

# NEWSMAP

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1943  
WEEK OF DECEMBER 2 TO DECEMBER 9  
222nd Week of the War—156th Week of U.S. Participation  
Volume II, No. 24

## THE WAR FRONTS

**ITALY:** Both the Eighth and Fifth Armies show about a major offensive on both sides, and the Fifth Army planed the highest peaks of the Monte Cassino group from the Nazis who appeared to be determined to keep the Allies south of Cassino. Our front correspondent reports the tremendous evolution of the numbers of soldiers and tanks in an epic of different fighting in which the individual soldier had to combine the technique of a jungle fighter with that of a mountain goat.

On the Adriatic coast, the Eighth was reported to have reached the German line, a week after crossing the Sangro River, and was expanding a hold across the Moro River, with our positions about 15 miles before Pescara. During the advance, strong German counterattacks repulsed the Allies and that town was reported in the midst of the heavy defense that ran inland along the Moro River from Ortona.

Allied troops had good support from the air and the new advance was marked by heavy artillery duels.

**USSR:** The strong German counterattacks, which previously had repulsed the Red Army, continued in the area west of Kiev and Soviet troops were pushed back in this area again.

Relating these issues, however, new Soviet gains northwest of Gouzel, west of Simonski and in the Dnieper River bend, southwest of Kremenchuk. Northwest of Gouzel the immediate main objective appeared to be Zhitkova, the rail junction on the line to Minsk. West of Simonski the Red Army was reported in a new offensive aimed at Cherk, a junction on another rail line to Minsk. In the south three Red Army columns advanced to take

Zaremka, a point well inside the Dnieper River bend. This action deprived the enemy of a rail junction which would, apparently, be covered with supporting troops which are discussed with being encircled in this area.

**AIR OFFENSIVE:** The British Air Ministry announced during November 13, the importance of the subsequent types of attack in its outline report of the bomber offensive. Three of the four heaviest RAF raids on Germany last month were of this type with most important targets bombed simultaneously, thus splitting the Luftwaffe's intercepting forces.

The three main attacks during November were in "very great strength," while others were "great strength," "medium" and "moderate" attacks. One correspondent estimated that "very great strength" means 500 to 1000 bombers employed, while "great strength" means 500 to 750 planes.

**MARSHALL ISLANDS:** Following up on the capture of the tank landing and heavy long-range bombers attacked the Japanese positions of the Gilberts in the Central Pacific.

In the center action our planes sank two Japanese destroyers and four other warships.

Dec 13 found an other and three cargo transports. The enemy also lost more than 70 planes as the American flight reported attacks. We suffered one light plane loss and one of our ships was slightly damaged.

The Liberators hit Mili atoll, in the southeast end of the Marshall. Mili is about 110 miles from the captured atoll of Tanna, in the Gilberts, which was in operation since early in December for the Nations war the island.

Our losses in taking Tanna were 1016 killed and 237 wounded. U.S. bombs on Makin and Aburama were 66 killed, 123 wounded.

**SOUTHWEST PACIFIC:** Allied heavy and medium bombers repeatedly bombed the north coast of New Britain, dropping

hundreds of tons of bombs on the coast extending for about 50 miles north from Cape Gloucester. In hitting this area, our forces struck at the series of Japanese airfields, ports which extend down from the enemy's main base at Rabaul. American troops were attacking the Tora area which is inland about 11 miles northwest of coastal Finakohin area which the Allies took Oct. 2.

On Bougainville, the Americans enlarged their Engorua Airfield that backhanded an area seven miles wide by five miles deep and our bombers hit a Japanese supply line and ammunition dumps in addition to repeating attacks on the enemy airfields on the island.

**CONFERENCE:** President Roosevelt, Premier Stalin together with their military and diplomatic staffs for four days at Potsdam, and at the conclusion of the summit conference of Dec. 13, expected declarations that the United States, the Soviet Union and Great Britain would work together in the war, and in the peace that will follow.

Complete agreement was reached as to the scope and timing of operations against Germany which will be undertaken from the east, west and south. The common understanding, the declaration continued, guarantees victory for the Allies.

The three recognized fully the supreme responsibility resting with them and all the nations to make a peace which will command good will from the overwhelming masses of the peoples of the world and break the scourge and terror of war for many generations.

The three powers will work the cooperation and active participation of all nations, large and small, whose peoples are dedicated to the elimination of tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance.

No power on earth, the declaration stated, can prevent the destruction of the German arms by land, that U.S. bombs by air, and their sea planes from the air. The attack will be relentless and increasing.

The Air Offensive: 4th Air Force bombers on route—Target Bremen.



THIRMAN, BEAN—Marshall Stalin, President Roosevelt, and Prime Minister Churchill are pictured with other members of their parties at the history-making conference. In the background may be seen Gen. Arnold, Gen. The Army Chief of Staff, and other military leaders.



Standing outside the Soviet Embassy at Tehran are British Field Marshal Sir Lord, Chief of Staff, British Staff, Supreme Marshal Stalin, Yugoslav Marshal Tito, Soviet Foreign Minister and Soviet Marshal Kliment Voroshilov.



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An American map titled "Newsmap, Monday, December 13, 1943." The map of the European theater shows rivers, railways, pre-war boundaries, areas under Allied and Nazi control, and neutral countries. Printed text and photographs reveal news on multiple fronts. Printed text and a "Li'l Abner" comic strip on the back instructs soldiers on the importance of saluting as a "a sign of comradeship."

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