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1001
DECLASSIFIED
OED Letter, 5-8-78

MR 203 (2) Sec. 19 - "WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY"

AUGUST 1943

MR 203 (2) Sec. 19 - "WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY"

(AUGUST 1943)

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WAR DEPARTMENT

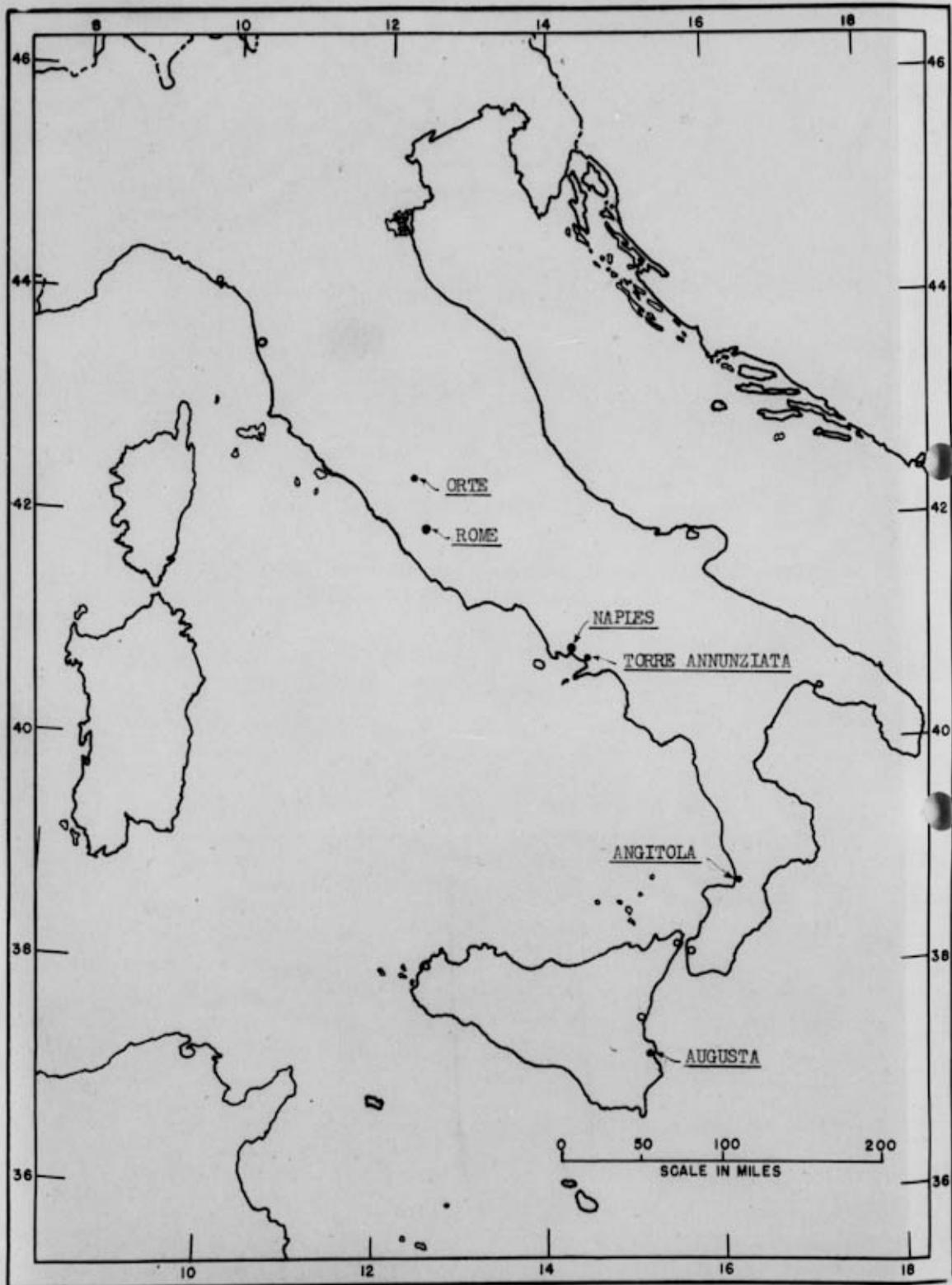
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 629

0700 August 30 to 0700 August 31, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Army Ground Forces have issued a directive for the movement of the 2nd Infantry Division (Major General Walter M. Robertson) from Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, to the New York Port of Embarkation.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Escorted 8th Air Force medium bombers attacked targets near St. Omer in northern France during the afternoon of 30 August. One B-26 is missing.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. On 29 August railroad yards at Orte and at Torre Annunziata, were attacked by escorted Allied bombers. Seventeen enemy interceptors offering combat were shot down. The bridges near Angitola were the targets of our light bombers, one of which is missing.

Augusta was attacked by German fighter aircraft on 29 August; one of the raiders was destroyed by antiaircraft fire.

2. General Brereton reports the transfer from the 9th Air Force to the 12th Air Force of three fighter groups, two medium bombardment groups, and necessary auxiliary units, with a total strength of 8,300 officers and men.



ASIATIC THEATER

On 29 August nine B-25's and eight P-40's successfully attacked an enemy airfield at Kingmen (100 miles northwest of Hankow).

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 29 August our ground forces in New Guinea inflicted heavy casualties while destroying enemy pillboxes southeast of Bobdubi. An attack mission of 35 B-24's, escorted by 44 P-38's, bombed the Wewak and Boram airdromes with 113 tons of explosives which destroyed at least 12 enemy planes on the ground; another 25 (probably 37) attempting interception were shot down for a loss of one B-24. Forty-five B-25's and two B-17's operating at minimum altitude destroyed barges, buildings and fuel dumps in raids against Alexishafen and Bogadjim; no enemy aircraft were encountered. Australian aircraft bombed supply dumps and barges along the south coast of New Britain. Nine B-24's made a destructive attack against Babo; another bombed a village on Molu Island (Tanimbars). A Catalina damaged a cruiser and possibly damaged a destroyer northwest of Buka.

Nassau Bay was bombed by the enemy on the evening of 28 August; no details were reported.

2. Our ground forces on Arundel Island continued to advance on 29 August. B-24's on night reconnaissance missions dropped quarter-ton bombs on a ship near Kieta with unobserved results.

WAR DEPARTMENT

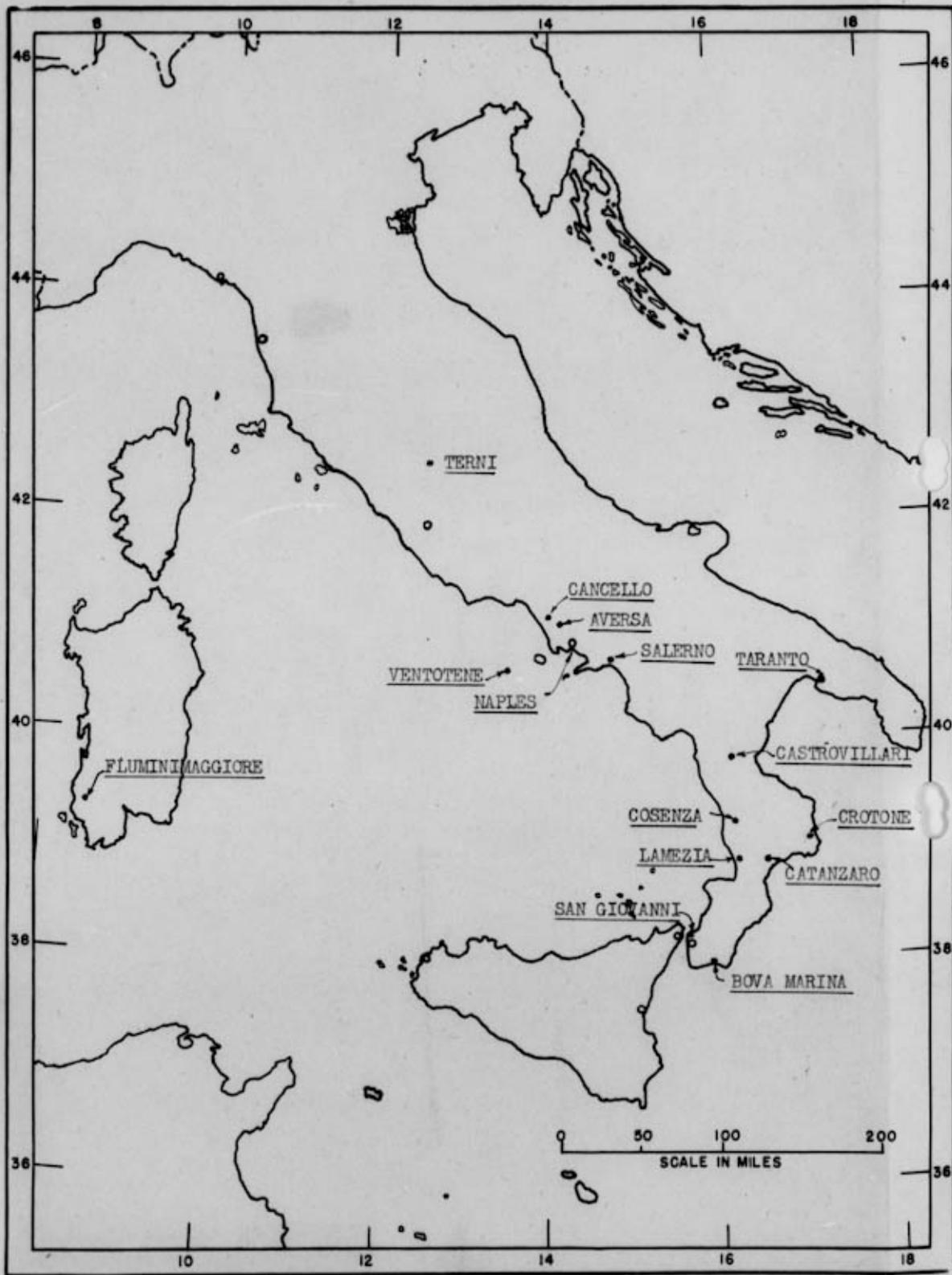
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 628

0700 August 29 to 0700 August 30, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

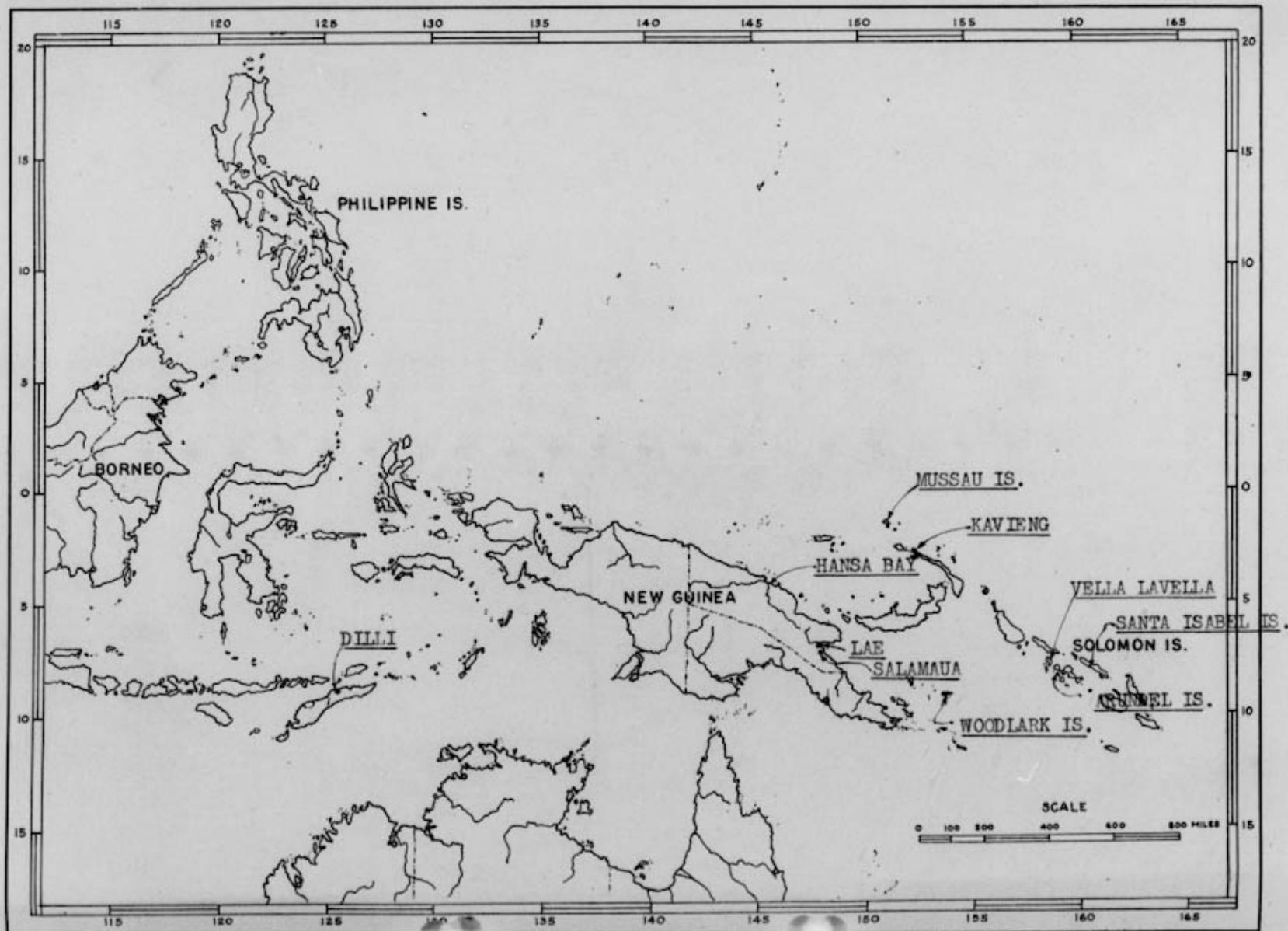
Commando units which landed at Bova Marina on the nights of 26-27 and 27-28 August, took prisoners and reported the locality to be quiet and undefended.

Allied planes hit railroad installations at Crotone and Salerno and attacked enemy gun positions at San Giovanni on the night of 27-28 August. The next day, our bombers concentrated on the railroad yards at Terni, Cancellò, Aversa, Lamezia and Taranto. Two of our B-25's accompanying the Cancellò raiding mission skip-bombed and shelled the island of Ventotene. At Taranto, our B-24's claimed one direct hit on a large cruiser and a possible hit on an unidentified vessel. In attempts to intercept our missions, 23 (probably 28) enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of six P-38's. On a sweep over Sardinia, 44 P-40's bombed factories at Fluminimaggiore and a smelting plant, and destroyed six (probably ten) of 26 intercepting enemy aircraft; one P-40 was lost. Forty-eight B-25's and 72 A-36's operated against Castrovillari, Cosenza, and Catanzaro.

MIDDLE EAST CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

Major General Ralph Royce has been assigned to command the US Army Forces in the Middle East, effective upon the departure of Major General Lewis H. Brereton.

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ASIATIC THEATER

A total of 20 B-24's and 25 B-25's of the 10th Air Force carried out heavy attacks against Akyab on 28 August, destroying several buildings and starting numerous fires over a wide area. Our crews reported excellent results.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Enemy attacks west of the Salamaua airdrome on 28 August were repulsed. Heavy Allied bombing attacks on the Lae water front destroyed jetties and barges and set ammunition dumps on fire. Our bombers also raided the Hansa Bay area where small enemy craft were destroyed and a small cargo vessel, fuel and ammunitions dumps were set afire. One B-25 was shot down over Hansa Bay by enemy antiaircraft fire. Other missions attacked a vessel off Mussau Island and shot down a reconnaissance bomber east of Woodlark Island. The preceding night our B-25's started large growing fires at Dilli, Timor.

2. Our patrols, advancing on Arundel Island, met no enemy resistance on 28 August. The previous night, 12 B-25's escorted by 18 Allied fighters made low-altitude attacks on enemy barges and huts on islands off northwestern Santa Isabel; excellent results were reported. On 28 August, other bombers hit an enemy ship off Vella Lavella, an enemy gunboat or sub-chaser north of Kavieng, and shot down a four-engine enemy plane in that vicinity.

WAR DEPARTMENT

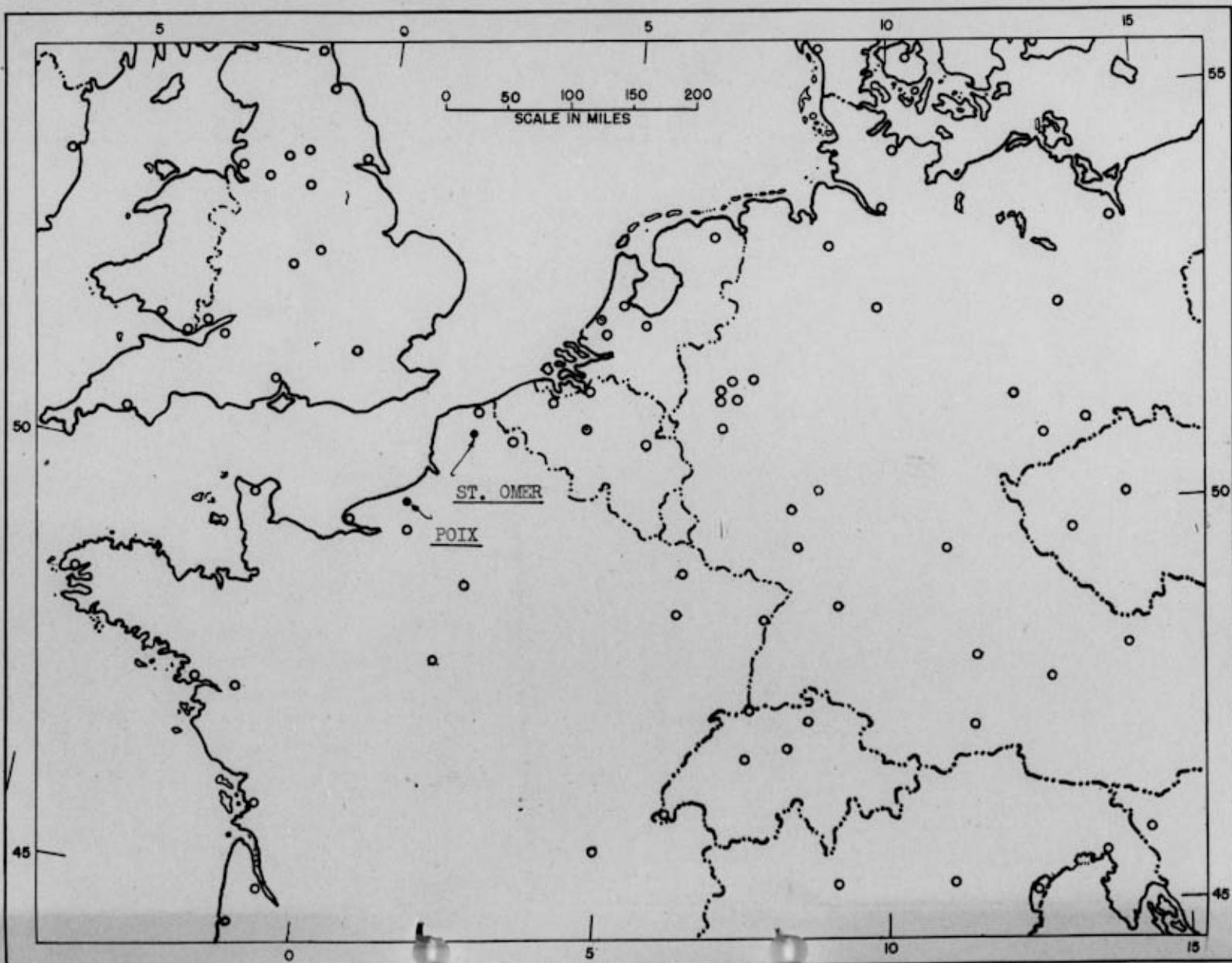
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 627

0700 August 28 to 0700 August 29, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



24-33868

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Two more midget submarines have been found on the beach at Kiska Harbor. Each carried two torpedoes and were operated by storage batteries which were recharged at the base. A well-equipped underground hospital was located on the island.

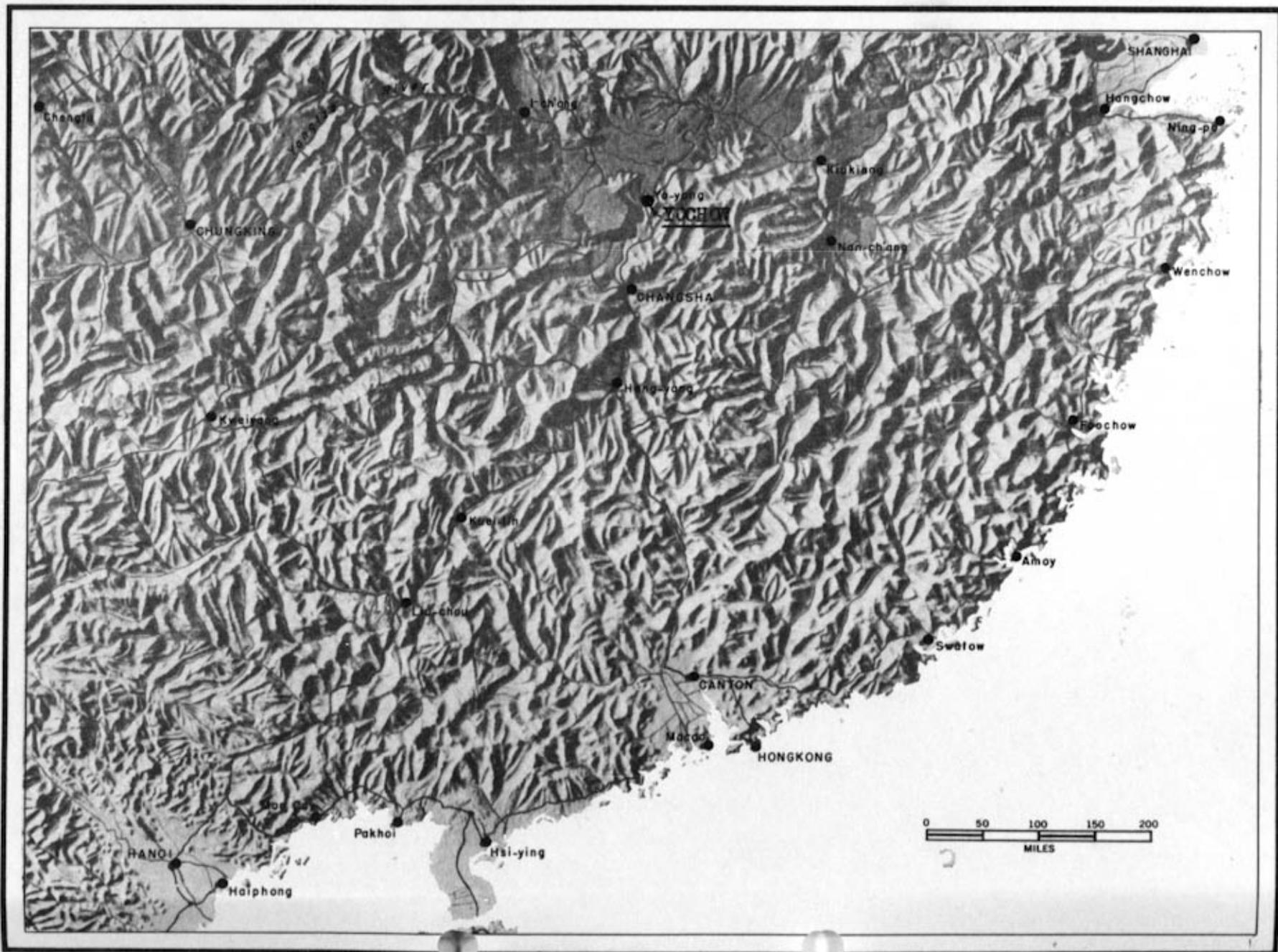
2. The Army Ground Forces have issued a directive for the movement of the 28th Infantry Division (Major General Lloyd D. Brown) from Camp Pickett, Virginia, to the New York (or Boston) Port of Embarkation.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Enemy aeronautical facilities near St. Omer, France, were attacked on 27 August by 185 B-17's which dropped 370 tons of explosives. Eight (probably 12) enemy aircraft were destroyed in combat and four B-17's failed to return. Escorting this mission were 177 P-47's, one of which is missing. That same day 35 B-26's made an unopposed attack against the Poix airfield. Escorting Spitfires report that the airfield appeared to be deserted.

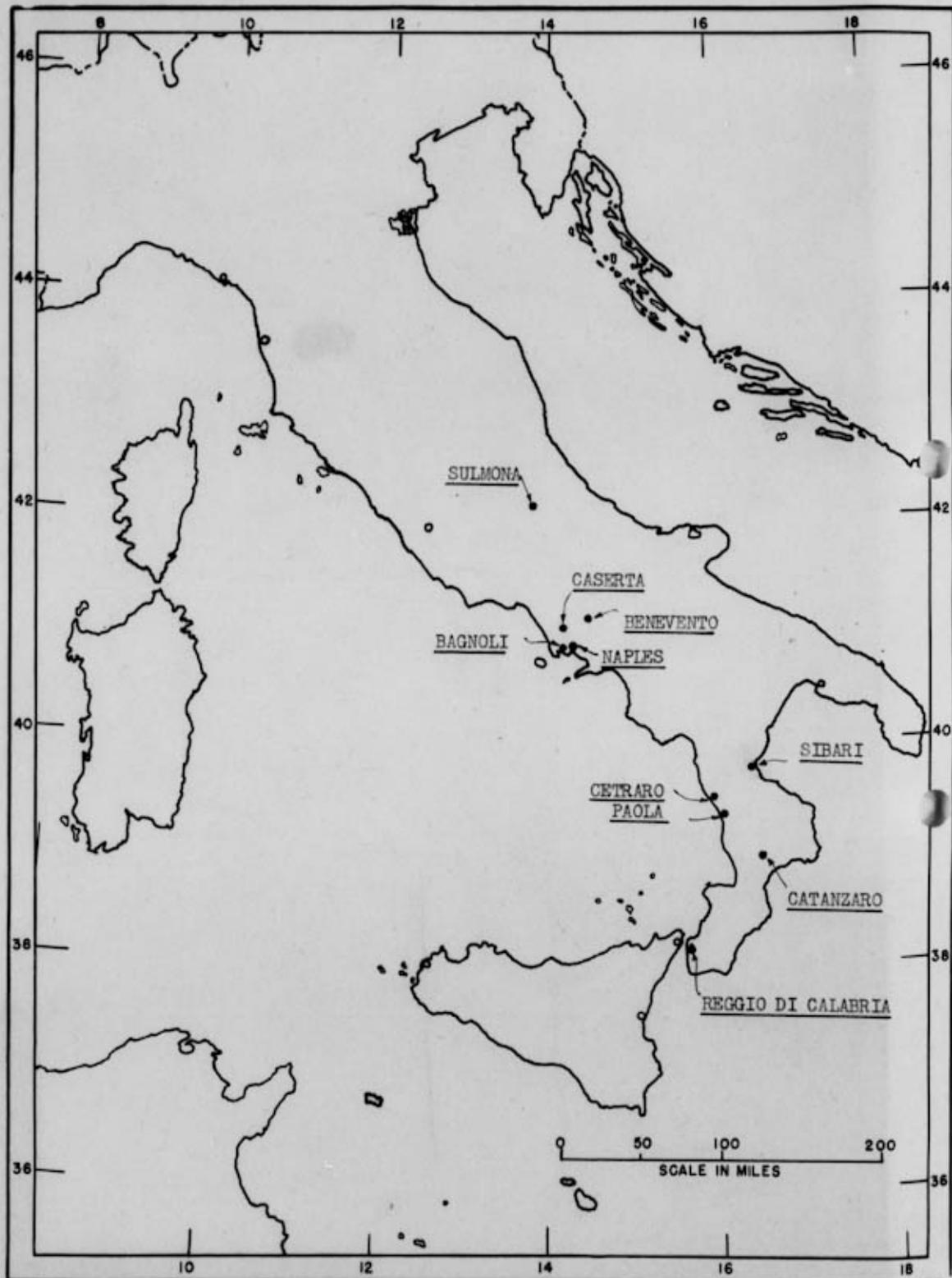
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 26-27 August, 50 Wellington bombers attacked the railroad yards at Bagnoli. On 27 August our escorted heavy and medium bombers attacked enemy railroad installations at Benevento, Caserta, and Sulmona where the 204 tons of demolitions dropped caused heavy



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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damage. Our light bombers raided rail communications at Catanzaro, Sibari, Paola and Cetraro and attacked enemy gun positions at Reggio di Calabria. Enemy fighters in force were encountered at Sulmona and Benevento; 36 (probably 40) were destroyed for a loss of six of our bombers and three fighters. A P-38 and a P-40 were reported flying with the enemy formation. Three of some 30 to 40 enemy planes attacking Algiers the night of 26-27 August were destroyed.

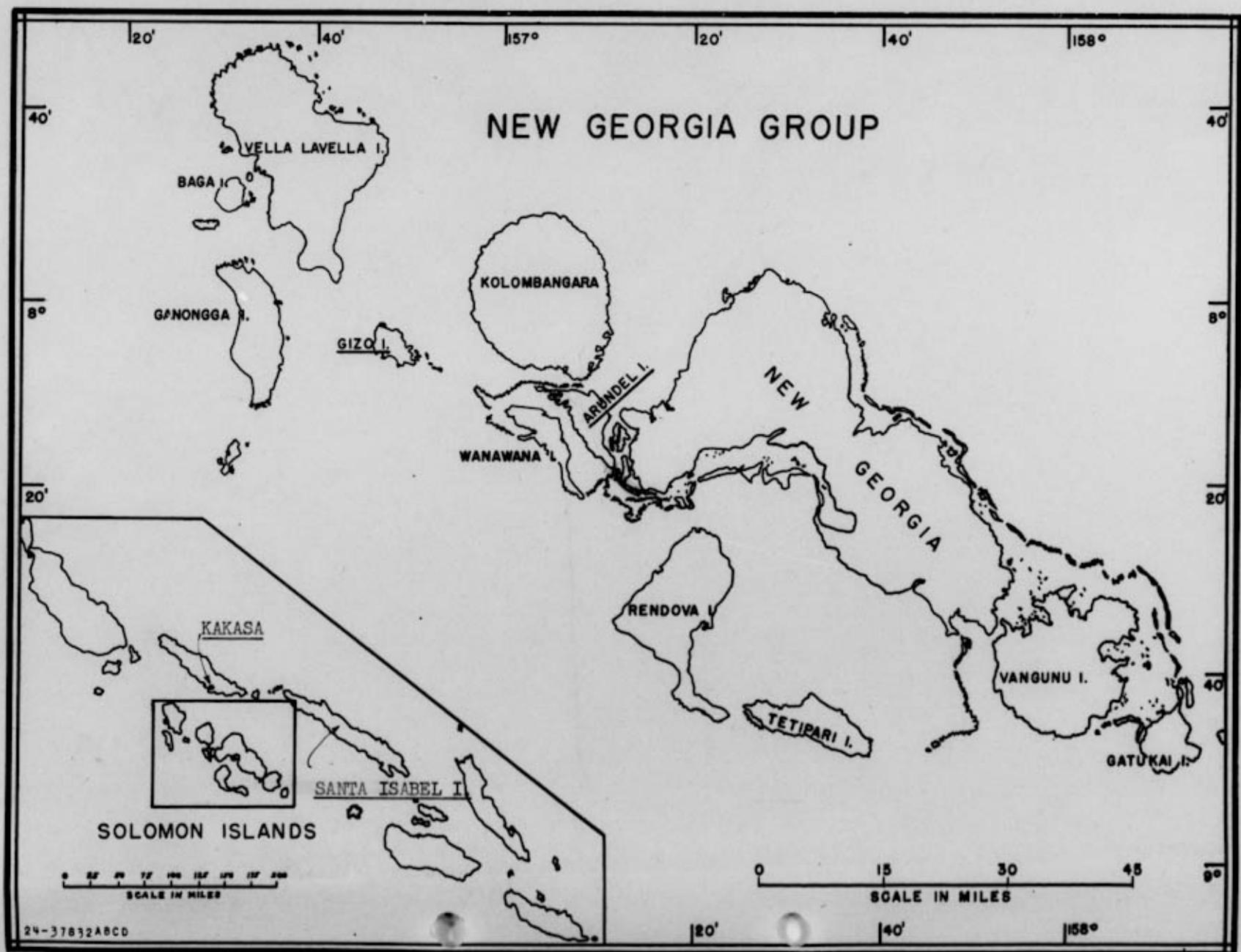
ASIATIC THEATER

14th Air Force fighter missions over the Yochow area on 27 August damaged shipping and destroyed six trucks of a troop-laden motor convoy; 15 other trucks were damaged and casualties were inflicted on their passengers. One P-40 is missing.

That same day railroad installations at Thazi (75 miles south of Mandalay) were subjected to destructive attacks by five 10th Air Force bomber missions during which 13 B-24's and 26 B-25's dropped 65 tons of bombs with observed effect on tracks and buildings.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 27 August eight B-25's bombed bridges south of Madang. Five RAAF Beaufighters heavily damaged small enemy shipping at Garove Island (north of New Britain) and six other Australian planes attacked Atamboea and Dilli (Timor).



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2. Our forces landed on the southeast tip of Arundel Island on 27 August; supporting artillery fires are believed to have caused the enemy to withdraw. Twelve B-25's, escorted by 16 Allied fighters, bombed and strafed the Kakasa area, and fighter missions machine-gunned enemy positions on Santa Isabel and Gizo.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

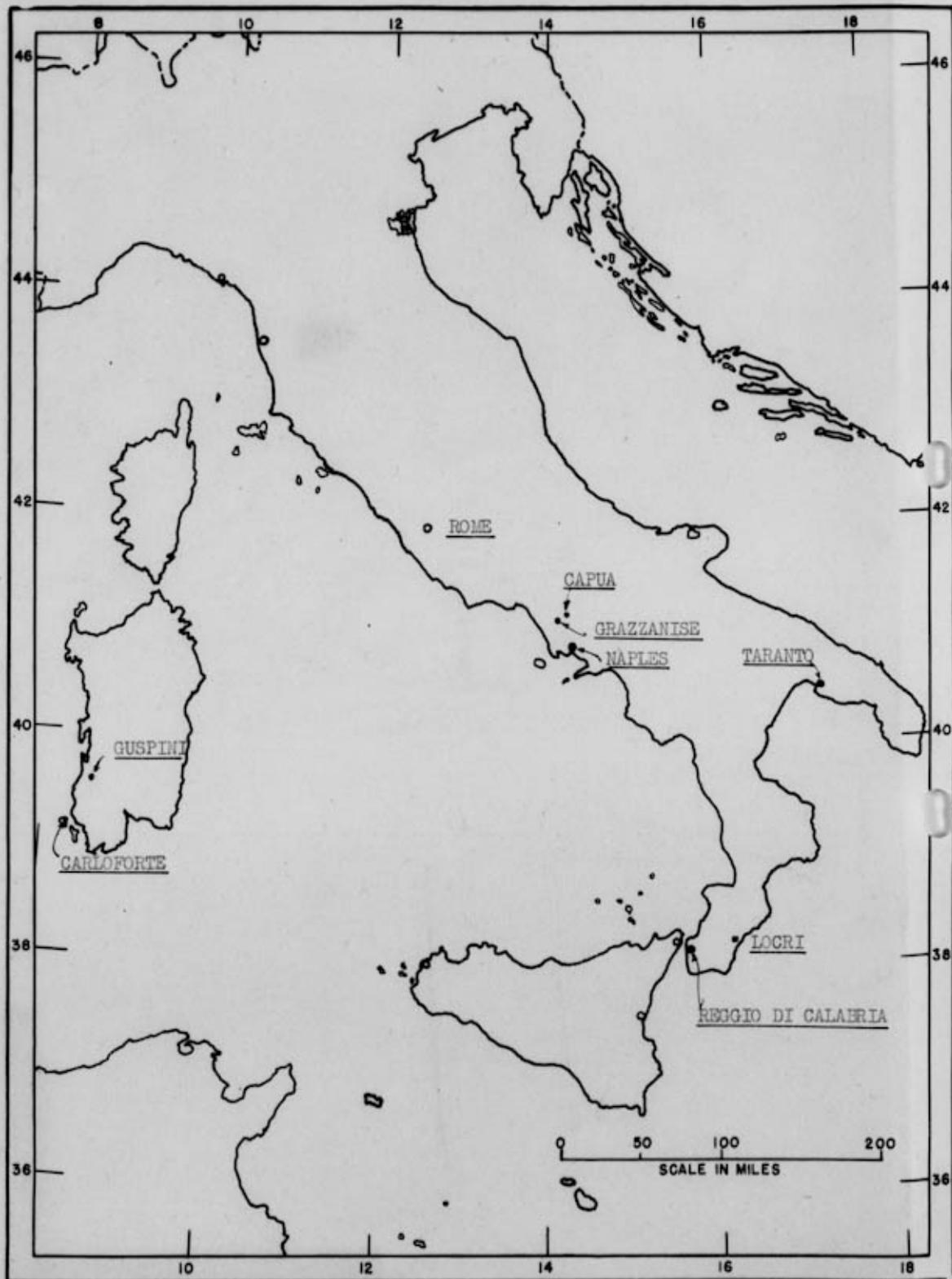
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 626

0700 August 27 to 0700 August 28, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



GENERAL

The Army Ground Forces issued a directive for the movement of the 38th Infantry Division (Major General H. L. C. Jones, commanding) from Camp Livingston, Louisiana to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

US seaplanes are now basing at Kiska. Although light land-type planes have used the runway there, the surface is at present too soft to permit the operation of heavier aircraft.

EUROPEAN THEATER

On 26 August, 36 B-26's, escorted by 12 squadrons of RAF Spitfires, dropped 46 tons of bombs on the Carpiquet airdrome near Caen, France. Twelve unescorted light bombers attacked the Guerledan power station on the Elavet River in Brittany. Good results were reported and all planes returned safely from both missions.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the night of 25-26 August, British Wellingtons started fires in the Taranto railroad yards and dropped 800,000 leaflets on

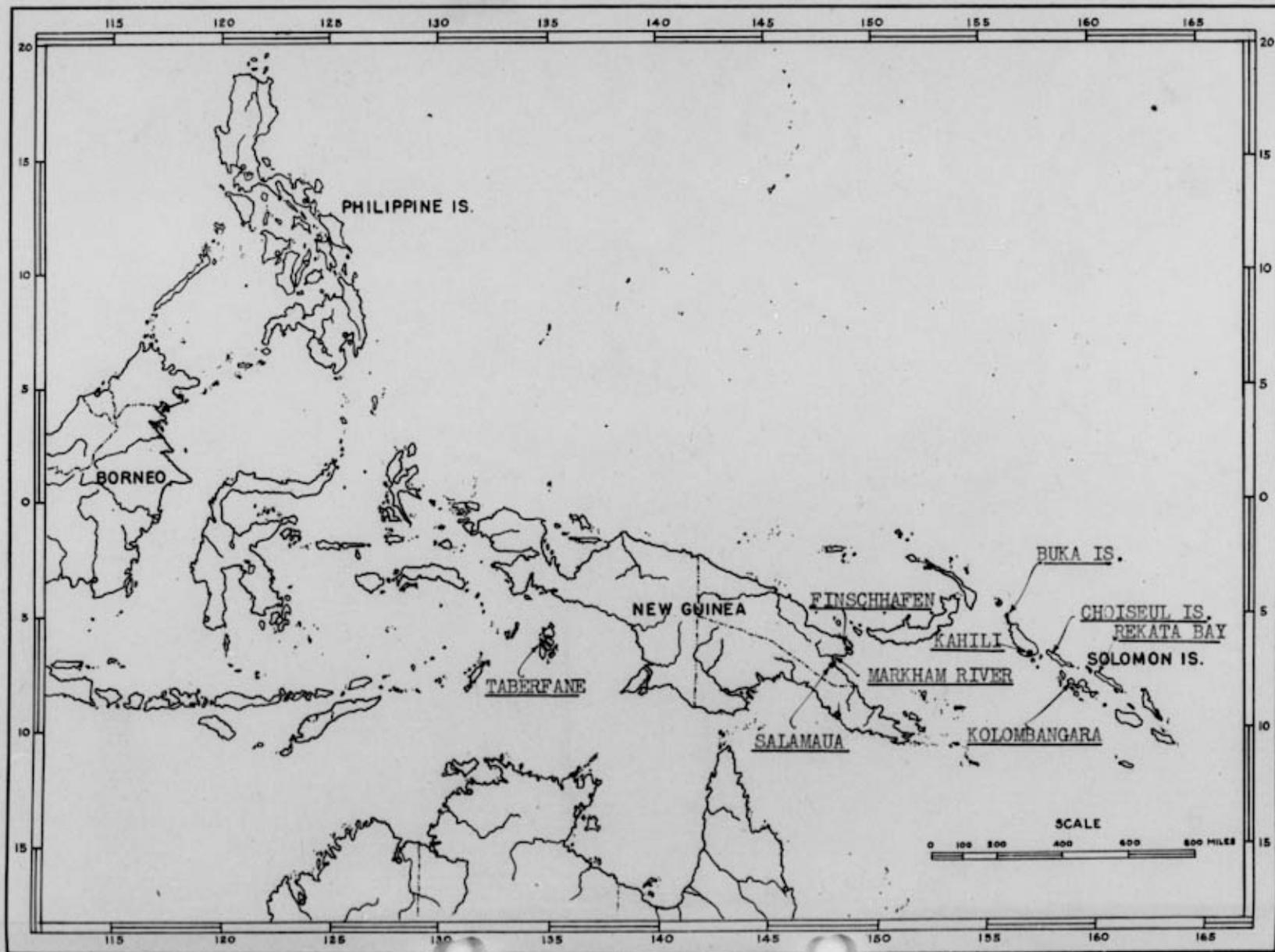
Rome and Naples. The following day our planes attacked airdromes at Grazzanise and Capua, gun positions in the vicinity of Reggio di Calabria and the highway and railroad junction at Locri. In sweeps over southern Sardinia, our P-40's bombed the harbor and town of Carloforte, and machine-gunned motor vehicles, power lines and buildings near Guspini. During these missions 15 enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground and 12 (probably 17) shot down in combat for a loss of five US planes.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 26 August, five escorted B-25's of the 14th Air Force bombed the Tien Ho airdrome near Canton, obtaining hits on the runway. In attempting to intercept this mission, the enemy lost five (probably 13) planes out of a formation of 20 fighters. One P-40 is believed to have gone down in enemy territory. Another mission of 15 heavy bombers and 17 fighters bombed the Kowloon dock area (Hongkong). Of 20 Zeros attacking our aircraft, five (probably nine) were destroyed. No US loss was reported.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied troops continued to press the attack against the beleaguered enemy garrison of Salamaua on 26 August. Reconnaissance



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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

bombers carried out minor raids against Finschhafen, the Markham River road, and the Salamaua peninsula; seven Australian Beaufighters destroyed one (probably two) enemy planes over Taberfane.

2. Sixty-six Army and Navy bombers, accompanied by fighter planes, attacked enemy positions on the south side of Kolombangara on 26 August. A mission of 23 escorted B-24's bombed the runway and shore installations at Kahili. Japanese fighters, attempting interception, dropped aerial bombs on our formations but caused no damage; nine of the enemy planes were shot down. Our aircraft also machine-gunned small enemy surface craft off the south coast of Choiseul Island, attacked an enemy supply point in the Rekata Bay area and scored a hit on one of three Japanese destroyers sighted northeast of Buka.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

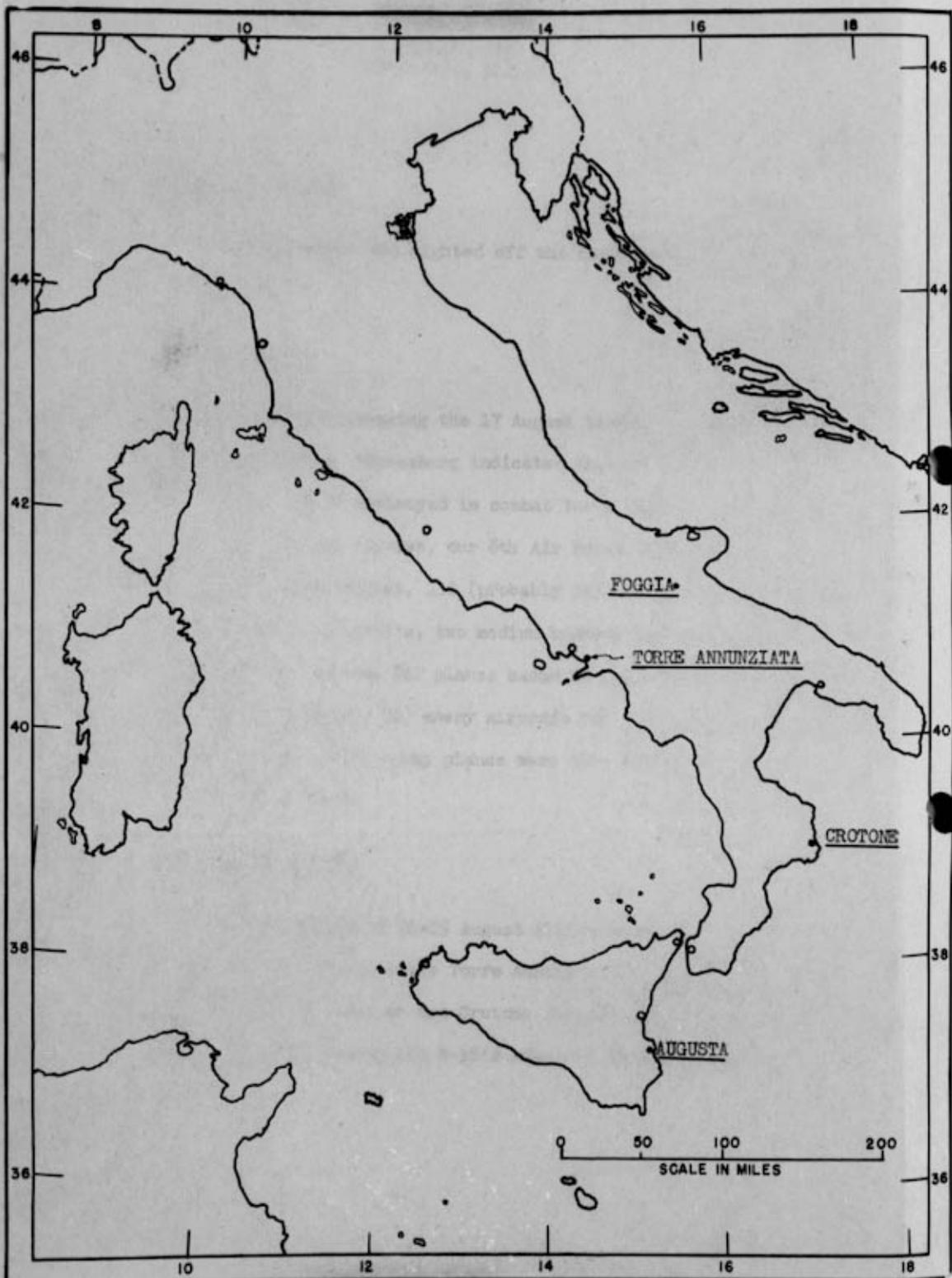
No. 625

0700 August 26 to 0700 August 27, 1943

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COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A German bomber was sighted off the east coast of Greenland on 22 August.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A late report covering the 17 August attack on the Messerschmitt airplane factory at Regensburg indicates that 78 (probably 107) enemy fighters were destroyed in combat for a loss of 23 B-17's.

Based on these figures, our 8th Air Force destroyed, during the week ending 22 August, 332 (probably 393) enemy planes, losing from all causes, 67 B-17's, two medium bombers and eight fighters. During the same period, RAF planes based in the United Kingdom destroyed 64 (probably 76) enemy aircraft for a loss of 123 planes from all causes. Five enemy planes were shot down during the week by antiaircraft fire.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the night of 24-25 August Allied aircraft dropped almost 100 tons of bombs on the Torre Annunziata railroad yards and steel mills and 40 tons on the Crotona freight yards and chemical works. The next morning 123 P-38's staged a surprise low-level

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MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

raid on the Foggia satellite airfields destroying large numbers of aircraft on the ground and damaging railroad rolling stock. They were followed a few minutes later by 28 B-24's of the 9th Air Force which covered the nearby railroad yards with 63 tons of bombs, destroyed a freight train and an antiaircraft battery and shot down seven (probably ten) enemy aircraft. Still later, 116 B-17's escorted by 32 P-38's attacked the Foggia airfields with nearly 15,000 fragmentation bombs and 93 tons of explosives. This mission destroyed 18 (probably 20) of 60 to 100 enemy aircraft which offered combat. Aerial photographs disclose that many German twin-engine bombers were included in the 140 enemy planes destroyed or damaged on the ground. Twelve P-38's and three B-17's did not return from these missions.

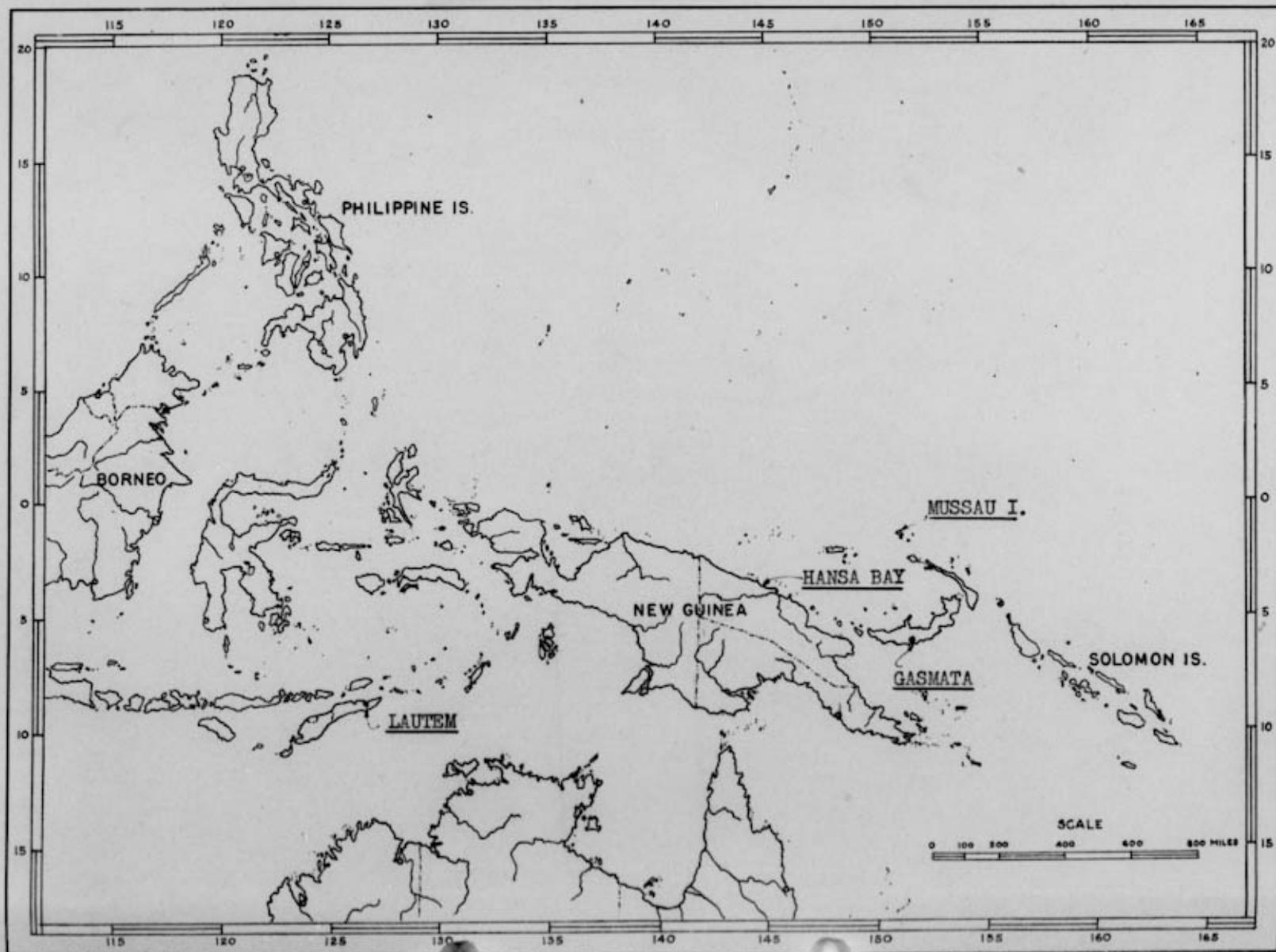
On 25 August an enemy air raid on Augusta caused no damage.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Five B-24's dropped 25 half-ton bombs on rail installations and buildings at Pyawbwe in central Burma on 25 August.

2. Two missions of escorted B-25's attacked the dock area at ^{Kowloon} ~~Kuiling~~ on 25 August; a 550-foot vessel, hit twice on the bow, was set afire and other damage was observed in the target area.

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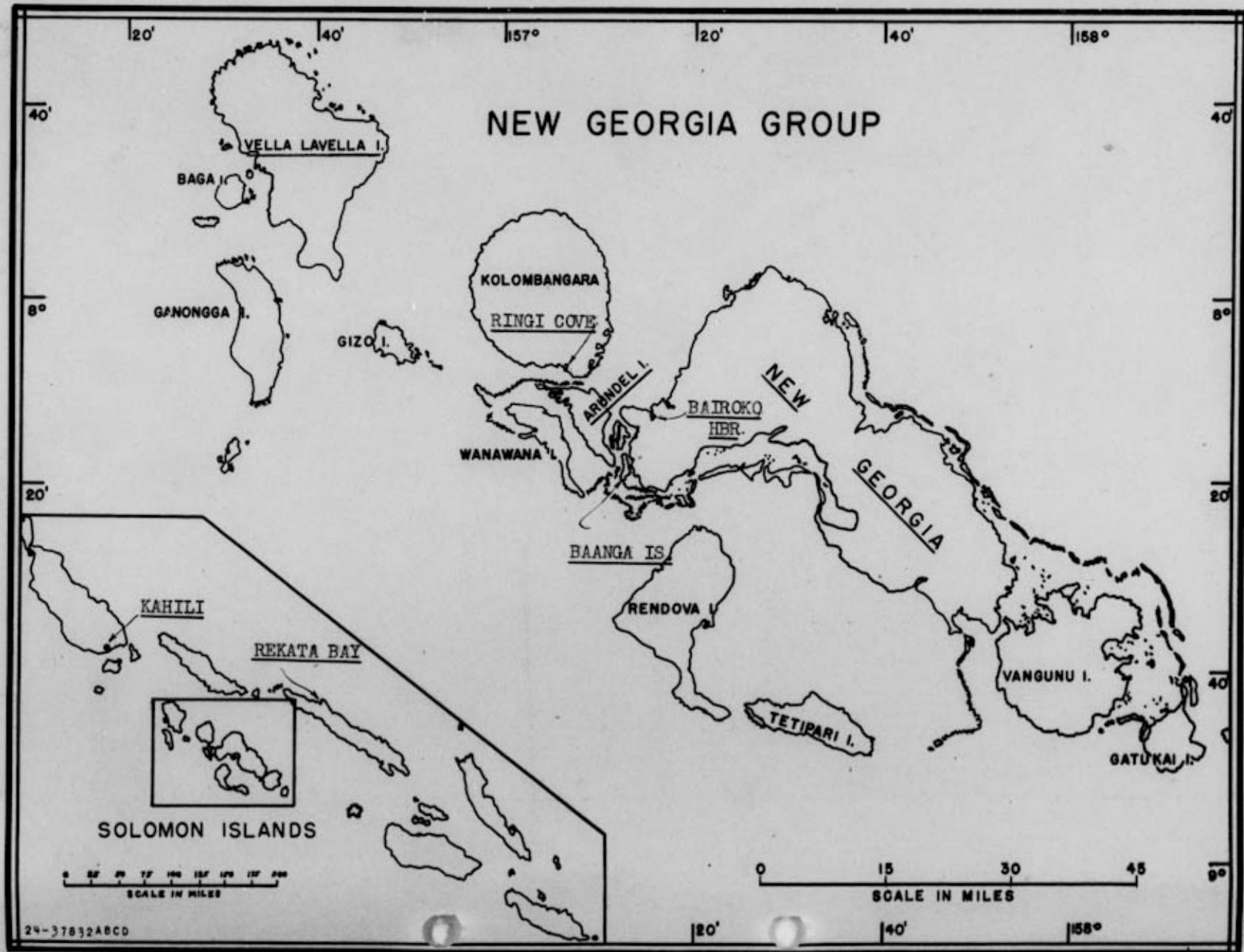
A supplemental report on the Hankow raid of 21 August raises the total number of enemy aircraft destroyed from 35 to 43; 13 others are now listed as "probables".

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Enemy positions, supply installations and shipping in the Hansa Bay area were attacked by 11 B-17's, 35 B-24's and 35 B-25's on 25 August; large explosions and fires resulted and a fuel dump and several enemy barges were destroyed. A reconnaissance B-24 scored two hits on a medium freighter-transport northwest of Mussau Island; Allied planes struck at enemy installations at Gasmata; and three Australian Hudsons started fires at Lautem, Timor.

2. US planes destroyed 11 of 29 enemy aircraft intercepted over Vella Lavella on 24 August without reported loss. There were five enemy air attacks in the Bairoko area during the day and one enemy float plane was shot down by antiaircraft fire.

During 25 August, 30 B-24's covered by 28 Allied fighters struck at enemy supply installations in the Rekata Bay and Ringi Cove areas with good effect; the latter target was also bombed by an attack mission of 13 B-25's. Six B-24's covered by 24 Allied fighters raided the Kahili strip and probably destroyed four inter-



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cepting fighters.

Organized Japanese resistance on New Georgia Island has ceased; the 25th Division has occupied the Bairoko area without opposition and found that the enemy had evacuated prepared positions leaving numbers of vehicles and quantities of rations. Elements of our 43rd Division occupied eight small islands between Baanga and Arundel without enemy reaction.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

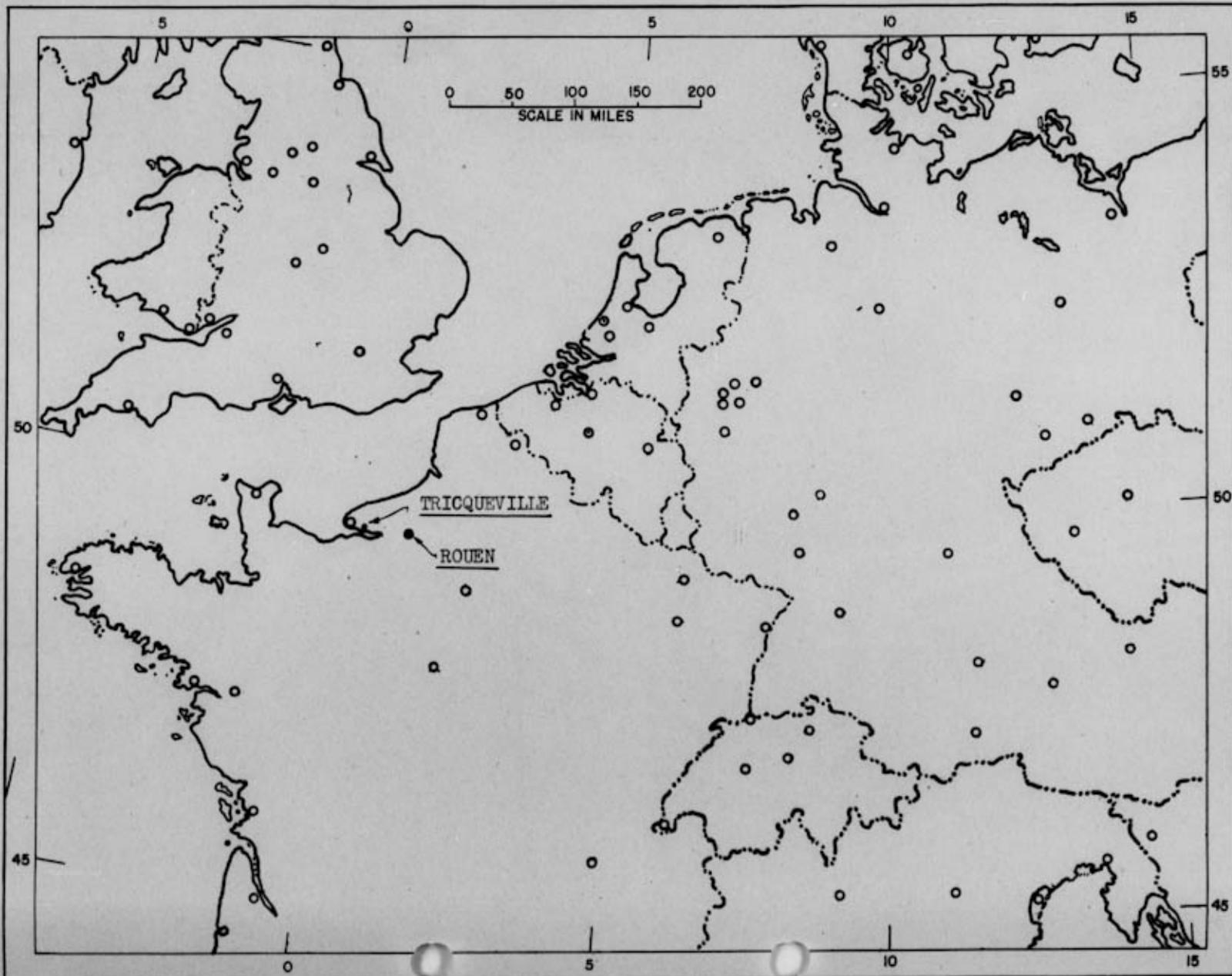
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 624

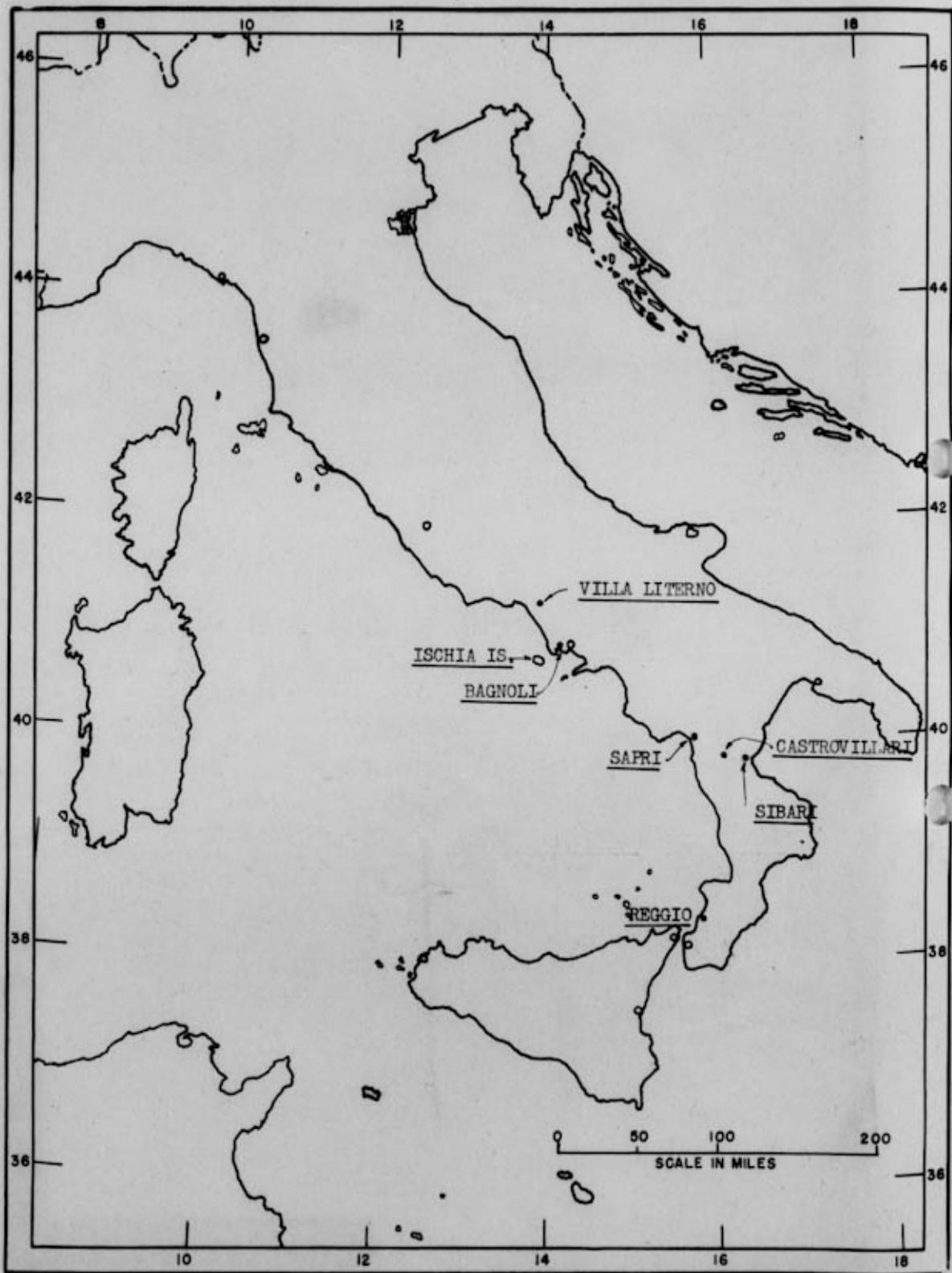
0700 August 25 to 0700 August 26, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



24-33868.



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Reconnaissance of Buldir Island was completed on 24 August; there were no indications of enemy occupation.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Medium bombers of the 8th Air Force attacked the enemy airfield at Tricqueville and a power station at Rouen on 25 August. All of our planes returned. Other bombers attacked the German airfields southwest of Rouen.

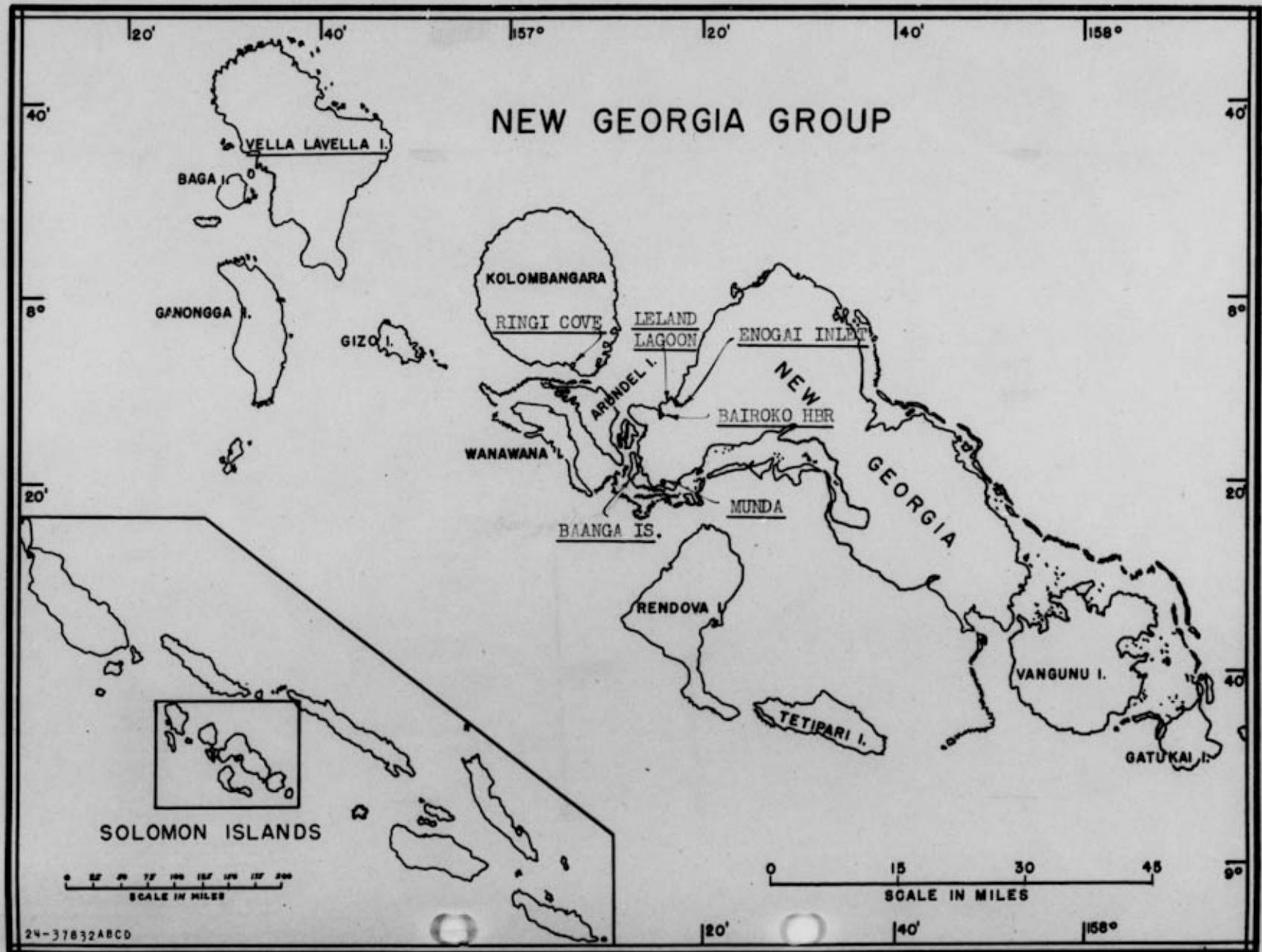
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

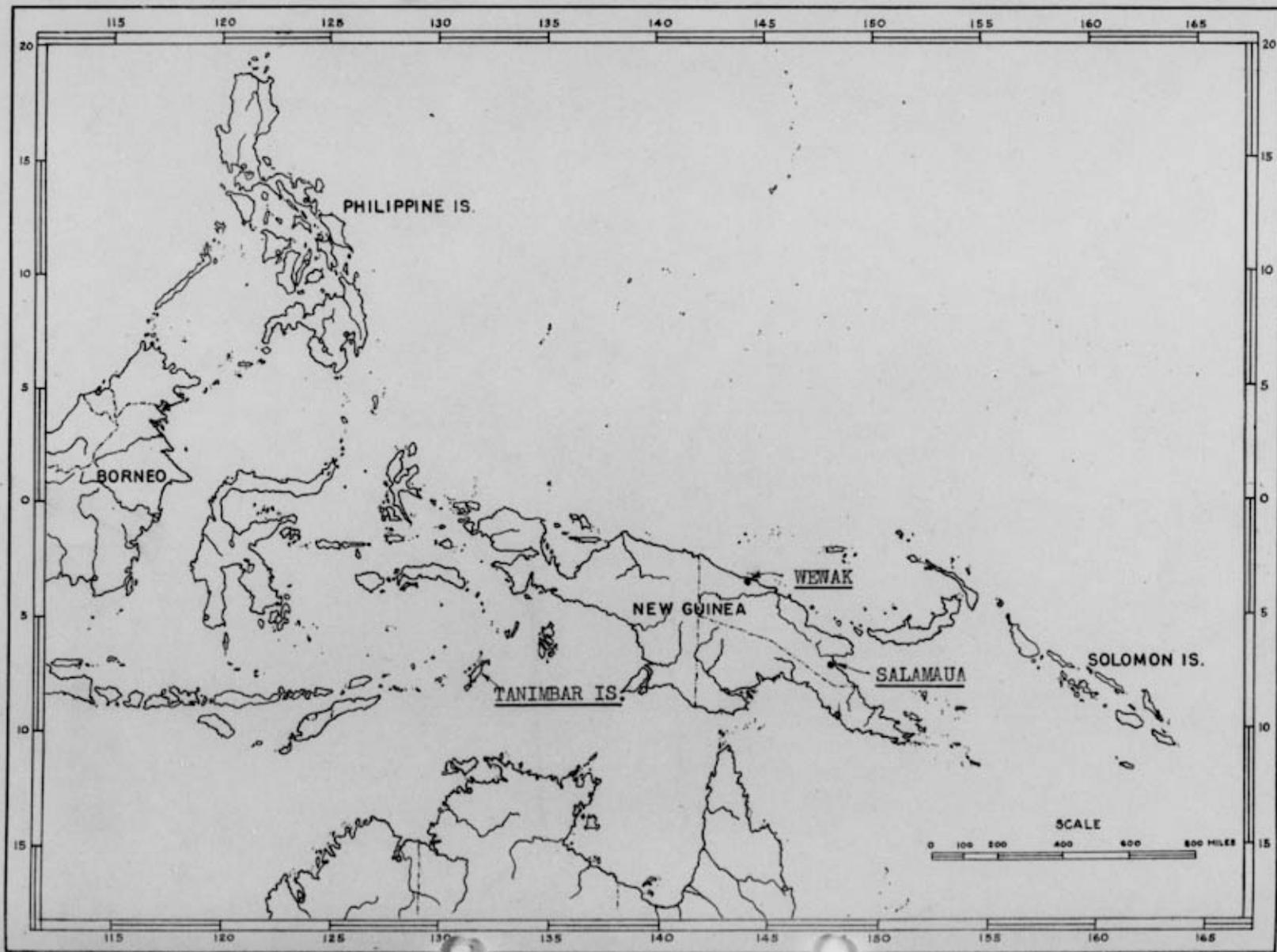
British planes, one of which was brought down by antiaircraft fire, carried out anti-shipping sweeps off the west coast of Greece, on 23 and 24 August. On the night of 23 August, Allied planes used 151 tons of bombs on the Bagnoli railroad yards, Villa Literno and Ischia Island, all in the Naples area.

On 24 August, Allied planes damaged focal points of enemy communications at Sapri, Castrovillari and Sibari, set fire to a cruiser off Sapri and harassed the highways near Reggio di Calabria. One of two German fighters intercepted north of Benghazi was destroyed.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Medium bombers of the 10th Air Force attacked railroad yards





and installations in central Burma on 24 August, reporting excellent results on two targets.

2. On 24 August, 35 bombers and fighters of our 14th Air Force concentrated their attacks on the growing Japanese fighter strength based in the Hankow area. Preliminary reports indicate the destruction of at least 19 enemy aircraft; two of our heavy bombers were shot down and two others are missing.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 24 August Allied troops advanced to within a mile of the Salamaua airdrome. 36 B-24's attacked Wewak with heavy bombs, causing fires and explosions. Escorting fighters broke up an attempted interception by 12 enemy planes shooting down one of them. Dutch and Australian aircraft flew attack missions against targets in the Tanimbars.

2. On 23 August, two enemy formations were intercepted over Vella Lavella; our aircraft shot down nine Japanese fighters without loss to themselves. Two enemy aircraft damaged one of our fighters in a pre-dawn bombing of Munda.

Our ground forces continued to mop up on Baanga Island on 24 August. The 25th Division was occupying positions on the west side of Bairoko Harbor. Our force from Enogai encountered some Japanese at Leland Lagoon. Patrol activities continued on Vella Lavella Island.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

Fifty-nine escorted Army and Navy bombers attacked Ringi
Cove, Kolombangara Island, with good results.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

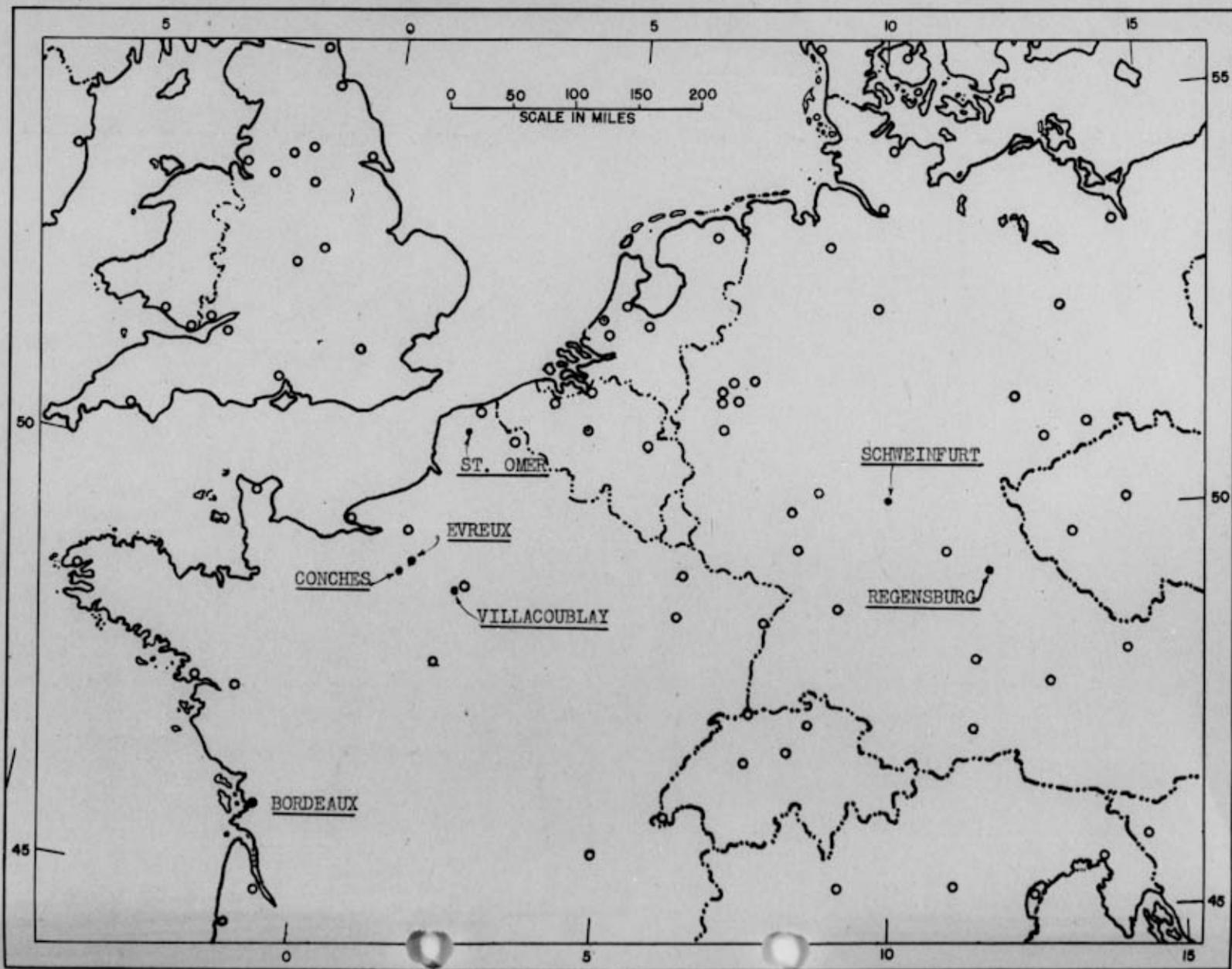
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 623

0700 August 24 to 0700 August 25, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

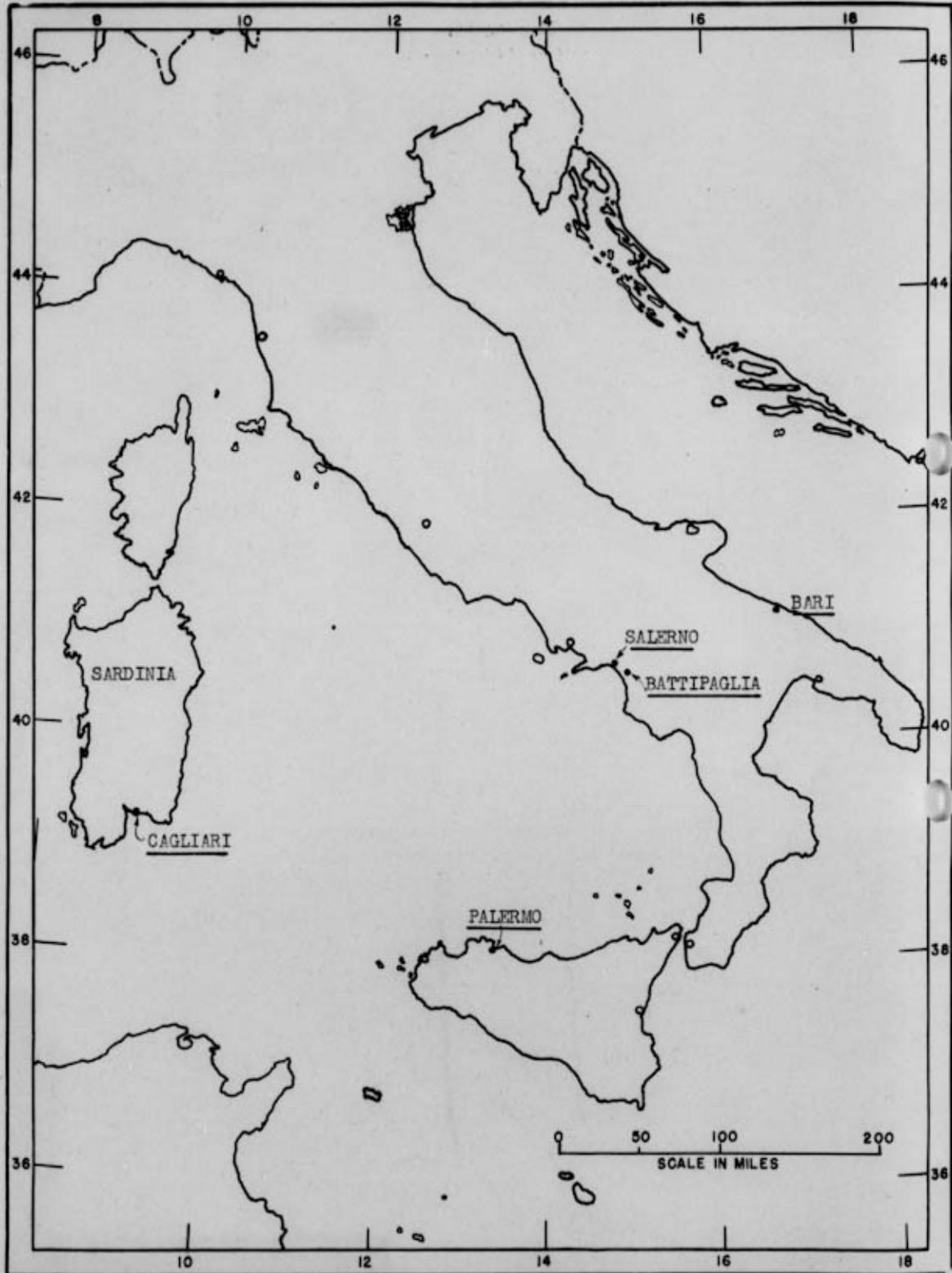


GENERAL

The Army Ground Forces have issued a directive changing the destination of the 31st Infantry Division (Major General John C. Persons) upon the completion of Louisiana maneuvers from Camp Maxey, Texas to Camp Pickett, Virginia in order that the division may receive amphibious training.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 23 August.
2. Escorted B-25's dropped 43 tons of bombs on St. Omer on 23 August. Antiaircraft fire, but few enemy fighters were encountered; further results of the raid have not been reported.
3. Final results of the 17 August attack on the roller-bearing works at Schweinfurt (during which we lost 36 heavy bombers) indicate that 148 (probably 168) enemy fighter planes were destroyed in combat instead of 75 (probably 109) as listed in preliminary reports.
4. During daylight of 24 August, our B-17's, returning from Africa after their attack on Regensburg, attacked an aircraft assembly plant in Bordeaux. Enemy fighter opposition was not severe; the B-17's destroyed seven enemy aircraft. Other B-17's escorted by our fighters attacked Villacoublay airdrome where six enemy fighters were destroyed,



and still other escorted B-17's bombed enemy airfields at Conches and Evreux, destroying two enemy airplanes in addition. Four of our B-17's are missing.

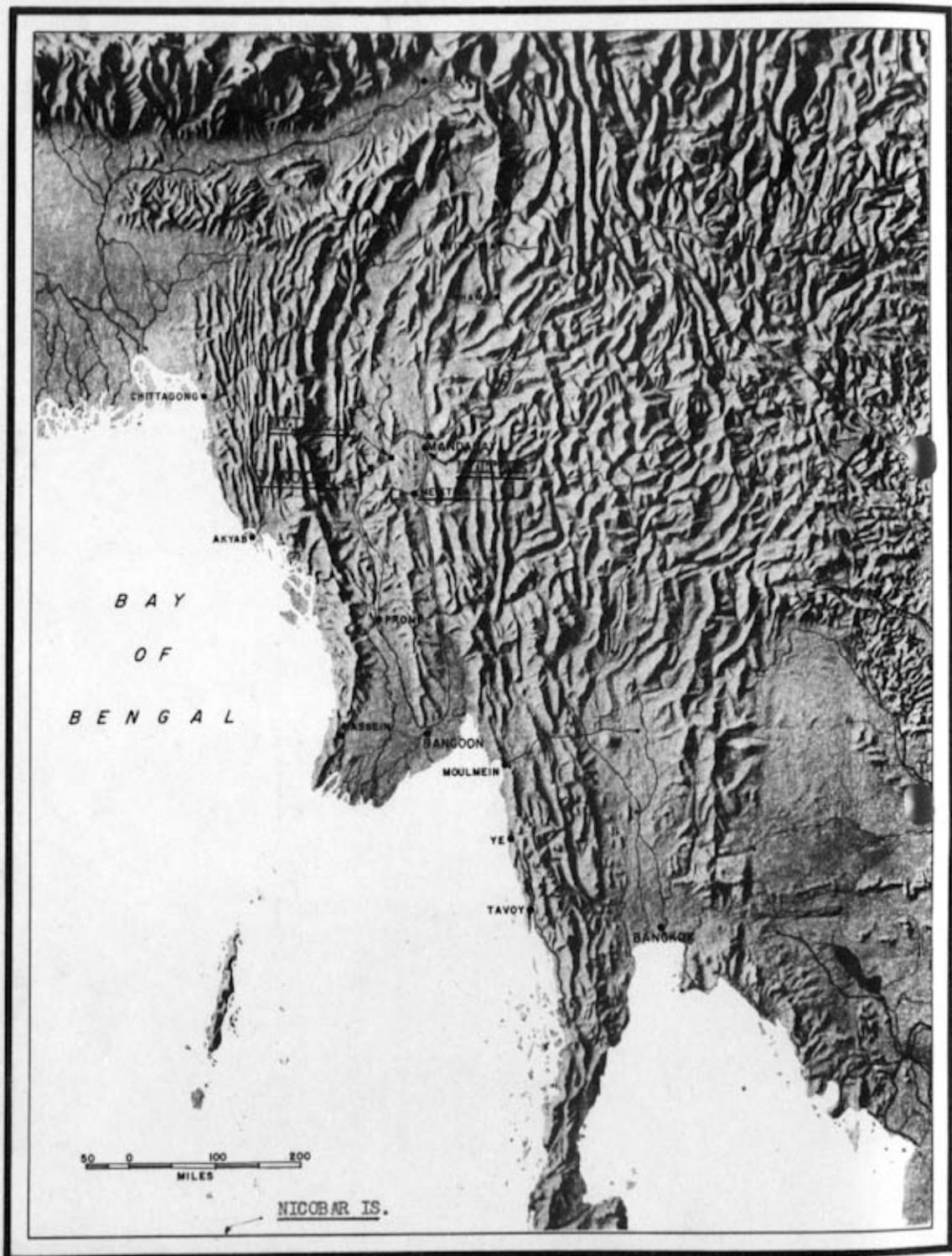
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the night of 22-23 August and the ensuing day the Mediterranean Air Command maintained its continuous attacks on railroad yards in southern Italy. In night missions British Wellingtons dropped 92 tons of bombs on the Salerno yards. In daylight, 70 B-25's escorted by P-40's and A-36's covered the yards at Battipaglia with 104 tons of high explosives, and 28 B-24's of our 9th Bomber Command followed suit with 62 tons on Bari yards and airdrome, reporting observed effect; over Bari our B-24's destroyed 14 enemy planes in combat. P-40's flew fighter sweeps over Sardinia; attacking buildings, barracks and the railroad north of Cagliari they started many fires.

Enemy planes raiding Palermo that day sank two submarine chasers and damaged a coastal steamer; four (probably five) of the German bombers were shot down by our fighters and antiaircraft fire.

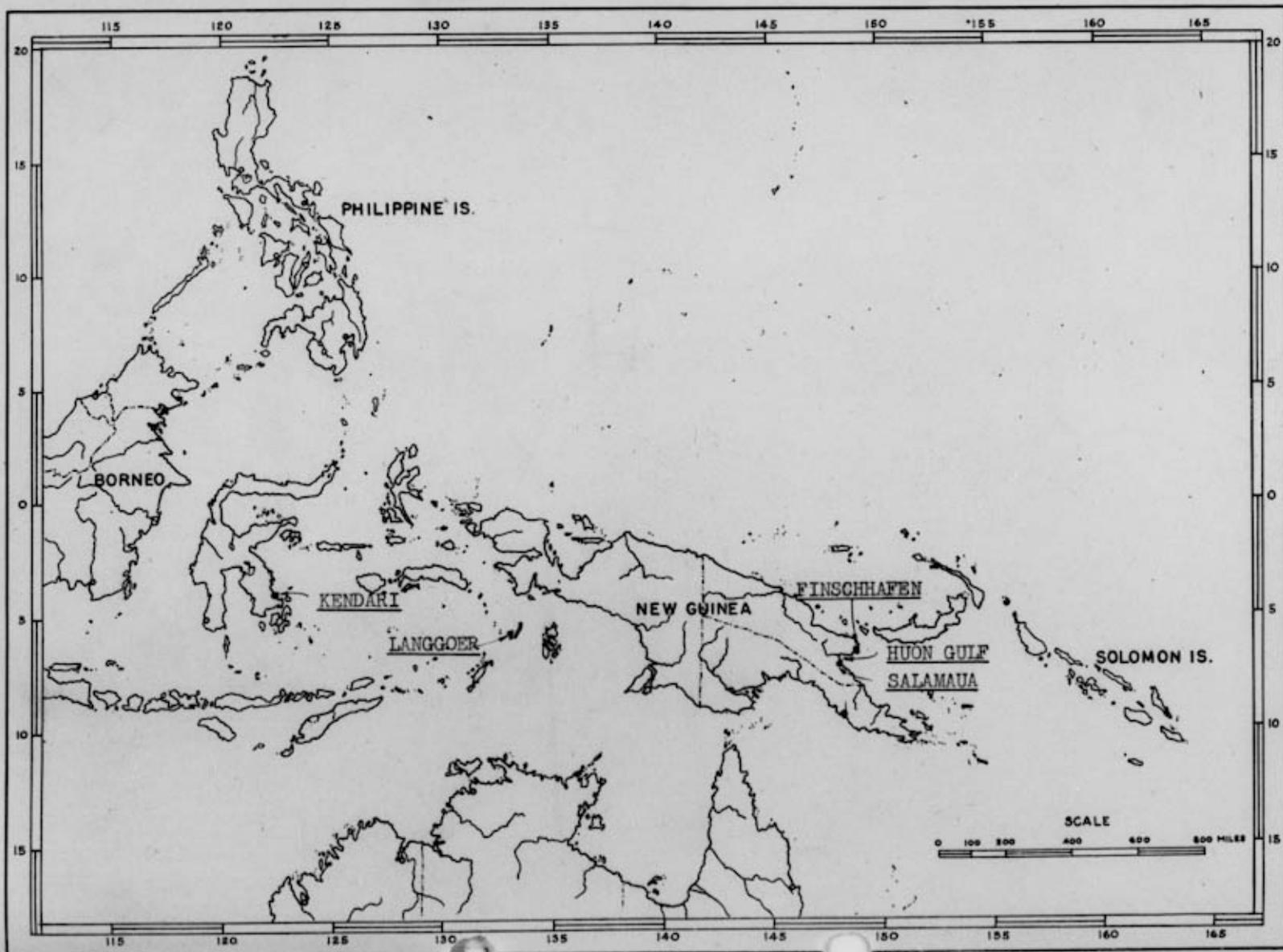
ASIATIC THEATER

1. The Myitnge railroad bridge was the primary target for 37 B-24's and B-25's of our 10th Air Force on 23 August. Of these, six B-24's and nine B-25's were able to attack the target; half and quarter-ton demolition bombs severed the center span and caused other



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



damage in the general area. Those planes unable to bomb the bridge because of weather attacked Myingyan, destroyed barracks at Meiktila and caused extensive damage at Pakokku. On a round trip of more than 2,000 miles two of our B-24's hit a 300-foot freighter near the Nicobar Islands.

2. Twenty-three Japanese airplanes attacked Chungking on 23 August, killing and injuring some civilians but causing little military damage. Antiaircraft fire and fighter opposition were ineffectual. The Japs made another attempt on 24 August.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 23 August Allied forces consolidated their positions on the high ground overlooking Salamaua, approximately 2,200 yards west of the airfield. Four Allied destroyers attacked targets of opportunity in the Finschhafen area. On air missions performed during the day Australian Hudsons attacked the airdrome at Langgoer in the Kai Islands and US Liberators again struck at Kendari in the Celebes.

2. A Japanese four-engined flying boat was sighted several times on 23 August by a US patrol PBV in the vicinity of Howland and Baker Islands.

WAR DEPARTMENT

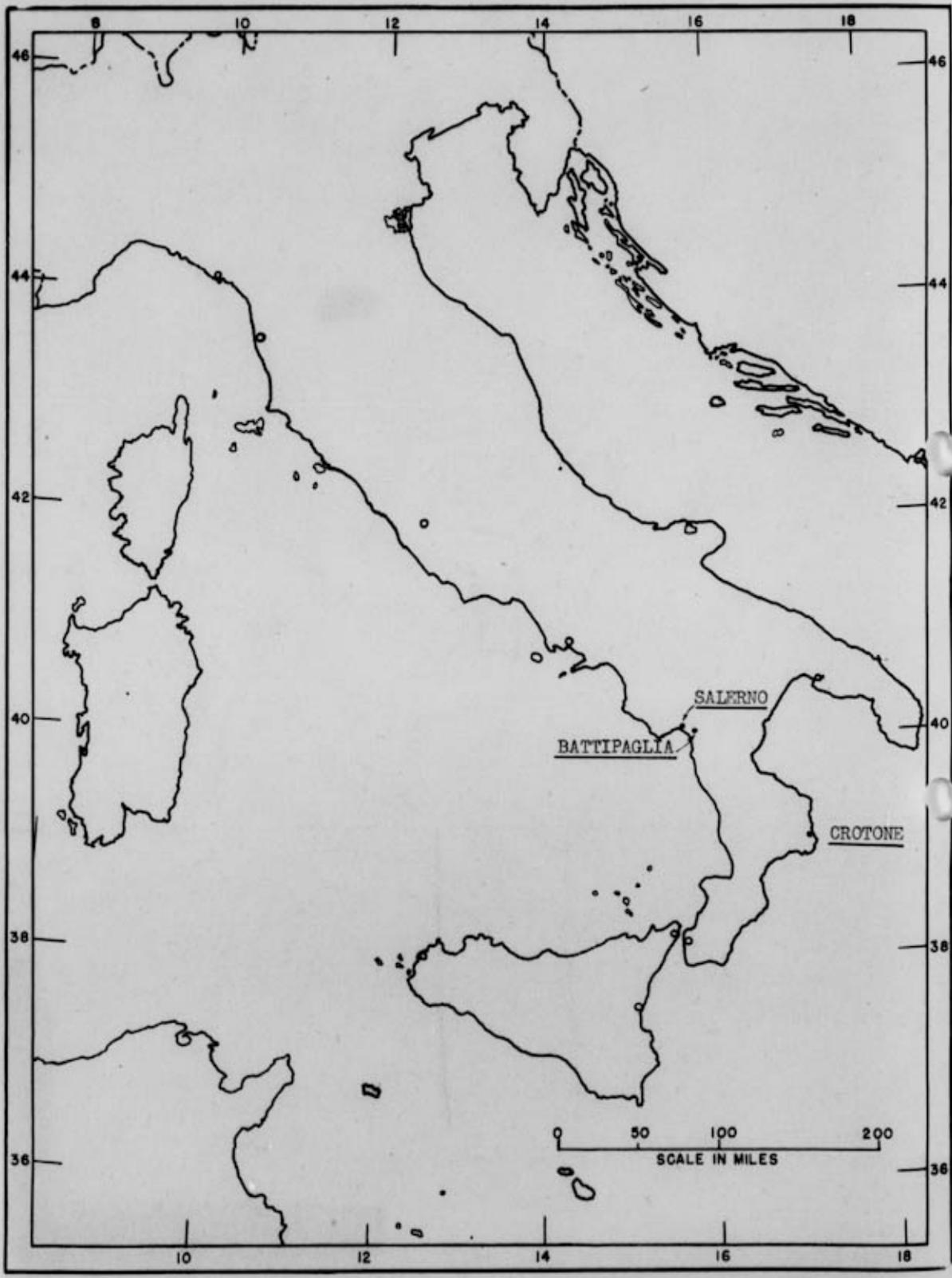
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

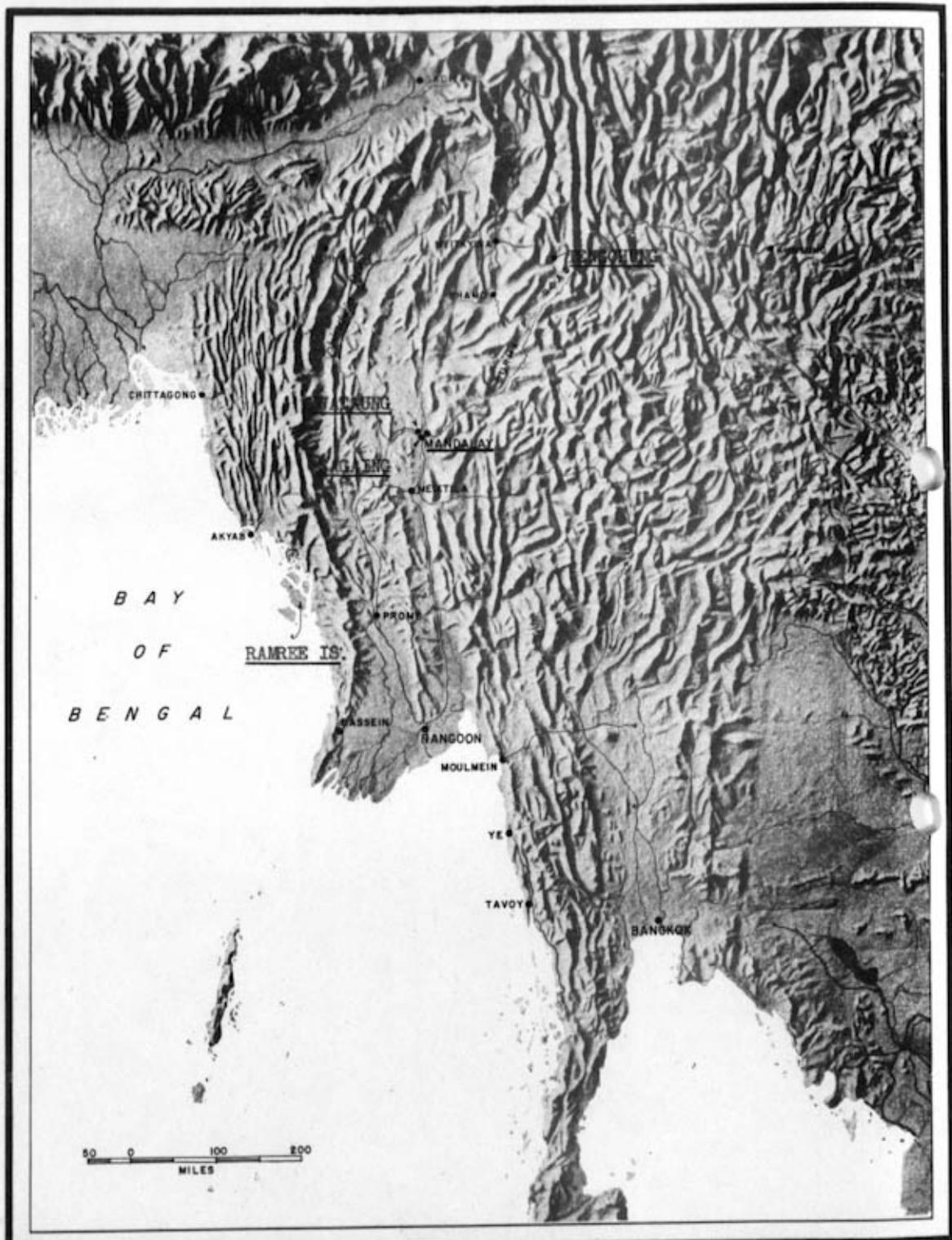
No. 622

0700 August 23 to 0700 August 24, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

A reconnaissance force landed on Rat Island (30 miles east of Kiska) on 22 August. From enemy diaries found on Kiska it is learned that our prolonged air and naval bombardment, particularly the many delayed action bombs, was breaking the Japanese morale.

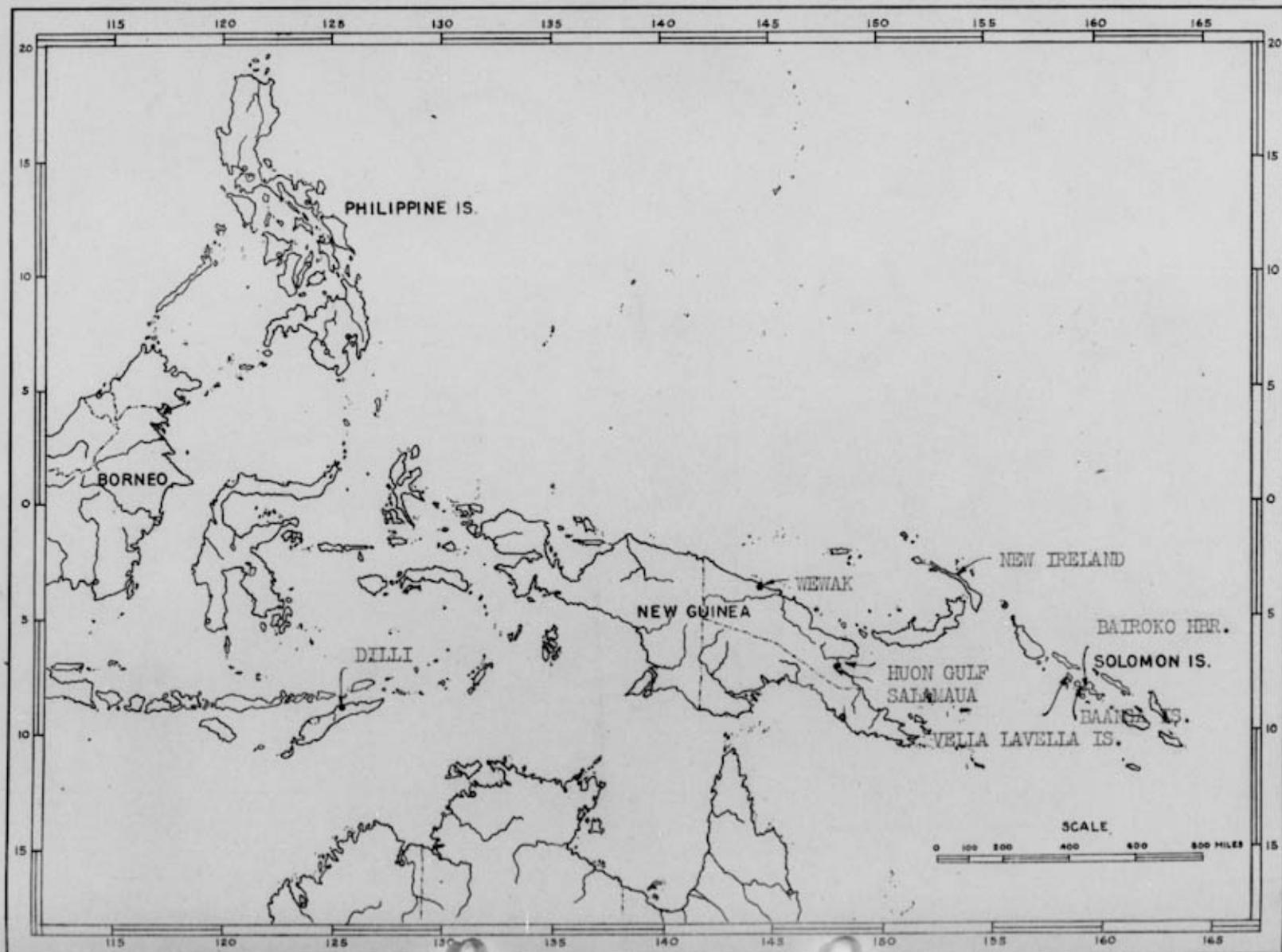
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 21-22 August, Allied bombers made damaging attacks against the marshalling yards at Crotone and Battipaglia. The next day B-26's, escorted by A-36's, scored hits on similar targets at the Salerno yards with 94 tons of bombs. Our aircraft destroyed 28 of 80 to 90 intercepting enemy aircraft without reported loss. The sustained air effort against Italian railroads continues to disrupt traffic seriously.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 21 August, P-40's of our 10th Air Force destroyed some enemy rafts in the Chindwin basin and hit an enemy ration dump in northern Burma. B-24's heavily damaged enemy barracks and other buildings on Ramree Island.

The next day the 10th Air Force again struck at enemy communications in central Burma, causing severe damage and destruction to rolling stock in the freight yards at Ywataung, Mandalay and Sagaing.



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 22 August, Salamaua was subjected to a heavy shelling by the artillery of our forces which now dominate the airdrome. During the day attacks were made by individual reconnaissance bombers against shipping north of New Ireland and off Wewak, as well as against enemy installations along the shores of Huon Gulf. Seven Dutch B-25's started fires in the town and airdrome areas at Dilli.

2. On 22 and 23 August, our 25th Division pushed forward on New Georgia and emplaced artillery to fire on the Bairoko Harbor area. Patrols of our 43rd Division on Baanga Island met no resistance.

During this period Army and Navy aircraft attacked Japanese barge centers on the west shore of Vella Lavella Island with excellent results, and shot down four of sixteen Japanese fighters without loss to ourselves.

WAR DEPARTMENT

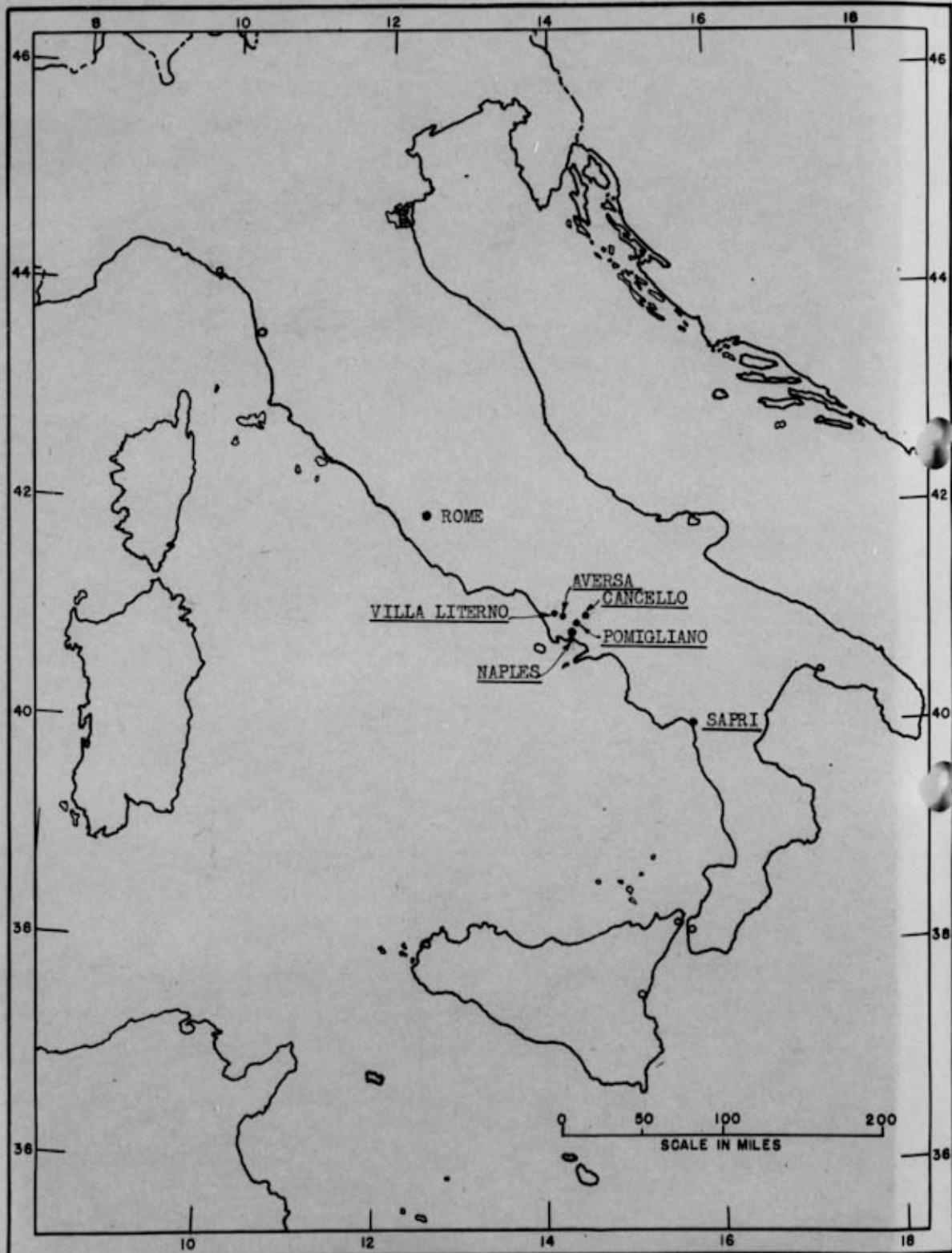
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 621

0700 August 22 to 0700 August 23, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Unloading is proceeding at Kiska and reconnaissance of all areas continues. Three midget submarines, apparently damaged by demolition charges, were found at the submarine base.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Unidentified aircraft were reported over Iceland on 21 August.

2. Medium bomber formations of our 8th Air Force, with Allied fighter escort, attacked the enemy-held airfield at Beaumont-le-Roger (southwest of Rouen) on 22 August. Nine enemy fighter planes were destroyed in combat; one of our medium bombers and eight fighters are missing.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 20-21 August, 36 British planes dropped 61 tons of explosives on the railroad yards at Villa Literno with excellent effect and two others dropped leaflets in the Rome area. Villa Literno was again attacked the next day by escorted B-26's, which dropped 124 tons of bombs causing additional damage to the yards and rolling stock. Twenty-six enemy fighters were destroyed; four B-26's were lost. Thirty-three escorted B-17's attacked Aversa railroad yards and targets on the outskirts of Naples. The railroads at

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD letter, 6-8-78

Aversa, Villa Literno and Sapri are now temporarily blocked. In other activities Allied fighter-bombers effectively attacked enemy motor transport on the Italian toe.

US B-24's attacking targets near Naples on 21 August, hit the railroad yards and installations at Canello with 115 tons of explosives, and dropped 36 tons of bombs near the airdrome at Pomigliano D'Arco. Our bombers destroyed 25 (probably 28) out of 50 attacking enemy fighters; two B-24's were lost.

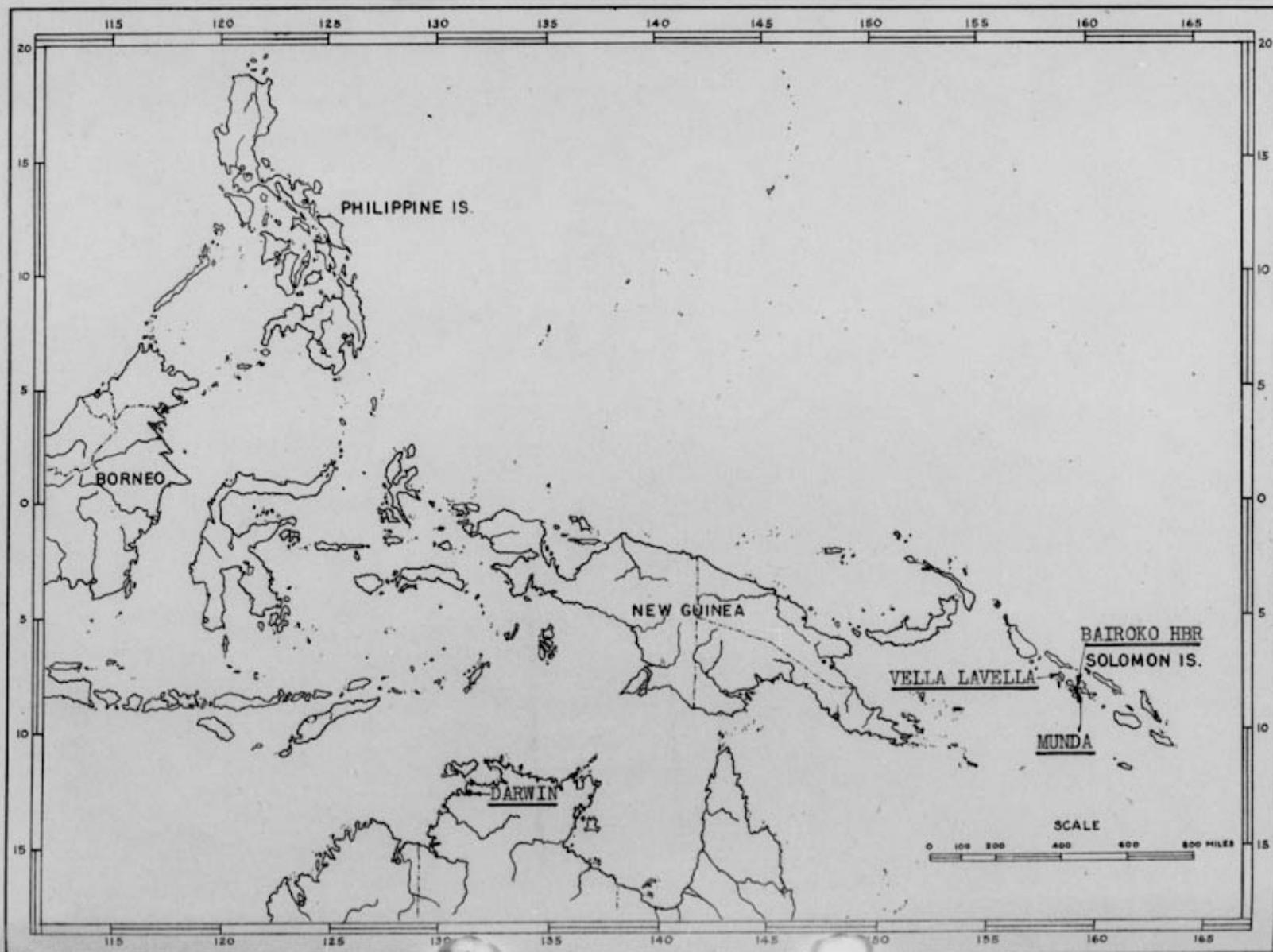
ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 21 August, bombers and fighters of the 14th Air Force bombed the Hankow airdrome; damage to many enemy airplanes was reported. Fourteen of our B-24's without escort also attacked the river front and warehouse area at Hankow; at least 35 of the 50 odd enemy fighters which attacked the formations were destroyed but two of our planes were shot down.

The same day, 19 P-40's intercepted 45 enemy fighters near Hengyang and Lungling, shooting down four, probably nine; one of our fighters was lost.

2. General Stilwell reports the activation of a Headquarters, Army Air Forces, India-Burma Sector, China-Burma-India Theater, under command of General Stratemeyer. This includes the 10th Air Force and service and training activities.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 21 August eighteen Japanese bombers attacked the Darwin area, causing only temporary damage.

2. Eight B-25's covered by 16 Allied fighter aircraft machine-gunned enemy positions on the northwest tip of Vella Lavella Island on 21 August. On New Georgia our patrols pushed to the southwest shore of Bairoko Harbor, without opposition, and continued toward the harbor mouth.

Our troops have captured the enemy field guns which were harassing the airfield at Munda.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

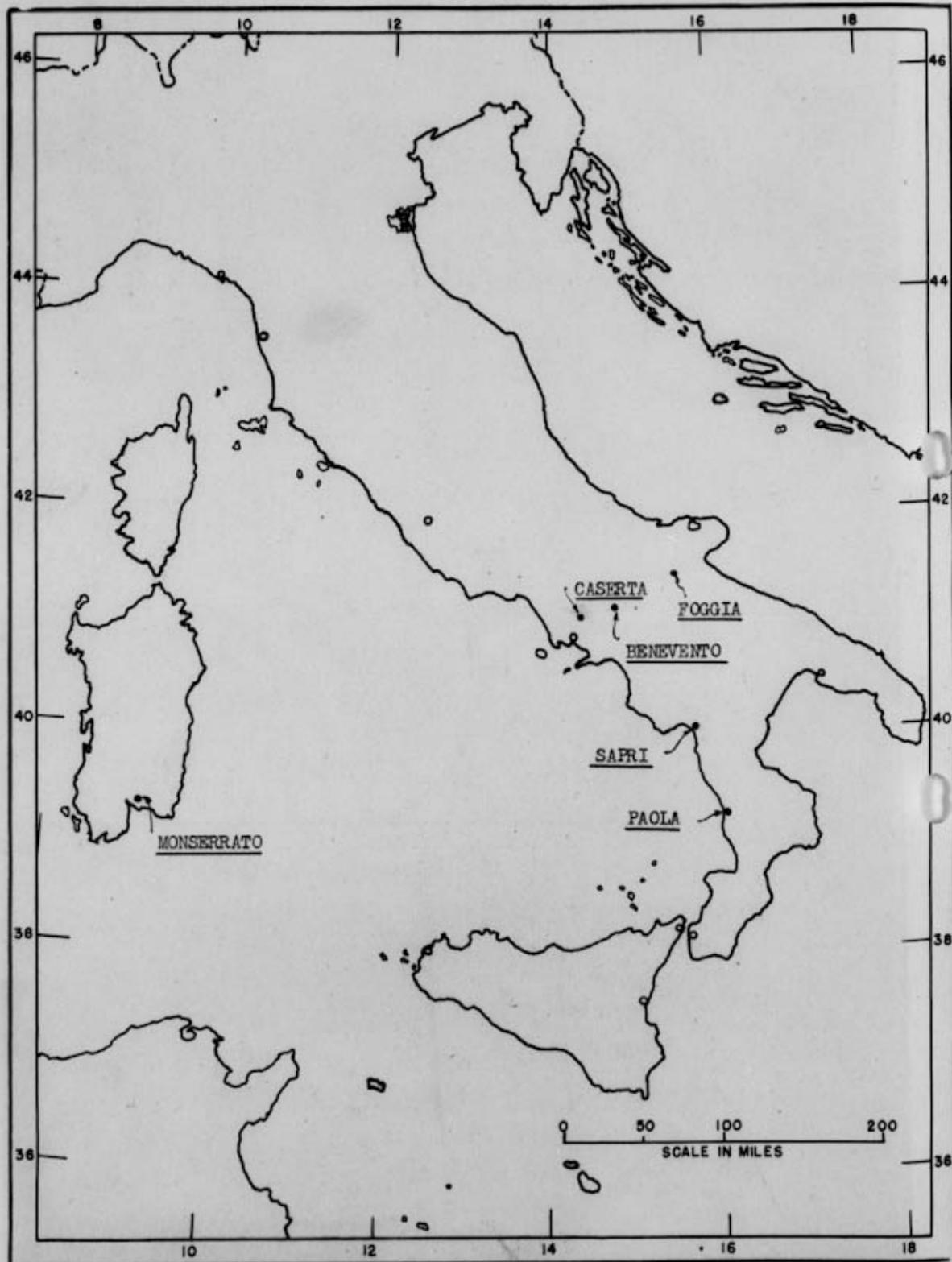
No. 620

0700 August 21 to 0700 August 22, 1943

WAZ

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

GENERAL

An enemy U-boat shot down three out of four attacking airplanes in the Bay of Biscay on August 19. That same day an airplane sank a Japanese submarine off New Caledonia.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 20 August.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. On the night of 19-20 August British Wellingtons followed up the heavy daylight attacks on Foggia dropping 93 tons of bombs on the railroad yards, station and warehouse area. Other Wellingtons attacked beaches along the western coast of Italy from Sapri to Paola. The next day allied aircraft continued attacks on communication centers in southern Italy with heavy raids against the Caserta, Benevento and other nearby railroad yards in which 87 of our escorted medium bombers dropped 110 tons of explosives. A mission of 48 P-40's hit the Monserrato airdrome in Sardinia with fragmentation bombs. In these operations 13 enemy aircraft were shot down for a loss of nine of our fighters.

2. General Eisenhower estimates Axis losses during the Sicilian campaign at 290 tanks, 5,000 vehicles (of which 3,500 were German), 1,990 anti-tank, field and antiaircraft guns (of which 1,730 were

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

Italian). The total Italian combat strength in Sicily prior to the invasion is now believed to have been 216,000 of which 123,000 were captured, 2,000 killed, 35,000 evacuated and 56,000 unaccounted for, who possibly deserted and returned to civil life. Of the German estimated strength of 92,000, 20,000 were wounded, 5,000 killed, 7,000 captured and the balance probably evacuated.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 20 August P-40's of the 10th Air Force attacked enemy-held towns in northern Burma, heavily damaging his installations south of Kamaing.

2. The same day, 15 P-40's of the 14th Air Force intercepted 21 Japanese planes over Kueilin, shooting down two Jap fighters for a loss of two P-40's. Eight B-25's and 11 P-40's scored effective hits on the Tien Ho airdrome at Canton and shot down five (probably eight) intercepting enemy fighters.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. General MacArthur reports for 20 August that Allied forces now advancing on Salamaua captured quantities of machine guns and artillery pieces; the enemy is in full retreat to the inner defenses of that place.

Responding to reconnaissance information, 24 of our B-24's escorted by 46 P-38's effectively bombed the Boram airdrome and

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dispersal area (near Wewak) where enemy air reinforcements were arriving. At least five aircraft were destroyed on the ground and 19 (probably 25) of the 30 to 35 enemy fighters attempting interception were shot down. One B-24 was lost.

On 21 August our escorted medium bombers renewed their attacks on the airdromes in the Wewak area, to which the enemy persisted in flying air reinforcements. At least 34 airplanes were left burning on the ground, including both aircraft previously damaged and new arrivals. Of the large number of intercepting fighters encountered 33 (probably 38) were reported destroyed; three of our fighters are missing. In addition, our heavy bombers made a punishing daylight attack on the enemy nickel mining center at Pomelaa (Celebes); they also damaged an enemy freighter in the harbor. Two (probably five) enemy aircraft were destroyed on this mission without loss. Our long-range fighters attacked the Japanese seaplane base at Taberfane in the Aroe Islands; two (probably three) intercepting float planes were shot down and coastal craft damaged without reported loss on our part.

2. Our 43rd Division reached the southern tip of Baanga on 20 August and continued to mop up the northern portion of that island.

WAR DEPARTMENT

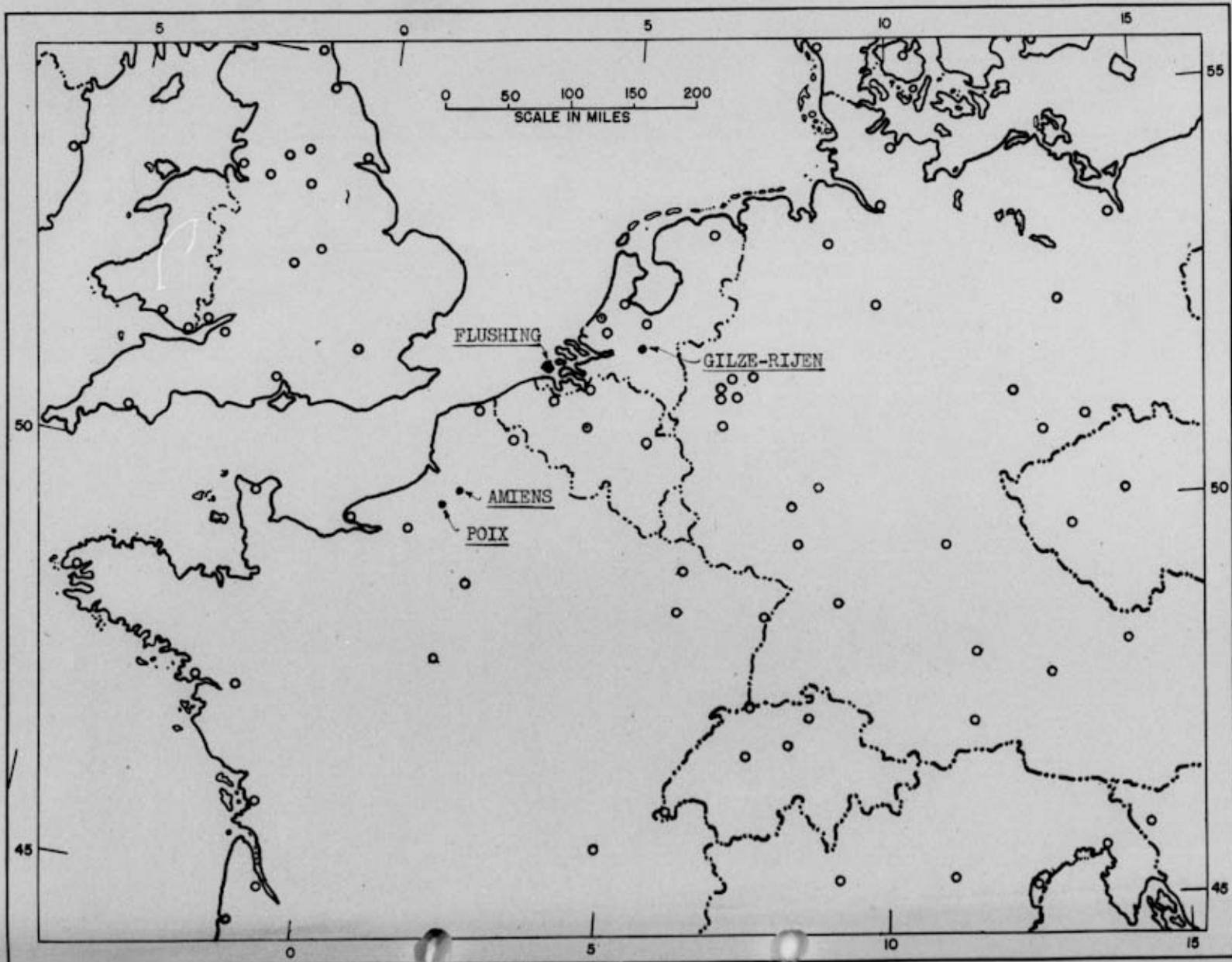
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

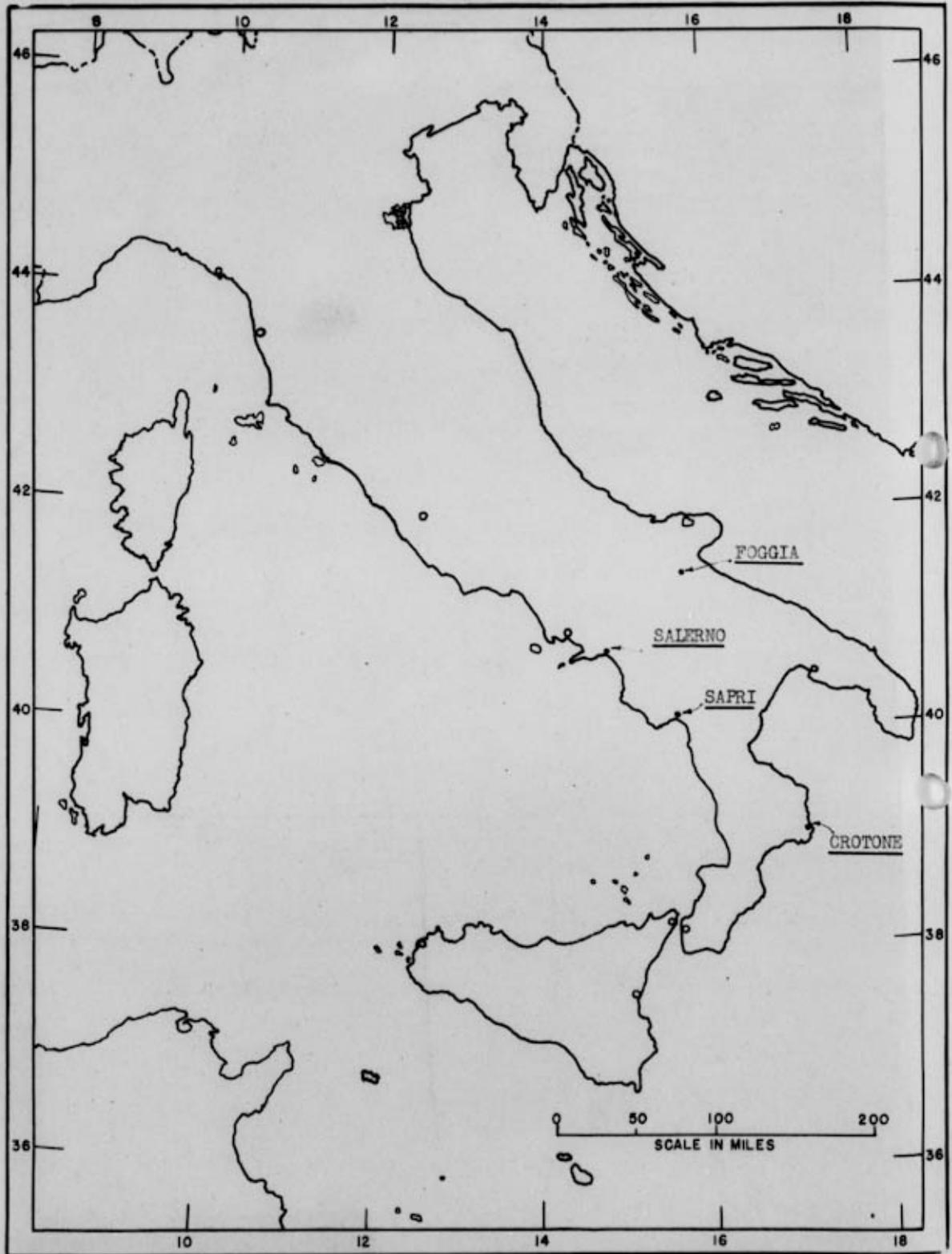
No. 619

0700 August 20 to 0700 August 21, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





WESTERN HEMISPHERE

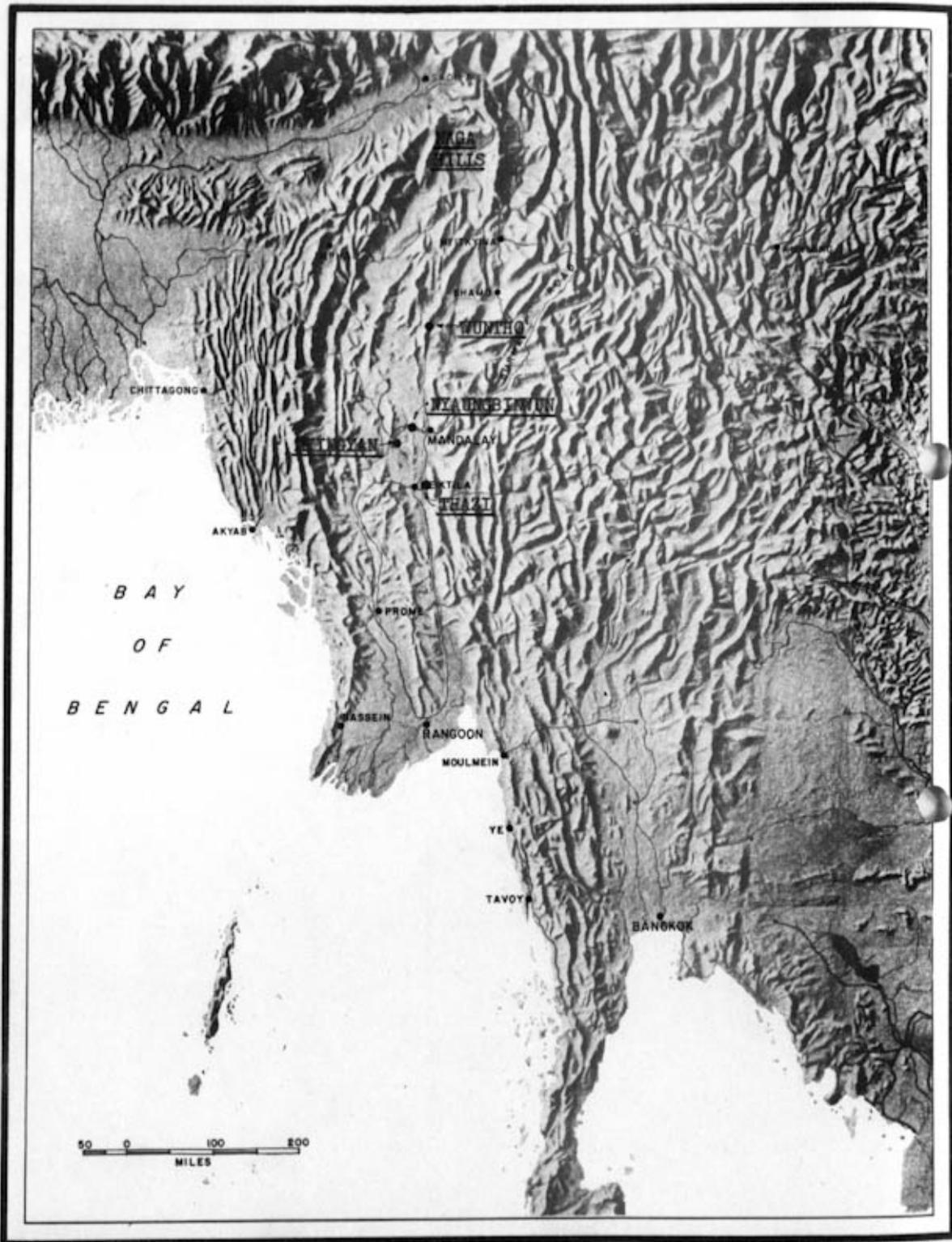
US reconnaissance troops landing on Segula, 15 miles east of Kiska, on 19 August, found the island to be free of the enemy.

EUROPEAN THEATER

On 19 August, with the German Air Force as its objective, our 8th Air Force concentrated its attacks against the enemy fighter defenses on the western front. Five missions totaling 72 B-26's and 176 B-17's, with 186 P-47's and 29 squadrons of RAF fighters as escort, dropped more than 285 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs on the enemy airfields at Poix, Amiens, Flushing and Gilze-Rijen. Bombing results were reported as good. Enemy fighter resistance was encountered at some points; 26 (probably 39) enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of five B-17's and one P-47.

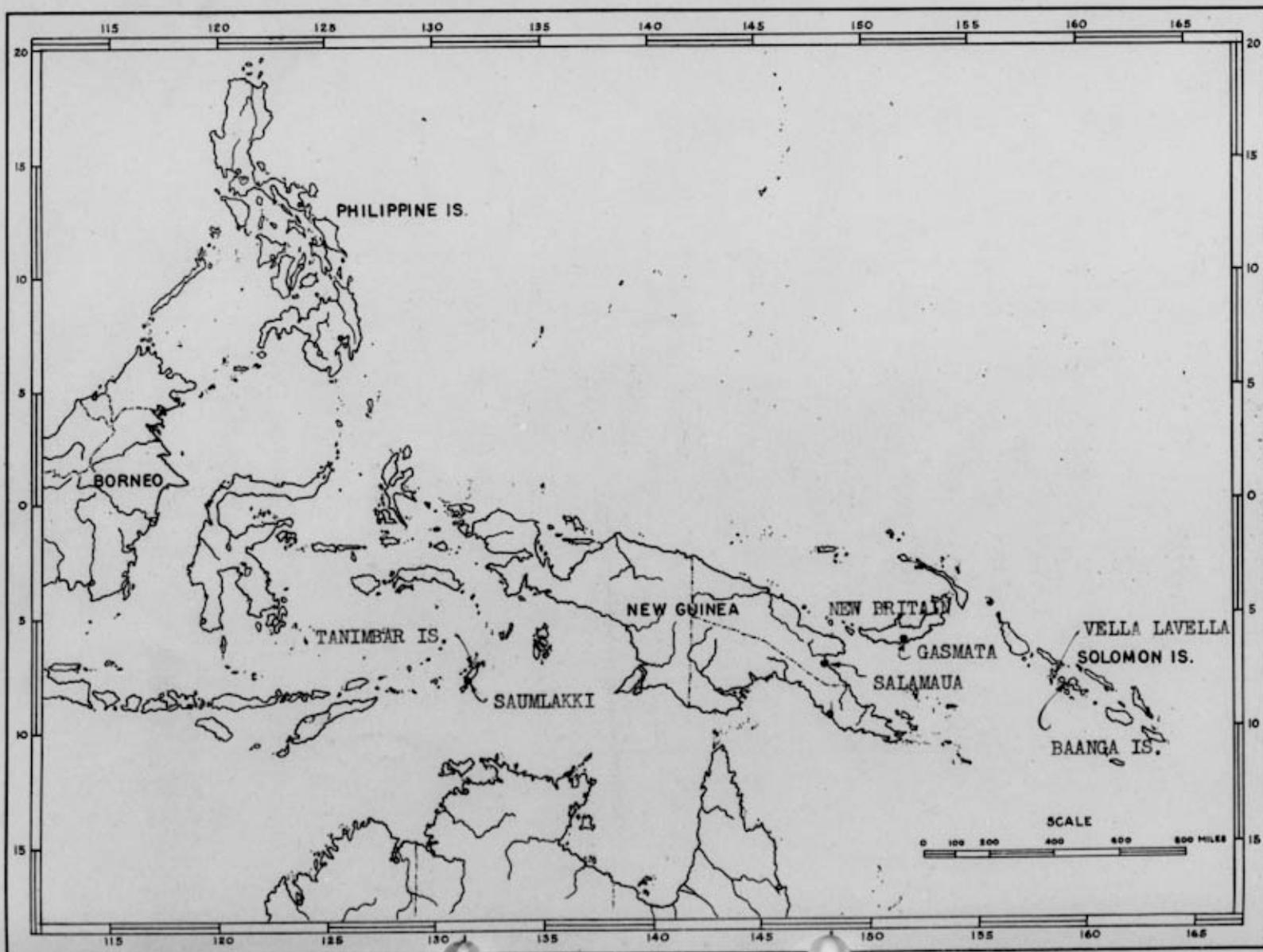
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

British planes bombed Crotone on the night of 18-19 August, damaging the railroad yards and chemical works. The next day 219 escorted US heavy bombers of both General Spaatz' and Brereton's commands attacked the Foggia railroad yards and power station with 645 tons of bombs, damaging or destroying a railroad bridge, repair shops, rolling stock, warehouses and barracks; industrial buildings and the gas and electric works in the city area were also hit. Thirty-eight, probably 47, enemy planes were shot down; seven of our



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943.

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



bombers and three P-38's were lost. Ninety-six escorted medium bombers pounded the town areas and railroad yards at Sapri and Salerno with 116 tons of explosives, and our A-36's operated against communications and targets of opportunity in the toe of Italy; seven of our aircraft did not return from these missions.

General Spaatz reports that the heavy bomber losses resulted from bombs dropped on them, and from large projectiles, possibly rockets, fired from enemy fighter aircraft.

ASIATIC THEATER

General Davidson reports that on 19 August, 21 B-25's of our 10th Air Force dropped 25 tons of demolition bombs on enemy railroad and supply installations at Thazi, Nyaungbinwun, Myingyan and Wuntho in central Burma; considerable destruction was observed. The same day, P-40's harassed enemy-held villages in the Naga Hills area.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 19 August, four Australian Beaufighters bombed a supply dump near Gasmata, and reconnaissance B-24's attacked and sank a small coastal vessel near the Tanimbar Islands and bombed Saumlakki. A Japanese submarine shelled and machine-gunned Allied landing craft southeast of Salamaua but caused no casualties.

2. Our 43rd Division continued to advance on Baanga Island on

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

19 August outflanking Japanese resistance. Escorted B-25's sank a loaded barge in the Vella Lavella area, machine-gunned others, and bombed a beached cargo vessel.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

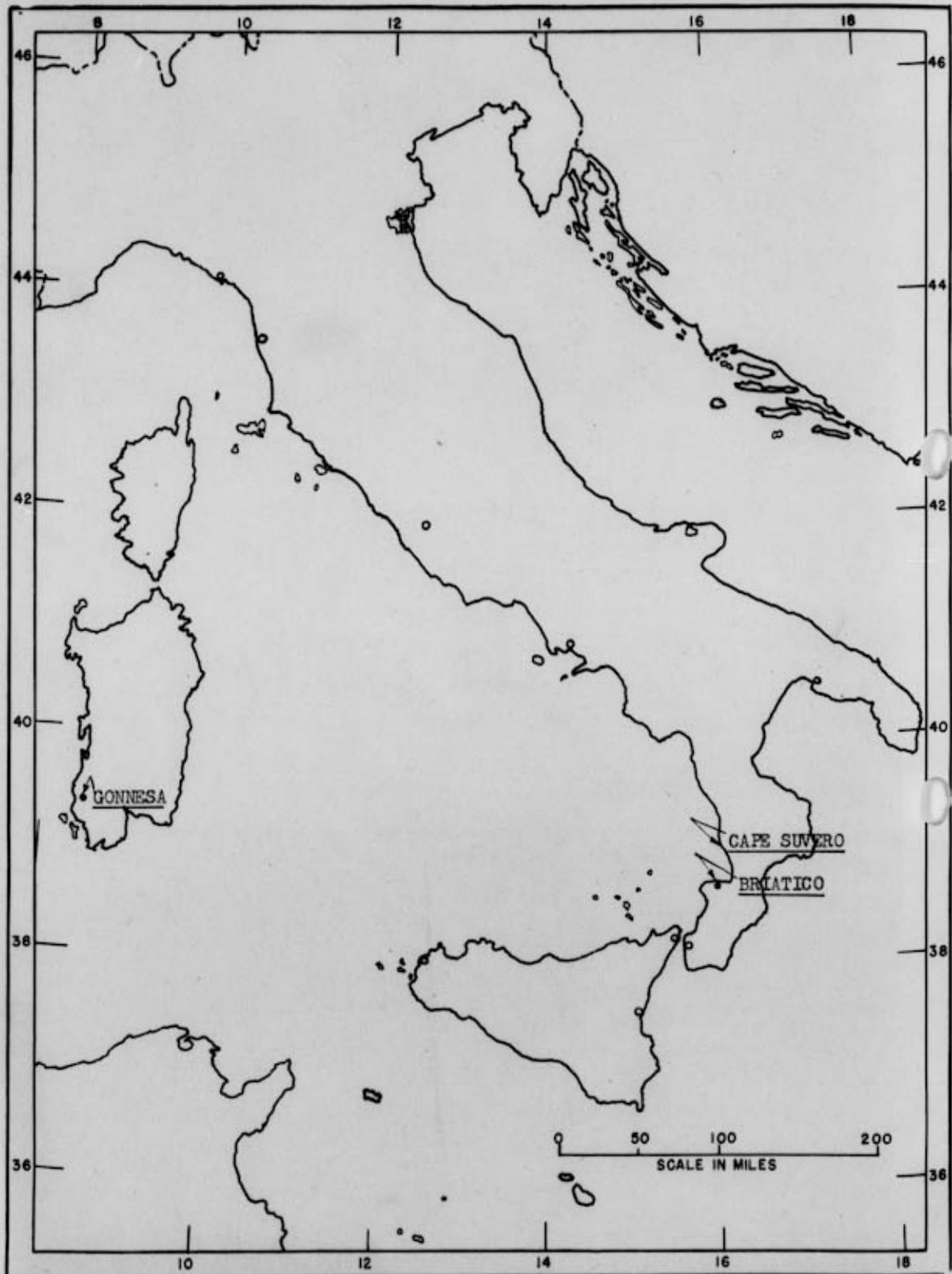
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 618

0700 August 19 to 0700 August 20, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. On 17 August an unopposed landing was made on Little Kiska; reconnaissance indicates that the island was evacuated on or about 9 August.

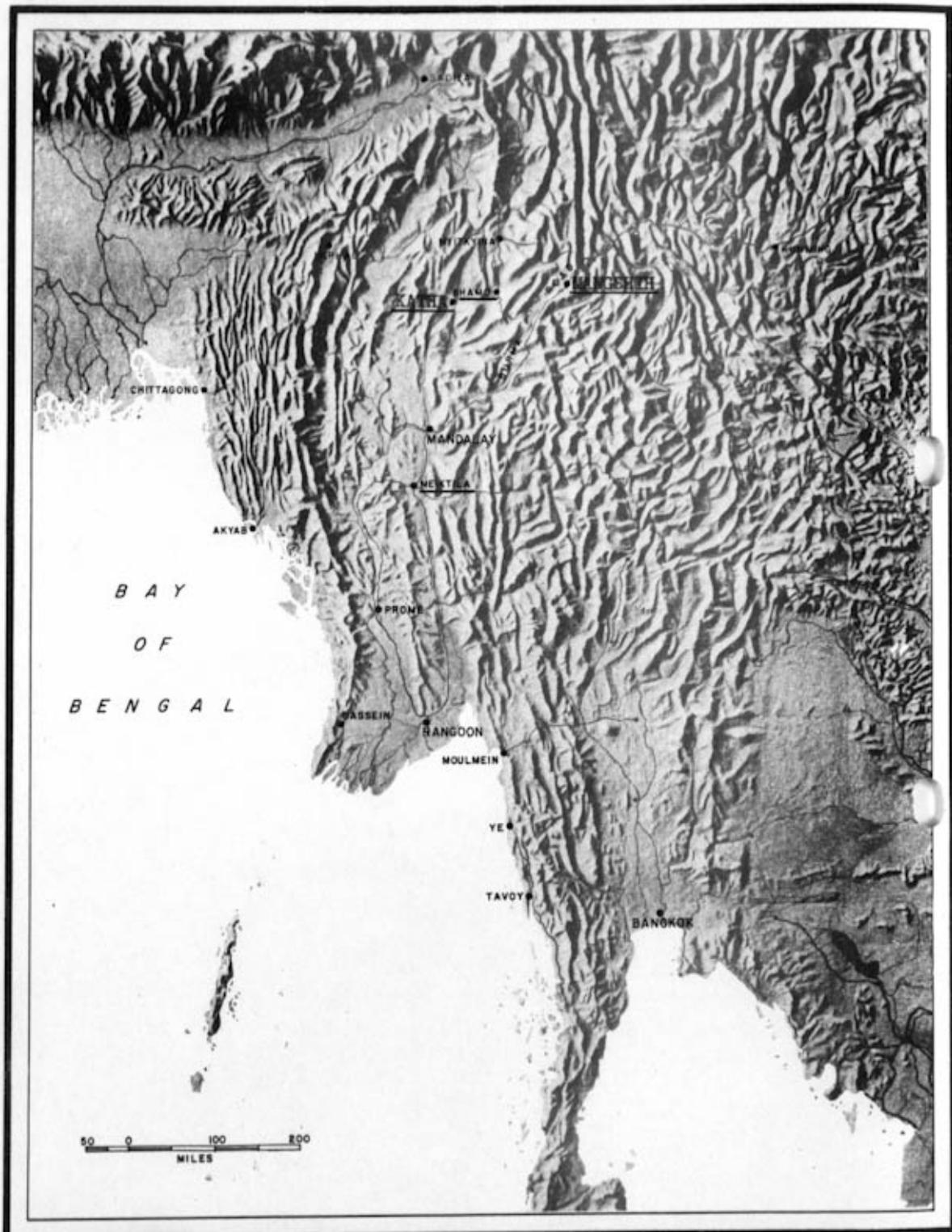
2. The Army Ground Forces issued a directive for the movement of the 80th Infantry Division (Major General Horace L. McBride) from the Tennessee Maneuver Area to Camp Phillips, Kansas, for a permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the week ending 15 August, planes of our 8th Air Force destroyed 40 (probably 48) enemy planes, for a loss of 29 aircraft from all causes. For the same period the RAF destroyed 29 (probably 32) enemy planes and lost 62 of their number.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the night of 17-18 August British Wellingtons dropped 89 tons of bombs and more than 400,000 leaflets on the beaches between Briatico and Cape Suvero. The following day our medium bombers and fighter planes heavily attacked railroads and highways in Italy, destroyed one merchant vessel, previously unreported, off the Italian coast, harassed enemy forces in Calabria and dropped fragmentation bombs in the Gonnesa section of southern Sardinia. On the night of



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
26 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

18-19 August, 60 enemy aircraft again attacked Bizerte causing some casualties and damage to shipping; six enemy planes were shot down. Late reports state that 100 enemy aircraft participated in the raid on Bizerte on the previous night; three ships were hit, one was sunk and an oil fire started. Nine enemy aircraft were shot down.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 17 August, six B-25's of the 10th Air Force scored many hits on large buildings at Meiktila. The following day other B-25's hit buildings at Bhamo and destroyed two river boats at Katha.

2. On 17 August, nine B-24's of the 14th Air Force hit a motor pool or motorized artillery area and numerous buildings at a Japanese encampment at Cau Lo, northwest of Haiphong. Other planes bombed Mangshih, ten miles south of Lungling, starting a number of large fires.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 18 August, elements of our 25th Division were approaching the high ground dominating Bairoko harbor (New Georgia). Four of our B-24's machine-gunned and bombed the Rekata (Santa Isabel) area.

During the night of 17-18 August, Japanese float planes and dive-bombers carried out frequent attacks against our positions on Vella Lavella Island.

WAR DEPARTMENT

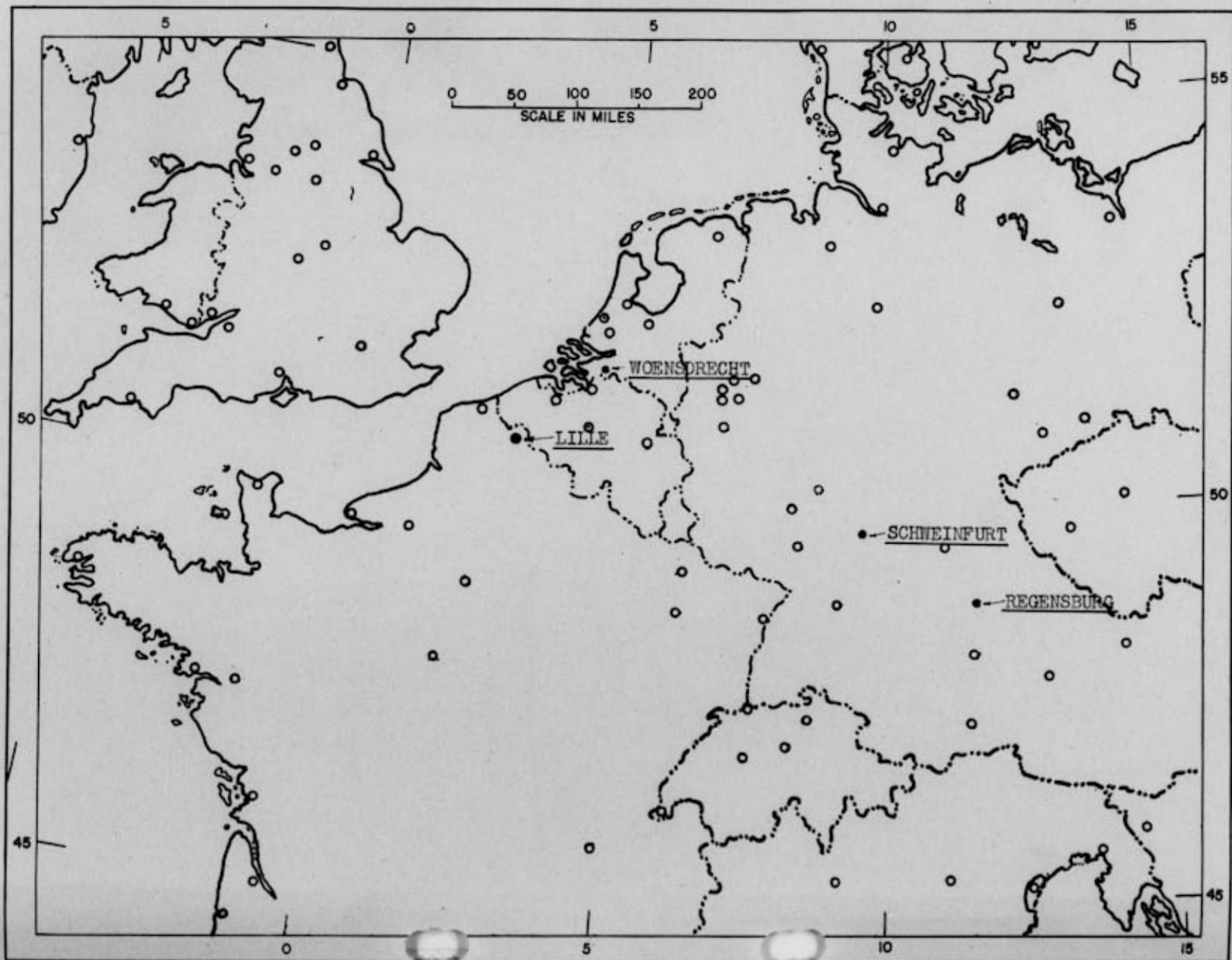
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

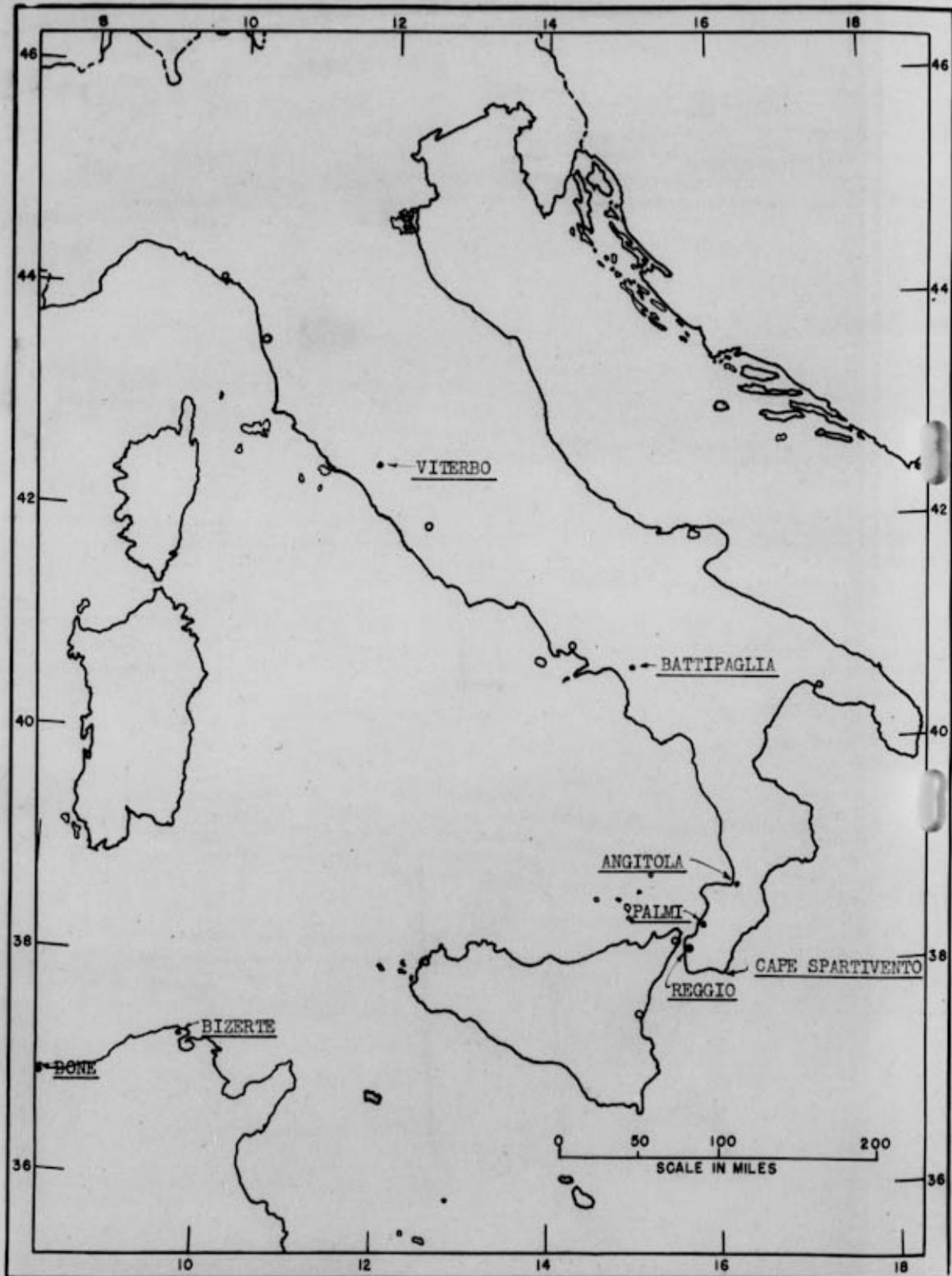
No. 617

0700 August 18 to 0700 August 19, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



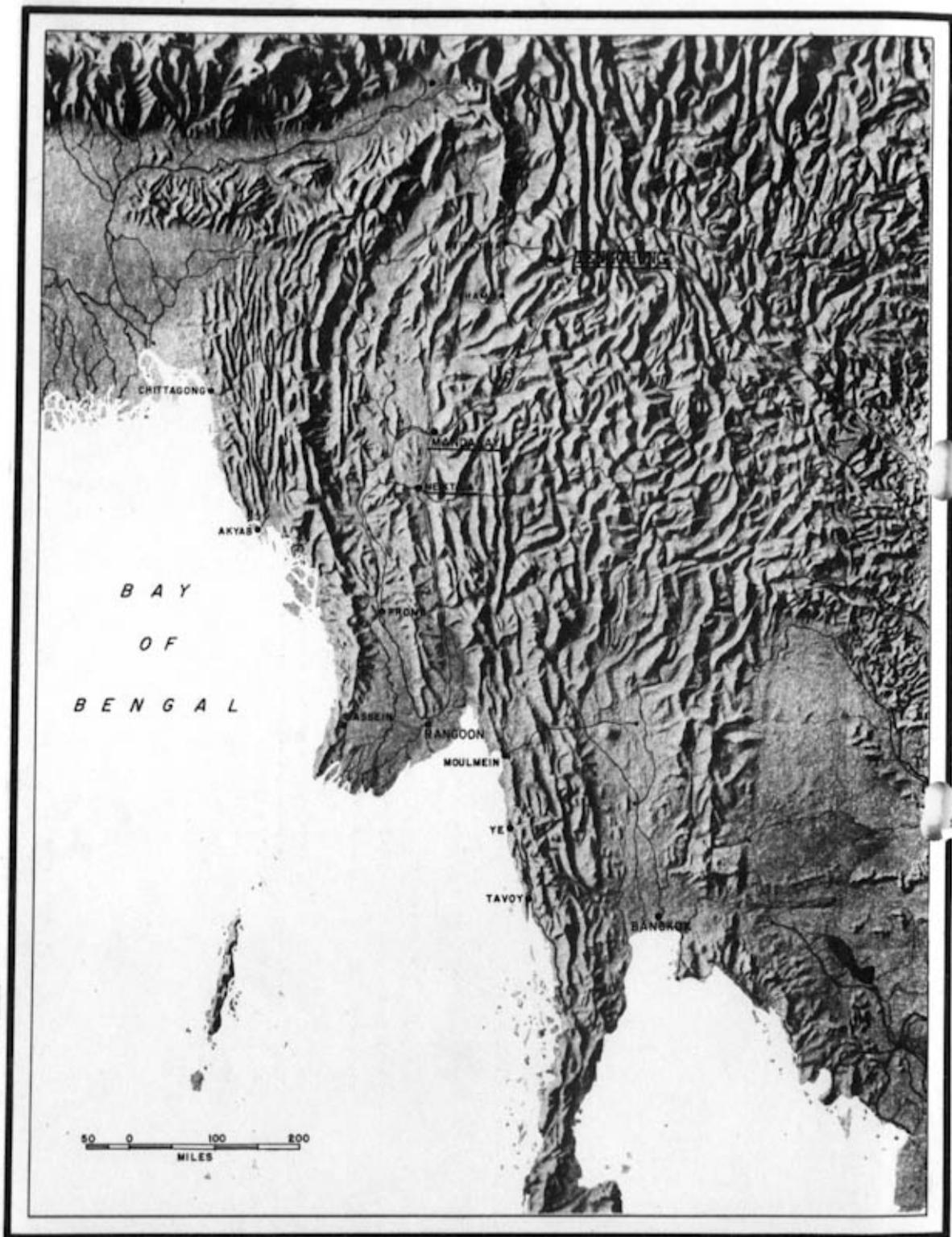


EUROPEAN THEATER

Large formations of 8th Air Force heavy bombers on 17 August effectively attacked important industrial targets deep in central Germany, including the Messerschmitt airplane factory at Regensburg (about 55 miles southeast of Nurnberg) and the roller bearing works at Schweinfurt (65 miles southeast of Frankfurt). The B-17's which carried out the Regensburg raid flew on to North Africa. Seventy-five (probably 109) enemy fighters were destroyed; forty-two of our planes, including 36 heavy bombers are missing from the day's operations. US medium bombers attacked enemy airfields at Woensdrecht, Holland, and near Lille, France, on August 18.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. On the night of 16-17 August, 49 British bombers attacked Viterbo airdrome and nearby targets with good results. Forty other British planes attacked beaches along the west coast of the Italian toe. Two German medium bombers, attacking an Allied convoy off Bone, were destroyed by our aircraft. On 17 August, US bombers and fighters damaged a bridge at Angitola, hit the railroad yards at Battipaglia, and destroyed a radar station at Cape Spartivento. Allied aircraft carried out anti-shipping sweeps off the toe of Italy, the west coast of Greece, and in the Aegean. In the evening eighty enemy aircraft attacked Bizerte in two missions, causing some damage to shipping at a cost of nine, probably ten, of their number. An American ship



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

carrying prisoners of war from Bone for the US was damaged by an enemy aerial torpedo, and beached; 320 prisoners were reported killed.

On 18 August, Allied aircraft maintained their attacks on coastal traffic from Reggio di Calabria to Palmi, hitting five Siebel ferries and six small boats.

2. Axis losses in the Sicilian campaign as of 10 August, are reported as 135,000 prisoners, 32,000 killed and wounded, 260 tanks and 502 guns. Of the German force totaling 75,000, 6,000 to 7,000 have been taken prisoner and 24,000 killed and wounded. Estimated Allied losses are 25,000 troops, 103 tanks and 251 guns. The enemy aircraft losses in combat and on the ground are 1,691; the corresponding Allied figure is 274.

ASIATIC THEATER

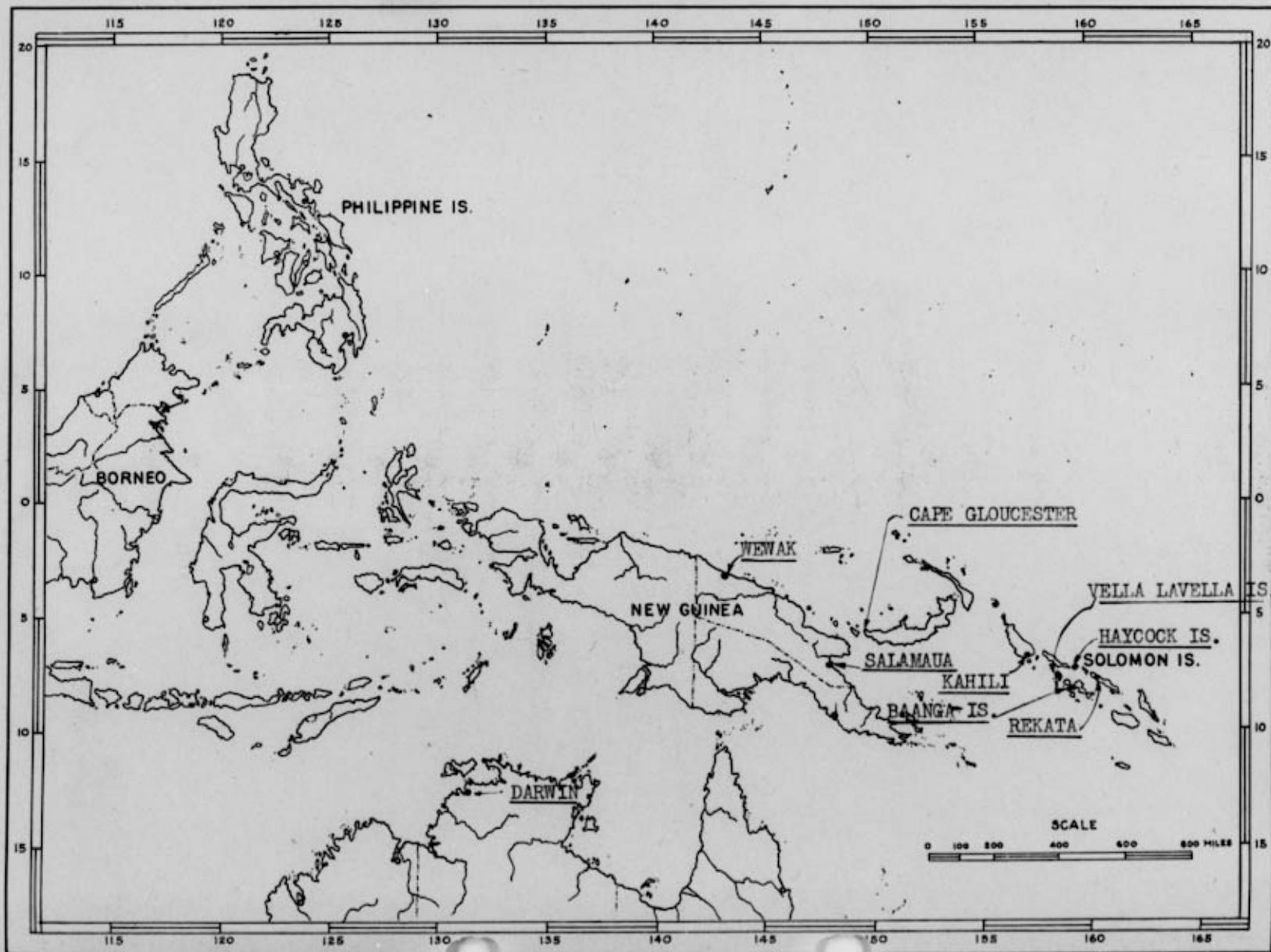
1. Four P-40's of our 14th Air Force started fires at Tengchung on 16 August.

2. On 16 August nine B-24's of the 10th Air Force probably sank two small enemy vessels south of Rangoon. The next day 21 B-24's over central Burma successfully attacked railroad yards and a bridge at Meiktila.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 17 August Allied aircraft attacked the runway at Cape

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Gloucester, sank and damaged enemy barges along the New Guinea coast, and harassed the Japanese in the Salamaua area. Four enemy reconnaissance planes were shot down over Darwin. The successful attack on airdromes in the Wewak area reported yesterday was accomplished by 49 of our heavy bombers and 109 fighters. This attack has been maintained until only ten planes of the 225 originally on the enemy airfields now survive; in addition 28 out of 30 fighters defending them were shot down. Three cargo ships have been set afire as well as the town and harbor area. Our loss for this entire battle has been six airplanes.

On 18 August our heavy bombers again attacked the oil center and shipping at Balikpapan, Borneo. From mast-head height four large vessels, probably tankers, were destroyed or set afire and two others badly damaged; fires were restarted in the refinery area. All of our aircraft returned.

2. Over Vella Lavella and Kahili, on 15 August, a total of 68 enemy planes were destroyed instead of the 34 previously reported; our loss was but four aircraft.

On 16 August Allied planes struck at Kahili, Rekata Bay, an enemy barge depot near Santa Isabel Island, and supported our ground forces in the Baanga Island area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

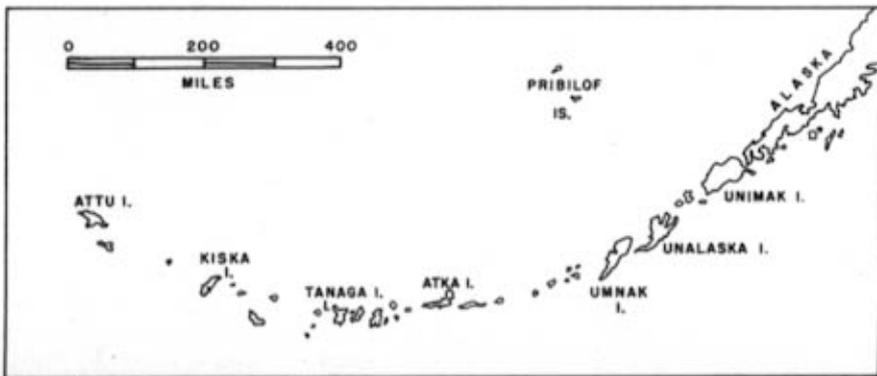
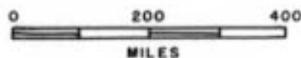
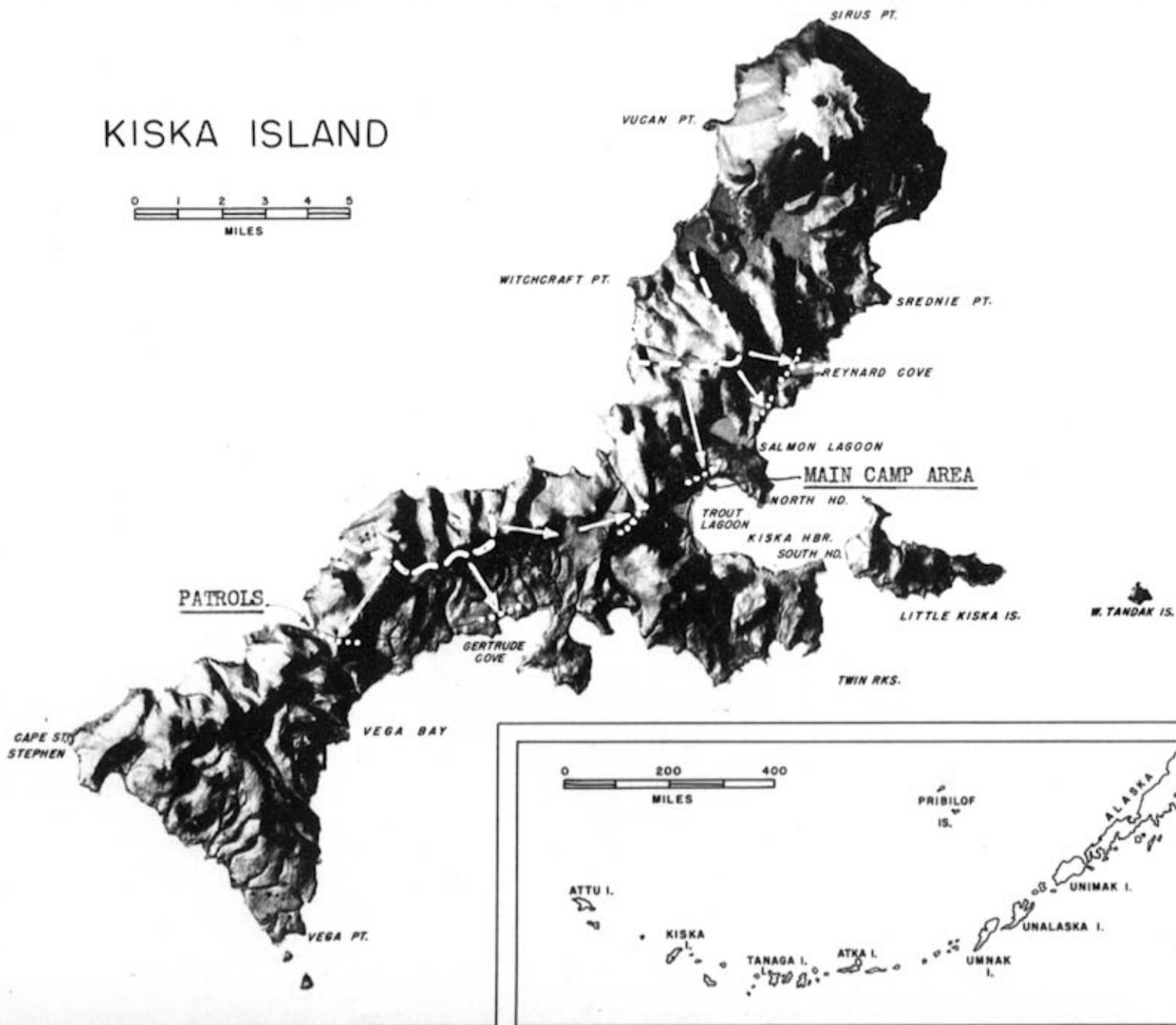
No. 616

0700 August 17 to 0700 August 18, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

KISKA ISLAND



BASE MAP NO. 2356
5 MAY 1943 (FREE)

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

DECLASSIFIED

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. By 1600 local time 16 August approximately 16,000 troops had been landed on Kiska; patrols were pushing forward toward the east coast. Our troops were reported marching into the main camp area without opposition. Between 10 and 12 tons of Japanese small arms ammunition were captured in the southern sector.

2. The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 63rd Infantry Division (Major General Louis E. Hibbs) from Camp Blanding, Florida to Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi for permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

In addition to the missions already reported for 16 August, 36 of our escorted B-26's bombed the Beaumont le Roger airdrome 70 miles west of Paris. None of the enemy fighters which were sighted attacked the formation.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. Organized resistance on Sicily is reported to have ceased on the morning of 17 August. The extent of the enemy evacuation has not yet been determined.

2. On the night of 15-16 August, 44 British bombers raided the

Viterbo railroad yards. The next day, while other Allied aircraft continued their operations against the Strait of Messina and the toe of Italy, 85 B-24's scored hits on workshops, buildings, dispersal areas and landing fields in the vicinity of Foggia, using 157 tons of bombs; our planes shot down 43 (probably 50) out of 75 or 100 enemy interceptors, losing eight B-24's.

3. According to an Allied Force communique strong forces of our heavy bombers attacked two airdromes northwest of Marseille on 17 August.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 16 August, 27 B-25's of the 10th Air Force attacked enemy railroad installations, river boats, plants and warehouses in the general vicinity of Mandalay. Five B-24's were prevented from attacking an enemy convoy of six vessels south of Rangoon by the attacks of six enemy fighters, two of which were probably shot down.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our forces south of Salamaua on 16 August had surrounded a body of the enemy estimated at 700; over 200 enemy dead have been counted in the area. Twenty-five enemy fighters attempting an attack on Allied transport aircraft west of Salamaua were intercepted by 15 US P-38's and 32 P-47's, which shot down 12 (probably 14) of the enemy

planes without reported loss. Two of our B-24's photographed the damage done on the recent raid against Balikpapan and again bombed the town; they destroyed four (probably five) enemy planes attempting interception. Small-scale Allied air attacks were carried out against Langgoer (Kai Islands), Saumlakki (Tanimbar Islands), and Taberfane (Aroe Islands).

2. In a late communique, General MacArthur reports that, acting instantly upon information obtained by his reconnaissance, Allied air units in a night mass assault surprised more than 225 closely parked enemy airplanes and crews in the Wewak area on 17 August. These aircraft were apparently forming for a decisive air stroke in support of the enemy's ground forces in the New Guinea area. The attacks were continued during daylight. Photographs reveal total destruction of 120 enemy planes and severe damage to at least 50 more; 1,500 Japanese air personnel were probably killed. We lost three airplanes.

3. On 16 August, 70 US bombers and fighters heavily attacked Vila and nearby Kape naval depot. Nine B-24's dropped 12 tons of bombs on Rekata; another bombed the landing strip, revetment and supply area at Buka.

On New Georgia Island the 25th Division had reached the west coast and was pushing northward. Our forces on Baanga Island were advancing against serious opposition.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

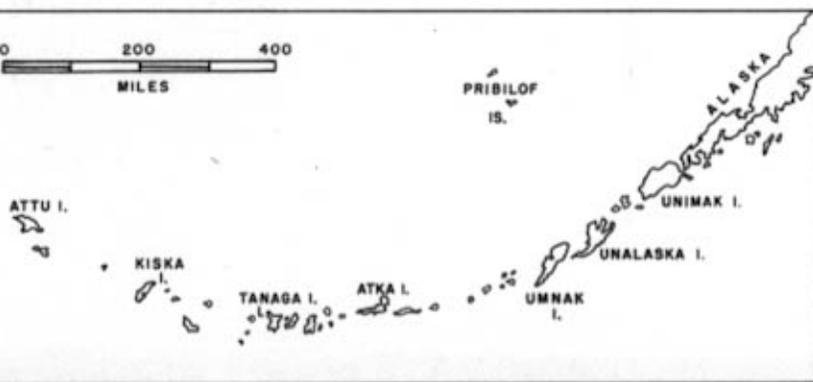
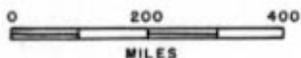
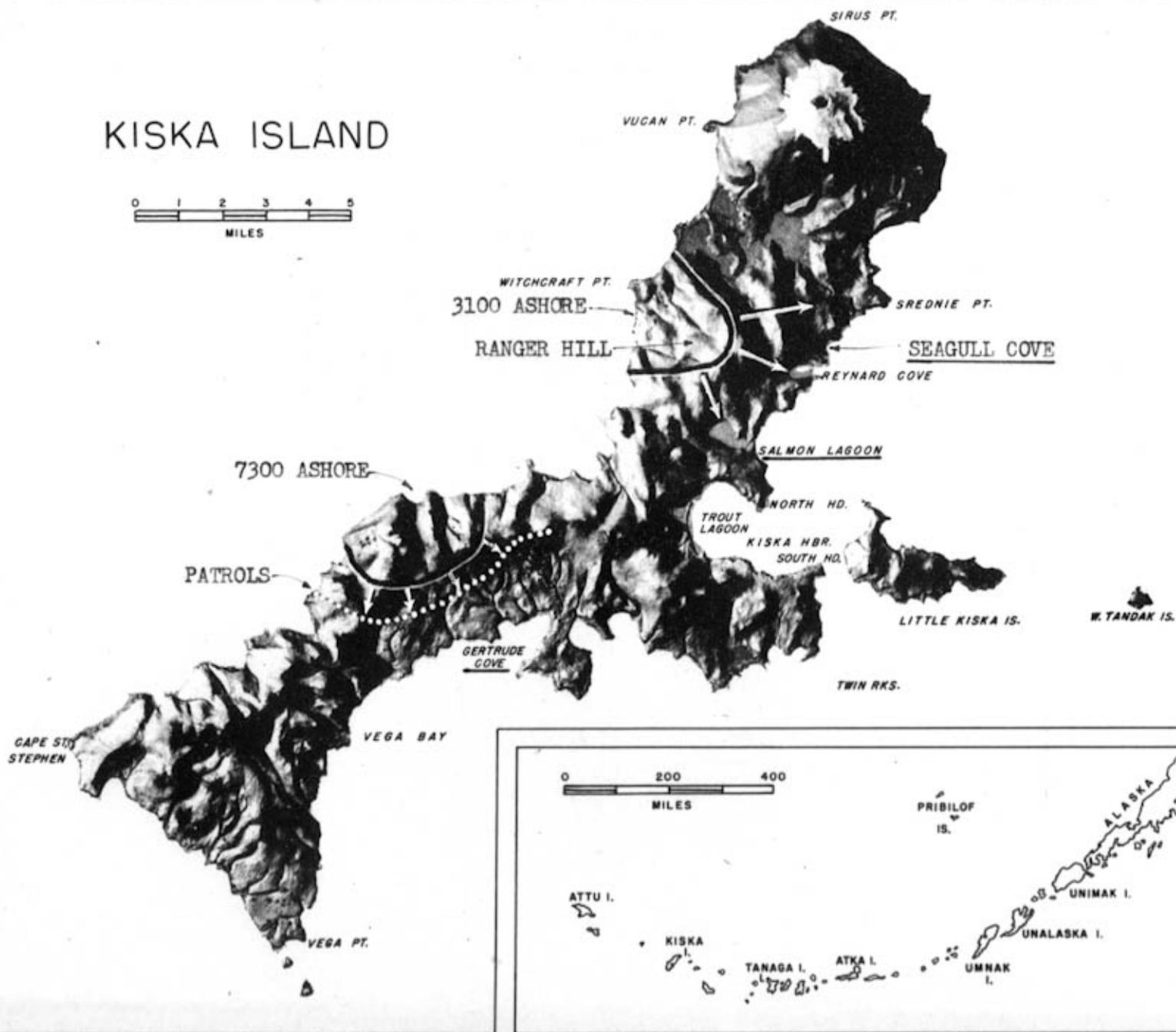
No. 615

0700 August 16 to 0700 August 17, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

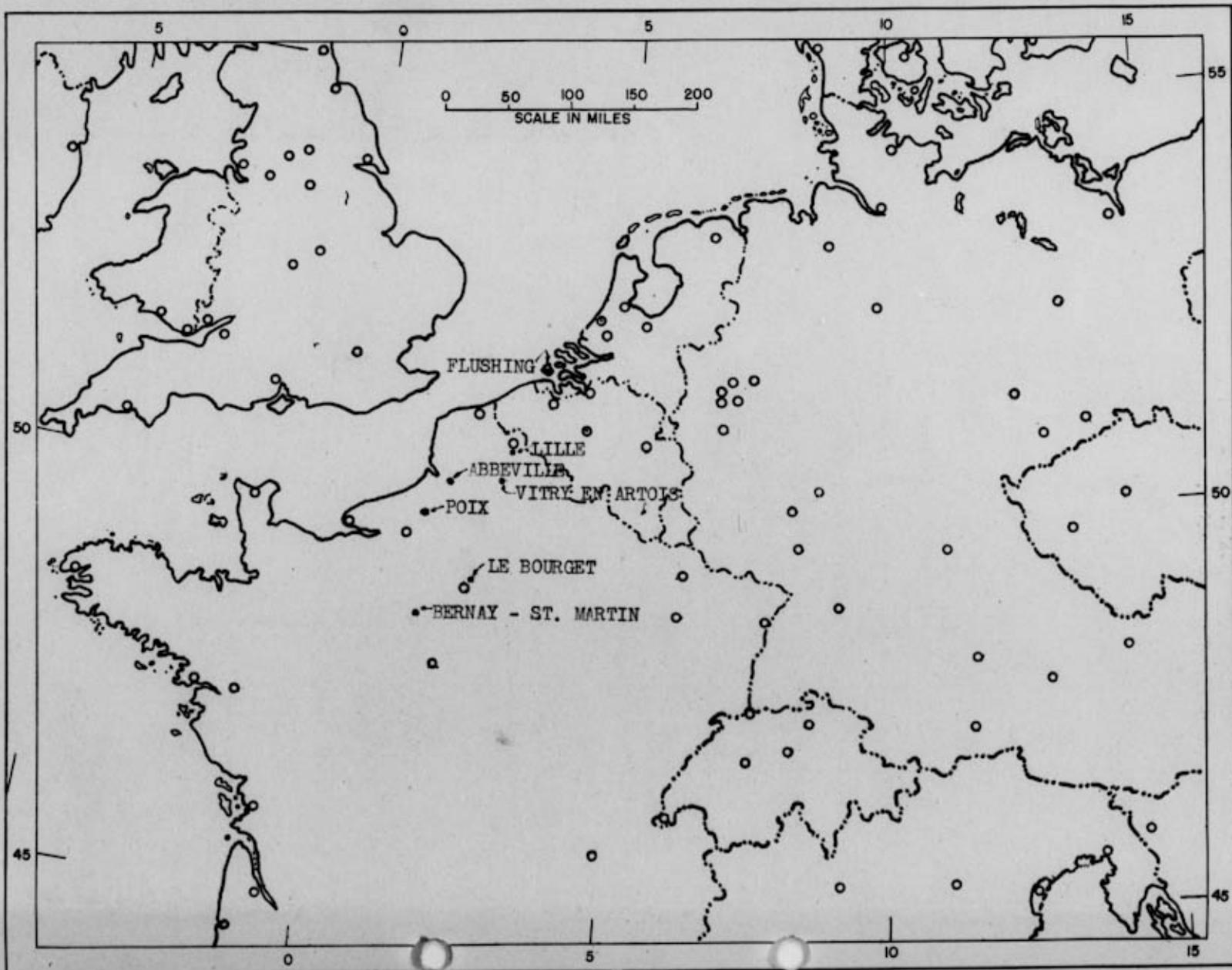
KISKA ISLAND



BASE MAP NO. 2356
8 MAY 1943 (FREE)

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

DECLASSIFIED



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Early on 16 August another Allied assault force totalling 3100 men was landed on Kiska and seized the Ranger Hill area. This operation also was accomplished without loss and with complete surprise; patrols from this force have advanced toward Seagull Cove, Reynard Cove and Salmon Lagoon without meeting the enemy.

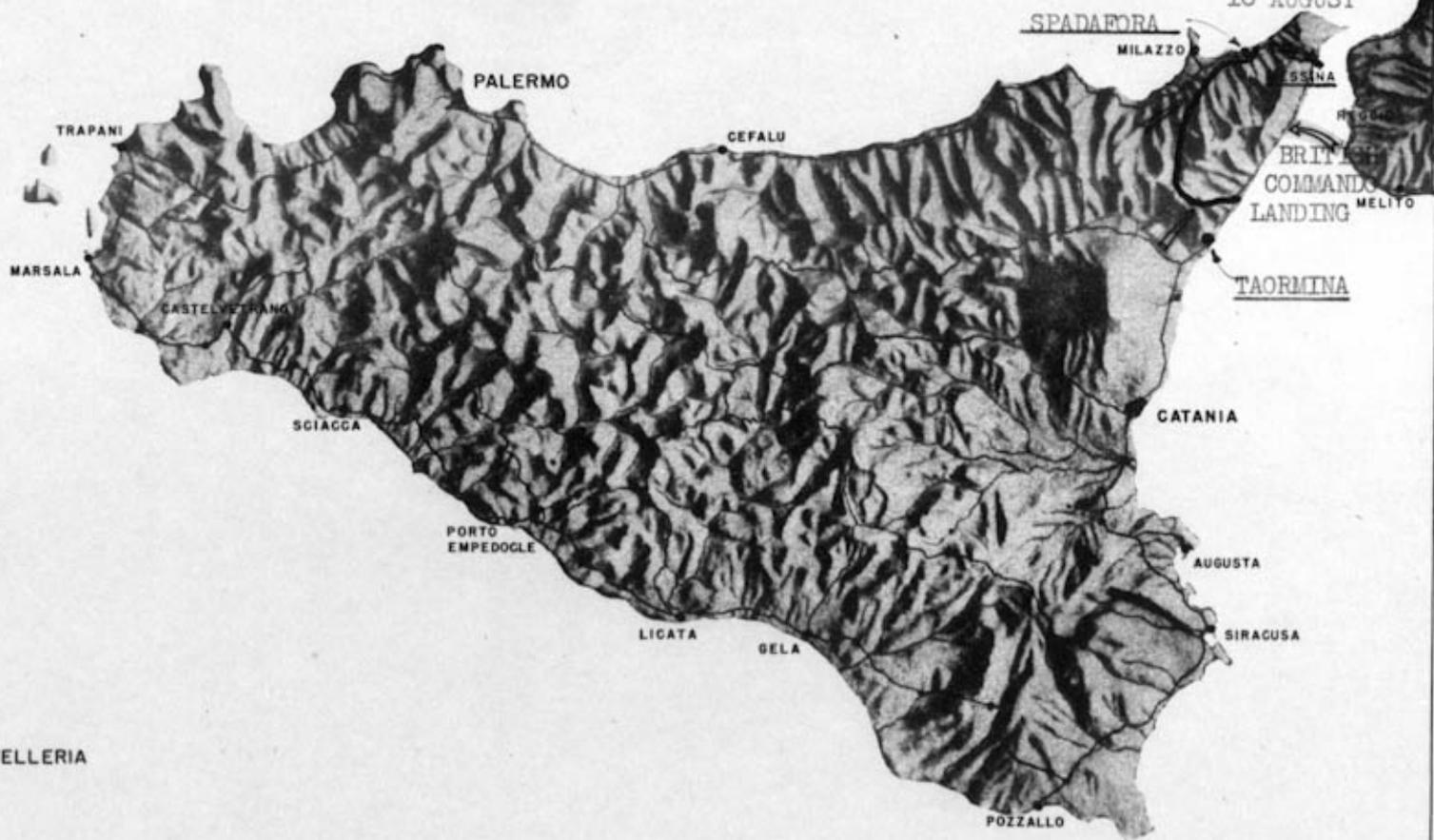
To the south the assault force which landed the previous day has been built up to a strength of 7300 and has pushed patrols over the divide toward Gertrude Cove and Vega Bay. Only minor contacts with the enemy have been reported. Weather conditions over Kiska prevented supporting action by the 11th Air Force.

2. The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 26th Infantry Division (Major General Roger W. Eckfeldt) from Camp Gordon, Georgia, to Camp Campbell, Kentucky, for permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 15 August, 384 bombers of the 8th Air Force, heavily escorted by Allied Fighters, attacked Lille, Vitry-en-Artois and five other airdromes in France and Holland and the railroad yards at Abbeville, with 521 tons of bombs; included was an attack on Flushing by 119 B-17's in which 221 tons of bombs were dropped. Eight (probably 13) enemy planes were destroyed. Only two of our

US TROOPS
REPORTED AT
OUTSKIRTS OF
MESSINA AT 8 PM
16 AUGUST



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

planes are missing from all of the above operations. 185 P-47's made a fighter sweep over the Low Countries; enemy fighters evaded combat.

2. The next day adverse weather conditions over Germany again diverted our air offensive to occupied France. 180 B-17's dropped 408 tons of bombs on the Le Bourget air depot and airdrome with excellent results. A second mission of 66 B-17's attacked the Poix and Abbeville airdromes with 79 tons of bombs, again obtaining good results. Thirty-six medium bombers placed 37 tons of bombs on the Bernay-St. Martin airdrome.

Heavy fighter opposition was encountered only on the Le Bourget mission during which our bombers and their escorting fighters destroyed 34 (probably 46) enemy aircraft; four B-17's are missing.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During 15 August Allied forces hastened the end of resistance in Sicily when the US Seventh Army drove beyond Milazzo to Spadafora to bring Messina within artillery range. Elements of the British Eighth Army pushed north of Taormina and early on 16 August successfully accomplished a daring commando landing eight miles south of Messina. A special communique announces that troops of the US 3rd Division reached the outskirts of that city at 8:00 p.m., 16 August. Constant naval support was given to these operations.

Lamezia (west of Catanzaro) railroad yards were bombed the night of 14-15 August and other critical points on rail lines and highways skirting the Italian toe were heavily attacked by our medium bomber and fighter planes during the following day. During the day also, Allied bombers and fighters maintained their attacks on the Sicilian beaches and on the constant flow of small craft and enemy shipping in the strait of Messina; the docks at Messina and Milazzo were heavily hit. A fighter-bomber sweep was carried out in the Cagliari area of Sardinia.

The tentative total of Axis prisoners captured in Sicily to date is 130,000.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

General Connolly reports that cargo deliveries by the Persian Gulf Service Command to the USSR in the vicinity of Teheran amounted to 128,000 tons in May, 146,000 tons in June, and 176,000 tons in July of this year.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 14 August, four B-24's of the 10th Air Force attacked an enemy landing strip at Pagoda Point (Arakan Coast) and damaged two launches southwest of Rangoon. The next day, six B-24's damaged warehouses and buildings, destroyed an antiaircraft battery and started large fires at Chatham Island (Port Blair harbor) in the Andamans.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 15 August, some 35 enemy bombers and fighters were intercepted 45 miles west of Lae by 26 P-39's which destroyed 15 of the enemy; four of our airplanes are missing. Twenty-five heavy bombers attacked enemy targets in the Salamaua area. Other Allied air attacks were made on enemy-held villages, barges, dumps and small vessels along the coast of New Britain.

2. Allied planes used Munda airfield on the night of 14 August. On 15 August, two of our columns met north of Munda and joined in driving the Japanese westward. An attack was also being launched on Baanga Island.

Three enemy formations over Vella Lavella were intercepted by Allied fighters which shot down 27 of the enemy for a loss of two of our planes. Eight Navy planes, after attacking grounded aircraft on the Kahili strip, caught 20 enemy aircraft returning from Vella Lavella and shot down seven more. Eleven B-25's bombed Rekata Bay.

3. The movement to Vella Lavella of the first echelon of an Allied occupation force was completed on 15 August. Approximately 4600 troops, together with antiaircraft artillery and supplies, were landed at Barakoma on the southeast tip of the island. During these operations our landing craft were subjected to dive-bombing attacks by the enemy aircraft which caused some casualties but little material damage.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

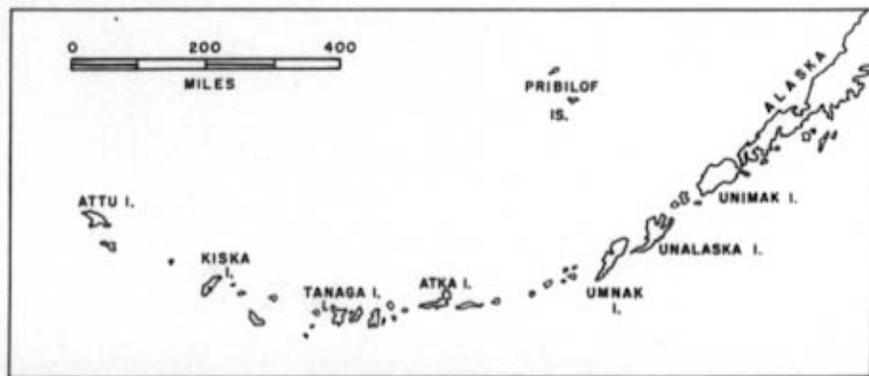
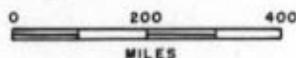
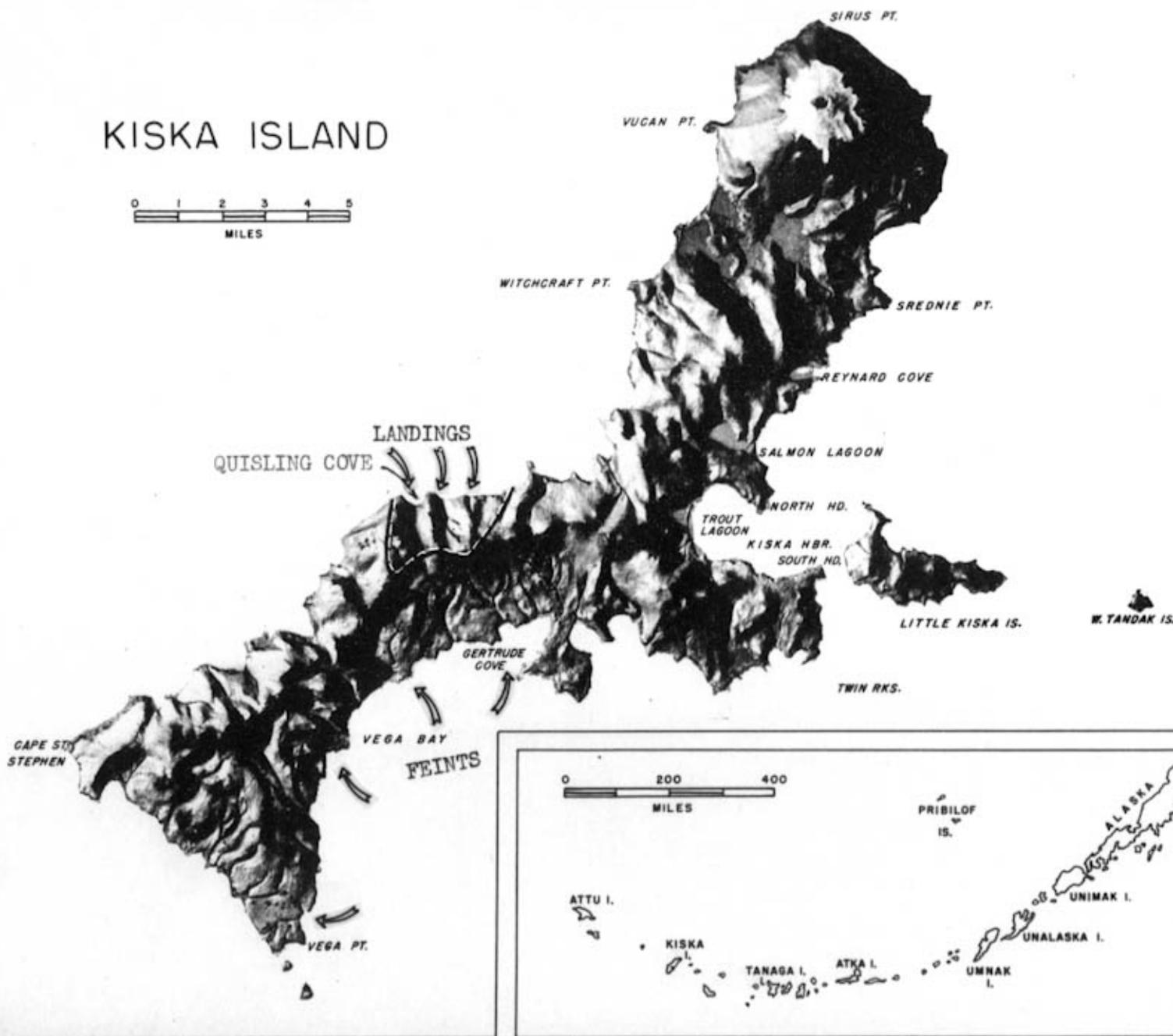
No. 614

0700 August 15 to 0700 August 16, 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. On 14 August two US destroyers conducted four bombardment missions against Kiska; there was no return fire. During the day, also, four bombing missions were performed by the 11th Air Force.

2. Preceded by a naval bombardment 600 men of the Special Service Force, began landing at Quisling Cove, Kiska, at ¹⁵0621 Aleutian War Time. By noon a total of approximately 3,000 troops had landed on the southwestern beaches of the island without encountering opposition and had established a beach-head of about 4,500 yards along the slopes of the divide.

3. Directives have been issued for the movement from the Louisiana Maneuver Area of the 31st Infantry Division (Major General John C. Persons) to Camp Maxey, Texas, the 88th Infantry Division (Major General John E. Sloan) to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and the 95th Infantry Division (Major General Harry L. Twaddle) to Camp Polk, Louisiana, upon completion of field exercises.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported southeast of Iceland on 14 August.



BASE MAP NO. 2465 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 13-14 August, Allied planes bombed the beaches and other military targets in northeast Sicily and southern Italy, dropped leaflets on Rome and Messina, and carried out reconnaissance missions along eastern Sardinia, Corsica, Elba, and the west coast of Italy.

The following day, Allied planes continued to attack enemy communications in northeastern Sicily and southern Italy, shipping in the Strait of Messina, and the disembarkation area at Palmi. North of Messina, more than 30 enemy aircraft were encountered during the day; one enemy plane was destroyed.

During the night of 14-15 August 139 British heavy bombers based in the UK carried out a successful raid in the Milan area; the Breda Armament Works was included among the targets.

British columns captured Linguaglossa and Piedimonte on 14 August and reached the line of the Venero River, three miles south of Taormina. To the west, other British forces pushed five miles east of Randazzo; the Randazzo-Linguaglossa road was being cleared of enemy resistance.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 14 August heavy bombers of the 10th Air Force sank a 175-foot freighter off the southern coast of Burma.



SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On the night of 13-14 August eight B-24's, in a 2,500-mile round trip, bombed Balikpapan, Borneo, setting afire two refinery areas, seven large oil tanks, and a medium-size vessel in the harbor. The same night Allied planes bombed the Penfoei airdrome and started fires at Dilli.

On 14 August, Allied ground forces advanced northwest of Tambu Bay.

Forty-eight heavy bombers dropped 156 tons of bombs on enemy positions in the Salamaua area, destroying the dock and thoroughly covering the enemy's airfield and defenses in the Bobdubi area. Other Allied planes attacked a convoy north of Mussau Island, and enemy installations at Jacquinet Bay, Gasmata, and Tambu Bay, barges along the south coast of New Britain, and the wharf area and town of Koepang.

During the night of 13-14 August, an enemy plane bombed our landing strip on Woodlark Island, without causing any damage. The next day, six Japanese bombers ineffectively attacked an Allied gun position south of Tambu Bay, and three other Japanese planes dropped bombs east of our airfield at Wau.

PACIFIC THEATER

B-24's dropped 300 100-pound bombs on the Kahili landing strip on 14 August, and 160 more on Ballale.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 613

0700 August 14 to 0700 August 15, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-8-72

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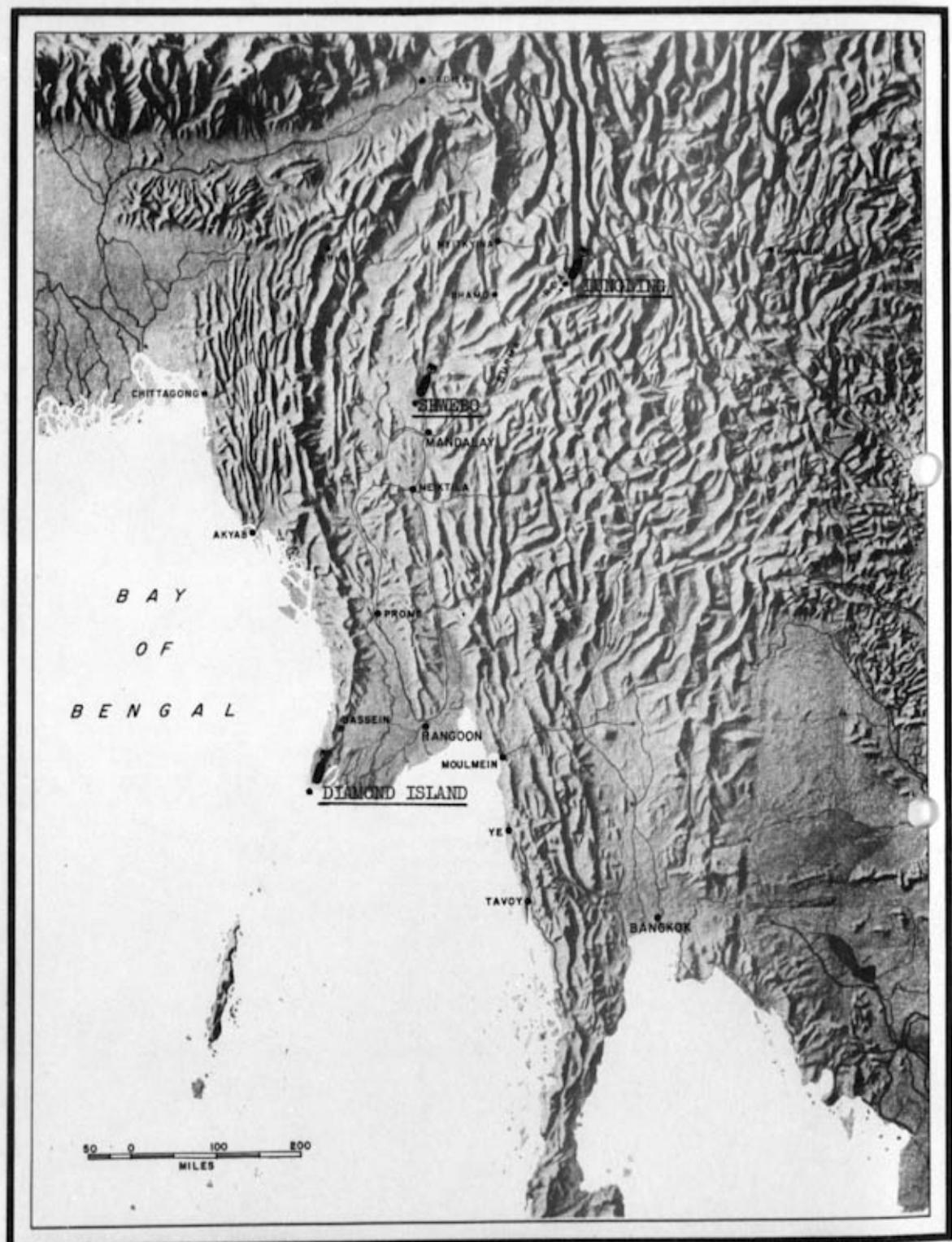
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 13 August, 55 fighters and bombers, including B-25's armed with cannon, heavily attacked various Kiska targets, starting large fires and destroying several buildings. In addition, enemy positions were lightly bombarded by a US destroyer.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 12-13 August, 90 British heavy bombers attacked beaches on both sides of the Strait of Messina. The next day the San Lorenzo and Littorio freight yards and an airdrome near Rome were hit by a US mission composed of 106 B-17's, 168 B-26's and 144 P-38's; good results were indicated by preliminary reports and five of some 30 intercepting enemy aircraft were shot down for a loss of two of our medium bombers. Air support missions by the 9th Air Force included heavy attacks against Piedimonte, where 47 B-25's dropped 60 tons of bombs with observed effect on railroads and highways in the vicinity; 23 B-25's and 72 P-40's released 48 tons of bombs on barges and boats in the Strait of Messina; 63 P-40's attacked the Francavilla area and shipping off the southwest coast of Italy. Two, probably eight, enemy fighter aircraft were destroyed in these operations for a loss of one P-40. A small number of enemy aircraft attempting to bomb Bizerte were driven off by antiaircraft fire and our fighter planes.

On the morning of 13 August, Randazzo was occupied by elements of the British 78th Division, US units advancing to a general line



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

north of that town. On the east coast, Eighth Army units had pushed past Fiumefreddo and were within a mile of Piedimonte on the important road leading to Randazzo from the east. The enemy is reported to be withdrawing on all fronts.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

On 13 August, 114 bombers of our 9th Air Force bombed an Axis aircraft factory and assembly plant at Wiener Neustadt, near Vienna.

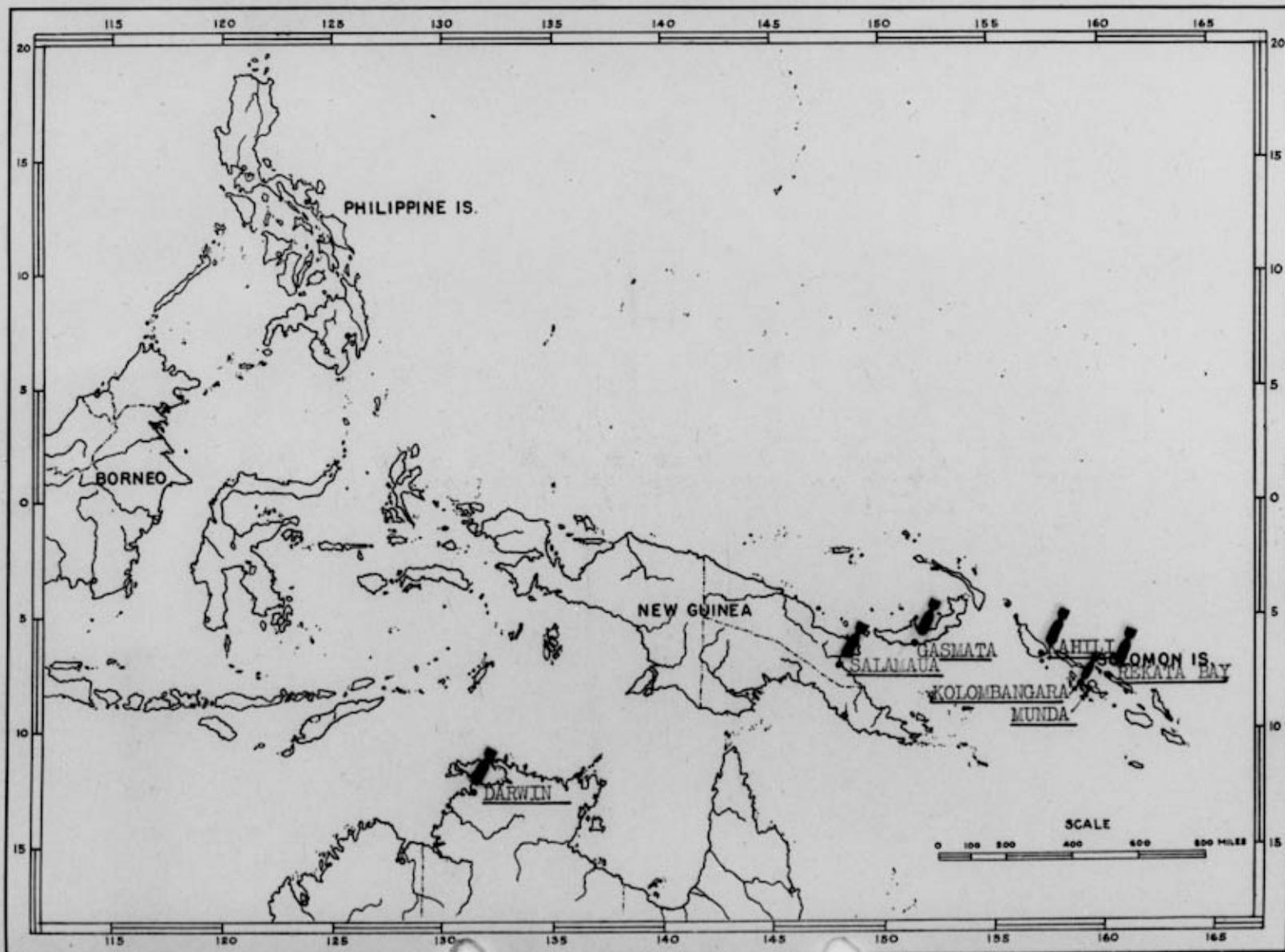
ASIATIC THEATER

1. Four P-40's of the 14th Air Force started fires with bomb hits in Lungling, western China, on 13 August.

2. Four heavy bombers of the 10th Air Force, expending 24 500-pound bombs, disabled a motor freighter east of Diamond Island with near misses and shot down an intercepting enemy fighter plane. Three medium bombers attacked the Shwebo railroad yards from a low altitude with good results.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 13 August, B-17's, B-24's and B-26's destroyed most of the remaining buildings in Salamaua with 173 tons of explosives. Individual attacks by reconnaissance bombers were made against Gasmata where one enemy fighter and one bomber were destroyed; and on enemy



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DECLASSIFIED
AND Letter, 5-8-78

barge traffic off northeastern New Guinea. An enemy air raid on airfields in the Darwin area caused no damage or casualties.

PACIFIC THEATER

1. On 12 August, 25 escorted bombers heavily damaged the runway and dispersal area at Kahili, burning at least 20 planes. Eleven of some 30 Japanese intercepting planes were shot down for a loss of two of our fighters.

In ground operations, our left flank north of Munda advanced 1500 yards against slight opposition.

On 13 August, ten of 25 enemy fighters intercepted over Munda were shot down by 13 Army fighter planes. Ninety-four Army and Navy bombers and fighters attacked enemy installations on southeastern Kolombangara with 35 tons of explosives. Twelve B-25's again bombed supply dumps at Rekata.

2. A Japanese fighter-bomber engaged a Navy patrol plane in a 25-minute duel over Howland Island on 13 August; although damaged, our plane returned to its base without casualties.

3. General Richardson has been designated by the War Department as "Commanding General, United States ^{Army} Forces, Central Pacific Area", under Admiral Nimitz.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 612

0700 August 13 to 0700 August 14, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
 1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
 PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 12 August, 105 Army and Navy planes, including B-25's equipped with cannon, attacked targets on Kiska. Five cruisers and four destroyers bombarded enemy installations along the shores of Kiska.

EUROPEAN THEATER

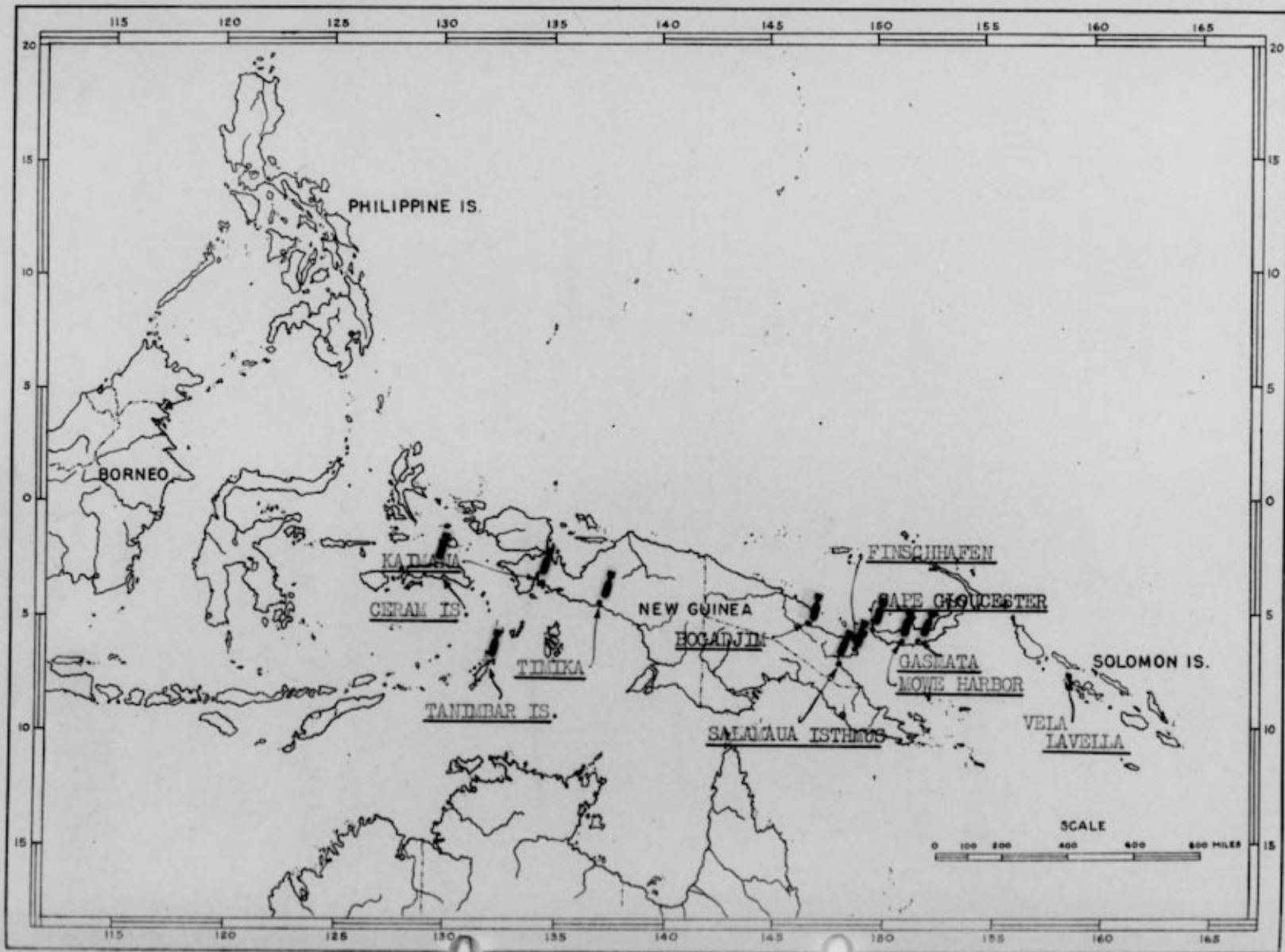
1. An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 12 August.

2. A later report on our 12 August attacks on the Ruhr valley indicates that the synthetic oil plants at Gelsenkirchen were covered by a very effective smoke screen; forty-four of our heavy bombers diverted their effort to the nearby secondary target, the largest electric steel plant in Germany at Bochum, which was heavily and accurately hit.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On 12 August British units had cleared Maletto of the enemy and were fighting one mile east of the town. On the east coast, the British Eighth Army made minor gains south of Taormina.

During the night of 11-12 August, Allied aircraft attacked Reggio di Calabria, Vibo Valentia and San Giovanni, beaches, roads and landing craft in the Messina area, troop concentrations at Fiumefreddo and railway installations at Gioia. Twenty-five to thirty enemy aircraft bombed Augusta the same night;



the port area was not harmed and four enemy planes were shot down. Our airfield at Lentini was also hit, and ten Allied aircraft destroyed on the ground.

The next day, US medium bombers dropped more than 100 tons of explosives on critical points in northeastern Sicily and showered 7,000 fragmentation bombs on enemy airfields in southern Italy; 70 hostile planes were encountered in the Naples area and our bombers and fighters destroyed nine, probably 16, for a loss of two of our fighter escort.

On 11 and 12 August, Allied naval units shelled enemy targets along the east coast of Sicily in support of ground operations and carried out sweeps off the Italian coast.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 12 August aircraft of our 10th Air Force destroyed buildings, sank two large river boats, and scored many hits on railroad installations, barges and small boats in central and southern Burma.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied bombers over New Britain on 12 August left a 60-ton cargo vessel burning at Mowe Harbor, bombed a supply dump at Gasmata and scored hits on the airdrome at Cape Gloucester. In northeastern New Guinea other Allied bombers struck at bridges

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

and enemy camps south of Bogadjim, Salamaua Isthmus and Finschhafen. On other Allied missions fires were started at Timika and Kaimana in Dutch New Guinea; a village in the Tanimbars and coastal craft off Ceram Island were bombed.

PACIFIC THEATER

Coast watchers and native scouts on Vella Lavella Island have captured 140 Japanese.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

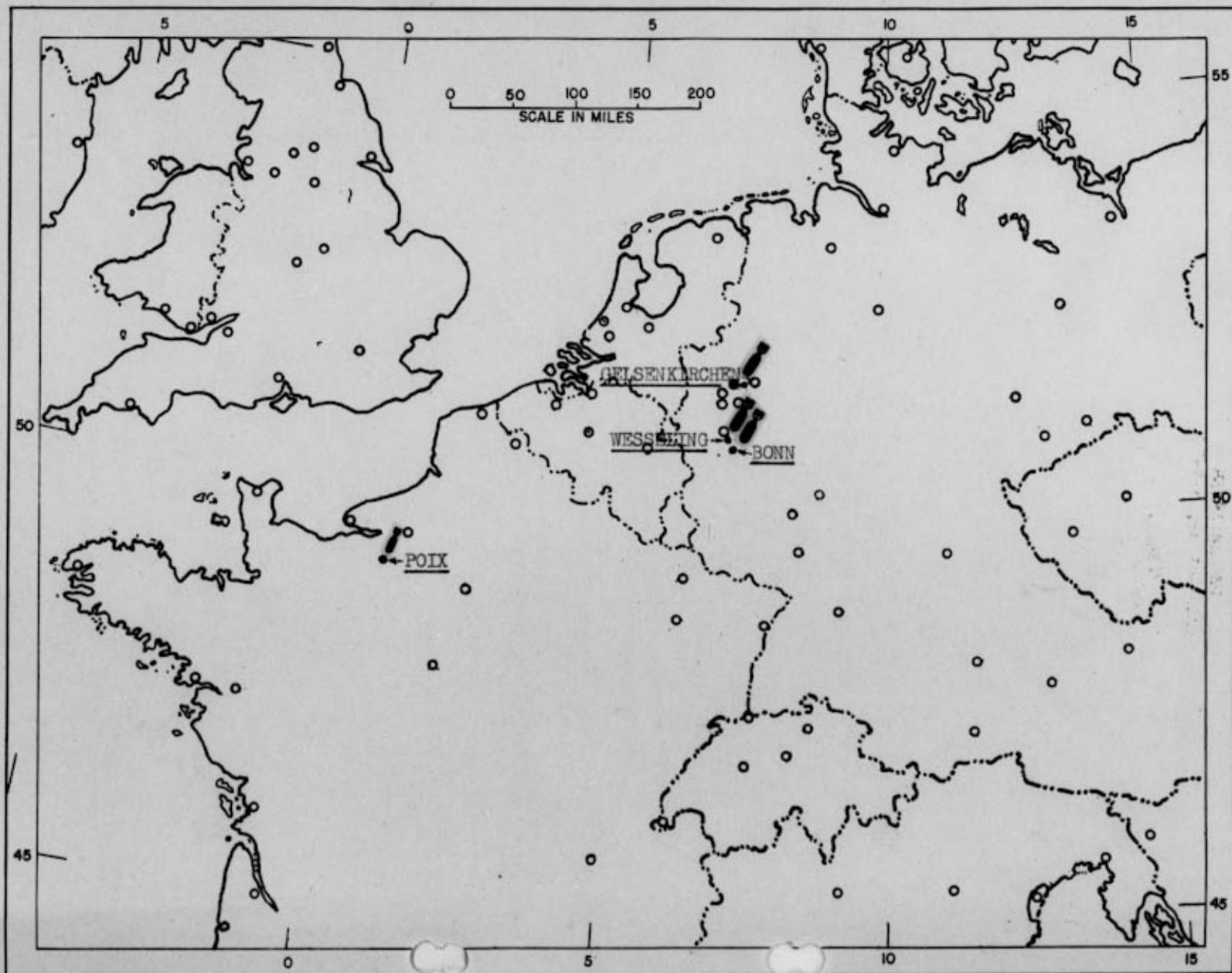
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 611

0700 August 12 to 0700 August 13, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



24-33868

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 11 August, 88 of our airplanes and two destroyers bombarded Kiska.

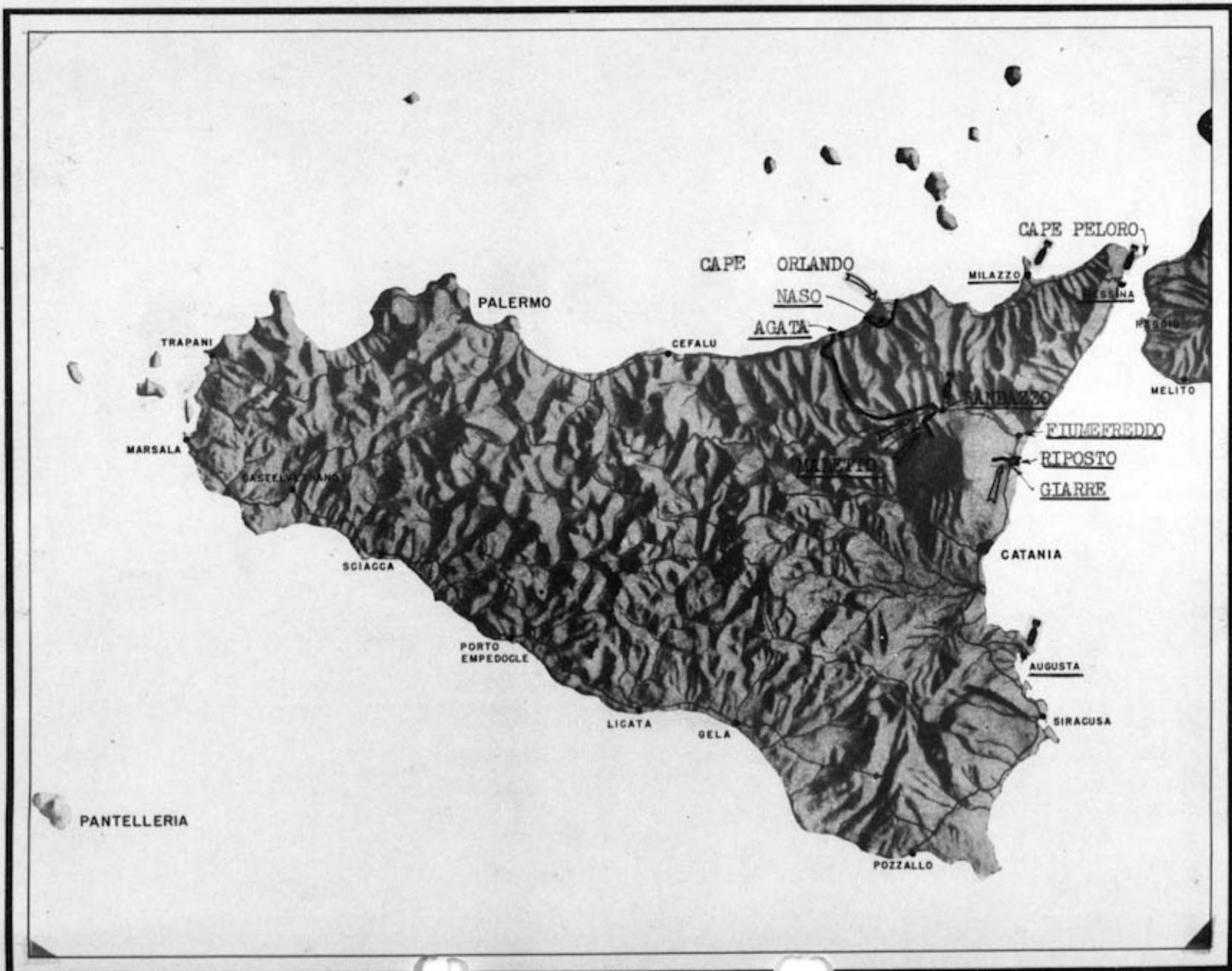
The same day nine B-24's from Attu dropped 72 quarter-ton bombs on the enemy Army staging base on Paramushiru Island and on the naval base on nearby Shimushu Island with good results. No enemy aircraft rose to attack until the first bombs had dropped. At least five of the forty intercepting enemy fighters were shot down; two of our bombers failed to return.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 11 August.

On 12 August, 181 B-17's dropped 308 tons of high explosives and incendiaries on the enemy synthetic oil plants at Gelsenkirchen in the Ruhr Valley. Enemy antiaircraft and fighter opposition were especially strong. Sixteen, probably 27, enemy fighters were destroyed; 23 of our planes failed to return. P-47's, meeting our returning bombers, destroyed three, probably four, pursuing enemy fighters without loss. On the same day the synthetic oil plant in Wesseling and certain targets of opportunity in that area, together with the precision instrument factory at Bonn, were attacked with 298 tons of explosives and incendiaries by a force of 154 B-17's operating in cloudy weather conditions; results were reported as fair. This mission also encountered intense antiaircraft

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BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
 1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
 PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

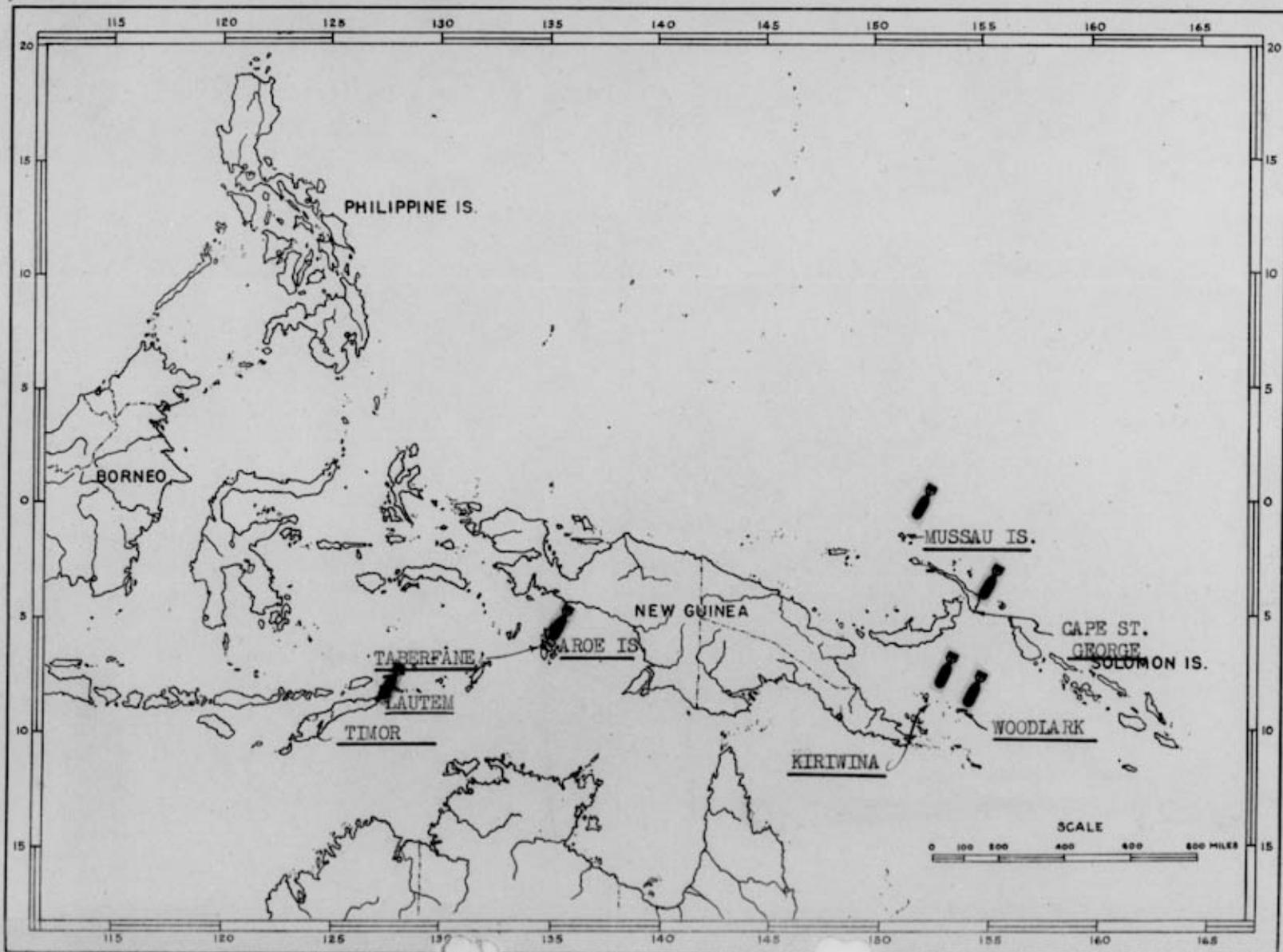
DECLASSIFIED
 OSD Letter, 6-8-78

fire but only light fighter opposition; six, probably twelve, enemy planes were reported destroyed and only two B-17's failed to return. In a diversionary raid 36 B-26's loosed 161 quarter-ton bombs on the Poix airfield with good results and without loss.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. An amphibious landing four miles east of Cape Orlando early on 11 August was successful. Our troops, despite determined enemy resistance, established a bridgehead and pushed to the south, capturing Naso. In the battle for Randazzo our units had advanced to within two and one-half miles of the city by the morning of 12 August; the British were engaged in fierce fighting at Maletto. Along the east coast the enemy defense lines have been further dented by the British capture of Riposto and Giarre on 11 August.

During the night of 10-11 August, British Wellingtons dropped 174 tons of bombs on beaches between Cape Peloro and Messina. The following day, 40 B-17's dropped 117 tons of bombs on the railroad yards, the Royal Arms Factory and other plants at Terni in central Italy; one of our B-17's was shot down by a P-38 with enemy markings. In other operations Allied aircraft hit Randazzo very heavily and also attacked Fiumefreddo, buildings and an ammunition dump at Milazzo, and bridges in southern Italy. Malta-based Mosquitos bombed and machine-gunned a train and motor vehicles in the Foggia area of southern Italy.

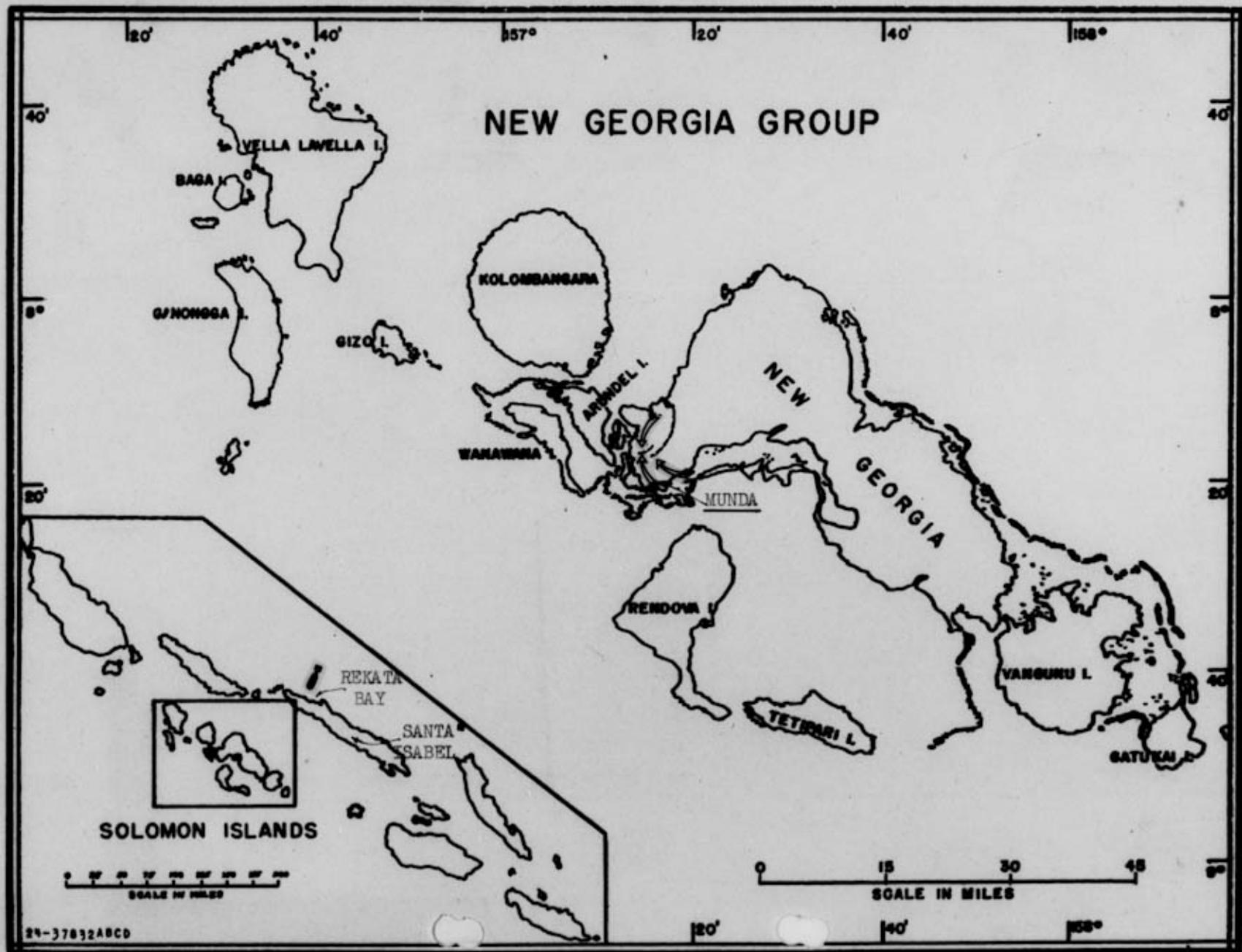


Enemy aircraft made three raids on Augusta during the night of 9-10 August and the following day, damaging a British destroyer. Seven enemy planes were shot down.

2. The War Department has instructed Generals Eisenhower, Devers, and Brereton as to the policy of the Combined Chiefs of Staff governing the responsibility for prisoners of war captured by ourselves and our Allies acting in concert. In general the United States and the British will each assume responsibility for one-half of the total number of prisoners captured, after the deduction of any captured by a third Ally. The Power which operates the first place of detention will make the necessary notifications to the protecting Power and to the International Red Cross. Any prisoners transhipped by the British to the United States will be applied against the US commitment to take 175,000 prisoners of war from them.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In his operations summary for 11 August, General MacArthur reports that Allied bomber and fighter aircraft damaged or destroyed 16 more enemy barges, sank a freighter-transport west of Mussau Island, and damaged another freighter-transport off Cape St. George. In addition Australian planes attacked the enemy float-plane base at Taberfane in the Aroe Islands, and the town and jetty at Lautem, Timor; one intercepting enemy float-plane was destroyed. Nineteen enemy aircraft were active over Woodlark and Kiriwina Islands, but no casualties or damage have been reported.



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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

PACIFIC THEATER

1. On 11 August a US battalion was moving south in rear of the enemy force opposing the advance of our columns north of Munda. Rekata Bay was bombed that day by five B-24's.

2. An Allied fighter plane shot down a Japanese bomber over Nui Island, in the Ellice Group, on 9 August.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

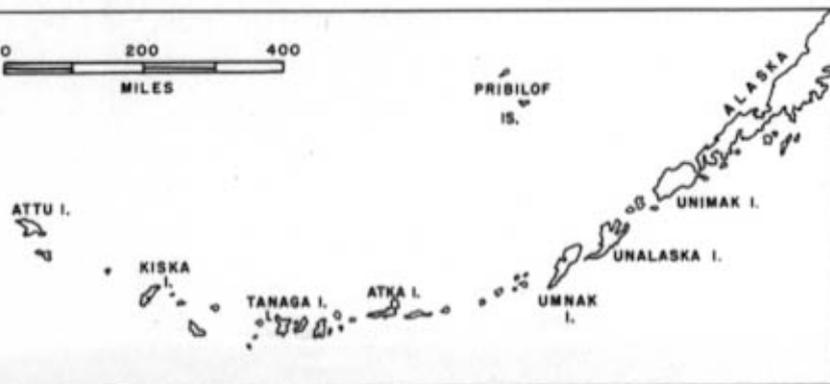
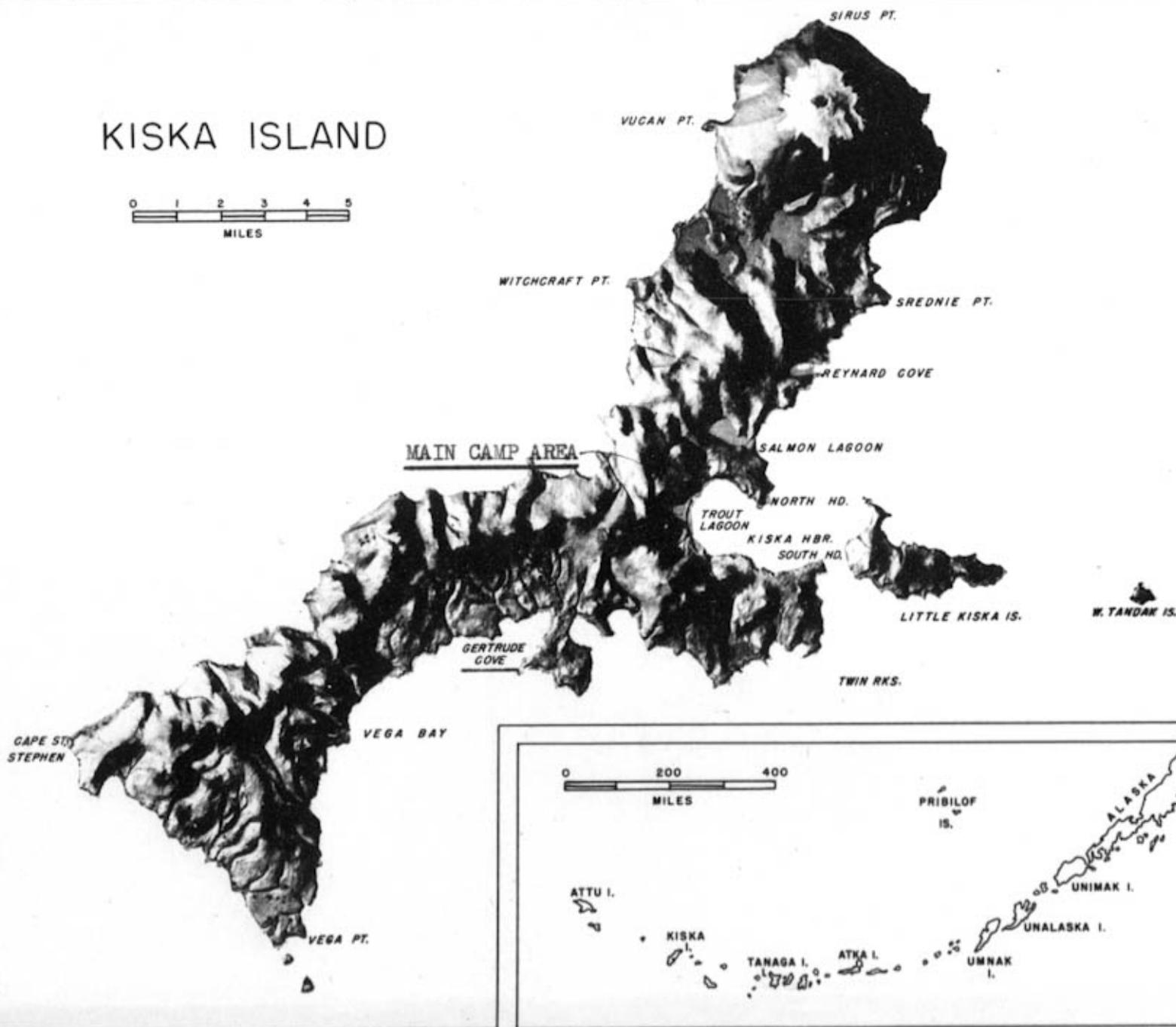
No. 610

0700 August 11 to 0700 August 12, 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

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 8-8-72



BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

~~SECRET~~
DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 10 August, 115 bombers and fighters bombed and machine-gunned enemy targets on Kiska, starting numerous fires. Two destroyers shelled the main camp and Gertrude Cove areas, without receiving return fire.

EUROPEAN THEATER

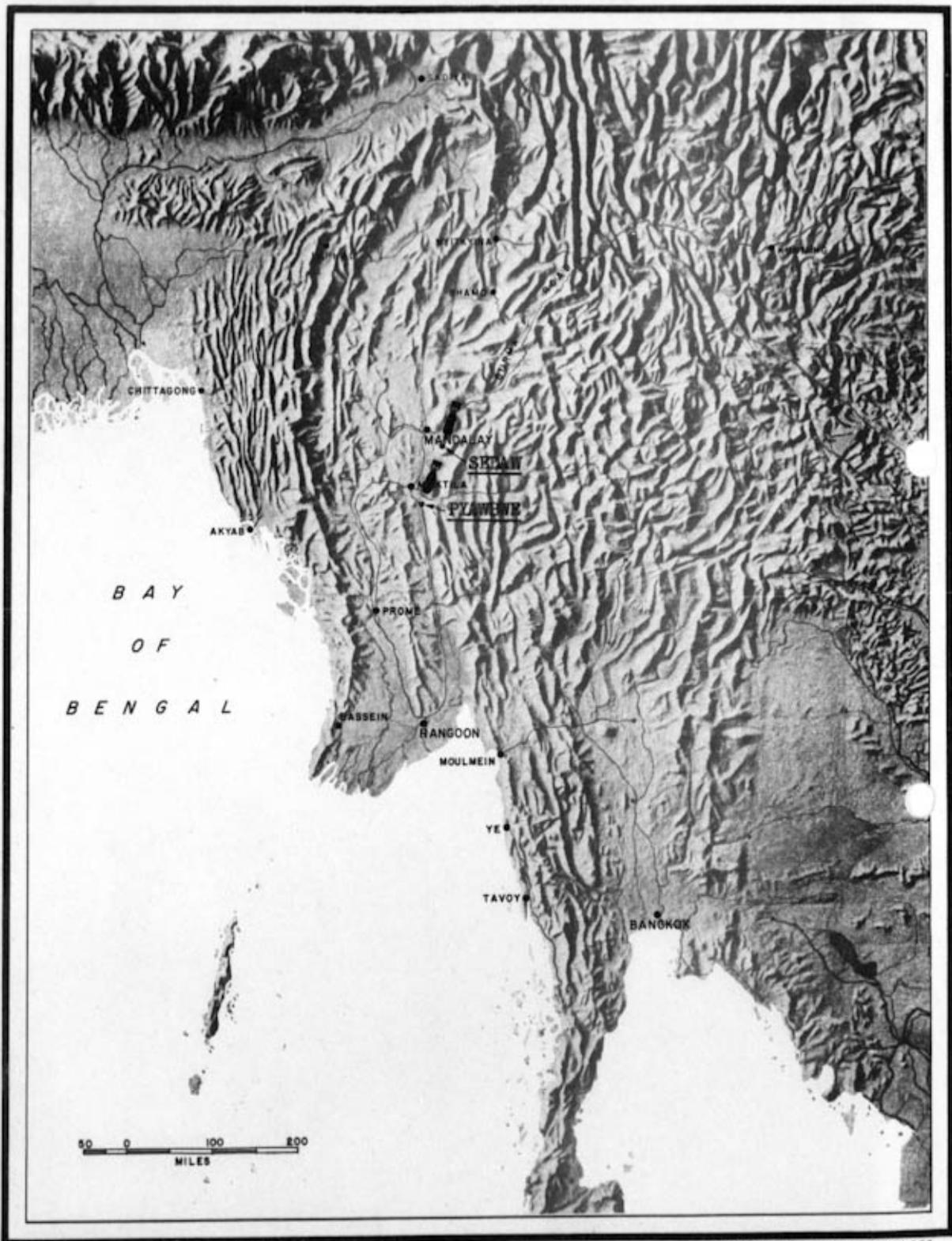
1. For the week ending 8 August, our 8th Air Force reported no claims or losses; the RAF in the European theater destroyed seven (probably eleven) enemy planes, losing from all causes 63 planes.

2. On 8 August, carrier-based aircraft attacked two enemy submarines northwest of the Azores. During the attack one of our bombers and one fighter were shot down by antiaircraft fire. The next day a submarine was sunk by our aircraft in the same area.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Planes of our 9th Air Force carried out anti-shipping sweeps between Milazzo and the Italian mainland on 9 August. That night, Allied planes attacked beaches, motor vehicles, and railway facilities in the vicinity of Messina, targets in the Foggia area and lines of communication in Italy. Beaufighters intercepted between 25 and 30 enemy aircraft near Augusta, destroying three of the enemy planes. On 10 August, Allied planes hit road and railway facilities at Randazzo, bombed Linguaglossa, attacked shipping off Messina, and

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BASE MAP NO 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

started a large fire at San Giovanni. In a shipping sweep ^S off the ~~toe of Italy~~, Allied planes damaged a 5,000-ton merchant vessel and destroyed numerous small surface boats.

By 10 August, the Eighth Army had pushed along the eastern coast of Sicily to a point seven miles north of Acireale. West of Mt. Etna, British advance units were beyond Bronte along the road to Maletto. Movement of our Seventh Army eastward along the northern coastal road was being harassed by enemy artillery fire. Along the road from Cesaro to Randazzo our advance was slowed considerable by dense minefields and demolitions.

On 8 August, the enemy offered only light resistance to our sea-borne landing on the north shore of Sicily. The exact location of our troops along the beaches on the north coast is still obscure.

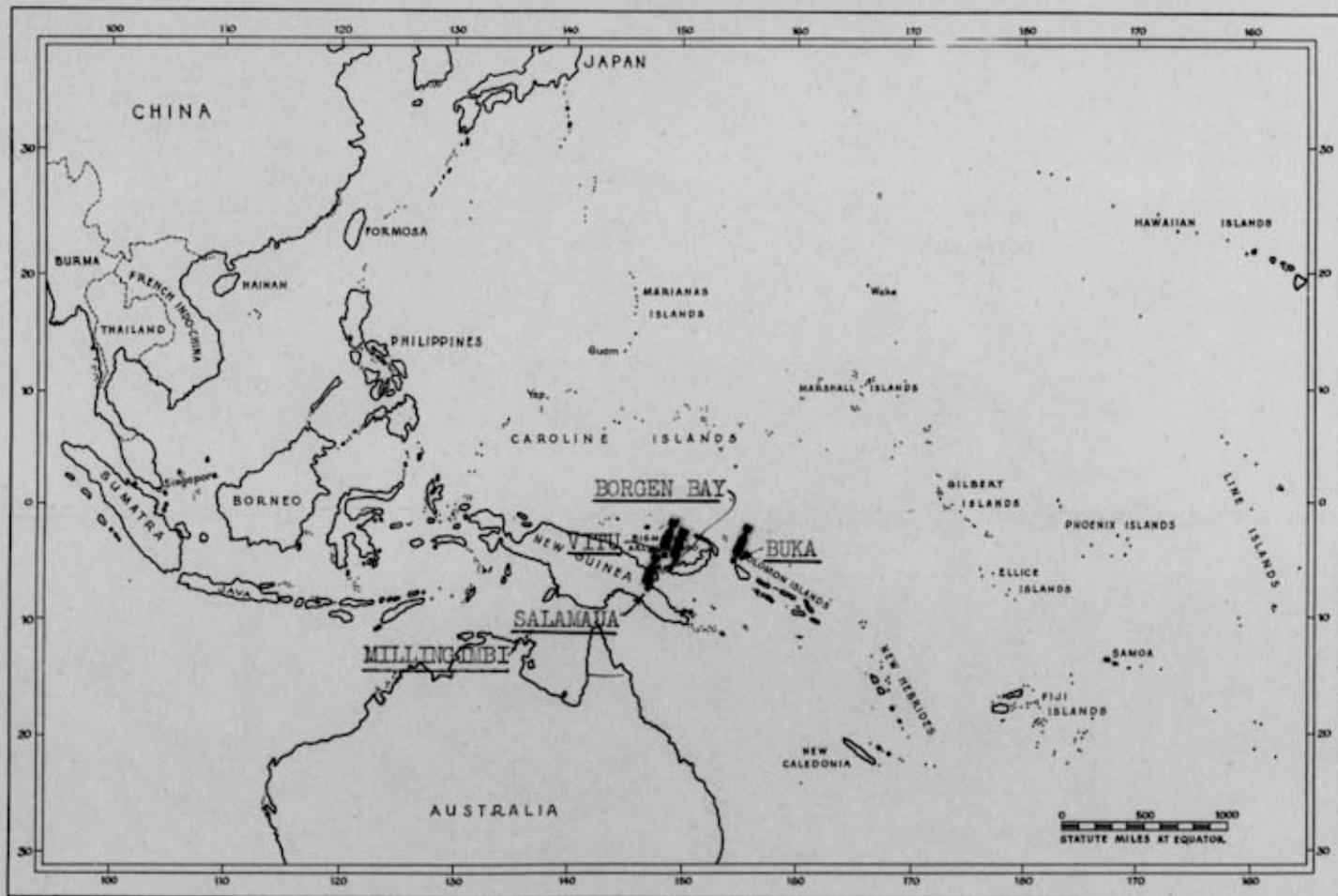
ASIATIC THEATER

On 9 August, a B-25 of the 10th Air Force caused extensive damage to the railway tunnel at Sedaw (13 miles southeast of Mandalay) and machine-gunned a locomotive, which exploded. The following day, ~~nine~~ ²⁴ B-25's scored hits on buildings and caused explosions in the vicinity of Akyab and destroyed at least two barracks at Pyawbwe (80 miles south of Mandalay).

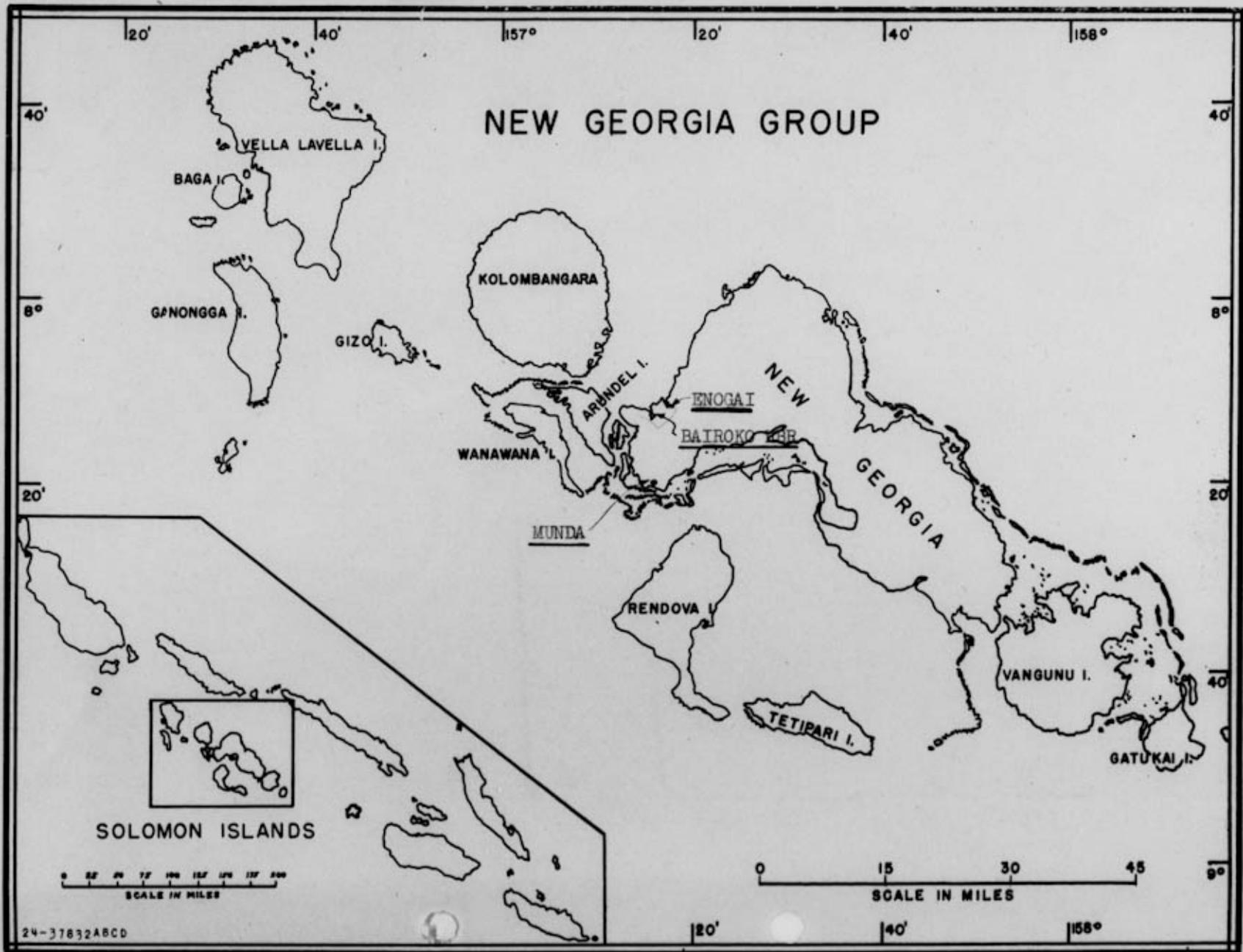
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 9 August, US bombers damaged a large cargo vessel, machine-gunned a convoy west of Buka, attacked buildings in the Vitu group and

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24-28045



five barges in Borgen Bay, on New Britain. The next day 25 US bombers dropped 85 tons of explosives in the Salamaua area, destroying buildings and fuel and ammunition dumps. Two enemy floatplanes were shot down northeast of Millingimbi, Australia.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 10 August, our troops on the left flank encountered enemy resistance four miles northwest of Munda while the right flank units advanced to a position on the Bairoko River, 4,000 yards southeast of Bairoko Harbor, making contact with friendly patrols from the Enogai force.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

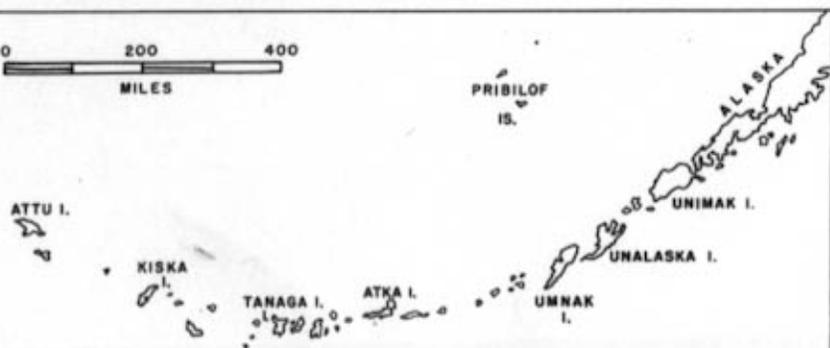
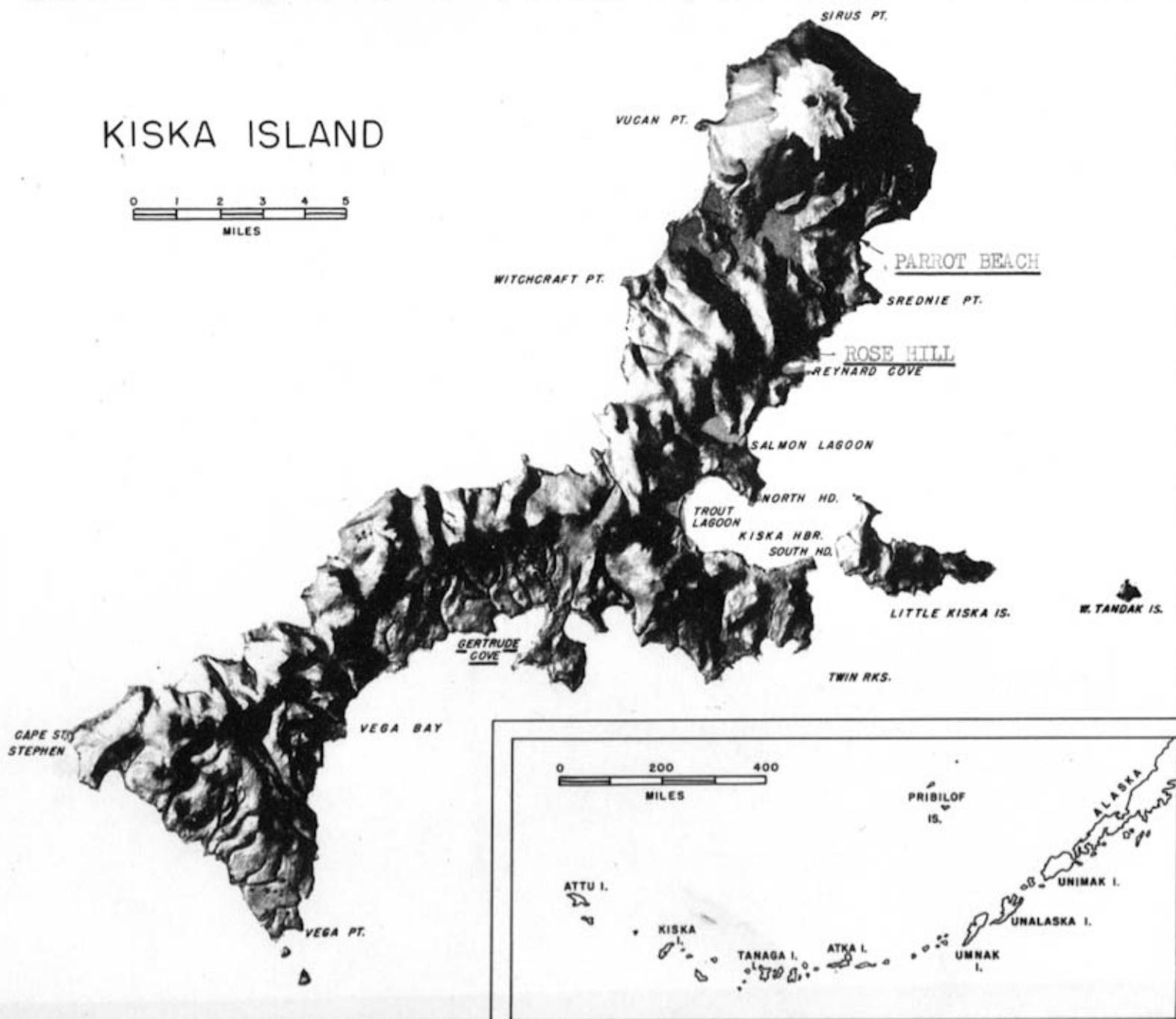
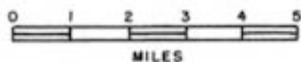
No. 609

0700 August 10 to 0700 August 11, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

KISKA ISLAND



BASE MAP NO. 2356
5 MAY 1943 (FREE)

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

DECLASSIFIED

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~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 9 August US Naval units bombarded the Gertrude Cove, Rose Hill and Parrot Beach areas at Kiska.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

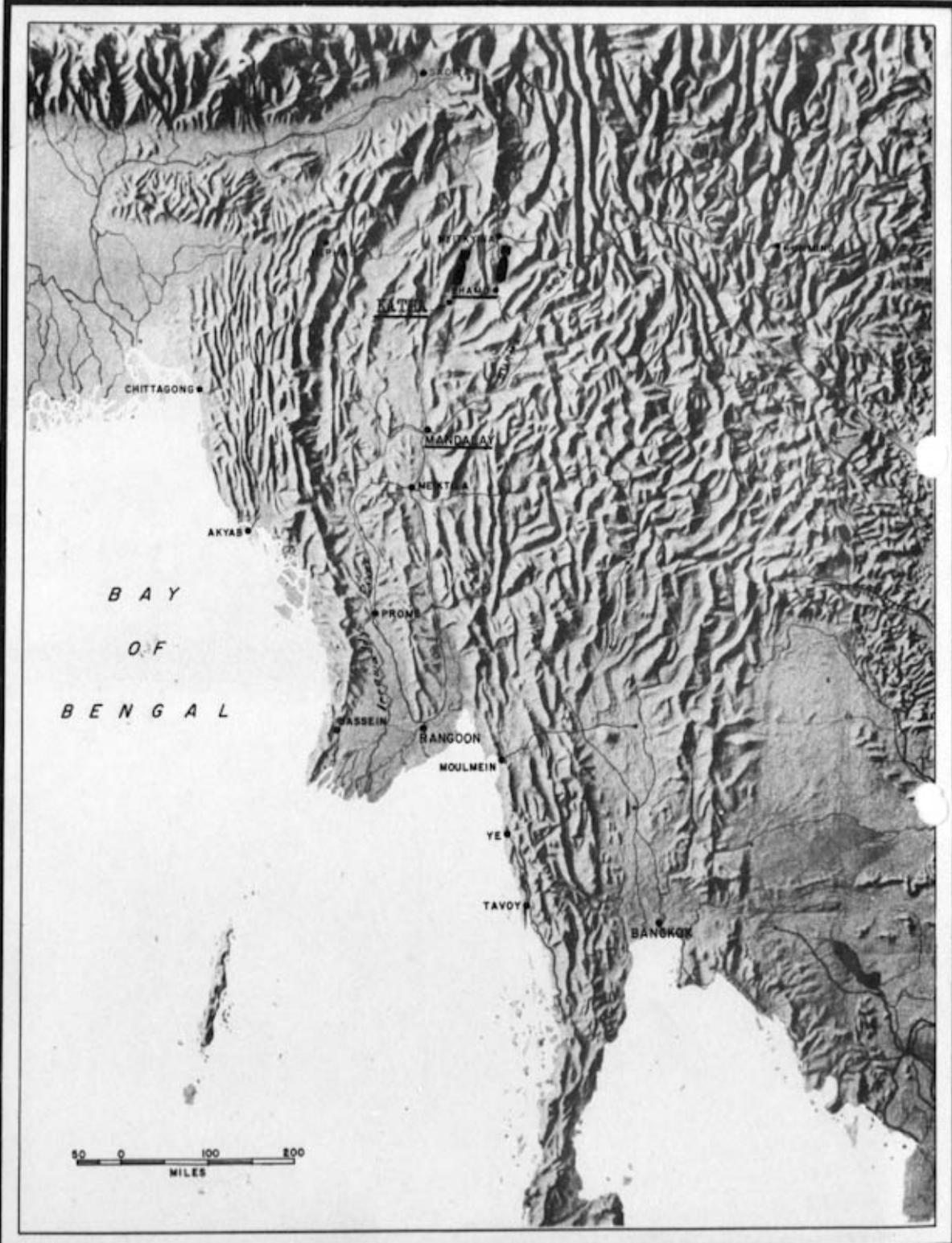
1. On 9 August units of the British Eighth Army advancing north against stiff resistance pushed three miles past Bronte.

During the night of 8-9 August and the following day Allied aircraft continued their attacks on the ferry terminals at San Giovanni, Reggio and Messina, on beaches near Messina, on bridges at Catanzaro, Soveria and Angitola, and on road traffic in northeastern Sicily with 54 of our B-17's bombing the crossroads at Messina.

Six German fighters made an unsuccessful attack on Augusta harbor; our antiaircraft batteries destroyed two.

Allied naval surface craft have been regularly shelling enemy positions along the Sicilian coast north of Acireale.

2. The War Department outlined for General Eisenhower its views as to the proper handling of displaced persons in Sicily, and eventually in Italy. Recaptured prisoners of war and forced laborers should, where possible, be assimilated into the armed forces of their respective countries. Allied and neutral civilian internees and political prisoners should be permitted to return to their homes as soon as the latter



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
26 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

are uncovered by our forces; otherwise they should be placed in restricted residence until they can provide for themselves, their presence being reported to their respective governments. Italian evacuees, refugees, and victims of racial discrimination should be given temporary shelter and transportation to their homes when practicable; Axis nationals other than Italians should be registered and controlled as necessary. These policies, however, are subject to the dictates of military necessity.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

A party of 18 Axis soldiers and two officers landed 20 miles south of Benghazi on 4 August, presumably from a submarine; all 20 were captured before achieving their probable objective of damaging our four-engined bombers.

ASIATIC THEATER

Bombers of our 10th Air Force on 9 August scored hits on warehouses at Bhamo, railroad tracks, rolling stock, buildings and the dock area at Katha and three large boats in the Irrawaddy River, southwest of Mandalay.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

A force of 40 heavy bombers dropped 142 tons of demolitions in



~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 8-3-78

the Salamaua area on 9 August, causing widespread damage and starting many fires. In other operations Allied aircraft hit buildings, bridges, and camp areas south of Madang, the terrace area at Ise, and bombed Ambon, Doela (Kai Islands) and Alilit (Tanimbar Islands). One B-24 destroyed one of five intercepting Japanese fighter planes over Talasea (north coast of New Britain).

PACIFIC THEATER

Fourteen Allied fighter planes intercepted 50 enemy aircraft over Rendova on 10 August, destroying two Japanese Zeros for the loss of one P-39. Our 43rd Division is establishing defenses around Munda; the 25th Division is pushing toward Bairoko with its lines of communication protected by the 37th Division.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 608

0700 August 9 to 0700 August 10, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 8-3-78



BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
PRINTED IN REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

~~SECRET~~

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. US destroyers bombarded the main camp and the Gertrude Cove areas of Kiska, on 8 August.

2. The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 11th Armored Division (Major General Edward H. Brooks) from the Louisiana Maneuver Area to Camp Barkeley, Texas, and of the 90th Infantry Division (Major General Henry Terrell, Jr.) from Camp Barkeley, Texas, to Camp Young, California, both for permanent change of station.

EUROPEAN THEATER

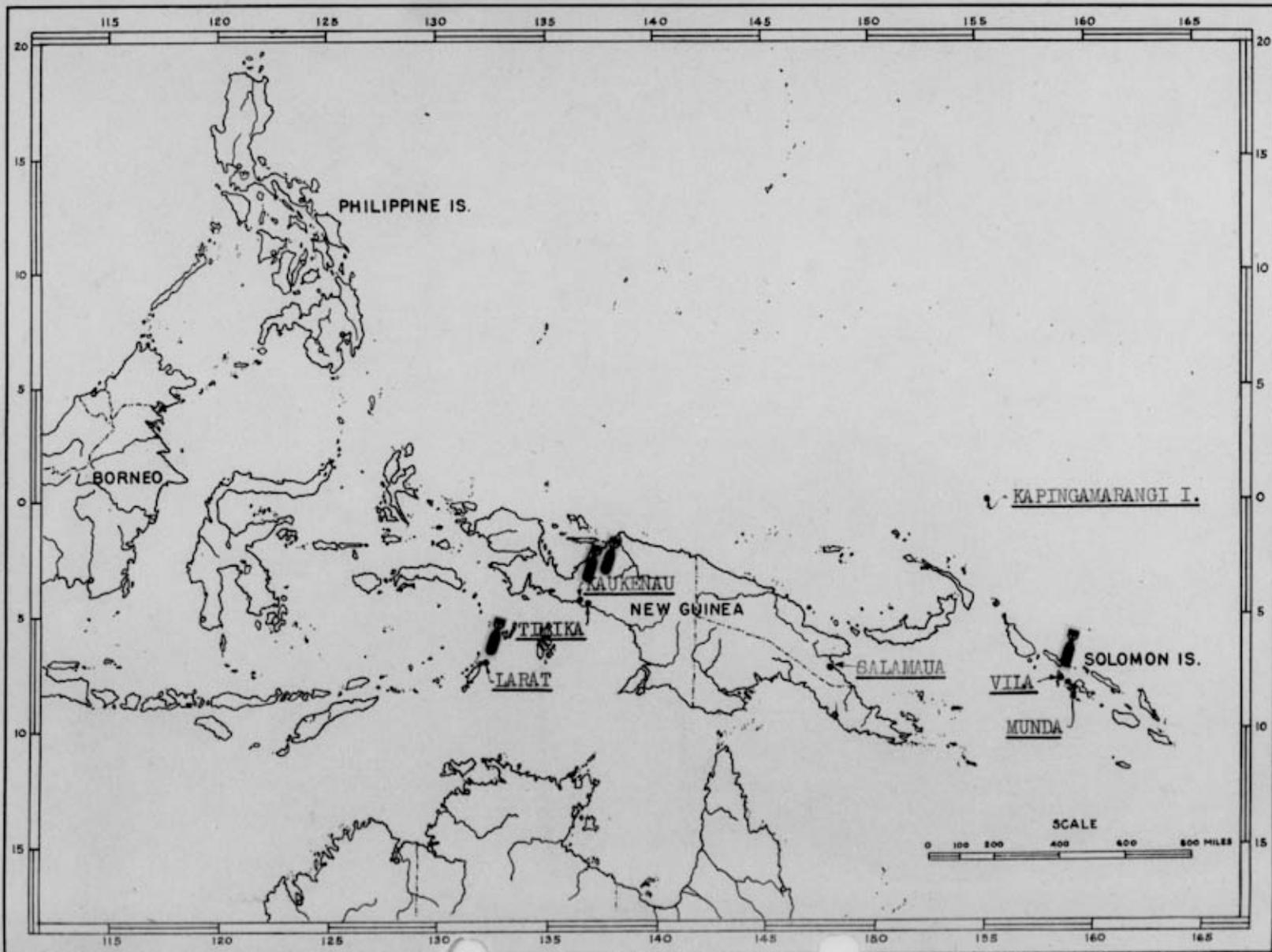
Unidentified planes were sighted over Iceland on 8 August.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On 8 August, US troops successfully flanked the northern end of the Axis battle line in Sicily by a seaborne movement which put forces ashore ten miles east of Agata. Concurrently British and Canadian troops in the center pushed to Bronte against strong enemy resistance. To the east, the British Eighth Army has advanced to a general east-west line through Acireale.

Escorted medium bomber missions of the North African and 9th Air Forces continued their heavy attacks on Randazzo; on the mainland they destroyed rail and highway bridges at Angitola and Catanzaro and machine-gunned several trains near Gioia. During the previous night

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

British bombers again heavily raided beaches near Messina.

Through 4 August, 120,000 prisoners have been taken in Sicily, 92,000 of which were captured by our Seventh Army.

ASIATIC THEATER

10th Air Force B-25's were active over Central Burma on 7 August, striking at the Thazi dam and railroad installations near Mandalay.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied artillery fired effectively on the Salamaua airdrome area on 8 August. A six-ship, southbound convoy was attacked by a B-24 northwest of Kapingamarangi Island; other Allied reconnaissance aircraft attacked shipping off the southwest coast of Dutch New Guinea and destroyed buildings at Kaukenau, Timika and Larat (Tanimbars).

PACIFIC THEATER

Two air striking forces, the first consisting of 23 escorted B-25's and the second of 48 escorted Army and Navy bombers, hit Vila with some 60 tons of bombs on 8 August, causing fires and extensive damage with many direct hits. Vila and Bairoko Harbor (north of Munda) were heavily attacked by B-24's and B-25's the next day.

Our ground forces are closing in on the enemy troops in the Bairoko area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 607

0700 August 8 to 0700 August 9, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET~~



BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

DRAWN AND COMPILED IN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 7 August, an enemy submarine, attacked by a number of planes about 200 miles north of the Venezuelan coast, scuttled itself after bringing down one of the airplanes.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

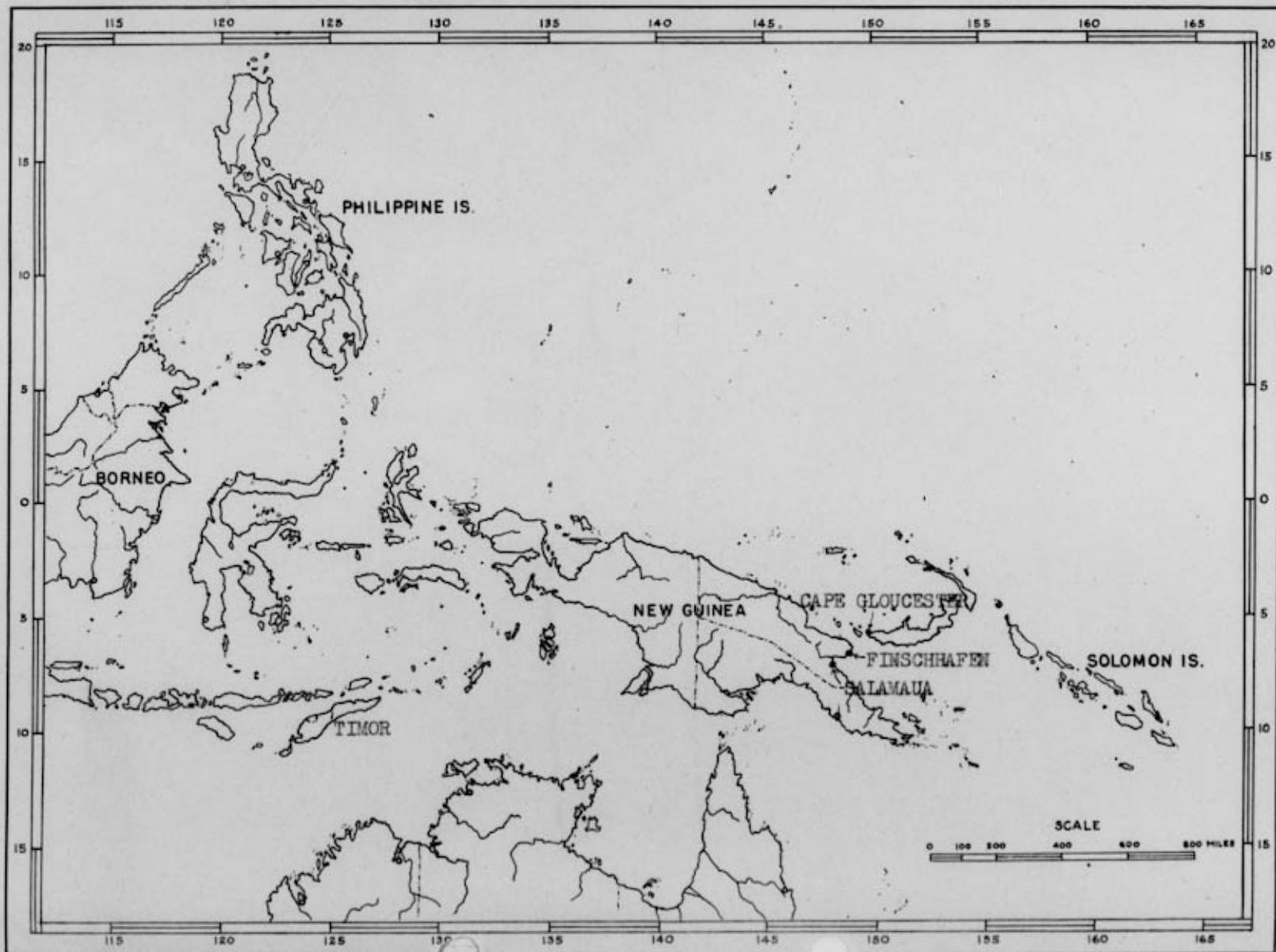
The British Eighth Army captured Adrano on 6 August and pushed on toward Bronte; to the east Nicolosi, Aci Castello, Tremestieri, and Mascalucia were captured on 7 August. Cesaro was taken by our Seventh Army; our 9th Division has relieved the 1st Division in this area. A strong enemy counter-attack on the night of 6-7 August in the San Fratello area was repulsed with heavy German losses.

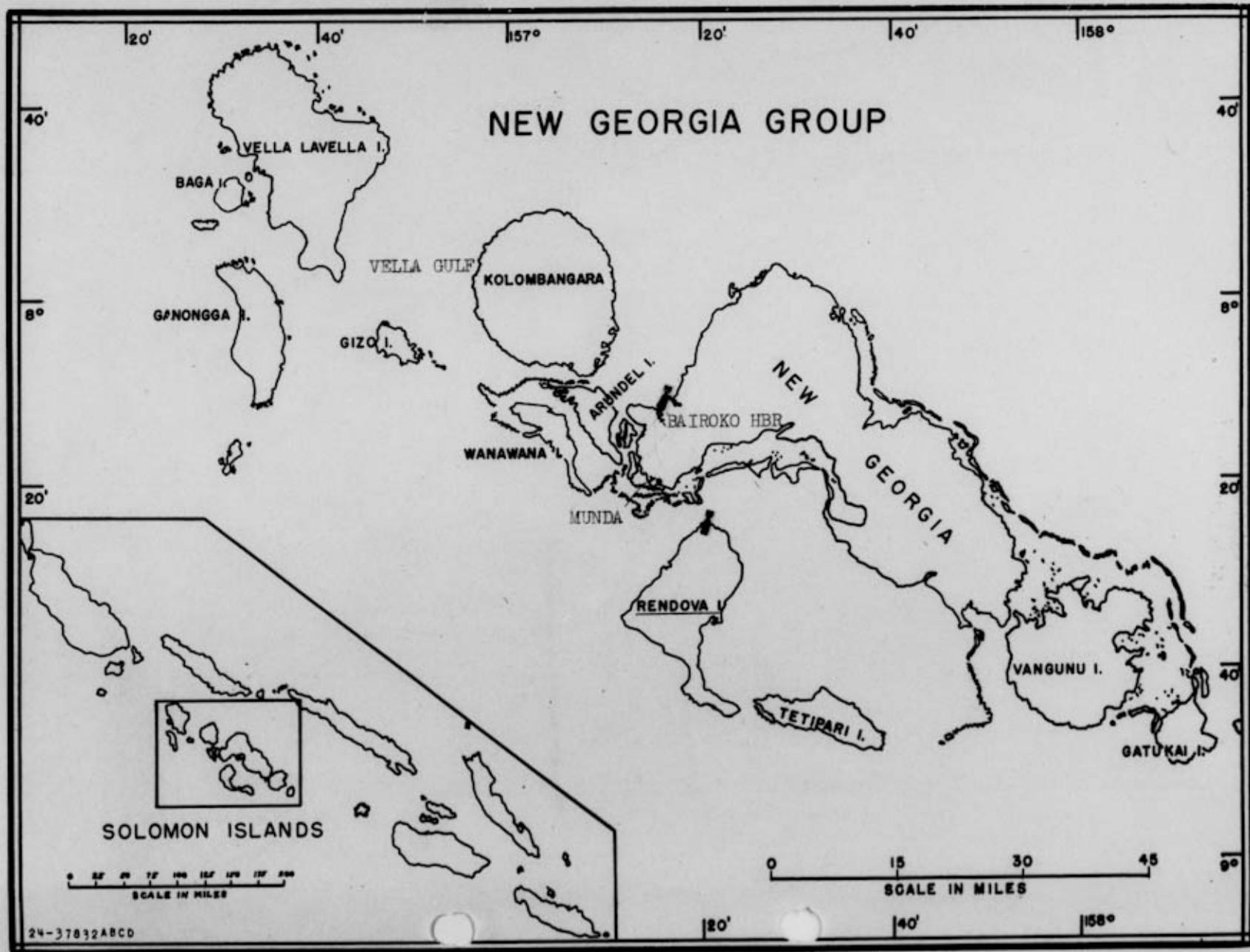
On the night of 6-7 August, British Wellingtons dropped 92 tons of explosives on the railroad yards and dock area at Naples and 62 tons on the beaches near Cape Peloro. The next day, US aircraft heavily attacked Randazzo, enemy motor transportation in Sicily, and shipping in coastal waters. Two 150-foot enemy vessels were hit and considerable damage done to water-front areas. On the mainland US planes effectively attacked Melito and the airfield at Crotona.

Enemy air raids on Palermo and Bizerte on the evening of 6 August caused minor damage and casualties; two enemy aircraft were shot down at Bizerte.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

General Brereton reports that during July heavy bombers of his





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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

9th Air Force destroyed 72 (probably 88) enemy planes for a loss of 14 of these bombers. Other 9th Air Force losses, with no corresponding claims, were 22 medium, light and fighter bombers and fighters. One (probably four) enemy merchant vessels were sunk.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In his operations summary for 7 August, General MacArthur reports that US bombers dropped 92 tons of demolitions on enemy installations in the Salamaua area, causing extensive damage, attacked barges and destroyed an enemy fighter plane near Cape Gloucester, and machine-gunned a personnel-laden barge near Finschhafen.

Australian and Dutch aircraft hit barges and a small merchant vessel off the south coast of Dutch New Guinea, and damaged airfield installations on Timor.

PACIFIC THEATER

Our naval surface force sank an enemy cruiser and two (probably three) destroyers in the Vella Gulf during the night of 6-7 August. The next day, escorted US bombers started several fires and thoroughly machine-gunned both sides of Bairoko Harbor; one plane failed to return. A strong force of from 30 to 60 Japanese bombers and fighters raiding Rendova killed five of our men and one Japanese prisoner. Six of the attacking planes were brought down by antiaircraft fire and Allied fighters without Allied air loss.

Munda airfield is expected to be ready for operation on 9 August.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

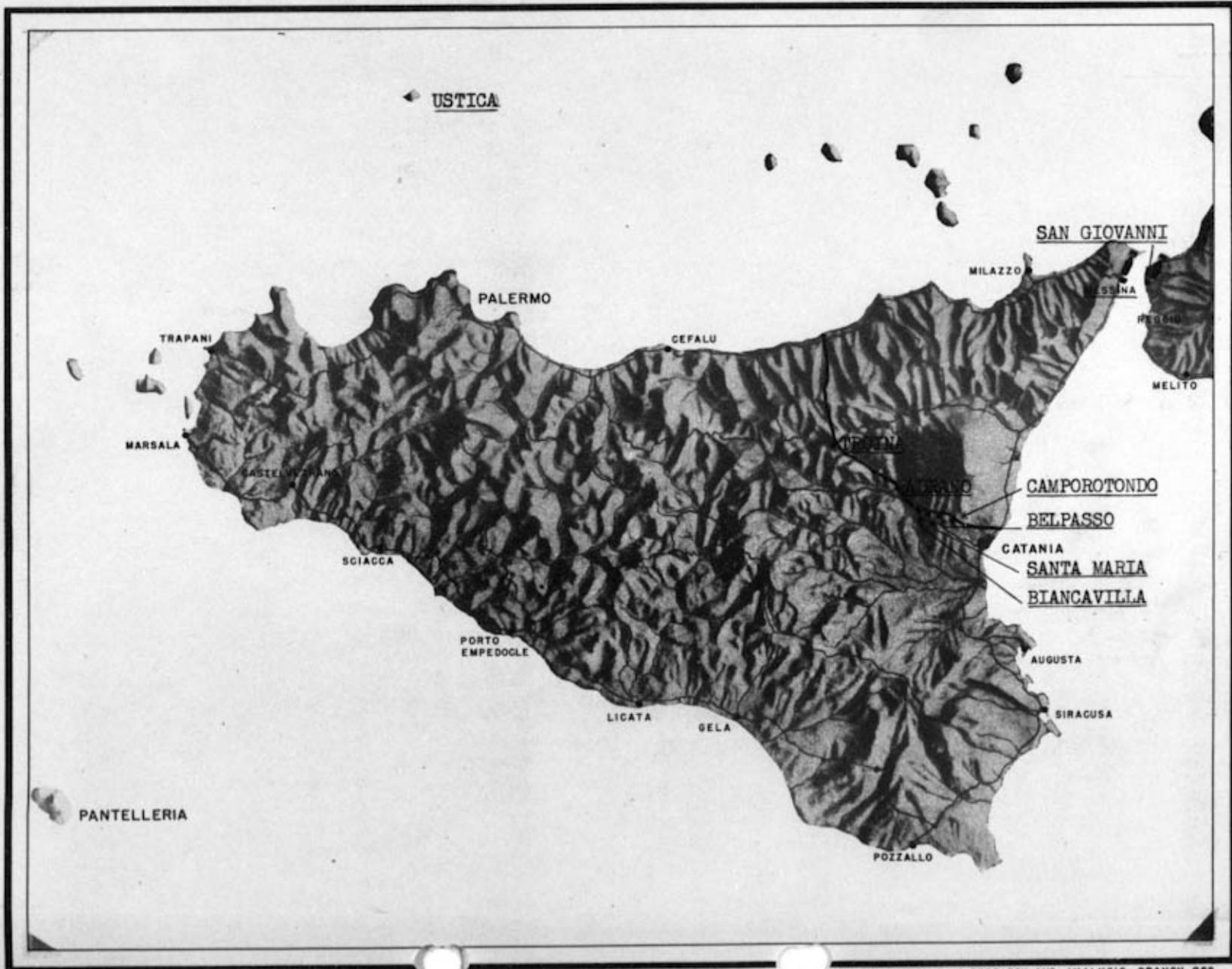
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 606

0700 August 7 to 0700 August 8, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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 OSD Letter, 8-8-74
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DECLASSIFIED

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 6 August two of our destroyers repeated their bombardment of the previous day on targets in the Kiska area.

EUROPEAN THEATER

An unidentified airplane was reported over Iceland on 6 August.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

The British Eighth Army's advance continued on 6 August through Camporotondo, Belpasso, Santa Maria and Biancavilla; British forces also reached the outskirts of Adrano and Canadian troops were operating to the northwest of that city. Our Seventh Army, held to small gains along the coast by fierce Axis resistance, captured Troina.

Ustica Island, north of Sicily, was occupied by joint US Army and Navy forces on 5 August; 99 Italian soldiers and sailors were captured.

On 5 and 6 August, British and US fliers concentrated on enemy shipping in the waters off northeastern Sicily, on important road centers on the island, and on the railway sidings at San Giovanni. More than 240 tons of explosives were used against Messina alone.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

The latest available information on our massed B-24 raid against the Rumanian oil fields on 1 August indicated that 41 of our planes

were lost in Axis territory as a result of enemy action, eight were forced down in Turkey, and five crashed elsewhere.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In additional missions on 5 August, our B-25's destroyed an enemy motorboat and six barges off the northeastern coast of New Guinea. These bombers also machine-gunned the airfield and town of Madang; one of our planes was shot down. On 6 August, Allied bombers damaged a small enemy merchant vessel near Kaukenau, northeastern New Guinea, and attacked the Laha airfield on Ambon. Enemy planes sank an Allied ship off the north coast of Australia.

PACIFIC THEATER

US B-25's silenced enemy antiaircraft positions on Gizo Island, west of New Georgia, on 4 August.

Sixteen Navy fighters, escorting a reconnaissance P-38 mission over the Shortlands area on the morning of 5 August, were intercepted by a force of thirty Zeros. Seven Japanese planes were destroyed for a loss of one of our Navy fighters.

On 6 August, 48 escorted Army bombers dropped more than 40 tons of demolitions on enemy bivouac and supply areas at Rekata Bay, Santa Isabel Island.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 605

0700 August 6 to 0700 August 7, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72



BASE MAP NO. 2448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Additional air missions on 4 August swelled the amount of bombs dropped on Kiska and Little Kiska that day to a total of 153.4 tons. Two of our destroyers pounded Kiska targets early on 5 August, each firing 50 rounds.

EUROPEAN THEATER

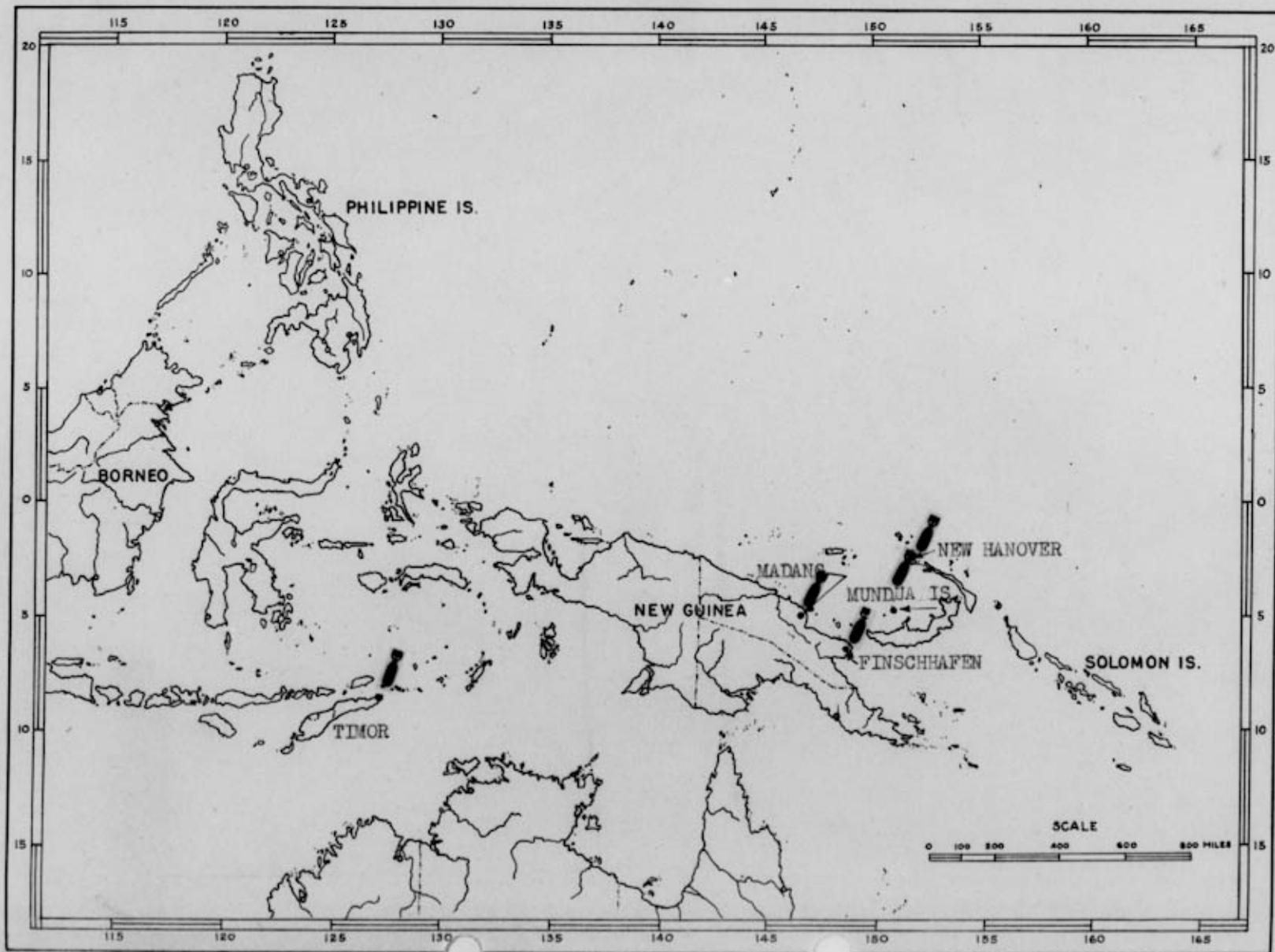
On 5 August, two P-38's shot down a German four-engined bomber ten miles east of Grimsey Island (north of Iceland). Seven German survivors were taken prisoner.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

The British Eighth Army, pushing past Catania, Misterbianco and Paterno on 5 August, had advanced, by mid-afternoon, to within one mile of Belpasso and three miles of Adrano.

In air operations that day British Wellington bombers dropped more than 175 tons of demolitions on the Battipaglia and Messina railroad yards. Our B-17's also hit Messina, and medium bombers of both the 9th and North African Air Forces made heavy attacks on important road junctions in northeastern Sicily. 75 mm-carrying B-25's hit a switching station in Sardinia, and their escort destroyed an enemy submarine southwest of the island. No enemy fighter opposition was encountered that day.

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OSD Letter, 6-3-72

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Allied B-25's bombed and machine-gunned two enemy-held villages southeast of Madang and a town on Timor on 5 August. Reconnaissance B-24's machine-gunned a small enemy merchant vessel northwest of New Hanover, bombed an enemy bivouac area on Mundua Island, north of New Britain, and destroyed a building at Finschhafen.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 604

0700 August 5 to 0700 August 6, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

GENERAL

The War Department informed senior commanders that their theater plans for chemical warfare are being reviewed to insure the adequacy of measures for rapid and effective reprisals in the event of the use of gas by the enemy, and stresses again that no such retaliatory action will be undertaken by them until so ordered by the War Department.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 4 August, 17 missions totalling 123 bombers and fighters dropped 125 tons of bombs on the runway and main camp areas of Kiska, and on Little Kiska.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Antiaircraft fire from a submarine southeast of Iceland on 3 August was so intense as to prevent Allied aircraft from making an effective attack. The next day an RAF bomber was shot down in the same area by a submarine, which was itself destroyed during the engagement. Fifty-six prisoners from the submarine and six crew members of the plane were rescued.

2. An unidentified airplane was plotted over Iceland on 4 August.

3. On 4 August, 36 medium bombers of our 8th Air Force, escorted by 13 squadrons of RAF Spitfires, dropped 40 tons of bombs on submarine

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

and shipbuilding yards near Rouen. All of our planes returned safely.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During 3 August Allied fighters and fighter-bombers supporting our Sicilian operations flew more than 900 operational sorties during which hits were scored on a cruiser and two other vessels. That night 100 British bombers successfully raided Italian railroad yards at Catanzaro and Paola. During the next day 77 B-17's dropped 230 tons of explosives on the submarine base at Naples and our medium bombers repeated the British missions of the previous evening. Ground targets and enemy-held towns in northeast Sicily were attacked by 150 light and medium bombers; fighter and fighter-bomber support of these operations totaled nearly 500 sorties.

Paterno was captured by British forces at 1015, 5 August; no later reports have been received of Allied ground action.

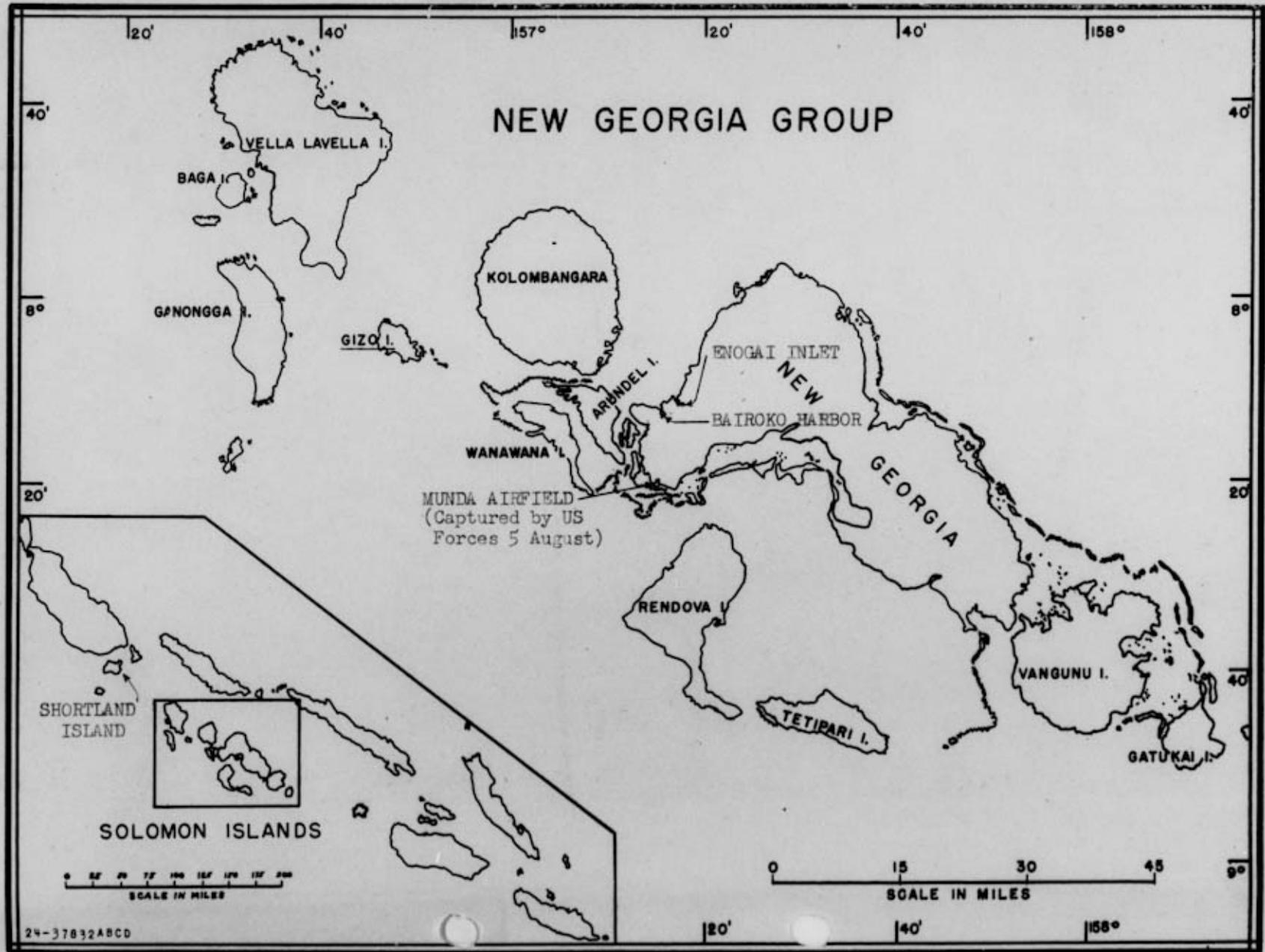
ASIATIC THEATER

Three B-24's of our 10th Air Force scored hits on a runway and machine-gunned buildings at Pagoda Point on 3 August and damaged rolling stock and railroad tracks at Thanbyuzayat, (both southern Burma); nine B-25's destroyed railroad tracks and hit rolling stock and storage facilities in central Burma.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

Single Allied planes bombed enemy airfields at Gasmata and Cape

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DECLASSIFIED
NSA Letter, 5-8-78

Gloucester on 4 August; other missions attacked supply dumps in western New Britain and near Salamaua, and an enemy airdrome and adjacent villages on Selaru Island in the Tanimbars.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 4 August, 135 Army, Navy and New Zealand planes concentrated on enemy installations northwest of Munda, while others attacked Poporang, set two barges afire and destroyed seven float planes in the Shortland Island area. Enemy air raids over New Georgia were turned back with 12 enemy planes destroyed for a loss of two of ours.

By mid-afternoon of 5 August all organized enemy resistance had been overcome in the Munda airfield area and our units were pushing northward toward Bairoko and Enogai. Mopping up of isolated enemy centers of resistance and reconstruction of the airfield are in progress; over 1500 of the enemy are known to be dead.

A Jap force of 250 is reported to have landed on Gizo Island on 1 August.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 603

0700 August 4 to 0700 August 5, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





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OSD Letter, 5-8-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Our bombers attacked Kiska and Little Kiska on 3 August with some 15 tons of bombs.
2. A special B-25 anti-submarine unit, equipped with 75 mm guns, is to be attached to the Antilles Air Command Task Force for duty for a period of approximately 60 days.

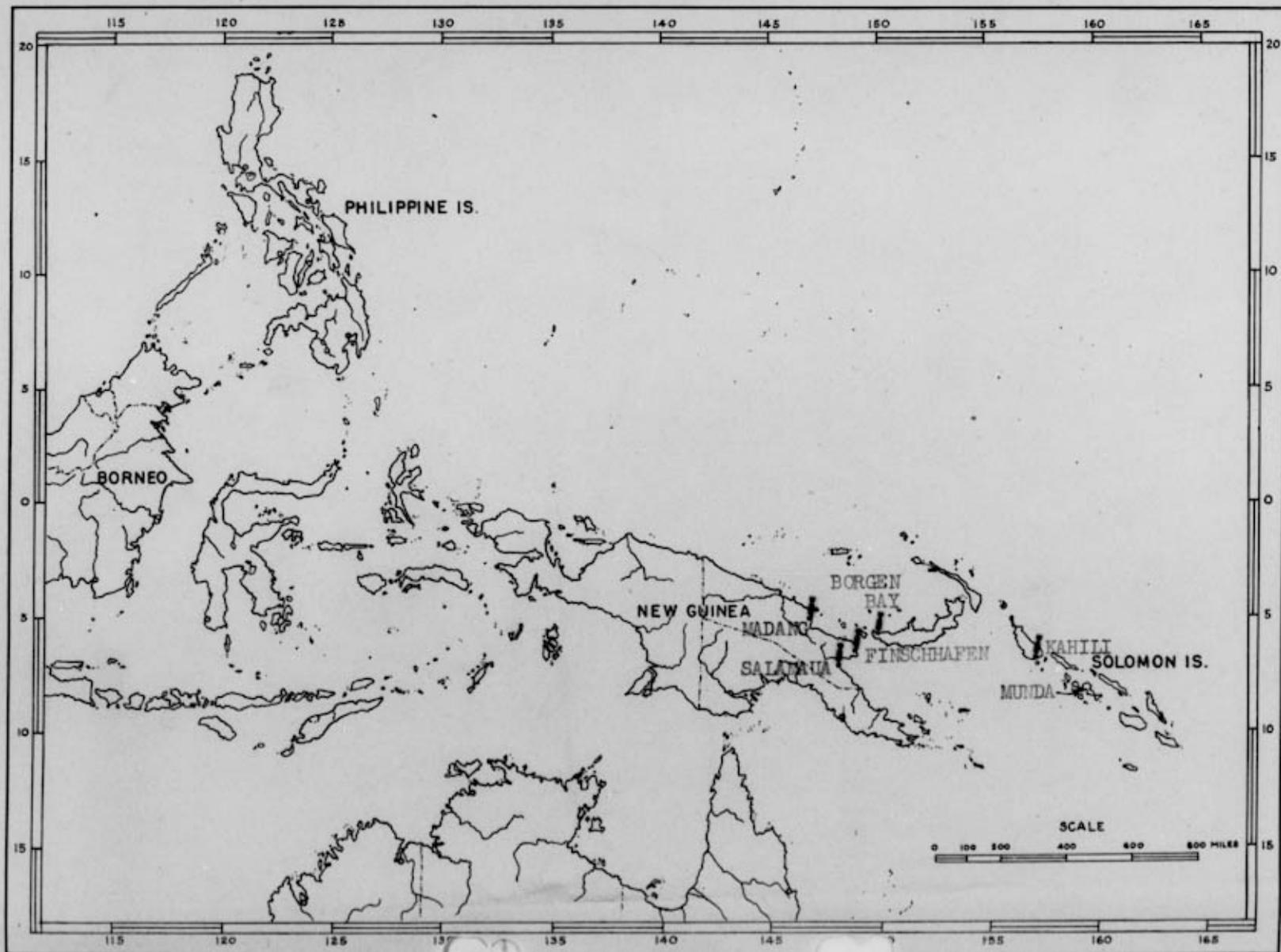
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Two unidentified airplanes were plotted over Iceland on 2 August.
2. During the week ending 1 August, our 8th Air Force and UK-based RAF planes destroyed a total of 368 (probably 477) enemy aircraft over Europe, with a combined loss from all causes of 224 Allied planes. Of these enemy planes our 8th Air Force destroyed 280 (probably 349) for a loss, from all causes, of 80 planes and the RAF destroyed 88 (probably 98), losing 144 of its planes.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 2-3 August Allied bombers hit rail installations at Naples and Reggio. The next day, 168 bombers destroyed

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 8-8-78

enemy motor transportation in the Adrano area while others again hammered the Reggio railroad yards. Naval gun fire supported our land operations in northeastern Sicily. The British Eighth Army has made important gains toward Adrano on the western slope of Mt. Etna and early on the morning of 5 August captured Catania, Sicily's second largest city and main east coast port. Palermo was hit by an enemy air raid on the morning of the 4th; one of our destroyers was slightly damaged.

ASIATIC THEATER

A medium bomber of the 10th Air Force damaged railroad facilities at Thazi, central Burma, on 3 August.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 3 August, B-25's destroyed ten barges at Borgen Bay, New Britain, attacked a possible ammunition dump in the Salamaua area, and destroyed several barges and damaged others near Finschhafen. Meanwhile, our heavy bombers destroyed buildings near Madang, started large fires in nearby enemy camps and shot down two intercepting enemy planes. One B-17 was lost.

PACIFIC THEATER

Navy bombers, escorted by 12 P-40's, in attacks on enemy ship-

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-72

ping in the Bahili area on 2 August, sank eight barges, set fire to a large cargo vessel and damaged an oil tanker.

By the afternoon of 4 August our forces had surrounded the enemy at Munda. The enemy offered stubborn resistance and his casualties were heavy.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

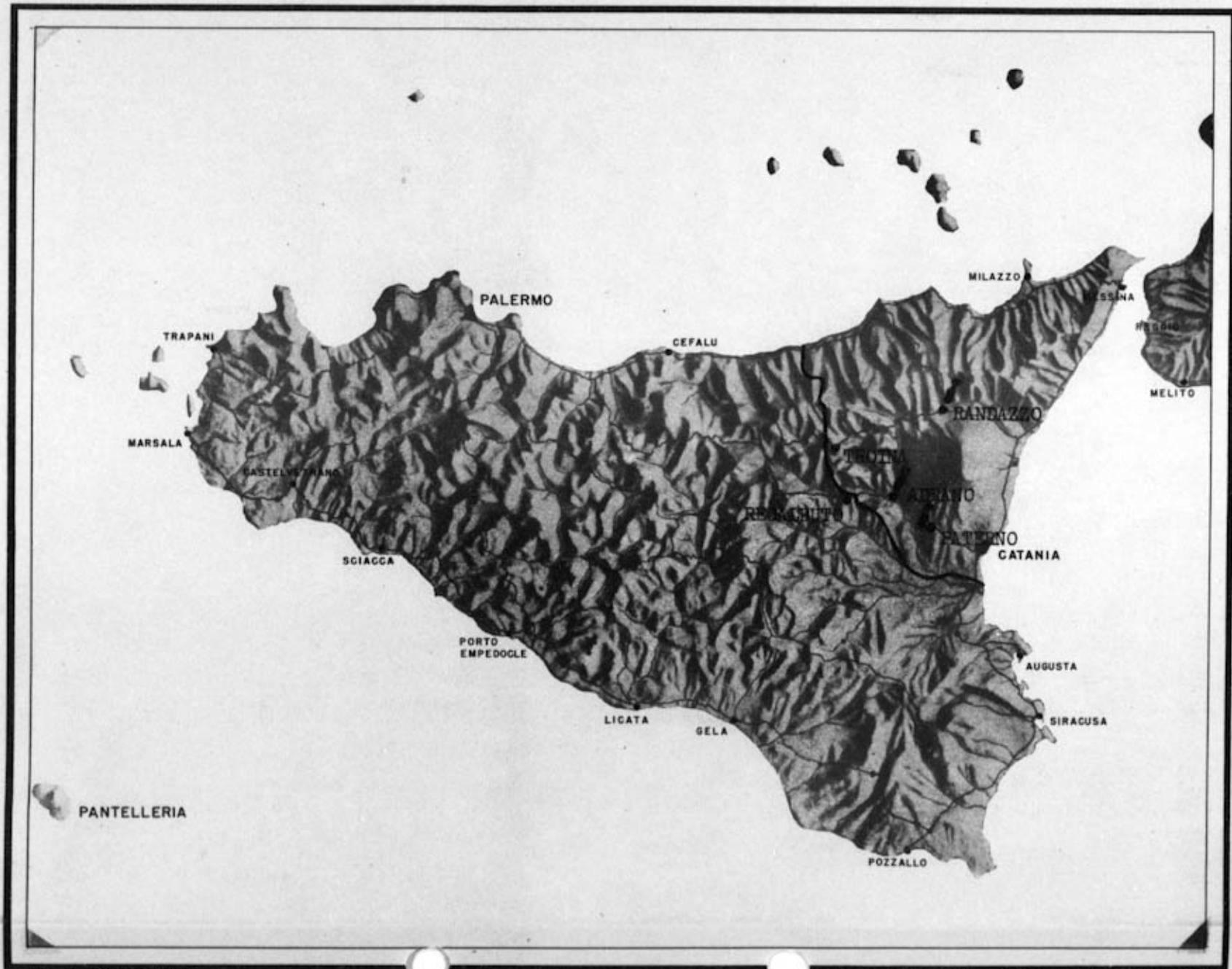
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 602

0700 August 3 to 0700 August 4, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE



BASE MAP NO. 2463 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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OSD Letter, 1-2-78

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Eight B-24's, nine escorted B-25's, and a naval force subjected Kiska and Little Kiska to bombardment from the sea and air during 2 August. During July the 11th Air Force punished Kiska with 424 tons of bombs, hit Paramushiro with over 15 tons and sank two enemy ships. The total loss in the 86 combat missions flown was two P-40's and one B-25, shot down by antiaircraft; all but two of the personnel involved were saved.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Unidentified aircraft were plotted over Iceland on 2 August.

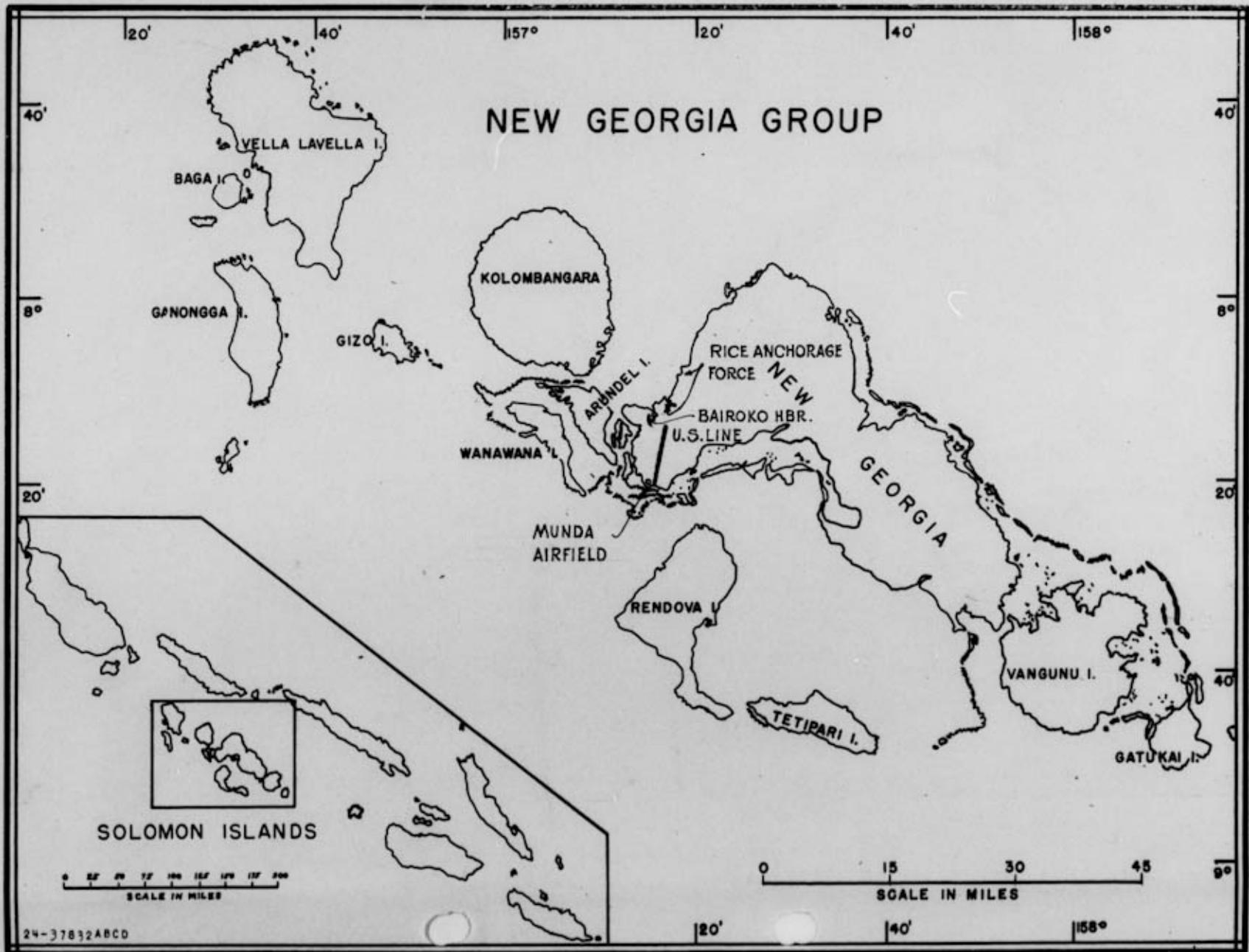
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Allied air forces continued to punish the key centers of Adrano and Randazzo in northeastern Sicily on 2 August and attacked artillery positions southwest of Paterno. In a P-40 sweep over Sardinia five airplanes were destroyed for a loss of one of our fighters. On the ground the situation remained essentially unchanged, minor gains being registered by the Canadian Division, which pushed beyond Regalbuto. Troina was still held by the Axis.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

Reports to date on our air mission against the Rumanian oil fields indicate that of a total of 177 B-24's of the 9th Air Force which

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OSD Letter, 6-8-73

left the Bengazi area 165 reached the targets, dropping over 136 tons of explosives and incendiaries. Twenty of our airplanes were lost; eight landed in Turkey; 17 others landed in Cyprus, Malta and Sicily; 26 are still unaccounted for, and 106 returned to their base. Fifty-one enemy airplanes are claimed as destroyed.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In his operations summary for 2 August, General MacArthur states that Allied artillery is now destroying enemy aircraft on the Salamaua airdrome and heavy enemy guns on the peninsula.

Eight Fortresses and 17 Liberators showered 84 tons of bombs on enemy positions in the Salamaua area. RAAF planes, in attacks in the Gasmata area, hit a destroyer, airdrome and antiaircraft positions, jetties, and two barges. Eighteen US heavy and 13 escorted medium bombers made destructive attacks on Lae and raided other enemy-held villages along the northeast New Guinea coast, sinking eight barges, and destroying 12 (probably 13) enemy planes over Saidor.

Buildings and stores at the Allied patrol base in the Ramu Valley in New Guinea were destroyed by hostile natives.

An air raid by three enemy planes on Woodlark Island on 1 August was ineffective.

PACIFIC THEATER

On 2 August the 43rd Division, despite stiffened enemy resistance,

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OSD Letter, 8-8-72

closed to the eastern edge of Minda airfield and occupied a line from that point to the northeast end of Bibilo Hill; the 37th Division is on line to the right of the 43rd, and the 25th Division is in assembly positions to the right of the 37th; the Rice Anchorage force is preparing to prevent any possible escape of the Japanese to the north. In the air, 53 Allied planes heavily attacked Kolombangara Island, starting several fires; medium and heavy bombers showered explosives on the west side of Bairoko Harbor.

On 31 July and 1 August, enemy planes ineffectively attacked Rendova Harbor and our nearby positions; four of the enemy aircraft were brought down.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 601

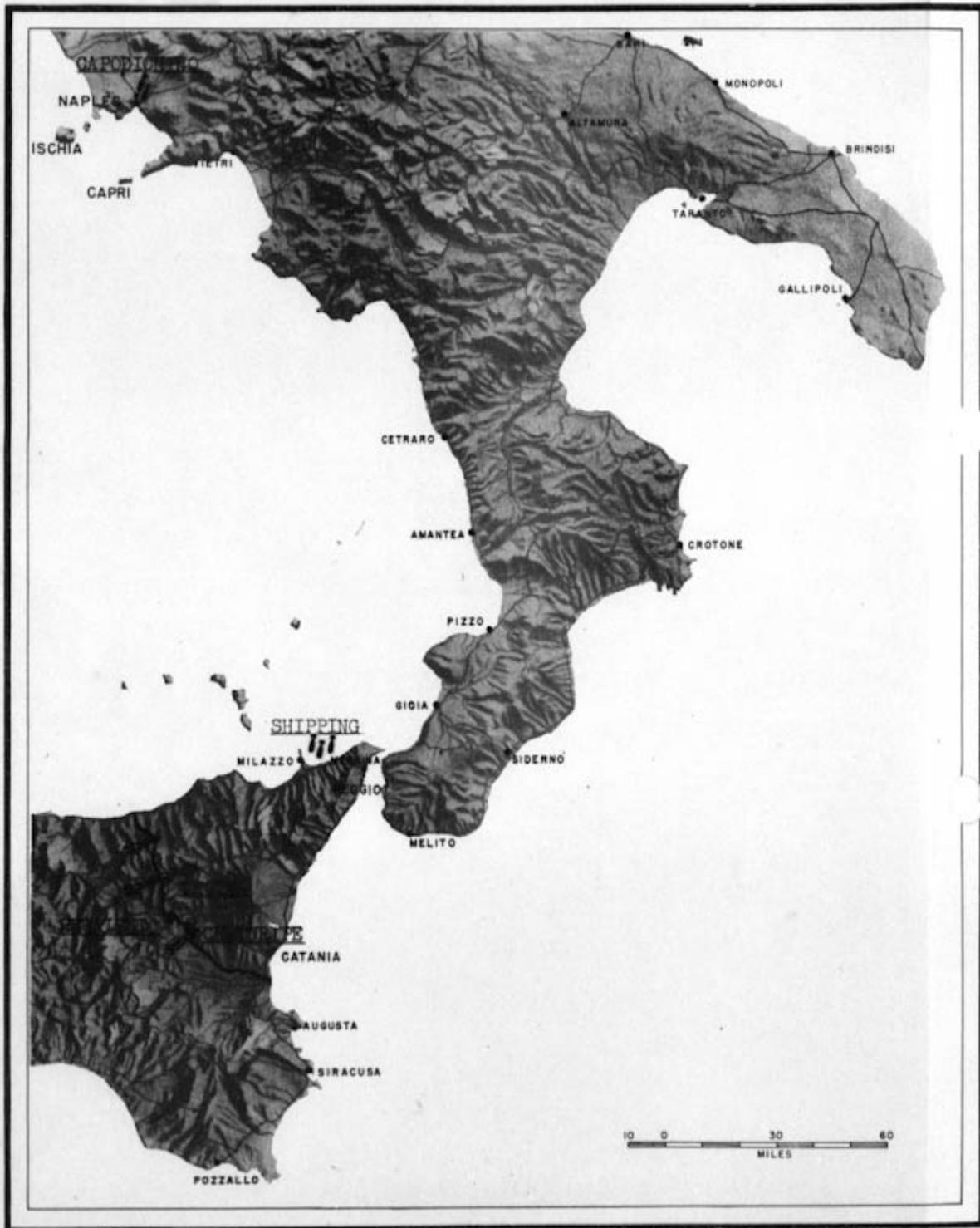
0700 August 2 to 0700 August 3, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72



BASE MAP NO. E448 (FREE)
1 JULY 1943

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OSD Letter, 6-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 1 August, seven B-24's dropped more than 20 tons of bombs on the main camp area at Kiska through a solid overcast.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Hostile aircraft were reported over Iceland on 1 August.
2. Continuing the air offensive against the Continent, on 2 August 55 B-26's, escorted by 16 squadrons of RAF Spitfires, bombed the Merville and St. Omer-Fort Rouge airdromes, northern France.

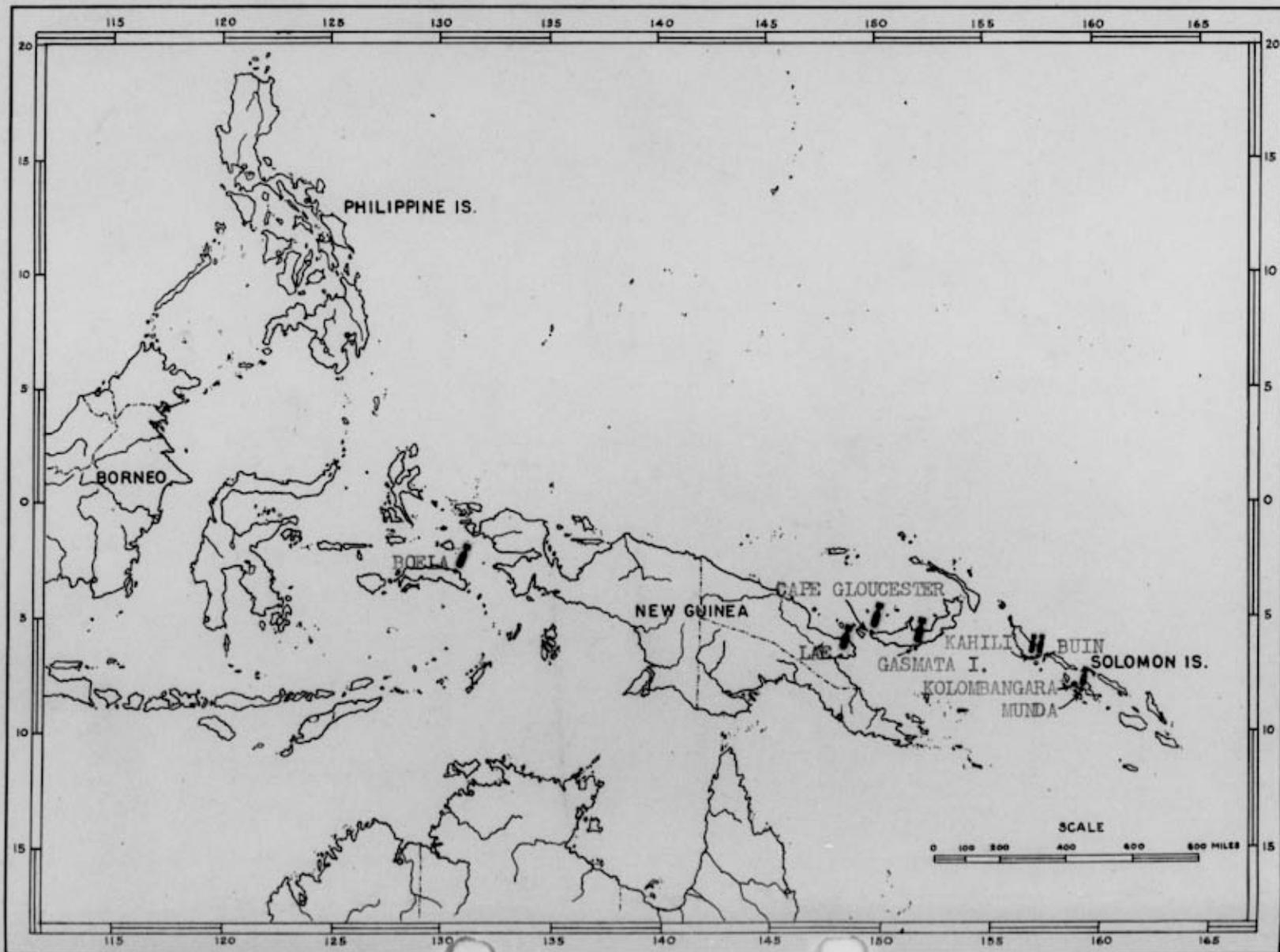
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

On 31 July, Allied bombers attacked shipping between Milazzo and Messina, and motor transportation and towns in northeastern Sicily. That night British planes continued the steady hammering of the enemy-held towns in northeastern Sicily, and also dropped 375,000 leaflets on Rome and the same number on Naples.

The next day, Capodichino airdrome was bombed by 47 escorted B-17's, and 23 other B-17's attacked the docks at Naples. Both targets were well covered with bomb bursts and eight enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of one B-17.

On 2 August, the 78th British Division occupied Centuripe and the 1st Canadian Division was firmly established in Regalbuto. Our Seventh Army continued to advance eastward against increasingly

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DECLASSIFIED
04d Letter, 8-3-79

stiffening opposition. An enemy counterattack against our 1st Division west of Troina was successfully repulsed.

ASIATIC THEATER

Planes of our 10th Air Force bombed railroad facilities in central Burma on 31 July. The next day our medium bombers caused widespread destruction in the warehouse area and started fires at Katha; hits were also scored on rolling stock and on three river steamers. In other operations our planes destroyed rolling stock and tracks at the Hopin railroad yards, attacked the dispersal area at Monywa airdrome and damaged the Shweli bridge.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

In his operations summary for 1 August, General MacArthur reports that Allied planes destroyed five barges and bombed and machine-gunned villages in the vicinity of Cape Gloucester, scored hits on two buildings at the Gasmata Island government station, bombed the airdrome at Lao, and started small fires at Boela, Ceram.

PACIFIC THEATER

Our ground forces made a general advance against Manda on 1 August, capturing considerable booty and encountering decreasing enemy resistance. On 31 July, large forces of Army and Navy bombers attacked Japanese gun positions and blew up an ammunition dump in

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

the Munda sector, hit the bivouac area and antiaircraft positions on southeast Kolombangara Island, sank eight barges and set one cargo vessel afire in an attack on shipping near Buin, and started six fires at the Kahili airdrome.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 600

0700 August 1 to 0700 August 2, 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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USD Letter, 6-8-78

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

Medium bombers of our 8th Air Force carried out their seventh consecutive daylight raid on enemy targets on the Continent on 31 July, striking the Merville, Poix, Tricqueville, and Abbeville air-dromes. Diversicnary sweeps by 36 B-26's over the coast of Holland and by 129 P-47's over northern France were uneventful.

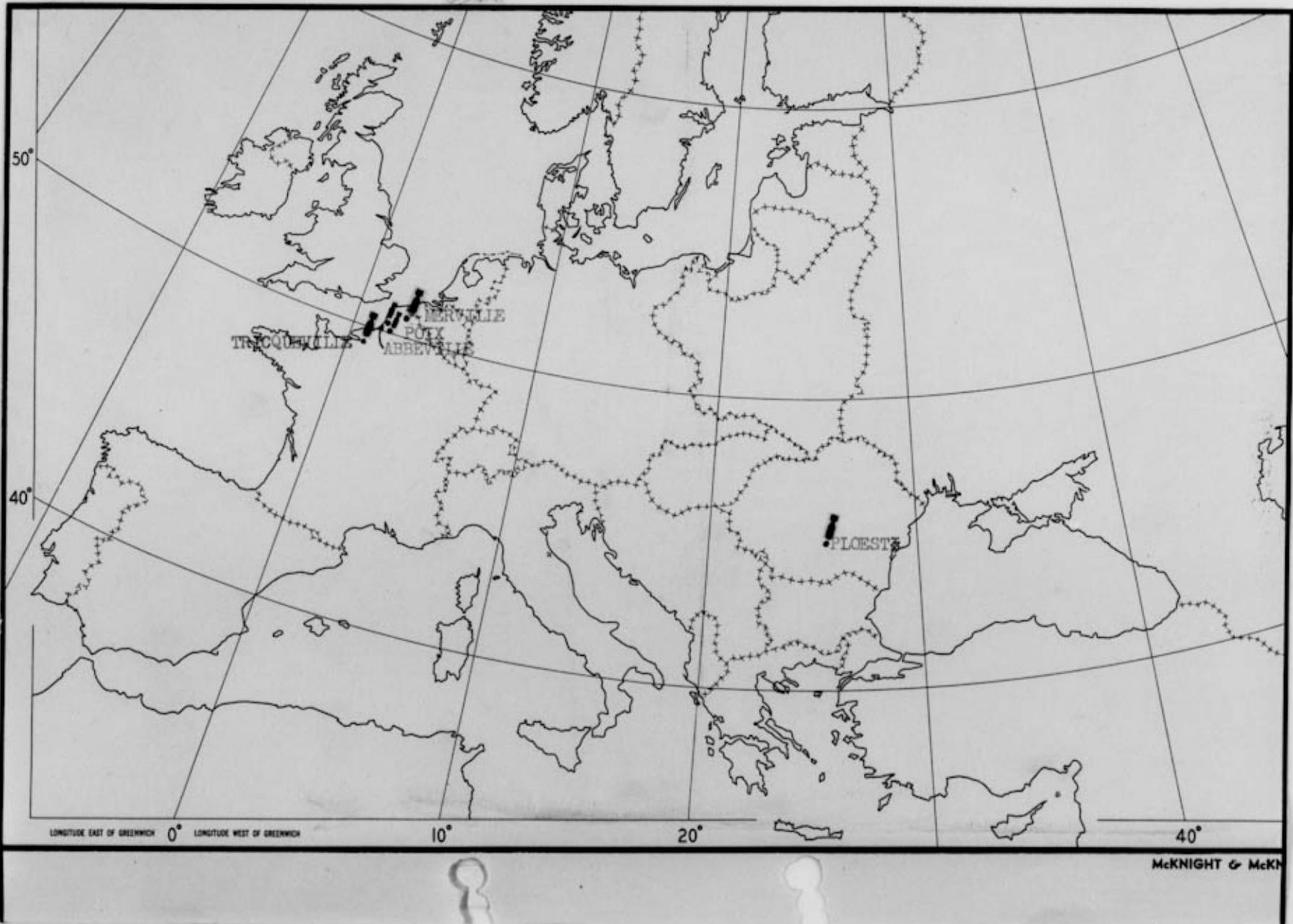
NORTH AFRIGAN THEATER

By the afternoon of 1 August the Canadian Division, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy, had advanced to Regalbuto, despite strong enemy resistance. Street fighting is now taking place in the town. To the southeast, the British 78th Division has pushed north of Maglia with one forward unit now reported 1,000 yards west of Centuripe. There was no change on the front of our Seventh Army.

Seventy-one B-26's, escorted by a like number of P-38's, dropped 318 quarter-ton bombs on Adrano. Observers report that the target was well covered. Other Allied planes attacked Cesaro with more than 11 tons of explosives and Centuripe with approximately 48 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs. Many direct hits were scored and seven of our aircraft have not returned. The results of a raid by 25 US B-25's on Randazzo have not been received.

Enemy aircraft, carrying out a heavy raid against Palermo early on 1 August, destroyed a coastal vessel, damaged two minesweepers and set an ammunition dump afire.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

Unofficial reports indicate that a strong force of US B-24's made a heavy daylight attack on 1 August against the important Ploesti oil fields in Rumania.

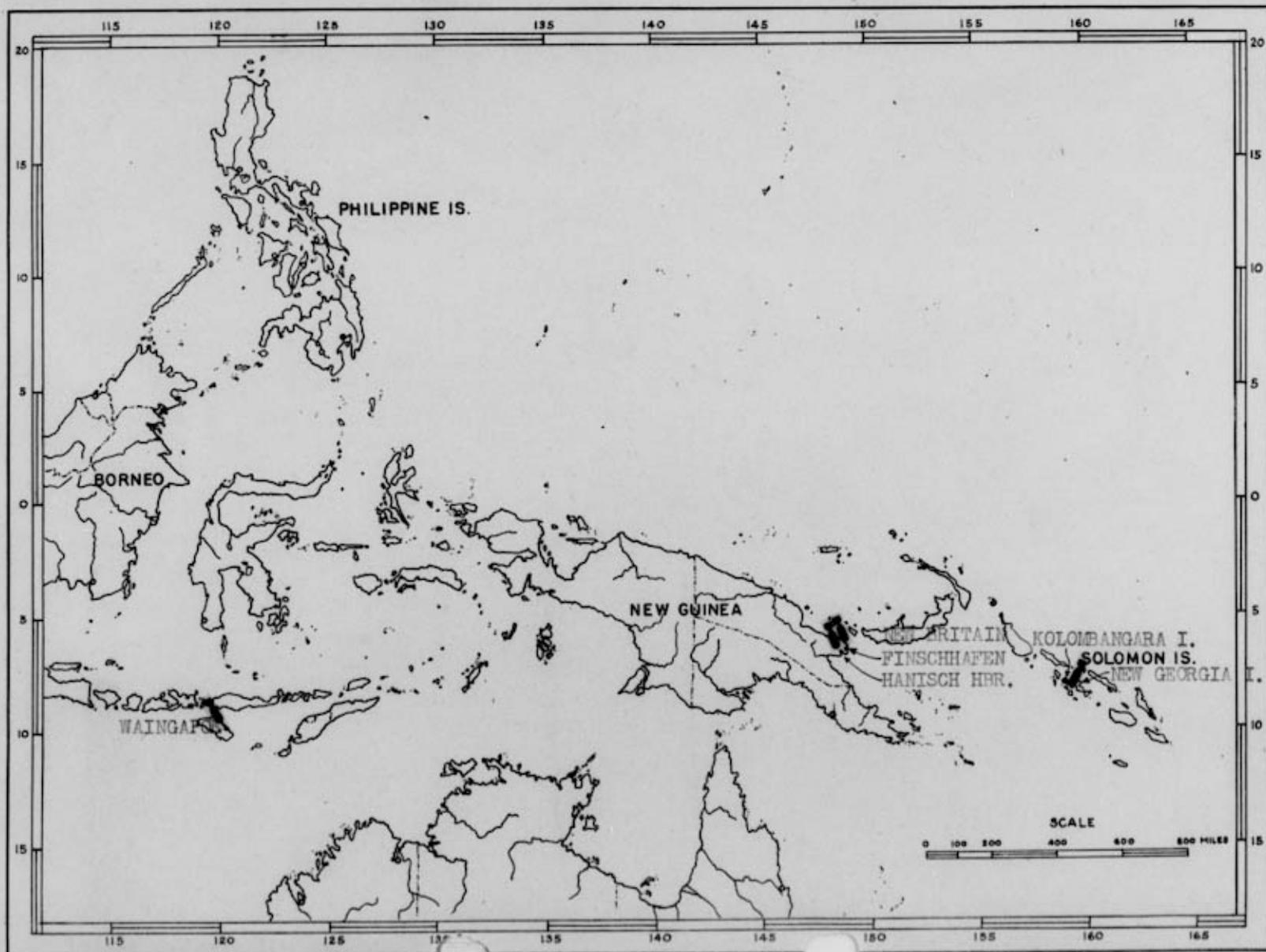
ASIATIC THEATER

B-25's of our 10th Air Force again concentrated on the enemy-held railroad lines in central Burma on 30 and 31 July, also scoring direct hits on storage areas, an oil field, and a runway in that region. Enemy barracks at Bhamo were bombed and several river boats at Katha hit and damaged. Nine B-24's sowed 36 half-ton mines in the Rangoon estuary on 31 July.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

On 30 and 31 July, our medium and light bombers destroyed 14 enemy barges off the New Guinea and New Britain coasts, machine-gunned buildings and started large fires at Finschhafen, destroyed a building at Hanisch Harbor, and caused considerable damage and large fires at Waingapoe on Soemba.

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PACIFIC THEATER

On 30 July, swarms of escorted Army and Navy bombers scored hits on enemy installations, gun positions, and bivouac areas on New Georgia. That night our motor torpedo boats sank a 100-foot vessel off Kolombangara.