

NON STOP BLOWS HARASS GERMANS IN WEST

On the banks of the River Maas winter is not severe enough for ~~the~~ all out offensive ^{on} of the Eastern Front, ^{scale} but does give the British, and their Allies to the South, the chance to batter the enemy on his way to the Siegfried Line. On quiet sectors men spend most of their time battling with the ~~thermometer~~ ^{thermometer}, vainly trying to keep warm. It makes you shiver to look at them, but it's all in the day's ~~man~~ march to the best trained army in the world.

With the mercury at ~~something~~ ^{minus ten} below washing is robbed of some of it's pleasure. There must be a lot of ^{soldiers} ~~who~~ ^{campaigning in Holland} who wish they'd joined the Navy and could grow a beard.

(Tea) However, the hard winter isn't the only thing the Tommies have ~~got~~ to write home about. They brought the German offensive to a standstill and turned ~~it~~ it to a retreat. Squeezing the north end of the salient Montgomery's men, camouflaged to suit the weather in white uniform, met the Americans who were the Southern claw of the pincers. The meeting symbolised the strength of the Allied forces, against which the Germans are going down on every side.

(31 GV tank) Soon after that meeting the ALLies captured Houfallise and forced the Germans to race back towards their original line. Scores of thousands of Nazis never got back.

(Air) American heavy bombers blasted the German forward areas, making the town of La Roche ~~antenable~~ ^{antenable}. The place was a ruin when the Americans took possession. It was one of many ~~towns~~ ^{towns} unharmed in the sweeping Allied advance in September, destined to suffer when the brief hour of it's first deliverance was over. Not yet is the tramping of refugees silenced in the West.

~~Attacking German Engagements~~

(Next CU) Attacking concentrations behind La Roche a Flying Fortress was caught by the camera as Anti-aircraft brought it down.

(58 BV) Perhaps the worst atrocity since D-day was perpetrated by the Germans near Malmedy. At ~~that~~ the height of their offensive they cut off a party of Americans and machinegunned them from armoured vehicles passing the spot in convoy. German prisoners were now made to watch the bodies being uncovered. One of them said, "many of us quite enjoy carrying out ~~business~~ what you call atrocities". Such men belong to the lost generation whom it will be almost impossible to re-educate.

The Russian drive into Germany dwarfs present news from the Western Front. The Tommies long for the day when their brilliant commander, here wearing his new airborne outfit, will give the order for an attack on a really big scale. Offensive² on two fronts ~~is~~ what the Germans most fear.