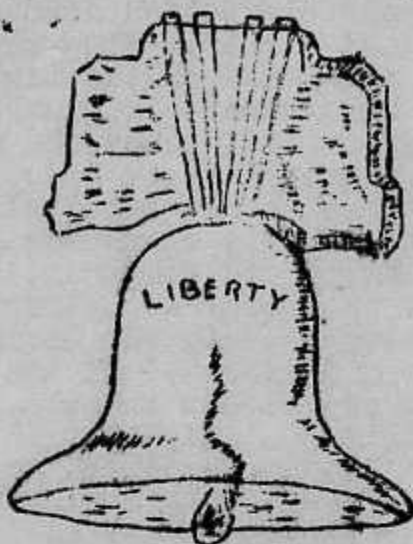


PHILADELPHIAN



RADIO PRESS NEWS

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LUFWAFFE'S NAPLES RAID MAKES LITTLE NEWS:

The only mention made of the early Sunday morning Lufwaffe raid on Naples in today's Allied air communique for Italy was, "Early Sunday morning, a score of enemy planes staged a raid on Naples. Beaufighters accounted for three of them."

Well north of the Italian battlefields right, toward the German frontier, General Eaker's bombers are keeping up their round the clock bombings of Kesselring's vital rail links. Allied attacks continued all through Saturday and into the night against rail communications of Central and Northern Italy. In the day and a night Allied assault, the most northerly target was Brenner Pass, a daylight objective of Flying Fortresses. They attacked the Avisio viaduct, which carried the line over Avisio, a tributary of the Adige, thirty miles south of Bolzano.

Several hits were scored and a preliminary examination indicates that seventy feet of the viaduct were blown up, effectively blocking all through rail traffic over the pass. Brenner is the main channel for the flow of supplies from Germany to Italy. Another vital road and rail bridge further south across the tributary of the Targo River, on the line from Spezia to Parma, was severely bombed in a lowlevel attack by Wellingtons. The bombers came down to threehundred feet and hit their target with fourthousand pound blockbusters. Over the battlefield, Mustangs and Kittyhawks attacked gun positions and Spitfires have been playing their part in the general plan of the campaign. Late Saturday evening, they intercepted six R-boats - moderate sized troop carriers - filled with troops and supplies a half mile off the coast some distance from Genoa. Straying

ALLIED OFFENSIVE IN ITALY ROLLS ON:

ALLIED ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS, ITALY --- The first dents have been punched in the Gustav Line by General Alexander's armies. Attacking from the front, the center of the Liri Valley in the face of the strongest possible German defenses, British and Indian troops have pushed forward a mile. From their narrow four-mile long bridgehead on the west bank of the Rapido River, they have reached the village of Panaccioni. French troops of the Fifth Army thrusting steadily forward across the mountains in the upper Garigliano sector have captured Monte Majo, which gives them dominating observation over the Ausente Valley. The French have also wrested from the stubbornly resisting Germans of the 71st Division at least five more hill features. To the French have also fallen three towns including Castelforte, which has been the principal German stronghold in the Garigliano area. They captured about two hundred prisoners. On the left flank of the French, American troops are locked in bitter fighting with the German 94th infantry division. Fighting is in progress in the township of Santa Maria Infante, and the nearby town of Tame, which has changed hands three times in a few hours. Tame was captured early on Friday shortly after the offensive opened, but was retaken by the Germans. In the daylight the Americans threw them out again. American tanks are operating throughout the Garigliano sector. Some went into Castelforte with French troops.

Solacciano ridge, south of Santa Maria, is now firmly held by Americans and from it they launched an attack yesterday morning towards Cave Dargillo. This objective is a mile long road running north through the Austeni Valley. Some of the fiercest fighting on the whole battle line is in progress above Cassino. Here, Cassino hardened German parachutists have thrown in at least five rapid counter attacks against Eighth Army men holding the ridge. This mountain battle is proceeding well west of Cassino - about halfway towards Piedimonte, which is reputed to be the upper anchor of Adolf Hitler's line. But, it is at least a mile and a half north of the Rome road and thus far it offers no immediate threat of cutting off the Cassino garrison. German resistance from the main Gustav line continues to be strong. Progress here is slow and torturous with barbed wire and minefields as increasing hazards - cunningly sited artillery, machineguns and mortars are numerous here. Tanks and self propelled guns were rushed across the Rapido in the early hours of the assault and are in action trying to force a breakthrough into the valley. German infantry and selfpropelled guns have made determined counter-attacks from strongholds in the Gustav line in an attempt to drive the Allies back to the Rapido. Fighting has been extremely fierce and casualties are likely to have been severe in this "hammer and tough" battle in the opening at the mouth of the valley. In Saturday's first armored actions, the Germans were driven back every time to these lines and a number of their selfpropelled guns and tanks were knocked out. Italian sappers built two of the bridges across, which armor and material is streaming into the bridgehead. Boats are still being used to help speed the flow of men and material. Along the bridged sector below Cassino, the Rapido is fast-flowing and unfordable. It is between three and nine feet deep, with banks between two and nine feet high and varies in width between forty and ninety feet.

Friday afternoon, Eighth Army men had pushed across a road which runs parallel to the river below San Angelo and the bridgehead is steadily being widened. Indian troops have occupied parts of San Angelo township and elsewhere mopping up of small enemy parties continued throughout yesterday.

(continued)

Some Germans hid "Cassino fashion" in cellars and tunnels and had to be taken out by street fighting squads with small arms fire and hand grenades. In Castelforte, which fell on Friday night, the French took eighty-eight prisoners. Other towns taken by the French yesterday were Cerasola and Firafo - the latter with one hundred prisoners. German units again counterattacking at Monte Fauto, ran into artillery fire laid down in preparation for an attack on Monte Feuci, which fell together with Monte Crisano to the west of Fauto by 1100 Hours yesterday (Saturday) morning. The most important of the French victories, was the capture of lofty Monte Majo - which was accomplished in ninety minutes.

ACTIVITY SEEMS LIGHT IN PACIFIC:

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC --- Today's General MacArthur communique says: Penfoci and Boeroe have been bombed heavily and many fires started. Damage was done to a aerodrome on Namlea, from which fires were visible for sixty miles. In the northeastern sector, including Dutch New Guinea and the Schouten Islands, aerial activity was maintained. In Holla ndia - Aitaipc area, patrols are mopping up many Japanese base supply troops, who fled inland in the face of our landings, which killed a further 101 of the enemy and captured 30, bringing the total Japanese casualties to 2,070, comprising 355 captured and the remainder killed.

RUSSIAN EASTERN FRONT APPROACHES CRUCIAL PHASE:

The possible shortage of tanks is threatening German troops as the Eastern Front approaches it's most crucial phase. While the Soviet press continued on it's note of steady confidence and declared "we have no doubt about fierce battles that are in store" - reports from the front today indicated that the Germans are showing increasing caution in their use of armor. German generals have been forced radically to revise these tactics in face of these huge tank losses during the recent retreat. Before throwing any considerable armored force into battle they try by every possible strategy to discover the nature and hiding of Soviet anti-tank defenses. German heavy tanks appear nightly and open fire from a long distance trying to tempt the Soviet gunners into retaliation while small groups of light tanks come racing to close the range and blaze away with a similar objective. The Russian reply is always to direct concealed fire in such a way as to lead the Germans into the most disadvantageous position for them. The success of these tactics can be judged by the fact that one Soviet artillery unit with twelve guns recently destroyed thirtyfive German tanks in eight minutes, an average of four to five shells being required to put each tank out of action.

NEW ALLIED OFFENSIVE IN ASIA:

KANDY, CEYLON --- A new Allied offensive has been launched against the North Buran Japanese bases at Kanning, Mogaung and Myitkyina. Chinese forces which stormed a two mile front with tanks, dive bombers and artillery, were successful, Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Headquarters announced today.

AIR OFFENSIVE DECLARED "PRE-INVASION" PREPARATIONS:

