

GOTHIC LINE GAP OPEN TO ALLIES

Crack Parachute Division
Breaks Under Assault
Of British.

ROME, Sept. 6 (U. P.)—Allied troops advanced to within four miles of Rimini today as Nazi Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's crack first parachute division, breaking under the combined assault of British, Canadians and Poles pouring through a gap in the Gothic line, abandoned a key ridge defending the important Adriatic coastal city.

In the western sector of the Italian front U. S. 8th army troops captured Autopacio, 10 miles north of the Arno river, and sent patrols into the important city of Lucca, nine miles to the northwest.

Yanks Control Heights

Front dispatches reported that the Americans hold all dominating heights just north of the Arno between Florence and the Tyrrhenian sea, and were poised for a drive against the western end of the Germans' Gothic line.

The British radio reported today that Italian patriots had seized control of the entire Ligurian sea coast of northeastern Italy, with exception of Genoa, and a state of siege had been proclaimed in Bologna, endangered by the allied drive through the gap in the Gothic line.

Polish troops operating at the eastern end of the front took possession of the southern suburbs of the town of Riccione Mariana, five miles below Rimini, and there were signs that enemy resistance in that sector was rapidly weakening.

BRISAGGIO, Switzerland, Sept. 6 (U. P.)—Italian partisans reported from the frontier town of San Bartolomeo Di Valmera today that German commanders in northern Italy held a secret meeting at Cernobbio Monday and drafted plans for the evacuation of the Italian peninsula. The partisans said they understood the Germans had packed all their documents for shipment to Germany.

British troops two and a half miles inland from that point advanced a mile past Misano, while Canadians to the left drove another two miles forward to within 1000 yards of the Marano river, only four miles from Rimini and the last river guarding the approaches to the city.

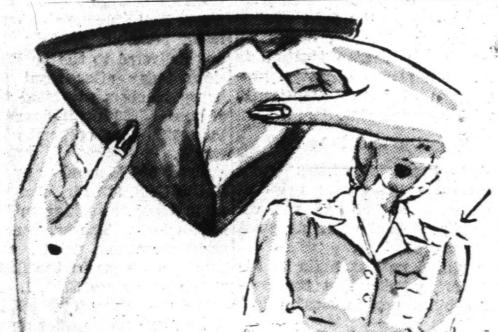
The Canadians seized high ground just north of the town of Coriano, six miles southwest of Rimini, and held it against counter-attacks by the Germans yesterday. There were indications the Germans had left Turcoman conscripts to defend the Marano river and had withdrawn inside Rimini to make a last-ditch fight to hold the coastal city which is the gateway to the Po Valley northward.

Ships Shell Nazis

Two British destroyers, Undine and Urchin, again went to the support of the allied troops before Rimini yesterday and fired more than 600 rounds at coastal batteries and gun emplacements around the city.

An island of German resistance at Montefiore, one and a half miles below the Conca river and eight miles inland, was finally overrun by British troops, but further inland the Germans were still holding northwest of Tavoleto and about five miles southeast of the tiny republic of San Marino.

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SEES 'AMAZING' RECONVERSION

Krug Says Civilian Goods
To Pass '39 Peak After
Germany Falls.

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back into civilian production," Krug said at his first press conference. "We can't wet-nurse 200,000-odd enterprises."

The 36-year-old Krug, who was appointed by President Roosevelt less than two weeks ago to run

production as he saw fit, refused to

speculate on which consumer goods will return first.

He said the program was designed to make swift new jobs for an estimated 4,000,000 war workers who will be thrown out of employment when Germany falls.

An informed source in government said that radios may be one of the first non-military items to reach the public.

Other equally informed sources estimated that some passenger car manufacturers should be in production in from 90 to 120 days after the end of the war in Europe. It was emphasized, however, that a crimp could be put in the whole civilian production program if any unexpected shortages suddenly developed while the war against Japan was in progress.

It was the general belief in production circles that such items as refrigerators and washing machines

should be in process of manufacture within 90 days after Germany falls.

Krug said he believed maximum civilian production could be achieved "without detailed priorities regulation from Washington." So, he said, it was decided to retain only two priority ratings after the German defeat.

One will be the overriding emergency rating and the other will merely designate a particular order as military.

Under the program, all manufacturers can use any plant and any materials that are not needed for military production.

SLAVES BLOCK NAZI ESCAPE
LONDON, Sept. 6 (U. P.)—Yugoslav partisans have blown up a key bridge at Zelenkovo, cutting off communications with German

troops in Macedonia.

PLANT CUTS COSTS; INCREASES BOMBERS

KANSAS CITY, Kas., Sept. 6 (U. P.)—Three hundred B-25 Billy Mitchell bombers were produced in 23 working days during August at the North American Aviation, Inc., plant of Kansas, the company revealed today with war department permission.

The company also was permitted to reveal—in this first announcement of production figures since the plant went into operation a few days after Pearl Harbor—that the cost of the medium bomber had been reduced by 26.5 per cent since last Jan. 1, while production climbed 108 per cent.

The plant now is the only one in the world producing the bomber, a workhorse in all theaters of war and the first to pack a 75-millimeter cannon in its nose.