

DECLASSIFIED 9
OSD Letter, 5-3-78

170

MR 203(2) Sec. 24 -- WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY
JANUARY, 1944

CONTINUED

MR 203(2) Sec. 24 -- WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

JANUARY, 1944

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 763

0700 January 11 to 0700 January 12, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

[illegible]

KORCULA

• SKOPLJE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

1. Headquarters XIX Corps (Major General W. D. Crittenberger) has arrived at the New York Port of Embarkation, en route to the European Theater from Camp Polk, Louisiana.

2. Directives have been issued for the movement of the Headquarters, Third Army, from Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to a northeastern port of embarkation for shipment to the European Theater.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Twenty-seven RAF aircraft dropped 13 tons of bombs on rocket targets on the French coast during 10 January.

2. Fighting generally decreased in intensity along the entire front on 11 January as the Soviets consolidated their gains and the enemy improved his defenses. Northeast of Krivoi Rog the Soviets commenced what appears to be their offensive against this city; no changes were reported. In the Crimea a small Soviet landing party behind the enemy lines, 10 miles from the eastern tip, gained a foothold only.

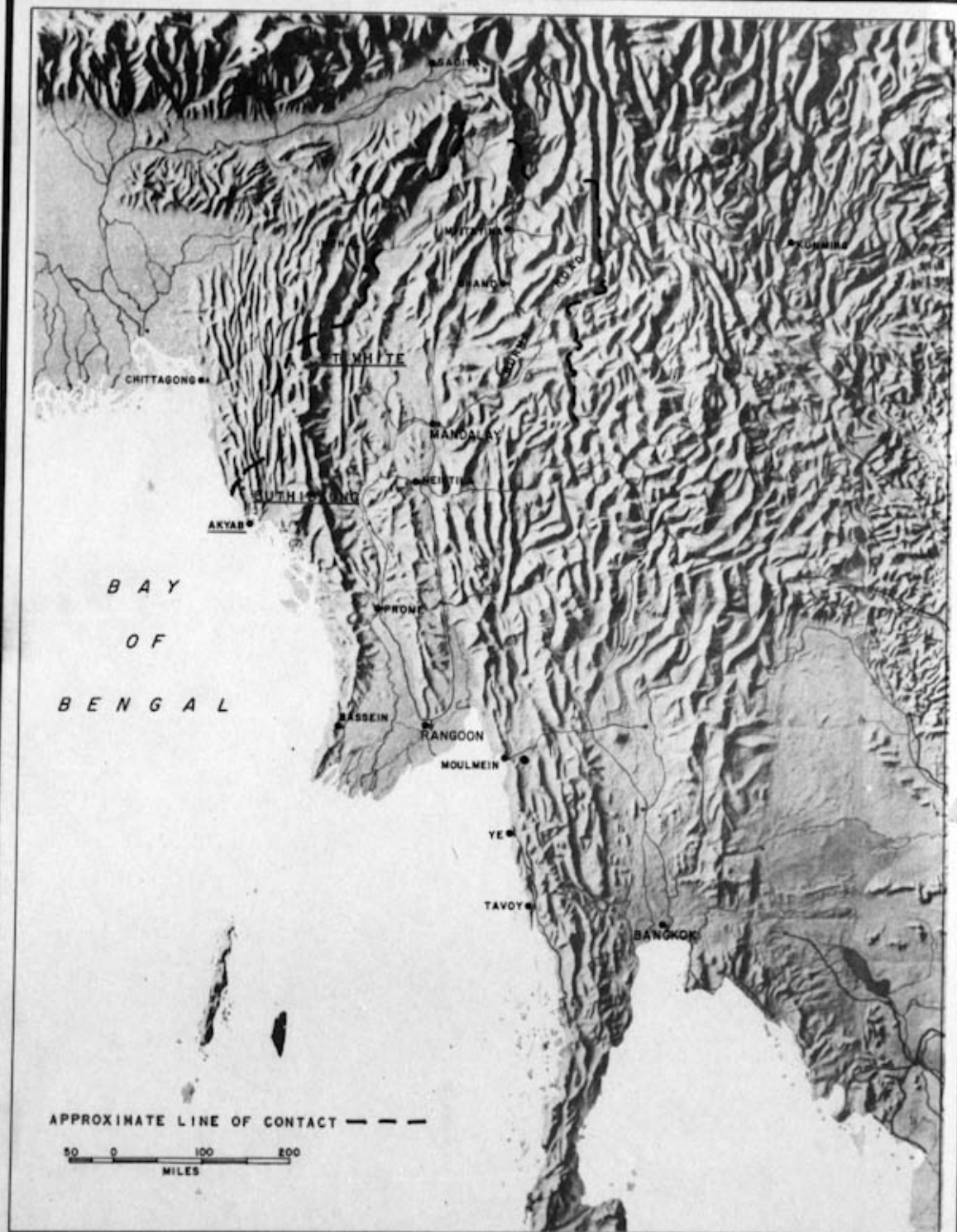
MEDITERRANEAN

1. In addition to the successful mission of 143 B-17's against Sofia on 10 January, during which six (probably eight) enemy planes were shot down for the loss of two B-17's and two fighters, 35 escorted B-24's attacked the railroad yards at Skoplje with fair results. Twenty-



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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three medium bombers successfully hit San Benedetto. Light and fighter bombers attacked communications north of Rome and behind the front opposite the Eighth Army, towns, gun positions and tanks in the battle area, and barges and small boats, a warehouse and a possible ammunition dump at Korcula Island.

Of three U-boats observed by Allied aircraft in the western Mediterranean, two were probably damaged; one British bomber was shot down.

2. During 11 January US troops in the center of the Fifth Army continued the encirclement of Cervaro while British units made further gains south of the Cassino highway. Active patrolling was continued on the Eighth Army front.

3. Small numbers of Allied planes mined the entrance to the harbor at Salamis, during the night of 9-10 January, attacked nearby antiaircraft positions, and bombed the Eleusis airdrome near Athens.

ASIATIC THEATER

British aircraft attacked enemy ground positions in the Buthidaung and Fort White areas on 8 January. The next day other missions harassed enemy positions near Buthidaung and raided the airfields on Akyab Island.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 10 January Allied troops on the east coast of Cape

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780 1-2-72, 5-8-72

Gloucester repulsed two enemy counterattacks from the direction of Borgen Bay; 2,100 Japanese have been killed in this area to date. On northeastern New Guinea our coastal forces, routing the enemy from well-prepared defenses northwest of Kelanoa, advanced northward and overpowered a strong enemy position southeast of Scharnhorst Point. Our units at Saidor maintained contact with the enemy.

Air missions during 9 and 10 January included sorties by night Catalinas which left a destroyer burning south of Kavieng and fired one of two small cargo vessels attacked in Hansa Bay, flights by medium bombers against enemy machine-gun positions, supply dumps, bivouac areas and bridges in northeast New Guinea area while light bomber and fighter attacks were carried out on barges and gun positions in the Uligan area and targets designated by our ground forces near Borgen Bay. Dutch B-25's attacked Koepang and Lautem in Timor.

2. On 31 December US Army Forces in the South Pacific area were disposed as follows:

Aitutaki	216
Borabora	1,067
Bougainville	27,146
Efate	3,495
Espiritu Santo	20,206
Fiji	18,254
Florida Island	2,097
Guadalcanal	35,754
New Calédonia	37,657
New Georgia	21,591
New Zealand	13,435
Penrhyn	188
Russell Islands	5,711
Samoa	3,463
Tongatabu	84
Treasury Islands	2,119
Vella Lavella	301

192,784

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These were broken down into:

Ground Forces, Combat	101,795
Ground Forces, Service	3,011
Air Forces, Combat	19,023
Air Forces, Service	18,320
Army Service Forces	<u>50,635</u>
Aggregate	192,784

3. Two of 17 B-24's dispatched from Nanomea to bomb Wotje on 10 January reached the target area and dropped their bombs with unknown results; the others, turned back by weather, landed safely at various bases. Fourteen Navy bombers reached the island that night, mining the adjacent waters and destroying at least one grounded plane, a small tanker and a patrol vessel.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 762

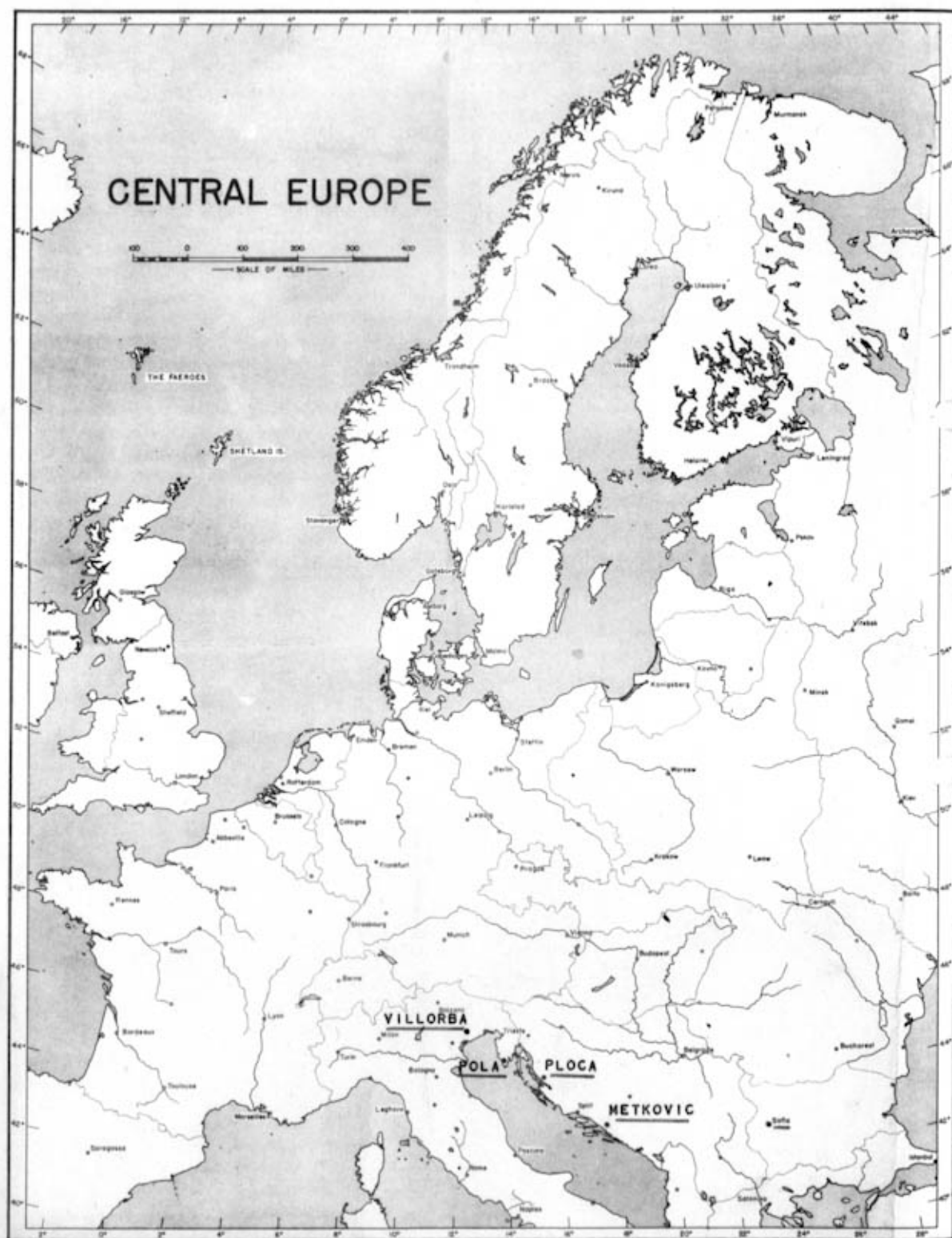
0700 January 10 to 0700 January 11, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





GENERAL

The War Department informed senior overseas commanders that the Army Air Forces are now at their full authorized strength and that future inductions will be sufficient only to provide air crews and replacements for actual losses of ground personnel.

EUROPEAN THEATER

Fierce but inconclusive fighting continued around Vitebsk during 10 January; northwest of Rechitsa there was fighting of local character; however, pressure here presents a potential threat toward Minsk. The Soviets cut the last enemy north-south railroad through the Pripet marshes. The Germans are now forced to use the line through Brest-Litovsk, 150 miles to the west. Important Soviet advances were made 30 miles east of Zhmerinka where the Red forces are within 20 miles of the Odessa-Lvov railroad, and 60 miles farther east where the Khristinovka-Smela rail line was cut. The terrain east of Zhmerinka favors the enemy. North of Kirovograd the Soviets made some progress toward Smela. A Soviet amphibious landing operation 40 miles east of Odessa, near Ochakov failed; this probably involved a combat reconnaissance force.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On the night of 8-9 January 37 British bombers attacked the Villorba airdrome with observed effect. The next day a force of 107 B-17's escorted by 81 P-38's and P-47's bombed Pola; the harbor and dock



area were well covered and a heavy concentration of bombs was placed on the submarine pens and torpedo casting shops. Forty-five B-25's effectively attacked the railroad yards and docks at Ancona; three (probably five) enemy planes were destroyed. Fighter and fighter-bomber activity consisted chiefly of battlefield patrols and attacks on enemy gun positions and motor transportation. Fighter-bombers also were active along the eastern Adriatic coast, attacking buildings at Metkovic and oil tanks at Ploca.

A large force of B-17's of the 15th Air Force bombed Sofia on 10 January; no further details were reported.

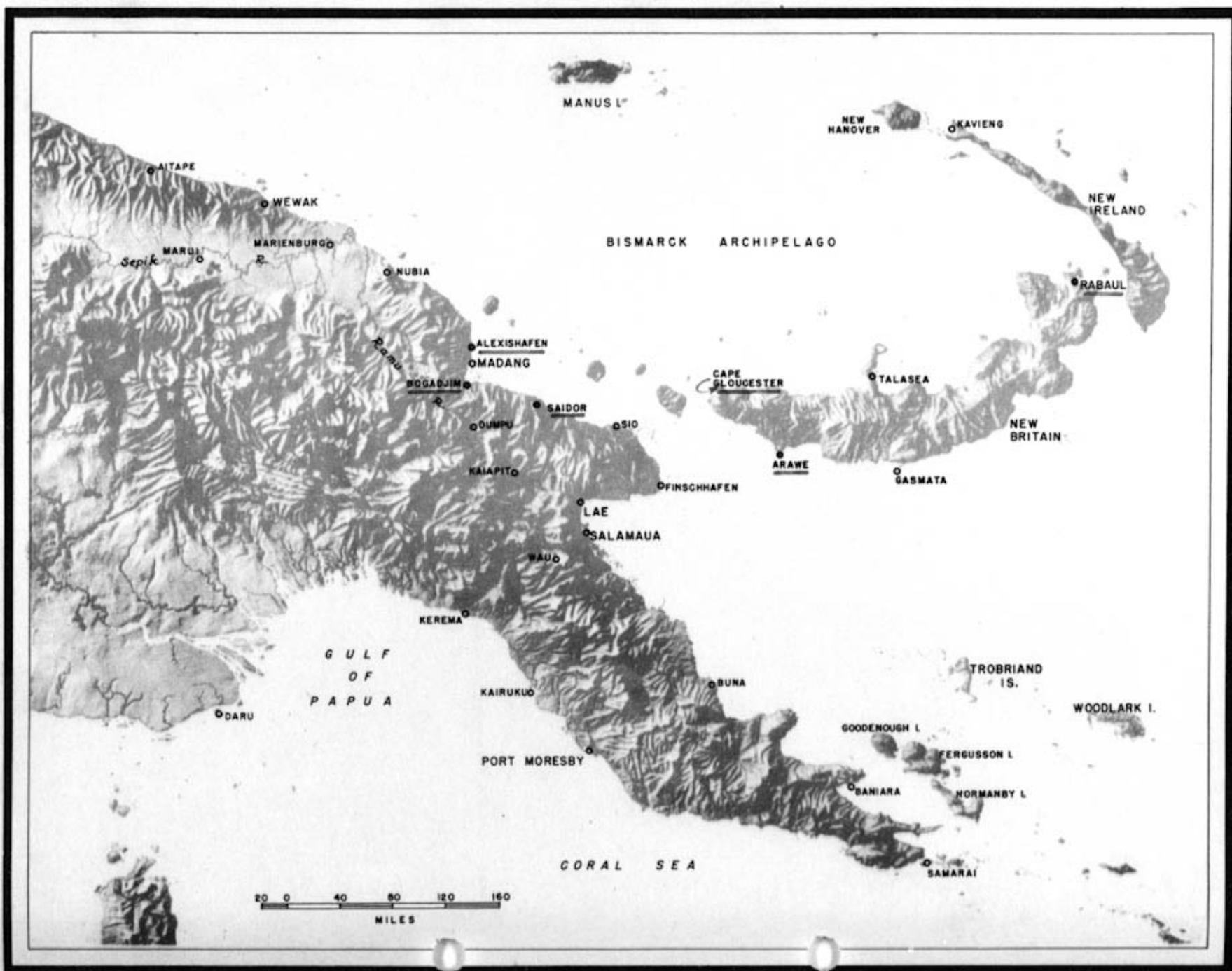
2. The Fifth Army continued to exert pressure on the Cassino gateway during 10 January, establishing new positions on the heights extending southwest from Monti Porchia which has been cleared of the enemy. Our patrols pushed to within four miles of Cassino and were slowly closing in on Cervaro from the north.

On the Eighth Army front patrol activity was maintained.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. British forward elements occupied Maungdaw and advanced southward along a general line to the east thereof on 9 January.

2. 14th Air Force B-25's of the Chinese-American Wing sank a 1,200-ton freighter off the southeastern China coast on 9 January. Our fighters and fighter-bombers attacked steamboats and small craft on the Yangtze, damaged rail, dock, and supply facilities near Camduong,



French Indo-China, and started fires at Sadon in eastern Burma. All our aircraft returned.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. There was little major action at Arawe and Cape Gloucester during 9 January. A small enemy force attacked our outpost ten miles southeast of Saidor. Twenty-four escorted B-24's started large fires and caused violent explosions at Alexishafen and 25 B-25's hit supply dumps and antiaircraft positions in the vicinity of Bogadjim. Sixteen B-24's bombed Japanese barracks and dispersal areas in the Celebes; six (probably ten) intercepting enemy planes were shot down for a loss of one B-24.

2. On 8 January, a reinforced company from the 37th Division established a position at Kuraio Mission on western Bougainville. That night medium bombers from the South Pacific Area attacked Poporang Island. On 9 January a large formation of Army and Navy bombers hit the Rabaul airdromes; numerous hits were scored on one runway and on gun positions. Japanese fighters dropped aerial bombs on our planes but caused no damage. Sixteen (probably 17) intercepting Japanese fighters were shot down for a loss of three Allied fighters. Other Army and Navy planes attacked targets on Bougainville and nearby islands.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The War Department has issued directives for the early activation

of the Headquarters of the XXII and XXIII Corps at Camp Campbell, Kentucky, and Camp Bowie, Texas, respectively. Our Corps Headquarters are now disposed as follows:

Continental US	III, IV, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XVI, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII, XXIII.
European Theater	V, VII, VIII, XV.
North African Theater	II, VI,
South Pacific Area	XIV.
Southwest Pacific Area	I.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 761

0700 January 9 to 0700 January 10, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



CENTRAL EUROPE

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MILES
— SCALE OF MILES —



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 7-8 January, small numbers of Mosquitoes operated in force over western Germany and the Low Countries. The following day 34 escorted British bombers attacked military objectives near Abbeville, with unobserved results.

2. In the Kiev salient the Soviets on 9 January made slight advances in the region extending from Sarny to a point 29 miles northeast of Zhmerinka where they are now only 12 miles north of the Bug River and 33 miles from the Odessa-Lvov railroad. This presents the most serious threat to the enemy positions in the south. Slight gains were made by the Red forces at the shoulders of the Kirovograd salient, but German counterattacks prevented further progress at the tip. Enemy forces captured in the Kirovograd section were only relatively small rear guard units. Fierce fighting continued north of Nevel and around Vitebsk.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 7-8 January 23 Wellingtons dropped 39 tons of bombs on the Reggio-Emilia aircraft factory. The following day this attack was repeated by 110 escorted B-17's of the 15th Air Force which scored direct hits when 324 tons of bombs were dropped; railroad yards, warehouses, and a power station were also heavily hit. Neither fighter opposition nor antiaircraft fire were encountered. Thirty-seven escorted B-24's hit the Mostar airdrome with 97 tons of bombs reporting good results; two enemy parked aircraft were destroyed and we lost four P-38's.



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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

A total of 48 US medium bombers hit railroad yards, warehouses, and harbor installations at Metkovic, Yugoslavia, shooting down three (probably five) enemy fighters for a loss of one B-25. Medium and light bombers attacked enemy rail communications at Foligno and in the region immediately behind the battle area. Large numbers of P-40's and Spitfires flew patrol and harassing missions in the battle area.

2. Continuing its steady advance toward Cassino the Fifth Army had occupied positions overlooking Cervaro from the north and south by noon of 9 January, and was mopping up on Monti Porchia. Intensified patrol activity and enemy artillery and mortar fire characterized activities on the Eighth Army Front. The I Canadian Corps headquarters has arrived in the battle area from Sicily.

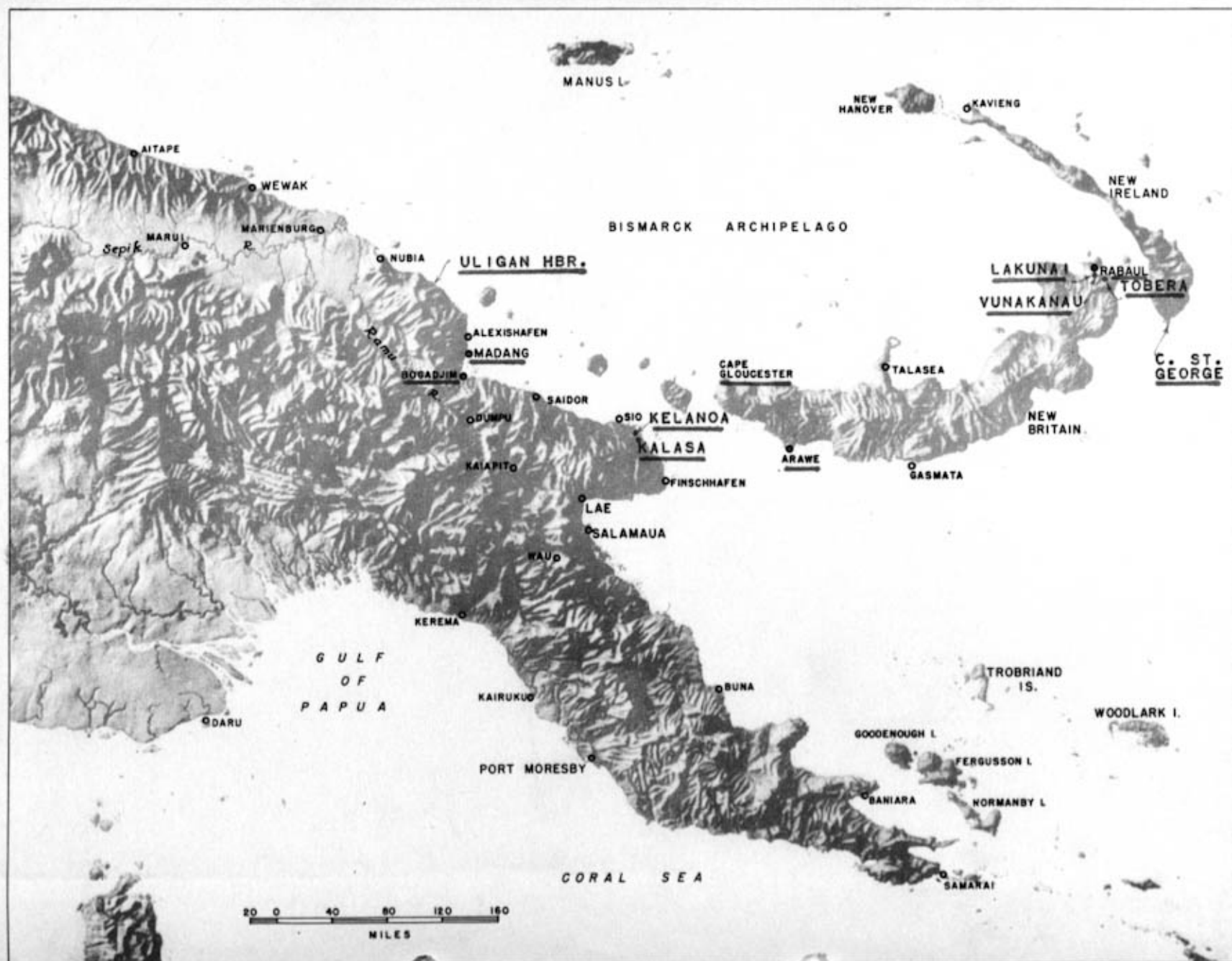
3. On 31 December the strength of US forces in the North African Theater was as follows:

Atlantic Base Section	13,035
Mediterranean Base Section	117,016
Eastern Base Section	63,171
Island Base Section	35,463
Peninsula Base Section	339,328
Corsica	4,993
Sardinia	17,588
Attached	13,962
	<hr/> 604,556

4. Latest casualty figures follow:

<u>Fifth Army (7 January)</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Totals</u>
US	2,756	11,522	3,467	17,745
British	1,710	8,195	2,921	12,826
French	245	1,622	91	1,958
<u>Eighth Army (5 January)</u>	<u>2,543</u>	<u>9,324</u>	<u>2,191</u>	<u>14,058</u>
	<hr/> 7,254	<hr/> 30,663	<hr/> 8,670	<hr/> 46,587





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Prisoners of war captured by components of the Fifth Army are as follows:

US	3,132
British	1,700
French	118
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	4,950

The Eighth Army has captured 3,035 prisoners of war.

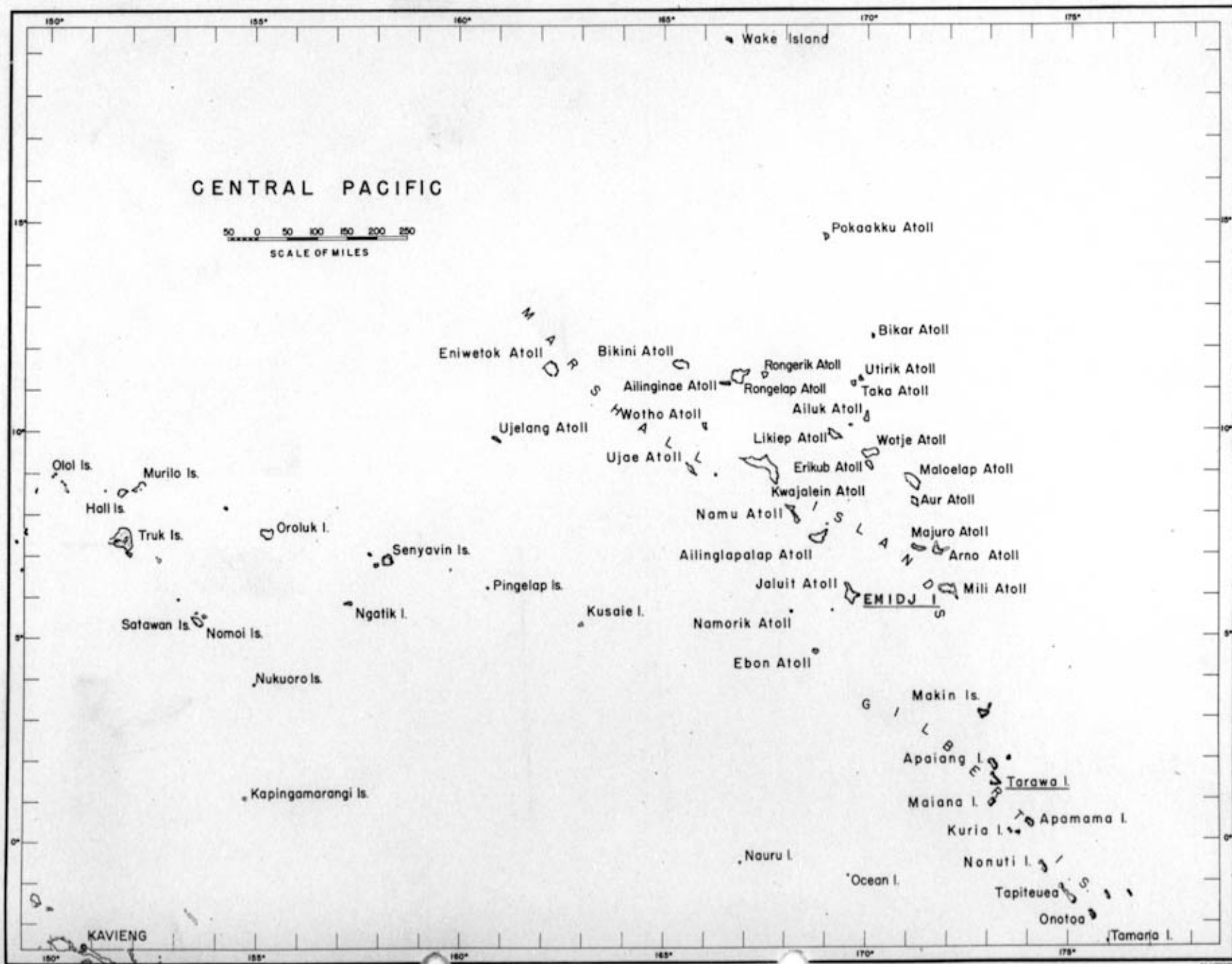
ASIATIC THEATER

1. 10th Air Force dive bombers attacked supply and troop concentrations south of Nanyaseik on 7 January; next day our dive bombers destroyed a railroad bridge at Hopin. During the night of 7-8 January British aircraft mined the Rangoon River near Elephant Point and the next day lighter aircraft attacked enemy positions in the Buthidaung area.

2. On 7 January, escorted medium bombers of the 11th Air Force sank two 125-foot vessels and some smaller craft on the Yangtze in the Hukow and Hankow areas. Other medium bombers sank a 300-foot passenger vessel southwest of Hongkong. P-38's sank 30 to 40 sampans on the Yangtze near Hankow.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 8 January Allied troops continued active patrolling at Arawe, on Cape Gloucester, and in the Saidor area. Thirty light and medium bombers attacked targets along the New Guinea coast at Uligan Harbor, Bogadjim and Madang; 26 RAAF light bombers caused demolitions at the Lakunai and Tobera airdromes at Rabaul. The enemy raided Saidor



BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

twice during the night of 7-8 January, and Finschhafen once and Arawe three times during the following night; no damage was reported.

2. Forty-two escorted Navy dive and torpedo bombers from the South Pacific area hit Cape St. George radar and antiaircraft positions on 7 January, shooting down 10 (probably 12) enemy planes for a loss of four of ours. Three B-24's bombed Kieta and Kahili. On the following day ten B-25's machine-gunned enemy concentrations on a small island at Choiseul Bay; smaller Allied attacks were made elsewhere in the Bougainville area. All enemy airfields in Bougainville were still unserviceable on 8 January.

3. Thirty-three dive bombers and fighters hit Enidj (Jaluit Atoll) on 7 January, reporting excellent results; there was no air opposition although antiaircraft fire was heavy. Three enemy planes bombed Tarawa without damage the next day.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

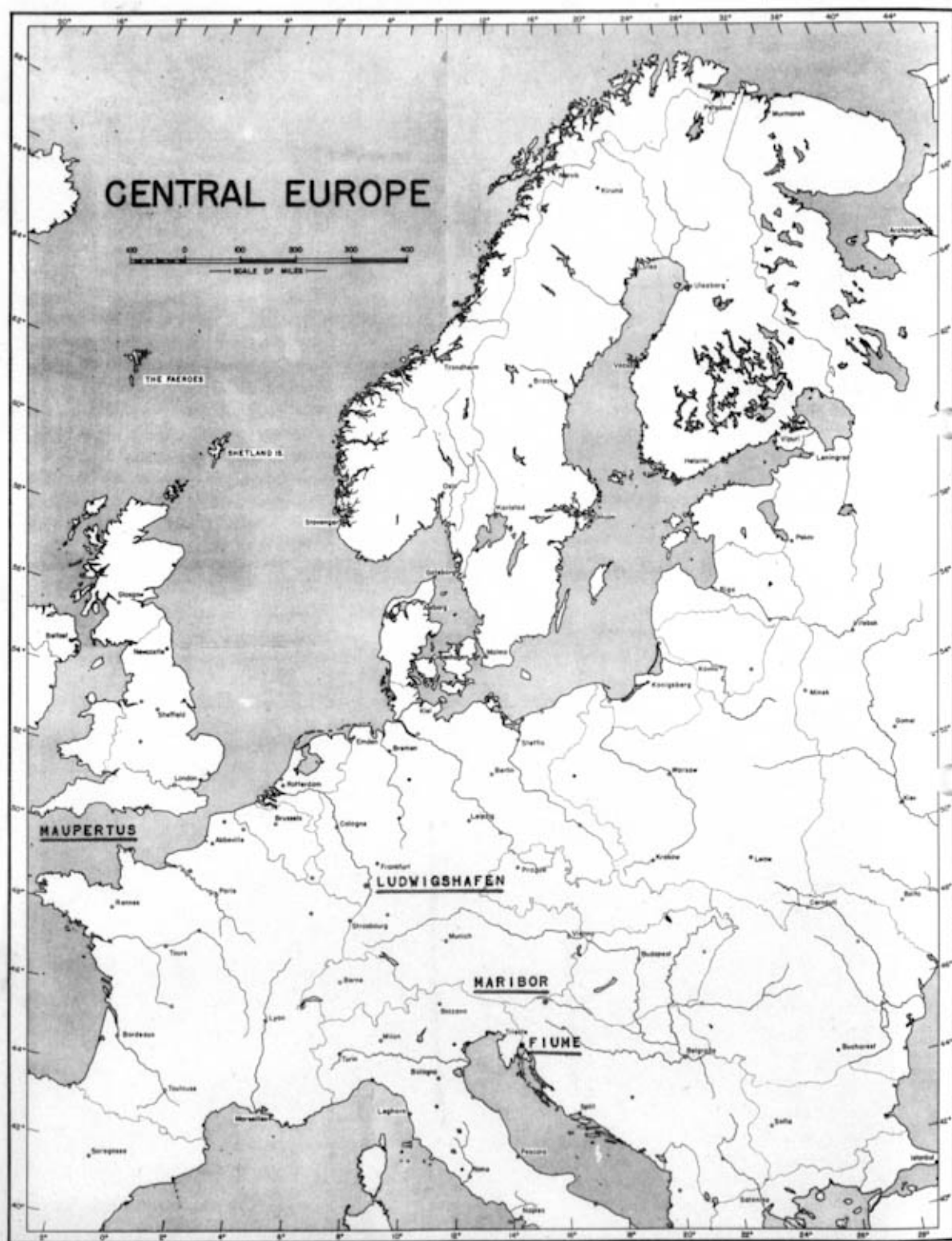
No. 760

0700 January 8 to 0700 January 9, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Five hundred and two US heavy bombers, escorted by more than 600 US fighters, dropped 1,000 tons of explosives and incendiaries on Ludwigshafen through heavy clouds on 7 January; no assessment of damage was reported. Preliminary reports indicate that our bombers destroyed 33 (probably 43) enemy planes, while our fighters accounted for an additional seven. Our losses amounted to 18 aircraft including 12 heavy bombers. The Maupertus airdrome at Cherbourg was also attacked by 216 escorted medium bombers with fair to good results. No enemy fighters were encountered and all our bombers returned.

2. The town of Kirovograd has fallen to the Soviets. Southeast and southwest of Berdyshev the Soviets made slight gains on 8 January, encountering stiff enemy resistance.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Strategic Air Force missions totaling 69 escorted B-17's dropped 150 tons of bombs on the aircraft factory at Maribor and the railroad yards and buildings adjacent to the torpedo plant at Fiume on 7 January; three (probably four) enemy planes were destroyed and two of our fighters were lost. Tactical Air Force bombers dropped 50 tons of bombs on the airdrome at Perugia, hit the railroad yards at Pontedera and Lucca, and the railroad installations north of Follonica; two medium bombers were lost. Lighter aircraft bombed Civitavecchia, the railroad yards at Aquino, enemy gun positions near Chieti and enemy



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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installations in the Cassino-Cervaro-Aquino areas. Shipping and gun positions along the Yugoslavian Coast were also harassed.

2. Again on 8 January small advances were made along the center of the Fifth Army front against heavy enemy resistance. Only on the southern flank of the advance were Allied troops forced by enemy counter-attacks to yield any of their day's gains.

On the Eighth Army front no change was reported in forward positions, though vigorous patrolling and shelling were carried out by both sides.

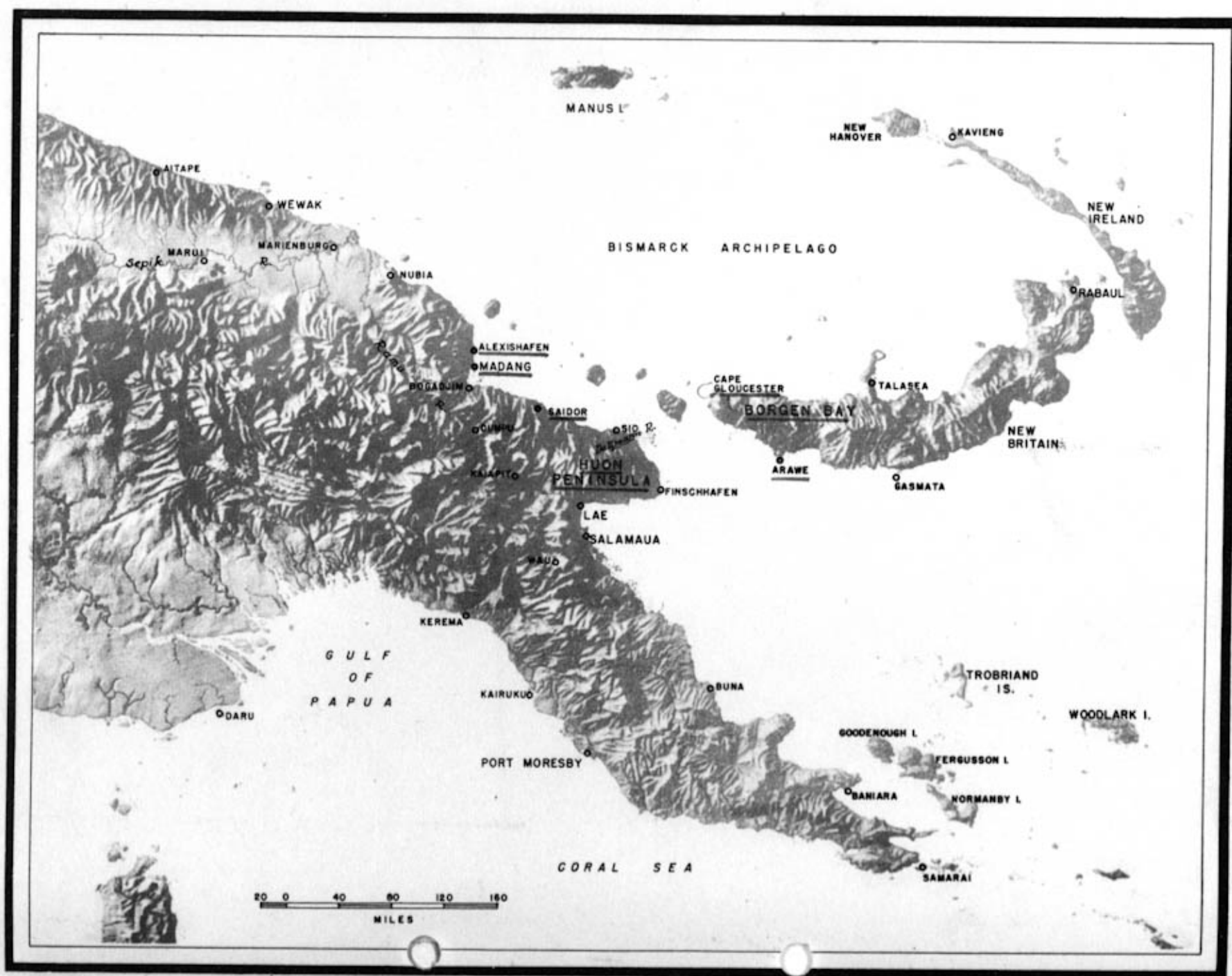
3. Lieutenant General Jacob L. Devers relinquished command of the European Theater of Operations on 8 January and assumed command of the North African Theater of Operations the same date.

ASIATIC THEATER

At least three escorted B-25's of the 10th Air Force damaged oil plant installations at Lanywa in central Burma on 7 January.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our patrols attacked a strong enemy position at Arawe on 7 January. On Cape Gloucester further gains were made to the southeast where an additional 200 of the enemy were killed. On Huon Peninsula, without enemy contact, patrols crossed the Dallmann River; inland patrols reported minor clashes. US forces at Saidor continued to consolidate



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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

their perimeter. US aircraft intensified attacks against the enemy on 6 and 7 January, heavily attacking antiaircraft positions at Alexishafen and bombing bridges, bivouac areas and other targets of opportunity along the northeastern New Guinea coast. Other Allied planes attacked enemy positions in the vicinity of Borgen Bay and destroyed a 5,000-ton auxiliary oiler north of Madang. Farther west seven B-24's damaged installations at Boela (Ceram).

2. Fourteen B-24's dropped 25 tons of bombs on Taroa and Wotje during the night of 6-7 January.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 759

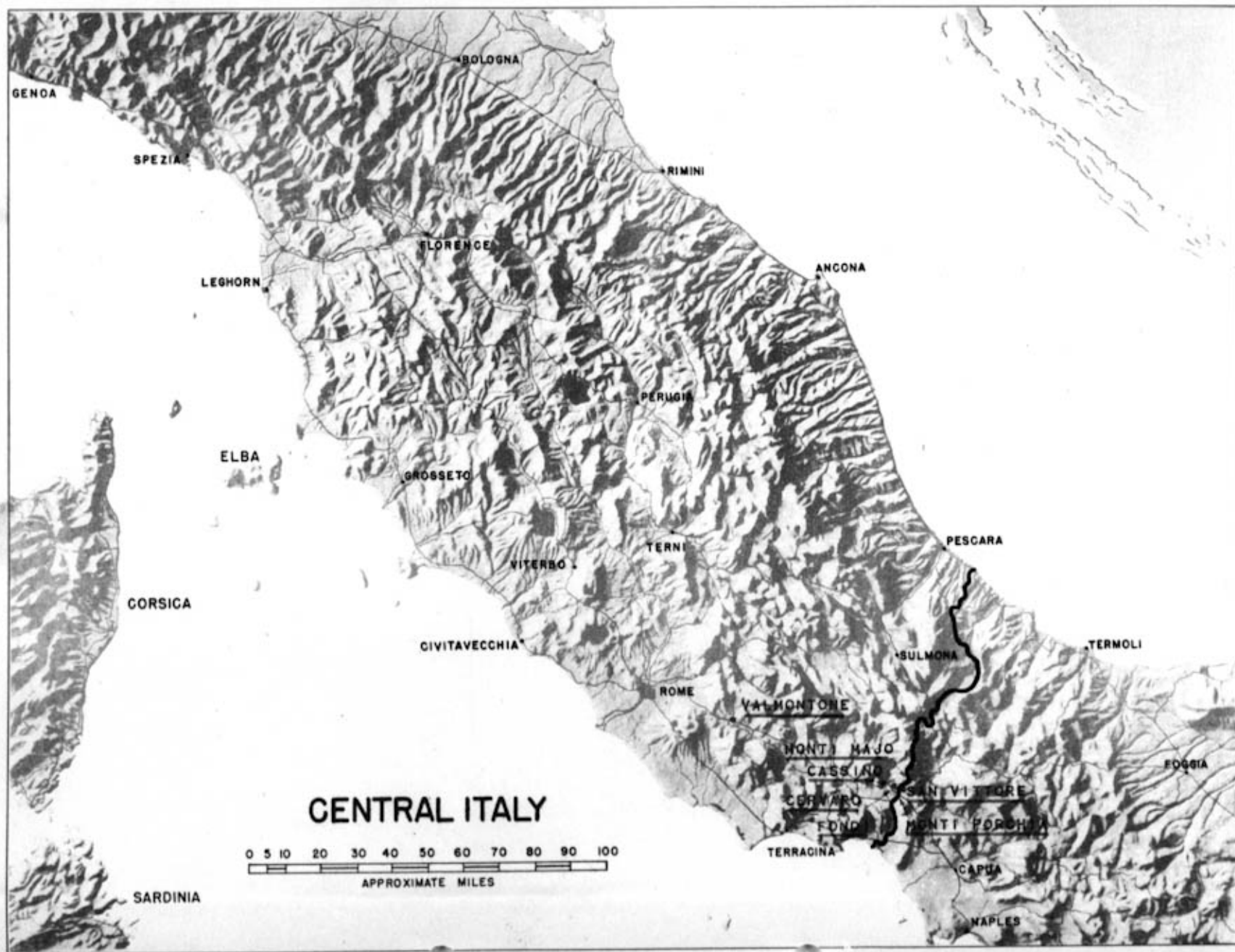
0700 January 7 to 0700 January 8, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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EUROPEAN THEATER

1. A total of 167 escorted Allied bombers attacked targets in cross-channel areas on 6 January, reporting many hits; three enemy and six British fighters were destroyed.

That night 65 RAF planes laid mines along the western French coast and in the Frisian Islands. Mosquitoes operated over the Ruhr.

2. Increased Soviet pressure now seriously threatens the German forces in the Dnepr bend. Red forces have surrounded Kirovograd. Between Cherkassy and Belaya Tserkov they pushed the enemy back from the Dnepr on 7 January and connected the large Soviet bridgehead south of Kiev with that southwest of Kremenchug. Southeast and west of Berdichev the Red troops advanced another ten miles; they also arrived within 13 miles of Sarny. South and northwest of Vitebsk the Soviets considerably increased their pressure.

MEDITERRANEAN

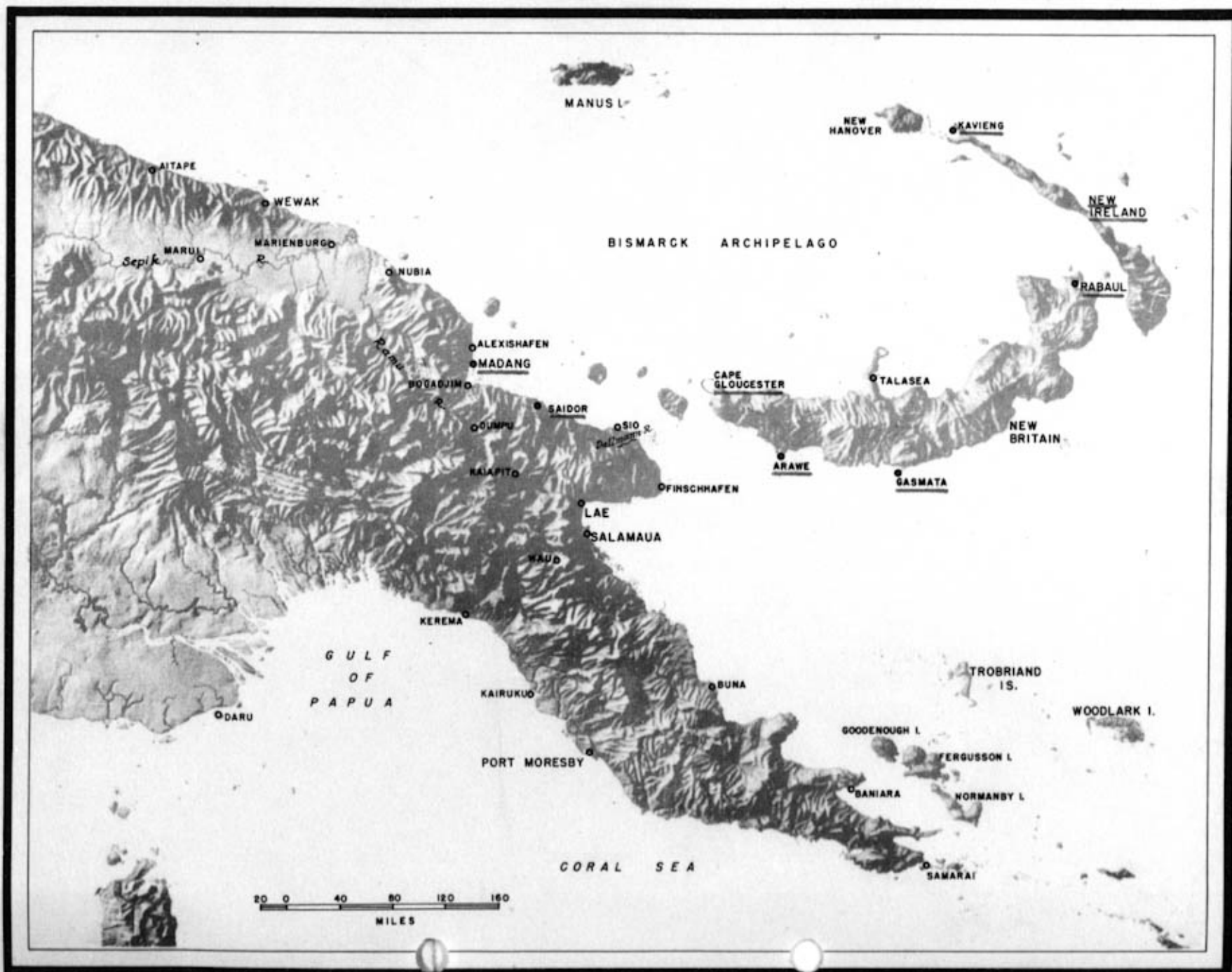
1. Weather prevented bomber operations on 6 January. Lighter aircraft attacked gun positions in the Cervaro area, transportation facilities near Valmontone and Fondi and, in patrols over the battle area, shot down two of 20 enemy planes encountered.

2. Small but important gains on 7 January improved the tactical position of the US II Corps. A thrust by armored units placed their forward elements on Monti Porchia, within five miles of Cassino; San



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



Vittore was cleared of the enemy by our 34th Division after heavy street fighting; to the north Monti Majo was captured. The right flank of the British X Corps advanced to conform to these gains.

On the Eighth Army front snow drifts impeded movement; aggressive patrol action continued.

3. Allied aircraft mined the harbor of Rhodes and bombed nearby installations during the night of 5-6 January and, the following day, sank a 150-foot vessel and a motor launch in the same region.

ASIATIC THEATER

One B-24 of the 10th Air Force dropped five 1,000-pound bombs on Akyab during 5 January. The following day 12 P-40's attacked an enemy supply point in the vicinity of Sahmaw.

Twelve RAF planes made two attacks on Pinlebu on 5 January.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Action at Arawe and Cape Gloucester was limited to patrolling on 6 January. In northeastern New Guinea, our forward elements on Huon Peninsula have reached the Dallmann River; at Saidor our forces reported light contact with the enemy 11 miles southeast of the town. The previous night Allied flying boats bombed Gasmata, started large fires at Kavieng airdrome, and heavily machine-gunned troop-laden barges north of Madang. Other Allied planes attacked small boats along the New Britain coast as well as barges and targets of opportunity in northeastern New Guinea.

2. In a sweep over Rabaul on 6 January, a mission of P-38's destroyed nine (probably 13) enemy planes; two P-38's are missing. On their return the fighters machine-gunned targets on southeast New Ireland, destroying a Japanese parked airplane; another enemy fighter was shot down. Six B-25's bombed buildings and machine-gunned enemy positions in the vicinity of Choiseul Bay. Other Allied bombers attacked targets in southeastern Bougainville. On 7 January ten B-24's bombed Vunakanau airdrome, near Rabaul, with unobserved results.

GENERAL

The following report of the disposition of enemy prisoners of war is made by the North African Theater:

	Germ. Off.	Germ. EM	Ital. Off.	Ital EM	Civ.	Misc.
Held in North Africa						
by US	71	1,023	5,770	61,785	167	
by British	14	2,323	571	39,569		1,649
Held in Sicily						
by US	Nil	Nil	266	13,650		
by British	Nil	4	322	8,547		43
Held in Italy						
by US	6	859	Nil	2	123	
by British	16	1,863			86	5
Evacuated to US	4,031	117,048	3,443	42,521		
Evacuated to UK	94	5,350	317	23,312		522
Totals	4,232	128,470	10,689	189,386	376	2,219

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 758

0700 January 6 to 0700 January 7, 1944

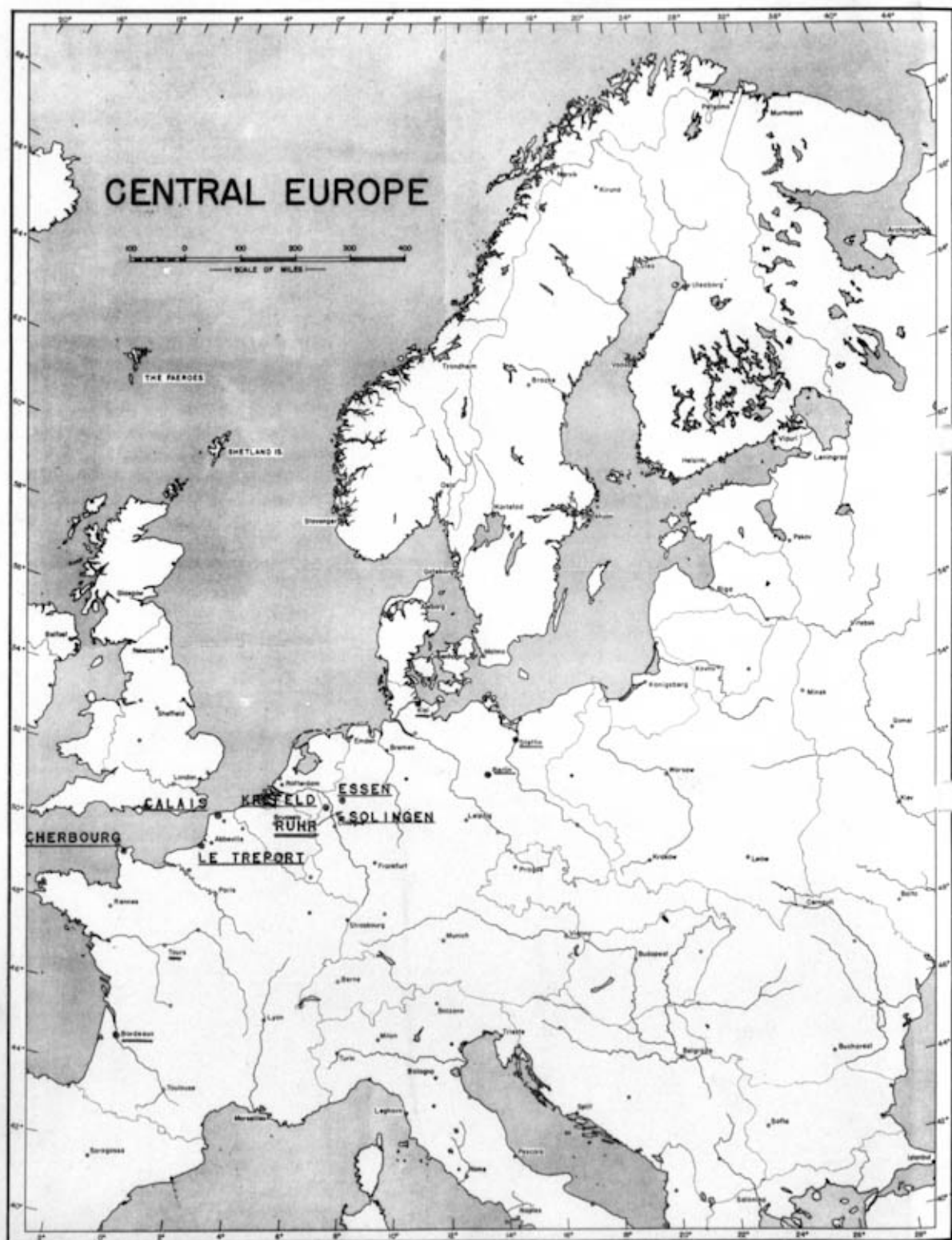
COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
MILES
SCALE OF MILES



GENERAL

The War Department has directed important changes in Army supply procedure which have as their objectives economy in both stocking and using supplies, improved salvage measures, and closer coordination among planning, producing and using agencies. Examples of these procedures are the requirements that immediate redistribution shall be made of automobile tires in overseas theaters where unbalanced stocks have resulted from troop transfers, and that every effort consistent with economy in shipping time shall be made to return from theaters of operation repairable property, scrap, etc.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Central Defense Command will be abolished effective 15 January 1944 and its functions assumed by the Commanding General, Eastern Defense Command. Personnel made surplus by this action will be reported to The Adjutant General for reassignment. Responsibility for the protection of Sault Ste. Marie canal will be assumed by the Army Service Forces as a matter of internal security.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 4-5 January 20 enemy bombers and fighter bombers dropped bombs over southeastern England and the London area.

The following day 71 escorted bombers of the Allied Expeditionary Air Force attacked military objectives between Le Treport and Calais with observed effect. That night 329 RAF heavy bombers dropped more than 1200

tons of bombs on Stettin, reporting heavy damage to the city. Enemy defenses were ineffective since they prepared for an attack on Berlin; one heavy bomber was lost. Small numbers of RAF Mosquitoes harassed Berlin, the Krefeld steel mills, Solingen, the Krupp Works at Essen, and Cherbourg.

2. During the week ending 2 January, US Air Forces based in the UK destroyed 28 (probably 36) enemy planes while RAF units destroyed 17 (probably 19) enemy aircraft; Allied losses during this period were 133 planes including 106 heavy bombers. Major missions during this period were two heavy raids against Berlin, and one each against Ludwigshafen and airfields in southwest France.

3. Following is a tabulation of the activities of the 8th Air Force on 5 January:

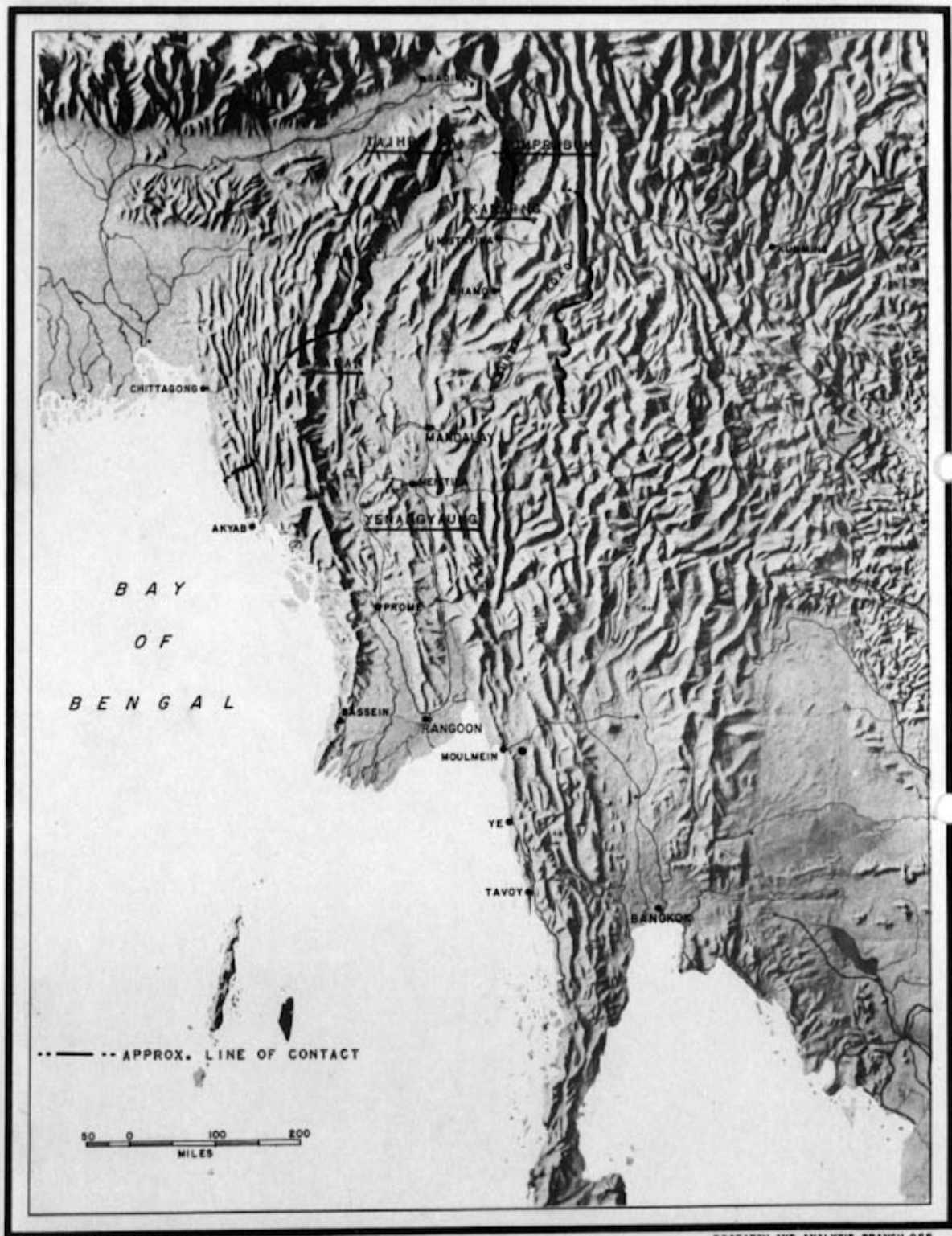
<u>Target</u>	<u>Bombers Dispatched</u>	<u>Bombers which Actually attacked</u>	<u>Fighter Escort</u>	<u>Enemy Losses</u>	<u>Our Losses</u>
Kiel	246	215	122	56(63?)	17(10 bombers)
Ruhr	78	73	255	9(11?)	3(2 bombers)
Tours	79	78	157	4(-)	1(1 bomber)
Bordeaux-Merignac	<u>117</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>26(31?)</u>	<u>10(5 bombers)</u>
Total	520	478	611	95(105?)	31(18 bombers)

4. The Soviets took advantage of improved weather during 6 January and became more aggressive along the entire front; heaviest fighting was in the south where they launched attacks southeast and north of Kirovograd. Strong enemy counterattacks prevented any advances. However Red forces made a nine-mile advance southeast of Kazatin and pushed to within 26 miles of Sarny in the Pripet marshes northwest of Korosten.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

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BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS

MEDITERRANEAN

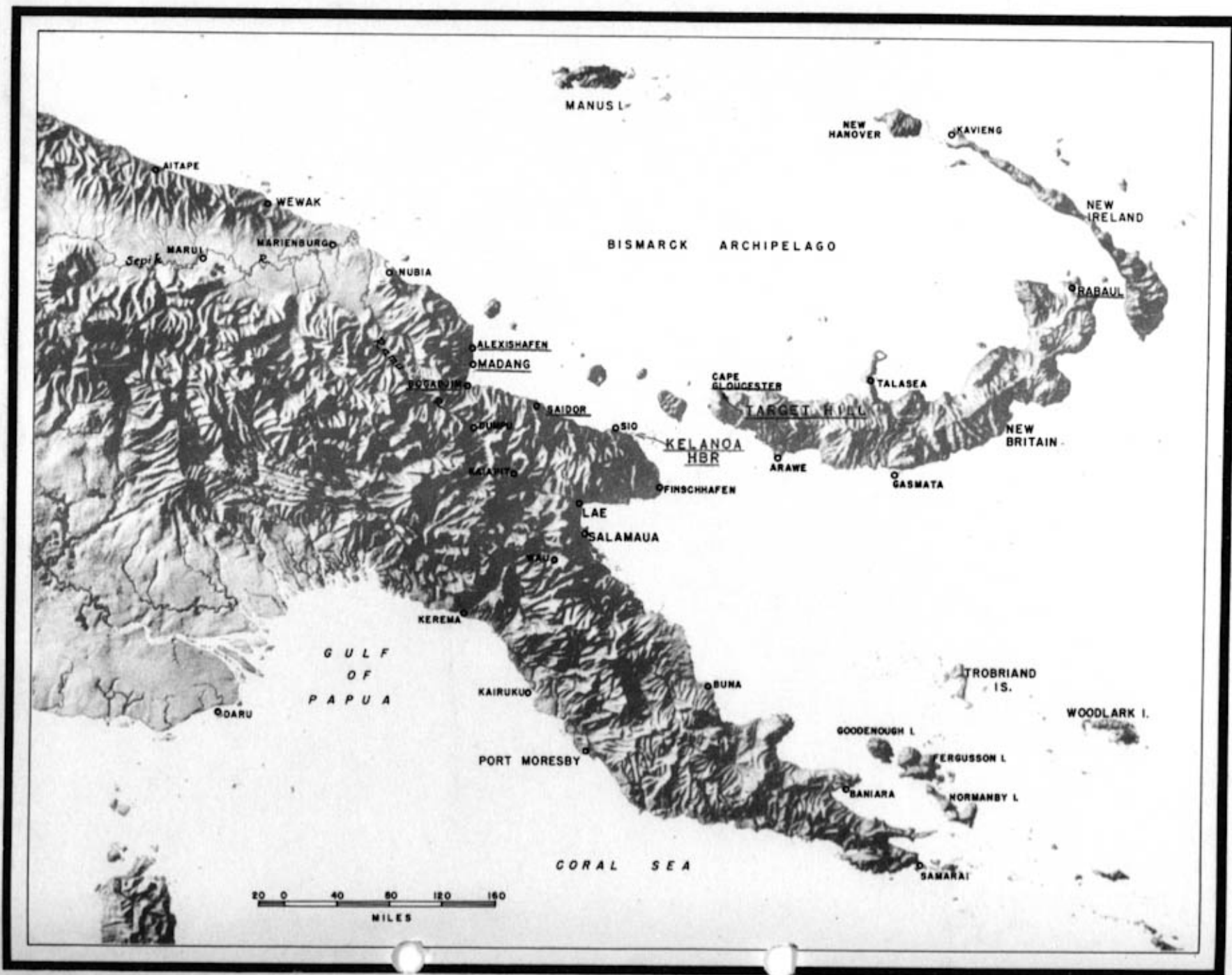
1. During the night of 4-5 January light bombers attacked the chemical works at Torre di Passeri and hit buildings and warehouses at San Benedetto; one plane did not return. Heavy and medium bomber operations for 5 January were cancelled due to weather. Lighter aircraft attacked enemy gun positions and strong points in the vicinity of Cervaro and patrolled the western battle area.

2. Bad weather impeded operations over the entire Italian front on 6 January. The enemy launched repeated counterattacks southwest of San Vittore where elements of our 34th Division are still fighting in the streets; other units of that division pushed toward Cervaro. On the Eighth Army front units were regrouping and consolidating their positions.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. The 10th Air Force furnished support for ground troops near Taipha Ga on 4 January and attacked Japanese troop concentrations at Kamaing. The next day, A-36's and P-51's scored hits on buildings and a tunnel entrance and provided ground support near Sumprabum. British aircraft attacked troop concentrations near Falam and harassed river craft in the Yenangyaung area.

2. On 6 January two B-25's from the 14th Air Force sank a 175-foot troop ship on the Yangtze below Tungting Lake.



SOLOMON ISLANDS AREA



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In extending their Cape Gloucester beachhead on 3 and 4 January our forces killed about 600 Japanese; Allied casualties since the landing are 117 dead, 354 wounded and eight missing. On 5 January our units on Huon Peninsula reached Kelanoa Harbor with little opposition while patrols encountered the enemy eight miles west of Saidor. 5th Air Force missions totaling 82 heavy and medium bombers attacked targets in the Alexishafen, Madang, and Bogadjim areas and elsewhere along the northeastern New Guinea coast. Other Allied planes sank a 1,500-ton freighter near Madang, and attacked shipping, airdromes and other installations in the Rabaul area.

2. Allied fighters from the South Pacific Area shot down ten (probably 15) enemy planes over Rabaul on 4 January; we lost one fighter. Our heavy bombers put 45 tons of explosives into a Japanese supply area on Sohana Island and other planes attacked gun positions and other targets in Bougainville. The next day 36 B-25's bombed enemy concentrations in the vicinity of Choiseul Bay; other medium and heavy bombers attacked buildings, antiaircraft positions, supply dumps and similar targets near Buka and in the Kahili - Faisi area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 757

0700 January 5 to 0700 January 6, 1944

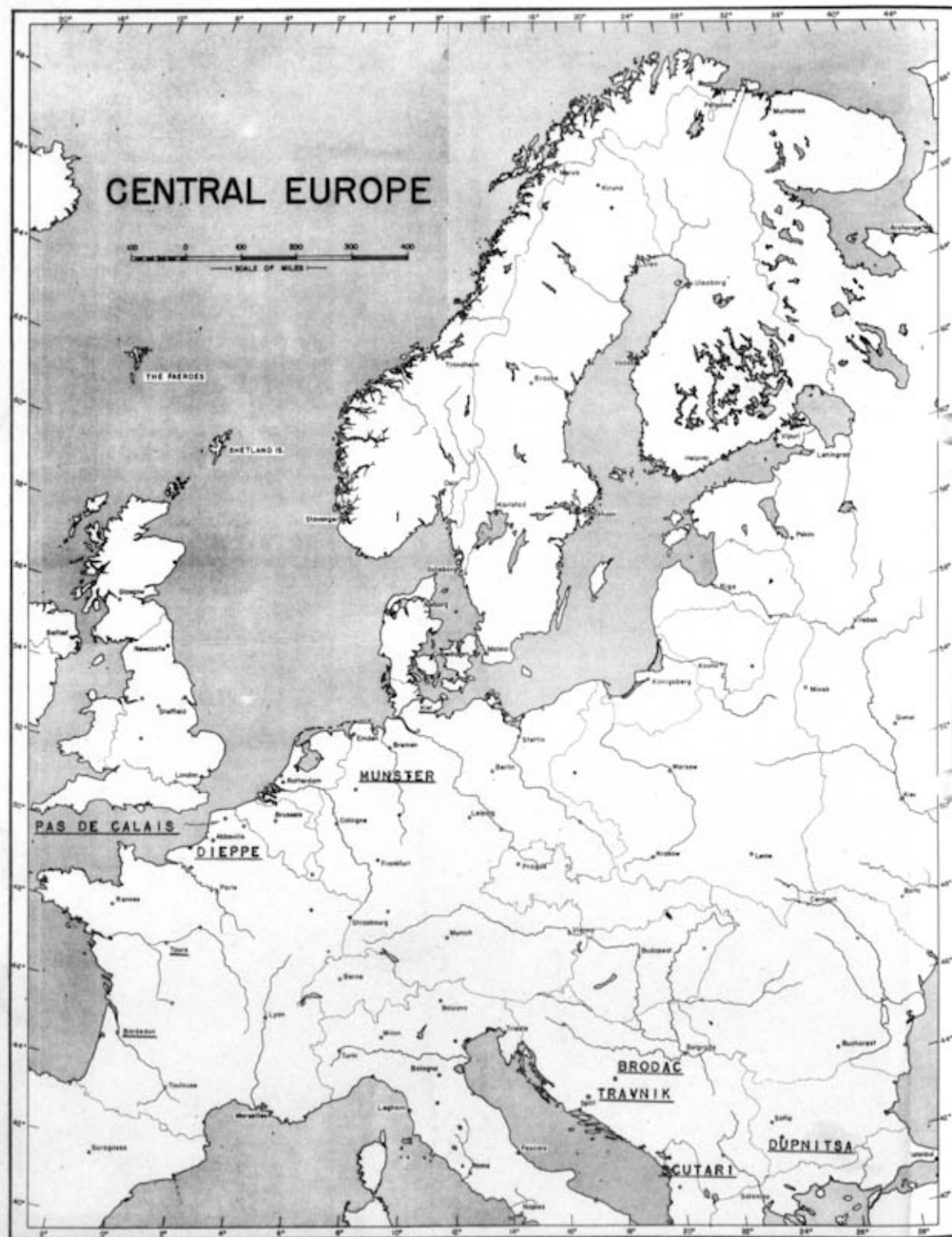
COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(4)

CENTRAL EUROPE

100 0 100 200 300 400
MILES
— SCALE OF MILES —



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives have been issued for the movement of the 30th Infantry Division (Major General Leland S. Hobbs) from Camp Atterbury, Indiana to a northeastern port of embarkation for further movement overseas.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. RAF bombers attacked suspected pilotless airplane sites along the French coast during the night of 3-4 January, scoring hits on some of them. The following day 358 of our B-26's and over 300 RAF bombers, escorted by RAF Spitfires, were dispatched to continue these attacks. Shipbuilding yards at Kiel and nearby targets of opportunity, and the railroad yards at Munster, were the respective targets for 569 and 75 8th Air Force heavy bombers which dropped 1,251 tons of explosives and incendiaries; accurate results were obtained despite heavy clouds over the targets. 465 P-47's provided support for the Munster mission during its entire route over land. Enemy fighter opposition to these heavy bomber missions was effectively driven off by our long-range fighters which destroyed eight (probably nine) enemy planes while the bombers accounted for four (probably 16) more. Eighteen bombers and three fighters are missing.

2. Strong formations of our heavy bombers, escorted by P-38's P-47's and P-51's, attacked enemy airdromes at Bordeaux and Tours, the shipyards at Kiel, and other targets in western Germany on 5 January. Enemy aerial opposition was strong at Bordeaux, weak at Tours, and





moderate at Kiel; our planes destroyed 95 enemy aircraft. Preliminary reports indicate that 25 of our bombers and 12 fighters failed to return.

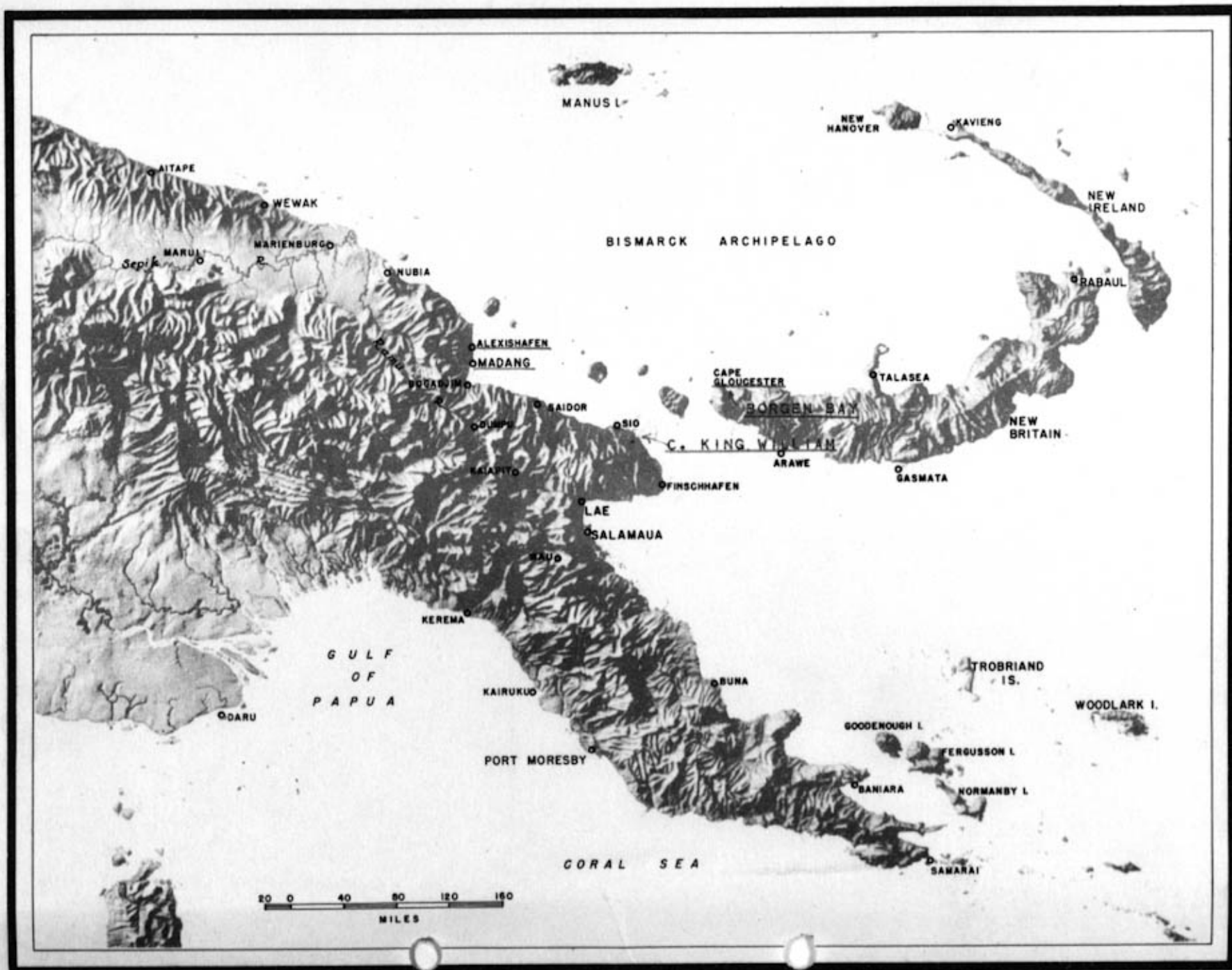
3. North of Nevel the Soviets are now 8 miles from Novosokolniki, 13 miles west of Veliki Luki. The Soviets launched attacks west of Propoisk on 5 January. South of Kiev they advanced about 14 miles to capture Tarashcha, 24 miles southeast of Belaya Tserkov. South of Zhitomir they forced the evacuation of Berdichev. There are no indications of enemy withdrawal from the Dnepr River bend or the Crimea. ✓

MEDITERRANEAN

1. North African Air Force missions on 4 January included an attack by B-17's, escorted by 117 P-38's and P-47's, on Dupnitsa and Scutari, and raids of 24 B-25's each on rail installations at Brodac and enemy barracks at Travnik. Light bombers attacked Pretoro and Manoppello. Other aircraft impeded by weather performed patrol missions and attacked the enemy lines of communication.

2. There was a general advance along the X and II Corps fronts on 5 January as British units pushed across the Peccia River and US troops drove further into the entrance to the Cassino-Frosinone corridor. Forward units of our 34th Division are now fighting in San Vittore where progress has been slowed by heavy automatic-weapon fire from houses converted into pill boxes. On the Eighth Army front only local actions were reported.





3. General Devers arrived in Algiers on 5 January.

ASIATIC THEATER

10th Air Force planes carried out demolitions in the Loilaw area on 2 January. The following day 10 B-24's and 19 escorted B-25's attacked oil installations at Yenangyaung, while 11 escorted A-36's damaged enemy supplies at Sahmaw. Three escorted B-25's attacked rolling stock and shipping near the Mu River bridge on 5 January, destroying several buildings, and sinking a steamer.

During 2, 3, and 4 January British bombers attacked the Heho airfield, railroad facilities at Prome and Myingyan, as well as other targets in western Burma.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Supported by tanks, Allied ground forces on Cape Gloucester expanded their beachhead on 4 January, advancing toward Borgen Bay against stiff enemy resistance. In New Guinea Allied units, pushing from the south, reached Cape King William.

A total of 63 heavy and medium bombers attacked bivouac areas and gun positions in the Alexishafen and Madang areas and other enemy-held positions along the northeastern New Guinea coast. Nine escorted Dutch B-25's left a medium cargo vessel sinking and a freighter-transport ablaze at Koepang (Timor); five B-24's also hit a small naval vessel in that area.

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

2. Major General Hubert R. Harmon has been designated to command the 13th Air Force; General Harmon has heretofore commanded our 6th Air Force in the Caribbean.

3. Tarawa-based Ventura bombers attacked two enemy freighters on 4 January, with observed effect on one of the ships. Twenty-four Army dive bombers, escorted by a like number of P-39's, dropped 17 tons of explosives on Mili; one P-39 was lost over the target area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 756

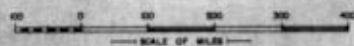
0700 January 4 to 0700 January 5, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(4)

CENTRAL EUROPE



THE FAEROES

SHETLAND IS.

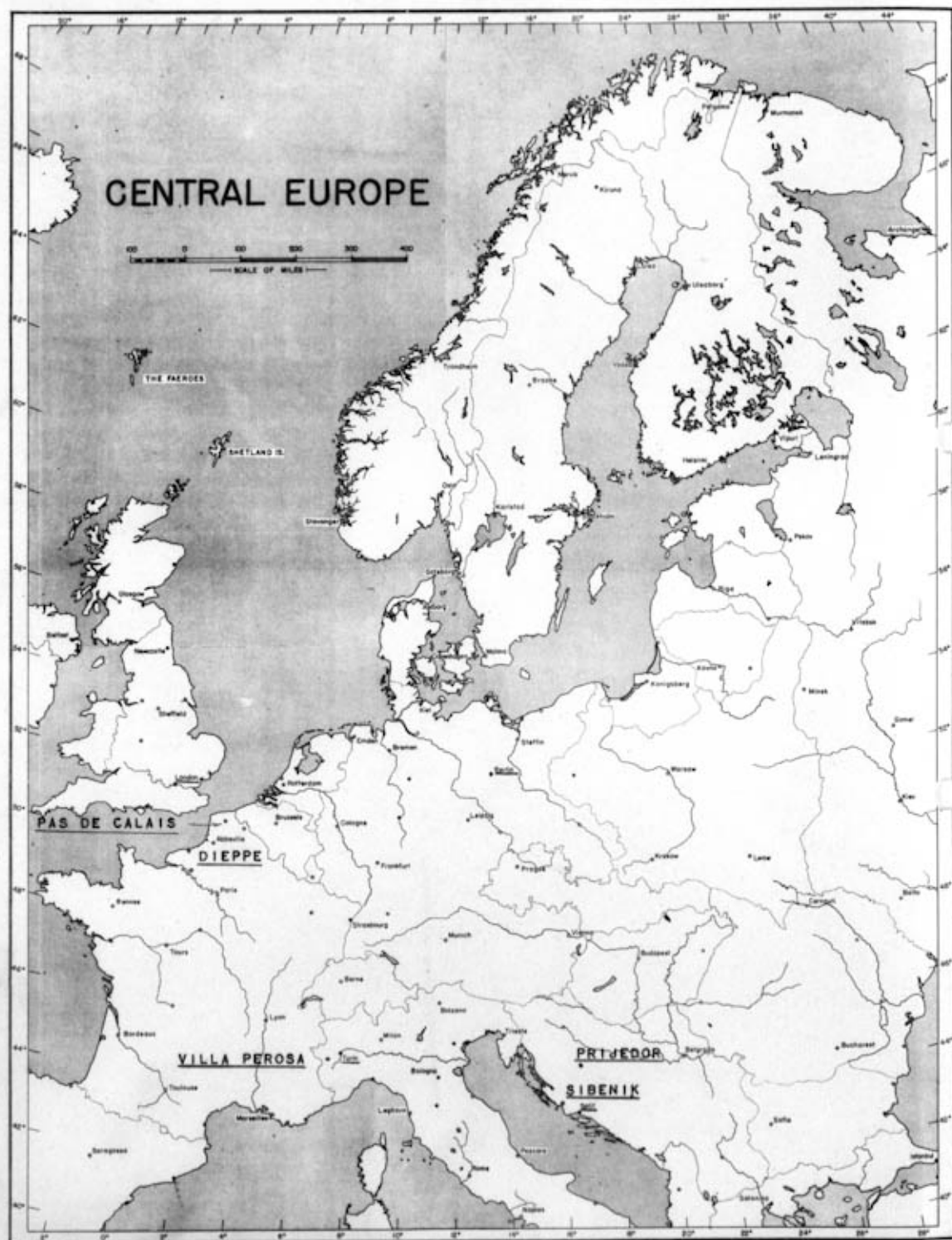
PAS DE CALAIS

DIEPPE

VILLA PEROSA

PRIGOR

SIBENIK





EUROPEAN THEATER

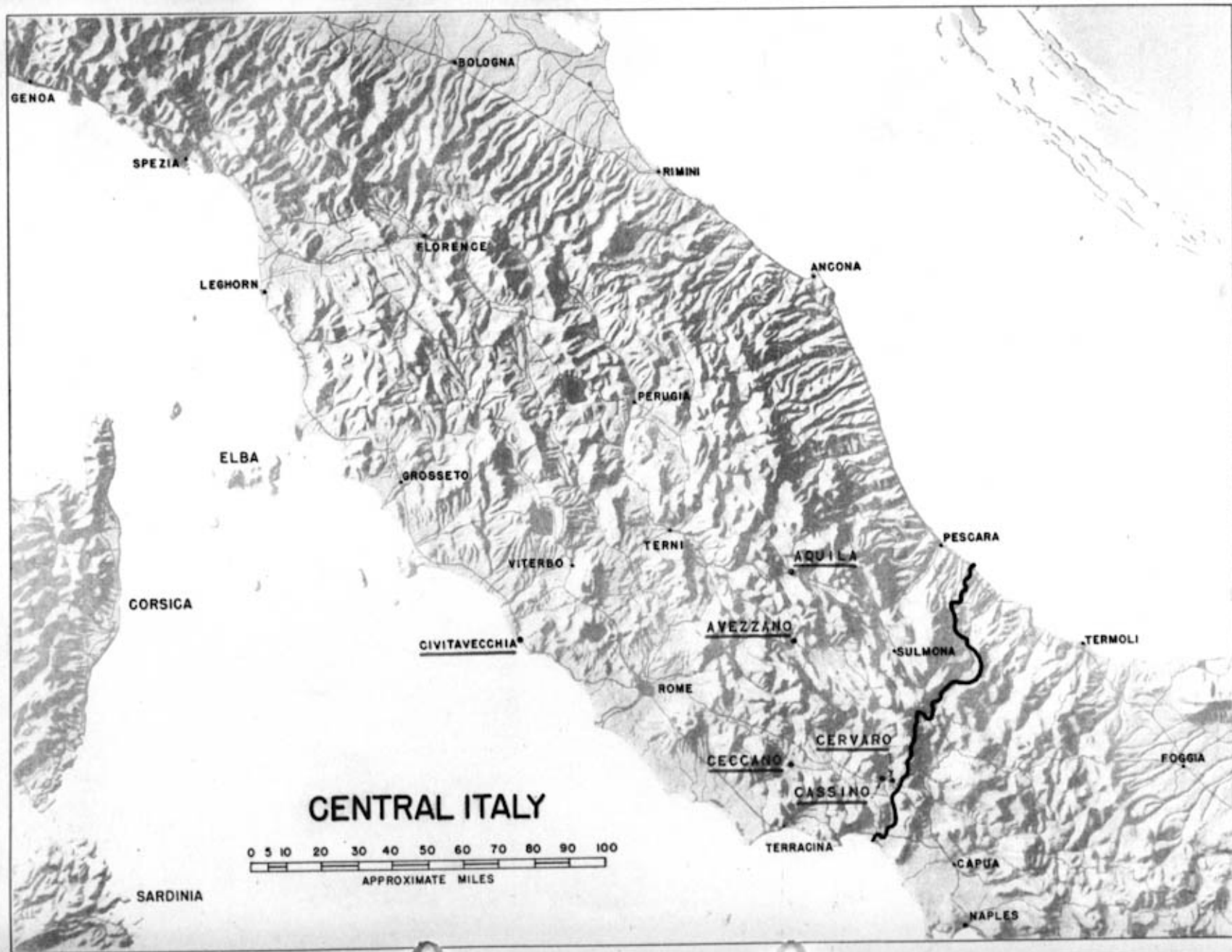
1. More than 1,100 tons of explosives and incendiaries, including seven 8,000-pound and 250 4,000-pound bombs, were dropped on Berlin by RAF aircraft during the night of 2-3 January. Twenty-eight bombers were lost. Four of 20 German planes which crossed into England that night were shot down. During 2 and 3 January escorted Allied fighter-bomber missions raided military objectives in the Pas de Calais and Dieppe areas; night-flying RAF Mosquitoes harassed targets in the Rhineland. ✓

2. During the week ending 2 January the US 8th Air Force lost 49 heavy bombers; incomplete claims indicate that 12 (probably 16) enemy aircraft were destroyed during the period.

3. Soviet forces captured Belaya Tserkov and pushed 13 miles farther to the southeast. Southwest of Zhitomir they are now seven miles from the Berdichev-Rovno railroad. Continued pressure against Vitebsk failed to gain; northwest of that town the enemy is staging strong counterattacks. ✓

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Strategic Air Force missions totalling 105 escorted B-17's hit the Turin railroad yards and the ball-bearing factory at Villa Perosa on 3 January, reporting excellent coverage; four enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of ten planes, including one heavy bomber. Other bombers hit gun positions at Cassino and Cervaro, destroyed snowbound



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

enemy vehicles near Avezzano, attacked enemy shipping at Civitavecchia and off the Dalmatian coast. Fighters damaged rolling stock at Aquila and patrolled the battle area. Railway installations at Split and Sibenik and enemy troop concentrations at Prijedor in Yugoslavia were targets for medium and light bomber missions.

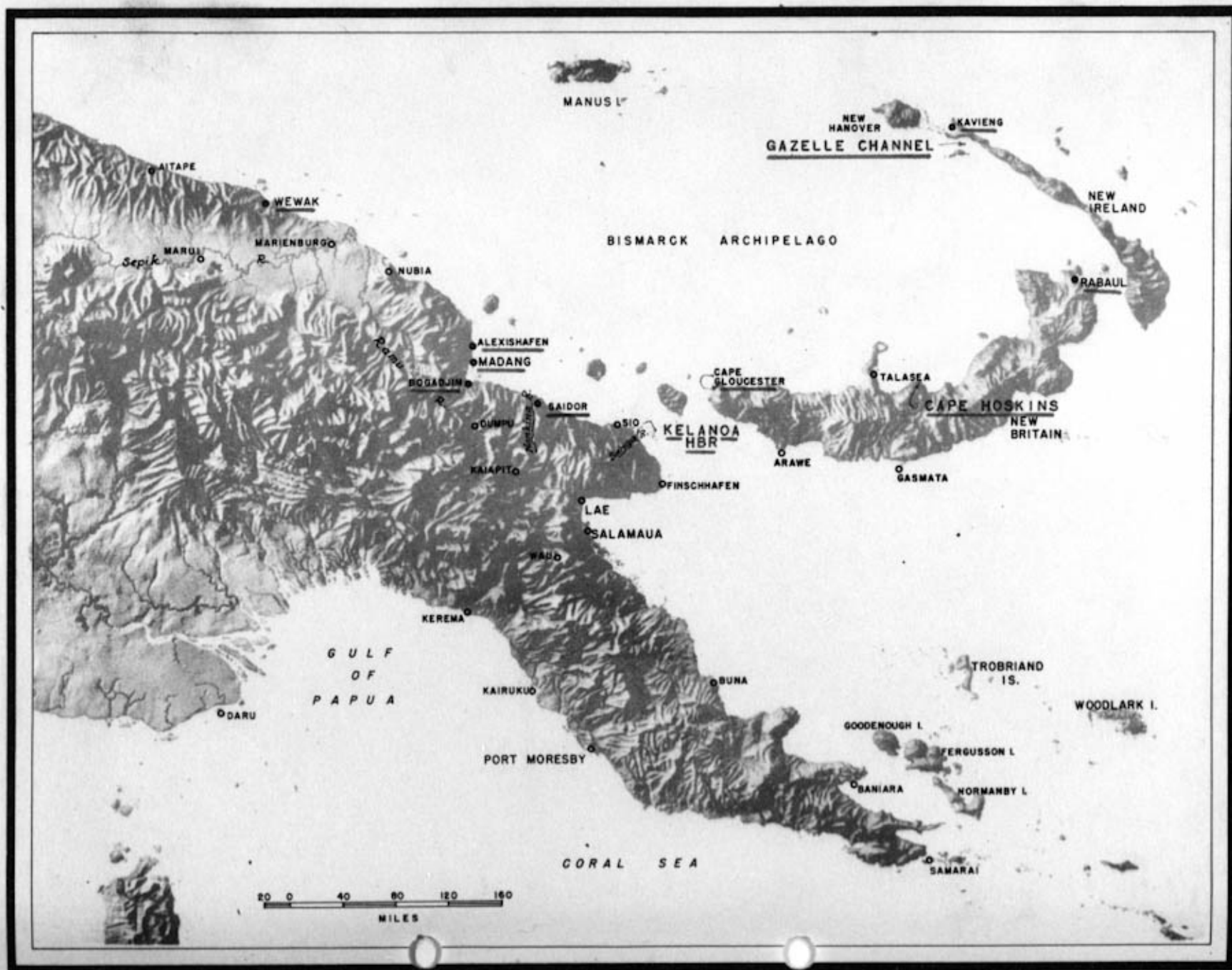
2. Again on 4 January no important changes occurred in the battle lines in Italy. On the front of the US II Corps our forces made minor gains to secure additional crests on the northern slopes of the Monti Sammuero hill mass. The report that the US 1st Armored Division had reverted to control of the Fifth Army has been corrected, this division retaining its previous assignment with the II Corps.

ASIATIC THEATER

Twenty-eight escorted B-24's of the 14th Air Force bombed the Lampang (Thailand) railroad yards on 3 January with excellent results; all planes returned. Five P-40's raided an enemy-held town near the Burmese border.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In a previously unreported raid against our positions at Saidor on the afternoon of 2 January, two bombers and three (probably four) enemy fighters were shot down by 11 intercepting P-40's. That night 39 Allied aircraft again started large fires at Kavieng and the Lakunai airdrome at Rabaul. The enemy made three light raids against our Cape Gloucester



positions inflicting a few casualties.

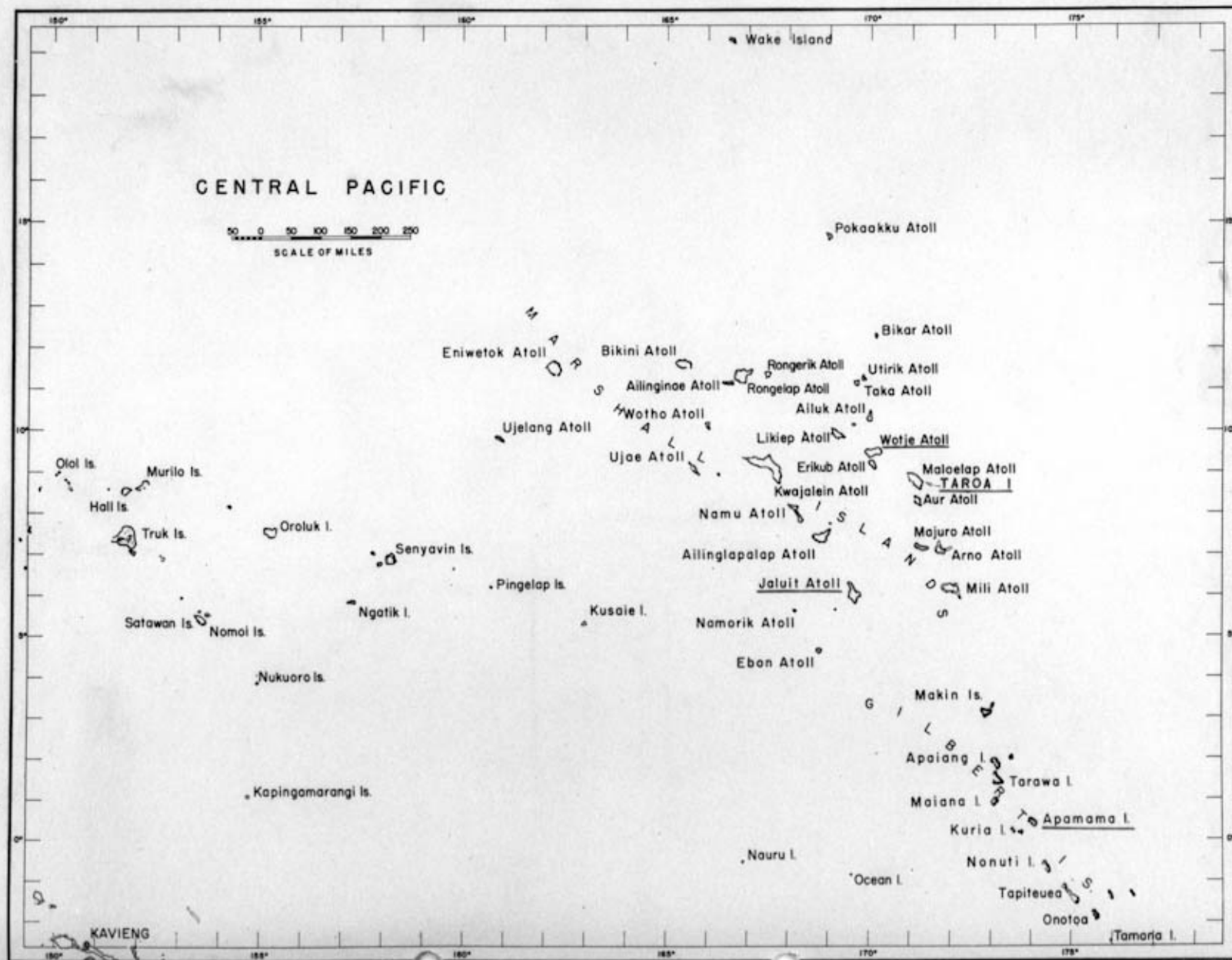
On 3 January our ground forces at Saidor captured a large ammunition dump and advanced west of the Nankina River without encountering the enemy. Allied forces on the Huon Peninsula crossed the Sanga River and were advancing on Kelanoa Harbor.

1500 of the enemy have been killed on Cape Gloucester, 200 in an unsuccessful counterattack against the eastern flank of our beachhead during the morning of the 3rd.

The major air attack during this period was a mission of 45 escorted B-24's which dropped over 120 tons of bombs on antiaircraft positions and dumps at Alexishafen and other installations at Madang. Enemy supply dumps near Bogadjim were effectively raided by 14 B-25's. Other Allied aircraft flew ground support missions, attacked small shipping and antiaircraft positions at Cape Hoskins, shot down two enemy planes over Wewak, and bombed barracks at Atamboea, Timor.

2. Six B-24's bombed targets at Kavieng on 3 January; results were unobserved. In aerial combat over the area three of nineteen intercepting Japanese planes were destroyed. Twenty-four B-25's hit targets at Kahili and Buka. Allied fighters, patrolling over Rabaul, engaged a force of 20 Japanese planes of which six (probably 11) were shot down for a loss of two of our planes.

Our carrier-based planes attacked two enemy destroyers in Gazelle Channel, sinking one and probably sinking the other. The next day a search plane from Guadalcanal scored a damaging hit on an enemy



cruiser off Kavieng.

3. Our heavy bombers attacked Wotje and Taroa on 2 January destroying ten (probably 17) enemy planes in combat over the two targets; we lost three B-24's. Nine B-25's attacked ground targets at Jaluit; one was lost. The following day enemy planes raided Apamama causing some damage and casualties.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 755

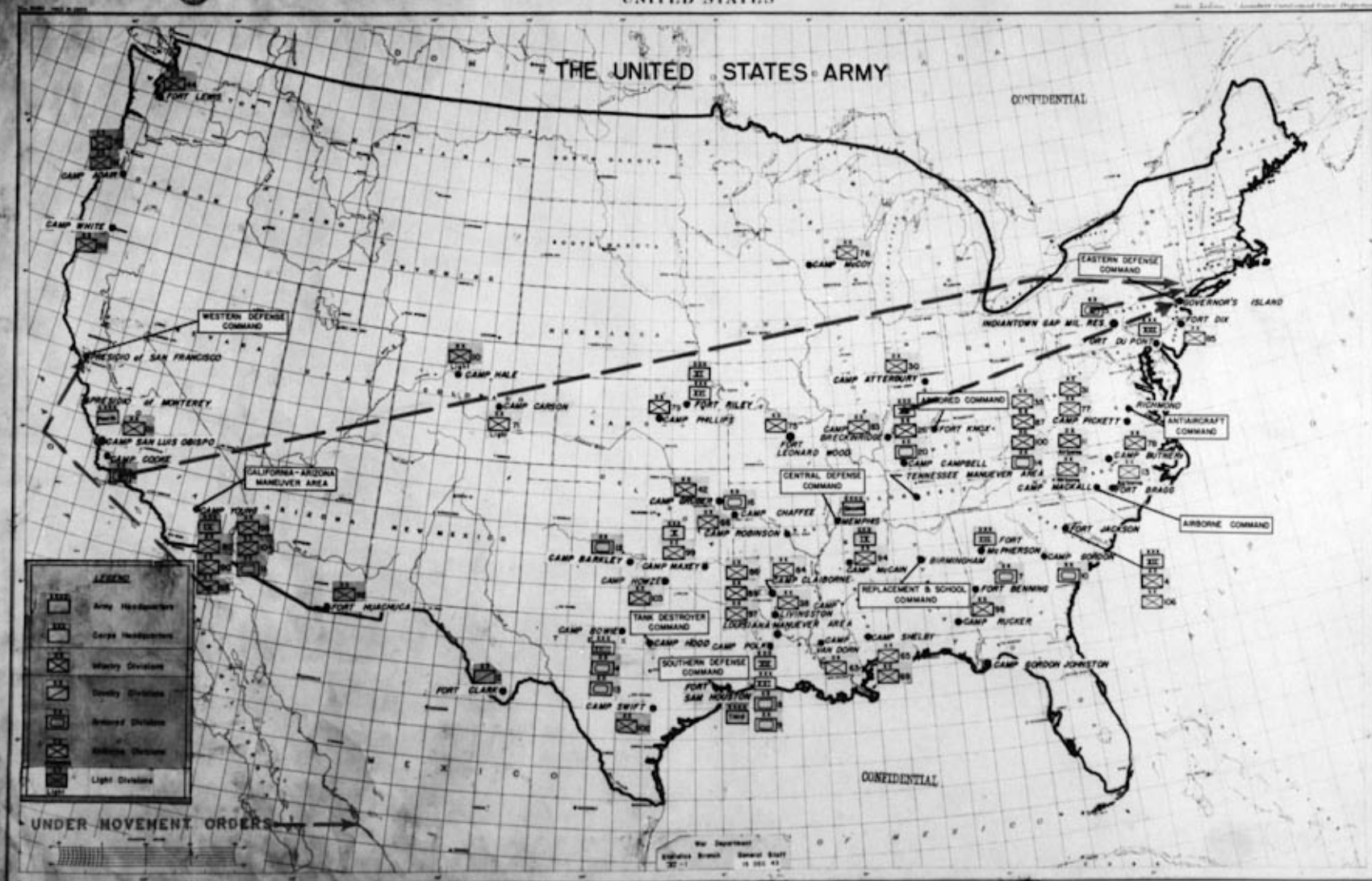
0700 January 3 to 0700 January 4, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)

OUTLINE MAP
UNITED STATES





VENTIMIGLIA

GENOA

SPEZIA

LEGHORN

ELBA

CORSICA

SARDINIA

BOLOGNA

FLORENCE

RIMINI

ANCONA

PERUGIA

GROSSETO

VITERBO

TERNI

CIVITAVECCHIA

ROME

PESCARA

ORTONA

SULMONA

TERMOLI

FOGGIA

CERVARO

TERRACINA

CAPUA

NAPLES

CENTRAL ITALY

0 5 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
APPROXIMATE MILES

BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

R & A, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Directives have been issued for the movement of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XX Corps (Major General Walton H. Walker) from Camp Campbell, Kentucky, to the New York Port of Embarkation for further movement overseas.

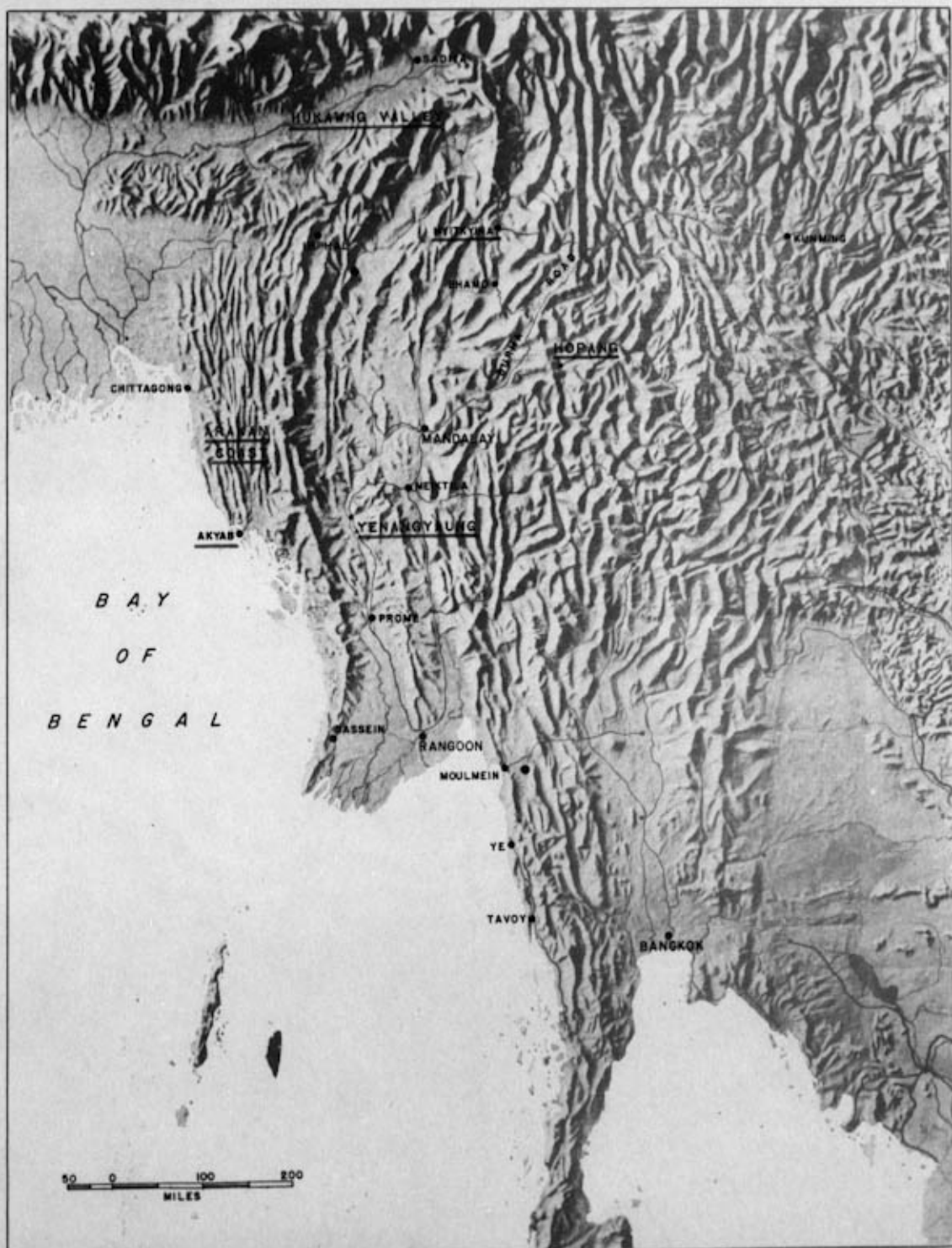
EUROPEAN THEATER

The heaviest fighting on the Eastern front during 3 January was southwest of Zhitomir and west of Olevsk where the Red Army has reached pre-war Polish boundary. The Soviets made slight progress south of Belaya Tserkov. Elsewhere no significant changes were reported.

MEDITERRANEAN

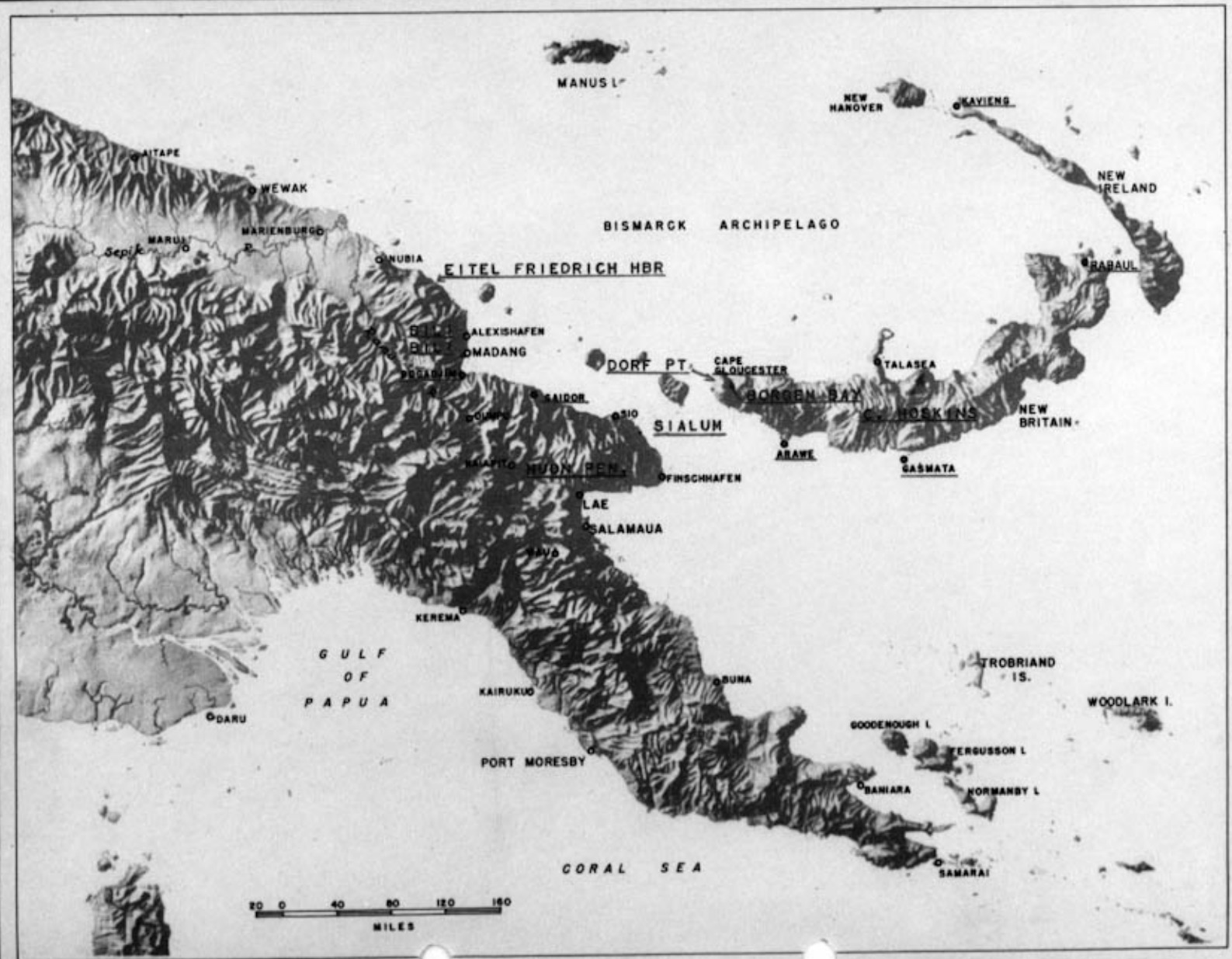
1. Key rail communication centers in Italy were targets for our medium, light and fighter bombers during 2 January. Bridges and railroad yards near Ventimiglia on the Italian Riviera were heavily hit by 49 B-26's; good bomb coverage and a large fire were reported at the Terni yards by 44 attacking B-25's. Elsewhere damage was inflicted on coastal installations, railway rolling stock, and motor transport snow-bound in the central valleys. Fighter aircraft, patrolling the battle area, attacked enemy gun positions near Cervaro and west of Ortona. Two Allied fighters failed to return from these missions.

2. There was no significant change on the Italian front during



BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



3 January. Our 1st Armored Division (less certain elements) and 3rd Infantry Division (less the 15th Infantry) reverted to control of the Fifth Army and are concentrating west of Naples. The French Expeditionary Corps assumed command of our VI Corps sector at noon; relief of our 45th Division by French units is proceeding.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 1 January, 18 escorted fighter-bombers of the 10th Air Force damaged the runway and started fires at the main airdrome at Myitkyina and two P-51's raided an enemy-held village in the Hukawng Valley. RAF aircraft attacked enemy positions and a headquarters area on the Arakan coast. The next day some 40 escorted US bombers struck the gasoline plant, work shop, refinery and power station at Yenangyaung, reporting excellent results. Four B-24's bombed targets at Akyab.

2. On 2 January, P-40's of the 14th Air Force bombed a Japanese headquarters and barracks area at Hopang; direct hits were observed in the target area and all our planes returned safely.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 2 January Allied aircraft in the Southwest Pacific Area bombed enemy installations at Kavieng, Cape Hoskins, Gasmata, Bili Bili, Bogadjim, and Eitel Friedrich Harbor. The nickel refinery at Pomelaa, Celebes, was attacked by nine B-24's which started large fires. Eighty-one medium and light bombers supported our ground operations in the Saidor

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND

10 0 10 20 30
MILES



area.

Patrols from our airdrome perimeter on Cape Gloucester and from our west coast beachhead made contact at Dorf Point. Near Borgen Bay our forces were attacking to the southeast. In the Arawe area minor patrol clashes occurred. Allied units advancing along the Huon Peninsula reached Sialum. At Saidor our troops are consolidating their perimeter defense.

Light enemy air raids were made against our Cape Gloucester and Arawe positions; one enemy bomber was shot down.

2. During 1 and 2 January Navy aircraft flew air support missions for our ground forces operating along the Torokina River and bombed and machine-gunned barge hideouts west of Numa Numa and enemy concentrations southeast of Empress Augusta Bay. Our P-39's dive-bombed and machine-gunned enemy barges in Tonolei Harbor and enemy positions on the Torokina River. Twenty-four B-25's started large fires near the dump areas at Buka.

Our 6,000-foot air strip on Stirling Island is 99 percent complete.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 754

0700 January 2 to 0700 January 3, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



EUROPEAN THEATER

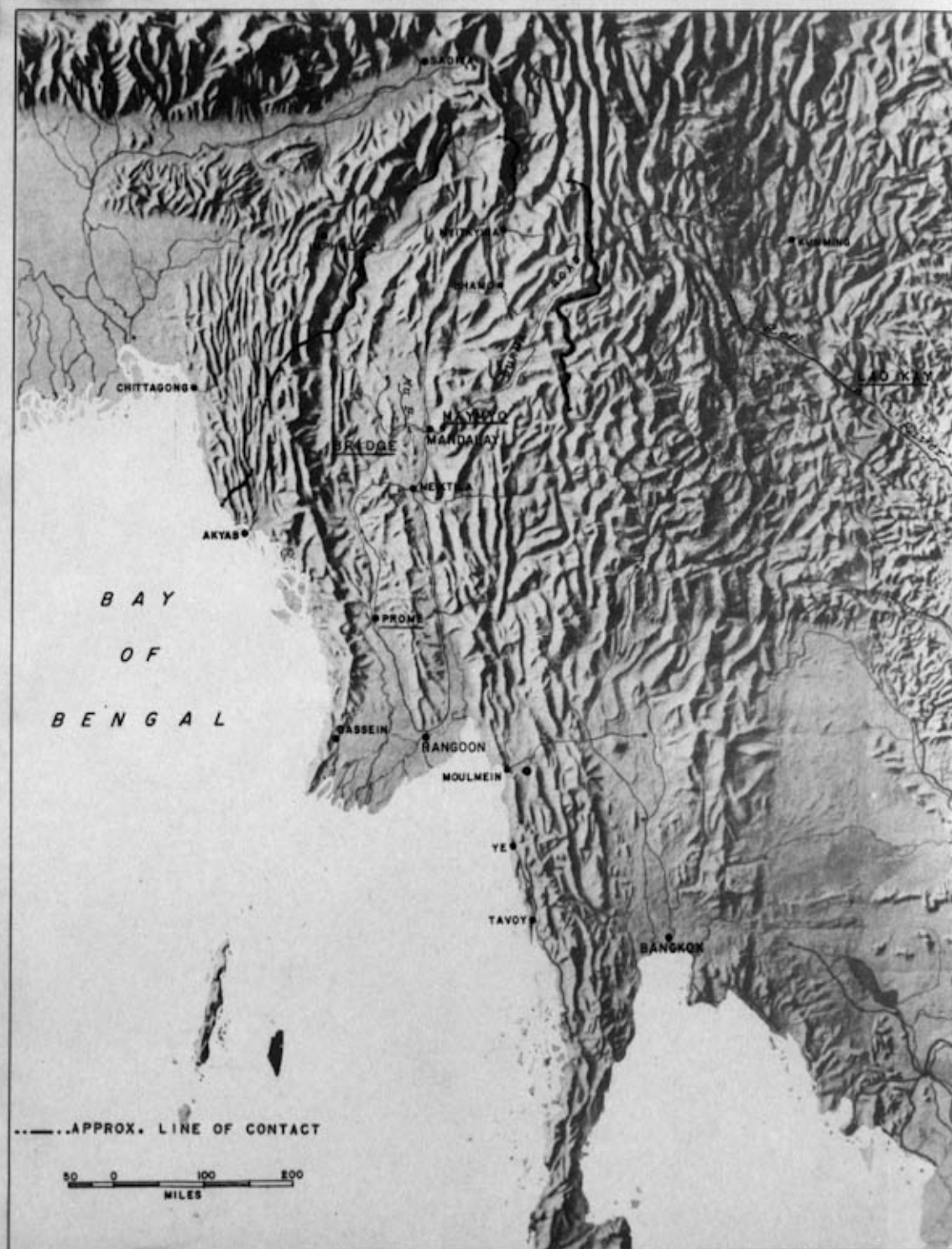
1. During 1 January, 50 escorted bombers of the RAF attacked cross-channel objectives and are believed to have scored hits in the target areas; no contacts with enemy fighters were reported. That night 350 Lancasters dropped 1,375 tons of bombs on Berlin through complete cloud cover; 29 bombers were lost or missing.

2. Red forces made further advances between Novograd-Volinskii and Berdichev on 2 January. Apparently their momentum is checked as it comes against the enemy in his positions on favorable ground; the Red forces are thus tending to make lateral gains. Northwest of Korosten they are not more than 12 miles from the Polish border at the southeast corner of the Pripet marshes. There has been little action for two days in the Crimea or Dnepr bend. ✓

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Neither the Tactical nor Strategic Air Forces operated during the night of 31 December-1 January or the next day because of adverse weather, only harbor patrol, air-sea rescue and convoy escort missions being flown.

2. Intense cold and bad weather across the Italian peninsula on 2 January restricted ground operations; activities were limited to patrolling and regrouping. The 3rd Algerian Division is disembarking in the Naples area.



~~SECRET~~

3. Casualty figures follow:

<u>Fifth Army (30 December)</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Totals</u>
US	2,651	10,886	3,365	16,902
British	1,674	7,047	2,869	11,590
French	196	1,301	57	1,554
<u>Eighth Army (28 December)</u>	<u>2,362</u>	<u>8,658</u>	<u>2,106</u>	<u>13,126</u>
	6,883	27,892	8,397	43,172

Prisoners of war captured by components of the Fifth Army were reported as follows:

US	2,982
British	1,660
French	115
	<u>4,757</u>

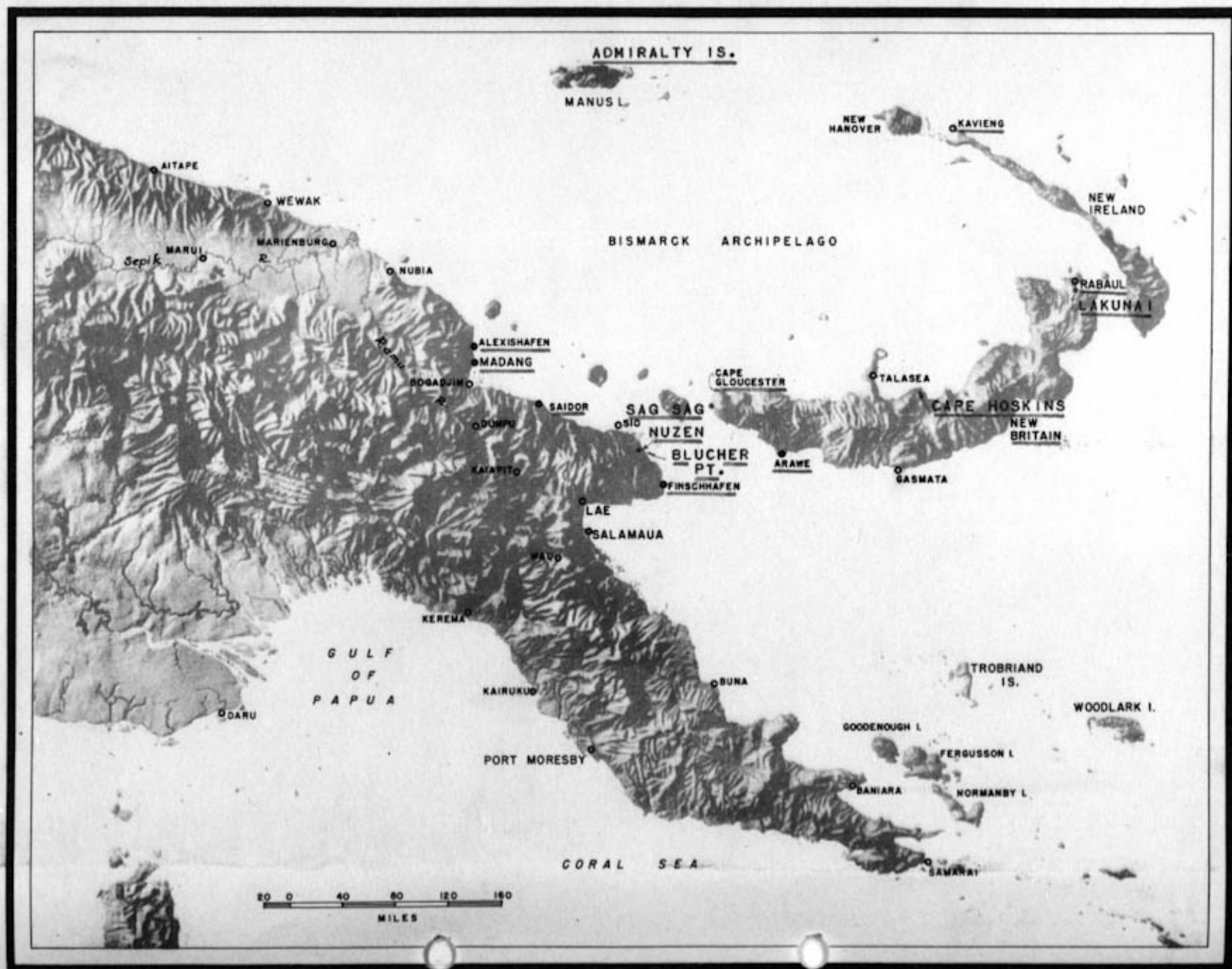
The Eighth Army has captured 2,879 prisoners of war.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. British bombers attacked town and railroad installations at Maymyo on 31 December. The next day enemy camps in western Burma and the railroad station and waterfront area at Prome were the targets for RAF missions.

Six B-25's of our 10th Air Force escorted by 16 P-38's destroyed the middle span and one approach of the Mu River bridge on 1 January; one P-38 crashed.

2. 14th Air Force fighters set fire to several buildings in the vicinity of Lao Kay in Indo-China on New Year's Day, and harassed shipping along the Red River.



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

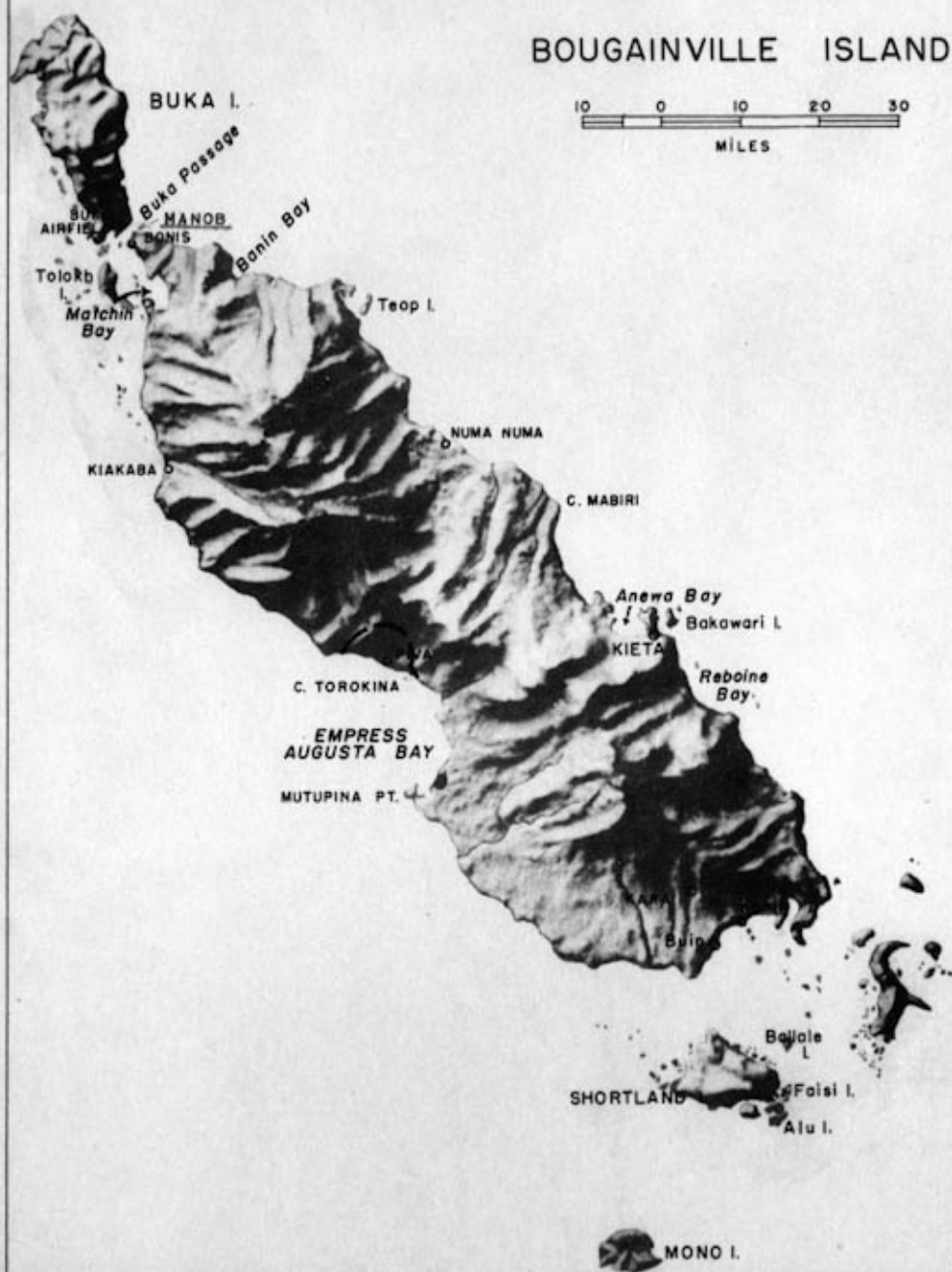
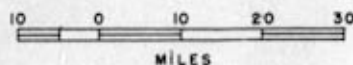
1. The landing at Saidor by a regimental combat team of the US 32nd Division was preceded by air attacks in which 123 heavy and medium bombers participated and was made under cover of air and naval bombardment. Further south our forward elements advanced five miles northwest of Blucher Point to the vicinity of Nuzen. In the Cape Gloucester region enemy pressure against our beachhead shifted unsuccessfully from the west to the east flank. Our patrols found Sag Sag evacuated. There was no change in the ground situation at Arawe during 1 January. ✓

Allied flying boats started numerous fires at Kavieng, hit a destroyer at Cape Hoskins and sank a 9,000-ton enemy vessel and probably damaged a 5,000-ton vessel near the Admiralty Islands. Other Allied aircraft attacked targets in New Britain, bombed Madang and nearby supply installations, and started large fires at the Alexishafen airfield.

2. Two heavy cruisers and one destroyer were believed sunk or beached and a second destroyer badly damaged in an attack by Navy planes on an enemy convoy outside Kavieng harbor on 1 January. Twelve (probably 15) intercepting planes were shot down for the loss of three Navy aircraft. Many phosphorous aerial bombs were dropped on our aircraft by the enemy fighters but none were effective.

3. Fifteen B-24's bombed the Lakunai airdrome and the town of Rabaul on 1 January; 20 (probably 26) enemy planes were destroyed in aerial combat for the loss of one B-24. Five of the Japanese fighters

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND



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

had American flags painted on their fuselage. Smaller B-24 missions were carried out against Kahili and Manob Village, and six B-24's hit targets northeast of Kahili. Fiji Infantry are in action in our Bougainville beachhead.

4. Antiaircraft positions at Mili were bombed and machine-gunned on 31 December by 24 P-39's and 25 Navy dive bombers. There was no interception.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 753

0700 January 1 to 0700 January 2, 1944

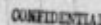
COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203 (✓)

THE UNITED STATES ARMY

CONFIDENTIAL



CENTRAL EUROPE

0 100 200 300 400
MILES
SCALE OF MILES



~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

OSD Letter, 5-3-72

1. The Army Ground Forces have issued directives for the movement of the 6th Armored Division (Major General Robert W. Grow) from Camp Cooke, California, to a northeastern port of embarkation, and for the movement of the 93rd Infantry Division (Major General Raymond G. Lehman) from Camp Young, California, to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation.

2. Four Attu-based flying boats bombed Paramushiro during 31 December and returned safely.

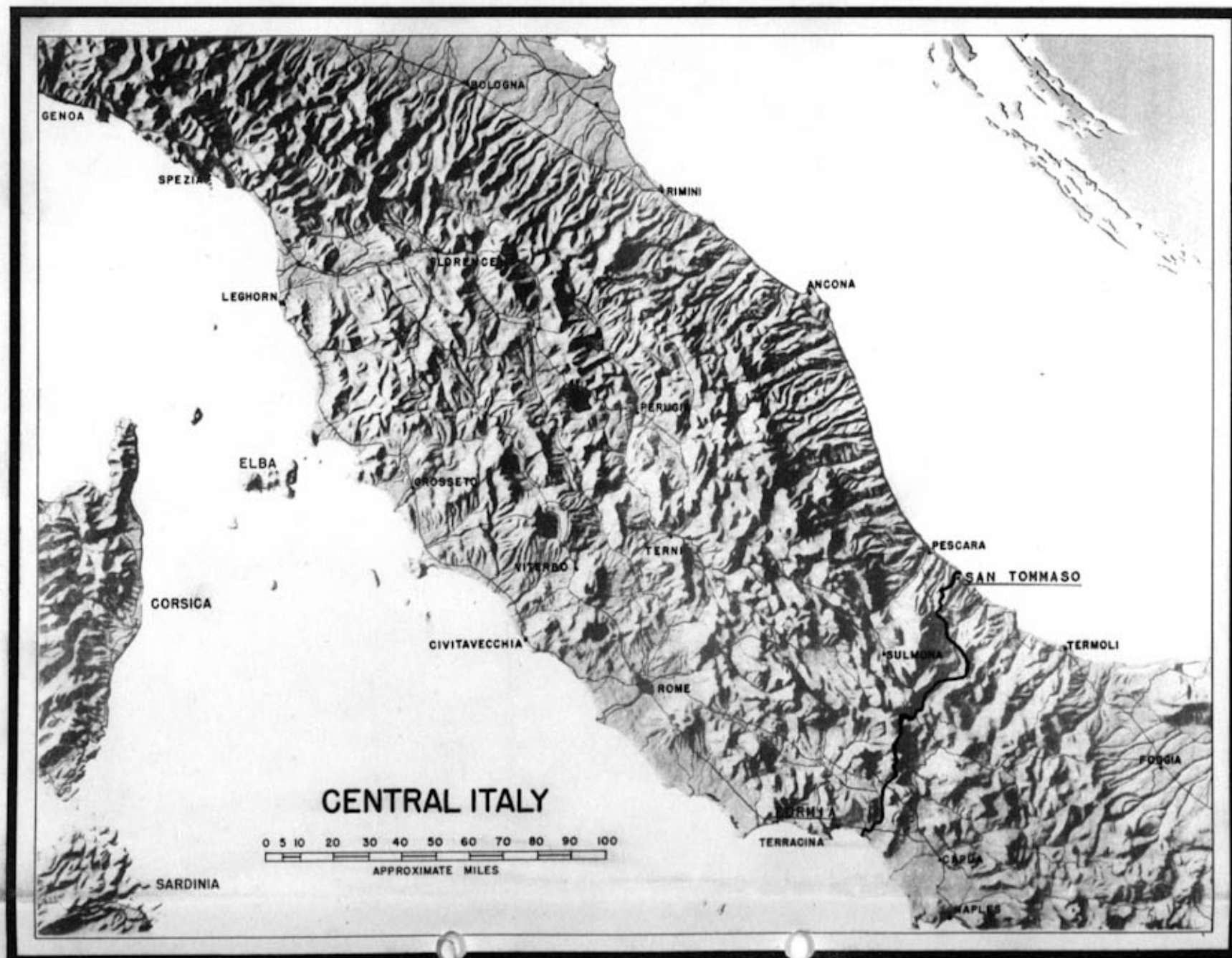
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. RAF bombers made small scale raids during the night of 30-31 December against military objectives in the Pas de Calais, Cherbourg, Cologne and Duisburg areas, and laid mines along the French west coast. Enemy aircraft operated over southeastern England in small numbers and caused only minor damage.

In the 31 December attacks on Ivry and Bois Colombes ball-bearing plants at Paris 130 heavy bombers in two forces escorted by 204 P-47's took part, meeting no fighter opposition but some antiaircraft fire; good results were reported. 430 B-17's and 154 B-24's escorted throughout by four hundred P-47's, P-38's and P-51's took part with fair to good results in the attacks on airfields in southwest France whence long range enemy aircraft operate against Allied shipping in the Atlantic; damaging antiaircraft fire and some fighter opposition were encountered. Twenty-nine heavy bombers and nine fighters were lost, while 24 (probably 37) enemy aircraft were destroyed. Escorted B-26's dropped 230 tons of bombs on cross-channel rocket-launching devices with poor to fair results, meeting antiaircraft but no fighter opposition; all bombers returned.

~~SECRET~~





BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RSA, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS

DECLASSIFIED

2. The Soviets have moved closer to the important north-south railroad near Zamostochye south of Vitebsk where intense fighting continues. West of Nevel the Soviets made slight progress. The salient west and southwest of Kiev was widened during 1 January when advances of 10 miles were made southwest of Belaya Tserkov and west and northwest of Korosten.

MEDITERRANEAN

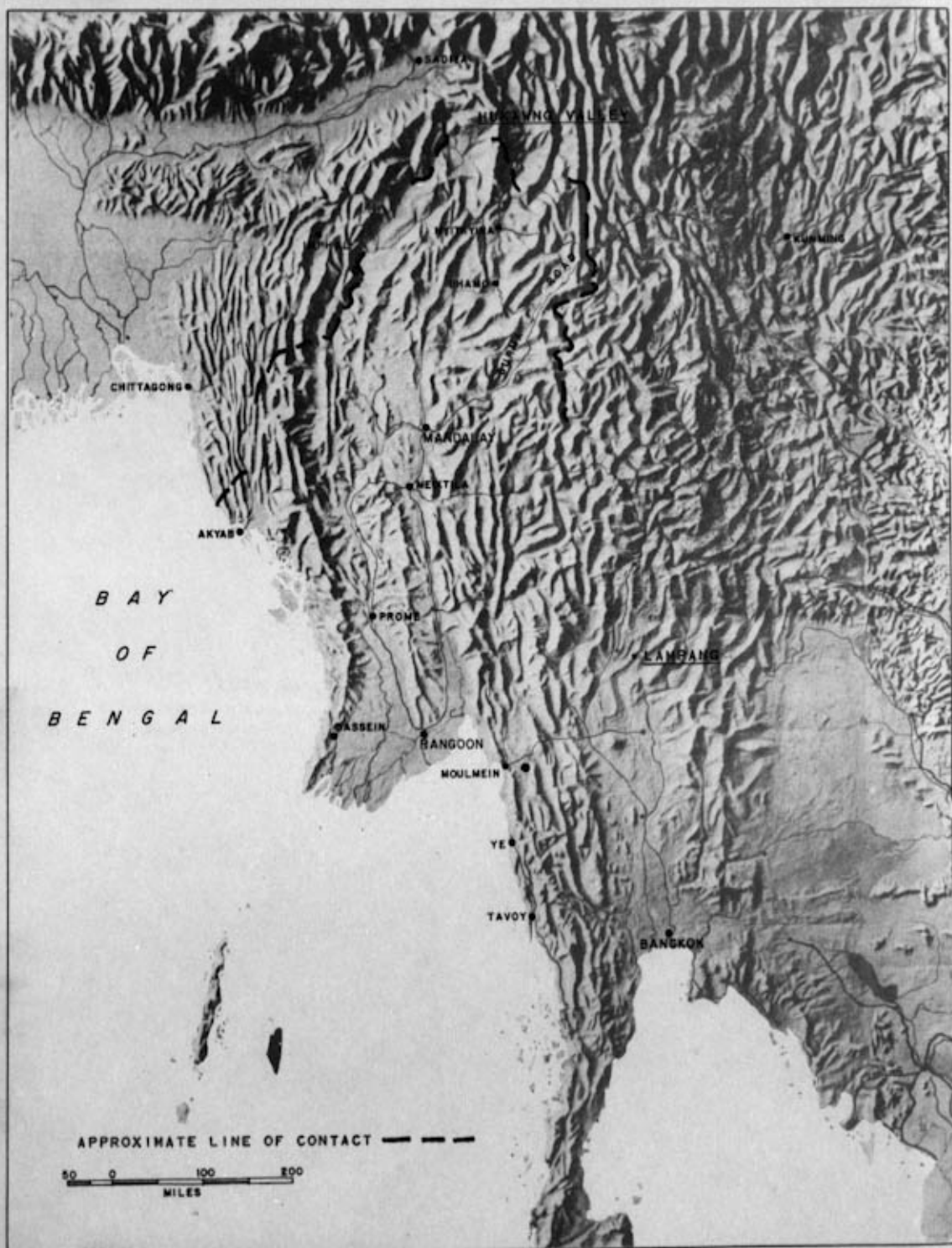
1. Inclement weather on 31 December reduced the scale of our air operations. Allied fighters and fighter bombers flew more than 200 sorties, hitting enemy infantry and artillery positions in the Eighth Army sector and communications along the remainder of the front. Twenty-four A-36's attacked targets at Formia.

Twelve enemy planes carried out attacks against Catania and Augusta in eastern Sicily on 31 December. No damage to shipping was caused and two of the raiders fell to our antiaircraft fire.

2. Weather hampered activity on the Italian front on 1 January. Canadian units of the Eighth Army, continuing their northward drive in a raging storm, captured San Tommaso and repulsed a heavy counter-attack on the coastal road.

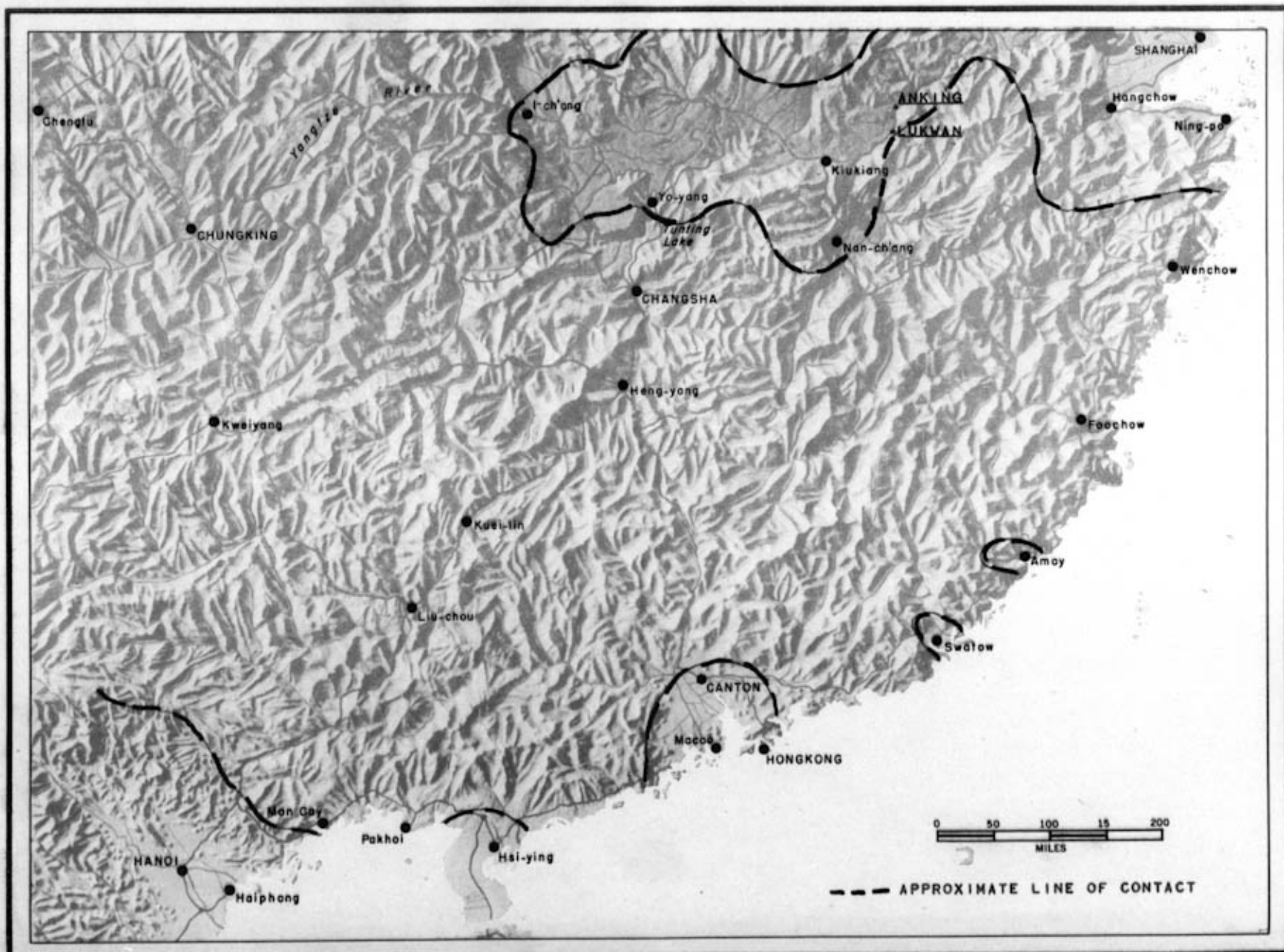
ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 31 December 10th Air Force A-36's, supporting ground



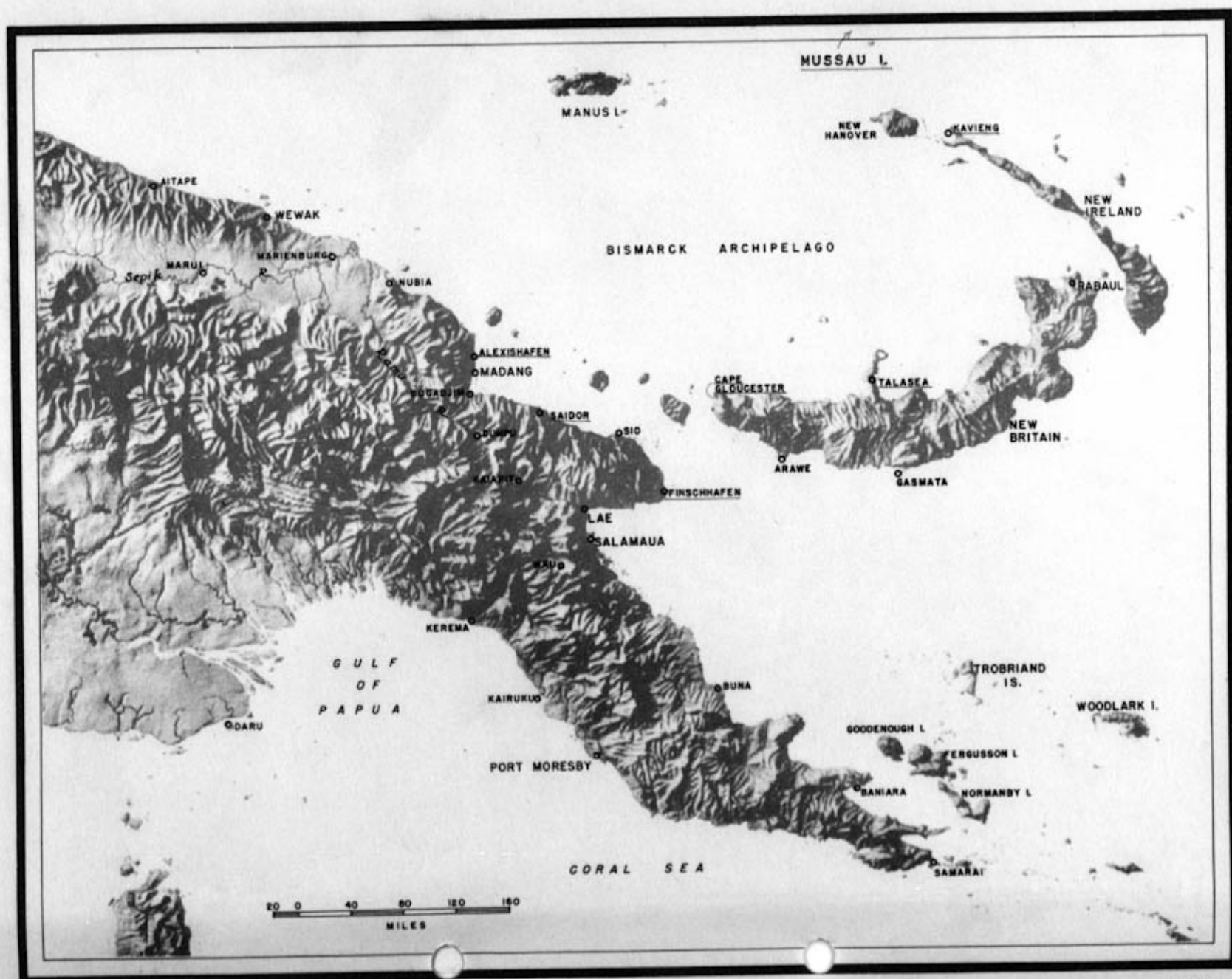
BASE MAP NO. 2447 (FREE)
28 JUNE 1943

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH OSS



MAP NO. 2437 (FREE)
24 JUNE 1943

COMPILED AND DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS
LITHOGRAPHED IN THE REPRODUCTION BRANCH, OSS



operations, bombed enemy positions in the Hukawng Valley. Twelve RAF Spitfires intercepting 29 Japanese planes over the Arakan coast, shot down 13 (probably 16) of the enemy; one Spitfire crashed.

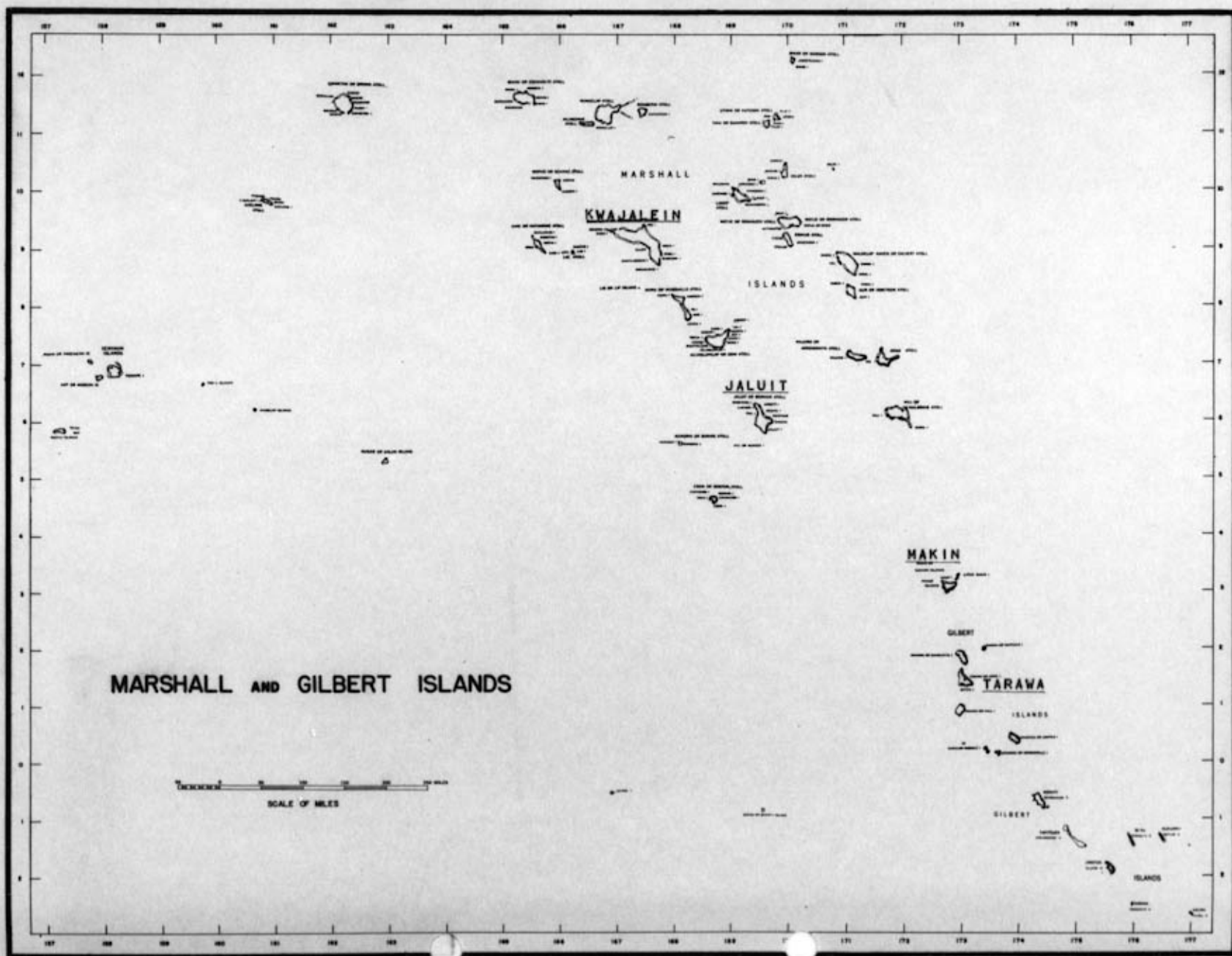
2. B-25's of the 14th Air Force sank three small cargo vessels and one 250-foot troop transport and damaged two gunboats on the Yangtze River near Lukwan and Anking on 30 December. One B-25 struck the mast of a vessel and crashed. The next day 25 B-24's dropped 300 demolition bombs on the railroad yards at Lampang. The target was well covered and several large fires and explosions were observed. All our B-24's returned safely.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our Cape Gloucester forces, forcing the enemy back into the foothills on 31 December have substantially expanded our beachhead; approximately 1000 dead Japanese have been counted in the area to date.

Enemy air raids were reported on Finschhafen and our New Britain beachheads; over the latter region enemy dive bombers and fighters were intercepted by 30 P-47's and 16 P-40's which shot down eight dive bombers and four (probably six) fighters.

During the day, Allied aircraft concentrated on enemy targets along the northeastern coast of New Guinea from Alexishafen to Saidor; 56 B-24's and 91 B-25's participated in these operations hitting airdromes, antiaircraft positions, supply dumps and bivouac areas with destructive effect. Patrol and reconnaissance bombers again hit Kavieng



and the nearby Panapai airdrome, installations on Mussau Island, and barges beached near Talasea.

2. General MacArthur has just reported a successful landing by a reinforced infantry combat team at Saidor during the early hours of 2 January. The harbor and airfield have been captured. This operation, a complete surprise to the enemy, was accomplished without loss.

3. Targets at Kahili were attacked by our South Pacific heavy and medium bombers on 31 December.

4. Nanomea-based B-24's dropped 51 tons of bombs on Kwajalein on 30 December. Nine of our B-25's based on Tarawa attacked Jaluit with demolition bombs, fragmentation clusters and cannon fire. Hits were obtained on a fuel dump and storage area. No enemy planes were sighted and all our planes returned safely.

Small numbers of enemy bombers ineffectively attacked Tarawa on 27 December and Makin on 28 and 29 December.

WAR DEPARTMENT

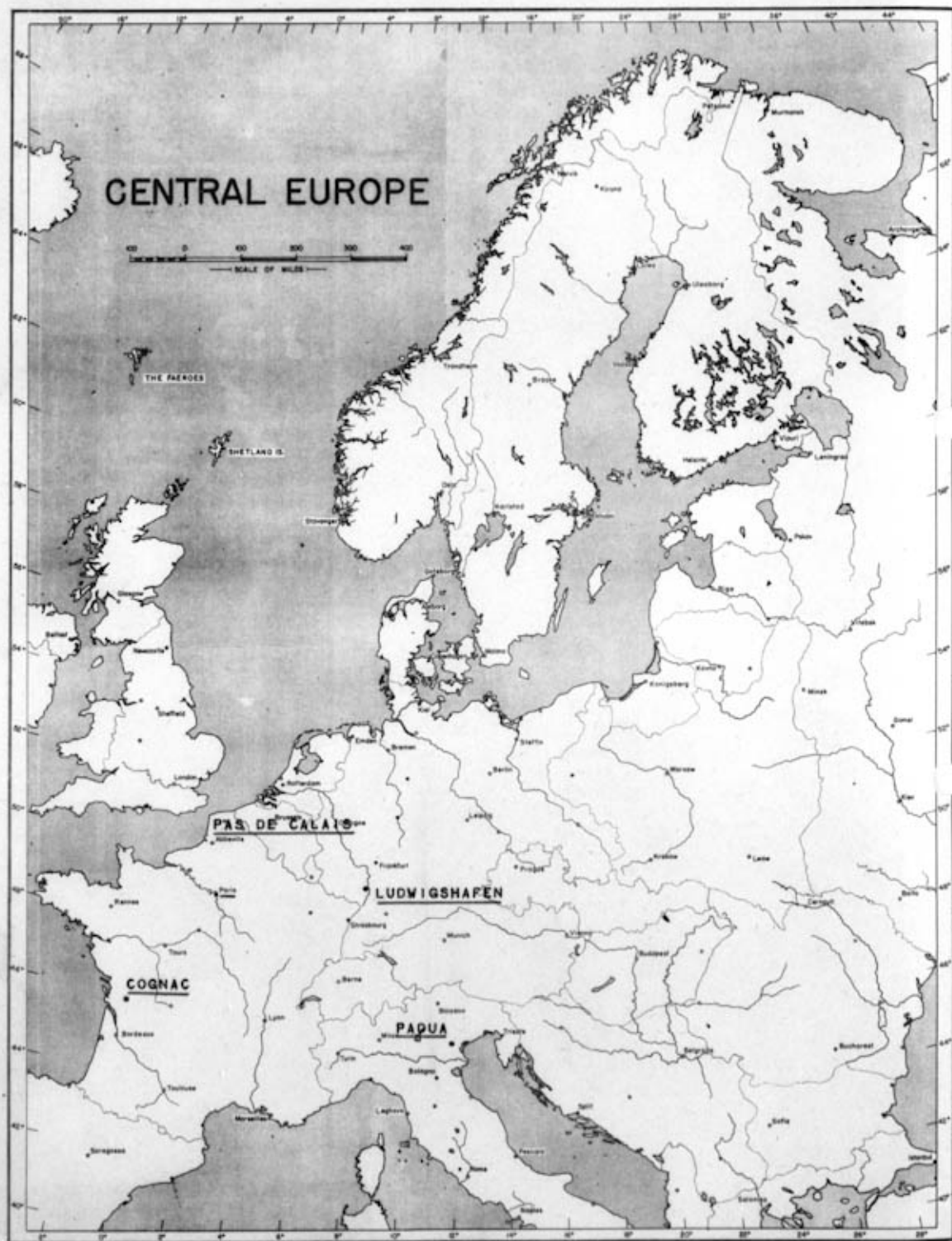
DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

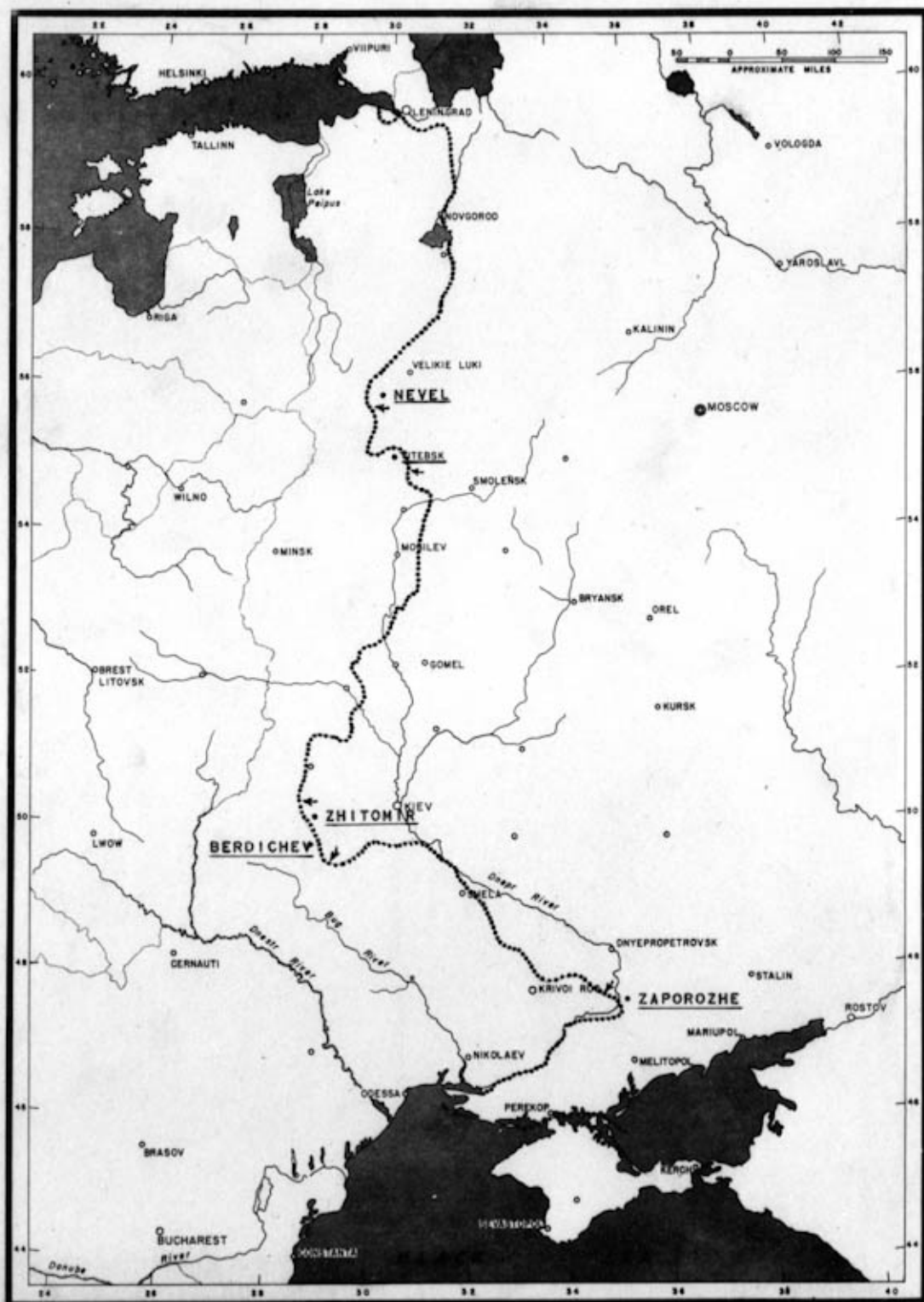
No. 752

0700 December 31, 1943 to 0700 January 1, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE





EUROPEAN THEATER

1. In our heavy raid of 30 December, the target was the synthetic rubber plants at Ludwigshafen. Escorted by 632 fighters, 710 heavy bombers attacked through a solid overcast, dropping 1498 tons of bombs, two-thirds of which were incendiaries. On the same day, 229 escorted B-26's hit the Pas de Calais area without loss.

2. Large forces of escorted US heavy bombers attacked the Ivry and Bois Colombes ball-bearing plants at Paris, and the Cognac airfield with good results on 31 December.

3. The Soviets have captured Zhitomir and have extended their lines to the northwest of that town and southeast of Berdichev. As yet there are no indications of an enemy withdrawal from the Dnepr Bend, although the Soviets made slight progress west of Zaporozhe. Soviet pressure near Vitebsk has shifted south of the town; minor gains were made there and west of Nevel.

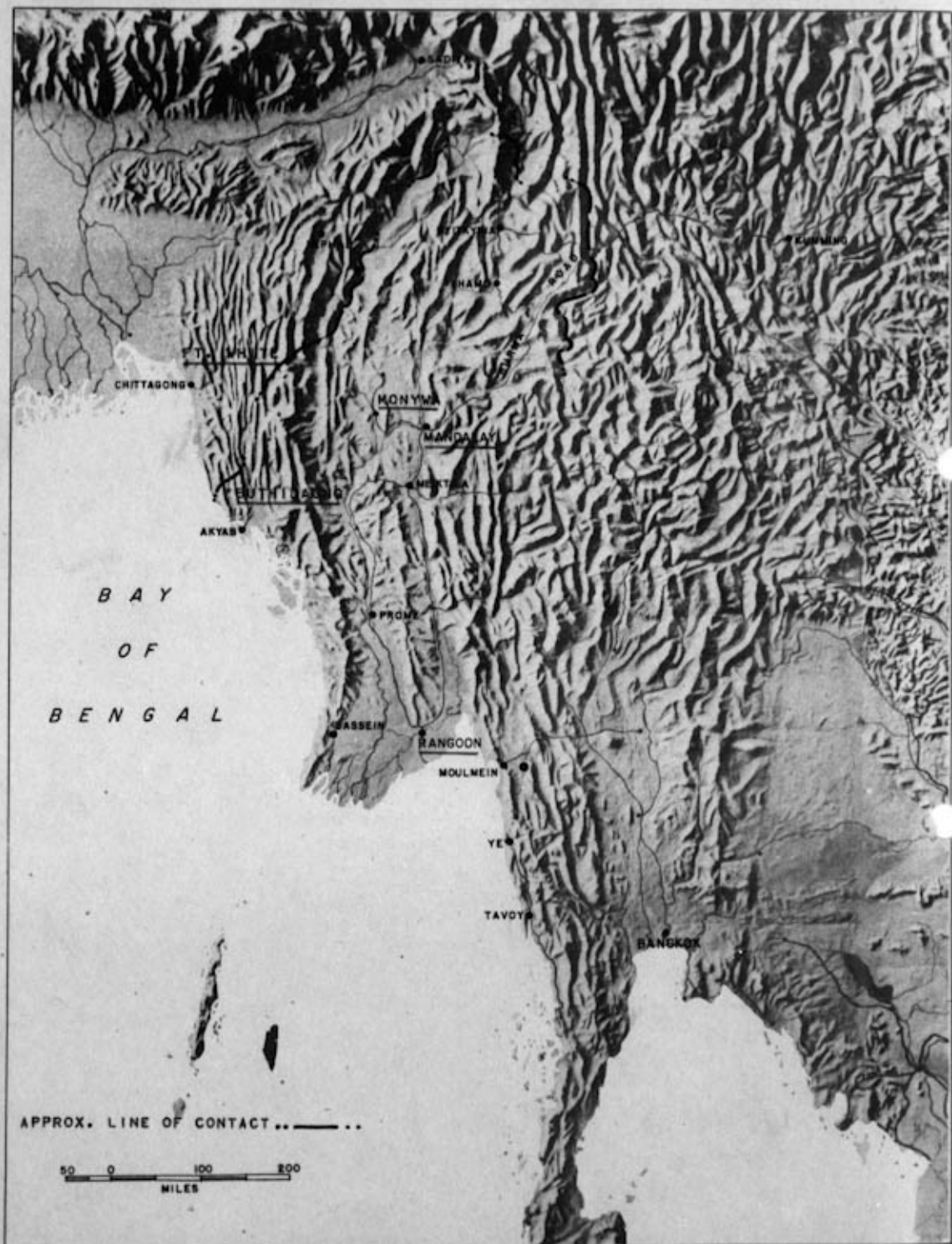
MEDITERRANEAN

1. British Commandos destroyed a bridge and attacked enemy installations near Minturno during their raid the night of 29 December. By 31 December forward elements of our 45th Division had occupied positions overlooking Acquafondata. Action elsewhere along the front was confined to patrolling and regrouping.



BASE MAP NO. 2769 (FREE)
26 OCTOBER 1943

RSA, OSS
REPRODUCED, OSS



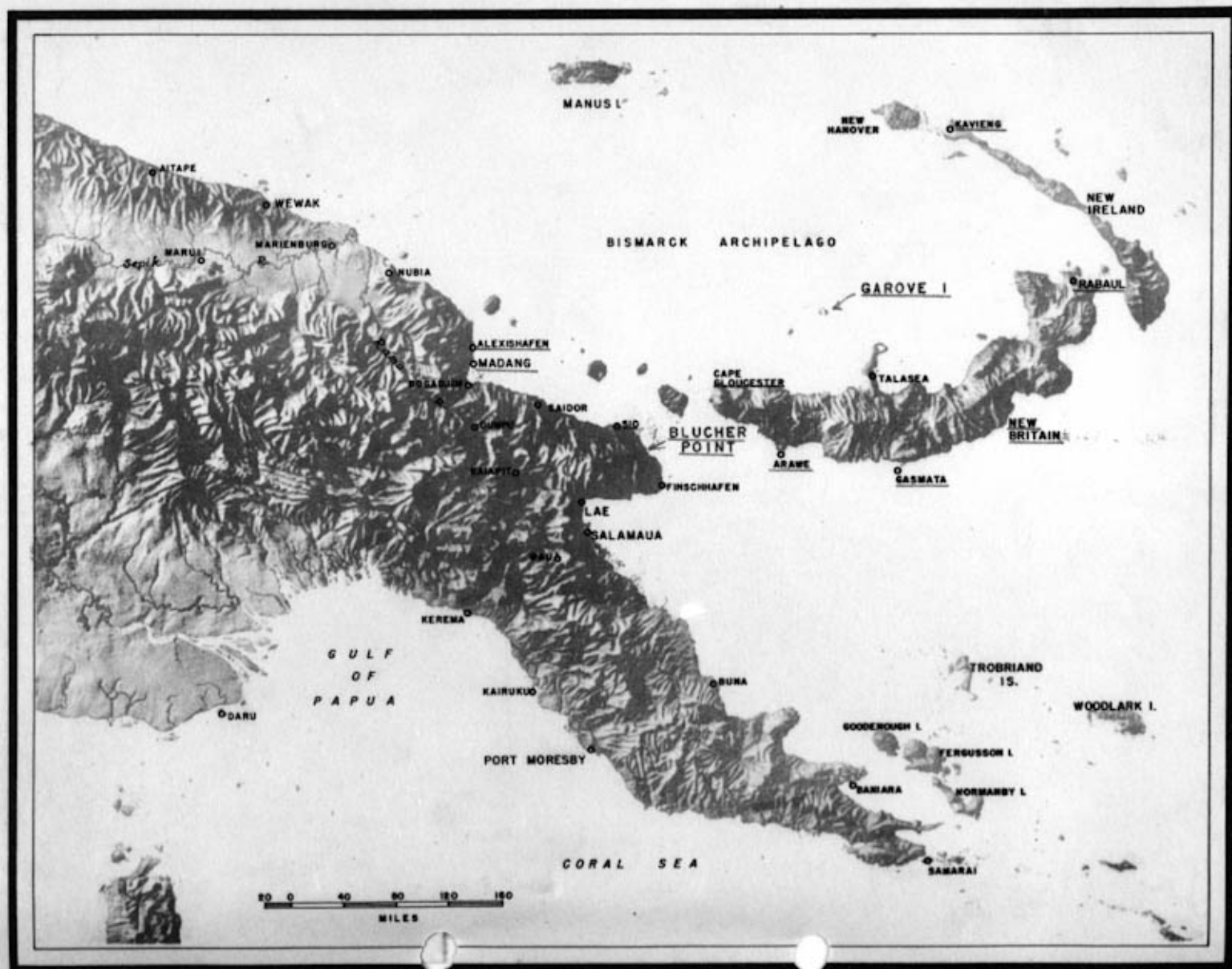
2. Escorted B-17's of the Strategic Air Force hit the Padua and Rimini railroad yards, on 30 December obtaining good coverage on these targets and destroying three intercepting planes without loss. Medium and light bombers attacked railroad yards and communications at Borgo San Lorenzo, Reggio and Falconara, hit shipping near Zara and elsewhere on the Dalmatian coast and bombed targets of opportunity in the battle area.

3. Late figures for the British transport "Rohna" previously reported as sunk off Algeria on 26 November, carrying American personnel enroute to India, are now given as follows: 21 dead, 994 missing, and 966 survivors.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Twenty B-24's of the 10th Air Force hit the station and rolling stock at Monywa on 30 December; medium bombers scored direct hits on warehouses and other enemy installations near Mandalay. RAF aircraft attacked stores and troop concentrations in the Ft. White and Buthidaung areas, and the railroad yards near Rangoon.

2. Twenty enemy fighter planes attacked our 14th Air Force airdrome at Suichwan on 30 December, destroying two grounded planes and damaging another by machine-gun fire. Our fighters intercepted shooting down three (probably four) of the raiders.



~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
C&D Letter, 6-8-72

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 30 December our forces continued to consolidate their positions on Cape Gloucester, repulsing an enemy counterattack against our west coast beachhead. Patrol activity was reported in the Arawe area which was subjected to a light early morning air raid.

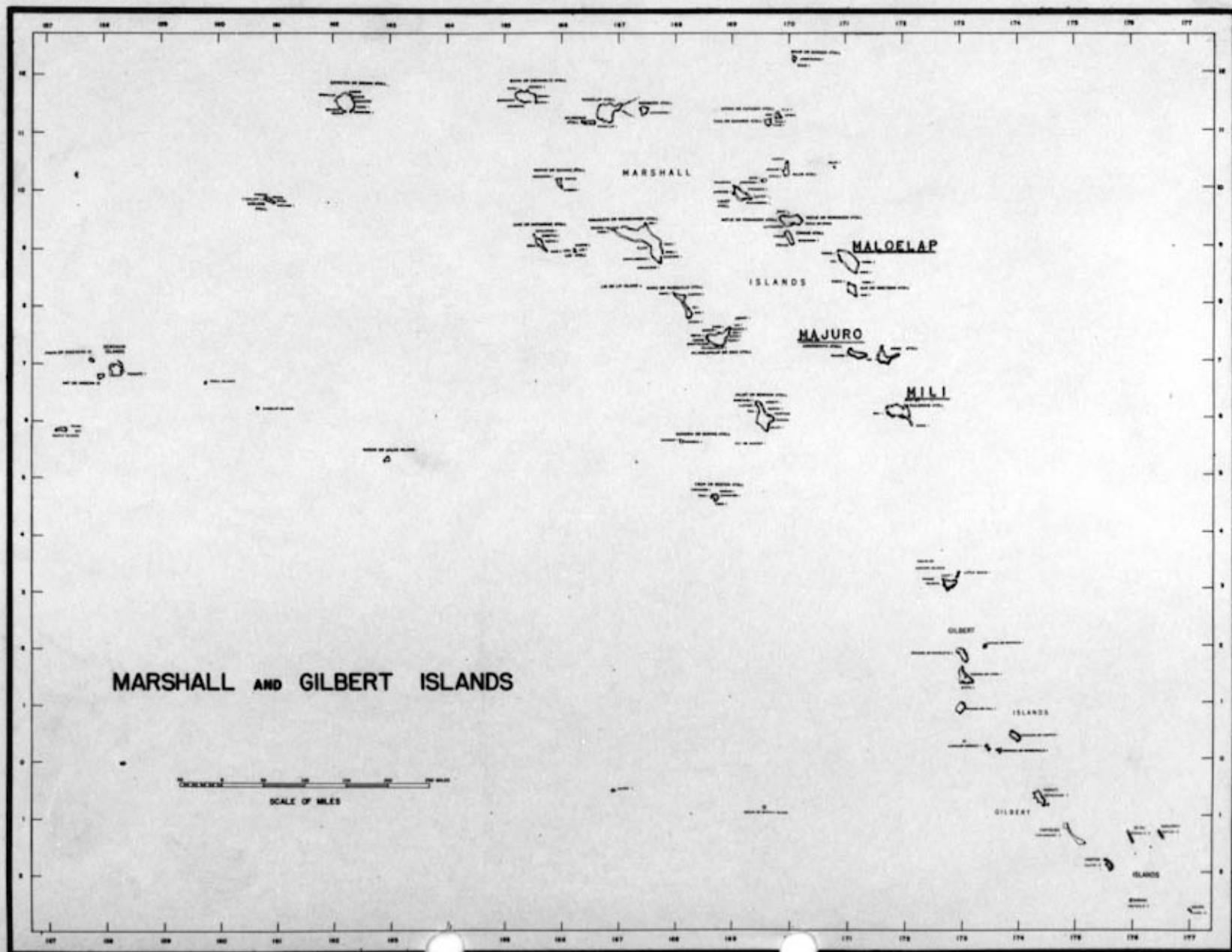
On the Huon Peninsula our forces have pushed nearly a mile beyond Blucher Point where quantities of guns and ammunition were captured.

Our light bomber and fighter aircraft continued their active support of ground operations in northwestern New Britain. Medium bombers bombed and strafed enemy concentrations south of Madang and barge hide-outs near Sio. Twenty-seven B-24's caused large explosions while bombing gun positions at Alexishafen; reconnaissance and patrol bombers attacked Gasmata airdrome, buildings on Garove Island and started fires and caused violent explosions at Kavieng.

2. Nineteen B-24's hit Rabaul on 30 December; the enemy reacted strongly in the air and lost 12 (probably 21) of his intercepting planes. Two of our heavy bombers failed to return. Medium bomber missions totaling 24 B-25's hit the Kahili air strip and Korovo in the southeastern Bougainville area.

3. Two B-24 missions totaling 20 heavy bombers hit Maloelap and Majuro on 28 December. One mission, intercepted by between 35 and 50

~~SECRET~~



enemy fighters, shot down two (probably 12). Two B-24's were lost. Mili was also attacked by a mission of 47 medium, dive, and fighter bombers; there was no interception and all our planes returned.