

Report Yanks 25 Miles From Reich Past Fallen Verdun

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confirm the capture of Verdun and Commercy, 29 miles to the south-east.

The German D. N. B. news agency said, however, that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d army troopers had lunged on about 25 miles beyond Verdun into the great Lorraine iron basin around Briey, 25 miles or less from the German border.

Briey itself is barely 12 miles from the industrial city of Metz, which the Nazis proclaimed part of greater Germany after the 1940 armistice with France.

Only Scattered Shots

A few scattered shots greeted the Americans at Verdun, but Miller reported that Patton's tanks and armored infantry carriers rolled on through the bustling fortress city almost without a pause.

Verdun, surrounded by the graves of tens of thousands of soldiers who fell there in 1916, still was criss-crossed with the trenches and breastworks of the last war, but the disorganized Nazis made no attempt to stand and fight for them.

On Patton's left flank, the American 1st army swung across the Meuse river below Charleville and Sedan and knifed up toward the twin citadels at the gateway of the Ardennes gap. The lag in communications and the speed of the American advance suggested that some U. S. columns might already have broken into the Ardennes forest and across the Belgian frontier.

D. N. B. Reports Advance

D. N. B. said units of the 1st army turned north from Rethel in an apparent enveloping sweep around Sedan and drove up 28 miles to the Vervins area, 15 1/2 miles west of the Belgian border.

The battle of France appeared to be over except for mopping up and the battles of Germany and Belgium were about to begin.

On the French channel coast, British and Canadian forces rapidly were rolling up the rocket coast and already have overrun at least 120 launching platforms.

One British column smashed 14 miles across the Somme river to Maillly after capturing Amiens, so-called "capital" of the robot bomb coast.

Capture Nazi Commander

Gen. Heinrich Hans Eberbach, who succeeded Gen. Paul Hausser as commander of the German 7th army when the latter was wounded, was revealed to have been captured.

in the British-Canadian sector while he was eating breakfast yesterday. His army already had been destroyed.

Patton's 3d army scored yesterday's biggest victory with its 65-mile advance from Reims to Verdun in less than 24 hours—an accomplishment that took the allies four years in world war I and cost them hundreds of thousands of lives.

Patton's men lost only a few tanks and suffered "amazingly light casualties," United Press War Correspondent Robert Miller reported in disclosing that the Americans now were within 410 miles of Berlin.

No Bitter Fight Yesterday

There was no bitter fight yesterday from Verdun and the great ring of forts that stopped the German offensive in 1916 as it was threatening to engulf Paris, Miller said. Rather it was a grim pursuit, with American tanks and motorized infantry hot on the heels of the retreating Germans.

The first spearhead broke into Verdun shortly before noon after crossing the Meuse some miles below the city and attacking from the rear. Simultaneously a second column spearheaded into the city from another direction. Except for a few rounds from German 88's and anti-tank guns, the Germans made no defense.

Only 35 miles farther east lies Metz, outer bastion of the Maginot line.

The advance to Verdun actually began at 4 p. m. Wednesday from Reims, Miller revealed, and by night had carried into the edges of the old Hindenburg line.

Push Into Argonne

Next morning the Americans pushed into the dense Argonne forest and met only a few small knots of disorganized Germans in comparison to the hundreds of thousands who defended it 26 years ago. An occasional wrecked German vehicle was the only sign of war. The trees, bare and splintered a quarter century ago, were in full foliage.

The Germans did not even pause to blow up bridges across the Meuse river.

Laon, 60 miles west of Sedan, fell yesterday after a stiff fight in which three trainloads of German troops attempting to withdraw were killed or captured.

Still another 1st army column was closing in on the famed Compeigne forest, "deep" in a German salient 40 miles southeast of Laon.

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Russians Sweep to Border Of Bulgaria at Danube River

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ers, Walter Hughes of New York and Paul Blake of Cincinnati, who had been shot down during an air raid on the Ploesti oil wells early in July and imprisoned ever since in the Bucharest jail.

Later dispatches said three other Americans also had been released. The Russians said they were identified as Louis Hagen and George Young of Illinois and Bardell Rich of Ohio, all air gunners.

Another 7000 Germans, including the 33d general to be captured since the start of the Soviet summer of-

fensive June 23, were captured to bring the grand total of the Romanian campaign to 323,400.

With the fall of Bucharest marking the liberation of the third European capital in 80 days, other Russian forces lashed out northeast of Warsaw, capital of Poland, in what may be the prelude to a full-scale offensive against that city.

The advance northwest of Ploesti put the Soviets within 155 miles of the Serbian border and 300 miles from Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia.

HINT BULGARIAN CABINET RESIGNS

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that would ratify the allied armistice terms.

Cairo dispatches indicated the Bulgarian-allied armistice might be signed before the week-end, and stated that the Bulgars were withdrawing from those sections of Yugoslavia and Greece which they have not claimed as part of greater Bulgaria.

Czech sources reported that patriot forces had seized almost all of the Nazi puppet state of Slovakia except for areas on the east and west borders, but German troops were known to be marching into the country and may regain control for the Quisling government.

Another puppet state, Croatia, shook up its government and put officers of the pro-Nazi Ustachi in the key posts of interior minister, war minister and commander in chief of the Croatian army in the face of the increasing threat to Zagreb, the capital, from Marshal Tito's Yugoslavian partisan army.

MIXTURE INCREASES PENICILLIN'S POWER

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (U. P.)

Sixty-four out of 65 men suffering from gonorrhea were cured by single injections of penicillin in a beeswax-peanut oil mixture and subsequent tests on larger numbers of patients have been similarly successful, the war department announced today.

The effectiveness of penicillin was greatly increased by the mixture which made it possible to maintain the drug in the blood stream over a much longer period and thus substantially reduce the dosage.

The new method, developed by Walter Reed hospital scientists, will effect great savings in the supply of the drug, the war department said.

REPORT CHEVALIER KILLED

BY UNITED PRESS

A German DNB news agency dispatch asserted Thursday that members of the French Maquis had beaten to death Maurice Chevalier, French musical comedy and motion picture star, but the report was entirely without allied confirmation.

TURKEYS TO BE PLENTIFUL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (U. P.)

Every American soldier at home and abroad will get a generous portion of turkey with all the fixings on Thanksgiving day, the war department said today, and there will be plenty of turkey for civilians, too.

Allies Control Nearly All of S. France Coast

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Chateaufort, eight miles from Italy, ran into a stubborn German defense.

In the Rhone valley, the Americans were taking a heavy toll of German troops and equipment.

Highway seven, the main escape route of the Germans fleeing toward Lyon, was strewn with enemy dead and wrecked equipment.

Between Bourges de Peage, a road junction town with a population of 30,000, and Lyon were several lateral rivers, where the Germans were expected to try to delay the Americans in an effort to retrieve the main part of their forces.

(A French forces of the interior communique yesterday revealed that patriots had captured Bordeaux.)

Richter indicated the Germans would not make a definite stand until they reached the Siegfried line where, he said, Germany would unleash "secret" weapons.

Considering the normal timelag between communique and the actual fighting line, it was possible some advance French elements already were at the Spanish border.

In the rugged Alpine terrain, on the eastern side of the beachhead, the Germans were mining huge areas and bringing up mortar fire in an attempt to hold the mountain passes leading into Italy. As far as the Germans were concerned, the area ceased to be a part of the French front and became the Italian front.

(An Italo-Swiss frontier dispatch said Italian patriots had occupied the important Alpine passes of Great and Small St. Bernard, east of Bourge St. Maurice, to aid the allied advance and at the same time cut off the retreat of German armies in Northern Italy.)

OPERATED, WALLEY O. K.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 (U. P.)

The Duchess of Windsor was reported in a Roosevelt hospital bulletin today to be "responding beautifully" and to have spent a comfortable night after an operation for the removal of her appendix yesterday.

BATTLE RAGES IN WARSAW

LONDON, Sept. 1 (U. P.)

Stubborn, bloody fighting continues through Warsaw between Gen. Bor's home army and German forces, with the patriots forced to yield ground in a few places, a communique said today.