

#51 - ABDA Information Bulletins

1

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

Map Room

Box 39

Crutwick

Copy to L to
Naval Aide

DECLASSIFIED
JCS MEMO. 1-17-73
BY RT. DATE JAN 22 1973

DECLASSIFIED

OPTEL No. 75

Information received up to 7 A.M., 4th March, 1942.

JAN 22 1973

1. NAVAL

3rd. An enemy raider attacked COCOS ISLAND. The Cable station was hit by shell fire and communication has temporarily ceased. Reference OPTEL No. 71 one of H.M. destroyers is now considered sunk. One of H.M. submarines is overdue in MEDITERRANEAN and must be considered lost. A 9,000 ton Panamanian tanker from ARUBA to BUENOS AIRES was sunk on 25th February about 400 miles west of TRINIDAD.

2. MILITARY

LIBYA. 2nd. Our patrols were again active in the area west of TMBI.

JAVA. In West JAVA, the Netherlands East Indies troops have withdrawn after carrying out demolitions. The capture of KALIDJATI aerodrome by about 600 enemy with some light tanks has been confirmed. 5 Halsons were able to take off but 21 other aircraft were left dispersed on the aerodrome. In North East JAVA, the enemy are reported to be bridging the SOLO RIVER.

TIMOR. The Commander of the Australian forces reports that his troops have taken to the bush and will continue guerrilla fighting.

3. AIR OPERATIONS

WESTERN FRONT. 3rd/4th. 249 aircraft were sent out. 235 of them to attack the Renault works, PARIS, two are missing and one crashed on return. Weather perfect, visibility excellent. Preliminary reports indicate a highly successful operation against negligible opposition and no searchlights. Direct hits on power station, gasometer, Aergea engine works, motor vehicle shops and diesel engine test shop.

LIBYA. 2nd. Patrolling Hurricanes met 7 German and Italian fighters and shot down one. 3 Hurricanes lost, all pilots safe.

EGYPT. 2nd/3rd. The ALEXANDRIA and SUEZ CANAL areas were bombed by 35 enemy aircraft. 6 Wellingtons were destroyed on the ground at an aerodrome east of SUEZ CANAL.

MALTA. On the 2nd and 3rd a total of 83 aircraft bombed the Island. Aerodromes and service buildings were severely damaged.

SICILY. 2nd/3rd. 16 Wellingtons attacked PALERMO HARBOUR and set on fire a 9,000 ton merchant vessel.

57

~~TOP SECRET~~

Addition to 72653, 24th. February 1942.

At base of first page after " ... inference to
be drawn from" insert

these activities is however NOT repeat NOT yet clear.

Four. Owing to demolitions carried out prior to
our withdrawal enemy is still unable to use the port of
Derna while R.A.F. have consistently mined Banghazi
harbour. Rommel's administrative difficulties are
therefore likely to be considerable.

Five. On our side Gazala

and continue on page two "position is being "

J.S.M. 35
G(O) 7
G.I. 1

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

DEC 11 1974

From: Abdacon, Java

~~SECRET~~

To: All concerned

Immediate

No: 02322 dated 24th. February 1942.

Received
2140 hrs
24 Feb

Cipher :

Information No. 31 to 1200Z/24.

Para. 1. U.S.A. "L7 mission" made two torpedo attacks last night and this morning on enemy convoy north of Lombok. Claims two hits each on supply ship and large auxiliary.

Para. 2. Our air activity. Yesterday three Blenheims attacked two of three enemy submarines previously reported, north of west Java. No definite result. Today six B17's attacked enemy shipping at mouth of Makassar river. Two transports sunk.

Para. 3. Enemy air activity. Following attacks reported today:

(a) Sourabaya by estimated 40 to 50 bombers and 30 to 40 fighters. Details of damage not available. Believed not serious. Enemy aircraft losses, 2 by A.A. 1 by fighters. Our losses nil.

(b) Kalpdjati by 15 bombers and 6 fighters. Two Blenheims and two Glen Martins destroyed on ground.

(c) Andir by 21 bombers. One fighter destroyed on ground, one B17 badly and two more slightly damaged.

(d) Batavia. No details available.

Restricted circulation
J.I.C.
U.S. Chiefs of Staff

40 copies to Joint Staff Mission
1 copy to U.S.W. P. code room for transmission to Philippines.

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of _____
JCS Memo 10 Feb 75
By _____ Date MAR 27 1975

MESSAGE.

IN.

IMMEDIATE.

From : C.H.Q.JAVA.
To : ALL CONCERNED
No. : 01X02087 of 22 Feb 42.
Information No.29 to 1200z/22

Time: 2050
Date: 22 Feb 42
C I P H E R.

1. Our air activity. Yesterday flights of Blenheims attacked shipping PALLDANG river and obtained near misses on a transport and sank a launch. 1 Blenheim missing. Today flights of B 17's attacked aerodrome DENPASAR(BALI). 6 enemy medium bombers believed destroyed on ground. Runways damaged.
2. Enemy air activity. Today 20 enemy fighters attacked SEMBLAN aerodrome (BUTENHORG). 6 Hudsons destroyed on ground. 4 aerodromes in EAST JAVA also attacked. Full detail NOT yet available.
3. Ref para 1 of Information No.27. Naval engagement BALI 19/20th. Now estimated damage to enemy as follows:-
1 cruiser torpedoed and probably sunk. Considerable damage to 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers. Ref para 2 Information 27. air attacks DAMBIN. Our total aircraft losses. On ground 6 Hudsons, 2 P40's, 1 LB30. In air 3 P40's. Enemy losses 5 bombers destroyed 5 probable.

To: Batavia 0430/22

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JCS MEMO. 1-17-78
BY RT. DATE NOV 12 1973

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J.I.C.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

~~TOP SECRET~~

0 IMMEDIATE
N

MESSAGE.

IN

From: ABDACOM.

Received.
Time: 2345 hrs
Date: 21 Feb.

To: All concerned,
British Army Staff, WASHINGTON
pass OPNAV & AGWAR.
General, KANDY pass C-in-C, E.I. and E.F.

CIPHER.

No. OPX 01963 of 21 Feb. T.O.O. 1200Z/21.

Information No. 28, to 1200Z/21.

1. TIMOR. Communications with KOEPANG are cut. NO news of progress of enemy landing.

2. Our air activity. One flight each of L.B.30's and B17's last night and this morning were detailed to attack enemy BALI area. NO shipping targets found and bombs dropped on a camp and aerodrome at DENPASAR. All our aircraft returned. Yesterday 20 medium bombers attacked shipping BANKA area, 4 direct hits on 3 transports. All our aircraft returned.

3. Enemy air activity.

(a) Yesterday. KALIDJATI aerodrome (W. Java) attacked by 10 bombers. 2 of our bombers destroyed on the ground, one badly damaged. Some damage to buildings but aerodrome serviceable. One enemy bomber shot down by anti-aircraft, one probable. PANJDEWANGI (South Java) also attacked. Several civilian casualties.

(b) Today. KALIDJATI again attacked. 3 enemy bombers shot down by anti-aircraft. One Lockheed 12 destroyed on the ground, 2 Dutch fighters in air. Attacks made on docks at FOURABAYA and aerodrome at MANTEN. Little damage to docks. NO report from MANTEN. P40 ---* intercepted and 2 shot down. One enemy bomber damaged.

4. Ref. para. 1 of Information No. 27. B17's sank one transport and obtained 2 direct hits on warships. Dive bombers, in addition to hits already reported, also successful with light calibre bombs.

* Word omitted, correction to follow.

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

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By Authority of _____

JCS memo 10 Feb 75

By *J* Date MAR 27 1975

IMMEDIATE

N

MESSAGE.

From: ABDACOM.

IN
Received:
Time: 1040
Date: 21/2.

To : All concerned.
General Kandy pass Cs. in C.
Fast Indies and Eastern Fleet.

Cipher.

NO: OPX 01819. 20/2.

Information No. 27 to 1200Z/20.

1. BALI. A Dutch and American naval striking force last night attacked enemy shipping S.E. of BALI. 1 enemy cruiser and 1 destroyer hit by torpedoes, another cruiser by gunfire. One of our destroyers is missing and cruiser Tromp damaged but back in harbour.

Several air attacks were made in same area today by B.17's, LB 30's and A 24's. No report yet available from B.17's. LB 30's made 3 direct hits and 8 near misses on a cruiser. Dive bombers scored 3 hits on 1 cruiser, 1 on another. Two A.24's were lost. Fighter cover provided and intercepted by enemy fighters.

Enemy losses 3. Our losses 2 P.40's missing 2 crash landed.

2: Enemy air activity. Yesterday 2 heavy attacks Darwin by total over 50 enemy aircraft. U.S. destroyer Peary and large transport sunk. Dock badly damaged. One LB 30 and probably 9 P.40's destroyed on ground. Today MALANG attacked and 5 B.17's destroyed on ground whilst refuelling.

3. SUMATRA withdrawal of personnel from OOSTHAVEN completed. 500 officers and other ranks from SINGAPORE reported at PAFANG. Steps are being taken to collect them.

Restricted Circulation:
J.I.C. (40)

U.S. Chiefs of Staff. (1)

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of _____
By JCS 10 Feb 75
Date MAR 27 1975

From: G.H.Q. JAVA

Time: 0050 hrs FWT

To : ALL CONCERNED

Date: 20 Feb 42.

No. : OPX 01699 of 19 Feb 42.
INFORMATION No. 26 to 1200Z/19.

C I P H E R.

IMMEDIATE and [REDACTED]

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JCS MEMO. 1-17-73
BY RT. DATE NOV 12 1973

1. BALI. Enemy force estimated at 4 transports, 2 cruisers, 4 or 5 destroyers arrived off S.E. BALI last night. This force attacked today by a squadron B17's, 3 LB30's and 2 A24's. Heavy bombers claim three direct hits on one or more cruisers, two direct hits on transports and 8 near misses on destroyers. 1 cruiser and 1 ~~st~~ transport also hit by lighter calibre bombs from ^{A24's} ~~A24's~~. 4 enemy fighters shot down without loss to ourselves. Landings reported today N.E. and SOUTH of DENPASAR. (Bali)
2. SOUTH SUMATRA. Glen Martins and Blenheims detailed to attack PALEMBANG 1. Glen Martins turned back owing to lack of cloud cover. 4 Blenheims dropped bombs along aircraft ~~on~~ ^{on} aerodrome. 2 enemy fighters shot down. Our losses NIL.
3. Enemy air activity. This morning attacks by at least 30 aircraft mostly fighters on SEMPLAK aerodrome (BUTEWZORG) ^{South of Batavia}. 3 Hudsons and two civil transports destroyed on ground. This afternoon similar number attacked ANDIR (BANDOENG). 1 B17, 1 Lockheed 12, and some small trainer aircraft destroyed on ground, 1 B17 damaged. Dutch fighters intercepted. Our losses 5 fighters (at least one pilot safe). Enemy losses 1 fighter possible. SOURABAYA also attacked. Enemy losses 4 fighters. Our losses 3 P40's, 2 pilots safe. Further details NOT yet available.

Restrictive circulation.

J.I.C.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff

~~SECRET~~

XXXX I. I. DI. TK
MESSAGE

IN

Received

From: ABDACOM

Time: 2310

To: All concerned

Date: 18 Feb

(Colombo pass C in C East Indies
and C in C Eastern Fleet)

Cipher

No: OPX 01585 of 18 Feb 18

Information No.25 to 1200Z/18.

1. Withdrawal from SOUTH SUMATRA continuing. Enemy have NOT continued advance.
2. An erican heavy bombers despatched to attack targets PALEMBANG and BANKA area but turned back owing to bad weather, Dutch Glen Martins were detailed to attack enemy in BANIERMASIN area. NO report available.
3. Today about 30 enemy aircraft, mostly bombers attackek MALENG and SOURABAYA. Negligible damage done at MALENG but some damage to Dutch naval vessel at SOURABAYA including sinking of old submarine and hit on warship Soursabaya. P 40's intercepted after attack. Enemy losses 5 Bombers 1 fighter, our loss one P 40. Yesterday KOLPANG attacked by 25 enemy aircraft ceusing negligible damage. Various places in HALWANBEIRA were machinegunned 16th.
4. Correction to Information No,24 para 2 "NO aircraft seen on PALEMBANG". On PALEMBANG were 10 heavy bombers and 3 fighters on which P 40's dropped 50lb bombs without observing results. Reference para 3 one Glen Martin reached target and hit troopship. Two enemy fighters shot down by Glen Martins.

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U.S.Chiefs of Staff.

1 copy U.S. Codes and Ciphers Room, for onward transmission to PHILIPPINES.

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By Authority of _____

JCB memo 10 Feb 75
By _____ Date MAR 27 1975

(51)

From. ABDACOM.

MESSAGE.

IMMEDIATE. IN.

Ref. To War Office for C.O.S.
British Army Staff, Washington,
For Combined Chiefs of Staff,
CIPHER.
(Pass AGWAR and OPNAV)
Delhi, Melbourne, for C.O.S.
Wellington, Rangoon, Machin,
(one corruption) Colombo,
(For C in C. East Indies,
and C in C Eastern Fleet)
Commander Philippines, C in C A.F.C.
C.C.F. C.Z.M.

~~MCST SECRET.~~

Time. 0030

Date. 18/2

Number 01447 of 17/2.

Information No. 24 to 1200Z/17.

1. Our troopsevacuating South SUMATRA. Enemy consolidating
aerodrome.
2. Squadron P-40s sent to attack PALEMBANG I. today shot down
4 enemy fighters without loss to themselves. NO aircraft seen
on aerodrome.
3. Our bomber operations today abandoned owing to bad weather.
4. Ref. para. 3 (?Information 23) air attack on BANKA area. Now ~~rep-~~
reported one large transport sunk, another hit and many barges
destroyed by B. 17s while hit on one transport and near misses
on another obtained by Glen Martins. two Glen Martins
missing. Enemy losses three fighters NOT two as previously
reported.

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

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to Philippines.

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By Authority of _____

Jcs memo 10 Feb 75

By *9* Date MAR 27 1975

IMMEDIATE

MESSAGE

From: ABD.COM.
To : To all concerned.

IN
Received:
Date: 15/2
Time: 0928

Cipher.

NO : 00 799 5/2.

~~**MOST SECRET**~~

Information 13.

General Columbo pass to C in C Eastern Fleet.

Para. 1. Reference para 1 of Information number 12 damage to U.S.S. Marblehead and Houston confirmed, as considerable and many killed. Ships were part Dutch-American force taking position for attack into Makassar Straits.

Para. 2. In 3 ships sunk or beached result air attack February 2nd and 3rd Banks area following equipment (Interalia) lost. 10 heavy 8 light A.... guns considerable quantity A.A. ammunition and R.D.F. equipment all for Palembang and Pakenbaroe.

Para. 3. 13 P. 40's being ferried from Darwin to Sourabaya, were attacked by unspecified number (enemy) fighters and 31 bombers while refuelling at Bali 8 took off and of these one destroyed one missing. Remaining 5 destroyed on ground. Only one pilot lost. At least 3 enemy destroyed.

Para. 4. Sourabaya attacked today by 22 bombers. Considerable damage to naval base and unspecified number Catalinas destroyed.

Para. 5. Yesterday express train wrecked carrying British A.A. personnel Prick (Batavia) to Sourabaya, 12 including 3 offers killed 52 injured.

Para. 6. At least one (4 grps missing) (Ambo?) by air recce reporting Catalinas (A) shot down.

Para 7/....

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By Authority of _____

Jed memo 10 Feb 75
By *J* Date *MAR 27 1975*

(51)

-2-

Cable 00 799 5/2 continued.

Para. 7. Samarinda. Dutch troops after making contact with enemy Recco Sanga Sanga withdrew and took up position along Kohakam river (North west of Sanga).

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

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By Authority of _____

JCS memo 6 Feb 75

By *J* Date **MAR 27 1975**

MOST IMMEDIATE

~~SECRET~~

Green Smith

MESSAGE.

FROM SINGAPORE

IN.
Time. 0118

TO War Office, Batavia, Colombo, India ~~Midest~~
Chungking Rangoon Melbourne, Wellington.

Date 13/1
CIPHER

SITREP No. 65 1630 hrs. GrT. 12th.

No. 0.487

During the night 11/12th, Feb. our artillery maintained harassing fire on the road, creek and jetty on SINGAPORE ISLAND South East of JOHORE coast.

This morning enemy pressure was greatest astride road BUKITTIMAG - SINGAPORE in area of race course where tanks caused some disorganization on main road and there was some enemy infiltration on (?north) road.

Tanks reappeared same area later in the day, but situation at present stabilized.

G(O).....4

G(I).....1

J.S.M.....x 25

DECLASSIFIED
JCS MEMO. 147-72
EXPIR. DATE NOV 12 1973

From: G.H.Q. Java

To: All concerned

No. 01011 of 10th. February 1942.

~~SECRET~~
Most Immediate

Received
2250 hrs
10 Feb.

Information No. 18 to 1200Z/10.

Macassar, no information of landing but communication cut.

East Borneo enemy has reached Tenggara 25 km. north west of Samarinda and Negara, 100 km. north east of Bandjermasin.

Three L.B.30's last night and 6 B.17's today took off to attack enemy shipping south west of Celebes. Only two aircraft (L.B.30's) found target. One claimed hits believed aircraft carrier off Sindjai. All aircraft returned safely.

Reference para. 4. Information No. 17; total 7 our aircraft (including D.C.5 already reported) destroyed on ground or in air during attack on Batavia district yesterday. Number of enemy attacking 7 not 17.

Malang district also attacked yesterday. Damage to aerodrome nil: to nearby armoured car camp, considerable. One enemy bomber shot down.

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JCS MEMO. 1-17-73
BY RT. DATE NOV 12 1973

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J.I.C.
U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

40 to Joint Staff Mission
1 to U.S.W.D. Code room for transmission
to Philippines.

MOST SECRET

IMMEDIATE
MESSAGE

IN

Received

From: ABDACOM

Time: 2200 hrs

To: War Office for Chiefs of Staff
British Army Staff, Washington for
Combined Chiefs of Staff, pass AGWAR
and OPNAV.
MELBOURNE for Chiefs of Staff
Defender WELLINGTON
Burmah
General SINGAPORE
Commander PHILIPPINES
MACHIN
Flag Officer JAVA; C.Z.M.; C in C Asiatic Fleet

Date: 8 Feb

Cipher

No. 00921 of 8 Feb.

Information No. 16 to 1200 Z/8

PALELAANG attacked yesterday by 6 Bombers and about 25 fighters.
~~xxx~~ 9 of our aircraft known to be destroyed on ground or in air.
Enemy losses unknown. Again attacked today full reports NOT
available. Unspecified number of aircraft destroyed on ground.
Two Hurricanes shot down.
Yesterday enemy appeared over WEST JAVA but NO bombs dropped.
Nine B 17s took off today to attack KENDARI but failed to reach
objective. They were attacked by enemy fighters and two B 17s were
shot down and one is missing. Four enemy fighters shot down and
one damaged.

Restricted circulation

J.I.C.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

IMMEDIATE

~~RESTRICTED~~

MESSAGE

IN

From: ABDACOM.

Received
Time: 1645

To: All concerned,

Date: 6/2

No. 00837 of Feb 6.

Information No. 14 to 1200Z/6.

Ten P 40s arrived SOURABAYA from DARWIN.

NO further news.

~~_____~~
~~_____~~

Restricted Circulation

J.I.C.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

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