

TARGET: VICTORY

WEEK ENDING
OCT. 28,
1944

A REPORT OF, BY AND FOR
COMBAT FLYING PERSONNEL
CONFIDENTIAL

MINDEN CANAL JACKPOT

DRAIN 2½-MILE TRAFFIC SPAN, FLUSH BARGES THRU BREACH



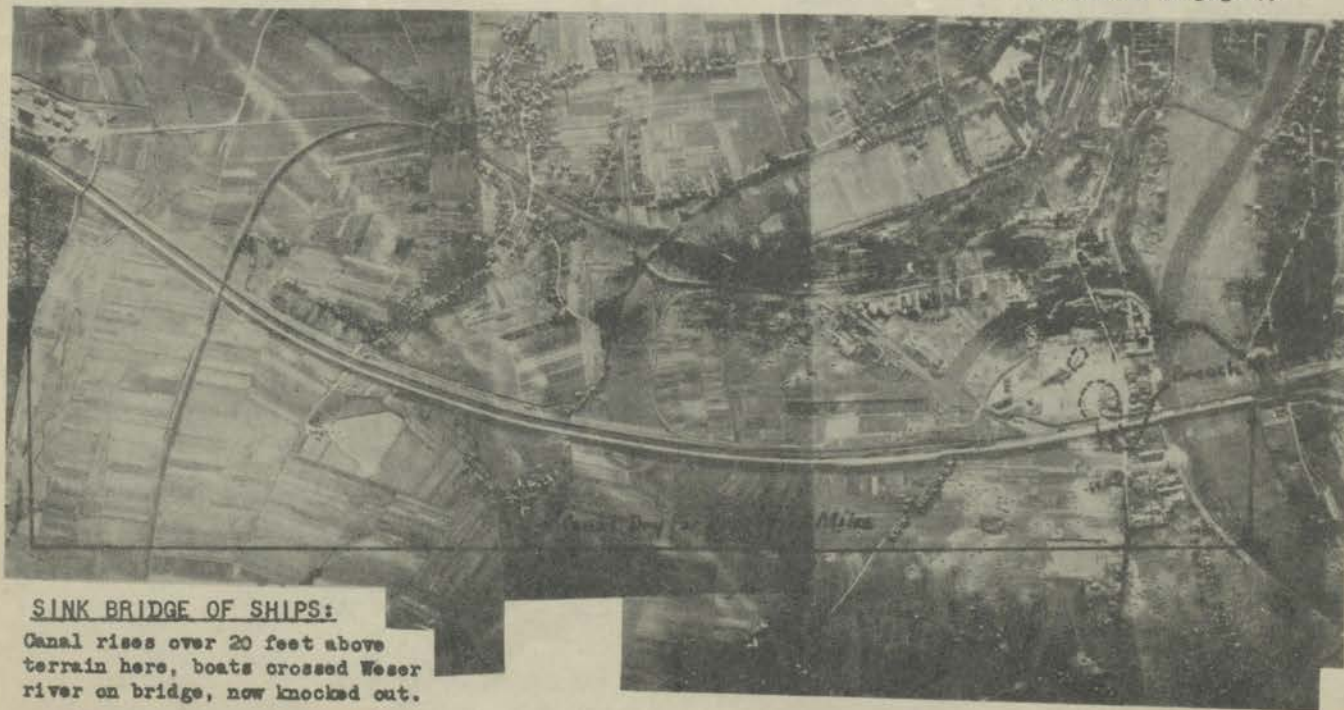
PINPOINT THRU 10/10:
Libs erect new monument of PFF
accuracy in Minden canal breach.

Minden's chokepoint on the Mittelland canal -- most important waterway between the tank and armament factories of Central Germany and the Western front -- was slashed to a dead stop by the 2BD Libs on Thursday (26th). The entire mission was PFF, above 10/10th clouds, from base to target!

A 2000-lb. direct hit tore an 85-foot breach in the canal wall at a key point where the waterway stands over 20 feet above the terrain. Water rushing from the canal swept four huge barges and a tug boat into adjacent fields -- one at least 200 yards from the canal. Two and a half miles of the canal

were drained, and at least 15 barges and tugboats are stranded without a drop to float on.

Thru this area at least 300 vessels normally operate daily, on the most important east-west waterway inside Germany. The Mittelland canal connects Berlin with the Ruhr
(Continued on page 7)



SINK BRIDGE OF SHIPS:
Canal rises over 20 feet above terrain here, boats crossed Weser river on bridge, now knocked out.

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TARGET: VICTORY

A REPORT OF, BY AND FOR
COMBAT FLYING PERSONNEL

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in the ETO

ALL COMMENTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

VOL. 1, No. 14 OCT. 28, 1944

BEE ON BUZZING

The low and mighty order of tree surgeons, air corps branch, is going to have to hunt for a cabin in the sky. Roof top buzzing in this theatre is on the way out -- as regrettable infractions have prompted higher command to adopt more drastic punishments than ever before.

Where buzzing penalties often have been lenient, now the bee is on, to end this unsportsmanlike sport that is applauded only by the enemy. The tip should be well remembered, and let's have no 2BD examples chosen.

We all like to see a hot ship put thru everything it was designed for, but the best pilots remember they belong in the air. Recently a buzz-shot screamed low over a farmer's field ... and got clipped for \$600 fine. That's lots of francs. But even more severe action soon may result. A bad flying record for risking civilians' lives, not to mention his own, is no combat climax a pilot wants to carry home with him.



95 fillings --
soon ready to use.

KAYO STRATEGIC AIRFIELDS FOR QUICK ALLIED REPAIR

While in German hands, Lacm/Couvron airfield was smashed on August 12 by the 93rd, 446th and 448th Groups -- with an accurately-placed attack of 100-lb. G.P.s. Ninety-five craters blocked the two concrete runways, in addition to post-holes saturating the entire field.

Within a matter of days the Allies had occupied the area, and despite the strategic knockout the field was relatively simple to repair for Allied use. Larger bombs gouge craters requiring weeks to repair --- where Germans must do the work. Smaller bombs pay off for quick follow-up by Allied occupation forces.



Shallow 100-lb. craters
kept Hun from flying.



Captured enemy cement
mixer speeded our repair.

TRANSLATION OF ZG 37

STAY ALIVE!

The 7th Army no longer exists. But the individual soldiers can still save themselves. The following instructions are meant to help you to keep alive. If you want to save yourselves, then act as follows:

1. REMAIN BEHIND. THOSE WHO GO TOWARD THE SEINE ARE GOING TOWARD THOUSANDS OF BOMBERS.
2. USE THE ROADS. THE ROADS OF RETREAT ARE THE ROADS OF DEATH AND DISASTER.
3. GET AWAY FROM YOUR ARMS. WAIT UNTIL ALLIED ADVANCE UNITS SHOW UP.
4. GET TOGETHER IN GROUPS. THE OLDEST IN YOUR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DISCIPLINE.
5. TAKE THE HIDE, HIDEOUT AND HELL. HANG YOUR ARMS. WAVE A WHITE FLAG.

We on our part undertake to treat you fairly and correctly, as enemies who have fought bravely but who could not help surrendering when the odds became too big.

TRANSLATION ZG 71 K

Save yourselves AND YOU SAVE GERMANY!

The collapse in the West, the elimination of Finland and of the Balkans with their oil fields, the loss of all of Western Europe with its V-weapons sites and the destruction in the East and West of six German armies in the summer of 1944! That meant that the war has been decided.

Whoever does not believe this, must now proceed to save the consequences.

The invasion of Germany and the wanton sacrifice of entire cities and of thousands of soldiers and civilians, are altogether indefensible on the part of the German leadership. World history will show that the misery of the last months of the war could in any event have been avoided.

The only salvation under these circumstances lies in the self-preservation of the individual soldier and the avoidance of panic and chaos by resolute action on the part of the home population. Germans will have to rebuild Germany. Only if Germans save themselves, therefore, can Germany itself be saved.

Yes, this leaflet comes from the enemy. Remember, however, that the enemy's desire to avoid senseless bloodshed coincides with the best interests of Germany.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

To German units separated from their command

The rapid advance of the Allies has resulted in many German units being separated from their command split up, thereby being unable to receive orders from their German superiors.

In order to avoid needless loss of human lives, I hereby ordered:

1. German soldiers who are cut off separated from their units, as well as a separated from their higher echelons, are give themselves up to the nearest Allied unit.
2. The highest ranking officer or a commissioned officer at present responsible for the discipline of his unit individual stragglers are to report the usual signs of surrendering, ascribed on the other side.

TRANSLATION OF ZG 19

And again:

Written off!

Ihr seid jetzt abgeschnitten!

TRANSLATION OF ZG 49

You are now

cut off!

In order to avoid needless bloodshed, this leaflet is being delivered to you.

You are now cut off. There is no longer any front. Allied units are already far in your rear. You have fought bravely, but from now on it

TOP PRIORITY TARGET:

BEFORE ARMISTICE GERMAN MINDS MUST BE MADE TO THINK

Hitler stated in "Mein Kampf" that Allied leaflets were instrumental in the collapse of the German military and home fronts in 1918. Hindenburg admitted the same. As we enter what we hope to be the final winter of this war, what results will the appeal to reason produce for us in November, 1944?

2nd Bomb Division Libs delivered information leaflets on 36 days out of the past 3 months, to 32 targets. These mental appeals showered along with "bombs away" onto Ruhr factories, marshalling yards, ports, oil refineries, aircraft plants and cities deep inside Germany. 30,000,000 tactical leaflets were spread on the Normandy front.

The airborne word-bomb, termed "propaganda" but functioning at its greatest strength when bearing the unstoppable weapon of truth, stands today as our most direct munition of attack upon the "Siegfried Line" of resistance-to-the-truth which the Nazi propaganda training has erected around the German mass mind.

Despite the aura of "lie",

"stupid democracies", and "enemy bait" which Nazi conditioning hangs over even the most truthful message we can offer, the Allied leaflet is proving tremendously effective. In such surrenders as Cherbourg and LeHavre, as many as 80% of all prisoners taken have come in with leaflets in their possession. At LeHavre the prisoners constituted 11,302 out of a 12,000 garrison. One Korvette Kapitän Fritz Otto, now a prisoner, informed us that with leaflets falling all around his troops he found himself leading a "bunch of neurotics", and gave the whole thing up, coming over to us.

(Continued on page 4)



V-1-Raketenschlange bei Witten in Nordfrankreich. Die von der Alliierten erobert wurde. V-Waffen waren kein Stoff - aber eine Fata Morgana!

V-WAFFEN HÄTTEN ES AUCH NICHT GESCHAFFT

Über 140 V-1-Abschussanlagen wurden von den alliierten Heeren in Nordfrankreich, an der belgischen Kanalküste und in Holland erobert, sowie zahlreiche Raketenwerkstätten und Fernkampf-Versuchsanstalten. Eingehende Untersuchungen der erbeuteten V-Waffen (auch neuartiger Typen, die noch nicht zum Einsatz gelangt waren) ergaben ein genaues Bild ihrer Möglichkeiten. Ein kanadischer Pioneer-Offizier sagte: "Die V-Waffen spielen in diesem Krieg eine ähnliche Rolle wie der Fallschirm. Sie kommen für diesen Krieg zu spät und bedürfen nach jahrelanger Weiterentwicklung, um sich von einer psychologischen Waffe in ein wirksames Kampfmittel zu verwandeln. Sollte in 25 Jahren ein neuer Krieg ausbrechen, und wäre er gefällig, organisiere die V-Waffenanlagen zu Waffen, die von der deutschen Führung ursprünglich beabsichtigt waren, dann können diese Waffen im nächsten Krieg wohl ein Faktor ersten Ranges werden."

Früherkennung V-1-Gebäude. Unten: 12. u. 11. der Propaganda wurden von ihrer Seite ab oder zerstört in unmittelbarer Nachbarschaft ab. Insgesamt 46 u. 11 wurden durch Japan und Hochkommando abgebrannt.



VOIR

Images du monde d'aujourd'hui

Edition par avion No. 9



EN NORMANDIE LIBEREE M. CHURCHILL A RECU UN ACCUEIL A LA FOIS ENTHOUSIASTE ET FAMILIER DE LA PART DES FRANCAIS

TOP - PRIORITY TARGET

(Continued from page 3)

The men did not surrender simply because of the eloquence of the prose -- but they were convinced that the frank words could be backed up with overwhelming military superiority, so they performed the naive action (to the Nazi) of thinking.

All of Germany today is approaching the position of the surrounded garrisons at LeHavre and Cherbourg. They are still a powerful foe. The battle for submission promises to surpass any yet experienced. But we are prepared, and are certain to come out decisively victorious. Once their military machine is whipped before their eyes, will the Germans think, and lay down their arms, or will they wait to be blasted to the last little house painter?

Inside Germany one situation is new. Previous commanders have surrendered against Hitler's orders to hold out. In Germany Hitler will be giving the orders. Some of the populace may hang on because of the promise of more "secret weapons".

This secret weapon is the Nazi's psychological counter-attack upon our own morale. Will we not descend to a more gentle compromise peace, sparing the Nazi leaders perhaps -- rather than face this weapon threat that we already have endured for five years?

Many aircrew men have felt that the tender action of dropping paper is an optimistic fancy, an



DET FRIE NORGE

MAN KOMMER PÅ KAMPEN
- OG KJEMPE I FREHED!



LE MESSAGER DE LA LIBERTÉ

No. 11. Juin-Juillet 1944. Appareil par l'aviation des Nations Unies

Camp, 20 juillet 1944.

LATEST NEWS BY AIR:

Despite no radios, occupied countries read and saw the invasion, and even the campaign debates of Roosevelt and Dewey.

unpractical dilution of bomb loads. But at this stage in the war every attack on the German mass mind equals the potential value of any bomb blast. And at this point the Nazi propaganda finds it more difficult to hurl the lie at the printed word of the Allies. For what we report stands now on the German doorstep. Anxious civilians, and beleaguered soldiers see with their own eyes what we proclaim, and await what we promise. We are as good as our word.

Do the Nazis fear the leaflets? Captured German soldiers have reported that nobody below the rank of major is allowed to pick up leaflets dropped on them by the Allies. An army order during the

(Continued on page 6)

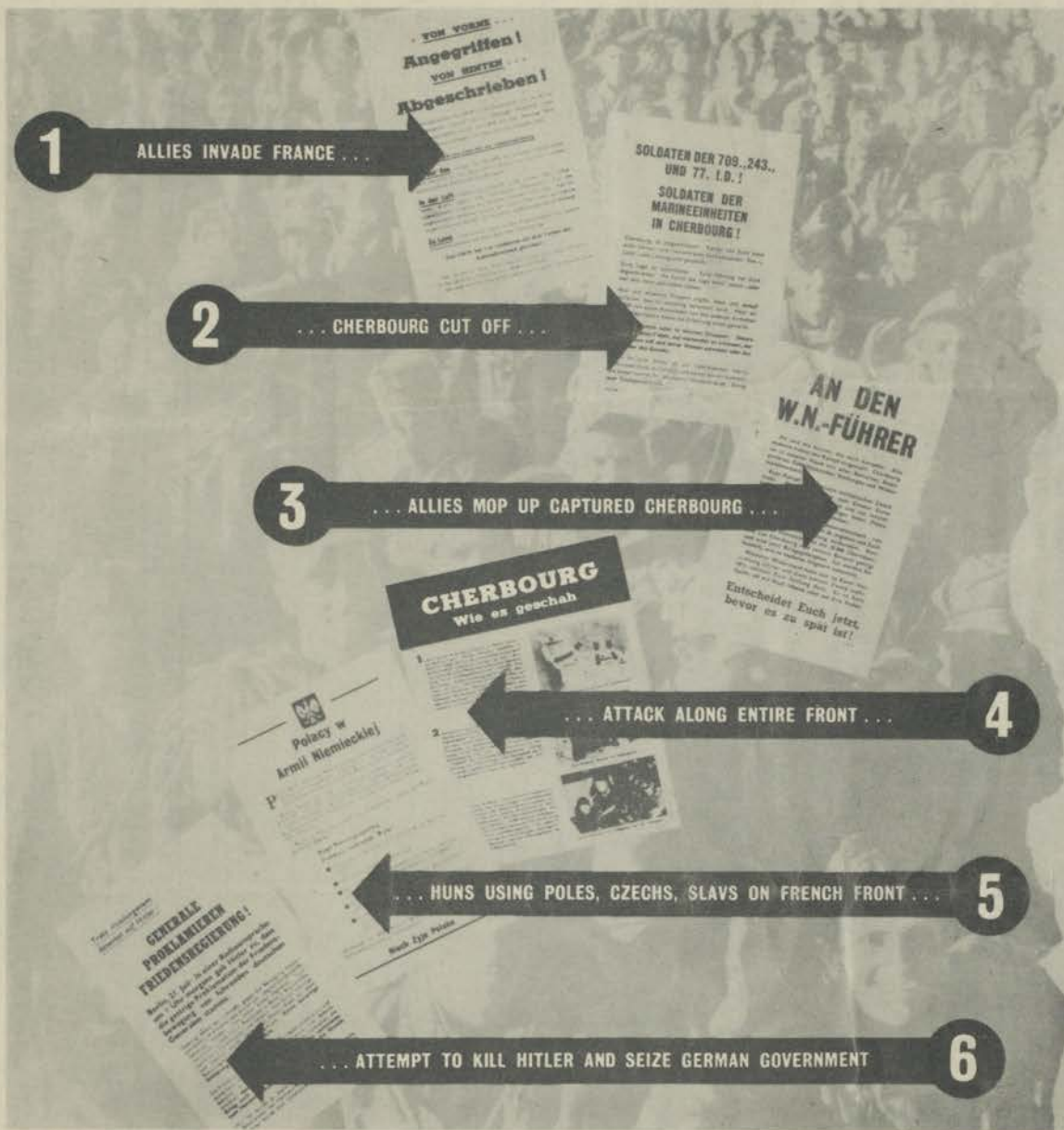
"77% OF THE PRISONERS TAKEN HAD READ LEAFLETS"

Anthony Eden, House of Commons, July, 1944

40,312,940 leaflets were dropped by the Allied Air Forces on German troops in Normandy during the 21st of July.

Twenty 40" wide maps sheets giving the over-all picture of the battle situation in Normandy. The remaining 60" were tactical leaflets synchronized to the battle situation in Normandy. See how each of these typical samples is directed to a specific point.

- 1 "Attacked from the front! . . . Abandoned from the rear!" (General dissemination to garrisons of the Atlantic Wall). Message: Enormous strength of Allied forces; hopelessness of garrison's position; "You are expendable."
- 2 "Cherbourg is encircled" (Special drop on specific units within Cherbourg). Message: "You are surrounded; your position is hopeless; surrender while you can."
- 3 "To resistance-nest leaders" (Pin-point drops on last-ditch resistance spots). Message: "All others have given up; your commanding general has surrendered; it's up to you whether we find you dead or alive."
- 4 "Cherbourg—how it happened" (General dissemination along main front). Message: Pattern of the attack; how peninsula was cut off; how forts were captured; "In view of the situation, the Fuehrer's command to hold out to the last man could not be executed."
- 5 "Poles in the German Army" (Special drops on units made up of drafted Poles. Similar leaflets dropped on other nationalities). Message: "Brute force inflicted the German uniform on you; come over to the Allied Armies; Long Live Poland!"
- 6 "Generals proclaim Peace Government" (Heavy distribution along entire front). Message: "This Peace Government may or may not be smashed; but, remember, any German government must capitulate to have Peace; consider your own personal position accordingly."



1 ALLIES INVADE FRANCE . . .

2 . . . CHERBOURG CUT OFF . . .

3 . . . ALLIES MOP UP CAPTURED CHERBOURG . . .

4 . . . ATTACK ALONG ENTIRE FRONT . . .

5 . . . HUNS USING POLES, CZECHS, SLAVS ON FRENCH FRONT . . .

6 . . . ATTEMPT TO KILL HITLER AND SEIZE GERMAN GOVERNMENT

TRANSLATION OF W.C.F.

Workers of the Ruhr and Rhine!

LESS THAN ONE HOUR TRAIN JOURNEY

is between you and the victorious allied armies, between you and the end of the war.

THE STOP-GAP DIVISIONS OF THE WEST FRONT

the combat-out miners, metal-workers and office workers of yesterday are today driven into the line of fire as "ultimo ratio" by a bankrupt and desperate regime.

HOPEFULLY

inferior are those men to the allied armies. They have not enough weapons. They lack instruction and training. They are few in number and they lack the protection a fighting Air Force.

THEY LACK EQUIPMENT

Their only weapons against the resolute allies who are a sure of victory and superior in numbers and equipment is the personal courage of the German soldier. Yet...

TO PROLONG THE WAR

the bankrupt party regime in Berlin is making an appeal to the so-called "National honour," the personal glory of the individual. That is the supreme crime of Hitler and his party against the German people, because...

PROLONGATION OF THE WAR

means to the working people of the Ruhr and the Rhine -- war on their own soil, the loss of their last goods of chattels, splitting-up of families by compulsory evacuation. It means...

UNDESIRABLE MISERY IN FACE OF A SIX MONTHS OF WAR. It means certain death for considerable shops and factories now called up as a last resort.

THEREFORE.....

MEN AND WOMEN OF THE RHENISH INDUSTRIAL AREAS

Reports at hand give the following pictures: In the industrial areas of the Ruhr and Rhineland-Westphalia the nihilistic leadership plans not only the escape of all functionaries of the Party but moreover the...

Clearing of these areas through compulsory evacuation

of great parts of the inhabitants, if not of the entire civilian population. This attempt to drag from their homelands ordinary citizens, this attempt to push them deeper and deeper into the death territory, together with the retreating armies, CAN HAVE BUT ONE RESULT: It will vastly increase the mass misery of this sixth winter of war. It will increase both the brutality and the extent of Nazi Terror.

MEN AND WOMEN IN THE INDUSTRIAL AREAS OF RHINELAND-WESTPHALIA

In your own interest, in the interest of your families and your homes! Evacuate all these evacuation orders! As the front-lines approach your home town -- seek shelter and protection in safe cellars or immediately outside the town. There, in safety, you should await the entry of the Allied troops and thus keep your family together.

WE WARN YOU!

On the grounds of military necessity, the Military Government functioning in occupied Germany hereby will suspend all civilian travelling. What does that mean? That means: Whoever allows himself to be dragged off by the Nazi authorities will not be able to return to his home town for a long time even after the German forces have been driven out of the evacuation areas.

In other words: FATHERS WILL BE DIGGING TRENCHES AT HOME. MOTHERS WILL BE SOMEWHERE IN SAXONY. THE CHILDREN WILL BE IN BAVARIA.

TRANSLATION OF W.C.F.

INHABITANTS OF DÜSSELDORF HELP YOURSELVES

EVERY INHABITANT OF DÜSSELDORF who, in this hour of need, wants to help ending the war and National Socialist terror

MUST ACT NOW

YOU MUST most energetically counter the Fear-Propaganda of the Reich Government. By this propaganda the regime means to prepare the ground for the planned compulsory evacuation of the entire civil population of Düsseldorf. The ordinary citizen of Düsseldorf, however, has no cause to fear the Allied troops.

YOU MUST at the decisive moment, save all municipal and public utilities -- such as gas, water, electricity and transport -- and protect them from deliberate destruction. Düsseldorf will need these vital necessities after the occupation by the Allies.

YOU MUST remember the names of those who have committed acts of cowardice -- either against German Air-Units and opponents of the prolongation of war, or else against non-Germans and foreign workers.

YOU MUST when the Allies enter Düsseldorf, help through your discipline to facilitate the quickest possible return to normal conditions of life under Military Government.

INHABITANTS OF DÜSSELDORF HELP YOURSELVES!

To the German woman!

Germany herself will now be the Theatre of War. Every bomb and every shell from now on will explode on German soil. German blood will sink into the German earth. Cities, villages, and fields will go up in smoke and flames. Such is the wish of Hitler and his Party fanatics.

Do you want the war at home?

Ask the returning German soldier whether individual bravery and courage can bring to a stop the Anglo-American war machine.

Ask the returning German soldier if he wants for German women and children the same fate that befell the civil population of Normandy, Italy and Russia.

Ask the returning German soldier if he wishes his country to look as do the shattered cities of Normandy, Italy and Russia.

The loyalty of the German soldier does not belong to the bankrupt Party but to you, German woman, to your children and your country. And you can save the German soldier, your children and your country from senseless destruction if you demand...

THE END!

TOP-PRIORITY TARGET

(Continued from page 4)

invasion threatened: "These leaflets invite you to desert; if you do, you will be taken to England and run the risk of death by V1. After that, you will be shipped to the United States or Canada for lifelong hard labor, or exchanged for an American or British paratrooper -- of whom we have captured thousands -- tried by court-martial, and shot."

Goebbels warns German soldiers and civilians: "There is not a single sentence in these leaflets which does not want to do us harm. They are addressed to the weak points which exist in every nation. It ought to be below our dignity to read what the leaflets say. They are weapons, and we must be careful with all weapons. These methods are the same as were used in the

last war, 26 years ago. The same attempt is being made today."

The PWD officer of the 12th Army Group reports: "... thanks again for the great assistance, and please pass on my thanks to the gang who are actually doing the dropping. They are doing a great job and it is really being appreciated."

HOW THE COLLAPSE CAME ABOUT

The German collapse in the West is the result of an Allied strategy that has not only relied on overwhelming material superiority, it is making the fullest use of shock and surprise.

Before the Allied landings in Northern France, the bulk of four armoured forces in the West was distributed between the VIII, IX, and X Army Groups in the Pas de Calais. But in order to contain the Allies in their beautiful, blossom-strewn the XVIII Army of all its armor and concentrated every available tank in Normandy. The Allies not only broke through this but surrounded and decimated the greater portion of Rommel's armor. The only remaining German army of any size in the West is the XVIII, now lacks a single armoured division with which to meet the Allied march toward Germany.

The German High Command had hoped to be able to tie up reserves from Southern France in case of an Allied beach-landing. But the Allied landings in the south have put an end to that dream.

With all its other troops either engaged on the eastern front in Italy, or else standing immobilized and useless in far-off Sicily and the Balkans, the German High Command has now reached end of its resources.

The end is only a matter of time.

Your choice

You, German man or woman, now face the final choice. War is coming to Germany in giant strides. You can continue to work for Hitler-making munitions for him in factories that are going to be bombed, or digging emergency trenches for him in areas that are going to be overrun by the conquering Allied armored armies. You can go down in ruin with the regime.

What you can do

Or you can say No. You can stop giving Hitler your sweat. Some of you can get out of the war factories. You can disappear for a while from the big cities and the underground areas. You can do useful work on the land. The peasants need you! and you need their food. If you are prevented from doing it, you can write your brothers and husbands and sons at the front in a language that will tell them that you want the war to end. You can save yourself -- and help save others -- dear to you.

The choice is yours.

RESTRICTED

The Americans have not changed

The Americans are approaching our cities.

Since your leadership has driven you into this criminal war, your armed forces will be destroyed and Germany will be occupied.

The older persons among you remember the Americans at the end of the last war. It is in your interest to get to know the Americans.

This is what you must know:

- 1. The Americans require quiet and order and will mercilessly quell disorder.
2. The Americans will not tolerate war criminals and prolongers of war.
3. The Americans will root out fanatics and Nazi swindlers.

Those who understand these things will be able to get along with the Americans. Those who do not want to get along with the Americans must remember...

(Top) Appeal to workers, many of whom are of foreign origin and wish to see the end of Nazi-ism. Likewise, the woman behind the gun may not wish to see him die for Hitler.

(Left) The Americans are not here to deliver gum -- nor to oppress.

(Right) Day by day time-tible of war's advance. The future months are left to the German to decide.

Übersichts-KALENDER

AUGUST 1944

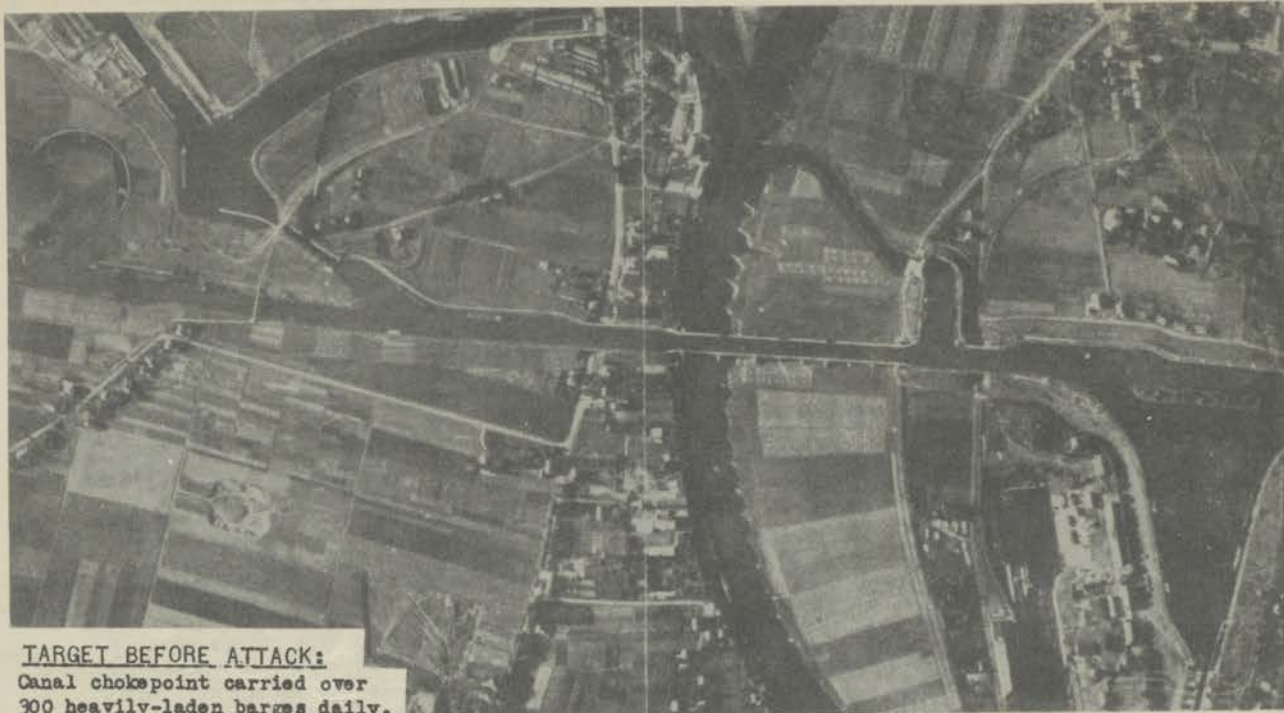
Annahme des Reiches... Österreich gibt... 1. Österreichische... 2. Deutsche... 3. Belgien... 4. Belgien... 5. Amerikanische... 6. Amerikanische... 7. Amerikanische... 8. Amerikanische... 9. Amerikanische... 10. Amerikanische... 11. Amerikanische... 12. Amerikanische... 13. Amerikanische... 14. Amerikanische... 15. Amerikanische... 16. Amerikanische... 17. Amerikanische... 18. Amerikanische... 19. Amerikanische... 20. Amerikanische... 21. Amerikanische... 22. Amerikanische... 23. Amerikanische... 24. Amerikanische... 25. Amerikanische... 26. Amerikanische... 27. Amerikanische... 28. Amerikanische... 29. Amerikanische... 30. Amerikanische...

SEPTEMBER 1944

1. Amerikanische... 2. Amerikanische... 3. Amerikanische... 4. Amerikanische... 5. Amerikanische... 6. Amerikanische... 7. Amerikanische... 8. Amerikanische... 9. Amerikanische... 10. Amerikanische... 11. Amerikanische... 12. Amerikanische... 13. Amerikanische... 14. Amerikanische... 15. Amerikanische... 16. Amerikanische... 17. Amerikanische... 18. Amerikanische... 19. Amerikanische... 20. Amerikanische... 21. Amerikanische... 22. Amerikanische... 23. Amerikanische... 24. Amerikanische... 25. Amerikanische... 26. Amerikanische... 27. Amerikanische... 28. Amerikanische... 29. Amerikanische... 30. Amerikanische...

OKTOBER NOVEMBER

Calendar grid for October and November 1944 with days of the week and dates.



TARGET BEFORE ATTACK:
Canal chokepoint carried over
300 heavily-laden barges daily.

MINDEN CANAL JACKPOT

(Continued from page 1)

Valley and the Rhineland.

Due to allied bombing of oil plants and rail centers, curtailing highway and railroad transport, this waterway is vitally important to the Germans. Its connecting link thru the Ruhr, the Dortmund-Ems canal, was

breached by the RAF on September 23.

A minimum of several weeks, it is estimated, will be required to repair the breached wall. Particularly vulnerable was the canal at this specific point, where the canal is carried over the Weser river, and exceedingly difficult to reconstruct.

In this example the perfection of instrument bombing is attained -- visually the ideally placed breach would be as sensational. The Lib navigators, Micky operators, and bombardiers are creating an heroic record, determined that weather obstacles will not carry the war into another year.



85-FOOT BREACH:
Boats are seen grounded
outside and inside canal.

SNARFU OF THIS WEEK

"TOOK OFF" WITH CONTROLS LOCKED



To imitate this accident would be very simple -- just don't use your check list, and some day you'll forget something important. After takeoff was under way, the locked controls were noticed and throttles were cut.

The pilot applied brakes but could not stop before running off end of runway. The nose-wheel dug in and collapsed. Luckily, again, no-one was injured. The cause -- failure to use check list!

LET'S BRING 'EM BACK SAFE



TARGET:
VICTORY'S

NOMINATION FOR
OUTSTANDING

"MAN OF THE DIVISION"

1ST/LT. STANLEY KRIVIK

1st/Lt. Stanley E. Krivik, Bloomfield, N.J., of 445th Bomb Group, has been awarded the soldiers medal for heroism when after making a crash-landing in England he returned to his burning aircraft three times to rescue his injured and trapped crew members, voluntarily endangering his own life each time he went back to the plane.

More than 100 German fighters had

attacked his Group's formation near Kassel, Germany. Cannon fire destroyed the hydraulic system of the airplane, partially severed rudder control cables, and knocked out one engine. Over the English Coast, the second engine went out. He tried to land at his own field, but seeing a bomber on the runway, he turned away from the field. Then as a third engine failed, the Liberator crashed.

Lt. Krivik was thrown out of the airplane on impact, propelled through the pilot's plexiglass windshield and onto the ground. For a few seconds he was unconscious. Then he recovered to see a fire raging on the flight deck and spreading towards the bomb bay. He rushed back to the plane, found his co-pilot, 2nd/Lt. L. R. Trotta, still strapped to his seat, injured and unconscious. Not wasting time to unstrap him, Lt. Krivik pulled out seat and man to safety. The radio operator, T/Sgt. J.V. Cadden, was pinned down on the flight deck, and Lt. Krivik went back to pull him

free of the burning plane. A third time the pilot returned to the blazing wreck and rescued the tail gunner, S/Sgt. H. A. Puto.

By this time flames had reached the ammunition boxes, and fifty caliber bullets were exploding. The danger of a major explosion from the fuel tanks was imminent. However, Lt. Krivik started back a fourth time to free the flight engineer, T/Sgt. D.R. Bugalecki, whose leg was caught under some radio equipment. Just as the pilot approached the plane, Sgt. Bugalecki worked his feet out of his shoes and got away of his own accord.

Lt. Krivik's daring saved the lives of three of his crew members. The two waist gunners and the nose gunner had been able to escape from the wreck by themselves.

The soldiers medal citation read in part: "Lt. Krivik's complete disregard for his own safety, in assuring that of his crew members, maintains the finest traditions established by any soldier of the United States."