

~~SECRET~~

2

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

JANUARY 1 thru 31

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- AUG 29 1972

Signature- *RANP*

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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

No 52

7:00 AM January 30 to 7:00 AM January 31

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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Nothing to report.

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

No 51

7:00 AM January 29 to 7:00 AM January 30

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter. 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Three heavy bombers departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.
2. Orders were issued directing the activation of miscellaneous Coast Artillery and Infantry units for service in NEWFOUNDLAND, GREENLAND, JAMAICA and BERMUDE. Approximate strength - 1,000 officers and men.

3. Air Corps Servicing detachments of one officer and 15 enlisted men each have been established at PAN-AMERICAN airfields located at PORT-au-PRINCE, HAITI, and at CAMAGUEY and near LA FE, CUBA.

B. FAR EAST.

1. Orders were issued directing the movement of the following units to AUSTRALIA:

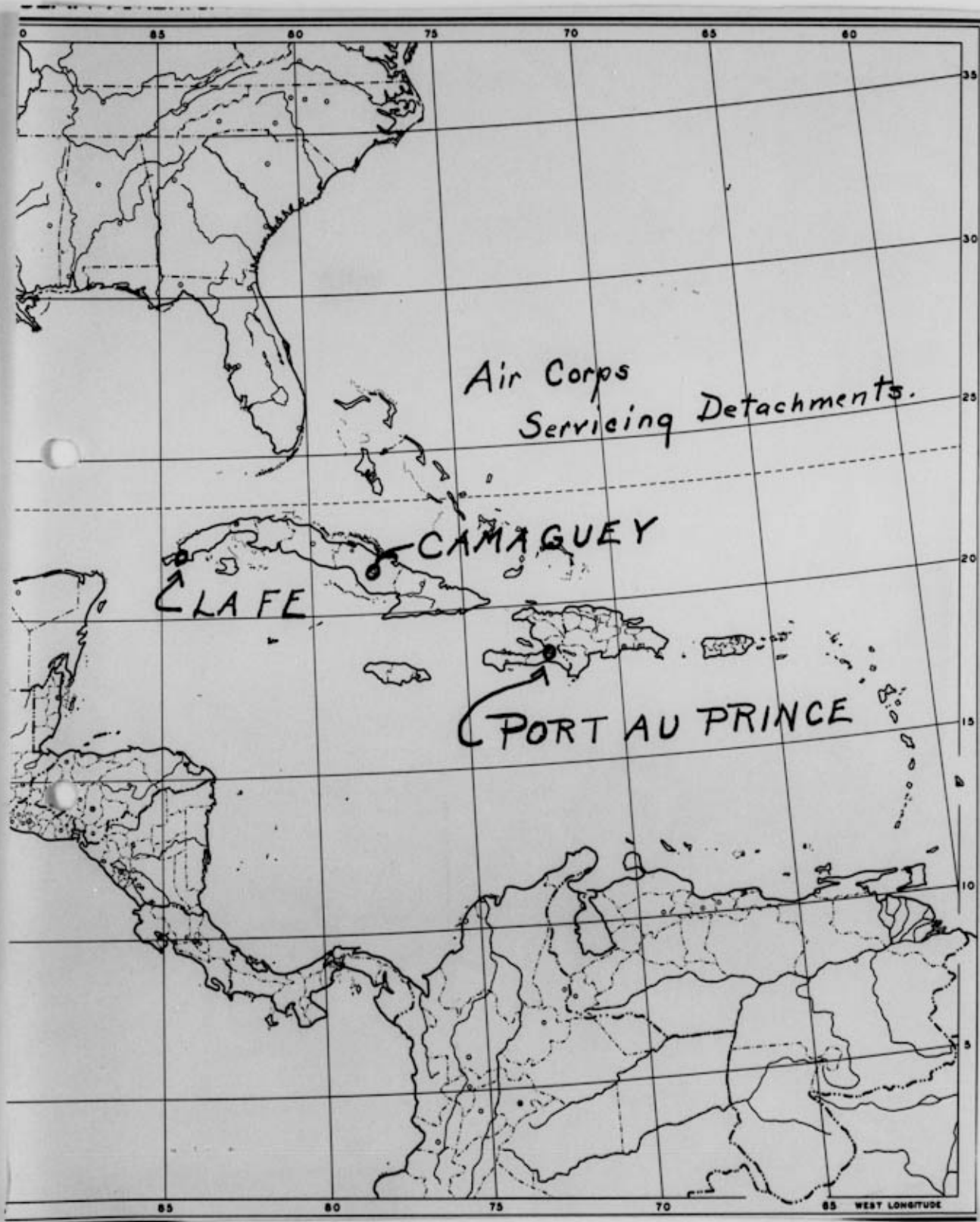
One Pursuit Squadron

Miscellaneous Supporting Aviation Service Units

Approximate strength - 500 officers and men.

2. General MACARTHUR reports light fighting along the front of his BATAAN position. The enemy is massing his artillery, apparently in preparation for general attack.

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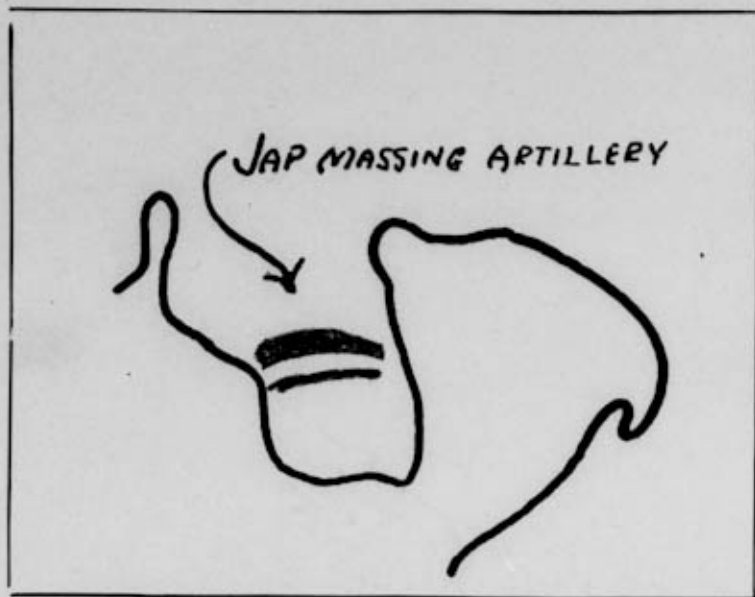
Air Corps
Servicing Detachments.

LAFÉ

CAMAGUEY

PORT AU PRINCE

WEST LONGITUDE



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

No 50

7:00 AM January 28 to 7:00 AM January 29

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
QSD Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Orders were issued for the activation and movement to the NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION of the following units for use in ENGLAND and NORTH IRELAND.

One Signal Service Company

One Quartermaster Car Company (less two platoons)

One Ordnance Company (Depot)

One Military Police Company

One General Dispensary

Approximate strength - 575 officers and men.

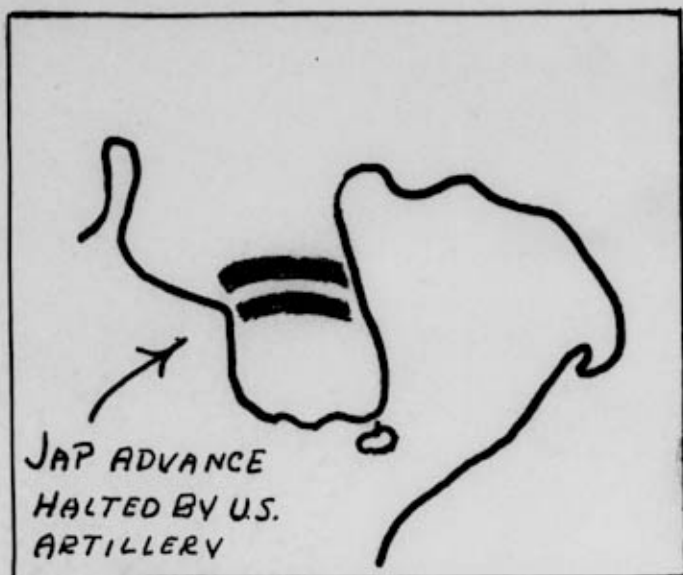
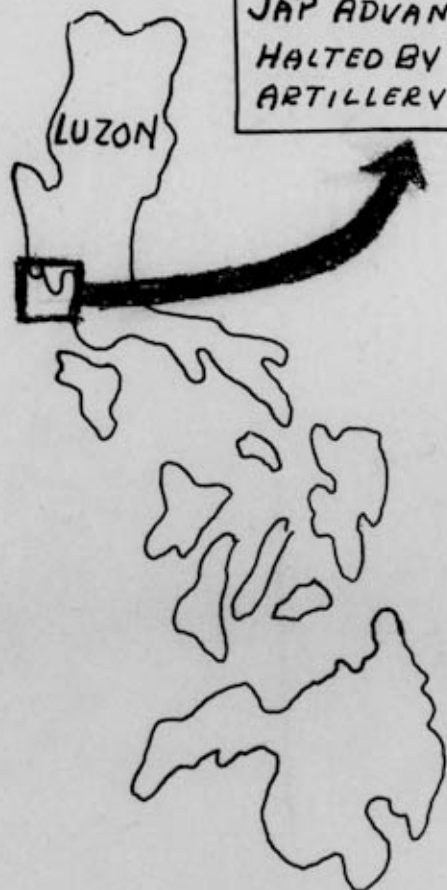
2. One infantry division and one tank destroyer battalion, approximate strength - 15,600 officers and men, ordered to the NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION staging area at INDIANTOWN GAP MILITARY RESERVATION, PENNSYLVANIA, for future movement to NORTH IRELAND.

3. One B-17 (four-motored bomber) departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

B. FAR EAST.

General MACARTHUR reports that his artillery decimated JAPANESE infantry which attempted to advance without artillery or air support following a limited retrograde movement of U.S. forces. This movement, designed to consolidate his position, was misinterpreted by the JAPANESE as a general withdrawal.

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

No 49

7:00 AM January 27 to 7:00 AM January 28

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND and ICELAND included).

1. Orders issued for the activation of the following Coast Artillery units by May 1, 1942:

- 2 Antiaircraft Brigade Headquarters
- 8 Regiments, Antiaircraft
- 8 Separate Battalions, Antiaircraft
- 2 Searchlight Battalions
- 1 Barrage Balloon Group Headquarters
- 3 Barrage Balloon Battalions

Of these, the following units are scheduled for early movement to NORTH IRELAND:

- 4 Antiaircraft Regiments
- 6 Separate Antiaircraft Battalions
- 1 Barrage Balloon Battalion

(Approximate strength, 16,000 officers and men)

Approximate aggregate strength of all units activated, 29,000 officers and men.

2. Orders have been issued releasing ammunition as follows:

a. For the CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND:

- 100,000 rounds Caliber .30 Armor Piercing & Tracer
- 15,000 rounds Caliber .50 Armor Piercing & Tracer
- 38,500 rounds Shell, High Explosive, 90mm Antiaircraft

b. For U. S. Army Forces in AUSTRALIA:

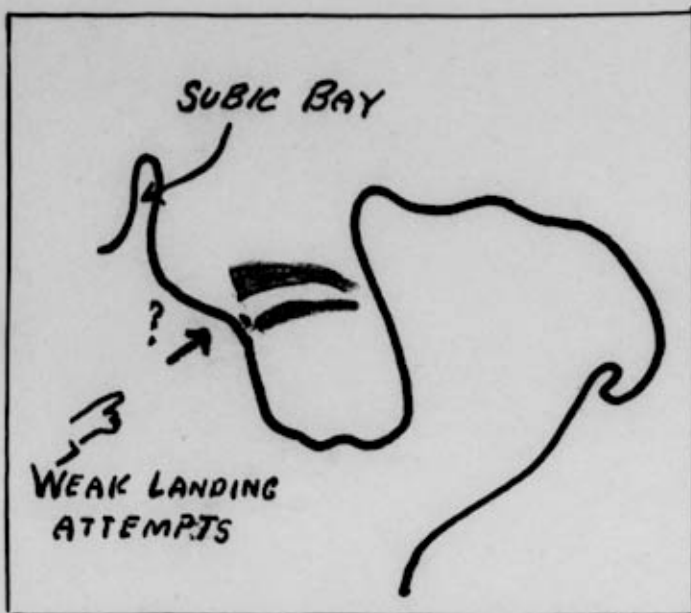
- 1,000,000 rounds Caliber .30 Ball
- 250,000 rounds Caliber .50 Armor Piercing & Tracer

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

B. FAR EAST.

General MACARTHUR reports that enemy activity in LUZON now limited to weak landing attempts in SUBIC BAY region, and light bombing activity.

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

No 48

7:00 AM January 26 to 7:00 AM January 27

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND and ICELAND included).

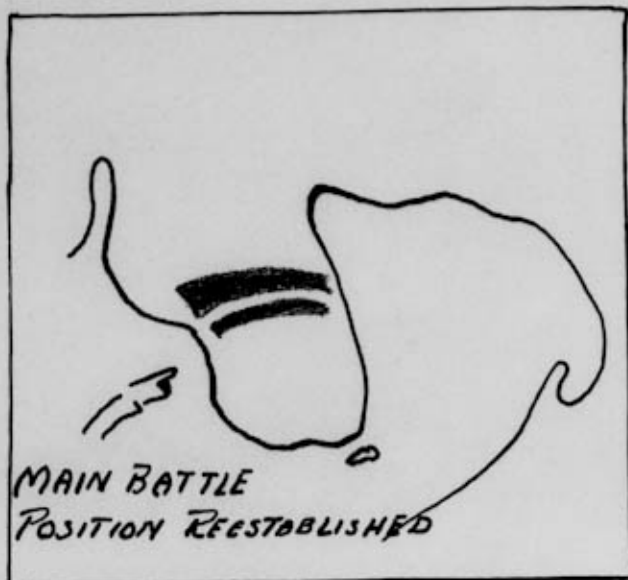
1. Orders have been issued to ship at the earliest possible moment 114 medium bombardment planes (B-26's) to HAWAII by boat. From there these planes will be flown to AUSTRALIA as rapidly as they can be assembled.

2. Three heavy bombardment planes (B-17's) departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

B. FAR EAST.

General MacARTHUR reports that U. S. Forces in LUZON are re-established on main battle position without loss of materiel or men. Result of combat between two P-40's and three enemy bombers, two bombers shot down and one disabled. Enemy building up air strength at DAVAO and JOLO.

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

No 47

7:00 A.M. January 25 to 7:00 A.M. January 26

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE. (GREENLAND and ICELAND included.)

Orders have been issued releasing ammunition as follows:

a. For ATLANTIC Bases:

77,000 rds. Shell, High Explosive, 60mm Mortar
15,000 rds. Shell, High Explosive, 37mm Antiaircraft
16,000 rds. Shell, High Explosive, 3" Antiaircraft
32,400 rds. Shell, High Explosive, 105mm Howitzer

b. For Western Theater of Operations:

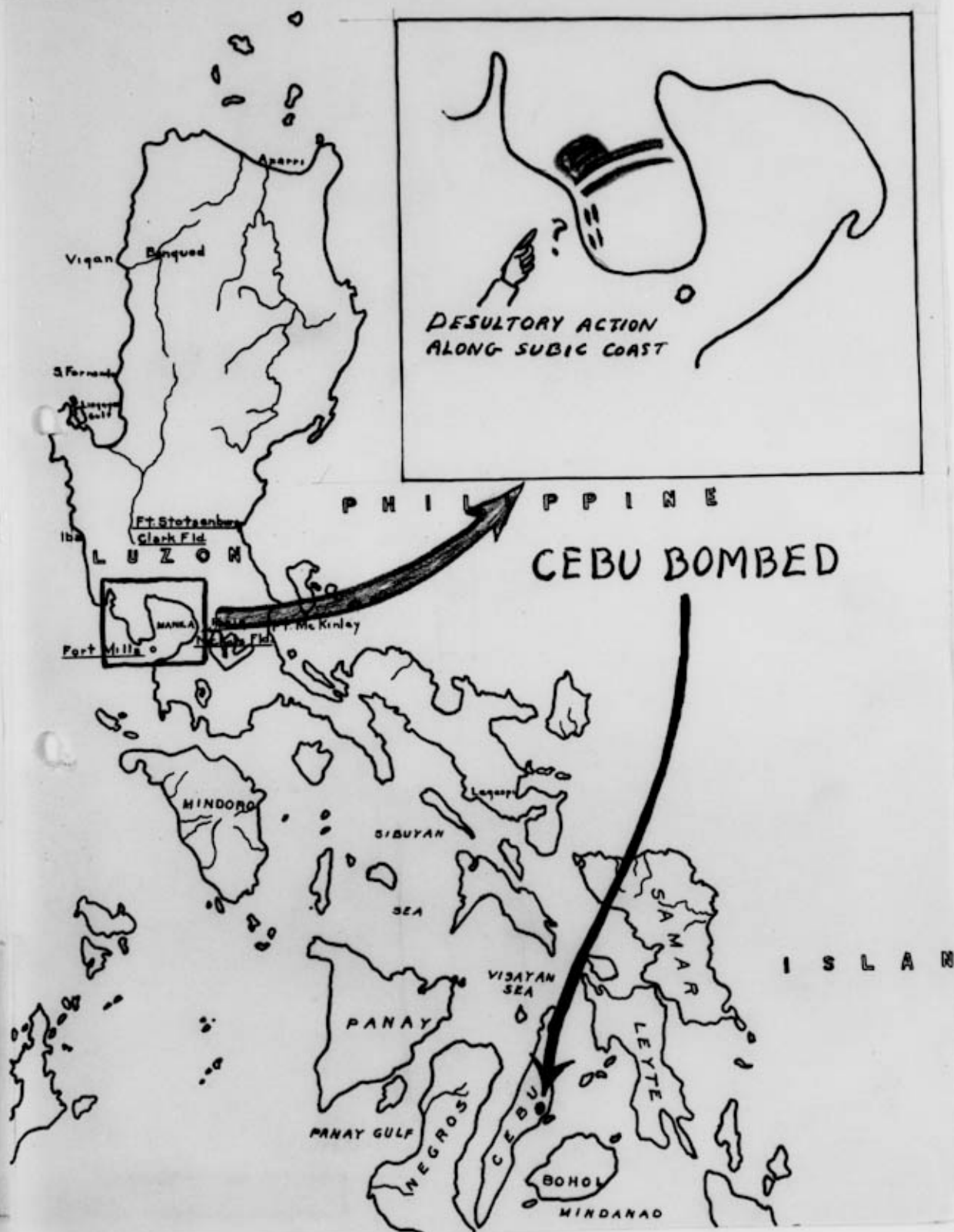
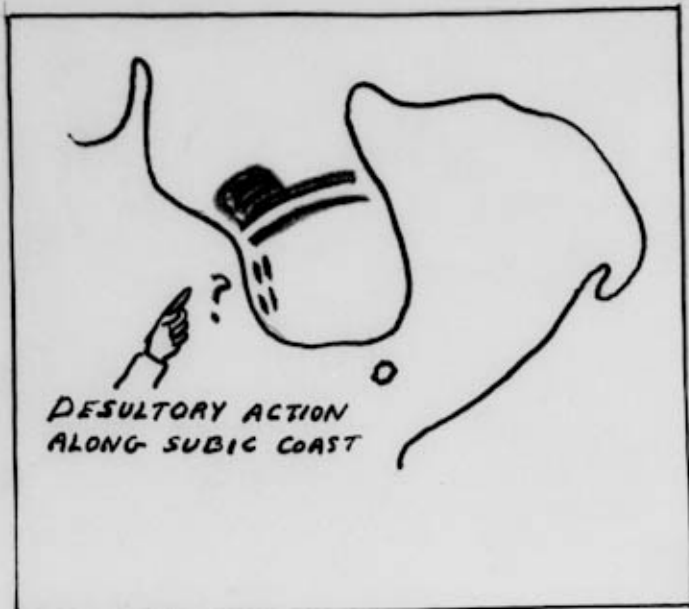
12,300 rds. Shell, High Explosive, 105mm Howitzer
6,000 rds. Shell, High Explosive, 90mm Antiaircraft

c. To Chief Army Air Forces at EGLIN FIELD, FLORIDA,
for the "Halpro" Project (Aviation Assistance to CHINA):

8,700 rds. Cal. .50 Armor Piercing and Tracer (4 to 1)
8,000 rds. Cal. .45 Ball

B. FAR EAST.

General MacArthur describes action along SUBIC Coast as desultory. 18 JAP bombers attacked CEBU Harbor 21 January, sinking one small ship. Objective appears to be interdiction of inter-island shipping.



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

No 46

7:00 A.M. January 24 to 7:00 A.M. January 25

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

Orders were issued for the activation of the following units:

One coast artillery regiment (155-mm gun) (approximate strength, 1,800 men).

Two composite batteries of antiaircraft artillery; one section ammunition train for 155-mm gun unit (approximate strength, 12 officers, 400 men).

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports from LUZON that counter-attack on his right was a smashing success. Powerful artillery concentration of 155-mm howitzers was deadly. Our infantry found enemy completely disorganized in that area; left hundreds of dead on field with quantities of supplies and equipment. Enemy now shifting center of gravity to the west where his supply lines are secured by Navy. His pressure on the left forced me to give ground with some loss, including guns of obsolete type. Situation now stabilized. Immediate danger over for the present.

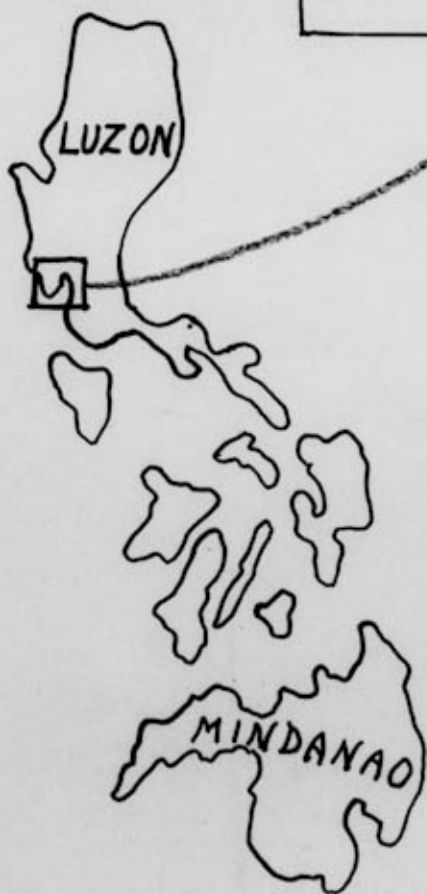
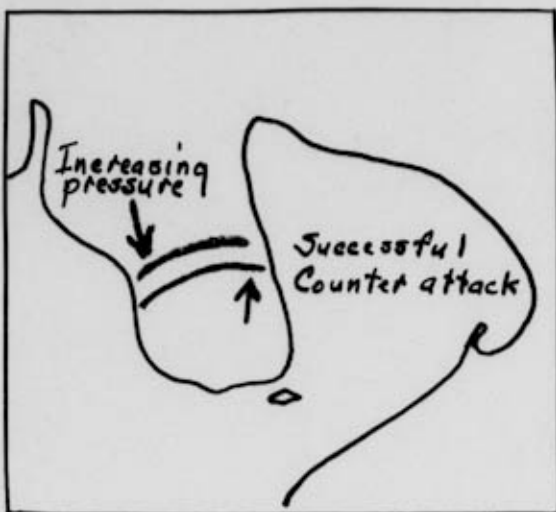
2. Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces in AUSTRALIA, has been advised by the War Department that, in connection with blockade running to the PHILIPPINES, it is important to send small arms ammunition to MINDANAO. General SHARP's force there, of about 30,000, has practically no small arms ammunition. General MACARTHUR should be consulted for priority between LUZON and MINDANAO.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

3. General BRETT reports arrival in AUSTRALIA of four liberators and eleven B-17's from CAIRO; three B-17's from SAN FRANCISCO. These are all four-motored bombers.

- 2 -

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

No 45

7:00 AM January 23 to 7:00 AM January 24

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
GSD Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Commanding General, CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND, reports that four pursuit planes are now operating from SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA.

2. Instructions have been also issued dispatching two B-18 (bi-motored bombers) and ten P-36 pursuit planes to FORTALEZA, BRAZIL. These planes are designed to increase the facilities of the U. S. Military Mission in the combat training of BRAZILIAN pilots.

B. FAR EAST.

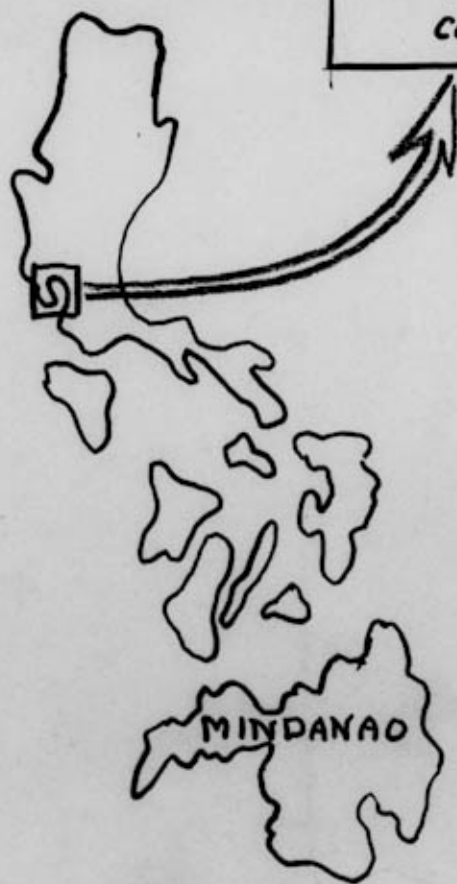
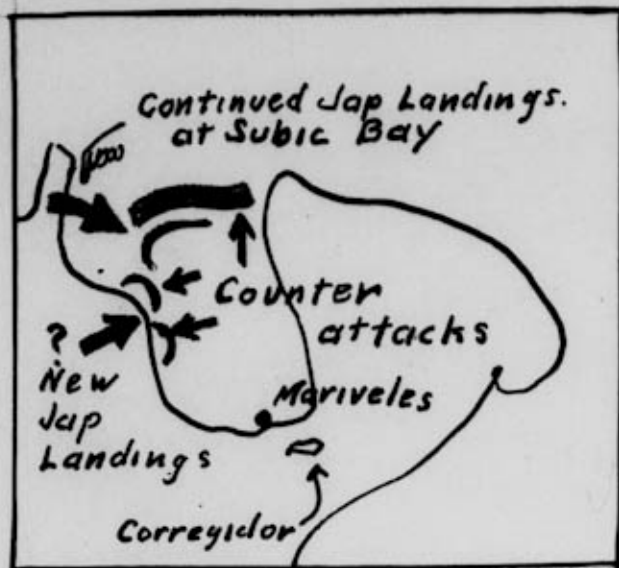
1. Report from General BRERETON, AUSTRALIA, dated January 22 outlined action being taken for relief of CORREGIDOR and MARIVELES area. Small boats being loaded for dispatch through danger zone under cover of darkness. Additional rations and ammunition being procured in AUSTRALIA for shipment to NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES area. These will be transferred to smaller blockade runners and sent into PHILIPPINES until adequate level is built up.

2. General MACARTHUR reports the enemy has landed fresh troops in the SUBIC BAY area of LUZON and is attacking in force along his left flank and at many points along the coast, supported by warships and air forces. MACARTHUR's forces counterattacking on the left, also on the right to relieve pressure by diversion. Exhausted condition of his troops pitted against fresh units of the enemy makes the result hazardous. The only means left to his forces is the ferocity of their fighting.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

3. General MACARTHUR reports that guerilla operations by the MOROS in northern MINDANAO are already organized and operating under his general direction. Everything possible along that line is being done.





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

No 44

7:00 AM January 22 to 7:00 AM January 23

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

Orders have been issued releasing ammunition as follows:

a. For ALASKA:

1,800 mines, high explosive, antitank, M1

b. For the Navy:

100,000 rounds Caliber .30 Incendiary

B. FAR EAST.

1. General BRERETON reports from AUSTRALIA that immediate action is being taken to start many small craft from NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES to deliver food to PHILIPPINES. Carefully selected personnel departing immediately by air for NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES to seek additional assistance at ABDA Headquarters in BATAVIA. They will fan out from there through JAVA, SUMATRA and CELEBES to secure food and small craft locally for shipments. They have sufficient funds to provide bonuses. Every effort being made with means and personnel available to carry out intent of War Department instructions.

2. General MACARTHUR reports from LUZON that the enemy, repulsed everywhere with heavy fighting, has evidently adopted the policy of attrition, since his unopposed command of the sea enables him to provide replacements at will. MACARTHUR's losses, already heavy, are mounting, and now constitute approximately 35% of entire force. Diminishing strength will soon force withdrawal to a shortened line where he proposes

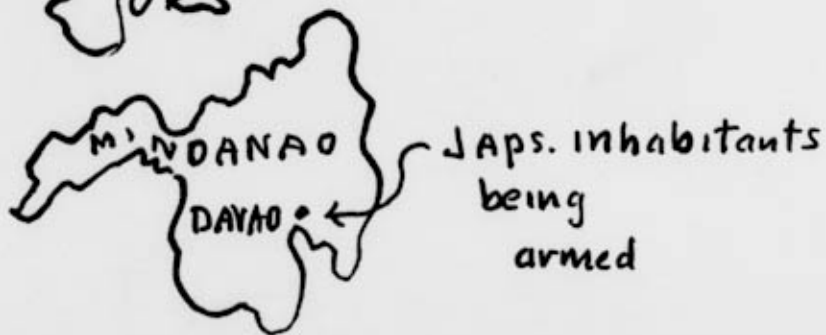
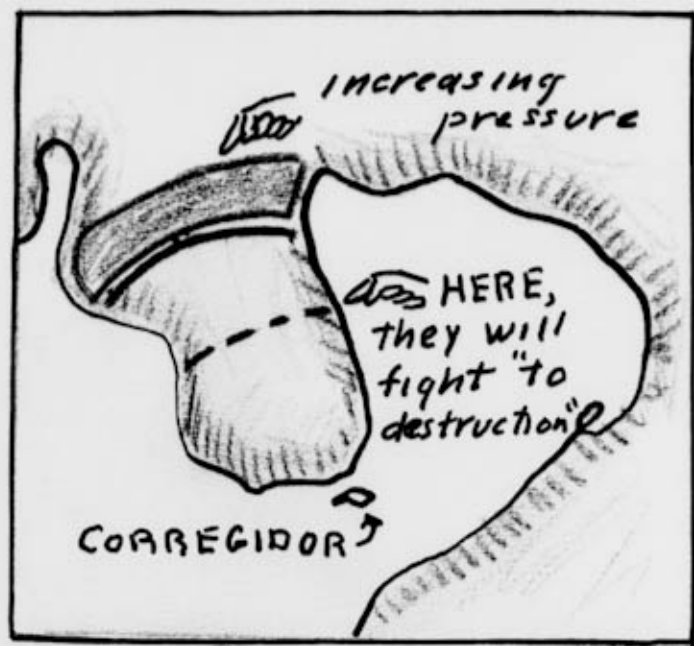
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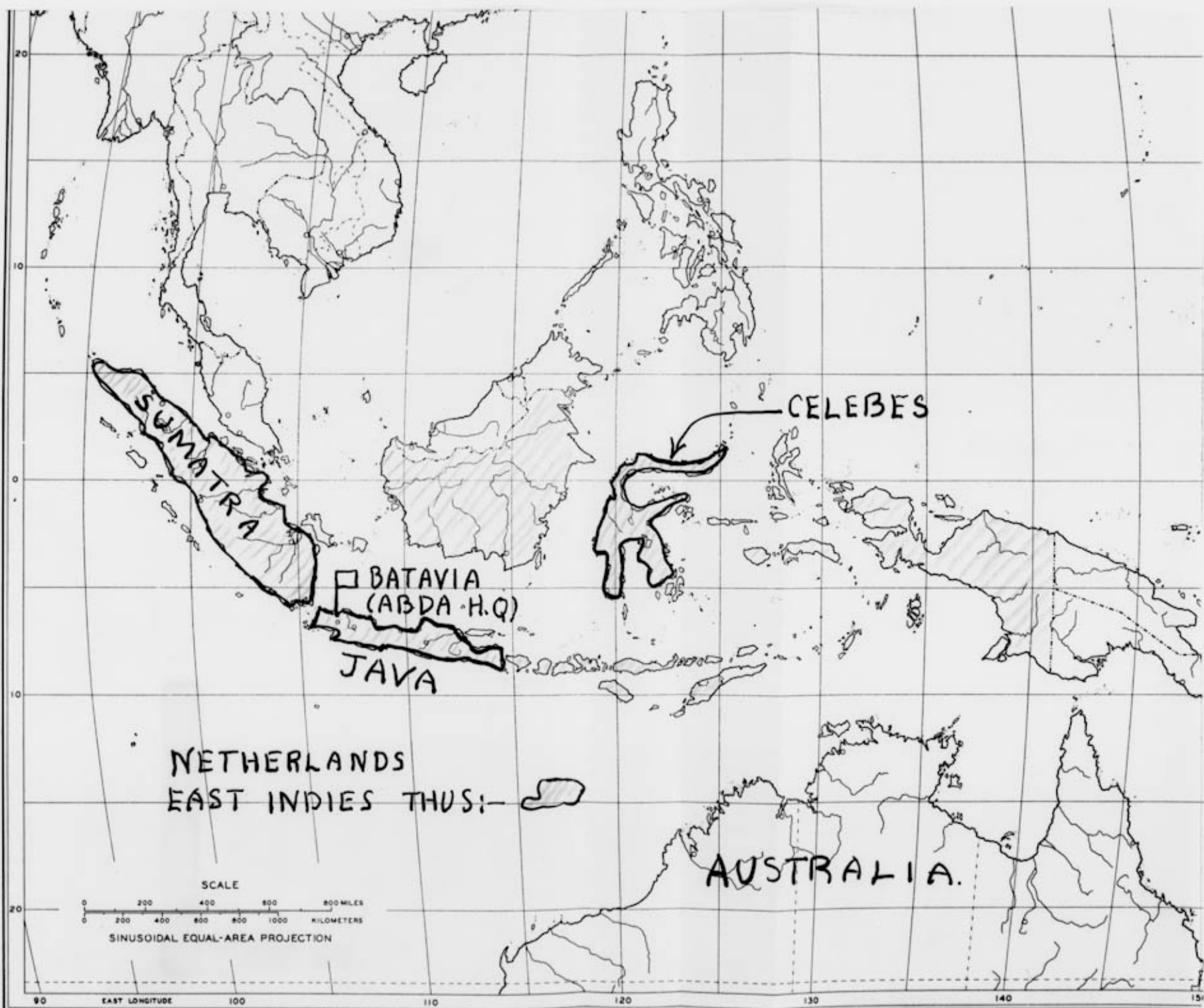
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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-8-78

to fight to complete destruction. General MACARTHUR takes this occasion to pay high tribute to the magnificent service his force has rendered. Recommends that in case of his death, General SUTHERLAND, present Chief of Staff, be designated as his successor. The report adds that approximately 10,000 JAPANESE Nationals, former residents of DAVAO, are being armed and organized. Aerial patrols and prowling warships conspicuously absent.

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

No 43

7:00 A.M. January 21 to 7:00 A.M. January 22

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-2-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

The War Department authorized an increase in the strength of the Army Air Forces during the calendar year 1942 to a total of 70,914 officers and 997,687 enlisted men; also a further increase in pilot training capacity to provide for a rate of 70,000 graduates during 1943.

B. FAR EAST.

General MACARTHUR reports enemy pressure rapidly increasing in LUZON. New forces being landed in SUBIC BAY and LINGAYEN GULF areas. Entire 14th JAPANESE Army apparently being committed. Air activity light. Enemy bombers attacked CEBU in VISAYAS January 18. Damage to shipping in harbor severe. Airfield untouched. No change in MINDANAO.

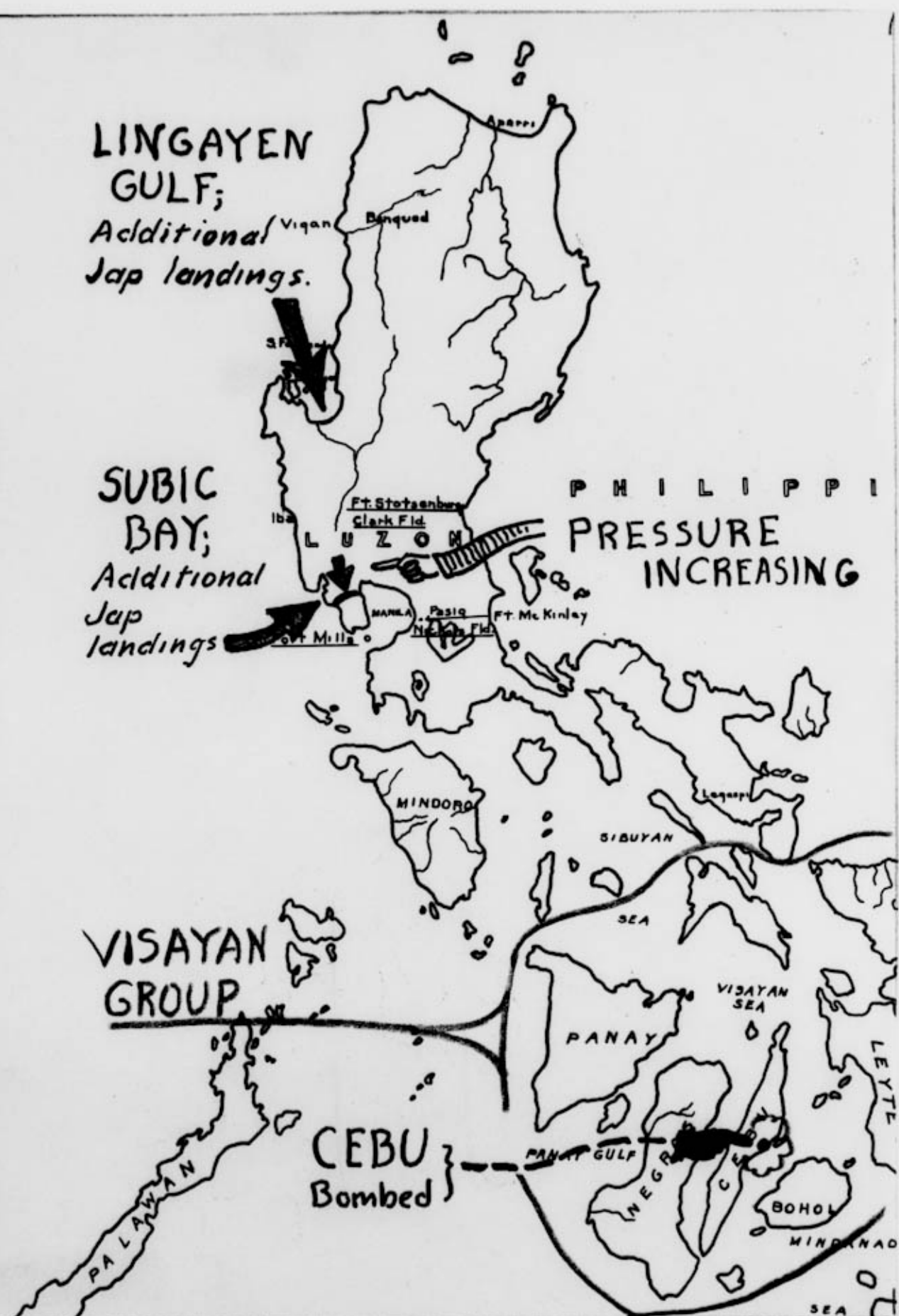
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LINGAYEN GULF;
Additional
Jap landings.

SUBIC BAY;
Additional
Jap landings

PHILIPPINE
PRESSURE
INCREASING

CEBU
Bombed



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

No 42

7:00 AM January 20 to 7:00 AM January 21

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

B. FAR EAST.

1. Lieutenant General BRETT in BATAVIA advised by War Department substantially as follows:

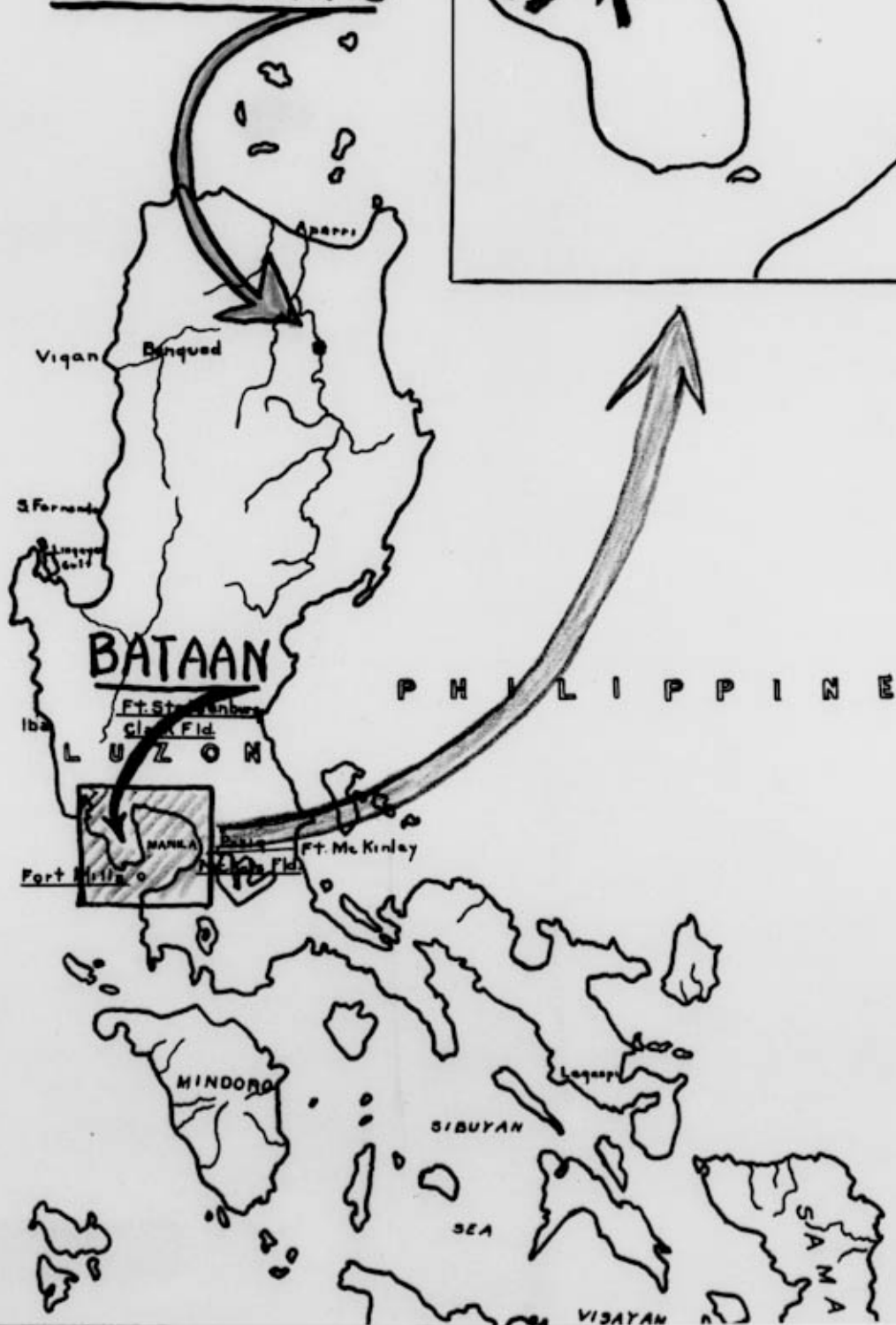
For an indefinite time U. S. Army Forces in ABDA area will necessarily be limited largely to air, antiaircraft and technical troops. Plans now under way to provide additional air, air base, antiaircraft and 155mm howitzer units, in near future, for use in ABDA area - total personnel involved over 20,000. Reinforced infantry brigade also being provided for defense of NEW CALEDONIA. DUTCH and AUSTRALIANS should be willing to furnish infantry for defense of TIMOR, supported by some U. S. artillery now in AUSTRALIA plus antiaircraft due to arrive shortly. Brigadier General A. M. PATCH, Commander of the CALEDONIA force, will arrive AUSTRALIA ahead of troops to expedite arrangements for assembly and transshipment of forces. He should be given every possible assistance. Shipping situation precludes additional ground reinforcements from the U. S. for a considerable time. Report desired as soon as practicable of measures adopted by DUTCH and AUSTRALIAN governments to secure TIMOR area.

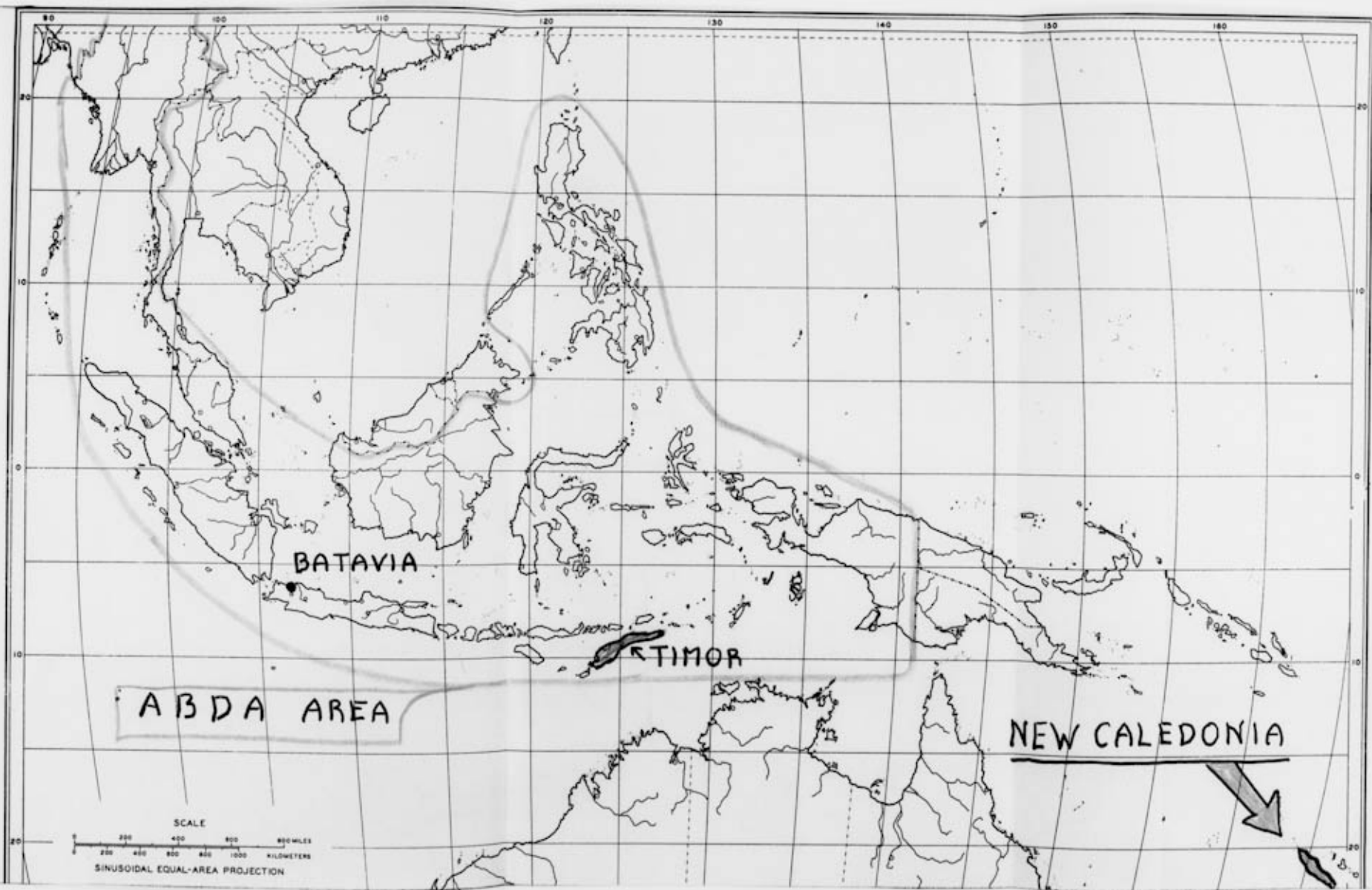
2. General MACARTHUR reports: Restoration of lines in center by savage fighting and with heavy losses. Reports surprise raid on JAP airfield at TUGUEGARAO in CAGAYAN VALLEY (approximately 225 airline miles N by E from BATAAN). Enemy dead 110, over 300 others routed. Raid described as small but brilliant.

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TUGUEGARAO

OUR LINE RESTORED
AFTER BITTER
FIGHTING.





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

No 41

7:00 AM January 19 to 7:00 AM January 20

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Commanding General, HAWAII, reports submarine contacts continue, with one certain destruction by Air Corps.
2. Commanding General, CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND, reports that four B-17's (4 motored bombers) with 12 officers and 50 enlisted men left PANAMA 16 January for SALINAS, ECUADOR.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

B. FAR EAST.

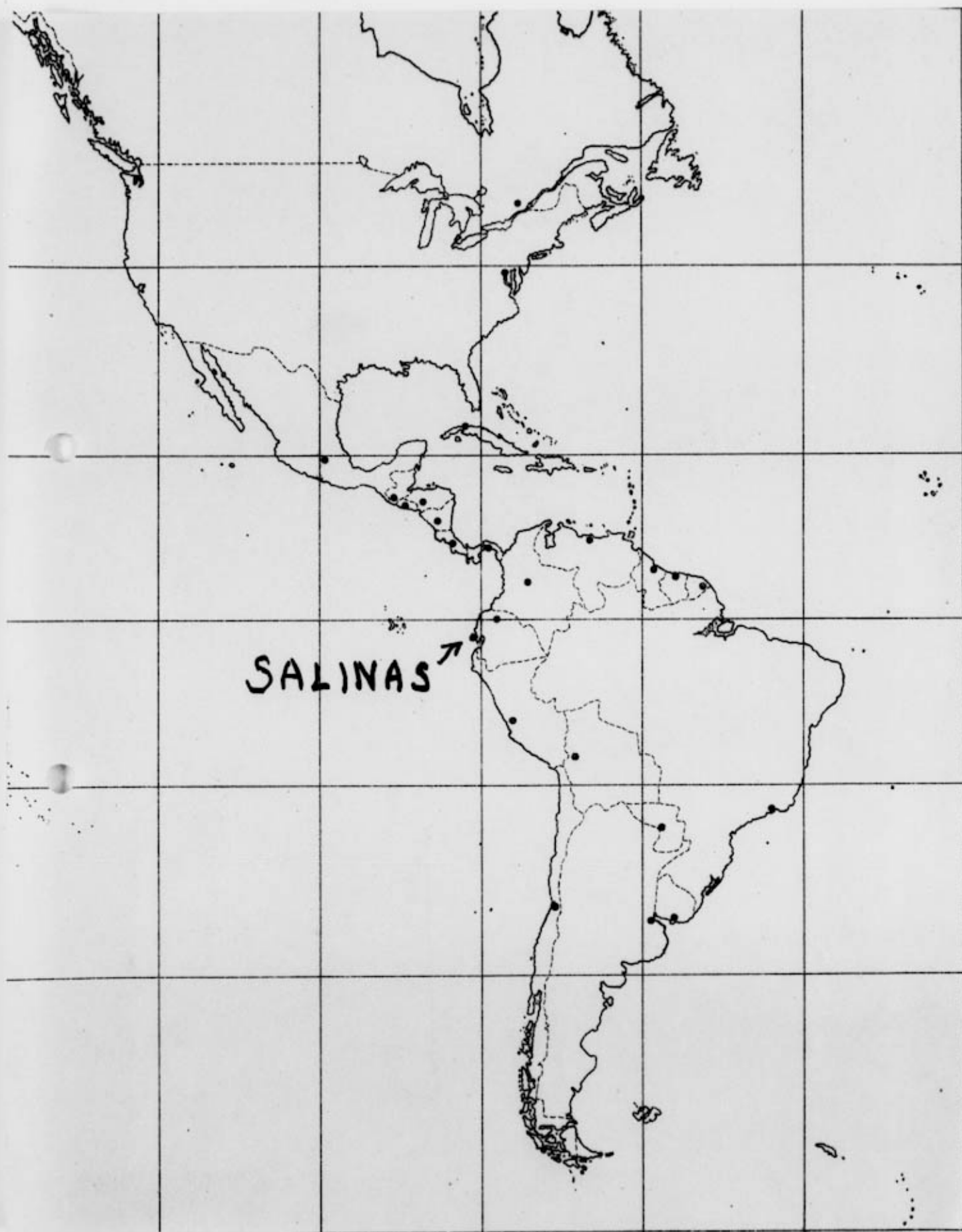
1. General MACARTHUR reports sharp fighting on his center in LUZON, with enemy pressure increasing. Hostile air activity inconsequential.

2. Reports from MINDANAO estimate enemy force in vicinity of DAVAO at one division. MACARTHUR's force on MINDANAO about 22,000 PHILIPPINE Army and constabulary, mostly in MISAMIS and BUKIDON, with 1,000 in ZAMBOANGA. Number of newly organized volunteers, armed only with rifles, constantly increasing. Contact with hostile force at DAVAO being maintained along general line extending from vicinity DIGOS to point on road about 35 miles north of DAVAO. Four airdromes at DEL MONTE and MALANANG ready for use with 800 Air Corps personnel available there. No hostile penetration of VISAYAN ISLAND where MACARTHUR has about 8,000 troops plus volunteer group. General MACARTHUR adds that employment of ground and air forces in MINDANAO can be followed immediately by unimpeded movement northward into VISAYAN ISLANDS. This movement, in conjunction with expulsion hostile air from DAVAO and JOLO, would protect NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, while movement to north would permit immediate support of his force in BATAAN.

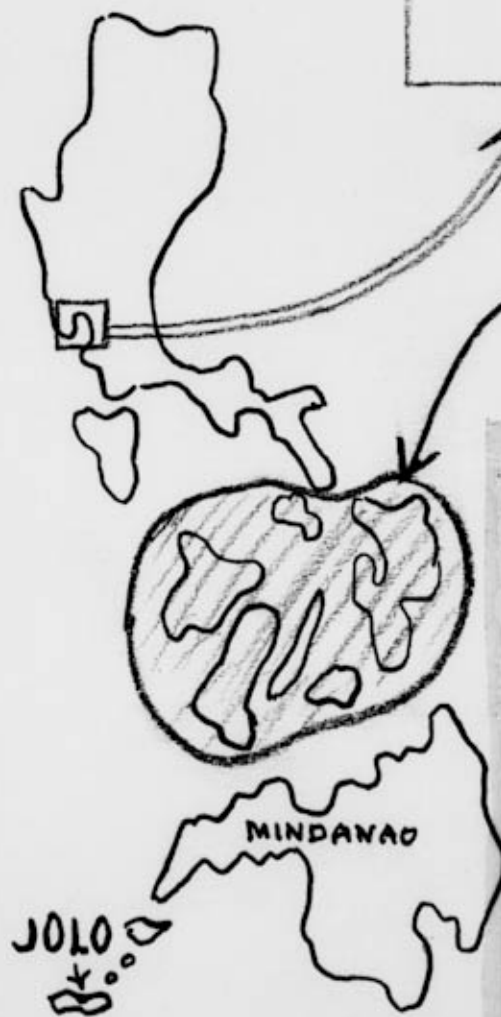
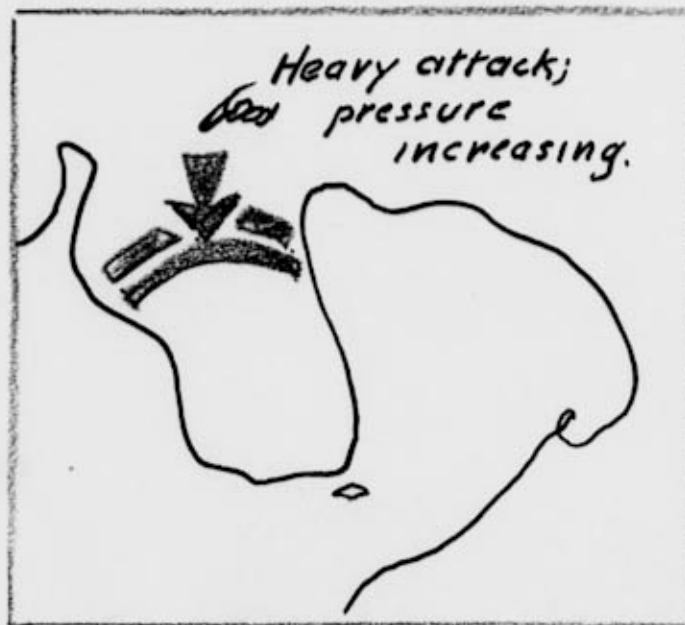
3. General MACARTHUR, reporting on air operations in MINDANAO area, states that direct hits were made upon an enemy cruiser and large tanker 100 miles off JOLO, sinking cruiser and leaving tanker in flames.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

4. General BRERETON reports from AUSTRALIA that plans have been initiated to ship food to the PHILIPPINES from the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES in small craft and ammunition in U. S. submarine. Additional food and ammunition being shipped on larger ships for trans-shipment on small craft from other NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES localities. Only one ship immediately available in AUSTRALIA for blockade running is being prepared for attempted run. Other ships being sought in AUSTRALIA and NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES for same purpose.



SALINAS ↗



VISAYAN ISLANDS



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

No 40

7:00 AM January 18 to 7:00 AM January 19

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

One Liberator -(4 motored bomber) departed SAN FRANCISCO
for HAWAII.

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports reliable information from
MANILA shows AMERICAN and BRITISH citizens subjected to con-
centration. All have been removed from their homes and families
have been separated; women and children confined in one place and
men in another. Living conditions reported severe.

2. General MACARTHUR reports intermittent fighting with
indecisive results all along the line and little air activity.

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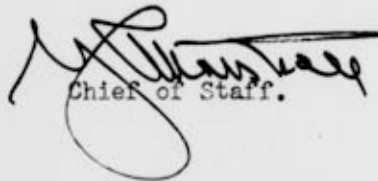
**WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON**

January 18, 1942.

Add following to bottom page 1 of Daily Summary
War Department Operational Report No. 39, for
January 17 - 18, 1942.

Note: Colonel Hurley's departure for Australia will merely expedite his availability for New Zealand post. He was anxious to help his friend MacArthur. His presence will be reassurance to MacArthur. Hurley left at 1:00 A.M. this morning, arrived Los Angeles 4:00 P.M. today, and leaves almost immediately for trans Pacific flight.

MacArthur's acknowledgment of my message of Saturday regarding blockade running was as follows: "Your 949 has relieved me greatly. I have already initiated all possible local steps to relieve situation here. Interisland shipping, however, has been greatly depleted."


Chief of Staff.

COPY

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BY AUTHORITY OF A. C. OF S. WFO

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-73

Date

Initials

January 17, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Far Eastern Situation.

The Secretary of War directs that the following secret message be sent by the most expeditious means possible consistent with secrecy to the Commanding General, U.S. Forces in Australia, Melbourne, Australia:

MACARTHUR REPORTS FOOD SITUATION IN BATAAN AND
CORREGIDOR BECOMING MOST SERIOUS AND STATES THAT BLOCKADE
IS LIGHT AND MAY EASILY BE RUN BY BOLD ACTION STOP IMPERATIVE
YOU ORGANIZE COMPREHENSIVE EFFORTS TO RUN BLOCKADE AND
DELIVER SUPPLIES STOP USE YOUR FUNDS WITHOUT STINT STOP
CALL FOR MORE IF REQUIRED STOP COLONEL CHAMBERLAIN HAS A
CREDIT OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS OF CHIEF OF STAFFS FUND WHICH
CAN BE SPENT IN WHATEVER MANNER LATTER DEEMS ADVISABLE STOP
I DIRECT ITS USE FOR THIS PURPOSE STOP ARRANGE FOR ADVANCE
PAYMENTS COMMA PARTIAL PAYMENTS FOR UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS AND
LARGE BONUS FOR ACTUAL DELIVERY STOP YOUR JUDGMENT MUST
DETERMINE METHOD OF PROCEDURE AND OF PAYMENTS BUT YOU MUST
GET RESULTS STOP ORGANIZE GROUPS OF BOLD AND RESOURCEFUL
MEN COMMA DISPATCH THEM WITH FUNDS BY PLANES TO ISLANDS IN
POSSESSION OF OUR ASSOCIATES COMMA THERE TO BUY FOOD AND
CHARTER VESSELS FOR SERVICE STOP REWARDS AND ACTUAL DELIVERY

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SECRET

BATAAN OR CORREGIDOR MUST BE FIXED AT LEVEL TO INSURE UTMOST
ENERGY AND DARING ON PART OF MASTERS STOP AT SAME TIME
DISPATCH BLOCKADE RUNNERS FROM AUSTRALIA WITH STANDARD
RATIONS AND SMALL AMOUNTS OF AMMUNITION ON EACH STOP MOVEMENT
MUST BE MADE ON BROAD FRONT OVER MANY ROUTES AND IN GREAT
NUMBERS OF SMALL OR MEDIUM SIZE BOATS AND MUST BE CONTINUED
INCESSANTLY UNTIL SATISFACTORY LEVEL OF SUPPLIES IS SECURED
STOP ONLY INDOMITABLE DETERMINATION AND PERTINACITY WILL
SUCCEED AND SUCCESS MUST BE OURS STOP RISKS WILL BE GREAT STOP
REWARDS MUST BE PROPORTIONAL STOP REPORT INITIATION OF PLAN
STOP ABDA HEADQUARTERS IS BEING INFORMED ACKNOWLEDGE END
MARSHALL

L. T. GEROW,
Brigadier General,
Assistant Chief of Staff.

SECRET

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

No 39

7:00 AM January 17 to 7:00 AM January 18

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. On January 16, in response to a message from the Commanding General, HAWAIIAN DEPARTMENT, indicating that supplies were not arriving as promptly as desirable, the War Department sent a message to him pointing out the shortage of shipping and the necessity for holding down shipping requirements to an absolute minimum. The War Department further informed him that every possible consideration consistent with other urgent needs was being given to his requirements.

2. Four medium bombers, two transport planes and seven pursuit ships departed for station in PANAMA.

3. Four heavy bombers departed for HAWAII.

B. FAR EAST.

1. In response to a message from General MACARTHUR reporting serious shortage of food on BATAAN and CORREGIDOR, the War Department sent an urgent secret message to General MACARTHUR containing substantially the following: Two officers from the War Department have arrived in AUSTRALIA with instructions to organize blockade-running measures on a broad front for your supply of food and critical munitions. They have practically unlimited funds at their disposal. The U. S. Commanding General in AUSTRALIA has been given instructions concerning the urgency of this matter. He has been told of the availability of funds and told to procure vessels and crews to carry out this mission. Brigadier General PATRICK J. HURLEY is starting for AUSTRALIA by air January 18 to lend his energetic support to this matter. You are hereby allotted \$1,000,000 to offer in rewards for successful local efforts to penetrate the blockade and reach you with supplies. General BRERETON is being informed of the substance of this message.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

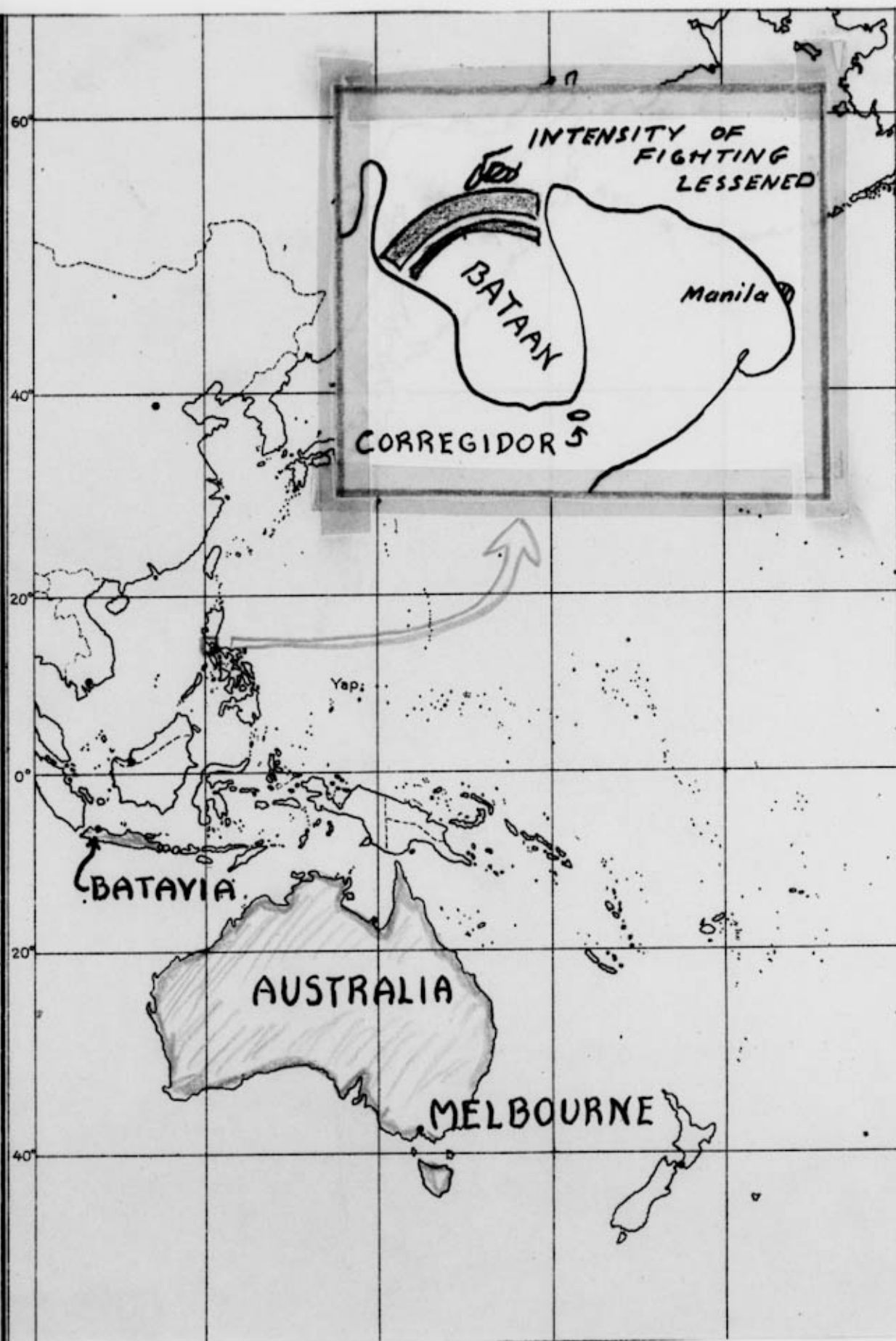
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

2. General WAVELL, General BRETT (in BATAVIA) and General BRERETON were also informed by urgent secret message of the foregoing.

3. General MACARTHUR reports a decrease in the intensity of the fighting along his lines. He states that he is counter-acting enemy propaganda by nightly programs on an improvised broadcasting station.

4. The Commanding General, U. S. FORCES IN AUSTRALIA, reports that three B-17's (Flying Fortresses) arrived in MELBOURNE on January 12, and that the pilots reported that all fields on the route were in excellent condition.

SECRET



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

No 38

7:00 AM January 16 to 7:00 AM January 17

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

Commanding General, CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND, reports that seven B-18 (bi-motored) bombers are now operating from GUATEMALA, thus extending the operating radius of aerial reconnaissance incident to protection of the CANAL.

B. FAR EAST.

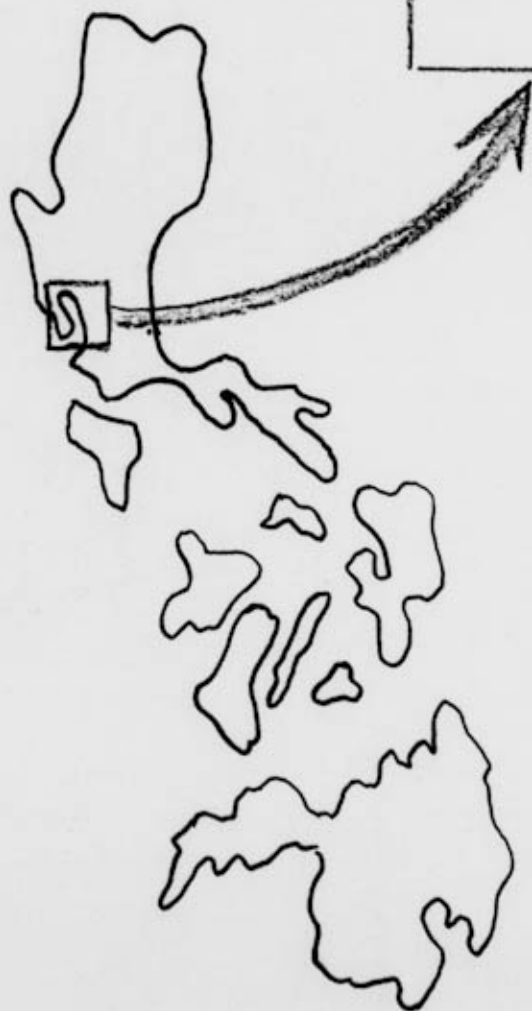
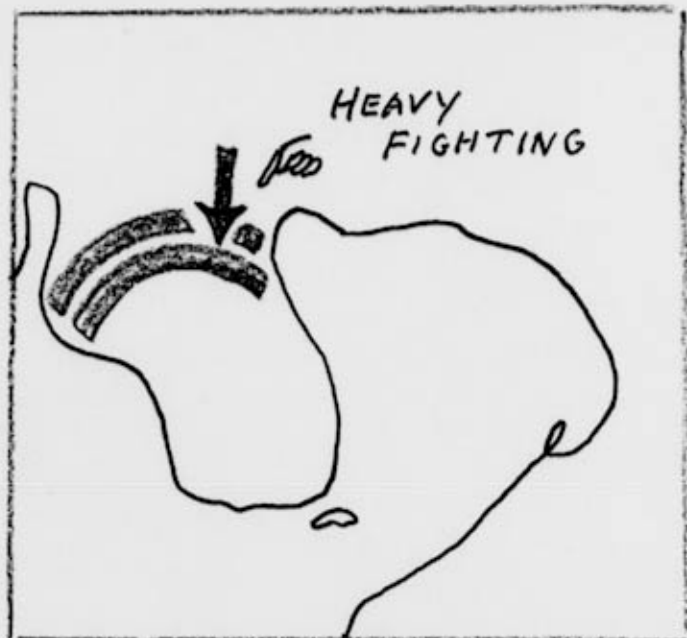
1. General MACARTHUR reports outbreak of heavy fighting on right of his line, with continued enemy air activity.

2. Generals BRETT and BRERETON report receipt of War Department instructions relative to their command functions in the ABDA Area. General BRERETON is enroute to AUSTRALIA to assume command.

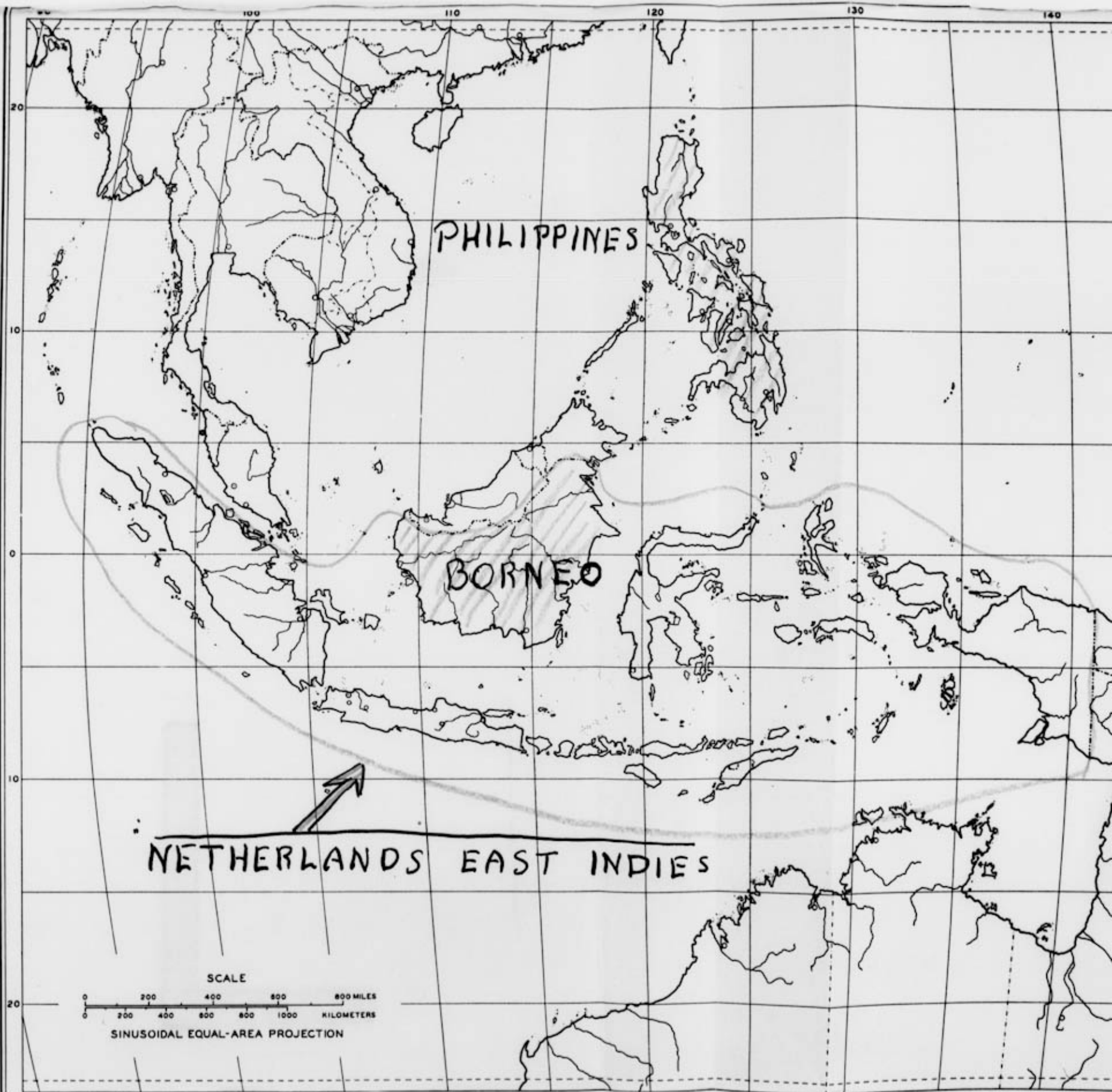
3. General WAVELL informs General MARSHALL that he intends to collect a United States striking force in the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES and use it as soon as possible for action northward to drive back JAPANESE and eventually relieve PHILIPPINES. At present, however, main effort must be devoted to securing SINGAPORE, and checking JAPANESE southward advance in BORNEO and to the east.

C. EUROPE (MIDDLE EAST included).

A convoy of four ships with approximately 2500 troops for ICELAND and 4100 troops for NORTH IRELAND sailed from NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION 15 January.







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

No 37

7:00 AM January 15 to 7:00 AM January 16

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Six A-20A's (light attack bombers) were dispatched by the Commanding General, CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND, January 14, to CURACAO. As soon as the flying field at ARUBA is ready to receive them, three of these airplanes will be flown there for station.

2. Due to the temporary delay of the movement of troops to CURACAO and ARUBA pending further negotiations by the State Department, the shipping set up for that purpose has been released for current shipments to PANAMA. The force destined for CURACAO and ARUBA will remain meanwhile at CAMP SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI.

3. The 27th division, destined for HAWAII, has been temporarily released for training purposes to the Commanding General, WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND, pending completion of necessary shipping arrangements.

4. Orders issued releasing the following ammunition for ALASKA. 26,000 rounds caliber .30, ball; 1,500 rounds shell, high explosive, 155 mm Howitzer.

B. FAR EAST.

1. War Department informs General MAGRUDER that he would be in command of U. S. forces in CHINA and in BURMA, in accordance with previous instructions, and authorizes him to complete the induction

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

of the American Volunteer Group in the U. S. Army as the 23rd Pursuit Group. He is informed that he operates under the strategic direction of GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI SHEK in CHINA and under the strategic direction of General WAVELL in BURMA. The War Department in separate cable informs General WAVELL of the above action.

2. Orders issued for the activation of one engineer company for transfer to CHRISTMAS ISLAND. Approximate strength - one officer, 45 enlisted men.

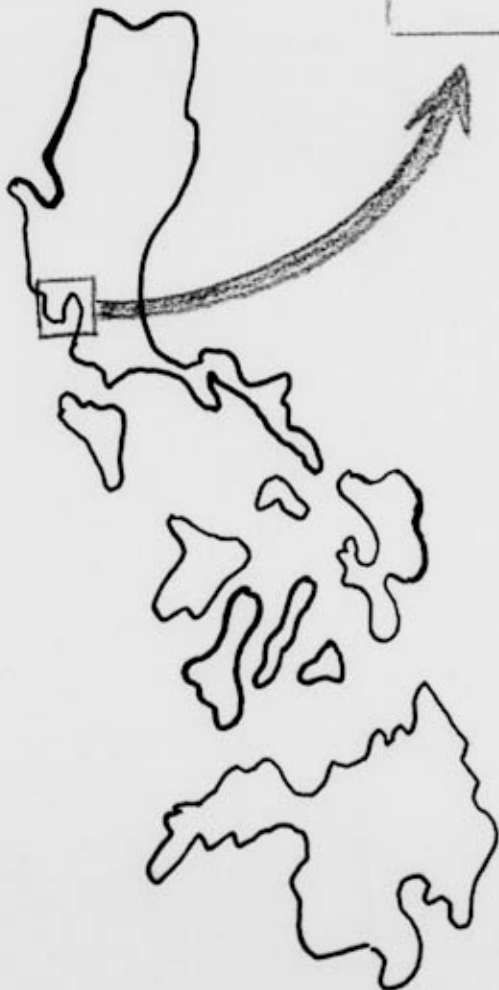
3. Three heavy bombers departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

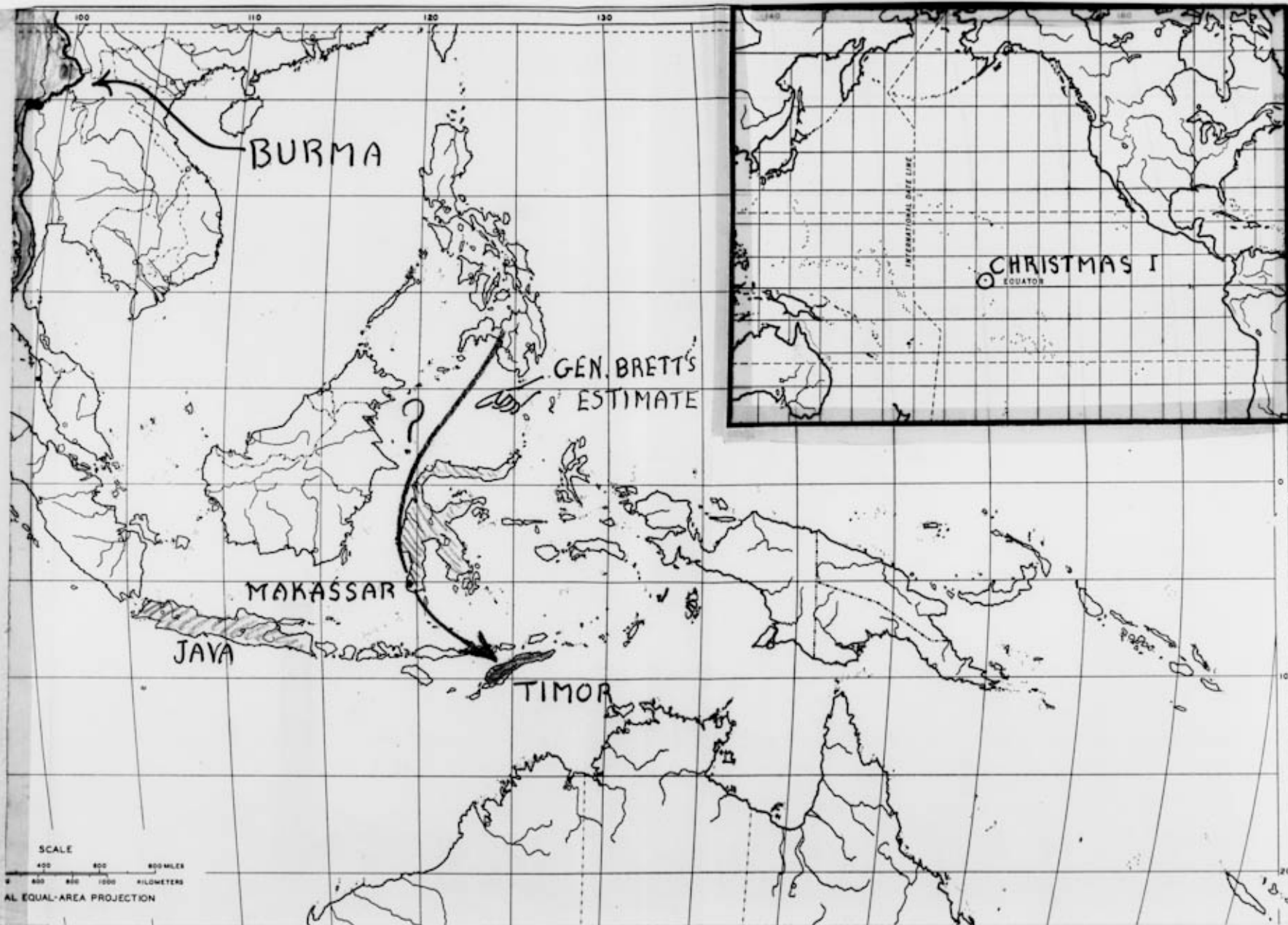
4. General MACARTHUR reports general fighting along entire front. JAPS using shock troops with intensive support from the air. Front line and artillery positions under incessant strafing by hostile dive bombers.

5. General BRETT estimates continued JAPANESE advance via MAKASSAR toward vital island of TIMOR. Reports bombers unable to operate in large numbers because of absence of fighter protection. Recommends carriers be used to ferry fighters to points south of JAVA or east of AUSTRALIA.



HEAVY FIGHTING;
HOSTILE DIVE BOMBERS
VERY ACTIVE





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

No 36

7:00 AM January 14 to 7:00 AM January 15

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-73

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. One heavy bomber (Liberator) departed SAN FRANCISCO for HAWAII.

2. One coast artillery battalion (harbor defense) ordered to the NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION for shipment to NEWFOUNDLAND. Approximate strength, 10 officers, 225 enlisted men.

3. Orders were issued releasing the following ammunition:

a. For ALASKA:

8,000 rds Caliber .45 tracer

30,000 rds shell, high explosive, 60 millimeter mortar

10,000 rds shell, high explosive, 81 millimeter mortar

70,000 rds shell, high explosive, 37 millimeter
antiaircraft

18,000 rds shell, high explosive, 3" antiaircraft

b. For the Navy:

3,126,000 rds caliber .30, ball and tracer

750,000 rds caliber .50, Armor Piercing and tracer

71,000 rds caliber .45, tracer

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports his forces repulsed with severe losses two strong enemy thrusts which were supported by artillery and aircraft. Two JAPANESE bombers shot down over CORREGIDOR.

2. Two heavy bombers (Flying Fortresses) departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

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3. The following units were ordered to the NEW YORK PORT
OF EMBARKATION for shipment to AUSTRALIA:

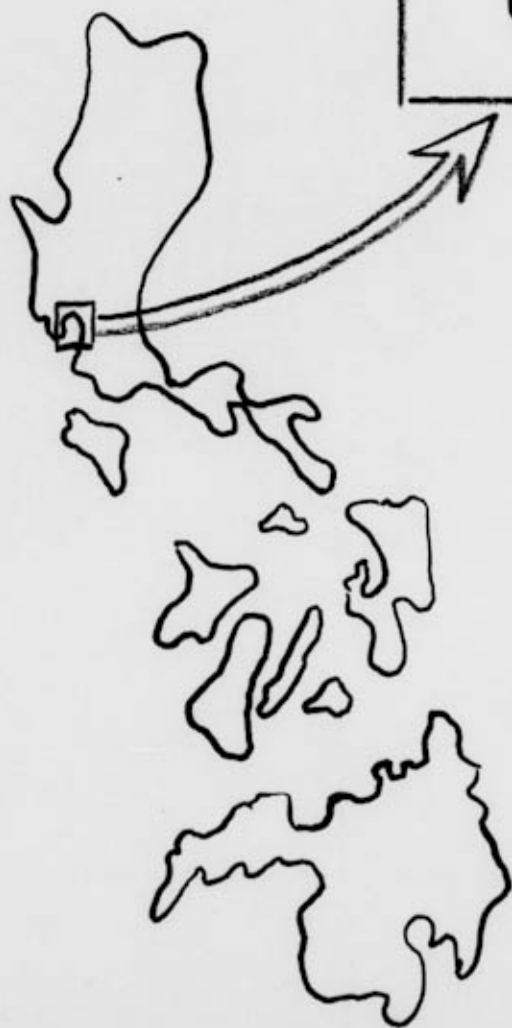
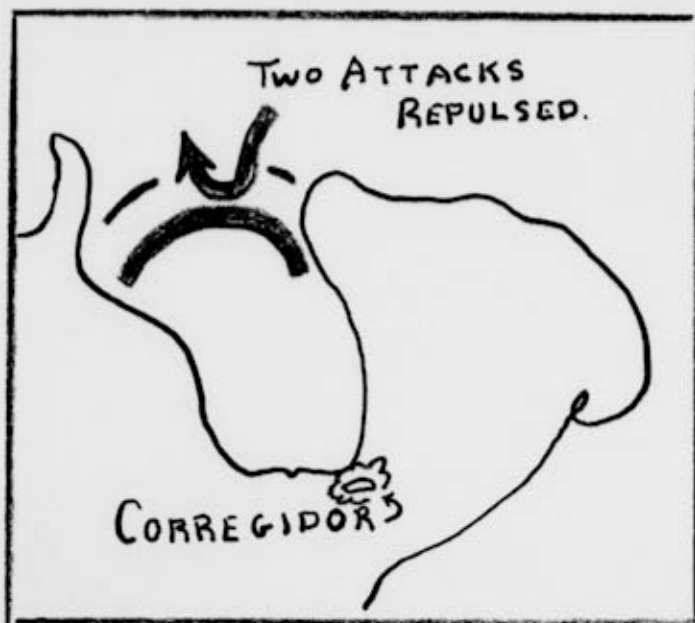
1 Infantry Brigade (Reinforced), including
1 Field Artillery Regiment (155mm howitzer)
and supporting Engineer, Medical, Quarter-
master, and Signal units.

1 Antiaircraft Regiment
1 Battalion Coast Artillery (155mm gun)
1 Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor)
1 Reconnaissance Squadron (Heavy)
Supporting service units.

Approximate strength, 1,000 officers, 230 nurses,
20,600 enlisted men.

C. EUROPE (MIDDLE EAST included).

Orders issued for the activation of two evacuation hospitals
for eventual shipment to north Ireland. Approximate strength,
139 enlisted men each.



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

No 35

7:00 AM January 13 to 7:00 AM January 14

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports ground and air activity unimportant.
2. General MACARTHUR has been informed by the War Department that his splendid resistance has materially aided the situation in MALAYSIA; that the movement of substantial BRITISH and INDIAN reinforcements into the ABDA* area is now taking place and will be completed early in February; that our heavy bombers have been arriving in the theatre in a steady flow; that substantial reinforcements of U.S. troops are being moved into the area, and that the movement will be completed in February; that the past success of bombing attacks by our aircraft indicates that similar action by stronger forces will re-establish naval equilibrium and eventually give us naval superiority.
3. General BRETT reports that three planes of the 19th U.S. Bombardment Group attacked enemy naval units in TARAKAN Area January 11 with uncertain results.
4. Four B-17's (Flying Fortresses) departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

* AUSTRALIAN-BRITISH-DUTCH-AMERICAN

~~SECRET~~

EAST INDIES



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

No 34

7:00 AM January 12 to 7:00 AM January 13

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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

B. FAR EAST.

1. The War Department has directed Major General LEWIS H. BRERETON at DARWIN, AUSTRALIA, to assume command of all U. S. Army forces in AUSTRALIA and other areas of the southwest PACIFIC, except troops in the PHILIPPINES and any that may be assigned for service in or for the support of CHINA. General BRERETON is informed that General WAVELL has been placed in supreme command of ABDA* forces in a theatre known as the ABDA THEATRE, comprising the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, MALAYA and BURMA, and that he controls in AUSTRALIA only those troops which are specifically allotted by the governments involved for service in or for the support of the above area. He is further informed that General WAVELL's responsibilities are strategic only, and that he is authorized to appeal to his own Government for decision in case he considers that the execution of an order of the supreme command might seriously jeopardize the interests of the UNITED STATES, provided he gives immediate notice to the supreme commander of his intention to appeal. He is informed that the strategic policy given General WAVELL directs the latter to hold the MALAY BARRIER and to operate sea and land forces as far forward of the BARRIER as possible; to re-establish communications through the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES with LUZON; and to support the PHILIPPINES. He is informed that Admiral HART is being assigned under General WAVELL as commander of the combined fleets of the Associated Powers in that area, and that General BRETT becomes Deputy Supreme Commander as soon as he is informed by the War Department that General WAVELL has officially assumed command.

~~SECRET~~
* AUSTRALIAN-BRITISH-DUTCH-AMERICAN

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

General BRERETON is directed to report to General WAVELL as soon as possible and to function thereafter as indicated above. His attention is again invited to the fact that U. S. troops in AUSTRALIAN territory come under the control of General WAVELL only when specifically allotted for service in the ABDA area, but that U. S. air units now being built up in AUSTRALIA are intended for service in the ABDA area, and that the agreement specifically provides that aircraft, including heavy bombers, arriving in General BRERETON's area are not to be considered as available before being organized into units. He is directed to accomplish this as soon as possible. He is informed that the War Department considers that the situation demands a unified and coordinated effort beginning as soon as possible for the eventual relief of the PHILIPPINES, which necessitates inflicting a defeat on the JAPANESE in some vital locality of the ABDA area, followed by a powerful, if even a limited, offensive to drive the enemy out of the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES and to open direct communications to the PHILIPPINES. His attention is invited to the fact that an example of a case justifying an appeal against the orders of the Supreme Commander would be one in which he believed that a favorable opportunity for relieving the pressure on the PHILIPPINE Garrison was definitely denied or apparently ignored. He is directed to inform General Brett of the substance of the foregoing, except with respect to the agreement, which General BRETT already knows about. He is informed that General MACARTHUR has already been notified of the foregoing.

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SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
DATE 10-3-78

2. General MACARTHUR reports termination of artillery battle of January 12 with notable success for U.S. forces. JAPS forced to displace gun positions to the rear and many targets of opportunity such as tank columns, armored units and infantry groups were dispersed. Eleven JAPANESE batteries were silenced with own losses comparatively light. Hostile bombing was light with every indication that heavy bombing efforts are being concentrated farther south.

3. Hospital ship MACTAN, carrying wounded evacuated from MANILA, arrived at MAKASSAR (CELEBES) 12 January and departed same day for DARWIN.

4. Three heavy bombers departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

5. Orders were issued for the movement of the following troop units to the SAN FRANCISCO PORT OF EMBARKATION for shipment to AUSTRALIA.

1 Heavy Bombardment Group

3 Coast Artillery Antiaircraft Regiments

3 Coast Artillery Antiaircraft Battalions

Miscellaneous supporting and service troops

Approximate strength, 600 officers, 10,900 men.

6. Orders were issued releasing ammunition as follows:

(1) To the AMERICAN VOLUNTEER GROUP in CHINA - via China Defense Supply Inc., NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA.

SECRET
- 3 -

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

1,095,900 rounds Cal. .50 Armor Piercing and Tracer

84,300 rounds Cal. .50 Armor Piercing and Tracer

(2) To U.S. forces in AUSTRALIA via Army Air Force MACDILL
FIELD, FLORIDA.

48,000 rounds Cal. .50 Armor Piercing and Tracer

C. EUROPE (MIDDLE EAST included).

Orders were issued for the movement of the following troop
units to the NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION for shipment to NORTH
IRELAND.

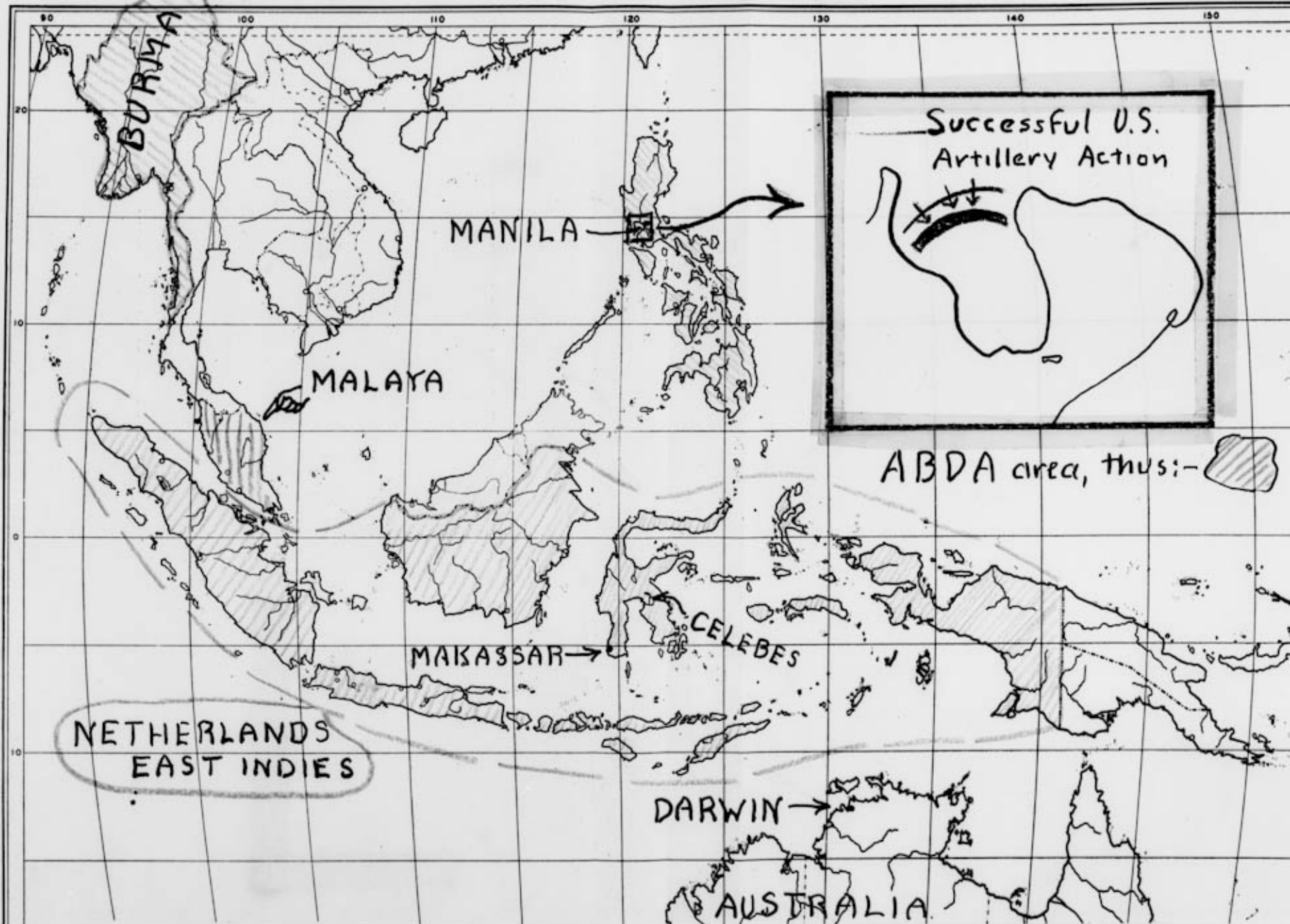
Detachment, 1 Army Corps

Detachment, Headquarters Company, Army Corps

Approximate strength, 20 officers, 60 men.

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EAST INDIES



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

No 33

7:00 AM January 11 to 7:00 AM January 12

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

B. FAR EAST.

1. War Department advised General MACARTHUR that positive orders were issued on January 9 that submarine would be dispatched to him loaded with 3" ammunition; that estimated time of arrival would be furnished as soon as determined.

2. SAMOA was fired upon at about 1:30 PM (GMT) January 11, apparently by submarine or small surface craft lying off north shore of TUTUILA.

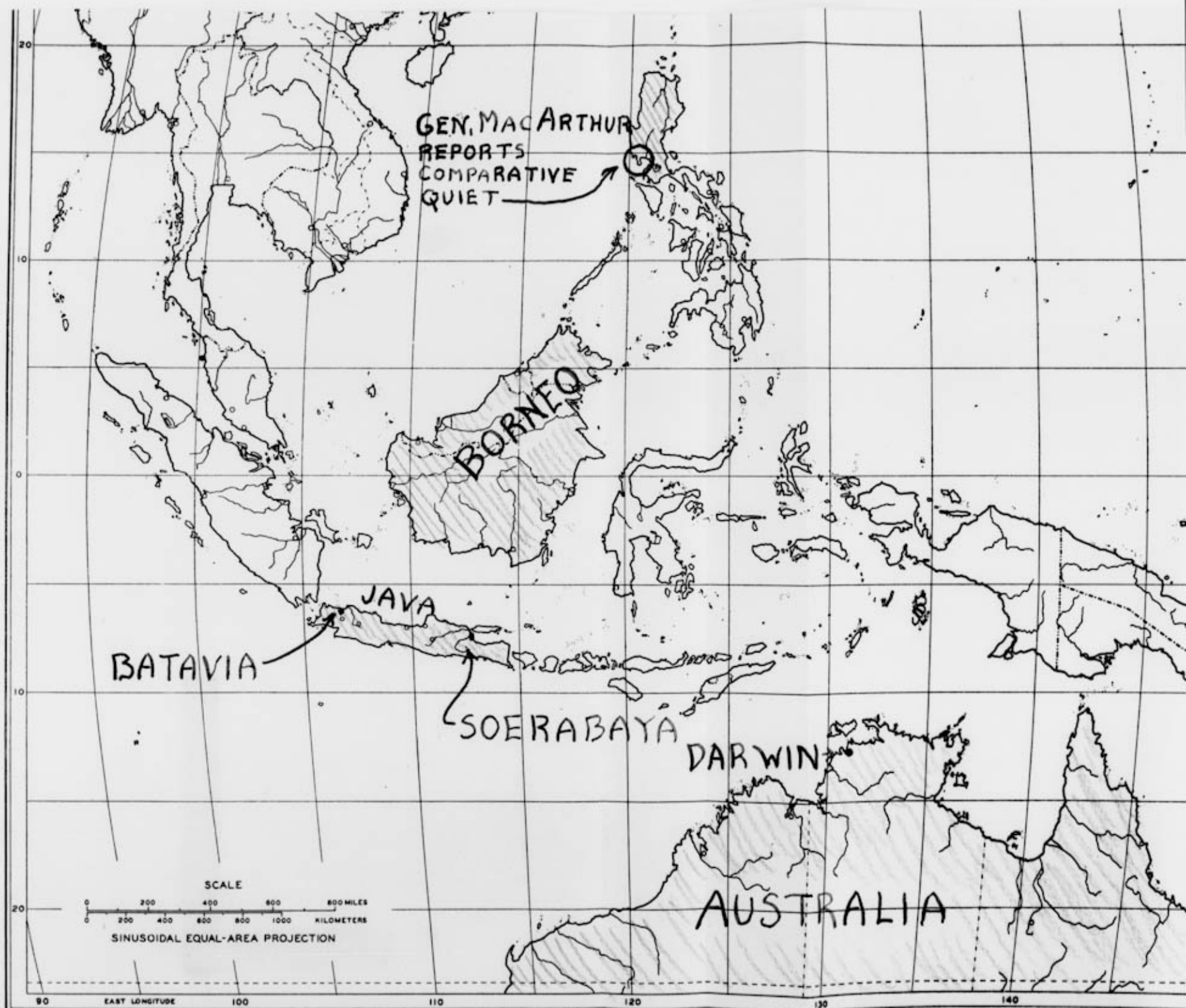
3. All caliber .50 and 37 millimeter ammunition received in AUSTRALIA made available at DARWIN and SOERABAYA for delivery to General MACARTHUR by Navy.

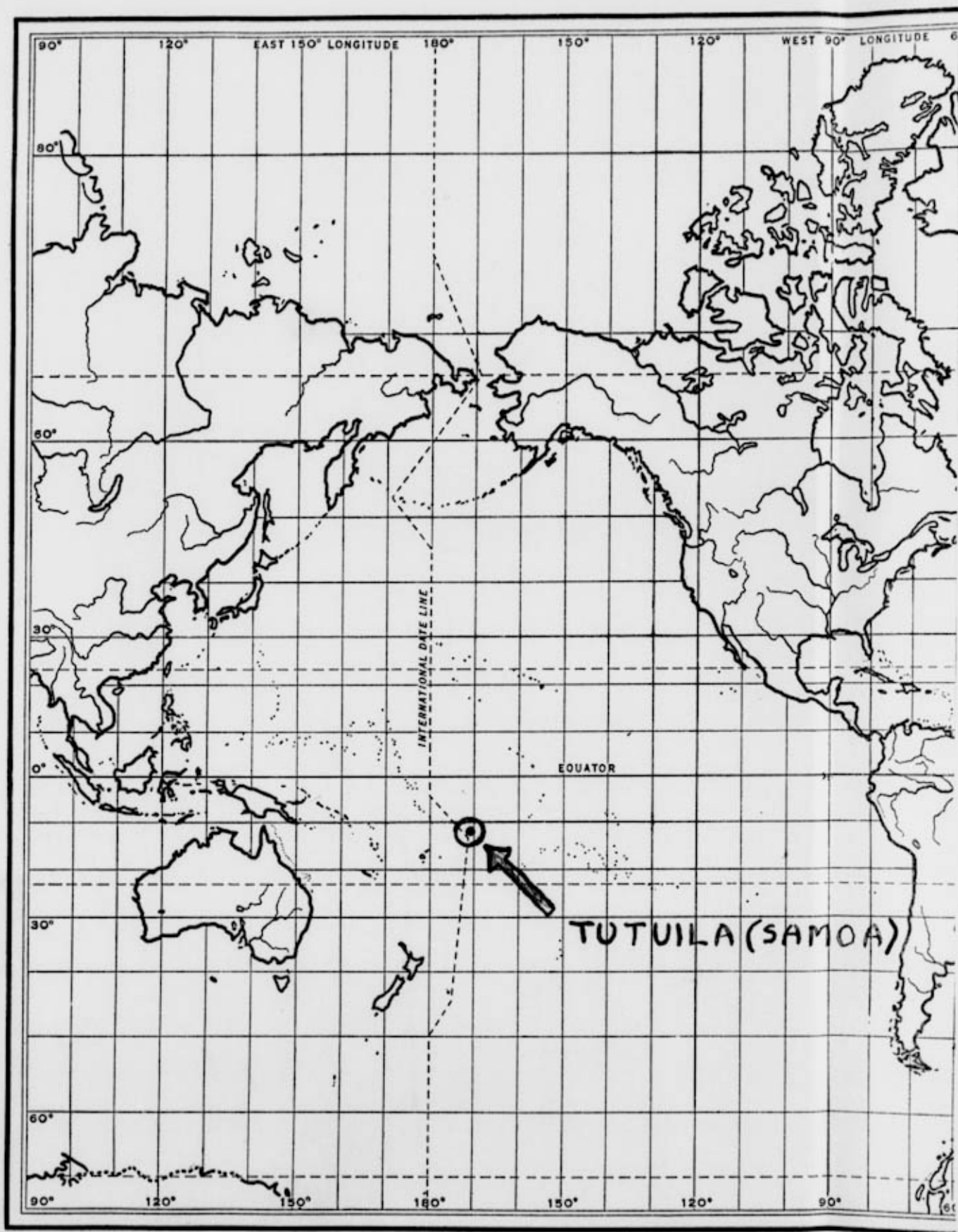
4. General MACARTHUR reports only ground activity is artillery duelling and patrolling. Slight enemy air activity. U. S. forces placed on half-rations.

5. General BRETT reports from BATAVIA that he has assumed duties as Deputy to the Commander-in-Chief, ABDA* Forces.

6. General BRERETON in AUSTRALIA reports status of aircraft evacuated from PHILIPPINES as of January 9:

In JAVA	- 10 B-17's (Flying Fortresses)(9 in commission)
In AUSTRALIA	- 4 B-17's (1 in commission)
	3 B-18's (bi-motored bombers)
	3 Beechcraft's (non-military type transports)
In BORNEO	- 1 Beechcraft





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

No 32

7:00 AM January 10 to 7:00 AM January 11

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. The AMPHIBIOUS FORCE, eleven troop and cargo vessels with 10,000 personnel and 20,000 tons of cargo, sailed from NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION for maneuvers. All vessels are armed with Navy weapons and manned by Navy ship and gun crews.

2. Commanding General HAWAII estimates that a total of 39 enemy planes and crews have been destroyed in the HAWAIIAN Area to date.

3. Decision was reached to proceed immediately from the thirty thousand annual pilot training rate to a fifty thousand annual pilot rate.

4. Constitution and activation of two Coast Artillery Battalions for transfer to NEWFOUNDLAND.

5. Movement of one signal company and radio intelligence detachment to NEW ORLEANS PORT OF EMBARKATION for shipment to TRINIDAD. (Approximate strength, 7 officers, 215 enlisted men)

B. FAR EAST.

1. War Department representative at RANGOON was directed to carefully observe CHINESE rights in Lend-Lease materials while in BURMA.

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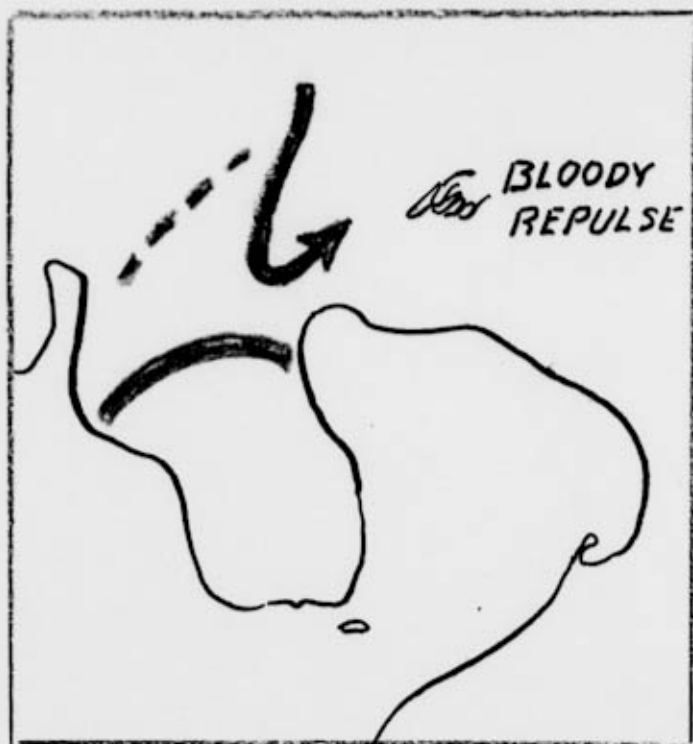
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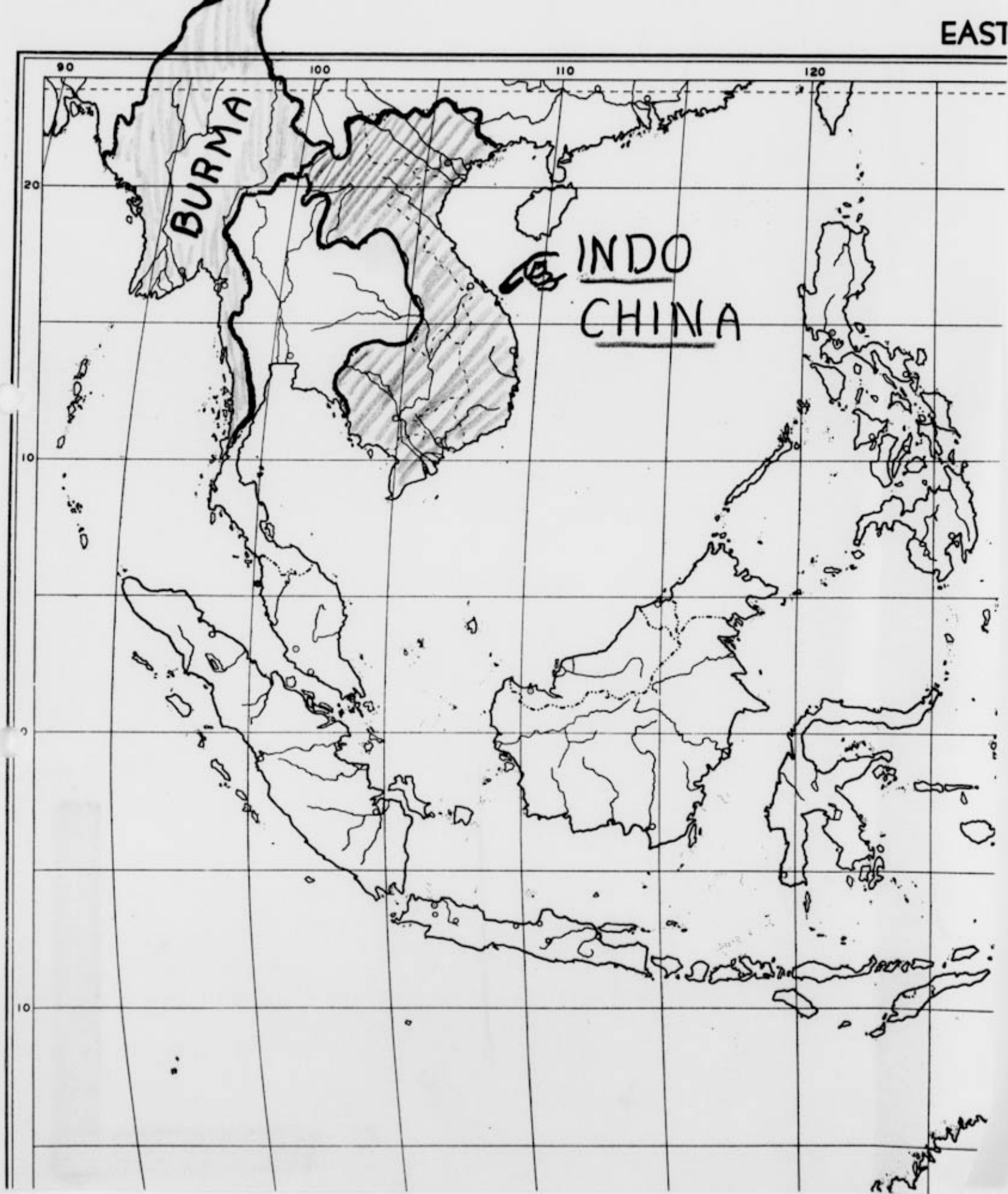
2. The answer to CHIANG-KAI-SHEK's request to conduct operations in INDO-CHINA is that the THEATERS OF OPERATIONS, as now delimited, give him a free hand in INDO-CHINA, provided only that if BURMA is in any way involved, he must coordinate with WAVELL.

3. General MACARTHUR reports enemy attack on his right was thrown back in bloody reverse. Enemy air bombing sporadic and weak.

4. General BRETT reports that 9 U.S. planes participated in an attack against DAVAO January 9. All returned. Hostile pursuit sighted but did not close. One direct, one water line hit, set Jap battleship afire in MALALAG BAY. Direct hit on shore antiaircraft battery. Enemy antiaircraft fire effective. Observed 8 transports, 10 smaller craft in DAVAO BAY; one battleship, 6 cruisers, 2 destroyers, 2 flying boats in MALALAG. Enemy movement in force south to MAKASSAR STRAITS Area indicated. Situation being presented to COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF for decision as to employment of U.S. forces available.

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

No 31

7:00 AM January 9 to 7:00 AM January 10

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
O&D Letter, 5-8-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. One company engineers (camouflage)(approximate strength 5 officers, 80 men) ordered to New Orleans Port of Embarkation for shipment to PANAMA.

2. One antiaircraft battalion (semi-mobile)(approximate strength 30 officers, 750 men) ordered to Charleston Port of Embarkation for shipment to BERMUDA.

3. Orders have been issued providing for the constitution and activation of two Harbor Defense Coast Artillery Battalions for transfer to ICELAND.

4. Convoy No. 2006 (11 ships) arrived HONOLULU January 7 and 8 with troops, ammunition and general cargo.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports Admiral HART as stating that no submarines available for supplying ammunition to CORREGIDOR, and that no other means appear practicable. General MACARTHUR adds that successful trips from MANILA BAY of three vessels in past 10 days indicates blockade can be run.

2. General MACARTHUR reports that intercepted radios on night of 8/9 January indicate a large number of ships north bound past MANILA BAY; also reports additional enemy ships off MINDANAO.

3. The Commanding General, U. S. ARMY FORCES IN AUSTRALIA, was informed that Admiral KING had reported that Admiral HART's view of the inadvisability of trying to deliver antiaircraft ammunition to General MACARTHUR was in part due to small amounts of such ammunition locally available. The relatively large amounts which had just arrived in AUSTRALIA on our MARINE transports and also other amounts now en route were cabled him, and he was enjoined that limitations of ammunition should not lessen his efforts to supply General MACARTHUR, as any amounts supplied would be an enormous stimulus in raising morale.

4. The following units ordered to SAN FRANCISCO PORT OF EMBARKATION for shipment to:

a. CANTON ISLAND:

2 companies infantry

2 batteries coast artillery

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~~SECRET~~

1 pursuit squadron

Miscellaneous supporting and service units

(Approximate strength - 93 officers,

1,363 enlisted men)

b. CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

1 battalion infantry

2 batteries coast artillery

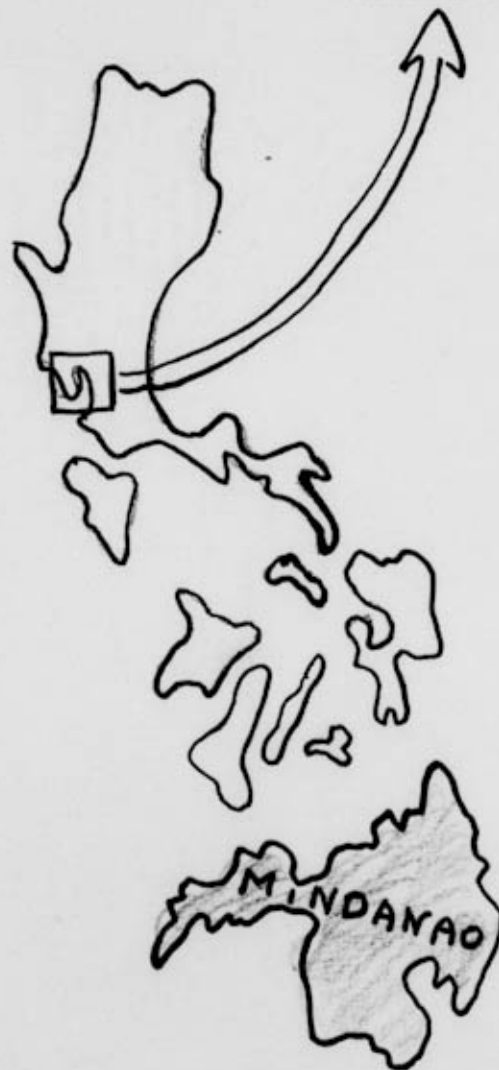
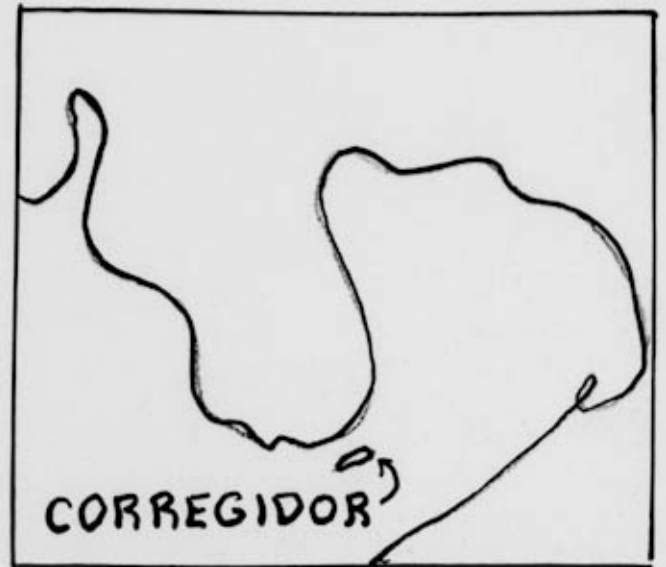
1 pursuit squadron

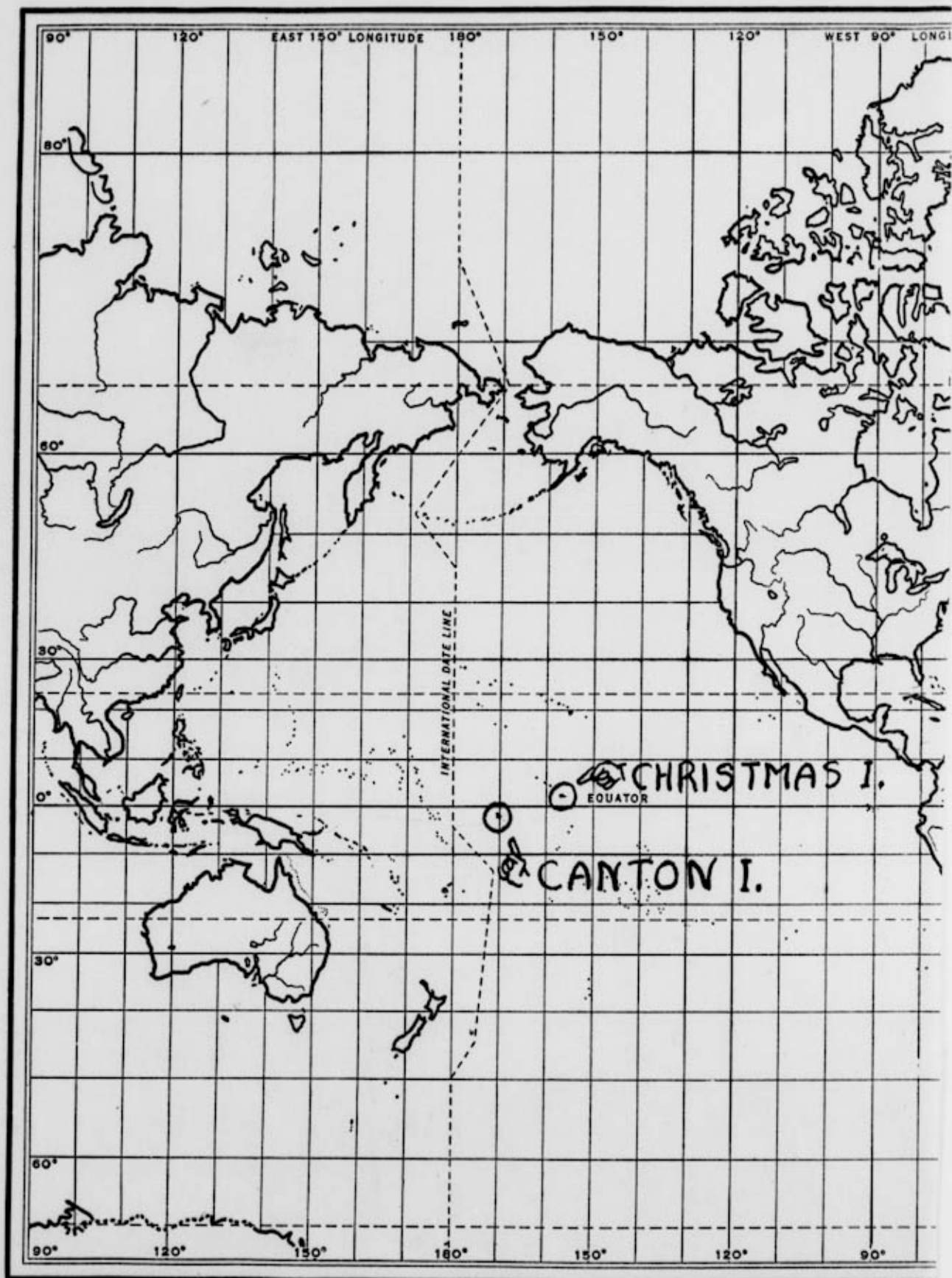
Miscellaneous supporting and service units

(Approximate strength - 112 officers,

1,935 enlisted men)

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

No 30

7:00 AM January 8 to 7:00 AM January 9

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
Omb Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. The BRITISH Chiefs of Staff were advised substantially as follows:

a. Current information indicates a definite and progressive weakening in CHINESE war effort. The reversal of this trend is deemed of vital importance, for which reason means of increasing assistance to CHINA to better employ its resources against JAPAN are being examined.

b. The chief obstacles are CHINESE complete isolation and lack of munitions.

c. Some of the corrective measures are:

- (1) Improve liaison with CHIANG KAI SHEK.
- (2) Increase air and ground security for RANGOON and the BURMA ROAD.
- (3) Improve the control, maintenance and management of the BURMA ROAD.
- (4) Augment base and technical services.
- (5) Raise CHINESE combat strength.
- (6) Improve liaison between CHINA and the COMMANDING GENERAL of the ABDA* areas.

d. In order to apply the corrective measures stated in c above, the War Department is considering initiation of the following steps:

* AUSTRALIAN-BRITISH-DUTCH-AMERICAN

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-73

(1) Seek acceptance by CHIANG KAI SHEK of Lieut. General H. A. DRUM as U. S. military representative at his capital, and with the following functions:

(a) Supervision and control of all CHINESE Lend-Lease affairs.

(b) Command of all U. S. forces in CHINA and, under WAVELL, command of all U. S. and CHINESE forces in BURMA.

(c) Represent the U. S. Army on any International War Council in CHINA.

(d) Control and maintenance of the BURMA ROAD in CHINA.

(Note: The following is projected on condition of the prior complete acceptance by CHIANG KAI SHEK of (1) above.)

(2) Increase the strength of the AMERICAN VOLUNTEER GROUP in planes and personnel.

(3) Under Lend-Lease, equip several CHINESE divisions, as quickly as may be done, for effective combat service in this area, under General DRUM's command.

(4) With BRITISH consent, arrange for auxiliary bases to support this CHINESE effort, and provide technical groups to assure the efficiency of such RANGOON facilities as are allocated to CHINA.

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~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

e. Assuming that BRITISH agreement and cooperation will become effective only in the event that CHIANG KAI SHEK accords to Lieutenant General DRUM the authority implied and indicated in paragraph d above, BRITISH cooperation and agreement are required on the following points in order to make this project reasonably effective:

- (1) General DRUM to be permitted to establish supply bases and staging areas in CALCUTTA and RANGOON to support his operations in and north of BURMA.
- (2) General DRUM to be authorized to control and maintain the BURMA ROAD from RANGOON to CHUNGKING and to be permitted to use necessary airfields in BURMA.
- (3) General DRUM's command of AMERICAN and/or CHINESE forces in the BURMA region to be exercised under the control of General WAVELL, but such forces to be used only on the mainland of ASIA, exclusive of MALAY.
- (4) General DRUM to exercise as subordinate of General WAVELL, such additional Command functions as General WAVELL may desire, providing he is not required to leave the general area: BURMA-CHINA-CALCUTTA.
- (5) General DRUM to be accepted as a liaison agency between General WAVELL and CHIANG KAI SHEK.

Note: The foregoing recommendations are consistent with Brigadier General MAGRUDER's recommendations under B below.

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2. Major General BRITT, in AUSTRALIA, was informed that grave shipping shortages require that the supplies and personnel to be sent him be limited to those essential for air and counter-air operations for the immediate future. He was directed to submit a list of items he requires on this basis.

3. Movement directed to the CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, PORT OF EMBARKATION, for shipment to BORABORA, of the West group, SOCIETY ISLANDS, FRENCH OCEANIA, of the following units:

One regiment antiaircraft artillery

One regiment infantry (less detachments)

Miscellaneous supporting and service units.

Approximate strength, 200 officers,
3700 enlisted men.

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REF ID: A66666
OSD LIAISON, 6-3-73

B. FAR EAST.

1. Recently received recommendations of Brigadier General MACGRUDER in CHUNGKING are summarized as follows:

a. BURMA is indispensable as an aviation base and as a point of initiation of any future offensive operations.

b. For the present, CHINESE air bases are not required for large scale operations nor are they practicable for logistic reasons.

c. Primary mission of this command (apparently means logistic organization developed by Americans) is the establishment of facilities, communications and antiaircraft defense for employment of air units in BURMA.

d. Routes into southeastern CHINA should be improved and air bases stocked in advance.

e. Bases and communications in BURMA should be organized on military lines, and the BRITISH should permit free operation of bases and lines of communication for AMERICAN and CHINESE forces.

f. Subject to the supreme authority of the GENERALISSIMO, the BURMA ROAD should be completely militarized under AMERICAN command.

g. Provisional American Engineer regiments and other specialists should be promptly organized for maintenance and operation of the BURMA ROAD. Large numbers of CHINESE personnel should be used but the cadre should be AMERICAN.

h. Air bases and roads east and north of KUNMING should be improved with AMERICAN assistance.

i. Organization of irregular units in CHINA offers little prospect of beneficial result. Direct harm might easily result from such an attempt.

j. Successful military results in this Theatre will come only from orderly supply and tactical handling of regular military organizations, supported by soundly based and supply aviation units.

k. CHINA is now effectively containing a considerable number of JAPANESE forces.

l. For the present the best that can be hoped for is that an area may be retained in CHINA from which, eventually, foreign air forces may reach out to vulnerable JAPANESE sea and land areas. Later, when the CHINESE become convinced of an allied victory and their spirit of war weariness has been overcome, a decisive offensive may eventuate.

m. Present projects for supplying Lend-Lease war materiel must be continued, particularly in small arms, howitzers and ammunition. This effort will probably not immediately improve CHINESE tactical effort, but for very definite political reasons cessation of the effort is unthinkable. This effort will probably enable the GENERALISSIMO to keep his regime in power, and this is an indispensable requisite to holding the CHINESE line statically on our side.

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DECLASSIFIED
ODD Letter, 5-8-72

2. Admiral HART ordered by Navy Department to get .50 caliber ammunition into CORREGIDOR at earliest possible moment without waiting for 3" antiaircraft ammunition. He will provide transportation for the latter as soon as it becomes available to him.

3. General MACARTHUR reports comparative quiet while enemy continues to move up troops along BATAAN front. He states that General SNARP has reported the establishment of his headquarters at DEL MONTE and the completion of the bulk of his troop movement from VISAYAS to MINDANAO. He has the equivalent of two divisions; total strength unknown, but estimated as not to exceed 6,000 men.

4. General BRERETON reports information indicating that DEL MONTE on MINDANAO is still occupied by U. S. forces.

5. Shortage of labor has prevented unloading at RANGOON of Steamship LOUISE LYKES. To avoid further exposure to air attack she has sailed for CALCUTTA. She carries a miscellaneous cargo of Lend-Lease material for CHINA; major items are as follows:

- 20 pack howitzers, 75 millimeter
- 100 antiaircraft machine guns, 50 caliber, with mounts
- 520 trucks, $\frac{3}{4}$ ton
- 136 trucks, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton
- 720 tons telephone equipment
- 7 tons parts for machine guns

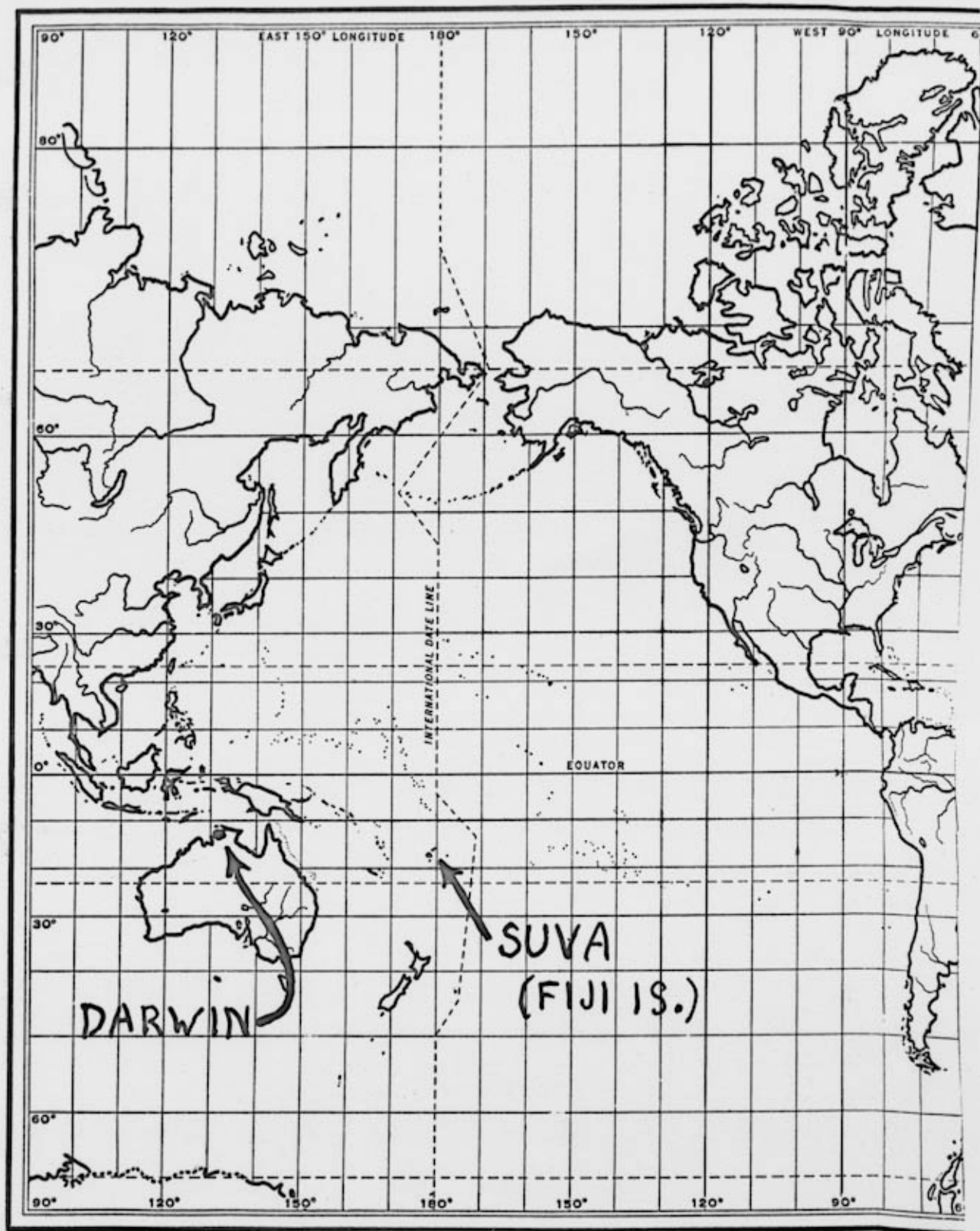
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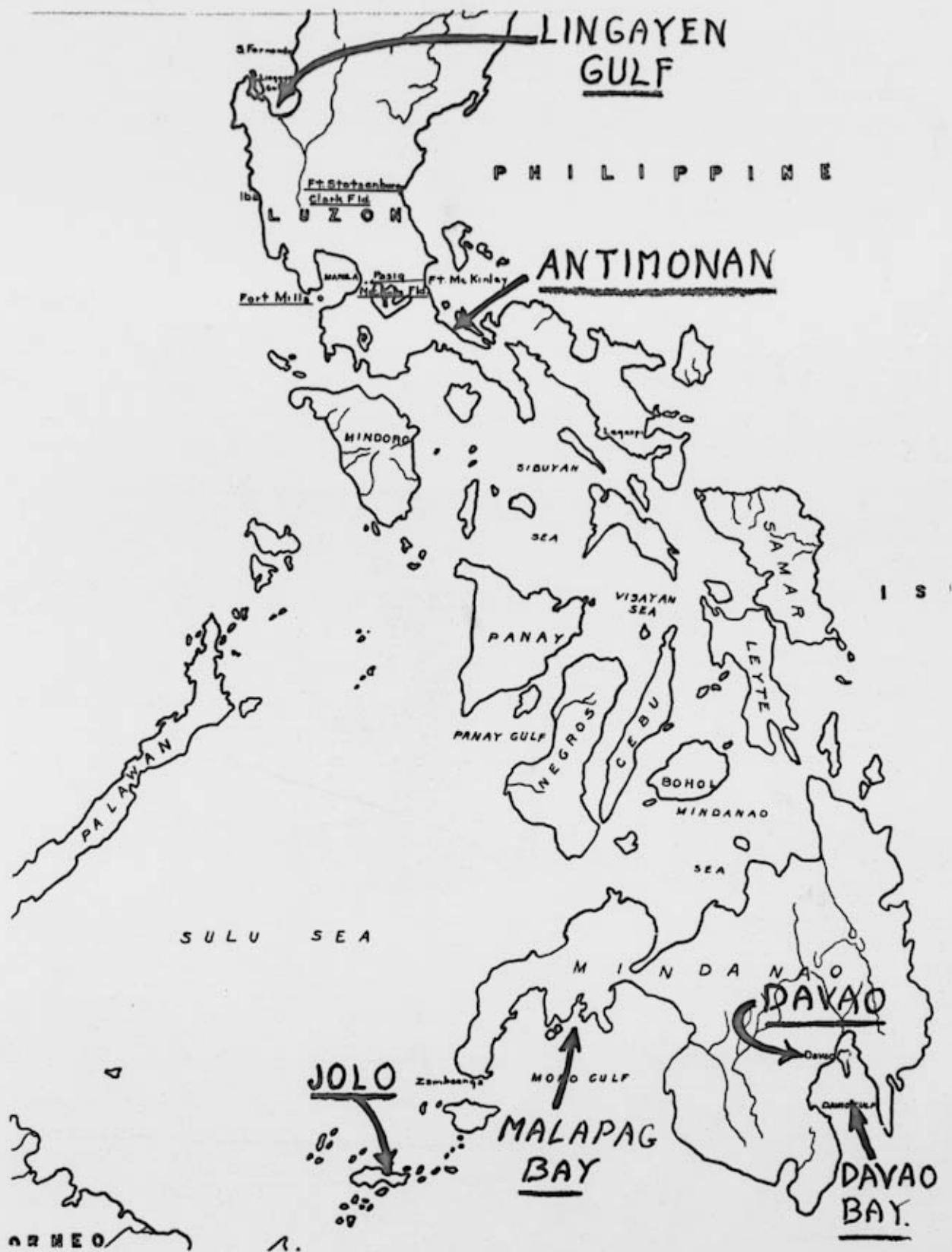
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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. VENEZUELA broke diplomatic relations with GERMANY, ITALY and JAPAN.

2. Commanding General, HAWAII, requests expedited action on dispatch of troops to other islands of HAWAIIAN Group.

3. Commanding General, HAWAII, reports that SUVA can now be used with caution.

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reported that his air reconnaissance of December 31, 1941, revealed JAPANESE planes and ships disposed as follows:

In MALAPAG BAY:

- 3 Cruisers
- 1 Destroyer
- 1 Tender

In DAVAO BAY:

- 11 Seaplanes, 4 engine type
- 12 Transports
- 6 Submarines
- 8 Destroyers
- 6 Small craft

At DAVAO Airdrome:

- 15 Bombers, 2 engine type
- 26 Pursuit planes

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DECLASSIFIED
DATE 5-3-72

General BRERETON and NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES authorities have been informed.

2. General MACARTHUR outlined the policy which he has followed with respect to internment of JAPANESE civilians in the MANILA area. Expressed the hope that this generous policy would give rise to reciprocal treatment in areas occupied by the JAPANESE.

3. Message from DARWIN, AUSTRALIA, reports the following evacuated from PHILIPPINES:

- 14 B-17 - Flying Fortresses
- 3 B-18 - Bi-motored Bombers
- 1 C-39 - Bi-motored Transport
- 169 Air Corps Officers
- 100 Air Corps Enlisted Men

4. Generalissimo CHIANG KAI SHEK and MACGRUDER fail to agree on question of command of AMERICAN forces in BURMA and CHINA. General MACGRUDER requests instructions.

5. MACARTHUR reports by telephone that JAPANESE troops will enter MANILA the afternoon of January 2. Indications are that forces will be limited to those necessary for police duties and maintenance of law and order. Nothing unusual to report from the front. Enemy air activity somewhat moderated. Transports at LINGAYEN and ANTIMONAN have unloaded and departed. Small force has landed at JOLO.

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- 2 -

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

No 29

7:00 AM January 7 to 7:00 AM January 8

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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

B. FAR EAST.

1. Three heavy bombers - one B-17 (Flying Fortress) and two LB-30's (Liberators) departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

2. The following units directed to SAN FRANCISCO PORT OF EMBARKATION for shipment to AUSTRALIA:

2 Medium Bombardment Groups

1 Light Bombardment Group

2 Interceptor Pursuit Groups

(approximate strength, 395 officers, 5200 enlisted men)

Service units including Ordnance, Air Base Groups,

Material Squadrons, Signal Platoons, Quartermaster

and Chemical.

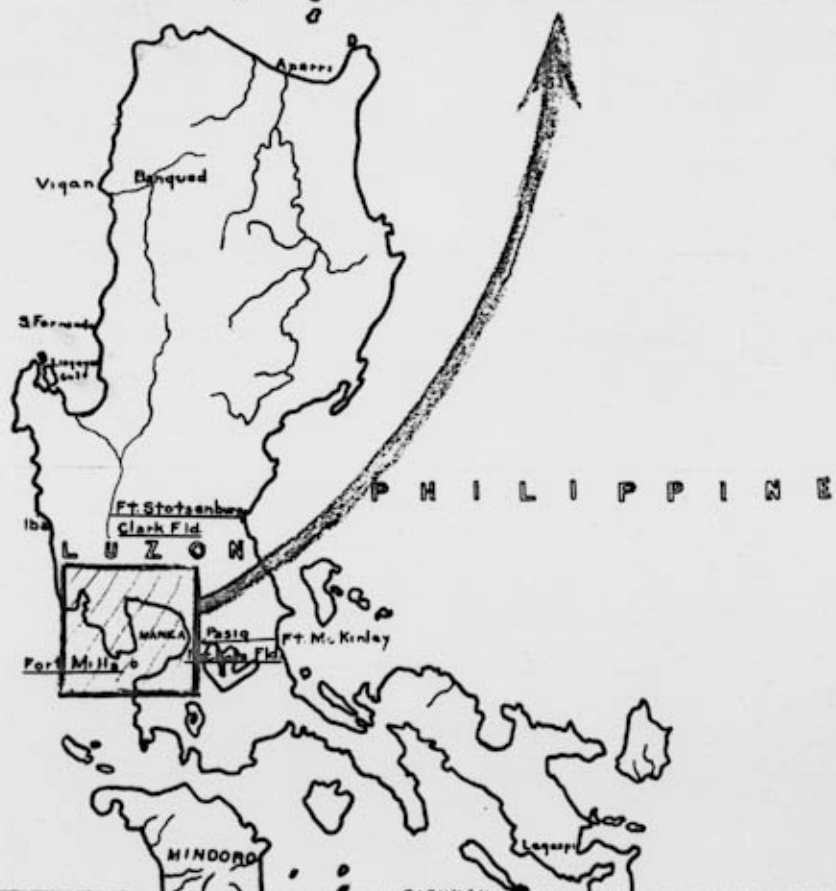
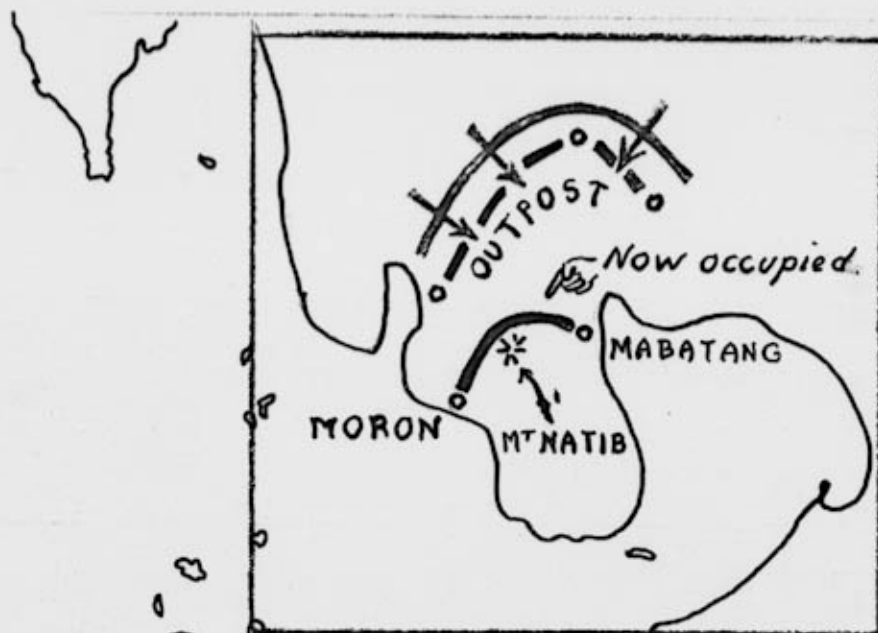
(approximate strength, 250 officers, 4800 enlisted men)

3. General BRETT reports that he is proceeding to JAVA for conference with General WAVELL. He also states that operating bases in JAVA are limited due to maintenance difficulties; heavy bombers will be subject to loss if operated from them, due to lack of adequate Aircraft Warning Service and antiaircraft protection. In spite of disadvantages, operations will continue from such airports as can be utilized for this purpose.

4. General MACARTHUR reports that re-organization of his forces has been completed. He awaits general attack on main battle position (see map).

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

No 28

7:00 AM January 6 to 7:00 AM January 7

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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CLASSIFIED
QND Letter, 8-3-73

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports heavy fighting along entire line. Artillery effectively attacked by hostile planes. Indications of approaching attack in great strength. Suffered heavy losses in air attack launched on FORT MILLS by 45 JAPANESE bombers. Antiaircraft ammunition low. Destruction of water system at FORT MILLS necessitates strict rationing of water.

2. General MACARTHUR reports having been informed by Rear Admiral ROCKWELL, Commanding 16th Naval District with Headquarters formerly at CAVITE, that submarines are now operating from southern bases under Admiral HART's direction, and that he receives no information of stations or missions except through occasionally intercepted messages. Admiral ROCKWELL states he is without knowledge of successful attacks by them so far.

3. General BRETT reports no landing fields left in the PHILIPPINES. He has requested Admiral HART to furnish transport for ammunition to the PHILIPPINES, either by air or by submarine.

4. General MACARTHUR, on December 30, in preparation for arrival of our Expeditionary Forces in MINDANAO, ordered Brigadier General SHARP, in command of VISAYAN-MINDANAO force, to move to the latter with one of his two Divisions. He has not yet had a report on execution, but considers the movement presented no difficulty. General MACARTHUR also sent 9 pursuit planes (P-40's) and 650 officers and men from LUZON through the blockade to DEL MONTE.

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DECLASSIFIED
GPO letter, 5-3-73

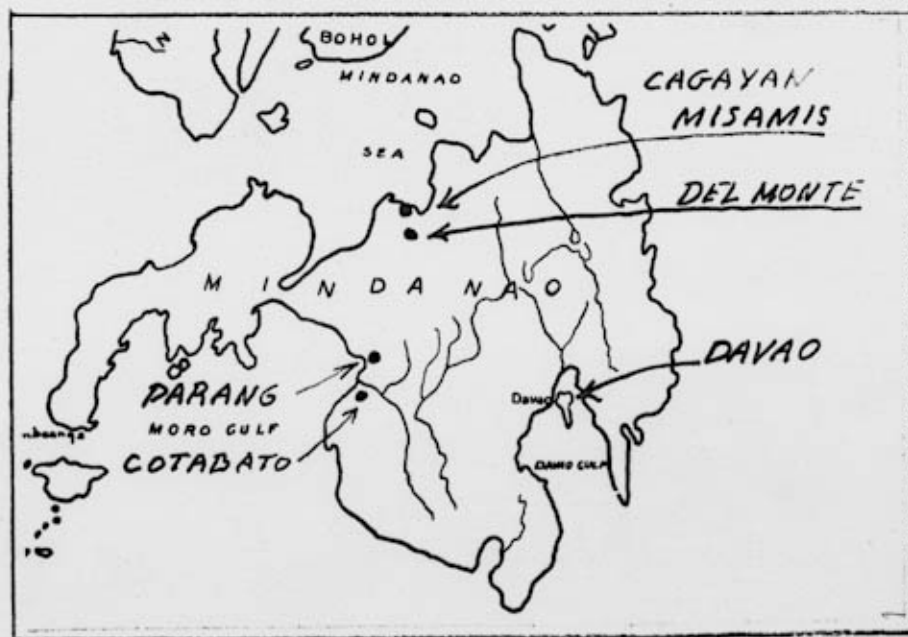
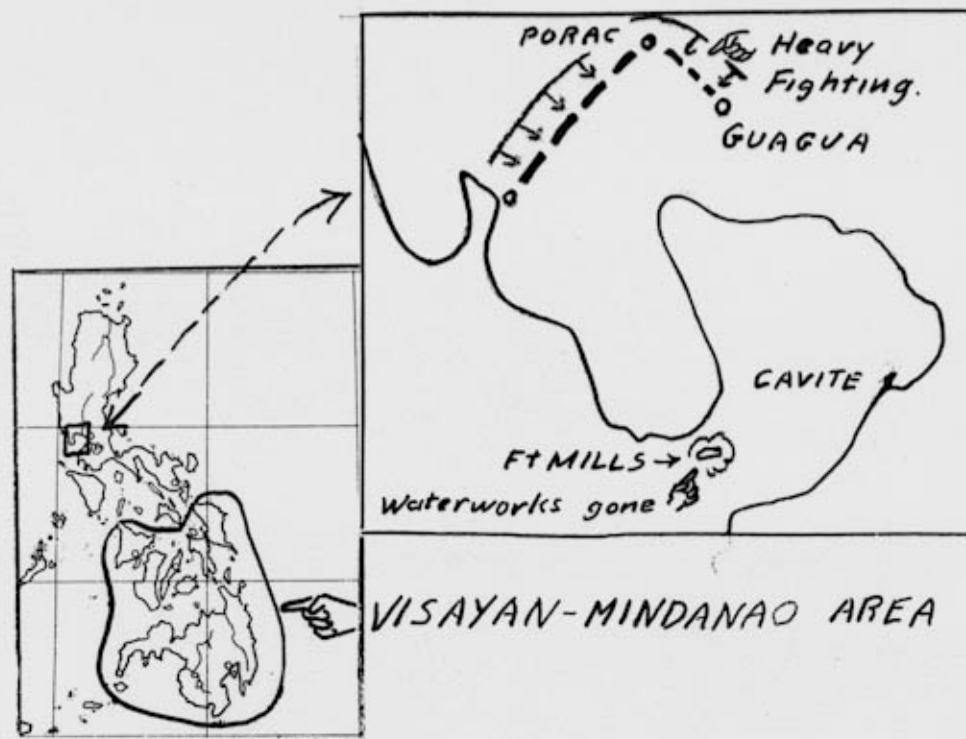
The ship carrying troops arrived at destination but the one carrying supplies was sunk. The mission of this force is to check hostile drive from the direction of DAVAO. He expects covering forces to be placed in COTABATO-PARANG area, and to cover the port of entry at CAGAYAN MISAMIS. He has directed SHARP to be prepared to receive and service planes and to develop additional landing fields.

General MACARTHUR reports it is essential to keep forcing small ships through to MINDANAO with ammunition and supplies, as little of the former is available. His conception is that our bombardment planes operating from the south should knock out enemy air forces operating from DAVAO permitting our pursuit to operate from DEL MONTE, and then subsequently to extend air operations into the VISAYAN area. He points out that numerous small ships should be used to run the blockade, as losses will be high, though some will get through. He concludes by stating that time is ripe for a brilliant thrust with carriers, due to hostile tendency toward over-confidence.

NOTE:

Situation in MINDANAO is obscure - DEL MONTE field reported in enemy possession - both BRETT and HART have been directed to use all possible means, submarine, air and small boat, to deliver ammunition to MACARTHUR.

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

No 27

7:00 AM January 5 to 7:00 AM January 6

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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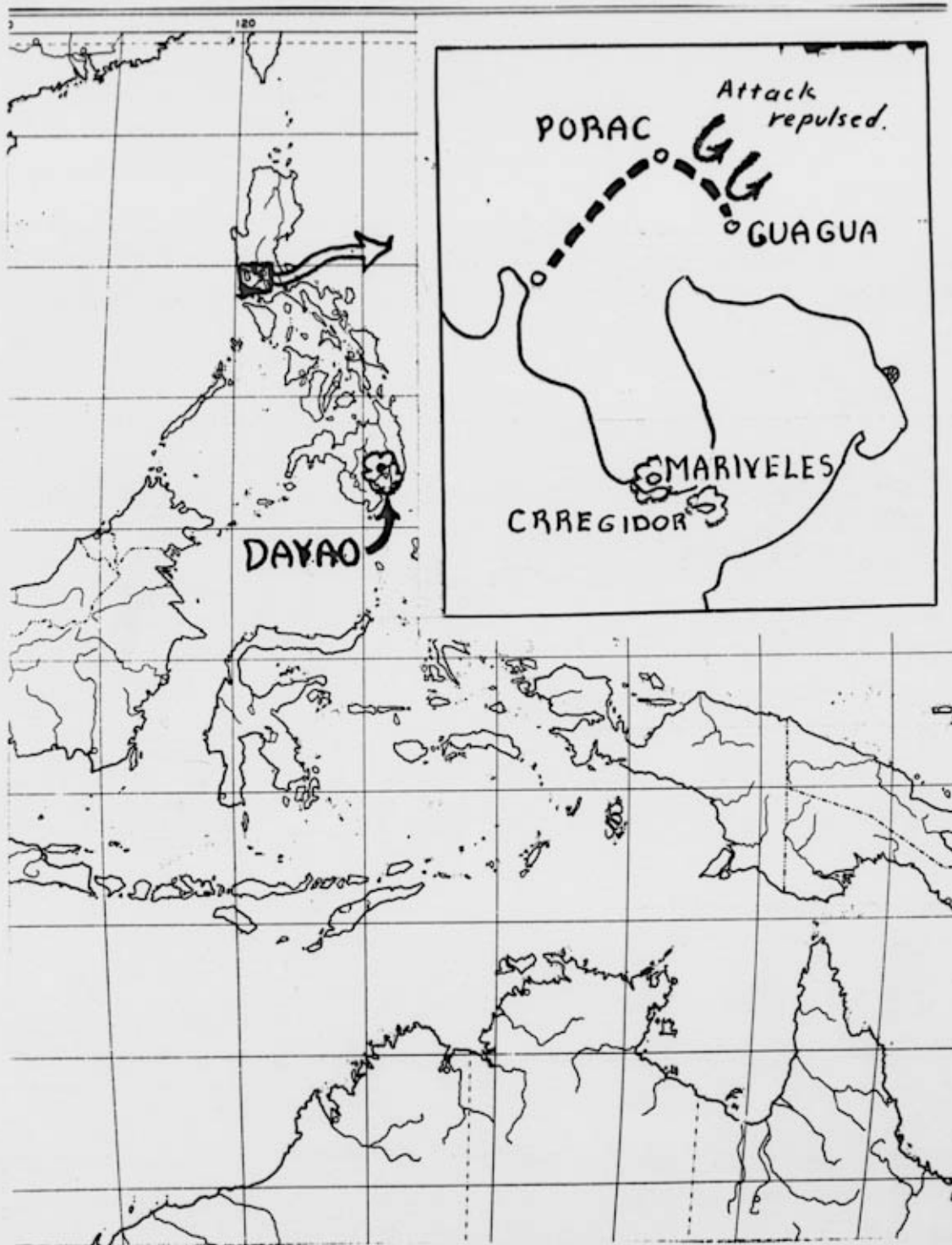
DDP Letter 5 1 76

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTHUR reports that four hostile planes were brought down and four more were hit during a three hour air attack against CORREGIDOR and MARIVELES by an estimated forty planes. JAPANESE attack against AMERICAN-FILIPINO position along PORAC-GUAGUA line bloodily repulsed with estimated losses of 700 dead.

2. Eight AMERICAN heavy bombers (B-17's) made three direct hits on JAPANESE battleship and sank one destroyer at DAVAO.

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

No 26

7:00 AM January 4 to 7:00 AM January 5

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. For his own confidential advance information, General MAGRUDER was informed that at an early date it would be suggested to CHIANG-KAI-SHEK that we send to CHINA a very high ranking Army officer with great prestige; that if possible the suggestion would be made through him (General MAGRUDER); that in any case it would be clearly stated that General MAGRUDER's performance of duty has been entirely satisfactory to the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT and that no lack of confidence in him is implied; and that the reason for doing this is to effect collaboration on a broader scope now required by our participation in the war.

2. Major General BRETT in AUSTRALIA was informed of critical shortage of antiaircraft ammunition with our LUZON forces, believed to be principally 3" and 37 mm. He was directed to consider all means for resupplying these forces, including possible use of blockade running submarines.

3. Four B-17E's and one B-24 (4-motored bombers) departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA.

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

No 25

7:00 AM January 3 to 7:00 AM January 4

AERIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
5-3-78

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. Three heavy bombers (Flying Fortresses) left TAMPA by air for AUSTRALIA.
2. The capacity of the overseas staging area serving the NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION was further increased by the movement of troops from that area to LOUISIANA.
3. The War Department directed the publication and distribution to those indicated below of confidential instructions relating to the evacuation of the civil population from areas of military operations in case the situation should so require:

Corps Area, Department and Army Commanders

The Director of Civilian Defense

B. FAR EAST.

1. ABDA* powers, in complete accord, decided to establish unity of command within the Theatre of Operations of the South Western PACIFIC, with all their land, sea and air forces in that region directed by a single power. The ABDA powers have placed General Sir Archibald Wavell of the British Imperial Forces in supreme command, and directed him to establish his Headquarters initially in JAVA. Major General BRETT is his Deputy.

2. Major General BRETT reports the following essentials of his plan for establishments in AUSTRALIA:

* AUSTRALIAN-BRITISH-DUTCH-UNITED STATES

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OSD letter, 6-3-72

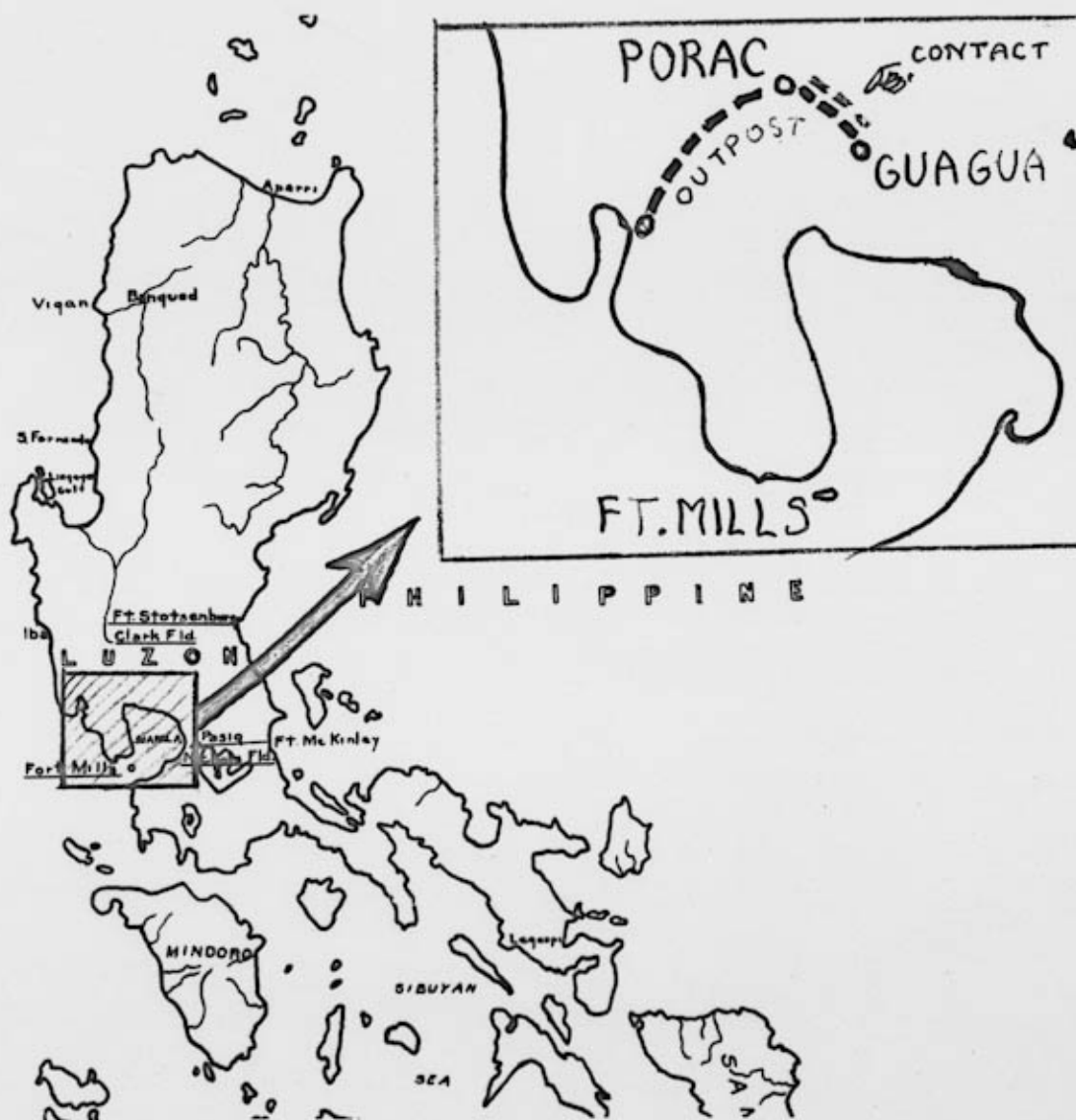
a. Advance base for ground and air operations northward --
DARWIN.

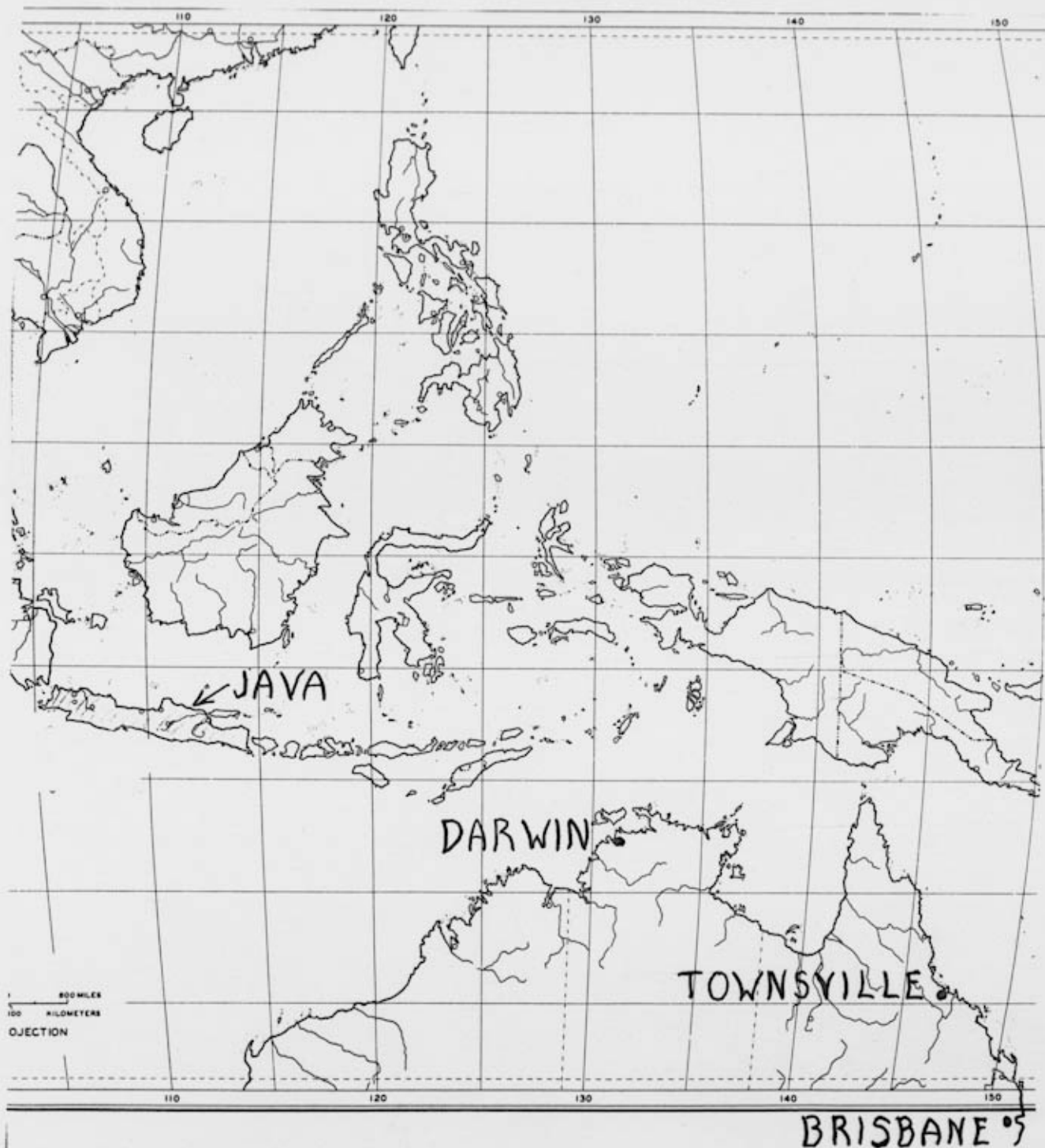
b. Operational training center and major maintenance
and repair base -- TOWNSVILLE.

c. Temporary erection point for ship-borne aircraft
and trans-shipping point for TOWNSVILLE and DARWIN -- BRISBANE.

3. General MACARTHUR reports his covering forces re-gained
contact along the line: PORAC - GUAGUA; only light casualties and
damage from a half-hour attack on FORT MILLS by 20 hostile planes;
four enemy planes destroyed by antiaircraft fire; and that his
supply of antiaircraft ammunition is critically low and re-supply
vital.

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

No 24

7:00 AM January 2 to 7:00 AM January 3

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED

JSD : : : : 5-2-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

1. War Department advised the Commanding General, HAWAIIAN DEPARTMENT, that every effort being made to expedite shipment of troops to outlying islands. Requested his advice on relative priority of shipment of reinforcements, and engineer construction equipment and personnel.

2. Five B-17E's and three Liberators departed TAMPA for AUSTRALIA. (These are all four motored heavy bombers.)

B. FAR EAST.

1. General MACARTEUR informed that his situation is fully understood by all those participating in the UNITED STATES-BRITISH conferences here; that we are seeking every means for the rapid development of our strength in the FAR EAST in order to break the hostile grip on the PHILIPPINES; that our naval losses have materially reduced the Navy's ability to execute essential tasks; that our naval forces are markedly insufficient to effect a powerful concentration in FAR EASTERN waters; that the flow of heavy bombers now flying to AUSTRALIA via AFRICA and also starting today via Pacific islands, together with powerful medium bombers commencing their flights from our Western coast next week, and pursuit planes now moving on every available ship, should quickly create a concentration of air power in your Theatre equal to hostile strength and produce a strong effect on JAPANESE shipping, forcing its withdrawal northward. This is the

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DECLASSIFIED
JSD Letter, 5-9-78

only speedy intervention now possible, except perhaps carrier-borne air raids. We are striving to find and use means to disrupt enemy communications, disorganize his operations and then to seize the initiative. Every day of delay you gain facilitates the development of the superior air power required to attain our objective.

2. UNITED STATES aircraft tender HERON attacked 150 miles north of BURU ISLAND by 17 JAPANESE flying boats with bombs, torpedoes, and machine guns. JAPANESE losses, one flying boat certain and one probable.

3. JAPS captured DEL MONTE airport, MINDANAO. Air traffic to PHILIPPINES blocked.

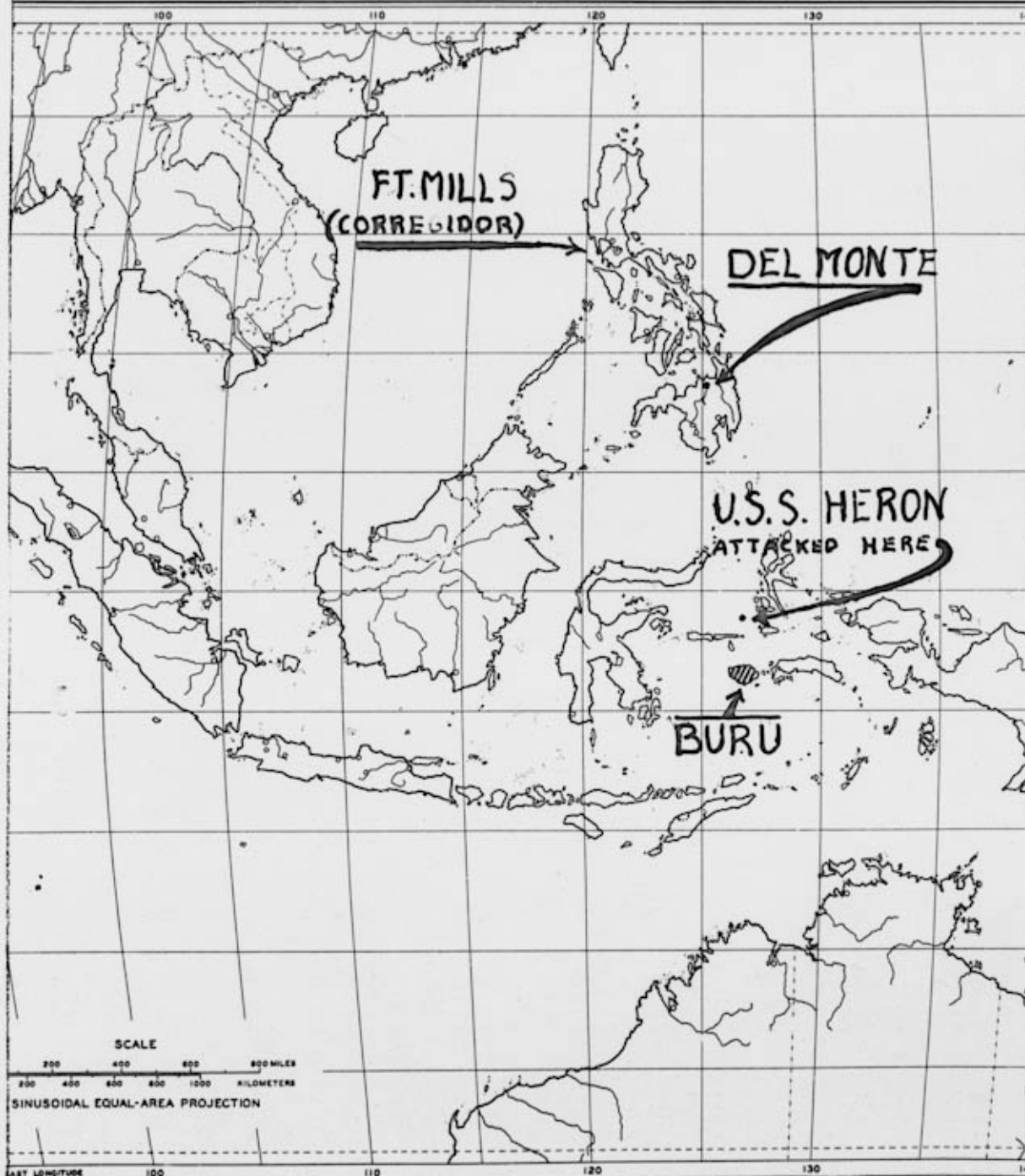
4. Five hour air attack on FORT MILLS resulted in slight material damage, 13 dead, 35 wounded. Three planes destroyed by antiaircraft fire.

C. EUROPE (MIDDLE EAST included).

General CHANEY selected to command UNITED STATES forces in NORTH IRELAND and the BRITISH ISLES.

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- 2 -

EAST INDIES



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

No 23

7:00 AM January 1 to 7:00 AM January 2

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

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

No 22

7:00 AM December 31 to 7:00 AM January 1

ABRIDGED FORM FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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CLASSIFIED
Dec 5-3-72

A. WESTERN HEMISPHERE (GREENLAND & ICELAND included).

Plans are being formulated for sending troops to NORTH IRELAND, and movement of initial contingent to ATLANTIC seaboard has been ordered.

B. FAR EAST.

1. Transport JANE CHRISTENSEN arrived SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, December 26. Cargo: Gasoline (Aviation), 75 millimeter guns, vehicles.

2. Radio communication with MANILA was broken off as of 9:10 PM, 31 December.

3. General MACARTHUR reports the junction of his northern and southern forces in the SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANCA area and that he is occupying the BATAAN position and will there accept decisive battle. See map.

4. General MACARTHUR reports that the Commonwealth Government is now operating from FORT MILLS, CORREGIDOR.

5. UNITED STATES and BRITISH Chiefs of Staff agreed upon the following general strategic policy for operations in the FAR EASTERN THEATER and so advised General MACARTHUR:

The MALAY BARRIER, comprising the line: MALAY PENINSULA - SUMATRA - JAVA - NORTH AUSTRALIA, to be held as the basic defensive position in that THEATER;

Air, land, and sea forces to operate forward of that position, in as great depth as possible, against hostile movements southward;

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DECLASSIFIED
JCS Letter, 5-3-74

BURMA and AUSTRALIA to be held as supporting positions
for the THEATER, and BURMA as vital to the support of CHINA and
defense of INDIA;

Communications to be re-established through the DUTCH
EAST INDIES to LUZON; and

The PHILIPPINES garrison to be supported.

~~SECRET~~



RECEIVED
AND Letter, 5-3-76

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UNCLASSIFIED
1 JAN 68, 6-3a

EAST INDIES

