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BEACHHEAD

From BASIL GINGELL, Representing the Combined British Press

The Fifth Army in Italy,
Allied Beachhead Forces,
April 9

Continuing their raiding tactics by sending strong patrols along widely separated points along our perimeter, enemy troops were again active early today, when an overcast sky restricted visibility. There had been one of these raids shortly before midnight last night in an area probed by patrols the night before, but the party were discouraged by a burst of mortar-fire and artillery and then withdrew, throwing grenades as they left.

Shortly after 3 today, the enemy made a somewhat stronger raid in Molletta valley and there was some close fighting before the enemy were finally driven off nearly five hours later by vigorous mortaring. The enemy continued a vigorous shelling programme during the night and in one area sent over two hundred rounds in rapid succession.

There was also the nightly air raid, but the bombs dropped did no damage and of the small force which came over one at least I know was brought down over the sea.

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MINISTRY OF INFORMATION