

KING SEES INVASION GOING WELL

Taking on the appearance of a well-established base the Normandy beaches have efficiently settled down to the routine business of supply. Against all military ^{has been} experience a large army ~~was~~ fully maintained on the Peninsula without a large port in allied hands. Significant in the history of French resistance was the day when Gen. De Gaulle, the great man who never accepted French defeat, stepped once more onto his native land. Among those who greeted him was an officer of General Montgomery's staff. De Gaulle had a crowded programme mapped out, and at once began his tour of the liberated villages and towns. The people of Normandy had hither to known ~~him~~ ^{De Gaulle} ~~him~~ only by reputation. They were familiar with his voice, to which they had listened for years on the forbidden radio. Now he was among them. Everywhere there was a feeling that his presence foreshadowed the early complete liberation of France.

(6 out)

(22) ~~At~~ Bayeux, the first place of any size to be freed from Nazi occupation, General de Gaulle ~~made a speech,~~ ^{came & make a speech,} the echoes ^{of his} he hoped would stir the hearts of his countrymen throughout France.

(17) De Gaulle told his hearers that France must now express herself on the field of battle, in arms with her Allies in the fight for Freedom.

T armbands of the Underground movement - treasured in secret & proudly worn.

Gen. Montgomery welcomed De Gaulle before the French leader returned to London. Visitors to Normandy have been numerous. Gen. Eisenhower was accompanied by the Deputy Supreme Commander, Air Chief Marshal Tedder, both ~~in support of the campaign~~. No longer can we use the description beachhead. In the full sense of the word the Allies have now established a front. It is now inconceivable that we can be pushed out of France. While the ~~British~~ ^{allies} consolidated the left flank, ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~trapped~~ brilliantly crossed the peninsula and trapped 30,000 Germans in the area of Charbourg.

(6 out)

(50 2nd tank blaz) German shelling of the village of Bretteville took the Church steeple as one of its objectives.

The unfortunate Padre did not find his occupation gone, but he did see his Church severely damaged. ^{Upon} ~~in~~ the 7/hundred square miles of Normandy captured by the Allies war has made many ugly scars. The logical French people do not expect the enemy to be dislodged without leaving a trail of devastation, ~~behind them~~. The British forces, ~~after only two weeks in France~~, are completely at home. *The allies* ~~are~~ ~~surprised~~ by the knowledge that they have

have accomplished the most difficult of all military operations, invaded by sea a strongly fortified country.

East of Normandy flew a heavy force of Lancasters in a daylight attack on Le Havre. A squadron of the Royal Australian Airforce took part in the attack. Havre is a supply base of great importance to the enemy.

It is not unlikely that before the summer is much older the great port will be in Allied hands.

(2 out) All the time Marauders of the U.S. Ninth Airforce keep up their heavy attacks on the supply routes on which the enemy depends West of the River Seine. The Ninth has established ~~the~~ Headquarters in Normandy, thereby saving many flying hours and basing itself nearer the enemy.

Strong British armoured forces man the Allied left flank. Their function at present is to pin down the enemy while the Americans advance northwards towards Cherbourg.

Most of the prisoners confess their surprise that the Allies have succeeded in the invasion. Some of them, however, declare that we shall be pushed out of France inside thirty days of the first landing. That view the officer type hold almost to a man.

~~Montebourg~~ Montebourg fell to the rapidly advancing Americans. The enemy regained it in a fierce counter-attack but on both sides the place was by-passed and the ^{German} garrison put in danger of being cut off.

The speed and vigour of the American attack heartens the Free World and dismays the foe. Redoubtable fighting ^{swiftly} spirit/carried the U.S. regiments into gun-range of ~~Sartheburg~~. Cherbourg.

* (GAV) The ^{Tour} ~~village~~ of Isigny, four miles from the important Carentan, staged a fierce battle before the enemy gave it

up. So efficient is German propoganda that most of the Nazi army still believe ^{that} ~~that~~ it will win the war. The ~~rest~~ ^{rest} ~~is~~ ^{is} convinced that defeat means annihilation. Hence the Germans fight desparately whenever they are not hopelessly out-numbered. ~~From the battlefields which~~ ~~only yesterday were peaceful villages~~ Allied soldiers help the people to salvage their belongings. ~~Always in war the defenceless pay a heavy price.~~

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(LV thru street) Bricks and mortar are easily replaced. It will not be long before the normal life of the province is restored in Normandy. The Germans who seemed lords of the earth not so long ago have ~~been~~ ~~driven~~ come off second best in the early battles of the invasion. The enemy inundated large areas round Carentan, but that did not save him from further retreat. That important town on the road to Cherbourg was soon in American hands.

(113 gun) German guns and armour litter the path of the Allied conquerors. For some time after Carentan was in our hands, the Germans were still shelling it. Several fires tested the powers of the local brigade.

(50) The chief had his hands full. In the big day of his life he had plenty of willing helpers, and it was all ~~hands~~ hands to the pump.

Happily several villages ~~completed~~ escaped damage. Flags of Britain, France and America waved together in the soft summer breeze.

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To the front now came the most important visitor of all, His Majesty the King, ~~making his first appearance as the~~
~~earliest moment adjudge to his case.~~
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General Montgomery, now an experienced host, conducted His Majesty to advanced headquarters.

(Next) ~~on the lawn~~ Outside the General's caravan the King held an ~~informal~~ investiture, decorating men honoured for bravery in battle; men who richly merit the thanks of their King, their country and the whole free world.

When the King bade the General goodbye he had confirmed his knowledge that with the assault of Europe all goes well. His Majesty returned to England on board the ^{cruiser} ~~the~~ Arethusa.

~~On that cruiser he was the guest of the invasion commander of naval operations, Admiral Ramsay.~~ At no time in history did seapower stand us in better stead than when the Allies invaded Europe.