



# THE WAR FRONTS

**ITALY:** The thunderous chorus of hundreds of Allied guns from Cassino to the Tyrrhenian Sea and from Allied warships offshore opened the new offensive in Italy at 2300 hours 11 May. The heavy bombardment was followed immediately by a large scale attack by Allied tanks and infantry.

In preparation, the bulk of the Eighth Army had been shifted to western Italy where it took over the Cassino sector, while troops of the Fifth Army that had been fighting there moved to the left and went into action in the Garigliano River area. The action progressed with the lineup as follows—Americans were on the coastal flank, French troops were on their right north of Castelforte, and still farther north British troops bridged the Rapido River and also made a frontal assault on Cassino. A British salient to the north and west of Cassino was threatening to cut the Via Casilina which feeds German units still in Cassino.

Capture of Castelforte opened the gateway for the Allies to the Liri Valley and French troops of the Fifth Army were credited with making a significant breach in the Gustav line when they pressed forward in the mountains with infantry and tanks, taking the villages of San Ambrogio, Valle Maio and Ausonia. Thus the road between Cassino and Formia which connects the main highways of the Via Casilina with the Via Appia were cut. To the south, the French-American troops advanced to take Spigno and cut the same road between Ausonia and Formia.

Official reports stated that the Allied gains were swifter and their losses smaller than had been anticipated. This was despite determined enemy resistance from the strongly prepared positions of the Gustav line.

Effective naval cooperation was being given the Fifth Army's left flank, and Allied vessels bombarded enemy positions and batteries in the area around Formia and Itri. There was considerable air activity, much of it in direct tactical support of the ground advance. Allied planes hit industrial targets in the Po Valley, ports and rail points supporting the German positions in central Italy. The number of sorties recorded one day exceeded 2800.

**PACIFIC:** The score of army fliers in the Pacific and Asiatic theaters from the beginning of the war up to 7 March totals 4887 Jap aircraft destroyed. The

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245th We

ticular emphasis in the Southwest the Wakde-Sarmi area on northwest Central Pacific, Jaluit Atoll in the attack of 240 tons of bombs in addition flown over the remaining four islands enemy hands.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Strong 14th

trained and equipped Chinese troops between River in western Yunnan Province in a new offensive aimed at driving North Burma and opening land India.

The new front was over 100 miles about equally north and south of the famous choked off communication Salween River.

The offensive is being led by Ma is coordinated with the drive from Chinese forces under Lt. Gen. Stilwell.

In the Burma-India border fighting continued the offensive in the Koh About 220 miles southwest of Imphal thrust was reported at the border. In Stilwell's forces driving down both River were some 10 miles from the at Kamaing.

Air operations gave particular low Myitkyina where Allied air cutting the enemy's supply lines.

**CHINA:** Japanese troops driven Honan Province succeeded gained the Peiping-Hankow rail Chinese attacks threw the enemy

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## **Description**

An American map titled "Newsmap for the Armed Forces: Monday, May 22, 1944." The map of the Burma-India front shows railroads, roads, rivers, international boundaries, and points of Allied attack. The map of the Italian front shows roads, rivers, relief, current battle lines, the battle line at the beginning of the current offensive, distances to Rome from Cassino, Anzio, and Pescara, and the distance from Cassino to Anzio. Printed text and photographs reveal news on multiple fronts. Printed text and drawings on the back describe the effort it takes to build and operate a battleship and sustain the crew.

## **Date(s)**

May 22, 1944

Cartographer

Army Information Branch, Army Service Forces, War Department.

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Color

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Thirty-Fifth Division Association Records

Restrictions

Unrestricted

Scale

3 1/4 inches = 150 miles. Italy: None

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