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

OCTOBER

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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WDS

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 326

0700 October 31 to 0700 November 1, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

EUROPEAN THEATER

Unidentified airplanes were reported over Iceland on October 30. L.3

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

American bombers assisted Allied ground operations on October 30 by attacks on enemy landing fields. B.1

Twelve U.S. heavy bombers attacked Maleme Airport, Crete, on the night of October 30/31. Results were not observed. No U.S. aircraft were lost.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that four U.S. medium bombers, escorted by seven fighters, operating from Kunming, bombed Lashio October 28. D.1
Direct hits were scored on an antiaircraft battery, a small hangar, and the dispersal areas.

On October 29, six U.S. medium bombers, escorted by six fighters, repeated the operation successfully. Heavy antiaircraft fire was encountered both days.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 29 to 1400, GCT, October 30, General MacArthur reports that Allied troops occupied Aloa, in the Owen Stanley Range, October 30. Halfway between C-1 and C-2

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OBD Letter, 5-8-72

U.S. and Australian bombers, continuing support of the general
Solomons action, participated in three coordinated attacks on shipping
in the Buin-Faisi area before dawn October 30. The Australian bombers
scored a probable hit on a cruiser; our "flying fortresses" scored
direct hits on a large warship, possible hits on a destroyer, near
misses on a light cruiser and a possible aircraft carrier, and set an
unidentified vessel ablaze. All aircraft returned safely.

C.7

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General Bradley and others of the 12th Army Group
intended for the UNIC in London. For the week ending

ending October 31, 1942

Delivered to 70 trucks

to units in Europe

to units in U. S.

AS supplies were arrived during the week

WAR DEPARTMENT

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DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

An undamaged airplane was reported from England October 30.

No. 325

APPROXIMATELY 1000 HOURS

0700 October 30 to 0700 October 31, 1942

General Bradley's 12th Army Group air force support of the British

12th Army reported that on October 30, 12 tons of bombs were dropped on

enemy targets, most were in the area of the enemy's main defensive line, which was highly effective.

On October 31, 12 tons of bombs were

dropped on enemy targets and lines of communication. The enemy generally

retreated or was hit by our fighter aircraft. One of our bombers was

destroyed by enemy anti-aircraft fire.

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General Bradley's 12th Army Group, of the 12th Army Group

and according to bomb records and wreckage at enemy positions.

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CWD Letter, 5-8-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General Bradley was informed of the following status of airplanes intended for the USSR in Alaska, for the week ending October 30:

	Medium Bombers	Light Bombers	Fighters
Delivered to Fairbanks	9	22	
En route in Canada	2	21	
En route in U. S.	16	7	80

45 Russian crews arrived during the week.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland October 29.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton summarizing his air force support of the British Eighth Army reports that on October 28, 24 tons of bombs were dropped on enemy tanks, motor vehicles and positions. Direct hits, highly effective, were observed on all targets. On October 29, 12 tons of bombs were dropped on landing fields and lines of communication. The enemy generally refused combat with our fighter aircraft. Two of our bombers were destroyed by antiaircraft fire.

ASIATIC THEATER

Twelve of General Bissell's heavy bombers, operating from Calcutta and attempting to bomb docks and warehouses at Rangoon, were unable to

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CS Ltr 6-8-78

fulfill their missions because of weather conditions. Three bombed the town of Akyab with unknown results. One of the airplanes crashed near its base.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General MacArthur announced his intention of moving the advanced echelon of his headquarters to Port Moresby on November 4. Direct radio communication with San Francisco will be established for high priority messages.

2. In his operations summary for the 24-hour period ending 1400, GCT, October 29, General MacArthur states that our ground forces, in a bayonet charge against an enemy strong point manned by 100 men, killed 20 Japanese and took 30 prisoners. Our advance continues.

Nine "flying fortresses" struck enemy shipping in the Buin-Faisi area in a night bombing attack and scored near misses on a heavy cruiser, another large warship, and two unidentified vessels; a large explosion on a fifth vessel followed the bombing. Reconnaissance flights detected the presence of a heavy naval force in the Buin-Faisi area.

Port Moresby was raided without damage.

3. General Harmon adds to his report on air operations, October 25: Four separate attacks were made by dive bombers and fighters on an enemy naval force of one light and one heavy cruiser and four destroyers just north of Guadalcanal. Direct hits were scored on the heavy cruiser with one 1000-lb. bomb and one 500-lb. bomb, as well as many near misses.

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600 Letter, 5-8-78

Both cruisers were apparently damaged.

Information to date shows one officer, three EM and two crew members were lost on the USAT Coolidge.

4. The War Department approved an arrangement between Generals Harmon and MacArthur whereby the latter consented to the removal by General Harmon of eight 155 mm guns and accessories from a shipment destined for Australia. These will be used to replace similar equipment lost on the USAT Coolidge; others will be sent to Australia from the US.

5. Senior air and ground officers of the Army are being placed on the staffs of Admirals Nimitz and Halsey for the purpose of integrating the plans and operations of their Services with those of the Navy. These will be "working" officers, not "liaison" officers.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 324

0700 October 29 to 0700 October 30, 1942

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EUROPEAN THEATER

General Eisenhower was asked to ensure that proper arrangements are made in London so that, in any military operations involving American troops, the news dissemination be so handled that the American press and radio can announce the reports as soon as the British.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell estimates that the first phase of the desert battle has ended with the penetration of the enemy defenses and consolidation of the new position. He reports that U. S. heavy bombers, dispatched on October 28 to destroy a southbound Axis tanker, failed to locate this target but attacked three Italian cruisers at Navarino Bay, Greece, hitting one.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. After a four days' visit at Ramgarh General Stilwell believes that all major difficulties have been ironed out. Relations with the Chinese are highly satisfactory, training is excellent, and the instructors and troops are enthusiastic and working hard. Lo Cho Ying explained the situation at length to the entire Command, and promised and ordered complete obedience and cooperation.
2. General Bissell reports that six heavy bombers from Kunming attacked Myitkyina October 27. All of our bombers landed safely at Calcutta.

3. On October 28, approximately 55 Japanese bombers and fighters attacked the ferry route airfields in Assam. One enemy bomber and a fighter were destroyed without loss of U. S. aircraft; operation of transports was not impaired.

Fighter reinforcements have arrived at the Assam airdromes.

4. The War Department replied to General Stilwell that it is cooperating with the Treasury Department in an effort to find a solution to his exchange problems; in the meantime he is authorized to continue to make payments in U. S. currency where practicable.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General MacArthur reports, for the 24-hour period ending 1400, GCT, October 28, that his ground forces in the Owen Stanley are steadily forcing the enemy back towards Alola (4 miles south of Kokoda), although precipitous country and heavy rainfall hamper operations. Enemy reinforcements are reported to be moving in from further east.

Allied aircraft bombed the Buka airdrome, burning one bomber, starting several fires, and destroying an ammunition dump. Nine "flying fortresses", in a dawn attack on shipping at Rabaul, report hits which set one vessel on fire and caused an explosion on an enemy warship.

2. In order to reduce the transient civilian population of Hawaii and to alleviate the labor shortage on the mainland, General Emmons was directed so to plan the remainder of his construction work that engineer civilian labor may be progressively released and sent home, without commitment of additional engineer troops.

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Reference: 6-3-12

GENERAL SUMMARY

Several aerial sightings were reported over Iceland. The first was a single aircraft fired upon by anti-aircraft artillery. The second was a formation of four aircraft.

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GENERAL SUMMARY

General Summary of the DAILY SUMMARY of the action during the period 0700 October 28 to 0700 October 29, 1942. The summary is the result of the action during the period 0700 October 28 to 0700 October 29, 1942. The summary is the result of the action during the period 0700 October 28 to 0700 October 29, 1942.

No. 323

0700 October 28 to 0700 October 29, 1942

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

1. In a delayed summary, the following reports were received from the Pacific and Southwest Pacific Area. The reports were received from the Pacific and Southwest Pacific Area. The reports were received from the Pacific and Southwest Pacific Area.

Barrow and Fort Belknap were visited by the Japanese; no damage was sustained at either place.

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EUROPEAN THEATER

Several hostile airplanes were reported over Iceland October 27, including two JU-88's fired upon by antiaircraft installations and intercepted unsuccessfully by our fighters.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports that on October 27, our medium bombers supported the Allied offensive in the Middle East by bombing motor transport, troop and tank concentrations, and landing grounds in the forward areas; the dock area at Matruh also was hit. Our crews report the destruction of three German and four Italian fighters; four other enemy fighter craft were probably destroyed. We lost one bomber.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In a delayed summary, General MacArthur reports that on October 25 eight "flying fortresses" attacked Rabaul before daylight, sinking a gunboat and a 5,000-ton ship, setting afire one medium cargo vessel and damaging another. Installations ashore were also damaged. Other bombers raided Kavieng, Koepang, and the enemy lines of communication from Kokoda to the northeast.

Darwin and Port Moresby were raided by the Japanese; no damage was sustained at either place.

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2. General MacArthur's summary for October 26 was noted yesterday.

3. In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 26 to 1400, GCT, October 27, General MacArthur reports that there was no material change in the ground situation in New Guinea. Six Australian aircraft, in attacks at Lae, set fire to three barges, silenced antiaircraft positions and destroyed a fuel dump.

The enemy again raided Darwin, causing minor damage to power lines.

General MacArthur reported in detail the enemy naval dispositions reconnoitered by his aircraft.

4. General Harmon reports that on October 24 a hostile airplane encountered northeast of Guadalcanal was shot down in flames. Air reconnaissance missions from Espiritu Santo were continued.

5. General Harmon reports the location of enemy naval concentrations in the South Pacific disclosed by reconnaissance missions October 25. "Flying fortresses" on these missions shot down two enemy planes, possibly damaging two more.

Twelve "flying fortresses" attacked an enemy naval task force northeast of the southern Solomon Islands. Our bombers dropped twenty-three 500-lb. bombs; a heavy cruiser was hit and when last seen was burning fiercely.

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SUMMARY

A four-engine airplane was reported over Iceland, October 18.

ANTIALIEN-ROCKET SYSTEM TESTS

General Maxwell reports that U. S. fighters and bombers actively supported operations on the desert, October 26, without success. Thirty-one of our heavy bombers attacked an enemy supply train. Fourteen enemy tanks were hit on a 100-ton tanker which was later observed on fire from the air. The hostile aircraft were hit and probably destroyed. The fighter squadrons also down four Italian aircraft planes.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 322

0700 October 27 to 0700 October 28, 1942

ANTIALIEN-ROCKET SYSTEM

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

1. General Maxwell submitted a detailed report on the situation on the desert front. On October 25, eleven heavy bombers were destroyed on the ground and four damaged, and fighters were destroyed and seven damaged. The damage to the air field was quickly repaired. The fighters were damaged in the attack on October 26 in which an enemy four-engine airplane was shot down.

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Letter, 5-3-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

A Focke-Wulf airplane was reported over Iceland, October 26.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that U. S. fighter and bomber aircraft actively supported operations on the desert, October 26, without casualties. Thirty-one of our heavy bombers attacked an enemy convoy near Tobruk scoring two direct hits on a 5000-ton tanker which was later observed on fire from stem to stern. An attempted interception of this mission by enemy fighters was repulsed, four of the hostile aircraft being hit and probably destroyed. Our 65th Fighter Squadron shot down four Italian pursuit planes.

The enemy was offering stiff resistance to the British advance in the northern sector, and his air force is becoming more active.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. General Bissell submitted a detailed report on the Japanese attacks on the ferry route. In the October 25 attack five transports were destroyed on the ground and four damaged; six fighters were destroyed and seven damaged. The damage to the air fields was quickly repaired. Two fighters were damaged in the attacks on October 26 in which an enemy reconnaissance airplane was shot down.

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Twelve medium bombers supported by nine pursuit aircraft successfully attacked docks, shipping and buildings in Hongkong, October 25. Ten enemy fighters were shot down, plus five "probables". One of our bombers is missing and one fighter was shot down in friendly territory. Shortly after midnight October 25-26, six medium bombers attacked the power house at Hongkong.

On October 25 six pursuit airplanes from Kunming intercepted an enemy force of twenty dive bombers and Zero fighters thirty miles north of Mengtsz. Three enemy planes were shot down and four others were probably destroyed, without loss to our forces. The Japanese abandoned the raid.

Three medium bombers attacking an airdrome at Canton October 26, caused many fires and heavy explosions. All our aircraft returned safely.

2. Upon the recommendation of General Stilwell, 250 officers and 55 enlisted men are to be sent to his theater. Some of them will supplement the group now engaged in training Chinese troops now at Ramgarh, and others will serve with units of the 30-Division plan. 25 officers and the enlisted men will leave by air by December 15.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General MacArthur's summary of operations in the Southwest Pacific Area for the 24-hour period ending 1400 OCT, October 26, describes the situation in the Kokoda area as generally unchanged with enemy positions being subjected to effective mortar fire. Allied aircraft, while continuing

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JED Letter, 5-3-72

to harass the enemy's lines of communication in New Guinea, made an effective attack on the runways and dispersal areas of the airfield at Lae. On Timor, the airfield at Koepang and the town of Dilli were also attacked.

Darwin and Milne Bay were subjected to enemy air raids which caused only minor damage.

Air reconnaissance of the Buin-Faisi area disclosed the return of enemy naval vessels, October 26, bringing the total there to two heavy cruisers, one light cruiser, seven destroyers, three probable sea-plane tenders, and eleven miscellaneous cargo ships.

2. General Emmons reports that on October 26 eight heavy bombers of the second squadron of the 90th Group, left for the South Pacific. ||

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 321

0700 October 26 to 0700 October 27, 1942

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CWD Letter, 5-3-78

EUROPEAN THEATER

Two enemy aircraft were reported over Iceland October 25.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that our air units were active over the battle area in Egypt October 25, shooting down four out of seven enemy aircraft destroyed.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that in operations in Burma, October 21, two fighter planes attacked Chinghkrangaka; results were unobserved.

Our airdromes in upper Assam were attacked twice on October 26; no details are yet available. No CNAC aircraft were lost in the attack October 25.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 23 to 1400 OCT, October 24, General MacArthur reports that the Buna area, New Guinea, is strongly held by the enemy. In the Kokoda area our forces continue their advance against strong enemy resistance. The enemy on Goodenough Island is offering effective resistance against our mopping-up expedition.

Four "flying fortresses" attacked shipping in Rabaul harbor;

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GND Letter, 5-3-72

one direct hit was secured on a large tanker or seaplane tender, setting the vessel afire. Three medium bombers attacking the airfield at Lae destroyed two Japanese bombers, damaged two, and silenced an antiaircraft position.

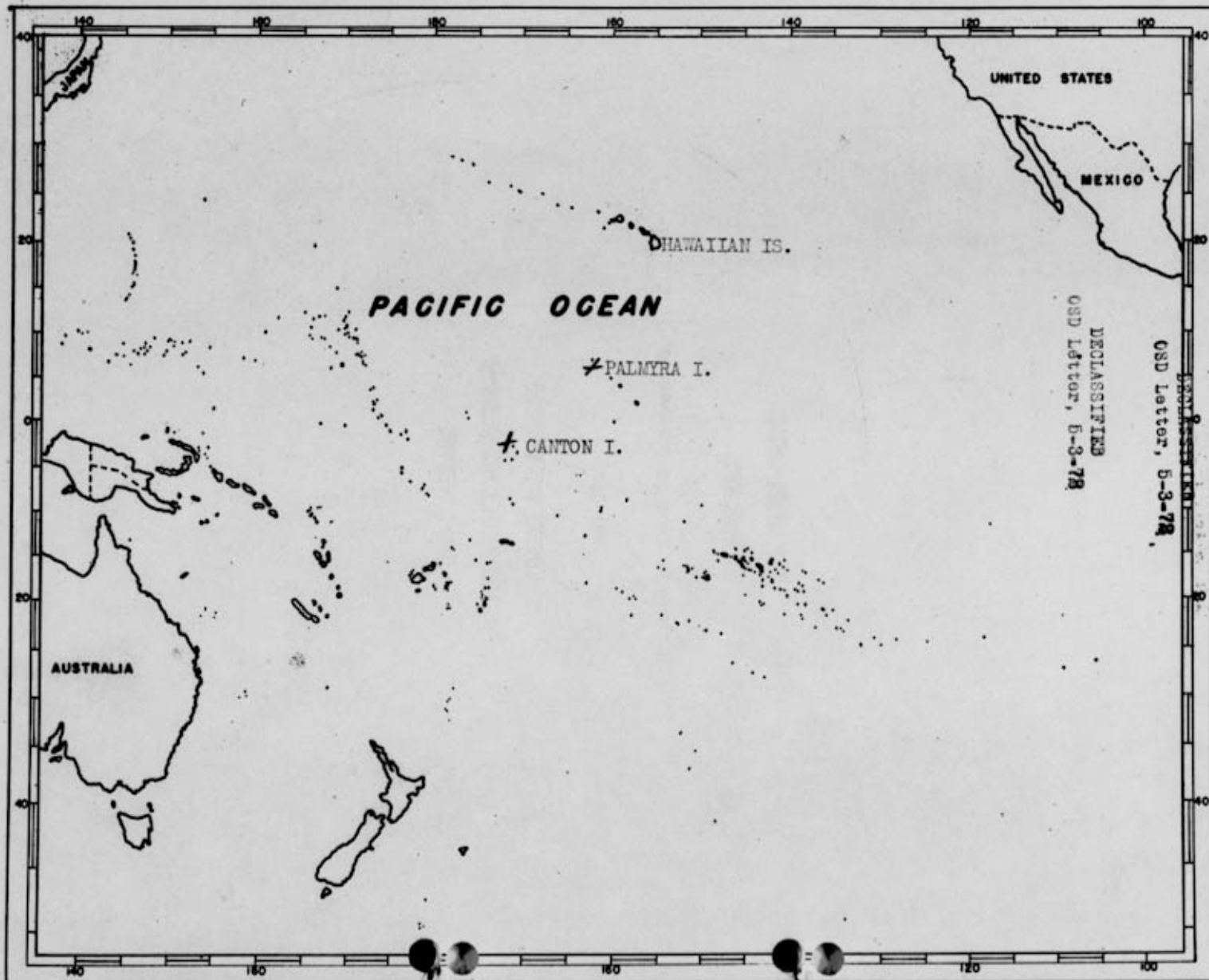
The entire Japanese naval force, with the exception of three destroyers, left the Buin-Faisi area during the night of October 24.

2. General Harmon reports that the USAT Coolidge struck a mine and sank in twenty fathoms on October 26, near Espiritu Santo; personnel losses were small. Action has been initiated by the War Department to expedite replacement of lost equipment.

3. Reporting on the Rickenbacker flight, General Emmons states that bearings were furnished the bomber from Palmyra but not from Canton as there was no direction-finder station at the latter island. The radio equipment in the "flying fortress" was operating and there was no record of any electrical disturbances. After reporting himself lost the pilot of Rickenbacker's aircraft received frequent bearings from Palmyra until 0052 Z October 22, as well as other messages from Canton.

The search continues but results are still negative.

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UNITED STATES

The preliminary report of the attack was received on October 24 by
the "Flying Fortress" which dropped incendiary bombs on
the city of Tokyo. The attack was carried out by a force of
up to 100 bombers, but only a few incendiary bombs were
dropped.

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UNITED STATES

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 320

0700 October 25 to 0700 October 26, 1942

UNITED STATES

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

According to the Department's report of 1500 October 24 General
Maxwell stated that an advance of about three miles through the enemy
defense line had been made on the north front. The attack was preceded by
an intensive artillery preparation fired by 241 guns.

General Maxwell wrote a glowing account of enemy air action
against the attacking ground forces. He reported the complete paralysis
of the enemy who had expected the attack on the north instead of the

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The submarine base at Kiska was again attacked on October 24 by three "flying fortresses" which dropped forty-two 300-pound bombs; results were unobserved. No enemy aircraft were reported in the air or on the water, but unusually heavy antiaircraft fire was encountered by this flight.

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Bonesteel reports the presence of several enemy reconnaissance aircraft over Iceland October 24, including a JU-88 and a Focke Wulf Condor. U. S. pursuit craft intercepted the latter northeast of Borganes. The Condor was shot down and its wreckage is being searched for. Our aircraft returned safely.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

Summarizing the desert offensive up to 1500 October 24 General Maxwell states that an advance of about three miles through the enemy defenses had been made on the north flank. The attack was preceded by an intensive artillery preparation fired by 800 guns.

General Maxwell notes a striking absence of enemy air action against the attacking ground forces. He reports the complete surprise of the enemy, who had expected the thrust on the south instead of the

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north flank; the successful penetration of enemy defenses by British armored divisions, well-trained and skilfully handled; and the absence of major encounters between armored forces.

Our airforce supported the offensive. During October 24 anti-aircraft fire inflicted some damage on our airplanes, but only one was forced down.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports on air operations in the Asiatic Theater:

On October 19 six medium bombers operating from Kunming successfully bombed Tengchung, Burma;

On October 25, about sixty Japanese bombers and fighters attacked the Dinjan airdrome, which had only three minutes warning. One or two Allied transports were shot down and eight others were damaged; several pursuit airplanes were destroyed on the ground. Four enemy airplanes were shot down.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. Admirals Nimitz and Halsey have sent messages to General MacArthur expressing their appreciation for the effective support and assistance which he has rendered to the operations in the South Pacific area. Admiral Halsey asked him to continue to select his own target areas.

2. The day and night search for the Rickenbacker flight was continued during October 24. Results up to nightfall on October 23 were negative.

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 319

0700 October 24 to 0700 October 25, 1942

COPY FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

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OSD Letter, 6-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Kiska harbor and submarine base were attacked on October 23 by six heavy bombers, which dropped thirty-six 1000-pound bombs in the area, obtaining a direct hit on the submarine shed. No interception was attempted by the enemy.

2. Some advanced Army units are now on Tanaga Island.

3. The Quartermaster General is shipping to Trinidad, Jamaica, Antigua and Puerto Rico some dogs which have been trained for sentry work.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Enemy aircraft were again reported over Iceland on October 23. General Eisenhower was informed of plans which are being made to reinforce the air defenses of Iceland in order to curtail these reconnaissance activities and to cope with attacks or raids which may be made when the weather improves next spring.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports a successful attack on Maveme Airport, Crete, by United States and British heavy bombers, October 22.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations summary for the 24-hour period ending 1400, GCT, October 23, General MacArthur reports two attacks on shipping in Rabaul by "flying fortresses", which are believed to have sunk one cruiser, one destroyer, and two merchant vessels, and to have damaged probably six other merchantmen. Light bombers attacked enemy lines of communication in the Kokoda area. All of our airplanes returned. The Japanese made an ineffective air attack on Milne Bay.

There is no further report of ground operations in New Guinea.

Aerial reconnaissances were made over the northern Solomons and eastern New Guinea, no substantial change being observed in the enemy shipping concentration in the Buin-Faisi area.

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 318

0700 October 23 to 0700 October 24, 1942

COPY FOR
THE WHITE HOUSE

EUROPEAN THEATER

Numerous hostile aircraft were reported over Iceland on October 22. No hits were made by our antiaircraft artillery nor contact by our fighters.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. General Brereton reports that on October 22 eighteen American medium bombers attacked enemy landing fields, direct hits being observed on two aircraft. One bomber was lost as the result of interception by 30 enemy fighters, one of which was shot down by our fighter escort. American fighters and fighter-bombers also attacked enemy motor transport along desert roads.

2. General Maxwell reports that the British offensive in the Western Desert began at 2200 October 23.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period ending 1400 GCT October 22, General MacArthur reports that the Japanese were forced back to the high ground north of Eora Creek, where they are making a stand. At the request of Admiral Halsey, Australian Catalinas attacked shipping in the Buin-Faisi area where aerial reconnaissances disclosed a concentration of some 49 enemy naval vessels.

Photographs made at Rabaul harbor on the afternoon of October 22 showed 26 large merchant ships as well as naval and other craft.

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OSD Letter, 64-3-72

Three enemy bombers attacked Port Moresby the evening of October 22; no damage resulted.

2. General Harmon submitted the following reports, delayed by intensive operations:

Oct. 14: 9 enemy grounded airplanes were attacked, many being damaged.

Oct. 15: Japanese naval gunfire and bombs had made the airfield on Guadalcanal unsuitable for heavy bomber operations; enemy air and ground action continued there.

11 "flying fortresses" were dispatched to attack an enemy force engaged in a landing operation 8 miles west of the airfield on Guadalcanal. When the bombers arrived one transport was burning. 24,500 pounds of bombs were dropped, possibly damaging one cargo ship and setting afire one battleship or light cruiser and one transport. Our bombers were attacked by 18 to 20 Zero fighters; 8 Zeros were destroyed, 3 probably destroyed and 3 known damaged. All "flying fortresses", though badly damaged, returned to Espiritu Santo. The airfield on Guadalcanal was being shelled by an enemy destroyer at the time of this air action.

Oct. 16: An aerial striking force dropped 22,000 pounds of bombs on the Kokumbona area (8 miles west of Guadalcanal airfield) starting large fires. Two hits were claimed on a

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beached transport which the enemy was unloading. Of ten enemy fighters which attacked our bombers two were shot down.

Oct. 17: The Guadalcanal airfield was still unsuitable for heavy bomber operations.

3. General Emmons reported that the search for Captain Rickenbacker during October 22 was unsuccessful. An organized search by Army and Navy aircraft continued during October 23.

4. General Emmons was directed to dispatch the second squadron of the 90th Bombardment Group (Heavy) to New Caledonia for temporary duty, instead of Australia.

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DAILY SUMMARY
WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 317

0700 October 22 to 0700 October 23, 1942

COPY FOR
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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Orders were issued directing the movement of the 38th Infantry Division (Major General H. L. C. Jones) and the 638th Tank Destroyer Battalion from Camp Shelby, Mississippi, to the Amphibious Training Center, Carabelle, Florida, for training. The 441st Coast Artillery Battalion (Antiaircraft—Automatic Weapons) will move from Camp Stewart, Georgia to Carabelle, Florida for the same purpose.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Two hostile airplanes were over Iceland on October 21.
2. General Spaatz supplements his report on the air action of October 21 with information that the 15 "flying fortresses" which attacked the Lorient submarine base were engaged in combat with 36 enemy fighter planes from the time they crossed the Channel until they reached the vicinity of the target. Our bomber crews claimed the destruction of nine enemy aircraft and the probable destruction of six others; their claims of bomb hits in the target area were confirmed by photographs.

Allied fighter squadrons, which were to furnish escort protection on this mission, lost contact due to cloudy weather, failed to encounter any hostile aircraft, and returned to their bases.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports American participation in a series of

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attacks on Axis landing field installations in Egypt, October 20, in which at least six enemy airplanes were destroyed. All of our aircraft returned safely.

On October 21 American fighters and medium and heavy bombers were active over the desert battle area, operating jointly with the RAF and the South African Air Force.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the 24-hour period ending 1400, GCT, October 21, General MacArthur reports that reconnaissance disclosed a considerable enemy naval force still present in the Buin-Faisi area. Other shipping was observed off Kavieng, New Ireland.

On October 18, nine "flying fortresses" bombed the dock area, shipping, and an airdrome at Rabaul; one ship was hit and several large fires were started. On October 21 Maobisse, Timor, and Gasmata, New Britain, were attacked by Allied bombers; a launch was sunk at Gasmata.

The enemy was forced out of his prepared positions north of Templeton's Crossing (Eora Creek, New Guinea) by a flank attack after hard fighting on the morning of October 21.

2. General Emmons reports that the "flying fortress" carrying Captain Rickenbacker from Hawaii to Canton went down at sea shortly after midnight October 21/22, GCT, after losing its way. All airplanes and surface vessels at Canton Island are searching for it, and additional aircraft are being sent in to assist.

WATER RESOURCES

Investigations were carried out for the purpose of the 5th Division
Division, from Fort Jackson, South Carolina to Fort Leonard Wood,
Missouri, for purposes of water.

WATER RESOURCES

1. At every point where the water resources of the 5th Division
are concerned, the results of the investigations, but the results of
the first of these.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 316

0700 October 21 to 0700 October 22, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WATER RESOURCES

1. General Harnett reports that on October 18 attacks were made
by the aircraft of the 5th Division, and that the results of these
attacks were of considerable importance, and that the results of these
attacks were of considerable importance.

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wSD Letter, 5-8-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives were issued for the movement of the 8th Motorized Division from Fort Jackson, South Carolina to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. An enemy Focke-Wulf Condor reconnoitered Iceland on October 20. It was attacked by our antiaircraft batteries, but the result of the fire is unknown.

2. General Spaatz reports that at noon, October 21, nine of his "flying fortresses" attacked the Cherbourg Maupertuis Airdrome; eighteen "flying fortresses" attacked the submarine base at Lorient at the same time. Adverse weather prevented many other bombers from reaching these targets. The attacks were supported by U. S. and British fighter squadrons. Enemy opposition was encountered at Lorient and three of our bombers failed to return.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General Harmon reports that on October 19 attacks were made by his aircraft on the Rekata seaplane base, on enemy supplies at Tassafaronga (north end of Guadalcanal), and on an enemy destroyer. Three enemy airplanes were shot down.

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DECLASSIFIED
Letter, 5-8-78

2. The 1st Battalion, 147th Infantry, with Ordnance, Finance, Quartermaster, Signal, and Engineer detachments left Tongatabu for Ndeni, Santa Cruz Islands, on October 20. A battery of field artillery left New Caledonia for the same destination on October 15.

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GENERAL SUMMARY

Orders were issued for the immediate evacuation of General Good, Wisconsin, to Camp Young, California, of the 4th Mountain Division and 800th Tank Battalion. The orders were as follows:

GENERAL SUMMARY

Several incidents of sabotage were reported on October 19, 1942.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

GENERAL SUMMARY

No. 315

0700 October 20 to 0700 October 21, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

GENERAL SUMMARY

General Good, Wisconsin, was evacuated to Camp Young, California, of the 4th Mountain Division and 800th Tank Battalion. The orders were as follows:

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DECLASSIFIED
CDS Letter, 6-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Orders have been issued for the movement from Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, to Camp Young, California, of the 6th Motorized Division and 606th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for desert training.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Several hostile and unidentified aircraft were reported over Iceland on October 19. One enemy airplane was reported as following a ship a few miles off the east coast.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports that on October 19, 11 of his medium bombers, cooperating with the RAF, attacked an enemy landing field in Egypt. Tobruk harbor was raided by five American heavy bombers, which secured direct hits on two merchant vessels. All aircraft returned safely.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports a raid on the railroad north of Myitkyina by two American fighter airplanes from Dinjan, October 17, and the successful interception on October 19 of a Japanese twin-engine airplane over Dinjan.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 8-8-78

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. The 17th Pursuit Squadron has been cited in War Department Orders for its performance in action. After its equipment was virtually destroyed in the Philippines, this unit was evacuated by air to Java where it received new equipment and relatively green pilots, rendering gallant service during January and February in the defense of Java.

2. Recently General Emmons reported a shortage of certain staple foods available to the civilians in Hawaii. This was caused in part by the large food purchases made by the Services from local wholesale dealers, and by the patronage of restaurants by Service personnel while on leave in Honolulu. Beef is particularly short. General Emmons requested that the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation be permitted to purchase staple foods for Hawaiian civilian use from the allotment set aside for the armed forces.

The War Department replied that as the allotment of food to the armed forces is barely adequate to meet their own requirements, it cannot be diverted to supply civilians. However, the Army is willing to assist General Emmons in obtaining supplies for civilians through its procurement agencies. The War Department suggested that civilian beef consumption be rationed, and military personnel enjoined to refrain from consuming civilian supplies.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 314

0700 October 19 to 0700 October 20, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Four of General Butler's heavy bombers at Oll5 GGT on October 19 again successfully bombed the camp area at Kiska and the cargo vessel aground in Trout Lagoon. Twelve tons of bombs were dropped. A heavy explosion, thought to be the gasoline stores there, resulted. No enemy aircraft were encountered.

Tanaga Island was reconnoitered by Army troops landed by a flying boat on October 17.

2. General Arnold congratulated the Alaskan Defense Command upon its success in destroying two Japanese destroyers by the low-altitude "skip-bombing" technique.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Several hostile bombers and reconnaissance airplanes were over Iceland, October 18. One of our fighters collided with a German airplane which escaped. Another enemy airplane over Jan Mayen was fired on by the Norwegians.

2. General Spaatz reports that on October 19 an enemy airplane attacked the Hardwick airdrome, destroying several small buildings and damaging other buildings and one of our aircraft.

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AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell was informed of the designation of General Elmer E. Adler as head of the U. S. contingent of a Combined British - U. S. mission which will go to Russia to discuss future operations.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General Harmon reports that an RNZAF fighter squadron is due to arrive at Tongatabu about October 26 and will take over the equipment and airplanes of the 68th Squadron, AAF, which will move to New Caledonia.

He also reports that a reinforced New Zealand brigade will arrive in New Caledonia early in November.

2. General MacArthur reports for the 24-hour period ending 1400, OCT, October 18 that four heavy bombardment missions against enemy shipping and airdromes in the Tonolei-Faisi area were carried out early on October 18. One, and possibly two more, heavy cruisers were damaged by 1000-pound bombs, at least seven enemy seaplanes were damaged, and a 500-ton vessel was set afire. Other air attacks were made on shipping and ground targets near Goodenough Island, and the Bismarcks. In the Admiralty Islands a ship, probably a weather-reporting vessel, was set afire.

In New Guinea, Allied ground forces continued to make progress in spite of enemy counterattacks.

The positions of six cruisers, twenty-two destroyers, and other enemy shipping were reported as a result of air reconnaissances of the Solomons, the Bismarck Archipelago, and the Admiralty Islands.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 313

0700 October 18 to 0700 October 19, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
and Letter. 5-3-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. General Butler reports that five of our medium bombers attacked two Japanese destroyers northeast of Kiska, October 16. Both destroyers were set afire, one being abandoned by its crew.

On October 17 excellent visibility permitted air reconnaissance of the entire area around the outer Aleutian Islands of Kiska, Amchitka, Segula, Buldir, Agattu, Attu and the Semichis but no trace of these two Japanese destroyers could be found; there is no doubt that they were sunk.

The camp area on Kiska Island and the freighter, beached in Trout Lagoon there, were again bombed on October 17.

2. Orders were issued transferring to Camp Hale, Colorado, the headquarters of the Mountain Training Center; four field artillery battalions (pack howitzer); one engineer battalion (mountain); and other troops as the nucleus of an authorized "mountain division."

EUROPEAN THEATER

Two enemy airplanes reconnoitered Iceland, October 17.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that, in an attempted heavy bomber attack by combined American and British air units against two enemy merchant ships at Benghazi on October 16, the weather caused all the bombers except eight from our First Provisional Group to turn back. The eight U. S.

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aircraft reached the target and dropped their bombs, but were unable to observe the results.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General MacArthur in his operations summary for October 17 reports:

The enemy was forced to withdraw from the north bank of Eora Creek (north of Myola) and, by evening, Allied forward elements had made some progress northward. Airdromes at Buka and Buin, the airfield at Rabaul, and the Salamaua area were subjected to attack by Allied bombers. Air reconnaissances were continued and the location of enemy naval vessels reported.

2. In order to strengthen our air striking-power in the South Pacific immediately the following movements of air units were ordered:

1. a. 90th Heavy Bombardment Group to move from Hawaii to the Southwest Pacific; airplanes to fly, ground echelon to move by water. These movements to be effected as corresponding elements of:
 - b. 307th Heavy Bombardment Group, to be diverted from shipments to the UK, move to Hawaii.
2. A squadron of fighter airplanes from Hawaii and a squadron of fighter airplanes from Christmas Island to move to New Caledonia by water, arriving early in November.
3. The 33rd Troop Carrier Squadron, en route to the Southwest Pacific, to be temporarily diverted to New Caledonia for the period of the present emergency.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD letter, 5-3-78

The 19th Heavy Bombardment Group which has participated continuously in combat activity will be relieved by the 90th Group after the latter arrives in the Southwest Pacific and when the tactical situation permits. The 19th Group will return to Hawaii and eventually to the mainland.

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

19th Heavy Bombardment Group

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GENERAL SUMMARY

1. General Butler reports that on October 13 his aircraft made a low-altitude bombing attack on the cargo ship (name) (which) which was previously been damaged (name). The ship was hit afire and was still burning several hours later. Also the (name) to be still undamaged; the cargo it carried was again loaded. One of our bombers was lost by an aircraft (name).

DAILY SUMMARY

2. Our Military (name) reports that General (name) has been (name) the (name) to visit (name) and (name) as his duties permit.

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 312

3. General (name) reports that on October 13 his aircraft made a low-altitude bombing attack on the cargo ship (name) (which) which was previously been damaged (name). The ship was hit afire and was still burning several hours later. Also the (name) to be still undamaged; the cargo it carried was again loaded. One of our bombers was lost by an aircraft (name).

0700 October 17 to 0700 October 18, 1942

GENERAL SUMMARY

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

General (name) reports that on October 13 his aircraft made a low-altitude bombing attack on the cargo ship (name) (which) which was previously been damaged (name). The ship was hit afire and was still burning several hours later. Also the (name) to be still undamaged; the cargo it carried was again loaded. One of our bombers was lost by an aircraft (name).

GENERAL SUMMARY

General (name) reports that on October 13 his aircraft made a low-altitude bombing attack on the cargo ship (name) (which) which was previously been damaged (name). The ship was hit afire and was still burning several hours later. Also the (name) to be still undamaged; the cargo it carried was again loaded. One of our bombers was lost by an aircraft (name).

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-2-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. General Butler reports that on October 15 his aircraft made a low-altitude bombing attack on the cargo ship in Gertrude Cove (Kiska) which has previously been attacked unsuccessfully; the ship was set afire and was still burning several hours later. Attu was found to be still unoccupied; the camp at Kiska was again bombed. One of our bombers was lost by antiaircraft fire.

2. Our Military Attache' in Mexico City reports that General Lazaro Cardenas has accepted the Secretary of War's invitation to visit Washington and will set the date as soon as his duties permit.

3. Orders were issued for the movement of the 94th Infantry Division from Fort Custer, Michigan, to Camp Phillips, Kansas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An enemy Focke-Wulf over Iceland on October 16 was unsuccessfully engaged by an RAF airplane.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that on October 14 two of his fighters from Dinjan attacked enemy barracks at Lonkin, and that on October 15, his aircraft operating from Kunming successfully bombed the airdrome at Lashio. The entire southwest section of the town was also set ablaze, the fire being visible for forty miles. All our aircraft returned safely.

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PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. By decision of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Emmons was directed to dispatch to New Caledonia by water one squadron of 25 fighter airplanes; a ship is being furnished which can deliver them at Noumea about November 12. Pilots and key maintenance personnel will move by air.

General Emmons was also directed to send without delay a heavy bombardment squadron of the 90th Group to Australia where it will reinforce the 19th Bombardment Group until the tactical situation permits the relief of the latter for return to the U. S. as already ordered.

2. General MacArthur's air reconnaissance missions, as reported for the 24-hour period ending 1400, GCT, October 16, provide the following data as to Japanese naval strength and dispositions in the Southwest Pacific Area during the morning of October 16:

	Battle- ship	Aircraft Carrier	Cruisers H	L	Destroyer	Cargo Vessel	Seaplane Tender
Buin-Faisi Area	3*	2*	3	5	10	15	1
Approaching Buin		1*			1		
Kieta (Course SE)	1	1	2		2		
Buka Passage (Course South)					2	4	
New Hanover (Course SE)		1*	1		2		
Rabaul (In addi- tion to 18 vessels in Harbor)			1	1	2		1

* Tentatively identified but not confirmed as ships of the classes indicated.

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DECLASSIFIED
USD Letter, 5-3-72

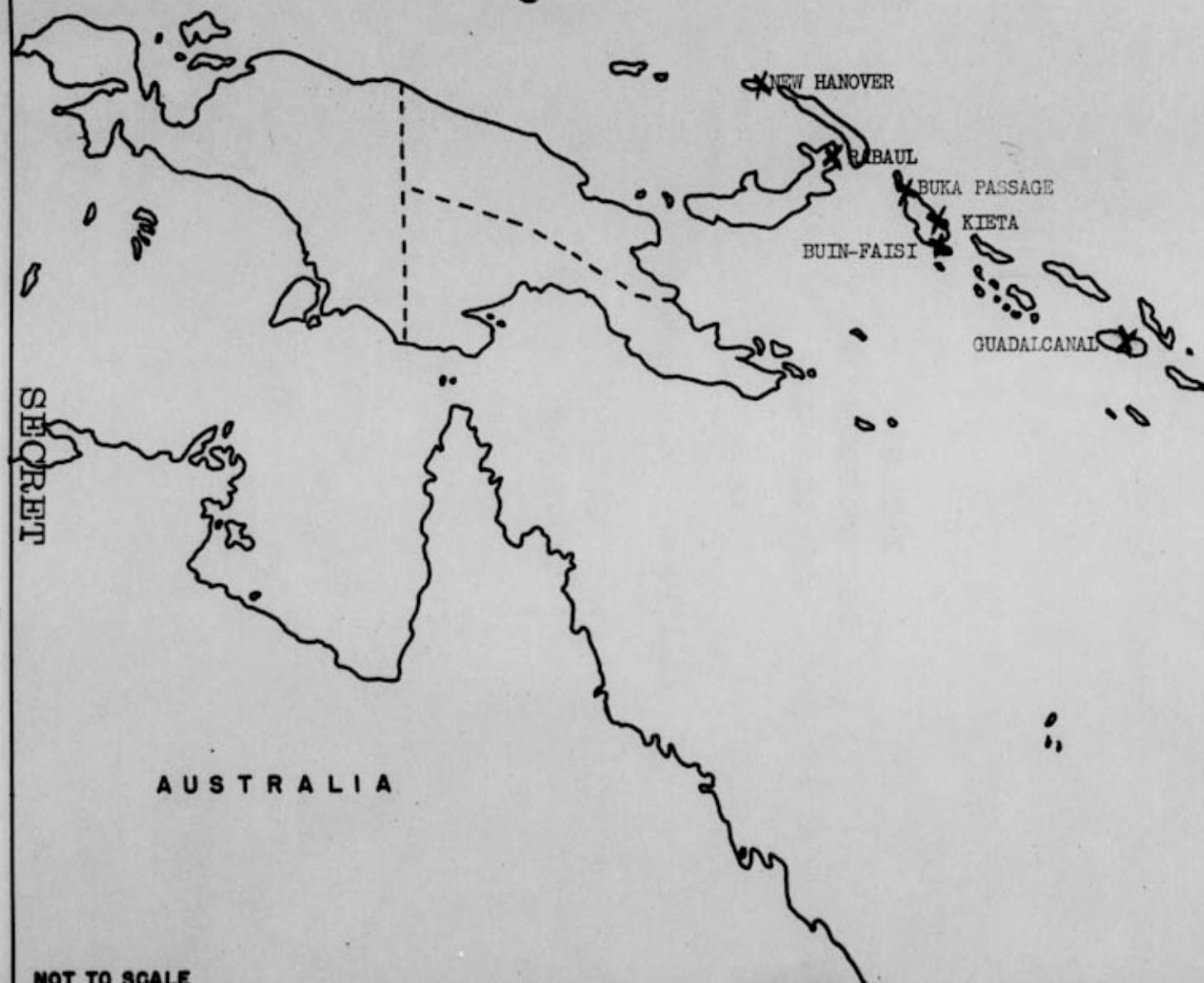
Our ground forces were endeavoring to force crossings over Eora Creek (north of Myola); Allied aircraft continued to harass positions in the enemy's rear. Three Australian bombers attacked a town on Timor, demolishing buildings and starting large fires.

3. Generals Emmons and MacArthur were informed of Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker's impending visit to Army Air Force stations in the Pacific and Southwest Pacific Areas in the capacity of special consultant to the Secretary of War. No publicity concerning this mission is to be released.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-72



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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 311

0700 October 16 to 0700 October 17, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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UNCLASSIFIED
OSD LATER, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. General Butler reports that on October 14 an attacking force of bombers and fighters attacked Kiska by daylight. A fuel or ammunition dump was exploded, many fires were started and the three remaining Japanese float-planes anchored in the harbor were destroyed. No enemy aircraft appeared in the air.

2. Orders were issued for the movement of the 3rd Armored Division and the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion from Camp Young, California, to Camp Pickett, Virginia.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. General Spaatz reported that 50 U. S. pursuit aircraft participated in a British bombing attack on the docks at Le Havre; October 15. No enemy aircraft were encountered, and all our fighters returned.

2. General Bonesteel reported that U. S. ground troops in Iceland fired on an enemy Focke Wulf, October 15.

3. General Bradley was informed of Mr. Willkie's appreciation of the efficient manner in which U. S. S. R. handled the details of his trip through their country.

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DECLASSIFIED
OAS Letter, 5-3-78

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reported that U. S. and British fighters intercepted a heavily escorted Stuka raid in Egypt October 14. The Stukas turned and fled; two enemy airplanes were shot down by our pilots. One of our airplanes is missing.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for October 12 and 13, General Harmon reports that in the October 12 attack from Guadalcanal at least ten grounded fighters on the airdrome were destroyed by bombing. The Japanese were completely surprised. One Zero was destroyed in the air.

On October 13, "flying fortresses" again bombed Buka airdrome and also the harbor at Tonolei where a cargo ship was hit. Out of twenty-six Zeros intercepting these missions, six were destroyed. Our bombers landed at Guadalcanal.

That night, the enemy shelled and bombed Guadalcanal, killing four crew members and damaging two of our "flying fortresses".

2. In his operations summary for the 24-hour period ending 1400, GCT, October 15, General MacArthur reports the presence of increased numbers of enemy fighter planes based at Buka.

Allied patrols penetrated to within two miles of Mubo, near Salamaua (New Guinea), October 13. No further advance is reported in the Myola area; our light bombers and fighters attacked the enemy rear

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

installations. A "flying fortress" attacked an enemy light cruiser southwest of Faisi (Solomons), and it is believed that the vessel was damaged. Australian bombers attacked Aileu (South of Dilli), Timor.

3. General MacArthur was informed that, acting upon his recommendation, the State Department has notified the Government of Portugal that the U. S. Government considers it most important that everything possible be done to maintain the Portuguese administration and sovereignty in Timor.

4. Generals Kenney and Emmons were notified that the 90th Heavy Bombardment Group from Hawaii will relieve the 19th Group in Australia when the tactical situation permits; the latter group has participated continuously in combat activity since the outbreak of the war.

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REPORT'S SUMMARY

General Hilder reports that the aircraft at 1000 is now available for use by medium bombers.

REPORT'S SUMMARY

The U. S. pursuit aircraft intercepted an enemy Zeppelin which was over Iceland October 14. The aircraft were clearly visible in the clouds after the enemy aircraft was shot down.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 310

0700 October 15 to 0700 October 16, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

The first Zeppelin was shot down by a U. S. aircraft on October 14. The aircraft was clearly visible in the clouds after the enemy aircraft was shot down. The aircraft was clearly visible in the clouds after the enemy aircraft was shot down.

The Services of Supply notified the Defense Staff Service Command that the following supplies are available for shipment to the theater of operations for delivery to the theater.

	Weight	Volume	Value	Quantity
By air delivery	10	10	10	10
By water	10	10	10	10

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General Butler reports that the airfield at Adak is now suitable for use by medium bombers.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Two U. S. pursuit aircraft intercepted an enemy Focke Wulf Kurier over Iceland October 14. The enemy airplane finally escaped in the clouds after its rear turret was silenced by fire from our aircraft. A large unidentified bomber was also sighted over Iceland the same day.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

1. General Brereton reports that three "flying fortresses" of the First Provisional Group attacked shipping in Tobruk Harbor, October 13; two direct hits were scored on a large merchant vessel, and one direct hit demolished a lighter moored alongside. One Italian fighter, which attempted to intercept the mission, was probably destroyed and one of our aircraft was slightly damaged.

2. The Services of Supply notified the Persian Gulf Service Command that the following airplanes are scheduled for shipment to Basra during the remainder of 1942 for delivery to Russia:

	<u>Medium Bombers</u>	<u>Light Bombers</u>	<u>Fighters</u>	
			<u>P-39</u>	<u>P-40</u>
By air ferry	10	269		
By water		28	246	270

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. The Secretary of War designated General Emmons a Military Commander pursuant to authority contained in Executive Order No. 9066 of 19 February.

2. The 164th Infantry arrived at Guadalcanal on the morning of October 13, having been transferred from New Caledonia.

3. In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 12 to 1400, GCT, October 13, General MacArthur reports a large ship concentration in the Buin-Faisi area and additional shipping in the vicinity of Buka. At Kavieng, New Ireland, there was intense action at the air-drome and wharves. Dilli (Timor) harbor has been mined by the enemy.

Allied forward units forced the enemy back one mile in the Myola area, our aircraft attacking the enemy's rear installations.

On request of Admiral Ghormley, airdromes at Buka and Rabaul were bombed as a measure of cooperation with his reinforcement of Guadalcanal. More than 30 tons were dropped, with effect reported on buildings and grounded aircraft.

4. For the period ending 1400, GCT, October 14, General MacArthur reports that some of the enemy ships left the Buin-Faisi area during the night of October 13-14.

Our aircraft bombed Lae airdrome. Other aircraft bombed enemy positions on Goodenough Island.

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DECLASSIFIED
CSD Letter, 5-3-72

Allied forward elements continued to make progress against the enemy beyond Myola.

5. Replying to a report from General MacArthur's Services of Supply concerning the crew of the SS "John Jay", the War Department affirmed his disciplinary authority over recalcitrant civilian crews, citing a Supreme Court ruling that persistent and deliberate refusal of seamen to perform duties incident to preparing a ship for departure constitutes revolt or mutiny within the meaning of U. S. laws, violence not being a necessary part of the crime. Offenses of this nature, committed on vessels of either American or foreign registry operating in conjunction with military or naval operations, may be tried by a military tribunal of the United States. As our forces serving overseas carry with them the power to repress all interference with the accomplishment of their mission, it is the duty of military commanders to take appropriate action when incidents arise prejudicial to the success of the war effort.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 309

0700 October 14 to 0700 October 15, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Orders were issued for the movement of the 4th Armored Division from Pine Camp, New York to the Desert Training Center, Camp Young, California; for the transfer of Headquarters, II Armored Corps from Camp Young, California to San Jose, California; and for the transfer of Headquarters, VII Corps from San Jose, California to Jacksonville, Florida.

2. The 73rd Field Artillery Brigade left Camp Sutton, North Carolina, for Camp Blanding, Florida, for permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Four enemy airplanes were sighted over Iceland October 13: a four-motored Focke Wulf patrol bomber; a Junkers-88, fired upon by our antiaircraft installations at Hvalfjord; a Condor which dropped two bombs on the north coast; and another bi-motored enemy aircraft.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 308

0700 October 13 to 0700 October 14, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. General Butler reports that six heavy bombers attacked shipping and the camp at Kiska Harbor October 11; the resulting damage is unknown.
2. Orders were issued for the movement from Fort Sam Houston, Texas to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, of the 2d Infantry Division.

EUROPEAN THEATER

U. S. troops at Vattarnes (Iceland) engaged a Focke Wulf with 50 caliber antiaircraft fire October 12; the results are unknown.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that American "flying fortresses" attacked the harbor at Tobruk October 13. Probable hits and several near misses were scored on a ship in the harbor. Two of our bombers were slightly damaged by antiaircraft fire but no casualties were suffered; all of our airplanes returned safely.

ASIATIC THEATER

Announcing Mr. Willkie's departure from Russian territory on October 12, General Bradley reports that the Soviets would like to receive comments on their arrangements for this trip.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

For the 24-hour period ending 1400, OCT, October 12, General MacArthur reports that Allied ground forces are making some progress against what appears to be a hostile defensive position a mile or so beyond Myola (just northeast of the crest of the Owen Stanley Range in New Guinea). Bombers and fighter aircraft attacked enemy ground installations between this position and the northeast coast.

A hostile naval force of 3 light cruisers, 6 destroyers and another ship left the Buin-Faisi area (Solomons) during the night of October 11-12.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 307

0700 October 12 to 0700 October 13, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
Date, 5-8-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

Hostile airplanes appeared over Iceland on October 10 and 12; on October 12 our antiaircraft batteries fired on two of them.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

Operations reported by General Maxwell for October 11 include a successful attack on an Axis convoy 30 miles southwest of Crete by 17 of our heavy bombers. One large merchant vessel, hit twice by 1,000-lb. bombs, was left afire and sinking. Near misses were scored on a second large freighter.

Three enemy aircraft attempting to intercept this mission were shot down. Our bombers sustained minor damage, but all returned safely with no casualties.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Stilwell was directed to arrange air transportation from India to China for Dr. Soong and his party who will arrive at Karachi about October 21. Secrecy is to be maintained.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. Included in General MacArthur's operations report for the period 1400 October 10 to 1400 October 11, GCT, was the bombing, in St. George's Channel (between New Ireland and New Britain), of an enemy

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On: 10-10-78, 5-3-78

converted seaplane tender carrying 12 aircraft on deck. When last seen by the RAAF crew who performed the mission the vessel was smoking amidships, with a destroyer standing by. Our patrols report enemy contacts two miles northeast of Myola in the Owen-Stanley Range.

Routine air reconnaissances were maintained.

2. General Harmon's operations reports for October 7 to 10 mention repeated aerial reconnaissances conducted from Espiritu Santo and Guadalcanal.

One "flying fortress" shot down one of two Zero fighters which attacked it on October 9. Enemy installations between Point Cruz and West Cape on Guadalcanal, were attacked by our fighter airplanes.

3. General Harmon announced that on October 15 he will assume full command of Army forces in the South Pacific Area in compliance with his directive. Administrative and supply control will be exercised from Auckland.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Orders were issued for the movement of the 36th Infantry Division and the 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion from Camp Edwards, Massachusetts to Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.



DAILY SUMMARY

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 306

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. On October 9 seventeen of our heavy bombers, in six attacks, dropped over 26 tons of explosives on the Japanese camps and shipping on Kiska Island; possible hits were obtained on a small freighter at Kiska. Fighters escorting the bombers contributed by attacking ground targets also. No hostile aircraft were encountered. All airplanes returned safely, although four bombers and two fighters were damaged by anti-aircraft fire.

Reconnaissances detected no activity on Attu, Agattu and Amchitka.

On October 10 the camp area at Kiska was again attacked with incendiaries, this time from 100 feet altitude. Large fires were started.

2. The Army Ground Forces issued a directive for the organization at Fort Ord, California, of the 1st Battalion, 2d Filipino Regiment. The 1st Filipino Regiment cannot accommodate all of the Filipinos who are being inducted.

EUROPEAN THEATER

The War Department suggested to General Eisenhower that he take up with the Admiralty the matter of local Naval defense forces for Iceland recommended by General Bonesteel, the British having agreed to assume this responsibility.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports a bombing attack on the mole and shipping at Benghazi Harbor by twelve of his heavy bombers at noon on October 9. The attack was repeated on October 10 at 1230, 45 - 1,000 lb. bombs being dropped in the dock area. Despite heavy, accurate anti-aircraft fire, no losses were incurred and damage to our aircraft was negligible.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Stilwell states that troops in China are being paid in U. S. currency and Treasury checks, as transfers of personnel are frequent and Chinese currency is worthless outside of China. Currency payments in China, which are held to a minimum, do not exceed \$35,000 per month; this amount has no effect on the open market exchange. All important contracts for services and construction are paid in Chinese money.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 9 to 1400, GCT, October 10, General MacArthur reports that our bombers repeated their heavy raid on Rabaul. Incendiaries were used to create guiding fires and 21 "flying fortresses" then dropped more than thirty-five tons of bombs on the town and on Lakunai airdrome. Intense anti-aircraft fire was received. Our aircraft also harassed the enemy in New Guinea, and attacked Dilli (Timor). Aerial reconnaissances were maintained.

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DECLASSIFIED
NSA Letter, 5-3-73

2. The War Department informed General MacArthur that the British authorities have approved the EFM (fixed text) cable and radio message service for American troops throughout the British Empire. The universal rate is 2/6 for messages originating outside of the US, and 60¢ for messages from the US.

3. The War Department notified General Emmons that the Department of Justice has decided to postpone indefinitely the proposed investigation of the Hawaiian Pineapple Cannery industry.

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General Butler reports that our fighters and fighters were
Kings, October 10, striking at various points and then
aircraft positions and other ground installations. My aircraft
killed nine enemy from aircraft. One of our aircraft was
downed and all of our force today. The day.

WAB

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

An F4F fighter was shot down and damaged on
enemy flying base south of the island. Other unidentified
aircraft appeared over the island today.

No. 305

PERIOD AND 0700 October 10 to 0700 October 11, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

1. In his operations report for the period from October 10 to
October 11, 1942, General Butler reports that the island was heavily
attacked by the United States forces on October 10. Heavy fires were started
by Australian airplanes preliminary to a dawn attack by 10 F4F "Fighting
fortresses". Our fighters dropped over 11 tons of demolition bombs and
many incendiary bombs on the Japanese railway camp, fuel dumps and
airbase. The resulting fires were visible for 10 miles. The air
also attacked by a force of medium bombers, an enemy bomber being
destroyed. One aircraft was shot down, destroyed. The day.

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DECLASSIFIED
GAD Letter, 6-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

General Butler reports that our bombers and fighters twice attacked Kiska, October 8, striking at Gertrude Cove and Kiska harbor, and anti-aircraft positions and other ground installations. Our aircraft sustained minor damage from anti-aircraft fire; no enemy airplanes were encountered and all of our force returned to its base.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An RAF airplane, manned by Norwegians, attacked and damaged an enemy flying boat southeast of Iceland on October 9. Other unidentified aircraft appeared over the island during the day.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 8 to 1400 October 9, GCT, General MacArthur reports that Rabaul was heavily attacked by the Allied air force on October 9. Beacon fires were started by Australian seaplanes preliminary to a dawn attack by 30 U. S. "flying fortresses". Our bombers dropped over 53 tons of demolition bombs and many incendiary clusters on the Japanese military camp, fuel dumps and storehouses. The resulting fires were visible for 80 miles. Lae was also attacked by a force of medium bombers, an explosives dump being destroyed. Buka airdrome was bombed by Australian aircraft.

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DECLASSIFIED
Q&D Letter, 5-3-72

Two of three Zeros intercepting a "flying fortress" on reconnaissance were shot down with some resultant damage to our bomber.

In the Owen Stanley Range, Allied forward patrols regained contact with the enemy north of Myola. Aerial reconnaissances were conducted over the Solomons, the Bismarck Archipelago and New Guinea.

8 2. General MacArthur transmits a report received from a reliable source that, on October 1, Dutch Timor natives attacked Portuguese troops near Dilli, causing some 25 casualties. This may result in concentration or expulsion of Portuguese officials by the Japanese. General MacArthur suggests that Lisbon be urged to maintain its administration and sovereignty on the island.

8 3. General Harmon reports that he has provisionally established a service command for the South Pacific Area at Auckland, New Zealand, under the command of Brigadier General Robert G. Greene.

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WFB

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 304

0700 October 9 to 0700 October 10, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
JAG Letter, 8-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Orders have been issued for the movement from Camp Kilmer, N. J. to Washington, D. C. of the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 36th Coast Artillery Brigade. The purpose is to coordinate the employment of the two anti-aircraft regiments assigned to this area.

2. General DeWitt reports that in the October 6 bombing of Kiska already reported, a cargo vessel was set afire in Gertrude Cove and was sinking when last seen.

3. General DeWitt reports that low altitude reconnaissances of Attu, Agattu, and Semichi Islands revealed no signs of occupancy on October 7 and 9.

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Spaatz reports a successful daylight offensive of the Eighth Air Force, October 9, in which 118 heavy bombers, with a large covering force of Allied fighters, took part. The main striking force of our bombers dropped 142 tons of high explosives and more than eight tons of incendiaries on the steel, locomotive and other industrial plants at Lille, France, and reported many hits which caused large explosions and fires. Other groups of bombers attacked secondary targets, the airdromes at Courtrai and St. Omer.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

18 Heavy anti-aircraft fire and fighter opposition wounded 13 of our personnel and caused some damage to our aircraft. Our bomber crews claim 56 enemy aircraft destroyed, 26 probably destroyed, and 20 damaged. Three of our heavy bombers are missing; a fourth crashed in the channel, but the crew was rescued.

19 Three of our Eagle pursuit squadrons accompanied an RAF wing on a diversion sweep over the continent during the main bombing attack without encountering the enemy.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that at dusk, October 7, our heavy bombers attacked shipping in Suda Bay. Five hits and seven near misses were claimed on a loaded tanker which is believed to have been destroyed.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bradley reports that Mr. Willkie landed at Chita October 9 and is expected to arrive in Yakutsk today. /

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 7 to 1400, OCT, October 8, General MacArthur reports that aerial reconnaissance disclosed 3 heavy cruisers, 3 light cruisers, 18 destroyers or patrol boats, 1 tanker, 13 cargo vessels, 2 submarines, and 1 seaplane tender

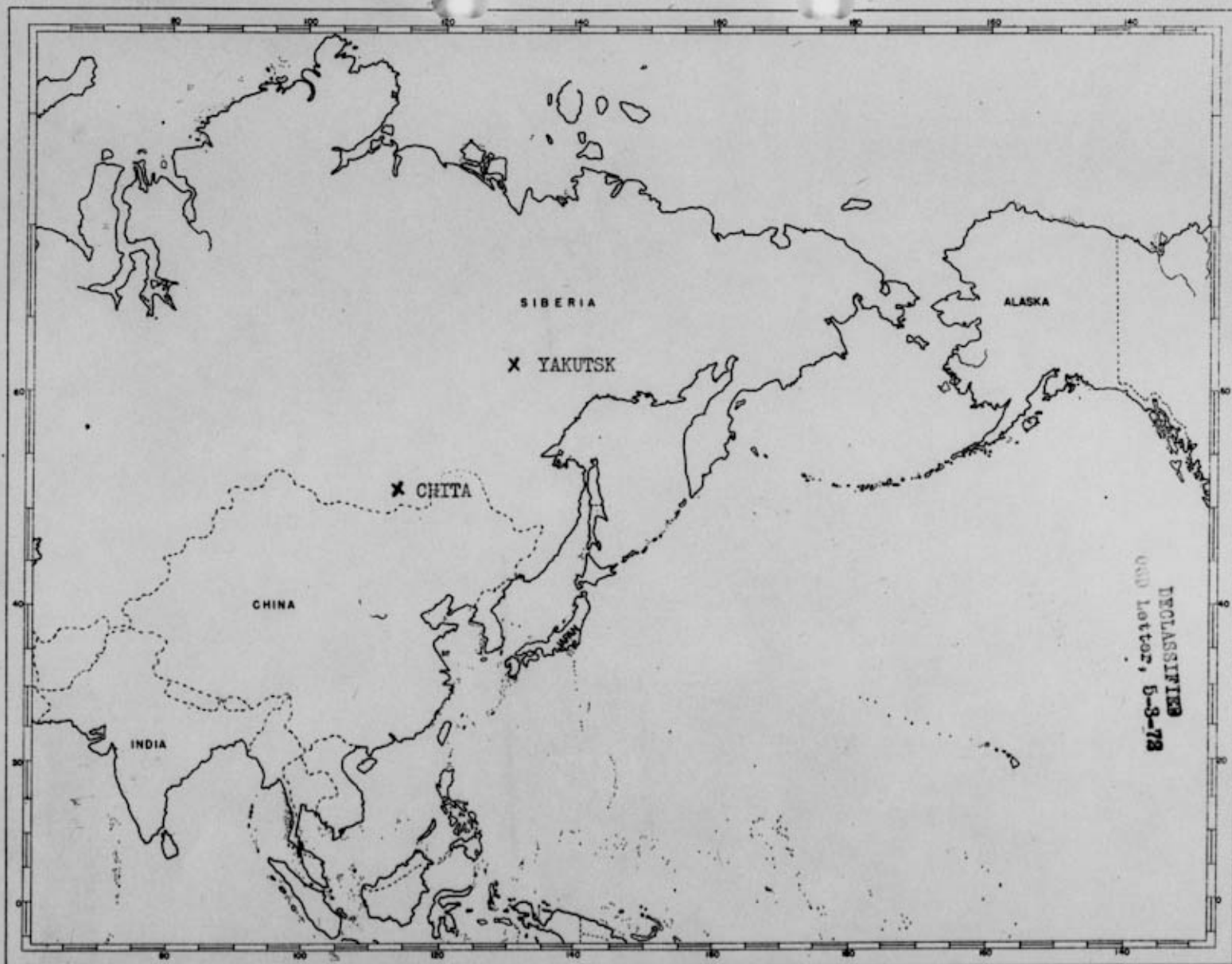
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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

in the Buin-Faisi area. Aerial reconnaissances were also performed over Timor and the Tanimbar Islands.

No ground action was reported in the Owen Stanley Range. Enemy reinforcements, of unknown strength, were arriving at Mubo, October 8. Our light bombers on armed reconnaissance attacked huts and villages between Wairopi and Buna; results were unobserved.

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GND Letter, 6-8-78

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GDS 10700, 2-2-84

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 303

0700 October 8 to 0700 October 9, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

GENERAL

The Commanding Generals of all defense commands, theaters and bases were informed that, because of the depletion of trained cadre personnel in units in the U. S., a procedure is to be instituted whereby cadres will be furnished from overseas units; these will be replaced by fillers. Air Force cadres will continue to be furnished as now prescribed.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A hostile bomber and two unidentified planes were reported over Iceland, October 7.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Fitzgerald reports that the first flight of six American fighters assembled by American labor at Takoradi departed from Accra for Cairo on October 8.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. General Bissell reports air attacks October 1, 2, 3 and 6 against Japanese-occupied towns and installations along the Burma Road, in Western Yunnan Province and in Eastern Burma.

2. General Sterligov informed General Bradley that ten light bombers arrived at Seimchan on October 6, and that Stalin had approved direct contact between the two officers. //

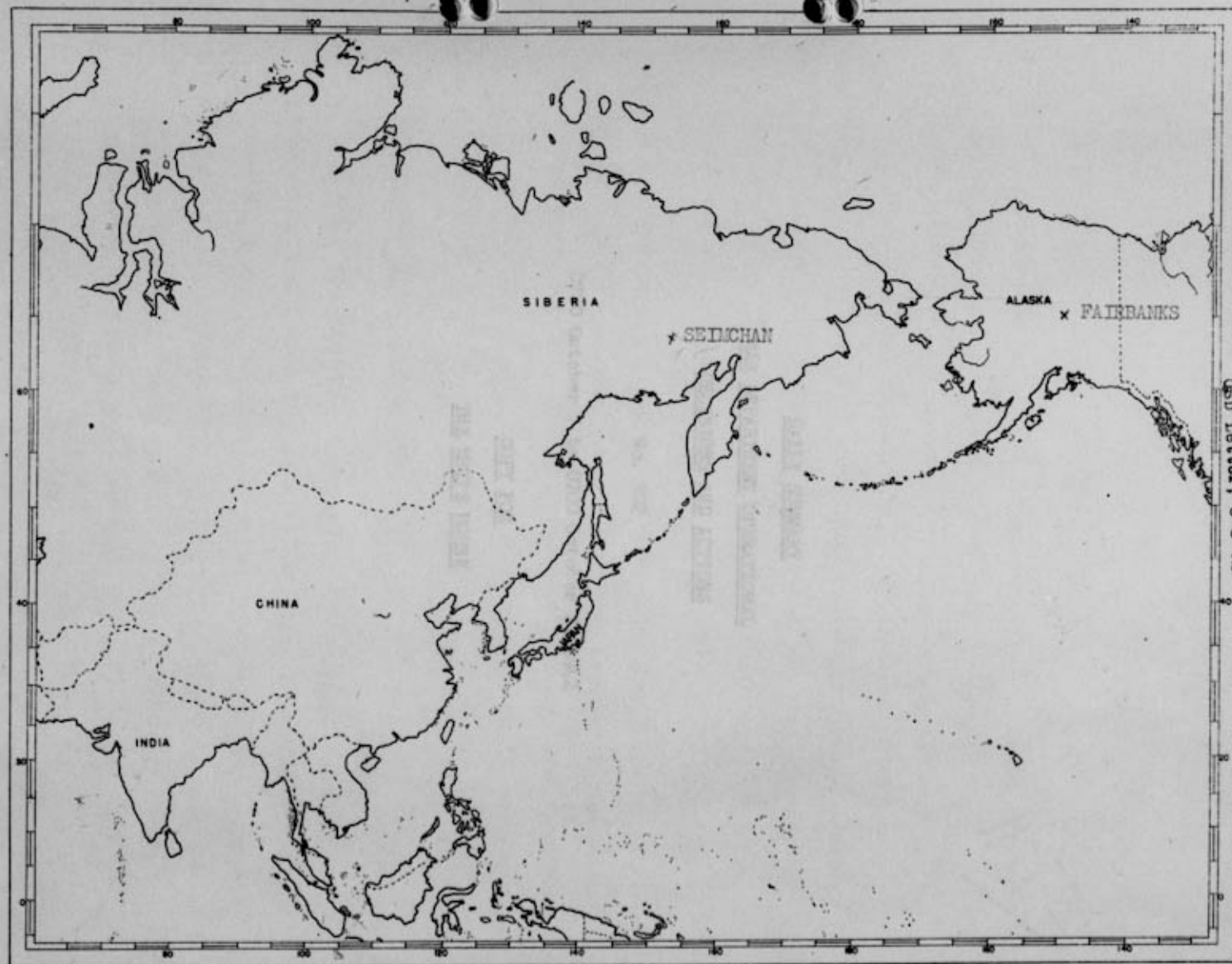
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DECLASSIFIED

Letter, 5-3-72

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations report for October 7, General MacArthur reports an Allied air attack on buildings and villages on Goodenough Island. Air reconnaissance of the Solomons and Bismarcks was repeated.

2. The War Department approved a priority schedule and system of priority marking for shipment of supplies and equipment to the South Pacific Area. Under "A" priorities are included finished equipment, weapons, ammunition and fuel for the armed forces; under "B" are included tools and materials for producing such items locally; under "C" are requirements for the civilian population.



DECLASSIFIED
GSD Letter, 6-8-78

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WAB

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 302

0700 October 7 to 0700 October 8, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED

Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. General Butler reports that an aerial reconnaissance on October 6 of Attu and Agattu revealed no sign of enemy occupation.

Nine bombers, escorted by 18 fighters, attacked Kiska from Adak on October 6. 84 demolition bombs were dropped on installations and shipping at Kiska and on the camp and on a large freighter in Gertrude Cove. A large ship at Kiska was set afire. As no enemy aircraft were in the air, our fighters attacked the harbor area, damaging two enemy airplanes. All our planes returned to their base.

2. Headquarters of the Amphibious Training Command and the 75th Composite Infantry Training Battalion left Camp Edwards, Massachusetts, for Carrabelle, Florida. Training of divisions in amphibious operations will now be conducted at this station where weather conditions are more suitable than in New England.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Maxwell reports that the 9th Air Force, while attacking shipping at Benghazi, October 6, met strong enemy fighter opposition and heavy, accurate antiaircraft fire. One of our airplanes is missing and two were forced down behind our own lines. The enemy is becoming most sensitive to bombing attacks on rear installations and is apparently concentrating his fighter cover over those areas.

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DECLASSIFIED
62d Letter, 8-3-73

ASIATIC THEATER

1. General Stilwell reported that there are about 3000 Chinese infantry and about 6000 artillery at Ramgarh. The War Department authorized him to suspend the air transport of strategic materials from China as is necessary to provide for transfer of other Chinese troops to India.

2. General Bradley reports an unannounced meeting with Stalin in which the latter declared his desire to keep open the Siberian ferry route. He has authorized General Bradley to deal directly with responsible officials, by-passing intermediaries.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. Orders were issued for the movement from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to Australia of the 3d Battalion, 503d Parachute Infantry regiment. This is the second of two such battalions being sent to that theater.

2. In his operations report for October 4, 5, and 6 General Harmon includes the results of reconnaissance missions conducted from Espiritu Santo and Guadalcanal Islands. No land fighting was reported. On October 4, while operating in difficult weather, one of seven "flying fortresses" succeeded in attacking its objective, the airfield at Buka. The harbor at Gizo and Japanese installations on Guadalcanal were later attacked, but results were undetermined.

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DECLASSIFIED
OGD Letter, 6-3-73

3. General MacArthur, in his operations summary for the 24-hour period ending 1400 GCT October 6, reports the occupation by Allied forces of Kagi (12 miles southwest of Kokoda), New Guinea. The forward elements of our ground forces have advanced to the vicinity of Myola (between Kagi and Kokoda). An Allied airborne force was landed at Wanigela Mission, Collingwood Bay, on the northeast coast of New Guinea.

Allied aircraft bombed airdromes at Buka and Buin (Solomons) causing a large fire and explosion at the latter place, and made an unsuccessful attack on oil tanks at Boela, Ceram.

Positions of enemy shipping were reported from aerial reconnaissances of the Solomons and Bismarcks.

4. General Emmons has been granted authority to start the evacuation from Hawaii to the mainland of Japanese aliens and citizens of Japanese extraction. Relocation centers are located in California, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, and Arkansas. Each shipment is limited to 1500 persons, and the total movement will be limited to 3000 unless 4 months' notice is given; the overall limit is 15,000.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 301

0700 October 6 to 0700 October 7, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
DDB Letter, 8-3-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Commanding Generals, Eastern, Southern, and Western Defense Commands, were directed to salvage certain obsolete harbor defense armament; the tubes will be turned over to the Chief of Ordnance for possible future use and the carriages and ammunition will be disposed of as scrap. In the Eastern Defense Command there are 66 pieces, in the Southern Defense Command there are 6 pieces, and in the Western Defense Command 24 pieces, all of 10" and 12" caliber except one 3" piece.

In addition, eight 8" disappearing-carriage guns will be transferred from Fort McKinley (Portland, Maine) to the Cuban Government, under Lend-Lease procedure.

2. Kiska was successfully attacked on October 3 by six heavy bombers escorted by 12 fighters. Six Japanese fighters were shot down without loss of any American airplanes.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. A German Condor airplane was fired on at Vattarnes, Iceland, on October 5.

2. General Eisenhower was notified of the approaching visit to the United Kingdom of Mrs. Hobby, Director of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-72

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports that 17 heavy bombers of the 98th Bombardment Group made the second attack in 48 hours on Axis shipping in Navarino Bay, Greece. Of five Axis fighters which intercepted the formation, four were destroyed. One of our heavy bombers failed to return.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

General MacArthur's operations report for the 24-hour period ending 1400 GCT October 5, states that the Allied main body in New Guinea is moving north; its patrols advancing from Efogi and Myola still have not gained contact with hostile forces. Air operations included an attack in which 11 "flying fortresses" bombed airdromes near Rabaul at the request of Admiral Ghormley. Our bombers also attacked enemy installations in the vicinity of Sanananda Village, two convoys, and Buna airdrome. In these attacks, seven enemy fighters intercepting our formations were probably destroyed; two of our bombers are missing and seven were damaged.

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WLB

WATER GARDEN

1. Orders have been issued by the War Department for the purpose of maintaining the security of the War Department's property and records.

2. An estimated number of Japanese planes dropped in the night of 4 and 5 October 1942, and the damage done.

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 300

0700 October 5 to 0700 October 6, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

It was proposed that the War Department's property and records be stored in the original form of all documents, in their original form, and in their original form.

WATER GARDEN

The War Department's property and records be stored in the original form of all documents, in their original form, and in their original form.

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DECLASSIFIED
CND Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Orders have been issued by the Services of Supply transferring Headquarters, Eighth Service Command from San Antonio, Texas, to Dallas, Texas, effective about November 15.
2. An undetermined number of Japanese planes dropped one large and eight small bombs on Adak, October 4, but missed the camp area.
3. The Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command, was instructed to alert the 501st Parachute Battalion (less one rifle company) for movement to Australia in the near future.
4. General Bradley reports that an official Soviet request for the opening of the Alaska-Siberia ferry route was presented on October 4. It was promised that this project will not again be stopped unless actual experience demonstrates its impracticability.

It was proposed that ferrying from Fairbanks continue on the original basis of 80 fighters, 50 light bombers, and 12 medium bombers per month.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

The War Department directed the Army Ground Forces and the Services of Supply to move to Basra the first contingent of service units for the expanded Persian Gulf Service Command. About 11,000 troops will be made available during October.

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ASIATIC THEATER

Generals Stilwell and Wheeler were advised that payment of troops in China with American currency is counter to the purposes of the U.S.-China stabilization agreement and creates other practical difficulties. Troops should be paid by other means unless use of U.S. currency is unavoidable.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. In his operations summary for the period ending 1400 October 4, GCT, General MacArthur reports that Allied patrols on New Guinea are continuing their advance northwards from Efogi. Allied air attacks were made on targets in the area ahead of this advance, and on the airdrome at Buka. Allied and enemy patrols were active in Timor.

Air reconnaissances were made over the northern Solomon Islands and the Bismarck Archipelago, enemy naval and air dispositions being reported.

2. Generals Emmons and Harmon were notified by the War Department of the change in the directive of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Ocean Area which transfers to the latter the primary responsibility for the land defense of New Zealand formerly held by the New Zealand Chiefs of Staff. Command over New Zealand forces assigned for this purpose will be exercised through the New Zealand Chiefs of Staff. All interested

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DECLASSIFIED
USD Letter, 5-3-72

Army commanders are to be informed by Generals Emmons and Harmon.

3. General Harmon includes in his operations report for October 3 an air attack on the Rekata Bay seaplane base. Army fighter planes on Guadalcanal Island made low-altitude attacks in support of Marine operations.

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 299

0700 October 4 to 0700 October 5, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-8-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Eleven heavy bombers escorted by six fighters attacked Kiska harbor and installations on October 2, securing a direct hit on a seaplane hangar and shooting down five airplanes, with loss of two bomber crew members.

2. The Army Ground Forces report the departure from Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, of the first echelon of the 30th Infantry Division, which is moving to Camp Blanding, Florida.

3. The War Department notified General Bradley of its conclusion that the delivery of airplanes to Russia via Alaska, except those already waiting at Fairbanks, is suspended. The Soviet Government has not yet accepted a proffer of the temporary use of 6 transports to carry ferry route supplies from Fairbanks to Anadyr.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Stilwell was notified that the October assignment of 3500 tons of Chinese Lend-Lease materials will be shipped.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General MacArthur, in his operations summary covering the period 1400 October 2 to 1400, GCT, October 3, reports that Allied forward elements reached Efogi without opposition from the enemy. An Allied patrol made an unsuccessful raid on Mubo, the enemy apparently having been forewarned of

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 8-3-72

our intentions.

Air attacks were made on enemy installations in the Buna-Kokoda and Efogi areas, the Wairopi bridge (18 miles east of Kokoda) again being rendered unserviceable.

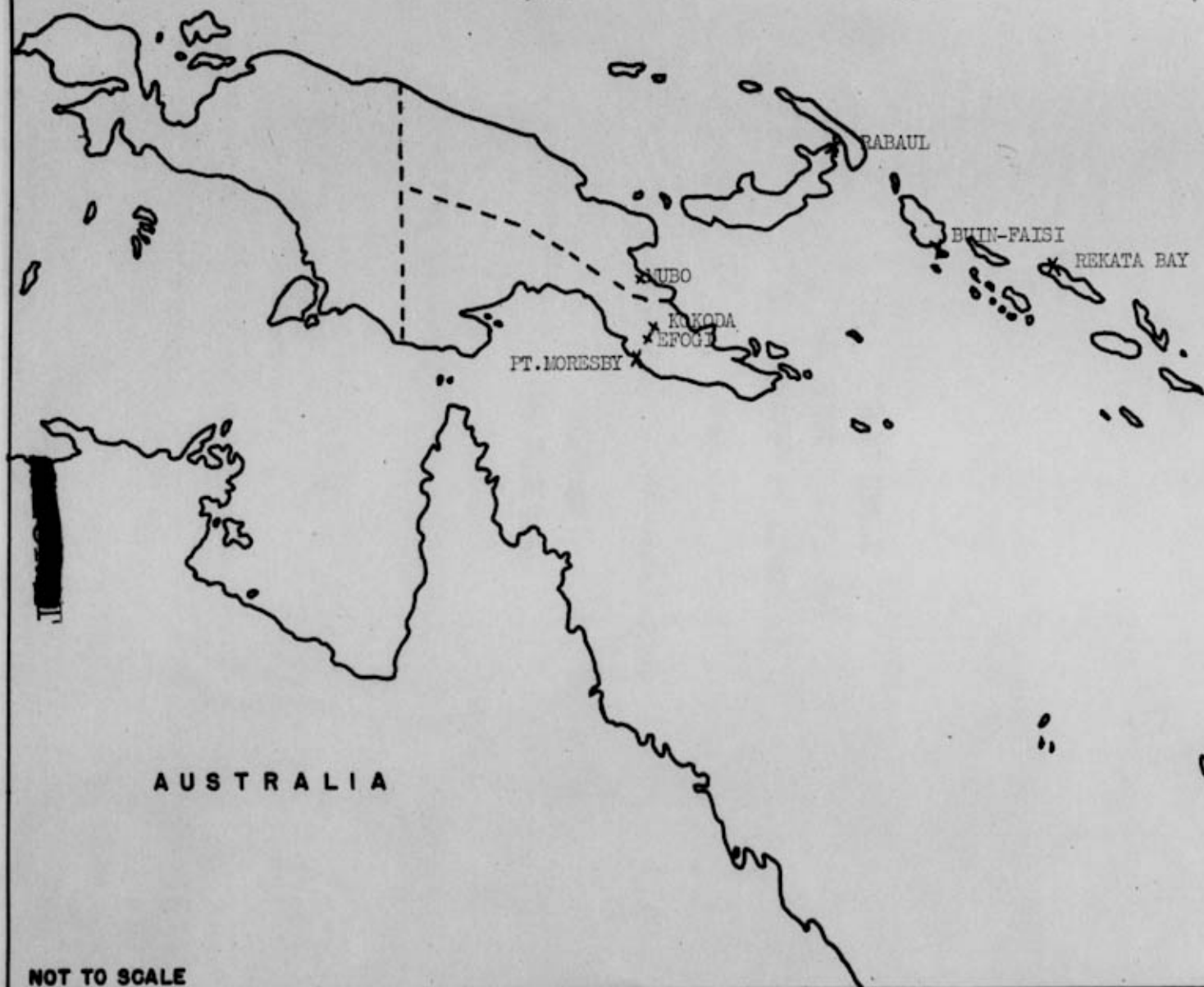
Operations by Allied air forces also included a torpedo attack on enemy shipping in the Buin-Faisi area; torpedoes, released from close range, may have hit three light cruisers and two merchant vessels, although the weather prevented confirmation of these results.

Air reconnaissances of the Solomons and the Bismarck Archipelago disclosed concentrations of enemy naval units in the Buin-Faisi area and at Rabaul.

2. General Harmon reports for October 1 and 2 that the seaplane base at Rekata Bay was attacked by air on the latter date, a large building being damaged and antiaircraft fire being silenced. Reconnaissance missions were continued from Guadalcanal Island and from Espiritu Santo. No shipping was observed at Gizo, Rekata Bay, Kieta, in the Shortland-Tonolai area, or in the Buka Passage.

3. The War Department notified General Emons that its proposal to terminate contracts for construction projects under his control and to replace civilians engaged in this work by Engineer troops has been deferred indefinitely because of the shortage of available Engineer units.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-78

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DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 298

0700 October 3 to 0700 October 4, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. On October 1, seven heavy bombers successfully attacked the camp, seaplane base and harbor at Kiska.
2. Adak was bombed without damage by one enemy plane on October 2.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A German Condor airplane was sighted and fired on near Vattarnes, Iceland, on October 2.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports that nine airplanes of the 98th Bombardment Group attacked a large motor vessel in Navarino Bay, Greece, at dusk on October 1, claiming two direct hits.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that one American medium bomber from Dinjan destroyed a bridge south of Mogaung, as well as several railway cars and 200 yards of track nearby, October 2.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

In his operations summary for the period 1400 October 1 to 1400 October 2, OCT, General MacArthur reports that Allied ground forces in the Kokoda area are continuing their northward advance without contact with the enemy. Allied air attacks were made on the airdromes at Buin and Buka, in

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-72

the Solomon Islands, and on ground targets in the Buna-Kokoda area. Allied detachments are reported in contact with Japanese forces in Portuguese Timor. Air reconnaissances of the Solomon Islands and of the Bismarck Archipelago were continued.

MADE PUBLIC
FOR EXTERNAL OPERATIONAL
RECORDING AND REPORTING

FROM October 1 to 31 October 1, 1942

DATE 1942
THE HEAD OFFICE

~~SECRET~~

MSB

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 297

0700 October 2 to 0700 October 3, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Operations in the Aleutian area for September 30 included another attack on Kiska Harbor by nine of our heavy bombers. Two direct hits set fire to an enemy transport; fires also were started in the camp area. Two Japanese fighters which attacked one bomber failed to inflict any damage.

Photographs of Kiska show wreckage of many aircraft on the beach presumably resulting from previous raids.

EUROPEAN THEATER

General Spaatz reports the following air activities which took place on October 2:

- a. A medium-altitude attack on the docks at Le Havre by 12 of his light bombers, supported by 3 AAF and 2 RAF fighter squadrons.
- b. A high-altitude attack on an airplane factory at Meaulte by 33 "flying fortresses" supported by 7 RAF fighter squadrons.
- c. A high-altitude attack on the St. Omer-Longuenesse airdrome by 6 "flying fortresses" supported by 3 AAF and 3 RAF fighter squadrons.
(Hits in the target area were observed in each case. Some of our men were wounded in engagements with enemy fighters.)
- d. Engagement over occupied territory between 2 of our Eagle fighter squadrons and some enemy fighters in which 4 of the latter were destroyed and 2 damaged.

All of our aircraft returned.

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ASIATIC THEATER

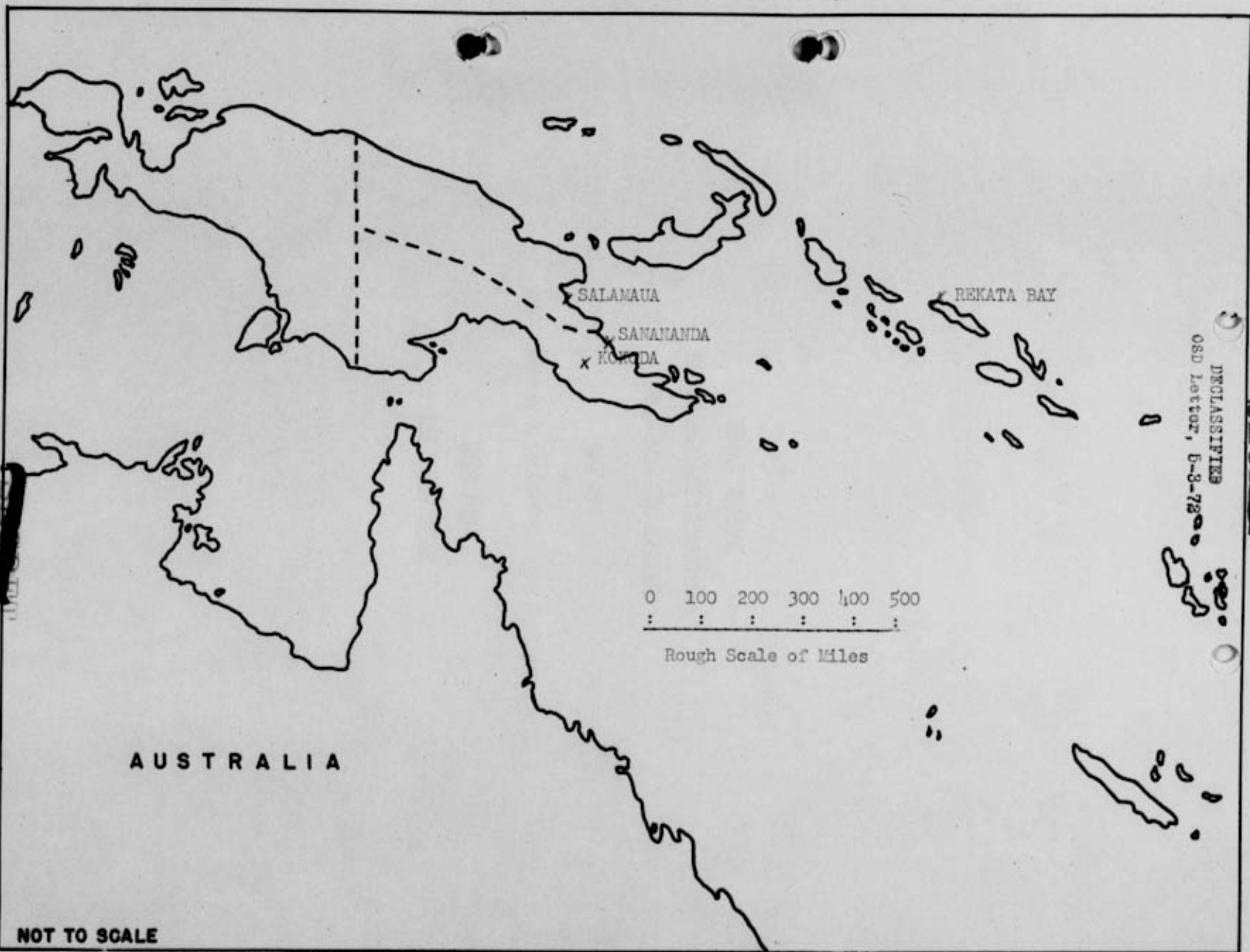
General Bissell reports that one U. S. medium bomber operating from Dinjan destroyed a section of track along the railroad northwest of Katha, October 1.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

1. General Harmon reports that on September 29 ten "flying fortresses" unsuccessfully bombed an enemy light cruiser from 8000 feet. Our aircraft were attacked by fifteen Zero fighters of which eight were shot down and three damaged. One "flying fortress" was shot down by anti-aircraft fire and seven were damaged by the fighter attack.

An Allied air attack was made on Rekata seaplane base on September 30.

2. General MacArthur reports for the period ending 1400 October 1, GCT, that Allied forward elements in New Guinea had reached a point just south of Menari (about 18 miles south of Kokoda) without having regained contact with the enemy main body; heavy rain was hampering movements. Allied air attacks were made on enemy installations in this area, the bridge at Wairopi (18 miles east of Kokoda) being rendered unserviceable. Other Allied air attacks were made along the New Guinea coast at Salamaua and Sanananda.



WAB

DAILY SUMMARY

WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

No. 296

0700 October 1 to 0700 October 2, 1942

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The War Department informed General Fitzgerald of a directive issued by the Army Air Forces for the immediate construction at Natal of a plant for preparing fighter airplanes, flown from the U.S., for water shipment to Lagos. There the airplanes will be reassembled and flown to the Middle East. This procedure is expected to expedite delivery of fighters overseas.

2. Two enemy bombs were dropped on Atka village, September 30. An enemy fighter flew over Adak at 3000 feet the same day.

3. A directive was issued for the movement of the 6th Armored Division from Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, to Camp Young, California, for desert training.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Three enemy aircraft were over Iceland on September 29. One of them unsuccessfully attacked a tanker off the east coast.

AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

General Brereton reports that on September 29 harbor and dock facilities at Suda Bay and Canea Bay, Crete, were attacked by heavy bombers of the U. S. Army Air Forces. Enemy aircraft approached but failed to close with our bombers. Our fighter aircraft cooperated with the RAF in operations over the battle area in Egypt.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-73

ASIATIC THEATER

General Bissell reports that bombers operating from China attacked Mangshih and Tengchung on September 27, and Wanting and Tengchung on September 28. Combat vehicles on the Burma Road were destroyed and other targets attacked.

Operating from Dinjan, fighter airplanes attacked Washawng and two other villages on September 28.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAS

General MacArthur, in his operations summary for the 24-hour period ending 1400 GCT September 30, states that our forces in New Guinea advanced northward from Nauro (10 miles south of Efogi) which was occupied without resistance from the retreating Japanese. Additional equipment has been captured. The airdromes at Buin and Buka (Solomon Islands) were bombed by Allied aircraft. Enemy installations in the Buna-Kokoda area were also heavily attacked.

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