

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Classified SECRET
Auth: Director, Historical Div. WDSS
Date: 3 October 1966
Initials: JMW

6720.20

UNCLASSIFIED

WORLD WAR II
A CHRONOLOGY
OCTOBER 1944

Instructions Reading this Document

Name _____ (File No. _____)
Date _____

~~RESTRICTED~~
MAY 25 1949
MAY 16 1949
ARCHIVES
GPO: Ft. Leavenworth
JAMES J. WALKER
Lt Col Field Artillery
Custodian

UNCLASSIFIED

WAR DEPARTMENT SPECIAL STAFF
HISTORICAL DIVISION

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section

I.	North and Latin American Theaters	1
II.	Western European Theater	
	Part 1: Twenty-first Army Group	3
	Part 2: Twelfth Army Group	39
	Part 3: Sixth Army Group	81
	Part 4: Strategic Air	107
III.	Eastern European Theater	117
IV.	Mediterranean Theater	145
V.	Asiatic Theater	245
VI.	Pacific Ocean Areas	281
VII.	Southwest Pacific Theater	295
VIII.	Political, Economic, Psychological	357

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]


UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section I: NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS

4 Brazil: Minister of Marine, Adm. Guilhelm, states that the Brazilian Navy will soon be responsible for the patrolling of the entire South Atlantic area.

10 Greenland: Landing party from USS Eastwind raids German weather station on island off NE coast of Greenland, taking 12 prisoners and much scientific equipment.

UNCLASSIFIED



3

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

1 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps On E flank, patrols are active along Deurne-Meijel road.

XXX Corps Forty-third Div repulses tank supported attacks from vicinity of Huissen, NE of Nijmegen, and engages hostile groups S of the Neder Rijn W of Arnhem. Elements of 157th Brig (52d Div) relieve elements of 69th (43d Div) in Bommel.

XII Corps On W flank, units of 7th Armd relieved at Dinther by U.S. 101st AB Div elements; 7th Armd relieves elements of Guards Armd and takes over area from Oss-'s Hertogenbosch road N to the Maas. Geffen, SW of Oss, free of enemy. Fifteenth Div preparing for relief by 51st; latter moving up from Cdn 1st Army zone. Fifty-third Div remains in rear area.

While on armed rch over Arnhem, Nijmegen, and Eindhoven areas, Typhoons and Spitfires attack guns, radar stations, and traffic. During night Mosquitoes are active against enemy movements in Utrecht, Amersfoort, Emmerich, Duesseldorf, Venlo, and Arnhem areas and attack bridge near Hengelo.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

Main objectives are to clear area between Antwerp-Turnhout Canal and Maas R. and to open Antwerp port. Advance to the Maas to be made generally along line of Tilburg-Breda-Roosendaal-Bergen op Zoom road against German 67th Corps, 15th Army. Plan to open Antwerp port includes 3 phases: (1) to cut off Zuid Beveland Isthmus and to destroy German 64th Inf Div remaining S of the Scheldt in area bounded by Savojaards Plaet, Leopold Canal, and the sea; (2) to clear Zuid Beveland, garrisoned by elements of German 70th Inf Div; (3) to clear Walcheren, also garrisoned by 70th Div units.

I Corps From Merxplas, elements of 1st Polish Armd Div reach Baerle Duc, N of Turnhout near Dutch frontier. To the SW, 2d Cdn Div occupies Brecht (near St. Leonard) on R and Merxem (near Antwerp) on L. Task of this Div is to cut off isthmus leading to Zuid Beveland, then to clear Zuid Beveland in conjunction with 52d Div which is to assault from S.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

II Corps Third Div completes mopping up at Calais by 0900; over 7,000 prisoners taken. Next mission of this Div is to destroy enemy between Leopold Canal and the Scheldt with assistance of 4th Armd which is containing enemy here. Germans at Dunkerque being contained by 154th Brig of 51st Div; remainder of Div moving to British 2d Army area where it will relieve 15th Div.

Enemy positions at Dunkerque and barges in Scheldt estuary bombed by 2d TAF planes.

Second TAF, in 546 sorties, supports Cdn 1st and Br 2d Armies and continues interdiction of traffic; about 65 tons of bombs dropped.

2 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Eleventh Armd concentrated W of Overloon in Oploo-Rips-Handel area with small group to the S at Meijel. Third Div, assisting U.S. 82d AB SE of Nijmegen, assigned to I AB Corps command. Fiftieth Div reverts to XXX Corps and is concentrating N of the Waal near Nijmegen.

I AB Corps Elements of U.S. 82d AB (RCT 508) repulse strong counterattack by inf with armor from Den Heuvel, SE of Nijmegen, while others (RCT 325), in limited objective attack, advance SE to Riethorst-Middelaar line.

XXX Corps Repeated local counterattacks against 43d Div at several points between Arnhem and Nijmegen fail to change situation materially; in vicinity of Bommel, attacks are determined and supported by tanks, gaining some ground initially.

XII Corps Para Regt 506 (U.S. 101st AB) with FA, AT, and Eng units attached moves by motor from Uden to Nijmegen area.

Ninety B-25s and 34 A-20s concentrate about 200 tons of bombs on troops, guns, and MT-SE of Arnhem with good results. Strong force of 20 Mustangs and Spitfires range over Holland and W Germany in support of ground forces

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

5

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

and on armed rcn, hitting troops, MT, rail lines, and transport; Geldern and Goch in Germany and Winterswijk in Holland are among targets bombed. Twelve P-51s of 2d TAF bomb Wittmundshaven airfield, NW of Wilhelmshaven, destroying 4 grounded aircraft and damaging others. Mosquitoes harass enemy movements in Holland and W Germany during night.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd crosses Dutch frontier near Baerle Duc and is attacking toward Baarle Nassau against stiff resistance. Elements of 49th Div relieve 2d Div units at St. Leonard and take over Merxplas, vacated by 1st Polish Armd. Second Div advances slightly around Antwerp as Germans withdraw.

II Corps Third Div assembling in vicinity of Cassel, SE of Dunkerque.

Eighty planes of 2d TAF strike in Antwerp area, dropping 18 tons of bombs on guns and woods. Others lightly bomb Turnhout and at night harass crossing routes over the Scheldt.

In support of 21st Army Group, 2d TAF flies approximately 1,400 sorties during which over 360 tons of bombs are used against troop concentrations, gun positions, rail facilities, and transport.

3 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps RCT 325 of U.S. 82d AB Div beats off counter-attack at Katerbosch, between Riethorst and Middelaar.

XXX Corps R flank of Nijmegen bridgehead taken over by 50th Div with 32d Guards Brig Gp under command; 231st Brig repulses local attack on Heuvel, near Bommel. Although enemy is concentrating armor in Elst area and Reichswald Forest, superior Allied air and arty are preventing attacks in force from these sectors. W of Arnhem, elements of 130th Brig (43d Div) engaging enemy S of Neder Rijn in vicinity of Driel. Farther W, Para Regt 506 (U.S. 101st AB) relieves 214th Brig of 43d Div, taking over defense of S side of Neder Rijn in vicinity of Ophousden; 214th moves S of the river. Arty are preventing enemy from crossing Neder Rijn in Regt 506 area.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

XII Corps Relief of 15th Div by 51st (-154th Brig at Dunkerque) completed; 51st takes over Best-Olland area; 15th passes to VIII Corps command in positions N of Gemert. Germans appear to be withdrawing before 53d Div.

Twenty-two B-25s concentrate about 40 tons of bombs in area N of Reichswald Forest and near Cleve with unobserved results. Enemy movements in Holland and NW Germany effectively raided during night by Mosquitoes.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd and 49th Divs moving toward Tilburg along several roads. Former reaches positions near Baarle Nassau, NE of Baerle Duc. Forty-ninth has elements at Raevens and Weelde on Turnhout-Poppel road, just S of Dutch border on Turnhout-Baarle Nassau road, and at Zondereigen on Merxplas-Baarle Nassau road. In Antwerp area, 2d Div captures Camp de Brasschaet, Brasschaet, and Fort Merxem, but Germans still hold Eeckeren and Schooten.

II Corps Truce arranged for withdrawal of civilians from Dunkerque, beginning at 1800 today and ending at 0600 6 Oct.

Westkapelle sea wall on Walcheren attacked in force by RAF BC: 243 Lancasters and 4 Mosquitoes, in 8 waves, breach the wall with approximately 1,270 tons of bombs, including 237 2-tonners; extensive flooding results from breach of about 120 yds.

Continuing close support of 21st Army Group and attacks on enemy movements, 2d TAF flies about 390 sorties during which approximately 65 tons of bombs are dropped.

4 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VII Corps Third Div reverts to VIII Corps command; 185th Brig. relieves 125th Para Regt of U.S. 82d AB in vicinity of Guldener; 325th Para Regt upon relief moves N to relieve 508th on the Wijk-Rijse line, near Groesbeek.

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

4
Cont

I AB Corps Rcn units of 52d Div find Wamel and Drommel, S of the Waal in Tiel area, free of enemy. Germans believed to be in some strength at Tiel.

XXX Corps Guards Armd Div now withdrawn to positions S of the Waal; 43d Div being withdrawn. Forty-third elements attack factory area near Driel where enemy continues to hold out and continue active against enemy parties crossing Neder Rijn in this area. Para Regt 501 of U.S. 101st AB moves up to Nijmegen area to prevent enemy from crossing Neder Rijn in vicinity of Arnhem, coming under XXX Corps command. Fiftieth Div launches limited objective attack N of Nijmegen, making small gains in Elst area against stiff opposition.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div closely pursuing withdrawing enemy in its zone; Voorheide, Reusel, Diessen, and Hilvarenbeek now clear; contact maintained with Cdn 1st Army.

Typhoons, Spitfires, Tempests, and Mosquitoes of 2d TAF cover and support ground forces and attack troops and enemy movements in Holland and NW Germany; rail lines cut at a number of places and rolling stock heavily hit.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd reaches Baarle Nassau and repulses strong counterattack in area. Forty-ninth Div has units in Weelde and Baarle Duc areas on R flank and at Gammel, N of Ryckervorsel, on L flank. Germans withdrawing to Poppel-Best line. Second Div continues to clear area N of Antwerp; here, too, Germans are withdrawing.

II Corps Ninth Brig of 3d Div moving to positions S of Terneuzen.

Second TAF Mosquitoes concentrate on enemy movements on E and W Scheldt and Walcheren.

Second TAF planes, in 922 sorties, release about 98 tons of bombs, chiefly on rail transport and facilities in 21st Army Group zone.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

5 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps U.S. 101st AB Div assumes control of W sector of salient N of the Waal and is subjected to determined enemy attempts to oust it. Newly arrived and reformed German 363d Inf Div strikes with some success in vicinity of Opheusden; RCT 506 with tank support counterattacks promptly and vigorously; dispositions of bns changed to meet threat and bn of 43d Div and sq of tanks ordered to assist in this sector; during night enemy seizes RR station at Dodewaard, S of Opheusden, driving out elements of RCT 506. Enemy attack also penetrates RCT 501's positions in 1st Bn area, but line is restored by 2000 and 100 prisoners taken. NE of Nijmegen, 50th Div patrols reach Haalderen, E of Bommel.

XII Corps Advance elements of 53d Div continue N of Hilvarenbeek to Voort area.

Weather prevents 9th BD attack on road bridge at Arnhem. Enemy troop concentrations N of Nijmegen receive about 50 tons of bombs from 27 B-25s; poor visibility prevents group of A-20s from raiding same target. Second TAF fighter bombers and fighters continue support of troops and interdiction of traffic in Holland and W Germany; bombing targets include Arnhem, bridges at Deventer and Zwolle, Goch rail center, and Rheine airfield. Mosquitoes of 2d TAF range over wide area of Holland and NW Germany at night to harass enemy movements with bombs and cannon fire.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Forty-ninth Div, pushing toward Tilburg, reaches Aerle area, N of Poppel; elements relieve Polish troops near Baarle Nassau; others, on L flank, advance N from Gammel to Roelcinde. N of Antwerp, enemy resistance increases as 2d Div approaches Dutch frontier; 2d Div, however, secures bridgehead over Opstalbeck R. near Putte and, to the W, takes Santvliet.

II Corps Seventh and 8th Brigs of 3d Div concentrating S of Scheldt Canal in preparation for assault crossing of barrier.

UNCLASSIFIED

9

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Targets in Breskens and Tilburg areas raided by aircraft of 2d TAF.

In 1,187 sorties, aircraft of 2d TAF release almost 180 tons of bombs in support of Br 2d and Gdn 1st Armies; troops and transport facilities again heavily hit.

North Sea SS Prins Willem IV (Dutch cargo ship, 1,900 tons) sunk by enemy action at 51-55 N, 04-15 E.

6 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

I AB Corps RCT 508 of U.S. 82d AB Div moves N across the Waal to relieve 231st Brig of 50th Div N of Nijmegen. SE of Nijmegen, enemy heavily shells U.S. 82d AB Div's forward positions; Polish Para Brig patrols probing into Reichswald Forest.

XXX Corps In Opheusden sector, enemy secures positions astride RR intersection W of the town by dawn and, attacking 2 bns abreast, forces elements of RCT 506 (U.S. 101st AB) to give ground; in the face of severe arty and mortar fire, RCT 506 with bn of 43d Div in line counterattacks and, with assistance of air, regains area lost during morning. RCT 327 moves N of the Waal to operate in Opheusden area. Germans continue to cross Neder Rijn between Arnhem and Opheusden.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div moving N to relieve 50th. Fifty-first Div takes over sector formerly held by 53d.

Thirty-one B-26s of 9th BD release about 60 tons of bombs on Hengelo marshalling yards, servicing Arnhem area, with good results. Thirty-four others achieve only fair results in attack on Arnhem road bridge with 68 tons. Forty-eight B-25s and 21 A-20s concentrate about 100 tons of bombs on oil dump near Amersfoort. Second TAF Typhoons, Spitfires, Tempests, and Mosquitoes continue widespread sweeps against enemy traffic; Geldern rail center and Wittmundshaven (NW of Wilhelmshaven) airfield bombed.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd advances to Alphen on Baarle Nassau-Tilburg road. Enemy counterattack against 49th Div's positions in Aerle area initially successful, but situation restored during evening. N of Antwerp, 2d Div continues to advance against stiffening resistance; enemy withdraws from Ossendrecht, across border in Holland.

II Corps Two bns of 7th Brig (3d Div) launch assault across Leopold Canal N of Maldegem at 0530 hours, securing small, shallow bridgehead against stubborn resistance. Intense fire from Walcheren as well as from N bank of Canal met. In addition, terrain in this sector is very difficult. Fourth Armd, in diversionary attacks near Linde on E and Moerkerke on W, also evokes strong enemy reaction. Dunkerque truce ends; about 19,000 civilians evacuated.

Supporting ground forces S of the Scheldt, 2d TAF planes raid Oostburg, Biervliet, and Hoofdplaat; other planes harass enemy movements in N Holland.

Approximately 1,750 sorties flown by 2d TAF during which over 300 tons of bombs are dropped; support of 2d Br and 1st Cdn Armies maintained and traffic, oil dump, and airfield hit.

7 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Eleventh Armd Div starts relief of U.S. 7th Armd (XIX Corps, U.S. 1st Army) in Overloon area; latter, upon relief, moves S to occupy and defend Deurne-Asten-Weert line, protecting R flank of Br 2d Army on 30-35 mi. front.

I AB Corps Polish Para Brig en route to Diest.

XXX Corps Continuing efforts to dislodge U.S. 101st AB from corridor between the Neder Rijn and the Waal W of Arnhem, enemy continues to make attacks with inf and tanks supported by arty against RCT 327 and RCT 506 in Opheusden area and against RCT 501 on S bank of the Neder Rijn opposite Renkum; all attacks repulsed with

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

7
Cont

aid of arty and mortar fire, and heavy casualties inflicted on enemy. Mission of RCT 327, newly arrived in Opheusden sector, is to defend W flank of salient between the Neder Rijn and the Waal. Para Regt 508 of U.S. 82d AB completes relief of 231st Brig of 50th Div. Bulk of 43d Div now S of the Waal.

XII Corps Fifty-first Div passes to command of Cdn 1st Army at noon.

Arnhem road bridge and Hengelo marshalling yards are targets for 9th BD: bridge demolished by 36 B-26s with 72 tons of bombs; 35 B-26s using about 68 tons considerably damage rails, rolling stock, and facilities at Hengelo. Nine Lancasters of RAF BC attack Kembs Dam, across Rhine SE of Mulhouse, dropping 5 6-ton bombs from high level and 4 from low level; direct hit and near misses observed, but assessment of damage is difficult since delayed action bombs are used. Second TAF planes in considerable strength raid transport facilities and traffic on RRs, highways, and waterways in N Holland and W Germany; rail lines cut in several places and locomotives, RR trucks, MT, and barges destroyed.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Seventh Armd and 51st Inf Divs pass from Br 2d Army to Cdn I Corps control at noon. Second Inf Div passes to command of II Corps. Advance against Tilburg halts with forward elements of 49th Div on R in positions S of Goirle just 4 mi. from objective and 1st Polish Armd on L at Alphen; German 88th Corps apparently prepared for strong defense of Tilburg.

II Corps With transfer of 2d Div to II Corps, Corps becomes responsible for clearing Scheldt and Zuid Beveland. Latter threatened as elements of 2d Div reach Woensdrecht area against considerably stiffened resistance. Continued stubborn opposition along N bank of Leopold Canal pins down 3d Div whose efforts to expand bridgehead continue. Ninth Brig (3d Div) assault group (2 bns and Tac Brig Hq) sails up Ghent-Terneuzen Canal during evening to assault across day ahead and tomorrow and establish beachhead at E end of area held by enemy N of Leopold Canal.

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Walcheren dykes strongly attacked by RAF BC: 120 Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes release about 730 tons of bombs on sea wall E and W of Flushing; results apparently good, although delayed action bombs make assessment of damage difficult. In support of ground forces N of Leopold Canal, 12 B-25s and 24 A-20s concentrate on strongpoints near Aardenburg; 41 tons dropped at night despite adverse weather, and results reported as poor. Enemy movements in Dutch Is. harassed during night by Mosquitoes.

Second TAF, in more than 1,500 sorties, drops about 230 tons of bombs in support of 21st Army Group.

8 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Relief of U.S. 7th Armd by Br 11th Armd completed; U.S. 7th Armd with 1st Belgian Brig attached, passes to control of VIII Corps and starts relief of British units in its new sector.

I AB Corps Corps Hq closes.

XIII Corps Corps takes over sector from Haalderen, NE of Nijmegen, to Alem, N of 's Hertogenbosch. Now under Corps command are 50th Div, 53d Div, U.S. 101st AB Div, 508th Para Regt of U.S. 82d AB Div, 4th Separate Armd Brig, and 4th Netherlands Brig. Germans launch another attack in Opheusden area with intention of piercing line of 327th RCT (U.S. 101st AB); inf supported by heavy arty and mortar fire as well as point blank fire from 6 tanks is driven off by RCT 327 with SA, mortar, and arty fire. RCT 327 is reinforced by 2d Bn of RCT 506 and AT, FA, and Eng units; in addition, Br arty, tanks, and a rcn regt are placed in support of 327th. Fifty-third Div assumes control of E sector of Corps area from 50th Div.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps On Corps R flank, 7th Armd Div actively patrolling from Oss and Schijndel areas. Fifty-first Div (less 154th Brig and with 150th attached) in position from St. Oedenrode S. Wilhelms Canal near Oirschot; Royal Netherlands group patrolling S. of Corle. On L flank,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

49th Inf and 1st Polish Armd Divs remain near Tilburg.

II Corps Second Div infiltrating in Hoogerheide-Woensdrecht area at Zuid Beveland Isthmus; enemy para-troops being dislodged from dug-in positions. Third Div bridgehead over Leopold Canal N of Maldegem firmly established against repeated counterattacks. Assault across Savojaards Plaat by 9th Brig (3d Div) assault group delayed due to trouble at Terneuzen locks, and group remains in this area 24 hours.

Thirty-seven B-26s of 9th BD strike at Breskens, achieving excellent results with 70 tons of bombs aimed at pillboxes.

Second TAF sorties limited to 63 with day's bombs dropped totalling less than 5 tons; planes patrol in support of 21st Army Group troops.

2 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Forty-third Div relieving 3d; latter moves S from Mook area to vicinity of Wanroy. U.S. 7th Armd completes relief of Br units in its zone.

I AB Corps Corps returns to UK.

XXX Corps U.S. 82d AB, passing to XXX Corps command, for first time has depth and reserves in a contracted zone extending from the Waal at Erlekom to Groesbeek.

XII Corps German 363d Inf Div attacks at various points of RCT 327's (U.S. 101st AB) line in Opheusden area during early morning, and in evening, following heavy arty barrage, strikes along entire regimental front, using 8 or more tanks and about 100 arty pieces; all attacks beaten off with SA and heavy and light mortar fire, and a German tank destroyed; small enemy groups making fanatic attempts to pierce U.S. line throughout night driven off. Fiftieth Div relieves elements of U.S. 101st AB and 53d Divs in Nijmegen-Arnhem area.

Mosquitoes of 2d TAF carry out night sweeps against enemy movements on RRs and waterways in Holland and NW Germany, dropping about 4 tons of bombs.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Seventh Armd Div repulses counterattack E of 's Hertogenbosch.

II Corps Heavy enemy shelling forces slight withdrawal on 2d Div L flank at Zuid Beveland Isthmus. In Leopold Canal sector, 9th Brig (3d Div) assault group lands on beaches near Nicuwlandsche Molen before dawn and establishes bridgehead with little difficulty, due to complete surprise of enemy; later in day enemy counterattacks supported by fire from Flushing and Breskens. At E end of canal, platoon of 10th Inf Brig (4th Armd Div) pierces enemy defenses near Maadg van Gent. Seventh Brig (3d Div) slightly expands its bridgehead N of Waldegem against fierce resistance. In coastal area, Czech Independent Armd Brig Gp relieves 154th Brig (51st Div) in Dunkerque sector; 154th Brig subsequently rejoins remainder of 51st Div in vicinity of Best on Br 2d Army front.

ground forces in Breskens area supported by 2d TAF planes.

Second TAF activities in support of 21st Army Group still on greatly reduced scale due to weather; sorties total 152 and bombs limited to about 5 tons.

10 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Third Div assumes command of U.S. 7th Armd with 1st Belgian Brig under command. Eleventh Armd moves in toward Overloon, still strongly held by enemy.

XXX Corps Forty-third Div now responsible for sector SE of Nijmegen from Mook to Groesbeek, inclusive.

XII Corps RCT 327 (U.S. 101st AB) beats off small enemy thrusts against its Opheusden line throughout the day.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Brains continue vigorous defense of Zuid Beveland canal, held by 2d Div to slight gains in

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Woensdrecht area. Fourth Armd exploits its penetration of defenses at E end of Leopold Canal, and 2 cos of 10th Inf Brig now firmly established here. Third Div slightly expands its bridgeheads in Nieuwlandsche Molen area and N of Maldegem against continued strong resistance; latter now about 400-700 yds. deep. Because of severe opposition on Leopold Canal, 8th Brig (3d Div) moves up, elements crossing Savojaards Plaat and remainder preparing to follow with purpose of moving S to join 4th Armd Div in Maadg van Gent area. Original plan was for this Brig to pass through 7th Brig bridgehead, cross canal at Sluis and Retranchement, and clear Knocke area.

Supporting troops N of Leopold Canal, 2d TAF planes bomb Oostburg and Schoondijke; patrols flown in Breskens, Schoondijke, and Den Helder areas.

Second TAF, again operating on small scale due to weather, flies 116 sorties during which about 17 tons of bombs are dropped in 21st Army Group zone.

11 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Regrouping of Corps completed. Relieved by 130th Brig of 43d Div, Para Regt 505 of U.S. 82d AB moves N to relieve Para Regt 504 on line Erlekom-Smorenhook, inclusive, and 307th Eng on S bank of the Waal.

XII Corps German 1st Para Army appears to have withdrawn to N bank of Neder Rijn in vicinity of Renkum. To the W, however, elements of RCT 327 (U.S. 101st AB) beat off pre-dawn thrust in Opheusden area by enemy combat patrol equipped with automatic weapons and supported by arty and mortar fire; during evening another enemy attack, by about 1 co of inf with tanks, is repulsed; enemy suffers heavy casualties and loses 2 tanks.

Enemy movements in Arnhem area harassed by 2d TAF planes. GAF twice raids Volkel airfield, and later bombs Allied positions S of Nijmegen; raids are light and little damage and few casualties result.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Enemy defense of Zuid Beveland Isthmus continues vigorous, but main road is cut. In Leopold Canal sector, 9th Brig (3d Div) bridgehead now includes Hoofdplaat and Biervliet; 8th moving S toward E end of Canal; 7th slowly expands its bridgehead N of Maldegem. Elements of 4th Armd Div moving to positions E of Antwerp; Div, upon completing its move to this sector, will come under I Corps command. In Dunkerque sector, Czech Independent Armd Brig Gp frustrates enemy attempts to infiltrate W perimeter.

RAF BC, in support of ground forces, attacks Fort Frederik Hendrik: 79 Lancasters and 9 Mosquitoes concentrate approximately 500 tons of bombs on coastal battery by means of markers; many bombs reported close to markers. On Walcheren, RAF BC attacks sea wall near Veere, on N coast, and gun emplacements at Flushing, on S coast: 61 Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes concentrate on sea wall NW and S of Veere with about 375 tons of bombs, breaching wall at latter point and securing good concentration at former, although delayed action bombs prevent accurate assessment of damage; at Flushing, 105 Lancasters accurately release over 600 tons of bombs, causing 2 explosions. Second TAF planes bomb Breskens pocket, concentrating on Breskens, Oostburg, Sluis, and Breskens-Walcheren ferry; Flushing docks and Bergen op Zoom also bombed.

Scale of 2d TAF operations increases; 1,092 sorties flown during which about 170 tons of bombs are dropped in support of 21st Army Group troops and to interdict traffic.

East Atlantic SS Balticia (Swedish cargo ship, 1,966 tons) sunk by enemy action at 62-43 N, 07-50 E.

12 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Third Div launches southeastward attack toward Overloon and Venraij, entering former against determined opposition by nightfall. As diversion for 3d Div, CCB of U.S. 7th Armd stages demonstration with inf and arty along Deurne-Venraij road. Eleventh Armd protects E flank from Cuijk southward.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Twenty-nine B-26s of 9th BD strike at Venraij highway junction, achieving excellent results with about 50 tons of bombs. Second TAF continues to harass transportation targets in Holland and NW Germany and lightly bombs Arnhem, Horst (E of Griendtsveen), Aurich RR center (NE of Emden), and Cleve. GAF planes, operating singly, twice bomb Volkel airfield and hit Grave airfield once; slight casualties caused at former.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Stubborn resistance at Zuid Beveland Isthmus continues to hold 2d Div to small gains. Third Div also vigorously opposed in Leopold Canal sector, but bridgeheads further expanded; 8th Brig continues southward move toward 4th Armd area.

RAF BC sends 2 missions against Fort Frederik Hendrik: about 540 tons of bombs concentrated on coastal battery by total of 86 Lancasters and several Mosquitoes. Sixteen 2d TAF B-25s attacking 2 coastal batteries near Breskens report poor to fair results with 27 tons of bombs. Other bombing targets for 2d TAF include Middleburg (Walcheren), Scheldt port facilities, gun positions at Cadzand, and Dunkerque.

Second TAF is increasingly active in support of 21st Army Group ground forces and against transport, flying over 1,500 sorties and dropping almost 265 tons of bombs.

Baltic Sea SS Hilma Lau (Danish cargo ship, 2,414 tons) sunk by enemy action at 55-10 N, 14-50 E.

13 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Third Div, despite difficult terrain and stiff resistance, makes small gains beyond Overloon, while CCB of U.S. 7th Armd continues feints along Deurne-Venraij road. U.S. 7th Armd also repulses enemy thrust toward Meijel during night.

Ninth BD attacks bridges at Overloon and Venlo: bridge at former left unserviceable as result of raid by 35 A-20s with 50 tons of bombs; 18 A-20s report fair results with about 25 tons of bombs at Venlo.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Second TAF planes bomb rail centers at Amersfoort and Utrecht in Holland and at Borken in Germany: at Amersfoort, 16 B-25s concentrate 29 tons of bombs on target; 16 A-20s hit tracks and stations at Utrecht with 18 tons; Borken lightly bombed with unreported results. Other 2d TAF planes harass traffic and, for 2d successive day, bomb Horst. Oycrasselt, E of Grave, lightly bombed by GAF.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Counterattack against 51st Div positions near Schijndel repulsed with heavy casualties to enemy.

II Corps At Zuid Beveland Isthmus, 2d Div makes small gains near Woensdrecht and Calmothout and repulses counterattacks in Hoogerheide area. Third Div positions in Leopold Canal sector slightly improved and expanded.

Troops N of Leopold Canal closely supported by 2d TAF planes which bomb Breskens, Schoondijke, and Ijzendijke during day and Breskens-Flushing ferry at night.

Approximately 350 tons of bombs released on usual objectives in 21st Army Group zone by 2d TAF during 1,448 sorties.

14 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Third Div makes further small gains in Overloon area against continued strong resistance. NE of Overloon, elements of 11th Armd find enemy holding Groeningen and Vierlingsbeek. U.S. 7th Armd again carries out diversionary operations along Deurne-Venraij road.

XXX Corps Eighty-second U.S. AB patrols clash with enemy a number of times during night.

XII Corps RCT 327 (U.S. 101st AB) repulses determined attack by enemy co with tanks along road leading E from Opheusden. Fifty-second Div's 157th Brig Gp enroute to Ghent where it will be under command of 1st Cdn Army.

Thirty-five B-25s and RAF A-20s straddle RR bridge at Zutphen, E of Apeldoorn, with 21 tons of bombs. Bridge at

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Elst is target for night raid by 8 2d TAF planes with about 5 tons. Other 2d TAF planes continue close support of troops and interdiction of traffic in Holland and W Germany. Single enemy plane bombs Volkel airfield.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Second Div continues efforts to dislodge enemy from Zuid Beveland Isthmus. Eighth Brig (3d Div) effects junction with 4th Armd Div troops near Maadg van Gent; elements of latter enter Watervliet without opposition.

Second TAF planes bomb Breskens strongpoint during day and Breskens-Flushing ferry at night.

During 1,121 sorties, 2d TAF planes drop 174 tons of bombs in support of 21st Army Group.

East Atlantic SS Standard (Norwegian cargo ship, 1,264 tons) sunk by enemy action at 67-15 N, 14-00 E.

15 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps From Overloon area 3d Div is slowly converging on Venraij against still bitter resistance. Elements of 11th Armd (159th Brig) attack to clear region E of Overloon; patrols of 29th Armd Brig active SW of Overloon, one group crossing canal SE of Rips. U.S. 7th Armd again relieves pressure on British by operations on Deurne-Venraij road; CCB ordered to establish bridgehead across canal on this road.

XII Corps U.S. 101st AB Div's activities limited to patrolling and probing to enemy front.

Twelve B-25s and 24 A-20s of 2d TAF drop over 40 tons of bombs on bridge at Deventer, reporting 2 hits. Other bombing targets for 2d TAF are enemy troops in Reichswald Forest and Geldern RR center. Harassing of transport and transport facilities over wide area of Holland and NW Germany continues with good effect. GAF planes lightly raid Allied positions SW of Arnhem, N of Nijmegen, and near Eindhoven; light damage and casualties sustained.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Stiff fighting in Woensdrecht area and along Leopold Canal fails to alter situation materially.

Supporting ground forces, 2d TAF planes bomb Bergen op Zoom strongpoint.

Second TAF, in support of 21st Army Group, flies over 1,000 sorties and drops 168 tons of bombs.

East Atlantic SS Inger Johanne (Norwegian tanker, 1,202 tons) sunk by enemy action at 63-08 N, 07-45 E.

16 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Third Div steadily moving in on Venraij, elements reaching outskirts. Eleventh Armd continues active E and SW of Overloon: 159th Brig clears area E of the town as far as RR; 29th Brig bridges canal SE of Rips, crosses, and continues E to establish contact with 9th Brig (3d Div) SW of Overloon. CCB of U.S. 7th Armd advances to canal on Deurne-Venraij road over heavily mined and booby-trapped terrain and against sporadic arty and mortar fire and heavy SA fire; foot bridges put in under cover of arty smoke; bridging operations begun at night by which time bridgehead extends 800 yds. E of the canal.

Fighters of 2d TAF harass traffic in Amersfoort, Zaltbommel (on the Waal N of 's Hertogenbosch), and Venlo areas.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

II Corps Zuid Beveland Isthmus virtually sealed off with capture of Woensdrecht by 4th Brig (2d Div); vigorous counterattacks repulsed. Fourth Armd Div continues its move to positions near Antwerp: 4th Armd Brig now in I Corps zone. Stiff fighting continues between Leopold Canal and the Scheldt with 3d Div making small gains. German 226th Inf Div active on W sector of Dunkerque perimeter.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II:--WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Second TAF planes bomb Oostburg and Breskens during day; at night Mosquitoes attack Breskens-Flushing ferry traffic with bombs, cannons, and MGs, harass enemy S of the Scheldt, and raid bridge joining Walcheren and Zuid Beveland.

During 445 sorties, 2d TAF planes release 97 tons of bombs in support of 21st Army Group.

17 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Street fighting in progress at Venraij. Eleventh Armd passes through CCB of 7th U.S. Armd, crosses newly completed bridge over canal on Deurne-Venraij road, and continues E against arty and mortar fire; CCB, relieved by 11th Armd of responsibility for bridgehead, attacks S along E bank of canal.

XXX Corps XII Corps relieved of responsibility for Nijmegen bridgehead and W flank between the Maas and Waal rivers by XXX Corps which now controls entire 2d Army region N of the Maas; 50th, 53d (-158th Brig); U.S. 101st AB, RCT 508 of U.S. 82d AB, and 4th Separate Armd Brig pass from XII to XXX Corps command. During night, 50th Div with RCT 508 under command takes over sector from N bank of the Waal to R boundary of U.S. 101st AB, relieving 53d Div.

Second TAF fighters continue to hammer at communications lines and transport, particularly in W Germany; rail lines in the Ruhr cut at a number of points. Enemy camp at Arcen, on the Maas N of Venlo, lightly bombed by 7 2d TAF aircraft.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Fifty-first Div passes to command of XII Corps, British 2d Army. Germans are abandoning positions S of Tilburg.

II Corps Second Div frustrates enemy attempts to infiltrate in Woensdrecht area. German pocket S of Scheldt further compressed by 3d Div, elements of which are closing in on Breskens; enemy counterattack W of Eede repulsed; St. Kruis free of Germans. Tenth Inf Brig

UNCLASSIFIED
[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

(4th Cdn Armd Div), relieved at Leopold Canal by 157th Brig of Br 52d Div moving to join remainder of Div, under I Corps command, NE of Antwerp; 157th, formerly under Br 2d Army command, holding line along Canal excluding area of 7th Brig (3d Div) bridgehead.

RAF BC attacks Westkapelle (Walcheren) sea wall in effort to widen existing breach; 47 Lancasters and 2 Mosquitoes release about 290 tons of bombs, apparently achieving good concentration. Supporting troops N of Leopold Canal, 2d TAF planes bomb Oostburg, Sluis, and Breskens during day and again hit Breskens-Flushing ferry at night.

In 649 sorties, 2d TAF planes release 72 tons of bombs on usual targets in 21st Army Group zone.

18 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Venraij falls to 3d Div which is mopping up the town and wooded area near by. Against weakened resistance, forward elements of 11th Armd continue E to Veulen. Fifteenth Div now under XII Corps command.

XXX and XII Corps Regrouping in progress. Fifty-third Div passes from XXX to XII Corps command.

Second TAF fighters, in considerable strength, carry out ground support and rail cutting missions in Holland and W Germany; troops in Venraij area closely supported and rail lines cut in many places.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps XII Corps, British 2d Army, takes over sector E from Hilvarenbeek and including that town at 0100A. Fifty-sixth Brig of 49th Div moving to St. Leonard-Brecht area. Tenth Polish Armd Brig (1st Polish Armd Div) relieves 56th Brig of area from vicinity of Aerle to Dutch frontier.

II Corps Enemy bridgehead at Breskens further reduced by 3d Div.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

23

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Second TAF planes support troops in Bergen op Zoom and Breskens area; Breskens, Schoondijke, and, for 3d successive night, Breskens-Flushing ferry bombed.

Second TAF planes, during 946 sorties, closely support 21st Army Group and cut rail lines; 173 tons of bombs dropped.

19 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Weakening resistance on Corps front results in capture of many prisoners. Eleventh Armd and 3d Inf Divs establish contact at points between Venraij and Veulen; Veltum and Leunen, villages near Venraij, cleared of enemy. Farther S, TF Fuller is organized by CCR of 7th U.S. Armd to secure bridgehead across canal on Deurne-Amerika road; elements of CCB and TF Fuller capture Griendtsveen by noon and put 2 bridges across the canal during night.

XXX and XII Corps Shifting of units continues.

Second TAF planes attack troop concentrations in Reichswald Forest, rail lines in vicinity of Venlo and Deventer, and engage in extensive sweeps over Holland; RR lines cut in 11 places.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Relieved by 4th Armd Brig (4th Armd Div), 147th Brig (49th Div) moves to Oostmalle area.

II Corps Third Div gradually pushing Germans back to Breskens-Schoondijke-Oostburg-Sluis line S of the Scheldt; junction of Cdn elements from Savojaards Plaat area with those at Leopold Canal effected near St. Kruis. Aardenburg and Middelbourg captured by 157th Brig, 52d Div; 7th Brig of 3d Div relieved by this group.

In support of troops N of Leopold Canal, 2d TAF planes bomb Breskens and Oostburg.

Seventy-nine tons of bombs dropped by 2d TAF planes during 435 sorties in support of 21st Army Group.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

20 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Patrols of 3d Inf and 11th Armd Divs find enemy still at points E and SE of Overloon and in woods near Veulen. On U.S. 7th Armd front, CCR assumes responsibility for bridgehead near Griendtsveen, relieving CCB which passes to Div reserve; arty fire breaks up counterattack forming against bridgehead. Fifteen-mi. front between Nederweert and Liesel assigned to 87th Cav Rcn Sq Mecz (-1 Troop); patrolling along Canal du Nord and Canal de Deurne between these towns can only be accomplished at night, since enemy holds both banks of canals.

XXX Corps Enemy fire against 50th Div increases; Bemmel heavily shelled during night.

XII Corps Fifty-first Div repulses enemy raid S of Schijndel. Regrouping continues. Corps assumes direct command of 4th Separate Armd Brig with R Netherlands Brig and Royals under command. Brig 158 (-bn) joins rest of 53d Div in Heesch area.

Planes of 2d TAF bomb RR bridge at Zutphen and carry out offensive sweeps against RRs in Holland and NW Germany; rail lines cut in many places and rail and road transport and tanks hit.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd Div now responsible for area from Inter-Army boundary to Chamm-Baarle Nassau road. Forty-ninth Div and 4th Armd Div launch attacks to clear R flank of 2d Div (II Corps): on R, 49th advances 6 mi. N from St. Leonard area to capture Loenhout; Clarke Force (based on 34th Tk Brig and under 49th Div command) clears Muestwezel and crosses Antwerp-Breda road to continue NW; on L, 4th Armd overcomes stiff resistance in woods NE of Camp de Brasschaet, clears Calmothout, and advance elements continue N to canal $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi. S of Esschen.

II Corps Third Div further reduces enemy perimeter N of Leopold Canal. Germans seize Czech outpost at W of Dunkerque perimeter.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Ninth BD, in effort to cut enemy supply line to Walcheren, bombs Hoerdijk and Geertruidenberg bridges; former hit by 9 B-26s with 17 tons; latter receives 58 tons from 30 B-26s. Second TAF continues to support troops in Breskens area and S of Bergen op Zoom and to harass enemy movements; Breskens, Esschen, and Roosendaal bombed.

Second TAF flies 883 sorties and drops about 170 tons of bombs in 21st Army Group zone.

21 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Meijel, in U.S. 7th Armd zone, shelled by enemy.

XXX Corps Germans found to be withdrawing slightly in Opheusden area.

XII Corps Shifting of troops continues.

Twenty-six B-25s unload 72 tons of bombs on highway bridge at Hedel, NW of 's Hertogenbosch, with unobserved results. RR bridge at Zutphen bombed for 2d successive day by 2d TAF planes. Strong forces of 2d TAF fighters sweep over Holland and W-Germany, cutting rails at numerous places and taking heavy toll of transport. Grave airfield twice bombed by GAF; several aircraft damaged on ground and a few casualties sustained.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Clarke Force (49th Div) reaches Nicuwmooer, SE of Esschen, and to the S contacts 4th Armd elements near Calmothout; weather slows advance.

II Corps Approximately a third of enemy Scheldt pocket now in Allied hands; resistance in this sector weakening; 9th Brig (3d Div) launches assault on Breskens at 1000 hours.

Seventy-five RAF BC Lancasters, in 3 waves, attack Flushing, aiming about 460 tons of bombs at gun battery; bombing reported generally accurate; near the target an oil refinery is hit, a small ship sunk, and a large ship damaged.

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Approximately 50 B-25s and 24 A-20s of 2d TAF bomb gun emplacements at Cadzand. Fighter bombers of 2d TAF strike at guns and strongpoints in Breskens area and at Fort Frederik Hendrik.

Second TAF sorties over 21st Army Group zone total 1,278; about 360 tons of bombs dropped.

North Sea SS Vestra (Norwegian cargo ship, 1,422 tons) sunk by enemy action at 59-25 N. 05-20 E.

22 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps U.S. 7th Armd expands its bridgehead near Griendtsveen; contact with enemy limited in this sector.

XXX Corps U.S. 101st AB finds Opheusden abandoned by enemy who mined and booby-trapped the village before retiring to W outskirts.

XII Corps Attacks launched E of 's Hertogenbosch by 53d and 7th Armd Divs: attacking from NE, 53d moves in over 3 mi. toward 's Hertogenbosch, reaching Nuland area; SE of 's Hertogenbosch, 7th Armd advances slightly in vicinity of Middélrode; enemy puts up strong opposition. During night, 51st Div attacks W toward Boxtel.

Second TAF fighters provide support for troops and patrol Zwolle-Meppel area of N Holland.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Forty-ninth Div meeting stiffening resistance from enemy with tanks and assault guns NW of Loenhout; German 245th Inf Div has been committed recently in this region. To the L, 4th Armd occupies Esschen against moderate resistance, following all-night advance.

II Corps Breskens falls to 9th Brig (3d Div) with little opposition; numerous mines and booby traps found; elements enter near-by Fort Frederik Hendrik against MT and AT gun fire. Schoorijde S of Breskens, also cleared of enemy.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Weather limits 2d TAF sorties to 192; about 24 tons of bombs dropped.

23 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps U.S. 7th Armd Div, although still under Br 2d Army tactically, is assigned to 9th U.S. Army and relieved from assignment to 1st U.S. Army.

XXX Corps Further enemy withdrawal noted in Opheusden area; U.S. 101st AB sends patrols across Neder Rijn to Renkum and Wageningen during night; a number of Germans found at latter.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div reaches outskirts of 's Hertogenbosch; 7th Armd advances slightly SE of 's Hertogenbosch; 51st Div halted near Boxtel by blown bridge, but to N establishes bridgehead across river at St. Michielsgestel.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps U.S. 104th Inf Div enters line for 1st time, starting relief of 49th Div; Adv Div CP set up at Westmalle.

II Corps Third Div elements which entered Fort Frederik Hendrik forced out by determined opposition; elsewhere in Scheldt pocket, resistance from German 64th Div generally waning, and 2 regts of 3d Div moving SW towards canal at Retranchement.

Ninety-two Lancasters of RAF BC attack Flushing, aiming about 564 tons of bombs at coastal battery; bombing scattered due to poor visibility. At night a few Mosquitoes of 2d TAF harass enemy movements.

Second TAF virtually grounded by weather; only 27 sorties flown and about 2 tons of bombs dropped.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

24 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XXX Corps Patrols of U.S. 101st AB clash with enemy in Wageningen after crossing Neder Rijn for 2d successive night.

XII Corps In N outskirts of 's Hertogenbosch, 53d Div is clearing area N of Zuidwillemsvaart Canal; positions of 7th Armd virtually unchanged; 51st Div, clearing Schijndel-Boxtel-'s Hertogenbosch triangle, has elements N of St. Michielsgestel, in Halder area, and in contact with enemy at Dungen. To the S, 15th Div sends patrols to Oirschot.

Planes of 2d TAF again bomb highway bridge at Hedel; others support ground forces, cut RR tracks at 12 points, and hit transport.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps U.S. 104th Div continues relief of Br 49th and patrols uneventfully, patrols entering Holland at 2350A; Div (-) closes in vicinity of Wuestwezel. Forty-ninth Div relieves elements of 4th Cdn Armd in Esschen area and has units in contact with enemy across Dutch border near Achtmaal. Mtzd elements of 4th Cdn Armd advance toward Bergen op Zoom against heavy resistance.

II Corps Second Div launches assault to clear Zuid Beveland: 4th Brig, hampered by waterlogged terrain and fire from AT guns, moves slowly W, reaching point several mi. from Woensdrecht, while 5th and 6th contain enemy at neck of the isthmus and attempt to move N. On 3d Div front, German pocket S of Scheldt further contracted; elements of 9th Brig attempting to take Fort Frederik Hendrik, 7th advancing W of Breskens, and 8th approaching Oostburg.

Forty-eight planes of 2d TAF drop 21 tons of bombs on enemy hq at Dordrecht; others bomb gun positions at Cadzand.

Second TAF, in 611 sorties, supports troops of 21st Army Group and harasses enemy movements; about 190 tons of bombs dropped.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

25 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps In U.S. 7th Armd zone, CCB relieves CCR of responsibility for bridgehead near Griendtsveen.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div establishes bridgehead over Zuidwillemsvaart Canal and is clearing E portion of 's Hertogenbosch. Br 7th Armd probing westward. In 51st Div zone, Dungen and Boxtel clear of enemy; bridgehead secured across river NW of Boxtel and counterattacks repulsed. Fifteenth Div closing in on Tilburg, with elements at Oirschot and in vicinity of Moergestel and Heuvelstraat; Goirle still held by enemy.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps On R, Germans withdrawing northward toward Tilburg and Breda pursued by 1st Polish Armd Div and 2d Cdn Armd Brig; Alphen free of enemy and area to general line from Baarle Nassau to Minderhout clear. U.S. 104th Div completes relief of 49th Div and, assuming offensive, moves forward with intention of clearing Breda road as far N as Zundert and capturing that town; points across Belgian border reached and severe night counterattack repulsed with aid of arty. Forty-ninth Div in positions at and near Esschen, including Schanker and Den Heuvel; Germans offering stiffer resistance N of Esschen. Fourth Cdn Armd advancing toward Bergen op Zoom.

II Corps Progress of 2d Div elements along Zuid Beveland continues slow; main road cratered, and stiff resistance put up by Germans N of road. Third Div continues reduction of enemy S of the Scheldt; Fort Frederik Hendrik falls to 9th Brig.

Weather cancels all offensive missions of 2d TAF; 29 sorties flown but no bombs dropped.

26 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

XII Corps Fifty-third Div establishes bridgehead across river on W outskirts of 's Hertogenbosch. Elements of 51st Div seize road junction at Vught, while others

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

expand bridgehead NW of Boxtel. Units of 7th Armd overcome strong resistance to take Udenhout, NE of Tilburg.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd Div finds enemy withdrawn from Aerle but still at points E of Alphen; 2d Cdn Armd Brig contacts enemy in Ulicoten-Beek area, between Baarle Nassau and Zundert. Against sporadic resistance U.S. 104th Div advances to positions near Zundert from which a concerted attack will be launched on the town, repulsing small thrust down Breda road from Zundert en route with assistance of tanks and arty. Germans withdraw from Achtmaal-Meer delaying line at night and move N to establish another along Vaart Canal from Breda road N of Rijsbergen to vicinity of Rucphen; small rearguard left to slow 104th Div. From Esschen area, elements of 49th Div move N to vicinity of Nispen; Clarke Force passes through 56th Brig to reach Brembosch, NW of Nispen. Fourth Cdn Armd captures Wouwscheplantage, between Nispen and Bergen op Zoom.

II Corps Elements of 52d Div (156th Brig) cross West Scheldt from Terneuzen to land on Zuid Beveland near Baarland before dawn; bridgehead established and Baarland captured despite prompt counterattacks; enemy shells LVTs, causing some damage. Meanwhile, 4th and 6th Brigs of 2d Div continue westward advance along Zuid Beveland; 5th near Korteven, on road to Bergen op Zoom. N of Leopold Canal, Oostburg falls to 3d Div.

Weather again prevents offensive operations by 2d TAF; 22 sorties flown.

Seine River SS Rouseville (British tanker, 1,155 tons) sunk by enemy action at 48-25 N, 03-00 E.

27 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Following heavy arty barrage, German 9th Panzer and 15th Panzer Grenadier Divs supported by Panther and Tiger tanks launch coordinated attacks from vicinity of the Meuse R. bridgehead at Venlo, gateway

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

27
Cont

to the Ruhr, across Canal de Deurne and Canal du Nord against broad front held by 87th Cav Rcn Sq Mecz (U.S. 7th Armd Div) between Nederweert and Liesel, striking at Meijel, Heittrak (on Meijel-Liesel road), and in Nederweert area (SW of Meijel). Superior enemy strength forces U.S. 7th Armd out of Meijel and frustrates subsequent attempt to regain that town. Allied defensive line at Heittrak is pierced; TF Wemple formed to hold this sector. Slight withdrawal made by U.S. 7th Armd in Nederweert area where Allied units are reinforced by TF Nelson. Meanwhile, Br 11th Armd takes over Griendtsveen bridgehead, relieving CCB by 2045. From CCR, TF Wemple is assigned to CCB.

XII Corps Fifty-third Div completely clears 's Hertogenbosch. Fifty-first and 7th Armd sweeping rapidly N toward the Maas from vicinity of 's Hertogenbosch and Tilburg. Fifteenth Div reaches SE outskirts of Tilburg and has elements moving to positions NE of the city after clearing Oisterwijk area.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Elements of 1st Polish Armd moving N toward Gilze, N of Alphen. U.S. 104th Div launches coordinated attack on Zundert, following effective arty preparation; on R, 413th Inf with tank support from Br 147th Tk Regt occupies the town and cuts road to Brèda N of there against slight opposition from enemy rearguards, while 414th in center and 415th on L maintain pressure on enemy and make small advances; 104th Rcn Tr secures R flank and contacts 1st Polish Armd Div. Meer by-passed and road from there to 104th Div sector blocked. Slight progress made by 49th Div in Esschen-Nispen area and by 4th Cdn Armd SE of Bergen op Zoom.

II Corps On Zuid Beveland, 6th Brig (2d Div) reaches line of Beveland Canal against light opposition; 5th continues active around Korteven. Fifty-second Div bridgehead at Baarland expanded against continued counterattacks and now includes Oudelande. Enemy perimeter S of the Scheldt further contracted by 3d Div. On coast, 1st Czech Independent Armd Brig Gp repulses small attack in Dunkerque area.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

Second TAF still virtually grounded by weather; 23 sorties flown, but no bombs dropped.

Baltic Sea: SS Nina (Norwegian cargo ship, 1,488 tons) sunk by enemy action at 56-10 N, 11-12 E.

28 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps Attempting to recapture Meijel, CCB of U.S. 7th Armd Div attacks astride Liesel-Meijel road in effort to converge with a task force of CCR attacking down Asten-Meijel road. Meanwhile, TF Olmstead, under CCB control, attacks toward Canal de Deurne down Hoogebrug road, and TF Nelson, under CCA control, attacks E toward Horik. Severe opposition holds all attacking units to small gains. During night, enemy planes bomb and strafe Asten and vicinity.

XII Corps Fifteenth Div secures Tilburg and moves to VIII Corps sector. Fifty-first, 53d, and 7th Armd Divs continue clearing area between Tilburg, 's Hertogenbosch, and the Maas.

Force of 112 B-25s and 36 A-20s dispatched against rail bridges at Deventer, Venlo, and Roermond; direct hits scored on Venlo bridge, and center span of that at Roermond knocked out. Second TAF fighters, in considerable strength, attack rail installations and rail, highway, and canal traffic in Holland and W Germany with good results; rails cut in many places and numerous vehicles destroyed. Single GAF plane bombs 2d Army main Hq, causing some damage and casualties.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd Div converging on Breda. To the SW, 413th Inf (U.S. 104th Div) remains at Zundert; 414th advances up Breda road to vicinity of Rijsbergen, encountering numerous mines and road blocks but slight enemy resistance; 415th moves toward Breda-Roosendaal road, meeting and overcoming resistance S of Sprundel during night. Forty-ninth Div makes good progress SW of Roosendaal. Bergen op Zoom occupied by 10th Brig (4th Cdn Armd Div).

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

II Corps On Zuid Beveland, elements of 2d Div cross Beveland Canal and continue W; 5th Brig preparing to follow from Woensdrecht. Ellewoutsdijk, SW of Oudelande, falls to 156th Brig, 52d Div; 157th starts crossing by ferry to 156th Brig bridgehead. Between Leopold Canal and Scheldt, 3d Div continues against strong resistance to push enemy to the sea, securing Nieuwvliet on N and advancing beyond Oostburg on S.

RAF BC heavily hits Walcheren coastal batteries: 252 planes (116 Halifaxes, 110 Lancasters, and 26 Mosquitoes) attack 8 gun positions at Flushing, Dishoek, Westkapelle, Domberg, and Oostkapelle with about 1,200 tons of bombs; bombing generally accurate. Second TAF planes also bomb Walcheren objectives as well as Zuid Beveland gun positions and Gorinchem ferry (E of Dordrecht).

Improving weather permits 1,377 sorties by 2d TAF; about 444 tons of bombs dropped.

East Atlantic SS Karmoy (Norwegian cargo ship, 2,498 tons) sunk by enemy action at 68-40 N, 16-39 E.

29 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps From Meijel, Germans attack in force toward Liesel and Asten during morning, taking former from CCB and pushing CCR back about half way up road to Asten where arty assists in halting enemy drive. Germans sustain heavy casualties in men and tanks. During night, 15th Div relieves U.S. 7th Armd in Meijel-Liesel sector; U.S. 7th Armd is to defend smaller zone to S near Weert and attack NE in conjunction with 15th Div's attack; CCA remains in positions near Nederweert, while CCB and CCR move into assembly areas to rear.

XII Corps Fifty-first, 53d, and 7th Armd Divs continue to clear area N of 's Hertogenbosch and Tilburg; arty fire placed on enemy movement toward Hedel, on the Maas N of 's Hertogenbosch. Fourth Separate Armd Brig Gp moving to vicinity of Weert to come under VIII Corps command.

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

29 Cont Second TAF bombers concentrate on rail bridges at Venlo, Roermond, and Zwolle; 30 B-25s hit approaches to Venlo bridge with 60 tons of bombs; similar force releases 60 tons on Zwolle bridge with unobserved results; results also unobserved at Roermond where 24 B-25s and 12 A-20s drop 34 tons. Second TAF Typhoons, Spitfires, and Mosquitoes carry out strong sweeps against enemy movements and rail objectives, covering Amersfoort, Deventer, and Zwolle areas of central Holland and, along German-Dutch frontier, hammering at all enemy movement in vicinity of Roermond and Venlo; bombs dropped at Meijel crossroads, Kaldenkirchen road junction, and Krefeld RR center; rail lines NW of the Ruhr cut in many places and transport heavily damaged; over Venlo, 3 of some 50 FW 190s engaged are shot down for loss of 1 Typhoon. Several GAF planes bomb Nijmegen bridge area and points N of Nijmegen, causing no damage but light casualties; slight damage caused at Helmond by about 5 attacking enemy planes.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Elements of 1st Polish Armd enter Breda and secure most of the town, but enemy continues to resist in N outskirts; points S and E of Breda also cleared, including Ulvenhout, Ginneken, and Dorst. U.S. 104th Div ordered to advance NW and cross Mark R.: Task Force A of 414th Inf resumes attacks in morning, overcomes stiff resistance at Vaart Canal, forces crossing, and continues northward advance during night; Germans abandon W portion of Vaart Canal line early in morning, permitting 415th Inf to gain control of Breda-Roosendaal road by 0945; 413th, in protective role, moves to assembly area near Sprundel after sending 1st Bn to Rijsbergen to protect Div R flank from possible attacks from Breda; Div (-) moves to position 2 mi. N of Zundert. Wouw, on Roosendaal-Bergen op Zoom road, now firmly held by Clarke Force; 49th Div in positions near by. N of Wouw, elements of 4th Cdn Armd Div take Moerstraten and advance W; others moving N of Bergen op Zoom reach Nordgeest area.

II Corps On Zuid Beveland, elements of 2d and 52d Divs link up near Hoedekenskerke; advancing along N route, 5th Brig (2d Div) passes through 6th to take Goes without opposition; to S, 52d Div expands bridgehead and captures Molenburg of the Scheldt, 3d Div approaches Cadzand

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

35

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-First Army Group

on N and seizes Zuidzande to SE; Germans reported hastily withdrawing, but strong resistance continues; approximately 7,000 prisoners taken to date in this sector. In coastal area, Czech Independent Armd Brig Gp takes over 300 prisoners during enemy raid on Dunkerque perimeter.

Thirty-three B-26s of 9th BD slightly damage Moerdijk RR bridge with 66 tons of bombs. Walcheren heavily hit by RAF BC: 326 planes (174 Lancasters, 125 Halifaxes, 27 Mosquitoes) unload about 1,600 tons of bombs on enemy defenses at Westkapelle, Domburg, Middleburg, and Zoutelande; bombs well concentrated on most of the targets. Second TAF planes, with bombs, cannons, and MGs, attack enemy movements in vicinity of Roosendaal, Rotterdam, across Maas and Waal rivers (particularly at Zaltbommel, Moerdijk, Heusden, and Pereboom bridges), on Walcheren, and in Breskens area with good results; in addition, radar installations on Walcheren and guns and strongpoints near Breskens hit.

Approximately 450 tons of bombs dropped by 2d TAF planes during 1,648 sorties in support of 21st Army Group.

30 BRITISH SECOND ARMY:

VIII Corps On U.S. 7th Armd Div front, CCB moves to relieve CCA; latter preparing to clear area N of Canal du Nord to area S of Meijel; CCR in Div reserve. Fifteenth Div starts dislodging enemy from N and W outskirts of Liesel and from wooded areas near by; enemy patrol routed by arty fire.

XXX Corps Forty-third Div drives off enemy patrol SE of Nijmegen during night.

XII Corps Fifty-first, 53d, and 7th Armd Divs continue elimination of enemy remaining S. of the Maas; Oosterhout, NE of Breda, clear of enemy.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps First Polish Armd Div still clearing Breda area; only few snipers remain in the town; contact established between Poles and U.S. 104th Div W of Breda. U.S. 104th

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER

Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

continues toward Mark R., along which enemy has established his last defensive line S of the Maas R. after withdrawing from Vaart Canal line: 414th Inf reaches the Mark and searches for bridge sites, although enemy fire from N bank is heavy; 415th attacks to secure bridge intact S of Standdaarbuiten, but enemy blows bridge; preparations made for assault boat crossing tomorrow; 413th in Div Res S of Oudembosch; Div (-) moves to area 2 mi. S of Rucphen. Forty-ninth Div finds Roosendaal clear of enemy and occupies Oudgastel. N of Bergen op Zoom, 4th Cdn Armd has elements at Klutsdorp and Oudemolen.

II Corps Elements of 2d Div reach E end of Walcheren causeway, but determined resistance and mines prevent crossing of this exposed link; 52d Div troops moving NW toward causeway via 's Heerenhoek. S of the Scheldt, enemy parties cling stubbornly to coastal positions, but 3d Div passes through Cadzand unopposed and continues to Derivation Canal, crossing it during night.

Weather prevents 9th BD attacks on bridges at Moerdijk, Geertruidenberg, and Heusden. For 2d successive day, RAF BC strikes at Walcheren defenses: 89 Lancasters and 7 Mosquitoes release approximately 560 tons of bombs on gun positions and strongpoints in vicinity of Domburg, Zoutelande, and Flushing; visibility moderate and fair results achieved. Second TAF Typhoons and Spitfires effectively harass transport in Knecke, Walcheren, and Dordrecht areas; Veere docks lightly bombed.

Second TAF flies about 200 sorties and drops approximately 32 tons of bombs in support of 21st Army Group.

31 BRITISH SECOND ARMY

VIII Corps U.S. 7th Armd Div zone further reduced with relief of CCB by Br 4 Separate Armd Brig; Div now flanked on L by Br 15th Div and on R by Br 4th Separate Armd Brig. CCB passes to Div reserve; CCR moves to Nederweert area. Maj. Gen. Silvester relieved of command of U.S. 7th Armd at 2400 hours. First Belgian Brig relieved from assignment to U.S. 7th Armd at 1800. Fifteenth Div regains Liesel and clears wooded areas in vicinity. Fifty-third Div Hq and element of the Div move to VIII Corps zone, coming under VIII Corps command; remainder of Div will

UNCLASSIFIED

~~TOP SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

31
Cont

follow upon relief in 's Hertogenbosch area.

XII Corps Fifty-first Div takes over area vacated by 53d Div; 154th Brig overcomes stiff opposition to take Raamsdonk, N of Oosterhout. Elements of 7th Armd in contact with Polish Armd Div (Cdn 1st Army) near Oosterhout.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY

I Corps Germans vigorously defending Mark R. line, holding Zevenbergen and Standdaarbuiten as strongpoints. Third Inf Brig of 1st Polish Armd Div establishes bridgehead across the river E of Zevenbergen. First Bn of 415th Inf (U.S. 104th Div) crosses near Standdaarbuiten but is forced back to S bank by severe counterattacks supported by tanks and intense fire; 414th Inf preparing for crossing; Div (-) moves up to Etten-Oudenbosch area. Forty-ninth Div sends patrols along the river and has elements at Kruisland, NW of Roosendaal. Fourth Cdn Armd moving toward Steenberg, N of Bergen op Zoom.

II Corps All resistance on Zuid Beveland ceases; survivors have withdrawn to Walcheren. After 4th Brig (2d Div) clears area at E end of Walcheren causeway, 5th passes through and continues to within approximately 100 yds. of far end before being stopped by intense mortar and MG fire. Fourth Brig (2d Div) relieved by 157th of 52d Div; 155th Brig (52d Div) with 4th Commando of 4th SS Brig under command concentrated in Breskens area and remainder of 4th SS Brig at Ostend in preparation for seaborne assault on Walcheren. S of the Scheldt, 3d Div elements drive to Knocke; small enemy groups remain to be mopped up in coastal area.

Continuing poor weather limits 2d TAF sorties to 89 during which about 20 tons of bombs are dropped in support of 21st Army Group: Mosquitoes wreck Gestapo hq at Aarhus, Denmark, with 11 tons; others hit Walcheren defenses with 8 tons.

During the month, 2d TAF has dropped 1,445 tons of bombs on transportation targets in 4,357 sorties; has released 848 tons on defense positions in the course of 2,767 sorties; and has directly supported ground forces in 1,880 sorties with 675 tons. Enemy plane losses inflicted by all commands of TAF by AA and other causes during October total 82 aircraft destroyed, 13 probably, and 40 damaged. Ninety-four RAF planes

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part I: Twenty-first Army Group

31 lost during month. RAF carries out the customary anti-shipping
Cont operations off the coast throughout Oct.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

1 U.S. FIRST ARMY

During first 3 weeks of Oct, encirclement and reduction of fortified Aachen is goal of First Army forces. Despite arrival of German reinforcements, including 246th Inf Div, gap to NE of city is slowly being closed. Plan is for VII and XIX Corps to isolate Aachen, with 30th Inf Div attacking from N to seize ground in vicinity of Wuerselen, 4 mi. NNE of Aachen, while 1st Inf Div attacks from S to occupy dominating terrain between Aachen and Wuerselen and join forces with 30th Div.

German Seventh Army units defending Siegfried Line in U.S. First Army zone include 1 SS Pz Corps, the 12th, 36th, 89th, 275th, 347th, and 353d Inf Divs, and numerous "Fortress Bns."

XIX Corps While 1st Belgian Brig and 113th Cav Gp are holding L flank and attacking N toward Wessem Canal and Roermond, S of the Peel marshes, and elements of 7th Armd Div attack S from Oploo, 30 mi. farther N, main body of Corps prepares for push along broad front N of Aachen, seeking to penetrate Siegfried Line between Aachen and Geilenkirchen, 13 mi. N. This section of Line is a belt of pillboxes, approximately 1 1/2 mi. in width, paralleling Wurm R. on the E.

VII Corps Ninth Div begins regrouping forces in preparation for attack on Schmidt, town E of Roetgen Forest which occupies dominant terrain overlooking Roer R. dams to the S and controlling a critical road net. Patrols maintain contact with enemy in 1st Div and 3d Armd Div sectors to the NW.

V Corps Corps prepares to move N to zone running N of Losheim (11 mi. NE of St. Vith) along German border to southern edge of Monschau Forest, thence N through Alzen and Hoefen to Monschau, while VIII Corps of Ninth Army moves up to take over previous V Corps zone S of Losheim and along the Our and Moselle rivers where they form the boundary between Luxembourg and Germany. Throughout the month the enemy continues his defense of the pillbox line and improves the cover and concealment and fields of fire in front of his pillboxes and dug-in emplacements.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

1 U.S. NINTH ARMY
Cont

Ninety-fourth Div continues to contain enemy at St. Nazaire and Lorient, patrol S boundary of 12th Army Group, and harass selected targets with arty fire.

VIII Corps Corps, consisting of 2d and 8th Inf Divs (minus a bn each, released for use as line of communication forces) and supporting units, prepares to take over V Corps (1st Army) line, held by 4th and 28th Inf Divs and 5th Armd Div, as troops arrive by rail and motor from vicinity of Brest, France. Relief of V Corps initiated by 8th Div.

XXIX TAC opens operational Hq at Arlon with 36th, 366th, and 373d FB Gps as its components (plus 363d Tactical Rcn Gp). Ninth Army front relatively quiet throughout month; consequently air-ground support "conspicuous by its absence."

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps On Corps N flank, elements of 83d Div reach outskirts of Grevenmacher, on W bank of the Moselle NE of Remich, and occupy heights overlooking the town during night, despite mines, road blocks, and enemy fire encountered. Elsewhere on Div front (covering Sauer and upper Moselle rivers from Bollendorf on N to Uckange on S), Div and TF Polk patrols are active. N of Metz; 90th Div and TF Randolph hold defensive positions from Uckange S to Talange, thence SW to St. Privat la Mont, St. Ail Habonville, and Ste. Marie aux Chenes; patrolling, training, and rehabilitation conducted. S of Metz, 5th Div maintains its bridgehead over the Moselle, patrols aggressively, and elements prepare to attack Fort Driant, key point in Metz fortifications, located on W bank of the Moselle about 6½ mi. SW of Metz.

XII Corps Bridgehead over Moselle R. is widest in center of Corps zone, where it extends from the confluence of the Moselle and the Meurthe--about 5 mi. N of Nancy--to Gremecey Forest, 14 mi. NE of Nancy, in 35th Div sector. Attack N toward Seille R. at 0620, is spearheaded by GCA of 6th Armd Div, which passes through 35th Div front,

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

at once encounters heavy arty fire, mines, and enemy inf, and makes gain of 2 mi. to high ground between Lemoncourt and Fresnes en Saulnois, 15 mi. NE of Nancy. At same time, CCR, attacking E from Pettoncourt area S of Gremecey Forest, captures high ground N of Chambrey, Thirty-fifth Div clears Gremecey Forest, re-establishes its original positions along E edge of forest, and relieves 6th Armd Div elements in newly-won localities, as CCA and CCR withdraw to assembly areas. CCB of 6th Armd holds sector about Leyr, 8 mi. NE of Nancy, between 35th and 80th Divs, receiving sporadic enemy arty, mortar, and MG fire. Elements of 80th Div gain control of high ground W of Seille R. in vicinity of Port sur Seille, 5 mi. E of Pont a Mousson. Recently arrived 26th Div assigned to this Corps for employment in bridgehead area.

2 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Corps effort to penetrate Siegfried Line about 10 mi. N of Aachen starts with 30th Div attack at 1055, following a dive-bombing attack and arty preparation of target area E of Wurm R. between Geilenkirchen and Herzogenrath. Despite strong resistance offered by accurate enemy mortar and arty fire, 30th Div elements cross Wurm R. and by nightfall are approaching Ubach, 3 mi. S of Geilenkirchen. RCT 117 advances 1200 yds. and takes high ground at Palenberg, 1 mi. NW of Ubach. Corps Engrs bridge Wurm R. at Marienberg-Palenberg in afternoon, but equipment mired in mud banks and armor is unable to cross in time to be employed this day, leaving 119th Inf stopped along RR just E of river, where some of its elements surround fortified castle opposite Rimburg. Woods in this vicinity are held by machine gunners and mortar men who withdraw into pillboxes when arty is placed on area. Meanwhile, 29th Div makes diversionary attack NW of Geilenkirchen and seizes Hatterath, Birgden, and Kreuzrath--towns about a mile N of Geilenkirchen-Sittard highway--against moderate SA and arty fire. To the N, on Corps extreme L flank, 7th Armd Div makes little headway toward Overloon, 3 mi. NW of Venraij, meeting AT fire and anti-personnel mines. Farther S, elements of 113th Cav Gp establish bridgehead across stream NE of Sittard, coming under strong SA and AT fire.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

2
Cont

VII Corps First Div regts are in line on a 12 mi. front stretching in semi-circle S and E of Aachen, with R flank regt holding tip of a salient from Eilendorf and Stolberg. The 1106th Combat Engrs hold W flank, SW of Aachen. Eighteenth Regt prepares to move NE from S of Aachen to attack in assault operation near Verlautenheide, 2 mi. NE of Aachen. Relieving TF Tincher and elements of 39th Regt, 9th Div, elements of 24th Cav Rcn Sq hold a line from Roer R. in Monschau to Konzen Station, 3½ mi. N, under harassing arty and mortar fire. Ninth Div units repulse enemy counterattacks against road blocks in Huertgen Forest in fighting lasting from 0900 until evening.

V Corps Corps Arty fires heavy harassing and interdiction missions, as well as missions against troop concentrations and pillboxes as called for by divs.

IX TAC and BD support 30th Div attack on Siegfried Line between Geilenkirchen and Aachen; in support of 117th Inf, 70 B-26s bomb Ubach industrial and surrounding areas with 115 tons of bombs; in support of 119th Inf approaching Mt. Herbach, 45 tons loosed by 23 B-26s; other medium bombers abortive; 71 P-38s dive-bomb enemy positions in area with more than 10½ tons of fire bombs; hits scored on pillboxes and woods fired. Four tons of bombs expended in attack by 11 P-38s on 10 German barracks E of Duren. Eighty-eight P-47s cut rails in Breitscheid area and destroy 2 factories (1 at Titz) and damage rolling stock in ground force cover for XIX Corps; 1 sq engages 4 possible ME-262s, one of which is forced to crash. Thirty-four P-47s score hits on Beudenbach taxiway and hangar. Tanks, AFV, MT, and buildings destroyed in ground force cover for 7th Armd. More than 220 additional fighters also support operations in fighter sweeps and armed rcn missions.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Eighth Div continues relief of V Corps elements.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Corps front generally quiet. In 83d Div zone, French Group Lorraine is attached to TF Polk; Grevenmacher under attack by 83d Div elements. On 90th Div front,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

357th Inf prepares for assault on high ground NW of Maizieres les Metz preparatory to an attack on that town; TF Randolph dissolved and its mission and positions (defense of St. Privat la Mont-Ste. Marie aux Chenes-St. Ail Habonville triangle) taken over by TF Sundt. Eleventh Inf of 5th Div continues preparations for assault on Fort Driant.

XII Corps Enemy is driven from Sivry, 9 mi. N of Nancy, by 317th Inf, 80th Div, in 8 hrs. of house-to-house fighting. Regt suffers heavy casualties in attempt to take Serrieres, just NW of Sivry. In local attack W of Manoncourt sur Seille, 318th Inf clears wooded area of enemy and advances front line in its sector. Elsewhere in Corps zone, positions are consolidated and aggressive patrolling is carried out. Many counter battery missions are fired, as well as interdiction missions on Moyenvic, 7 mi. N of Parroy, and Mazerulles, midway on Nancy-Moyenvic road.

Approximately 410 XIX TAC sorties flown; P-47s continue interdiction operations against rolling stock and RR bridges; Homberg, Bingen, and Saarbruecken marshalling yards attacked, causing fires and cutting tracks in several places; in XX Corps zone, gun positions and MT in Fresnes area heavily bombed and strafed. Forty-seven P-47s ably support XII Corps in strafing and 17.5-ton bombing attack on dug-in tanks, troops, and guns in S Mulcey-Nancy areas. Fighter sweeps and armed rcn missions flown along fronts.

3 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps CCB, 2d Armd Div, crosses Wurm R. at Marienberg-Palenberg; tank dozers, engineer units, and flame throwers are placed near head of all columns for use in capturing and sealing enemy pillboxes. After fierce house-to-house fighting, 30th Div's 117th Inf is in center of Ubach by noon. Enemy still strong in woods E of Rimbung. TF Quinn, organized by 119th Inf to outflank this area, comes down on E of woods from N, but Germans continue to hold woods, though surrounded. The fortified castle is reduced and occupied by 1035, however, and at least 8 pillboxes knocked out on slope beyond it. Twenty-ninth Div front runs roughly from Teveren, 2 mi. SW of Geilenkirchen,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

3
Cont

to Sittard, along enemy defensive line of field fortifications in front of Siegfried Line, with which they tie in at Geilenkirchen. Enemy troops holding this area, from Geilenkirchen NW to vicinity of Maeseyck on the Meuse, are the 183d and 176th Inf Divs. Royal Netherlands Stoottroepen support the 29th Div by operating security patrols in rear of Div front-line elements. In the N, CCA of 7th Armd Div beats off two enemy counterattacks from the woods SW of Overloon. CCR incurs heavy tank casualties in advance toward Overloon from N.

VII Corps Patrols of 26th Inf, 1st Div, work up to RR N of Rothe Erde, suburb E of Aachen. Farther E, enemy counterattack preceded by intense tank and mortar fire is repulsed on front of 16th Inf.

In armd rcn and rail cutting missions, about 190 sorties flown; 10 locomotives, 61 RR cars, 9 MT, barges, and factories damaged or destroyed; 17 tons expended.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Eighth Div completes relief of V Corps units in its zone (5th Armd Div and elements of 28th Inf Div) during early morning; Div is maintaining defensive positions and patrolling aggressively on front along Luxembourg border from Weiswampach to Beaufort; CP located at Wiltz, Luxembourg. Second Div prepares to relieve 4th Div and elements of 28th in its assigned zone; line is to run just W of Prum R. from vicinity of Frauenkron in the N to Houf in the S; CP located near St. Vith, Belgium.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Eighty-third Div elements continue attempts to take Grevenmacher. At 0430, 357th Inf (90th Div) attacks with 2 cos and against slight resistance gains control of large slag pile dominating Maizieres les Metz on NW by noon; counterattack in co strength starts at 2100 but is repulsed with heavy losses to enemy by midnight. Assault on Fort Driant launched about noon by 2d Bn of 11th Inf (5th Div), reinforced by medium tanks and combat engineers following strong arty

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

preparation; 2d Bn succeeds in entering the triangular group of fortifications at its S corner and penetrating outer defenses at NW corner; an attempt by 2 platoons to take 2 casemates on N end of fort under cover of darkness fails; vigorous opposition put up by garrison, elements of Battle Group Stoessel, from Kriegsschule (Officer Cadet School) VI, Metz, consisting initially of SA and MG fire from dug-in positions, pillboxes, and bunkers, augmented, after fort is penetrated by 2d Bn and Germans have withdrawn to underground shelters, by mortar and arty fire; enemy infiltrates during night and wrecks 4 tanks with bazooka fire. Second Bn of 358th Inf (90th Div) is moved at 1500 to Gorze to be in readiness to assist troops attacking Fort Driant.

XII Corps Scattered arty fire is only enemy action in Corps zone. Aggressive patrolling to E is continued.

XIX TAC sorties approach 300. In attacks on rail traffic, direct hits scored on trains S of Trier, while in other areas, additional rolling stock claimed and rail lines cut by P-47s and P-51s. Thirty-four P-47s cooperating with XX Corps achieve excellent results on 2 Metz forts with 33 tons of napalm bombs; 35 P-47s strongly support XX Corps in its attack on Fort Driant, dropping 34 tons on similar targets. Twenty-four P-47s operate in conjunction with XII Corps in devastating attack on Vic-sur-Seille; many personnel killed and large part of town demolished. Total tonnage expended exceeds 150 tons.

4 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps TF's 1 and 2 of CCB, 2d Armd Div, thrust E and N, respectively, through Ubach, making gains of about 1½ mi. against dug-in tanks, AT guns, mortars, and Panzerfausts. Inf and tank counterattack from SW strikes 117th Inf, 30th Div, at Ubach and is stopped at main line after heavy fighting. Two more enemy attacks are made during day and are similarly contained, although CCB loses 11 tanks and 1 TD during these actions. Dawn counterattack also hits 119th Inf positions E of Rimburg woods, near M. Herbach, and is thrown back without serious loss of ground. Arty fire is determining factor in breaking up these counterattacks. S of the breakthrough area, 120th Inf attacks E for slight gain, occupying W

UNCLASSIFIED

46
~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

4
Cont

half of Kerkrade. In 29th Div sector, enemy successfully resists attempts of 115th Inf to penetrate woods N and E of Hatterath, 2 mi. NW of Geilenkirchen. Elements of 115th occupying Schierwaldenrath, 2½ mi. NE of Gangelt, are overrun by enemy. Eight mi. NW of Geilenkirchen, at Breberen, 175th Inf establishes bridgehead across Saeffeler Creek. In Overloon area, 7th Armd forces suffer severe battle casualties as fox holes change and rechange hands in the immediate vicinity of the town.

VII Corps RCT 39 and RCT 60, 9th Div, concentrate in sector 4 mi. SE of Zweifel in readiness for attack on Schmidt, just E of Roetgen Forest.

Total of 490 fighter bomber sorties flown in support of VII and XIX Corps: good results attained in attacks on rolling stock, RR lines, gun positions, buildings, and 7 strongpoints on VII Corps front; 4 dive bomber missions carried out in 1st Inf Div sector with good results on Verlautenheide, Haaren, and Crucifix Hill (2/3 mi. NW of Verlautenheide); 81 tons dropped in missions; 24 P-47s claim 5-0-1 of 24 enemy fighters engaged in XIX Corps zone, while 32 P-38s damage 3 of 10 FW-190s in VII Corps support.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Second Div relieves balance of 28th Div and part of 4th Div. Corps assumes responsibility for V Corps sector at noon.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Attacks on Grevenmacher by 83d Div elements continue. Positions NW of Maizieres les Metz consolidated by 90th Div units; plans for assault on the town itself, on W bank of the Moselle about 6 mi. NE of Metz, being formulated. Second Bn of 11th Inf (5th Div), preparing to resume assault on Fort Driant, hit with arty, mortar, and SA fire; co of 2d Inf moves into fort, and 1st Bn of 10th Inf (-Co A) moves up to support attack; some infiltration occurs during night.

XIII Corps Enemy counterattack strikes at Sivry, cutting off for remainder of day a co of 317th Inf, 80th Div, that was occupying town. In S of Corps zone. interdiction

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

fires are placed during night on crossroads in Dieuze and Mulcey, about 9 mi. N of Parroy Forest. Corps arty fires 30 counterbattery missions with good effect and aggressive patrols push to the E.

Sorties of XIX TAC approximate 200. Seventy-seven P-47s concentrate on rail targets in Trier-Saarlautern-Neustadt area and marshalling yards at Pfeddersheim; 36 P-47s ably support XII Corps in attack on barges, rolling stock, and RR lines; P-47s aiding XX Corps destroy 15 gun positions. Thirty-six P-51s dive-bomb targets W of Frankfurt with good results.

5 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Intense AT fire from N and E forces withdrawal of elements of CCB, 2d Armd Div, approaching Waurichen, 2½ mi. NE of Ubach; TF1 loses 9 tanks and 3 TD's in day's engagement; TF 2, attacking from N edge of Palenberg under severe fire from pillboxes, advances N to within 1½ mi. of Geilenkirchen, occupying Frelenberg. Roads in this area are covered by enemy bazooka, AT, and arty fire. CCA crosses Wurm R. and, after passing through elements of 30th Div, advances to a few hundred yds. E of Ubach, losing two tanks to enemy AT fire. Thirtieth Div launches tank-inf attack S from Ubach and reaches high ground E of M. Herbach after gain of 1 mi. RCT 120 is fighting in Holz, just S of Kerkrade at Netherlands border N of Aachen. Enemy air activity increases and enemy arty barrages last all day. By nightfall, Corps bulge across Wurm R. extends over 2 mi. E, with a maximum width of more than 3 mi. in area S of Palenberg. Seventh Armd Div, fighting in Overloon area, 40 mi. to the N, repulses 3 heavy counterattacks.

VII Corps Adverse weather hindering local air operations prevents launching of 9th Div attack against Schmidt. AA arty downs 7 and damages 10 of enemy planes attacking 3d Armd and 1st Divs.

V Corps 102d Cav Gp screens movement and assembly of V Corps in its new sector (Monschau-Losheim). Rcn elements repel counterattacks in Monschau area.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

Thirty-three P-38s dispatched to bomb Siegfried Line defenses drop 16 tons in general area with unreported results. N of Aachen, XIX Corps, experiencing enemy armor counterattack, is aided by 2 sqs of P-47s which operate against gun positions.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Second Div completes relief of remainder of 4th Div by 0055 hours, consolidates and improves positions, and patrols. Corps now in position between U.S. 1st and 3d Armies. Both U.S. and German troops are on the defensive, and action is slight.

In armed rcn over Pruem, Bonn, Koblenz, and Trier areas, rolling stock and gun positions destroyed.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Grevenmacher falls to 83d Div units during night of 5/6. TF Warnock is organized and at 1600 takes charge of operations against Fort Driant, still tenaciously held by enemy; 1st Bn of 10th Inf (-Co A) relieves troops in fort during night; 2d Bn of 358th Inf (90th Div) continues to stand by.

XII Corps Eightieth Div re-establishes contact with co in Sivry, withdraws all elements from the town and shells it. All arty in 4th Armd Div sector between Gremecey Forest and the Marne-Rhine Canal; fires interdiction and harassing missions throughout the day and night. Enemy shells Nancy with 280-mm arty.

Barge traffic on Rhine-Marne Canal attacked with severe damage to barges, locks, and MT in area. Interdiction program continues.

6 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Corridor through the West Wall between Geilenkirchen and Aachen is firmly established as last of entrenched Germans are cleared out of woods E of Rimberg. 408B of 2d Armd Div seizes Waurichen; CCA, supported by Div and Corps arty barrages and fighter bombers and by-passing enemy strongpoint near crossroads

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group6
Cont

SE of Ubach, takes Beggendorf, 2 mi. E of Ubach. Heavy dawn counterattack causes 119th Inf, 30th Div, to lose some ground, but with aid of 117th all is regained by nightfall and Regt occupies M. Herbach and area SW of it. Hostile air activity includes bombing and strafing. Thirtieth Div turns S with aim of joining with 1st Div, VII Corps, in vicinity of Wuerselen. Forces on R flank capture Merkstein, NE of Kerkrade. In limited advance toward Teveren, W of Wurm R., 82d Armd Rcn Bn, 2d Armd Div, contends with dug-in enemy inf with MG and bazookas, as well as defended minefields and booby traps.

VII Corps At 1130, after air and arty preparation, RCT 39 and RCT 60, 9th Div, move toward E edge of Huertgen Forest to attack Schmidt from NW, making small gain through SA, MG and mortar fire. Enemy arty fire very heavy at night. Arty fire is placed on enemy locations in Burtscheid, Forst, and Rothe Erde, S and E of Aachen, reported by patrols of 26th Regt, 1st Div.

Total of 102 B-26s and 100 A-20s of IX BD achieves well-concentrated pattern on Duren ammunition dump, marshalling yards, and barracks area; 584½ tons expended. IX TAC flies about 460 sorties in ground support. Seventy-two dive bombers furnish close support to 9th Div elements in vicinity of Schmidt, 15 mi. SE of Aachen; 11 P-38s drop 2 tons on German counterattack in XIX Corps zone with good results; during Aachen sweep, 36 P-47s vectored to Breitscheid airfield where 50 enemy fighters are landing upon return from mission over U.S. lines; 22-9-3 claimed on ground and 2-0-0 in air (as they prepare to land); 33 P-38s destroy factory and attack troops, tanks, and armor in able support of 7th Armd; other attacks made on gun positions, highway intersections, RR targets, MT, buildings, and strongpoints in Army zone; 113 tons dropped.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

P-47s continue operations against rolling stock and gun positions; in Remagen area, 12 tons loosed on RR lines, causing considerable damage to lines, barges, and rolling stock.

UNCLASSIFIED

50
UNCLASSIFIED
Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Boundary between 83d and 90th Divs adjusted during morning: N boundary of 90th Div moved southward, releasing troops garrisoning Uckange and Richemont. First Bn of 357th Inf (90th Div) attacks during morning to secure S edge of Bois de l'Abbe, NW of Maizieres les Metz, and gains its objective by 1830, although the 2 attacking co's become separated in course of sharp action at strongpoint encountered in woods, and 200-yd. gap results; enemy in co strength counterattacks in vicinity of the gap at night, but is driven off after heavy fighting. At Fort Driant, TF Warnock repulses early morning counterattack without loss of ground; remainder of day spent in consolidating positions and planning for attack tomorrow.

XII Corps Heavy arty falls in Chambrey and Pettoncourt, S of Gremecey Forest. CCB of 6th Armd Div receives heavy arty fire during night in its position between 80th and 35th Divs. Elements of 26th Div relieve elements of 4th Armd Div in S of Corps zone. Enemy evacuates Bures, NW of Parroy Pond, early in morning but still holds high ground N of town.

XIX TAC flies estimated 335 sorties. In pursuance of interdiction program, 18 P-47s attack Landau marshalling yards, while 39 harass Rhine-Marne Canal traffic; RR tunnel at Teterchen closed; Landau P-47s jumped by 30 ME-109s; claim 4-0-1 and lose 1. In ground force cover for XX Corps, 40½ tons loosed in strong attack on RR cars, tanks, buildings, gun positions, troop concentrations at Maizieres les Metz, and farmhouse, enemy strongpoint in area. One sq of P-47s kindles night-long fire in SE corner of Ft. Driant. Enemy forced to leave Wincheringen on E bank of Moselle after effective raid. In Dieuze-St. Avold area, P-47s attain good results in conjunction with XII Corps.

UNCLASSIFIED 7 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Against light resistance, 117th Regt elements, 30th Div, advance almost 2 mi. S to edge of Alsdorf, while 119th Inf makes similar advance farther W. More than 1,200 prisoners captured in Corps zone. Thirtieth

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

51

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

7
Cont

Div, backed up by 2d Armd, continues drive S to link up with 1st Div, VII Corps, but rest of XIX Corps goes on defensive for remainder of month. CCA captures Baesweiler, 2½ mi. NE of Alsdorf, and, together with 30th Div, is in outskirts of latter. CCB, 2d Armd, repulses counterattack NE of Ubach. Early in evening, enemy drops apers and demolition bombs in CCB area. W of Wurm R., armd rcn units resume attack N toward Teveren, before being relieved at 1500 by elements of 29th Div. Elements of 115th Inf clear Schierwaldenrath, NE of Gangelt, taking 99 FW.

VII Corps RCT 60, 9th Div, attacks at 0800 but makes very slight advance and is under heavy fire all day. Supply routes are studded with mines and obstacles. Progress of RCT 39 painfully slow as small units maneuver against field fortifications and concealed pillboxes in Huertgen Forest. Eighteenth Regt, 1st Div, assembles near Eilendorf, below Verlautenheide.

V Corps Fourth Div attacks E in border area in preparation for eventual assault on Siegfried Line in vicinity of Udenbreth, 4 mi. NNE of Losheim. Steady progress is made against snipers and moderate mortar and SA fire. Bazookas and tanks aid 12th Inf in routing enemy defending stone houses at a crossroads in Gerolstein Forest.

In 2 gps, 68 B-26s attack Euskirchen supply depot with 133½ tons; fair to good results. IX TAC flies approximately 512 sorties: more than 145 tons spread over targets in XIX, VII, and 7th Armd sectors with damage and destruction to rolling stock, RR tracks, airdrome facilities, buildings, and strongpoints. In support of 29th Div, 1 sq of fighters silences enemy SP guns N of Hoengen. In armd rcn over Monschau, 1 sq of P-47s bounced by 5 FW-190s and 1 ME-109; 2-0-2 claimed.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Second Div repulses attack against center of its line by enemy force of about 1½ cos; Div CP is moved to St. Vith. Eighth Div places arty fire on reported enemy bridge sites over Our R. in vicinity of Bettel and Roth and requests fighter-bomber mission against same

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

53

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

three waves, 108 A-20s unload 158-tons on Trier warehouses and marshalling yards, which supply enemy divisions impeding Divs' advance; planes destroy 6 and extensively damage 4 warehouses. Approximately 400 sorties flown by XIX TAC. Interdiction by TAC P-47s continues with attacks on Kindsbach, Rohrbach, Saarbruecken, Sarrebourg, Saargemund, Heming, and Merzig RR targets and Rhine-Marne Canal; in support of XX Corps, NE Luneville targets attacked, pillboxes, troop concentrations, and bivouacs at Echternach damaged; enemy installations at Augny dive-bombed; 13½ tons loosed on Brulange, Dieuze marshalling yards, pontoon bridges, gun positions, and troop concentration in woods E of Pont a Mousson in support of XII Corps.

8 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Thirtieth Div renews attack early in morning, with 120th Regt committed in center. Progress slower than day before, as regts are delayed by resistance from prepared positions and numerous minefields, but Div captures Herzogenrath and nearby hamlets 6 mi. N of Aachen, completely occupies Alsdorf, and takes Oden, directly S. RCT 117 is sharply counterattacked after clearing Alsdorf. NE of Aldorf, CCA, 2d Armd, captures Oidtweiler, less than 1 mi. S of Baesweiler, in three-pronged attack against severe arty and SA fire. Seventh Armd Div is relieved by Br 11th Armd Div in vicinity of Overloon and with 1st Belgian Brigade is attached to 2d Br Army, XXI Army Group.

VII Corps Only about a mile from main Aachen-Cologne highway, 18th Regt, First Div, its R flank covered by 16th Regt and its L flank by 26th Regt, attacks N toward Verlautenheide at 0400 and under heavy shelling takes S part of this strongly fortified key village, as well as Crucifix Hill, 2/3 mi. NW. Twenty-sixth Inf begins diversionary attack toward Aachen at 1330 and reaches RR tracks on E edge of city. Ninth Div troops in Huertgen Forest advance slowly against stubborn resistance that includes intense automatic weapons fire from camouflaged positions in dense underbrush. Numerous mines and obstacles on roads and firebreaks prevent bringing up of tanks and TDs.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

8
Cont

V Corps Small enemy counterattack is repelled by 4th Div. elements W of Udenbreth.

Thirty A-20s with 52½ tons of bombs damage buildings, roads, and bridge in attack on Linnich, reinforcement point for troops defending Ubach; Euskirchen and Juelich, road and rail centers serving Aachen, hit with 129 tons dropped by 11 B-26s and 75 A-20s; poor to excellent results at Juelich, unobserved at Euskirchen; fair to good results achieved on Ahrweiler RR bridge by 30 B-26s. IX TAC sorties approach 405. Thirty-five tons dropped on enemy strongpoints and supply centers in Haaren, Vossenack, and Guesten towns in ground force cover for 9th Div; haze limits observation of results in 1st Div zone. Extensive damage inflicted on Bonn airfield by 26 P-38s; Frankfurt, Rheine, Hanau, Altenstadt, and other airdromes also targets; 178 tons of bombs dropped.

P-47s with American and British markings strafe and bomb Roetgen.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Over 160 XXIX TAC sorties flown; in fighter bomber operations, 67 P-47s dispatched against Gross Ostern and Ober Ulm airfields claim hangars, dumps, buildings, and 4 enemy aircraft on latter field; 36 other P-47s claim 8-0-9 planes parked on airfield SW of Frankfurt. Troop concentrations in Arzfeld area bombed and strafed by 12 P-47s, while 11 continue interdiction operations, cutting rails on either side of Dumpelfeld town and probably destroying bridge there; rails also cut W of Cologne.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Ninetieth Div elements at Maizieres les Metz repulse counterattack at 0600; enemy continues determined defense of his portion of the town, holding 2d Bn of 357th Inf to very small gains. TF Warnock continues through tunnel at Fort Driant unopposed by enemy but slowed by debris until stopped during afternoon when enemy blows tunnel and forces troops out; carbon monoxide fumes prevent further work at tunnel.

XII Corps At 0615, Sixth Armd Div and 80th and 35th Inf Divs launch attack N to enlarge Corps bridgehead and clear N-half of Corps sector up to Seille R., at same

[REDACTED]

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

55

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

time reducing gap between 80th and 35th Divs. Corps advances 2 to 3 mi. NE along a 20-mi. front. Enemy arty reaction to attack is very light, thanks to effective arty preparation preceding attack. Elements of 6th Armd Div mop up Moivron shortly after 0800 and 80th Div troops move in to relieve them. Jeandelincourt is attacked from three sides by CCB of 6th Armd Div, and town is shelled by arty, bombed by air, and set on fire before it is captured at about noon and turned over to 80th Div forces, permitting CCB to push on NE. The Bois de la Fourasse, just N of Jeandelincourt, is cleared by 80th Div units. Other elements of this Div occupy Serrieres and Sivry, attack in direction of Lixieres, 1½ mi. N of Sivry, and reach Clemery, SE of Port sur Seille. Fog hinders attack on Arraye and Ajoncourt, 2 mi. E of Jeandelincourt, but they are surrounded by 0935 and captured during afternoon. Here the 6th Armd units are relieved by elements of 35th Div. Other elements of 6th Armd Div near Chenicourt, and Letricourt, in a S to N line 5 mi. NW of Gremecey Forest. Enemy resistance less aggressive than expected. Thirty-fifth Div takes Fossieux and high ground near Malaucourt, directly NW of Gremecey Forest, establishing new defensive positions along the line Ajoncourt-Fossieux-Gremecey Forest.

Twenty-nine B-26s probably destroy RR bridge at Bad Munster, while 6 of same gp achieve poor results on Nohfelden RR junction; 34 B-26s bomb Metz strongpoints with 33 tons, damaging surface works of both forts and bldgs N of N fort in Verdun group. Enemy columns in Vigny area harassed. XIX TAC sorties approach 310. In dive-bombing attack by 12 P-47s, 6 locks destroyed. Main concentration, however, is on enemy airfields to knock out planes: on Biblis, Crailsheim, Sachsenheim, and Gemersheim airfields, claims were 5-0-0 (air) and 19-0-26 (ground); only eventful air combat held 8 mi. NE of Chateau Salins, where claims total 2-0-1 for no loss. Armed rcn carried out along all fronts.

9 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Further counterattacks received in 30th Div sector. RCT 120 attacks toward Wierstein under cover of ground haze and as latter lifts sustains counterattacks

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group9
Cont

from Euchen of inf and tanks supported by heavy arty fire. To the W, 119th Inf, also, is counterattacked after seizing Bardenberg, and enemy reoccupies large part of town. Elements of CCA, 2d Armd Div, cut Schaufenberg-Bettendorf road, NE of Alsdorf, and assist 39th Div units in successful attack on Schaufenberg.

VII Corps Early morning enemy counterattacks at Quinx and Verlautenheide are checked by heavy arty fire. RCT 26, 1st Div, supported by M-10s, engages in house-to-house fighting in SE of Aachen. Attacking N in the evening, RCT 18 secures its Crucifix Hill position and cuts Aachen-Cologne road NE of Haaren. In 39th Inf, 9th Div, sector, SA fire fight goes on from 1500 until dark; house-to-house fighting with SA, hand grenades, and bazookas rages in and about Germeter. After heavy fighting, RCT 60 establishes road block N of Germeter.

Thirty B-26s attack Euskirchen RR bridge with unobserved results; approximately 50 tons loosed.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Control of 94th Div passes to 12th Army Group.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Second Bn of 357th Inf (90th Div), using only 1 cb, continues attack on Maizières les Metz, making but slight progress against stubborn opposition. Situation at Fort Driant unchanged; following arty concentration on the fort by 3 medium batteries during early morning, no activity occurs.

XII Corps Drive in Seille R. area is continued as elements of CCA, 6th Armd Div, fight toward Letricourt through the Bois du Ajoncourt and the town of Chenicourt. Other elements of 6th Armd Div and units of 80th Div reach Aulnois, continuing along axis of advance NE between the Bois de la Fourasse and Gremecey Forest. Elements of 80th Div move up to hold objectives taken by 6th Armd. Enemy inf and tank counterattack in Fossieux is successfully resisted by elements of 35th Div, although enemy still has N part of town at night. Fourth Armd Div prepares to attack S toward Parroy on the Marne-Rhine Canal.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group10 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps RCT 120, 30th Div, makes frontal assault to seize ground on NE outskirts of Wuerselen, capturing large numbers of prisoners and considerable equipment; TD unit destroys 6 German tanks in afternoon. Bns of 119th Inf withdraw from Bardenberg to permit shelling of enemy troops there. Enemy forces on E flank of 30th Div are reinforced by 105th Pz Brig.

VII Corps At 1050, 1st Div delivers to Combat Comdt of Aachen ultimatum to surrender city unconditionally within 24 hrs. Aachen is not yet surrounded; transports still enter by the Wuerselen highway and there is still a gap of about 2 mi. between 1st Div and 30th Div (XIX Corps). RCT 18 repulses counterattacks from three directions in Verlautenheide area and street fighting occurs in Haaren. Three mi. NW of Schmidt, RCT 39, 9th Div, clears village of Germeter at edge of Huertgen Forest in hot fight following enemy infiltration. To the N, in woods S of Gressenich, elements of RCT 47 carry out diversionary attack under intense arty and MG fire. Twenty-fourth Cav Rcn Sq, on the S, makes diversionary attack NE of Konzen. Heavy enemy SA fire stops patrols just short of Konzen.

V Corps Vigorous patrolling is conducted to the E. Elements of 4th Div consolidate positions W of Udenbreth.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

III Corps Hq of III Corps relieved from assignment to Ninth Army and assigned to Third Army. It is located for greater part of month at Carteret on the French coast.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

Hq of III Corps is relieved from assignment to Ninth Army and assigned to Third Army, but remains in the rear, while Tenth Armd Div, which arrived on Continent 23 Sept, is relieved from assignment to III Corps and placed directly under Third Army command.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

XX Corps Ninety-fifth Div, which arrived on Continent on 19 Sept., assigned to XX Corps, passing from control of III Corps; motor and rail movement of this Div from Normandy to Norroy le Sec area in progress. Although fighting continues at Maizieres les Metz, situation is virtually unchanged. TF Warnock clings to positions already occupied at Fort Driant; it is decided to cease attacks on the fort, since cost in casualties is high, and sufficient forces to continue the assault are unavailable.

XII Corps Heavy enemy harassing arty fire falls throughout Corps zone. Strong enemy counterattack repulsed by 80th Div near Letricourt; elements of 80th Div occupy high ground NE of the Bois de Trappes, relieving units of 6th Armd Div. In 35th Div zone, 5 of 6 enemy Mark V tanks attacking Fossieux, 4 mi. NW of Gremecey Forest, are knocked out.

11 U.S. FIRST ARMY

Front-line units engage in vigorous defensive action, cleaning up captured ground and resisting armored counterattacks from NE. Enemy has been reinforced in Aachen area by elements of 116th Pz Div and 1st SS Pz Gren Regt of 1st SS Pz Div; 506th Heavy Tank Bn and 304th Pz Gren Regt of 2d Pz Div are also identified. In co-ordination with assault on Aachen by 1st Div troops, 12 bns of light, medium, and heavy arty fire total of 169 tons of ammunition into city.

XIX Corps Thirtieth Div retakes Bardenberg, 1 mi. NW of Wuerselen. Enemy is bringing up reinforcements to Wuerselen area where gap separates 30th Div from 1st Div forces to the SE.

VII Corps As surrender ultimatum to Aachen garrison has expired, attack is launched in afternoon by heavy air and arty bombardment, preceding assault by 26th Inf, 1st Div. Forces make deep penetration in E portion of city, vicinity of Rothe Erde station. Enemy counterattacks strike from NE in Verlautenheide-Haaren area. First Div has met 10 such attacks in this area from 9 Oct to date, as the German 12th Div repeatedly attempts to cut off salient held by 18th RCT and so hold open

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

11
Cont

the corridor into Aachen. In woods below Germeter, RCT 39, 9th Div, attacks E toward Vossenack, making slight gain.

V Corps Corps and div arty fire TOT missions on nine enemy battery locations with excellent results.

IX TAC in 357 sorties drops about 130 tons. Main concentration is on Aachen strongpoints: 4 fighter bomber gps blast Aachen outskirts with over 65 tons in 4 hours, while about 73 P-47s support 1st Inf Div with 80 tons; targets are assembly areas, MT, and gun positions; 36 P-47s cause explosions and fires in Udenbreth area with 12 tons; armed rcn carried out along front.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps On Corps S flank, 83d Div in its present defensive position behind Sauer and upper Moselle rivers is assigned to VIII Corps, transferring from 3d Army; with this adjustment of 9th and 3d Armies' boundaries, VIII Corps front covers 88 mi. and includes all of Luxembourg.

Total of 136 XXIX TAC sorties flown: in armed rcn missions, 34 P-47s destroy 9 and damage 8 barges in Coblenz area.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps On Corps N flank, 83d Div passes to control of VIII Corps, 9th Army, in its present positions; TF Polk and French Group Lorraine detached and assigned to 90th Div; TF Polk is to protect Corps N flank from Richemont to Basse Kontz, inclusive. In view of stubborn resistance at Maizieres les Metz, it is decided that at least 2 bns will be needed to reduce that town, and redistribution of 90th Div units is ordered. TF Warnock remains in positions at Fort Driant where situation is static.

XII Corps Eightieth Div units consolidate positions in defensive sector W and S of Seille R., while 6th Armd Div withdraws to assembly areas. Continuing enemy counterattacks in Letricourt vicinity repulsed by 80th Div troops. Enemy entrenching activity in area N and

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

E of Seille R. indicates likelihood of determined stand. Five mi. N of Parroy, Hill 265, W of Besange la Petite, is taken by the enemy then retaken by 104th Inf, 26th Div, in counterattack. Nancy, Moivron, and Bioncourt receive occasional fire from enemy 280-mm RR gun.

In Sarrebourg area, locks, barges, tunnels, and bridges destroyed by 27 P-47s, and barge traffic halted for several days. Lebach marshalling yards and warehouses hit with 16 tons of bombs. In armed rcn over Saarbruecken-Landau area, 12 P-47s strafe vexatious gun position and camouflaged vehicles on RR tracks. In XX Corps support, Woippy town and surrounding wooded area attacked; 24 P-47s ably support XII and XV Corps (U.S. Seventh Army), destroying 29 gun positions and harassing enemy troop concentrations.

12 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Series of counterattacks hits 30th Div, forcing it on defensive in 119th and 120th Inf sectors. Enemy has committed a combat team from 1st SS Pz Div "Adolf Hitler" and a bn of Tiger tanks in the effort to maintain route into Aachen. TD units encounter fierce resistance in area NE of Wuerselen and knock out a number of enemy tanks.

VII Corps Enemy arty averages 2,000 rounds a day in 1st Div area. Twenty-sixth Inf forces seize factory area on N outskirts of Aachen and clear Observatory Hill. Air and arty bombardment of Aachen continues. Elements of 18th RCT mop up in Haaren and clear SW slope of Ravelberg, $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. NW. Ninth Div elements attempting to close in on Schmidt are counterattacked from N and S by units of German 275th Inf Div attempting to encircle RCT 39 and RCT 60. The enemy penetrates 1,000 yds on the N, and RCT 39 elements are withdrawn from Vossenack approach.

Grevenbroich bridge is undamaged, while rails are cut in attack on Ahrweiler bridge by 65 B-26s; 96 tons dropped; factory and additional RR and highway bridges hit; 34 B-26s bomb Aldenhoven town with 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons; 10 A-20s of IX BD have poor success with 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons on Langerwehe, on Eschweiler-Duren road. Approximately 175 tons loosed in 488 sorties flown

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

12
Cont

by IX TAC. Attacks again strongly support ground forces closing in on Aachen: 99 tons of bombs released on ring of buildings in center of town by 3 gps of dive bombers; P-47s continue devastating attacks, hitting strongpoints and other targets. Forty-seven P-47s bomb and strafe enemy armor poised for counterattack against 1st Inf Div; mission described as a "gorgeous job." P-47s (approximately 110) of XXIX and XIX support Aachen drive with concentrated action against tanks and enemy-held buildings in area. Considerable enemy opposition encountered: 24 P-47s destroy 4 of 40 enemy planes met with no loss, 8 P-38s bounced by 36 ME-109s claim 2-0-1 for loss of 2, while 22 others joining in above action claim 6-2-5 for loss of 1.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

At request of 8th Div, bombers attack Bauler, where enemy soldiers are housed, with good results.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Ninetieth Div units are shifted to permit stronger assault on Maizieres les Metz. TF Warnock starts withdrawal from Fort Driant at 1930.

XII Corps Extensive regrouping and rotation of front-line troops of Div units commences, as elements of 26th Div take over zone of 4th Armd Div on Corps S flank and 4th Armd goes into reserve. Reduction in field ammunition allowance, due to ordnance supply situation, precludes possibility of large-scale offensive in Oct. Air support given 35th Div by bombing and strafing attacks on woods between Lemoncourt and Fossieux.

XIX TAC advance Hq moves to Nancy. Force of 56 A-20s and 31 B-26s reports severe damage inflicted at Camp de Bitche, enemy supply target, and achieves poor results at Rohrbach in 145-ton attack. In 5th Inf sector, P-47s bomb enemy installations E and N of bridgehead with excellent results in Orny vicinity. In cooperation with XII Corps, troop concentrations SW of Chateau Salins thoroughly strafed and bombed, 4 CPs probably destroyed, and wooded area NE of Nancy fired by 39 P-47s.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

13 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Thirtieth Div has been reinforced by 116th Regt (-3d Bn), 29th Div; which attacks S through 119th Inf, on a broad front, toward Wuerselen, encountering stubborn opposition from dug-in and mobile tanks, as well as inf supported by heavy caliber mortar and arty fire. Enemy is not yet dislodged from strong emplacements in the built up areas N of Wuerselen. Raids of the 115th Inf and the 113th Cav Sq against Bauchem, Waldenrath, and Buscherheide, small towns NW of Geilenkirchen, find the enemy well dug in and defended.

VII Corps In NE of Aachen, elements of 26th Inf, 1st Div, are occupied in house-to-house fighting. SP 155-mm guns and TDs are used extensively in the street fighting, which is especially bitter in W part of Rothe Erde. Ninth Div troops are engaged in slow fighting against counterattacking enemy in E part of Huertgen Forest.

Twenty-three A-20s of IX BD again cooperate with ground in 33-ton attack on Langerwehe, scoring direct hits on RR tracks; 27 B-26s temporarily block approaches to Euskirchen bridge though bridge remains intact. IX TAC flies 510 sorties and drops 170 tons of bombs in support of XIX, V, and VII Corps; major targets are tanks, strongpoints, and field fortifications; 12 P-47s of XIX TAC fire Huertgen and loose 10 rockets on tanks in area, destroying 3 and damaging many more. Rails cut E of Rhine. In skirmish with 50 plus ME-109s and FW-190s E of Cologne, 28 P-38s claim 12-1-3 for loss of 3; jumped by 10 plus FW-190s, 9 P-47s claim 1-0-1 and lose 3.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Nine B-26s of 9th BD loose 72 tons on Mayen RR bridge with unobserved results. XXIX TAC flies 162 sorties; in 1st air-ground cooperation with 2d Inf, 23 P-47s drop 11½ tons of bombs on gun positions and RR installations in Belgium; W of Rhine, several RR lines put out of action by concentrated effort of 65 P-47s. Force of 58 P-47s dive-bomb Pruem and Trier areas with satisfactory results.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Plan for all-out assault on Maizieres les Metz

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

63

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

abandoned as result of 3d Army order freezing all arty ammunition above 3". Third Bn, 357th Inf, which relieved 2d Bn yesterday at Maizieres les Metz, starts period of training in house-to-house fighting, using small groups of not more than 1 co and working slowly to develop technique for this type of fighting. TF Warnock completes withdrawal of all forces from Fort Driant by 0230; at 1800 this task force is relieved of command of Fort Driant sector by CO, 3d Bn, 2d Inf. Ninety-fifth Div CP set up at Norroy le Sec.

Approximately 440 sorties flown by XIX TAC in support of XX, XV (U.S. Seventh Army), and XII Corps; gun positions, installations, rail facilities, road and rail traffic, and other targets hit; 20-car ammunition train at Kirn exploded. In direct support of XX Corps, 12 P-47s drop 4 tons on fort near Metz; tank trap area near Lemoncourt bombed in cooperation with XII Corps.

14 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Attack by 116th Regt, 29th Div, makes small gain in built up area N of Wuerselen. Enemy mortar and arty fire exceptionally heavy.

VII Corps Elements of 26th Regt, 1st Div, attacking W into Aachen, employ SP 155 rifle to demolish buildings defended by enemy units; Regt also cuts main cable from Aachen to Cologne. Enemy air drops anti-personnel and some 500-lb bombs over 18th Regt and Verlautenheide area. RCT 18 receives heavy shelling during night. Enemy increases air activity over 3d Armd Div, SE of Stolberg. RCT 39, 9th Div, succeeds in re-establishing its front, with Germeter on the E flank. RCT 60 holds RJ on Lammersdorf highway.

Total of 261 IX TAC sorties flown; 65 tons expended by P-38s and P-47s. In support of XIX Corps, 58 P-47s hit towns, RR guns, flak tower, and buildings in target areas with about 20 tons; in response to ground request in V Corps sector, 23 P-47s dive-bomb Udenbreth town, damaging 25 buildings; 60 P-47s support VII Corps with 20 tons, scoring direct hits on CP and strafing troop concentrations. In 3

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

missions flown in direct support of 1st Inf Div, tanks and gun positions attacked. Twenty-one P-38s cut rails in Hamm area. In fighter sweeps along Rhine, 52 P-38s claim 1-1-2 of more than 20 enemy fighters engaged SW of Duesseldorf.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Fourteen flying bombs observed in 2d Div sector.

XXIX TAC sorties total 150: 64 P-47s in attacks on rail traffic continue to interrupt transportation on lines W of Rhine; 23 P-47s again ably support 2d Inf Div with good results on fortified buildings, gun positions, and traffic and installations along Rhine.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps House-to-house fighting continues in heart of Maizieres les Metz. Fifth Div containing enemy at Fort Driant, maintaining bridgehead E of the Moselle, and engaging in usual patrolling.

XII Corps Enemy patrolling continues active. Small enemy inf attack repulsed near Bezange la Petite, 3 mi. N of Parroy.

Estimated 230 XIX TAC sorties flown; 78 tons of bombs dropped on marshalling yards and rail facilities E and W of Rhine with satisfactory results; 11 P-51s in Kaiserlautern area score direct hits on RR bridge and tunnel, and explode 30-car ammunition train. In Metz area, gun positions at St. Remy attacked; 11 P-47s cooperate with XII Corps, dropping 1½ tons on enemy concentration N of Chateau Salins and 2 tons on Amelecourt RR targets.

15 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Thirtieth Div has less than a mile to go to effect junction NE of Aachen with 1st Div of VII Corps. Wuerselen is strongly defended, enemy employing dug-in tanks and concrete emplacements, as well as arty and mortars.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

VII Corps RCT 26, 1st Div, repulses counterattacks by German garrison in hand-to-hand fighting at Observatory Hill, in N portion of Aachen. Enemy inf and armor attack on large scale between the 18th and 16th Regts in effort to regain Verlautenheide ridge and keep open escape gap from Aachen. Fierce inf action is required to clear enemy from within lines. Ninth Div consolidates defensive positions in Huertgen Forest and RCT 60 advances short distance beyond Germeter-Rollesbroich road.

IX TAC drops estimated 90 tons of bombs in 286 sorties. Excellent results achieved by 105 P-47s in attacks on troops, AFV, buildings, town, gun positions, and entrenched troops in support of XIX Corps; excellent results also achieved in attack on 30-odd tanks by sq which then proceeds to rout German troops in strafing attack. In cooperation with 9th Inf Div, 24 P-47s drop 8 tons on gun positions and mortar emplacements in Bergstein area. Enemy inf positions and AFV attacked with unobserved to excellent results by 72 P-47s supporting 1st Inf; town centers of Schleiden and Gemuend receive 10½ tons. Aachen, Duren, Duesseldorf areas strafed and bombed, while 31 P-38s cut rails W of Rhine.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Ninth Armd, enroute to Luxembourg, passes from III Corps (Third Army) to VIII Corps control.

Sorties flown by XXIX TAC reduced to 60 due to weather; 30 tons of bombs damage Gemuend town bridge and destroy another on interdiction missions.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Enemy arty activity decreases. Active patrolling carried on by both sides throughout remainder of month.

XIX TAC flies about 95 sorties, the bulk of which are in support of interdiction program; 31 tons expended.

16 U.S. FIRST ARMY

Contact is made between units of VII and XIX Corps, closing ring around Aachen. Counterattacks from NE checked by air and arty fire.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

XIX Corps Push of 119th Inf on W flank of 30th Div while 116th Inf attacks in center results in gains in and around Kohlscheid, NW of Wuerselen and $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi. N of Aachen, and patrols of 119th Regt and of 18th Regt, 1st Div, VII Corps, meet on Ravelsberg hill S of Wuerselen in late afternoon. Resistance from arty, mortar, tank, SP, MG, and SA fire continues heavy. Diversionary attack by 117th Inf brings punishing arty and mortar concentrations on TD units NE of Wuerselen.

VII Corps After reducing numerous pillboxes and field fortifications in Germeter-Huertgen sector, RCT 39 and RCT 60, 9th Div, consolidate their positions and hold defensively. Fighting continues around Observatory Hill and in E section of Aachen. Sixteenth Regt, 1st Div, beats back counterattack S of Verlautenheide in hand-to-hand fighting; 18th Regt elements are similarly attacked at Quinx, adjoining Verlautenheide on E, by units of 3d Pz Gren Div.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps French Government resumes control of French Group Lorraine, previously controlled by 90th Div; elements of 90th Div continue to fight in Maizieres les Metz.

17 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Region of juncture of 30th Div with 1st Div, VII Corps, is continually counterattacked from both inside and outside the perimeter of U.S. forces enveloping Aachen. Thirtieth Div and 29th Div troops mop up in occupied areas and place road blocks on highways NE of Aachen. RCT 119, 30th Div, seizes and occupies Richterich, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. NW of Aachen.

XIII Corps Hq and special troops are assembling in vicinity of Hasselt, in rear of XIX Corps zone.

VII Corps At 0530 hrs. enemy planes drop heavy bombs and anti-personnel bombs in Aachen. RCT 26, 1st Div, continues to close in and clean up Aachen, pushing W toward Salvator and Lousberg hills. Enemy utilizes to good advantage many underground passages and thick walled cellars. A limited attack made by RCT 18 is stubbornly

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

67

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

resisted; advance elements are counterattacked S of Wuerselen by enemy tanks and inf. Road block is maintained on Aachen-Wuerselen highway. Directly S, enemy still occupies pillboxes on N side of Ravelsberg.

Thirty-five A-20s escorted by 8 P-38s of IX TAC bomb Euskirchen RR bridge with 47 3/4 tons of bombs; unobserved results.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

In lone mission by XXIX TAC, 36 P-47s claim 7 locomotives destroyed and 5 rails cut in Allendorf-Gemuenden area; 18 tons expended.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Units of 5th Div prepare for relief by elements of 90th and 95th Divs.

Weather limits sorties of XIX TAC to 24, all of which are against rail targets S of Bad Kreuznach.

18 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps RCT 119, 30th Div, attacks to make firm the junction between 1st and 30th Divs, seizing Soers, 1 1/2 mi. N of Aachen, and Laurensberg, 2 mi. W of Soers. Enemy captures newly established road block on Aachen-Richterich road. Enemy counterattacks with tanks are repelled in 119th and 116th Inf sectors.

VII Corps A concentrated attack is mounted upon the heart of the city of Aachen. A battle group of 1st SS Pz Div is forced from Observatory Hill in the N by 26th RCT, 1st Div, which also makes good progress in SW and central sections of city. NE of Aachen, two enemy inf. and tank counterattacks are repulsed by 18th RCT, which loses two pillboxes.

Fifty-three tons loosed by fighter bombers of IX TAC in approximately 187 sorties. Twelve P-47s effectively strafe and bomb targets in 18th Regt (1st Inf Div) sector. Wuerselen, Duren, enemy barracks, bridges, rolling stock, and tunnels

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

dive-bombed and strafed; rails cut and uneventful sweeps and patrols carried out.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Ninth Armd Div CP established near Mersch, Luxembourg.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Ninety-fifth Div initiates relief of 5th in bridgehead E of the Moselle. In Fort Driant area, 3d Bn, 2d Inf (-) of 5th Div is relieved by 2d Bn, 358th Inf (90th Div) and CO of 358th takes over responsibility for this area. New boundary established between 5th and 90th Divs.

19 U.S. FIRST ARMY

Enemy is attempting to break through encirclement of Aachen with reinforcements and supplies. Elements of German LXXXI, 1st SS, and 12th SS Pz Corps fail in efforts to relieve the beleaguered garrison. Heavy arty fire checks enemy thrusts, damages his armor, and is effective in counterbattery work.

VII Corps RCT 26, 1st Div, organizes for final assault on NW part of Aachen with aid of TF Hogan from 3d Armd Div. Resistance is starting to crumble. Elements of RCT 26 reach Lousberg heights in NW of city. RCT 18 fights enemy attempt to retain pillboxes on N side of Ravelsberg and inflicts heavy losses, including two tanks. Soggy terrain hinders operations in 9th Div sector.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

Bridge N of Remagen destroyed in attack by 32 XXIX TAC P-47s; rolling stock destroyed by 33 others on armed rch in Limburg, Altenkirchen, and Kail areas.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Situation at Maizieres les Metz unchanged, but 155-mm SP gun is set up in factory area to assist in clearing enemy from town. Elsewhere on 90th Div front,

UNCLASSIFIED
 [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

a period of increased patrolling and fire by all weapons is inaugurated, and reserve units are trained. Ninety-fifth Div continues relief of 5th Div in line.

XIII Corps Corps now holds a fairly regular front line running in NW to SE direction from the Seille R. bend 3 mi. NE of Pont a Mousson, along the Seille R., then skirting the E edge of Gremecey and Bezange la Grande Forests, and continuing S to vicinity of Parroy on the Marne-Rhine Canal, facing the German 48th Inf Div in the N sector and the 361st Volksgrenadier Div in the S.

Well-concentrated pattern reported in 4-ton attack on tank formation at Veho, SE of Parroy Forest, by 16 P-47s; 12 P-47s strafe targets NW of Kaiserlautern.

20 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Attack of 116th Inf elements attached to 30th Div makes slow progress in house-to-house fighting in Wuerselen-Kohlscheid area.

VII Corps Aachen now almost completely occupied by units of 1st Div, but fighting continues in NW of city; strongpoint at the Polytechnic School, where barricaded enemy forces are protected by SP guns and AT fire, falls to 26th Regt troops during afternoon, and a 1st Div TF plus tanks from 3d Armd Div captures high ground N of Aachen. RCT 18 is sharply counterattacked from the E.

Approximately 330 tactical sorties flown by IX TAC. On armed rcn missions over Aachen and Duesseldorf in XIX Corps sector, buildings destroyed and fires kindled in towns of Wuerselen and Freialdenhoven; other targets also fired; RR tunnel at Eschweiler blocked. In 9th Div zone, many buildings fired in strafing attack on Vossenack; RR installations and strongpoints destroyed in raids by estimated 65 P-47s. W of Rhine, 54 P-38s cut rails. In these missions, estimated 138 enemy planes sighted; over Bruhl and Duren, 3 sqs of P-38s have separate skirmishes with gps of 20, 16, and 7 enemy planes; claim 9-2-16 for loss of 7 P-38s; in Bonn area, 32 P-38s claim 2-1-3 of 30 FW-190s engaged, while NW of Coblenz 11 P-47s claim 6-1-2 for loss of 2.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

U.S. NINTH ARMY

VIII Corps Ninth Armd completes its move to Luxembourg and closes in assembly area near Rollingen. Fourteenth Cav Gp (with 18th and 32d Cav Sqs) closes in Corps zone; 18th Sq attached to 2d Div, and 32d to 83d Div. Demonstration of a river crossing staged by 83d Div fails to arouse much reaction from enemy.

Eighty-three XXIX TAC P-47s pursue rail cutting program W of Rhine, claiming track and hwy cuts, rolling stock, and enemy supply and AA installations.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Ninetieth Div units maintain their positions at Maizieres les Metz. CG of 95th Div assumes command of bridgehead E of the Moselle at 1800, relieving 5th Div. CP of 95th Div now at Villers sous Preney. Fifth Div, upon assembly in new area, starts reorganization, training, and cleaning and maintenance of equipment; CP located at Piennes.

XII Corps Aggressive patrolling continues; enemy mines and booby traps encountered.

Enemy rail nets and facilities again heavily attacked by more than half of 245 planes dispatched by XIX TAC. Thirty-nine P-47s successfully bomb dam at Dieuze with 35 tons of 1,000-lb. bombs, unleashing waters of Lindre Lake to forestall later flooding of Seille R. by Germans.

21 U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps Thirtieth Div continues attacking toward center of Wuerselen but makes little progress against enemy resistance from inf in houses, Mark V and Mark VI tanks, and heavy mortar and arty fire. Corps units mop up NW of Aachen.

VII Corps At 1205 the Comdt of the Aachen garrison, Col Wilck, surrenders unconditionally to the 1st Div with 600 of his men. TF Hogan and 26th Regt units make sweep of city to round up isolated enemy groups, reporting city clear at 1615. Fighting continues on N slopes of Ravelstein, NW of Haaren.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

About 415 tactical sorties flown in area by IX TAC; 112 tons expended. Total of 181 P-47s strafe and bomb arty positions, road junctions, fuel dump, fox holes, trenches, Linnich factory and ordnance dump, rail junction and buildings at Wuerselen and Grevenbroich, and other opportune targets in XIX Corps area; large fires kindled in Brandenburg and Bergstein; rolling stock destroyed, and many tracks cut in 1st Inf sector; P-38s continue interdiction of enemy transportation W of Rhine. During fighter sweep in Coblenz area, 36 P-47s claim 21-2-11 enemy planes of 50-60 (in 2 waves) encountered for loss of 3 P-47s.

U.S. NINTH ARMY

In direct and able support to 83d Inf Div, 23 P-47s expending 11½ tons of bombs, knock out 4 troublesome gun positions.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Defensive patrolling and sporadic arty shelling mark enemy activity.

In estimated 165 sorties flown by XIX TAC in support of XX, XV, and VI Corps, rail and road traffic again chief target; guns and tanks hit incidentally; about 78 tons dropped. "Excellent mission" achieved by fighter-bomber sq supporting 26th Inf Div attack in Moncourt sector.

22 U.S. NINTH ARMY

Twelfth Army Group regrouping. Ninth Army Hq moved from area between 1st and 3d Armies to position in N on L flank of 1st Army. XIX Corps (30th and 29th Inf Divs and 2d Armd Div) and attachments, previously with U.S. 1st Army, pass to 9th Army control at noon.

VIII Corps Corps and attachments (including 2d, 8th, and 83d Inf Divs and 9th Armd Div) pass to U.S. 1st Army control at noon. From beginning of month to date, both enemy and Allied action has been light, consisting largely of harassing arty fire and patrolling. Corps arty fire has been on reduced scale because of limited ammunition; weather has permitted only a few air missions

UNCLASSIFIED
[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group22
Cont

in support of Corps. Flying bombs have been prevalent over Corps front, particularly in 2d Div zone.

XXIX TAC less 366th FB Gp but with addition of 48th and 404th FB Gp establishes Hq at Maastricht.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

XIX Corps is transferred from First Army to Ninth Army, as regrouping and reorganization begins in preparation for future drives into the lower reaches of the Rhineland. At noon, Ninth Army Hq relinquishes control of zone on the R (S) and takes over zone of XIX Corps on the L (N) of First Army. Previous boundary between VII and XIX Corps becomes now N boundary for First Army. At the same time, VIII Corps passes to control of First Army and previous boundary between Ninth and Third Armies becomes new S boundary of First Army, while previous First-Ninth inter-Army boundary on S remains as boundary between V and VIII Corps. First Army now has a 60-mi. front.

After its disorganized retreat across France and Belgium, the German Army has reorganized sufficiently to prevent a major breakthrough to the Rhine. The German 353d Inf Div has moved S and controls fortress units in area N of Trier. German armor has been generally withdrawn and I and II SS Pz Corps have retired E of the Rhine.

VII Corps Parts of Wuerselen, 4 mi. NNE of Aachen, are cleared by 1st Div forces.

V Corps Front generally inactive except for active patrolling.

VIII Corps Corps front is from vicinity of Losheim, 11 mi. NE of St. Vith, to just S. of Remich, 12 mi. SE of city of Luxembourg, running from N to S about 20 mi. E of Bastogne, and is so widely extended in 83d Div zone that bn sectors average 5 mi. in width. Corps has mission of holding section of front line already secured and maintaining active rcn and counter-rcn patrols.

Enemy mortar fire is heavy in 2d Div sector opposite Habscheid, 8 mi. SE of St. Vith. Ninth Armd Div, which has not yet seen action, is in reserve in region between the Clerf and Alzette rivers and the Our and Moselle rivers. Corps arty conducts limited program of harassing

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

fires. Robot bombs pass frequently over Corps front in vicinity of juncture of borders of Belgium, Germany, and Luxembourg.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XII Corps Twenty-sixth Div launches attack in area SW of Bezange la Petite at 0600, advances 2,000 yds. to the E, toward Moncourt, against moderate resistance from SA, emplaced inf weapons, and mines, and seizes positions on high ground W of Bezange la Petite and Moncourt.

Troop concentrations, gun positions, strongpoints at Cuvry, Magny, and Marley hit in XII Corps sector, firing towns; Mannheim, Kaiserlautern, Homberg, Saarlautern, Sarrebourg, and Hagenau RR targets also attacked. Twenty-nine P-47s drop 25 tons on Metz strongpoints; supply dump at Bois de Crepy fired.

23 U.S. NINTH ARMY

Seventh Armd Div is relieved from assignment to U.S. First Army and assigned to Ninth Army, although still attached to British Second Army.

XIX Corps Period of regrouping, rotation of troops, training, and resting starts; defensive positions being improved, and active defense of zone maintained.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

Divisional shifts begin in order to permit replacement of 9th Div, which has suffered many casualties in the past month and a half of fighting through the Huertgen and Roetgen forests. Combat activity slackens in closing days of month.

VII Corps Propaganda shells exchanged with enemy in 47th Inf (9th Div) sector.

VIII Corps Concentrations of 105-mm projectiles fall in 23d Regt, 2d Div, sector during afternoon; 8 robot bombs pass over same area (SE of St. Vith) during day. To the N, nightly long-range harassing fires with .50-cal MGs commenced by 38th Regt elements in vicinity W of Brandscheid.

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATERPart 2: Twelfth Army Group

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Tenth Armd Div assigned to XX Corps. Ninety-fifth Div completes all immediate relief of units of 5th Div; 5th continues training, reorganization, and maintenance of equipment. Activity on 95th and 90th Div fronts limited to arty exchanges, patrolling, and harassing fire; SA and light arty and mortar fire received from Fort Driant.

24 U.S. FIRST ARMY

VII Corps First Div mounts local attacks to a limited objective NE of Haaren (2 mi. S of Wuerselen); but units fail to reach objective and return to their former positions. Considerable air and arty activity continues in neighborhood of Aachen. Robot bombs begin passing over 24th Cav Rcn Sq sector E of Eupen at rate of 5-10 a day.

VIII Corps Attack by strong enemy patrol is repulsed E of Heckhuscheid, 7 mi. SE of St. Vith, by elements of 23d Inf, 2d Div. Enemy patrols active also in 9th Inf sector (Schnee Eifel).

Weather limits operations to approximately 60 sorties; 33 P-38s fire supply dump and warehouse in Reifferscheid area with 46 napalm bombs; 7 tons dropped on RR tracks W of Rhine by 23 P-38s.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Corps zone remains generally quiet. Ninety-fifth Div receives considerable fire from Fort Verdun; Div patrols make 2 unsuccessful attempts to cross the swollen Seille R.

25 U.S. NINTH ARMY

XIX Corps The last of the various units which were withdrawn from other sectors to participate in the battle for Aachen are now withdrawn from line and returned to their own areas or parent units. In order to give newly-arrived 102d Div (XVI Corps) some front line experience and to permit rest periods for units in line, Corps starts

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: - WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER -
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

attaching elements of 102d to 30th and 29th Inf Divs and 2d Armd Div.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

VII Corps RCT 47 remains at front under operational control of 3d Armd Div while rest of 9th Div, passing to V Corps control, awaits relief by 28th Div, V Corps. Enemy arty and mortar fire on forward elements increases.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Ninetieth Div completes a number of shifts in unit zones to release 1 bn from each regt for training and rehabilitation. Ninety-fifth Div silences fire from Fort Verdun with 2 batteries.

XII Corps Twenty-sixth Div makes small advances near Moncourt, 4 mi. above Parroy Forest. Aggressive patrolling and sporadic harassing enemy mortar and arty fire along Corps front comprise only action in this zone during rest of month.

In 44 sorties, XIX TAC P-47s concentrate on RRs in Trier-Saarbruecken areas; 2 RR bridges damaged.

26 U.S. NINTH ARMY

XIX Corps Troops of 102d Div enter combat for 1st time, with 406th Inf attached to 30th Div, 405th attached to 2d Armd, and 407th attached to 29th Div.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

VII Corps Heavy enemy mortar fire received in positions N of Aachen in afternoon and evening. First Div continues to consolidate and hold positions, maintaining contact with enemy by active patrols.

V Corps Twenty-eighth Div moves NE in temporary shift into VII Corps zone to relieve RCT 39 and RCT 60 of 9th Div in the Germeter area. CCR, 5th Armd Div, advances 1½ mi. NE to vicinity of Monschau.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

VIII Corps Ninth Regt troops of 2d Div receive severe shelling between 0600 and 0820, in sector of front E of St. Vith.

Highways and traffic on Cologne-Eschweiler roads attacked by 25 P-38s with good results; 40 P-47s harass RR targets.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Corps issues basic plan for reduction of Metz, whereby 90th Div, making main effort, will cross Moselle NE of Thionville, establish bridgehead, then move S to contact 95th Div which will encircle Metz from the S in conjunction with XII Corps; 5th Div will contain enemy salient, operating from present 90th Div zone, and assault on order; 10th Armd Div and 3d Cav Gp (reinf) will pass through L of 90th Div bridgehead and attack S, SE, and E. Action at Haizieres les Metz centers about the strongly fortified city hall: elements of 357th Inf (90th Div), for second time, attack this stronghold, penetrating walls and taking a few prisoners before being driven out by counterattacking enemy. In 95th Div sector, enemy concentrations in Bois le Comte, near Vezon, hit by arty barrage of 534 rounds fired by 81 weapons.

Bridges and rail yards continue to be favorite targets for XIX TAC; dam across Mozelle bombed with unobserved results; in night attack, 4 P-61s strafe Neunkirchen, MT at Kaiserlautern, and barracks N of Bouzonville.

27 U.S. FIRST ARMY

V Corps Twenty-eighth Div completes relief of 9th Div, VII Corps, remaining under operational control of V Corps.

VIII Corps Enemy arty heavy in 2d Div zone. In 38th Inf sector, NW of Brandscheid, two tanks place neutralization and harassing fire on pillbox targets. In same sector, propaganda shells, consisting of Safe Conduct leaflets and special leaflets in Russian for the Russian troops in Brandscheid, are fired into enemy lines.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Enemy patrol attacks outpost at SE corner of Manom; counterattacking platoon of 43d Cav Sq forces Germans to withdraw in haste, leaving weapons and equipment. Fighting for city hall at Maizieres les Metz continues: mortar fire breaches wall, then 4 groups (10 men each) of 357th Inf attack; 1 group succeeds in entering but is driven out after bitter fighting.

28 U.S. NINTH ARMY

In cooperation with XIX Corps, 65 P-47s of XXIX TAC attack Immendorf town, smoke-marked target, with unobserved results; other planned operations in vicinity cancelled as enemy fires smoke shells into friendly lines; 16 P-47s on escort mission bounced by more than 30 enemy fighters over Andernach; 5-0-1 FW-190s claimed for no loss. More than 150 sorties flown.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

Weather conditions unfavorable for combined military operations.

VIII Corps Rocket, mortar, and arty fire continues to fall in 9th Inf, 2d Div, sector along the Schnee Eifel ridge.

No damage inflicted in raids on Sinzig and Ahrweiler RR bridges by 15 B-26s and 15 A-20s; 15 B-26s in formations of 6, 6, and 3 attack Euskirchen airfield, Kempenich, and Langenfeld. Fighters continue to disrupt road and rail traffic at Eschweiler; 11 cuts inflicted on bridges by IX TAC in pursuance of interdiction program.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Attacking in afternoon, co of 357th Inf (90th Div) captures city block E of city hall at Maizieres les Metz, but finds it untenable since buildings are completely razed by combined enemy and Allied fire. Under cover of this diversionary action, 3 cos of 357th Inf enter factory area preparatory to assault tomorrow. City hall severely

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

damaged by Corps arty (8" and 240-mm howitzer shells).
Ninety-fifth Div front remains quiet; Div patrol succeeds
in crossing the subsiding Seille R. during night.

Interruption of enemy traffic again stressed in missions
by approximately 240 XIX TAC fighters. Three direct hits
scored on bridge in Kaiserlautern area by 42 P-47s; 5 other
bridges and 1 RR tunnel also bombed with satisfactory results.

29 U.S. NINTH ARMY

Twenty-six B-26s loose 49 tons on Mayen RR bridge,
attaining poor to fair results. Sorties of XXIX TAC exceed
315, most of which are flown in battle area in armed rcn
missions.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

IX BD and TAC again hit key bridges with estimated 450
tons; in 2 days' activity 5 bridges claimed destroyed, 4 on
the line Ahrdorf to Remagen and 1 between Noervenich and
Moedrath, W of Cologne; 8 damaged in those areas; 29 lines
cut in areas just W of Cologne and E of Euskirchen and on
rails from Ahrdorf to Remagen; strategic road junctions and
highways also hit.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps At 0730, 357th Inf (90th Div) launches assault
on Maizières les Metz with 4 cos, of which 3 abreast
attack E from factory area while 4th maintains pressure
on the N; arty preparation is absent and complete surprise
achieved; enemy, with escape routes to E and S blocked
by arty and MG fire, is driven in confusion into steadily
contracting area; 3 city blocks taken by 357th Inf by
noon, garrison cut in two by thrust straight through the
town to E edge by 1600, and bulk of the town captured
by dark. Ninety-fifth Div zone remains quiet. Tenth
Armd Div CP established at Mars la Tour.

Estimated 350 P-47s of XIX TAC operate against road and
rail targets: 2 bridges in Alsace area heavily hit, Kaltenhausen
bridge rendered ineffective, and Selestat bridge demolished;

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

RR and road bridge at Konz-Karthaus SW of Trier also suffers damage.. In fighter sweep over Boeckingen, 35 P-51s jumped by 100 plus ME-109s; 35-min. air battle ensues; P-51s claim 24-2-8 enemy planes for loss of 3.

30 U.S. NINTH ARMY

XIX Corps Two bns (1 from 66th Armd Regt of 2d Armd Div and 1 from 116th Regt of 29th Div) moved to positions SW of Sittard and S of Eysden as reserve in the event of enemy counterattack against Corps L flank. This move is prompted by strong enemy effort in Meijel area of British 2d Army zone. Corps Letter of Instruction establishes Corps reserve to consist of 1 Combat Command of 2d Armd Div and 1 bn of 30th Inf Div.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Remaining buildings at Maizieres les Metz, including strongly contested city hall, captured by 357th Inf (90th Div) by afternoon. During fight for this town, 357th Inf at cost of 55 casualties kills or captures about a bn of Germans. Capture of Maizieres les Metz opens direct and well protected route to Metz from N and threatens enemy supply routes to forts in the N. Ninety-fifth Div arty fires enemy installations at Sillegny.

Seven P-61s in night patrol attack barracks and factory N of Bouzonville; others attack MT and train in area.

31 U.S. NINTH ARMY

XIX Corps CCR assigned to Corps reserve by 2d Armd Div.

U.S. FIRST ARMY

Total of 205 missions flown during month by IX TAC with 6,351 fighter bombers dispatched; total of 1,967 tons of bombs dropped; among claims are 76 MT, 447 RR cars, 217 RR cuts, 7 roads and 8 bridges interdicted; 41 troop concentrations

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 2: Twelfth Army Group

31 and 23 marshalling yards successfully attacked; 82-15-55
Cont enemy planes claimed in air, 24-9-6 on the ground.

U.S. THIRD ARMY

XX Corps Reorganization of Corps, to be completed by 2400 2 Nov., in progress: 5th Div will relieve 95th of responsibility for bridgehead E of the Moselle; 95th will relieve 90th within present zone S to Gravelotte, exclusive; 10th Armd will relieve 358th Inf, 90th Div. Preparations for these shifts pushed, and relief of some elements initiated.

Forty-three P-47s drop 19½ tons, exploding supply dump and cutting tracks near Sarrebourg. P-61s operate on night patrols throughout month.

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

1 U.S.- SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy is bitterly resisting efforts to force him from Parroy Forest on the low ridges NE of Luneville, between the Marne-Rhine Canal and the Vezouse R. Germans employ assault gun and tank support despite thickly wooded terrain. Elements of 79th Div advance lines (extending from S tip of forest in NNW direction to 2 mi. S of Parroy Pond) about 1 mi., encountering some heavy opposition in afternoon. A 2d Fr Armd Div TF cuts Rambervillers-Baccarat road as 45th Div, VI Corps, completes occupation of Rambervillers.

VI Corps Occupying a 30-mi. front in Vosges foothills E of the Moselle, from Ferdrupt, 9 mi. SE of Remiremont, N to Rambervillers, Corps faces elements of 21st Pz and 16th Inf Divs of German XLVII Pz Corps and 716th, 198th, 189th, and 338th Inf or Res Divs of German LXIV Corps. Enemy line anchors on Raon l'Etape area on the N and Gerardmer area on the S, protecting communication center of St. Die, on the Meurthe R., from which roads lead to Strasbourg, Selestat, and Colmar. Forty-fifth Div troops attack against Jeanmenil, Fremifontaine, and Grandvillers, on 10-mi. front E and S of Rambervillers. Opposition very heavy; fighting is characterized by mortar, rocket, tank, and arty fire, and frequent close combat. While FFI elements clear wooded areas W and SW of Rambervillers, elements of 157th Regt, 45th Div, overcoming MG and arty fire, reach outskirts of Bru and Jeanmenil, 3 mi. E of city. (Rambervillers itself is under sporadic enemy arty fire throughout most of month.) Meeting particularly stubborn tank, mortar, and SP gun resistance, elements of 179th Regt clear most of Grandvillers, 7 mi. S of Rambervillers, in house-to-house fighting, and advance slowly through Faite Forest toward Grandvillers-Bruyeres road. Elements of 180th Regt encounter heavy opposition W of Fremifontaine. Ten mi. E of Epinal, elements of 36th Div find Lépanges and Fays clear of enemy and set up road blocks in area. In Prey-St. Jean du Marche-Houx area, 3 mi. E of Docelles, positions are improved and hill feature is occupied. On Corps R flank, E of Remiremont, elements of 3d Div encounter sniper fire W of Vagny, establish strong road blocks E of St. Ame, and launch local attacks in co strength with some progress, clearing enemy pockets in heavily wooded section NE of

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

St. Ame where, S of Cleurie, enemy still holds quarry converted into formidable strongpoint; small gains also made toward NE edge of Fossard Forest, N of Cleurie, against moderate resistance including arty fire.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps First Fr Armd Div repulses enemy counter-attack in Ronchamp area and patrols on 13-mi. front. First Fr Inf Div patrols woods S of Fresse and reaches road S of Frederic-Fontaine in areas 12 mi. E of Lure.

I Corps Third Alg Div begins movement to II Corps, some elements arriving in Lure-Melisey area, 15 mi. W of Belfort. In 24 hrs. ending at noon, Corps elements on Alpine front limit operations to patrolling and rcn.

2 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Cav Rcn Sqs cover 79th Div L flank in N of Parroy Forest and between forest and Marne-Rhine Canal. Resistance continues strong in forest, where enemy holds E section of woods and maintains strongpoint in clearing at S center. Five enemy tanks destroyed by CCV of 2d Fr Armd Div in fighting at Anglemont, 2½ mi. NE of Rambervillers.

VI Corps Rcn troops take 40 prisoners in fire fight at Menil sur Belvitte on Corps L flank. Enemy counterattacks by inf supported by tanks repulsed NE and SE of Rambervillers as 45th Div units batter way toward Bru and into Fremifontaine. Farther S, clearing of Grandvillers, W of Brouvelieures, is completed by 179th RCT after all-day fight. Thirty-sixth Div makes good progress against moderate SA, MG, and mortar fire, in attack toward Laveline du Houx from Lepanges area on the NW and le Creux area on the S. Town is seized and occupied by 143d Inf. Third Div forces continue fighting up valley from St. Ame toward le Tholy, which is about 5 mi. due W of Gerardmer.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div reoccupy feature in Chernolet area; other elements occupy part of Ronchamp and operate near town

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, elements of 2d Mor Div repulse with tanks and arty and SA fire enemy counterattack at Granges la Ville, 8 mi. S of Lure, and engage enemy before Marvelise, 4 mi. S of Granges.

XII TAC sorties total 119; RR cars, locomotives, and MT in Colmar-Mulhouse-Freiburg area claimed. Planes of XIX TAC hit bridges across Rhine-Marne Canal. Two enemy fighters strafe Thize airfield at Besancon.

3 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Heaviest fighting on Army front this day is in Parroy Forest, where 79th Div gains a few hundred yds. against mortar and arty fire and local counter-attack by enemy co of inf and tanks. Second Fr Armd Div does not resume offensive until end of month. Enemy has strong AT defenses in Azerailles-Baccarat-Domevre triangle. Wet ground prevents movement of armor except on roads.

VI Corps Active opposition slackens along Corps front; mines and road blocks extensively used. Heavy mortar, SA, and MG fire, supplemented by tank support, prevents 45th Div troops from entering Bru and Jeanmenil, E of Rambervillers. Thirty-sixth Div continues general advance NE along ridges S of Bruyeres and mops up in sector along Houx-Herpelmont road. Armd elements are held in Prey (between Lepanges and Laval) by constant shelling from German 88-mm. guns. Elements of 143d Inf clear Laveline-du-Houx.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div mop up remaining enemy resistance in Ronchamp and encounter enemy opposition at E of Moffans and S of Ronchamp; 4 mi. N of Ronchamp, units receive arty fire at Fresse.

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, elements of 4th Fr Mtn Div relieve elements of 2d Mor Div in la Maurienne and le Brianconnais Alpine areas. Other elements of 2d Mor Div straighten out front near Granges la Ville.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

XII TAC has good results flying 197 sorties against rail transport in Rhine Valley; 9 enemy planes destroyed in air over Belfort area and 4 on ground near Karlsruhe; 3 Allied planes lost. In support of 79th Inf Div, 1 sq of XIX TAC destroys 3 bothersome gun positions E of Blamont.

4 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

Enemy engages in delaying actions while strengthening main line of resistance from Heming, in the N, through Blamont and Baccarat, then along the Meurthe R. to St. Die and Fraize, covering the main approaches into and through the Vosges with almost continuous fire-trenches supplemented by pillboxes and AT ditches.

XV Corps Attacks by 314th Regt, 79th Div, in Parroy Forest thwarted by enemy counterattacks. The 106th Cav Rcn Sq captures road junction in NW part of forest.

VI Corps In 45th Div sector E of Rambervillers, attempt to outflank Jeanmenil from the S fails. Enemy arty fire from N and E very heavy in vicinity of Herpeltmont in 141st Inf, 36th Div, sector. Local enemy counterattacks are made on the approaches to le Tholy as 3d Div units continue attacking NE. Seventh Inf opens attack toward Vagnev from NW. French troops relieve elements of 3d Div in Rupt and Ferdrupt areas along Moselle R. as boundary between VI Corps and First French Army is shifted N.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div complete mopping up on Ronchamp and reach point 1 mi. E of Etobon, S of Ronchamp. Div extends sector N to Plancher les Mines, 9 mi. ENE of Lure. First Fr Armd prepares to attack le Thillot, 8 mi. N. First Fr Para Regt reaches Rupt and Ferdrupt on Moselle, to cross parts of Longegoutte and Gehan forests toward le Menil.

I Corps SE of Briancon, Fr troops withdraw W of Abaies Basin to line running through Aiguilles, in order to improve defenses, as 4th Mtn Div continues relief of 2d Mor Div.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

5 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps CT 315 of 79th Div attacks SE from near center of Parroy Forest in attempt to outflank enemy at cross-roads but is prevented by enemy counterattacks from establishing positions along road.

Twelve P-47s of XIX TAC, supporting XV Corps, damage or destroy almost all buildings in la Neuveville village and wipe out many MT, gun positions, and personnel.

VI Corps Resistance stiffens in center of Corps zone, especially just S of Brouvelieures. Forty-fifth Div repels 2 counterattacks. Chemical mortars set afire part of Jeanmenil. Enemy forces are strong on wooded heights between Fremifontaine and Bruyeres. Thirty-sixth Div troops cut Laveline-Rehaupal road and clean out adjacent woods. With heavy casualties from enemy mortar and arty fire, battle patrols of 3d Div drive enemy from quarry near Cleurie, where he had held out for several days. N of St. Ame, 3d Div elements fight from house to house in Julienrupt; 2 mi. SE of St. Ame, other elements are assaulting Vagney, where there is house-to-house fighting during afternoon.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps In Gehan Forest area, elements of 3d Alg Div and 1st Para Regt reach several crests, the latter capturing Tete du Midi and Tete du Gehan, threatening the Cornimont-le Thillot road paralleling Gehan Forest to the S.

I Corps Enemy engages in considerable patrol activity on 2d Mor Div front.

6 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Local enemy counterattacks continue in Parroy Forest.

VI Corps Enemy counterattack SE of Fremifontaine forces slight withdrawal of 180th Inf units of 45th Div. Considerable arty fire and strong infiltration supplement enemy resistance against 179th RCT, attacking E of

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Grandvillers. To the S, accurate fire drives enemy from positions astride Tendon-le Tholy road. Third Div elements engage in fire fight at Julienrupt; 7th Inf takes Cremanviller, 3½ mi. S of Julienrupt, and pushes into Vagney against bitter resistance.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Overcoming enemy arty fire and bitter resistance, elements of 1st Fr Inf Div take Cite des Epoisses, strongpoint between Ronchamp and Champagney. Inf elements of 1st Fr Armd Div infiltrate region W and S of Chateau-Lambert, S of le Thillot. N of le Thillot, in Longegoutte and Gehan forests, apparently reinforced enemy tenaciously holds positions and, with arty support, counterattacks continually, in spite of losses. First Para Regt, after bitter fighting, fills in line between Tete du Midi and Tete du Gehan; 3d Alg Div advances N of Rupt-Ferdrupt line.

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, activity is limited to arty fire and patrols along Corps front; enemy rcn raids in sector of 2d Mor Div NW of Doubs R. fail.

Thirty-five aircraft of XII TAC sweep battle area in patrol missions; 24 P-47s of XIX TAC concentrate on barges and supply dumps in XV Corps support.

7 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Chemical mortar fire again placed on Jeanmenil, starting two fires. Counterattack by 111th Pz Gren Regt against 45th Div S of Fremifontaine beaten off with heavy losses to enemy. Farther S, enemy is forced to withdraw from Vagney, which is seized and held by 7th Inf, 3d Div, despite enemy counterattack from SE with inf, tanks, and a flakwagon.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Near Fresse, elements of 1st Fr Inf Div repel heavy enemy counterattack in direction of Hill 620 W of town and intercept enemy patrols in area of Hill 701 and Rovers Forest to E and NE. Reinforced elements of 3d Alg Div in Rupt-Ferdrupt area cut le Thillot-Remiremont

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

highway SE of Ferdrupt and occupy positions 1-2 mi. NE of highway on slopes of Longegoutte Forest and Gehan Forest features.

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, in area S of Lure, 2d Mor Div and enemy arty are active; enemy patrols repulsed. During night, enemy counterattacks units of 1st Fr Armd.

XII TAC flies 379 sorties claiming 19 RR cuts and much rolling stock; 10 enemy aircraft also destroyed. Supply dumps, bridges, and CP S of Bezange-la-petite and another S of Dieuze fired in support of XV Corps.

8 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

Emphasis of enemy resistance shifts S to VI Corps L flank.

VI Corps Thirty-sixth Div forces attack toward Herpeltmont, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. S of Bruyeres, and other villages along S side of Vologne valley, meeting strong resistance. With tank support, 141st Inf enters Herpeltmont and clears woods directly NW of town as enemy falls back toward Beaumenil. Thirtieth Inf, 3d Div, secures high ground overlooking le Tholy. To the S, from high ground NE of Vagney, elements of 7th Inf push on toward Sapois, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. beyond, on road to Gerardmer.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, elements of 1st Fr Inf Div, operating against violent arty fire, mop up the Cite des Epoisses area and advancing on the Ronchamp-Champagne axis reach heights W of la Verrerie, 2 mi. E of Ronchamp. In the Corravillers-le Thillot-Chateau Lambert-Ronchamp area elements of 1st Fr Armd encounter strong resistance and repulse 2 counterattacks; elements of 1st Para Regt overcome enemy resistance to advance S toward le Thillot from Tete du Gehan. Elements of 3d Alg Div, advancing SE along Ferdrupt-le Thillot highway, finish mopping up Remanvillers and Ramonchamp and take Lettraye by direct assault, contacting 1st Para Regt. Other elements of 1st Div enter into grenade and pistol action in advancing N toward crest of Longegoutte Forest.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part-3: Sixth Army Group

opposition, losing 100 killed and 500 wounded and inflicting losses of from 500 to 600 killed on the enemy and capturing more than 1,000.

I Corps SE of Lure, elements of 2d Mor Div continue to repel enemy raids on wide front in Grange Forest area. In 24 hrs. ending at noon, 4th Mtn Div operations NE of Briancon and elsewhere continue in spite of weather; enemy arty shells Briancon.

10 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy has withdrawn from E and S parts of Parroy Forest and 79th Div patrols reach edge of la Neuveville aux Bois, 2 mi. SW of Embermenil.

VI Corps Third Div cuts Tendon-le Tholy road about a mile from le Tholy and presses on to N and NE against SA, mortar, and SP gun fire.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Corps now holds important bridgehead on N bank of Moselotte R. In 1st Fr Inf Div sector, enemy arty bombards Fresse and Ronchamp. First Fr Armd Div, meeting strong resistance in advance toward Chateau Lambert and le Thillot from SW, reaches point on Melisey-le Thillot highway S of Haut du Them and high land 2 mi. N, near le Frenet. Elements of 3d Mor Div cross Moselotte R. near les Graviers and reach au Thiot, N of les Graviers, and heights to E. Other elements continue slow advance on high land E of Thiefosse and encounter strong enemy resistance between Trougemont and Planois. Saules-sur-Moselotte is captured. Weather impedes progress.

I Corps In the 9th Col Div area two German patrols are blown up in traps between the Doubs R. and the Swiss frontier. NE of Briancon in the Alps sector, Fr arty bombards Ccsana and Claviere and patrols are active in the vicinity of Montgenevre.

11 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Rcn forces approach Embermenil, just E of Parroy Forest, but are halted at blown bridges at outskirts.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Fresil woods, W of Thiefosse and N of Longegoutte Forest, and crests 4 mi. N of Rupt are reached by other Corps troops.

I Corps On both sides of Grange Forest, NE of Villersexel, elements of 2d Mor Div repel arty and mortar-supported rcn raids. In 24 hrs. ending at noon, elements of 4th Mtn Div in the Alps win local successes in approaches to Col du Petit St. Bernard, NE of Bourg St. Maurice and near M. Cenis, NE of Briancon.

XII TAC sorties total 395 with main concentration on Offenburg and Freiburg rail targets and Boeblingen and Freiburg airfields; 59 Spitfires destroy 2 enemy fighters engaged in Gerardmer area; while P-47s account for 1-0-0 (air) and 7-2-1 (ground) with loss of 7 Allied planes.

2 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Seventy-ninth Div elements resume offensive in Parroy Forest, reduce enemy strongpoint at a crossroads, force a general enemy retreat, and move E down the Embermenil trail, nearing E edge of forest.

VI Corps Heavy arty concentrations fall on Herpeltmont, where elements of 141st Inf, 36th Div, are established after house-to-house fighting in outskirts. In 3d Div sector, to the S, resistance is met in vicinity of Sapois, directly E of Cremanviller and Vagney.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div encounter violent enemy arty fire and other resistance in attempts to clear Champagne. First Fr Armd occupies Hill 584 W of le Haut du Them, 3 mi. SW of le Thillot. Regions S of Lettraye are mopped up. Elements of 3d Alg Div clear enemy from Morbieux Brook area NW of le Thillot, relieving some encircled troops. Other elements cross crest of Longegoutte Forest, reach the Moselotte R. opposite les Graviers, 6 mi. N of le Thillot, cross it 1½ mi. N at Thiefosse and take heights E and S. Striking at the Contrexard-Trougemont-Planois triangle 2 mi. NE of Thiefosse, they take Contrexard and Trougemont and reach edge of Planois. Troops of 3d Alg Div encounter violent

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps Arty commences steady daily pounding of targets on the approaches to Gerardmer. The Nisei 442d Inf Regt is attached to 36th Div and placed in position to attack Bruyeres from the W. Sapois, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. NE of Vagney, on road to Gerardmer, is cleared and occupied by elements of 7th Inf, 3d Div.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Receiving arty fire, elements of 1st Fr Inf Div continue mopping up in Ronchamp-Champagney area. Enemy counterattacks are repulsed by 1st Fr Armd E of Ramonchamp and near Laplaine. W of Chateau Lambert slow progress toward le Thillot continues. In Gehan Forest, 1st Para Regt takes la Tete du Canard, E end of ridge, and contacts enemy at head of la Chapechatte Gap, farther E. Elements of 3d Mor Div reach W edge of Bamont, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. E of Saulxures, and features N of Saulxures. N of Thiefosse, elements take Planois and patrols reach la Piquante Roche and Bois de Presles, 2 mi. E. American units are contacted at Sapois, N of Planois.

I Corps Second Mor Div sustains enemy arty fire. Ninth Col Inf Div carries on patrol activity in les Grands Bois-Pont de Roide area. In Alps sector of 4th Mtn Div, up to noon, enemy is very active, particularly near Briancon, where enemy arty causes casualties and his patrols are repulsed.

In approximately 185 sorties flown by XII TAC, gun positions, installations, rail facilities, road and rail traffic, and other targets hit.

12 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy arty activity increases over SE part of Parroy Forest. Patrols of 79th Div reach edge of Domjevin, 4 mi. from SE edge of forest, then withdraw under arty and SA fire.

VI Corps Local enemy counterattacks repelled near Herpelmont, 2 mi. S of Bruyeres, and in area NW of latter.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Breach in enemy lines beyond Moselotte R. widened in Vagney-Gerardmer axis and Trougemont-la Bresse direction, 4 mi. S. Elements of 1st Fr Armd take hill N of Haut du Them. Elements of 3d Alg Div continue in contact with enemy on E end of Gehan Forest ridge, hold Haut du Xard and Pre Genin, N of feature, and establish bridgehead at Bruches. Other elements clear Saulxures of remaining resistance, take Pre Colat ridge N of Bamont, and other high points beyond as far as la Piquante Roche. Farther N other elements hold Cens la Ville, Gerbamont, and Orimont, and approach W edge of Rochessen.

I Corps In 24 hrs. ending at noon, arty fire of 9th Col Inf Div breaks up enemy forays in Blamont area E of Pont de Roide; nine mi. NW, enemy mortar fire stops attack on Beutal by 2d Mor Div. FFI and German patrols clash in the Lanslevillard area N of Susa. Enemy arty fire against Briancon continues. In the front near Bourg St. Maurice light enemy forces operate in Redoute Ruinee and at other points, and a German detachment is routed near Chapieux.

Force of 170 IX TAC P-47s flies armed rcn and rail cutting missions in Belfort area concentrating 41½ tons on rolling stock, MT, marshalling yards, and grounded enemy aircraft; 19 P-47s score 14 hits on gun positions in battle area.

13 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Seventy-ninth Div elements occupy town of Embermenil, beyond Parroy Forest on the E, after brisk fight.

VI Corps Only activity a fire fight in area W of Bruyeres and Brouvelieures, where 36th and 45th Divs are attacking E.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Encountering strong resistance from solidly organized enemy strongpoints protected by mine fields, elements of 3d Alg Div move toward Cornillon, E of

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Saulxures, and la Bresse, reaching Hill 791, la Perdent, and le Sauais, W of Cornimont; enemy forces still hold la Tete des Cerfs and Neuve Grange to N. Croix des Moinats, 3½ mi. S, is reached by Div troops. SW edge of Peutecutte Forest is taken.

I Corps Patrol and arty activity continues on 2d Mor Div front W of Montbeliard. E of Pont de Roide, 9th Col Inf Div troops inflict enemy casualties in repulsing raid on Blamont. Elements of 4th Mtn Div drive enemy from Aiguille Rouge in Briancon area and improve positions near le Lac Noir in the Tarentaise area.

14 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy is well dug in on hill mass NE of Embermenil. Attack against these positions by 313th Inf, 79th Div, makes only slight gains at cost of many casualties. Supporting armor bogs down badly due to recent rains.

VI Corps NW of Bruyeres, 45th Div finds enemy inf defending with considerable mortar and arty support; patrols draw AT and tank fire.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 3d Alg Div mop up Tete de Chapechatte and in Travexin area engage in hand-to-hand fighting at Champs a Nabord. Farther E, elements of 1st Para Regt take Ascensement des Huttes. Two mi. NE, les Baranges and Cornimont are taken. Advances on W slopes of Moselotte valley are stopped by enemy mortar fire. W of la Bresse, other elements of 3d Alg Div reach Rondfaing and attack Rochesson.

I Corps Sharp arty exchange occurs in 4th Mtn Div sector, FFI increases participation in defense.

Force of 166 U.S. P-47s, 15 Spitfires, and 4 gps of French P-47s flies armed rcn, fighter bombing, and rail cutting missions in Mulhouse, Freiburg, Strasbourg, Colmar, and Karlsruhe areas, the bulk of which claim many rail cuts and rolling stock. In response to I French Army request, P-47s attack Dannemarie RR viaduct with poor results. Twenty-four

UNCLASSIFIED

~~TOP SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

P-47s of XIX TAC strongly support XV Corps in Baccarat and Igney areas.

15 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Two enemy counterattacks before dawn are broken up E of Parroy Forest. Patrols receive heavy fire throughout day.

VI Corps Corps attack E on Bruyeres-St. Die axis begins. Attack on Bruyeres from SSW by 36th Div starts at 0800. Under smoke cover, units of 36th enter Laval, 1 mi. SW of objective, and cut main road, engaging in fire fight along RR. Fimenil and Beaumenil, NW and NE of Herpelmont, respectively, are also entered and cleared. Heavy enemy shelling of area S of Bruyeres continues. Japanese-Americans of 442d RCT attack from the NW but are forced to dig in under heavy fire from enemy inf in the thick woods. Simultaneously, 179th Inf, 45th Div, attacks E in area SW of Brouvelieures, while 180th Inf fights toward Mortagne R. through thick woods N of city. Third Div elements in stiff close-in fighting in vicinity of le Tholy, as attack during night of 15/16 fails to pierce enemy line.

During 15-22 Oct, 3d Div shifts N from position on S flank of Corps to position between 36th and 45th Divs for surprise attack toward St. Die from the W, covering move by simulating concentration W of le Tholy. Combat group raids le Tholy, retiring to woods N of town after fighting several hrs. and receiving heavy enemy fire.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Armd enter Travexin near Bamont after local action by 1st Para Regt; elements of 3d Alg Div consolidate positions E of Cornimont and reach area N of le Daval, W of la Bresse. Although additional points are gained W of Rochesson, Lecoq TF, composed of elements of 3d Alg Div and FFI troops, withdraws to NW fringe of Couchetat Forest after enemy counterattack.

I Corps Enemy arty shells Bourg St. Maurice in 4th Mtn Div sector of A 100.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

Approximately 400 IX TAC sorties flown; Spitfires and P-47s again attain good results on rail lines, rolling stock, MT, guns, and buildings in battle area.

16 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps High ground $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. S of Embermenil is lost and regained in early morning engagement of 314th Inf, 79th Div, with units of 11th Pz Div.

VI Corps Forty-fifth Div troops repulse counterattack NW of Brouvellicures. Enemy counterattacks in Bruyeres-Brouvellicures sector also; fire from all types of weapons and mined road blocks hold up U.S. armor. Forces attacking Bruyeres from N and W reach high ground NW of town. Long-range arty fire, snipers, and machine gunners in houses along route from Laval to Bruyeres prevent 36th Div elements from reaching latter town from the S; but elements of 143d Inf clear Laval completely and partially clear Champ le Duc, $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. S of Bruyeres, in house-to-house fighting. CT 442 is involved in heavy fighting at foot of hills just W of Bruyeres. Third Div elements W. of le Tholy receive heavy mortar concentration from Rehaupel to the N and increased SP fire from la Forge to the S.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps First Fr Armd Div crosses Ruisseau de Travexin on wide front from Gehan Forest and continues E. In sector of 3d Alg Div and supporting troops, enemy counterattacks force slight withdrawal to W fringe of Hill 739, S of Cornimont, but a counterattack at Cornimont is halted, and N of Cornimont Corps troops cross Mosclotte R., taking Haut du Faing, 1 mi. E. Tete des Cerfs, NW of Moselotte, is mopped up. In Rochesson area, farther N, enemy reoccupies Cens la Ville and Orimont and is halted on N edge of Couchetat Forest.

I Corps Patrol and arty activity continues along Corps front. Second Mor Div patrols receive casualties in mine field W of Ronchamp. In 4th Mtn Div sector sustained enemy arty fire continues in Briancon vicinity.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

17 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

Enemy active along Seventh Army front, except on extreme R and in zone of 2d Fr Armd Div.

XV Corps Enemy counterattacks against 313th and 314th Regts, 79th Div, repulsed during night. CT 114 is attached to 79th Div as 44th Div, from Cherbourg, closes in Luneville area, coming under Seventh Army command.

VI Corps Two counterattacks and subsequent heavy resistance slow 36th Div advance on Bruyeres and 45 Div advance toward Mortagne R. Opposition above Brouvelieures includes barbed wire covered by SA fire. Elements of 36th Div capture Champ le Duc, just S of Bruyeres, with fire fight within town. Mines are removed from S approaches to Bruyeres. W of the town, 442d RCT repulses determined counterattack after 2 hrs. of fierce fighting, inflicting heavy casualties on enemy.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Armd occupy crossroads S of Cornimont and le Haut du Tontoux, 2 mi. SE of Cornimont, withdrawing less than mile. Woods S of Travexin are mopped up. Elements of 3d Alg Div repulse three violent counterattacks in Haut du Faing area and occupy Haut Bois, S of Cornimont, linking with 1st Armd. Near Rochesson, line is improved in spite of counterattacks. Capture of la Boudotte completes occupation of crests dominating Moselotte on W.

Interruption of road and rail traffic again stressed in 132 sorties flown by XII TAC; 35 P-47s destroy 4 and damage 3 ME-109s encountered during fighter bomber mission against ammunition dump and rail targets. P-47s score near misses on Dannemarie RR viaduct again in response to ground request.

18 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Enemy loses two hills near Bruyeres. Small enemy counterattack with bayonet charge occurs E of Fremifontaine in 45th Div sector. Thirty-sixth and 45th Divs, closing pincers on Bruyeres, reach outskirts of

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

town by nightfall; 36th Div moves up tanks and AT guns to just S of Bruyeres and arty units furnish heavy supporting fire as inf elements reach factory area against savage German resistance. CT 442 has also pushed into the town from the N after 8 hrs. of bitter fighting, and is engaged in street fighting. Elements of 141st Inf, 36th Div, attacking SE toward Jussarupt, suffer many casualties from enemy mortar and arty fire.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy activity against 1st Fr Inf Div in Ronchamp-Champagne area continues. Elements of 1st Fr Armd complete occupation of Haut de Tontoux. Units of 3d Mor Div consolidate positions on Haut du Faing. Other elements advance through woods S of Rochesson, reaching points on S edge. Cens la Ville and Orimont are again held, in spite of enemy arty and inf reaction. Left flank is extended to Julienrupt, 3 mi. N of St. Ame.

I Corps Elements of 4th Mtn Div restore lines at Termignon, 5 mi. NE of Bramans, after counterattack causes FFI to withdraw. Patrols and arty active elsewhere along Alpine front.

19 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Bruyeres falls and 36th Div elements mop up city by noon, while 442d RCT advances to just beyond RR to E of it, receiving enemy SP fire. To the N, 45th Div unit has cut Bruyeres-Brouvelieures road. Resistance remains heavy along line S from Fremifontaine to Brouvelieures, but only sniper fire is met by troops advancing into hills E of Bruyeres.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Opposed by land mines and AT fire, elements of 1st Fr Armd mop up SW part of Cornimont Forest and continue advance toward Ventron, 2½ mi. SE of Cornimont. First Para Regt takes hill 1 mi. SW of objective. Elements of 3d Alg Div make progress NE of Bois de Faing in Cornimont-la Bresse area and halt enemy counterattack starting from Rochesson.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

20 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Elements of 314th Inf, 79th Div, clean re-remaining enemy from woods E of la Neuveville aux Bois.

VI Corps Fierce fighting with automatic weapons and handgrenades takes place along Mortagne R. from Brouvelieures N to Fremifontaine. After mortar and arty preparation, 179th RCT, 45th Div, launches attack against Brouvelieures. Other 45th Div units, farther N, attack E in attempt to cross Mortagne R., but are stopped by wire entanglements after breaking through enemy's first line of trenches. Resistance stiffens E of Bruyeres, with SA and mortar fire along the Bruyeres-Belmont RR. Counterattack by inf and 7 tanks from direction of Belmont (2 mi. NE of Bruyeres) stopped by friendly air attack. Third Div makes some progress in initial attack toward St. Die from Brouvelieures-Bruyeres area, meeting MG and SA fire from bunker positions.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Armd make progress toward resistance center of Ventron from both N and S. Elements of 3d Mor Div repulse enemy counterattacks against le Haut de Faing and le Haut de Tontoux, where both sides receive heavy losses. Bois de Lansauchamp, NW of le Haut de Faing is mopped up. Enemy forces bombarding villages of Moselotte valley are blocked from Bouchot valley abreast of Cens la Ville and Orimont.

I Corps In Doubs R. area elements of 9th Col Inf Div ambush enemy units. Elements of 4th Mtn Div relieve elements of U.S. 1st ABTF at Ubaye, 15 mi. W of Barcelonnette. Patrol and arty activity continues along Alpine fronts.

Flying almost 300 sorties, force of XII TAC Spitfires and P-47s destroys, damages, and probably destroys 4 pontoon bridges over the Rhine, and damages approaches to them with 70 tons of GP bombs and 30 fire bombs; 7-2-4 enemy planes claimed for loss of 5 P-47s.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group21 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Seventy-ninth Div continues to receive heavy opposition from dug-in positions NW of Blamont, 8 mi. SE of Parroy Forest. Div attacks high ground E of Parroy Forest with 3 regts and advances slightly in area NE of Embermenil, to a line through Xousse and Leintrey, but mired tanks delay advance on Div R flank, where objective is high ground in vicinity of Domjevin, 4 mi. S of Embermenil.

VI Corps Corps forces concentrate on exploiting potential breakthrough along Bruyeres-St. Die axis, opposed primarily by German 16th and 716th Inf Divs. Forty-fifth and 3d Div troops drive enemy from Brouvelieures, Domfaing, and Vervezelle, 2 mi. S, despite defense by MG, SA, mortars, SP guns, and a few tanks, and 3d Div elements capture bridge over the Mortagne R. intact, as enemy withdraws NE from Brouvelieures. Major gains are made by 442d RCT, which seizes ridge E of Bruyeres that parallels Neune R. and advances to high ground overlooking Biffontaine, 3½ mi. E of Bruyeres, on edge of Forest Domaniale de Champ.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Rise in water level makes movement in Moselotte valley difficult. Corps elements receive enemy arty fire, especially in Travexin, le Haut du Faing, Saulxures, and Cornimont area.

I Corps Elements of 4th Mtn Div continue relief of U.S. 1st ABTF. There is much patrolling in Alps sector.

Forty-six XII TAC sorties flown; 8 P-47s attain good concentration on troop target in Bruyeres area. Ten P-47s of XIX TAC claim 15 MT, 2 tanks, and 1-0-3 gun positions in close support of XV Corps.

22 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Seventy-ninth Div receives heavy mortar and arty fire, as well as automatic weapons fire from pillboxes, in area E of Parroy Forest. Patrols of 2d Fr Armd Div meet resistance W and NW of Baccarat.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

VI Corps In the developing salient E of Bruyeres and Brouvelieures, Belmont is cleared by 753d Tank Bn, 36th Div, against scattered resistance. Enemy succeeds, however, in repulsing 45th Div's attempted crossing of Mortagne R. E of Fremifontaine. Third Div, attacking NE up Mortagne R. valley, along Brouvelieures-St. Die road, pushes halfway to les Rouges Eaux; enemy resistance appears disorganized.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps First Fr Inf Div begins relief of 1st Fr Armd. Patrol engagements and enemy arty fire occur near Ronchamp. Enemy arty reaction slackens near Haut de Faing.

I Corps In 4th Mtn Div sector an enemy attack in Ubaye valley is repulsed. Counterattack E of Briancon is turned back with enemy losses after arty OP is overrun. Rcn patrols continue.

Approximately 135 of estimated 255 sorties flown by XII TAC are in direct support of ground action; direct hits scored on troop concentrations and gun positions; rail targets at Avricourt hit by 11 P-47s of XIX TAC.

23 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Several enemy tanks knocked out by 79th Div forces in course of fighting NE of Embermenil. Enemy counterattacks three times.

VI Corps E of Fremifontaine, Mortagne R. is finally crossed by 45th Div elements, under heavy mortar fire; further advance is slowed by SA, mortar, and arty fire. Resistance strong in town of Mortagne, 3 mi. E of Fremifontaine, but town is cleared and outposted. Advance into wooded hills E of Bruyeres carries to Biffontaine, which is mopped up by elements of 442d Inf. Resistance increases along Bruyeres-St. Die road near les Rouges Eaux, midway through the forest, as enemy brings up reinforcements. Stubborn opposition met also at Laveline, SE of Bruyeres, near confluence of la Vologne and le Neune rivers.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 3d Alg Div make some gains in Haut de Faing area.

I Corps Elements of 2d Mor Div successfully raid area E of Marvelise, 12 mi. S of Ronchamp. In 4th Mtn Div sector an enemy counterattack is repulsed near Condamine.

24 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy attack with tanks and inf down Xousse and Rémoncourt roads drives 315th Inf elements from high ground, but positions are regained after reserve co is committed with strong tank support.

Forty-fourth Div relieves 79th Div in the newly-won positions E and SE of Parroy Forest, facing the Vosges.

VI Corps Third Div elements push rapidly N through Mortagne Forest, meeting stubborn resistance at road junction NE of Mortagne. Enemy tanks firing from within town of les Rouges Eaux harass other 3d Div units advancing along S side of Mortagne R. Enemy appears disorganized elsewhere, but makes several small counterattacks against forward elements of 36th Div near Biffontaine. A bn of 141st Inf is cut off in forest N of la Houssiere by enemy counterattack from the S and E in late afternoon.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div continue to relieve 1st Fr Armd. Arty fire is received at Fresse, N of Champagny, and at la Houillere de Ronchamp. Weak enemy arty fire falls within 3d Alg Div lines.

I Corps Second Mor Div troops engage in skirmishes with patrols near Frederic Fontaine and Blamont. In Briancon area, elements of 4th Mtn Div abandon for the winter their positions at Granges de la Vallee Etroite in Italian territory. Farther N, the enemy shells Col de Ferjus.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

25 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps E of Parroy Forest, below the Marne-Rhine Canal, enemy counterattacks continue, one making a temporary penetration of U.S. lines. Left flank of 44th Div is repeatedly attacked and tanks and assault guns are brought up from the rear for additional defensive support.

VI Corps Third Div elements reach objective of high ground SE of la Salle, overlooking Meurthe R. valley. Les Rouges Eaux, on main road to St. Die, is cleared, despite heavy shelling against 3d Div troops and company-sized counterattack. Expansion northward of Bruyeres-Brouvelieures salient is slowed by SA, MG, mortar, and SP arty fire and organized, dug-in positions in the vicinity of Housseras, between Mortagne and Rambervillers, where close-in fighting occurs as 45th Div opens attack through Housseras Forest. On S side of salient, enemy infiltration harasses supply lines to forward units. Stubborn resistance NE of Biffontaine prevents elements of 141st and 442d Inf Regts from pushing E to contact bn isolated in forest above la Houssiere.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Third Alg Div repels counterattack in la Forge-le Tholy area, 5 mi. N of St. Ame. Arty fire is received near Haut du Faing and Cornimont. Enemy counterattacks against Rondfaing, farther S, with considerable arty support and gains ground before being driven back.

I Corps Elements of 1st Fr Inf Div take over Moselle valley area NW as far as Rupt and up the N ridge to le Seu. In Alpine sectors, elements of 4th Mtn Div repulse enemy rcn units and receive routine arty fire.

26 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps During night of 25/26 three enemy counterattacks supported by tanks are received in 44th Div sector on Army's left.

VI Corps Pushing on past les Rouges Eaux, under heavy arty fire but without close enemy contact, 3d Div reaches

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

point overlooking St. Die. Enemy road block on the la Salle road, NE of Mortagne, is eliminated and 30th Inf strikes NE through a gap in enemy lines between les Rouges Eaux and la Salle, the latter 6 mi. NW of St. Die. Farther N and to the W, enemy resistance lessens in 45th Div zone, after Housseras, SE of Rambervillers, is cleared. E of Bruyeres, elements of 36th Div encounter stiffer resistance in the Forest Domaniale de Champ. Elements of 442d RCT are attacking E along S edge of forest in attempt to rescue the bn of 141st Regt marooned on high ground a mile N of la Houssiere; the other bns of 141st, supported by light and medium tanks, are heavily engaged NE of Biffontaine.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Enemy arty fire is received by 3d Alg Div at Travexin and at Barranges, S of Cornimont. First Fr Inf Div and 3d Alg Div complete relief of 1st Fr Armd Div.

I Corps Enemy arty fire is received at Pont de Roide, in 9th Col Inf Div sector. Routine patrol and arty activity continues in Alps sectors of 4th Mtn Div.

In 85 sorties XIII TAC planes sweep Belfort and Mulhouse areas, destroying RR station SW of Colmar.

27 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Enemy counterattacks E of Parroy Forest in area NW of Blamont slacken off and Corps sector becomes quiet.

VI Corps Enemy arty heavy in 3d Div zone of advance, but Div successfully moves out of forest into town of la Bourgonce, directly S of la Salle. Third Div advance units now in position to direct arty on enemy convoys in St. Die-San Michel sector. Three enemy counterattacks with tanks strike against 36th Div troops in Forest Domaniale de Champ. Estimated force of 300 enemy blocks trail along which 442d RCT is attempting to break through to isolated bn of 141st Inf in forest above la Houssiere. Attempted air drop of supplies to bn fails because of bad weather.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Both sides exchange harassing fire on Vosges front, enemy arty striking at Haut du Faing, Cornimont, Servance, Saulxures, and Vagney. W of Pont de Roide, between Goux and Vermondans, rcn elements of 9th Col Inf Div kill several members of German patrols and capture MG.

I Corps Enemy patrols raid advance posts of 2d Mor Div, NW of Onans, in l'Isle area, and are repulsed.

28 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Sharp fire fights occur in forest NE of Housseras. Enemy has reinforced his defenses along the Bruyeres-St. Die road; a counterattack W of St. Die is repulsed only after 5 hrs. of severe fighting. Primary enemy fire support is from mortars, bazookas, and rifle grenades. Planes drop supplies to "lost bn" of 141st Inf, 36th Div, with limited success. Jussarupt, 3 mi. SE of Bruyeres, is occupied without resistance.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps Advance elements of 3d Alg Div stop enemy infiltration attempts around Rondfaing.

In over 100 sorties, bridges are main objective of XII TAC. P-47s resupply VI Corps troops.

29 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps E of Parroy Forest, enemy withdraws slightly-- from woods between Embermenil and Leintrey to the general line Leintrey-Blemerey.

VI Corps E of Rambervillers, enemy appears to be withdrawing NE, as Bru and Jeanmenil are occupied by 45th Div elements without resistance, after having been strongly defended. Forty-fifth Div makes rapid progress through Housseras Forest. Resistance is greater along Brouvelieures-St. Die road, 5 mi. to the S. Near the S edge of the forested area, 442d RCT forces move slowly against SA and automatic weapons fire, encountering also

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army Group

road blocks, mine fields, and well prepared positions; MG nests are charged with bayonets and grenades as the troops fight desperately to come to rescue of "lost bn" of 141st Inf, 36th Div, in Forest Domaniale de Champ.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

Patrol activity and harassing fire by both sides along entire Vosges and Alps fronts.

II Corps Enemy is bringing up reinforcements, apparently against the Haut du Faing salient N of Cornimont.

XII TAC flies 332 sorties: 86 P-47s in direct and able support of VI Corps attack gun positions, roads, and troop concentrations and fly 2 food supply missions to 36th Inf Div troops; rail cuts made on main line between Strasbourg and St. Die and large enemy ammunition dump E of St. Die seriously damaged; 45 Spitfires, 46 French P-47s and U.S. P-47s knock out hwy, rail, fuel, ammunition, and troop targets.

30 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

VI Corps Salient developing W of St. Die is widened by capture of Laveline-devant-Bruyeres, on the S, by 143d RCT, 36th Div, and St. Benoit on the N (5 mi. E of Rambervillers), on the road to Raon l'Etape, by 45th Div; excellent observation points overlooking roads of Meurthe valley are gained. Third Div forces are now on heights overlooking Taintrux and St. Die. Arty and mortar concentration is laid down on ridge separating 442d Regt from the "lost bn." At 1600 hrs. patrol from 442d reaches men of the "lost bn."

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps In 3d Alg Div sector, enemy attack in co strength N of Travexin (E of Gehan Forest) is beaten back by counterattack. Three enemy planes bomb Reherrey, 5 mi. SE of Remiremont. Enemy arty very active against Cornimont and points in its vicinity.

I Corps Detachments of 4th and 11th Div carry on aggressive patrol in the Lorraine, Brianconnais, and Queyras regions.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 3: Sixth Army-Group

31 U.S. SEVENTH ARMY

XV Corps Strong attack above Baccarat by 2d Fr Armd Div takes enemy forces by surprise. Coming out from Mondon Forest, by-passing enemy strongpoint at Hablainville, $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi. N of Baccarat, an armd column of CCV cuts Baccarat-Domevre route at noon, clears Merviller, and reaches Vacqueville on the Verdurette R. Another column of CCV captures Brouville, $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. NW of Merviller, then turns NE to take Montigny, midway on road between Merviller and Domevre. CCD drives through Gelacourt to Baccarat, enters city after hard fight against AT defenses, captures bridge intact, and clears N part of city. Four mi. SW of Baccarat, CCR captures Menarmont and Nossoncourt.

VI Corps E of Rambervillers and NE of St. Benoit, beyond Bru and Jeanmenil, enemy arty and mortar concentrations prevent progress along road leading through Ste. Barbe Forest to Raon l'Etape on the Meurthe R., 9 mi. NW of St. Die. Third Div forces repulse numerous small counterattacks in hills and valleys of the Monpatelize-Taintrux area, on a front 3-4 mi. W of and paralleling Meurthe R.; 7th Inf encounters heavily mined areas in slow advance toward St. Die.

In 23 missions, 157 aircraft of XII TAC sweep over U.S. Seventh Army front.

FIRST FRENCH ARMY

II Corps German arty fire on points along Mosclotte R. bend continues. Enemy unsuccessful in attempt to infiltrate into Fr positions at Haut du Faing and in Couchetat woods.

I Corps In 4th Mtn Div sector, enemy harassing fire falls on Bourg St. Maurice, Briancon, Aiguilles, and Tournoux.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

- 1 Germany: Sixty-four Mosquitoes concentrate 93.2 tons of bombs on Brunswick, Krefeld, and Coblenz town centers, Dortmund synthetic oil plant, and Heilbronn railway center; all results are unobserved.

- 2 Germany: In 2 forces, 836 B-17s and 296 B-24s escorted by 176 P-47s, 541 P-51s, and 10 P-38s drop approximately 2,800 tons of bombs on Kassel town center and ordnance and AFV plants, Cologne Ford motor plant, Hamm marshalling yards, Fritzlar and Handorf airfields, town centers of Wiesbaden, Geseke, and Muenster, and on targets of opportunity; results range from good to unobserved. At night, with aid of full moon, 45 Mosquitoes make well concentrated 50-ton attack on Brunswick town center, Pforzheim town and rail center, Frankfurt aircraft components factory, and Dortmund town and synthetic oil plant.

- 3 Germany: Total of 675 B-17s and 320 B-24s escorted by 12 P-38s, 132 P-47s, and 555 P-51s craters Lachen/Speyerdorf airfield, blankets hangars, MT yards, and barracks at Geibelsstadt airfield, inflicts severe damage on Gaggenau MT works, and hits Ulm armaments plant, Wesseling synthetic oil plant, Speyer and Ottingen airfields, Pforzheim, Offenburg, and Ludwigsburg marshalling yards, Cologne town center, and targets of opportunity with approximately 2,500 tons of bombs; AA accounts for minor damage to about 200 planes. At night, 42 Mosquitoes scatter 55 tons N of Kassel, encountering fighter opposition over target and in Ruhr area; in attacks by 20 Mosquitoes on Aschaffenburg and Pforzheim marshalling yards, Kamen synthetic oil plant, and Handorf airfield, over 76 tons of bombs dropped.

- 4 Norway: Forty Lancasters and 71 Halifaxes with 564 tons of bombs achieve good concentration on Bergen submarine pens, while 15 Halifaxes and 6 Lancasters with 97 tons score direct hits on submarines and destroy or damage docks, floating crane, machine shops, jetties, and vessels in basin; bombers escorted by 24 RAF BC and AEF Mosquitoes.
Germany: Pforzheim town and Heilbronn railway center attacked by 10 Mosquitoes with 13.4 tons of bomb. Fifteenth AF attacks Munich: 110 B-17s and 27 B-24s escorted by 138 P-38s and 112 P-51s unload 798 tons of bombs on (West) marshalling yards with good results.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

- 5 Germany: Force of 615 B-17s and 320 B-24s of 8th AF escorted by 545 P-51s and 129 P-47s concentrates approximately 2,500 tons of bombs on airfields at Lippstadt, Paderborn, Handorf, Loddenheide (Muenster) and Lipperode, marshalling yards at Rheine, Herford, Coblenz, and Cologne, town centers of Brechten and Dortmund, and targets of opportunity with unobserved to good results; traffic at Rheine halted temporarily. During day, force of 216 Lancasters, 1 Mosquito, and 1 P-38 blasts Wilhelmshaven town center with approximately 1,081 tons of bombs; results are unobserved. On night mission, 345 Lancasters and 11 Mosquitoes accurately bomb Saarbruecken town center with about 1,500 tons of bombs, causing large explosions and firing town; 128 Lancasters and 11 Mosquitoes drop 433 tons of bombs in Saarbruecken railway center area. Twenty Mosquitoes expend 26 tons in attack on Berlin; explosions result; 5 Mosquitoes bomb Frankfurt, encountering moderate flak; 4 hit Handorf airfield, 3 Dortmund synthetic oil plant, and 4 bomb Brunsbuetelkoog Port area.
- 6 Germany: Total of 818 B-17s and 376 B-24s escorted by 543 P-51s and 156 P-47s drops estimated 2,980 tons of bombs on Spandau ordnance plant, gun park, aero-engine plant, and Tegel tank plant (all at Berlin), Glinde ordnance plant, Klockner aero-engine plant, Harburg, Rhenenia, and Ebano refineries (all at Hamburg), Wenzendorf jet plane assembly plant, Neubrandenburg FW-190 assembly plant, Stargard airforce training school, Hamburg docks, Nordholz and Stade airfields, Straslund and Kappelen town centers, Ottersberg and Bremervoerde marshalling yards, and targets of opportunity with unobserved to excellent results; score of 58-1-22 enemy planes run up; B-17s over Berlin intercepted by 35 of estimated 75 airborne enemy aircraft; 11 B-17s destroyed in this attack. During day, 291 RAF heavy bombers and fighter bombers make well concentrated 1,140-ton attack on Buer synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen and Holten synthetic oil plant at Sterkrade; intense AA encountered over Gelsenkirchen. On night mission, 761 Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes accurately unload approximately 2,710 tons on town centers of Dortmund, Bremen, Berlin, Ludwigshafen, and Saarbruecken.
- 7 Germany: Total of 865 B-17s and 446 B-24s escorted by 569 P-51s, 167 P-47s, and 26 P-38s operates with estimated 3,400 tons of bombs. B-17s which hit Berlin synthetic oil

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

plant with 206 tons are intercepted by 40-50 aggressive enemy fighters SE of Leipzig, losing 12 B-17s from 1 sq; Politz, Ruhland, Lutzkendorf, Merseburg, and Magdeburg armaments works, Kassel aero-engine and tank plants, Zwickau airfield and MT plant, Bielefeld ordnance depot, Clausthal explosives, airfields at Hengelo, Nordhausen, and one near Muenster, town centers of Dresden, Scheld, Freiburg, Wurzen, Rositz, Gera, Roszla, and Burgsteinfurt, and large number of targets of opportunity attacked with unobserved to very good results; 52 bombers and 15 fighters lost for claim of 49-13-15 enemy planes; bombers and fighters have skirmishes over wide area with 150-200 enemy aircraft, including approximately 20-25 jet planes; 4 jet planes destroyed.

9 Germany: Heavy bombers of 8th AF operate in 2 forces: 1st force of 359 heavy bombers drops 858.6 tons on Mainz marshalling yards and Gustavsburg Diesel engine plant with fair results; 2d force of 689 heavies attacks Schweinfurt city area and Coblenz marshalling yards with approximately 1,785 tons of bombs, causing severe damage at VKF Werk 2 (ball bearing plant) at Schweinfurt and in business and residential areas; bombers escorted by 641 P-51s, 169 P-47s, and 33 P-38s. At night, 404 Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes concentrate main attack on Bochum town center with unobserved results and make smaller attacks on Wilhelmshaven, Krefeld, and Saarbruecken town centers and Duesseldorf airfield; 1,530 tons expended; aggressive enemy night fighters met over Wilhelmshaven.

10 Germany: Total of 66 Mosquitoes operates over Cologne and Duisberg town centers, Aschaffenburg and Pforzheim railway centers, and Duesseldorf airfield with 90 tons of bombs, 60 tons of which fall in Cologne area.

11 Germany: Fair to good results attained in 169-ton attack on Wessling synthetic oil plant by 57 B-17s, while additional 73 B-17s render further damage to rolling stock and unidentified buildings in Coblenz marshalling yards area with 211 tons; 135 P-47s escort. Thirty-eight Mosquitoes loose 39 tons on Berlin town center, causing 1 large explosion; 4 drop 7 tons on Heilbronn railway center, and 8 release 14 tons on Wiesbaden chemical works; results unreported.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

- 12 Germany: Main targets for 239 B-17s and 272 B-24s are Bremen FW components plant and Osnabrueck marshalling yards; 1,327 tons loosed in attacks, causing considerable damage to marshalling yards, repair shops, rolling stock, and station buildings in Osnabrueck area, and extensive damage to almost every major building at Bremen. Some fighter opposition encountered and 7 unaggressive jet-propelled aircraft met. During day, 132 Halifaxes, Lancasters, and Mosquitoes with 568 tons of bombs make well concentrated attack on Wanne-Eickel synthetic oil plant; at night, 62 Mosquitoes with 83 tons concentrate on Hamburg, Coblenz, and Schweinfurt town centers, Duesseldorf airfield, and Wiesbaden chemical works.
- 13 Germany: Fifty-five Mosquitoes attain good concentration on Cologne town area with 68 tons of bombs; 3 Mosquitoes raid Stuttgart.
- 14 Germany: Force of 1,098 8th AF heavy bombers escorted by 812 fighters attacks Cologne marshalling yards with unobserved results, Saarbruecken yards with devastating results, and Kaiserlautern RRs with severe damage to tracks. Duisburg sustains record attacks by RAF BC: striking in daylight, 1,007 bombers unload 4,782 tons on Duisburg and Hamborn targets with bulk of load aimed at former where numerous fires and explosions result in town area; 938 bombers attack at night, kindling fires and causing considerable more damage with 4,547 tons; tonnage dropped at night is greatest ever released by RAF BC on single target in single night. In night raids on other German targets, 233 planes of RAF BC drop 847 tons on Brunswick town center with good concentration, 20 start fires at Hamburg with 25 tons, 16 achieve good results at Berlin with 20 tons, and 10 release 9 tons on Mannheim RR center and Duesseldorf airfield. RAF BC tonnage total of 10,301 for 14th and night of 14/15th is its greatest, yet dropped during any period of 24 hours.
- 15 Germany: Force of 643 B-17s and 346 B-24s supported by 154 P-47s and 539 P-51s drops 3,003 tons on Eifeltor, Nippes, Kalk, and Gereon marshalling yards at Cologne, Imbert Co. gas producing units at Cologne, Monheim oil depot, Reizholz oil refinery near Duesseldorf, marshalling yards at Limburg,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

and targets of opportunity in area; oil storage tanks at Monheim and Reizholz fired. Escorting fighters strafe and bomb enemy lines of communication in Muenster-Kassel-Hannover areas. Sixteen Mosquitoes escorted by 61 P-51s crater but do not breach Sorpe Dam (SE of Dortmund) with 85 tons of 12,000-lb. bombs. At night, 257 Halifaxes and 8 Mosquitoes, releasing 2,135 tons of bombs on Wilhelmshaven town center, cause fires and explosions in fairly concentrated attack; some skirmishes with enemy aircraft occur. In other RAF raids 44 Mosquitoes accurately unload 53 tons on Hamburg, 5 drop 9 tons on Saarbruecken, 2 loose 2 tons on Kassel, and 2 release about 4 tons on Duesseldorf airfield.

Heligoland: Twenty-three 8th AF B-17s concentrate 78½ tons on submarine pens with unreported results.

16 Germany: Thirty-nine Mosquitoes hit Cologne town center with unobserved results.

17 Germany: Marshalling yards at Cologne attacked by 744 8th AF heavy bombers escorted by 804 fighters; additional damage inflicted on sheds, large buildings, and goods wagons, and tracks cut; 2,922½ tons dropped. Twenty-five enemy fighters and jet planes sighted in target area.

18 Germany: Total of 479 8th AF heavy bombers concentrates 1,323 tons of bombs on rail and industrial targets: 297 bombers blast Kassel (Henschel tank and AFV plant) with 797 tons, 70 loose 202 tons on Nippes marshalling yards at Cologne, 68 release 200 tons on Cologne Ford motor plant, and 40 unload 113½ tons on Leverkusen chemical plant, all with unobserved results. Seventy-one B-17s land safely at Brussels due to weather and dwindling gas supplies. Force of 127 Lancasters accurately unloads 621 tons of bombs on Bonn town center and industrial targets with generally well concentrated pattern; RAF BC P-51s and ARAF Spitfires escort. On night missions, 19 Mosquitoes drop 25 tons of well placed bombs on Hannover, 18 Mosquitoes find Mannheim good target, and 14 Mosquitoes, in groups of 5, 4, and 5, bomb Pforzheim, Wiesbaden chemical works, and Duesseldorf airfield.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDOct
1944Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

- 19 Germany: Force of 615 B-17s and 330 B-24s escorted by 705 P-51s and P-47s drops estimated 2,640 tons of bombs on Mannheim AFV and arty tractor plant and city's industrial area, Gustavsburg AFV plant, Mainz and Worms marshalling yards, and town centers of Karlsruhe, Bad Kreuznach, Speyer, RR bridge at Ruedesheim (Bad Kreuznach) and targets of opportunity; results generally unobserved. RAF BC concentrates on town centers: 567 Lancasters and Mosquitoes encounter heavy AA fire and enemy fighters in course of concentrated 2,446-ton attack on Stuttgart; targets at Nurnberg fired and exploded by 258 Lancasters and Mosquitoes in accurate 875-ton attack; Wiesbaden and Duesseldorf hit by 49 Mosquitoes with 61 tons; results are fair.
- 21 Germany: Eight Mosquitoes loose 12½ tons on Pforzheim, Cologne, and Duesseldorf.
- 22 Germany: Force of 723 B-17s and 353 B-24s supported by 133 P-47s and 589 P-51s attacks marshalling yards at Hamm and Muenster, MT plant at Brunswick, AFV and MT plants at Hannover, town centers at Bielefeld, Minden, Wolfenbuettel, and Recklinghausen, and targets of opportunity with 3,038 tons of bombs; results unobserved. Fighters destroy locomotives, RR cars, and barges in attack on ground targets. During day, 97 Lancasters of RAF BC loose 523 tons of bombs on Neuss town center; damage concentrated in dock areas. Lancasters attack Muenchen-Gladbach with 13 tons; RAF BC P-51s escort. At night, Hamburg receives 56½ tons of well placed bombs from 45 Mosquitoes; Wiesbaden, Duesseldorf, and Cologne harassed by several Mosquitoes.
- 23 Germany: In secondary attacks, 15th AF heavy bombers hit Rosenheim marshalling yards with 62.3 tons and Plauen factory with 97.5 tons of bombs; 81 B-24s escorted by 45 P-51s hit Augsburg engine factory with 181.7 tons; Regensburg oil depot is target for 63 B-24s with 153 tons; planes also bomb Trieste, Italy; Allach BMW plant at Munich receives 107 tons of bombs from 63 B-24s escorted by 80 P-38s. At night, force of 506 Lancasters, 425 Halifaxes, and 14 Mosquitoes attains concentrated pattern in Essen area with 4,538 tons of bombs. Mosquitoes concentrate on Berlin, Wiesbaden, and Aschaffenburg; 32 loose 37½ tons on Berlin, 10 drop 10 tons

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

on Wiesbaden, and 2 hit Aschaffenburg railway center.

- 24 Germany: Total of 174 P-47s and 291 P-51s sweeps Hannover-Kassel areas, attacking AA positions at Elburg (Holland), factory near Nienburg, and transportation targets in areas. At night, 55 Mosquitoes scatter 69 tons in Hannover area; Oberhausen and Aschaffenburg also hit in smaller attacks.
- 25 Germany: In daylight attack, 499 Lancasters, 238 Halifaxes, and 3 Mosquitoes with approximately 3,684 tons of bombs almost completely demolish Essen town center; 228 Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes with 972 tons of bombs fail to destroy Meerbeck synthetic oil plant at Homburg. In 8th AF attacks, 1,196 heavy bombers conveyed by 475 fighters loose 3,098 tons of bombs with mostly unobserved results; 718 planes destroy oil storage tanks N and S of Rhenenia synthetic oil plant at Hamburg with 1,856.6 tons of bombs; 216 planes have fair results at Neumuenster airfield and aircraft repair plant; 119 aircraft with 345 tons of bombs hit synthetic oil plants at Gelsenkirchen; 100 obtain fair to good results with 221 tons on Hamm marshalling yards; targets of opportunity also attacked.
- 26 Germany: Heavy damage inflicted on Leverkusen chemical plant in 541-ton attack by 102 Lancasters. Total of 375 heavy bombers of 8th AF has poor results in raid on AFV and MT plant at Hannover with 886½ tons; in accurate 242-ton attack on Minden aqueduct, embankment to E is breached and drainage is almost complete; 1 of 8th AF fighters escorting 246 Minden B-17s engages 6 FW-190s and 1 ME-163; 2 of former downed. Over Muenster, 192 heavies cause additional damage in vicinity of aircraft repair depot and town center; only minor damage inflicted on marshalling yards; 191 B-24s have good results on Bielefeld ordnance plant, destroying large buildings in area, while 35 additional heavies loose 85 tons on electric power station and gas works; with unobserved results 65 B-17s attack Bottrop synthetic oil plant with 166 tons; Gutersloh town center takes 69 tons from 23 B-24s with results also unobserved; targets of opportunity hit.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

- 27 Germany: Sixty Mosquitoes have poor results in 68-ton attack on Berlin; several Mosquitoes attack Pforzheim, Duesseldorf, Essen, Schweinfurt, Rheine, and Aschaffenburg; 20 tons dropped.
- 28 Norway: Fifty-one of 244 Lancasters and Mosquitoes dispatched loose 189 tons on Bergen submarine pens with unobserved results.
Germany: Force of 363 B-17s escorted by 119 P-51s attacks Hamm and Muenster marshalling yards with 955 tons of bombs; unobserved results. In daylight attack, 699 Lancasters and Halifaxes blast Cologne town center and chemical plant with 2,963.7 tons of bombs; devastating fires burning 19 hours after attack; industrial factories completely destroyed and 1 bridge possibly destroyed; during night, 30 Mosquitoes attack Cologne town area with 46 tons of bombs; Karlsruhe and Rheine also hit in smaller attacks. Nine B-17s of 15th AF attack Munich (West) RR yards with 19 tons of bombs; unobserved results.
- 29 Norway: Several near misses scored on battleship Tirpitz at Hakoy I., 4 mi. W of Tromso, in raid by 33 Lancasters; 176.8 tons of bombs dropped.
Germany: With unobserved results, 35 B-24s of 15th AF drop 60½ tons on Munich (West) marshalling yards; 136 P-38s and 191 P-51s escort; 50 P-38s strafe RR center W of Wiener Neustadt, damaging rolling stock. At night 57 Mosquitoes, in 2 forces, release 71 tons of bombs on Cologne in well concentrated pattern, causing large explosions; 6 Mosquitoes with 5 tons attack Mannheim.
- 30 Germany: Total of 417 B-17s and 224 B-24s of 8th AF escorted by 191 P-47s and 772 P-51s operates against oil and rail targets in central and western Germany: with unobserved results 209 heavies loose 484 tons of bombs on Hamm marshalling yards, 189 drop 440 tons on Muenster marshalling yards, and 159 release almost 450 tons on Harburg and Rhenania oil refineries at Hamburg; Cuxhaven, Wesermuende, Uterson, and other targets of opportunity hit by 75 planes with 227 tons.

UNCLASSIFIED ~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Oct
1944

Section II: WESTERN EUROPEAN THEATER
Part 4: Strategic Air

Escorted by 93 RAF Mustangs and 35 Spitfires, 102 daylight Lancasters achieve very good results on Wesseling synthetic oil plant with 527 tons of bombs. During night, 434 Lancasters, 438 Halifaxes, and 32 Mosquitoes again pound Cologne in 4,040-ton attack; some jet-propelled planes airborne. Fifty-six Mosquitoes with 70 tons hit Berlin, attaining very good results. Several Mosquitoes raid Oberhausen and Heilbronn.

Heligoland: Twenty-four B-17s operate against AA positions with 90 tons of fragmentation clusters; 2 robot aircraft later miss target.

31 Germany: In daylight attack, 101 Lancasters escorted by 78 P-51s of RAF BC have good concentration on Bottrop synthetic oil plant, while at night 491 Lancasters, Halifaxes, and Mosquitoes continue devastation of Cologne with 2,402 tons of well placed bombs. Good concentration achieved in 62-ton attack on Hamburg by 48 Mosquitoes; 4 Mosquitoes hit Saarbruecken, 1 Schweinfurt.

In the 18 operating days of 8th AF this month, record tonnage of 43,636.8 tons dropped on Germany proper; fighters and bombers claim 166 enemy aircraft destroyed, including 5 jet-propelled ME-262s and 1 rocket-propelled ME-163 in aerial combat; 74 damaged on ground. Of 19,000 bombers dispatched, 90% of them attacked specified targets.

England: Flying bomb attacks continue on small scale throughout month.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

