

DECLASSIFIED  
688 Letter, 5-8-78

114

MR. 203 (2) WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY  
(Section 23 - December, 1943)

MR 203(2) WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY  
(Section 23 - December, 1943)

*William  
Exp. from Stanton*

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 751

0700 December 30 to 0700 December 31, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

OUTLINE MAP  
UNITED STATES

THE UNITED STATES ARMY

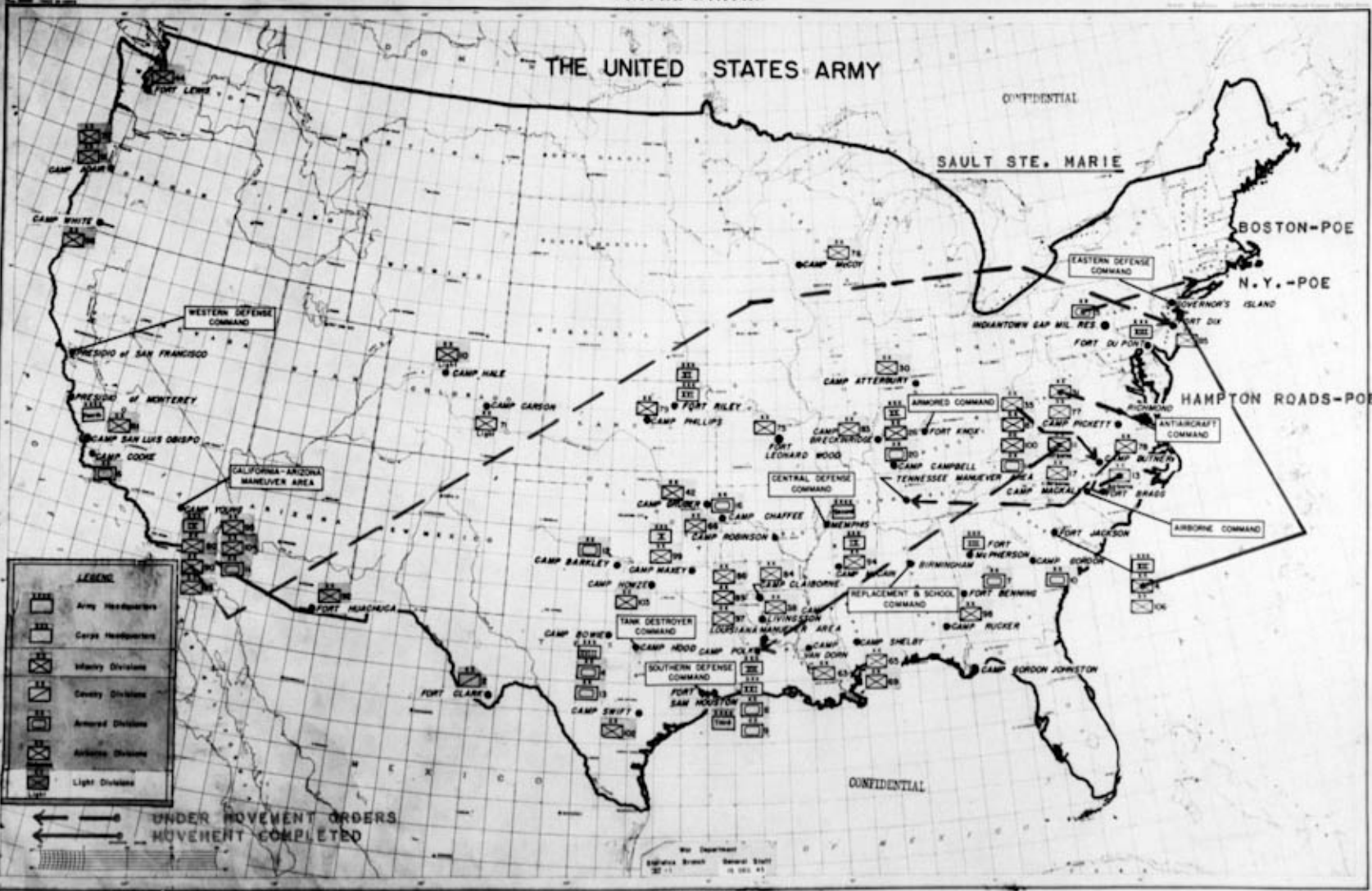
CONFIDENTIAL

SAULT STE. MARIE

BOSTON-POE

N.Y.-POE

HAMPTON ROADS-POE



LEGEND

- Army Headquarters
- Cavalry Headquarters
- Infantry Divisions
- Cavalry Divisions
- Armored Divisions
- Airborne Divisions
- Light Divisions

UNDER MOVEMENT ORDERS  
MOVEMENT COMPLETED

CONFIDENTIAL

War Department  
Distribution Branch General Staff  
1951

~~SECRET~~  
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GENERAL

The War Department has called the attention of Generals Eisenhower and Devers to the possibility that the Germans may resort to bacteriological warfare and has requested reports of any indications of such intent. ✓

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

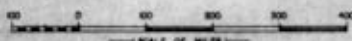
1. The Army Ground Forces issued directives for the movement of the 35th Infantry Division (Major General P. W. Baade) from the Tennessee Maneuver Area to Camp Butner, North Carolina, and for the 78th Infantry Division (Major General E. P. Parker) from the latter station to the Tennessee Maneuver Area.

2. For planning purposes the Army Service Forces have directed all Service Commands in the continental US to submit the number of organized and provisional cargo-truck units and the number of passenger-carrying vehicles which could be made available in the event of a breakdown of the nation's railroad lines. The Service Commands were also queried as to the number of Army personnel in their areas who would be available for railroad work of types not requiring previous railroad experience. ✓

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. A force of 628 RAF bombers attacked Berlin during the night of

# CENTRAL EUROPE



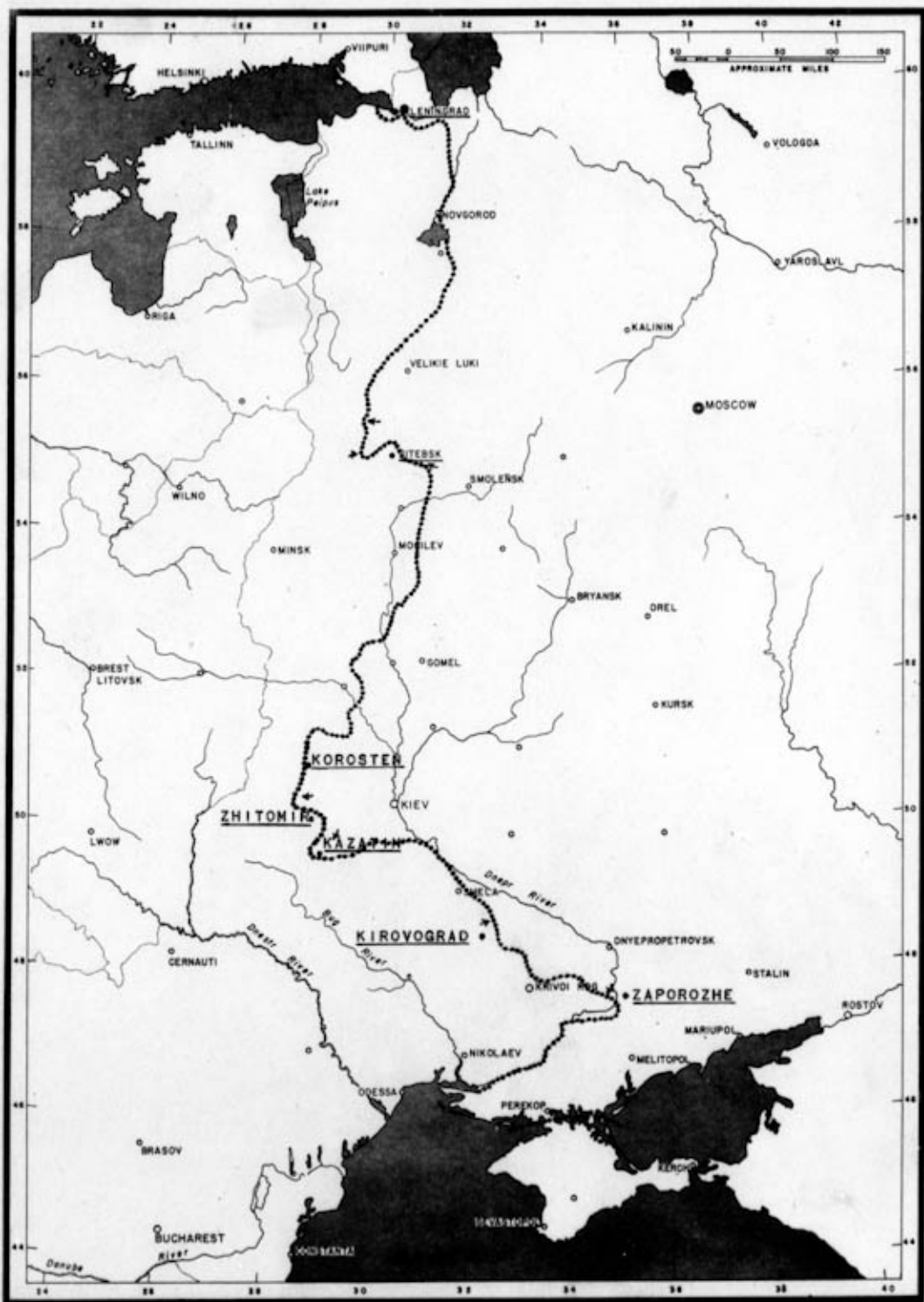
29-30 December through a heavy overcast. 2460 tons of incendiaries and high explosives were dropped, including 379 two-ton bombs. Twenty heavy bombers are missing; antiaircraft fire was heavy but enemy fighter reaction was ineffective, one enemy plane being destroyed. During the same night small missions of RAF planes attacked the chemical works at Leverkusen, the armament works at Dusseldorf and targets at Magdeburg and Leipzig. Enemy aircraft have been active over the Bay of Biscay recently.

The following day the largest number of heavy bombers and fighters ever dispatched by the 8th Air Force attacked targets in southwestern Germany. This was the deepest penetration made by our fighters, who escorted the bombers during the entire mission. Twenty-three enemy fighters were shot down; we lost 22 bombers and 12 fighters. ✓

2. The War Department is keeping our Military Attache in England abreast of reports received from various sources concerning German heavy long-range rockets and their possible employment. ✓

3. The War Department has issued orders transferring General Eisenhower to duty as Commanding General of US Forces in the European Theater, and relieving General Devers from the latter theater to command US Forces in the North African Theater. The effective date of this exchange will be arranged between these officers.

4. Weather conditions were generally good along the eastern front during 30 December when the Soviets advanced 17 miles in the area between ✓





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
REPRODUCED, OSS



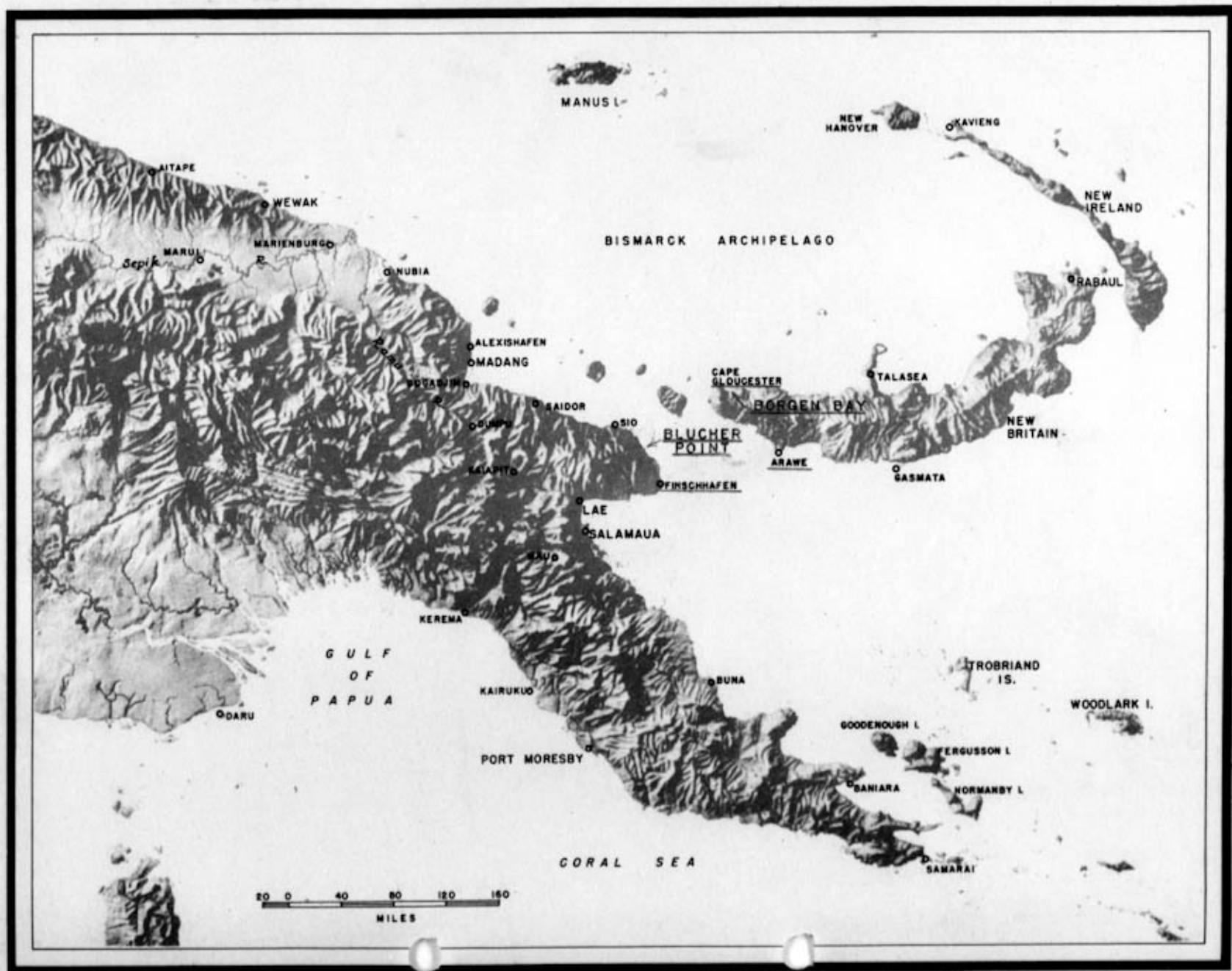
Korosten and Zhitomir and captured Kazatin. Stubborn enemy resistance continues around Zhitomir itself. North of Kirovograd the enemy continued his attacks. West and south of Zaporozhe the Soviets advanced nine miles. At Vitebsk enemy counterattacks have checked Soviet progress to the northwest and Soviet efforts to storm the city from the east were fruitless. The Germans shelled Leningrad.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. More than 100 B-17's with fighter escort dropped 306 tons of bombs on the Rimini and Ferrara railroad yards in northern Italy on 29 December; many hits were scored on tracks and buildings. One hundred and two B-26's dropped 150 tons of bombs on other railroad yards and bridges in central Italy. Generally good results were reported. Twenty-four A-36's again attacked Civitavecchia harbor and other light aircraft hit enemy lines of communication. On the Dalmatian coast, 12 P-40's damaged a 6,000-ton freighter near Peljesac.

2. Allied Commandos landed at Argento, north of the Garigliano, during the night of 29 December; no details have been reported. American forces attacked east of Acquafondata early on 30 December and the 2nd Moroccan Division captured the peak of M. Casale as well as an adjoining crest. ✓

Along the Eighth Army front heavy German artillery and mortar fire nullified gains by the Canadians in the center of their sector but they continued to advance along the road to Pescara, being now about two



miles beyond Ortona.

ASIATIC THEATER

Ten P-40's of the 10th Air Force scored hits on the runway of the Myitkyina airdrome, on 29 December. One (probably two) enemy planes were shot down; one P-40 is missing. Between 27 and 30 December RAF planes carried out offensive reconnaissance missions against enemy lines of communication in central Burma, attacked Japanese installations and troop concentrations near Mandalay and at Buthidaung (north of Akyab).

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During the night of 28-29 December, 21 enemy bombers raided Finschhafen causing no damage; one raider was shot down.

The next day the Japanese brought strong but unsuccessful pressure to bear against our eastern beachhead at Cape Gloucester; they have already sustained 700 casualties in this area. By noon of 30 December Allied forces had captured Cape Gloucester and its airfields, and were consolidating their positions. In northeastern New Guinea our ground forces met strong resistance at Blucher Point.

Allied air forces continued to give strong support to our ground forces. On 29 December 118 heavy and medium bombers attacked enemy defense positions near the main (easterly) air strip at Cape Gloucester and along Borgen Bay. Other Allied planes attacked targets elsewhere on New Britain and along the northeast New Guinea coast, and started fires along the waterfront at Ceram, where four enemy planes were destroyed.

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2. Our ground forces on Bougainville patrolled more than a mile beyond the perimeter of the Torokina beachhead on 29 December without making contact with the enemy.

3. Navy planes bombed Nauru at dawn on 28 December destroying an ammunition dump.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 750

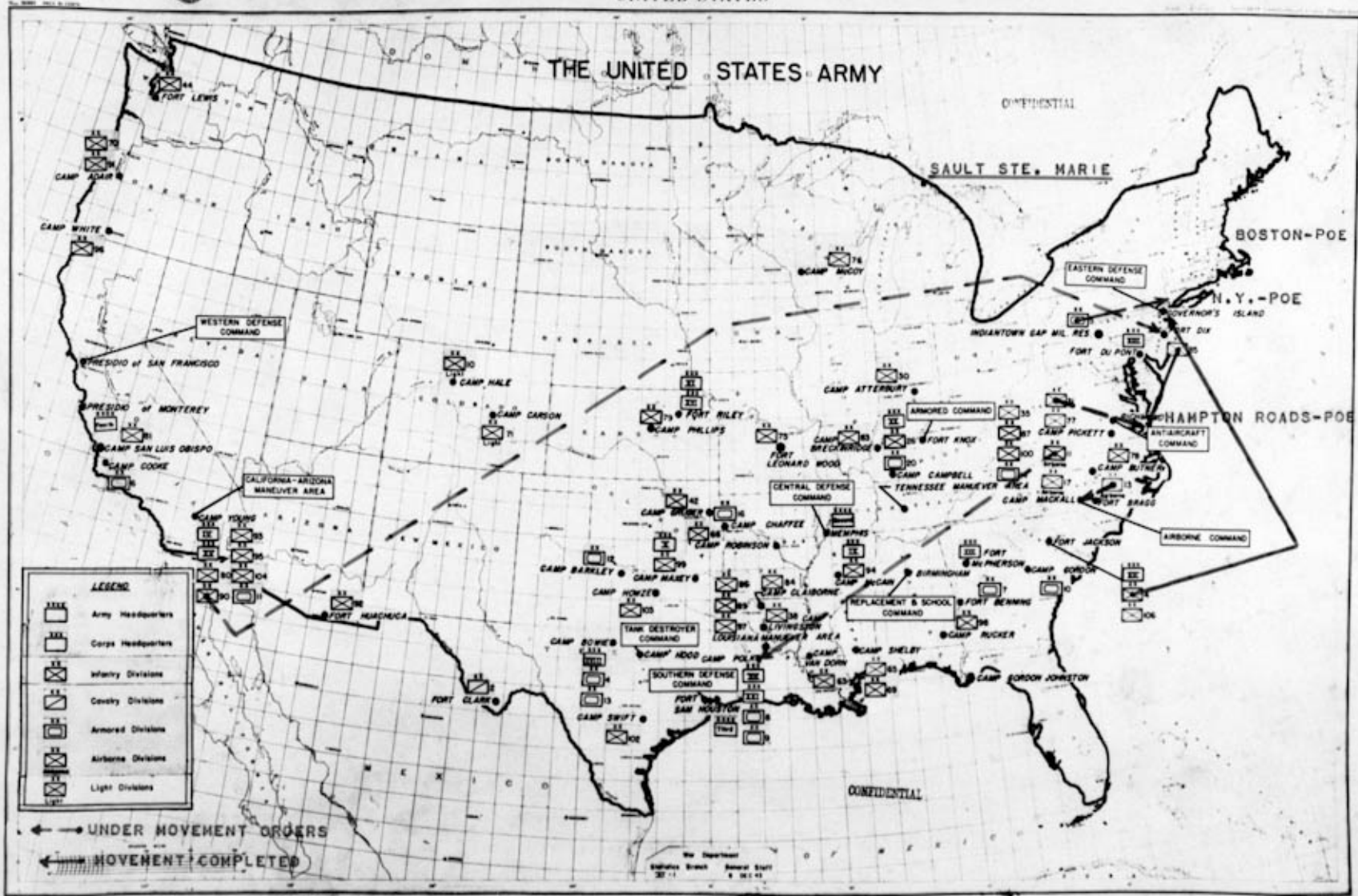
0700 December 29 to 0700 December 30, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(r)

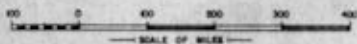
OUTLINE MAP  
UNITED STATES



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

FORM 3000

# CENTRAL EUROPE









MEDITERRANEAN

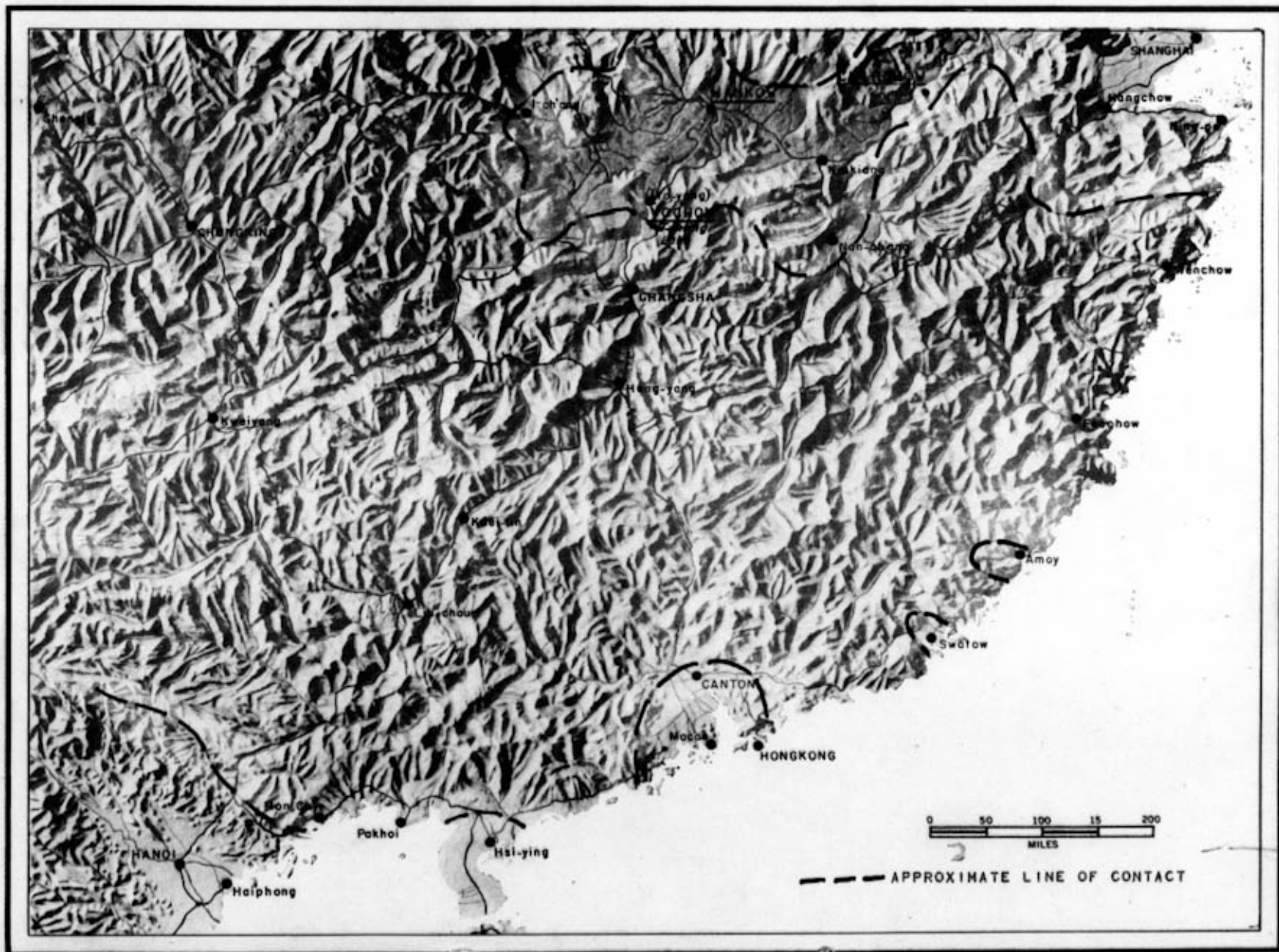
1. A total of 126 US heavy bombers escorted by 148 fighters bombed the Rimini railroad yards and nearby targets on 28 December; one P-38 failed to return. Seventeen B-24's attacked the railroad yards at Vicenza; nineteen (probably 24) of some 50 enemy planes encountered were shot down; eleven B-24's were lost of which some may have landed in friendly territory.

. Medium and light bombers heavily attacked the airdromes at Ciampino, Guidonia (where five enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground), and Centocelle, railroad facilities at Pistoia, Orvieto, and Ferentino, as well as targets at Civitavecchia; no enemy aircraft were encountered on these missions. P-40's raided installations at Nettuno and Anzio, hitting the wharf and mole at Anzio.

2. There was little change in the situation on the Fifth Army front during 29 December; patrols reached Acquafondata. The advance of the French Moroccan troops into the Monti Marrone hill mass was hampered by snow, supply difficulties and heavy opposition.

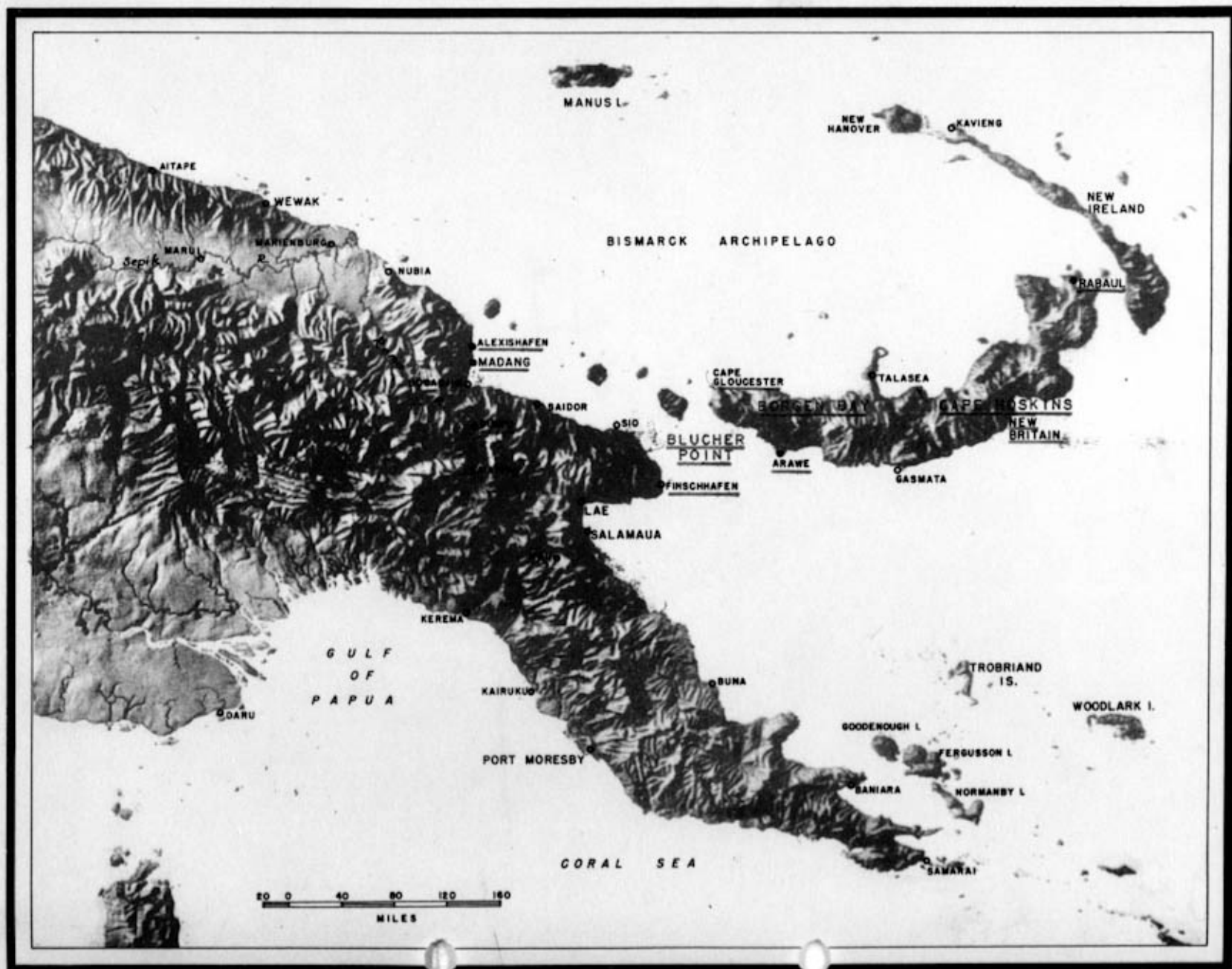
The right flank of the Eighth Army made a general advance, Canadian units pushing west and northwest of Ortona.

3. During the week ending 16 December, 103,341 tons of supplies, 3,805 vehicles, and 17,429 persons were discharged at Italian west coast ports, with Naples carrying the majority of the traffic. Corresponding figures for east coast ports were 63,060 tons of supplies, 4,758 vehicles



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS



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OSD Letter, 8-8-78

and 8,664 persons. The tonnages indicate a substantial increase over the preceding week. Port discharges at Bari have regained the level attained prior to the destructive attack by enemy aircraft on the night of 1-2 December.

4. Major General Nathan F. Twining has been relieved from command of the 13th Air Force in the South Pacific Area and assigned to command the 15th Air Force in the North African Theater.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

Japanese bombers and fighters attacked a 14th Air Force advanced base on 27 December, destroying one airplane on the ground and damaging another. Our fighter planes engaged the enemy's escort aircraft, shooting down four (probably nine) for a loss of one fighter.

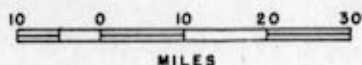
The next day 14th Air Force B-25's sank a 200-foot ship and damaged two others in the Yangtze River near Chihchow. Our fighter bombers hit enemy warehouses near Yochow; all our planes returned to their bases.

#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our troops, expanding their beachheads on Cape Gloucester, advanced to within one mile of the airdrome on 28 December in the face of sharply increased opposition. The enemy, initially disposed in a coastline cordon defense, is now concentrating against our east flank.

In northeastern New Guinea, Allied forces reached Blucher Point on the coast and captured another strong point north of Dampu

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



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in the Ramu Valley.

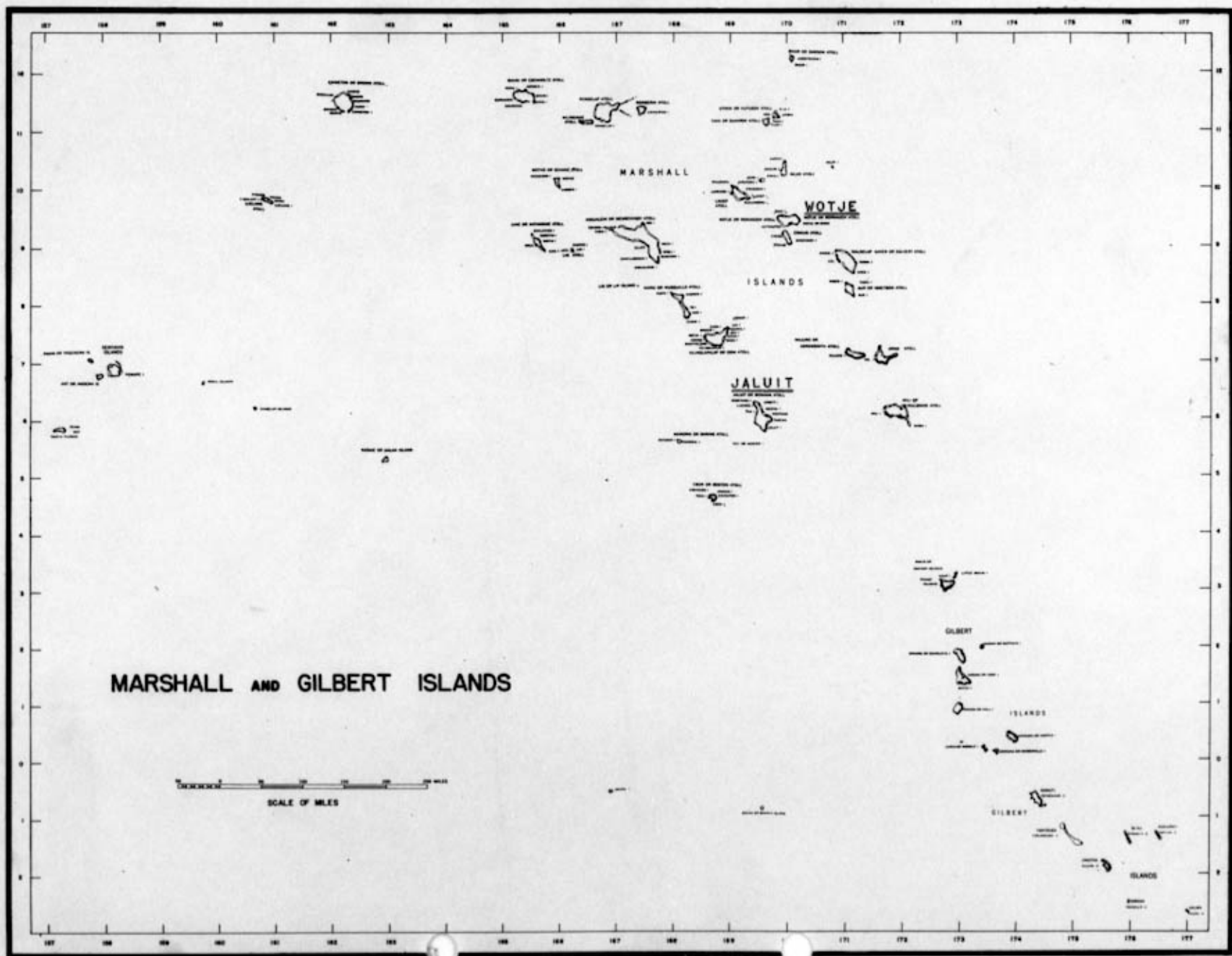
Fifth Air Force planes effectively bombed the Alexishafen, Madang, and Cape Hoskins airdromes, damaged two Japanese transports near the Celebes, and again operated against targets of opportunity along the New Britain and New Guinea coasts, and supported our ground forces in the Cape Gloucester area. At Rabaul there were 16 large and 14 small freighters besides five destroyers and four hundred barges.

2. Twenty-eight fighter planes from the South Pacific, patrolling over Rabaul at noon on 27 December, engaged 50 to 60 enemy fighters, destroying 17 for a loss of one Navy plane. Returning to Rabaul the next morning, our fighters engaged another large force of enemy planes destroying 26 (probably 33) for a loss of three planes. B-24's attacked the Buka area, 25 heavy and medium bombers hit Kahili, and a force of 77 Navy bombers attacked antiaircraft and coastal guns in the Poporang, Shortland and Faisi areas. All enemy landing fields on Bougainville were unserviceable that day.

3. Seventeen B-24's dropped 51 tons of bombs on Wotje on 26 December. One Japanese fighter was shot down; we lost two B-24's. Thirteen Navy planes probably damaged several small ships in a raid on Jaluit.

GENERAL

The War Department notified Generals MacArthur, Harmon and Stilwell that a policy of rotating personnel from their areas to the US will



MARSHALL AND GILBERT ISLANDS

SCALE OF MILES



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become effective on 1 March 1944. Initially the number to be returned will be limited to one per cent of the theater strength per month, but may be increased later as the shipping situation and other conditions permit. The selection of the personnel to be returned is left to the discretion of theater commanders.

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EUROPEAN THEATER

Soviet pressure east of Vitebsk increased during 28 December while northwest of the town enemy counterattacks checked further Soviet advances. The Soviets continued their progress on a broad front west of Kiev and are now five miles east of Korosten, 14 miles east of Zhitomir and 18 miles east of Berdichev. The Germans now hold high ground favorable for defense. North of Kirovograd the enemy counter-attacked to check the increasing Soviet pressure.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Targets for our medium bombers on 27 December were the Poggibonsi railroad yards, viaducts at Recco and Zoagli, and shipping near Zara; no enemy fighter reaction was reported over these targets. Fighter planes attacked factories and the railway at Anagni, the harbor and railway yards at Civitavecchia, destroyed rolling stock south of Ancona, and patrolled the battle area. All our aircraft returned.

2. Fierce fighting flared on the Fifth Army front during 27 December when the enemy strongly attacked Puntafiume but failed to take the town. Our troops occupied the heights overlooking Viticuso from the south, and French Moroccans pushed further into the Monti Marrone hill mass.

Eighth Army patrols operated in the Casoli area and cut the road north of Arielli at several points. Canadian units have cleared the enemy from Ortona.

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3. The enemy has occupied Koroula Island; Partisan troops were evacuated by 26 December.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. 10th Air Force operations for 26 and 27 December included attacks by 19 medium bombers against enemy camps in the Tanga area of western Burma and by 16 A-36's which skip-bombed Japanese trenches in the Tarung River region. During this period the RAF bombed and machine-gunned enemy positions and camps along the western Burmese border and destroyed railroad rolling stock in central Burma.

2. On 27 December eight P-40's of the 14th Air Force set fire to four barracks at Phu Tho, machine-gunned the airdrome at Dong Cuong and the railroad station and barracks at Cam Duong. In the Tungting Lake region, ten P-40's machine-gunned an airdrome at Yochow, and sank a 200-foot freighter. All our aircraft returned. Enemy planes attacked Suichwan; details are lacking.

3. The War Department instructed General Stilwell to deliver to Brigadier General Earl S. Hoag, commanding the India-China Wing, Air Transport Command, the commendation of The President for its accomplishment of transporting ten thousand tons over "The Hump" into China during the period 1-25 December; the message also states that The President has directed the citation of the Wing and conveys his personal thanks to every officer and man concerned. ✓

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 27 December our Cape Gloucester forces, supported by tanks, pushed to within two miles of the airdrome against enemy resistance; one of our columns repulsed four counterattacks. Patrol clashes were reported in the Arawe area.

In New Guinea, Allied troops occupied Waringai on Huon Peninsula and captured a strongpoint in the Ramu Valley seven miles north of Dumpu.

Thirty-seven (probably 38) enemy bombers and fighters, from three missions attempting early morning attacks on our Arawe beachhead, were destroyed by fire from our air, ground and naval units. In addition to furnishing air support for our ground operations, Allied aircraft attacked the Madang, Cape Gloucester, Cape Hoskins and Kavieng airdromes and adjacent areas and bombed enemy installations near Bogadjim.

2. In Bougainville our bombers attacked supply dumps at Kahili on 27 December, harassed enemy troops near Kieta, and pounded the float plane anchorage and antiaircraft positions at Buka.

GENERAL

Under authority of Executive Order 9412, the Secretary of War assumed control of the railroads as of 1900, 27 December 1943. ✓

Responsibility for executing the executive order was delegated by the Secretary of War to Lieutenant General Brehon Somervell, Commanding General, Army Service Forces. Responsibility for operational control of the railroads was delegated to Major General C. P. Gross, Chief of Transportation.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 748

0700 December 27 to 0700 December 28, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

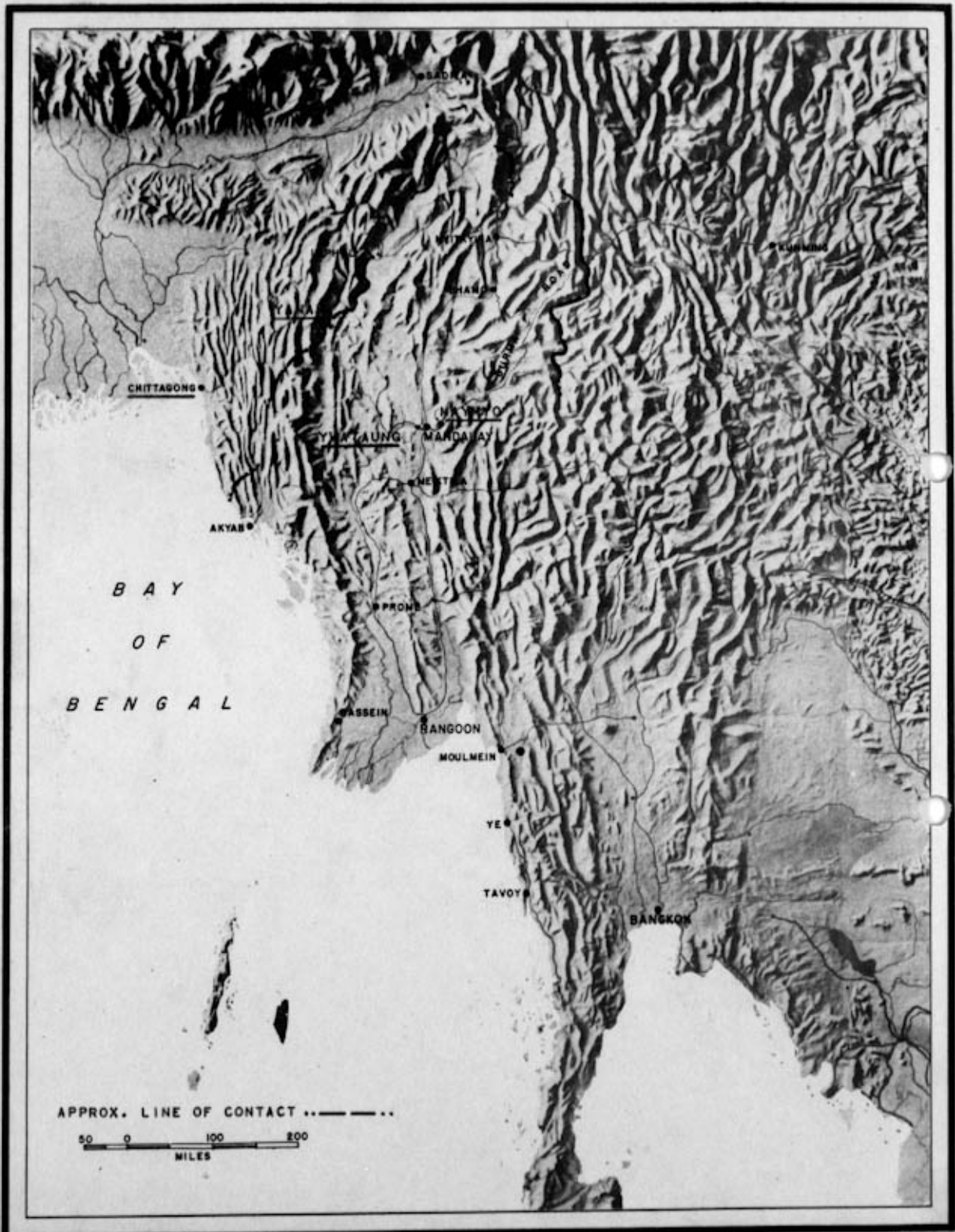
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BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

#### EUROPEAN THEATER

On 27 December the Soviets made an important advance, cutting the Vitebsk-Polotsk railroad about 25 miles northwest of the former city. The Soviet offensive southeast of Zhitomir advanced some 10 miles; the Red Armies are now 21 miles southeast of Zhitomir and 17 miles northeast of Kazatin, and are exerting pressure against Korosten.

#### MEDITERRANEAN

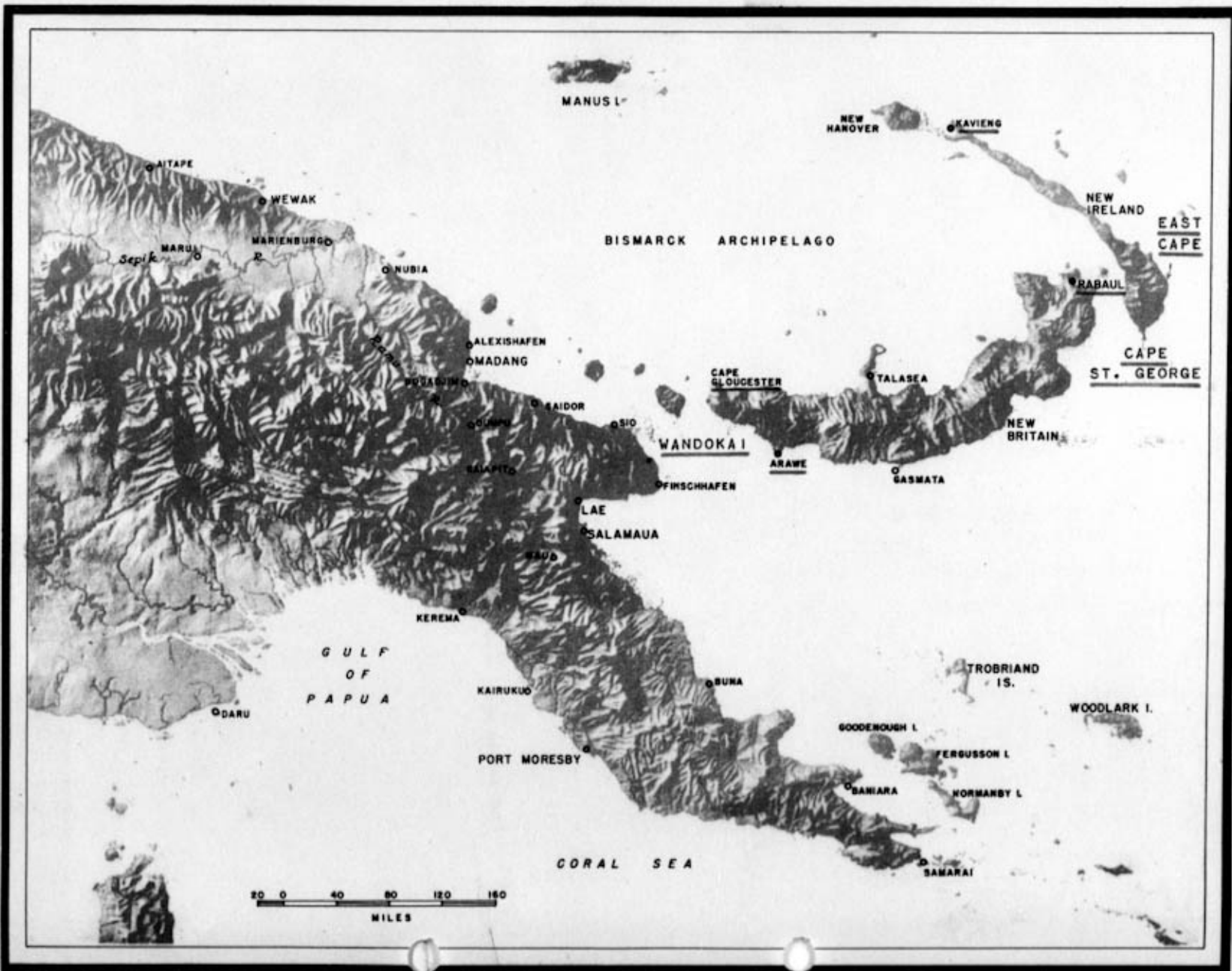
1. Large-scale B-26 attacks were carried out on the railroad yards at Prato, Empoli and Pistoia on 26 December; good results were reported. Weather restricted operations in support of ground troops.

2. The noon, 27 December, reports indicate that the Eighth Army was making slow progress through Ortona and along a five-mile front further inland. Units of the Fifth Army advanced astride the highway to Cassino and made further gains in the Monti Sammucro hill mass.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. On Christmas Day 16 RAF bombers dropped 27 tons of explosives on the station at Ywataung. During that day and the next lighter aircraft continued their attacks on enemy-held villages in western Burma. On the 26th 72 RAF fighters intercepted 50 enemy planes west of Chittagong, shooting down five for a loss of one Spitfire.

On 26 December nine B-25's of the 10th Air Force bombed an



# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



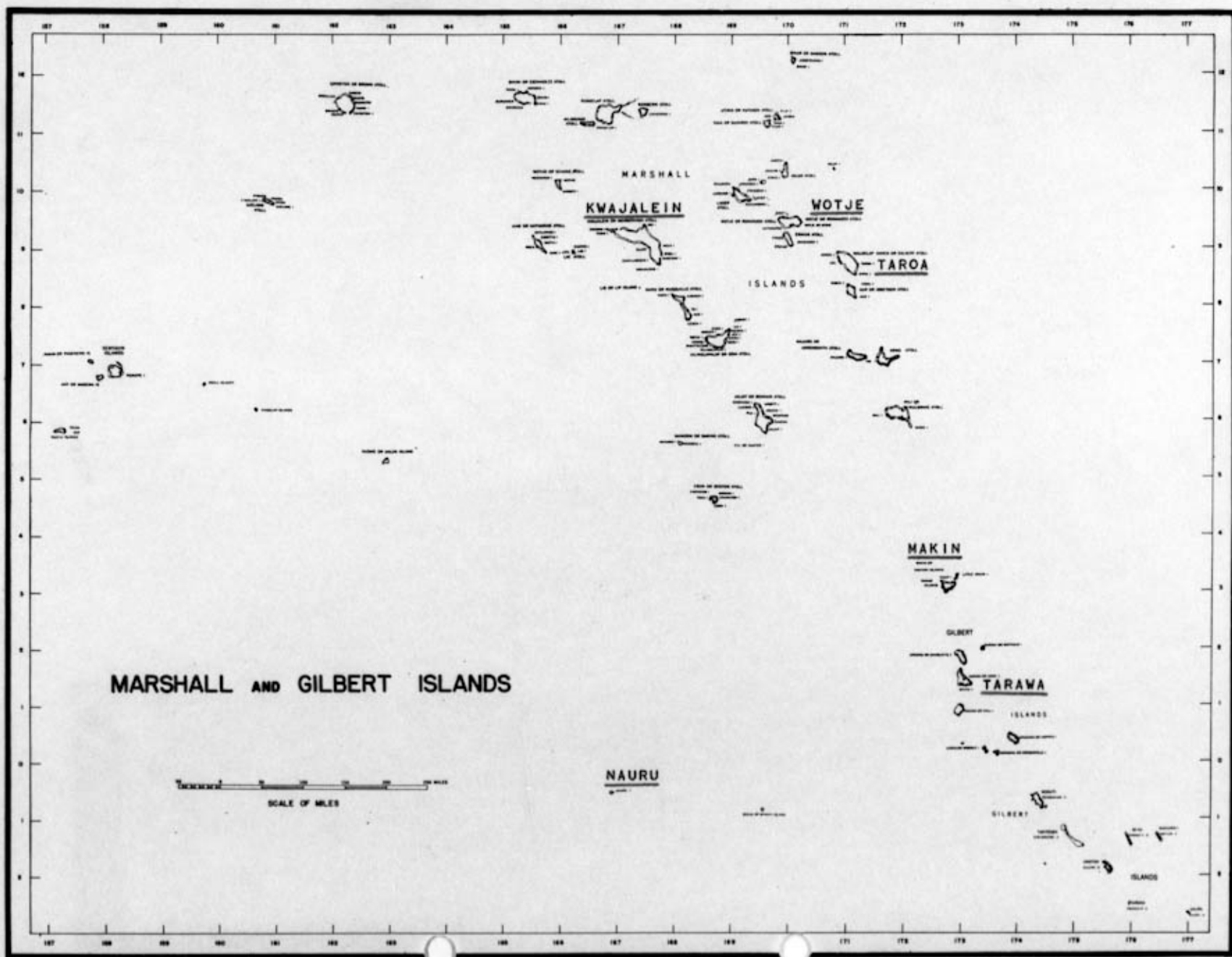
enemy camp at Yanan in northwestern Burma, while 13 P-38's destroyed three enemy planes during an attack on a Japanese airdrome near Maymyo.

2. Escorted Japanese bombers attacked our Nanning airfield on 26 December without damage. Two B-25's of the 14th Air Force destroyed a beached vessel off Toning Island, northeast of Hongkong.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Enemy planes raided our Arawe beachhead positions three times during the night of 25-26 December causing some damage. Two enemy dive bombers were shot down the next morning when over 100 Japanese aircraft were over the area, while three ground attacks against our right flank were repulsed. On Cape Gloucester our troops have consolidated their beachheads and are advancing inland. Targets at Borgen Bay and the air strips are now under our artillery fire. In New Guinea Allied troops continued their mopping up operations at Wandokai. Allied air operations during the period consisted of harassing attacks by a force of 115 US heavy and medium bombers on enemy positions on New Britain and a night attack against Kavieng by Australian patrol bombers which caused fires in the dispersal areas and ammunition dumps.

2. On 26 December 18 medium bombers attacked enemy bivouac areas at Kahili while seven others bombed and machine-gunned the radar station at Cape St. George. One B-25 failed to return. A 77-plane Navy mission bombed and machine-gunned the Kieta area. Reconnaissance planes attacked



small enemy shipping off East Cape and Rabaul.

3. Nine Central Pacific heavy bombers attacked Wotje on 23 December; three (probably four) of 35 enemy fighters encountered near Taroa were shot down. The next day bomber missions were carried out against Nauru and Wotje without interception although heavy antiaircraft fire was encountered over Nauru. One Ventura bomber did not return. One of our reconnaissance planes attacked two small enemy freighters southeast of Kwajalein leaving one sinking.

Enemy planes raided our installations at Makin and Tarawa during the period; two enemy planes were shot down; one of our fighters was lost.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

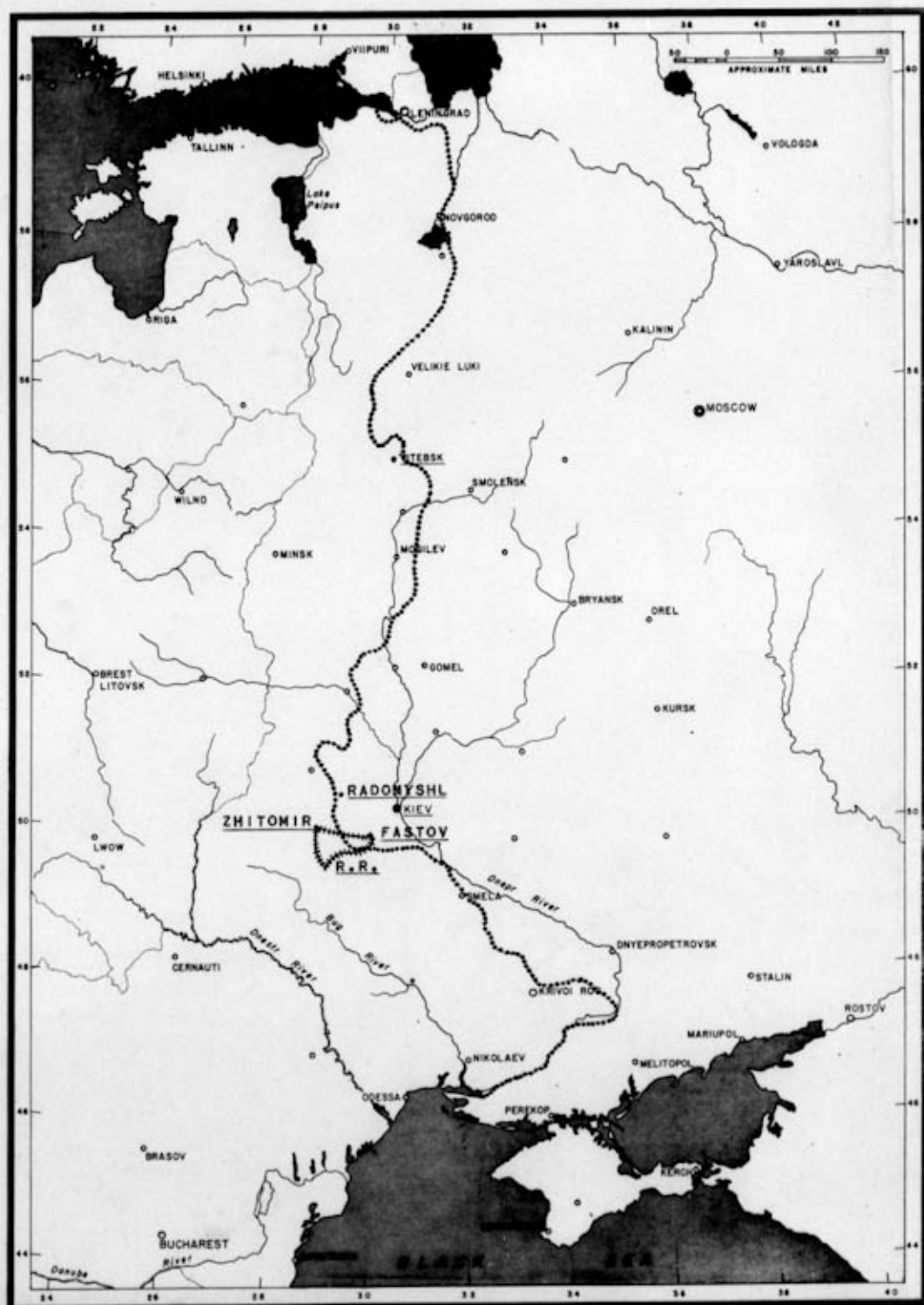
No. 747

0700 December 26 to 0700 December 27, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

103(2)





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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The 10,000-ton US tanker "Chapultepec" was torpedoed 83 miles northeast of Cristobal on 26 December; the ship arrived at that port later that day.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Additional bomber missions dispatched by the ~~American~~ <sup>Allied</sup> Expeditionary Air Forces against military objectives in northern France on 24 December totaled 370 aircraft which, together with the 26 squadrons of escorting fighters, brought the total sorties for that day to more than 2,300.

2. Allied bombers attacking an enemy surface force of some twelve vessels in the Bay of Biscay on 24 December possibly set fire to a 6,000-ton freighter. That night Allied aircraft maintained contact with the enemy force and the following day again attacked it, starting a large fire on one vessel and scoring near misses on others. One heavy bomber crashed into the sea.

3. Although weather conditions deteriorated in the south, the Soviets on 26 December made important advances west of Kiev toward Zhitomir. They are now 31 miles to the east of that town on the Zhitomir-Fastov railroad and 20 miles from Fastov on the railroad running southwest from the latter city. Radomyshl, 19 miles south of Malin, is again in Soviet hands and enemy preparations for further advances on Kiev have been again checked. Despite rain and snow there was considerable

# CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400  
— SCALE OF MILES —

THE FAEROES

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BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
 26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
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tank action. The Soviets continued their offensive against Vitebsk, being now 14 miles from that city to the northwest and eight miles to the south.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Thirty-five escorted B-24's from the 12th Air Force attacked the airdrome at Vicenza on 25 December. Two enemy airplanes were destroyed in aerial combat; six of our fighters are missing. Sixty-six B-17's escorted by 115 fighters dropped 186 tons on the Bolzano railroad yards; one bomber was destroyed by antiaircraft fire. Eighty-eight medium bombers obtained excellent effect on the Pisa railroad yards while other Allied aircraft patrolled the battle area.

2. Further small gains were made on the Fifth Army front during 26 December, additional positions being occupied on the forward slopes of Monti Sammucro. Active patrolling continued. Despite bad weather and stiff enemy resistance, the Eighth Army occupied the greater part of Ortona and completed the capture of Villa Grande. Artillery exchanges continued throughout the day.

3. Casualty figures to 23 December are as follows:

<u>Fifth Army</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Totals</u>
US	2,432	10,601	3,295	16,328
British	1,664	7,009	2,865	11,538
French	120	890	44	1,054
Italian	109	191	282	528
<u>Eighth Army</u>	<u>2,159</u>	<u>7,895</u>	<u>1,896</u>	<u>11,950</u>
	6,484	26,586	8,382	41,452

Prisoners of war captured by components of the Fifth Army were reported as follows:

US	2,914
British	1,660
French	15
Italian	9
	<hr/>
	4,598

The Eighth Army has captured 2,723 prisoners of war.

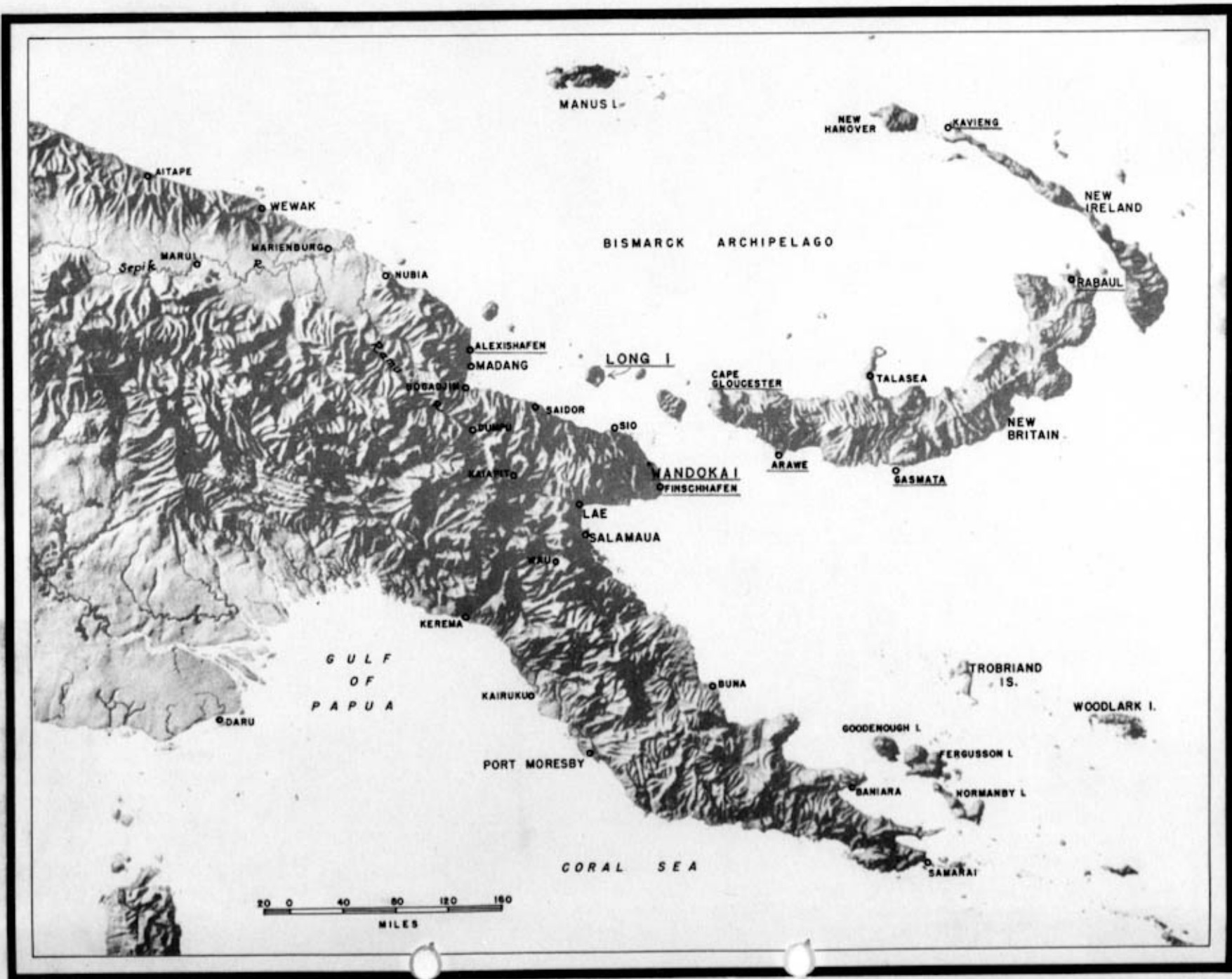
4. Reporting the possibility of a typhus epidemic in Naples General Eisenhower has informed the War Department that on 21 December there were 154 known civilian cases of typhus in the city. There were no American cases. US doctors, operating directly under Allied Force Headquarters are taking charge of control measures.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Twelve British medium bombers scored direct hits on the railroad station and yards at Mandalay on 24 December; one bomber did not return.

2. Escorted B-24's of the 14th Air Force attacked an enemy airfield near Canton on 24 December. Many hits were observed in the target area. A large force of enemy fighter planes attacked our mission while in the target area, and our bombers and fighters shot down 19 (probably 29) of the enemy aircraft for a loss of one bomber and one fighter.

The next day two B-25's piloted by Chinese airmen bombed and probably sank a 300-foot passenger ship northeast of Canton.



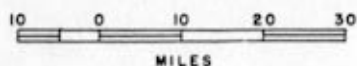
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied forces advancing beyond Finschhafen occupied Wandokai on 24 December, capturing much equipment and ammunition. Allied patrol bombers hit Gasmata and machine-gunned small craft in that area. On 25 December, 154 bombers and fighters attacked enemy positions on Cape Gloucester while others hit the Alexishafen runway, buildings and barges. One enemy bomber was shot down near Arawe.

2. Following a naval and air bombardment American amphibious forces made unopposed dawn landings on either side of Cape Gloucester and occupied Long Island on 26 December. Preliminary reports indicate that practically no losses were sustained. Fighter cover was provided by the 5th Air Force which drove off strong enemy air counterattacks against our beachheads and shipping. Sixty-one enemy planes including 36 bombers were destroyed in air combat. We lost one ship and three others sustained minor damage. Seven of our planes failed to return.

3. Our carrier-based aircraft attacked enemy shipping at Kavieng during the early morning hours of Christmas Day sinking one destroyer, two large freighters and three barges. A second destroyer and several smaller freighters were damaged and three enemy aircraft were destroyed for the loss of one of our fighters. Land-based fighters, escorting B-24's which bombed Rabaul that day, destroyed 13 (probably 20) of some 60 intercepting enemy planes; four of our fighters did not return. Navy aircraft attacked antiaircraft positions at Kangu Hill, Motupina Point,

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





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Buka, and Bonis and provided air support for our ground troops near Cape Torokina.

4. Advanced detachments of the 38th Infantry Division have arrived in Hawaii. The first echelon of the 40th Infantry Division has left Hawaii for Guadalcanal.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 746

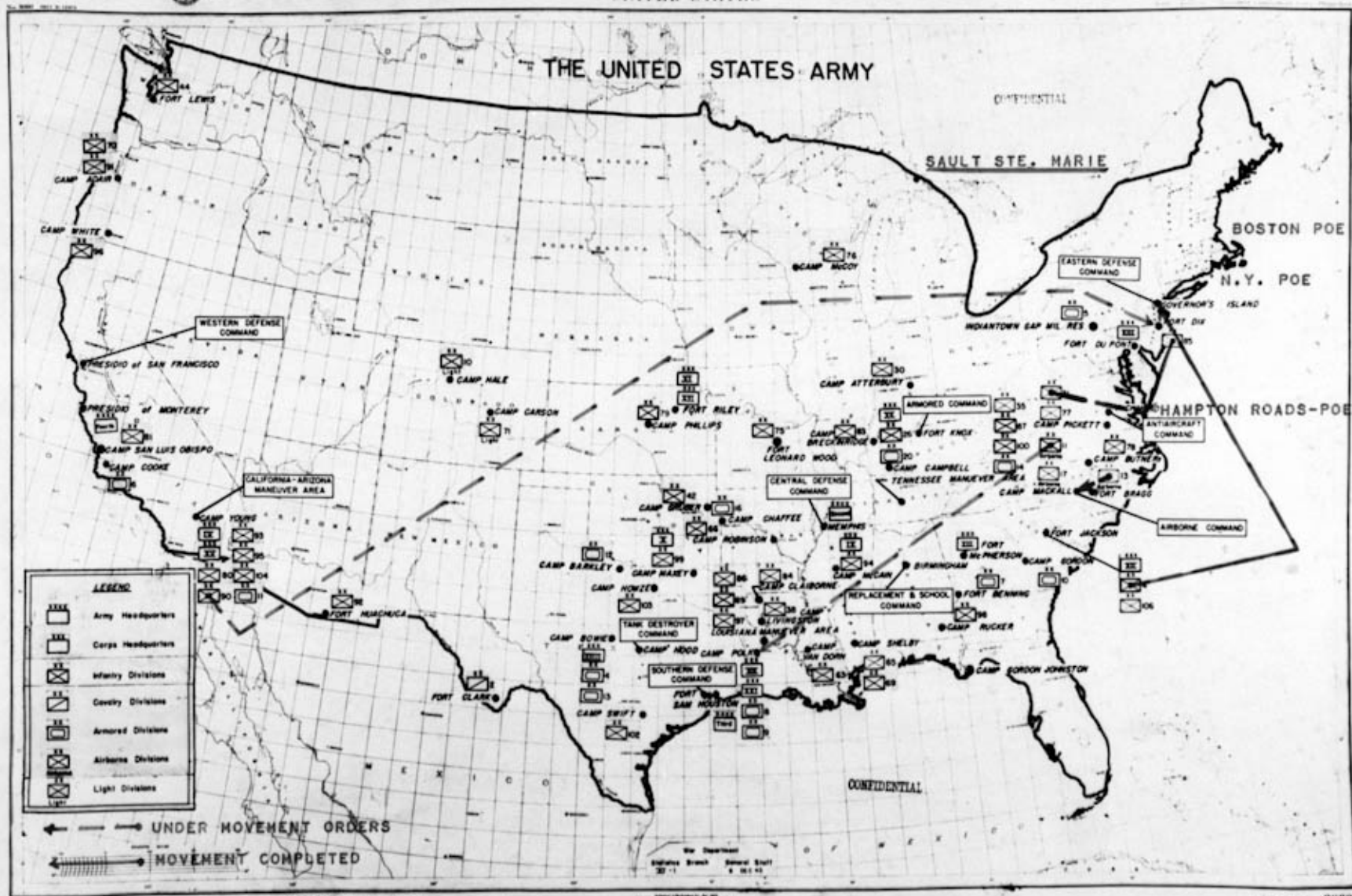
0700 December 25 to 0700 December 26, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

OUTLINE MAP  
UNITED STATES



# CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400  
— SCALE OF MILES —

THE FÆRØES

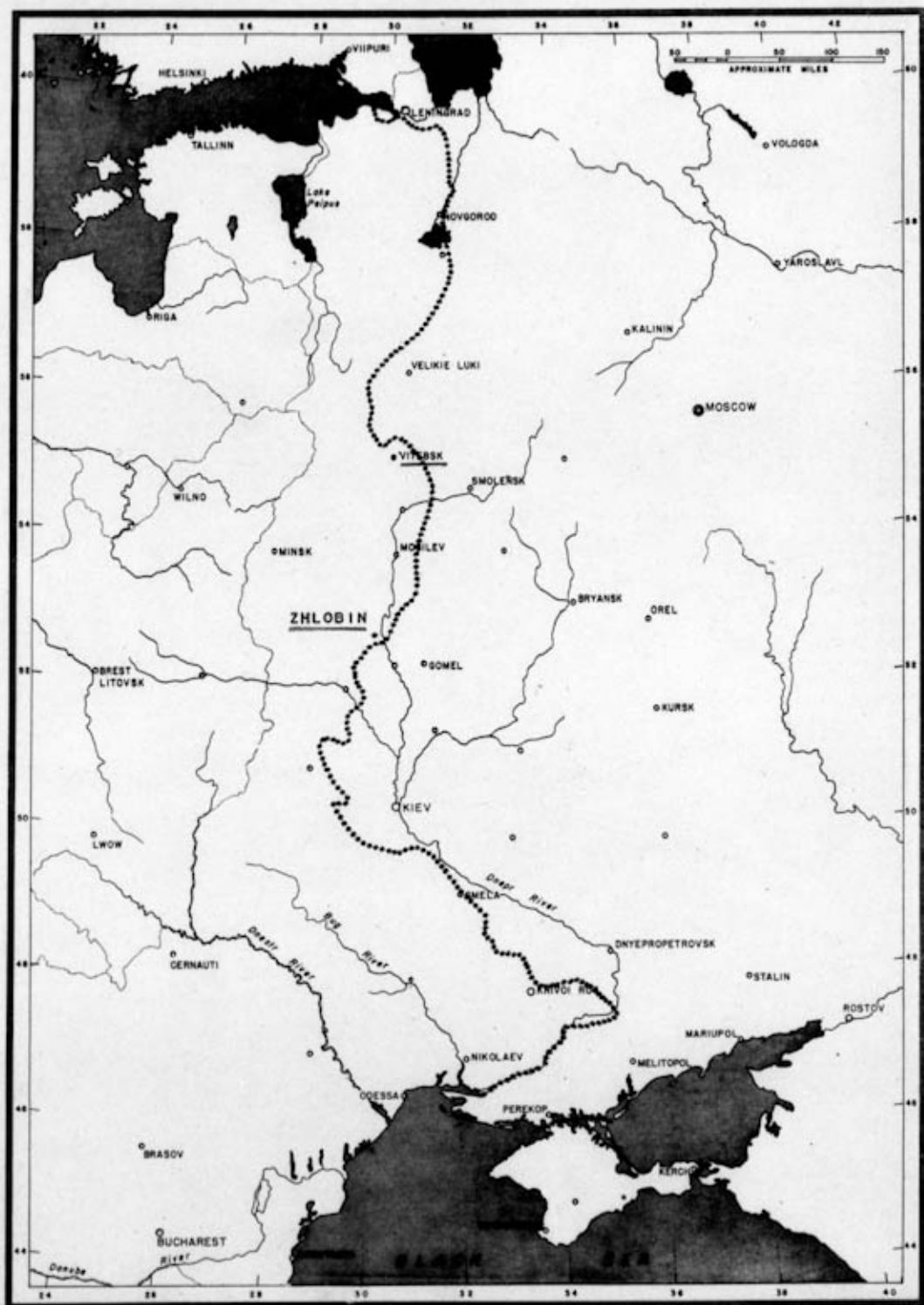
SHETLAND IS.

RHINE-RIJEN

DUISBURG

AACHEN







BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, 055  
REPRODUCED, 055

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OSD Letter, 6-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

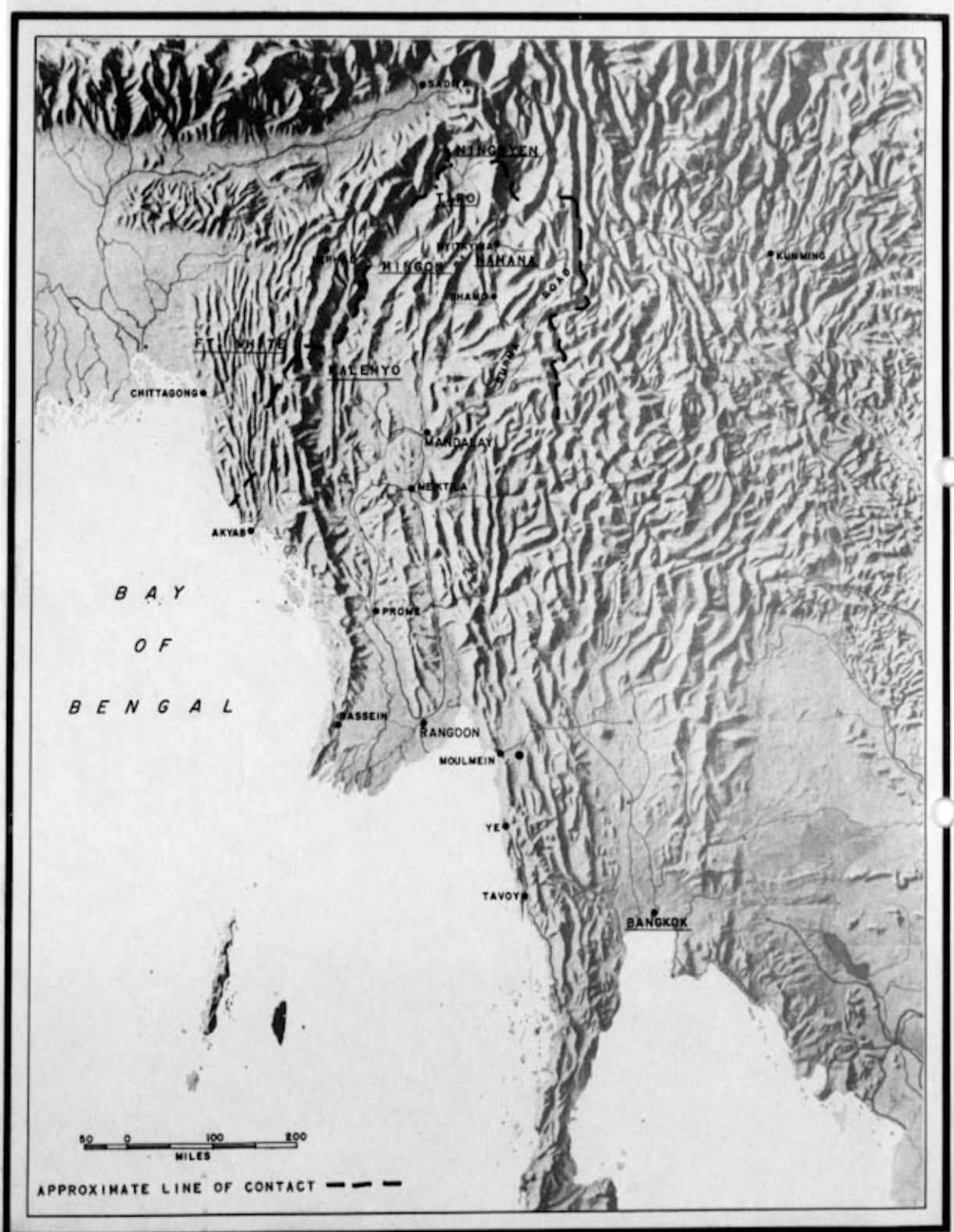
Directives have been issued for the movement of the 13th Airborne Division (Major General Elbridge G. Chapman, Jr.) from Fort Bragg, North Carolina to Camp Mackall, North Carolina, for airborne training.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. A P-47 mission bombed Gilze-Rijen airfield, Holland, on 23 December reporting good results. That night 315 RAF heavy bombers again attacked Berlin with over 1300 tons of bombs. Fifteen planes failed to return and two others crashed in England. British Mosquito bombers harassed targets in Germany at Aachen, Duisburg and Leipzig.
2. Soviet units attacking Vitebsk have made short advances to within 15 miles of the city on three sides. The aggressiveness of the Soviets southwest of Zhlobin on 24 December was neutralized by enemy attacks during the past 24 hours.

MEDITERRANEAN

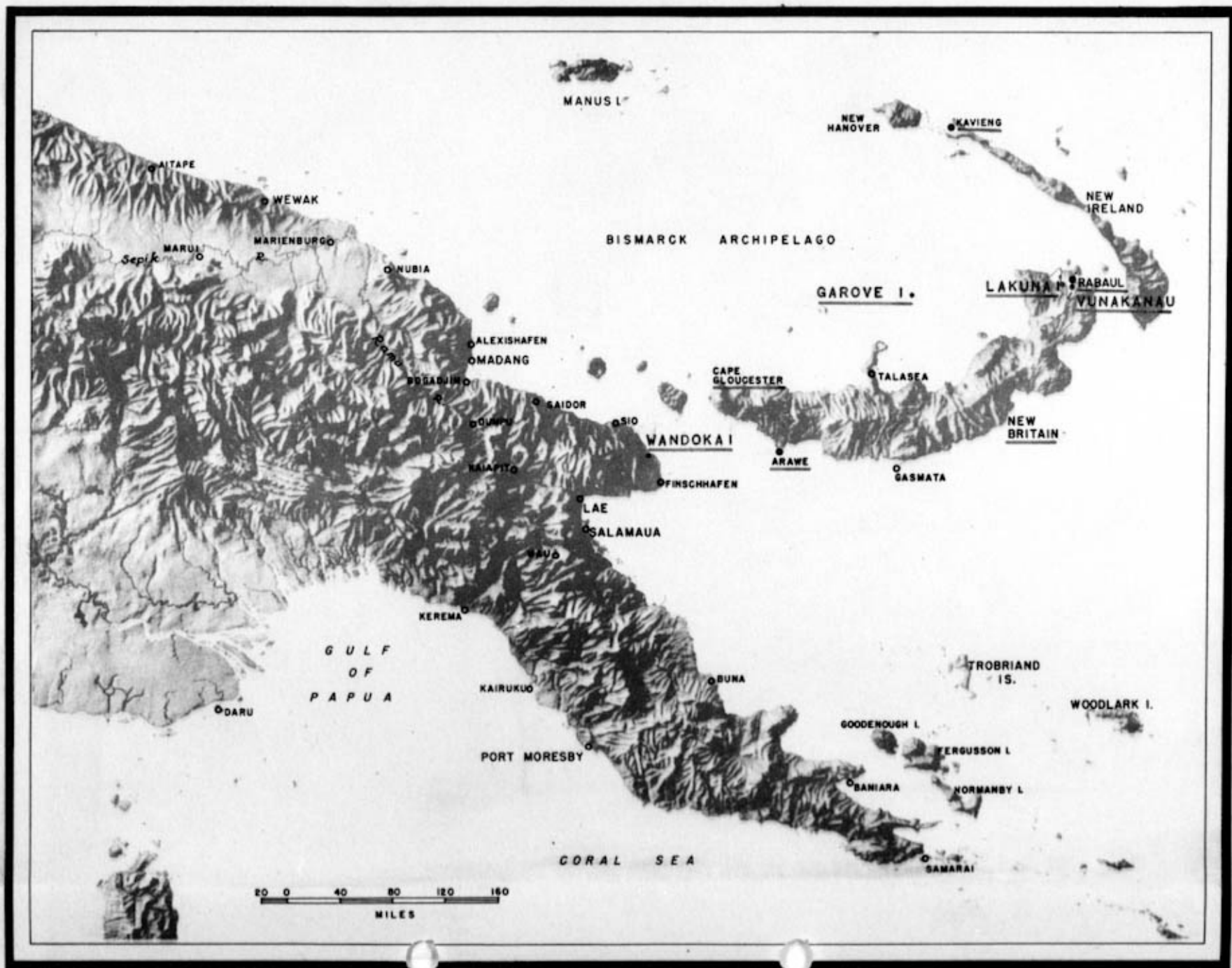
1. Weather conditions over the Italian front hampered air operations on 24 December. Railroad yards and warehouses at Cecina were attacked by 25 B-26's, and an offensive fighter patrol, unable to reach its target in Yugoslavia, destroyed an enemy plane over the Adriatic.
2. Fifth Army units renewed their attacks against enemy positions guarding Cassino on 25 December. Eighth Army troops reorganized positions



BASE MAP NO 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS





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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

on recently captured ground; heavy fighting in adverse weather continued in the Ortona area.

ASIATIC THEATER

Light and fighter bombers of the 10th Air Force hit the Mington ammunition dump and started fires at Namana during 23 December, while other light bombers provided air support for ground troops operating in the Ningbyen and Taro areas. That night a total of 28 US and RAF B-24's attacked targets at Bangkok, our 19 B-24's hitting the rail terminals with good results. RAF planes on other missions hit Kalemyo on 22 December, dropped supplies to Allied forces and harassed the Fort White area.

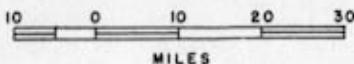
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

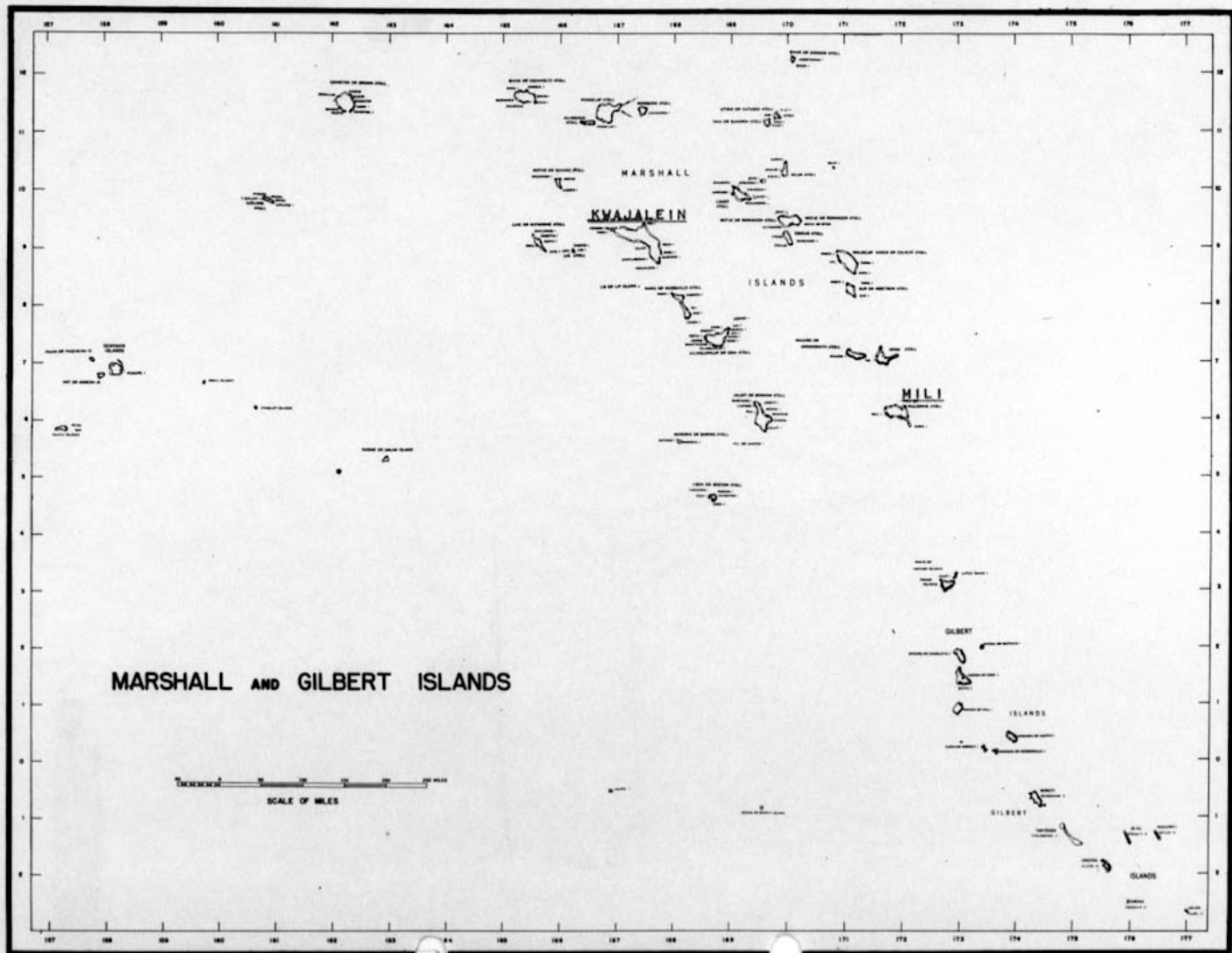
1. Allied forces advancing along the Huon peninsula reached a point two miles southeast of Wandokai on 24 December. Eight enemy aircraft attacked our positions at Arawe before dawn but caused little damage.

The 5th Air Force concentrated its power against enemy positions and installations in the Cape Gloucester area that day, a total of 89 B-24's, seven B-26's, 47 B-25's and 34 A-20's participating in the attacks. Twelve B-25's bombed and machine-gunned enemy-held villages on the northwest coast of New Britain while dive bombers attacked suspected barge hideouts northwest of Arawe and along the

*UK 12*

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

northeast New Guinea coast. Dutch B-25's started fires in the barracks area at Atamboea in central Timor. Allied patrol bombers started large fires at Kavieng and hit a transport northwest of Rabaul and a destroyer off Garove Island.

2. In the 23 December attack by 18 escorted B-24's on the Lakunai airdrome at Rabaul, 30 (probably 36) intercepting Japanese aircraft were destroyed for a loss of four Navy fighters. The next day, a similar mission pounded the nearby Vunakanau runway and shot down 35 (probably 40) more enemy planes. Two Navy bombers destroyed two of nine enemy fighters encountered near Rabaul. Other Allied heavy and medium bombers attacked Kieta, the Bonis seaplane base, Faisi, Buka and targets in northwest Choiseul.

3. Nineteen B-24's bombed shipping and shore installations at Kwajalein on 24 December setting fire to two cargo vessels. Escorted *with 12* A-24's raided Mili, bombing enemy installations and destroying two of six intercepting Japanese fighters.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 745

0700 December 24 to 0700 December 25, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

# CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400  
SCALE OF MILES







GENERAL

The War Department has directed its senior overseas commanders to take immediate steps to insure that no name is painted on airplanes, clothing, or equipment which might be used as propaganda material by the enemy or which might tend to bring punitive action against air force personnel falling into his hands.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. RAF heavy bombers attacked military objectives in the Abbeville area during the night of 22-23 December and sowed mines off La Pallice, Lorient, Cherbourg and Le Havre. Mosquitos performed harassing missions against Frankfurt and the precision instrument works at Bonn.

Enemy planes operated that night over the southeast coast of England, causing a few casualties and minor damage.

2. A force of more than 1,300 US planes, including the largest number of heavy bombers ever dispatched by the 8th Air Force, attacked military objectives in the Pas de Calais area on 24 December. Other Allied planes attacked targets in France during the day, including the airfields at Morlaix and Brest-Guipavas. Fighter opposition was negligible; all of our aircraft returned.

3. The Soviets renewed their attacks along the Nevel-Vitebsk railroad on 24 December and reached Gorodok, 20 miles northeast of



Vitebsk. The Soviets also counterattacked southwest of Zhlobin and northwest of Malin.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 23 December, Allied medium bombers scored hits on the railroad yards and bridges at Imperia as well as on the Ventimiglia yards and the approaches to the Antheor viaduct. Bad weather curtailed air operations in support of ground troops.

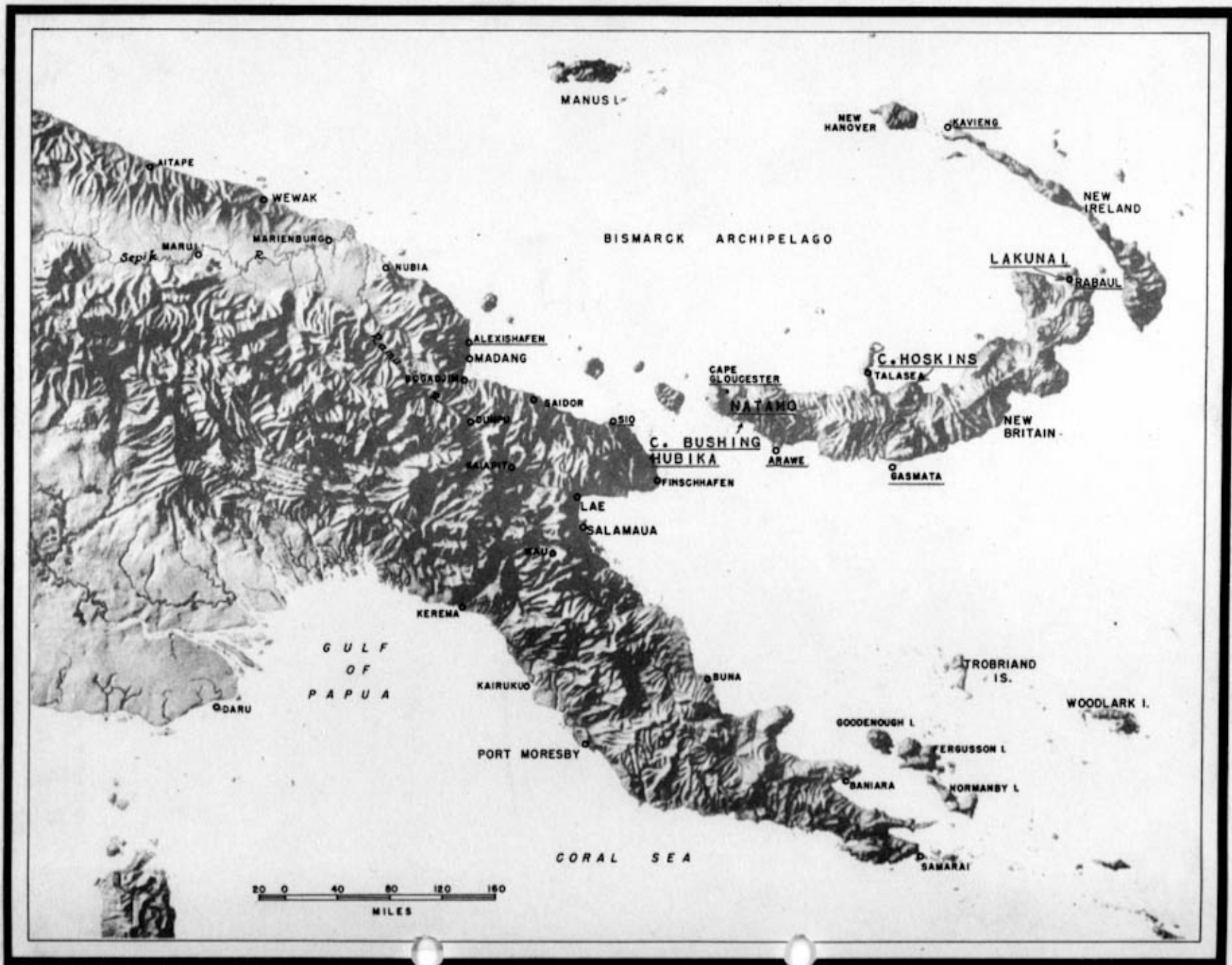
2. During 24 December Allied forces maintained patrol activity. The Fifth Army captured additional hilltops in the Monti Cavallo area. Progress was made by the center of the Eighth Army which captured Vezzani. The French Army Corps has come under the operational command of the Fifth Army.

ASIATIC THEATER

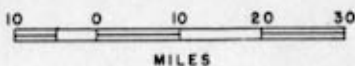
Two Chinese-piloted B-25's of the 14th Air Force sank a 400-foot freighter 105 miles south of Hongkong on 22 December. The following day, 29 escorted B-24's bombed hangars, revetments, and the runway at the White Cloud airdrome at Canton; at least six intercepting enemy planes were destroyed. All of our bombers returned. Thirteen P-38's caused heavy damage and casualties in a raid on Huang Shan Ko (north-east of Tungting Lake) and on their return flight sank six sampans.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On the night of 22-23 December Kavieng, Gasmata, and Cape



# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCLASSIFIED

5-8-72

Gloucester were targets for Allied air missions.

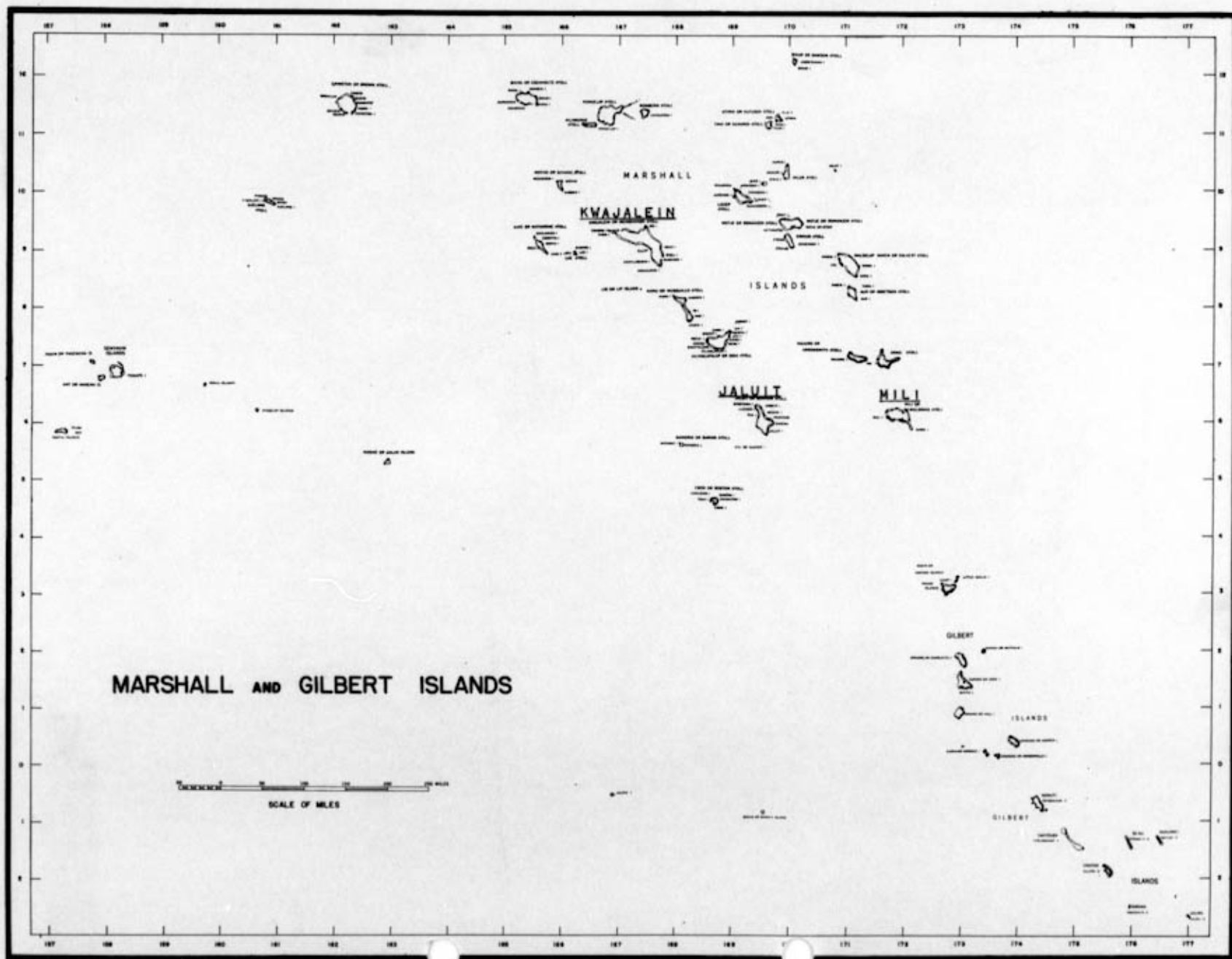
Early the next morning enemy aircraft made a light raid against our Arawe beachhead.

Over western New Britain where air reconnaissance revealed concentrations of enemy supplies and troops near Natamo and Cape Bushing, Allied air missions including 60 B-24's were especially active. The Cape Hoskins and Gasmata runways and other coastal targets were also attacked at a cost to the enemy of two parked aircraft, barges and other equipment.

In New Guinea, our ground forces pushed one mile northwest of Hukika. Forty-seven medium bombers scored hits on the Alexishafen airfield, while our lighter aircraft harassed villages and barge hideouts along the northeastern coast.

2. Sixteen B-24's of the 13th Air Force bombed Chinatown on 23 December, and 18 escorted B-24's, using 108 half-ton bombs, damaged the revetment areas and runway of the Lakunai airdrome at Rabaul; two enemy fighters were destroyed. Seventeen B-26's hit enemy gun positions on Sohana Island. Minor missions were flown against enemy installations at Kahili, Shortland Island, Kieta, Buka and Bonis, and our fighters maintained their patrols over the Torokina area.

*may be later info*  
3. On 21 December 12 Army and Navy bombers attacked Kwajalein; 33 Army and Navy light aircraft hit installations and shipping at Emdj Island, in the Jaluit group, a medium freighter being damaged. We lost one light bomber.



MARSHALL AND GILBERT ISLANDS

SCALE OF MILES

~~SECRET~~  
' DECLASSIFIED '  
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

The next day 28 Army and Navy light bombers and fighters machine-gunned ground targets at Mili and set fire to a freighter. One (probably two) enemy planes were destroyed.



WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

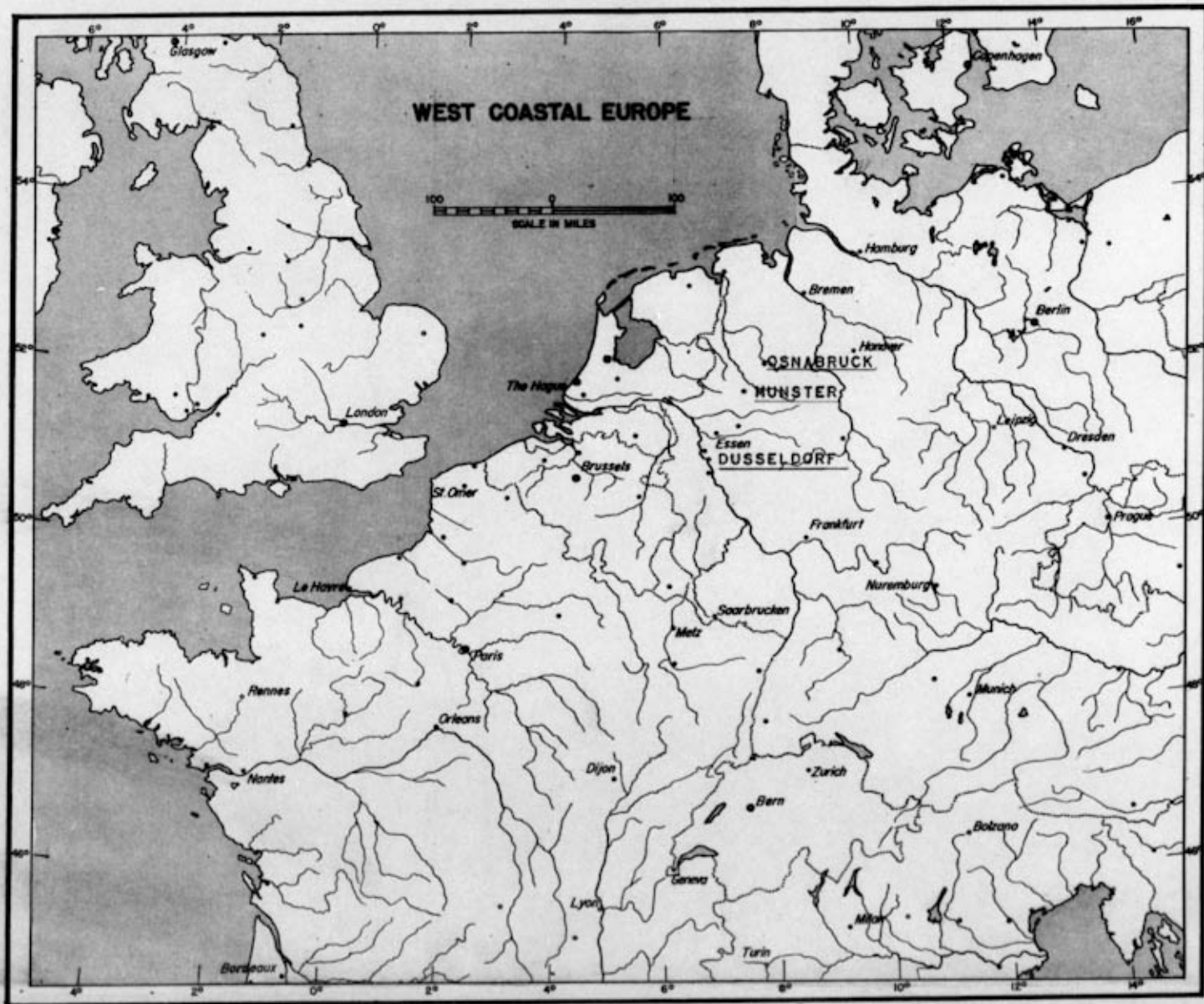
No. 744

0700 December 23 to 0700 December 24, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



*rail traffic center*

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. [During the 22 December attacks a total of 569 B-17's and B-24's, escorted by 566 fighters, dropped nearly 1,100 tons of high explosives and incendiaries on Osnabruck and Munster. *rail communications centers at*]

2. [Soviet progress in the Nevel-Vitebsk area has been checked.]  
~~Fighting along the eastern front was indecisive during 23 December.~~

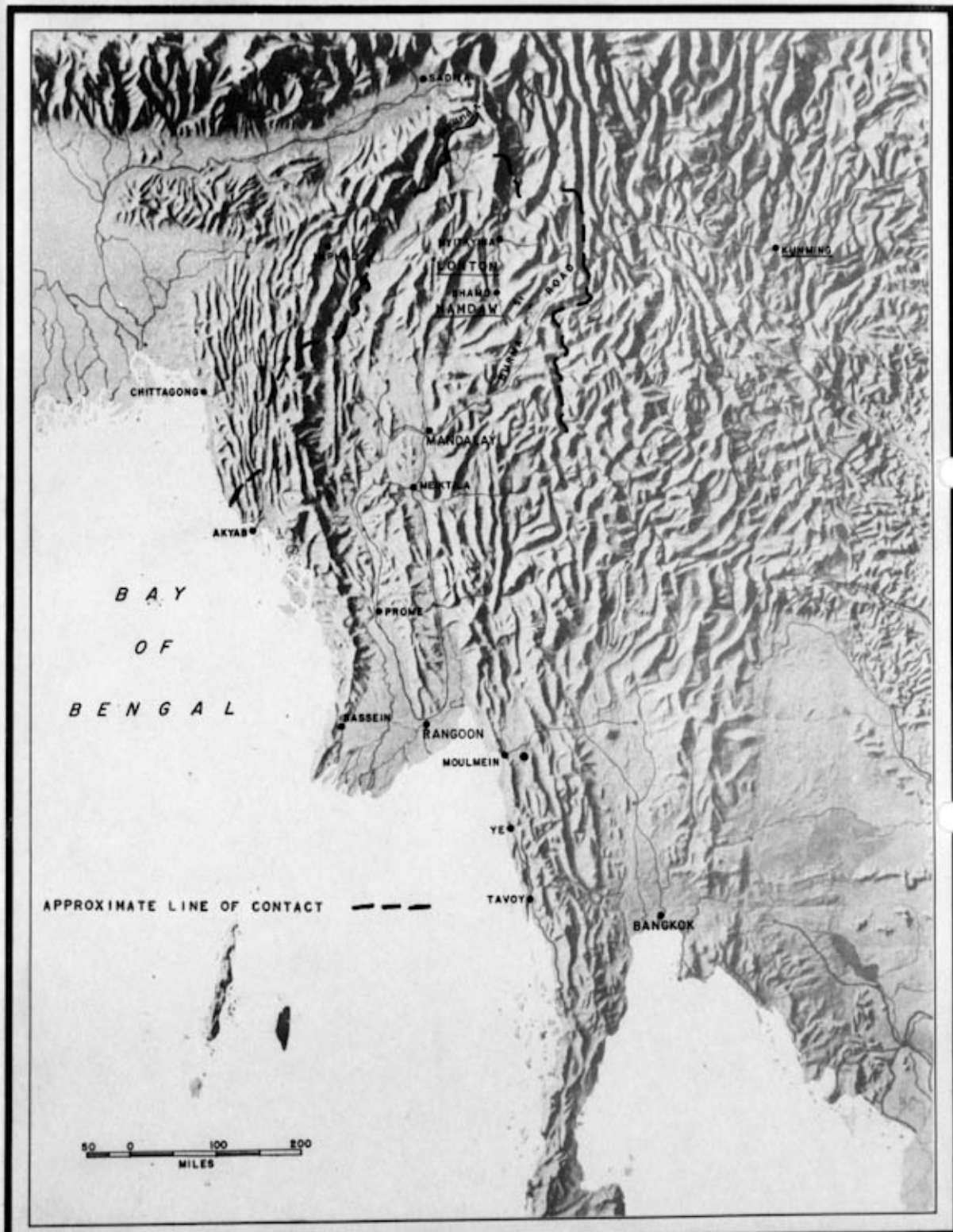
MEDITERRANEAN

1. Despite unfavorable weather on 22 December, 36 light bombers scored direct hits on roads and buildings near Orsogna while fighters and fighter bombers destroyed trucks and railway equipment along the east coast of Italy. Other Allied aircraft attacked enemy positions, communications and transportation on the Eighth Army front. Two fighter aircraft were lost.

2. The War Department has added "Italy" to the list of battles and campaigns of the Army. The Campaign is considered to have started on 18 August 1943 for air units and on 9 September, date of the landings at Salerno, for ground units.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 22 December 22 P-40's of the 10th Air Force, each carrying two 300-pound demolition bombs, attacked an enemy training center and a town near Namdaw, meeting intense but inaccurate antiaircraft fire. One



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

P-40 was lost. A-36's supported ground operations in the Tarung River area.

2. Escorted B-25's of the 14th Air Force returned to the Tungting Lake region on 22 December to bomb Hwajung; excellent results were reported. During the day escorted Japanese medium bombers again attacked our Kunming base; 15 (probably 31) enemy aircraft were destroyed. Minor damage was done to our field installations, a transport and P-40 were burned on the ground and one of our fighters is missing.

#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

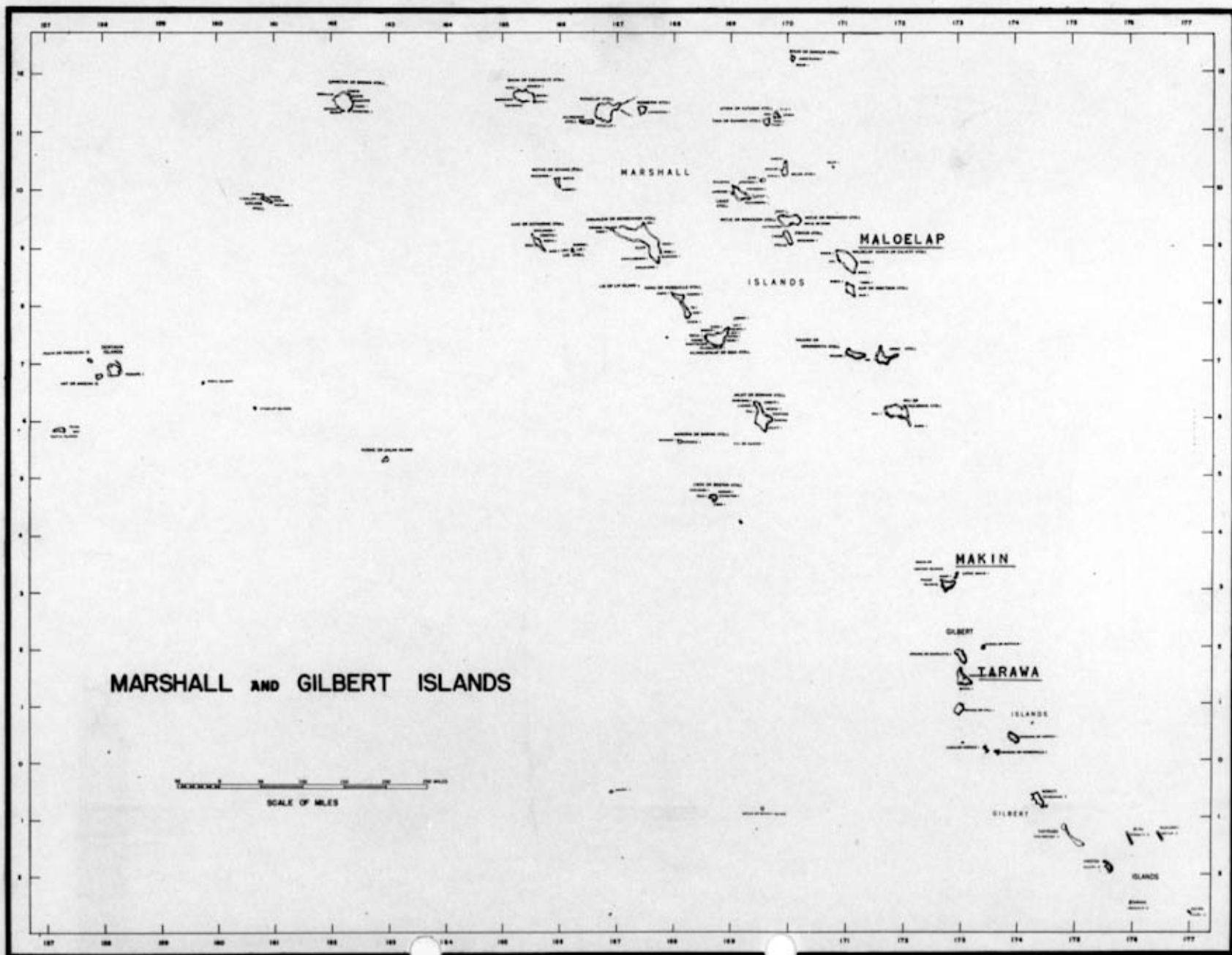
1. Five RAAF Catalinas started fires at Kavieng and medium bombers attacked the airfields at Madang and Alexishafen, on 21 December. Twelve A-20's supported Allied ground troops advancing near Hubika.

[Early on 22 December our troops in the Arawe beachhead were subjected to a three-hour air <sup>attack</sup> ~~raid~~ which caused some damage. During the day our heavy bombers and fighters, totaling more than 100 aircraft, pounded enemy installations and shipping in western New Britain.

Thirty-six escorted B-25's damaged two 6,000-ton transports and a 3,000-ton freighter, started fires in dump areas, and destroyed a grounded plane in the Wewak area. Our planes shot down 14 (probably 16) intercepting Japanese fighters; we lost three P-38's.

2. Artillery exchanges and minor skirmishes were reported in the Empress Augusta Bay region during 21-22 December. On the latter day

*Map room note: these air operations are in preparation for the large Gloucester landings scheduled for the immediate future. 77-27 these landings has not been received at first, however, it is assumed they have been delayed.*



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

medium and light bombers attacked supply and bivouac areas on Bougainville Island, while 84 escorted Navy light bombers destroyed a fuel dump and hit gun positions and barge hideouts near Sohana Island. Other medium bombers struck at Chinatown (Buka I.) and targets in the Shortland Islands. Army and Navy planes attacked loaded barges at Green Island and damaged other small craft at nearby Ambitle Island. All Japanese runways on Bougainville were unserviceable on 22 December.

3. Sixteen B-24's hit Maloelap harbor area during 20 December with observed results; accurate and intense antiaircraft fire as well as fighter resistance were encountered. Four (probably nine) enemy planes were shot down for a loss of three B-24's.

Early that morning two Japanese bombers, attacking Tarawa, caused some damage; Makin was ineffectively attacked on 19 December and again on 20 December by small numbers of enemy bombers.



WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 743

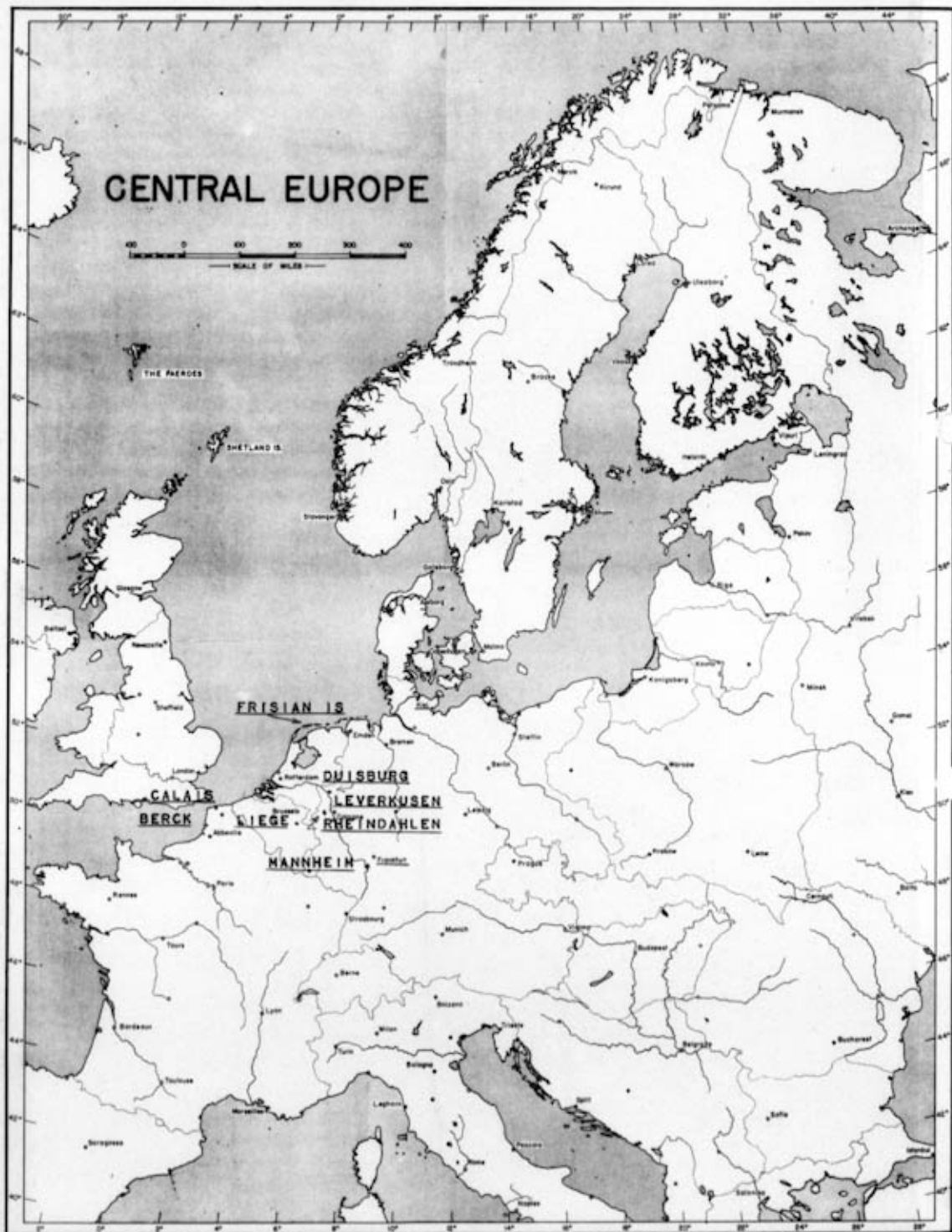
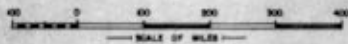
0700 December 22 to 0700 December 23, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

# CENTRAL EUROPE



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 8-3-78

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Small numbers of German aircraft penetrated to the London area on the night of 19-20 December and operated over southeastern England during the next two nights.

During the night of 20-21 December 528 RAF bombers dropped more than 2,000 tons of high explosives and incendiaries on Frankfurt; 44 heavy bombers were lost. Other RAF planes laid sea mines off the Frisian Islands and bombed targets at Rheindahlen, Liege, Leverkusen, Duisburg and Mannheim. Seven British Navy bombers destroyed a 150-foot vessel and damaged another off Calais. RAF aircraft continued their harassing raids on the following night.

2. US B-26's dropped 122 tons of high explosives on special installations in the Pas de Calais area and the enemy airfield at Berck sur Mer on 21 December. Supporting P-47's shot down four (probably five) enemy fighters attempting to attack the B-26's; all our planes returned.

Strong formations of escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers attacked targets in northwestern Germany on 22 December in the face of determined enemy fighter resistance. Thirty-eight enemy planes were destroyed for a loss of 21 of our bombers and four fighters.

3. During the week ending 19 December the 8th Air Force destroyed 28 (probably 43) enemy aircraft for a loss of 15 heavy bombers, one B-26





BASE MAP NO. 2759 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
REPRODUCED, OSS

and five fighters. Our large missions during the period were those against Kiel, Bremen and Hamburg on the 13th and 16th.

4. Photographs of Kiel show that in our 13 December attack, which was made through solid cloud cover, the aiming point was squarely hit with a heavy concentration, the bombing being equal in accuracy to attacks made in the past on similar targets which were visible.

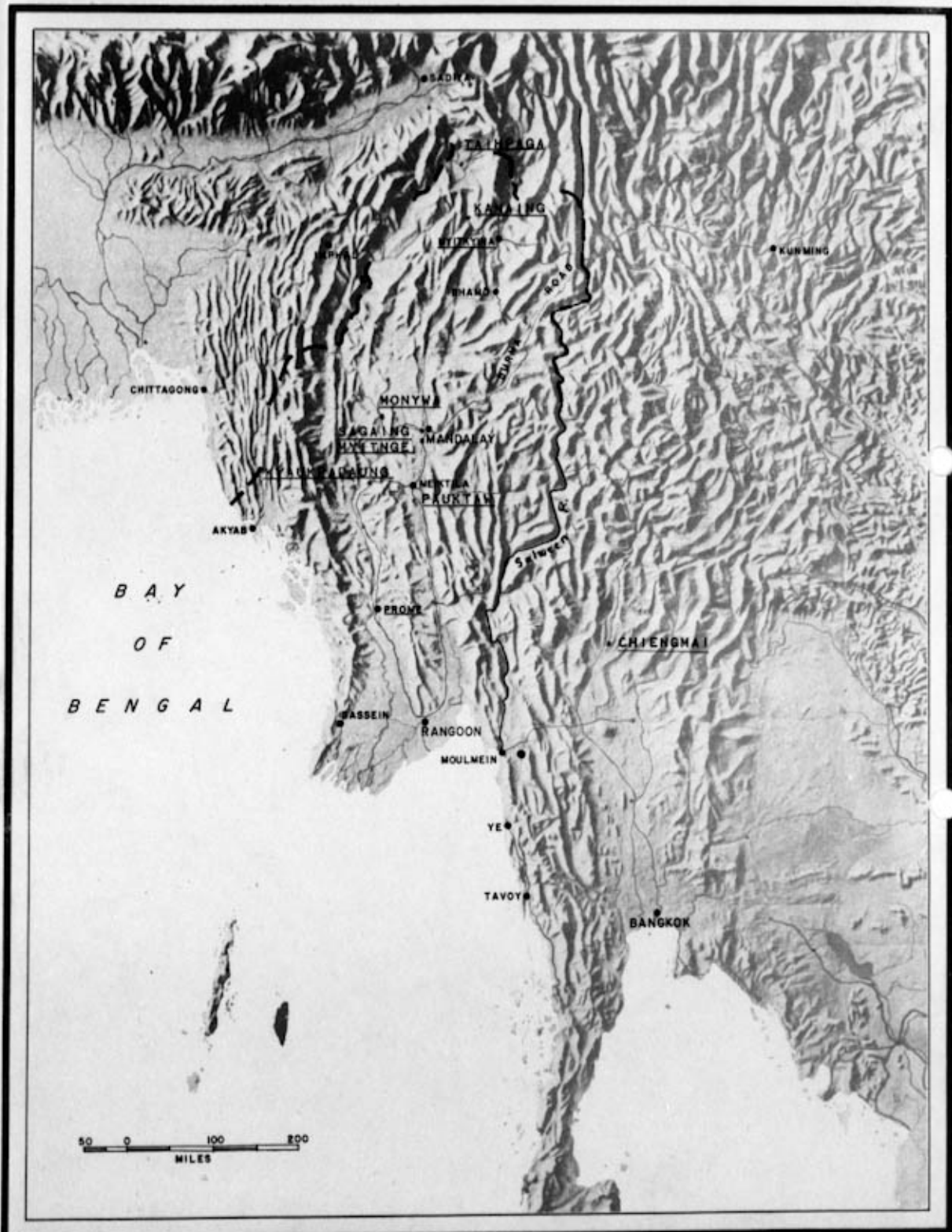
5. The enemy is pressing his attacks around Malin and Kirovograd but has been unable to push the Soviets back toward the Dnepr River.

#### MEDITERRANEAN

1. In weather which grounded the Strategic Air Force during the night of 20-21 December and the following day our light aircraft flew offensive missions against enemy communications and positions in the battle area; Terracina and a probable munitions factory north of Segni receiving heavy concentrations with evident effect.

On 21 December enemy planes attacked a slow Allied convoy 120 miles southeast of Malta on its return voyage, scoring a near miss on one freighter which later sank. There were no casualties.

2. On the Fifth Army front a minor German counterattack in the Rocca area on 22 December resulted in some casualties on both sides; our patrols reached Viticuso. The Eighth Army was fighting in the outskirts of Arielli and Ortona.



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

3. During the week ending 9 December, 82,022 tons of supplies, 3,808 vehicles, and 19,492 persons were discharged at Italian west coast ports. Corresponding figures for east coast ports were 44,741 tons of supplies, 3,126 vehicles, and 37,281 persons.

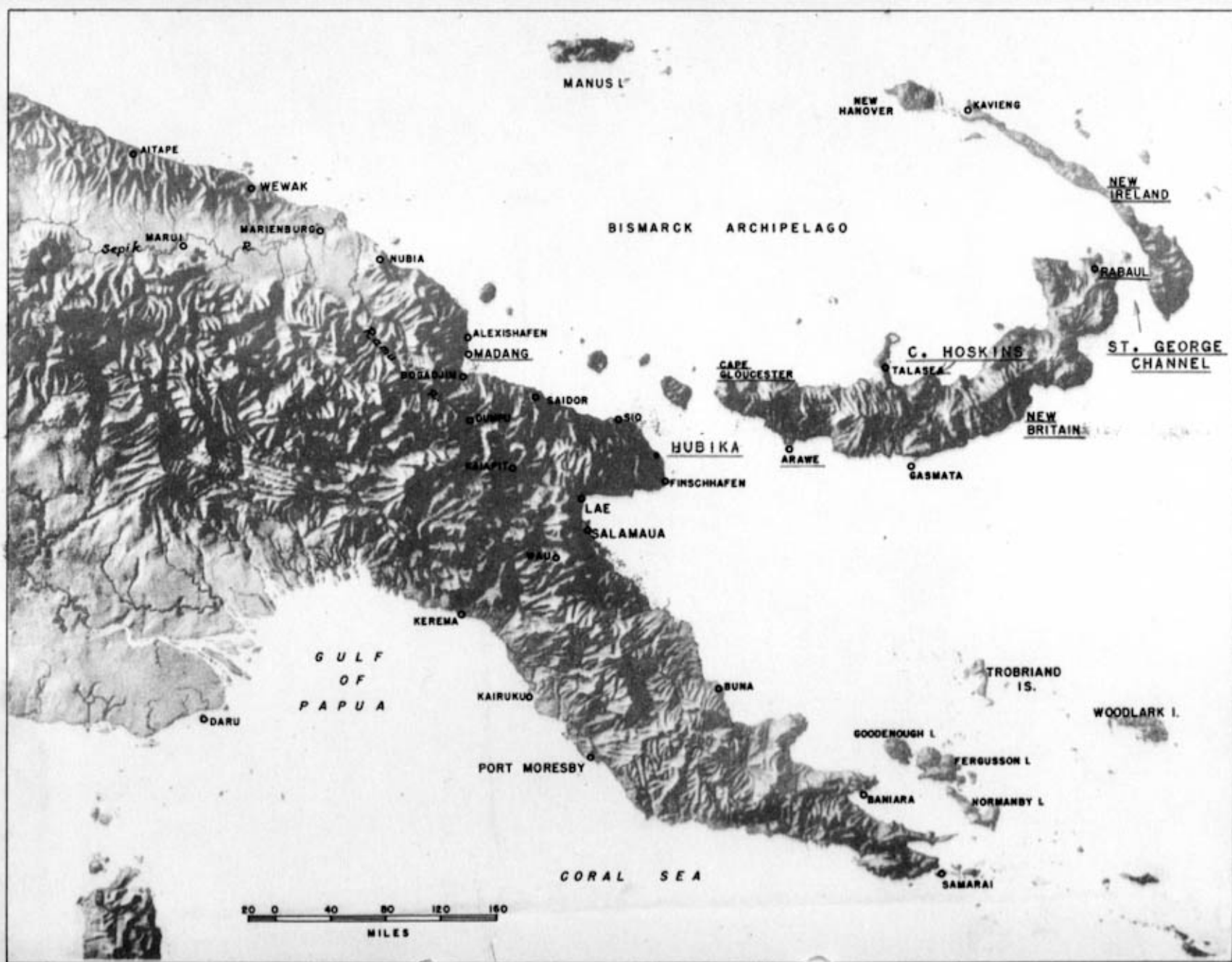
4. The Mediterranean Air Command and the Northwest African Air Force have been combined into a single headquarters designated as the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, with Air Marshal Tedder as Commander and Lieutenant General Carl Spaatz as Deputy. General Spaatz has relinquished command of the US 12th Air Force to Brigadier General John K. Cannon. In general the existing organization of tactical, strategic and coastal air forces remains unchanged.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. Sixteen 10th Air Force B-25's scored observed effect on enemy supply installations at Monywa on 20 December. Forty-four P-40's attacked an enemy camp at Kamaing and an enemy troop concentration at Taihpaga. The next day, 44 P-40's and two A-36's again heavily attacked Taihpaga. Eighteen B-25's escorted by 16 P-38's bombed the Myitnge bridge reporting bursts at one end.

British heavy bombers attacked the railroad stations at Prome and Monywa while lighter aircraft hit other villages in central Burma on 20 December. Wellingtons caused damage at Sagaing on the following day.





2. Twenty-nine unescorted B-24's of the 14th Air Force bombed the railroad yards at Chiangmai, in Thailand, on 21 December. Warehouses, trackage and rolling stock were hit and several large fires started. B-25's escorted by P-40's started large fires at Hwajaung in the Tungting Lake region.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied forces, advancing along the Huon Peninsula, occupied Hubika on 21 December. At Arawe there was little change in the ground situation but considerable air activity; there were two raids before dawn, 15 or 20 dive-bombers with cover attacked our shipping at noon, two vessels being hit but not sinking, and about 100 enemy planes were over the area during midafternoon. Sixteen (probably 19) enemy planes were destroyed by our fighters.

Fifty-four B-24's and 59 other bombers attacked dumps, bivouacs, and other enemy targets at and near Cape Gloucester. Twenty-four B-25's demolished enemy gun positions and buildings at the Madang airfield; one B-25 was shot down by antiaircraft fire. Our light aircraft attacked Cape Hoskins airfield, targets along the northwest coast of New Britain and the northeast coast of New Guinea and hit small enemy shipping throughout the area. Eleven B-24's started large fires at the enemy airfield at Amahai in Ceram. That night two patrol B-24's sank a 6,000-ton freighter northeast of Rabaul.

2. Despite bad weather, six B-25's bombed enemy installations in

~~SECRET~~  
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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

southwestern Bougainville on 21 December and a search plane machine-gunned barges west of New Ireland. The next day search planes attacked small craft in St. George Channel.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 742

0700 December 21 to 0700 December 22, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The 7,000-ton Liberty ship James Withycombe with a \$14,000,000 cargo for the Southwest Pacific went aground on a reef two miles east of Cristobal on 20 December. The ship was so damaged that it was reported as good for salvage only.

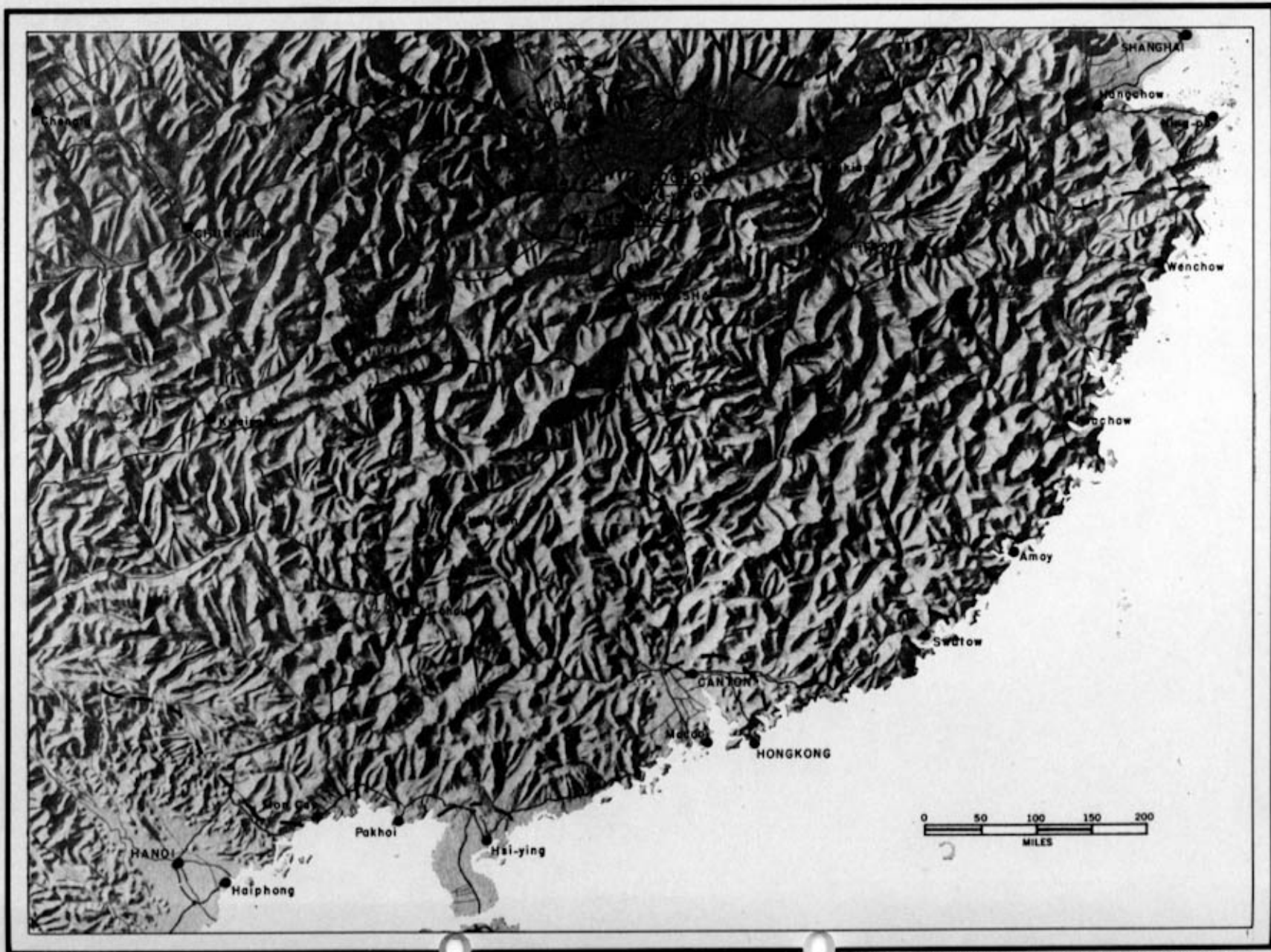
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. US air units in the UK destroyed 107 (probably 129) enemy planes during the week ending 12 December for a loss from all causes of 17 heavy bombers and three fighters. The RAF destroyed nine (probably ten) enemy aircraft losing eleven of their planes. The major operation of this week was an AAF mission against Emden; there were no large RAF attacks during the period.

2. Fierce fighting continued on 21 December south of Nevel, where the Soviet attack made slight progress, and around Vitebsk; near Zhlobin enemy counterattacks have neutralized Soviet pressure. The enemy renewed his offensive north and south of Malin but made no progress. He also counterattacked southeast of Kirovograd where Soviet pressure has been increasing during the last ten days. Southeast of Nikopol the Soviets continued their efforts to overrun the enemy bridgehead across the Dnepr.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. The Athens-Eleusis airdrome was again bombed by 109 B-17's



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS  
PRINTED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS





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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

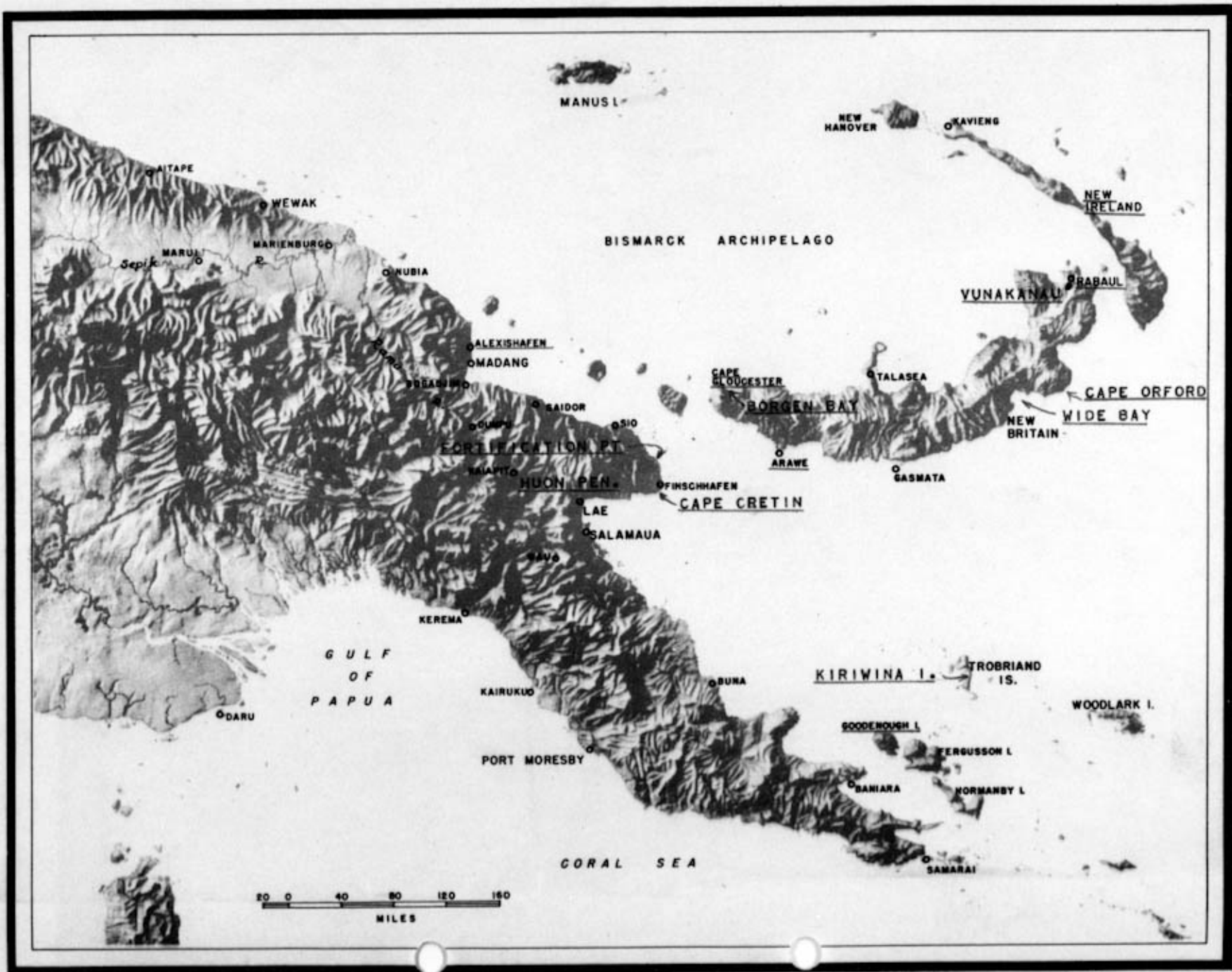
escorted by 66 P-38's on 20 December, the target being well covered; 19 (probably 22) enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of three B-17's and six P-38's. Thirty-seven escorted B-24's attacked Sofia railroad yards also obtaining excellent effect and destroying nine (probably 12) of 25 enemy aircraft encountered; one B-24 and two P-38's were lost. Light aircraft attacked motor transport in the Chieti area and started fires in a fuel dump at Bolognano. 548 sorties were flown in support of our ground troops. Five planes were lost in these operations.

2. Hard fighting but no significant changes were reported for 21 December on the Fifth Army front. The Eighth Army made further small gains against strong opposition.

3. British bombers mined Salamis Harbor during the night of 19-20 December, attacked the dockyard area on Leros Island, and successfully dropped supplies in Albania, Greece and Yugoslavia.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

Twelve B-26's of the 14th Air Force with 22 P-40's as escort attacked Nansien and Ansiang on 19 December reporting excellent results. The following day 11 escorted B-26's caused observed damage in the railroad yards at Yochow. All our planes returned.



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

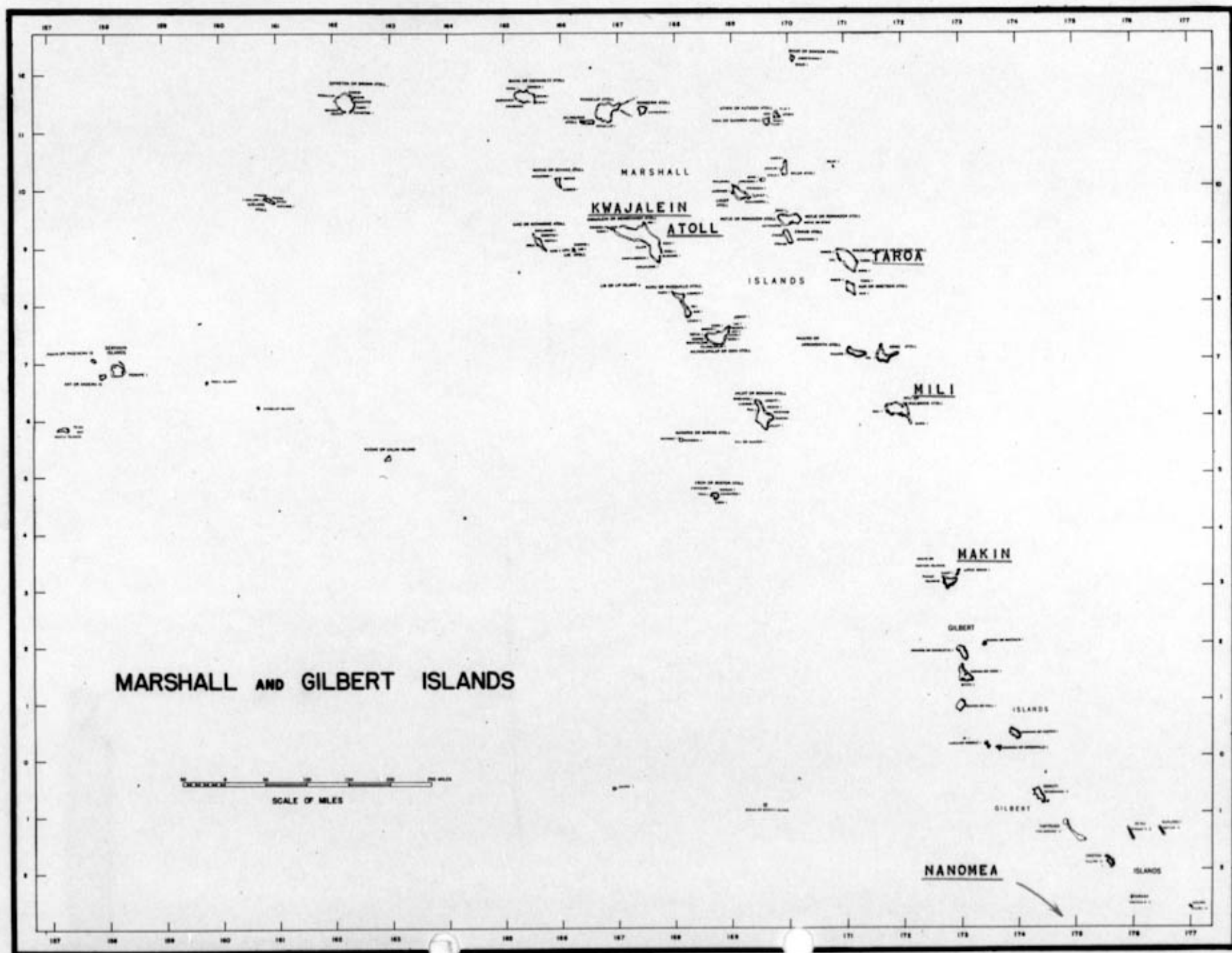
1. Catalinas attacked an enemy convoy off the west coast of New Ireland during the night of 19 December, probably destroying one 6,000-ton vessel and damaging a second as well as an 8,000-ton ship. Of fifteen enemy aircraft over Kiriwina and Goodenough Islands that night, one was shot down.

The next day, 18 Australian aircraft damaged Vunakanau air-drome, machine-gunned buildings west of Cape Orford, and destroyed small enemy shipping in Wide Bay. 5th Air Force planes attacked enemy targets near Arawe, Cape Gloucester and Borgen Bay and along the New Guinea coast, as well as the enemy's Alexishafen airfield installations.

On Huon Peninsula, Allied troops advancing along the coast reached the high ground southwest of Fortification Point.

2. During the night of 19-20 December Torokina-based night fighters bombed Japanese positions south of our beachhead. The next day Army and Navy bombers and fighters in over 140 sorties continued their attacks on ground targets and barges throughout the Bougainville area.

3. During the night of 18-19 December a Catalina set fire to a large freighter at the Kwajalein Atoll. On 19 December, 12 Makin-based fighter planes, as well as 14 B-24's from Nanomea, attacked Mili. Eleven Canton-based B-24's dropped 15 tons of bombs on a radio station and tank farm near Taros late in the afternoon. Mili was again attacked on 20 December, this time by 19 B-24's with 540 100-pound general purpose



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

bombs. Nine (probably 17) enemy planes were destroyed in these operations for a loss of three of ours.

4. According to latest report, 14 enlisted men are dead as a result of the sinking of the Cape San Juan southeast of the Fijis on 11 November; two officers and 100 enlisted men are missing; 62 officers and 1158 enlisted men were rescued.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 741

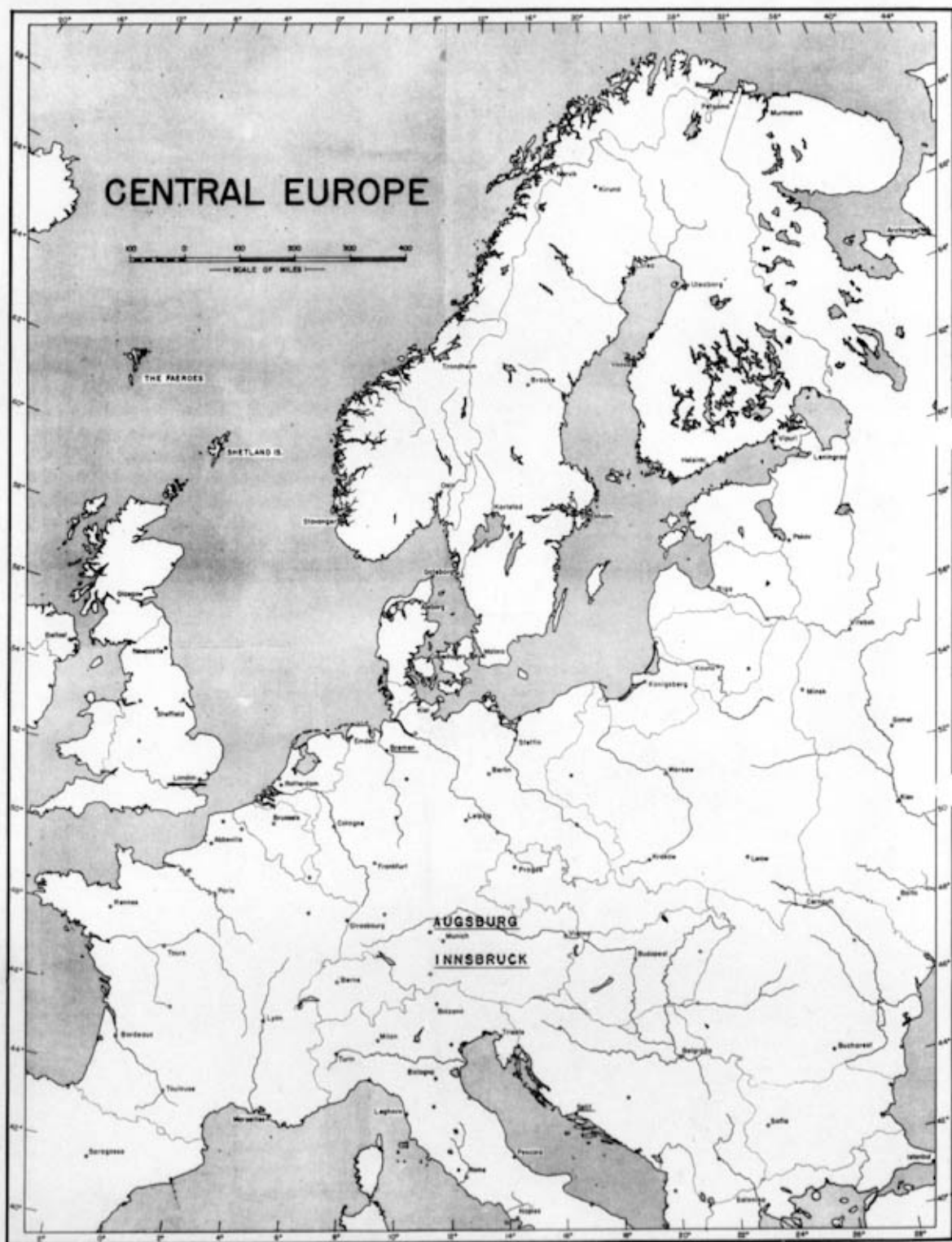
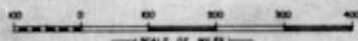
0700 December 20 to 0700 December 21, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

# CENTRAL EUROPE



**AUGSBURG**

**INNSBRUCK**





WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The War Department issued directives for the movement of the 31st Infantry Division (Major General J. C. Persons) from Camp Pickett, Virginia to the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation for shipment overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 19-20 December, seven enemy bombers penetrated to the London area dropping a few bombs which caused minor damage.

2. Bremen was the target for a large escorted heavy bomber mission of the 8th Air Force on 20 December. Preliminary reports indicate that numerous fires were started in the target area and that 40 enemy fighters were shot down by our aircraft; 25 of our bombers and five of our fighters failed to return.

9th Air Force medium bombers attacked military objectives in northern France without loss.

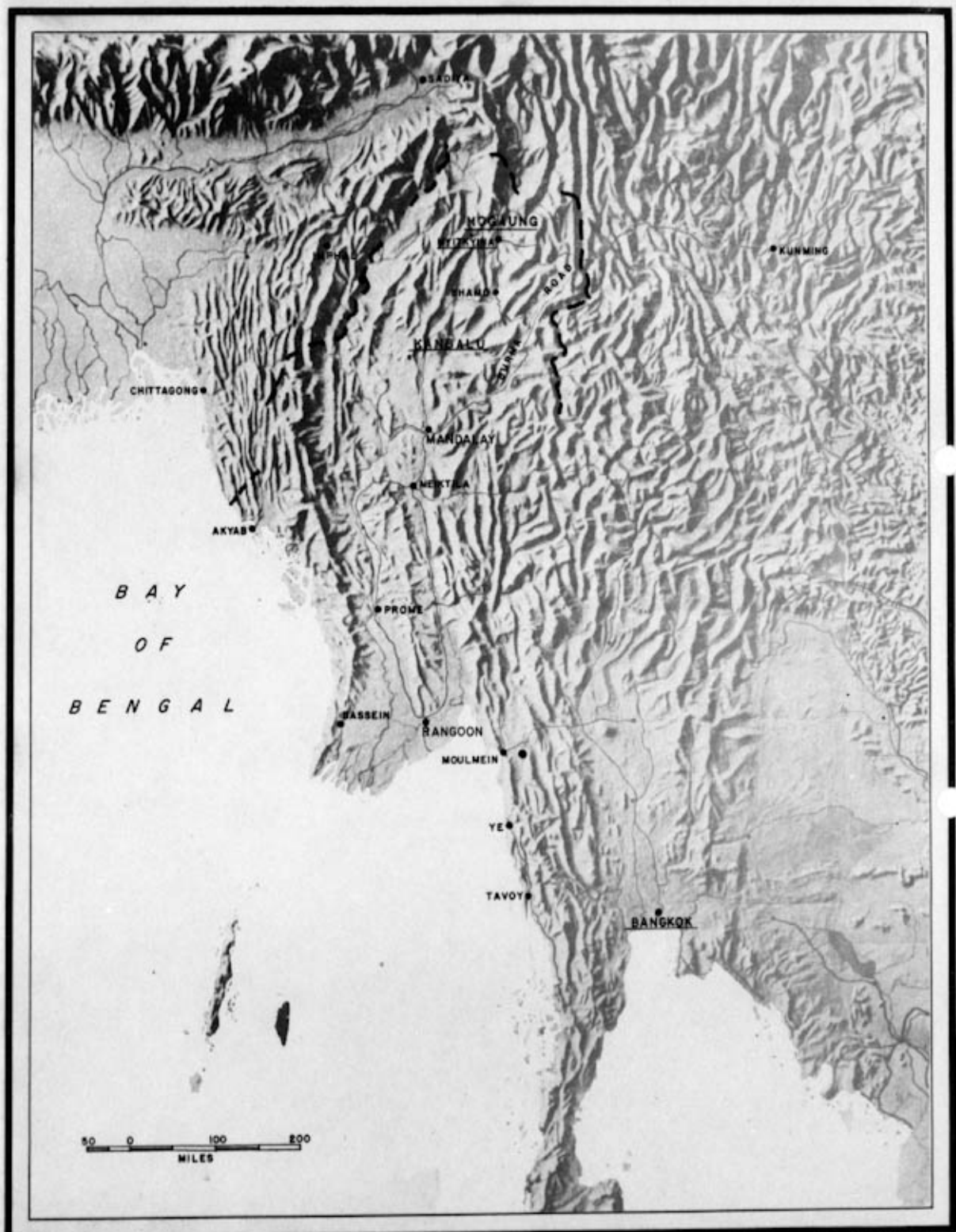
3. Heaviest fighting on the eastern front is around Nevel; the main Soviet effort is now midway between Nevel and Vitebsk where a slight advance was made during 20 December. North of Malin the enemy counterattacked and checked a Soviet effort to eject the Germans from their newly gained positions.



MEDITERRANEAN

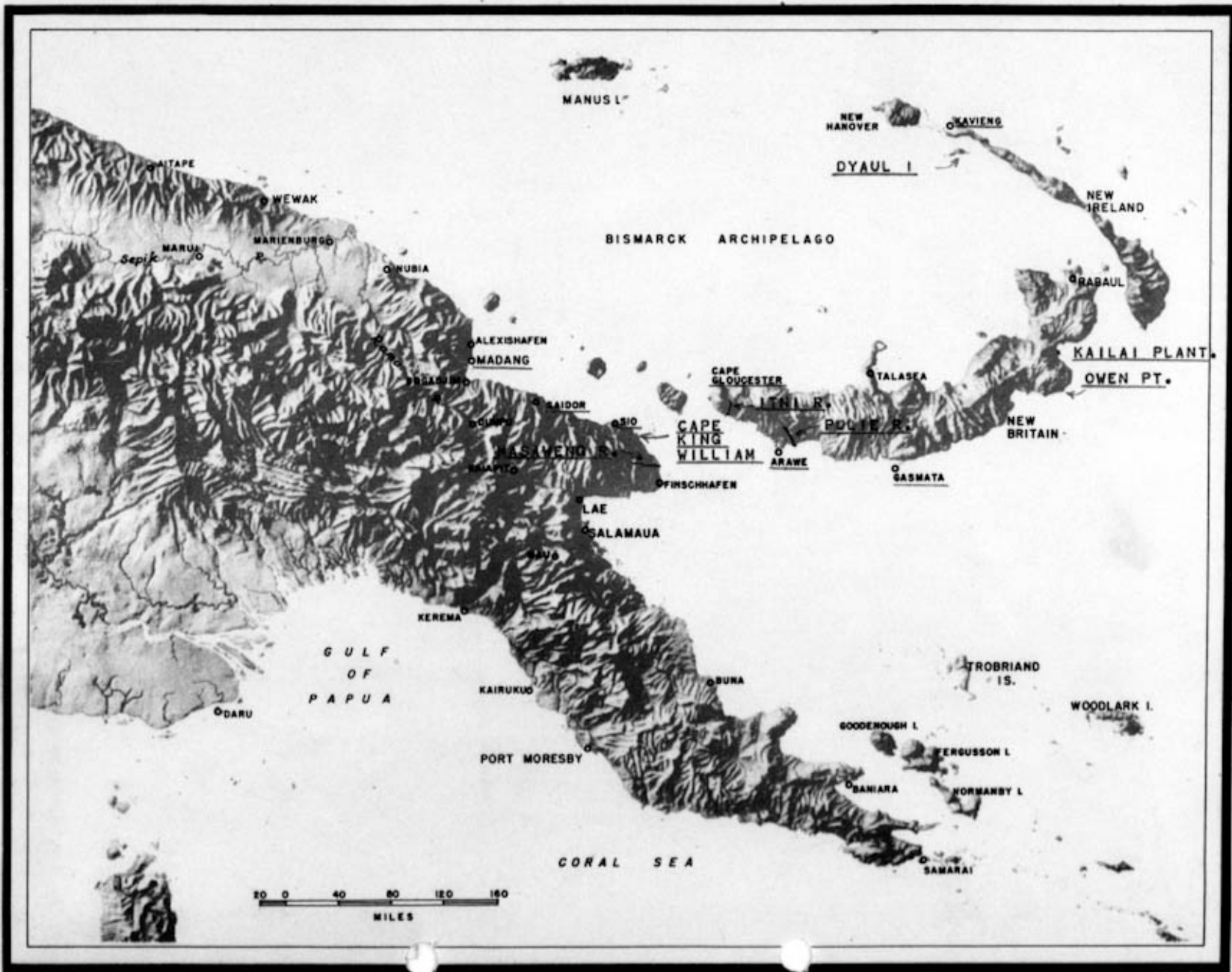
1. On 19 December 101 B-17's, escorted by 78 P-38's, dropped 261 tons of bombs on the Innsbruck railroad yards causing observed damage; 24 (probably 38) enemy planes were destroyed for a loss of seven of our bombers. The Messerschmitt plant at Augsburg was the target for 50 escorted B-24's which bombed through a heavy overcast that prevented observation. This mission destroyed 13 (probably 21) of some 60 enemy planes encountered; four of the B-24's failed to return. Medium bomber missions totaling 156 aircraft hit enemy communications at Perugia, Arezzo, Terni, Aquino, and Foligno, reporting good results. Light and fighter bombers supplemented these efforts with successful attacks against roads, supply areas, and defended positions near the battle area; Civitavecchia and Arce were especially hard hit. Fighter aircraft on armed reconnaissance over the Adriatic damaged a vessel southwest of Split. Six (probably seven) enemy fighters were destroyed in these operations for a loss of three Allied fighters.

2. On the Fifth Army front patrols pushed two miles up the Garigliano Valley to Vandra on 20 December and reached San Vittore along the highway to Cassino. The US VI Corps captured Monti Cavallo and made further gains in the hills to the north. A strong counter-attack dislodged the Moroccans from their recently won positions in the entrance to the San Michele Pass. The Eighth Army continued to improve its positions near the Adriatic despite stiff opposition.



BASE MAP NO 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



3. Three all-weather airfields now are being operated in Corsica by our troops; by next May we expect to operate a total of eleven airfields on that island.

ASIATIC THEATER

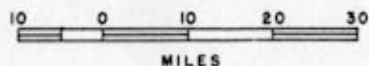
Bombers and fighters of the 10th Air Force attacked Mogaung and Myitkyina on 17 December, starting fires in the target areas. The next day 56 P-40's attacked enemy troops and supplies northwest of Mogaung with observed effect. On 19 December escorted B-25's made a destructive attack on the railroad yards at Kanbalu. Bangkok, where reconnaissance has revealed large-scale enemy supply and maintenance activities, was heavily bombed by 20 US and ten British B-24's that night.

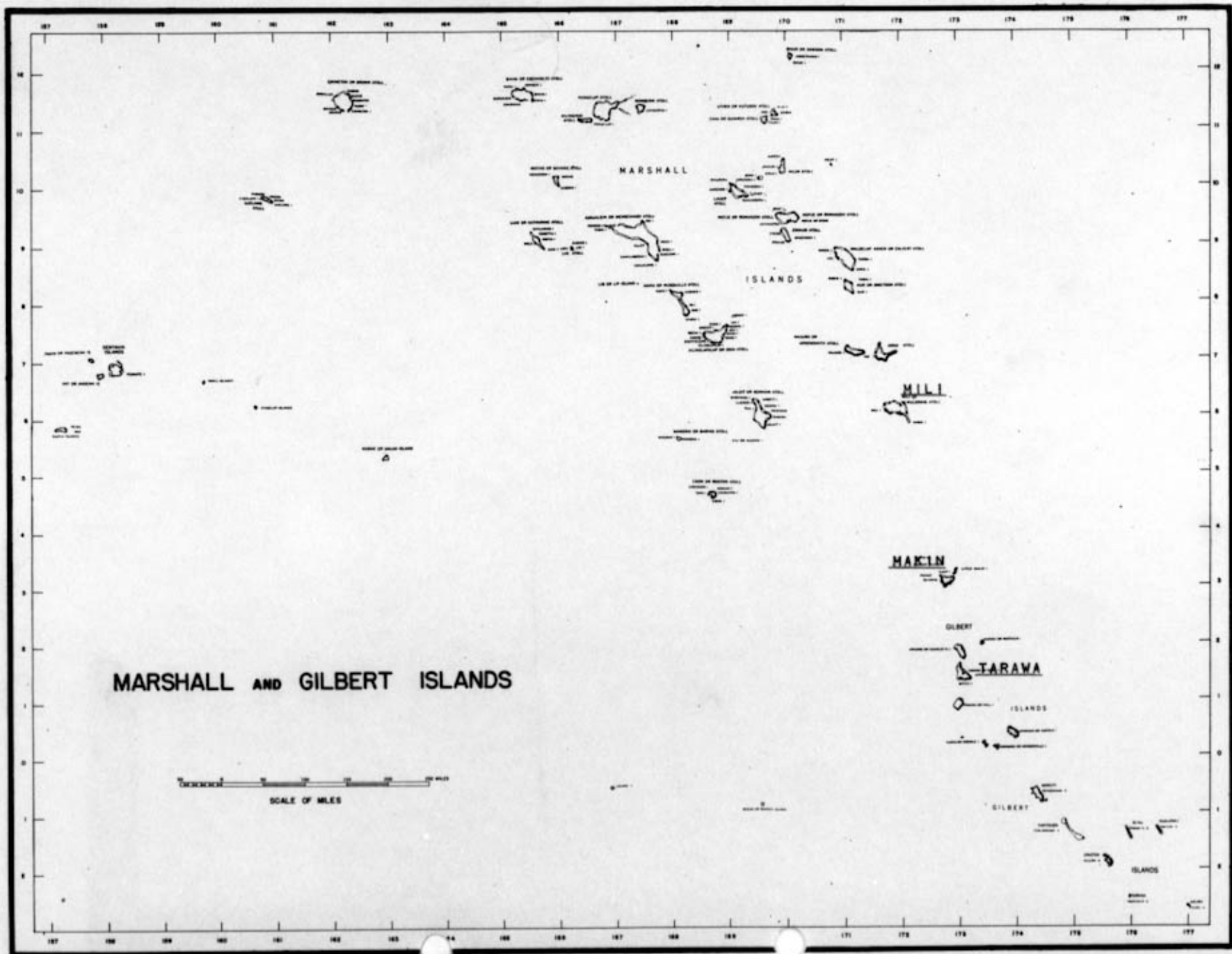
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied patrols reached the Itni River and the Arawe airfield on 19 December without encountering Japanese troops. On Huon Peninsula our forces, after mopping up small enemy groups, crossed the Masaweng River.

A total of 100 B-24's, 46 B-25's and nine B-26's dropped 444 tons of bombs on gun positions, dumps, villages and the runway at Cape Gloucester. Fifty-four Australian bombers and fighters damaged the runway, dump area and gun positions at Gasmata. Medium bombers started fires on the enemy airdrome at Madang while other bombers and fighters attacked supply dumps, barges and communications near Cape

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND







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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

King William and Saider. Other Allied aircraft supported our ground forces near Arawe harassing trails at the mouth of the Pulie River, and attacked enemy shipping near Kallai Plantation and Owen Point.

2. During the night of 18-19 December ten to fifteen Japanese aircraft bombed our Torokina area causing a few casualties.

Bivouac and supply areas northeast of Kahili were bombed on 19 December by 24 medium bombers. Sixty-seven Navy bombers destroyed communications and supplies and damaged gun positions at Kieta. Fighter aircraft bombed enemy positions in the Empress Augusta Bay area; one of our reconnaissance aircraft sank a troop transport out of an eight-ship convoy southeast of Dyaul Island.

US patrols were active in the vicinity of Cape Moltke.

3. Makin-based fighters and light bombers completed their first attack mission on 18 December, hitting Mili, destroying six enemy planes on the ground. There was no air opposition. One US plane was lost.

Two enemy planes bombed Tarawa without damage that night.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 740

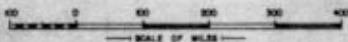
0700 December 19 to 0700 December 20, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

# CENTRAL EUROPE



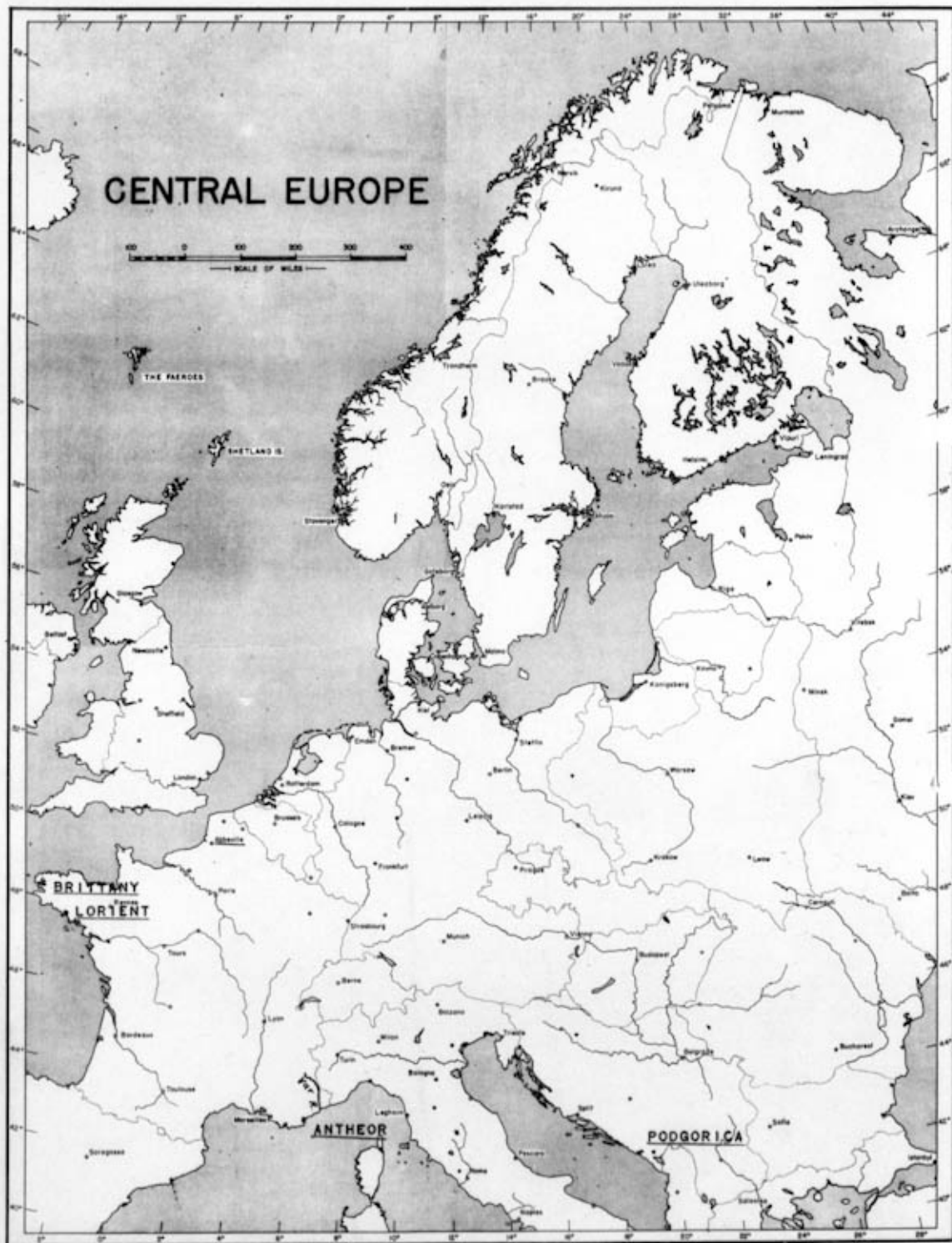
THE FÆRØES

SHETLAND IS.

BRITTANY  
LORIENT

ANTHEOR

PODGORICA





~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

GENERAL

The War Department has notified the senior commanders of Army forces overseas of the policy formulated by The President governing the issuance of news releases. Under this policy no information having a security value in connection with the war will be issued in advance, for release to the public at some future hour; all such information will be given out instead at the earliest moment consistent with national security, for immediate publication and broadcast.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. RAF Beaufighters carrying torpedoes severely damaged a 6,000-ton merchant vessel at Lorient on 18 December with a torpedo hit which struck it amidships and also with cannon fire. RAF Spitfires attacked military objectives near Abbeville and patrolled the Brittany area. One enemy airplane operated over the London area and to the southeast.

2. West of Kiev fighting has practically ceased but in the Kirovograd area the Soviets were aggressive, especially southeast of the city, during 19 December. The small enemy



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
 26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
 REPRODUCED, OSS

bridgehead east of the Dnepr near Kherson has been eliminated. An important Soviet advance was made south of Nevel where the high ground between Nevel and Vitebsk was retaken.

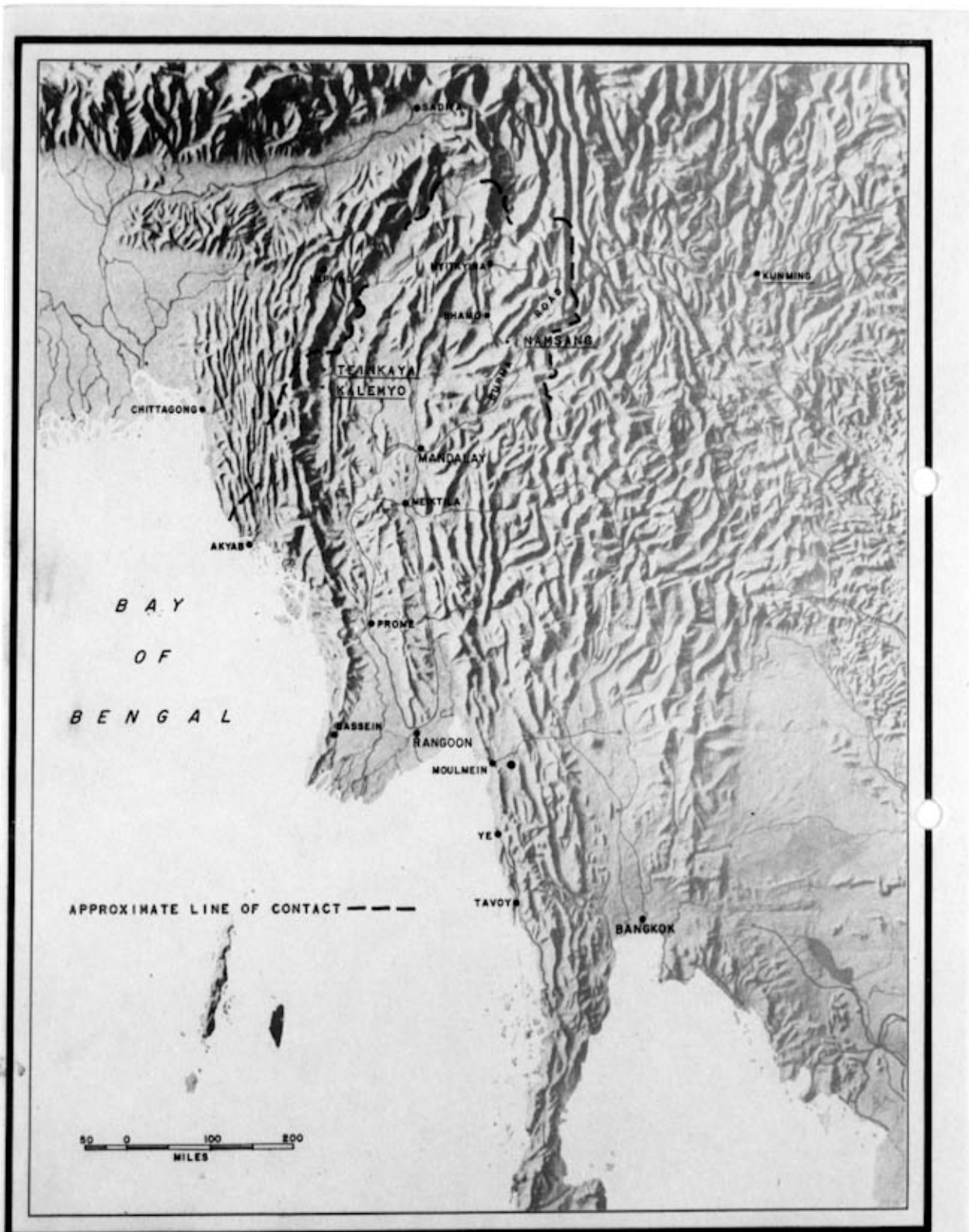
MEDITERRANEAN

1. Bad weather restricted air activity on 18 December. One force of 38 B-26's attacked the railroad viaduct at Antheor, making no hits, but 36 others hit a bridge over the Var River. Our fighter planes carried out ground support missions in the Orsogna and Cassino areas and bombed a supply dump on the beach at Terracina. Eleven Italian fighter-bombers attacked the airfield at Podgorica and our fighters harassed shipping in the eastern Adriatic.

2. During 19 December active patrolling continued on the front of the Fifth Army. Our II Corps captured San Pietro and pushed patrols to within six miles of Cassino. Our VI Corps drove further into the hill mass northwest of Venafro; the entrance to the San Michele pass is now firmly in possession of French units. The Eighth Army made further local gains against strong resistance, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

3. Casualty figures to 16 December are as follows:

<u>Fifth Army</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Totals</u>
US	2,225	9,683	3,012	14,920
British	1,650	6,964	2,841	11,455
French	38	122	7	167
<u>Eighth Army</u>	<u>1,825</u>	<u>6,840</u>	<u>1,773</u>	<u>10,438</u>
	5,738	23,609	7,633	36,980



BAY  
OF  
BENGAL

APPROXIMATE LINE OF CONTACT — — —

50 0 100 200  
MILES

BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



Prisoners of war captured by components of the Fifth Army were reported as follows:

US	2,702
British	1,675
French	6
Italian	4
	<hr/>
	4,387

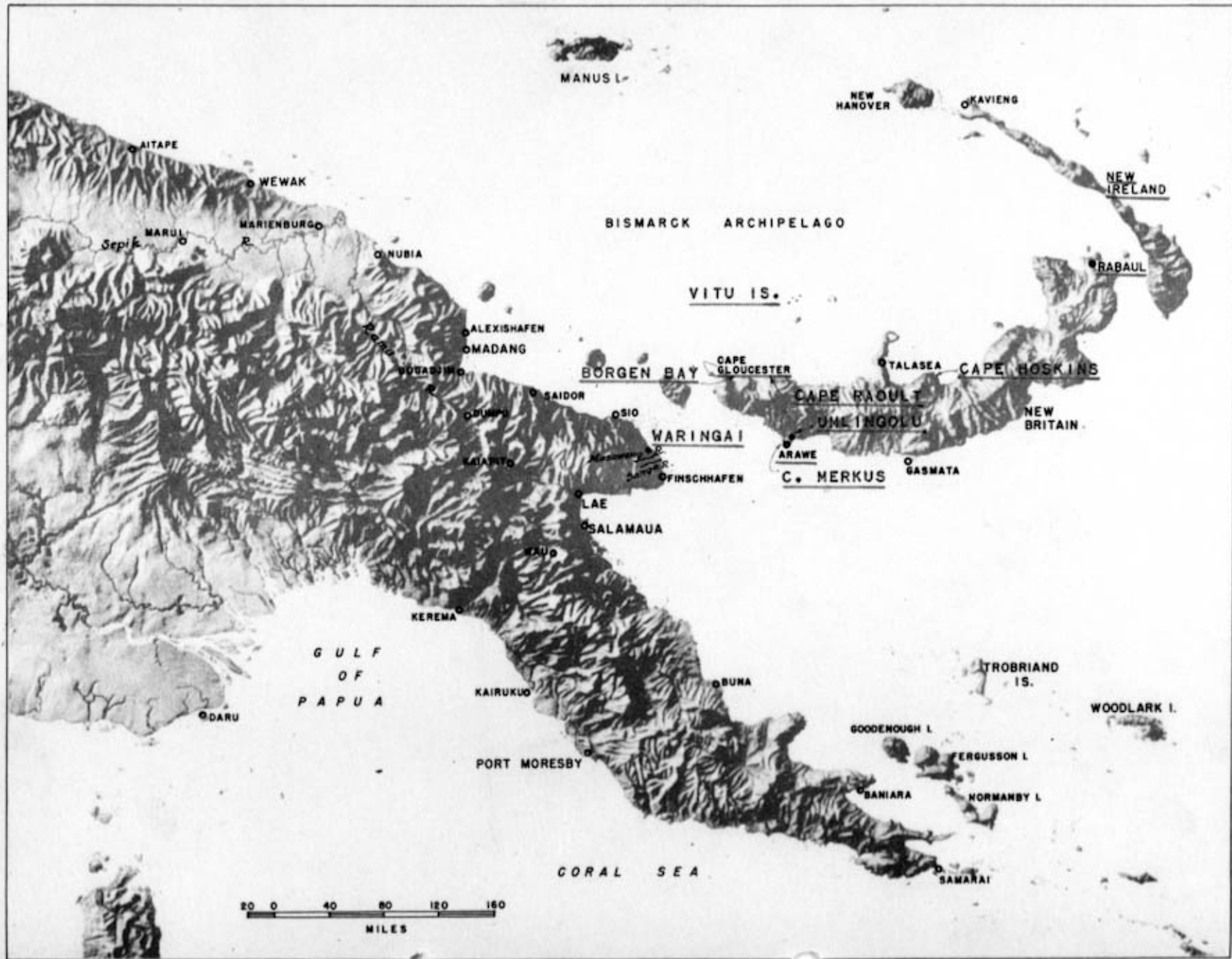
The Eighth Army has captured 2,292 prisoners of war.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. RAF light bombers attacked Teinkaya on 17 December and hit Kalemvo the following day.
2. 14th Air Force B-25's, on anti-shipping sweeps in the South China Sea on 18 December, damaged one 350-foot freighter, one 250-foot tanker, and one 225-foot three-masted schooner. Five escorted B-25's successfully bombed Nanhsien in the Tungting Lake area. Twenty-seven B-24's scored many hits on the runways and dispersal area at Namsang, destroying one enemy plane on the ground; escorting fighters destroyed three other enemy fighter aircraft at a nearby airfield. About 58 Japanese planes attacked Kunming airdrome; five (probably 14) of them were destroyed without loss but five of our own aircraft on the ground were damaged. P-38's destroyed small craft on the Yangtze but lost three of their number.

#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 18 December, Allied ground forces continued to mop up Cape



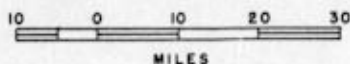
Merkus; our patrols occupied Umlingolu, three miles to the northeast. On Huon Peninsula Allied troops mopped up south of the Sanga River and reached the Masaweng River.

During the night of 17-18 December, a number of enemy air raids were reported over the Arawe beachhead. The following day 16 P-38's engaged between 30 and 40 enemy fighters over Cape Raoult. Three enemy planes were shot down; we lost two P-38's. One hundred and twenty-nine heavy and medium bombers made heavy attacks against enemy installations in the Borgen Bay area and the Cape Gloucester and Cape Hoskins airdromes. A B-24 sank a 2,000-ton tanker near the Vitu Islands. Light bombers attacked bivouac and dump areas in the vicinity of Waringai. Offensive patrols were maintained over western New Guinea and islands to the west.

2. An Allied medium bomber used our new air strip on Stirling Island for the first time on 17 December. Six enemy fighters were destroyed and two Allied P-40's lost in aerial engagements over Rabaul that day between 83 South Pacific fighters and 30 to 40 Japanese aircraft. Our bombers attacked the airfield at Ballale and other enemy targets in the Shortlands and on Choiseul and Buka. An Allied search plane destroyed an 80-foot barge filled with Japanese off the northeast coast of New Ireland. That night Allied night fighters bombed the Shortland-Faisi area. Three Japanese planes bombed the anchorage at Torokina, causing slight damage and a few casualties.

On 18 December 16 B-24's escorted by 50 fighters bombed Rabaul

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



~~SECRET~~  
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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

and shipping in the harbor. One freighter or troop ship exploded, two others were set afire; four of 40 to 50 intercepting enemy fighters were shot down for a loss of four of our fighters. Other effective Army and Navy bomber and fighter sorties were flown against enemy targets on Buka, Bougainville, the Shortlands, and Choiseul.

Japanese positions in front of the northeast sector of our perimeter defense on Bougainville were overrun and occupied on 18 December.

3. On 18 December a B-24 bombed Mili without opposition.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

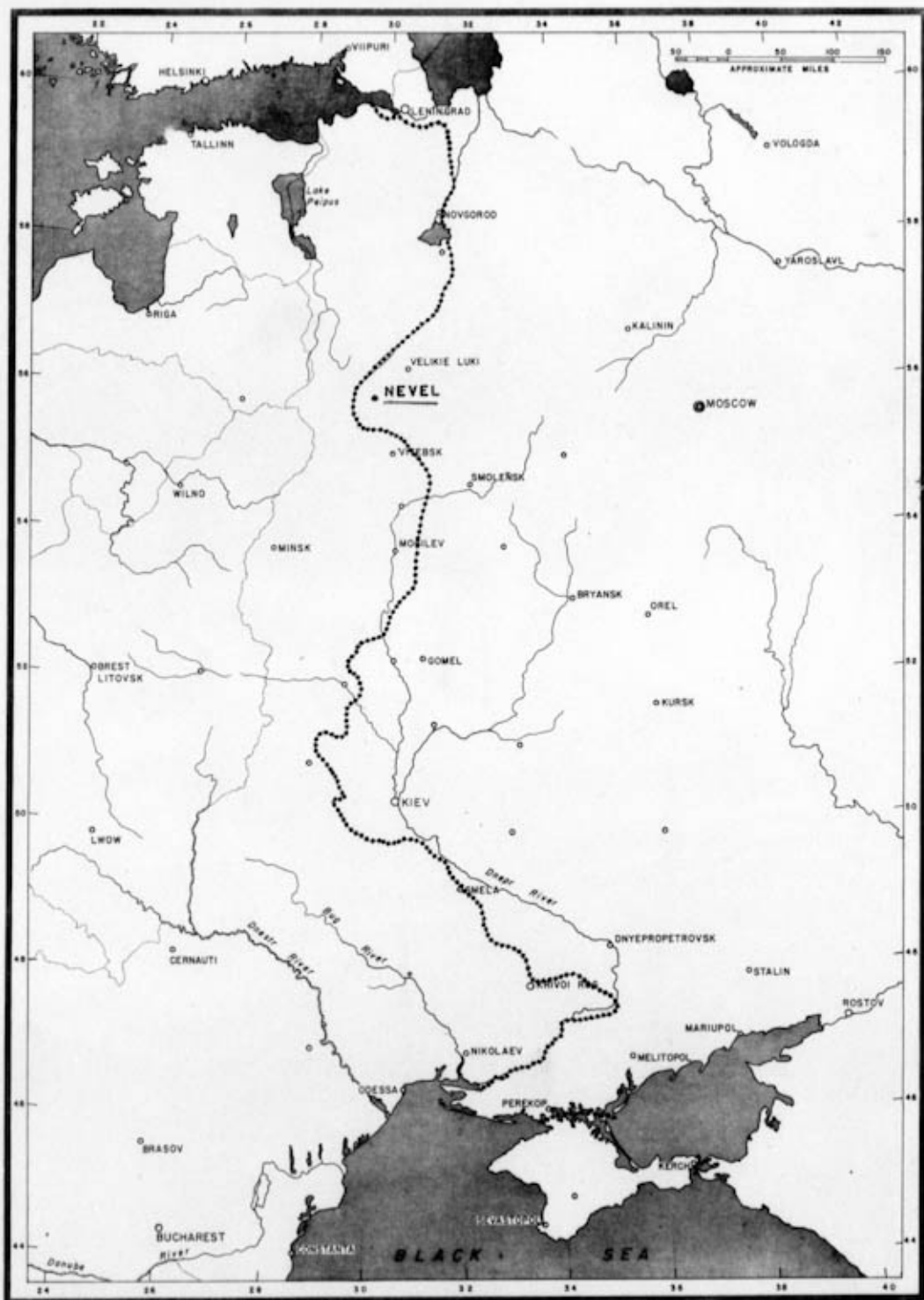
No. 739

0700 December 18 to 0700 December 19, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, 055  
REPRODUCED, 055



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DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 8-3-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Adverse weather limited Allied air activity on 17 December to the harassing of targets along the French channel coast by light aircraft.

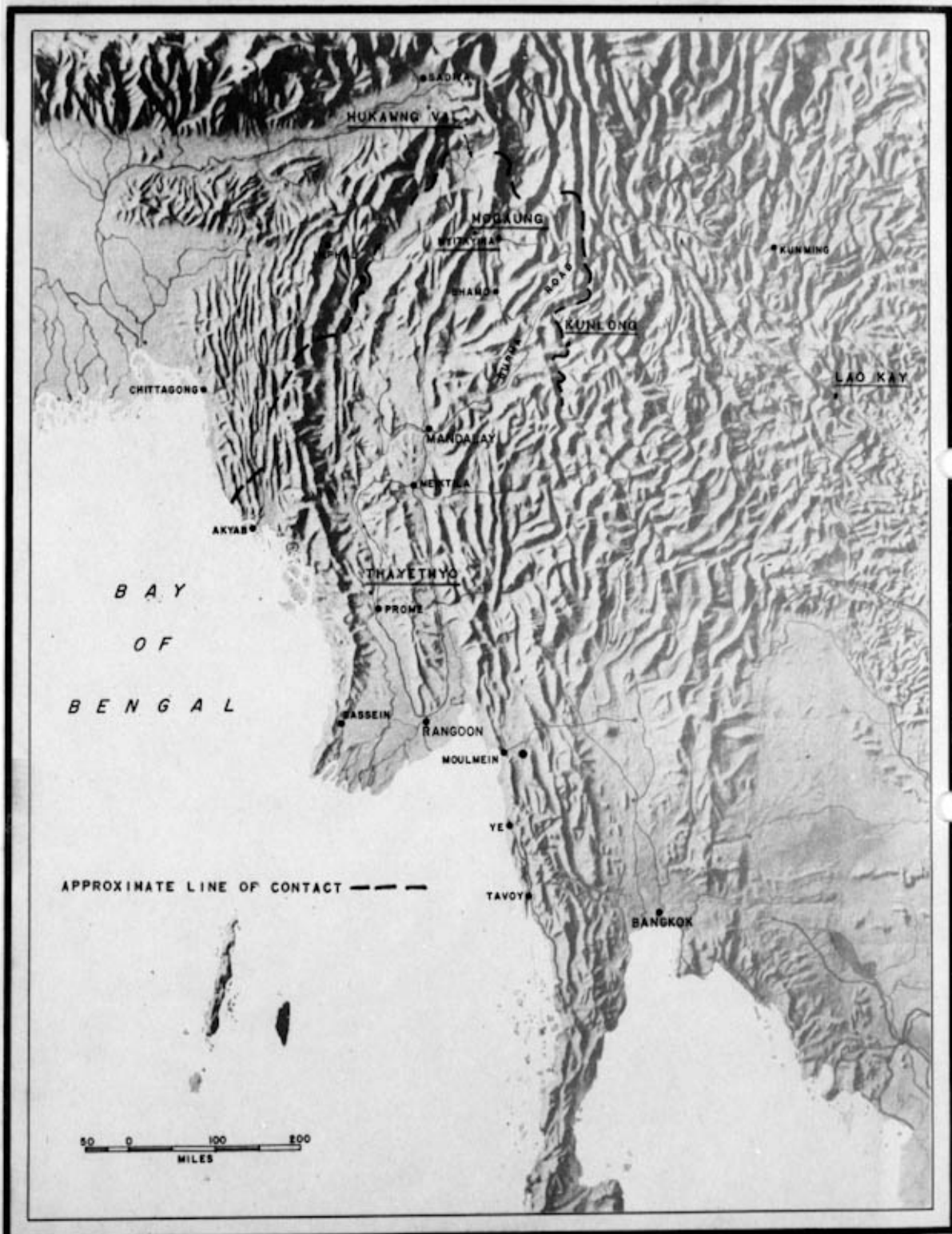
2. A later report of the Emden raid of 11 December indicates that 86 (probably 108) enemy planes were destroyed by our bombers instead of 117 (probably 137) as previously reported. Our losses were 15 instead of 17 heavy bombers.

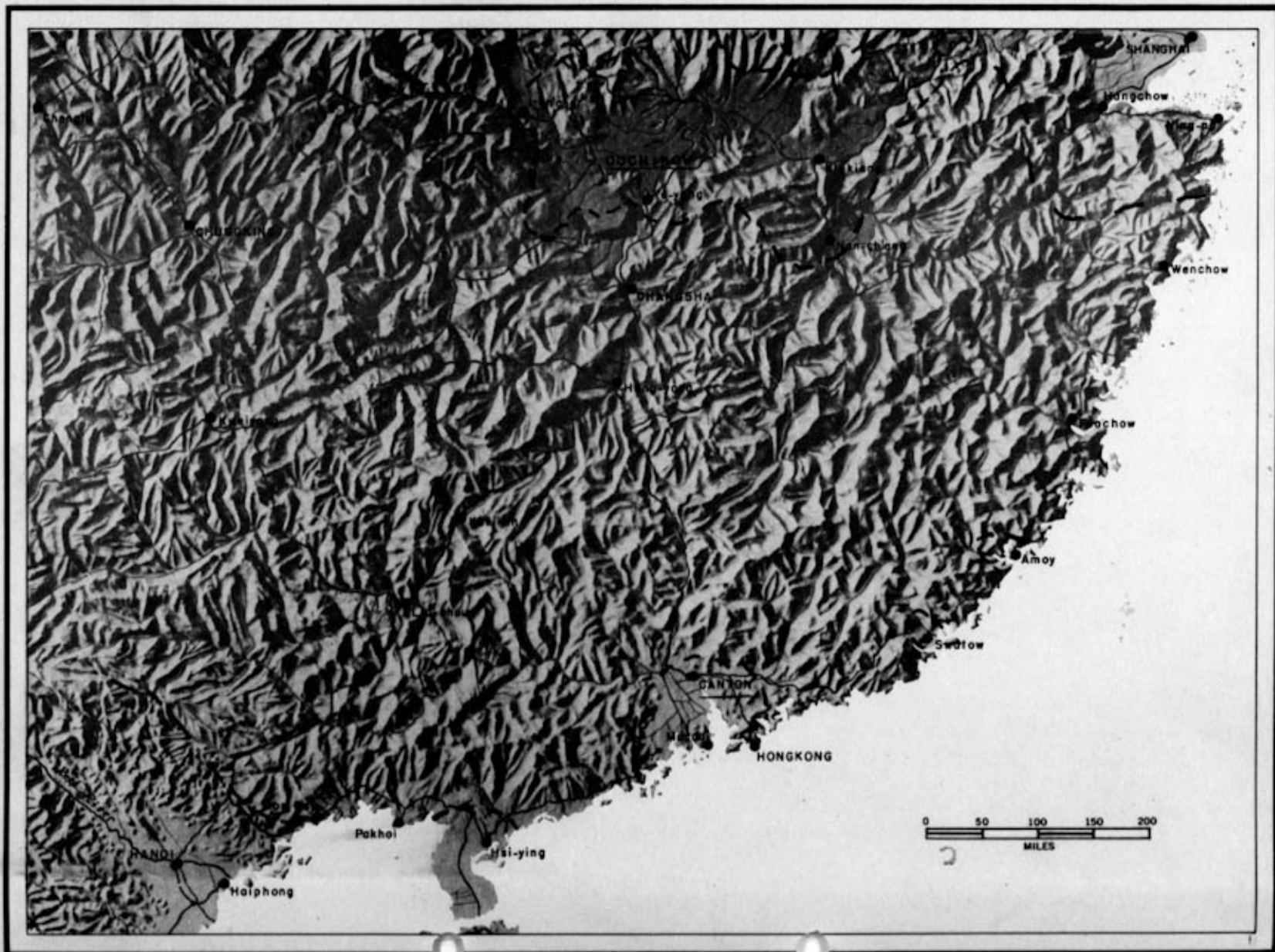
3. No important changes occurred on the Russian front during 18 December. However, around Nevel, and particularly to the south of the city, the Soviets are gradually but slowly increasing their pressure against enemy defenses in this sector.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Tactical Air Force light and fighter-bombers attacked enemy gun positions and defended areas near Cassino, and scored many hits on railroad yards, barracks, docks and warehouses along the coast south of Rome during 17 December. Allied fighter planes machine-gunned and left smoking a merchant vessel off the Dalmatian coast, and shot down three enemy planes in combat elsewhere over Yugoslavia. Two of our planes were lost during these missions.

2. Active patrolling and some small gains were reported along portions of the Fifth Army front during the 24 hours ending 1200, 18





MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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December. The enemy broke contact east of San Pietro, on which US troops are closing in. Heavy fighting continued in the coastal and central sectors of the Eighth Army line.

3. Middle East aircraft successfully dropped supplies in Albania and Greece during the night of 16-17 December; mining operations were carried out against Khalkis Harbor by two British bombers.

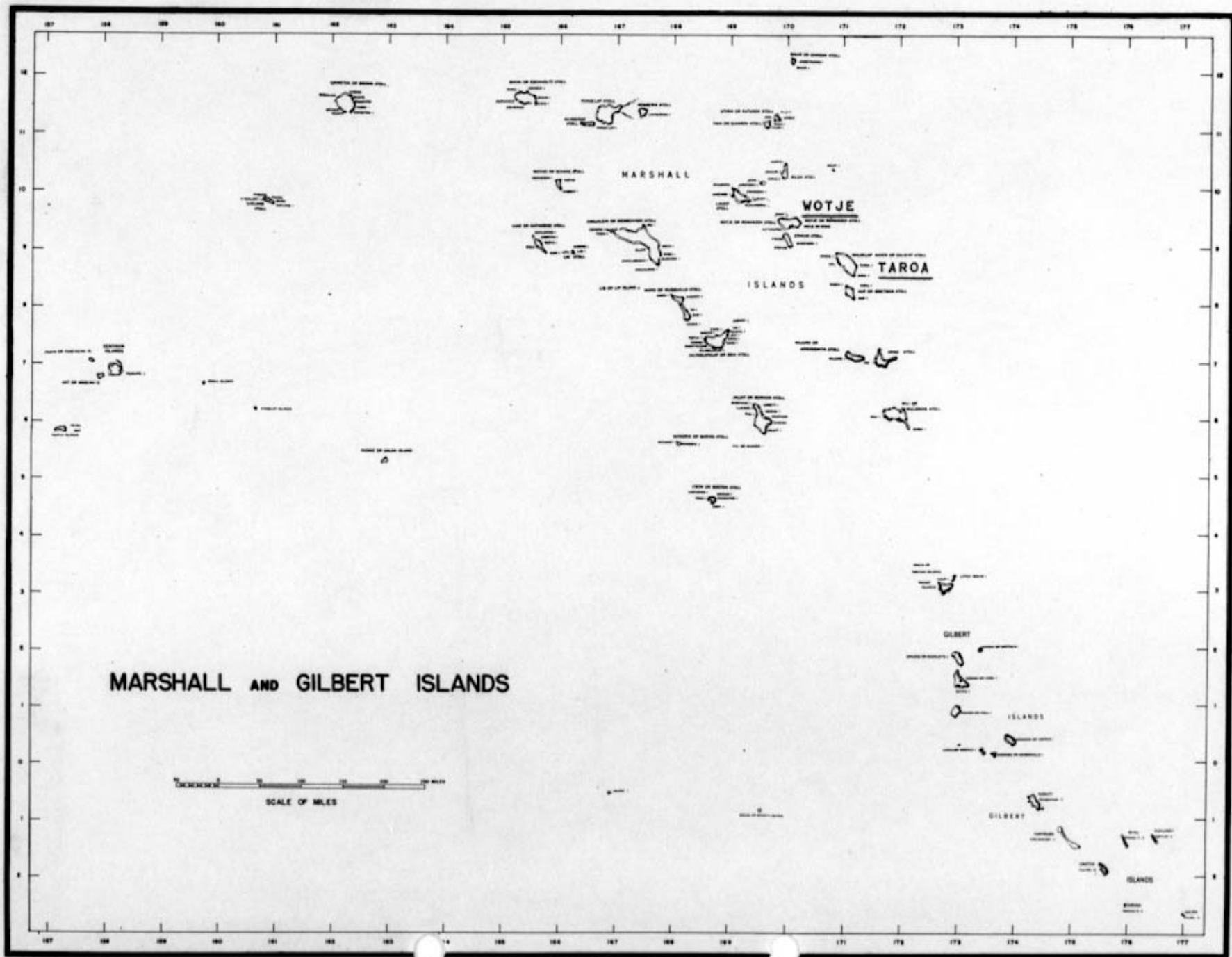
#### ASIATIC THEATER

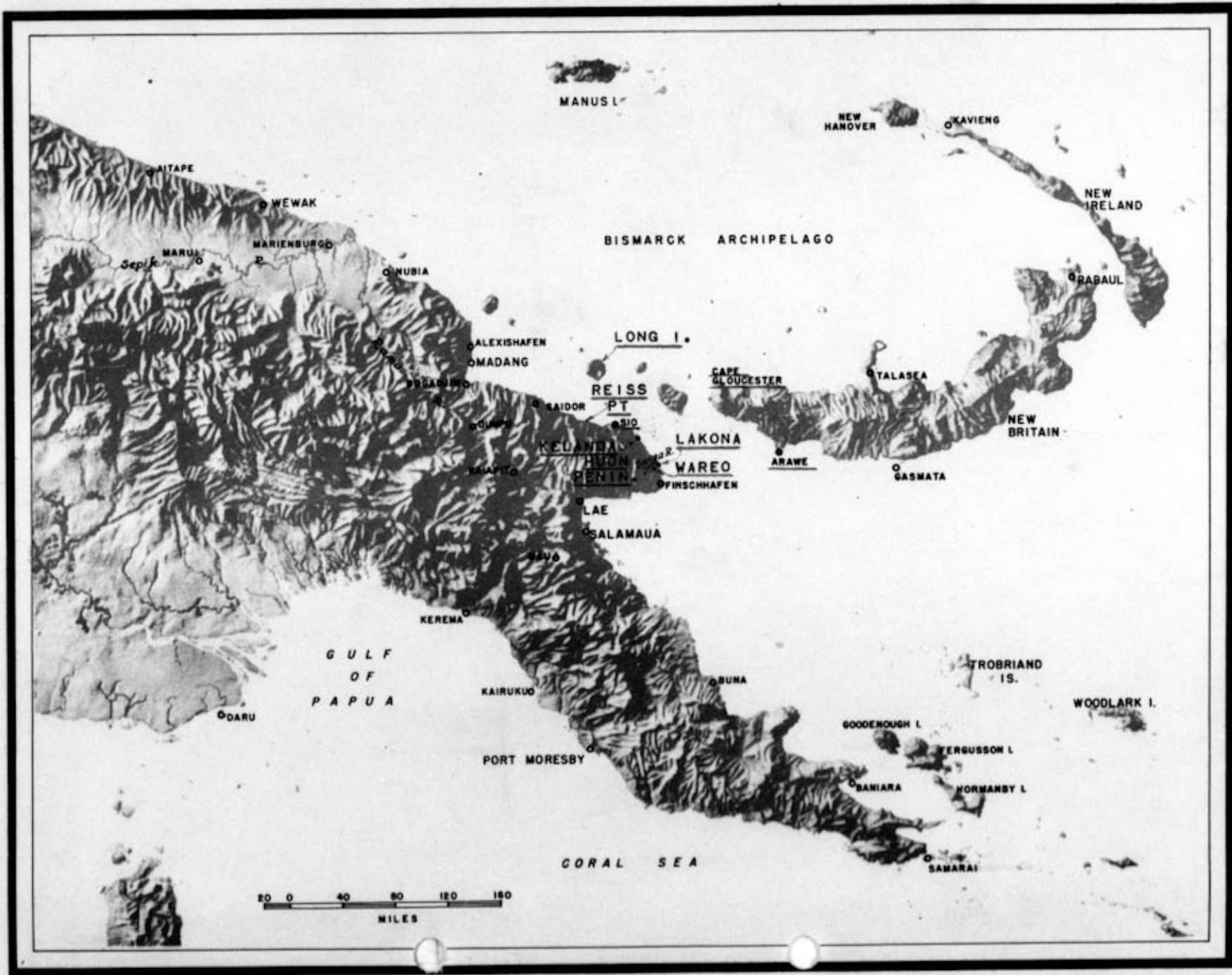
1. On 15 December, 10th Air Force planes started fires and probably exploded an ammunition dump in attacks on towns south of Mogaung.

The next day 10th Air Force planes bombed targets in the Hukawng Valley in support of ground troops. Nineteen escorted B-24's probably destroyed the cement plant at Thayetmyo and other planes attacked Myitkyina, starting fires in the town and hitting 11 buildings in the Japanese headquarters area.

2. B-25's of the 14th Air Force on shipping sweeps over the South China Sea on 16 December sank a 175-foot freighter, heavily damaged another, and shot down one enemy bomber. Other B-25 missions bombed the docks at Canton and heavily attacked Ouchikow where many hits in the city area started large fires.

The next day P-40's dive-bombed and machine-gunned enemy targets at Kunlong, the railroad station at Lao Kay, and boats on the Red River.





PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our ground forces at Arawe extended their perimeter defenses on 17 December, meeting weak but stubborn resistance. US fighter patrols, effectively beating off 13 attacks over our beachhead, shot down 17 (probably 18) enemy planes during the afternoon and night of 16 December and the following morning. On the Huon Peninsula the Allied forces have crossed the mouth of the Sanga River; inland troops have captured an enemy-held town two miles northeast of Wareo.

During the night of 16 December, Allied planes sank a submarine *west of Vele* north of Long Island and damaged another west of Buka. Missions on 17 December included the continuation of the attacks by our heavy bombers on Cape Gloucester, the bombing and machine-gunning of Sio and other attacks by our fighters on enemy barges near Reiss Point and in Kelanoa Harbor. Australian P-40's bombed barges in the Timika area of western New Guinea and a Dutch B-25 on reconnaissance damaged an enemy lighter in the islands to the southwest. //

2. During the morning of 15 December, 21 B-24's from Nanomea dropped 25 tons of bombs on the storage area and barracks at Taroa. Two (probably 10) of 30 intercepting fighters were destroyed; one of our planes was shot down near the island. The enemy defenders made use of aerial bombs. Ten B-24's from Canton dropped 17 tons of bombs on Wotje at sunset. Hits were scored in the building area; there was no interception by enemy fighters.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 738

0700 December 17 to 0700 December 18, 1943

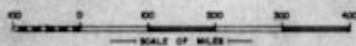
COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

202(2)



# CENTRAL EUROPE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

To meet the existing submarine menace within the Panama Sea Frontier, the 10th Medium Bombardment Squadron now stationed at Waller Field, Trinidad, is being transferred to France Field, Panama.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Five hundred and twenty US heavy bombers, escorted by 234 fighters, attacked Bremen through a solid overcast, on 16 December, dropping 1,500 tons of bombs. Enemy fighter reaction was initially strong but fell off, probably because of weather conditions. Eighteen (probably 29) enemy fighters were destroyed for the loss of twelve bombers and two fighters.

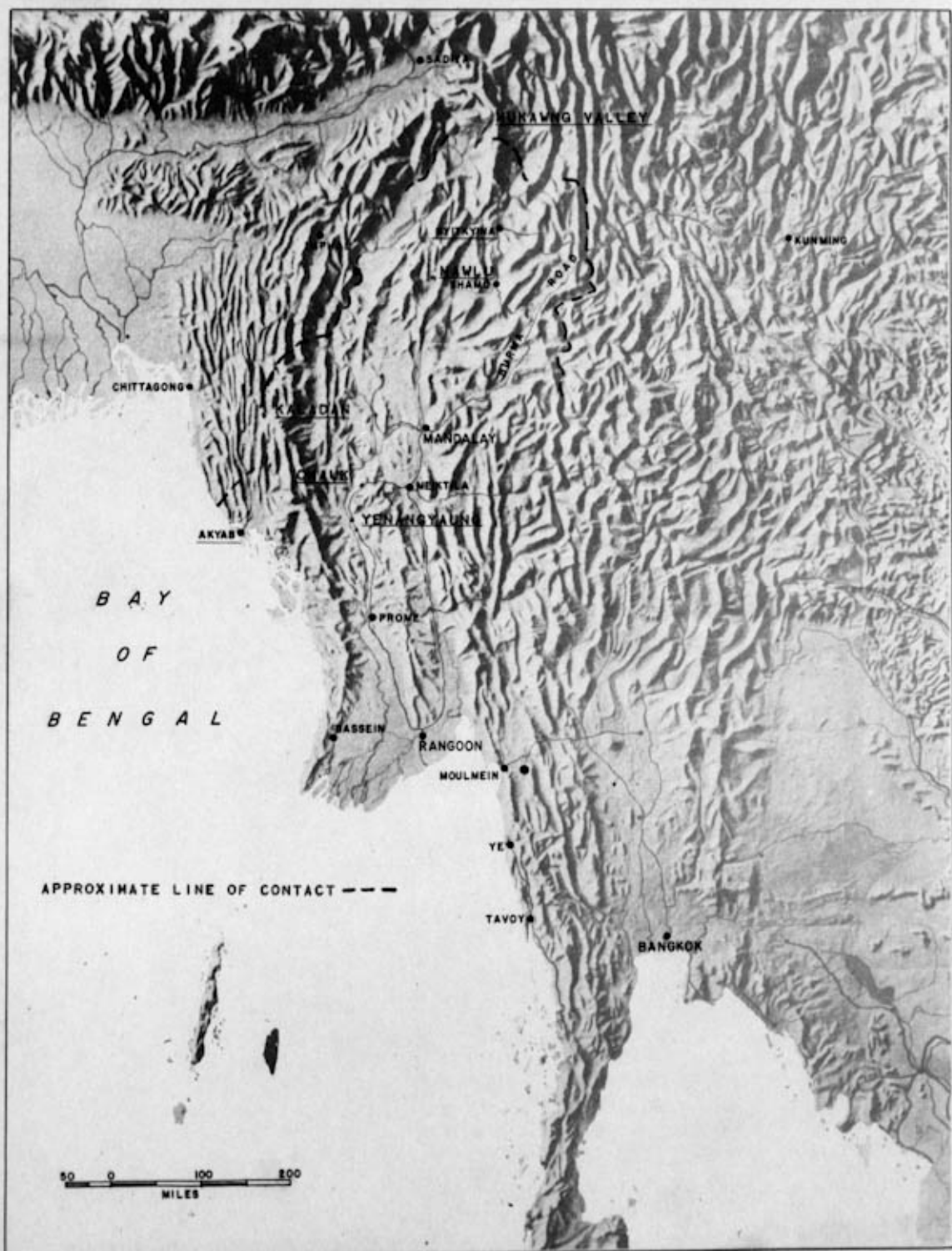
2. Three hundred and ninety RAF bombers dropped 1,569 tons of bombs (of which 366 were 4,000-pounders) on Berlin during the night of 16-17 December. Four intercepting enemy aircraft were destroyed; 55 bombers may have been lost. Weather was unusually unfavorable; 21 of these bombers crashed in the UK. Other RAF bombers hit military objectives in the Abbeville area and carried out mining operations along the west coast of France and the Frisians, as well as diversionary raids against Hamborn and Duisburg.

3. On 17 December the Soviets increased their pressure in the Nevel area threatening the German positions extending toward Leningrad.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

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MEDITERRANEAN

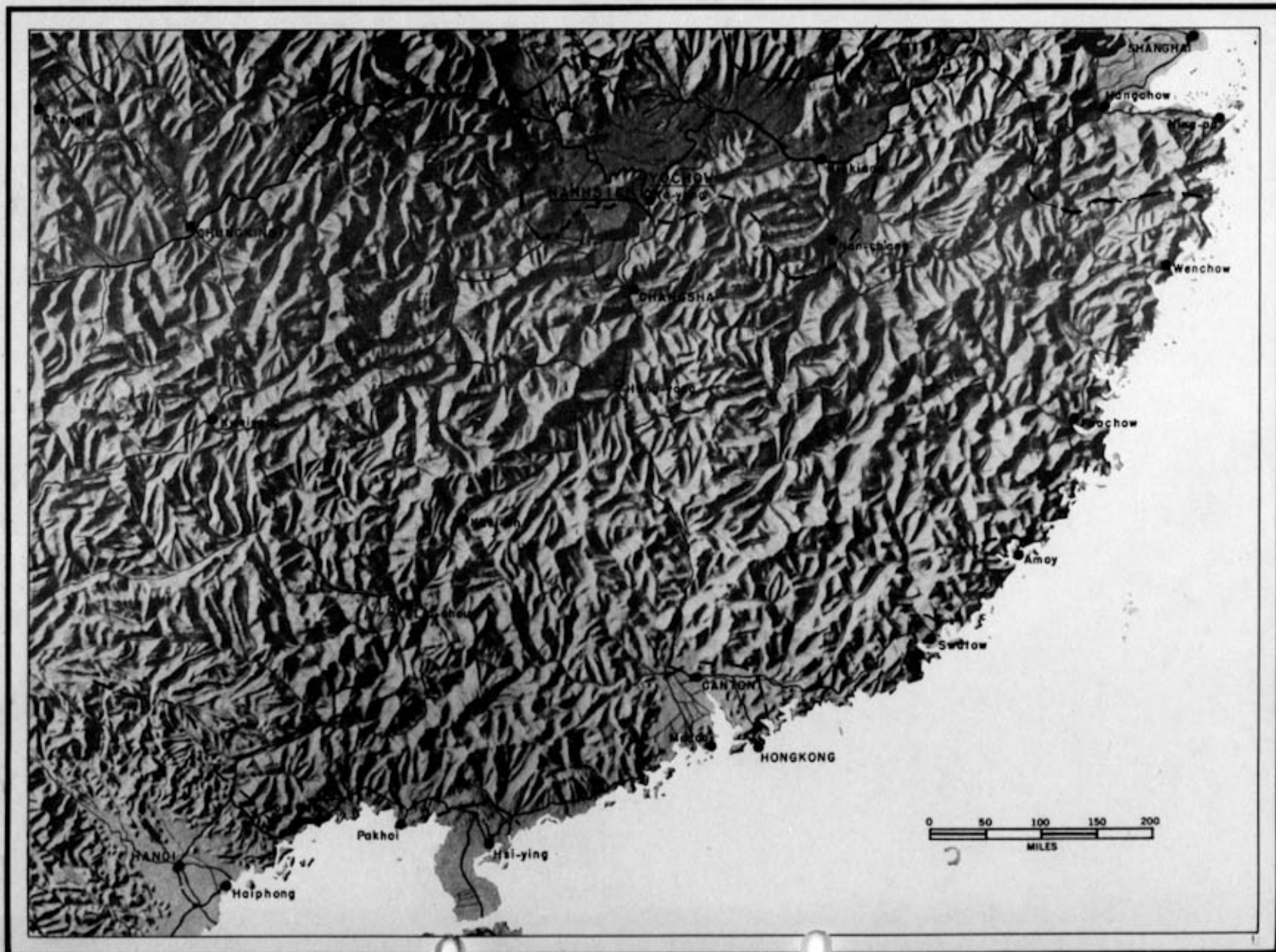
1. On 16 December 38 escorted B-24's attacked the Dogna railroad bridge and tunnels with fair results while 70 escorted B-17's reported good coverage of the Padua railroad yards and claimed the destruction of five of the 27 enemy aircraft encountered. Light and fighter bombers attacked Civitavecchia and supported our ground troops.

Along the Dalmatian coast B-25's scored hits on three ships at Zara and also bombed Sibenik while our lighter aircraft sank a small merchant vessel, and set fire to another, destroying six (probably seven) of the 15 enemy planes encountered in the area.

2. During 17 December the Fifth Army continued to improve its positions despite aggressive enemy opposition. The Monti Lungo feature at the entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone corridor has been occupied. A strong counterattack from San Pietro was repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy; our troops continued their advance north of Monti Sammucro. Moroccan troops gained ground on Monti Pantano. The Eighth Army maintained its bridgehead beyond the Moro despite repeated attacks by enemy armored elements; 13 enemy tanks were destroyed and two captured.

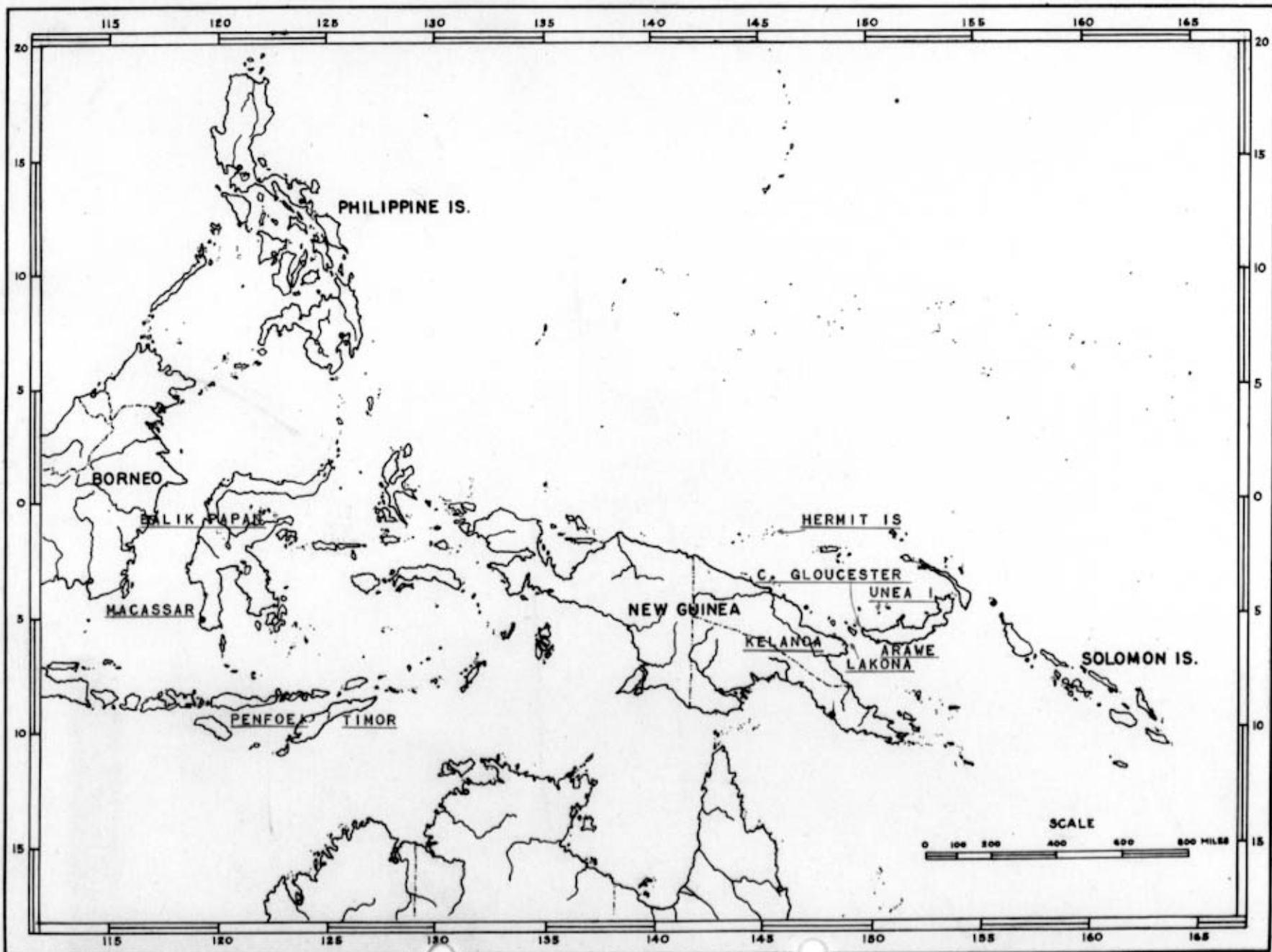
ASIATIC THEATER

1. 10th Air Force planes bombed bridges in the Hukawng Valley on 14 December, hit the runway at Myitkyina and started fires at Mawlu. The next day 20 escorted B-24's hit the waterfront area and oil pumps



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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at Chauk, while nine B-25's bombed the refinery at Yenangyaung. British dive bombers set fire to a steamer and damaged rolling stock at Kaladan on 15 December and scored hits in the Akyab airfield the following day.

2. 14th Air Force fighter planes on 16 December again hit the airdrome at Yochow destroying two enemy airplanes, and machine-gunned shipping on the Yangtze north of Nansien. All planes returned.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied ground forces consolidated their positions in the Arawe area and cleaned up enemy remnants southwest of Lakona during 16 December. In operations over New Britain B-24's dropped 113 tons of bombs on Cape Gloucester on 15 December. On 16 December the attack was repeated with 118 tons; in repelling air attacks on our ground forces and in sweeps elsewhere along the New Britain coastline our aircraft destroyed 11 (probably 13) enemy planes. A B-24 sank a small tanker off the Hermit Islands. Barges and enemy installations along the northeast New Guinea coast were bombed and machine-gunned, excellent results being reported at Kelanua.

To the west 11 B-24's again bombed the oil refinery at Balikpapan and wharves at Macassar on 15 December. The next day, Allied planes destroyed a loaded 4,000-ton transport and a barge off Timor, shooting down a twin-engined enemy fighter, and started fires at the Penfoei airdrome.

2. During the night of 15-16 December, night fighters bombed



# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



Poporang Island. The next day more than 100 Navy bombers and fighters hit Sohana Islands and Bonis. B-24's also bombed Poporang Island, Sohana Island, the Bonis dispersal area, and enemy installations north of Bonis. Five escorted B-25's hit a fuel dump in Matchin Bay while other planes bombed and machine-gunned various enemy installations on Bougainville Island.

3. Our troops in the Empress Augusta Bay area made two attacks on 17 December, one eastwards along the coast during which Japanese positions were captured following an intense artillery preparation, the second to the north where Japanese units were reported surrounded. Our garrison in the beachhead now numbers 50,000, approximately.

B-26's bombed an island in the Shortland Group and enemy positions near Mutupina Point.

Enemy air strips at Buka, Bonis and Ballale were reported unserviceable after the Navy air attack on 17 December.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 737

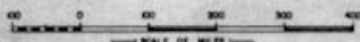
0700 December 16 to 0700 December 17, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

# CENTRAL EUROPE







BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

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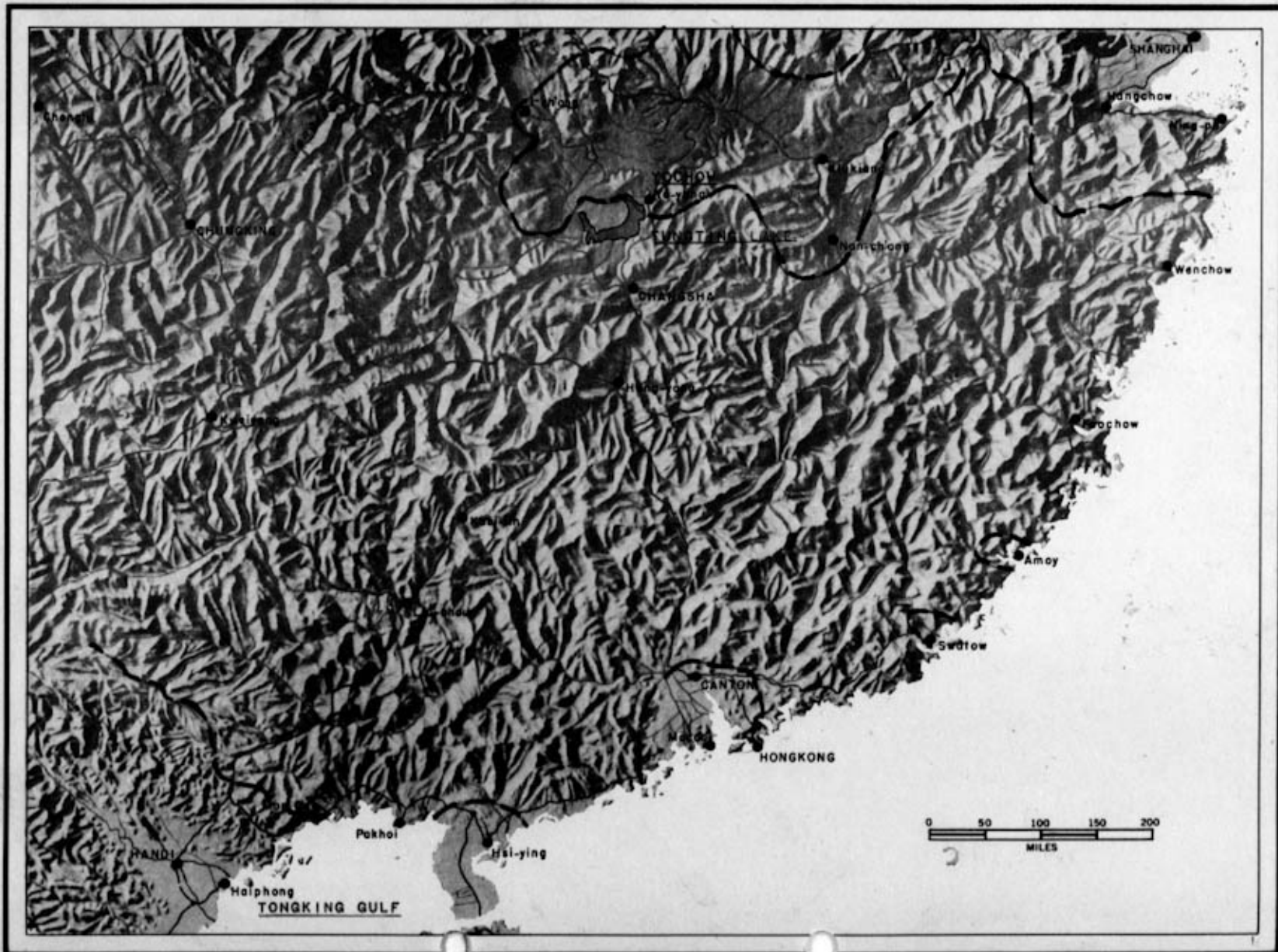
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Adverse weather limited Allied air activity on 15 December to raids by light aircraft on the airfield at Berck and on military objectives in the Abbeville area. That night small missions of British Mosquitoes raided Bochum, Leverkusen and Cologne.

2. During 16 December fierce but inconclusive fighting continued west of Kiev. Northwest of Vitebsk the fighting increased considerably in intensity though no gains resulted from Soviet pressure.

MEDITERRANEAN

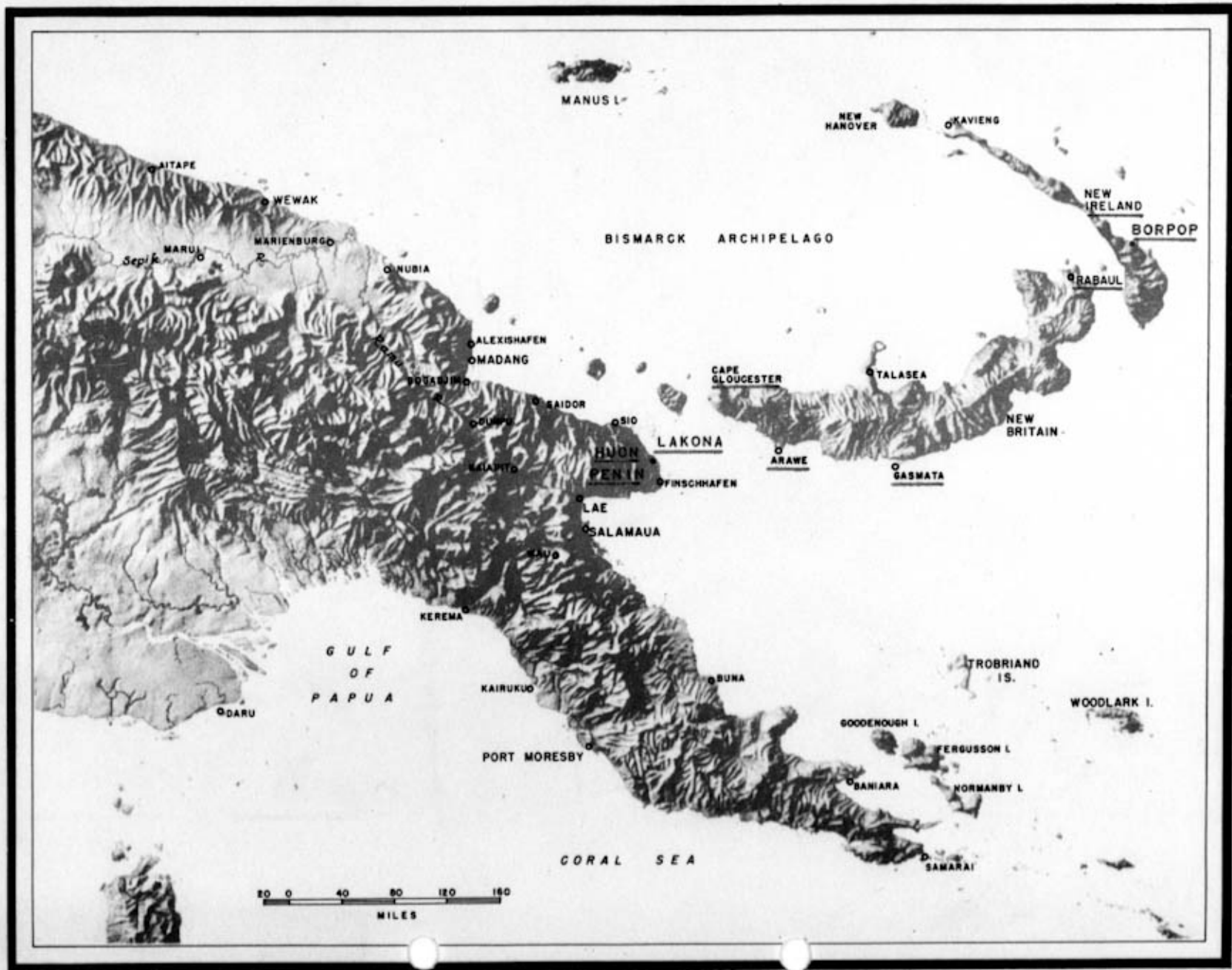
1. On 15 December our heavy bombers concentrated against enemy communications in the Brenner Pass area. Fifty-three B-24's with fighter escort attacked the Bolzano railroad yards, 51 escorted B-17's successfully bombed railroad shops at Innsbruck, and 45 B-24's escorted by 40 P-38's hit the nearby Avisio River viaduct; no enemy fighters were encountered and all of our aircraft returned. Lighter aircraft attacked military targets in the vicinity of Orsogna as well as gun positions and lines of communication in the Cassino-Frosinone region. Other Allied aircraft carried out offensive missions against airdromes, coastal targets and shipping in Yugoslavia and Albania. Seven enemy planes were destroyed on the ground at Zara; at the Mostar airdrome the dispersal areas were well covered and a large oil fire was started.



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

2. Fierce fighting continued in the center of the Fifth Army front on 16 December. Allied troops again attacked the enemy in San Pietro while maintaining their hold on the hill mass of Monti Sammucro. To the north, French troops were advancing over Monti Marrone. Following a successful attack by New Zealand troops the enemy launched two major counterattacks which failed. Along the Adriatic coast other counterattacks were repulsed and our positions improved.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

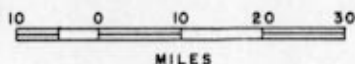
Twenty-four P-40's of the 14th Air Force dive-bombed and machine-gunned the Yochow airdrome on 15 December, destroying three enemy bombers on the ground. Other aircraft started several fires at Luchiangpa (east of Myitkyina), sank a 200-foot tug and probably sank a 250-foot schooner in Tongking Gulf, and machine-gunned targets in the Tungting Lake region.

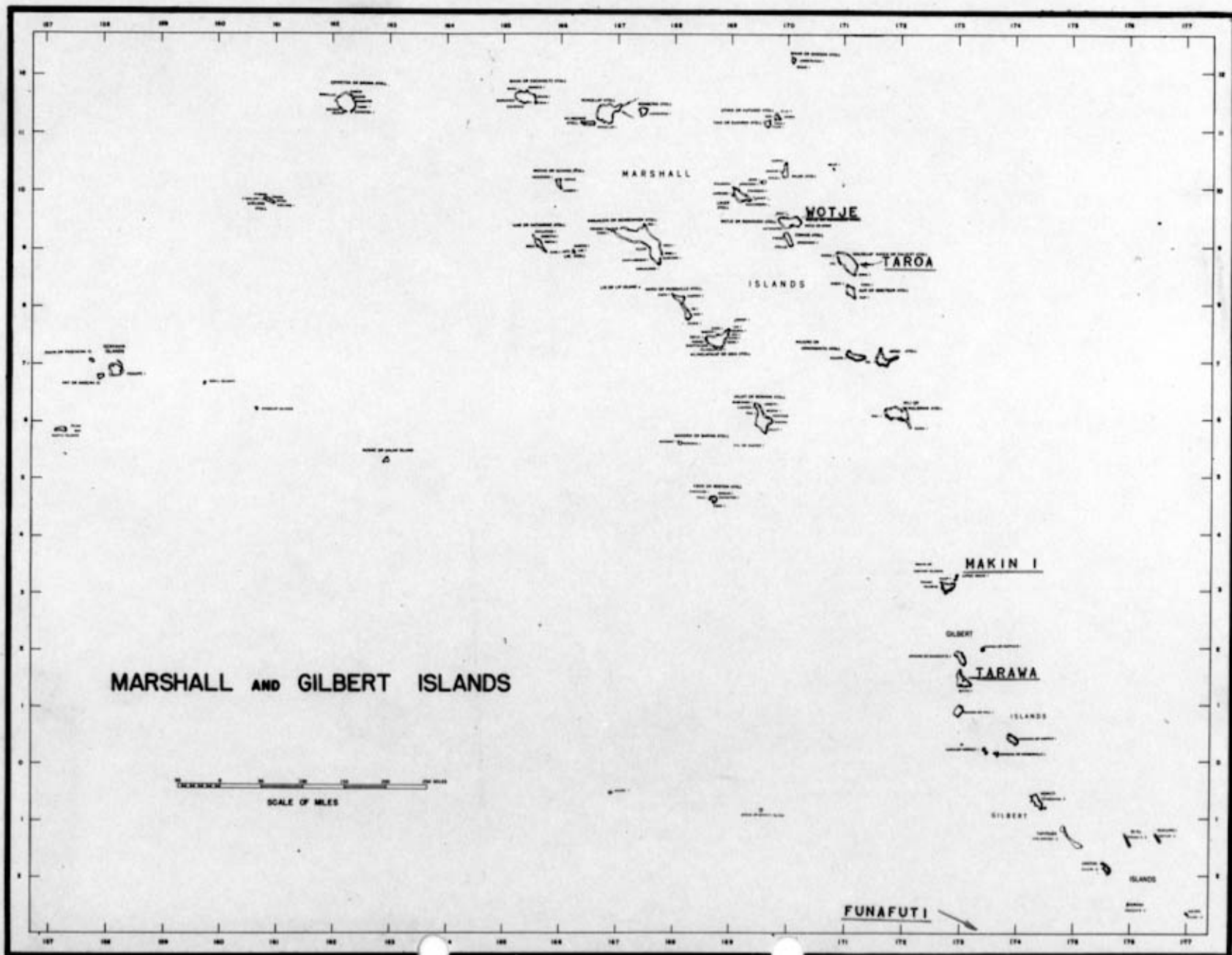
#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Early on the morning of 15 December, 3,000 troops, supported by naval and air bombardment, landed on three beaches near Arawe, encountering little opposition. Sixty Japanese were killed for an Allied loss of 13 killed, 25 wounded and 29 missing. Assisting this operation our air forces attacked airdromes and other targets at Borpop, Rabaul, Gasmata, and Cape Gloucester. Of some 30 to 40 enemy bombers which attacked our beachhead and shipping at Arawe, two were shot down by our ground forces; no damage was sustained by our shipping.

Our ground forces on the Huon Peninsula captured Lakona,

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

Allied aircraft also attacked shipping along the northeast New Guinea coast, and towns, airdromes, and shipping in the western New Guinea and Timor regions; a small merchantman was destroyed and two freighter-transports were badly damaged.

2. During the night of 14-15 December, Allied planes harassed the Buka-Bonis region which was hit the next day by 86 heavily escorted Navy bombers. Twenty-one B-24's started numerous fires at Sohana Island. Twenty-three B-25's escorted by 16 fighters bombed Chinatown, near Buka, causing a large explosion and extensive fires. Other planes bombed enemy positions northeast of Torokina and destroyed a bridge and machine-gunned the harbor at Kieta.

Our ground forces in the Empress Augusta Bay region came under command of the XIV Corps (Major General Oscar W. Griswold) on 15 December.

3. Ten US B-24's from Canton Island successfully bombed Wotje on 13 December and eight others repeated the attack on the 15th. On the 14th, 17 B-24's from Funafuti dropped 12 tons on Taroa, shooting down one (probably five) of some 15 intercepting enemy planes. We suffered no losses in these operations.

Six Japanese planes raided Tarawa on the night of 13-14 December without causing damage. Makin was raided by two enemy planes which caused a few casualties.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 736

0700 December 15 to 0700 December 16, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)







EUROPEAN THEATER

1. The only major Allied bombing operation in the European Theater during 14 December was the attack by nine squadrons of Typhoon light bombers and one escorted squadron of rocket-projecting Hurricanes against military objectives in the Pas de Calais. Beau-fighters destroyed a three-engined patrol bomber off the southwestern coast of Norway. All Allied aircraft returned.

2. The momentum of the enemy attack south of Malin against the Kiev salient was again checked by a Soviet counterattack. Red forces are now turning their attention to Kirovograd and exerting pressure mainly southeast of the city.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. [Weather being bad over Italy our airforces focussed <sup>attention</sup> on ~~the~~ concentration of German aircraft and shipping in the Athens area on 14 December. Seventy-six B-17's ~~dropped 224 tons of bombs on the~~ <sup>attacked</sup> Kalamaki airdrome while 77 other B-17's and B-24's ~~dropped 198 tons on~~ <sup>attacked</sup> the nearby Eleusis and Tatoi airdromes and shipping at Piraeus; crews reported good coverage of the targets. ~~Our medium bombers damaged the Orta railroad yards, and Allied light bomber and fighter aircraft attacked bridges and lines of communication in the Fresinone-Cassino area, bombed buildings, docks and roads at Civitavecchia, and flew support missions in the battle area. During the day's operations in~~



~~(probably 19) enemy planes were destroyed; we lost one B-17 and three Spitfires~~

2. ~~During the 24-hour period ending at noon on 15 December, units of our II Corps improved their positions on the crest of Monti Sammucro which flanks the approaches to Cassino. The~~ 2d Moroccan Division, operating in our VI Corps, pushed forward to occupy ~~the~~ entire Monti Castelnuovo heights. There was stiff fighting on the Eighth Army front where weather continued to hamper operations. ~~Further ground was gained near Orsogna.~~

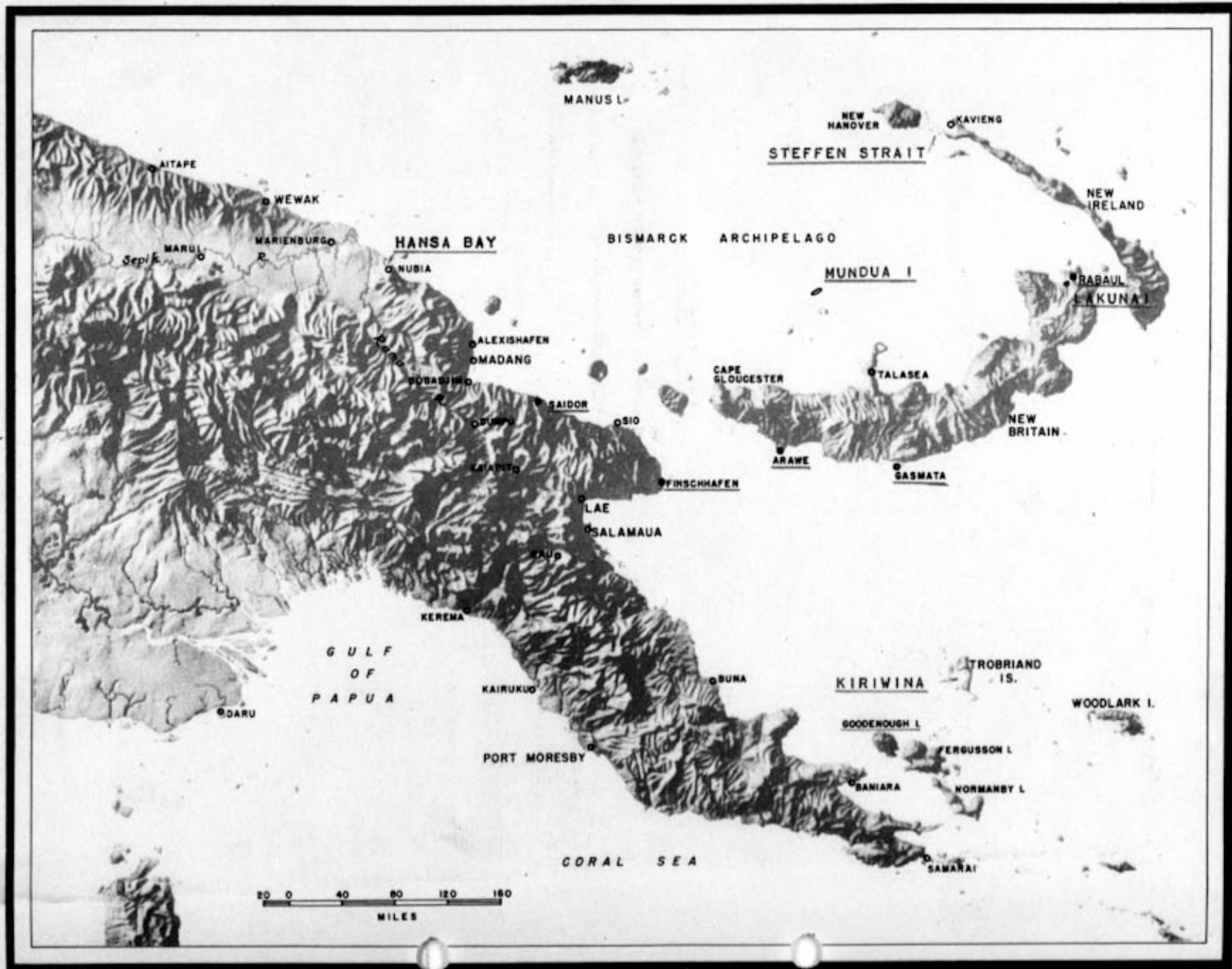
ASIATIC THEATER

1. ~~Major General George E. Stratmeyer has announced the~~ organization of the Eastern Air Command which he will command with headquarters at New Delhi <sup>has been announced.</sup> Consisting initially of our 10th Air Force ~~(Brigadier General Howard C. Davidson)~~ and the Royal Air Force Bengal Air Command, the new Command will include a Tactical Air Force under Air Marshal Baldwin and a Strategic Air Force under General Davidson. ~~All heavy and medium bombardment units of both the 10th Air Force and the Bengal Air Command, together with the necessary reconnaissance units, will become part of the Strategic Air Force. All fighters, fighter-bombers, light and dive bombers, troop carriers and remaining reconnaissance units will become part of the Tactical Air Force. Administrative control and the responsibility for supply and maintenance will remain under the respective United States and Royal Air Force commanders.~~



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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~~2. British aircraft attacked enemy batteries and installations in the Fort White area on 14 December.~~

~~3. Eight B-25's of the 14th Air Force bombed the enemy Wuchang airdrome on 13 December with observed effect. The next day P-40's machine-gunned the airdrome and destroyed rolling stock in the yards at Gia Lam. Thirteen escorted B-25's bombed Shasi; results were unobserved. All our planes returned from these missions.~~

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

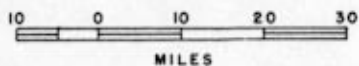
~~1. Additional Australian missions bombed the Lakunai dispersal areas at Rabaul during the night of 13 December. The next day a total of 70 B-24's, 59 B-25's and 60 A-20's hammered Arawe with 355 tons of bombs and also heavily machine-gunned the area. Numerous buildings were destroyed, gun positions silenced, and many fires started. One B-24, 25 B-25's and nine B-26's attacked the enemy air strip at Gasmeta.~~

~~In other missions~~ <sup>Southeast of Kairangi</sup> Catalina on night reconnaissance scored two half-ton bomb hits on a heavy cruiser in Stoffen Strait while B-24's machine-gunned enemy barges in Mansa Bay and bombed targets on Mindua Island. An enemy airplane which followed our formation returning from Rabaul attacked our air strip on Goodenough Island; other single enemy aircraft attacked our Kiriwina runway and the beach area at Finschhafen.

~~2. A total of 42 B-24's and 47 B-25's participated in attacks on enemy buildings and supply and bivouac areas in the Matchin Bay and~~

*3000 Allied troops (believed to belong to 1st Marine Division) landed at Arawe, southeast New Britain, morning 15 December after naval and aerial bombardment. Encountered little opposition.*

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



Numa Numa areas on Bougainville during 14 December. Navy forces totaling 126 bombers and fighters blasted targets near Matchin Bay and supported ground operations. Fighter aircraft flew escort missions, harassed enemy ground positions, and bombed Sohana Island.

GENERAL

The War Department directed all senior commanders in North American territory to take necessary measures to protect the health of troops and war workers from the dangers of the current influenza epidemic. The space allotment per individual in barracks will be increased where practicable. Army medical facilities will be used for the emergency treatment of civilians wherever necessary, barracks being used as hospitals if required to meet emergency needs. Special reports will be rendered should any appreciable amount of influenza develop among troops who are in a high priority for overseas movement.



WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 735

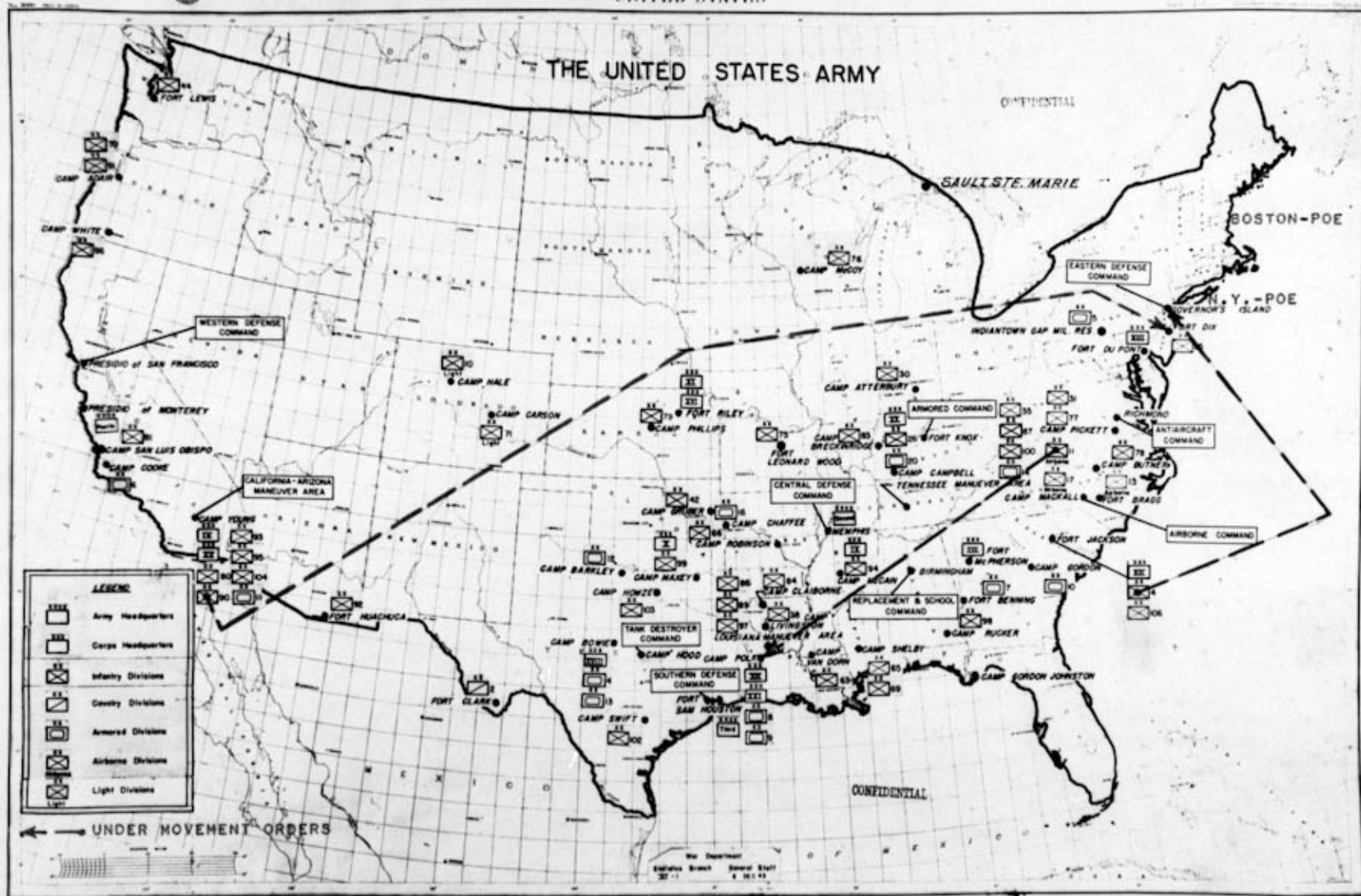
0700 December 14 to 0700 December 15, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

OUTLINE MAP  
UNITED STATES



1. This map is for information only and does not constitute a commitment of the Army to any specific location or assignment of units.

2. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

3. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

4. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

5. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

6. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

7. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

8. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

9. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.

10. Units are shown as of 1 April 1943.



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives were issued for the movement of the 90th Infantry Division (Major General Henry Terrell, Jr.,) from Camp Young, California to Fort Dix, New Jersey, in preparation for shipment overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. In ~~our~~ heavy bomber attacks ~~of~~ 13 December, 942 tons ~~of bombs~~ ~~were~~ dropped on Kiel, 470 tons on Bremen and 312 tons on Hamburg. Enemy fighter opposition was weak, ~~possibly because of adverse weather, and~~ ~~antiaircraft fire was strong only over Kiel.~~

2. On 13 December a four-engined German heavy bomber crashed in Ireland. That night British Mosquitoes raided Dusseldorf and Bonn.

3. West of Kiev on 14 December the enemy resumed his advance, capturing Radomyshl, 19 miles south of Malin. The Soviets again attacked south of Nevel but reported no advance; an unexpected thaw in this area has delayed the winter. Patrols were very active between Lake Ilmen and Leningrad.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Allied light bombers and fighters flew ~~some~~ 600 sorties on 13 December, attacking enemy defense positions near Miglianico and elsewhere along the front, railroad yards and other targets at Terracina, and bridges at Pontecorvo.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
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Twenty-four B-25's set fire to supply and railroad installations at Sibenik; another mission of 24 B-25's set an oil depot afire at Split.

Fifteen enemy planes attacked Bari; two were shot down. No damage resulted.

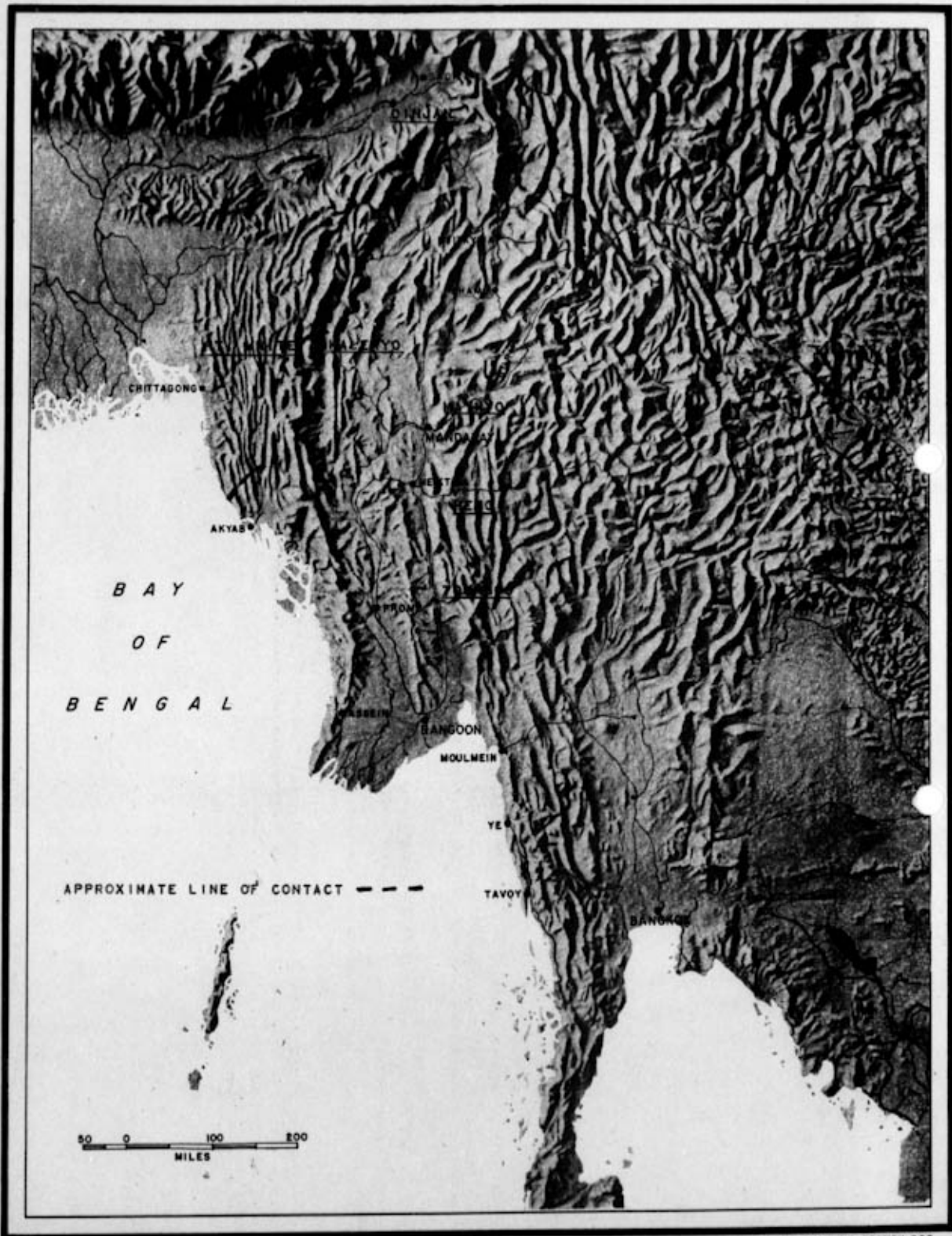
2. By noon ~~of~~ 14 December, ~~units of the British~~ Eighth Army had advanced ~~about~~ a mile beyond ~~the~~ Moro River along ~~a~~ five mile front against fierce but unsuccessful enemy counterattacks; *Caldari captured.* ~~Caldari was captured~~ in a night operation. Elsewhere along the line only patrol and artillery ~~action was reported.~~

3. During the week ending 2 December 75,214 tons of supplies, 3,727 vehicles, and 37,276 persons were discharged at Italian west coast ports. Corresponding figures for east coast ports were 82,835 tons of supplies, 2,946 vehicles, and 8,658 persons. Naples again carried the major share of the traffic on the west coast; Bari, Brindisi and Taranto, in the order named, were the major ports on the east coast.

4. On the night of 12-13 December twelve Allied bombers attacked Suda Bay, Crete. The next day four B-25's on anti-shipping missions damaged a 500-ton vessel and two smaller craft.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. During the attack on our Dinjan airfield on 13 December our fighters destroyed 12 (probably 13) enemy bombers and five fighters for a loss of one P-40. Another Japanese plane was destroyed by anti-

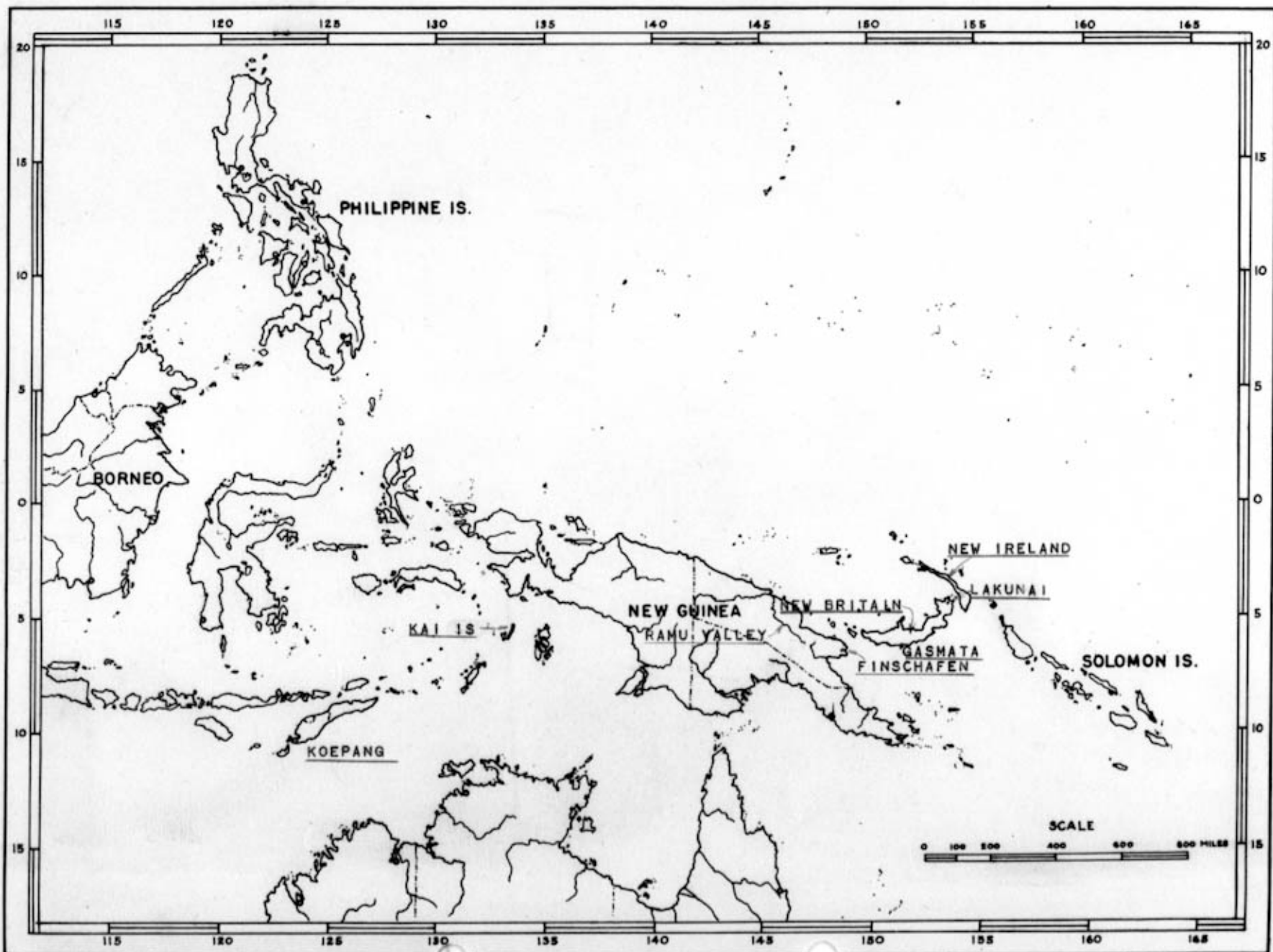


BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
 28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
 LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS







aircraft fire. No damage was sustained by the field.

Elsewhere on 13 December 18 B-24's of the 19th Air Force in a night attack bombed Heho airdrome with excellent results and raided Maymyo, while planes of the RAF heavily attacked enemy positions at Fort White and near Kalemmyo; ten British B-24's dropped 29 tons of bombs on storage dumps at Toungoo.

2. Escorted medium bombers of the 14th Air Force attacked Kungan and Lichow in the Tungting Lake region on 13 December; large fires were started in both places. A mission of P-40's attacked a large building at Lichow.

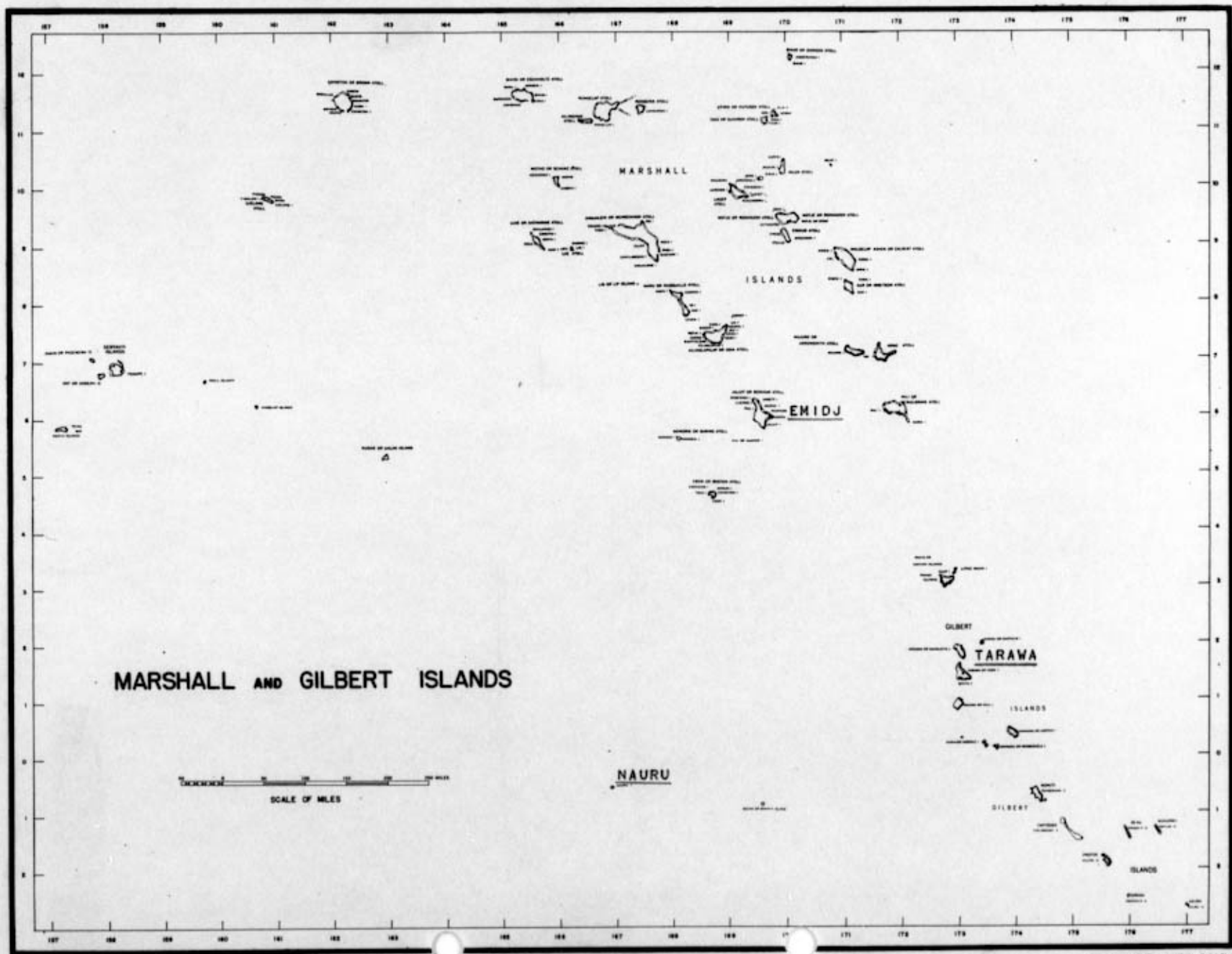
In the Japanese attack against our advance base at Hengyang on 12 December, our P-40's shot down 12 (probably 21) enemy planes. We lost two P-40's. This is in addition to the two (probably four) enemy planes previously reported destroyed.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Reports indicate that 100 of 400 enemy troops attacking our outposts in the Ramu Valley were killed. Our coastal forces north of Finschhafen continued their advance on 13 December. 2,356 Japanese have been killed since our landing in the area.

Sixty B-24's and 48 B-25's escorted by P-38's dropped 248 tons of bombs on targets near Gasmata; widespread damage was caused and two intercepting fighters were shot down without loss. Australian planes bombed the Lakunai airdrome at Rabaul while our light and fighter bombers

*bombers*  
On 13 December 108 US heavy and medium bombers dropped 248 tons on Gasmata. <sup>New Guinea</sup> On 14 December 189 ~~planes~~ <sup>planes</sup> dropped 335 tons ~~area~~ <sup>area</sup> ~~both~~ <sup>both</sup> area widespread and heavy.



continued their attacks on targets in the northeastern New Guinea coastal area. A Catalina sank a 4,000-ton freighter in convoy off the west coast of New Ireland. To the west, US flying boats and Dutch B-25's attacked Koepang, and four Australian planes raided targets in western New Guinea and the Kai Islands.

2. On 13 December a total of 165 Army and Navy planes attacked the Bonis airfield, harassed enemy concentrations, and bombed enemy supply areas and gun positions at various points on Bougainville. Buka, Bonis, Kara and Kahili airfields were still unserviceable; craters at Bonis remained unfilled. Ballale airfield was partially serviceable.

3. Targets on Emidj Island in the Jaluit Group were attacked by a total of 31 B-24's from bases in the Ellice Islands on 12 December; 47 tons of bombs were dropped. The attack was uneventful, results were unobserved, and all our planes returned safely.

4. Enemy bombers made nuisance raids on our airfields on Tarawa during the nights of 11 and 12 December causing no damage.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

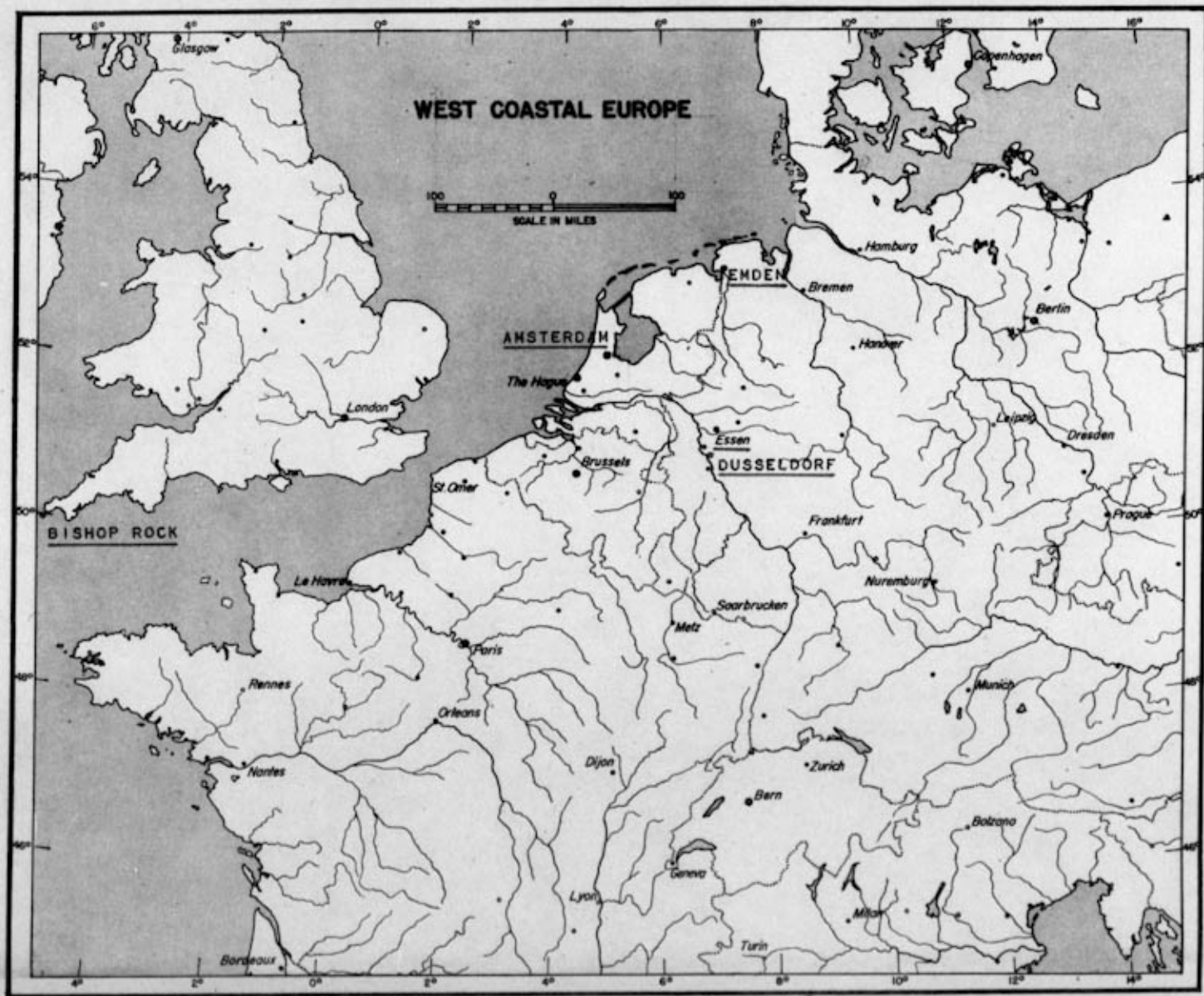
No. 734

0700 December 13 to 0700 December 14, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

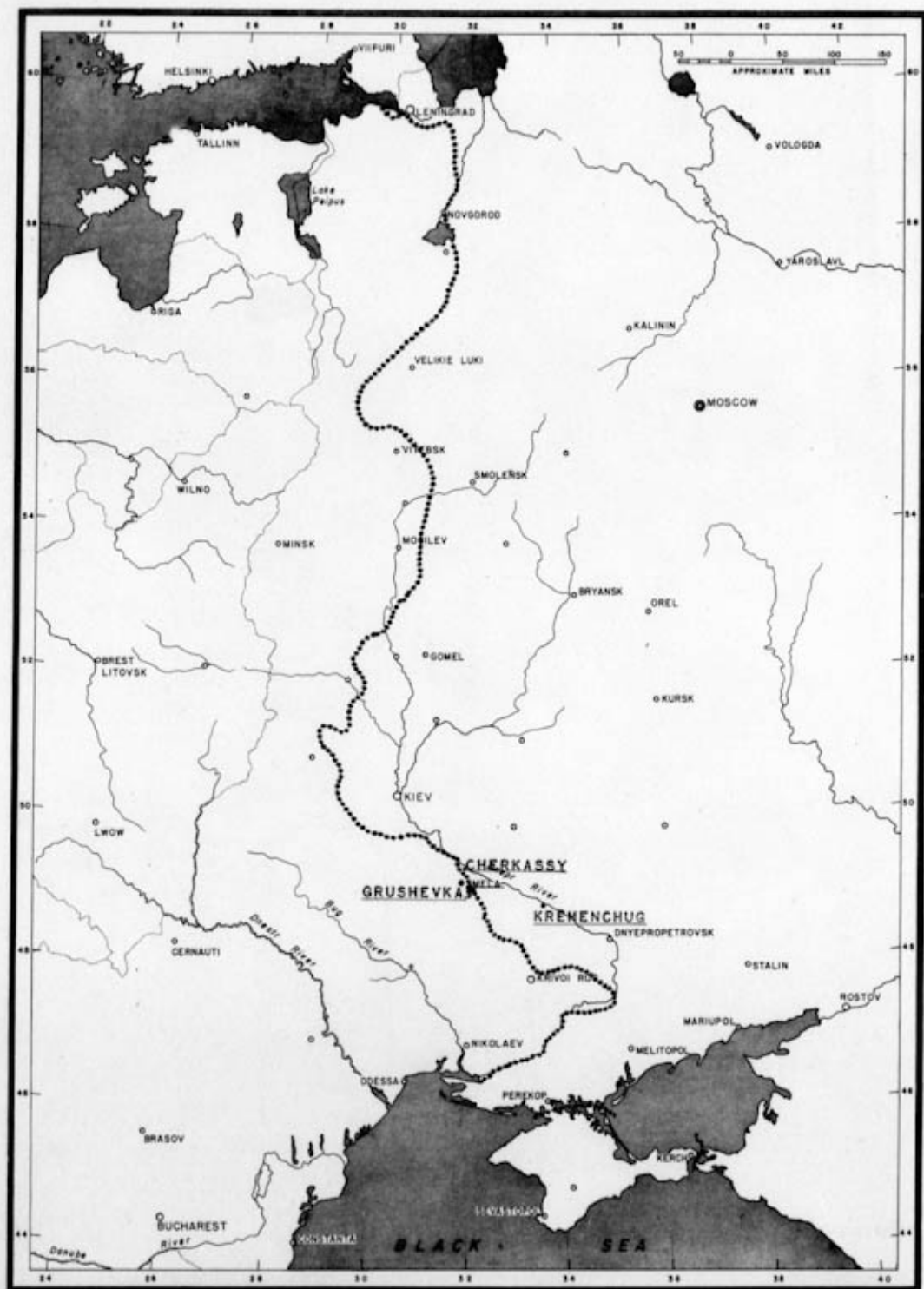
~~The Minister of War has issued instructions to the Colombian Army, Navy and Air Forces that US airplanes may land at their bases at any time, that US ships may call at their ports even without advance notice, and that members of our armed forces may appear in uniform in Colombia.~~

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During 12 December, six British Beaufighters destroyed three of five enemy reconnaissance planes 200 miles southwest of Bishop Rock; two of the RAF aircraft are missing. That night a force of 28 Mosquitoes attacked the steel armament works at Essen and targets at Dusseldorf; one Mosquito is missing.

[ On 13 December the 8th Air Force dispatched 725 heavy bombers and 483 fighter aircraft against targets in northwest Germany; this was the largest force of heavy bombers it has employed. Preliminary reports indicate that heavy clouds prevented observation of the results.]  
~~but that 15 enemy fighter planes were destroyed in aerial combat. In clear weather our B-26's successfully attacked the enemy airfield at Schipol, near Amsterdam, during the afternoon. Five heavy and two medium bombers and two of our fighter aircraft failed to return from the day's operations.~~

2. In the 11 December attack on Emden, ~~the~~ enemy fighters used







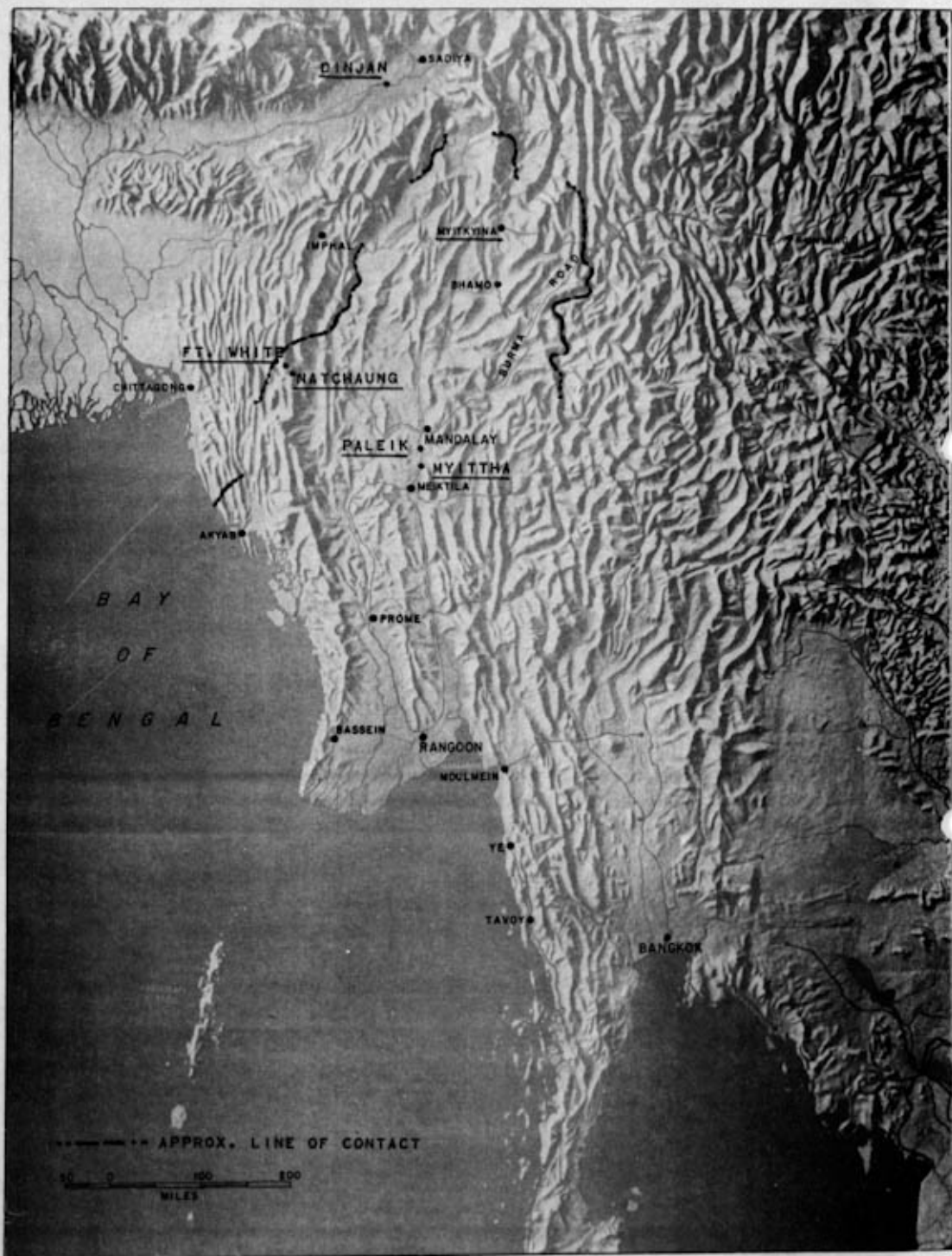
many tactics in their furious defense; in one case, apparently, a cable carrying an explosive charge was trailed against one of our bombers. A barrage of rockets was released simultaneously at 400-yard range and enemy aircraft ~~then~~ repeatedly attacked with cannon and machineguns <sup>in</sup> ~~a well coordinated manner; these attacks are believed to have been responsible for most of our losses.~~

3. ~~Cherkassy fell to the Soviets on 13 December and the bridgehead around Kremenchug was considerably extended to the northwest. Red forces also occupied Grushevka, 17 miles southeast of Smela, and maintained their pressure elsewhere along the front.~~

#### MEDITERRANEAN

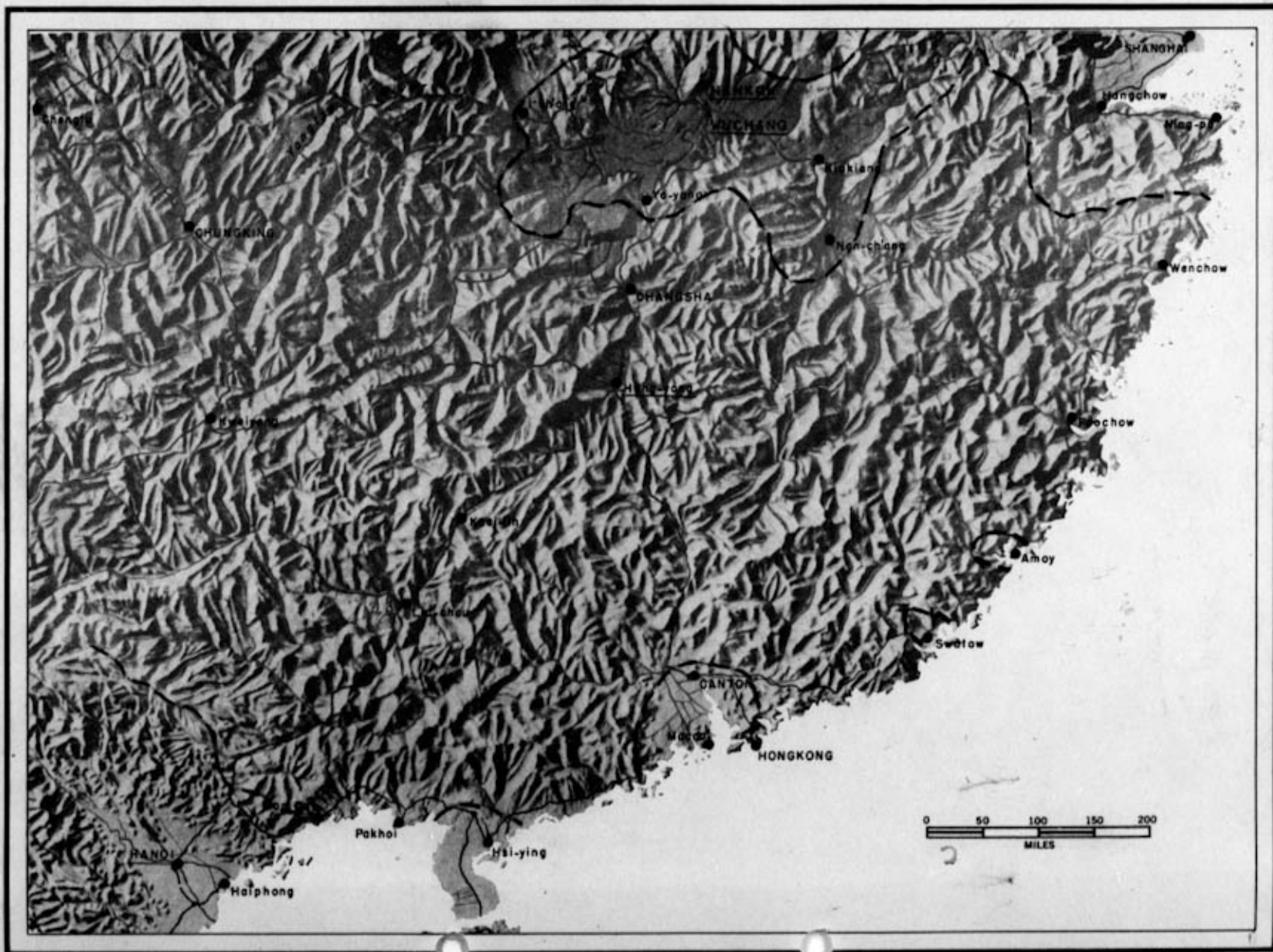
1. ~~B-25's bombed the railroad and landing ground at Terracina on 12 December. Forty-eight A-36's~~ <sup>On 12 December</sup> ~~bombing Itri. Allied fighters~~ <sup>and bombers</sup> ~~maintained their attacks on motor vehicles~~ <sup>railroads and landing grounds in rear of the front</sup> ~~in the Itri area and supported our ground forces by attacking gun positions on the Eighth Army front.~~

2. <sup>American</sup> ~~During 13 December the enemy increased his shelling of our~~ positions at ~~the~~ entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone corridor but apparently withdrew his forward outposts to the line of the Peccia River <sup>his patrols were active near Castelnuovo.</sup> ~~his patrols were active near Castelnuovo.~~ <sup>[The Eighth Army repulsed counterattacks against its Moro bridgehead and now threatens the Ortona-Orsogna Road at several points.]</sup>



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH 055  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH 055



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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PRINTED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS

3. ~~The enemy is now regularly using metal foil to impede radar detection of his major night attacks on Mediterranean ports. Temporary counter-measures have already been prepared by our forces.~~

4. ~~During the night of 11-12 December, six Wellingtons attacked Syros Harbor; other British aircraft bombed antiaircraft defenses at Suda Bay (Crete) and mined the area.~~

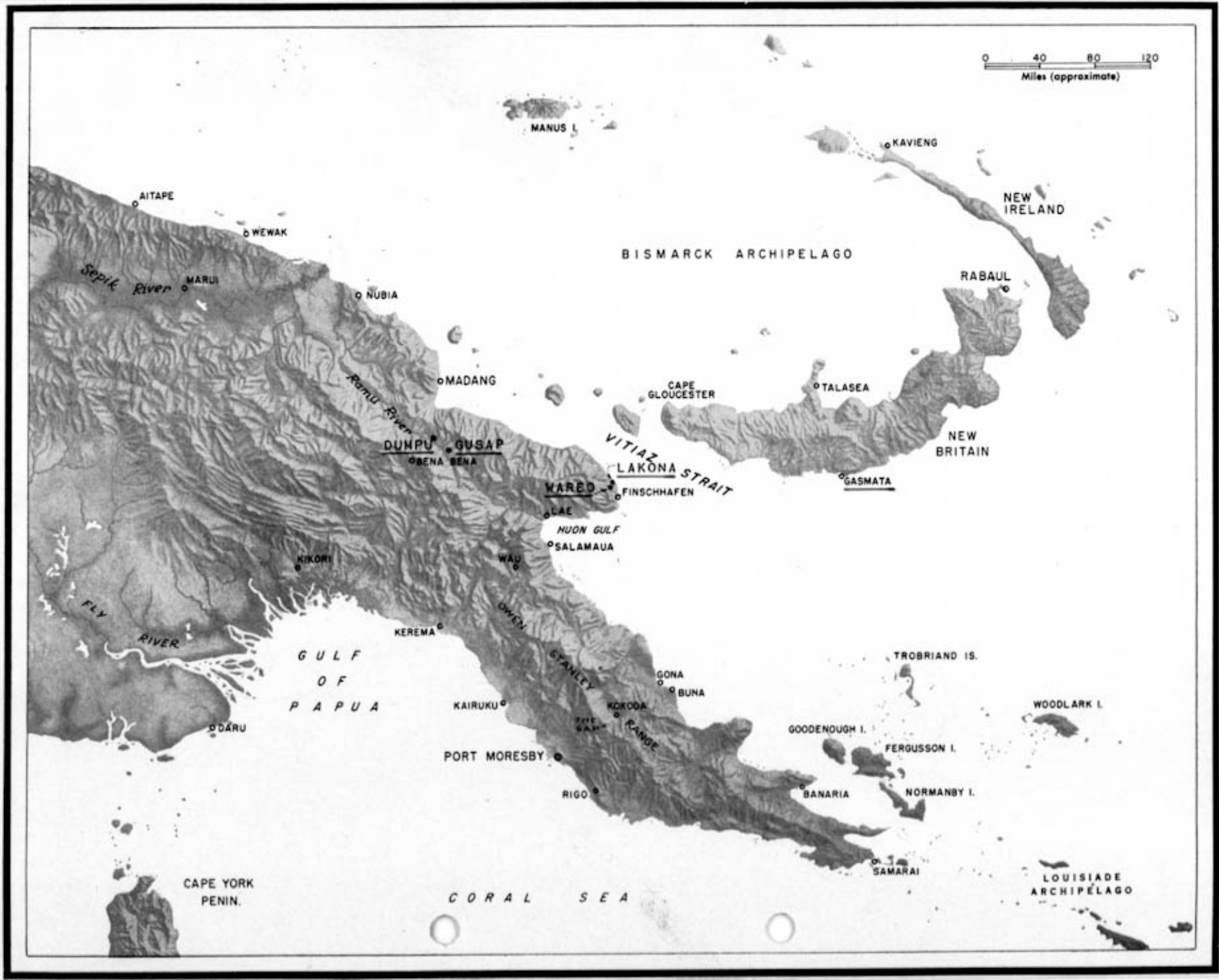
ASIATIC THEATER

1. ~~On 12 December the rail bridge at Myittha was attacked by 10th Air Force B-24's and escorted B-25's which damaged the approaches; three enemy fighters were probably destroyed by the B-24's.~~

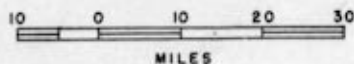
[British air operations <sup>12 December</sup> included powerful bombing and machine-gun attacks against Natchaung and ~~the Fort White area~~ <sup>central Burma</sup>. ~~A particularly destructive attack was made against the Paleik railroad station by 12 heavy bombers which apparently exploded ammunition stores.~~

[Our Dinjan airfield was attacked by 19 escorted enemy bombers on 13 December; only minor damage was sustained.]

2. On 12 December ~~four~~ B-24's of ~~the~~ 14th Air Force attacked ~~the~~ Hankow and Wuchang airdromes. <sup>and</sup> ~~Eight other B-24's escorted by 12 P-40's~~ scored hits on ~~the~~ railway yards at Hanoi. ~~That night our aircraft again bombed Hankow; two failed to return. A Japanese air attack was made against Hengyang; details are lacking. P-38's intercepting this mission shot down without loss two (probably four) of the escorting enemy fighters.~~



# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. ~~Allied coastal forces on Huon Peninsula, advancing against enemy rear guards, were within 1200 yards of Lakona on 12 December; the inland forces progressed beyond Wareo. Artillery and patrol activity was reported in the Ramu Valley.~~

~~[Thirty-seven RAAF P-40's attacked the Japanese airdrome, supplies and batteries at Gasmata, while other Allied planes raided enemy installations elsewhere in New Britain, <sup>and</sup> ~~Twenty-nine P-40's and a B-24 bombed enemy installations on Huon Peninsula~~ ] To the west, three B-24's attacked barracks and villages in Ceram and the Tanimbars.~~

~~Twenty-four enemy planes slightly damaged our fuel dumps at Gusap; eight P-40's destroyed three (probably four) of the raiders.~~

2. ~~Our XIV Corps (Major General W. Griswold) opened its command post in the Torokina beachhead on 13 December.~~

~~Strong Allied air forces operated over the Bougainville region apparently unchallenged. During the night of 11-12 December and the following day, Faisi, Tonolei, Kahili, Dio Dio and Poporang Island were their targets. In the northern portion of the island seventy-three escorted Navy bombers pounded the Matchin Bay area while eight escorted B-25's bombed the enemy supplies at Bonis. The Kieta area also received destructive attacks.~~



WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

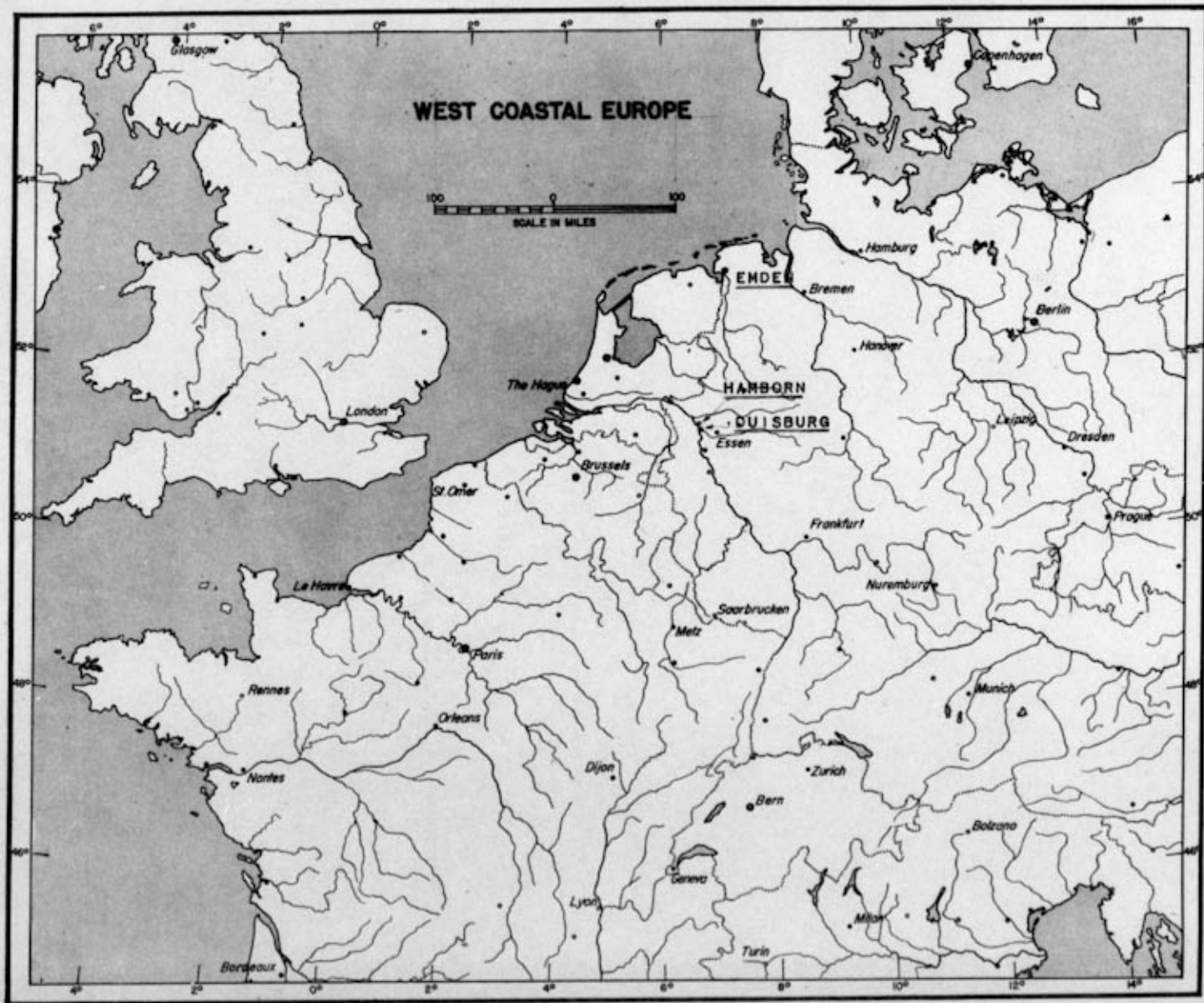
No. 733

0700 December 12 to 0700 December 13, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A 65 mile-per-hour storm caused damage estimated at a half-million dollars to our Support of Embarkation at Excursion Inlet, Alaska, on 10 December; operations of the port are being maintained.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Additional information on the Emden raid indicates that 582 heavy bombers escorted by 506 fighters dropped 1500 tons of high explosive and incendiary bombs in clear weather. Photos taken one hour later showed dozens of fires burning in the industrial section of the city. In addition to the 138 enemy planes reported destroyed, 24 are now listed as "probables."

2. RAF Mosquitoes attacked ~~Hamborn~~ blast furnaces and rolling mills at Duisburg during the night of 11-12 December.

3. [ In the Kiev salient the initiative has passed to the Soviets who on 12 December pushed the enemy back a short distance ] ~~south and southwest of Malin.~~ [ In the Kremenchug area the Soviets ~~slightly improved their bridgehead southeast of Cherkassy and also~~ made some advance ] ~~south east of Kirovograd.~~

MEDITERRANEAN

1. [ While weather conditions curtailed heavy and medium bomber operations, ~~15 missions totaling~~ 231 light and fighter bombers ~~scored~~.

*carried out 15 missions against enemy held towns and other targets*  
~~hits on enemy held towns in the Fifth Army sector] and on a radar station near Lido di Roma, damaged the railroad at Arce and Grotta, and hit a jetty at Anzio. Motor vehicles near Chieti were again profitable targets for Spitfires on offensive patrols. [Enemy aircraft were active in the battle area] one (probably two) fighters were destroyed for the loss of two Allied fighters.~~

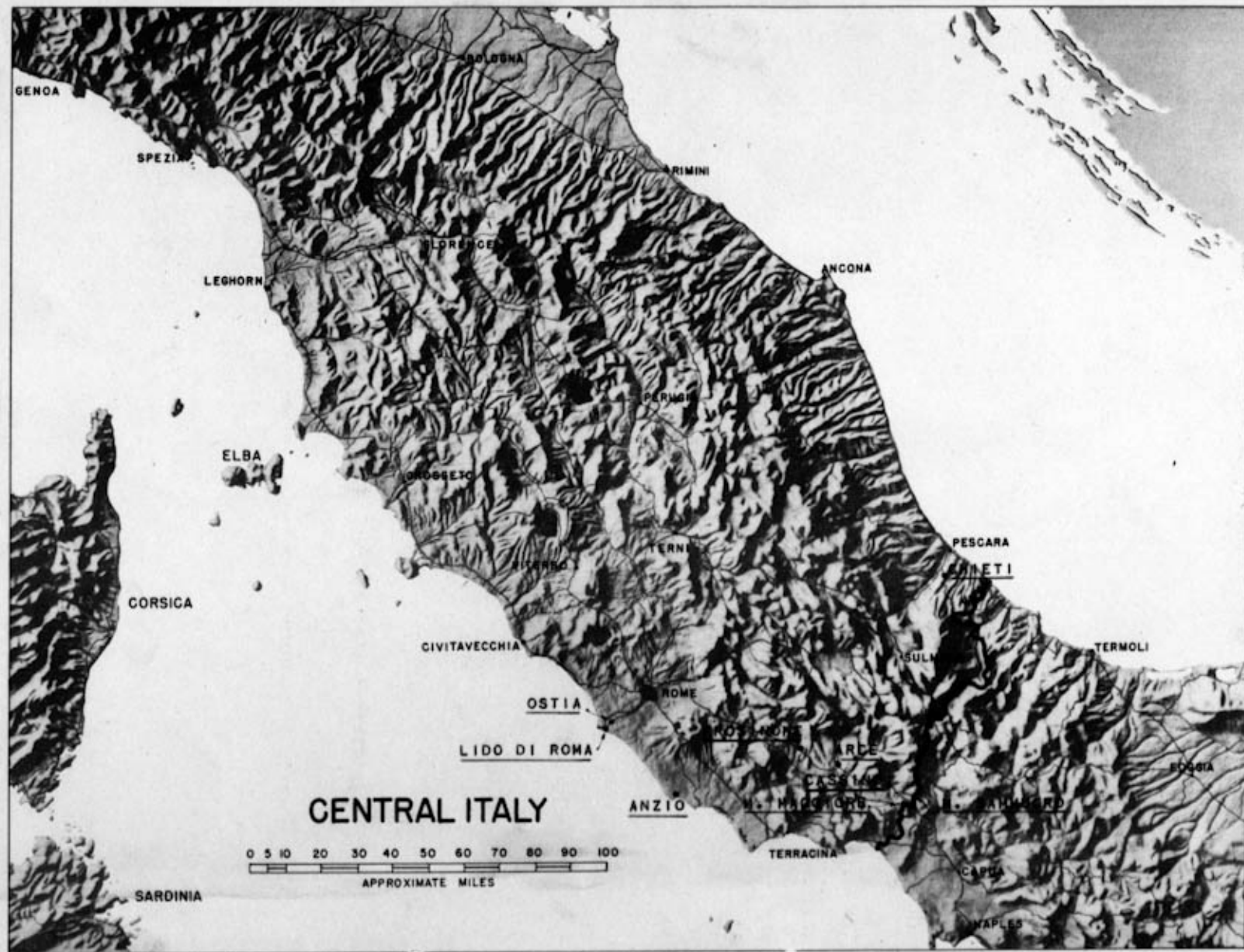
2. ~~Patrols of our II Corps which pushed down the valleys between Monti Maggiore and Monti Sannucro into the Cassino-Frosinone corridor failed to make contact with the enemy on 12 December. Further north the 2d Moroccan Division repulsed strong enemy patrols. Despite bad weather and heavy counterattacks the Eighth Army improved its Moro River bridgeheads.~~

3. ~~[General Eisenhower assumed responsibility as Allied Commander in Chief for all operations in the whole Mediterranean Theater at 0001 hours on 10 December.]~~

4. ~~Cumulative casualties of the Fifth Army as of 12 December were:~~

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
American	2,010	8,583	2,826	13,419
British	1,604	6,872	2,783	11,259
Totals	3,614	15,455	5,609	24,678

~~The Fifth Army has captured 4,094 prisoners of war.~~





BASE MAP NO 2447 (FREE)  
 28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
 LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

Cumulative casualties of the Eighth Army as of 6 December were as follows:

<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
1,327	4,991	1,519	7,837

The Eighth Army had captured 1,814 prisoners of war.

5. The War Department has approved in principle General Eisenhower's plan to organize service units from Italian prisoners of war; it is planned to use these units on our lines of communication in Italy. Italian units will be equipped from standard substitute or suitable captured material if available.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 11 December nine escorted B-25's of the 10th Air Force damaged the runway and revetment area at Maida Vale, east of Akyab. British bombers attacked enemy positions at Kyauktan and the airfield at Heho, starting fires in the hangar, and bombed dump areas.

2. [The Ledo road has been completed to 50.42 miles from its origin; work is proceeding along another 42 miles.]

3. [Chinese ground forces reoccupied Changteh on 8 December] the Japanese are reported to be withdrawing toward Ansiang.

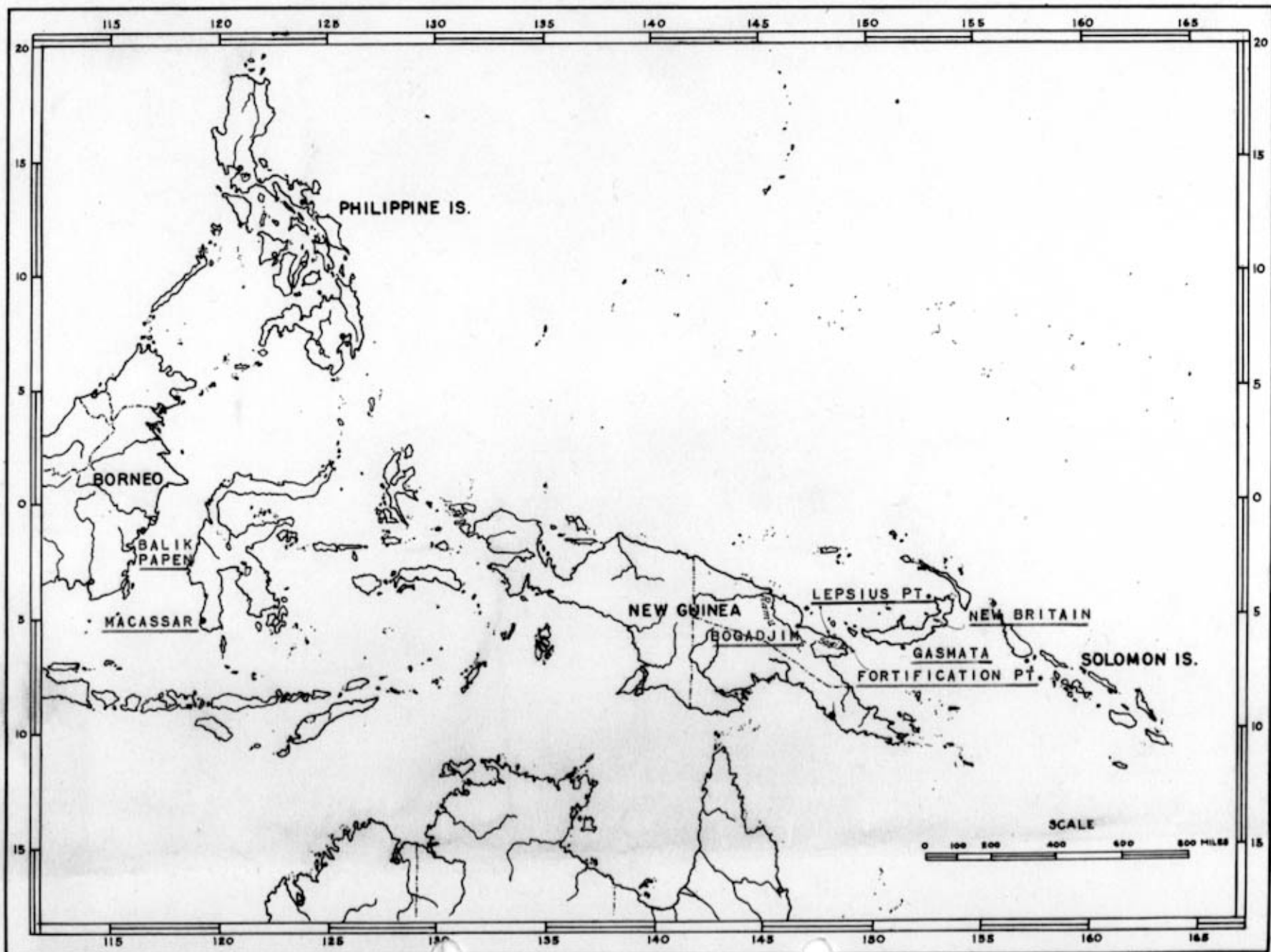
4. [On 10 December ten escorted B-24's of the 14th Air Force successfully bombed the railroad yards at Hanoi] French Indo-China,





MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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~~hits being observed on rolling stock and among the warehouses; all our planes returned.~~ [Fighter planes supporting Allied ground operations harassed enemy installations on the Salween front. Twenty-five escorted enemy bombers attacked our Hengyang and Lingling airfields; ~~three~~ (probably six) enemy planes were destroyed by our fighters. One P-40 was destroyed in combat, another was burned and two B-25's badly damaged on the ground.

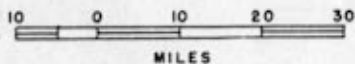
[Twelve escorted Japanese bombers attacked our airfield at Suichwan on 11 December; ~~damage was unreported. Our fighters caught the enemy planes as they were returning to their base at Nanchang where seven of them were destroyed in combat; three others were destroyed on the ground. Fourteen escorted B-25's bombed Japanese installations at Nanchang and Ansiang. All of our planes returned.~~

#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. [Allied forces pushing up ~~the~~ New Guinea coast have reached ~~the~~ Sowi River]

~~An Australian Beaufort probably sank an enemy submarine south of Gasmata during the evening of 10 December.~~ [By 11 December ~~the next day~~ strong forces of our medium bombers attacked targets in northwestern New Britain and in the Bogadjim Valley] ~~and harassed enemy bivouac and barge-unloading areas near Fortification Point; P-39's destroyed small craft off Lepsius Point. One of eight P-40's engaging 35 enemy fighters over the Ramu Valley was lost.~~ [In a 2,600-mile round trip three B-24's set fire to

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



~~the refinery at Balik Papan while five others damaged the waterfront at Macassar.~~

2. ~~On 11 December 16 B-25's bombed Kahili, six other B-25's attacked the Arigua Plantation and a total of 24 B-24's dropped fragmentation clusters and half-ton bombs on the town and wharf areas at Tsirogei. P-39's started fires at Tomolei with quarter-ton bombs, while 82 escorted Navy dive and torpedo bombers scored hits on the supply area, buildings and bridges in the Torokina area. All the enemy airfields on Bougainville are now unserviceable.~~

3. ~~Nineteen B-24's from Funafuti bombed Mili on 11 December, the majority of bombs hitting in the target area. Three (probably six) of 15 to 25 intercepting Japanese fighters were destroyed; all our bombers returned.~~

~~A runway 4,000 feet by 150 feet was completed at Makin on 10 December; a fighter squadron was expected to arrive on 12 December.~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

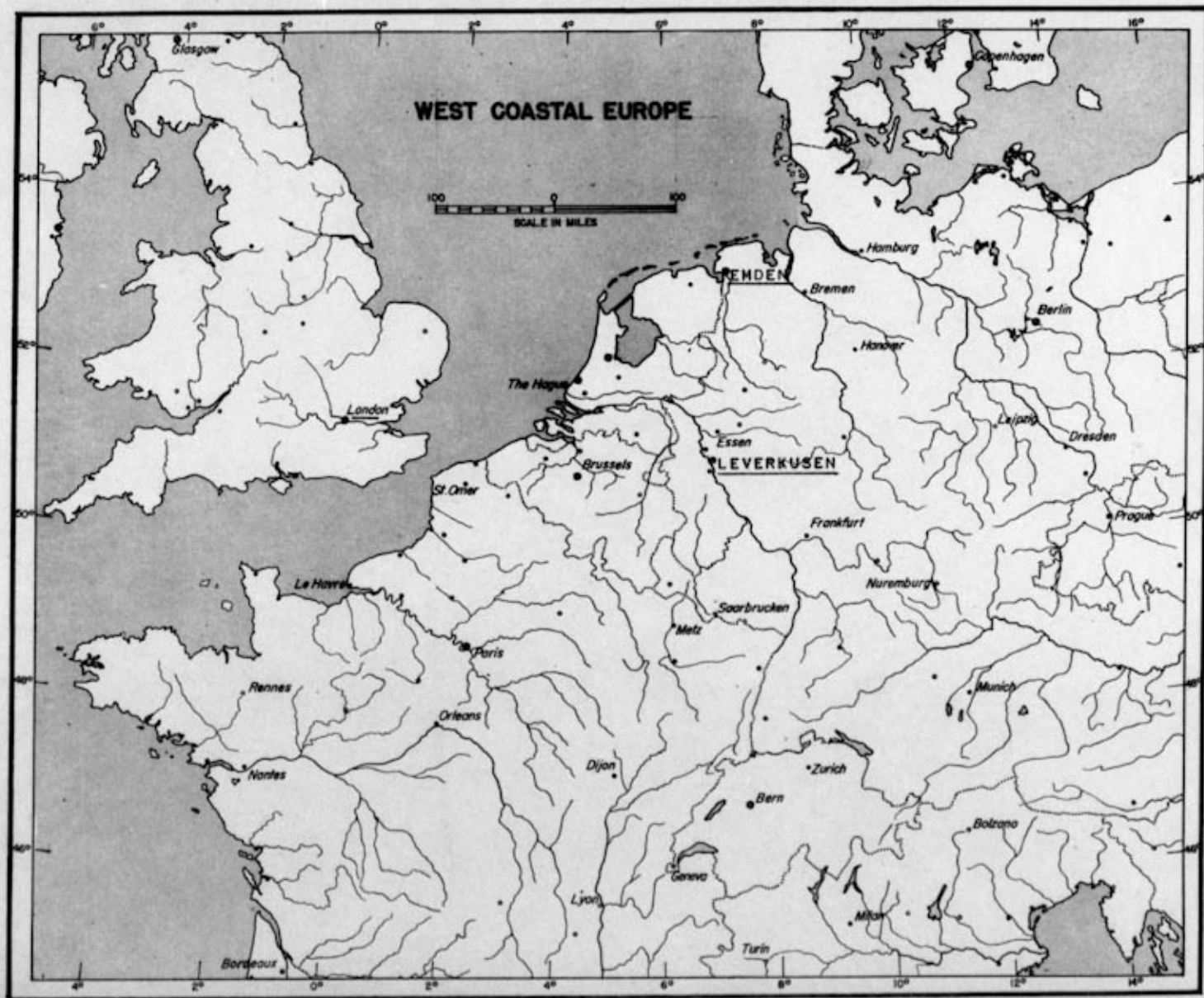
No. 732

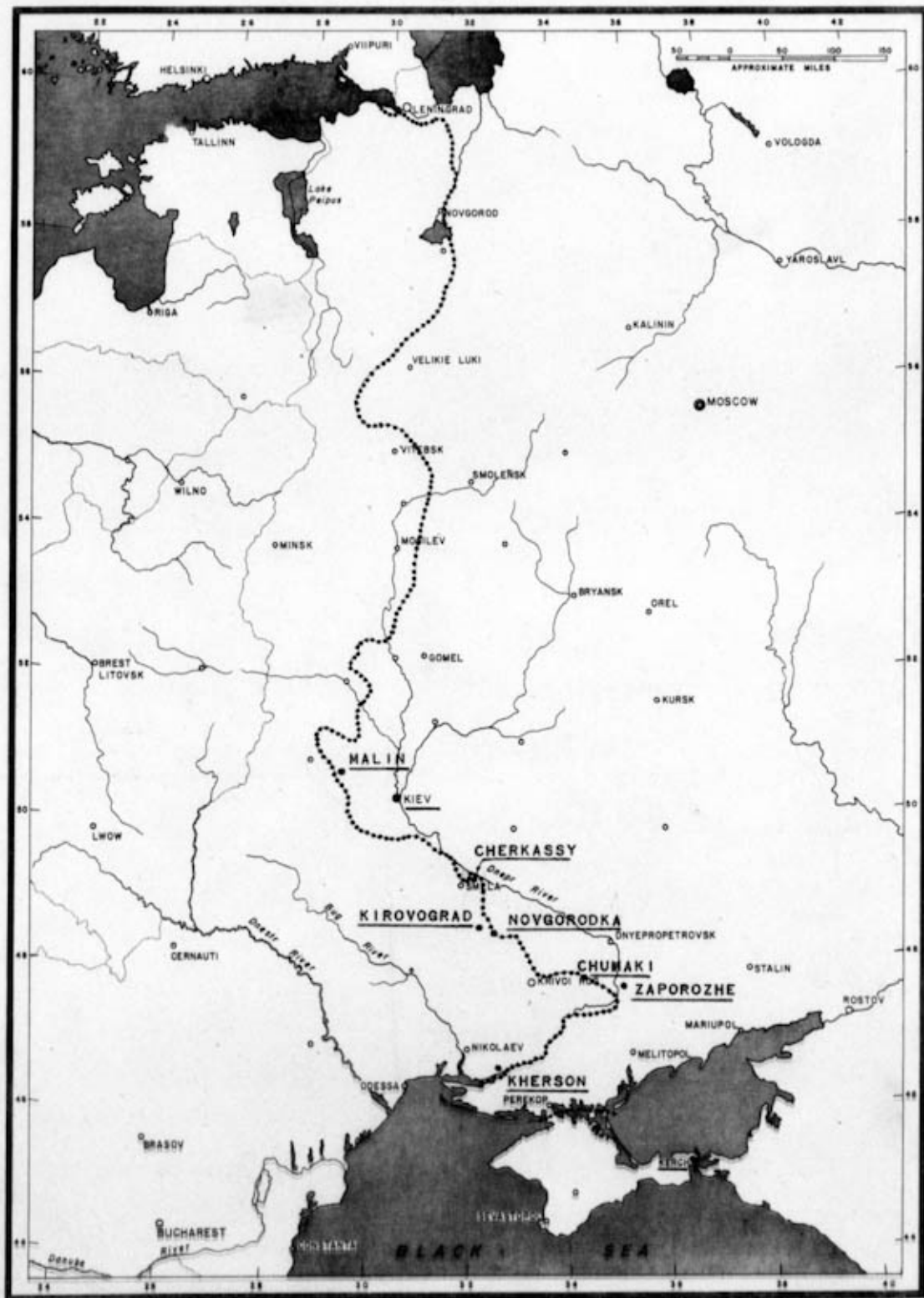
0700 December 11 to 0700 December 12, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(3)







EUROPEAN THEATER

1. [Bad weather prevented large scale air operations over Europe on 10 December] restricting missions during the day to harassing attacks by British Mosquitoes on scattered targets in western Germany. That night, 23 Mosquito bombers attacked the town area and chemical works at Leverkusen and harassed other targets in the Ruhr. All planes returned safely. Enemy long-range bombers appeared over England during the night, scattering their bombs in southeast England and causing some property damage and casualties. Eight of the night raiders penetrated northeast London but no damage or casualties were reported in that area. Three enemy bombers were destroyed for the loss of one Allied fighter plane.

[On 11 December large formations of US B-17's and B-24's escorted by P-38's and P-47's attacked enemy installations at Emden] ~~German fighter reaction to our attack on this important North Sea port and submarine construction center was intense, and~~ [Our planes shot down 138 enemy aircraft for the loss of 17 bombers and three fighters].

2. [On 11 December Soviet efforts to reduce the enemy bridgehead southeast of Kherson and to establish another of their own south of Kerch were unsuccessful.] ~~To the north Red forces reached Novgorodka, 20 miles southeast of Kirovograd, and Chumaki, 23 miles northwest of Zaporozha. The Soviets have intensified their efforts to reduce the German salient at Ocherkassy; fighting is in progress in the town. Soviet forces are holding firm against enemy pressure south of Malin.~~



MEDITERRANEAN

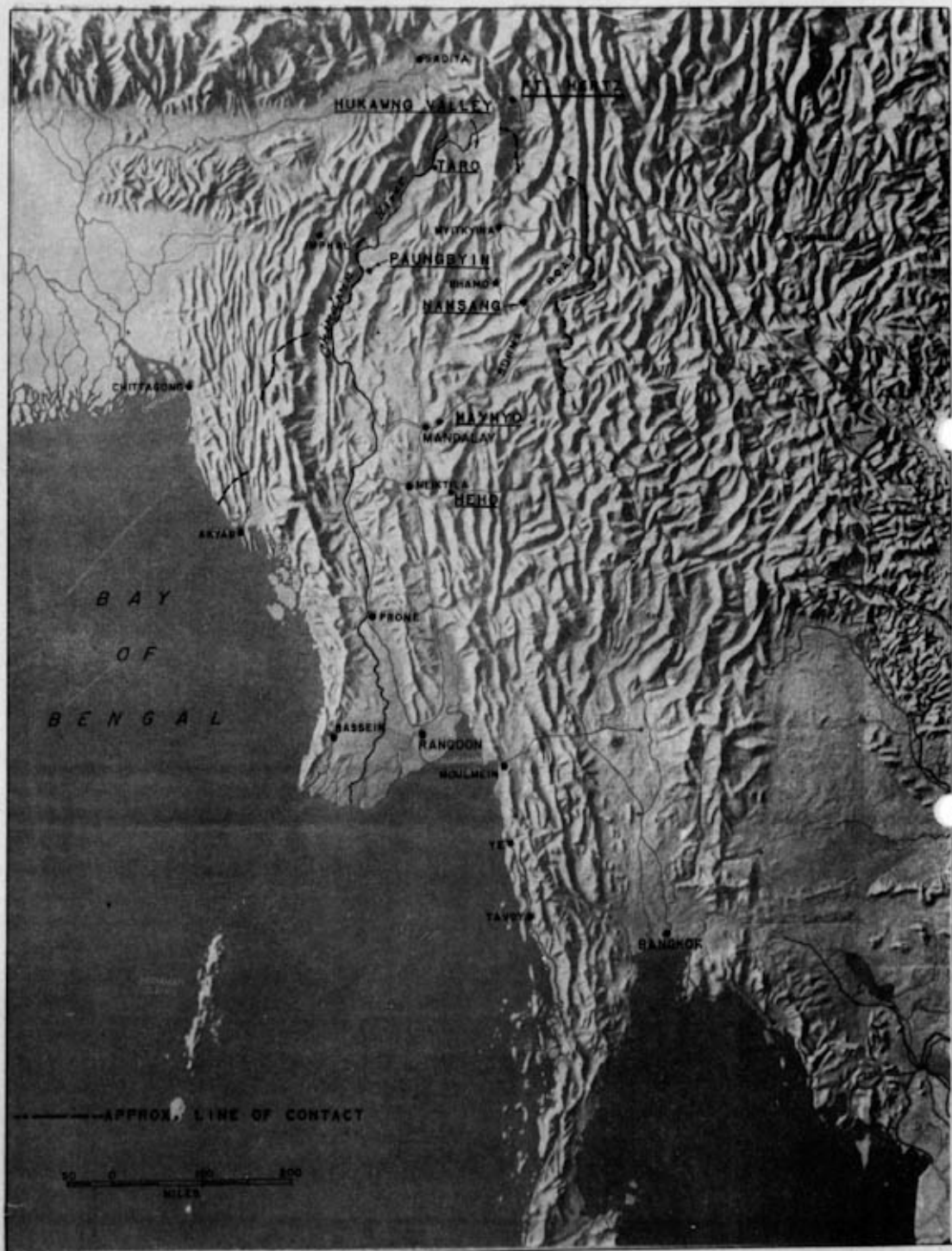
~~1. Medium bombers attacked railroad bridges at Ventimiglia on 10 December, while fighter-bombers destroyed two locomotives and set fire to 15 tank cars at Terni. Other planes destroyed enemy motor transportation in the Chieti area and hit storage tanks, warehouses and railroad yards at Civitavecchia; a 1000-ton merchant vessel was left burning in the harbor.~~ [ A total of 534 sorties were flown in support of the Eighth Army, mainly against defended positions <sup>on north flank.</sup> ~~in the Miglianico and Grosogna areas.~~ ]

~~In the attack on Sofia, reported yesterday, 11 of 29 intercepting enemy planes were destroyed for the loss of two P-38's.~~

2. [ Little detailed information has been received of the Allied progress in Italy during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 11 December. ] ~~On the Fifth Army front the British 56th Division has taken over the whole of the Camino Maggiore feature and the 2nd Moroccan Division has taken over our 34th Division sector.~~ [ On the Adriatic coast, Canadian troops of the Eighth Army are continuing their advance despite adverse weather conditions and fierce resistance, ] ~~repulsing heavy and repeated counterattacks by enemy infantry and armored units.~~ [ German losses were reported as heavy. ]

ASIATIC THEATER

~~1. Nine B-25's of the 10th Air Force bombed the enemy barracks area at Maymyo with demolition bombs and incendiary clusters on 9 December,~~



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
 28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
 LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
 24 JUNE 1943

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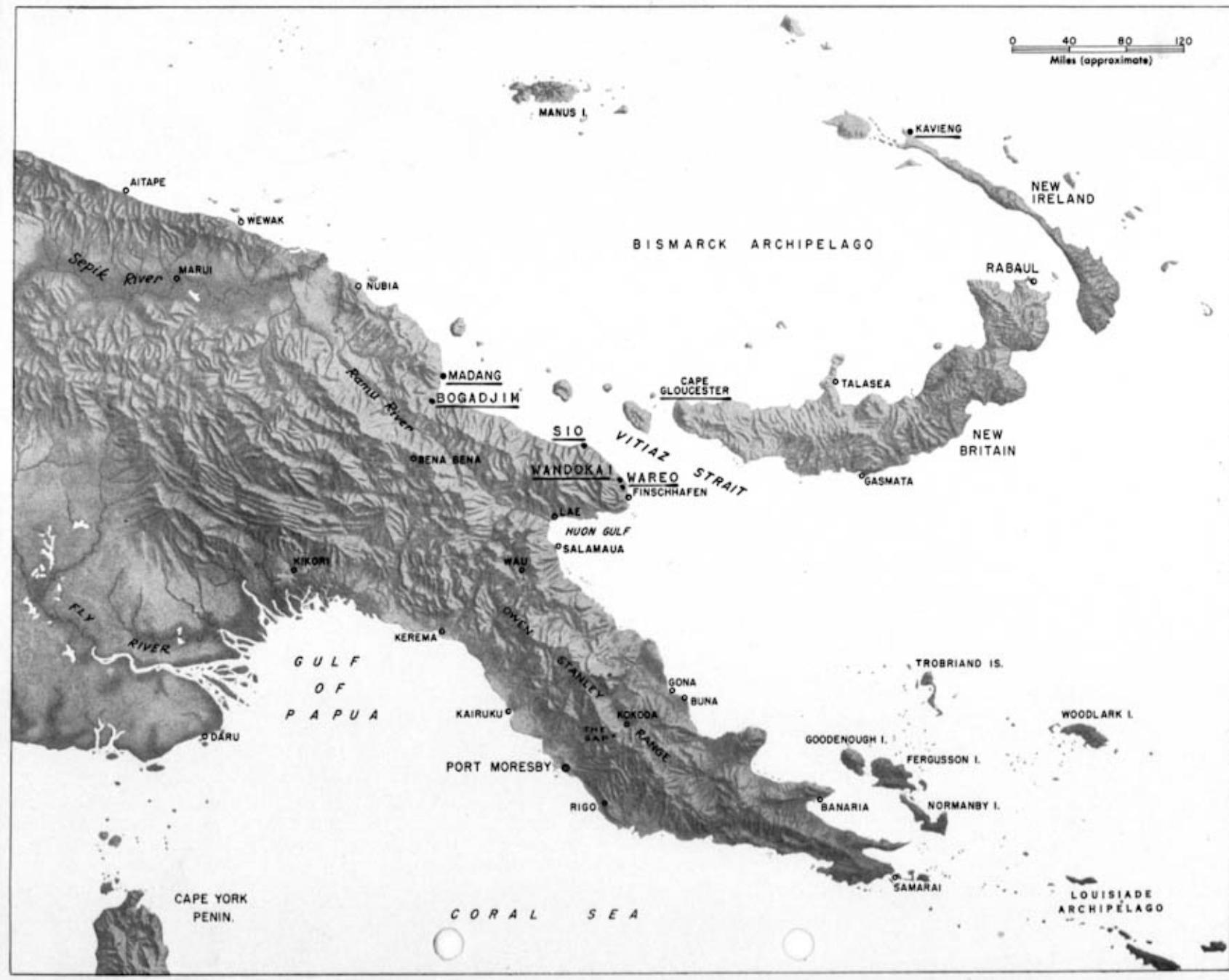
in addition to the 12 B-25's and 14 P-38's reported yesterday. Enemy planes in the vicinity made weak attempts at interception. The next day eight C-47's escorted by four A-36's and two P-51's were intercepted by 14 Japanese planes over the Hukawng Valley. One C-47 crashed and another is reported as missing. Two (probably five) of the enemy fighters were destroyed. Four A-36's were successful in starting fires in an enemy-held town north of Taro. Four P-40's on fighter patrol, intercepting three Japanese bombers escorted by four fighters attacking a village near Fort Hertz, destroyed all of the bombers and two of the fighter planes. One of our P-40's received minor damage but reached its home base. Other fighters on patrol missions reported the probable destruction of one Japanese plane.

British operations on 10 December included attacks on the airfields at Heho and Namsang and on troop concentrations near Paungbyin; successful results were indicated.

2. Twenty-two enemy planes bombed and machine-gunned the Lingling airdrome. The runway although damaged is still usable.

#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. [A Catalina sank an 8,000-ton cargo vessel south of Kavieng on 10 December. B-24 missions that day bombed enemy gun positions on Cape Gloucester and barge hideouts near Sio] while B-25's operated against ~~enemy communications in the Bogadjin area, securing hits on two bridges and in the village.~~ [Our dive bombers supported the Allied ground forces.]



~~bombing and machine gunning targets of opportunity near Wandokai.~~

~~Eight P-40's destroyed three of 15 enemy fighters engaged over Madang.~~

[In ground action Allied forces captured two villages west of Wareo.]

~~2. On 10 December missions totaling 10 B-25's, eight P-39's and six Navy bombers attacked enemy supply installations on Bougainville.~~



WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 731

0700 December 10 to 0700 December 11, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
REPRODUCED, OSS

EUROPEAN THEATER

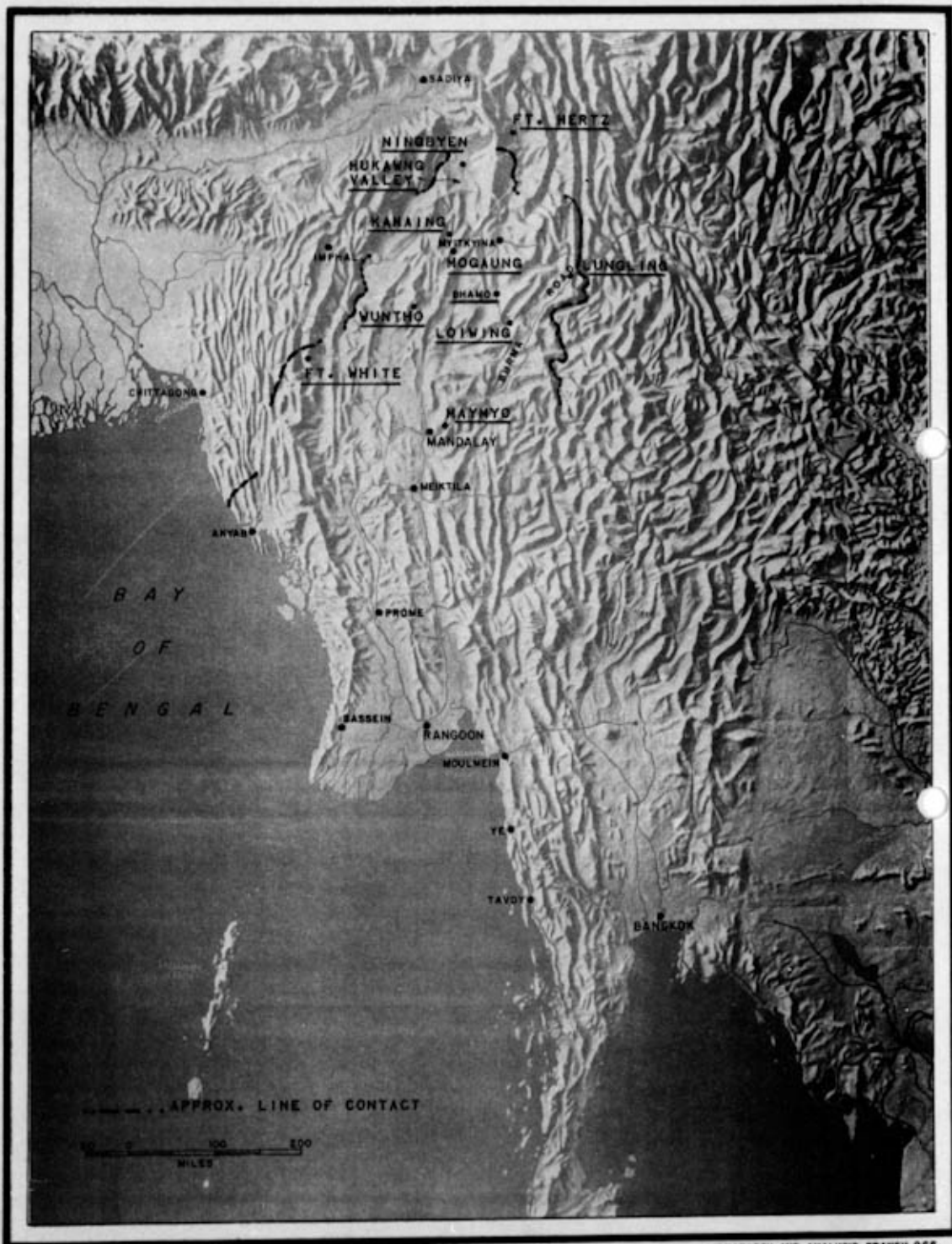
Soviet forces captured Znamenka on 10 December and continued their advance westwards; only one railroad out of Kirovograd running southwest remains in enemy hands. In the Kiev salient the initiative remained with the enemy who made further slight advances in the region of Malin which still remains in Soviet hands, however.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. In attacks on Civitavecchia harbor during the night of 8-9 December, A-20's hit two ships and caused other damage. The next day 60 B-25's scored hits on the roads and railway near Giulianova; 36 others damaged the Terni railway yards and a large force of other bombers and fighter aircraft attacked troop concentrations northeast of Orsogna and other targets of opportunity in the battle area as well as the communications centers of Itri, San Giorgio and Avezzano. Many damaging hits were observed. Four Allied aircraft are missing from these operations. British Spitfires were active along the Yugoslavian and Albanian coasts. The railroad yards at Sofia received an accurate and effective bombardment by escorted bombers on 10 December.

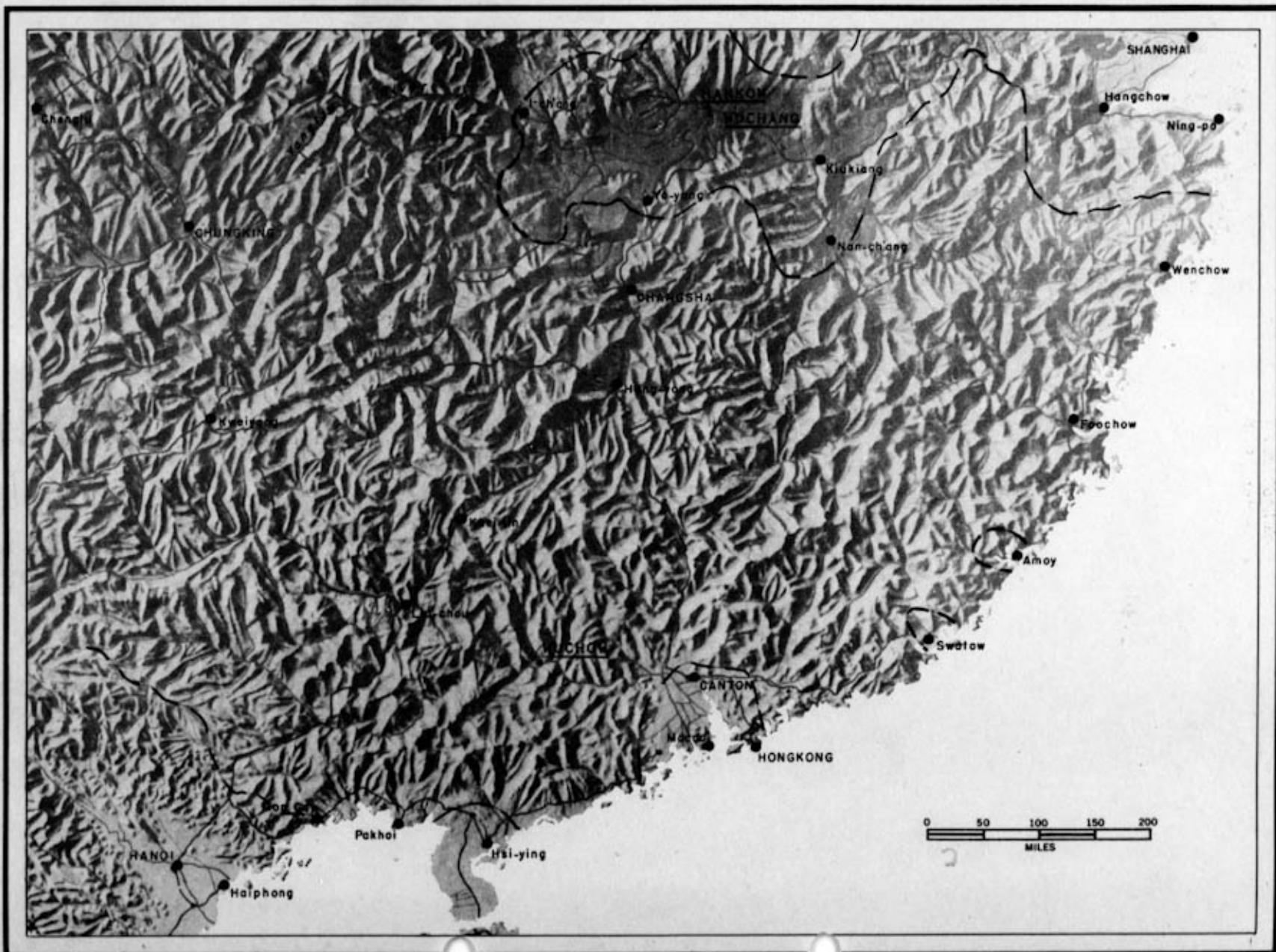
2. On 10 December the Eighth Army captured San Leonardo and established a second bridgehead beyond the Moro in the face of considerable opposition; fierce fighting was reported south of Ortona.

3. General Eisenhower has announced the reorganization of the



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
 28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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United States Air Force in his theater to consist of: Headquarters, Army Air Forces Mediterranean Theater of Operations, 12th Air Force, 15th Air Force, and Army Air Force Service Command Mediterranean Theater of Operations, effective 1 January 1944.

4. The Persian Gulf Service Command has been separated from the US Army Forces in the Middle East and established as a separate command directly under the War Department, effective 10 December. It has been redesignated "The Persian Gulf Command."

ASIATIC THEATER

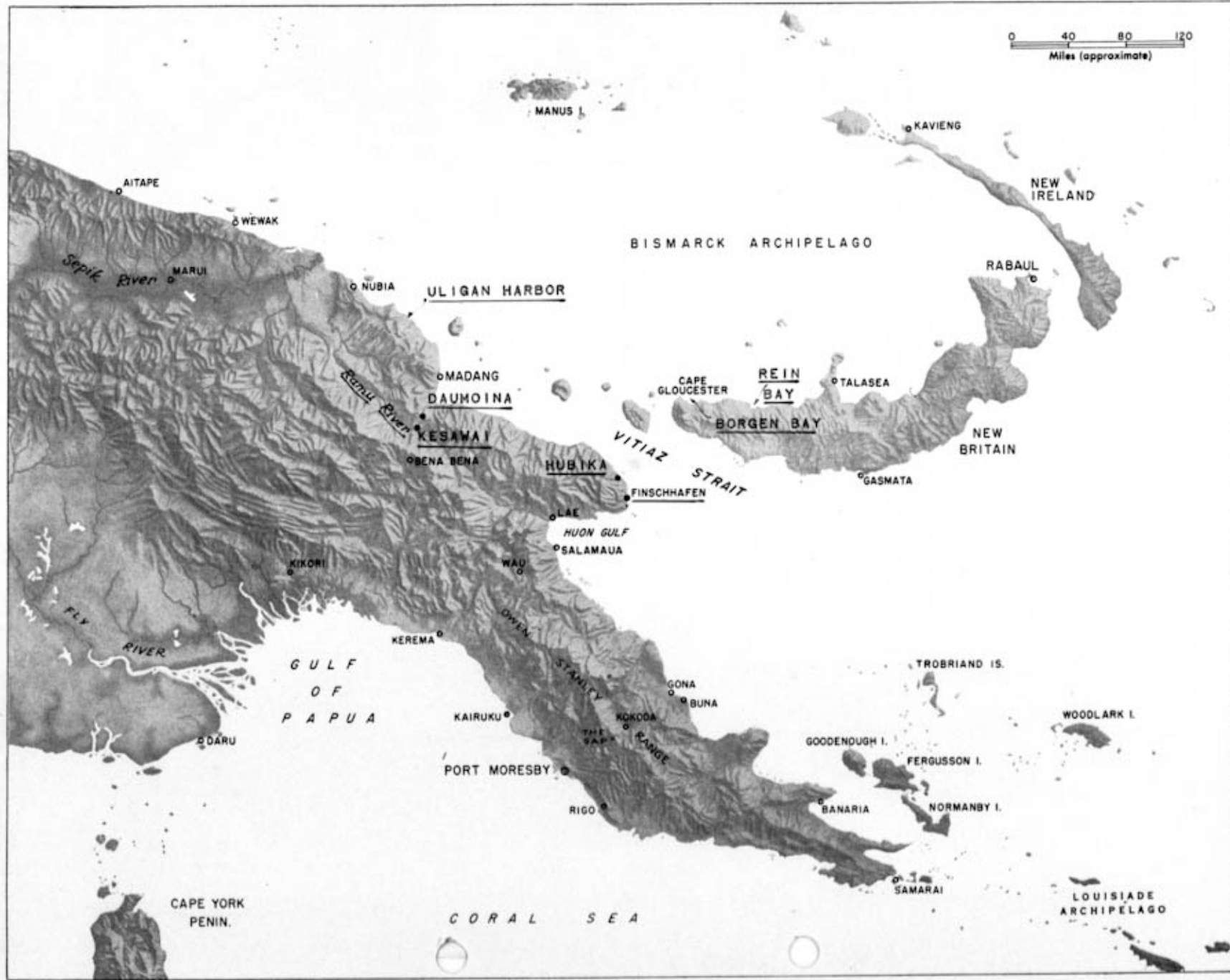
1. On 8 and 9 December, 10th Air Force planes supported ground operations in the Ningobyen area, bombed and machine-gunned enemy-held villages in the Hukawng Valley and in the vicinity of Mogaung and Kamaing, and raided the town and airfield at Bhamo. Our major air effort was an attack by 12 B-25's and 14 P-38's on the barracks at Maymyo.

British aircraft operated against Bhamo, Fort White and Wuntho with numerous hits reported along the railroad at Wuntho.

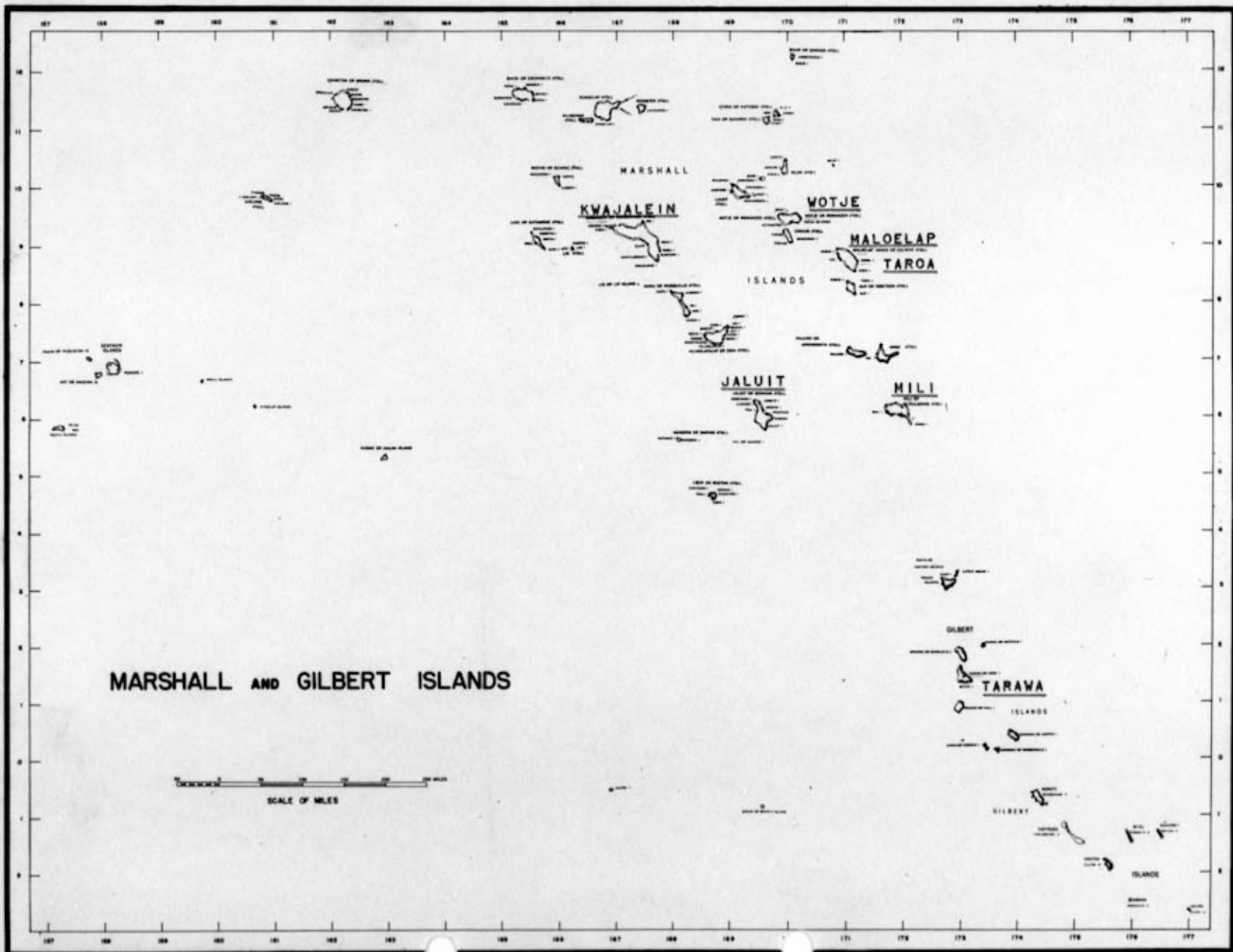
2. On 10 December two Air Transport Command rescue ships, a B-25 and a C-47, were shot down by Japanese planes in the Fort Hertz area. Another transport plane was reported missing.

3. On 9 December, 12 medium bombers of the 14th Air Force attacked the airdromes at Hankow and Wuchang. Four P-40's attacked enemy barracks

0 40 80 120  
Miles (approximate)







~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
O&D Letter, 8-8-78

southeast of Lungling and other fighters harassed Loiwing airfield.  
Japanese planes bombed Wuchow, leaving the airfield unusable.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Despite bad weather 5th Air Force B-25 aircraft concentrated on enemy communications and barge installations between Borgen and Rein Bays and at Hubika, on 9 December. Fighter aircraft flew escort missions, supported our ground forces north of Kesawai (where increased enemy activity was reported) and machine-gunned targets of opportunity along the northeast New Guinea coast. Small enemy craft in Uligan Harbor were set afire. Enemy planes made minor attacks on Kesawai and Finschhafen.

2. Seven B-24's dropped ten tons of bombs on Maloelap on 7 December; one of eight enemy intercepting fighter planes was shot down. One other B-24 bombed gun positions at Mili. That night four enemy planes harmlessly dropped bombs in the water near our air strip on Tarawa. On 8 December 22 B-24's dropped 44 tons of bombs on Jaluit and 11 others put 16 tons into Taroa. Two of ten enemy planes encountered were probably destroyed.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 730

0700 December 9 to 0700 December 10, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

OUTLINE MAP  
UNITED STATES

THE UNITED STATES ARMY

CONFIDENTIAL

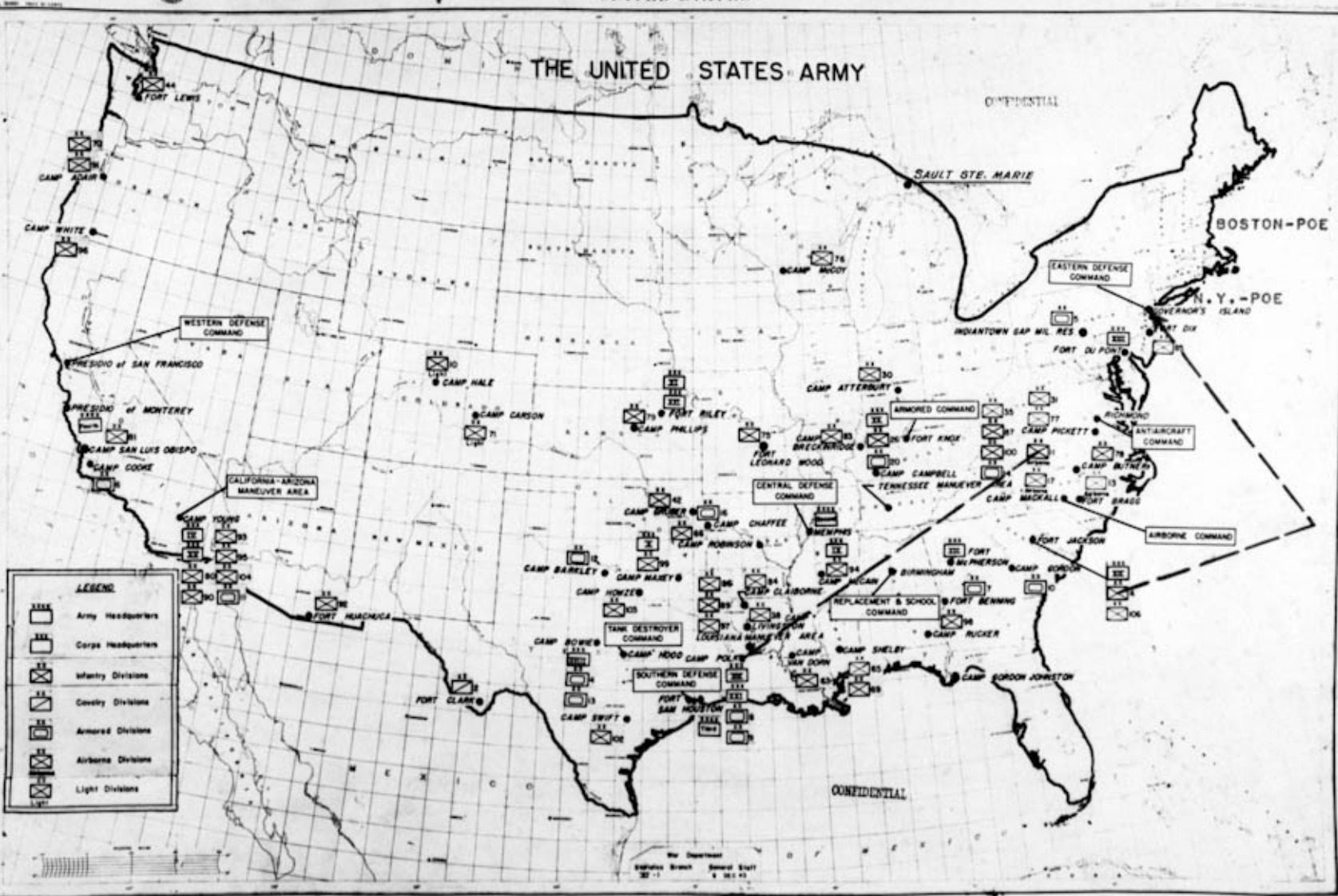
BOSTON-POE

N.Y.-POE

ANTIAIRCRAFT COMMAND

AIRBORNE COMMAND

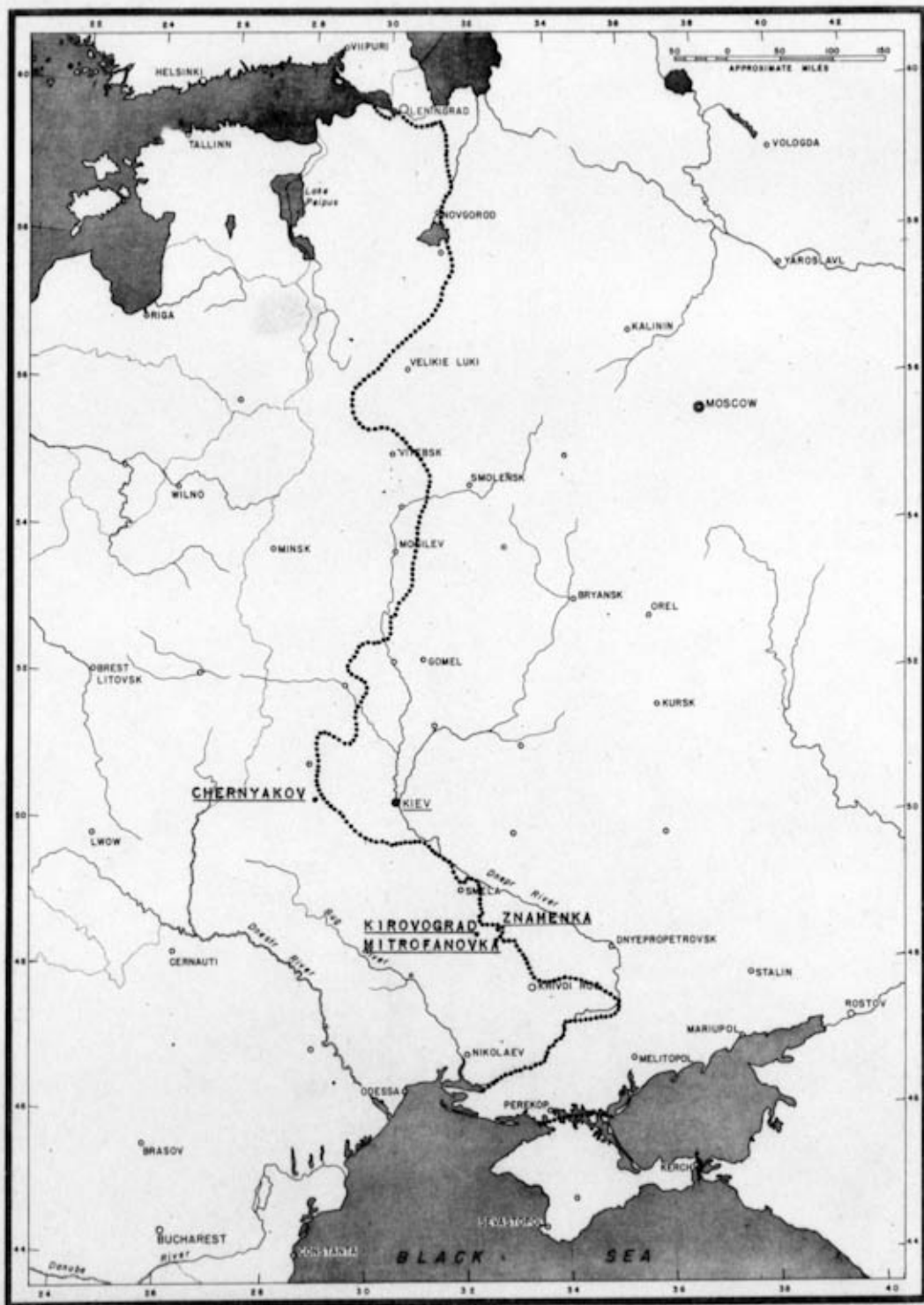
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**LEGEND**

	Army Headquarters
	Corps Headquarters
	Infantry Divisions
	Cavalry Divisions
	Armored Divisions
	Airborne Divisions
	Light Divisions

War Department  
Enlisted Branch General Staff  
20-11  
1945





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
 26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, 055  
 REPRODUCED, 055

BAI

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces issued a directive for the movement of the 4th Infantry Division (Major General R. O. Barton) from Fort Jackson, South Carolina, to an eastern port of embarkation for further shipment to the United Kingdom. This was formerly a "motorized" division.

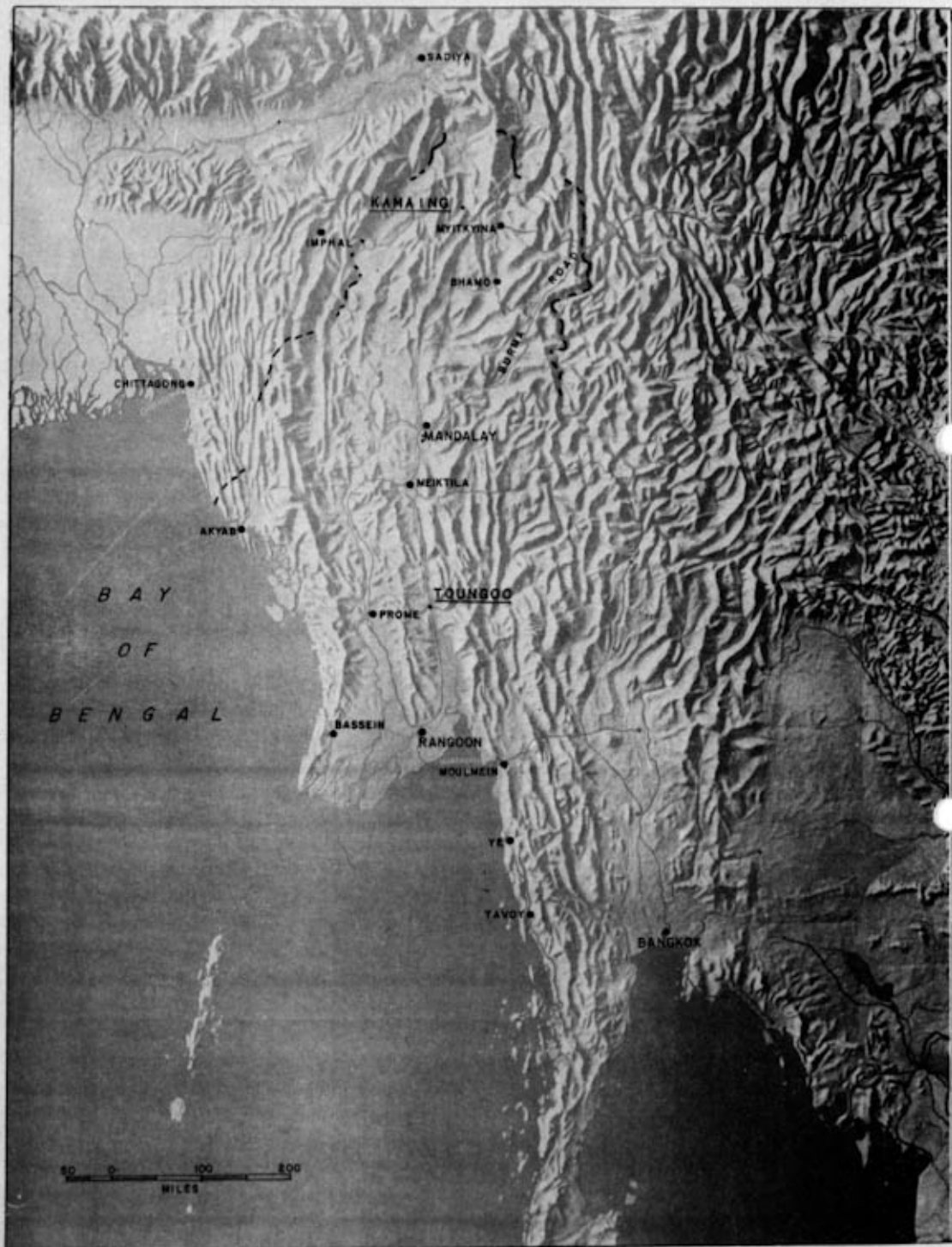
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. US air units in the UK destroyed 77 (probably 111) enemy planes during the week ending 5 December, and lost 48 heavy bombers and 29 other planes from all causes. For the same period the RAF destroyed 35 (probably 39) enemy planes and lost 72 heavy bombers, ten Mosquitoes and 15 other aircraft. Attacks on Berlin, Leipzig, Bremen, and two attacks on Solingen occurred during this period.

2. The enemy advance northeast of Chernyakov has been checked in the lowlands west of Kiev but strong German pressure is being maintained. The Soviets continued their advance around Znamenka, and captured Mitrofanovka, 15 miles east of Kirovograd.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 8 December, 97 escorted US heavy bombers hit the Tatoi airdrome and the Eleusis airdrome, both near Athens. Thirty-five B-17's bombed the harbor at San Stefano, 134 US medium bombers damaged the Spoleto viaduct, the railroad center at Orte, and the harbor at Civitavecchia,



BASE MAP NO 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 8-3-78

warehouses at Pescara and buildings and railroad yards at Aquila and Ancona. One B-17 was lost; one B-<sup>24</sup> is missing.

The Tactical Air Force flew 900 combat and reconnaissance sorties in support of ground operations. Spitfires destroyed a JU-88 off Algiers.

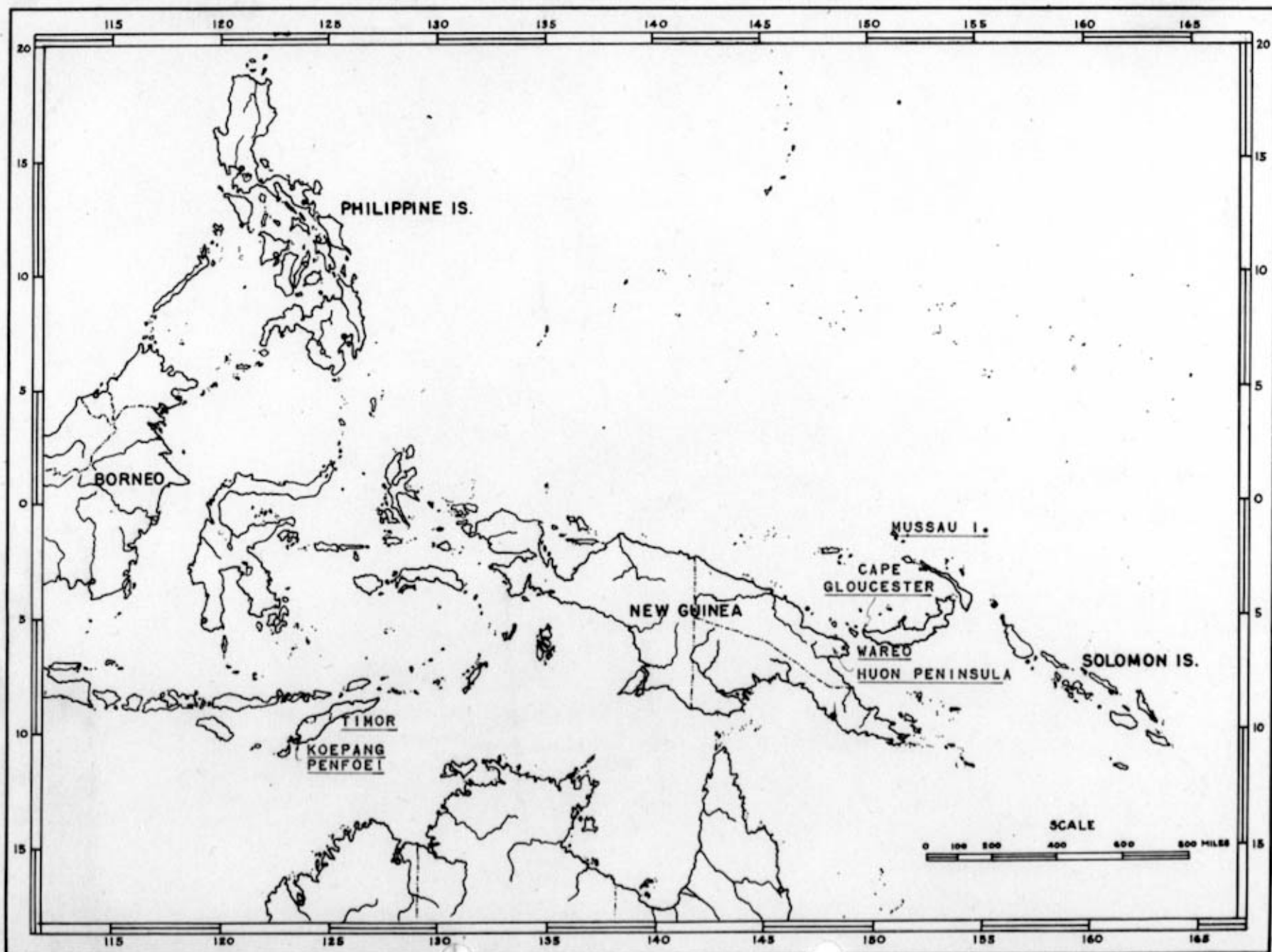
2. At noon 9 December the Fifth Army was maintaining its position on Monti Camino; its attack on Rocca was meeting stiff resistance. The Italians to the south of Monti Samucro were dislodged by an enemy counterattack and our own troops in this region were meeting stubborn resistance. Our 34th Division is being relieved by the 2nd Moroccan Division. The Eighth Army has secured a bridgehead beyond the Moro River and is advancing with heavy fighting in the vicinity of San Leonardo.

A communique states that Rocca has been captured.

3. During the week ending 25 November 76,711 tons of supplies, 3,955 vehicles, and 24,695 persons were discharged at Italian west coast ports. Corresponding figures for east coast ports were 76,734 tons of supplies, 2,829 vehicles and 9,926 persons. Naples and Bari carried the major share of the traffic.

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. British bombers operating over Burma on 8 December bombed an enemy headquarters at Kamaing and a supply dump at Toungoo; accurate hits were reported.



2. 14th Air Force escorted bombers flew three missions against Changteh on 8 December reporting excellent results. A total of 81 fighter, 18 bomber and three photo sorties were flown. Those of our bombers based on Hengyang used Russian bombs. Nearly all buildings in Changteh have been demolished or gutted by fire and little activity was observed in the town.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

Allied ground troops captured Wareo on 8 December.

Twenty-one medium bombers and fighters of the 5th Air Force attacked enemy bivouac areas, stores, dumps and barges along the northern Huon Peninsula; B-24's on search missions bombed Cape Gloucester area. A B-24 sank three (probably six) enemy barges 180 miles northeast of Mussau Island. In Timor, four Dutch B-25's bombed the wharf area at Koepong and damaged the Penfoei airdrome.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

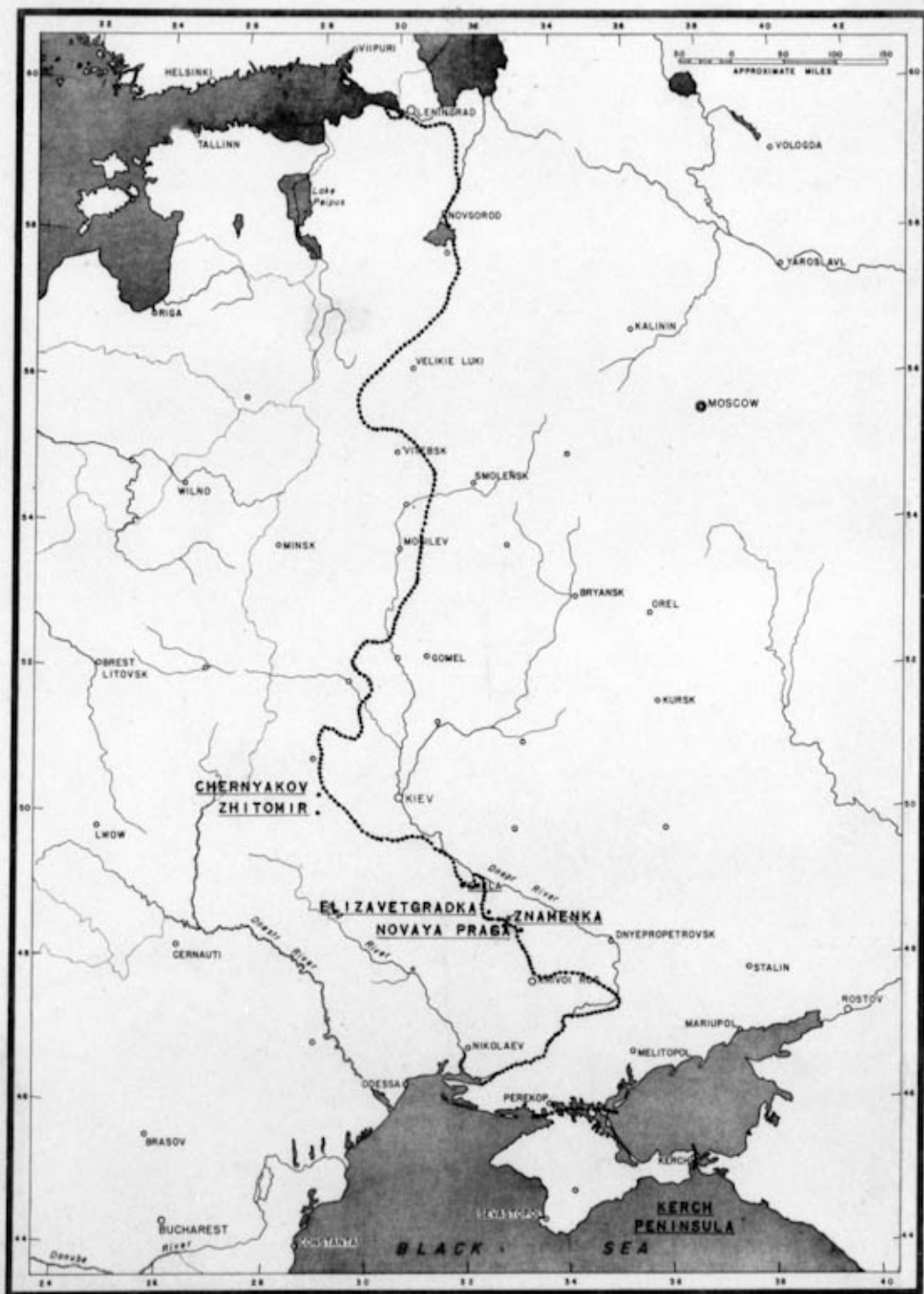
No. 729

0700 December 8 to 0700 December 9, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

With the object of economizing in military manpower, and in view of diminishing enemy capabilities, the War Department has reduced the garrisons of the Defense Commands in the United States by about 92,000 since 1 July 1943; the strength on 25 November was 165,000. The troops thus relieved came chiefly from harbor defense, mobile defense, and service units. Plans for a further reduction are being put into effect whereby the remaining garrison will include the minimum of troops necessary to provide antiaircraft protection for the most vital installations and a small mechanized force for protection of the coast against enemy commando attempts. The Central Defense Command will be abolished and its functions (other than defense of Sault Ste. Marie installations which will become the responsibility of the Army Service Forces) will be absorbed by the Eastern Defense Command. Lieutenant General Lloyd G. Fredendall at present commands both the Central Defense Command and the Second Army.

EUROPEAN THEATER

The Soviets lost their bridgehead south of Kerch on 8 December leaving the remaining bridgehead northeast of Kerch to resist increased pressure. Near Znamenka, the Soviets advanced across the Smela-Znamenka railroad and seized Elizavetgradka and Novaya Praga. East of Chernyakov the enemy pushed forward several miles removing the immediate Soviet threat against Zhitomir.

~~SECRET~~



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
REPRODUCED, OSS





~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

MEDITERRANEAN

1. With weather restricting heavy air operations on 7 December, 88 medium and light bombers successfully attacked Civitavecchia, hitting oil storage areas, port and ammunition stores, a freighter in the harbor, the barracks area and gas works, and the dock and ferry terminal. Twenty-seven B-25's scored hits on roads and in the town at Pescara. Our light aircraft again concentrated their attacks on targets of opportunity in the battle area, destroying six (probably nine) enemy planes without loss.

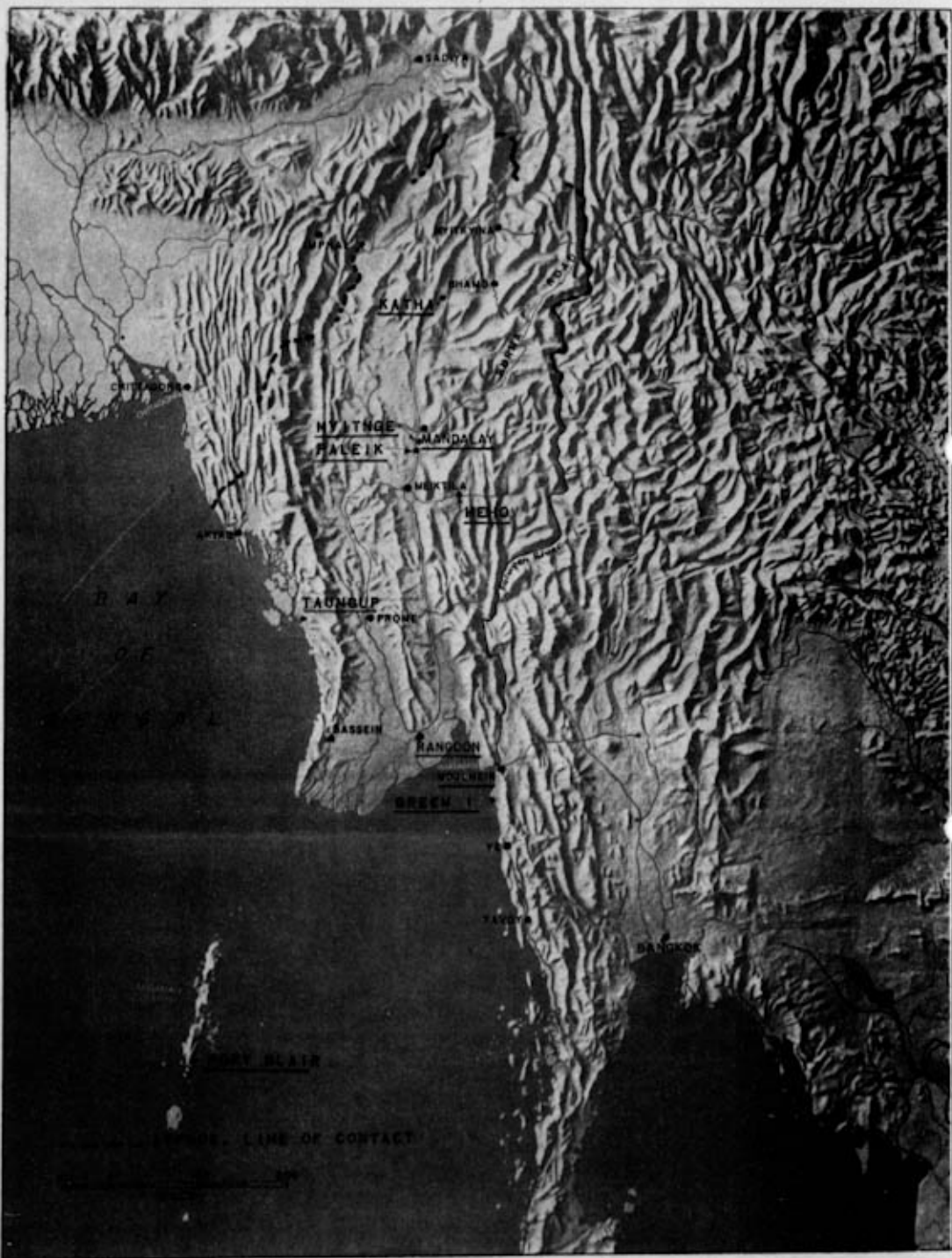
Oh 7 -

2. ~~During the 24-hour period ending at noon 8 December the Fifth Army completely cleared Monti Camino of the enemy except in the village of Rocca. An Italian brigade operating with our ~~II~~ Corps, gained ground to the south of Monti Sammucro, which lies east of Cassino, while in the Venafro area our troops attacked its eastern slopes. The Eighth Army reported heavy fighting on the outskirts of Orsogna bad weather handicapping its efforts.~~

3. Amending the report cited on 2 December, General Eisenhower states that ports on the west coast of Italy during the week ending 18 November discharged 66,957 tons of supplies, 3,646 vehicles and 27,609 personnel. The enemy attack on Bari on 2 December cost us 30,000 tons of cargo as well as the ships previously reported.

4. Allied bombers mined Salamis Straits and Port Herakles during the night of 6-7 December, bombed the dockyards at Salamis and dropped supplies

~~SECRET~~



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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PRINTED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS

to patriot forces operating in Yugoslavia and Albania. US B-25's attacked shipping in the harbors of Alinda Bay and Portolago Bay with gunfire. Other aircraft swept the Aegean damaging various small enemy ships.

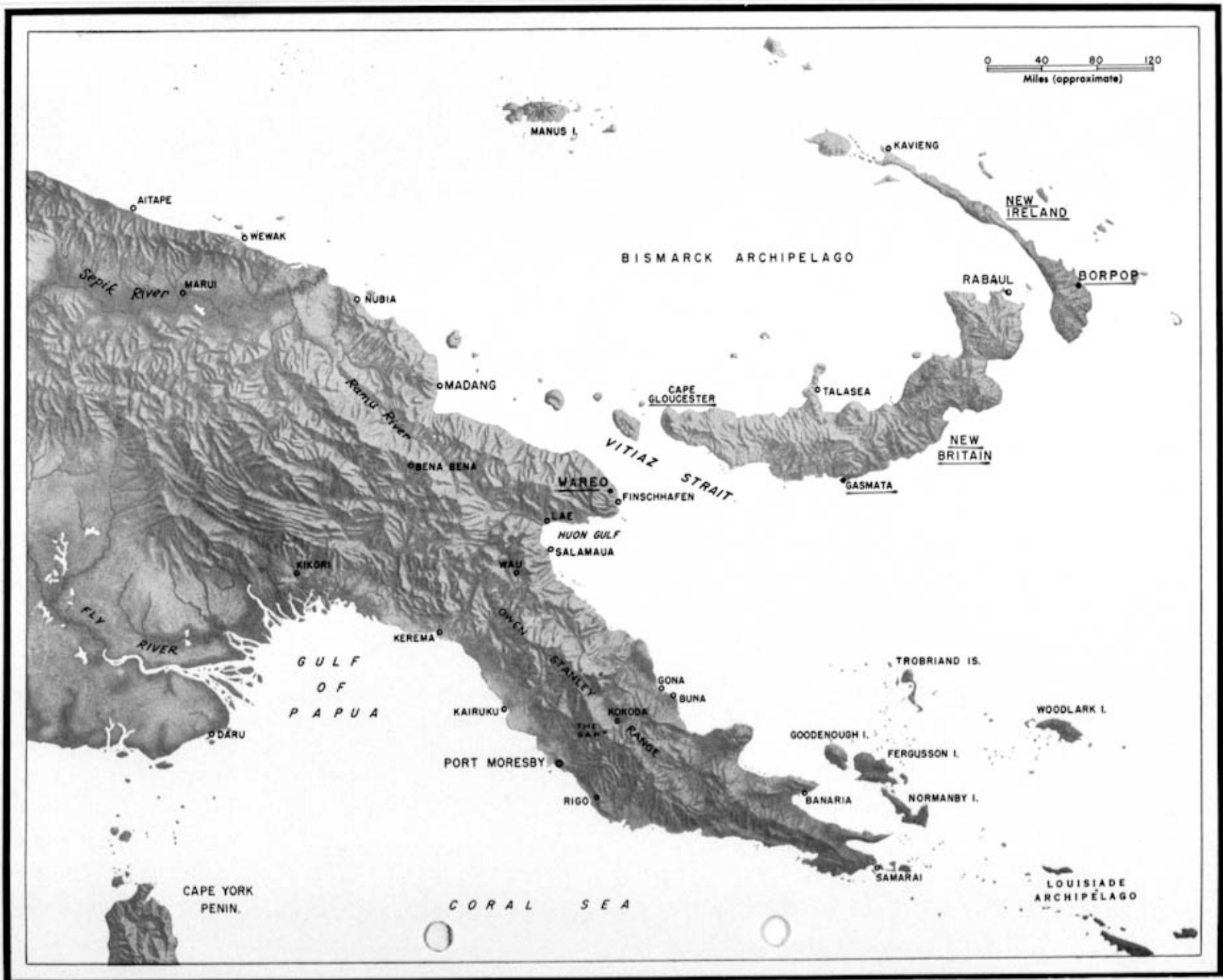
ASIATIC THEATER

1. The Myitnge bridge and Paleik railroad yards were the targets for 16 B-25's escorted by 12 fighter planes on 6 December; several hits were scored on the bridge and its approaches and some damage was noted in the railroad yards. Twelve B-24's successfully bombed an island in Port Blair harbor; other B-24's again mined the Rangoon estuary and the mouth of the Salween River near Green Island. One medium bomber and seven fighters raided Katha town and airdrome; the following day this attack was repeated while 13 A-36's attacked railroad yards in northern Burma.

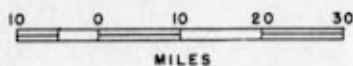
On 6 December RAF fighters attacked enemy-held towns in western Burma, while four B-24's bombed Taungup and ten Wellingtons dropped 17 tons of bombs on the Heho field. On 7 December eight B-24's successfully bombed Moulmein and Mandalay railroad yards.

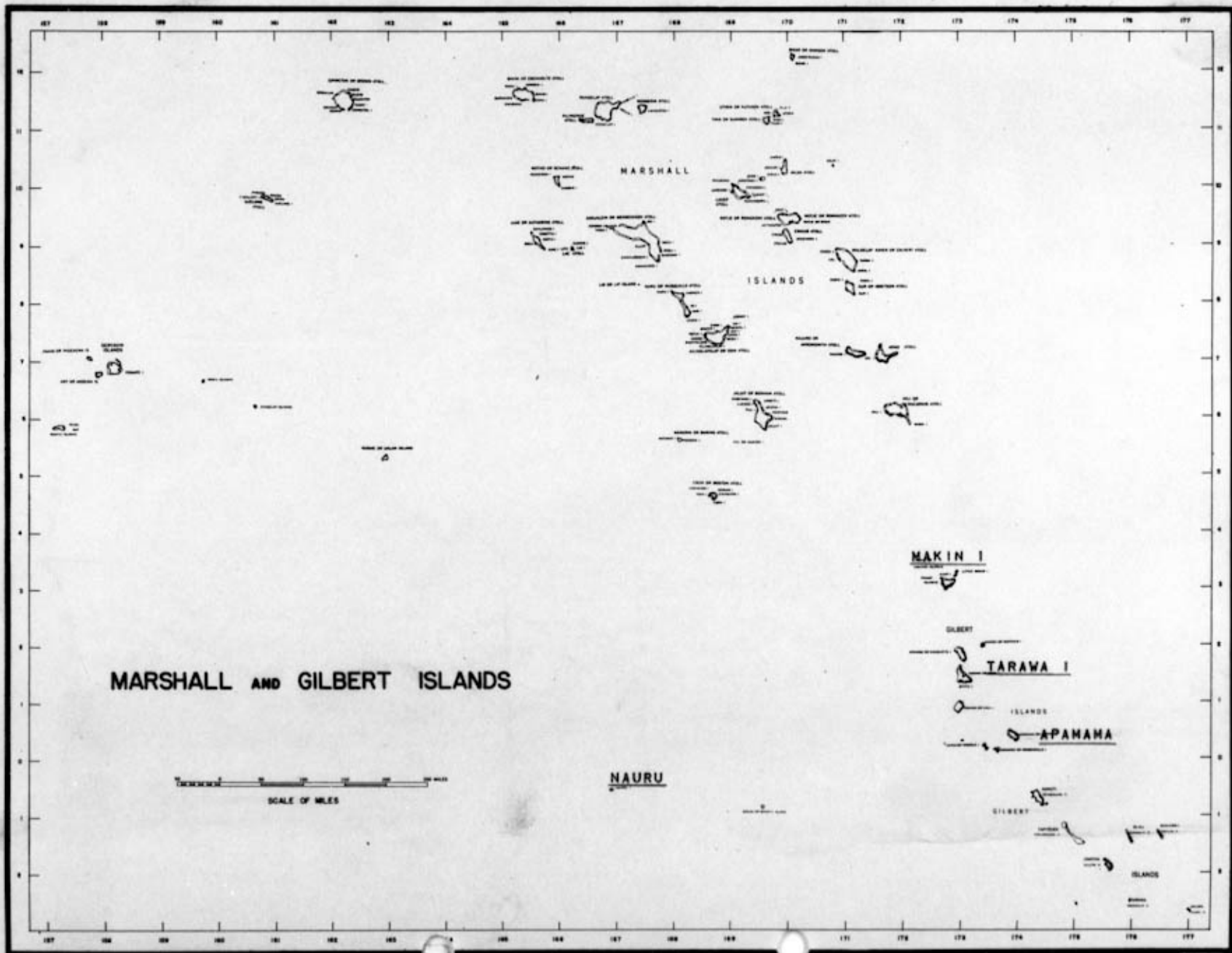
2. 14th Air Force B-25's successfully attacked Changteh on 6 December. One (probably three) of 15 Japanese fighters was shot down. Other 14th Air Force fighter planes attacked railroad installations and rolling stock near Hsipaw and started fires on the west bank of the Salween River opposite Chihtaoho.

Fourteen escorted B-25's bombed Changteh with good results the next day. Fighter patrols destroyed freight and tank cars in northern



# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





Burma. Three enemy missions, totaling 16 planes, bombed our installations at Kukong and Wuchow in southeastern China; effects were not reported.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied ground forces on the Huon Peninsula captured an enemy strong point south of Wareo on 7 December and reported further progress along the coast.

*On Dec 6-7* ~~Over~~ *62 fighters and 43 B-24's* ~~sixty B-25's, bombed and machine-gunned enemy barge hideouts,~~ *harried New Britain coast from Cape Gloucester to Gasmata to continue softening process*  
~~villages and trails along the New Britain coast on 6 and 7 December.~~ (On the latter day, Australian aircraft started fires and destroyed buildings on the Borpop airfield and, in New Britain, 62 fighter aircraft attacked the enemy dump areas at Gasmata while 43 B-24's pounded hostile gun positions on Cape Gloucester. Our light bombers and fighters continued to attack enemy targets along the northeastern New Guinea coast, four P-47's destroying one (possibly two) of 20 enemy fighter planes encountered over Wewak. To the west, 13 B-24's bombed the runway and village on Haroekoe Island (south of Ceram).

2. On 7 December 13 B-25's attacked Kieta harbor area and five B-25's bombed Kahili.

On 8 December, eight B-24's dropped 12 tons of bombs on Nauru with excellent results.

3. On 7 December an enemy bomber ineffectively dropped four bombs in the water off Makin Island. Our airfield on that island is 40 percent complete.



WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 728

0700 December 7 to 0700 December 8, 1943

COPY FOR

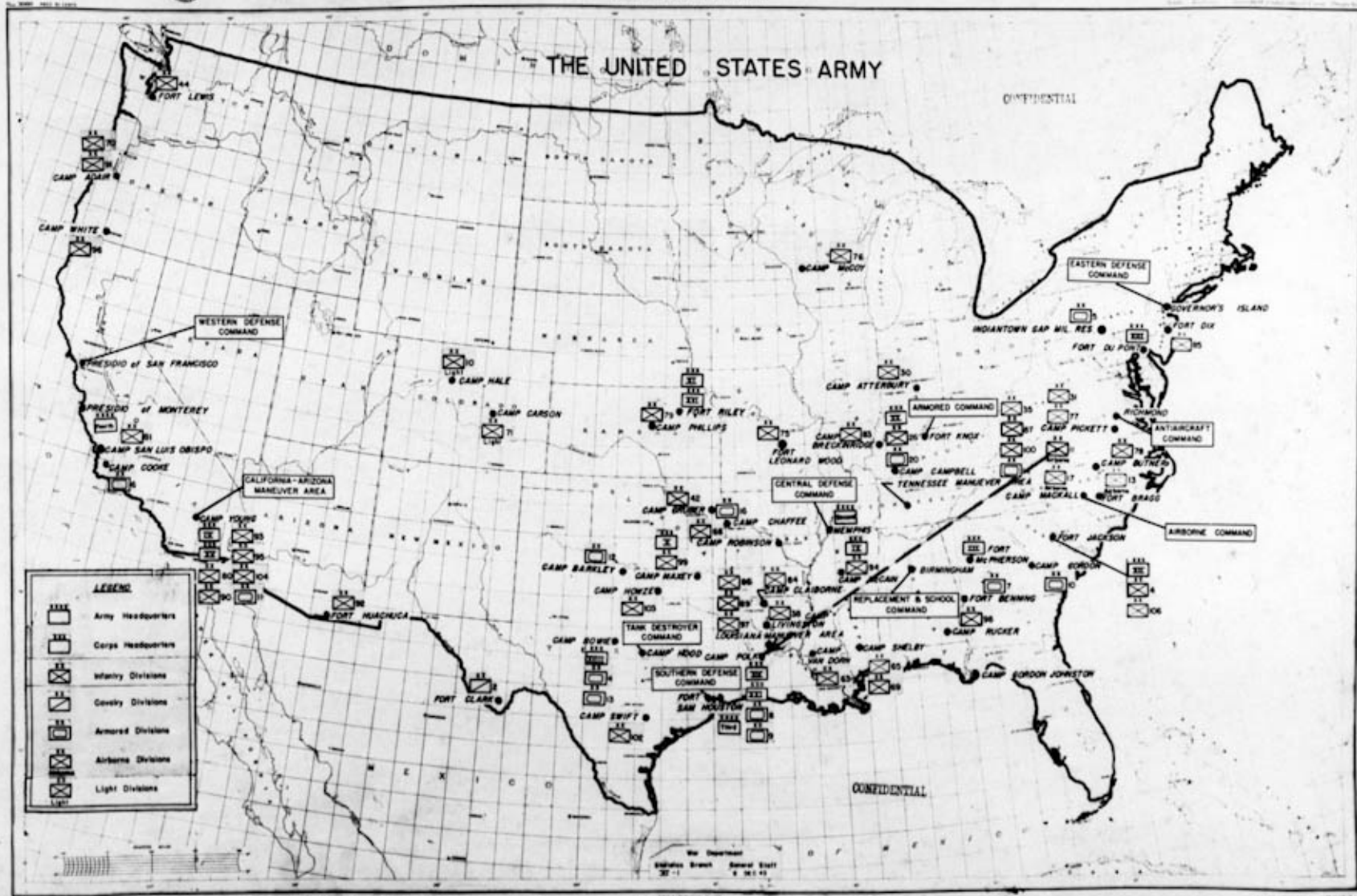
THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)

OUTLINE MAP  
UNITED STATES

THE UNITED STATES ARMY

CONFIDENTIAL



**LEGEND**

[Symbol: Box with 'A']	Army Headquarters
[Symbol: Box with 'C']	Corps Headquarters
[Symbol: Box with 'I']	Infantry Divisions
[Symbol: Box with 'Cv']	Cavalry Divisions
[Symbol: Box with 'A']	Armored Divisions
[Symbol: Box with 'AB']	Airborne Divisions
[Symbol: Box with 'L']	Light Divisions

CONFIDENTIAL

War Department  
Military Branch General Staff  
30 11 45





WESTERN HEMISPHERE

~~The Army Ground Forces issued a directive for the movement of the 11th Airborne Division (Major General Joseph M. Swing, commanding) from Camp Mackall, North Carolina to Camp Polk, Louisiana, for Third Army maneuvers in February.~~

EUROPEAN THEATER

~~1. Supplementary reports from London state that at least seven of our 11 heavy bombers missing from the 5 December attacks on Bordeaux and St. Nazaire have returned.~~

~~2. Southwest of Kremenchug Red forces occupied Pantayevka on 7 December and increased their threat on the neighboring town of Znamenka.~~

~~East of Chernyakov the enemy struck back in considerable strength to offset a Soviet threat against Zhitomir and made some localized advances.~~

[North <sup>Zhitomir</sup> East of Chernyakov the enemy struck back in considerable strength to offset a Soviet threat against <sup>that city</sup> Zhitomir and made some localized advances.]

MEDITERRANEAN

~~1. On 6 December 45 US B-24's escorted by P-38's dropped 48 tons of bombs on the Eleusis airdrome at Athens while 56 B-17's dropped over 100 tons on the nearby Kalamaki airdrome. Of 30 to 40 enemy aircraft attempting to intercept these missions at least nine were destroyed; one B-24 was destroyed and a B-17 and a P-38 are missing. While weather prevented bomber operations over Italy <sup>on 6 Dec</sup> that day, our light aircraft attacked enemy communications in the battle area and dropped supplies~~



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
REPRODUCED, OSS

to our forward units. ] ~~Eight Spitfires hit a suspected radar station in Albania.~~

2. [By noon 7 December the Fifth Army had captured the crest of Monti Camino which, together with Monti Maggiore captured two days previously, controls the entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone corridor. ~~There was some fighting west of Venusio. The Eighth Army maintained its contact with the enemy along the line of the Moro River in spite of counterattacks and difficulties imposed by heavy rains~~ ]

3. ~~On 6 December, three B-24's and eight British bombers mined the harbor at Salonika and heavily damaged the railroad station and other buildings. The usual antishipping missions were flown, a 150-foot enemy tanker being burned in the harbor of Santorin.~~

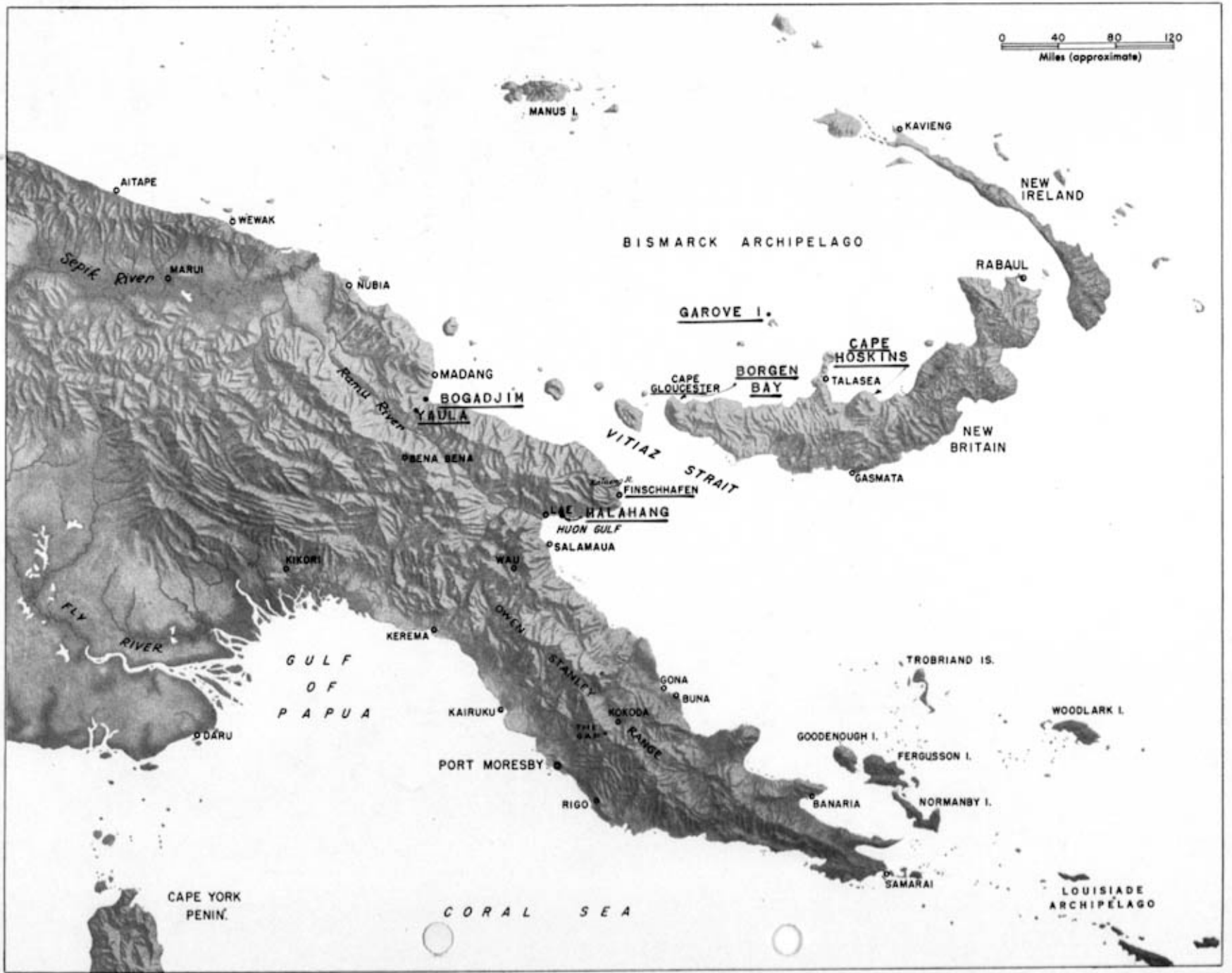
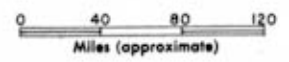
4. [The War Department has notified General Eisenhower that the 65th Infantry, a Regular Army regiment composed of Puerto Ricans, will be ready for movement to the North African Theater in late March 1944. This regiment has formed part of the garrison of the Panama Canal Department during the past <sup>eight</sup> ~~five~~ months.]

#### ASIATIC THEATER

~~On 4 December, airplanes of the 10th Air Force attacked gasoline stores and numerous other enemy targets at Dhomo, Mogawng and elsewhere in northern Burma, the airbase and a possible Japanese headquarters at Myitkyina were also damaged, one B-24 was lost.~~ [On 4 December Eighteen B-24's







AITAPE

WĒWAK

MARUI

NUBIA

OMADANG

BOGADJIM  
YAU LA

OBENA BENA

KIKORI

WAU

KEREMA

KAIRUKU

PORT MORESBY

RIGO

LAKE HALAHANG

HUON GULF

SALAMAUA

VITIAZ STRAIT

FINSCHHAFEN

THE GAP

KOKODA

GONA

BUNA

GOODENOUGH I.

BANARIA

SAMARAI

TROBRIAND IS.

FERGUSSON I.

NORMANBY I.

WOODLARK I.

LOUISIADÉ ARCHIPELAGO

MANUS I.

KAVIENG

NEW IRELAND

RABAUL

BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO

GAROVE I.

CAPE GLOUCESTER

BORGEN BAY

CAPE HOSKINS

TALASEA

GASMATA

NEW BRITAIN

Sepik River

Ramuli River

FLY RIVER

GULF OF PAPUA

CAPE YORK PENIN.

CORAL SEA

mined the Moulmein Channel ~~north of Lakeret~~ as well as the Rangoon Estuary.

A total of over fifty enemy aircraft made two attacks on Calcutta, damaging three ships as well as buildings; some 500 civilian casualties resulted ] ~~One, probably two, enemy planes were shot down for a loss of eight RAF aircraft. In operations on 4 and 5 December, three RAF B-24's damaged the railroad yards at Mandalay; other RAF planes attacked Buthidaung. Two (probably three) enemy planes encountered were destroyed; two RAF planes were lost.~~

#### PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

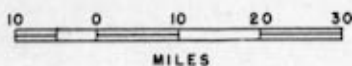
1. ~~Allied ground forces, with air support, made further gains north of Finschhafen on 6 December.~~

[Thirty US B-24's repeated our attacks on ~~the~~ Cape Gloucester ~~6 December. Other allied bombers attacked villages, bridges and area; 30 escorted B-25's machine-gunned and bombed villages and trails coastal shipping near Borgen Bay, Cape Hopkins and in near Borgen Bay. Other Allied planes damaged a bridge and destroyed Bogadjim area.]  
~~a barge near Cape Hopkins, bombed Garove Island, and destroyed a bridge on the Bogadjim-Yauls road. To the west, Allied bombers attacked Ceram Island and burned a coastal tanker off the southwest coast of New Guinea.~~~~

~~During the night of 5 December three enemy aircraft bombed Malahang and one other bombed Finschhafen, causing slight damage.~~

2. On 5 December 14 of our bombers, in two attacks, hit enemy storage facilities at Monocitu; 45 escorted medium bombers also attacked Tarlena and Bonis reporting excellent results. Seventy-nine Navy

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

bombers and 40 fighters damaged buildings at Kieta harbor and supply areas on Buka Island. All planes returned. The fighter strip within our beachhead is nearly completed and work on the bomber strip has begun.

Photo reconnaissance on 6 December showed the Buka, Bonis, Kahili, Kara and Ballale runways to be still unserviceable.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

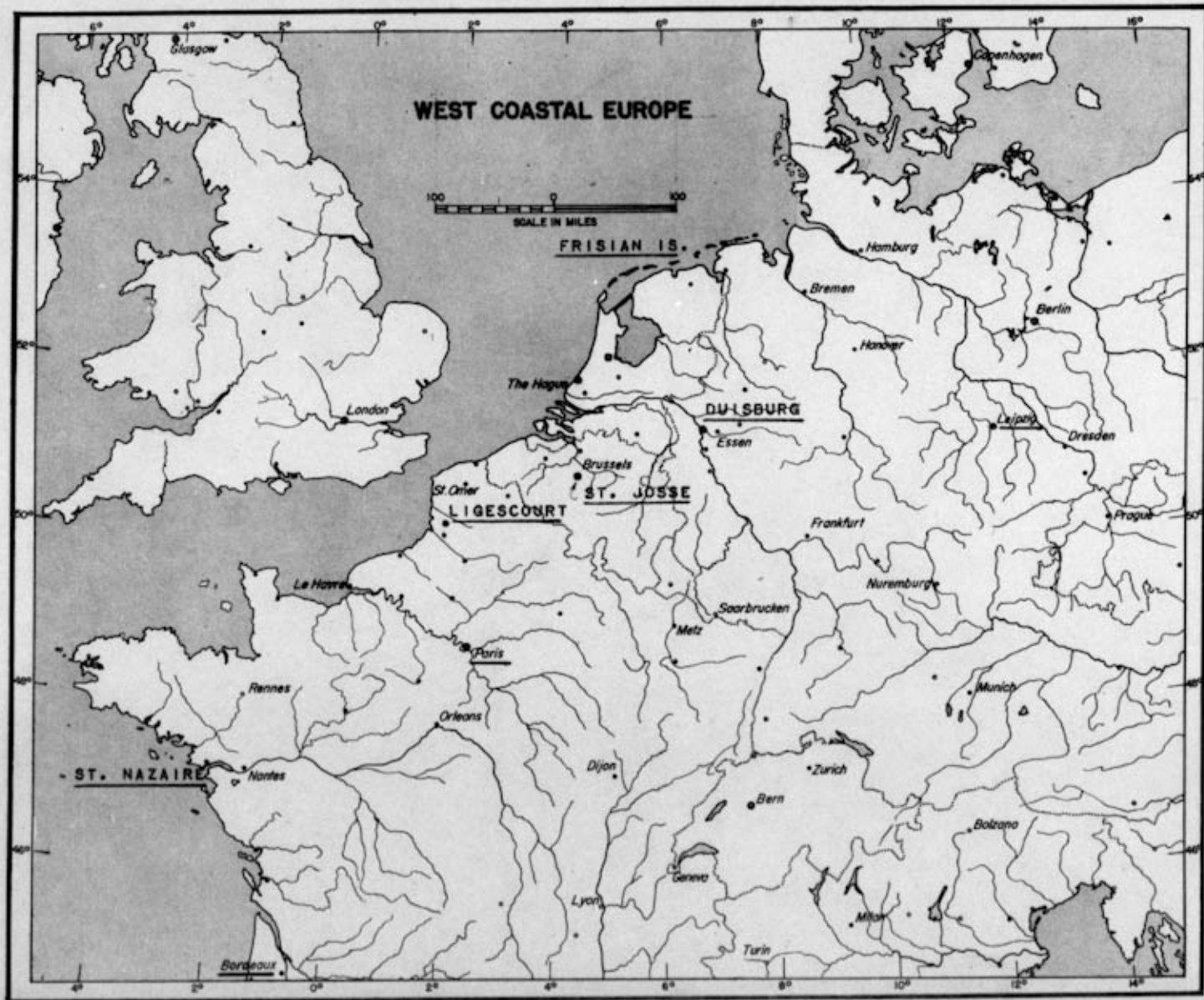
No. 727

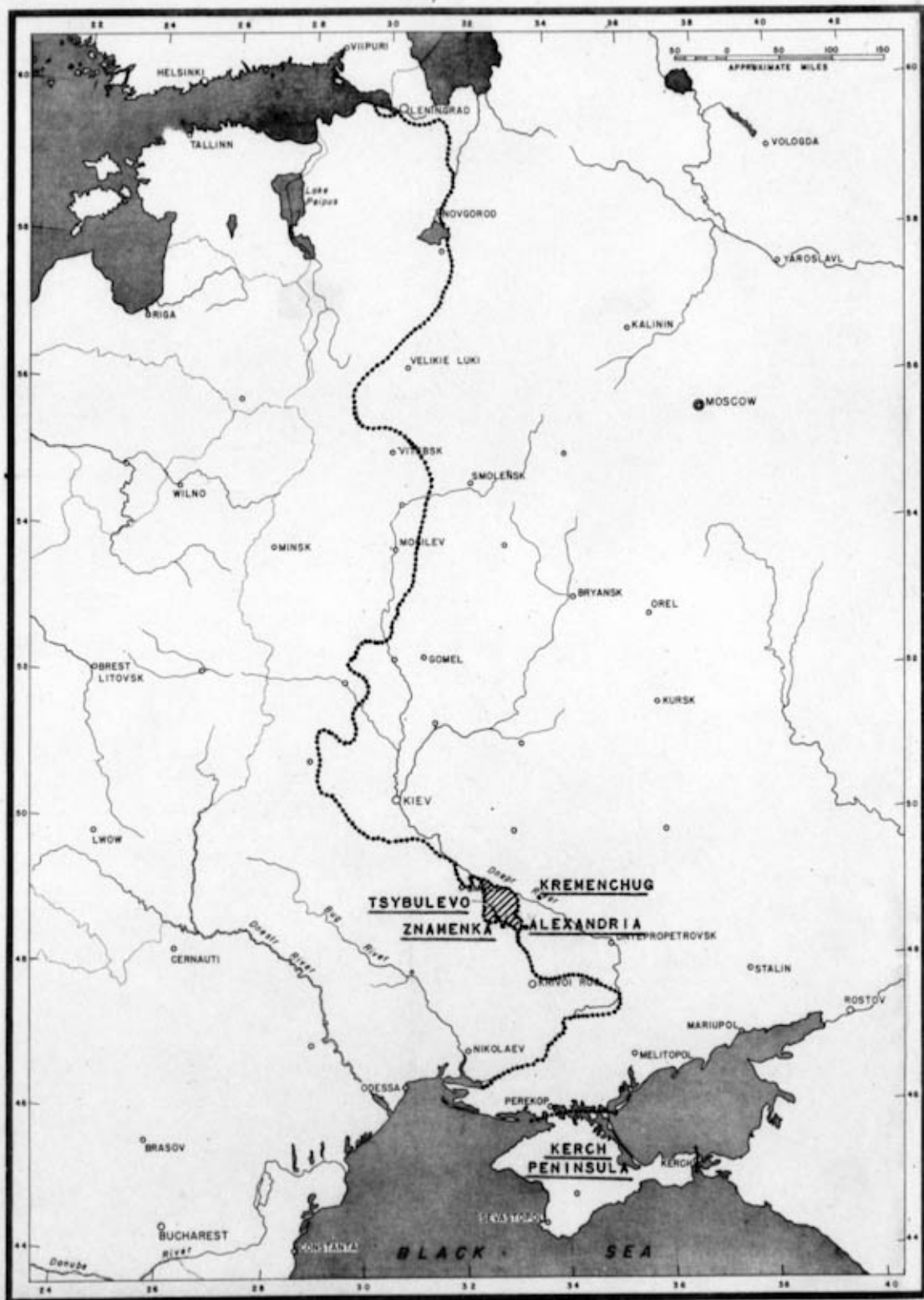
0700 December 6 to 0700 December 7, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(4)





EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 4-5 December Mosquitoes raided the steel works at Duisburg; other aircraft mined the Frisian Islands waters.

Although 545 B-17's, escorted and supported by 390 P-47's, P-51's and P-38's, were dispatched from British bases to attack German Air Force installations along the southwest French coast and the Paris area on 5 December, only minor attacks could be carried out because of cloud conditions; some bombs were dropped on an airfield at Bordeaux and on submarine pens at St. Nazaire. Strong fighter opposition was encountered on this one mission whose fighter escort was prevented by weather from keeping its rendezvous; 11 (probably 17) enemy planes were destroyed and 11 of our bombers failed to return. Missions totaling 197 B-26's covered by 19 squadrons of Spitfires, likewise were unable to reach their primary objectives; 35 B-26's dropped 71 tons of bombs on special military installations at St. Josse and Ligescourt with fair success.

[Photographs reveal that the 3 December attack by the RAF on Leipzig left the center of the city from the main railroad station westwards completely covered by an immense pall of smoke five miles in breadth.]

2. Southwest of Kremenchug the Soviets occupied the railroad junction of Tsybulevo, seven miles northwest of Znamenka, and Alexandria, 24 miles east of Znamenka; this leaves the enemy only one rail line





*[Soviets gained some ground southwest of Kremenchuk, running south from Znamenska. In the Crimea the enemy increased the intensity of his attacks against both Soviet bridgeheads on the Kerch peninsula to force a Soviet withdrawal from this area. Seven Axis divisions including 4 Rumanian believed remaining in Crimea]*

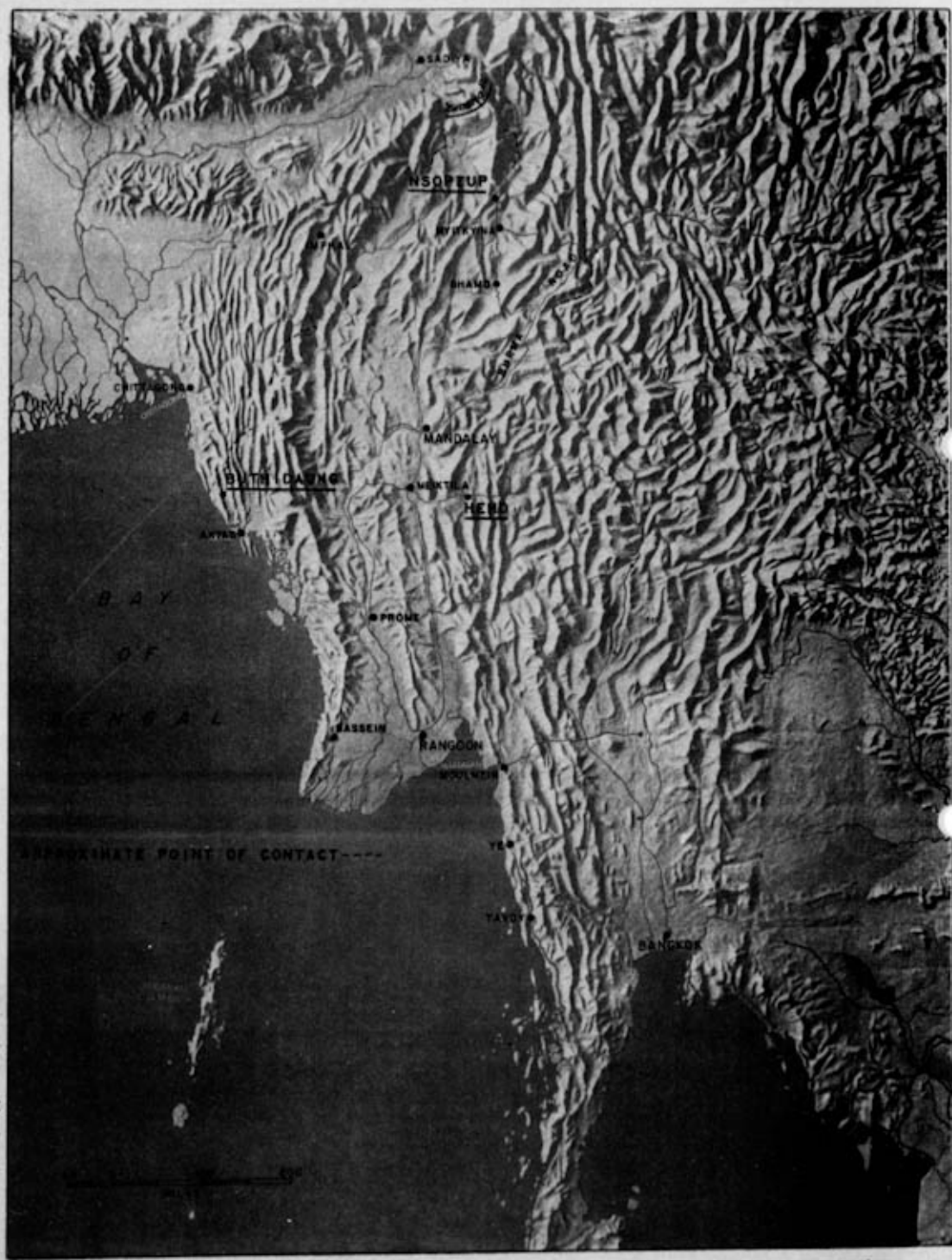
MEDITERRANEAN

~~1. The majority of Mediterranean air missions for 5 December were cancelled because of the weather. Thirty-six B-25's bombed the harbor at Split where a ship was hit, and a bridge near Pescara. Fighter bombers flew missions against gun positions, bombed communications near Rome and Formia and elsewhere in the battle area, hit a 4,000-ton merchant vessel off the Yugoslavian coast, and left a floating dock burning at Orbetello. One enemy airplane was shot down over the Eighth Army area.~~

2. ~~[The Garigliano River is flooded for a distance of about ten miles inland. Fighting moved back and forth on Monti Camino, but the 36th <sup>US</sup> Division advanced another mile on 6 December consolidating our hold on the crest of Monti Maggiore which overlooks the Cassino-Frosinone corridor. Heavy rain retarded operations of the Eighth Army] the enemy reoccupied Orsogna and holds the line Ortona-Orsogna-Guardiagrele.~~

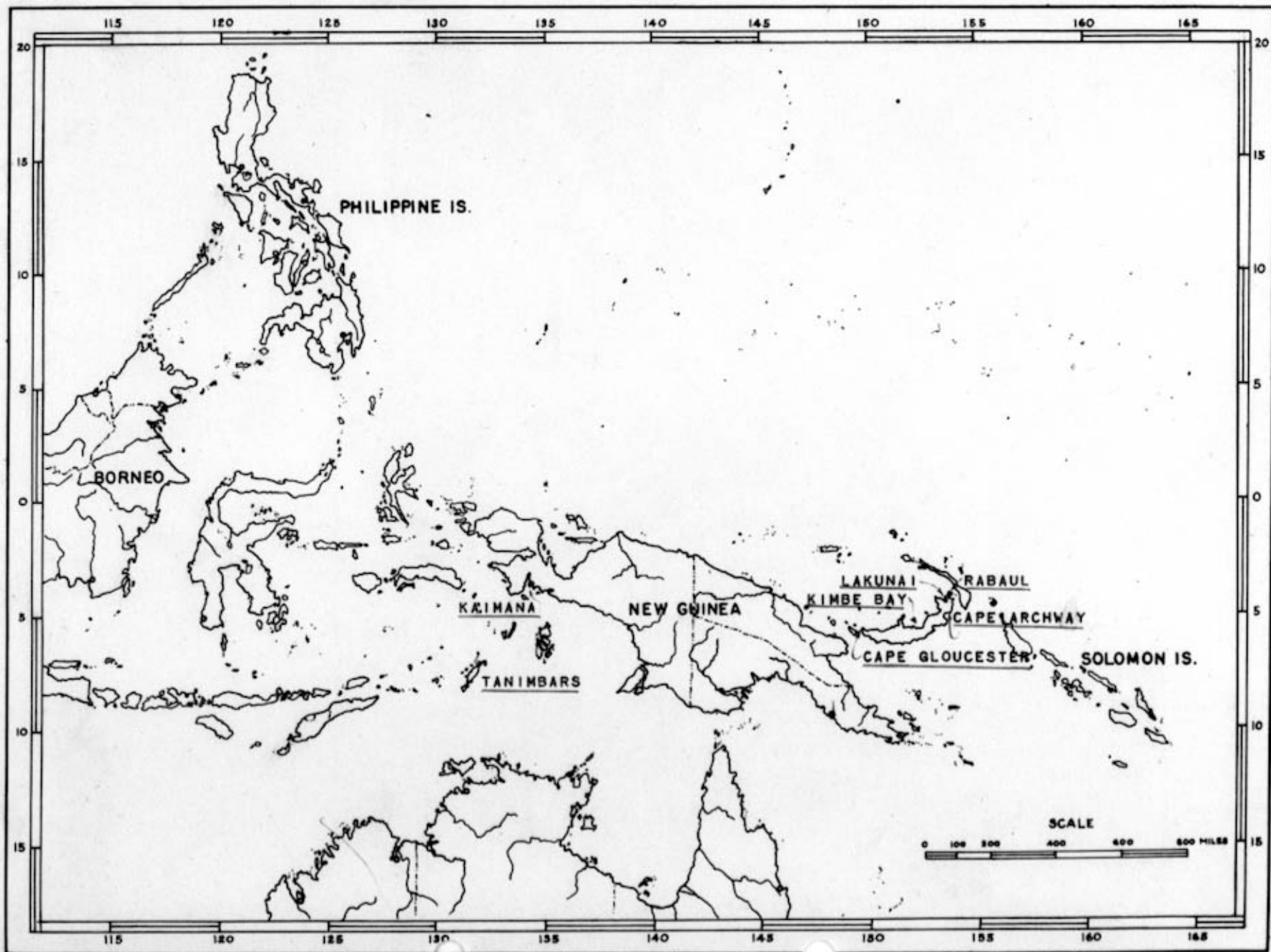
ASIATIC THEATER

~~1. During operations on 3 December 10th Air Force A-36's in 22 sorties bombed a bridge near Neopuzup, barracks, supply dumps and other enemy installations in northern Burma, and machine-gunned Japanese~~



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



positions along the Tarung River.

British air operations for the same day included a successful attack against the Heho airfield by four heavy bombers; fighter-type aircraft bombed enemy-held northwest border towns. Next day Japanese installations near Buthidaung were dive-bombed and machine-gunned.

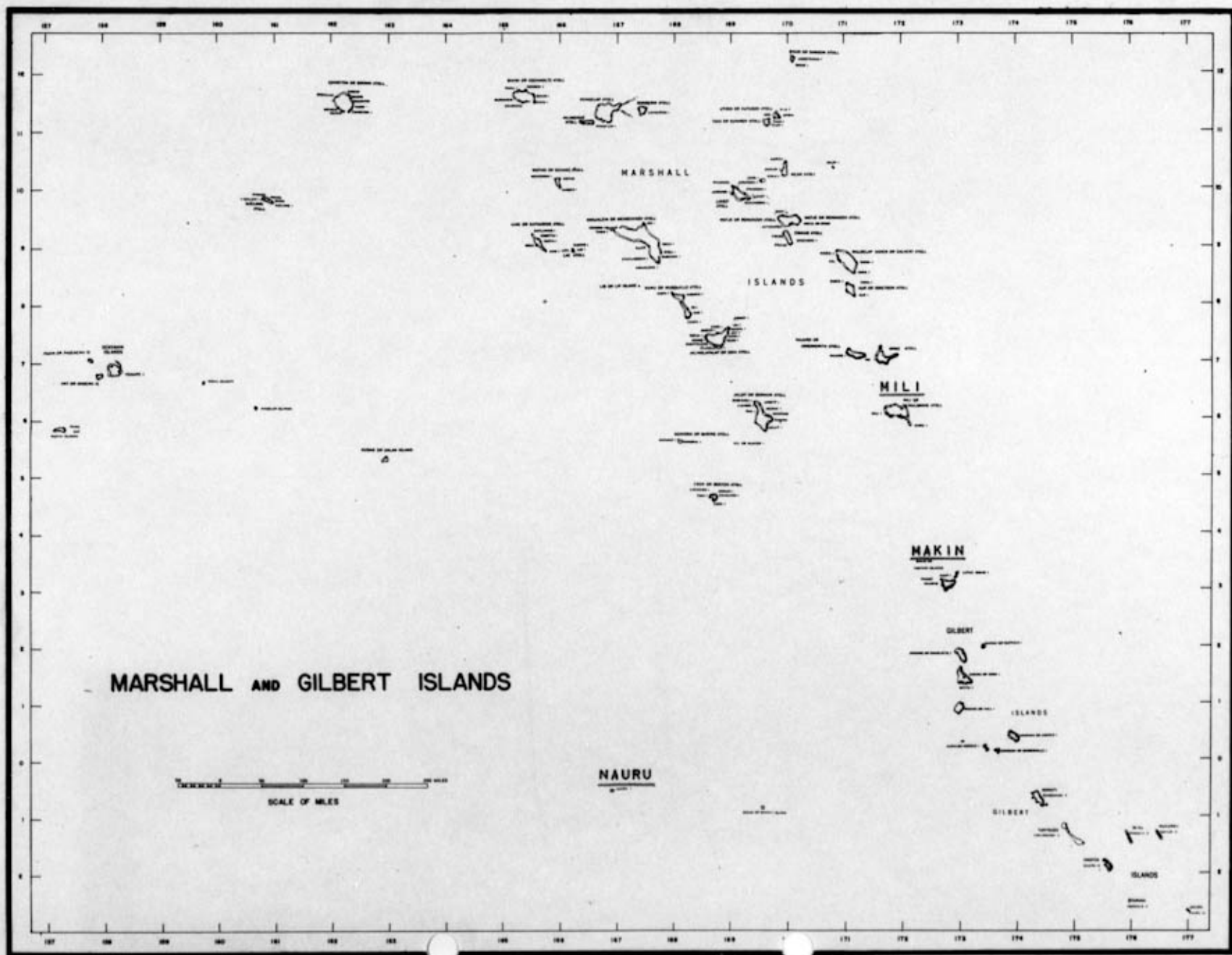
2. On 5 December 14th Air Force fighter patrols over the Changteh region harassed enemy troops, river traffic and supply installations; 68 sorties were made. Two (probably three) enemy fighters were destroyed in combat; all our planes returned.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During the night of 4-5 December and the following day, Australian aircraft attacked Lakunai airdrome, scored a torpedo hit on a 6,000-ton freighter in Rabaul harbor, destroyed a schooner in Kimbe Bay and a coastal vessel near Cape Archway, and attacked Kaimana and enemy-held villages in the Tanimbars; one Beaufort bomber is missing. Forty US escorted B-24's put 155 tons of bombs into antiaircraft positions and supply and bivouac areas at Cape Gloucester while medium, dive and fighter bombers attacked enemy communications and installations along the northeast New Guinea coast.

2. On 5 December 23 B-25's hit the Mosigetta area in southwest Bougainville with more than 30 tons of bombs, reporting excellent results.

3. On 4 December 35 US B-24's scored hits on Mili and destroyed one



~~SECRET~~  
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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

enemy plane on the ground; eight other B-24's damaged enemy installations on Nauru. All our bombers returned.

Nine Japanese bombers bombed Makin, destroying or damaging several planes and burning a 500-barrel fuel dump.

4. Generals MacArthur and Harmon have reported that trucks used as field artillery prime movers are inferior to diesel tractors under jungle conditions. Although there are not sufficient tractors available to reequip all the field artillery in those theaters, the War Department is sending each of them sufficient to form a pool of light medium and heavy tractors for use as the theater commanders desire. Instructions are being issued that comparative tests of low and high speed tractors should be made.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 726

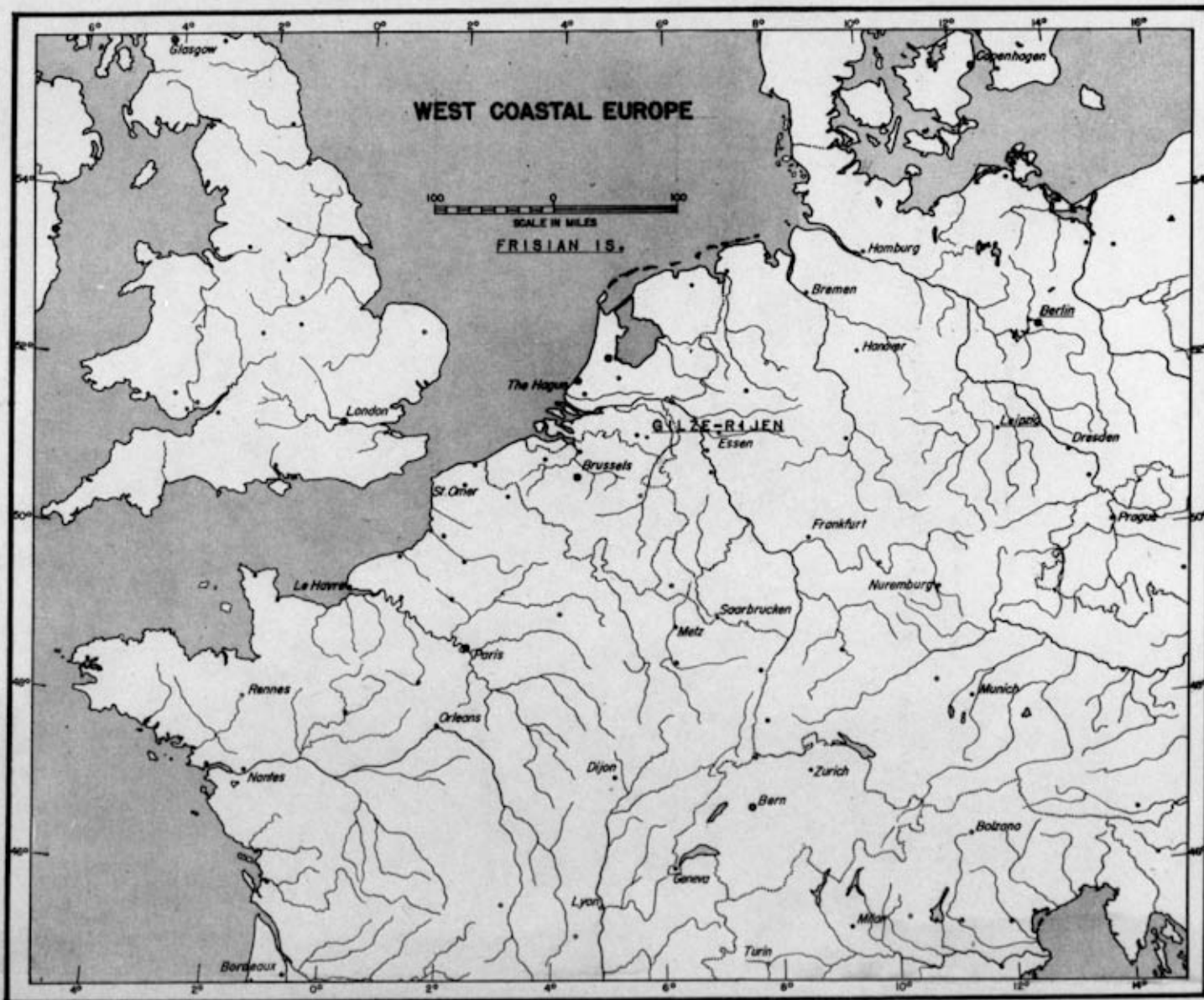
0700 December 5 to 0700 December 6, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





EUROPEAN THEATER

1. [ During the night of 3-4 December, 526 RAF heavy bombers attacked Leipzig through heavy cloud cover; satisfactory results, however, were believed to have been achieved. ] ~~Twenty-five of the heavy bombers failed to return. Mosquito missions were dispatched to Berlin and other centers in Germany and Holland, and the Frisian Island waters were again mined.~~

~~The next day 144 P-47's, some of them carrying quarter-ton bombs, attacked airdrome and dispersal areas at Gilze-Rijen, Holland, obtaining good results and destroying without loss three of 16 enemy fighters encountered.~~

2. ~~Fighting on the eastern front during 5 December was indecisive.~~

MEDITERRANEAN

1. ~~Inclement weather during the night of 3-4 December and the following day prevented operations of the Strategic Air Forces. Fighter aircraft attacked gun positions in the Eighth Army sector and patrolled elsewhere over the battle area and along the Dalmatian coast. Three German planes were reported destroyed during these operations.~~

In the 2 December attack on Bari harbor three of the 25 enemy aircraft dropped tinfoil "windows" throughout the raid in order to interrupt radar detection. Chief cause of the damage was an early hit on an ammunition ship in the crowded harbor.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
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2. [By noon 5 December units of the Fifth Army had gained additional ground near the crest of Monti Camino and had captured the crest of Monti Maggiore at the entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone corridor.] ~~Additional gains were made on the southeast slopes of Monti delle Mete where American troops repulsed a counterattack with heavy enemy casualties. The Eighth Army despite bad weather pushed to the Moro River] heavy fighting continued in the Orsogna area. Rains have again impeded our crossings over the Sangro River.~~

~~The 2d Moroccan Division has arrived in the area.~~

3. Casualties of the Fifth Army as of 5 December were:

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
American	1,918	7,704	2,779	12,401
British	<u>1,474</u>	<u>6,217</u>	<u>2,683</u>	<u>10,374</u>
Total	3,392	13,921	5,462	22,775

The Fifth Army has taken 3,764 prisoners of war.

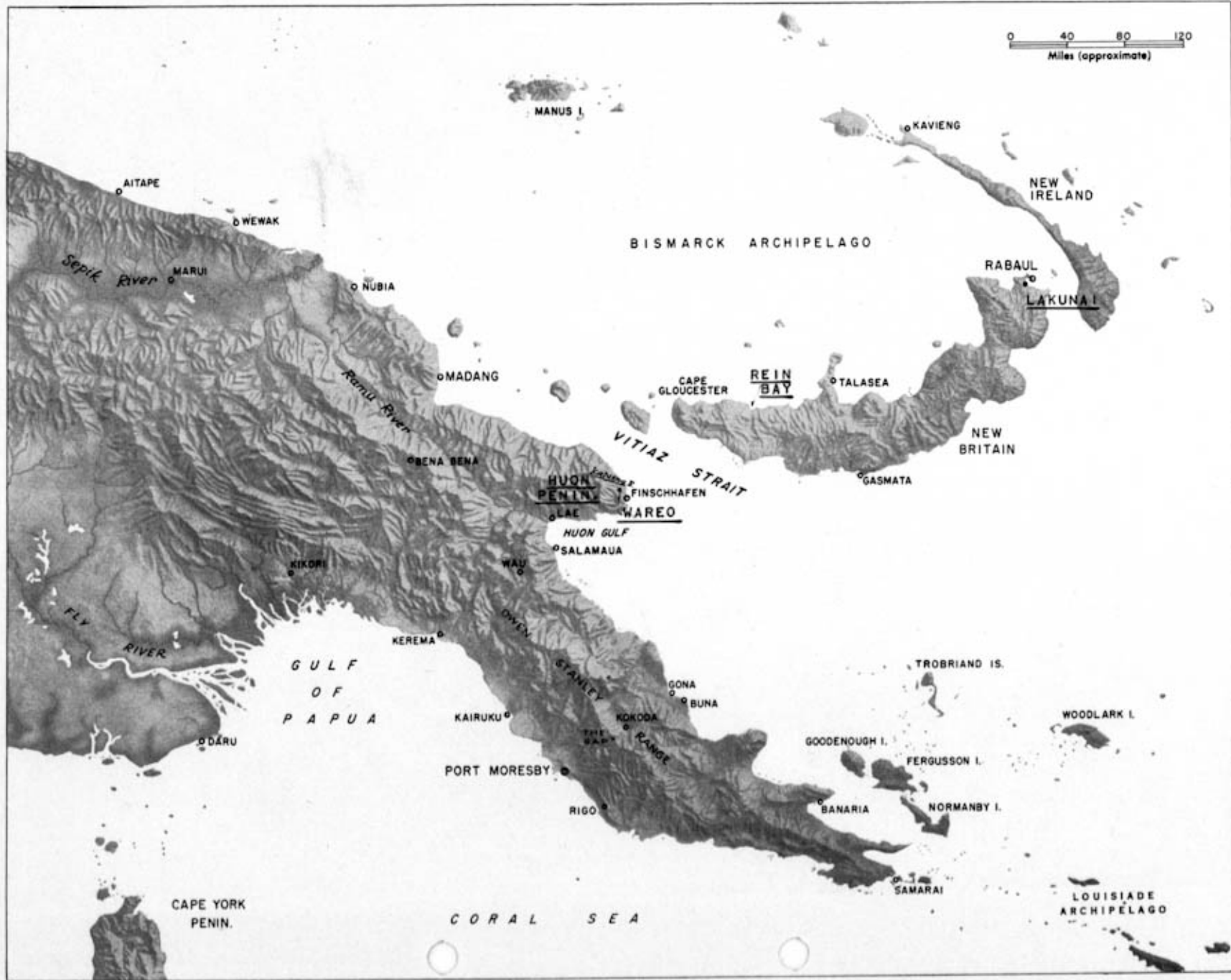
Casualties of the British Eighth Army as of 3 December were:

<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
1,288	4,797	1,455	7,540

The Eighth Army has captured 1,226 prisoners of war.

4. ~~RAF fighter aircraft on armed reconnaissance over the Aegean on 4 December destroyed three German patrol bombers and attacked two small surface vessels in the Dodecanese area. During that night, Allied bombers attacked the docks at Rhodes harbor with unobserved~~





~~results, mined Syros harbor, and dropped supplies to patriot forces in Greece and Albania. German aircraft again made a heavy attack on Castelrosso harbor; details are lacking.~~

ASIATIC THEATER

~~A Chungking report states that radio contact with Chinese troops in Changteh has been broken since 2 December; the few remnants of the Chinese 57th Division were still fighting in that city. A Chinese estimate places the Japanese strength in the Changteh area at 10,000.~~

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

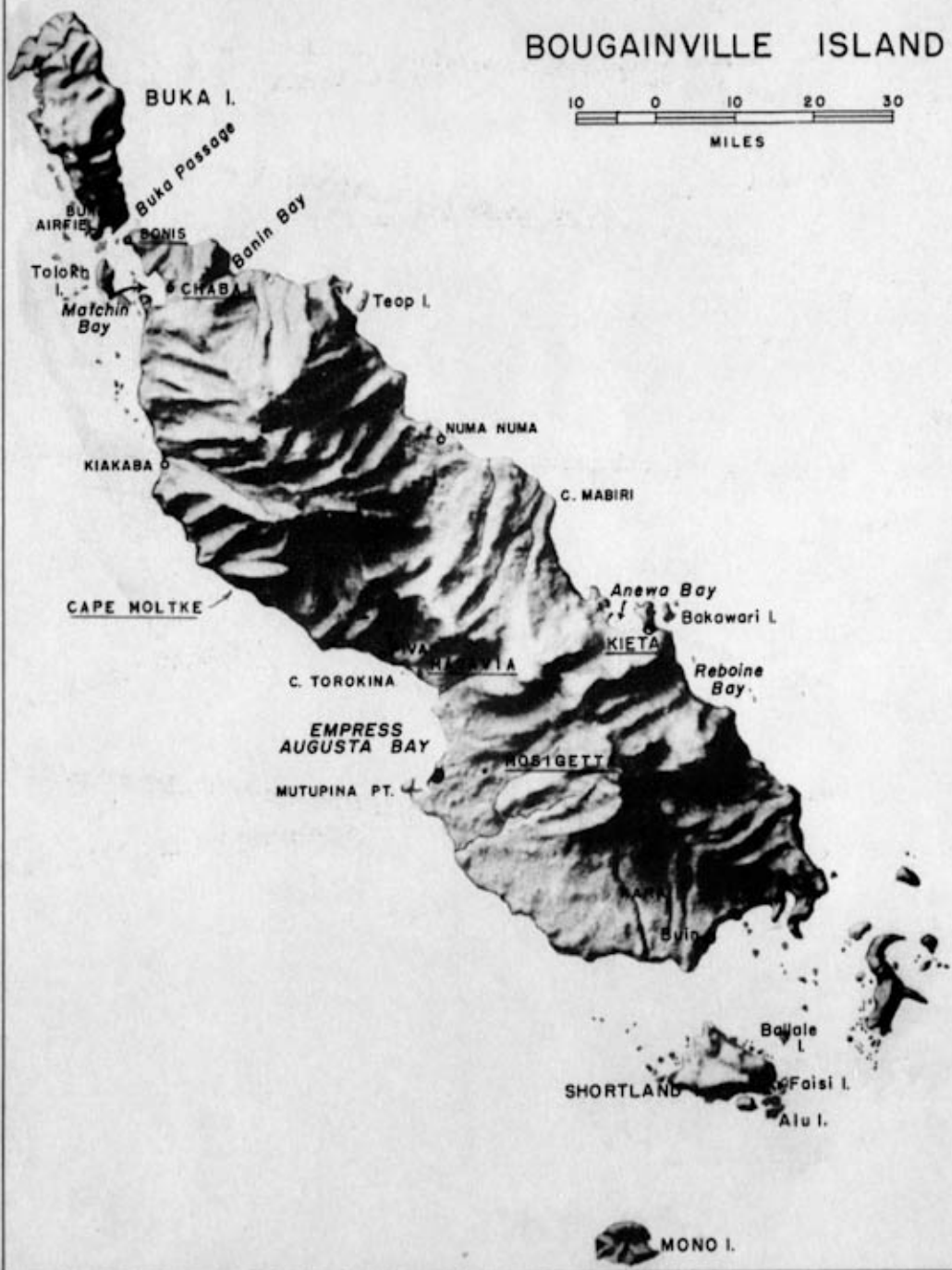
1. ~~Heavy fighting continued on the east coast of the Huon Peninsula during 4 December. Our forces cleared the enemy from positions north of Kalueng River and, supported by armored units, were advancing on Wareo against increased enemy resistance.~~

~~[Enemy positions on the western portion of New Britain were heavily attacked <sup>on 4 December</sup> by our medium and heavy bombers which silenced anti-aircraft positions and caused other damage at Rein Bay.] Our light and medium bombers attacked villages and trails along the northeast coast of New Guinea; 18 RAAF bombers started fires at the Lakunai airdrome (Babaul).~~

~~The [Enemy's sea communications along the New Guinea and New Britain coasts were hit by Allied air and surface craft.] Six (possibly~~

127063

# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





~~19) enemy barges were destroyed, and a transport and a small freighter apparently damaged. One B-24 is missing from the day's operations.~~

2. ~~During 4 December our ground forces on Bougainville pushed patrols further into the interior and westward along the coast toward Cape Moltke; our artillery destroyed a Japanese gun near Mavavia.~~

[~~Twenty-one B-24's struck Bonis with demolition and fragmentation bombs; two others destroyed buildings at Kieta; and another mission of heavy bombers made a destructive attack against enemy supplies at Chabai which was also attacked by 17 B-25's. An enemy airplane dropped aerial bombs close to these B-25's. Six other medium bombers made an effective attack against installations on the southeastern coast of the island. A Japanese airplane was shot down. Ninety-nine Navy bombers attacked the Mesigetta area at intervals during the day, expending 76 tons of bombs and destroying a bridge and many buildings.~~

3. ~~Nine Japanese bombers attacked Tarawa on 5 December setting fire to 200 barrels of gasoline, destroying two grounded aircraft, and damaging eight others.~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 725

0700 December 4 to 0700 December 5, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203 (2)



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
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EUROPEAN THEATER

1. ~~On 2 December 56 Allied light and fighter-bombers dropped a total of 35 tons of explosives on military objectives southwest of Cherbourg. Numerous direct hits were observed in the target area. No enemy interception was made but antiaircraft fire was intense.~~

~~That night 339 RAF heavy bombers dropped 780 tons of explosives and 693 tons of incendiaries on Berlin starting large fires; this attack was followed up by 15 Mosquitoes. 40 bombers are missing.~~

2. Fighting on the eastern front has entered its winter phase; during 4 December the Red forces maintained their pressure but reported no significant gains.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. ~~On 2 December 67 B-26's obtained excellent coverage in an attack on the yards at Arezzo, while 35 escorted B-24's obtained effect on a bridge at Bolzano and destroyed two (probably four) enemy fighters; one B-24 and 3 P-38's are missing. That night 10 Wellingtons again successfully attacked the Arezzo yards.~~

~~On 3 December 35 escorted B-24's damaged Casale airdrome. Forty-eight B-25's struck the yards and harbor at Sibenik, Yugoslavia and hit a vessel in the port of Rogoznica. Other Allied aircraft bombed enemy installations near San Ambrogio and otherwise gave support to the operations of the ground forces. Nine enemy airplanes were destroyed; one Allied fighter is missing.~~



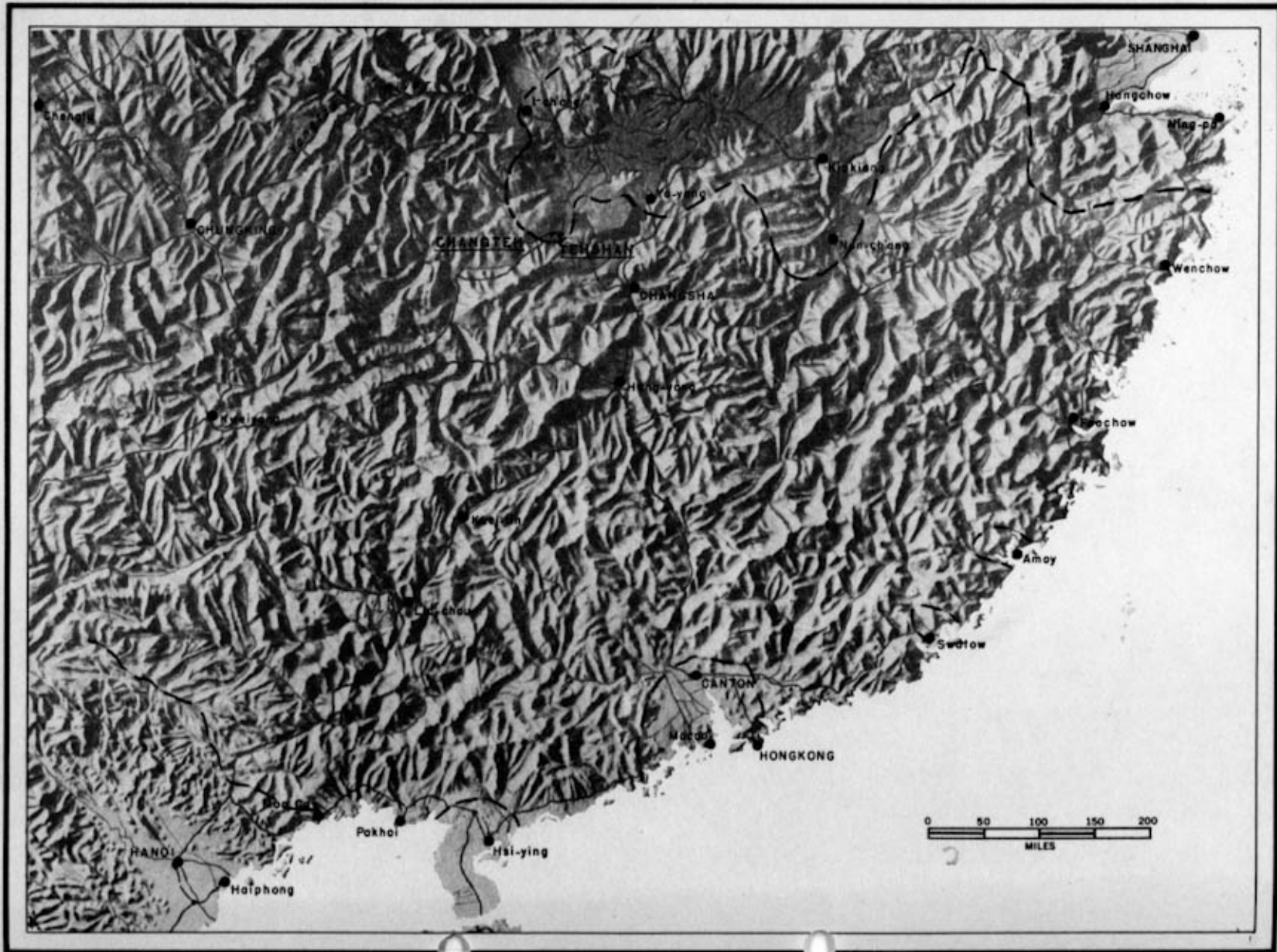
2. [ Progress was reported from all sectors of the Italian front ~~during the 24-hour period ending at noon 4 December.~~ <sup>up to</sup> In fighting during which heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy, elements of the Fifth Army captured several terrain features near Monti Camino ~~at the entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone corridor;~~ ~~enemy counterattacks were repulsed by the VI Corps.~~ <sup>and</sup> On the Eighth Army ~~front the advance~~ <sup>continued to</sup> [ continued, fierce fighting being reported in the Orsogna area.

3. [ ~~Late on 2 December about 30 German planes dropped mines and bombs at Bari. Two of our ammunition carriers were blown up and 17 merchant vessels, including five US ships, were destroyed; these are Liberty ships of about 7,000 tons each. Some 1,000 casualties resulted. The following night German aircraft heavily bombed Castelrosso harbor but damage was minor.~~

4. [ 500 Italian troops on Thera surrendered to a German naval force of 100 men, on 28 November. This, coupled with the German occupation of Cos, gives the enemy all of the Cyclades group.]

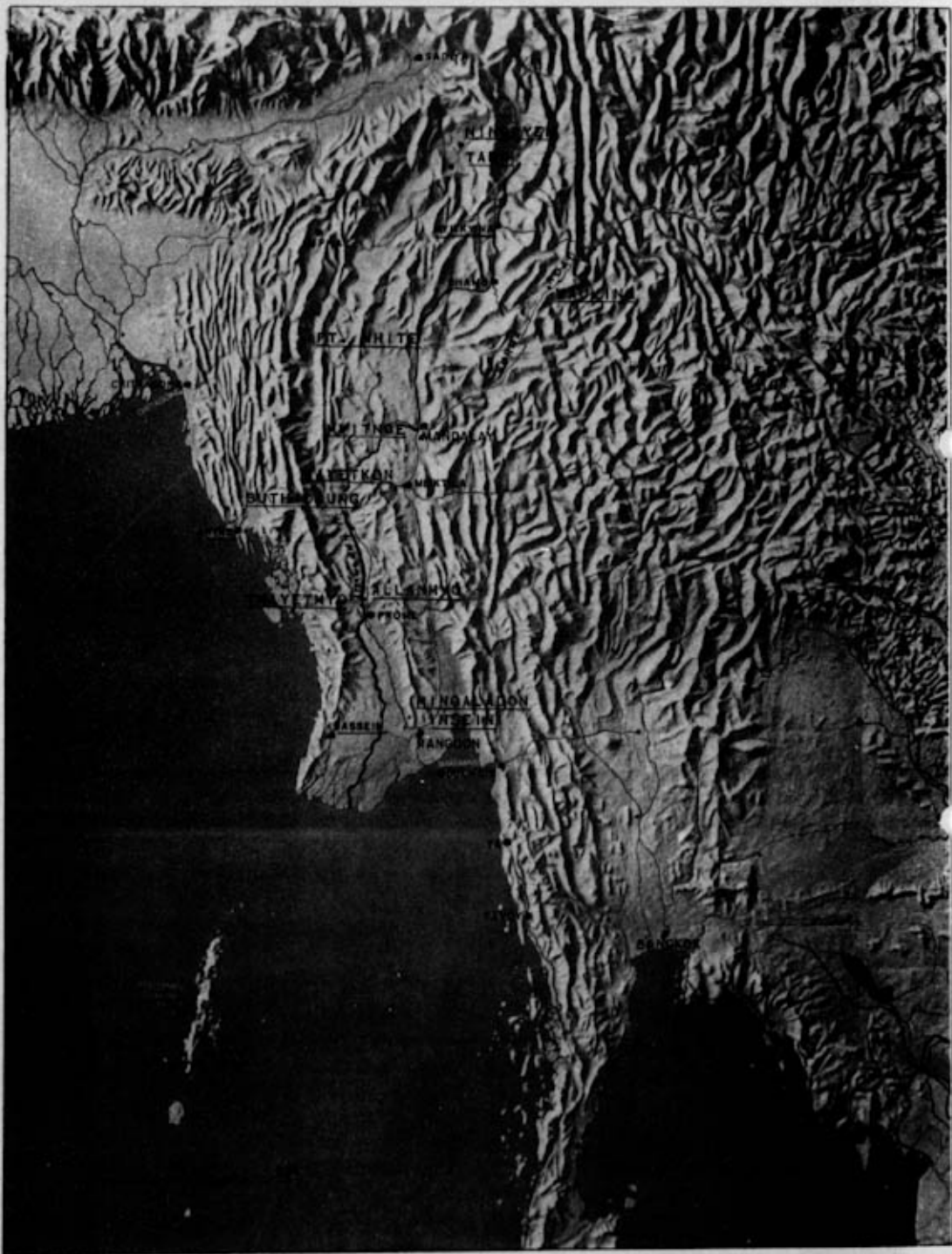
MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

~~General Connolly reports that~~ <sup>FC</sup> Cargo discharged in Persian Gulf ports during ~~the~~ month of November totaled 233,837 tons of which 214,523 tons were for ~~the~~ Soviets. On 1 December 27 <sup>WSA</sup> ~~War Shipping~~ ~~Administration~~ vessels were in ~~the~~ area with approximately 130,000 additional tons of cargo aboard, ~~the~~ major portion of which also was



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

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BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



destined for Soviet use.]

ASIATIC THEATER

~~1. On 1 December the 10th Air Force attacked storage dumps and warehouses at Insein and Akyab.~~

~~The next day, escorted B-25's hit a river steamer and cement plant at Thayetyo and a cement factory at Prome. Six P-40's damaged the runway at Myitkyina, and other aircraft attacked enemy positions and installations in the vicinity of Ningbyen. Escorted B-25's attacked river craft on the Irrawaddy River.~~

~~On 3 December escorted B-25's destroyed a river boat at Allannmyo and damaged a cement plant at Thayetyo. Other aircraft again harassed the enemy in northern Burma and scored more hits on the Myitnge bridge, Akyab and Insein.~~

2. On 4 December ~~19~~ medium bombers and ~~26~~ fighters of the 14th Air Force in several missions successfully attacked enemy installations at Changteh.

Fighter planes dropped ammunition to Chinese ground forces on Tehshan mountain, machine-gunned boats and inflicted casualties on the enemy in the Tungting Lake region.] In interception attempts ~~against these missions, four enemy planes were probably shot down for a loss of two of our fighter aircraft.~~

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 3 December ~~35~~ medium bombers and ~~40~~ B-24's, in two attacks,



# BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



bombed supply installations and personnel areas at Cape Gloucester.]  
~~Other planes of the 5th Air Force destroyed barges off Garove Island, hit the Cape Hoskins area and trails along the Masawong River, and destroyed four enemy fighters over Wewak. [Twenty-four B-24's started large fires at Waingapoe. (Soemba)] The 5th Air Force reports no losses.~~

~~2. On 2 December the Japanese broke contact with our patrols in the northeast sector of our Bougainville beachhead. The next day, a total of 94 bombers hit various enemy concentrations and destroyed a bridge in the southern end of that island; one Navy bomber was lost. Other planes machine-gunned Chabai and targets along the east coast. Photographs indicate that no enemy airdromes in the Solomons were serviceable on 3 December. Greenwich Island appeared to be deserted.~~

~~3. During the night of 3-4 December, one of our convoys, bound for Torokina, was heavily attacked by 20 to 25 Japanese bombers; no damage was sustained. Three (probably five) enemy planes were shot down.~~

~~4. Our ground defense on Makin was 80 percent effective by 3 December. The fighter strip and taxiway were 20 percent completed.~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

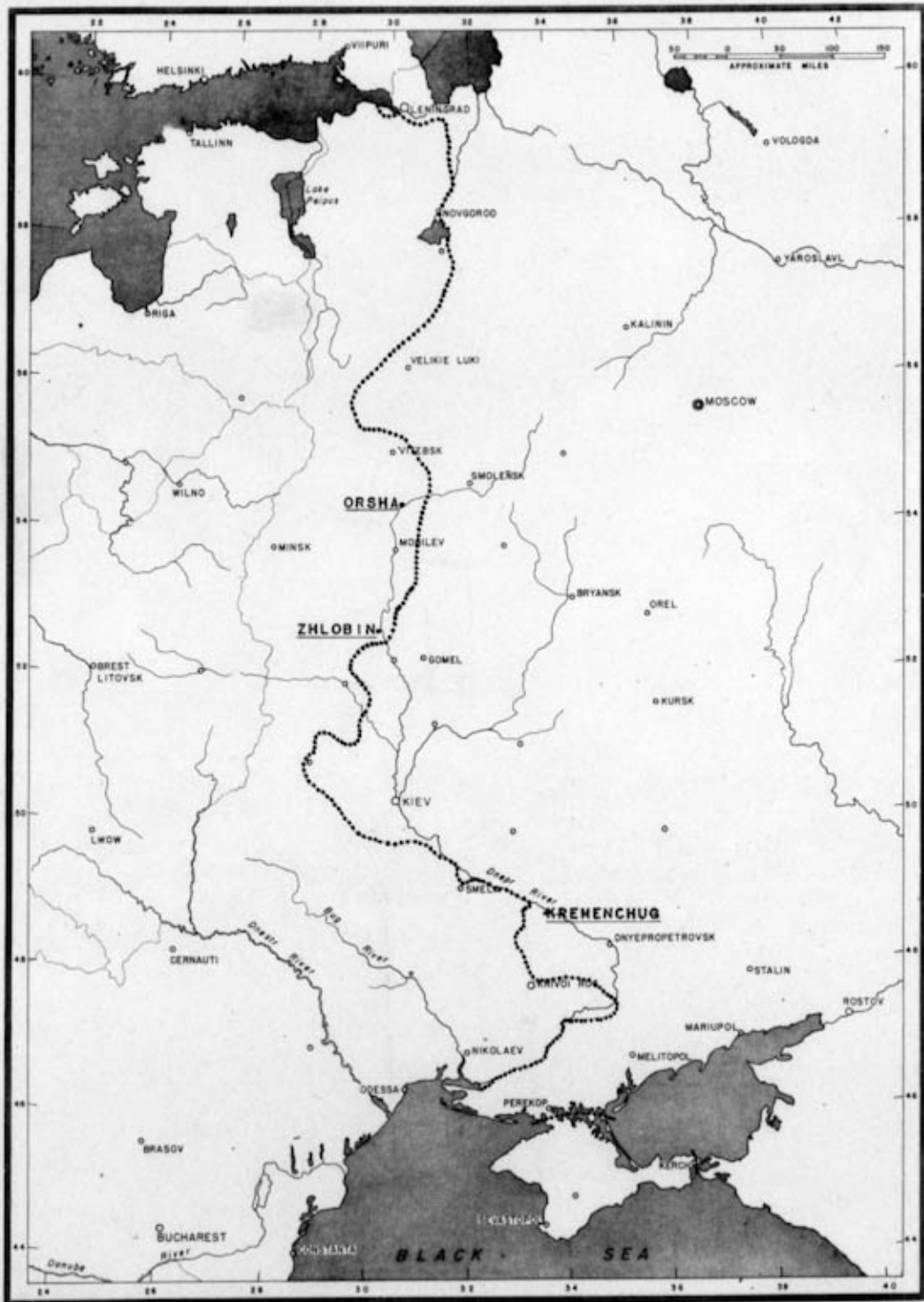
No. 724

0700 December 3 to 0700 December 4, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
26 OCTOBER 1943

RBA, OSS  
REPRODUCED, OSS

EUROPEAN THEATER

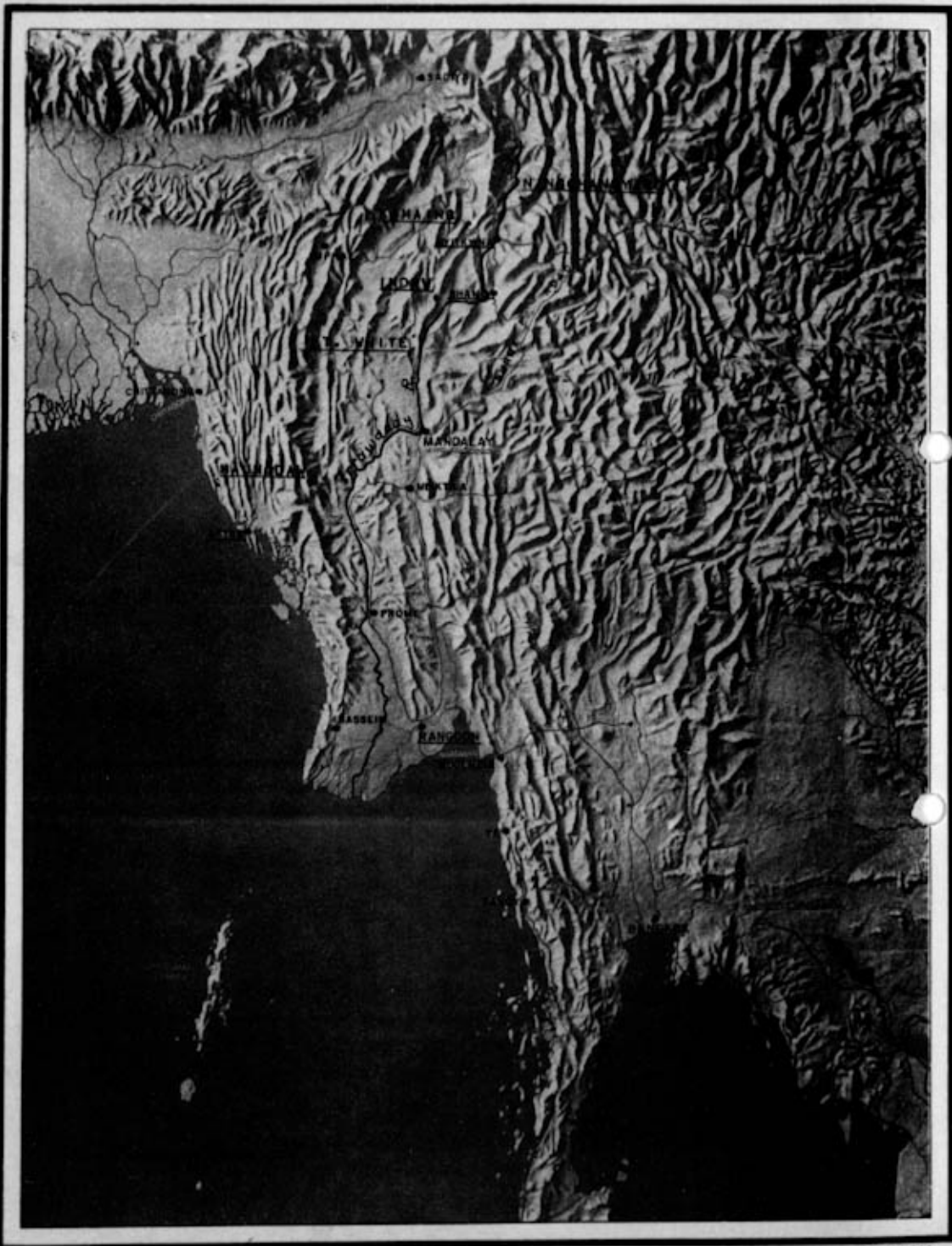
On 3 December Soviet forces made slight gains southwest of Kremenchug and in the vicinity of Zhlobin; they are within nine miles of the latter town. East of Orsha their pressure is increasing as the weather grows colder and the ground harder.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Forty-eight Wellingtons attacked the Pontassieve railroad yards with observed effect during the night of 1-2 December; two British planes were lost. The next day 46 escorted B-17's reported good results in an attack on the submarine pens at Marseilles; 11 (probably 15) of some 27 to 35 enemy aircraft encountered were destroyed without loss. Forty-one B-25's bombed a bridge at Chieti hitting the approaches but losing two of their number. Lighter aircraft supported the operations of the Fifth and Eighth Armies and destroyed one (probably two) enemy aircraft as well as small ships off the Yugoslavian coast. Enemy aircraft made five attacks along the Eighth Army front.

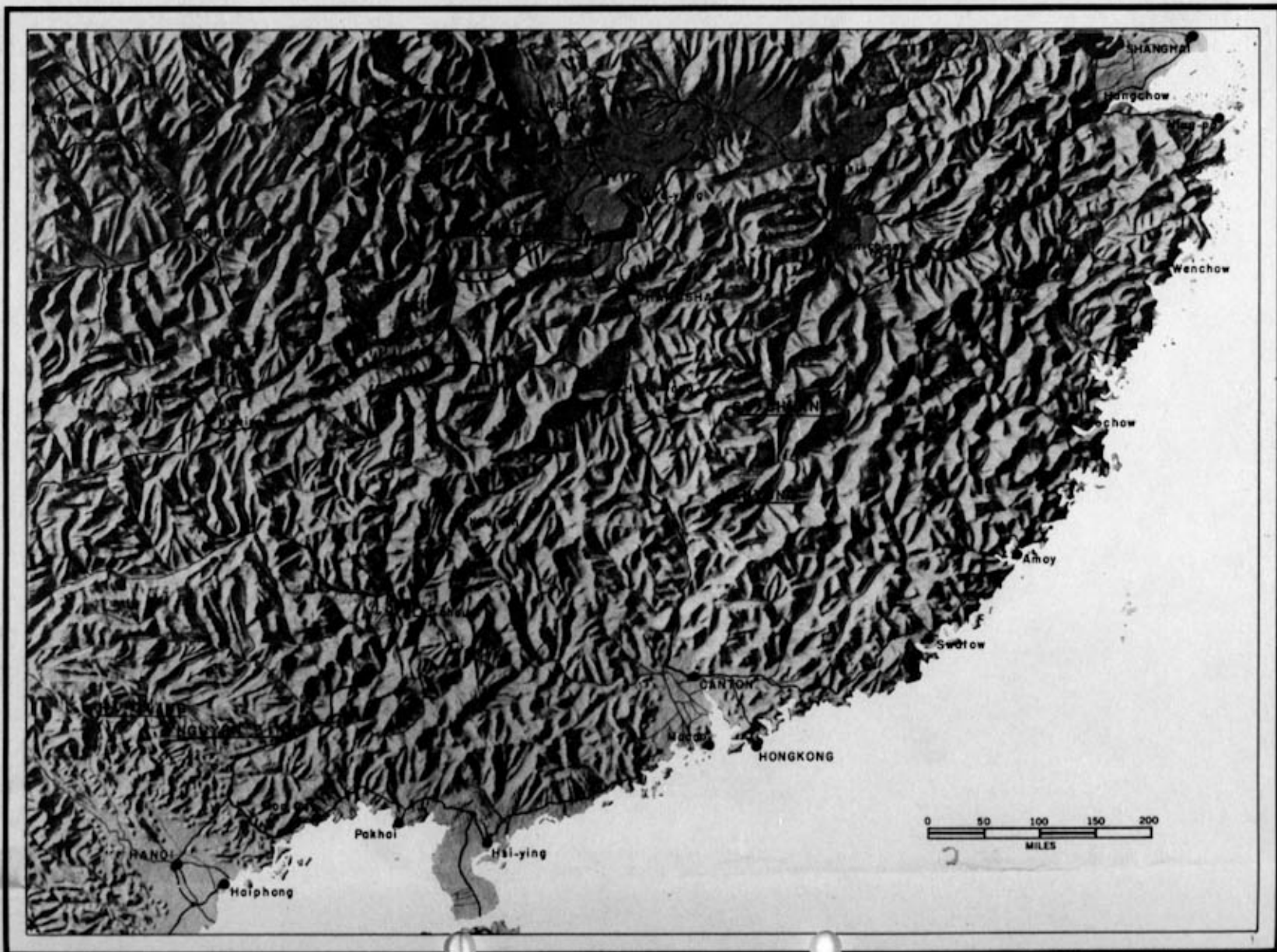
2. [Following a heavy and concentrated artillery preparation the Fifth Army attacked enemy positions at the entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone Corridor on the night of 2 December] our troops, including the ~~1st Special Service Force, captured several hilltops in the vicinity of Monti Camino. Units on the right flank of the Fifth Army advanced along a ridge on the southeast slope of Monti della Meta.~~ [The right flank of





BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS  
PRINTED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS

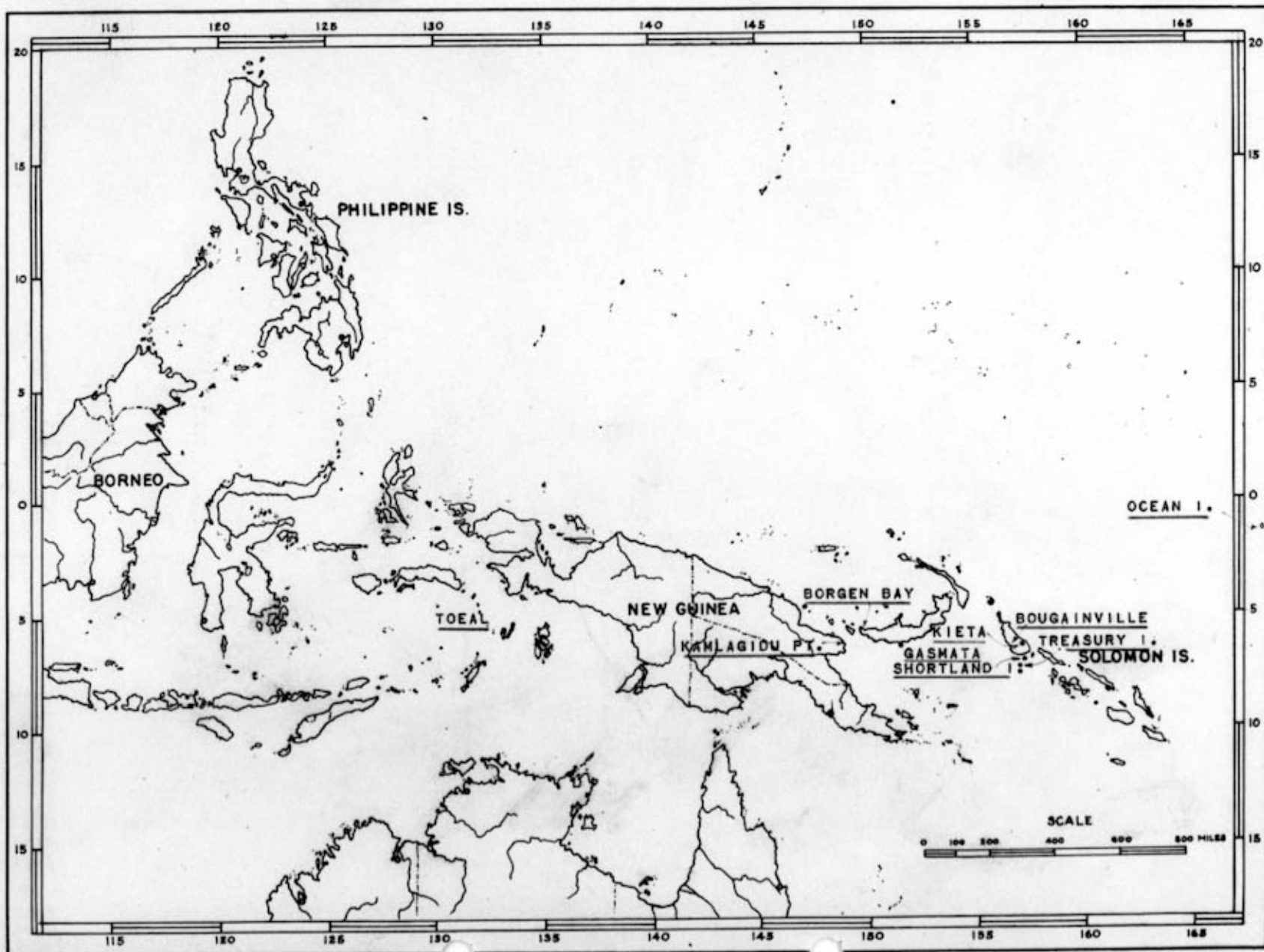
the Eighth Army continued to press forward] and by noon 3 December had captured Orsogna, Lanciano and San Vito; fierce fighting continued southwest of Orsogna.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Twenty-seven B-24's of the 10th Air Force bombed engine sheds and warehouses in the Rangoon area on 30 November; 11 more attacked the town area at Akyab. Enemy fighter reaction to these missions was intense; at least nine enemy aircraft were destroyed with five more reported as probable. Our forces suffered the record loss of six B-24's. Other medium, light and fighter aircraft dropped incendiary and demolition bombs on Ningchangyang, Kamaing and airfields north of Myitkyina and near Bhamo.

The next day, British aircraft attacked targets at Ft. White, bombed enemy supply areas at Maungdaw and set fire to the refinery at Indaw.

2. [On 2 December, 11th Air Force fighter planes bombed Japanese positions northeast of Changteh, hit the Nguyen Binh mines, and attacked enemy-held villages, installations at the Bhamo and Ha Giang airdromes and shipping along the Irrawaddy. About 60 Japanese aircraft bombed Suichwan and Namyung; the runways at both fields were rendered unserviceable. <sup>although</sup> Three out of nine P-40's intercepting the <sup>ed</sup> Japanese attack, on our Suichwan installations were lost. Enemy casualties were not assessed. Suichwan is the advanced field from which our attack on Formosa was launched.]



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 2 December our 5th Air Force concentrated on enemy-held villages and supply installations near Borgen Bay, Kamlagidu Point and Gasmata. Australian Catalinas operated to the west, starting fires in the waterfront area at Toeal in the Kai Islands.

2. On 1 and 2 December B-25's attacked villages in the Shortlands and on Bougainville. On the latter day, Allied planes also hit anti-aircraft positions and buildings on Ocean Island; the whole island appeared to be deserted.

On 3 December Kieta was heavily bombed by 23 B-25's, while 24 B-24's made another effective attack on enemy supplies and bivouacs in the Shortland Island Area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

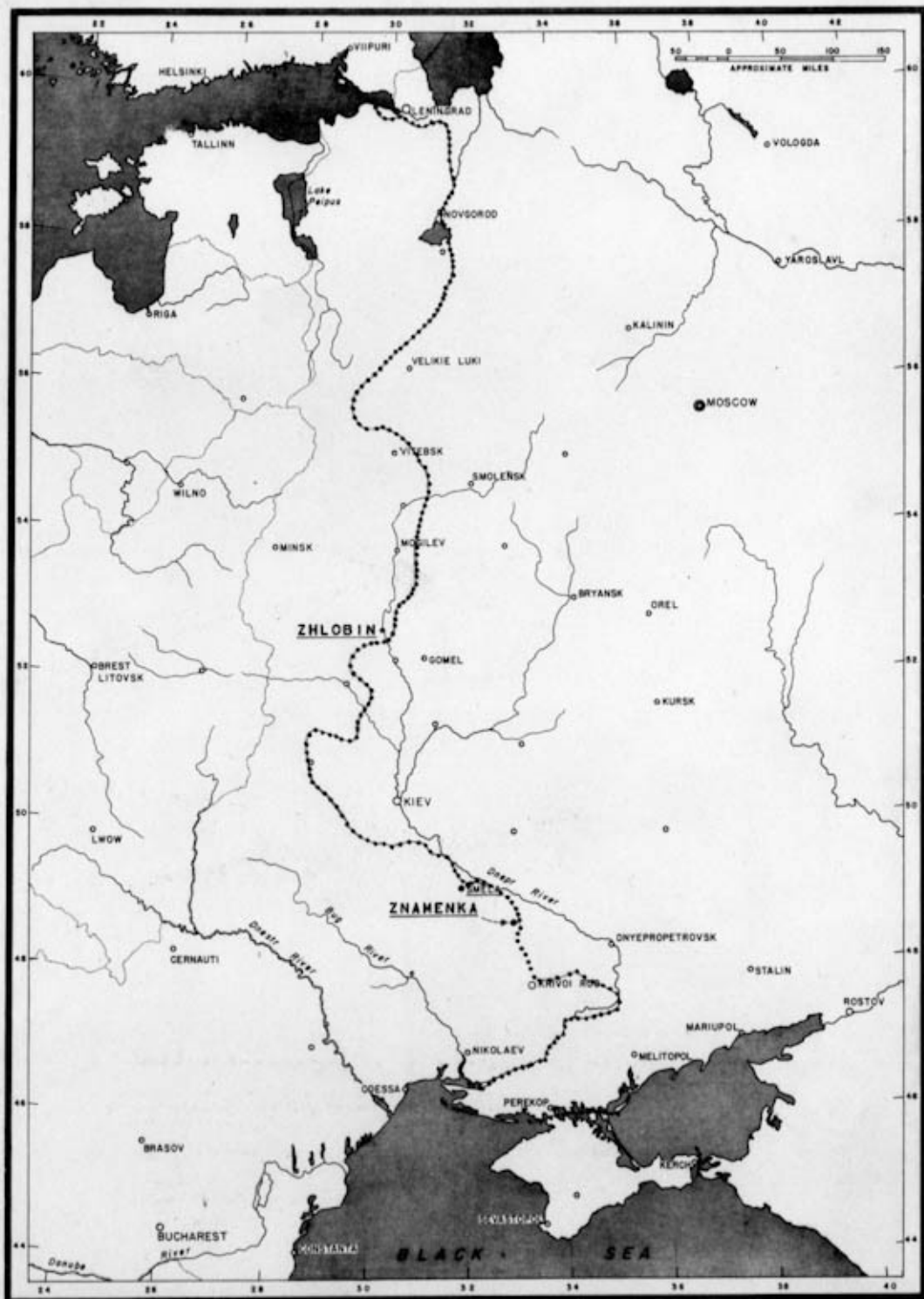
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 723

0700 December 2 to 0700 December 3, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. US air units in the UK destroyed 63 (probably 74) enemy planes during the week ending 28 November, and lost twenty heavy bombers and ten other planes from all causes. For the same period the RAF destroyed 13 (probably 16) enemy planes and lost 106 heavy bombers, 11 Mosquitoes and 30 other aircraft. These figures include our attack on Bremen and two RAF missions against Berlin.

2. On the night of 1-2 December, a few German aircraft operated over southeastern England and dropped a few bombs. In the 1 December attack on Solingen, 106 B-17's and 69 B-24's engaged this target as a primary mission, meeting aggressive enemy fighter defense; 107 escorted B-17's also operated against this target in lieu of Leverkusen which was obscured by clouds.

3. On 2 December, despite continuing adverse weather the Red forces made slight gains toward the rail junctions of Znamenka and Smela which are now within artillery range. Progress was also reported northeast of Zhlobin.

MEDITERRANEAN

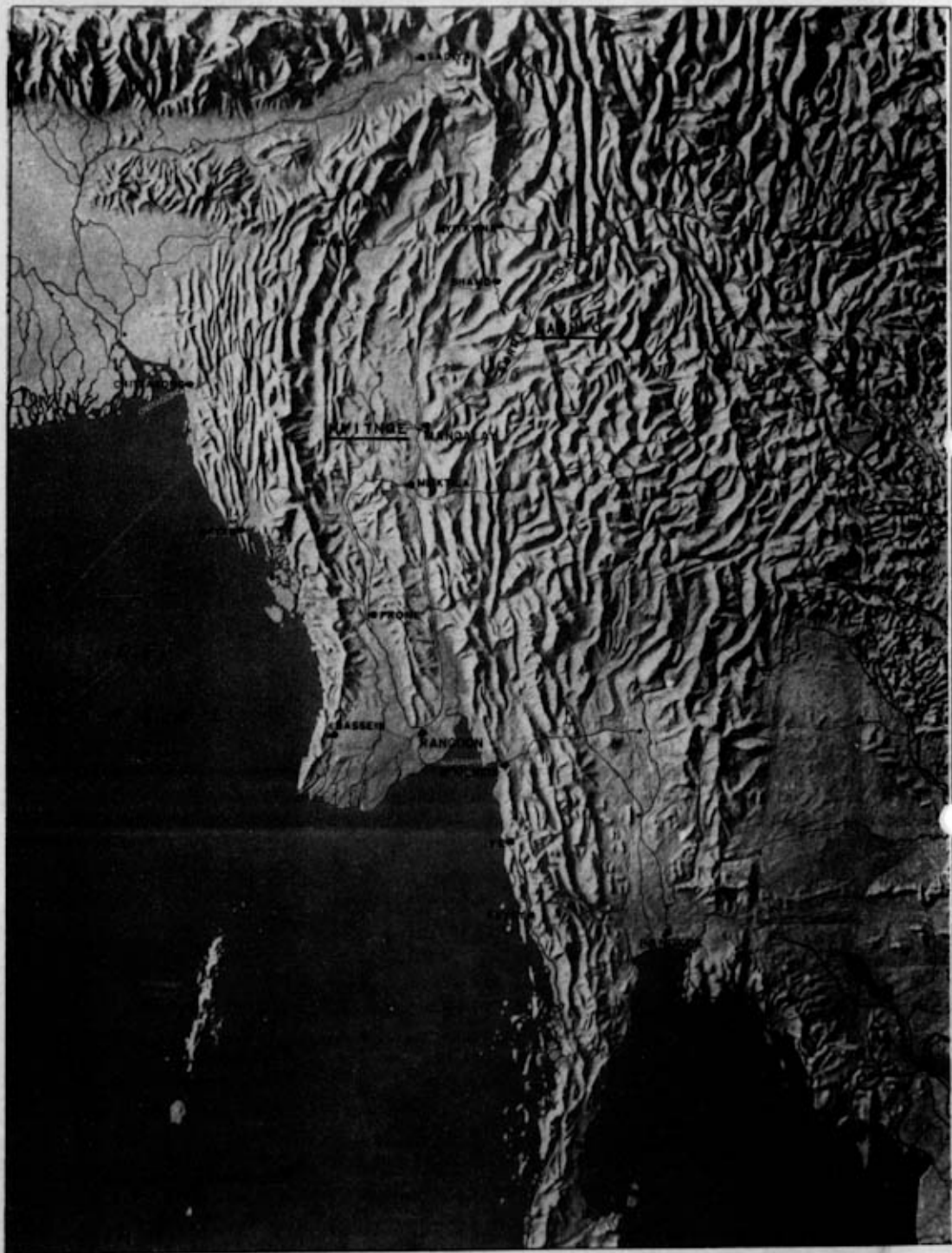
1. ~~During the night of 30 November-1 December, Allied planes~~ attacked enemy lines of communication between the Garigliano River and Rome. <sup>On 1 December</sup> The following day 118 B-17's, escorted by 38 P-38's, attacked the Turin ball-bearing works <sup>with</sup> good results <sup>]</sup> were observed, and two





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)  
 26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS  
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BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

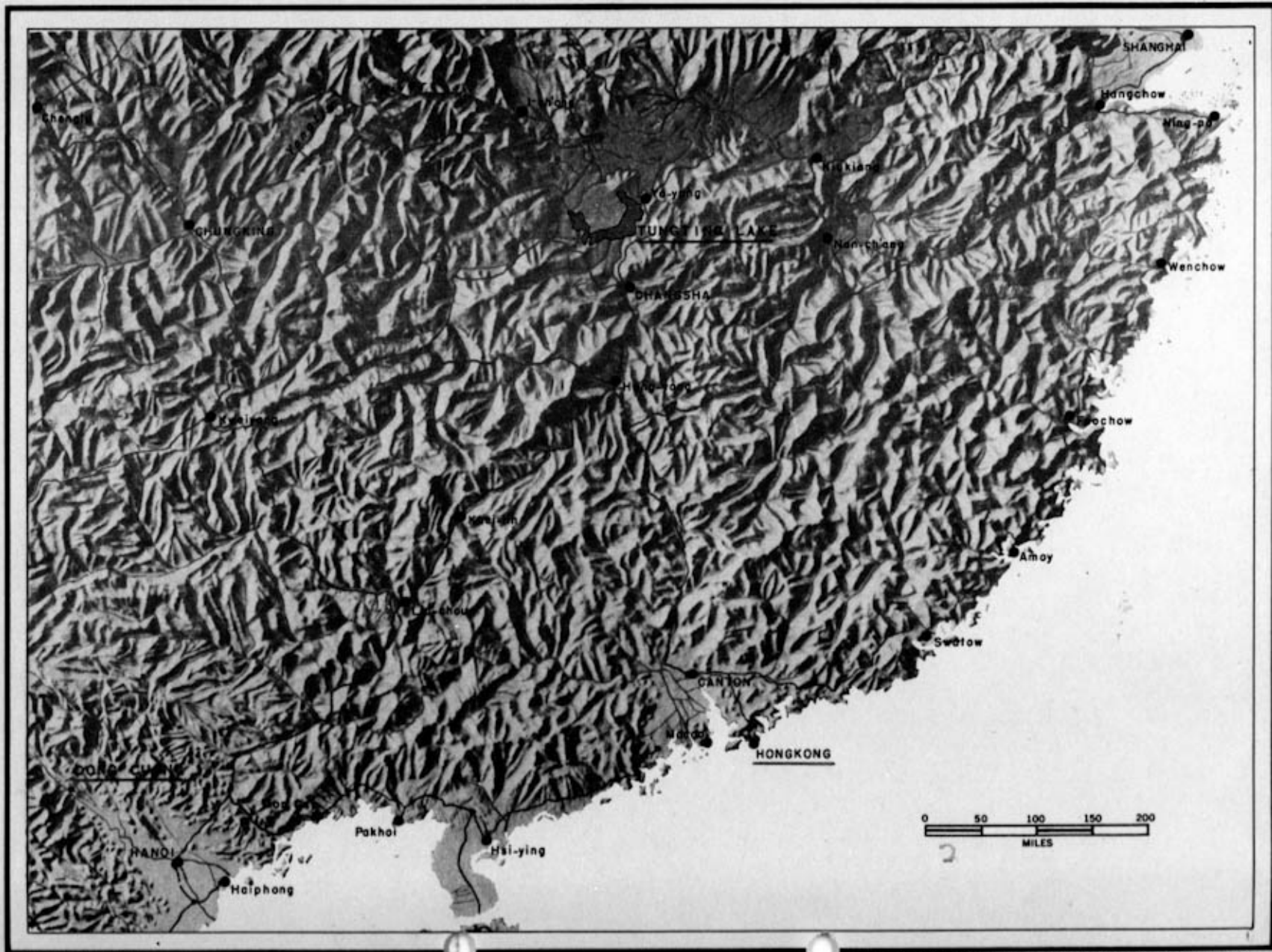
~~(probably five) enemy planes were destroyed. [~~In other operations during the day, Allied planes ~~bombed enemy batteries near Cassino, patrol-~~ led the battle areas and flew offensive missions along ~~the~~ eastern shore of the Adriatic ~~Sea. The~~ ~~Enemy~~ attempted no interceptions over ~~the~~ battle area.]

2. ~~The~~ ~~Left~~ flank of ~~the~~ Fifth Army found strong enemy resistance ~~in attempting to advance south of Monti Cassino on 2 December. The~~ ~~Right~~ flank of ~~the~~ Eighth Army, retarded by demolitions and mines in its drive beyond ~~the~~ Sangro River, engaged in fierce fighting before Lanciano.] ~~Outflanking this town to the south it captured Castelfrentano which it held despite heavy enemy counterattacks. Along the coastal road progress was made toward San Vito.~~

#### ASIATIC THEATER

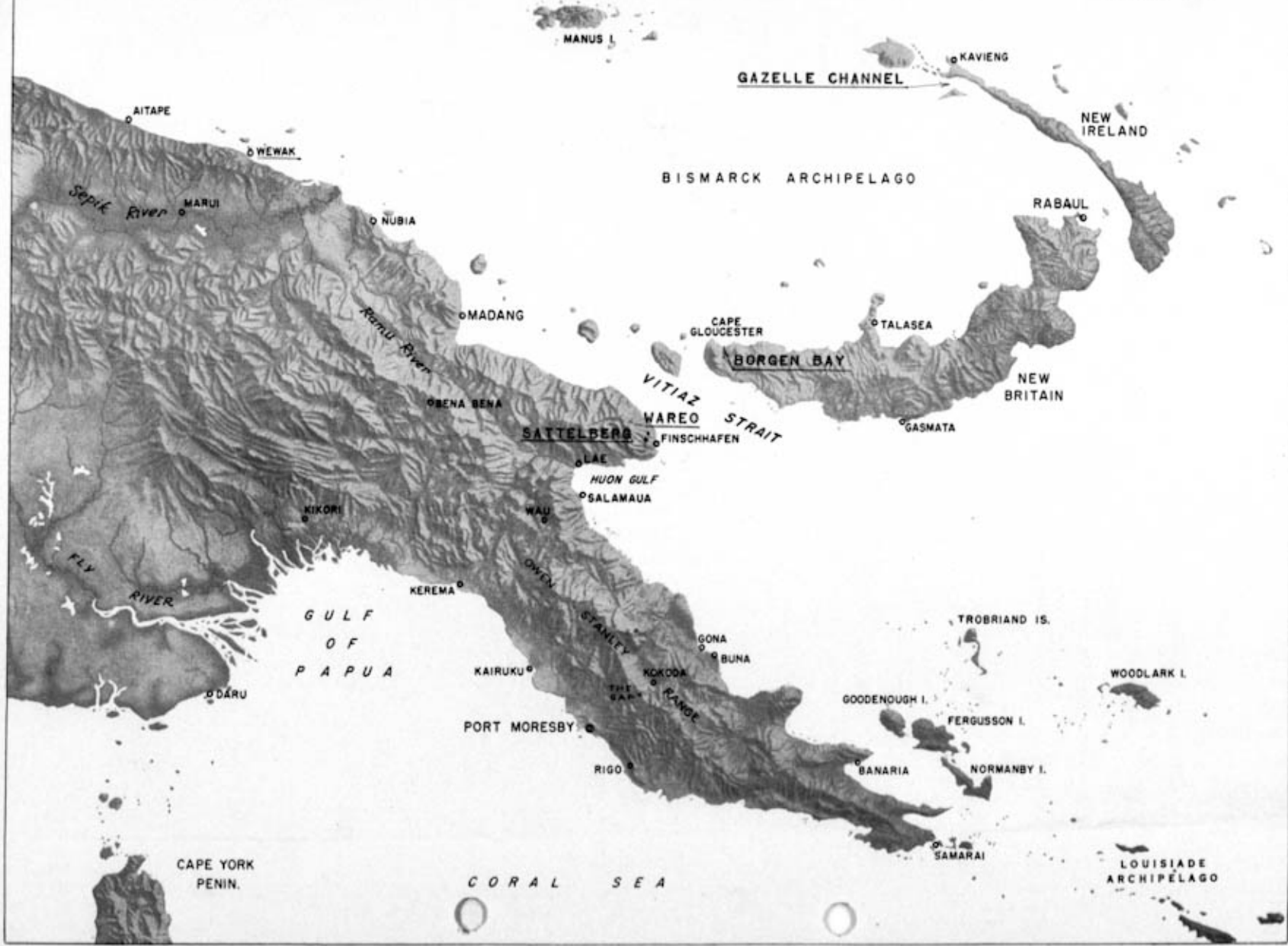
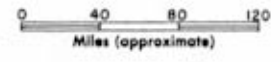
1. ~~On 1 December, medium bombers of the 10th Air Force seriously damaged the Myitnge railroad bridge. The Japanese had just completed repairing the damage done to this bridge in a previous attack by our planes.~~

2. ~~Eight~~ [B-25's of ~~the~~ 14th Air Force, ~~escorted by 32 fighter planes, made low-level attacks on shipyards at Hongkong on 1 December; they sank a 320-foot freighter, seriously damaged one, and probably a second, 500-foot vessel in drydock, and scored hits on numerous buildings and damaged shipyard installations.] ~~One P-51 was lost. Three P-40's machine-gunned the town of Dong Cuong and nearby railroad yards and~~~~



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
 24 JUNE 1943

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AITAPE

DWEWAK

MARUI

NUBIA

MADANG

OBENA BENA

SATTELBERG

LAE

HUON GULF

SALAMAUA

WAU

KIKORI

KEREMA

KAIRUKU

PORT MORESBY

RIGO

CAPE GLOUCESTER

BORGEN BAY

VITIAV STRAIT

WAREO

FINSCHHAFEN

TALASEA

GASMATA

NEW BRITAIN

RABAUL

KAVIENG

GAZELLE CHANNEL

NEW IRELAND

TROBRIAND IS.

WOODLARK I.

GOODENOUGH I.

FERGUSON I.

BANARIA

NORMANBY I.

SAMARAI

LOUISIAD ARCHIPÉLAGO

CAPE YORK PENIN.

CORAL SEA

barracks. [In sweeps over the Burma Road and in the area north of Lashio our fighter planes harassed enemy trucks and troop columns] Other fighter planes sank 50 small boats and damaged 30 others in the Tungting Lake area, inflicting numerous casualties.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

*repl'd last night*

~~On 1 December, Allied bombers in the Southwest Pacific scored two direct hits on a 10,000-ton transport in the Gazelle Channel, hit two destroyers and a large tanker west of Gazelle Channel, and later machine-gunned life boats in the general area inflicting heavy casualties. Forty-six B-24's covered by P-47's bombed enemy supply installations at Wewak causing large fires and destroying ten (probably 11) of 40 intercepting planes. Three B-24's were lost. Thirty-six medium bombers attacked enemy dumps, barges and anti-aircraft positions at Borgen Bay. Allied ground forces captured a suspension bridge three miles northeast of Sattelberg and occupied Wareo without opposition.~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 722

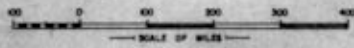
0700 December 1 to 0700 December 2, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

# CENTRAL EUROPE





WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued orders for the movement of the 13th Armored Division (Major General John B. Wogan) from Camp Beale, California, to Camp Bowie, Texas, for combined training. The 38th Infantry Division (Major General H. L. C. Jones) will move from Camp Livingston, Louisiana, to the New Orleans Port of Embarkation, instead of to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation as reported on 28 August 1943.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. [ Mosquito bombers harassed the Bochum steel works, Dusseldorf, the steel and armament works at Roth, and Cologne during the night of 29-30 November. Similar attacks were made on Bochum and Essen the next night.

Large formations of US escorted heavy bombers again attacked Solingen on 1 December. [ Escorted medium bombers struck German airfields and aircraft works in northern France and Holland while Mosquitoes attacked shipping off the Brest Peninsula. In the day's operations, 33 enemy planes were shot down for an Allied loss of 27 heavy bombers, one light bomber and 14 fighters.

2. [ During our attacks on Solingen on 30 November a P-38 with old US markings attacked one of our P-47's. The enemy is also painting some



of his aircraft to resemble ours.]

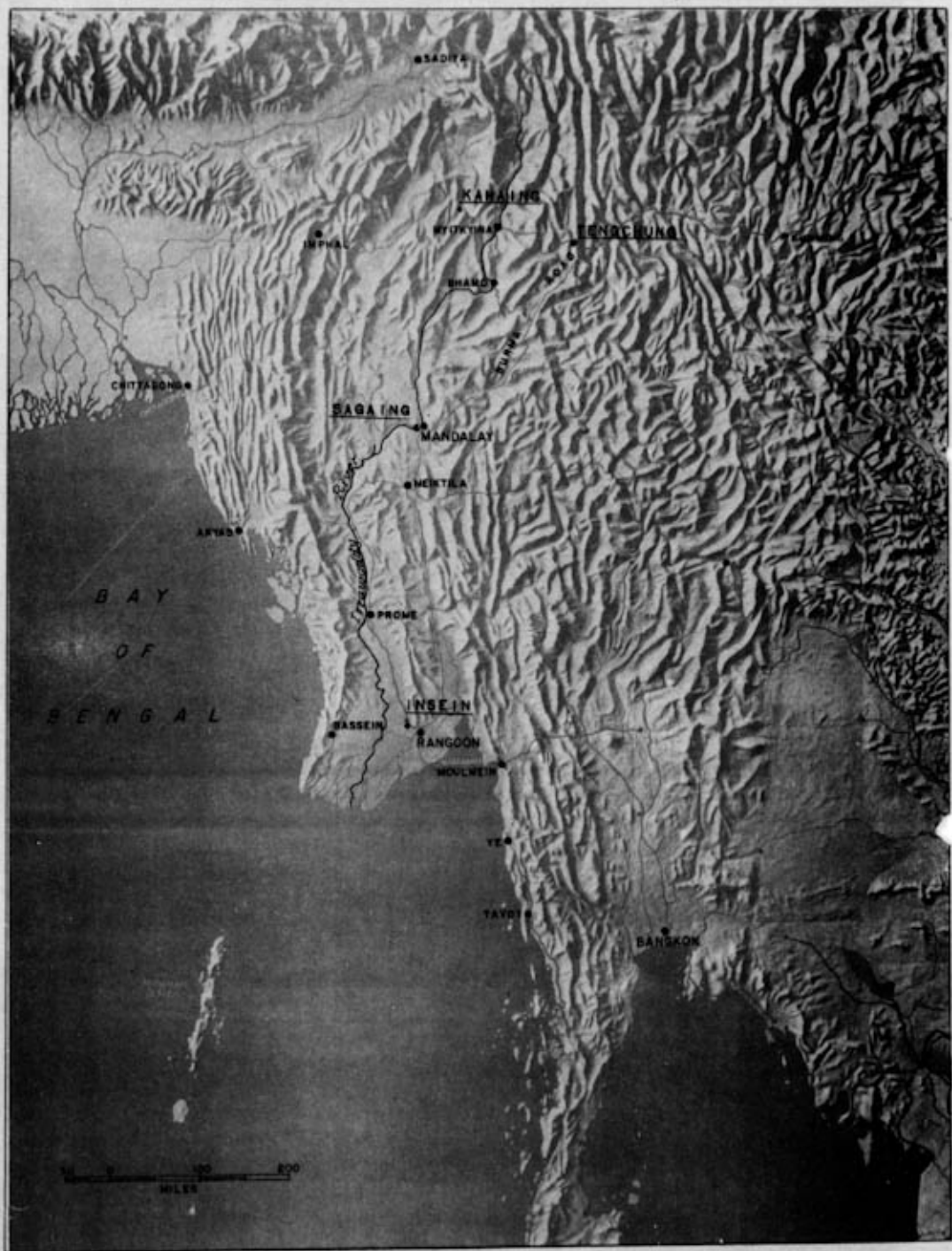
3. ~~Adverse weather restricted operations on the eastern front during 1 December.~~

4. ~~The Army Service Forces recently queried the senior overseas commanders as to their requirements for rolling stock to support operations through 1945. General Devers has replied that for joint United States-British use in his theater 2,173 2-8-0 locomotives, 70 steam 0-6-0 shunting locomotives and 12,000 cars of assorted types will be required. Already in the United Kingdom or enroute are 266 2-8-0 locomotives, two steam 0-6-0 shunting locomotives, six Diesels and 11,958 assorted freight cars. The British have contributed 300 2-8-0 locomotives to the joint stock pile.~~

MEDITERRANEAN

1. ~~On 30 November 36 escorted B-24's attacked Fiume with unobserved results, and medium bombers reported successful missions against railroad bridges at Albinia and Montecchino.~~ <sup>[On 30 November]</sup> 404 light and fighter bomber sorties were made in support of the Eighth Army and Allied Spitfires continued to patrol the battle area. Eleven P-38's escorted Italian aircraft which dropped supplies in Yugoslavia.] ~~Five (probably six) enemy planes were destroyed during 30 November for a loss of two fighters and one B-26.~~

2. ~~An enemy counterattack northeast of Cassino delivered late on~~



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)  
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS  
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

~~30 November was stopped with no material change in the line. The Eighth Army continued to improve its positions on the ridge north of the Sangro River and captured Rocca S. Giovanni. [Determined enemy counterattacks against 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Armies] have failed to halt the Allied advance; 1,000 prisoners, many guns and much equipment have been captured.]~~

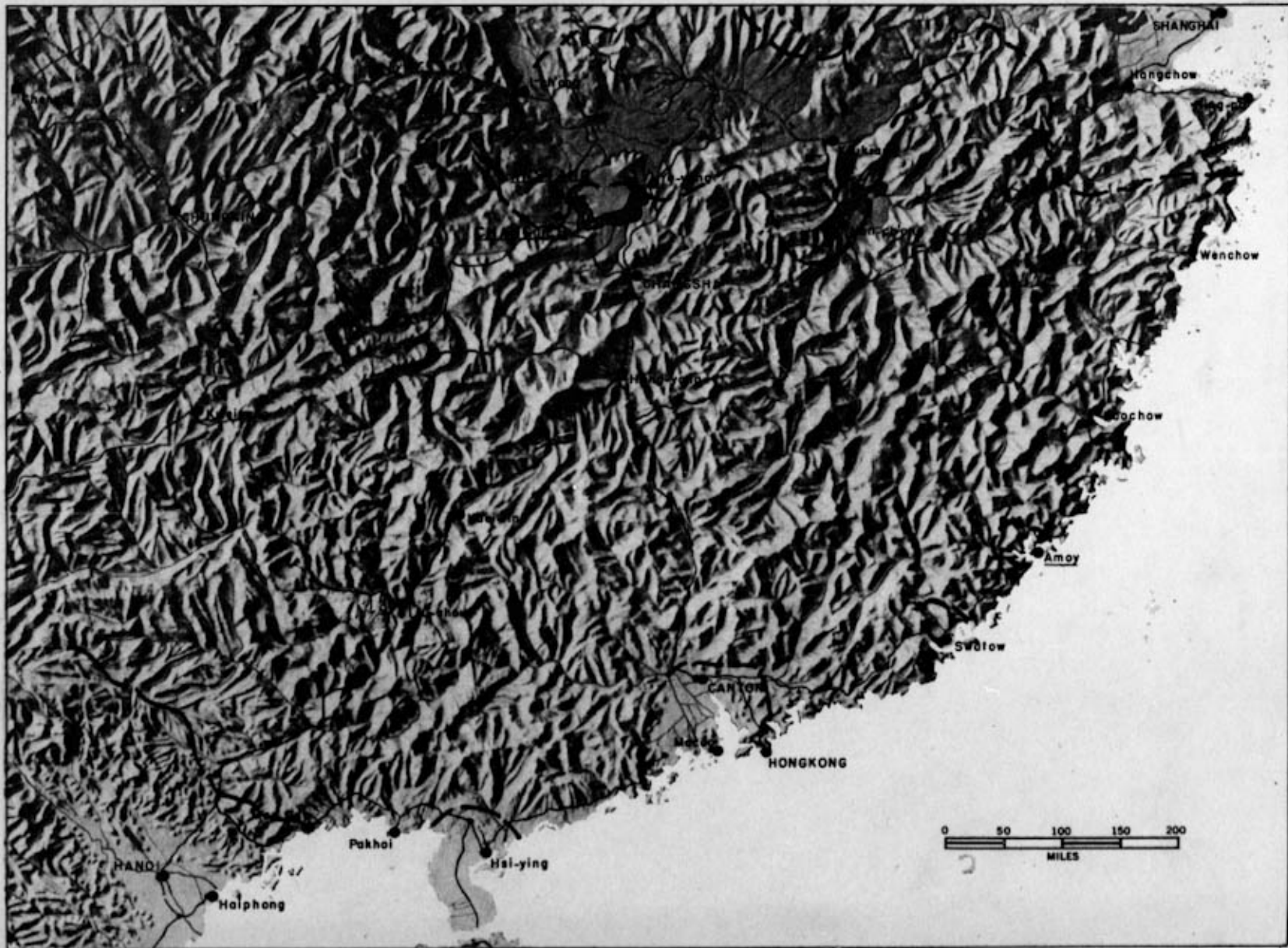
3. ~~General Eisenhower reports that [During the week ending 18 November, 151,107 tons of supplies, 5,952 vehicles and 35,764 persons were discharged at Italian west coast ports.] This shows an increase of 82,932 tons, 3,688 vehicles and 400 personnel over the previous week. Corresponding figures for east coast ports were 64,150 tons of supplies, 2,306 vehicles and 8,155 personnel; the increase over the previous week was 52,537 tons and 104 vehicles; there was a decrease of 9,800 in the number of personnel discharged.~~

[A gasoline pipeline is <sup>now delivering high octane gasoline from</sup> operating between Manfredonia and the to Foggia airfields.]

#### ASIATIC THEATER

1. ~~On 29 November, 11 escorted B-25's of the 10th Air Force damaged railroad tracks, rolling stock and supplies at Sagaing. Eight A-36's flew missions in support of ground troops in northern Burma while 16 other A-36's as well as 16 B-40's and a B-25 damaged barracks, gasoline and ammunition dumps and motor transportation in the vicinity of Kamaing.~~

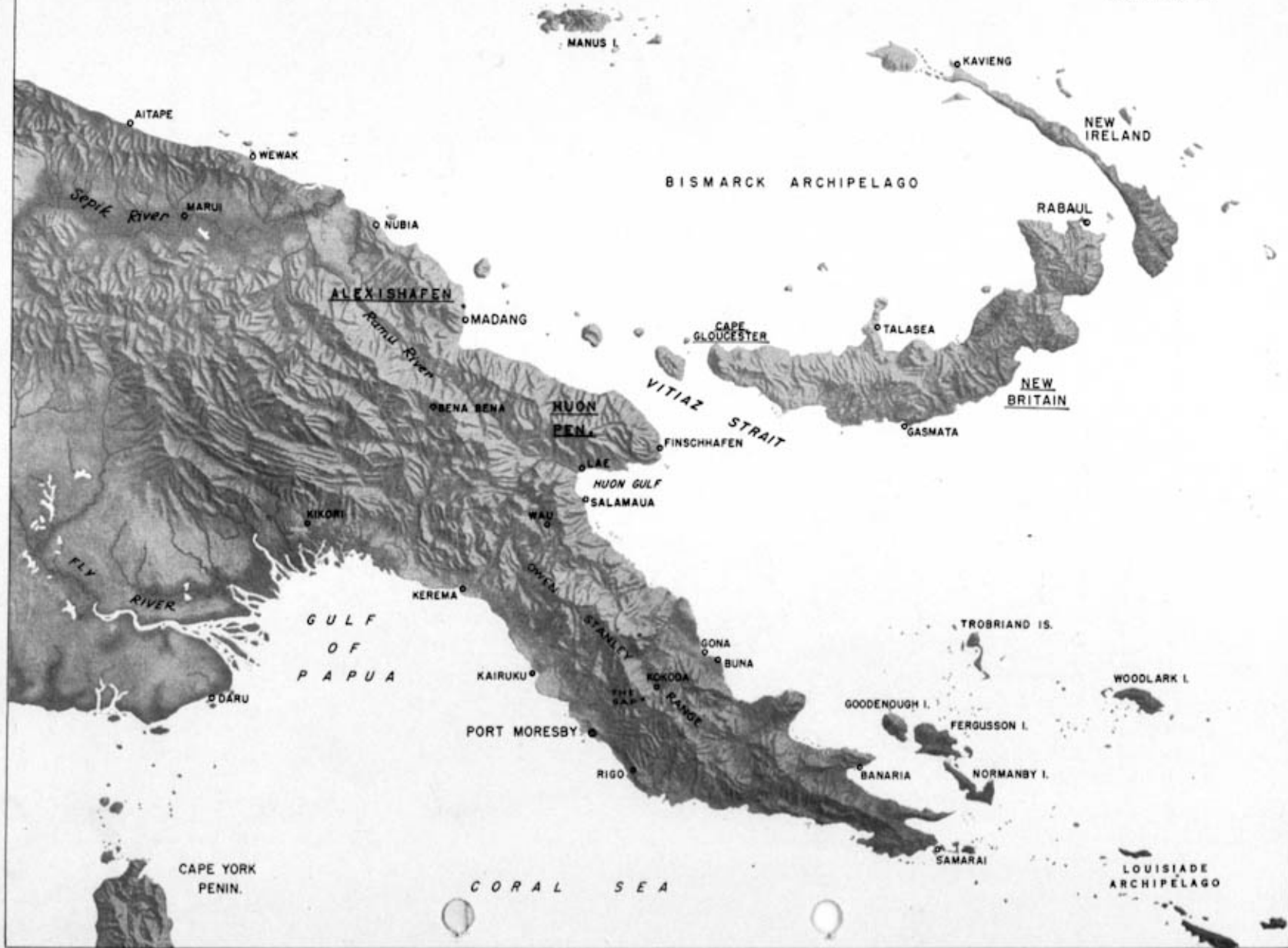
2. On 29 November Chinese-American B-25's destroyed four crane



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)  
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS  
PRINTED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS

0 40 80 120  
Miles (approximate)



barges off the south coast of China and bombed radio and power stations at Amoy. Two B-25's were lost.

The next day 14th Air Force fighter planes machine-gunned barges on the Irrawaddy River, hit gas and ammunition dumps southeast of Tengchung, dropped food and ammunition to the Chinese in Changteh, and attacked targets of opportunity in the lake area southeast of Ansiang.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

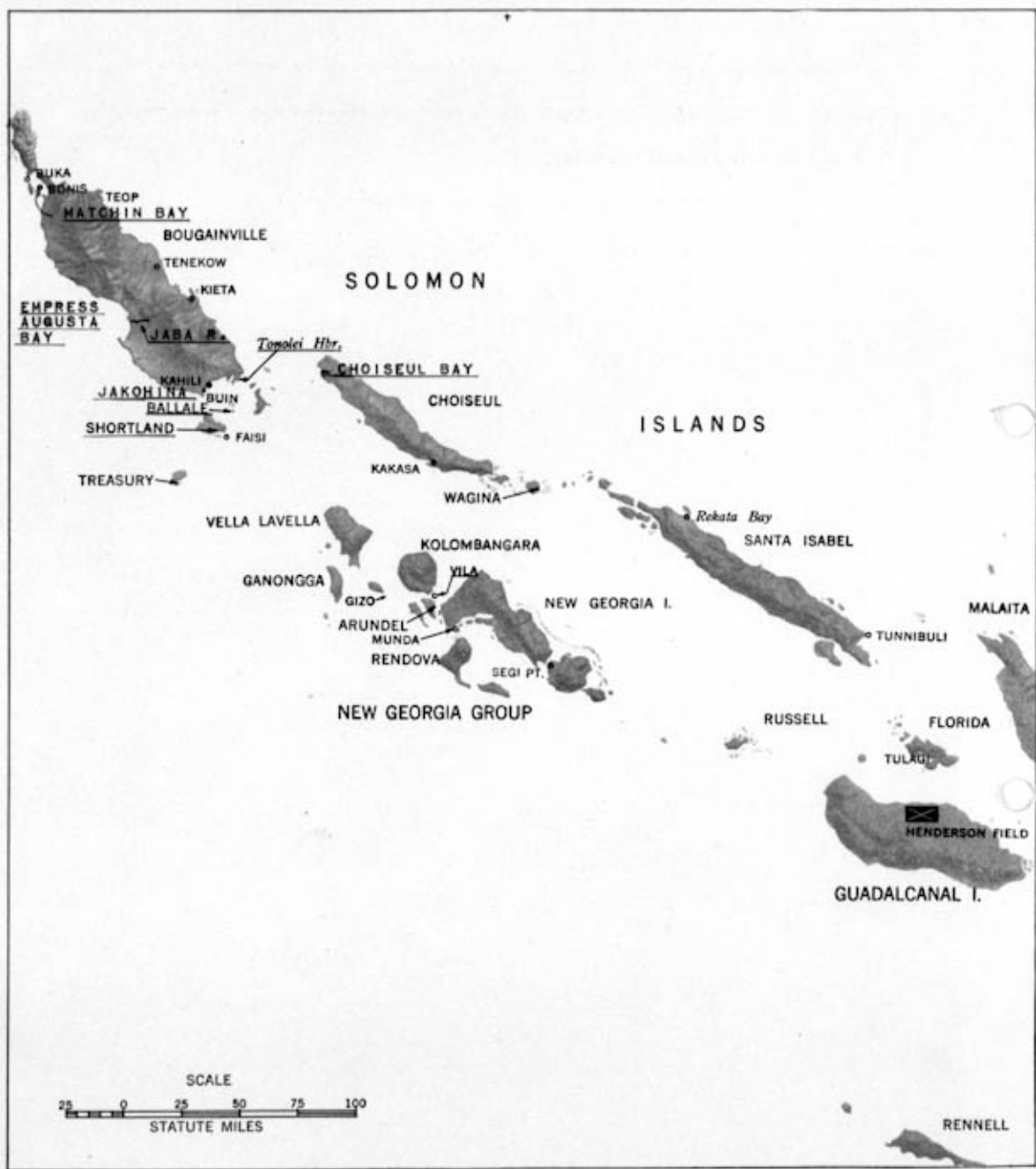
1. Fifty-one B-24's attacked supply areas and runways at Cape Gloucester and Alexishafen on 30 November. Large fires were started and two enemy planes were destroyed on the ground. Medium and light bombers again operated against targets on the east coast of the Huon Peninsula, and attacked antiaircraft installations, barges and villages on the northeast coast of New Britain.

2. [About 100 Allied bombers and fighters heavily attacked the enemy in the Jakohina Mission area and gun positions nearby on 30 November.] Elsewhere on Bougainville, bombers and fighters attacked hostile antiaircraft positions, barges, gun positions, ammunition and supply dumps, warehouses and other enemy targets. Six B-25's damaged enemy concentrations in the Choiseul Bay area and other planes bombed supply dumps at Bellale and sank a boat in the Matchin Bay area.

On 30 November 17 B-25's dropped general purpose and fragmentation bombs on an enemy held island in the Shortland area starting several large fires. [The next day, Army and Navy planes heavily bombed and



# SOLOMON ISLANDS AREA



~~SECRET~~  
DECLASSIFIED  
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

machine-gunned Japanese gun positions in the Jaba River area; ~~enemy installations at Tonolei and near Matchin and Empress Augusta Bays were machine-gunned by Allied fighter planes.~~

[Our fighter planes in the Solomons report that they have made contact with no enemy aircraft since 22 November.]

~~SECRET~~