WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 691

0700 October 31 to 0700 November 1, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

On 30 October light bombers dropped ten tons of explosives on Cherbourg docks and the Maupertuis airfield, accurate hits being observed; moderate antiaircraft fire but no enemy aircraft were reported. That night three enemy aircraft out of seven which operated over southern England dropped bombs in the London area.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On the night of 29-30 October 31 British bombers dropped 58 tons of bombs squarely on the Grosseto railroad yards. The next day a heavy overcast prevented a force of 138 B-17's from bombing the Turin ball-bearing works but 26 of these aircraft dropped 78 tons of explosives on Savona and its steel works where considerable effect was noted. Seven other bombers of this mission attacked the railroad yards at Imperia, and seven more attacked Varazze and Port Maurizio but could not observe their effect. One B-17 was lost. Twenty escorted B-24's dropped sixty tons of bombs on the railroad yards and steel works at Genoa. Twenty-four B-25's heavily hit roads and railroads at Frosinone, while light and fighter bombers attacked railroads, roads and bridges, as well as enemy gun positions and troops in the battle area with more than 77 tons of explosives. P-40's scored two hits on a small freighter at Giulianova.

2. By noon 31 October the Fifth Army had reached Santa Croce
and had captured Teano, maintaining pressure on the enemy's Monti Massico position. In the upper Volturno valley local gains were recorded as our troops worked around the southwestern slopes of Monti del Matese. To the north of this hill mass the Eighth Army captured Cantalupo and made minor gains elsewhere along its front despite continuing bad weather.

3. Effective 1 November, the 15th Air Force (Strategic) is established in the North African Theater, to consist initially of the six heavy bombardment groups and two long-range fighter groups at present assigned to the 12th Air Force. It will be employed primarily against targets of the combined bomber offensive.

4. By direction of The President, General Eisenhower was notified that Mr. Robert Murphy will be appointed American Political Advisor attached to his headquarters in Italy, and United States member of the Advisory Council attached to the Allied Control Commission for Italy with the rank of Ambassador.

5. On 29 October, Allied light aircraft damaged a small enemy freighter south of Rhodes. The next day, B-25's hit a 500-ton vessel off Naxos with 75 mm guns, and scored possible hits on two other enemy craft south of Cos. British Beaufighters covering an Allied convoy which was attacked off Castelrosso, shot down five enemy twin-engined bombers. We lost two aircraft during these actions.

Supplies were successfully dropped on Samos during the night of 30-31 October.
ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 29 and 30 October 34 light aircraft of the 10th Air Force bombed and machine-gunned the airfield at Myitkyina with good results; one P-51 was lost. A total of 24 A-36's and six P-51's took part in other missions against enemy installations in northern Burma and in support of our ground forces engaged in road construction in the Hukawng valley.

Eleven B-25's bombed Myingyan on 29 October, hitting enemy supply installations.

2. On 30 October six escorted B-25's of our 14th Air Force damaged a motor pool and barracks at Shayang. Nine P-38's bombed the docks and shipping at Kukiang; our aircraft were attacked by some 20 new-type Japanese fighters which shot down four of our P-38's. Two of these Jap fighters were destroyed.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During the afternoon of 29 October, 41 B-24's escorted by 78 P-38's dropped 115 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs on the Vunakanau (Rabaul) dispersal areas; they exploded an ammunition dump, destroyed 20 (probably 25) grounded enemy aircraft, and shot down 27 (probably 40) of 50 intercepting enemy fighters; we lost one P-38 and two others crash-landed on their return. A heavy bomber probably sank one destroyer in a low-altitude attack and damaged
another off Wundja Island. Other Allied aircraft bombed and machine-gunned enemy-held villages, installations and barges south of Madang, machine-gunned barges and buildings along the coasts of New Britain, and damaged the Kavieng, Gasmata, and Tobera (Rabaul) airdromes. One B-25 was lost.

During 30 October, Allied ground patrols encountered enemy defense positions eighteen miles south of Bogadjim. The Japanese are reported to have evacuated Long Island.

2. On 29 October, eight escorted B-24's bombed and machine-gunned the Bonis airfield destroying buildings and a parked airplane; nine B-25's attacked Buka with parachute fragmentation bombs. The next day, 69 Army and Navy airplanes dropped 100 tons of demolition bombs on the Buka and Bonis runways with excellent concentrated effect; three enemy parked airplanes were probably hit. All our planes returned, one B-25 crash-landing.

Allied troops on Treasury Island were bombed during the night of 28-29 October but suffered no damage; our antiaircraft fire shot down one of the enemy planes. Japanese mortar and gun positions have been captured.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 690

0700 October 30 to 0700 October 31, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the headquarters of the Fourth Army (Lieutenant General William H. Simpson) from San Jose, California, to the Presidio of Monterey, California, the 12th Armored Division (Major General Carlos Brewer) from the Tennessee Maneuver Area to Camp Barkeley, Texas, and the 104th Infantry Division (Major General Terry de la M. Allen) from the Oregon Maneuver Area to Camp Young, California. The 12th Armored Division has completed its maneuvers; the 104th Division is to undergo maneuver training at Camp Young.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. A British convoy was attacked by enemy aircraft 35 miles off Castelrosso on 28 October, a tank landing craft being sunk.

2. On 29 October 115 B-17's escorted by 24 P-38's, prevented by weather from accomplishing their primary mission of bombing the ball-bearing factories at Turin, dropped 3,45 tons of bombs on Genoa where hits were obtained on railroad yards, the Ansaldo steel, electric and ordnance works, an instrument factory, a railroad and highway bridge, and on ships and small craft; one B-17 was destroyed and two P-38's are missing. Light and fighter-bombers continued their attacks on enemy positions and communications serving the battle area. Two enemy vessels were successfully attacked off Giulianova and one off Francavilla.
3. General Eisenhower's report issued at noon, 30 October, indicates that the Fifth Army was maintaining its pressure on the enemy in front of Mt. Massico, and in the upper Volturno valley where our troops are now within nine miles of Venafro. On the right flank of the Eighth Army, the Trigno River has been swollen by rains which present an added obstacle; local advances were made in the hills northwest of Campobasso.

4. On 29 October, Leros was attacked by two enemy planes; that night supplies were successfully dropped on the island from the air; nine Allied planes again attacked the Heraklion airdrome.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 27 October sixteen A-36's and six P-51's of the 10th Air Force made a successful attack on the airdrome and barracks area at Myitkyina, and on other enemy-held towns in the vicinity.

The next day two P-51's made two direct bomb hits from roof top level on the two principal Japanese headquarters buildings in Myitkyina; 18 A-36's and 8 P-51's made three hits on a highway bridge at Moguung, hit a railroad bridge in the vicinity, and burned buildings at Manywet.

On 29 October twelve B-24's achieved excellent effect on the dump and warehouse area at Myingyan.

2. On 29 October, 14 B-24's escorted by 14 P-38's of the 11th Air Force heavily damaged a zinc smelter near Haiphong. Two B-25's
dropped eleven 500-pound bombs on the jetty, administration building and runway at Fort Bayard. Six P-40's, reconnoitering the Yochow area, machine-gunned the airdrome at Kiukiang and harassed river shipping.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. The crew of a B-24, who have been rescued since the 26 October attack on Pomelaa report that they set fire to a medium-size transport off Pomelaa and destroyed ten intercepting fighters during an hour-long battle. The B-24 was shot down by two twin-engined fighters off Moa Island.

2. On the night of 28 October, four Allied bombers started large fires at Kavieng airdrome; Gasmata and Talasea were also bombed.

   On 29 October, Allied bombers and fighters demolished enemy barges in Kimbe Bay, harassed coastal villages in southwest New Britain, attacked shipping, and raided enemy installations along the northeast New Guinea coast. To the west of New Guinea, Allied planes sank a small ship in the Tanimbar Islands and another at Ceram, and made other attacks on enemy installations.

   Four enemy aircraft bombed Buna on the morning of 29 October, causing no damage.

3. Twenty-five enemy bombers attacked an Allied convoy north of Treasury Island on 27 October; 12 enemy bombers were destroyed. Three enemy fighters were destroyed over Kahili.
The next day, 107 US aircraft caused large fires at Ballale airfield, but met no enemy there. Ninety-four Allied planes attacked the Kara strip without encountering air opposition but one crash-landed. In a second attack on this target, 19 B-24's bombed the runway and revetment areas without loss.

On 29 October, 16 Navy fighter planes machine-gunned twelve small troop-laden cargo vessels and many barges at Tonolei Harbor.

4. On 29 October enemy units north of our beachhead on Choiseul Island were withdrawing north of the Warrior River. Advancing toward Sangiak our troops encountered a strong Japanese force advancing northwest. Results of encounter not yet received.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 689

0700 October 29 to 0700 October 30, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Headquarters of the X Corps (Major General Jonathan W. Anderson) has been transferred from Sherman, Texas, to Camp Maxey, Texas.

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the Headquarters of the IV Corps (Major General Alexander McC. Patch) from the Oregon Maneuver Area to Camp Young, California, and of the 94th Infantry Division (Major General Harry J. Maloney) from the Tennessee Maneuver Area to Camp McCain, Mississippi. The Headquarters of the VIII and XV Corps (Major Generals Daniel I. Sultan and Wade H. Haislip) have been ordered from Brownwood and Camp Bowie, Texas, respectively, to the New York or Boston Ports of Embarkation for further movement overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During 26 October, 23 escorted Allied medium and fighter bombers dropped 18 tons of high explosives on targets in the Cherbourg area. Heavy and accurate antiaircraft fire was encountered, and one B-25 is missing.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Weather continued to restrict air operations on 28 October; our dive and fighter bombers attacked enemy positions and bridges near Vairano and Venafro and the airfields near Orvieto, Sezze, Littoria and Foligno where a number of enemy parked aircraft were destroyed. Allied
aircraft destroyed seven (probably ten) enemy planes; one of our A-36's is missing.

2. The British X Corps made substantial progress on 29 October, its forward elements reaching Mondragone and the outskirts of Teano. Our VI Corps pushed forward in the Pratella area. There was no substantial change on the Eighth Army front where rain and bad visibility hampered operations.

3. During 27 and 28 October Allied bombers attacked the Heraklion airfield (Crete), enemy shipping off Stampalia, as well as the Maritsa airdrome (Rhodes), where 132 quarter-ton demolition bombs caused explosions and a large fire. During this period German aircraft attacked Portolago Bay (Leros) and Patmos.

4. Revised details of the 24 October attack on Wiener-Neustadt have been received; although 111 B-17's and 48 B-24's succeeded in reaching the general area of the target a complete overcast made it impossible to find it. However, 51 half-ton bombs were dropped on the target by dead reckoning, 96 more were dropped on railroad installations at Ebenfurth, and 18 others fell on railroads and bridges at Friedensburg and on a highway bridge west of Zagreb. Only two B-24's are still missing.

5. Since 1 October the Northwest African Air Force has flown more than 1500 sorties against targets in Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, their efforts being directed against enemy aircraft on the ground and rail and sea communications. During these operations more than 1000
tons of bombs have been dropped on enemy communications, airdromes, and barracks; at least 103 enemy parked planes have been destroyed and an additional 140 destroyed in aerial combat. Sixteen surface vessels of various categories have been hit by our cannon-bearing B-25's since 16 October.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

1. Sixteen B-25's of the 10th Air Force, escorted by a like number of P-51's, dropped 80 quarter-ton demolition bombs on the Shwebo-Kinu-Tangon rail line on 27 October, scoring some hits. The next day, 16 B-25's demolished buildings in the Pakokku area. Two missions totaling 26 B-24's attacked the Japanese headquarters and railroad station at Toungoo, starting several fires and causing large explosions. No enemy resistance was encountered; one B-24 was lost by accident.

   The 10th Air Force destroyed one enemy bomber and two (probably seven) enemy fighters during September for a loss, from all causes, of three bombers, one fighter and two photographic planes. RAF losses in the area during the same period total two bombers and four fighters.

2. 14th Air Force B-24's, on a routine ferry trip, on 26 October, dropped 70 one hundred-pound demolition bombs on Mangshih. On other missions our aircraft attacked warehouses at Yochow airdrome, burned a factory and other buildings at Kienli, and sank one freighter and probably a second off Kwangchowan Peninsula. Japanese barracks southwest of Fort Bayard were hit by three B-25's escorted by seven P-38's. This attack
was a complete surprise, the enemy being seen to suffer many casualties; one enemy plane was destroyed on the ground. All our aircraft returned.

Eight Japanese planes bombed the Kienow airdrome, 11 of 27 bombs hitting the runway.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Three B-24's, attacking an enemy convoy of three destroyers and two small freighters west of Ubili during the evening of 26 October, set one destroyer and a freighter afire, possibly sank the other freighter and scored near misses on a second destroyer. On 27 October Allied fighter planes destroyed seven barges, damaged the dump area at Gasmata and buildings on Talasea, and machine-gunned targets of opportunity on the north coast of the Huon Peninsula. Heavy bombers destroyed a large building on Unea Island, and damaged Kavieng airdrome, and two Dutch B-25's bombed a sea truck northwest of the Tanimbar Islands.

2. During 26 October a total of 332 Allied planes, successfully attacking the airdromes on southern Bougainville, and at Buka, damaged the runways and anti-aircraft positions, destroyed seven planes on the ground, killed an estimated 200 enemy working on the runway at Buka, and sank a troop-laden auxiliary; one Navy plane was lost.

The next day 17 B-24's dropped 125 half-ton bombs on the Kara and Kahili runways; Allied fighters destroyed more than 33 enemy planes in combat over the area for no losses.
3. Following the successful landing on Treasury Island of a New Zealand reinforced brigade on 27 October, the enemy withdrew to the north of that island. On 26 October a US Marine parachute battalion landed without opposition on the southwest coast of Choiseul.

GENERAL

The War Department notified the commanding generals of US Army Forces in the Central Pacific Area and Defense and Base Commands in the Western Hemisphere of decisions reached by the Joint Chiefs of Staff which, in general, reduce the categories of defense to be maintained by our forces in these areas. Detailed measures to be observed under the new categories were outlined.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 688

0700 October 28 to 0700 October 29, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 4th Infantry Division (Major General Raymond O. Barton) from Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida, to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, upon completion of its amphibious training, and of the 81st Infantry Division (Major General Paul J. Mueller) from Camp Young, California, to Camp San Luis Obispo, California, upon completion of its maneuvers.

EUROPEAN THEATER

For the week ending 24 October, the 8th Air Force destroyed 1½ (probably 25) enemy aircraft for a loss from all causes of nine heavy bombers and five fighters. UK-based RAF planes shot down 51 (probably 57) enemy aircraft for a loss of 12½ fighters and bombers. The operations of this week included the mission against Duren by the 8th Air Force and attacks against Leipzig and Kassel by the RAF.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 27 October, in spite of continuing bad weather which seriously limited all air operations, Allied bombers successfully attacked gun positions at Gaeta Point, Spitfires provided cover for naval forces bombarding the coast in the Minturno area, and P-40's raided enemy barges off the coast of Yugoslavia.

2. At noon of 28 October minor gains were reported by the Fifth
Army. On the left flank of the Eighth Army Frosolone was captured; further north Montemitro had been taken and patrols were pushing forward. Our Trigno River bridgehead was being enlarged against stiff opposition.

3. Starting from Leros an Allied raid on Levitha on the night of 23-24 October was unsuccessful. British reinforcements were landed on Leros on the nights of 25-26 and 26-27 October.

On 27 October seven Allied aircraft attacked the Antimachia airdrome on Cos, destroying a German two-engined transport airplane on the ground. Harassing missions were flown against enemy shipping and shore installations.

Enemy aircraft raided Samos, Leros and Castelrosso causing slight damage; an enemy airplane was destroyed by antiaircraft fire at Castelrosso.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 25 October a mixed flight of medium and dive bombers and fighters of the 10th Air Force obtained excellent effect from an attack on an ammunition dump at Salmau. Twenty-two P-40's bombed and machine-gunned railroad tracks, stores and enemy-held towns in northern Burma. On 26 October the Mu Canal railroad bridge was attacked by two missions totalling 21 B-25's, excellent results being reported.

2. On 27 October, six B-24's of the 14th Air Force on a routine
ferry mission dropped sixty 250-pound demolition bombs squarely on Lungling. Two formations of eight enemy fighter aircraft each intercepted the B-24's and eight (probably ten) were destroyed; all our planes landed safely.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

On 27 October, Allied mortar fire forced the enemy to withdraw from positions west of Katika.

Two Allied bombers attacked Gasmata on the night of 26-27 October. The next day other Allied aircraft attacked buildings on the south coast of New Britain, dump areas at Gasmata, and destroyed an ammunition launch at Lolobau Island.

Sixteen Allied fighters intercepted nine enemy bombers and 31 fighters over the Finschhafen area, shooting down six bombers and six fighters for a loss of one of our planes.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 687

0700 October 27 to 0700 October 28, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)
GENERAL

The War Department informed Generals MacArthur, Eisenhower, Stilwell, Devers, Harmon and Buckner that two new qualification badges for the infantry soldier are being provided as an additional means of stimulating the morale of infantry units. One badge will be based on the soldier's demonstrated capacity during his training period, the second on his actual performance in combat.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Weather prevented operations by the Strategic Air Force during the night of 25-26 October.

On 26 October 35 light bombers of the Tactical Air Force attacked an enemy dump southeast of Isernia and 24 B-25's bombed Terracina. Fighter bombers flew armed reconnaissance missions over the battle area and along the Adriatic coast, destroying enemy vehicles and railroad equipment.

2. Substantial gains were made by both Armies up to noon, 27 October. The US VI Corps advanced some four miles to the northwest along the upper Volturno. The British Eighth Army improved its positions, advancing to the general line S. Massimo-Molise, a gain of nearly three miles in the direction of Isernia; to the north, Allied troops reached Montefalcone overlooking the Trigno valley.

3. During the night of 25-26 October, nine Allied heavy bombers
attacked the Heraklion airdrome (Crete), scoring hits adjacent to the runway and in the dispersal areas.

US B-25's, escorted by P-38's, successfully attacked the Sedes and Megalo Mikra airdromes on 26 October. That night Allied heavy bombers successfully dropped almost ten tons of supplies for the patriots in Greece, Albania and Yugoslavia. Allied medium bombers, escorted by fighters shot down one enemy plane near Stampalia.

Farmaco Island is now reported to have been clear of the enemy on 24 October. Leros was subjected to a heavy bombing by 120 enemy aircraft directed at defenses and gun positions on 26 October.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 24 October, 10th Air Force light bombers and fighters maintained their attacks against enemy installations in central and northern Burma. Supply dumps south of Kamaing and near Myitkyina were bombed and machine-gunned successfully; rolling stock at Mogauung and Namoi was effectively attacked. The next day, 19 B-25's bombed Pakokku, starting huge fires and damaging storage installations there. On 26 October, 25 B-24's attacking Rangoon, sank a 350-foot freighter and bombed the central station with fair results. In addition to heavy and accurate antiaircraft fire about 20 enemy planes attempted interception. Three of these were possibly destroyed; one B-24 was shot down.

2. On 26 October, 13 B-24's of the 11th Air Force escorted by
15 fighters bombed the yards at Haiphong, securing many hits on rolling stock and other installations including a nearby highway bridge. The B-25 mission against enemy shipping at the northern end of Hainan, mentioned in yesterday's report for 26 October, sank two 250-foot tankers, a 300-foot transport and a 150-foot freighter; both planes returned. In a second attack against the same target, six B-25's scored near misses on another freighter, destroyed one (probably two) enemy planes and bombed harbor installations. One B-25 was shot down by antiaircraft fire; another is missing. Six B-24's on routine ferrying operations successfully bombed Tengchung.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 26 October, three patrol bombers successfully attacked Kavieng airdrome. Lakunai airdrome near Rabaul was again heavily damaged by 61 escorted B-24's which destroyed 21 (probably 44) aircraft on the ground and shot down 37 (probably 57) of 70 intercepting enemy fighters; one B-24 is missing. Other Allied aircraft made individual attacks against Buka airdrome, and installations on Garove and Tolokiwa Islands.

To the west, Pomelaa in the Celebes was once more attacked by four B-24's which scored hits on the nickel reduction plant and destroyed one of ten intercepting fighters; two B-24's are missing. Other Allied planes harassed villages in the Aroe Islands.

Our runway on Kiriwina was bombed and damaged by the enemy.
2. On 26 October one of our reconnaissance planes burned two small freighters northwest of Buka; another was beached following the attack.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 686

0700 October 26 to 0700 October 27, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

On the night of 25 October, four enemy aircraft operated over southeastern England, two reaching the London area.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Reports now indicate that only three B-24's are missing from the 24 October attack on Wiener-Neustadt.

While weather hampered operations by the Strategic Air Force during the night of 24-25 October and the following day, one mission of 46 Welligtons dropped 65 tons of bombs in the Pistoia railroad yards, causing large explosions, damaged an aircraft assembly plant, and machine-gunned aircraft on the ground. The following day another mission of 36 B-25's escorted by 32 P-38's dropped 23 tons of fragmentation bombs on the Podgorica airfield in Yugoslavia scoring hits on parked aircraft; one P-38 failed to return. A bridge northwest of Turin was hit by light bombers.

Tactical Air Force operations during the night of 24-25 October and the next day included the bombing of Frosinone, Formia and other road and rail junctions serving the battle area. Other attacks damaged enemy lines of communication along the east coast, including the bridge at the mouth of the Sangro River, as well as shipping west of Lagosta Island.

2. Reporting at noon, 26 October, General Eisenhower indicates
that both of his armies maintained pressure along their fronts while reorganizing the forces in contact. The Fifth Army pushed patrols to Pietramelara as it edged forward along the Capua-Rome highway. The Eighth Army met some resistance as it crossed the upper reaches of the Biferno River, pushing patrols to Torella.

3. During the nights of 22-23 and 24-25 October, Allied planes bombed Naxos and Melos harbors, respectively. The enemy maintained his air attacks on Leros hitting that island on 24 and 25 October. Levitha Island is reported to be under German control.

Fighting continues between the Germans and patriot forces in northwest Greece. German bomber strength in the Aegean area is reported to have increased.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 23 October, 12 P-40's of the 10th Air Force put out of service a railroad bridge near Myitkyina. Elsewhere in northern and central Burma, eight P-40's demolished buildings and started fires at Lonkin; a B-25 bombed Mogaung; 11 A-36's and 6 P-51's started fires at Manywet and fired four dumps between Manywet and Kamaing; a B-25 and 6 P-40's bombed and machine-gunned installations in the Hukawng valley, obtaining excellent results.

The next day 19 B-25's bombed railroad installations near Pintha and at Ye U, destroying buildings, tracks, and rolling stock.

2. On 25 October sixteen enemy airplanes bombed Tali and Siakwan
on the Burma Road but details of the attack are lacking. Two B-25's and four fighters of the 14th Air Force, sank a small tanker and probably sank a small freighter west of Hainan Island; six fighters machine-gunned a small freighter and sank three small boats near Haiphong.

On the following day another attack by two B-25's in a harbor at the northern end of Hainan resulted in the sinking of a tanker, a transport and the probable sinking of another tanker.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 24 October, nine light bombers attacked enemy positions north of Sattelberg. The next day 17 B-25's bombed dispersal bays, supply dumps and antiaircraft positions near Alexishafen, while other Allied planes hit enemy positions north of the Song River, damaged a sea truck east of Wewak, destroyed a jetty on Unea Island, and hit antiaircraft positions at Rein Bay. Three B-24's burned buildings at Manokwari; three other Allied planes started fires in the Timika area.

Six enemy aircraft bombed the Langemak Bay area causing slight damage.

2. On 25 October, three damaging attacks were made on Kahili airdrome by a total of 194 planes including 124 bombers; hits were scored over the entire establishment and on parked aircraft. All our planes returned.

On 25 October, 49 Navy bombers covered by 40 fighters bombed and machine-gunned the Ballale airdrome, again thoroughly covering the
installation. The partially repaired runway was again put out of service. The enemy did not attempt interception.

3. On 23 October, a Japanese four-engined flying boat was shot down by an Army fighter 60 miles south of Baker Island.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 685

0700 October 25 to 0700 October 26, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

On the night of 23 October, about 14 enemy bombers operated over eastern England, two of them reaching the London area.

The following night five enemy aircraft operated close to the east coast; one of them was destroyed. The same night, Mosquito bombers attacked Essen and made harassing raids on Cologne and five towns in the Rhine Valley. Eleven escorted B-25's attacked Schipol airdrome near Amsterdam. Heavy antiaircraft fire caused the loss of one bomber; one enemy fighter was shot down. Forty-one bombers seriously damaged a 6,500-ton ship at Cherbourg but lost five of their number to antiaircraft fire; no enemy fighters were seen.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 23-24 October, 70 Wellingtons put 107 tons of bombs on the Guidonia airdrome causing observed damage; three of the bombers are missing. Other Allied aircraft bombed Cassino and attacked enemy highway traffic.

The following day, 89 B-17's and 25 B-24's, escorted by 36 P-38's, were dispatched against Wiener-Neustadt. The target was covered by clouds and many of our planes were obliged to jettison their bombs; three B-17's and three B-24's failed to return. Thirty-six B-25's scored hits on the hangars and parked aircraft at the Tirana airdrome, Albania, and other Allied lighter aircraft attacked enemy-held towns and communications in the battle area; 22 (probably 27)
enemy planes were destroyed for a loss of one P-38.

On the evening of 23 October, 15 to 30 German bombers attacked Naples; four were destroyed. A freighter loaded with cased gasoline was set afire and beached.

2. Continued progress was reported on the fronts of both armies during 25 October. On the west, the British X Corps, making a three-mile advance, occupied Motanaro and the commanding terrain to the north and west; on the VI Corps front the 34th Division entered Raviscanina without opposition. The Eighth Army, maintaining its drive toward Isernia, passed through Boiano.

3. On 24 October, the AMG was separated into two commands. AMG 15th Army Group will administer areas north of Salerno, Potenza and Bari; Headquarters, AMG, responsible to Allied Force Headquarters, will administer military government in Italy (including Sicily) in areas south of the boundary indicated.

4. German forces have occupied Stampalia.

During 23 October, five JU-88's bombed Samos harbor without causing damage. The next day 20 enemy aircraft made three attacks on Leros; two of the raiders were shot down by antiaircraft fire.

During the night of 23-24 October, three British heavy bombers hit Syros harbor damaging the docks and warehouses. The next day Allied planes damaged three enemy vessels in the Aegean with cannon and machine-gun fire.
ASIATIC THEATER

Six B-24's of the 10th Air Force scored numerous hits on the Kanbalu railroad yards on 23 October. Two additional missions totalling 23 B-25's attacked the Meza river railroad bridge, scoring several near misses.

Htawgaw was again bombed on 24 October by eight 14th Air Force B-24's without opposition. Another 14 heavy bombers, escorted by 13 fighters, hit Cobi, four miles northeast of Hanoi, also without opposition.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 23 and 24 October the Rabaul airbases of Rapopo, Vunakanau and Tobera were struck by two Allied air attacks involving 49 heavy and 61 medium bombers and 166 escorting fighters. In addition to damaging installations, our aircraft destroyed 123 (probably 168) enemy aircraft, 65 (probably 82) of which were caught on the ground. Two of our bombers and two of our fighters were lost.

Allied planes set fire to an enemy destroyer and a barge at Pein Bay, sank four small craft, bombed buildings and a wireless station and destroyed an enemy float plane elsewhere along the coast of New Britain. A B-25 shot down an enemy reconnaissance bomber near Saidor. A B-24 damaged a 2,000-ton enemy merchant vessel northwest of Greenwich Island.

A strong force of enemy dive bombers and fighters attacked
Allied shipping in the Finschhafen area; Allied fighters destroyed four (probably six) of the attacking planes, sustaining no loss to themselves.

2. On 23 October, two missions totaling 84 Navy bombers and 95 Allied fighters damaged the Kara runway, dispersal area and antiaircraft positions and exploded an ammunition dump. This field is now reported as unserviceable.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 684

0700 October 24 to 0700 October 25, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued permanent change-of-station orders for the following divisions upon completion of maneuvers in which they are now participating:

30th Infantry Division (Major General Leland S. Hobbs), from Camp Blanding, Florida to Camp Atterbury, Indiana;
98th Infantry Division (Major General Paul L. Ransom), from Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky to Camp Rucker, Alabama;
84th Infantry Division (Brigadier General Nelson M. Walker), from Camp Howze, Texas to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana;
99th Infantry Division (Brigadier General Walter E. Lauer), from Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi to Camp Maxey, Texas;
102nd Infantry Division (Major General John B. Anderson), from Camp Maxey, Texas to Camp Swift, Texas;
91st Infantry Division (Major General William G. Livesay), from Camp White, Oregon to Camp Adair, Oregon;
96th Infantry Division (Major General James L. Bradley), from Fort Lewis, Washington to Camp White, Oregon;
103rd Infantry Division (Major General Charles C. Haffner), from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana to Camp Howze, Texas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On the night of 21-22 October, eight enemy aircraft operated
ITALY AND ADJACENT AREAS

TYRRHENIAN SEA

IONIAN SEA
over England, three reaching Westminster; one of the enemy was destroyed. The following night, eight out of 20 enemy bombers which reached England attacked London and the southeast counties.

The same night 1/43 RAF heavy bombers dropped 1,669 tons of explosives on Kassel which could be seen from the air; enemy fighter opposition was active and six were destroyed. In addition to four that crashed, 42 bombers are missing. Other smaller attacks were made on Frankfurt, Dortmund, and a Cologne power station.

2. A B-26 sweep over the Continent, with cover furnished by P-38's, P-47's, and Allied Spitfires, attacked enemy-held French airfields at Beauvais-Nivelliers, St. Andre-de-l'Eure, and Montdidier on 24 October. One fighter was lost; ten enemy aircraft were destroyed.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On the extreme left flank the enemy had broken contact by noon on 24 October; his withdrawal to the northwest was being followed up by the Fifth Army. Continuing its attacks, the Fifth Army steadily pushed its center forward along the Capua-Rome highway north of Sparanise. The Eighth Army reported gains at several points along its front; its patrols were overlooking Boiano and had passed through Colled anchise. Further north Acquaviva and Palata were captured. On the extreme north flank, troops of the Trigno bridgehead report little enemy opposition.

2. During the night of 22-23 October and the following day, 51
British bombers, using 65 tons of bombs, damaged highway and railroad bridges at Porto Civitanova. 120 medium bombers and similar numbers of light and fighter bombers attacked gun positions, supported the attacks of our ground troops; they also struck at enemy communications, particularly railroad bridges, through Albinia and Fano. Airdromes at Cassino and Aquino were bombed. Thirty-one P-38s engaged enemy fighters near Lake Bolsena, destroying one (probably two); two additional enemy aircraft were destroyed over the Bari area and another near Fano.

3. Cumulative casualties for the operations on the mainland are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Killed</th>
<th>Wounded</th>
<th>Missing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Army (to 21 October)</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>1816</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Army (to 23 October)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US VI Corps</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>3170</td>
<td>2859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British X Corps</td>
<td>1155</td>
<td>4822</td>
<td>2417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2564</td>
<td>9808</td>
<td>5764</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Up to 19 October the Fifth Army had taken 2365 prisoners.

4. Allied attempts to land reinforcements on Leros during the nights of 19-20 and 20-21 October were prevented by enemy aircraft. Farmaco Island is reported occupied by the enemy since 13 October.

During the night of 22-23 October, Allied aircraft bombed Syros harbor and again successfully dropped supplies to the patriots operating in Yugoslavia. The next day, a total of 27 enemy bombers made five
attacks on Leros; no details are available. On the night of 23-24
October, three Allied heavy bombers attacked Heraklion airdrome (Crete)
with unobserved results.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Twenty-three B-25's of the 10th Air Force dropped over 27 tons
of bombs on the Meza River railroad bridge on 20 October; Kamaing and
Mogaung were also attacked by our bombers and fighters with good results.

The following day, the landing strip at Myitkyina was hit by
seven of our medium bombers. Two flights of B-24's damaged the railroad
yards at Myingyan; nine B-25's destroyed rolling stock and buildings
at Mogaung.

On 22 October, ten B-25's of the 10th Air Force dropped 12
tons of bombs which destroyed warehouses and rolling stock at Alon.
Eleven other medium bombers scored hits on tracks near the Mu Canal
bridge. Six B-24's scored numerous hits on the Prompt railway yards.

2. On 23 October, six B-24's of the 14th Air Force on a routine
ferry trip successfully bombed Htawgaw. All of our bombers returned
despite interception by five enemy fighters over the target.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 23 October enemy attempts to regain Katika were repulsed;
he has now apparently abandoned his efforts to break through to the coast
in the Finschhafen area.
Attacking from low altitude, twenty-four B-25's covered by 17 P-47's, attacked two of the airdromes near Wewak, destroying eight aircraft; shipping in the vicinity was also hit, two freighters and nine barges being sunk. Of the 28 enemy fighters which intercepted, three (probably six) were destroyed; three of our fighters were lost. Other Allied bombers attacked gun emplacements, buildings and supply dumps along the northeast New Guinea coast.

Other Allied aircraft successfully attacked shipping off the northern coast of New Britain, bombed supply dumps at Cape Hoskins and Gasmata and started numerous fires at the airdrome on Ambon.

The enemy made ineffective air attacks on Finschhafen and Goodenough Island.

2. The Kara airfield on Bougainville, was machine-gunned on 22 October by 24 Navy fighters which possibly destroyed 16 of the 30 aircraft on the field. Other attacks by B-24's on Choiseul were made with unobserved results. The following day, one of our search planes attacked a troop-laden transport approximately 320 miles northeast of Kavieng while another attack was made on shipping at Kapingamarangi Island, approximately 150 miles northeast of Kavieng. As a result of our recent heavy attacks, the Kahili landing field is now reported as unserviceable.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 683

0700 October 23 to 0700 October 24, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

Although adverse weather prevented heavy bomber operations on 22 October, 215 B-26's assisted by 415 P-47's and P-38's and 20 squadrons of Spitfires were dispatched on missions over northern France. Nearly 100 tons of bombs were dropped on the Evreux-Fauville airdrome. No enemy aircraft were encountered by Allied fighters; our medium bombers claimed four enemy aircraft as "probables"; two P-47's are missing.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 23 October, there was little change on the front of the British X Corps except for the capture of Sparanise by the 56th Division. Forward elements of our VI Corps pushed to the northwest occupying San Angelo. British Eighth Army units are now fighting on the outskirts of Colledanchise and report Lucito, Castelbottaccio, and Montenero clear of the enemy; on their north flank forward troops, driving back enemy rear guards on the night of 22 October, crossed the Trigno River west of Petacciato and are now improving their bridgehead.

There were approximately 50 killed, 100 wounded, and four missing as a result of the enemy air raid on Naples on 21 October; little material damage was caused.

British Wellington bombers dropped 82 tons of demolitions on targets at Giulianova on the night of 21-22 October, hitting the bridge and the road and railroad junctions. The next day our medium bomber missions attacked railroad bridges near Orvieto, hit a railway bridge and its
approaches south of Groseto, and raided the enemy-held Eleusis air-
drome at Athens. Medium, light and fighter bombers continued to support
our forward units concentrating on enemy troops, motor transport, and
gun positions. A possible ammunition dump south of San Salvo was
destroyed. In all, three (probably four) enemy planes were destroyed
in combat; one B-26, one A-36, one A-20, and one P-38 are missing.

2. On the night of 21-22 October, Halifaxes and B-24s again
bombed the Maritsa airdrome and successfully dropped supplies to the
patriots operating in Greece and Yugoslavia.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 21 October six 14th Air Force B-24s on ferry missions dropped 24
100-lb. bombs on Wankat, 140 miles southeast of Mandalay.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. The enemy evacuated his coastal position south of the Song River
after Allied artillery shelling on 21 October.

On 21 and 22 October, 51 P-40s fired dump areas and destroyed
a bridge at Gasmata. B-25s destroyed an ammunition dump and bombed
villages and trails north of Sattelberg and six planes machine-gunned
motor vehicles on the Bogadjiim road. B-24s bombed Garove Island, barges
in Borgen Bay, installations in the Wide Bay area and, in the Celebes,
scored many hits on a nickel concentrates plant and started fires on
jetties at Pomela.
On 19 October, 60 enemy planes attacked Allied surface vessels near Finschhafen, causing slight damage. Small numbers of enemy aircraft raided the Finschhafen area on 21 and 22 October, and one plane bombed Trobriand Island on 22 October.

2. On 20 October, 48 Army and Navy fighters swept Kahili, shooting down three of 20 enemy planes encountered.

Reconnaissance missions on 22 October, machine-gunned enemy barges, bombed and machine-gunned a Japanese vessel off the north tip of Choiseul, and attacked a convoy west of Buka, obtaining a direct hit on a carrier. P-39's escorting Navy bombers destroyed ten enemy planes over Kahili. A total of 31 B-24's dropped 180 half-ton bombs on targets near Kahili and on the west coast of Choiseul; results were unobserved.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 632

0700 October 22 to 0700 October 23, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

In the 14 October raid on Schweinfurt, the evaluated claims indicate that 186 (probably 213) enemy planes were destroyed.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 20-21 October, British heavy bombers made a destructive attack on the Furbara airfield setting 12 parked aircraft on fire. The next day, three escorted heavy bomber missions, dropping nearly 300 tons of bombs, damaged the highway near Terni, severely damaged rail and highway bridges across the Albinia River and hit the Orvieto railroad bridges. Two escorted B-26 missions each of 36 planes dropped over 130 tons of bombs on two bridges north of Rome; other medium and light bombers attacked buildings and railroad installations at Cassino and Orbetello, while P-38's hit the yards at Skoplje, Yugoslavia. P-l4O's, while attacking shipping off the Yugoslavian coast, destroyed five enemy bombers south of Zara. Light bombers flew armed reconnaissance and harassing missions over the battle area.

Naples harbor was attacked by 12 to 15 enemy aircraft, while an additional 25 to 30 were over the Naples-Volturno area. Twenty-five enemy aircraft attacked a convoy off Cape Tenera, sinking two merchant vessels; six enemy planes were destroyed.

On 22 October the enemy withdrew west of the Trigno River; elements of the British Eighth Army, after repulsing a counterattack northwest of Larino the previous night, were advancing across the Biferno
River. In the Matese region the enemy still controls the pass northwest of Guardiaregia. Some progress was made against enemy rear guards in the Piedimonte area by the US VI Corps. No substantial change was reported on the front of the British X Corps which repulsed enemy counterattacks in the coastal area.

2. In the Dodecanese, the islands of Arki, Patmos, Lipso, and Gaidaro are reported ungarrisoned as of 13 October. Enemy planes bombed Leros during the nights of 20 and 21 October.

ASIATIC THEATER

P-40's of the 14th Air Force dropped four 500-pound bombs on the barracks area at Kunlong (central Burma) on 21 October.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied patrols were active in the mountains north of the Ramu River, on 21 October.

Forty seven B-24's dropping 221 tons of explosives destroyed all the buildings at Sattelberg and left only a few standing in the nearby village of Wareo. Other Allied planes damaged a cruiser off New Ireland, bombed dump areas, barges and other targets on New Britain, demolished two villages, destroyed two bridges, attacked enemy troops in the Bogadjim area, and started large fires at Hansisi, Timor.

2. On 21 October 33 Army and Navy planes obtained excellent results in an attack on Kakasa, Choiseul Island. Twelve medium bombers
escorted by 36 Allied fighters bombed Kara, Bougainville, starting numerous fires on the runway and destroying several buildings.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 681

0700 October 21 to 0700 October 22, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. 8th Air Force aircraft which bombed Duren and the Gilze-Rijen and Woensdrecht airdromes in Holland with 298 tons of high explosives on 20 October totaled 213 B-17's and 417 P-47's and P-38's; approximately 185 airborne enemy fighters were encountered. The anti-aircraft fire over the Ruhr, though light, was undoubtedly radar-directed. Seventy B-24's were dispatched on a diversionary feint in the Dieppe area and achieved their object satisfactorily.

2. For the week ending 17 October, US aircraft based in the United Kingdom destroyed 198 (probably 226) enemy planes; the major portion of our losses which totaled 60 B-17's and three P-47's was incurred in the successful attack against Schweinfurt on 14 October. The RAF destroyed during the same period 11 (probably 12) enemy aircraft for a loss of seven.

3. The RAF concentrated the attacks of 358 heavy bombers against Leipzig during the night of 20-21 October, 16 of which failed to return. Harassing raids by Mosquito bombers were flown against Berlin, Emden and Brauweiler, and five attacked the power station at Cologne.

Enemy bombers operated over the English southeast coast that night, ten penetrating to London; one was shot down by a Mosquito.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. US heavy and medium bomber missions attacked important enemy-
held airfields and railroad bridges on 20 October. A total of 112 heavy and 106 medium bombers, escorted by 105 P-38's, dropped 440 tons of bombs covering the Casale, Marcigliana, and Cerverteri airfields and destroying 15 enemy planes on the ground; three railroad bridges north of Rome were severely damaged. Thirty-six other escorted B-26's pounded the freight yard at Nish, Yugoslavia, with 48 tons of bombs obtaining excellent coverage, cutting the line to Belgrade and Sofia in many places, hitting repair installations and buildings, and leaving the main roundhouse in flames. Allied fighters and fighter-bombers flew supporting missions over the battle area and dropped 97 tons of bombs in attacks on key road and rail centers, Cassino and Gaeta; three coastal vessels off Zara also were hit.

2. There was no appreciable change on the front of the British X Corps on 21 October; an enemy counterattack northwest of Cancello was repulsed. Our VI Corps pushed northwest of Roccaromana and Dragoni and advanced two miles northwest of Alife. The British Eighth Army occupied Campochiaro and reached the mouth of the Trigno River northwest of Petacciato. Aerial photographs indicate that the Germans are flooding the Pontine Marshes, southeast of Rome.

3. During the night of 19-20 October, two B-24's and five British bombers dropped 15 tons of demolitions on the Maritsa airbase on Rhodes; Allied planes raided Melos, Syros and Cos harbors, and the Antimachia airfield and dropped supplies for patriot forces in Yugoslavia and Greece. The next day eight B-25's and six British
Beaufighters severely damaged three enemy ships off Cos. One enemy bomber attacked Samos.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

10th Air Force B-25's hit Myitkyina air-drome on 18 October with 25 tons of demolition bombs; 11 B-24's attacking the Heho air-drome with more than 12 tons of demolition and fragmentation bombs were intercepted by seven enemy planes, one (probably two) of which were shot down for the loss of one B-24. The next day, enemy airfield and railroad installations at Kawlin and Wuntho were successfully attacked by 12 of our medium bombers.

A Japanese formation of approximately 24 twin-engined bombers escorted by 18 single-engined fighters attacked Chittagong on 21 October, doing little damage. British planes intercepting the enemy flight probably shot down three of the bombers and one of the fighters for a loss of three.

**PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS**

1. Two attacks by enemy troops south of the Song River on 20 October were repulsed; Allied forces, counterattacking, advanced to high ground south of the river.

   Allied planes bombed and machine-gunned enemy installations along the northeast coast of New Guinea destroying six float planes and attacking a merchant vessel in that area; farther west, three
B-24's bombed enemy stores at Manokwari and sank a medium freighter-transport northeast of Sorong. Other Allied planes bombed the dump area at Gasmata and destroyed 17 barges off the western tip of New Ireland. A B-24 bombed a village on Unea Island and destroyed three (probably five) of twenty-two fighters attempting interception.

Installations near Finschhafen were damaged during an attack by 30 enemy aircraft.

2. Four B-34's started fires visible 20 miles in a successful attack against Ballale on 19 October. A similar mission on the Koral landing field was followed by 14 Navy planes and eight P-40's which scored hits on runways, antiaircraft positions and buildings. Still later, two Navy bombers destroyed five planes on the runway there. Twenty-four B-24's covered by 14 P-38's started five large fires at Kahili shooting down six of some 25 to 35 Japanese planes attempting interception over Tonolei. A B-24 on reconnaissance is believed to have sunk a destroyer northeast of Cape Orford with four near misses which caused a large cloud of smoke or steam over the vessel. One B-34 and two P-38's are missing from these operations.

The next day B-34's bombed and machine-gunned Kakasa village and islands and barges in the Choiseul area.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 680

0700 October 20 to 0700 October 21, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 19 October British aircraft attacked the enemy liner Strasbourg and several smaller vessels off Ijmuiden. Many hits were scored on the liner, one armed tug was set afire, and a trawler damaged. One of the aircraft failed to return. That night two enemy airplanes out of five which crossed the coast bombed London.

2. On 20 October, the 8th Air Force bombed the non-ferrous metal plant at Duren, in western Germany, and the Gilze-Rijen airfield in Holland. Our B-17's were escorted on these missions by Allied Spitfires. Eleven enemy planes were destroyed; eight bombers are missing.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 18-19 October, Allied aircraft carried out armed reconnaissances and attacked enemy communications serving the battle area. The next day, 191 Allied fighters and fighter-bombers dropped 125 tons of bombs on Boiano and on gun and troop concentrations south and west of the town; other Allied aircraft concentrated heavy attacks on enemy communications. Eleven B-24's dropped 33 2000-pound bombs along Italian coastal roads on the Adriatic destroying one highway and three railroad bridges, and twelve B-25's wrecked the railroad bridge north of Cupra Marittima. Allied fighters destroyed 14 planes in attacks on Viterbo and Tarquinia airdromes.
2. On 20 October the Allied advance beyond the lower Volturno passed Formicola while further upstream Alife and Piedimonte were captured. On the Eighth Army front resistance stiffened but three more villages west of Campobasso were captured.

3. Elements of our 1st Infantry Division have left Sicily for European Theater of Operations.

4. During the night of 17-18 October, Allied bombers attacked the Heraklion and Pediada Kastelli airdromes (Crete), Maritsa and Calato airdromes (Rhodes) and Syros Harbor. Supplies were dropped for Yugoslavia patriot forces. The next day, Allied planes attacked enemy landing barges near Cos and bombed Antimachia airdrome. Twelve JU-88's attacked Castelrosso; three (probably four) JU-88's were destroyed.

On the night of 18-19 October, five British bombers attacked shipping in the Aegean Sea, setting fire to a freighter. Allied planes again attacked Antimachia and Heraklion airdromes. Supplies were dropped on Leros and in Greece and Yugoslavia. One enemy bomber attacked Leros.

The next day, Allied planes attacked a convoy in the Aegean, destroying an armed trawler, damaging other small craft, and destroying 12 enemy patrol bombers. Other Allied planes scored hits on two small vessels and on the Quay at Syros Harbor. Two attacks by small numbers of JU-88's on Leros were reported, but details are lacking.
ASIATIC THEATER

On 18 October, planes of the 14th Air Force on routine ferry trips bombed Lukou where heavy fighting is reported. Clouds prevented observation of results. Japanese forces occupied the towns of Kuyung and Ku Tung Kai, west of the Salween River, on 19 October. Japanese troops also are reported to have crossed the Salween River at Kunlong and are advancing up the Nam Ting Valley.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

On 19 October, an attempt by a small group of the enemy to reach the coast south of the Song River cost him 200 casualties.

Four B-25's attacked villages and bridges along the Bogadjim road and a B-24 dropped bombs on enemy installations at Teliata Point. Four Allied planes machine-gunned a troop-laden barge and damaged a runway on Trangel Island, and others scored hits on the dispersal area at Fuiororo airdrome and damaged the village.

Fourteen enemy aircraft ineffectively attacked the Finschhafen area.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 679

0700 October 19 to 0700 October 20, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Desert Training Center is redesignated the California-Arizona Maneuver Area, with headquarters at Camp Young, California.

EUROPEAN THEATER

A total of 1150 Allied fighters and bombers were despatched from England during 18 October; although nearly all were recalled because of adverse weather conditions, the fighters claimed four (probably seven) enemy planes destroyed for a loss of five. One B-24 was shot down when attacked by ten to fifteen enemy fighters.

That night 360 RAF bombers attacked Hanover under cloudy conditions which prevented assessment of results; they met fairly active night fighter and moderately heavy antiaircraft opposition. Eighteen bombers are missing. Small Mosquito missions attacked Berlin, Duisburg, Essen, Stolberg and Dusseldorf.

Ten enemy bombers attacked London.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. British aircraft attacked road traffic along the east coast of Italy during the night of 17-18 October. The next day, 36 B-25's and 70 P-38's damaged railroad installations and equipment at Skoplje, Yugoslavia meeting no enemy fighter opposition; hits were noted in the repair shops, storage yards and on rolling stock. One P-38 failed to
return. Other Allied aircraft attacked the enemy positions at Anchise and Boiano and his lines of communication serving the battle area. A-36's bombing enemy landing grounds at Grosseto, Arezzo and Macerata destroyed 19 planes on the ground and three (probably four) in aerial combat for a loss of one A-36. No enemy aircraft were encountered over the battle area.

2. On 19 October patrols of the British X Corps pushed forward beyond the lower Volturno. Our VI Corps made further progress as its flanking movement toward the northwest gained ground in the direction of Pietravelara and Piedimonte. The British Eighth Army met some resistance in the Montecilfone and Campobasso areas but captured Petacciato.

3. To assist our labor procurement program, Marshal Badoglio has directed that Italian prisoners of war under Allied jurisdiction aid our efforts to liberate their country from German domination in every way short of actual combat.

4. Enemy aircraft in the Aegean area concentrated their attacks against Allied naval forces during 17 October, also bombing and machine-gunning the island of Castelrosso.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

Delayed reports of 10th Air Force operations for 8 to 18 October include successful bombings by our B-24's of the enemy barracks area.
at Lashio, the tin mines at Kanbauk, the Meza bridge where three of the five northeast approach spans were knocked out, and on the railroad yards at Sagaing, Toungoo, Prome, Henzada, Naba and Rangoon. Other bombers and fighters attacked enemy-held villages, airfields and focal communication points along the railroads and the Irrawaddy River, in addition reporting excellent results in a strike on the sugar mills at Sahmaw. During this period a total of 90 B-24, 174 B-25, 15 A-36, 14 P-51 and 38 P-40 sorties were flown; more than 370 tons of demolitions, incendiary and fragmentation bombs dropped.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In addition to the successful Rabaul mission reported yesterday on 18 October Allied aircraft successfully attacked airfields elsewhere in New Britain as well as enemy installations on the shore of Huon Peninsula; three B-24's failed to return from these missions. One enemy parked airplane was destroyed.

2. Navy aircraft shot down 14 of some 30 to 40 Japanese planes encountered over Ballale without loss, on 17 October; three other enemy airplanes were shot down over Faurou.

On 18 October 72 Army and Navy bombers, covered by 56 Allied fighter planes while attacking Ballale, dropped more than 100 tons of demolition bombs and scored numerous hits on the runway and in the revetment and dispersal areas.

Kakasa was attacked on 19 October by a search plane and a
Navy mission of 18 dive-bombers and 11 Navy fighters covered by 14 P-39's. All our planes returned safely. Naval aircraft shot down eight enemy aircraft near Kahili.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 678

0700 October 18 to 0700 October 19, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
MEDITERRANEAN

1. Bombing in inclement weather during the night of 16-17 October and the following day, Allied aircraft attacked Alife and the Casale airfield near Rome; British and US fighter planes attacked railroads and highways along the Adriatic coast, and enemy troops and gun positions in the battle area. Two British heavy bombers and one Spitfire were lost.

2. Substantial gains were made during 18 October by the center of the Fifth Army; the British X Corps pushed northwestward five miles beyond Capua and our VI Corps advanced to the line Roccaromana-Gioia. Elements of the British Eighth Army met stiff resistance five miles west of Campobasso; at the north end of the line Monteciflione was captured and patrols were operating three miles to the west without contact.

3. The capacity of the port of Naples is now reported to be 5,000 tons per day.

4. During the night of 16-17 October, Allied heavy bombers attacked the Maritsa airdrome (Rhodes), hitting the hangars and dispersal areas. The next day, Allied planes carried out anti-shipping sweeps in the Aegean; two enemy planes bombed Portolago Bay, Leros.
ASIATIC THEATER

On 17 October, four fighter planes of the 14th Air Force carried out a successful bombing mission against Lukou in northern Burma. Two P-40's were lost.

Nine Japanese planes bombed Lungmoon, and another force of nine bombed Kuekuk (both north of Hongkong); no damage was reported.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Fifteen additional parked aircraft were destroyed in the Wewak area on 16 October by eight B-25's which also shot down four fighters attempting interception. That night Allied bombers caused large fires along the waterfront at Ambon.

On 17 October our B-24's damaged a freighter-transport northwest of Mussau Island, sank a submarine-chaser northwest of Rabaul and bombed hostile positions on Carove Island. Six of our B-24's started fires at Ternate, Halmahera. Approximately 35 enemy fighter planes approaching Oro Bay from the northeast were intercepted by 45 US fighters which knocked down 24 (probably 30) of the enemy planes for a loss of four.

During the morning of 17 October, enemy troops moved eastward along the Song River, reaching a point two miles from the coast where three barges landed troops south of the river mouth. Allied troops defeated these forces and are mopping up the area.
On 18 October 54 B-25's, slipping under a low cloud cover to raid Rabaul, sank one destroyer, one gunboat, and one, possibly two, 6,000-ton merchant vessels. Another gunboat was set afire, 36 enemy planes were destroyed on the ground, fuel fires were started on the enemy airfields and antiaircraft positions silenced. Twenty-four (probably 30) of some 40 to 60 enemy fighters which intercepted our aircraft after the raid were shot down for a loss of three B-25's.

2. Individual planes on reconnaissance missions machine-gunned enemy barges off Bougainville and near Empress Augusta Bay on 17 October; an enemy convoy of a destroyer, one freighter and one crowded transport 80 miles east-northeast of Mussau Island was attacked by one of our search planes which scored a direct hit on the troopship leaving it smoking heavily and settling by the bow. Our aircraft returned safely.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 677

0700 October 17 to 0700 October 18, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
ITALY AND ADJACENT AREAS

SCALE OF MILES

BASE MAP NO. 2672 (FREE)
28 SEPTEMBER 1943

RBA, OSS
LITHOGRAPHED, OSS
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Reconnaissance photographs made late on 16 October show that all ball-bearing plants at Schweinfurt were either completely destroyed or very severely damaged; the railroad yards and rolling stock suffered heavy damage.


MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 15-16 October British bombers attacked railroad installations between Francavilla and Pescara, as well as the Cisterna and Marcigliana airdromes, near Rome, where 12 parked aircraft were burned. The next day 36 escorted B-25's pounded the railroad yards at Ancona; medium and light bombers, attacking communications north of Capua, hit roads and buildings at Vairano and Sparanise, and the railroad at Venafro. Gun positions and road movements along the entire front were the targets for our fighter-bombers. Six of some 35 enemy fighters over the Volturno area were destroyed by Allied fighters, which also continued their attacks on the enemy railroad on the eastern coast. P-38's damaged a merchant vessel in the harbor at Levkas, Greece.

2. On 17 October the Fifth Army had crossed the Volturno River along its entire length despite violent counterattacks. Liberi, surrounded by our forces the previous day, was captured. To the northeast the British Eighth Army pushed forward west of Montagano against stiffening enemy resistance.
3. Allied heavy bombers dropped 21 tons of explosives on the Maritsa airdrome during the night of 15-16 October with unobserved results. The next day our B-25's damaged enemy shipping in the Calino area with bombs and cannon fire. Leros was attacked five times by a total of 46 twin-engined German bombers; Portolago Bay was temporarily put out of service.

During the nights of 15-16 October and 16-17 October, 27 tons of supplies were dropped for the patriot forces in Greece, Albania, and Yugoslavia.

4. On 16 October eight Italian Air Force planes performed an escort mission over Levkas Channel.

5. In the Aegean area General Eisenhower's aircraft have destroyed 128 enemy airplanes in the air and on the ground since 4 October; this is in addition to results achieved by the RAF assigned to that area.

**ASIATIC THEATER**


2. B-24’s of the 14th Air Force bombed an airdrome at Haiphong on 16 October and laid three mines in the ship channel near that port. All planes returned safely.
1. In the 15 October defeat of the enemy air raid over Oro Bay, 26 (probably 31) dive bombers and 20 (probably 26) fighters are now believed to have been destroyed.

2. Enemy aircraft bombed our installations in the Nadzab area early on 15 October but caused slight damage. Twenty-three escorted B-25's, unable to find a reported enemy convoy in the Long Island area, heavily attacked airbases and installations near Wewak; other bombers attacked targets on the north coast of Huon Peninsula and in the New Britain area. In several aerial engagements which resulted, 40 (probably 53) enemy aircraft were shot down and at least 12 others were destroyed on the ground. Our losses were two B-25's and one P-38.

3. Five B-25's dropped parachute fragmentation clusters on Buka on 16 October, causing fires and explosions; six B-25's dropping the same type bombs from tree-top altitude on Ballale report excellent results. Despite adverse weather eight heavy bombers of a large B-24 mission against an airfield near Kahili reached the target area, dropped 16 tons of bombs and reported a large explosion.

4. General Harmon has reported the following battle casualties for the South Pacific area for the period 1 July to 30 September 1943 (covering operations in the Central Solomons):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Killed</th>
<th>Missing</th>
<th>Wounded</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ground Forces</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3,350</td>
<td>4,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Corps</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1008</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>3,426</td>
<td>4,611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. An enemy single-engined float-plane appeared off Oahu during the night of 16-17 October.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 676

0700 October 16 to 0700 October 17, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
ITALY AND ADJACENT AREAS

BASE MAP NO. 2678 (FREE)
28 SEPTEMBER 1943

LITHOGRAPHS, 065
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 16 October 198 fighters of the 8th Air Force swept the Lowlands area without meeting the enemy.

2. A revised report of the 8th Air Force claims and losses for the week ending 10 October, in which occurred the attacks on Frankfurt, Bremen, Vegesack, Marienburg, Gdynia, Munster and Coesfeld, places the number of enemy aircraft destroyed at 610 (probably 710); the majority were fighters or light bombers. Our own losses from all causes totalled 105 heavy bombers and six P-47's.

3. Crews returning from the 14 October Schweinfurt raid report that smoke screens were used to cover Stuttgart, Karlsruhe, Frankfurt, Ludwigshafen, Nuremberg, Mannheim, and Schweinfurt.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 14-15 October British Wellingtons heavily bombed railroad and canal bridges at Talamone. The next day 36 B-25's escorted by P-38's showered fragmentation bombs on two enemy airfields at Salonika causing explosions and fires in the hangar areas. British bombers attacked road junctions near Venefro and Vairano. Our fighter bombers again harassed rail traffic along the eastern Italian coast. A marked increase was noted in the enemy air activity, especially over the Fifth Army front.

2. On the front of the Fifth Army on 16 October, the British X
Corps crossed the Volturno River on both sides of Capua and the US VI Corps continued its advance northwards to the outskirts of Formicola. Along the Eighth Army front local gains were made except on the extreme north flank; patrols crossed the Biferno River northwest of Larino and advanced elements captured Castellino, Montagano, and Baranello.

The enemy's non-metallic land mines were causing us difficulties.

3. Cumulative casualties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army</th>
<th>Killed</th>
<th>Wounded</th>
<th>Missing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Army</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US VI Corps (to 12 October)</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>2547</td>
<td>2632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British X Corps (to 11 October)</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>4407</td>
<td>2071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Army</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>1662</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Eisenhower reports that Infantry losses account for 70 per cent of the battle casualties of all Arms in his theater.

4. Naxos and Paros were reported to have come under German control on 12 October. During 14 and 15 October Leros received three attacks by German aircraft.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

Japanese fighters destroyed two Air Transport Command planes over northern Burma on 13 October. Air transport operations between India and China continue under coordinated plans for protection by both the
10th and 14th Air Forces.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 15 October 20 enemy dive-bombers and 45 escorting fighters attacked Allied installations at Oro Bay causing slight damage; our intercepting P-38's and P-40's destroyed 16 (probably 18) of the dive-bombers and 15 (probably 21) of the enemy fighters. Other Allied air action included the destruction of two enemy fighters off Gasmata by patrolling P-38's, the harassing of targets on the Huon Peninsula by 38 B-25's and six B-26's, attacks by P-39's and Australian planes against enemy positions north of Dampu, and the successful bombing of Boela in Ceram by three B-24's.

   Reconnaissance missions over Rabaul report a total of two heavy cruisers, one light cruiser, nine destroyers, seven submarines and 138,000 tons of merchant shipping in the harbor.

2. Twenty-one escorted B-24's attacked Kahili on 15 October scoring bomb hits on personnel and supply areas; four of the escorting planes destroyed six of some 10 to 15 Japanese aircraft encountered. All our planes returned safely. Later five B-25's caused large explosions and fires in the revetment area at Buka.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 675

0700 October 15 to 0700 October 16, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Eight Japanese medium bombers attacked Attu Island on 14 October but caused no damage.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Our B-17’s attacking Schweinfurt on 14 October were subjected to new and precisely executed aerial defense tactics which the Germans apparently have been practicing for some time. During the first phase a screen of single-engined fighters pressed home a frontal attack with 20 mm. cannon and machine-gun fire. These were closely followed by waves of twin-engined fighters which from long range discharged a barrage of rockets from under the wings; these rockets were apparently armed with proximity fuses.

In a second phase the single-engined fighters, refueled in the interim, attacked from all directions so to engage all of our gunners, while the twin-engined rocket-carriers reformed and, attacking principally from the front and rear, concentrated their efforts on one combat wing until all rockets were expended. Rocket damage to individual aircraft was neither excessively severe nor, in most cases, mortal. It did, however, cause many planes to fall out of formation leading to the third phase, in which stragglers were picked off by the concentrated gun fire of all enemy aircraft. More than 700 attacks were made on our formations.

General Eaker believes that this challenge can be met by increased
ITALY
AND ADJACENT AREAS

SCALE OF MILES

TYRRHENIAN SEA

SARDINIA

CORSICA

CAGLIARI

TARANTO

SICILY

CATANIA

PANTELLERIA

MALTA

IONIAN SEA

VENICE

RIOMA

RIMINI

BOLONIA

SPEZIA

LECHMORN

ELBA

MISTIA

CADA

BOLOGNA

RIMINI

VENICE
long range fighter coverage within the capabilities of our P-47, P-38, and P-51 types; by multiple heavy bomber attacks against widely dispersed targets; by augmented operations against enemy Air Force establishments; and by taking advantage of cloud cover.

**MEDITERRANEAN**

1. During the night of 13-14 October British Wellingtons bombed railroad yards at Orbetello. The following day 34 B-17's dropped 102 tons of bombs on the Terni yards, causing large explosions which are believed to have been ammunition or oil tanks; two enemy fighters were shot down for a loss of one B-17. Other heavy bombers attacked railroad and highway bridges at Giulianova along the Adriatic coast. Enemy communications in the battle area were attacked by our fighter-bombers. Thirty-six B-25's escorted by 46 P-38's started fires and scored hits among grounded aircraft at Argos airdrome in Greece.

2. On the right flank of the Fifth Army our troops continued to improve their positions beyond the Volturno on 15 October. Our 34th and 3rd Infantry Divisions each had three bridges in operation; all infantry elements of the 3rd Division are across the river. On the left the British were crossing against stubborn resistance and were building another bridge near Grazzanise.

The enemy continued to resist strongly on the left of the Eighth Army but yielded Vinchiaturo, Campobasso, and Morrone in the center.
ASIATIC THEATER

1. Four B-25's of the 14th Air Force which attacked the Amoy area on 14 October set fire to two cargo vessels, an oil dump and warehouses, and machine-gunned the Amoy airstrip.

2. In northern Burma Japanese forces operating in the Tengchung area have defeated a Chinese force of three battalions on the west of the Salween River placing the enemy in a position to threaten the eastern end of the Burma Road from the north.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During the night of 11-12 October, enemy planes ineffectively attacked Allied positions on northwest Vella Lavella. On 14 October, a B-24 scored a direct hit on a barge ten miles west of Taiof Island.

2. On 13 October, Allied planes attacked an airfield, enemy stores, and antiaircraft positions in New Britain. The following day, 24 B-25's bombed and machine-gunned villages and barges in the New Britain area, and 28 B-25's destroyed two grounded aircraft and supplies at Alexishafen. Other Allied bombers attacked the village and airstrip at Langgoer, targets on Selaru Island, and caused fires and explosions at enemy stations in Timor. Twelve enemy aircraft bombed the Buna-Oro Bay areas during the night causing minor damage.
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Ten Japanese bombers attacked our installations near Massacre Bay, Attu Island, on 13 October without causing damage.

2. Effective 1 November the Alaska Defense Command will be separated from the Western Defense Command, redesignated as the Alaskan Department, with headquarters at Fort Richardson, and established as a separate theater of operations.

3. Lieutenant General William H. Simpson assumed command of the Fourth Army, effective 13 October 1943.

EUROPEAN THEATER

295 8th Air Force B-17's, supported by 159 P-47's to the limit of their range, attacked the ball and roller-bearing factories at Schweinfurt in southwestern Germany on 14 October. Unprecedentedly strong enemy opposition was encountered and 99 German fighters (probably 125) were shot down; 60 of our bombers and two fighters with 595 crew members are missing.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Important targets at Civitavecchia, including the cement and chemical works and railroad yards were hit by British bombers on the night of 12-13 October; other Allied aircraft harassed enemy movements along the coastal roads and hit an ammunition dump. The next day 23 B-26's heavily damaged Alife, 36 B-25's effectively bombed the road
junction at Sessa Aurunca, and other attacks were made on enemy troops and communications in support of our ground forces. Escorted B-25's, attacking Tirana in Albania, scored hits on hangars and dispersal areas and destroyed 1/4 of 3/4 enemy planes on the ground.

2. On the Fifth Army front on 14 October our VI Corps widened its bridgeheads across the Volturno against strong enemy resistance in the form of continuous counterattacks by tanks, infantry and artillery. Enemy artillery prevented our bridging of the river. The enemy was withdrawing along the Eighth Army front except in the Campobasso-Vinchiature area where resistance was being offered.

3. On the night of 12-13 October Allied heavy bombers attacked Kattavia and Maritsa airdromes (Rhodes). The following day other Allied planes bombed targets on Gavdos Island. Six German medium bombers attacked Leros; no details of this raid have been received.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

Two 14th Air Force B-25's were successful in a surprise attack on enemy shipping in the Foochow-Amoy areas on 13 October; one 290-foot freighter was sunk, a near miss scored on another, and smaller craft were sunk or damaged. Our bombers returned. B-24's on routine ferry missions bombed Myitkyina; a Chinese National transport airplane is missing, possibly as the result of enemy attack.
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 12 October our P-47's shot down an enemy bomber over Wewak. Other Allied aircraft damaged two small ships in the Timor area. Allied forces captured the hills overlooking Sattelberg on 13 October.

2. Two reconnaissance B-25's, bombing two large enemy freighters south of Buka Passage from masthead height on the night of 11-12 October, scored damaging hits on both.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 673

0700 October 13 to 0700 October 14, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
W ESTERN HEMISPHERE

A third magnetic mine has been reported off Cristobal; two were exploded by minesweeping operations, the other is being shipped to the Naval Bureau of Ordnance for examination.

E UROPEAN THEATER

For the week ending 10 October, the 8th Air Force destroyed 288 (probably 337) enemy aircraft with a loss from all causes of 96 B-17's, nine B-24's, and six P-47's. Corresponding RAF figures are 32 (probably 37) enemy aircraft destroyed for a loss of 113 planes.

M ED ITERRANEAN

1. While weather prevented the Strategic Air Force from operating during the night of 11-12 October and the following day, our light bombers and fighters harassed gun positions and enemy lines of communications in the Vasto and Pescara areas on 12 October, destroying an entire train.

   Aerial reconnaissance reports all bridges between Pescara and Benedetto have been blown up.

2. On the night of 12-13 October and the following day elements of the US VI Corps forced crossings over the Volturno river on a broad front. Efforts of the British X Corps to cross near Capua were checked, but on its extreme west flank the operation was successful at the mouth
of the river. A squadron of tanks moved by sea landed north of the mouth to support this effort. Elements of the British Eighth Army captured Cerchiaggiore and pushed forward to Campobasso.

3. During the night of 11-12 October, Allied heavy bombers dropped some 20 tons of explosives and incendiaries on the Maritsa airfield (Rhodes).

The following day Leros suffered its 68th air raid since 27 September, during which time eight (probably nine) enemy aircraft have been destroyed. Allied forces there are being supplied by parachute.

During the night of 12-13 October, British bombers damaged a 5,000-ton merchant vessel off Cos; Cos Harbor was also bombed.

4. General Eisenhower reports that at Naples all cranes and port structures were demolished and all barges and tugs were sunk. Emergency lighting for the port was furnished from the power plant of a captured Italian submarine. The city aqueduct, cut in seven places, was expected to be in operation on 12 October by which time limited electric power should also have become available. The telephone exchange was completely demolished.

5. Italy declared war on Germany on 13 October.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 12 October, Army and Navy bombers attacked grounded vessels off Cape Gloucester and Garove Island. Other attacks by Allied planes
started fires at Koepang, Dilli, and Penfoel.

Three enemy aircraft ineffectively bombed the Buna area.

2. On 13 October all available aircraft in the Southwest Pacific Area, using airfields made possible by our recent occupation of Woodlark and neighboring islands, concentrated in a mid-day attack on Rabaul. Fighters accompanied our bombers. Our medium bombers raked the air-dromes while heavier craft attacked shipping in the harbor. Complete surprise was achieved, 100 enemy aircraft being destroyed on the ground; 26 of the 40 enemy fighters which attempted interception were destroyed. Five of our planes are missing.

General MacArthur estimates that 60% of the enemy's accumulated air strength at this base was lost. This operation, together with the recent attacks on enemy concentrations at Wewak, gives the Allies mastery of the air over the Solomons Sea and adjacent waters.

In addition, the 350 tons of bombs which were used sank or destroyed three destroyers, three merchant ships of 5,000 to 7,000 tons, 43 small cargo vessels, and 70 harbor craft; a submarine, submarine tender, a destroyer tender, and a 7,000-ton cargo ship were severely damaged. On shore, wharves and many installations were wrecked, and fuel and ammunition dumps demolished.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 672

0700 October 12 to 0700 October 13, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 10-11 October Allied aircraft attacked enemy rail and highway communications serving the Rome-Volturno River region. The following day, although weather hampered air operations, our fighters damaged enemy rail and highway traffic near the Adriatic coast.

2. No change was reported on the front of the Fifth Army for 12 October; the Canadians on the left of the Eighth Army, flanking the enemy positions beyond the Calore and Volturno rivers, pushed patrols to S. Elia and Ceremaggiore. Further north the enemy resisted vigorously, holding the Biferno river line northwest of Larino as well as Petacciato.

3. On 11 October 36 B-25's, escorted by 48 P-38's dropped 25 tons of fragmentation bombs on Garitza (Corfu) airfield. Strong enemy air activity was directed on Leros.

4. General Eisenhower reports that in our Fifth Army, from the landing at Salerno until 7 October, the US VI Corps had 565 killed, 2330 wounded and 2536 missing; during the same period the British X Corps had 982 killed, 4060 wounded, and 2230 missing. From 3 September, when the British Eighth Army landed in Calabria until 6 October, it had 253 killed, 1014 wounded and 535 missing; in addition, the Canadians list 51 killed, 157 wounded, and two missing. Up to 1 October our VI Corps had captured 456 German prisoners and 79 reported as "unclassified"
and until 26 September the X Corps had captured 1003 Germans. Up to 5 October, the Eighth Army in Italy had captured 217 Germans, 26 Yugoslavs, and 74 other prisoners reported as "unclassified". Up to 1 October 63,217 tons of supplies, 13,205 vehicles including guns and trailers, and 92,306 personnel had been landed for our VI Corps; during the same period 66,141 tons of supplies, 19,516 vehicles and 101,413 personnel had been landed for the X Corps.

ASIATIC THEATER

Headquarters of the 10th Air Force is moving from New Delhi to Barrackpore in the Calcutta area.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 11 October, the enemy was reported to be suffering heavy casualties in his counterattacks in the Sattelberg area. In the Ramu valley Allied units drove the enemy from positions in the hills north of Dampu. Four P-47's shot down eight (probably ten) fighters from a formation of 33 enemy fighters and 12 bombers southeast of Wewak. Single Allied aircraft scored a hit on a large vessel in a convoy east of Cape Saint George and attacked Garove and Mundua Islands. Small flights of Allied planes bombed Manokwari, Bira, Pak Pak (where a small tanker was destroyed), Ambon, and targets on Timor. The enemy made three light, ineffective air raids on Lae.

2. 24 B-24's escorted by Army and Navy fighters attacked supply
areas, installations and personnel at Kahili on 11 October, starting numerous fires and exploded a fuel dump; fifteen of the 23 Jap planes which attacked our mission were shot down and we lost two B-24's. Another mission of 30 Navy bombers escorted by 55 Allied fighters attacked gun positions and buildings in the same area. A search plane, escorted by 35 Allied fighters, was intercepted over Oema Island by ten enemy fighters; our escorting planes shot down six Japanese fighters and we lost one P-38.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 671

0700 October 11 to 0700 October 12, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. The Army Ground Forces have issued a directive for the movement of the 97th Infantry Division (Major General Louis A. Craig, commanding), from Camp Swift, Texas, to the Louisiana maneuver area; it will not return to Camp Swift.

2. Two magnetic mines discovered eight miles off the Cristobal breakwater on 9 October indicate the presence of a German mine-laying submarine in the Panama Canal area. The harbor has been closed to outgoing traffic pending the completion of minesweeping operations.

EUROPEAN THEATER

In the 10 October attack on Munster and Coesfeld 276 of our B-17’s participated as two task forces. The first force experienced the most violent and concentrated fighter attacks yet encountered, 200 to 250 enemy fighters being battled during a 45 minute period when it had outflown its fighter support. The enemy’s defense followed a definite plan. Their fighters attacked from every angle and destroyed ten of our bombers; 19 others were destroyed by antiaircraft fire or from unreported causes. The second task force arriving 15 minutes later found very meager fighter opposition as our P-47 fighters had sufficient additional gasoline capacity to accompany the bombers throughout and furnished continuous fighter protection; it sustained no aircraft losses.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 10 October the US 45th Division captured Pontelandolfo
after repulsing a vigorous counterattack against Campolattaro. During 11 October minor gains were made on the right of the Fifth Army; the Eighth Army maintained close contact with the enemy, no substantial changes being reported except in the center where the Canadian Division pushed through Iesi. There has been a general stiffening of resistance and their use of stronger rear guards suggests that the Germans may intend to attempt a protracted delay along the present front.

2. During the night of 9-10 October and the following day our light and medium bombers attacked Vairano, Minturno and other choke-points of the enemy communications in the battle area as well as gun positions, particularly those north of Capua. On 10 October 55 B-17's attacked the Tatoi and Araxos airdrome in Greece with nearly 200 tons of bombs; 21 dispersed aircraft were destroyed on the ground and four enemy fighters were shot down in aerial combat. Two B-17's have not returned.

Thirty-nine B-24's dropped more than 47 tons of bombs on the Heraklion airdrome (Crete) and 49 tons on Calato airfield (Rhodes) on 10 October. US fighter aircraft attacked the dispersal areas on Antimachia airfield (Cos).

Our P-38's scored a hit on a 550-foot vessel in Corfu harbor. Leros suffered heavy damage from enemy air attacks that same day.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 9 October four B-25's of the 14th Air Force sank a 150-foot
tanker off Amoy and severely damaged a 200-foot freighter. One B-25 crashed while machine-gunning Kwangao. Eight P-40's bombed buildings at Tingka. The next day 20 B-24's escorted by 18 P-40's dropped over 47 tons of bombs on the dock and warehouse areas at Haiphong, securing observed effect. P-40's exploded a munitions dump at Tengchung, and destroyed stores at Lungling. Two P-40's failed to return.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Enemy resistance continued on 10 October in both the Sattelberg area and north of Dumpu in the Ramu Valley where he was constructing defense works. Twenty Allied light aircraft bombed and machine-gunned the Sattelberg area. Other light and medium bombers damaged the Japanese airdrome at Langgoer as well as Saumlakki. B-24's bombed supply dumps at Cape Gloucester and burned a convoyed transport off Buka. Four fuel barges were also set afire near Lolobau by Australian fighter aircraft.

   Our antiaircraft guns destroyed one, possibly three, of the enemy planes attacking Dobodura the night of 9-10 October. Other enemy aircraft caused slight damage at Kiriwina the same night.

2. The Jap radar installation on Poporang Island was burned and antiaircraft positions silenced by a machine-gun attack by 24 Army and Navy fighter aircraft on 9 October. The next day Allied bombers and fighters attacked barges and other targets along the west coast of Choiseul.
Patrols on Kolombangara have reached Tuki Point in the north without encountering the enemy. A strong patrol has been dispatched to Gizo Island to investigate a report that it has been evacuated.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 670

0700 October 10 to 0700 October 11, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
ITALY
AND ADJACENT AREAS

TYRRHENIAN SEA

IONIAN SEA
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Photographs of our 9 October targets in eastern Germany show that the fighter plane factory at Marienburg was destroyed, that our bombs were excellently concentrated on the factory at Anklam, and that tremendous damage was done to the Gdynia harbor where several ships and a drydock were set afire and a large burning liner was being towed away from the dock.

2. Strong formations of our B-17's escorted by P-47 fighters bombed the important railroad junction at Munster and railroad installations at Coesfeld, both in Germany, and the enemy-held airfield at Enschede, Holland, on 10 October. The B-17's destroyed 81 enemy fighters and the P-47's destroyed 21 more; missing are 30 bombers and two fighters.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Little forward movement was reported for 10 October on the flanks of the Allied line but the Canadians in the center pushed forward to Riccia and Castelpagano. Allied patrols mined the road between Montenero and Palata.

2. On 8 October, 10-P-38's patrolling over Crete and Leros, shot down a German medium bomber.

During the night of 8-9 October, 61 British Wellingtons bombed Isernia, Formia, and targets of opportunity in Italy. The following day, 12 medium bombers attacked gun positions at Pastorano, road
junctions at Pignataro, Palato and other focal points on enemy highways. Our heavy and medium bombers heavily attacked Sedes, Eleusis, Argos, and Larissa airdromes in Greece during the day. Many fires were started among grounded aircraft, and five (probably seven) enemy planes were destroyed in air combat. P-38's on convoy duty destroyed 16 (probably 19) enemy bombers in the Aegean area and another enemy airplane in the Adriatic; two of our fighters were lost.

On the night of 9-10 October 21 B-24's bombed barracks and the dispersal area at Heraklion airdrome (Crete); eight B-24's attacked Calato airfield (Rhodes) and another force of eight B-24's hit the dispersal area at Maritsa airdrome on the same island. Other Allied planes attacked enemy shipping in the Cos-Calino-Levos area, and set fire to a medium-sized freighter.

3. The 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate), formed of Americans of Japanese origin, which left Hawaii in June, 1942, and trained in the US at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, has seen action in Italy with our 34th Division and has acquitted itself creditably under fire; it suffered casualties in its first contact with the enemy. Its sick rate is very low because of the men's desire to stay with their unit. Because of their good behavior and high courage the men of this battalion are accepted with confidence and friendliness by all ranks of our forces.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

On 8 October, three B-24's of the 14th Air Force on routine ferry operations dropped 15 one–hundred pound bombs on headquarters
and warehouse areas at Tengchung.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On the night of 8-9 October, enemy patrols were reported to be five miles north of Dumpu, in the Ramu River valley. Eleven B-24's dropped 25 tons of bombs on oil installations, warehouses and wharves at Macassar, causing many fires.

The following day, 21 Allied bombers attacked Satelberg, destroying buildings and exploding two probable ammunition dumps. Other Allied planes destroyed barges and bombed the Cape Hoskins airfield in the New Britain area, bombed a heavy cruiser in a convoy north of Mussau Island, and attacked the landing strip and supply points and destroyed three Jap planes at Selaru (Tanimbars).

2. Besides light naval craft, a total of 99,000 tons of merchant shipping was observed in Rabaul harbor.

3. During the night of 8-9 October Japanese planes raided Dobodura, no details were reported.

4. Since June 15, 217 Japanese barges have been destroyed in the Southwest Pacific area.

5. Japanese resistance on Vella Lavella was overcome on 8 October. On southern Kolombangara, no enemy has been contacted between Surumoni Cove and Hunda Cove. Our small craft have circumnavigated the island without enemy reaction. Eight damaged planes and much abandoned
equipment, weapons and ammunition were found at Vila. On 9 October a B-24 scored four probable quarter-ton bomb hits on an enemy vessel northwest of Buka.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 669

0700 October 9 to 0700 October 10, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 85th Infantry Division (Major General John B. Coulter, commanding) from Fort Dix, New Jersey, to the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation for further movement overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 8-9 October 119 RAF heavy bombers, continuing the Allied attack on Bremen, reported fires still burning. The fact that only three of the British planes on this mission were lost is attributed to the severity of our air battle during the afternoon and indicative of the value of such a cooperative effort. Another raid by 496 RAF aircraft on Hanover that night, on the other hand, cost the British 28 bombers.

On 9 October our heavy bombers made their deepest penetration into Germany, attacking aircraft plants at Anklam and Marienburg, also bombing the submarine construction works at Danzig and port facilities at Gdynia. Good bombing results were reported. Although our P-47's provided withdrawal support, our bombers, while unescorted, engaged in many combats with enemy fighters, preliminary reports listing 91 enemy planes destroyed; 29 of our bombers have not returned.

Medium bombers of our 8th Air Force, escorted by Allied fighters, attacked the enemy airfield at Woensdrecht, Holland; British and Dutch B-25's raided the airdrome at Morlaix. All these planes returned safely.
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

One B-25 mission bombed a bridge southeast of Minturno on 8 October. Fighter-bombers destroyed some 20 enemy motor vehicles and also attacked enemy installations in the Palata area. Inclement weather prevented other activity by our air forces.

On 9 October, the British Eighth Army made minor gains with the 78th Division pushing west to capture Oglionesi and Larino; the Canadians occupied Colletorto and crossed the Fortore River to capture Macchia Valfortore. On their left, the US 45th Division made corresponding gains to capture Campolattaro.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

On 7 and 8 October, the Heraklion airfield in Crete was attacked by two missions of Allied heavy bombers which dropped some 77 tons of explosives with good effect; 16 B-24's hit the Pediada Kastelli field on that island with 42 tons. Forty-eight B-25's, escorted by 24 P-38's, heavily attacked the Eleusis airfield in Greece, particularly the hangar area. Six enemy planes were destroyed on the ground. Five, probably six, of 20 to 22 enemy planes intercepting this mission were destroyed and two of our fighters were lost.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 8 October, nine B-24's of the 14th Air Force, escorted by 20 fighters, released 12 tons of bombs on the Gia Lam airfield near Hanoi, French Indo-China; hits were observed in the barracks areas and all
planes returned safely.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

1. Enemy bombers and fighters ineffectively raided Allied positions in the Song River area near Finschhafen during the night of 7-8 October. Antiaircraft installations in New Britain and enemy shipping in the Bismarck area were targets for Allied air missions on 8 October; a 10,000-ton transport was damaged by near misses.

2. On 8 October, four B-25's, escorted by eight New Zealand P-40's, maintained attacks on the Japanese barges off Choiseul. Two enemy bombers were destroyed during the day, one by a search plane, the other by our P-38 patrol.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 668

0700 October 8 to 0700 October 9, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 88th Infantry Division (Major General John E. Sloan, commanding) from Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation for further movement overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

During the night of 7-8 October, 342 RAF heavy bombers attacked the Stuttgart area; heavy clouds prevented accurate observation of results. Other RAF planes attacked the Friedrichshafen light metal casting works, and targets at Munich, Emden and Aix-la-Chapelle. A mission of 59 bombers laid mines in enemy waters. In these operations nine bombers were lost.

On the same night fifty-seven enemy bombers came over England in three missions causing damage and casualties over southern England; fourteen of the bombers reached London. Four of the raiders were destroyed.

The following day, 1415 of our B-17's and B-24's, escorted by P-47's, attacked an aircraft factory, submarine and destroyer building-yards and port facilities at Bremen, and submarine building-yards at Vegesack. Strong opposition from enemy fighters was encountered, our bombers destroying 130 (probably 180) and our fighters 12 (probably 14); we lost 30 bombers and three fighters.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. It has been determined that in the October 6 raid on Venezia-
1. Nestre our heavy bombers destroyed thirteen enemy fighters.

2. In spite of adverse weather on 7 October, our fighter-bombers, patrolling the battle area, damaged enemy vehicles west of Termoli and destroyed five enemy aircraft for a loss of four of our own number.

Three missions were flown by our bombers against the Yannina North airdrome in northwestern Greece. 24 US B-24's dropped 53 tons of bombs accurately on the Pediada Kastelli airdrome in Crete and eleven others put 24 tons on Maritsa airdrome (Rhodes). Allied fighter planes, including US P-38's, shot down six German medium bombers while providing cover for Allied shipping in the Aegean, but lost one British Beaufighter. Enemy bombers attacked Leros seven times during the day.

3. Early on 7 October a German convoy, apparently bound for Leros and consisting of four merchantmen, six landing-craft and escorting vessels, was completely destroyed by naval action off Stampalia.

4. Light artillery and small arms fire from north of the Volturmo and Calore Rivers held up our advance in this area on 8 October; minor gains were made at various points along the front. Grazzanise was occupied by the Fifth Army.

5. The four berths operating in the port of Naples on 7 October enabled 1,250 tons per day to be moved. By 12 October additional berths will be available and will increase the capacity to 2,750 tons per day.
at that time 13½ amphibian 2½-ton trucks will be in operation to increase this capacity by about 670 tons daily.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

General Connolly reports that during September 197,430 long tons were delivered to the Soviet Government; 7,660 trucks were assembled for the Soviets during this period.

ASIATIC THEATER

Four B-25's of the 11th Air Force scored three hits on a ship off the Amoy coast on 7 October leaving the vessel burning and listing. Nine B-24's escorted by 22 fighters bombed the cement plant at Haiphong; photographs show heavy damage. This mission was attacked by 12 Japanese fighters, four (probably five) of which were shot down without loss.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During the night of 6-7 October, four Australian flying boats started fires along the water front at Ambon. The following day, Allied planes attacked the Cape Gloucester air-drome, buildings on Rooke and Unea Islands, and other targets in the New Britain area, and bombed Sio, in northeastern New Guinea. Weather hampered air activities during 8 October. Five Japanese bombers, escorted by five fighter planes, caused some damage and casualties to our troops along the Song River on 6 October; a similar attack the next day was ineffective. On 8 October
enemy air attacks on Goodenough and Woodlark Islands caused slight
damage.

2. On 7 October a force of 24 B-25's, escorted by 14 P-38's,
dropped 735 parachute fragmentation bombs on Kahili airfield, obtaining
excellent results on parked aircraft. The entire area was heavily machine-
gunned and several antiaircraft guns were silenced. Two bombers and one
fighter were lost. Army and Navy fighter planes continued their attacks
on barges southwest of Choiseul.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 667

0700 October 7 to 0700 October 8, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. On the west flank the enemy has withdrawn to the north bank of the Volturno and Calore Rivers as far inland as Ponte, some eight miles northwest of Benevento; Allied troops occupied Capua on 6 October. The Canadians have also maintained their advance, reaching the Fortore River. Additional reinforcements landed during the night of 5–6 October strengthened the Allied bridgehead at Termoli; fighting on the north flank of the British Eighth Army continued throughout the next two days, the final repulse of a series of enemy counterattacks on 7 October materially improving the situation in this region.

2. At Grosseto airdrome Wellington bombers dropped 82 tons of high explosives on the night of 5–6 October. They hit dispersed enemy aircraft, hangars, and an oil dump; 11 to 15 enemy planes were seen burning on the ground. The next day our B-17's used 126 tons of bombs on the enemy railroad yards at Mestre, northwest of Venice, causing considerable damage to rolling stock, the engine shops, the chemical plant, and nearby industrial buildings. Some 25 to 30 enemy fighters intercepted and destroyed two of our bombers; claims of enemy aircraft shot down have not yet been determined. Our medium bombers dropped more than 250 tons of explosives on enemy lines of communication serving the battle area; three of our planes are missing and three others crash-landed. Allied light bombers and fighters continued to concentrate on enemy motor transportation, and patrolled the Naples and Termoli areas;
they also attacked the Araxos airdrome in Greece where six of twenty
enemy aircraft on the ground were claimed destroyed. Bad weather
hampered air activity during 7 October.

MIDDLE EAST—CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

On the night of 5-6 October, Allied aircraft damaged the Maritsa and
Calato airfields (Rhodes), the Pediada Kastelli airdrome in Crete and
the harbor of Syros. At noon the next day some 52 enemy bombers attacked
Leros; one (probably three) were destroyed by antiaircraft fire.

ASIATIC THEATER

Escorted B-25's of the 14th Air Force severely damaged enemy
storage facilities at Shihhweiyao on 5 October; all planes returned
safely. Seven P-40's destroyed two bombers and probably a fighter of
48 Japanese aircraft intercepted east of the Chinese airfield at
Suichwan on 7 October.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Allied patrols, operating north and west of Dumpu on 6 October,
reported no contact with the enemy. Northwest of Finschhafen the
Japanese, withdrawing to the west, were leaving much equipment and many
dead.

Attacks by our aircraft on enemy barge traffic along the New
Britain and New Guinea coasts were maintained, and a B-24 left a small
cargo vessel in flames north of Mussau Island.
2. Our 25th Division occupied Vila on 6 October without opposition.

A New Zealand Combat Team, advancing 600 yards in the Timbala Bay section on Vella Lavella, caused heavy enemy casualties.

Allied reconnaissance aircraft machine-gunned barges and storage points on western Choiseul, and destroyed a Japanese medium bomber northeast of the island.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 666

0700 October 6 to 0700 October 7, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movements of the 9th Armored Division (Major General John W. Leonard, commanding) from Camp Young, California, to Camp Polk, Louisiana, and the 11th Armored Division (Major General Edward H. Brooks, commanding) from Camp Barkley, Texas, to Camp Young, California.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 4 October, carrier-borne aircraft from the USS Ranger carried out a successful attack on enemy shipping near Bodo, Norway. Preliminary reports indicate nine merchant ships, including an 8,000-ton oil tanker, and two small cargo vessels were damaged; three aircraft were lost in this attack. Later in the day two enemy aircraft were shot down while shadowing our fleet.

2. 8th Air Force planes destroyed 72 (probably 100) enemy aircraft during the week ending 3 October for a loss from all causes of seven B-17's, one B-26, and one P-47. UK-based RAF planes accounted for 55 (probably 60) more for a loss of 105 of their aircraft.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. German planes made a low-level attack on an Allied convoy off Cape Tenes, Algeria, on 4 October, probably employing rocket-propelled glider bombs. One ship was sunk and three others damaged.
2. During the night of 4-5 October, 50 Wellingsons bombed the
Formia road junction. The following day, 124 B-17's dropped more than
367 tons of bombs on the Bologna railway yards, leaving the target
well covered and setting fire to an oil storage depot; of 25 to 30 enemy
aircraft encountered, eight (probably 13) were destroyed for a loss of
one B-17. The enemy's lines of communication were attacked in the
Formia, Isernia and Mignano areas by 110 medium bombers; fighter bombers
destroyed 56 motor vehicles in the Isernia area and damaged 30 others,
as well as two trains.

In a successful attack on the Argos airfield, Greece, 47
B-25's escorted by 39 P-38's scored hits on parked aircraft and started
several fires; one P-38 is missing.

3. On 5 October units on the north flank of the British Eighth
Army, counterattacked by enemy infantry and armor in the Biferno River
valley, south of Termoli, fell back to protect their artillery positions.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

Forty-eight US B-24's dropped over 60 tons of explosives and
incendiaries on the Eleusis airstrome near Athens, on 5 October, hitting
the dispersal areas, hangars and runways. Six (probably seven) of
30 to 35 intercepting enemy fighters were destroyed; three B-24's were
shot down. Three enemy bombing attacks on Lero were reported during
the day.
ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 3 October, 12 B-25's of the 10th Air Force dropped 15 tons of bombs on the Ywataung and Sagaing railroad yards and on warehouses at Myingyan. The Shwebo railroad yards were also attacked by 10 B-25's with excellent results. The following day, 22 B-24's bombed a dredger, docks and wharves at Insein and Rangoon. On 5 October, 10 B-25's bombed the railroad yards at Meiktila and a large building northeast of Thedaw.

2. On 5 October, three waves of enemy planes, totalling approximately 50, were intercepted approaching Kweilin airfield; one (probably three) of the enemy fighters were destroyed.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In the Ramu River Valley Allied forces occupied Dumpu and Wampun (six miles to the east), on 5 October. An enemy counterattack northwest of Pinside was repulsed. Eleven B-25's bombed and machine-gunned targets along the northern coast of the Huon Peninsula; our heavy and medium bombers destroyed two large warehouses, attacked coastal villages and stores and damaged a bridge in the Bogadjim region. Other Allied planes shot down an enemy reconnaissance bomber over Astrolabe Bay, bombed a jetty and buildings at Kokas and started fires at Bira on the north coast of MacCluer Gulf (western New Guinea).

Six enemy planes bombed Kiriwina (Trobiand Is.) causing some casualties and slight damage.
2. Twenty-three escorted B-24's, on 4 October, dropped 650 fragmentation clusters on Kahili airfield on Bougainville Island, destroying an unspecified number of planes on the ground. Of 20 to 30 attacking Japanese planes, nine were destroyed. The next day P-39's destroyed 17 barges off the west coast of Choiseul Island.

One Japanese plane was shot down over Choiseul Island, and another was shot down northeast of Santa Isabel Island.

Patrols on Kolombangara reported the Vila and Stanmore areas completely evacuated.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 665

0700 October 5 to 0700 October 6, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

The British followed up the 8th Air Force attack on Frankfurt with another heavy raid by 409 RAF bombers on the night of 4-5 October, while 66 others bombed Ludwigshafen. From these operations 12 RAF planes are missing. Three B-17's, dispatched in conjunction with the RAF raid on Frankfurt, dropped leaflets and bombs on Wiesbaden; one B-17 failed to return.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the night of 3-4 October and the following day, Allied medium bombers and fighters hit two vessels at Bastia in Corsica and destroyed six grounded airplanes and started large fires at the Argos airdrome in Greece. Others over Italy attacked an overpass at Mignano, the road junction at Terracina and railroad installations at Isernia. Formations of some 60 B-17's bombed the yards at Pisa and the railroad bridge at Bolzano; four (probably eight) intercepting enemy planes were destroyed. Our fighters and fighter-bombers patrolled the battle areas attacking enemy communications. One of ten enemy planes operating over the Termoli area was destroyed, and French P-39's, on convoy escort near Oran, shot down three of 14 enemy bombers encountered for a loss of one P-39.

On the east, the Canadian Division of the British XIII Corps pushed beyond Castelnuovo to Celenza on 4 October. Additional troops were landed at Termoli.
The Fifth Army made substantial gains on 4 and 5 October. Units of the US VI Corps captured Montesarchio, Airola and advanced northwest of Benevento. Leading elements of the British X Corps were at Aversa with patrols covering the Volturno River at its mouth.

**MIDDLE EAST—CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER**

Communications with the island of Cos ceased on 4 October.

Forty-four B-24's bombed Tatoi (Menidi) airfield near Athens on 4 October, scoring hits on the runway, dispersal areas, and administrative buildings and setting fire to 12 grounded airplanes. Three German medium bombers attacked Leros harbor; no details were reported.

**ASIATIC THEATER**

Eighteen Japanese bombers attacked our field at Kweilin on 4 October but caused no damage.

**PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS**

1. On 4 October, Allied patrols made contact with the enemy several miles north of Finschhafen. Australian forces 50 miles south of Madang have occupied Kaigulin, and are in contact with the enemy there.

   Allied planes over New Britain successfully bombed a dump and camp area, bombed and machine-gunned villages and set fire to a barge. Our planes also forced a small vessel to run aground, machine-gunned barges and destroyed buildings in the nearby Garove Island area. An Australian Catalina bombed the waterfront area at Pomelaa, in the
Celebes.

2. During the night of 2-3 October, the Munda landing strip on New Georgia, and the north Barakoma strip on Vella Lavella were subjected to enemy air attacks; no damage or casualties were reported.

On 3 October, seven Navy fighters engaged between 40 and 50 Japanese planes over Vella Lavella Island, destroying six for a loss of one Navy fighter. Other fighters and bombers attacked barges and barge coves in the Kolombangara-Choiseul area.

Ground patrols operating on southern Kolombangara report that the enemy has evacuated the Vila Plantation area. In northwestern Vella Lavella, Allied forces have dispersed enemy machine gun positions, our artillery concentrating on successive enemy points with excellent results.

3. General Harmon reports that during the month of September, Allied air forces in his area destroyed 162 enemy planes in combat for a loss of 41 of their own; our planes also sank two destroyers, two cargo ships, and destroyed 39 barges.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 664

0700 October 4 to 0700 October 5, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

Factories making airplane parts at Frankfurt, the city itself, Saarbrucken, Heidelberg, Hanau and the enemy airfield at St. Dizier were attacked on 4 October by 322 B-17's; 38 B-24's flew their initial battle mission as a diversion in the direction of the Dutch coast. 555 tons of explosives and 290 tons of incendiaries were dropped; subsequent reconnaissance reported Frankfurt to be burning. Excellent fighter support to the extent of their range was furnished by 245 P-47's and several squadrons of Spitfires. Strong fighter opposition was encountered; 75 (probably 100) enemy aircraft were destroyed in combat for a loss of 16 of our heavy bombers.

During the night of 3-4 October 540 RAF heavy bombers successfully attacked Kassel, encountering considerable antiaircraft fire and some night fighters. Twenty-four RAF aircraft are missing. Minor raids were made on Hanover, Cologne and Aix-la-Chapelle.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

1. On the night of 2-3 October a British brigade landed at Termoli and by the next morning had captured that port, repulsed a counterattack and made contact with other elements of the British XIII Corps advancing on the south. S. Bartolomeo was occupied, the enemy withdrawal continuing to San Croce. The US 45th Division pushed north of Montecalvo. Elsewhere the Fifth Army made small gains along its entire front.
2. Bastia has been taken by the Allies; the last of the German force on Corsica is embarking 12 miles to the north.

3. On 3 October, our medium and fighter-bombers heavily attacked roads and bridges north of Naples, dropping more than 130 tons of bombs. Five, probably nine, enemy planes were destroyed in combat for a loss of three B-25's and three P-38's. That night three of our planes were lost in an attack on the Civitavecchia railroad yards.

4. Casualties of the Fifth Army as reported on 3 October were:
   British X Corps—killed 976, wounded 4005, missing 2227; US VI Corps—killed 511, wounded 5428, missing 2368.

5. Five berths are now available for the use of our ships in Barletta harbor; the port of Naples sustained less damage than was anticipated. Torre Annunziata port facilities were operating on 3 October.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

During 3 October approximately 2,000 Germans including paratroopers and tank units landed on Cos Island, bringing their total strength to about 3,000. They probably captured the Antimachia airfield and the town of Cos. British reinforcements have landed; Italian troops are also opposing the Germans. Beaufighters scored numerous cannon strikes on enemy shipping off Cos during the day and destroyed two of three intercepting enemy aircraft; five Beaufighters are missing. That night
British bombers effectively attacked the Heraklion airdrome in Crete.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 3 October, a 10th Air Force mission of 26 B-24's successfully attacked targets in the Rangoon area, hitting a freighter and the railroad. Two intercepting enemy planes were destroyed. Ten B-25's bombed the Sagaing railroad junction, destroying rolling stock and starting fires in nearby stores. Our P-40's harassed railroad facilities at Nantli and attacked other towns in northern Burma.

2. 11th Air Force fighter planes attacked Kiukiang, in the Lake Tungting area, on 3 October, scoring hits on the docks and damaging a gunboat. Tengchung was bombed by B-24's on routine ferry trips.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Weather interfered with air operations on 3 October in the Southwest Pacific area. One B-24 destroyed an antiaircraft position at Cape Gloucester airdrome. In the northwestern area, flying boats, unable to attack Ambon, bombed various points in the islands closer to Australia. Two Dutch B-25's raided enemy-held villages in the Wissel Lake area of western New Guinea.

2. During the nights of 1 and 2 October, our destroyers sank or badly damaged at least 40 enemy barges attempting to evacuate enemy troops from the north end of Kolombangara Island. On 3 October, Allied
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 663

0700 October 3 to 0700 October 4, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

Further reports of the bombing of Emden on 2 October state that the 8th Air Force dispatched 691 airplanes across the Channel. Included in this force were 373 heavy bombers, 72 medium bombers and 246 fighters; in nine minutes 352 B-17's dropped 1,011 tons of bombs including 204 tons of incendiaries on the target area. Completely overcast weather prevented accurate observation of results. Our aircraft shot down 19 (probably 27) enemy interceptors for a loss of two B-17's. The remaining 21 heavy bombers flew a diversionary mission over the Antwerp area without dropping bombs. The 2 October B-26 mission to St. Omer, consisted of 72 escorted bombers; their attack was relatively ineffective on account of the weather.

On 3 October, 8th Air Force medium bombers, escorted by Allied fighters, attacked airfields at Woensdrecht, Haamstede and Amsterdam-Schipol in Holland and at Beauvais-Tillé, France. The fighter escort claims 14 enemy fighters destroyed for a loss of two of their own number. Additional sweeps over northern France and Belgium were made by US P-47's.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

During the night of 1-2 October, 30 British Wellingtons dropped 52 tons of bombs on the Grazzanise area in addition to the Formia mission reported yesterday; four of the bombers are missing.
The following day our aircraft harassed traffic behind the enemy's lines. Eight Allied fighters intercepted nine enemy aircraft and destroyed three.

During the rainy afternoon of 2 October US patrols entered Benevento, and other elements of the Fifth Army occupied Nola and Afragola. Further east the British 78th and the Canadian 1st Divisions made minor gains north and south of Castelnuovo which was still held by the enemy. The enemy withdrawal continues.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

A German landing on Cos Island during the night of 2-3 October included troops and tanks. Heavy fighting is reported with the enemy having local air advantage.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. 10th Air Force operations for 1 October included an attack by ten B-24's on buildings and boat landings at the Bassein jetties (another B-24 bombed Kyaukpyu on Ramree Island) and two heavy raids by a total of 23 B-25's on the Thazi railroad junction; hits were scored on yards, rolling stock and nearby barracks. Ten P-40's bombed and machine-gunned Namtu. The following day, 20 medium bombers dropped 21 tons of explosives on Monywa and Alon scoring hits on warehouses.

2. On 2 October, five P-40's of the 14th Air Force attacked shipping at Kiukiang. Six Japanese aircraft put 20 bombs on our
airfields at Kienow (northwest of Foochow).

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 2 October Allied patrols moving up the Ramu valley were approaching Dumpu; this, together with the successful occupation of Finschhafen, insures our control of Huon Gulf and outflanks all enemy centers between Finschhafen and Madang.

At noon Ambon was attacked by 12 B-24's which caused heavy damage. Nine B-24's machine-gunned a village near Talasea, New Britain, and B-24's on individual missions bombed Garove and Rooke Islands and secured a direct hit on a vessel, probably a destroyer, west of Cape Henpan.

2. On 28 September, the enemy dropped rations by parachute near Java on the northeast coast of Vella Lavella. On 2 October, after an artillery preparation, our forces made a small advance against enemy positions on northwest Vella Lavella.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 662

0700 October 2 to 0700 October 3, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
EUROPEAN THEATER

B-17's of the 8th Air Force and escorting P-47's returned to Germany on 2 October to bomb Emden; during this mission a total of 19 enemy fighters were destroyed. Our escorted B-26's bombed the St. Omer-Longuenesse airdrome in France. From these operations two of our heavy bombers are missing.

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

The advance of the Allied forces in the Naples area on 1 October, carried them on to Afragola. In the east, Allied armored units have driven the enemy from the Serracapriola-Chieuti area; the new positions of our forward elements in that vicinity have not been reported.

In Corsica the enemy was driven from Oletta on 30 September; Allied forces were reported four miles northwest of Bastia on 1 October. A delayed air report for 30 September states that French Spitfires based in Corsica shot down two German six-motored transport airplanes, and four other enemy aircraft.

Weather greatly handicapped air missions during the night of 30 September and the next day. However, 37 British bombers dropped 60 tons of explosives on roads near Formia, medium bombers of our Tactical Air Force attacked bridges and railroad yards near Benevento, and fighter bombers destroyed or damaged some 70 motor vehicles. Eight B-17's bombed a road at Leghorn and a barge convoy off Corsica.
Still incomplete reports on the heavy bomber missions against Germany and Austria on that day list three B-17's and 23 B-24's as destroyed or missing. Our B-17's claim eight (probably 13) enemy aircraft destroyed; our B-24 claims have not yet been received.

MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER

In the Aegean Sea, the islands of Nakos, Paros, Antiparos, Tinos, Sikinos, Amorgos, Ios, Anaf, Thira and Siphnos were reported free of Germans on 27 September. However, the enemy is reported to have visited some of these islands during 22-23 September. On the latter date Siros appeared to be garrisoned by Germans.

ASIATIC THEATER

On 1 October, 21 B-24's of the 14th Air Force escorted by a like number of fighters successfully hit the power plant, docks and warehouses at Haiphong with 50 tons of explosives; in addition they shot down 30, probably 42, enemy airplanes, the greater part of those attempting interception. Our loss was three P-40's.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

On 1 October, Allied forces had advanced to within one-half mile west of Finschhafen after inflicting heavy casualties. Our forces moving along the north shore of Huon Gulf had reached the south shore of Langemak Bay.
Allied aircraft bombed and machine-gunned enemy installations in the Finschhafen area. B-24's damaged float planes near Mussau Island, attacked buildings on Garove and Unea Islands, and bombed supply dumps at Cape Gloucester. Other Allied planes machine-gunned barges in northeast New Britain, and a radio station at Manokwari.

A late communiqué states that, following a heavy air preparation, our ground forces took enemy positions in the Finschhafen area by assault, Finschhafen itself falling, on 2 October, to troops of the 9th Australian Division. All organized enemy resistance has been overcome and the entire area is in our hands.

On 30 September, 16 B-24's, escorted by 27 fighters, dropped 18 tons of bombs on the bivouac and supply areas northeast of the Kahili strip. Of the 30 to 40 enemy planes which intercepted, four were destroyed; one P-38 was shot down. Other B-24's damaged the runway and the supply and bivouac area at Vila. Enemy aircraft were active over the southern Solomons.
WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 661

0700 October 1 to 0700 October 2, 1943

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER

Allied forces entered Naples on 1 October, following evacuation of the city by the enemy. British and American forces are policing the city. In the west, our forces also captured Ottaiano and pushed forward through the hilly country beyond Palma and Montemiletto. In the eastern sector, Allied units reached Castelnuovo and captured Serra Capriola.

During the night of 29-30 September, 44 British Wellingtons dropped 74 tons of bombs on the mole at Formia and on road junctions in the vicinity. The following day, our medium and fighter bombers carried out 139 sorties over roads and bridges north and northwest of Naples. A mission of 71 B-25's bombed the town of Benevento and nearby road junctions. Fighter aircraft carried out armed reconnaissance over Castelnuovo and Isernia and flew patrol missions between Corsica and Elba.

On 1 October, 94 B-24's in a round-trip of 1800 miles from their northwest African bases attacked a factory at Wiener Neustadt which produces frames for Messerschmitt fighters. Clouds prevented complete observation but some target hits were noted. A group of B-17's bombed Gundelfingen, and three B-17's bombed warehouses at Bologna. Preliminary reports indicate that at least ten of our planes were lost from these missions.
**ASIATIC THEATER**

1. B-25's of the 10th Air Force attacked Pakokku, on 30 September, scoring hits and starting fires in the target area, and also bombed targets of opportunity in the Hukawng Valley.

2. On 29 September, nine B-24's of the 14th Air Force bombed Myitkyina and Sadon, scoring hits on buildings. The following day, two B-25's machine-gunned shipping in the South China Sea.

**PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS**

1. On 30 September, Allied forces continued to advance on Finschhafen from the west; our patrols along the north shore of Huon Gulf were approaching Cape Cretin. In the upper Markham River valley, our forward elements were seven miles northwest of Marawasa.

   While the enemy bombed our positions in the Finschhafen area without effect, our heavy bombers destroyed buildings on Rooke Island, set fire to an enemy freighter west of Buka, and bombed enemy targets on Garove Island. An enemy reconnaissance bomber was shot down east of Finschhafen. In other attacks, three B-24's bombed an enemy freighter in McCluer Gulf, a jetty at Sorong and warehouses at Boela; two Dutch B-25's started small fires on Timor.

2. Later reports on our 29 September attack on the eleven-ship convoy in Bougainville Strait list one enemy vessel sunk and damage to two other large ships and a possible destroyer.
PUBLICATION AND MICROFILM COPYING RESTRICTIONS

Reel duplication of the whole or of any part of this film is prohibited. In lieu of transcripts, however, enlarged photocopies of selected items contained on these reels may be made in order to facilitate research.