Advances were made yesterday on both sides of the FALaise-
ARGenTan gap.
Allied troops attacking towards FALaise from the north quickly
gained their first objectives and, having crossed the river LAIson,
are now firmly established within 7,000 yards of the town.
On the other side of the gap, the thrust northward from LE Mans
and ALencon has reached the vicinity of ArgentiAn. Pockets of resis-
tance left behind in this advance are being mopped up near ALencon.
Inside the NORMANDY pocket advances were made.
Between the Laize and the ORne an advance of some 5,000 yards
brought our forward elements to the vicinity of the village of
BOnnoel. In the ORne valley, THuRY-hArCOURt was cleared of enemy.
North of ConDe the village of PROussey was taken and our troops
are approaching ST. DENis de MERE.
Further west, Allied troops advanced to within a mile of VAssY, and
southeast of ViRe an advance of a mile has brought us to a point about
one mile from TincheRay.
Other units advancing south of ViRe are moving along the GaTHEMO-
TINcheRAY road against moderate resistance. Troops pushing eastward
from Mortain have reached GER.
Along the southern boundary of the pocket our columns moving from
the Barenton area are approaching DomfronT and units which reached
RANes are encountering increasing resistance.
In BRITAIN, fighting is still in progress at ST. Malo, where the
situation remains unchanged, and at DINARD, where we have made advances
towards the port. At Brest and Lorient there is nothing new to report.
Throughout the third consecutive day of clear weather, massive
formations of all types of Allied aircraft hammered at German forces
in the NORMANDY pocket and attacked airfields, bridges and communica-
tions targets from western Germany to BORdeaux, virtually without
opposition.
Seven enemy strong points massing tanks, guns and troops north of
FALaise were attacked by more than 700 escorted heavy bombers in a con-
centrated bombardment preceding an advance of our ground forces. Three
other strong points south of Mezidon were hit by medium bombers in a
precision operation only 3,000 yards in advance of our troops.
Six highway bridges over the Touques river north and south of
LiSieuX were attacked by more than 250 medium bombers which also pounded
bridges and railway junctions at nogent-le-Roi, les FouLons, epone-
mezzieres, Prevent, ST. Martin and Pontoise.
Escorted heavy bombers struck shipping and harbor installations at
Brest in two attacks, and others ranged from eastern France to the
BORdeaux area, hitting three airfields near DIJOn and the AngouLeme and
Saintes railway yards with good results.
The day-by-day fighter bomber and fighter onslaught against enemy
communications entered its second week with widespread attacks on road
and rail targets in areas on both sides of the SEINE. At least 750
railway cars and hundreds of motor vehicles were destroyed and damaged
in the areas of FALaise, Laigle, DomfronT, Evreux, Chartres, ST. Andre
and east of the SEINE.
Light bombers harried enemy movements during the night, causing
large fires and explosions at several points near FALaise and south of
Paris. P/ Twenty-nine enemy aircraft were destroyed. Twenty-four of
ours are missing. P/ A heavy battery on the island of Alderney has been
subjected to naval bombardment.