

17 Aug 44

Allied troops have made further gains in the NORMANDY pocket.

Our forces are clearing the last enemy from the town of FALAISE. East of the town heavy fighting continues.

Most of the road from FALAISE to CONDE is in our hands and the town of CONDE has been captured.

Forward elements advancing from the west and northwest have reached FLERS. To the east, enemy opposition was bitter and the Allied advance was made more difficult by the enemy's large-scale use of mines, booby-traps, and demolitions.

Further west advances have been made east of TINCHEBRAY, which has been freed, and east from GER.

Mopping-up has been completed in the vicinity of JUVIGNY and in the FORET D'ANDAINNE, east of DOMFRONT. North of LA FERTE MACE and northeast of DOMFRONT gains of up to six miles have been made against resistance which varies from light to moderate.

North of RANES, which has been by-passed, our units are encountering heavy opposition.

In ARGENTAN, the enemy still holds most of the city and fighting is in progress.

In BRITTANY, the port of DINARD has been completely occupied. The German garrison at ST. MALO is maintaining stubborn defense in the citadel.

Bad weather limited the Allied air effort over northern FRANCE yesterday.

Five bridges over the River RISLE, which flows parallel to the SEINE on the western side, were attacked by our medium bombers, and an ammunition dump near ROUEN was bombed by light bombers.

Last night crossing points on the SEINE and road transport near DIJON, were successfully attacked by our light bombers.

Night fighters destroyed seven enemy aircraft over the battle area.