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110 P.
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

MR 203 (2) Sec 18 - "WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY"

July, 1943

MR 203 (2) Sec. 18 - "WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY"

(July, 1943)

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WAR DEPARTMENT

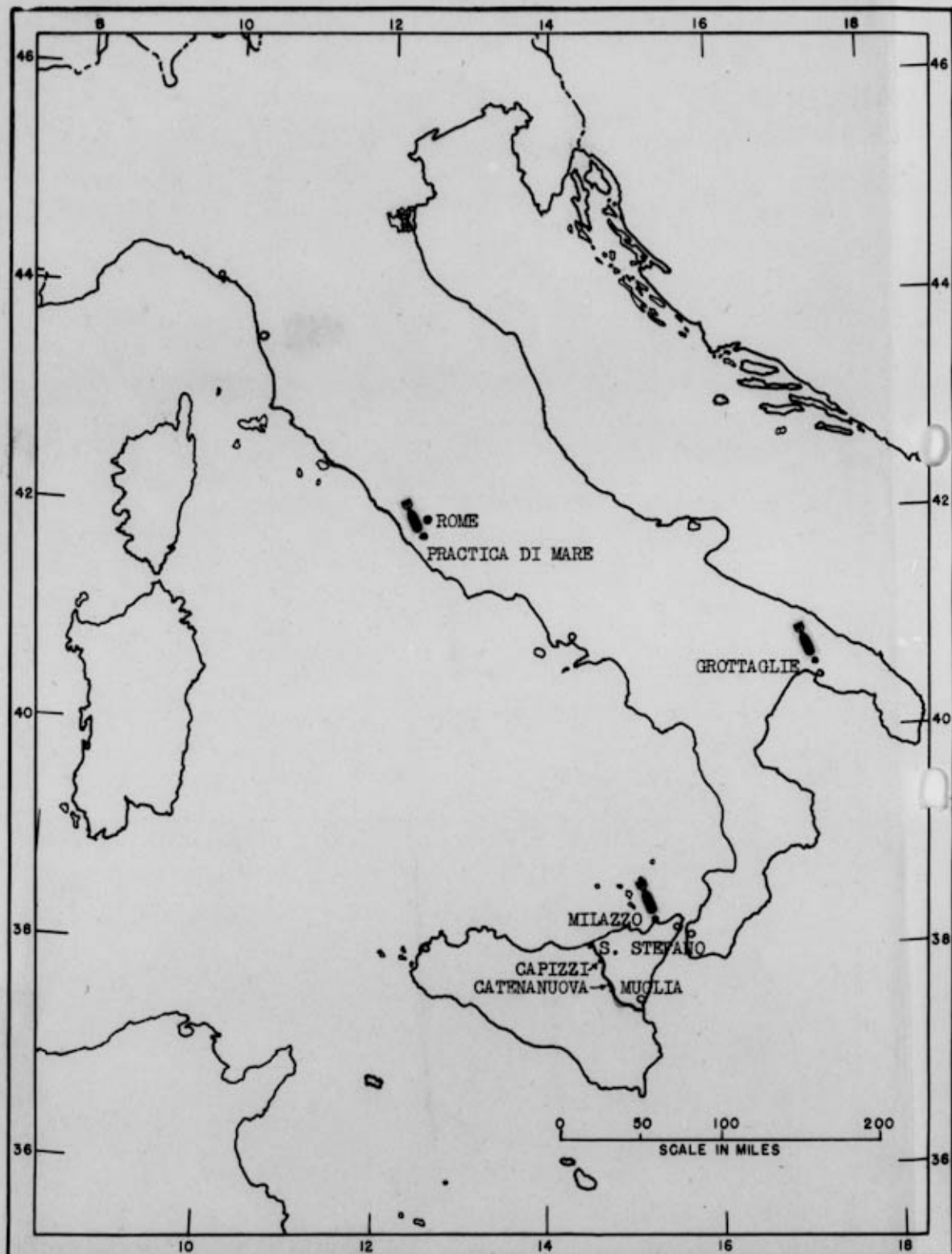
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 599

0700 July 31 to 0700 August 1, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Two US destroyers bombarded Kiska installations with 100-rounds each on 30 July. No return fire was received.

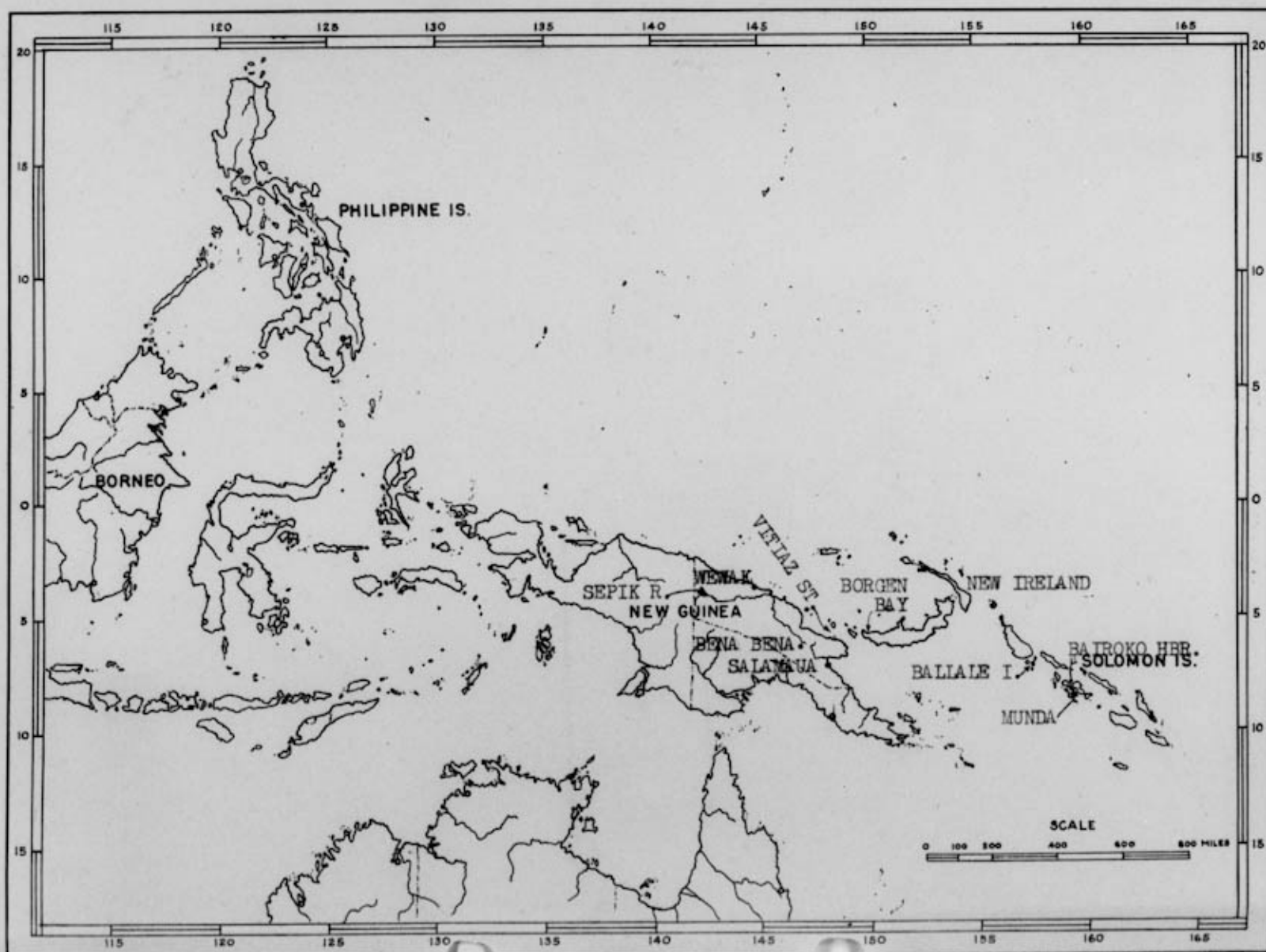
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

A force of 72 B-25's, escorted by 74 P-38's, attacked the Practica di Mare airdrome, south of Rome, on 30 July, covering the target area with bomb bursts, and destroying at least 15 aircraft on the ground and in combat. In an attack on Grottaglie airdrome, 46 B-17's started several fires, scored hits among the barracks, and destroyed at least three JU-88's on the ground. Allied planes in patrol and anti-shipping sweeps left a 6,000-ton merchant vessel sinking, caused a barge to explode, and shot down 25 of 46 enemy aircraft that were engaged; we lost one P-40. Milazzo was the target for 14 tons of explosives dropped by 23 of our light bombers which reported a hit on a 5,000-ton vessel.

On 31 July our 45th Division took S. Stefano, French troops operating with our II Corps captured Capizzi, and the 78th Division enlarged the bridgehead at Catenanuova by capturing Miglia.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 29 July, B-25's of our 10th Air Force scored direct hits on a bridge, a rice mill, a large factory building and railroad cars in sweeps over central Burma; B-24's flew anti-shipping missions over



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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

the Bay of Bengal during which buildings on Chatham Island were effectively attacked. P-40 raids on enemy-held towns in northern Burma started a number of fires.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied forces on 30 July captured commanding ground overlooking an enemy position in the Salamaua area. To the north enemy patrols are reported to have occupied three inland villages along the Sepik River, southwest of Wewak.

Allied air and naval craft continued their successful attacks on the enemy's increasing barge traffic along the northeast coast of New Guinea and the western tip of New Britain. Allied surface craft sank seven of some 30 of these supply craft sighted in the Vitiaz Straits the night of 28-29 July. The following day Allied planes made effective raids on a barge concentration in Borgen Bay, sinking four more in that area, and on 30 July one, probably two, others were destroyed. Our heavy bombers, prevented by weather from completing strategic missions, attacked Salamaua.

Enemy aircraft ineffectively attacked an airfield in the vicinity of Bena Bena and made a minor raid against our troops southwest of Salamaua.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 29 July, Navy bombers attacked Japanese gun positions on the west shore of Bairoko Harbor with observed effect and then machine-

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

gunned the area. The following day nine heavily escorted B-24's dropped more than 11 tons of bombs on Ballale starting large fires. Our ground forces made a little progress in the central and southern part of the line but no advance in the north. There are indications that the Japanese may have received reinforcements.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

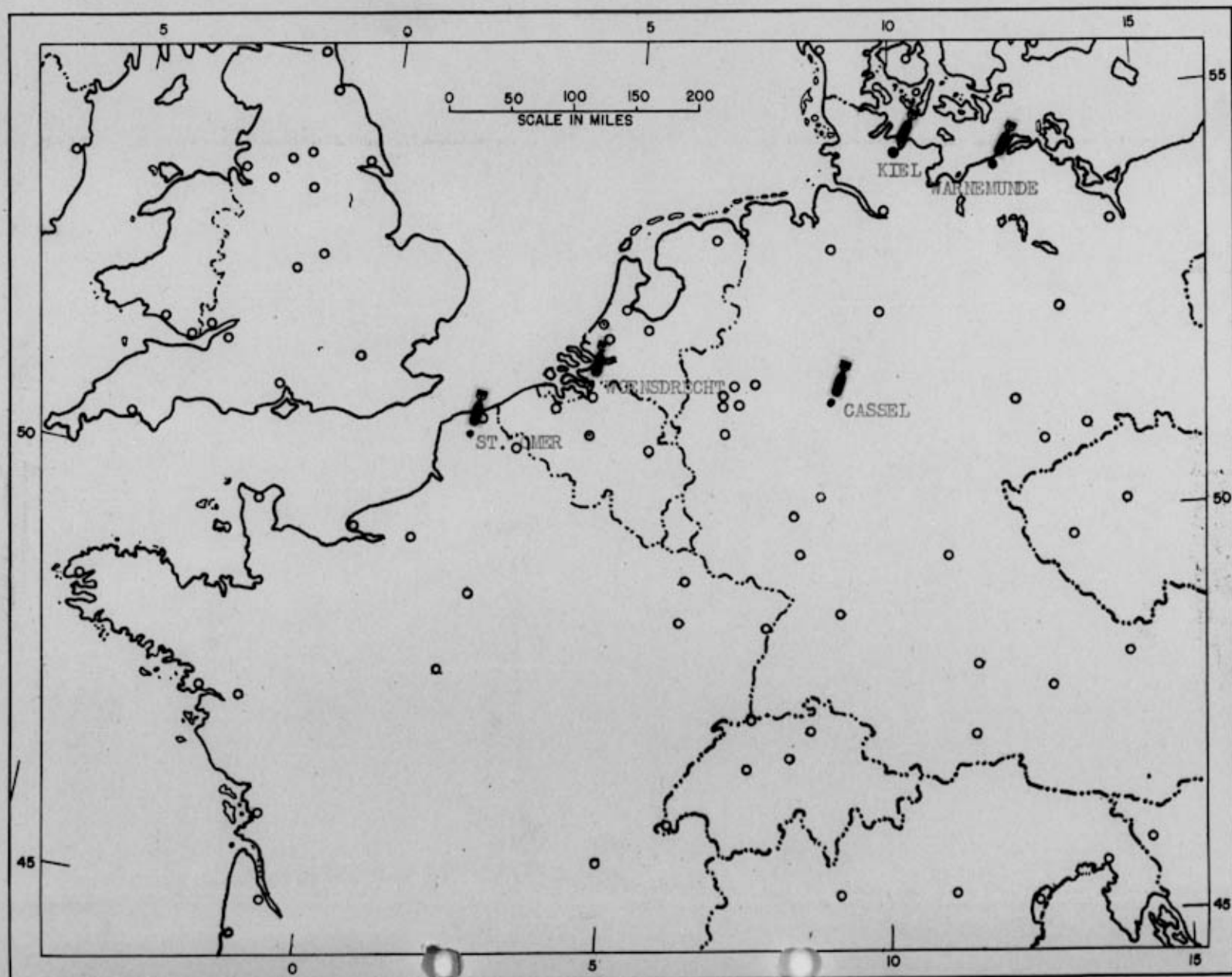
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 598

0700 July 30 to 0700 July 31, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



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DECLASSIFIED
CAB Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A weather plane dropped four quarter-ton bombs on the main camp area at Kiska on 29 July through an overcast sky.

EUROPEAN THEATER

On 29 July a force of 250 B-17's bombed naval repair and construction yards at Kiel and the Heinkel fighter airplane assembly factory at Warnemunde. Our crews reported accurate bombing. Three waves of P-47's swept over the Low Countries. In these operations our planes destroyed 34 (probably 45) enemy fighters. We lost 10 B-17's and one P-47.

Our air offensive over Germany continued unabated through 30 July. On that day 185 B-17's dropped 300 tons of bombs on airplane plants near Cassel, shooting down 27 (probably 40) enemy airplanes for a loss of 11 B-17's. Our P-47's supporting the withdrawal of the heavy bombers shot down 25 (probably 29) additional enemy fighters attacking the B-17's; seven P-47's are missing. Twelve of our escorted B-26's bombed an airdrome at Woensdrecht, Holland, and shot down six (probably 11) enemy fighters with the loss of one B-26.

Delayed reports describe an effective attack by 21 B-26's on the airfield at St. Omer on 29 July and the destruction by one of our B-24's of two German bombers 200 miles southwest of Cape Finisterre the previous day.

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BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
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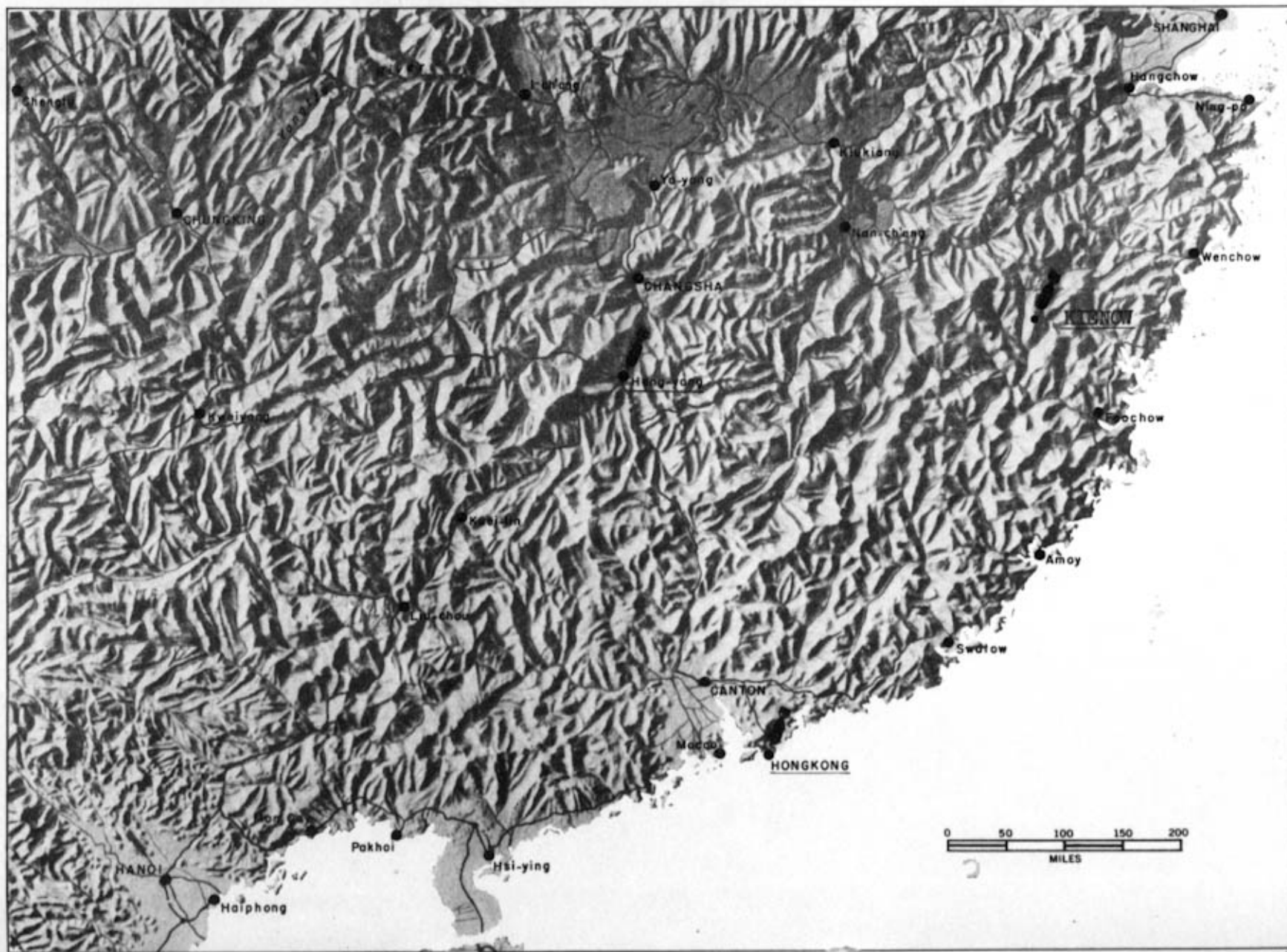
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. Satellite fields around Naples were bombed during the night of 28-29 July by British bombers and, the following day, by waves of our medium bombers. Viterbo, north of Rome, was pounded by 56 Flying Fortresses with excellent effect.

Our air forces continued their assaults on enemy communications and positions in Axis-held portions of Sicily with attacks on Paterno, Milazzo, and Messina. Allied planes on shipping patrol attacked an enemy convoy along the Italian coast south of Naples leaving a motor torpedo boat and a destroyer blazing, and a large merchant vessel sinking.

During 30 July important gains were made along the front of the Seventh Army, which captured Mistretta and pushed patrols through Cerami; on the left flank of the Eighth Army, the Canadian Division captured Catenanuova. Our Provisional Corps accepted the unconditional surrender of the Egadi Islands of Marettimo, Favignana, and Levanzo, off the west coast of Sicily.

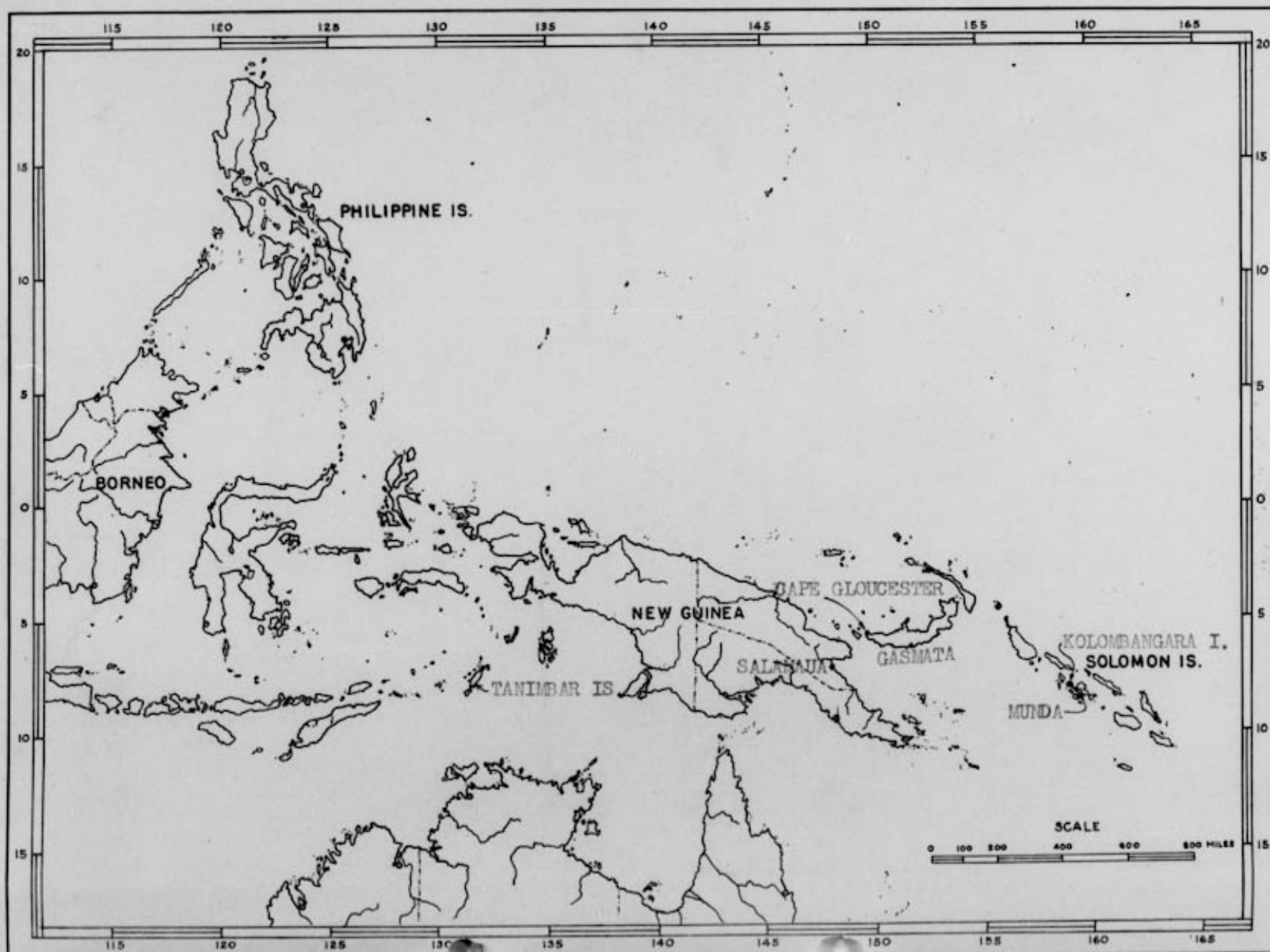
2. The War Department instructed General Eisenhower to cooperate with the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation by furnishing such bedding, shelter, equipment and housing as may be required for between 5,000 to 6,000 refugees, stateless or of enemy nationality, who are to be transferred from Spain to Africa by Presidential arrangement.



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 28-29 July, British bombers attacked shipping in the harbor of Alimnia Island (Dodecanese) scoring hits on at least one large merchant vessel. The next day Allied planes carried out anti-shipping sweeps over the Aegean Sea, damaging five small vessels.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 29 July, 18 escorted B-24's of the 14th Air Force hit a freighter in drydock and caused extensive damage to the shop and dock areas of Kowloon (Hong Kong). Twenty-three escorted Japanese bombers hit Hengyang railroad station, causing many casualties. Other Japanese planes scored a number of hits on our airdrome at Kienow. Our losses were one P-40 and one B-24 which crash-landed killing several members of the crew.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied fighter planes on 29 July machine-gunned buildings and suspected troop concentrations on Geldep Island (52 miles west of Gasmata.) Forty-two heavy and medium bombers dropped 94 tons of bombs on enemy installations in the Salamaua area. Six RAAF Beau-fighters machine-gunned villages and small boats in the Tanimbar Islands. Further attacks against enemy shipping reported yesterday off Cape Gloucester resulted in the confirmed destruction of an additional destroyer.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

PACIFIC THEATER

On 29 July our ground forces in the Munda area, using tanks and flame-throwers, made advances that were held against Japanese counterattacks, and reduced enemy pockets of resistance previously bypassed.

On Kolombangara Island, four escorted B-25's machine-gunned and bombed the Webster Cove section, starting several fires, sank a barge at Hamberi and machine-gunned Porapora village.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

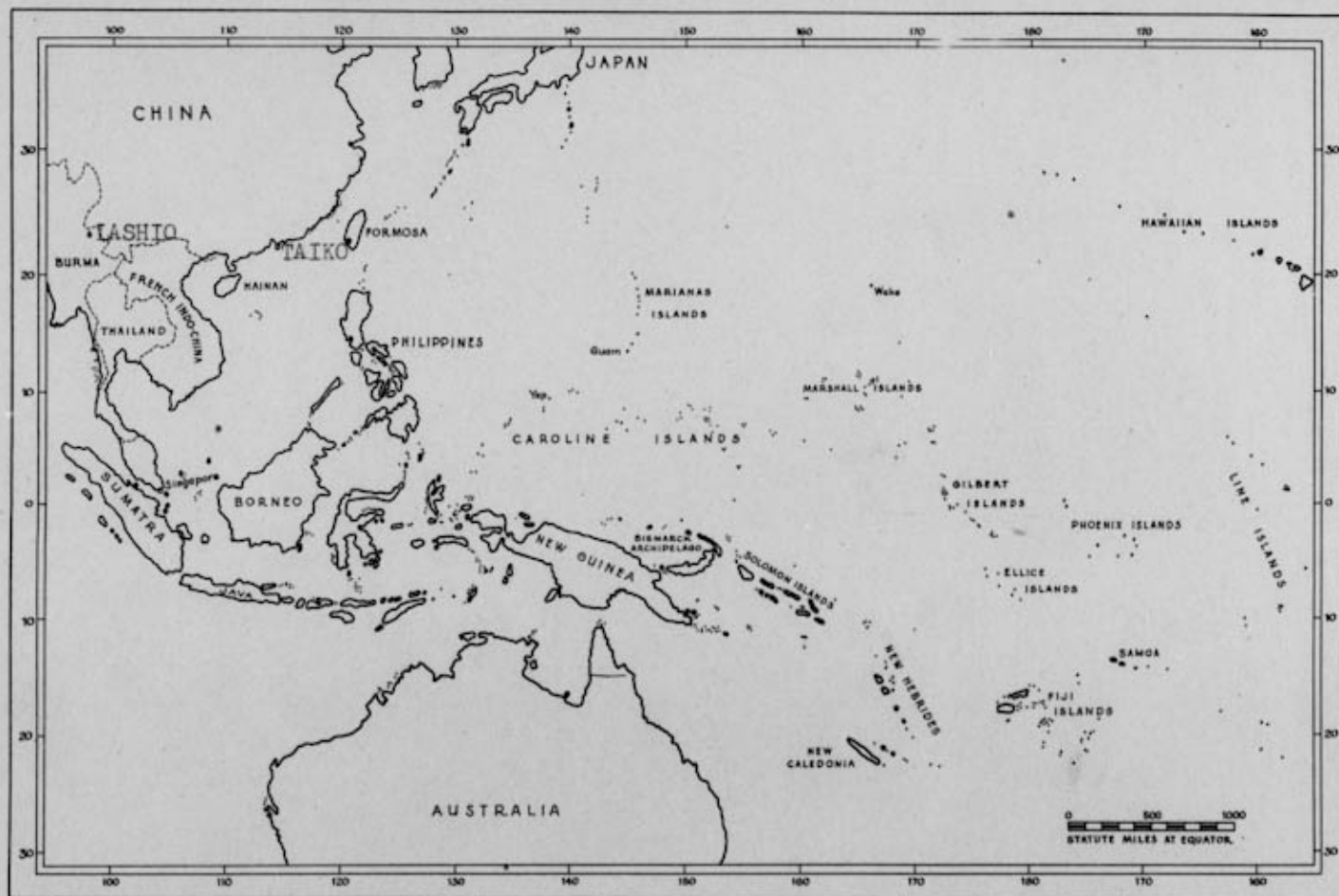
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 597

0700 July 29 to 0700 July 30, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



24-28045

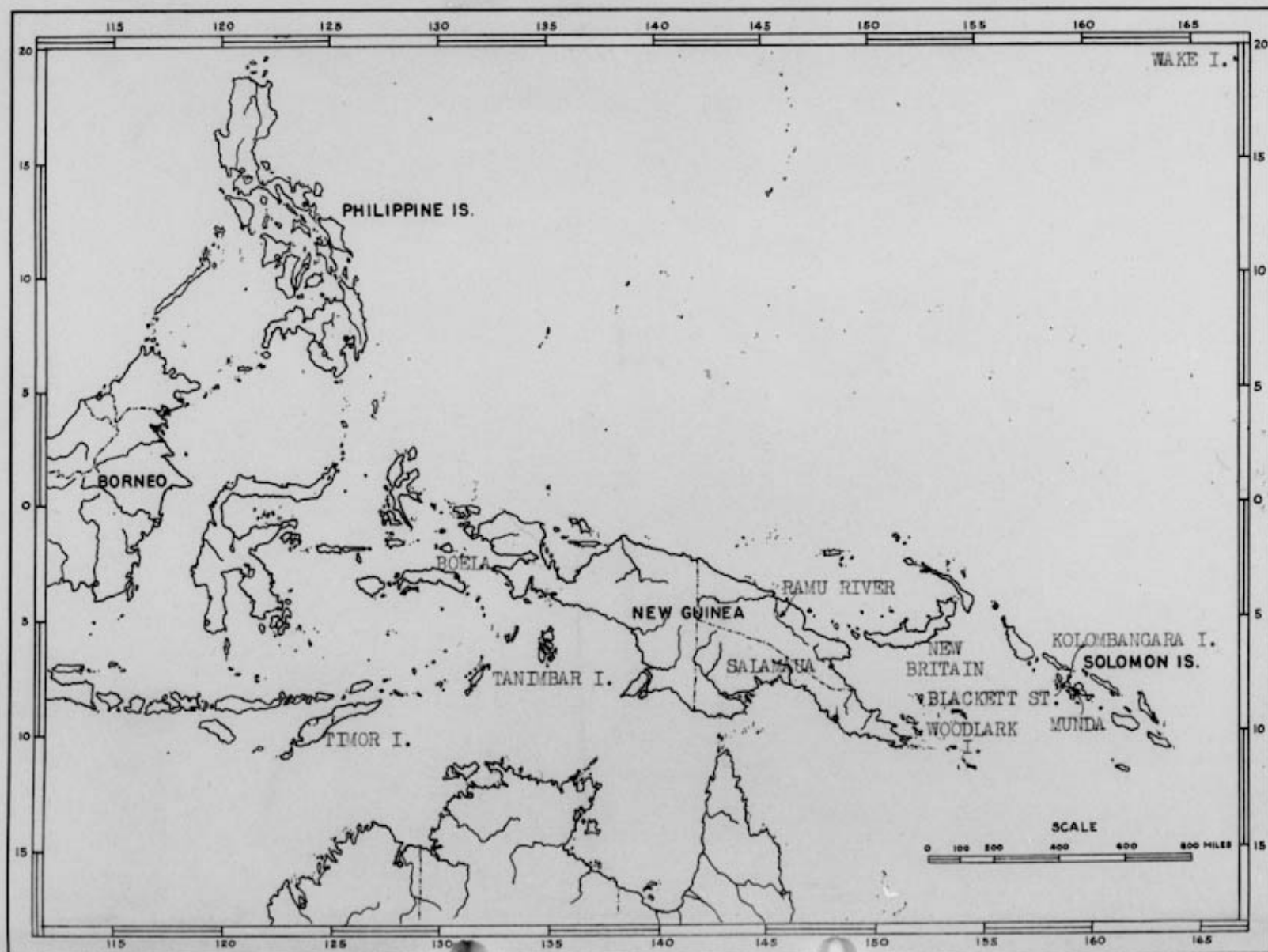
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Unidentified aircraft were plotted over Iceland on 28 July.
2. General Devers reports the rescue at sea of eight of the 23 crews lost in the 8th Air Force missions of 25 July. Two of these crews were rescued in German waters by power boats dropped from airplanes. The rescues were due to the detailed training of our crews for such emergency landings as well as to the energy and efficiency of the RAF Air-Sea Rescue Service which brought them in. Every effort is made to fly disabled aircraft out of Germany even in the face of a certain landing at sea.
3. During the week ending 25 July, the 8th Air Force destroyed between 60 and 70 enemy aircraft for a loss from all causes of 31 B-17's. Corresponding figures of the RAF are seven to ten enemy aircraft destroyed for a loss of 35 of their own.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 28 July, six B-25's and nine P-40's bombed the docks at Taiko, in Formosa, and eight P-40's attacked a bridge over the Shweli River north of Lashio.

B-24's of the 10th Air Force attacked shipping in the Bay of Bengal on 28 July, sinking one cargo ship. One of a few enemy intercepting planes was destroyed; all our planes returned from these operations.



SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In his operations summary for 28 July, General MacArthur reports that our forces continued to make progress in the Salamaua area. Enemy casualties in this vicinity during the period 30 June to 25 July are reported to be 1,084. Further north enemy patrol activity was reported along the Ramu River.

On 27 and 28 July, Allied air and naval action destroyed 14 enemy barges along the New Britain and northeast New Guinea coasts; six, probably eight, enemy fighters intercepting our air formations were shot down. In other air attacks in that vicinity an enemy destroyer and merchant vessel were left blazing, and one of his transport planes was destroyed on the ground.

Nine B-24's flew attack missions against hostile installations in the Tanimbar Islands and at Boela (Ceram). RAAF planes made effective attacks on towns and airdromes on Timor.

Our 5,700-foot runway has been completed on Woodlark Island and another 6,000-foot strip on nearby Kiriwina Is. is almost ready.

PACIFIC THEATER

1. On the night of 26-27 July, US torpedo boats sank two of four enemy barges attacked in Blackett Strait.

Our forces on 28 July continued to advance slowly toward Munda, overcoming strong enemy resistance. Supporting these operations, 106 planes unloaded forty-seven tons of explosives over enemy positions

at Munda obtaining observed effect. Twenty-three B-25's escorted by 12 fighters used 18 tons of bombs and 10,000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition to damage and set fire to an enemy supply dump on Kolombangara. The Japanese shelled Roviana Island (southeast of Munda), using 77 mm guns; no damage was reported.

2. Eight B-24's returned, on 26 July, to attack Wake Island with more than nine tons of explosives and incendiaries. Seven (probably twelve) intercepting enemy planes were shot down; all of our planes returned.

WAR DEPARTMENT

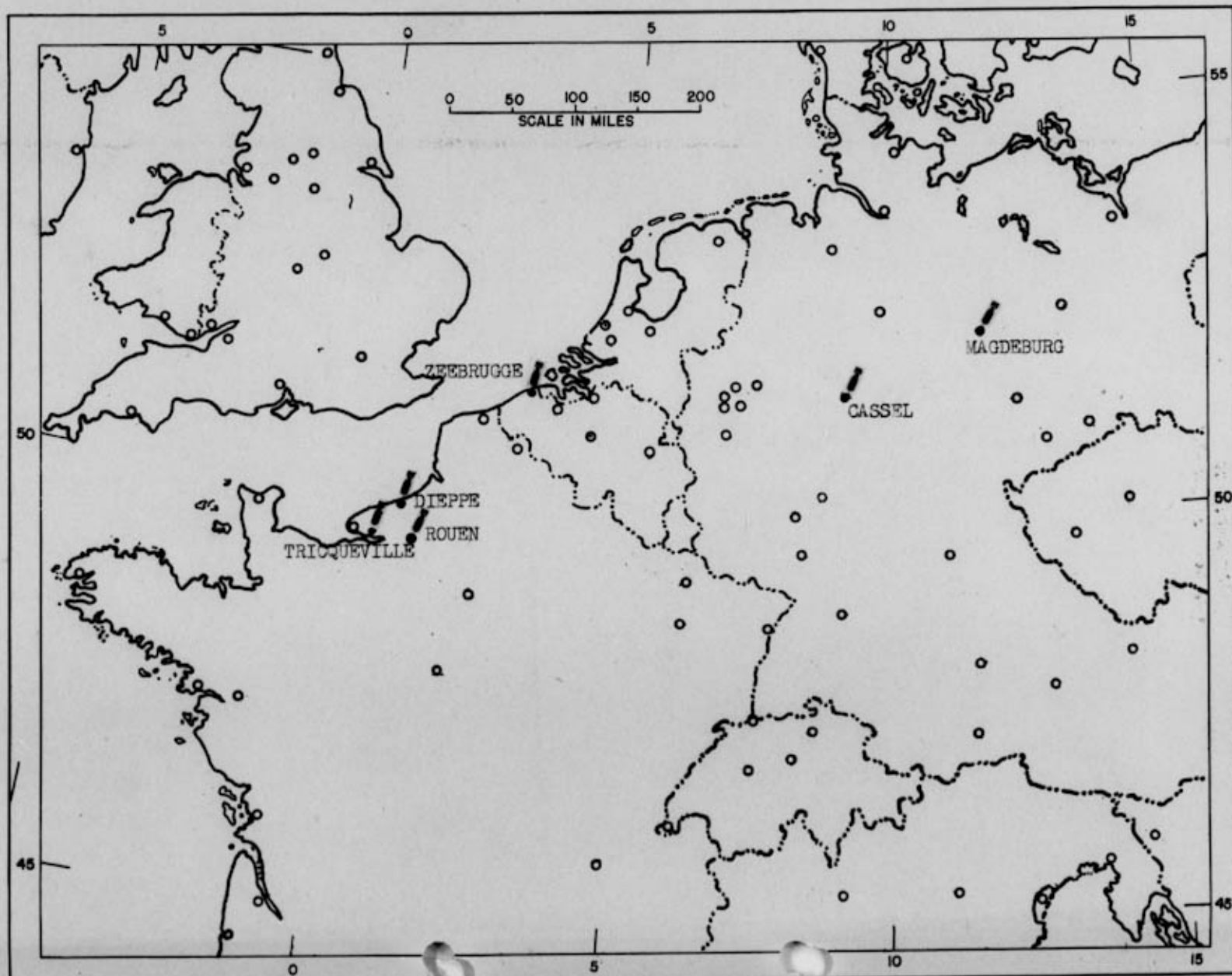
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 596

0700 July 28 to 0700 July 29, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Our bomber and fighter planes attacked Kiska and Little Kiska with 21 tons of bombs on 27 July. Direct hits were observed in the main camp area at Kiska.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. An unidentified aircraft was plotted over Iceland on 27 July.
2. Eighteen B-26's, escorted by 14 squadrons of RAF Spitfires, on a bombing mission against Tricqueville airdrome, on 27 July, hit the target accurately with 18 tons of high explosives. This mission was preceded by diversionary sweeps against Dieppe and Rouen.

Large forces of Flying Fortresses dropped 21 1/2 tons of incendiaries and high explosives on the important Fieseler aircraft factory in Cassel and on the Focke Wulf airplane factory at Magdeburg, on 28 July. Good results were obtained on both of these missions. A diversionary attack was made by 18 escorted medium bombers on the coke ovens at Zeebrugge and a diversionary feint was carried out along the Dutch coast. Seventy-four (probably 108) enemy fighter planes were destroyed; our losses were 23 Fortresses and one P-47.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

By 28 July our Seventh Army had forced the enemy to withdraw

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BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
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DECLASSIFIED 1
OSD Letter, 8-8-74

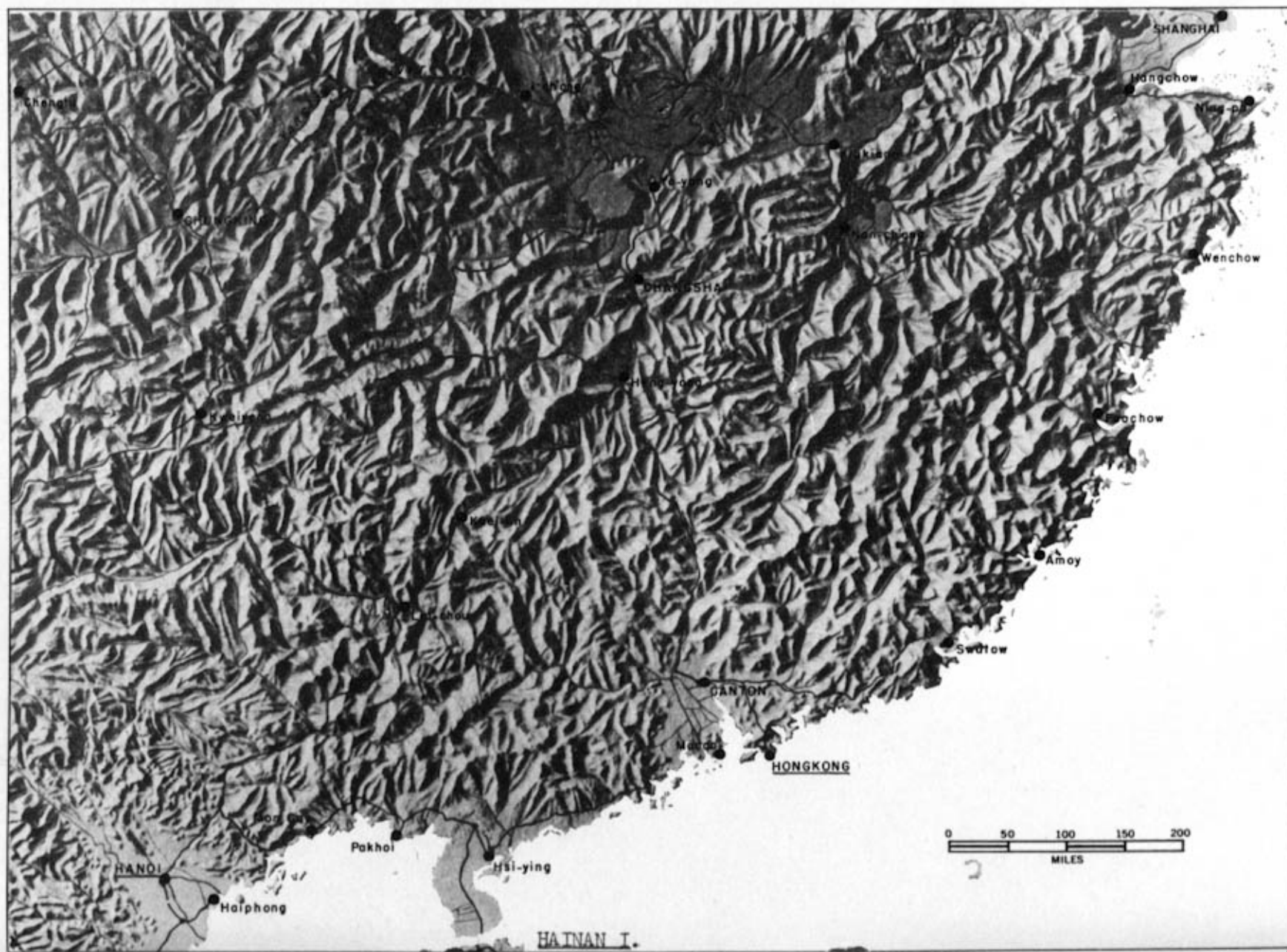
another five miles to the east and had advanced through Nicosia. Canadian troops were battling Axis forces within the town of Agira. To the east the enemy still held firmly. Within the constricted Axis position in northeast Sicily, our intelligence agencies have identified elements of six Italian infantry divisions, two German mechanized divisions and one German motorized division.

During the night of 26-27 July, ten Allied bombers attacked Scilla and scored hits on the airdromes at Reggio di Calabria, Capodichino and Monte Corvino. The following day our B-17's returned over Italy to attack satellite airfields near the Foggia airdrome. At San Nicola, one of the fields on which the enemy has been concentrating increased numbers of aircraft, hits were scored among the aircraft, hangars and runways. Other Fortresses blasted rail facilities east of Naples and attacked Capua airdrome north of that city. A heavily escorted medium bomber mission made a destructive attack on the Scalea airdrome. Other Allied air missions bombed Milazzo, attacked transportation facilities in northwest Sicily and, on shipping sweeps over the Aegean Sea, damaged an Italian ship, a motor torpedo boat and several small vessels. Three enemy planes were destroyed and three of our B-17's are missing.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 27 July, 15 B-24's of our 14th Air Force scored direct hits in the warehouse section and on two large ships in the Samah Bay area

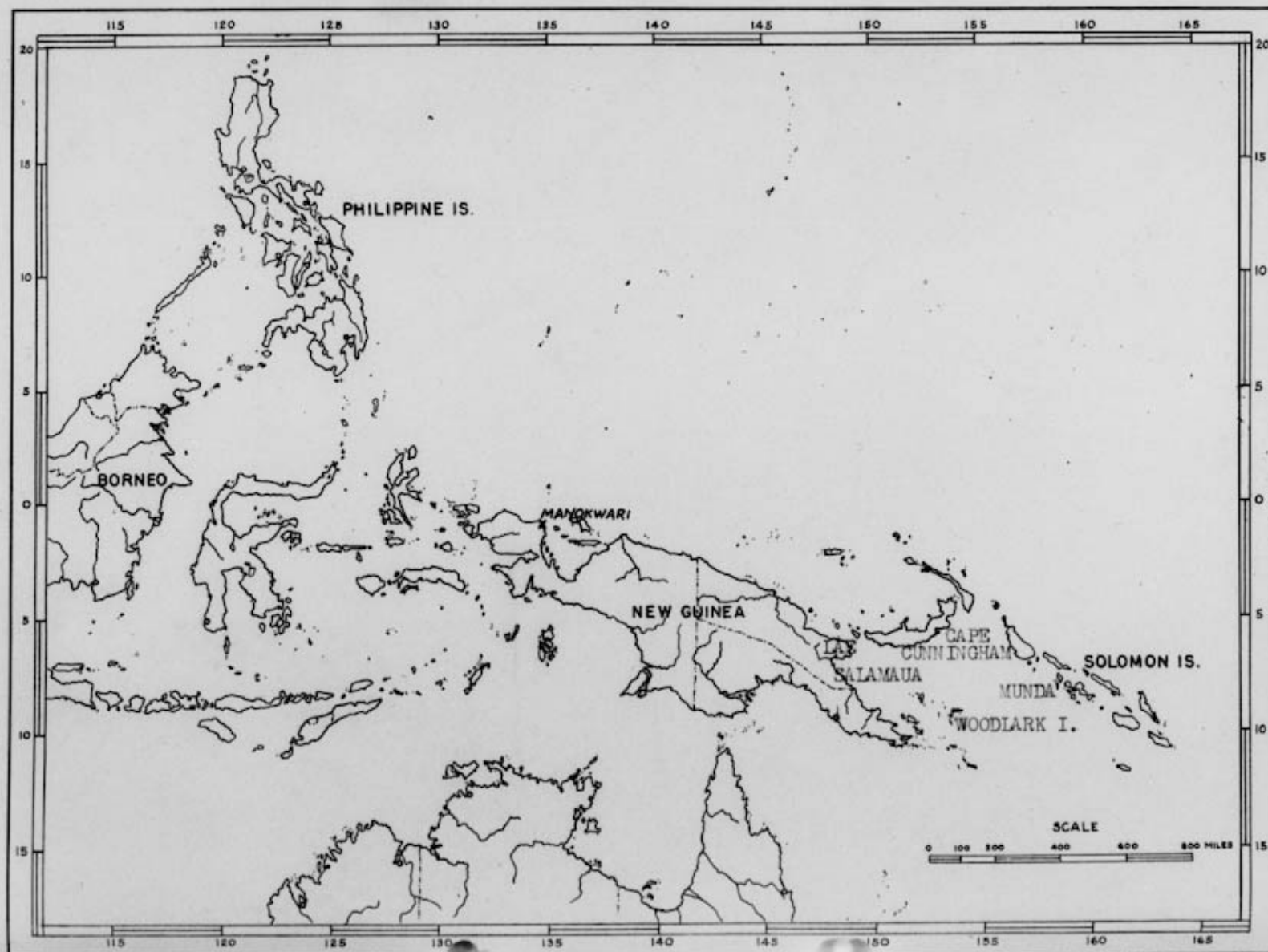
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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

(southern tip of Hainan Island). Between 25 and 30 Japanese fighters attempted interception but all of our planes returned safely after destroying 13 (probably 17) enemy planes. In other raids six B-25's and 14 P-40's started small fires in the harbor of Hong Kong, and six P-40's machine-gunned a factory northwest of Hanoi. Japanese bombers damaged another of the fields of the 14th Air Force in China.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 27 July, 53 heavy and medium bombers dropped 123 tons of explosives in the Salamaua area, demolishing several buildings and a bridge. In other attacks Allied planes bombed barges and supplies at Lae, and set fire to two beached vessels at Cape Cunningham.

One enemy plane attacked the dump area on Woodlark Island; no damage was reported.

PACIFIC THEATER

Our ground forces, on 26 July, continued to exert pressure on enemy centers of resistance in the Munda area.

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 595

0700 July 27 to 0700 July 28, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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GND Letter, 8-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 26 July, US and Canadian bombers and fighters dropped 117 tons of bombs on Kiska and Little Kiska and thoroughly machine-gunned enemy positions there.

EUROPEAN THEATER

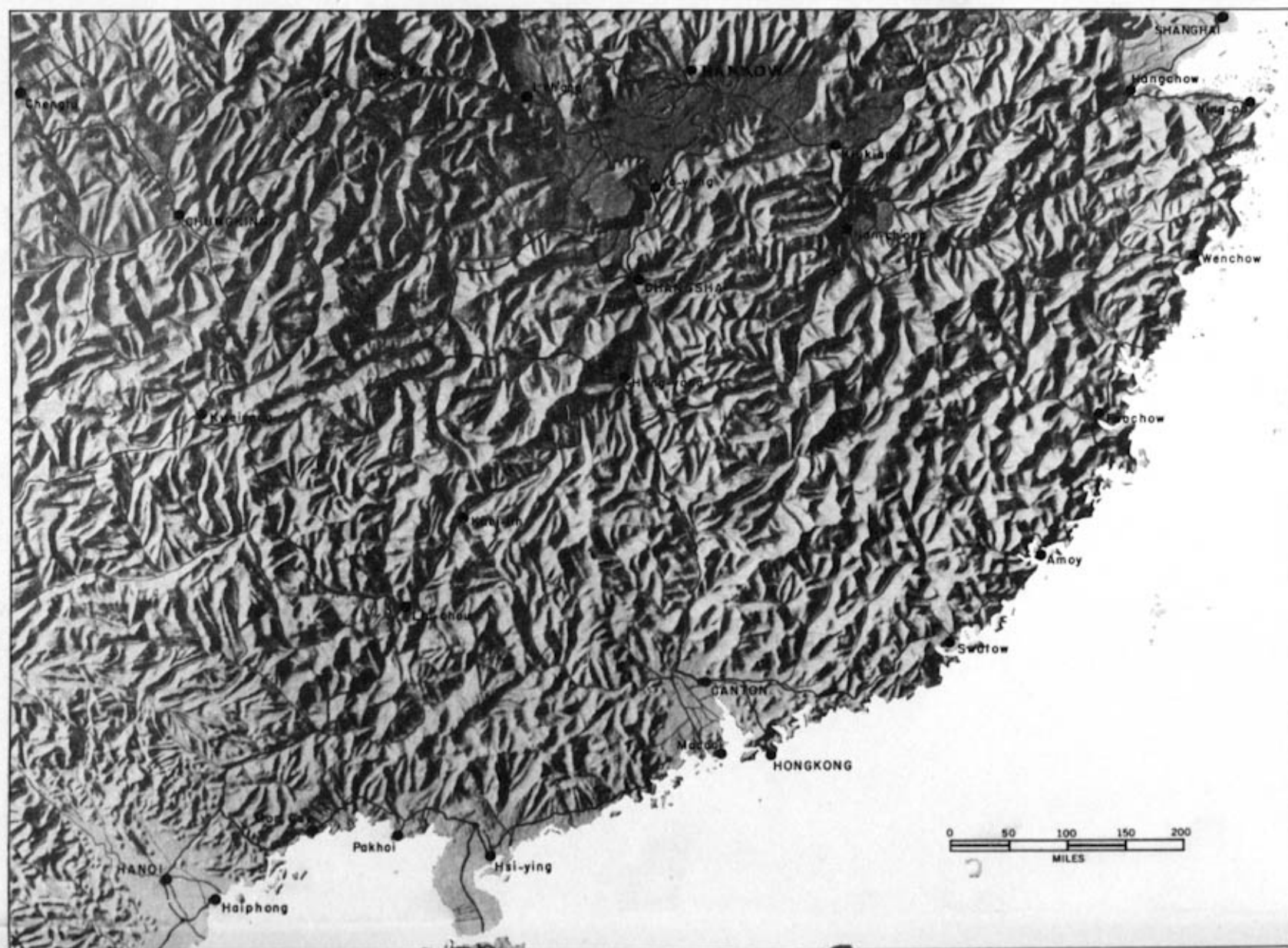
An unidentified aircraft was plotted over Iceland on 26 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

No change was reported in the ground situation for 26 July on the east of the Allied line in Sicily. In the west our 45th Division captured Castelbuono and advanced to within nine miles of S. Stefano against stiffening enemy resistance. The enemy also gave ground to the east of Gangi. The command post for our Seventh Army is now at Palermo.

On the night of 25-26 July, 31 heavy and medium bombers attacked Milazzo, starting fires in the city and in the harbor. The following day Allied planes scored hits on buildings in the vicinity of the Marina di Paola railroad yards (Italy). Other Allied planes bombed transportation and communication facilities in northeastern Sicily, and attacked a convoy off the coast of Corsica, blowing up a small merchant vessel.

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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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OSD Letter, 8-8-78

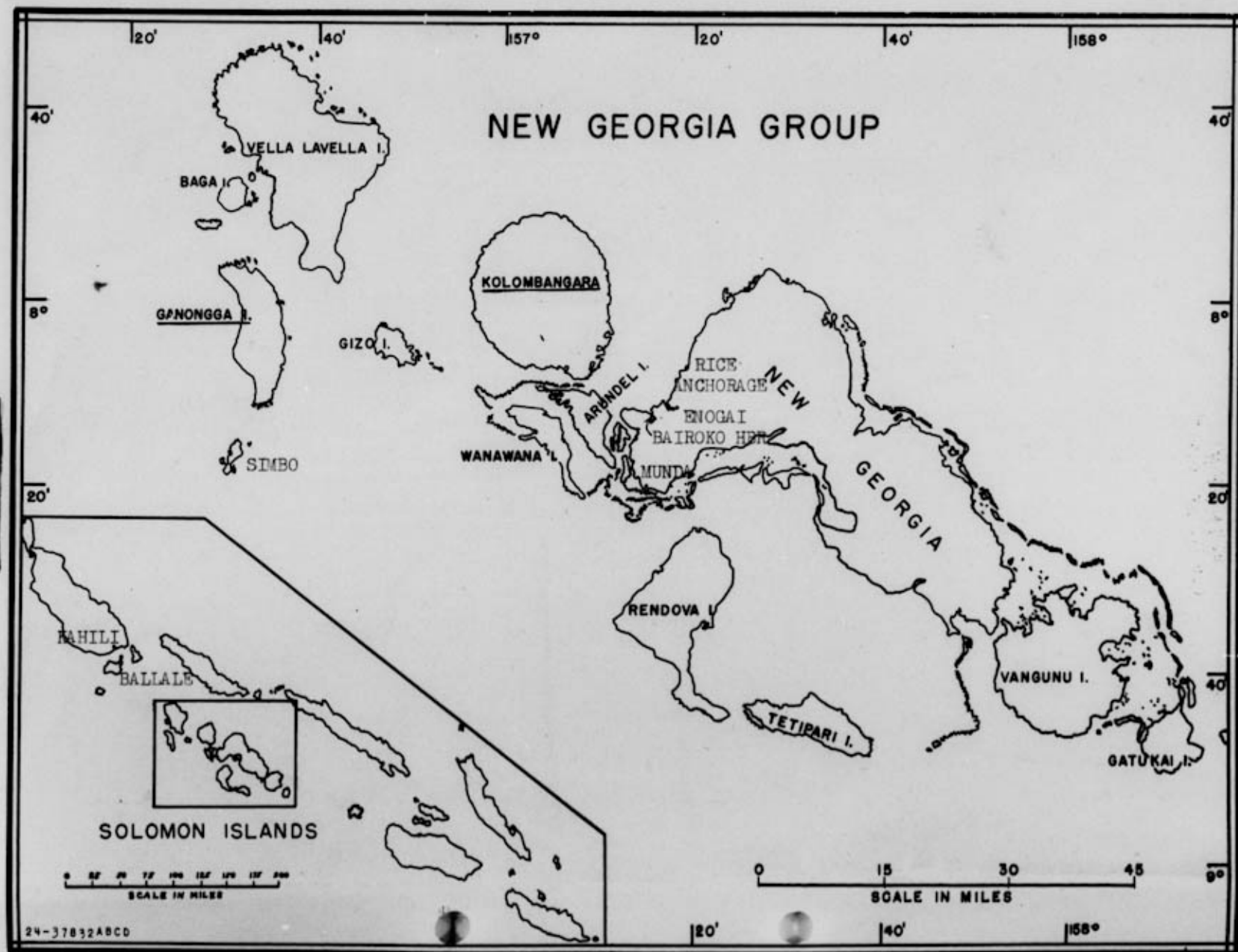
ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 26 July, airplanes of our 10th Air Force bombed and machine-gunned Tiangsup (40 miles north of Myitkyina), and demolished three storage buildings and started large fires at Mogauing (35 miles southwest of Myitkyina).

2. The same day a small force of B-25's of the 14th Air Force, escorted by 12 P-40's, successfully bombed Hankow. On their return they were engaged for 115 miles by enemy fighters, including some of a new type; fourteen (probably 31) of the enemy were shot down for a loss of one P-40.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied planes made extensive attacks in the Salamaua area on 26 July. Twenty-five P-38's intercepted between 30 and 50 Japanese fighters in this vicinity, destroying 11 (probably 16) enemy planes. One of our planes crash-landed. Other Allied missions were flown against Gasmata (New Britain), a small cargo vessel off New Britain, and a village in the Tanimbar Islands. On 25 and 26 July, Japanese bombers attacked Allied positions south of Salamaua.



PACIFIC THEATER

Further reports for 25 July indicate that our forces, bypassing and containing a strong center of enemy resistance, made satisfactory progress toward Munda. An enemy air attack on the Rice Anchorage-Enogai area was ineffective.

On 26 July, four B-25's, escorted by seven fighters, set fire to a warehouse and huts in the Simbo Island bivouac area. Nine B-25's, escorted by 20 Army and Navy fighters, bombed and machine-gunned an enemy supply depot on Kolombangara Island, obtaining a direct hit on one building. Fourteen B-24's, escorted by Army and Navy fighters, dropped over 16 tons of fragmentation bombs on grounded aircraft and the bivouac area at Kahili. Thirty enemy fighters intercepted, shooting down one of our Navy fighters.

On 27 July, 52 escorted Navy bombers attacked enemy positions in the Munda area. Six B-17's bombed Kahili and Ballale; one B-17 was shot down by enemy fighters.

WAR DEPARTMENT

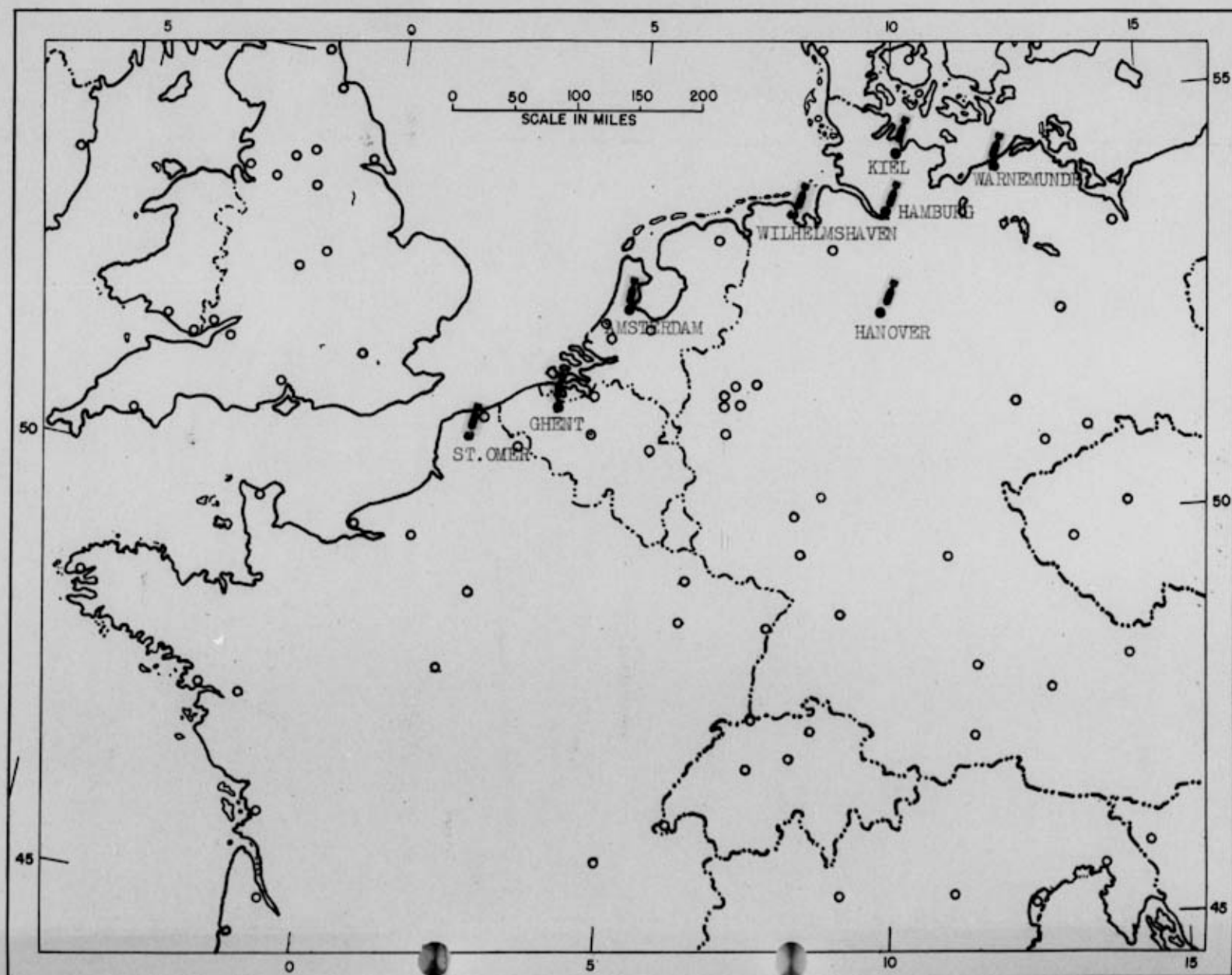
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 594

0700 July 26 to 0700 July 27, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Forty P-40's bombed and machine-gunned Kiska and Little Kiska, on 25 July.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. An unidentified airplane was plotted over Iceland on 25 July.

2. With improving weather conditions during the afternoon of 25 July, a force of 122 B-17's attacked aircraft factories and shipyards in the vicinity of Hamburg. Returning crews reported good results. Twenty-four (probably 33) enemy fighters were destroyed; we lost 15 B-17's. Another mission of 141 B-17's attacked the Kiel and Warnemunde areas, obtaining excellent results on drydocks at Kiel. Six (probably seven) German fighters were destroyed. Our loss was four B-17's. Escorted US medium bombers made effective attacks on an aircraft factory at Amsterdam and on coke ovens near Ghent. Three (probably four) enemy interceptors were destroyed for a loss of six Allied fighter planes.

The air offensive against Axis targets was maintained through July 26, when 127 B-17's returned to Hamburg and again hit the submarine yards and an engine factory. Six enemy fighters were destroyed for a loss of two Fortresses. Another attack mission of 182 B-17's, raiding industrial targets near Hanover and Wilhelmshaven,



BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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encountered intense aerial opposition; 50 (probably 72) of the enemy fighters were shot down and 22 of our B-17's are missing. Medium bombers that day hit the airdrome near St. Omer without loss. On both days strong diversionary sweeps were flown over the Low Countries by our P-47's.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

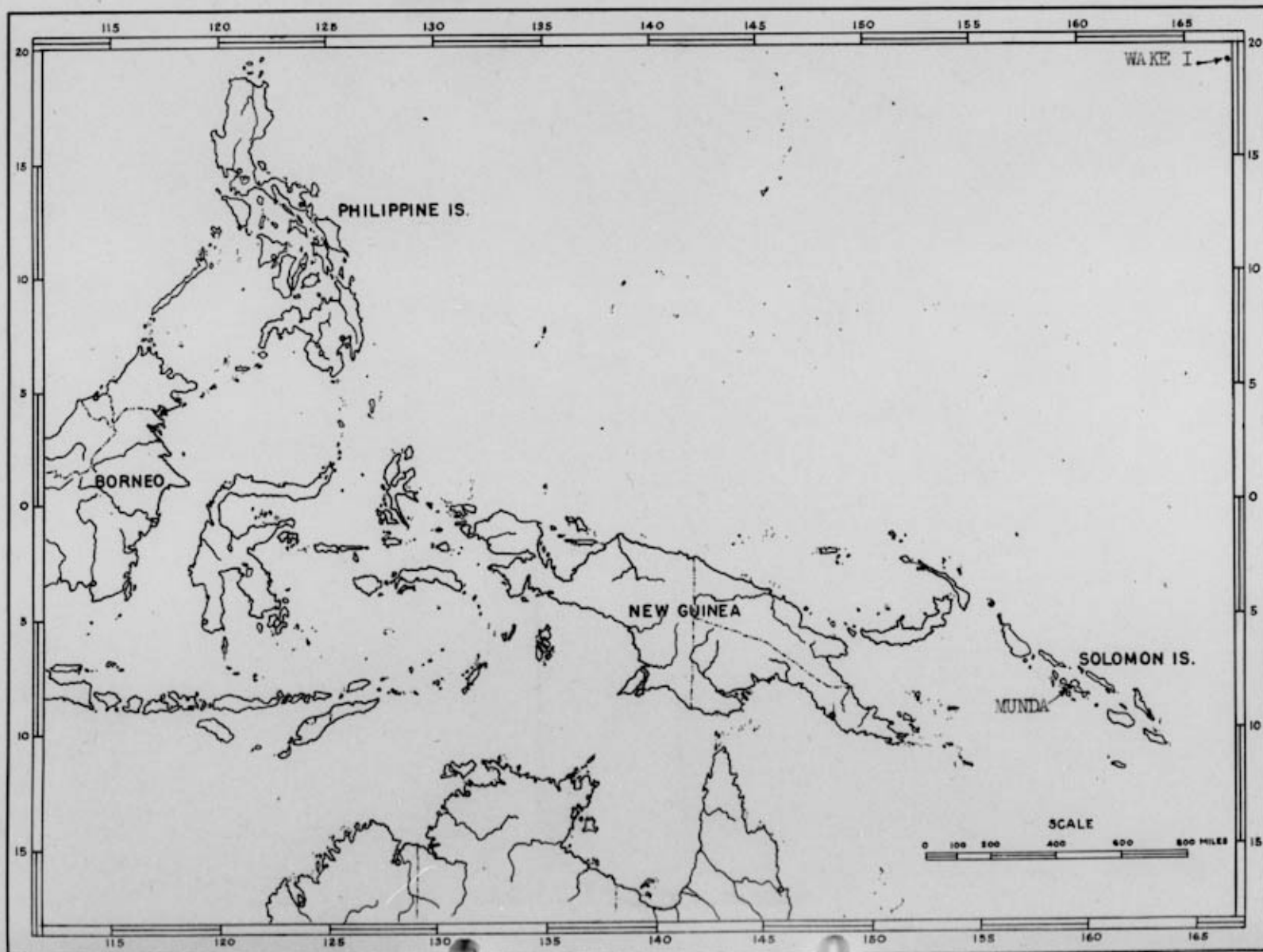
On the night of 24-25 July, Allied medium and light bombers started numerous fires at the port of Milazzo, machine-gunned a motor convoy of 50 vehicles near Taranto, and attacked bridges and motor vehicles in the vicinity of Orlando. Three German dive-bombers were destroyed near Augusta.

The next day, Allied planes interdicted enemy lines of communication in northeastern Sicily. The ground situation is unchanged on the front of the Eighth Army; on the Seventh Army front the enemy is now reported to have withdrawn east of Cefalu.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 24 July, heavy and medium bombers of our 10th Air Force, operating over central Burma, bombed Akyab, scored hits on the town of Monywa, destroyed warehouses and rolling stock, and sank a river boat. In northern Burma, P-40's destroyed a bridge four miles south of Nsopzup, and left the Namti railroad bridge unserviceable.

The next day, attack missions over northern Burma raided an



enemy-held town and bombed a bridge north of Myitkyina, and scored hits on a large building and in the headquarters area at Mogaung.

PACIFIC THEATER

1. On 24 July, eight B-24's dropped nearly nine tons of bombs on Wake Island and destroyed nine (probably 13) of the 20 to 30 fighters attempting interception. The target had been fully alerted and anti-aircraft fire was accurate and intense. One B-24 was brought down by a Zero which crashed into it.

2. Our offensive on Munda made slow progress on 25 July, the general advance averaging about 300 yards along the front. Supporting this action, our destroyers shelled Munda and 171 Army and Navy bombers, covered by 79 fighters, dropped more than 145 tons of explosives on Lambeti, nearby. On other missions a total of 68 escorted Army and Navy bombers attacked Japanese gun positions northeast of Munda, and two flying boats bombed Vila airdrome. Twenty-nine Allied planes in an engagement with 60 enemy aircraft shot down eight Zeros. One of our photographic planes shot down another enemy fighter. A B-24 and six US fighters were lost.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 593

0700 July 25 to 0700 July 26, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



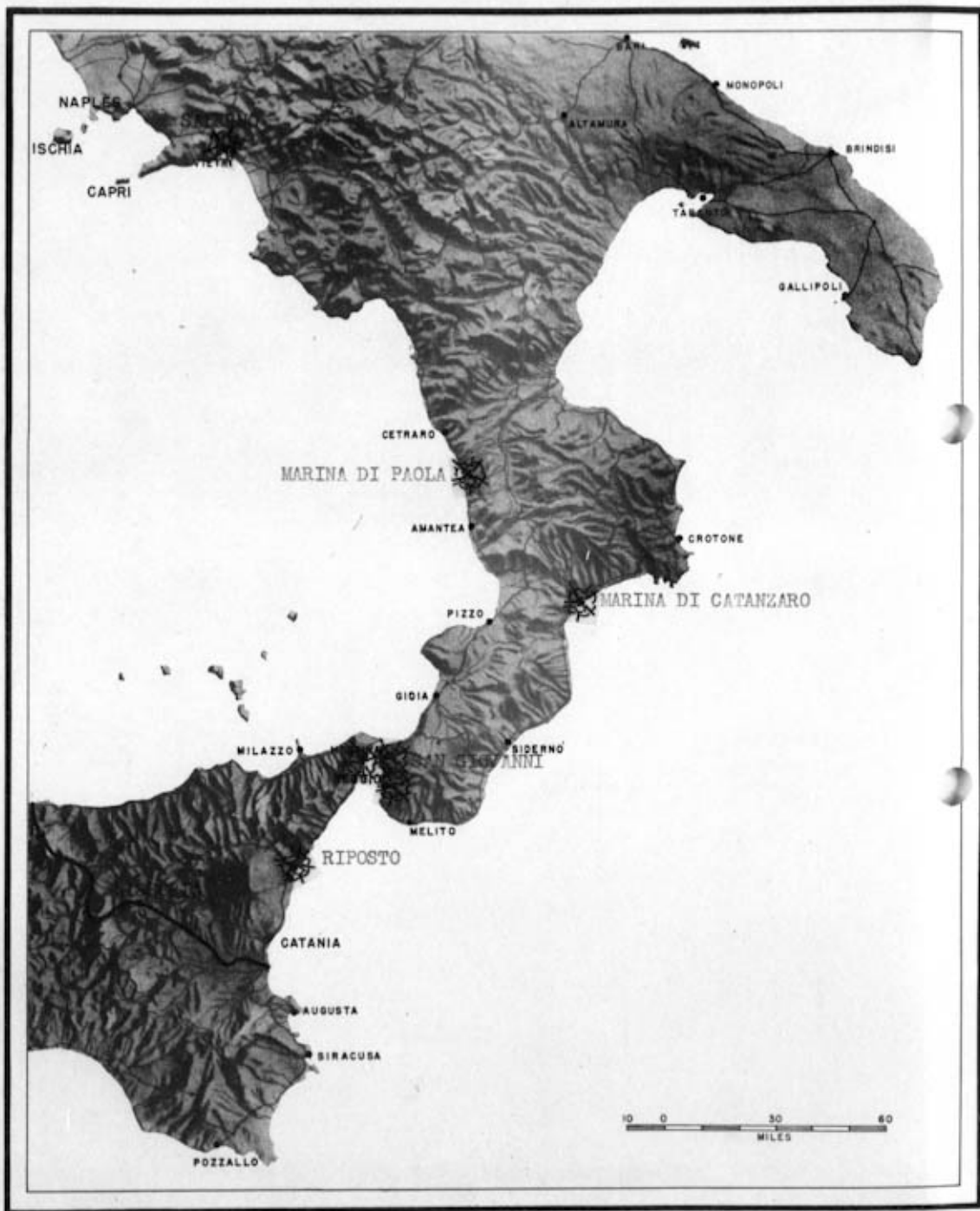
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 24 July, 60 P-40's from Amchitka dropped 15 tons of bombs on Kiska.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Following a brief period of unfavorable bombing weather over the main European continent and reports of withdrawals of fighters from Norway, a force of 309 heavy bombers of our 8th Air Force, on 24 July, was dispatched to attack three important targets along the Norwegian coast. One hundred and eighty B-17's struck at a large aluminum plant at Heroya, (70 miles southwest of Oslo), dropping 414 tons of explosives with reported good results. Fighter opposition was comparatively weak, some eleven enemy fighters being destroyed; one of our B-17's landed safely, with its crew uninjured, in Sweden. Eighty-four B-17's, failing to find their assigned target due to heavy weather, returned to their base with bomb loads intact rather than risk dropping them on the Norwegian population. Forty-five other B-17's successfully completed the longest flight yet attempted by planes of the 8th Air Force when they dropped 79 tons of explosives on the important port area of Trondheim with good results despite a heavy smoke screen. Six (probably nine) of the few fighters that rose to oppose our formation were destroyed.

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BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
 1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On 25 July only reconnaissance and patrolling were reported along the entire front with one exception; a Canadian brigade was meeting heavy resistance in the vicinity of Nissoria which they had captured the previous day.

On the night of 23-24 July, Allied aircraft attacked an airfield at Reggio di Calabria, the railroad yards and docks at San Giovanni, the railroad yards at Salerno, and scored hits on a cruiser and two destroyers at Messina. The next day US B-17's operated against the railroad yards at Bologna, covering the target well and blowing up a possible ammunition train; B-25's escorted by P-38's damaged locomotives and repair sheds at Marina di Catanzaro railroad yards. At the same time, B-26's with P-38's as escorts hit repair shops and rail yards at Marina di Paola. This mission was attacked by 25 enemy planes; two ME-109's were shot down for a loss of two of our aircraft.

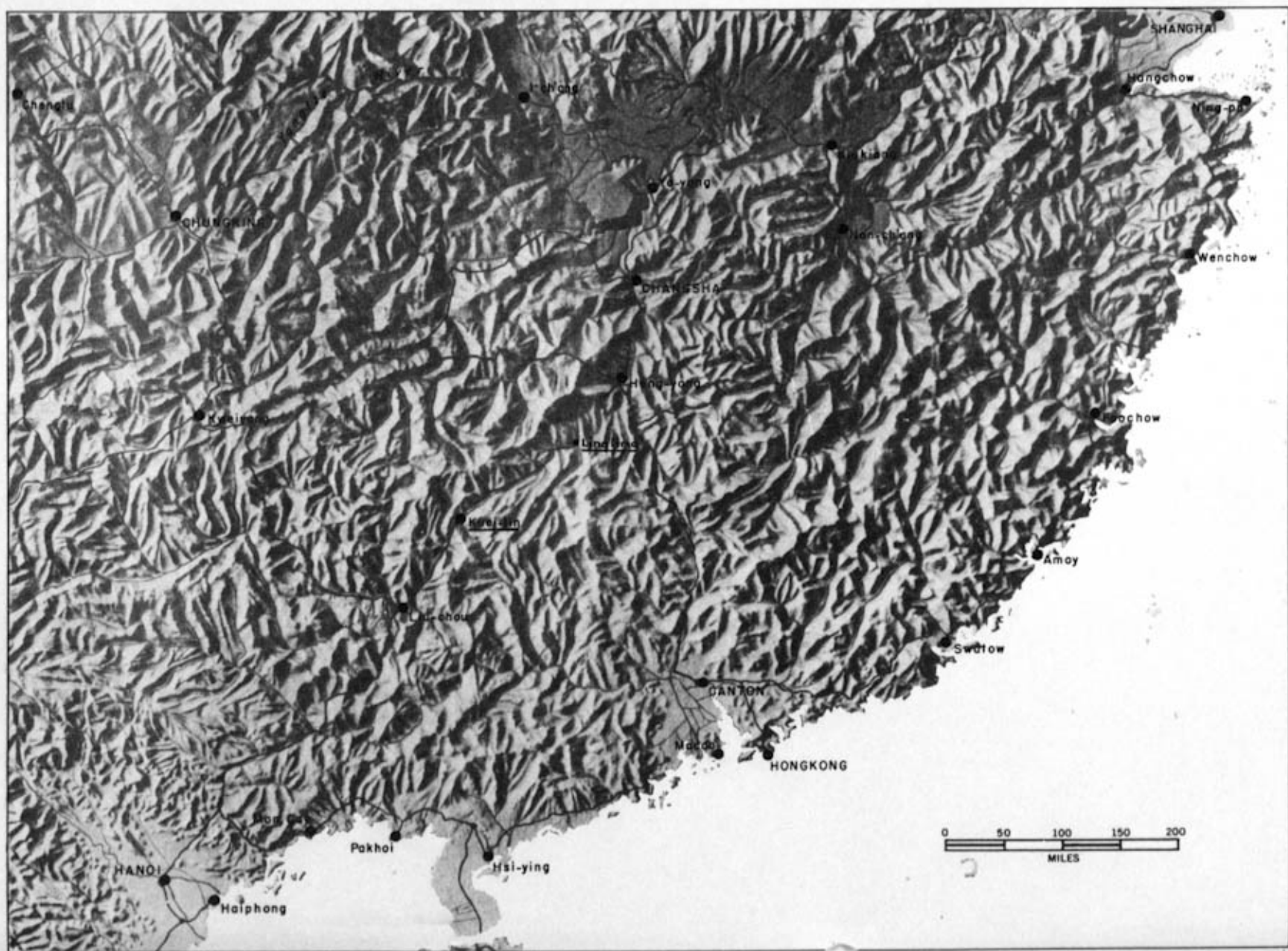
Other Allied planes bombed and machine-gunned communications lines and struck at shipping off Corsica, Sardinia and the Italian mainland, sinking a 1500-ton merchant vessel.

US naval forces bombarded Riposto on the night of 23-24 July.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 24 July, 21 enemy bombers escorted by 20 fighters made a

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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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partially effective attack on Lingling airdrome. Sixteen P-40's intercepted, shooting down three Zeros and three bombers, probably destroying two other aircraft. One P-40 is missing. A diversionary attack aimed at Kueilin airfield also was intercepted and turned back, seven of the eight Zeros participating being destroyed; one of our fighter planes crashed as a result of this combat, but the pilot parachuted to safety.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied mortar fire routed 216 Japanese from their position near Orodubi (5 miles southwest of Salamaua) on 23 July.

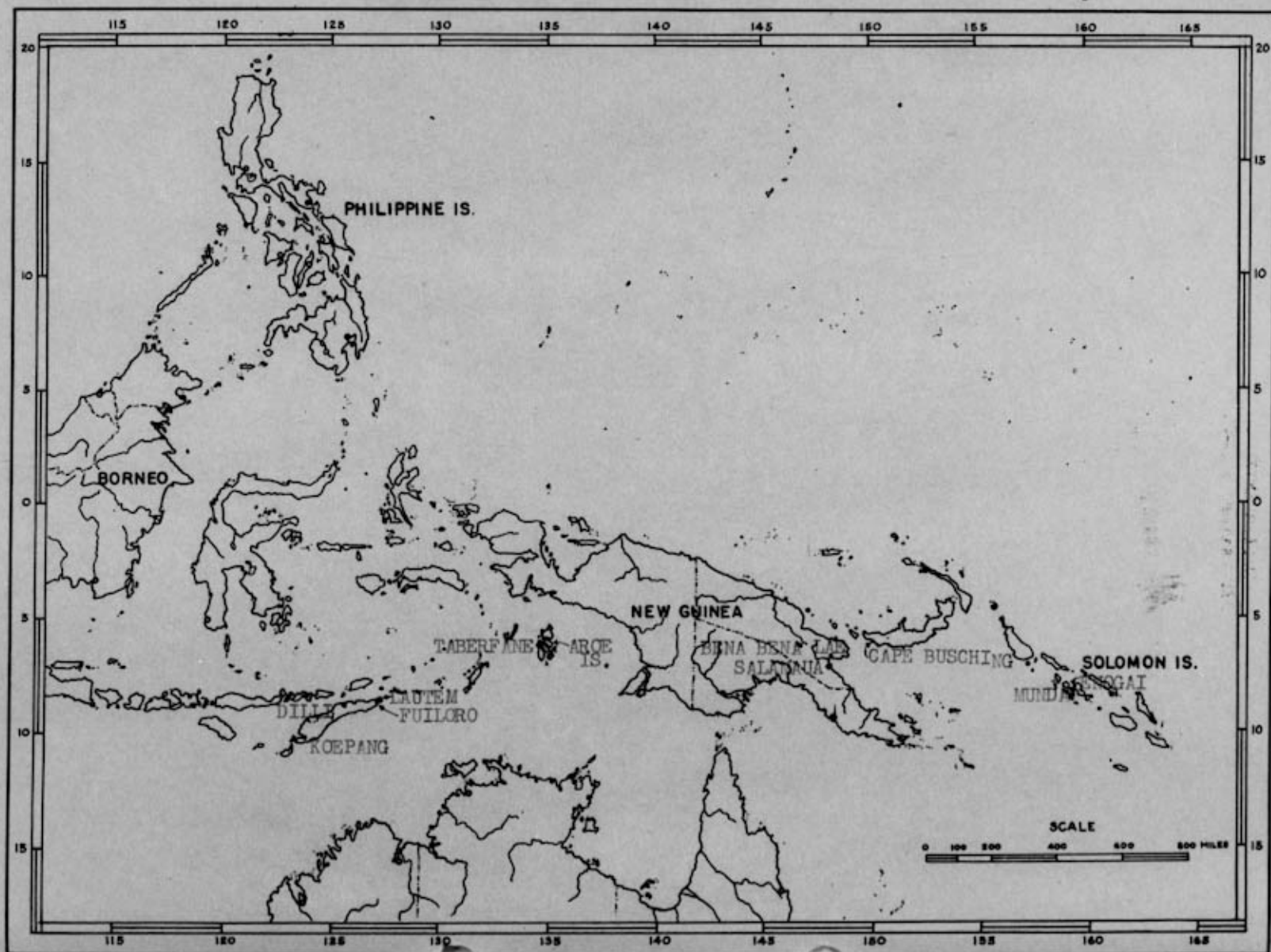
On 24 July, seven B-25's bombed and machine-gunned villages and set fire to barges in the vicinity of Cape Busching (New Britain); 15 B-24's bombed Lae airdrome area, causing explosions and fires. Other Allied bombers over Timor started fires in the Lautem area, at Fuiloro, at Koepang, and in the ammunition dumps, airdrome and town area at Dilli. Twelve RAAF planes machine-gunned the Taberfane seaplane base and camouflaged huts in the Arce Islands.

That same day 11 bombers escorted by 10 fighters bombed Bena Bena.

PACIFIC THEATER

Enemy air attacks on our positions near Enogai by two planes

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

on 23 July caused only a few casualties; a second raid in the same area the next day by three planes was ineffective.

Fifty-six US planes dropped 25 tons of bombs on enemy installations on Bablio Hill (one mile northeast of Munda), on 24 July, without observing results.

~~SECRET~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

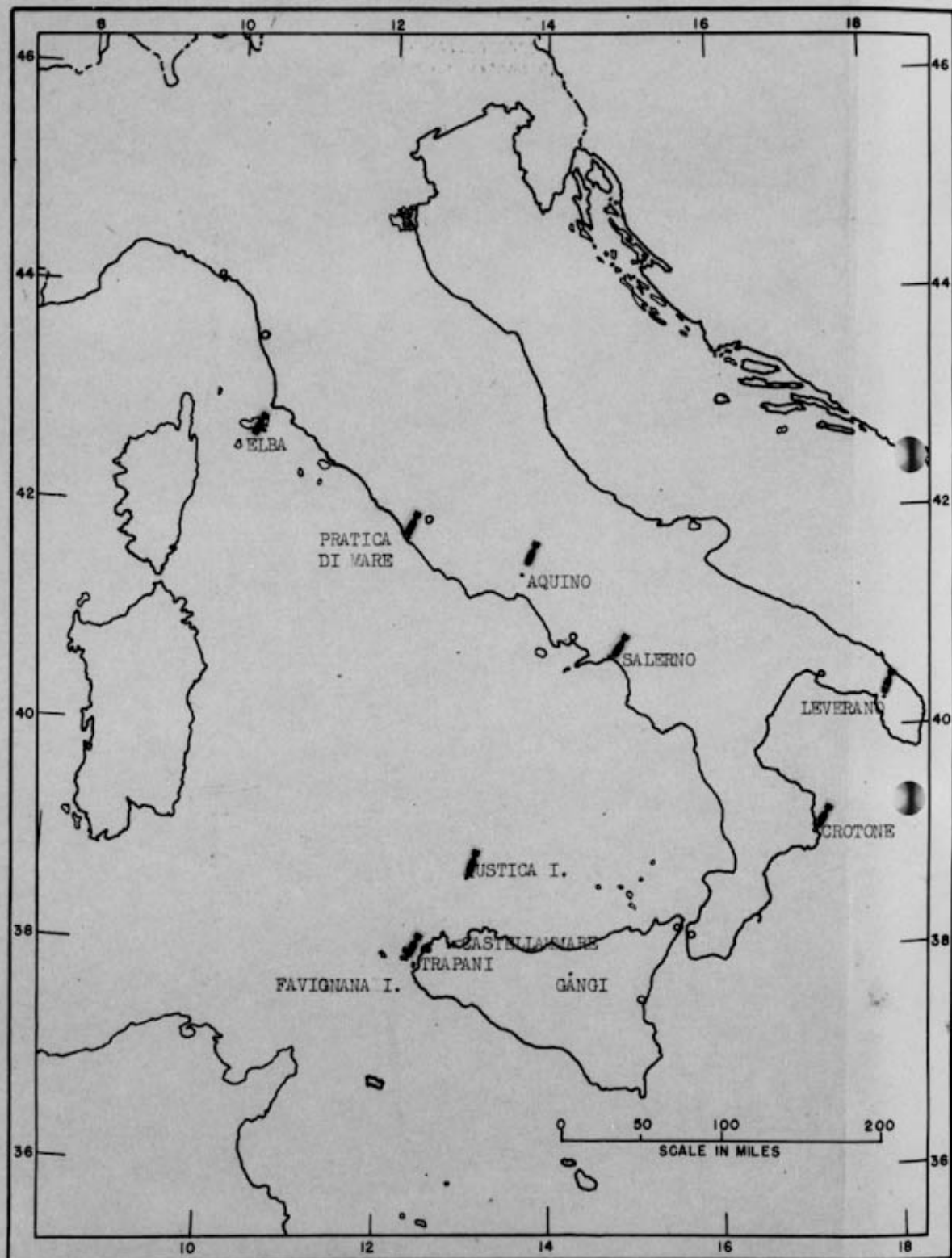
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 592

0700 July 24 to 0700 July 25, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Castellammare and Trapani having been captured and our control of western Sicily consolidated, elements of the II Corps continued their drive to the east, capturing Gangi on 24 July. As of 23 July the US Seventh Army had captured 42,000 prisoners.

During the night of 22-23 July, Allied planes covered the marshalling yards at Salerno with bomb bursts, scored a direct hit on a 4,000-ton merchant vessel near Elba and started fires at Pratica di Mare airdrome. The next day Allied planes bombed Leverano airdrome, shooting down without loss 12 of a force of 20 intercepting enemy planes, raided the Grotone airdrome in force, and destroyed or damaged at least 18 grounded aircraft at Aquino airdrome. Other missions attacked ground targets on Sicily, bombed and machine-gunned the radar stations on Ustica Island and Favignana Island, and sank or badly damaged ten barges, one (probably two) merchant vessels, a destroyer and an escort vessel.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

120 Allied light bombers and fighters attacked harbors, buildings, camps, and motor transportation on Crete, on 23 July. Eighteen of our aircraft have not returned from this operation.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 23 July, aircraft of our 10th Air Force demolished three buildings in an attack on Sumprabum (northern Burma), raided a landing field, damaged a large warehouse and supply sheds, and carried out shipping sweeps in central and southern Burma, seriously damaging a river boat.

2. Two Japanese missions, totalling 70 planes, attacked two of the airdromes of the 14th Air Force on 23 July, rendering one of the fields inoperative for one week. Our P-40's intercepted another mission of 18 Japanese bombers and 40 fighters in southeastern China, forcing the enemy planes to jettison their bombs, and destroying nine (probably 21) Zeros and five (probably 12) enemy bombers; three P-40's crash-landed with unknown damage and one plane was destroyed on the ground.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Our aircraft in the Southwest Pacific Area encountered strong enemy fighter reaction to their attacks on 23 July. Twenty-five of our heavy bombers, in a destructive raid against enemy installations south of Madang, were attacked by 20 intercepting fighters; escorting P-38's destroyed six (probably eight) of the enemy planes. Seven medium bombers escorted by 26 P-38's, attacking

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

targets in the Salamaua area, were intercepted by 60 enemy fighters, seven (probably ten) of which were destroyed.

Other Allied bombers found lucrative targets in the form of barges concentrated in the Vitiaz Straits area and destroyed 13, damaged an equal number, and forced others ashore. To the northwest, four Australian bombers effectively raided a village on Timor. Our losses in these operations were two fighters and two medium bombers.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 23 July, 16 Navy bombers attacked Japanese positions at Munda in support of our ground operations. Twenty-seven escorted Army and Navy bombers made a surprise raid on the Rekata Bay area.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

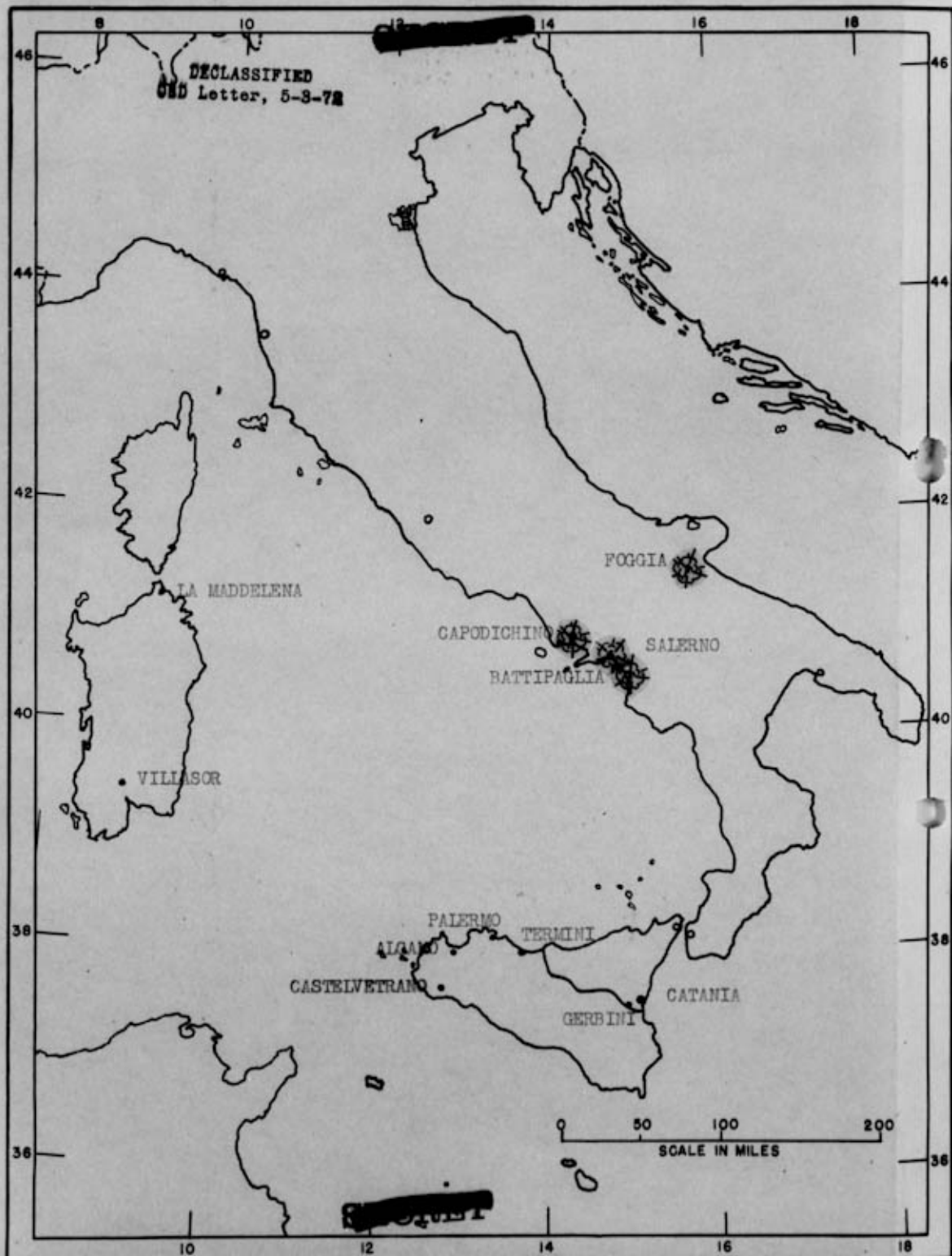
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 591

0700 July 23 to 0700 July 24, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Two battleships, five cruisers, and ten destroyers subjected Kiska and Little Kiska to a heavy naval bombardment on 22 July. Strong air assaults, by a total of 17 B-24, 17 B-25, 20 P-38 and 13 P-40 sorties, preceded and followed this shelling of the enemy's Aleutian stronghold; 81 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs were dropped and hits were observed in all target areas. Enemy antiaircraft fire was intense and accurate and one of our B-25's was shot down. The crew, however, was rescued by a Catalina after taking to their life raft.

EUROPEAN THEATER

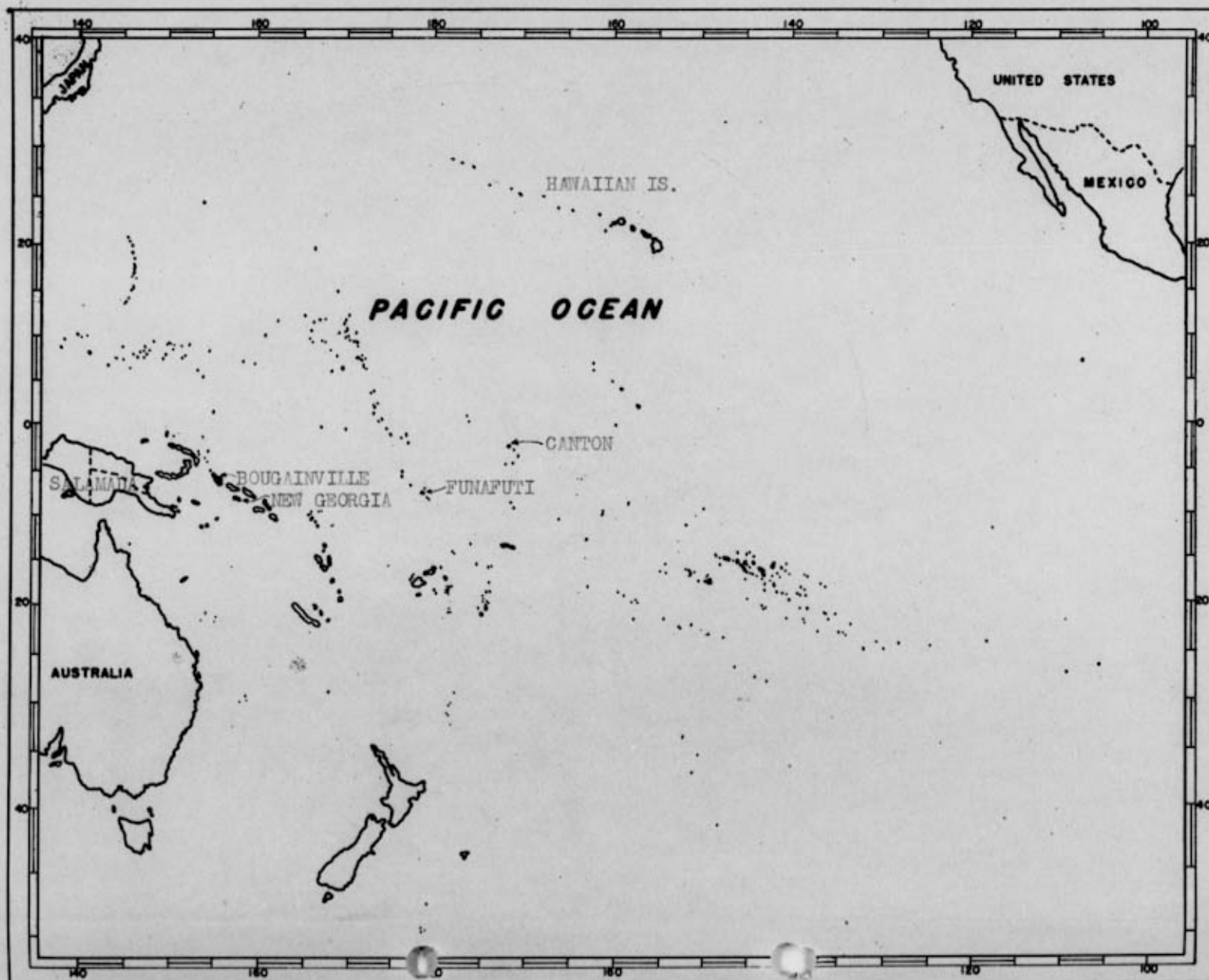
Two unidentified airplanes were reported over Iceland on 22 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

With the crumbling of Axis resistance in western Sicily on 22 July, our Seventh Army pushed to the northern coast. Palermo was captured by dark and, to the west, Alcamo and the important highway leading southward to Castelvetro were in our hands. The next day, our troops continued their mopping up operations in the western end of the island, capturing large quantities of enemy equipment. In front of the British Eighth Army the enemy is fighting desperately

DECLASSIFIED
USD Letter, 5-8-78

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south of Catania and along the railroad line northwest of Gerbini.

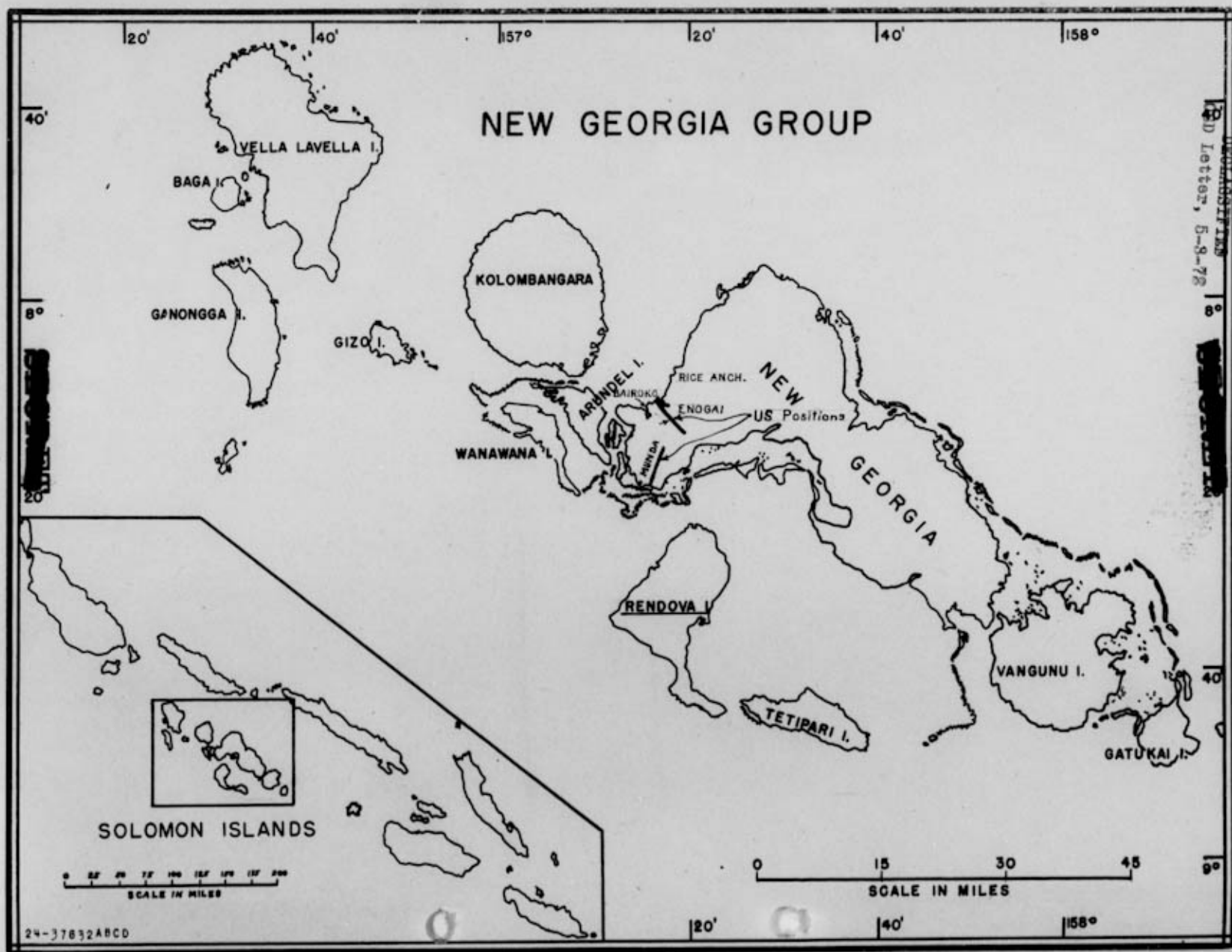
The Italian railroad system from Foggia to Battipaglia and the Capodichino airdrome were the primary targets for Allied bombers on 21 and 22 July. US aircraft alone dropped almost 400 tons of high explosives on these objectives and on towns in northeastern Sicily. As a result of recent attacks, the Italian main railroad line is cut at Battipaglia and blocked at Salerno. Fighter aircraft destroyed enemy motor transportation in Sicily and, on missions over Sardinia, machine-gunned enemy emplacements, railroad stations and other buildings at La Maddalena and set fire to large factories south of Villasor. Two enemy schooners were left burning. During the period 19 enemy aircraft were destroyed for our loss of six.

ASIATIC THEATER

Medium and heavy bombers of the 10th Air Force were active over the Mandalay area on 22 July, dropping 30 tons of explosives on the cotton mills at Myingyan and the railroad yards at Ywataung and Sagaing. Direct hits were observed on all targets. Meanwhile, P-40's were operating to the north near Myitkyina, bombing and machine-gunning enemy installations and destroying the bridge at Nsopzup.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied ground troops continued to advance south of Salamaua



on 22 July, repulsing enemy attacks with heavy Japanese losses. Large numbers of US heavy and medium bombers attacked enemy positions and bivouac areas south of Salamaua and Dutch B-25's bombed and machine-gunned enemy-held villages on Selaru in the Tanimbars. Enemy air raids during this period were ineffective.

PACIFIC THEATER

1. Heavy Japanese machine-gun, mortar and artillery fire on 20 July compelled our force advancing on Bairoko Inlet to retire. The next day a further withdrawal was made to positions protecting the Enogai and Rice Anchorage areas.

Enemy planes attacking Allied shipping off Rendova on 21 July hit one of our tank-landing ships; some casualties and minor damage were incurred. Two enemy planes were destroyed by our intercepting fighters. Forty-six Army and Navy bombers covered by 120 fighter planes attacked four enemy destroyers and one seaplane tender off the southern tip of Bougainville Island on 22 July. The tender was sunk, one destroyer was hit and five enemy fighter planes were shot down; three of our fighters are missing. Later, 16 US heavy bombers attacked one Japanese destroyer leader and two destroyers in the same vicinity with unobserved results.

2. An unknown number of Japanese planes bombed our base at Funafuti, in the Ellice Islands, on 21 July, causing eight casualties.

Preliminary reports indicate that two of the attacking planes were shot down.

3. Two flights of hostile aircraft were plotted off Canton Island on 22 July.

WAR DEPARTMENT

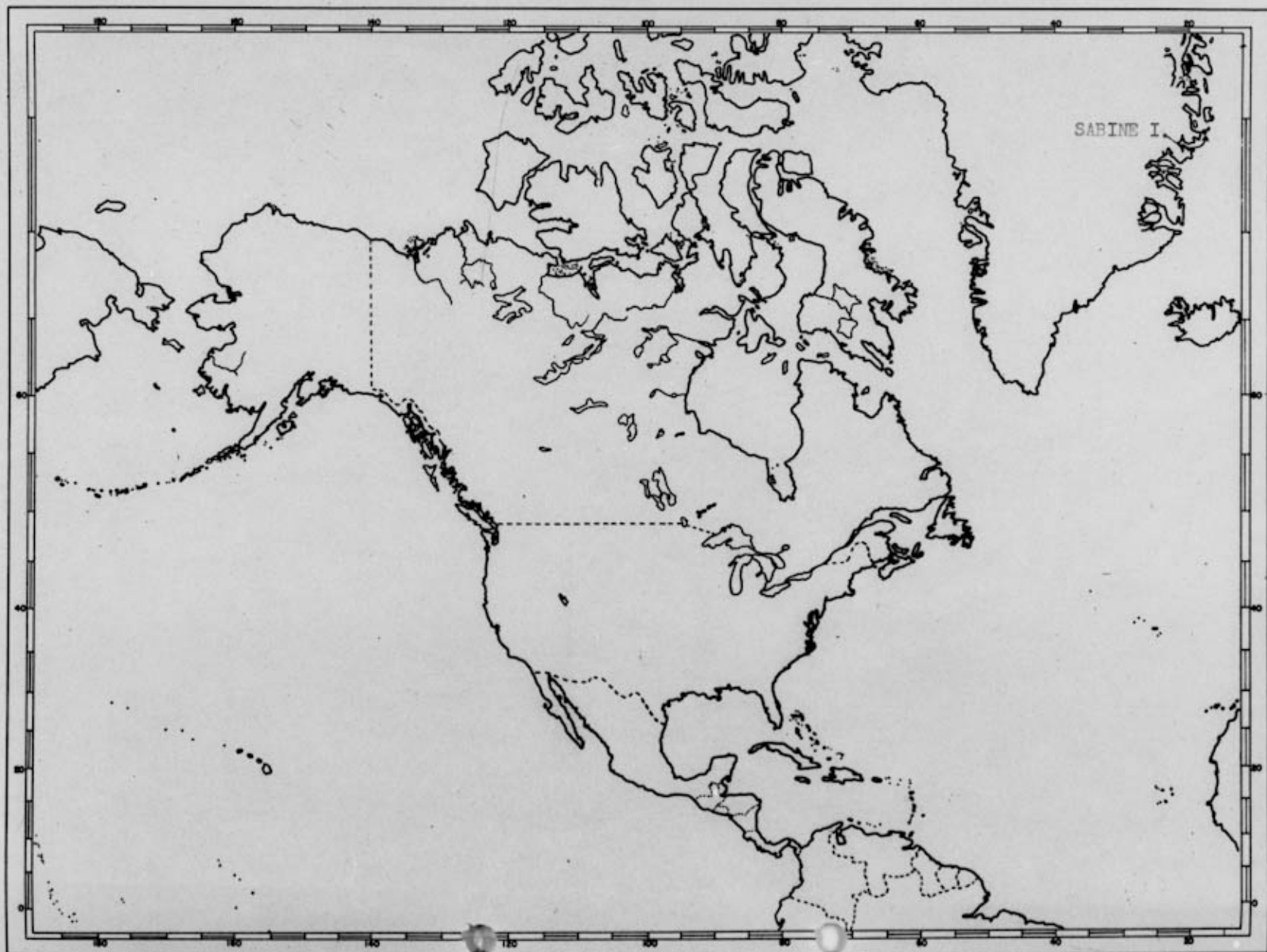
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 590

0700 July 22 to 0700 July 23, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Nine B-24's bombed Kiska with good results on 21 July.
2. The Germans have abandoned the radio station on Sabine Island, northeast Greenland. All the installations there were burned and a German vessel was found sunk in the bay.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Unidentified aircraft were reported over Iceland on 21 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

A delayed report for 20 July states that an Allied thrust from the southwest pushed to within six miles of Catania despite determined enemy resistance. The next day, while Allied units in the center and west continued to gain ground, a rapid advance was made along the south coast and forward units, including the 39th Infantry Regiment of our 9th Division, captured Castelvetro.

By 21 July, large numbers of Allied planes were operating from our Sicilian airfields. During the night of 20-21 July and the next day, British bombers raided the Crotone airdrome and the railroad yards at Naples. Allied aircraft, including those based on Malta and



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1 JULY 1943

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BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

Sicily, carried out offensive missions and maintained a cover over our ground troops. Our heavy bombers attacked Grosseto airdrome with 140 tons of explosives. Bombardment of the Catania area by the inshore patrol continued; naval vessels bombarded Crotone, starting fires in the harbor.

Enemy air raids on Augusta on the nights of 19-20 and 20-21 July sank three Allied vessels.

ASIATIC THEATER

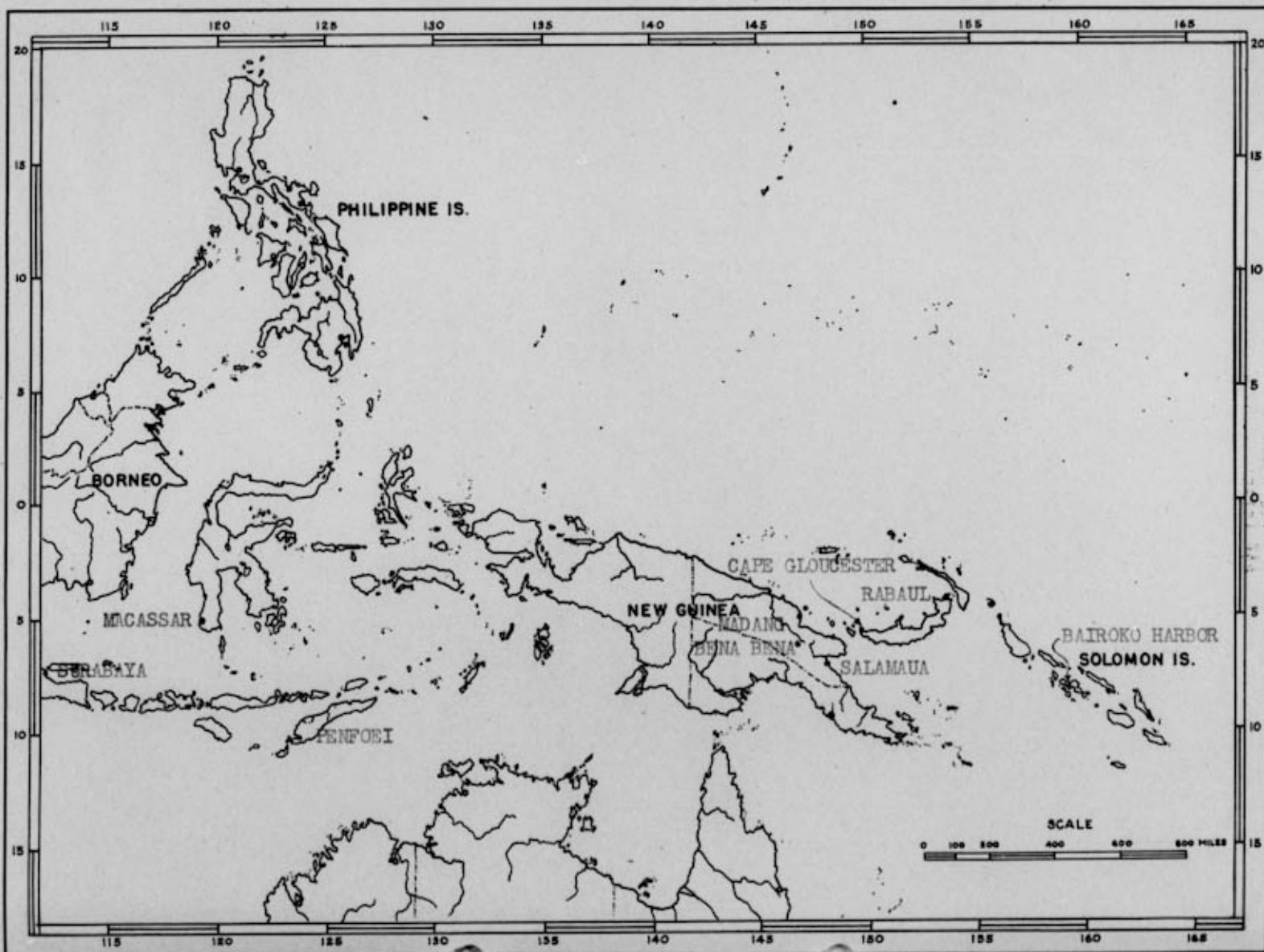
On 20 July, B-24's and B-25's of the 10th Air Force bombed the Myitnge railroad bridge (seven miles south of Mandalay), scoring many direct hits on the structure. P-40's effectively attacked a railroad bridge, buildings and motor transportation in northern Burma.

The next day, five B-24's dropped 12 tons of demolitions on Namti, scoring numerous direct hits. B-25's attacking river boats at Katha hit three, setting one afire, and seriously damaged others with near misses.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Ground forces south of Salamaua continued their advance northward along the coast on 21 July.

Allied B-25's heavily damaged bridges, motor transport and supply dumps in the Madang area, and our escorting P-38's destroyed 19 (probably 30) Japanese fighters attempting interception; two of our planes



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

were lost. Five other medium bombers attacked buildings and dump areas near Lae. Smaller raids were made on Rabaul, Cape Gloucester, Kaukenau, and Penfoei airdrome. A B-24 on reconnaissance destroyed two enemy fighters at Macassar. Another Allied reconnaissance bomber over the Bena Bena area was shot down after destroying two (probably three) enemy fighters.

A late communique describes a destructive surprise attack by our air forces on an oil refinery, railroad installations, docks and warehouses at Surabaya, Java, 1,000 miles from Australia.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 21 July, Army and Navy planes, in 250 sorties, machine-gunned and bombed the Bairoko area in support of ground operations, dropping 135 tons of explosives.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

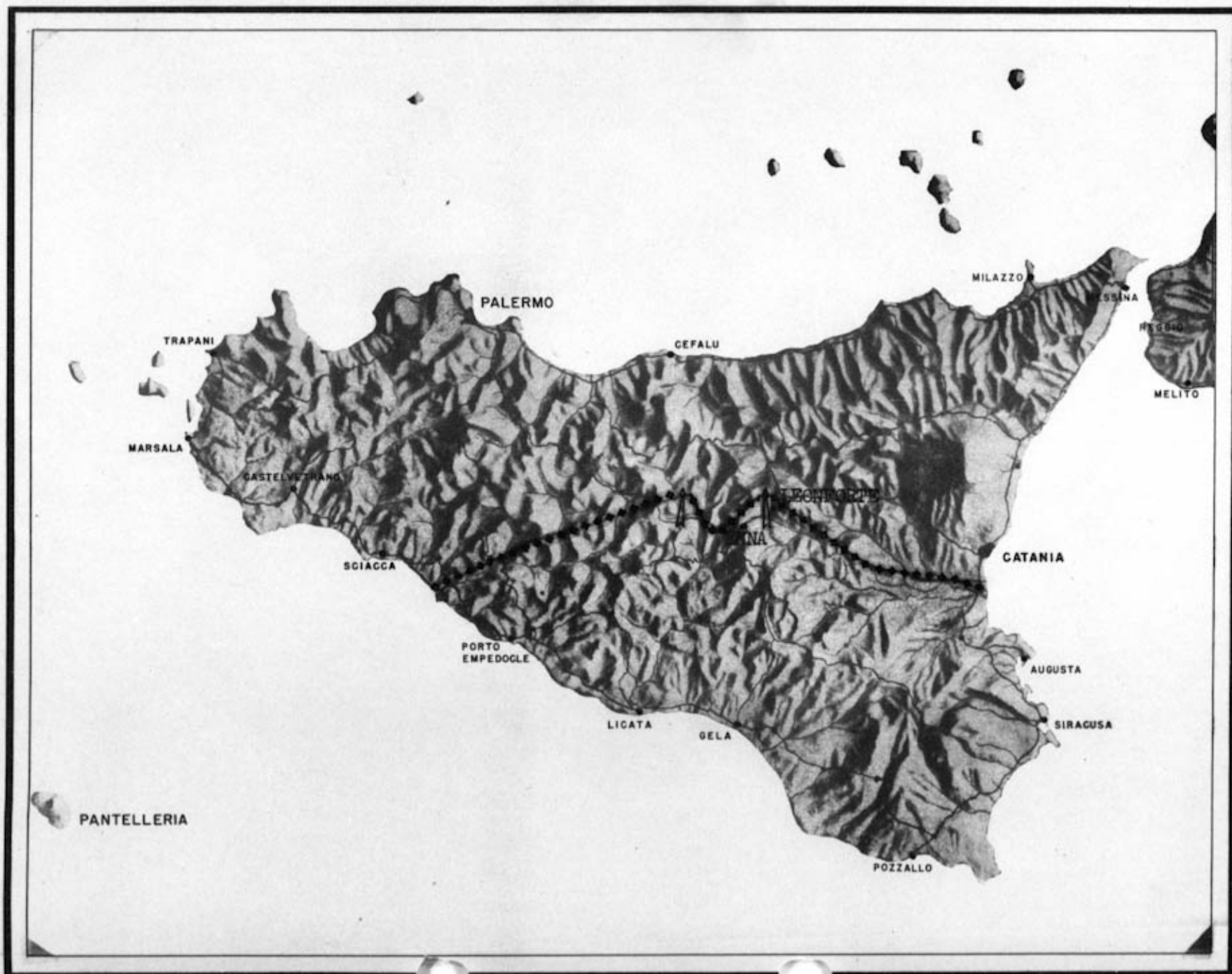
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 589

0700 July 21 to 0700 July 22, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Army Ground Forces issued directives for the movement of the 7th Armored Division to Fort Benning, Georgia, from Camp Young, California, upon completion of its training at the latter station.

2. By 19 July, our flying strip on Shemya had been lengthened sufficiently (5,000 feet total) to permit the operation of medium bombers.

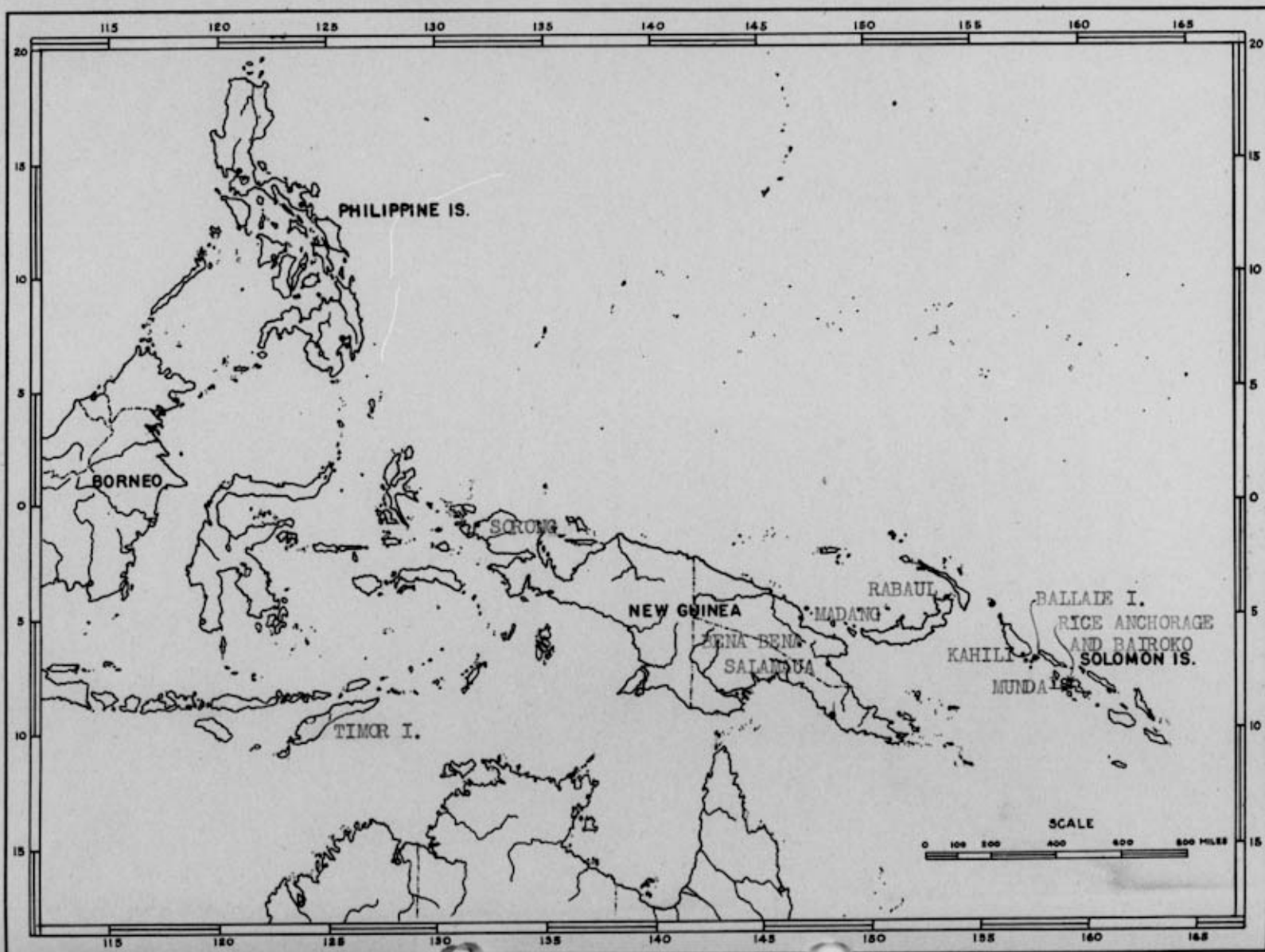
EUROPEAN THEATER

Our 8th Air Force destroyed 128 (probably 179) enemy planes during the week ending 18 July for a total loss, from all causes, of ten Flying Fortresses and four fighters. British fliers added 37 (probably 44) enemy aircraft to our total score and one twin-engined enemy bomber was probably destroyed by Allied antiaircraft fire.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Although the situation immediately south of Catania remained obscure on 20 July, important gains were made to the west where the Canadian and US 1st Divisions captured the key communications centers of Enna and Leonforte. Bridging operations over the Simeto, northernmost of the river lines protecting Catania on the south and west, were reported to be progressing satisfactorily.

Allied bombers attacked the Capodichino and Aquino airfields on



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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

the night of 19-20 July. Many large fires were started and direct hits were observed on hangars, buildings, and dispersed aircraft. The important road junction of Randazzo in Sicily and communications lines, railroad installations, and rolling stock on the Italian mainland were also hit. US bombers followed these night attacks with heavy raids on other enemy airfields at Vibo Valentia and Montecorvino, where hangars, buildings, communications installations and dispersed aircraft were hit, as well as enemy communications facilities in northeastern Sicily.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 20 July, P-40's of our 14th Air Force in a sweep in the area north of Tungting Lake destroyed locomotives, set fire to a 150-foot steamer and damaged water towers and a tugboat. In a dive-bombing attack on Tengchung (73 miles southeast of Myitkyina), four P-40's damaged warehouse facilities.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

General MacArthur reports for 20 July that 280 Japanese were killed during an attempt to counterattack Allied positions at Mt. Tambu (south of Salamaua). Our heavy and medium bombers started fires in the Madang area, bombed and machine-gunned the Japanese bivouac area at Komiatum (south of Salamaua), made other attacks on Timor, and bombed a destroyer and cargo vessel at Sorong. A force of nine

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

enemy bombers escorted by 30 fighter planes bombed and machine-gunned the Bena Bena area, destroying native huts.

PACIFIC THEATER

Our Rice Anchorage force began moving on Bairoko on 20 July.

The same day, 17 B-24's dropped 85 tons of bombs on Kahili; another B-24 bombed Ballale. One twin-engined Japanese night fighter was destroyed and one of our B-24's is missing. Eighteen tons of bombs were dropped on Munda in support of Allied ground operations. A US plane attacked two cargo ships carrying airplanes, which were sighted north of Rabaul, and left one in flames.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

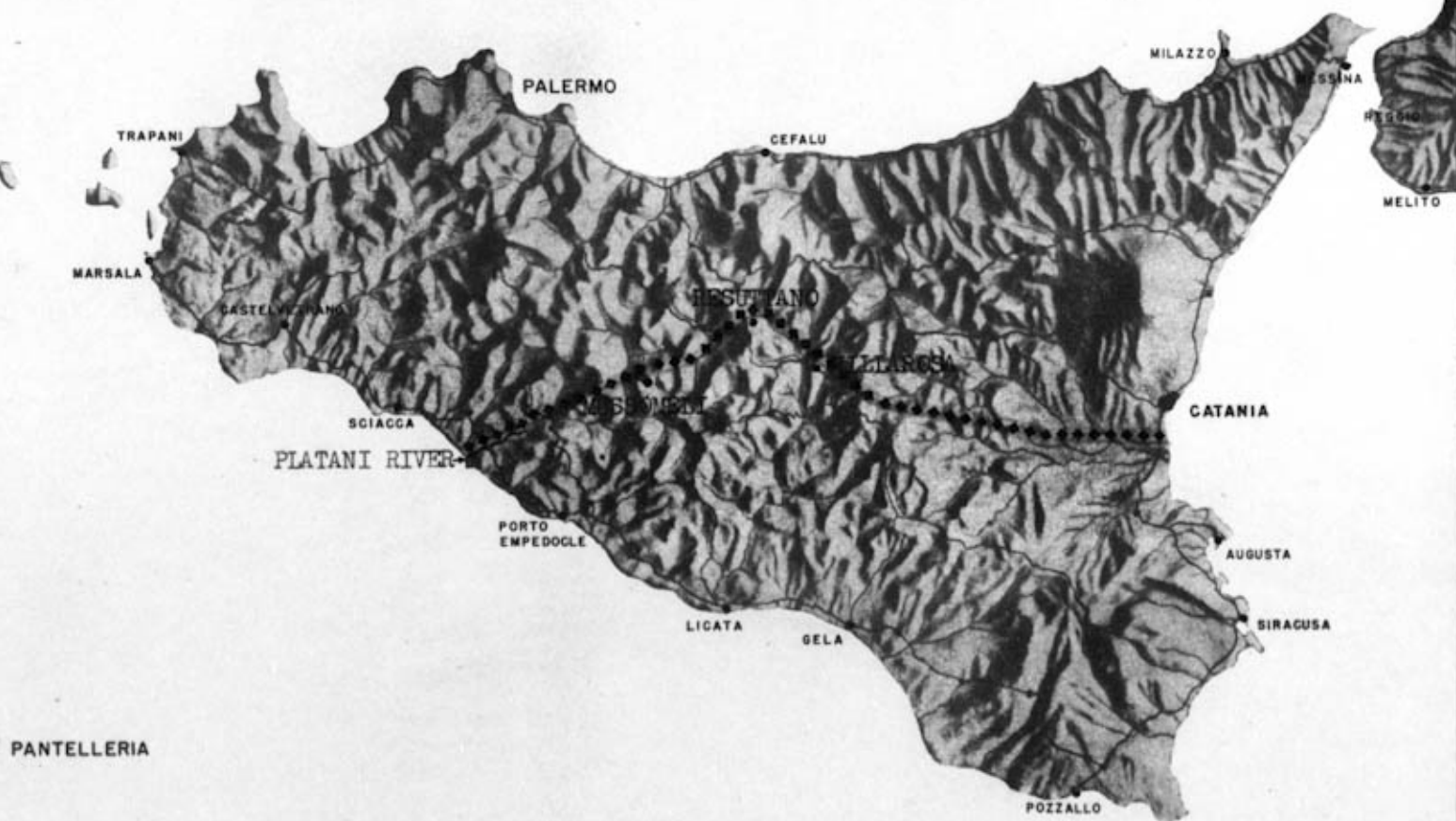
No. 588

0700 July 20 to 0700 July 21, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

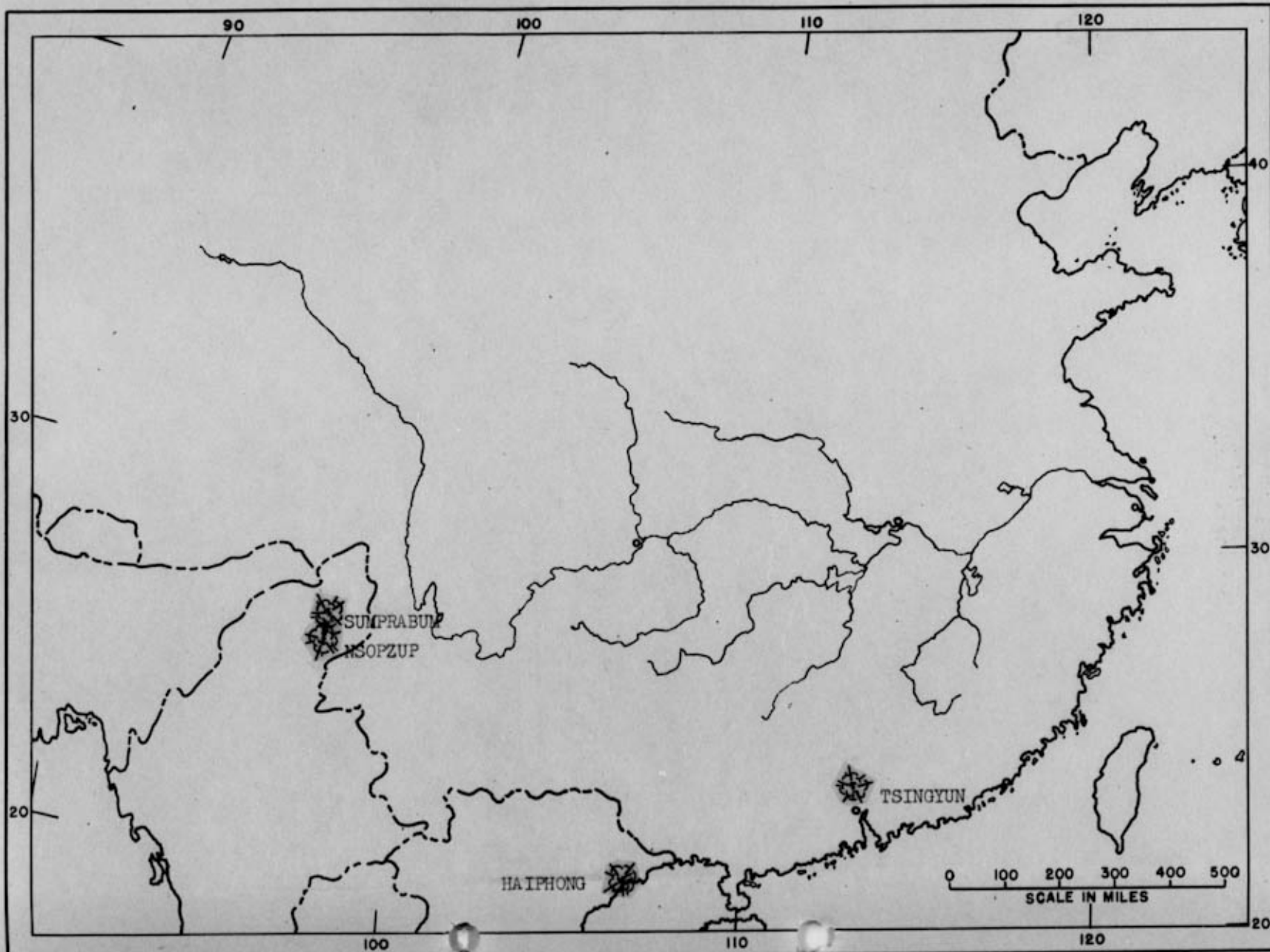
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NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

By late afternoon on 19 July, the offensive momentum of the US Seventh Army had carried its advance elements still deeper into central Sicily. Villarosa, six miles northwest of Enna; Resuttano, six miles north of Santa Caterina; and Mussomeli were occupied by our forces which also had driven northwest from Agrigento to reach the Platani River, some 15 miles to the west and north. The ports of Porto Empedocle and Licata are in operation and, together with facilities at Gela, are speeding up cargo discharge in the western area.

The impressive display of air power sent against rail and air installations at Rome on 19 July consisted of some 500 heavy and medium bombers and 200 escorting fighters; over 1000 tons of bombs were dropped. Nearly 300 heavy bombers hit the Littorio and San Lorenzo railroad yards so severely that the former was only partially operational and the latter was totally blocked. Waves of medium bombers heavily escorted by P-38's concentrated against the Ciampino airdrome scoring hits on hangars and among parked aircraft. The enemy air reaction to this raid was ineffective and lacked aggressiveness. Our total loss was two heavy and two medium bombers. Other Allied aircraft continued moderately heavy operations against objectives on Sicily during that day and the previous night.



24-35914

Despite the heavy damage inflicted in the target areas, photographs indicate that religious installations were unharmed.

The Seventh Army has captured an estimated 26,000 prisoners; the Eighth Army total as of 16 July was 12,000.

There are further indications of deterioration of Italian morale. Many are surrendering voluntarily and there are reports of mutiny among Italian troops commanded by German officers. Only south of Catania is the enemy reported to be resisting with determination; there his casualties have been heavy.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Medium bombers of the 10th Air Force damaged the approaches to a highway bridge (northwest of Mandalay) on 19 July. Other fighter and bomber aircraft successfully attacked Sumprabum, bombed a bridge near Nsopzup and machine-gunned suspected supply installations.

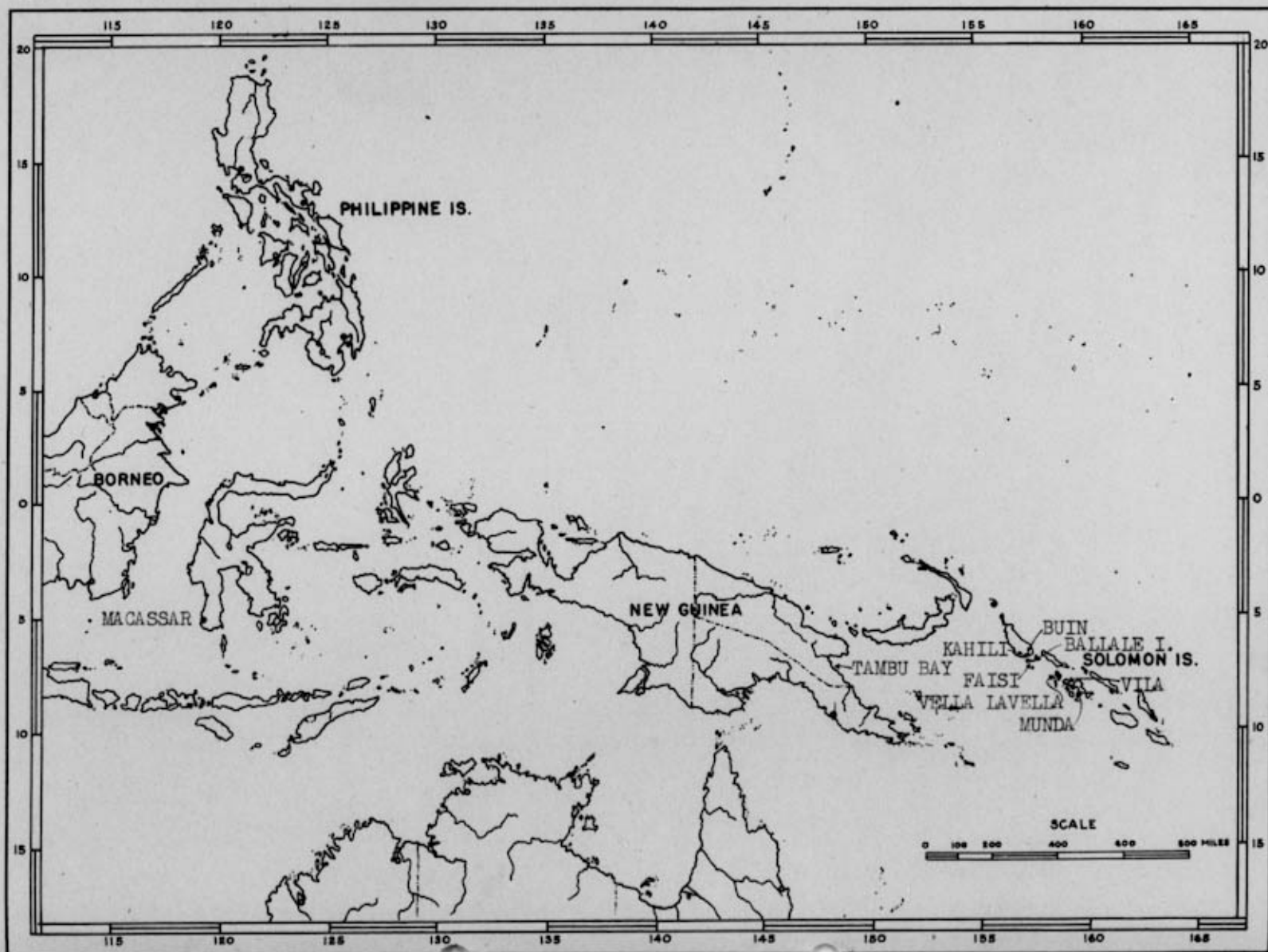
2. On 19 July, four B-24's of the 14th Air Force dropped six tons of bombs on the cement plant at Haiphong. Direct hits were observed on the target, though clouds prevented complete assessment of damage.

On the same day six Jap planes bombed Tsingyun (45 miles north of Canton). Details are not available.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

By 19 July Allied forces had pushed forward to reach the south shore by Tambu Bay, south of Salamaua, reducing enemy positions in the area with slight loss and killing 79 Japanese. Allied planes

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supported these operations with offensive missions over the area.

Another destructive attack against enemy installations at Macassar (south Celebes) was made by 12 B-24's on the night of 18-19 July. The resulting fires in the factory and residential areas were visible for 80 miles. The other B-24 from this flight bombed maintenance facilities at a nearby airfield.

PACIFIC THEATER

Unsuccessful enemy counterattacks against our positions east of Munda on the night of 17 July cost him 179 dead; our casualties totaled eight.

A final assessment of the combat losses sustained by both sides in our air attack against the Buin-Faisi area on 18 July places the score at 21 enemy aircraft destroyed against ten Allied.

On 19 July B-25's and B-17's attacked targets at Kahili and started fires at Ballale; one Fortress is missing.

A communique for 21 July describes another victory over the enemy's seaborne forces off Vella Lavella. Two transports protected by three light cruisers and six destroyers were caught by our bombers while attempting to reach Vila. One cruiser and two (probably three) destroyers were sunk, a transport and another destroyer damaged; the remaining vessels withdrew. Our losses were two medium and two dive bombers.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

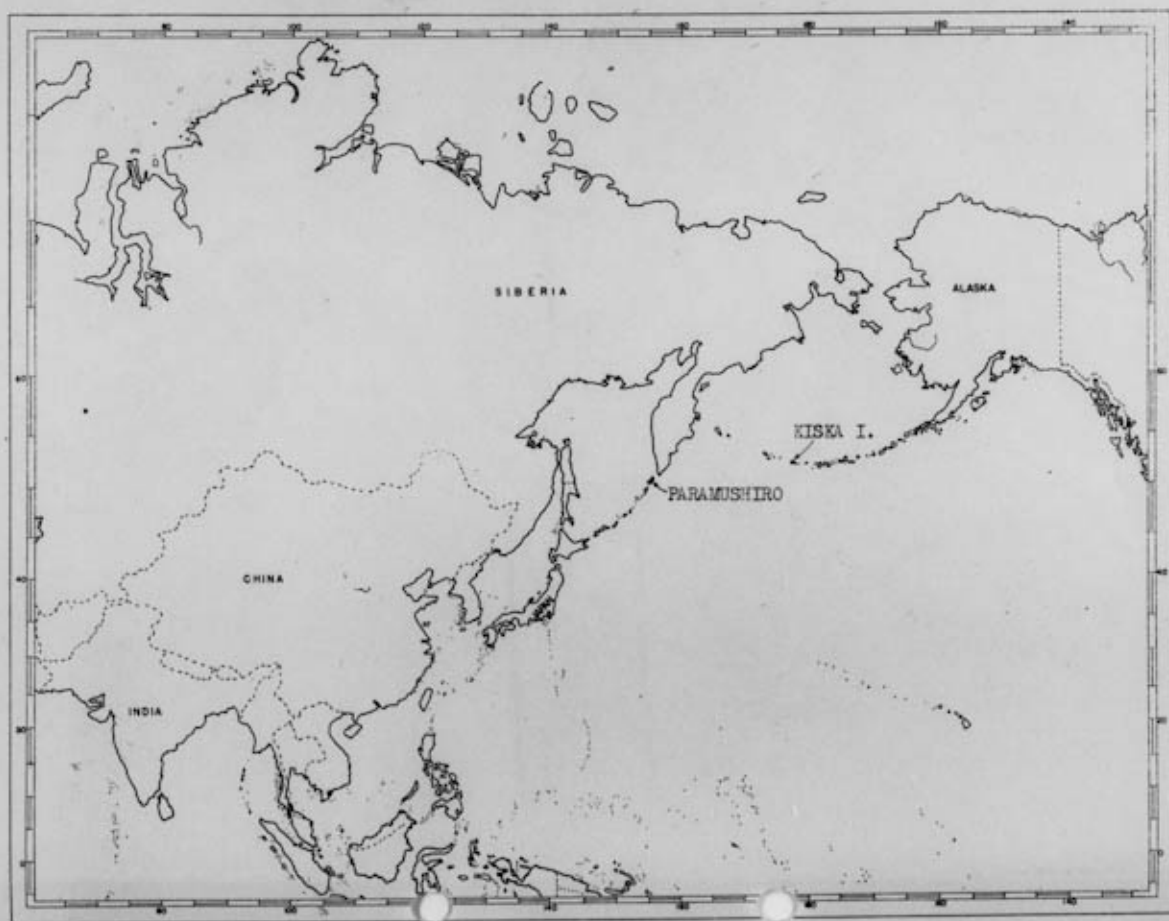
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 587

0700 July 19 to 0700 July 20, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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DECLASSIFIED
JAG Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Army Ground Forces report the redesignation and reorganization of the 89th Infantry Division as the 89th Light Division. Light Divisions, to be equipped and trained experimentally to operate with a minimum of motor transportation, can serve either as basic divisions in large-scale operations or, with a minimum of change, as jungle, amphibious, mountain, or airborne divisions.

2. On 18 July, six B-24's raided Paramushiro, hitting the enemy landing field there and scoring near misses on enemy vessels enroute. There was no enemy interception and only negligible anti-aircraft fire.

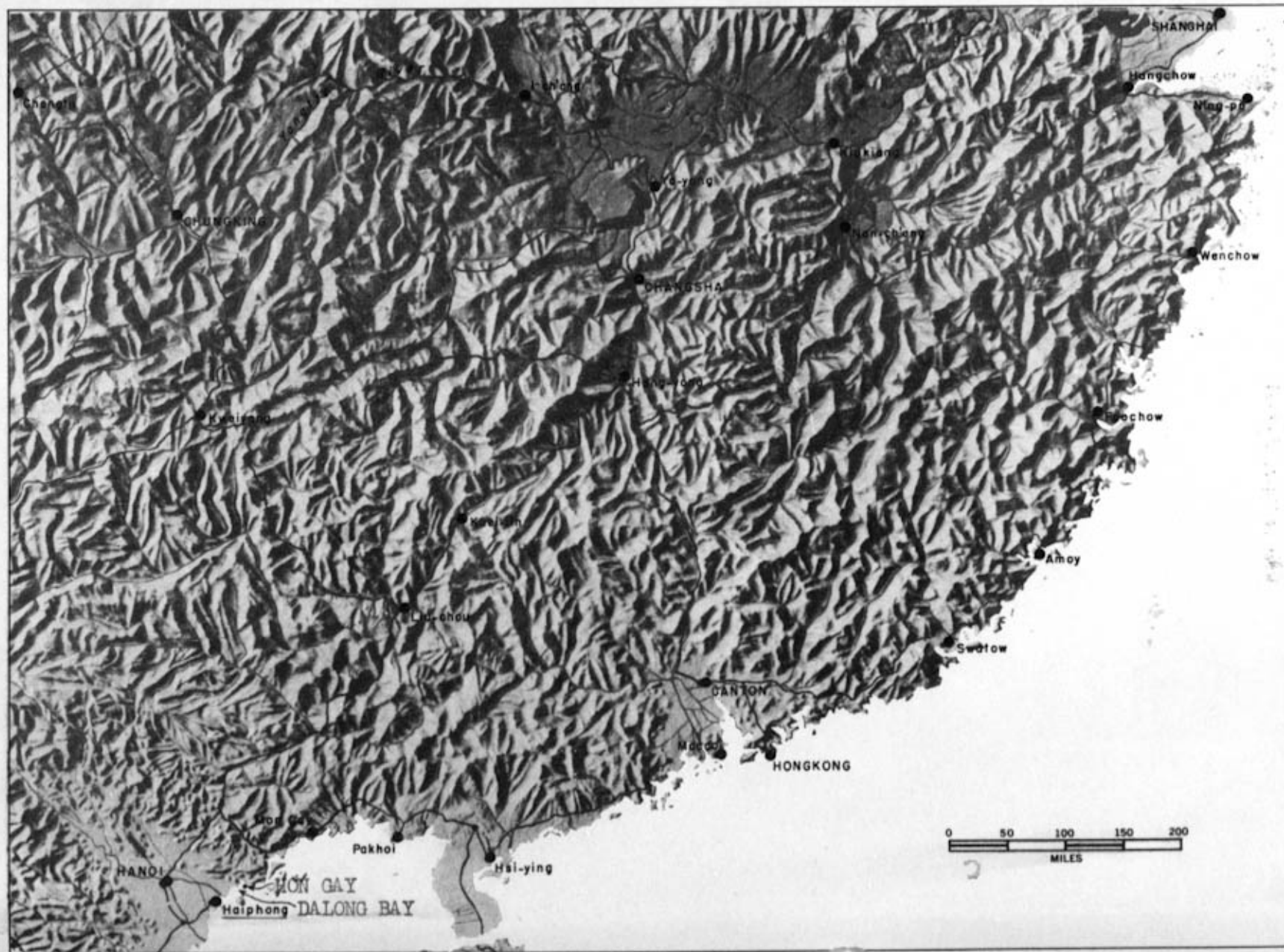
Six B-25's and two B-24's bombed Kiska with unreported results.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During 18 July, the British bridgehead on the Sicilian coast directly south of Catania made no further progress; other Eighth Army units pushed northward to reach approximately a line between this bridgehead and Santa Caterina.

British Wellingtons on the night of 17-18 July, attacking airdromes near Naples, hit grounded aircraft and an ammunition dump, causing fires and explosions. The following day the 9th Air Force

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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS
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dropped 28 tons of explosives on Randazzo and 220 tons on Catania; excellent results were obtained by both missions. Air operations against enemy lines of communication in Sicily were actively continued. On one mission, 16 P-38's encountered and destroyed 15 enemy transport airplanes. Enemy air raids were made on Augusta on the nights of 16-17 and 17-18 July; a British naval vessel was damaged and 90 casualties resulted.

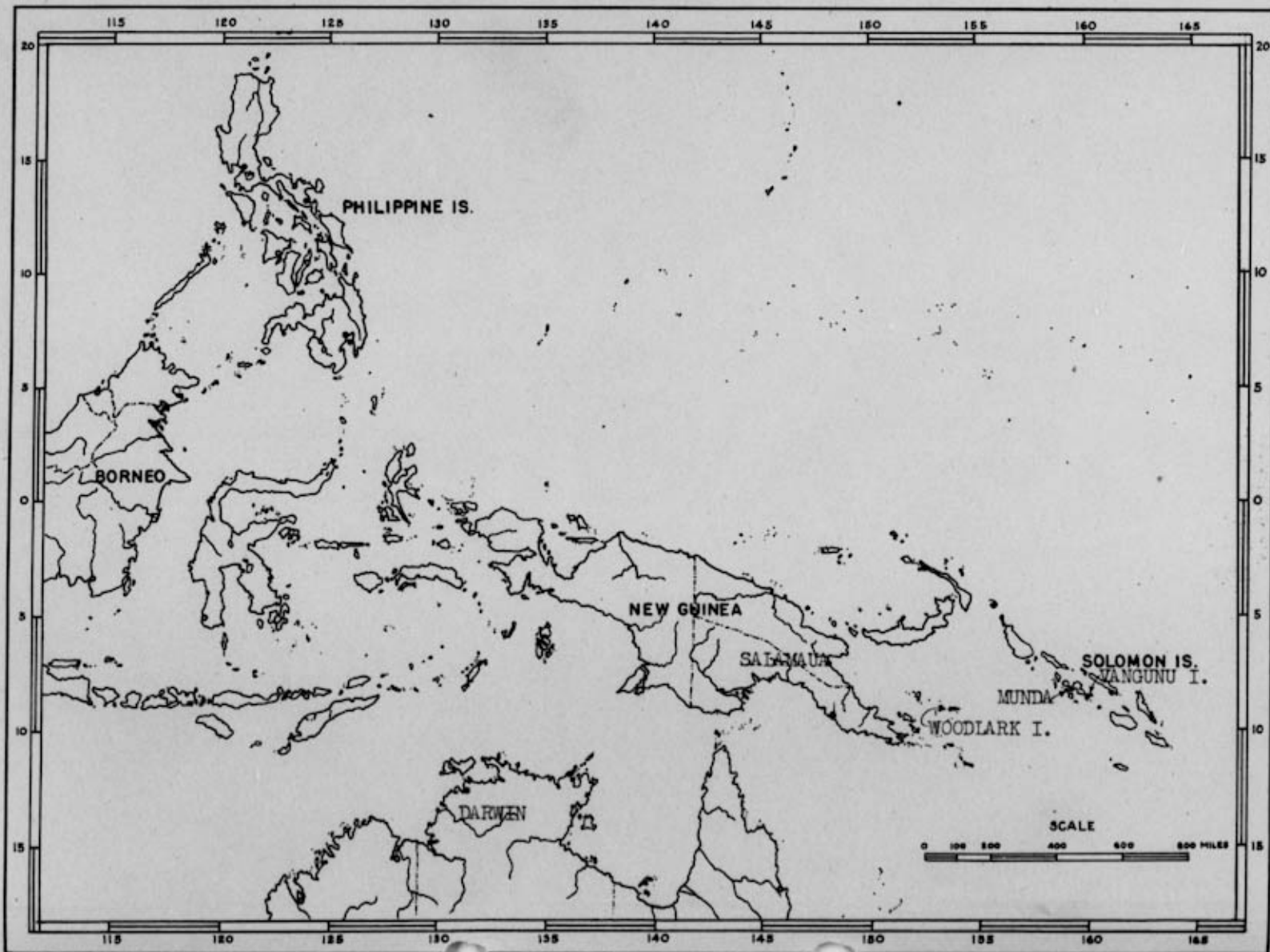
ASIATIC THEATER

On 18 July, seven heavy bombers of the 14th Air Force returned to Haiphong, Hon Gay, and Dalong Bay, French Indo-China, where they scored hits on a floating drydock, barges, a warehouse and in the building area. All airplanes returned safely.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Two enemy strong points were captured south of Salamaua on 16-17 July. On 18 July, B-25's and A-20's struck at the enemy in the Salamaua area, hitting effectively an ammunition dump, enemy gun positions and enemy-held villages and sinking a small merchant vessel.

From forty to fifty enemy aircraft were intercepted over the Salamaua-Lae area by six P-38's. Two (probably six) enemy planes were destroyed and two damaged without loss to our forces. An Allied plane intercepted and shot down one of two enemy reconnaissance airplanes over the Darwin area.



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

The runway on Woodlark Island is expected to be ready for fighters on 23 July.

PACIFIC THEATER

Sixty-two of our planes bombed designated targets in support of ground troops in the Munda area on 17 July. A US tank landing ship was torpedoed near Olliana Bay (southwest coast of Vangunu Is.); 110 of the estimated 210 personnel aboard have been rescued.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

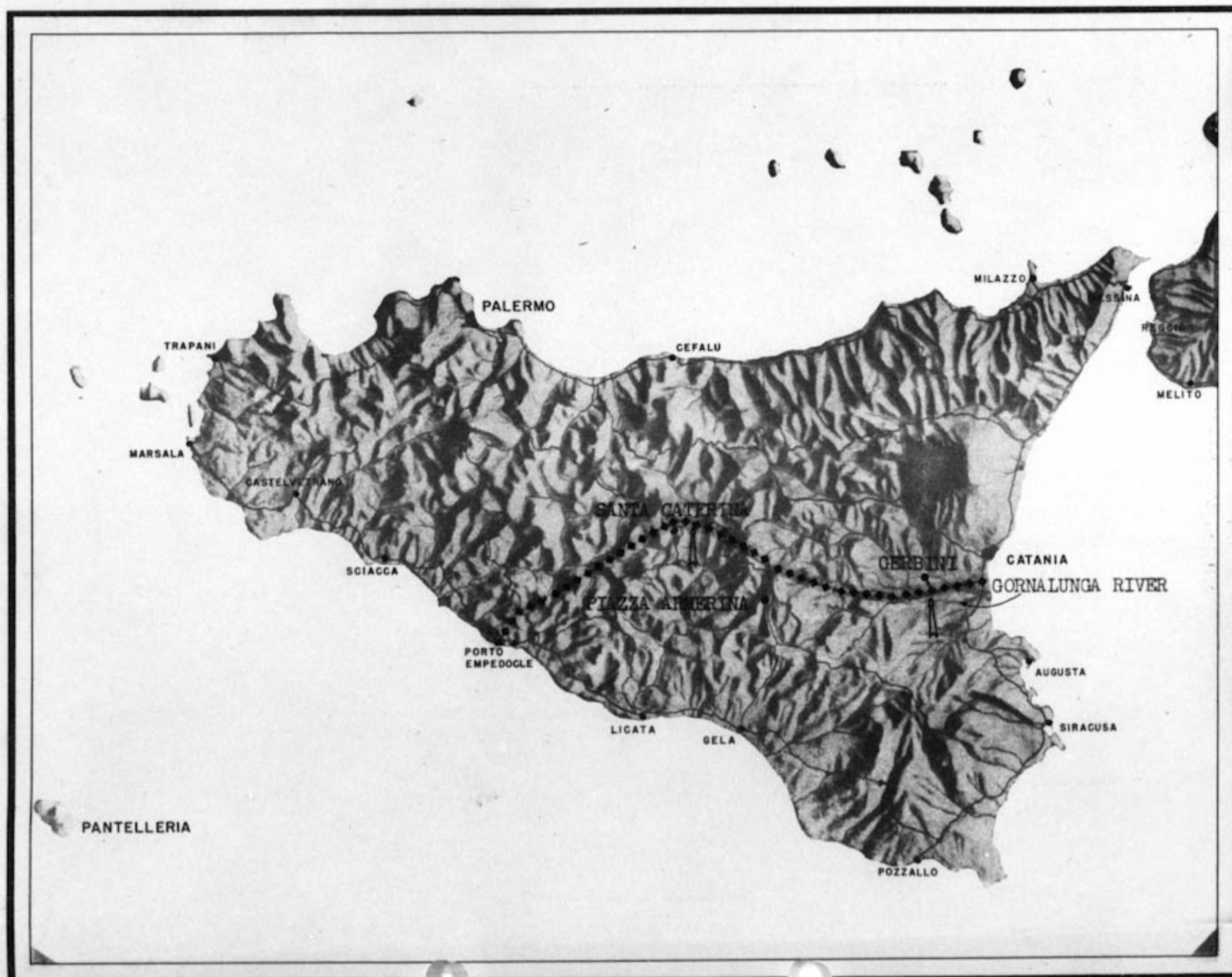
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 586

0700 July 18 to 0700 July 19, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 66th Infantry Division from Camp Blanding, Florida, to camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, for permanent change of station, so that Camp Blanding can be used as an Infantry Replacement Training Center.

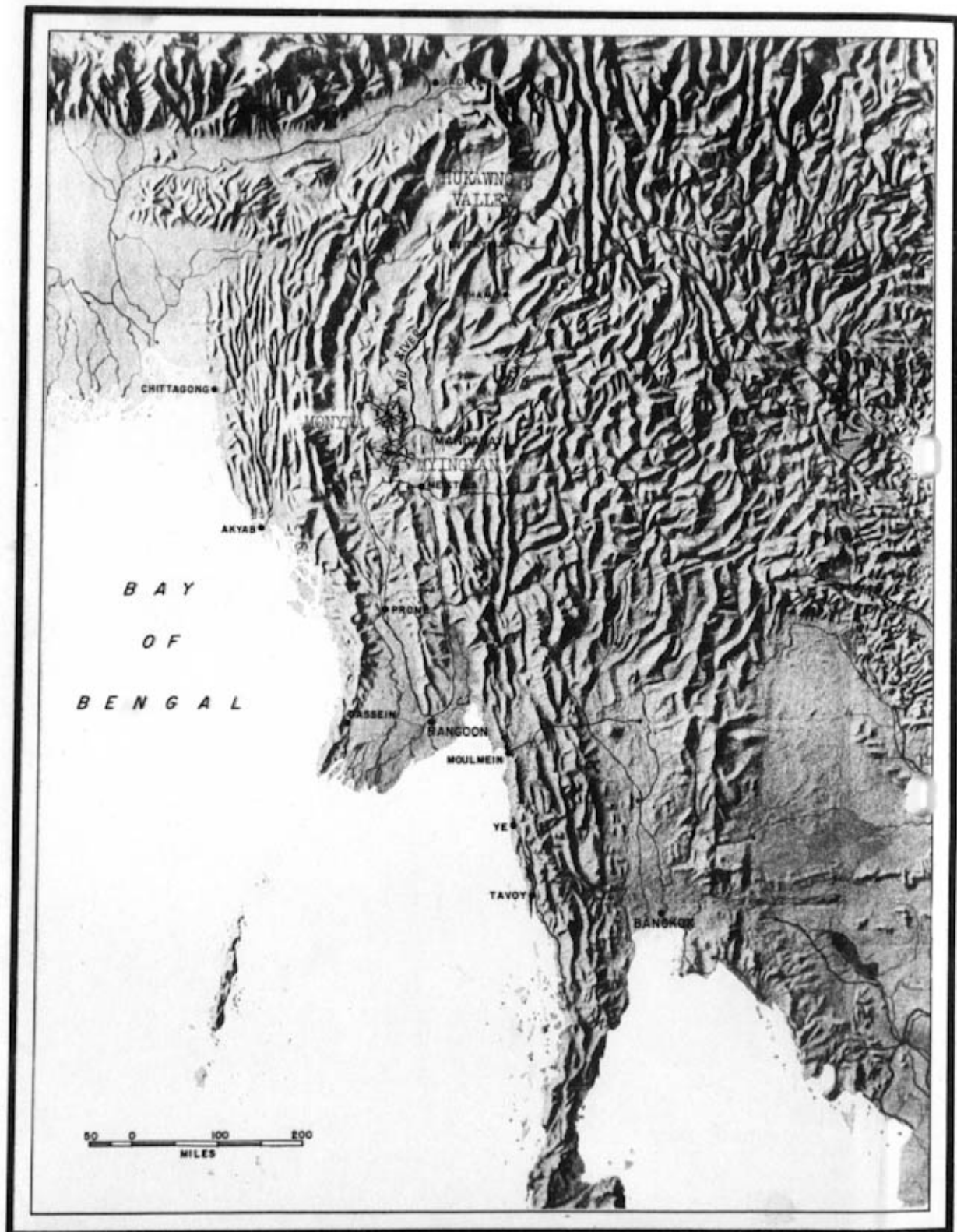
EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was plotted over Iceland on 17 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On 17 July the Allied bridgehead south of Catania was extended to the north across the Gornalunga River; 150 Germans were captured in this area. Elements of the British 50th Division to the left of the bridgehead also crossed the river and a British armored brigade further left reached a point some three miles south of Gerbini. In the center the Canadian Division took Piazza Armerina and pushed on six miles to the north. By evening of the next day the US Seventh Army had likewise advanced along its entire front, the 45th Infantry Division driving northward to Santa Caterina. Substantial gains were also made by the 1st Infantry Division, whose forward positions were seven miles southeast of Santa Caterina. Our 3rd Infantry Division pushed to the northwest beyond Canicatti.

On 17 July large formations of our medium bombers and fighter



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

planes, beside attacking Naples as reported yesterday, also raided Vibo Valentia airdrome, in Italy, scoring direct hits on buildings, barracks, bridges and parked aircraft. Other Allied aircraft heavily damaged motor convoys, railroad cars, tracks and yards, and a factory in sweeps over northeastern and central Sicily.

A special communique from Allied Force Headquarters states that on 19 July heavy and medium bombers of the Mediterranean Air Command executed a mass attack on Rome, the railroad yards there being the chief objective. Special instructions were issued to avoid damaging cultural and religious monuments of the city.

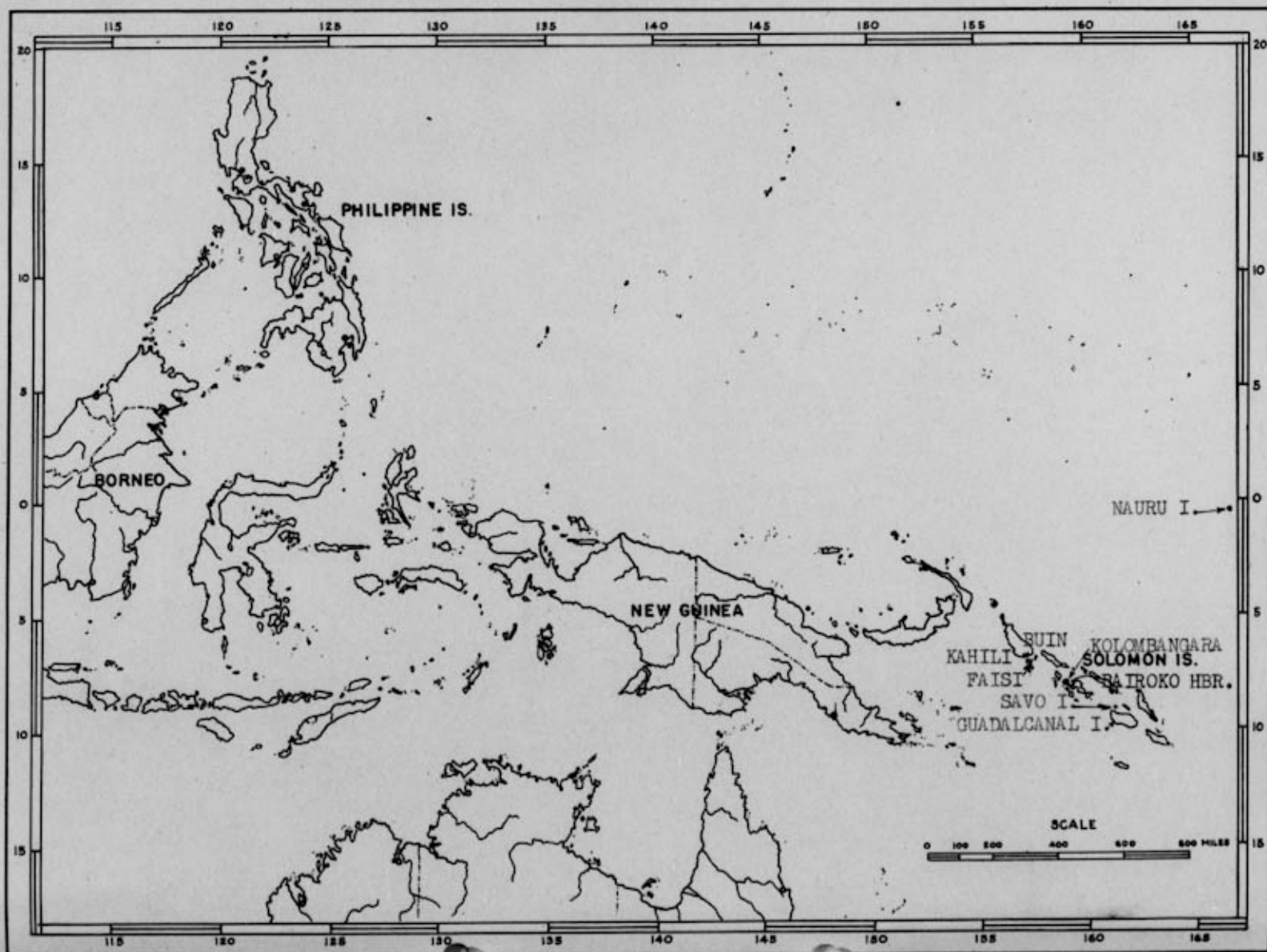
Our Seventh Army had sustained 1,891 casualties as of 14 July. |

ASIATIC THEATER

On 17 July medium bombers of our 10th Air Force, in sweeps over central Burma, dropped more than eighteen tons of explosives and incendiaries, scoring many direct hits on the Myingyan cotton mills, railroad sheds along the Ma River, and numerous buildings in the vicinity of the Monywa railroad yards. Two P-40's bombed and machine-gunned two towns in the Hukawng Valley (northern Burma).

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Twenty B-25's, bombing Salamaua on 17 July, scored a direct hit on an ammunition or fuel dump. Eight Dutch B-25's attacked dumps and dispersal areas at Lautem (Timor).



A communique from General MacArthur reports that on 18 July, Allied bombers repeated the heavy attacks of the previous day on the Kahili airdrome and on shipping in the Buin-Faisi anchorage. This time one cargo vessel was sunk and two destroyers and another cargo vessel damaged. Thirteen intercepting enemy fighters were shot down for a loss of four of our airplanes.

PACIFIC THEATER

1. Six US planes bombed Nauru Island on 16 July, starting several fires. Enemy aircraft raided Guadalcanal and Savo the same day; the extent of the damage was not reported.

2. On 17 July, eighteen of our airplanes bombed ground targets in support of action in the Bairoko area, New Georgia Island.

A communique describes an engagement to the west of Kolombangara Island in which our naval vessels scored hits on three enemy destroyers, probably sinking one. In other action in the same vicinity our light surface forces scored a torpedo hit on one of a group of six enemy destroyers, which thereupon turned back.

3. A Japanese plane dropped one train of bombs off the shore of Canton Island on 18 July.

WBS

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 585

0700 July 17 to 0700 July 18, 1943

COPY FOR

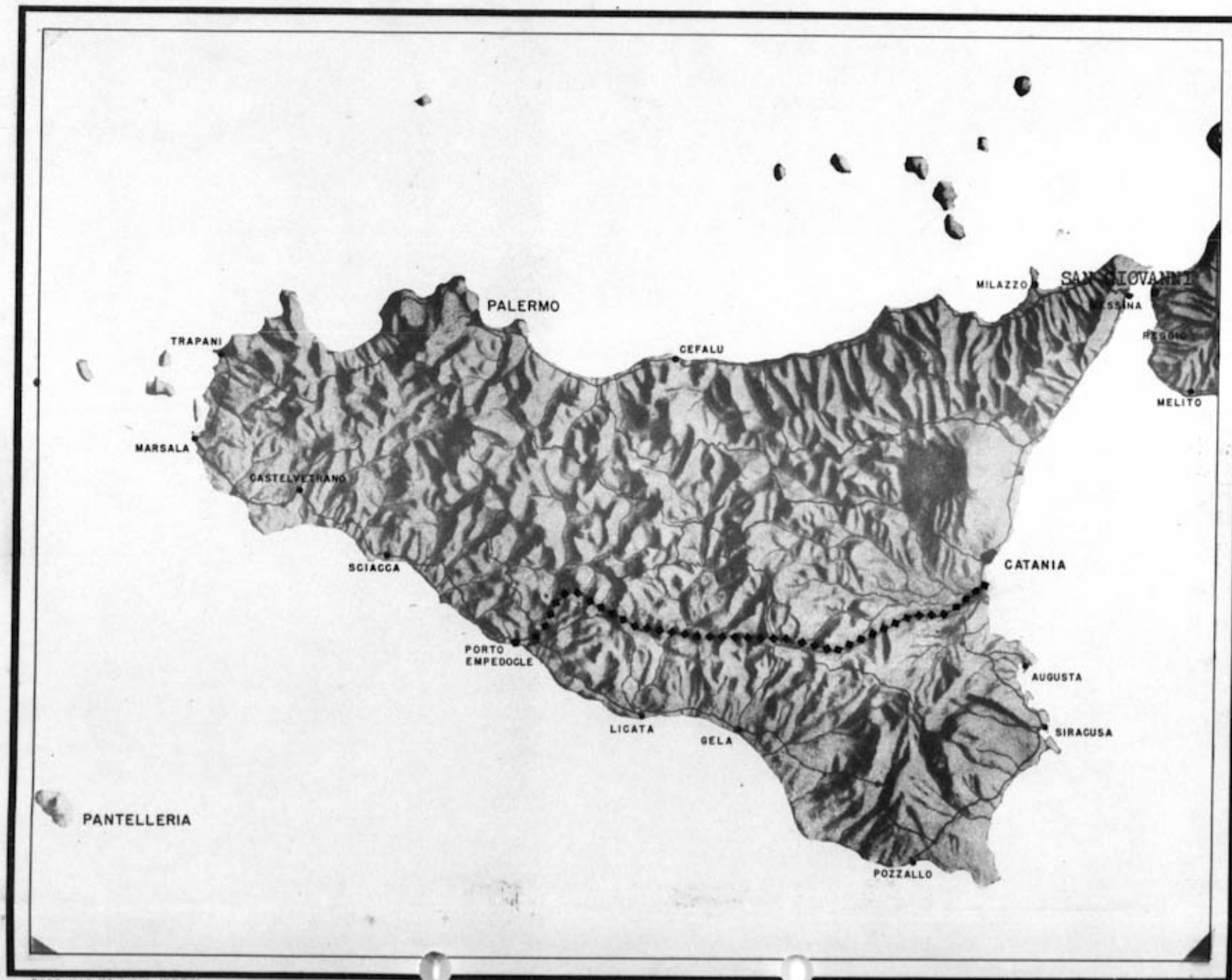
THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. On 16 July 11th Air Force planes attacked enemy antiaircraft batteries on Kiska with observed effect.
2. The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 8th Infantry Division from Camp Young, California, to Camp Forrest, Tennessee, and the 79th Infantry Division from Camp Forrest, Tennessee, to Camp Young, California, to enable the 79th Infantry Division to train at the latter station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Unidentified aircraft were reported over Iceland on 16 July.
2. A total of 492 bombers and fighters of our 8th Air Force carried out operations against the enemy on 17 July. While hazy weather prevented the main force of 288 B-17's from dropping their bombs on the primary targets in northwestern Germany, successful results were obtained from the aerial engagements with the swarms of enemy fighters encountered. Fifty-one (probably 75) enemy planes were destroyed for a loss of two of our Flying Fortresses. Forty-one other B-17's, escorted by 128 P-47's, flew a diversionary attack against the Fokker Aircraft Factory at Amsterdam, and 36 B-26's swept



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

the Channel area. No enemy planes were encountered by these missions and all of our planes returned safely to their bases.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Allied ground units generally made significant gains in the east on 16 July. On the west the US 2d Ranger Battalion entered Porto Empedocle.

On the night of 15-16 July and the next day over 800 Allied planes, including escorts, kept up continuous attacks on enemy air-dromes and communications facilities in Italy and Sicily with good effect. Our losses during this period were light as enemy air resistance was practically nonexistent. Photographs show the San Giovanni railroad installations to be destroyed.

On 17 July four groups of heavy and five groups of medium bombers, coordinated with four groups from the 9th Air Force, made a mass attack on Naples.

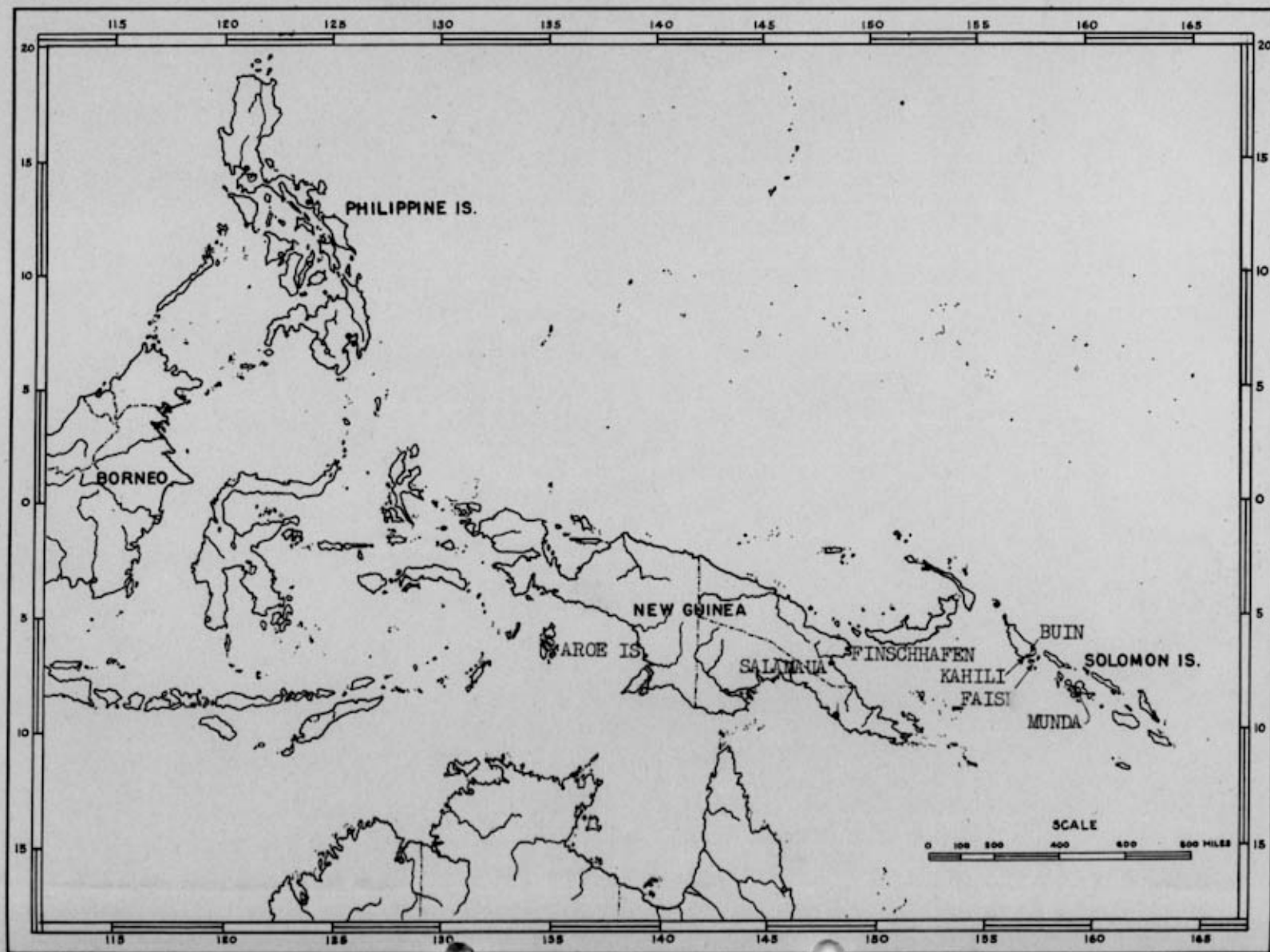
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 15 July Allied planes bombed and machine-gunned buildings at Finschhafen, enemy positions near Salamaua and an enemy-held village in western New Guinea. Four enemy planes attempting to attack Lasanga Is. south of Salamaua were driven off by antiaircraft fire.

The next day small flights of Allied planes attacked enemy positions in the Salamaua area, and barges and villages in the Aroe Islands.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

General MacArthur's latest communique reports that on 17 July our bombers, in carefully coordinated attacks, hammered the Kahili airdrome for nearly nine hours, starting many fires, and then, protected by strong fighter cover, hit the enemy shipping in the Buin-Faisi anchorage with excellent results. Seven enemy vessels were sunk, including one light cruiser or large destroyer, two other destroyers, a submarine chaser, a tanker and two cargo vessels; a third cargo vessel was damaged and beached. The enemy's air force, operating in strength, was unsuccessful in its attempt to protect the shipping and 49 enemy fighters were shot down in the great aerial combat which resulted. Six of our planes have not returned.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 16 July, our ground troops, operating in the Munda area, were supported by 110 planes attacking designated targets near Lambeti, the Munda airfield and nearby Nususonga Island.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

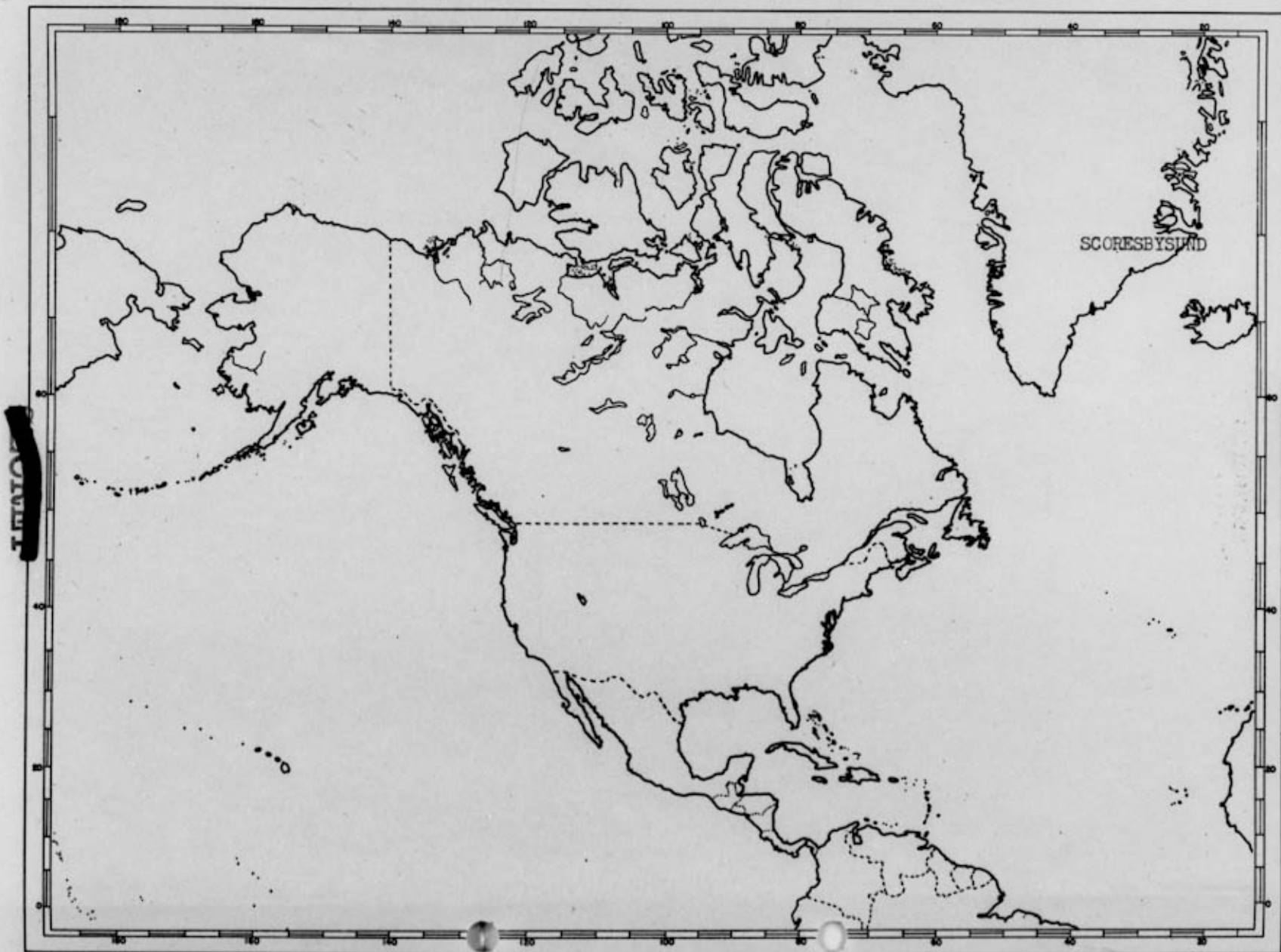
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 584

0700 July 16 to 0700 July 17, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



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OSD letter, 6-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. 11th Air Force bombers dropped more than 30 tons of bombs on the enemy installations at Kiska on 15 July. The Gertrude Cove area was bombarded with another hundred rounds from one of our naval vessels without enemy reaction.

2. An unidentified airplane, flying at a high altitude, was observed over Scoresbysund, Greenland on 13 July.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Our Coast Guard Cutter "Northland" was attacked by a German plane north of Iceland on 15 July; no casualties were incurred. A German bomber over Iceland the same day was fired at by ground forces who believe possible hits were obtained.

2. On 16 July strong forces of medium bomber and fighter aircraft of the RAF and the 8th Air Force were dispatched on coordinated sweeps having the primary mission of destroying German fighters. German fighters refused combat even though seventeen tons of bombs were dropped on the Abbeville railroad yards with good effect.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the afternoon of 15 July, forces of the Eighth Army



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1 JULY 1943

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OSD Letter, 6-8-72

pushed forward to capture Scordia and Militello. Patrols from the US 3rd Division extended the left flank of our Sicilian position by occupying two towns within seven miles of the important north-south highway between Agrigento and Palermo.

Each army is now supported by a naval squadron and the bombardment of Catania and Porto Empedocle from the sea continues.

On the night of 14-15 July and throughout the following day, Allied air forces continued to hammer at key enemy cities and communications centers in Sicily and Italy. British Wellingtons and US B-17's heavily raided Naples and nearby airdromes with excellent effect. Bombers of the 9th Air Force flew three strong attack missions against Foggia airdrome and its satellites, leaving buildings and aircraft wrecked or burning. Nearly a hundred B-25's hit Palermo, Termini, and Paterno. Our fighter planes swarmed over Sicily and Sardinia, attacking targets of opportunity and radar stations. While enemy air activity, both offensive and defensive, was reported as non-existent on 15 July, the previous night 19 Malta-based British fighters intercepted and destroyed 12 enemy bombers. Five other enemy aircraft were destroyed; the reported Allied loss was seven aircraft.

Enemy movements indicate that a stiffened resistance on the front of the Seventh Army may be expected. Interrogation of prisoners captured at Licata reveals that officers and men were

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

unanimous in their condemnation of Italy's leaders and that all were militantly anti-German. The favorable effect of Allied propaganda was apparent.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

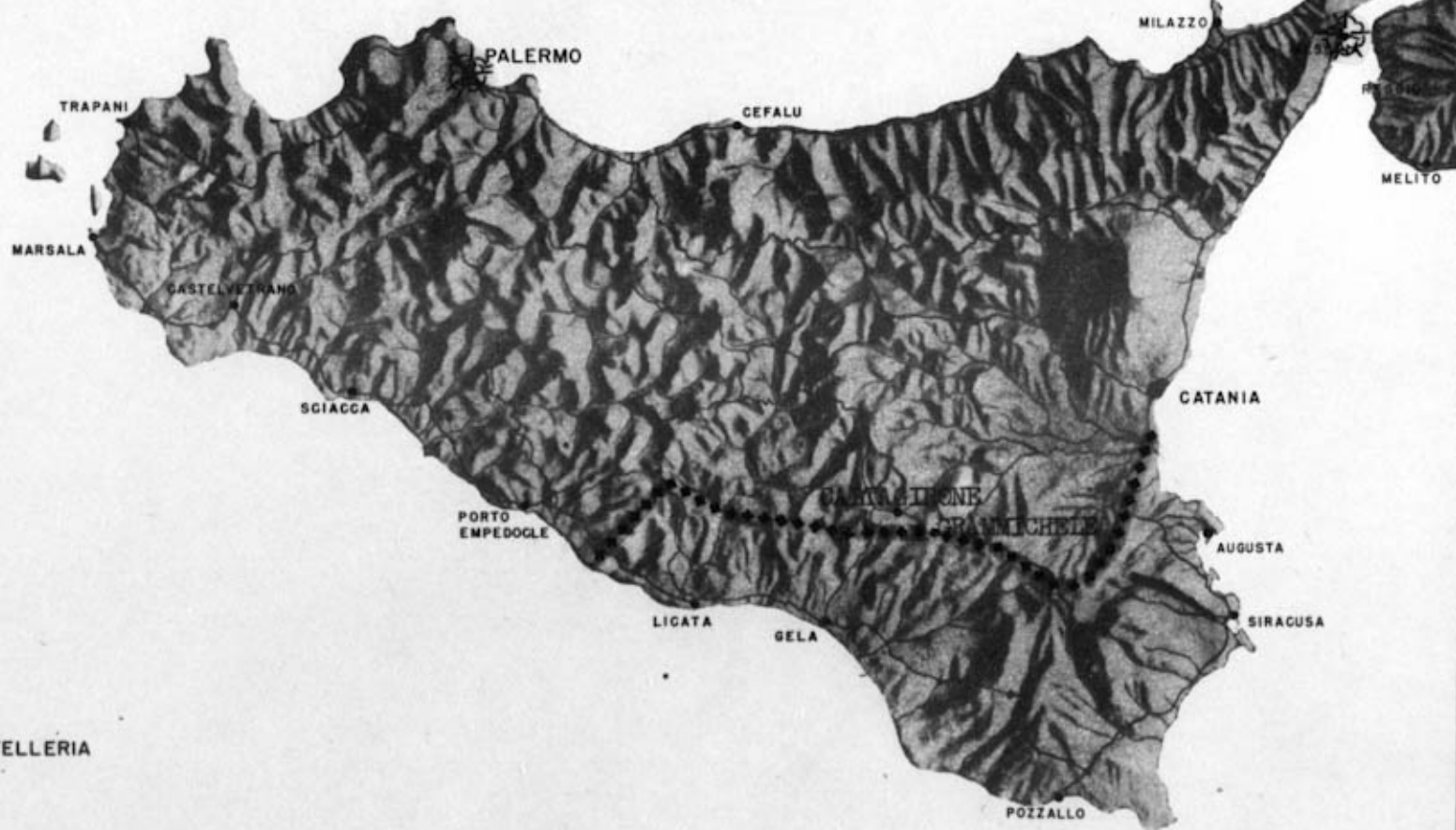
No. 583

0700 July 15 to 0700 July 16, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 14 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During 15 July Allied forces consolidated their newly won positions along the east coast of Sicily, also making minor gains in the center, where Grammichele was reportedly taken by Canadian troops and high ground to the south of Caltagirone captured by the US 45th Division. Damage to port facilities at Augusta was not great and the port now is operating; a floating dock and other important equipment were captured undamaged. As of 14 July, nearly 16,000 prisoners are believed to have been taken. The US 9th Division began its movement from Tunisia to Sicily.

On 14 July Allied aircraft subjected the vital communications facilities at Messina to an intense bombardment, 174 of our heavy bombers dropping nearly 600 tons of explosives with observed results. Other Allied planes bombed Palermo, attacked rail and motor transportation in eastern and central Sicily, sank a merchant vessel and a tanker and set a second tanker afire.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Nine B-25's of our 10th Air Force attacked Myingyan and the



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
ON 11/11/1944

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

Meiktila barracks area on 14 July, scoring hits on the barracks, storage areas and railroad installations. Eight B-25's sowed 16 British-type mines in the Irrawaddy River.

2. General Stilwell reports that airfields to be used by our air forces in China will be completed as follows: by 1 August, 5; by 15 August, 2; by 15 September, 5; and 2 by 15 October. Of these airfields eight are now useable.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

General MacArthur reports for 14 July that Allied troops have succeeded in clearing the Mubo area of all enemy resistance. It was estimated that only 300 of the 1,250 Japanese encountered escaped. The enemy made two ineffective air attacks in the Mubo-Salamaua area, losing three of his dive bombers.

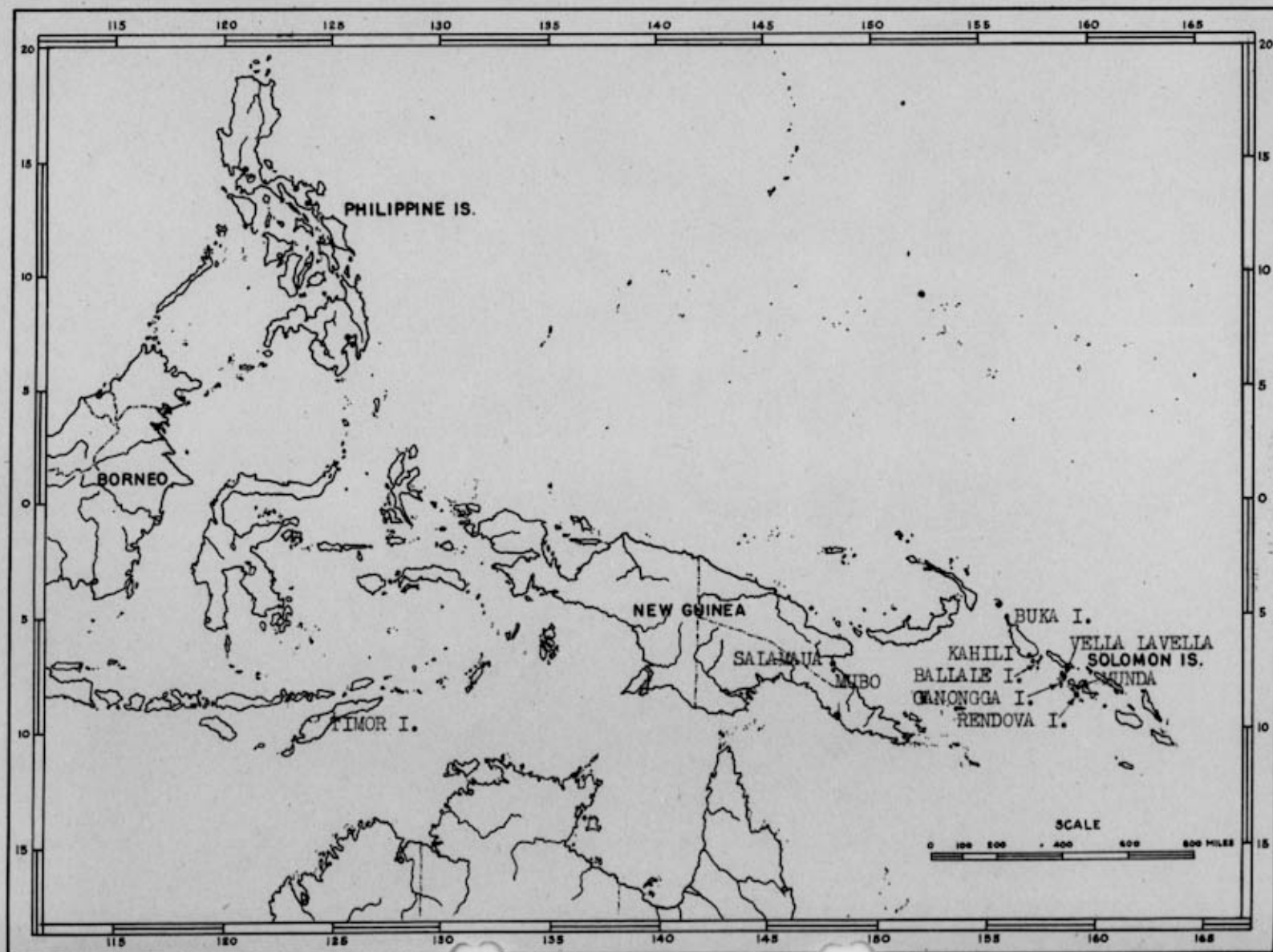
Seven of our B-24's in an attack on Koepang caused heavy damage; Allied aircraft made other effective raids on airdromes on Timor.

PACIFIC THEATER

Our advance continued slowly in the Munda area on 14 July. Allied aircraft started large fires at Kahili and Ballale, attacked Buka airdrome, sank a large cargo vessel west of Vella Lavella Island, and harassed smaller enemy island ships in the New Georgia area.

On 15 July, 44 of our fighters intercepted an enemy striking

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force of 27 medium bombers and some 40 enemy fighters over Rendova, shooting down 15 of the bombers and 30 fighters with a loss of but three of our pilots. Four of our medium bombers escorted by 16 fighters attacked two barges northeast of Ganongga leaving them in a sinking condition.

The combat echelon headquarters of the XIV Corps arrived at Rendova. Command of the New Georgia operations passed to Major General Oscar W. Griswold at 2400 local time 15 July.

The enemy strength in the Solomons area is now estimated to be 42,000.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 582

0700 July 14 to 0700 July 15, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

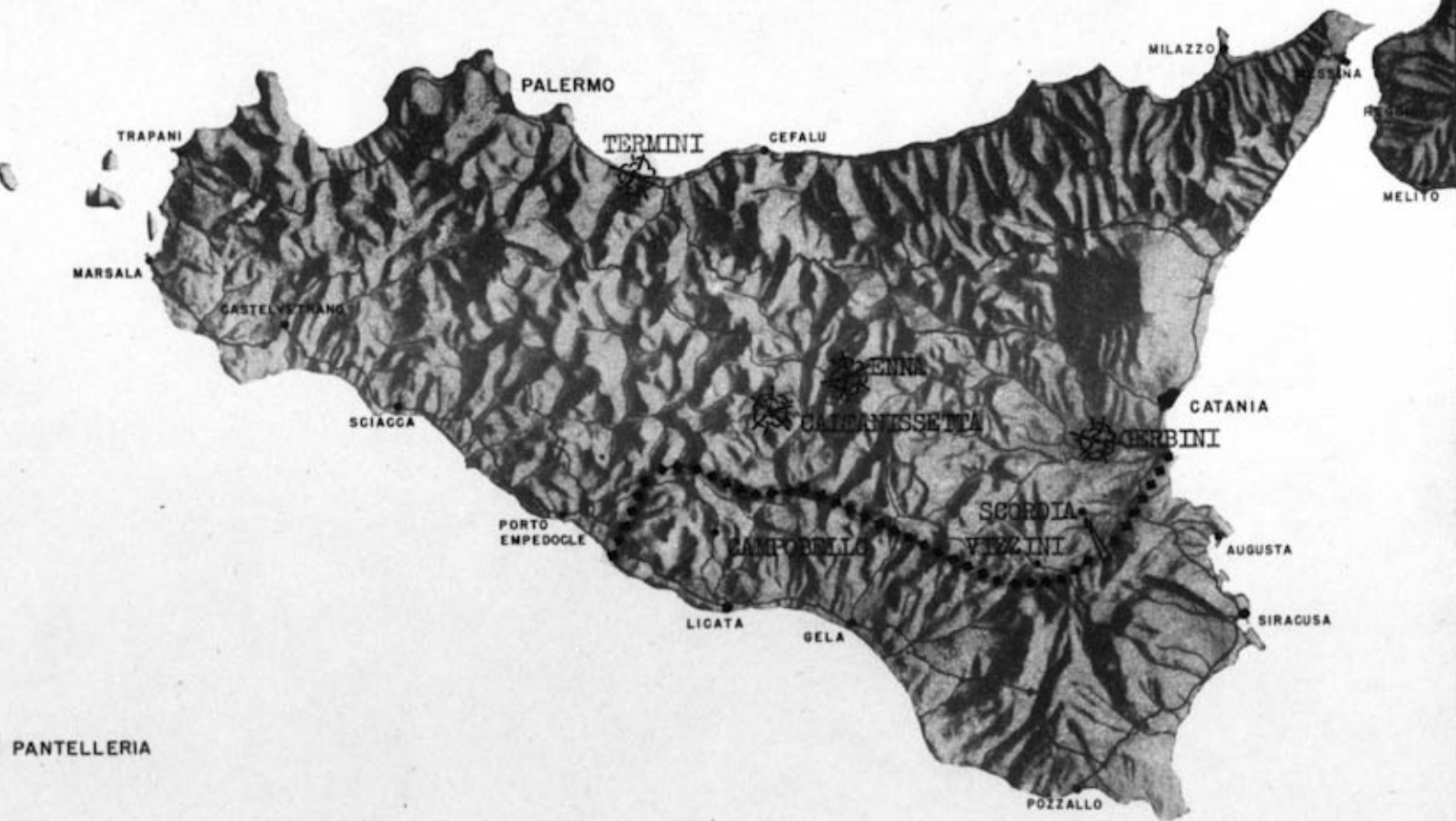
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 12 July, four Japanese on Attu were found burning documents; the Japanese escaped and the papers in question could not be salvaged. On 14 July, a US naval vessel fired 100 rounds at the Gertrude Cove area on Kiska without receiving return fire.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Improved weather in the target areas on 14 July made possible the dispatch of 118 B-17's against the enemy's large airplane repair depot at Villacoublay, near Paris, 84 B-17's against the Le Bourget airfield at Paris, a main storage and repair depot used by German fighters, and 53 B-17's against the airdrome at Amiens. More than 435 tons of bombs were dropped with good results. Enemy fighter reaction ranged from mediocre to intense and 49 (probably 84) German fighters were shot down. Nine of our Flying Fortresses failed to return. RAF Spitfires and US P-47's provided the escort for our missions. Our fighters, in destroying one enemy plane, lost three of their own; one P-47 pilot was rescued.

2. Our aircraft based in the United Kingdom destroyed 41 (probably 56) enemy fighter planes during the week ending 11 July for a loss of but three of our Flying Fortresses. British flyers accounted for an additional 20 (probably 22) assorted planes, losing from all causes including operational 45 of their own aircraft.



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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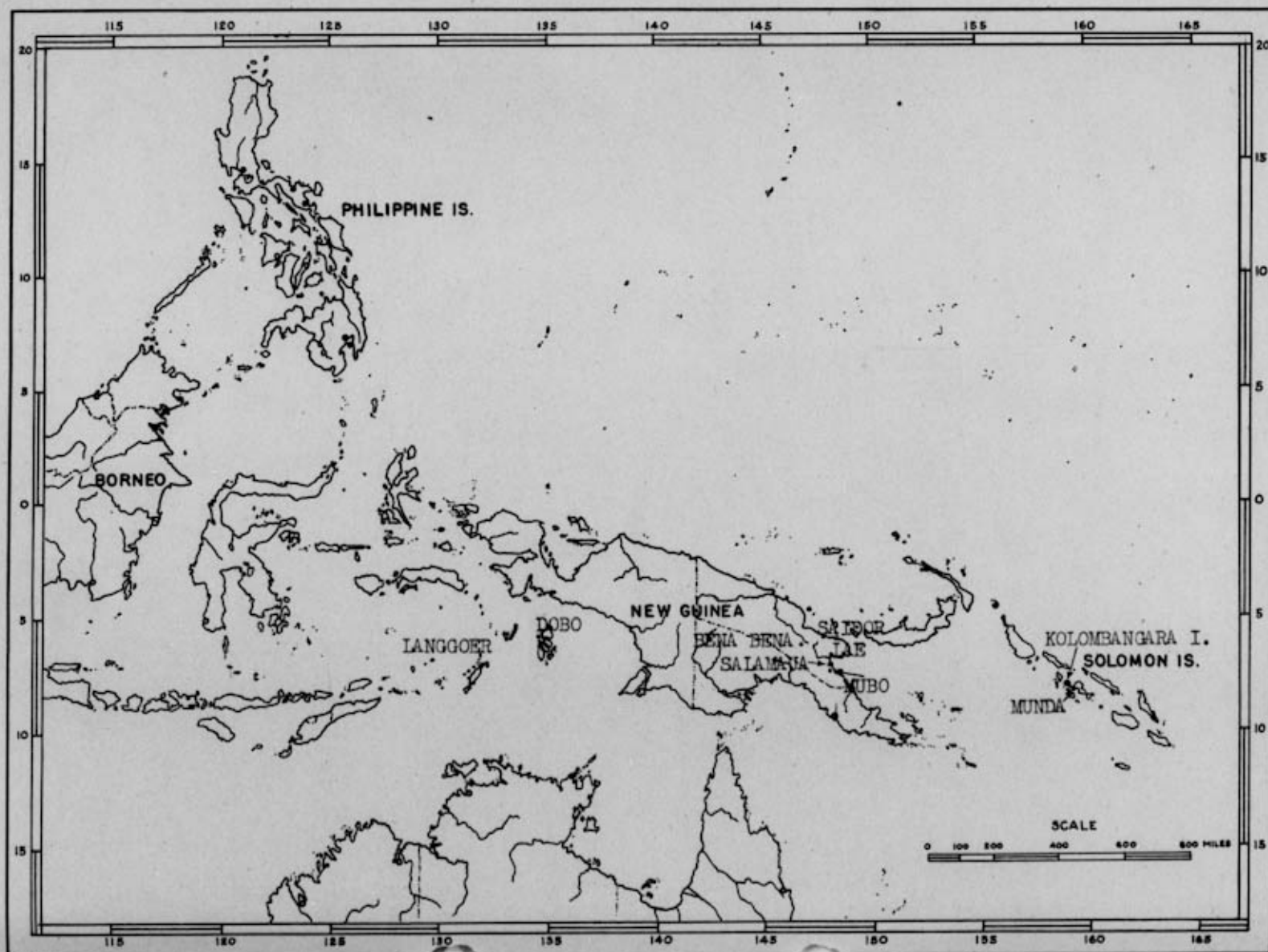
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-8-73

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Augusta was firmly in Allied hands by the morning of 13 July, and additional troops were pouring into the city from British warships. While an Axis counterattack that night temporarily cut off the British brigade in the town, the situation was restored by noon of 14 July. British paratroops and armored units, in a quick thrust north along the east coast, captured and are holding the important highway bridge less than ten miles south of Catania. British armored units were operating in the outskirts of Vizzini, driving to the northwest, and to the east a British infantry column was moving on Scordia. The Canadian Division and our 45th, 1st, and 3rd Infantry Divisions made considerable gains and reached the general line shown on the map. Several airfields won from the enemy are now in operating condition as is the railroad from Licata to Campobello. The civilian population is very friendly, and the port of Syracuse, undamaged, will materially assist our supply problem.

US bombers, following in the wake of British night missions against Caltanissetta, Enna, and the Gerbini airdromes, continued to pound enemy Sicilian lines of communication and his few remaining serviceable airdromes on 13 July. More than 80 motor vehicles and 40 railroad cars were destroyed during the course of these missions, and 25 enemy planes were shot down for a loss of eight US aircraft. A still greater number of enemy planes were reported destroyed on the

14



ground. Our 9th Air Force pounded enemy airfields in southern Italy and the harbor of Termini, Sicily. The 253 tons of explosives and incendiaries dropped produced telling effect; many oil fires were started, runways, supplies, buildings and one enemy vessel were hit and 12 to 23 enemy aircraft were destroyed. Two US bombers and one fighter plane were lost.

Allied anti-shipping sweeps destroyed an enemy trawler, motor vessel, and damaged two destroyers.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied ground troops were reported closing in on Mubo on 13 July, having captured four enemy strong points. Enemy bombers and fighters were active over Bena Bena, bombing and machine-gunning Allied ground troops in the area, and other Japanese aircraft machine-gunned an Allied-held village to the northwest. Our heavy bombers repeatedly struck at Lae while our medium bombers swarmed over Salamaua, hitting antiaircraft positions and buildings, and causing large explosions. One B-25 was lost. Missions of minor importance included flights by RAAF Catalinas against Langgoer and Dobo, and the bombing and machine-gunning of three loaded enemy barges near Saidor by a reconnaissance B-24.

PACIFIC THEATER

One enemy light cruiser and three destroyers were definitely sunk after an engagement between 13 Allied and ten enemy warships

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

north of Kolombangara early on the morning of 13 July with two additional enemy destroyers listed as probably sunk. Four of our vessels suffered damage from enemy torpedoes, one sinking after having been taken in tow.

Two enemy strong points at Munda were wiped out the same day.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 581

0700 July 13 to 0700 July 14, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 12 July, heavy and medium bombers of our 11th Air Force, spotting their targets by radar, dropped more than 30 tons of explosives on enemy installations at Kiska.

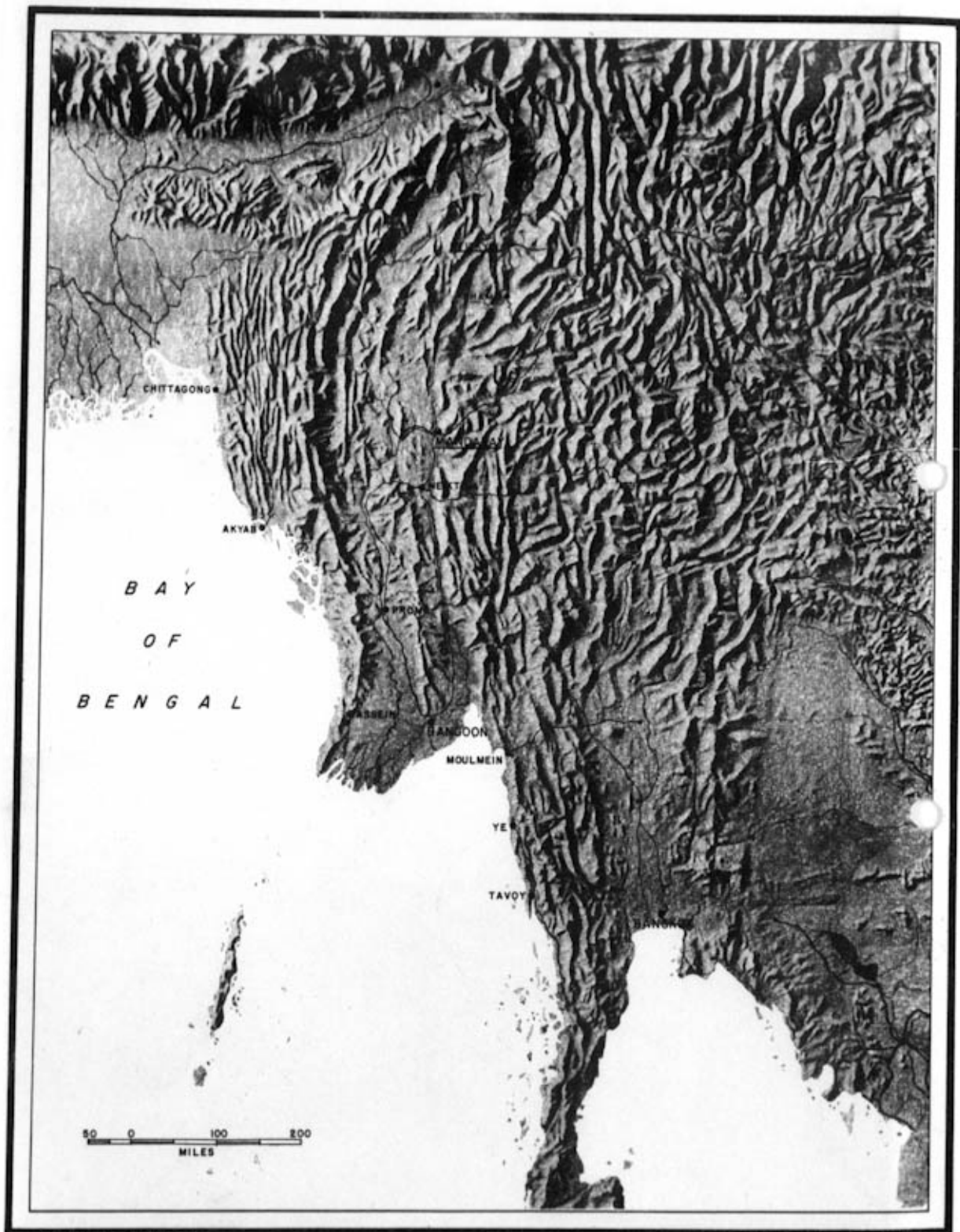
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Combined ground operations of the US and British Armies progressed satisfactorily during 12 July. Resistance was encountered in the Priolo area, but generally Italian morale appeared low and their troops offered little resistance. A British armored brigade drove through to Palazzolo, clearing this town of the enemy.

During the night of 11-12 July and the following day, our air operations continued on their previous large scale, the usual extensive fighter missions being flown, enemy airdromes attacked, and enemy communications disrupted in the battle area. It is estimated that our tactical air force airplanes outnumbered the enemy aircraft sighted by 10 to 1. Particular attention was paid, in addition, to the communications facilities at Messina and the opposite Italian cities, which were kept under heavy aerial bombardment by the US 9th Air Force and British bombers. Our B-24's dropped some four tons of bombs per airplane on these missions.

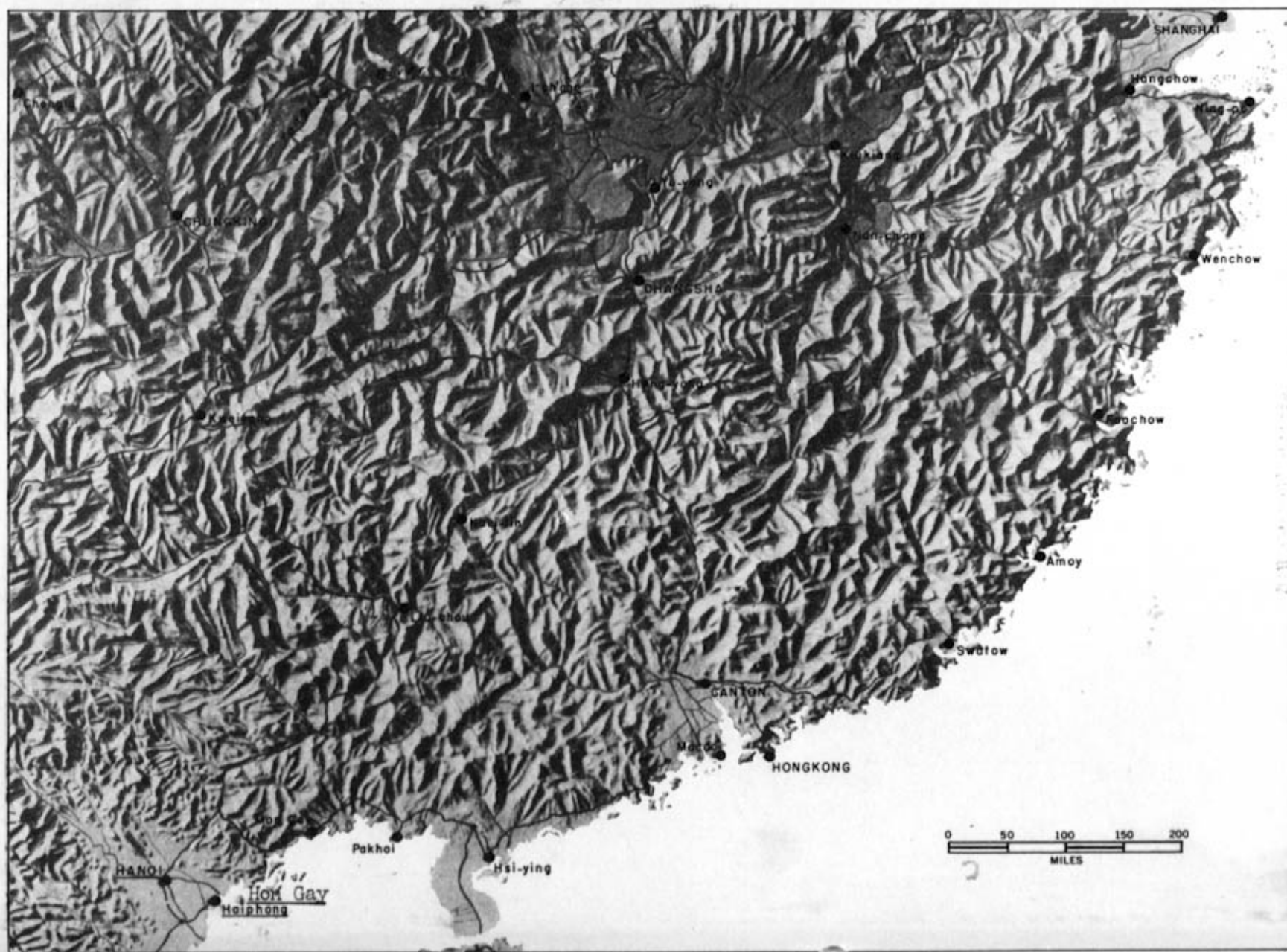
Allied warships bombarded Marsala, the island of Favignana, Modica, Mellili and Augusta during the night of 11-12 July. Allied

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BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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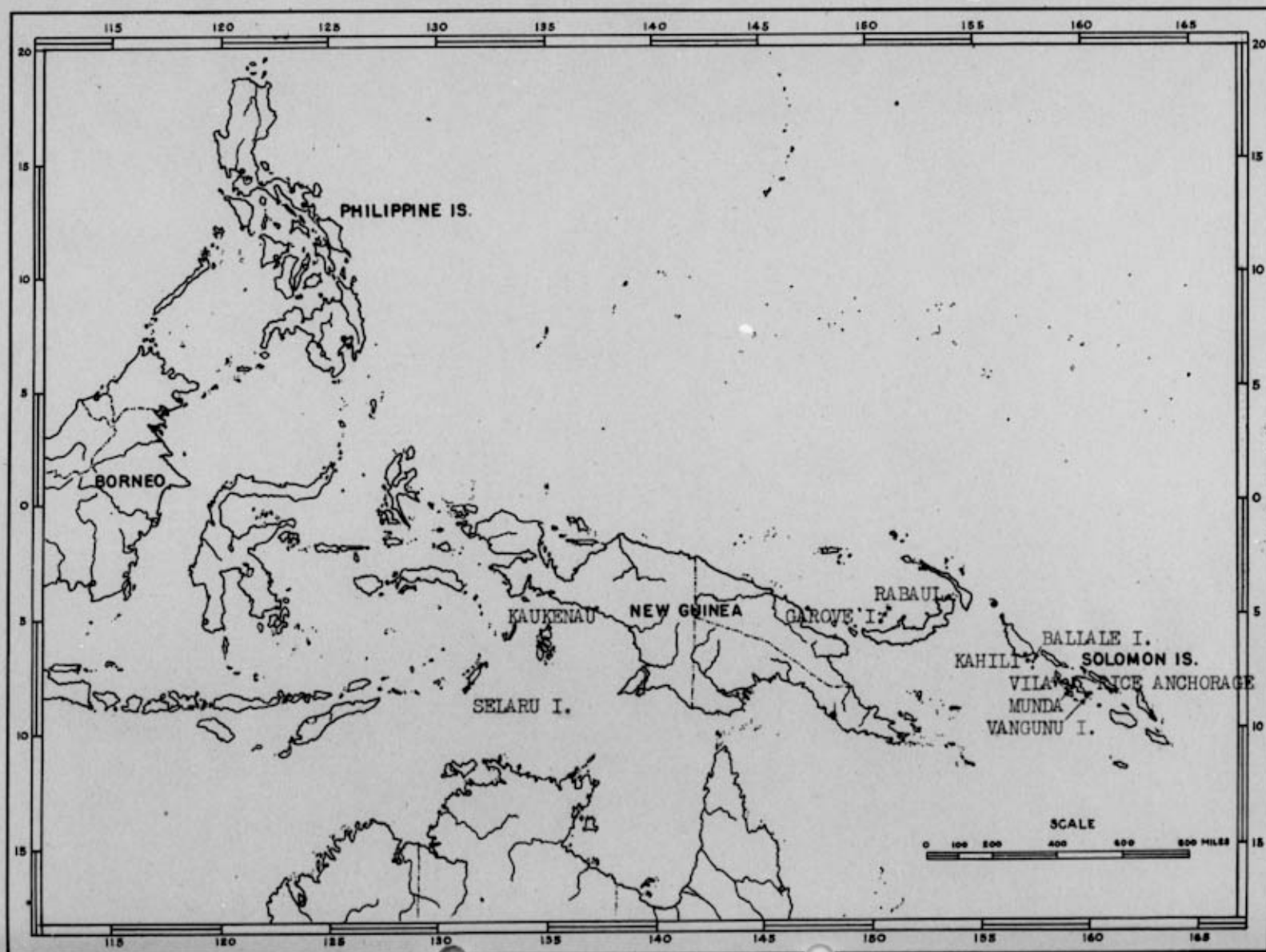
destroyers entered the port of Augusta during the afternoon on 12 July under the protecting fire of our cruisers; the coastal defenses were reported as not being manned although enemy troops were still in the town. Allied minesweepers captured an Italian submarine off Augusta.

It has now been reported that General Alexander commands the Fifteenth Army Group, and Generals Patton and Montgomery the Seventh US and Eighth British Armies which compose this Army Group.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 11 and 12 July, 10th Air Force bombers continued their operations against enemy railway installations in central Burma, destroying the railroad bridge at Loilaw, 34 miles southwest of Myitkyina, and bombing the yards near Mandalay. Large fires were started by our air attacks against several other Japanese-held towns in northern Burma.

During the same period, General Chennault's heavy bombers swept over northeastern French Indo-China, setting fire to two storage warehouses near Laokay, 200 miles northwest of Hanoi, on 11 July, and hitting a transport and a freighter near Haiphong. The next day a Japanese freighter in Dalong Bay, east of Haiphong, was destroyed and another set afire. The Hon Gay power plant, a warehouse and loading docks in the city were hit with half-ton bombs. Considerable damage also was inflicted on the Hon Gay railroad yards and, after



all planes had dropped their bomb loads, the yards, shops and docks were machine-gunned from low altitudes. No enemy interception was attempted and all our airplanes returned safely. US fighters carried out low-altitude missions against enemy motor transport.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied ground forces, carrying out encircling movements in the Mubo-Salamaua area, were attacked by enemy planes on 11-12 July. B-24's bombed the Rapopo and Lakunai airdromes and the nearby town of Rabaul, starting numerous large fires; buildings on Garove Island, 50 miles north of New Britain, were also hit. Other Allied planes bombed a village near Kaukenau and attacked Selaru Island in the Tanimbars.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 12 July, naval forces bombarded Munda in support of our ground operations. Jap resistance in this area is stiffening; two battalions of the 172d Infantry are moving to outflank enemy positions and secure the Lambeti beachhead. The enemy force in the Rice Anchorage-Enogai Inlet area has been wiped out. Our patrols destroyed three barges loaded with Japanese troops in the vicinity of Batuna Mission (Vangunu Island). Heavy and medium bombers started several fires at Vila and attacked the revetment areas at Kahili.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

The next day, 19 of our B-24's dropped 30 tons of bombs on Ballale and Vila. Fifteen of our airplanes, intercepting a force of 28 enemy bombers and fighters, shot down four enemy fighters for a loss of one of ours.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 580

0700 July 12 to 0700 July 13, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

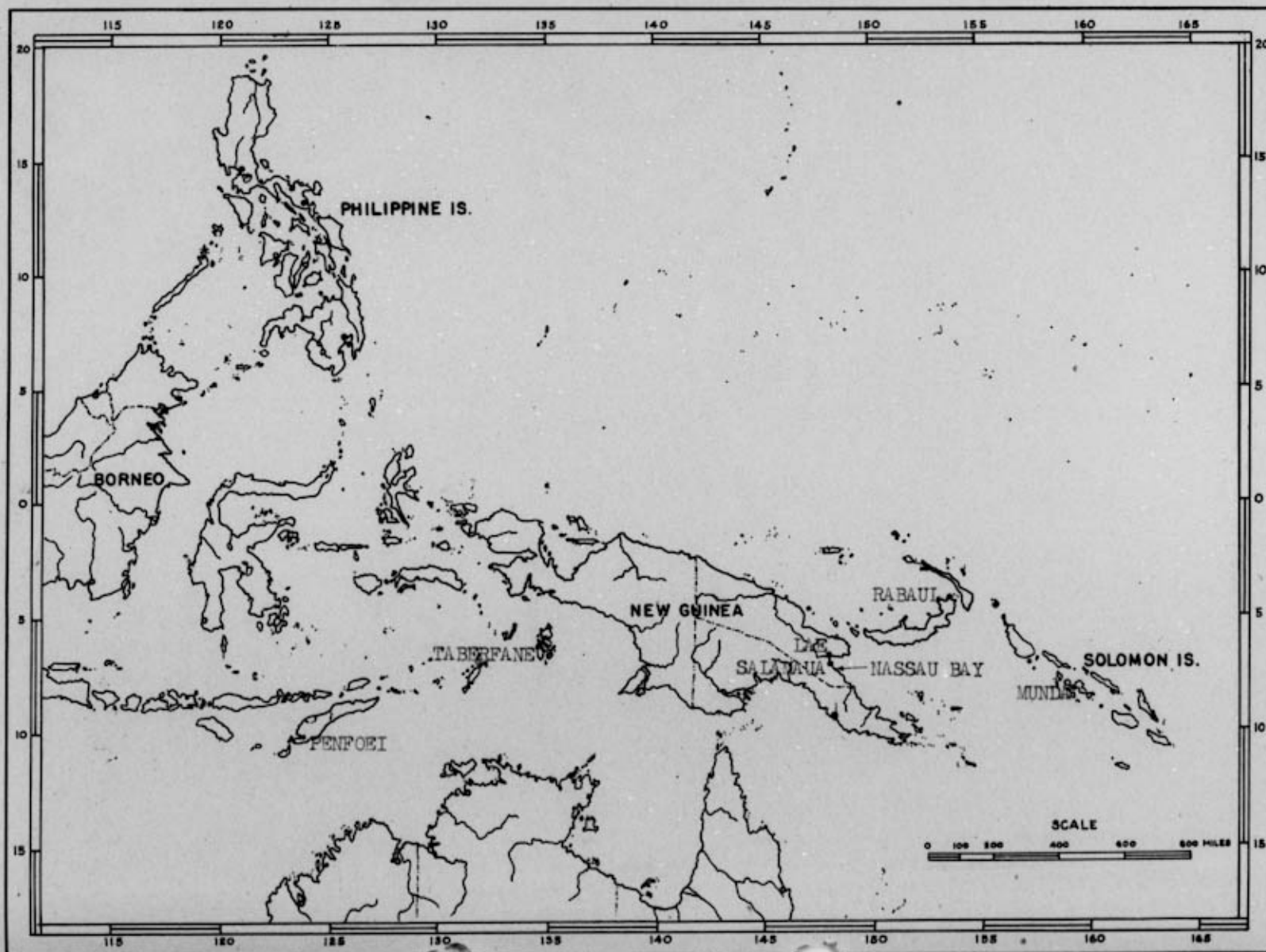
Gertrude Cove (Kiska) and Little Kiska again were subjected to naval bombardment on 11 July. US planes, using radar, dropped more than 29 tons of bombs through a solid overcast on the main camp and North Head installations at Kiska.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Although Italian field divisions were contacted for the first time on 11 July, no signs of a coordinated counterattack against our Sicilian landings have appeared. Improving weather facilitated landing proceedings. Our troops have continued to advance rapidly from all beachheads and, by 12 July, had secured a general line approximately five miles inland along the whole southeastern tip of Sicily, extending from Maro on the west to Priolo on the east. Between five and six thousand prisoners have been taken. Morale of the defenders appeared to be low and the civilian population was reported to be friendly and cooperative. Heavy road traffic has been reported moving northward from the invasion area at many points.

9th Air Force planes again raided the Catania railroad yards with 72 tons of explosives on the night of 10-11 July, returning to Reggio di Calabria and Vibo Valentia on 11 July to bomb those airdromes again. Air activity continued that day at fever pitch, with 75 B-17's attacking the railroad yards at Catania, 75 B-25's and 46 P-38's pounding

66



the airfields at Caltanissetta and Sciacca, and 74 B-26's, escorted by 48 P-40's, bombing other Sicilian airdromes. Other Allied medium and light bombers and fighter planes supported our ground effort and operated against enemy communications; a locomotive, three trains, a power station, an ammunition dump and large amounts of motor transportation were reported destroyed. Two enemy merchant vessels were hit and one left sinking east of Sardinia as the result of attacks by Beaufighters. Enemy air reaction was on a higher scale than on the previous day and numerous escorted bombers were thrown into the fray to harass our reinforcing troops. From aerial encounters and from intense antiaircraft fire encountered by our troop carrier planes on paratroop missions, 35 Allied aircraft were listed as destroyed or missing for the day. Preliminary figures placed the enemy planes destroyed at 42. There are reported to be 25 airdromes remaining in enemy possession on Sicily, seven of which are unserviceable.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied troops were in contact with enemy forces along the Bitoi River, two miles northwest of Nassau Bay, on 11 July. During the early hours of that day 16 heavy bombers pounded Vunakanau airdrome (Rabaul) where large fires, probably in fuel stores, were started. One B-24 bombed nearby Rapopo. Forty-four medium and seven light bombers, operating under a fighter cover, strafed airdromes, trails and villages in the Lae-Salamaua area. Five (probably seven)

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

intercepting enemy fighters were destroyed for a loss of two Allied planes.

Other Allied bombers started fires at the Penfoei airdrome (Timor) and scored hits on float-planes and a flying boat at the enemy's Taberfane base in the Arce Islands.

PACIFIC THEATER

Our attack on Munda gained another 1,000 yards during 10 and 11 July.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 579

0700 July 11 to 0700 July 12, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Eight Attu-based B-25's raided Paramushiro in a surprise attack on 10 July; four tons of bombs were dropped through an overcast and all eight planes returned safely. Six medium bombers and seven heavy bombers from Adak and Amchitka, attacking four enemy cargo vessels some 300 miles southwest of Attu, sank one and badly damaged another; one B-25 is missing.

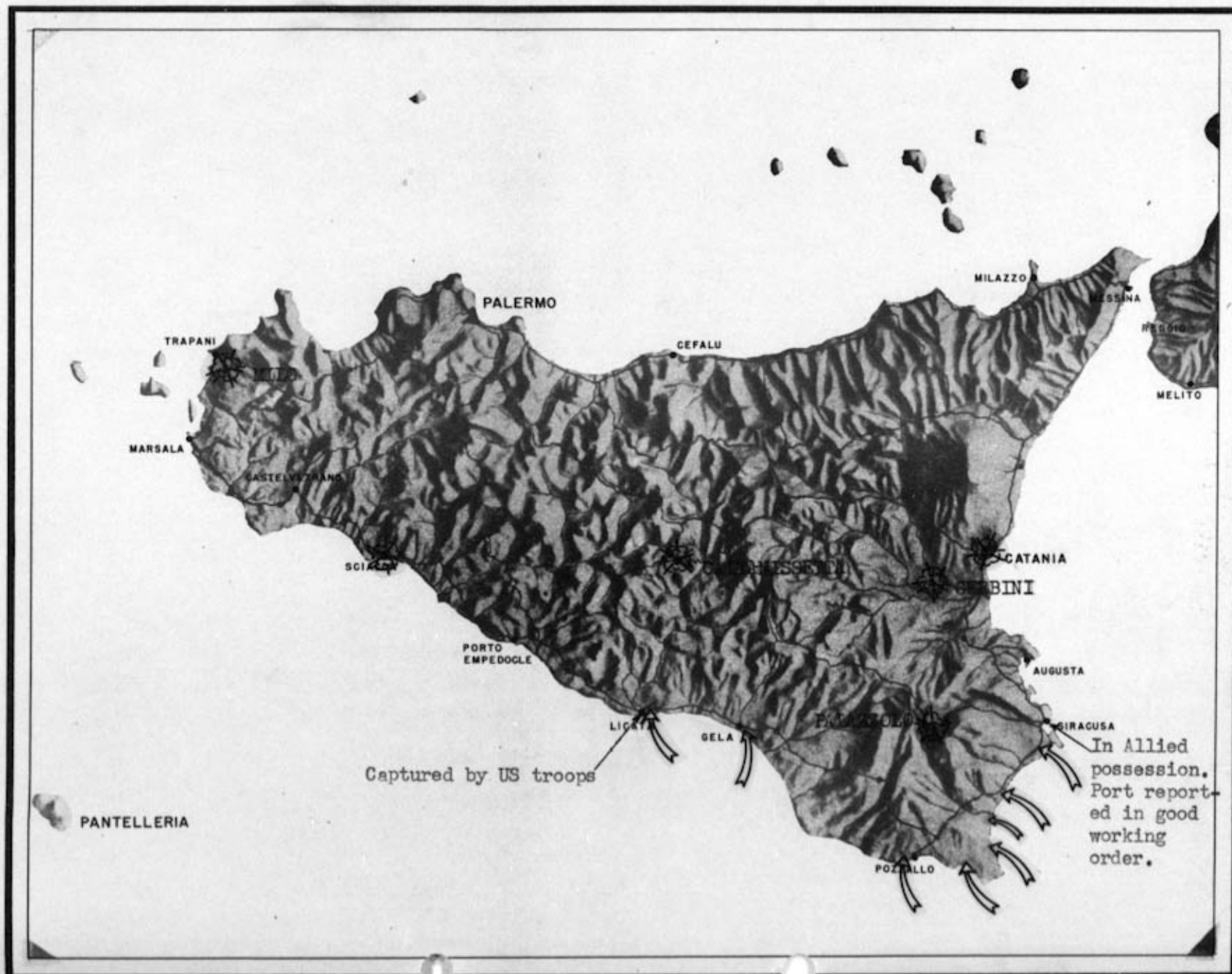
2. The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XI Corps, from Chicago, Illinois to Fort Riley, Kansas, and the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XV Corps, from Camp Beauregard, Louisiana to Camp Young, California. The XI Corps will supervise the organization and training of the new light divisions while the XV Corps will receive specialized training at the Desert Training Center.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 10 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Delayed reports state that just before midnight 9-10 July, 226 C-47 transport airplanes successfully dropped parachute troops of the 82d Airborne Division between Licata and Gela, while 137 other C-47's released gliders of the British 1st Airborne Division near



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

Syracuse. The ports of Syracuse and Licata have been captured; the former is reported to be in good working order. By midnight of 11-12 July, the Seventh and Eighth Armies each expected to have landed approximately 80,000 men, 7,000 vehicles, 300 tanks, and 900 guns. Details of our naval losses are as yet incomplete.

Our air forces continued to provide cover and to bomb enemy airfields and critical points. During the night of 9-10 July and the following day, Allied airplanes dropped 465 tons of bombs on local points in the invasion area. Seventy-eight B-17's bombed the Gerbini airdromes, 30 others raided Caltanissetta, 28 bombers of the 9th Air Force dropped 71 tons of explosives on the Catania railroad yards and medium bombers heavily attacked Palazzolo and the Sciacca and Milo airdromes. In the day's operations, 21 enemy aircraft were destroyed for an Allied loss of 13 destroyed and 17 missing.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

In a heavy raid against the Maleme airdrome, Crete, on 9 July, 25 of our 9th Air Force bombers dropped 63 tons of explosives and shot down five (probably six) enemy airplanes for a loss of one.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 9 July, 18 B-25's of the 10th Air Force attacked the Mu River bridge, which was hit twice, the Myitnge bridge, the town of Myitnge, and the Sagaing railroad yards (all targets in the vicinity

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988 Letter, 5-3-78

of Mandalay). During 9 and 10 July, P-40's effectively raided enemy-held towns in northern Burma.

Fifteen B-24's of our 14th Air Force attacked the Haiphong-Hon Gay area of French Indo-China on 10 July, starting fires in the warehouse area and damaging railroad yards, a factory and a smelter. Two hits were scored on a large ship. All of our aircraft returned safely.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied ground units near Salamaua repulsed enemy attacks on 10 July, while our aircraft continued their activity in that area. In other operations, four B-24's started large fires in the building area at Babo, destroying four, probably five, of ten intercepting enemy fighters; two B-24's started large oil fires at Boela, Ceram. We lost one B-24 from these missions.

PACIFIC THEATER

Sixteen B-24's dropped 40 tons of heavy bombs on Kahili on 10 July; one B-24 was lost. Sixty-nine Navy bombers attacked bivouac and antiaircraft positions in the Munda area with 52 tons of explosives; results were not observed. Our land operations against Munda continued with dive-bomber and artillery support.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 578

0700 July 10 to 0700 July 11, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

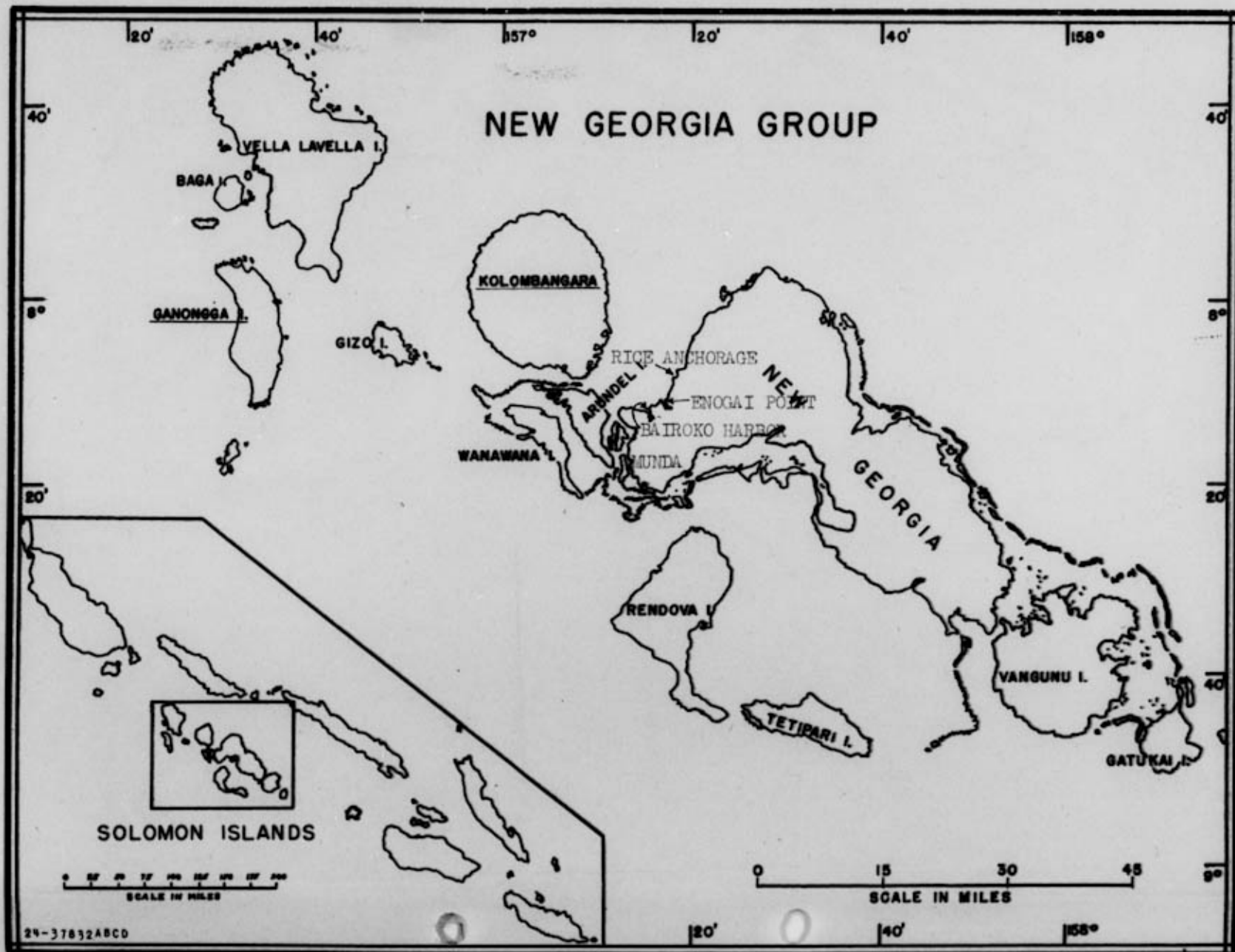
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Unidentified aircraft were again active over Iceland on 9 July.

2. US B-17's bombed the airfields at Caen and Abbeville-Drucat on 10 July. The mission against the latter airdrome was uneventful, approximately 86 tons of high explosives being dropped with fair results; our 64 bombers and their escorting 125 P-47's returned safely. More than 74 tons of bombs were dropped on the Caen airfield by returning B-17's which found their primary targets near Paris to be protected by a complete overcast. Strong enemy fighter opposition was encountered and 28, probably 46, enemy planes were destroyed. Three of our Flying Fortresses have not returned.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

By the evening of 10 July all the Allied landings on Sicily had been successfully carried out and the situation on all beaches was reported as satisfactory. Throughout the day our beachheads were developed under supporting naval gunfire which silenced several enemy batteries commanding beaches and anchorages. Initial opposition to our landings in general was slight. Six enemy tanks were destroyed north of Pachino. British and Canadian divisions, operating on the southeastern and eastern beaches, were advancing, supported by tanks



landed earlier in the morning.

Information from prisoners indicates that surprise was achieved. There was an absence of enemy air activity, probably as a result of the damage inflicted on enemy fields by air raids preceding the landing. On 9 July our bombers successfully attacked Taormina, scoring hits on buildings and tracks, and the airdromes at Biscari and Comiso, where large fires were started in the dispersal areas. Gerbini, Catania, Caltanissetta, Palazzolo, Piazza Armerina, and Sciacca were also heavily bombed and our fighter-aircraft raided enemy coastal radar installations.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In an early morning engagement over Bena Bena (northwest of Lae) on 8 July, four P-38's intercepted a force of ten enemy fighters, shooting down two of the Japanese planes.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 9 July our force at Rice Anchorage was moving on Enogai Point; in that area our troops have blocked the trail between Bairoko Harbor and Munda, turning back two parties of Japanese. Our attack on Munda gained 1000 yards. Meanwhile escorted medium bombers machine-gunned a beached destroyer on southeast Kolombangara and a village on Ganongga;

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

86 Navy dive-bombers, pounding Munda, hit antiaircraft positions, bivouac areas and dumps. All planes returned safely. Japanese aircraft attempted six raids during the day, our fighter cover holding off at least one strong attack by a large enemy force.

~~SECRET~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 577

0700 July 9 to 0700 July 10, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



SECRET
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-72

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS

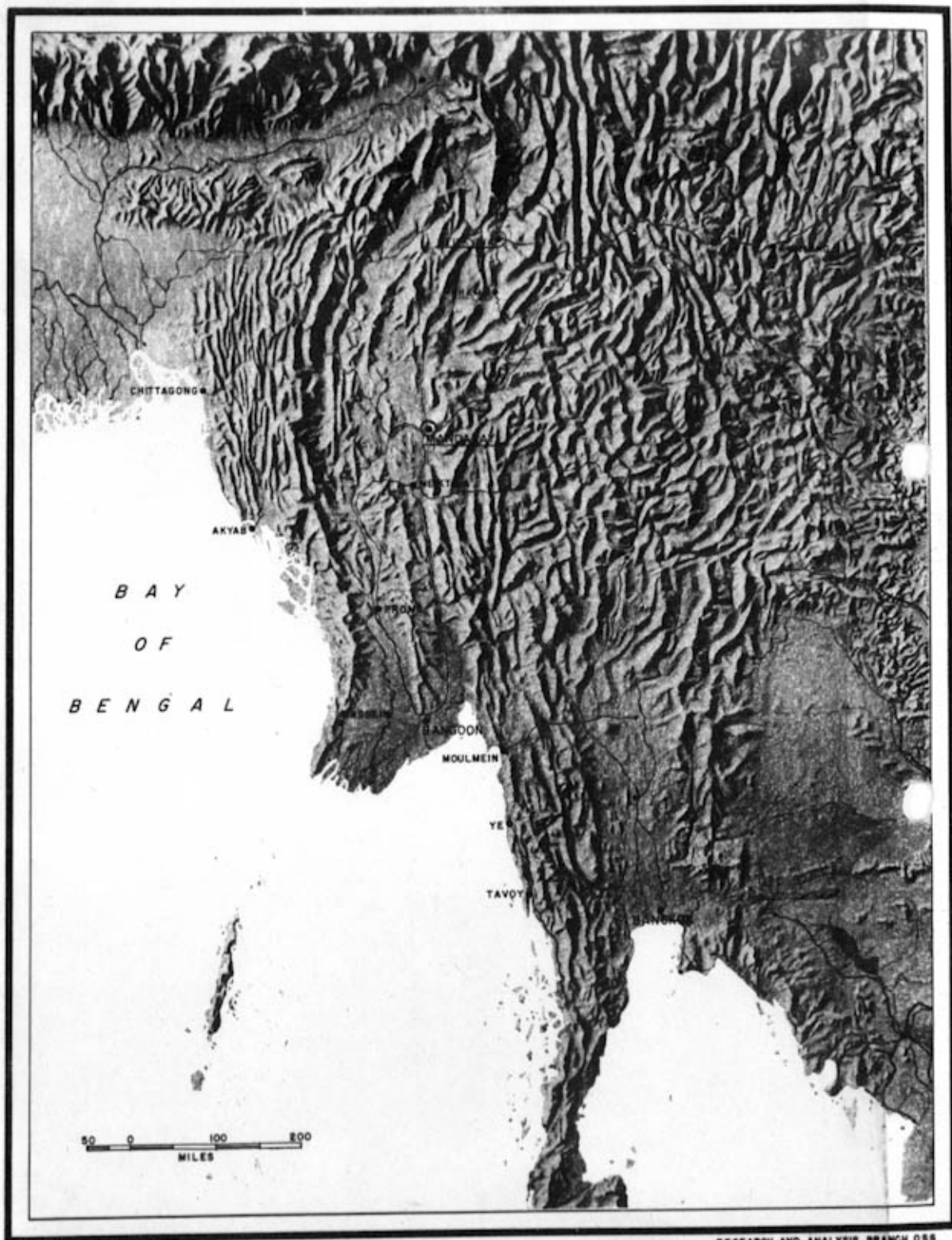
EUROPEAN THEATER

Several unidentified aircraft were reported over Iceland on 8 July. A delayed report for the previous day states that a hostile airplane machine-gunned a fishing vessel off the coast.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Allied forces landed on the southeastern tip of Sicily during the early morning hours of 10 July. These landings were preceded by relentless attacks by the Allied Air Forces in North Africa against enemy airfields on that island. The night of 7-8 July, 83 British Wellington bombers plus other US and British planes flew night missions against the enemy installations at Comiso, Catania, Gerbini, Sciacca and Augusta from which two British planes have not returned. In the daylight attacks which followed, US B-17's, B-25's and B-26's, escorted by P-38's, again pounded Gerbini and its satellite fields. Two enemy planes were shot down and two B-17's are missing. US fighter-aircraft bombed and machine-gunned enemy coastal radar stations and left an enemy schooner sinking southeast of Catania.

General Brereton's 9th Air Force also participated in the attacks on 8 July, hitting the telephone, telegraph and railway facilities and industrial areas at Catania with more than 120 tons of bombs and destroying four (probably seven) enemy planes in aerial combat; 82 tons of bombs also were dropped on Comiso, Biscari and Vittoria. Two US planes did not return.



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

Other Allied aircraft, flying normal convoy and protection missions, reported the destruction of four German twin-engined bombers.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 7 July, B-25's of our 10th Air Force bombed railroad yards, tracks and rolling stock at various points along the railroad lines in central Burma, scoring numerous direct hits. A large boat was bombed and left sinking in the Irrawaddy River, near Mandalay.

The following day, fighter planes of the 10th Air Force bombed and machine-gunned Japanese-held villages in the Kamaing area (45 miles northwest of Myitkyina), starting fires and destroying eight buildings. In central Burma, our medium bombers destroyed rolling stock and railroad tracks at Thazi (80 miles south of Mandalay) and near the Mu River bridge (30 miles west of Mandalay).

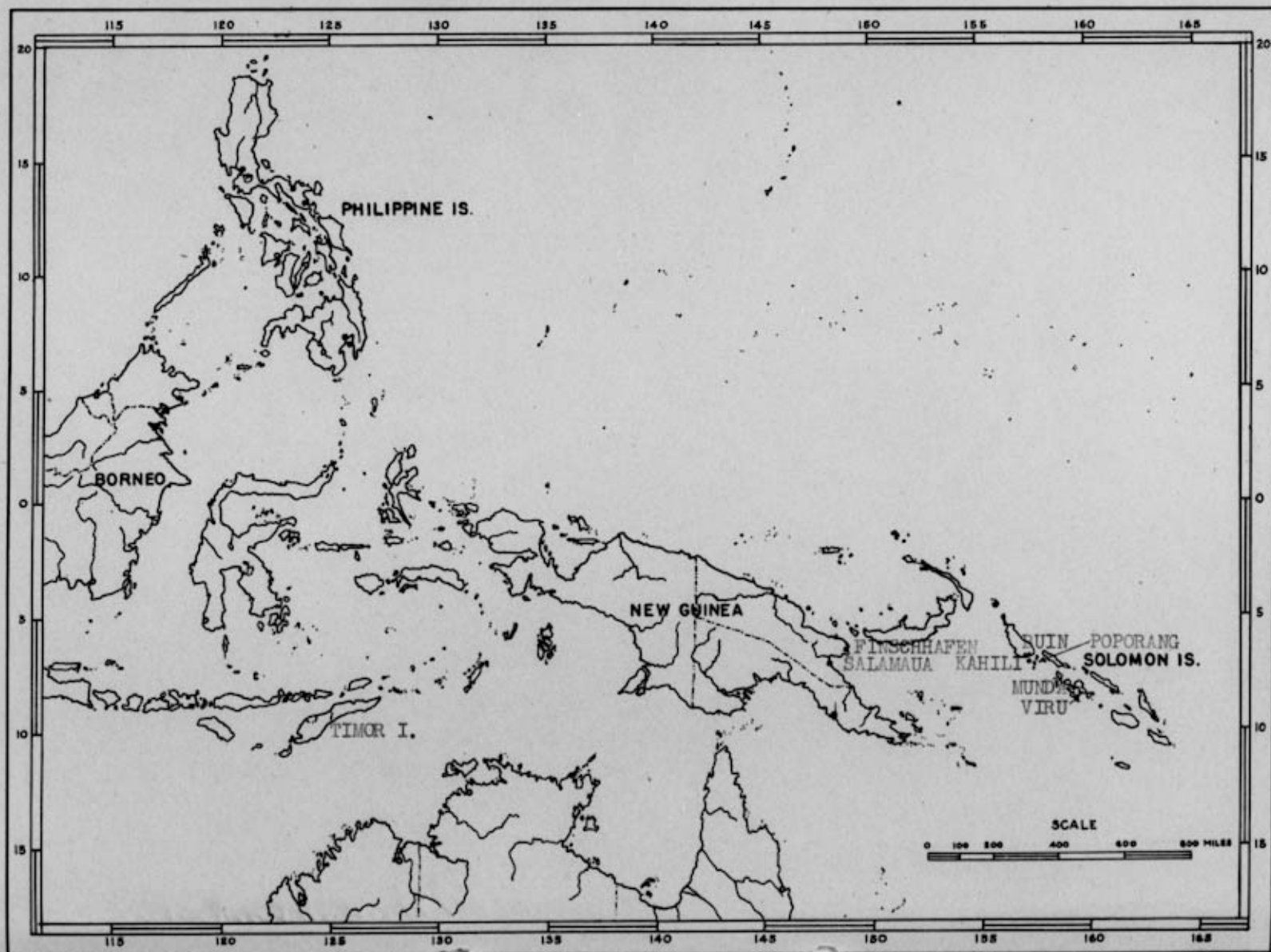
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Air attacks in the Salamaua area were continued on 8 July by 60 Allied airplanes. One B-24 on reconnaissance bombed the building area at Finschhafen. In the northwestern area 13 Allied airplanes attacked the Penfoei airdrome (Timor), shooting down three (probably five) of fourteen intercepting airplanes.

PACIFIC THEATER

Fifteen B-24's bombed Kahili, Buin, and Poporang on 8 July; one

44



B-24 was lost. There were three enemy air raids in the New Georgia area, but no damage resulted. Our artillery has destroyed several enemy antiaircraft positions at Munda; sixty Japs have been captured at Viru.

On the morning of 9 July, local time, our destroyers bombarded Munda and our aircraft bombed ground targets ahead of our troops advancing from the north.

WAR DEPARTMENT

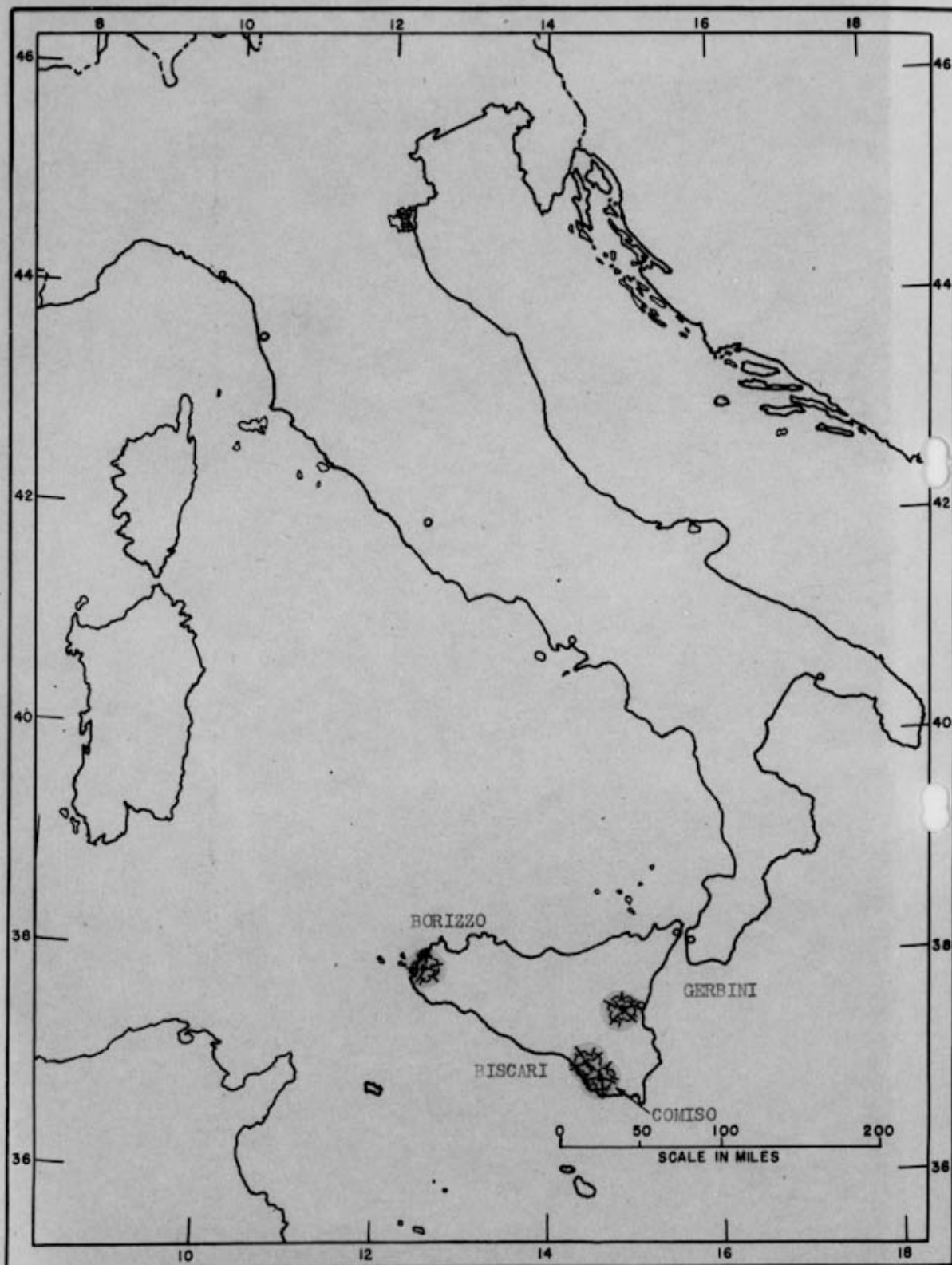
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 576

0700 July 8 to 0700 July 9, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Several unidentified aircraft including one later reported as being a twin-engined German bomber were observed over Iceland on 7 July.

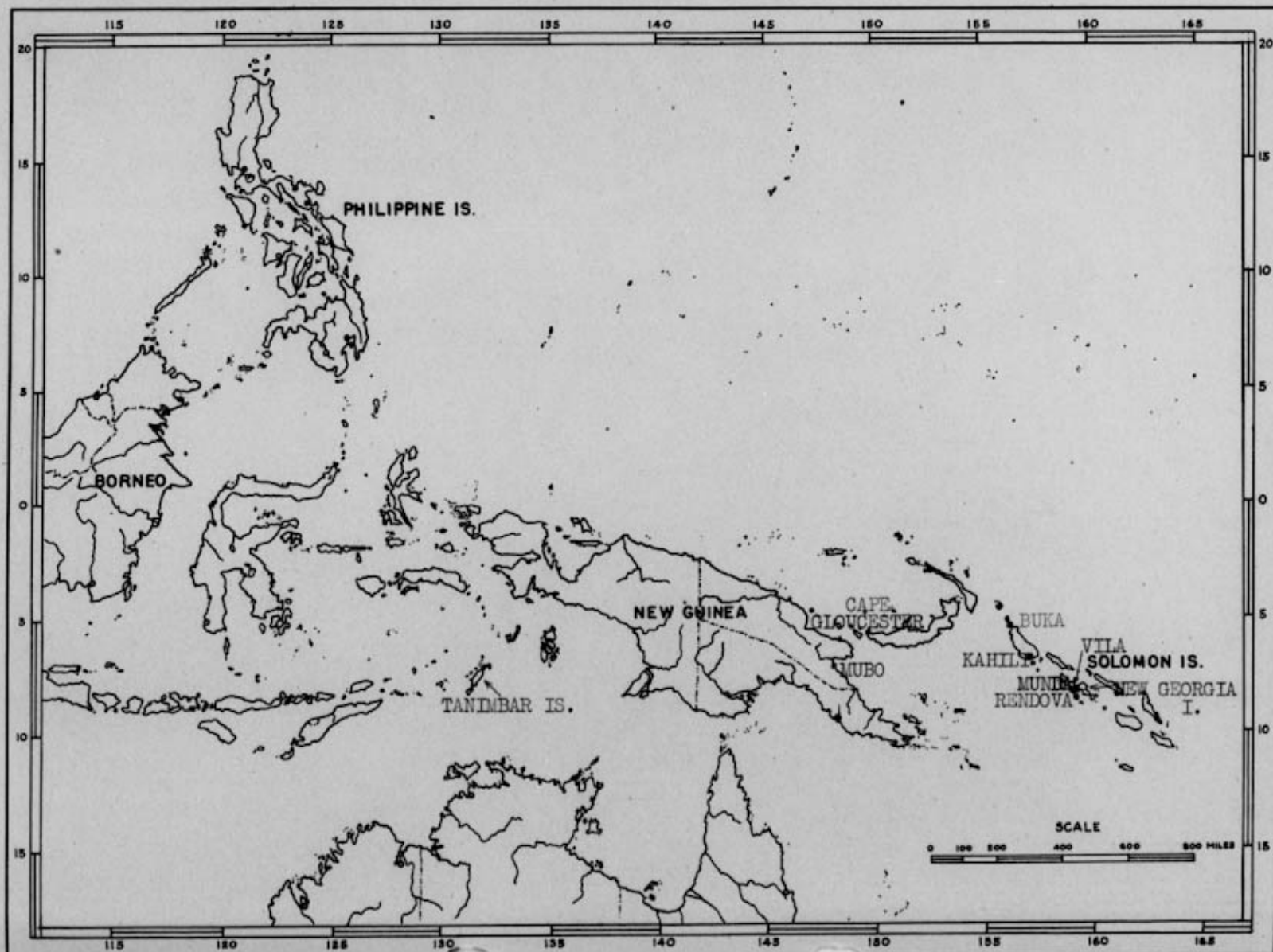
2. US bomber missions over western Europe destroyed 89, probably 112, enemy fighter planes in aerial combat during the week ending 4 July for a loss of 16 B-17's and three fighter-type aircraft. British planes accounted for 25, probably 28, more enemy craft.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Beside severely pounding the Gerbini and Biscari airdromes on 6 July, as reported yesterday, our aircraft dropped more than 61 tons of high explosives on the enemy airfield at Borizzo. Hits were observed on the runways, revetments and administration buildings. While British planes were again active over Sardinia and Sicily that night no specific details of the results of their missions have been received.

On 7 July, 52 Flying Fortresses, 71 B-25's and 64 B-26's, escorted by 95 P-38's, continued the systematic pounding of the Gerbini fields with more than 275 tons of bombs, and although a dense haze prevented observation of results, a good proportion of the bombs were believed

LC



to have hit in the target area. There was no enemy fighter reaction to the raids by our medium and heavy bombers. General Brereton's 9th Air Force planes added more than 117 tons of bombs to the total dropped that day on the Sicilian airfields, concentrating their attacks on Gerbini, Comiso, and Biscari. Returning crews reported that satisfactory results were obtained.

ASIATIC THEATER

Seven medium bombers of the 14th Air Force, escorted by 22 P-40's, attacked shipping at Whampoa (eight miles southeast of Canton) on 7 July, with unobserved results. Two (probably six) enemy fighters were shot down; two of our P-40's crash-landed but the pilots are accounted for.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Our ground forces, supported by heavy air attacks throughout the area, captured an important hill near Mubo on 7 July. In other operations a B-17 bombed the Cape Gloucester bivouac area and two Dutch B-25's started a fuel fire and silenced two antiaircraft positions at an airdrome in the Tanimbar Islands.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 6 July, 56 enemy fighters and an undetermined number of bombers were intercepted over Rendova by Navy fighters, which shot down nine enemy fighters and three bombers; one of our airplanes is missing. In other previously unreported action on 6 and 7 July our aircraft started large fires at Buka, dropped 45 tons of explosives on Kahili, and heavily attacked Vila. Two of our B-24's are missing.

On 7 July our beachhead on New Georgia six miles east of Munda was expanded; our forces were reported to be in contact with the enemy. Supporting artillery was in position and telephone communication has been established between this beachhead and our installations on the barrier reef to the east.

WAR DEPARTMENT

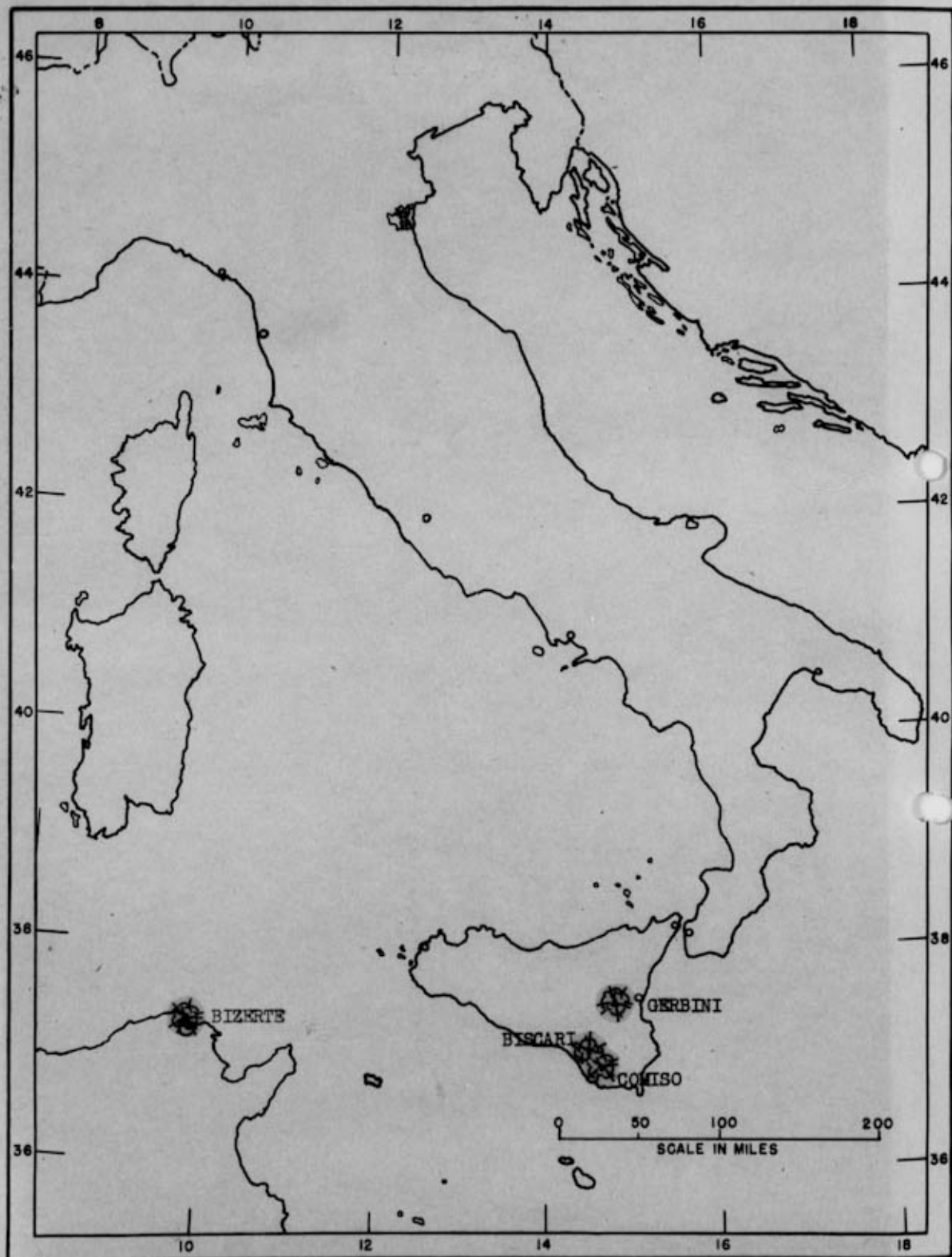
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 575

0700 July 7 to 0700 July 8, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Following a naval bombardment of enemy installations on Kiska on 6 July, 11th Air Force planes dropped 15 tons of high explosives and demolition bombs on the main camp area there. All our aircraft returned safely.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A German twin-engined bomber was sighted over Iceland on 6 July.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Allied and enemy bombers were active over the Mediterranean on the night of 5-6 July, with 28 British Wellingtons dropping 54 tons of explosives on Gerbini and its satellite fields. Fifty enemy aircraft retaliated by raiding Bizerte. Numerous high explosives and incendiary bombs were dropped causing casualties and destroying some barracks and motor transportation; four enemy planes were shot down. The next day US planes continued their bombing of the enemy air installations in Sicily, concentrating on the Gerbini and Biscari air-dromes. A force of 139 unescorted B-17's and B-24's hit the enemy supply and ammunition dumps, buildings, and hangars at Gerbini with 348 tons of explosives while Biscari and Comiso installations were being pounded by more than 178 tons of bombs dropped by 138 B-25's. From all the above operations, one British Wellington and one B-17 have not returned.

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MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

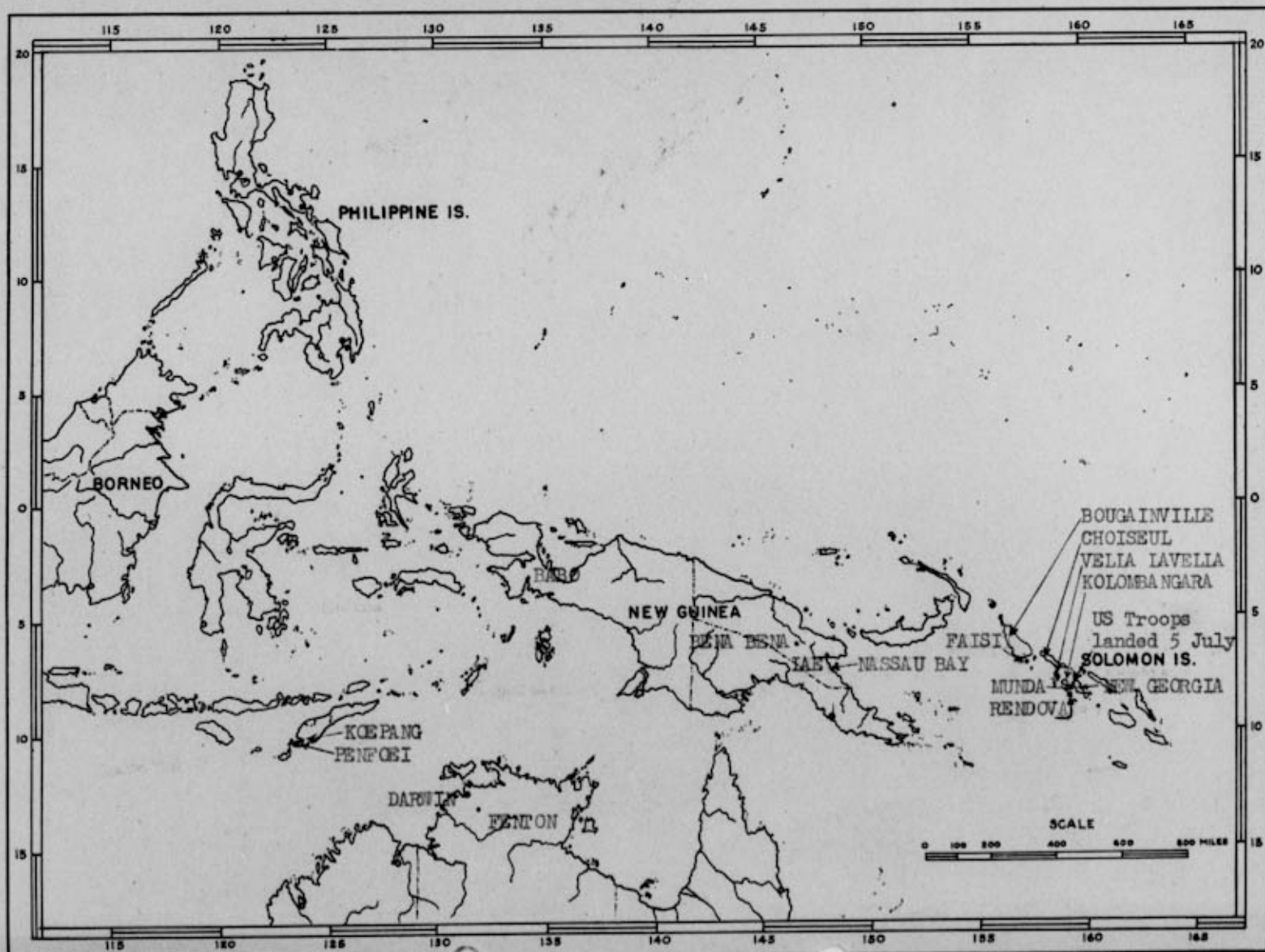
The War Department issued orders assigning Brigadier General Earl S. Hoag to command US Army Forces in Central Africa, in addition to his duties as Commanding General of the African Middle-East Wing, Air Transport Command.

ASIATIC THEATER

B-25's of the 14th Air Force, operating on offensive sweeps with fighter cover on 6 July, scored hits on enemy barges in the Tungting Lake region; other medium bombers attacked the nearby Pailoshih airdrome, hitting the runway and revetment areas.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

During 5 and 6 July, the enemy flew several bombing missions against our forces and installations in the Southwest Pacific area. During the afternoon of 5 July, eight of his medium bombers, escorted by seven fighters, ineffectively attacked a village near Nassau Bay; the next day nine escorted bombers raided villages in the Bena Bena area and three float-planes attacked an Allied convoy off Darwin. At noon on 6 July, 27 enemy bombers, escorted by 21 fighters, attacked our air base at Fenton (southeast of Darwin), destroying one and damaging three B-24's on the ground. Intercepting Spitfires shot down five (probably 9) of the bombers and two of the escorting fighters.



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

Allied aircraft bombed Penfoei airdrome, Koepang, and Babo with observed effect on 6 July. Only patrol activity and minor air action were reported in the Lae-Nassau Bay area on that day.

PACIFIC THEATER

US troops landed at Rice Anchorage on the northwestern shores of New Georgia Island early on 5 July. General MacArthur reports that, during the naval engagement in Kula Gulf that same night, six of ten enemy light cruisers and destroyers were probably sunk and the remaining four damaged. The next day, small groups of enemy vessels, including two possible light cruisers, were sighted between Choiseul and Vella Lavella Islands proceeding northward; several vessels appeared to be damaged.

Opposing air forces in the Solomon area traded blows on 6 July. Allied aircraft attacked enemy positions north of Munda and bombed Ballale (southwest of Bougainville). A B-24 destroyed two (probably 3) of five fighters attempting to intercept it near Kolombangara Island. Three of 18 enemy bombers, attempting to attack our forces on Rendova, were destroyed by antiaircraft fire.

Intelligence sources indicate that the enemy is reinforcing his units in the northern Solomons. Two destroyers were reported to have landed troops at Vila (Kolombangara Island) on the morning of 6 July. Three heavy cruisers, two destroyers and four auxiliary vessels were sighted in the Bougainville area.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

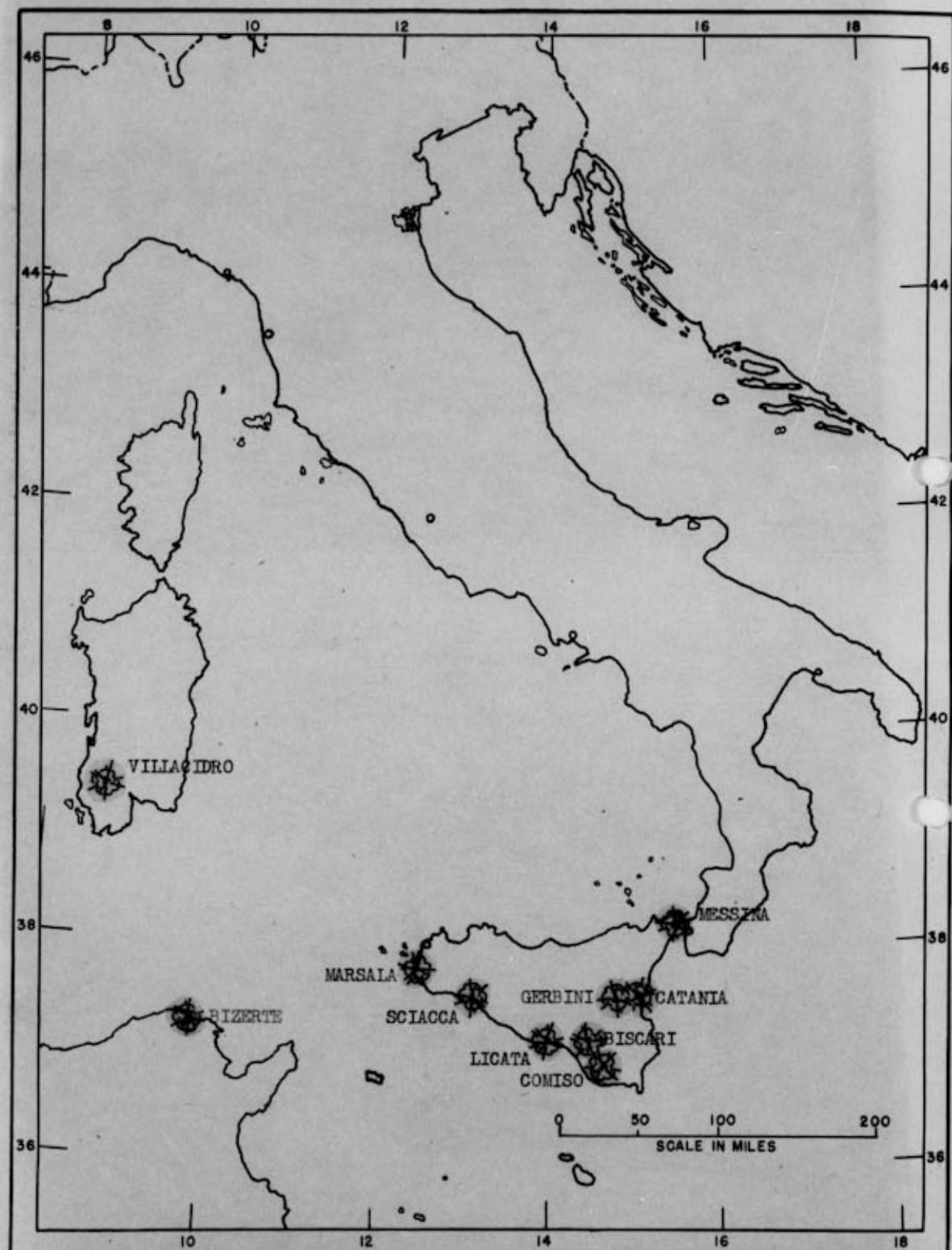
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 574

0700 July 6 to 0700 July 7, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was plotted over Iceland on 5 July.

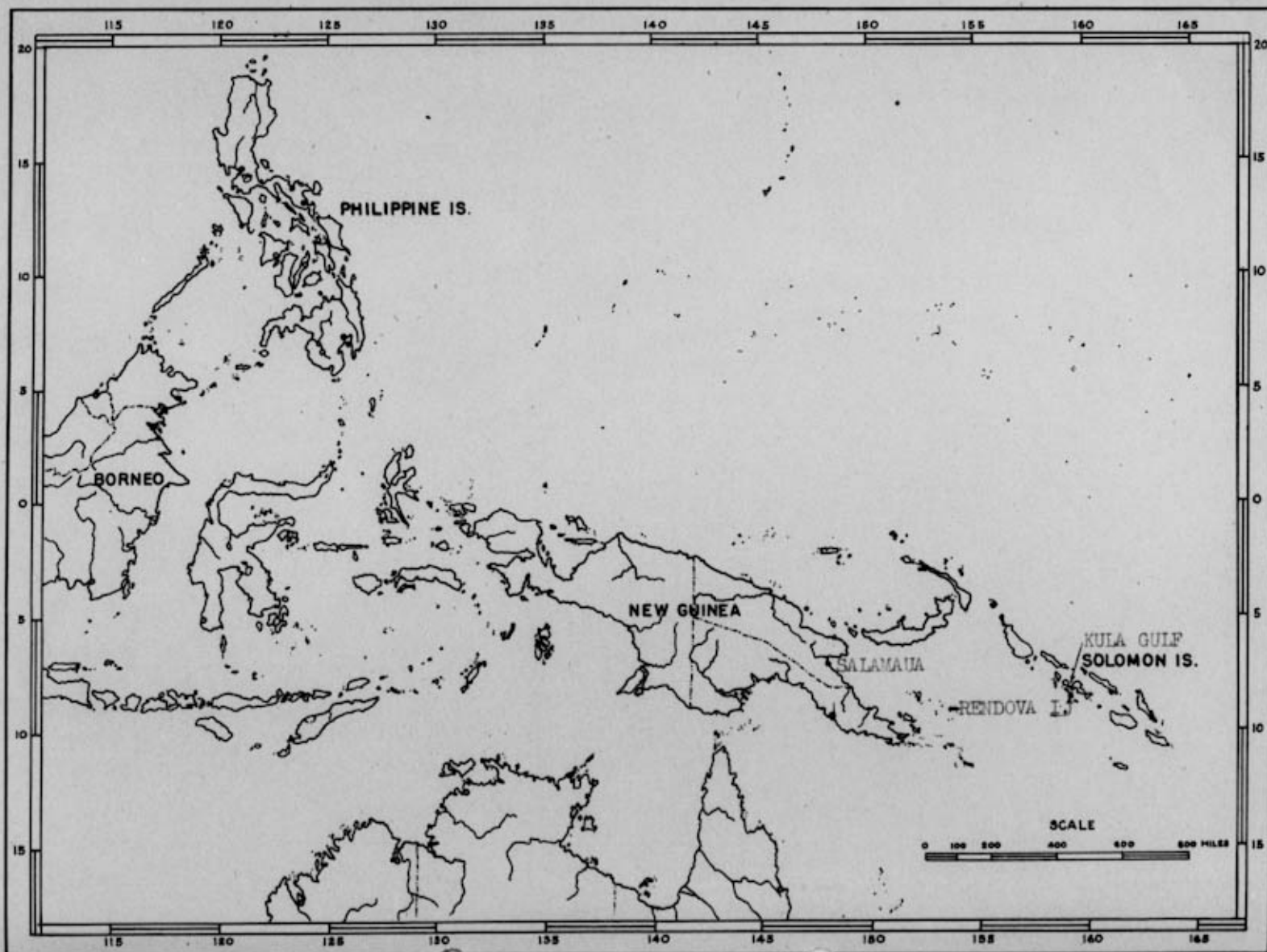
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 4-5 July, 40 US light and medium bombers raided Sciacca airdrome with 40 tons of demolition and incendiary bombs. Meanwhile 34 British Wellingtons dropped 60 tons on Villacidro airdrome and Catania.

On 5 July, 103 heavy and 138 medium bombers, heavily escorted, dropped 275 tons of explosives on the airfields near Gerbini. Axis fighter reaction was heavy and determined; 35 enemy planes were destroyed. We lost three B-17's, two B-25's and one P-38 from aerial combat and antiaircraft fire. Sixty-six of our bombers heavily raided Messina with 178 tons of explosives. Smoke from fires and explosions in the target areas, although precluding accurate assessment, indicated severe damage. Three, probably four, more enemy aircraft were shot down in this encounter. Nine other bombers scored hits on the Sciacca airdrome where 10 tons of high explosives were dropped. Fifty-six B-25's dropped 55 tons of bombs on Comiso and 38 tons on Biscari, and swarms of our P-40's machine-gunned and bombed the radar stations at Licata and Marsala.

Enemy planes, totaling one hundred, raided Bizerte during the early morning hours of 5 July, some 75 participating in the main

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attack. Five were destroyed by our fighters and antiaircraft fire. Reports of damage have not been received.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

US medium bombers continued their attacks on ground targets in the Salamaua area during 5 July.

PACIFIC THEATER

Sixteen of our P-40's, intercepting 40 Japanese fighters over Rendova Island on 5 July, shot down two enemy fighters; we lost one P-40, but the pilot was saved.

A communique from General MacArthur's headquarters gives preliminary reports on a naval battle in Kula Gulf (north of New Georgia Island) which indicate that six enemy ships were probably sunk and four more damaged. One damaged enemy destroyer, beached at a nearby harbor, was hit and set afire by seven 500-pound bombs dropped by our medium and dive bombers. One of our cruisers was lost.

WAR DEPARTMENT

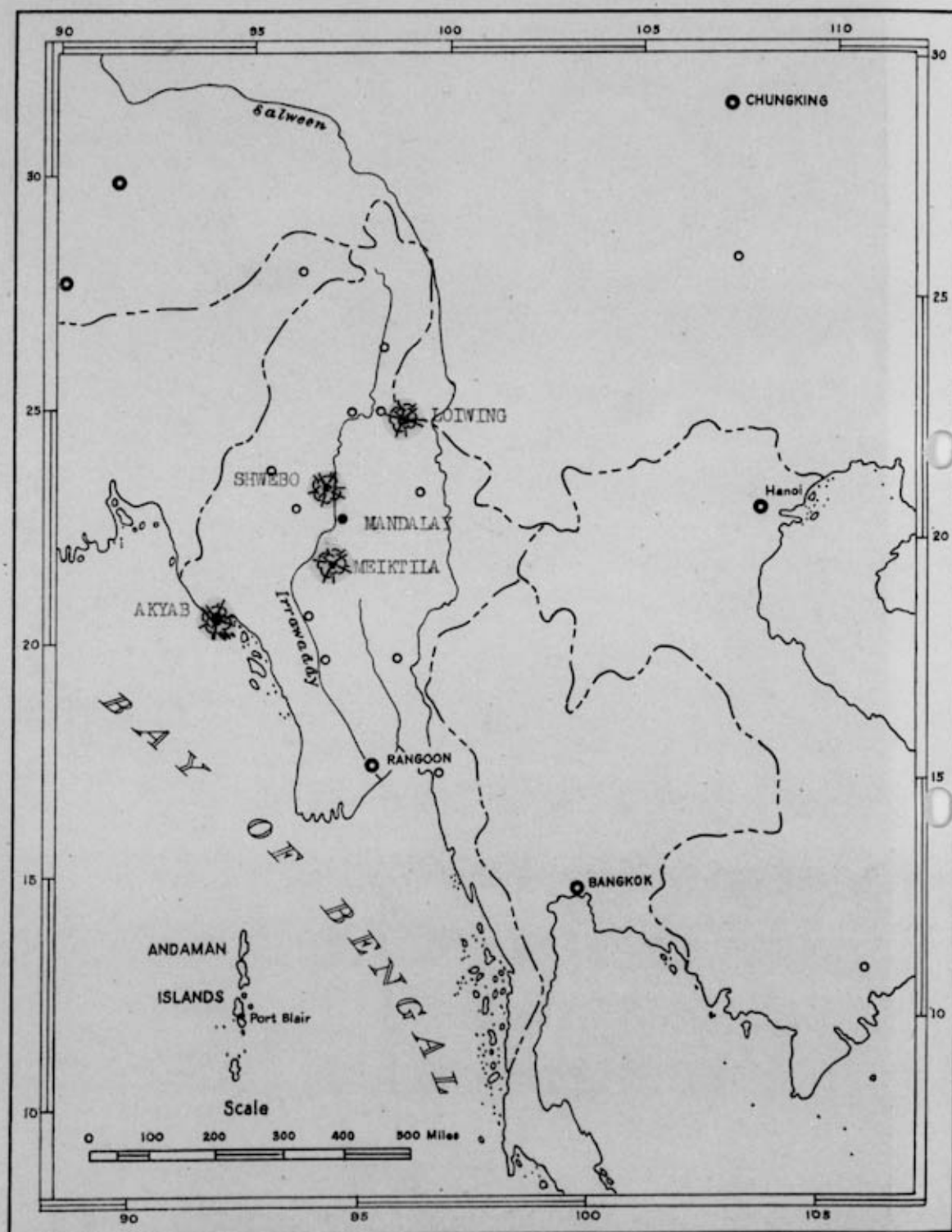
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 573

0700 July 5 to 0700 July 6, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

A hostile airplane was reported over Iceland on 4 July.

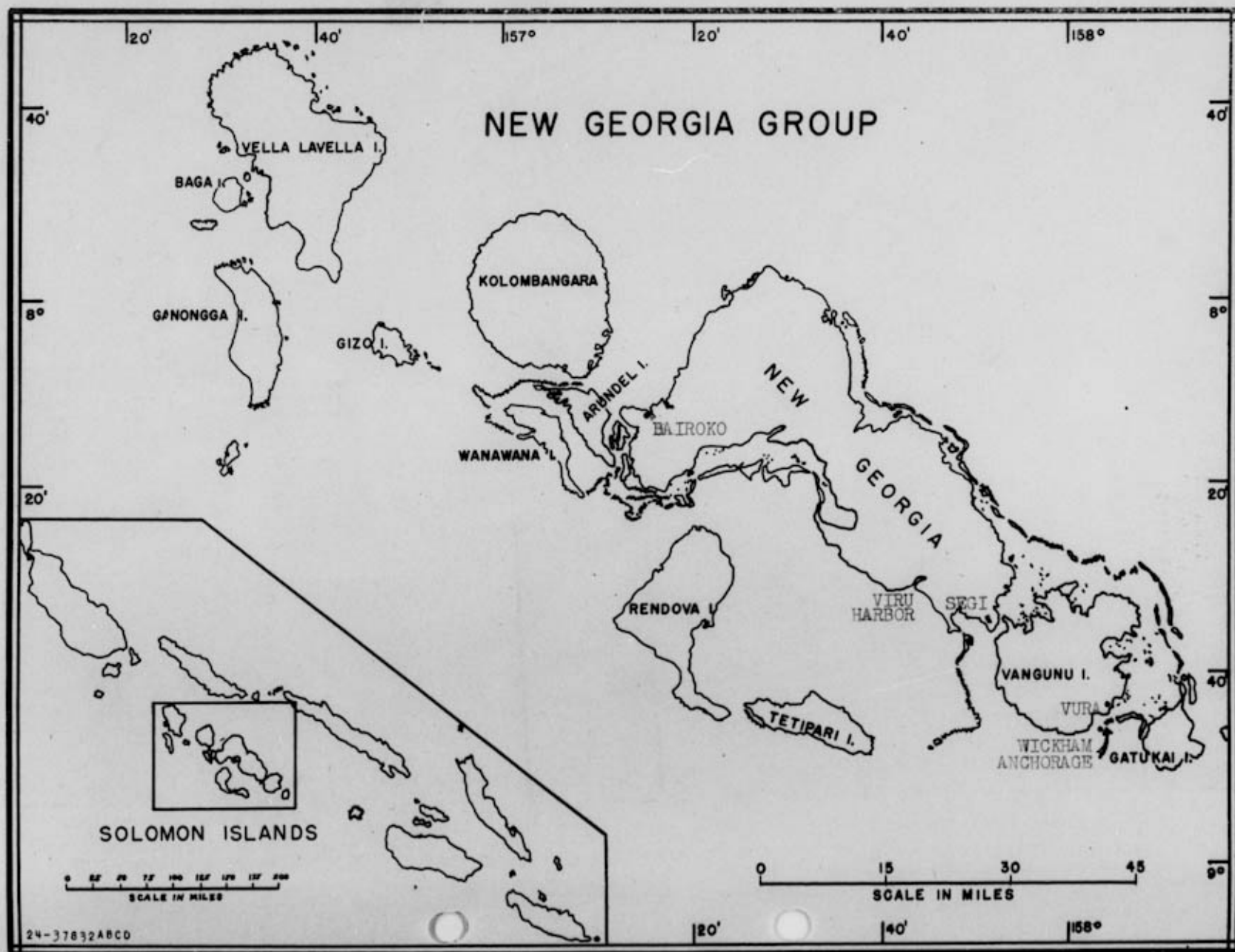
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On 3 July, nine British airplanes dropped 24 tons of bombs on the Catania railroad yards with unobserved results. On the night of 3-4 July British bombers again attacked Trapani, 52 Wellingtons dropping 138 tons of explosives and incendiaries. Three others bombed the mouth of the Tiber, also dropping leaflets. The following day 71 escorted US medium bombers pounded Gerbini (Sicily) with some 90 tons of bombs. Forty-nine B-17's covered the Catania airdrome with 20-pound fragmentation bombs. Other Allied aircraft attacked the Milo, Sciacca, and Comiso airdromes and targets in the Marsala area. Hostile fighter opposition was relatively heavy; 27 (probably 36) enemy airplanes were destroyed for an Allied loss of eleven. One of these, a B-17, was destroyed by aerial incendiary bombs.

ASIATIC THEATER

Medium bombers of the 10th Air Force on 4 July destroyed warehouses, rolling stock and tracks in the Shwebo railroad yards (48 miles southwest of Mandalay), and attacked the airdrome and barracks at Meiktila. Two B-24's bombed the jetty at Akyab. In northern

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

Burma five other heavy bombers attacked the Shweli River railroad bridge (below Loiwing) with 25 half-ton bombs, all of which hit in the target area.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Ground activity on 4 July was confined to patrolling in the New Guinea area. Only three sorties were flown by Allied aircraft; a small enemy cargo vessel, hit in a skip-bombing attack, was left burning and sinking in Vanimo Bay (northwest of Wewak). Construction of the airdrome on Woodlark Island has been started.

PACIFIC THEATER

Thirty-seven US airplanes attacked the enemy's bivouac area at Munda on 3 July. The next day, while 10 B-17's bombed Bairoko Harbor, at least 18 escorted enemy bombers attempted to attack our positions on Rendova; 17 of these bombers were shot down, 12 by our antiaircraft fire, our fighter aircraft accounting for the remaining five, as well as four of their escorting fighters. Six light bombers also attacked Rekata with 24 quarter-ton bombs. No Allied loss was sustained in these engagements. Our naval forces shelled Vila and Bairoko.

Our casualties at Viru Harbor, occupied 30 June, were 13 killed, 15 wounded and 5 missing. During the capture of Vura Village near Wickham Anchorage (Vangunu Island), on 3 July, 300 Japanese were

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

killed and the rest of the force driven off. Here also our losses were relatively low.

Our forces on Rendova Island were increased by the arrival of the greater part of the 169th Infantry. Our fighter strip at Segi (south end of New Georgia Is.) is expected to be completed on 10 July.

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~~SECRET~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

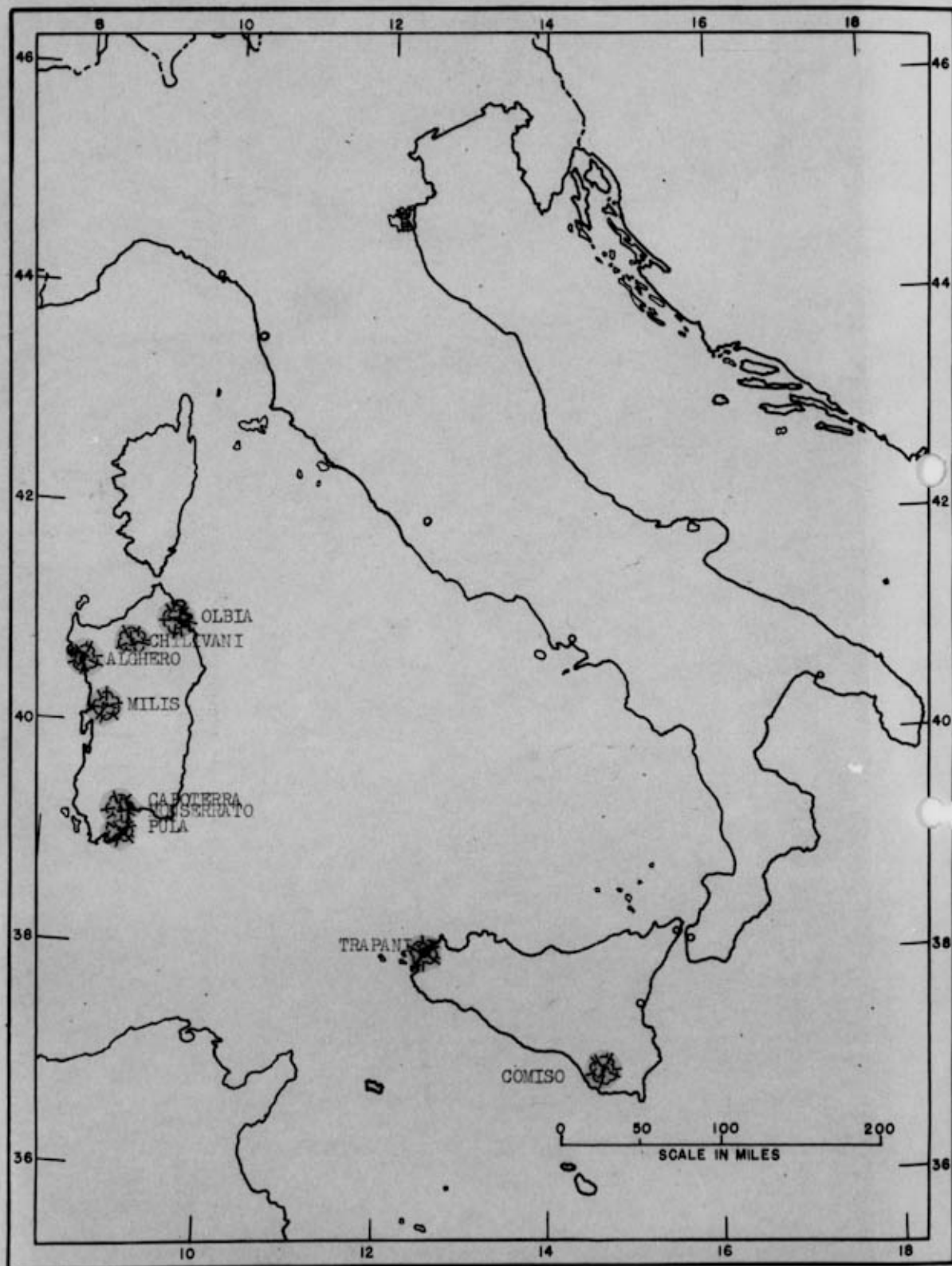
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 572

0700 July 4 to 0700 July 5, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Adak-based B-24's dropped 18 tons of demolition bombs on the enemy camp installations at Kiska on 3 July. Results were not observed.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. A hostile airplane was sighted over Iceland on 3 July.
2. On 4 July our B-17's flew three missions against targets in France, the main attack by 123 heavy bombers being directed against the Aero Engine Works at Le Mans. An aircraft assembly and construction plant at Mantes was hit by 72 others, while the third mission of 83 B-17's bombed the docks and new construction at La Pallice. In all, 544 tons of explosives were dropped and good results were observed. Forty-six (probably 81) enemy fighters were shot down for a loss of eight B-17's.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 2-3 July and the following day, British aircraft bombed Olbia and Trapani; US heavy and medium bombers and fighters raided the Alghero airdrome and radar station, the Pula radar station, and the Milis, Chilivani, Monserrato and Capoterra airdromes. Uniformly good results were reported; eight enemy airplanes were destroyed for a loss of two US medium bombers and one fighter.

Bombers of General Brereton's 9th Air Force dropped 56 tons of explosives on the Comiso airdrome on 3 July, scoring direct hits on the workshops and hangars.

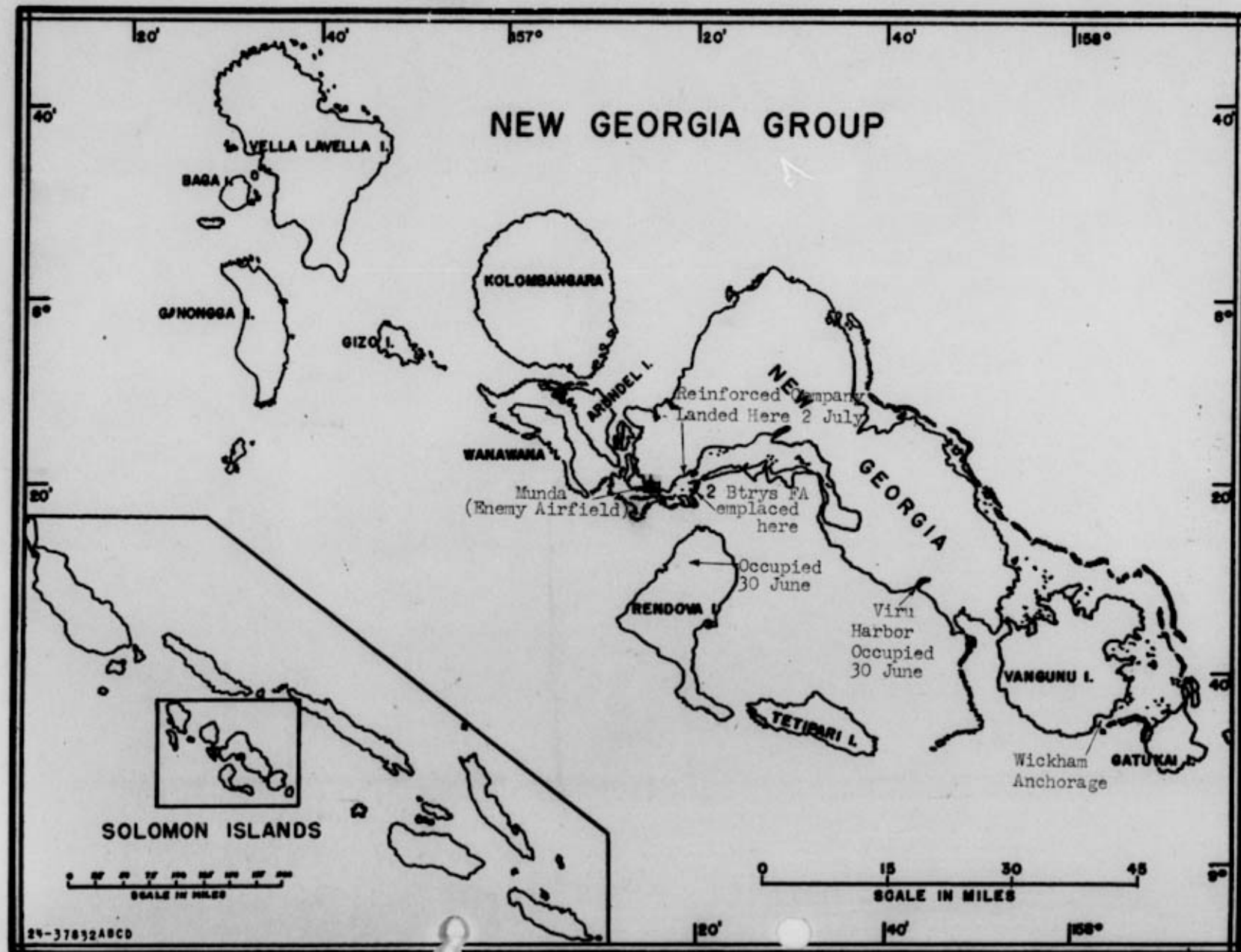
ASIATIC THEATER

On 2 July medium bombers of our 10th Air Force hit enemy barracks, oil derricks, a warehouse and buildings in central Burma, bombed a tank farm near Rangoon and caused extensive destruction to buildings near Thanbyuzayat (35 miles southeast of Moulmein). The next day, our planes destroyed the south span of Myitnge bridge (seven miles south of Mandalay) and seriously damaged other parts of the structure. B-24's scored hits on the railroad yards at Prome and attacked the factory section of Myingyan (60 miles southwest of Mandalay).

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 3 July, our heavy bombers, operating in difficult weather, continued their attacks on the airdromes at Rabaul; one bombed the Cape Gloucester runway. To the west, nine B-24's bombed Kendari (Celebes) causing substantial damage and destroying one airplane. Three Dutch B-25's bombed Koepang, Timor, through a heavy overcast.

Seventeen enemy airplanes were intercepted over Salamaua; five (probably six) enemy planes were shot down without Allied loss. Eight enemy planes attacked a village in the Bena Bena area, New Guinea.



PACIFIC THEATER

A reinforced company of the 169th Infantry landed on New Georgia Island just east of the enemy's Munda airfield on 2 July. Our artillery has been emplaced on Sasavele Island from which neutralizing fire can be laid on installations at Munda. The enemy air attack on Rendova Island, reported yesterday, killed 30 and wounded 200 of our troops.

According to a late communique ground troops, supported by our air forces, captured a village in the vicinity of Wickham Anchorage on ³4 July.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

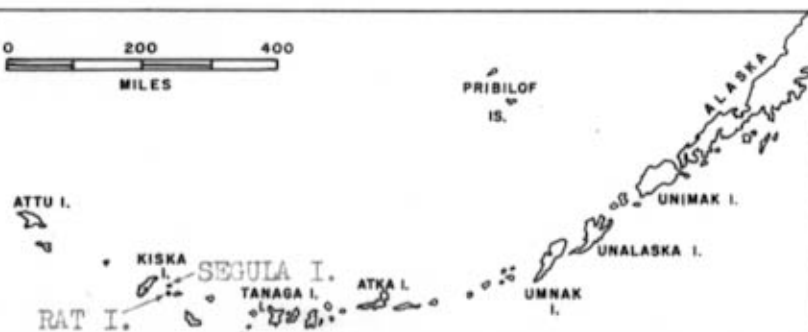
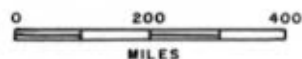
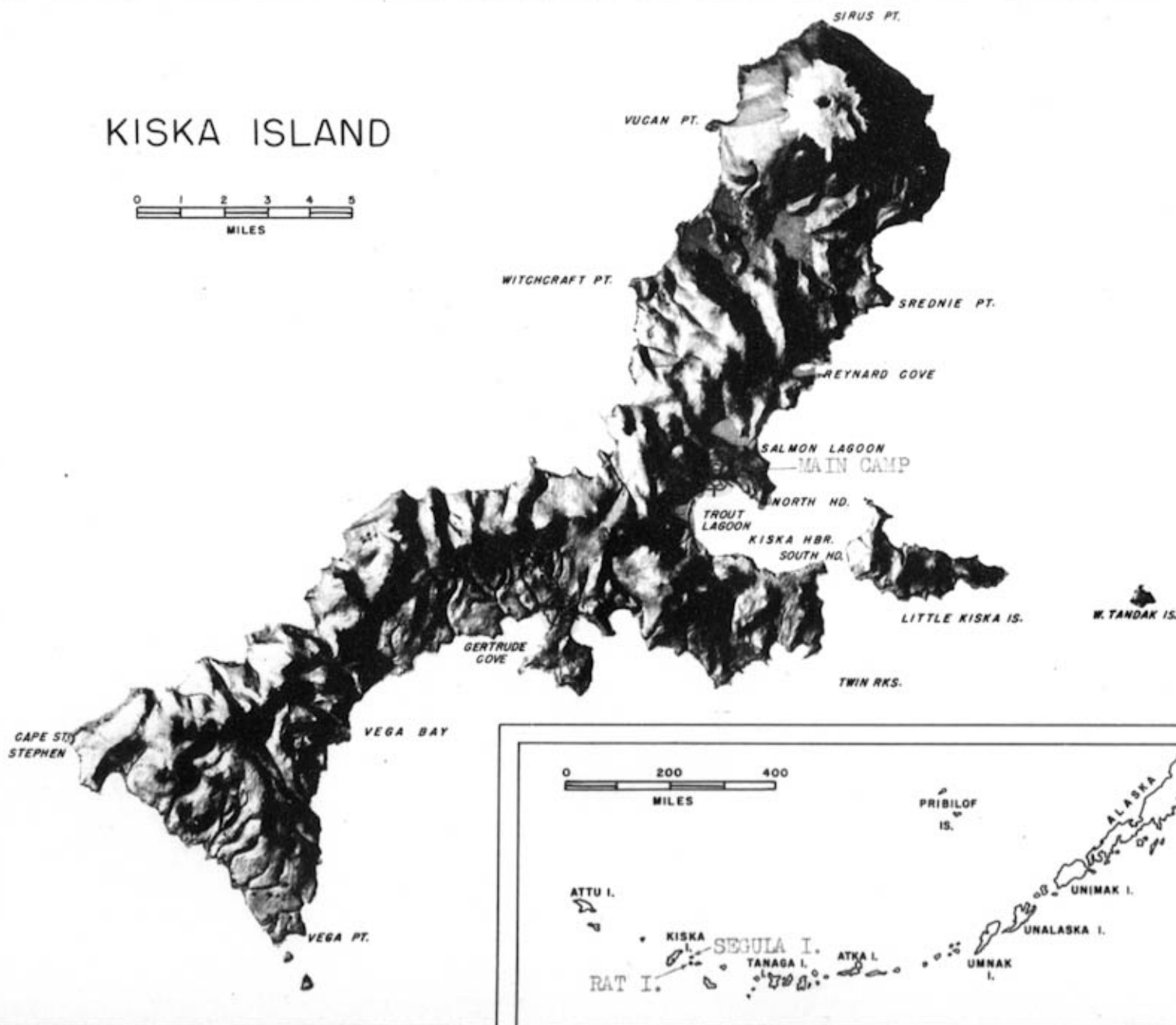
No. 571

0700 July 3 to 0700 July 4, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

KISKA ISLAND



BASE MAP NO. 2356
8 MAY 1943 (FREE)

BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS
REPRODUCED IN REPRODUCTION SECTION, OSS

DECLASSIFIED

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Eleven heavy and seven medium bombers of the 11th Air Force attacked Kiska through a broken overcast on 2 July. Over 30 tons of bombs were dropped with observed effect on the main camp and Gertrude Cove areas. Although low-altitude reconnaissances of Segula Island by two heavy bombers were negative, four P-38's in a subsequent flight over that island received antiaircraft fire from well-concealed gun positions there. Rat Island, between Amchitka and Kiska, was scouted by an Army reconnaissance group put ashore from a destroyer; no signs of enemy activity were noted on that island.

2. Directives have been issued for the movement of the 3d Armored and 101st Airborne Divisions to the New York Port of Embarkation for further movement overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

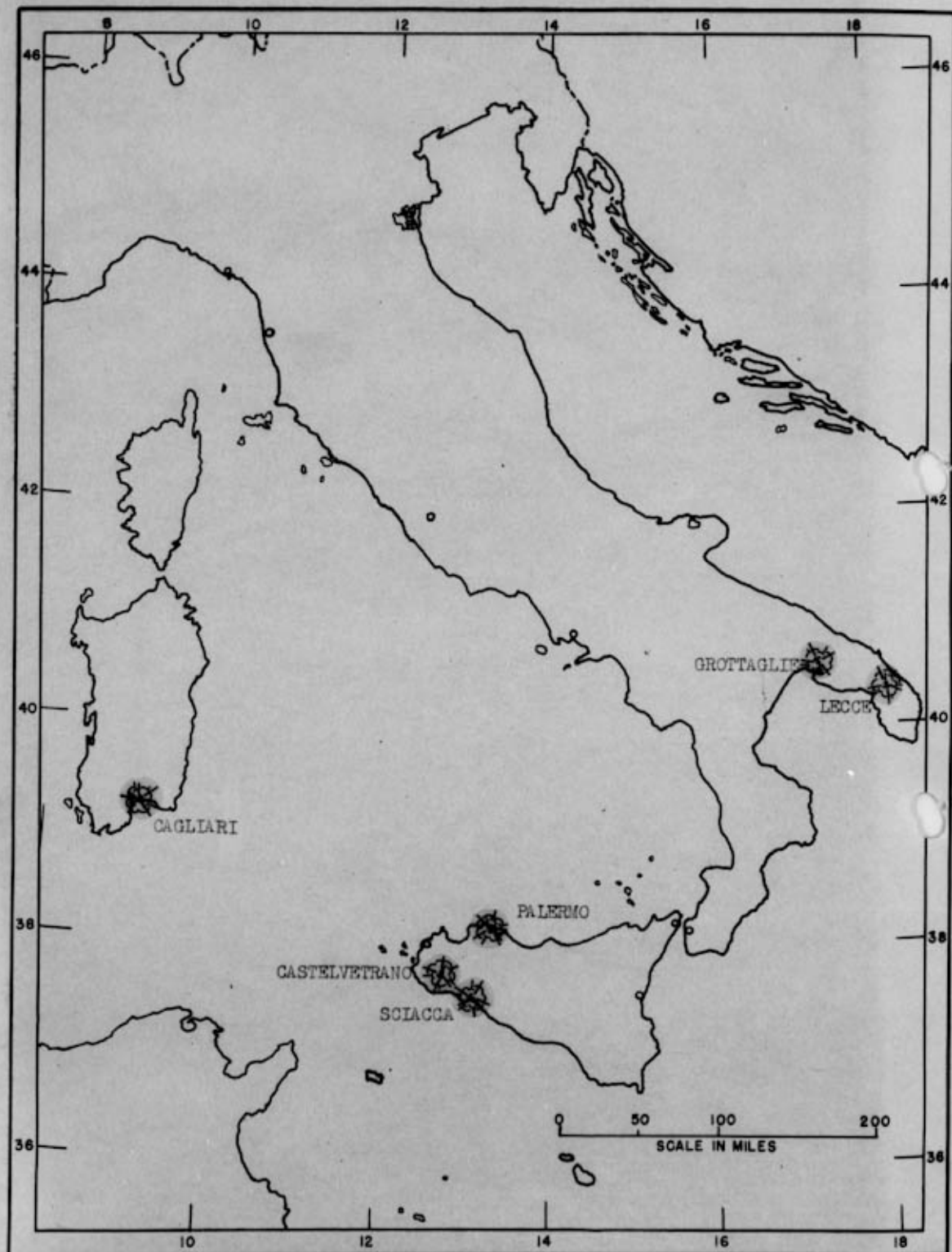
On 2 July unidentified aircraft were reported over Iceland.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 1-2 July, 20 British bombers again raided Cagliari, this time dropping 46 tons of explosives. Thirty others attacked Palermo with 62 tons of explosives and incendiaries.

On 2 July bombers of the 9th Air Force dropped over 137 tons of bombs on the Lecce airdrome while others dropped 52 tons on the

[REDACTED]



Grottaglie airdrome. Excellent results were obtained. Escorted medium bombers also attacked Sciacca and Castelvetro airdromes (Sicily). In these operations fourteen enemy airplanes were destroyed for a loss of four B-24's and two P-40's.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied ground forces in the Salamaua area gained ground and consolidated their positions on 2 July. Our heavy bomber attacks on Rabaul continued, as did attacks by heavy and medium bombers in the Salamaua area. Near Millingimbi an Australian airplane protecting a convoy shot down an attacking float plane.

A final assessment of the enemy raid on Darwin on 30 June places the enemy loss at nine (probably 11) airplanes.

PACIFIC THEATER

1. In all, 65 Japs have been killed on Rendova Island, and at Viru 79 more were drowned trying to cross a river.

On the night of 1-2 July, an enemy task force of some three cruisers and four destroyers fired 100 rounds at Rendova Island, no damage being reported. On being engaged by our covering naval force, the enemy withdrew. The following day, 18 escorted enemy bombers attacked Rendova but damaged only fuel and ration stores. Our own destroyers bombarded targets at Wickham Anchorage (New Georgia Is.).

On 3 July some 40 of our airplanes bombed Munda with unreported results; all planes returned. Ten P-38's intercepted 50 enemy planes over Rendova, destroying five Zeros with a loss of three of their number.

2. Two of three US B-24's on an attack mission over the Gilbert Islands dropped nearly two tons of fragmentation bombs on Nauru Island on 28 June; the third reconnoitered Nonouti, reporting no signs of enemy activity.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 570

0700 July 2 to 0700 July 3, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The revised estimate of Japanese dead on Attu is now 2,350.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. An unidentified multi-motored airplane was sighted over Iceland on 1 July.

2. Three large fighter missions from the United Kingdom, totaling 129 P-47's, were flown over northwestern Europe on July 1. Scattered aerial combats ensued, the principle^{al} encounter developing when our fighters challenged 15 of the enemy over Holland. Four, probably five, FW-190's were destroyed; we lost one P-47, that piloted by Colonel Armand Peterson, a group commander who had led more than 40 offensive fighter missions against the Axis.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 30 June-1 July, 32 British bombers dropped 75 tons of bombs on the barracks and railroad station at Cagliari, Sardinia. During the ensuing day air action in the Mediterranean was limited to patrolling, four enemy aircraft being shot down without US loss. Two schooners off the shores of Italy were left in a sinking condition.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 29 June, nine B-25's of the 10th Air Force scored direct

hits on rolling stock and buildings in the railroad yards at Kyaukse (central Burma), while eight B-25's bombed Mandalay.

On 1 July, six B-24's dropped eight tons of bombs on the Thanbyuzayat railroad yards (southern Burma); eight B-25's attacked river shipping near Mandalay.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

General MacArthur reports for 1 July that Allied raiding patrols killed 26 Japanese in the Lae-Salamaua area. Our Nassau Bay force consolidated its position under the close support of light and medium bombers which attacked enemy positions in that vicinity. US heavy bombers continued their attacks against airdromes in the vicinity of Rabaul.

Allied bombers operating to the northwest strafed the airdrome at Selaru Island (Tanimbars), and sank a vessel off shore.

PACIFIC THEATER

Two hours after our forces landed on Rendova Island, the enemy airfield at Munda was subjected to field artillery fire. The number of enemy planes attacking our surface forces off the island on 30 June was more than the 110 previously reported; our original claim of 65 enemy aircraft destroyed has now been revised to 101. An enemy air formation on 1 July was intercepted over Rendova by our fighters, who shot down 22 enemy airplanes for a loss of eight of ours.

On 2 July, four B-25's sank a 220-foot camouflaged cargo vessel in the Bairoke Anchorage, New Georgia Island.

WAR DEPARTMENT

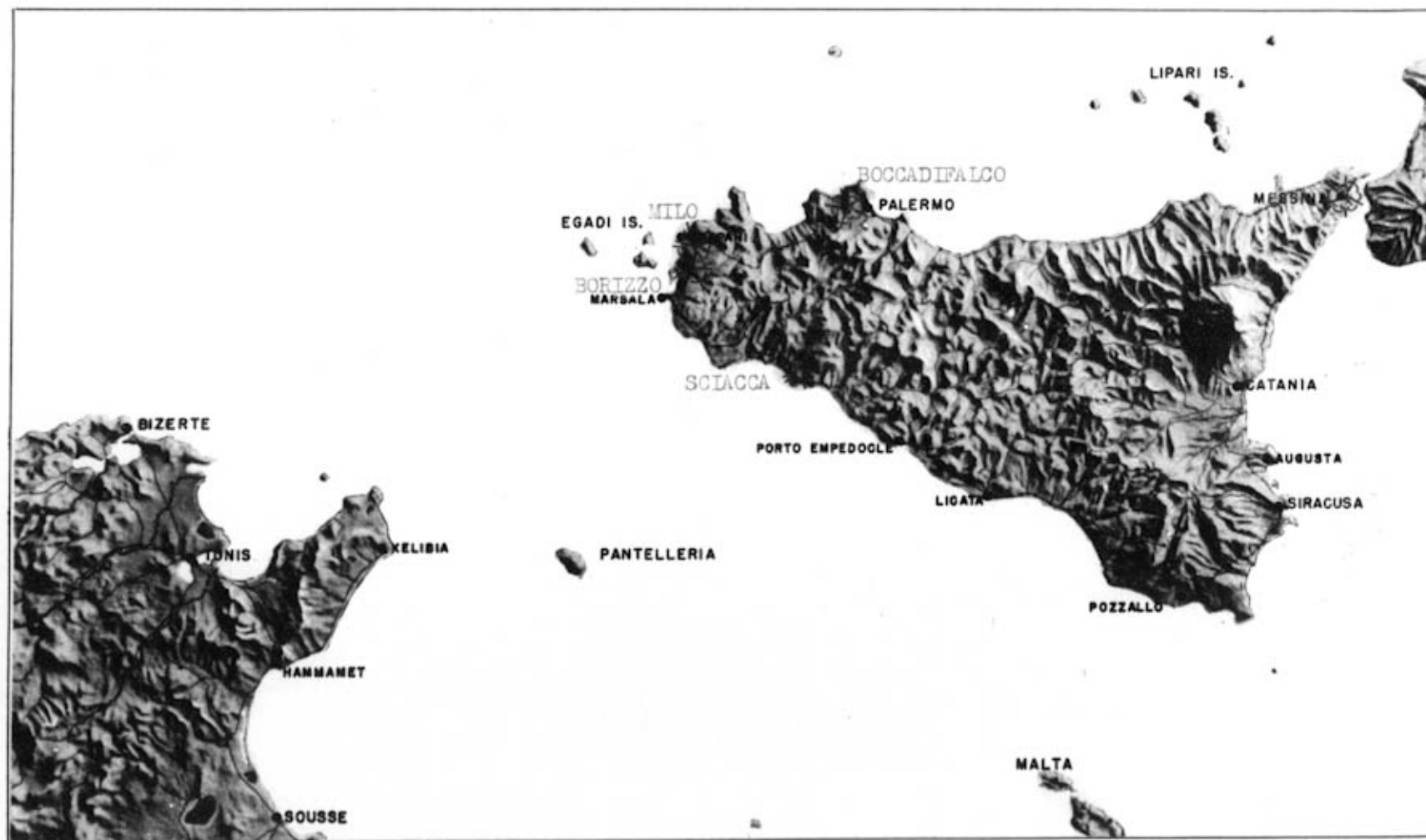
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 569

0700 July 1 to 0700 July 2, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



NORTHEASTERN TUNISIA AND SICILY

BASE MAP NO. 2357 (FREE)
10 MAY 1943

BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OSS
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GND Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

During June our 11th Air Force dropped more than 244 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs on the enemy installations at Kiska. While thirteen of our planes received minor damage, none were lost.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 30 June.

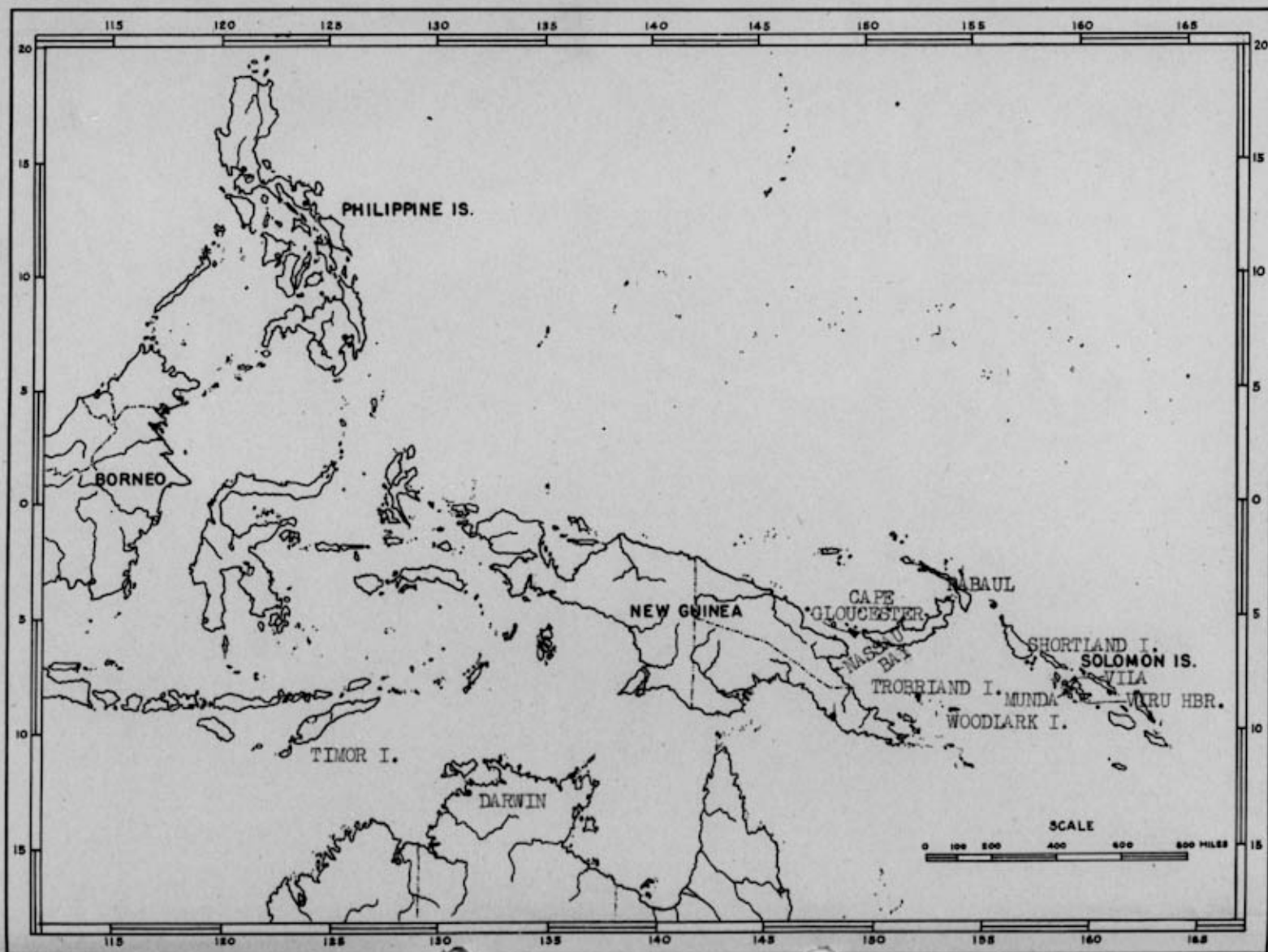
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Fires and damage to rail installations were observed at Messina after 64 British heavy bombers, attacking the night of 29-30 June, had released some 120 tons of bombs over that area. The following day, American aircraft effectively attacked Sicilian airdromes. An escorted medium bomber mission of 132 aircraft secured hits in the dispersal areas and on buildings at Sciacca with 66 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs. At Boccadifalco 21 escorted Flying Fortresses started fires along the runway, in the oil store areas, and also successfully bombed Palermo. Other medium bombers caused explosions and fires at the Borizzo, Trapani and Milo airdromes. During these operations four (probably five) Axis aircraft were destroyed; one British Wellington is missing.

ASIATIC THEATER

A staff of US and Chinese officers will organize and give

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additional training to two fighter groups and one medium bombardment group for the Chinese Air Force. The first class of Chinese, from aviation schools in US, will start on 5 August 1943, at Karachi.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

General MacArthur reports for 30 June that landings at Woodlark and Trobriand Islands are continuing without interference.

At Nassau Bay the beach was reported clear for over three miles; contact has been made with the enemy inland. The action in this area was closely supported by 42 sorties of light and medium bombers. In strategic support missions twelve of our heavy bombers raided the airdromes at Rabaul, and one badly damaged two of three small enemy cargo vessels off Cape Gloucester.

Normal missions continued in the northwestern area where 18 Allied airplanes bombed enemy airfields on Timor.

An attack by 48 enemy airplanes on an airdrome at Darwin resulted in the destruction of four Allied airplanes on the ground and six in combat. The enemy lost seven bombers and one fighter.

PACIFIC THEATER

Fifteen Army and Navy airplanes, supporting the landings at Rendova Island and Viru Harbor on 30 June, dropped some seven tons of bombs on Munda, 57 others dropped 45 tons of heavy bombs on the runway, dumps, and bivouac area at Vila and 17 more each dropped

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one 1,000-pound bomb on gun positions at Viru Harbor.

Besides bombarding Vila, as reported yesterday, our surface vessels shelled many points in the Shortland area; weather prevented full assessment of damage.

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