

27/11/41 - No.9

The following Communique was issued by  
G.H.Q., Cairo, today, 27th November, 1941.

During the night of 25/26th November, New Zealand forces supported by British tank formations recaptured Sidi Rezegh and occupied Bir el Hamed in the face of heavy opposition.

Stiff fighting continued in the area throughout yesterday and it was not until early this morning that elements of the relieving forces were able to join hands at Ed Duda with the British force from Tobruk which yesterday captured that important locality.

Meanwhile British armoured and mechanised columns are hunting the enemy raiding force which yesterday broke up into a number of parties circulating on both sides of the frontier.

In various brushes our columns yesterday accounted for five tanks and eighty other vehicles while three hundred prisoners mostly German were captured. Although this raid has a certain nuisance value it has not succeeded in diverting us from our main object.

Our air forces again had a successful day particularly in co-operation with our ground forces. Operating against German and Italian concentrations west of Sidi Rezegh our bombers and fighters destroyed several tanks and numerous transport vehicles.

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WAR OFFICE