

DRIVE TO THE RHINE

All goes well with the advance of the Canadian First Army to the left bank of the Rhine. That was the assurance given by General Crerar to Field Marshal Montgomery when the C-in-C paid a flying visit to the Canadian front. British regiments on the Canadian right also established themselves on the western side of the ~~great river~~, *Rhine*, *on* ~~the~~ German territory in many places. This ~~may begin~~ *may begin* ~~beginning~~ of what enemy ~~military~~ spokesmen regard as the all-out drive on the western front. The town of Echternach, further south in Luxembourg, was bombarded with phosphorous shells.

Rocket firing Thunderbolts of the U.S. Ninth Airforce brought the enemy under accurate fire.

Coming ~~into~~ land on a snow-covered airfield a P.47 skidded to a spectacular collision with a Thunderbolt about to take off.

This was a flying accident of a kind seldom if ever filmed before.

In historic Colmar, capital of upper Alsace, a French parade was reviewed by General de Tassigny. The ceremony marked the capture of the last French town to be held by the enemy. To the French the liberation of Colmar was significant in several ways. It proved the fighting qualities of the new French army, it shattered all German hopes of a breakthrough on this front, and it symbolized French determination to retain the provinces of Alsace-Lorraine..

The Alsatian town of Oberhoffen was taken by the Americans.

House to house fighting yielded a few score prisoners and snipers were dragged from their hideouts. In one house half-a-dozen Germans held out nearly a whole day. They were captured eventually on the point of collapse.

The most spectacular advance of the British ^{and Canadians} ~~Second Army~~ in recent operations resulted in the capture of Cleve. This ~~was~~^{is} one of the many places on the Western Front where the Allies now fight on German soil.

Though the haul of prisoners ^{is} satisfactory the Allies had not, at this stage, achieved a break-through.

Nevertheless, Monty and General Crear had every reason to be satisfied with the progress. ~~made~~. When the German right flank has been rolled back the Allies will be within sight of their greatest victory in the west.