

DECLASSIFIED
Ref Letter, 6-8-72

130

MR 203 (2) Sec. 26 — WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

March, 1944

MR 203 (2) Sec. 26 WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

Map Room
Box 58

March, 1944

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 843

0700 March 31 to 0700 April 1, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400 500
MILES
— SCALE OF MILES —

THE FÆRØES

SHETLAND IS.

SOESTERBERG
EINDHOVEN
ENSCHDEDE
DEELEN
VESEL
VENLO

NURNBERG

VIS I.

IMOTSKI





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
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EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 30 March several hostile aircraft were sighted over Iceland.

2. Escorted fighter bombers of the 8th Air Force hit runways and field installations at Soesterberg and Eindhoven airdromes on 30 March; other P-47's machine-gunned the Wesel, Venlo, Enschede, and Deelen airdromes. Our planes also destroyed 12 locomotives, sank or damaged several small boats, left a factory in flames, and attacked German troops. RAF fighters scored eight hits on a heavily escorted 14,000-ton vessel in Norwegian waters.

Seven hundred and ninety-five RAF bombers attacked Nurnberg that night. with a loss of 95 bombers; widespread harassing and sea-mining missions were also flown.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. More than 30 enemy aircraft raided Vis on 28 March; some small Partisan shipping was hit and light Allied casualties resulted.

On 30 March 369 escorted heavy bombers of the Strategic Air Force dropped 975 tons of bombs on the railroad yards and city of Sofia, and 39 B-17's attacked the Imotski (Yugoslavia) airdrome. Thirteen enemy planes were shot down for a loss of five heavy bombers and one P-38. Medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force bombed shipping and harbor installations at Leghorn and a railroad bridge near Orte. Light bombers and fighters raided lines of communication in central Italy. Coastal fighters attacked shipping off the east coast of Italy and along

the Dalmatian coast. Other Allied fighters attacked lines of communication and German supply installations opposite our Anzio beachhead.

During the night of 30-31 March enemy aircraft mined our anchorage at Anzio.

2. Enemy artillery and patrols were active at the Anzio beachhead on 31 March; a 300-round concentration was fired on Allied installations in the Padiglione area. A local attack against British positions on the left flank was repulsed.

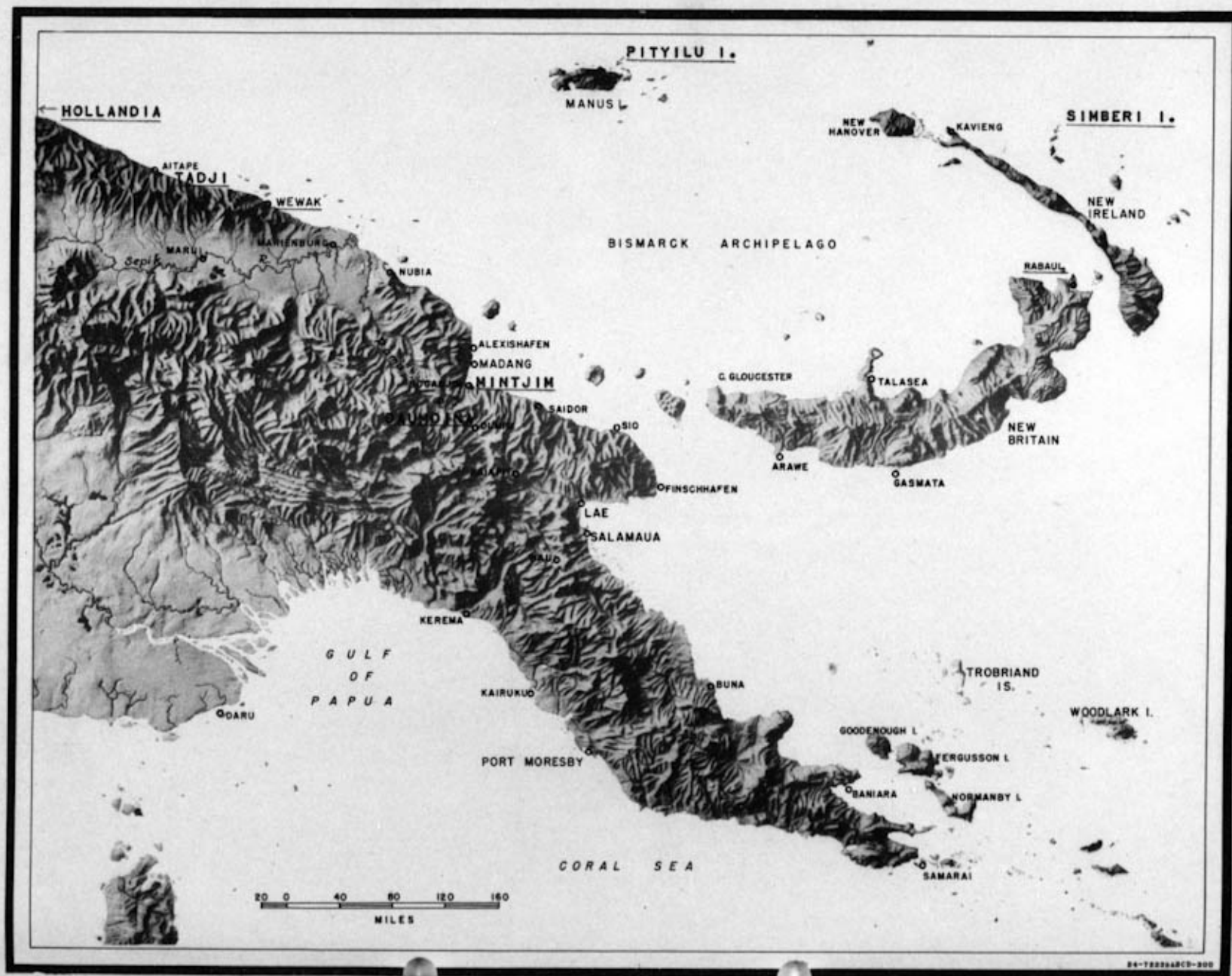
In the southern sector of the trans-Italian front, the enemy ineffectively shelled bridges over the Garigliano River. Polish troops occupied M. Marrone without opposition.

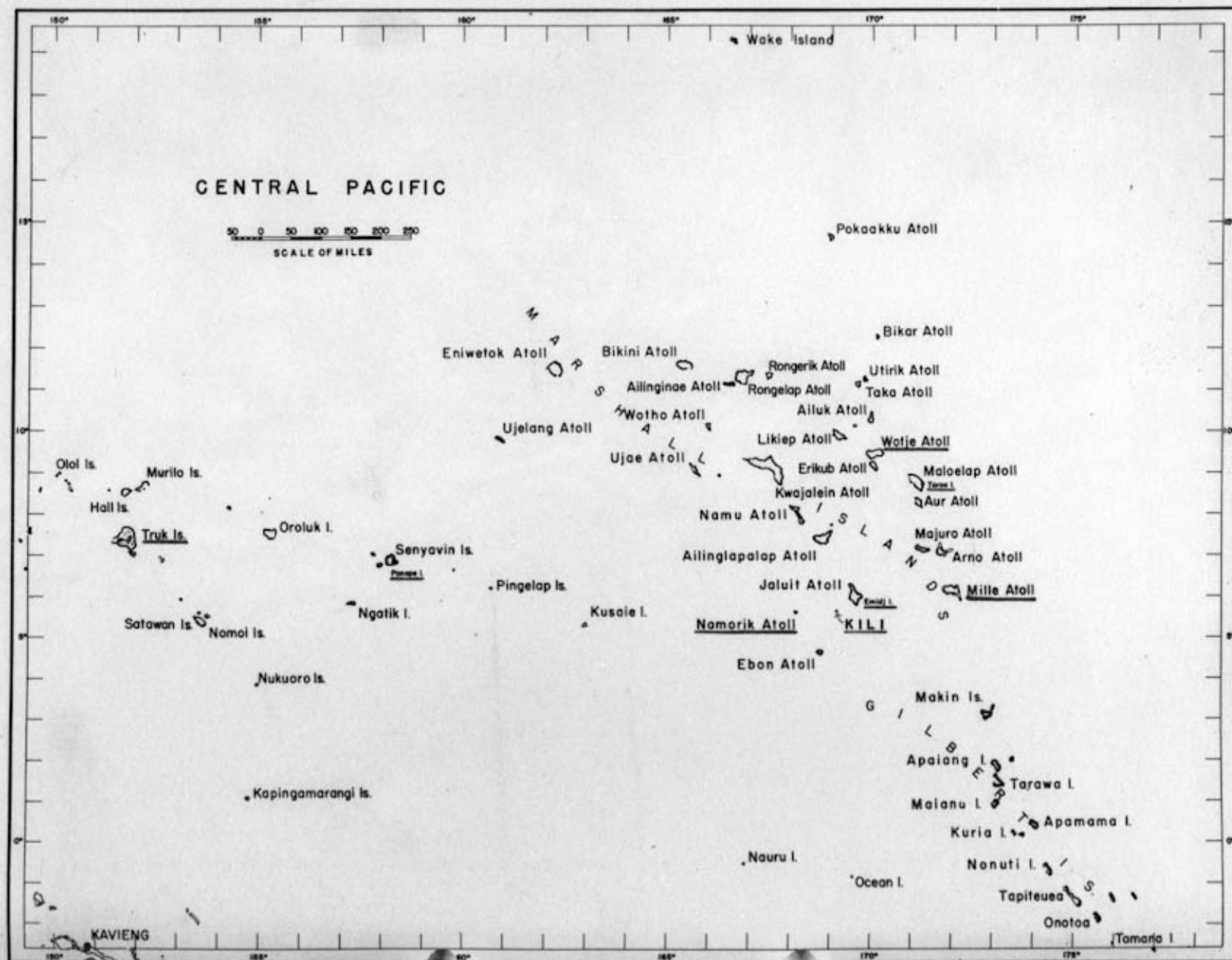
Active patrolling was continued in the Adriatic sector. Allied artillery shelled the enemy's positions at Pennapiedimonte; enemy artillery shelled Salciaroli and Consalvi.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. In the upper Chindwin River area, Japanese units heavily attacked Allied positions near Jessami during the night of 28-29 March. Chinese troops in the Hukawng Valley captured Shaduzup on 30 March and advanced southward astride the main road.

2. On 29 March Allied fighters attacked airfields in central Burma and other US and British planes flew ground support missions, damaged river craft and motor vehicles and destroyed two warehouses in operations over central, northern and western Burma. Heavy bombers raided dumps at Rangoon that night.





3. Two B-24's of the 14th Air Force bombed spinning mills at Nam Dinh destroying a number of buildings, and seriously damaged a freighter off the southeast coast of French Indo-China on 30 March.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Supported by air and naval units our ground forces occupied Pityilu Island on 30 March. In the Ramu Valley ground forces reached a point three miles north of Daumoina.

Four B-24's bombed the But airdrome at Wewak and light bombers carried out ground support missions in the vicinity of Mintjim. Twenty-three B-25's attacked Tadjil, keeping the air strip unserviceable. Dutch and Australian planes bombed the Penfoei airdrome, starting fires visible for 80 miles, and a mission of 21 B-24's started several large fires at Langgoer airdrome (Kai Islands).

The following day 68 heavy bombers dropped 140 tons of bombs on air strips at Hollandia. In the two days our air attacks in this area destroyed 185 (probably 197) enemy planes for a loss of one of our fighters.

2. On 29 March more than 90 South Pacific bombers and fighters over the Rabaul area attacked enemy installations and supply points, damaged gun positions, and caused an explosion aboard a Japanese destroyer. Other Allied planes raided enemy positions in the Bougainville area. That night patrol planes forced a 2,000-ton enemy vessel aground at Simberi Island, north of New Ireland.

3. US troops reconnoitered Kili and Namorik on 28 March without opposition.

On 29 March 40 Allied aircraft in three strikes concentrated on heavy antiaircraft batteries and a radio station on southern Wotje. Additional missions, totalling more than 70 planes, attacked targets at Taroa, Ponape, Mille and Enidj. Twelve Central Pacific B-24's also raided Truk, starting fires, and returned without casualties.

EASTERN FRONT

On 31 March Soviet forces continued to attack at Narva, Pskov, and Mogilov; Tarnopol remains encircled. Soviet forces extended their line northwestward along the Pruth River south of Kamenets-Podolsk. The most important gain was southeast of Balti where the Soviets have cut the rail line between Jassy and Kishinev. German forces continued their withdrawal from the southern Ukraine.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 842

0700 March 30 to 0700 March 31, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

DECLASSIFIED

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
Kilometers
0 100 200 300 400
Miles
SCALE OF MILES

THE FAEROES

SHETLAND IS.

WREFFELD
AACHEN

URDINGEN

BRUNSWICK

NURNBERG



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives have been issued for the movement of the 7th Armored Division (Major General Lindsay McD. Silvester) and the 35th Infantry Division (Major General Paul W. Baade) to an eastern port of embarkation for shipment to the European Theater of Operations.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Of an estimated 90 enemy planes intercepting the 8th Air Force attack on Brunswick and other targets on 29 March, 53 (probably 62) were shot down; 13 (probably 20) others were destroyed on the ground. We lost nine B-17's and 11 fighters.

2. On the night of 29-30 March 76 RAF planes bombed the Vaires railroad yards east of Paris. Eighteen others attacked airplane engine works at Lyon. Mosquitoes raided Kiel, Krefeld-Urdingen, Cologne and Aachen.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 29 March escorted bombers of the Strategic Air Force dropped 306 tons of explosives on the Turin railroad yards, 412 tons on the Bolzano yards and 326 tons on targets at Milan; 13 (probably 16) enemy planes were shot down for a loss of eight heavy bombers and two fighters. Uniformly successful bombing was reported by our aircraft. Tactical Air Force medium bombers attacked harbor and railroad installations in northern Italy and the airdrome at Viterbo where six enemy planes were destroyed on the ground. Fighter planes raided enemy communications and supply positions in the vicinity of Rome and carried out shipping

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

sweeps off the Dalmatian coast. Heavy and medium bombers of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces bombed the Sofia railroad yards during the night of 29-30 March.

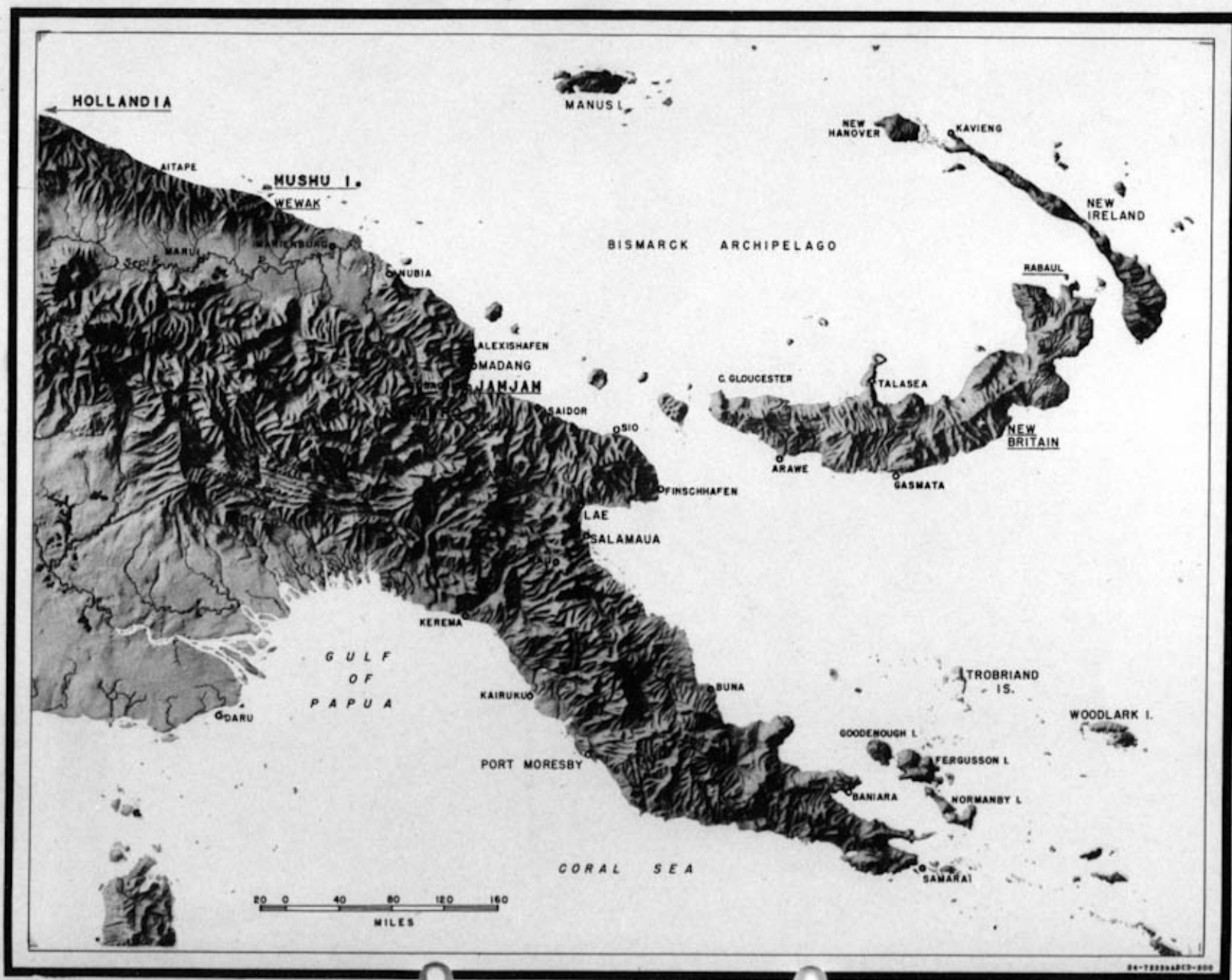
2. New Zealand troops repulsed two company-strength enemy attacks in Cassino on 30 March. No damage was reported from a 40-plane enemy raid against the Anzio beachhead. On the previous day 7,828 tons of supplies were discharged in this area despite considerable enemy air activity; this is a considerable increase over all recent figures.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 27 and 28 March nine escorted B-25's damaged the railway at Kawlin and eight B-24's bombed storage areas at Kamaing. In encounters with enemy planes our aircraft destroyed at least 30 for a loss of two P-51's. Allied tactical aircraft flew 74 offensive sorties as well as some 90 patrol sorties in support of ground action on the Burmese fronts on the 28th.

2. Japanese counterattacks in the area three miles north of Shaduzup were repulsed with heavy enemy losses on 29 March; 325 of the enemy were reported killed at the Allied road block three miles south of the town. Seventeen miles to the southeast US forces are in contact with Japanese units moving northward from Mogaung.

In the Chin Hills-Chindwin area some progress was made against enemy road blocks northwest of Tonzang. Japanese troops were advancing against British resistance near Ukhul. An enemy force 15 miles northeast



of Imphal suffered heavy casualties from Allied artillery fire and air attacks.

3. On 27 March 20 P-40's of the 14th Air Force destroyed the warehouse area and bombed a bridge at Anyi. A total of 25 fighter bombers and fighters scored hits on dumps, installations and runways at the Nanchang airdrome and also attacked nearby villages. Other fighter bombers heavily damaged bridges at Kienchang and Puchi. Two Japanese planes bombed Kienow causing minor damage.

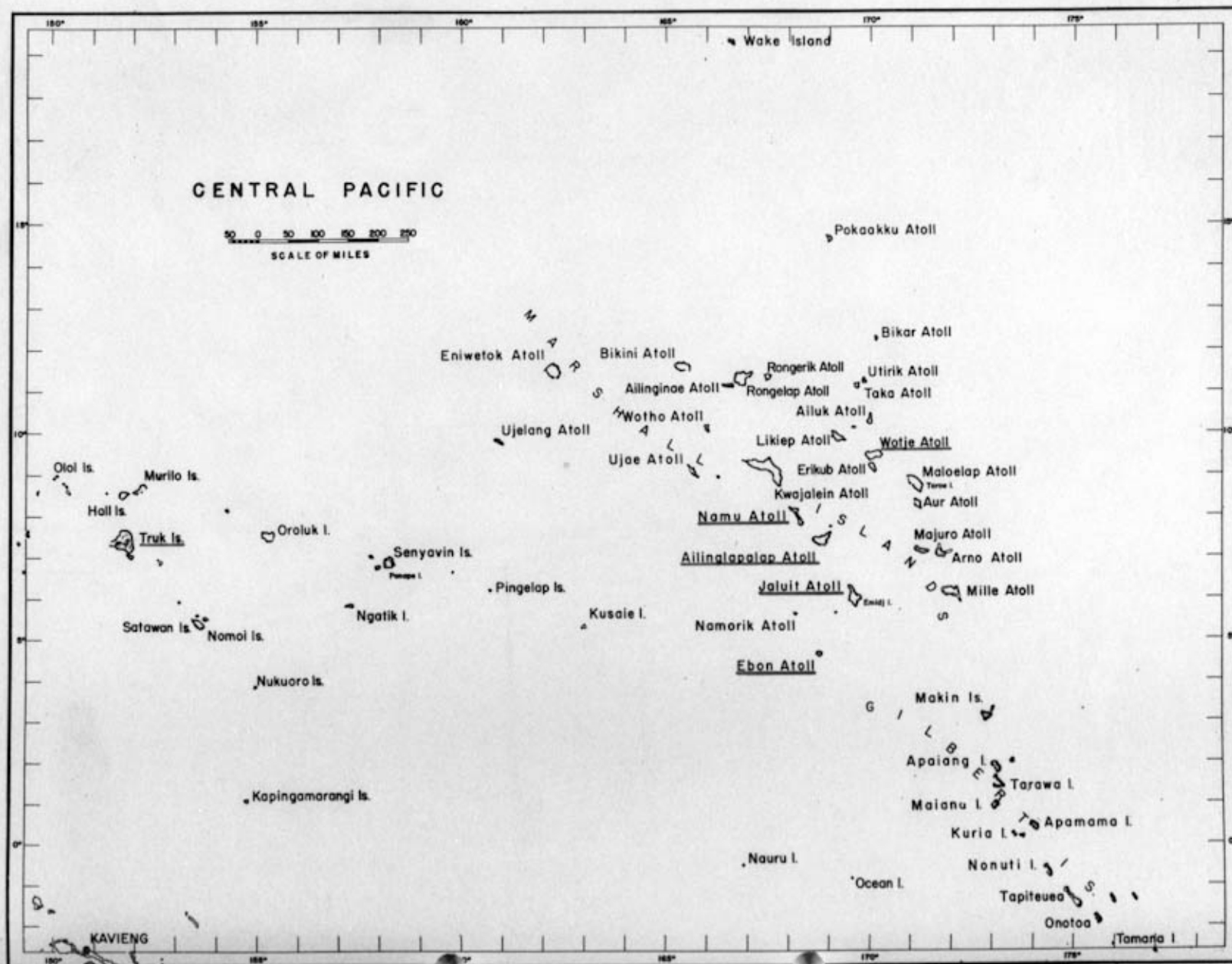
On the 29th, 15 fighter bombers and fighters caused considerable damage to buildings and railroad yards at Nanchang. Japanese bombers raided Kaoyao; details are not available.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Australian troops operating near the northeastern New Guinea coast on 29 March patrolled from Nangapo to Jam Jam without contact.

5th Air Force B-25's bombed and machine-gunned enemy bivouacs and supply dumps near Wewak, starting large fires and destroying buildings. A-20's attacked shipping in the same area, damaging one lugger and other small craft and starting large oil fires on Mushu Island. Smaller missions of Allied aircraft attacked other targets in New Guinea and along the New Britain coast.

During that day and the next, seven Catalinas and two B-24's bombed Woleai Island, 480 miles west of Truk, starting a large fire in the airstrip area.



A late communique from General MacArthur's headquarters describes heavy attacks on the airdrome at Hollandia where some 100 planes were destroyed on the ground and another 10 (probably 17) shot down in aerial combat. Solomons-based heavy bombers attacked Truk, damaging enemy installations and destroying 49 enemy planes on the runway. In a running 45-minute battle with 90 intercepting planes, our bombers shot down five to 20 of the enemy for a loss of one of their own number.

2. On 28 March 56 South Pacific bombers and fighters attacked the Rabaul area, hitting a runway and starting large fires in a supply area. Small raids were carried out against targets of opportunity on Bougainville Island. Our troops continue to patrol actively beyond the beachhead. The known enemy dead since 8 March in the Torokina area total 4,389.

3. Delayed reports of surface action in the Central Pacific Area state that our ground forces, after mopping up Ailinglapalap on 22 March, moved on to Ebon where all but three Japs were killed or captured on the 24th after using a white flag ruse. On the latter day our forces occupied Namu.

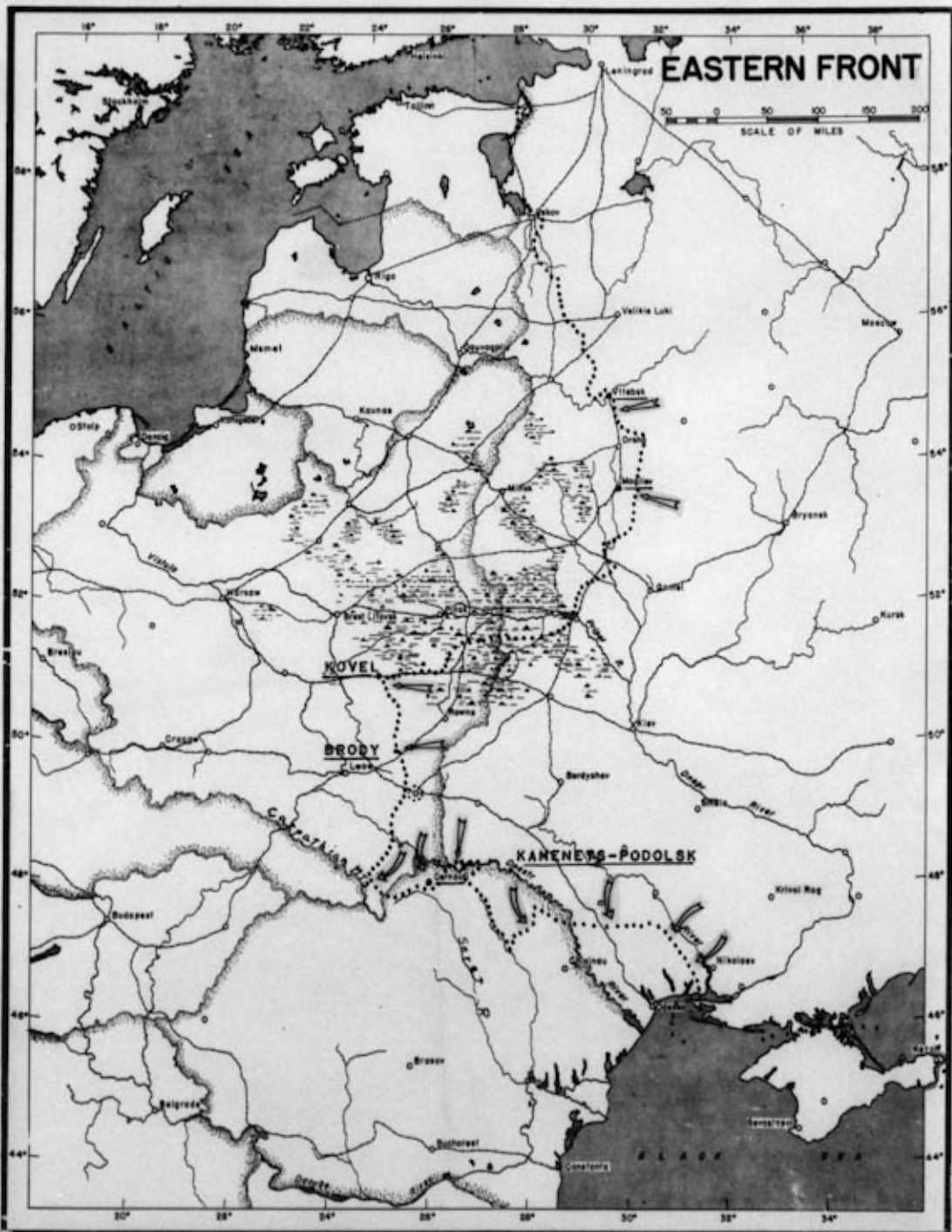
4. Central Pacific aircraft chiefly concentrated their efforts against Jaluit Atoll on 28 March, dropping 18 tons of bombs. Wotje was raided by 18 planes which dropped four tons. All our planes returned.

EASTERN FRONT

Red Armies attacked southeast of Vitebsk, east of Mogilov, and at Kovel and Brody during 30 March. Soviet units captured Cernauti; northwest

EASTERN FRONT

SCALE OF MILES
0 50 100 150 200



of the town they advanced to the Carpathian foot hills and south of the town their drive carried them to the upper Seret River. The German salient east of Kamenets-Podolsk was reduced.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 841

0700 March 29 to 0700 March 30, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(4)





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EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 27-28 March, some 120 enemy planes made scattered attacks over England, chiefly over the southwestern counties where they set fire to an ammunition dump. Eight (probably 11) enemy planes were shot down.

2. The 8th Air Force missions which attacked airfields at Reims, Dijon, Chartres, and Chateaudun on 28 March dropped 937 tons of incendiaries and high explosives. There was no enemy opposition, the only two B-17's lost being shot down by antiaircraft fire. Escorting fighters saw but one enemy plane in the air; they destroyed 30 enemy aircraft on the ground. Three P-51's failed to return. Other Allied missions dropped 75 tons of bombs and machine-gunned military objectives in the Dieppe-Rouen and Abbeville-Amiens areas.

On 29 March, 185 B-17's attacked targets at Brunswick, 60 others bombed secondary objectives, and 82 B-24's hit targets along the channel coast; all results were unobserved.

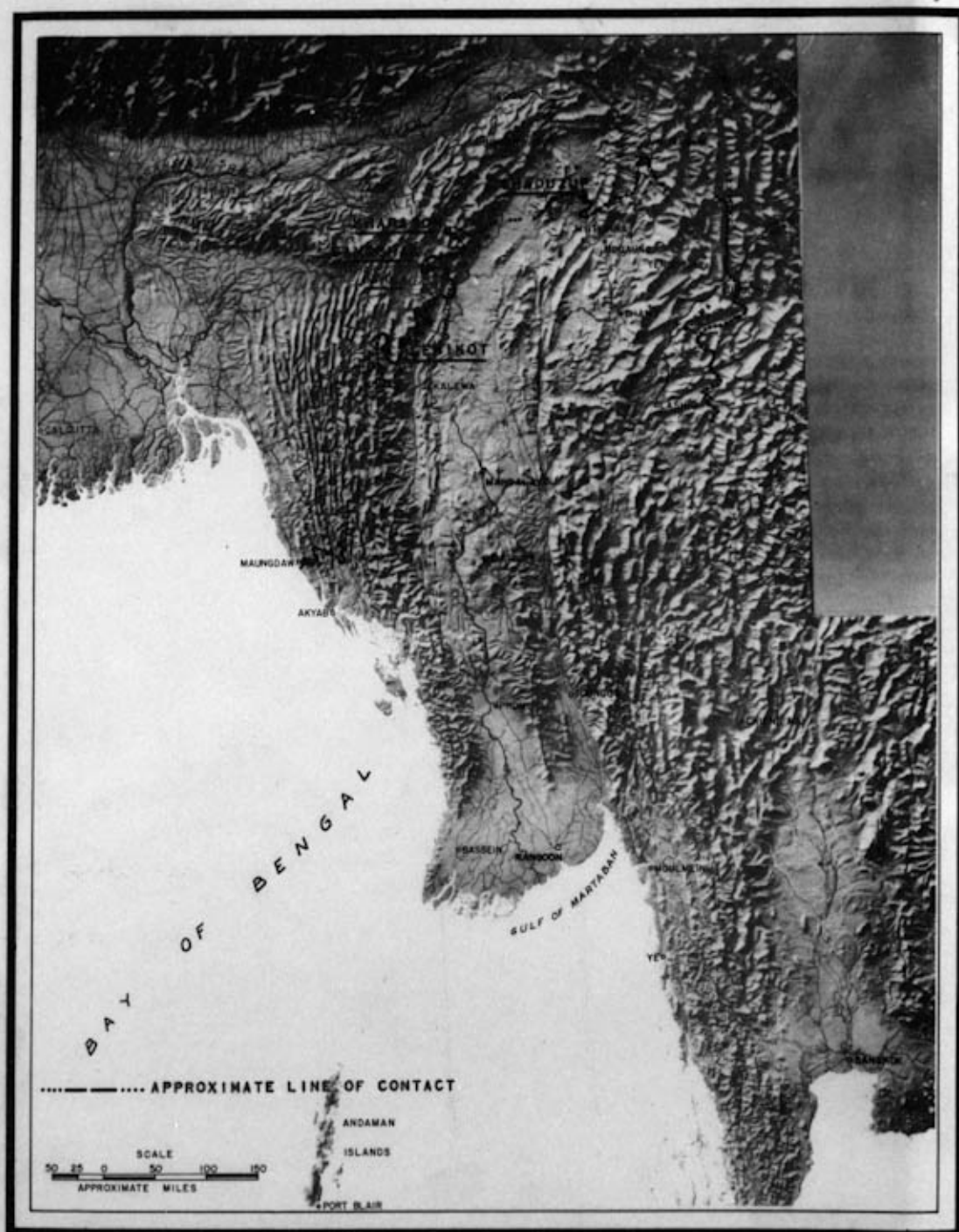
MEDITERRANEAN

1. Escorted heavy bombers of the Strategic Air Force attacked railroad yards at Verona and Mestre with a total of 1,042 tons of explosives on 28 March; good to excellent results were achieved and 11 of more than 100 enemy planes encountered were destroyed for the loss of six of our fighters. Tactical Air Force medium bombers hit railroad bridges at Perugia, Rignano and Certaldo, and the railroad junction at Montepescali.



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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



Lighter aircraft attacked a tank factory at Tivoli, gun positions, motor vehicles and lines of communication in the battle areas, harbor installations at Castiglione, and railroad bridges near Grosseto. That night heavy and medium bombers hit the Milan railroad yards.

2. There was little ground activity in Italy during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 29 March. Near Cassino heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire was silenced by Allied artillery. Enemy snipers were active in the town; our artillery engaged enemy tanks near the Continental Hotel.

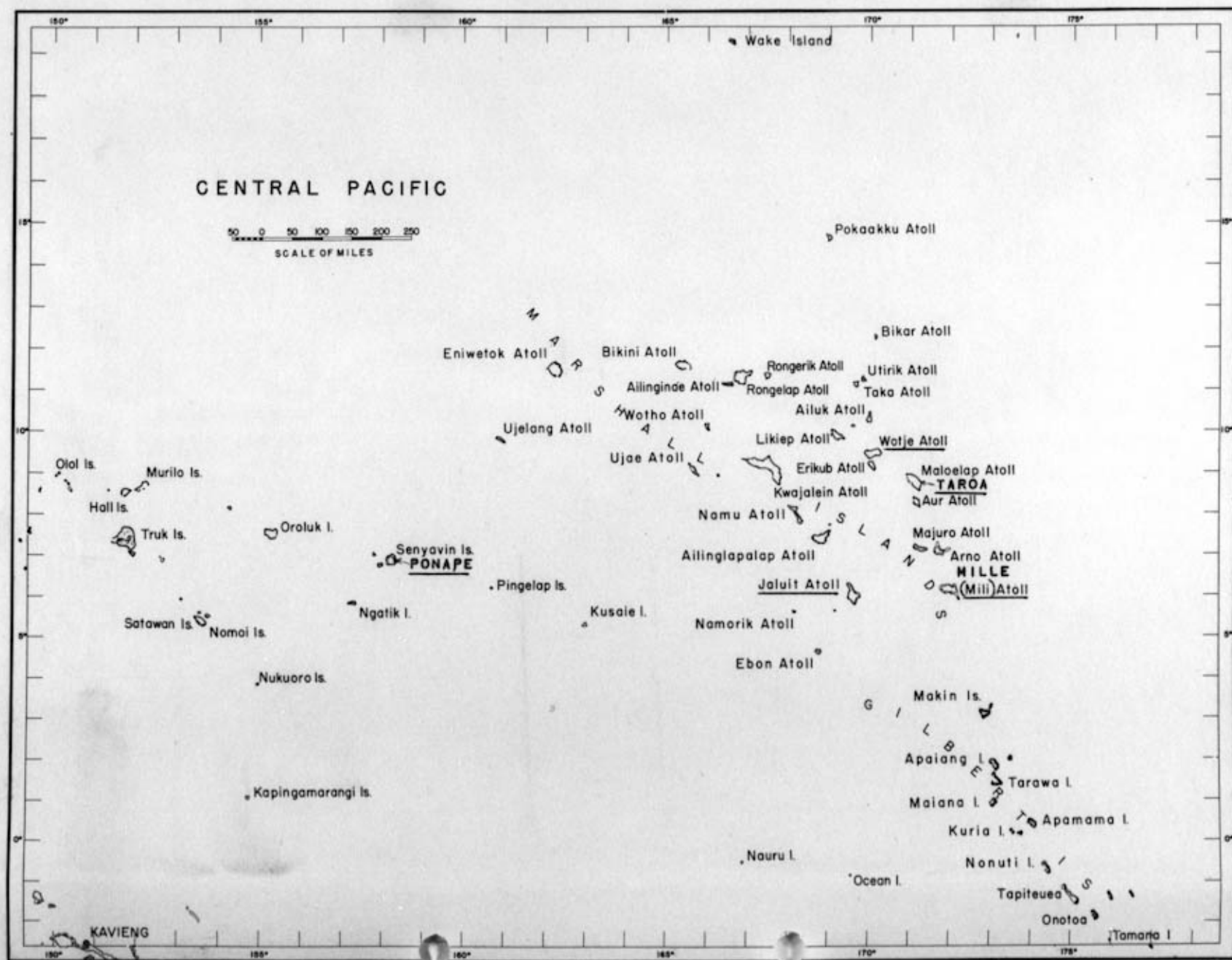
ASIATIC THEATER

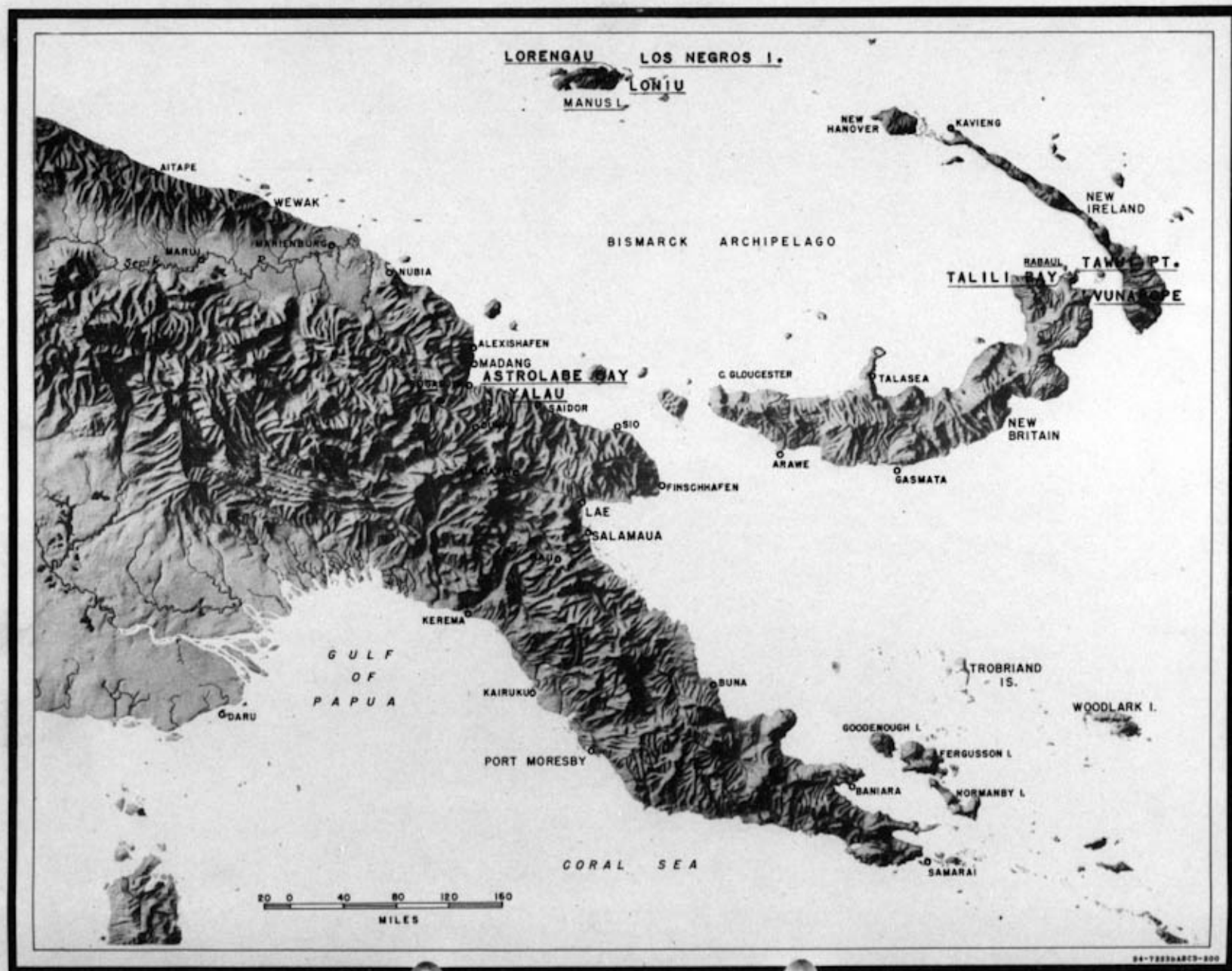
1. British forces inflicted 250 casualties on the enemy near Lenikot in the Chin Hills on 27 March. In the Chindwin sector a strong enemy attack at Sangshak, 28 miles northeast of Imphal, resulted in heavy casualties to British troops and caused considerable damage to British artillery. The next day Japanese attacks near Kharasom were repulsed. Chinese troops were attacking Shaduzup from the east.

2. Sixteen P-40's of the 14th Air Force attacked Anyi on 27 March. Three rocket-carrying P-40's bombed and machine-gunned buildings and troop concentrations in the Sienning area. The next day four B-25's scored direct hits on four buildings in the barracks area at Vinh Yen.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In the Admiralties US troops occupied Loni on Los Negros during





28 March. On Manus patrols from Lorengau were active on the trails to the west and southwest.

In the Astrolabe Bay area Allied patrols from Yalau reported the area to the Guabe River clear of the enemy.

Twelve B-24's of the 5th Air Force bombed the Penfoei airdrome in Timor and Australian Catalinas attacked the runway areas at Babo in western New Guinea.

2. During the night of 26-27 March five B-25's started numerous fires in the Rabaul area. The next day more than 100 South Pacific planes bombed the Vunapope and Talili Bay supply installations with high explosives and incendiary bombs, leaving the areas ablaze. Aerial photographs showed many buildings destroyed. Intensive antiaircraft fire was encountered by these missions. Twenty-seven Navy planes started fires at Tawui Point with 18 tons of bombs. Other US planes attacked supply and fuel dumps on Bougainville and patrolled over our Torokina beachhead.

3. Central Pacific aircraft dropped a total of 88 tons of bombs on Ponape, Jaluit, Wotje, Tarca and Mille during 26 and 27 March. In the mission against Ponape our aircraft were intercepted by 15 Japanese planes of which nine (probably 12) were destroyed for the loss of one B-25.

EASTERN FRONT

Intense fighting continued at Kovel and Tarnopol during 29 March; the latter city has been completely surrounded by Soviet units for several days. Northwest of Cernauti Red Army troops pushed forward ten miles to

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OSD Letter 5-3-72

cut the Lwow-Cernauti rail line. The Soviets crossed the Pruth north of Cernauti and were fighting in the outskirts of the town. To the south further Soviet advances were made southeast of Balti. From Balta, which was captured, to Nikolaev, Red units continued to push southward as the Germans withdrew.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 840

0700 March 28 to 0700 March 29, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
Kilometers
— SCALE OF MILES —





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RSA, OSS
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EUROPEAN THEATER

In the course of 8th Air Force missions against French airdromes on 27 March, forty-two (probably 45) enemy planes were shot down for a loss of six bombers and 10 fighters.

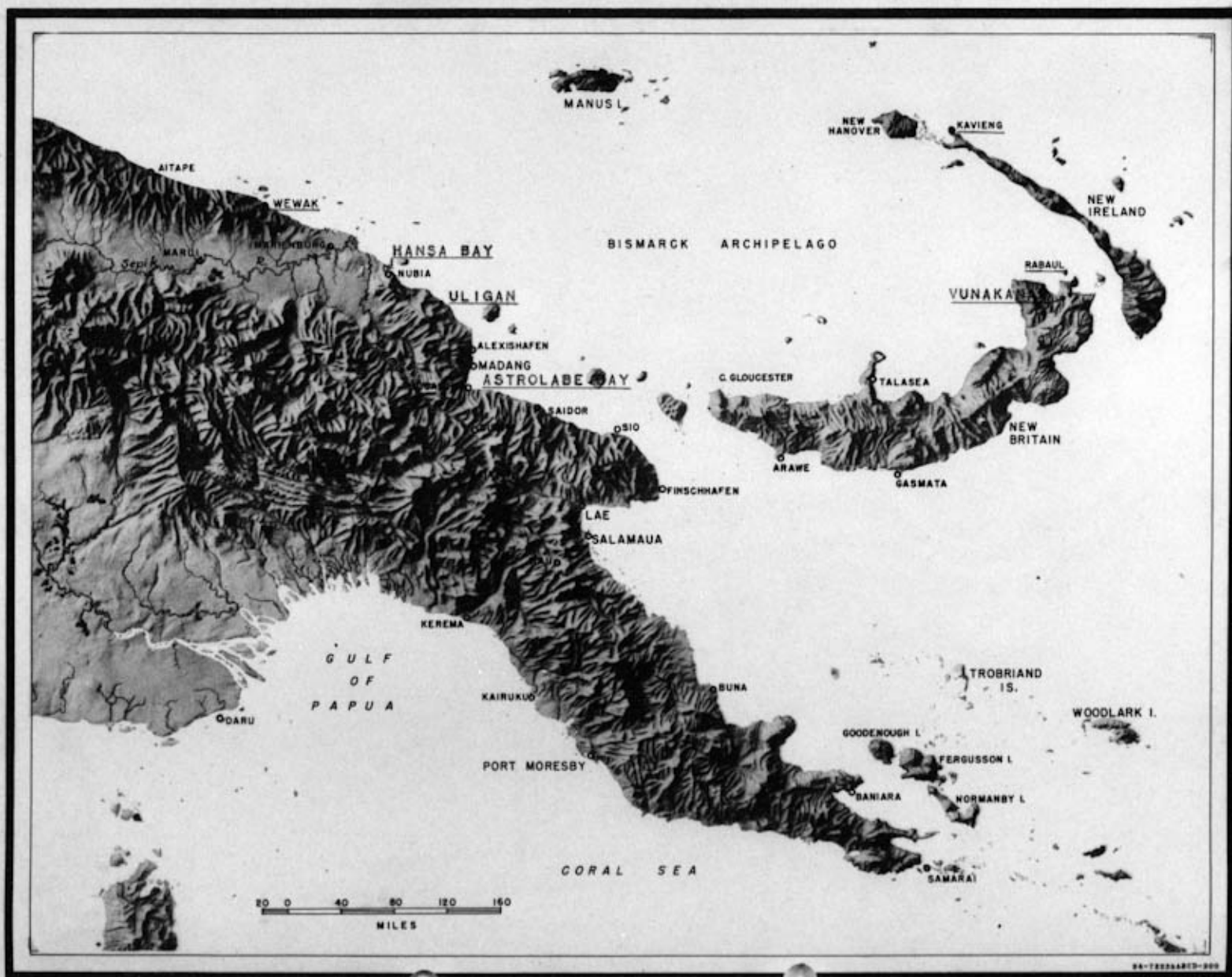
On 28 March a total of 380 escorted B-17's were dispatched on successful missions against the airdromes at Reims, Dijon, Chartres and Chateaudun.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 26-27 March, 77 Allied planes dropped 138 tons of explosives on the railroad yards at Vicenza with observed effect.

The following day medium, light and fighter bombers attacked bridges at Fano, Poggibonsi, Marsciano, Perugia, and Grosseto, raided supply dumps, motor vehicles and gun emplacements southeast of Rome, and attacked the Aquila and Rimini airfields. Allied fighters flew anti-shipping patrols off the Dalmatian coast destroying at least seven small craft and damaging several others, attacked dock installations and small surface craft at Follonica and Castiglione, and machine-gunned storage depots, enemy bivouacs and motor vehicles south of Durazzo. The Mediterranean Allied Air Forces flew 1411 sorties during this period; enemy planes made 60 sorties over central Italy and the battle area.

2. Activity on the main Italian battle line and in the Anzio area for the 24-hour period ending at noon on 28 March was confined to



patrolling and artillery duels.

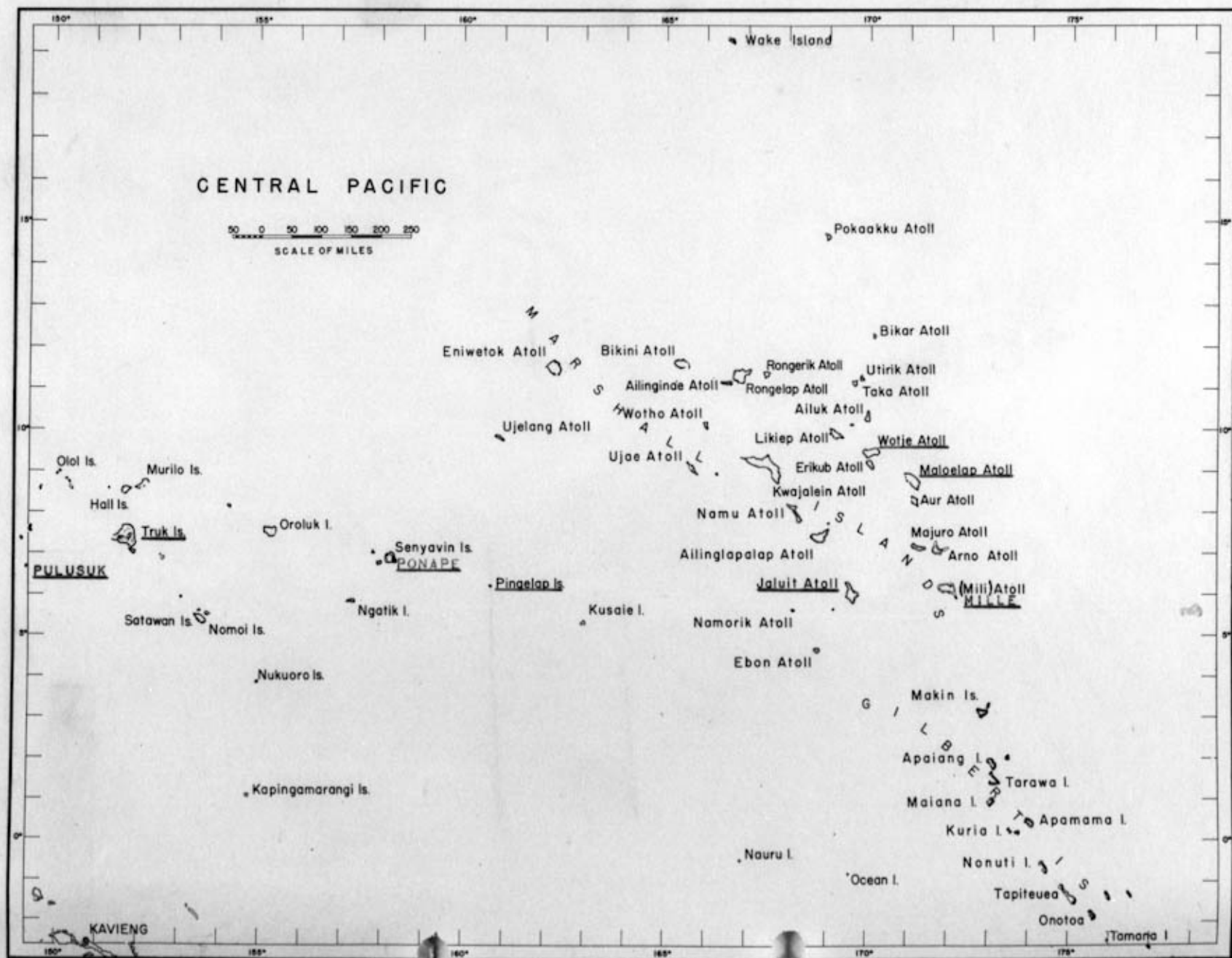
ASIATIC THEATER

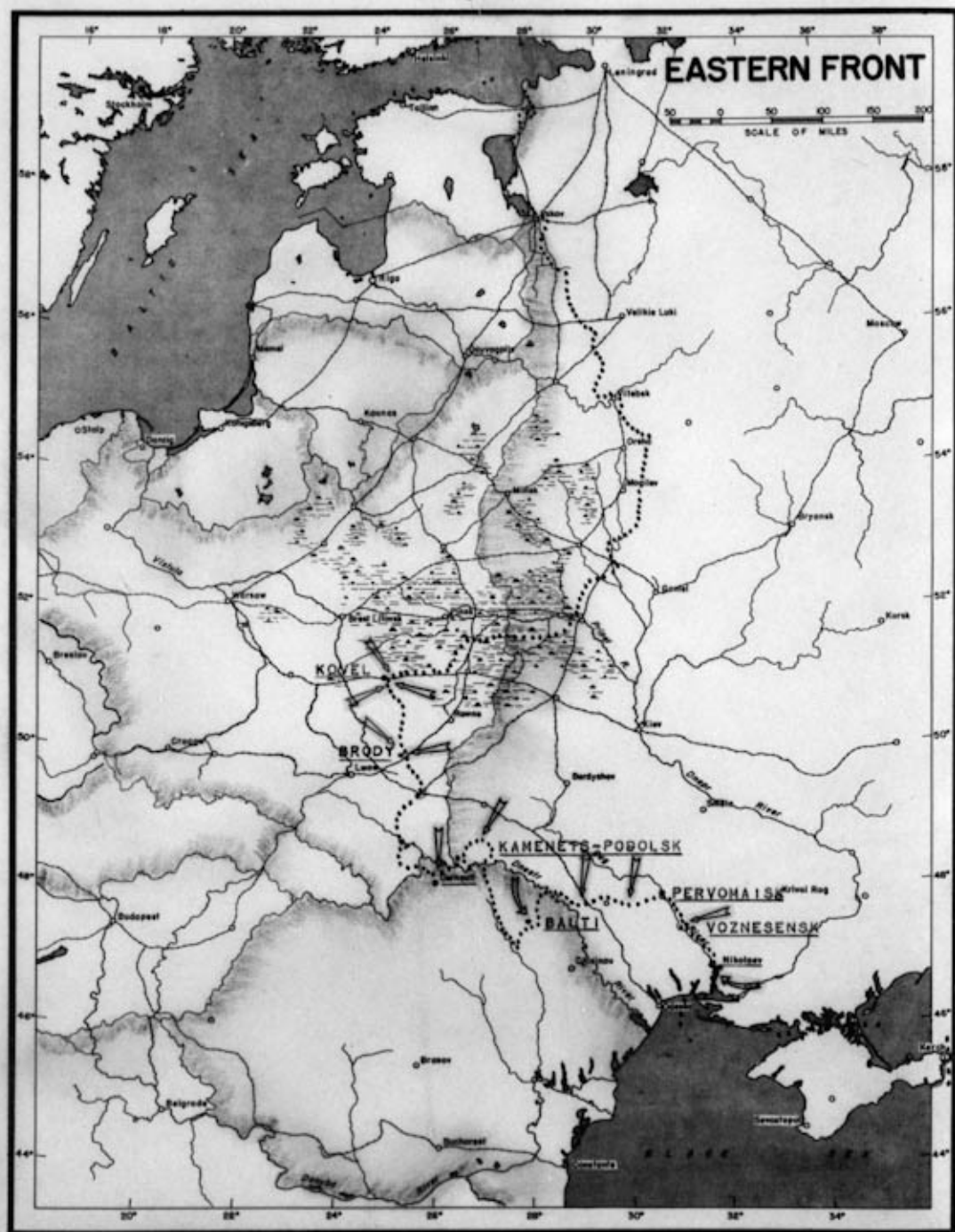
1. Two B-24's bombed Lassihing Bay, northwest Sumatra, on 25 March. On the 26th Allied tactical aircraft bombed and machine-gunned enemy positions, installations, and communications throughout western and northern Burma, also attacking river and rail traffic in central Burma. The next day eight B-24's hit enemy dumps at Kamaing with 24 tons of explosives. Lighter Allied aircraft continued their operations of the previous day.

2. On 26 March 14th Air Force P-40's skip-bombed and sank a small coastal vessel and damaged four barges in the South China Sea. The following day B-25's operating near Vinh Yen in French Indo-China damaged a bridge, destroyed a factory and bombed railroad yards and rolling stock.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 27 March 34 heavy, medium and light bombers from the Southwest Pacific Area dropped 74 tons of explosives on enemy bivouacs and supply dumps in the Wewak area; 38 B-24's and B-25's attacked anti-aircraft positions and fuel dumps near Hansa Bay with 84 tons. At Uligan, five B-24's destroyed two bridges and started fires. Fighter bombers raided supply installations in the Astrolabe Bay area. To the west Australian Catalinas attacked Kaimana, Dutch New Guinea, starting fires in the town and leaving a merchant vessel afire in the harbor.





2. Twenty-two South Pacific B-24's bombed Pulusuk Island, southwest of Truk, on 26 March. A mission of 23 B-25's hit the runway and dispersal area at Vunakanau. Light bomber missions totalling 59 planes attacked the Kavieng airdrome, destroyed a heavy gun position and left the runway unserviceable; seven B-25's and 37 fighters carried out harassing raids in the Rabaul area. Other air missions bombed a radar station on eastern New Britain and heavily raided enemy positions on Bougainville.

3. On 25 March 13 B-25's and 16 Marine fighters from the Central Pacific attacked the enemy installations on Ponape; one flight of three B-25's shot down four (probably five) of 15 intercepting Japanese planes. Thirteen B-25's bombed the runway area on Maloelap. Other US planes hit targets on Jaluit, Wotje, and Mille.

The next day US planes raided Ponape and Pingelap.

EASTERN FRONT

There was fierce fighting without change in the Kovel and Brody areas during 28 March. Northwest of Cernauti Red Army units advanced 20 miles while northeast of Kamenets-Podolsk the German salient was further reduced. From Balti to Pervomaik pressure toward the south resulted in short advances. North of Voznesensk the Soviets crossed the Bug River, advancing about 20 miles. In the extreme south Nikolaev was captured.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 839

0700 March 27 to 0700 March 28, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

During 26 March 503 B-17's and B-24's escorted by 254 fighters from the 8th and 9th Air Forces attacked 16 sites along the Pas de Calais coast; 1271 tons were dropped and aerial photographs indicated that excellent or good results were obtained on the majority of the targets. Five bombers were lost to antiaircraft fire; no enemy aircraft were encountered by these missions. Medium and light bombers dropped 723 tons on the Ijmuiden port area reporting fair to good results; one bomber is missing. Escorted fighter bombers reported fair to good results in a series of dive bombing attacks on military objectives in northwestern France; others attacked the Beauvais and Creil railroad yards with fair to good results.

That night Essen was attacked by 676 RAF planes with 3037 tons of explosive and incendiary bombs; two enemy aircraft were destroyed and nine bombers are missing. Additional bombers dropped 519 tons of high explosives on the Courtrai railroad yards reporting good concentrations of bursts; all aircraft returned. Mosquito bombers continued their harassing raids and feints.

On 27 March 751 US heavy bombers escorted by approximately 948 fighters attacked an airdrome and airplane factory at Tours and airdromes near La Rochelle, Bordeaux and Biarritz; further details have not been reported.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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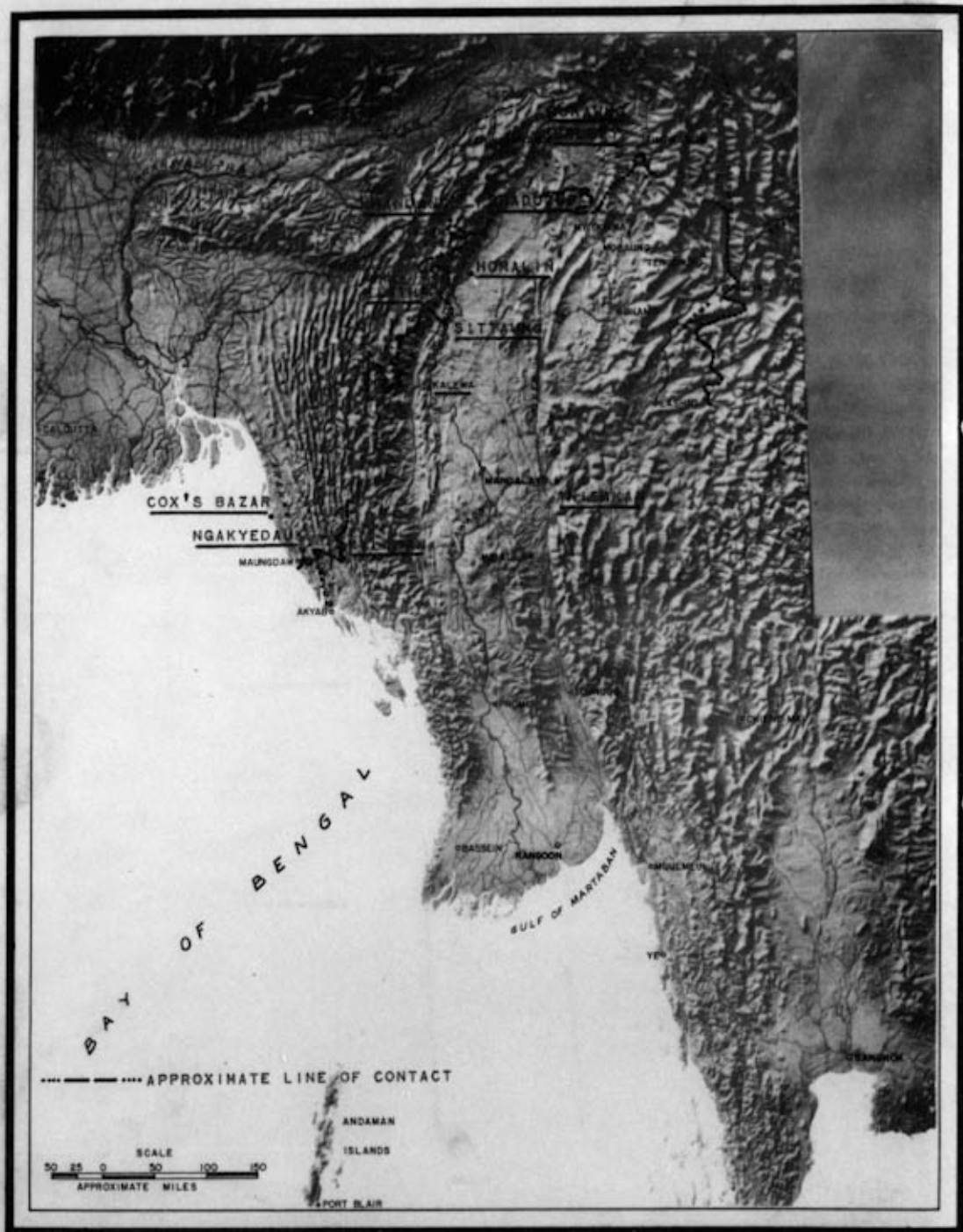
MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 26 March escorted US heavy bombers dropped 67 tons on Fiume, 47 tons on the Rimini railroad yards, and 67 tons on the Maniago airdrome; five (probably ten) enemy planes were shot down. Tactical Air Force medium bombers attacked the Arezzo viaduct with excellent results, and US fighter bombers scored direct hits on a railroad bridge northwest of Stimigliano. P-40's attacked gun positions in the Anzio area and an ammunition dump at Fontana Liri; 23 A-20's harassed troop concentrations near Velletri. Allied fighters patrolled the battle areas and shot down two enemy planes. Coastal Air Force P-39's bombed Castiglione harbor and also made a direct hit on the Cecina railroad bridge. During the day we lost one B-17 and four fighters.

2. Allied units at Anzio repulsed small-scale enemy attacks during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 27 March. Near Cassino an enemy attack along the Terelle road was repulsed by artillery fire. Patrolling and regrouping continued elsewhere along the fronts.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 24 March Allied light and fighter bombers continued their widespread missions on enemy installations in northern and central Burma; 35 RAF planes flew offensive sweeps in the Naga Hills area, 22 dive-bombers raided the Kalewa and Homalin areas, and 18 planes attacked enemy positions near Mintha. The next day 62 RAF fighters attacked river craft in the Mayu-Kaladan area and near Sittaung; other planes



patrolled the Chin Hills-Naga Hills area.

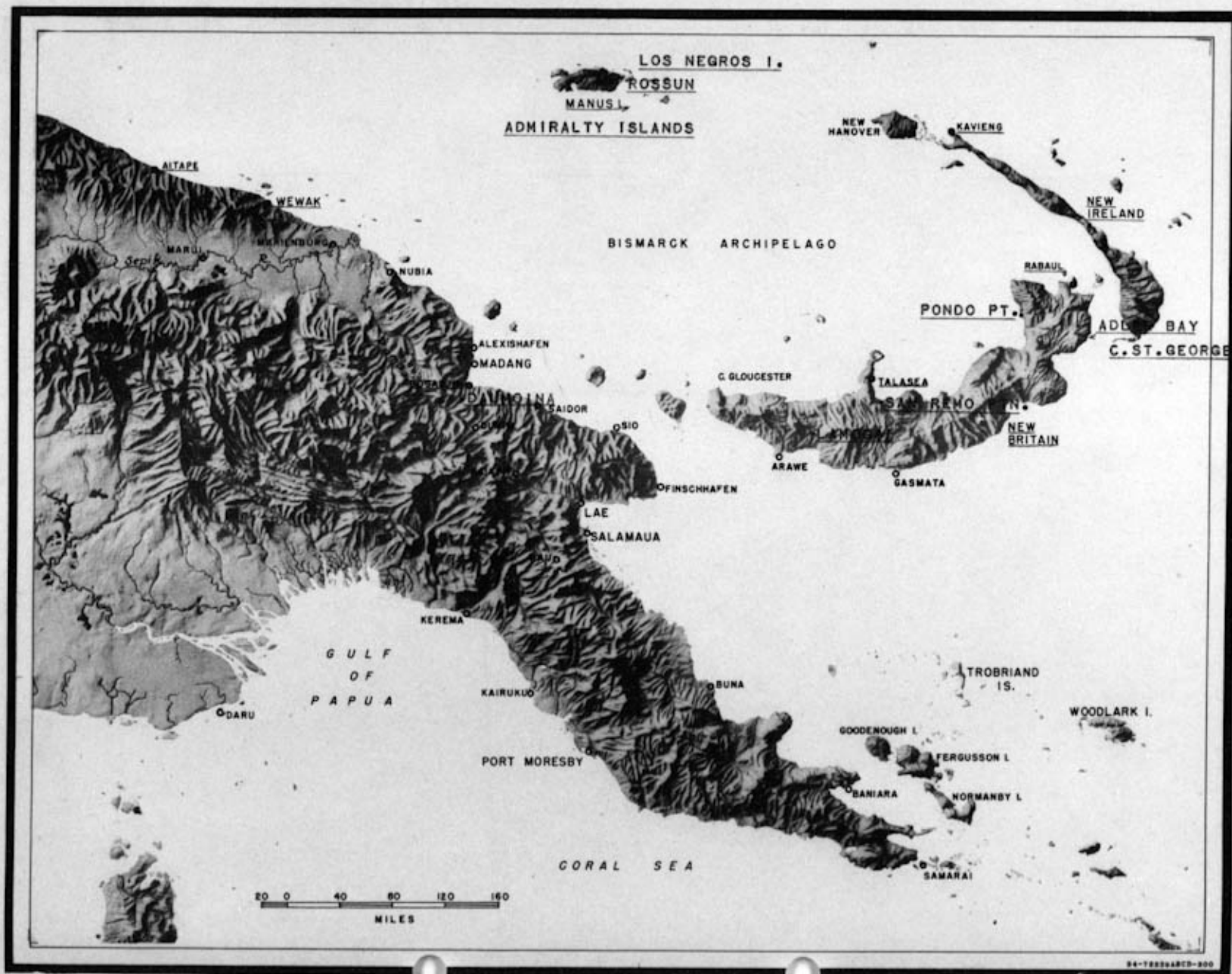
Six Japanese planes raided an airdrome at Cox's Bazar causing some casualties; the airstrip was temporarily out of service. Allied aircraft intercepted 35 enemy planes about to land at the Anisakan airfield, shooting down seven (probably nine), and destroying two on the ground; two P-38's are missing.

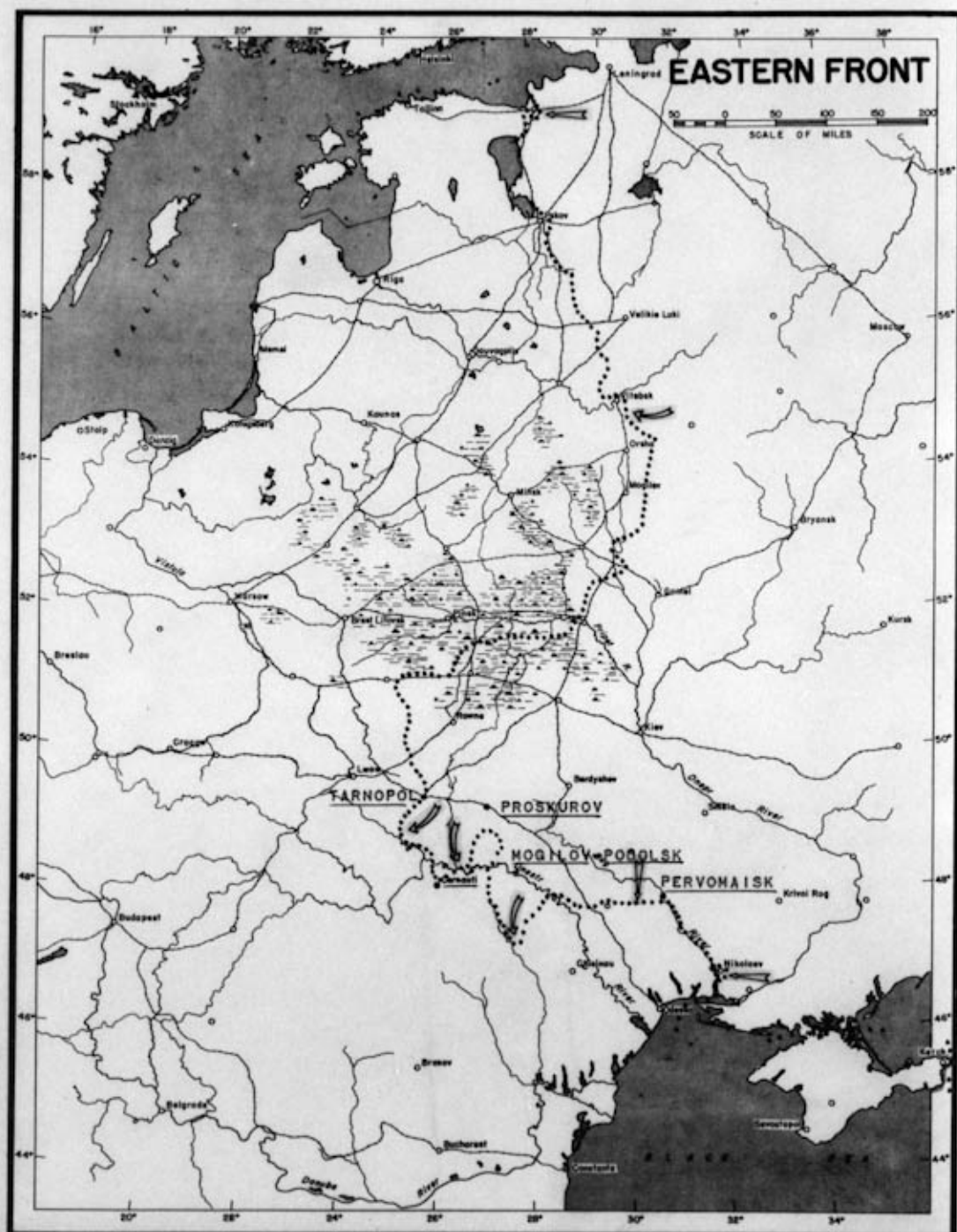
2. British forces in the Arakan sector cleared the enemy from the area $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of Ngakyedauk during 25 March. West of the upper Chindwin a Japanese force was reported moving northwest near Khanjang. In the Hukawng Valley a Chinese force captured an enemy position three miles north of Shaduzup, which is still being held by the enemy. US and Chinese troops to the east forced a crossing of a stream and advanced to within three miles of the town.

3. 14th Air Force B-25's attacked shipping and harbor installations at Bakli Bay on Hainan Island during 26 March. Incomplete reports indicate that two medium-sized vessels were sunk and bomb hits scored on the railroad tracks and loading equipment.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our ground forces in the Admiralties were engaged in mopping up operations during 26 March. On Manus, our troops, supported by A-20's, captured strong enemy positions and reached a point 800 yards southwest of Rossun. Allied patrols on New Britain found more than 100 enemy dead on the trails northwest of Lamogai; in the Talasea area Marine patrols reached San Remo Plantation.





Allied planes continued their attacks on the enemy installations in the Wewak area during the day, 34 B-24's and 35 B-25's dropping 174 tons of bombs on fuel and supply dumps, starting large fires, and silencing enemy gun positions. Other B-25's attacked shipping along the northeastern New Guinea coast. Allied light and fighter bombers destroyed buildings and barges at Aitape, machine-gunned villages in the Pondo Point area and attacked Japanese gun positions north of Daumoina and a camp on the Bogadjim road.

2. On 25 March 130 US planes from the South Pacific Area attacked targets in the Rabaul area starting large fires and destroying buildings. A B-25 hit the radar station at Adler Bay and machine-gunned a similar installation on Cape St. George. Other light bombers attacked the enemy runway at Kavieng. US fighters machine-gunned troop-laden trucks on the east coast of New Ireland and attacked the Mibo River bridge and bivouac area in Bougainville. One of our bombers was lost and another is missing.

3. On 24 March 54 Central Pacific Army and Navy planes continued our bombing raids on enemy installations at Ponape and in the Marshall Islands with 29 tons of explosives.

EASTERN FRONT

The Soviet offensive south of Tarnopol during 27 March carried Red army units to within four miles of Cernauti, Roumania. German troops were withdrawing from the salient south of Proskurov. South of Mogilov-Podolsk, the Soviets advanced northwest and southeast; small gains were

also made west of Pervomaisk. There was no change elsewhere on the Eastern Front.

GENERAL

In order to coordinate policy on invasion publicity, the War Department, referring to a planned news broadcast on 9 April by five correspondents in England to describe invasion preparations, informed General Eisenhower of the following subjects which by agreement are to be avoided:

1. No indication, within wide limits, of time.
2. No mention of new or secret weapons.
3. No indication of composition or size of forces.
4. No mention, other than overall Europe, of geography.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 838

0700 March 26 to 0700 March 27, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

During the night of 24-25 March, three Army B-24's and one Navy B-34 attacked the Paramushiro area with unobserved results; one B-34 failed to return.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 24-25 March, 644 RAF bombers dropped 2,571 tons of incendiaries and high explosives on Berlin, starting widespread fires; 74 planes were lost. Small missions of Mosquitoes raided Hamburg, Kiel and Duisburg and bombed airfields in Holland, France and Belgium.

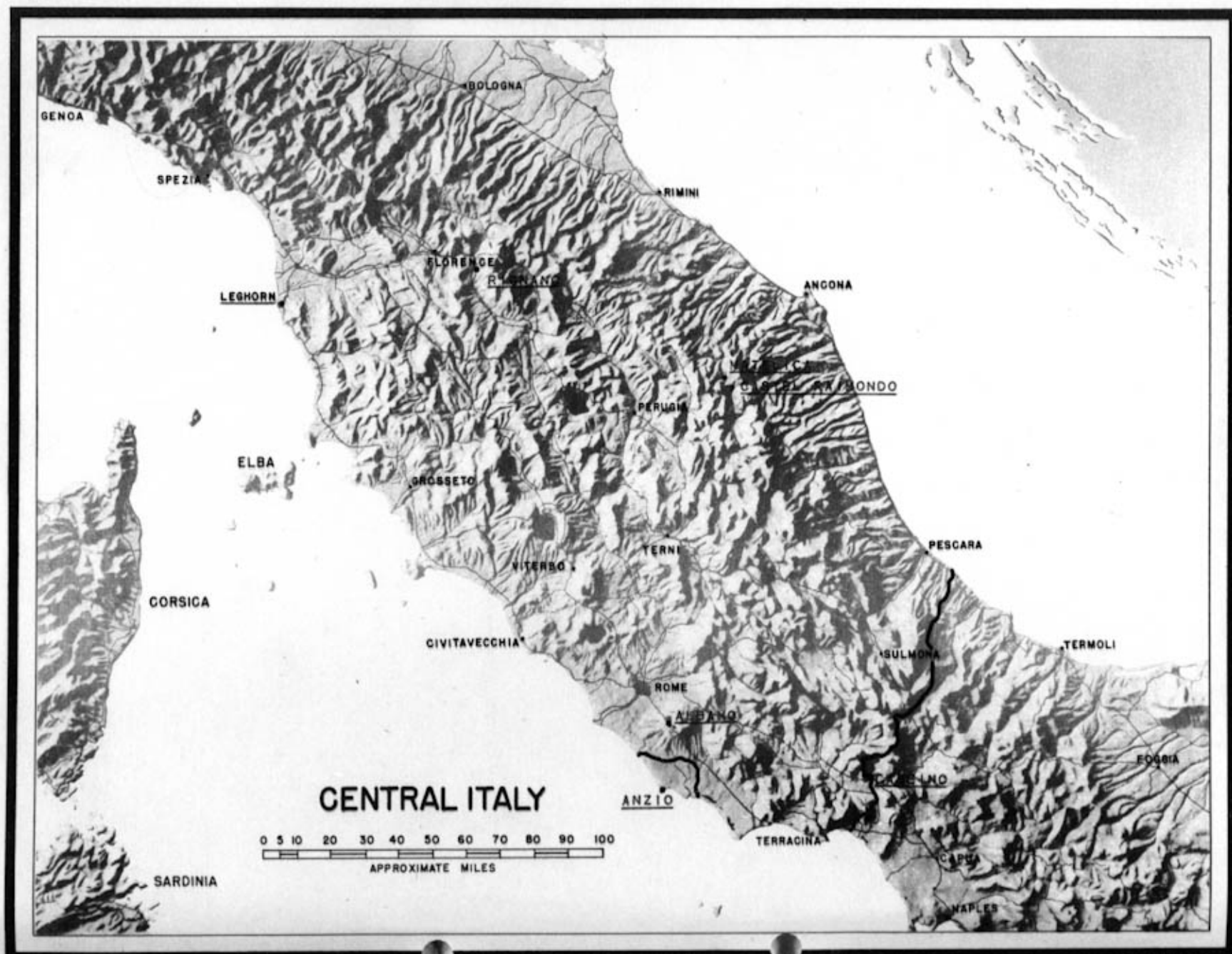
A total of 115 enemy aircraft operated over southeast England during the night, the majority penetrating to the London area; large fires were started but soon controlled, and some damage caused to public utilities. Five (probably six) enemy planes were shot down.

The next day 146 escorted B-26's dropped 264 tons of bombs on the Hirson railway center. Eleven Mosquitoes bombed military objectives in the Dieppe-Rouen area.

During the night of 25-26 March, 182 RAF bombers dropped 890 tons of bombs on the Aulnoye railroad yards. Twenty-two RAF Lancasters attacked the Lyon airplane engine works and other British planes laid mines off the French coast, Frisian Islands and Texel. Mosquitoes raided Berlin, Hanover, and the railroad yards at Hamm.

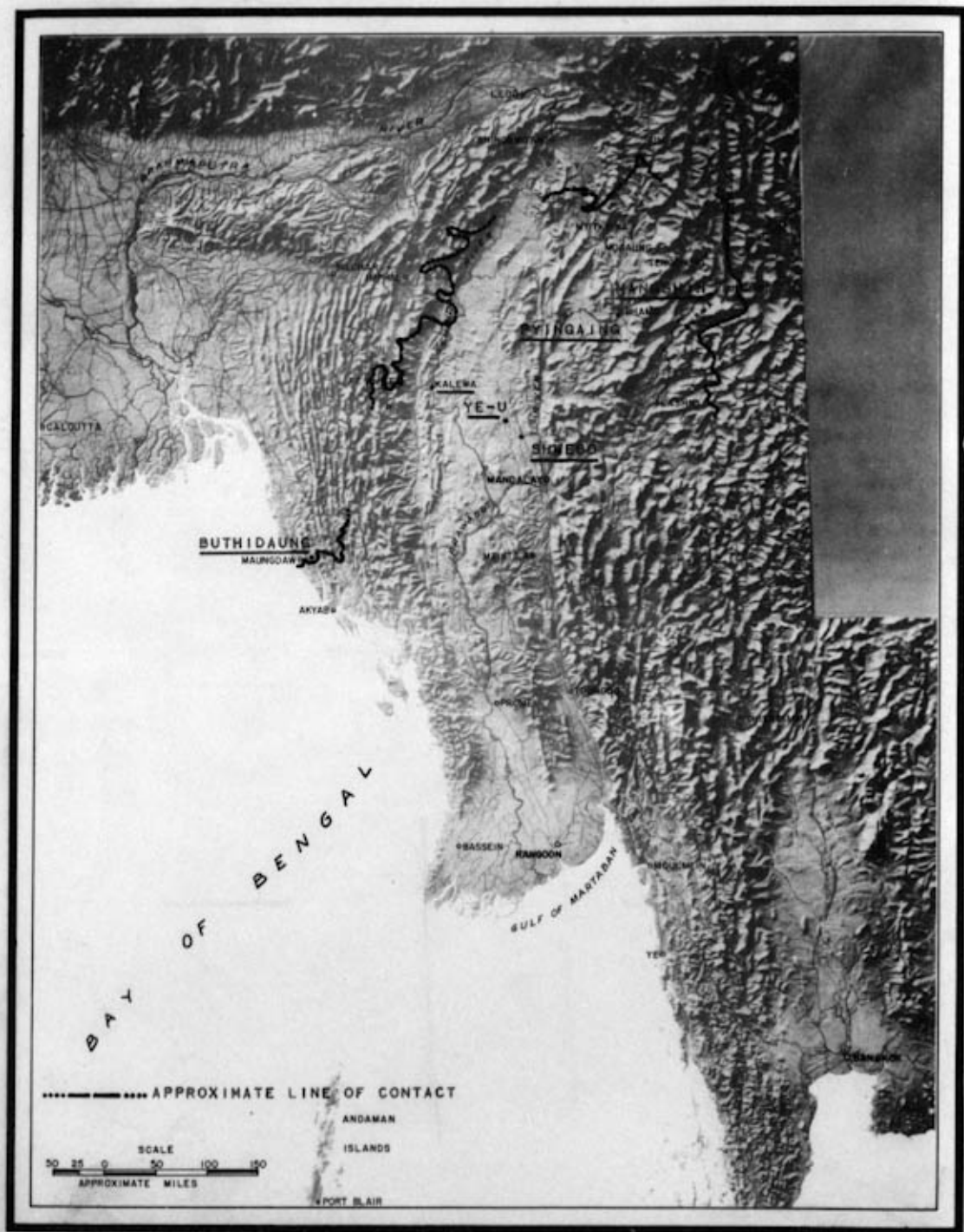
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 24-25 March Strategic Air Force bombers



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS



dropped 107 tons of explosives on the Sofia railroad yards through heavy clouds. Tactical aircraft bombed Matelica, motor vehicles at Albano, and communication facilities at Castel Raimondo.

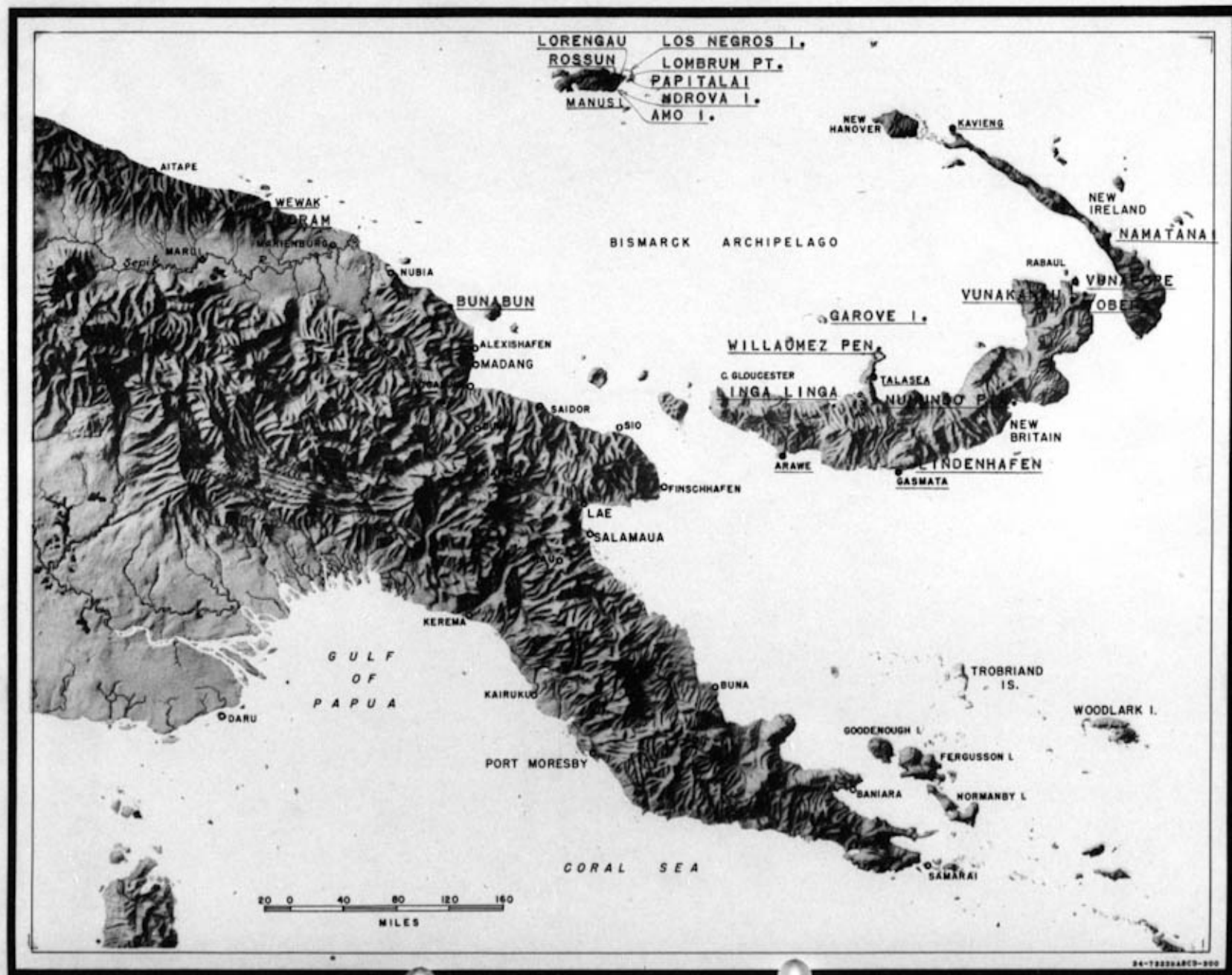
The next day US medium bombers attacked the harbor at Leghorn and a railroad bridge at Rignano. Additional Allied planes patrolled the battle areas and attacked enemy gun positions. RAF planes in anti-shipping sweeps over the Aegean Sea sank two small ships and damaged several others.

2. There was little activity on the Italian fronts during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 26 March.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 23 March, Allied aircraft bombed Kalewa, the railroad yards at Shwebo, and enemy positions and supply dumps in northern and western Burma. That night heavy bombers destroyed two (probably seven) bridges and attacked railroad traffic in southern Burma. Medium and heavy bomber missions during 24 March attacked supply installations at Pyingaing, set fire to a factory at Ye-U and bombed the Shwebo railroad yards; 182 US and British planes attacked enemy positions in the Buthidaung area and carried out offensive sweeps over northern and western Burma.

2. Six B-24's of the 14th Air Force scored numerous hits on a motor pool and fuel dump near Mangshih on 25 March. One B-25 attacked 33 railroad cars in northeast Indo-China and destroyed four buildings at Thanh Hoa. All our planes returned.



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

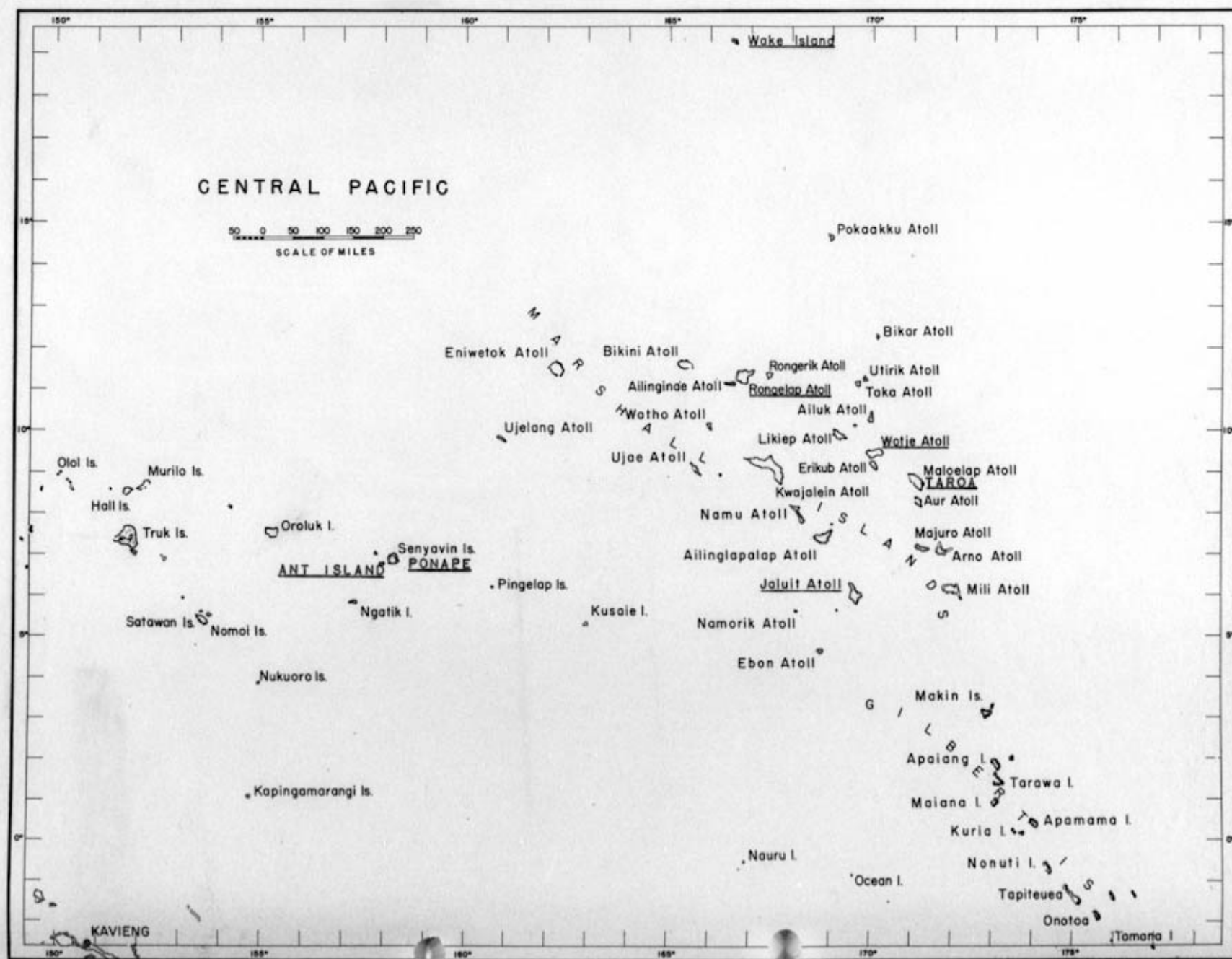
1. US cavalry patrols on Manus in the Admiralties circled enemy positions near Rossun from the east and west on 25 March; on Los Negros our units held a line two miles west of Papitalai and occupied an east-west line $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Lombrum Point. Our patrols occupied Amo and Ndrova Islands.

On New Britain Allied patrols returned from the Gasmata and Lindenhafen areas which had been found unoccupied. At Arawe our units continued to reconnoiter the trails to the northeast. In the Talasea area Marine units moved to Numundo Plantation, the Kulu River area and Linga Linga; a patrol circled the Willaumez Peninsula without contact.

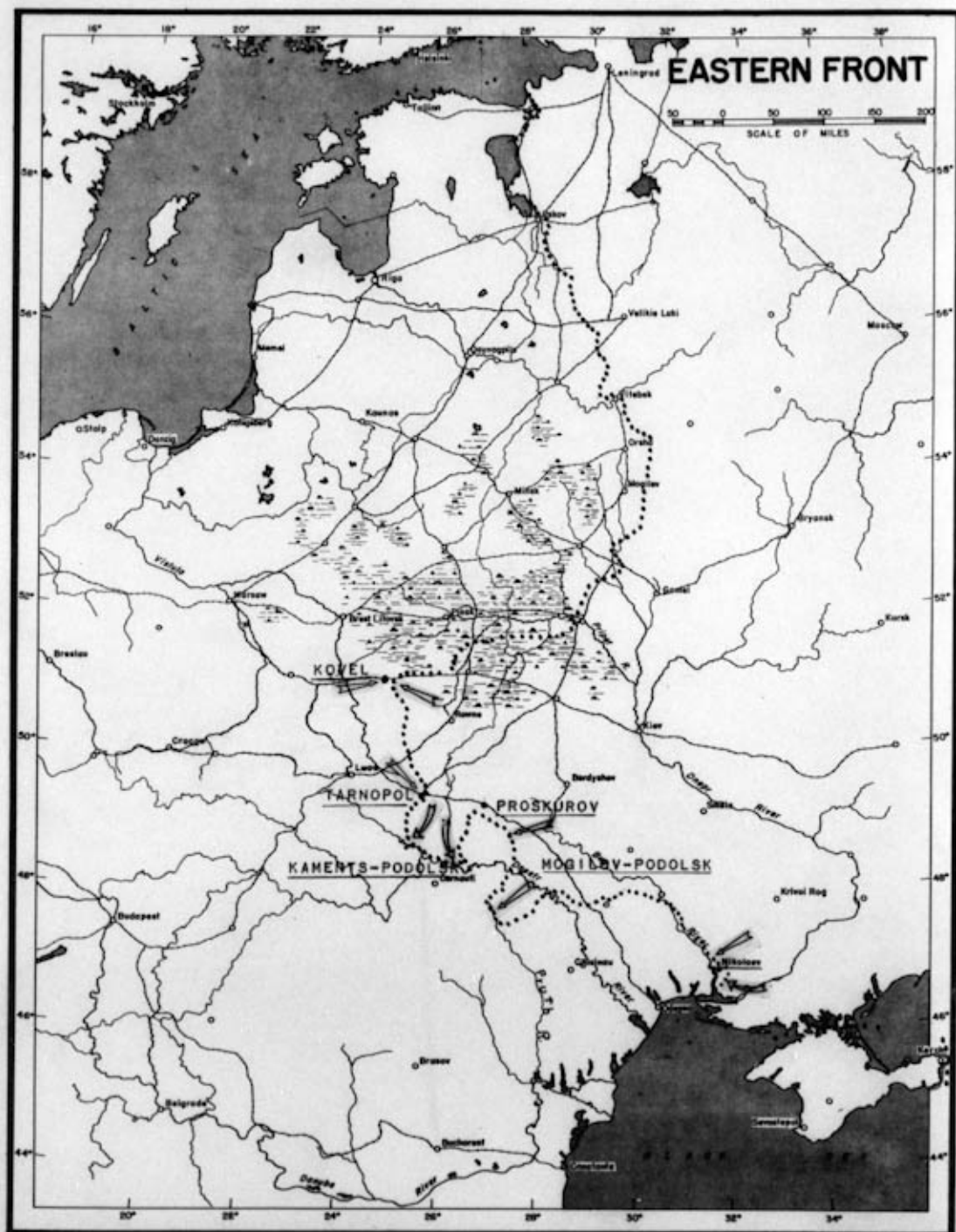
Australian P-40's bombed and machine-gunned enemy positions on Garove Island during 24 March. The next day 5th Air Force planes dropped 207 tons of explosives on the airfield, bivouac and supply areas at Wewak and Boram; 18 A-20's attacked the bivouac area at Bunabun.

2. Air and naval units continued close support of our Torokina beachhead on 25 March. Since 9 March the known enemy dead in this area totals 2,186.

During the night of 23-24 March search planes bombed Namatanai and the Kavieng airfield and started a large fire on Choiseul. The following day 21 B-25's hit the revetment area and runway at Tobera. A total of 77 Army and Navy bombers attacked the airfield and gun positions at Vunakanau and 37 fighters started fires at Vunapope. In the Torokina area 89 Navy bombers raided enemy gun positions and supply points.



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3. Eighteen Central Pacific B-24's dropped 49½ tons of bombs on barracks and oil storage installations at Wake Island on 23 March. Army, Navy and Marine planes attacked Wotje, Taroa, Rongelap, Jaluit, Ponape and Ant Islands. The next day 54 Army and Navy planes continued our bombing raids on ~~the~~ ^{THE} enemy installations in the Marshall Islands with 29 tons of explosives.

EASTERN FRONT

The Red Armies scored new gains south and southwest of Tarnopol on 26 March; a small German garrison in the city has been surrounded. South of Proskurov the German withdrawal continued and the Soviets near Kaments-Podolsk are threatening to isolate the remaining German troops in the salient. Red forces have reached the Pruth on a 50-mile front south of Mogilov-Podolsk. The Germans continued to hold Nikolaev despite strong Soviet attacks.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 837

0700 March 25 to 0700 March 26, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 50 100 150 200
MILES
— SCALE OF MILES —



DECLASSIFIED

REF ID: A66583 5-8-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The ports on St. Lucia, Antilles, have been closed until special mine sweeping operations have been completed following the explosion of an enemy mine in the area on 24 March.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 23-24 March RAF aircraft dropped 328 tons of high explosives on the Laon railroad yards, 56 tons on the Lyon motor vehicle works and 22 tons on Dortmund.

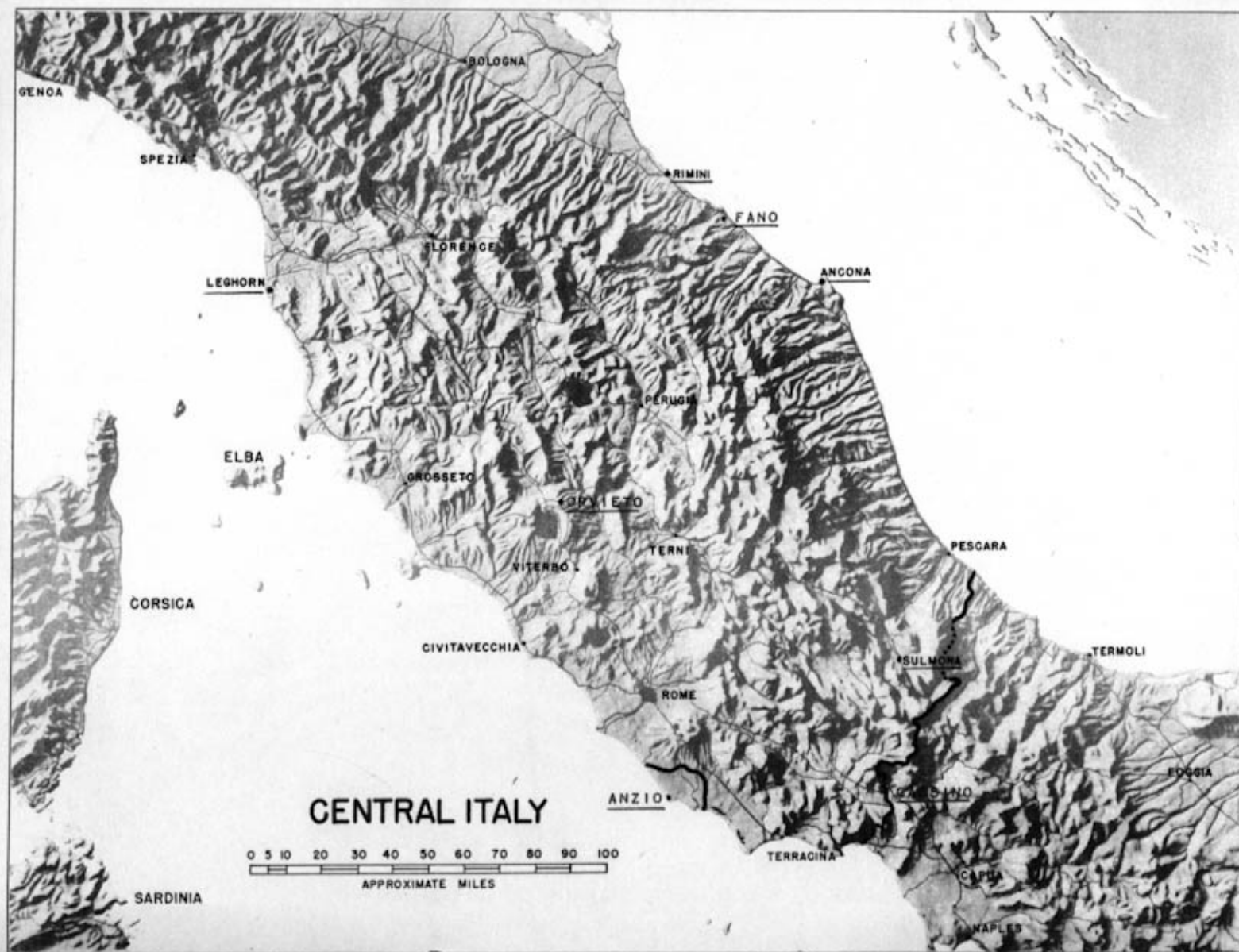
Detailed reports of 8th Air Force missions on the next day state that 60 Strategic Air Force B-17's dropped 130 tons of bombs on Schweinfurt with unobserved results, 162 B-17's caused heavy damage in the city area of Frankfurt with 382 tons, and 148 B-24's hit vital installations and caused many fires in attacks at the St. Dizier airfield with 463 tons; 33 B-24's dropped 95 tons on Nancy. More than 500 US fighters escorted the above operations. There was a notable lack of enemy reaction to these attacks, in which our losses totalled three B-17's and five fighters (two bombers and two fighters were lost in collisions). 9th Air Force P-47's dropped 18 tons of general purpose bombs on the Bernay airfield.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 22 March a reconnaissance in force by Allied commando and Partisan troops scattered the enemy garrison on Hvar; 100 Germans and Italians were captured. The commandos evacuated the island the following

- 1 -
SECRET

DECLASSIFIED



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R.A.A., OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

night, leaving the Partisans to mop up any remaining resistance. Allied casualties were negligible.

2. The Italian front was generally quiet during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 25 March except at Cassino where some Allied forward units withdrew to more favorable positions; an intense counterbattery program supported this movement. Allied tanks are operating in the town area.

The result of a raid by eight enemy planes on the harbor of Anzio was not reported; two (probably three) German planes were shot down by antiaircraft fire.

3. Allied fliers reported a good concentration of bursts when 49 planes dropped 78 tons of bombs on the rail yards, a repair shop and a warehouse at Padua during the night of 23-24 March. Strategic missions the following day pounded the yards and railroad bridges at Rimini and near Ancona with 335 tons. One B-24 formation encountered 25 to 30 enemy fighters which attacked aggressively, using rockets; ten (probably 11) German planes were destroyed for a loss of five B-24's. Three other heavies were lost because of accidents.

Medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force attacked supply and bivouac areas northwest of Cassino, shipping and docks at Leghorn and rail facilities at Orvieto, Sulmona and Fano. Our light and fighter bombers struck at gun positions and troop concentrations in the Cassino area, enemy communications in central Italy, and shipping off the Dalmatian and western Italian coasts. Allied tactical aircraft

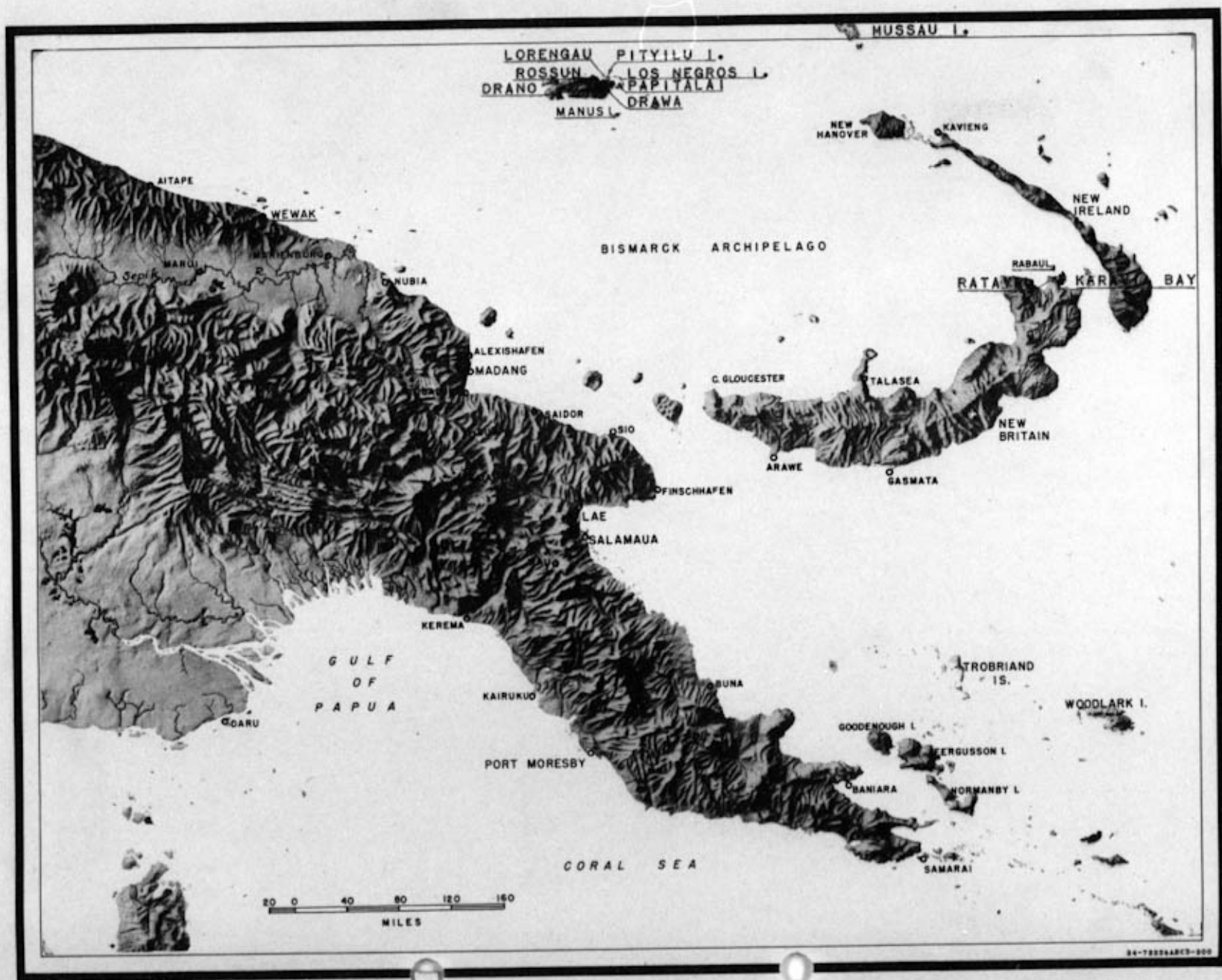
destroyed ten enemy aircraft for the loss of three P-47's. In all the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces flew 1,541 sorties. Approximately 75 enemy aircraft were active over the battle areas during the daylight hours.

ASIATIC THEATER

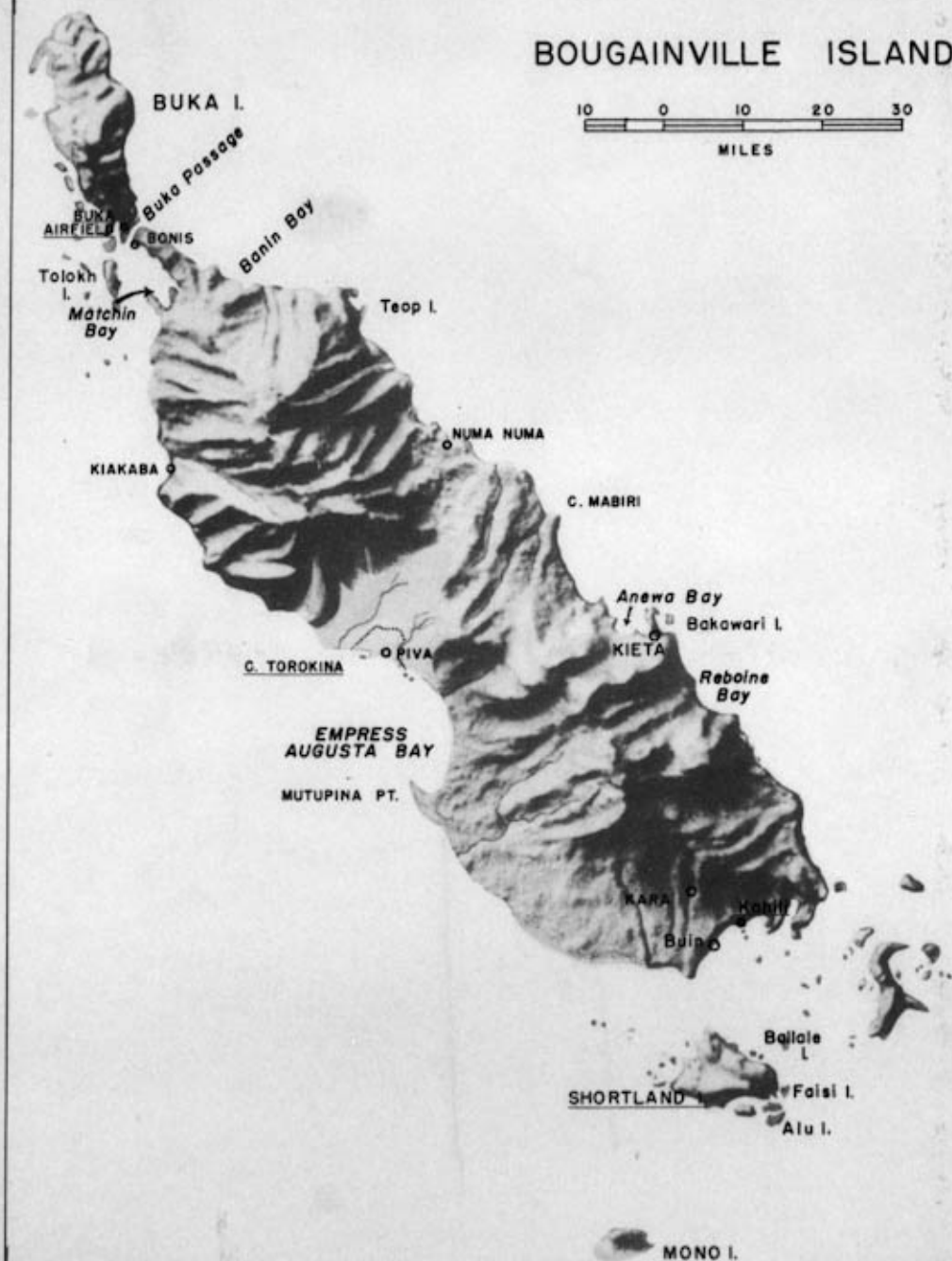
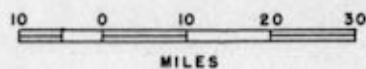
1. Delayed summaries for 20, 21 and 22 March report continued attacks by Allied tactical aircraft on enemy supply installations in northern Burma and the harassing of Japanese positions along the several battlefronts. During the night of 21-22 March four B-24's started fires in the dump areas at Promé and the following night British Wellingtons bombed similar targets at Taungup.

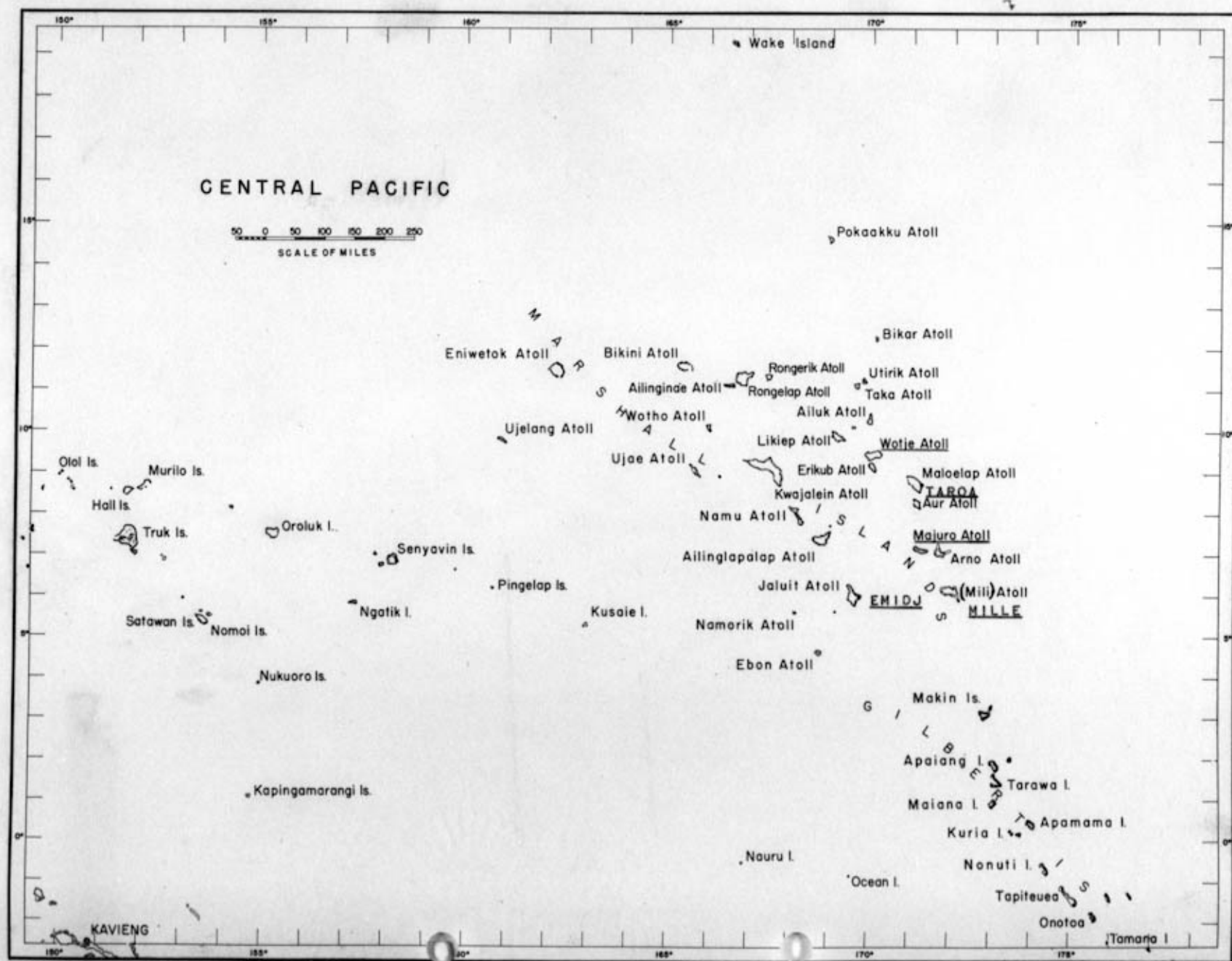
2. By 23 March road machinery was working on the Ledo Road 28 miles past Shingbuiyang. Grading was completed through Shingbuiyang and for five and one-half miles beyond; the road was paved 92 miles. Rainfall during the past week was negligible. Heavy truck convoys now operate as far as Maingkwan with jeep convoys to and from Walawbum.

3. On 24 March British troops successfully attacked the enemy units which had infiltrated to within five miles of Maungdaw in the Arakan sector, causing them to withdraw two miles southward. In the Kabaw Valley British forces evacuated the landing strip near Tamu. Chinese units advancing southward in the Hukawng Valley contacted a Japanese force of unreported strength nine miles south of Tasu Bum.



BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 24 March US cavalry units on Los Negros maintained contact with the Japanese force surrounded on the high ground two miles southwest of Papitalai Mission. Our cavalry troops on Manus advanced south of Lorengau to within 100 yards of Rossun, where they encountered enemy positions prepared in depth; patrols from Lorengau reached Drawa and Drano.

Allied naval craft, shelling Pityilu Island, destroyed houses, a fuel dump, three launches and an antiaircraft position. A fuel dump on Mussau was also destroyed.

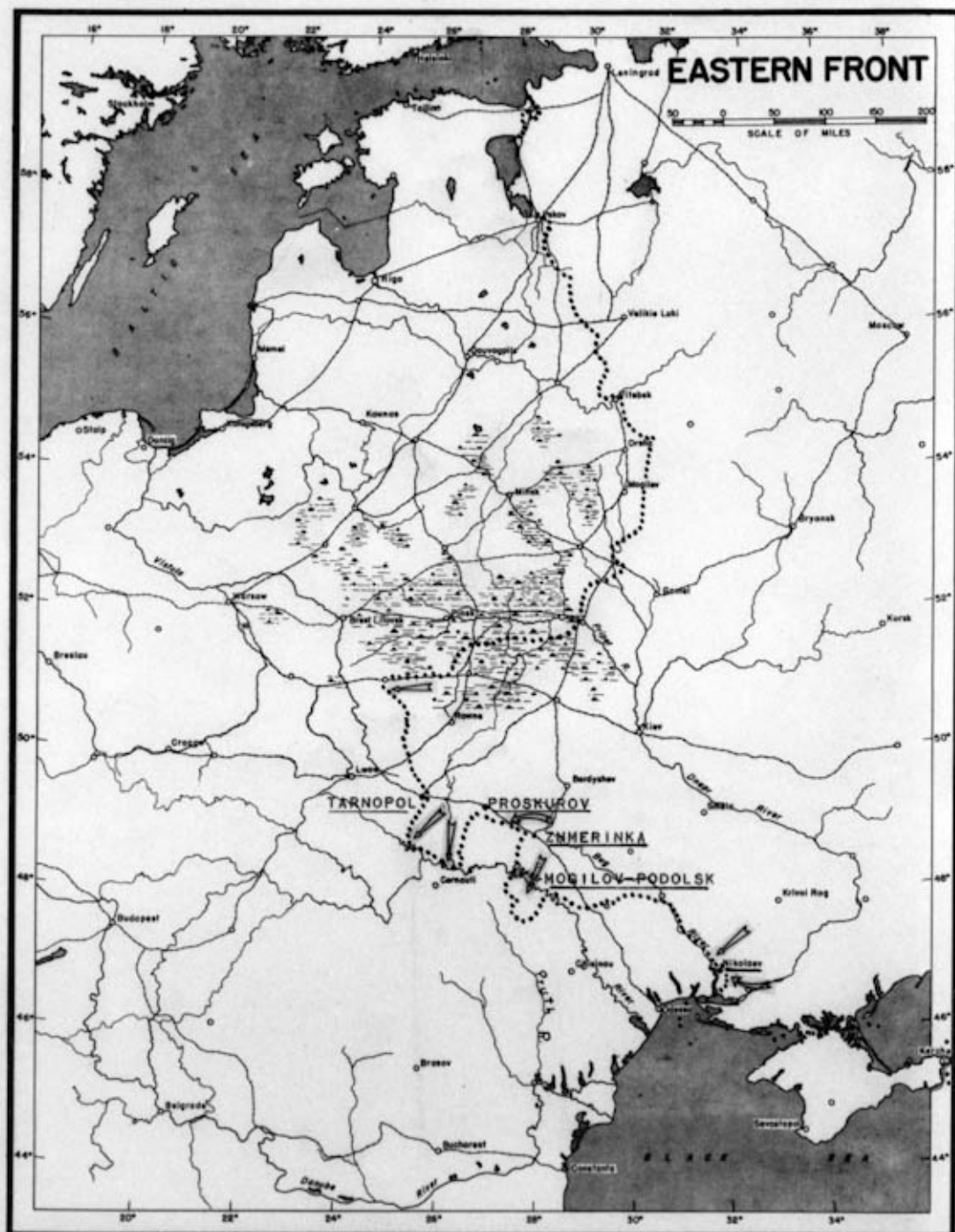
Inclement weather precluded major air operations. A night B-24 scored a direct hit on a minesweeper 100 miles north of Wewak.

2. In offensive missions during 23 March, seven South Pacific B-24's bombed Kahili, 24 B-25's started fires at Buka, and 15 B-24's destroyed buildings in the supply area at Rataval. Other aircraft harassed Rabaul, raided Karavia Bay and targets in the Shortlands, and hit enemy gun positions outside our perimeter defense at Torokina.

3. On 24 March a determined Japanese attack on the northwestern sector of the Torokina beachhead was repulsed after it had forced a slight breakthrough; an estimated 300 Japanese dead were reported inside our lines. All our positions were completely restored.

4. Central Pacific aircraft dropped six tons of bombs on Wotje, eight tons on Taroa, and seven tons on Enidj during 22 March. Army and Navy planes, rearming at Majuro, attacked Mille twice.

~~SECRET~~



EASTERN FRONT

The Red armies continued their drive in the south during 25 March, registering important gains south and southeast of Tarnopol, capturing Proskurov, clearing the Proskurov-Zhmerinka rail line and driving to within ten miles of the Pruth River southwest of Mogilov-Podolsk. Soviet units continued to close in on Nikolaev.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 836

0700 March 24 to 0700 March 25, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400 500
MILES
SCALE OF MILES



GENERAL

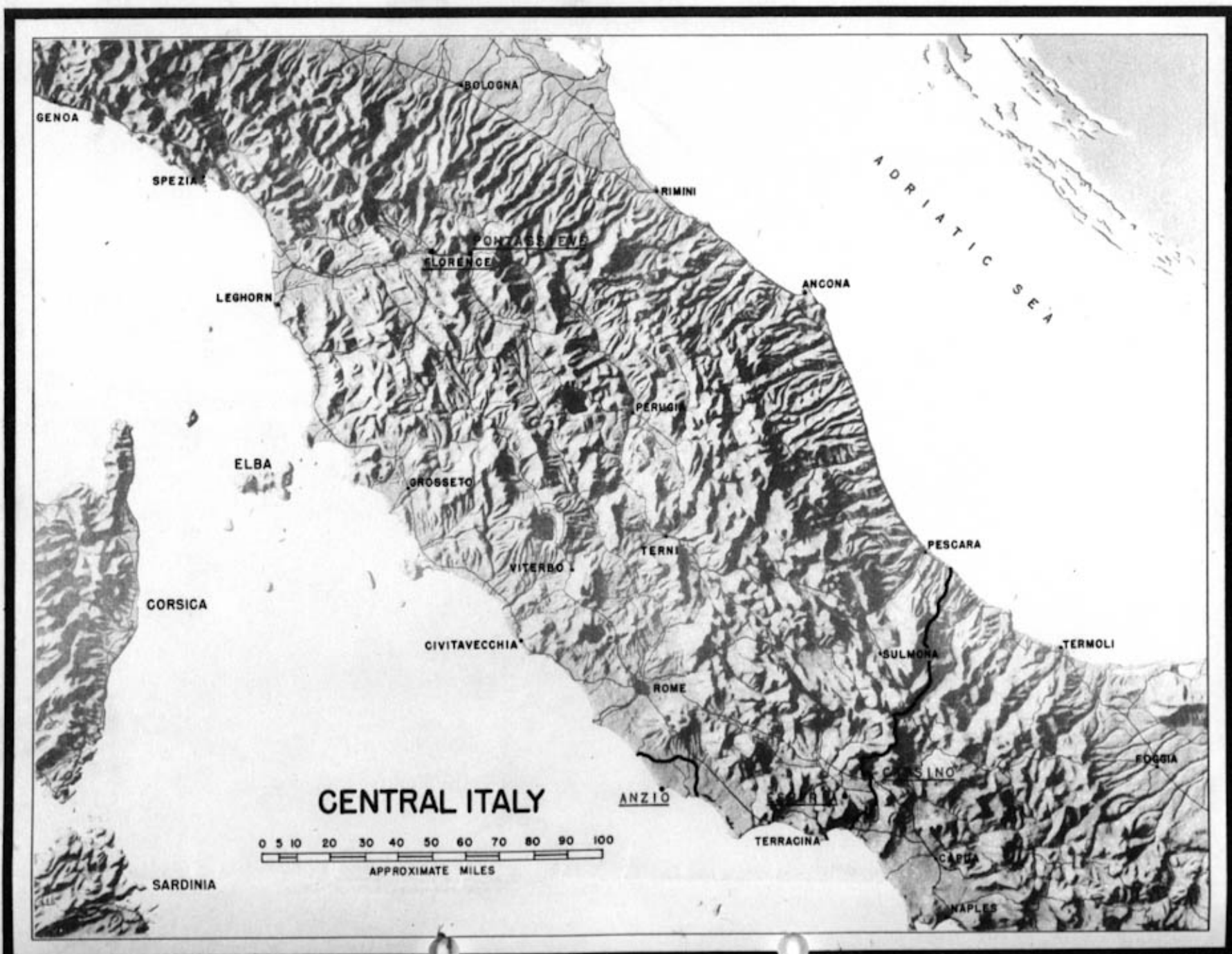
The War Department has advised all theaters of the critical shortage of paper and has asked for estimates of the tonnage of waste paper that can be returned to this country.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 22-23 March, 736 RAF bombers dropped explosives and incendiaries on Frankfurt with good results. The bombs included 18 four-tonners and 448 two-tonners. Thirty-four bombers were lost. Other RAF planes flew harassing missions over the Continent and laid mines in Kiel harbor and in other enemy waters. Twenty enemy aircraft crossed the English coast but only four reached the London area where some damage was caused.

Final claims for our heavy bomber missions against Brunswick, Munster and Hamm on 23 March are 61 (probably 74) enemy planes destroyed for a loss of 28 heavy bombers and four fighters. 9th Air Force medium bombers attacked the Creil railroad yards with 381 tons of bombs, the Beaumont-le-Roger airdrome with 54 tons, and the Beauvais-Tille airdrome with 14 tons. One hundred forty-six other B-26's bombed the Haine St. Paul railroad yards with 270 tons without encounters, claims or losses.

8th Air Force missions totalling 455 bombers and 599 fighters were airborne during the morning of 24 March. Schweinfurt and Frankfurt were bombed with unobserved results; good results were obtained at Nancy airdrome. Several unreported alternate targets were also attacked.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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MEDITERRANEAN

1. Solta, off the Dalmatian coast, was raided on 19 March by a commando force of British and American troops, supported from the air. Troops landed during the preceding night and attacked the German garrison in the town of Grohote the next morning, following an aerial bombardment. Of the entire island garrison of 106, one officer and 97 men were taken prisoners and the remainder killed. One American was killed. On 22 March another force revisited the island and have scattered the new garrison.

Italy: The U.S. 34th Division is now moving into the Anzio beachhead from the Naples area.

2. During the night of 22-23 March, 80 Allied heavy bombers dropped 161 tons of bombs on the railroad yards at Padua. More than ten enemy planes bombed Komiza (Vis Island) causing some damage and casualties. The next day low clouds and icing conditions prevented attacks by our strategic aircraft. Tactical Air Force missions included the bombing of the railroad yards at Florence by 72 B-26's and the destruction of both approaches to the Pontassieve railroad bridge by 24 B-25's. Fighter aircraft attacked gun positions near Cassino and Esperia and flew offensive missions over Yugoslavia and the Adriatic coast. No enemy air activity was observed. Our planes flew 803 sorties and destroyed two enemy aircraft on the ground; one Spitfire failed to return.

3. The Anzio area was generally quiet during 24 March; Allied artillery destroyed seven enemy tanks. Fighting along the main Italian battle line centered around Cassino where continued heavy German resistance was encountered. Allied troops in the Adriatic sector carried out active patrolling; late in the afternoon there was a decided increase in enemy

artillery activity near that coast, while there was evidence of other increasing enemy activity. There was no change on the X Corps front.

ASIATIC THEATER

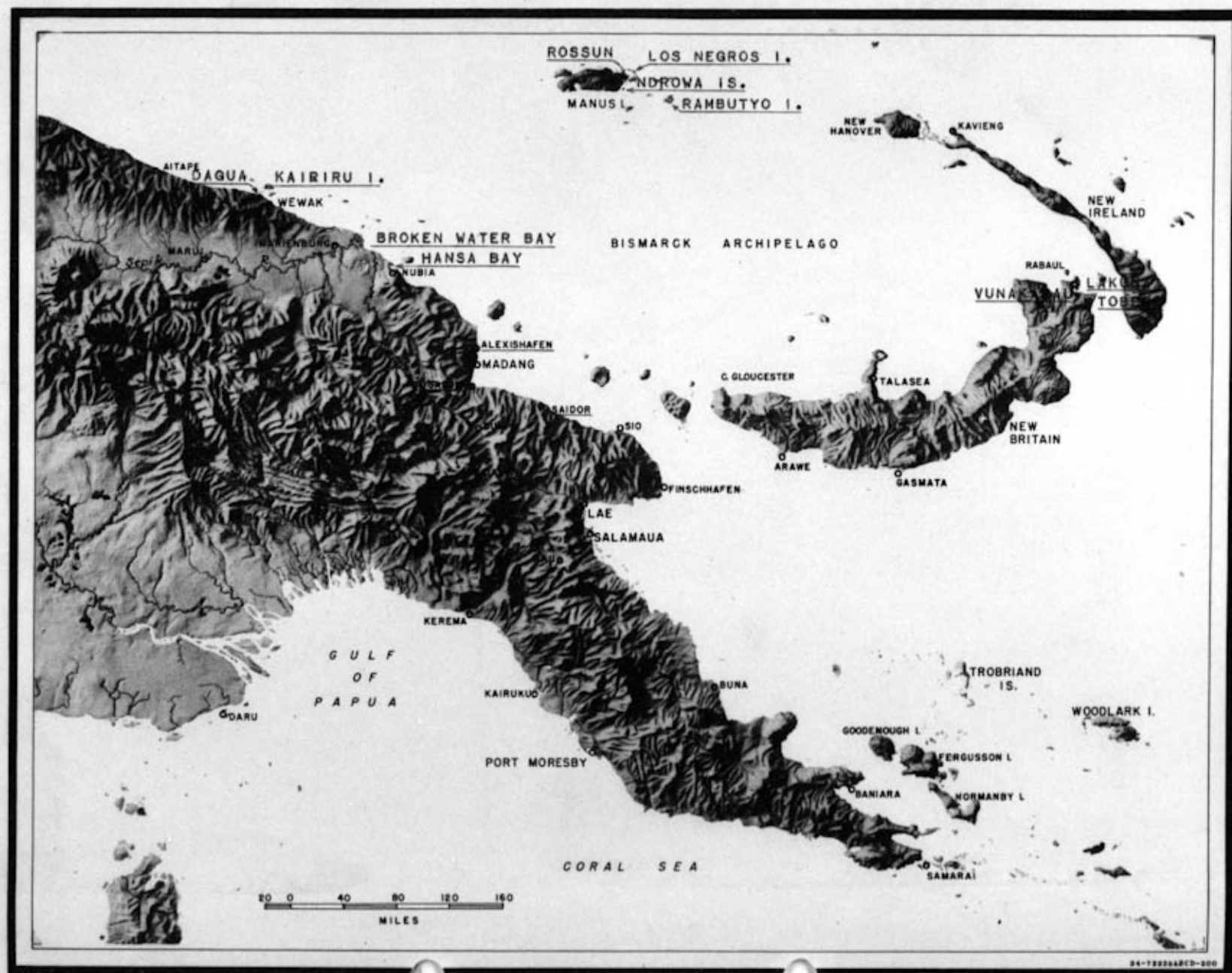
During 22 March British and US planes flew 301 offensive sorties over Burma, attacking enemy troops and installations along the fronts, and storage areas near Myitkyina, Kamaing and Mogaung. The next day RAF planes destroyed enemy river craft and attacked gun positions in the Arakan sector. Four Allied aircraft hit the enemy-held field at Tamu, destroying three grounded Hurricanes which had landed there the previous day due to bad weather. Twelve US P-51's bombed Naba Junction starting fires.

US and Chinese forces driving from the east occupied Shaduzup during 23 March. Other Chinese units maintained contact with the enemy four miles north of the town, and a reinforced US battalion cut the main road 12 miles to the south. Japanese troops forced the British to withdraw west from Sangjing and enemy patrols operated 15 miles southwest of Ukhrul. In the Arakan sector an estimated 200 Japanese were reported to have infiltrated northward to an area five miles southeast of Maungdaw.

Battle casualties for the Burma theater of operations for the period 19 December 1943 to 29 February 1944 (exclusive of Air Force):

British XV Corps (Arakan Area)

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
British	286	582	152	1,020
Indian Troops (Including Gurkhas & West African)	<u>355</u>	<u>1,539</u>	<u>524</u>	<u>2,418</u>
Total	641	2,121	676	3,438



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
British IV Corps (Chin Hills)				
British	23	104	3	130
Indian (Including Gurkhas & West African)	74	357	14	445
Total	<u>97</u>	<u>461</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>575</u>
Allied Forces (North Burma Hukawng Valley)				
Chinese	772	776	34	1,582
American	19	4	2	25
Total	<u>791</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>1,607</u>
Grand Total	1,529	3,362	729	5,620

It is estimated that 11,315 Japanese were killed and wounded during the period; 62 prisoners of war were captured.

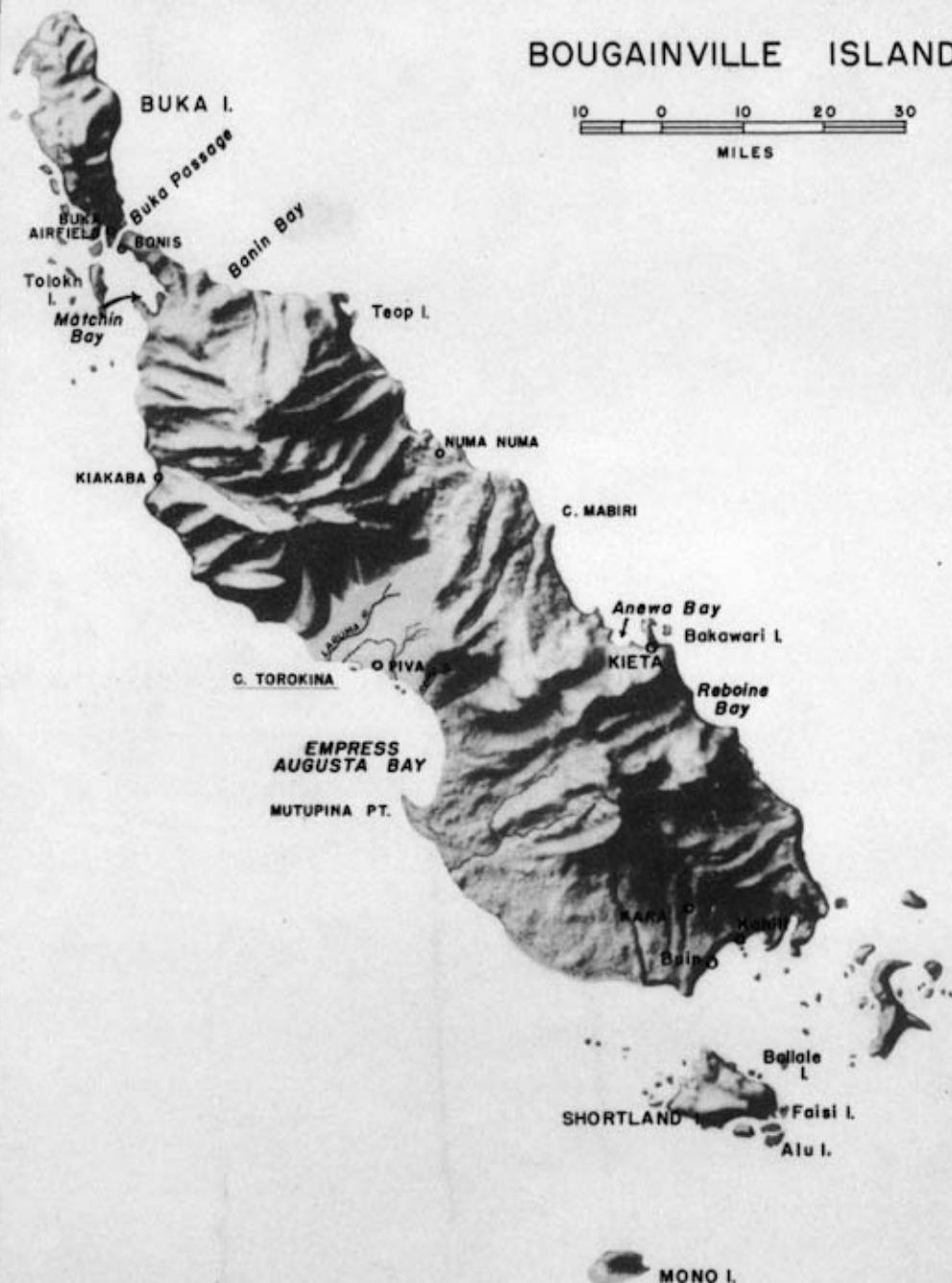
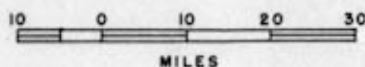
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

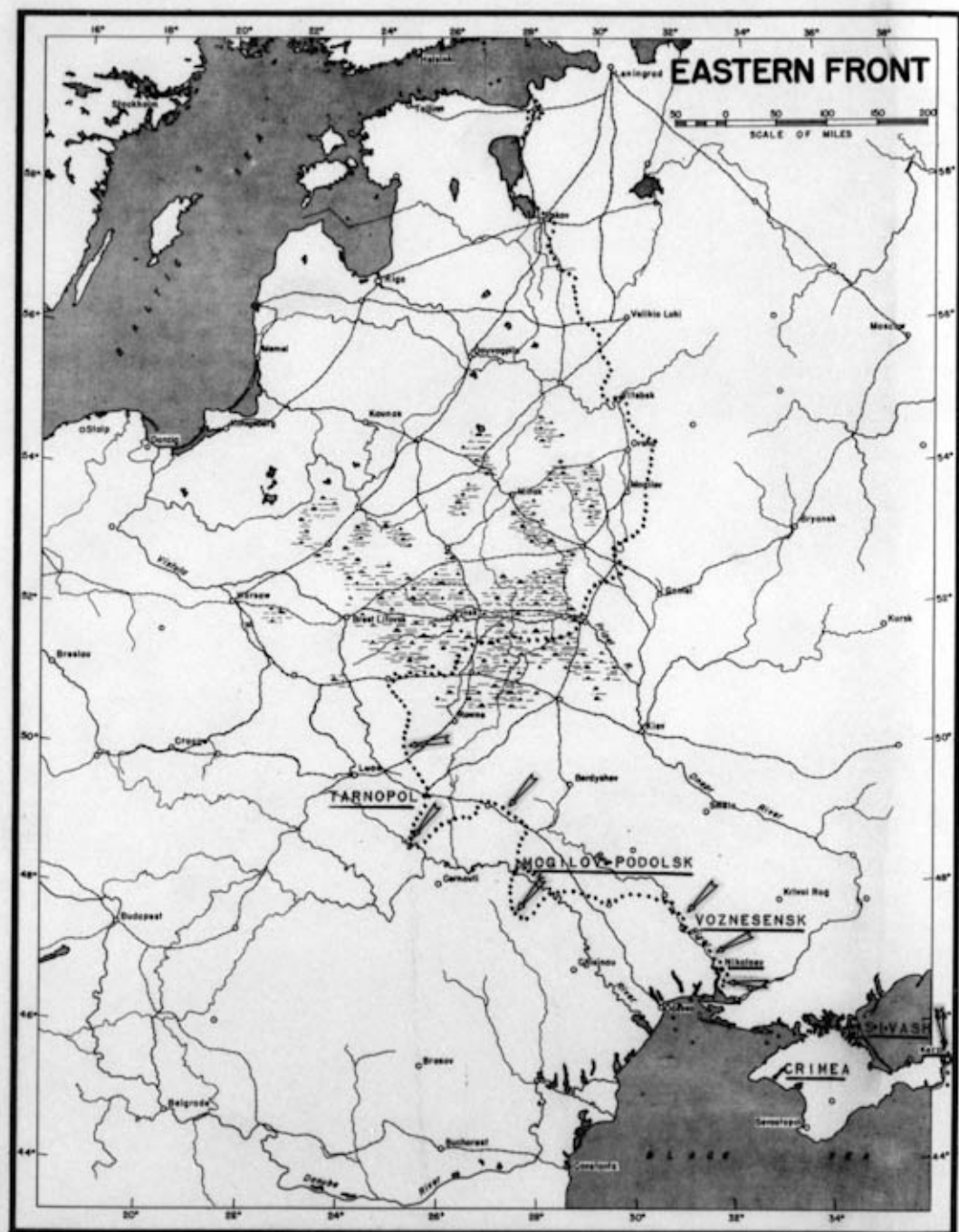
During 23 March Allied patrols operated west of Saidor as far as Bogadjim Plantation without contact.

In the Admiralties, enemy resistance continued near Rossun; on Los Negros the remaining Japanese units were completely surrounded. Allied patrols landed on Rambutyo and Ndrowa. Fifty B-24's and B-25's dropped 173 tons of bombs on enemy installations at Hansa Bay. Alexishafen and dump and bivouac areas at Dagua and Kairiru were hit by 30 B-25's with 35 tons of explosives. Reconnaissance B-24's sank a small cargo vessel in Broken Water Bay.

South Pacific air missions during 22 March included attacks by ten B-24's on Tobera, 23 B-25's on Lakunai, and 70 light bombers on Vunakanau. A total of 92 light and fighter bomber sorties were flown against enemy gun positions outside our Torokina perimeter and against

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





enemy supply and bivouac areas near the Laruma and Reini Rivers.

EASTERN FRONT

Red Army troops continued to push forward in the southern sector during 24 March, registering gains near Tarnopol and Mogilov-Podolsk, capturing Voznesensk and establishing a bridgehead west of the Bug River to the north of that city. Soviet units closing in on Nikolaev from three sides were making their strongest effort from the north. In the Crimea Red forces attacked at the Sivash crossings and at Kerch.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 835

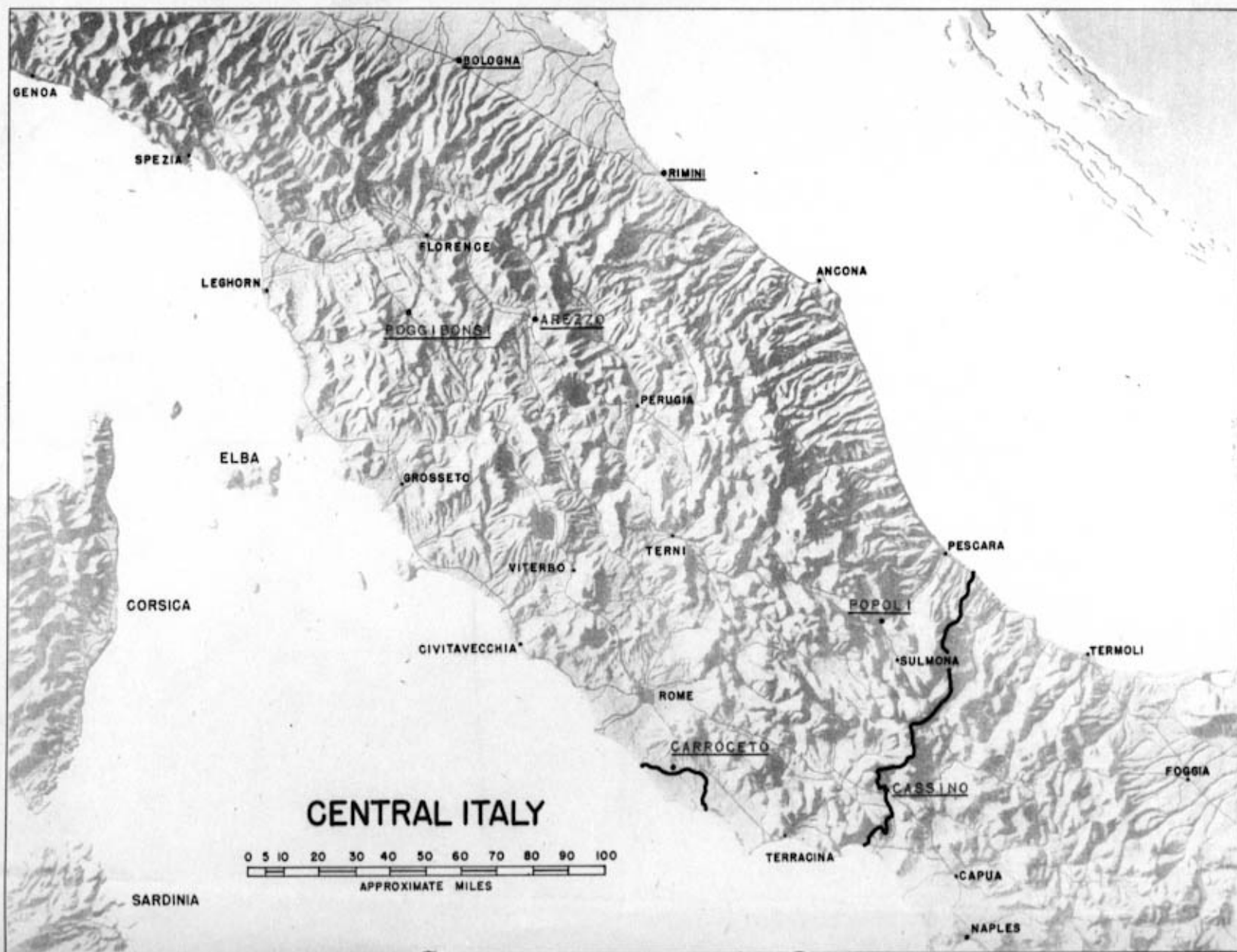
0700 March 23 to 0700 March 24, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

DECLASSIFIED

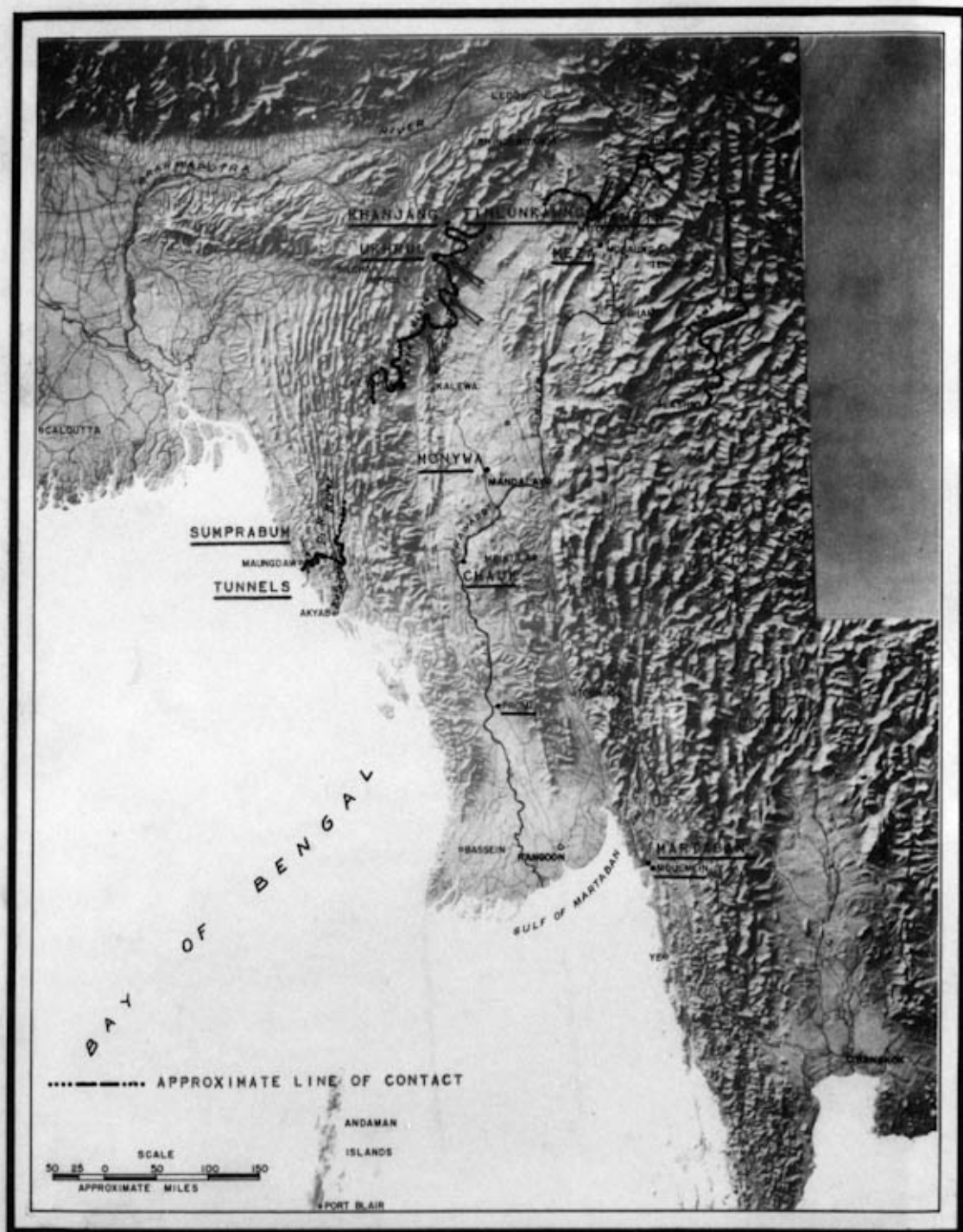
EUROPEAN THEATER

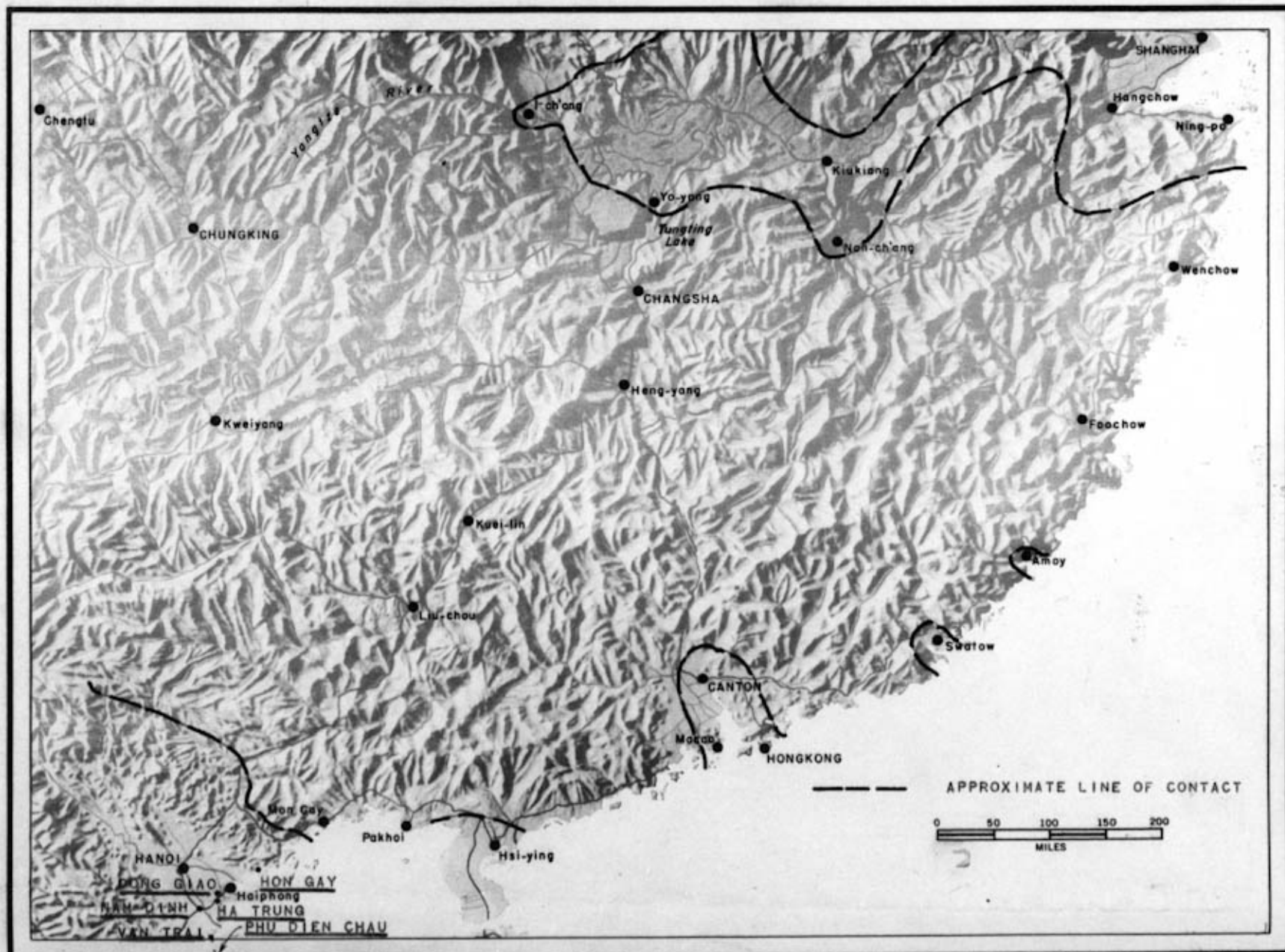
1. During the night of 21-22 March Allied coastal batteries shelled an enemy convoy leaving Boulogne. After several probable hits the convoy put in at Calais. The enemy replied by shelling the Dover area, causing some property damage.

2. Heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force attacked Brunswick, Munster, the railroad yards at Hamm, and airdromes at Werl, Handorf and Achmer, on 23 March. Of 798 bombers and an equal number of fighters dispatched, 27 heavy bombers and six fighters are missing. Twenty enemy planes were destroyed by our fighters.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 22 March, 199 B-17's and B-24's escorted by 151 fighters dropped 542 tons of bombs on the main railroad yards at Verona, Bologna and Rimini; 15 to 20 enemy planes were encountered over Verona, two of which were destroyed. From these missions five B-17's failed to return. Tactical missions bombed the Poggibonsi railroad bridge and the viaduct west of Arezzo, attacked Popoli, dropped food to our ground units operating in Cassino, attacked enemy gun positions, and flew offensive missions along the Dalmatian coast. Approximately 60 enemy sorties were flown of which 50 were over the Cassino area. Six planes were destroyed by our Tactical Air Force without loss.





MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS

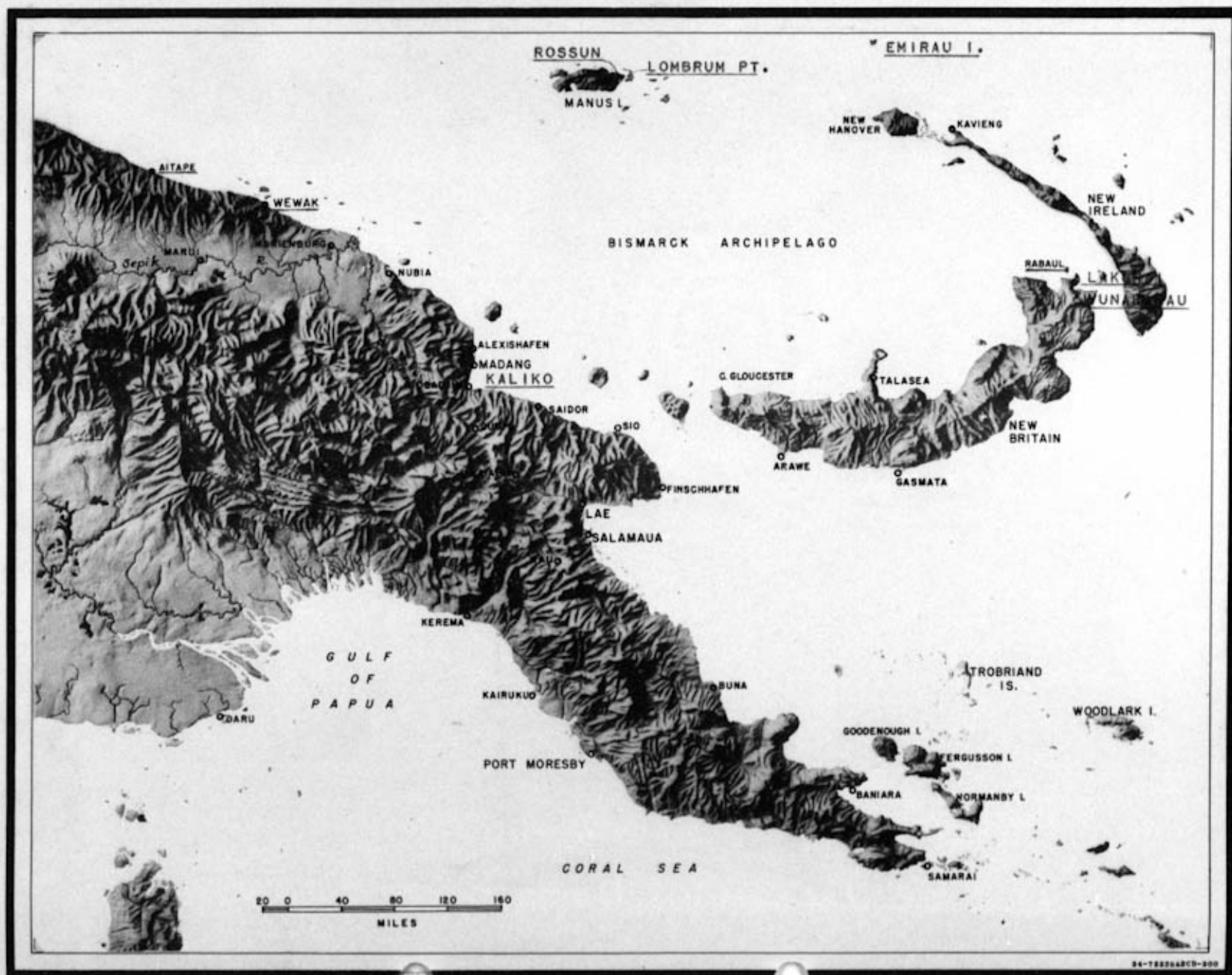
DECLASSIFIED

2. At the beachhead, an enemy raid southwest of Carroceto on 23 March was repulsed. Allied troops were making slow progress in Cassino where very severe fighting was taking place; New Zealand forces renewed attacks against the German strong points on the western side of the town. The enemy sustained casualties in an unsuccessful attack in the town area. Patrolling activity was reported in the Adriatic sector.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 20 March, P-40's operating in the Hon Gay area destroyed a barge and a small vessel, damaged a bridge, and set fire to buildings. That night Allied B-24's attacked the Martaban-Moulmein area, starting scattered fires. The following day escorted B-25's destroyed the highway bridge and heavily damaged the railway bridge at Meza. At Monywa, P-38's set oil dumps afire and damaged ten river craft. Allied fighters operating along the Irrawaddy between Prome and Chauk damaged five factories and 172 small boats in addition to destroying a train. Supplies were dropped to our troops in Burma by 50 Allied light bombers.

2. B-25's of the 14th Air Force attacked rail installations and equipment in French Indo-China during 22 March. At Phu Dien Chau a locomotive was destroyed and a railroad bridge and station and some freight cars damaged. Continuing their mission the planes damaged the railroad bridge at Ha Trung, destroyed a locomotive at Dong Giao and hit three river steamers and destroyed a locomotive at Nam Dinh. The next day two B-25's bombed the railroad yards and destroyed rolling



stock at Van Trai and attacked bridges along the Gulf of Tongking.

3. In Burma Allied and Japanese forward units in the Arakan sector continued to clash in the tunnel areas and near Buthidaung during 22 March. Strong British patrols reached the junction of the Pi and Kaladan Rivers. Allied troops in the Chin Hills continued to move northward, their rear guards carrying out demolitions. Enemy columns driving westward from the Chindwin reached Ukhrul and were approaching Khanjang. In the Hukawng Valley, American Ranger units advanced to the Manpin area. Chinese troops in this region advanced to Tinglunkawng. Near Sumprabum Allied troops continued to attack the Japanese forces withdrawing to the south.

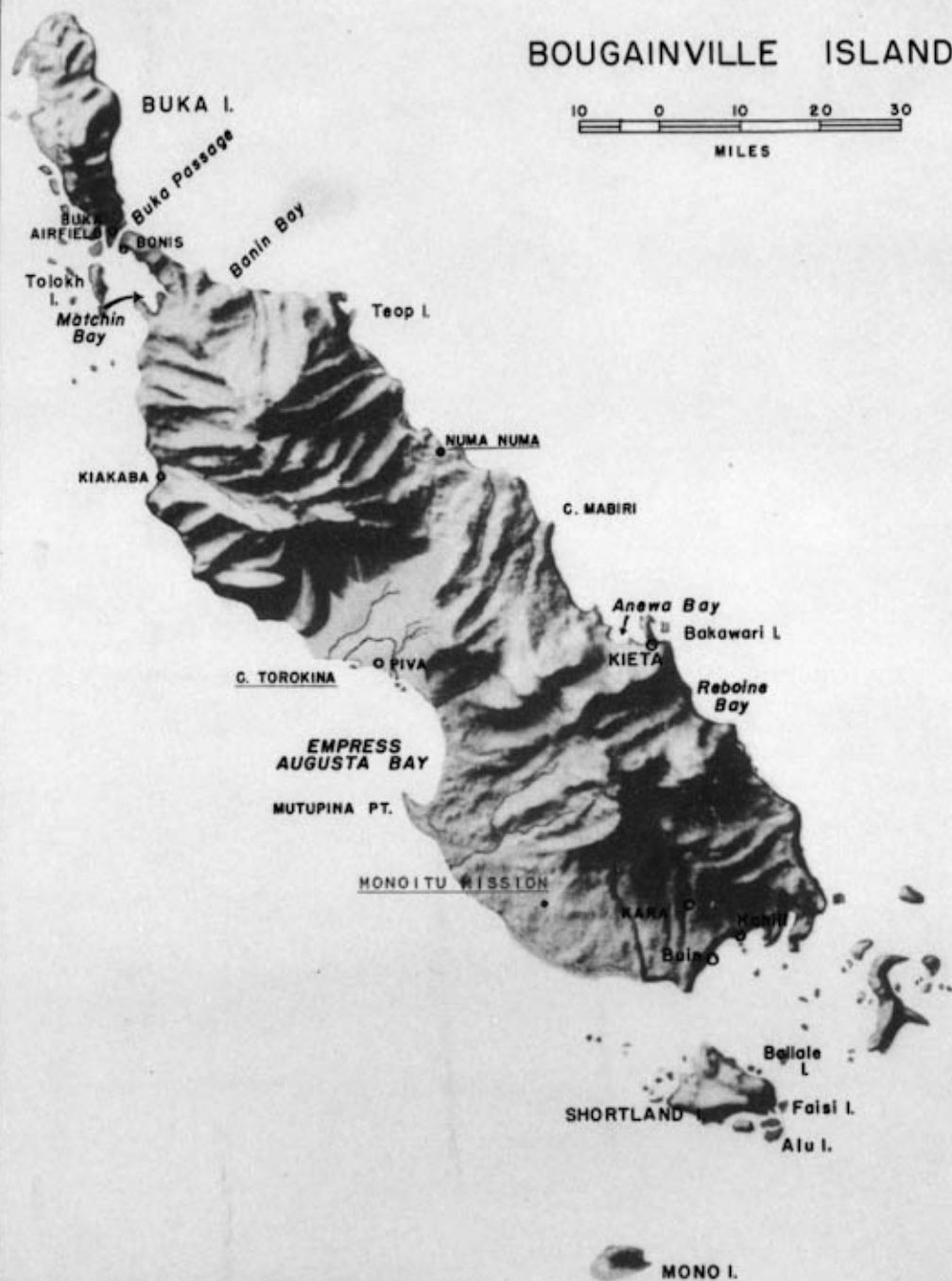
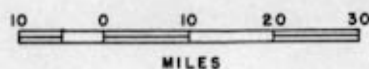
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

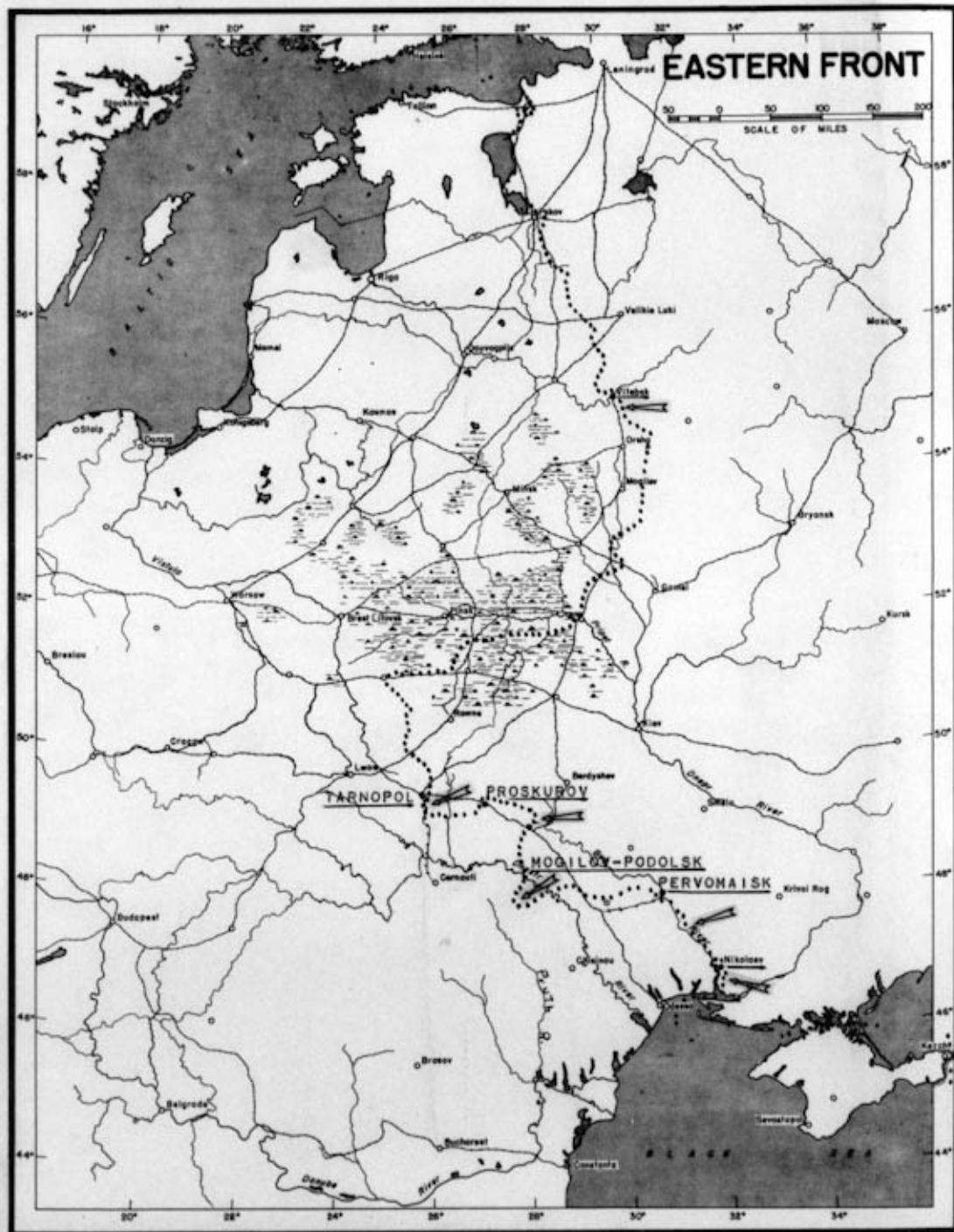
1. Our troops operating in the Admiralties met stiffened resistance south of Rossun during 22 March. An enemy counterattack south of Lombrum Point was repulsed; enemy pockets of resistance in the area were being cleared. Our ground forces, in this area, were supported by destroyer fire during the day.

In New Guinea, Australian and US patrols were active in the Kaliko area.

Airfield and antiaircraft installations near Wewak were attacked during the day by 33 B-24's with 261 half-ton bombs. In anti-shipping sweeps between Wewak and Aitape B-25's, A-20's and P-40's sank 24 small enemy freighters, luggers and barges and probably destroyed an additional eight barges. These planes also bombed and machine-gunned supply dumps,

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





bivouacs, and buildings at Aitape.

2. South Pacific aircraft continued assaults on enemy installations near Rabaul during 21 March, 55 medium and fighter-bombers hitting the runway and revetment areas at Lakunai and 77 B-24's and Navy bombers attacking similar targets at Vunakana. Antiaircraft fire was heavy and accurate. Other planes raided targets at Numa Numa and Monoitu Mission and hit enemy camps and positions near Torokina. Our destroyers shelled enemy positions near the beachhead.

The occupation of Emirau Island was completed by 21 March.

EASTERN FRONT

Strong Soviet attacks were renewed against Vitebsk during 23 March. In the Tarnopol-Proskurov area Red Army troops cut the remaining enemy railroad feeding the German salient between Tarnopol and Mogilov-Podolsk. South of Mogilov-Podolsk the Soviets advanced to within 18 miles of the Pruth River. West of Pervomaisk, Red Army units advanced to within eight miles of the railroad to that town. There was no substantial change at Nikolaev.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 834

0700 March 22 to 0700 March 23, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The 1st Battalion of the Caribbean Regiment, a British organization now being activated, will be staged at Fort Eustis, Virginia, during April prior to its departure for the North African Theater.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. In a sweep over France on 21 March, P-51's destroyed 21 enemy planes in the air and on the ground for a loss of seven P-51's. Thirty-eight RAF planes on offensive patrols over France and Holland destroyed six more enemy planes.

2. About 100 enemy aircraft attacked southeast England on the night of 21-22 March chiefly with incendiaries; 41 London boroughs reported damage, the brunt being borne by the dock area. Damage was not serious. A direct hit on Paddington Station caused some disruption of service. Eight (probably 10) enemy planes were shot down by Allied night fighters. RAF Mosquitoes countered with attacks on Cologne, Aachen and Oberhausen.

3. Seven hundred forty-seven US heavy bombers escorted by 913 fighters were dispatched on 22 March to attack aircraft assembly components and engine plants in the Berlin area. Preliminary reports state that cloud conditions forced the greater part of the planes to bomb the city itself; one enemy plane was shot down for a loss of 13 bombers and 13 fighters.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RRA, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

MEDITERRANEAN

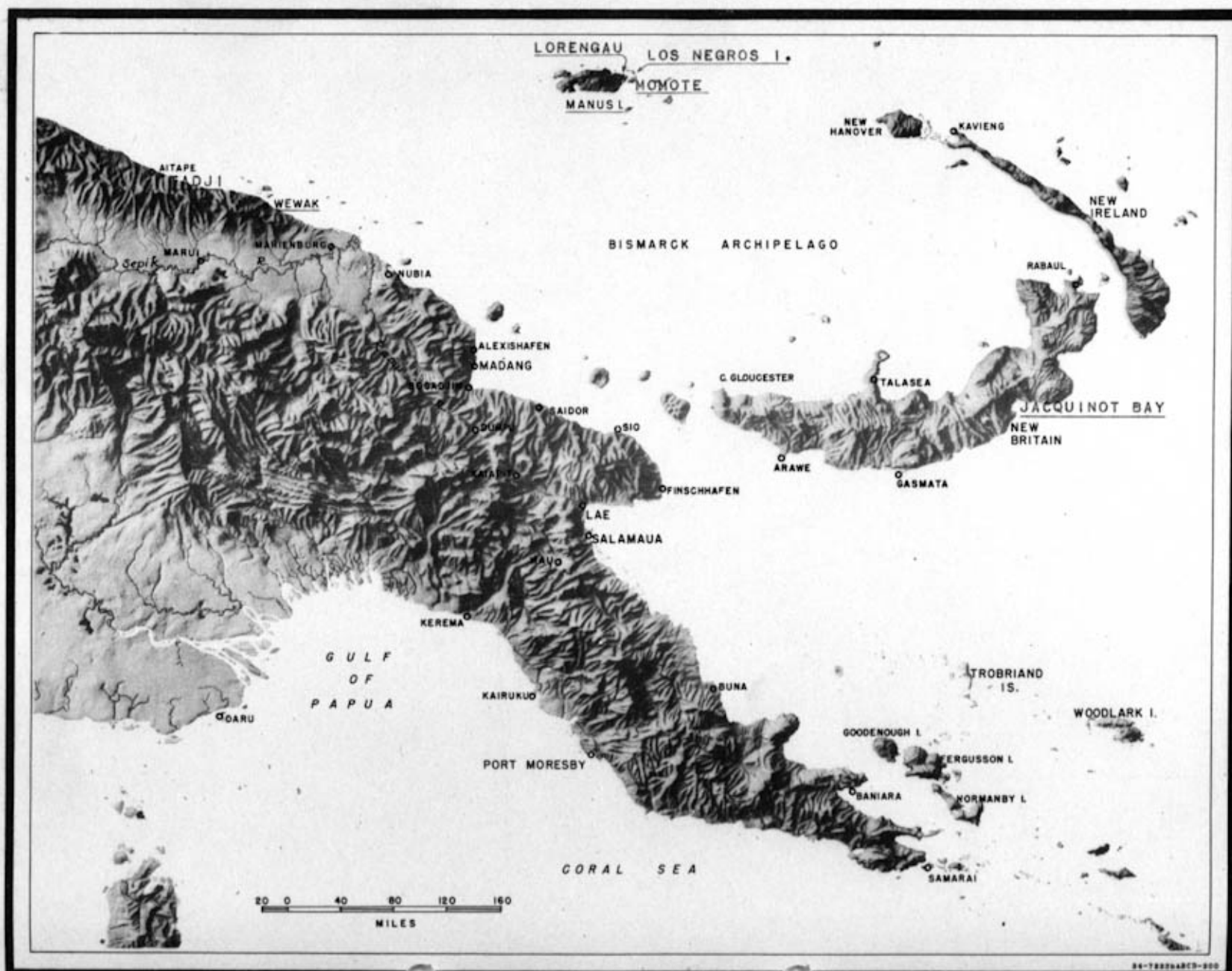
1. The 800 sorties flown by Mediterranean Allied Air Force planes during 21 March included medium bomber strikes on viaducts at Arezzo and Bucine and railroad bridges at Poggibonsi and Cecina. Fighter bombers attacked railroad bridges and enemy transportation near Rome and gun positions in the Anzio area. Allied fighter aircraft harassed enemy shipping off the eastern Italian and Yugoslavian coasts, damaged radar installations on Corfu, machine-gunned factories at Montalto di Castro and destroyed a bridge at Tarquinia.

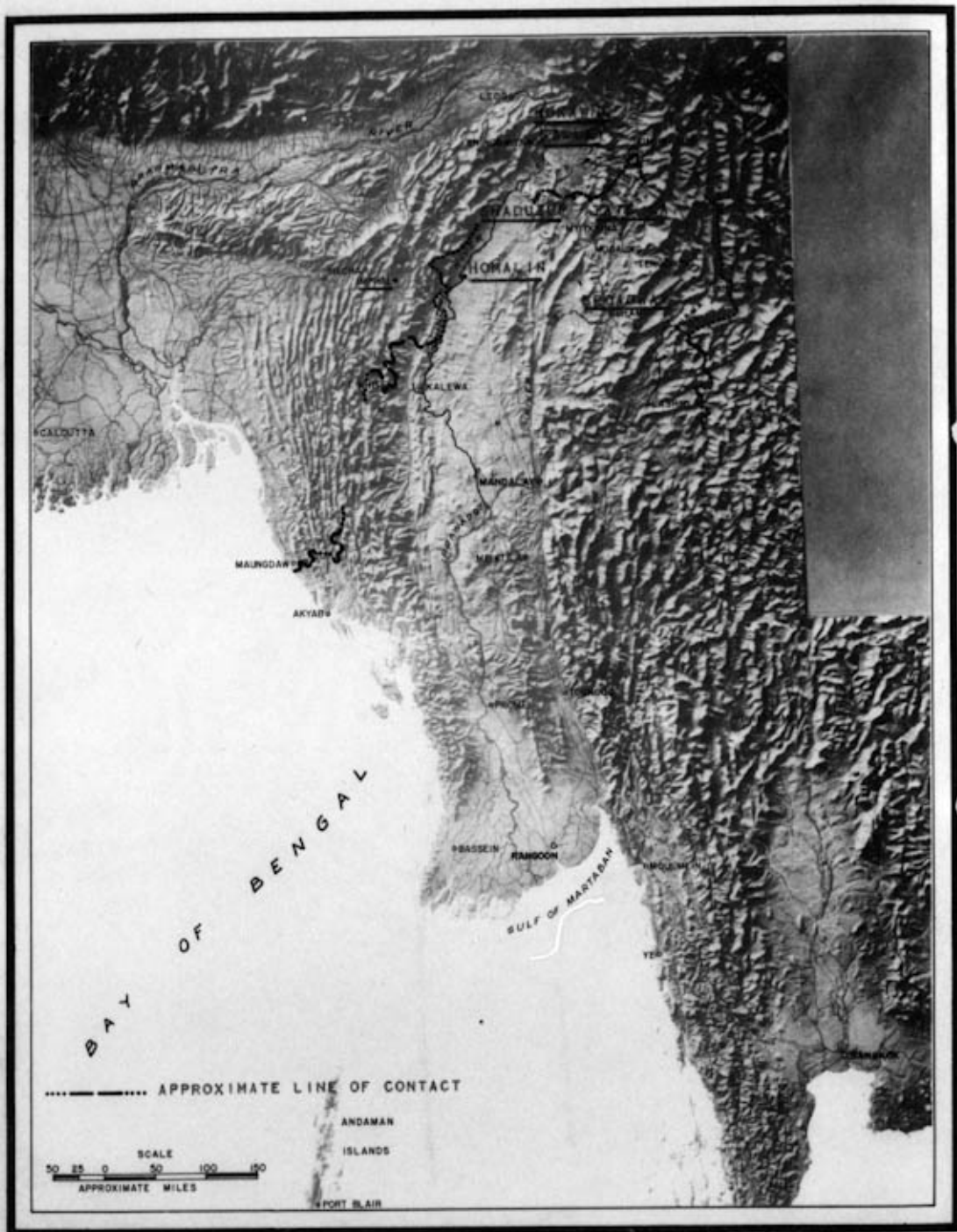
2. Hard house-to-house fighting continued in Cassino on 22 March, attacks by both sides in that area being unsuccessful. Allied troops strengthened their positions with the use of wire and mines. Elsewhere patrols reported Montenero and Alfedena clear of the enemy.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 18 March, 15 escorted enemy bombers attacked Broadway, destroying all radio and radar equipment.

In previously unreported air missions for 19 March, Allied aircraft flew extensive missions against enemy installations and communications in northern Burma. On the following day, Allied planes supported ground elements in northern and western Burma and continued their attacks against railroads, motor convoys, and river shipping in northern, central, and western Burma.





2. In the Hukawng Valley, American Rangers, making a wide envelopment to the east of Shaduzup, reached Tate Ga on 21 March. Japanese forces in the Homalin area reached a point 30 miles west of the Chindwin River; the British have moved troops by air to Imphal to meet this advance.

3. According to a delayed report, three B-25's bombed and machine-gunned the shipyards at Vinh, French Indo-China, on 17 March, causing two large fires and hitting three boats under construction and work shops with cannon fire.

On 21 March two B-24's attacked and destroyed a Japanese four-engined flying boat in Formosa Strait.

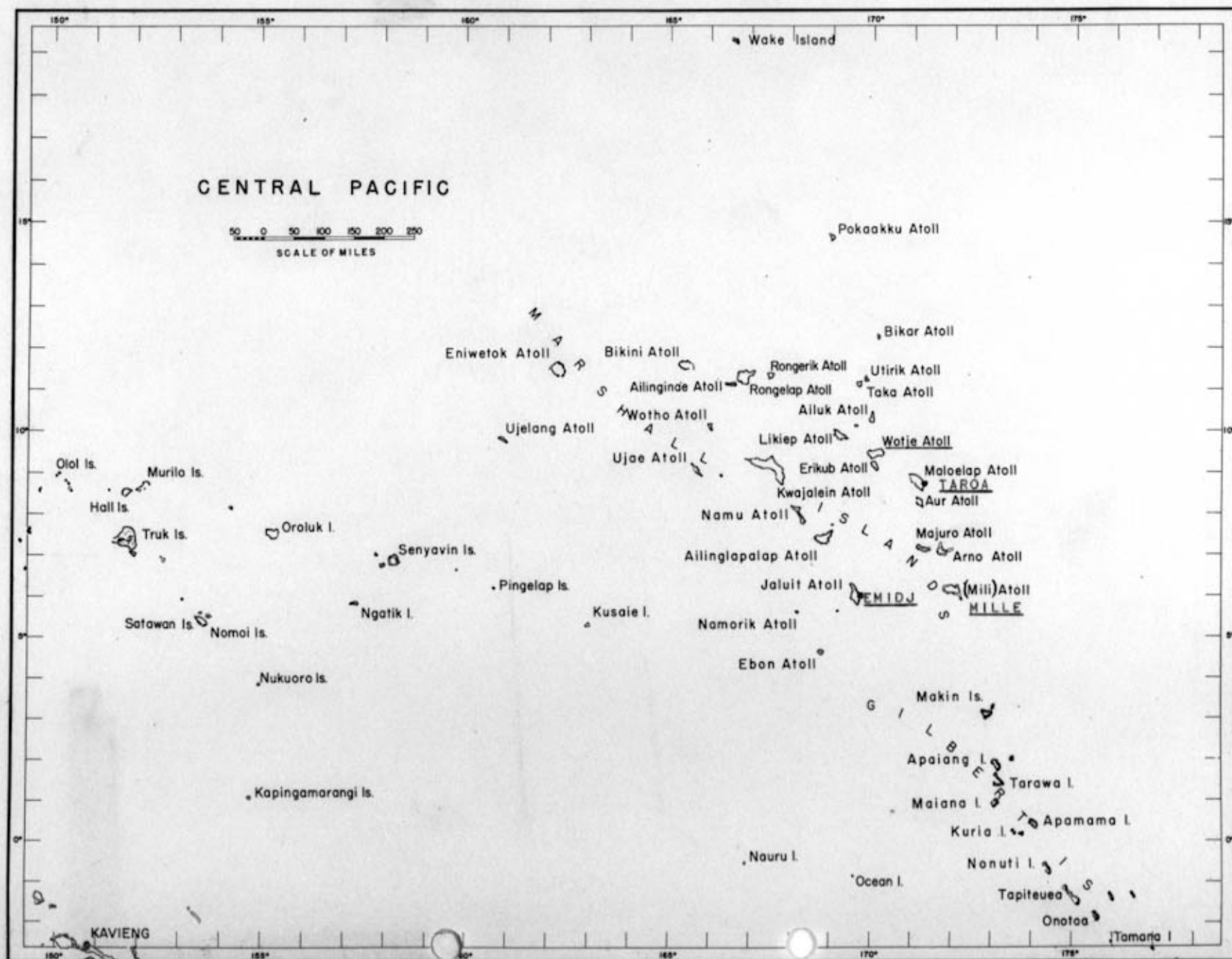
4. The total strength of the Chinese forces which are at Ramgarh, and operating in northern Burma was 57,162 on 15 March.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

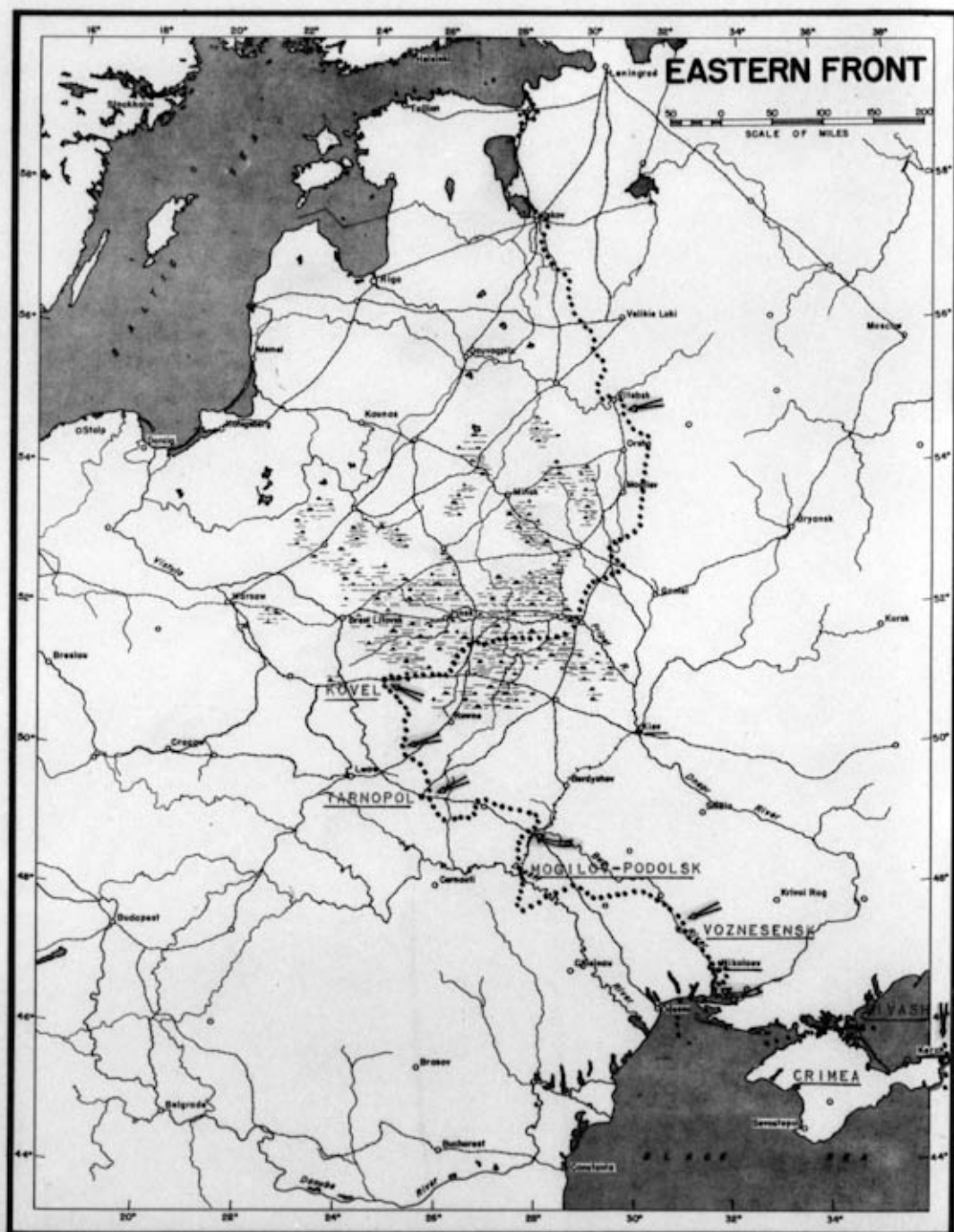
1. In the Admiralties, our units encountered scattered enemy resistance during 21 March. US patrols occupied a small island off Lorengau. A B-24 has landed on the strip at Momote, which is now usable for all types of aircraft.

Allied destroyers shelled enemy positions on Manus and Los Negros Islands.

During the night of 20-21 March patrolling B-24's sank a destroyer and two small vessels off Tadjil. The next day Australian bombers attacked enemy installations near Jacquinot Bay with excellent results; 5th Air Force missions pounded enemy installations near Wewak,



DECLASSIFIED



heavily attacking a barge repair depot, supply dumps, villages and barges with 160 tons of bombs.

2. On 20 March, Central Pacific aircraft again hit Taroa, Wotje, Emidj, and Mille, encountering generally meager antiaircraft fire.

EASTERN FRONT

Soviet forces attacked north and south of Kovel during 22 March. In the Tarnopol area Red tank units renewed their strong attacks to the west. The railroad from Kiev to the Dnestr north of Mogilov-Podolsk was cleared by the Soviets. The Germans have withdrawn across the Bug with the exception of units holding the Voznesensk and Nikolaev areas. A Soviet attempt to land in the Crimea via the Sivash crossings failed; at Kerch small Red penetrations from the north were reported.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 833

0700 March 21 to 0700 March 22, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
Kilometers
0 100 200 300 400
Miles
SCALE OF MILES

THE FAEROES

SHETLAND IS.

DOVER

CREIL

BINGEN

HANNHEIM

ANGOULEME

MONFALCONE

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On the night of 19-20 March, 50 enemy planes were reported over England; seven (probably nine) of these raiders were destroyed for a loss of one Mosquito. RAF aircraft flew sea-mining and harassing missions in enemy-held territory.

2. Unfavorable weather permitted only 41 bombers of the 8th Air Force to attack their primary target at Frankfurt during 20 March. Some 90 others attacked targets of opportunity at Mannheim, Bingen, and elsewhere. We shot down seven enemy fighters with the loss of seven heavy bombers and eight fighters. The same day 124 B-26's attacked the yards and cut the Chemin de Fer du Nord at Creil.

3. Approximately 60 shells were fired into the Dover area during the night of 20-21 March. Five shells landed in the town proper, damaging many houses and causing a failure of the electricity distributing station for a short period.

Twenty RAF heavy bombers attacked the Angoulême explosives works; 21 Mosquitoes successfully completed nuisance raids over Germany.

4. Preliminary reports for the following day indicate that some 60 US heavy bombers attacked military objectives in the Pas de Calais area through an overcast.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Allied heavy aircraft dropped 84 tons of bombs and incendiaries on the ship building shops, warehouses and aircraft works at and near the



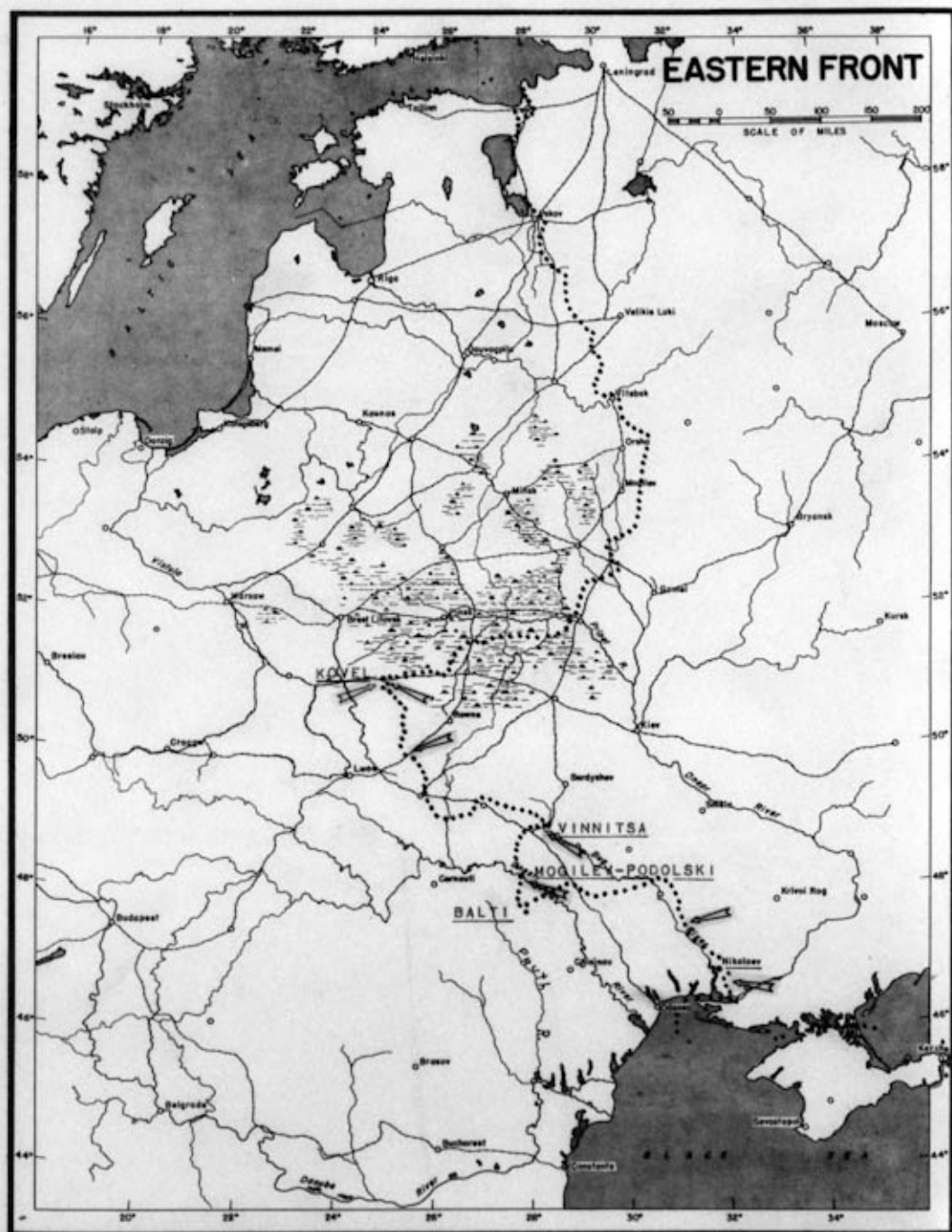
BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

Monfalcone submarine base during the night of 19-20 March, starting fires and returning without loss. Next day strategic missions were cancelled due to a complete overcast. Tactical aircraft, however, bombed Piombino and Port Ercole, railroad bridges and yards at Poggibonsi, Orvieto and Terni, dock installations and shipping at San Stefano, and enemy guns and troop concentrations in Cassino and near our beachhead. Fighters patrolled over the beachhead and A-36's dropped supplies to Allied troops operating in the Cassino area. Fifty enemy sorties reported included an attack on the Anzio docks by 40 planes during the early morning. Allied aircraft flew more than 1,200 sorties; four enemy planes were destroyed for the loss of three Spitfires.

2. Intensive house-to-house fighting continued in Cassino during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 21 March, Allied units making little progress due to heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire. Intensive German anti-mechanized fires caused armored elements operating in the town to make small withdrawals. Enemy infiltration continued, forcing Allied troops to abandon an attack on the western edge of the town so as to insure holding positions already captured. Elsewhere along the Italian battlefield only active patrolling and intermittent artillery firing were reported.

3. Approximately 25 enemy aircraft attacked an Allied convoy north of Bougie, Algeria, during the afternoon of 19 March; no damage resulted and our fighters shot down one enemy plane.



ASIATIC THEATER

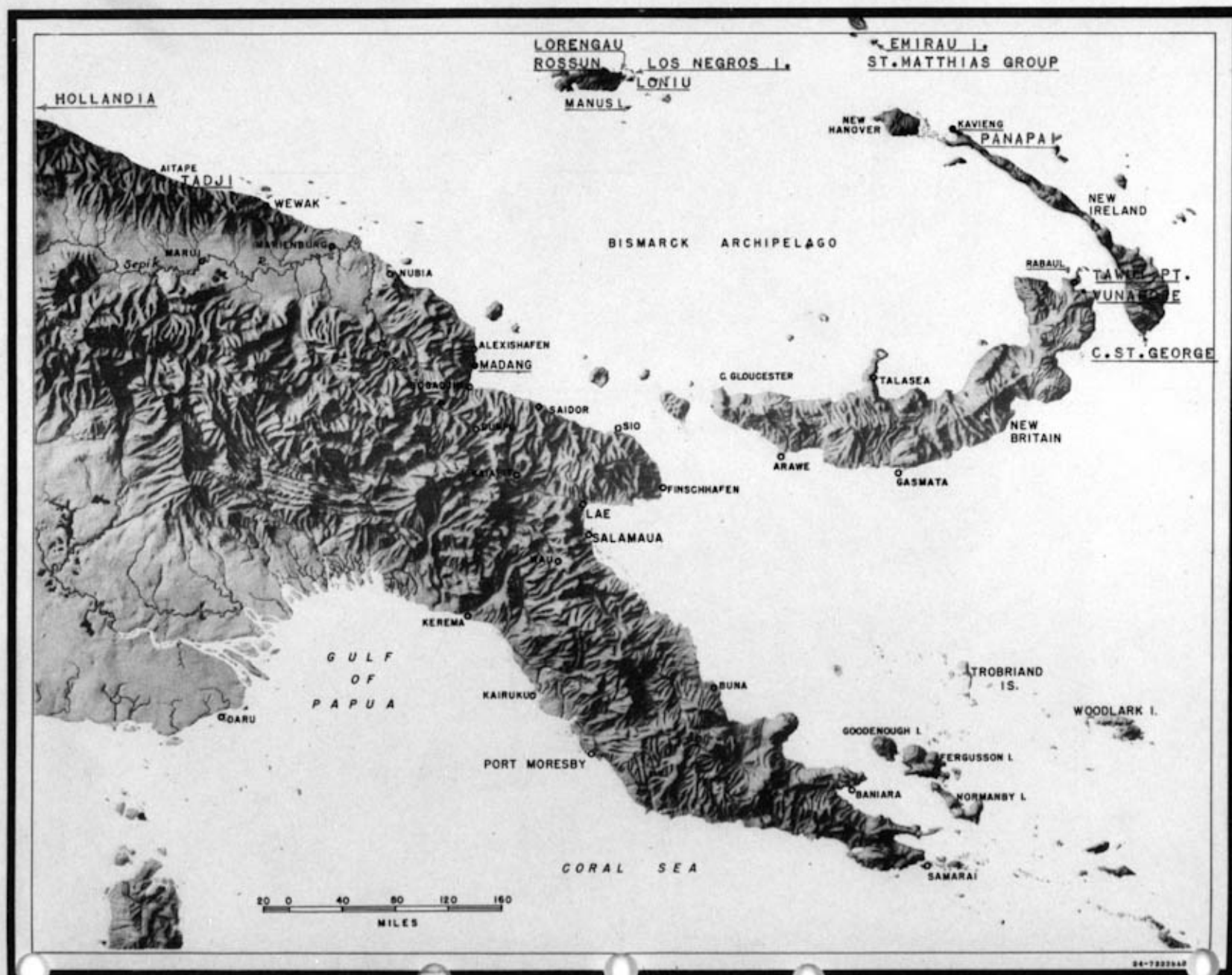
1. US troop carrier units were active on 18 March, landing troops and dropping supplies in the forward areas.

That night ten British bombers attacked Kalewa and Akyab.

On the 19th nine escorted B-25's attacked Wuntho with unreported results; other Allied planes were active over our forward areas along the Chindwin River and along the Arakan coast. Railroads in central Burma were also attacked.

2. Additional 14th Air Force fighter bomber missions during 18 March included machine-gun attacks on a train south of Lang Son and on a Japanese column near Than Moi, where hits were scored on the abutments of a bridge. Two cargo junks were destroyed north of Haiphong and two more damaged in the same area; a 200-foot barge was sunk in the channel northwest of Quang Yen and a 150-foot steel vessel destroyed at Cam Pha Port.

3. Allied troops in northern Burma continued their southward advance during 19 and 20 March. Chinese troops, counterattacking an enemy thrust, captured Jambu Bum, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. Other Allied troops in this area captured Sumprabum; the forces in the west Hukawng Valley are now approximately eight miles northwest of Shaduzup. On the west flank Chinese troops captured a town three miles south of Tasu Bum. British troops in the Chin Hills area successfully reduced the enemy road block north of Tiddim. Operations against enemy-held tunnels in the Arakan area were progressing slowly. In the



DECLASSIFIED

Kabaw valley the enemy captured Witok.

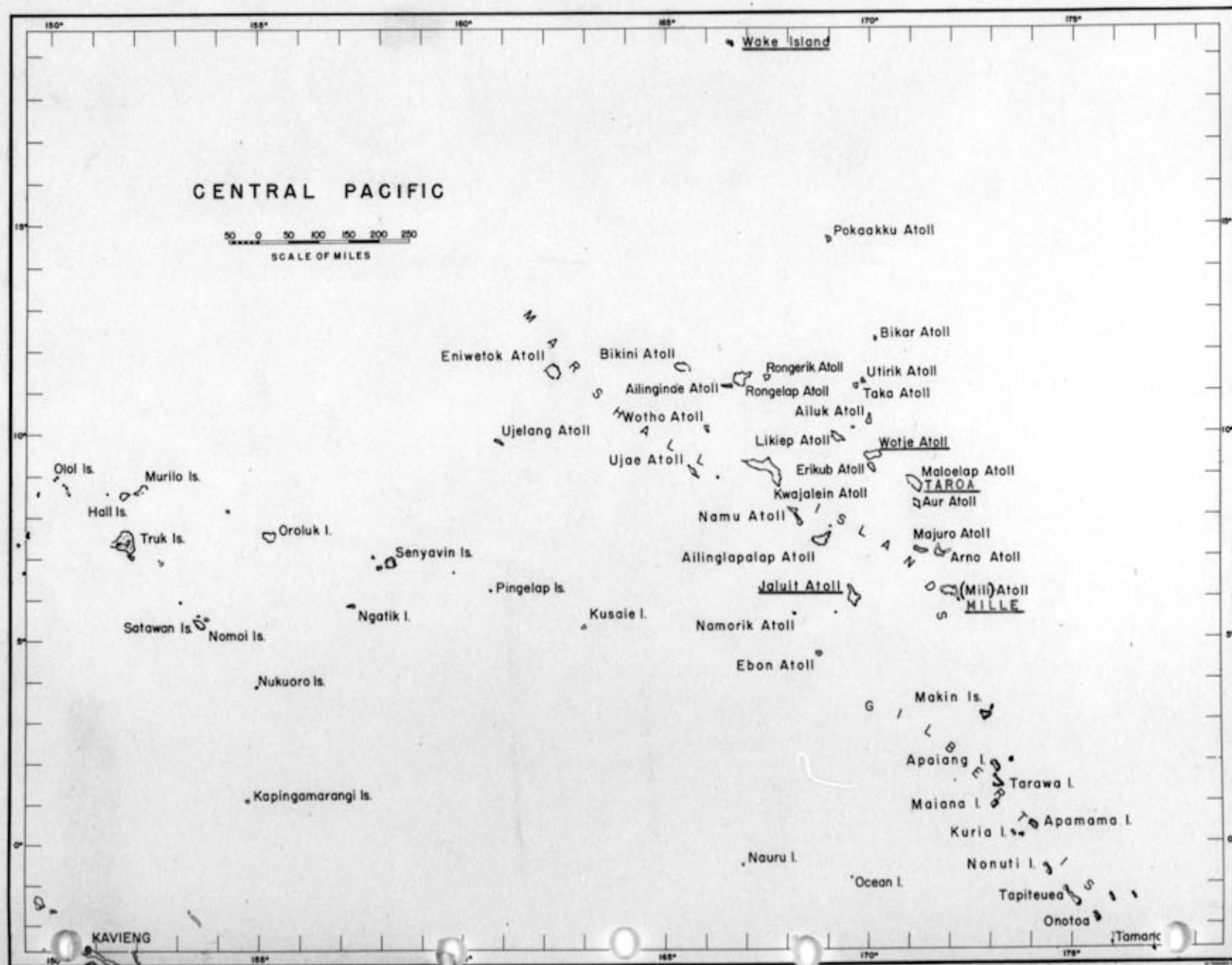
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. US patrols on Manus contacted enemy forces during 20 March three miles southwest of Lorengau and 800 yards south of Rossun; 408 Japanese were killed in the occupation of the Lorengau area and 295 bunkers captured. Our forces on southwestern Los Negros raided Loniu destroying coastal craft, ammunition and supplies. A nearby ammunition dump was destroyed by shellfire from an Allied destroyer.

Supplemental reports on air operations for 18 March indicate that B-24's scored direct hits on a 6,000-ton freighter-transport 12 miles northwest of Hollandia causing extensive damage; a near miss halted an escorting gunboat. On 20 March 38 B-24's dropped 152 tons of bombs on the airdrome, bivouac and supply areas at Tadjl, destroying several aircraft on the ground, starting fires, and leaving the airstrip unserviceable. P-39's machine-gunned and sank two barges near Madang and started several fires in inland villages.

2. Marine units, supported by strong naval and air elements, landed unopposed on Emirau Island in the St. Matthias Group north of Kavieng during the morning of 20 March. No enemy forces had been contacted as of noon that day. Light opposition was met by troops landing on a small island off the southeast coast of Emirau.

Reconnaissance of roads on the islands has been completed and area defenses are being established.



3. During 19 March, 99 South Pacific bombers attacked the Vunapope supply areas and the Panapai airfield; enemy supply installations at Tawui Point and the radar station at Cape St. George were raided by fighter bombers. Other US planes bombed targets around our Torokina perimeter. The next day missions of our Solomons-based aircraft included the bombing of antiaircraft installations, airfields and supply areas near Rabaul by 121 Army and Navy aircraft; 133 tons of bombs were dropped with observed effect despite intense and accurate antiaircraft fire. Light and fighter bombers raided supply areas on Bougainville and enemy artillery positions opposite the Torokina beachhead. Our fighter planes flew anti-shipping sweeps off Bougainville and Rabaul, attacking enemy barges and small coastal craft.

4. Central Pacific aircraft continued their attacks on enemy bases in the Marshalls during 19 March bombing targets on Mille, Jaluit and Wotje and exploding an ammunition dump on Taroa; B-24's dropped 40 tons of bombs on Wake, starting fires in a tank park.

EASTERN FRONT

Field Marshal Von Kleist is now in command of German forces on the southern sector of the Eastern Front. Enemy counterattacks forced the Soviets out of Kovel during 21 March. Red units, however, made substantial advances to the west between Vinnitsa and Mogilev-Podolski and enlarged their bridgehead on the western bank of the Dnestr advancing to within 30 miles of the Pruth River and cutting the railroad running northwest from Balti. Nikolaev remained in German hands despite strong Soviet pressure.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 832

0700 March 20 to 0700 March 21, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
 Kilometers
 0 100 200 300 400
 Miles
 SCALE OF MILES



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 18-19 March, 745 RAF bombers dropped 3,285 tons of bombs on Frankfurt through a heavy haze. Enemy air opposition was very light; 22 bombers are missing. Other Allied planes carried out nuisance raids against Aachen, Dortmund, Duisburg and Kassel. Eighteen RAF bombers caused observed damage to a munitions works at Bergerac, and laid sea mines off Heligoland. Airfields in Holland, Germany, France and Belgium were also raided during the night.

2. On 19 March, 173 of our escorted B-17's dropped over 500 tons of bombs on targets in the Pas de Calais region; 128 of our medium and light bombers, escorted by P-47's, also attacked cross-channel targets. Results varied from poor to fair; one B-17 and one B-26 were lost to antiaircraft fire. Twenty escorted P-47's dive-bombed the Gilze-Rijen airfield.

3. Enemy artillery shelled the Dover area for an hour during the night of 19-20 March causing considerable damage and a few casualties.

4. A total of 539 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force were airborne on 20 March to attack an aircraft parts and engine works near Frankfurt. Our 9th Air Force bombers were headed for the Creil railroad yards and other cross-channel targets.

5. During the week ending 12 March AAF units in the UK destroyed 285 (probably 337) enemy planes for a loss of 114 heavy bombers and 38



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

SECRET

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DSB Letter, 5-8-72

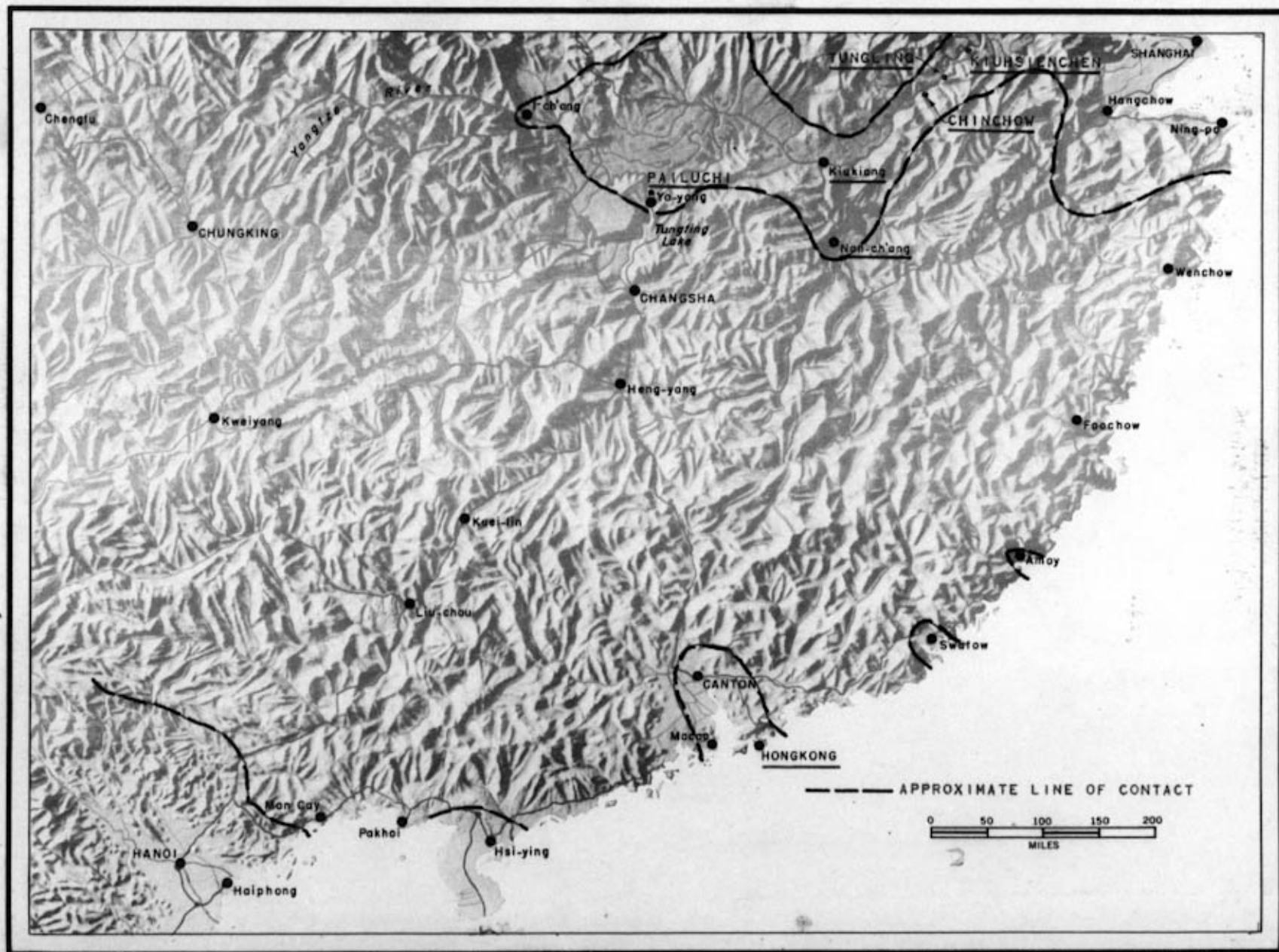
other planes. Corresponding RAF figures for the period are 12 (probably 14) enemy planes destroyed and 30 aircraft of all types lost.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 18-19 March, 40 Allied bombers attacked Plovdiv, Bulgaria, at a cost of two B-24's; lighter aircraft attacked Velletri, Gaeta and patrolled the beachhead. The following day 377 escorted bombers of the Strategic Air Force dropped a total of 919 tons of bombs on the airdrome and railroad yards at Klagenfurt, on Graz in south-eastern Austria, as well as on the docks and yards at Metkovic, and on Knin in Yugoslavia. Thirty (probably 40) enemy planes were shot down; we lost 13 bombers and one fighter. Strong forces of medium and light bombers and fighters attacked railroad yards, motor transportation and harbors in central and western Italy, shipping and motor vehicles in Yugoslavia, and carried out patrols over the battle areas. In addition 26 P-40's covered a commando raid on Solta Island, off the Yugoslav coast.

2. On the left flank of the Anzio beachhead Allied units carried out a successful raid in force on 19 March, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. Heavy fighting continued in Cassino where Maori troops captured 100 prisoners; enemy forces still held out in the town and in the monastery area. Three strong German counterattacks launched from the monastery area were repulsed. Patrol clashes were reported in the Adriatic sector on the 20th.

SECRET



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During the night of 17-18 March, eight B-24's bombed Japanese supply dumps at Kalewa. The following day 22 B-25's hit Kalewa again, starting fires in the fuel dumps and storage area. A total of 140 Allied planes attacked enemy positions west of Buthidaung and in the Chin Hills, raided a storage area at Wuntho, and hit targets of opportunity in northern and central Burma.

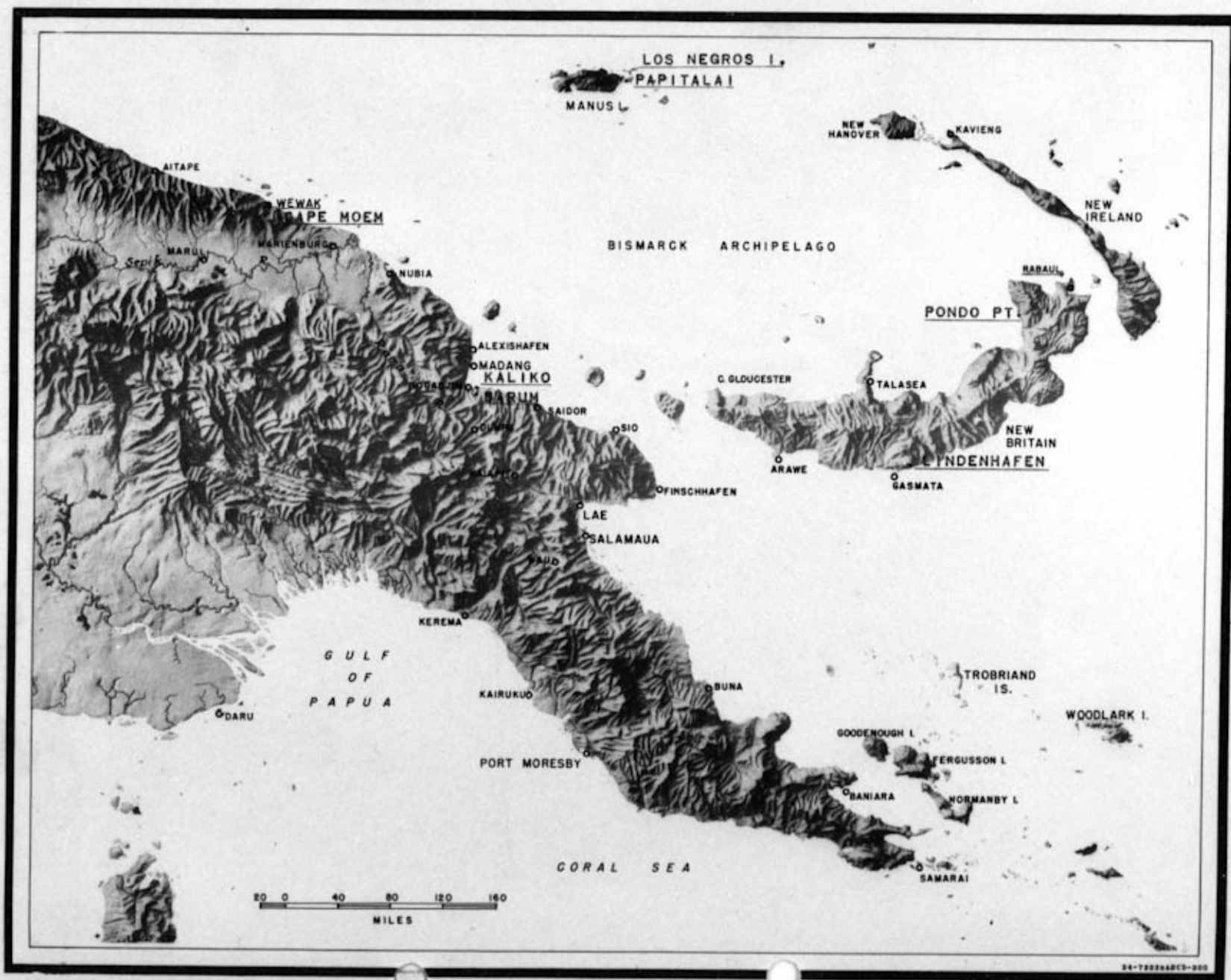
During 17 March more than 12 enemy planes attacked our landing field at Broadway destroying four Spitfires on the ground. Two Japanese fighters were shot down; we lost one Spitfire.

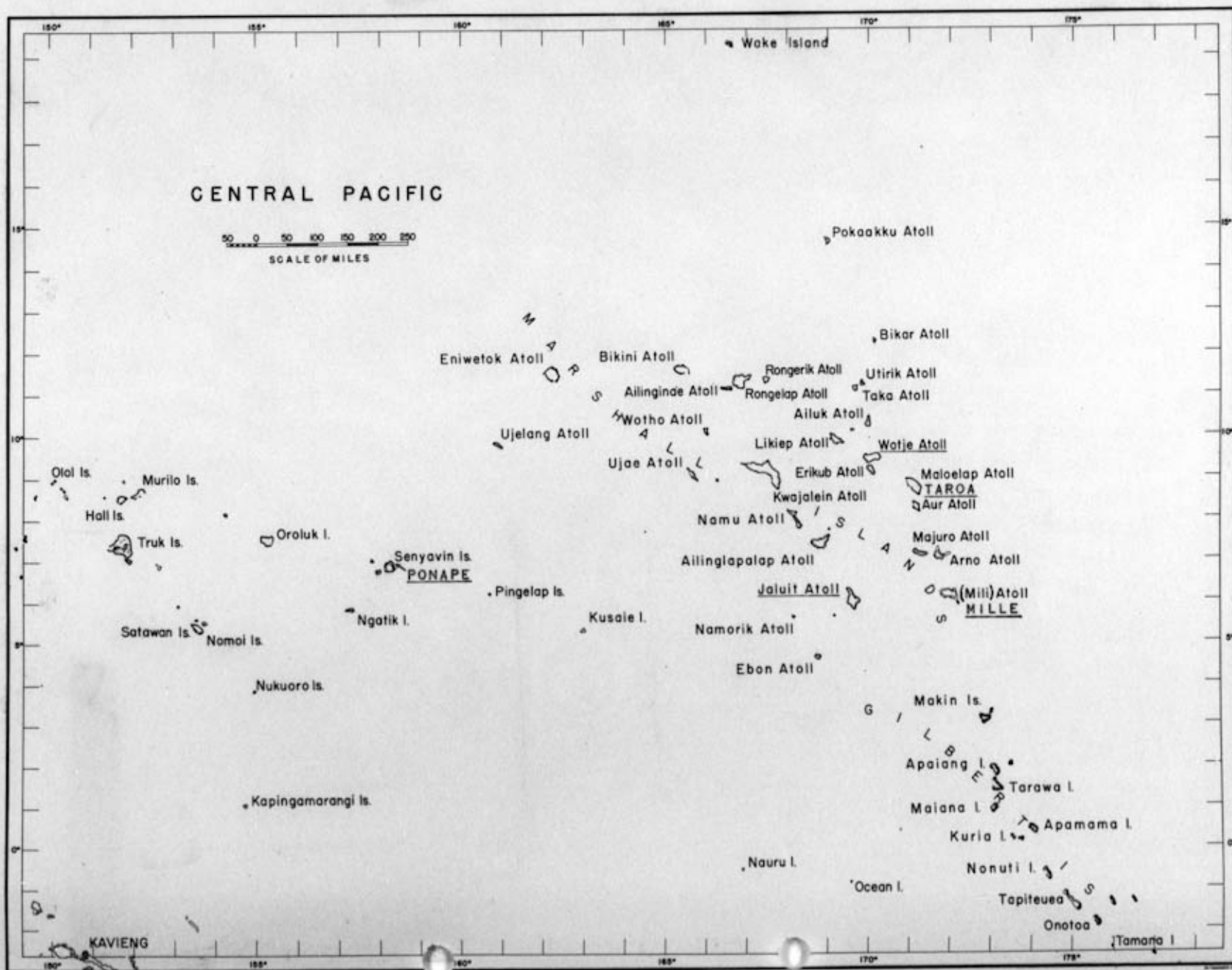
2. On 18 March, fighter-bombers of the 14th Air Force machine-gunned a warehouse near Pailuchi, sank a large sailboat and damaged a 300-foot transport near Kiukiang on the lower Yangtze River. The following day, medium bombers damaged a fort in the Yangtze River near Chinchow with cannon fire and bombed the airdrome at Nanchang. Escorting fighters damaged three tugs and two other river craft northeast of Kiuhsienchen and left a 250-foot boat afire at Tungling. B-24's machine-gunned two small steamers southwest of Hongkong and shot down a Jap four-engined flying boat.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. An Allied patrol, landing at Lindenhafen, New Britain, during 18 March, reported the town clear of the enemy.

The next day patrols from US and Australian forces which met





at Barum, New Guinea, operated in the Kaliko area.

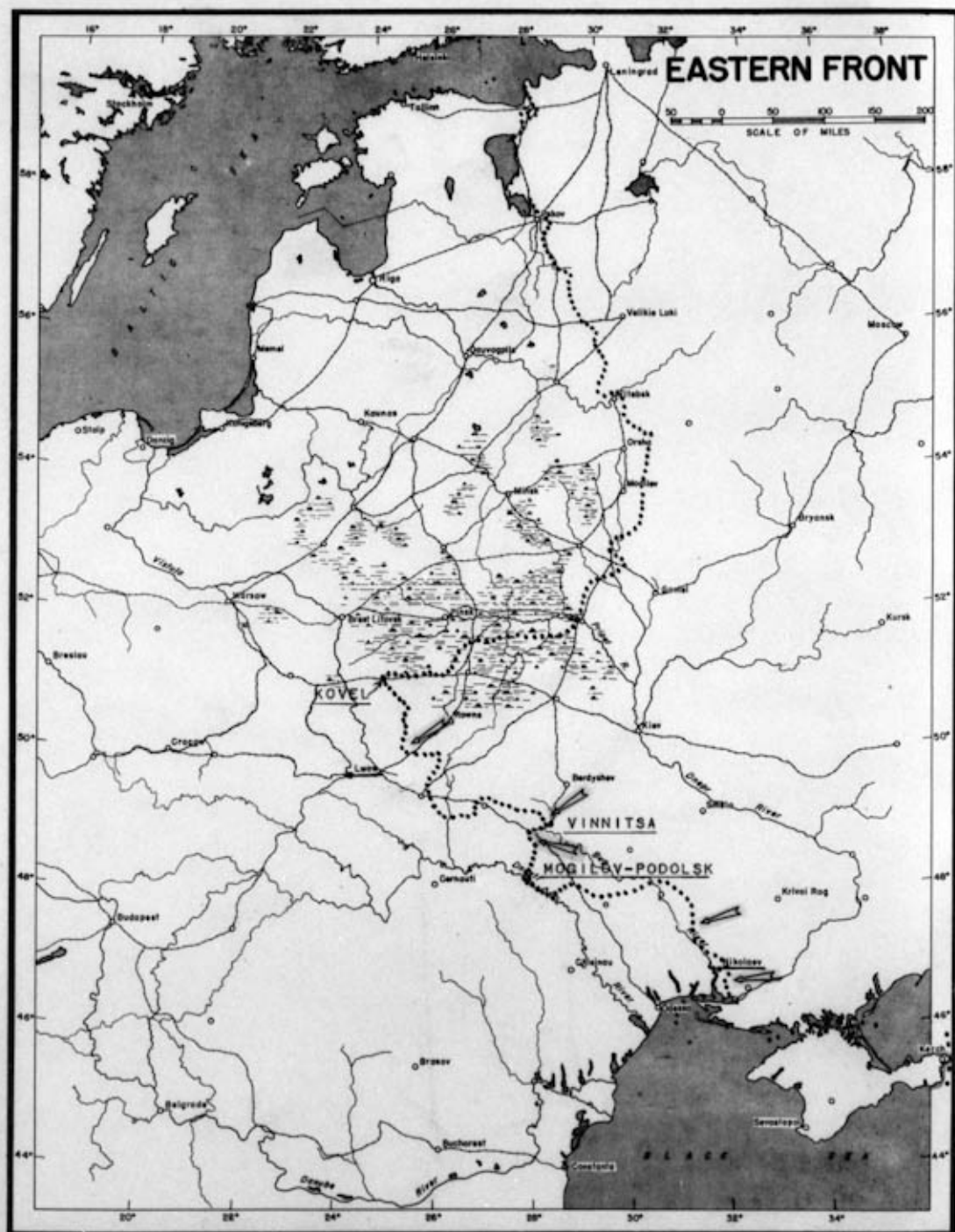
On Los Negros, in the Admiralties, enemy forces continued to resist strongly near Papitalai.

Escorted heavy, medium, and light bombers, attacking from minimum heights, destroyed an enemy convoy off Wewak consisting of two transports and three corvettes. In a coordinated mission against Japanese installations at nearby Cape Moem, 59 Allied bombers set fire to warehouses and destroyed a gun battery. An enemy-laden barge was sunk offshore. We lost three A-20's but shot down two enemy fighters. Other planes attacked a saw mill and buildings at Pondo Point. Raiding to the west, B-24's attacked Babo, western New Guinea, and a village in the Tanimbar Islands.

2. Allied naval units sank a small enemy freighter during an extensive shipping sweep of the Wewak area during the night of 18 March. Two islands off Wewak were shelled, shore batteries silenced, and fires, visible for thirty miles, started.

3. On 18 March Army and Navy bombers and fighters attacked the Rabaul area, bombed and machine gunned enemy positions and barges in the Bougainville-Buka area, and hit targets of opportunity at Choiseul Bay. Japanese artillery was active that night and the following morning in the Torokina area.

4. Eight B-34's dropped nine tons of bombs on barracks, gun positions and magazine areas at Tarca on 18 March. Other Army, Navy and Marine planes raided Wotje, Mille, Jaluit and Ponape.



EASTERN FRONT

Action again centered in the southern sector during 20 March. Soviet troops, enlarging their penetration south of Kovel, advanced 14 miles toward Lwow. The German salient northwest of Vinnitsa was reduced after the capture of the town by Red Army units. Mogilov-Podolsk was captured; this enlargement of the Soviet bridgehead seriously affected German communications in the area as the nearest railroad line crossing the Dnestr is 100 miles to the west. To the south the enemy withdrawal to the Bug continued. German defenses checked further Red advances in the Nikolaev area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 831

0700 March 19 to 0700 March 20, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(y)



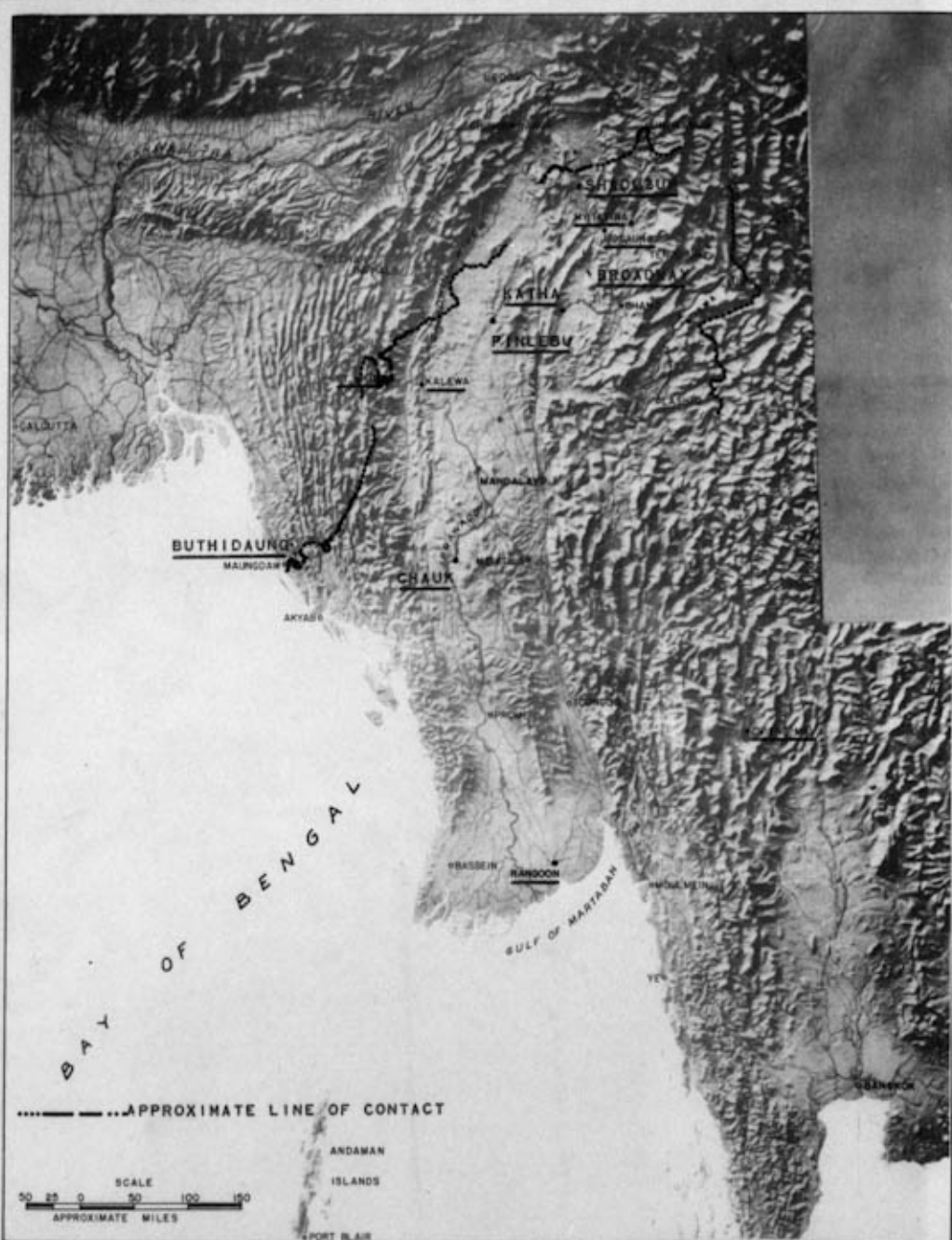


EUROPEAN THEATER

RAF Mosquitoes dropped 32 tons of bombs on Cologne during the night of 17-18 March. The next day 8th Air Force missions totaling 678 heavy bombers escorted by 18 groups of fighter planes attacked airfields at Lechfeld, Landsberg and Memmingen, airplane component and assembly plants at Oberpfaffenhofen and Friedrichshafen, and the city areas of Friedrichshafen and Munich. In all, our planes dropped 1,435 tons of high explosives, incendiaries and general purpose bombs and shot down 82 (probably 100) enemy aircraft for the loss of 43 bombers and 13 fighters. 9th Air Force planes dropped 97 tons of bombs on military objectives near the Channel coast.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Strategic bombers attacked airfields in northeastern Italy during 18 March including those at Udine, Villorba, Gorizia and Maniago; 373 of our B-17's and B-24's with their escorting fighters dropped 474 tons of fragmentation bombs on the enemy airdromes, destroying or seriously damaging 50 planes on the ground and shooting down 48 (probably 53) more for the loss of seven bombers and four fighters. Tactical medium bombers hit the rail yards at Orvieto and Foligno, bridges near Orvieto and Poggibonsi, and the docks at Piombino; Coastal Air Force planes attacked shipping and docks at Leghorn and heavily damaged a factory building at Marina di Pisa. Allied fighter aircraft harassed bridges, gun positions and motor transport in the battle area, enemy communication facilities



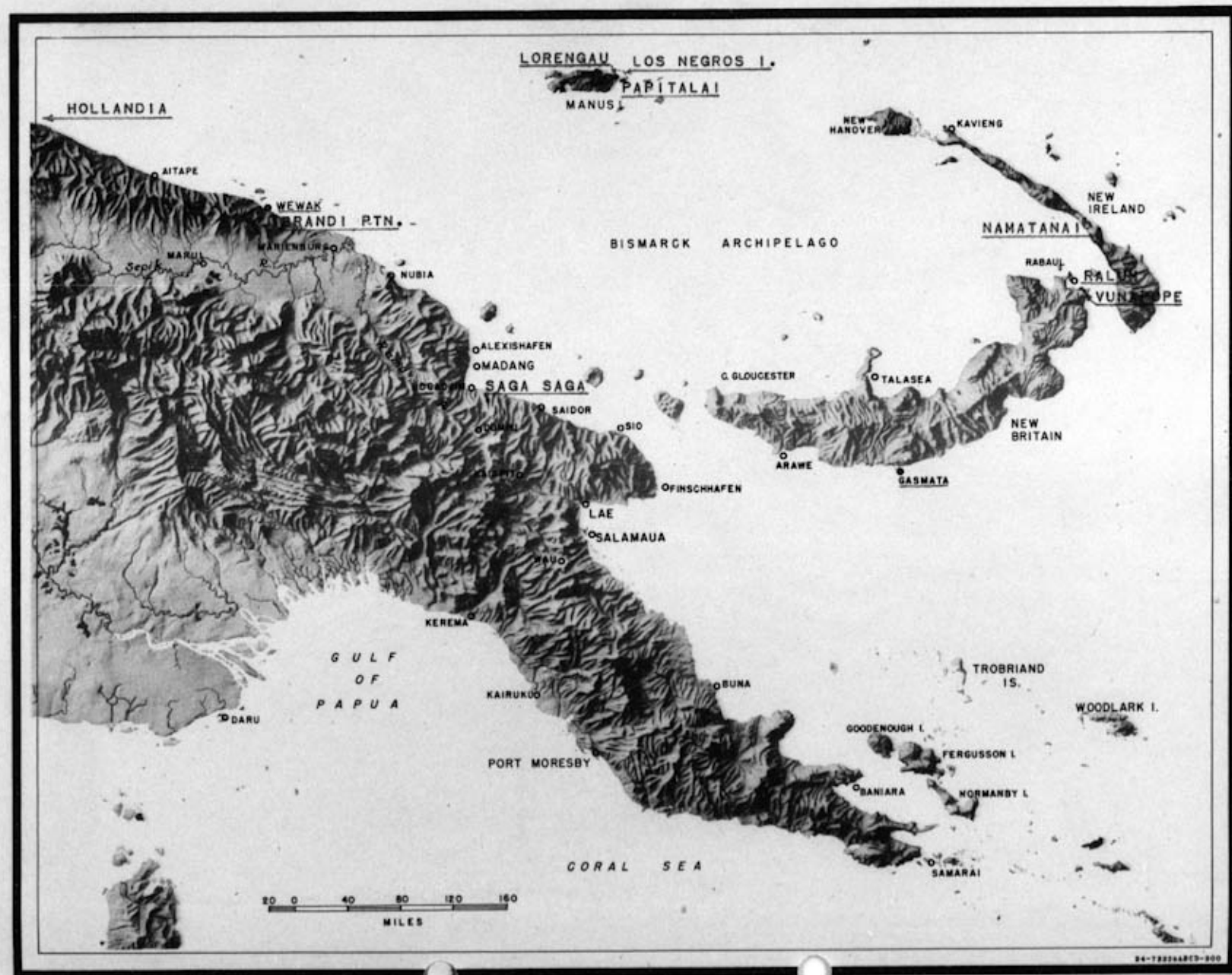
north of Rome, and shipping off the Dalmatian coast.

2. Naval units, in conjunction with Corps artillery, bombarded targets near Littoria on 19 March. Allied infantry and artillery north-west of Anzio were engaged in clearing the Germans from positions in front of the beachhead defense line. Severe fighting continued at Cassino. The situation resulting from a strong enemy counterattack south of the town was still obscure.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 14 March Allied planes in India and Burma attacked enemy positions near Fort White, hit targets in the Arakan area, supported ground operations near Katha, set fire to a village near Myitkyina, and bombed troop concentrations near Mogaung. Fighter bombers scored hits on the railway station at Chiengmai and on bridges and storage areas at Shaduzup. That night RAF fighter bombers started large fires and exploded an ammunition dump near Kalewa. Fifty-one Allied B-24's and Wellingtons attacked supply dumps near Rangoon with high explosives and incendiaries, reporting hits in the target area. The following day more than 220 medium, light and fighter bomber sorties were flown against enemy positions throughout western, northern and central Burma, the oil refinery at Chauk, and lines of communication near Pinlebu. Other planes flew escort missions for aircraft on supply flights and patrolled the battle areas.

2. At a cost of 120 casualties, two Allied brigades (approximately 12,000 men, 1,200 animals, and equipment) have been transported into



Japanese-held Burma by air. During the night of 5-6 March glider-borne troops, including a US Airborne Engineer Company, were landed at a strip known as Broadway, 50 miles northeast of Katha, well behind the enemy lines in eastern Burma. This force immediately began the construction of a landing site which was ready for C-47 use by the following night.

During the peak of operations at Broadway, C-47's were landing and taking off from the air strip every three minutes.

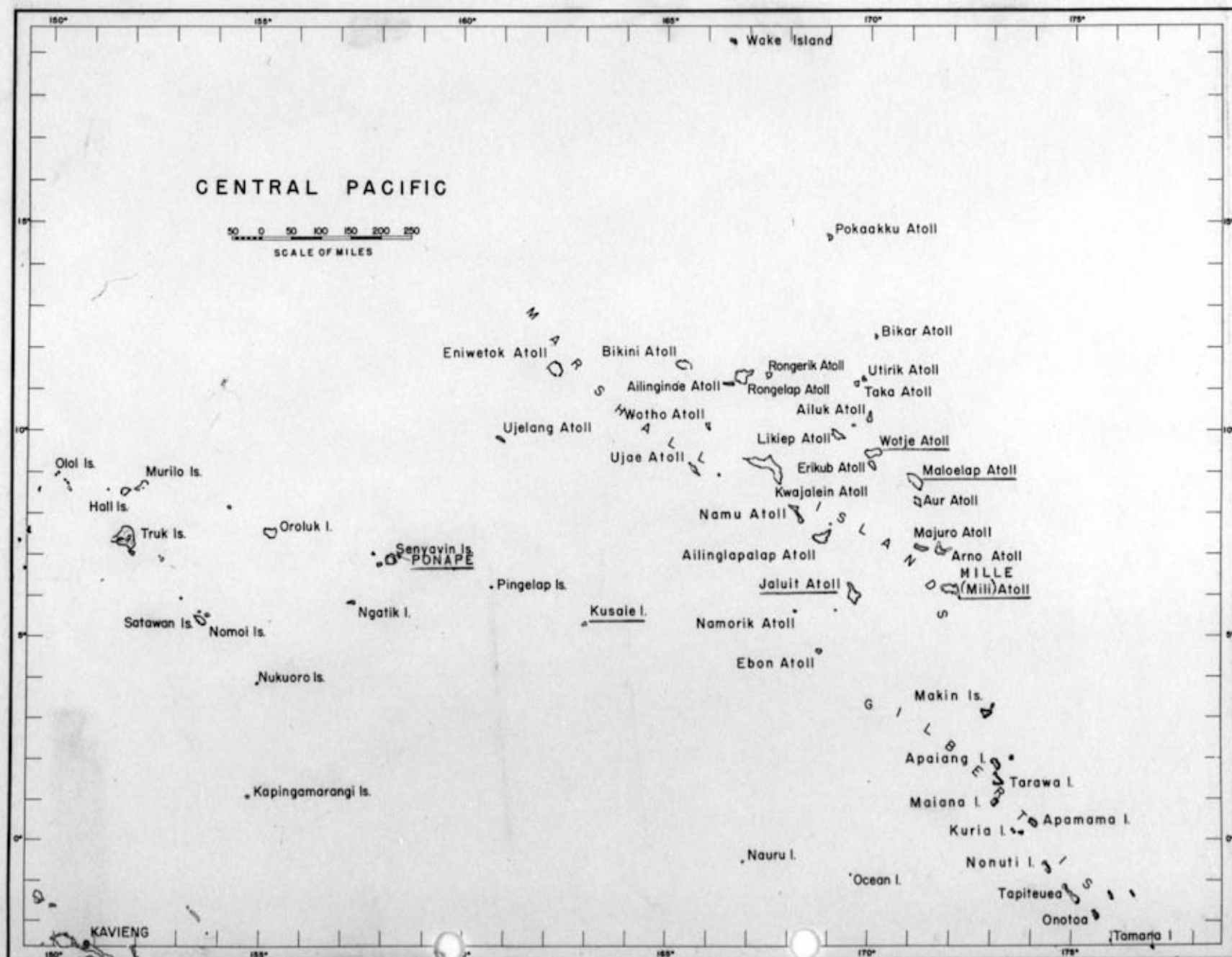
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. The Allied patrol which landed on Gasmata Island during 17 March reported the airstrip to be in fair condition; there were 30 demolished Japanese planes in the dispersal area.

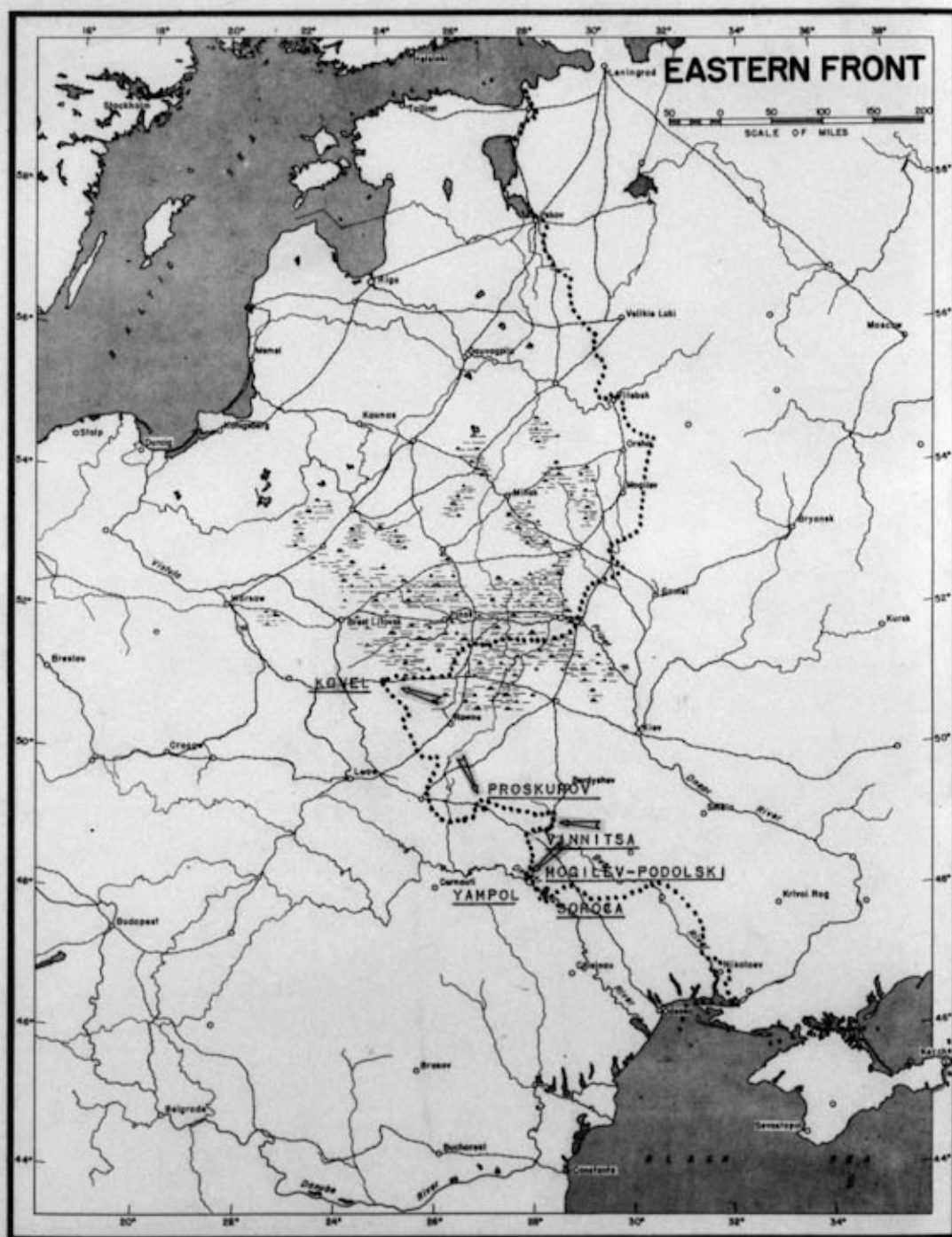
Our 2nd Cavalry Brigade occupied Lorengau late on 18 March. On Los Negros, two enemy counterattacks against our positions on the high ground west of Papitalai were repulsed. In New Guinea Allied patrols encountered enemy forces west of Saga Saga.

Twelve B-24's bombed the Japanese naval base at Surabaya again during the night of 17-18 March, starting fires; our planes returned safely. Off Hollandia night patrol planes sank a freighter and damaged a destroyer and a freighter. The next day 26 B-24's silenced gun positions and destroyed buildings at Wewak while 60 A-20's and B-25's bombed and machine-gunned the Brandi Plantation, hitting buildings and huts and starting fires.

2. South Pacific air missions during 17 March included raids by



DECLASSIFIED



11 P-38's on Vunapope and ten P-39's on Ralum; heavy bombings by 23 B-24's on Namatanai runway and 22 B-25's on the supply area at Ralum. Navy planes bombed enemy gun positions on Bougainville.

A heavy Japanese attack early in the morning effected a slight penetration in the defenses of our 37th Division on Bougainville. A subsequent counterattack restored the positions; 195 Japanese dead were counted inside our wire, 52 around one pillbox, and many more dead were reported outside. Our casualties that day totaled five killed and 117 wounded.

3. Air missions flown by Central Pacific planes during 16 March included attacks on targets on Wotje, Maloelap, Jaluit, and Mille. A total of 50 sorties were flown and 32 tons of bombs dropped on the four atolls. The next day 48 planes dropped 29 tons on Ponape, Kusaie, Jaluit and Maloelap.

EASTERN FRONT

There was no change in the situation on the northern and central sectors of the eastern front during 19 March. In the southern sector, German reports indicate that Soviet forces have reached the outskirts of Kovel after considerable gains along the southern edge of the Pripet marshes. The Red Armies have cut all German rail communications into the Proskurov-Vinnitsa area, and scored important advances near Yampol. Soroca, on the western bank of the Dnestr River, is in Soviet possession; a firm bridgehead has been established in this vicinity. Mogilev-Podolski,

an important railroad crossing was under direct Soviet attack.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Three US bombers on armed reconnaissance attacked targets in the Kuriles early on 18 March; all planes returned safely.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 830

0700 March 18 to 0700 March 19, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
Kilometers
Miles
SCALE OF MILES

THE FRODOES

SHELLAND IS.

SOESTERBERG

AMIENS • CREIL

• CHARTRES •

AUGSBURG

• GESSERTSHAUSEN

ULM

FRIEDRICHSHAFEN

CLERMONT-FERRAND

EUROPEAN THEATER

Detailed reports of our 8th Air Force attacks over Germany during 16 March state that 401 B-17's attacked Augsburg with 901 tons, 195 B-24's dropped 499 tons on Friedrichshafen, and 46 B-17's bombed Gessertshausen with 99 tons. Other heavy bombers scored hits on a fire fighting equipment factory at Ulm and attacked targets of opportunity in southern Germany. Our planes shot down 125 (probably 155) enemy aircraft for a loss of 23 bombers and 12 fighters.

That night 117 RAF bombers dropped 597 tons of explosives on the Amiens railroad yards with excellent results, and 21 heavy bombers attacked a rubber tire factory at Clermont-Ferrand with 102 tons; all planes returned safely.

On 17 March 70 escorted B-26's of the 9th Air Force dropped 122 tons of bombs on the Creil railroad yards reporting fair results; two of our fighters failed to return. Four fighter groups (totaling 135 P-47's) of the 8th Air Force attacked the Soesterberg and Chartres airfields and machine-gunned targets at two unidentified airdromes in France. Three (probably five) enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost two fighter planes.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 16-17 March, 19 RAF bombers attacked the railroad yards and city of Sofia; light bombers harassed motor transport on roads south of Rome, and RAF fighters patrolled the Anzio area. The



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

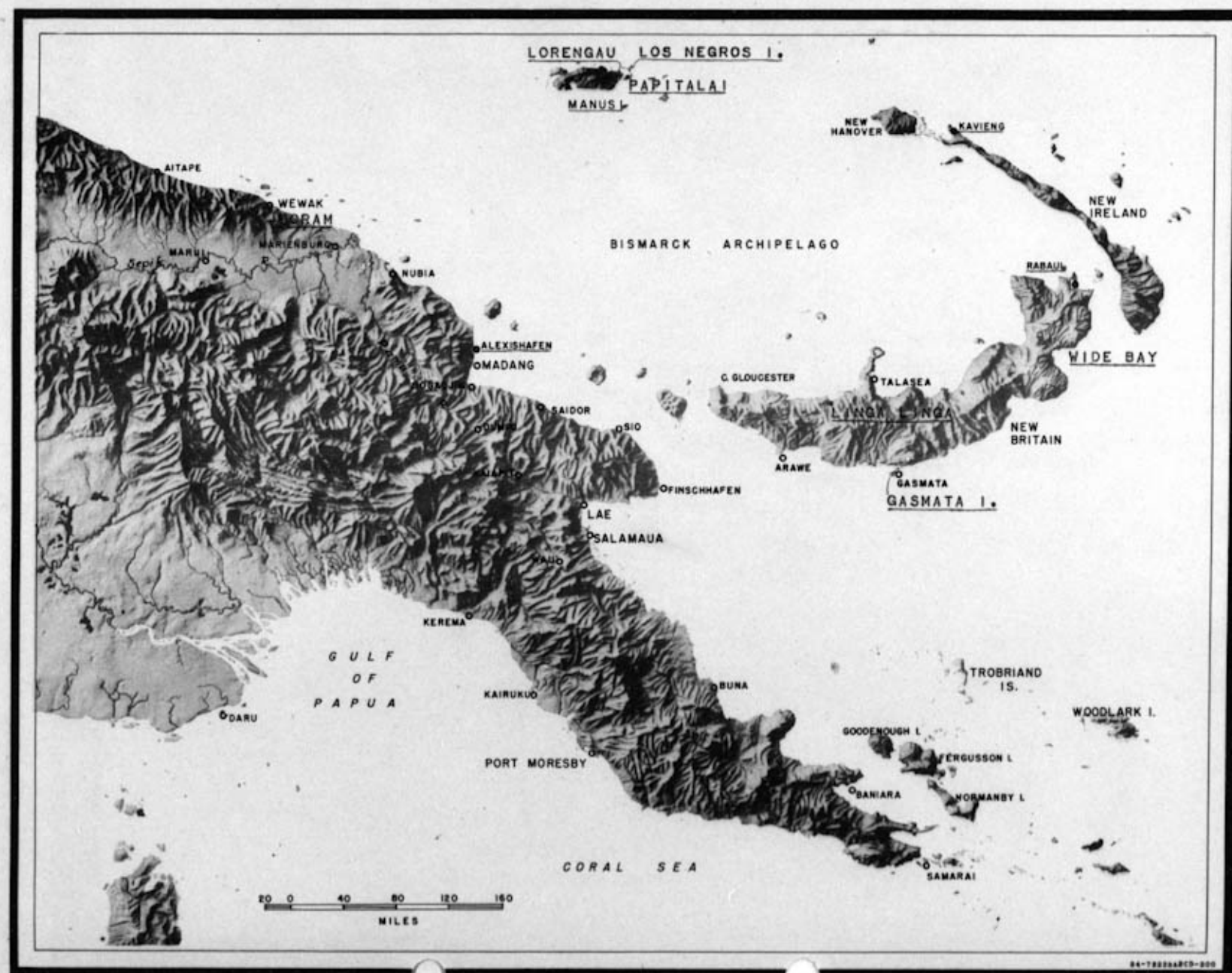
next day 218 US heavy bombers escorted by 127 fighters raided Vienna and targets in the vicinity with 444 tons of explosives. Missions totaling 255 medium, light, and fighter bombers of the Tactical Air Force attacked towns, highways, railroads and troop concentrations in central Italy. Other fighters raided gun positions near Cassino and Anzio, escorted our tactical bombers, patrolled the battle areas and attacked targets in northwestern Italy and along the Adriatic coast. During this period 1,662 sorties were flown and nine (probably 11) enemy aircraft destroyed for a loss of three heavy bombers and four fighters.

2. Activity in Italy for the period ending at noon on 18 March centered around Cassino where New Zealand troops continued mopping up operations and gained ground to the south and west. Allied infantry, supported by tanks, held the railroad station. The enemy still occupied two strong points on the western edge of the town.

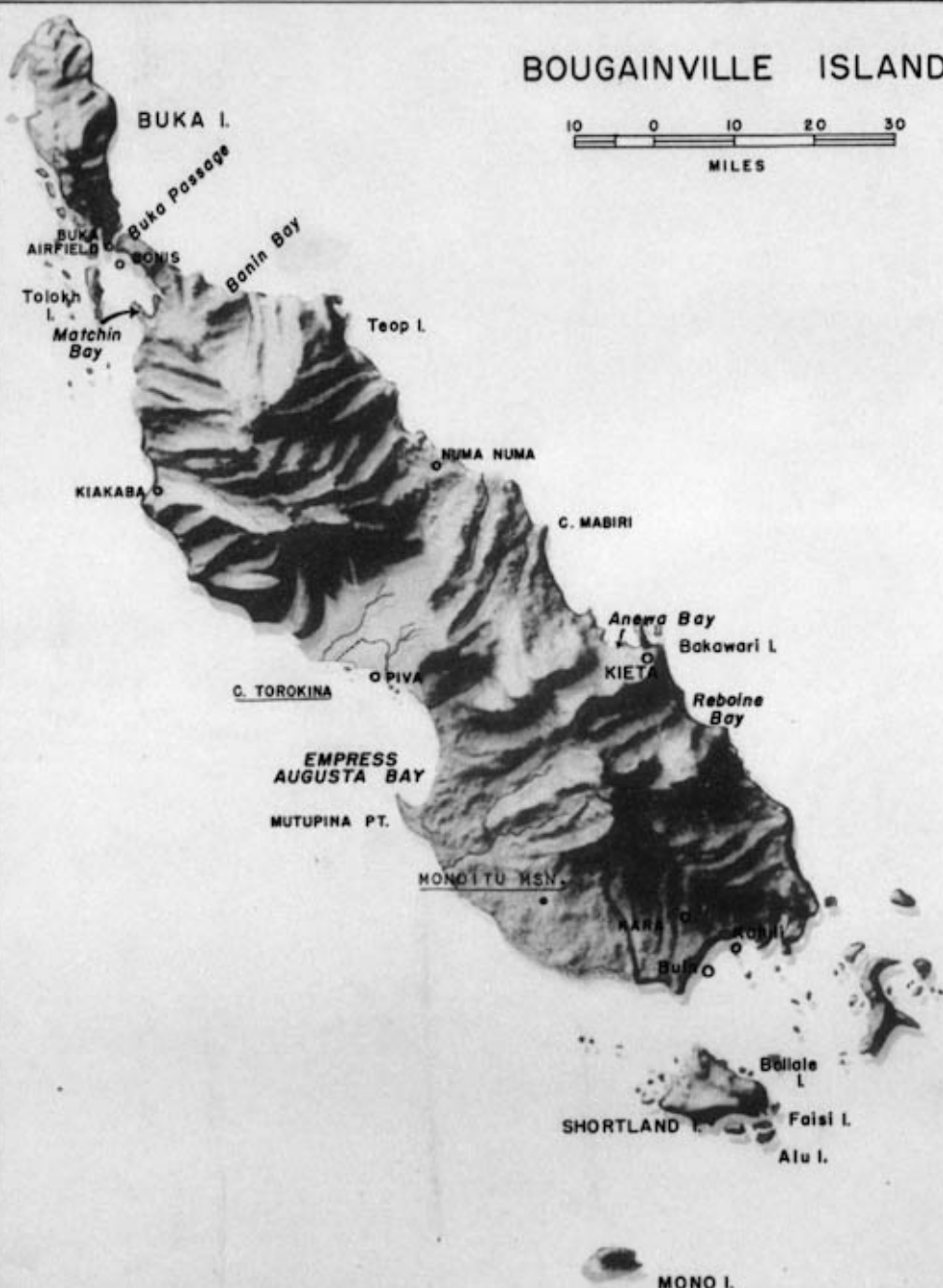
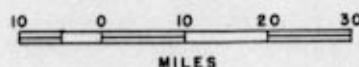
Active patrolling was reported on the other sectors of the front.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 16 March missions totaling 139 Allied light and fighter bombers carried out sweeps along the Irrawaddy and upper Chindwin Rivers, raids on Japanese supply dumps near Kamaing, and widespread attacks on enemy positions in the Arakan, Buthidaung, and Chin Hills areas. That night nine Allied B-24's bombed the Ywataung airfield, hitting the runways and dispersal areas. On 17 March escorted RAF bombers attacked Kongyi;



BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



Allied medium and fighter bombers continued to harass enemy positions and installations in western and central Burma and, in addition, attacked the railway area at Mawlu.

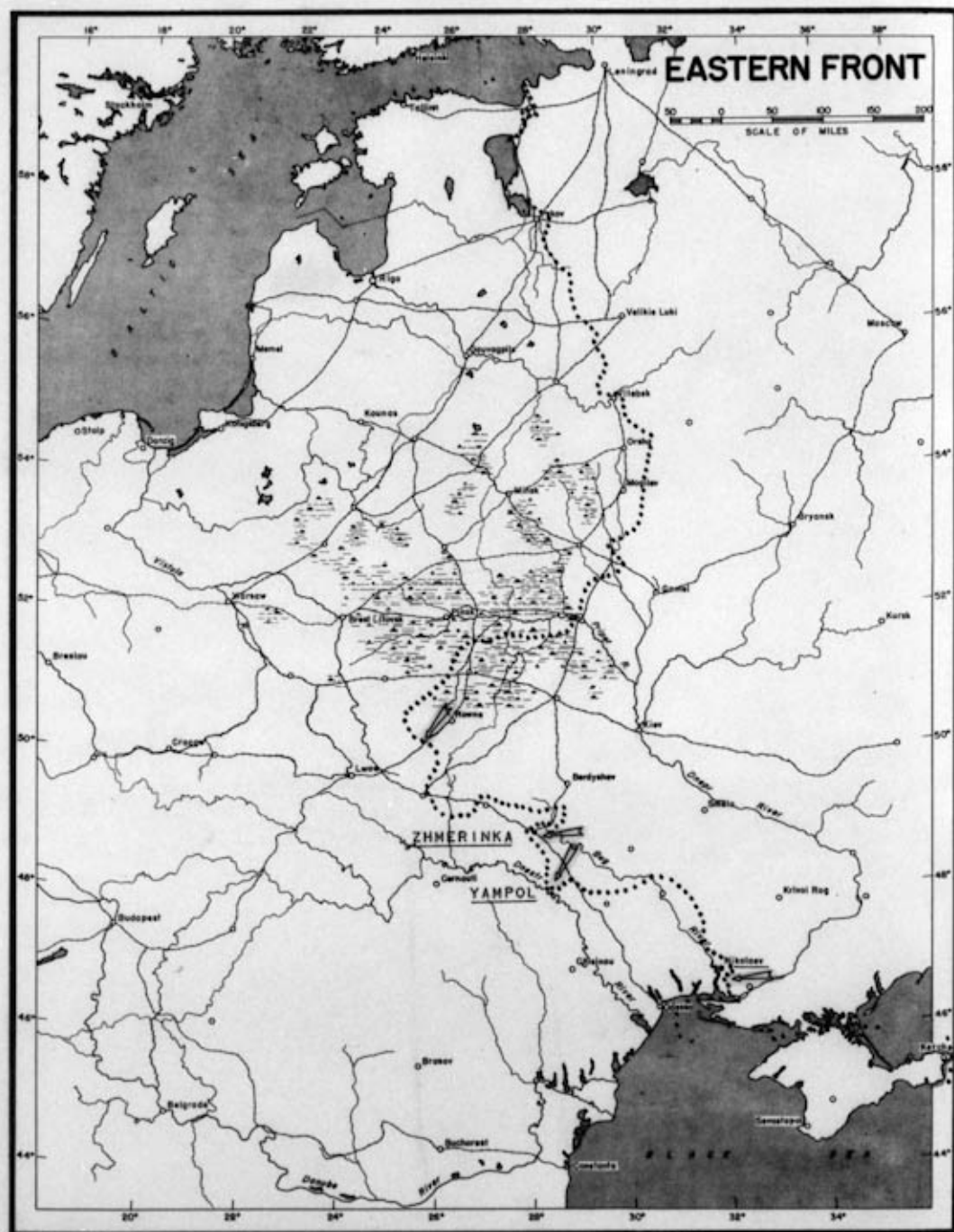
2. Japanese planes raided Hengyang, south central China, during 17 March.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 17 March our ground forces on Manus Island reached the outskirts of Lorengau and were in contact with the enemy southwest of the airdrome. On Los Negros our troops captured a hill one mile southwest of Papitalai Mission. An Allied patrol landing on Gasmata Island found the island clear of the enemy. Marine patrols were active near Linga Linga, killing 45 Japanese.

US missions totaling 83 heavy, medium, and light bombers hit gun emplacements and started fires in the Boram area and 24 Australian bombers destroyed a jetty and started fires at Wide Bay. Nine B-25's raided the Alexishafen airfield.

2. On 16 March 25 South Pacific bombers and fighters attacked supply dumps in the Torokina area and destroyed buildings at the Monoitu Mission. Sixty Navy bombers hit gun positions and exploded an ammunition dump at Kavieng. During the day 83 bombers and fighters raided the Rabaul area damaging buildings and supply facilities and attacking an ammunition dump and radar station.



EASTERN FRONT

The Soviets continued their strong attacks in the north during 18 March with no change in the situation. In the south Zhmerinka and Yampol were captured and the Soviet advance reached the eastern bank of the Dnestr River and the 1939 border. At Nikolaev Red Army units were rapidly approaching the city from three directions.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 829

0700 March 17 to 0700 March 18, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
MILES
—SCALE OF MILES—

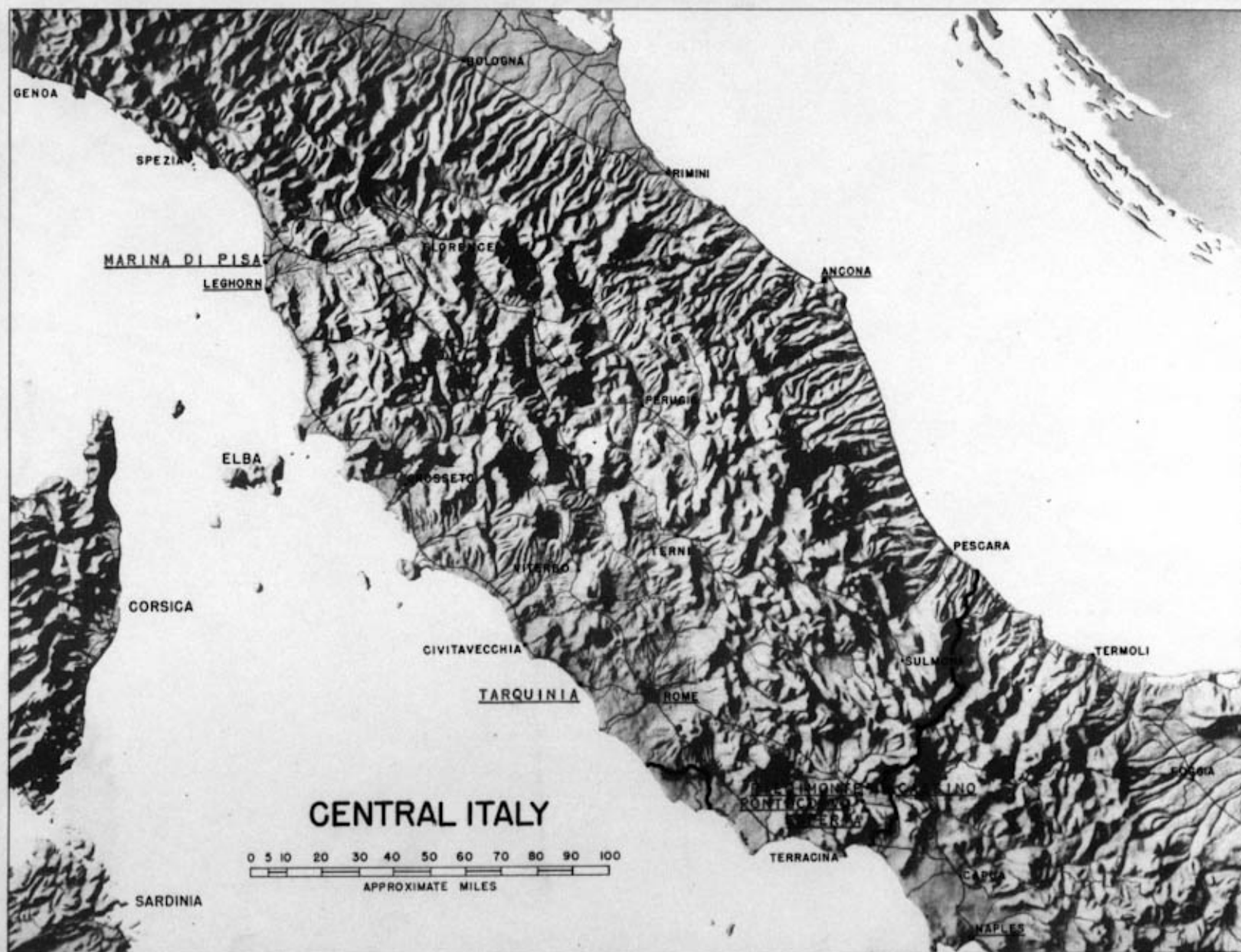
THE FENDES

SHETLAND IS.

ARIENS

LONGUEAU

STUTTGART



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, 055
REPRODUCED, 055

EUROPEAN THEATER

During 15 March, 88 Allied Expeditionary Air Force medium, light and fighter bombers dropped 99 tons of explosives on military objectives in France with fair to good results.

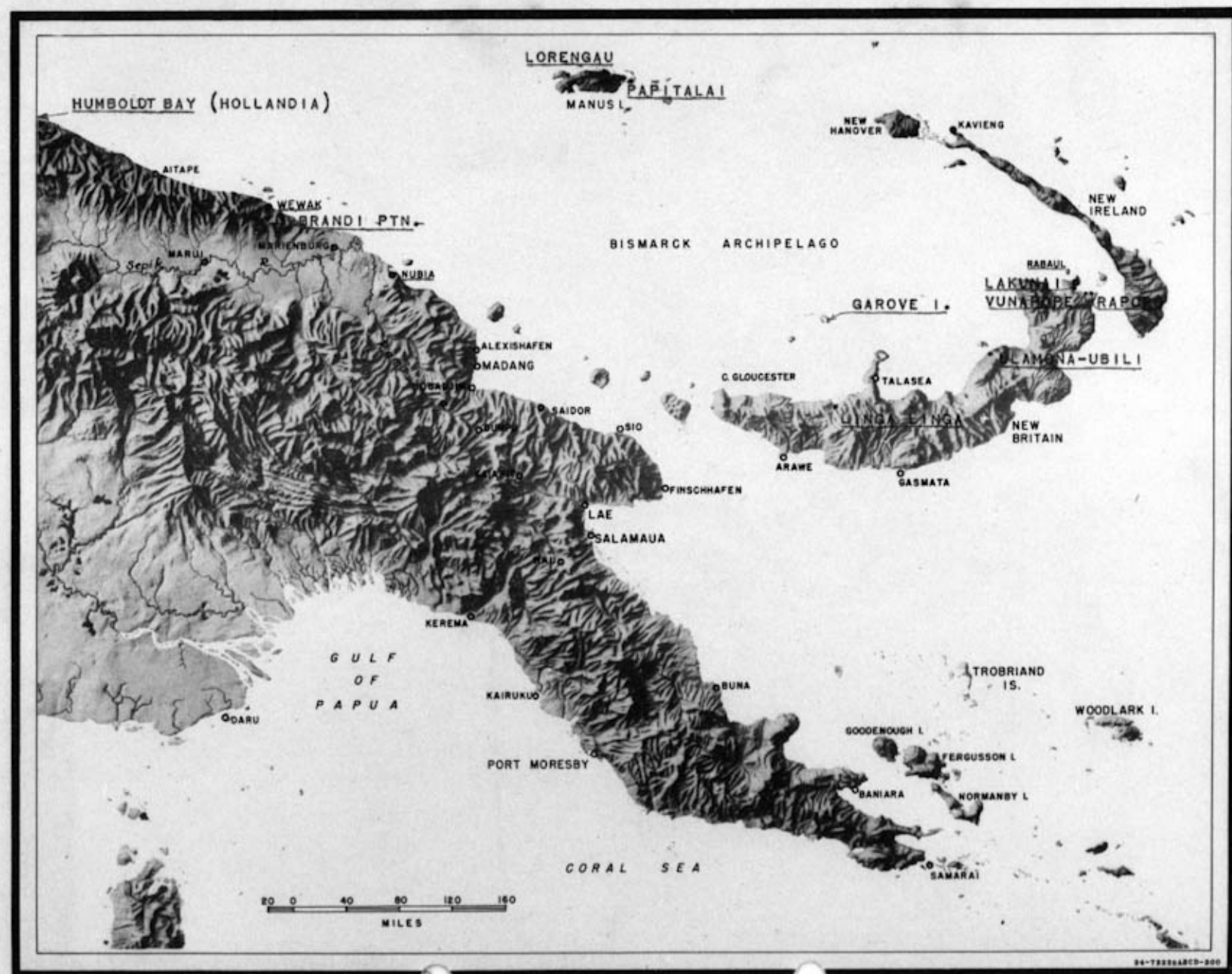
That night 762 RAF planes attacked Stuttgart through a heavy overcast, dropping 2,955 tons of bombs; two (probably three) enemy aircraft were destroyed. Thirty-six bombers are missing and five crashed in England. More than 100 Allied bombers attacked the Longueau-Amiens railroad yards, dropping 571 tons of bombs; three bombers are missing and two crashed in England on their return. Additional light bombers intruded over northern France, the Low Countries and Germany.

The same night, 15-16 March, 15 enemy aircraft operated over England, five reaching the London area; only minor damage was reported.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 16 March, weather again preventing bombing missions by the Strategic Air Force, 145 medium and light bombers of the Tactical Air Force attacked gun positions in the Pontecorvo-Piedimonte area, reporting good results. Some 125 dive and fighter bombers attacked gun positions and motor transport in the vicinity of Esperia and Cassino. Additional fighters sank a schooner near Ancona, patrolled the Cassino and beachhead areas, and attacked railroad yards and trains in the Rome area.

More than 50 Coastal Air Force medium and fighter bombers hit Leghorn harbor installations, attacked tankers near Tarquinia, and scored



direct hits on the hangars and workshops at the Marina di Pisa aircraft factory. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed and two of our planes are missing; in all 1,144 sorties were flown.

2. In the beachhead area during the night of 16-17 March the enemy made several air raids, one of which lasted 70 minutes; the damage was not reported. Ground activity was generally quiet in the area on the following day. In the Cassino area, New Zealand troops attacking southward made considerable progress to the west of the town as well as in the town itself. Elsewhere along the front only patrolling and shelling were reported.

Two Allied vessels were damaged in the 15 March enemy air attack on Naples; few casualties resulted.

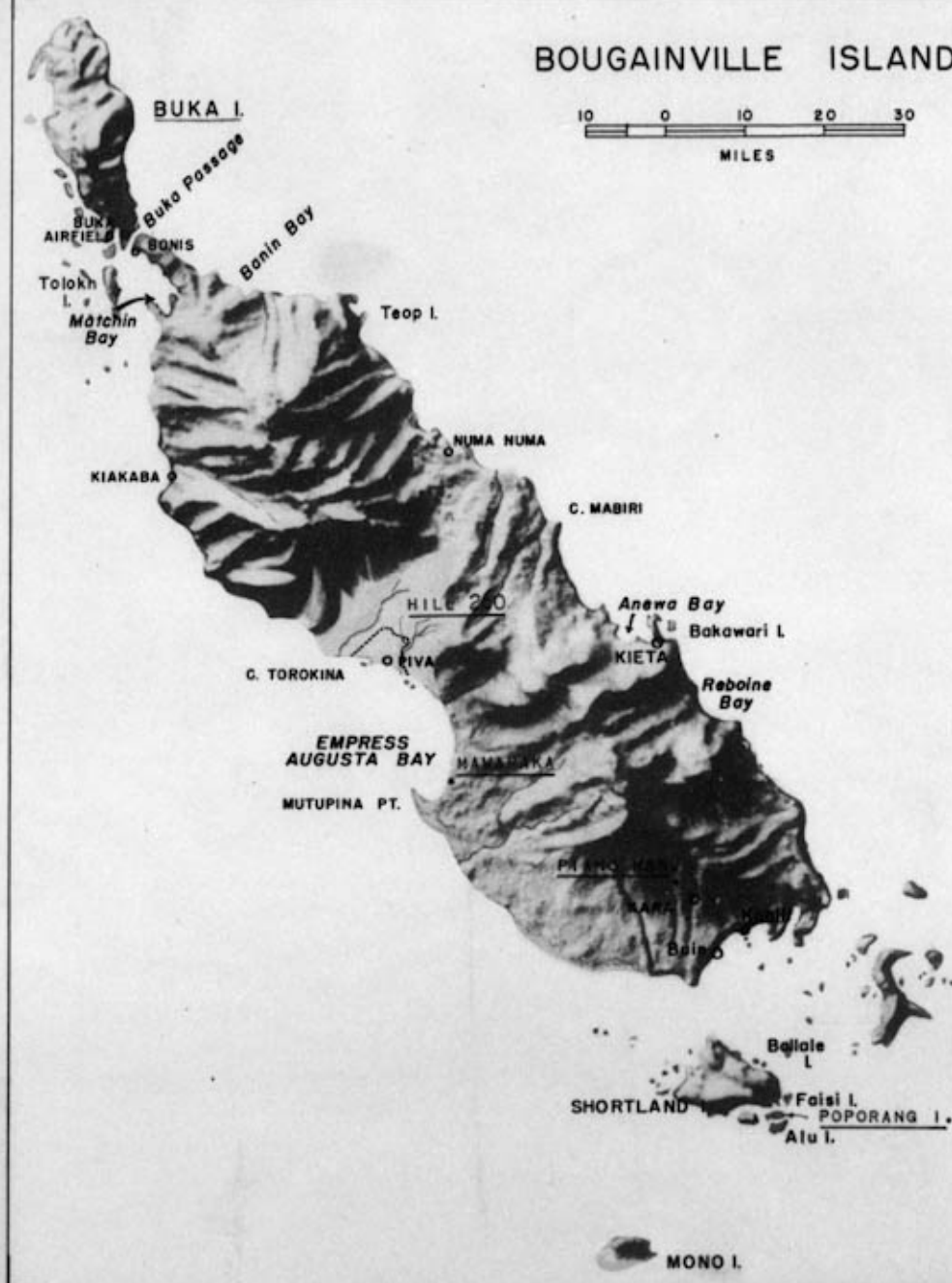
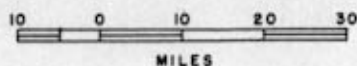
ASIATIC THEATER

During 15 and 16 March the main Chinese force in the Hukawng Valley reached a town 16 miles south of Walawbum. British troops in the Arakan coastal region reached a point six miles to the east of Maungdaw and are attacking the Japanese defenses to the north of Buthidaung. Little change was reported from the Tiddim area.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During the night of 15-16 March and the following day US forces on Manus Island captured Lorengau airdrome and advanced to within 600 yards of the town. A column two miles west and south of the town encountered machine-gun and mortar fire. On Los Negros, our units have reached a

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



point 2,300 yards west of Papitalai village in the face of strong opposition.

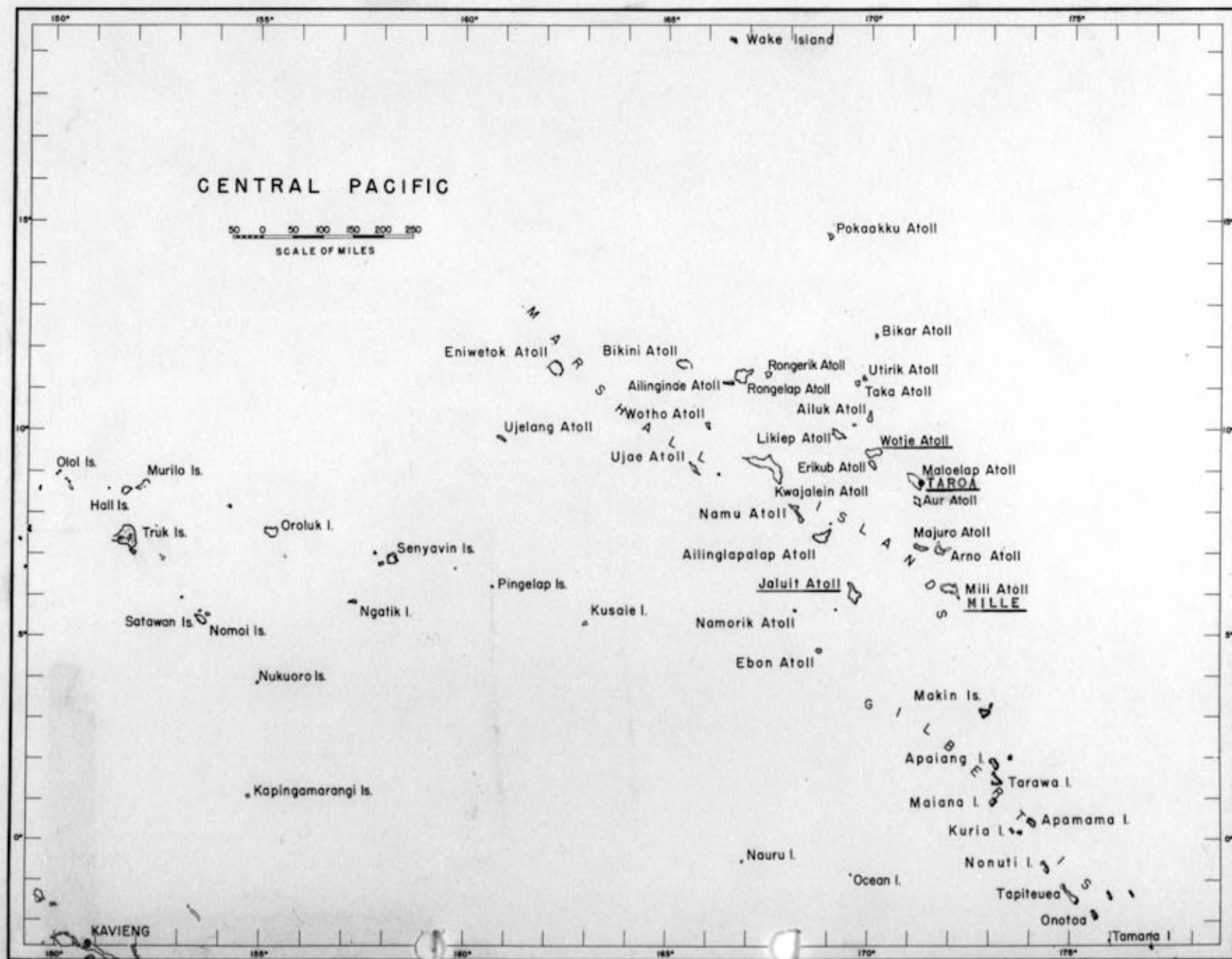
On New Britain a Marine patrol west of Linga Linga Plantation killed 21 Japanese.

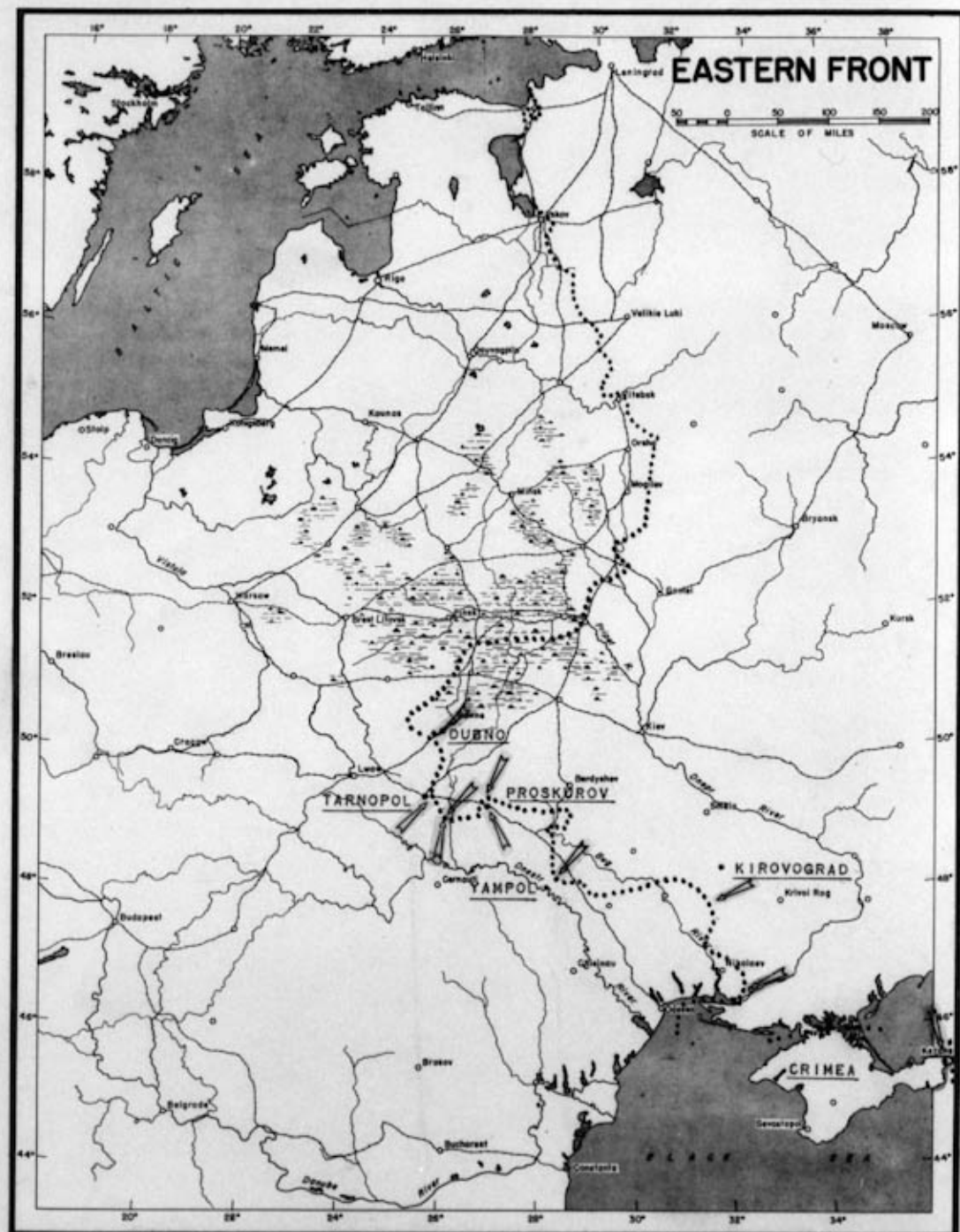
Allied Catalinas hit two 3,000-ton vessels in a convoy north of Humboldt Bay. Thirty-three B-24's bombed antiaircraft positions in the Wewak region with good results and 29 B-25's effectively attacked the Brandi Plantation and Nubia areas. Fighter aircraft flew harassing missions along the New Guinea coast and against targets on Garove Island. Seventeen RAAF bombers secured excellent coverage in the Ulamona-Ubili areas. Surabaya was attacked by nine B-24's which hit targets in the naval base and factory areas; one other B-24 bombed an airdrome in Bali.

2. Twenty-two South Pacific B-24's bombed Rapopo on 15 March with 49 tons, while 24 escorted medium bombers hit Lakunai causing considerable damage. Sixty Navy bombers also attacked targets near Rabaul. Fighter-bombers attacked the Vunapope supply area; additional fighters bombed and machine-gunned Mawaraka, the Piano Mission and Poporang. Single B-24's hit Buka and Kahili.

During the next day our units in the Torokina beachhead continued their intensive patrol operations. Small enemy forces continued to hold the southeast slope of Hill 260. One light Japanese attack was repulsed during the day with the effective support of our naval and air forces.

3. During 14 March, 12 Central Pacific B-25's dropped ten tons on





Wotje, scoring hits on barracks, a radio station, and the magazine area; ten Marine dive-bombers attacked Jaluit. The following day 12 B-25's exploded an ammunition dump and damaged a radar station at Taroa, six B-34's dropped 18 tons on Wotje, and 14 dive and fighter bombers hit Mille.

EASTERN FRONT

There was no significant change in the situation in the northern and central sectors of the Eastern Front during 17 March. In the south strong German counterattacks forced Red units to withdraw from Tarnopol and checked further Soviet advances near Proskurov. Red Army units, however, continuing to exert heavy pressure all along the line, captured Dubno and reached a point within 25 miles of the Dnestr, near Yampol. German troops south and southwest of Kirovograd continued their withdrawal toward the Bug River. After a prolonged lull, Soviet forces resumed fighting in the Crimea, launching strong attacks against enemy positions near Kerch; the situation remained unchanged.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Four B-34's and two B-24's bombed targets in the northern Kuriles with unobserved results during 16 March.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 828

0700 March 16 to 0700 March 17, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



EUROPEAN THEATER

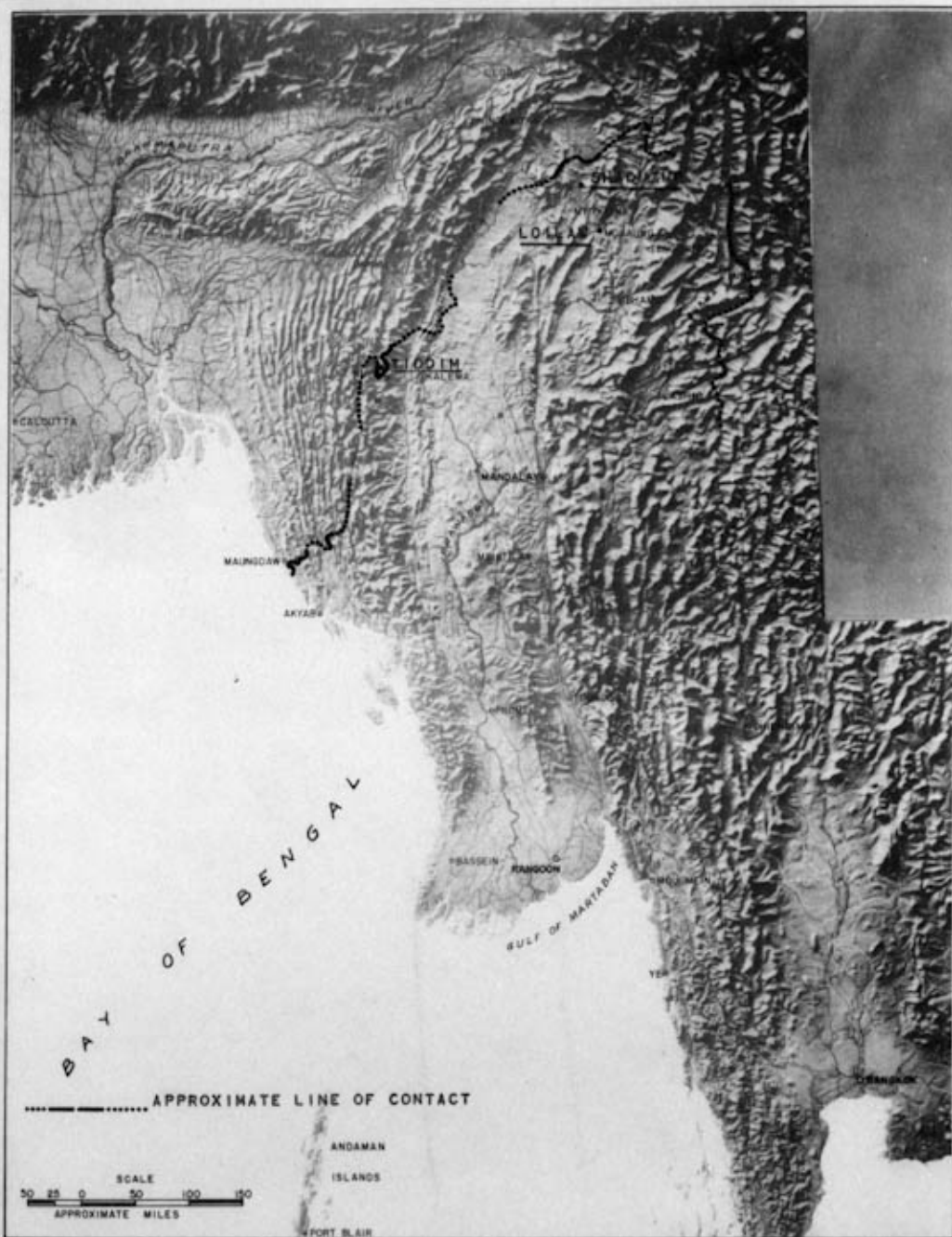
On 16 March, 800 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force, escorted by 936 Allied fighter planes, attacked the Diesel engine and bomber aircraft plants at Friedrichshafen and a bomber assembly and components plant southwest of Munich. Bombing was done through overcast. Secondary targets at Friedrichshafen and Augsburg were also bombed. Preliminary reports state that 76 enemy planes were shot down by our fighters; 22 bombers and 13 fighters are missing.

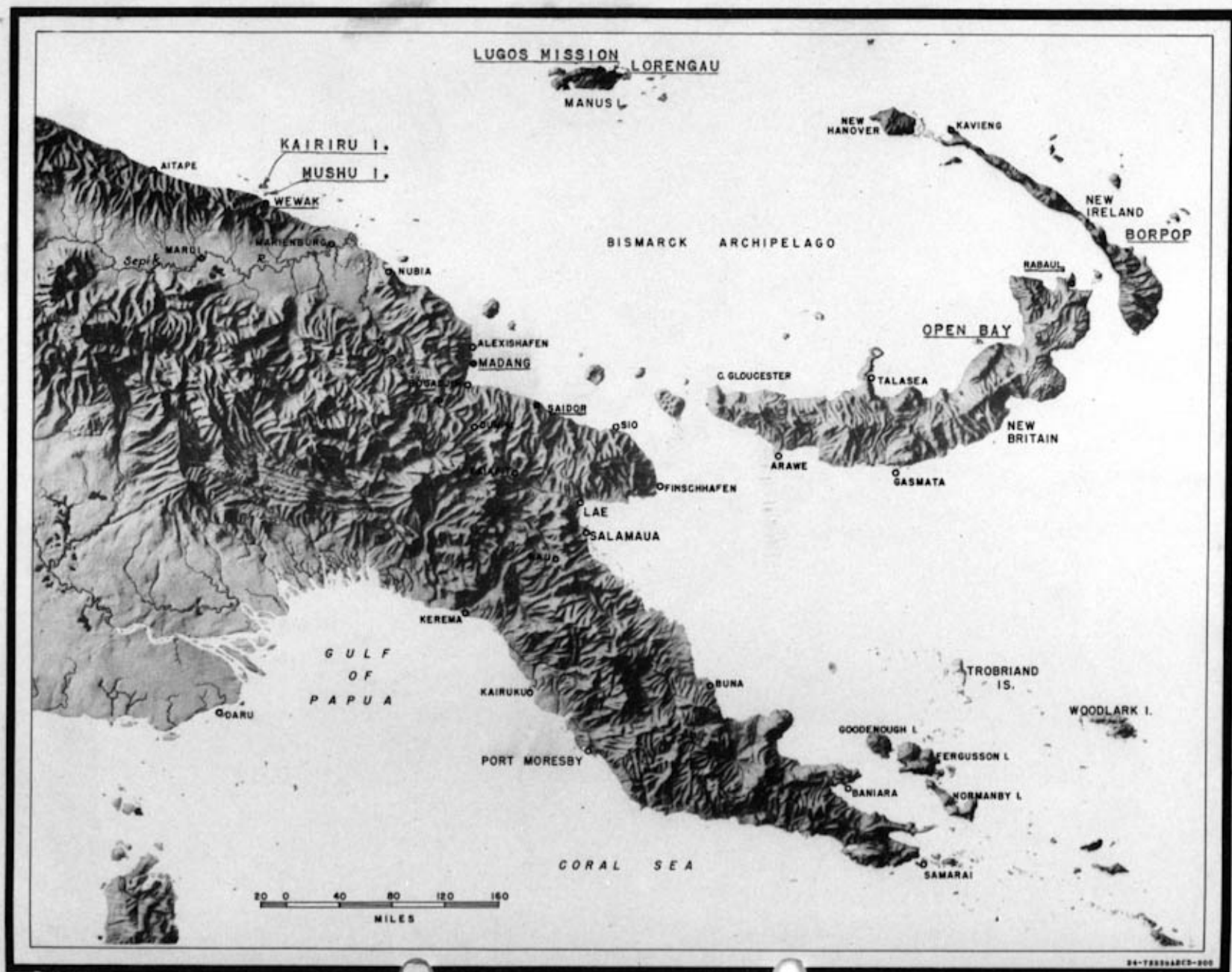
MEDITERRANEAN

1. In addition to the heavy bombing of Cassino on 15 March, 66 medium and light Tactical Air Force bombers attacked San Benedetto, and fighter bombers and fighters hit the airdrome at Rieti and lines of communication in central and western Italy; additional units patrolled the beachhead. The Coastal Air Force bombed ammunition dumps in the vicinity of Tarquinia and Cecina, and harbors at Viareggio and Durazzo. More than 20 German planes raided Naples; intercepting Mosquitoes destroyed one enemy plane.

During the night of 15-16 March, 82 Allied heavy and medium bombers dropped 180 tons of bombs on Sofia.

2. On 16 March a light enemy attack against Carano in the Anzio beachhead was repulsed. Enemy artillery fire was reported along the entire perimeter and against the Anzio port area. The Allied ground forces which attacked Cassino the previous day were still fighting in the town. In the Adriatic sector patrols were active.





ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 13 March, 78 planes of the 10th Air Force attacked supply and ammunition dumps and a bridge in the Shaduzup area. Twenty-nine fighter-bombers destroyed a large building and caused other damage in Loilaw.

2. Japanese ground forces operating in the Chin Hills cut the British main line of communication leading into Tiddim, headquarters of the British 17th Division.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

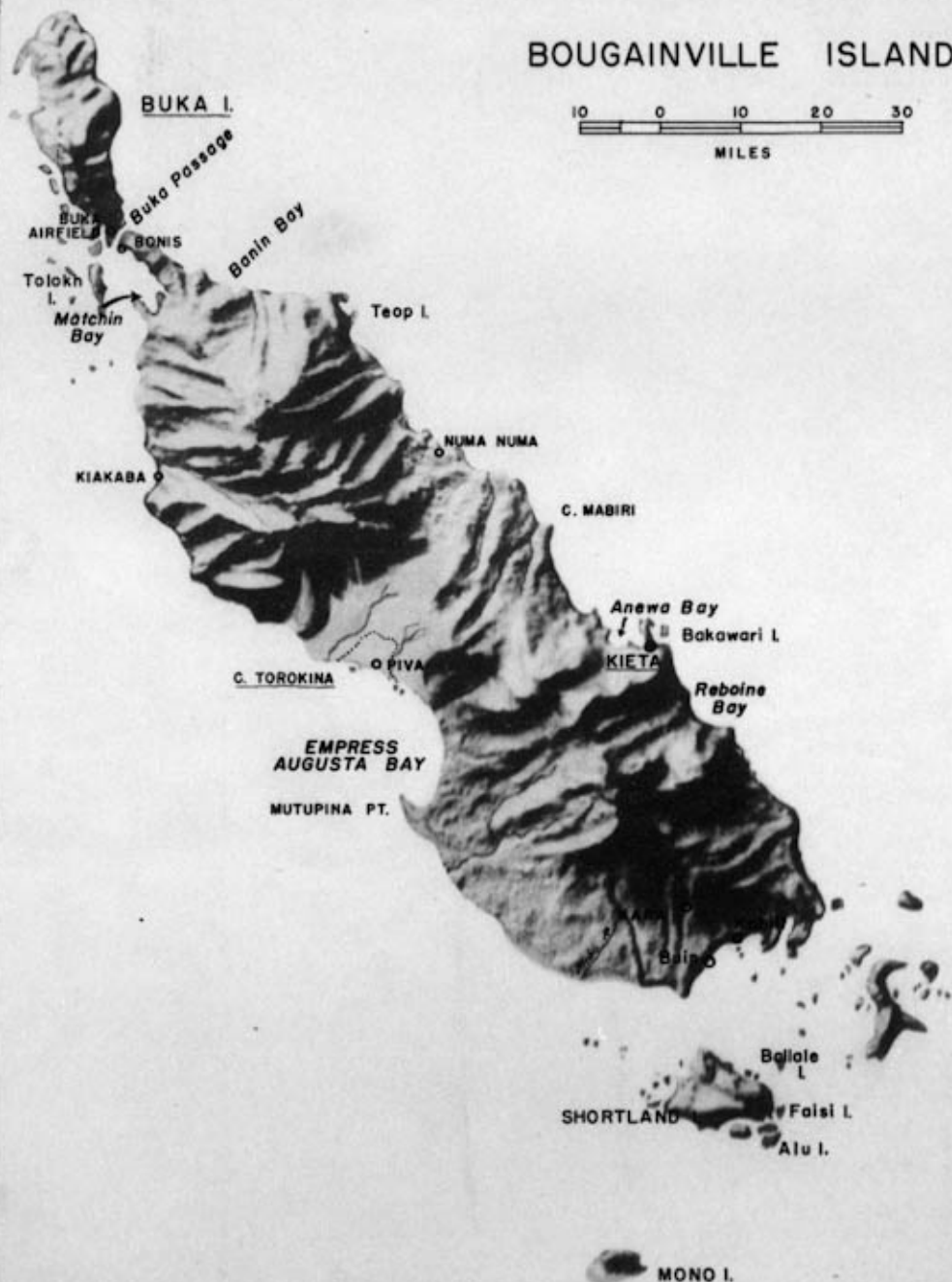
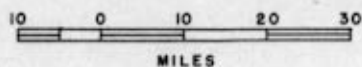
1. During the night of 14-15 March, Allied patrol planes damaged or destroyed 15 enemy barges and bombed Jap encampments on Mushu Island.

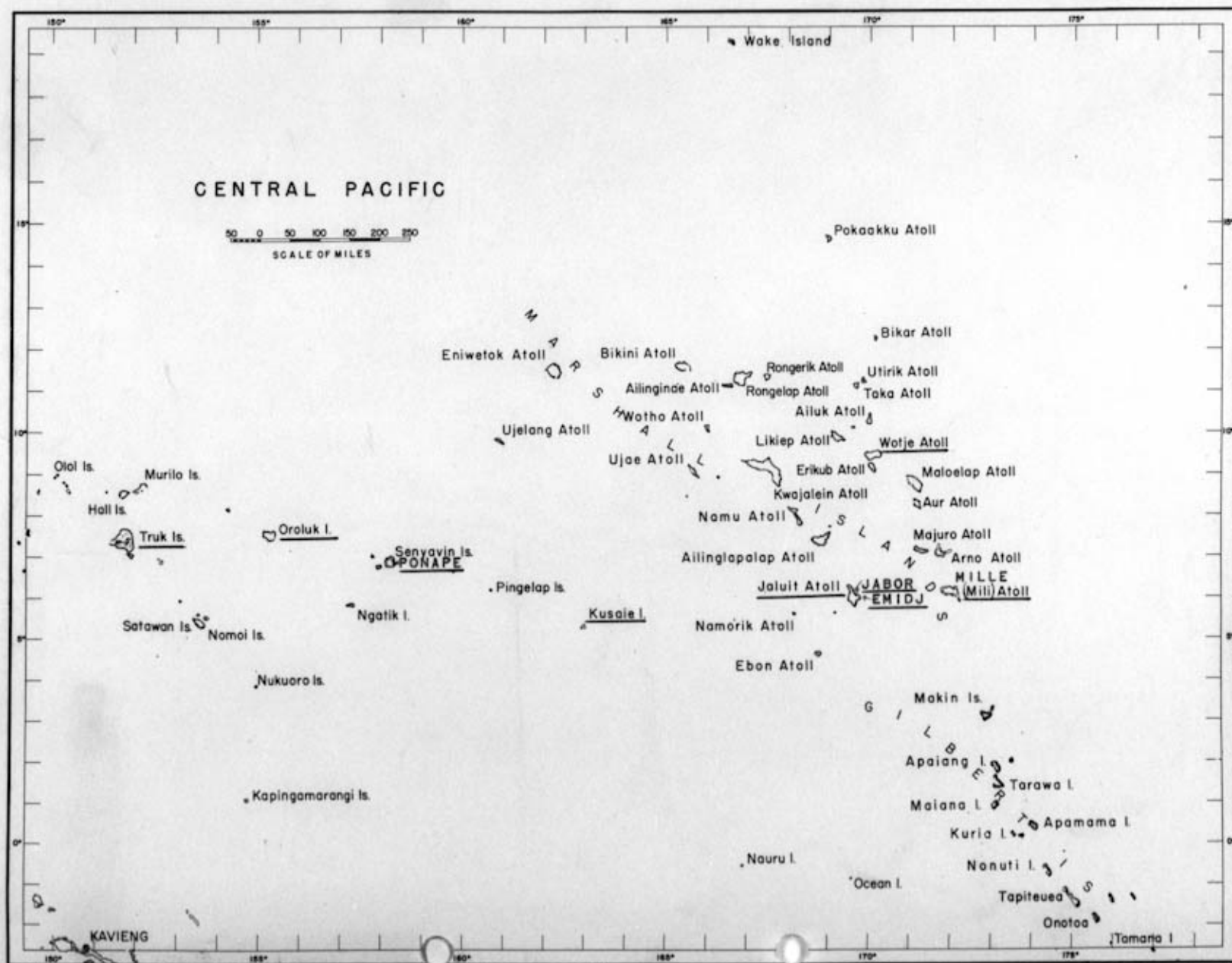
The following day 18 B-25's bombed and heavily machine-gunned Lugos Mission prior to the landing of our ground forces; an additional 18 B-25's furnished air support to our ground troops following the landing. Forty-two B-24's scored direct hits on gun positions, destroyed buildings, and caused explosions in the Wewak area; 59 medium and light bombers attacked Kairiru Island nearby, demolishing houses and seriously damaging seaplane facilities. Our fighter escort shot down five (probably six) intercepting enemy planes.

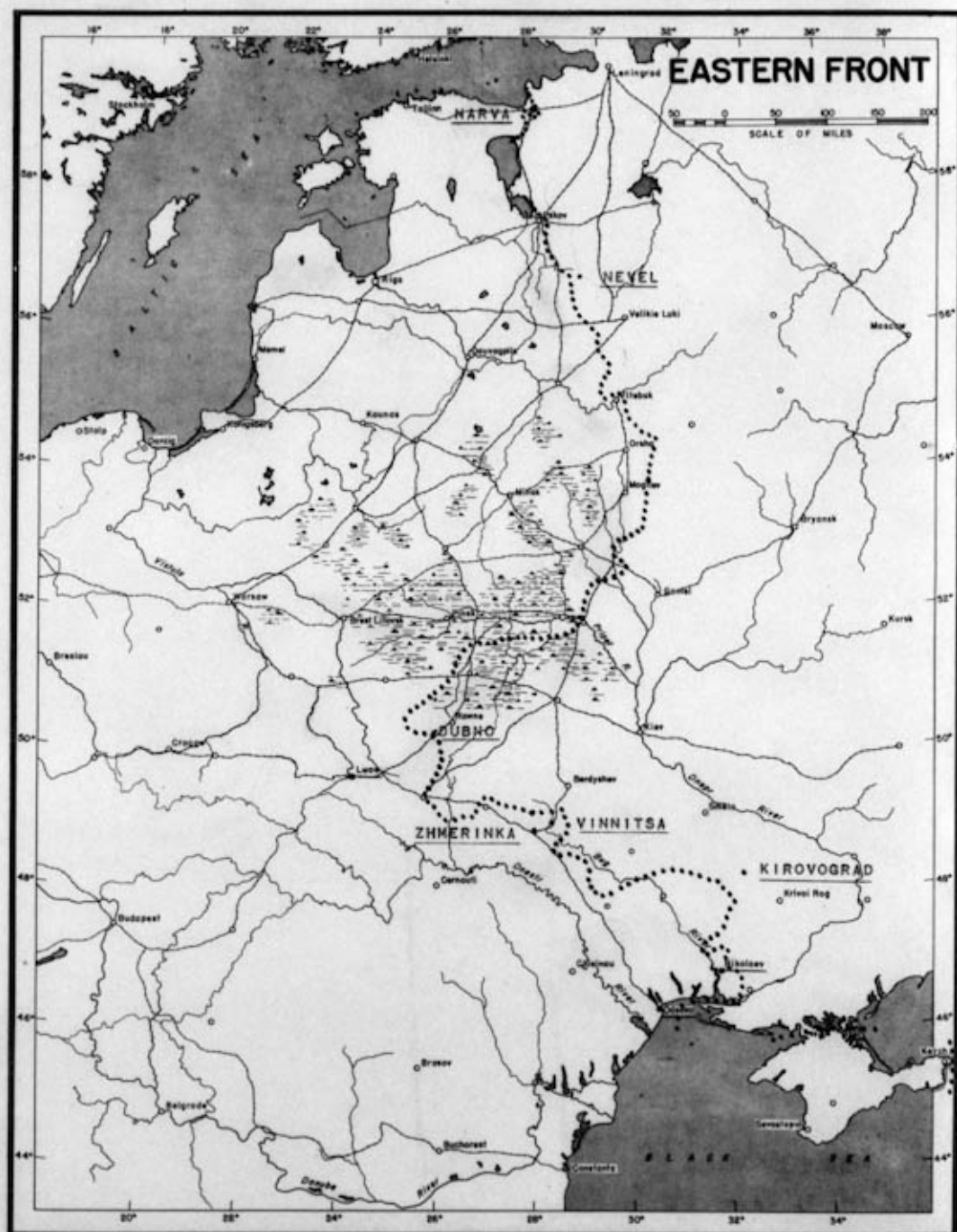
Three enemy planes bombed Saidor, hitting the fuel dump; one was shot down.

2. Army and Navy planes from the South Pacific Area heavily attacked harbor facilities and the town of Rabaul on 14 March starting eleven large

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND







fires. One B-24 started large fires in the supply area at Borpop. One hundred seventy-two Navy bombers dropped 145 tons of bombs on the Torokina area. Fourteen Allied fighters machine-gunned barges in the vicinity of Kieta and destroyed a bridge over the Mibo River on southeastern Bougainville. Another Japanese ground attack against our Torokina beachhead on 15 March was neutralized by an infantry and tank counterattack.

3. On 13 March, 15 Central Pacific B-24's dropped 22 tons of bombs on Ponape. Other Army, Navy and Marine bombers hit Jaluit, Wotje, Mille, Kusaie, Ponape and Oroluk.

Eleven B-24's bombed Truk during the night of 14-15 March, 11 other B-24's hit Ponape and Oroluk.

EASTERN FRONT

Small-scale Soviet attacks were reported southwest of Narva and west of Nevel on 16 March. A new Russian drive was launched toward Lwow from north of Dubno. South of Vinnitsa, the Soviets cut the main railroad line between Zhmerinka and Odessa. South of Kirovograd the Germans are withdrawing without offering much resistance. North of Nikolaev Soviet troops have reached the Bug River; strong enemy opposition is being encountered in this area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 827

0700 March 15 to 0700 March 16, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RRA, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Combat missions of the 8th and 9th Air Forces on 14 March were limited to reconnaissance missions over northeast France. ✓

On 15 March, 371 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force escorted by 622 fighters were dispatched to bomb Brunswick. Preliminary fighter claims indicate 36 (probably 37) enemy aircraft were destroyed; three of our heavy bombers and five fighters are missing. One hundred fourteen 9th Air Force medium bombers bombed French railway yards at Haine St. Pierre and Aulnoye and the airdrome at Chievres with results assessed at from good to poor.

2. During the night of 14-15 March, 140 German bombers, arriving in four waves, attacked London, the Home Counties and East Anglia. The majority of the aircraft converged on London carrying out a widespread attack with incendiaries; 54 London boroughs were affected. Considerable damage to residential property and to an American Army installation north of Oxford Street resulted. In the London area 20 were killed and 40 wounded. Nine (probably ten) German planes were destroyed. ✓

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 13-14 March and the following day, air missions totaling nearly 300 medium, light and fighter bombers attacked the town of Velletri, the railroad yards at Rome, Orte, Terni, and Montalto di Castro, the dock areas at Piombino and the canal and seaplane factory at Marina di Pisa. Enemy gun positions and troop concentrations in the

battle areas were the targets for other fighter bombers and fighter missions. Four (probably five) enemy aircraft were destroyed; three of our medium bombers are missing.

2. Activity on the Italian battlefront centered around Cassino during the 24-hour period ending at noon 15 March. On the afternoon of the 14th the enemy launched two attacks, one east of Terelle and the other west of Cassino but no reported change in the line resulted. On the morning of 15 March, 16 groups of heavy and medium bombers of the Allied Mediterranean Air Force flattened Cassino with some 1,500 tons of bombs; this air striking force was scheduled to return during the afternoon to attack targets beyond the town. At noon Allied artillery massed its fires on Cassino in preparation for the attack by our infantry and armored units.

Our beachhead forces continued to improve their positions during this period, gains being held despite heavy enemy counterattacks.

ASIATIC THEATER

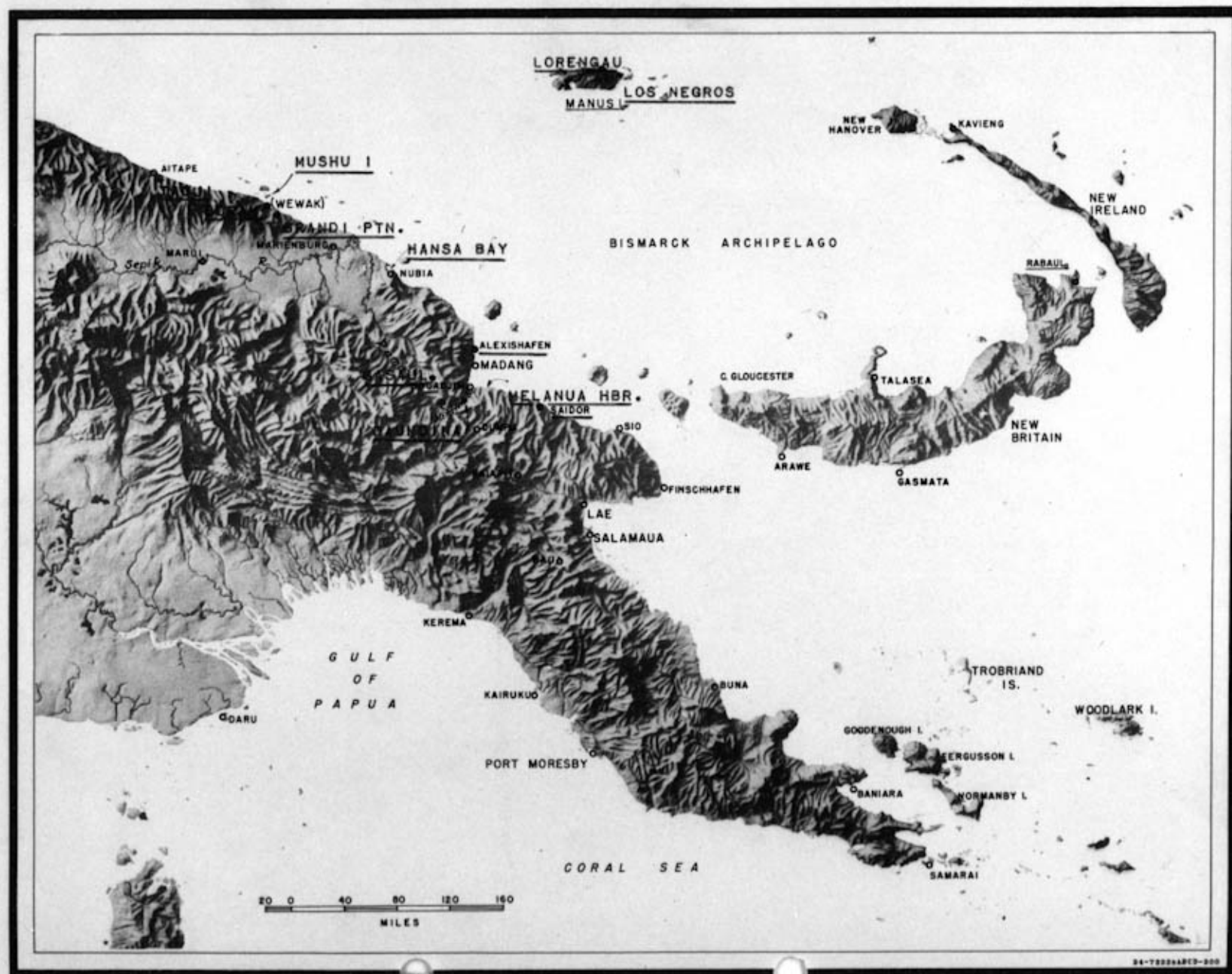
1. During 12 March, five (probably eight) of 20 Japanese planes engaged near Katha were destroyed at a cost of one Allied fighter.

During the same day 55 planes of the 10th Air Force attacked enemy bivouacs, supply dumps and stores in the vicinity of Kamaing and Shaduzup. Nine RAF bombers attacked the Shwebo railway station; other planes hit Kongyi and troop concentrations in the vicinity of Htinzin. The next day, 36 RAF aircraft concentrated on enemy troop concentrations and installations in the vicinity of Tiddim and southwest of Buthidaung; six again bombed Kongyi during the day.



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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



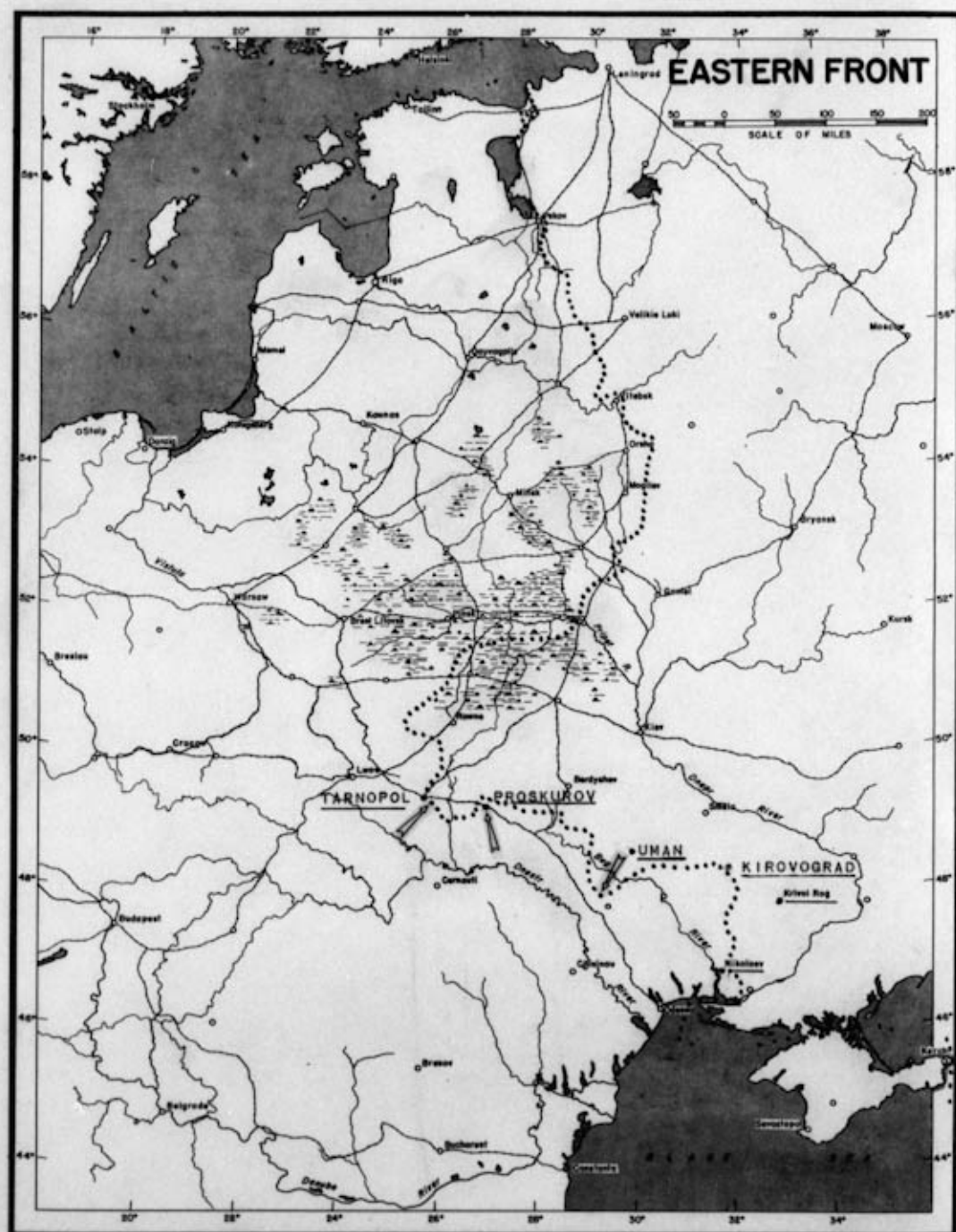
2. Allied forces in northern Burma continued their advance during 13 and 14 March; patrols are now operating 12 miles southeast of Walawbum. Along the Arakan coast, British forces have cleared all but two miles of the road between Maungdaw and Buthidaung.

3. During the night of 13-14 March, ten Japanese medium bombers in two waves attacked our airfield at Hengyang and ten others attacked our Suichwan airfield; minor damage was sustained at both places. Lighter enemy raids were made against Kweilin, Kaoyag and Wuchow.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 13 March Southwest Pacific aircraft bombed numerous enemy installations on northeastern New Guinea. Included among the targets were Mushu Island, Alexishafen and Gasaul village; close air support was given to our ground forces approaching Melanua harbor. The next day 17 B-24's left the runway at Tadjil unserviceable; twenty-two others silenced gun positions in the Boram area. Seventy-one medium and light bombers attacked the Brandi Plantation area starting a large number of fires, destroying buildings and shooting down eight (probably ten) enemy planes in combat. Three B-24's also bombed the Hansa Bay area during the day.

In an operation characterized by excellent coordination between our Army, Navy and Air Forces, an Army task force of 2,000 men landed on Lorengau (Manus Island). By noon on 15 March our forces had advanced half way to the Lorengau air strip. On Los Negros, our forces had advanced some 800 yards in the western end of the island against slight opposition.



Our patrols in New Guinea pushed westward to occupy a village near Melanua Harbor; in the Mintjim Valley, Allied forces gained contact with the enemy northwest of Daumoina.

2. South Pacific missions totaling 82 bombers and fighters hit the Rabaul area with more than 119 tons of bombs during 13 March.

Our positions on the right flank of the Bougainville beachhead were improved during the day. Ninety mm antiaircraft guns have been emplaced in the front lines and used effectively with direct fire. The total number of visible enemy dead totals 1,173. South Pacific aircraft continued to render close air support for our operations, particularly against enemy gun positions.

3. Three B-24's and ten Marine dive-bombers exploded an ammunition dump and hit antiaircraft positions on Taroa during 12 March. Missions totaling four B-24's and 15 B-25's raided Mille, Wotje, Jaluit and Kusaie.

EASTERN FRONT

In eastern Europe, little fighting was reported on the northern and central fronts during 15 March. On the southern front, effective German counterattacks between Tarnopol and Proskurov halted Soviet advances in this area. The Red armies advanced 20 miles west of the Bug River, southwest of Uman. Elsewhere along the southern front the Soviets reported advances southwest and south of Kirovograd; east of Nikolaev heavy fighting is in progress.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 826

0700 March 14 to 0700 March 15, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
MILES
—SCALE OF MILES—

THE FEROES

SHETLAND IS.

DUISBURG

AACHEN

POIX

LE MANS



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives have been issued for the movement of the 11th Airborne Division (Major General Joseph M. Swing) from Camp Polk, Louisiana, to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation for shipment overseas on or about 15 April 1944.

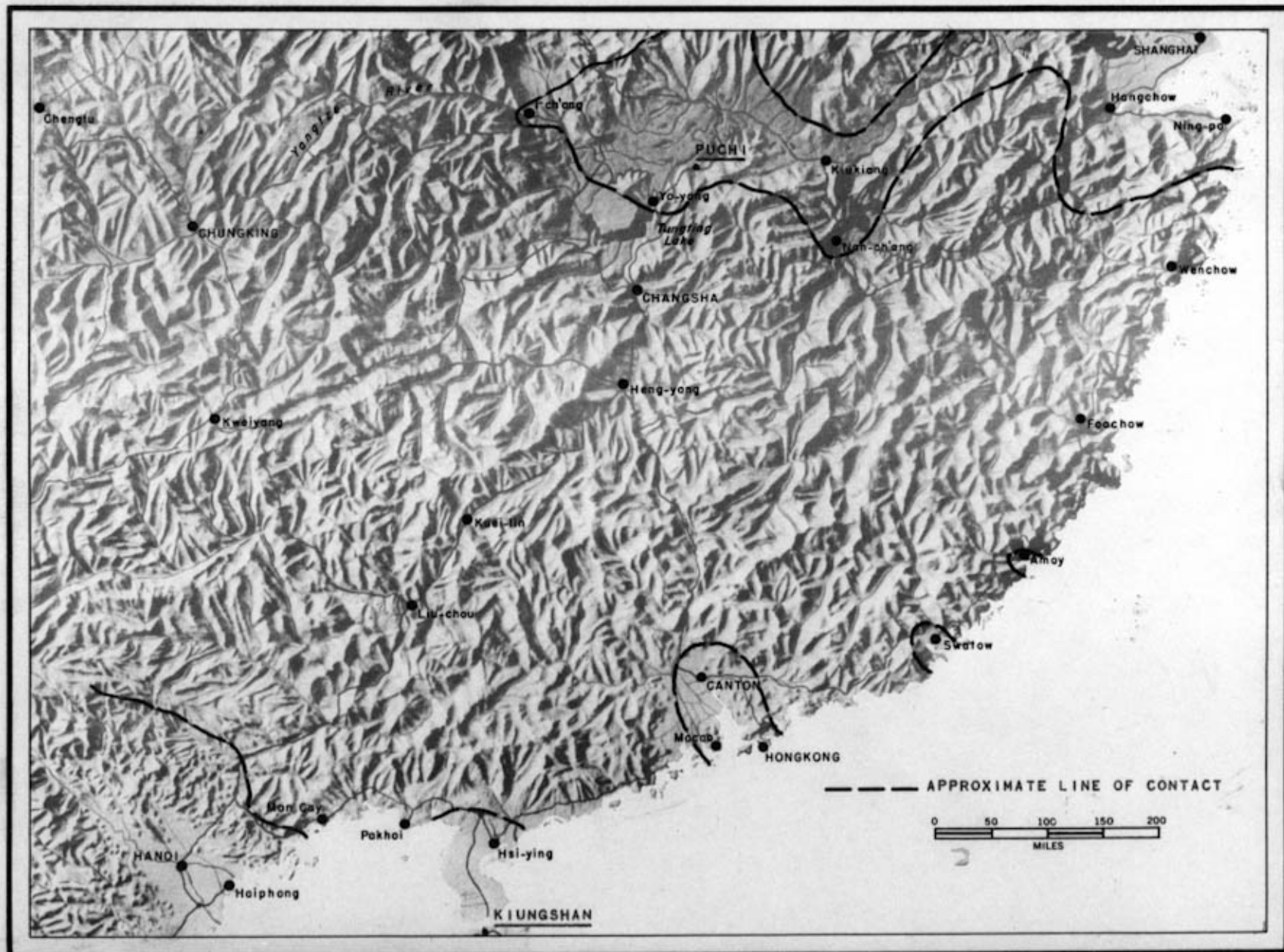
EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 12-13 March Mosquitoes bombed Aachen and Duisburg. The following day, seven B-17's bombed an airdrome near Poix; unfavorable weather forced all other heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force to return to their bases. Two B-17's were lost to antiaircraft fire and one B-24 crash-landed in the UK. Forty B-26's bombed a target in the Pas de Calais area with fair results.

The night of 13-14 March, 211 RAF bombers dropped 1,051 tons of explosives on Le Mans with good results; one heavy bomber is missing. Twenty-five Mosquitoes attacked Frankfurt; 13 others made scattered raids on other German industrial cities.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Strategic Air Force missions over Italy were cancelled because of weather conditions on 13 March. Strong formations of medium bombers attacked railroad marshalling yards and other targets at Spoleto, Perugia and Fabriano in central Italy, hit similar targets near Sarzana, Marina di Pisa and Viareggio along the northwest coast, and again attacked the



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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

San Stefano dock and storage areas. Fighter bombers raided lines of communication, gun positions and supply dumps in the battle area and elsewhere in central Italy and shipping off the Dalmatian Coast. An estimated 45 enemy sorties were reported in the Anzio-Rome area; 24 of these planes engaging 12 A-36's shot down four.

A Middle-East Beaufighter shot down two enemy transport planes off the coast of Rhodes.

2. During the 24 hours prior to noon on 14 March only patrolling and minor raids were reported along the Italian battlefronts. Discharge of supplies at Anzio continued satisfactorily in spite of increased enemy shelling on the 13th.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 13 March eight escorted B-25's of the 14th Air Force bombed Kiungshan airfield on Hainan Island with good results; one B-25 was shot down in aerial combat. A mission of 16 P-40's scored hits on the approaches of a bridge at Puchi with 1,000-pound bombs.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied ground forces completed the occupation of Butjo Luo and Hauwei Islands on 13 March. Artillery and mortars shelled enemy positions 800 yards southwest of Papitalai. Light enemy air raids were reported against Momote area during the night of 12-13 March.

On New Britain Marine patrols contacted enemy outposts five miles south of Talasea while other ground patrols, landing at Linga Linga,

killed 55 and captured 12 enemy stragglers.

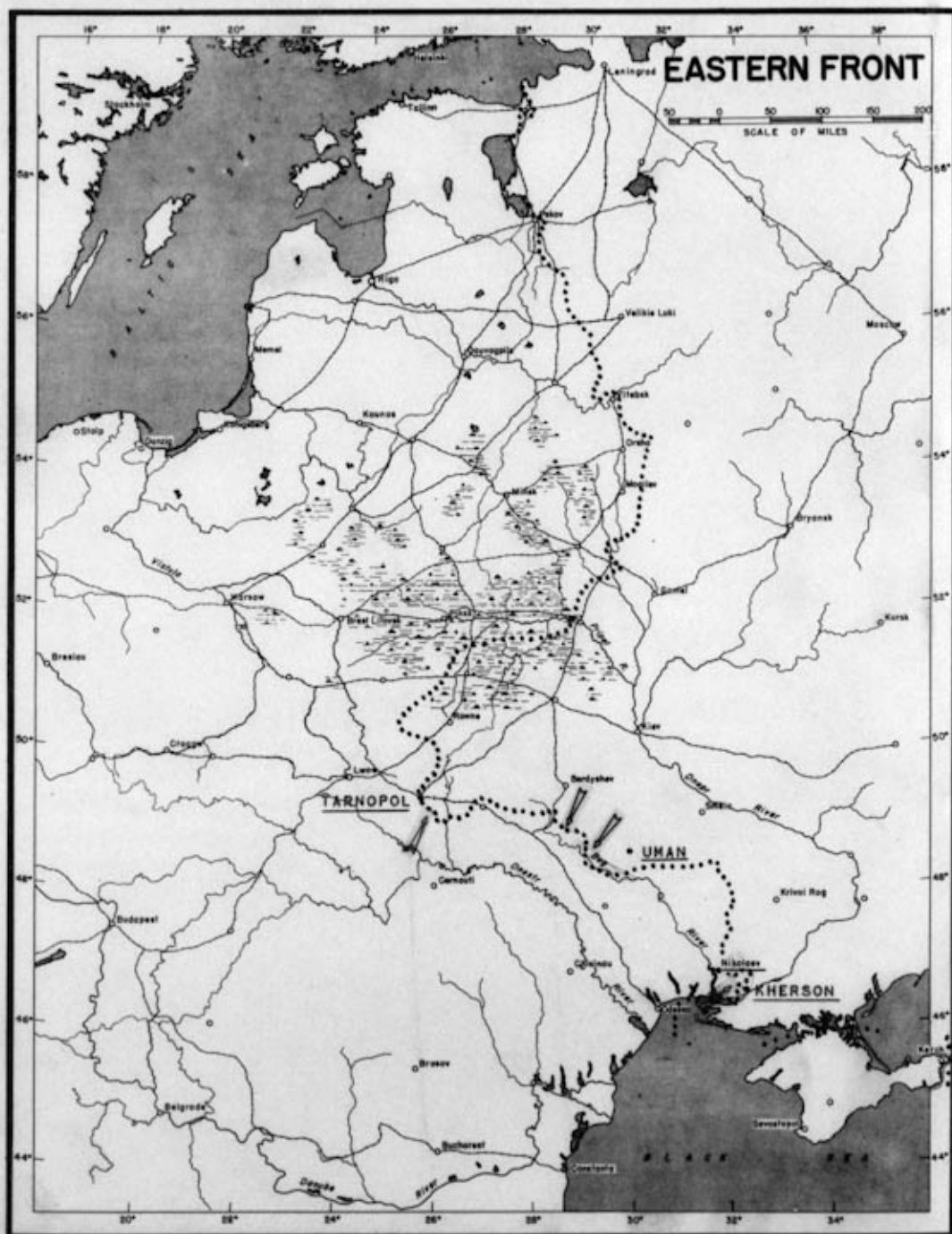
On 13 March 93 bombers attacked gun positions at Wewak and caused large fuel fires and explosions at Brandi Plantation nearby. Eight (probably nine) enemy planes were shot down without Allied loss. P-39's attacked gun positions at Madang. On northern New Britain fighter planes hit targets at Bangula Bay and machine-gunned villages in the vicinity of Commodore Bay.

2. South Pacific bombers and fighters damaged the customs wharf and started large fires and explosions in the Rabaul area on 12 March, destroying at least four of the seven enemy planes encountered in the air, as well as another on the ground; two of our fighters are missing. Four P-39's attacked gun positions on Shortland Island and two B-25's bombed Buka with unobserved results.

The enemy unsuccessfully continued to attack our perimeter at Torokina on 13 March; at least 200 Japanese were killed. Allied artillery, air and naval units continued their bombardment of enemy installations.

3. The War Department has approved the request of General Harmon that officers of his command, eligible for rotation but desiring to continue in service in his theater, be returned to the US on leave rather than as a matter of rotation provided that all such leaves are included within his allotment for rotation.

4. On 11 March 22 B-24's dropped 51 tons of bombs on Wake Island. Four photo planes accompanied the mission. Other Central Pacific planes



raided Taroa, Wotje, Nauru, and Pingelap.

A ground reconnaissance unit found no Japs on Lib Island. Five of the six encountered by our Marines on Ujae committed suicide; the sixth was captured.

EASTERN FRONT

There was little activity in the northern and central sectors of the eastern front on 14 March. South of Tarnopol, the Germans have launched vigorous counterattacks in an effort to check further Soviet advances. The Red Armies have reached the Bug River on a 40-mile front west and southwest of Uman, and have established several small bridgeheads on the western bank of the river. The enemy is strongly counter-attacking north of Kherson and east of Nikolaev to avoid encirclement of his forces to the east.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 825

0700 March 13 to 0700 March 14, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



BAS. MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R A 55
REPRODUCED, 055

DECLASSIFIED

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 11-12 March RAF heavy bombers laid mines off the west coast of France and along the Frisian Islands. Mosquito bombers raided German industrial cities; Hamburg and Munchen-Gladbach, the principal targets, received 19 and 11 tons respectively.

The next day, 46 unescorted B-24's dropped 178 tons of bombs through an overcast on a military objective in the Pas de Calais area. There were no encounters, only one enemy aircraft being seen; all our bombers returned safely.

On 13 March 281 escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers were dispatched to attack military installations on the northwest coast of France.

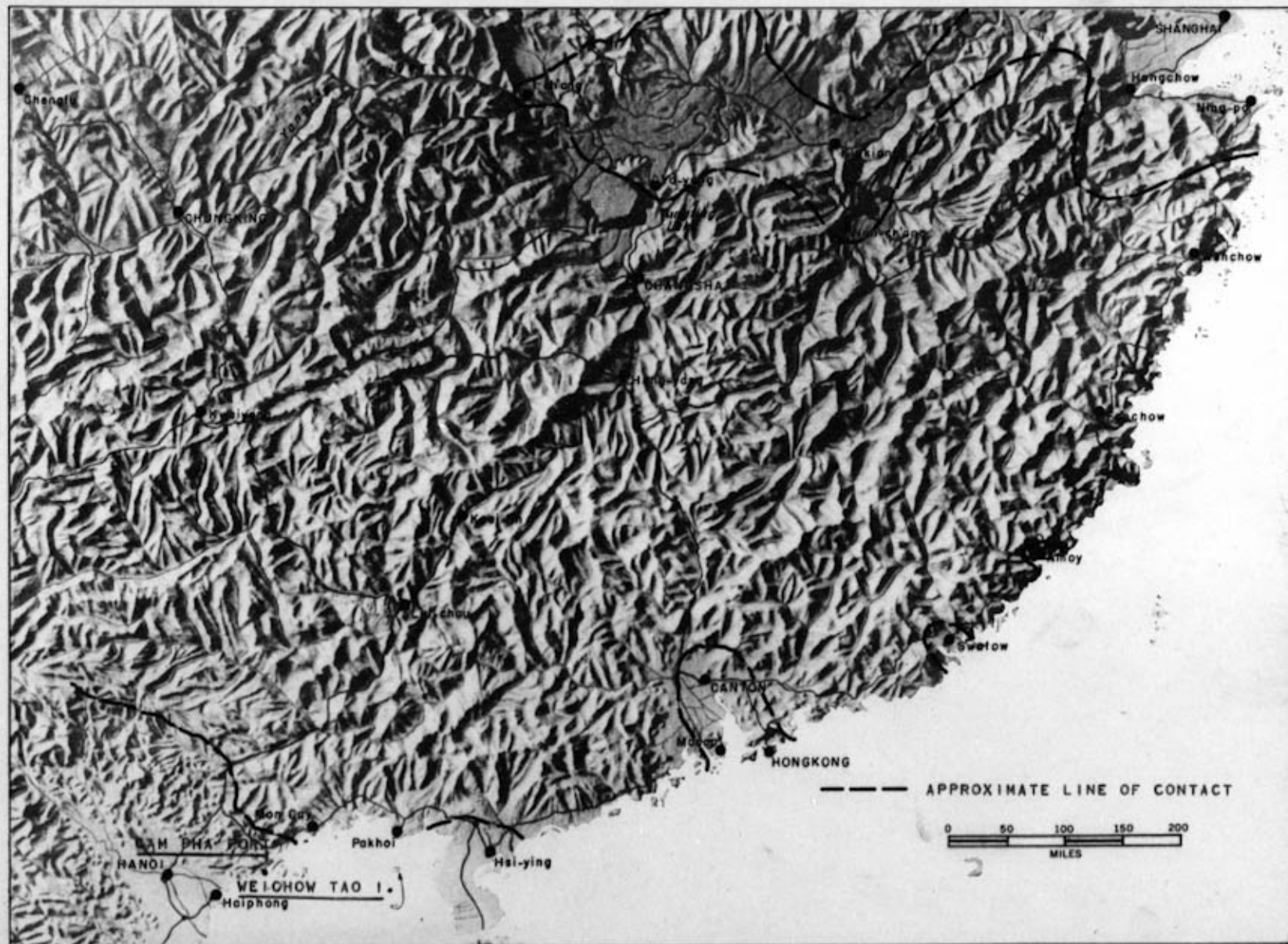
MEDITERRANEAN

1. A steamer carrying Army cargo and personnel was torpedoed and sunk 40 miles south of Naples on 9 March. Three hundred and fifty US Army personnel survived; five are dead and 51 are missing.

A record total of 7,507 tons of cargo was unloaded at the Anzio beachhead during 10 March.

2. Thirty-seven Allied bombers hit the railroad yards at Genoa with 84 tons of bombs during the night of 11-12 March; four others attacked targets of opportunity in the same area.

Seventeen A-20's bombed Campoleone, Cisterna, railroad targets at Genzano and motor transport north of Rome; eight RAF planes patrolled



the Anzio area. Adverse weather restricted aerial activity over Italy during 12 March. Fighter aircraft damaged two freighters off the Spanish coast, hit the Cecina railroad bridge and destroyed one enemy plane.

3. No change in the situation was reported on either Italian battle-front during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 13 March. Additional reinforcements arrived in the Anzio beachhead.

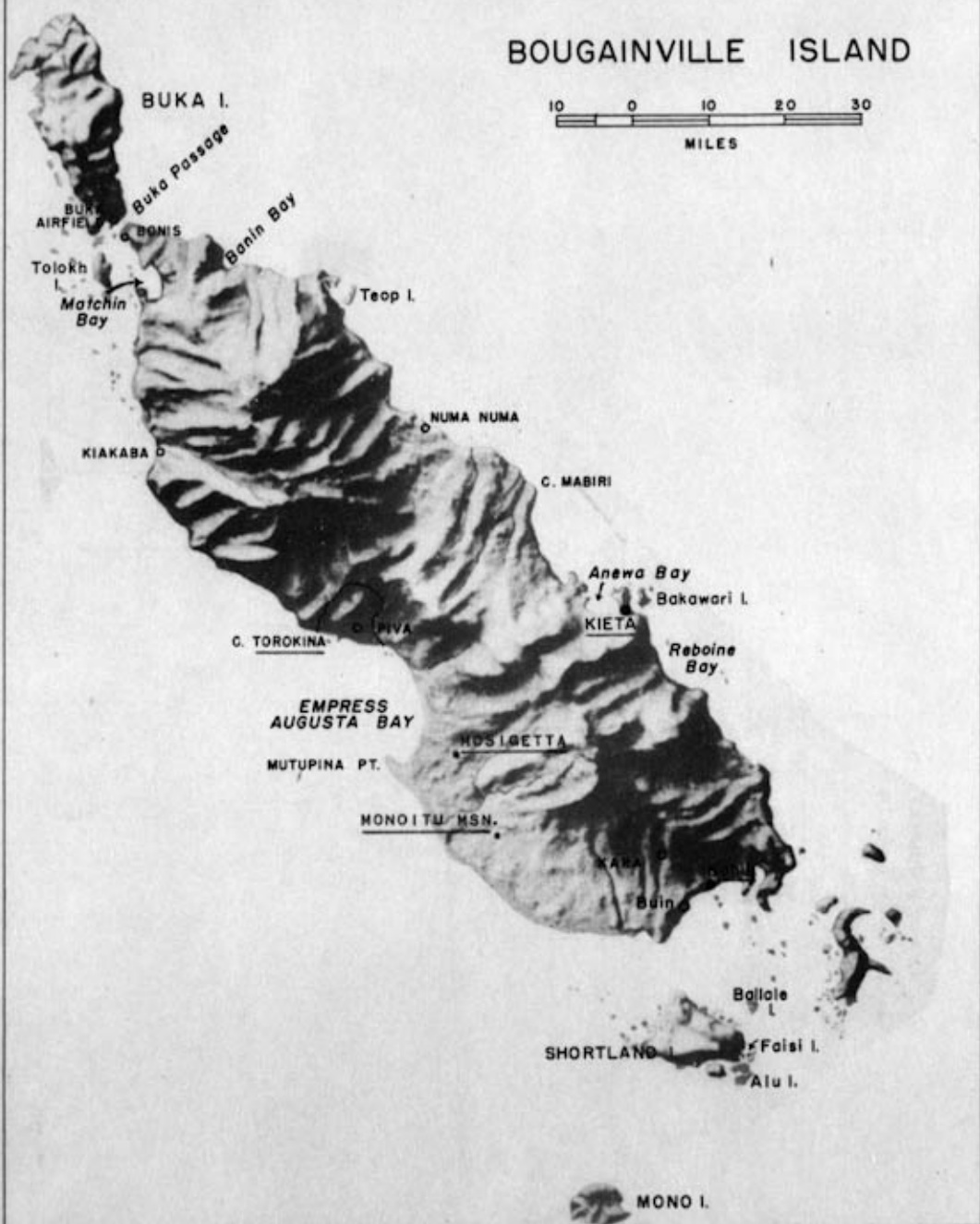
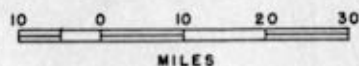
ASIATIC THEATER

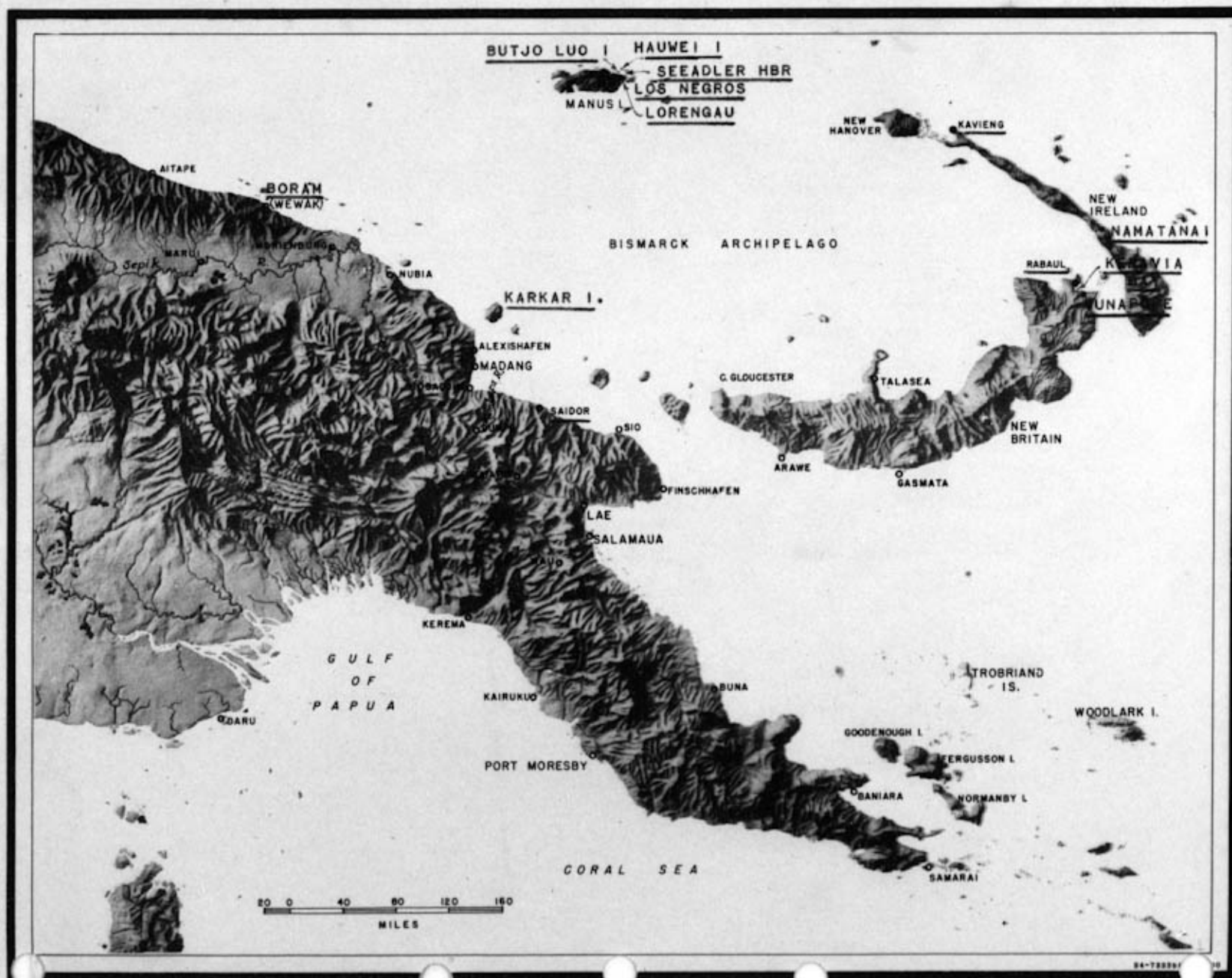
1. During 11 and 12 March 68 10th Air Force medium and fighter bombers attacked enemy encampments, supply and ammunition dumps, and lines of communication in northern Burma. Thirty-six RAF dive-bombers and fighters attacked enemy villages along the upper Chindwin River, scored hits on the Paukpin bridge, and destroyed a bridge across the Mu River. Twenty-four additional dive-bombers attacked enemy targets near Buthidaung and Kaladan.

2. In the Hukawng Valley during 11 and 12 March Chinese forces advanced along the main road to a position seven miles south of Walawbum inflicting heavy losses on the enemy; two British-made armored cars and large amounts of ammunition were captured in the area. Along the Arakan coast, British troops captured Buthidaung and a village two miles east of Maungdaw; their advance continues.

3. Our China-based aircraft on sea sweeps off the northeastern coast of French Indo-China bombed and machine-gunned buildings on Weichow Tao Island and scored a direct hit on a 150-foot metal ore boat at

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





DECLASSIFIED

Cam Pha Port during 11 March.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

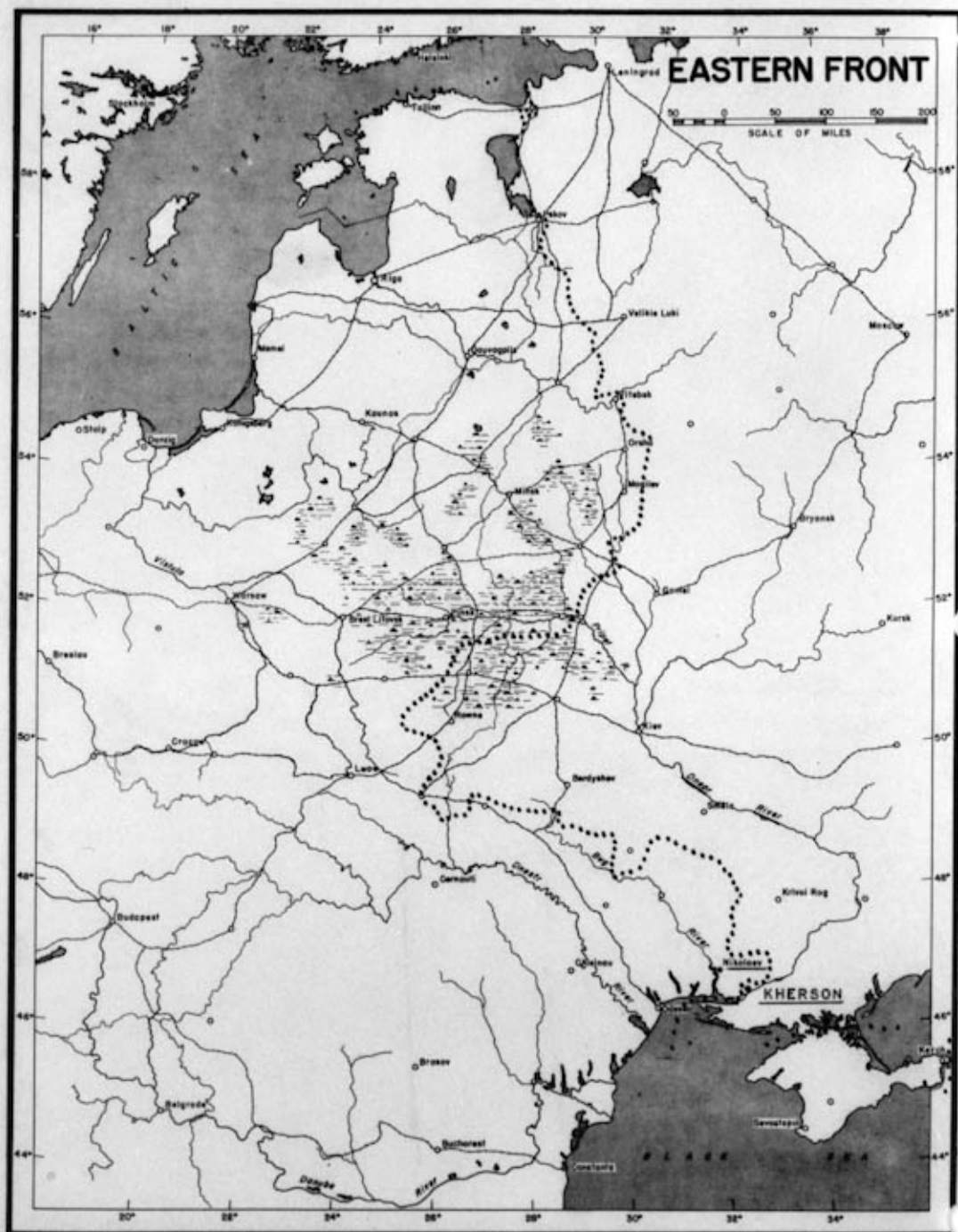
1. US dismounted Cavalry forces landed on Butjo Luo and Hauwei Islands in Seeadler Harbor following artillery shelling and naval bombardment on 12 March; our forces on Los Negros routed an enemy group holding high ground on the western end of the island. Twelve B-25's bombed and machine-gunned roads and other targets in the Lorengau area.

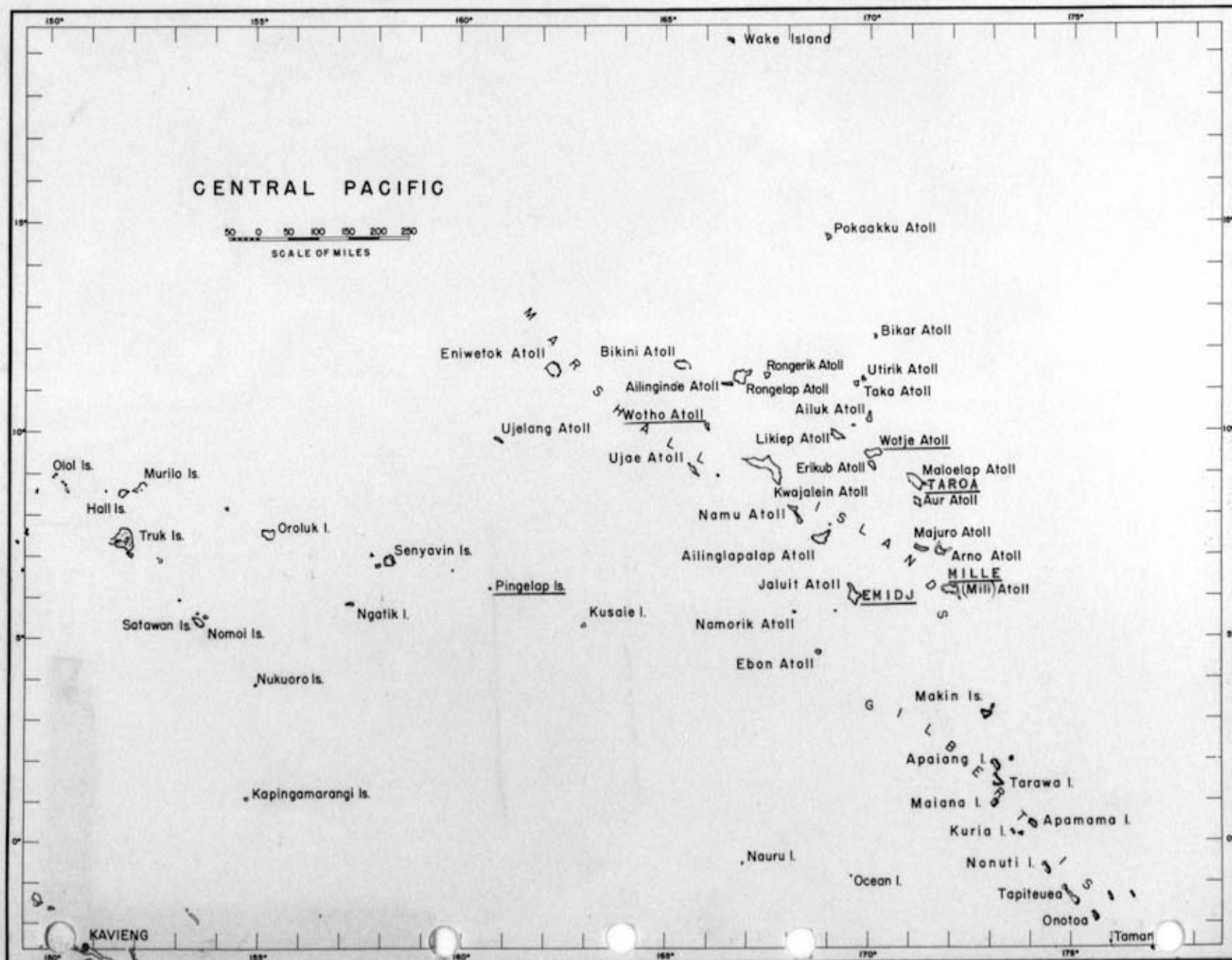
In the Saidor area our ground forces met enemy opposition at the mouth of the Kambara River. There was a light enemy air raid on Saidor on the previous night.

On 12 March, 68 heavy, medium and light bombers attacked gun positions and supply areas at Boram airdrome (Wewak) with good results. A patrolling B-24 attacked Karkar Island.

2. Twenty B-24's and 24 B-25's escorted by 12 P-38's again hit Rabaul during 11 March with 106 tons of bombs which caused considerable destruction in the town. Twelve P-40's started fires at Vunapope. Reconnaissance bombers raided Kavieng, Namatanai, the Kieta supply area, and Kahili during the day.

Three major enemy attacks during 12 March against the center of our Torokina beachhead were repulsed. A conservative estimate of the enemy dead for the last three days is more than 1,000. Our casualties for 11 March were 22 killed and 187 wounded. Close support for these operations was given by our naval and air forces; 160 Navy bombers hit enemy gun positions along the northwest perimeter. Other South Pacific





air missions attacked the Monoitu Mission and Mosigetta areas and scored hits on enemy barges in Keravia Bay.

3. Marine forces occupied Wotho Atoll in the Marshalls on 10 March.

Forty Army and Navy planes raided Mille, Emidj, Taroa and Wotje with over 25 tons of bombs during 10 March. Reconnaissance aircraft destroyed a building at Pingelap (Caroline Islands.).

EASTERN FRONT

The northern and central sectors of the eastern front were quiet during 13 March. In the southern sector, the Red Armies crossed the Dnepr River and captured Kherson.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 824

0700 March 12 to 0700 March 13, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400 500
MILES
0 100 200 300 400 500
KILOMETERS
SCALE OF MILES

THE FENEGES

SHETLAND IS.

MUNSTER
DUISBURG

CHATEAUX
CLERMONT-FERRAND

RICAMARTE

PADUA

OSSUN

TOULON

EUROPEAN THEATER

A German bomber was sighted over Iceland on 9 March. During the night of 10-11 March, 106 RAF bombers attacked Duisburg, airfields and factories at Clermont-Ferrand and at Ossun, an aircraft factory at Chateauroux, and a needle-bearing factory at Ricamarie.

On 11 March, 121 escorted B-17's dropped 234 tons of bombs and incendiaries on Munster using overcast bombing technique; we lost one B-17 and two fighters. Thirty-four B-24's and 16 B-26's attacked military objectives in France.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During 11 March, 111 escorted B-17's dropped 313 tons of bombs on the Padua railroad yards and shot down 19 intercepting enemy aircraft; we lost three bombers and two fighters. Forty B-24's bombed the railroad yards at Pontassieve and Prato. One hundred and twenty-two other heavy bombers hit the Toulon harbor area with 289 tons of bombs scoring hits on a destroyer, two cargo vessels and several submarines. Thirteen enemy planes were shot down in combat for a loss of four B-24's. Large numbers of medium and light bombers attacked Italian railroad lines and motor transportation as far north as Florence. Over 700 light bombers and fighters raided gun positions, supply dumps and bridges within German battle positions. Twenty-one fighters attacked shipping near Split.

2. The situation remained unchanged at the Anzio beachhead during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 12 March. Enemy aircraft raided



MAP 137 (FREE)
24 JU 343

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

DECLASSIFIED

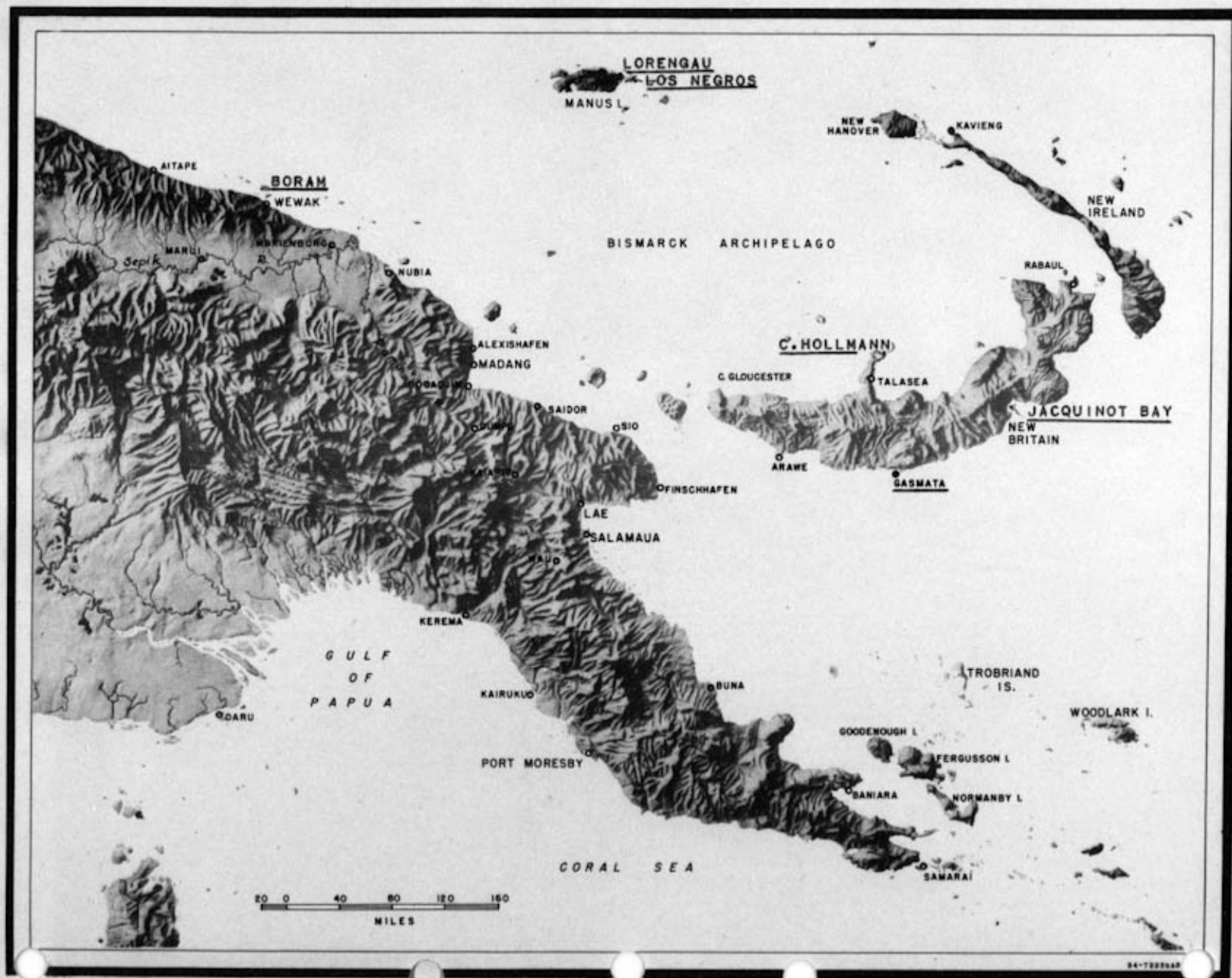
this sector on the night of 11 March without reported damage. On the trans-Italian battlefield no change in positions was reported; an enemy raid against our positions in the Cassino sector was repulsed and three attempts to develop an attack against our positions in the vicinity of Orsogna were broken up by artillery fires. Allied patrols reported Gessarola, Montenerodino, and Monte Rotonda and the area immediately to the southwest were free of the enemy.

ASIATIC THEATER

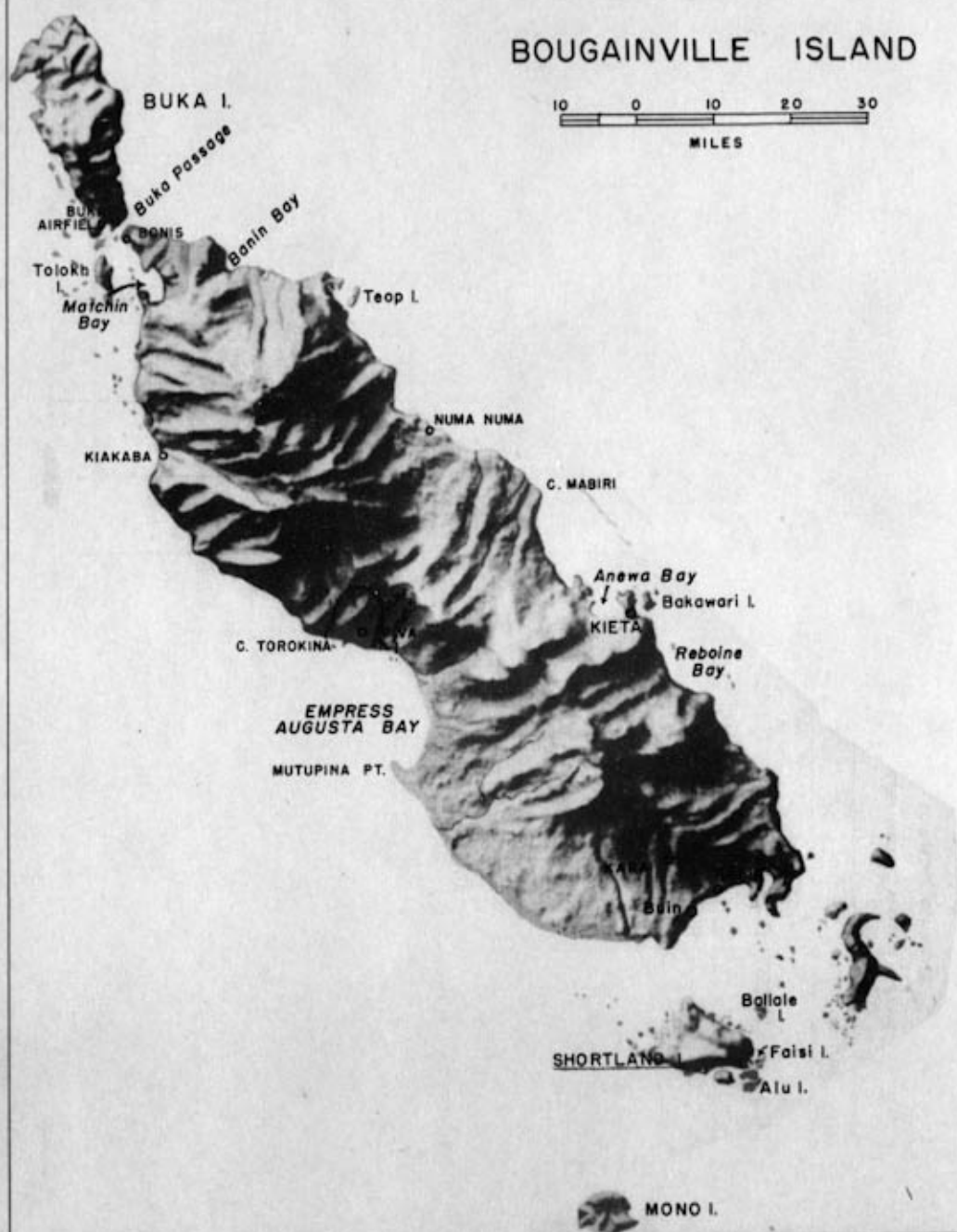
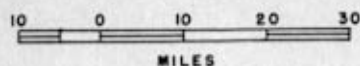
1. 10th Air Force bombers and fighters attacked enemy-held towns, positions, and supply points in northern Burma, bombed airfields at Katha and Indaw and attacked rolling stock in the Mandalay area on 9 and 10 March. The following day 12 P-38's attacked two airdromes in the vicinity of Heho, destroying nine enemy planes in combat and six others on the ground.

RAF bombers raided supply positions at Mogaung and a nearby Japanese headquarters, enemy installations in the Buthidaung-Maungdaw area and the railroad station at Bassein between 9 and 11 March.

2. In sweeps over the Yangtze River area, on 10 March, medium bombers and fighter planes of the 14th Air Force hit hangars and barracks at Nanchang, bombed and machine-gunned military installations and demolished a bridge northeast of Sianning, and sank one (probably four) small surface craft. Our planes probably destroyed ten intercepting Jap fighters near Anking. Three P-51's machine-gunned barracks and shipping near Foochow.



BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



Three P-40's sank a 200-foot freighter at Hon Gay and damaged a 250-foot freighter at Cam Pha Port. In other operations during the day six P-40's attacked targets of opportunity in northeastern French Indo-China.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

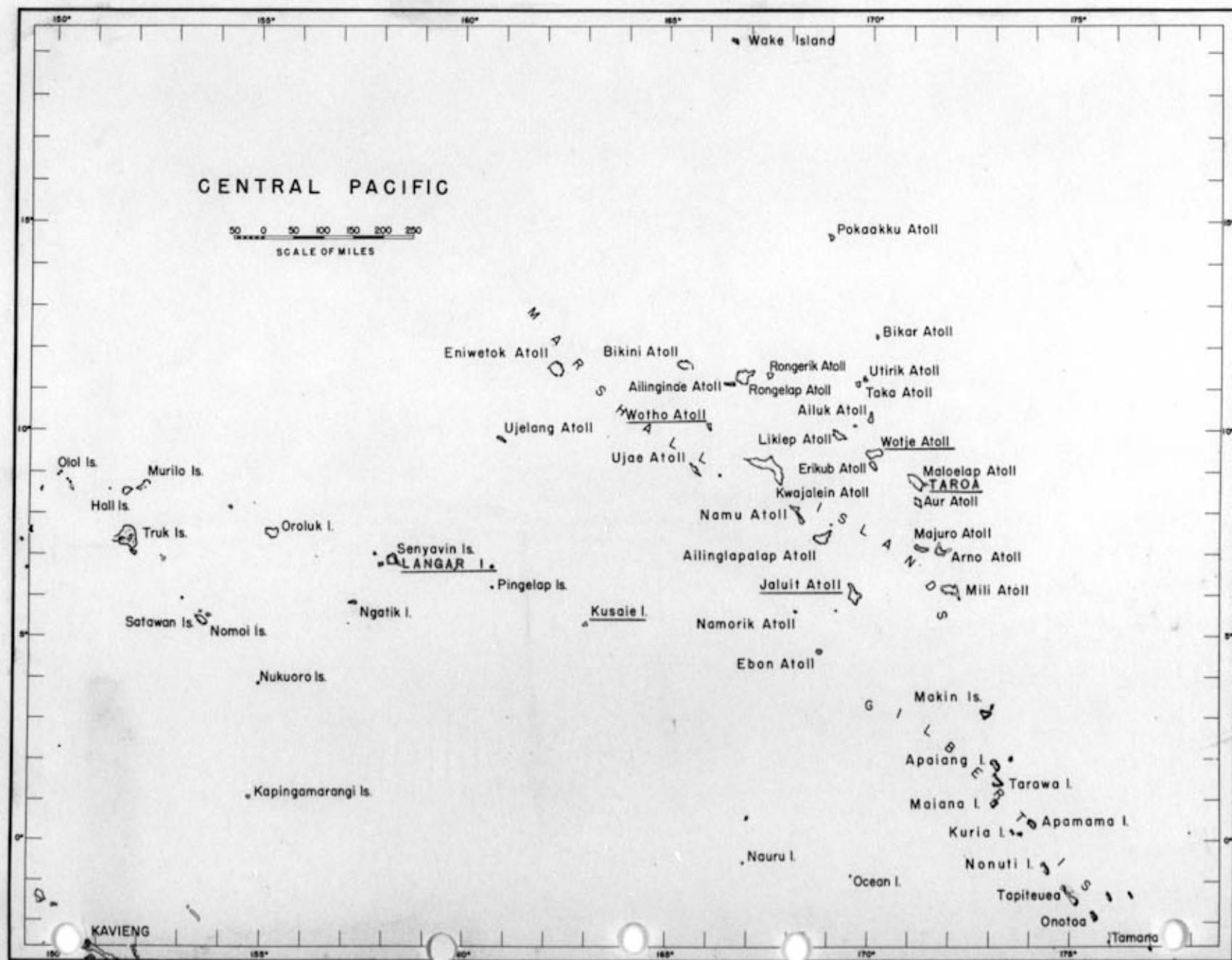
1. Our ground forces on Los Negros met enemy resistance at the western end of the island on 11 March. A destroyer shelled enemy gun positions near Lorengau and 12 B-25's bombed and machine-gunned other targets in that area.

On 10 March Allied planes sank one (probably two) troop-laden barges off Cape Hollmann, damaged several small surface craft in the vicinity of Jacquinot Bay that night, and attacked supply areas near Gasmata.

The next day heavy, medium, and light bombers attacked the Boram airdrome hitting the runway, dispersal and supply areas and destroying a number of parked aircraft. Twenty-six (probably 32) intercepting enemy planes were shot down; one bomber and one fighter are missing. Australian planes attacked targets on southern New Britain.

2. Intensive fighting was reported along the right flank of our Torokina beachhead on 10 and 11 March. The enemy also attacked in force against the center but a counterattack restored our positions.

Nineteen B-24's, with fighter escort, started many fires with 76 tons of bombs dropped on targets in the Rabaul area on 10 March. Eight P-39's effectively bombed Shortland Island. The following day



48 B-25's made heavy attacks against Japanese hill positions between the Torokina and Saua Rivers, and probably destroyed an enemy supply dump in that area.

3. Fifteen B-24's dropped more than 22 tons of bombs on Langar Island (Ponape) on 9 March. Other Central Pacific bombers hit Kusaie, Taroa (Maloelap), Wotje, and Jaluit.

EASTERN FRONT

There was no change on the northern and central fronts during 12 March. In the south, Soviet forces have cut the railroad running south from Proskurov. Southwest of Uman, the Red Army has reached the Bug River.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

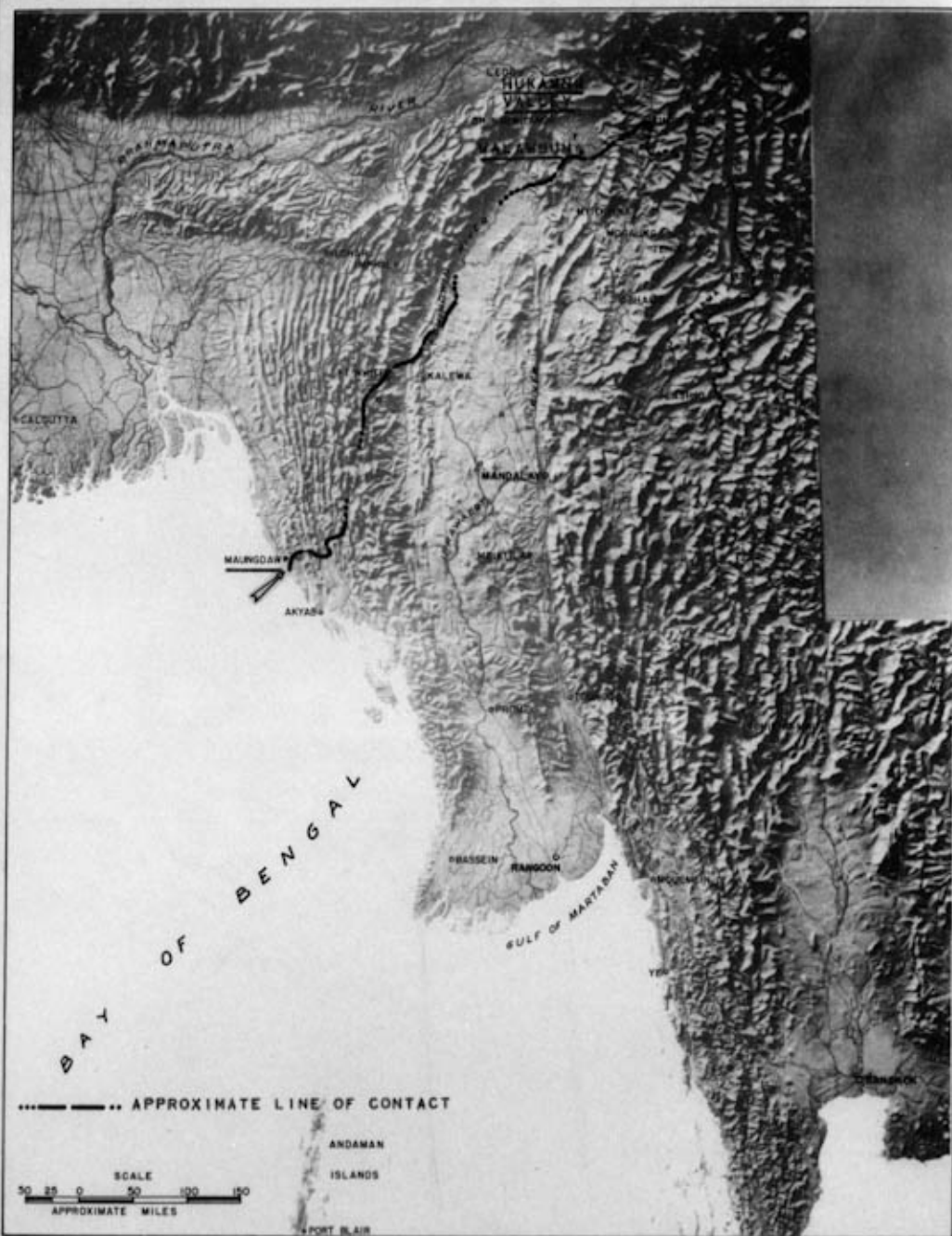
No. 823

0700 March 11 to 0700 March 12, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R 55
REPRODUCED, OSS

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 9-10 March, 43 RAF Lancasters made a well-concentrated attack on an aircraft factory near Marseilles. Eight Mosquito bombers attacked Dusseldorf with unobserved results.

MEDITERRANEAN

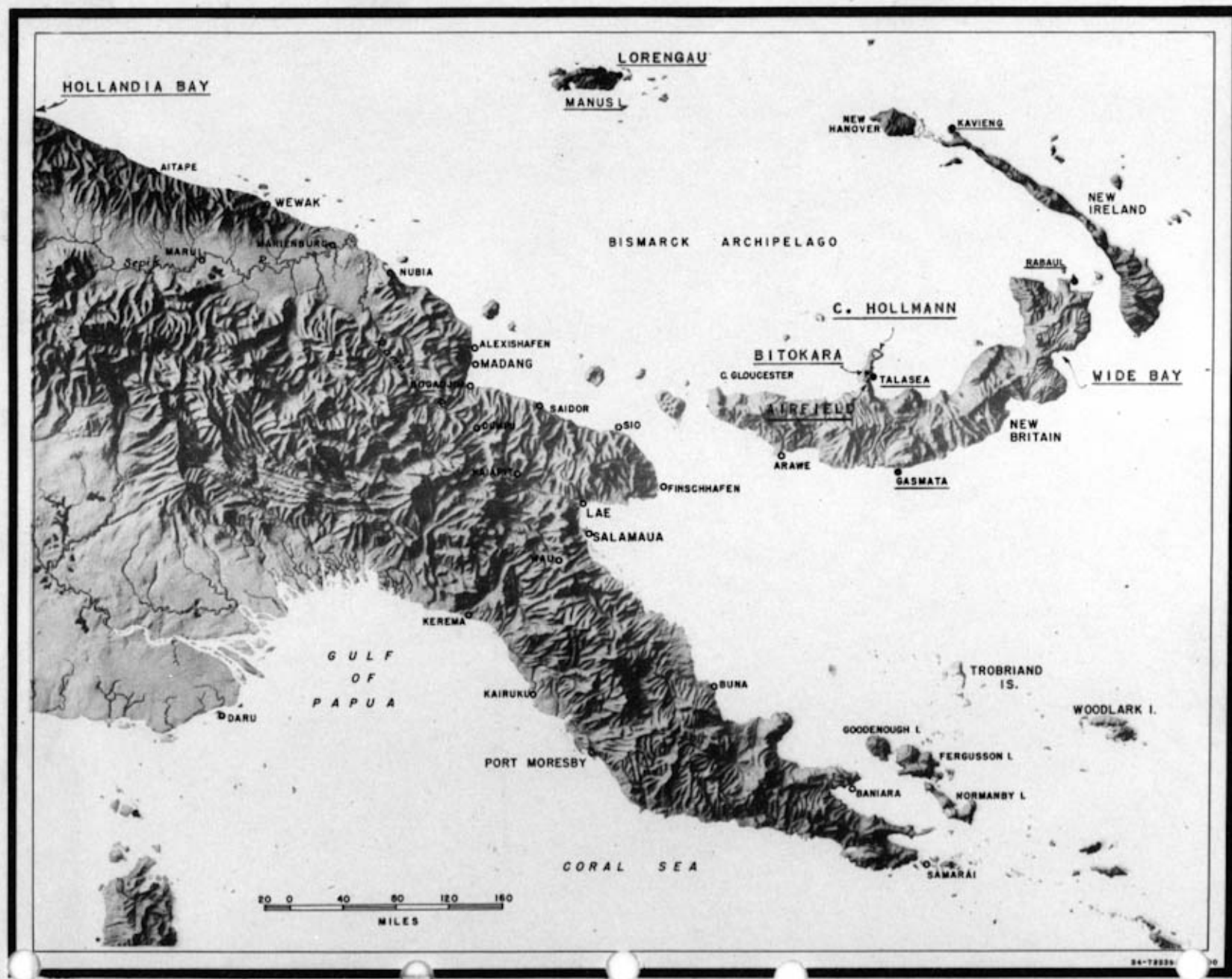
1. During 10 March, 24 B-26's attacked the Orvieto railroad bridge while 115 B-25's and B-26's hit the Tiburtina and Littorio railroad yards with good results. Thirty-six dive-bombers attacked railroad facilities at Montalto di Castro and Zagarolo. Some 350 fighters attacked gun positions, troop concentrations and tanks and flew patrol missions in the beachhead area.

2. On the 11th only patrol activity, artillery fire and a light enemy air raid were reported in the Anzio beachhead. With improved weather on the main battle front patrol activity has increased.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. The British continued their offensive along the Arakan coast during 9 and 10 March to a point more than five miles south of Maungdaw. In the Hukawng Valley Chinese and American forces have joined in the Walabum area. American troops report having killed more than 500 Japanese; our losses were seven killed and 37 wounded.

2. 14th Air Force fighter-bombers during 9 and 10 March left a 1,700-ton cargo vessel burning near Cam Pha Port and destroyed a fuel



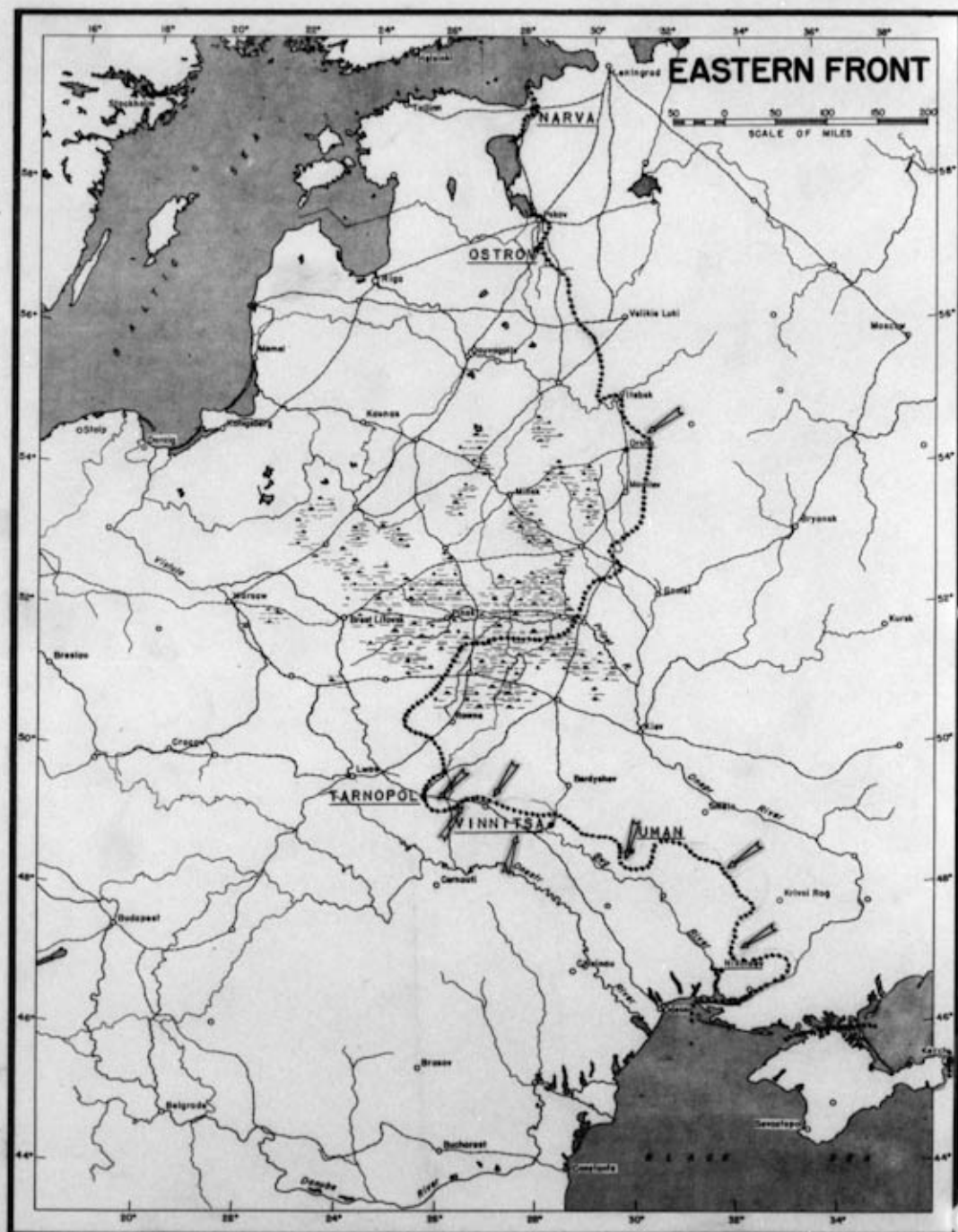
dump and damaged buildings at the Weichow Island airdrome. In a sweep over northeastern French Indo-China they scored hits on buildings at Cao Bang, bombed and machine-gunned two medium-sized vessels at Hon Gay and destroyed a barracks at Luc Nam. During the night of 10-11 March, six B-24's hit the Kowloon docks at Hongkong. Three Japanese planes attacked our Kweilin airdrome damaging two fighters.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our forces in the Admiralties continued to consolidate their positions on 10 March. At Talasea our positions are now secure from Bitokara to the airfield and mopping up continues. A light tank in a landing craft fired on and sank an enemy barge with 75 aboard off Cape Hollmann.

During 9 March our night patrol bombers sank a 2,000-ton vessel in Hollandia Bay and left another burning nearby. RAAF bombers attacked supply areas near Gasmata and small craft near Wide Bay. The following day 19 B-24's bombed the Lorengau area; three other planes failing to reach their target bombed an alternate target near Gasmata causing a large explosion. Twelve B-25's bombed and machine-gunned targets along the north coast of Manus Island.

2. A total of 45 heavy and medium bombers operating over the Rabaul area attacked docks, storage buildings, an air strip, and targets of opportunity; small bomber missions hit the Kavieng runway, attacked targets on Buka and southern Bougainville and seriously damaged two



small vessels off Greenwich Island, on 9 March.

On 10 March, South Pacific B-25's bombed Japanese installations on Bougainville in support of Allied ground operations.

The enemy continued to exert pressure against our perimeter at Bougainville.

EASTERN FRONT

The Germans launched strong attacks on 11 March against the Soviet bridgehead at Narva. The Soviets attacked near Ostrov and Orsha along the north central sector. In the south stiffened German resistance from Tarnopol to Vinnitsa held the Red Army to slight gains, but on the remainder of the southern front a forced German withdrawal is under way. The Soviets are within 17 miles of the Bug River near Uman and within 19 miles of the ship-building center of Nikolaev.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 822

0700 March 10 to 0700 March 11, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 8-9 March, Allied planes based in the Middle-East set a 300-foot destroyer escort afire and damaged a small vessel in the Aegean Sea. The following day Allied planes over Italy attacked railroad lines at Gazzo and Montalto di Castro, shipping off Leghorn and destroyed two enemy planes while on reconnaissance patrols over southern France. Seventy-two medium bombers attacked San Stefano and a bridge at Montalto di Castro. Light and fighter bombers raided the Capranica railroad station and tank repair depots east of Rome. A total of 195 P-40's attacked German gun installations between Rome and the beachhead.

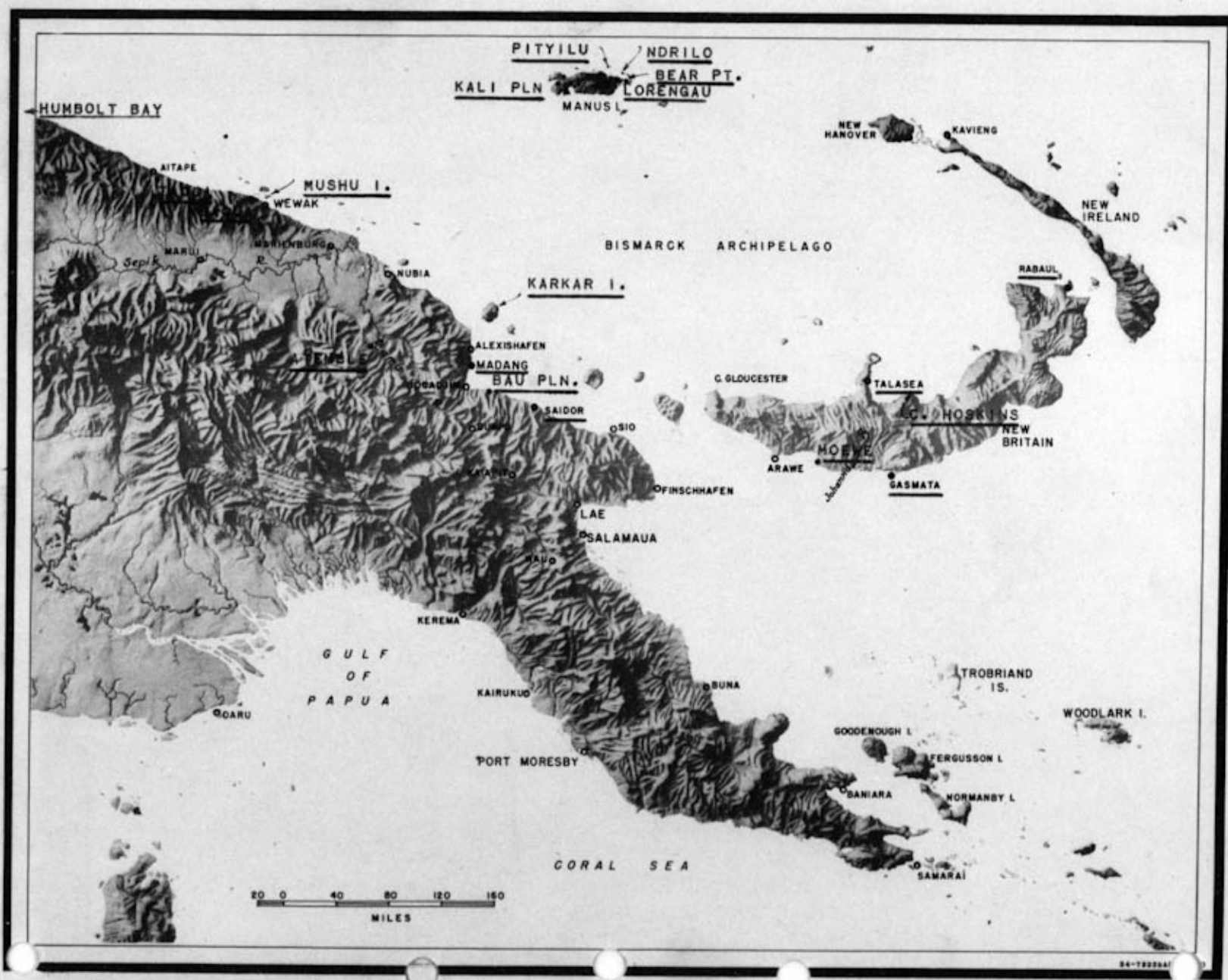
2. All sectors of the Italian battlefronts were generally quiet during 10 March, with both sides actively patrolling. The enemy heavily shelled Anzio and our VI Corps headquarters during the morning of 9 March.

The regrouping of Allied forces continued. Elements of a French Moroccan Mountain Division and a British Infantry Division, both of which have arrived recently in Italy, entered the lines on the Garigliano front of the Fifth Army to relieve corresponding units in that sector.

3. Brigadier General Benjamin F. Giles assumed command of the United States Army Forces in the Middle East on 10 March 1944, releasing Major General Ralph Royce for duty with the 9th Air Force.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. The 10th Air Force dealt a destructive blow to enemy air strength



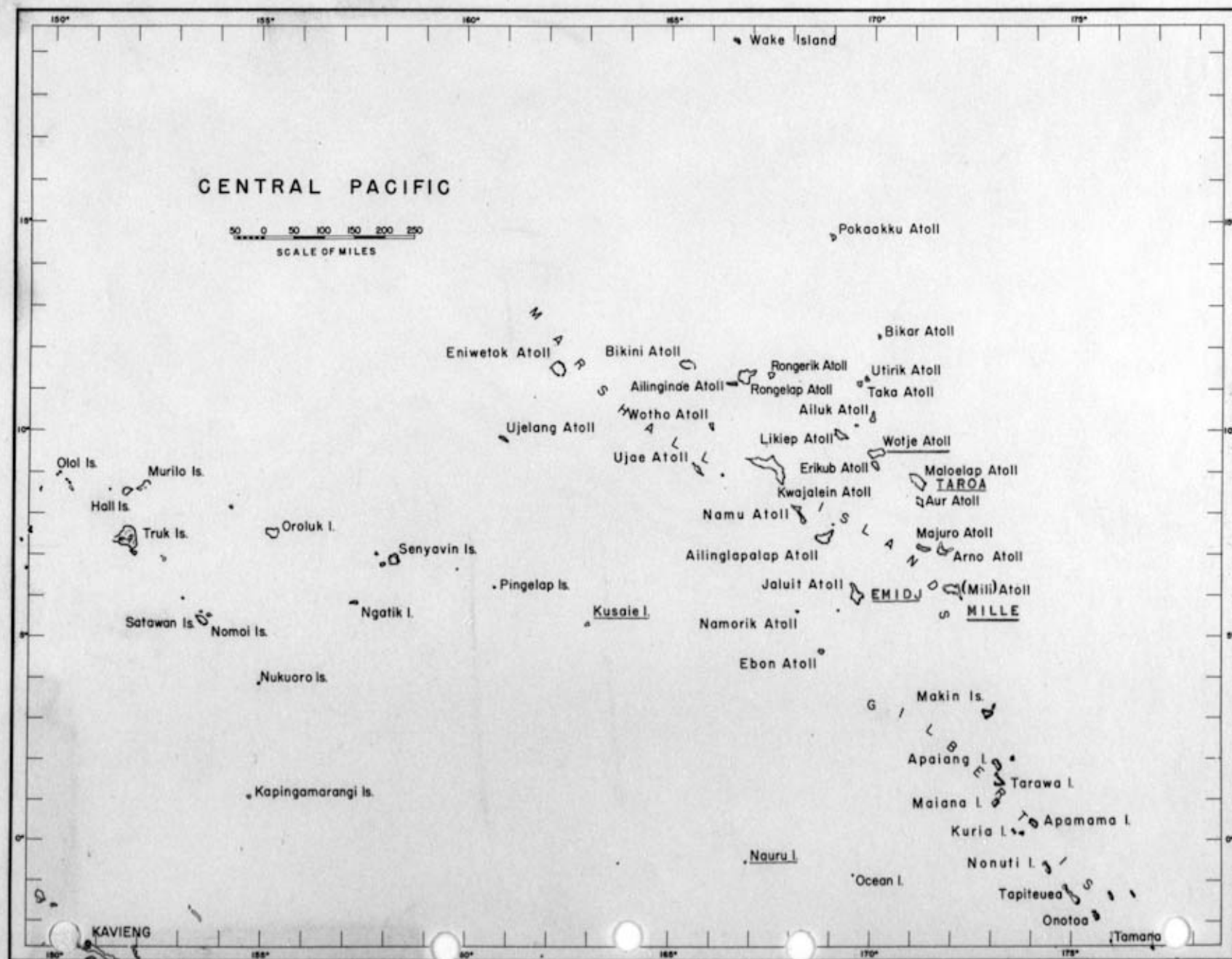
in Burma on 8 March when five B-25's and 25 P-51's destroyed 32 (probably 44) enemy aircraft on the ground at airfields in the vicinity of Shwebo; one (probably three) more were shot down in aerial combat. None of our planes were reported as lost on these missions. Other medium and fighter bombers attacked bridges in the vicinity of Shaduzup; six B-24's effectively attacked a large office area and an airdrome at Tavoy. The RAF raided enemy communications in northwest Burma and installations north of Toungoo, at Monywa and Shwebo.

2. Thirteen B-25's of the 14th Air Force escorted by 24 Chinese P-40's bombed a foundry and floating docks at Shihhweiyao on the lower Yangtze, during 9 March, and probably sank a 250-foot gunboat in the vicinity; we lost two fighters, one of which is believed to have landed in friendly territory.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 8 and 9 March, 15 B-24's and 21 B-25's effectively bombed and machine-gunned enemy installations in the Seeadler Harbor area. Allied aircraft supporting our New Britain operations attacked targets in the vicinity of Talasea, Cape Hoskins and Gasmata. On New Guinea 12 B-24's bombed Dagua airdrome through a cloud cover; 28 light and fighter bombers bombed and machine-gunned Atemble village in the Ramu Valley.

A patrol bomber forced a 2,000-ton vessel ashore at Humbolt Bay with a near miss, probably sank a small freighter and destroyed two barges along the northern New Guinea coast.



DECLASSIFIED

Three enemy aircraft raided Saidor the night of 8-9 March, causing a few casualties and minor damage which included the destruction of one bomber by fire.

2. Our forces on Los Negros continued mopping up operations during 9 March; the northern end of the island is reported clear of the enemy. Our convoy used Seeadler Harbor that day without enemy opposition. Patrols on the south coast of New Britain have reached the Johanna River area. The Willaumez Peninsula force occupied Talasea and the air strip to the southwest. Patrols on the northeast New Guinea coast advanced west about two miles against slight enemy opposition.

3. South Pacific air missions totaling 89 heavy, medium and fighter bombers attacked Rabaul on 8 March with 134 tons of bombs causing explosions and large fires. One B-25 was shot down by antiaircraft fire.

Close air support of our Torokina beachhead forces was supplied by 118 Navy planes; other Allied aircraft hit enemy bivouac areas in southwestern Bougainville and bombed the Buka runway.

4. In Bougainville, the Japanese attacked the center sector of our beachhead perimeter during the night of 8-9 March; a small penetration was effected but our forces reduced the salient and reestablished their line the next day. Close air support effectively attacked enemy gun positions, and fire from destroyers covered the beaches and hit Japanese installations near our perimeter.

5. During the night of 7-8 March and the next day 65 Central Pacific aircraft attacked Mille, Taroa, Emidj, Kusaie and Wotje with 52 tons of



bombs.

EASTERN FRONT

On the Russian front fighting continues in the city of Tarnopol, where the Germans are offering stubborn resistance. The enemy has evacuated the town of Uman. In the Krivoi Rog sector the Soviets are advancing southwest along the railroad towards Nikolaev. There was little change elsewhere on the Eastern front.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 821

0700 March 9 to 0700 March 10, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)



BASIC MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

EUROPEAN THEATER

In a previously unreported mission for 8 March, 73 B-26's made a second successful attack on the Soesterburg airdrome in the Netherlands. Two B-26's crashed in England as a result of a mid-air collision. Our bombers over Berlin that day claim 42 (probably 56) enemy planes in addition to the 86 (probably 98) destroyed by our fighters.

On the following day 608 escorted US heavy bombers again took off for the Berlin area and attacked the Friedrichstrasse station in the city, the Arado aircraft factory in Brandenburg and targets of opportunity. Seven of our bombers and one fighter are missing. No enemy aircraft were claimed as destroyed.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Allied planes bombed San Stefano, Italy, patrolled the Anzio beachhead and raided Santorin Island (Aegean area) on the night of 7-8 March. Seventy-eight medium bombers attacked the port of San Stefano and the Orte and Tiburtina railroad yards on the 8th. Light bombers and fighters attacked gun positions and motor transport around the beachhead and enemy lines of communication as far north as the Po valley. Fifteen enemy aircraft were reported over the Anzio beachhead during the day.

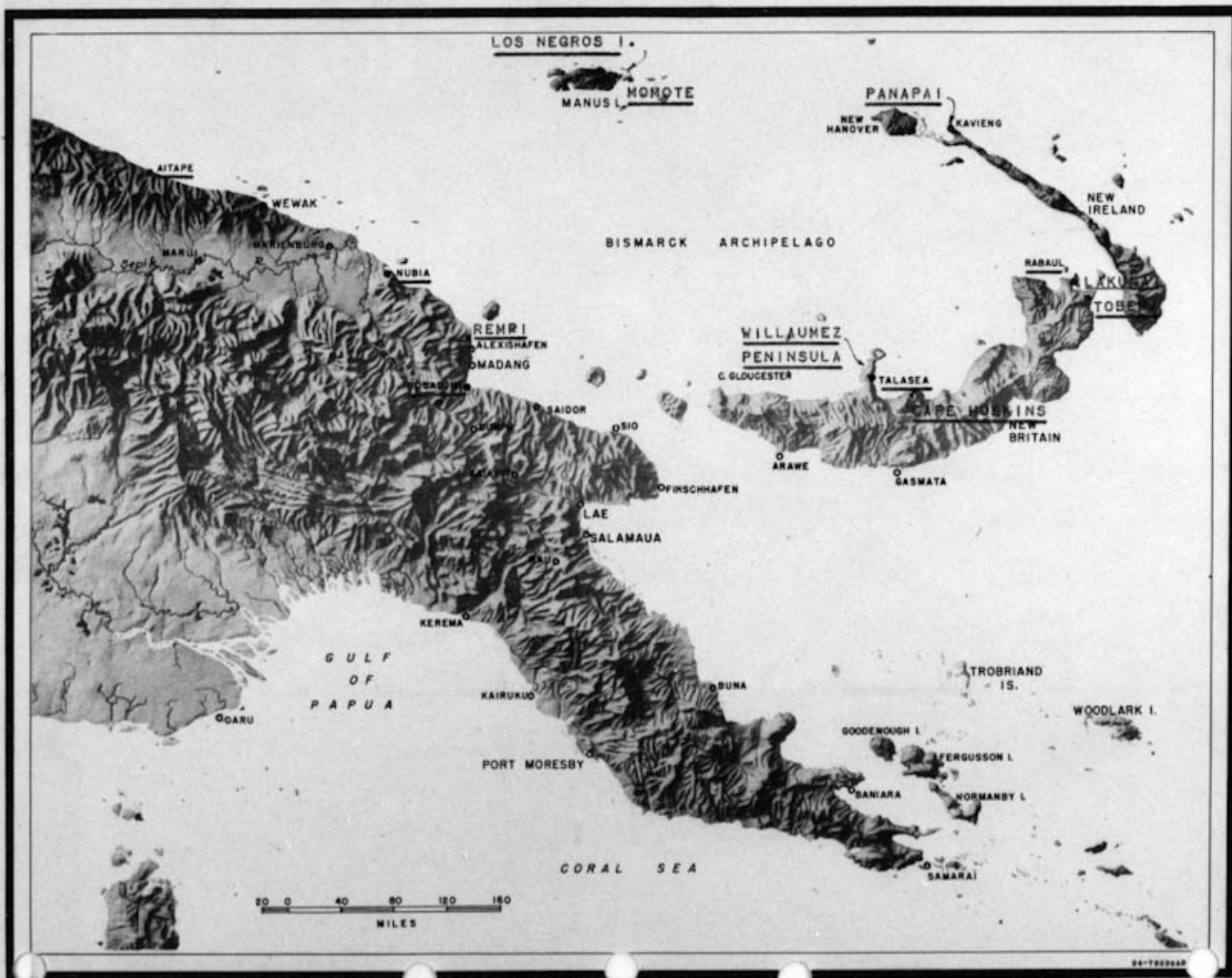
2. Allied ground forces in Italy reported only patrolling and artillery activity during 9 March. The title "Allied Armies in Italy" has replaced the designation "Allied Central Mediterranean Forces."

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Four B-25's of the 10th Air Force wrecked the central span of the Sittang bridge on 6 March. A mission of six B-24's caused a large explosion at the Bangkok arsenal; other B-24's raided the Pegu railroad yards, northeast of Rangoon, and mined the anchorage at Kham Yai Island, in the Gulf of Siam. Eighteen fighter planes attacked targets in the area between Myitkyina and Maingkwan. RAF bombers started many fires at the Heho airfield, in central Burma, and attacked Bhamo and Ingon to the north; fighters machine-gunned three airdromes in the vicinity of Rangoon, destroying two (probably four) enemy aircraft on the ground for a loss of one Beaufighter.

On 7 March, 26 US planes made harassing attacks in the Walawbum-Shaduzup area. Four B-24's sank or damaged three medium-sized freighters at Sichang Island and hit nearby oil installations. The principal RAF mission was an attack by nine Wellingtons on the Anisakan airfield; however more than 100 additional sorties were flown against river and road communications, in the course of which the Mu River bridge was damaged.

2. During 7 and 8 March, British forces along the Arakan coast resumed the offensive, pushing through Letwedet and capturing positions cutting the Buthidaung-Maungdaw road to the south. In the Hukawng Valley Chinese troops captured three towns to the south of Maingkwan. An unsuccessful attack on US positions north of Walawbum cost the Japanese an estimated 300 dead. In patrol activity elsewhere 61 of the enemy were killed near Fort White, Tiddim, and Sumprabum.



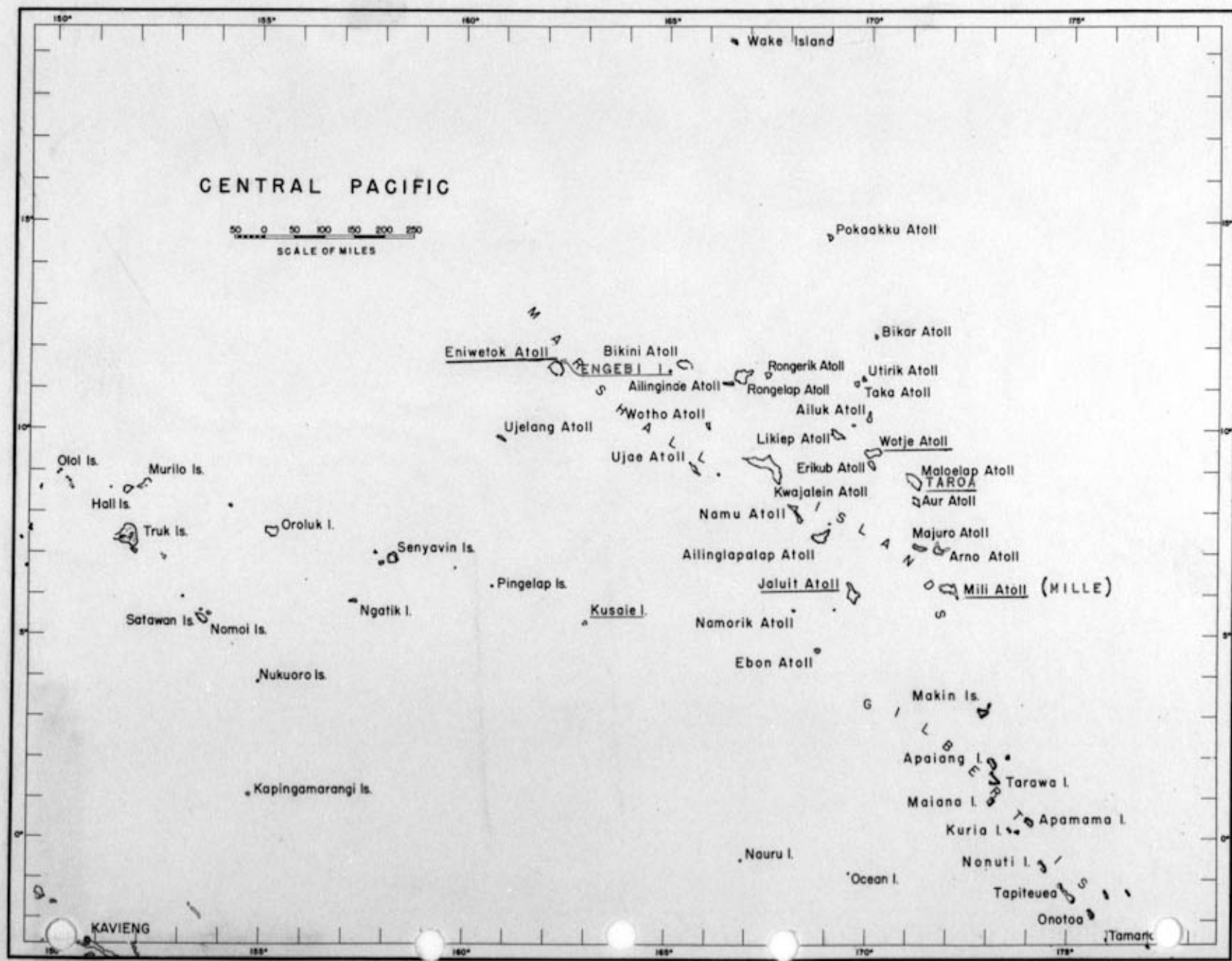
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

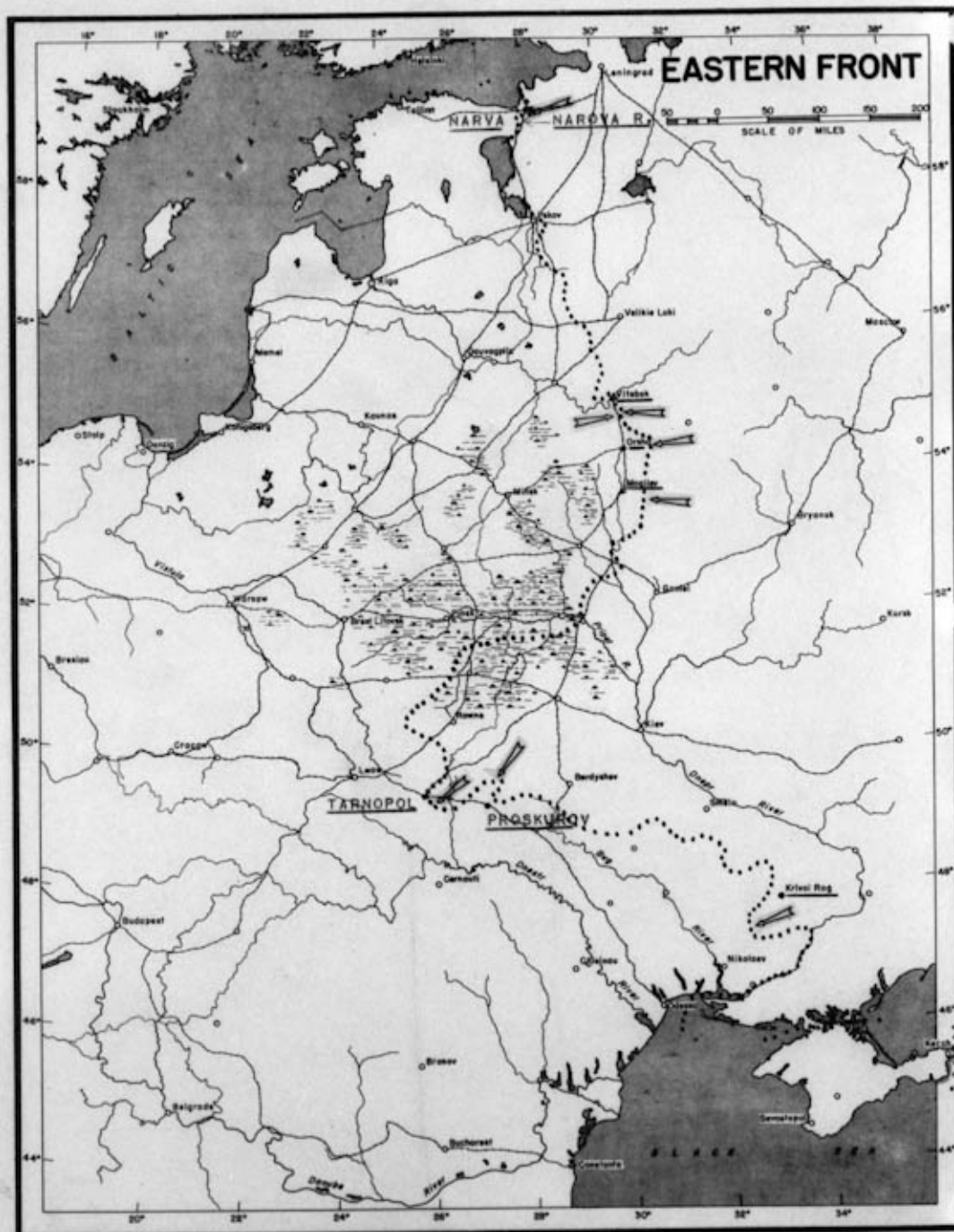
1. On New Britain, Marines crossed the Willaumez Peninsula during the night of 7-8 March and reached a point one mile northwest of their objective, Talasea. On 8 March elements of our Los Negros task force occupied Lombrum Point, four miles west of Momote air strip.

Six B-24's bombed the Boram airdrome during 7 March. Allied bombers and fighters over New Britain attacked Talasea and a nearby village, and machine-gunned barges in the vicinity of Cape Hoskins. The following day 13 B-24's bombed airdromes and destroyed a bridge near Nubia and shot down 17 (probably 27) intercepting enemy planes; we lost one B-24. Fifty-four Allied bombers and fighters attacked Rempì village and targets along the New Guinea coast from Bogadjim to Aitape. Patrol bombers raided Babo, Kaimana and Timika in Dutch New Guinea, and fighter planes bombed and machine-gunned the water front at Saumlakki in the Tanimbars.

2. South Pacific bombers and fighters continued their attack on enemy supply and bivouac areas in Bougainville on 7 March. Two missions, one of 24 B-25's and the other of 71 Navy bombers, hit the Tobera and Lakunai airdromes causing large fires at both targets. A B-24 and 12 fighters raided Rabaul and 24 heavy bombers left the runways at Panapai unserviceable. Navy planes damaged shipping in the same area.

3. On 6 March 17 Central Pacific bombers and fighters attacked shore installations and machine-gunned small vessels at Mille. Nine





B-25's bombed the Wotje runway area and four B-34's raided Taroa. The following day, 49 Army and Navy bombers and fighters dropped 33 tons of bombs on targets at Jaluit Atoll. Missions totaling 45 aircraft attacked Taroa, Mille, Wotje, and Kusaie.

Eniwetok Atoll was attacked by enemy planes for an hour and a half on the night of 7-8 March. No damage resulted at Eniwetok Island; at Engebi a large fire and many explosions occurred.

EASTERN FRONT

South of Narva German counterattacks succeeded in reducing the size of the Soviet bridgehead across the Narova River on 9 March. Southeast of Vitebsk and east of Orsha Germans counterattacked to check Soviet pressure. East of Mogilev, the Red Army launched new attacks without changing the situation. Farther south, Soviet forces are fighting within the city of Tarnopol and are reducing the German salient around Proskurov. Soviet advances of some magnitude were made along the remainder of the southern front, particularly west and southwest of Krivoi Rog.

GENERAL

The War Department has directed that heavy bombers retired from combat in certain overseas theaters be returned to the US immediately for use in training, thus obviating the necessity for diverting new heavy bombers for this purpose.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 820

0700 March 8 to 0700 March 9, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Orders have been issued for the movement of the Headquarters, XII Corps (Major General G. R. Cook) from Fort Jackson, North Carolina, to an eastern port of embarkation, for shipment to the European Theater of Operations.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. An enemy plane over Iceland on 7 March is believed to have been badly damaged by antiaircraft fire at Seydisfjordur.

2. A mission of 265 RAF bombers attacked the Trappes railroad yards southwest of Paris during the night of 6-7 March. Small numbers of RAF planes also raided Hanover, Celle, Kiel, Krefeld, Urdingen, and carried out offensive patrols over France, the Low Countries and northwest Germany.

During unfavorable weather on 7 March, 112 B-26's, out of 291 dispatched by the 9th Air Force, bombed Conches airdrome and other targets in France. Eighteen light bombers supplemented these operations.

That night 200 RAF bombers dropped more than 1,000 tons of bombs on Le Mans through a heavy overcast. Thirteen Mosquitoes made scattered raids over Germany.

Six hundred and eighty-two 8th Air Force heavy bombers, escorted by 897 fighters, heavily bombed the Ekner ball-bearing plant in Berlin as well as the city itself during 8 March. Photographs indicate that the Ekner plant is now out of operation. Eighty-three (probably 93)





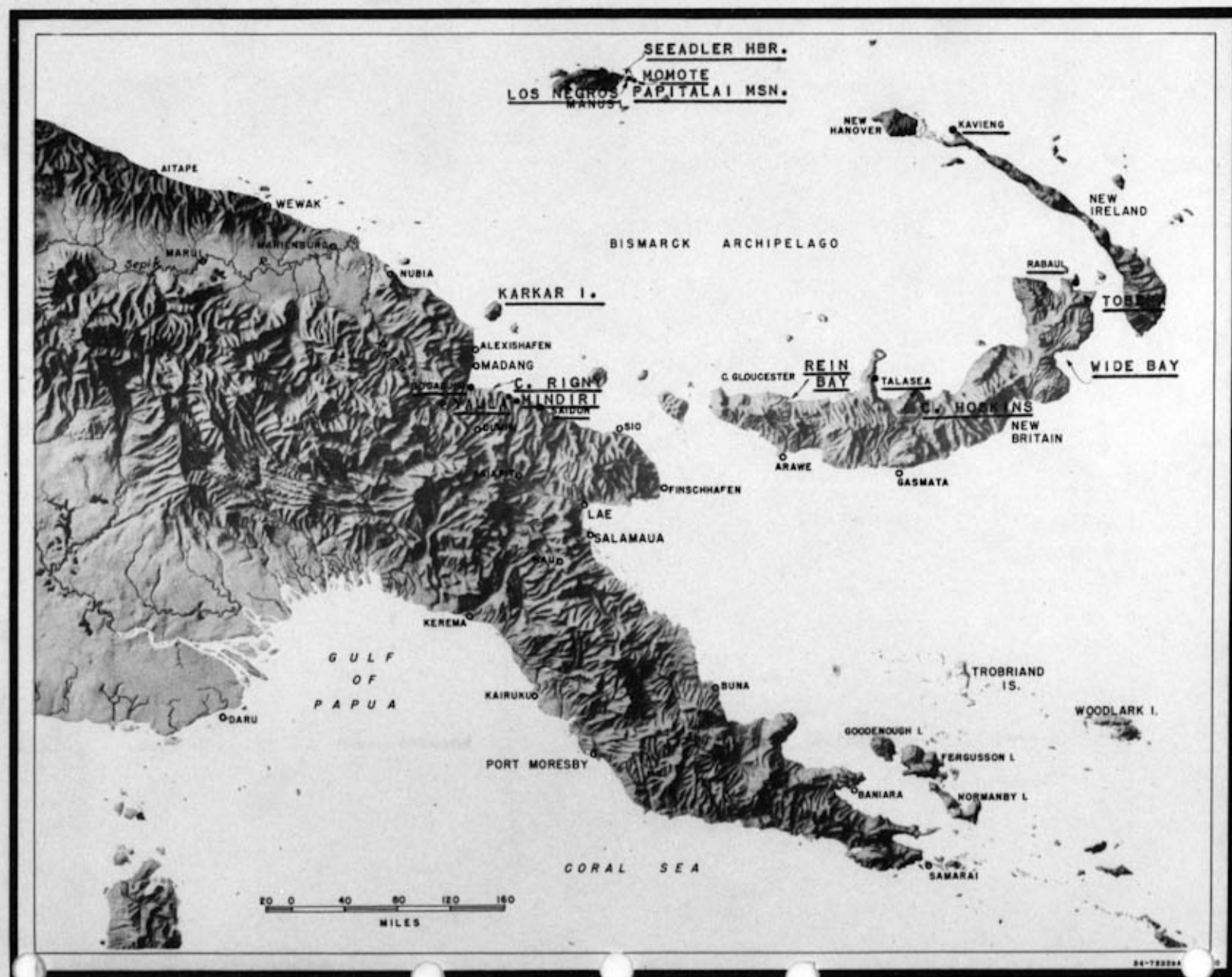
enemy planes were destroyed by our fighters alone; our losses were 38 bombers and 18 fighters.

In support of the 8th Air Force operations the 9th Air Force dispatched 142 B-26's against Netherlands airdromes at Volkel and Soesterberg; excellent results were obtained. No air opposition was encountered and all of our B-26's returned.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 6-7 March Allied light bombers and fighters attacked targets between Rome and the beachhead. British planes in the Middle East blew up a warehouse at Syros, laid mines off Syros and Rhodes and bombed Santorin Island.

On 7 March, 80 B-17's escorted by 72 P-38's dropped 143 tons of bombs on Toulon. Our planes reported good bombing results and the destruction of two (probably four) enemy aircraft in combat. The same day 254 escorted B-24's dropped a total of 561 tons of bombs on Orvieto, Fabrica di Roma, two Viterbo airdromes and on railroad yards at Pontassieve, Fiorentino, Prato and Poggibonsi. One hundred fifteen B-25's and B-26's attacked the Littorio and Ostia rail centers and 36 other medium bombers raided the harbor at San Stefano. Strong formations of light bombers and fighters attacked the radar station on Monte Cristo, bombed the Littorio airdrome, attacked railroad facilities at Terni, Civitavecchia and other points in central Italy, and hit motor transport between Rome and Avezzano. More than 1,600 sorties were flown during the day.



2. During improving weather and despite intermittent enemy shelling on 7 March, 5,000 tons of supplies were discharged into the beachhead at Anzio. Reports covering the 24-hour period ending at noon the next day indicate that our forces there repulsed minor enemy attacks against the center of the line. Elsewhere on the Italian battlefronts no significant changes developed.

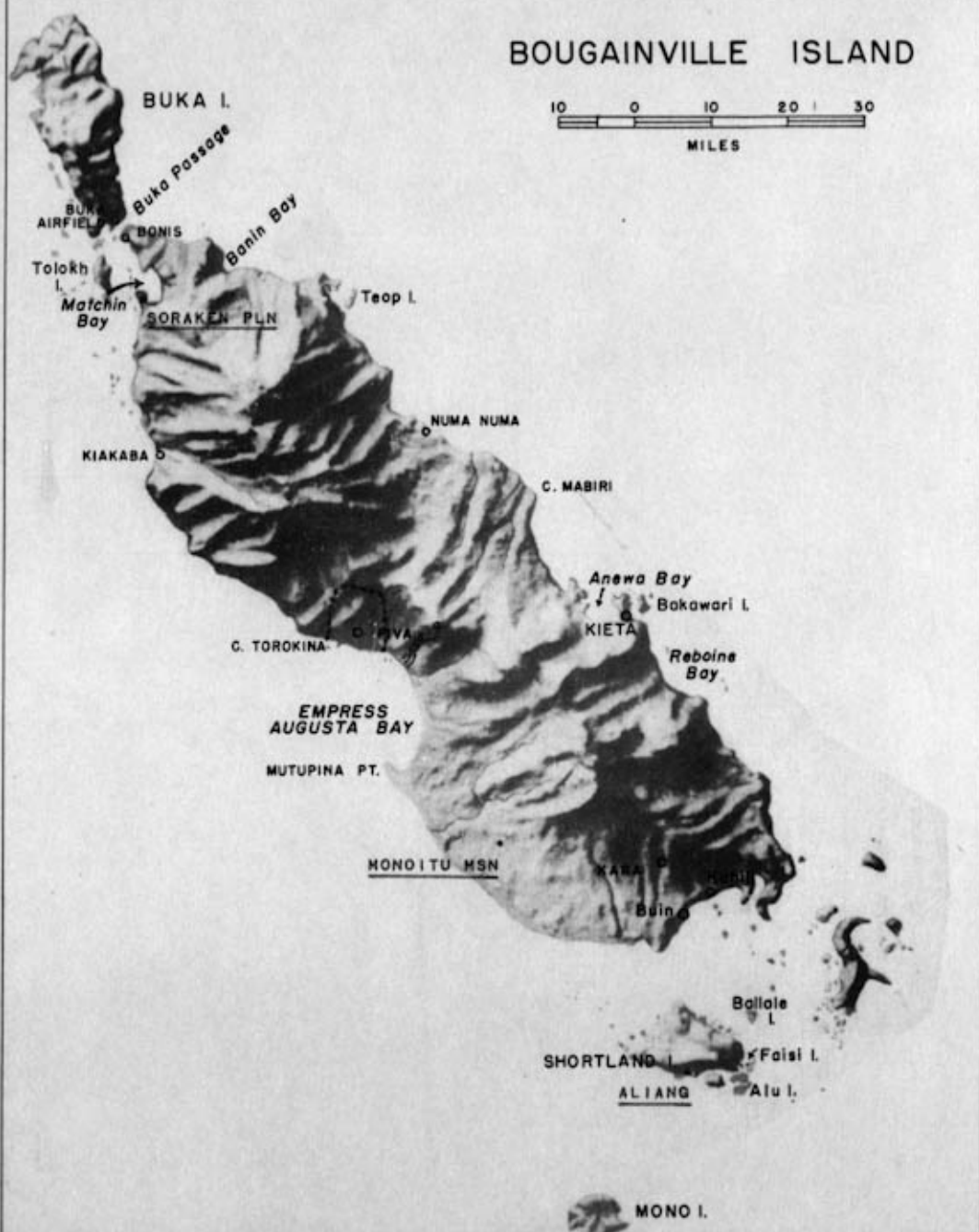
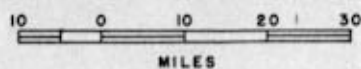
3. Some 25 enemy aircraft attacked an Allied convoy off Algiers on 8 March. No damage or casualties were reported and our fighter cover shot down four of the raiders for a loss of one plane.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Units of our 1st Cavalry Division extended their control over Los Negros during 7 March, pushing west to capture Papitalai Mission. Enemy installations and gun positions at Seeadler Harbor were bombarded by cruisers and destroyers and attacked by six B-24's. Hostile aircraft attacking the Momote area that evening dropped eight bombs which caused a few casualties but no material damage. In New Britain, Army patrols from Arawe reached Rein Bay on the north coast; the Marines who landed near Talasea on 6 March consolidated their positions and were in contact with the enemy. On the northeast New Guinea coast, patrols from the Yalau beachhead advanced west to Cape Rigny and east to Mindiri extending our control of the coastline to a point 35 miles west of Saidor.

2. On 6 March, 24 B-24's escorted by 12 P-38's bombed the Kavieng region, destroying buildings in the town proper and leaving the airfield

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



unserviceable. A mission of 24 B-25's, with fighter escort, scored hits on the revetment area at Tobera and two B-24's attacked Rabaul. Other South Pacific air missions attacked Lakunai (Rabaul), the Monoitu Mission, an area east of the Saua River, and Soraken Plantation on Bougainville, and Aliang on Shortland Island.

Japanese light and medium artillery fired concentrations into our Torokina beachhead on 8 March, obtaining hits near the air strips at Piva. Counterbattery fire is reported to have silenced some of the enemy guns. Hostile light machine-guns and artillery also placed fires on units in the central sector of our defense perimeter.

3. Reconnaissance planes dropped $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs on Wake Island during 5 March.

EASTERN FRONT

There was no significant change in the situation on the Eastern Front during 8 March.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 819

0700 March 7 to 0700 March 8, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Directives have been issued for the movement of the 98th Division to Hawaii. It is planned that the shipping which carries this unit to Hawaii will move the 33d Division from Hawaii to the Southwest Pacific Area.

2. Four US B-34's bombed the Paramushiro area during the night of 5-6 March with unobserved results.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Additional details of the US attack on Berlin on 6 March reveal that 609 8th Air Force heavy bombers, with 645 fighters from the 8th, 9th and Royal Air Forces as escort, dropped more than 1,500 tons of explosives and incendiaries on the German capital. Sixty-three other B-17's and B-24's attacked targets of opportunity, including the textile factory at Wittenberge where good results were reported. Our bombers and fighters destroyed a total of 175 (probably 228) enemy planes.

8th and 15th Air Force missions for 7 March were cancelled due to unfavorable weather.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 5 March six RAF B-26's on an anti-shipping mission encountered 12 enemy planes near Santorin Island. In a combat lasting 80 minutes, four enemy planes were shot down; we lost three. The remaining planes



BALE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R 1 055
REPRODUCE, 055

bombed a merchant vessel and three escorts near Santorin; on the return trip one additional B-26 was lost in another aerial engagement. Sixteen RAF fighters attacked airfields in Crete during the day destroying three (probably four) planes.

2. During 6 March 24 A-36's and eight P-40's attacked highway and rail communications northeast of Rome damaging freight cars, locomotives and trucks. One hundred and thirteen US fighters attacked German artillery positions north of the beachhead, and 253 Allied fighters patrolled the Anzio area. Weather again grounded our heavy and medium bombers.

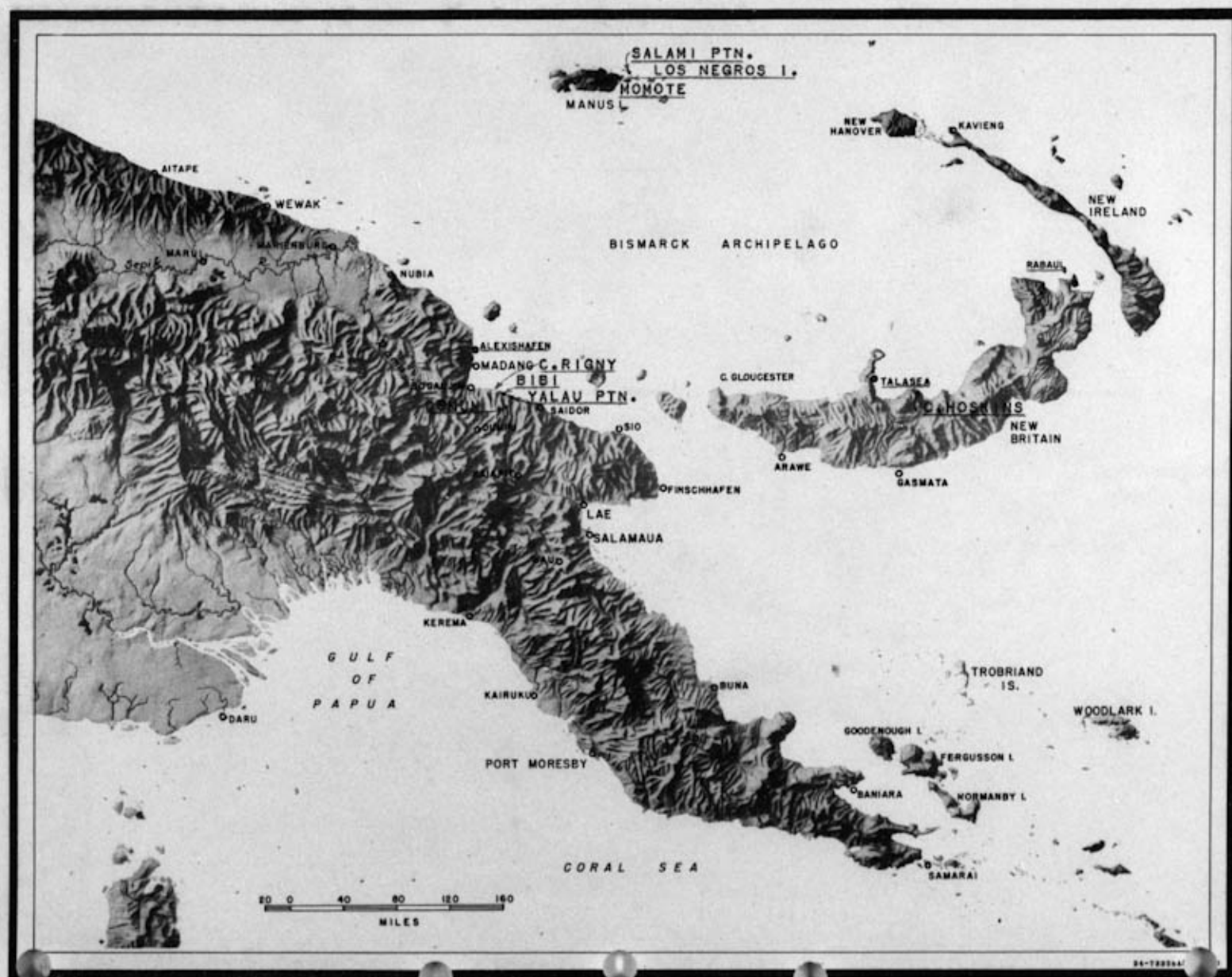
3. The Anzio beachhead was quiet during 7 March; relief of front-line units is progressing. Elements of a British division from the area south of Cassino have arrived in this sector. //

Along the trans-Italian battle line the Fifth Army maintained normal patrolling and both sides continued harassing fires. A regrouping of Allied forces is being carried out in this area. Bad weather restricted patrol activity along the Eighth Army front.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 4 March, American troops in northern Burma captured Walawbum. The following day they repulsed an enemy attempt to cross the Nambyu River northwest of the town. Chinese forces captured Maingkwan and Allied patrols ambushed an enemy party twenty miles south of Sumprabum, killing 27 and wounding 20.

2. 10th Air Force medium and fighter bombers attacked railroads

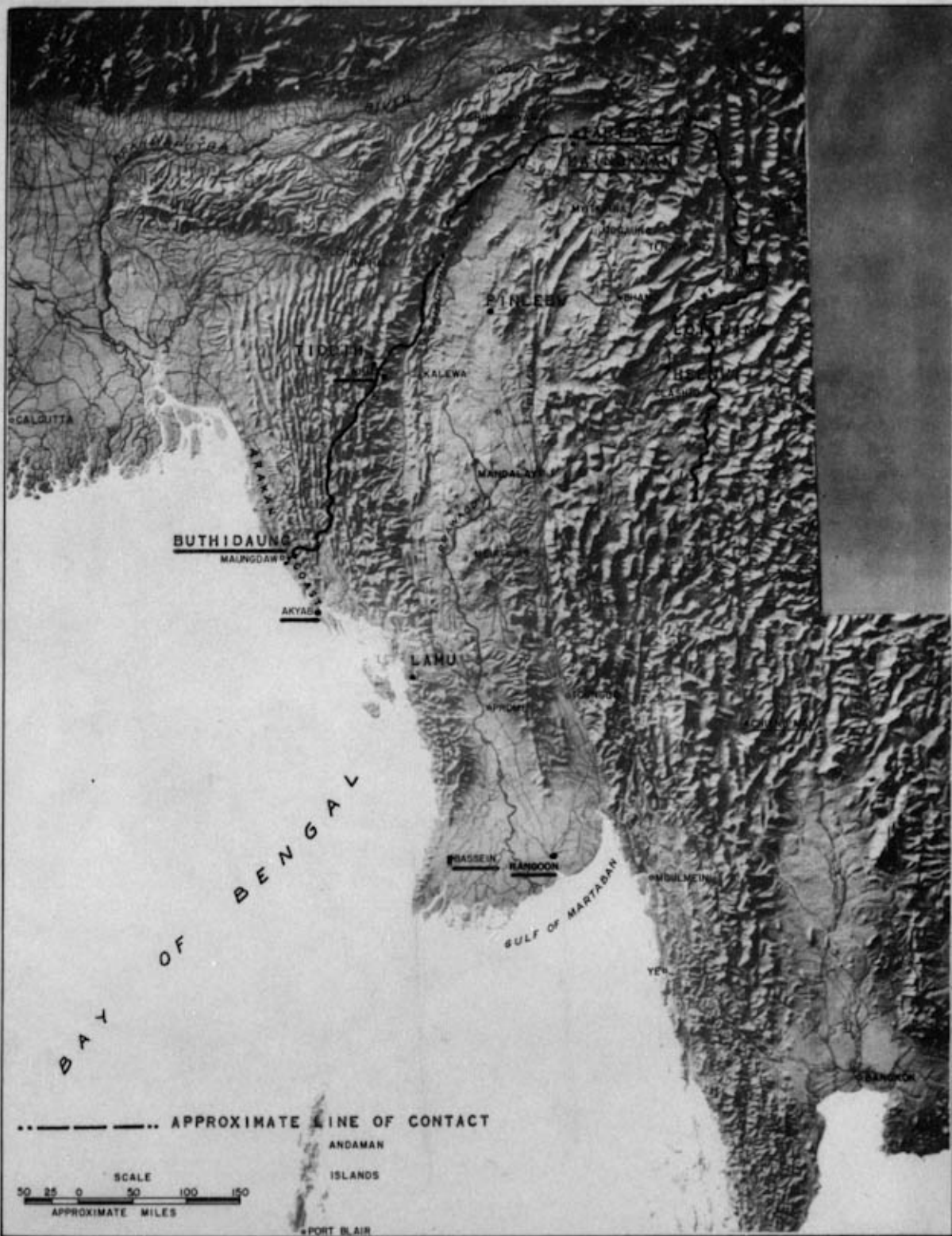


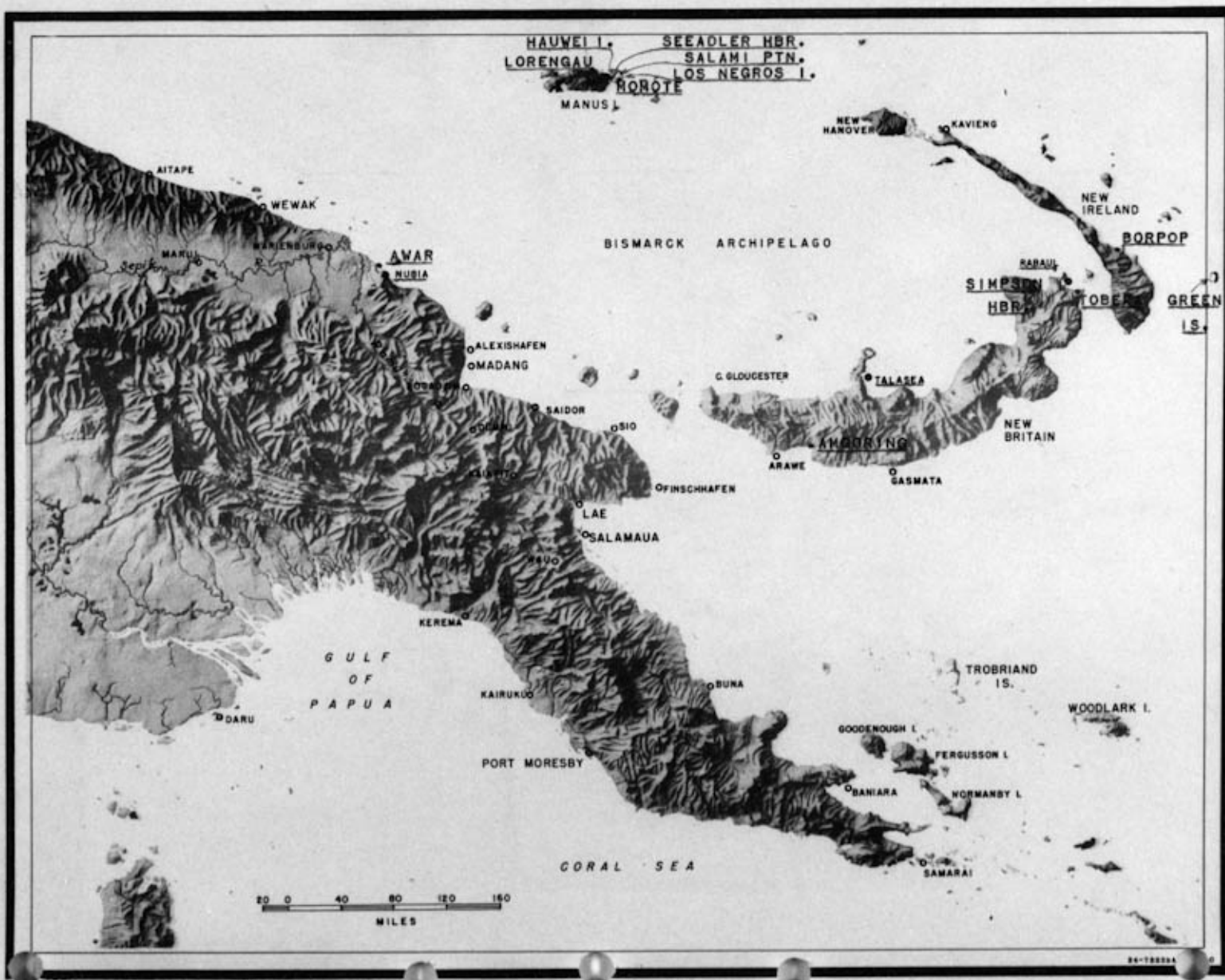


MAP 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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and supplies near Seton and the landing strip at Shwebo during 3 and 4 March. The following day fighter bombers attacked stores, gun positions and railway installations near Shingban and Myitkyina. RAF bombers attacked the town of Bhamo that day; lighter aircraft hit a Japanese headquarters near Kyauktaw and enemy positions near Buthidaung during the 6th.

3. Four B-25's of the 14th Air Force on a sea sweep of Tongking Gulf destroyed a Japanese floatplane and sank a 125-foot motor launch near Hon Gay on 6 March.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. US forces on Los Negros during 6 March pushed north to Salami Plantation and established a beach position facing Seeadler Harbor. Our forces also occupied the village of Porlaka, west of Momote airdrome, where enemy naval guns and searchlight equipment were captured. The island is now under our control and the Momote air strip is ready for use. In support of these operations, 17 B-25's bombed and machine-gunned the plantation areas on the north end of the island and other Allied planes attacked enemy positions as far west as Lorengau; a destroyer, bombing from close range, destroyed enemy coastal guns on Hauwei Island near Lorengau. Our casualties as reported on 6 March totalled 103 dead and 444 wounded; 1,179 of the enemy have been killed.

In New Britain a Marine battalion, reinforced with medium tanks and amphibious tractors, landed near Talasea against light opposition,

securing a beachhead only 165 miles by air from Rabaul. Army patrols on the south coast reached Amgoring, 28 miles east of Arawe. Australian planes supported these operations. To the west 13 B-24's bombed Awar and Nubia airdromes on the northeast coast of New Guinea and seven Dutch B-25's attacked Toeal (Kei Is.); one medium bomber is missing.

2. During 5 March ten B-24's hit Rabaul with 34 tons of bombs; 22 B-25's attacked the northwest shore of Simpson Harbor starting five fires in the wharf area. Thirteen of our heavy bombers started several fires at Tobera with 50 tons of fragmentation bombs. Five planes were observed burning in the revetment area; we lost one B-24. Borpop was hit by 13 other Allied planes during the day with excellent results.

One hundred and ninety Navy planes bombed enemy concentrations near Kuraio Mission and troop and supply areas in the upper Torokina River valley. Siar Plantation in northeastern Bougainville and Monoitu Mission in the southern portion of the island were hit by three P-38's and 16 P-39's, respectively; one plane was lost to antiaircraft fire.

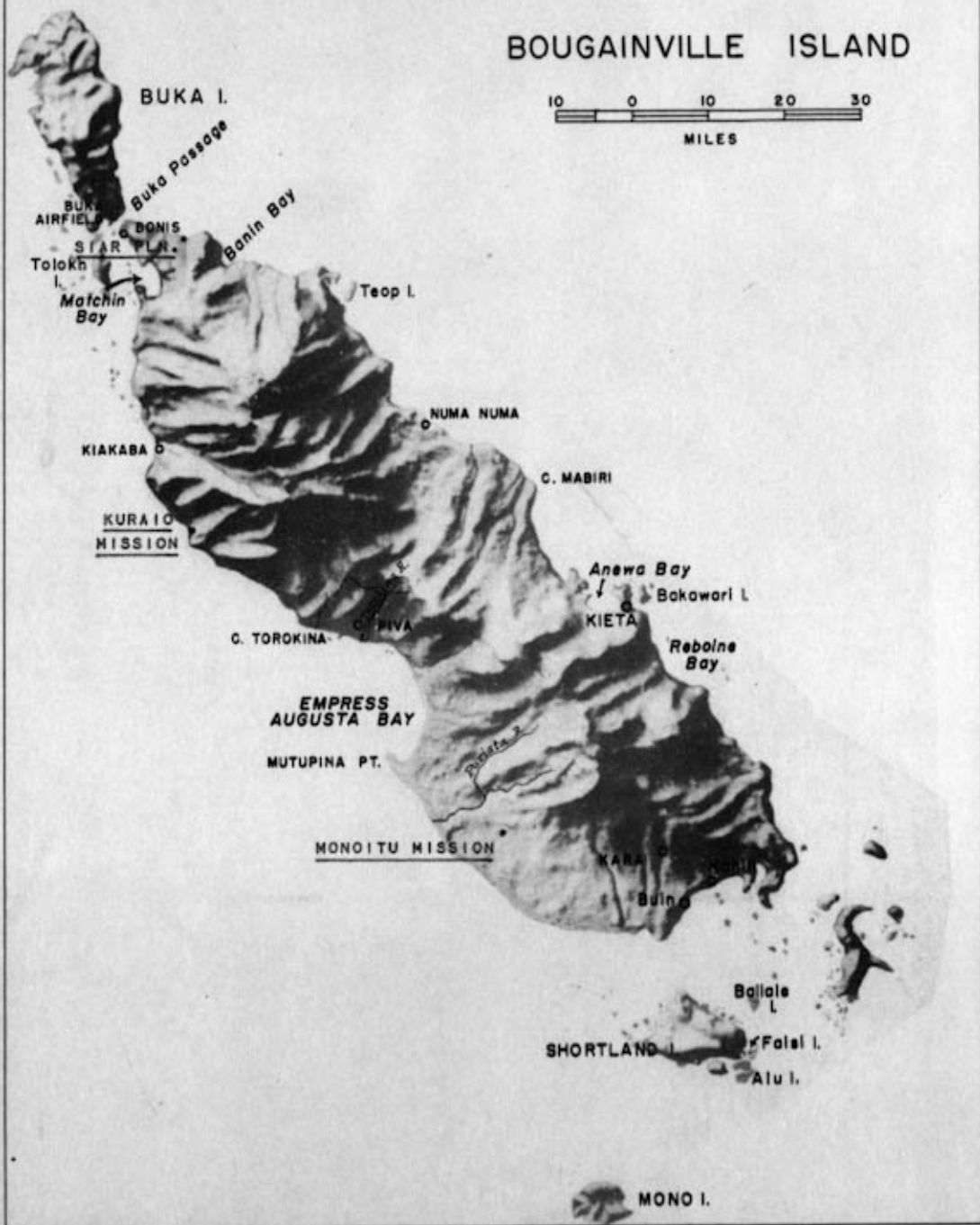
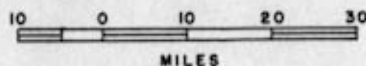
The Green Island runway was reported in use on 6 March.

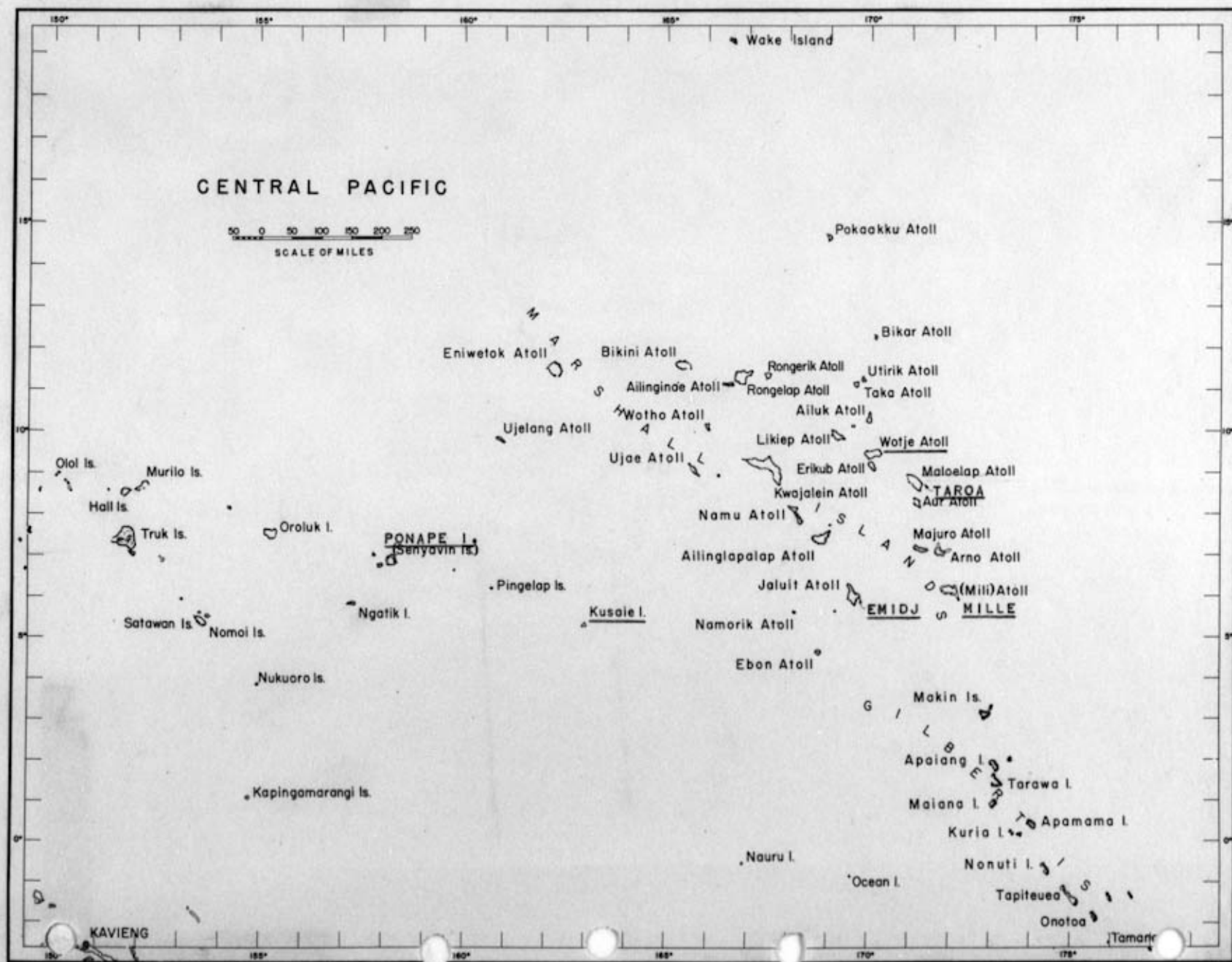
3. During 5 March, 13 B-24's, attacking Ponape with 30 tons of bombs, caused a large explosion in the airdrome area; two others hit the alternate targets of Mille and Kusaie. Eight B-25's bombed islands near Taroa and other aircraft raided Emidj, Mille and Wotje.

EASTERN FRONT

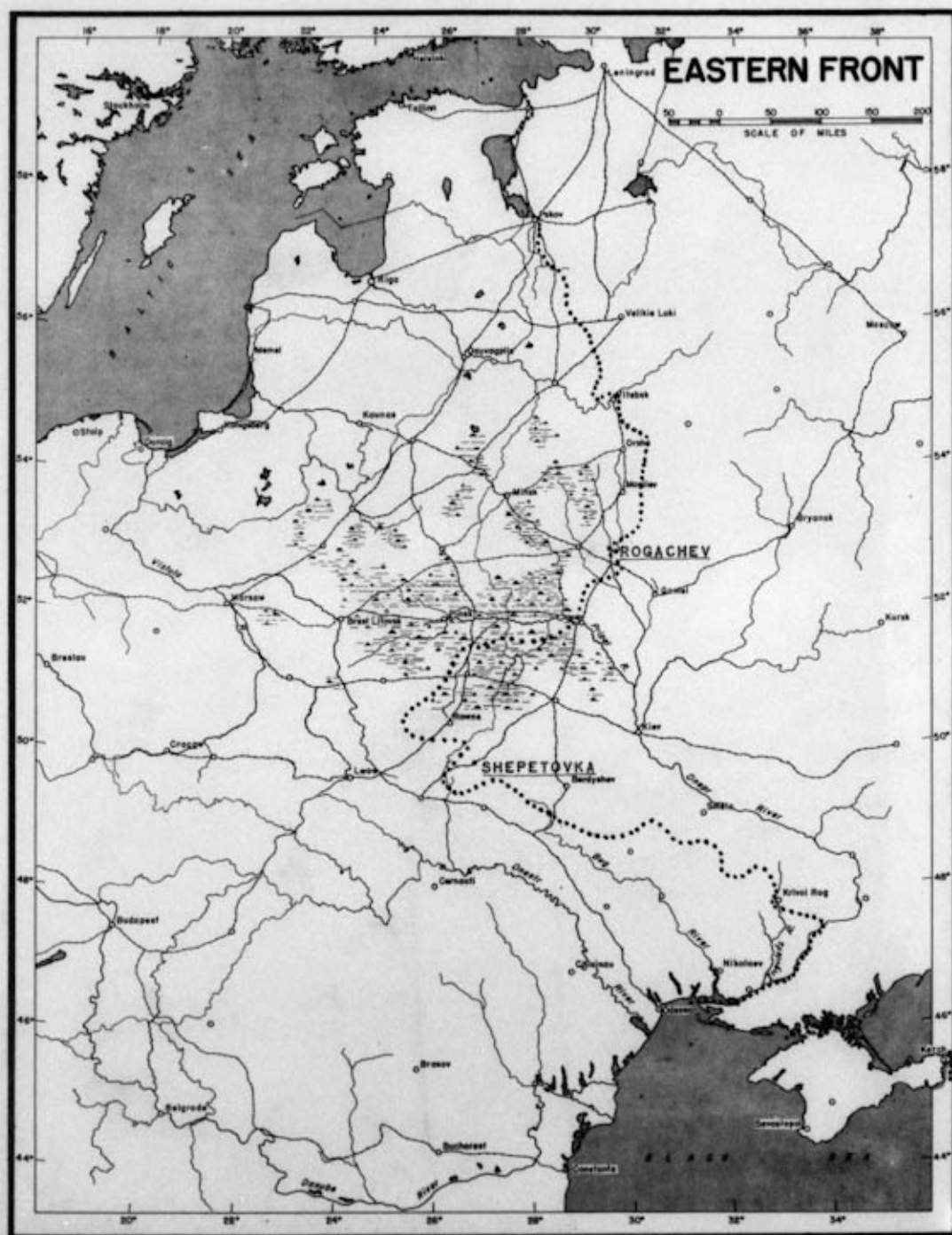
There was no change on the northern front during 7 March. To the

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





DECLASSIFIED



south, the Soviets established a small bridgehead across the Drut River near Rogachev and made other minor gains southeast of Shepetovka and near Krivoi Rog.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

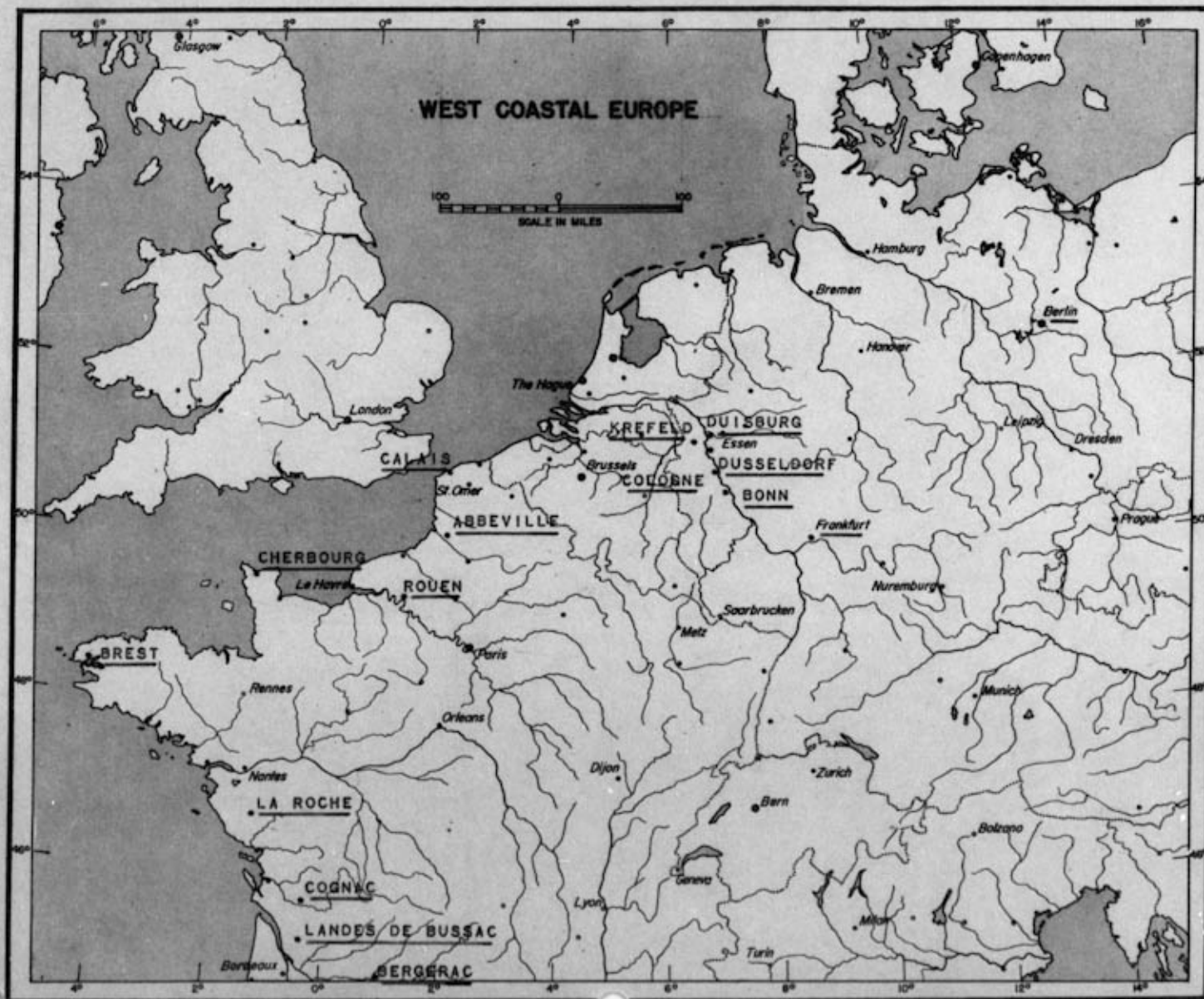
No. 818

0700 March 6 to 0700 March 7, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



24-5283TARCO

DECLASSIFIED

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives were issued for the movement of the 79th Infantry Division (Major General Ira T. Wyche) from Camp Phillips, Kansas, to an eastern port of embarkation for further movement overseas.

Orders have also been issued for the transfer of the 65th Infantry Regiment (Puerto Rican) from its temporary assignment in the United States to the North African Theater of Operations.

EUROPEAN THEATER

On 4 March 30 B-17's of the 8th Air Force attacked their primary target, southwest Berlin, with 67 tons of bombs; 219 others dropped 505 tons on Bonn, Cologne, Dusseldorf and other targets. Fifteen (probably 25) enemy planes were shot down; we lost 15 bombers and 25 of their escorting fighters. That same day 88 Allied medium, light and fighter bombers attacked military objectives in the Calais-Abbeville-Rouen area with 100 tons of high explosives. On the night of 4-5 March, 20 Mosquito bombers harassed Berlin, Duisburg, Krefeld and military objectives in the Cherbourg area.

On 5 March a total of 163 B-24's, escorted by 257 fighters, bombed the Bergerac, Cognac, Landes de Bussac and La Roche airdromes in France. Twenty-seven (probably 35) enemy planes were shot down; we lost four bombers and five fighter planes. Two hundred and seventeen B-26's operated against cross-channel targets.

The 8th Air Force dispatched 815 heavy bombers and 925 fighter planes against Berlin on 6 March. Preliminary reports indicate that the



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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Bosch electric equipment works, the Daimler-Benz airplane engine works and targets in the center of the city were bombed. Air opposition enroute to the target was strong but very few enemy planes were encountered over Berlin. At least 123 enemy planes were shot down; we lost 69 heavy bombers and 13 fighters.

The 9th Air Force dispatched 309 medium and light bombers against airdromes and military objectives on the Continent during the day.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Unfavorable weather curtailed air operations in Italy during 5 March. Eight P-40's bombed the town of Pontecorvo and 12 A-36's attacked roads and buildings at Formia. Allied fighters patrolled the Anzio area and attacked small craft near Split, on the Dalmatian coast, sinking one boat. RAF Wellingtons damaged another vessel south of Leghorn.

2. At the beachhead aggressive patrolling continued during 6 March; enemy shelling was on a reduced scale. On the X Corps front a minor enemy attack supported by artillery and mortar fire forced the withdrawal of an outpost of our 88th Division at Santi Cosima e Damiano. There was sharp fighting in the vicinity of Cassino. On the Eighth Army front a local attack northeast of Orsogna was repulsed by British troops. Artillery was active on both sides in the northern coastal sector.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 3 March 10th Air Force planes carried out numerous missions

over northern Burma damaging enemy positions, installations, bridges and rolling stock and destroying a large warehouse. The following day US fighters hit villages on the Arakan coast south of Akyab. During the night of 4-5 March, 16 heavy bombers attacked four airfields in the vicinity of Rangoon and one at Bassein.

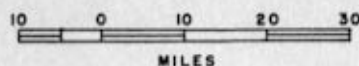
2. RAF operations during 3 March included heavy and medium bomber attacks on two airfields near Rangoon. One bomber is missing. Additional RAF planes attacked Japanese installations in the Fort White area and targets of opportunity on the Arakan coast. On 4 March they continued their attacks against enemy bivouacs, supply dumps and positions in the Fort White area and supported ground troops in the Buthidaung area.

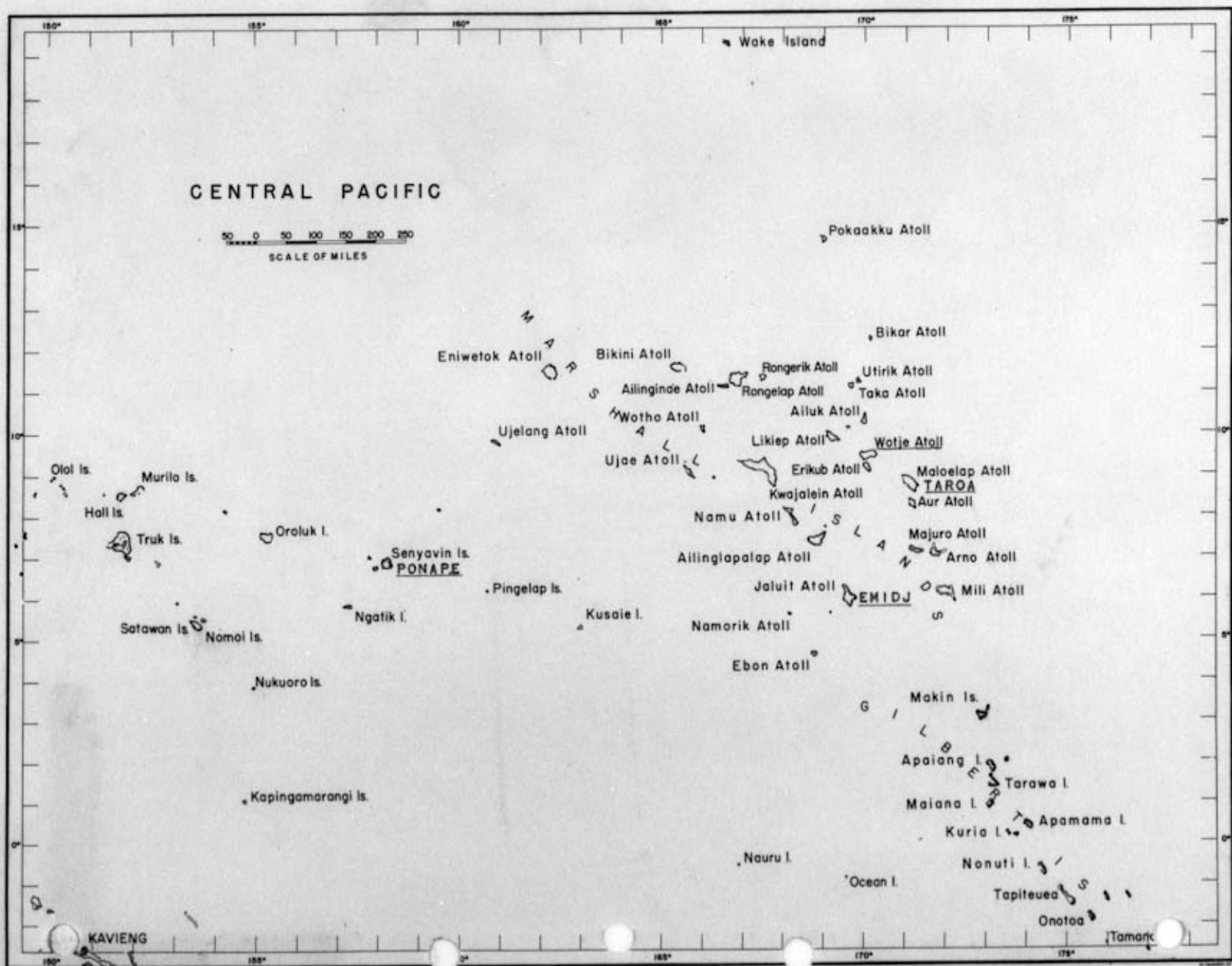
3. Chinese troops are advancing slowly on Maingkwan from the north and west against strong resistance. Considerable enemy equipment was captured in the occupation of Taring Ga during 4 March.

4. Six B-25's of the 14th Air Force escorted by 24 P-40's seriously damaged the Kiungshan airdrome on Hainan Island, on 4 March; barracks were destroyed and two hangars were set afire. Seventeen (probably 18) enemy planes were destroyed in combat and on the ground. Other escorted B-25's sank a 200-foot tanker near Wuhu and destroyed three intercepting enemy fighters in combat.

That night six waves of enemy planes bombed Suichwan destroying a gas dump and damaging several planes. Part of the field was left unusable. The same night single Japanese planes bombed targets near Hengyang and Changsha. The

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





following day eight B-25's bombed and machine-gunned the Chengmai airfield. Nine enemy planes were destroyed.

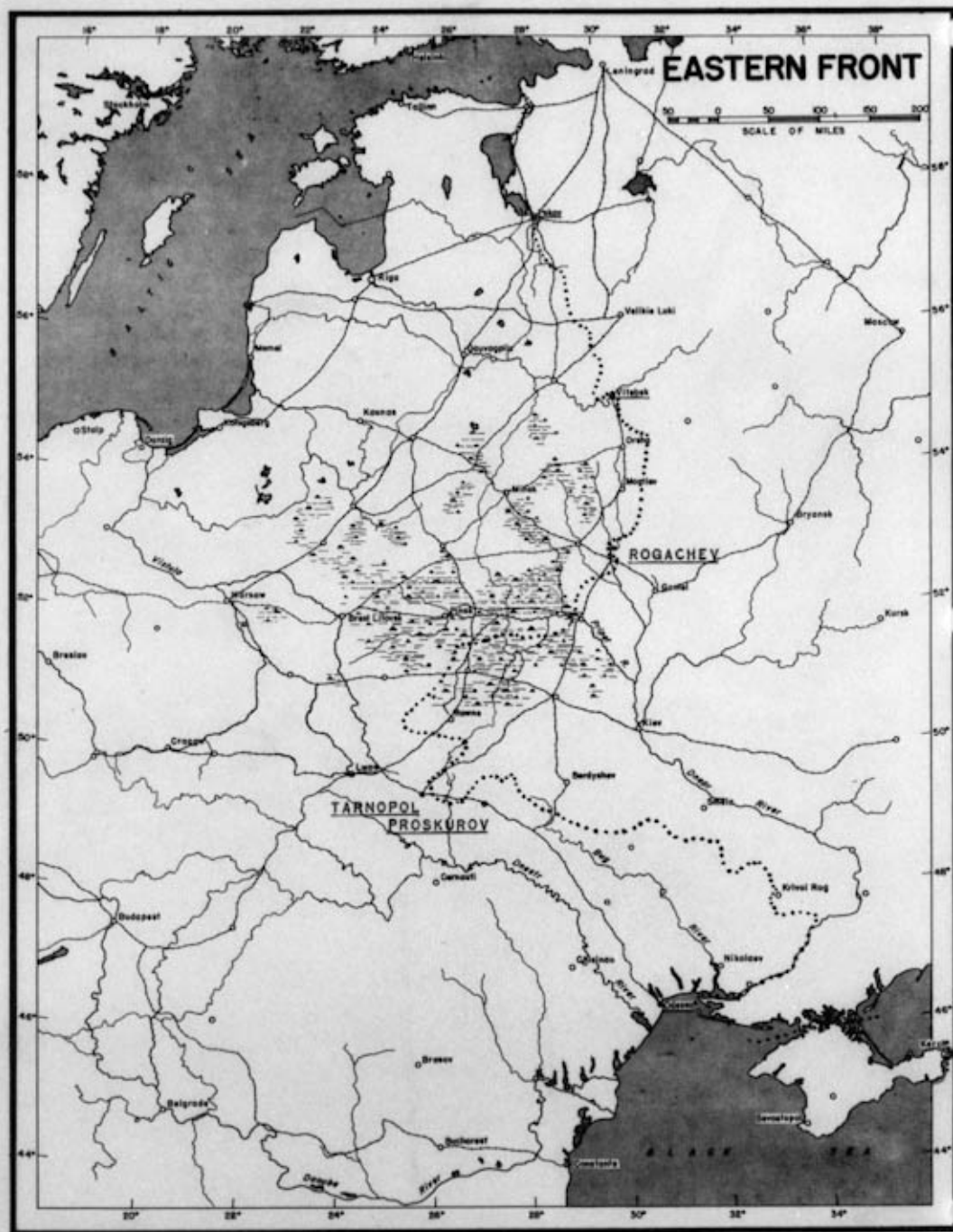
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. The 1st Battalion, 126th Infantry, landed at Yalau Plantation (29 miles west of Saidor) without opposition on 5 March; A-20's provided air support. Patrols advanced west to Bibi without contact.

The enemy launched another unsuccessful counterattack against the southern perimeter of our Admiralty Islands beachhead. During the late afternoon our forces pushed northward. Japanese forces opposing our troops in this area are estimated to be three infantry battalions, reinforced with machine-gun units and light tanks; a large number of the enemy is reported to be at Salami Plantation.

During 3 March, seventeen B-24's bombed the runways and dump areas at Alexishafen. During the 4th, 26 RAAF Torpedo bombers attacked the Cape Hoskins and Talasea air strips. The next day air support for the Admiralty Islands operation included an attack by 17 B-25's against Japanese concentrations at Salami Plantation; unfavorable weather forced other heavy and light bomber missions to turn back. Thirty-one Allied fighters bombed and machine-gunned the Alexishafen airdrome areas. B-25's attacked Cape Rigry and Dumum village; one is missing.

2. On 4 March, 23 B-24's, 24 B-25's and 12 P-38's attacked Rabaul, starting several large fires and destroying ten barracks buildings, without being challenged by enemy fighters. Seventy-two Navy bombers scored hits on gun positions east of the town on the same day. Twelve P-39's bombed



and machine-gunned the Monoitu Mission area and silenced an antiaircraft position; P-38's silenced an antiaircraft position on Pukpuk Island off Bougainville with machine-gun fire. Other Allied planes machine-gunned targets in the Choiseul Bay area.

3. Fifty-eight Central Pacific-based aircraft continued the air offensive against Wotje, Emidj and Taroa during 4 March with 31 tons of bombs. All our planes returned. Twelve B-24's hit warehouses at Ponape starting fires.

EASTERN FRONT

Fierce fighting was reported around Pskov on 6 March. South of the Pripet marshes Russian forces cut the important Lwow-Odessa railroad. Forward elements in this region are now ten miles from Tarnopol and 14 miles from Proskurov.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 817

0700 March 5 to 0700 March 6, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

103(2)



EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 3-4 March Mosquito bombers made scattered attacks over France and Germany, including Berlin.

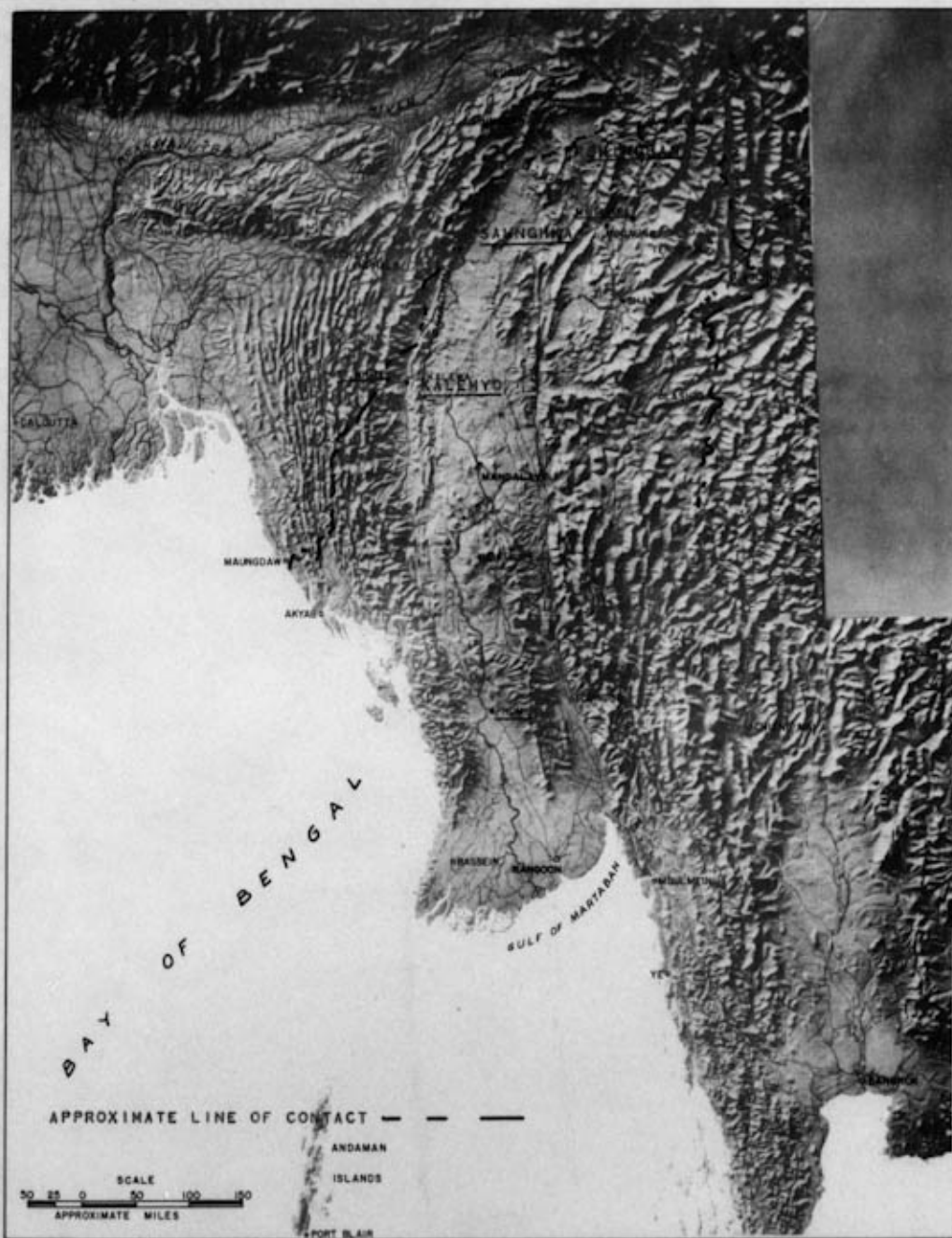
MEDITERRANEAN

1. Twenty-five RAF bombers damaged harbor installations and the town of Zara during the night of 3-4 March. Lighter aircraft attacked motor transport in the Carsoli-Pescara area, small craft at Porto Civitanova, the railroad station at Tortoreto and rolling stock south of Leghorn. One hundred and twenty-four Allied fighters patrolled the Anzio beachhead. Heavy bomber strikes on 4 March were limited by weather.

During the night of 3-4 March, two Middle East bombers damaged a merchant vessel northwest of Crete. The next day six B-26's bombed the quay at Suda Bay. Two Allied planes were lost.

2. Aggressive Allied patrolling characterized activity in the Anzio beachhead for the 24-hour period ending at noon on 5 March. Mortar and artillery fire of our 3d Division broke up a small enemy attack on the right. On the left the British 56th Division reduced a pocket of resistance. Artillery exchanges and minor clashes continued along the trans-Italian battleline.

The US 88th Division assumed command of the British 5th Division sector on 5 March.



3. Casualties on the Italian mainland follow:

<u>Fifth Army (As of 29 February)</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>Main Front</u>				
US	3,881	16,977	5,886	26,744
British	2,810	13,904	4,435	21,149
French	1,264	6,681	785	8,730
Italian	115	188	282	585
<u>Beachhead</u>				
US	1,399	5,272	4,104	10,775
British	925	4,036	4,874	9,835
<u>Eighth Army (As of 1 March)</u>	<u>3,166</u>	<u>11,330</u>	<u>2,090</u>	<u>16,586</u>
Totals	13,560	58,388	22,456	94,404

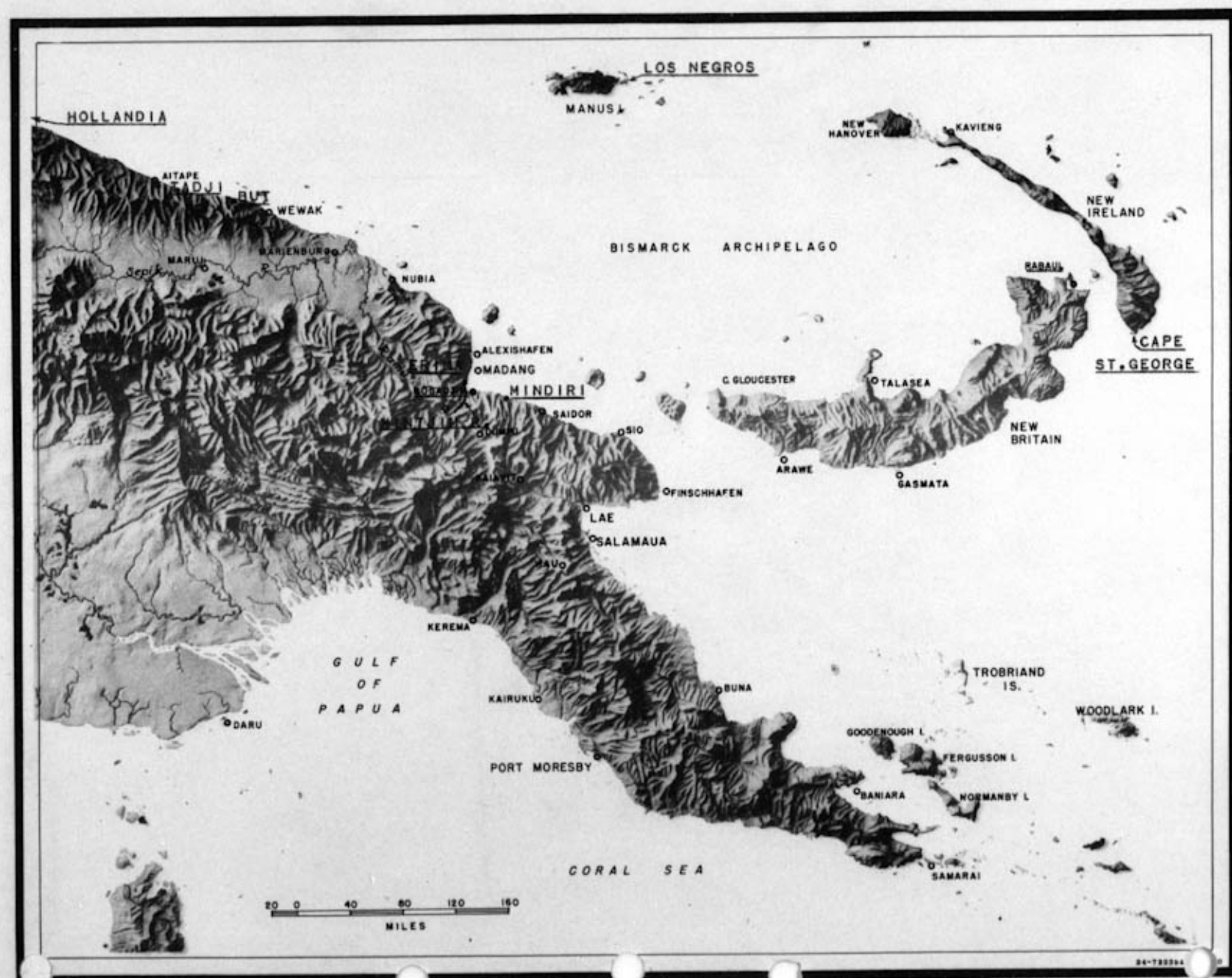
Prisoners of war captured by components of the Fifth Army are as follows:

	<u>Main Front</u>	<u>Beachhead</u>	<u>Total</u>
US	4,116	1,872	5,988
British	3,169	1,235	4,404
French	1,177		1,177
Italian	9		9
Totals	8,471	3,107	11,578

Prisoners of war captured by the Eighth Army total 3,158.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 1 March more than 50 planes of the 10th Air Force scored hits on supplies and personnel and attacked road bridges and artillery positions near Sawngka. On the following two days similar targets near Myitkyina and Shingban were effectively attacked in some 50 sorties.



2. During 3 March two 14th Air Force P-40's damaged the coal grading building at Cam Pha port in French Indo-China. The following day B-25's and fighter bombers attacked the Thanh Hoa chrome mine, damaged warehouses, railroad and docking facilities at Cam Pha port and hit a small cargo vessel at Hon Gay.

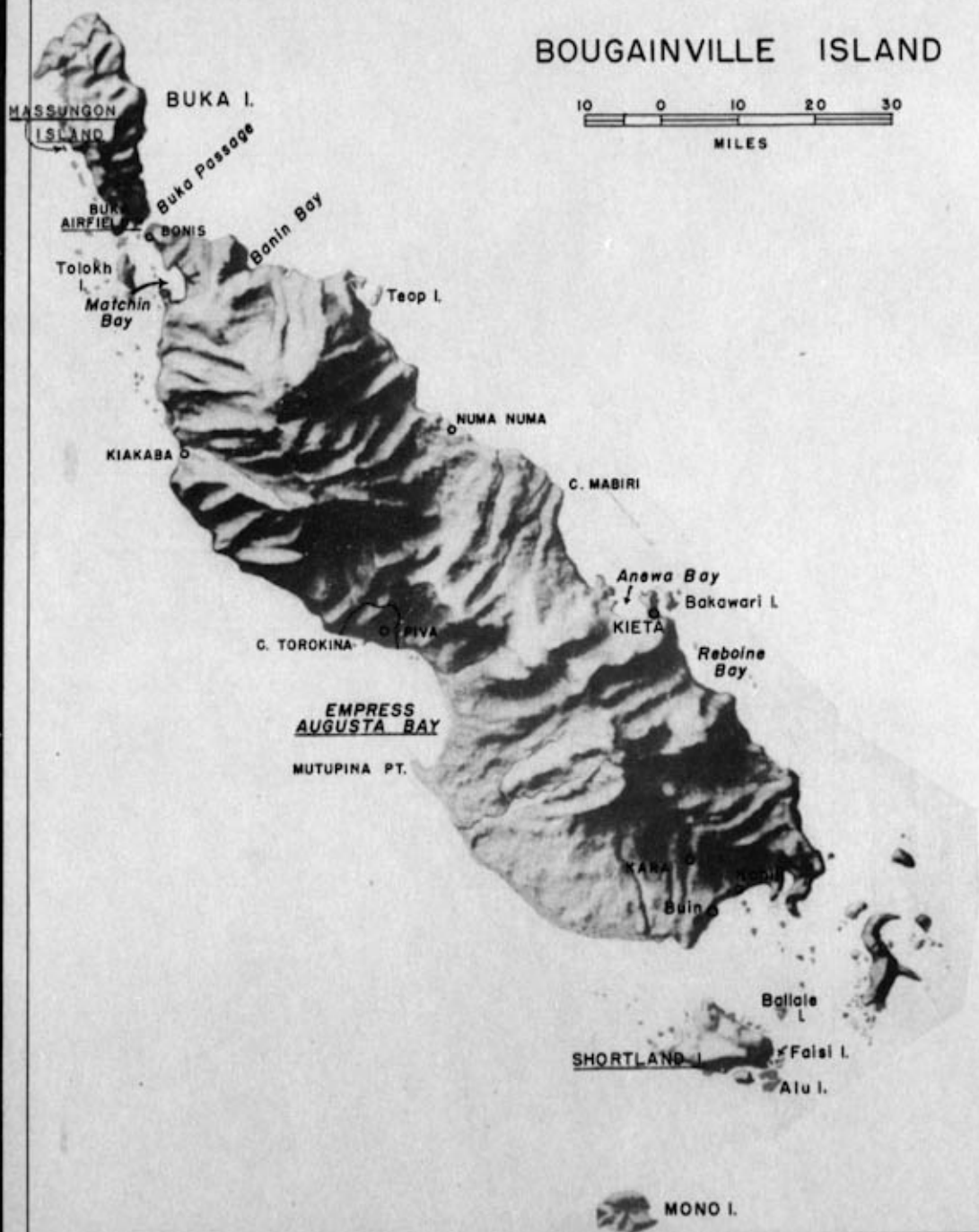
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

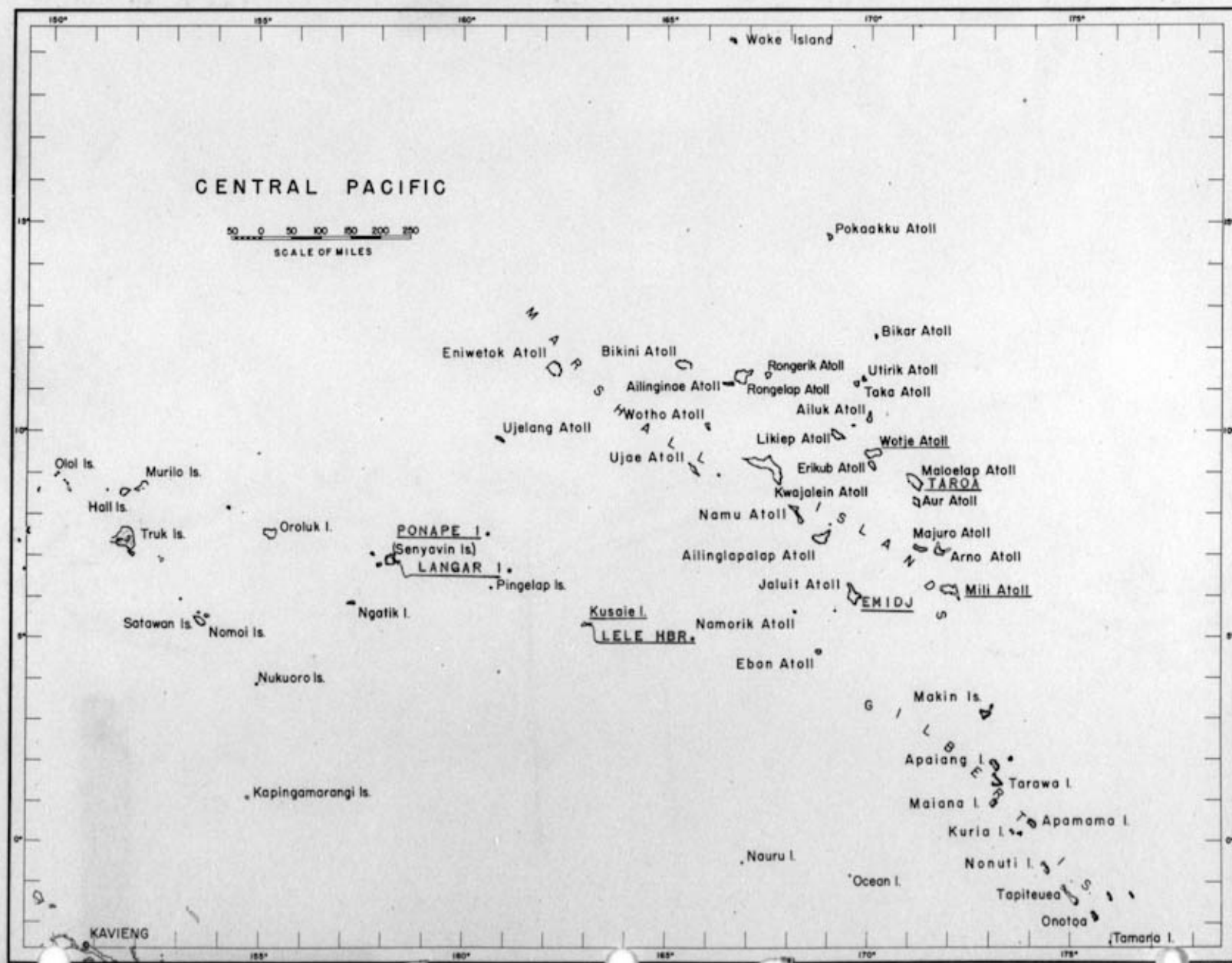
1. Our position on Los Negros remained intact despite continuous enemy pressure throughout the night of 3 March. A squadron of the 7th Cavalry landed without loss on the following morning. US destroyers shelled enemy positions in support of our troops. Twenty-eight medium and light bombers also supported our ground forces.

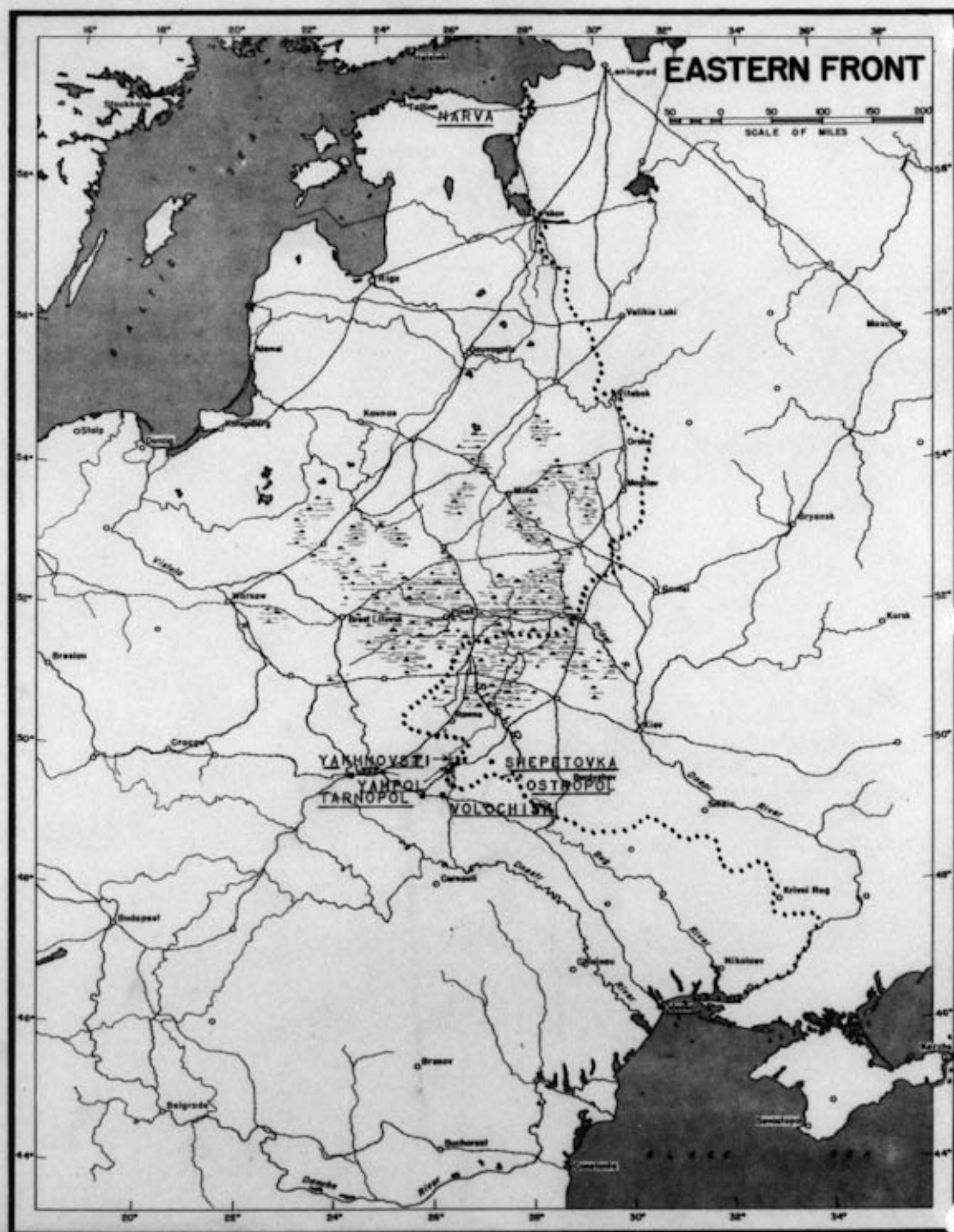
During 3 March in New Guinea, 31 light and fighter bombers attacked the Erima-Bogadjim area reporting excellent results and scored hits on supply dumps in the Mintjim Valley. Fighter aircraft attacked targets of opportunity along the northeast coast and in combat over Tadjil destroyed two bombers and one fighter without loss. Eighteen B-24's bombed Hollandia airdrome during that night. The next day 22 B-24's escorted by RAAF P-40's bombed the But airdrome destroying 16 enemy aircraft on the ground and causing damage in the supply areas. Seventy-eight Allied aircraft bombed and machine-gunned the Mindiri area throughout the day.

2. A total of 140 South Pacific Army and Navy bombers attacked Rabaul during 3 March, while fighter bombers scored hits on the radar installations at Cape St. George.

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND







Fighter bombers attacked the Buka runway and revetments and damaged a barge near Massungon Island. Thirty Navy dive and fighter bombers supported our ground forces in the Empress Augusta Bay region and fighters machine-gunned a float plane near Shortland Island.

3. Seventeen Central Pacific medium bombers attacked the runway on Wotje and the runway and gun positions on Taroa with good results during 3 March. B-24's attacked a medium cargo vessel and small craft in Lele Harbor (Kusaie) and the town, airfield and bauxite plant at Ponape. Photo-reconnaissance showed more than half of the town, one-third of the dock area, and the radio station destroyed at Ponape, and other installations damaged on Langar Island.

EASTERN FRONT

Soviet attacks at Narva on 5 March resulted in a slight enlargement of the bridgehead. Southwest of Pskov thaws appear to have halted the Soviet advance. Marshal Zhukov, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Red Armies, has taken command of the southern front. The Soviets advanced on a 75-mile front south of Shepetovka and reached a point 16 miles southwest of Yampol on the railroad to Tarnopol. They were pressing toward Volochisk on the Odessa-Lwow railroad, the important German supply route for their troops in the Ukraine. The Red Army also holds the high ground north of the Sluch River from Yakhnovsti to Ostropol.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 816

0700 March 4 to 0700 March 5, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
Kilometers
— SCALE OF MILES —

THE FRODOGS

SHETLAND IS.

VILHELMSHAVEN

BERNEVILLE
MONTAIGNEY

ROSIERES

LAON-COUVRON

BEAUMAIS-TILLE

JUVINCOURT

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives have been issued for the movement of the 83d Infantry Division (Brigadier General Robert C. Macon) from Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, to the New York Port of Embarkation for further movement overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 2-3 March 120 RAF heavy bombers and two Mosquitoes dropped 618 tons of bombs on aircraft factories in France. Other Mosquitoes made widespread attacks over Germany.

US heavy bomber operations on the following day were hampered by adverse weather. Abandoning the primary targets deep in Germany, 54 B-17's dropped 138 tons of bombs on Wilhelmshaven while 25 heavy bombers attacked other targets of opportunity. Only twelve enemy planes attacked our bombers during the day. Our fighters shot down eight enemy planes, our entire loss being eleven heavy bombers and seven fighters. Two P-38 groups went to their rendezvous near Berlin but were not challenged by enemy fighters. Over 200 B-26's of the 9th Air Force attacked the Rosieres en Santerre, Montdidier, Beauvais-Tille, Juvincourt and Laon-Couvron airdromes, as well as a coastal installation at Berneuil.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. No important changes in the ground situation were reported from Italy on 4 March. Artillery and patrol activity continued on both fronts. The enemy shelled our Anzio anchorage as deep as six miles out to sea but



caused no damage to the port itself.

The XIII Corps Headquarters passed from command of the Eighth to that of the Fifth Army.

2. On the night of 2-3 March 51 Wellingtons attacked the Orbetello yards, other rail targets in central Italy and harbor installations at San Stefano. Lighter aircraft patrolled the beachhead and attacked traffic south of Rome.

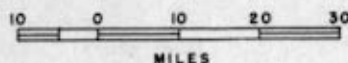
The next day, 277 escorted heavy bombers hit the airdromes at Canino, Fabrica, Viterbo and railroad yards at Rome with results varying from poor to good. Eighty-four B-26's bombed the station at San Benedetto and railroad yards elsewhere in central Italy. One hundred and sixty-one fighters attacked a railroad tunnel at Terni and shipping at Ancona. Additional Allied aircraft struck enemy batteries, troop concentrations, and motor transport opposite the beachhead. On the Dalmatian coast, 22 P-40's attacked shipping at Split. In all operations eleven enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of ten of ours.

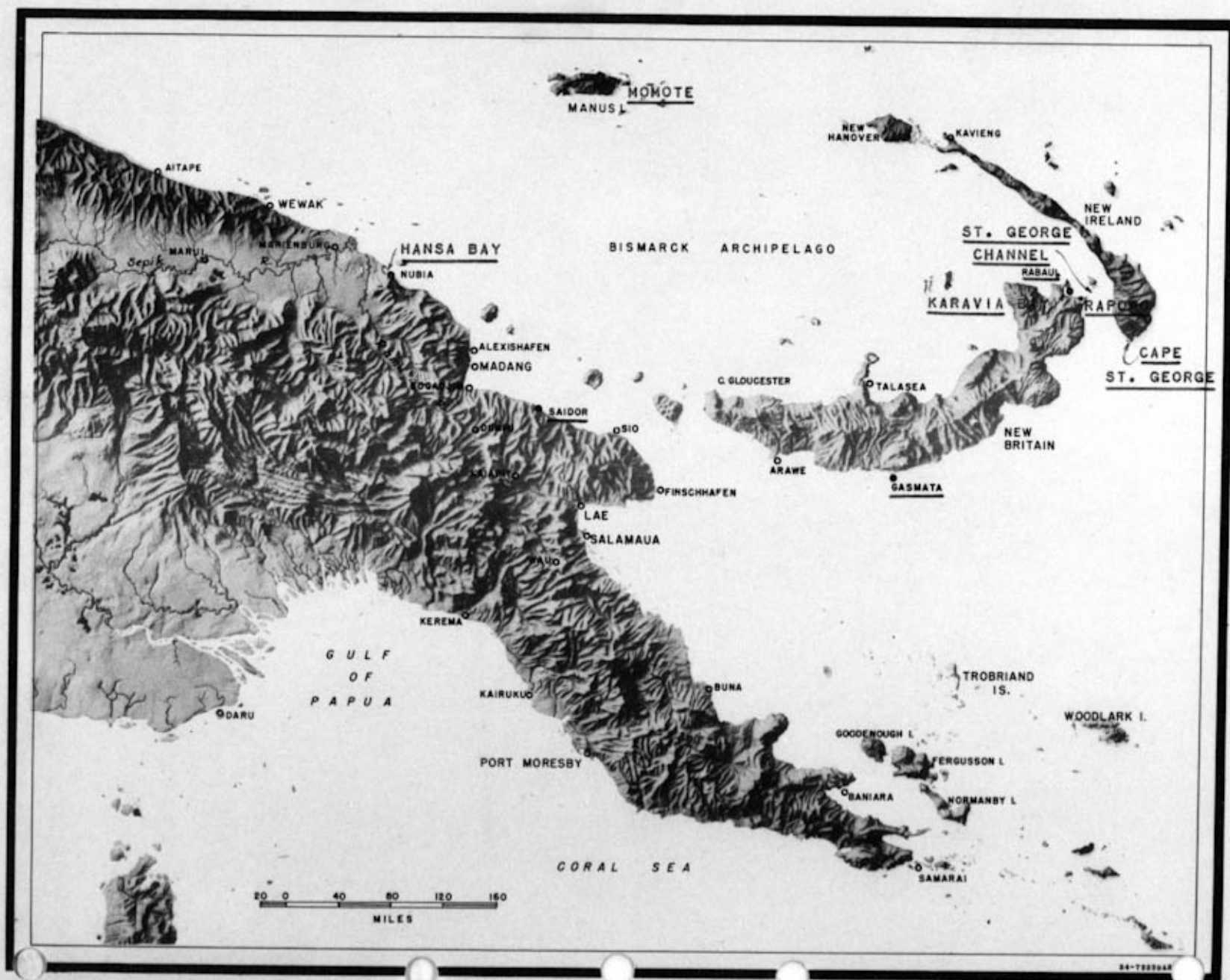
3. During 2 and 3 March Middle East-based aircraft successfully mined Port Adamas on Melos Island. On the latter day Allied fighters on anti-shipping sweeps over the Aegean damaged two small vessels.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 29 February seven B-25's of the 10th Air Force bombed bridges near Taungtha and Myingyan in central Burma. Some 50 light and fighter-bombers flew sorties against enemy stores, railroads, and camp areas

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





in northern Burma with observed effect. During 1 and 2 March nine RAF Wellingtons attacked enemy supplies at Taungup, western Burma, and other planes raided enemy villages and positions in that region.

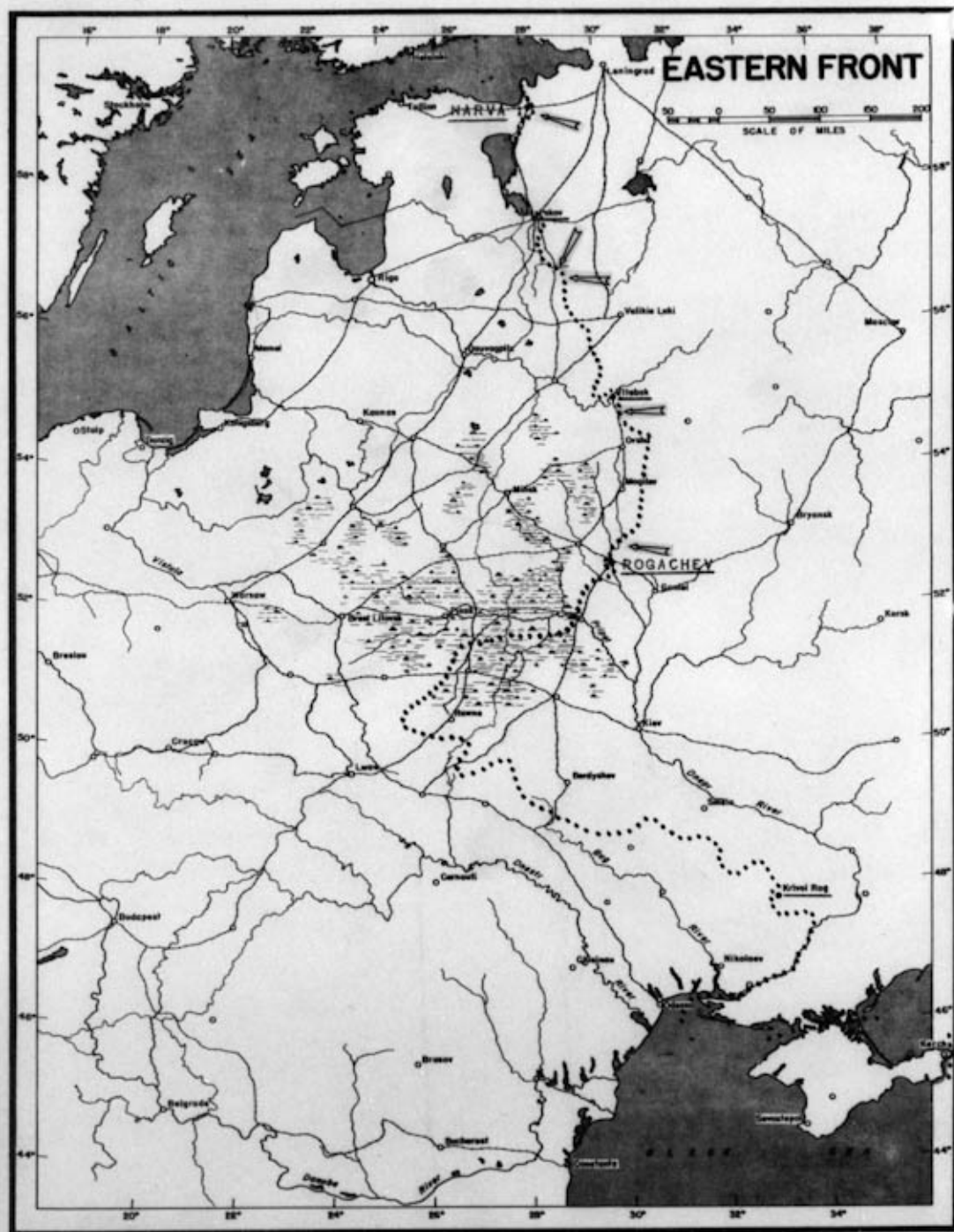
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Throughout the night of 2 March enemy forces ^Yigorously assaulted our Momote perimeter, suffering some 3,000 casualties. Allied positions, however, remain unchanged; our losses were 61 killed and 244 wounded. Our troops are preparing to resume their advance. Runway construction is progressing rapidly.

In previously unreported missions for 2 March, 18 RAAF light bombers attacked the Gasmata area, while 17 B-24's, 24 light bombers, and 24 fighters hit targets along the northeast New Guinea coast. On 3 March our forces in the Admiralties were supported by five B-25's and nine A-20's; 22 B-24's bombed gun positions around Hansa Bay, and light aircraft supported the advance of our Sidor forces.

2. On 2 March, 20 B-24's, 23 B-25's and 14 P-38's from the South Pacific area hit Rabaul and Rapopo airdrome with 114 tons of bombs. Navy planes damaged two small merchant vessels and a gunboat in Keravia Bay. Fighter aircraft attacked the Cape St. George radar station. A B-24 on a reconnaissance sweep over the St. George Channel hit and probably sank a vessel. Eight P-39's bombed and machine-gunned the Monoitu and Piano Missions in southern Bougainville.

Ground action in Bougainville was confined to active patrolling



and shelling of enemy supply installations, batteries and bivouac areas.

3. During 2 March a total of 46 US medium, light and fighter-bombers attacked Taroa, Jaluit, and Mille with excellent results.

EASTERN FRONT

Soviet attacks near Narva, Pskov, Vitebsk, Rogachev and Krivoi Rog resulted in some advances but no substantial change in the situation during 4 March.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 815

0700 March 3 to 0700 March 4, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400 500
MILES
— SCALE OF MILES —



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Three B-34's bombed the Paramushiro-Shimushu area during the night of 1-2 March through an overcast.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On the night of 1-2 March a mission of 557 RAF planes, dispatched against Stuttgart, dropped more than 1,800 tons of explosives and incendiaries in the target area. Five bombers were lost. Mosquitoes attacked airfields in Belgium and Holland.

The same night 120 enemy aircraft operated over the UK, ten penetrating to the London area. Only minor casualties and slight damage resulted. Night fighters destroyed five of the enemy raiders.

2. During 8th Air Force operations on 2 March, 375 B-17's and B-24's escorted by 588 long-range fighters, bombed Frankfurt, Offenbach, Ludwigshafen, Dernbach, Limburg, Fischbach, and targets of opportunity with nearly 900 tons of explosives and incendiaries. Enemy opposition was unusually weak and our planes destroyed 20 (probably 24) enemy aircraft in aerial combat. Eighty-four B-17's escorted by 281 fighters hit hangars, workshops and other buildings at Chartres airdrome, destroying two enemy planes on the ground.

Three hundred and fifty escorted B-26's of the 9th Air Force attacked cross-channel targets, Amiens and the airfields at Glisy and Rosieres en Santerre and railroad yards in northern France, reporting fair to good results.



Our losses during these operations were ten heavy bombers, one medium bomber and four fighters.

Unfavorable weather on 3 March compelled a mission of 891 escorted US heavy bombers to turn back before reaching its primary targets in central Germany. Some formations bombed targets of opportunity in Germany on their return.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 1-2 March, British Wellingtons bombed roads between Rome and the Anzio beachhead and attacked targets of opportunity. Enemy planes raided Anzio, but no damage was reported.

The Mediterranean Allied Air Force concentrated on enemy installations and communications opposite the beachhead the next day. Two hundred ninety-seven heavily escorted B-17's and B-24's dropped nearly 400 tons of fragmentation bombs on troop concentrations and the key road centers of Carroceto, Cisterna, and Velletri; the same target area was hit by 322 medium, light and fighter bombers. Other aircraft patrolled the battle area and raided lines of communication at Terni and shipping at Ancona and along the Dalmatian coast. Five of our bombers and five fighters are missing from these operations.

2. Allied artillery fires concentrated effectively on enemy infantry and tanks attacking southwest from the Cisterna area late on 2 March. Other enemy thrusts against, and attempts to infiltrate behind our beachhead positions failed.

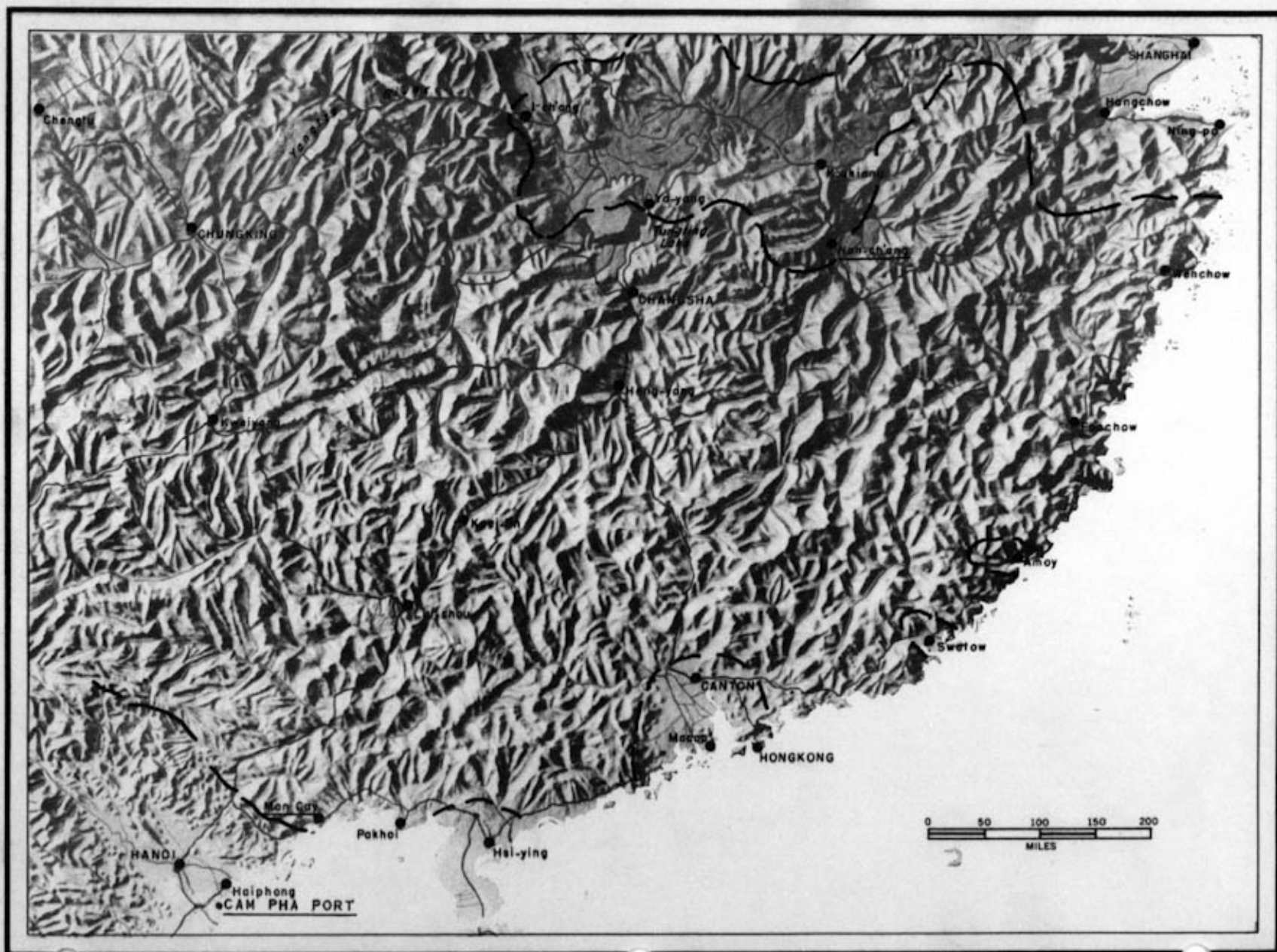
In the Garigliano and Cassino sectors of the Italian battlefield artillery activity continued during 3 March. Patrols were active on the Eighth Army front.

3. During the month of February 1944, 205,305 long tons of American lend-lease equipment and material were delivered to the Russians through the Persian corridor.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 1 March Allied ground forces in the Hukawng Valley were engaged in heavy fighting ten miles southeast of Taihpa Ga and were advancing across the Tawang River to occupy Makaw. Other Chinese forces were within two miles of Maingkwan and patrols near Sumprabum were firing into the town from the north. On the Arakan coast, the British continued to mop up small enemy parties in their rear areas and reorganized positions along the Kaladan River; British troops were in contact with the enemy about seven miles south of Kyauktaw. The enemy, in this area, is moving into positions 12 miles south of Kyauktaw.

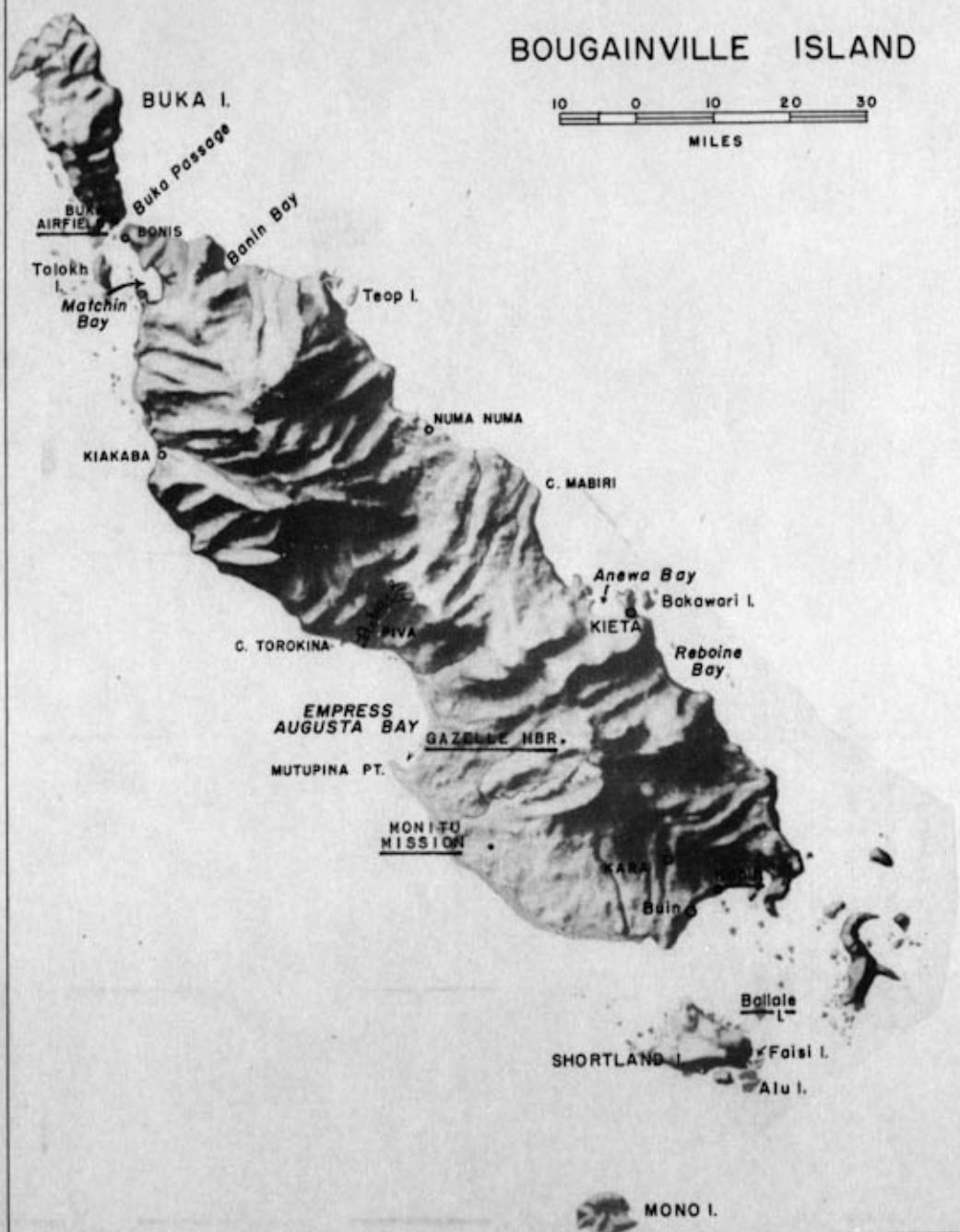
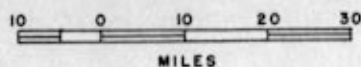
2. Light bombers and fighters of the 10th Air Force started large fires in a gasoline storage area, and attacked enemy bivouacs, storage points, and lines of communication in the Mogaung region of northern Burma on 28 February. RAF planes bombed the village of Metkalet southwest of Mogaung. The following day our planes destroyed bridges in the vicinity of Ye-U, central Burma. RAF B-24's started numerous fires in the Rangoon marshalling yards; two are missing. Other RAF aircraft continued their

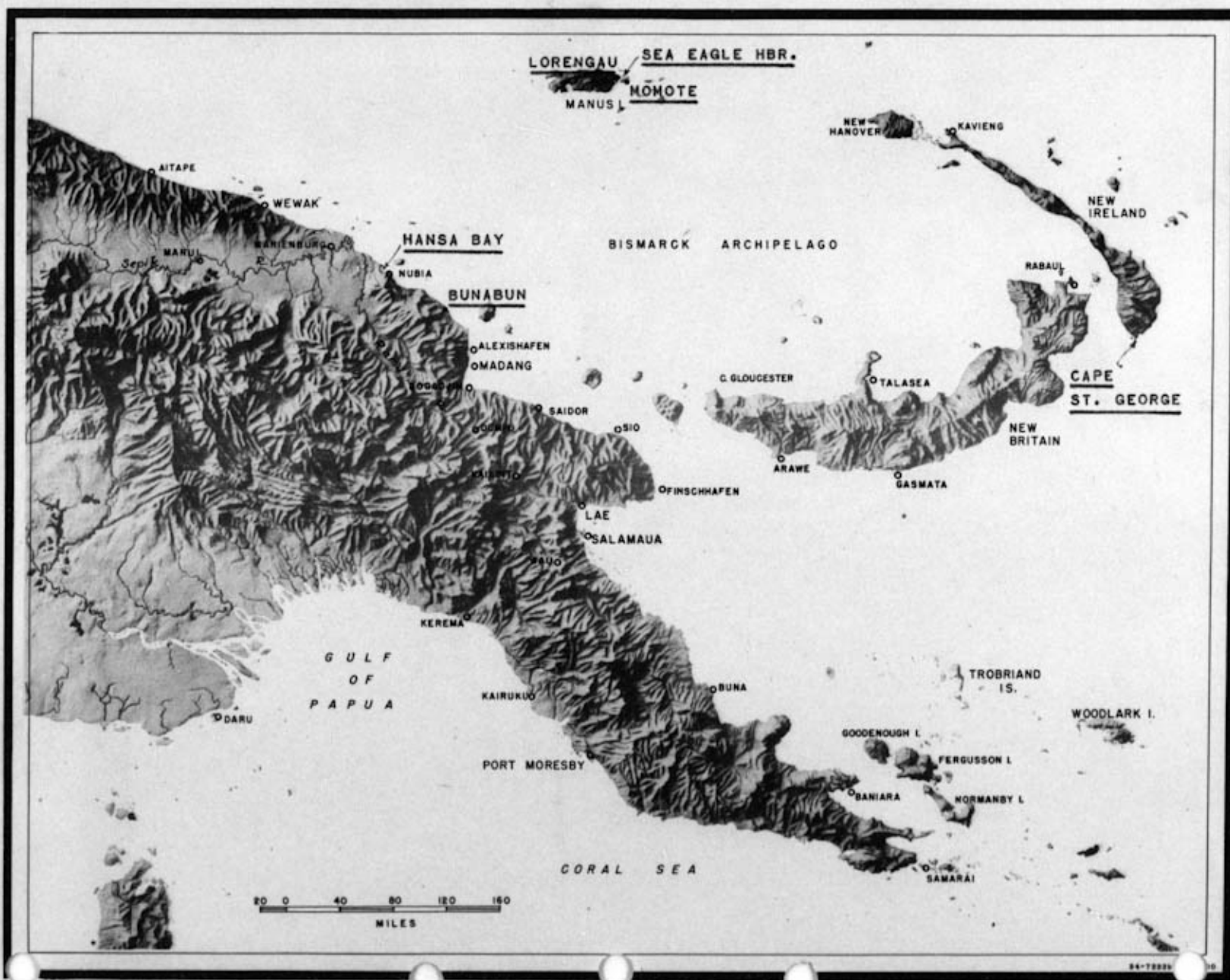


MAP 437 (FREE)
24 JUL 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND [REDACTED] SIS, OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION [REDACTED] BRANCH, OSS

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





harassing missions against enemy river traffic.

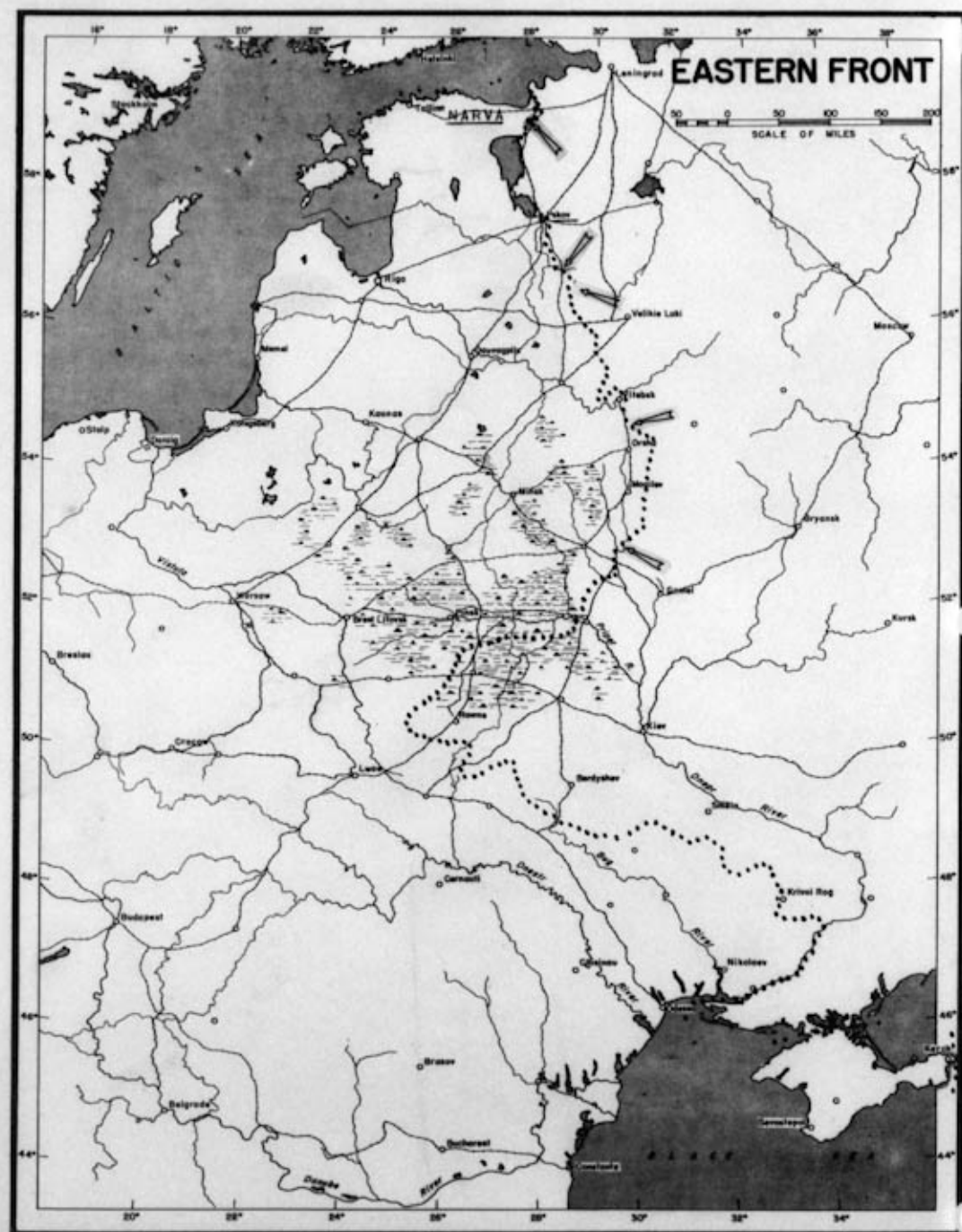
3. On 2 March, ten P-40's of the 14th Air Force machine-gunned barracks at Nanchang and heavily damaged bridges and railroad tracks 30 miles north of that town. Four B-25's demolished a 100-foot steamer in the Gulf of Tongking near Mon Cay, caused explosions in the coal-treating plant and hit railroad shops at Cam Pha port.

During the month of February, aircraft of the 14th Air Force sank 65,050 tons of shipping, probably sank 14,100 tons, and damaged another 21,000 tons. These are minimum figures and do not include several vessels of small or unreported size known to have been sunk or damaged.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Enemy attacks against our Momote beachhead during the night of 1-2 March and the following morning were repulsed and our perimeter was being expanded against increasing enemy resistance. In support of these ground operations on 1 and 2 March, destroyers shelled enemy positions on Los Negros and at Sea Eagle Harbor (Manus Island) and ten heavy, 48 medium and 16 light bombers attacked Lorengau and other targets in the Momote area. Eight (probably 12) enemy planes were shot down. On 2 March, 18 B-24's over northeastern New Guinea bombed Hansa Bay and hostile gun positions at Bunabun Harbor.

2. South Pacific reconnaissance planes bombed Gazelle Harbor, the Jap radar station at Cape St. George, and gun positions on southern Bougainville, during the night of 29 February-1 March. The following day, B-24's



dropped 84 tons of bombs on the runway and antiaircraft positions at Kahili. A force of 181 Navy bombers in eight waves struck at enemy troop concentrations on the upper Torokina River and fighter bombers hit Ballale, Monoitu Mission and Buka. Our Green Island forces report the completion of an airfield in this area.

3. The occupation of Eniwetok Atoll by our forces was completed on 2 March.

EASTERN FRONT

On the northern front sudden rises in temperatures on 3 March hampered Soviet operations. At Narva, the Red Armies attempted to expand their bridgehead. German troops, within the city, have not yet been isolated. The Soviets also made further advances southeast of Pskov. On the Central and Southern fronts their attacks continue but on a reduced scale.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 814

0700 March 2 to 0700 March 3, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
MILES
SCALE OF MILES





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RRA, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 29 February-1 March, six German aircraft penetrated to the London area, causing slight damage. RAF night fighters destroyed two enemy planes without loss. Mosquito bombers made harassing raids against Dusseldorf and an airfield in France.

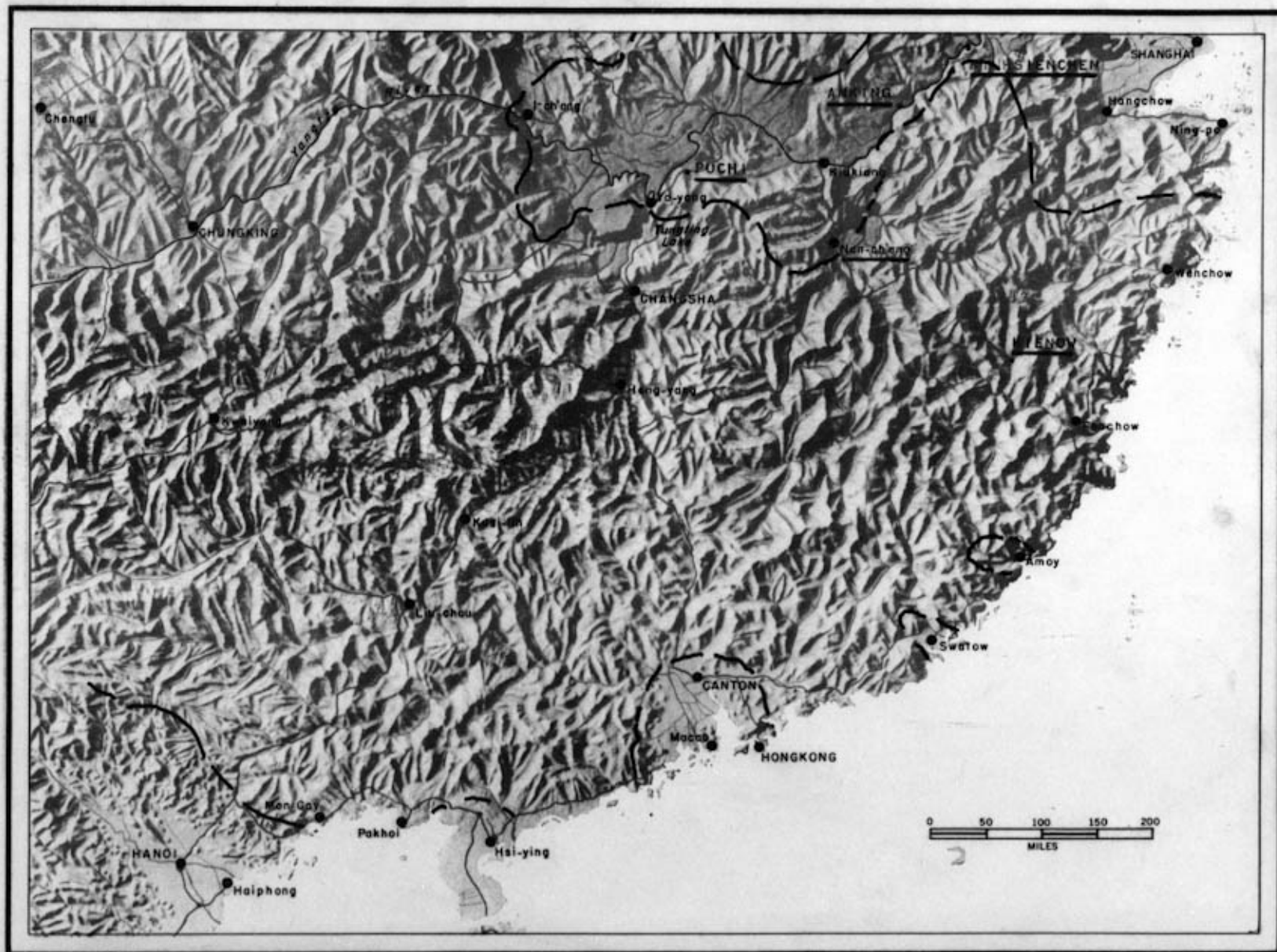
More than 500 8th Air Force B-17's and B-24's were airborne on 2 March to bomb Frankfurt. Seven hundred and two US fighters and 11 RAF fighter squadrons were to escort these heavy bomber formations.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 29 February and the day of 1 March seven A-20's attacked Albano and railroad facilities south of Rome; Allied fighter planes patrolled the battle areas and, on anti-shipping sweeps along the Yugoslavian and Italian coasts, sank one schooner and damaged 69 small craft.

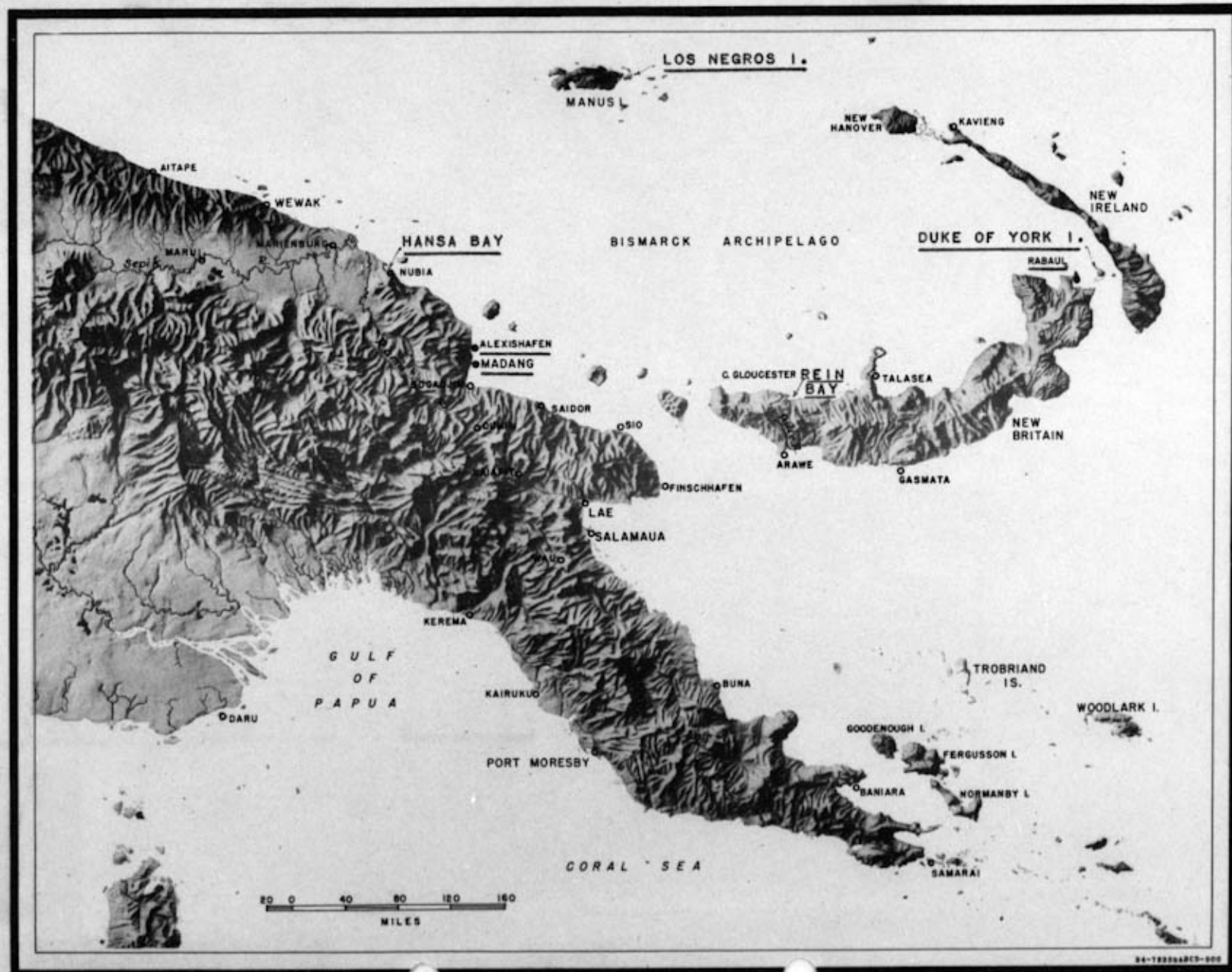
Adverse weather on 2 March forced the cancellation of Strategic air missions and restricted other air operations. ✓

2. By noon of 2 March the US 3d Division had regained and reorganized the position that it held prior to the enemy attack on 29 February. Active patrolling resulted in minor clashes along the remainder of the perimeter. Enemy bombing caused some damage and blocked roads in the area. ✓ Elsewhere along the Italian battlefield the situation remained unchanged. ✓



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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



ASIATIC THEATER

1. Thirteen B-24's of the 10th Air Force bombed the Mandalay railroad yards on 28 February. Additional B-24's attacked Akyab, Monywa and the Japanese headquarters area at Pakokku. RAF bombers started several fires at the Shwebo railroad station. On 29 February, seven B-25's seriously damaged two bridges and destroyed railroad tracks in the vicinity of Taungtha, central Burma.

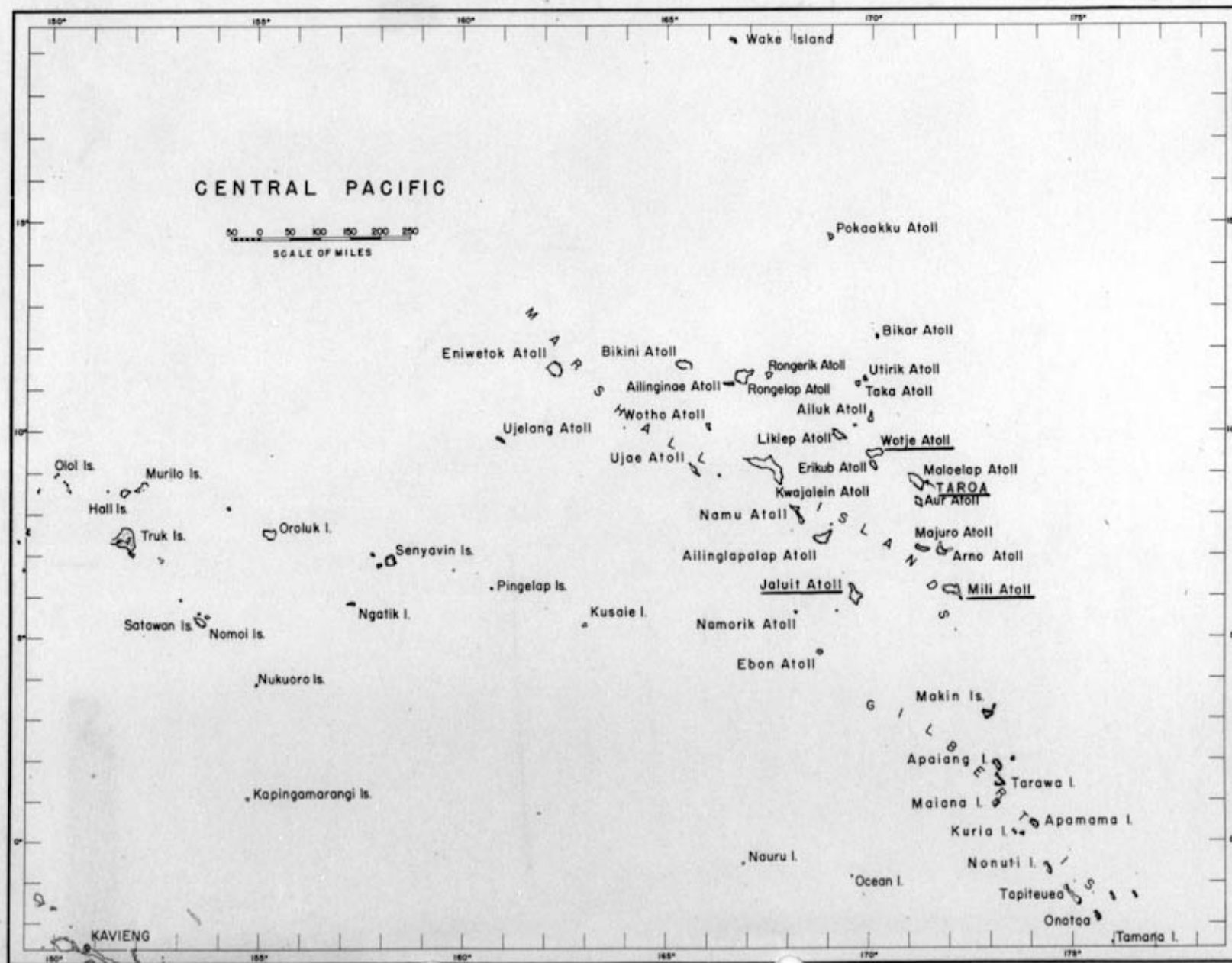
2. During 1 March, 14th Air Force medium and fighter bombers attacked barracks and other military objectives near Nanchang, rolling stock at Puchi, destroyed a medium-sized river boat on the Yangtze near Anking, and sank a 300-foot boat and machine-gunned two other large boats near Kiuhsienchen. We lost two planes during these operations. Seven enemy planes bombed the Kienow airdrome on 28 February, leaving the field unserviceable.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Sixty-one heavy and medium bombers dropped 170 tons of bombs on supply and bivouac areas in the Hansa Bay region on 1 March, starting large fires and explosions. Allied light bombers and fighters attacked airdromes, villages and targets of opportunity in the Alexishafen-Madang area.

A US infantry battalion landed three miles east of the Pulie River on the south coast of New Britain without enemy opposition; a patrol from Arawe reached a point 14 miles south of Rein Bay.

Additional reinforcements landed on Los Negros during 2 March and our initial success there is being exploited.



2. On 29 February, 135 Navy bombers attacked enemy positions in the Empress Augusta Bay region in support of our ground forces, and 36 fighters attacked targets elsewhere in the Bougainville area. At Rabaul, 23 B-25's and 12 P-38's started large fires in the harbor area. Three P-38's bombed Duke of York Island.

3. During 29 February 22 B-24's and 13 B-25's of our Central Pacific forces attacked Wotje, Taroa, Mili and Jaluit Island with 79 tons of bombs with the objective of rendering airfields there unserviceable. All our aircraft returned safely.

EASTERN FRONT

No important changes occurred on the Eastern Front during 2 March although Soviet pressure continued in the north and at Pskov and Vitebsk.

GENERAL

The War Department has added the "Mandated Islands" to the list of battles and campaigns of the United States Army. The campaign area comprises the Central Pacific Area west of the 180° meridian, excluding the Gilbert Islands; the initial date for this campaign is 7 December 1943 for air operations and 31 January 1944 for ground operations.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 813

0700 March 1 to 0700 March 2, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RBA, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

GENERAL

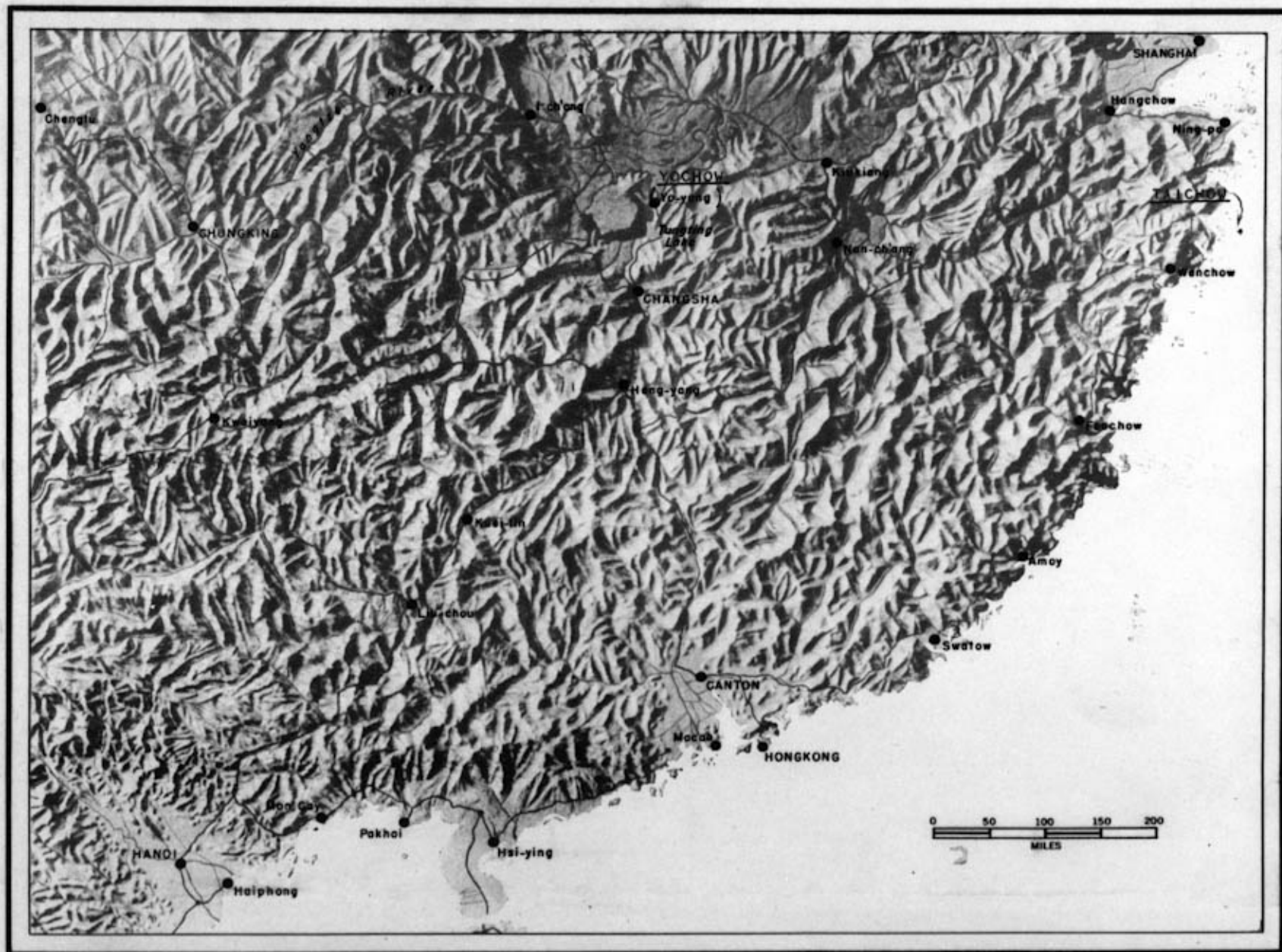
The War Department informed Generals MacArthur, Eisenhower, Stilwell, and Devers concerning the provisions of the Executive Order establishing the War Refugee Board and requested their cooperation with its representatives to the extent consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

EUROPEAN THEATER

German aerial reaction during the 29 February attack on the Brunswick Messerschmitt assembly plants by 213 heavily escorted B-17's was the least yet experienced by any of our heavy bomber formations over Germany. Only 18 enemy aircraft were sighted but poor ground visibility, severe icing, and a solid overcast condition probably contributed to the inactivity of enemy fighters. During this mission 457 tons of explosives and incendiaries were dropped in the target area and one B-17 was destroyed by antiaircraft fire. The enemy also defended, ineffectively, with ground-fired rockets which, upon exploding, released five small parachutes each supporting a small incendiary bomb which burned for approximately one minute.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Sixty B-26's successfully attacked the Viterbo airfield on 29 February. Over 150 Allied planes flew attack missions against railroad facilities at Giulianova and Littorio and tank concentrations, troops and gun positions opposite the beachhead. Enemy motor transport



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS
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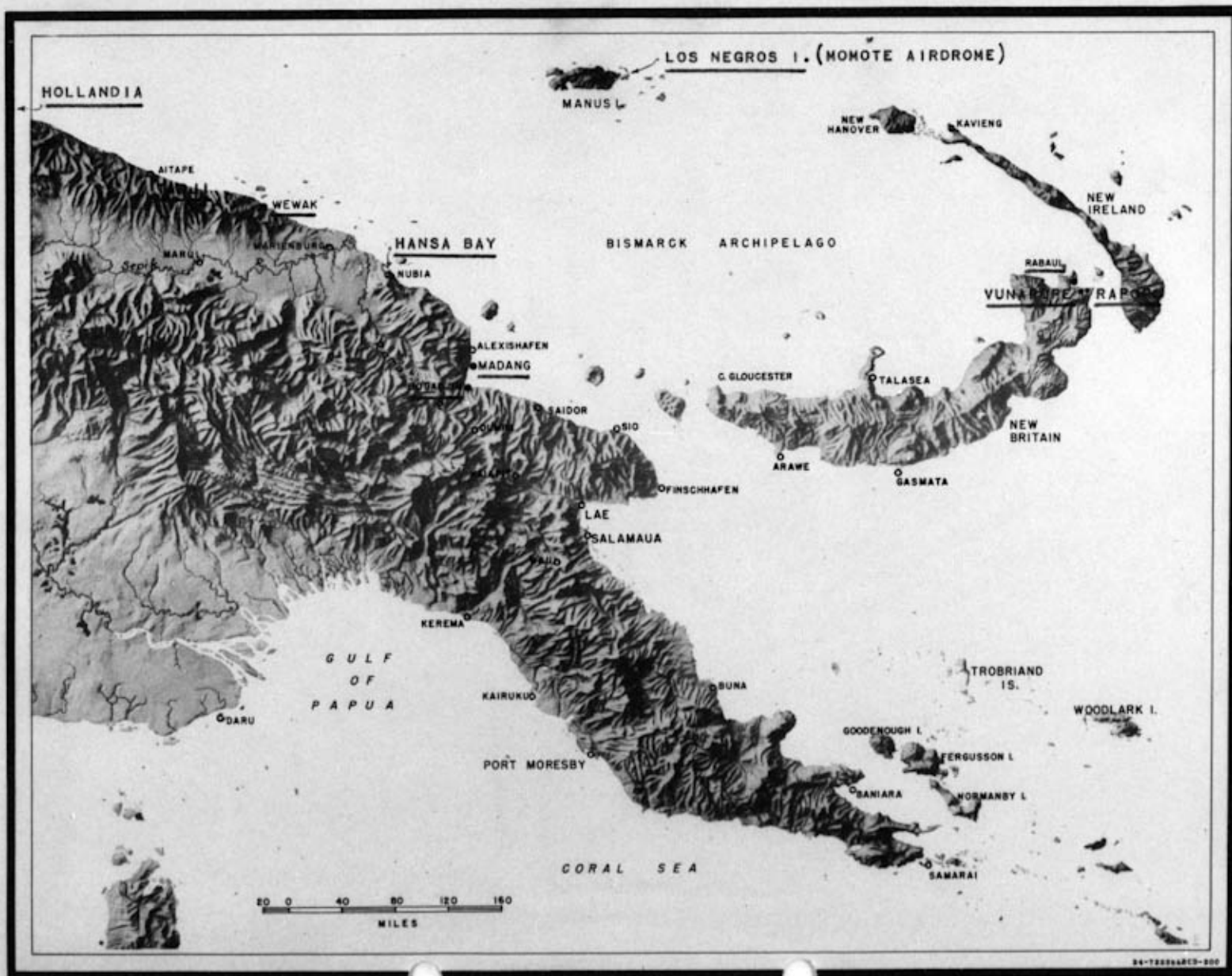
in northern and central Italy provided targets for 46 Allied fighter planes; 40 others attacked sea, rail and highway communication lines along the Yugoslavian coast. Six enemy aircraft were destroyed in these operations from which four of our bombers and three fighters are missing.

2. On the morning of 29 February the enemy attacked our Anzio beachhead southwest of Cisterna with between two and three battalions and, as the day progressed, committed armored elements. An initial penetration of the defenses of our 3d Division was neutralized that night when elements of our 30th Infantry counterattacked and advanced 1,000 yards. Our forces also repulsed light enemy attacks along the eastern perimeter of the beachhead. Hostile artillery fires along the entire front line increased; the heavy shelling of Anzio continued but damage there was described as slight.

Flood conditions on the Rapido threatened to complicate maintenance of communications in the central sector of the trans-Italian battlefield. In both the Fifth and Eighth Army sectors active patrolling and artillery duels continued.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 29 February, twenty-three 14th Air Force B-24's and 12 B-25's scored hits on warehouses, repair sheds and railway facilities at Yochow. Two B-25's, in a sea sweep off the east coast of China, sank three sampans and probably sank a 100-foot merchant vessel in the Taichow group. Six P-40's bombed and machine-gunned ammunition supply areas in eastern Burma.



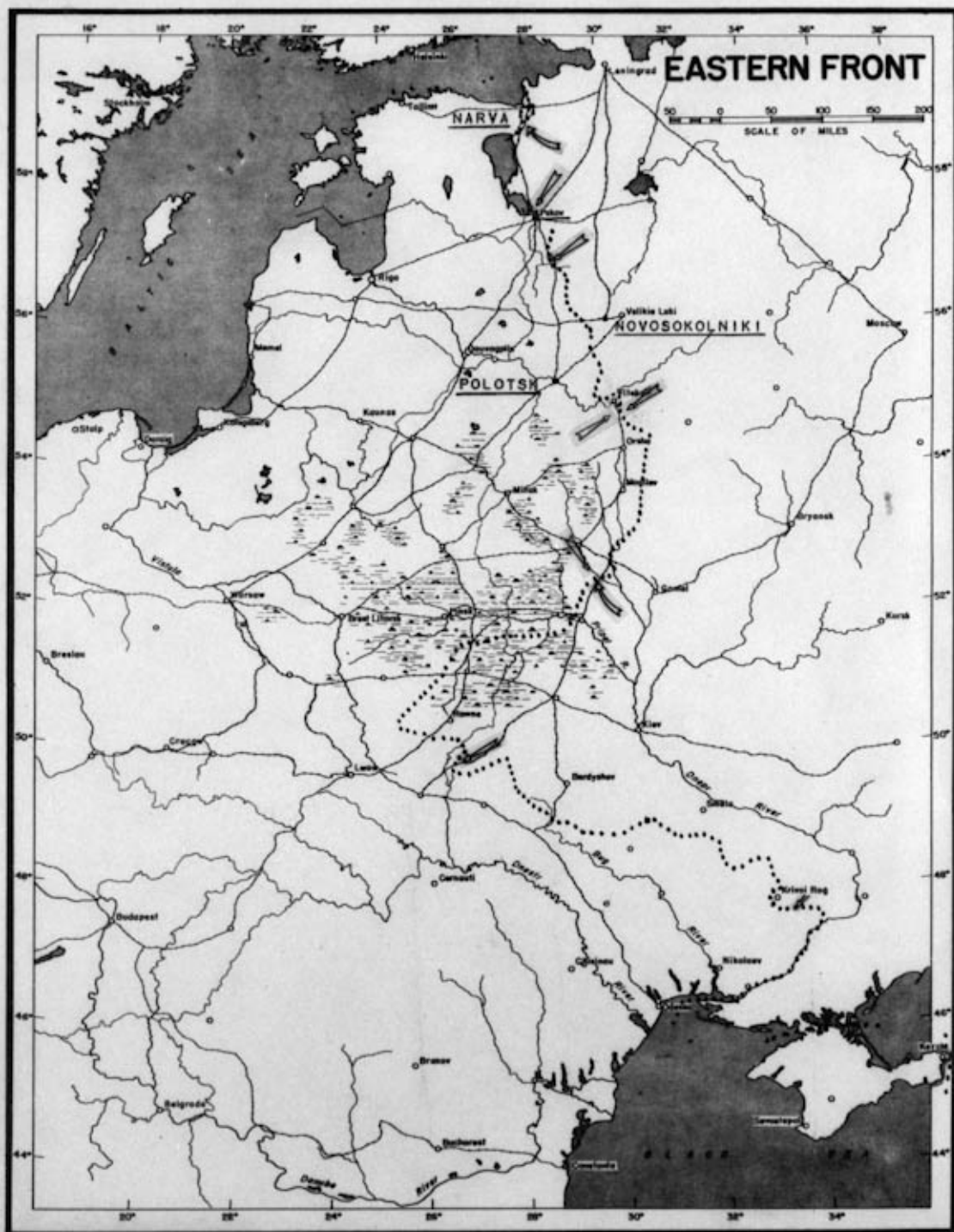
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

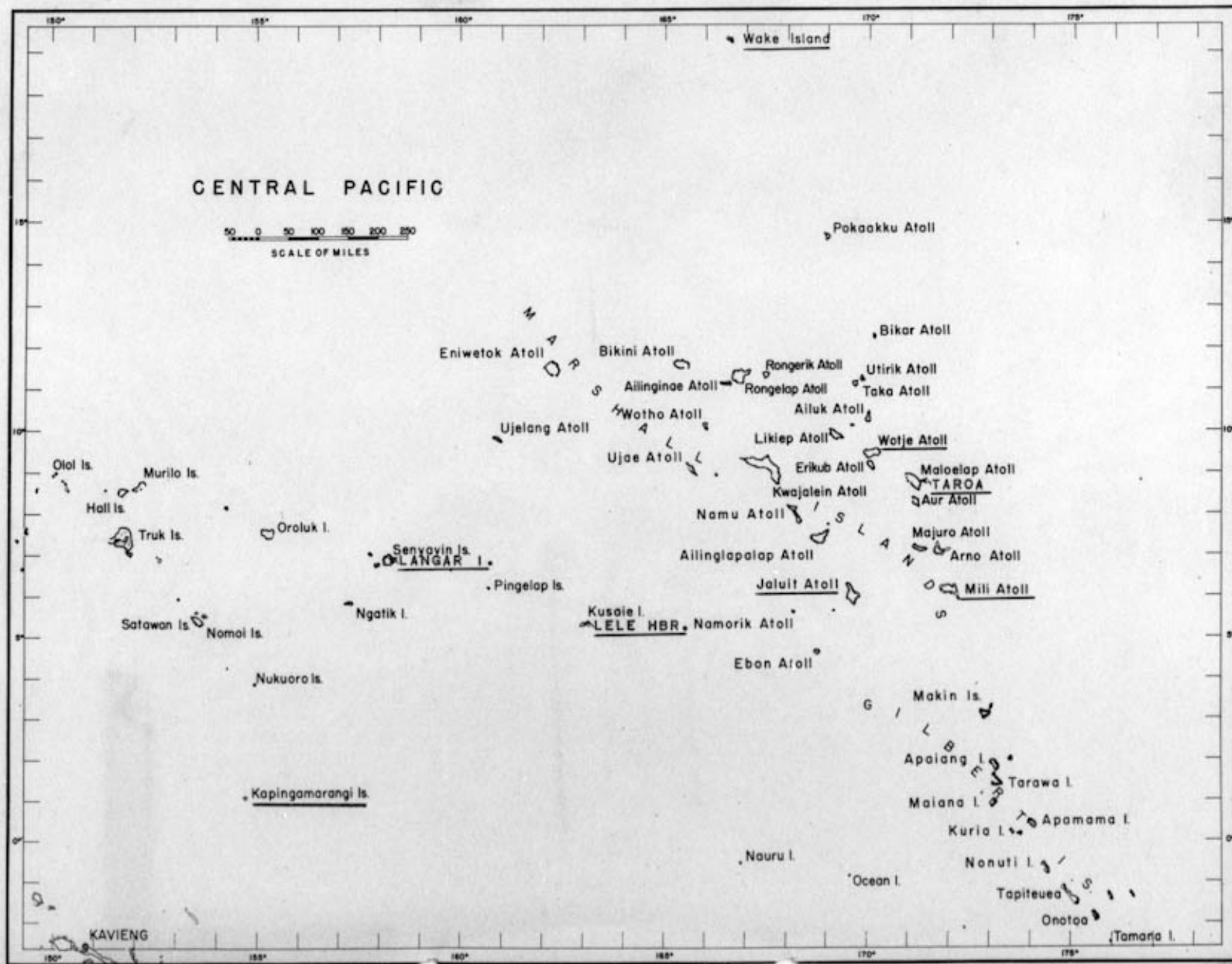
1. Initially our landing on Los Negros Island on 29 February met little opposition; patrols operated west and southwest of the Momote airfield unopposed. Units advancing northward gained contact with the enemy during the day and, that night, repulsed a counterattack in which the enemy suffered heavy losses with minor casualties to our own forces. Air support for these operations was provided by 23 B-25's which attacked nearby Lou and Pak Islands. Late reports confirm our secure hold of the Momote airfield which shortly will be operative for our aircraft. ✓ Supporting forces were expected to land on 2 March. ✓

In air operations on 29 February three missions totaling 30 B-24's bombed Hollandia, Tadjil, and airdromes at Wewak and Hansa Bay. Forty-nine Allied light bombers and fighters bombed and machine-gunned supply areas and other targets in the Madang-Bogadjim areas. Australian fighter aircraft destroyed a coastal vessel and damaged other small craft near Timor.

2. During 28 February, 17 B-24's, 22 B-25's, and 37 fighters attacked the Rabaul area with more than 80 tons of bombs, starting fires in the town, leaving the Rapopo air strip unserviceable, and destroying one enemy bomber on the ground. Seventy-two Navy bombers started fires at Vunapope with 48 tons. Monoitu Mission and other targets in southern Bougainville were bombed and machine-gunned by 16 P-39's. That night our reconnaissance planes silenced three antiaircraft guns on Kapingamarangi Island, damaged eight barges to the south, and attacked targets in the Bougainville-Choiseul area.

3. Twenty B-24's made a destructive attack against Langar Island





(Ponape) on 27 February. Eleven B-25's hit the airfield and harbor at Wotje. After reloading at Majuro the same planes dropped 11 tons of bombs on Mili which was also attacked by three P-40's. Small-scale air attacks were carried out against Taroa, Kusaie, and two islands of Jaluit Atoll. The following day 14 Army and Navy bombers hit Wotje twice and 12 P-40's bombed the runway at Mili.

Seven B-24's photographed, machine-gunned, and bombed Wake Island with five tons of explosives on 28 February.

EASTERN FRONT

South of Narva the Soviet Army broke through German defenses on 1 March and advanced approximately ten miles to the west. Fighting continued in the northern outskirts of Pskov and south of that city the Soviets cut the important railroad to Polotsk. Small gains were made by the Red Army northwest of Novosokolniki. In other critical sectors of the front heavy fighting is in progress with no apparent change in the situation.