

"ONE GOOD HEAVE....."

T Allies r over t Rhine

~~This is Germany.~~ Through Kevelaer and many other little towns translated from local interest to front page significance by the march of military events British regiments ~~of the First Canadian Army~~ passed on their race to the Rhine.

^{now} The familiar white flag displayed by isolated units is the fore-runner of unconditional surrender. The ~~war~~ ^{allies now} has ~~awakened from the enforced slumber of winter....~~ (SV)

reap t harvest out hard winter fighting

The Germans have been flung back over the Rhine by the hammer strokes of the Supreme Commander and his brilliant lieutenants.

(After CU) On the scene to witness the dramatic unfolding of the Allied plan came the Prime Minister, the man to whose faith and vision the world owes it to-day, that the armies of freedom march into the heart of Germany. Those old comrades of the war, Monty and Alan Brooke, had the bearing of generals soon to gather the full fruit of long labours and tribulation.

Through the Reischwald Forest, which the enemy so desperately strove to hold, the Prime Minister walked on his way to the line. He paused at a 9.2 battery which was in action against supply columns escaping over the ~~Rhine~~ ^{river} and wrote on the next shell ~~aimed to be fired~~, "A PRESENT TO HITLER." Having done that he finished the job by firing the gun.

and j fired it.

(y fine)

(SV walk away) In the Prime Minister's honour marched past those famous Scots, the 51st Highland Division.

Only three miles from the Rhine lay the now ruined Krefeld, centre of textile and chemical manufacture, long ago crippled by the R.A.F.

Forward detachments of General Simpson's 9th Army, ~~operating~~ on the right flank of the British, entered the town.

Six thousand prisoners a day ~~and large numbers of civilians~~ fell into Allied hands on the way to the river. Up with the infantry went the vans of the psychological warfare department, informing Germans of the true state of the war. [General Simpson, commanding the ninth army, escorted the Prime Minister to Julich. At the fortified citadel of this town, less than twenty miles from Cologne itself, the P.M. had a stand-up lunch with the victorious generals. This fort would have been a hard nut to crack had the Germans defended stoutly. The demoralised enemy thought only of gaining the temporary shelter of the east bank of the Rhine. The promise of the once popular song has been fulfilled.

The battered ~~and futile~~ Siegfried Line symbolises the shattered hopes of German militarism. Of The legend of the unconquerable master race no more will be heard in this part of the world. ~~In the west, as on the eastern front,~~ The armies of freedom are now firmly established on the shrinking territory of the third Reich.

Across the river Düsseldorf brought
under fire.

A few miles to the south the 9th Army passed through Munchen-Gladbach. This is Germany. In this state of ruin, or far worse, lie the sixty major towns of the country which set out to conquer the world. Propaganda posters had vainly besought the army and people to resist the tide of Allied advance. As well try to sweep back the Atlantic with a broom. ~~Still more millions of Germans will be homeless outcasts if the enemy continues to resist.~~

Entering Neuss the 9th Army at last stood on the west bank of the Rhine. ~~ME~~ Few thought at that stage that in a few days the Allies would be over the river in ~~strength.~~ ~~Busseldorf, on the other side, was under fire.~~

Now came the greatest prize of the campaign so far, the great town of Cologne. In full daylight and at comparatively low level a great force of seven hundred Lancasters and Halifaxes, Canadian and Australian squadrons included, dropped three thousand tons of bombs on the troop-packed city, the final intensive bombardment before the infantry fought their way in. One Lancaster suffered a direct hit and exploded twenty thousand feet over the city.

The ruin of Cologne, ^{vital} city of ~~outstanding~~ importance to the defence of Germany, has been almost entirely accomplished by the RAF. Bomber Command ~~has poured thirty thousand~~ ^{pared to way 4 to capture 0 7}

tons of bombs on the town since raiding began on a big scale. When the Americans went in, bodies of German snipers tried to delay the advance. There were some hours of street fighting, but no attempt was made by the enemy to make Cologne another Stalingrad. The allies had not

succeeded in trapping the German armies west of the river, but as the price of escape the enemy had to abandon Cologne and much else.

(After walls collapse) German shells got direct hits on an American tank.

(Halfway through after tank)

As we go to press the Allies have surmounted the barrier of the Rhine. For centuries the Germans have regarded the river as a natural boundary of an inviolable land. It must now be plain to the most deluded of Hitler's subjects that the game is up. One good heave, says Winston Churchill, and the whole thing must collapse.