U. S. SECRET
BRITISH MOST SECRET

From - Commander-in-Chief, N.Z.I. Army.
Received - 3/6/42 - Noon.

SITUATION IN THE MORNING OF MARCH 6:

ENEMY OCCUPIED LEMAHABANG, SUTENZORG, DJOIJAKARTA, MADOEN, KEDIRI, MAANDJOEK, KERTOSONO AND IS AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF DJOEBANG. THEY VOLUNTARY EVACUATED POERUJAKARTA. ENEMY BOMBARDED TJILATJAP WHERE HARBOUR AREA, THE NEWLY ARRIVED DIVE BOMBERS AND LAST FLYING BOATS WERE BURNT. ENEMY ATTACKED TJIAJI PASS (NORTH OF BANDONG) IN THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 5 WITH ARMOURIED CARS, MOTORISED INFANTRY AND PLANES. ATTACK WAS REPULSED WITH THE AID OF OUR LAST PLANES. OUR MILITARY AIR FORCES ARE NOW FINISHED. THE ALERT AGAINST AIR ATTACK AT BANDONG IS CONTINUOUS. COLLAPSE OF THE DEFENSE, ALSO AS A RESULT OF EXHAUSTION, IS INEVITABLE.

65
The sinking of the Langley, with 32 pursuit aircraft, 30 pursuit pilots and 12 crewmen on board, was a great loss. This ship was ordered to Java in consequence of the personal assurance of Admiral Helfrich that proper and suitable protection would be provided. 27 escort P-40's have been unloaded in Java from the Sea Witch, according to my information.

Pursuant to that directive of January 13 (referring to cable No. 513 of that date from General Marshall), I gave no orders to Colonel Eubank when I left Java. I was, however, entirely familiar with such orders as were issued and know that they were predicated upon instructions or orders issued by the supreme ABDA Command. Colonel Eubank is going to furnish two complete statements, which will be transmitted to you immediately. As far as communications will permit, I am in constant touch with the ABDA Command. Even to a degree which might be thought to involve an unjustified wastage of valuable personnel and equipment, every effort is being made to render assistance in Java. The Dutch are in accord with the decisions made and action taken by us. I am also in continuous contact with Australian officials and Dutch officials in Australia in an effort to assist the Dutch.

The following is the status of our bombers in Australia: 4 L4-30's on hand, none of which are operational; 12 B-17's, in addition to those with the Navy, 4 of which are operational, but are being reserved for a special mission; all the rest being out of commission by enemy action; 2 B-17's, both out of commission. The repair of our aircraft is being hurried as much as possible.

Concerning the possibility of further long-range bombing, it is not thought feasible to operate from Australia against enemy objectives in Java because of Japanese action against air bases along the northwest shoulder of the Australian continent. In Java there remains but a single field usable by B-17's and this is under constant enemy ground strafing. Its use would without question result in the loss of our bombers after the performance of one mission, if not before.

With all possible dispatch, four additional reports will be transmitted. In reply to this message, which is for General Marshall, please
refer to CG-XIX 26.

BRETT

*The Langley was sunk by a Japanese bomber on February 26, 1942.

Exact Action Copy to: A.O. of B. UFD

NID DISTRIBUTION: JIC

ONLY DISTRIBUTION: SEC NAV... NAV AIDE... OP 10/11... OP 16... 16F... F-2

F-10... F-3H (w)

THIS DESPATCH IS NOT TO BE DUPLICATED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

RETAIN OR DESTROY.

REASIZED
R.O. 11662, Sec. 80G and 80D or (R)
OSD letter, May 9, 1973
By RHP, NASA Date: NOV 1 4 1973
From - C-in-C, JAVA (3/5/42)

Received - 12:30 p.m., 3/5/42

SITUATION MARCH 4th: INCREASED FIGHTING AND INFILTRATION OF ENEMY ALONG RIVER TJISEDANE. ENEMY OCCUPIED POERWAKARTA, TJIKAMPEK, KRAWANG, SOLO. DISPERSED OUR TROOPS AT KRAWANG WITH TANKS AND INFILTRATED SOUTHWARDS. BANDOENG UNDER INCREASING AERIAL BOMBARDMENTS. OUR AIR STRENGTH IS BEING USED UP. AIR ATTACK ON TJILITAP. ENEMY STRENGTH AT BODJONEGORO INCREASING. TODAY (MARCH 5) HAVE ABANDONED BATAVIA LEAVING A SCREEN BEHIND ALSO IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN ORDER AND SECURITY. MAYOR DECLARED BATAVIA AN OPEN TOWN.
Received: 4:00 p.m., 3/4/42.

CONSTANT ENEMY RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITY IN BANTAM AREA POINTS TO COMING ATTACK. OUR RENEWED REINFORCED ATTACKS ON SOEBANG AND KALIMATI FAILED COMPLETELY BECAUSE OF CONSTANT AIR ATTACKS, WHICH WE COULD NOT OPPOSE THROUGH LACK OF FIGHTER PLANES. TROOPS DEMORALIZED AND WITHDRAWN TO NORTH EDGE OF BANDOENG PLATEAU. IN EAST JAVA THE ENEMY, AFTER OCCUPATION OF PATIH, BLORA, TJEPOE, ALSO OCCUPIED TVAROEBAAN AND BODJONEGORO. M.S.S. "TAWALI" AND "JANGSEN" WITH APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN HUNDRED TO SEVENTEEN HUNDRED MEN NAVAL AND DOCKYARD PERSONNEL SAIL LAST NIGHT FROM TJILATJAP. MINELAYERS KRAKATAU AND GOUDEN LEEUW ARE READY TO CLOSE THE GAPS IN THE MINEFIELDS AT SOEBABAJA. SUBMARINES K-9, K-11, K-14, K-15, K-18 AND O-19 ARE AT SEA ENROUTE TO COLOMBO, K-12 AT SOEBABAJA READY TO SAIL. APART FROM TWO SQUADRONS RECONNAISSANCE PLANES (CURTIS FALCONS) AND EIGHT I-12 PLANES (WHICH ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR ACTION), ONLY A FEW BOMBERS AND ABOUT TEN FIGHTERS AVAILABLE, BUT MANY PILOTS. 27 P-40'S ARE BEING ASSEMBLED, THE FIRST WILL BE READY WITHIN A FEW DAYS. IN WEST JAVA THERE ARE STILL SIX AERODROMES IN OUR HANDS. ENEMY STRENGTH IS NOW ESTIMATED AS FOLLOWS: BANTAM AREA: 4 DIVISIONS; INDRAMAJOE AREA: 1 TO 2 DIVISIONS; EAST JAVA: PROBABLY BETWEEN 2 AND 4 DIVISIONS.
To: Air Ministry, Whitehall
Repeated: Troopers
Burma Road (pass Machin)
A.I.Q. India
NORTHEN
Air Board Melbourne
BRITAIN, Washington
From: BRITAIN OPREP/8 4/3,

IMMEDIATE.

Daily operational summary.

1. Army to 0630Z/4.

West Java. During yesterday evening a company of pioneer battalion (blackforce) had a brisk engagement at Leuwiliang Bridge during which 2 enemy tanks were destroyed and enemy withdrew. Blackforce has one battalion astride the Leuwiliang-Buitenpost and Buitenpost-Batavia roads with mobile patrols on either flank. Remainder of force is concentrated in the area ready to strike. Enemy in small numbers are advancing towards Batavia.

Central Java. Dutch mobile force attacking Kalidjati was heavily divebombed and forced to withdraw and is now reorganising near Tslemaung. Another mobile force still in area south of Soebang. Report of para-troops at Bajongjong is incorrect. During air raid yesterday on Andyr A.A. claim 9 direct hits (probably 5 enemy aircraft destroyed).

East Java. Little information. Enemy continues to infiltrate in small parties and is some miles south of Tjepoe.

General. Allied attacks have been considerably hampered by ground strafing. Enemy does not appear to be pressing forward fast.

2. Aircraft to 0630Z/4.

Operations greatly hampered by diminishing aircraft strength and serviceability difficulties resulting from bombardment of our aerodromes. Enemy raids on Andir and Pameungpeuk 3/3 resulted in one Hudson, 3 N.E.I. aircraft destroyed, 1 Falcon, 1 Glen Martin damaged. Andir unserviceable till evening. Hurricanes 2/3 squadron carried out ground strafing in support area throughout day 3/3 and twice attacked Kalidjati aerodrome early morning 4/3. Machine gunned aircraft on ground started big fire shot down 3 Navy OKB's, 1 probable, 1 damaged. 2 Hurricanes missing pilots safe. Highly commend work of this squadron which in Malaya and in Java has put up magnificent and sustained performance against greatly superior opposition. Now almost the only aircraft operating here. 1 N.E.I. Glen Martin also attacked Kalidjati night 3-4/3. Direct hits on 3 hangars large fires started. WESGROUP aircraft

-1-
serviceability 0030Z/4 6 Hurricanes. Ref OPR6/6 the 2 seaplanes reported set on fire at Brest now confirmed destroyed.

3. Intelligence.

34 vessels sighted Bantam Bay and 17 other vessels off west coast, 9 transports, 3 warships, 1 big battleship, 2 cruisers, 1 submarine sighted west Puloe Babi (05° 40' south 160° 18' east).

RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.
LAST NIGHT A MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SANK AN ENEMY LIGHT CRUISER OR BIG DESTROYER. DESTROYER WITZE DE WITH RECEIVED A DIRECT BOMB HIT AND WAS BADLY DAMAGED AT SOERABAJA; SHE IS BEING PREPARED FOR DESTRUCTION. SUBMARINE K-10 DAMAGED BY DEPTH CHARGE, IS RETURNING TO SOERABAJA. SOERABAJA DRYDOCK COMPANY HAS PRACTICALLY BEEN DESTROYED BY ENEMY AIR RAID. NAVAL AERODROME MORO-KREMBANGAN CAN STILL BE USED FOR SMALL REPAIRS; NAVAL DOCKYARD SOERABAJA, APART FROM SUBMARINE WORK SHOPS IS BEING DESTROYED, TO FREE THE N.E.I. ARMY 3RD DIVISION FROM ITS COVERING TASK AND ENABLE THIS DIVISION TO ACT OFFENSIVELY. FOUR DUTCH SUBMARINES REMAIN IN ACTION AGAINST ENEMY LANDING FLEETS ON THE NORTH COAST OF JAVA. ENEMY IN BANTAM OCCUPIED SERAND AND VICINITY; N.E.I./3ST DIVISION IS PREPARING OFFENSIVE IN WESTERLY DIRECTION. ENEMY FROM INDRAMAJOE OCCUPIED SOERANG AND KALINDJATI AERODROME WITH MOTORIZED INFANTRY AND TANKS. THE BRITISH COVERING TROOPS RETREATED FROM KALINDJATI WITHOUT RECOGNITION AND WITHOUT FIGHTING, LEAVING A PART OF AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERY BEHIND, WITH THE RESULT THAT TEN BLENHEIM AND HUDSON BOMBERS WERE LOST; AN OFFENSIVE ACTION WITH MOTORIZED TROOPS HAS BEEN STARTED TO RETAKE THESE PLACES. TODAY A RECOGNITION IN FORCE HAS TAKEN PLACE AGAINST ENEMY IN INDRAMAJOE; TOMORROW AN OFFENSIVE WILL BE STARTED AGAINST THIS ENEMY. DURING AIR ATTACKS AGAINST ENEMY NEAR REBANG WE LOST ABOUT SIX PLANES, WHILE ABOUT TEN OF OUR FIGHTERS WERE DESTROYED ON THE GROUND BY ENEMY BOMBS. APART FROM THE RECOGNITION VING, WHICH IS PRACTICALLY INTACT, THERE ARE STILL AVAILABLE TEN TO TWELVE BRITISH HURRICANES, ABOUT SEVEN BRISTOLERS, TEN (?) CURTIS INTERCEPTORS, TEN TO TWELVE OLEIN MARTINS, ABOUT TEN VALIHESETTS AND THREE HUDSONS. WILL TRY TO ASSEMBLE THE PLANES WHICH HAVE BEEN LANDED AT TYLATJAP
V.G.珠子

VINTAGE FIELD REPORTS

From: C-in-C, ABDA Area (3/3/42).

Received: 6:00 p.m., 3/3/42.

A new fleet of fifty-one transports arrived at Bantam. Enemy from Bantam has reached Tangerang and Leuwiliang ten miles west of Buitenzorg. Attack to retake Soeharto and Kalidjati during night second/third March failed but will be resumed. Enemy from Bumbang area advanced after bridging the river at Tjepoe, in the direction of Tjaronbang past Ngawi. Strong infiltration in line Bodjonegoro - Barab, east from Tjirade north of the river no enemy. Submarine K-15 sank Jap tanker type Naruto in Bantam Bay.


[Signature]

[Stamp] RECLASSIFIED
By authority of

[Stamp] FBI MEMO
By:
Date: MAR 27 1975
Java combined Intelligence summary 1/3.

Sightings of enemy Transports, Cruisers and
Destroyers mostly near shore Indramo 06 ° 20' S,
108 ° 20' E, Eretan 06 ° 01' S, 106 ° 10' E, Tamboeng
Boea 06 ° 49' S 111 ° 50' E, Merak 15 ° 55' S, 106 ° E,
Kragan 06 ° 45' S, 111 ° 40' E torpedoed 05 ° 45' S
105 ° 40' E, Tamboeng Cogo 06 ° 49' S, 111 ° 50' E, forty
miles east of Kalidjati 60 ° 30' S, 107 ° 40' E St.
Nicolas Point 50 ° 05' S, 106 ° 00' E. Also two large
ships possibly Cruisers 05 ° 53' S, 108 ° 36' E. Large
Transport estimated 15,000 tons burned out between
Rembang and Toeban.

(?Buffaloes) successfully used 50 KG frag-
mentation bombs in landed troops, barges, Transports.
Twenty Transports with 50 or 60 landing craft success-
fully strafed by 6 Hurricanes (?six) Buffaloes,
10 Kittyhawks, 3 tanks on beach set on fire. One
Navy 0 shot down. Two enemy seaplanes set on fire.
Column 200/300 cyclists almost wiped out also small
groups on railway wiped out. Troops on road machine
gunned. Dutch ship TAVALI and Dutch Tanker AGUSTINA
attacked by Jap aircraft. Dutch ship ENlANO bombed
reported sinking, Surabaya Lightsigh and Minesweeper
machine gunned 26/2. Again raided 1/3. Considerable
damage property 30 casualties. Malang aerodrome
bombed, no casualties, damage barracks only. Djambang
Aerodrome machine gunned many grounded aircraft
damaged. Prior to enemy landing Eretan red rockets
and fire balls fired. Before landing 9 boats came
from coast to landing fleet. Kalidjati Aerodrome
captured by light mobile force reported including
tanks. 5 Hudsons flew off 21 Blenheim. and Hudsons
dispersed on aerodrome unable to land.

T.O.O. 1900Z/2

RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION
U.S. CHIEFS OF STAFF

DECLASSIFIED
U.S. MEMO 14776
BY RT. DATE
NOV 14 1973

Hold

GS
TO: Air Ministry, Whitehall

REPEATED: TROOPERS

BIRMA/MYANMAR (Pass MACHINE)

A.H.Q. India

NORTH/SS GROUP Rangoon

Air Board, Melbourne

R.A.D. Washington

FROM: BRITAIR CPREP/6 2/2 2/3

IMMEDIATE.

It has been agreed that in future BRITISH and BRITAIR will produce combined daily operational summary covering all army and air activities.

Army situation to 0630Z/2.

1. During night 1/2 March little enemy activity reported. In West Dutch troops have withdrawn behind river Taingthin. All bridges forward of this area blown and demolitions carried out.

2. A mobile column sent to counter attack enemy on Soebang area and regain Kalijatji Aerodrome has not yet encountered enemy estimated at 600 with some tanks.

3. In Kragen area enemy are reported bridging Bencawan Solo River south of Tjeppe. Small parties of enemy have reached Kradenano and Babad. Dutch troops are withdrawing to a prearranged plan where necessary.

4. In west and round Kalijatji enemy reported using light tanks and wearing light khaki.

5. Commander Australian forces in Timor reports they have taken to bush and will continue guerrilla activities.

Air operational summary to 0630Z/2.

1. Night bombing of convoys approaching North Java Coast (OPREP/9) refers was followed by continuous daylight attacks against disembarking and landing enemy forces by Hurricanes Brewsters and P 40's.

2. Enemy landings from 11 Transports between Pananeakan and Intramajoe were hampered from dawn to dusk 1/3 by sorties of strafing R.A.P. Hurricanes and dive bombing and strafing N.H.I. Buffaloes. Several barges sunk or set on fire. Heavy casualties inflicted on enemy forces disembarking in Schneps and barges and upon troops cycle patrols and Transport along Pananeakan-Intramajoe Road. 2 enemy seaplanes set on fire at Ereman. 2 Hurricanes lost, 3 damaged by enemy light AA.

3. Enemy landings from 20 Transports by means of about 60 barges between Toeban and Soebang hampered by strafing by N.H.I. Hurricanes and Buffaloes and American Kittyhawks. Several barges sunk or set on fire.
fire. Heavy losses of men and material including tanks inflicted. Enemy strafing of Djamrang during refuelling rendered majority of Kittyhawks unserviceable.

(4) No night operations ordered.

(5) Wesgroup operational serviceability 0030Z/2 9 Hurricanes 3 Vildebeestes - Air Min pass to TROOPERS.

RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.
8627

From: WESGROUP
OPS 30 1st March, 1942.

Immediate

Java Combined Air Int Summary 28/2.

20 enemy sightings reported during day, 2 main convoys were indicated, first 35 transports several cruisers and large number destroyers approaching north coast Java in direction Rumbang, approx. 111° 45' east. Second 25 transports, at least 3 cruisers, some destroyers approaching west of Indramjo, approx. 106° east, 2 B 17's sank 1 transport, first convoy. Damaged another in continuous series attacks by Allied bombers on sea forces commencing 2000 (G.M.T.) 28/2. 1 transport was sunk, an auxiliary vessel was probably sunk, 12 direct hits obtained on 9 ships, 11 near misses and fires observed on 4 ships. Enemy bombed Jampak aerodrome 27/2 hitting magazines, hangars; runways unserviceable though dry; 3 grounded aircraft damaged. A Dutch merchant vessel Zoondam bombed, Dutch naval auxiliary ship Reiiger attacked by seaplanes, Banten Bay, Madicon aerodrome raided by 6 unescorted army 97 bombers, damage slight.

U.S. CHIEFS OF STAFF

DECLASSIFIED
JCS MEMO 147-72
RE EL. DATE NOV 14 1973
ENEMY HAS LANDED NORTH COAST JAVA. LARGE NIP FORCE APPROACHING SOUTH COAST. NAVAL DEFENSE JAVA IMPOSSIBLE NOW EXCEPT BY SUBMARINES. HELFRICH AGREES WITHDRAWAL ALLIED SURFACE FORCES; THIS AM DOING BRITISH DOING SAME. PURNELL IN HOLLAND WILL TAKE OVER DURING INTERIM MY COMMAND POST JAVA ESTABLISHED ELSEWHERE.

COPY DELIVERED TO OPNAV CO DEROOM.
C 0 PERTH REPORTS ACTION 27TH FEBRUARY ONE JAP 8-INCH CRUISER AND ONE DESTROYER SUNK AND ONE 8-INCH CRUISER DAMAGED (THESE LOSSES WERE POSSIBLY IN EXCESS OF THOSE REPORTED PREVIOUSLY) STOP NIGHT 28 FEBRUARY/1 MARCH ENEMY LANDINGS ON JAVA

FIRST NORTH WEST BANTAM 16 TRANSPORTS PRESUMABLY ONE DIVISION
SECOND IN BAY WEST OF TANDJOENG INDRAMAOE 23 SHIPS
(CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS INCLUDED) PROBABLY ONE/TWO DIVISIONS
THIRD BETWEEN KRAKAN AND TANDJOENG AWAWARA (EAST OF REMBANG) BIG CONCENTRATION OF ABOUT 50 SHIPS WITH AT LEAST 2 DIVISIONS

LANDINGS TOOK PLACE DURING CLEAR MOONLIT NIGHT STOP FLEET INDRAMAOE BOMBED DURING WHOLE NIGHT RESULT NOT YET FULLY KNOWN BUT EXPECTED TO BE SATISFACTORY STOP FLEET EAST OF REMBANG ALSO HEAVILY BOMBED STOP SMALL LOSSES ON OUR SIDE AS NO JAP FIGHTER OPPOSITION STOP ENEMY PROGRESS ON LAND UP TO NOW SMALL STOP ARMY COMMAND INTENDS ATTACK BANTAM GROUP AS SOON AS IT APPEARS POSSIBLE TO COUNTERACT EFFECTIVELY THE THREAT FROM INDRAMAOE STOP ENEMY INDRAMAOE IS BEING KEPT UNDER CONSTANT AIR ATTACK STOP ONE INFANTRY REGIMENT WITH SUPPORTING ARTILLERY HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN MOVED FROM MIDDLE TO WEST JAVA ORDER TO BE AS STRONG AS POSSIBLE THERE STOP IN EAST JAVA AVAILABLE TROOPS ONE REGIMENT INFANTRY WITH AUXILIARY UNITS TERRITORIALS AND SOME BATTALIONS OF NATIVE TROOPS STOP THESE WILL DEFEND THE NAVAL BASE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE BUT THEY ARE FACING HEAVY ODDS STOP HOUSTON AND PERTH SAILED 28 FEBRUARY FROM TANDJOENG PRIOR TO TJILATJAP FUGHT NIGHT ACTION
SOENDA STRAITS, RESULT NOT YET KNOWN STOP DESTROYER EVERETSEN WAS IN ACTION WITH TWO CRUISERS AND WAS BEACHED IN SOENDA STRAITS STOP EXETER WITH TWO DESTROYERS SAILLED NORTHWARD FROM SOERABAIA TRYING TO BREAK THROUGH SOUTH TOWARDS INDIAN OCEAN STOP FOUR U. S. DESTROYERS FOUGHT THEIR WAY THROUGH BALI STRAITS EN ROUTE FOR TJILATJAP STOP 1 MARCH 6.15 JAVA TIME GROUP JAP WARSHIPS INCLUDING HEAVY CRUISERS SIGHTED 125 MILES SOUTH TJILATJAP COURSE NORTH STOP BECAUSE LACK OF BASES BRITISH AMERICAN DUTCH SURFACE FORCES WERE SENT AWAY, DUTCH TO COLUMBO STOP DUTCH AMERICAN SUBMARINES REMAIN IN ACTION AS LONG AS SUPPLIES LAST THEREAFTER DUTCH TO COLUMBO, U. S. SUBMARINES TO AUSTRALIA STOP AM TRYING TO EVACUATE TRAINED NAVAL PERSONNEL TO COLUMBO OR AUSTRALIA BUT VIEW THREAT TO TJILATJAP DOUBTFUL WHETHER SUCCESSFUL

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From - C-in-C, ABDA Area.
Received - 3/2/42

ADMIRAL HELFRICH LEFT JAVA FOR COLUMBO BY AIR THIS MORNING TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS FROM COLUMBO

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of

[Signature]

Date: MAR 27 1976
To: Admiralty.
Repealed A.S.N.B.
B.A.D.

From: C. in C., E.F.
Dated: 1st March, 1942.

MOST SECRET.
MOST IMMEDIATE.

Following received from Admiral Helfrich.

Begins:

"I have resigned command of Allied Naval Forces. S.O. China Force ordered withdrawal of British Naval Forces and U.S. Naval Forces excepting (f submarines) are also being withdrawn. This is with my consent. Hope you will provide me all possible escort. I shall try to send all my remaining forces to Colombo.

T.O.O. 0355/1st." Ends.

T.O.O. 1230Z/1.

REstricted DISTRIBUTION plus
U.S. Chiefs of Staff.
From - C-in-C, Naval Forces ABDAl Command.
Received - 1200, 2/28/42.

27 FEBRUARY TWO BIG AND HEAVILY ESCORTED JAP CONVOYS WERE SIGHTED IN WESTERN JAVA SEA COMING OUT OF BANGLA STRAITS AND IN EASTERN JAVA SEA COMING OUT OF MACASSAR STRAITS. STRIKING FORCE WAS SENT TO ATTACK, CONTACTED ENEMY NEAR BIWAHN, NAVAL BATTLE FOLLOWED DURING AFTERNOON AND NIGHT; DETAILS STILL LACKING. WE LOST CRUISERS DE RUYTER AND JAVA BY EXPLOSIONS, POSSIBLY TORPEDO HITS BY JAP SUBMARINES, AND DESTROYER KONTAMAE BY GUNFIRE; BRITISH CRUISER EXETER DAMAGED, DESTROYERS ELEVENTH AND JUPITER SUNK; AS FAR AS KNOWN HOUSTON AND PERTH NO DAMAGE.

ENEMY HAD FIVE CRUISERS, SOME OF WHICH WERE HEAVY ONES, AND NINE DESTROYERS; ENEMY LOSSES NOT FULLY KNOWN BUT AT LEAST THREE DESTROYERS, WHILE ONE NOGAMI WAS ON FIRE.

CONVOY IN WESTERN JAVA SEA SEEMS TO HAVE RETIRED WHILE LANDING IN EASTERN JAVA HAS BEEN DELAYED.

LANGLEY WITH FIGHTERS WAS SUNK 28 FEBRUARY SOUTH OF TULATJAP BY JAP BOMBER. THIS WAS THE FIRST JAP ACTION OF THAT KIND ON THE SOUTH COAST OF JAVA.
To: AIRMIN Whitehall
Rptd: AHQ India
NORGROUP Air Board
BRITISH Washington

From: AVM Maltby
Dated: 28th February, 1942.

IMMEDIATE
OPREP 4

Daily operational summary up to 0030/28/2.

2 Blenheim attacked 30 army 97 bombers on Palembang II; results unobserved, resistance negligible.

1 Blenheim bombed shipping Palembang River; results unobserved.

1 Hudson attacked convoy 4 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 30 M.V. 3000 - 1000 tons, 040 South 106° 30' East, course 342°; 1 near miss on large M.V.

3 U.S.A. A.24s attacked enemy force 15 destroyers, 43 transports, 05° 30' South 113° 40' East; one transport sunk several near misses.

Recce and bomber aircraft sighted 3 enemy forces approaching centre of North Java Coast.

2 U.S.A. B.17s attacked naval screen of first force causing cruiser to stop.

1 U.S.A. B.17 attacked third force without result.

WESGROUP Aircraft serviceability at 1230Z/27/2, Blenheim IV 5, Hudson III 2, Vildebeest 8, Albacore 1, Hurricane 13.

T.O.O. 0835/28

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U.S. CHIEFS OF STAFF

DECLASSIFIED
JCS MEMO, 1-728A
BY STD. DATE NOV 14 1973
TO: AIR MIN WHITEHALL
RPTD: AIR INDIA NORGROUP
AIRBOARD NAITIAN
WASHINGTON
FROM: WESGROUP

IMMEDIATE
OPREP/3 27/2

Reference OREP/2 26/2. Commencing with this signal propose send OREPS as from WESGROUP and as at 0030Z daily for previous 24 hours.

Daily MP Summary to 0030Z/27 follows. As in OREP/2 to which add following.

Enemy convoy of 8 warships and 24 transports reported 2130Z/25 at 315 degrees 20 miles from Arends Island Course 245 degrees. Attack by heavy bombers and dive bombers of Java Air Command ordered for this morning. Aircraft serviceable Heinkel IV 6, Hudson 1, Vildebeeste 11, Albacore 2, Hurricanes 13

T.O.O. 2135/27

DECLASSIFIED
JAC Memo. 14773
BY RT. D.A.T.E. NOV 14 1973

RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION
U.S. Chiefs of Staff.
From - Governor General, Dutch East Indies.
To - General Dijkstra.
Time of Receipt - 3:00 P.M., 2/27/42

UP TO MIDDAY TODAY NO LANDINGS ON JAVA REPORTED.
STRIKING FORCE MISSED ENEMY FLEET. BANDOENG IS BEING
BOMBARDED AGAINST WHICH FIGHTER PROTECTION HAS BEEN PROVIDED.
ALTHOUGH NATURALLY UNCERTAIN EXPECT LANDING(S) ON EAST OR
(AND) MIDDLE JAVA.

INFORMATION RECEIVED REGARDING TRANSPORTS FROM
PALEMBANG AND BANJU WHICH ARE PROBABLY HEADING FOR WEST
JAVA.

READY FOR ACTION AT PRESENT TWENTY SIX (26) BOMBERS
OF VARIOUS TYPES AND THIRTY THREE (33) FIGHTERS WHICH
FIGURES HOPE TO IMPROVE BY EXECUTING REPAIRS AND SUPPLY
OF PLANES FROM ELSEWHERE, HOWEVER, AS RESULT OF UNINTER-
RUPTED ACTION HEAVY LOSSES MAY BE EXPECTED.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of
File Memo 70 Feb 75
By 65 Date MAR 27 42
A combined air intelligence centre summary 2 27/2. 6 naval sightings.

1. 6 cruisers, 6 destroyers and 50 transports position 20 miles west of Bawean Island, Main part of convoy passed Bawean Island 1620Z/27.

2. 35 unidentified ships, 5 deg., 10 min. south, 111 deg., 35 min east, course 170 deg. with 1 large warship, 4 small warships, 5 deg. 05 min. south, 111 deg., 35 min east. Time 0257Z/27. In addition large number of ships sighted 05 deg. 40 min. south, 111 deg., 45 min east.

3. Two parties approached from west parallel 06 deg., 20 min south, comprising 5 large several smaller ships steaming northwest and 3 cruisers 3 destroyers steaming west. Time 0130Z/27.

4. Enemy submarine 06 deg., 00 min south, 106 deg., 52 min east. Time 0802Z/27.

5. One cruiser bearing 040 deg., 30 miles, 04 deg., 04 min south, 111 deg., 07 min east, course 22 deg. Time 0605Z/27.

6. 30 merchant vessels in 3 lines escorted by 4 cruisers, 3 destroyers, position 40 miles north east Tanjong Kenan (East Sumatra) course 345, deg. 12 knots. Time 0252Z/27. 2 B17's damaged. Cruiser in first mentioned sighting and 3 A248 sank 1 transport, same convoy Hudson near misses, convoy south of Banka Straits 2 Blenheim bombers gurned and machine guns 30 army X7
bombers on ground Palembang. Results unobserved probably very good. U.S.A. aircraft carrier Langley bombed by 9 aircraft and sank approaching Tjilatjap. One Catalina damaged by Navy O. minesweeper, dive bombed Sunda Straits. Our naval striking force continually attacked from air during the daylight.

RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.
NOWGROUP Bandseng

OPS/14 27/2/42

Combined Air Intelligence Centre Intelligence Summary No. 1.

Seven Naval sightings 26 Feb., local times.

First: One cruiser one transport 04 degrees 28 minutes South 115 degrees 08 minutes East course 245 degrees 0345 hours.

Second: One cruiser four destroyers 04 degrees 50 minutes South 115 degrees 00 minutes East course 245 degrees 0400 hours.

Third: Three cruisers 5 destroyers 24 transports bearing 315 degrees distant 20 miles course 245 degrees Arends Island 0900 hours.

Fourth: 4 Merchant vessels less than 5000 repeat 5000 tons, 6 merchant vessels of 5000 tons, 4 merchant vessels 9000 tons Muntok Harbour 0700 hours.

Fifth: Two cruisers Inhu Class 2 destroyers 06 degrees 25 minutes South 117 degrees 13 minutes East course 315 degrees 0710 hours.

Sixth: One destroyer 1 cruiser 1 auxiliary 3 transports in Bay East Bali 1 Cruiser 10 miles seawards from this position 0815 hours.

Seventh: 3 battle cruisers 3 cruisers 3 destroyers 02 degrees 41 minutes North 106 degrees 25 minutes East course 190 degrees 1 merchant vessel anchored 02 degrees 49 minutes 105 degrees 42 minutes East 1140 hours.

Air raid Surabaya 26/2/42. No damage reported. 1 Navy of shot down. No Allied loss. Allied bombing Sorties unsuccessful. 1 Glen Martin lost. Japanese maintaining standing fighter patrol South Sumatra. New Aerodrome observed Bali 06 degrees 42 minutes South 115 degrees 12 minutes East. 27 aircraft present.

T.O.O. 1355/27

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NORTH GROUP, Rangoon

FROM: BRITAIN

DATED: 27th February, 1942.

IMPORTANT.

Col 283 27/2.

Here, with repetition by T.O.O. 1645/26*

Intelligence Summary One February 26


T.O.O. 0810/27

* Received Corrupt

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff

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JCS MEMO. 147-78

BY RT. DATE

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FORM GROUP RANGOON.
Airboard Melbourne.
BRITISH Washington.

OPREP/2 26th February, 1942.

Air Ministry pass to Britman Washington.

Daily Operational Summary to 1030/26/2 shipping at Muntok attacked by 1 Blenheim. Blenheim scored direct hit on a merchant vessel but no explosion seen.

Later 2 Glen Martins attacked shipping in the same area. Bombs dropped but results not observed owing to heavy enemy fighter attack. 11 Navy (C) Fighters destroyed 1 Glen Martin missing. Heavy enemy fighter opposition hampered further operations by 3 Glen Martins in Babka area. 2 B.17 unsuccessfully attacked shipping off Abli. Sourabaya raided by forty plus enemy bombers with fighter escorts but bombs jettisoned in sea.

Interception by P.40s resulted in 1 Navy 'Q' destroyed without loss. No enemy air activity West Java.

U.S. Chiefs of Staff.

Numerous enemy warships and transports sighted approaching Java coast in at least three convoys 27/28 Feb.

Night 28 Feb/1 Mar, six Blenheims, two Hudsons attacked convoy approaching Indramajoe. Night fighters encountered. Direct hits on two transports. One auxiliary probably sunk. Many near misses. Same time nine Vildebeests made two sorties each against convoy approaching Bantjar several direct hits claimed. Our losses one Blenheim and two Vildebeests missing; one crashed, crew safe; one Blenheim and one Hudson damaged. Reports not yet complete.

American operations. Two B.17s attacked large convoy, 0840 local time 28/2, one large transport sunk, one damaged. Later attacks by four B.17s, one LB.30, resulted direct hit one transport, near misses three others, one other left burning. Three B.17s not yet reported.


One Brewster damaged, Semplak aerodrome (one group missing suggested 'BOMBED') ED. Unserviceable for two days. One Lodestar, one Hudson, one Buffalo damaged.

Japanese landings reported at Banten, Moera, Tjilama, Iyddn, Ajo, Bantjar (Kragen) details not yet known. Successful Hurricane attacks on Intramajoe landing in progress. Weagroup aircraft serviceability 0030Z/1 approximately Blenheim four, Hudson one, Vildebeest six, Hurricane twelve.
To: AIR MIN., Whitehall
Repeats: TROOPERS
Burmaey (pass Macin)
A.H.Q. India
WING-RANGOON
Air Board, Melbourne
BRITISH, Washington

From: BRITAIR OUP/7 3/3

IMMEDIATE.

Daily Operational Summary.

1. Army to 0630Z/3.

In west Japanese forces have reached Tangga Eng (7) where bridge has been blown. Small parties of enemy have crossed river further south. Earlier blackforco patrols raced (as deciphered) up to Djasana without encountering enemy. Owing to premature demolition of bridge at Lewilang blackforco was unable to carry out a counter attack northwards. In centre Dutch forces in an enveloping movement are in contact with enemy at Kaliadatu and Soebang. Another mobile force encountered enemy in superior number at Bungkong and had to withdraw but are working round a flank. Japanese on cycles reported infiltrating to Soekamandi. Raid on Andir by 50 plus bombers supported by 12 fighters also paratroops were dropped at Bajangbong south of Gawet. Armoured cars dealing with them in east Japanese forces have penetrated to Tjiapoe and Moeneng but Dutch forces are still operating in the area and no enemy reported east of Babad. AA claim 5 enemy bombers shot down in Bandoeng area.

General.

Enemy main thrusts appear to be on Batavia and west of Sourabaya.

2. Air to 0030Z/3.

During day 2/3 N.E.I. bombers carried out numerous attacks. Direct hits on 3 large transports off Eretan near misses four others. Several burnt out and sunken vessels seen. Near misses three floatplanes taking off only one took off. Attacked transports Tjioamaja-Tjikampok road results not observed. In morning attack on enemy occupied aerodrome Kaliadatu hits scored on runways big craters observed later. In another attack several hits round hangars and on aerodrome one on AA. RAF Hurricanes morning 2/3 destroyed enemy seaplane north of Batavia. Attacked Kaliadatu first light 3/3 shot up enemy fighters and ground crew. Ref OFP/5 one group missing; one missing Valdebeesto now safe also one member remaining Valdebeesto crew. These aircraft in raid on enemy landing east Java 1/3 scored 2 direct hits on transport vessel causing fire also dropped bombs amongst troops and barges results not observed. Enemy raid on Andir afternoon 2/3 destroyed 1 Blenheim. No interception by fighters. Continuous reconnaissance of enemy land movements during day by Allied aircraft. WINGROUP aircraft serviceability at 0030Z/3 four Hurricanes.

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