

CHERBOURG CAPTURED

One of the finest deep water harbours in Europe falls into Allied hands with the brilliant American capture of Cherbourg. Only three weeks after D-Day the Allies have compelled the enemy to surrender the very last thing he wanted to give up - a great port. Through a trail of ruined Normandy villages and small towns the Americans pushed ~~the~~ German army into the ~~town~~^{city} of Cherbourg. Perhaps the enemy could have resisted ~~for some time~~^{longer}, but against victorious new armies, and assault by air on a scale heavier than anything known before, the Germans decided it would be suicide^l to fight on. R.A.F. medium bombers attacked a Panzer Division as it was mustering to attack the American left flank. Both the Fighting French and the Dutch Naval Air Service contributed Squadrons to this ~~attack~~ attack.

In step with the capture of Cherbourg, the British army mounted a formidable offensive near Caen.

German armoured formations ~~have come~~^{came} in for rough treatment all along the front. An interesting capture by the Americans was the doodle-bug, the electrically-controlled tank which has ~~been captured~~ a charge of a 100 lbs of T.N.T. Unlike the doodle-bug of the air, much respected these days in Southern England, this one is a flop.

The British capture of Tilly came after some of the hardest fighting yet seen in Normandy. Many hours were spent clearing ~~villages on the road to Tilly~~ ~~the area~~ of mines, trip-wires and booby traps. By engaging large enemy forces on this front we made it impossible for the enemy to send reinforcements to delay the capture of Cherbourg. ~~Still standing in Tilly was the War Memorial statue, which is a fitting symbolical of the unbreakable spirit of France.~~

in the air means certain victory
The three weeks fighting in Normandy has proved that ~~the side that has mastery in the air is certain of victory.~~
~~The time has now come when the Allies practically have the air to themselves.~~

In addition to bombing, the RAF has put in some ~~very~~ ^{highly} effective ground strafing, ~~against the defenders of Cherbourg.~~

After capturing and then losing Montebourg, the Americans again assailed the town. It lay on the right flank of the forces attacking Cherbourg and the desperate German resistance there had to be overcome before the port itself could be attacked. When Montebourg was finally in American hands ~~at once~~ the civil population came out of the shelters which protected them against the allied bombardment. The rebuilding of Normandy towns will be put in hand as early as possible.

nauk of prisoners at Cherbourg, though not, of course, anything so great as at Stalingrad, has shaken the German High Command. Better still the news will have damaging effect on the German people, for now that Cherbourg has fallen the most optimistic German knows that the Allies cannot be thrown out of Europe. Among this batch were French, ^{Polesh}~~British~~ and Russian ^{Labourers,}~~whom~~ the Nazis had compelled to serve ~~in their army.~~ ^{them.}

(GV) We now begin to see the force of the Prime Minister's statement that full success is probable this summer. The German army is forced back on all fronts. Unconditional surrender must come in the wake of these shattering defeats.