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203(2)

Section 1.

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

DECEMBER 11 thru 31

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- AUG 29 1972

Signature-

RMP

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 21

2:00 PM December 29 to 7:00 AM December 31

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

In compliance with instructions, this summary covers
the period indicated. Hereafter, it will cover
the 24 hour period, ending at 7 A.M.

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DOD C.R. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- AUG 29 1972

Signature- *RHP*

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Commanding General, HAWAIIAN DEFENSE COMMAND, directed to furnish information regarding personnel and materiel necessary to protect PALMYRA, CANTON and CHRISTMAS ISLANDS against minor raids; also information as to what part of above must be sent from MAINLAND.

2. General EMMONS, HAWAII, requests that early shipping of engineer construction personnel and equipment be coordinated with shipments of reinforcements and munitions so that necessary defense work can be completed.

3. COMMANDING GENERAL, PANAMA, informed that it is contemplated shipping twenty-eight 90 mm AA guns to him during January 1942, subject to availability of shipping.

4. Decision was made to send to ICELAND during January about 2,200 personnel, including 1 Infantry Battalion. Additional troop movements to that place will await results of conferences now in progress.

B. PAR EAST.

1. General BRERETON en route PHILIPPINES to DARWIN reports that he has conferred with Army and Air Force authorities of NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES and with UNITED STATES Navy. Will confer with Chief of Air Staff and AUSTRALIAN Government upon arrival December 29.

2. MACARTHUR reports his forces on LUZON hard pressed by enemy dive bombers and infiltration. Next defensive position in front of BATAAN.

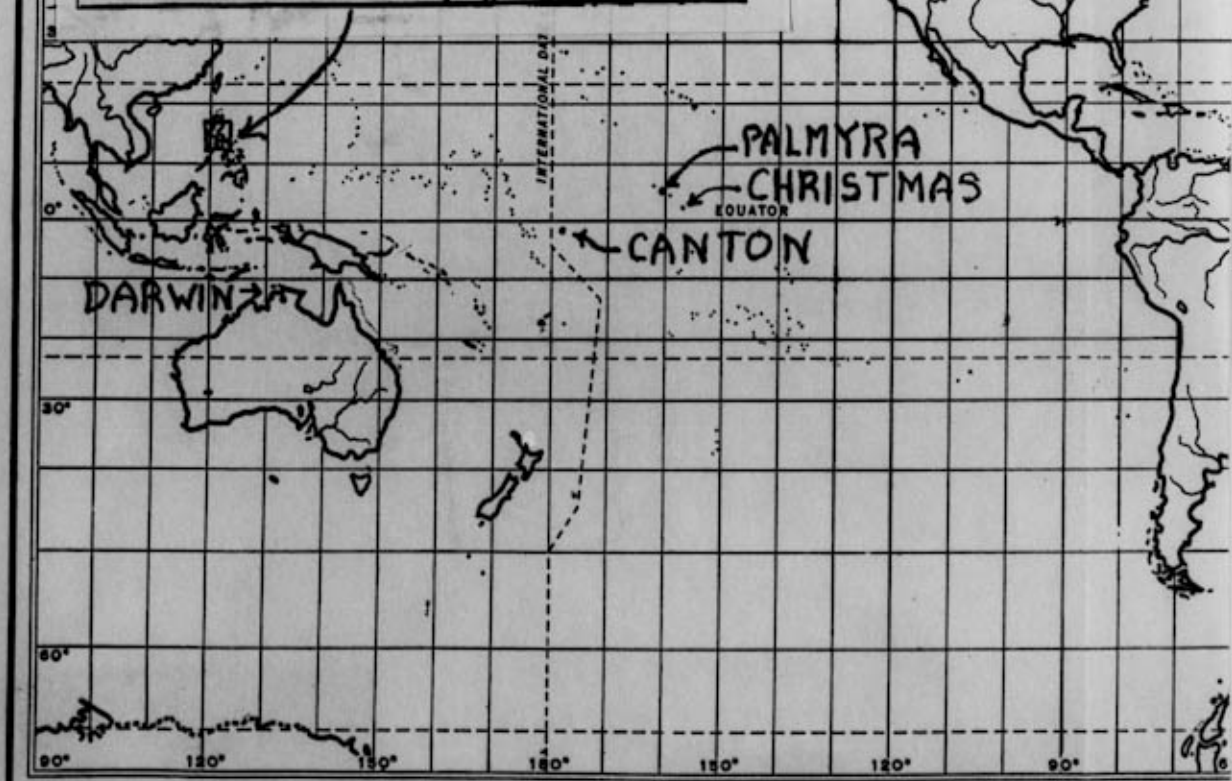
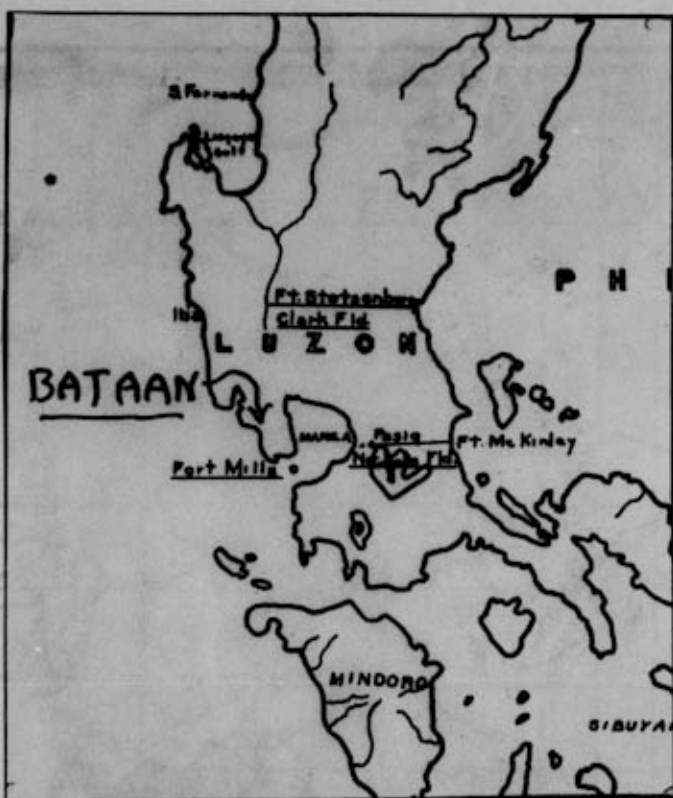
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QSD Letter, 5-3-72

3. Generalissimo agreed in principle to induction of American Volunteer group into U.S. Forces. Conditions under which induction is to be made now being drafted for his approval.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 20

2:00 PM December 28 to 2:00 PM December 29

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A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Transit of the PANAMA CANAL by vessels of the CHILEAN LINE (COMPANIA SUD-AMERICANA de VAPORES) has been refused until ships and cargo have passed vigorous inspection and pending investigation to assure that crews, ownership and management are cleared of suspicion of NAZI or JAPANESE connections. State Department has been informed.

2. Lieutenant General ANDREWS, commanding the CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND, is cooperating with the American Embassy in PANAMA in arranging for the evacuation of AXIS diplomatic and military officials from PANAMA and other American Republics.

3. Arrangements have been made with the Radio Corporation of AMERICA for transmission of urgent radiograms between SAN FRANCISCO and SIDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR successfully broke off contact with hostile forces on southeast front, suffering slight loss.

2. General MAGRUDER is attempting to secure cancellation of sequestration order issued by BRITISH BURMA authorities against Lend-Lease materials consigned to CHINA. General CHIANG-KAI-SHEK is reported to be deeply resentful and suspicious of BRITISH attitude. General MAGRUDER hopes to affect an amicable settlement.

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OSD Letter, 6-8-78

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 19

2:00 PM December 27 to 2:00 PM December 28

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. At the request of MEXICO, action was initiated to establish liaison between Headquarters, Third Army, and the Presidential Chief of Staff in MEXICO CITY, in order that these two agencies may by direct negotiation work out details of matters pertaining to mutual defense within their respective jurisdictions.

2. Similar action was taken on our initiative with respect to Headquarters, Fourth Army, and the newly created Mexican Command of the MEXICAN PACIFIC COAST, the commander of which is Major General LAZARO CARDENAS, ex-President. His headquarters is at ENSENADA, LOWER CALIFORNIA.

3. At the request of VENEZUELA, action has been initiated to dispatch Army and Navy officers without delay to CARACAS to confer there with Venezuelan officers on matters pertaining to mutual defense.

4. The relief by Army forces of British troops now in ARUBA and CURACAO, a measure considered of great urgency, awaits notification from the State Department that the consent of the Dutch Government-in-Exile has been obtained. This matter has now been pending for nine days, its urgency increasing daily as the Axis is given time to plan and to execute its plans for the

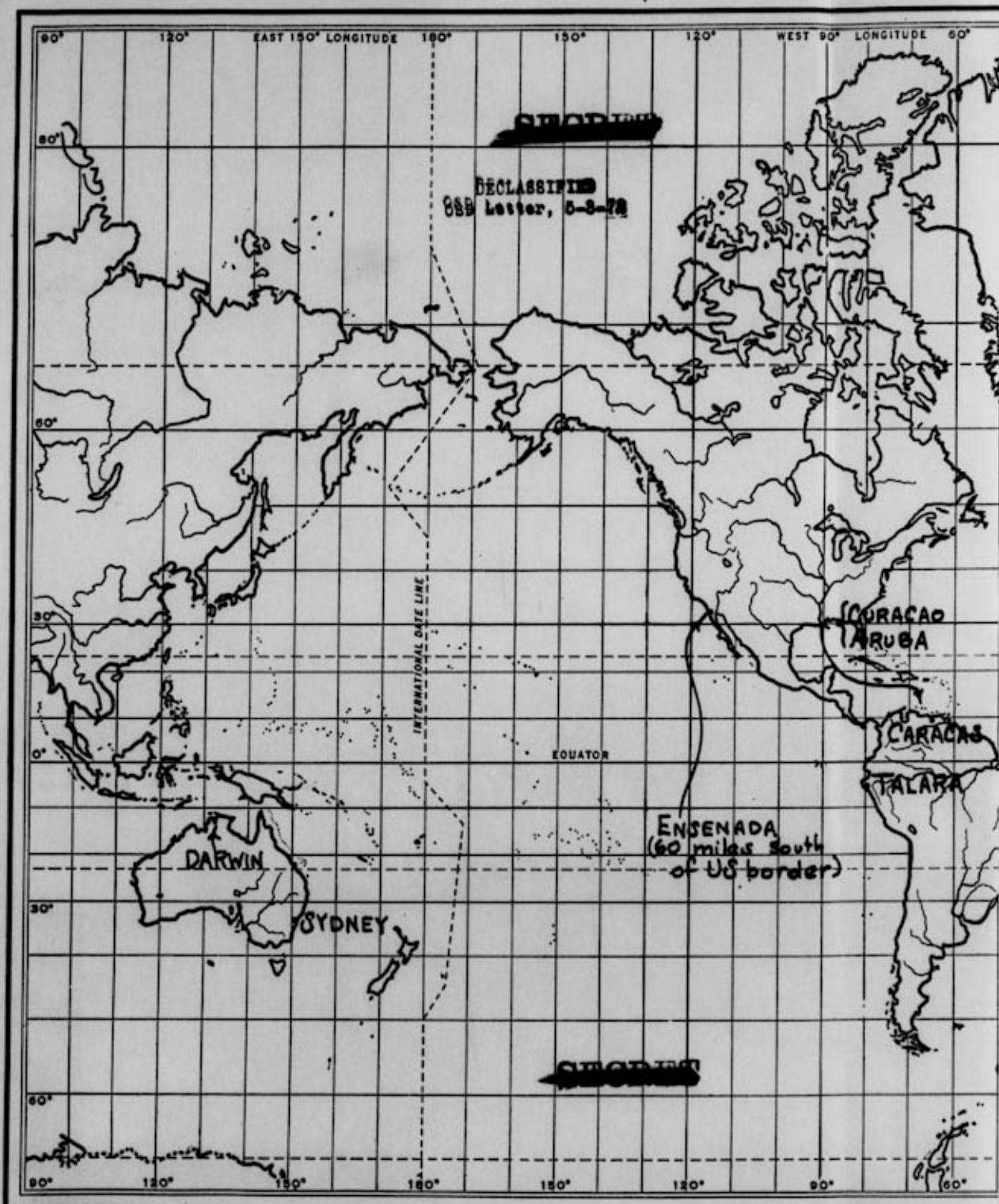
destruction of the inadequately protected petroleum installations on these islands.

5. Initial steps have been taken to prepare for dispatch to TALARA, PERU, a small number of bombing and pursuit airplanes with necessary ground units, for the purpose of providing reasonable protection for the important petroleum installations at that place. The State Department has been so advised and requested to secure without delay the consent of the Peruvian Government.

B. FAR EAST.

1. Major General BRERETON, commanding our Far Eastern Air Force, reports his intention to establish his headquarters at DARWIN.

2. Transport MAUNA LOA arrived SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, December 24, with cargo of aviation gasoline, .50 caliber machine guns and vehicles.



DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 18

2:00 PM December 26 to 2:00 PM December 27

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
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A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. GHQ was directed to submit to WAR DEPARTMENT its recommendations for garrison of ICELAND if all BRITISH troops should be withdrawn.

2. Orders issued directing the movement of one Tank Destroyer Battalion to WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND.

3. Release to City and County Officials of HONOLULU:

The Chief of Chemical Warfare Service has been directed to make available:

400 masks, gas, service
(These are in addition to the 387,000 masks, training, now en route.)

The Quartermaster General has been directed to make available:

400 Helmets, steel
(These are in addition to the 35,000 helmets now en route.)

B. FAR EAST.

1. The heavy bombers (B-17's) have been moved from their PHILIPPINE bases to bases in the DUTCH EAST INDIES and AUSTRALIA. Latest information indicates 12 still available.

2. Orders issued directing the movement of the following to SAN FRANCISCO PORT OF EMBARKATION for transport to AUSTRALIA:

3 Pursuit Groups comprising:

- 3 Headquarters and Headquarters Squadrons
- 7 Pursuit Squadrons (2 of these Squadrons have already been shipped.)
- 3 Materiel Squadrons
- 2 Interceptor Control Squadrons

**WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON**

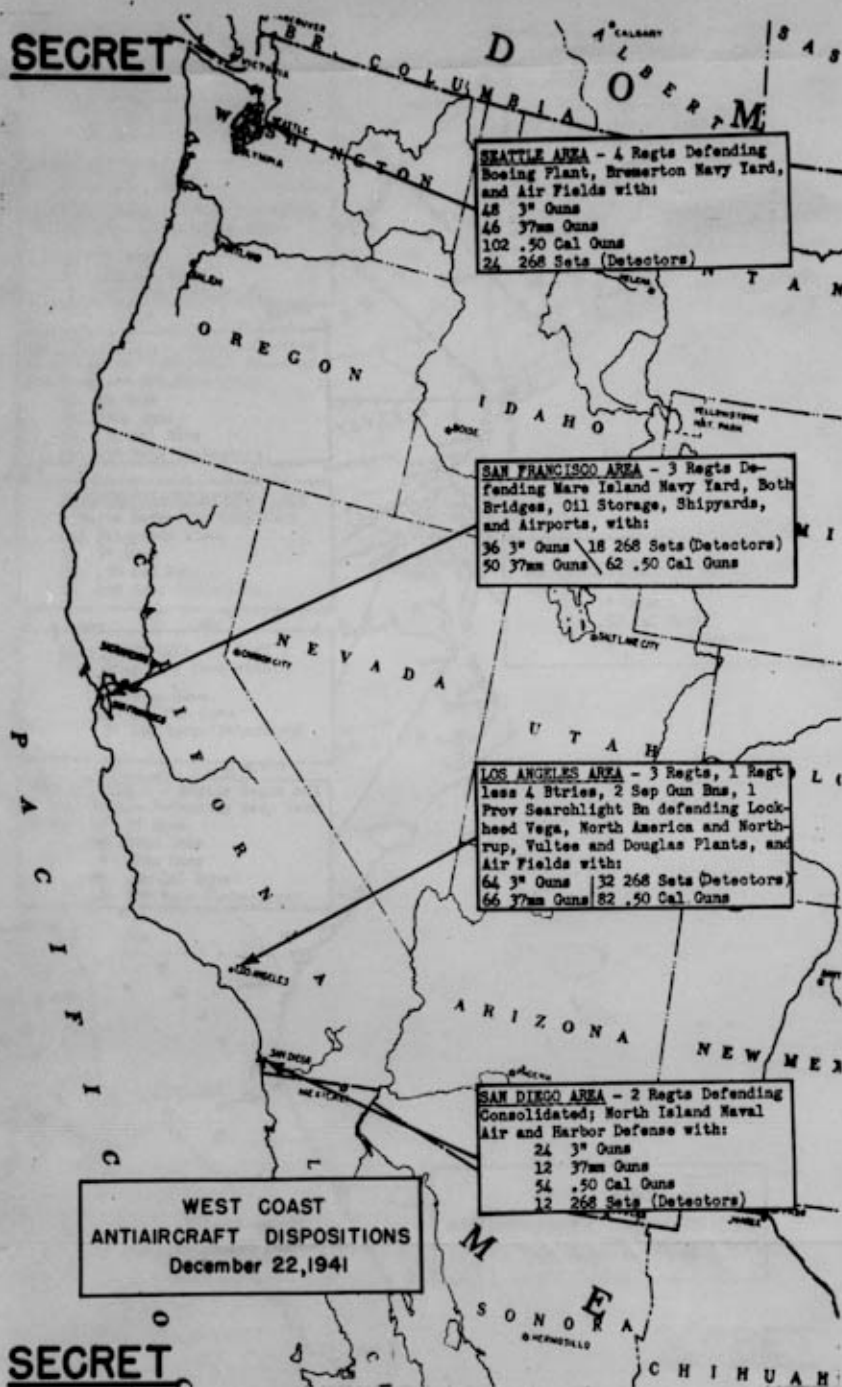
FOR THE PRESIDENT'S INFORMATION:

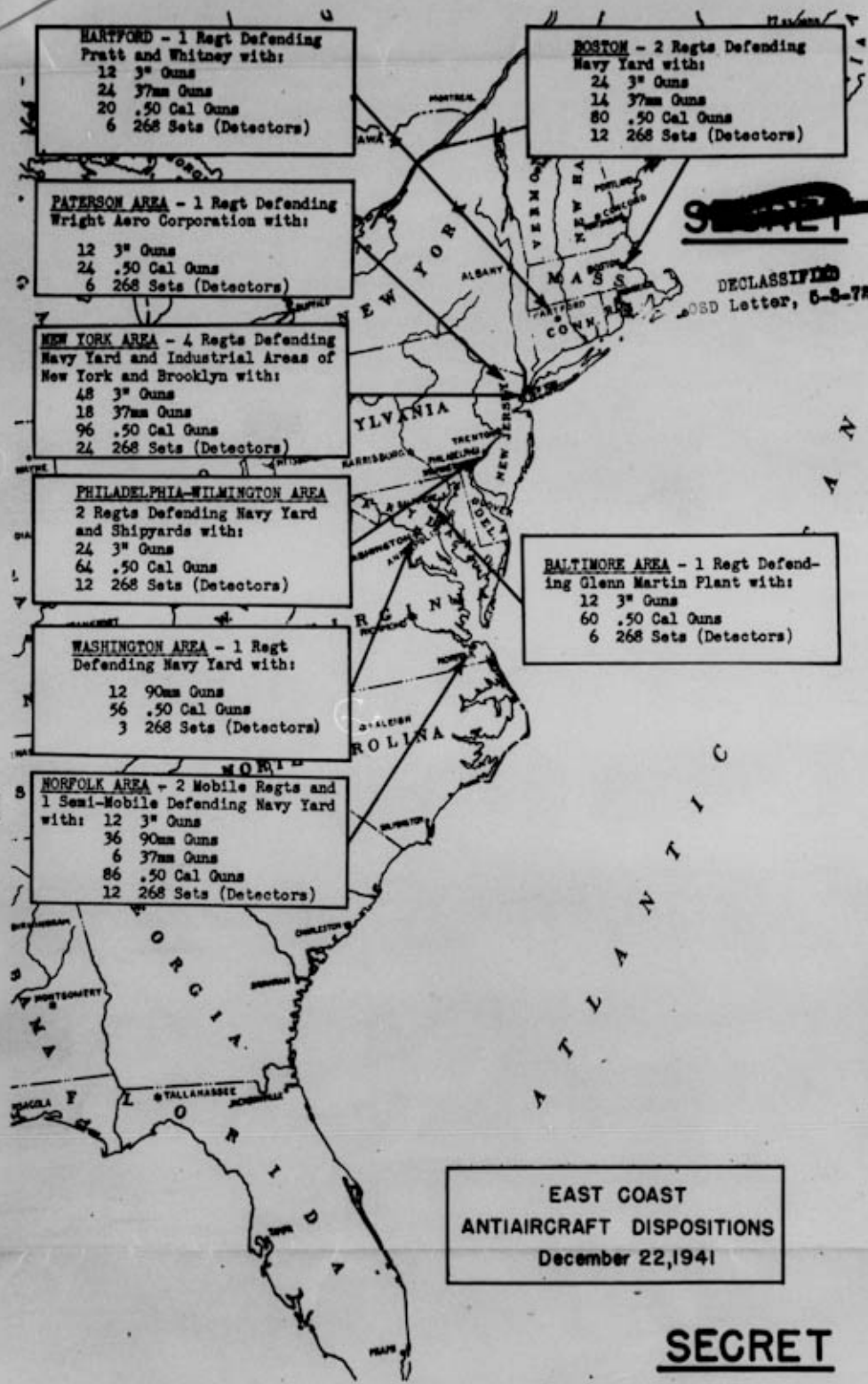
**Location of antiaircraft defenses
on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts.**

ON THE AIRCRAFT AND MISSILE COMBAT
PROTECTION OF AIRCRAFT DEFENSE

WASHINGTON
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
NAVY DEPARTMENT

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 17

2:00 PM December 25 to 2:00 PM December 26

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Decision was made to dispatch to HAWAII, as soon as overseas shipping capabilities will permit, one Infantry Division (Square), two antiaircraft artillery regiments, 10,000 service troops (Quartermaster, Engineer, Signal, Medical and Ordnance).

2. UNITED STATES and BRITISH Chiefs of Staff jointly recommended:

a. That immediate request be made on AUSTRALIAN, BRITISH and DUTCH authorities to lend maximum assistance to the UNITED STATES commander in AUSTRALIA in the preparation of his air elements for immediate entry into action, and in the establishment and protection of his bases.

b. That the responsible BRITISH and AUSTRALIAN commanders be directed to make preliminary arrangements for effective combat cooperation between other forces of the Associated Powers, and the UNITED STATES Air Force in the southwest PACIFIC, preliminary plans for the early support of SINGAPORE to be initiated at once.

3. Transports BLISS and GARFIELD with the following aboard arrived HAWAII:

Troops:

2d Bn 57th CA, 155 mm gun

161st Infantry

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Cargo:

- 54 Pursuit Airplanes (P-40)
- 2 Transports (C-53)
- 39 105 mm Howitzers
- 28 155 mm Guns
- 9 37 mm Guns
- 24 Caliber .50 antiaircraft machine guns
- 381,900 Cartridges, Caliber .30
- 48,000 Cartridges, Caliber .50
- 2,000 Cartridges, Caliber .45
- 3,384 Projectiles, 75 mm
- 9,928 Projectiles, 105 mm
- 1,980 Projectiles, 37 mm
- 157 Aircraft Bombs, 300 lbs.
- 1,860 Aircraft Bombs, 500 lbs.
- 122 Aircraft Bombs, 1,000 lbs.
- 54 Aircraft Bombs, 2,000 lbs.

B. FAR EAST.

1. Guns and ammunition recently sent by sea to CANTON ISLAND are being unloaded.

2. Major General BRERETON, commanding Far East Air Force, with skeleton staff and all heavy bombers, was sent south by General MACARTHUR -- heavy bombers to AUSTRALIAN and NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

bases; Major General BREWSTER to organize advance operating bases for protection of lines of communications and supporting defense of PHILIPPINES, to establish liaison with Major General BRETT, and to direct the operation of the Far East Air Force from the bases Major General BRETT is ordered to establish in AUSTRALIA.

3. General MACARTHUR has established the forward echelon of his headquarters on the BATAAN PENINSULA, the rear echelon remaining at FORT MILLS (CORREGIDOR ISLAND).

4. General MACARTHUR reports his forces successfully disengaged from the north line without loss, and that they occupied new delaying positions.

5. General MACARTHUR, by proclamation, declared MANILA an open city.

6. Major General BRETT, or in his absence Senior U. S. officer in AUSTRALIA, was informed that it is now doubtful that previous plans for moving short-ranged aircraft to PHILIPPINES can be executed; that General MACARTHUR is gradually withdrawing to the BATAAN PENINSULA and CORREGIDOR, resulting in the loss of all airfields except a small one on CORREGIDOR; that we must do our utmost to aid him; that our program for creating a strong U. S. Air Force in AUSTRALIA is being intensively continued; that within one month, it is expected to have 80 heavy bombers, 260 pursuit and 52 dive bombers in the AUSTRALIAN Area; that it is hoped his long-ranged equipment may be able to support

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the PHILIPPINES and also Allied Forces at critical points in the Theatre; that forces sent him would be largely Air, with just enough others to support his air effort and protect his bases; and that he is to contact General MACARTHUR and commanders of BRITISH, DUTCH and AUSTRALIAN forces and report their ideas on best methods of cooperating to defeat the common enemy.

7. 5 C-39 transport airplanes were ordered delivered to Brigadier General MAGRUDER'S representatives in BURMA for the CHINESE.

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P H I L I P P I N E

BATAAN
PENINSULA

(CORREGOR IS.)

APRRI
Vigan
Bangue
3 Fernand
Luzon
Ft. Stotsenberg
Clark Fld.
Iba
MANILA
Pasig
Port Milla
Ft. Mc Kinley

MINDORO

SIBUYAN

SEA

PANAY

VISAYAN
SEA

PANAY GULF

NEGROS

CEBU

BOHOL

MINDANAO

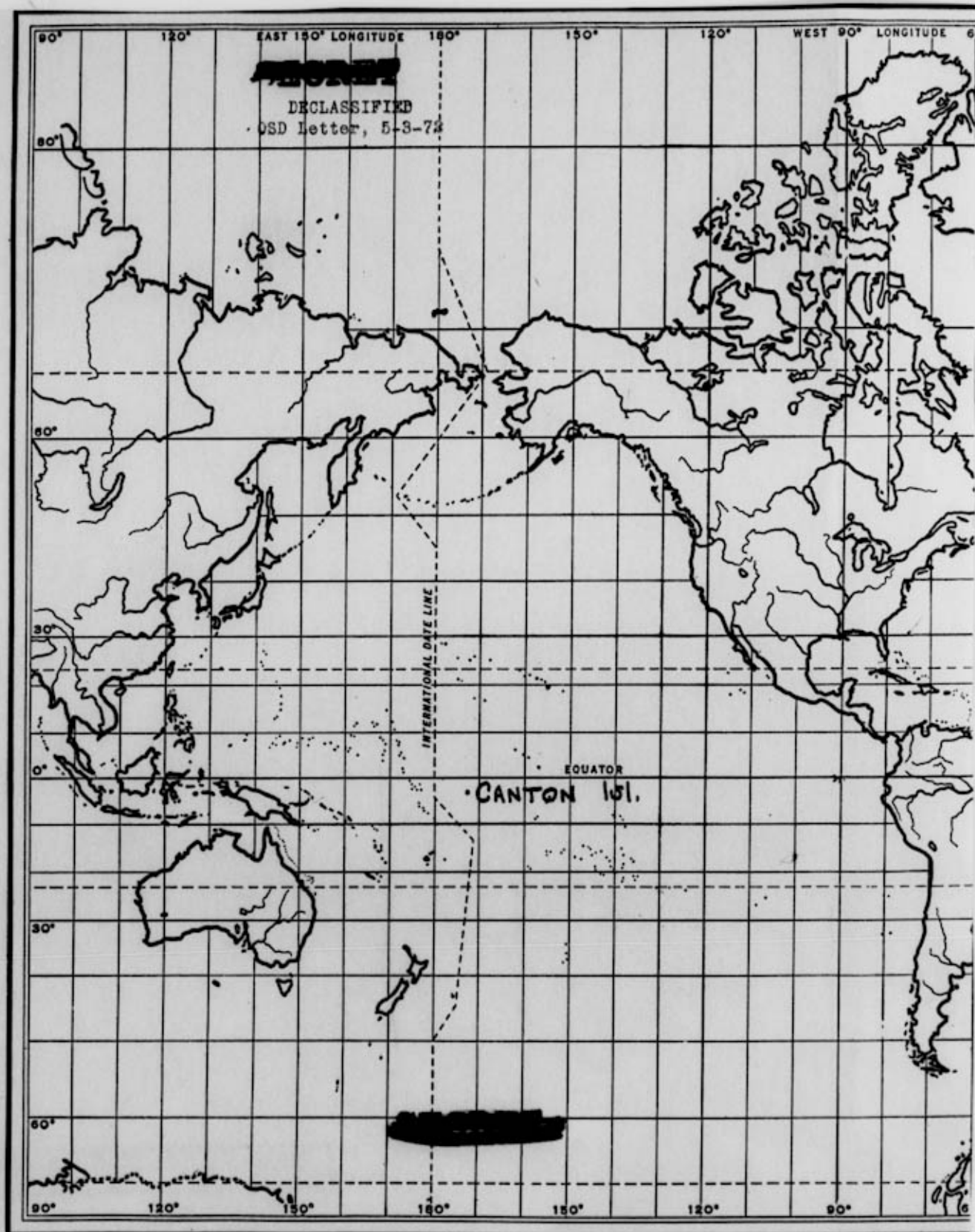
SEA

SAMAR

LEYTE

PALAWAN

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 16

2:00 PM December 24 to 2:00 PM December 25

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FAR EAST.

Major General BRETT, still in CHUNGKING, on December 24 was ordered to go to AUSTRALIA without delay and take command of all UNITED STATES forces in that general area; to report arrival and at once to forward preliminary recommendations of action required in view of situation in the PHILIPPINES at that time.

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 15

2:00 PM December 23 to 2:00 PM December 24

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

President has seen

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. CHIEF OF STAFF directed that instructions be issued to all troops in exposed and outlying locations to maintain particular vigilance during the Holiday Season.

2. USAT LUDINGTON, originally bound for MANILA and last reported December 12 as having departed CHRISTMAS ISLAND December 8, arrived LOS ANGELES December 23. She carried the following:

- 11,056 Drums of gasoline
- 27,120 Rifles, caliber .30
- 20 Pursuit aircraft
- 94 Miscellaneous motor vehicles
- 2,500,000 Cartridges, ball, Caliber .30
- 680,000 Cartridges, tracer, Caliber .30
- 286,000 Cartridges, tracer, Caliber .50

3. Convoy No. 2004, consisting of USAT PRESIDENT GARFIELD and USAT TASKER H. BLISS which sailed from SAN FRANCISCO December 17, 1941, arrived HONOLULU December 23, 1941. These ships carried:

Troops:

- 2d Bn 57th CA, 155 mm gun
- 161st Infantry

Cargo:

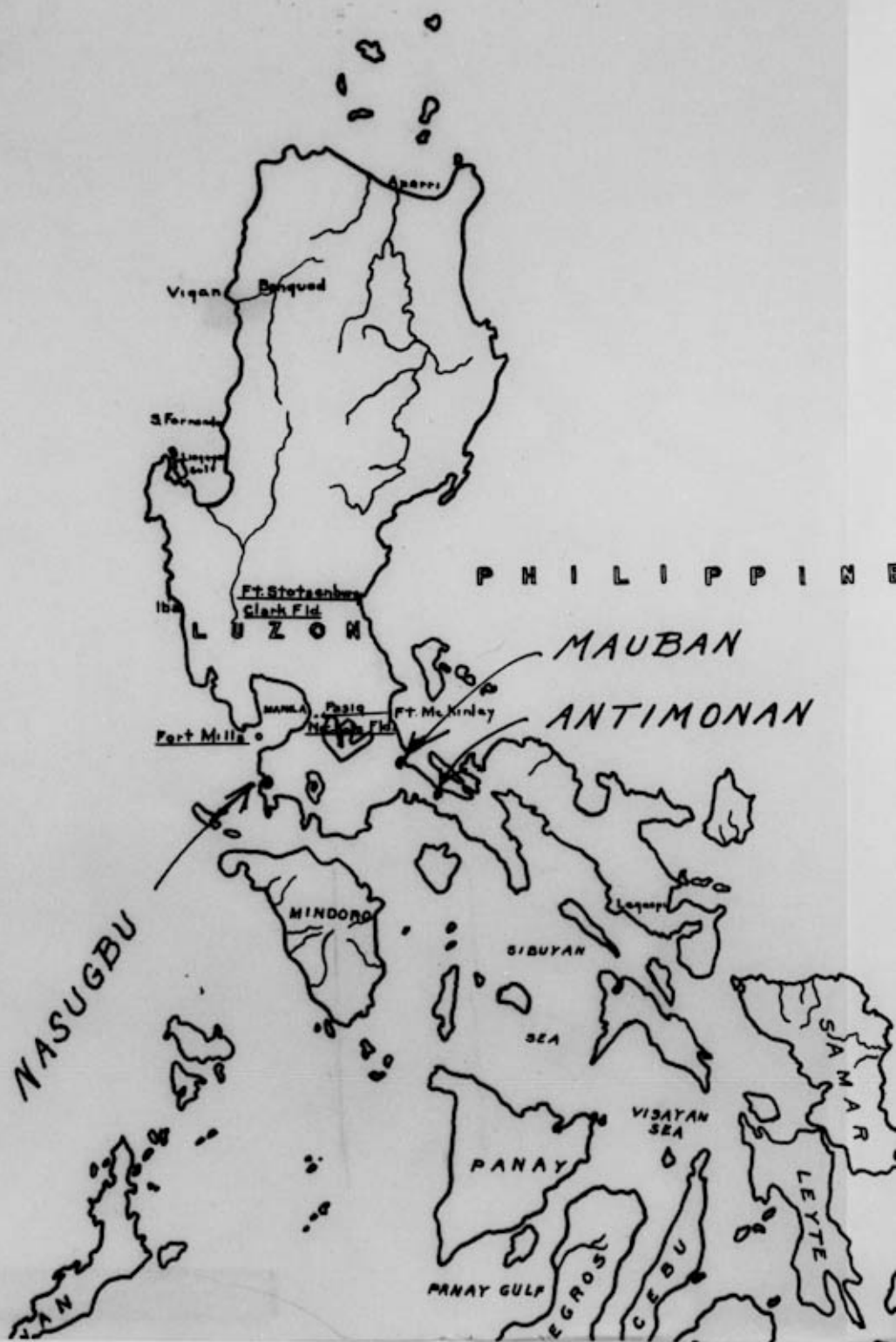
54 Pursuit Airplanes (P-40)
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1,860 Aircraft Bombs, 500 lbs.
122 Aircraft Bombs, 1,000 lbs.
54 Aircraft Bombs, 2,000 lbs.

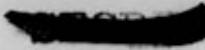
B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports as follows: Bitter fighting continues on north front. Forty enemy transports now unloading at ANTIMONAN; 10 at MAUBAN and standing off west coast near NASUGBU. Am evacuating High Commissioner and Commonwealth Government. Will then issue proclamation declaring MANILA open city to spare it from possible ravages by air or ground. My bombing potentialities operating

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SSD Letter, 5-8-72

from this area are exhausted. Continue to operate remaining
pursuit as observation. Behavior of our troops excellent, in
spite of over-whelming odds against them.




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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 14

2:00 PM December 22 to 2:00 PM December 23

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE



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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. S.S. MONTEREY, MATSONIA and LURLINE arrived HONOLULU

December 22. This convoy carried the following:

<u>Troops</u>	<u>Principal Items of Cargo</u>
161st Infantry	55 Pursuit Airplanes
145th FA (-Bn)	2 Transports C-53
34th Infantry	1530 Bombs, 500 lb.
101st Signal Bn	573 Bombs, 300 lb.
2d Bn, 138th FA	4 million rounds .50 caliber ammunition
30 Air Corps Pilots	21 Boxes machine guns
Medical Detachments	24 Guns 75 millimeter
	19 Guns 37 millimeter
	350 rounds shell 75 millimeter

2. Report from WAKE ISLAND reports enemy on island; several ships, plus transport moving in; two destroyers aground.

B. FAR EAST.

1. Major General BRETT or Senior UNITED STATES Army Officer present in AUSTRALIA, directed to submit to WAR DEPARTMENT rough estimate of types and quantities of units and supplies essential to him in carrying out his Mission. Instructed to procure locally by purchase or hire, such materials and labor as may be practicable. Authorized to make temporary use of those materials and personnel destined for the PHILIPPINES which, because of conditions, he is unable to forward promptly, provided they be dispatched to destination when earliest opportunity arises.

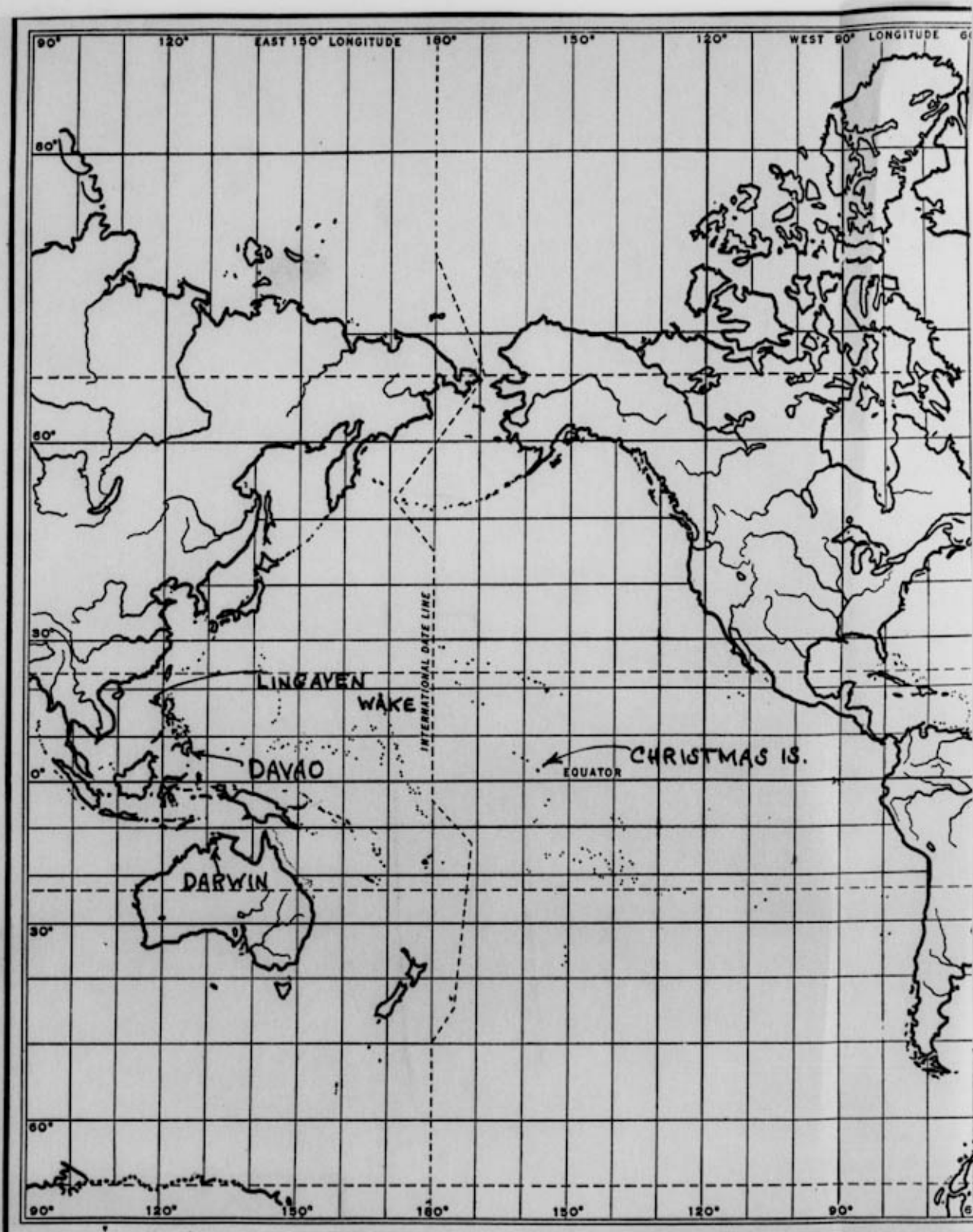
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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

2. General MACARTHUR reported enemy continues to exert heavy pressure in north, making maximum use of air arm in support of infantry and light tanks; scattered enemy bombing yesterday throughout the islands; 9 B-17's coming from DARWIN, bombed 12 enemy transports at DAVAO. Results indeterminate. Awaiting clearing of overcast to strike enemy from the air at LINGAYEN.

3. Transport HALEAKALA arrived safely at CHRISTMAS ISLAND 21 December with some personnel and large amount of arms and ammunition for defense of Island.

4. Lieutenant Colonel BRINK reports that the SINGAPORE conference clearly indicates an immediate need for a combined Allied Staff under one supreme head; that all MACARTHUR's suggestions were adopted; and that designated air and sea communication routes from AUSTRALIA to LUZON are to receive special protection.



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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 13

2:00 PM December 21 to 2:00 PM December 22

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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Old Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Preparations in progress for British Staff Conversations here, based on the draft of "Broad Military Decisions" approved by the PRESIDENT yesterday.

2. CHIEF OF STAFF issued instructions to suspend evacuation of dependents of military personnel from PUERTO RICO, pending further study.

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR was advised that all of his reports have been seen by the PRESIDENT; that the PRESIDENT has directed the Navy to give every possible support; that of 110 pursuit planes allotted him, half are now en route and the remainder will be within three days; and that movement of 80 heavy bombers by air began yesterday with departure of first three, and will continue with a small number every day or so thereafter.

2. Major General BRETT was told that his fundamental mission at this time is to relay vital munitions from AUSTRALIA to General MACARTHUR as rapidly as possible, with priority on aircraft and ammunition; that he would cooperate with our naval authorities in the delivery and protection of Army reinforcements and logistical material for Army and Navy forces in the PHILIPPINES; and would also cooperate in the establishment and protection of a base at PORT DARWIN for Joint Army and Navy use, as well as in the

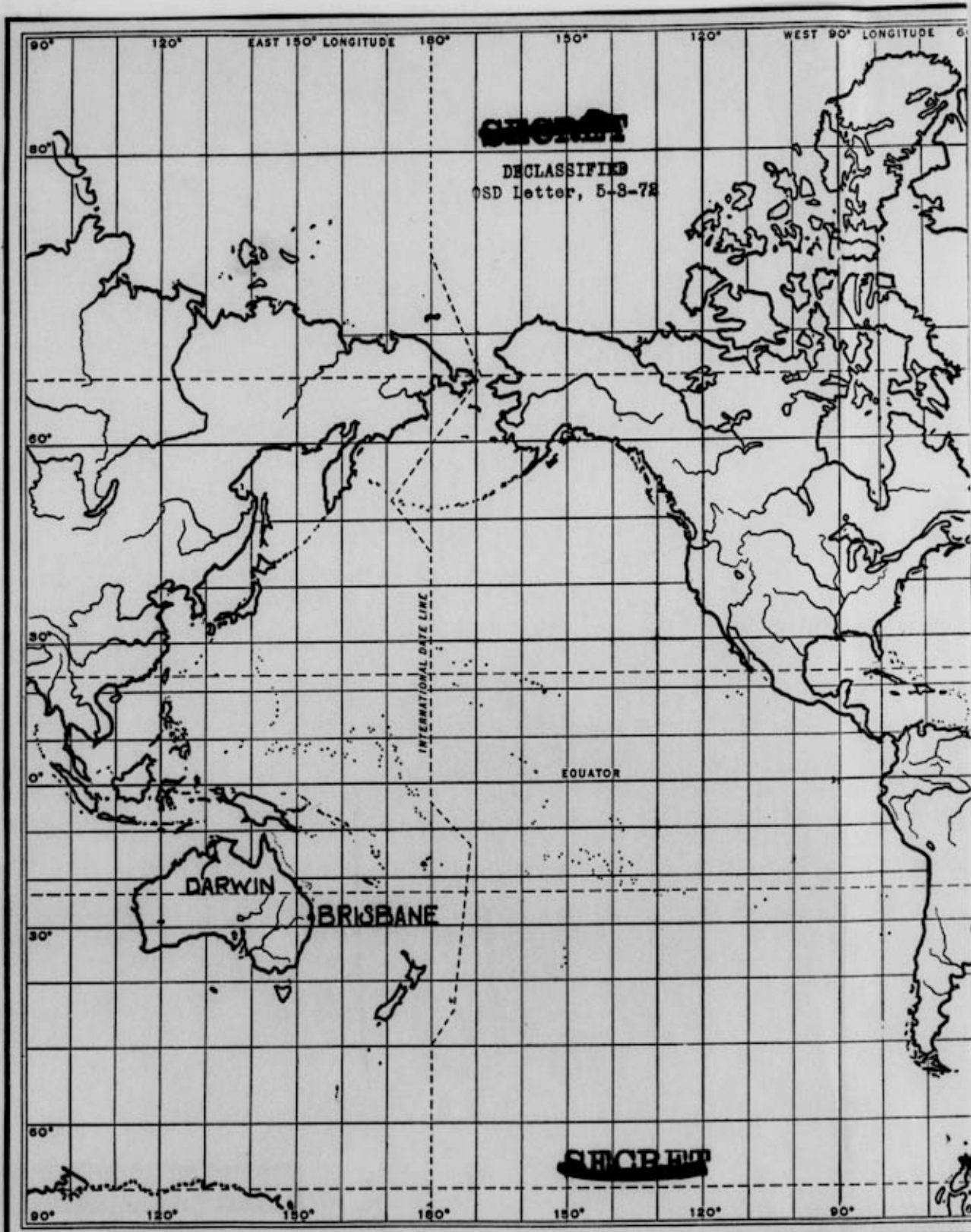
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defense of northwestern AUSTRALIA. He was directed to inform the WAR DEPARTMENT of developments as they occur.

3. Colonel MERLE-SMITH, our Military Attache in AUSTRALIA, received instructions similar to those sent to Major General BRETT and General MACARTHUR was informed that both Major General BRETT and Colonel MERLE-SMITH had been so instructed.

4. Convoy No. 4002 (REPUBLIC, HOLBROOK and 4 or 5 freighters) arrived BRISBANE yesterday with 70 planes aboard.

See Map.



DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 12

2:00 PM December 20 to 2:00 PM December 21

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. THE JOINT BOARD approved for presentation this date to the PRESIDENT a draft of "Broad Military Decisions".

2. THE JOINT BOARD approved a plan for organizing and coordinating our support of Army and Navy forces in the PHILIPPINES, NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES and AUSTRALIA, and for rushing all effort to support those forces.

3. 72 40-millimeter antiaircraft guns, with ammunition, obtained here from BRITISH PURCHASING COMMISSION for shipment to and use in CANAL ZONE.

4. Detachments of trained artillerymen are being organized and will man antiaircraft weapons on five transports to sail from NEW YORK.

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports that if JAPANESE operations in MINDANAO develop into more than a diverting effort, he plans guerrilla operations by MOHAMMEDAN population.

2. In interests of our forces, Major General BRETT ordered vigorous action to control and safeguard Lend-Lease materials now in BURMA, until definite plans are made for their use.

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 11

2:00 PM December 19 to 2:00 PM December 20

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Unity of command of Army and Navy forces in the CARIBBEAN COASTAL FRONTIER was established and vested in the Navy. See Map.

2. Since JAPANESE attack of December 7, reinforcing personnel, equipment and munitions have been shipped or consigned as indicated below. This report supersedes report previously submitted.

a. To HAWAII:

- 27 Heavy Bombers (4 motored Flying Fortresses)
- 119 Pursuit Planes
- 5 Transport Planes
- 30 Pilots
- 600 Other Air Corps personnel
- 2 Infantry Regiments
- 1 Light Field Artillery Regiment
- 1 Coast Artillery Regiment, 155 millimeter gun
- 1 Railway Artillery Battalion, 8" gun
- 1 3" Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment, less
one battalion
- 1 Battalion of Light Tanks (newest type)
- 1 Signal Battalion
- 460 Coast Artillery Harbor Defense personnel
- 8 Antiaircraft Guns, 3"

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8 37 millimeter Antiaircraft Guns
60 .50 caliber Antiaircraft Machine Guns
6 37 millimeter Guns, Anti-tank
48 105 millimeter Field Howitzers
995 Aircraft Bombs of 1,000 lbs or more
16,210 Aircraft Bombs of 600 lbs or less
31,000 105 millimeter High Explosive Shells
71,800 3" Antiaircraft Shells
20,000 37 millimeter Antiaircraft Shells
37,360 37 millimeter aircraft cannon shells
5,000,000 Caliber .50 Machine Gun cartridges
3,000,000 Rations
100,000 Training Gas Masks for key civilian personnel
20,000 Tons of Foodstuffs
35,500 Steel Helmets
49,132 75 millimeter Gun Shell (Super-charge)
40,000 60 millimeter Mortar Shells
Added 30,000 81 millimeter Mortar Shells
11,000 37 millimeter Tank and Anti-tank Shells

b. To PANAMA:

- 1 Pursuit Group with 80 P-40E planes
- 9 Heavy Bombers (4-motored Flying Fortresses)
- 1 Barrage Balloon Battalion
- 2 Observation Aviation Squadrons

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- 2 Infantry Regiments
- 1 Field Artillery Battalion, 75 millimeter Gun
- 1 Mechanized Cavalry Squadron
- 2 General Hospitals

Miscellaneous Service Units

4,000,000 Caliber .30 Cartridges, Armor Piercing

2,000,000 Caliber .50 Cartridges, Armor Piercing & Tracer

24,000 37 millimeter Antiaircraft Shells

20,000 60 millimeter Mortar Shells

20,000 81 millimeter Mortar Shells

10,000 37 millimeter Armor Piercing Shell

1,000 Aircraft Bombs of 600 lbs or less

Added

c. To ALASKA:

- 1 Pursuit Squadron with 25 P-40E planes
- 1 Medium Bombardment Squadron with 13 B-26 planes

Ordnance Detachments

d. To PHILIPPINES:

Via Air Force Ferrying Command:

127,000 Armor Piercing and Tracer Cartridges, Caliber .50

Via Sea Transport:

442,000 Armor Piercing and Tracer Cartridges, Caliber .50

20,000,000 Cartridges, Caliber .30

30,000 3" Antiaircraft Shells

5,000 75 millimeter Field Gun Shells

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15,500 81 millimeter Mortar Shells

Added { 558 Aircraft Bombs of 1,000 lbs or more

24,572 Aircraft Bombs of 600 lbs or less

e. To PUERTO RICO:

12,000 37 millimeter antiaircraft shells

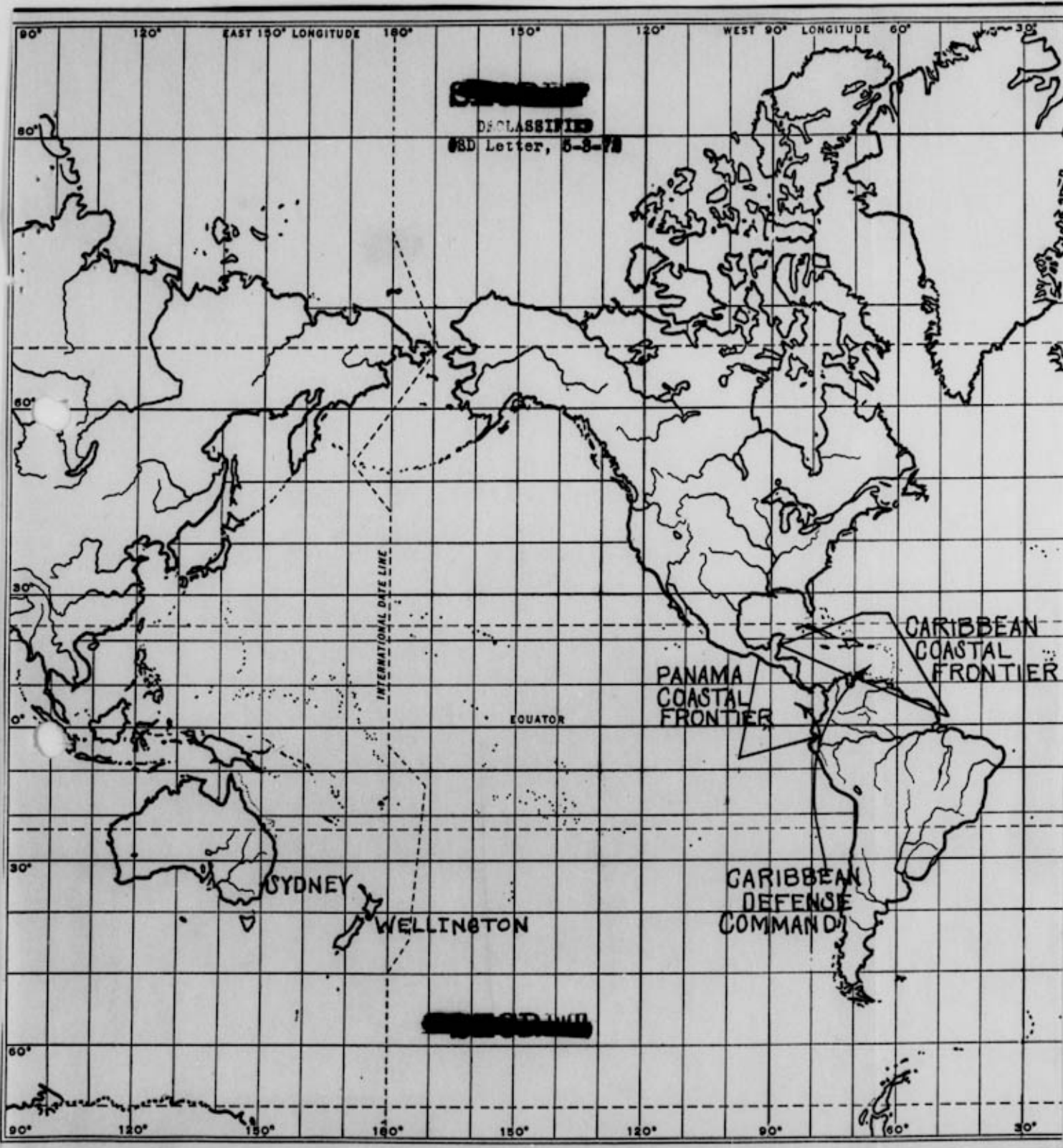
f. To AUSTRALIA:

1 Air Depot

B. FAR EAST.

Colonel MERLE SMITH, U. S. Military Attache to AUSTRALIA, advised by CHIEF OF STAFF that War Department plans energetic support of PHILIPPINES.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No 10

2:00 PM December 18 to 2:00 PM December 19

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Instructions issued directing the evacuation of dependents of military personnel from TRINIDAD, BERMUDA, NEWFOUNDLAND, PUERTO RICO, PANAMA CANAL ZONE and ALASKA utilizing available commercial and government transports. Action taken to insure that full advantage is taken of this shipping to send supplies and equipment to these overseas stations.

2. Transports SCOTT and COOLIDGE arrived HAWAII December 18 escorted by U.S.S. LOUISVILLE.

B. FAR EAST.

1. Steamship JANE CHRISTENSEN under charter to the ARMY departed SAMOA December 19 for SIDNEY, AUSTRALIA carrying mixed cargo consigned to the PHILIPPINES consisting of:

28 Guns 75 millimeter

Gasoline

Miscellaneous trucks and supplies.

2. GENERAL MACARTHUR reported air raids in considerable force over ILOILO and vicinity of MANILA.

South Coast of the Island of Panay
TMS

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No. 9

2:00 PM December 17 to 2:00 PM December 18

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. HAWAII reports elements of 298th Infantry now on the islands of KAUAI, HAWAII and MOLOKAI. See Map.
2. Army Aircraft Warning Service being augmented by small boats with Navy crews 50 or more miles off-shore.
3. Unity of Command of Army and local Navy forces in the CANAL ZONE was established and vested in the Army.
4. Unity of Command of Army and Navy forces in HAWAII was established and vested in the Navy.
5. Tests of smoke as a protective screen for vital installations was decided upon with the BREMERTON NAVY YARD as the first to be protected.
6. Navy obliged to withdraw some naval units from observation of MARTINIQUE and requested Army air units to take over the task. Decision pending.
7. Decision made to send necessary barrage balloon units to the CANAL ZONE.
8. Since JAPANESE attack of December 7, reinforcing personnel and munitions have been shipped or consigned as follows:

a. To HAWAII:

27 Heavy Bombers (4 motored Flying Fortresses)
119 Pursuit Planes

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DECLASSIFIED
Date, 5-3-78

5 Transport Planes
30 Pilots
600 Other Air Corps personnel
2 Infantry Regiments
1 Light Field Artillery Regiment
1 Coast Artillery Regiment, 155 millimeter gun
1 Railway Artillery Battalion, 8" Gun
1 3" Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment, less
one battalion
1 Battalion of Light Tanks (newest type)
1 Signal Battalion
460 Coast Artillery Harbor Defense personnel
8 Antiaircraft Guns, 3"
✓ 24 .50 caliber Antiaircraft Machine Guns
48 105 millimeter Field Howitzers
995 Aircraft Bombs of 1,000 lbs or more
16,210 Aircraft Bombs of 600 lbs or less
31,000 105 millimeter High Explosive Shells
50,000 3" Antiaircraft shells
20,000 37 millimeter Antiaircraft shells
34,360 37 millimeter aircraft cannon shells
with 5 8,000,000 Caliber .50 Machine Gun Cartridges
3,000,000 Rations
100,000 Training Gas Masks for key civilian personnel
20,000 Tons of Foodstuffs
35,500 Steel Helmets

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b. TO PANAMA:

- 1 Pursuit Group with 80 P-40E planes
- 9 Heavy Bombers (4-motored Flying Fortresses)
- 1 Barrage Balloon Battalion
- 2 Observation Aviation Squadrons
- 2 Infantry Regiments
- 1 Field Artillery Battalion, 75 millimeter gun
- 1 Mechanized Cavalry Squadron
- 2 General Hospitals
- Miscellaneous Service Units
- 4,000,000 Caliber .30 Cartridges
- 2,000,000 Caliber .50 Cartridges
- 24,000,000 37 millimeter Antiaircraft Shells

c. TO ALASKA:

- 1 Pursuit Squadron with 25 P-40E planes
- 1 Medium Bombardment Squadron with 13 B-26 planes
- Ordnance Detachments.

d. TO PHILIPPINES:

Via Air Force Ferrying Command:

99,500 Armor Piercing and Tracer Cartridges, Caliber .50

Via Sea Transport:

442,000 Armor Piercing and Tracer Cartridges, Caliber .50

20,000,000 Cartridges, Caliber .30

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DECLASSIFIED

OSD Letter, 5-8-72

30,000 3" Antiaircraft Shells

5,000 75 millimeter Field Gun Shells

15,500 81 millimeter Mortar Shells

e. To PUERTO RICO:

12,000 37 millimeter antiaircraft shells

f. To AUSTRALIA:

1 Air Depot

9. Following released to other Governmental Departments:

a. Justice (FBI):

10,000 Diaphragm gas masks

3,000 Steel helmets

b. Navy:

200,000 Cartridges, Caliber .30 Tracer

250,000 Cartridges, Caliber .30 Armor Piercing

1,500,000 Cartridges, Caliber .30 Ball

1,250,000 Cartridges, Caliber .50

B. FAR EAST.

1. A Supply System to serve the PHILIPPINES is to be organized with AUSTRALIA as a base, Major General BRETT in command, with Brigadier

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

General CLAGETT as Assistant, and Staff to come from UNITED STATES.

BRISBANE initially port of entry. Final selection of base ports left to General BRETT. Trans-Pacific transports to be armed with Batteries of Antiaircraft guns, taken from mobile troops, and manned by trained Army crews.

2. UNITED STATES authorized by NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES to use air bases in NEW GUINEA. See Map.

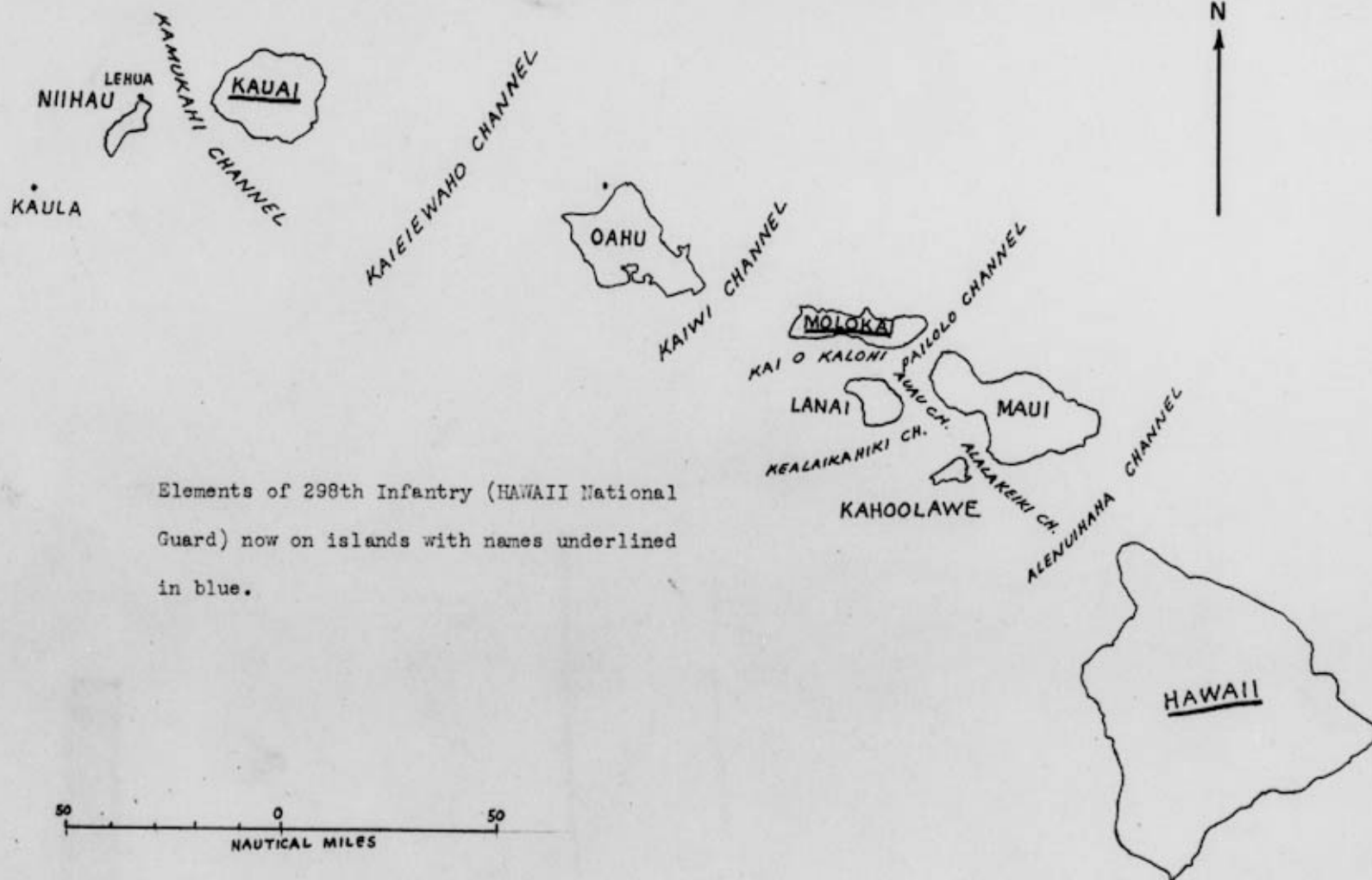
C. EUROPE (MIDDLE EAST included):

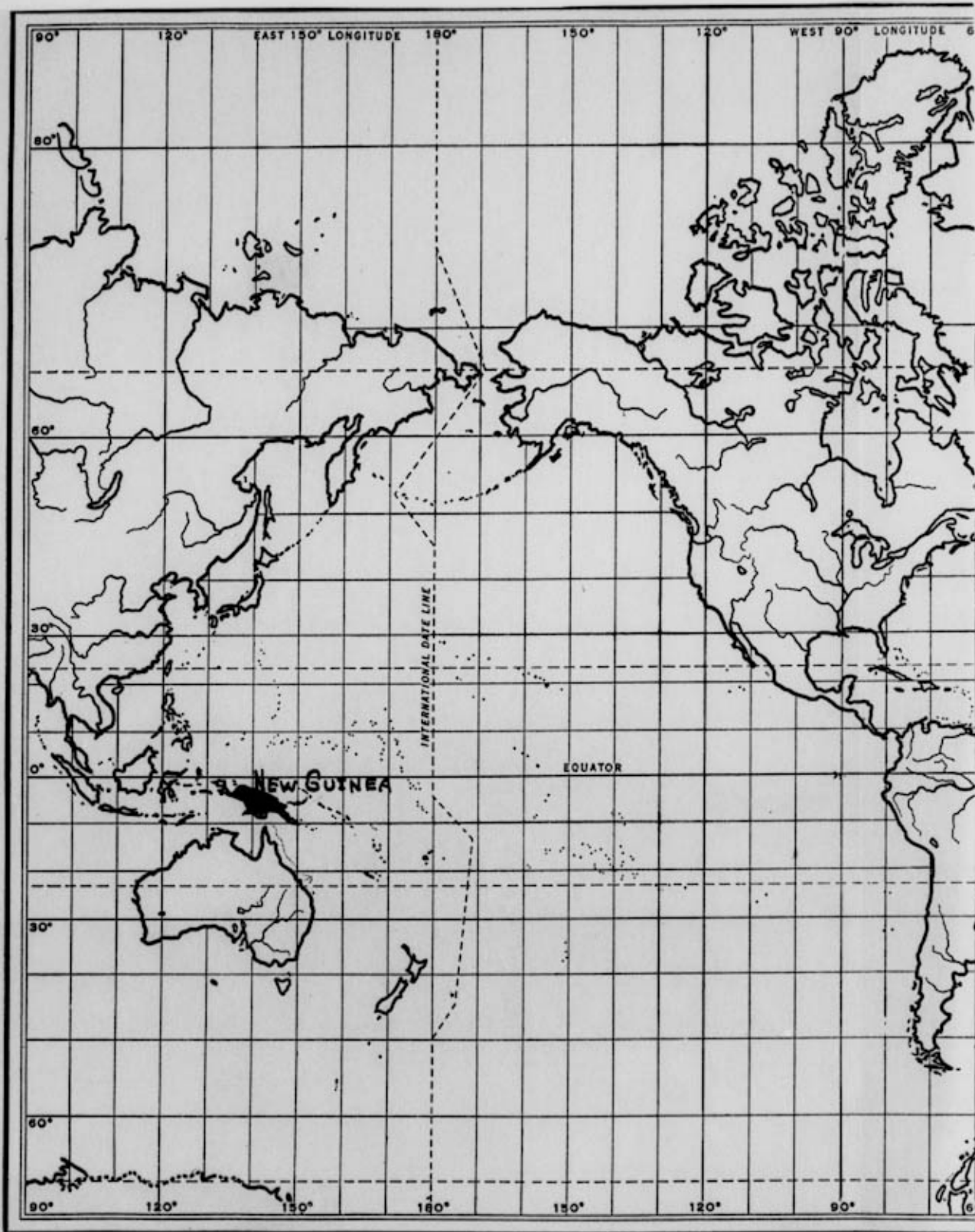
Nothing to report.

D. All Other Areas.

Nothing to report.

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DECLASSIFIED
ORD Letter, 5-3-72

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No. 8

2:00 PM December 16 to 2:00 PM December 17

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

DECLASSIFIED
ORD Letter, 5-3-72

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. HAWAII advised of plans to send 10,000 tons of foodstuffs within one week and an equal amount a week later.

✓ 2. Arrangements made for supply of ammunition to PHILIPPINES.

✓ 3. Reenforcement of HAWAII proceeding according to plan.

4. EASTERN THEATRE OF OPERATIONS is being established, including the entire ATLANTIC SEABOARD. (See Map.)

B. FAR EAST.

On conclusion of conference in CHUNGKING, Major General BRETT ordered to AUSTRALIA to select Base Site.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No. 7

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

Note: In compliance with instructions from Major General WATSON, this Summary will hereafter be delivered to The White House daily at 5:00 PM, and will cover the twenty-four hour period ending 2:00 PM.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND, General DeWitt, informed that troops and materiel temporarily within his COMMAND, en route to outside destinations remain under WAR DEPARTMENT control, except that he may use them in a critical emergency, reporting action to WAR DEPARTMENT, if possible in advance.

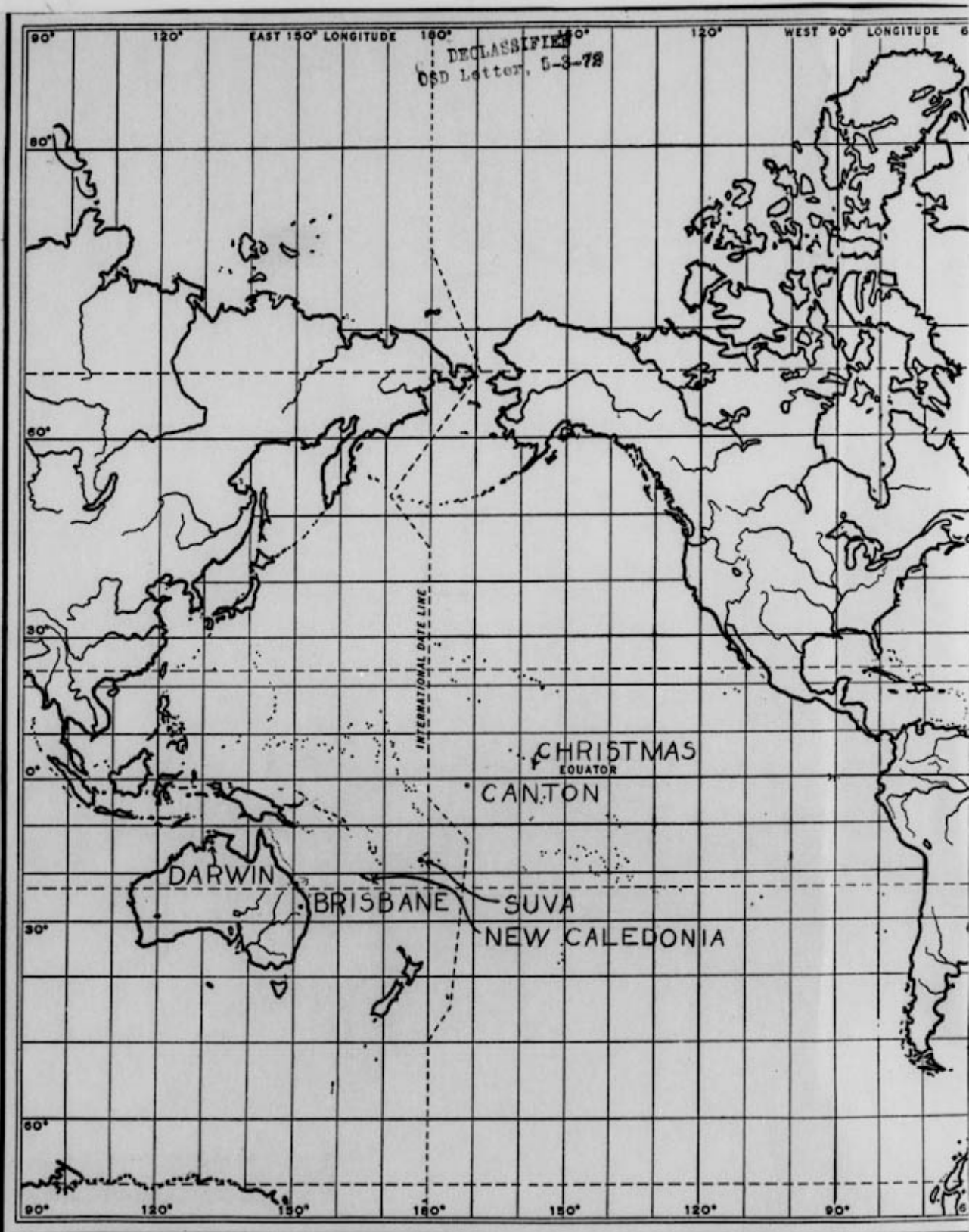
B. FAR EAST.

1. Brigadier General MAGRUDER, CHUNGKING, authorized at his discretion and with consent of CHINESE to re-transfer to any Government, CHINESE Lend-Lease material now in BURMA. Directed to report when such action taken with list of items. BRITISH are informed.

2. Former objections to our airport development on NEW CALEDONIA removed, due to FREE FRENCH declaration of war on JAPAN.

3. Messages sent to Lieutenant General MACARTHUR, Major General BRETT in CHUNGKING and Colonel BRINK in SINGAPORE relative to and containing instructions for regional conferences.

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DECLASSIFIED
REF. 5-8-78

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No. 6

7:00 AM December 14 to 7:00 AM December 15

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. CHIEF OF STAFF approved basis for preliminary planning and calculation of estimates, etc., for further expansion of Army -- first objective 100 divisions -- the increase of strength to be attained, under existing situation and for immediate future, by building up a reserve of trained divisions. The forces on active duty probably not exceeding 2,250,000 men (including air) until necessity and tonnage for large overseas employments develops. (Note: Air Corps increases already authorized and underway.)

2. CG, HAWAII directed to report plans for garrisoning other islands in HAWAIIAN Group and for dispersing aircraft on available fields thereon. Directed to consult Navy and radio estimated additional requirements for such a project.

3. FOURTH ARMY (SAN FRANCISCO) reports continue to indicate enemy submarine activities in the vicinity of PUGET SOUND.

4. CG, AIR FORCE COMBAT COMMAND, directed to prepare pursuit group with 80 P-40E's for transfer to PANAMA -- planes to fly -- ground personnel by ship via CHARLESTON -- date of departure not determined.

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reported (Dec. 14) accuracy of JAPANESE bombing perceptible deteriorating. Initial effort was superior.

2. Units for establishment of an Air Depot in BRISBANE ordered to SAN FRANCISCO for transshipment.

Nothing else to report.

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DECLASSIFIED
OAS Letter, 6-8-72

DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No. 5

7:00 AM, December 13 to 7:00 AM December 14

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

Nothing to report.

B. FAR EAST.

1. The Secretary of War made a preliminary reply to CHIANG KAI-SHEK stating suggested conference is under consideration and that CHINA must be represented; that her interests have always been a first consideration of this Government and have completely dominated our actions during negotiations of past month; that UNITED STATES is determined to assist her to win a just peace; that the UNITED STATES deeply appreciates his actions since our war with JAPAN began; and that Major General BRETT is now en route to CHUNGKING.

2. Position of CANTON ISLAND precarious; airport construction in early stage, little or no defense, with JAPANESE prowling around the PACIFIC. See map.

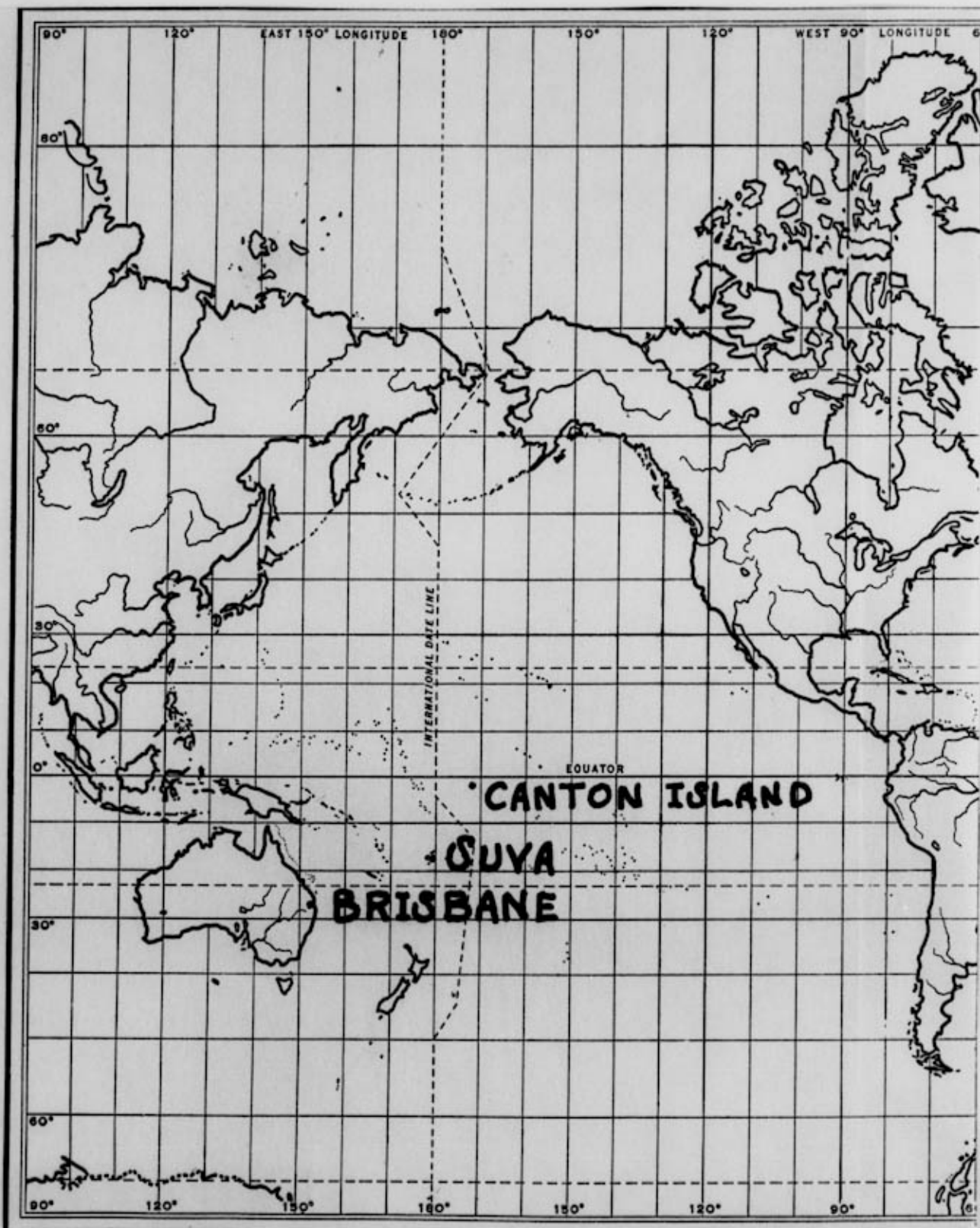
C. EUROPE (MIDDLE EAST included).

Nothing to report.

D. All Other Areas.

Nothing to report.

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
RESPECTING HOSTILITIES
WITH AXIS

No. 4

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included)

1. Consistent reports of presence of hostile force off California coast indicated possibility of air attack.
2. MATSONIA and MONTEREY, with troops, pursuit aircraft and .50 caliber ammunition, reported by G-2 as ready to sail for HAWAII 11 PM December 13. Actual sailing date dependent upon Navy's readiness to take over.
3. Action initiated to secure unity of command in PANAMA.
4. War Department statement in preparation to indicate approximately what it might be able to do to the advantage of RUSSIA.
5. Message in preparation to inform CHIANG KAI-SHEK that his proposal for conference under consideration, and that his aid is appreciated.
6. War Department asked Congress for legislation requiring registration for selective service of all men between 18 and 64.

B. FAR EAST (HAWAII included)

1. Dependents of military personnel to be evacuated from HAWAII.
 2. Nine Flying Fortresses (B-17's) arrive safely HAWAII 5:30 PM December 11
- Other Areas - Nothing to report.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 2

WAR DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

7:00 A.M., 11 Dec. to 7:00 A.M., 12 Dec.

ABRIDGED FORM FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

1. War Plan RAINBOW NO. 5 put into effect with following reservations:

a. No operations by CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND in CENTRAL or SOUTH AMERICA or in French possessions and no relief of British garrisons in CURACAO or ARUBA except on War Department orders.

b. Task Forces for duty outside the UNITED STATES will be designated by War Department.

2. WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND, including ALASKA and 9th CORPS AREA and comprising FOURTH ARMY, 2nd and 4th AIR FORCES, organized into a THEATRE OF OPERATIONS, Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt Commanding.

3. Coast Artillery Antiaircraft Regiments moved to vital areas (shipyards, air bases, etc.) on East Coast. Others made available to West Coast Commanders.

4. Convoys 4002 (REPUBLIC, HOLBROOK and freighters) and 6001 (CODLIDGE AND SCOTT) both yesterday in vicinity of SUVA unreported. Navy will report when heard from.

5. Additional reinforcements of personnel and materiel, including ammunition, released for HAWAII.

6. Additional heavy bombardment prepared for flight from West Coast to HAWAII beginning today, and both pursuit and medium bombardment for ALASKA.

1/15

Copies #1, ~~#~~ and 2
Not received nor filed
in Communications
Office

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Chief of Staff Daily
Operational Summaries.

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