5-45+001-55 44-55

THE BATTERED PORT OF CHERBOURG.

while the residential part of Cherbourg suffered little in the battle for the City, extensive damage by demolition was effected by the Germans on the Port and Harbour installations. The one-time lovely Gare Maritime where the NORMANDIE and CUMEN MARY used to dock is now a shambles. Vessels in the harbour have been sunk to act as block ships in a hurried attempt to prevent free access to the Allies. Through the Cathedral-like arches has crashed the Clock Tower. This is a sample of the tangle of destruction which faces the Naval Salvage Squads and repair parties already across the Channel restoring the harbour facilities.

The Statue of Napolean points to the Breakwater enclosing the outer harbour whereon Germans are offering the last resistance. American Artillery drop shells on the Forts. The Nazis there are in a hopeless position because their guns cannot be trained on the City, they only command the sea approach to the Harbour.

The outer forts "East" and "West" surrendered just one minute before P.47 dive bombers came over and struck at the Central fort on the breakwater.

9th Air Force Marauders go for the tip of the Peninsular where the beligerent remnents of Vob Schlieben's Army are fighting to the point of liquidation. Gun emplacements are bombed, and the ways out are sealed.. Slap in the centre of a spiders-web of communicating roads.

The bombing mission carries the Marauders over the Cape de la Hague. The last pockets of suicidal resistance are put out of action. Most attempts to escape to the Channel Islands are frustrated.

There's a fleeting glimpse of Alderney down below; a patch of British soil in enemy hands.

Sth Air Force Fighers inflict widespread damage during sorties over France. Combat pictures turned in by Mustangs, Thunderbolts and Lightnings show the aircraft riding rough shod over German aerodromes and lines of communication. The

reluctance of the Luftwaffe to come up in strength makes it a field day for the American pilots - - - they shoot up every enemy target they see in their gun sights.

The highway to Rommels forces in the front line are under almost constant Allied attack from the air -v- many become jammed with wrecked and burning vehicles. His roads have ever been long and perilous.