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

SEPTEMBER

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 295

0700 September 30 to 0700 October 1, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

NOTED HERE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General DeWitt in summarizing Alaskan operations September 30, states that enemy shipping and shore facilities at Kiska were subjected to three bombing attacks on September 27 and 28. Incomplete reports list one submarine as sunk by a direct hit and one enemy transport believed to be totally destroyed. Six enemy planes were shot down in these operations. Our planes suffered damage from heavy anti-aircraft fire; one fighter went down at sea and one bomber, which crash-landed on Adak Island, was a total loss but the crew was saved. In the Near Islands our bombers burned Attu and Chicagof villages; the islands of Attu and Agattu have been abandoned by the enemy.

EUROPEAN THEATER

In Iceland, hostile aircraft reconnoitered the Skalanes and Borganes areas September 29. An enemy flying boat unsuccessfully attacked an oil tanker off the east coast of the island, using bombs and machine gun fire.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. The first transport airplane to be lost in the India-China ferry route is believed to have crashed in the mountains on September 23 as a result of icing conditions.

2. General Bissell reports that air attacks were made on September 27 on Tingka (China), Loiwing, Katha, and Myitkyina (Burma) by two American medium bombers operating from Dinjan. On the same day American fighters and medium bombers operating in southwestern China destroyed 23 combat vehicles in the Salween-Lungling area and destroyed the village of Luchiangpa, 20 miles southeast of Tengyueh.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 28 to 1400 September 29, GCT, General MacArthur reports that strong Allied detachments have moved about 6 miles north from Ioribaiwa Ridge. Allied air attacks were made on the airdrome at Salamaua, on the beach and airdrome at Buna, and on an enemy camp in the Kokoda area. Two enemy aircraft attacked Betano, on Timor.

Air reconnaissances of the Bismarcks, Solomons, and eastern New Guinea were maintained.

2. General Harmon reports that operations in the South Pacific area for September 28 and 29 were confined to long range reconnaissances from Espiritu Santo and Guadalcanal.

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UNITED STATES

In view of the anticipated increase of military personnel, a board of officers, headed by Brig. Gen. Dale G. Henson, USA, was organized to study in Washington the advisability of expanding the facilities for the maintenance of aircraft in the defense of the continental United States. The board includes representatives of the military and naval forces.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

UNITED STATES

No. 294

0700 September 29 to 0700 September 30, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

UNITED STATES

1. In his operations summary for the period from September 29 to 30 September 30, 1942, General Henson reports that his group captured German aircraft and forced the enemy to retreat with heavy losses and killed of enemy aircraft and equipment were destroyed. A night attack was made on the aircraft was attacking at night and the enemy aircraft were shot down and ground targets in the neighborhood.

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

In view of the anticipated shortage of military personnel, a board of officers headed by Brig. Gen. Dale D. Hinman, USA, has been appointed to meet in Washington to determine the advisability of employing local civilian personnel to man anti-aircraft installations in the defense of certain plants and facilities in the continental United States. The agenda include consideration of the suitability of women on range instruments, in balloon barrage units, and as clerks in anti-aircraft artillery headquarters.

EUROPEAN THEATER

The War Department notified General Eisenhower of a change in Army Regulations which permits the payment of witnesses at U. S. courts-martial sitting in foreign countries at the rates paid in those countries for attendance at corresponding courts.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1100 September 27 to 1100 September 28, GCT, General MacArthur reports that his troops captured Ioribaiwa Ridge and forced the enemy to retreat northwards; large quantities of enemy stores and equipment were captured. A night attack was made on the airdrome and shipping at Buin, and extensive aerial attacks were made on barges and ground targets in the Buna-Kokoda

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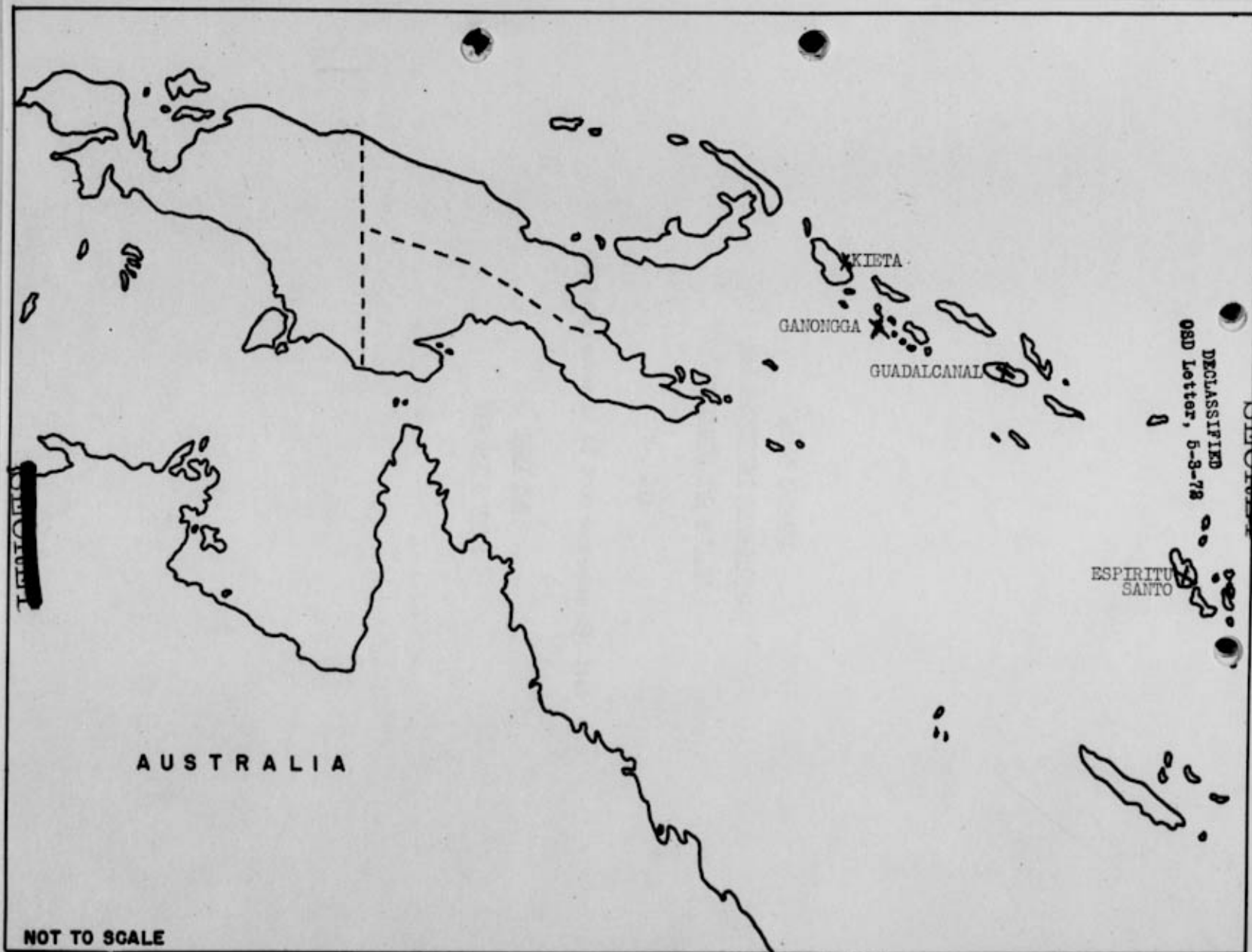
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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

area. Reports and aerial reconnaissances confirm the presence of a considerable naval force at Rabaul and in the northern Solomon Islands.

2. General MacArthur was informed that the British War Office proposes to send a small British Army and Air Force liaison mission to serve with the Australian military authorities, with a view to reinforcing the link between the British and Australian General Staffs.

3. General Harmon reports that operations in the South Pacific Area for September 27 were limited to long-range reconnaissances from Guadalcanal Island and Espiritu Santo during which one enemy plane was shot down off Ganongga Island. An enemy convoy was sighted moving north-east off Kieta (Bougainville Island), and other enemy ships were reported in the Shortland-Tonolai area.

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WHITE HOUSE

The First Group to leave through Fort Belvoir Creek at Milwaukee
on September 27. Twenty-one more arriving than were required
for the 100-mile trip.

SECOND GROUP

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 293

0700 September 28 to 0700 September 29, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

In its operations summary for the period 0700 September 28 to
0700 September 29, 1942, General MacArthur reports a continuation of the
war plan on September 28 and 29. Our artillery
continued its harassing fire, and a few patrols are operating on the
front lines. Another day's fighting was done on the 28th. General MacArthur, the
American army, and the Navy were. The report on the 28th of 1942 was
general in nature and consisted of many things were started in buildings,
and perhaps one airplane was damaged, at the same time. The 28th

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The first truck to drive through from Dawson Creek to Whitehorse arrived on September 27. Seventy-one hours driving time were required for the 1030-mile trip.

EUROPEAN THEATER

In his operations summary for the week ending September 28, General Spaatz reports fifty defensive sorties by American fighter aircraft, and an offensive mission involving 62 flying fortresses and 13 U.S. and RAF fighter squadrons, which failed to reach its objective because of weather. In all, one enemy dive-bomber was damaged, ten American pilots are missing, and one was injured.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 26 to 1400 September 27, GCT, General MacArthur reports a consolidation of the enemy position on Ioribaiwa Ridge (Owen Stanley area). Our artillery continues its harassing fire, and Allied patrols are operating on the enemy flanks. Allied air attacks were made on Buin, Rabaul harbor, the Ioribaiwa area, and the Buna area. One twelve to fifteen thousand ton vessel is believed destroyed at Rabaul; fires were started in buildings, and barges, and one airplane were damaged, in the Buna area. The 38th

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enemy air raid on Darwin did no damage.

The usual aerial reconnaissances of the enemy naval concentration in the Buin-Faisi area, and of other areas were continued.

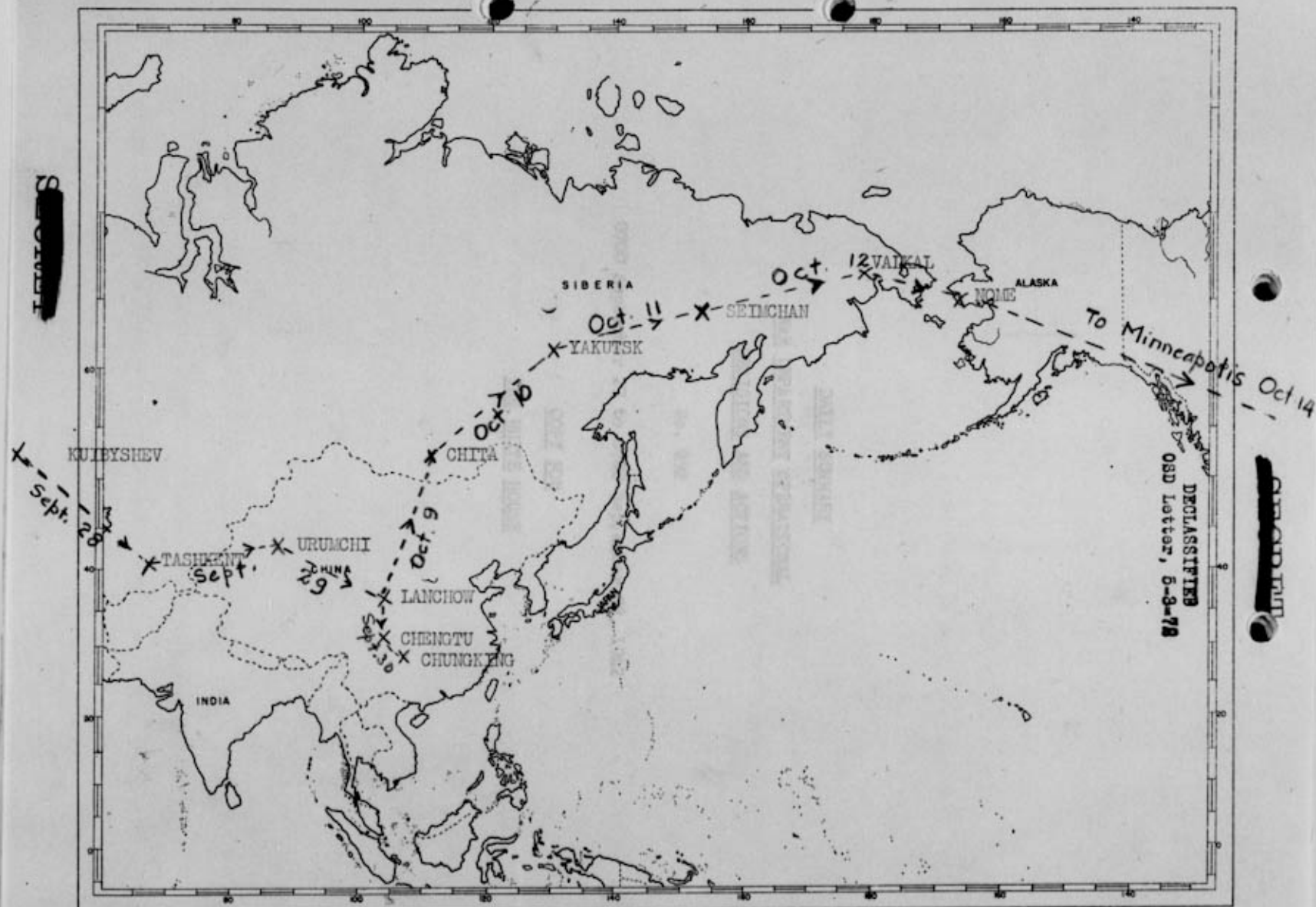
2. General Harmon reports that, in addition to the usual long-range reconnaissances, operations in the South Pacific area for September 26 included an attack on enemy shipping by eight flying fortresses which left one heavy cruiser afire and a seaplane tender burning and probably sinking. Six intercepting planes were shot down in this engagement and another was destroyed in a second combat between one of our flying fortresses and four Zero fighters. The location was not reported.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Correcting previous information, the Chinese Air Force reported that Mr. Willkie was scheduled to leave Moscow on September 27. The proposed itinerary is shown on the map appended hereto. General Bradley confirms this schedule.

2. General Bissell reports on September 28 that a bombing attack on the airdrome at Hanoi by four medium bombers escorted by ten fighters was intercepted over the target area by fourteen Japanese planes. Three of the latter were shot down, two were probably destroyed, and several others were damaged. No losses in personnel or equipment of our forces were reported.

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WATER TIGHTNESS

1. On September 25, 1942, 15 of our fighters attacked enemy shore installations at Wake. On September 25 fifteen fighters and twenty-eight fighters attacked the island. One enemy float fighter was shot down and six of our float planes in the water were destroyed. In enemy cargo ship was left burning.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

WATER TIGHTNESS

No. 292

0700 September 27 to 0700 September 28, 1942

COPY FOR

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WATER TIGHTNESS

General Stinson reports that on September 25 our fighter planes from a carrier destroyed enemy vessels in enemy waters between Wake and Oahu. Many fighters were shot down in the fighting which at Wake, September 25, burned the island.

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. On September 24 three of our bombers attacked enemy shore installations at Kiska. On September 25 fifteen bombers and twenty-eight fighters attacked the island. One enemy float fighter was shot down and six of ten float planes on the water were destroyed. An enemy cargo ship was left burning.

2. General Buckner was notified that Mr. Willkie's airplane will arrive at Nome from Siberia at some time between October 5 and 15.

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Eisenhower was informed that the State Department is instructing our Ambassador in London that it is imperative that EFM (fixed text cable and radio message) service be inaugurated immediately for our troops at all stations in the British Empire. The rate should be based on that charged British troops, viz. 2/6 (60¢ from Canada). The difficulty appears to be that of partitioning of tolls. This service is already in effect with 21 countries where our troops are located.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that on September 22 our fighter planes from Kunming destroyed some twelve to twenty trucks between Lungling and Chefang. Enemy fighters made two attacks on the landing field at Kweilin, September 23, burning one airplane.

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PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 25 to 1400 September 26, GCT, General MacArthur reports no change in the ground situation in the Efogi area. Allied air attacks were made on shipping and the airdrome at Rabaul, on the airdrome at Buna, on enemy shipping in the Trobriand Islands. One small enemy merchant vessel in the Trobriands was destroyed; a vessel at Rabaul was probably hit, and possible hits were claimed on another. The 37th enemy air raid on Darwin did no damage.

Air reconnaissances confirmed sightings of enemy naval vessels already reported.

2. Operations in the South Pacific area, as reported by General Harmon for September 25, included an attack by our "flying fortresses" on 15 enemy vessels concentrated in the Shortland-Tonolai area. One heavy cruiser, hit on the stern, was left smoking. Japanese aircraft over the area refused combat with our bombers.

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A directive was issued regarding the Gulf Coast, Texas, the Tank Destroyer Command and Naval District.

EUROPEAN THEATER

The War Department notified General Spotts that a continuation of being conditions and other DAILY SUMMARY to that the load of landing business was made to the WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL 2000 lbs. per airplane. He was asked if he was DECISIONS AND ACTIONS in favor of the equipment and personnel thus provided.

No. 291

AFRICAN-ASIAN THEATER

0700 September 26 to 0700 September 27, 1942

General Maxwell reports that aerial reconnaissance of the harbor at Bengali confirms the serious damage caused by our heavy bombers in the attack September 22. One COPY FOR THE WHITE HOUSE ship was blown up; hits were also scored on a small merchant ship, on a partially broken vessel used as a landing pier, and on the mole.

ASIAN THEATER

General Stilwell advised at 2100 GMT, September 26, that the Chinese Air Force reported Mr. Villike to be at Kailas. The Chinese have assumed control of the flight; the next leg will probably be to Chengtu.

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A directive was issued organizing at Camp Hood, Texas, the Tank Destroyer Replacement and School Command.

EUROPEAN THEATER

The War Department notified General Spaatz that a combination of icing conditions and other factors dictate that the load of medium bombers en route to the European Theater be reduced by 2000 lbs. per airplane. He was asked if he can loan a Troop Carrier Group to ferry the equipment and personnel thus grounded.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that aerial reconnaissance of the harbor at Benghazi confirms the serious damage caused by our heavy bombers in the attack September 22. One 8,000-ton merchant ship was blown up; hits were also scored on a small merchant ship, on a partially sunken vessel used as a loading pier, and on the mole.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Stilwell radioed at 0405 GCT, September 26, that the Chinese Air Force reported Mr. Willkie to be at Kuldja. The Chinese have assumed control of the flight; the next leg will probably be to Chengtu.

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PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. For the period 1400 September 23 to 1400 September 24, GCT, General MacArthur reported that his artillery continued its harassing fire on the enemy positions in the Efogi area. Heavy bombers twice attacked shipping at Rabaul, scoring hits on two large vessels. His light bombers and fighters were aggressive in the Mubo and Kokoda areas of New Guinea.

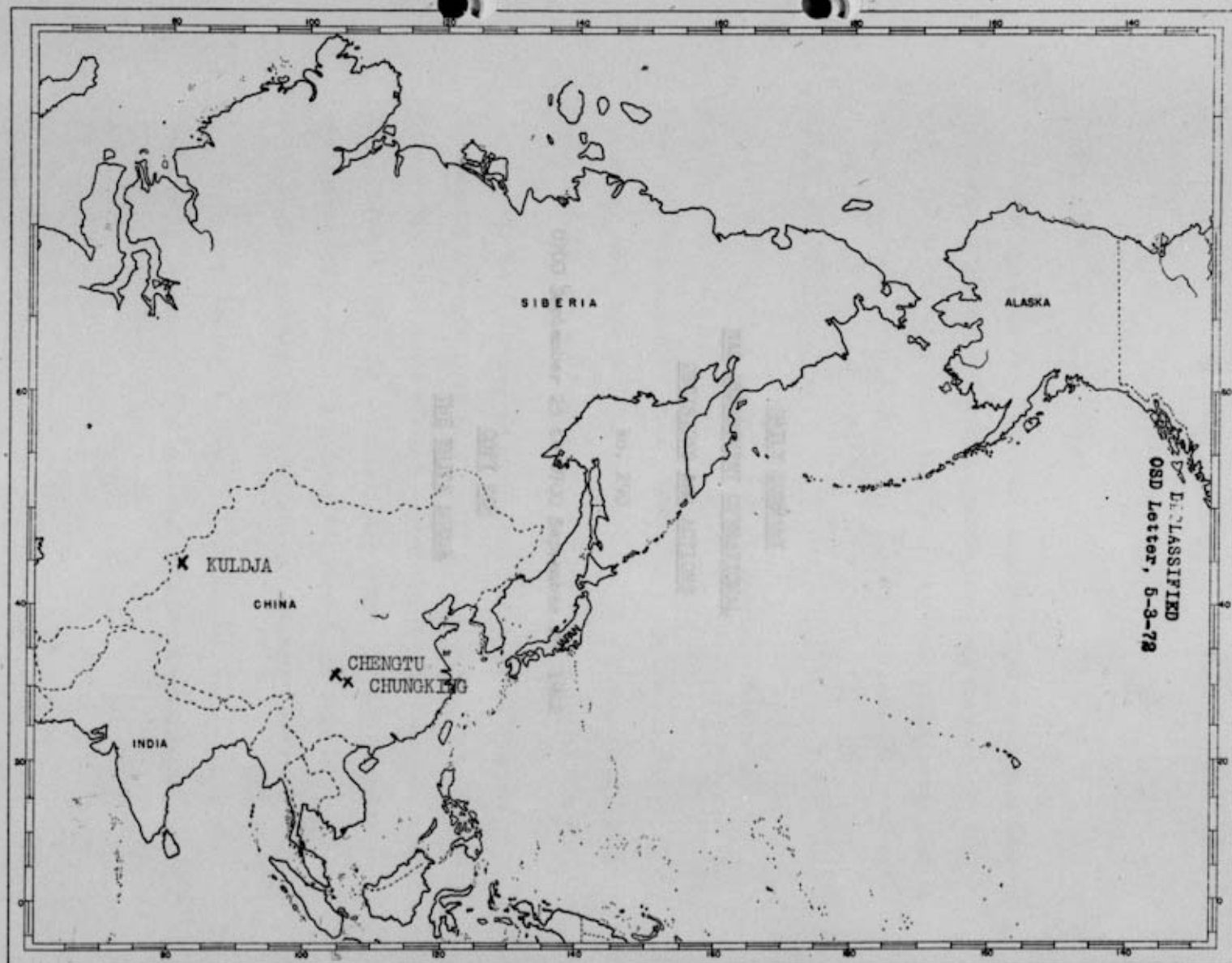
2. For the period 1400 September 24 to 1400 September 25, GCT, General MacArthur reports that the Japanese thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth air raids on Darwin caused no damage. Allied bombers attacking Dilli were intercepted by four Zero fighters, two of the latter being shot down and one Allied aircraft badly damaged. U. S. fighters attacked storage huts at Wairopi (Kokoda area) and also destroyed a quarter of the bridge at that place. Our heavy bombers attacked the Buna airdrome.

3. Air reconnaissances on both days disclosed four possible heavy cruisers, three light cruisers, eleven destroyers, five gunboats and numerous auxiliary ships in the Buka-Faisi (Solomons area).

4. General Harmon, in his operations summary for September 24, reports a bombing attack on enemy shipping concentrated in the Shortland-Tonolai area. One cargo ship was hit and another damaged by near misses. In air combats over Rekata Bay, our "flying fortresses" destroyed three and damaged one of twenty-four attacking planes. One of our bombers is missing.

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NO. 290

Commanding General of various units and forces were notified
that they were required regarding immediate emergency treatment in the
U. S. will be executed by the Air Transport Command. Reports, however,
will be kept to a minimum. General of the Air Force should be instructed
to take them to the

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 290

0700 September 25 to 0700 September 26, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

1. The War Department General Orders to be made to
the Commanding General, U. S. Army, regarding to deal
directly with appropriate military authorities in the Department of War,
Navy, and Air Force in order to effect the direct coordination of defense
activities, and to keep to a minimum the demands for material, as well
as the need for permanent training personnel to these agencies.

2. General of the Air Force reports that the Air Force has approved the
request of Mr. Wendell Willkie to serve as a member of the War Relocation Authority.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

GENERAL

Commanding Generals of overseas commands and forces were notified that sick and wounded requiring immediate emergency treatment in the U. S. will be evacuated by the Air Transport Command. Requests, however, will be kept to a minimum. *Admiral M. D. Dore should be interested in this item - C. H.*

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Commanding General, Army Air Forces, was directed to organize from the First Bomber Command (which is to be inactivated) the First Anti-Submarine Army Air Command, with a minimum strength of 16 squadrons. This unit is to be charged with the destruction of hostile submarines and with the development of appropriate means to this end.
2. The War Department directed General Andrews to delegate to the Commanding General, Puerto Rican Department, authority to deal directly with appropriate military authorities in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Cuba, in order to effect more direct coordination of defense activities, and to keep to a minimum the demands for materiel, as well as the need for permanent training missions to these countries.
3. General Bradley reports that the Russians have approved the flight of Mr. Wendell Willkie to Alaska, via China and Siberia.

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AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. General Maxwell was notified of approval of the U. S. Army project for development and operation of railway, motor transport and port facilities in the Persian Corridor. Brigadier General Donald H. Connolly has been selected to command the expanded Persian Gulf Service Command, which will include the new project.

2. To relieve the freight congestion existing at points of call, the War Department informed General Maxwell that arrangements are being made to utilize the entire cargo capacity of all combat airplanes flying from the U. S. to the Middle East.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for September 22, General Harmon reports air reconnaissances by our "flying fortresses" from Espiritu Santo and Guadalcanal during which three enemy submarines were sighted in the area northeast of Malaita Island. One was attacked with negative results.

2. On September 23, a bombing attack was made on the Japanese sea-plane base at Rekata. Continued air reconnaissances disclosed two cruisers, one destroyer, and two submarine tenders at Shortland Harbor. One enemy plane of five encountered over Manning Strait was destroyed, with no loss of American aircraft.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Authorization was granted for the construction for the Army Air Forces of an airfield, with necessary adjuncts, at Great Swan Island.

2. The Western Defense Command reports that one of our pilots attacked two tents on Segula Island on September 22. This is the first indication of the presence of the enemy on Segula Island and has not been confirmed.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A hostile plane observed over Hafnarnes, Iceland, on September 23 was damaged by machine-gun fire from the ground.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. General Fitzgerald was directed to make necessary preparations for the erection of P-40 fighter airplanes at Lagos with the aid of certain skilled personnel to be sent by General Maxwell, and others of the 8th Air Depot Group due to arrive shortly. General Maxwell was instructed to release for this project 70 competent erection men from Gura.

2. The Army Air Forces and the Services of Supply were directed to move the 79th Fighter Group to Cairo, Egypt, by the fastest practicable means.

3. The War Department informed the Commanding Officer at Ascension

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OSD Letter, 6-3-72

Island of the departure from Dakar of the Vichy French motor ship "Cephee", carrying rubber, and of Navy intentions to assist the British in intercepting this ship, if it is unescorted. He was directed to cooperate with the Navy in its search insofar as is compatible with his mission of defending his own airdrome, but not to attack the ship.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 21 to 1400 September 22, GCT, General MacArthur reports that land operations in the Efogi area were limited to patrol activity. Bombing attacks were made on the airdrome at Buka, shipping and the airdrome at Rabaul, the Buna airdrome and barges and boats nearby, and ground targets in the Kokoda area.

The usual reconnaissances were made, seven cruisers, seventeen destroyers and other ships being reported in the Buin-Faisi (Solomons) area.

2. For the period 1400 September 22 to 1400 September 23, GCT, General MacArthur reports that his artillery fire checked the southward movement of the Japanese in the Efogi area. Our "flying fortresses" bombed the airfield at Buna. Allied fighters attacked barges along the Buna coast, and the Buna airdrome, greatly reducing the volume of anti-aircraft fire in that area. Our fighter planes also attacked the Buna-Kokoda trail. One Australian fighter airplane is missing.

Air reconnaissances of the Solomons, eastern New Guinea, and Timor areas were continued.

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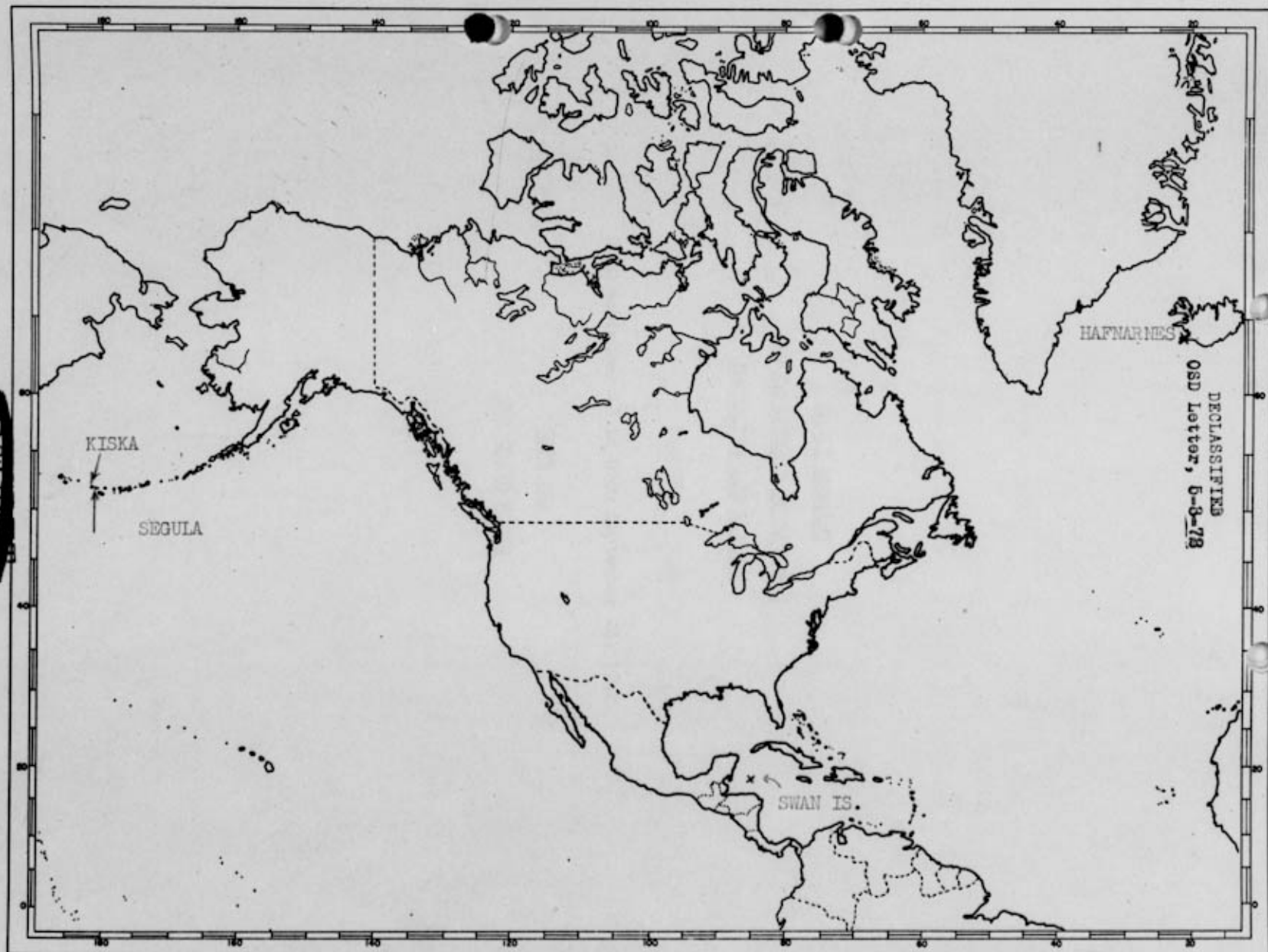
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OSD Letter, 6-8-78

HAFNARNES

SWAN IS.

SEGULA

KISKA



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RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

1. The Commanding General, Army Air Forces, was directed to transfer from the Caribbean Defense Command to the Eastern Defense Command the 51st Fighter Group, less junior officers, airplanes and equipment. He was also directed to withdraw the 9th Heavy Bombardment Group (less personnel, airplanes, and equipment) from the organization of the Caribbean Defense Command.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 288

0700 September 23 to 0700 September 24, 1942

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3. Orders have been issued for the shipment to the Commanding General, South Atlantic Wing, Air Transport Command, of fifty-five .50 caliber machine guns and eighty .30 caliber machine guns for the protection of air bases at Salem, Natal, and Durban, in Brazil. These guns will be accompanied by U. S. Army instructors, but will be manned primarily by Brazilian troops.

4. The 1st Infantry Division left the Louisiana Maneuver Area by rail and motor for Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The permanent change of station. Its former station was Camp Bowie, Texas.

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Commanding General, Army Air Forces, was directed to transfer from the Caribbean Defense Command to the Western Defense Command the 53rd Fighter Group, less junior officers, airplanes and equipment. He was also directed to withdraw the 9th Heavy Bombardment Group (less personnel, airplanes, and equipment) from the organization of the Caribbean Defense Command. These measures were taken in order to bring the actual organization into conformity with that already authorized.

2. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, was directed to conduct amphibious training of units on such scale that at any moment there will be not to exceed five divisions in readiness for amphibious operations.

3. Orders have been issued for the shipment to the Commanding General, South Atlantic Wing, Air Transport Command, of fifty-five .50 caliber antiaircraft machine guns and eighty .30 caliber machine guns for the protection of air bases at Belem, Natal, and Recife, in Brazil. These guns will be accompanied by U. S. Army instructors, but will be manned ultimately by Brazilian troops.

4. The 31st Infantry Division left the Louisiana Maneuver Area by rail and motor for Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for permanent change of station. Its former station was Camp Bowie, Texas.

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OSD Letter, 8-3-78

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. General Fitzgerald was informed that the War Department agrees in principle that the installations and improvements made by our forces at Pointe Noire are to remain the property of France after the war, without any compensation therefor.

2. General Maxwell reports an attack at dusk, September 22, on Bengazi harbor by heavy bombers of the U. S. Army Air Forces. An oil storage dump or a tanker was believed hit, as large fires and a heavy smoke cover lasting three hours resulted from the raid. The smoke was so dense that it interfered with a later RAF heavy bomber attack on the same objective.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

General Harmon reports for September 21 that the dock area at Gizo and the seaplane base at Rekata were attacked by heavy bombers, heavy antiaircraft fire being encountered at the latter objective. Routine reconnaissances were carried out from Espiritu Santo and Guadalcanal Island.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 287

0700 September 22 to 0700 September 23, 1942

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General DeWitt reports that troops have landed on Atka and that the occupation of the island has been completed.

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Spaatz reports that on September 22 two Army Air Force pilots in Spitfire airplanes intercepted and shot down a Junkers 88 airplane south of Selsey Bill.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports an attack on the airdrome at Myitkyina on September 19 by U.S. medium bombers operating from Dinjan. The airdrome was protected by heavy anti-aircraft fire.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 20 to 1400 September 21, GCT, General MacArthur reports the consolidation of Allied positions along Imita Ridge in the Efogi area, and considerable offensive patrol activity. Allied air attacks were made on Buna airdrome, and on bridges and huts along the Buna-Kokoda trail. In the enemy's 82nd raid on Port Moresby, twenty-seven bombers escorted by ten Zero fighters dropped their bombs in the scrub, causing no casualties or damage.

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NAVY REPORT

General Butler reports that on 19 September 1942, a Japanese aircraft was shot down over the island, in the Philippines.

ASIAN THEATRE

Two U. S. patrol bombers, operating from Manila on September 20, damaged the airbase at Davao (20 miles southwest of landing at the Santa Fe) and destroyed DAILY SUMMARY On their return trip these bombers attacked WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL and river shipping near DECISIONS AND ACTIONS Davao and Butte.

No. 286

0700 September 21 to 0700 September 22, 1942

1. On September 20, 1942, the reports as shown in the COPY FOR ground situation as now THE WHITE HOUSE led air attacks were made on the airbase at Davao (Solomon Islands) and on shipping off eastern New Guinea, and on enemy installations in the New Guinea area. The usual air reconnaissance was continued.

2. For the period 1940 September 19 to 1942 September 20, 1942, General MacArthur described as follows the flight patterns along the Santa Fe air base, and as shown by these flight patterns which damaged

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General DeWitt reports that an Army garrison now occupies St. Paul Island, in the Pribilofs.

ASIATIC THEATER

Two U. S. medium bombers, operating from Dinjan on September 18, damaged the airdrome at Tingka (20 miles southwest of Lungling on the Burma Road) and destroyed two buildings. On their return trip these bombers attacked an enemy barracks at Namkham, and river shipping near Shwebo and Katha.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1100 September 18 to 1100 September 19, GCT, General MacArthur reports no change in the ground situation in the Efogi area. Allied air attacks were made on the airdromes at Buka (Solomon Islands) and Lae, on shipping off eastern New Guinea, and on enemy installations in the Buna-Kokoda area.

The usual air reconnaissances were continued.

2. For the period 1100 September 19 to 1100 September 20, GCT, General MacArthur describes an attack by six light bombers along the Buna-Kokoda trail, and an attack by twelve fighter planes which damaged

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installations and set fire to a supply dump in the Kokoda area. Allied fighters also attacked five barges and a tug at Lae, probably destroying all.

There was no change in the ground situation in the Efogi area where patrol activity continued.

3. In his operations summary for September 20, General Harmon reports a low altitude attack on the harbor and docks at Gizo with explosives and incendiaries. Air reconnaissances of the Solomons area were continued from Espiritu Santo and from Guadalcanal Island by heavy bombers.

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CMA September 20 14 0700 September 21, 1942

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

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No. 285

0700 September 20 to 0700 September 21, 1942

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*I don't have
an explanation
of this item. But
will let you know
as soon as I give me C.H.*

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General Bradley was informed of word received by the War Department from General Belyaev that no airplanes other than those now at Fairbanks, that is, 14 light bombers and 27 fighters, would be accepted for delivery via the Siberian route. ||

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Fitzgerald reports that agreement has been concluded with the Fighting French for the use of Pointe Noire by United States forces.

*W. Coast of Africa - in French
Equatorial Africa -*

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports sorties by two medium bombers from Dinjan, September 17. Attacks were made on a large river steamer near Bhamo, on an oil barge north of Katha, on the railroad near Katha, and on the barracks in that town.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General Harmon reports for September 18 that "flying fortresses" dropped seven 300-pound bombs on Gizo harbor and dock area with unobserved results, and attacked the enemy seaplane base at Rekata Bay, during operations over the Solomon Islands.

2. On September 19, further attacks were made on Gizo harbor and Rekata Bay. Aerial reconnaissance from Espiritu Santo was continued.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 284

0700 September 19 to 0700 September 20, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-2-78

GENERAL

The War Department informed key commanders of the provisions of the act governing voting in time of war by members of Land and Naval Forces absent from their place of residence.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports a daylight attack by U. S. medium bombers on Tobruk harbor on September 17; two ships were set on fire.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 17 to 1400 September 18, GCT, General MacArthur states that the general situation in the Efogi area is unchanged; Allied offensive patrols were active. Successful Allied air attacks were made on Rabaul, on Lae and Salamaua, and on the Buna-Kokoda area.

Air reconnaissance was continued in the Solomons and eastern New Guinea areas.

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DAILY SUMMARY

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

0700 September 18 to 0700 September 19, 1942

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

EUROPEAN THEATER

The War Department amplified previous general instructions to General Eisenhower relative to the maximum use of British items for the supply of U. S. forces, as follows:

Needed items of food may be procured locally if available and if replacement from the U. S. is not required. Where replacement from the U. S. is required, procurement from British sources is authorized (a) where the replacement is to be made in raw materials less bulky than the finished product, (b) when needed in an emergency for a task force, (c) where desirable to reduce spoilage or loss of British reserves, (d) where special agreement has been reached between the European Theater of Operations and the War Department. British wheat meal flour may be used, replacement to be made in the form of wheat from the U. S.

Needed items of clothing, equipment, or other supplies may be procured from British sources, where no replacement from the U. S. is required, or where prior agreement has been reached between the European Theater of Operations and the War Department on each specific case.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. General Brereton reports that seventeen airplanes of the U. S. Army Air Forces attacked shipping in the harbor at Benghazi, September 16. Hits were claimed on two vessels, which were seen burning, and on two wrecks used as unloading piers. All aircraft returned safely.

2. Colonel Baldwin reports that the American heavy bomber which sank a submarine on September 16 sank or badly damaged another about 330 miles northeast of Ascension Island on September 17.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports sorties by two U. S. medium bombers from Dinjan, September 16.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 16 to 1400 September 17, OCT, General MacArthur gives an estimate of the Japanese naval strength in the Buin-Faisi area (Solomons) as five cruisers, eleven destroyers, one possible aircraft carrier, two seaplane tenders, and four medium cargo vessels, this information being based on reconnaissance and on reports from that area. Other reconnaissances included New Britain and eastern New Guinea.

No change was reported in the ground situation in the Efogi area. Allied air attacks were made on Rabaul, where fires visible for thirty miles were started, on the Sanananda-Buna area, where fifteen barges were destroyed or damaged, and on Salamaua, where a wrecked merchant vessel was set afire by a direct hit.

A raid on Port Moresby by one unidentified hostile airplane did no damage.

2. General MacArthur was informed that 70,000 sets of jungle warfare clothing and equipment are to be furnished for the use of U. S. troops in his area.

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CONFIDENTIAL
14 JULY, 1942

REPORT SUMMARY

The Army Ground Force report the departure of the 2nd Infantry Division from Camp Toccoa, Georgia, for the New York Port of embarkation for shipment overseas.

The designation of the 2nd Infantry Division (infantry) was changed to the 2nd Rifle Infantry Regiment.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 282

0700 September 17 to 0700 September 18, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

REPORT AND SUMMARY OF THE DAY

1. In the operations summary for the period 1700 September 16 to 0700 September 17, 1942, General Eisenhower reports heavy enemy pressure along the whole front in the West Area. Allied positions were established along the whole front, north of the line. Allied air attacks were made on air bases at Tunis, Germany, and Berlin, as well as other targets in the West Area.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces report the departure of the 29th Infantry Division from Camp Blanding, Florida, for the New York Port of Embarkation for shipment overseas.

The designation of the 88th Infantry Regiment (Rifle) was changed to the 88th Glider Infantry Regiment.

Directives were issued for the movement of the 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, and Fort Benning, Georgia, to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for permanent change of station.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports attacks by U. S. aircraft on shipping and dock facilities in Suda Bay, Crete, on September 14. Direct hits were claimed on one surface vessel, which was later observed burning. Bombs were observed exploding on the docks, but the results could not be determined. All of our airplanes returned safely.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 15 to 1400 September 16, GCT, General MacArthur reports heavy enemy pressure along the whole front in the Efogi area. Allied positions were established along Imita Ridge, north of Uberi. Allied air attacks were made on air-dromes at Buka, Gasmata, and Rabaul, on enemy barges near Buna, and on the Efogi area.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-78

Air reconnaissances were continued over the Solomons, New Britain, and eastern New Guinea.

2. General Harmon reports for September 16 extensive air reconnaissances from Espiritu Santo. Gizo, in the Solomon Islands, was bombed twice, a total of 13 three-hundred-pound bombs being dropped on the docks and housing area. Thirty Japanese bombers and fighters were sighted five miles north of Gizo. Rekata Bay, Santa Isabel Island, was successfully strafed, hits being reported on oil drums, installations, and one enemy airplane on the beach.

Three Army fighter airplanes, and six pilots, are now on Guadalcanal Island supporting the Marines.

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DECLASSIFIED
SP Letter, 5-8-78

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

A heavy bomber on a combined rescue-combat mission sank a large enemy submarine September 16, 280 miles northeast of Ascension Island.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 14 to 1400 September 15, GCT, General MacArthur reports the arrival of three fresh Australian battalions in the Owen Stanley Mountains battle area. Three RAAF Hudsons scored one direct hit on the stern of a ship at Saumlakki, Tanimbar Islands, one bomber being shot down. Eleven B-25's attacked enemy barges and supply installations in the Buna area. The majority of the bombs hit in the target area although the results were not observed. Ten to fifteen Zeros intercepted an attempted attack by four "flying fortresses" on shipping at Rabaul; one Zero was shot down. Air reconnaissance were made of the Solomons, Ambon, Bismarck Archipelago, and eastern New Guinea areas.

2. General Harmon reports for September 14 that seven "flying fortresses" dropped 28 five-hundred pound bombs on an enemy convoy of two battleships, seven cruisers, six destroyers and two transports or cargo vessels encountered east of the Solomon Islands. Possible hits on two battleships resulted. One "flying fortress" is missing. Two enemy fighters were shot down by a "flying fortress" on reconnaissance.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

On September 15 a "flying fortress" bombed Rekata Bay, Santa Isabel Island, with 10 hundred-pound bombs, silencing two gun positions and hitting a hostile seaplane on the water.

Reconnaissances were made from Espiritu Santo and from Guadalcanal Island during the period of these reports.

DAILY SUMMARY

NAV DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

REMARKS AND ACTIONS

Page 100

From September 15 to 20th September 15, 1942

NAVY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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GENERAL SUMMARY

General Butler reports a successful low-altitude attack on Hanoi by planes from the 11th Air Force, September 14. Twelve heavy bombers and 24 fighters bombed and strafed the city and shore installations.

Three large cargo barges were hit, 2 of them sinking near the harbor entrance. Twenty planes

DAILY SUMMARY

on the water. Three surface, 2 of which were in

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

Hanoi Harbor, were shot down. On shore, the submarine base and camp installations were bombed and strafed repeatedly, and large supply boat exploding after

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 280

which collected at 0700 September 15 to 0700 September 16, 1942 in which while attacking a Japanese fighter.

0700 September 15 to 0700 September 16, 1942

COPY FOR

AFRICAN-ASIAN EASTERN

THE WHITE HOUSE

General Butler reports extensive operations during the night of September 13-14 by heavy and medium bombers of the U. S. Army Air Forces. Shipping and dock facilities were attacked at Haiphong, and enemy installations at Hanoi. Medium bombers attacked enemy landing grounds. 150,000 pounds of bombs were dropped, and many fires and explosions resulted. Four surface barges are missing as a result of heavy gunnery fire and searchlight activity.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General Butler reports a successful low-altitude attack on Kiska by planes from the 11th Air Force, September 14. Twelve heavy bombers and 28 fighters bombed and strafed shipping and shore installations. Three large cargo vessels were hit, 2 mine sweepers sunk at the harbor entrance, 2 enemy planes shot down, and one 4-engine patrol craft burned on the water. Three enemy submarines on the surface, 2 of which were in Kiska harbor, were shelled by our fighter craft. On shore, the submarine base and camp installations were bombed and strafed repeatedly, one large supply tent exploding after being shelled. Enemy casualties are estimated at 500. Our losses consisted of 2 fighter planes which collided in mid-air while attacking a Jap Zero fighter.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports extensive operations during the night of September 13-14 by heavy and medium bombers of the U. S. Army Air Forces. Shipping and dock facilities were attacked at Benghazi, and enemy installations at Tobruk. Medium bombers attacked enemy landing grounds. 158,000 pounds of bombs were dropped, and many fires and explosions resulted. Four medium bombers are missing as a result of heavy antiaircraft fire and searchlight activity.

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PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400, September 13 to 1400, September 14, GCT, General MacArthur reports an attack by one Allied light bomber on Efogi, and attacks by twelve RAAF Hudsons on small cargo vessels at Saumlakki, Tanimbar Islands. Reconnaissances were made of the Solomons and eastern New Guinea areas.

2. General Harmon reports for September 12 that air reconnaissances were made from Espiritu Santo and from Guadalcanal Island, enemy naval movements being reported. Attempts made to attack a convoy of enemy warships and transports and an enemy aircraft carrier were unsuccessful because of weather.

3. For September 13 General Harmon reports continuation of the reconnaissances from Espiritu Santo, and the probable destruction of five Japanese airplanes by our heavy bombers.

4. Generals Harmon and Emmons were notified of the assignment to the South Pacific Area of a heavy bombardment squadron from Hawaii.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 279

0700 September 14 to 0700 September 15, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General Bradley reports from Moscow that the maximum initial capacity of the northern ferry route is eighty fighters, fifty light bombers, and twelve medium bombers per month, during September and October.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General Harmon reports agreement between Admiral Gormley and himself on the location at Bora Bora of the fighter aircraft assembly depot for the South Pacific Area.

2. General Harmon reports for the period September 3 to September 11, inclusive, that reconnaissance was maintained to a distance of 850 miles from Espiritu Santo and Efate, enemy dispositions being reported. Unsuccessful attacks were made on enemy warships, but effective support was given the operations of a Marine raider battalion at Tasunboko, Guadalcanal Island. Five Japanese fighters were destroyed and three enemy landing barges sunk, with no reported loss of U. S. aircraft.

3. In his operations summary for the period 1400 September 12 to 1400 September 13, GCT, General MacArthur reports no change in the situation in the Efogi area, although patrol activity by both sides has been heavy. RAAF bombers attacked two small enemy cargo ships in the Tanimbar Islands area, scoring a direct hit on one. Two enemy bombers

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Per Letter, 5-8-78

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at Lae were destroyed on the ground in a raid by fourteen medium bombers, hits also being obtained on the runways and dispersal areas. Our bombers attacked enemy shipping off New Britain.

IN THE NAME OF THE UNITED STATES

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

Page 27

0700 September 13 to 0700 September 14, 1942

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THE UNITED STATES

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MEMORANDUM

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been advised of the results of the operations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the period from 0700 September 13 to 0700 September 14, 1942.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been advised of the results of the operations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the period from 0700 September 13 to 0700 September 14, 1942.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

ADJUTANT GENERAL

No. 278

0700 September 13 to 0700 September 14, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been advised of the results of the operations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the period from 0700 September 13 to 0700 September 14, 1942.

ADJUTANT GENERAL

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been advised of the results of the operations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the period from 0700 September 13 to 0700 September 14, 1942.

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OSD Letter, 6-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Joint Brazil-United States Defense Commission was notified of action taken to deliver six light bombardment airplanes in September and twelve in October, production rates permitting, and of War Department approval of proposals of the Commission for control by military police of U. S. nationals in North and Northeast Brazil, for coordination of purchasing commissions, for centralization of purchasing procedure, and for centralization of shipping authority.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that an enemy twin-engine observation airplane was shot down by an American fighter over Kunming, September 8. Two fighters on reconnaissance attacked a 200-foot steamer south of Myitkyina, September 10, leaving the steamer out of control. Several buildings at Mogaung were destroyed on September 10 when a medium bomber attacked the railroad yard there. Another medium bomber attacked the railway junction northwest of Katha, September 11, destroying the railway track for 100 feet, also destroying a considerable number of freight cars and starting two fires.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations report for the period 11400 September 10 to 11400 September 11, GCT, General MacArthur states that no change has been

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-78



reported in the situation near Efogi. Successful Allied air attacks were made on villages in the Efogi area, on Buna, and on two destroyers northeast of Normanby Island. One destroyer was left down by the stern and burning.

The usual air reconnaissances were continued.

2. For the 24 hours ending 1400 September 12, OCT, General MacArthur reports enemy dispositions learned from aerial reconnaissances of the eastern New Guinea, Solomons, Trobriand, Goodenough, and Deboyne Islands areas.

Allied forward positions, 12 miles south-southwest of Efogi, were subjected to continued enemy pressure, September 11. The enemy airdrome at Buna was heavily bombed and strafed, September 12, by four flights of Allied airplanes, which secured hits along the runways and dispersal areas, and started fires visible for 30 miles. Seventeen enemy aircraft on the ground were considered destroyed. One "flying fortress" was shot down by antiaircraft fire.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SEP 12/42, 2-3-42

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To permit of anticipatory planning, the War Department has
the previous approval of the decision of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to
conduct operations of a tactical nature of war time in the Pacific Ocean, and
that the War Department is given of such operations and that the
War Department is directed for this purpose.

DAILY SUMMARY

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WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 277

0700 September 12 to 0700 September 13, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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General MacArthur was informed of a broadcast of a Japanese radio
message stating that the Japanese had captured the island of
Guam in the South Pacific area. General MacArthur was informed of the
capture of the island of Guam.

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GDS Letter, 5-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

To permit of anticipatory planning, the War Department notified the Services of Supply of the decision of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to assume custody of 150,000 prisoners of war now in British hands, provided that one month's notice is given of each consignment of prisoners and that no shipping is diverted for this purpose.

ASIATIC THEATER

U. S. aircraft operating from Hengyang, September 2, completed three missions against the Japanese; sinking seven steamers in the Yangtze-Hukow channel, attacking troop and supply flotillas on Po Yang Lake, strafing a Japanese troop train on the Kiukiang-Nanchang railroad, and attacking the town of Nanchang, where hits on the headquarters buildings and large warehouses in the enemy-occupied part of town were obtained. One Japanese fighter was shot down, and one P-40 is reported missing.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

General Harmon was informed of a Presidential directive that a fighter aircraft assembly depot be established at the earliest possible date in the South Pacific Area. Admiral Ghormley's concurrence is to be secured on whatever site is selected.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 276

0700 September 11 to 0700 September 12, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports an attack on the harbor at Tobruk, September 9, by heavy bombers of the First Provisional Group, over 45,000 pounds of bombs being dropped. Results were undetermined because of haze. All airplanes returned safely.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

General MacArthur reports for the period 1400 September 9 to 1400 September 10, GCT, that the situation in the forward area near Efogi is still confused, casualties on both sides having been heavy. Allied main positions are on high ground eight miles south of Efogi.

Aerial reconnaissances were continued in the Solomons and eastern New Guinea areas.

The forwarding of reports of defense movements and positions of forces were notified that individual acts of heroism in combat, while the most satisfactory evidence to be transmitted to the President, should be reported to the War Department and not referred to the press.

REPORTS RECEIVED

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

The first section of the report for the period 0700 September 10 to 0700 September 11, 1942, contains the following information:

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 275

REPORTS RECEIVED

0700 September 10 to 0700 September 11, 1942

A large number of reports were received from the various sources of information during the period 0700 September 10 to 0700 September 11, 1942.

COPY FOR

For distribution to the

THE WHITE HOUSE

REPORTS RECEIVED

In his summary report for the period 0700 September 10 to 0700 September 11, 1942, General Magruder states that no major changes were observed in the positions of the Allied forces in the North Africa theater. The positions of the Axis forces were not reported. The Allied forces were reported to be in a position to hold their positions in the North Africa theater, and the Axis forces were reported to be in a position to hold their positions in the North Africa theater.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

GENERAL

The commanding generals of defense commands and overseas forces were notified that individual acts of heroism in combat with the enemy, sufficiently important to be transmitted to the President, should be reported to the War Department and not released to the press.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The first echelon of the 33rd Infantry Division left Camp Forrest, Tennessee, for Fort Lewis, Washington, on a permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A lone German two-motored airplane machine-gunned two Icelandic homes at Brieddalsvik and two trawlers off the east coast, September 10. No casualties resulted.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400 September 8 to 1400 September 9, GCT, General MacArthur states that an enemy force infiltrated to the rear of the Allied positions in the Efogi area; details of the fighting are not yet reported. Nine Allied light bombers attacked enemy positions in this area, silencing machine guns. The usual reconnaissances were made of the Solomons, eastern New Guinea, and Timor areas.

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 274

0700 September 9 to 0700 September 10, 1942

COPY FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Three American heavy bombers attacking Kiska were intercepted by Japanese fighters, of which two were destroyed, only minor damage being inflicted on our aircraft.

AFRICAN MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that heavy bombers of the First Provisional Group bombed a convoy of three merchant and ten escort vessels en route to Tobruk, September 7.

Of twenty heavy bombers of the 98th Bombardment Group dispatched to destroy the same convoy, only two located the target because of darkness. The remaining eighteen proceeded to the secondary objective, Suda Bay, attacking shipping and facilities there with excellent results.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400 September 7 to 1400 September 8, GCT, General MacArthur includes the results of reconnaissance missions over Timor, the Solomons, the Bismarck Archipelago, the Trobriand Islands and the eastern New Guinea area, and the bombing of enemy barges at Buna by a "flying fortress". Attacks were made by Allied aircraft in the Kokoda, Trobriand Islands, and Milne Bay areas. Nine enemy bombers, escorted by five Zeros, attacked our airdrome at Milne Bay, causing slight damage and casualties.

WZ

WATER BOMBING

Two transport ships in Vicks harbor were attacked by U. S. Navy bombers on September 8.

WATER BOMBING

A single Lockheed-Vought Ventura was attacked and followed by an American fighter airplane on September 8.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 273

0700 September 8 to 0700 September 9, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

General MacArthur and General Hap Arnold have personally supervised the instruction of British Middle Eastern Forces are to be returned to the U. S. by the fastest available means.

WATER AND BOMBING IN PACIFIC AREA

In his operational report for the period 1800 September 8 to 1800 September 9, 1942, General MacArthur states that the enemy ships at Ifegao (Marina area) on night of September 8. Heavy positions at Ifegao and Ifegao were successfully attacked by Allied light bombers and fighters.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Two Japanese ships in Kiska harbor were attacked by one U. S. heavy bomber on reconnaissance, September 7.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A single Focke-Wulf Kurier was attacked and believed damaged by an American fighter airplane over Central Iceland, September 8.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. U. S. heavy bombers of the 98th Group successfully attacked harbor installations at Candia, Crete, during daylight, September 6, dropping 51,000 pounds of bombs and securing a direct hit on a power station. No aircraft were lost.

2. General Maxwell was informed that American Armored Force personnel assigned as instructors to British Middle Eastern Forces are to be returned to the U. S. by the fastest available means.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1100 September 6 to 1100 September 7, OCT, General MacArthur states that the enemy occupied Efogi (Kokoda area) the night of September 6. Enemy positions at Efogi and Myola were successfully attacked by Allied light bombers and fighters.

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OSD Letter 5-3-72

The airdrome at Port Moresby suffered slight damage as a result of a Japanese bombing attack, during which one hostile bomber was shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Positions in the Milne Bay area were shelled by enemy cruisers on the night of September 7, the Allied supply ship Anshun having been sunk at the wharf by shell fire from an enemy cruiser the previous night.

Aerial reconnaissances were made of the Solomons and eastern New Guinea areas.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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Operations were carried out for the movement of the 27th Infantry Division from Camp Shalimar, Florida, to the New York Port of Embarkation as a pre-emptive measure of evasion.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 272

0700 September 7 to 0700 September 8, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

SECRET

In his operations report for the period 1400 September 7 to 1400 September 8, JTF, Central Reporting reports the withdrawal of our ground forces in the Echols area to the vicinity of Mule. Heavy positions were heavily attacked by allied aircraft. The advance of our troops in the Echols area continued. Our flying formations attacked shipping near Mule Island and toward Mule.

Aerial reconnaissance was carried out in the Echols area, toward New Guinea, and elsewhere in the Pacific.

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OSD Letter, 6-8-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives were issued for the movement of the 29th Infantry Division from Camp Blanding, Florida, to the New York Port of Embarkation as a permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. General Spaatz reports a raid on September 7 on the shipyards at Rotterdam, and on the station at Utrecht, by 24 "flying fortresses." All of our airplanes returned, though three bombers were badly damaged. Twelve enemy aircraft were destroyed, ten probably destroyed, and twelve damaged.

2. A German Focke-Wulf airplane attacked the SS Duchess of Bedford en route from Seydisfjordur to Budareyri, Iceland. Four bombs were dropped by a hostile airplane to the south of Seydisfjordur, September 6. No damage resulted from either attack.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400 September 5 to 1400 September 6, OCT, General MacArthur reports the withdrawal of our ground forces in the Kokoda area to the vicinity of Myola. Enemy positions were heavily strafed by Allied aircraft. The advance of our troops in the Milne Bay area continues. Our flying fortresses attacked shipping near Normanby Island and bombed Mubo.

Aerial reconnaissances were made of the Solomons, eastern New Guinea, and Bismarck Archipelago areas.

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GENERAL SITUATION

1. A German bomber dropped one bomb on September 3 at Seydlitz, Poland. No damage to military installations resulted.

2. General Spaatz reports that thirty "flying fortresses" were destroyed by four RAF fighter squadrons successfully located in aircraft factories in Germany. Our losses were two bombers destroyed and two badly damaged. Against five enemy fighters destroyed, thirteen probably destroyed, and twenty-five damaged.

WAL

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 271

0700 September 6 to 0700 September 7, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

General Hensell reports attack on September 3 by one U.S. medium bomber on a river steamer near the city of Bonn. One U.S. medium bomber on the city of Bonn.

THE PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

In his operations report for the period 1200 September 4 to 1200 September 5, JTF, General MacArthur lists four attacks made on the enemy airbases at Buna and in the Kokoda area by our fighters and light bombers.

Reconnaissance were continued on the Solomons, eastern New Guinea, Bismarck Archipelago, and Coral Sea Areas, enemy air and naval dispositions being reported.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. A German bomber dropped one bomb on September 5 at Seydisfjordur, Iceland. No damage to military installations resulted.

2. General Spaatz reports that thirty "flying fortresses" supported by four RAF fighter squadrons successfully bombed an aircraft factory at Meaulte. Our losses were two bombers destroyed and two badly damaged, against five enemy fighters destroyed, thirteen probably destroyed, and twenty-five damaged.

Thirteen "flying fortresses", supported by three RAF fighter squadrons attacked the airdrome at Saint Omer.

Twelve U.S. light bombers, supported by three AAF and one RAF fighter squadrons attacked the Ducrat Airdrome, Abbeville. All U.S. aircraft returned safely from the last two missions.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports attacks on September 3 by one U.S. medium bomber on a river steamer near Katha and by another U.S. medium bomber on the city of Bhamo.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400 September 4 to 1400 September 5, GCT, General MacArthur lists four attacks made on the enemy airdrome at Buna and on the Kokoda area by our fighters and light bombers.

Reconnaissances were continued on the Solomons, eastern New Guinea, Bismarck Archipelago, and Coral Sea areas, enemy air and naval dispositions being reported.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-8-78

WHL

DAVID L. HARRIS

The following is a summary of the information received from the following sources:

1. The following is a summary of the information received from the following sources:

DAVID L. HARRIS

The following is a summary of the information received from the following sources:

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

DAVID L. HARRIS

No. 270

0700 September 5 to 0700 September 6, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

The following is a summary of the information received from the following sources:

DAVID L. HARRIS

1. The following is a summary of the information received from the following sources:

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DD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

One heavy bomber and two fighters made a reconnaissance raid on Kiska, September 4.

EUROPEAN THEATER

The Sotteville marshalling yards at Rouen were successfully attacked from high altitude on September 5 by thirty "flying fortresses", escorted by four RAF fighter squadrons. Twelve light bombers escorted by U. S. and RAF fighters made a diversion raid on the docks at Le Havre. All aircraft returned safely.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that an attack by the 4th New Zealand Division on the withdrawing Axis forces on the night of September 3-4 held its ground against three counterattacks on September 4 and permitted other Allied units to close in. American tank crews were in action during this period. Damage to Axis motor transport is now believed critical.

American heavy bombers have taken over the mission of intercepting a convoy known to be forming at Taranto and Brindisi, the Axis having found the sending of single escorted vessels too costly. Malta is assisting with fighter sweeps over Sicily and has torpedo planes ready for attacks on shipping along the Greek coast.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General Harmon reports for the period August 28 to September 2 that reconnaissances were carried on to a depth of 800 miles from Espiritu Santo, positions of enemy vessels being reported. A Japanese light cruiser and a tanker were crippled by bombing attacks.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

2. General Harmon reports that Auckland, New Zealand, has been designated as the destination of the 43d Division.

3. General Harmon was notified of War Department approval of the issue of common supplies, other than major items of equipment, to such forces as New Zealand air units operating with American units in the South Pacific area, on a basis of reimbursement, provided that mutually agreeable arrangements can be made.

4. General MacArthur reports for the period 1400 September 3 to 1400 September 4, GCT, that air reconnaissances were made of the Solomon Islands, eastern New Guinea, and D'Entrecasteaux Islands areas. Six RAAF fighters attacked the Milne Bay area with unobserved results.

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GENERAL SUMMARY

1. The War Department Service Command was created, effective September 1, with headquarters at White Horse, Texas. In this Command are included all activities of our Army in Mexico, Central America, Cuba and the West Indies, together with the operations, supply and construction activities connected with the Pan American and Texas Railway, pipelines, and the new highway.

The Commanding Officer, initially Major General G. W. Stewart, G.S.C., will have the same authority as the Chief of Staff of the War Department.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

Comments in the U. S. G. O. of the United States on the territory specified.

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 269

The Department has been advised that the G-2 Section of the U. S. G. O. is Spanish, extent 0700 September 4 to 0700 September 5, 1942

operated by Mexico, the United States Army will be authorized.

COPY FOR

A request of 22 officers and 22 men is included in the size of the Soviet transport area contained. The exact number of fighters, light bombers, and medium bombers to be ferried mainly over the northern route is still under discussion. The Americans have reported that a number of the fighters furnished to 8-1942, about which they are very enthusiastic.

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS

General Spence was directed to utilize the authority vested in the Theater Commander and make use to the maximum, in appropriate grades, of

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Northwest Service Command was created, effective September 2, with headquarters at White Horse, Yukon. In this Command are combined all activities of our Army in British Columbia, Alberta, Yukon and MacKenzie, together with the operation, supply and construction activities connected with the White Pass and Yukon Railway, pipelines, and the new highway. The Commanding Officer, initially Colonel James A. O'Connor, C.E., will have the same authority as that of Commanding Generals of Service Commands in the U. S. so far as applies to the Army of the United States in the territory specified.

2. Agreement has been reached with the USSR whereby the U. S. is to furnish, between September 10 and 15, 10 transport airplanes to be operated by Russia, for bringing Russian ferry pilots to Fairbanks. A maximum of 95 officers and 55 men at any one time is estimated as the size of the Soviet transient crew contingent. The exact numbers of fighters, light bombers, and medium bombers to be ferried monthly over the northern route is still under discussion. The Russians have requested that a maximum of the fighters furnished be P-39's, about which they are very enthusiastic. ||

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Spaatz was directed to utilize the authority vested in the Theater Commander and make use to the maximum, in appropriate grades, of

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

qualified American civilian pilots and of all qualified Eagle pilots and other Americans with the RAF, in order to augment his force.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

On September 2, our Air Force units, in cooperation with the RAF, continued their operations, fighters and medium bombers attacking concentrated motor transportation and heavy bombers attacking Tobruk. Messages of appreciation were sent by the British Air Officer Commanding the Western Desert to the 12th Bombardment Group and to the 57th Fighter Group.

American air support continued on September 3.

On September 4, our Air Force units dropped 104,000 pounds of bombs, medium bombers and fighters attacking enemy motor transportation and landing fields, while heavy bombers sank two of a convoy of three Axis merchantmen in the Mediterranean, leaving the third afire. General Maxwell comments upon the effectiveness of the bombing of enemy vehicles which display acute sensitiveness upon the approach of our aircraft.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400 September 2 to 1400 September 3, OCT, General MacArthur gives enemy air and naval dispositions, as revealed by air reconnaissances of the Solomons, Coral Sea, and Timor areas.

Attacks were made by Allied aircraft on Buka, Kieta, the Mubo (Salamaua) area, the Salamaua airdrome, and the Kokoda area.

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REPORT OF THE

1. On the night of September 3, 1942, the 1st Cavalry Division, 175th Airborne, 1st Air Cavalry, and 1st Air Cavalry Battalion.

2. To the effect that the 1st Cavalry Division, 175th Airborne, 1st Air Cavalry, and 1st Air Cavalry Battalion.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

REPORT OF THE

No. 268

0700 September 3 to 0700 September 4, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

REPORT OF THE

Several million soldiers, equipped by top fighters, supported by armored divisions, railroads, and transport at 120,000, August 11.

REPORT OF THE

1. His operations report for the period 1200, September 1 to 1200, September 2; 127. General MacArthur lists enemy air, ground, and naval dispositions as disclosed by aerial reconnaissance of the island.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Orders were issued for the movement to Camp Pickett, Virginia, of the 3d Division, 175th Engineers, 756th Tank Battalion, and 603d Tank Destroyer Battalion.

2. To deny their use to the enemy, General DeWitt has ordered the occupation of St. Paul Island and St. George Island in the Pribilofs. The Commander of the Northwest Sea Frontier concurs; General DeWitt has requested the concurrence of Admiral Nimitz.

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Eisenhower reports the organization of Allied Force Headquarters, with British and American officers in all sections except that of the Adjutant General. It is to be organized as a General Headquarters, capable of assuming eventual theater functions.

ASIATIC THEATER

Seven medium bombers, escorted by two fighters, successfully attacked warehouses, railroads, and barracks at Myitkyina, August 31.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400, September 1 to 1400, September 2, GCT, General MacArthur lists enemy air, ground, and naval dispositions as disclosed by aerial reconnaissances of the Solomons,

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

Bismarck Archipelago, Trobriand Islands, and Arce Islands areas.

Attacks were made by Allied airplanes on Buka, Lae, and the Kokoda area.

DAILY SUMMARY

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Vol. 567

2700 September 2 to 2700 September 9, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

THE ARMY SECRET

~~SECRET~~

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The War Department directed the constitution and activation of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Fifth Army, using personnel and equipment from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, I Armored Corps, which is inactivated.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

An enemy four-engine plane dropped two bombs on the village of Meo, northwest of Tunis, August 31.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

General Marshall reported:

No. 267

1. On August 31, U. S. bombers, in cooperation with the RAF, successfully attacked the port area of Tunis from 0700 September 2 to 0700 September 3, 1942.

Aircraft of the Seventh Fighter Group, with the RAF, accompanied fighter sweeps and ground attacks over the battle area.

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

American aircraft are supporting the British Eighth Army, attacking the enemy's ports and Mediterranean shipping.

2. On September 1, U. S. Army Air Forces actively supported the British Eighth Army in Egypt. They attacked enemy air transportation, interrupted a Mediterranean convoy clearing a hit on a merchantman, and bombed Genoa harbor causing hits on four ships. One enemy bomber and one fighter are missing.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The War Department directed the constitution and activation of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Fifth Army, using personnel and equipment from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, I Armored Corps, which is inactivated.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An enemy four-motored plane dropped two bombs on the village of Nes, northeast Iceland, August 30.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reported:

1. On August 31, U. S. bombers, in cooperation with the RAF, successfully attacked enemy landing grounds and motor transport in the forward areas, and harbor and dock facilities at Tobruk. Aircraft of the Seventh Fighter Group, also in conjunction with the RAF, accompanied fighter sweeps and escort missions over the battle area.

American aircraft are supporting the British Eighth Army, attacking the enemy's ports and Mediterranean shipping.

2. On September 1, U. S. Army Air Forces actively supported the British Eighth Army in Egypt. They attacked enemy motor transportation, intercepted a Mediterranean convoy claiming a hit on a merchantman, and bombed Candia harbor claiming hits on four ships. One medium bomber and one fighter are missing.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that seven medium bombers, escorted by fighters, all of the U. S. Army Air Forces, attacked the airdrome and warehouse areas at Lashio, August 29.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400, August 31 to 1400, September 1, OCT, General MacArthur reports enemy naval and air force dispositions observed on air reconnaissances which were made over the eastern New Guinea, Solomons, Timor, Trobriand Islands, and Bismarck Archipelago areas.

Allied fighter aircraft attacked the Kokoda area, where enemy pressure continues; one of our fighters is missing.

2. The Services of Supply were directed to activate an Officer Candidate School faculty and overhead for shipment to Australia. The school will have a capacity of 500 candidates.

3. The 43d Division began its movement from Camp Shelby, Mississippi, to the South Pacific Area. This Division together with certain Engineer, Signal Corps, Coast Artillery and service units has been assigned to reinforce our troops in that area. Admiral Ghoramley has been asked to designate the destination of these units.

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BISMARCK
ARCHIPELAGO

SOLOMON IS.

TROBRIAND IS.

KOKODI

AUSTRALIA

NOT TO SCALE

SECRET
BOMBARDIER
GND Letter, 5-3-78

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 266

0700 September 1 to 0700 September 2, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations report for the period 1400 August 30 to 1400 August 31, GCT, General MacArthur mentions Allied air attacks on Lae, Basano (Buna), and Kokoda. Several enemy fighters and a dive bomber were damaged on the ground at Lae; fuel fires visible thirty miles were started. No Allied airplane losses are reported.

Enemy aircraft attacked Darwin and the airdrome at Milne Bay without causing damage.

In the Kokoda area the enemy has apparently been strongly reinforced; an Allied ground attack was unsuccessful. In the Milne Bay area Allied ground forces are mopping up isolated enemy parties.

Aerial reconnaissances of the Solomons and eastern New Guinea areas were made, enemy ground, air, and naval dispositions being reported.

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