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1 Eastern Front Moscow announces entire province of Petsamo in N Finland freed of German invaders after three weeks of operations by troops of Marshal Kirill A. Meretskov's Karelian Army assisted by Northern Fleet units under command of Admiral A. G. Golovko. Soviet attacks in Auce area and SE of Liepaja in W Latvia claimed frustrated by Germans in bitter defensive fighting; 142 Soviet planes reported shot down in this area during last three days. Germans also report unsuccessful tank-supported attacks by 6 Soviet inf divs in Pultusk sector on the Narew R., N of Warsaw.

In NE Hungary, Soviet and Rumanian troops clear hairpin bend of the Tisza NE of Nyiregyhaza with capture of Kisvarda and Mandok; slight gains also registered W of Nyiregyhaza toward Bud-Szt-Mihaly. Kecskemet, important RR junction and major enemy defense point SE of Budapest, falls to troops of 2d Ukrainian Army after bitter street fighting; forward elements reach Lajosmisze within 32 miles of the capital; Kiskoroos RR junction, 70 miles to S of Budapest, also seized. Yugoslavia reports capture of Srem, Mitrovica and Veliki Radinci, NW of Belgrade, by Red Army troops and Yugoslav Partisans advancing toward the Bosut R.

Austria-S Germany Force of 575 heavy bombers of 15th AF is dispatched to attack targets in Vienna area; one group abandons mission and many planes attack secondary and opportunity targets because of weather; 291 B-24s and B-17s complete missions, dropping 673.8 tons of bombs: 78 B-17s and B-24s severely damage diesel engine works and score hits on S ordnance depot, assembly shops, and electric power station in Vienna area; marshaling yards and ordnance depot at Graz are alternate objectives for 173 additional heavies which drop 381.9 tons of bombs with unobserved results; remaining planes drop 15.7 tons on Kapfenberg tank factory, 24.8 tons on marshaling yards at Lieboch and Gussing, 39.3 tons on RR yards at Cakovec (Yugoslavia), and 54.2 tons on communication targets of opportunity in S Germany. Escort for heavy bomber missions provided by 125 P-38s and 185 P-51s which attack RR traffic and strafe airfields in Vienna area; 3 grounded planes claimed destroyed and 1 damaged; 14 locomotives and 23 tank cars destroyed and 1 locomotive and approximately 200 RR cars damaged.

2 Eastern Front Fighting continues in W Latvia where Soviet troops are attempting to break through enemy held positions W of Auce and SE of Liepaja. Report of [redacted]

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Russian Army repel German armd reconnaissance thrust against RR junction of Goldap, S of Kaunas-Koenigsberg RR, in E Prussia. On the Narew front N of Warsaw, Berlin claims frustration of White Russian attacks directed toward E Prussia from SE; both air forces are active in this area.

Fourth Ukrainian troops repulse enemy counterattacks to W of RR town of Cop and capture high ground position N of Uzhorod (W Carpatho-Ukraine). In four-pronged attack directed at Budapest, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukrainian Army scores outstanding gains: Northern wing pushing W of Nyiregyhaza captures Bud-Szt-Mihaly and completely clears E bank of the Tisza R. by eliminating enemy garrisons at Polgar, Tiszadob, and Tiszadada; to S, more than 60 towns and villages between the Tisza and the Danube taken. Soviet forces threatening important communication centers of Szolnok and Czegled ESE of the capital capture Jasz-Karajeno and Nagykoros; one column makes nine-mile advance along Kecskemet-Budapest RR to reach Tatarszentgyoergy, 25 miles SE of the capital; in two-day drive from Izsak, other columns repel heavy blows of German 24th Pz Div and progress 25 miles, capturing Fuloepszallas, Szabadszallas, and Kunszentmiklos and pushing spearhead to Doemsod, 4 miles W of the Danube and 21 miles below Budapest. To date, German and Hungarian prisoners taken between the Tisza and the Danube Rivers number 7,518; Col. Gen. Janos Voeroes, former Chief of the Hungarian General Staff, reported captured.

SAF attacks German and Hungarian troops falling back toward SE outskirts of Budapest. Soviet Baltic Fleet aircraft attack enemy shipping in the port of Liepaja and in the Baltic Sea, sinking 9 transports and damaging 2.

Austria Poor route and target weather cancels 15th AF operations during day. In night attacks, 7 B-17s drop 12.5 tons of bombs on Moosbierbaum oil refinery, 3 tons on Klagenfurt, and 2.5 tons on airfield near Vienna; all bombing individually by PFF method; no claims or losses reported.

- 3 Eastern Front Finnish forces increase pressure against German troops withdrawing from positions NW of Muonio near Swedish border and along Arctic highway N of Vuotso. Fierce fighting takes place N and S of Goldap in E Prussia where German inf and tank thrusts pierce Soviet positions at several points; troops of 3d White Russian Army counterattack to drive back the enemy with heavy arty and mortar fire. Soviet bridgehead N of Warsaw maintained in face of heavy and repeated counterattacks.

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Continuing drive SE of Budapest between the Tisza and the Danube Rivers, troops of 2d Ukrainian Army closing in on Szolnok and Czegléd win Toertel and Toszeg; forces advancing along RR and highway from Kecskemet sweep up Orkeny and Sari to reach Alsonomedi, approximately 7 miles from Soroksor (S suburb of Budapest); other columns force enemy back along E bank of the Danube in the Solt area and capture RR towns of Dunavesce and Szalkszentmartom (between Solt and Doemsod).

Fifteenth AF observers report Soviet tanks and cav units entering S outskirts of Budapest and German armored units crossing to W banks of the Danube from point to S of the capital. German 3,000-ton supply ship torpedoed and sunk in the Baltic Sea by planes of Red Banner Baltic Fleet.

Austria-S Germany Depending on cloud cover for protection, 15th AF heavy bombers continue attacks on oil, RR, and industrial targets in Austria and S Germany: 9 B-24s drop 12 tons of bombs on Munich (West) marshaling yards and 1.5 tons on Innsbruck; aircraft plant at Klagenfurt takes 25 tons from 17 B-24s; 3 B-24s drop 4 tons on Moosbierbaum oil plant and 2 tons on opportunity target; 18 B-17s unload 37.5 tons of bombs on Vienna (South) ordnance depot and 5 tons on RR tracks E of Graz; results at all targets unobserved; all bombers return safely.

4 Eastern Front Finnish troops engage in fierce fighting with Germans retiring N on Arctic highway and along Swedish border toward Enontekiö. German inf forces with strong support of tanks and mortar batteries attack Soviet positions in E Prussia; Moscow claims heavy losses in manpower and equipment inflicted on enemy while Berlin reports Soviets wrested from positions in Goldap area. Fighting continues along the Narw R. in vicinity of Pultusk.

Main enemy defense line SE of Budapest based on Szolnok-Budapest RR collapses with fall of Szolnok, Abony, and Czegléd to 2d Ukrainian Army; Ocsa within 15 miles of Budapest on RR line from Kecskemet also captured. In NE Hungary, Rumanian and Soviet troops now dominate the W bank of the Tisza R. Fourth Ukrainian troops are attacking on a six-mile front NW of Uzhorod in W Carpatho-Ukraine, according to Berlin; surrender of small enemy garrison N of Uzhorod reported by Moscow.

Austria-S Germany Oil depots and marshaling yards in Austria and S Germany are again chief targets hit by heavy bombers of 15th AF. Force of 113 B-24s reported by 15th AF.

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releases 265 tons of bombs on Linz (Main) marshaling yards, 56 tons on unidentified RR yards, and 2 tons on opportunity target; benzol plant at Linz receives 325 tons of bombs from 131 additional heavies with escort of 45 P-51s. Regensburg/Winterhafen oil storage depot attacked by 199 B-17s, dropping 485 tons of bombs; Munich (West) marshaling yards hit with 210 tons of bombs by 108 B-24s; Augsburg M/Y, NW of Munich, receives 117 tons of bombs from 68 B-24s; alternate targets, including airfield at Erdling, RR yards at Kufstein, Rosenheim, and Muehldorf, and targets of opportunity bombed by 94 additional heavies with 175.5 tons of bombs; bomber escort furnished by 149 P-38s and 116 P-51s. Operations conducted by PFF method; results unobserved. Approximately 28 unaggressive enemy planes encountered over NE Italy, the Brenner Pass, and Lake Balaton (Hungary).

5 Eastern Front Germans withdrawing N along Swedish border toward Enontekiö put up stiff resistance to Finns at approaches to Palojoensuu. Along Arctic highway toward Petsamo, Finnish troops push to within 3 miles of Ivalo. Unsuccessful breakthrough attempts against defense positions in W Latvia reported by Germans. Berlin announces RR town of Goldap in E Prussia clear of Russian invaders while Moscow reports Goldap abandoned and more "advantageous positions" occupied by 3d White Russian troops.

Despite heavy rains and stiffening enemy resistance, Red Army troops drive to within 5 miles of SE suburbs of Budapest, capturing Andrassy and cutting Czegled-Budapest RR at Ullo; another column thrusts W of Alsonemedi to seize Taksony on the Danube, about 5 miles S of Soroksar. Soviets now hold positions within easy arty range of Budapest. Slight gains registered by Soviet units N of Szolnok-Abony-Czegled line.

Two German transports, totaling 8,000 tons, reported sunk in the Baltic Sea by Soviet naval units.

Austria In record attack against a single target in one operation by 15th AF aircraft, 134 B-17s and 373 B-24s escorted by 127 P-38s and 181 P-51s strike Vienna/Florisdorf oil refineries with 1,100 tons of bombs; 21 additional tons dropped on near-by targets; weather requires bombing by instruments; results unobserved. Approximately 45 ME-109s are encountered in Lake Balaton area (Hungary); claims are 9 enemy planes destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, and 2 damaged by 3 bombers and 2 fighters.

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6 Eastern Front On the 27th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, Marshal Stalin announces that the "German-violated" frontier of the U.S.S.R. has been restored on an 1,800-mile length from the Barents Sea to the Black Sea, although German troops are still fighting in W Latvia; 790,000 enemy troops reported killed or captured during summer offensive, increasing enemy casualties to 8,590,000 in more than three years of war on the Eastern Front.

Ivalo on Arctic highway just S of Lake Inari cleared of Germans by Finns. Berlin reports Soviet thrusts SE of Liepaja abating in strength and claims large-scale attacks in Auce area halted by German grenadiers; W bank of Lake Goldap in E Prussia declared free of Russians.

Red Army's drive toward Budapest impeded by third day of torrential rains; Soviets under cover of weather move large forces to front-line positions; enemy defense positions S and SE of Budapest are also being reinforced by units straight from the march and by rearguard and security troops. Bulgars report capture of Strumica, near Bulgarian border in SE Serbia.

Austria Fifteenth AF heavy bombers again concentrate on oil, RR, and industrial targets in Austria. Force of 189 B-17s and B-24s strikes Moosbierbaum oil refineries with 405 tons of bombs; Kapfenburg steel works hit with 72.5 tons by 29 B-17s; Wagram/Strashof M/Y takes 73 tons from 37 B-17s while 24 B-17s with 69 tons bomb Graz M/Y. Vienna (South) ordnance depot attacked by 257 B-24s which drop 563 tons by PFF method; escort provided by 94 P-38s and 92 P-51s. Results of this attack and 2 previous raids as revealed by photos show many direct hits on chemical and hydrochloric acid plants and power station; 1 oil storage tank destroyed, fertilizer plant heavily damaged, 2 warehouses partly wrecked, RR sidings cut, and tank cars fired. Approximately 55 unaggressive enemy planes are airborne in Lake Balaton area (Hungary); 4 planes claimed destroyed in combat and 2 more probably for loss of 3 bombers and 1 fighter. Flak encountered at targets causes major damage to 2 attackers and slight damage to 30.

7 Eastern Front Berlin claims 12-day Red Army offensive in W Latvia halted by Germans. Soviet detachments from Narva bridgehead S of Pultusk (Poland) attack German defense position, destroying several art batteries and capturing AT guns and MGs.

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Berlin announces collapse of organized rebellion in Slovakia; W and central Slovakia cleared of revolutionary troops under Russian and Czechoslovak command by German troops commanded by SS Obergruppenfuhrers and Generals of Waffen SS, Berger and Hoefle. Commander in Chief of Czechoslovak Army Gen. Rudolph Viest and his chief of staff reportedly captured in mopping-up operations; more than 4,000 Czechoslovaks killed and 15,000 prisoners taken during two months of fighting.

Fourth Ukrainian troops engage in local fighting to improve positions in mountainous terrain NW and W of Uzhorod (W Carpatho-Ukraine). Germans report Soviet pressure against Budapest relaxing in face of strong counterattacks. Hungary reports that Soviets are attempting to land on Csepel I. This 30-mile long island divides the Danube immediately below the capital.

Austria Eleven B-17s with 26.25 tons of bombs make individual runs by PFF methods on Vienna/Florisdorf oil refinery; targets of opportunity near Vienna take 9.5 tons from 3 additional B-17s; results unobserved because of heavy clouds.

8 Eastern Front Finnish troops NW of Ivalo (N Finland) engage in stiff fighting with German rearguard units near SW end of Lake Inari. Germans cut off in W tip of Latvia continue their slow evacuation by sea. In E Prussia, 3d White Russians exchange arty and MG fire with the enemy; German ren force attempting to cross to N bank of the Niemen near Tilsit is driven back by Soviet fire; 2 motor boats sunk. German attacks S of Pultusk, Poland, repelled by Soviet mortars and MG fire.

Fighting continues W of Uzhorod (W Carpatho-Ukraine) where Soviets are held to minor gains; practically entire RR between Uzhorod and Miskolc remains in enemy hands. Stiff fighting is in progress N of the Szolnok-Czegled RR; to S of Budapest, German inf bn landing on E bank of the Danube near Baja is eliminated by Soviets. Russian troops are reportedly supporting Partisans in Preljina area NE of Cacak, threatening the Kraljevo-Sarajevo escape route in Yugoslavia. Reports indicate that Soviet inf units in Belgrade area are being moved to the Hungarian front; Soviet arty and aircraft continue support of Partisan operations. Bulgars announce capture of Stip on the Bregalnica R. in SE Serbia.

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9 Eastern Front Red Army troops battle their way across the Tisza R. to establish bridgehead approximately 45 miles in length between Mezocsat to N and Kis-Koere to S; advance is continued toward Miskolc-Budapest RR and highway; Mezőkeresztős, Besenyotelek, Szentistvan, Porószlo, Mezőtarkany, and Koemlo are included among towns captured. Farther S in Hungary, Soviet forces clear ten-mile stretch of Szolnok-Budapest RR with capture of Alberti, NW of Czegled; another column pushing NW of Szolnok captures Besenyszog. Berlin reports Soviet troops have crossed the Danube E of Osijek in Yugoslavia and gained a small bridgehead near Apatin; fierce battle rages in this area; report is not confirmed by Moscow. Activity on northern and central fronts limited to local reconnaissance.

German submarine and minesweeper reported sunk by units of Soviet Northern Fleet and by aircraft of Soviet Baltic Fleet, respectively.

10 Eastern Front German troops offer stiff resistance from dug-in positions N of Muonio and Ivalo, holding Finns to slight gains. Moscow announces successful attack against enemy positions in E Prussia while Germans claim repulse of Soviet thrusts on both sides of the Rominten Heide. German ren units attack forward positions N of Pultusk (Poland) but are held to no gain. Poles who were forcibly mobilized in the German Army are crossing over to the Red Army, according to Moscow.

Following heavy arty barrage, Soviets reopen offensive W of Dukla and Lupkow Passes but are halted by German fire from mountain-held positions, Berlin reports. NE of Budapest, Red Army extends bridgehead on W bank of the Tisza R., reaching Hejobaba within 15 miles of Miskolc, cutting RR linking capital with Miskolc and E Slovakia at Csincsetanya (between Emod and Mezőkövesd), and closing in on latter town with capture of Borószemere; W of Kis-Koere, Tarna-Szt-Miklós and Pely seized. Germans launch heavy counterattacks in attempt to hold control of Miskolc-Budapest communication line but fail to drive back the Soviets. Driving NW toward capital from Alberti along highway and RR from Czegled, Soviet column advances 5 miles against bitter opposition, reaching Pilis. Yugoslavia announces that Soviet and Partisan forces have crossed the Danube R. on the Baja-Mohacs-Apatin line (below Budapest) and are attacking toward Pecs in Hungary and Osijek in Yugoslavia.

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Fifteenth AF grounded by weather for last three days.

11. Eastern Front Fighting continues in N Finland where Finns are pressing toward Kilpisjaervi and Inari. Activity in W Latvia, E Prussia, and Poland confined to patrolling with arty and mortar exchange in some sectors.
- Soviet hold on Miskolc-Budapest RR strengthened with capture of Szihalom and Klementina by forces closing in on Mezokovesd; units driving N toward Miskolc on highways from Polgar and Mezosat seize Sajoszoeged and Hejoszalonta. Elements of 2d Ukrainian Army attacking N of Szolnok toward enemy stronghold of Jasz-Bereny seize Jasz-Ladany and cut RR linking Szolnok with Budapest at Ujszasz on the Zagyva R. Soviet positions along Czegléd-Budapest RR maintained in face of fierce and heavy counter-attacks. Csepel I. immediately S of the capital clear of Soviet invaders which had infiltrated the island, according to Hungary. Moscow announces capture of Yugoslav towns of Stip on the Bregalnica R. to E of Salonika-Skolpje RR and Veles on the Vardar R. by Bulgars operating with Partisans. Fall of Veles to Yugoslav troops and encirclement of Stip by Bulgars on 10th reported by Yugoslavia. In SE Serbia, Bulgars reports capture of Kumanovo, under assault by Bulgars and Yugoslavs since latter part of October. Drive for Skolpje, main staging point for enemy withdrawal from Salonika area, is intensified.

Austria-S Germany Route weather prevents large scale attacks by 15th AF against oil targets and storage depots in Austria and S Germany; alternate objectives are marshaling yards at Salzburg, Rosenheim, Linz, and Villach. Salzburg attacked by 116 B-17s with 308 tons of bombs; 6 more B-17s drop 15 tons of bombs on Zellam See, about 30 miles SW of Salzburg; cover provided by 37 P-38s and 147 P-51s; intense and heavy flak encountered; 4 bombers and 7 fighters lost. Sillian highway bridge takes 23 tons from 14 B-24s and road through Wurzen Pass 11 tons from 6 more B-24s. Thirteen B-24s drop 23 tons of bombs on Rosenheim. Linz and Villach hit by 23 B-24s with 40 P-38s escorting; 55 tons of bombs dropped; accurate flak encountered; 6 B-24s lost. Bombing visual at Villach and results reported fair; at other targets, attacks conducted by PFF method with unobserved results. Force of 103 B-24s sets out to bomb Linz freight depot but is forced to return to base because of weather.

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12 Eastern Front Finns maintain pressure against German troops NW of Ivalo and Muonio; Inari village at SW tip of Lake Inari cleared in night attack. Russian detachments break into German positions in one sector on E. Prussian front; prisoners taken include troops of SS Hermann Goering Tk Div.

Soviet MG and rifle fire drives back enemy units attempting to penetrate positions SW of Uzhorod (W Carpatho-Ukraine). In NE Hungary, Mesokoevesd, important RR town approximately 25 miles SW of Miskolc, falls to Soviets after stubborn fighting; more than 800 enemy troops reported eliminated here. Driving N of Ujazasz against stiff opposition, Soviet inf, cav, and mtzd units progress ten miles on highway to Jasz-Bereny, capturing Jasz-Also-Szt-Gyoergy and Alattyan; units pushing NW of Ujazasz clear ten-mile stretch of RR linking Szolnok with Budapest with capture of Tapio-Gyoergye, Tapio-Szele, and Farnos. Enemy stronghold of Monor, 14 miles SE of Budapest, falls to Soviet forces approaching capital along RR from Czegléd; Szolnok-Czegléd-Budapest RR now clear of enemy except for section approximately eight miles in length between capital and suburban town of Ullo. Yugoslavs and Soviets confirm capture of Kumanovo (reported captured yesterday by Bulgars).

Daylight attacks of 15th AF prevented by weather. During night, 14 B-17s and 2 B-24s cause fires and explosions at Blechhammer (South) oil refinery (S Germany) with 35 tons of bombs; military objectives in Vac (Hungary), Pszczyna (Poland), and Ruzomberok (Czechoslovakia), and 2 unidentified towns hit with 12 tons of bombs by 2 B-17s and 3 B-24s.

13 Eastern Front Berlin reports unsuccessful Soviet attacks in Auce area in W Latvia and reconnaissance activity on both sides of the Rominten Heide in E Prussia.

Driving N to outflank important communication center of Jaszbereny, approximately 35 miles E of Budapest, Red Army troops in 13-mile advance from Jasz-Ladany sweep up Jasz-Kis-Er to reach Jasz-Apati on highway 10 miles E of objective. NW of Czegléd, Soviets overcome stubborn enemy resistance (20th Hungarian Div reported routed and remnants fused into one bn) to clear road linking Pilis on Czegléd-Budapest RR with Tapio-Szele on second RR from Szolnok to capital; Kana, Pand, Tapiobiscke, and Tapioszentmarton are among towns captured; Nagykata, approximately 10 miles SW of Jasz-Bereny, threatened.

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In other sectors of front in Hungary, surrender of approximately 200 troops of 20th Regt of 5th Hungarian Reserve Div and the 201st Independent Bn, attached to 23d Hungarian Div, to Red Army reported. After crossing the Danube on Mohacs-Apatin line, Yugoslavs in cooperation with Soviets occupy Batina and Zmajevac, approximately 18 miles W of Sombor. Yugoslavia reports street fighting in Skolpje in upper Vardar Valley, approximately 200 miles SE of Belgrade; at 0600 units of Bulgarian Army, under command of Gen. Gentcheff, enter outskirts of Skolpje, according to Sofia.

Fifteenth AF grounded by weather.

14      Eastern Front The Norwegian Government-in-exile announces that Norwegian troops under command of Col. Arne Dahl have landed in Norway to operate with Soviet Karelian Army against Germans on the Arctic front. Activity on northern and central fronts limited to patrolling and ren fighting.

N of Czeglod, elements of 2d Ukrainian Army cut highway withdrawal route to Budapest for enemy troops in Jasz-Bereny by capturing Nagykata; advance is continued N to Szentmartonkata, approximately 15 miles S of important road and RR center of Hatvan; SW of Nagykata, Taposag seized. Berlin reports tank battle raging at approaches to Jasz-Bereny. After two days of serious fighting, threat to L flank of Red Army S of Budapest is eliminated with capture of heavily fortified enemy garrisons at Solt and Dunagyhaza on E bank of the Danube, approximately 45 miles below the capital; more than 1,200 prisoners reported taken in this area. Soviets now control E bank of the Danube from Belgrade to outskirts of Budapest. Berlin reports bridgehead on W bank of the Danube at Dunafoldvar, W of Solt, evacuated after stiff fighting. Yugoslavia reports Skolpje in S Serbia freed of enemy by troops of 42d and 15th Yugoslav Divs after 2 days of street fighting.

Troop concentrations, tanks, and gun positions in Solt area successfully attacked by Soviet planes; 3 enemy bombers and 14 fighters claimed destroyed.

Adverse weather again prevents 15th AF operations.

15      Eastern Front Finnish troops N of Inari gain control of isthmus between lakes of Inari and Muddus Jarvi. Arty fire exchanged between Soviets and Germans in W Latvia and

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From positions SE of Budapest, Red Army with air support swings northward, overrunning Mende, Tapiosueley, and Tapioszeco, on Szolnok-Budapest highway and RR, to reach To-Almas, 9 miles S of Hatvan RR junction. Jasz-Bereny, approximately 31 miles E of Budapest, falls to Red Army troops while units to NE of captured enemy stronghold sweep up Jasz-Jakohalmas, Jasz-Dosa, and Heves; Fuzes-Abony communication center about midway between Miskolc and Hatvan menaced by seizure of Erdolcetek and Dormand. Right wing of 2d Ukrainian Army advancing on Miskolc from S captures Emod on main communication line and clears enemy garrison at Harsany, within 8 miles of objective; E of Emod, Kocroom on highway from Polgar seized. Moscow announces capture of Skolpje, reported captured by Yugoslavs on 14th, in SE Serbia by Bulgarian troops operating with Yugoslavs.

Austria Unescorted heavy bombers of 15th AF strike oil and RR targets in Austria. Linz benzol plants attacked by 27 B-17s and 21 B-24s which drop 101.5 tons of bombs through heavy clouds; 2 B-17s and 4 B-24s drop 15 tons on targets of opportunity; 4 bombers lost and 12 damaged by flak. Twenty-one B-24s release 30.5 tons of bombs on Innsbruck M/Y and 3 tons on targets in vicinity with unobserved results. All bombers attack singly by PFF method. Good coverage of Hermann Goering iron and steel works and benzol plants at Linz reported in this attack and in previous one on 4th November; machine and assembly shops effectively hit, pressing shop damaged, and roofing over steel furnaces approximately half destroyed.

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Eastern Front German troops attempt reconnaissance in force against Soviet positions on the Narew SW of Polish town of Ostreleka but are stopped by mortar fire. Exchange of arty and mortar fire between Russians and Germans takes place NW of Praga, E suburb of Warsaw.

Red Army troops approaching Budapest along RR line from Szolnok clear Gyoemro, important key to enemy defenses 10 miles SE of the capital. Continuing advance northward from Jasz-Bereny, elements of 2d Ukrainian Army operating with arty and tank support clamp pincers on Hatvan RR junction, 22 miles NE of Budapest, by seizing Puszta-Monostor on RR 8 miles SE of objective; other units crush enemy resistance at Jasz-Arokzallas road center to cut Miskolc-Budapest RR at Vamos-Gyoerk, 10 miles E of Hatvan. Right wing of 2d Ukrainian Army captures Tard, SE of Eger, and presses nearer to Miskolc by capturing Kisgyor and Malyi; NE of Emod and Polgar.

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Miskolc highway seized. Enemy resistance SE of Tokaj reported eliminated by troops of 4th Rumanian Army; Tiszaladany, on W bank of the Tisza S of Tokaj, cleared.

German 6,000-ton supply ship torp. and sunk in E Prussian port of Danzig by planes of Red Banner Baltic Fleet.

Austria-S Germany Force of 609 heavy bombers of 15th AF is dispatched to attack Munich (West) marshaling yards; 102 B-17s and 347 B-24s with escort of 53 P-38s and 203 P-51s unload 799 tons of bombs on main target, scoring hits on workshops and locomotive shed areas; RR tracks cut in many places and number of freight cars destroyed or damaged; accurate assessment of damage prevented by heavy clouds. Secondary target at Innsbruck hit with 128 tons of bombs by 62 B-17s; main station reported completely destroyed and passenger station damaged; 1 large warehouse partially gutted; tracks cut at several points and rolling stock damaged but through lines remain open. RR line SE of Munich takes 25 tons of bombs from 21 B-24s due to premature release; opportunity targets hit with 12 tons by 5 B-17s and 4 B-24s. Twenty-four ME-109s and 11 possible jet aircraft as well as heavy flak encountered in Munich area. Eighteen bombers and 2 fighters lost; 9 enemy aircraft destroyed.

17 Eastern Front Soviet patrols and reconnaissance units are active in E Prussia and in several sectors of 1st Ukrainian front. German troops probe Soviet positions NW of Praga in Warsaw area but are driven back by arty fire.

Fuzes-Abony RR junction, approximately midway between Miskolc and Hatvan, falls to Soviets after fierce battle; slight gains made NW of Fuzes-Abony toward Eger. Soviet columns approaching Hatvan clear number of towns along RR running E to Fuzes-Abony, including Csany, Adacs, and Karacsod; to S of Hatvan, Jasz-Fenyszaru won. Berlin reports frustration of Soviet and Yugoslav attacks directed toward Hungarian city of Pecs from Danube bridgehead at Batina, below Baja.

In E Prussia, enemy inf and MT shelled by Soviet aircraft. Improved weather conditions permit SAF to operate with success against enemy troop concentrations in Budapest area; 36 German planes reported shot down.

Austria-S Germany Oil refineries and marshaling yards in Austria and S Germany are primary objectives of 15th AF. With 84 P-38s escorting, 199 B-24s attack Vienna targets, unloading 802 tons of bombs on Florisdorf oil refineries and

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51 tons on industrial areas; alternate targets at Maribor (Yugoslavia), Leoben, and Graz receive 121 tons from 52 additional B-24s. Results at primary target unobserved because of overcast; approximately two-thirds of roof of engine sub-assembly and machine shop at Maribor blast stripped and severe internal damage caused; nearly twenty per cent of rolling mill and steel furnace at Donawitz Alpine iron and steel works at Leoben seriously damaged; at Graz, Styria Durkoff Werke moderately damaged, 1 large gas tank in town gas works destroyed, and an industrial plant N of yards and 3 warehouses blast damaged. Blechhammer (South) oil refineries hit by 115 B-24s with 199 tons of bombs while alternate target at Gyor (Hungary) takes 206 tons of bombs from 92 bombers; escort furnished by 50 P-38s and 46 P-51s; results at Blechhammer unobserved; N and S sides of Gyor M/Y cratered. With 381 tons of bombs, 143 B-17s escorted by 127 P-51s attack Salzburg (West) M/Y, scoring hits on main passenger station, sheds, rolling stock, and tracks in S half of yards; direct hits also made by 13 B-24s with 32 tons of bombs on tracks and sheds at Villach and Volkmarkt; St. Johann bridge bombed with 11 tons by 21 B-24s. Targets of opportunity hit by 13 B-24s with 23 tons of bombs.

18      Eastern Front Finnish troops forcing Germans to evacuate N Finland are advancing in area NW of Kaamanen on NE tip of Lake Muddus Jarvi. Berlin reports renewal of Soviet offensive on Saaremaa I.; Russian inf and tank forces are driving SW with naval arty support; Soviet attempts to land amphibious units on E shore of island claimed thwarted by German naval units. Soviets engage in ren activity to improve positions SW of Jelgava in Latvia. Enemy firing points to SW of Polish city of Augustov successfully raided during night by Soviet scouting party; small enemy group reported eliminated in hand-to-hand fighting.

Red Army troops repel stiff enemy counterattacks in area NE of Hatvan and advance N to cut Miskolc-Budapest highway at Hort within 5 miles of Hatvan; other columns driving on Hatvan from SW overrun Valko to reach Tura on the Galga R. Soviet troops clearing area between RR and highway linking Fuzes-Abony with Hatvan capture Kal, Kapolna, Ludas, and Detk; Gyoengyoes road center threatened. Stiffening enemy resistance at approaches to Miskolc holds Soviets to slight gains. E of Miskolc, Rumanian troops engage in stiff fighting to extend beidgehead W of Tokaj; enemy main bridge

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approximately 500 troops to area of Mende RR station to SE of Budapest; landing party reported encircled and annihilated by Soviets.

Austria Continuing attacks on oil targets in Vienna area, 132 B-17s covered by 126 P-38s (15th AF) unload 230 tons of bombs on Florisdorf oil refineries while 72 B-17s hit Korneuburg with 180 tons; at both targets bombing attacks carried out by PFF method and results unobserved; no enemy aircraft encountered; 2 bombers lost.

Hungary Successful recon mission to Hungary completed by 16 P-51s.

19 Eastern Front Finland reported free of all German troops except for covering forces; Finns continue to comply with armistice terms by following up German withdrawal. Bitter fighting continues on Saaremaa I. with Soviets making slight gains; enemy garrison on Sworbe Peninsula reportedly receiving support from German naval arty. Berlin announces opening of Soviet drive S of Liepaja after heavy arty and air attacks; Moscow reports that approximately two companies of German inf approaching Soviet lines W of Jelgava in Latvia are forced to retreat under rifle and MG fire. On 2d Baltic front, approximately 200 Germans reportedly have surrendered to Soviets during last few days.

NE of Budapest, Red Army troops advancing northward reach foothills of the Matra Mts., extending approximately 20 miles N of Soviet line between Hatvan and Eger. Gyoengyoes road center, important strongpoint in enemy defense line NE of Hatvan, falls to Soviets despite stubborn German and Hungarian resistance; E of Gyoengyoes, Vecs and Tofalu won. Soviet units are holding Budapest-Hatvan RR under arty fire; Boldog and Galga-Heviz, S and SW of Hatvan, included among villages seized. Soviet attempts to extend bridgeheads at Apatin and Batina (Yugoslavia) on the Danube, just above its confluence with the Drava R., claimed thwarted by Germans. Pristina, on Skolpje-Mitrovica-Kraljevo escape route, falls to Bulgarian troops, according to Sofia.

Soviet planes bomb RR station of Lasupe, scoring direct hits on 2 enemy military trains and causing fires and explosions. Two German patrol cutters sunk by arty fire from naval units of Soviet Baltic Fleet. Soviet aircraft attack enemy shipping at S tip of Saaremaa I., scoring damaging hits on 2 torpedo boats, 2 launches, 3 trawlers, 1 patrol vessel, and a fast-landing barge. Both SAF and GAF give strong support

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to respective ground troops in Hungary.

Austria Oil refineries in Austria are again chief objectives of 15th AF heavy bombers. Vienna/Winterhafen oil depot is target for 318.5 tons of bombs dropped by 144 B-17s; Vienna/Lobau oil plant takes 214 tons from 98 B-24s, destroying 4 tanks and damaging pump house, boiler house, and administration building; Vosendorf oil refineries hit by 54 B-24s with 90 tons; PFF method used at all targets. Fifty-two B-24s release 112 tons of bombs on Schwechat oil refineries; alternate targets hit by 37 B-24s, causing further craters in Gyor M/Y (Hungary) with 46 tons of bombs and dropping 26 tons on Vienna/Neudorf aircraft plant. Approximately 40 enemy aircraft are encountered in Vienna area but no engagements reported. Benzol plant at Linz attacked by 53 B-24s escorted by 44 P-51s; 104 tons of bombs dropped; results unobserved because of smoke screen. At Horsching airdrome, runways cratered with 98 tons of bombs by 45 B-24s; 7 enemy planes destroyed and 6 damaged. Strafing attacks against communications and airdromes SE of Vienna made by 126 P-51s; 63 locomotives, and 24 RR cars destroyed; 37 locomotives, 96 RR cars, 33 MT, 100 HDV, and 19 barges damaged in Esztergom-Vesprem area (Hungary); 4 enemy grounded planes destroyed and 6 damaged.

20

Eastern Front Finnish troops following German withdrawal in N Finland advance 15 miles, reaching Katkaskaervi area. Fighting continues on Sworbe Peninsula of Saaremaa I. where Soviet inf with arty support penetrates enemy defensive positions. Soviet troops with arty and air support engage in fighting to improve positions SW of Jelgava in Latvia. In E Prussia, exchange of arty and mortar fire takes place SW of Ostreleka (Poland); German unit attempting to penetrate Soviet lines dispersed by arty and MG fire.

Red Army troops plunge into outskirts of Miskolc, 85 miles NE of Budapest; fierce fighting takes place NE of the town where five heavy enemy counterattacks are repelled by Soviet units which take Diosgyoer; to S, Szirma and Hejoscaba seized. Slight gains registered by Rumanian troops fighting in Tokaj area, E of Miskolc. Yugoslavs announce capture of Serbian town of Pristina, 50 miles N of Skolpje in Serbia, by Partisans and Bulgars. Bulgars claim capture of this town on 19th.

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German DD off S tip of Saaremaa I. sunk by Soviet naval units. German 6,000-ton supply ship, 2 escort vessels, and 2 landing barges sunk in the Baltic Sea by aircraft of Soviet Baltic Fleet. SAF raids RR stations at Lyck and Treuberg in E Prussia, causing fires; 5 engines and 30 RR cars claimed destroyed. In night attack on Liepaja, Latvia, Soviet bombers cause fires and explosions among port facilities and enemy supply ships in harbor.

Austria-S Germany-Czechoslovakia Force of 204 B-17s and 272 B-24s with escort of 85 P-38s and 185 P-51s (15th AF) set out to bomb Blechhammer oil refineries in Silesia; adverse weather causes many aircraft to attack alternate and opportunity targets. Thirty-two B-17s and 139 B-24s strike Blechhammer with 314 tons of bombs, scoring many hits and near misses in center of target and on vital installations; 3 direct hits made on boiler house, 2 near misses on sulphur removal plant and gas generating plant, 2 direct hits and 2 near misses on coal gas plant and gas cleaning plant; hits and near misses also scored on circulator and rejector houses, cooling towers, tanks, RR sidings to E and W edge of refinery and in barracks area to N of target. Blechhammer (South) oil plant, with an established refining capacity of 25,000 tons reported temporarily inactive from this attack and preceding attacks during month. Majority of remainder of force attacks targets in Czechoslovakia: 158 B-17s unload 311 tons of bombs on Brno M/Y with unobserved results; 27 hit Bata factory at Zlin, attaining very good results with 63 tons of bombs; 103 B-24s drop 221 tons of bombs on marshaling yards at Kromeriz, Hodonin, Oppeln (S Germany) and Lundenburg (Austria) with good coverage; targets of opportunity take 43 tons from 9 B-24s and 14 B-17s. Heavy and accurate AA fire encountered at Blechhammer; 16 B-24s and 2 P-51s lost. Communication targets between Vespren (Hungary) and Bratislava (Czechoslovakia) effectively strafed by 43 P-38s; 2 P-38s lost to flak.

21 Eastern Front In drive to win control of the Gulf of Riga, Soviet troops, after heavy arty preparation and with supporting fire from naval units, break through strong enemy defenses on Sworbe Peninsula, narrowing enemy bridgehead on S tip of Saaremaa I. to 7 kilometers deep. In W Latvia, German launch numerous but unsuccessful counterattacks in effort to regain positions captured by Soviet units in reser...

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Large-scale movement of troops in Hungary is greatly hindered by constant rains which have washed out many roads. Fighting continues in the foothills of the Matra Mts. where Soviets push N of Fuez-Abony--Gyoengyoes highway and along the Tatra R. against firm enemy resistance to capture Kisnana, Feldebroe, and Verpelet. Slight gains against firm Axis opposition registered by Soviet column SW of Miskolc. Bitter fighting at Tisza R. bridgehead in Tokaj area and renewed Soviet attacks on both sides of Dukla Pass reported by Berlin. In W Serbia, Yugoslavs and Bulgars report capture of Mitrovica and several other enemy strongholds in Kosovo-Polje sector.

Berlin reports sinking of Soviet E-boat by German minesweepers off Saaremaa I.

Fifteenth AF operations cancelled because of adverse weather.

22

Eastern Front Finnish forces reach Norwegian-Finnish border NW of Kaamanen; negligible resistance encountered. Berlin reports that German troops with support of concentrated fire from naval vessels are still holding out on S tip of Sworbe Peninsula on Estonian I. of Saaremaa. Collapse of offensive by four Soviet Armies SE of Liepaja claimed by Berlin.

Driving N to isolate Pest, Red Army troops reach Heviz-Gyoerk on the Galga R. approximately 20 miles from the Danube. NE of Hatvan, other columns of 2d Ukrainian Army halt enemy counterattacks and make slight gains in foothills of the Matra Mts.; village of Egerszolat, 5 miles W of communication center of Eger, won. Berlin claims repulse of Soviet attacks against Miskolc but admits that slight gains are made by Soviets pushing SW of Uzhorod (W Carpatho-Ukraine). E of Miskolc, Tokaj on W bank of the Tisza falls to troops of 4th Rumanian Army after several days of stiff fighting, according to Rumania. Red Army troops in N Yugoslavia maintain pressure to enlarge bridgeheads from Batina and Apatin.

Berlin reports Soviet minesweeper sunk, E-boat fired, and gunboat severely damaged by German naval units off Saaremaa I.

Austria-S Germany. Fifteenth AF heavy bombers concentrate on Munich marshaling yards. Force of 106 B-17s drops 204 tons of bombs on Munich (West) M/Y through 10/10ths cloud, 66.25 tons on Salzburg M/Y, 102 tons on Regensburg M/Y, 22.5 tons on Linz M/Y, and 26.5 tons on opportunity targets. Eighty-seven B-17s and 118 B-24s unload 204 tons on opportunity targets. Eighty-seven B-17s and 118 B-24s unload 204 tons of bombs on Munich (East) M/Y, 72.75 tons on Salzburg M/Y, 68.5 tons on Villach M/Y, 12.5 tons on Rosenheim M/Y, and

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67.5 tons on several other targets. Bomber missions escorted by 94 P-38s and 137 P-51s. Results reported good at Salzburg and Villach and at other targets unobserved; 9 bombers lost; 10 planes severely damaged and 49 slightly damaged by flak.

Hungary - Twenty-eight B-24s, 23 Wellingtons, and 3 Halifaxes make night attack on Szombathely M/Y, dropping 125.38 tons of bombs; results unobserved because of ground haze; planes engage in running battle with approximately 30 enemy planes encountered between target area and Zagreb (Yugoslavia); 1 enemy fighter destroyed and 1 damaged; 6 bombers missing.

23

Eastern Front Northern Lapland reported clear of Germans; Finns are engaged in fighting in Palojoensuu-Enontekiö sector in NW tip of Finland. Soviets on Saaremaa I. continue to wage battles to eliminate enemy strongpoints on S tip of Sworbe Peninsula. During night Germans allegedly transport garrison on Saaremaa I. by light craft to Latvian mainland. Germans report Soviet attacks SE of Liepaja in Latvia halted by strong defensive action.

In W Carpatho-Ukraine, Red Army troops with air support invade Slovakia driving 9 miles W of Uzhorod to capture Bunkovce, Pavlovce, and Ciarovce; RR junction of Cop which has changed hands several times during several weeks of fighting falls again to Soviets who, despite rainy weather and lack of roads, advance 9 miles W of Cop through rain-soaked valleys and strong defense positions to seize Cepel and more than 30 localities. With recapture of Cop, Soviets regain control of RR linking Lwow in S Poland with Debrecen in E Hungary. E of Miskolc, Soviet and Rumanian troops pushing W of Tokaj on W bank of the Tisza seize RR town of Tarczal. Berlin reports Soviet attacks NE of Budapest and in Gyoengyoes area crushed by German Pz and inf formations with strong support of the Luftwaffe.

Soviet E-boat claimed sunk by German naval vessels off E coast of Sworbe Peninsula, Saaremaa I. Seventy German planes claimed destroyed on all fronts by Soviet aircraft and AA fire.

Unfavorable weather prevents 15th AF operations.

24

Eastern Front Troops of Marshal Leonid A. Govorov's Leningrad Army, assisted by Soviet Baltic Fleet units under Admiral Vladimir Tributs, completely liquidate enemy

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pocket on Sworbe Peninsula, thereby clearing Saaremaa I. of enemy invaders and giving to Soviets control of main entrance to the Gulf of Riga. Complete use of the gulf prevented by German foothold in Latvia W of Riga. Heavy fighting continues in Auce-Liepaja area in W Latvia, with Germans admitting slight penetrations. German rcn units and snipers are active N of Goldap in E Prussia and S of Pultusk in Poland.

Red Army troops widen front along Budapest-Hatvan RR, with capture of Bag, S of Aszod; units fighting in foothills of the Matra Mts. repel six enemy counterattacks and win Palosvoeroesmart, NW of Gyoengyoes. E of Miskolc, R wing of 2d Ukrainian Army continues advance on front between Simardi and Mezoeczombor. In N Yugoslavia, Soviet pressure maintained from bridgehead on W bank of the Danube at Apatin and Batina. Against strong Axis resistance along water defense lines NW and W of Uzhorod, Soviet inf and arty are pressing slowly forward toward Kosice between Fekisovce and Makra-Krysov; W of Cop, Cerna RR station seized.

Soviet Baltic Fleet aircraft attack German vessels off Saaremaa I., scoring 3 direct bomb hits on a heavy cruiser, sinking DD, patrol vessel, and 2 patrol cutters, and severely damaging 2 patrol vessels and landing barge. Both SAF and GAF continue support of their respective ground troops NE of Budapest.

Austria-S Germany Daylight attacks by 15th AF cancelled because of weather. Of 63 heavy bombers dispatched to attack Munich (West) M/Y and benzol plant at Linz during night, 9 B-24s drop 14.5 tons of bombs on first target and 18 B-17s with 61 tons hit latter; alternate targets at Klagenfurt and Innsbruck marshaling yards take 30.5 tons from 6 B-17s and 9 B-24s; 2 heavies bomb opportunity targets and remainder of planes withhold bombs because of weather.

25

Eastern Front In W Latvia, Germans score defensive victory against Soviet inf and tank assault in Liepaja area, according to Berlin. On 1st Ukrainian front, Soviet rcn unit breaks enemy resistance in one sector with seizure of dominating hill position.

Hungarians report that Red Army troops have captured Szigetszentmiklos on Csepel I., S of Budapest. Hatvan-Aszod highway cut by Red Army troops which drive N to Demant to outflank Hatvan; Hatvan reported evacuated by Germans. In the foothills of the Matra Mts. W of Eger, Soviet troops

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take Tarnaszentmaria while other columns NE of Miskolc cross the Hernad R. to seize Oregcsanalos. Hungarians claim recapture of Diosgyoer, W of Miskolc. Continuing advance NW of Uzhorod and Cop toward Kosice, 4th Ukrainian troops overcome stubborn resistance at foothills of the Cerna Gura Mts. by crossing mountain streams and pushing over difficult terrain to take number of villages, including Klokovoc, Inacovce, Botany, and Velky Tarkan.

German supply ship in the Baltic Sea sunk by naval units of Soviet Baltic Fleet.

Fifteenth AF grounded because of weather.

26

Eastern Front Finnish advance elements enter villages of Palojoensuu and Enontekio, NW of Muonio. SW of Jelgava in Latvia, Soviet troops engage in local action to gain more favorable positions. In E Prussia, patrol and recon units are active. No significant changes in Soviet positions above and below Warsaw take place.

In an outflanking maneuver during night, Soviet cav troops capture bridge over the Zagyva R. to cut escape route for enemy garrison at Hatvan; simultaneously, Soviet inf and tank forces enter town from S and SW and gain possession of stronghold after an all-day battle. Despite heavy snow and dense fog, troops of 4th Ukrainian Army continue offensive in E Slovakia, cutting N-S rail line linking Przemysl (Poland) with Miskolc (Hungary) at Vysni-Cabiny below Lupkow Pass, and overcoming stubborn enemy resistance in Snina area to capture Humenne road junction, 30 miles W of Presov; other units NW of Uzhorod cross the Laborec R. to seize Michalovce on road to Kosice; to S of Michalovce, Budkovce and Lelesz captured.

SAF attacks RR station of Treuberg within E Prussian border and SW of Polish city of Suwalki; fires and explosions result.

Hungary Heavy bomber attacks of 15th AF prevented by weather. Thirty-nine P-38s dispatched to strafe Seregeyles airdrome encounter enemy planes near target; in aerial battle which takes place, 9 enemy planes (1 FW-190, 1 ME-109, 6 JU-87s, and 1 unidentified plane) are destroyed; fighters attack rolling stock in area, claiming 1 locomotive destroyed and 9 RR cars damaged; 5 P-38s missing.

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27 Eastern Front Palojoensuu-Enontekiö sector cleared by Finns who continue to pursue the enemy on Kilpis Jaervi road along Finnish-Swedish border. Soviets in Latvia repel several counterattacks W of Jelgava launched by German inf supported by tanks and SP guns. Enemy positions SW of Ostreleka in Poland successfully shelled by Soviet arty. Both Soviet and German patrols are active during day and night S of the Narew bridgehead at Pultusk.

Fourth Ukrainian troops, advancing on a 75-mile front in W Slovakia, clear section of RR to N and S of Humenne with capture of Radvan and Strazske and make six-mile advance over mountainous terrain and through enemy minefields; number of villages on W bank of the Laborec R. seized. W of Uzhorod, Soviet units by outflanking movements cut off withdrawal routes for enemy groups and capture supply train and equipment of 52 Hung AA Arty Gp while attempting to cross the Latorica R. Berlin reports fierce fighting W of Danube bridgeheads at Batina and Apatin in N Yugoslavia. Sofia reports fall of Raska, important German strongpoint in Ibar valley and about 35 miles S of Kraljevo, to Bulgarian forces.

German 3,000-ton transport sunk near port of Liepaja, Latvia, by planes of Red Banner Baltic Fleet. In night attacks, German aircraft reportedly bomb and strafe Soviet supply lines in Budapest area, troop concentrations in vicinity of Mohacs, and destroy an unidentified bridge across the Danube.

Fifteenth AF missions prevented by weather.

28 Eastern Front Fluctuating fighting continues W of Jelgava in Latvia. Following strong arty barrage, German grenadiers (3 regts supported by tanks and SP guns) penetrate Russian positions in E Prussia but are subsequently driven back by counterattacks.

N of Nyirogyhaza in NE Hungary, Red Army troops and cav troops of Rumanian 4th Army cross the Tisza R. on a broad front to reach the Bodrog R. between Zalkod and Zemplenagard; after fierce fighting, Soviet formations capture village of Pacin on Hungarian-Czechoslovak frontier and press on to Streda n Brodrokom within 4 miles of important Satoraljaiuhely junction; Somotor station on RR line linking Cop with Satoraljaiuhely also seized. To the N, Soviets in Czechoslovakia capture Banovce less than 25 miles from Kosice; farther N, other formations closing in on Presov take Zalobin and Brusnica; near Polish border S of Dukla Pass, Yishi Svichnik

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and Strpkov won. E of Tokaj, Rumanian troops capture Bekees on highway to Miskolc. Stiff fighting continues in the foothills of the Buckk and Matra Mts., SW of Miskolc. In N Yugoslavia, fierce fighting is taking place for Kraljevo, at confluence of Morava and Ibar rivers, as Soviet and Yugoslav troops are closing in on stronghold.

Weather continues unfavorable for 15th AF activity.

29

Eastern Front Finnish troops with air support are pressing toward Kilpis-Jaervi in NW tip of Finland. In W Latvia, in E Prussian border areas, and along the Narw N of Warsaw, activity is limited to minor skirmishes.

S of Budapest, no additional progress made by Soviets on Csepel I. toward the capital; to NE and E of the capital where German defense positions are along foothills of the Matra and Buckk Mts., Soviet progress is temporarily halted. Moscow announces successful offensive directed toward Drava R.-Lake Balaton defense line from the lower Danube bridgehead between Batina and Apatin: troops of 3d Ukrainian Army in cooperation with Yugoslav Partisans break stubborn enemy resistance to advance 25 miles and widen front up to approximately 90 miles; L wing closing in on Yugoslav junction at Osijek seizes Darda and sweeps up Villany and Harsany; units driving N on highway from Osijek clear enemy stronghold of Mohacs on W bank of the Danube and then push W to capture town and RR junction of Pecs; R wing takes Bataszek W of Baja, and pushes spearheads to Varasd and Alsonana. Yugoslavia reports fall of Kraljevo to Partisans; W Morava and Ibar areas cleared and drive is continuing toward Cacak.

Austria Individual Pathfinder operations successfully carried out by 15th AF during night: 20 B-17s with 44 tons of bombs strike benzol plant at Linz through 10/10ths under-cast; 9 B-24s drop 19 tons of bombs on Munich (West) and Innsbruck marshaling yards while 3 raid targets of opportunity with 7 tons.

30

Eastern Front Activity on northern and central fronts confined to reconnaissance activity with no significant changes in front-line positions.

NW of Humene in Czechoslovakia, troops of 4th Ukrainian Army repulse strong enemy counterattacks and progress to the Ondava R. line. Eger, major strongpoint in enemy defenses in foothills of the Buckk Mts., falls to 2d Ukrainian troops

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30 which enter town from S and clear out enemy garrison in  
Cont street-to-street fighting; NE of Miskolc, other units cut  
highway and RR to Kosice with capture of Szikszo. Third  
Ukrainian troops continue offensive NE and S of Pecs,  
seizing Pecsvarad, Siklos, and more than 50 localities.  
Moscow announces capture of Yugoslav town and RR junction  
of Kraljevo (reported captured by Yugoslavs yesterday) by  
units of 3d Ukrainian Army operating with Yugoslavs. Fall  
of Novi Pazar in W Serbia is reported by Yugoslavs and  
Bulgars whose units are now approaching Sjenica to NW.

Weather causes cancellation of 15th AF strikes.

  
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North African Theater of Operations (NATOUSA) is redesignated the Mediterranean Theater of Operations (MTOUSA).

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Right flank of Eighth Army, extending along an arc stretching SW from below Ravenna to vicinity of Bagnolo, on Ronco R. 2 miles NE of Forli, is held by Porter Force which includes Royal Canadian Dragoons (RCD) on R and 27th Lancers on L; opposing these troops are elements of four German Divs (162d and 114th Grenadier, 20th GAF, and 26th Pz). Most of sector from Adriatic to Route 16 is reported clear.

V Corps Heavy rains continue throughout whole area as drive for Forli continues, troops advancing as much as 2-3 miles in area S and SE of town; enemy is strongly defending W bank of Ronco R. as far S as Forli airfield, 2 miles SE of Forli. In face of heavy resistance, particularly on R, tanks of 10th Brig of 4th Br Div cross Ronco R. in area just S of Ronco in effort to support forward troops. In 10th Ind Div sector about 3 miles SW on Rabbi R. (which parallels Ronco R. in that zone), elements of 25th Brig are directed against Crisignano and troops are already established at Collina to S without opposition.

II Polish Corps Covering L flank of Eighth Army in foothills of Apennines S of Forli, Polish troops continue advance against sporadic fire. Second Brig of 3d Carpathian Div (on R) secures Lardiano, 6 miles S of Forli, and sends patrols forward to Fiumana, NW of Lardiano, where they draw fire from enemy positions across Rabbi R. Farther S in area NW of Predappio Nuova, forward elements of 6th Lwow Brig of 5th Kresowa Div (on L) occupy Belvedere under fire and reach Marsignano, 2 miles NW of Predappio; other units, occupying M. Grosso, 2 miles NE of Rocca S. Casciano, are fired on by enemy strongpoints to N.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Three German Divs (305th, 715th, and 334th Grenadier Divs) continue pressure on Indian and British troops. On R flank, patrols of 26th Armored Brig, which

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cleared Route 67 (Dicomano-Forli road) as far as Rocca S. Casciano, find enemy withdrawn from hill positions in area 2 miles NE of Rocca S. Casciano E of highway. Despite several attacks by 17th Brig of 8th Ind Div, M. Monsignano, 2½ miles N of Tredozio, is still in enemy hands, although area just to S is reported clear. Other elements are strengthening positions in Abeto area to W. Activity of remainder of divs (1st Br, 6th Br Armd, and 78th Br) is marked by decreased enemy arty and mortar fire; reliefs continue.

II Corps Corps troops (consisting of 88th, 85th, 34th, 91st, and 1st Armd Divs) continue active defense of S and SE approaches to Bologna; principal enemy units from E to W at beginning of month are 98th Grenadier, 1st Para, 362d Grenadier, 29th Panzer Grenadier, 65th Grenadier, 4th Para, and 16th SS Panzer Grenadier Divs. On R flank, elements of 350th Inf, 88th Div, repulse enemy patrol attempting to retake Hill 568, N of M. Grande. To L, 85th Div, with 3 regts abreast, continues to defend main line of resistance established during October. Some action is reported in 34th Div sector SE of Piancro on Route 65; units of 168th Inf successfully surprise Germans in Casetta, village at base of M. Belmonte, and on Hill 316, just SW of Casetta, capturing both; N of village, 133d Inf, preceded by intense arty preparation, attacks at 0430 to gain strongly fortified church on Hill 367 but is driven back by severe enemy fire. Elements of 363d Inf, 91st Div, relieve 135th Inf, 34th Div, in place. Heavy rains and extensive shifting of bn units continue throughout whole area.

Army Troops On R flank, 6th South African Armd Div, (24th Guards Brig on R, 12th SA Mtzd Brig in center, and 11th SA Armd Brig on L) continues aggressive patrolling between Setta and Reno rivers with no change in forward positions. Elements of CCB, on L, repel enemy counter-attack about 2 miles N of Marano in area ½ mile S of Labante.

IV Corps On R flank, elements of 107th AAA Group remain in positions, engaging in extensive patrolling N of Cutigliano, approximately 14 miles NW of Pistoia.

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Farther W in Serchio Valley area, 1st Inf Div, Brazilian Expeditionary Force (BEF), assumes command of 6th CT zone at 0001 and receives scattered arty fire during afternoon in vicinity of Albiano and Fornaci, both E of Serchio R. N of Barga. Task Force 92, responsible for coastal sector and composed of 370th CT (R) and 2d Armd Group (L), continues pressure toward Massa, 4 miles up Route 1 along coast, against light enemy arty. At beginning of month Corps troops are opposed by elements of 232d and 148th Grenadier, 42d Light, and Monte Rosa Divs.

Adverse weather cancels medium bomber operations. Communications in central Po Valley and in N Yugoslavia are objectives of 58 fighters and 179 fighter bombers which attack with excellent results. Concentrating on shipping in N Adriatic, 8 Wellingtons and Beaufighters of Coastal Air Force (CAF) score near misses on 8 vessels in gulfs of Trieste and Fiume, while in NW Italy, 7 barges off Genoa are targets for 4 RAF Venturas. At night, 8 heavy bombers (7 Halifaxes and a B-24) of Strategic AF effectively drop 24 tons of bombs on Latisana RR bridge, hitting W end of target.

USS Benson (DD) shells enemy RR transport and troop concentrations near French-Italian border.

Yugoslavia

Partisans report successful operations along N Dalmatian coast; Zara encircled, Nin to N and Biograd to S captured, and enemy strongpoints of Skradin and Vrpolje in Krka valley secured; Sibenik, important seaport, is invested. Heavy fighting continues in Mostar-Nevesinje area of Hercegovina, at Risan on Gulf of Kotor, and around Podgorica, Montenegro. Enemy continues fighting to hold withdrawal routes from Serbia, Macedonia, and Albania; principal route is along Skoplje-Raska-Prijepolje-Visegrad road. Partisan and Bulgarian troops heavily engaged in Serbia: fighting remains stubborn in Kraljevo-Cacak area along Morava R. and upper Morava R. where units are approaching Bujanovce and Gnjilane, after capturing several enemy positions; both Bulgars and Yugoslavs are reportedly driving toward Mitrovica and Pristina, important enemy strongpoints in Kosovo Polje area. Farther S in Serbia, Partisans and Bulgars claim some gains, crossing Pcinja R. in area E of Kumanovo and repulsing enemy in vicinity of Strumica. In E

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Bosnia, fighting continues along Brko-Bijeljina-Janja-Zvornik line where approximately 700 Germans of 13th SS Div as well as considerable equipment are claimed captured; farther W near Dalmatian border, Yugoslavs are actively engaged at Tomislavgrad. Breaking through strong enemy defense line in E Slavonia, Yugoslavs, in conjunction with Red Army troops, claim capture of Sremska Mitrovica, Veliki Radinci, Benenovo, Suljam, and Lacarak and are now driving westward toward Bosut R. Partisans claim some success against Mostar-Sarajevo-Brod and Brod-Zagreb RR lines.

Twenty-one B-24s of 15th AF hit Cakovec M/Y in N Croatia with 29 tons of bombs, starting fires. Attacking in Sarajevo-Bihac area, 3 CAF Mosquitoes make effective strikes against trucks and MT. In sweeps over Yugoslavia and N Albania, Balkan AF fighters strafe troop concentrations and transport and probably destroy enemy plane on ground at Ljubljana. Tactical AF fighters and fighter bombers attack both Italian and Yugoslav targets, cutting tracks in Brod-Zagreb area, hitting bridges, and destroying and damaging numerous MT, barges, and RR installations.

During night 1/2, HMS Wheatland and HMS Avondale (DEs), operating W of Pag I. off Croatian coast, engage enemy corvettes, sinking 2 and another vessel; HMS Avondale receives superficial damage.

Albania

Partisan 1st Brig reported holding E quarter of Tirana with Germans concentrated in New Tirana; fierce house-to-house fighting is in progress. Bulk of German 279th Div said to have left Albania via Scutari.

Greece

Florina cleared of enemy troops by 1900. Only rearguard enemy elements still remaining S of Yugoslav border.

2 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Heavy rain continues throughout night and little progress is made in Adriatic sector. On R flank,

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2 enemy remains active in Fosso Ghiaia area 4 miles S of Ravenna; to SW, forward elements surprize Germans near Gambellara, 7 miles SW of Ravenna, inflicting casualties; farther S, patrols, operating along Ronco R., report enemy has reoccupied Borgo Sisa (claimed captured by British on 31 October).

V Corps No appreciable change occurs in forward positions of 12th Lancers or 4th Div; enemy tenaciously holds Ronco village and buildings on N side of Forli airfield. Tenth Ind Div reports some progress S of Forli: while elements of 25th Brig take Grisignano against little resistance, other units, covering L flank of 4th Div, encounter heavy enemy fire 1 mile NE; deep patrol of Brig crosses Rabbi R. 1 mile SW of Grisignano and continues advance for 1 1/2 miles.

II Polish Corps Heavy rains hamper activity. Patrols of 3d Carp Div in area of Fiumana again receive fire from German positions. On L flank in area of Rocca S. Casciano, command of 26th Armd Brig sector passes to 3d Carp Div at 0800 and 26th Armd Brig reverts to control of 6th Br Armd Div. Boundary between Fifth and Eighth Armies is being adjusted.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Heavy rains hamper operations. In accordance with General Clark's orders of 2 November calling for Fifth Army to consolidate positions along main salient, XIII Corps prepares to maintain pressure on enemy, withdrawing troops as they are pinched out by advance of Eighth Army. On R, command of 26th Armd Brig sector passes to 3d Carpathian Div of II Polish Corps; at 0800, 26th Armd Brig reverts to command of 6th Br Armd Div. In 8th Ind Div sector, elements of 17th Brig repulse two German attacks on S slopes of M. Monsignano; reports indicate enemy has withdrawn from Abeto, approximately 1 mile W. Reliefs continue on remainder of front except on extreme L where elements of 11th Brig of Br 78th Div regain height N of Spaduro by counterattack.

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Cont

II Corps Confirming verbal orders of 30 October, Corps enters period of consolidation as troops on main axis of penetration are withdrawn in rotation for rest and rehabilitation. Defensive fires of 168th Inf, 34th Div, drive back small enemy counterattack against Hill 316. Otherwise Corps sector quiet except for light enemy arty fire. At 0030 command of sector of 135th Inf, 34th Div, passes to 363d Inf of 91st Div.

Army Troops On extreme R flank, elements of 24th Guards Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, make local gains just N of Setta R. in area about 1 mile E of la Quercia. During early hours, forward positions of 11th Armd Inf Bn of CCB receive harassing enemy fire.

IV Corps Enemy patrol, operating on W side of Lima R. about 1 mile S of Piansinatico, N of Cutigliano, is driven back by elements of 107th AAA Group. Brazilian patrols, probing enemy positions N of Albiano, receive MG and mortar fire; some mortar fire also falls in Catagnana sector E of Albiano. In coastal sector, forward units of TF 92 engage enemy both E and W of Route 1 under mortar fire.

Four Beaufighters and single Wellington, patrolling N Adriatic, hit barge SE of Venice and bomb Chioggia, respectively. Extremely bad weather forces cancellation of strategic and tactical operations.

Along French-Italian frontier, French CL Montcalm bombards enemy gun emplacements and troops, starting fires.

Yugoslavia

Partisans make further gains along Dalmatian coast, capturing Zara after three days of fighting and entering Sibenik; coastline from Nin S to Risan on Gulf of Kotor cleared; reports indicate Germans are now holding general line from Velebit mountains (along coast of Croatia) via Dinaric Alps to Mostar in Hercegovina and thence SE along mountains to Kotor and Lovcen Pass. In Mostar-Nevesinje area in Hercegovina, heavy fighting is in progress and several German counterattacks southward are repulsed. In S Serbia, Yugoslavs announce capture of Ohrid (reported held by Partisans on

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22 October), Struga, and Resan near Albanian border and report gains near Bulgarian-Greek frontier, Partisans claiming Radoviste in upper Strumica Valley, and both Bulgars and Yugoslavs claiming Kavadarci and Negotino in Vardar Valley; Partisan and Bulgarian units heavily engaged at Strumica and in area E of Stip. Elsewhere in Serbia, bitter fighting is taking place E and S of Kumánovo as well as farther N in Medvedja, while drive for Pristina continues with Partisan troops reported within 9 miles of town; Partisans claimed to have cut enemy connections between Skoplje and Urosevac to N. In E Bosnia, Germans are reportedly thrown back as they attack toward Praca and Rogatica, 17 and 30 miles E of Sarajevo, respectively. In Slavonia, Partisans report advances from Sremska Mitrovica to villages of Lezimir and Calma. Partisans continue to harass transport and transportation lines in Croatia and Slovenia.

Operations cut to minimum because of weather. Bulgarian AF reports its planes completely wreck RR stations at Aleksandrovo and Dusanovac near Skoplje in strafing attacks.

Albania

In support of ground troops, Coastal and Balkan planes concentrate on road and RR targets in N Albania: 3 Mosquitoes score hits on several MT, while 24 fighters and fighter bombers attain good results against MT convoy near Kukës and bomb and strafe train with unobserved results.

Aegean

Six RAF A-30s attack coastal defense battery at Milos I.

3 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Appointment of Lt. Gen. Sir Richard L. McCreery as commander of Eighth Army, succeeding Lt. Gen. Sir Oliver W. H. Leese, is announced.

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3  
Cont Porter Force Route 16 between Savio and Bevano rivers reported flooded. RCD units maintain contact with enemy on R flank; patrols of 27th Lancers encounter enemy within 200 yards of Ronco R. in area N of Borgo Sisa.

V Corps Left flank of 4th Div makes small advance in afternoon, leading platoons reaching area about  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles SE of Forli airfield in face of heavy shelling and mortaring from enemy positions at airfield and nearby. Forty-sixth Div assumes command of 10th Ind Div on L of Corps and 128th Brig completes relief of 25th Ind Brig.

II Polish Corps After enemy has withdrawn, patrols of 6th Lwow Brig, 5th Kres Div, occupy M. Testa in vicinity of Marsignano. Advance of approximately 1 mile is made by 1st Brig of 3d Carp Div in area 5 miles N of Portico on Route 67.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Eighth Ind Div widens sector on L as 21st Brig assumes command of 2d Brig, 1st Br Div, sector. Troops of 6th Br Armd Div drive off 2 enemy attacks against Orsara, 3 miles NW of Casola Valsenio, despite arty and mortar fire. After heavy enemy shelling, forward units of 36th Brig, 78th Br Div, repel 2 raids in area 1 mile E of Spadura. First Br Div begins relief of 88th Div of II Corps.

II Corps Relief of 88th Div on R flank by 1st Br Div of XIII Corps continues. In area SE of Pianoro, elements of 133d Inf, 34th Div, launch another night attack against Hill 367 but are thrown back by stiff opposition and intense mortar fire. Harassing arty fire falls on forward lines of 34th and 91st Divs. Violent rains continue in Corps area.

Army Troops Elements of 12th SA Mtzd Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, are now established on Hill 660 near Casigno,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles E of Vergato. In CCB sector to SW, 11th Armd Inf Bn repulses 2 heavy enemy counterattacks, supported by intense mortar and arty fire, despite heavy casualties.

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Cont

IV Corps Reliefs reported in 107th AAA Group sector on R. In Brazilian sector, strong enemy patrols, attempting to infiltrate positions in vicinity of Catagnana and Calomini, are thrown back. On R flank of TF 92, patrols of 370th CT are sent forward toward Terrinca, 2 miles NE of Serravezza, where they are held up by MG fire; inter-bn reliefs and patrolling are reported throughout this sector.

Medium bomber operations again cancelled because of weather. Eighty-nine fighter bombers strike enemy strongpoints and gun positions in E Po Valley with good results and attack enemy ship near Fiume with near misses. Bridges near Tenda, 12 miles S of Cunco, are objectives for P-47s which attack with unobserved results.

USS Woolsey (DD) obtains 3 direct hits on German troops concentrations near French-Italian border.

Yugoslavia

Partisans claim successful operations against enemy forces in Sibenik-Kosovo-Knin area of Dalmatia, according to reports from Sofia. Bulgarian units break through strong enemy positions to take Podujevo, approximately 17 miles E of Mitrovica; heavy fighting continues for Strumica, in SE Serbia, and Rogatica, E of Sarajevo in Bosnia.

Communications in Brod-Sarajevo-Zagreb-Maribor area are objectives for 22 fighter bombers which also strafe airdrome NW of Zagreb, claiming 3 enemy planes destroyed on ground. Meanwhile, 3 fighter bombers and 2 RP fighters attack transport and troops on Knin-Bihac road in NW Yugoslavia. According to reports, Bulgarian AF makes successful attacks in S Serbia, destroying RR station S of Kumanovo, RR bridge on Skoplje-Kocane line, and two trains near Aleksandrovo.

Albania

Fighting continues in Tirana; Partisan units believed to have won two-thirds of city.

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## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Activity confined to patrolling.V Corps Patrols of 10th Brig of 4th Div receive heavy enemy MG fire from E corners of Forli airfield. S of Forli, Popino, approximately 1 mile SE of S. Martino in Strada, is reported clear by patrols of 128th Brig of 46th Div.II Polish Corps After forcing troops of 6th Lwow Brig of 5th Kres Div to withdraw from M. Testa in bitter counterattack, Germans occupy position there. Other elements of Brig come under enemy fire as they attempt to gain objective in area N of Rocca S. Casciano.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Enemy shelling increases along front; no change in forward positions. At 1530, 6th Br Armd Div assumes command of 1st Br Div sector with 1st Guards Brig relieving 3d Brig. Activity of 78th Br Div confined to active patrolling.II Corps Local reliefs continue without incident. During night 4/5, CP of 362d Inf (attached to 88th Div) is shelled by enemy. Elements of 133d Inf, 34th Div, make very slight gain to within  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of Hill 367.Army Troops At 2000, IV Corps assumes command of 6th SA Armd Div and CCB (attached to that Div). Some decrease in enemy arty is reported.IV Corps At 2000, IV Corps assumes command of 6th SA Armd Div and CCB (including 2d Bn of 370th Inf, elements of 81st Rcn Sq, and armd units) sector, taking over responsibility of zone from II Corps boundary W to 250 easting (R flank border of BEF), and relinquishes command of sector extending from 250 easting to seacoast; latter zone is assumed by 92d Div (370th CT -2d Bn and**UNCLASSIFIED**

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Cont

371st Inf -a bn) now relieved of Corps control and operating directly under Army control.

Medium bombers concentrate on enemy supply routes in N Italy: 215 B-26s achieve very good results on bridges and AA positions along Brenner line; 135 B-25s score direct hits on road and RR bridges in Po Valley; among targets hit are RR bridges at Piazzola, Rovereto, Ala, Firenzuola, Cameri, Vercelli, Villafranca d'Asti, Ossenigo, Cassano d'Adda, Magenta, Calliano, Ponte S. Pietro, Mori, Pizzighettone, and Casale Monferrato, as well as Borghetto M/Y. Close-support targets in battle area and communications in Po Valley are objectives for 278 fighter bombers and 54 fighters which hit several bridges and effect cuts in many places. In N Adriatic, 3 CAF Wellingtons attack 2 F-boats offshore from Chioggia with unobserved results and bomb town, scoring hits in target area, while additional Wellingtons make night attacks on barges and E- and R-boats S of Mestre and in Trieste-Ravenna area. Farther S, 2 Beaufighters sink barge and hit coaster and warehouse at Sansego, W of Lussino. Same night, 10 Beaufighters, attacking in Bergamo-Villafranca-Ghedo area, damage welding factory N of Mantova and hit road transport. Two RAF Venturas score near misses on 4 barges off Genoa.

Yugoslavia

Sibenik reported fallen to Partisans. Along upper Morava R. in central Serbia, Partisans claim to have captured several villages and important heights and report bitter fighting continues in that sector. Farther S, Bulgars drive W from Podujevo, broadening penetration despite weather. Fierce fighting is in progress for Rogatica in E Bosnia and Kumanovo in S Serbia. Farther S, Bulgarians announce capture of Novo Selo and Smolare in Strumica valley and strengthen efforts to take Strumica.

Strategic bombers dispatched to targets in SW Germany and Austria make small attack on troop concentrations at Podgorica, Montenegro, as 2 escorted B-24s effectively drop 4.5 tons of bombs on large building on S edge of town. Fighter bombers attain very good results against RRs and destroy a Ju-52 in air S of Brod. Again attacking along Knin-Bihac road, 27 fighters and 5 RP Hurricanes of BAF strike MT with unobserved results. Italian PT off Italy

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left on fire by 12 Beaufighters and 48 P-51s, while farther S along coast, shipping at Senj is target for Venturas which bomb quayside and town.

Albania

Macchis, Spitfires, and P-39s harass convoy of 150 MT on Scutari-Prizren road and, despite very heavy flak, destroy 5 and damage 11. Bridge near Scutari claimed damaged by Venturas.

Greece and Aegean

Enemy resistance reported increasing at Milos I. in Cyclades group. According to reports from Berlin, Calchi (Kharki) I., just W of Rhodes, has been cleared of Allied units. Germans continue to defend positions in NW Crete and Dodecanese Is.

HMS Kimberley (DD) sinks enemy F-lighter and escorting vessel near Piscopi I., W of Rhodes.

5 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Units repulse small-scale enemy attack in area 1 mile N of S. Stefano, about 6 miles S of Ravenna.

V Corps Bridging operations continue in 4th Div sector as troops prepare for attack on Forli. S of Forli, patrols of 46th Div are unable to cross Rabbi R. because of flooded conditions; enemy reported still holding positions E of river.

II Polish Corps Bitter fighting and heavy MG and mortar fire occur in 5th Kres Div sector. While R flank units continue preparations to seize M. Casaluda, 7 miles S of Forli, 6th Lwow Brig launches early morning attack in effort to regain M. Testa and capture Marsignano and S. Martino in Avello farther SW; M. Testa is reoccupied after fierce opposition. Third Carp Div reports little change in forward positions.

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Cont U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Patrols remain active and extensive shifting of bn units is effected throughout area. In 8th Ind Div sector, several positions in Valdifusa area,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles S of Casola Valsenio, are cleared.

II Corps On R flank, unit of 1st Br Div relieves unit of 350th Inf, 88th Div, on Hill 568. During night of 5/6, patrols of 91st Div, probing enemy defenses at C. Canovetta and C. Nuova, E and W of Route 65, respectively, receive MG and SA fire.

IV Corps At 1200, 1st Inf Div, BEF, assumes command of CCB zone and CCB is placed under operational control of Div. From E to W, Corps front is now maintained by 6th SA Armd Div, 1st Brazilian Div, and 107th AAA Group. On Corps R flank in area E of Route 64, patrols, operating as far as Sabbioni, W of Salvaro, receive considerable mortar fire. Harassing arty fire falls on Marano and Silla bridges over Reno R. in Brazilian sector. To SW in area N of Cutigliano, patrols of 107th AAA Group engage enemy in fire fight along Lima R. S of Piansinatico.

Army Troops Extending L from IV Corps boundary to sea-coast, 92d Div front is now held by RCT 370 (-) on R in Serchio Valley, 371st Inf (-) in center, and 2d Armd Group on L along coast. Right flank elements of 92d Div are directed against Castelnuovo on Serchio R., while objective of L flank units is Massa, 8 miles NW of Pietrasanta on Route 1. Attempts by troops of RCT 370 to dislodge enemy from hill position S of Molazzana, 2 miles W of Serchio R., draw heavy arty, MG, and mortar fire.

About 325 medium bombers hammer lines in N Italy and make additional blocks on Brenner line, dropping approximately 475 tons of bombs with excellent results; among targets hit are RR bridges at Pavia, Nervesa, Sacile, Piazzola, Cameri, Casale Monferrato, Fidenza, Voghera, Cismon, Motta, and Rottofreno, as well as objectives at Rovereto and Mori. In and N of battle line, 601 fighter bombers and 65 fighters give strong support to Fifth and Eighth Armies, hitting guns, bridges,

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5 strongpoints, dumps, and buildings in Bologna-Forli-Faenza-Ravenna areas and cutting rails in central Po Valley and lines leading N through Brescia and Verona; 5 Me-109s are destroyed and 2 probably. With 20 tons of bombs 24 light bombers attack shipping in Fiume Harbor, claiming 2 direct hits on possible cruiser and 3,000-ton AK and hits on harbor installations. Twenty-two barges in Sestri Levante area are targets for Venturas which probably hit 2 and cause 2 more to explode. Shipping in N Adriatic is objective of Beaufighters and Wellingtons which score hits on small vessels off Grado and attack barges and E- and R-boats, respectively; 2 additional Wellingtons bomb canal entrance at Marina di Ravenna as well as 2 possible E-boats. Along French-Italian coast, bridge and RR line near Tenda are damaged by P-47s and P-39s.

Allied warships continue bombardments along French-Italian coast, attaining excellent results against guns, troops, barracks, and locomotives.

Yugoslavia

In N Dalmatia, Partisans claim further destruction of enemy strongpoints near Sibenik and are fighting bitterly around Drnis and Knin to N; entire Zrmanja valley including town of Obrovac reported to have fallen to Tito's forces which also attacked Knin-Gospic communication line with some success. Fighting continues around Risan, Montenegro, which is now surrounded by Partisan forces. Yugoslavs report Germans, supported by arty, have entered Rogatica, in SE Bosnia, after two days of stiff fighting; other reports indicate enemy is attempting new thrusts toward Visegrad. In Kosovo Polje area of Serbia, Partisans reportedly make some advance toward objectives, Mitrovica and Vucitrn, while Bulgars claim to be driving enemy toward Kapaonik mountains. In S Serbia, Partisans frustrate German attempts to break out from S Serbia by engaging enemy along Bitolj-Prilep line and around Devdelija and Demir Kapija on Vardar R. Elsewhere in S Serbia, both Yugoslavs and Bulgars report severe fighting for Stip, Kumanovo, and Bujanovce (N of Kumanovo). Battle for Strumica continues: Yugoslav reports indicate Partisans are fighting in city, while according to reports from Sofia, advance units reached eastern outskirts of Strumica at 10 p.m. after liberating more than 30 villages in that area. In Slavonia, Yugoslavs take several important positions as they

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push toward Ilok, about 20 miles NW of Sremska Mitrovica. Communications in NW Yugoslavia, particularly along Zagreb-Novska RR line, are again effectively attacked by Partisans.

Just after midnight, a single B-24 drops 2 tons of bombs on Sarajevo M/Y with unobserved results, while later in afternoon 7 Wellingtons, 5 Halifaxes, and 2 B-24s aim 34 tons on W M/Y at Sarajevo, hitting W side of yard. Troop concentrations at Podgorica are again objectives of 15th AF heavy bombers as 42 B-24s unload 99 tons, causing severe damage. Fighters and fighter bombers, attacking in N Italy, are also active over Yugoslavia, achieving excellent results on communication targets. Patrolling N Yugoslav coast, Beau-fighters hit 80-foot schooner and schooner hull near Krk.

Albania

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Partisans report successful attacks on four villages in central Albania as well as on large hostile column on Scutari-Kukes road near Puke.

Fighters concentrate in support of ground troops: Beaufighters make successful attack on barracks near Tirana, scoring 92 hits; Macchis and P-39s attack transport in N Albania and claim near misses on bridge on Tirana-Elbasan road.

Aegean

Allied forces are evacuated from Milos I. by HMS Aurora (cruiser).

6 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Enemy, attempting to infiltrate in vicinity of S. Stefano, is driven back by arty fire. Directed against Parasota, 5 miles S of Ravenna, elements of Porter Force meet heavy opposition and are unable to gain objective.

V Corps Patrols remain active along entire front; considerable arty and mortar fire falls on forward

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positions. Reports indicate Germans are firmly entrenched at Forli airfield. High level Bailey bridge over Ronco R. near Magliano, 6 miles SE of Forli, now completed. During night of 6/7, patrols of 46th Div cross Rabbi R. about 2 miles SW of Grisignano.

II Polish Corps Excellent progress made along entire front in high ground SW of Forli as enemy strength decreases. In 5th Kres Div sector between Rabbi and Montone rivers, 5th Brig takes over command of R flank, attacks M. Casaluda, and gains crest by nightfall; throughout night Germans threaten this position; 6th Lwow Brig clears Marsignano and captures M. Maggiore and S. Martino in Avello to SW. On W side of Route 67, 3d Carp Div makes excellent progress: units of 1st Brig attack M. Porticino and M. Chioda, both SW of S. Ruffillo, at 0300, and occupy them without opposition; M. Pratello, 3 miles W of S. Ruffillo, also falls to elements of 1st Brig.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Resuming attack on M. Monsignano, elements of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, encounter heavy opposition. In area W of Orsara, enemy patrols are beaten back by units of 6th Br Armd Div. Second Brig of 1st Br Div assumes command of M. Grande area, N of M. della Tombe, at 0500.

II Corps Relief of 88th Div elements on R flank by 1st Br Div continues in M. Grande-M. Cerere area. Other divs carry out inter-bn reliefs. Moderate enemy arty fire received in 91st Div sector. First Armd Div continues patrolling.

IV Corps Several patrol clashes occur on R flank in 6th SA Armd Div sector. At 1600, TF 45 assumes command of 107th AAA Group sector which reports some regrouping due to withdrawal of 47th and 74th LAA Regts. Harassing arty fire falls in Brazilian sector.

Army Troops Enemy continues to shell forward positions with scattered, harassing fire. Patrol of 371st Inf, operating as far as Levigliani, 4 miles NE of Scavezza,

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is driven back by strong enemy resistance.

Twenty-two escorted B-24s of 15th AF unload 46 tons of bombs on Bolzano (on Brenner route) RR power stations with very good results. Fiume M/Y and harbor are targets for 36 DAF A-30s which drop total of 30 tons. Continuing attacks on Brenner line, about 300 medium bombers drop approximately 500 tons of bombs on RR bridges, power stations, and other RR objectives at Marco, Ossenigo, Ala, Calliano, Cismon, Chioggia, S. Ambrogio, and Rovereto with excellent results. Total of 132 fighters and 631 fighter bombers successfully concentrates on close-support targets and communications in battle area and RRs in N Yugoslavia; numerous MT and transport destroyed and damaged; Ghedi airfield also strafed. In N Adriatic, Wellingtons bomb Marina di Ravenna and Porto Garibaldi and hit small shipping S of Venice, while Beaufighters attack small craft in same general area and hit blockship at Venice. In NW Italy RAF Venturas achieve good results on barges between Genoa and Spezia and P-47s and P-39s claim hits on bridge and factory. Communications in Bologna area are night targets for 9 Beaufighters.

Yugoslavia

Reports indicate coastal operations continue with good success: in Dalmatia, Partisan tanks reach Drnis and troops are encircling this town; in Montenegro, Partisan units, after capturing Njegusi, secure Dubovik on Cetinje-Kotor line, while in Hercegovina, bitter street fighting continues at Nevesinje and Blagaj-Jesenica line is cut. Driving W from Fruska Gora ridge in Slavonia, Yugoslav troops claim to have liberated several towns, including Nestin, and to have broken into Ilok, about 20 miles NW of Sremska Mitrovica, where heavy fighting is in progress; other units are pushing westward toward Sid. Bulgarians announce Strumica, near Bulgarian border in SE Serbia, captured; Bitolj is reported evacuated after many days of bitter fighting and entire Yugoslav-Greek frontier is now clear of Germans; 5,000 enemy reportedly killed and 700 taken prisoner in these operations. Elsewhere in Serbia, Partisans frustrate enemy attempts to break through in Cacak-Kraljevo area and to cross Lim R. NW of Prijepolje. Advance to Mitrovica continues. Sofia reports Bulgarian AF gives good support to ground troops who are attacking enemy

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positions on heights near Kumanovo.

Heavy bombers of 15th AF concentrate on targets in Yugoslavia: 26 B-24s drop 77 tons of bombs on Maribor M/Y; Podgorica troop concentrations are again hit as 40 Wellingtons, 30 B-24s, and 2 Halifaxes unload 268.6 tons with excellent results, causing two large explosions. Fighters and fighter bombers of TAF effectively harass RRs in NW, while BAF Beau-fighters strafe rolling stock and an airdrome in Zagreb-Brod area. Two small vessels at Jablanac, Croatia, and bridge are hit by 12 Venturas. Other fighter bombers and fighters, on rcn missions throughout Yugoslavia, damage 2 bridges and concentrate on MT and rolling stock. According to reports from Sofia, Stukas, operating in S Serbia, continue support for ground troops around Kumanovo and damage RR bridge over Sitnica R. near Pristina.

Albania:

Partisans claim to have blocked Scutari-Prizren route in N Albania.

7 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Some progress reported as units of Porter Force establish firm positions just SE of Gambellara. Intermittent shelling occurs throughout front lines.

V Corps Preceded by bombing and strafing attacks and heavy arty bombardment, troops of Corps launch offensive against Forli at 2250. While 10th Brig of 4th Div begins surprise attack to capture airfield and surrounding buildings, 128th Brig of 46th Div drives up road from Grisignano toward Forli. Troops are subjected to considerable SA fire from enemy and are meeting exceptionally heavy opposition from 278th Grenadier Div which is defending city and area SE.

II Polish Corps During early hours some units of 5th Brig, 5th Kres Div, drive off 3 German counterattacks on M. Casaluda, while others seize S. Zeno, 2½ miles W, and send

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patrols 300 yards N; elements of 6th Lwow Brig contact enemy in high ground 1-2 miles W of Marsignano and are under MG fire. Firm gains made by 3d Carp Div in advance toward Dovadola: 12 Rcn Regt takes S. Ruffillo, N of Rocca S. Casciano, and continues to probe N along Route 67, while about 4 miles farther W on extreme L flank, 1st Brig improves position on M. Pratello and continues advance northward in face of bitter opposition. Enemy reported firmly entrenched on M. Lecchio, important height midway between Montone and Marenzo Rivers.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps After bitter struggle, M. Monsignano falls to elements of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, which move slowly forward toward M. Pompegno, less than 2 miles N; to NW, 21st Brig reports enemy still holding M. Colombo, midway between S. Cassiano and Baffadi. Activity on remainder of front confined to patrol clashes. First Br Div continues relief of 88th Div of II Corps.

II Corps First Br Div continues relief of 88th Div under harassing arty and MG fire. At 0200, elements of 133d Inf, 34th Div, make another raid on Hill 367 but are unsuccessful because of minefields and determined enemy resistance. On L flank, 14th Armd Inf Bn and elements of Rcn Sqn of 1st Armd Div are relieved by 24th Guards Brig of 6th SA Armd Div of IV Corps and boundary is adjusted.

IV Corps In 6th SA Armd Div sector, Carviano, between M. Salvaro and Vergato, and nearby area are heavily mortared. Fourteenth Armd Inf Bn and elements of 81st Rcn Sqn of 1st Armd Div, II Corps, are relieved by elements of 24th Guards Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, thus extending IV Corps R boundary 1-2 miles farther E. Seven miles NE of Porretta, Brazilian troops repulse enemy in vicinity of Affrico. Light harassing enemy arty and mortar fire received on forward units during day. In TF 45 zone reliefs continue.

Army Troops In Serchio Valley, patrols of RCT 370 probe deep into enemy territory, reaching Pietratta (Castelvecchio).

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M. S. Quirico, and Cantombacci. Farther W in area 4 miles N of Pietrasanta, R flank units of 371st Inf make good progress despite hostile arty, mortar, and SA fire and occupy Levigliani, Terrinca, Basati, Fabbiano, and Azzano; stiff enemy opposition encountered as L flank elements attempt to gain objective on M. Strettoia, 2 miles W of Seravezza.

Fifteenth AF attacks main supply lines in NE Italy: RR targets on Brenner Pass route are objectives for 77 escorted B-24s which unload 190 tons of bombs with very good results and also successfully drop 64 tons on Pinzano, Casarsa, and Borovnica (SW of Ljubljana) RR bridges; 55 B-24s ineffectively hit Adige/Ora and Adige/Mezzocorona RR bridges with 136 tons; Isarco/Albes RR bridge is well hit and possibly destroyed by 59 B-24s which drop 145 tons of bombs. Force of 253 of 302 medium bombers continues attacks on objectives in N Italy, dropping about 420 tons on targets which include troop concentrations at Forli, RR bridges at Latisana, Casarsa, Caldonazza, Piazzola, Parenzo, Padova, and Ala, and other RR targets at Ossenigo and Enego. Attacking in support of ground troops, 728 fighter bombers, fighters, and light bombers score hits on 7 bridges and approaches to 3 others, and damage 2 gun positions, numerous MT, and rolling stock (particularly in Yugoslavia). Three CAF Wellingtons bomb Rovigno and Marina di Ravenna with unobserved results and score probable hits on 2 F-boats. In NW Italy near French-Italian border, 65 P-47s and P-39s destroy bridge at Gaiola and bomb another at Valdieri and strike MT inland from Nice. Five A-20s make night attack on MT in Argenta-Ferrara area, dropping 4 tons.

Yugoslavia

Partisans continue gains in Dalmatia, taking Drnis and advancing from all sides on Knin, last enemy strongpoint in Dalmatia. In Montenegro, Yugoslav units reportedly repulse Germans attacking from Podgorica to Cetinje. Farther N in Hercegovina, enemy is strengthening defenses at Nevesinje and is bringing up reinforcements. Yugoslavs report their troops are fighting in Strumica (claimed captured by Bulgars yesterday). Battle for Kumanovo continues with Bulgarian troops fighting bitterly approximately 2 miles from outskirts; Skoplje-Veles road under direct fire from Bulgarian arty. In Kosovo Polje

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7 area, Yugoslavs report Partisan and Bulgarian units have  
Cont advanced as far as Pristina and Mitrovica where bitter fighting is in progress. Farther N along Morava R., Germans have broken through from Cacak to occupy Pozega and Uzice. Germans also gain in Sanak area, taking Priboj on Lim R. but losing ground on L bank of river. See-saw fighting is in progress in area E of Rogatica in E Bosnia. Elsewhere in Yugoslavia, Partisans announce capture of Nemila and Vranduk on Brod-Sarajevo RR line in Bosnia as well as five bridges to N and many strongpoints on Kostajnica-Sunja line in Croatia.

Troop concentrations and RR objectives are hit by heavy bombers of 15th AF: achieving good to excellent results, 110 B-24s drop total of 256 tons of bombs on troop concentrations at Sjenica, Prijepolje, Mitrovica, and Novi Pazar; 80 escorted B-24s unload 166 tons on M/Ys at Alipasin Most, while Maribor S M/Y is hit by 162 B-17s with 391 tons and Sarajevo W yards are targets for 35 B-24s and 50 Wellingtons which successfully unload 331.6 tons; operating against RR targets in N Italy, B-24s also claim good results on RR bridge at Borovnica, SW of Ljubljana, with 17 tons. Podgorica troop concentrations again attacked as 39 P-38s aim 38.5 tons on target with good coverage; roads and RRs in S Yugoslavia effectively strafed by 85 P-38s; approximately 50 MT destroyed as well as warehouse and other transport. Fighters, fighter bombers, and light bombers of TAF make effective raids against RR targets in Yugoslavia and N Italy. In support of ground troops, 12 Venturas attack Novi Pazar in Serbia and Pec to S in Montenegro, scoring hits on MT, main streets, and buildings.

Albania

Partisans claim some success in Tirana where fierce battle is in progress.

Military camp and new palace at Tirana are hit by 24 Beaufighters. Sixty-four fighter bombers and fighters attack MT and bridges throughout N Albania, probably destroying bridge near Kukes and hitting another on Elbasan-Tirana road. Meanwhile, 23 Greek-based planes also concentrate on road and rail objectives near Albanian-Yugoslav border. In area N of Ljes, 4 Halifaxes bomb Baldern road bridge with 16 tons, hitting W end.

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1944Section III: MEDITERRANEAN THEATERAegean

Reports indicate Stampalia, in Dodecanese group, possibly reoccupied by enemy.

8 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Light enemy shelling occurs in vicinity of Route 16 on R flank. German patrol, attempting to infiltrate in area 1 mile S of Gambellara, is repulsed after suffering casualties.

V Corps Battle for Forli continues against extremely heavy opposition as troops close in from SE and S. After bitter fight, elements of 10th Brig of 4th Div capture buildings on N side of airfield, take airfield, and continue advance toward Forli; to S, 28th Brig of 4th Div, with 2 bns abreast, launches attack at 0400 along Casa Merenda-Bussecchio-Forli road which runs NW into city, claiming both Gardini and Bussecchio, about 2 miles S and SE of Forli, respectively. On L of 28th Brig, 128th Brig of 46th Div also attacks at 0400, clears S. Martino in Strada (1 mile downstream from Grisignano) after fierce street fighting, and advances about 1,000 yards farther N.

II Polish Corps Effective advance made along entire front. On R flank, elements (5th Brig) of 5th Kres Div clear enemy from M. Casaluda area, including M. Birra to W and Sadurano to N, without opposition. Enemy reported firmly entrenched in Castrocaro, strongpoint 5 miles NE of Dovadola on Montone R. On L, preceded by patrol clash S of town, Dovadola falls to ren units of 3d Carp Div; other elements start attack on M. Boro, 1 mile NW of Dovadola at 0300, reaching half way to objective by 0830; meanwhile, 1st Carp Brig launches attack on M. Lecchio at 0200, gaining height after 4 hours of heavy fighting; later in day, counterattack is repulsed and forward troops push on to M. Trebbio to N in close contact with enemy.

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8 U.S. FIFTH ARMY  
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XIII Corps Enemy arty active on entire front and particularly heavy in 6th Br Armd Div sector. North of M. Monsignano, combat patrols of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, probe N reaching M. Pompegno under harassing enemy fire. Reliefs continue.

II Corps Enemy arty active along entire front. In 34th Div sector E of Route 65, patrol of 133d Inf is driven back by enemy SA fire. To SW, 1st Armd Div continues active patrolling on L flank just W of Montecumici hill mass.

IV Corps While patrols of 6th SA Armd Div report clashes in vicinity of M. Salvaro, Brazilian patrols encounter enemy N of Palazzo, NE of Affrico, and in vicinity of Labante and Caselina in same general area. Along Reno R. harassing enemy fire is received in the Marano, Silla, and Porretta bridge areas.

Army Troops Enemy arty fire reported decreasing along front. Troops of 371st Inf are improving and consolidating positions gained yesterday.

Communications in N and NE Po Valley are again targets for medium bombers as 231 B-25s and B-26s hit RR bridges at Voghera, Mori, Peschiera, Rovereto, Latisana, Casarsa, Caldonazzo, Osoppo, Mantova, as well as gun positions N of battle line. Light bombers, fighters, and fighter bombers fly 738 sorties against Army targets, destroying or badly damaging 9 of 12 bridges attacked; bridges at Parma and Piacenza claimed destroyed, direct hits scored on 4 others near Modena, Bologna, Ferrara, and Lugo, and hits on approaches to 3 others; at least 21 RR cuts effected, especially between Fornovo and Parma; in support of Eighth Army drive on Forli, guns, troop concentrations, transport, buildings, and other military objectives in Forli area successfully bombed. In E Adriatic, CAF Beaufighters attack schooner off Cittanova, while 2 Wellingtons again bomb Marina di Ravenna, starting fires, and additional Wellington bombs Chioggia with unobserved results. Again P-39s attack near French-Italian border, destroying bridge.

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8  
Cont French CL Georges Leygues and US DD Madison shell enemy  
gun positions and MT near French-Italian border.

Yugoslavia

In Dalmatia, Partisans are tightening circle around Knin and there is heavy fighting along Gospic road nearby as well as N of Bihac in town of Cazin. Throughout Serbia, Yugoslavs and Bulgars continue to harass enemy withdrawals as bulk of German troops attempt slow retreat N. Bulgars announce capture of Stip and number of other localities, including Donji and Gornji Balvan, in same general area and add that their troops crossed the Binika Morava R. to enter town of Bujanovce. Sofia also reports Bulgarian troops, under cover of heavy arty barrage, reach suburbs of Kumanovo despite strong enemy resistance; troops also claim gains W and NW of Strumica, advancing to Vardar R. and liberating more than 300 inhabited localities. In Kosovo Polje area, Partisan and Bulgarian troops have advanced about 10 miles from Podujevo, according to Yugoslav reports. Russian troops are reportedly supporting Partisans in Preljina area NE of Cacak in Serbia and both forces are threatening the Kraljevo-Sarajevo escape route; more than 3,000 Germans have been killed in Kraljevo-Cacak area in last 5 days, according to Yugoslav reports. After bitter struggle in Uzice-Priboj-Rogatica area along Bosnian-Serbian border, Germans make considerable gains, taking Visegrad despite considerable losses and forcing Lim R. at Prijepolje. Enemy activity has reportedly increased in Prizren-Pec area along border of Montenegro.

Clouds over target area hamper strategic operations although 24 B-24s are able to attack troop concentrations at Mitrovica, Prijepolje, and Sjenica with 23.5 tons of bombs; results unobserved at Mitrovica and Sjenica, objectives well covered at Prijepolje. Later in day RAF bombers strike communications with some success: 33 Wellingtons and 21 B-24s drop total of 200.5 tons on roads and road junctions at Sjenica and Novi Pazar, scoring many hits on targets, as well as town itself; 1 Halifax attacks Visegrad river bridge, unloading 4 tons with poor results. Weather cuts Balkan AF operations to minimum: Venturas bomb Konjic, Hercegovina, with unobserved results and fighters do slight damage to transport. Creek-based fighters concentrate on RR traffic between Skoplje and Veles, claiming some damage, as well as near misses on Veles M/Y.

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1944Section III: MEDITERRANEAN THEATERAlbania

Ljes bridge is bombed by single B-24 with 4 tons of bombs.

9 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Units of Force meet strong resistance in attack on Gambellara. At 0730, Borgo Sisa again reported clear. Enemy arty light until noon then heavy.

V Corps Enemy reported withdrawn from W bank of Ronco R. in 12th Lancers sector on R flank. Fourth Div makes firm gains during morning: elements of 12th Brig, which passed through 10th Brig, move into Forli and are established in center of town and along RR to E; 28th Brig closes in from S; by midnight, Forli is completely in Div hands. In 46th Div sector, forward troops of 128th Brig, attacking NW from S. Martino in Strada, reach S. Varano, on Route 67 2 miles from Forli, but withdraw to allow bombers to attack town which is held by Germans in strength; to SW, 138th Brig units make some progress toward Montone R. from area 1½ miles NW of Collina.

II Polish Corps Troops of 5th Brig of 5th Kres Div, operating along Route 67 in area N of Sadurano, occupy Massa against no opposition. At 1800, 5th Brig assumes command of 5th Kres Div sector and sends patrols forward to secure Castrocara on W bank of Montone R.; all ground E of river believed cleared of enemy. In 3d Carp Div zone to SW, 1st Brig gains several heights in vicinity of M. Boro.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Continuing advance toward M. Pompegno, units of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, are slowed by heavy enemy resistance just short of objective. S. Ruffillo, 2 miles N of Baffadi, is reported clear of enemy by patrols of 6th Br Armd Div. At 0500, 1st Br Div assumes command of 88th Div sector and temporary boundary between XIII and II Corps goes into effect.

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II Corps At 0500, command of 88th Div sector passes to 1st Br Div of XIII Corps. Patrolling continues with no appreciable change in forward positions. During night 9/10, 351st Inf, 88th Div, returns from Montecatini to begin relief of 168th Inf, 34th Div. In 34th Div sector, enemy planes bomb and strafe MT which are jammed on Route 65.

IV Corps On R flank in 24th Guards Brig (6th SA Armd Div) sector, patrols encounter enemy at S. Martino, 1 mile SW of M. Sole. Elements of 6th Inf, 1st Div, BFF, relieve elements of 11th Armd Bn of CCB. Enemy again shells Marano, Silla, and Porretta bridges.

Army Troops On R flank of 92d Div in vicinity of Molazzana, enemy, attempting to advance under cover of arty and mortar fire, is driven back by elements of RCT 370 using IG, mortar, and arty fire. Unit of 371st Inf, again attacking objective on M. Strettoia, is thrown back by heavy hostile fire. Elements of 365th Inf begin relieving units of 2d Armd Group in coastal area.

Adverse weather throughout Po Valley severely restricts medium bomber operations; 36 B-25s drop 66 tons of bombs on RR bridges at San Stino and Padova in NE Italy, achieving probable hits on both. Buildings N of Forli and ammunition dump S of Ravenna are attacked by 21 A-30s. In direct support of Fifth and Eighth Armies, 263 fighters and fighter bombers score hits on road and RR bridges in Bologna-Modena area and attack gun positions, roads, enemy concentrations, and transport. E- and F-boats near Porto Garibaldi and Marina di Ravenna are targets for CAF Wellingtons; results unobserved. P-39s continue strafing attacks against road movement in NW Italy. During night 7 A-20s bomb roads and MT in Ravenna-Faenza-Imola area with unobserved results.

Allied warships (French CL Georges Leygues and US DD Madison) continue bombardment of shore objectives near French-Italian border.

Yugoslavia

Knin in Dalmatia is invested and Partisans claim gains of Promina hills to S; Casin, N of Knin, is reportedly secured after day of street fighting as well as Cacovak, enemy strong-point near Karlovac in Croatia. Reports indicate Germans make progress just inland from coast, breaking into Danilov

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Grad (Montenegro) from Podgorica, and capturing Kifino Selo, E of Nevesinje in Hercegovina, after many days of fighting. In nearby area Partisans cut communications between Mostar and Nevesinje. After claiming Devdelija and Valandovo in lower Vardar Valley, Partisans push northward toward Krivolak and Gradsko and are now threatening Stip (reported captured by Bulgars yesterday) from S and SW. Bulgars and Yugoslavs still heavily engaged in Kumanovo area in S Serbia but claim capture of several important positions. Elsewhere in Serbia heavy fighting continues along Prijepolje-Raska-Cacak RR line, at Jabuka (W of Prijepolje), and near Visegrad. Bulgarians claim Germans are withdrawing in area E of Ibar R. In E Bosnia, enemy attempts to take Han Pijesak and Tuzla (NE and NNE of Sarajevo, respectively) are reportedly frustrated by Partisans. Berlin reports Allied troops have crossed Danube E of Osijek, gaining bridgehead near Apatin where fierce battle rages; Moscow makes no confirmation. According to Yugoslav reports, after fierce enemy attack along northern front in Slavonia, Partisans counterattack and liberate Calma, Martinci, Bingula, and Stari Divos; fighting continues along Ilok-Erdevik-Kuzmin line.

Coastal Beaufighters set fire to 100-foot schooner at Krk. Shipping installations at Senj S of Fiume are hit by 6 RAF Venturas, while 97 fighters and fighter bombers harass roads and transport in Yugoslavia and Albania--mostly on roads E of Elbasan; 33 MT destroyed, 42 damaged. Road and rail transport are again effectively attacked by 18 Greek-based Spitfires operating S of Skoplje.

Aegean

Nine RAF A-30s bomb German camp at Angonia on W coast of Rhodes.

10 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Gambellara, 7 miles S of Ravenna, occupied by units of Porter Force. Three miles farther S, armd elements penetrate as far as Cocolia on Ronco R. where they encounter heavy IG fire.

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V Corps Forward units of 12th Lancers make effective gains on R flank, crossing Ronco R. 3 miles NE of Forli and advancing 1 mile without opposition although hampered by numerous demolitions. No further progress made by 12th Brig of 4th Div which is reported heavily engaged by enemy tanks in area  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile NW of Forli. Rise of Montone R. makes advance difficult; elements of 138th Brig, 46th Div, are now established along E bank S of S. Varano, preparing to cross.

II Polish Corps Polish troops continue to clear hills W of Montone R. and make effective progress W of Route 67 despite heavy snow fall reported during night. Fifth Brig, 5th Kres Div, occupies Castrocaro by nightfall, as well as M. Lala in same general area. First Brig of 3d Carp Div pushes forward 1 mile in area 2 miles W of Dovadola and by noon secures Pt. 567, 3 miles SE of Modigliana, which is successfully counterattacked by Germans later in day. Eighteenth Brig relieves L bn of 1st Carp Brig in area of M. Acuto, S of Modigliana.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Adverse weather continues. After securing 2 strong positions on S slopes of M. Pompegno, 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, is engaged in bitter struggle on forward slopes of mountain under intense MG and mortar fire; 19th and 21st Brigs report light enemy arty fire along front lines, while 19th Brig claims 9 inches of snow in its area. Eleventh Brig of 78th Br Div repels enemy raid  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N of Casino Bernardi (N of M. Spaduro); bn reliefs continue throughout area.

II Corps On night 10/11, relief of R sector (337th Inf) of 85th Div begun by 1st Br Div. Ninety-first Div reports light enemy arty and mortar fire throughout sector.

IV Corps Corps front marked by patrol clashes and increased enemy shelling. Highway between Grizzana and Casigno (about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles E of Vergato) and Marano, Silla, and Porretta bridge areas are again targets for enemy fire. Meanwhile patrols encounter enemy S of Casigno and in area

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just to W and report clashes S of Labante and NW of Affricco. Enemy planes drop incendiary bombs near Riola, on Reno R. about 6 miles from Silla.

Army Troops: Patrols of RCT 370 remain aggressive on R flank of 92d Div in Serchio Valley, reaching as far as Colle (NW of Castelnuovo), Campo, and Cantombacci. Once more, unit of 371st Inf, advancing on M. Strettoia, is halted by enemy mortar and arty fire. In coastal zone, 365th Inf (-) relieves 2d Armd Group and assumes command of sector at 1000.

Despite adverse weather, 208 medium bombers of TAF continue successful attacks on Po Valley communications and other targets, dropping total of 324 tons of bombs on RR bridges at Ostiglia, Casale Monferrato, Piazzola, Cittadella, Sacile, Casale Maggiore, Ala, and Padova, fuel dumps at Porto Maghera and Mestre, and ferry terminus at Ostiglia; poor results achieved at Porto Maghera. Total of 578 fighters and fighter bombers maintains close support to Eighth and Fifth Armies and attacks communications behind battle area, effecting at least 40 RR cuts in N Italy, destroying 2 bridges and RR overpass, hitting another bridge and approaches to 6 more, as well as guns and defended positions; numerous RR and road transport also destroyed and damaged; town of Castelnuovo in II Corps area left in flames; 4 enemy planes destroyed at Villafranca airfield and one probably. During night 10/11, 5 Halifaxes and 2 B-24s drop 20 tons of bombs on Latisana RR bridge, scoring probable hits. Also at night, 10 Beaufighters and 38 A-20s effectively attack MT N of battle area and in Po Valley.

Yugoslavia

Enemy surrounded in Knin area, Dalmatia, reportedly suffering heavy losses. According to both Partisan and Bulgarian reports, Veles, in S Serbia on Vardar R., is captured and enemy garrison of 750 troops destroyed; towns also secured are Sv. Nikola, 18 miles NW of Stip, as well as many villages including Milino, Krkmanovo, Rudnik, Nemanjinci, and Ivankovci. Yugoslavs report Bulgarian units are still fighting against surrounded German garrison in Stip and claim fierce battle is in progress for Kumanovo. To N, some important positions are gained in Buvanovce-Pristina-Kapaonik ~~settlements~~ by Partisan and

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Bulgarian troops. Yugoslavs frustrate German attempts to break through from Nevesinje to Ulog in Hercegovina and from Zvornik to Tulza and Sokolac to Han Pijesak in E Bosnia. Plevlja, in N Montenegro, reported to have been captured by German force. Successful action against Mostar-Sarajevo-Brod-RR line claimed by Partisans. Yugoslavs announce Partisan and Soviet troops cross Danube on the Apatin-Mohacs-Baja line in N and are now advancing toward Pecs in Hungary and Osijek in Yugoslavia.

Tactical fighters and fighter bombers, attacking in N Italy, are also active against communications in Yugoslavia. Weather cancels Balkan operations.

Aegean

Enemy encampment on W coast of Rhodes at Angonia is again objective of 5 A-30s. British and Polish DDs sink German SS, according to Admiralty communique, after forcing ship to surface.

11 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Coastal sector between sea and Route 16 is taken over by River Force (composed of Popsky's Private Army, 1 sqn of 27th Lancers, and 1 co. of Essex troops). Patrols of this Force advance to Fosso Ghiaia, less than 5 miles from Ravenna, and later at night capture 12 prisoners. Farther inland, heavy enemy shelling prevents construction of bridge in vicinity of Gambellara.

V Corps Considerable opposition continues all along front. Twelfth Lancers move slowly forward despite arty and mortar fire. In 4th Div zone N of Forli, 12th Brig makes no advance because of strong enemy positions between Canale and Montone R. SW of Forli, S. Varano is reported still occupied by Germans. About 3 miles upstream in 46th Div sector, patrols of 138th Brig cross Montone R. and engage enemy to NE.

II Polish Corps On R flank, forward units of 5th Brig of 5th Kres Div make slight progress in area W of



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Castrocaro. On L flank, 1st Carp Brig of 3d Carp Div regains Pt. 567 after heavy struggle.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Eighth Ind Div makes effective progress on R flank as elements of 17th Brig attack and gain M. Pompegno, found heavily mined; advance continues with some units moving N toward M. S. Bartolo, about 2 miles SW of Modigliana, under MG and mortar fire and others pushing NW with M. Bassana as objective. Activity on remainder of front limited to reliefs and patrolling.

II Corps Relief of 337th Inf, 85th Div, by 3d Bn of 1st Br Div is complete and, at 0545, E portion of 85th Div sector passes to command of 1st Br Div and new boundary is set up between XIII and II Corps. After relieving 168th Inf, 34th Div, 351st Inf (88th Div) is detached from 34th Div and attached to 85th Div at 0505 and new boundary between the 2 divs becomes effective at that time. During late afternoon enemy plane bombs and strafes sector of 1st Armd Div; no casualties reported.

IV Corps On extreme R flank near II Corps border, patrols of 24th Guards Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, encounter enemy, while about 4 miles farther W, forward units report Salvaro, NW of M. Salvaro, clear. Enemy shelling continues along Grizzana-Casigno road and along Reno R., hitting CP at Marano and bridge at Silla. Brazilian patrols contact enemy near Brains and S of Labante. TF 45 sends out 8 patrols who report no contact.

Army Troops During night 11/12, patrol to Vergemoli, 3½ miles W of Serchio R., finds town held by partisan forces which claim to have repulsed 4 hostile attempts to take town. Enemy arty is intermittent and scattered.

Fourteen heavy bombers of 15th AF, dispatched to attack oil objectives in Austria, drop 21 tons of bombs on Aviano airfield as last resort target with fair results; Casarsa, Pinzano, and Latisana RR bridges are hit by 34 B-24s which unload 85 tons with good results at Casarsa and Pinzano, poor at Latisana. Continuing attacks on supply routes in N Italy,

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11 255 medium bombers successfully drop total of 474 tons with  
Cont excellent results on RR bridges at Latisana, Pontetidone, Cittadella, Piazzola, Casale Monferrato, Padua, San Michele, Cagliano, Cismon, Dolce, Rovereto, and Ora and storage dumps at Porto Maghera and Mestre. Total of 701 fighter bombers, light bombers, and fighters maintains firm support for Fifth and Eighth Armies, attacking guns, troops, and strongpoints, particularly in Forli-Faenza area, and communications N of battle line; 59 rail cuts effected; several bridges hit; Villafranca airfield effectively bombed, causing fires and destroying 3 planes and damaging another; again numerous MT destroyed and damaged. Patrolling in N Adriatic, 4 CAF Beaufighters damage pontoon and tug N of Caorle. Fourteen Beaufighters and 40 A-20s make night attacks in Po Valley, destroying several MT in Cremona area, starting fires on MT targets in Bologna-Modena area, and bombing S. Benedetto bridge and Bergamo with unobserved results.

Yugoslavia

Bulgars announce fall of Kumanovo, under assault by Bulgars and Yugoslavs since latter part of October, and claim over 2,500 Germans killed and considerable material captured; more than 20 villages or towns captured, including Rezanovce, Lopate, Dobrosane, Petrovo Selo, and Romanovce. Russians announce capture of Stip by Bulgarians operating with Partisans. Drive for Skoplje continues. Despite adverse weather, Bulgars claim some gains in Kapaonik mountains in area N of Mitrovica.

Two Spitfires, patrolling over coastal Yugoslavia, attack MT near Bihac. Continuing bad weather grounds Balkan offensive operations.

Albania

Entire German garrison said to have withdrawn from Alessio (Lesh) on N coast.

Aegean

Six A-30s continue attacks on German encampment at Angonia, on W coast of Rhodes, dropping approximately 8 tons of bombs.

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12 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Patrols cross Fosso Chiaia without contacting enemy. To SW, light shelling occurs in Gambellara area. Reports indicate Germans are still holding W bank of Ronco R. at Cocolia and opposition remains strong and constant.

V Corps Some gains made NW of Forli as enemy withdraws. At 0700, 12th Brig of 4th Div advances N without opposition to gain approximately 1 mile in area 2 miles N of Forli, meeting resistance from inf and tanks; about 120 prisoners believed taken in this attack. South of Route 9, 138th Brig of 46th Div crosses Montone R. between Rovere and Ciola and is now heavily engaged by enemy holding high ground W of river.

II Polish Corps In area 1½ miles W of Castrocaro, troops of 5th Brig, 5th Kres Div, make small gain despite MG fire from enemy positions on ridge to W. Patrols of 1st Carp Brig, 3d Carp Div, reach Modigliana, about 10 miles S of Faenza, but report enemy holding town in strength.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps In 8th Ind Div sector, forward troops of 17th Brig are now established on M. Bassana; enemy still firmly entrenched on M. S. Bartolo. Light arty and mortar fire received throughout sector of 78th Br Div.

II Corps One hundred and thirty-fifth Inf, 34th Div, is detached from 34th Div and attached to 91st Div which, at 0600, assumes command of that regt and its sector. First Armd Div reports normal patrolling.

IV Corps In 1st Brazilian Div sector, enemy arty reported intense in 6th CT area. Hostile planes strafe area about 2 miles N of Porretta. Aggressive patrolling continues throughout entire front.

Army Troops Enemy arty increasing with heavy concentrations in vicinity of Gallicano and Molazzana in RCT 370 sector and just NW of Pietrasanta in 371st zone.

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Although bad weather continues, small force of escorted heavy 15th AF bombers attacks communications in N Italy with good results: Isarco/Albes, Adige/Ora, Casarsa, Mezzocorona, Latisana RR bridges hit by 83 B-24s with 225 tons of bombs; airfield E of Mestre is objective for 2 B-24s which drop 5 tons; 23 B-24s successfully attack Avisio viaduct with 61.5 tons. Medium bomber operations are cancelled because of weather. With excellent results 707 fighters, fighter bombers, and light bombers continue attacks on close-support targets and communications in Po Valley, scoring many direct hits on guns, enemy positions, RR installations, and 10 bridges; Villafranca airfield again strafed. Coastal Beaufighters damage barge and small vessel in N Adriatic; P-47s attack bridge near Tenda, in NW Italy. In night attacks, 37 A-20s cause fires and explosions in Bologna-Verona-Parma-Mantova-Milan-areas and hit ponton bridge near Ferrara; 9 Beaufighters continue to harass transport in N Italy. Also during night, 2 Halifaxes drop 11.5 tons of bombs on Tagliamento/Casarsa RR bridge, straddling W end of target, while another Halifax attacks nearby Ravis airfield with unobserved results.

USS Woolsey (DD) engages enemy gun near French-Italian frontier.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavs and Russians confirm capture of Kumanovo (reported captured by Bulgars yesterday); Partisans add that Presevo and Bujanovce to N are also secured and state that their troops, pursuing enemy westward, have reached Gnjilane and the Crna Gora and are threatening the Kacanik Pass, last opening for the withdrawal of German troops from Skoplje. Morava RR line as far as Skoplje is claimed captured. Yugoslavs and Bulgars reportedly make excellent gains in drive for Skoplje and have encircled the city from three sides; Sv. Jovan, Katanovo, and Aleksandrovo are liberated. Yugoslavs confirm capture of Stip (reported captured yesterday by Russians and by Bulgars on 8th). In E Slavonia, Partisans continue heavy fighting for Ilok, Erdevik, and Kuzmin, all N of Sremska Mitrovica, according to Yugoslav reports. Fierce battle in progress in Knin sector of N Dalmatia. Partisans continue to harass communications on Cacak-Uzice-Visegrad and Raska-Prijepolje-Visegrad lines, hampering enemy's withdrawals from W Morava area and Kosovo; the Mostar-Sarajevo-Brod RR line is also under incessant attacks from Partisans.

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Operating over Yugoslavia, 56 fighters and fighter bombers bomb occupied buildings and RR station at Knin. In Serbia, Greek-based Spitbombers leave entire M/Y at Pristina, N of Skoplje, ablaze and exploding; Mitrovica-Pec lines cut; approximately 200 units of rolling stock and M/Y facilities claimed destroyed.

Albania

Road traffic on Elbasan-Kavaje road is objective of 73 fighters which destroy 29 MT and damage 26.

Off coast, Italian coastal craft fight inconclusive night action with small heavily-armed enemy vessel, obtaining hits.

Aegean

HMS Kimberley (DD) bombards enemy battery on Alinnia I., W of Rhodes, obtaining 8 hits; later at night 2 coastal craft engage 2 P-lighters near this island, sinking one. Reports indicate German patrols of 300 land on Lisso (Lipso) I.

13 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force On Adriatic flank, enemy's defensive positions remain unchanged. Bridge across Scola Conversa Canal near Gambellara complete.

V Corps General advance reported along entire front as troops push toward Montone R. both N and S of Route 9. After heavy resistance from troops of German 278th Div, leading elements of 12th Brig of 4th Div reach positions 3 miles N of Forli. Fifty-sixth Div assumes command of 28th Brig (4th Div), 167th Brig relieving troops of 28th Brig. In 46th Div sector SW of Forli, 128th Brig clears S. Varano and advances  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N, while farther S on Route 67, Rovere and Ciola are occupied by 138th Brig which also makes small gain to N.

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II Polish Corps Fifth Brig of 5th Kres Div continues gains in hills 2 miles W of Castrocara, taking Points 290 and 367 after heavy resistance at latter and beginning advance on E. Cerreto, 1½ miles N of Castrocara. To SW, 2½ miles NW of Dovadola, rcn units of 3d Carp Div capture M. Casole and village and hold them despite German counterattack; elements of 1st Carp Brig make small gain 1 mile farther W in face of determined resistance.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps In area a few miles SW of Modigliana, 17th Brig of 8th Ind Div prepares for attack on M. S. Bartolo; many enemy mines reported in this sector. On L flank of Corps, 3d Brig of 1st Br Div relieves 2d Brig in M. Grande area and undergoes considerable enemy shelling.

II Corps Eighty-fifth and 91st Divs continue to hold defensive positions, receiving moderate arty fire. On L flank, patrols of 1st Armd Div contact enemy in high ground near Monterumici and capture 2 prisoners.

IV Corps Sixth SA Armd Div sends out 11 patrols which make 5 enemy contacts. In 1st Brazilian Div sector, patrols of 370th Inf engage enemy in fire fight in vicinity of Abetaia, about 2 miles NE of Gaggio Montano. Enemy arty reported moderate on Corps R flank and center and light on L flank in TF 45 zone. Marano, Bombiana, Riola, and Palazzo are targets for enemy shelling.

Army Troops Enemy continues aggressive action, counter-attacking unit of RCT 370, 92d Div, in vicinity of Molazzana. Enemy arty becomes very active in coastal sector.

All medium bomber operations cancelled except missions of 18 B-25s which destroy span of Padova N RR bridge with 18 tons of bombs. Twenty-four A-30s achieve good results on troop concentrations W of Forli and score hits on quay at Porto Corsini. Continuing attacks against Po Valley communications and support for Eighth Army, mostly in Forli-Faenza area, 725 fighters and fighter bombers hit strongpoints, buildings, guns, mortars, storehouse, CP, and hq in and N of battle area

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with excellent results; in Po Valley area results include 1 bridge destroyed, 5 damaged, 22 RR cuts effected, oil line at Ostiglia hit and numerous MT and other transport destroyed or damaged. In NE Italy, 4 Beaufighters sink large barge off Caorle and score hits on launch and tug, while in NW Italy, 18 P-47s and P-39s again bomb bridges in Tenda area.

French DD L'Alcyon and US DD Benson bombard German barracks and observation posts along French-Italian border.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavs report elements of two divs are fighting in Skoplje with units occupying section of city on R bank of Vardar; forward units of Bulgarian Army enter Skoplje at 0600, according to Sofia. Fighting in upper Vardar continues, while farther N, Partisans and Bulgars report good progress in Metohija-Mitrovica sector along S Kapaonik mountains. Cetinje, W of Podgorica in Montenegro, is reported captured by Partisans despite stubborn enemy resistance; German forces, moving N from Danilov Grad to Niksic, are heavily engaged by Partisans. Yugoslavs report stiff fighting in Hercegovina at Siroki Brijeg, in Knin-Otric area, and in Slovenia, and successful action against Zagreb-Sisak-Bihac-Otric and Zagreb-Karlovac-Ogulin RR lines. After crossing Danube in E Slavonia, Yugoslavs, in cooperation with Red Army troops, claim occupation of Batina and Zmajevac, about 18 miles W of Sombor.

On shipping rcn in N Adriatic, 4 RP Beaufighters damage schooner at Krk. Targets along coast are objectives of BAF: hangar at Risan and arsenal at Tivat (both in Kotor area) are attacked by 8 RP fighters; P-51s and Spitbombers score hits on building at Knin, German strongpoint at Tomislavgrad (Bosnia), and MT SW of Gorica.

Albania

Albanian forces engage enemy along Elbasan-Durazzo road.

14 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Patrol of Popsky's Private Army, operating N of Fosso Ghiaia, draws enemy fire but makes no contact. In land, relief of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lancers commences.

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V Corps Enemy falls back to set up defense line Montone R.-Cosina R.-M. Vescodova (in hills S of Route 9), fighting rearguard action as he withdraws. North of Route 9, 4th Div makes excellent gains: on R flank, 12th Lancers occupy Branzolino, 5 miles N of Forli, and resume advance farther N; 28th Brig, now operating on R of 12th Brig, continues forward; S. Martino di Villafranca falls to 12th Brig which pushes on without opposition, leaving rearguard elements to mop up in area E of Montone R. Advancing astride Route 9, 167th Brig of 56th Div gains position 2 miles NW of Forli. South of Route 9 and W of Forli in 46th Div sector, 128th Brig clears up resistance E of Villagrappa which town as well as Petrignone to S falls to 138th Brig.

II Polish Corps On R flank in 5th Kres Div sector, 5th Brig completes capture of M. Cerreto and starts advance toward M. la Siva. In 3d Carp Div zone, 1st Carp Brig occupies S. Savino, 3 miles E of Modigliana, without opposition, while 2d Carp Brig captures S. Antonia to E after stiff house-to-house fighting; troops report shelling and mortaring in S. Savino area.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Indian troops continue attacks to clear enemy from high ground SW of Modigliana; in face of very heavy opposition, elements of 17th Brig seize M. S. Bartolo and push W to slopes of M. del Tesoro where enemy is reported firmly entrenched. Approximately 2½ miles N of Fontanelice in vicinity of M. Maggiore, elements of 36th Brig, 78th Br Div, drive back early morning counterattack. Meanwhile small gain is made by 3d Brig, 1st Br Div, about 4 miles NE of Monterenzio. Increased enemy mortar fire is reported in M. Grande area.

II Corps Positions remain unchanged along Corps front.

IV Corps Patrols are especially active along entire front. Light to medium arty fire falls on Marano bridge. Enemy patrol, attempting to infiltrate 1st Brazilian Div positions W of Affrico, is repulsed.

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14            Army Troops Activity on Div front confined to patrolling  
Cont            and arty duels.

Adverse weather prevents medium bomber operations and severely hampers fighters and fighter bombers attacking communications in N Italy. Twenty-seven Spitfires, Spitbombers, and P-47s bomb and damage building and RR center in Cremona area and hit road and buildings SE of Faenza. In Gulf of Venice, single Wellington attacks 1,000-1,500-ton vessel off Chioggia with unobserved results.

Yugoslavia

Enemy continues withdrawal from S Yugoslavia and Albania. Yugoslavs announce fall of Skoplje by elements of 42d and 15th Divs and claim all territory to Kacanik Pass; 1,700 Germans reported killed, 995 taken prisoner. In upper Vardar Valley, Partisans tighten circle around Kicevo-Gostivar-Tetovo area. In Croatia, Germans, advancing W from Sisak-Kostajnica-Bos. Novi, are reportedly thrown back after suffering considerable losses. Partisans said to have driven enemy from Kifino Selo to Nevesinje in Hercegovina.

Adverse weather continues. At dawn HMS Wheatland and HMS Brocklesby (DDs) bombard enemy shipping in Bar Harbor, Montenegro; return fire from shore batteries is ineffective.

Albania

Battle for Tirana continues with Partisan forces holding area N of main square. Partisan 12th Brig reports capture of Peqin, Rogozhine, and Kavaje on Elbasan-Durazzo road after fierce battle. Further successes claimed against enemy re-treating along Elbasan-Tirana road.

One of 10 fighters effectively attacks MT along coastal road near Vorre.

Aegean

HMS King George V (BB) bombards Lakida battery on Milos I. with unsuccessful results; same day Royal Marine Commandos land from HMS Easton (DD) in effort to occupy enemy radar station at Cape Psali, Milos I., but are unsuccessful because of extensive minefields. HMS Kimberley (DD) sinks two LCs (assault) in Livadia Bay, Piscopi I.

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## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Slight enemy shelling occurs all along front. Patrols announce Cocolia clear and probe down E bank of Ronco R. without contact.

V Corps East of Montone R. in area N of Forli, units of 4th Div are resuming advance along road running parallel to river: 12th Lancers on R flank gain some ground in area NW of Branzolino until they are held up by mines and demolitions; on L, 28th Brig takes command of Villafranca-S. Martino sector; rcn elements relieve 12th Brig and push forward to river. South of Route 9, 167th Brig of 56th Div makes slight advance, while troops of 139th Brig, after relieving 128th Brig, reach Bolzanino R. despite some shelling and mortaring and are now preparing to cross.

II Polish Corps Polish R flank advanced as 5th Brig of 5th Kres Div takes M. la Siva and Converselle, about 2½ miles NW of Castrocaro; enemy reported firmly entrenched on Monte Fortino, 5 miles S of Faenza. Front lines of 3d Carp Div receive slight shelling.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Some units of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, improve positions on M. S. Bartolo, while others send patrols NE toward Modigliana where they are now reported on outskirts of town. Some shelling received on front line positions of 1st Br Div.

II Corps During night of 15/16, 91st Div sends out 10 patrols to raid enemy positions on both sides of Route 65. To SW, rcn patrol of 1st Armd Div contacts enemy S of Monterumici.

IV Corps Patrols of 24th Guards Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, remain active on R flank. Enemy arty is increasing with renewal of fires on Porretta and Marano bridges. On L flank in TF 45 sector, Cutigliano and nearby area are shelled by enemy.

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Cont

Army Troops On R flank of 92d Div, MG fire from elements of RCT 370 halts enemy patrol attempting to penetrate forward lines in vicinity of Cascio, about 1 mile NE of Molazzana. Unit of 371st Inf makes local advances in area NW of Levigliani, reaching Croce and Pian di Lago. Pietrasanta is heavily shelled by enemy during night.

Medium bomber operations again cancelled by weather. Throughout day TAF concentrates on targets in NE Italy: 3 A-30s attack Porto Corsini, 6 miles NNE of Ravenna, aiming 2 tons of bombs on docks; direct hits are achieved on hq and buildings S of Faenza by 33 fighters and fighter bombers. Shipping in N Adriatic is objective for 6 Beaufighters and 4 Wellingtons which bomb 4 vessels with unobserved results and sink a vessel and 2 schooners; later at night, 7 Beaufighters strike at transport near Comacchio, N of Ravenna, causing some damage. In NE Italy, P-39s score numerous hits on 30-40 RR cars.

Yugoslavia

Bulgarians reportedly repulse German counterattacks in area E of Ibar R. in Serbia and continue harassing attacks on enemy withdrawing N from Skoplje. Kicevo in SW Serbia falls to Partisans, according to reports, although previous reports stated it was claimed by Partisans on 28 October. On Serbian-Montenegrin border, Partisans claim capture of Dakovica and pursue Germans retreating northward to Pec. In E Bosnia, enemy column at Rogatica and Visegrad-Sarajewo RR line are objectives of Partisan attacks. Germans make some gains in Knin area, Dalmatia, establishing contact with troops encircled in that area and securing control of Knin-Otric communication lines in effort to withdraw troops and equipment northward; during last 5 days of these operations, 950 Germans reported killed, 320 taken prisoner. Germans also make substantial progress in W Bosnia, recapturing Cazin, which reportedly fell to Partisans on 9 November, and Tomislavgrad near Livno farther S.

Despite overcast at target, 4 B-24s escorted by 61 P-38s attack troop concentrations at Novi Pazar, dropping 7 tons with scattered hits in town. Other operations restricted by weather.

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Albania

Battle for Tirana continues as Albanian forces bring in fresh brigades; both Partisan and German losses said to be high. Elbasan reported occupied by National Army of Liberation. Enemy still holds some roads in N. Albania. During morning Partisan 11th Brig enters Durazzo.

Balkan AF attacks concentrations, communications, and road movements in N Albania: 35 RP Beaufighters score numerous hits on barracks and new palace at Tirana, causing much damage; bridges and MT are bombed and strafed with fair results.

16 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Breaking of canal S of Fiume Uniti in area approximately 1 mile E of Route 16 causes severe floods and hampers advance. Intermittent shelling occurs during night.

V Corps In area 8 miles N of Forli, patrols of 4th Div find E side of Montone R. clear of enemy as they make preparations to cross. No change reported in forward positions of 4th or 56th Divs. Good progress is made in 46th Div sector S of Route 9: elements of 139th Brig cross Bolzanino R. 3½ miles W of Forli after repelling counter-attack at dawn and continue advance from bridgehead established there; forward units of 138th Brig are in close contact with enemy's defensive positions along Cosina R., W of Bolzanino R., and in vicinity of Castiglione which is reported strongly held by Germans.

II Polish Corps Patrols are active and contact is established with 8th Ind Div (XIII Corps) in Modigliana area. Regrouping continues. Second Carp Brig prepares for attack on Monte Fortino.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Modigliana, 10 miles SW of Faenza, is occupied by 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, without opposition; troops contact 3d Carp Div in this area which is found heavily mined and booby-trapped. Normal patrolling on remainder

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Cont

II Corps Eighty-fifth, 91st, and 1st Armd Divs continue defense of sector. Slight increase of enemy arty reported along entire front.

IV Corps On R flank activity is confined to patrolling. To SW, small gain is made in 1st Brazilian Div zone as elements of 6th Inf take Hill 670, S of Labante; on L flank of BEF, patrol of 370th Inf, operating near C. d'Ercole, 1 mile E of M. Belvedere, encounters considerable MG and SA fire.

Army Troops Elements of RCT 370, 92d Div, attacking at 0700 to seize high ground on both sides of Serchio R., are halted by strong enemy counterattack. Farther W, units of 371st Inf occupy Croce and Pian di Lago and are consolidating positions in that area. Patrol of 365th Inf, operating 1 mile W of Seravezza, is repulsed by MG fire and minefield.

With generally successful results 210 medium bombers unload 307 tons of bombs on Brenner Pass rail targets, striking RR bridges at Castelnuovo, Sacile, Campolongo, Padova, S. Michele, Piacenza, Enego, Cittadella, Rovereto, and S. Margherita and also bombing S. Ambrogio RR fill; in same raid 39 B-25s drop 74 tons on road bridges at Faenza. Operating against battle targets and communications in Po Valley, 28 A-30s and 806 fighters and fighter bombers attain successful results, destroying ammunition factory and 3 bridges, starting large fire in ammunition dump and ponton store near Bologna, and damaging 3 bridges, guns, buildings, RR installations, and barges. Six Wellingtons and 4 Beaufighters, on rcn in N Adriatic, attack 5 barges and 3 F-boats S of Mestre Point, claiming several hits; these planes also leave 2 barges sinking, damage tug, schooner, launch, and beached coaster and score near misses on 3 barges off Chioggia. In NW Italy, bridge S of Tenda is left unserviceable by 12 P-39s, while 8 more attack AA batteries in S. Remo-Imperia areas. During night of 16/17, 3 Halifaxes, 7 Wellingtons, and 3 B-24s drop 24 tons of bombs on Ficarolo (N of Bologna) ponton bridge, claiming hits on N approaches and near misses on S end.

Continuing Allied bombardment of shore objectives near French-Italian border, French CL Georges Leygues shells bridge and barracks, firing 250 rounds with many direct hits, while French DD L'Alcyon successfully engages enemy shore batteries and troop concentrations.

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1944**UNCLASSIFIED** Section III: **MEDITERRANEAN THEATER**Yugoslavia

N of Skoplje in S Serbia, Crna Gora area is cleared of enemy and units are attacking toward Urosevac, about 35 miles NW of Skoplje, attempting to cut off German withdrawal from Kacanik. Farther N, Yugoslavs and Bulgars reportedly occupy several important positions in Pristina-Mitrovica sector and beat back enemy counterattack at Kraljevo. Partisans take Rijeka and Crnojevica in Montenegro as they drive enemy from Cetinje area toward Podgorica; 12 miles NW of Cetinje, bitter fighting occurs in Ledenice-Risan area; Partisans claim recapture of Risan. Inland from Adriatic coast Partisans continue operations against Mostar-Siroki Brijeg-Posusje (Hercegovina), Knin-Otric (Dalmatia), Knin-Strmica-Grahovo (Dalmatia and Bosnia), and Zagreb-Bjelovar (Croatia) communication lines and report attacks in Karlovac and Metlika areas in Croatia. Germans reinforce Knin garrison in N Dalmatia from Gracac.

Troop concentrations again targets for 15th AF heavy bombers: 25 B-24s drop 36.5 tons of bombs on troop concentrations at Visegrad and nearby roads with very good results but have little success against enemy personnel at Prijepolje with 5 tons. Fifty-three P-38s strafe Novi Pazar roads, damaging road and rail transport, ammunition trucks, and personnel with good effect. Balkan AF attains successful results on objectives along S coast of Yugoslavia and Albania: 49 fighters strafe MT on Prizren-Scutari, and Scutari-Podgorica-Danilov Grad roads and in the Mostar-Nevesinje area; houses at Risan and barracks at Nevesinje hit by 6 RP Hurricanes and fighter bombers, respectively.

Albania

Durazzo is reported occupied by Partisan forces. Partisan 11th Brig moves E toward Shijak.

In N Albania, fighter bombers crater roads and score near misses on road bridge at Alessio (Lesh) and probably damage road bridge near Vorre.

17 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force On R flank between sea and Route 16, troops of PPA reach area about 1 mile N of Fosso Ghiaia. Patrols to

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17 Route 67 in area N of Molinaccio find ground clear. Reports  
Cont indicate Germans have withdrawn from area of Ravenna airfield.

V Corps Little change occurs in forward positions. On R flank, elements of 12th Lancers advance up W bank of Ronco R. to within 5 miles of Ravenna. South of Route 9, heavy arty and mortar fire fall on forward troops of 138th Brig, 46th Div, as they make limited advance; 139th Brig activity confined to patrolling.

II Polish Corps Third Carp Div takes over 5th Kres Div sector on R. Second Carp Brig captures Monte Fortino and high ground 1 mile E but loses former after stubborn battle in afternoon as Germans, supported by arty and SP guns, counterattack and drive troops from height to position 1 mile S. First Carp Brig with 18th Brig (1st Br Armd Div) and 11th Polish Lancers under command is now responsible for Corps L sector.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Enemy shelling increasing throughout front. In 8th Ind Div sector on R flank, small enemy raid on Modigliana is repulsed by arty fire. Indian patrols contact Germans on M. del Tesoro. Meanwhile, 61st Brig, 6th Br Armd Div, encounters German elements in vicinity of S. Margherita, 1 mile SE of Fontanelice.

II Corps On R flank, 339th Inf, 85th Div, engages enemy in fire fight about 1 mile NE of M. Fano, inflicting casualties. During night 17/18, 88th Div begins relief of 85th Div. In 91st Div sector, heavy arty and mortar fire fall on 361st Inf positions from midnight to dawn.

IV Corps Patrols of 6th SA Armd Div maintain contact. Considerable activity takes place in BEF sector: elements of 6th Inf, 1st Brazilian Div, continue small gains, moving forward to occupy Montecavalloro, N of Reno R. in area E of Palazzo and repulsing enemy counterattack near Hill 670; other elements report Castelnuovo to N clear of enemy; to W, units of 370th Inf also make minor gains in area E of Palazzo. Patrol of TF 45 is pinned down by enemy MG and rifle fire in vicinity of Pian di Ostuni, W of Lima R., and outposts in same general area are wiped out.

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Army Troops Resuming attack in mountainous territory W of Serchio R., elements of RCT 370 are counterattacked twice in vicinity of Molazzana and forced to yield hill positions. Patrols of 365th Inf reach Cinquale Canale, 2 miles N of Forte dei Marmi on coast, without contact. Querceta, NE of Forte dei Marmi on Route 1, receives heavy concentration of enemy arty during night.

With excellent results 787 light bombers, fighters, and fighter bombers give strong support to Fifth and Eighth Armies and continue to harass communications in N Italy, hitting ammunition and fuel dumps near Faenza and Venice and destroying or damaging guns, strongpoints, buildings, MT, and RR targets. Medium bombers attack communications in N Italy with main effort along Brenner line; Rovereto, Ala, Folgaria, Peschiera, Padova, and Pinzano RR bridges are well hit with 283 tons of bombs, Avisio viaduct with 36 tons, and Faenza N and S road bridges with 66. In night attacks 26 B-24s, 43 Wellingtons, and 6 Halifaxes drop 211 tons of bombs on Udine main airfield and Vicenza airdrome with good coverage to runways and landing areas. Same night 21 A-20s attack communications in Bologna and Po Valley areas, causing fires and explosions. In N Adriatic, CAF Wellingtons attack 3 vessels off Caorle, 3 more N of Piave Vecchia, as well as 3 barges nearby; results mostly unobserved; an additional Wellington bombs Chioggia M/Y. In NW Italy, bridge between S. Lorenzo and Imperia is objective for P-39s.

Yugoslavia

Kacanik, N of Skoplje in S Serbia, reported clear of Germans. Bulgarians claim their troops advance line E of Ibar R., gaining several strongpoints despite adverse weather and stubborn enemy resistance; also announce capture of many places N of the Cerna Gora. Berlin reports frustration of Yugoslav and Soviet attacks from Danube bridgehead near Batina in N Slavonia.

Despite weather 30 B-24s of 15th AF drop 70 tons of bombs on Maribor M/Y, Slovenia, and 13 Wellingtons successfully unload 34 tons on enemy road movement between Sjenica and Novi Pazar in Serbia. Medium bombers attain good results on RR bridges on the Brod-Zagreb-Maribor line, damaging 2

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and probably another. Bridges are also objectives of TAF fighters and fighter bombers which attack 3 in N Yugoslavia and bomb and cut tracks. Attacking just inland from coast, 13 P-51s score hits on road and buildings S of Podgorica and bridge nearby, while 4 Coastal Spitfires concentrate on MT and troops in vicinity of Mostar. Road and rail transport in Brod-Zagreb area are night objectives for 2 A-30s.

HMS Lauderdale and HMS Eggesford bombard enemy positions on Rab I.; 1 coastal gun and 2 flak guns destroyed and 2 coastal guns and other flak guns badly damaged; OP and wireless station destroyed, number of houses hit.

Albania

At 0800, Tirana is declared liberated as German resistance ends. Fierce fighting is taking place along Tirana-Vorre-Scutari road.

18 ItalyBRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Further flooding reported in sector S of Fiume Uniti E of Route 16. Patrols take some prisoners in S. Bartolomeo area, 4 miles SW of Ravenna.

V Corps Regrouping and reliefs take place; 12th Lancers revert to command of V Corps. Fourth Rcn Regt relieves 28th Brig of 4th Div and assumes command of Villafranca-S. Martino sector. Forty-fourth Rcn Regt of 10th Brig (4th Div) relieves 167th Brig of 56th Div and assumes command of sector. Advance troops of 10th Brig secure Villanova on Route 9 and send patrols forward to Cosina R. In 46th Div zone, 138th Brig (-one bn) takes over R sector, while 139th Brig (with bn of 138th) is in command of L sector.

II Polish Corps Positions E of Monte Fortino still held by elements of 2d Carp Brig, while reports claim enemy again firmly entrenched on Monte Fortino. Third Carp Div, with 2d Brig on R and 1st on L, assumes command of whole Corps sector. Meanwhile forward troops of 1st

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Carp Brig advance to M. Castellaccio (3 miles NE of Modigliana) and gain S slopes after considerable struggle.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps No appreciable change in Corps positions. Considerable enemy arty falls on Modigliana in 8th Ind Div zone. At 2000, 21st Brig, 8th Ind Div, relieves 1st Guards Brig, 6th Br Armd Div, and assumes command of sector. Several hills in area S of Fontanelice reported clear by 6th Br Armd Div patrols. Third Brig troops of 1st Br Div undergo heavy mortaring on M. Grande on L flank.

II Corps In 85th Div sector, patrols of 351st Inf (attached) raid enemy positions approximately 1 mile W of M. Fano, capturing 6 prisoners. Farther W in 91st Div zone, Germans make night counterattack on troops of 361st Inf in area 2½ miles N of Livergnano but are repulsed by strong defense and arty fire; unusually heavy enemy arty falls in this sector during morning; to W, small enemy raid on positions N of Monterumici driven back by defensive fire of 363d Inf.

IV Corps Two patrols of 6th SA Armd Div contact enemy in area W of Monterumici on extreme R flank. Elements of 6th Inf, 1st Brazilian Div, advance to occupy positions S of Castelnuovo but are unsuccessful in attempt to take Hill 702, just S of Labante; enemy patrol, operating in vicinity of Montecavalloro, is forced back by fire. At 1800, 2d Bn of 370th Inf and Rcn Troops are detached from 1st Brazilian Div and attached to TF 45 and boundary change between latter and Brazilian Div goes into effect. At 2000, enemy counterattack with mortar and SA fire from Affrico and nearby area is thrown back. Enemy continues to shell Marano bridge.

Army Troops Following 15 minutes of arty preparation, elements of 371st Inf direct coordinated attack against M. Strettoia but, after gaining lower slopes, are thrown back by heavy mortar, grenade, and MG fire.

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At noon 462 escorted 15th AF B-24s hammer N Italian airfields with very good to excellent results, dropping 220.3 tons of bombs on Udine, 335.5 tons on Vicenza, 223.9 tons on Aviano, and 172.4 tons on Villafranca; hangars, runways, and dispersal areas well hit; 8 B-24s missing. RR bridges throughout Po Valley and in Yugoslavia are objectives for 231 medium bombers of TAF; good results are attained on RR bridges at Casale Monferrato, Castelnovo, Pizzighettone, Romano, and Casarsa. Operating in support of ground troops, 917 light bombers, fighters, and fighter bombers continue to harass enemy bridges, roads, RR lines, rolling stock, gun positions, warehouses, and supply dumps, scoring many hits. In NE Adriatic, Coastal Wellingtons attack E-boat, 4 F-boats, and town of Chioggia with unobserved results. During early morning CAF Beaufighters sink unilluminated German hospital ship Tuebinger in Gulf of Venice; casualties among crew reported light; ship carrying no wounded. On armed rcn in Po Valley, 43 A-20s bomb Ghedi airfield at night with 46 tons of bombs and cause many fires and explosions to other targets, while 12 Beaufighters damage ponton bridge in same general area. Patrol and rcn missions are flown over NW Italy and coast of southern France. Allied coastal units attack human torpedo and F-boats at Porto di Cigale, just W of Lussinpiccolo, with unobserved results. On night of 18/19, coastal units, operating between Genoa and Spezia, also attack 2 enemy convoys off Sestri Levante in face of heavy fire from shore batteries; one enemy ship blown up; superficial damage caused to 2 Allied vessels.

Yugoslavia

German withdrawal from S Serbia continues; little activity reported on Russian front in N Yugoslavia. Andrijevici, German strongpoint E of Brod in Slavonia, is reported captured by Yugoslavs who claim 400 enemy killed and considerable equipment destroyed and damaged. In W Serbia near border of Bosnia, strong enemy column, supported by tanks, breaks through into Bajina Basta from Uzice and recaptures Pozega (E of Uzice). Fighting particularly heavy throughout Visegrad-Sarajevo area and along Drina R. Valley; Plevlja, just inside Montenegro, claimed again taken by Partisans. Reports from Sofia claim capture of Urosevac and state both Russian and Bulgarian units

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are approaching Pristina from Golak and Crna Gora mountains. Along coast, Germans begin new attacks in Danilov Grad sector of Montenegro, while Partisans continue to harass enemy communications along Knin-Grahovo and Knin-Otric lines and claim excellent gains in Posusje-Mostar-Nevesinje and Risan areas. After fierce struggle, Partisans cut German communications between N Dalmatia and Lika by capture of Lovinak and Sv. Rok, enemy strongpoints on Cospic-Gracac line. After many days of fighting, Yugoslav and Albanian units are reported to have captured Pec in Montenegro and Prizren in S Serbia. Bulgarian AF claims hits on RR station at Vucitrn and Mitrovica, approximately 15 and 20 miles NW of Pristina, respectively, and damage RR line and roads near Mitrovica.

Total of 94 heavy bombers attacks targets in Bosnia and Serbia, dropping 321 tons of bombs on troop concentrations at Visegrad, Sarajevo M/Y, and Novi Pazar-Sjenica-Priboj roads with fair to good results. RR bridges at Novska and Zidani Most in N Yugoslavia are objectives of 36 B-25s which attain good results with 72 tons of bombs. TAF flies many sorties in support of Yugoslav ground operations, making effective strikes against communications and military targets. Through-out day 108 fighters and fighter bombers of BAF also attack enemy communications in Yugoslavia and N Albania, bombing and strafing MT, trains, and RR station; results mostly unobserved.

Albania

Pukes, between Scutari and Kukes in N Albania, is reported captured by Albanian units. Mopping up operations continue in Tirana; total German casualties estimated at 1,200 killed or taken prisoner. Later at night Partisan forces are heavily engaged at Alensio (Lesh).

Greek-based fighters and fighter bombers continue to harass enemy withdrawals toward Yugoslavia.

19 ItalyBRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Right flank units, advancing astride and W of Route 16, make some progress, capturing factory and

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19 Cont establishing troops at Zuccherificio, less than 2 miles from Ravenna, and area 2 miles inland. Patrols to SW withdraw after meeting heavy opposition in area of Longana on Route 67. Enemy reported holding Scola Lama canal between Fiume Uniti and Ravenna in strength.

V Corps Twelfth Lancers relieve R flank elements of 4th Rcn Regt in 4th Div sector. North of Route 9 patrols report Montone R. 30 feet wide with banks 5-6 feet deep. Heavy shelling occurs along front lines of 44th Rcn Regt.

II Polish Corps Reports indicate Monte Fortino still in enemy hands. In 3d Carp Div sector, 2d Brig drives off 2 small enemy raids on Converselle during early hours.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps No change in forward positions. Seventeenth Brig, 8th Ind Div, receives slight shelling in Modigliana. Enemy, attempting to infiltrate positions in area 1 mile NE of la Casetta, is driven back by elements of 36th Brig, 78th Br Div. Many reliefs being effected.

II Corps At 2245, 350th Inf, 88th Div, after completing relief of 338th Inf, 85th Div, is attached to 85th Div and assumes command of sector at 2400. In 91st Div sector, enemy counterattack is thrown back by elements of 363d Inf which report increased SA fire. Forward units of 1st Armd Div, patrolling in vicinity of la Fabbrica, are halted by enemy fire; enemy arty reported light in this sector.

IV Corps Enemy arty increasing slightly; harassing arty fire reported along Grizzana-Casigno road. In 1st Brazilian Div sector, enemy counterattack from Hills 822 and 882 in vicinity of Braine, NW of Affrico, is repulsed by elements of 6th Inf. Bridges over Reno R. at Riola and Marano are shelled. In TF 45 sector on L, Pian di Ontani, 2 miles W of Cutigliano, is target for enemy fire.

Army Troops Regrouping takes place in RCT 370 sector on R flank of 92d Div. Contact with enemy maintained by patrolling; enemy arty decreasing.

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Cont

Although hampered by bad weather, force of 81 medium bombers drops 149 tons of bombs on bridges and RR targets in N Italy with generally good results; objectives hit include Faenza road bridges and Ala, S. Michele, and Argenta RR bridges. Communications in Po Valley and Yugoslavia and close-support targets are objectives for 649 fighters and fighter bombers which destroy MT, RR installations, 1 RR and 4 road bridges, and 2 gun positions and damage a hangar, 7 road bridges, and a ponton bridge. At night, 44 A-20s bomb MT, river crossings in Po Valley, Villafranca airfield, and Ostiglia area with 46 tons of bombs; results unobserved. Five Wellingtons and a Beaufighter of CAF attack small shipping in N Adriatic, causing some damage, while 7 RP Beaufighters score 5 torpedo hits on human torpedo and F-boat bases at Porto di Cigale, W of Lussinpiccolo, Lussino I.; shipping at latter place is target for 15 RP planes and 3 fighters. In NW Italy, 8 P-39s strafe Cuneo station and nearby trail. During night of 19/20, light coastal forces again attack 2 convoys off Sestri Levante, sinking 1 coaster probably and 1 coaster and 2 lighters possibly.

Yugoslavia

Pristina, 50 miles N of Skoplje in Serbia, falls to Bulgarian troops, according to reports from Sofia which also claim more than 200 localities secured in nearby areas; operations to complete capture of Kosovo Polje continue. Farther S, Yugoslavs report their forces occupy Urosevac (claimed captured by Bulgarians yesterday). In E Bosnia, Partisans are heavily engaged along Sokolac-Rogatica route where enemy is attempting to break through, while farther N, Germans have reportedly penetrated into town of Drinjaca from Zvornik. In W Bosnia, reports indicate Livno and Tomislavgrad are in Partisan hands. Sec-saw fighting continues in Podgorica area where Germans are isolated in narrow sector around Lake Scutari and Podgorica. An announcement from Rome states that British troops of Land Forces of the Adriatic are cooperating with Yugoslav Army of National Liberation and are engaging enemy in Montenegro and Hercegovina. Yugoslavs report excellent gains inland from Adriatic coast: in Hercegovina, they claim capture of Posusje and are now driving enemy toward Mostar; along Croatian-Bosnian border, three enemy strongholds on Dvor-Kostajnica RR are now

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in Partisan hands, while in Slovenia, Partisan forces enter town of Kocevje, 30 miles NE of Fiume, and are now engaged in street fighting. Enemy communications, particularly in Slovenia, further harassed. During night of 19/20, German saboteurs reported to have landed on Silba I., SE of Lussino I. in N Adriatic.

Strategic AF concentrates on targets in Yugoslavia: main freight and passenger depots at Maribor M/Y are struck by 23 B-24s which unload 40 tons of bombs with damage to sidings and rolling stock; 6 Wellingtons, 24 B-24s, and 2 Halifaxes drop 188 tons on Visegrad bridge, claiming one direct hit; troop concentrations and MT on Sjenica-Novi Pazar-Priboj road are again effectively hit as 29 Wellingtons attack with 76 tons; 27 P-38s, attacking troop concentrations at Prijepolje and Novi Pazar, strike center of each town; at night 31 B-24s, 24 Wellingtons, and 4 Halifaxes drop 253 tons on bridge and troop concentrations at Podgorica with very good results. Communications again targets for fighters and fighter bombers of TAF, while 108 fighters and fighter bombers (BAF), attacking throughout S Yugoslavia and N Albania, damage 4 bridges and numerous MT near Pristina and hit Zegar, Ostrozse, and Nevesinje. Eight Coastal Spitfires score strikes on small vessel along coast; 6 A-30s of BAF attack Konjic RR station, causing some damage. Later at night 5 A-20s bomb road traffic in Zagreb-Brod area.

Aegean

Small force of British commandos makes landing on Milos I., inflicting some casualties and taking some prisoners before withdrawing at night; during landing enemy battery is engaged by British ships.

Greek-based planes concentrate on MT throughout Crete as well as Heraklion airfield.

20 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force A sq of tanks with armd cars advances to road junction 2 miles S of Ravenna and engages enemy on Fiumi Uniti. Patrols continue to attack and harass enemy throughout day.

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Cont

V Corps On R flank, 10th Ind Brig of 10th Ind Div relieves 12th Lancers (less 1 sq) and, under enemy fire from far side, gains E bank of Montone R. from Bettini, 7 miles N of Forli, S to area  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile W of Villafranca. During morning 4th Div makes slight progress just N of Route 9 as 10th Brig gains position  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles NW of Forli; later at night 10th Brig, with 10th Ind Brig on R and elements of 139th Brig (46th Div) on L, launches coordinated attack across Montone and Cosina Rivers in face of bitter opposition. On Corps L flank, 139th Brig of 46th Div attacks Castiglione, 5 miles W of Forli, and captures town by nightfall.

II Polish Corps Polish troops prepare for attack to regain Monte Fortino. Reliefs are taking place in L sector of Corps.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Elements of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, are now more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N of Modigliana. Patrols in 6th Br Armd Div sector continue active. Seventy-eighth Div reports considerable mortar fire. In 1st Br Div sector, 2d Brig assumes command of 66th Brig sector; enemy shelling increasing particularly in area just S of M. Cerere.

II Corps Light enemy arty falls on 85th Div front. Elements of 361st Inf, 91st Div, repulse small enemy counterattack just W of Route 65 in area  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles N of Loiano. First Armd Div troops are confined to patrolling.

IV Corps On extreme R flank in area N of Setta R., patrols of 24th Guards Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, repulse small enemy raid in area N of Murazze. German counter-attack in vicinity of Montecavalloro is repulsed by elements of 6th Inf, 1st Brazilian Div, using SA, arty, mortar, and MG fire. Enemy arty continues to fall in Riola and Marano bridge areas. On R of TF 45 sector, light mortar fire falls in Gaggio Montano, while on L flank, troops report fire fight in vicinity of Casaleone, W of Cutigliano.

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Army Troops Heavy enemy arty concentration falls in 365th Inf sector of 92d Div in area 2 miles NW of Pietrasanta; patrols remain active in area NW of Seravezza.

Adverse weather restricts medium bomber operations. Total of 375 fighters and fighter bombers attacks close-support targets near Faenza and achieves good results on road and RR traffic in N Italy and Yugoslavia; hits obtained on bridges in vicinity of Faenza and on fuel and supply dumps, buildings, MT, and strongpoints. With unobserved results, 1 Wellington bombs Chioggia, while another attacks 3 E-boats near Piave Vecchia; 2 Beaufighters score hits on barge off Mestre Point; later at night 4 more strafe MT SW of Lake Comacchio. Small shipping on Lake Marano, NE of Venice, is objective for 4 Spitfires and 2 Beaufighters.

Yugoslavia

Partisans announce Pristina falls to Yugoslav and Bulgarian forces; (Bulgars announced capture of this town yesterday). Drive for Mitrovica continues as both Bulgarian and Yugoslav forces advance along Ibar R. In central Serbia, Partisans continue attacks along Prijepolje-Priboj road, in W sector near Cacak, and to N in Ljubovija area along Drina R. where enemy is attempting to break through to Vlasonica and Sokolac. Along coast in Montenegro, enemy attacks from Danilov Grad toward Niksic are repulsed by Partisan units, supported by British arty; elsewhere in Montenegro Partisans capture Kokoti in drive toward Podgorica, secure Ledenice, stronghold N of Risan, and are now pursuing Germans toward Mostar in Hercegovina. Near N Adriatic coast, fighting occurs on Knin-Otrac road, in the Lika area, and at Ogulin (Croatia); Vrbosko, just NW of Ogulin, claimed by Partisans. Enemy column sent from Ljubljana to relieve Kocevje in Slovenia repulsed by Partisans at Ribnica.

In support of ground troops, heavy bombers concentrate on RR targets in Bosnia: 39 B-24s drop 111 tons on RR bridges at Zenica, Doboj, and Fojnica, claiming 2 hits at latter, other results poor; 53 additional heavies unload total of 136 tons on Sarajevo W M/Y with good concentration and on Doboj RR bridge, cutting line and scoring one or two direct hits. Visegrad ponton bridge is objective of 25 B-24s and 24 Halifaxes

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which achieve good results on W end of jetty; further success is attained by 24 Wellingtons and 4 B-24s with 114 tons on roads and MT in Rogatica-Novı Pazar (Serbia) areas. South M/Y at Brod, Slavonia, is hit by 11 P-38s which drop 16 tons, hitting center and S choke point. Fighters and fighter bombers of TAF continue strikes against road and rail traffic, cratering approaches to 2 bridges and causing considerable damage to rolling stock; repeated attacks are also made on MT by fighters and fighter bombers of BAF with considerable damage near Novi Pazar. Spitfires bomb Nevesinje, scoring hits in town and also provide cover for heavy bomber attack on Visegrad. Beaufighters destroy bridge N of Podgorica, rolling stock at Novska, and fuel store and RR cars nearby. With unobserved results, A-30s and B-26s bomb roundhouse at Konjic. Road traffic along Brod-Zagreb road is night target for 9 A-30s.

21 Italy

## BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Light enemy shelling occurs during night. Units of FFA again engage German outpost near Fiume Uniti, taking prisoners in area E of Route 16; other units of Force establish troops at Madna dell'Albero to W.

V Corps All 3 divs of Corps are attacking to gain far side of Montone and Cosina Rivers. In 10th Ind Div sector, heavy MG fire halts forward troops of 10th Ind Brig as they attempt to cross Montone R. in area W of Villafranca. On L of 10th Ind Div, elements of 10th Brig of 4th Div, after securing bridgehead over Cosina R. in area  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N of Route 9, are counterattacked and forced to withdraw; enemy reported firmly entrenched on W bank. Advancing slowly toward Cosina R. line despite strong opposition and exceptionally heavy shelling, troops of 139th Brig, 46th Div, gain river line about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles SW of Villanova S of Route 9.

II Polish Corps At 0400, 2d Carp Brig, 3d Carp Div, launches attack for Monte Fortino and surrounding hi

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ground, gaining former objective after fierce fight in early morning and taking S. Mamante and Piano, both about 3 miles NE, also after determined struggle; in subsequent mopping-up operations, Brig captures 100 prisoners, 15 88-mm guns, and 5 heavy mortars.

## U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps In area N of Modigliana, elements of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, make advance of 1 mile after beating off counterattack. Bn reliefs are effected in 6th Br Armd Div zone. German arty remains active along front lines of 78th and 1st Br Divs.

II Corps At 2000, 349th Inf, 88th Div, completes relief of 339th Inf, 85th Div, while 2 hours later, 133d Inf, 34th Div, completes relief of 361st Inf, 91st Div. Small scale enemy raid in area NE of M. Belmonte is repulsed. On L flank, 1st Armd patrols contact enemy near Monterumici hill mass.

IV Corps South African troops again repulse enemy raid in vicinity of Murazze; exchange of arty fire occurs throughout this area and to W. Light arty falls in vicinity of M. Stanco, 2 miles W of Grizzana. During early hours elements of 6th Inf, 1st Brazilian Div, again drive back enemy counterattack near Montecavalloro. To SW, patrols of TF 45, operating S of M. Belvedere, 2 miles W of Gaggio Montano, report no contact. Enemy shelling on Porretta during day results in some casualties to Brazilian troops. Bridges at Riola and Marano are again targets for enemy fire.

Army Troops Patrols active and exchange of arty reported all along front.

Tactical AF concentrates main effort in support of Fifth and Eighth Armies: close-support targets in Fifth Army sector are hit by 458 fighters and fighter bombers and 109 B-25s which drop 79 tons of bombs on German positions S of Bologna; with good to excellent results, 541 fighters, fighter bombers, and light DAF bombers support Eighth Army troops, scoring hits

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21 on gun positions, strongpoints, troop concentrations, supply  
Cont targets, and RR objectives in Faenza area. Three CAF  
Wellingtons bomb shipping in N Adriatic with 3 tons of bombs,  
while fighter bombers score near misses on bridges in NW  
Italy. Villafranca and Ghedi airfields and MT throughout Po  
Valley are night targets for 41 A-20s which drop 38 tons with  
unobserved results.

Yugoslavia

Partisans make good progress in W Serbia; Yugoslavs and  
Bulgars report fall of Mitrovica, Vucitrn, and Kosovska, last  
enemy strongholds in Kosovo Polje sector; in area NW of  
Skoplje in triangle between Pristina-Pec-Prizren, German  
strongholds of Stimlja, Orahovac, and Istok are secured; in  
Pristina-Mitrovica area several important positions are  
occupied; farther N, fighting continues in Prijepolje-Plevlja  
sector, where 423 Germans are reported killed or captured.  
Twentieth Div particularly distinguishes itself in action on  
Rogatica-Sokolac road in E Bosnia and claims 310 enemy killed  
and considerable damage to communications. German resistance  
is heavy around Kocovje in Slovenia. Fighting begins in  
Slavonia for Nasice, important RR juncton. Heavy enemy  
movement continues throughout Sjenica-Visegrad-Rogatica area.

Despite weather, 25 of force of 146 B-24s attack troop  
concentrations in Novi Pazar area, dropping 51 tons with fair  
results; troops, roads, and bridges in vicinity of Sarajevo-  
Novi Pazar-Prijepolje successfully bombed and strafed by 155  
P-38s, which drop 105 tons, and 87 P-51s. Weather hampers  
BAF operations, although some RP planes are able to attack  
buildings at Risan, scoring hits.

Albania

During morning Partisan forces enter Lesh and San Giovanni  
di Medua (reported evacuated by Germans on 28 October) on  
Adriatic coast S of Scutari.

Aegean

Eight RAF A-30s bomb coastal defense guns on Milos I.,  
scoring near misses.

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22 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Sector remains quiet with light arty reported on both sides.

V Corps General progress continues, troops meeting stiff opposition and heavy shell fire. Bn of 43d Ind Brig under command of 10th Ind Div relieves 12th Lancers on R flank of Corps. In 10th Ind Div sector 7 miles N of Forli, 10th Ind Brig attacks and gains 2 enemy positions E. of Montone R. after fierce battle and establishes own troops on E bank of river in that area. Farther S, 28th Brig, 4th Div, comes into line in area 1½ miles SW of Villanova to take over R sector and give added support to attack across Cosina R. South of Route 9, 139th Brig, 46th Div, moves up to Cosina R. and occupies river loop N of S. Mamante. Later at night, 4th and 46th Divs launch coordinated attack in effort to gain far side of river; heavy resistance encountered especially on R and center.

II Polish Corps Continued progress made in 3d Carp Div sector in area 6 miles W of Forli; 2d Carp Brig elements occupy Oriolo and S. Biagio and are now preparing to seize M. Ricci, 1 mile S of S. Lucia.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Elements of 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, make slight advance in hills NW of Modigliana and gain some ground in vicinity of S. Caterina, approximately 2 miles W of Modigliana. First Br Div reports considerable shelling and mortaring with no change in forward positions.

II Corps At 0001, 88th Div assumes command of 85th Div sector and 85th Div is now en route to rest area. Some action is reported in 88th Div zone: while ambush patrol of 350th Inf engages enemy in fire fight NW of M. Pano, combat patrol of 351st Inf is held up by enemy rifle field E of M. Belmonte. At 0600, 34th Div relieves R and center

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sectors of 91st Div and assumes command of former 133d and 135th Inf sectors; 363d Inf, on L, is still under command.

IV Corps Reliefs reported in 6th SA Armd Div and BEF sectors. On completion of reliefs, 1st Inf of 1st Brazilian Div assumes command of 6th Inf zone at 1200. Late at night, enemy, attacking from Hill 822, makes several unsuccessful attempts to penetrate positions of 1st Brazilian Div in area N of Affrico between Palazzo and Braine. Patrols of TF 45 engage enemy in fire fight about 1 mile S of M. Belvedere, killing 9.

Army Troops Patrol of 371st Inf, probing E slopes of M. Strettoia for possible approach, contacts Germans, killing 5. Enemy MG and SA fire forces patrol of 365th Inf, 92d Div, operating in vicinity of Ripa, 1 mile E of Route 1, to withdraw. Contact with enemy continued by patrolling.

Communications in N Italy are hit by bombers and fighter bombers of MASAF: 89 B-24s aim 173 tons of bombs on RR bridges at Ferrara and Corbola (NE of Ferrara) with good results on former and poor on latter; Osoppo MT depot, 11 miles S of Talmezzo in NE Italy, is objective of 41 P-38s which drop 9.75 tons with very good results. Entire effort of 159 B-25s is directed against defensive positions SE of Faenza; good to excellent results attained with total of 198 tons of bombs. Communications, dumps, and storage depots throughout Po Valley and battle targets in Bologna and Faenza areas are objectives for 974 fighters and fighter bombers and 19 light bombers which destroy at least one bridge, damage 6, cut rails in 87 places, start fires in two storage depots and two fuel dumps, and score hits on pipe line across Po R. With unobserved results 10 Beaufighters attack human torpedo and F-boat bases at Porto Cigale, while 4 Spitfires make effective strikes on MT at Cervignano and S. Donna Piave in NE Italy. Small shipping at Sestri Levante and transport in Milan-Piacenza area are day and night targets for Venturas and Beaufighters. North Italian airfields are again night objectives for fighter bombers as 38 A-20s hit Villafranca, Ghedi, and Bergamo fields, causing explosions and starting fires.

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Yugoslavia

Bulgarian troops in Serbia resume advance along Ibar valley and are continuing mopping up operations in area N of Mitrovica, according to reports from Sofia. Bitter fighting is taking place just E of Kraljevo. Berlin reports all Soviet attempts to enlarge bridgehead from Batina and Apatin are frustrated.

On armed run in N sector, TAF fighter bombers hit M/Y and attain good results against road and RR transport. Fourteen Beaufighters attack rolling stock and station at Kutina, on Zagreb-Brod line, and trains at Zivaja, while farther S road bridge at Podgorica is bombed by 6 A-30s and 4 B-26s with ineffective results. In support of ground operations, other Balkan planes (4 Hurricanes and 8 Spitfires) strike center of Danilov Grad, causing explosions and starting large fire. Eleven RP planes and 19 fighters, attacking roads in S Yugoslavia and N Albania, make effective strikes on MT, RR station, and tracks.

23 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Only light enemy elements (1114th Grenadier Div) believed remaining in area S of Fiume Uniti. Activity limited to patrolling.

V Corps Forty-third Ind Brig assumes command of R sector of 10th Ind Div. South of Route 9, 4th and 46th Divs continue attack and resume drive for Faenza as enemy withdraws from defended positions along W bank of Cosina R.; both divs now have troops across on broad 2 mile front extending from area about 1 mile W of Villanova SW to vicinity of S. Mamante and are reported holding bridgeheads and positions despite prompt counterattacks; fierce inf and tank battle in progress N of river.

II Polish Corps At 0500, Polish 1st Inf Brig troops begin attack on M. Ricci against especially stiff resistance,

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capturing height 4 hours later and taking about 50 prisoners; forward elements advance to town 1 mile E; enemy counterattacks throughout this sector are now being repulsed.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Modigliana heavily shelled by enemy; 8 miles farther W, elements of 8th Ind Div beat back enemy patrol in vicinity of M. Ceco, SW of Valdifusa. Two bridges are reported blown over Lamone R. in area N of S. Cassiano. In 6th Br Armd Div sector, 1st Guards Brig completes relief of 36th Brig of 78th Div and assumes command of sector. Throughout day intermittent arty and mortar fire falls on front line positions of 78th Br Div.

II Corps On R flank, 88th Div patrols maintain contact with enemy. Unit of 135th Inf, 34th Div, is being relieved by 168th Inf. On L flank, patrol of 1st Armd Div engages enemy in fire fight just SW of Monterumici.

IV Corps Enemy opposition increasing along entire front. Moderately heavy arty fire falls in vicinity of Grizzana and road to N. In 1st Brazilian Div zone, Task Force Nelson, composed of reinforced elements of 6th Inf, takes command of sector just W of Reno R. and by MG and mortar fire drives back counterattack in vicinity of Montecavalloro. Two miles W, enemy attack is repulsed by troops of 1st Inf just after midnight and again at 2100. Small enemy clash is reported in TF 45 sector W of Cutigliano.

Army Troops West of Serchio R. in RCT 370 sector of 92d Div, approximately 250 enemy Italians, counterattacking toward Vergemoli, are driven off by arty and AA guns.

Adverse weather seriously interferes with all operations. Army targets in Faenza area are again principal objectives of fighters and fighter bombers which fly 22 sorties, scoring hits on guns, buildings, roads, and bridges. Incidents effected N of Modena and explosion caused in dump near Po estuary. At night 4 Wellingtons and 2 Beaufighters of RAF, attacking in Gulf of Venice, bomb Grado, proposed to destroy an E-beat E of

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23 Venice, bomb 3 small vessels NE of Tagliamento Point, and  
Cont hit barges on Lake Marano. In NW Italy, Venturas bomb 2  
barges and 8 F-boats off Spezia with unobserved results.

Yugoslavia

Reports indicate Partisans effect several landings in Gulf of Kotor area securing Risat, Perast, Tivat, and Prcanj and are now driving enemy toward Kotor and Budva. Germans, continuing attacks up Zeta R. in Danilov Grad sector of Montenegro, are repulsed on L bank but capture Rziste on R. despite heavy losses. Heavy fighting continues in Hercegovina as Partisans tighten circle around Mostar. According to Yugoslav reports, enemy is withdrawing toward Novi Pazar and Sjenica in W Serbia with Partisans in pursuit; to N, Partisans cut German retreat route to Uzice by capturing two towns W of Pozega; fierce battle is taking place in Kraljevo sector. Elsewhere in Serbia, Partisans report towns Gostivar and Tetovo in upper Vardar Valley occupied. Hostile column, attempting to fight its way into Plevlje (Montenegro) from Prijepolje, is thrown back with considerable loss.

In direct support of ground troops, 81 heavy and 52 fighter bombers of 15th AF attack RR bridges and other targets on Brod-Sarajevo RR line: 67 B-24s successfully aim 169 tons on Zenica and Doboje RR bridges, while 7 planes unload 18 tons on highway bridge at Brod with poor results because of weather and 7 additional B-24s drop 21 tons on bridge near Zenica with one direct hit and several near misses; 30 P-38s, finding Doboje bridge already destroyed, successfully strike Doboje M/Y as alternative with 29.5 tons of bombs; 22 more P-38s drop 30 tons on Doboje road and rail bridge, Maglaj (about midway between Brod and Doboje) RR bridge, and small factory to S. North half of Rogatica and Uzice (about 30 and 70 miles E of Sarajevo, respectively) are hit by 38 Wellingtons, 31 B-24s, and 4 Halifaxes which unload 217 tons, causing casualties to troops stationed there. Four Beaufighters and Mosquitoes attack night targets in Yugoslavia, including MT column S of Gora Gora and large convoy of MT W of Kraljevo with unobserved results. Balkan AF continues to harass retreating Germans: 50 Beaufighters, Spitbombers, and Hurricanes attacking positions near Danilov Grad, effectively score 8 direct hits on bridge and numerous hits on roads; buildings damaged and explosions caused. In Hercegovina, Konjic M/Y is well

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hit by A-30s, while farther S B-26s bomb road bridge at Podgorica with near misses.

Aegean

Despite cloud formation, 8 RAF A-30s bomb harbor at Cos I., NW of Rhodes, with bursts on quay and nearby slips; AA guns silenced.

24 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force During night MG and mortar fire fall on positions of 27th Lancers.

V Corps In N, enemy is withdrawing to Lamone R., leaving rearguards to cover retreat. Excellent progress made along entire front. On R flank in 10th Ind Div sector, 43d Brig, against considerable opposition, crosses the Scola Lama canal and establishes positions on 3-mile front in S. Pancrazio area; night patrols meet heavy MG fire. Fourth Div makes good progress N of Route 9, 10th Brig (which passed through 28th Brig) gaining 4 miles along W bank of Montone R. and taking Corleto, 1½ miles N of Cosina. Drive for Faenza continues in 46th Div sector: after passing through 139th Brig, 128th Brig advances 4 miles to Lamone R. along E side of Faenza; 2d Armd Brig, coming in on L of 128th Brig, moves forward to cross Marzeno R. 2 miles S of Faenza.

II Polish Corps Polish troops continue to advance on wide front against disorganized resistance: 2d Carp Brig occupies S. Lucia approximately 3 miles SE of Faenza, without opposition and sends patrols to probe Marzeno R. defenses 1 mile W of town; to SW, 1st Brig secures M. Chiesuola, M. Lodolone, and Pietramora, all in area of M. Castellaccio; meanwhile 18th Brig makes some gain in area 3 miles NE of Modigliana.

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Cont U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Patrols remain active. Enemy arty is light in 17th Brig, 8th Ind Div, sector, heavy along 78th Br Div front, and decreasing on 1st Br Div positions on L flank.

II Corps Patrols of 88th Div engage in skirmish in M. Fano area. Troops of 168th Inf, 34th Div, assume command of 135th Inf sector at 2145; light enemy arty falls along Div front. On Corps L flank, 1st Armd Div assumes command of 91st Div sector at 0600, as relief of 363d Inf by CCA is completed. During night of 24/25, strong arty is laid on positions of 1st Armd Div.

IV Corps Corps remains quiet except in center section where attack for M. Belvedere ridge is in progress. On R flank of 1st Brazilian Div, elements of 1st Inf drive back enemy attempting to infiltrate positions near Affrico. At 0600, troops of 2d Armd Group (composed of 3d Bn, 6th Inf, on R, 2d Bn, 370th Inf in center, and 435th AAA Bn, operating as inf, on L) launch attack against M. Belvedere and Belvedere ridge. Due to heavy enemy arty and mortar fire, 6th Inf troops make only local advances on R flank and, although elements again enter Abetaia and move N, they are forced to withdraw to original positions during early evening because of stiff resistance; 2d Bn, 370th Inf, makes successful advance toward objective, gaining E foothills SW of Abetaia. Murano and Riola are again harassed by enemy arty fire.

Army Troops Enemy resistance reported decreasing along entire front. Patrol of 371st Inf, probing NW of Scravezza, draws considerable SA fire and is forced to withdraw.

Fifteenth AF operations cancelled because of weather. In support of ground troops, 48 B-25s and 30 A-30s drop total of 79 tons of bombs, on defended areas near Faenza. Roads, bridges, and enemy strongpoints in same general area are targets for 158 fighters and fighter bombers. In N Adriatic, Wellingtons again bomb Grado and hit an F-boat with unobserved result, while Beaufighters attack shipping, leaving 2 barges and another vessel burning. Porto Corsini and Porto Maribaldi

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harbors are night objectives for 4 A-20s which also attack scattered MG in N Italy with unobserved results.

Yugoslavia

Along S Dalmatian coast, Partisans claim occupation of Kotor, thereby liberating entire Gulf of Kotor area, secure Budva, and are continuing advance on coast; German positions around Scutari, Danilov Grad, and Podgorica reported critical. Bitter street fighting is taking place in Ruziste in Danilov Grad sector of Montenegro, while Zagreda nearby is claimed reoccupied by Partisans. Successful operations are reported against Bihac-Kostajnica, Zagreb-Sisak, Zagreb-Karlovac, Ljubljana-Vidani Most, and Celje-Dravograd RR lines as well as Sarajevo-Brod, Doboj-Zenica, and Busocava-Sarajevo lines. In Serbia, Partisans threaten Kraljevo, taking Sumarice and dominating heights nearby; see-saw fighting continues at Pozega to W. Elsewhere in Yugoslavia, Partisans announce good progress toward Mostar in Hercegovina and capture of German stronghold near Bijeljina in NE Bosnia.

Extremely bad weather restricts operations. Attacking objectives over Yugoslavia, Mosquitoes destroy a Ju-52 while in area N of Podgorica; P-39s continue to harass road transport.

Aegean

At night Greek-based Beaufighters strike at targets on Crete.

25 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Patrolling continues throughout sector.

V Corps While forward troops of 10th Brig, 10th Ind Div, cross Montone R. 6 miles N of Forli, 20th Brig gains far side of river farther S and advances NE along bank to positions 5 miles N of Forli against light opposition, enemy pockets of resistance and numerous demolitions reported E of river. Fourth Div continues advance N of

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Route 9, 10th Brig securing S. Barnaba, 2½ miles E of Faenza, and S. Giovanni just to S and gaining all ground along E bank of Lamone R. between both places. In 46th Div sector, 139th Brig takes over R flank astride Route 9; 128th Brig and 2d Armd Brig attack during early hours to enlarge bridgehead over Marenzo R. in area 2 miles S of Faenza and report good progress despite considerable opposition.

II Polish Corps On R flank, patrols of 2d Carp Brig of 3d Carp Div cross Marenzo R. and reach Carla ridge between Marenzo and Lamone Rivers 2 miles W of Marenzo village after drawing fire from enemy positions. On L flank, 18th Brig occupies M. Castellaccio and mountain nearby without contacting enemy.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Reports indicate sharp increase in enemy arty and mortar fire in center and on L of Corps sector; intense mortar concentration on forward positions of 1st Guards Brig, 6th Br Armd Div.

II Corps In 88th Div sector, enemy arty is heavy during early hours but decreases toward morning; elements of 351st Inf force enemy patrol to withdraw in area E of M. Belmonte. In 34th Div sector, preceded by heavy shelling, Germans launch surprise attack on position of platoon of 168th Inf established on ridge leading N from M. Belmonte, completely destroying it. Enemy counter-attack in 14th Armd Inf Bn sector of 1st Armd Div is driven back by arty fire and 3 prisoners are captured; meanwhile heavy enemy arty is received along Div front, beginning at 2215.

IV Corps On extreme R flank of 6th SA Armd Div sector, forward elements of 24th Guards Brig drive back 2 enemy patrols and engage another in fire fight; harass enemy arty falls throughout Div zone. Light enemy arty fire received by elements of 1st Brazilian Div which also repulse hostile patrol attempting to infiltrate positions in vicinity of Braine. Continuing operations against M. Belvedere on R flank of 6th SA Armd Div, 1st Bn, 370th Inf, resume attack at 0900 and are able to occupy la Ca

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and Vitelline, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi. S and SW of Abetaia, respectively, without opposition; bitter resistance later in day forces Brazilians to abandon positions and withdraw S; before dawn, elements of 435th AAA Bn of TF 45, resuming attack on L, occupy M. Belvedere and drive back enemy counterattack by defensive fire.

Army Troops Patrols, operating ahead of front lines in nearly all sectors, receive SA fire. On L flank of 92d Div, 365th Inf again sends patrols to mouth of Cinquale Canale.

Because of weather, TAF operations cut to minimum and only 53 fighter bombers operate against communications in Po Valley, destroying MT and cutting rails. CAF Wellington again attacks in N Adriatic, bombing small shipping near Venice.

Yugoslavia

Partisans report heavy fighting along Sarajevo-Visegrad road in E Bosnia, where 800 enemy are believed killed, and repulse enemy counterattack on Drina R. near Rogatica. In Serbia, Yugoslav troops claim to have broken German defenses in Stolovi mountains about 10 miles S of Kraljevo and to have gained W side of Ibar R. between Kraljevo and Raska. Bulgarians, also, claim excellent gains in Ibar R. sector, capturing nearly 50 villages, despite adverse weather. In Montenegro, see-saw fighting continues around Danilov Grad with villages of Rziste and Frutak changing hands several times; Germans are attacking from Podgorica NE along road toward Bioco. Partisans claim further successes against RR lines in Croatia and Slovenia. Heavy fighting continues for Nasice in Slavonia.

Attacking along S Montenegro, 59 fighters and fighter bombers score near misses on bridges at Podgorica and Spuz (NW of Podgorica) and attack river bridge at Danilov Grad with unobserved results; hits are also attained on roads near Spuz and center of town of Podgorica.

Aegean

During night, 2 Greek-based Beaufighters operate in Maleme area, Crete, with unknown results.

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26 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Heavy rains severely hamper operations. Local reliefs are taking place and activity is limited to patrolling.

V Corps Corps troops make effective gains against scattered opposition NE and SW of Faenza. Germans remain firm in Albereto area midway between Montone and Lamone Rivers 6 miles NE of Faenza. Tenth Brig of 10th Ind Div clears enemy pockets of resistance from area E of Montone R. and is now preparing to attack enemy positions at Albereto from S. Approximately 2 miles SW, 4th Div rcn units occupy Scaldino and continue N; patrols of 10th Brig report no enemy on E side of Lamone R. between Faenza and vicinity of la Torretta, 1 mile NE of Scaldino. Forty-sixth Div continues advance in area SW of Faenza: 128th Brig thrusts rapidly W from bridgehead over Marenzo R., 2 miles S of Faenza, toward Lamone R., patrols reaching river near S. Ruffillo, 5 miles SW of Faenza.

II Polish Corps Third Carp Div reports some progress: enemy is withdrawing from M. Carla ridge beyond Marenzo R. in 2d Carp Brig sector; 2 cos of 1st Brig reported across river; 18th Brig occupies Pt. 335,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile S of Brisighella (7 miles SW of Faenza) without contact and establishes outpost across Lamone R. in vicinity of Brisighella.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Appreciable advance made as enemy strength decreases in front of 8th Ind Div: while elements of 17th Brig, pushing N from vicinity of Modigliana, find M. Pruneta clear, farther W, other units secure M. del Tesoro and M. Casalino; 19th Brig advances line by establishing elements on M. Colombo, about  $\frac{2}{3}$  miles NW of S. Cassiano. Thirty-sixth Brig, 78th Br Div, repulses small enemy force in area E of M. Spadugo. In 1st Br Div zone, 66th Brig assumes command of 3rd Brig sector.

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Cont

II Corps Eighty-eighth Div remains quiet. In 34th Div sector, 168th Inf begins reinforcements of M. Belmonte in compliance of orders to hold hill at any cost. Patrolling continues on remainder of front.

IV Corps In BEF sector, enemy arty again active along Reno R. against Riola and Silla bridges as well as Porretta. Bitter fighting to hold M. Belvedere ridge and surrounding territory is in progress: on R flank in Brazilian zone, enemy launches late afternoon counterattack, supported by heavy arty barrage, at Vitelline, forcing Brazilians to withdraw; to W, forward elements of 435th AAA Bn of TF 45, established on M. Belvedere and Corona, just to W, are reported under heavy enemy mortar fire. At 1800, new boundary between BEF and TF 45 goes into effect and 3d Bn, 6th Inf, and 1st Bn, 1st Inf, revert to 1st Brazilian Div.

Army Troops Patrols continue contact with enemy and adjacent units. Arty fire reported light in 371st and 365th Inf sectors.

Despite weather, 323 fighters and fighter bombers attack RR targets in central Po Valley and guns and defended positions on central battle front with considerable success, effecting 28 rail cuts, mostly in Modena area, and damaging approaches to a RR bridge. In NE Italy 6 fighters probably sink barge on Lake Marano.

At Pietra Ligure on Gulf of Genoa, French cruiser Jeanne d'Arc fires 84 rounds at 6 supply barges, scoring many hits.

Yugoslavia

Partisans announce capture of several important positions in Kraljevo-Cacak-Pozega sector in Serbia and state heavy fighting continues for Raska and Novi Pazar to S and along Sarajevo-Visegrad RR line. By early morning Bulgarian troops are on outskirts of Raska and Novi Pazar according to reports from Sofia. Partisan V Corps units enter Busovaca, 28 miles NW of Sarajevo, destroying station and other strongpoints in town but withdraw before German reinforcements arrive. Montenegro, Rzisite is again secured by Partisan troops.

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Farther N in Knin sector of Dalmatia, fighting is renewed with Germans reportedly suffering considerable losses. In Croatia, Partisans continue successful offensive against communications on Duga Selo-Novska, Zagreb-Karlovac, and Varazdin-Ludbreg lines and attack in Gracak-Gospic area.

Adverse weather prevents all offensive air operations.

27 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Heavy rains continue. Porter Force relieves elements of 43d Ind Brig of 10th Ind Div in area 5½ miles SW of Ravenna; boundary with V Corps is now being adjusted.

V Corps In 10th Ind Div sector, fighting continues between Montone and Lamone Rivers where enemy is firmly entrenched; 10th Brig seizes enemy position 1 mile E of Albereto during morning but is forced to withdraw later in day after bitter fighting; 20th Brig engages enemy in battle for Albereto but makes no progress. Second New Zealand (NZ) Div, with 5th NZ Brig on R and 6th NZ Brig on L, assumes command of 4th Div sector N of Route 9; 5th NZ Brig makes unsuccessful attack on German strongpoint S of Lamone R., 3 miles NE of Faenza. Troops of 139th Brig of 46th Div cross Marenzo R. and establish positions on Lamone R. 1½ miles SW of Faenza; enemy fires on forward units of 128th Brig patrolling along Lamone R.

II Polish Corps All enemy resistance E of Lamone R. S of Faenza is virtually at an end. Patrols of 2d Carp Brig, 3d Carp Div, receive heavy MG, mortar, and arty fire from enemy strongpoints on W bank of Lamone R. Troops of 18th Brig outpost in vicinity of Brisighella capture 4 prisoners.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps No change in forward positions except on R flank of 8th Ind Div where 19th Brig secures pocket caused by advance of II Pol Corps and 19th Brig moves 1

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mile down Lamone R., gaining positions  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles N of S. Cassiano. Remainder of Corps troops engaged in reliefs and patrolling.

II Corps Little activity reported on Corps front. Elements of 349th Inf, 88th Div, repulse strong patrol, attacking outpost in area about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles E of M. Fano. Light enemy arty and patrolling reported in 1st Armd Div sector.

IV Corps Patrolling continues in 6th SA Armd Div sector with no change in forward positions. Harassing arty fire falls on Reno R. bridges and forward elements in vicinity of Gaggio Montano. Regrouping is taking place in BEF sector.

Army Troops Local attacks by elements of RCT 370, 92d Div, draw considerable enemy arty and SA fire. Enemy arty increasing in coastal area.

Strategic and tactical operations cancelled because of weather. CAF P-39s destroy several MT and other vehicles near French-Italian border in Italy.

Yugoslavia

Raska, important German strongpoint in Ibar valley, is captured by Bulgarian troops according to reports from Sofia. Heavy fighting continues W of Danube bridgeheads at Batina and Apatin, according to Berlin reports.

Weather continues to curtail operations. Balkan AF makes small-scale attacks on road movement in Podgorica-Scutari area, damaging 6 MT.

Aegean

Harbor installations at Rhodes are objectives of 7 A-30s which aim about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons with bursts in town and on jetties. Twenty-five miles NW, 2 Beaufighters strike vessels and jetties at San Antonio Bay, Piscopi I.

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## 28 Italy

### BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

Porter Force Considerable enemy activity reported in area of S. Pancrazio just N of Montone R., about 7 miles SW of Ravenna. Heavy rains and swollen streams make progress difficult.

V Corps Operations restricted because of river conditions; Lamone R. has increased from 4-5 feet wide to 31 feet and is reported 7 feet deep. German positions remain strong in Albereto area and 10th Ind Div reports no change in forward line. Activity of other divs confined to patrolling.

II Polish Corps On L flank of 3d Carp Div, co of 18th Brig, directed on Brisighella, is held up 2 miles E of town by soft ground and demolitions.

### U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Seventeenth Brig, 8th Ind Div, improves positions in hills W and NW of Modigliana, while 19th Brig thrusts N toward objective, M. di Tura, 2 miles N of S. Cassiano. Exchange of arty duels occurs in 78th Br Div sector. Forward positions of 66th Brig of 1st Br Div sustain heavy enemy mortar concentration and MG fire.

II Corps Preceded by arty and mortar concentration, enemy counterattack on L flank of 133d Inf, 34th Div, is repulsed at 0130 in area 1 mile N of Livergnano.

IV Corps On R flank, South Africans report patrol clash S of Reno R. in vicinity of S. Martino. In 1st Brazilian Div sector, enemy, attacking positions of 2d and 3d Bns, is driven off by defensive fire. Hostile patrol, operating along Div R boundary, dispersed. In TF 45 sector, heavy arty concentration falling on Corona and M. Belvedere precedes counterattack (estimated at 2 Bns, supported by tanks and SP guns) on troops of 435th AAA Bn entrenched there; enemy is halted temporarily but renews attack at 2330 and bitter battle to hold M. Belvedere and town is

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in progress. Heavy shelling is also reported in Gaggio Montano and Bobbiana areas.

Army Troops Patrols continue active and report several clashes with enemy especially in coastal sector.

Force of 101 medium bombers concentrates on targets in N Italy with 189 tons of bombs, scoring hits on Magenta, Torre Beretti, and Casale Monferrato RR bridges and blockship at Spezia. With considerable success, 308 fighter and fighter bomber sorties are flown against close-support targets in battle area and enemy's main supply lines along Brenner route and Po Valley; 4 rail cuts on Brenner route and 29 in Po Valley effected, as well as hits scored on roads, guns, buildings, a CP, and strongpoints N of battle line. In NW Italy, 8 P-39s of CAF attack transport in Cuneo area and score near misses on bridge at Valdieri, SW of Cuneo. MT and RR installations throughout Po Valley are night targets for 12 Beaufighters and 36 A-20s.

Yugoslavia

Good progress made in Ibar R. sector of Serbia: Yugoslavs confirm capture of Raska which Bulgars claimed yesterday; farther S, both Yugoslav and Bulgars report their troops are approaching Novi Pazar, Yugoslavs from N and Bulgars from SE; bitter fighting is taking place for Kraljevo, at confluence of Morava and Ibar Rivers, as Soviet and Yugoslav troops are reportedly closing in on town. Partisans rout strong hostile column W of Prijepolje in Serbia and make substantial gains in E Bosnia, successfully attacking Sarajevo-Brod RR line and repulsing counterattack near Busovaca. Fall of Nasice, important road and RR junction in Slavonia, after seven days of fighting is announced by Yugoslavs who claim 930 enemy killed and 380 captured. Heavy fighting continues around Knin, Dalmatia, Partisans reporting their troops on outskirts of town. Fierce battle is also taking place in Gracac sector of Croatia, while in Slovenia, German stronghold near Skofja Loka, NW of Ljubljana, is secured by Partisans. In S Montenegro, Bar is captured by Tito's troops which are now rapidly approaching Scutari in attempt to block German withdrawal N; reports indicate Partisans inflict severe losses on Germans at Medun near Podgorica.

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Ten P-39s and 8 Macchis harass MT in Podgorica area.

Albania

Partisan 23d Brig is engaged by enemy about 4 miles S of Scutari. Reports state Scutari is liberated by Partisan 2d Div and Albania is now virtually clear of enemy.

Aegean

HMS Meteor and HMS Kelvin (DDs), accompanied by coastal craft, bombard Piscopi I., hitting house of CO and causing some casualties to personnel; small raiding party is landed during operations and withdraws under cover of further bombardment.

29 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

It has been announced that General Sir Harold R. L. G. Alexander has been appointed to succeed General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson as head of Allied Force Headquarters (AFHQ) and has been promoted to Field Marshal; Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of U.S. Fifth Army, has been named to succeed General Alexander as commander of Allied Armies in Italy (AAI).

Porter Force Small enemy raid near Longana about 5 miles SW of Ravenna is beaten off.

V Corps Considerable enemy air activity is reported. Heavy fighting continues for Albereto in 10th Ind Div sector: while 10th Brig repels counterattack in Bettini area, 1½ miles NE of Albereto, 20th Brig makes slight advance in face of stiff opposition to improve its position and drives off counterattacks ½ mile W of Albereto.

II Polish Corps Unit of 1st Carp Brig, 3d Carp Div, is established on M. Bicocca, S of Brisighella, with patrols forward to Lamone R.

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29 U.S. FIFTH ARMY  
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XIII Corps Eighth Ind Div makes effective gains: 19th Brig occupies M. di Tura; 21st Brig secures M. Fortino and reports Casola Valsenio clear; 6th Lancers begin relief of 17th Brig. M. Taverna, in vicinity of Orsara, falls to elements of 6th Br Armd Div. Just after midnight in M. Grande area, enemy, estimated at 2 cos of 1st Para Div, launches surprise attack without arty against positions of 66th Brig, 1st Br Div, established on M. Castellaro; and gains and holds mountain despite British counterattack later in day.

II Corps Elements of 351st Inf, 88th Div, drive back strong enemy patrol about 2 miles E of M. Belmonte. Heavy shelling occurs during night of 29/30 on front lines of 88th Div, as well as on 14th Armd Inf positions in 1st Armd Div sector.

IV Corps On R flank, 24th Guards Brig, 6th SA Armd Div, receives heavy mortar fire during day; local reliefs in progress. At 0800, after 30 minutes of arty preparation, 3d Bn, 11th Inf, and 1st Bn, 1st Inf, pass through 6th Inf, 1st Brazilian Div, and launch attack forward with M. Castello, about 1 mile NW of Abetaia, as objective; leading units enter Abetaia at 1045 under light mortar fire but enemy resistance stiffens and by 1600 such heavy casualties are suffered through intense arty and mortar fire that troops are forced to withdraw about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile S. Harassing enemy fire continues to fall on bridges at Marano and Silla. After bitter battle in TF 45 sector, M. Belvedere and Corona are again in enemy hands and elements of 435th AAA Bn withdraw to Querciola.

Although hampered by bad weather, 480 fighters and fighter bombers attain good results on enemy supply routes and road and rail targets in N Italy; 29 RR cuts effected in Verona-Brescia-Mantova area and on Brenner route N of Verona; 3 RR bridges in central Po Valley destroyed and hits claimed on 3 others; results also include 66 MT and 78 RR cars destroyed, 59 MT and 27 RR cars damaged. In Lake Marano-Caorle area, 6 GAF fighters score hits on 4 barges, a dredger, and

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150-200-foot minesweeper under construction. Road traffic in Fossano area, N of Cuneo, attacked by 8 P-39s, while RR and road objectives in Ghedi-Villafranca area and Po Valley are night targets for 7 Beaufighters and single A-20.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavs and Soviets announce successful gains in Baranja area W of Danube along Yugoslav-Hungarian border as Soviet troops in cooperation with Yugoslav Partisans break enemy resistance: in drive for Osijek, important RR junction in Slavonia, L wing troops take Dubosevica, Jagodnjak, Knezevi Vinogradi, Beli Munastir, and Darda; Partisan 51st Div. particularly distinguishes itself in these operations. According to Yugoslav reports, Kraljevo falls to Partisan troops which have now cleared W Morava and Ibar areas and are approaching Cacak; in two days of fighting for Kraljevo, 750 Germans (believed to be rearguard troops of Army Group E) were reported killed, 300 taken prisoner. Gains reported all along Drina R. line in E Bosnia as Yugoslavs capture Janja and Kozluk and push enemy back toward Bijeljina in N and Zvornik farther S; Partisans continue successful attacks on communications throughout Rogatica-Visegrad sector and claim destruction of hostile column retreating toward Sarajevo. In S Montenegro, Partisans capture Ulcinj and attack E as far as Bojana R.; encircled enemy in Podgorica area is attempting to break through to Sanjak region; German resistance reported weakening in Danilov Grad sector. Fighting again reported around Knin (Dalmatia) and Lika area (Croatia) where Germans are attacking once more toward Lovinac.

Balkan AF continues operations along N Albanian-Yugoslav border as 29 Macchis, P-39s, and Spitfires strafe road traffic and successfully bomb bridge N of Scutari and nearby encampment.

Aegean

Three A-30s attack installations at Rhodes harbor, while 4 more bomb Calato airdrome with bursts on runway.

30 Italy

BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY

I Canadian Corps I Canadian Corps assumes command of

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Porter Force in Adriatic sector. Front line troops undergo considerable enemy shelling.

V Corps Fierce fighting continues on R flank between Montone and Lamone Rivers. Tenth Ind Div, attacking northward at 0545 with 10th Brig on R and 20th on L, in effort to secure bridgehead over Montone R. near Bettini, makes good progress despite strong resistance; 10th Brig gains about 1 mile, while 20th Brig captures Albereto and la Podesta (1 mile NE of Albereto) after heavy battle and drives back counterattack. In support of 10th Ind Div, 5th NZ Brig, 2d NZ Div, attacks N, forward troops reaching outskirts of la Toretta.

II Polish Corps Activity limited to patrolling.

U.S. FIFTH ARMY

XIII Corps Sixth Lancers complete relief of 17th Brig on R flank of 8th Ind Div and push slowly N to high ground in Cottignola area, within 2 miles of Brisighella, approximately  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles SW of Faenza; farther N, 21st Brig makes minor gains S of Casola Valsenio. Throughout month, units of 6th Br Armd Div have been held up before Fontanelice on Santerno R. by firmly entrenched enemy; today patrols of 61st Brig report town clear and remainder of Brig thrusts down Santerno toward Tossignano. At 2100, two strong enemy raids are repulsed by arty fire in area S of M. Cerere where 38th Brig of 78th Br Div is established. Preceded by heavy arty preparation, elements of 66th Brig, 1st Br Div, unsuccessfully attempt to retake M. Castellaro in M. Grande area.

II Corps At end of month 88th, 34th, and 1st Armd Divs maintain defensive line S of Bologna with enemy continuing small-scale raids and harassing arty program.

IV Corps In late afternoon, enemy, supported by arty, attacks troops of 1st Inf of 1st Brazilian Div S of Abetiaia but is repulsed by SA fire. Enemy now firmly entrenched on M. Belvedere in 15 sector, units of 370th Inf, 2d Armd Group, engage in fire fight in area NW of Gaggio Montano.

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Army Troops Activity confined to patrolling with enemy mortar and arty reported light. Enemy remains aggressive and alert throughout month.

East of Milan 36 B-25s effectively attack RR bridges at Romano di Lombardia and Crema, dropping 68 tons of bombs with direct hits. Road and rail traffic in N Po Valley are objectives of 250 fighters and fighter bombers which attack with good coverage; 37 RR cuts effected, numerous MT destroyed and damaged; later at night 3 A-30s hit roads in Po Valley with unobserved results. In NW Italy, Venturas make unsuccessful strikes on shipping between Spezia and Genoa. Again P-39s of CAF strafe RR and road movement along French-Italian border and bomb a RR yard.

Yugoslavia

Partisans make excellent gains in most sectors throughout Yugoslavia. Fall of Novi Pazar in W Serbia is announced by Yugoslavs and Bulgars whose units are now threatening Sjenica to NW. Advancing N from Janja, Partisan units assault and take Bijeljina in E Bosnia and are now pressing enemy toward Brko to NW in attempt to block German retreat from Zvornik. Intense fighting is reportedly taking place NW of Sarajevo at Zepce, Zenica, and Busovaca (all in Bosnia), around Nevesinje (Hercegovina), N of Podgorica (Montenegro), and in Cacak-Pozega sector of Serbia. Along Drina R. in E Bosnia, Partisans break through during night into Rogatica and Ljubovija, claiming 450 Germans killed and 128 taken prisoner. Fierce struggle continues in Knin and Lika areas where Germans are attempting to free communication lines. Soviets and Partisans continue advance in area W of Danube in Slavonia. Transport and transportation lines effectively attacked by Partisans in Slovenia and Croatia.

Many sorties ineffective because of weather; fighters and RP planes attack road movement in vicinity of Podgorica and enemy positions near Danilov Grad with generally unobserved results.

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