

#55 - (ABDA Com) C.C.).S. Series

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Box 39
Map Room

~~SECRET~~

Map Room
Box 39

From: ABDACOM.
 To: British Army Staff Washington
 for Combined Chiefs of Staff
 Repeated: War Office, London
 for Chiefs of Staff.
 00885 of 7th February, 1942.

MOST SECRET.MOST IMMEDIATE.C.C.O.S.3.

Following from General Wavell.

Your D.B.A.10, 5/2.

Facts are as follows:

1. When I visited Chungking on December 23rd I accepted offer of two divisions Sixth Army 93 and 49 and asked that they should be moved down forthwith to Burma. Was told that remaining division of this Army 55 was very scattered and would take some time to collect. Delay in moving these divisions to Burma has not been due to any reluctance on our part to accept them.
2. As regards offer Fifth Army Generalissimo made acceptance conditional on provision of separate line of communication in Burma which was not possible at time. I asked that Army might be retained in Kuming Area whence it could be moved to Burma if required or used for defence Yunnan if Japanese moved direct on Kuming through Indo-China, move which Chinese had shortly before regarded as most probable.
3. Up to about third week January G.O.C. Burma reported to me no signs of Japanese attack and no need further Chinese assistance. As soon as unexpectedly quick success of Japanese advance indicated danger to Burma I authorised G.O.C. Burma to accept any further Chinese assistance. He saw Generalissimo on February 4th and had cordial interview. Move of Fifth Army to Burma was agreed.
4. I flew myself to Rangoon to see Generalissimo as soon as I heard he was coming there but missed him as he went straight on to India from Rangoon.
5. I do not think Generalissimo has any real cause of dissatisfaction and I think my judgment at time was correct. I am sorry Chiang Kai-Shek was upset. I will continue to do all in my power to maintain good relations with him. We have exchanged telegrams on cordial terms since I took over command.

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JCS memo 10 Feb 75

By JH Date MAR 27 1975RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION.
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COPY NO. 24

~~HOBT STONES~~

TO: British Army Staff, WASHINGTON,
for Combined Chiefs of Staff

REPEATED: War Office for Chiefs of
Staff.

FROM: AEDAGOM

DATED: 6th FEBRUARY, 1942.

No. 00810

C.C.O.S. 2.

8, 3rd February

Re your D E A ~~MEMO~~ (query) undated

referring to our 00649 para. 4. Subject allocation
fighter aircraft to Australia.

Intense Japanese pressure JAVA demands pursuit
protection for vital areas, e.g. PRIOK SOURABAYA MALANG
and MADIOEN. Estimate minimum forces required ABA
area exclusive MALAYA and SUMATRA to be 8 pursuit
squadrons, 6 in JAVA, 1 in KOLPANG, 1 DARWIN. Must
therefore request priority be established allocating
first 8 squadrons pursuit aviation in Australia for
this mission. SOURADAYA MALANG and MADIOEN heavily
attacked 3/2. SOURADAYA again attacked yesterday.
Dutch fighter forces nil due to enemy action. Loss of
4 B-17's MALANG due directly to lack of pursuit pro-
tection and anti-aircraft equipment which is being
rushed for installation. Planes although dispersed
were undergoing repair and could not be moved. Low
flying aircraft with NO opposition attacked at will.

All British pursuit forces absolutely committed
to protection of SINGAPORE and covering convoys moving
to and from SINGAPORE.

C.C.O.0920/6.

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

Jes memo 10 Feb 1942

By *J* Date MAR 27 1975

COPY NO. 22

From: ABDACOM.
To: British Army Staff Washington,
for Combined Chiefs of Staff.
War Office
for Chiefs of Staff.
No: 00782. 5/2.

MOST SECRET.

IMPORTANT.

C.C.O.S.I. Reference J.S.M. Washington unnumbered telegram dated 2/2.

1. Abdacom cables addressed both to Washington for Combined Chiefs of Staff and War Office for Chiefs of Staff will in future be prefixed with indicator C.C.O.S. and appropriate serial number. This is C.C.O.S.I.
2. If at any time a cable is sent only to Combined Chiefs of Staff Washington or only Chiefs of Staff London dealing with a purely domestic matter and therefore not repeated to the other it will NOT bear above prefix.

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JCS memo 10 Feb 75
By js Date MAR 27 1975

COPY NO. 23

To: Combined Chiefs of Staff, Washington.

Repeated: Admiralty for British Chiefs of Staff.
N.Z.N.B.

From: A.C.N.B.

Dated 29th January, 1942.

~~SECRET~~

IMMEDIATE.

Your 2157R/27. Commonwealth Government concur
H.M.A.S. PERTH proceeds to ABDA Area without waiting for
repairs to H.M.A.S. CANBERRA. H.M.A.S. PERTH will escort
U.S. troop convoy M.S.5 leaving Melbourne 7th February.
It is agreed protection of coastal shipping will be
included in Task 2 and A/S vessels will be allocated as
suggested in B.A.D.'s 1923R/25.

T.O.O. 0927Z/29.

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for memo 10 Feb 75
MAR 27 1975

By *J* Date _____

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Cdr McDowell

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From: N.Z.N.B.

To: Combined Chiefs of Staff, Washington.

Repeated: Admiralty for British Chiefs
of Staff.
A.C.N.B.

~~MOST SECRET~~

Your 2157R/27.

New Zealand Government concur.

T.O.O. 1804M/30

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff.
Commander Harries.
Commander Bailey.

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JA memo 10 Feb 75

By JA Date MAR 27 1975

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