

VICTORY THROUGH FRANCE.

Faster and more fast the British and Canadians advance along the roads from Lisieux to the mouth of the Seine. Another gigantic arm of steel is flinging Kluge's tanks off the roadway like empty tins, as our men seek the death grip on the retreating Nazi 7th army beyond.

(8 SV soldier fires Bren gun) Overawed by the burning wrath which will know no pause till Berlin is reached, Nazis ride in to surrender on anything they can find. The German army has experienced our ruthless strength.

(12 horse and cart) It's to this that their proud armour has been reduced.

In their search for cannon fodder the Nazis have pressed into service captured nationals of many races. Old, middle-aged and very young they hurry to safety from the devastation of our guns.

(23 LV Belgians) In that part of the front nearest their country the Belgian forces fight in better heart than they have known for four years.

(29 GV) The town of Trun now lies well in the rear of the advancing avalanche of allied steel. These pictures show its capture by the British.

(32 TV monument) Monuments throughout France have taken on a fresh significance, for most of them carry on the plinth the sign of the Republique, which is ~~not~~ to be re-born.

(59 GV Mosquitos) Mosquitos attack an S.S. Barracks near Bordeaux which the Maquis are about to besiege. The epic of the Maquis is not yet fully told. But there has been and still is the most intimate dovetailing of their activities into the general plan.

(44 GV pan Lancasters) A night fighter station in Holland comes in for attention by Australian Airforce Lancasters.

(48 STV Maquis) It is harvest time. The grapes of wrath have come to press in the vineyards of France. Whether packed in country lofts, or in the cellars of Marseilles and Paris, weapons dropped by the allied airforces are coming to light to serve the wrath of France. Not passion, not hatred, not revenge but a deeper emotion rises chokingly in men's throats. A people's future is invoked.

As a cleansing fire through which the nations will rise to a new birth, the Maquis movement sweeps through every small commune. The fire of this flame will not soon be quenched. It licks from every house the vermin hiding in the walls. Helping in the capture of Orleans, town of Joan of Arc, is this organisation, this discipline, and unity - these men of the Maquis, who have contributed.....continued.....

so much to the success of Allied arms in the West.

In Le Mans there is a quieter picture. The time is counted now, its capture was long ago. Wine is dear, but spirits are higher here than they have ever been. The American genius for fraternisation ensures that.

(70 SV) What has the new world to say to the old, when both lots of citizens are coloured? French Africans and American negroes find common cause in the fight for general freedom. In the grocery stores there is a good display of food. Some of the shoppers can actually buy what they want - for instance - cream cheese. But rationing in general is more severe than over here. As here, of course, you have to keep a wary eye on the coupon cutter.

(82 SV photos General de Gaulle) De Gaulle souvenirs have an increasing sale as this great leader grows in the affection of his countrymen.

(185 Int. dept. store.) American nurses on leave take the chance to shop, gaze. Whatever happened in Paris in these last years, fashion remained free. Material is poor, style is inimitable.

(90 CU paper sign) Elsewhere the work of deliverance goes at speed. American armour in unbelievable weight sweeps on to shatter the Nazi steel ring round Chartres.

(102 GV) Chartres cathedral like the vision of peace to come is glimpsed, not fully seen. That prayer in stone was spared by Nazi and allies alike, though some of the bitterest fighting in the war took place in the streets around it.

(107 IV Maquis running down street) The Maquis were active before the U.S. forces had reached the outskirts of the town, and had already captured several streets. They helped the regulars to spot snipers in familiar buildings. They searched out the collaborators.

(115 IV towards rounded up snipers) They also captured the German prisoners shown in the picture, and in spite of their fellow townsmen who were hankering for summary justice on the nearest lamppost, held their charges safely behind bars.

At the resistance H.Q. in Chartres members of the Maquis assemble to get ready for new fighting. The food was left behind by the Germans.

(124 CU) The people of Britain join in congratulating these men. As a sign of liberation the old coat of arms is put back above the Town Hall entrance and the free citizens savour the joy of the new liberty they have well and truly earned.

(128 GV citadel of St. Malo) Hide-out of the mad Nazi Colonel Aloch, the fortress of St. Malo eventually surrendered.

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The white flag was hoisted only after much pounding by air and ground forces. There is at least an honest doubt as to whether these Nazi officers, snirking their way into captivity, would have kept up their useless resistance if they had not themselves fought from the safety of concrete collars.

(136 U.S. soldier talks to drunken orderly) Fortified by looted brandy the General's orderly takes unkindly to captivity. Buoyed up by the Iron Cross awarded by Hitler for his alcoholic bravery the mad Commander took time from the safety of deep concrete to change his mind.

(140 EV) Altogether hundreds of German officers and men were taken. They are only a small section of the Nazi horde which will become in the peace, towards which the allies are now riding on a storm of conquest, a tremendous liability. On what is done with these Nazis - these Huns & depends the whole peaceful future of the world.

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