AF continue to harass communications in Dijon and Belfort areas.

12 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Enemy resistance at Col de Braus,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of Monaco, is neutralized and enemy is encountered in strength firmly entrenched at Tete de la Lavina. Positions are secured at Peira-Cava, 5 mi. N of Col de Braus.

VI Corps In 36th Div sector, 141st Regt fights way into Vesoul and clears town by noon except for scattered spots of resistance; 143d secures main bridge crossing at Port sur Saone and repulses counterattack to regain bridge; 142d takes Auxon NE of Vesoul and reaches Flagy,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. beyond.

Fifteenth Regt of 3d Div is opposed by SA and MG fire and outflanks Quincey,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. SE of Vesoul, building road blocks; Frotey and Colombe, N and NE of Quincey, are taken and Noroy le Bourg, 6 mi. farther E is flanked and entered by 7th Regt after

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Section III: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER  
Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)

severe fire fight; 30th Regt establishes road blocks on Div R flank.

Forty-fifth Div encounters strong opposition along entire front, 180th Regt securing Port sur l'Ognon, 3 mi. NE of Rougemont, overcoming SA and mortar fire and capturing vehicles and materiel; 157th advances astride Cubrial-Villersexel road. Near l'Isle, 179th exerts pressure on town, receiving steady harassing fire throughout day.

## FRENCH ARMY B

II Corps During 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Armd Div has reached Is-sur-Tille, 14 mi. N of Dijon, and Fontaine Française, 12 mi. E of Is-sur-Tille with rec units at Recy-sur-Ource, 21 mi. NW of Is-sur-Tille.

First Fr Inf Div contacts in strength 2 Fr Armd units of U.S. THIRD ARMY at Chatillon, 14 mi. WNW of Recy at 0700B. Enemy resistance at Chatillon ceases because of withdrawal to E.

I Corps During 24 hrs. ending at noon, in a flanking movement against Pont de Roide, 3d Alg Div, reinforced by elements of 9th Col, reaches vicinity of Fleurey, 9 mi. S of objective, occupying a point 1 mi. S of city and also reaches the area of les Grands Bois, 1½ mi. NW of objective. Patrols of 2d Mor Div pass Col d'Iseran.

13

## U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF R flank in areas E of Menton and Castellar resists bn strength enemy counterattack with arty preparation, holding lines with slight casualties. In Col de Braus sector, troops are opposed by arty fire in attempts to drive enemy from Tete de la Lavina.

VI Corps Elements of 36th Div advance from Port sur Saone about 6 mi. N to Faverney, although forced to withdraw from Faverney until reinforced. Other elements, moving N from Flagy and overcoming enemy road block near Neurey, 4 mi. N of Flagy,

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advance 2 mi. farther to reach outskirts of Equevillie. Vellefrie,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Flagy, is occupied. Third Div elements attack through Noroy, 8 mi. E of Vesoul, encountering severe arty and mortar fire in securing hill to E, and occupy Lievans, Pomoy, and Saulx, 7 mi. N of Noroy. When relieved by 36th Div elements at Saulx, troops take Chateney, 2 mi. E of Saulx. Other 3d Div elements exert pressure to the NE between Noroy and Villersexel, 7 mi. SE.

Units of 45th Div enter l'Isle, on which an enemy pivot in withdrawal to NE begins to take form. Enemy is not encountered until reaching the eastern outskirts of town. Other elements of 45th pass through Villers la Ville, E of Villersexel, and 10 mi. NW of l'Isle, securing high ground. Elements striking for Grammont, between Villersexel and l'Isle, place arty fire on enemy inf and horse drawn arty, taking prisoners.

Heavy, harassing arty fire falls on whole VI Corps front as enemy withdraws less mobile and heavier pieces to NE, leaving dual-purpose 88 mm and assault guns to cover retreat. In 45th Div area several rounds of heavy caliber rocket fire, believed to be about 320 mm, are received.

FRENCH ARMY B

II Corps In 24-hr. period ending at noon, 1st Fr Armd Div occupies Langres, 40 mi. N of Dijon, and rec elements continue 19 mi. farther N to Chaumont.

I Corps Elements of 3d Alg Inf Div take Autechaux,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of Pont de Roide, but withdraw from Villars sous Ecct, 4 mi. NW of Pont de Roide, due to strong tank opposition. Elements of 9th Col Div are regrouping at Sancey, 11 mi. W of St. Hippolyte, and in Voiron area, near Grenoble.

Thirty P-47s of IX TAC bomb Ostheim airdrome, near Colmar, striking hangars. Spitfires of 12th AF sweep Mulhouse area, strafing air communications.

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**Section III: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER**  
**Part I: Sixth Army Group (AFHQ Advance)**

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 U.S. DD's attack troops, vehicles, and mortars in  
 Capo Mortola area, 2½ mi. E of Menton.

14

**U.S. SEVENTH ARMY**

**First ABTF** Hampered by weather, TF exchanges mortar fire with enemy.

**VI Corps** Elements of 179th Regt of 45th Div continue to surround l'Isle, and with aid of 180th Regt overcome heavy SA and mortar fire to enter Accolans, 3 mi. N of l'Isle, completing occupation by 1700; the 179th is also engaged by enemy in wooded area near Beveuge, 2 mi. E of Villersexel; 157th elements clear St. Ferjeux without opposition and send patrols toward Courchaton, 2 mi. N of Accolans, where considerable enemy movement has been observed. To NW, 30th Regt of 3d Div enters Aillevans, 3½ mi. N of Villersexel, without opposition and clears Longeville, 2 mi. E, overcoming sniper fire; 7th Div secures high ground S of Arpenans, 2 mi. N of Aillevans, continuing to advance against increasing arty fire. Fifteenth Regt fights into Pomoy, 9 mi. N of Villersexel, at noon and on clearing town to NE is engaged by enemy arty, mortar, MG, and SA fire, advancing to outskirts of Genevreville, 1½ mi. E of Pomoy, but is drawn back so that arty can be laid on town. Farther to NW, in 36th Div sector, 142d Inf Regt breaks road block N of Saulx, taking prisoners, and is held up by severe SA fire at Baudoncourt, 3 mi. SW of Luxeuil, but meeting less fire 3 to 5 mi. farther to SE takes Citers and Dambenoit; 143d Regt establishes road blocks in drive toward Breurey, 7 mi. NW of Saulx, and reaches la Villedieu against mortar and 20 mm fire on flanks.

**FRENCH ARMY B**

~~SECRET~~  
**II Corps** In 24 hr. period ending at noon, elements of 1st Fr Armd Div move N from Langres and Poinson les Faye, 10 mi. SE of Varanges. Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div reach St. Segrel l'Abbaye, 14 mi. NW of Dijon, with rec units moving toward Chatillon, 30 mi. farther NW.

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I Corps By noon, 3d Alg Inf Div slowly advances N against heavy enemy resistance, reaching line Villars sous Ecot-Blamont in Pont de Roide area.

- 15 Effective 0001B, CG, Sixth Army Gp, assumes command of all Allied ground and service forces in Southern Army Gp.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

Firt ABTF Patrols are ambushed near St. Etienne, 40 mi. N of coast; others operate near Cime de Ventabren, farther S.

VI Corps In Doubs R. area, 45th Div patrols draw strong reaction near l'Isle and NE of town. Villafans, 3 mi. NE of Villersexel, is occupied.

In 3d Div operations toward Lure, 7th Inf units take la Grange, 4 mi. SW of Lure, and using grenades and bayonets, rout enemy from high ground near Vy, 2 mi. S. They take two bridges near les Aynans, 1½ mi. S of Vy. Strong enemy fire outside Vy halts advance. Fifteenth Regt elements enter Genreville and capture Amblans, 2 mi. E, in face of moderate resistance, and Ouers, 4 mi. N of Lure, against heavy MG fire, AT and flakwagon fire. Thirty-sixth Div elements attack Luxeuil from three directions, encountering scattered enemy strongpoints to E and S, entering Froideconche, and taking St. Sauveur without difficulty; advancing from SW, other elements pass through Meurcourt and 3 nearer villages against enemy rear guard action of mortar and SP gun fire. Other elements of 36th with 117th Cav Rcn units protect L. flank along Saone and Lanterne rivers.

Fighter bombers cut RR lines in S France and destroy MT and rolling stock. Flak met over Montbeliard and Belfort. B-24s of 15th AF fly supply mission to Lyons.

- 16 Operations centered on plan to concentrate VI Corps troops on line Port sur Saone-Vesoul-Lure for advance N and E.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Patrol activity continued. Enemy arty and automatic weapons fire is drawn in unsuccessful

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efforts to take high ground near Cime de Ventabren.

VI Corps Forty-fifth Div maintains aggressive patrolling and is halted in advance toward Geney by extremely heavy German resistance. In 3d Div area, 15th Regt enters Lure in early afternoon and pushes northward after being relieved by 7th Regt, which has completed capture of Vy. Seventh Regt passes through Lure to meet stiff enemy opposition and arty fire, establishing road blocks and withdrawing to organize an attack.

N of Lure, 142d Regt of 36th Div enters Luxeuil from S and 143d Regt enters from SW; 143d consolidates positions in town and 142d establishes road block N of town and catches up with German rear guard near Esboz, 3 mi. E of Luxeuil; 141st Regt heads toward Fougerolles, 5 mi. N of Luxeuil.

FRENCH ARMY B

I Corps Second Fr Div captures Bramans, 19 mi. NNE of Briancon on R. flank. There is no change in Pont de Roide area.

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Armd Div is reducing enemy pocket in Fayl-Billot-Poinson-la Folie triangle, 33 mi. W of Luxeuil; rcn reaches Chaumont, Clefmont, 17 mi. E of Chaumont, and Bourbonne les Bains, 15 mi. SE of Clefmont.

Fighter-bombers destroy MT and horse-drawn vehicles on armed rcn; rcn in Belfort and Strasbourg areas without incident.

U.S. DD's attack enemy batteries and troops in Capo Mortola area.

17

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Patrol activity continued and mortar fire exchanged with enemy in area E of Barcelonnette. High ground occupied S of Col de Braus and preparations made for enemy movement in strength on St. Martin Vesubie.

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VI Corps In L'Isle-Villersexel area, 45th Div maintains defensive positions and sends out patrols. Third Div establishes road blocks and sends out patrols S and E of Lure, meeting heavy arty, mortar, flakwagon, and MG fire 4 mi. E of Lure. Elements occupy Lantenot, Belmont, and Raddon, stringing out 12 mi. NW of Lure, facing 200 enemy with bazooka teams, flakwagons, and tank fire at Raddon, and repelling counterattacks against Lantenot and Raddon with arty, mortar, and SA or TD fire. Elements of 36 Div, advancing on Plombieres, 20 mi. N of Lure, meet strong enemy delaying action near Fougerolles, 5 mi. N of Luxeuil, also encounter fire on high ground S of town, enter city in evening and move W to near Corbenay. Other elements find St. Loup, 6 mi. W of Fougerolles, unoccupied, and overcome road block to advance just short of Chapendu, SE of Fougerolles.

FRENCH ARMY B

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, in Briancon area, 2d Fr Inf Div makes contact with enemy at Lanslesbourg, 6 mi. E of Bramans. In Pont de Roide sector, 3d Alg Div, meeting stiff resistance, is being replaced by 9th Col Div.

II Corps First Fr Armd Div is moving E in area 8 mi. N of Vesoul.

Weather restricts morning missions to one while all cancelled in afternoon.

U.S. DD's attack enemy transport E of Menton, small craft in San Remo harbor, and guns and other coastal objectives.

18 Advance to NE is halted pending relief of 45th Div by Fr II Corps.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

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First GRC with arty support, 1st ABTF seizes high land at Vete de la Lavinha and Col de Ventabren in vicinity of Gal de Braus and Peira Cava.

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VI Corps In l'Isle area, 45th Div, being relieved by 1st Fr Inf Div, limits activity to patrols, which find enemy withdrawn from several villages from 3 to 5 mi. N and NE of Villersexel, although still offering opposition E of Vellechervreux in this area. Third Div elements regroup and secure positions 1½ mi. E of Lure. Thirty-six Div rcn units find Plombieres and Xertigny, 6 mi. N of Plombieres, evacuated. Elements of 117th Cav Rcn Sq push N through Bains les Bains, 14 mi. NW of Luxeuil, continuing several mi. NW to near Gruey and NE to near la Chapelle, meeting only delaying action by enemy rear guards.

**FRENCH ARMY B**

First Fr Armd Div holds up operations for fuel and supplies; 9th Col Inf replaces 3d Alg Div in Pont de Roide area.

No missions due to weather.

19 The Moselle R. crossings become objectives as VI Corps units fan out toward Epinal and Remiremont from the St. Loup-Luxeuil-Lure area. French Army B redesignated First French Army and passes to Sixth Army Group control.

**FIRST FRENCH ARMY**

Both Corps regrouping, organizing in assembly areas, and establishing new positions. First Fr Inf Div completes relief of 45th U.S. Div in l'Isle-Villersexel area. First Fr Armd relieves elements of 3d Div.

**U.S. SEVENTH ARMY**

First ABTF Patrols harass enemy in area E of Peira-Cava and N of Sospel. Enemy arty fire received in Tete de la Lavina area.

VI Corps Thirty-sixth Div elements with tank and TD support reach outskirts of Remiremont on Moselle R. Other VI Corps units of 117th Cav Rcn Sq reach Vittel, 9 mi. NW of Darney, contacting 3d Army elements reorganized in assembly areas.

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No missions.

20 Action all along fronts is resumed, with VI Corps under orders to advance to N on axis Vesoul-St. Die-Strasbourg.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

Troops of 1st and 2d Fr Corps continue to reorganize for further advance; 9th Fr Col Div held up by lack of transport.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Continues to receive arty fire and patrols harass enemy in Sospel valley.

VI Corps On VI Corps R flank, 3d Div faces strong resistance in heavily wooded terrain; 30th Regt advances  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 mi., encountering considerable arty fire and mines W of la Mer, heavy opposition W of Melay, and reaches area W of Esmoulières, towns in a 4 mi. area, 11 mi. E of Luxeuil and 5 to 8 mi. SW of Moselle R. Jumping off from St. Bresson area, 8 mi. NE of Luxeuil, 7th Regt advances  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 mi. against arty, mortar, MG, and SA fire to line 3 mi. NW of Esmoulières; remaining 3d Div elements relieved by First Fr Armd E of Luxeuil.

Approaching Remiremont, N of 3d Div, 36th Div elements take le Girmont, 4 mi. S of city, against stiffening opposition, reach point on Fougerolles-Remiremont highway 2 mi. N of le Girmont, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. SSW of objective, reduce road block 4 mi. W of city, approach fort on outskirts, occupy positions NE of Raon aux Bois, 4 mi. NW of town, and locate suitable Moselle crossing at Eloyes, 5 mi. N.

Eight mi. NW of Eloyes, 45th Div elements, supported by tanks, TD, and arty, reach point 5 mi. S of Epinal, encountering only light SA fire. Units of 117th Cav Rcn Sq, approaching Epinal from SW, encounter numerous road blocks and mines, but find opposition on whole not excessively strong.

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Weather hampers missions.

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In support of 1st ABTF, U.S. DD carries out attacks on rail yards and communication targets near Ventimiglia.

Gulfe du Lion:

SS Generoso (Swiss cargo ship, 1,437 tons) sunk by enemy action at 43-20 N, 05-20 E.

21 With Gerardmer, St. Die, Rambervillers, and Baccarat, 12, 22, 12, and 20 mi., respectively, E of Moselle R. as objectives, VI Corps bearing brunt of attack encounters heavy resistance in Moselle area.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 2d Fr Inf Div occupies enemy road in Col du Petit St. Bernard area, N of Briancon. Third Mor Div is holding lines Autechaux-Roide and Villars-les Blamont in Pont de Roide area; enemy violently counterattacks and retakes Columbier-Chatelot and Vermondans, 1 mi. and 7 mi. NW of Pont de Roide in 9th Col Div area.

I Corps First Fr Inf Div regroups while maintaining lines 6-8 mi. NE of Villersexel; 1st Fr Armd reaches Palante, 4 mi. ESE of Lure, and Melisey, 6 mi. NE of Lure.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Continues to receive heavy arty fire in Tete de la Lavina and Cime de Ventabren area. Patrols contact enemy near Cime de Penas.

VI Corps Third Div, after active patrolling during night, repels 9 counterattacks W of Esmoulières and maintains positions W of la Mer and Melay in heavy fighting, the enemy bitterly resisting local advances. Other elements make slight gains toward Ft. de Rupt, 9 mi. SE of Remiremont on W bank of Moselle, and W and N of la Longine, 5 mi. SW, also facing fierce resistance. Elements of 142d Inf of 36th Div encounter fierce enemy resistance and make only local gains

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toward Remiremont from W; 141st Regt occupies W part of Eloyes against heavy SA, mortar and arty fire and wades across Moselle S of town, advancing E of Moselle; 143d elements cross Moselle after 141st and occupy hills E of Eloyes.

Farther N, elements of 45th Div reach Arches-Archettes area on Moselle, 4 mi. NNW of Eloyes, 179th Regt troops infiltrating across R and occupying high ground on either side; 180th Regt elements advance NE from Naimont about 5 mi. to within  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. of Epinal. Troops of 157th Regt take Thaon, 6 mi. N of Epinal, and cross Moselle at Chatel, a similar distance N of Thaon.

Fighter bombers attack locomotives, freight cars, and MT in Mullheim-Kandern-Schlettstadt-Wasselheim areas. City area at Rambervillers target for 29th AF fighter bombers with 10 tons in support of 45 Div.

U.S. DD attacks supply dumps near Ventimiglia in support of 1st ABTF operations.

22 Moselle crossings continue to be the chief VI Corps objectives. Fr forces hold line 14 mi. W of Belfort.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon in 2d Fr Mor Div sector, enemy abandons Col de Pelouse, about 20 mi. N of Briancon. Third Alg and 9th Col Div maintain contact in Pont de Roide area.

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Alg Inf Div holds 14 mi. line in l'Isle-Lure area, from la Praticre to Moffans, about 14 mi. W of Belfort. First Fr Armd Div takes St. Barthelemy, suburb of Melisey, 7 mi. N of N flank of 1st Alg line. During day, Melisey, also, is captured.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Carries on patrols activity and receives scattered arty fire. Enemy lines extend from Grimaldi,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. W of Ventimiglia, through Castillon, Sospel, to a point E of St. Martin Vesubie, then NW to St. Etienne and Larche. Condamine, 6 mi. N of

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Barcelonnette, is occupied.

VI Corps In N, 3d Div makes slow gains against continued, but slackening enemy resistance. Striking at focal points along a 9-mi. front N of la Longine, 2 to 4 mi. W of Moselle between le Thillot and Remiremont, 3d Div is halted by SA fire, well dug-in enemy positions, and wooded nature of terrain. At Remiremont, 142d Regt of 36th Div, advancing from positions 3 mi. S of town, occupies two thirds of city and overcomes resistance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. to SW; 141st, overcoming moderate resistance, occupies Hill 807 on E side of Moselle,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of town, and cuts Remiremont-St. Ame road; both forces build road blocks. Troops of 143d Regt occupy Eloyes by 2200 against stiff resistance. Engineers bridge Moselle, 4 mi. N of Remiremont and prepare to install second bridge at Eloyes. Against heavy MG and mortar fire, 179th Regt of 45th Div crosses Moselle,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NW of Arches, occupying hills 504 and 412 near Archettes on N side of R. Attacking Epinal from les Forges, W of Epinal, 180th Regt encounters heavy MG, mortar, and arty fire and is halted on W outskirts of city, running into snipers, road blocks, and SA fire. Moving NW from Thaon which has been cleared of all enemy elements, 157th Regt continues on W side of Moselle 3 mi., crossing Moselle at Igney to establish positions a short distance E of river there; other elements of 157th move SE from Chatel, NW of Igney, through heavily wooded area against enemy resistance, occupying Vaxoncourt, then encountering stiffer resistance and reaching point 1 mi. SE of Vaxoncourt.

Fighter bombers attack MT, locomotives, and RR cars in Belfort-Mulhouse area, damaging or destroying 28 locomotives, 97 RR cars, and 33 MT.

U.S. naval vessels attack railhead, trucks, storage dumps, and batteries in support of 1st ABTF in Magliocca area.

23 Sixth Army Group makes gains in Moselle Valley and W of Belfort.

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FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 2d Alg Inf Div repulses enemy arty and mortar supported attack in Tarantasia area, 32 mi. N of Briancon.

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, violent enemy action prevents Fr 1st Armd from entering Palante, 2 mi. NE of Moffans. Along la Pretiere-Moffans line of 1st Fr Inf Div, village of Faimbe, Mignavillers station, and parts of Secenans and Granges are taken and gains of a kilometer are made near Vachresse and Moffans.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Light enemy counterattacks are repulsed in Cime de Ventabren area.

VI Corps During night, enemy withdraws from positions immediately in front of 3d Div and during day 30th Regt clears through Esmoulières to area 4 mi. E and 3 mi. NE near Evouhey, also advancing steadily against light resistance on 2 bn front in area SW of Ft. de Rupt, to line  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Evouhey. Seventh Regt takes Ft. de Rupt on Moselle R., and high land to N. Elements of 117th Cav Rcn Sq maintaining outpost line Faucogney-Mclay, SW of Esmoulières, after following 3d Div elements into Esmoulières, are driven out in afternoon by superior enemy forces, and establish road block W of town.

Elements of 141st Regt of 36th Div, operating on E side of Moselle R. opposite Remiremont, bottle up enemy in city, establishing road block, taking E end of Remiremont bridge, and N part of city. Elements of 142d Regt complete liquidation of enemy resistance in city by noon and also establish road blocks E of Moselle there. Elements of 143d operating from Eloyes with supporting armor take Jarrenil, NW of Eloyes, on E bank of Moselle, and are stopped 12 mi. beyond by AT and SA fire. Other elements are stopped by SA, mortar, and arty fire 2 mi. farther E.

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In Epinal area, elements of 179th Regt of 45th Div overcome SA and mortar fire to take Mossoux, 2 mi. N of Jarmenil. Elements of 180th Regt, battling way into N part of Epinal, clear portion W of Moselle, cross Moselle against SA and mortar fire, and advance NE short distance E of Moselle. Other elements of 180th enter city from SW against moderate resistance, cross R., and make small advance; 157th Regt, farther N, is slowed by dense woods and SA fire several mi. N of Epinal, but advances over 3 mi. E toward Domevre.

Bridges for vehicles up to 3 tons and one for heavy vehicles are built at Remiremont by 36th Eng; 20th Eng build trestle treadway bridge at Arches.

No missions flown.

U.S. DD's draw return fire in supporting ABTF by bombardment of rail targets, batteries, and an OP near Ventimiglia.

24 Units advance into Vosges foothills E of Moselle.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, troops of Fr 9th Col Inf Div occupy St. Maurice-Echelotte and Colombier-Chatelot on S side of Doubs R., 2 mi. SE of l'Isle.

II Corps First Fr Armd Div line is little changed; part of Melisey is occupied, and Ecromagny, 2 mi. N. First Fr Inf Div is organizing positions. Gap exists between Fr and 3d Div flank.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Action limited to patrolling and improvement of positions.

VI Corps In 3d Div sector, enemy withdraws from Esmoulières and 117th Cav Rcn Sq patrols R flank; 30th Div makes only minor gains against stiff

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resistance, setting up additional road blocks. Seventh Inf Regt takes bridge over Moselle, 1 mi. N of Ft. de Rupt in spite of enemy attempt to detonate demolitions, clears Rupt on E side of Moselle of enemy snipers and takes hill E of R.; 2 mi. N, smaller bridge is taken and crossed in face of intense SA and MG fire, troops securing Maxonchamp, 4 mi. E. Near Remiremont, 141st Regt of 36th Div advances toward St. Ame against SA, mortar, and 20 mm fire, encountering strong enemy positions 2 mi. NE of Remiremont, but taking Putieres, 1½ mi. N of St. Ame. Troops of 142d Regt, passing through 141st, attack N and NE of Remiremont, reaching high ground near Tendon, 7 mi. NE. Elements of 143d virtually surround enemy in Docelles, N of Eloyes, and push to high ground near Faucompierre, 2 mi. SE. Elements of 179th Regt of 45th Div maintain road blocks near Mossoux, 2 mi. NE of Archettes, occupy la Baffe, a similar distance beyond, take Hill 474 in area, and advance to within 500 yds. of Charmois, 6½ mi. E of Epinal.

Except for isolated pockets, 180th Regt clears enemy from eastern portion of Epinal by noon, engages in stiff fighting E of Epinal, reaching outskirts of Jeuxey and overcoming determined enemy opposition. Bailey bridge in Epinal is completed. To N of Epinal, arty takes enemy on Golbey-Dogneville highway under fire and 157th Inf Regt overcoming stiff opposition reaches Domevre, NE of Thaon, clears Girmont and approaches Hill 375 after arty causes enemy evacuation.

Fighter-bombers destroy 2 enemy aircraft and 1 locomotive and damage 3 RR cars N of Freiburg.

Firing from smoke screen, US DD's attack arty and troops in Ventimiglia-Magliocca area.

25 Contending against cold, rainy, foggy weather, heavily wooded terrain, and stiff opposition, units continued steady advance into Vosges areas.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps

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withdraw to S edges of St. Maurice-Echelotte and Colombier-Chatelois in l'Isle area.

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Armd Div launches attack on le Thillot, on Moselle 6 mi. SE of Rupt, beyond U.S. 3d Div R flank.

## U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

First ABTF Pillboxes in Castillon area are attacked.VI Corps Troops of 30th Regt of 3d Div operating on W side of Moselle R., NW of la Thillot, engage in heavy fighting and reach positions SW of la Chene,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Ft. de Rupt; other elements of Div protect R flank S of le Thillot. In 36th Div sector, 141st Regt elements enter St. Ame at midnight with arty support, encountering fierce resistance not finally cleaned out until noon; other elements take RJ E of St. Ame, after heavy fighting, blocking approaches from 3 directions. Troops of 142d Inf reach outskirts of Tendon against heavy resistance, cutting Tendon-le Tholy road to E, and establishing road blocks; drawing back to high land SE of Tendon in accordance with regtl consolidation plan. Nine mi. N, elements of 143d Regt batter way into Docelles, hold high ground N of Docelles against enemy infiltration efforts, and maintain positions on high ground E of Faucompierre, 3 mi. E of Docelles.In vicinity of Epinal, 179th Regt of 45th Div captures Charmois, 4 mi. NE of Archettes, encountering light resistance. Advancing against only moderate opposition, 180th elements encounter and overcome heavy resistance before entering Jeuxey (5 mi. NW of Charmois), which is cleared without further opposition, secure Deyvillers against enemy arty fire and other resistance, and reach Longchamp, in same area. Elements of 157th Regt operating from N take Dogneville, 3 mi. N of Epinal. Domevre, NE of Thaon, is cleared of all enemy resistance by evening and Hill 375 in area is captured and mopped up, troops continuing to a line W of Dignonville,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Dogneville.~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

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Weather restricts operations.

U.S. CL attacks supply train in Ventimiglia area with good results. Camel Beaches, last remaining in operation, are closed and TF 85, in charge of naval operations in connection with invasion of southern France is dissolved, Naval Commander of Western Task Force leaving Toulon.

26 Sixth Army Group assumes command of First ABTF as separate unit. Chief progress is made on VI Corps L flank.

First ABTF Boundaries of 1st ABTF extended to include Larche Pass, NE of Barcelonnette. Patrols strike enemy at several points and disrupt enemy pack train; arty and mortar fire is received.

#### FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Armd Div, advancing toward le Thillot, 10 mi. E of lines, takes plateau of Mt. de Vannes, SE of Melisey, and positions near Melay in short gains.

First Fr Inf Div takes Magny Jobert in 2 mi. advance.

#### U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps While 117th Cav Rcn Sq screened R flank, 30th Regt, operating on S side of Moselle below Ferdrupt, advances E to points 2 mi. W of le Thillot, where later relieved by 1st Fr Armd Div. Clearing scattered resistance in Rupt area, 7th Regt makes substantial gains toward Thiefosse,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Rupt, against stubborn pockets of resistance and advances more than 2 mi. NE from Dommartin area. Third Div elements relieve 36th Div units in St. Ame area. Other 36th Div elements withdraw from positions in Tendon area. Elements of 143d Regt clear Xamontarupt, establish positions on hill to E, and completely clear and secure Docelles; patrols reach le Roulier, 2 mi. NE. Still farther N, 179th Regt of 45th Div attacks toward Aydoilles, 6 mi. E of Epinal, being held up by road blocks just S of town, and also reaches Charmois, S of Aydoilles, establishing road blocks near both

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places. Troops of 180th Regt clear Vaudeville,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Epinal, and advance NE 2 mi. farther, being stopped by heavy arty fire. Other elements mop up wooded areas S of Deyvillers, 3 mi. E of Epinal.

No air missions.

27 Reinforced by an additional arty bn, part of an armd group, and additional protection, VI Corps continues progress beyond Moselle.

First ABTF Enemy combat patrol in Sospel area repulsed; enemy arty activity increases.

#### FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, TDs attack enemy arty near Roquebillere, 23 mi. N of Nice, and Isola and St. Etienne de Tinee, 17 and 8 mi. farther NW; 3d Alg Div occupies and holds group of farms near Pont de Roide.

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Inf. Div reaches Longeville, N of Doubs R., 3 mi. E of l'Isle, and makes small gains 8 mi. N near Lyoffans. First Fr Armd makes gains of less than mi. on edge of Bois de Vannes,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Lure and just E of Melisey.

#### U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Elements of 7th Regt of 3d Div advancing against heavy SA and MG fire a short distance take up positions near Ferdrupt and others make some progress E of Rupt. S of St. Ame, elements reach point SE of town in slight advance on broad front, and arty support takes Vagney, 2 mi. SE, under fire. Fifteenth Regt attacks from NW of St. Ame against heavy resistance, repulsing a counterattack.

Troops of 36th Div continue operations in Docelles area, 143d elements occupying hill positions to the N, establishing road blocks E of town and patrols finding le Roulier,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE,

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and le Boulay, 3 mi. E, clear of enemy, which had road blocks N of there; 143d elements also take high ground N of Docelles-Faucompierre road and positions N of Faucompierre,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. ESE of Docelles; 142d elements clear Tendon against heavy resistance including arty fire, mopping up areas to N and E.

E of Epinal, 179th Regt overcomes numerous obstacles and minefields to take Aydoilles, and reaches outskirts of Fontenay, 2 mi. NE of Aydoilles. Elements of 180th occupy Dompierre, and take Girecourt, Destord, and Gugnecourt, villages in a 3 mi. area N of Aydoilles; counterattacks against Destord and Gugnecourt force troops to withdraw from Gugnecourt. Farther N, 157th enters Bult without opposition and overcomes light resistance to take Vomecourt, villages in small area 5 mi. NE of Dignonville.

XII TAC flies approximately 63 sorties.

28 All units face increased resistance or greater use of mines.

First ABTF. Units harassed by enemy arty fire along fronts.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps. In 24 hrs. ending at noon, snow limits operations in Alps to patrolling. In Pont de Roide area, enemy retakes locality 5 mi. SW of St. Hippolyte.

II Corps. In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Inf Div captures Frederic Fontaine and Clairegoutte, for small gains SE of Lure. First Fr Armd Div takes Chapelle de Ronchamp, E of Lure, in gain of mi., and advances to 1 mi. E of Fresse, 4 mi. E of Melisey, in gain of several miles. Mines are encountered in road leading E to le Thillot.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps. Seventh Regt elements of 3d Div take and hold Ferdrupt in spite of counterattacks and heavy arty fire, and maintain line W of Thiefosse-Vagney

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highway, rcn forces mopping up small enemy units to E; 15th Regt holds lines and makes small advance S of St. Ame against enemy pressure and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N approaches Cleurie at three points against heavy arty, mortar, and tank fire.

Encountering numerous road blocks supplemented by enemy patrols, 143d Regt of 36th Div holds N of St. Ame and consolidates positions on high ground N of Docelles-Faucompierre road, capturing St. Jean du Marche,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. SE of le Boulay, against stiff opposition.

Eight mi. NE of Epinal, elements of 157th Regt of 45th Div take Memenil without opposition to be halted by entrenched enemy forces in high ground, and slow progress is made through Foret de Faite to point  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. SE of Memenil. Three mi. NE of Memenil, 180th Regt secures group of villages in 2-mi. area, meeting light resistance at St. Helene and stiff opposition at Nonzeville, Pierrepont, and Gugnecourt. Advancing E toward Grandvillers,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Gugnecourt, against heavy arty and mortar fire, an additional  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. is gained. Units of 157th take St. Gorgon,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Vomecourt, secure high ground N of town; patrols contact enemy near Rambervillers, 18 mi. NE of Epinal.

Two fighter-bomber missions unable to reach target due to weather.

29 With return of good weather, elements enlarged small gains E of Moselle and W of Belfort; 4th Mor Div begins relief of 2d in Fr 1st Army. New W boundary of Sixth Army Group sector extends sector to include all SE of Chaumont, Lunéville (28 mi. N of Epinal), Sarrebourg, Landau, and Heidelberg.

First ABTF Activity chiefly limited to patrolling by both sides and some enemy arty fire; enemy now using Teller mines with anti-handling fuse.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, enemy continues defensive attitude in Alps sector with heavy arty fire.

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II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Inf Div advances 2 mi., reaching Onochamp and outflanking nearby Eboulet. First Fr Armd in advance of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 mi. reaches Eboulet, Recologne, and Mouriere, in small area 6 mi. E of Lure, Chevestraye and Belfahy, NE of Fresse, and points 1 mi. N of Servance and 2 mi. SW of le Thillot, where counterattack is repulsed.

**U.S. SEVENTH ARMY**

VI Corps Elements of 7th Regt, 3d Div, consolidate positions near Ferdrupt, clear sector W of Vagney-Thiefosse road, repulse counterattack, and infiltrate off high land toward Vagney, 3 mi. SSE of St. Ame; 15th Regt makes local gains W and SE of Cleurie, holding high ground  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of St. Ame against strong enemy resistance. Near Dommartin, 30th Regt is held up by SA, MG and arty fire.

Elements of 36th Div take Hill 827, 9 mi. SE of Docelles, against stubborn resistance, withdraw to Tendon when stopped near Houx,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE, by extremely heavy enemy arty fire, move from high ground N of Docelles-Faucompierre road to point E of le Boulay, and approach Lepanges and Deycimont, in area 2 mi. NE of Docelles.

Farther N, 179th Regt of 45th Div advances 2 mi. through Forêt de Faite, retarded by SA fire, and occupies Memenil after heavy fighting throughout day. Elements of 180th Regt reach positions just W and N of Grandvillers in spite of heavy SA and mortar fire from enemy strongpoints, and enter Autrey after several fire fights. Units of 157th, 3 mi. N of Autrey, maintain line Vomécourt to S of Rambervillers, meeting enemy resistance and firing on enemy attempting to mine Rambervillers-Jemmenil road.

XV Corps Corps passes from Third Army to Seventh Army control. Elements of 79th Div operating in Forêt de Parroy E of Orion and Sionviller, N of Lunéville, withstand counterattacks and make limited progress.

Fighter bombers destroy rolling stock at Hausach and Offenburg and gun positions in battle area.

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30 Third Div is to block to S and seize objective line to E; 36th Div is to assist 45th in attack on Bruyeres and prepare to take over area, and 45th Div is to seize objective line E of Brouvelieures and Bruyeres, complete capture of Rambervillers, and block to E and NE in missions outlined by VI Corps, as enemy continues active defense along fronts. Boundary between Fr II and I Corps now runs between Villafans and Faymont in general direction Villersexel-Belfort.

First ABTF Units patrol vigorously and receive heavy enemy arty fire, including shelling of Menton.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

I Corps For 24 hrs. ending at noon, no change.

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 1st Fr Inf Div reaches Faymont Valley, 6 mi. SE of Lure. Elements in S sector are relieved by 2d Alg Div. First Fr Armd Div repulses counterattacks 1 mi. N of Eboulet, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and 3 mi. E of Fresse, proceeding to regain lost ground. Units advance 2 mi. NE of Servance.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Elements of 36th Div, meeting bitter resistance on all fronts, repel counterattack near Ferdrupt, make very small gains near Dommartin, W of Vagney, and near Cleurie to W and SE.

E of Docelles, elements of 142d Regt of 36th Div repulse arty supported counterattack on Hill 827; 141st Regt advances into area NW of Houx, running into stiff opposition, and takes St. Jean du Marche; 143d Regt approaches Fays and Lepanges, NE of Docelles, against moderate opposition of SA fire, and clears Deycimont without opposition.

Eleven mi. NE of Epinal, 179th Regt of 45th Div holds most of Grandvillers after fighting from house to house all day; 180th Regt units advance 2 mi. E of Pierrepont, but tank support fails to accomplish further gains through strong enemy force; other elements near Autrey, 2 mi. N, direct arty, mortar, tank and TD fire on enemy strongpoints near Housseras,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE, and patrols S of Autrey encounter enemy MG and sniper fire from N of Fremifontaine. After arty preparation, 157th

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attacks Rambervillers, overcoming strong resistance within city and later organizing defenses beyond city under enemy mortar and arty fire.

XV Corps Elements of 79th Div, overcoming tank and arty fire and repelling counterattack, advance nearly a mile in spite of heavy casualties, taking crossroads 2 mi. N of Croismare.

XII TAC destroys rolling stock and cuts estimated 20 RR lines on armed rcn in Karlsruhe and Muchen-Stuttgart areas.

Throughout month fighter-bombers harass enemy columns retreating in face of Seventh Army onslaught.

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**U.S. THIRD ARMY**

**XII Corps** Elements of 2d Cav Rcn Gp reache general line Mirecourt-Nancy-Pont a Mousson, the latter 15 mi. S of Metz. Elements of 4th Armd run low on gasoline; CCB crosses Meuse R. at Chalaines, 10 mi. SW of Toul, and CCA holds high ground in St. Mihiel-Commercy area; 80th Inf Div crosses Meuse near Commercy, approaching Jouy and St. Mihiel after finding bridges out at Revigny, Bar le Duc, and Laheycourt; 35th Div patrols general lines Orleans-St. Romain and Vendeuve-Bar sur Seine-Sens.

**XX Corps** Although running low in Class III supplies, Corps continues operations from Vouziers and Verdun, elements of 90th Div remaining at Reims. CCA of 7th Armd is E of Meuse at Tilly, 10 mi. S of Verdun, and CCB at Etain, 12 mi. E. Rcn units of 3d Cav Gp hold bridge at Thionville, 16 mi. N of Metz, for several hours against SA and tank fire and reach Briey and Conflans, 21 and 25 mi. E of Verdun. Elements of 5th Div receive SA, automatic weapon, and tank fire near Champigneulle, 23 mi. NW of Verdun, mop up near Clermont, take bridge at Bannoncourt, S of Tilly, and complete occupation of Verdun, seizing high ground to SE and NE of city.

**VIII Corps** Front lines of 2d, 8th, and 29th Divs being readjusted in preparation for concerted assault on Brest as soon as ammunition situation, now critical, permits. Limited objective attacks start at 1000 hours, in conjunction with air bombardment, but strong enemy reaction prevents more than slight gains. Particularly heavy fighting occurs at Fourneuf and Bourg-Neuf where 9th Regt (2d Div) has been attempting since 30 August to clear crucial strongpoint blocking advance of 9th and 121st Regts. In 8th Div zone, 121st Inf loses initial gains during repeated counterattacks.

While 83d Div CT prepares to launch amphibious assault on Ile de Cezembre from St. Malo, scheduled for tomorrow, planes, warships, and heavy arty pound the island. Remainder of Div protects St. Malo-Dinard area from enemy infiltration from Channel Is. and patrols along Loire R., on 3d Army R flank, from Redon to Orleans.

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1 In support of VIII Corps at Brest, B-26s of IX BC  
 Cont attack gun positions and forts: 115 planes drop 230 tons of bombs with fair to excellent results. Fighters of XIX TAC fly 41 sorties; close support provided for VIII Corps at Brest, Task Force B at Quimper, XX Corps in Reims-Verdun area, and XII Corps in vicinity of Vitry and Troyes; fighter and armed rcn sweeps carried out in Mezieres-Arlon-Nancy-Verdun areas and, S of the Loire, in vicinity of Peltiers-Chateauroux-Bourges. In the course of these operations XIX TAC destroys or damages 833 motor vehicles, the largest number since the Command's inception; other transport hit, as well as gun positions, troops, and barracks; 10 planes wrecked on Metz airdrome.

In night raid on Verdun, 3 enemy planes inflict casualties on XX Corps troops and damage supply concentrations; 2 of the attackers destroyed.

## U.S. FIRST ARMY

VII Corps Followed by 1st Div on L and 9th Div on R, 3d Armd Div spearheads; CCA and CCB, reach Avesnes by nightfall in continuation of trans-Seine drive N to Belgium. First Div moves up 15 mi. from Laon to secure road net at Marle, encountering stiff opposition at Dercy. CT 60, 9th Div, advances NE from Rozoy and secures Brunehamel and Aubenton against slight opposition. Although held up by blown bridges, elements of 9th Div reach Vervins and Hirson, 20 and 30 mi. NE of Laon. Enemy is withdrawing rapidly to N and NE. Resistance light in the W of Corps zone, but heavier along Oise R.; enemy rearguard action increases on R flank.

V Corps Elements of V Corps continue advance in Lassigny-Noyon-Chauny area 50 mi. NE of Paris; CCA, 5th Armd, and CT 22 of 4th Div cross Oise Canal, meeting SA and mortar fire near Coucy, 23 mi. E of Compiegne, and at Chauny, on Oise, advancing N on Danizy-Guise-Le Cateau-Valenciennes and Laon-Crechy-Guise-Landrecies axes. CT 12 crosses Aisne at Vic, and CT 8 cuts through E end of Foret de Compiegne and crosses Aisne at Berneuil. Elements of 28th Div clear Foret de Compeigne and CT 112 takes city; rcn units with CCR enter Choisy, 3 mi. E of Compiegne, and elements of 5th Armd encounter AT and rocket-

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launcher fire and dug-in inf near Passel, 16 mi. N of Chiry. Other 5th Armd elements cross Oise at Pont Ste. Maxence, 15 mi. SW of Compiegne.

XIX Corps Elements of 79th Div move from near Mouchy le Chatel, 9 mi. SE of Beauvais, NE to Somme R. W of Peronne. CCA, 2d Armd, crosses Somme at Bray-sur-Somme and Chipilly, 30 mi. E of Amiens, reaching Hamel and Arlocq, 9 mi. NW of Cambrai. CCB reduces enemy 83-mm installations near Montdidier and reaches Peronne and Combles, 8 mi. NW of Peronne. CCR reaches Albert, 15 mi. NE of Amiens. Elements of CT 120 of 30th Div reach Roye, 23 mi. SE of Amiens; CT 119 and TF Harrison, overcoming some enemy SA resistance and clearing out 88-mm installation near Montdidier, reach Fins, 11 mi. SW of Cambrai.

Second, 3d, and 5th Armd Divs ably supported by fighters of IX TAC which bomb and strafe guns, vehicles, and troops. Others take heavy toll of enemy transport while on armed recn over wide area of N France and Belgium. Forty-six B-25s of 2d TAF drop 90 tons of bombs on dump at Givet; ammunition dump near St. Quentin bombed by 11 P-38s of IX TAC; 3 B-17s of 8th AF raid fuel dump near Nivelles.

2 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Elements of 2d Cav Gp patrol Moselle R. near Nancy; 80th Div crosses Meuse near St. Mihiel, seizes Apremont and Ft. St. Mihiel, and occupies high ground SE and N of St. Mihiel. Elements of 35th Div operate near Joinville, 12 mi. S of Bar le Duc on S flank.

XX Corps Elements of 7th Armd make small scale feint toward Sedan, reaching Brabant, E of Meuse, 8 mi. N of Verdun, and Marre and Montfaucon, a similar distance NW, on W side of Meuse. Other elements move from Tilly to Bras, E of Marre. Elements of 5th Div mop up near Avocourt.

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Cont

VIII Corps Second Div takes heavily fortified Hill 105, key point in outer defenses of Brest dominating E approach to the city, against stubborn resistance. Patrols find that Germans have abandoned their Forneuf stronghold during night, and 9th Regt continues S. Eighth Div secures W portion of Hill 80 despite determined opposition. Little progress made by 29th Div fighting for Hill 103; this hill, E of Plouzâne, is vital feature in enemy's outer defense line. Task Force Sugar, protecting 29th Div R flank and clearing Le Conquet Peninsula, takes Trebabu. On Crozon Peninsula, Task Force A advances to line running generally N and S across the Peninsula through Telgruc; here it is held up until 15 September.

Ile de Cezembre surrenders at 0800 hours; 320 men and 3 officers taken prisoner.

Sixty-three Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes of RAF BC concentrate 364.7 tons of bombs on Brest port area, hitting docks and 1 ship. One mission of XIX TAC P-47s covers VIII Corps at Brest, dive-bombing and strafing guns and fortified positions. During 4 more missions, cover is provided for Verdun bridgehead as well as for troops in Metz-St. Mihiel and Nancy-St. Dizier areas; rail targets below the Loire hit by armed recn missions.

## U.S. FIRST ARMY

VII Corps Advances of over 25 mi. are made in some sectors. Enemy, including elements of "Das Reich," "Hitler Jugend," and the 3d and 6th Parachute divs, is withdrawing in general direction of Charleroi. Third Armd Div crosses Belgian border N of Maubeuge and reaches Mons in the evening, having taken hundreds of prisoners in many local actions. Eighteenth Regt, 1st Div, attacks enemy inf at Léme, reducing and enemy strongpoint, and encounters further small pockets of resistance en route N to Esquicheries and le Nouvion. CT 26 reaches Avesnes, 10 mi. S of Maubeuge. Recn elements of 9th Div enter Belgium near la Forge Philippe, 8 mi. NE of Hirson, wiping out several pockets of resistance. Thirty-ninth Regt by-passes resistance N of Anor, and CT 60 advances on Macon and Chimay, 12 mi. NE of Hirson, as Div unit shells German columns moving E out of

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Macon.

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd encounter AT fire and inf resistance near Cagny, NW of Compiegne, and similarly stiff resistance near Noyon, clearing Noyon and advancing more than 60 mi. N to Maing and Conde sur l'Escaut in Cambrai-Mons-Avesnes triangle. Elements of 4th Div and TF Taylor, held up for some hours by demolished bridges at the Serre R. 8 mi. N of Laon, in the Oise R. area near la Fere, and at the Oise 6 mi. E of Noyon, meeting scattered but almost continuous enemy contact, advance rapidly N. TF Taylor reaches Landrecies, 20 mi. E of Cambrai. Elements of 28th Div clear St. Quentin.

XIX Corps Elements of Corps cross into Belgium, CT 314 of 79th Div reaching Simeon at 0030, CT 313, Howardries area S of Tournai, CT 315 advancing to Rumegies, France. Elements of 82d Armd Rcn Bn cross Belgian frontier near Rumes, Belgium, at 0930. CCA, 2d Armd, crosses border by 1330, taking Lemain, 4 mi. W of Tournai, Chapelle, further W, and Rongy, 6 mi. S, near Howardries. On way to Belgium, some units encounter opposition in Somme R. crossings, 79th Div crossing near Peronne. CCB, meeting demoralized bands of enemy between Albert and Marchiennes, 10 mi. W of Valenciennes, and an enemy column near Bouvignies, 2 mi. N, destroys many enemy vehicles; patrols reach area NE of Orchies, Belgium, in spite of low fuel supply. TF Harrison, 30th Div, disposes of enemy resistance in Cambrai area; CT 119 operates in Cambrai, mopping up mortar and sniper opposition, and clearing route through town. CT 120, after entering Peronne and Fins, pushes through Cambrai at St. Amand to Belgian territory.

P-47s of IX TAC, while covering 2d, 3d, and 5th Armd Divs and carrying out armed rcn sweeps, bomb and strafe guns and road traffic in N France and Belgium. Similar objectives hit by fighters of 8th AF and 2d TAF.

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3 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Fourth Armd pushes patrols to E; 80th Div extends and strengthens Commercy bridgehead. Elements of 35th Div move to near Brienne le Chateau.

XX Corps Gasoline shortage continues to immobilize Corps operation. Elements of CCR are halted by road blocks and AT fire S of Mouzay, 13 mi. N of Brabant. CCB reaches point 1 mi. N of Montfaucon. Corps plan is to attack E on 6 Sept., 7th Armd to spearhead advance with 5th and 90th Divs following abreast. If 7th Armd is held up, inf is to establish bridgehead through which armor again will pass. Elements of 5th Div concentrate E of Verdun.

VIII Corps. Second, 8th, and 29th Divs maintain pressure on Brest and make limited advances to straighten lines. Hill 80 secured by 8th Inf Div by 0800 hours; patrols find that enemy withdrew night of 2/3. Twenty-ninth Div clears Hill 103. Ile de Cezembre garrisoned by platoons of 330th Regt (83d Div).

Both strategic and tactical air forces support troops maintaining pressure on German stronghold at Brest. B-17s of 8th AF, 393 strong, unload 1,038 tons of bombs on gun positions with fair to excellent results. Strongpoints and road bridges are objectives for 9th AF bombers: 310 tons released by 143 B-26s and 57 A-20s with results ranging from fair to excellent, but more often the latter. Fighter-bomber support of troops at Brest is particularly good: 24 XIX TAC missions flown, during which gun positions, forts, buildings, tank barriers, bridges, road transport, and fishing boats in harbor are hit. In St. Mihiel area, 37 other fighters of XIX TAC cover XII Corps, strafing MT, tanks, and RR cars. Sixty P-51s of XIX TAC patrol Metz, Nancy, Commercy, and Verdun areas. Guns and enemy transport in vicinity of Saarbruecken strafed by rec planes.

Assembly area of CCA, 4th Armd Div, near Bras (2 mi. N of Verdun) ineffectively raided at night by 3 enemy planes.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

VII Corps Enemy continuing to withdraw to N and NE is caught between armor on N and inf on S. First Div, fighting into Mons from N of Maubeuge, captures over 4,500 prisoners. CT 18 attacks toward Bavai, 8 mi. W of Maubeuge, to relieve pressure on flank of 3d Armd Div, enters town at 1000 and engages in sharp street fighting until mid-afternoon, then begins to organize the town for defense, although under arty fire from the E. CT

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26 encounters strong resistance from large enemy forces between Bavai and Maubeuge. A group of Corps Hq personnel captures 705 of the enemy force on the N outskirts of Maubéuge. CT 16 fights from N of Maubeuge into Mons. In course of the battle SW of Mons, 7,000 PW are taken and hundreds of vehicles and arty pieces are destroyed as enemy march columns run into road blocks of the 3d Armd. Corps swings E to secure crossings over Meuse R. between Namur and Givet, 25 mi. S, but bridges are out. As 9th Div advances E, CT 60 attacks N against sporadic delaying action. CT 47 overcomes a strong enemy force 12 mi. E of Maubeuge at Beaumont, consisting of inf with small arms, machine guns, and supported by an arty bn, and occupies Barbencourt, 2 mi. SE. CT 39 meets with resistance at Cerfontaine and Philippeville, between Beaumont and Givet.

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd establish road blocks in the vicinity of the Belgian border near Conde and between Conde and Valenciennes. British troops passing to N of positions help seal off enemy troops in Corps area; 5th Armd clearing pockets of resistance. Elements of 28th Div clear pockets of resistance E of San Quentin and reach Estrees,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of San Quentin. Units of 4th Div reach Wassigny,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of le Cateau.

XIX Corps Elements of 30th Div complete occupation of Tournai, entered during night. Other Corps units consolidate positions near Orchies, Marchiennes, and Sameon, France.

Supporting 2d, 3d, and 5th armd cols, approximately 200 IX TAC P-47s attack guns, transport, dumps, and personnel with excellent results. In addition, about 500 fighters harass troops, tanks, and vehicles in N France, Belgium, and Germany: among targets are tanks and armd vehicles 5 mi. NW of Arras, traffic from St. Quentin towards Mons, vehicles proceeding N and NE from Cambrai and Mons, and miscellaneous transport in vicinity of Givet, Charleroi, Namur, Louvain, Brussels, Maastricht, St. Vith, and Cologne. Rail and road traffic in Namur and Tilburg areas strafed by 127 P-47s of 8th AF.

4

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Fourth Armd elements operating with 80th Div continue in positions E of Meuse; 80th Div crosses Moselle S of Toul and takes high ground E of city; advances E from Francheville, 5 mi. N of Toul, and from Bernecourt, 8 mi. farther N, reaching the vicinity of Pont a Mousson.

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XX Corps Arrival of fuel and gas supplies enables elements of CCB, 7th Armd, and 5th Div to assemble near Verdun.

VIII Corps Second, 8th, and 29th Divs patrol aggressively at Brest and make limited advances to positions vacated by enemy. From St. Malo-Dinard area, 330th Regt (-Bn) of 83d Div moves 122 mi. to vicinity of Angers where it will relieve elements of 329th Regt.

XIX TAG activity limited to several armed recon missions: in Dijon-Bourges area, rails are cut and locomotives, RR cars, and MT destroyed; many casualties inflicted when troop train is strafed.

Two ME-109s strafe 35th Div in Joinville area, 24 mi. S of Bar-le-Duc.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

VII Corps First Div rounds up over 5,000 enemy attempting to escape to E. CT 18 clears Bavai area of enemy infiltration and CT 16 consolidates position at Mons. Advance units of 3d Armd Div pass through Charleroi, midway between Mons and Namur, and TF Mills reaches Namur. Ninth Div encounters only slight resistance in advance to the Meuse R. CT 39 reaches Meuse N of Dinant and prepares for night crossing. CT 60 prepares to cross between Dinant and Givet. Reconnaissance to Namur finds all bridges out.

V Corps Units of V Corps, passing through rear areas of VII Corps, become R flank Corps of 1st Army. Fifth Armd moves more than 80 mi. SE to Mezieres area under orders to relieve VII Corps troops. Running low on gas, elements of CCR, dismounted, attack from high ground E of Charlesville, across Meuse R. from Mezieres, to clear enemy SA fire from bridge site at Mohon, 1 mi. E of Mezieres. Elements of 4th Div complete mop up of Foret de Mormal, N of Landrecies, patrol to E, prepare for movement, and some elements reach Brunchamel, 28 mi. NE of Laon. Elements of 28th Div move to Hannogne-Grandchamp area 27 mi. N of Reims.

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XIX Corps CCA of 2d Armd shifts SE of Orchies-Tournai road to conform to new boundary with Br 2d Army. Elements of 79th Div clear woods in Sameon area and units of 30th Div shift positions in Tournai without enemy contact.

Third armd col supported by about 80 P-47s of IX TAC which raid guns, vehicles, and troops. Similar targets in Belgium and Germany (Cologne area) hit by patrolling fighters of 9th and 2d tactical air forces; marshalling yards at Namur and Louvain are among objectives.

5 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Corps ordered upon release from First Army to protect S flank of Third Army.

XII Corps Fourth Armd continues operations W of Moselle in Toul-Pont-a-Mousson area; 80th Div approaches Gondreville and Villey le Sec, each about 4 mi. E of Toul, and makes only limited progress in face of heavy resistance in Hill 326-Foret de l'Avant Garde areas, on W bank of Moselle. 5 mi. N of Nancy; elements of 317th Regt unsuccessfully attempt Moselle crossings at Blenod, 1 mi. S of Pont a Mousson and are driven from small bridgehead near Vandieres, 3 mi. N, by enemy arty and automatic and mortar fire.

XX Corps Elements of 5th Div occupy 15 mi. front in Jeandelize-St. Maurice area 20 mi. E of Verdun. Elements of 90th Div clear S end of Argonne Forest, capturing large enemy ammunition dump, and take up line N of Orne beyond 5th Div L flank.

For 2d successive day, 2 ME-109s strafe 35th Div in Joinville area.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Corps attached to U.S. 9th Army at 0600 hours. U.S. patrols continue to probe as far as enemy positions at Brest. La Trinite, vacated by enemy, occupied by elements of 29th Div. Germans

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Cont on Le Conquet Peninsula now pushed to SW tip; Task Force Sugar, holding line from Cosquer on S to Hill 33 (SW of Lanfeus) on N, reinforced to clear tip of peninsula.

Heavy and medium bombers of 8th AF, 9th AF, and RAF BC participate in heavy aerial assault on strongpoints and gun positions at Brest; 143 8th AF B-17s achieve good to very good results with 449.9 tons of bombs; IX BG aircraft (217 B-26s, 96 A-20s) release approximately 500 tons with results ranging from poor to excellent; 59 RAF Lancasters and 4 Mosquitoes accurately drop 384 tons. Fighter bombers of XIX and IX TACs also active at Brest, furnishing strong support for troops, covering Task Force B on Crozon Peninsula, and bombing and strafing strongpoints, guns, ammunition dumps, buildings, rail lines, and transport. XIX TAC planes drop 108 napalm tanks, a record load.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Engineers construct treadway bridge across Meuse at Mohon and elements of 5th Armd cut off Mezieres from E and SE and clear bridge site in Port Maugis-Bazeilles area,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Sedan. Gas shortage hinders operations. Units of 4th Div, leaving elements to continue mopping up in Wassigny area, move approximately 60 mi. to assembly areas near Ardennes Forest NW of Mezieres.

VII Corps Small combat teams mop up strongpoints in the immediate vicinity of Namur, as 3d Armd Div prepares to push on to Liege. Construction is begun on bridges over the Sambre R. CT 18, 1st Div, sustains counterattack near Bavai but forces enemy surrender after  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. of fighting. Meuse crossings are made by elements of 9th Div against SA, mortar, MG, and arty fire which inflicts a loss of 15 assault boats at one point and causes abandonment of attempts at several places. CT 60 crosses N. of Heer near Givet shortly after midnight and at once encounters enemy tanks and inf. CT 39 crosses S. of Riviere, midway between Dinant and Namur, at 0300 under machine-gun fire. Enemy fire holds up construction of a vehicle bridge near Yvoir. Tanks, self-propelled guns, flame throwers, and Nebelwerfer

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are employed by the enemy against the crossing efforts S of Dinant; elsewhere, resistance is scattered.

XIX Corps Patrols of CCA, 2d Armd, cross Senne R., S of Brussels, reaching within 6 mi. of city. CT 117 of 30th Div completes movement to vicinity of Tournai.

IX TAC continues close support of 2d, 3d, and 5th armd cols: several sqs of P-47s bomb and strafe flak position near Mons and rail and road objectives in battle areas.

6

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Elements of 80th Div fail in attack on Ft. de Villey le Sec, mop up W of Moselle, seizing Hill 326 and attacking enemy near Foret de l'Avant Garde. Elements of 317th near Pont a Mousson make three unsuccessful attempts to cross Moselle, small units being forced back after 2 crossings; SA fire prevents a third.

XX Corps Elements of CCB, 4th Armd, are stopped by arty and SA fire at Gravelotte, 27 mi. E of Verdun, by mines and arty S of Gravelotte, and mines, arty, and heavy arty fire at Gorze, 5 mi. S of Gravelotte. CCA crosses Orne at Hatrize, 3 mi. NE of Conflans, running into mines on N bank, E of Hatrize, and passing through Conflans with traffic congestion delays, turns N at Doncourt to Ste. Marie; patrols encounter machine guns, grenades, mortar fire and road blocks at St. Privat, where 2,000 enemy are well dug in.

Fourth and 7th Armd Divs covered by 28 P-47s of XIX TAC which attack usual targets. While on armed rec in Saarbruecken area, IX TAC P-47s bomb Trier marshalling yards and strike at choke points.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps U.S. troops continue limited advances toward Brest as enemy withdraws. Loud speakers fail to induce Germans to surrender.

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6 Cont Brest again attacked in force by bombers of IX BC: over 500 planes (B-26s, A-20s, A-26s) unload approximately 1,000 tons of bombs on strongpoints, Pt. de Grand Gouin coastal battery, St. Pierre Quibignon Fort, and road bridge, reporting excellent results in most cases. This is first operational use of A-26s. Main effort of fighters also directed against Brest: XIX and IX TACs combine in close support of VIII Corps, bombing strongpoints, ammunition dumps, buildings, and troop concentrations. Thirty-five P-51s of XIX TAC supply cover for Task Force B on Crozon Peninsula.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps CCR of 5th Armd enters and takes Sedan at 1600, swinging N of city and attacking from Givonne, 1½ mi. E, overcoming road blocks and AT, mortar, and automatic weapon fire enroute, but enemy flees city. Elements of 4th Div overcome enemy delaying action in form of road blocks and SA and AT fire through Willerzie, Rienne, and Gedinne, Luxembourg, in 4 mi. area 17 mi. N of Mezieres, and take Louette, St. Pierre, S of Gedinne, and Bievre, 3 mi. SE. Scattered units of enemy 348th, "Hitler Jugend," 6th Para, and 10th Pz divs encountered. Elements of 28th Div reach area NE of Sedan.

VII Corps Third Armd Div advances E from Namur on both sides of the Meuse and occupies Huy; advance elements meet slight resistance, but following units must fight their way in. TF King of CCB has been attached to 9th Div to assist in the crossing of the Meuse at Dinant, N of which bridging operations under CT 39 are proceeding with difficulty. CT 47 puts in treadway bridge 4 mi. SW of Dinant at Hastiere-Lavaux, where CT 60 crosses and takes Blaimont against strong inf and tank resistance. Efforts of 9th Div to expand its Meuse bridgeheads meet with well organized, determined resistance, particularly from elements of the 2d SS Div "Das Reich"; bridgehead supply problem difficult due to intermittent shelling and SA fire.

XIX Corps Meeting light opposition, CCA, 2d Armd, advances to area E of Braine le Comte; CCB passes through Valenciennes, France, and Mons, Nivelles,

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and Wavre, Belgium, without hostile contact; CCR reaches Archennes,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Wavre, both about 12 mi. E of Brussels. Fuel shortages restrict armd operations. Elements of 30th Div remain in defensive positions; 79th Div moves to join XV Corps.

Second, 3d, and 5th Armd Divs supported by about 70 P-47s of IX TAC: enemy transport and transport facilities hit. Other fighters from IX TAC and 8th AF damage similar targets in Luxembourg and Aachen areas.

**7 U.S. THIRD ARMY**

XII Corps Second Cav Gp, operating with arty support, pushes toward Lunéville, 16 mi. SE of Nancy. Elements of 319th Regt of 80th Div find Bois de Liverdun, 9 mi. E of Toul, clear of enemy, reaching junction of Moselle and Meurthe rivers; 318th Regt captures Marbaché,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Belleville; 317th Regt continues to cross Moselle across exposed terrain against enemy arty and automatic weapons concealed in hills; 2d Cav Gp with 105 Howitzer Bn support pushes toward Lunéville, 16 mi. SE of Nancy, destroying vehicles and inflicting heavy casualties.

XX Corps CCB of 7th Armd, overcoming heavy resistance from enemy dug in on both sides of Moselle and arty fire, takes Dornot on W bank; first attempted crossing in assault boats fails. CCR meets arty, mortar, bazooka, and MG fire from entrenched positions in wooded area near Rezonville, S of Gravelotte. CCA reaches Maizières on Moselle R., 6 mi. N of Metz, finding bridges all out. Eleventh Regt of 5th Div wipes out resistance near Gorze, enters Gorze and takes high land between Noveant and Pagny W of Moselle R., meeting moderate enemy resistance. Second Regt N of Metz halted by mortar, SA, and arty fire at Amanvillers and Verneville, driving enemy from Vérneville. Elements of 357th Regt of 90th Div make slight progress in sharp fight W of Briey but reach Avril-Trieux road, N of Briey; 359th reoccupies Spincourt, 11 mi. NW of Briey, after enemy infiltration is forced out by arty fire, brushes aside enemy resistance at Mont,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Spincourt, containing enemy in woods to E, and is heavily engaged from high land W and N of Trieux.

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Cont Six sqs of XIX TAC P-47s take heavy toll of HDV and  
MT in Chateauroux-Issoudun-Bourges area: long convoy of retreat-  
ing enemy wiped out: 132 MT and 310 HDV destroyed or damaged.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Second, 8th, and 29th Divs prepare for  
concerted assault on Brest tomorrow, since adequate  
arty ammunition stocks are expected by that time.  
Fighter-bomber support during past few days has  
materially assisted troops in maintaining pressure  
on enemy and making limited advances.

Approximately 250 P-38s and P-47s of XIX and IX TACs  
cover ground assault on Brest and bomb and strafe gun positions,  
buildings, and ammunition dumps.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps: Elements of 28th Div go through 5th Armd  
and reach area 15 mi. E of Sedan between Florenville  
and Chiers R., taking Blagny and Matton.

Elements of 4th Div take Lomprez and overcome  
rear guard force of tanks and inf at Wellin, in area  
15 mi. W of St. Hubert, and occupy point 14 mi. S  
of Wellin.

VII Corps: Third Armd Div continues attack E against  
light resistance and reaches Liege. Mopping up in  
the Mons-Bavai sector and in Sambre R. woods ends  
with total of approximately 30,000 PW. CT 18, 1st  
Div, clears bridge across the canal S of Charleroi  
and dispatches TF 9 mi. S to clean up pocket of  
resistance at Thy le Chateau. Meuse R. bridge com-  
pleted in 39th Regt, 9th Div, sector; Dinant is  
mopped up. CT 47 advances NE beyond Ciney against  
scattered enemy resistance.

XIX Corps: Elements of CCA, 2d Armd, advance 30 mi.  
NE to Ottenbourg, 3 mi. N of Wavre; elements of 82d  
Armd Rcn Bn run into strongly defended road block W  
of Hasselt, 40 mi. E of Brussels, and engage enemy  
tanks near Marlinne, 14 mi. S of Hasselt. Elements  
of 30th Div occupy area between Nivelles and Wavre.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of 79th Div reach Joinville, 24 mi. N of Chaumont, and patrol within 13 mi. of Chaumont. Fr 2d Armd passes to Corps control.

XII Corps Elements of 80th Div receive counter-attack near Liverdun, recovering some ground lost; they receive counterattack and lose some ground near Marbache, but continue to clear out small pockets of resistance in area, and patrol Moselle R. line near Pont a Mousson, preparatory to further crossing attempts. Elements of 35th Div move by motor from Aix en Othe in Sens-Bar sur Seine area near Troyes, to Thuilley area, 8 mi. S of Toul.

XX Corps Elements of CCB, 7th Armd Div, and 11th Regt of 5th Div force bridgehead E of Dornot in face of fire from steel and concrete fortifications and concealed works and are pinned down by heavy enemy fire; enemy counterattacks repelled. Other elements of 5th Div, moving E against increased resistance, complete occupation of Verneville and start mopping up Bois de Genivaux, extending E from point 1 mi. E of Verneville. Elements of 90th Div with arty and 712th Tank Bn support destroy elements of 106th Pz Brig which raided lines from N of Aumetz, 12 mi. N of Briey; encountering enemy force in Mairy-Landres, Bonvilliers area S of Mont, 90th Div units receive heavy fire from E of Trieux-Avril line.

While covering XII Corps troops near Commercy, small group of XIX TAG P-47s bombs gun positions.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Forward elements of 94th Inf Div land at Utah Beach.

VIII Corps Following arty preparation, 2d, 8th, and 29th Divs launch concerted assault on Brest at 1000 hours. On E, 2d Div takes well fortified Hill 90, dominating E approach to the city, against stubborn resistance. Eighth Div, in center, attacks strongly defended Lambezellec ridge: to E, 121st Inf captures Pontanezier barracks and enters Mesmerien, then turns

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W toward Lambezellec town; 13th Inf seizes positions to W, including les Coates and Hill 82, from which it can support 121st. On W, 29th Div takes fort just SW of Penfield and Kergonant strongpoint. On Le Conquet Peninsula, Task Force Sugar seizes Plougonvelin and positions near Keruzou.

In Brest area, fighters of XIX and IX TACs continue strong support of 2d, 8th, and 29th Inf Divs and Task Force "B", bombing and strafing strongpoints, gun emplacements, defenses, tanks, tank traps, troops, and transport in the course of over 600 sorties.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Overcoming road blocks and scattered resistance, elements of 28th Div cross into Belgium near Florenville and reach point about 4 mi. W of Neufchateau. Elements of 4th Div encounter enemy resistance E of Paliseul and Libin, SW of St. Hubert, and advance against stubborn resistance to vicinity of Recogne and Vesqueville, N and somewhat W of Neufchateau. Other elements meeting moderate resistance take St. Hubert, farther N.

VII Corps Liege is rapidly cleared of the enemy by CCA and CCB, 3d Armd Div, and a bridge is constructed. The enemy is forced to give up attempted defensive line Soheit-Tinlot-Modave-Heure-Hogne, running from SE of Huy down to vicinity of Marche, and to rely on strongpoints at road blocks and communication centers. CT 39 and CT 60, 9th Div, move NE on foot with sporadic fighting in vicinity of Verlee, Bois et Borsu, and Terwagrie, approximately 20 mi. NE of Dinant.

XIX Corps CCA of 2d Armd, capturing many enemy stragglers, reaches Spalbeek,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Hasselt; CCB reaches Stevoort-Alken-Nieuwerkerken area between Hasselt and St. Trond; patrols of 82d Armd Rcn Bn enter Bilsen, 8 mi. E of Hasselt, and push rcn to Albert Canal,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of Bilsen. Elements of 2d Armd swing slightly N, allowing 30th Div to take its zone on R flank of Corps.

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Several sqs of IX TAC P-47s, in support of 2d, 3d, and 5th Armd Divs, attack probable concentration points, guns, installations, and transport; others bomb marshalling yard SE of Aachen, reporting excellent results. P-38s of IX TAC, while on armed rcn in Aachen-Cologne area, cut RR tracks at several points.

9 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Corps occupies positions facing enemy 19th Army defensive line, which extends from Chatillon sur Seine and Neufchateau to Charmes and parallels about 50 mi. to NW their Dijon-Vasoul-Belfort escape route. Elements of Fr 2d Armd reach Villeneuve l'Archeveque, 90 mi. SE of Paris area, against possible enemy thrust between Martargis, 40 mi. SE of Villeneuve, and Aube R., about 30 mi. NE, and to clear Nogent. Patrols of 79th reach Vignory on Marne R., 11 mi. N of Chaumont.

XII Corps Elements of 35th Div reach assembly area in Colombey les Belles-Crepey area, S of Thuilley; enemy retakes Liverdun, but elements of 319th Regt regain town at 2100; 118th continues mopping up operations near Marbache and Belleville, seizing both towns and recovering lost ground.

XX Corps Elements of CCB, 7th Armd, and 5th Div are pinned down by arty fire in small Dornot bridge-head. Elements of 7th Armd and 5th Div start operations to crack ring of powerful outer bastions of Metz, 6 mi. out from city. They initiate attack from W, coming under heavy observed arty fire near Amanvillers and in Bois de Saulny area, S of St. Privat and 2 mi. E of Amanvillers, some troops receiving enfilade fire from Bois de Genivaux. Counter-attacks are repelled and positions restored. Elements of 90th Div capture Audon, N of Briey, Trieux, high land near Neufchef, NE of Avril, and Sancy, N of Trieux, destroying enemy detachment near Fillieres, NW of Auton. Fontoy is captured after stiff fight.

Weather prevents IX BC attack on Foret de Haye, German stronghold W of Nancy. While on armed rcn in Saarbruecken area, XIX TAC P-47s strafe gun positions, power station, and transport. Barracks at Nancy also raided by XIX TAC planes.

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U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Continuing assault on Brest, 2d Div, from E slope of Hill 90, attacks SW to St. Marc, suburb of Brest, and engages in house-to-house fighting. Eighth Div captures Lambezellec during morning and attacks southward with 121st and 13th Regts abreast in afternoon, pushing to point within sight of old wall surrounding Brest; patrols reach the wall. Twenty-ninth Div captures Penfield. Task Force Sugar takes Le Conquet and Lochrist batteries, but isolated pockets remain; Commander of Peninsula's defenses surrenders. Prisoners taken during day total 2,550; 2d Div and Task Force Sugar each capture over 1,000.

Over 100 P-38s and P-47s of XIX and IX TACs operate over Brest in support of VIII Corps, concentrating on gun emplacements, strongpoints, installations, and troops.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd encounter enemy E of Fromy, 15 mi. E of Sedan; elements of 28th Div pass through Neufchateau, meet scattered resistance near Bombois, 4 mi. E, and take Habay la Neuve, 13 mi. SE of Neufchateau, against very light resistance. Elements of 5th Armd, passing through 28th Div, aid in clearing Habay, reach Lottert, 4 mi. E, by-pass Arlon, reported heavily mined, reach Useldange, 8 mi. E, and engage enemy tanks at Bascharage. Receiving some MG and light mortar fire from enemy rear guard elements and overcoming road blocks, 4th Div reaches point 1½ mi. E of Remagne, the Flamierge-Hillomont area NW of Bastogne, and the Laroche-Beausaint area, 10 mi. N.

VII Corps Corps begins to move into forward assembly areas in preparation for the attack on Aachen and the Siegfried Line. Third Armd Div continues attack to NE. CCB encounters tank, AT, and arty resistance immediately after leaving Liege and is prevented from reaching Verviers, 12 mi. SE. Although enemy strongpoints are stubbornly held between Marche and Louveigne at Froville, Hotton, Comblain au Pont, and Sprimont,

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and AT fire covers bridges and road blocks in sector of Corps' S flank, the 9th Div inf advances approximately 20 mi., crossing the Ourthe R. and continuing E against stiffening opposition. After crossing at Esneux, 7 mi. S of Liege, CT 60 turns SE, puts to rout a large German column between Sprimont and Aywaille, on Ambleve R., and captures bridge intact at latter point. CT 39 takes up defensive positions near Louveigne, between and S of Liege and Verviers, where dug-in tanks, inf and arty are encountered. Elements of 3d Armd and 9th Divs advance to high ground beyond Theux, 4 mi. E of Louveigne, meeting heavy mortar fire as well as AT, tank, and arty opposition, with continuous inf contact.

XIX Corps Elements of 78th and 92d Armd FA Bns of 2d Armd Div displacing to Beverst vicinity, between Hasselt and Bilsen, and attached 65th Armd FA Br attack enemy arty, AT guns, and mortar units E of Albert Canal, firing on possible rubber boat crossing sites of enemy. Elements of 30th Div closed in assembly area 9 mi. NW of Liege and near Tongres.

P-47s of IX TAC fly over 200 sorties in close support of 2d, 3d, and 5th Armd Divs, heavily hitting troops and transport. Almost as many more plus a few P-38s sweep over Aachen, Duesseldorf, Cologne, Bonn, Coblenz, and Trier areas against rail facilities and traffic, road transport, barges, storage dump, and airfields.

10 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps In vicinity of Flavigny, 8 mi. S of Nancy, 35th Div troops suffer casualties from arty and SA fire occupying positions W of Moselle R. in Foret de Benney area. Elements of 80th Div seize Foret de Villey le Sec and Gondreville, continuing to mop up near Liverdun, and in Marbache area. Fourth Armd units reach Haroue, 15 mi. S of Nancy.

XX Corps Elements of CT 10, 5th Div, cross Moselle near Arnaville, 8 mi. SW of Metz, under light MG and mortar opposition and establish bridgehead against repeated counterattacks with tanks and inf.

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Opposite Dornot, 3 mi. N of Arnaville, earlier bridgehead is abandoned. Elements of 2d Regt, 5th Div, overcome heavy concentrations of SA and mortar fire to take village of Amanvillers with tank and air support, but are stopped by 30-ft. wall in Bois de Genivaux. Elements of 90th Div advance 4½ mi. NE of Briey and take Havange, 9 mi. N of Briey, liquidating counterattacking column and repelling later counterattack. Other elements take Angevillers, Algrange, and Aumetz in Havange area, engaging in stiff fighting and losing some high ground N of Havange. Large forest near Audon is mopped up. V Corps is contacted at Longwy, Luxembourg.

Improving weather permits heavy aerial attack by IX BC on Forest de Haye, W of Nancy; 178 B-26s and 73 A-20s concentrate 300 tons of bombs on strongpoints and ammunition stores with generally excellent results. Highway and rail bridges over the Moselle in vicinity of Pompey and Custines hit by 83 B-26s of IX BC with 165 tons: fair to excellent results reported by crews. Troops of XX and XII Corps in Metz-Nancy area ably assisted by IX and XIX TACs, which provide cover for troops, and attack variety of targets; several strong counterattacks against 5th Inf Div bridgehead over the Moselle hit, as well as forts NE of Corny and at Thionville, barracks at Arry, oil dump at Amanvillers, and Custine and neighboring town; troops, gun positions, tanks, and transport also raided.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Eighty-third Inf and 6th Armd Divs detached from VIII Corps and placed under direct control of 9th Army.

VIII Corps Increasingly stiff resistance met by 2d Div as it moves through St. Marc to Brest proper; Germans firing from cemetery in S edge of town. Eighth Div moves up to old wall around Brest at Fort Boughen against heavy arty fire and attempts to breach wall with tanks and arty without success; Div ordered to suspend attacks until Corps heavy arty breaches wall. Twenty-ninth Div regroups for final assault on Recouvrance and Brest; to permit greater effort in this area, 28th Inf (8th Div) takes over 115th Inf sector, reducing 29th Div zone.

Resistance on the Conquet Peninsula ceases with capture of fort at Mons Blanche; prisoners taken

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by Task Force Sugar during operation number 1,607.

XIX and IX TACs fly 175 sorties in support of VIII Corps at Brest, hitting forts, gun positions, and buildings, as well as rail, road, and water transport.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of CCA, 5th Armd Div, take Luxembourg at 0945, and continue 5 mi. NE to point in Grunenwald, 1 mi. W of Rammeldange; CCB advances against road blocks in Kopstal-Steinsel area N of Luxembourg and reaches Blaschette, 3 mi. NE, against scattered resistance. Against brisk AT fire, CCR reaches Mersch, 10 mi. N of Luxembourg, taking RR bridge over Alzette R. and continues to Schrondweiler, 4 mi. NE of Mersch, encountering scattered resistance. In vicinity of Arlon, 28th Div continues operations against light resistance. Elements of 4th Div reach Sibret area, 13 mi. NE of Neufchateau and the Bizory area, NE of Bastogne, receiving some MG, mortar and arty fire, and encountering some stubborn rear-guard action near Houffalize, and heavy arty fire near Regne, 11 mi. NE of Laroche.

VII Corps Verviers is secured by 1400. Small enemy inf groups supported by component weapons operate along entire Corps front in a delaying action; booby traps, minefields, and road blocks increase in number. First Div crosses Meuse at Liege and moves forward to vicinity of Herve, within 12 mi. of German border.

XIX Corps Operations of 2d Armd Div are limited to arty fire and patrolling. Elements of 120th Regt, meeting slight enemy opposition, advance 15 mi. NE to Fort Eben Emael area, 4 mi. S of Maastricht, Holland, near Albert Canal, encountering enemy arty fire from Maastricht area, but finding fort unoccupied. Other elements of 30th Div reach area 4 mi. N of Liege; patrols indicate area clear of enemy E of positions as far as Albert Canal.

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Second, 3d, and 5th armd columns again strongly supported by IX TAC P-47s which bomb and strafe gun positions, marshalling yards, tanks, locomotives, RR cars, MT, and HDV. Other P-47s of IX TAC carry out a number of successful rail cutting missions in NW Germany; rail facilities and traffic also hit. Small force of IX TAC P-38s operates over Frankfurt area, hitting RR cars, grounded aircraft, and gas storage tank.

II U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Corps elements start movement N to Charmes-Epinal sector between Seventh and Third Armies. Elements of 121st Cav Sq and CT 315 of 79th Div encounter and contain enemy resistance at Neufchateau, 32 mi. SW of Nancy, and at Mirecourt and Poussay, 2 mi. apart, about 27 mi. S of this city. Fr 2d Armd meets extremely active resistance at Andelot, NE of Chaumont, takes St. Blin, 14 mi. NW of Neufchateau, la Fauche, Bourmont, Vrecourt, and Contrexeville, all successively E of St. Blin in 20 mi. area, Chatillon sur Seine, 30 mi. SW of Chaumont, Chateauvillain, 18 mi. nearer this city, and reaches Vittel,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Contrexeville. Elements of 106th Cav Sq reach outskirts of Charmes on Moselle.

XII Corps With gasoline supplies replenished, 4th Armd units operate with inf at Moselle, CCB reaching Moselle at Bayon, 5 mi. E of Haroue. Elements of 137th Regt of 35th Div cross Moselle at Neuville and farther N near Flavigny against heavy enemy resistance. Elements of 80th Div complete mopping up in sectors W of Moselle, feel out enemy strength in Foret de Haye and make other rcn in preparation for thrusts across Moselle.

XX Corps Elements of 7th Armd Div attack along Roncourt-Pierrevillers Road, encountering SA fire and road blocks and, swinging S, dismount from vehicles and occupy high land NW of Bronvaux,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Pierrevillers. Elements of 5th Div consolidate bridgehead E of Arnaville repulsing counterattacks near Arry and Corny. Other elements withdraw from Amanvillers and Montigny areas under SA, mortar, and arty fire, regaining Montigny and Hill 339 to S and repulsing later counterattacks.

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Withdrawal from Dornot bridgehead completed.  
Elements of 90th Div regain high ground N of Havange,  
and occupy Morlange and Florange, high ground E of  
Volkrange, all in area W of Thionville.

IX BC aircraft (173 B-26s, 161 A-20s, 13 A-26s)  
attack in force in Metz-Thionville area: gun positions and  
strongpoints at Metz, Colligny, Molvange, Elange, Boust,  
Verney, and Orny, as well as communications Hq at Metz receive  
total of 586 tons of bombs; results range from poor to excellent.  
IX and XIX TACs furnish close support for XX, XII, and XV Corps:  
fighter bombers are instrumental in preserving 5th Inf Div  
bridgehead over the Moselle and in breaking up enemy counter-  
attacks; counterattacks at Arry and Marieulles frustrated,  
cover provided for Engineers building bridge over Moselle SW  
of Metz, dam at Ars sur Moselle destroyed, patrol with tanks  
engaged S of Cuvry, Amanvillers bombed, and communications and  
gun positions hit.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Zone of 329th Regt (83d Div) extended E to include  
Auxerre.

VIII Corps Second Div inches its way from house to  
house toward Brest wall against tenaciously resisting  
enemy. In 8th Div zone, Corps arty fails to breach  
wall sufficiently for an inf attack. Eighth Div  
(121st and 13th Inf Regts) relieved at night by 9th  
Inf (2d Div). Twenty-ninth Div launches final drive  
toward Recouvrance and Brest submarine pens, reaching  
Coat'uellen-Ilioc area. Task Force Sugar dissolved  
at 1800 hours.

Fighter bombers of XIX TAC continue strong support  
of VIII Corps at Brest, attacking installations, guns, and  
transport.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of CCB of 5th Armd encountering  
lightly manned enemy pillboxes cross German border  
at Stalzemburg, 25 mi. N of Luxembourg, at 1815.  
CCA, fighting against heavy resistance all day,  
reaches point 1 mi. W of Munsbach. Radio Luxembourg

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at Junglinster, 9 mi. NE of Luxembourg, is seized. Units of 5th Armd operate along general line Rodehausen-Our R.-Moselle R.-Grevenmacher. Elements of 28th Div assemble E of Ulflingen, 34 mi. N of Luxembourg, and patrols cross Our R. into Germany after 2000. CT 112 operates with 5th Armd near Luxembourg, overcoming SA, automatic weapon, and AT fire of emplaced enemy which effected orderly withdrawal; elements of 4th Div cross Salm R. and reach Neuville-Rogery area S of Vielsalm, patrols entering Germany across Our R. W of Elcherath.

VII Corps. Corps moves to jump-off positions as Eupen and Malmedy, 10 and 25 mi. S of Aachen, are secured by elements of the 3d Armd Div, which attacks eastward N of Eupen. Corps is in contact with the 105th Pz Brig, the 116th Pz Div, and elements of the 2d SS Div "Das Reich." Heavy long-range arty is encountered S of Dalhem. CT 18, 1st Div, moves through Aubel, 10 mi. SW of Aachen, against light resistance but runs into heavier fighting N of the city. Armd columns meet strong resistance between Verviers and Eupen from tanks and self-propelled guns in vicinity of Limbourg. The enemy disengages in Liege-Verviers region and withdraws toward Aachen and the Siegfried Line.

XIX Corps. Patrols of 2d Armd Div, receiving mortar, SA, and arty fire, cross Albert Canal, reaching Zonhoven, 4 mi. N of Hasselt. Elements of 30th Div send patrols across Albert Canal and Meuse; 120th Regt crosses Canal and occupies Lanaye, Holland, against SA and MG fire. Albert Canal locks near Lanaye are seized intact, although prepared for demolition.

Second and 3d armd columns covered by 105 P-47s of IX TAC and 5th Armd Div, by 56 P-38s; installations, RR tracks, rolling stock, MT, and armor hit; 4 of about 50 enemy planes encountered near Eupen destroyed. During sweeps over Bonn-Duren-Lissendorf area, 71 IX TAC P-47s bomb and strafe gun positions, pillboxes, RR bridge, and transport; 4 intercepting FW-190s destroyed. Twenty-three P-38s of IX TAC raid airdromes near Frankfurt and Cologne; 19 enemy planes destroyed on ground at former; town near Cologne strafed. Other P-38s of IX TAC harass rail and road traffic in Frankfurt area.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of CT 314 of 79th Div, encountering heavy SA, MG, and arty fire of German 16th Inf Div, enter Charmes. After some street fighting, elements reach center of town. Since bridges are blown, troops wade R., being forced by heavy resistance to withdraw from E bank. In Mirecourt area, elements of 106th Cav Sq contain enemy at Frenelle-la Petite and CT 313 encounters stiff opposition S of Frenelle-la Grande, 1 mi. E, and attacks well-dug-in enemy near Ambacourt and Poussay, driving enemy from Poussay. Elements of CT 315 clear most of Neufchateau after heavy fighting. Units of 12th Cav Sq encounter road blocks and strong resistance between Gironcourt and Houecourt, 13 mi. SE of Neufchateau, and fight enemy TF Welzel near Chatenois. Fr 2d Armd takes Andelot and helps inf take Vittel, freeing 500 Americans among 2,000 internees.

XII Corps CCB of 4th Armd completes fording of Moselle near Bayon on railroad ties placed in stream bed; remaining units of 137th Regt of 35th Div also cross in this vicinity breaking up an enemy counter-attack near Lorey. After 25 min. arty preparation, elements of 317th Regt of 80th Div cross Moselle at Dieulouard, 6 mi. S of Pont à Mousson, and just S of town, receiving enemy arty and mortar fire, taking high ground E of river under intense arty fire and repulsing counterattack; 318th Regt follows across at Dieulouard establishing road blocks in Ville au Val-Bezaumont-Loisy area in 2-mi. radius of Dieulouard.

XX Corps Elements of 5th Div consolidate bridgehead E of Arnaville and straighten lines in Montigny-Hill 339 area. Elements of 7th Armd patrol Bois de Feves area, N of Montigny. Elements of 357th Regt of 90th Div clear last remaining enemy resistance W of Moselle in sector by taking Uckange,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Thionville; 358th Regt takes Terville, SW suburb of Thionville, and fighting from house to house reaches area within 300 yds. of remaining bridge to Thionville; 356th Regt disperses to Metz-la Grande, 3 mi. N of city.

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12 Cont Sixty-five B-26s and 35 A-20s of IX BC strike at Foret de Haye, W of Nancy, concentrating on gun emplacements with 139 tons of bombs; results described as good to excellent. St. Wendel RR center, NE of Saarbruecken, bombed by 16 A-20s. XIX TAC planes support XII, XV, and XX Corps troops and engage in fighter sweeps and armed recn in Rhine and Saar Valleys; targets between Pont a Mousson and Metz include gun positions at Mardigny, tanks and troops between Marieulles and Fey, and forts NE of Corny; 5 of 16-20 ME-109s encountered in Pont a Mousson area shot down.

## U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Second Div makes slight progress at Brest, fighting in small groups from house to house against fanatic resistance. Twenty-ninth Div, in surprise attack starting at midnight 11/12 and continuing through the day, moves rapidly to vicinity of Fort Keranroux and neutralizes Fort Montbarey; these bastions of enemy's 2d main defense line are elaborately defended; arty and mortar fire placed on Fort Keranroux throughout night. Eighth Div moves to vicinity of Plouvien, preparatory to move to Crozon Peninsula where Task Force A is containing enemy on Telgruc line.

XIX TAC provides close support for troops at Brest and silences 5 guns.

## U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd advance against road blocks in area N of Grevenmacher, passing through Eschweiler and Biwer. Elements of CT 109 of 28th Div secure bridge across Our R. and enter Germany with elements of CT 110. Elements of 4th Div reach vicinity of St. Vith and take Elcherath, Germany.

VII Corps Corps conducts recn in force of Siegfried Line. Screening action based on road blocks and supported by AT and arty fire is met W and S of Aachen. NE of Auel, CT 18, 1st Div, occupies Hombourg and advances NE against tank and inf opposition; CT 16 is engaged from 1200 to mid-afternoon in a fire-fight at Moresnet. Third Armd arty fire on

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Eynatten, 4 mi. SE, inflicts casualties on CT 16 troops. First Div now has a reinforced bn in Germany, an outpost in the Netherlands, the main body of the Div is in Belgium, and its rear echelon is in France. Ninth Rcn Troop finds stiff resistance near Ovifat, 4 mi. NE of Malmedy. TF Lovelady, CCB, 3d Armd Div, penetrates road blocks of Siegfried Line, entering Germany at 1451, and rolls through town of Roetgen, which is only lightly defended.

XIX Corps Patrols of 2d Armd Div exercise pressure E and S along Hasselt-Zonhoven road N of Albert Canal. Elements of 119th Regt of 30th Div advancing toward objectives in Gulpen-Valkenburg area of Holland, 7 mi. E of Maastricht, encounter 20 mm and SA fire 2 mi. E of Meuse R. and reach objectives 3½ mi. farther to NE in Mheer (Holland) area. Elements of 117th Regt cross Albert Canal and Meuse R. and enter Holland, establishing defensive positions near Ekkelerade, 4 mi. SE of Maastricht. CT 120 breaks up counterattack at Albert Canal lock.

Ninth BC planes (100 B-26s, 10 A-20s) attack Scheid, fortified zone NE of St. Vith, dropping about 200 tons of bombs with fair to excellent results. Strongpoints at Echternacht (Luxembourg) also hit by 9th BC: 106 tons dropped by 54 bombers. IX TAC flies approximately 350 sorties in close support of V, VII, and XIX Corps: 139 aircraft support 5th Armd, 4th Inf, and 28th Inf Divs on Belgian-Luxembourg border; 155 operate in conjunction with 3d Armd and 1st Inf Divs near Aachen: 53 support 2d Armd Div in vicinity of Maastricht; rail tracks, rolling stock, road transport, and flak positions are chief targets. In addition, 35 P-38s attack strongpoint and gun emplacements in Aachen area; 10 P-47s bomb airdrome near Bonn; 20 P-38s, while sweeping over Aachen-Cologne-Bonn area, destroy warehouse and a number of vehicles, damage gun positions, and shoot down 8 enemy aircraft; 16 P-38s operate over Trier-Coblenz-St. Thomas area, destroying 1 grounded plane and several RR cars and MT.

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XV Corps Elements of 315th Regt of 79th Div complete clearing of Neufchateau, overcome bitter delaying action to take Rovres la Chetive, 4 mi. E, and reach NW outskirts of Chatenois. Elements of CT 313 clear woods SW of Ambacourt with arty support, evacuate Poussay, which enemy reoccupies, but CT seizes high ground SE of town. Elements of CT 314 clear all remaining enemy resistance from Charmes, establishing small bridgehead on E side of Moselle R. Fr 2d Armd clears rest of Vittel-Houecourt area, captures Remoncourt, 5 mi. E of Vittel, and Hymont, 3 mi. S of Mirecourt, and wipes out enemy tank bn in attacks on Dompaire and Damas, 8 mi. SE of Mirecourt, repelling enemy counterattack near Ville sur Illon, destroying a total of 60 enemy tanks, chiefly from 112th Pz Brig. Other elements of Fr 2d Armd enter Chaumont and Aron units reach Moselle R. at Vincey and Nomeny,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. apart, and 3 mi. S of Charmes, withdrawing to Begnecourt near Dompaire.

XII Corps Elements of 320th Regt of 35th Div cross Moselle near Neuville and St. Mard,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of Bayon, clearing high ground N and E of crossing in sharp fighting against SA, MG, mortars, arty, tanks, and AT weapons. Elements of 137th Regt fight way 3 mi. E of Moselle. CCB reaches Luneville, 12 mi. NE of Bayon. Elements of 80th Div maintain bridgehead E of Diculouard against counterattack by estimated 2 enemy bns and 15 tanks, including elements of 29th Pz Gren Regt. Enemy from Forêt de Facq, E of Pont a Mousson, strikes through Ste. Genevieve, overrunning 318th Regt CP and taking Loisy and Bezaumont and 317th Regt positions to S before being driven off with loss of 8 tanks. CCA, crossing at Diculouard, helps block enemy attack, and thrusts NE to outflank Pont a Mousson, and continuing NE and E to destroy enemy at Nomeny, Aulnois, and Fresnes, 17 mi. E of Diculouard, takes these towns.

XIV Corps Facing troops of Military School Metz in Div strength in areas registered in for enemy arty, elements of 7th Armd and 5th Div make little progress in Montigny-Bronvaux area encountering very heavy

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enemy fire. In bridgehead, 5th Div attack toward Mardigny is stopped. Elements of 90th Div clear W bank of Moselle opposite Thionville.

XIX TAC fighters, in support of 2d Fr Armd and 79th Inf Divs (XV Corps), destroy 13 tanks; others cooperate with 5th Inf Div (XX Corps), striking at arty emplacements near Vezon and Corny and entrenched infantry, fortifications, and arty emplacements elsewhere; good results achieved against enemy movement in the Saar by still other fighters of XIX TAC.

**U.S. NINTH ARMY**

VIII Corps German garrison holds out stubbornly at Brest. Gen. Ramcke declines request to surrender. Elements of 2d Div in E portion of Brest clear cemetery and church from which enemy had been resisting vigorously, while those on N consolidate positions. Fort Keranroux falls to 29th Div: 2d Bn, 175th Inf, assisted by smoke screen and preparatory arty barrage lasting  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours, advances with bayonets and grenades and quickly captures the fort; in Fort Montbarey area, other units halted by extremely strong resistance and subjected to repeated counter-attacks, all of which are repulsed.

XIX TAC fighters continue support of VIII Corps troops at Brest.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd carry out tank, TD, and arty fire demonstration against Siegfried Line fortifications in Vianden-Echternach area and N of Grevenmacher. After a fire fight elements of 28th Div E of Ulflingen, Luxembourg, (CT 109) receive heavy arty and SA fire in Liefer-Peterkirche just W of border and approach outskirts of Sevenig, Germany, 1 mi. E of line. CT 110 attacks towards fortified area N of Kesfeld, less than 4 mi. E of line, but is held up at dragon's teeth of Siegfried Line between Grosskampenberg, 3 mi. E of line, and Kesfeld. CT 112 operates 8 mi. N of Grevenmacher within 1 mi. of border. Elements of 4th Div occupy positions 5 mi. upstream of Siegfried

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Line; elements of CT 22 continuing  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Elcherath, take Winterscheid, Bleiali, and Buchet villages W. of Schnee Eifel ridge. Elements of CT 12, operating SE of St. Vith enter Germany at 1100 and reach point S of Muetzenich, 6 mi. E of St. Vith.

VII Corps Corps advances to within 3 kilometers of Aachen as elements of the 3d Armd and 1st Divs penetrate outer defenses of Siegfried Line. CT 16, 1st Div, advances to seize ground E of Aachen but can proceed only very slowly. CT 18 is heavily attacked but takes high ground N of Gemmenich, in the Aachen State Forest. TF Doan of CCA breaches first line of obstacles in an action supported by the 67th Armd Field Arty Groupment. Inf attacks through and beyond dragon's teeth defenses under hail of SA, mortar, and MG fire. Air support is given in the Aachen area, where the German 347th Inf Div is resisting advance. On 9th Div front, enemy attempts to halt advance by committing tanks and small bodies of inf, with infiltration in wooded areas SE of Eupen. CT 39 clears Eupen-Monschau road and takes up position S of Roetgen at the German border. TF Buchanan, CT 60, reconnoiters to the S, captures Sourbrodt, and advances toward Camp Elsenborn, 4 mi. E of Ovifat.

XIX Corps After crossing Albert Canal near Stockroye, Belgium (NW of Hasselt), CCA of 2d Armd clears area W of N-S road through Genck, NE of Hasselt, overcoming road blocks, AT defenses, and formidable terrain obstacles; 82d Armd Rcn Bn, attached, contacts Br 11th Armd Div while covering CCA's L flank. CCB covers R flank. Elements of 117th Regt, 30th Div, enter Maastricht from SE and seize central portion of city against heavy enemy resistance. All bridges have been destroyed. Road blocks established on Maastricht-Sittard highway. Other elements of 117th Regt seize Cadier, 3 mi. SE of Maastricht, against light resistance. Attacking NE, 119th Regt elements occupy Termaar,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. beyond Cadier on Maastricht-Aachen highway, after fire fight requiring tank reinforcements, and reach Sibbe, 2 mi. N. Tanks help overcome heavy resistance along RR cut SW of

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Gulpen, 3 mi. E of Termaar, on highway; 120th Regt organizes defensive positions W of Billenhuizen, 2 mi. SW of Gulpen.

IX TAC P-47s fly about 100 sorties in support of 2d Armd, 3d Armd, and 4th Inf Divs, hitting strongpoints, gun positions, installations, rail facilities, and rail and road traffic, mainly in Siegfried Line-Coblenz area. Seventy P-47s concentrate on airdromes near Frankfurt, hitting runway, hangars, and buildings; 11 enemy aircraft destroyed on ground at Seligenstadt.

14 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of 315th Regt of 79th Div take Chatenois after street fighting and advance 4 mi. E to W outskirts of la Neuveville sous Chatenois; elements of CT 313 retake Poussay against considerable resistance and easily occupy Mirecourt and Ramecourt, 1 mi. W of Mirecourt. Elements of Fr 2d Armd clear enemy from Liffol le Petit and Liffol le Grand, take Mattaincourt, and push to Moselle at Nomexy again; recn elements reach Igney and Thaon, 3 mi. farther S; contact is made with 2d Regt de Spahis of 7th Army at Clefmont, E of Chaumont.

XII Corps Elements of 35th Div reach Meurthe R. at Rosieres, between Nancy and Lunéville and maintain line from Flavigny to St. Nicholas de Port, 8 mi. S of Nancy. Elements of 319th Regt of 80th Div assemble in Belleville area; 318th Regt takes Atton and Mousson Hill, N of Loisy; CCA takes Arracourt destroying elements of 15th Pz Gr..

XX Corps Ninetieth Div ordered to contain Thionville with minimum force and relieve 7th Armd, which is to facilitate Moselle crossings of 90th Div by attacking N and E through 5th Div bridgehead; 5th Div engineers complete heavy pontoon bridge and light inf bridge across Moselle R.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps British assault for Brit continues; in E portion of city, Germans resisting strongly from

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RR station and church outside wall; tunnels and underground shelters found. In 29th Div zone, 175th Inf dislodges enemy from strong positions at Naval Firing Range; 116th Inf assisted by "Crocodiles" (flame-throwing tanks) attacks Fort Montbarey, concentrating on concrete pillboxes surrounding the fort; 115th takes hill just SW of Fort Montbarey and emplacements along road from la Trinité to Recouvrance, but loses the hill in night counter-attack. On Crozon Peninsula, 8th Div with Task Force A attached prepares for assault tomorrow.

In conjunction with ground operations at Brest, 9th BC planes (111 B-26s, 11 A-26s, 6 A-20s) concentrate approximately 250 tons of bombs on strongpoints and gun positions, reporting fair to excellent results. Four missions of XIX TAC fighters strike at similar targets.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of CCA of 5th Armd cross border near Wallendorf, where Our R. and Sauer R. join, 6 mi. NW of Echternach, and reach ridge toward Biesdorf,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N, blowing up and burning interconnecting blockhouses; difficulty is encountered in advancing beyond ridge; elements of CCA, 12 mi. S, encounter SA, mortar and arty fire in attempt to reach Metzdorf from Morsdorf. CT 110 of 28th Div attacking S from Heckhuscheid, after tanks blast way through dragon's teeth and penetrate fortified area N of Kcsfeld, take several pillboxes against automatic, mortar, and arty fire. Enemy tracked, flame-thrower vehicles inflict very heavy casualties on one unit. Receiving heavy casualties from SA and arty fire, CT 109 advances 2 mi. E of border to within 500 yds. of Roschcid. Elements of 4th Div also penetrate Siegfried defenses; after patrols make contact, elements of CT 12, advancing under intermittent arty and mortar fire and continuous SA and 20 mm fire, penetrate the Siegfried Line positions on Schnee Eifel, 10 mi. E of St. Vith. CT 22, about two mi. S in same area, encountering many pillboxes, SA, mortar, AA, and 88-mm fire, makes penetration in column of bn, spreading out beyond the installations.

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VII Corps Corps attacks in attempt to penetrate the West Wall defenses and seize the Aachen-Eschweiler-Duren area. Mopping-up operations and rcn continue. Heaviest resistance, chiefly SA and MG fire from pillboxes, is met at frontier in the forest S of Aachen. In 9th Div sector, CT 47 attacks at 0830, reaches Zweifall on the Vicht R., and penetrates outer defenses of the Siegfried Line to the S and E; CT 39 attacks at 0830, advances to vicinity of Lammersdorf, 6 mi. S of Zweifall, and N into first line of Siegfried defenses; CT 60 moves from near Eupen to wooded area below Roetgen. TF Buchanan captures Camp Elsenborn and advances N 4 mi. to vicinity of Kalterherberg.

XIX Corps Attacking E against scattered resistance, CCA of 2d Armd advances to Eysden-Mechelen area (Belgium); N portion of 2d Armd Div zone, except for small strip between Vaart Canal and Meuse R., cleared by combined efforts of CCA and 82d Armd Rcn Bn; latter maintains contact with British on N and patrols E. Div Rcs relieves CCB on R flank. Active patrolling on front and flanks of 30th Div; patrol platoon of 119th Regt meets vigorous resistance at Valkenburg—3 mi. N of Termaar and 5 mi. E of Maastricht—and bn occupies and holds town against severe arty fire; 117th Regt crosses Meuse R. in assault boats to clear western segment of city.

In VII Corps sector, 24 IX TAC P-38s support 3d Armd and 1st Inf Divs near Aachen, damaging factory, cutting rails, and bombing and strafing rail and road transport. Ten others, in cooperation with 5th Armd Div, concentrate on Rhine R. craft.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of 315th Regt of 79th Div advance through Nouville and wipe out enemy pocket in Ramecourt area where 313th Regt repelled counterattack during night; elements of Fr 2d Armd occupies Contrexcyville and regroup.

XI Corps Elements of 134th and 314th Inf Divs, advancing through mine fields and old villages of our Foret de Haye, 3 mi. W of Nancy, and 134th continues E securing

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Nancy at 1500. Elements of 320th Regt of 35th Div cross Marne au Rhin Canal near Dombasle after extremely heavy fighting and patrols of 137th cross Meurthe R. at St. Nicholas de Port, 2 mi. to NW. In Dieulouard bridgehead of 317th and 318th Regts, enemy counterattack overruns Atton, isolating elements on Mousson Hill, being halted by 318th Cn Co fire near Loisy. First Bn, 318th Regt, released from CCA at Arracourt, 20 mi. E of Nancy, fights way 20 mi. N and NW through enemy territory to Dieulouard bridgehead. CCA attacks enemy concentration in Forêt de St. Jean Fontaine. Elements of 317th drive back counterattack regaining lost ground near Falaise, inflicting heavy losses on enemy troops.

XX Corps Elements of CCB, 7th Armd, and 5th Div reach Mardigny and Vittonville, and 10th Regt of 5th Div takes Lorry, expanding bridgehead opposite Arnaville. Remaining elements of CCR and CCA cross into bridgehead; 90th Div displaces S to Ste. Marie-Gravelotte area and seizes Marengo quarry, encountering increasing opposition near Fort Amanvillers and vicious resistance NE of Gravelotte; 10 Maginot Line guns turned against enemy in Thionville area.

XIX TAC flying 294 sorties concentrates on enemy RR targets; P-47s cut 22 RR lines, damage or destroy RR cars, gun positions, and military installations, and drop 12 tons in support of XII Corps near Nancy and XX Corps near Metz and Trier; 1 sq. of 27 P-47s strafe and bomb estimated 60-70 trucks in Pagny les Goins area in support of 5th Inf Div of XX Corps.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Since Brest streets are raked with fire, 2d Div's advance from house to house is largely through holes blasted in separating walls. In addition to usual arty fire on enemy at Brest, concentrated mortar fire placed on positions within old city wall beginning at 1800 and continuing for 24 hours. Twenty-ninth Div clears perimeter of Fort Montbarey and approaches city wall and submarine pens; on Div R flank, 5th Ranger Bn invests le Cosquer,

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near Fort du Portzic.

Eighth Div launches attack on Crozon Peninsula, 121st and 28th Regts advancing quickly to enemy's main line of resistance where they are held up by strong opposition; weather prevents air support during morning. Thirteenth Inf (8th Div) moves to Crozon Peninsula but is not committed.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of CCR, 5th Armd, although unable to clear resistance from vicinity of ford over Gay R. near Nicdersgegen, 2 mi. N of Wallendorf, is heavily engaged with enemy tank units and reaches high land, 3 mi. N, near Mettendorf, also clearing enemy from area between Hommerdingen and Cruchten, N of Wallendorf. Other elements reach Stockem and Bettingen, 3 mi. NE of Wallendorf. Elements of CT 112 meet enemy opposition in Biesdorf, 1½ mi. N of Wallendorf and cross Our at Weiterbach; 2 mi. N of Echternach, CCA patrols cross at Bollendorf. Elements of CT 109 make some progress in attacks on Hill 515, S of Sevenig, taking pillboxes and overcoming counterattack. Engineers blow up dragon's teeth NE of Kesfeld and CT 110 takes Hill 553, 1½ mi. from Kesfeld. Elements of 4th Div, in face of very heavy arty, MG, mortar, and SA fire from emplacements, make persistent attacks on Brandscheid, SW of Schnee Eifel ridge, on valley E of ridge, and against Roth and Losheim, 10 mi. NE of Brandscheid, making limited progress.

VII Corps Siegfried Line is penetrated at 3 points S and E of Aachen and its second line of defense is breached by 1st Bn, 16th Inf (attached to CCA). Corps advance is slowed by stiff resistance from pillboxes. Six tanks are lost in attempt to put armor through breach in the Siegfried Line just S of Hamm, on NW outskirts of Stolberg. TF Lovelady establishes a bridgehead for tank crossing S of Mausbach, SE of Stolberg, fights a tank battle, and advances through the town. CT 47, 9th Div, moves ahead through main defense of the Line into Wenau Forest, NE of Zweifall, advances toward Stolberg to outflank Vicht. CT 46, attacking with mission

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of taking Monschau and Hoefen, just NE of Kalterherberg, proceeds as far as Monschau under SA and mortar fire.

XIX Corps On 2d Armd Div front, CCA, assisted by 82d Armd Rcn Bn, finishes clearing Div zone N of Albert Canal and E of Vaart Canal. CCB crosses Holland frontier over bridges constructed across Albert Canal near Eben Emael and across Meuse R. at Maastricht; TF 2, opposed by MG fire, secures bridgehead at De Geul R. near Weert, Belgium (W of Meerssen); construction of bridge here started; bridge captured intact at another point W of Meerssen. Under increasingly heavy enemy arty fire, 30th Div makes slight gains in direction of German border. CT 117 clears out isolated pockets of resistance to S and E of Maastricht. De Geul R. is bridged E of Gulpen in 119th Rgt sector, but arty fire prevents building of bridge at Valkenburg.

Thirty-four P-38s of IX TAC drop 14 tons in Aachen area, in support of VII Corps; Coblenz city area and Widdig fuel dump attacked by 45 9th AF fighters with 12 tons.

16 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of Fr 2d Armd take Darney, 5 mi. SE of Neufchateau, engage enemy at Monthureux-sur-Saone, 5 mi. W of Darney, ford Moselle at Nomexy, and occupy Chatel, breaking up later enemy counter-attack against position. The 121st Cav Sq repels enemy tank attack 2 mi. NW of Rambervillers.

XII Corps Elements of 137th cross Meurthe in force and additional 35th Div elements secure bridgehead E of Meurthe, advancing to Sommerville, 2 mi. beyond Dombasle, and securing Haraucourt, 2 mi. N of Sommerville, after destroying small enemy forces; spirited resistance at Buissoncourt,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NW of Haraucourt, is overcome and Champenoux, 12 mi. N of Lunéville, is by-passed after sharp fighting. Objectives near Mazerulles, NW of Champenoux, are secured. CCB reaches Courbesseaux,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Buissoncourt, CCA operates in Haraucourt-Serres area; CCR enters Lunéville vicinity. In bridgehead E of Dieulouard, 317th repels 3 counterattacks; 318th

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Regt takes Ste. Genevieve, and attacks through Foret de Facq, encountering medium resistance. Elements of 319th Regt, arrived from Belleville-Marbache area, open communications to 3d Bn, 318th Regt, cut off on Mousson Hill and supplied with ammunition by arty observation planes.

XX Corps Elements of CCA and CCR, 7th Armd, attack to enlarge bridgehead to E, CCA digging in 200 yds. W of Marieulles,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Arnaville. Elements of 5th Div continue movement into bridgehead; engineers complete construction of heavy pontoon bridge at Pagny sur Moselle,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Arnaville. Elements of 90th Div in Amanvillers-Gravelotte area receive heavy mortar and arty fire and are stopped by wide moat at Ft. Amanvillers, then, advancing S 3 mi. to road E from Gravelotte, liquidate enemy in slow and costly process.

Military installations, gun installations, and 8 small naval vessels damaged or destroyed by XIX TAC in 21 missions over Frankfurt area and in support of XII and XV Corps between Moselle R and Saareburg; 2 sqs. of IX BC B-26s bomb fortifications in Metz area with unobserved results.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Force of about 20,000 German soldiers S of the Loire surrenders to 329th Regt (83d Div). This group, designated as Foot March Group South, is 1 of 3 groups withdrawing from SW France toward Germany.

VIII Corps Despite determined delaying action of enemy at Brest, 2d Div now controls greater part of the city; area E of city wall cleared by 38th Inf; to S, 23d Inf still vigorously opposed, particularly in vicinity of RR station. Twenty-ninth Div closes in on Brest from W: 115th Inf captures high ground N of Hildy and attacks southward toward submarine pens; after intensive arty preparation at point-blank range, 116th Inf with Crocodile tanks advances on Fort Montbarey, blanketed with smoke, through path blasted by Engineers and captures this bastion; elements of 175th Inf at 1900 hours cross Recouvrance

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wall; 5th Ranger Bn seizes le Cosquer and prepares for assault on Fort du Portzic.

Eighth Div resumes attack to clear Crozon Peninsula, making only slight gains against strong resistance; during past 2 days Div has advanced only 1,700 yds.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Finding enemy front in area N of Echternacht heavily defended by inf with AT and many MG units, elements of 5th Armd and CT 112 hold positions, repel counterattacks, and make some adjustments in line. CT 112 holds gains made by CCR near Wettlingen, 1½ mi. E of Stockem. After capturing Hill 515, near Sevenig, deprived of tank and TD support by soggy terrain near Irsen R., low visibility, and enemy fire, some elements of CT 109 of 28th Div are disorganized by enemy SA and mortar fire with loss of positions and very heavy casualties. CT 110 takes Hills 568 and 559, SE of Hill 553, and eleven pillboxes. Elements of 4th Div make progress to NE along Schnee Eifel ridge encountering arty, SA, and some automatic weapon fire; CT 22 encountering similar opposition and mine fields, reaches edge of Brandscheid.

VII Corps Limited advances made against heavy opposition. Buesbach, S of Stolberg, is taken by CCR, 3d Armd Div. Second position of the main defenses of the Siegfried Line are overrun between Zweifall and Mausbach. CT 47, 9th Div, takes Krewinkel and digs in around Schevenhuette, 6 mi. E of Stolberg. Hoefen is taken by elements of CT 60 under tank and heavy arty fire. The enemy holds his own at Stolberg and Gressenich, 4 mi. E.

XIX Corps All-out assault toward Sittard launched in 2d Armd Div zone by CCA on R and CCB on L, each on 7-mi. front. CCA, organized with 3 task forces (A,B,C), moves E through Maastricht and overcomes strong resistance to reach RR N of Valkenburg. CCB encounters organized defenses along Valkenburg-Meerssen road; TF 1 establishes bridgehead near St. Gorlaach (between Valkenburg and Meerssen), and engineers build bridge while under enemy fire; TF 2

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advances from De Geul R., bridgehead and, assisted by tanks, secures crossroads and high ground at Kruisberg (NW of Meerssen). TF Stokes organized and given mission of mopping up between Vaart Canal and Meuse R.; hampered by terrain and heavy opposition, this group drives toward Reckheim to secure bridge site, halting 300 yds. S of the town. Attacking to NE at 0800, 30th Div makes general advance of 8 mi.; 120th Regt crosses De Geul R. near Gulpen and reaches vicinity of Molsberg, 4 mi. NW, meeting moderate resistance; elements of 119th Regt cross R. on improvised causeway at Valkenburg and advance slowly about 2 mi. E, under heavy arty, mortar, and SA fire from NE, to near Walem, while other elements cross at Wijlre ford, 1 mi. N of Gulpen, and reach Ubagsberg, just NW of Molsberg.

In Aachen-Cologne area fighters and fighter bombers supporting VII Corps encounter more than 50 planes; claim 12-0-8.

17 U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of Fr 2d Armd start to clear forest area E of Darney and farther E to reconnoiter region of Canal de l'Est between Uzemain and Bains des Bains. Elements withdraw from Chatel bridgehead to Nomexy.

XII Corps CCB and 35th Div elements operate in vicinity of Mazerulles, 10 mi. NE of Nancy, 137th Regt entering Lennoncourt, W of Buissoncourt. TF Sebree continues mopping up W of Nancy. In 80th Div bridgehead, 317th Inf units, encountering heavy SA, mortar and arty fire, seize Landremont, 3 mi. E of Dieulouard, and are held up E of Millery. Elements of 318th take Morville sur Seille, NE of Forêt de Faccq, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Pont a Mousson. Elements of 319th occupy Pont a Mousson and Lesmenils, 2 mi. NE, and set up defenses on E edge of Forêt de Faccq, W of Port sur Seille.

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XII Corps Elements of 10th Armd take Marieulles against determined opposition. CCR receives heavy arty and AFV fire and incur tank losses and personnel

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casualties to reach point just W of Sillegry, 3 mi. E of Marieulles. Elements of 5th Div repel counterattacks against Moselle bridgehead and take hill E of Marieulles. Elements of 90th Div receive increasingly heavy arty fire in Amanvillers-Gravelotte area, failing to gain in additional assault of Amanvillers and mopping up near Gravelotte.

RR lines cut, and RR cars, MT, and military installations destroyed or damaged by XIX TAC flying 133 sorties, mainly in Saarbruecken area.

**U.S. NINTH ARMY**

Ninety-fourth Div relieves 6th Armd Div containing enemy in Lorient and takes over Redon-Nantes line which had been patrolled by 331st Inf (83d Div). Remainder of 83d Div relieved by 94th later in month, whereupon mission of 94th is to contain enemy in St. Nazaire, patrol entire S boundary of 12th Army Group, and protect S flank of 9th and 3d Armies from Quimper to Auxerre.

**VIII Corps** Against decreasing resistance at Brest, 2d Div overcomes opposition at RR station, completely clears area outside wall, and elements of 9th Inf go over wall and advance 1,000 yds.; 38th Div platoon enters through wall at another point but is forced back. Twenty-ninth Div occupies Recouvrance W of Penfeld R., leaving only the submarine pens and Fort du Portzic to be cleared.

On Crozon Peninsula, 8th Div with 2d Rangers attached and Task Force A now committed advances rapidly against light resistance to town of Crozon; Germans have withdrawn to 2d defensive position and are gradually abandoning this; prisoners to date total 1,333.

In support of VII Corps in last phases of Brest operation, 56 P-47s of IX TAC attack city area and gun emplacements with 32 tons.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

**V Corps** Thirty-five sq. mi. bridgehead of 5th Armd and CT 112 across Sauer R. under enemy arty

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fire and counterattack supported by 40 enemy tanks, forcing CCR and CT 112 back to Stockem area. Except for slight withdrawal before counterattack on L, CT 109 holds lines. After entering Brandscheid, elements of CT 22 receive arty and AA fire and counterattack, readjust position to Meisert vicinity, 1 mi. NE of Brandscheid, on slope of Schnee Eifel ridge. With enemy arty and 120 mm mortar fire continuing to increase, CT 12 takes additional pillboxes and reaches RJ E of Schlausenbach for advance of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. CT 8 likewise overcomes increased arty fire, destroying pillboxes and mopping up. Fog hinders Corps operations.

VII Corps. Severe counterattacks repulsed all along Corps front. Enemy line has been reinforced by elements of the 12th Inf Div, whose 48th Regt attacks SE of Stolberg toward Mausbach. Some ground is lost by 3d Armd and 1st Divs and enemy penetrates as far as Kiepenlinchen. Enemy at Gressenich is heavily shelled. NE of Aachen enemy forces are moving S from Haaren toward Eilendorf.

XIX Corps. In 2d Armd Div zone, CCA and CCB resume E and NE attacks; CCA drives slowly but steadily from Valkenburg area to vicinity of Schimmert, while CCB advances from St. Gerlach bridgehead and Kruisberg to Schimmert, Oensel, and Beek area. Dug-in inf, AT guns, and arty oppose both combat commands, and in addition CCA is delayed by mine fields and CCB by bridging operations. TF Stokes crosses Vaart Canal over bridge constructed at Reckheim and continues N to area S of Vucht; terrain obstacles as well as arty, mortar, and bazooka fire met. Thirtieth Div continues attacking NE in area N of Maastricht-Aachen highway: CT 117 reaches Heerlen and Onderspekholt, 12 mi. NE and 14 mi. E of Maastricht respectively, through intermittent arty fire. CT 120 advances across German border E of Simpelveld against scattered SA fire and occupies Horbach, while the 125th Cav Sq enters Germany  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. to the SW, at Orsbach.

IX TAC bombs and strafes all available targets. On VII Corps front 60 P-47s concentrate 8 tons in Aachen area,

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43 P-47s on Duren with 21 tons, and 12 P-47s on Coblenz with 6; in XIX Corps sector 33 P-47s drop 11 tons in support of 30th Inf Div liberating Valkenburg woods.

18

**U.S. THIRD ARMY**

XV Corps Corps orders advance to Martagne R. line. Elements of 79th Div advance to Landecourt-Morviller area 11 mi. E of Charmes in Martagne R. valley. Elements of Fr 2d Armd establish bridgehead at Chatel and repel enemy armd patrol from Nomery.

XII Corps Entering from SE, CCB of 4th Armd reaches Nancy, already secured by 134th. CCR reinforced by elements of CCA repulses heavy enemy counterattack against Luneville, losing and regaining portions of city. TF Scbrea continues to clean up enemy pockets NE of Nancy; elements of 134th reach Seichamps, 4 mi. NE of Nancy, as other units of 4th Armd and 35th Divs attack to E, elements of 137th reaching Cercueil area N of Buissoncourt. Elements of 317th Regt of 80th Div seize high ground near M. Toulon, 3 mi. E of Landremont, encountering heavy resistance. Millery is captured. Elements of 319th Regt reach Seille R., 2 mi. W of Foret de Facq, in attack on St. Jure-Raucourt-Nomeny line, farther E.

XX Corps XX Corps units oriented on Operation THUNDERBOLT to take Metz. CCB of 7th Armd takes Bouxières, 1½ mi. SE of Vittonville, against arty fire and is pinned down there by increased arty concentrations. CCR continues to receive determined enemy resistance near Sillegry. Elements of 5th Div relieve 7th Armd Div units and take two hills E of Mariculles and a ridge NW of there.

**U.S. NINTH ARMY**

VIII Corps Organized resistance ceases at Brest. Second Div fighting E of Penfield R. overcomes resistance from isolated groups by 1300 hours and takes 2,900 prisoners during day. In 29th Div zone W of Penfield R., all organized resistance ceases at 0800 hours; prisoners taken by this Div during past 2 days number 6,800.

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To capture Fortress Brest, VIII Corps had to contend with elaborately organized defenses of the city and its approaches as well as first-rate German troops ordered to hold out for 90 days. In addition to original French fortifications designed to withstand land and sea attacks, Germans had added a new system of defenses, including concrete emplacements, anti-tank ditches, and mine fields. The city is in ruins as result of German demolitions and terrific bombardment by VIII Corps.

Eighth Div rapidly clearing Crozon Peninsula against deteriorating resistance. Camaret peninsula, Chevre peninsula, and Ile Longue cleared. Commanding general of Crozon Peninsula forces captured.

Thirty-two P-47s of IX TAC bomb enemy positions at Brest with 16 tons; troops strafed.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of CCB of 5th Armd advancing on foot make slow progress toward Gengingen, Korperich, and Huttingen, at intervals along N front of bridgehead; CCR arty pounds Mettendorf, which is burning. Heavy enemy arty fire continues. CT 109 of 28th Div, receiving heavy casualties from enemy arty which also shells supply route, withdraws from Hill 515. Elements of 4th Div surround small enemy group on Schnee Eifel ridge, 4 mi. E of Radscheid, secure cross roads in Schnee Eifel area, and enter Brandscheid with patrols, many units receiving heavy mortar and arty fire. Elements of enemy 2d SS Div and CT Kuhne are contacted.

VII Corps Strong resistance continues. Patrolling is active throughout 1st and 9th Div sectors, with numerous pillboxes destroyed or neutralized. Sixteenth Regt is heavily shelled on night of 17/18. Counterattacks are frequent in 3d Armd Div sector. Considerable arty and tank fire is encountered as fighting begins for high ground NE of Stolberg. Under heavy arty fire, elements of CT 47, 9th Div, withdraw 1,000 yds. S from their positions SW of Gressenich. CT 60 continues attack to S against elements of the German 526th Div and captures Alzen,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Monschau, at 1600.

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XIX Corps Both CCB and CCA gain about 6 mi., forward elements of former crossing German frontier in Wehr-Mindergangelt area SE of Sittard and S of Gangelt at 1600A. On CCB R, TF 1 passes through Schimmert and continues NE, entering Germany at Wehr, while TF 2 continues along L of Maastricht-Sittard road against stiff resistance; R column reaching Sittard, where street fighting occurs, and blocking Sittard-Gangelt road W of German boundary, while L column clears Oensel and Beek areas and continues N to vicinity of Rosengarten. From Schimmert area, CCA advances E to vicinity of Amstenrade and Oirsbeek, bridging Geleen beek and overcoming enemy resistance en route. TF Stokes, capturing Vucht and reaching its final objective near Lanklaer and Stockheim, completes its mission of clearing remnants from area between Vaart Canal and Meuse R.; considerable opposition overcome and total of 625 prisoners taken; 99th Inf Bn (sep) takes over area. Enemy air activity and arty fire in 2d Armd Div zone increases. Thirtieth Div starts regrouping in preparation for assault on Siegfried Line, here a pillbox band over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. wide, constructed to implement natural obstacle formed by Wurm R. and parallelling RR line N of Aachen and Roer R., N of Wurm, 6 to 9 mi. in advance of front lines. Its progress retarded by heavy mortar, arty, and AT fire on L flank, 117th Regt moves up from Ubagsberg-Winthalgen-Fromberg assembly area, 10 mi. E of Maastricht, toward new assembly area in vicinity of Scherpenseel, Germany, 9 mi. N of Ubagsberg and 3 mi. SW of Geilenkirchen. In the same general line of advance, 119th Regt elements reach Waubach and Rimburg, just S of Scherpenseel. Three mi. farther S, 120th Regt engages in fire fight W of Kerkrade, where the enemy is organizing for a determined stand.

In ground force cover for VII Corps, 24 IX TAC P-47s claim 4 of 36-40 enemy fighters encountered over Aachen.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of CT 315 of 79th Div advance to position near Clayeures,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NW of Landecourt-Morviller area. Elements of CT 313 encounter enemy resistance at Mont, SW of Luneville, take Lamath and Xermanmenil, 4 mi. N of Landecourt, crossing Martagne S of Xermanmenil and overcoming moderate resistance by tanks and inf of 21st Pz Div. Elements of CT 314, encountering arty fire, cross R.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mil S near Gerbeviller. Working under enemy fire, engineers build 3 bridges near Chatel for Fr 2d Armd. CCV (Fr) encounters stiff opposition in enlarging the Chatel bridgehead in the Vaxoncourt-Pallegney-Zincourt direction, 2 to 3 mi. to SE. CCR encircles strong enemy resistance group at Hadigny,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Chatel, and advances 4 mi. farther E to Ortoncourt. CCD, setting out under enemy arty fire, crosses Martagne R. and takes Magniers, Vallots, and Moyen, E of R. in 3 mi. area  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Gerbeviller.

XII Corps CCR of 4th Armd, relieved by 6th Armd Div units in Luneville area, and CCB are heavily engaged near Chateau Salins, 20 mi. NE of Nancy. TF Sebree is dissolved but 35th Div elements continue to clear areas NE of Nancy; 134th Regt receives counterattack E of Agincourt, 320th Regt, defending Mazerulles and under arty fire, is attached to 4th Armd. CCA repulses enemy tank attack at Rechicourt, E of Arracourt. Elements of 80th Div withdraw short distances to W from Serrieres and Morville, making local gains in other areas.

XX Corps CCR of 7th Armd takes Sillegry and is pinned down by very heavy arty fire, main body of force later withdrawing to W of town. Other Corps elements break up counterattacks and drive back strong enemy patrols.

Force of almost 100 XIX TAC P-47s bomb and strafe gun emplacements, tanks, MT, and RR targets in support of XII and XV Corps in Nancy-Epinal area; on XX Corps front 36 P-47s bomb trains and gun positions in Saareburg-Hagenau-Landau-Zweibruecken-Metz areas; haze prevents observation of results in attack by XIX TAC P-47s on enemy tanks concentrating for

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19 counterattack against 7th Armd; counterattack diverted; same  
 Cont planes bomb forts in Vervy area. Enemy uses pilotless air-  
 craft over battle areas.

**U.S. NINTH ARMY**

VIII Corps Brest turned over to Brittany Base  
 Section of Communications Zone. On Crozon Peninsula,  
 13th Inf of 8th Div, committed for 1st time, captures  
 Quelern fortress at neck of Espagnole peninsula and  
 clears remainder of this peninsula. Lt. Gen. Ramcke,  
 commander of Brest garrison, captured.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of CCB, 5th Armd, in Wallendorf-  
 Biesdorf area of bridgehead, and of CCR S of  
 Mettendorf receive enemy arty fire and counterattacks.  
 Enemy inf occupy Wallendorf which is later secured  
 by 5th Armd units, and enemy tank units attack CCR  
 W and NE of Biesdorf and strike against CCR from  
 Mettendorf. Other elements strike at CCB from N  
 with tanks and inf. Arty and CCB instructed to  
 cover partial withdrawal from bridgehead. Elements  
 of 28th Div reorganize in defensive positions and  
 carry out aggressive patrolling into fortified area.  
 Elements of 4th Div successfully repel four coordinated  
 counterattacks in Schnee Eifel ridge area, bn of one  
 Regt is forced back 500 yds. by attack supported by  
 tracked vehicles and arty fire, later recovering lost  
 ground; heavy arty fire is exchanged; long fire fights  
 ensue, and some progress is made.

VII Corps CCA, 3d Armd Div, consolidates its po-  
 sitions and mops up. Aachen is outposted by the  
 116th Pz Div. Task Force Mills, CCB, fights from  
 house to house on the outskirts of Stolberg, which  
 is defended by elements of the 9th Pz Div, 12th Inf  
 Div, and 105th Pz Brig. CT 47, 9th Div, is held in  
 place along line from Mausbach to Schevenhuette. CT  
 39 continues to fight against SA and MG fire in and  
 around pillboxes and is also under direct fire from

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AT and self-propelled guns. Many pillboxes are neutralized and mopped up in Lammersdorf-Monschau-Alzen area, SE of Roetgen.

XIX Corps CCA and CCB of 2d Armd attack to clear area along Sittard-Geilenkirchen road; CCA, against arty, AT, and SA fire, moves forward from Amstenrade-Oirsbeek area to Gillrath, 2 mi. beyond boundary, securing region from there W to Ganelt; after establishing strong defensive positions for protection of Corps L (N) flank, CCA repulses counterattack by bn of 343d Inf Regt supported by arty and 8 SP guns; 7 SP guns destroyed and heavy losses inflicted on enemy. CCB, to W, clears area along Ganelt-Sittard road, capturing former town; heavy resistance overcome by elements taking high ground NE of Tueddern, Germany. On CCB L flank, 82d Armd Rcn Bn relieves Rcn Co 67 AR; former occupies Urmond area (between Sittard and Juliana Canal) and relieves elements of CCB at Limbricht (NW of Sittard). Rcn Co 67 AR moves S to CCA's zone. Thirtieth Div continues regrouping SE of Heerlen (NW of Aachen) for Siegfried Line assault.

On XIX and VII Corps fronts, Bitburg marshalling yards attacked by 24 IX BC B-26s which destroy warehouses and damage barracks; traffic continues although tracks cut; 116 9th AF A-20s, A-26s, and B-26s blast Duren and Eschweiler RR targets, cutting tracks thoroughly and inflicting incidental damage on buildings and rolling stock; armd vehicles also hit. In V Corps sector IX TAC fighters give intimate support to 5th Armd attacking enemy tanks at Luxembourg.

Eighth AF heavy bombers hit Coblenz RR yards and bridges.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps CT 313 of 79th Div encounters AT and arty fire E of Lunéville and passes through city drawing some sniper fire. Elements move 1 mi. S of city on highway E of Meurthe. CT 314 takes Cerbeviller and Fraimbois,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. farther E; supporting armor engages in fire fight with enemy tanks. Elements of Fr 2d Armd take Hadigny, 31 mi. E of Chatel.

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XII Corps Elements of 6th Armd Div operate in Luneville area to counter enemy tank thrust across Marne au Rhin Canal; elements of CCA engage enemy tanks in Bures-Moncourt area E of Luneville in continued enemy tank counterattacks to retake Nancy. Elements of CCB fight their way out of Chateau Salins occupying vicinity of Fresnes, 4 mi. NW. Elements of 137th Regt of 35th Div suffer heavy casualties in attack on enemy positions in woods along Nancy-Saarbruecken highway near Champenoux; 320th Regt receives enemy arty fire and a small counterattack at Juvrecourt 2 mi. NE of Arracourt; 134th continues attack to N. Elements of 80th Div operate SW of Millery in Autreville area, in SW area of bridgehead, and through woods to E.

XX Corps Elements of 7th Armd complete withdrawal from Sillegry. CT 2 of 5th Div, encountering heavy fire from direction of Sillegry, takes Coin sur Seille, 1½ mi. N of Sillegry; CT 10 captures area around Pournoy la Chetive, 1 mi. N of Coin, and cuts RR.

Fifty-two tons of bombs dropped on Trier marshalling yards by 36 IX BC B-26s with good results; P-47s of XIX TAC concentrate on RR targets, scoring direct hits on marshalling yards, and attacking Nancy, Hamburg, and Mannheim areas. In support of XX Corps, 36 P-47s of XIX TAC attack Fleury town and RRs, town of Verny, and score hits on forts N of there; also bomb and strafe targets in Cuvry and Pournoy la Chetive areas, destroying 2 tanks and damaging 2.

**U.S. NINTH ARMY**

VIII Corps On Pont Croix Peninsula, S of Crozon Peninsula, Task Force A captures force of 325 Germans holding out W of Douarnenez, concluding operations in this area; Task Force A subsequently dissolved.

About 37,000 prisoners taken during campaign against Brest and Crozon forts. Enemy's crack 2d Paratroop Div as well as 343d and 266th Inf Divs annihilated. Allied troops participating in Brest operations moving to assembly areas near Brest and Landerneau in preparation for move to eastern front.

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**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Elements of CT 112 with 5th Armd hold Wallendorf bridge under heavy arty and mortar fire in close contact with enemy and support improves positions on R flank; CCB exerts pressure on N of bridgehead and CCA continues patrolling. Enemy objectives in Grevenmacher and Biesdorf areas are under arty fire. Elements of 28th and 4th Divs improve positions, exchange counterattacks, engage in fire fights, and carry out patrolling.

VII Corps Little or no progress made as positions are consolidated and maintained for defense. Resistance continues all along Corps front, with harassing arty fire of heavy caliber. Bitter house-to-house fighting continues in Stolberg.

XIX Corps CCA, holding defensive position in Germany on Sittard-Geilenkirchen road from Gangelt 3 mi. E and S toward Teveren, Germany, protects XIX Corps L flank in 2d Armd Div zone. In Sittard-Wehr area, Div Res relieves CCB, which moves to assembly area in vicinity of Valkenburg and Klimmen. Eighty-second Armd Rcn Bn, relieved by 113th Cav Gp (less 125th Cav Sq), is attached to CCB. Thirtieth Div moves slowly northward against heavy arty fire, conducting active patrolling and rcn of routes and crossing sites in area within Maastricht-Aachen-Geilenkirchen triangle. Enemy mine field cleared near Rimburg in 119th sector.

IX TAC flies armed rcn in Bonn area with emphasis on RR targets and furnishes ground force cover along fronts.

21

**U.S. THIRD ARMY**

XV Corps Elements of CT 313 suffer heavy casualties in clearing Moncel, on E of Meurthe R.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. SE of Lunéville, and occupy position on NW edge of Forêt de Nondon, SE of town. After house-to-house fighting in Lunéville, other elements of CT 313 are relieved by units of CT 315. Elements of CT 314 establish small bridgehead across Meurthe  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi. SW of Moncel, after part of force recrosses stream. Resistance increases in sector of remaining units of CT 315

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near Gerberville. CCD of Fr 2d Armd takes Domptail, 6 mi. N of Rambervillers, against light resistance, and patrols Martagne R. area.

XII Corps Elements of 6th Armd reach Jallaucourt area, 6 mi. W of Chateau Salins. CCA of 4th Armd makes sweep through Bures and Coincourt, in area 5 mi. E of Luneville and back to Juvrecourt. Elements of 35th Div are unable to advance because of enemy mortar and MG fire, which continues to stop attempts by 137th to cross Nancy-Saarbruecken highway. Elements of 80th Div reach eastern edge of Foret de la Rumont, E of Millery, restoring communications cut by enemy sweep behind 317th Regt lines.

XX Corps Elements of 7th Armd continue under heavy arty and mortar fire. Elements of 5th Div repulse counterattacks against positions near Coin sur Seille and Pournoy la Chetive.

P-47s of XIX TAC concentrate on RR targets and town centers. Metzlar RR facilities receive 11 tons from 12 P-47s, Karlsruhe guns and RR installations hit with 5 tons from 37 P-47s, and 86 drop 22 tons attacking RR targets and other objectives in support of XII and XV Corps, particularly in Nancy area.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Eighty-third Div assigned to XX Corps, 3d Army.

Sixteen 9th AF P-47s dive-bomb Lorient bridge with 12 tons, damaging road approaches.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of CCB 4th Armd under enemy arty, SA, and MG fire resist enemy pressure, inflicting heavy casualties. Air support prevents enemy tank movement over Niefersgegen ford N of bridgehead. Covered by CT 112 and arty fire, elements of CCB begin withdrawal from bridgehead. Elements of 4th Div repel counterattack NE of Hontheim.

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VII Corps Only slight gains are made against strong opposition. CT 39, 9th Div, brings to 35 or 40 the number of defended pillboxes it has reduced in the past three days in the vicinity of Lammersdorf. House-to-house fighting in Stolberg continues.

XIX Corps During period 21-30 Sept, 2d Armd Div improves its defensive positions in L flank of XIX Corps sector and patrols actively, CCA maintaining mobile defense S and W of Gillrath and Div Res operating in German frontier area E of Sittard. Twenty-ninth Div (VIII Corps, Ninth Army) is assigned to XIX Corps. All front-line elements of 30th Div receive shelling from heavy enemy arty.

Attacking RR yards near V Corps front, 14 IX BC B-26s do no damage at Pronfeld, 29 destroy rolling stock and almost completely block traffic at Gerolstein, and 36 score 80 hits in Ehrang target area, completely restricting through traffic and damaging or destroying 100 freight cars.

On VII Corps front unidentified target at Aachen receives 12 tons from 23 9th AF fighters; in Bonn-Cologne area 10 of 46 enemy airborne planes are claimed destroyed with no Allied loss; force of 189 IX TAC P-47s loose 42 tons in support of V and VII Corps including intimate support of 5th Armd; attacks aided by IX TAC P-38s with fire bombs. Coblenz marshalling yards hit by 8th AF heavy bombers.

22

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of CT 315 overcoming SA fire and engaging in fire fight in stadium clear Luneville and mop up NE outskirts. Elements of CT 313 repeatedly attack and receive counterattacks, inflicting tank losses on enemy without substantial change in positions in Foret de Mondon near Moncel. With tank support, elements of CT 314 enlarge bridgehead across Meurthe, cut highway and gain shelter of Foret de Mondon. Elements of Fr 2d Armd consolidate bridgeheads across Meurthe at Chenevieres, 4 mi. E of CT 314 bridgehead, and about 1 mi. S between Vathimenil and Flin, clearing Menil Flin after hard fight and assaulting Montigny, Lehoux and Glonville, NW of Baccarat. Engineers construct broadway bridges at 4 Corps crossings.

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XII Corps Elements of CCA 4th Armd, drive off enemy tank attack on Juvelize,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mi. E of Arracourt, inflicting tank losses and casualties on enemy. CCB continues near Fresnes, 4 mi. W of Chateau Salins, maintaining contact with enemy and receiving light arty fire. Elements of 6th Armd Div operate in Armaucourt-Aboncourt area, 5 mi. N of Champenoux against AT fire and scattered groups of enemy inf, reducing pressure on 35th Div E and NE of Champenoux. Meeting extremely heavy automatic weapons, mortar, and SA fire, elements of 134th Regt reach high ground NE of Lay-St. Christophe and N of Bouxieres, both in Bois de Faulx area, 4 mi. N of Nancy. Elements of 137th and CCB, beginning to reach WWI trenches, outlying installations of Maginot Line, and new works, drive enemy from parts of Foret de Champenoux, roads to N being crowded with retreating Germans and their equipment. One column 4 mi. long is placed under arty and air attack. Elements of 80th Div patrol from E side of Foret de Fiacq and attack to S and E in Foret de la Rumont area between Malleloy and Bratte, 7 mi. NE of Nancy.

XX Corps Elements of CCB, 7th Armd Div, drawing heavy arty fire, make unsuccessful attempts to establish bridgehead over Seille R. near Longueville. Stalemate continues elsewhere on Corps front.

XIX TAC flies about 273 sorties concentrating on rolling stock and military and other RR targets with conspicuous success in Saargemund area and in Saareburg-Hagenau area ahead of XII Corps. Five or 6 missions flown in close support of 4th Armd by P-47s against infantry moving into Massal, 20 mi. E of Nancy; strafing and bombing kills personnel and knocks out tanks and vehicles. Unknown results in attack on gun positions reported in Marne au Rhin area, SE of Nancy. P-47s directed to emplacements near Amance also strafe camouflaged vehicles in area, operating until gas and ammunition exhausted; troop columns retreating N and guns and HDV also attacked; action results in German rout.

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U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of CCR, 5th Armd, complete with withdrawal W from bridgehead over Our and Sauer rivers,

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placing reported enemy losses during bridgehead operation at 2,353 men killed and 45 tanks destroyed. Elements of 28th Div, joined by most of CT 112, continue in defensive positions near Kesfeld. Elements of 4th Div meet heavy-caliber rocket and 40 mm AA fire in attempts to remove reinforced enemy salient N of Hontheim and reduce enemy resistance W of Knaufspetsch after fire fight.

VII Corps Third Armd and 1st Divs begin mopping-up operations in Stolberg, half of which is now taken, although city is still under shelling and full of MG fire. CT 47 is heavily attacked from E in Schevenhuette area. Continued stiff resistance is offered by pillboxes in the vicinity of Lammersdorf.

XIX Corps Relieving 2d Armd Div Res, 113th Cav Gp takes over defense of Corps sector from Holland-Belgium border across Holland-Germany border to Ganelt, inclusive; Div Res moves to assembly area near Brunssum. First Bn, 41st AIR, attached to CCA to strengthen defensive line E and SE of Gangelt. Div Arty breaks up counterattack intended for CCA positions by 2 inf bns with horse-drawn arty and AT guns. Thirtieth Div carries on maintenance and training and patrols Wurm R. area along German border. Constant interdictory and harassing arty fire is placed on enemy lines and direct fire on emplacements is continued. Air support received in sectors of Regts 117, 119, and 120.

Communications and strongpoints targets for IX TAC with main effort is support of VII Corps at Aachen; air mission is flown in support of CT 39 against enemy installations at Bickerath; another flown against Gressenich, E of Stolberg.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of 79th Div, receiving some arty and mortar fire in Lunéville, push through NE outskirts and additional units cross Meurthe into Forêt de Mondon where some progress is made and enemy AAA and AA fire becomes appreciably lighter.

Elements of 1st 2d Armd cross Forêt de Mondon between Laronxe and Malbauxnil, taking both

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localities and also Marainvillers, 1 mi. NW of Thiebaumenil. Other units swing around SE of forest, taking Buriville and reaching Benemenil, which is strongly held by enemy. La Vezouse R. is reached between Thiebaumenil and Benamenil. Other elements engage in fire fight with enemy near Baccarat.

XII Corps CCB, 6th Armd, takes Leyr, Armaucourt, Aboncourt, and Han in 5 by 2 mi. area N of Champenoux and E of Bois de Faulx. Enemy tank thrusts in 4th Armd area slacken. Elements of 134th Regt of 35th Div clean out Bois de Faulx and relieve 6th Armd elements at Leyr; 137th continues to drive enemy from Foret le Champenoux area with heavy casualties. Elements of 80th Div consolidate positions protecting L flank in Foret de Facq area, encounter enemy resistance in Bratte-Jeandelaincourt area, 7-10 mi. S, and drive enemy into open S of Foret de la Rumont.

XX Corps Elements of 90th Div seize Marange Silvange, 3 mi. NE of St. Privat.

Limited air action due to weather: in XII Corps sector, objectives are guns, woods, MT, and strong points near Chateau Salins.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of CCR, 4th Armd, receive heavy arty and mortar fire, preventing movement to Diekirk area, 4 mi. W of Our R. Elements of 4th Div exert pressure on enemy by aggressive patrols and arty fire.

VII Corps A small advance E is made on the 9th Div front. CT 47 encounters and clears several mine fields. CT 39 with only slight position change continues to blast its way from pillbox to pillbox; a ten-room pillbox in Menau Forest is knocked out by 24 lbs. of dynamite, 18 Teller mines, and 400 lbs. of TNT.

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Tactical targets are barges, and highway junction in VII Corps sector; Minden and Meckel towns fired.

24      U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps During night, arty of enemy 15th Pz Div, well-dug-in in Foret de Parroy, N of Vezouse R., harasses Corps troops, especially Fr 2d Armd elements in Thiebaumenil; XV Corps arty engages in counterbattery fire.

Without encountering opposition, elements of 79th Div reach Vezouse R. outposting Croismare, N of E end of forest, and contacting elements of 2d Fr Armd at Marainviller. Elements of Fr 2d Armd are opposed by units of 112th and 111th Pz Brigs in at least 2-bn strength, in strongpoints along the front.

XII Corps CCB of 4th Armd Div with arty, inf, and air support, fights off attack by estimated 30 enemy tanks supported by enemy arty; 21 enemy tanks are destroyed. Elements of 6th Armd Div attack W from Ajoncourt, 7 mi. E of Foret de Facq, driving enemy toward 80th Div. Thirty-fifth Div makes contact with 80th Inf and 6th Armd closing in on enemy. Elements of 134th take up defensive position from Leyr, NW of Bois de Faulx, and N of Foret de Gremecey, and elements of 137th extend lines from Mazerulles N through Foret de St. Jean Fontaine to near Bey. Units of 80th Div operating to S and E in areas W and S of 35th, consolidate positions in Moivrons-Bratte area and drive enemy from high ground E of Foret de la Rumont. After intense fighting in Morey vicinity, 35th Div troops seize Hill 340 overlooking Serrieres against heavy resistance but they are stopped in attack on M. St. Jean.

XX Corps Without enemy pressure, elements of 5th Div withdraw from Col de Senneville and Pournoy to relieve 7th Armd assigned to XX Corps. Elements of 90th Div capture Terniel and Bronoux, S of Marange Silvange. Receiving mission of relieving some elements of 5th Armd and V Corps and protecting N flank of XX Corps in Remich area, 16 mi. N of

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Thionville, 83d Div reinforced by TF Polk (3d Cav Gp) closes in Luxembourg area.

In XII Corps sector in support of 4th Armd experiencing counterattack at Laneuveville-en-Saulnois, NW of Chateau Salins, XIX TAC P-47s attack 50 enemy tanks and infantry; weather bad but 3 tanks destroyed and nearby tank-infested woods bombed and strafed; air attack repulses counterattack. Panzer Brig Hq bombed at Lagarde and 2 of 7 bogged-down tanks destroyed NW of there. Direct hit scored on battery at Fort Driant near Metz by 11 P-47s in support of 5th Div Bn 2; 12 P-47s drop 8 bombs in Bois de Crepy and gun positions in Magny area with unobserved results; 11 P-47s drop 2.75 tons on ammunition dump at Bois de l'Hopital; fires result.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Twenty-ninth Inf Div, released to U.S. First Army, starts movement by rail and motor from Le Conquet Peninsula to join XIX Corps near Maastricht.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd shell Grevenmacher. Other Corps elements continue aggressive patrolling.

VII Corps Active patrolling on both sides. Positions are stabilized, roadblocks established and held. CT 16, 1st Div, repulses a counterattack E of Aachen.

XIX Corps Forward line of Corps generally N and S from woods W of Geilenkirchen, with slight resistance on R center and L flank.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Corps patrols encounter road block, mines, and arty fire in Foret de Parroy and feel out enemy strength between Vezouse and Baccarat. Elements of 2d Fr Armd reach Hill 259 N of Thiebaumenil on foot but withdraw because of strong enemy action.

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XII Corps CCA of 4th Armd Div and elements of 35th Div in Arracourt-Juvrecourt area E of Nancy with arty support repel inf and heavy tank attacks from N and NE, receiving arty and mortar fire. Elements of 35th relieve 6th Armd which is to pass under XX Corps control, and 4th Armd units with 80th Div establish a defense line from Seille R. at Manhoue, E of Moivrons, through Gremecey forest to Chambrey against possible attack by elements of enemy 113th Pz Brig, 559th, 3d SS, and 106th Pz Divs. Elements of 80th Div continue attacks on M. St. Jean without success and organize defensive positions.

XX Corps Seventh Armd is relieved by 5th Inf Div. Elements of 83d Div take Greiveldange, 3 mi. N of Remich.

Weather restricts activity.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Elements of 5th Armd shell Wasserbillig area,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Gravenmacher, sinking a boat loaded with enemy in the Moselle R. Other Corps elements carry out defensive patrols to widen gaps in Siegfried Line.

VII Corps Local counterattacks and some enemy infiltration take place. Third Armd Div maintains defensive positions in Stolberg area. Fortifications in the Rollesbroich-Lammersdorf-Paustenbach area remain the primary objective of CT 39. In the CT 60 sector some pillboxes change hands 3 times in 2 days' fighting.

XIX Corps Seventh Armd Div (XX Corps, Third Army) is assigned to XIX Corps. In 30th Div sector, constant patrolling and observation of Siegfried Line to develop enemy positions continue.

Enemy rail transport in Rhine attacked by 9th AF fighters with main concentration by P-47s scoring direct hits on Grevenbroich factories and RR yards. Eighth AF bombers hit Coblenz RR yards.

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## U.S. THIRD ARMY

Boundary between XV and XII Corps moved N to Marne au Rhin Canal W of Sommerville, 4 mi. N of Luneville.

XII Corps: Elements of 4th Armd chiefly in Arracourt-Xanrey area receive arty fire and repel small counter-attack at Marsal; supporting arty shells enemy concentrations. Units of 317th Regt of 80th Div take Villers, the rest of Hill 340, and M. St. Jean, all SE of Serrieres, also engaging in heavy fighting in attacks on Moivrons and Jeandelaincourt.

XX Corps: Regrouping of Corps elements continues. Elements of 5th Div withdraw from Hills 212 and 213, W of Coin sur Seille. Elements of 90th Div take part of Gravelotte-St. Hubert Ferme road, E of Gravelotte. Elements of 83d Div take Remerschen, 12 mi. NE of Thionville, and Assel and Bous, in area 2 mi. W of Remich.

In XX Corps area P-47s of XIX TAC damage or destroy MT, 1 building, and 35 (P-47s) attack Fort Driant near Metz with 9½ tons and napalm bombs; large fires and explosions result.

## U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps: Corps Hq, Corps troops, and 2d and 8th Inf Divs start by rail and motor to concentration areas in rear of V Corps, U.S. 1st Army.

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U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps: Eighty-third Div takes over sector in S half of Duchy of Luxembourg from elements of CCA, 5th Armd. Patrolling by other Corps elements continues.

VII Corps: Defensive positions held. Patrols active.

XIX Corps: Twenty-ninth Div assembles E of Maastricht. During night of 26/27, 120th Regt, 30th Div, sends

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harassing patrols between Holz and Spekholzerheide, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S of Kerkrade.

Ninth TAC drops 71.5 tons of bombs on assigned targets, cutting RR lines and damaging or destroying buildings, towers, and rolling stock; 33 P-38s concentrate 26 tons on Euskirchen and Geilenkirchen RR facilities.

Planes of the IX Tactical Air Command in support of VII Corps destroy 2 ME 109's, damage a third, and probably destroy two more enemy craft in addition to knocking out 3 locomotives operating in the Corps zone. Other air missions carried out included the harassing of shipping on the Rhine R. and attacks on 30 and 40 barges and on a number of gun positions and buildings used as strongpoints..

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XV Corps Elements of 79th Div occupy line from point near Bonviller, 3 mi. N of Luneville, SE through Chanteheux, E of Luneville, to Croismare and Marainviller. Fr 2d Armd protects Corps R flank. Patrolling indicates enemy is reinforcing Foret de Parroy.

XII Corps Elements of 4th Armd receive heavy arty fire and enemy patrols make attempts to infiltrate lines. Arty, tanks, and inf beat off attacks. After arty preparation, CCA makes successful sweep to clean out Xanrey, 7 mi. SE of Chateau Salins.

In vicinity of Pettoncourt, 6 mi. W of Chateau Salins, elements of 35th Div repulse strong counter-attacks supported by enemy planes and arty. After losing some ground, elements of 137th Regt, aided by elements of 320th Inf clear Pettoncourt and approaches of direct enemy fire. Elements of 134th Inf repel attack on Manhoue,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of Pettoncourt. Elements of 8th Div repulse counterattacks near Serrieres with heavy enemy losses; arty on both sides is active.

XX Corps Elements of 5th Div move to Bel-Air Ferme, 2 mi. S of Vittonville; with strong air and arty support, elements of 11th Regt attack Ft. Driant, strong outer bastion of Metz, 3 mi. S of Gravelotte, reaching position 200 yds W of fort but encountering

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very heavy fire and withdrawing. Elements of 90th Inf make some progress in attack on quarry E of Gravelotte in spite of heavy arty and mortar fire. Units of 329th Regt of 83d Div take Osweiler, Dickweiler, and Mompach near Echternach in area 17 mi. N of Remich, and 331st takes Wellenstein, Bech, and Kleinmacher, S of Remich, and Schengen in Lenningen area.

Very good results achieved by XIX TAC damaging or destroying RR and military installations; Saarbruecken city and RRs targets for P-47s; Metz forts attacked by P-47s with GP and napalm bombs, in support of XX Corps; 72 P-47s concentrate on Nancy and Chateau Salins area on XII Corps front with more than 15 tons. Enemy planes support infantry attack on 35 Div at Pettencourt.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps Patrolling along Corps front continues; some elements shift positions.

VII Corps CT 60, 9th Div, makes small gains against pillbox defenses.

For 8th consecutive day enemy rail transportation along Rhine is target for 9th AF; military installations also hit; "excellent bombing in Geilenkirchen area!"

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**U.S. THIRD ARMY**

XV Corps Elements of 79th Div make less than mi. advance from Crion-Sionviller area 2 mi. N of Luneville, into N edge of Foret de Parroy, following unsuccessful air attack on enemy positions. Armd Cav elements advance along Marne au Rhin Canal and reach Bauzemont,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mi. N of Luneville. On 29 Sept XV Corps passes over to 7th Army control.

XII Corps Elements of 4th Armd Div lose and recover high ground at Bures and Hill 318 S of Arracourt after attack by enemy. Elements of 137th and 320th Regts of 35th Div in Gremecey Forest area are under arty fire and repulse tank and infantry attacks from the Fressnes-Jallaucourt area to N and from Chambrey-

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Coutures area to SE, after enemy captures a bn motor pool, restoring lines by counterattack. Enemy infiltration into E of Foret de Gremecey continues. In 80th Div area, Germans concentrate on Hill 340 salient, SE of Serrieres, elements of 317th receiving enemy arty fire and repelling enemy counterattacks in this area.

XX Corps Elements of 90th Div repulse counterattack near Moscou Ferme,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Gravelotte. Elements of 331st Regt of 83d Div take Remich by 1210 and occupy high ground NW of Ehnen, 4 mi. N of Remich.

Total of 573 sorties flown by XIX TAC: 72 RR lines cut and 371 RR cars, 67 locomotives, MT, and 18 gun installations damaged or destroyed; 8 marshalling yards and 8 airdromes attacked; scores of 3-0-3 (air) and 12-0-3 (ground) run up with a glider also destroyed; losses are 8 Allied planes. In XII and XV Corps areas, Foret de Palroy bombed by 45 9th AF medium bombers with 60.75 tons in conjunction with 4th Armd and 79th Inf Div ground action; good to excellent results. In XX Corps sector Metz forts targets for P-47s with about 35 tons of bombs; 108 P-47s also drop 50 tons in support of XII Corps. Fighter bombers bomb and strafe enemy tanks W of Coutures and at Chambery; Jallaucourt also attacked. Air support continues throughout night.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Corps elements hold defensive positions; 8th Div troops cause enemy losses in attack on Hill 555, 1 mi. NE of Hontheim.

VII Corps Slight gains against enemy strongpoints are made in 9th Div sector.

XIX Corps First Belgian Brig (Second British Army) is attached and prepares to attack between Weert and the Meuse R. Seventh Armd Div prepares offensive S, after moving to Oplcoo, 7 mi. NW of Venray. The 113th Cav Gp advances up E bank of Meuse R. and protects Corps R flank. Active patrolling continues in 30th Div sector.

Approximately 135.5 tons of bombs dropped on rail and

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military installations, dumps, bridges, and town centers; good results reported on smoke-marked targets in Huertgen Forest; in VII Corps sector RR facilities and ammunition dump at Aachen hit by 62 9th AF fighters with 33 tons.

29      U.S. THIRD ARMY

XIII Corps Elements of CCB, 4th Armd in Arracourt area receive repeated inf and armor counterattacks supported by arty; temporarily losing Hill 318, but tanks, TD, and elements of 35th Div with arty and air support repulse enemy and destroy 25 tanks and many other vehicles. Elements of 80th Div recapture Morville sur Seille.

XX Corps CCR, 6th Armd is released from Corps reserve and joins VI Corps near Nancy. Elements of 83d Div occupy Haute Kontz and Basse Kontz, high land areas 9 mi. N of Thionville.

Troop concentrations and marshalling yards again successfully hit. While rail cutting near Landau, 12-15 planes engage 30 enemy aircraft, lose 2 and claim 6-0-3. One sq observing tank battle near Arracourt destroys 1 tank, probably destroys 2, and damages 4; another sq directed to tank battle S of Harraucourt dive-bombs 20-30 tanks facing American motorized column, destroys 3 enemy tanks and damages 1.

In support of XX Corps, Bingen, base for enemy troops operating in Metz area attacked by 72 9th AF A-20s unloading 100 tons of bombs. Eleven tons dropped near Metz by 24 P-47s of XIX TAC, 42 tons in Trier-Homburg-Saarlautern areas E of Metz by other P-47s, and 12 tons on Kaiserlautern area beyond; Lorry and Maizieres town centers near Metz bombed and strafed by P-47s.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Corps CP established near Bastogne.

U.S. ~~FOURTEEN ARMY~~

V Corps Corps elements maintain defensive positions and continue aggressive patrolling with some local actions to improve lines.

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VII Corps CT 39, 9th Div, attacks to the SE toward Bickerath, its objective the strongly fortified line and high ground directly E of Lammersdorf on the Siegfried Line.

XIX Corps CCA, 2d Armd, prepares for attack on Siegfried Line; 702d TD Bn (-3 co's) relieved. Seventh Armd and Belgian Brigade now under operational control of XIX Corps, which is to contact VII Corps NW of Aachen and seize Linnich and Juelich. N of Sittard, Corps conducts rcn to Buxtehude, Nieuwstad, and Hongen against light resistance.

Excellent results achieved on strongpoints in Roetgen Forest; planes score well in attack against arty in Gemund Forest and troops concentration W of Stolberg; Stolberg RR tracks hit with 36 tons. In attacks against enemy RR and military targets more than 100 personnel killed; attacks also made on airfields and town centers.

Ninety-seven 9th AF medium bombers attack Bitburg barracks, possibly containing troops awaiting Siegfried Line duty, and warehouses, while marshalling yards' facilities are rendered unserviceable; target areas at Pruem and Buskirchen blanketed with 192 tons of bombs; Juelich sidings and nearby warehouses hit by 131 mediums with fair, excellent, and unobserved results.

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U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps CCA of 4th Armd makes successful thrust to E, S of Xanrey; CCA receives arty fire. In 35th Div area, elements of 134th Regt repulse 2 counter-attacks and continue to mop up infiltrations; 137th Regt sustains heavy casualties from enemy infiltrations through Foret de Gremecay and from extremely heavy arty fire, attacking to reestablish positions relinquished the day before. Elements of 320th Inf, relieving units of 137th, attempt unsuccessfully to reestablish line along E edge of Foret de Gremecay against heavy enemy resistance and arty fire. The 35th Div is reported to be holding a front of 18,000 yds. against 2 German Divs. In 80th Div area, enemy troops recapture M. St. Jean, Sivry, Serrieres, and Moivrons in area 8 mi. N of Nancy.

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XX Corps. Fifth Div carries out aggressive patrolling, especially near Ft. Driant. Elements of 329th Regt of 83d Div capture Oberdonven, 7 mi. N of Remich, and advance to within 1 mi. of Grevenmacher,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mi. NE of Oberdonven. Elements of 331st Regt take Ehnem.

**U.S. NINTH ARMY**

VIII Corps. Twenty-ninth Div begins relief of elements of 1st Army; 115th Inf crosses German frontier to relieve 2d Armd Div.

**U.S. FIRST ARMY**

V Corps. Corps continues patrolling, engaging in fire fights with enemy units at some points. During Sept, 28th Div destroys 137 fortifications.

VII Corps. Enemy counterattack is repelled by CT 39, 9th Div, E of Lammersdorf.

XIX Corps. At 2200 hours 115th Inf Regt (29th Div) relieves CCA, 2d Armd, of its defensive responsibility between Gangelt and Teveren, NW of Geilenkirchen. The 65th AFA Bn, 1st Bn, 41st AIR, and Co. C (17th Engr Bn) detached from CCA. Since 21 Sept, Div Arty has fired 285 missions (12,708 rounds of ammunition) against enemy troop concentrations and installations. On Corps L flank, 7th Armd Div attacks S in area west of Meuse R. First Belgian Brig clears enemy resistance S and W of Van Nederweert Canal.

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