

MR 203(2), Sec. 31 -- WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

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EOD Letter, 5-3-72

MR 203(2), Sec. 31 -- WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

August, 1944

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Signature- RT.

August, 1944

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 996

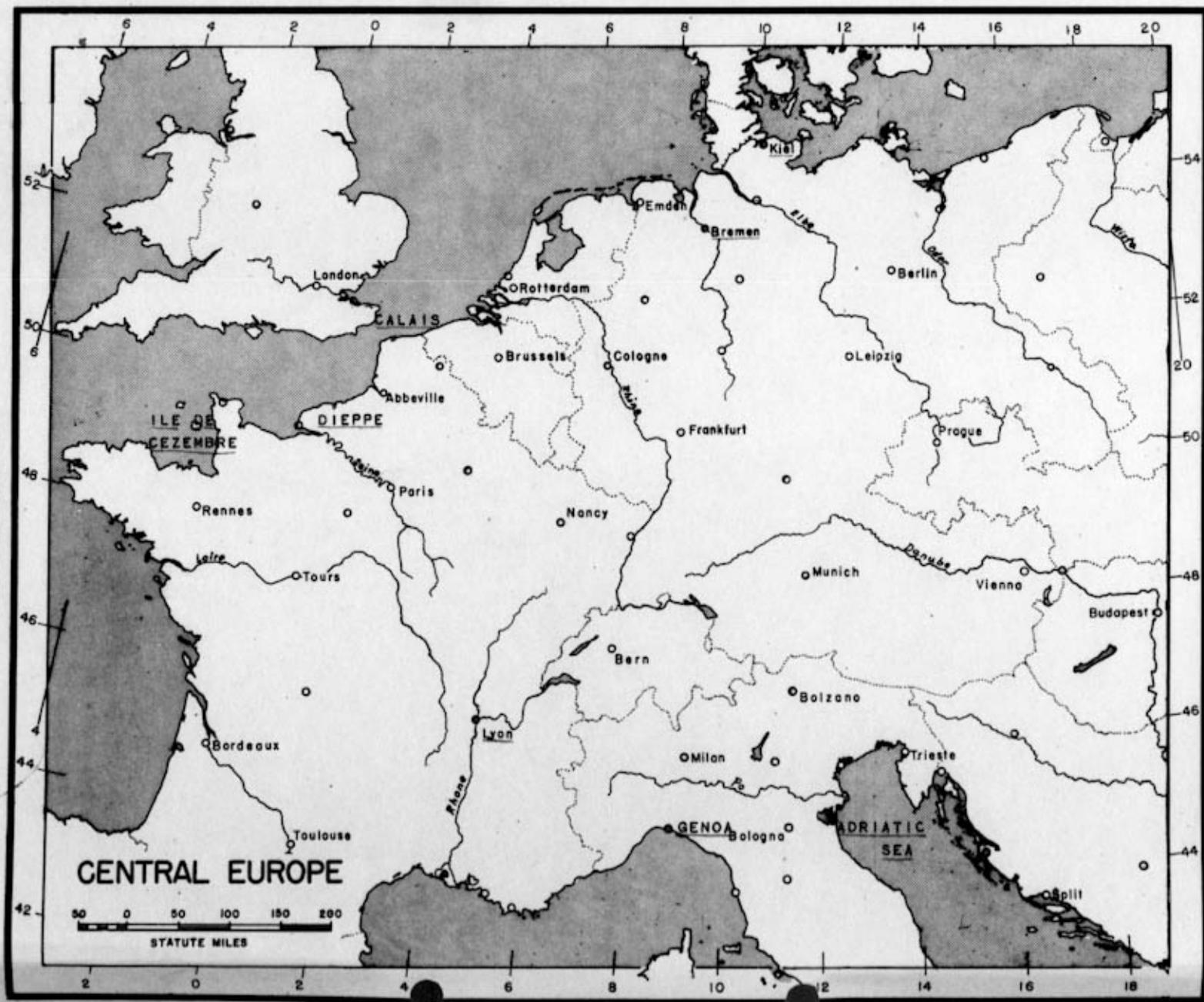
0700 August 31 to 0700 September 1, 1944

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The Greenland Base Command was placed under the Commanding General, Eastern Defense Command on 1 September.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During 30 August the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 531 sorties in support of ground units in France. Medium and light bombers dropped 141 tons of bombs on Ile de Cezembre and on a fuel dump near Dieppe.

Flying bomb activity for the 24 hours ending 0600, 31 August: Of 44 plotted, 21 made landfall, two reached London, 16 were destroyed.

2. Forward Supreme Headquarters closed its present location on 1 September and opened in France at Julouville (on Bay of Mont St. Michel, northwest of Avranches).

3. The attack of the Third Army's VIII Corps on Brest continued during 31 August. By noon, the XII Corps had reached St. Dizier and the XX Corps had occupied Reims and was within 17 miles of Verdun. In the First Army sector the V and XIX Corps advanced 30 miles reaching a general line Compiègne-Clermont. Armored units of the British Second Army crossed the Somme and occupied Amiens. The Canadian First Army entered Rouen, which was found clear of the enemy, pushed 15 miles north of that city to Totes, and secured additional bridgeheads across the Seine in the Duclair and Lillebonne areas.

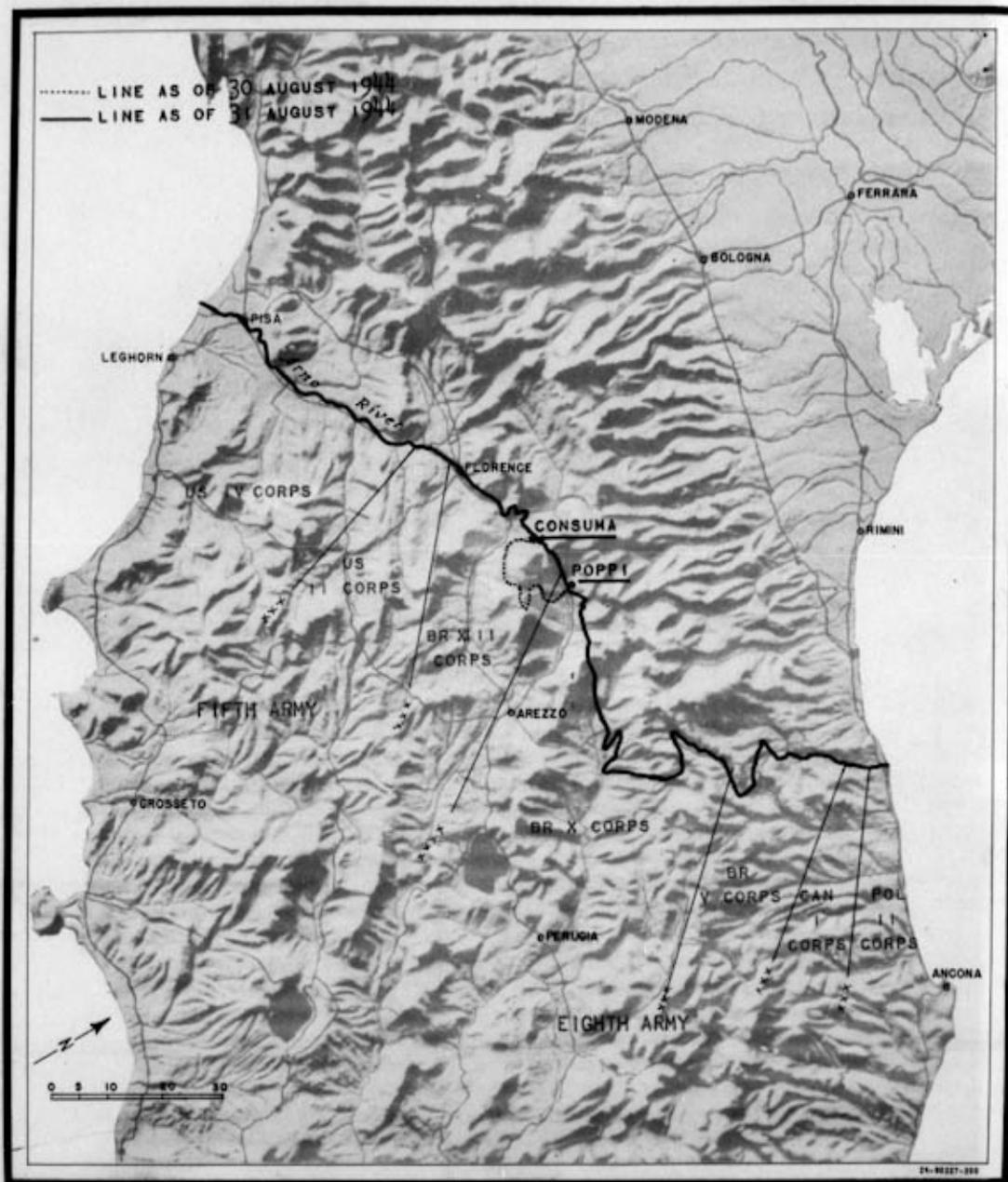
4. As of 0200, 1 September, the 21st Army Group will be designated the Northern Group of Armies under command of General Montgomery, and the 12th Army Group will be designated the Central Group of Armies under command of Lieutenant General Bradley; allotment of forces remains unchanged. These two commanders will come under direct operational command of Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force. The Commanding General, Communications Zone, will continue under direct command of the theater commander.

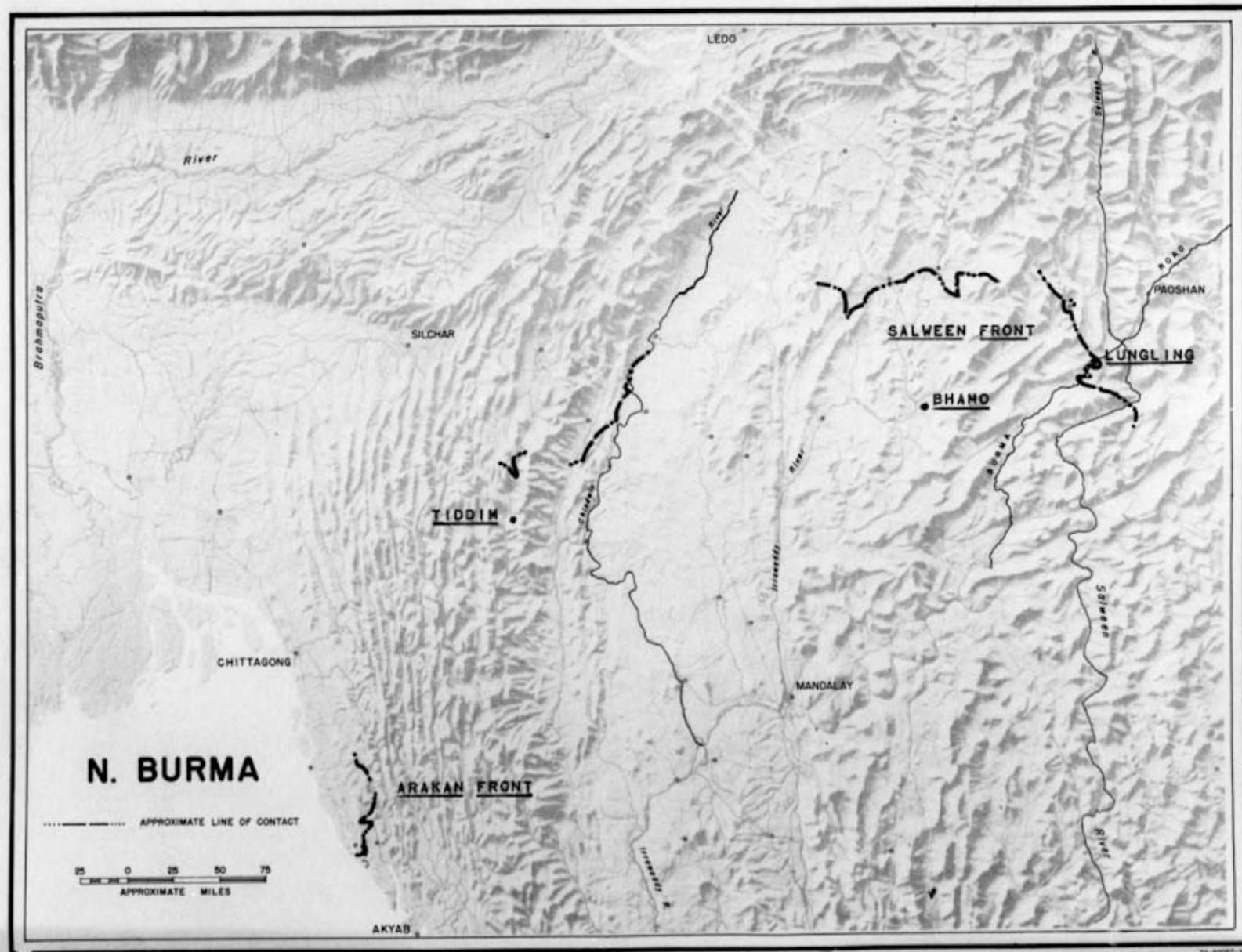
MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 30 August, Tactical Air Force fighters flew 284 sorties against bridges and road and rail communications north of the Italian battle area; and 76 sorties against rail lines in the Lyon area in France. Sixty-three planes of the Balkan Air Force attacked gun positions and oil tanks in Yugoslavia.

On 31 August, 38 B-17's and 300 fighters attacked an airfield near Reghin, Romania. Eleven enemy planes were destroyed in the air and 55 on the ground, for the loss of five fighters.

2. By noon of 30 August the VI Corps had completed mopping up the Montelimar-Livron area and had advanced to the line of the Rhone as far north as Valence. To the north, the advance on Lyon continued with forward elements reaching Meximifux. Elements of the VI Corps were reported to have reached the vicinity of St. Julien near the Swiss border. Our troops also occupied Nice and reached a general line including that city and extending north to Levens. The French Army, continuing their advance west





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of the Rhone against light opposition, pushed reconnaissance elements toward Alais and Le Puy. The force moving west along the Mediterranean coast occupied Montpellier and was approaching Narbonne.

By 0600 of 31 August the British Eighth Army had moved north of the Arno to the Poppi-Consuma highway. There was no significant change on the remainder of the front.

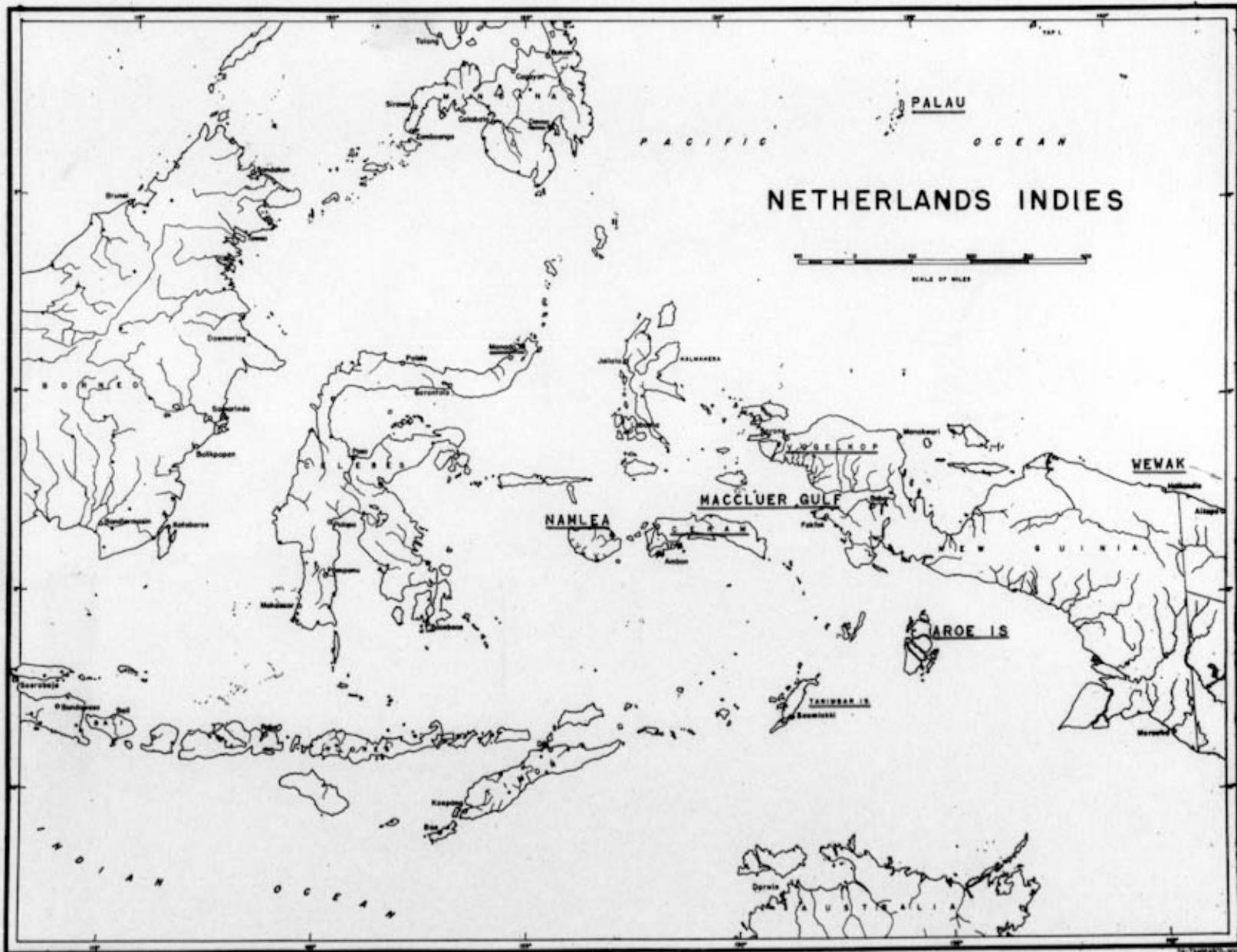
ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 29 August more than 30 strategic sorties were flown against targets along the Chindwin River in the general vicinity of Tiddim. About 20 tactical sorties were flown in the north Burma area principally in the vicinity of Bhamo. Next day there was limited air activity over the Arakan and central Burma regions.

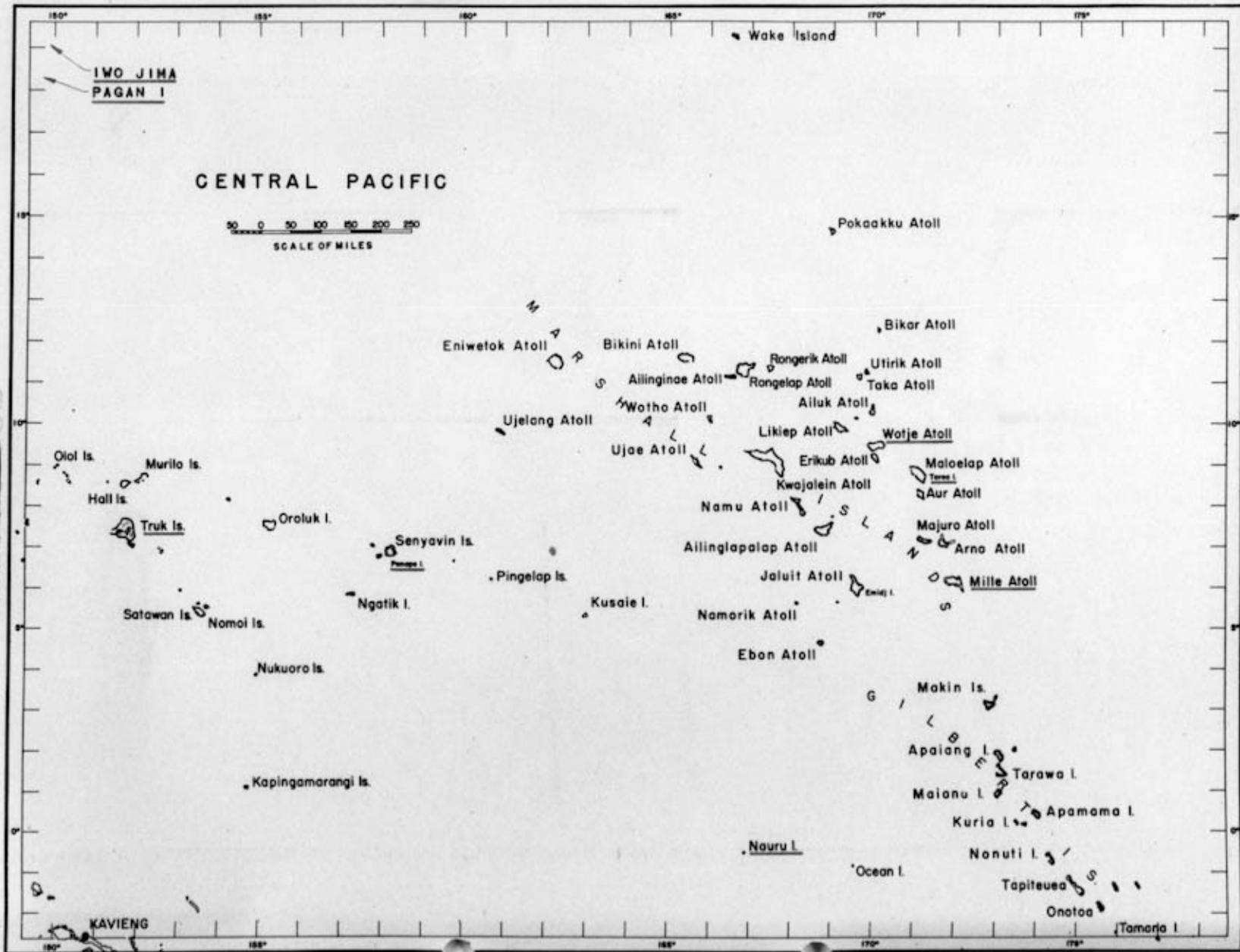
2. On 28 August the 14th Air Force flew nearly 80 sorties in support of Chinese ground operations principally in the Hengyang area; six enemy aircraft were destroyed. The following day more than 100 sorties were flown by heavy and light bombers and fighters in the same area; targets included warehouses, barracks, river and road transport; five enemy planes were shot down. Ten heavy bombers mined the Yangtze estuary. On the Salween front, 15 fighter sorties were flown against enemy positions near Lungling.

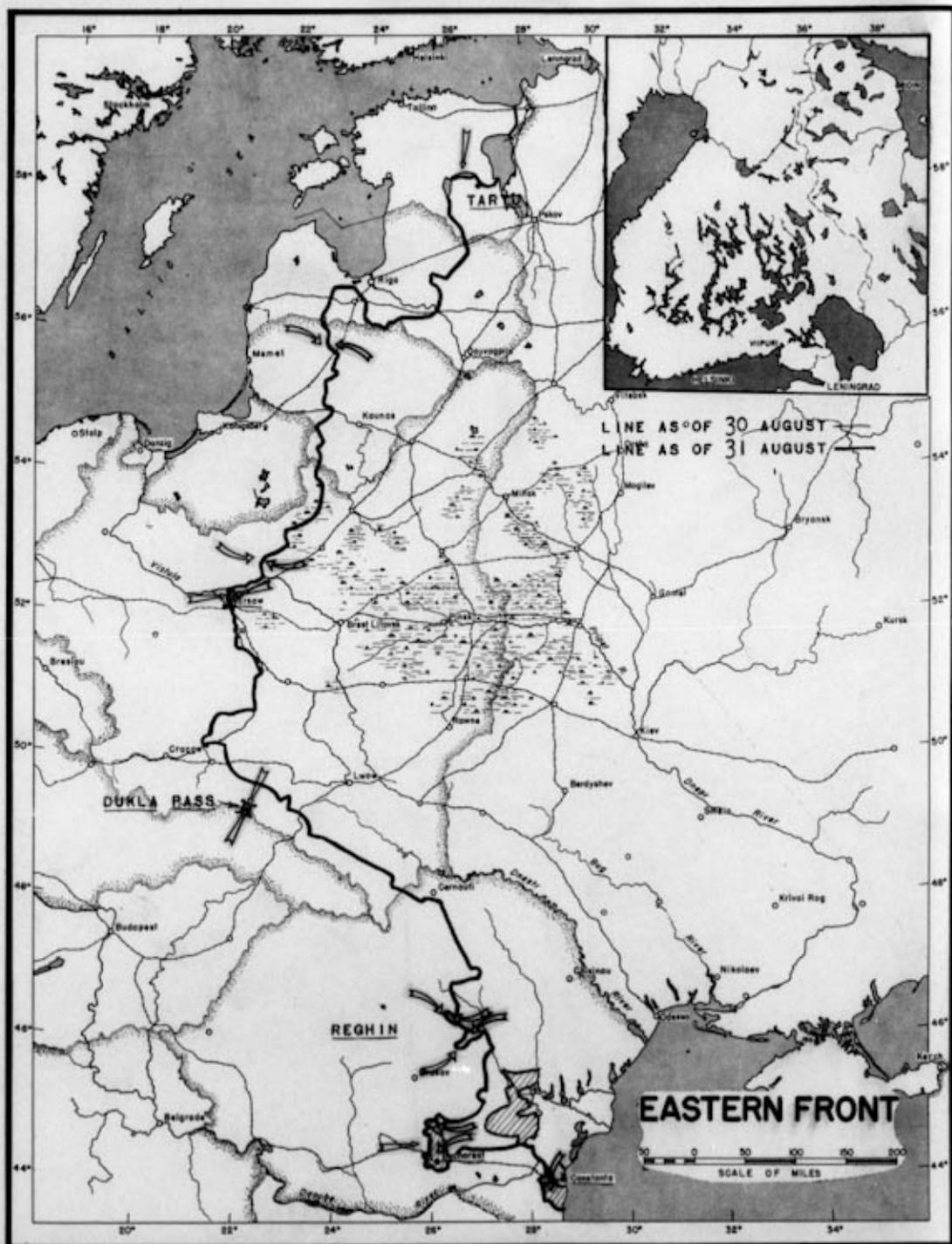
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 29 August 13 P-38's dive bombed the Namlea (Boeroe) airfield. Next day, 33 B-24's dropped 44 tons of bombs on Palau and 53 sorties



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were flown against the Wewak-Vogelkop-MacCluer Gulf area. Seventeen medium bombers hit the area of the Tanimbar and Aroe Islands, six fighters attacked shipping off Ceram, three B-24's struck Davao, and Navy bombers sank two small tankers and scored a hit on a destroyer in Manado Bay (Celebes). The previous day Solomons-based aircraft flew over 200 sorties against enemy installations on Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland.

2. During the night of 28-29 August, seven heavy bombers dropped 11 tons of bombs on Iwo Jima airfield, and next day 21 B-24's dropped 53 tons on Truk; Ponape, Taroa, and Mille were attacked, and 16 fighters machine-gunned antiaircraft positions on Pagan Island.

EASTERN FRONT

North of Tartu Germans forced withdrawal of advanced Soviet elements on 31 August. Northeast of Warsaw Soviets, in face of repeated German counterattacks, made minor gains. Two Slovakian divisions, which are reported to have joined the revolt against the German-supported Slovakian Government, are fighting their way toward the Dukla Pass, in order to join the Red Army north of the pass. Red Army units, overcoming German resistance north of Bucharest, occupied the city and are fanning out to the west and southwest. Other elements were advancing west and south from Constanta, averaging a gain of twenty-five miles.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 995

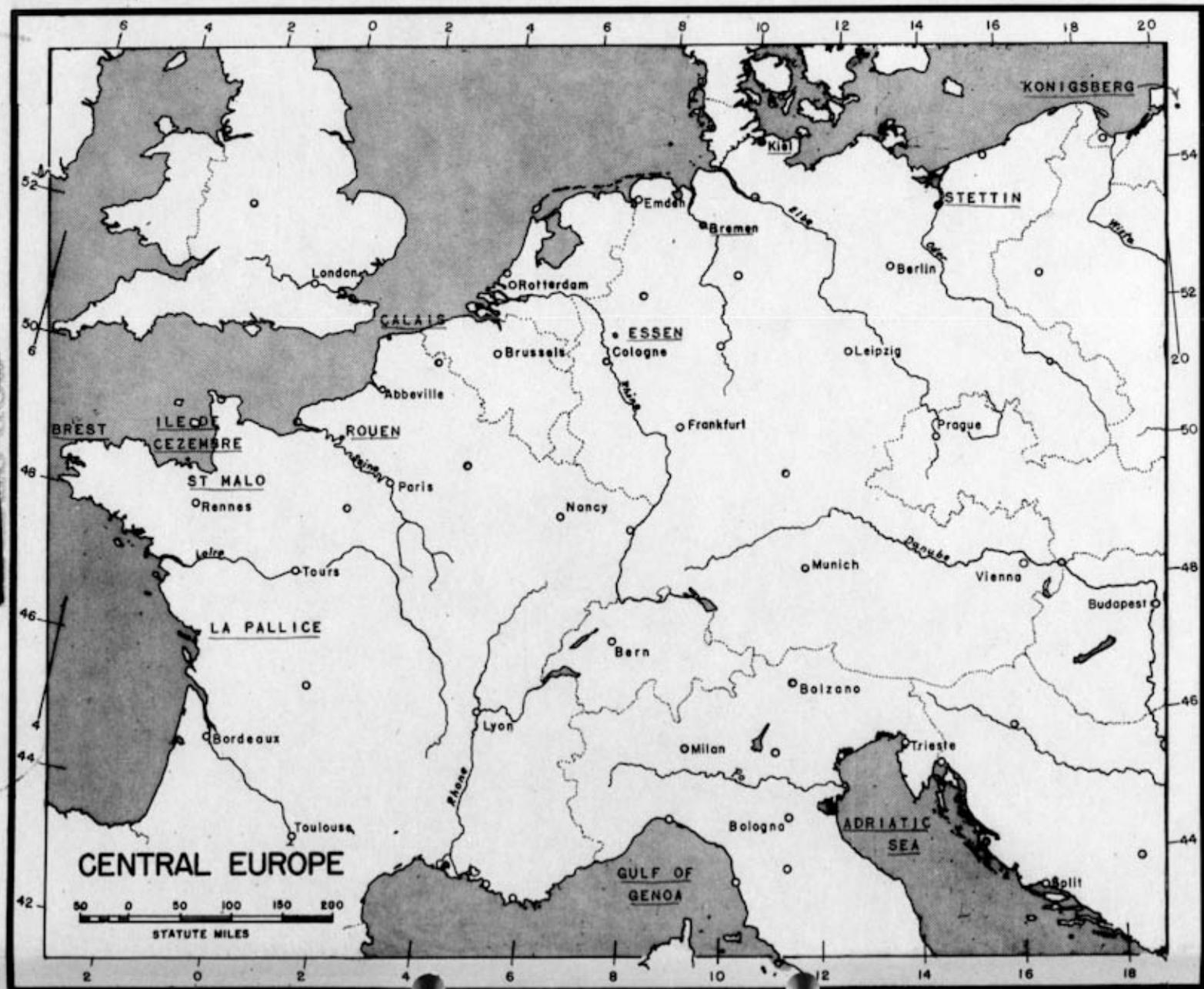
0700 August 30 to 0700 August 31, 1944

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 29 August Paramushiro was hit by four Navy medium bombers.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 27-28 August, RAF bombers dropped 533 tons of explosives on bomb-launching sites in the Pas de Calais area and 109 tons on Brest; 27 bombers struck gun positions on Ile de Cezebre off St. Malo. Next night 60 bombers raided Essen and various other targets in Germany, Holland and Belgium and laid sea mines off La Pallice. During the night of 29-30 August, 404 heavy bombers attacked Stettin while 189 hit Konigsberg; 38 are missing. Over 90 bomber sorties attacked German cities and laid sea mines in the Baltic. Two hundred aircraft made diversionary sweeps and supported bomber missions.

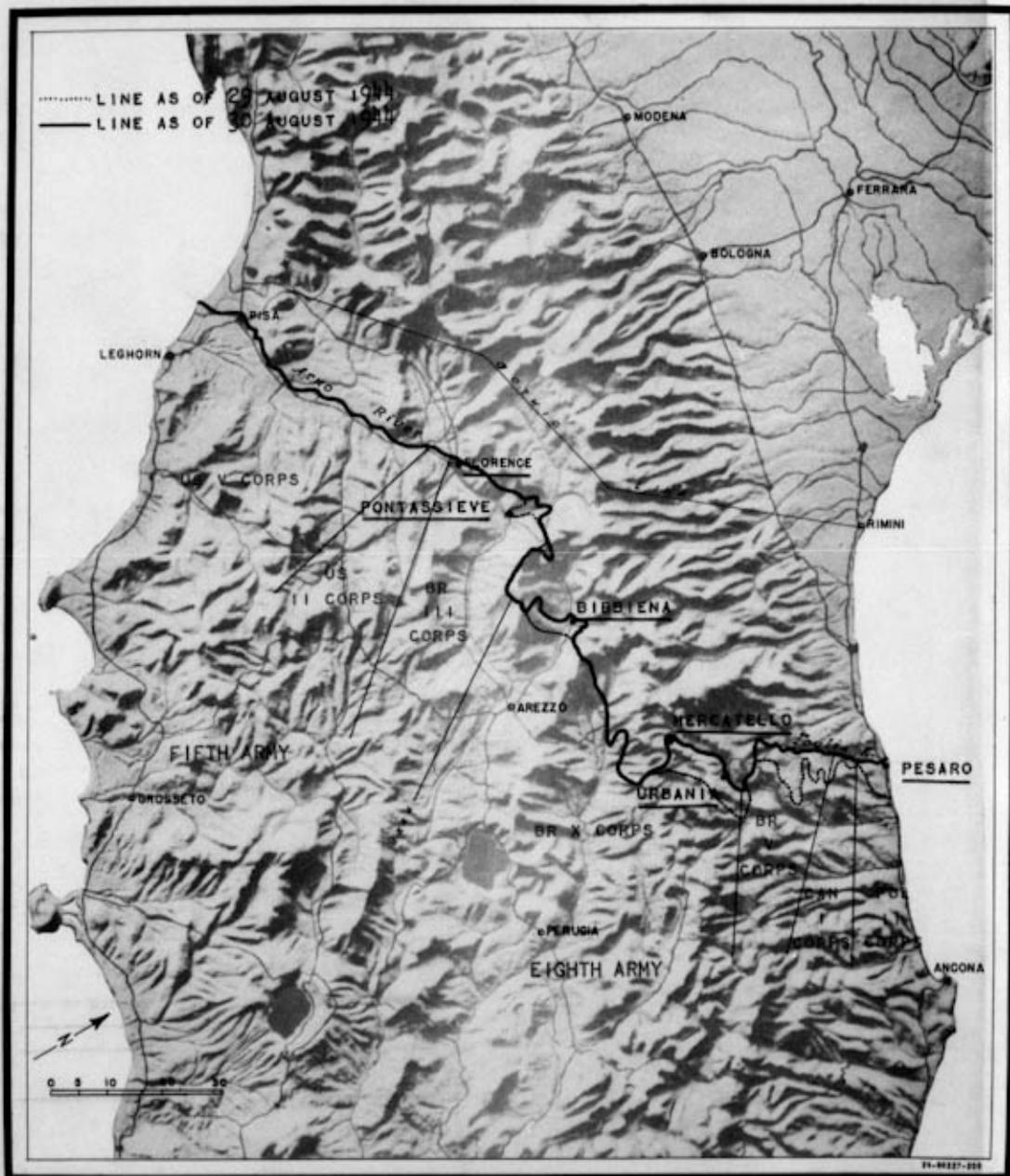
Flying bomb activity for 24 hours ending 0600, 30 August: Of 153 plotted, 63 made landfall, 19 reached London and 64 were destroyed.

During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 29 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 1,163 sorties in support of our ground operations in northern France.

On 30 August the 8th Air Force dispatched more than 300 escorted heavy bombers against eight bomb-launching sites in the Pas de Calais. A second mission of some 600 bombers, escorted by approximately 300 fighters, was airborne to attack Kiel and Bremen. No planes were lost.

2. During 30 August, our Third Army forces continued the attack on Brest. To the east, columns of the XII and XX Corps liberated Chalons,





reached Reims and pushed on to the Aisne north of the latter city. In the First Army sector our VII Corps thrust beyond Soissons to the Laon area where forward units were reported 33 miles from the Belgian border. An attack by the British Second Army gained 45 miles, capturing Beauvais and Gournay and reaching to within 20 miles of Amiens. The Canadian First Army expanded its sector of the bridgehead over the Seine with forward units reported operating eight miles northeast of Rouen.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. By noon of 29 August the VI Corps had occupied Montelimar and Livron to the north; the enemy pocket to the east of Montelimar was being reduced. The French Army B extended its advance west of the Rhone to St. Gilles, Uzès and Bagnols, with elements reconnoitering to Montpellier and Narbonne. Our units in the Nice area report the major portion of the west bank of the Var cleared of the enemy.

2. Up to noon of 30 August there had been no change on the Fifth Army battle line west of Florence. In the Pontassieve area slight gains were made at several points. In the upper Arno Valley Indian troops of the British Eighth Army advanced four miles along a ten-mile front west of Bibbiena. In the Apennine and Adriatic sectors the Allied drive continued; Mercatello was occupied, Urbani reported cleared of the enemy and forward units, reaching the Foglia River, established bridgeheads on the north bank. Units pushing into Pesaro reported fighting still in progress in the town.

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3. During 29 August, 105 medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force attacked railroad bridges in northern Italy. One hundred and thirty-seven light and medium bombers attacked targets in the Gothic Line and 509 fighters and fighter bombers attacked targets in the Italian battle area and to the north. Seventy-two P-47's attacked motor transport in southern France.

On 30 August, 196 heavy bombers, escorted by 172 fighters, dropped 269 tons of bombs on railroad bridges and airdromes in Yugoslavia. Twelve enemy aircraft were destroyed; our losses were one bomber and fighter.

ASIATIC THEATER

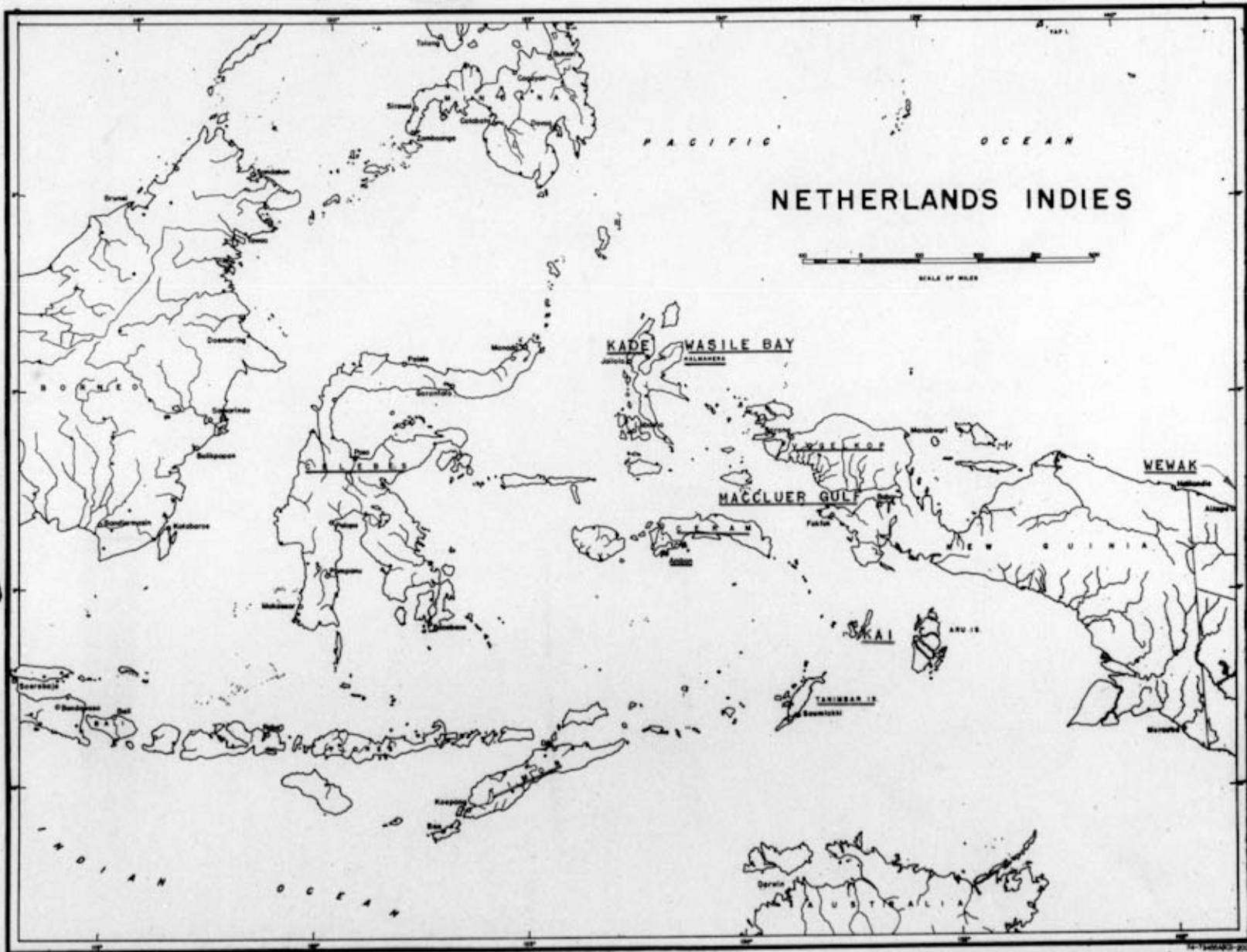
1. During 28 August, 23 fighter sorties were made by the 14th Air Force in support of Chinese ground operations near Ichang.

2. Late reports indicate that some 80 additional sorties against targets in northern Burma were flown on 27 August by the Eastern Air Command. Next day over 120 sorties were flown to strike Chindwin River traffic, motor transportation near Tiddim, and troop concentrations in the Kabaw Valley.

3. In the Manipur area the British advanced three miles down the Tiddim Road without opposition during 29 August. There was no reported change in other sectors of northern Burma.

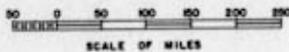
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 29 August, 95 fighters and medium bombers struck targets



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CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.



IWO JIMA

Assangoong I.

Agrihan I.

Pagan I.

Alamagan I.

Guguan I.

Sarigan I.

Anatohan I.

Medinilla I.

Tanlian I.

Saipan I.

Aguijan I.

Rota I.

Guam

Ujae I.

Fais I.

Yap I.

Ngulu I.

Sorol I.

Sefarot I.

Paroulep I.

Otal I.

Hell I.

West Fayo I.

Makel I.

Pulap I.

Truk I.

Wakel I.

Ralik I.

Elato I.

Lomotrak I.

Pulawat I.

Eouripik I.

Pulusuk I.

PHILIPPINE IS.
(Mindanao I.)

Palau I.

Ngamelle I.

C A R O L I N E

I S L A N D S

Sonorel I.

Pulo Anna I.

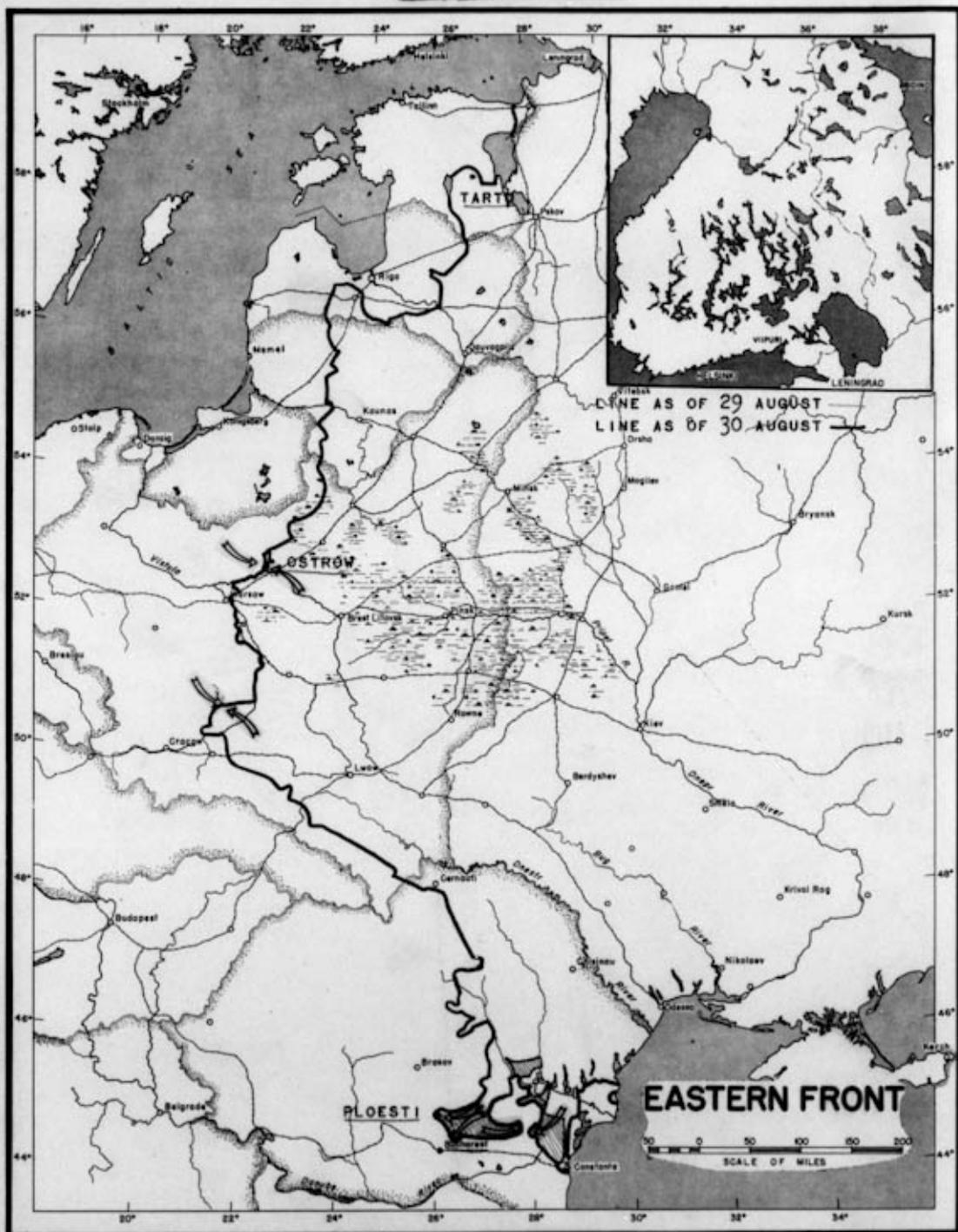
Merir I.

Taloud I.

Morohai I.

Tabi I.

Halen I.



from Wewak around the Vogelkop Peninsula to MacCluer Gulf; 38 planes of the same type sank nine coastal craft off Ceram and bombed Amboina installations. On Halmahera, 39 B-24's dropped 51 tons at Wasile Bay and 23 B-25's attacked Kaeo town. A patrol Navy bomber hit a 7,000-ton freighter off the Celebes; a B-24 destroyed two small vessels off Mindanao; another B-24 struck a bivouac area on Timor, and eight B-25's sank three small vessels off the Kai and Tanimbar Islands. The previous day Solomons-based aircraft flew 183 sorties over Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland attacking strategic installations and bridges.

2. During the night of 27-28 August, a B-24 harassed Iwo Jima; next day 13 B-24's dropped 18 tons on the same target. Small missions of heavies struck Pagan and Yap and dive and fighter bombers attacked Alamagan, Mille, Pagan and Wotje.

EASTERN FRONT

On 30 August Soviet forces repulsed attacks north of Tartu and west of Ostrow on the northern front. In Romania Red Army mobile columns advanced 35 miles, took Floesti, and at one point are within 17 miles of Bucharest, which is being held by friendly Romanian forces.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 994

0700 August 29 to 0700 August 30, 1944

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EUROPEAN THEATER

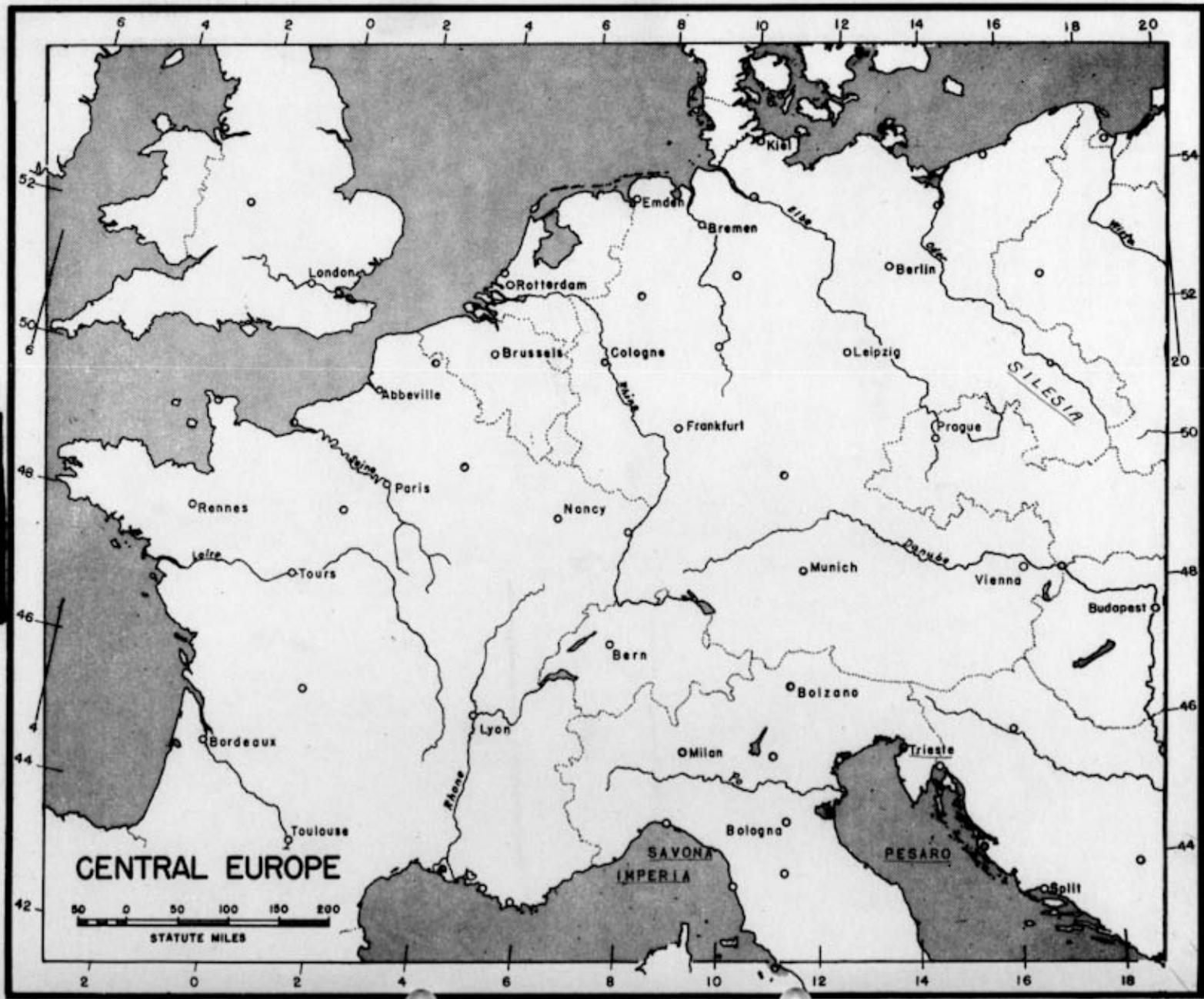
1. During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 28 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 1,740 sorties in support of ground operations in France.

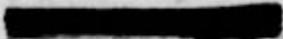
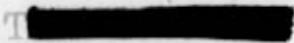
Adverse weather conditions again limited operations of the 8th Air Force during 29 August. Approximately 200 fighters operated against targets in eastern France and Belgium, claiming 20 enemy aircraft as destroyed on the ground. Three of our fighters were lost.

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending 0600 hours, 29 August: of 105 plotted, 38 made landfall, four reached London area and 70 were destroyed.

2. In the Third Army sector the VIII Corps continued the attack on Brest through 29 August. The XII Corps crossed the Marne south of Chalons and reached the outskirts of that city. Forward units of the XX Corps gained to within two miles of Epernay and 12 miles of Reims. In the First Army sector armored units advanced to Soissons and established a bridgehead beyond the Aisne south of Laon. Our XIX Corps, taking over the sector of the XV Corps, extended the Mantes bridgehead against light resistance. In the British and Canadian zones some forward elements reached the line of the Rouen-Pontoise road; minor gains were reported south of the lower Seine in the region north and east of Pont Audemer.

By 29 August the 2,000,000th Allied soldier was landed in northern France.





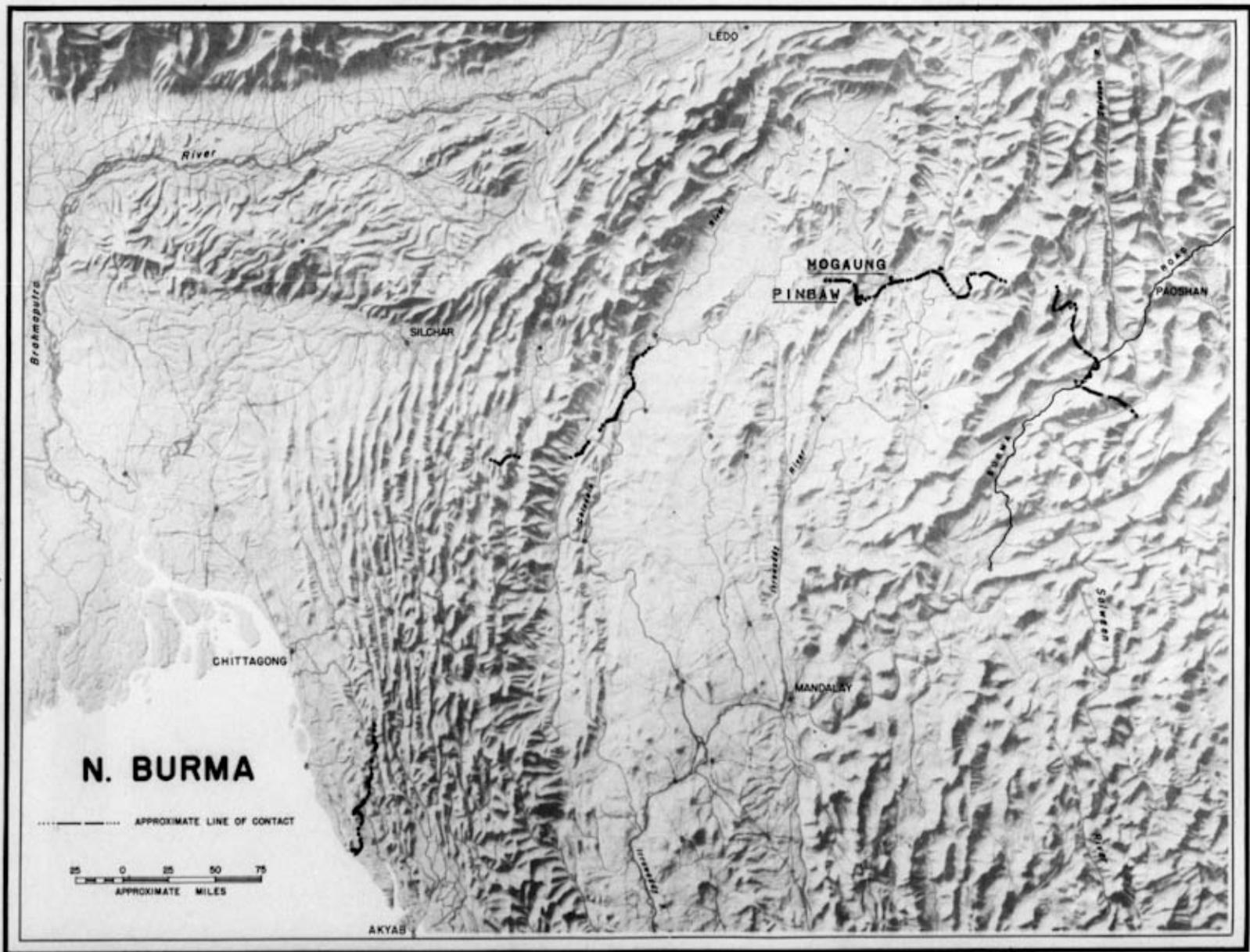
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 27-28 August, 60 bombers of the 15th Air Force hit troop concentrations near Pesaro. More than 60 light and fighter bombers flew armed reconnaissance missions over northern Italy. Next day more than 400 sorties were flown by planes of the Tactical Air Force attacking shipping at Imperia and Savona harbors and other targets in northern Italy and southern France.

On 29 August, 599 escorted heavy bombers, in eight strikes, dropped 1,330 tons of bombs on two oil refineries in Silesia and railroad yards and bridges in Yugoslavia, Hungary and northern Italy. Forty to 50 enemy aircraft were encountered in the Silesian area of which nine were shot down. Seventeen bombers and three fighters are missing.

2. By noon of 28 August there remained only a five-mile gap between forward units of the VI Corps in the Montelimar area. Beyond Cannes our troops have crossed the Var River, captured Vence and Cagnes, and occupied the high ground near La Roquette. The French II Corps crossed the Rhone and at last reports was approaching Remoulins and Nimes.

3. Fifth Army units reported minor gains east of Florence during 29 August. In the upper Arno Valley Indian troops of the British Eighth Army occupied Bibbiena. In the Apennines and Adriatic sectors Allied columns continued the advance toward the Gothic Line on a broad front securing all the high ground south of the river Foglia after stiff fighting. Urbino and Monteciccardo were occupied.

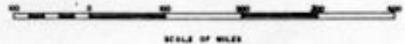


PAGAN I
ALAMAGAN I

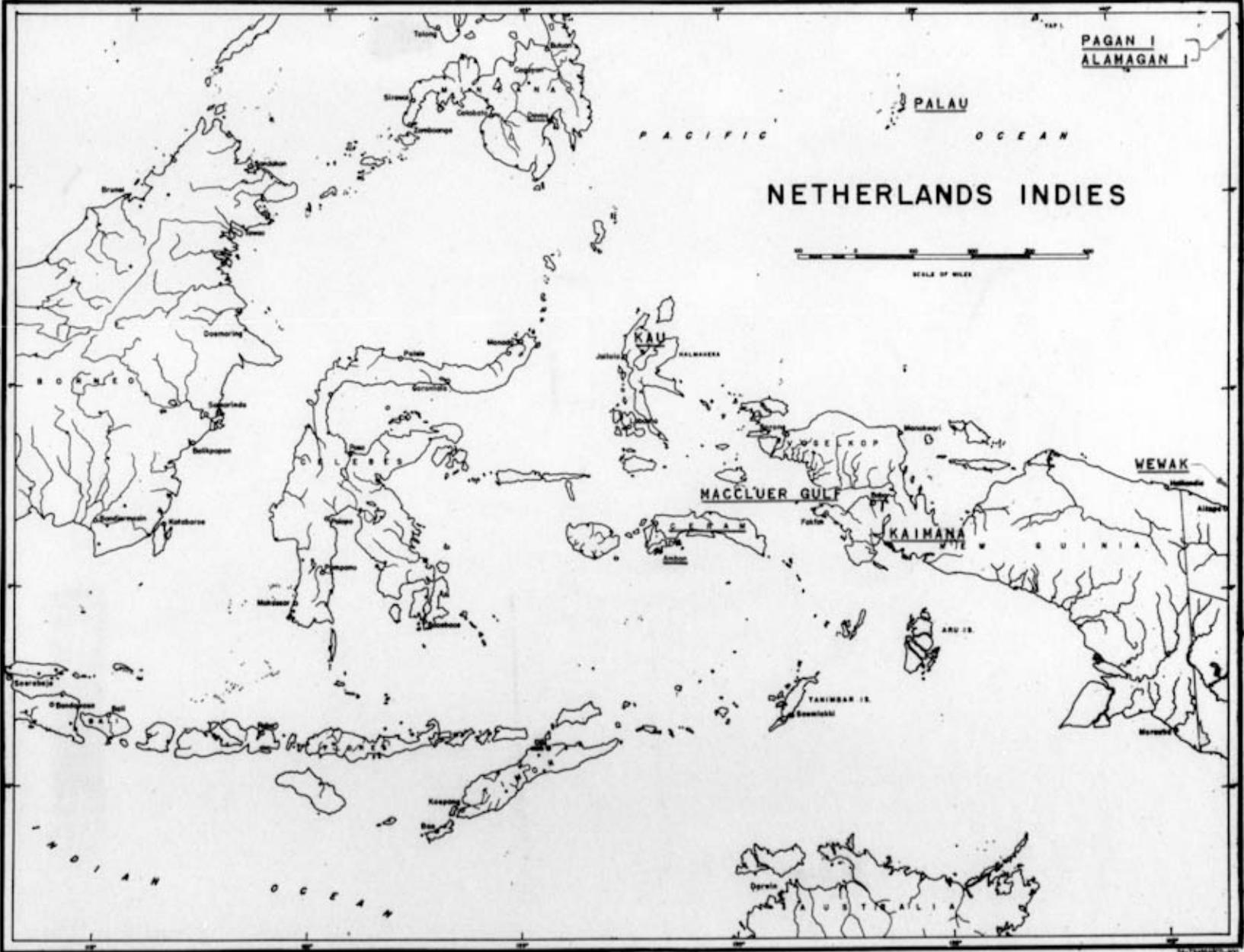
PALAU

PACIFIC OCEAN

NETHERLANDS INDIES

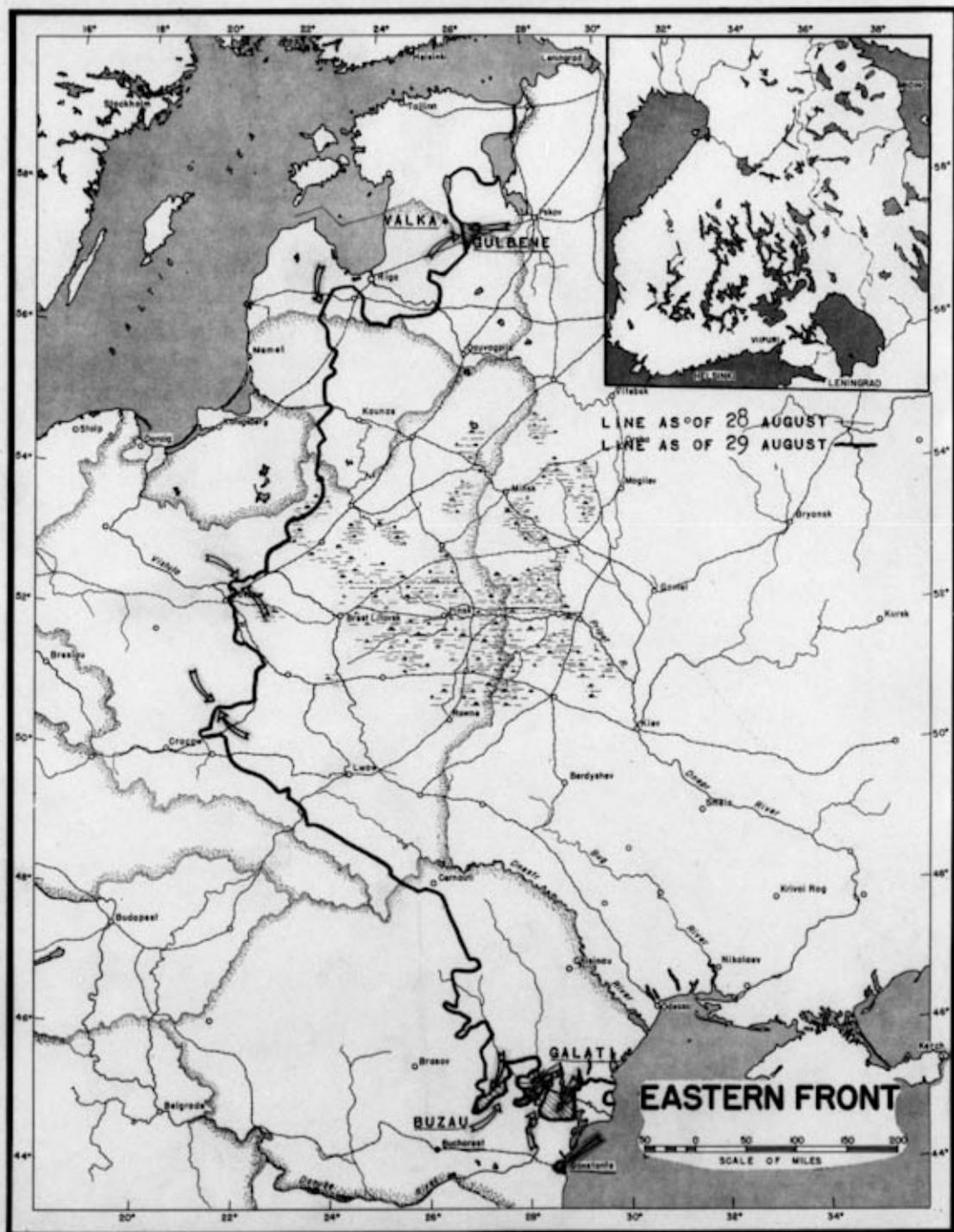


SCALE OF MILES



AUSTRALIA

INDIAN OCEAN



ASIATIC THEATER

In the Mogaung area Pinbaw was occupied by Allied forces without opposition on 28 August.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 27 August, Solomons-based aircraft flew 221 sorties against airfields and installations on Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland. Next day 30 B-24's dropped 50 tons of bombs on strategic targets in the Palau Islands with a loss of one bomber; 117 sorties were flown against objectives in the areas around Wewak, MacCluer Gulf, and Kaimana; 62 B-24's and 27 P-38's dropped 189 tons of bombs on Ambon and left a freighter transport burning. Air patrols attacked shipping off Ceram and Dilli (Timor), while Kau (Halmaheras) and Davao (Philippines) were hit by small formations of heavy bombers.

2. On 26 August dive and fighter bombers attacked Mille and Maloelap, (Marshalls); Nauru (Gilberts) was hit by Navy mediums. Next day dive and fighter bombers struck Mille, and Pagan and Alamagan in the Marianas; Nauru was again attacked by mediums.

EASTERN FRONT

In the north Russian forces shortened the front between Valka and Gulbene in a 15-mile advance during 29 August. In Romania Soviet columns moved 20 miles further toward Bucharest, taking Buzau and pushing southwest from Galati. Other units crossed the Danube and advanced 24 miles on a broad front towards Constanta, which was captured in a Soviet Naval operation.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 993

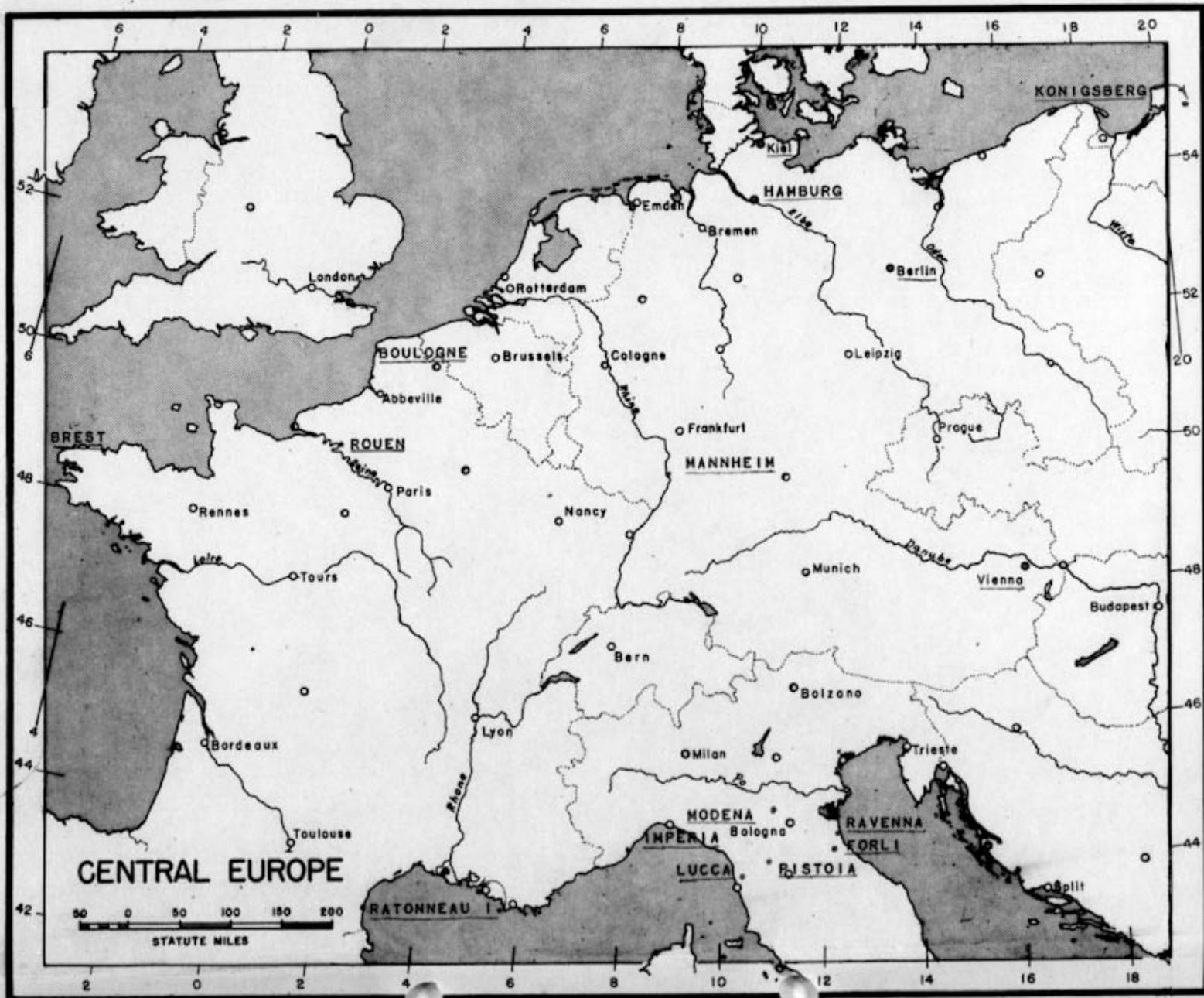
0700 August 28 to 0700 August 29, 1944

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 Ops Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

On 27 August four Navy bombers attacked shipping in the Kuriles.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 27 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 2,166 sorties in support of our ground operations in France; included in these operations was an attack by 223 medium and light bombers against troop concentrations and bridges in the Rouen area. Nineteen enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of six of our planes.

RAF bombers attacked an oil plant at Hamburg with 845 tons of bombs, shipping in Brest Harbor with 141 tons, and a supply site north of Boulogne with 853 tons. That night 27 Mosquitoes raided Mannheim and 102 other bombers carried out patrols and diversionary sweeps.

During 8th Air Force operations for 27 August 188 heavy bombers attacked targets in Germany and Denmark with 472 tons of bombs; 316 fighter bombers attacked rail targets in eastern France and western Germany, destroying 14 enemy aircraft with a loss of one.

Weather precluded operations by heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force during 28 August. However, 604 fighters attacked rail and road transport in eastern France destroying 22 enemy planes; 19 of our fighters are missing. That evening 240 fighters took off on similar missions.

On 27 August at about 0630 the enemy resumed flying bomb activity for approximately one hour and a half. Of 33 plotted, 23 made landfall, six reached London and 25 were destroyed. An office at a US

camp was among the buildings destroyed.

2. The Third Army's attack on Brest was continuing to gain ground at noon, 28 August. To the east additional American infantry columns had crossed the Seine in the XII and XX Corps sectors, and an armored thrust reached Montmirail. On our First Army front, VII Corps armor advanced 43 miles against light but stubborn resistance and crossed the Marne, pushing to within five miles of Chateau-Thierry and driving more than 15 miles north of Meaux. Infantry troops crossed the Seine and were following the armored spearhead. In the V Corps sector mopping up continued around Paris as the advance continued northeast of the city. The bridgehead at Mantes, in our XV Corps sector, was enlarged against stiff resistance. On the British-Canadian front bridging of the Seine continued near Vernon, Louviers and Elbeuf as Allied troops again reported general advances and mopping up operations in the area south of the river.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Our troops north of Montelimar strengthened their positions. By noon on 27 August VI Corps troops had advanced from the Avignon area clearing the enemy from east of the Rhone as far north as Donzere, and reducing the gap separating our two columns at the river to approximately 10 by 25 miles. Other elements pushing northwest from Grenoble reached Bourgoin, 22 miles southeast of Lyon. In the Cannes sector our troops advancing toward the Var encountered strong opposition southwest of Cannes; American patrols were reported east of the river. In the Briancon

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area, reconnaissance elements were probing southeast to the Tinee River. The garrisons at Marseille and Toulon both surrendered unconditionally on 28 August, bringing the Allied bag of prisoners to more than 47,000.

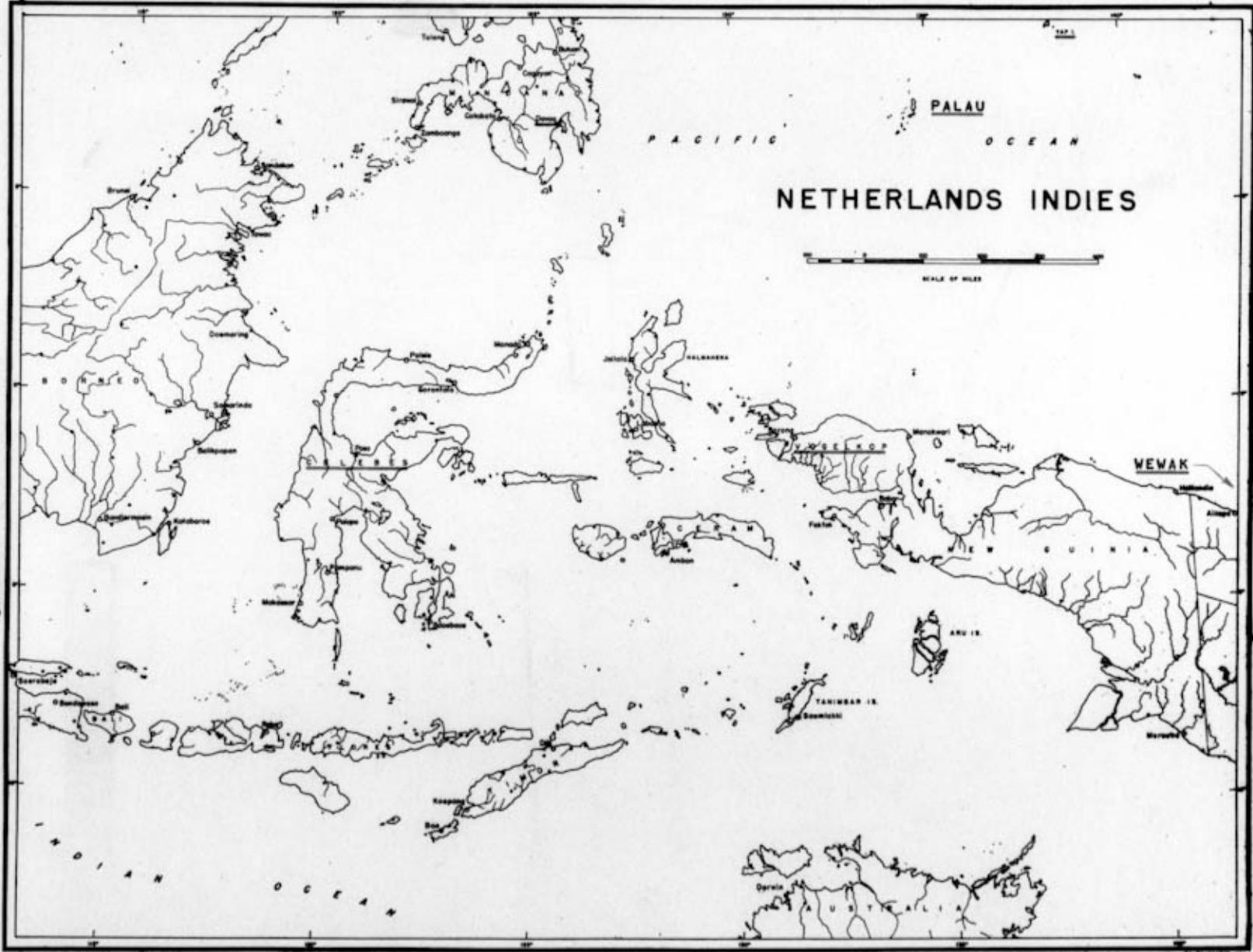
2. During the night of 26-27 August, 68 light bombers attacked motor transport in the Po Valley, railroad yards at Forli, Modena and Ravenna, and swept the area back of the battlelines. The following day 189 medium bombers attacked gun positions on Ratonneau Island (near Marseille); some 400 fighters and light and medium bombers, in various missions, supported ground operations in the battle area, swept roads and coastal shipping in northern Italy, set fire to a 7,000-ton vessel in Imperia Harbor, attacked defense positions in the Gothic Line and hit a tunnel entrance on the Pistoia-Lucca line. More than 100 fighters carried out offensive patrols and reconnaissance.

On 28 August, a force of 574 escorted bombers dropped 1,350 tons of bombs on oil refineries west of Vienna and in Hungary and on marshalling yards and railroad bridges in northern Italy and Hungary. No enemy aircraft were encountered; three bombers and three fighters are missing.

3. On 28 August there were sharp patrol skirmishes along the Arno in the Fifth Army sector west of Florence. By noon, minor gains had been scored north of Florence and infantry and armored columns advanced approximately two miles north and east of Pontassieve where contact was maintained with the enemy. In the X Corps sector of the British Eighth Army patrols probed to the north on either side of the Tiber without contact. In the V Corps sector rapid advances up to four miles were made, patrols reaching



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the outskirts of Urbino. On the right of this sector forward troops attacking Montegaudio met stiff opposition. In the Canadian I and Polish II Corps sectors south of Pesaro general advances were made to the line of the Arzilla River. Enemy troops were reported holding the high ground north of the river and all crossings were under mortar and machine gun fire.

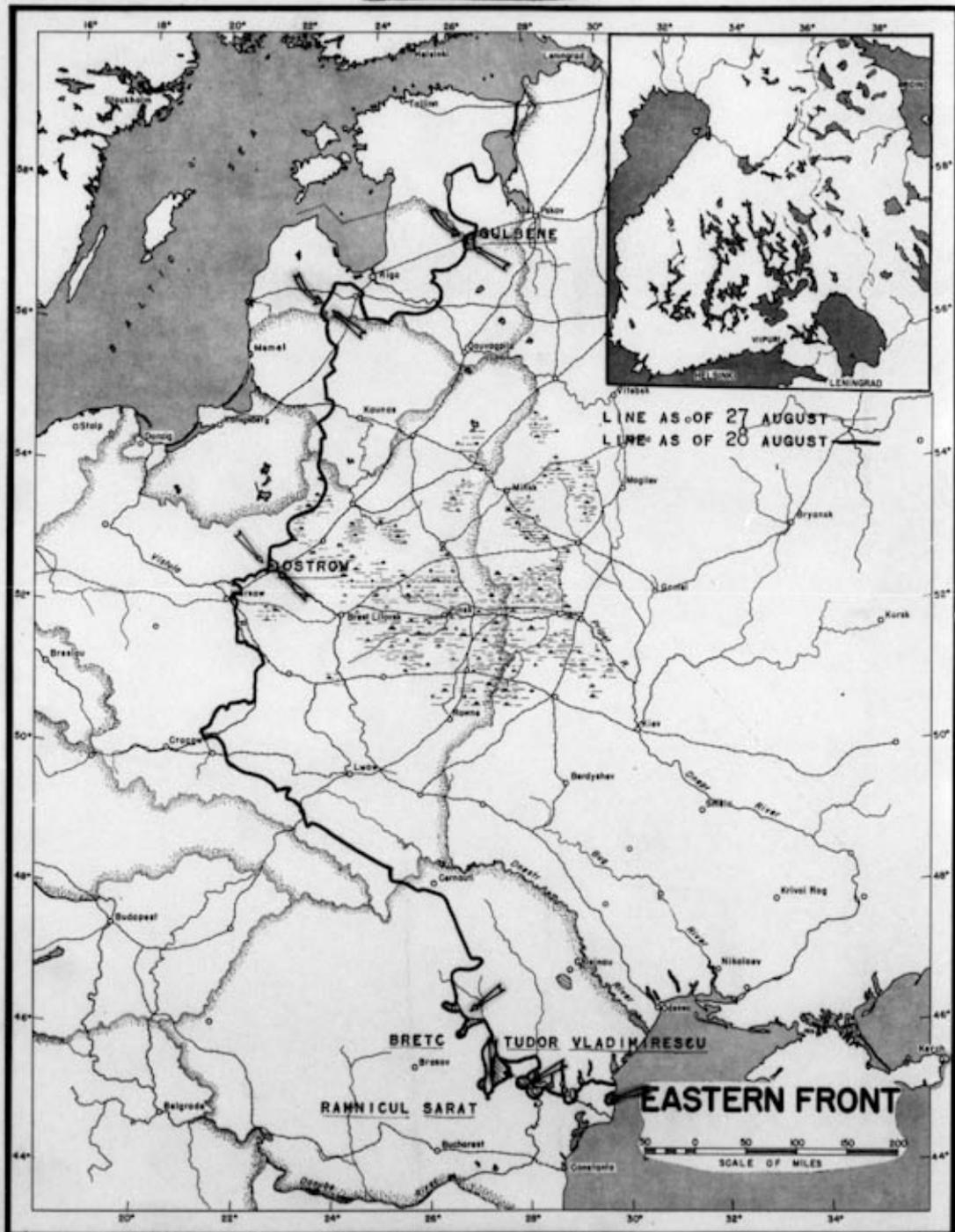
ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 25, 26 and 27 August nearly 200 fighters and bombers of the 14th Air Force flew numerous missions against docks, river shipping, troop concentrations and railroads in the general area from Changsha to Canton with the loss of one plane.

2. On 27 August the Eastern Air Command flew nearly 100 sorties in support of ground operations in Burma, concentrating on bridges in the Kalewa area and on tactical targets in western Burma.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 26 August, two B-24's bombed Davao town. Solomons-based aircraft flew 208 sorties over Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland. Next day 72 sorties were flown against targets from Wewak to and around the Vogelkop Peninsula. Small reconnaissance missions attacked Palau and shipping off the Celebes. Enemy casualties and Japanese prisoners were reported to date as follow:



	<u>Dead</u>	<u>Prisoners</u>
Sansapor	346	47
Noemfoor	1,684	171
Biak	4,840	272
Wakde	3,866	51
Hollandia	3,790	666
Aitape	8,587	127
Total	23,113	1,334

2. On 25 August, 29 B-24's dropped 64 tons of bombs on Truk. Eighty-six fighter and dive bombers dropped 32 tons of incendiaries on a built-up area on Mille; 20 fighter bombers hit targets on Wotje. On 26 August, eleven B-25's bombed Ponape.

On 27 August one B-24 bombed Yap airfield and six Navy planes raided Woleai.

EASTERN FRONT

Soviet units captured the railroad junction of Gulbene on the northern front during 28 August, thus shortening their front in this area. To the south Ostrow fell to the Red Army. In Romania a Soviet spearhead took Brete. Other Soviet units broadened the Ramnicul Sarat salient to include Tudor Vladimirescu.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 992

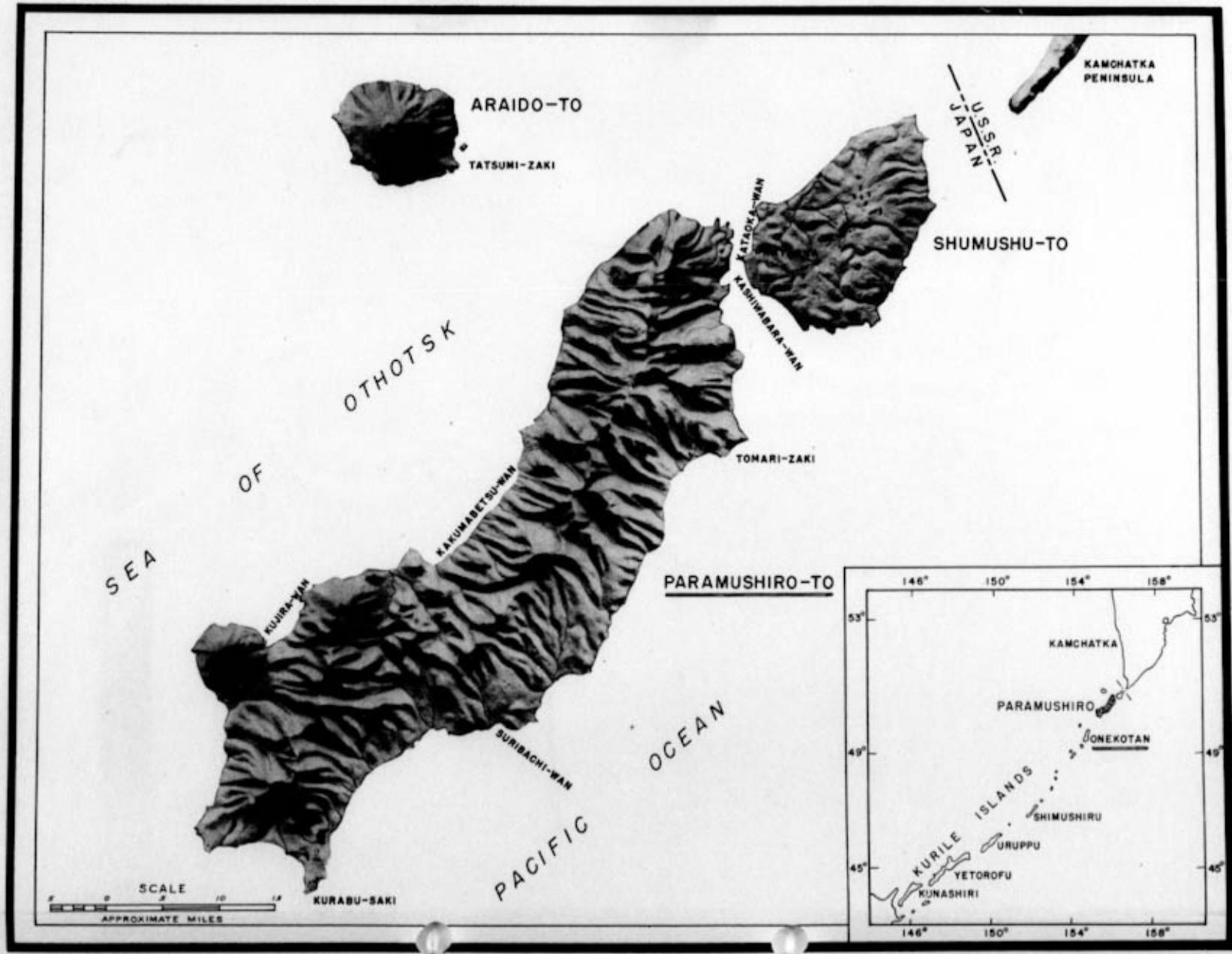
0700 August 27 to 0700 August 28, 1944

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Early on 27 August two B-25's sank an enemy picket boat east of Paramushiro and three B-24's attacked supplies and shipping at Onkotan.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Our Third Army's VIII Corps, supported by naval and air units, attacked Brest during the 24-hour period ending at noon, 27 August; at last report forward troops were making slow but steady progress against heavy opposition. To the east the XII Corps liberated Troyes and continued the advance east. XX Corps infantry and armor, attacking to the northeast, reached the Romilly and Provins areas. On our First Army front advanced elements of the VII Corps reportedly reached the Marne at Meaux and La Ferte-sous-Jouarre. (It was at La Ferte-sous-Jouarre that our First Army was organized on 10 August 1918). Metropolitan Paris and its southwest outskirts were clear of the enemy; our patrols reached Le Bourget. Allied armor and infantry continued to clear pockets of resistance west of the Seine. Our XIX Corps was relieved by the Second British and Canadian Armies and was moving to the US sector. On the British-Canadian front the bridgehead at Vernon was strengthened. To the north, from the vicinity east of Elbeuf where the Seine was bridged at several points, to Pont Audemer, general advances were made against strong opposition.

2. In their missions during the night of 25-26 August RAF bombers dropped 1,622 tons of explosives on Russelsheim, 1,246 tons on Brest,



and 613 tons on Darmstadt. The following night 382 RAF bombers, 17 of which are missing, attacked Kiel, 174 hit Konigsberg and 34 Mosquitoes attacked Hamburg and Berlin. In the Baltic off Kiel and along the west coast of France 31 bombers laid sea mines; 158 others carried out bomber support patrols and diversionary sweeps.

During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 26 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,127 sorties in support of our ground operations in northern France. Some 130 enemy aircraft operated during the period; 17 were destroyed in the air and on the ground for a loss of 24 of our planes. Additional reports of enemy air activity during the previous day reveal that 163 enemy aircraft not previously reported were encountered over France; 84 (probably 92) were destroyed in the air and on the ground.

8th Air Force reports for 27 August state that adverse weather forced the greater part of a heavy force of more than 1,200 escorted bombers to abandon their mission against targets in central Germany. A small force hit targets of opportunity in the Kiel-Wilhelmshaven area.

Flying bomb activity was very light; four which were plotted about 0130, 27 August, were the first in 41 hours. Only two made landfall and neither reached London.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. By nightfall of 26 August the German attack on our road block near Montelimar had not been able to force our troops out of position; the American columns advancing to attack the Germans in flank and rear

were moving northwest on Orange and had pushed reconnaissance units to Vaison and Mollans without contact. Other American columns occupied Le Bourg, reconnoitered north and northeast of Grenoble and advanced along the eastern sector of the bridgehead to the Var River. The French II Corps completed the capture of Toulon and continued to reduce pockets of resistance in Marseille.

As of midnight 22-23 August casualties were as follows:

	<u>Killed or Missing</u>	<u>Wounded</u>
American	1,340	4,404
British	156	141
French	<u>253</u>	<u>995</u>
	1,749	5,540

Unconfirmed reports list 36,000 prisoners of war; 6,000 enemy dead had been counted as of 1800 on 26 August.

2. On the night of 25-26 August the Eighth Army launched a general attack in its Adriatic sector; infantry columns reached Fermignano, Isola del Piano, Mombaroccio and Fano after advances of from three to six miles.

During the 48-hour period ending at noon on 27 August there were no significant changes on the Fifth Army battlefront west of Florence. To the east British armored columns, after advancing six miles along the main highway east of Pontassieve, were held up by enemy artillery fire and demolitions. In the Eighth Army zone several towns were occupied and minor gains scored in the upper Arno and Tiber Valleys.

3. During the night of 25-26 August, 68 bombers of the Mediterranean

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OSD Letter, 5-8-78



Allied Air Force dropped 205 tons of bombs on the railroad yards and canal terminus at Ravenna. Sixty-six light and fighter bombers flew armed reconnaissance missions over northern Italy and southern France. The following day 824 Tactical Air Force bombers and fighters supported ground operations in both areas. The Coastal Air Force attacked targets on the Adriatic and in the Gulf of Genoa and the Balkan Air Force flew 62 sorties on sweeps over Yugoslavia. Four fighters are missing from these missions.

On 27 August 553 escorted heavy bombers of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force dropped more than 1,200 tons of bombs on bridges and viaducts in northern Italy and Yugoslavia as well as on the oil refineries at Elechhammer (east Germany). Eleven bombers are missing. No enemy aircraft were seen.

ASIATIC THEATER

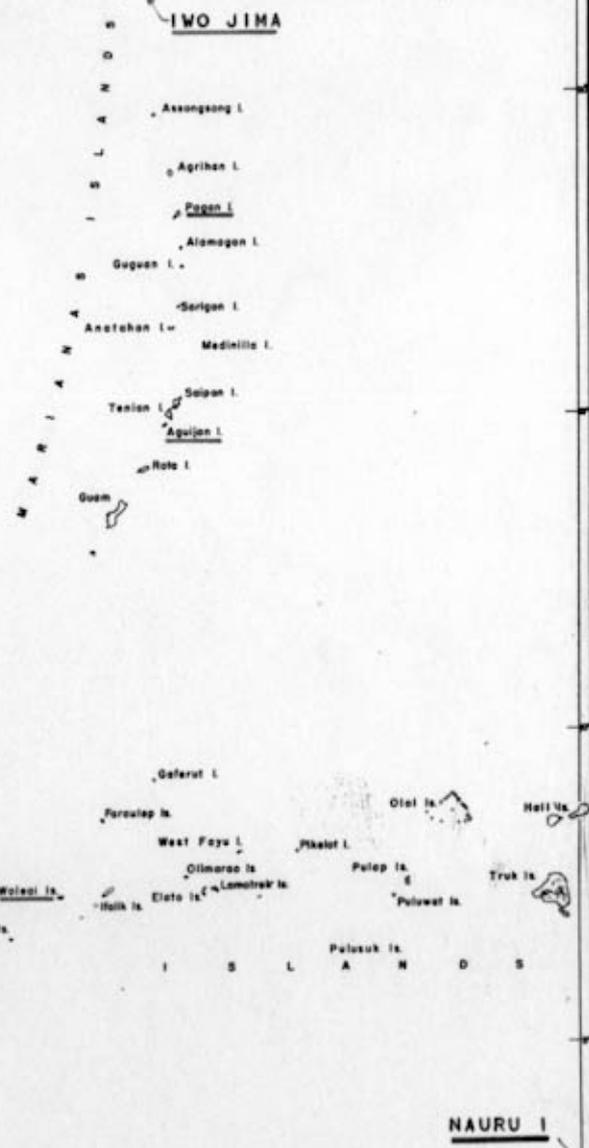
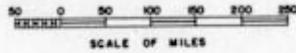
1. Weather limited air operations in the Hengyang area during 24 August to 39 tactical sorties. That night five B-24's sank a 200-foot ship and a smaller one in the Gulf of Tongking, and bombed the dock area at Amoy. The next day a small mission of fighters attacked the Luichow Peninsula while three B-24's hit the Kowloon docks and continued the raids against shipping in the South China Sea.

2. Air operations over Burma during 25 and 26 August consisted of 60 tactical sorties.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

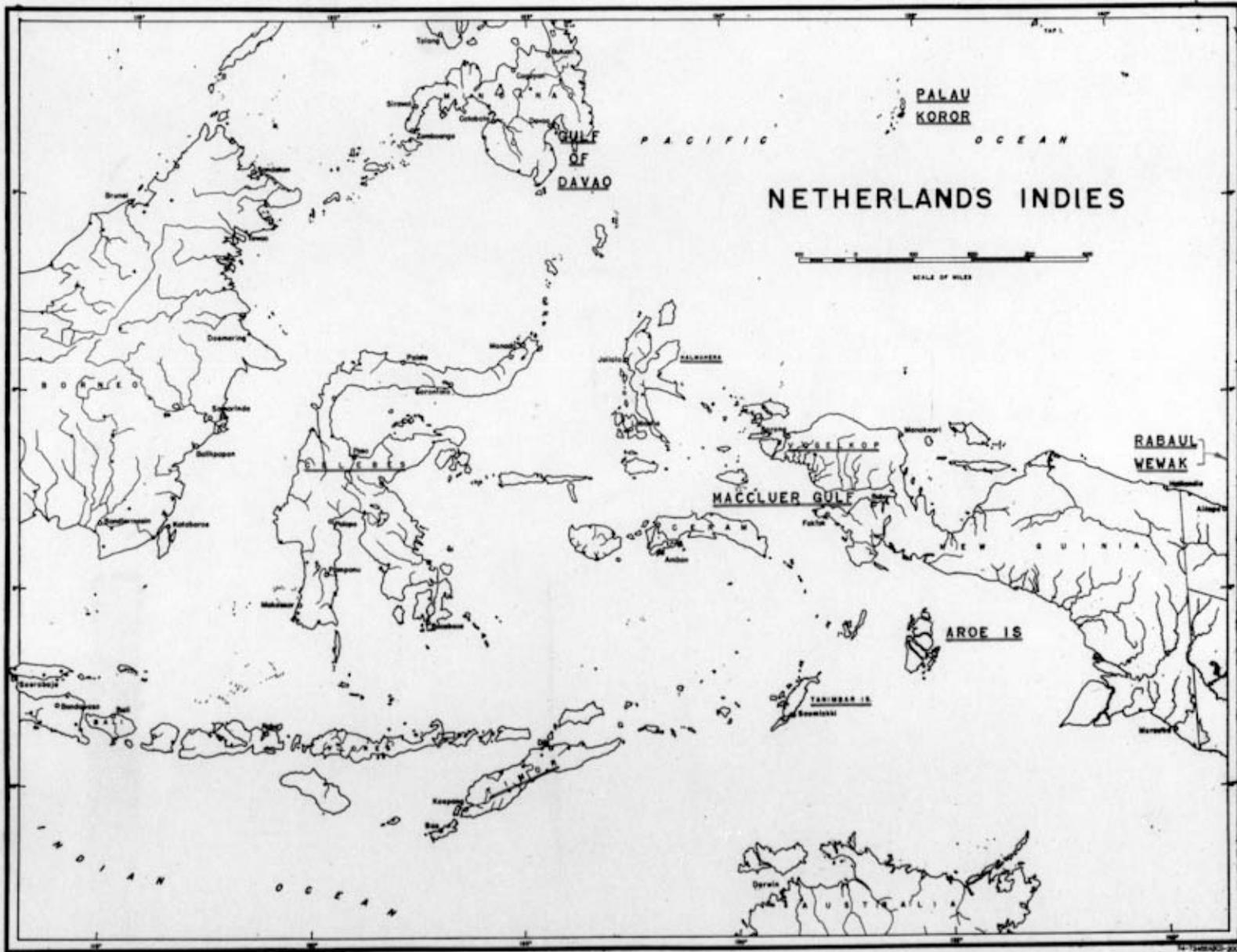
1. During 25 August 234 sorties were flown by Solomons-based aircraft

CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.

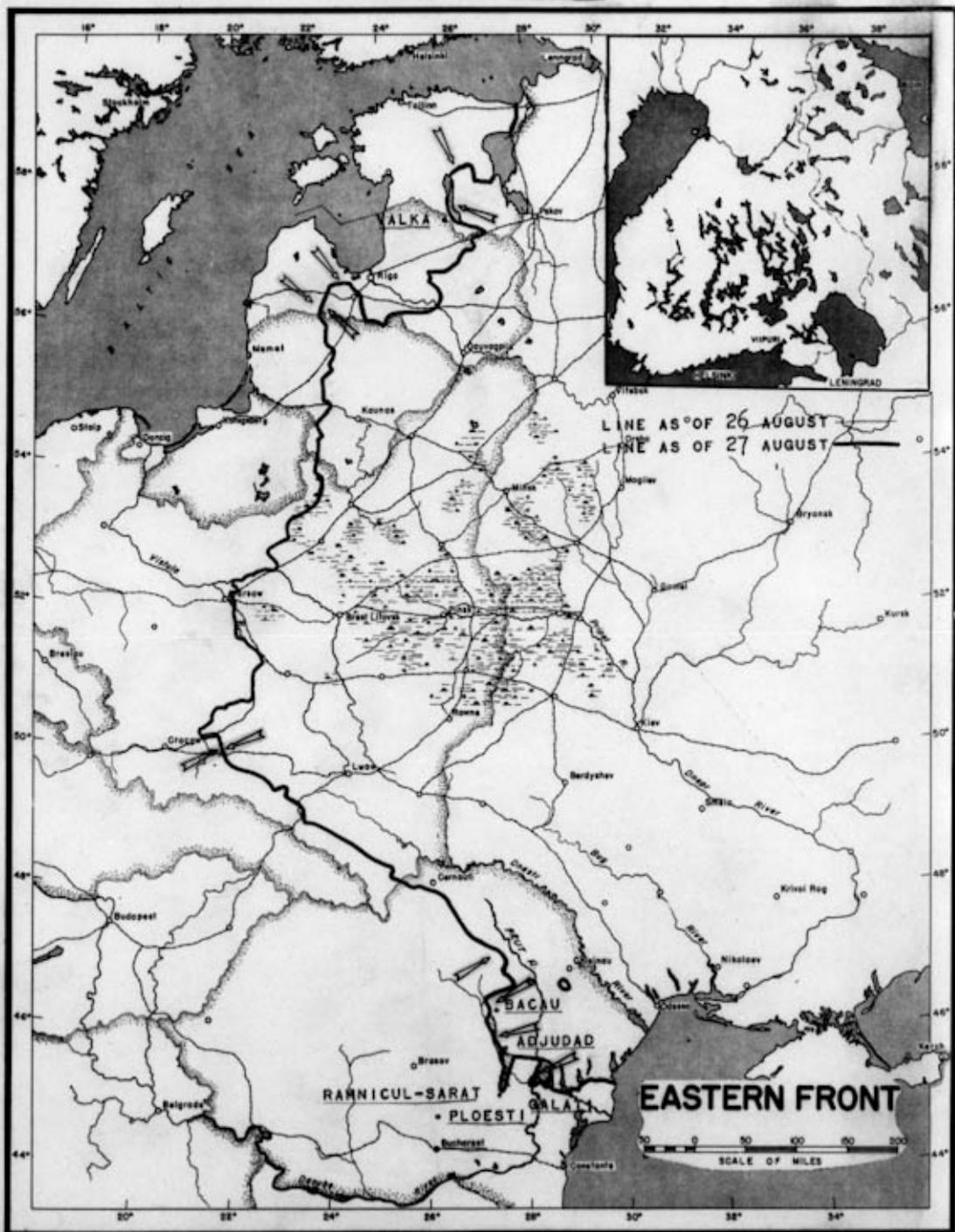


C A R O L I N E I S L A N D S

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72



over Bougainville, New Ireland and New Britain; antiaircraft defenses and other targets at Rabaul were heavily attacked. During 26 August 35 B-24's hit Koror town (Palau) and destroyed three grounded planes. Eighty-four fighters and light bombers made five strikes at various points on the New Guinea coastline from Wewak around the Vogelkop Peninsula. Nineteen other sorties were flown by fighters and bombers against targets on northern Halmahera and shipping in the Gulf of Davao; seven bombers in smaller missions attacked targets among the islands west and southwest of New Guinea.

2. On 25 August, Marine fighters hit Mille and 33 medium bombers struck Nauru; Woleai and Yap in the Carolines were also raided. Nineteen Army B-24's dropped 47 tons on Iwo Jima (Volcano Islands), shooting down three Japanese fighters. Thirty-one sorties were flown by P-47's against Pagan and Agijuan (Marianas).

EASTERN FRONT

In the north Soviet forces arrived within ten miles of Valka on 27 August. In Bessarabia the Red Armies made small advances southwest of Bacau and drove as far as Ramnicul-Sarat along the railroad from Adjudad toward Floesti and Bucharest. Other Soviet forces took Galati from the north and mopped up the east bank of the Prut as far as the Danube Delta.

~~TOP SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 991

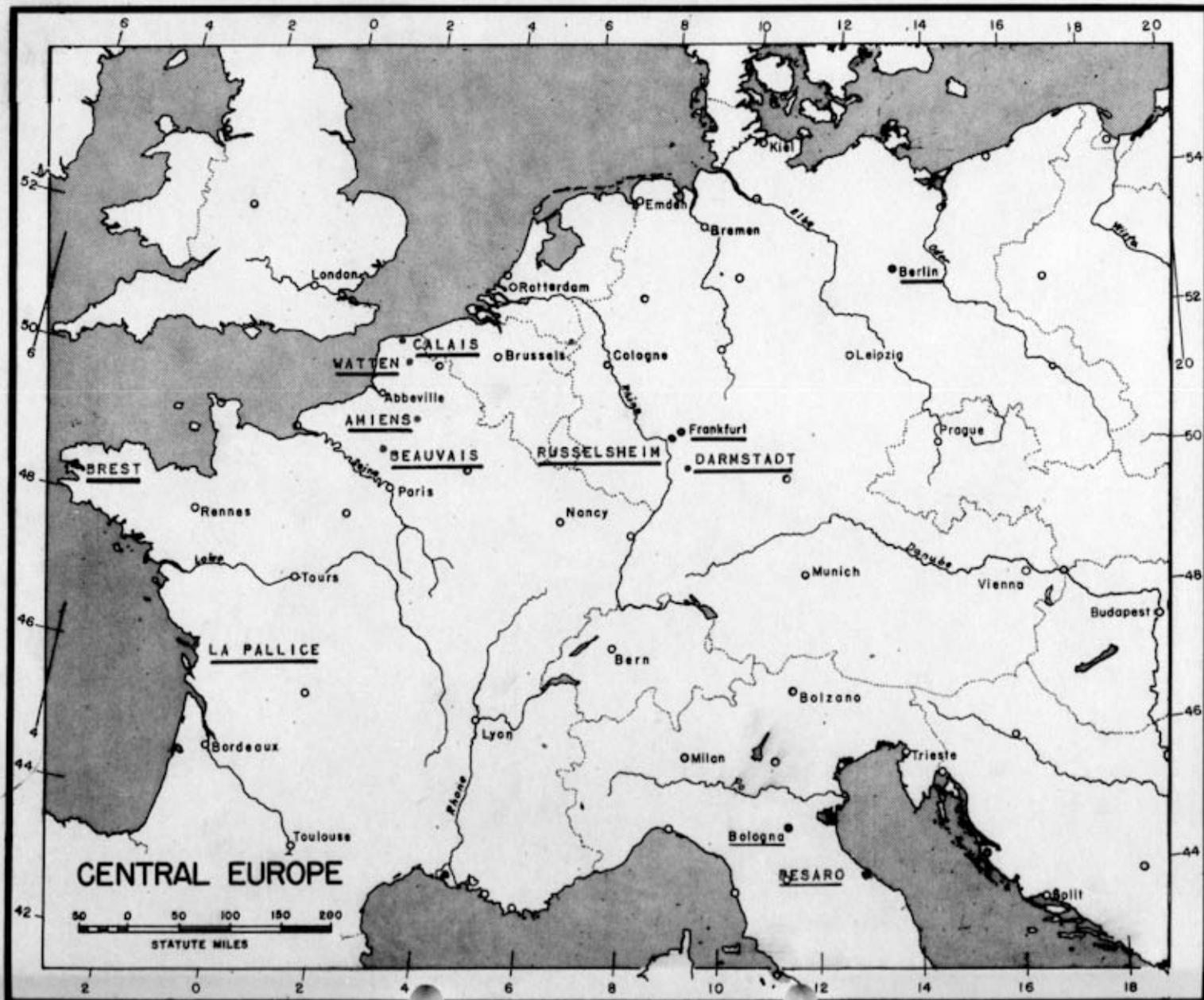
0700 August 26 to 0700 August 27, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72



24-87117-300

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the 24-hours ending at 2100, 25 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,457 sorties in support of our ground operations over a wide area from northeastern France to Brest, where 238 medium and light bombers dropped 340 tons on enemy strong points. Thirty of some 45 enemy aircraft encountered were destroyed; 32 of our planes were lost. Flying bomb activity was reduced markedly during the period, only six of 23 plotted making landfall; none reached London and five were destroyed.

During the 8th Air Force attacks on targets in Germany, France and Belgium on 25 August a total bombload of over 3,000 tons was dropped.

On 25 August the RAF sent 187 bombers to attack a large flying bomb site at Watten, other sites in the Pas de Calais and Amiens areas, and a fuel dump at Beauvais with 826 tons of bombs. That night 413 bombers attacked the Russelsheim armored vehicle factory near Frankfurt. Three hundred thirty-four others attacked gun positions at Brest; 25 bombed Darmstadt. Twenty-five bombers are missing from these missions. Fifty-five Mosquitoes raided Berlin and harassed other targets in enemy-held territory; extensive diversionary and anti-shipping missions were also flown.

Preliminary reports of 8th Air Force operations for 26 August state that 586 heavy bombers, with an escort of 602 fighters, were airborne to attack oil targets, airdromes and chemical works in western Germany and Holland. An additional force of 360 bombers with an escort



of 62 fighters were sent to bomb gun positions at Brest. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed; ten bombers and six fighters are missing. Fighter bombers operated against rail and road traffic in France and Belgium.

2. As of noon 26 August armored columns of our Third Army had advanced to Troyes with reconnaissance elements reported 40 miles farther to the east. On the First Army front armored units bridged the Seine near Corbeil and were attacking to the east. Allied troops now occupy all of Paris south and west of the Seine with all bridges intact. In the British sector infantry troops occupied Vernon and established a bridgehead over the Seine while mopping up in the area southwest of the river near Louviers. British units captured Pont Audimer and Belgian troops reached the mouth of the Risle.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. By nightfall of 25 August our beachhead in southern France had been further expanded to the west, Allied armor and infantry occupying Arles, Tarascon, and Avignon on the Rhone and Carpentras to the northeast. In the Livron and Montelimar areas enemy forces estimated at one and one-half divisions, including armor, forced leading American columns to withdraw during the night of 24-25 August. At last report however our troops were attacking to block the main highway south of Livron and had established road blocks in the vicinity of Nyon to the southeast. In the northeast sector American and Partisan forces occupied Briancon.

2. During the night of 24-25 August, 74 bombers dropped 190 tons on the railroad yards at Bologna, causing fires and large explosions. Fifty-eight planes of the Tactical Air Force harassed targets in the battle areas. The next day tactical aircraft flew 673 sorties on armed reconnaissance and offensive operations over southern France and northern Italy with a loss of six planes.

On 26 August, 518 escorted heavy bombers dropped a total of 1,177 tons of bombs on bridges in northern Italy and Yugoslavia and on troop concentrations, a train ferry, and an airdrome in Romania. Only 24 enemy aircraft were encountered; four of our bombers and two fighters are missing.

That night 66 bombers dropped 232 tons of bombs on troop concentrations at Pesaro.

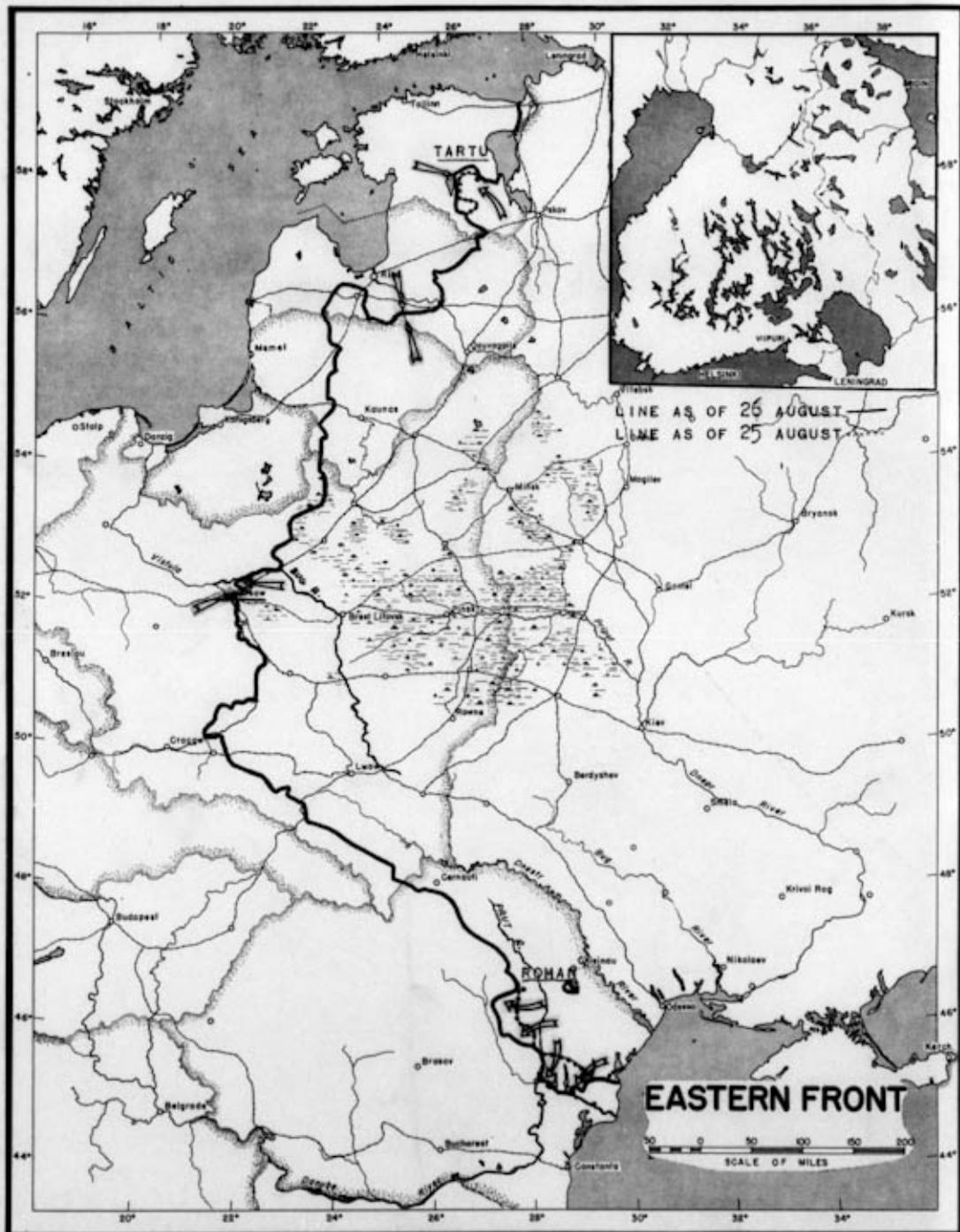
3. On 26 August six escorted bombers, based in the Middle East, attacked radar installations on Crete.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. On 23 August, 87 fighter and bomber sorties were flown against troops and river traffic in China, particularly in the Hengyang area. The next day four P-40's hit a railroad yard on the Yellow River. Operations on the Salween front were cancelled due to adverse weather.

2. During 24 August the Eastern Air Command flew 56 sorties in support of our ground operations in Burma.

3. Chinese troops continued to score minor gains at Lungling and



Tengchung on the Salween front during 24 August. In Manipur Allied patrols were operating 12 miles from the Chindwin River north of Mawlaik. The next day slight gains were made by the British troops moving down the Tiddim Road.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

During 25 August, 38 B-24's hit Palau, while 124 sorties were flown against airfields and installations in the MacCluer Gulf area and along the New Guinea coast. Airdromes on Amboina, Flores, Soemba and Soembawa were attacked by a total of 58 heavy and medium bombers. The previous day 77 sorties were flown by Solomons-based planes against targets in the Bougainville, New Ireland and New Britain areas.

EASTERN FRONT

Soviet units reported a general advance of 12 miles in the vicinity of Tartu during 26 August. On the central front gains of ten miles were made along the Bug northeast of Warsaw. The rapid advance of Red Army columns in Bessarabia continued, forward units reaching 30 miles west of Roman and clearing the north bank of the Danube from its junction with the Prut River to the sea.

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OSD Letter, 6-8-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 990

0700 August 25 to 0700 August 26, 1944

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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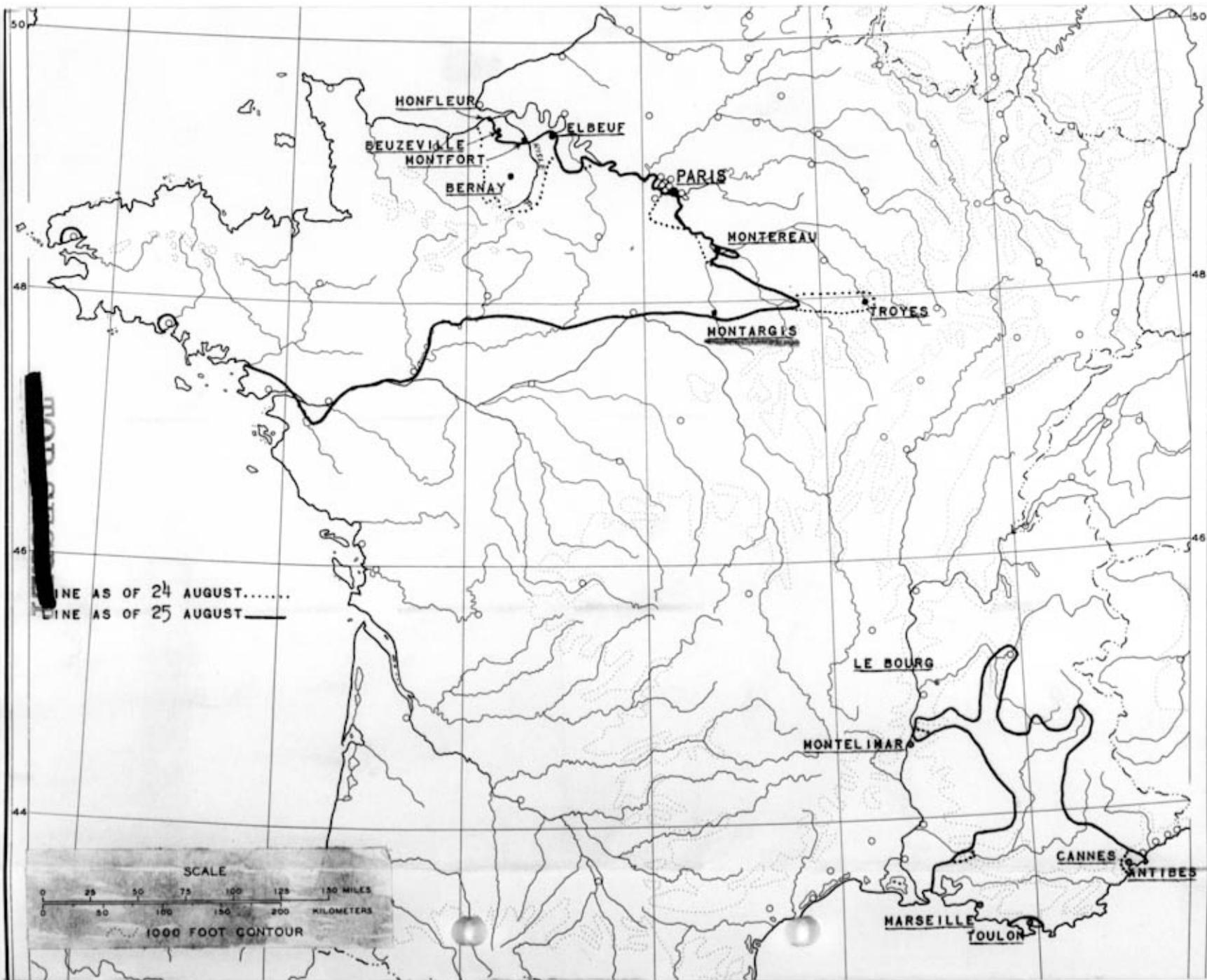
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 24 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 1,244 sorties principally against enemy traffic on the Seine and Risle Rivers. We lost four planes during these operations. Forty-nine heavy bombers of the RAF dropped 246 tons on harbor targets at Brest and 22 dropped 130 tons on torpedo boat pens at IJmuiden, Holland. Thirty-six fighters swept the Rouen-Amiens area with a loss of one plane. That night RAF heavy bombers mined the harbor at La Pallice and RAF fighter planes attacked and seriously damaged two destroyers in the Bay of Biscay. Naval forces off Le Havre sank seven small enemy vessels and damaged others.

For the 24-hour period ending 0600, 25 August, 136 flying bombs were plotted, 50 were destroyed, and 30 reached London.

In the 8th Air Force operations of 24 August over central Europe, reported yesterday, a total of 2,981 tons of bombs was dropped.

On 25 August 1,190 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force, escorted by 684 fighters, were dispatched against targets in north central Germany. The Luftwaffe experimental stations at Peenemunde and Rechlin, airdromes at Neu Brandenburg, Anklam and Schwerin, aircraft factories at Rostock, Wismar and Lubeck and the synthetic oil plant at Politz were attacked. All bombing was visual and results are reported as good. A second mission of 107 heavy bombers escorted by 189 fighters took off to attack chemical and industrial plants in northern France and Belgium.



LINE AS OF 24 AUGUST.....
LINE AS OF 25 AUGUST——

SCALE
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 MILES
0 80 160 200 KILOMETERS
1000 FOOT CONTOUR

TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

2. On our Third Army front Montargis and Troyes were cleared of the enemy by 1200, 25 August. To the north an infantry column captured Montereau and pushed six miles to the east. On our First Army front the French 2nd Armored Division and the 4th Infantry Division drove to the center of Paris leaving elements to hold the west bank of the Seine south of the city. In Paris these units met scattered resistance from miscellaneous German troops previously encountered in Normandy. Northwest of Paris our armored and infantry units liberated Elbeuf. The British Second and Canadian First Armies advancing rapidly from the west captured Bernay, forced crossings of the Risle River, and joined with our units near Elbeuf. Latest official information indicates that Allied forward units have reached the line Montfort-Elbeuf. Allied units have captured Honfleur and have bypassed Beuzeville.

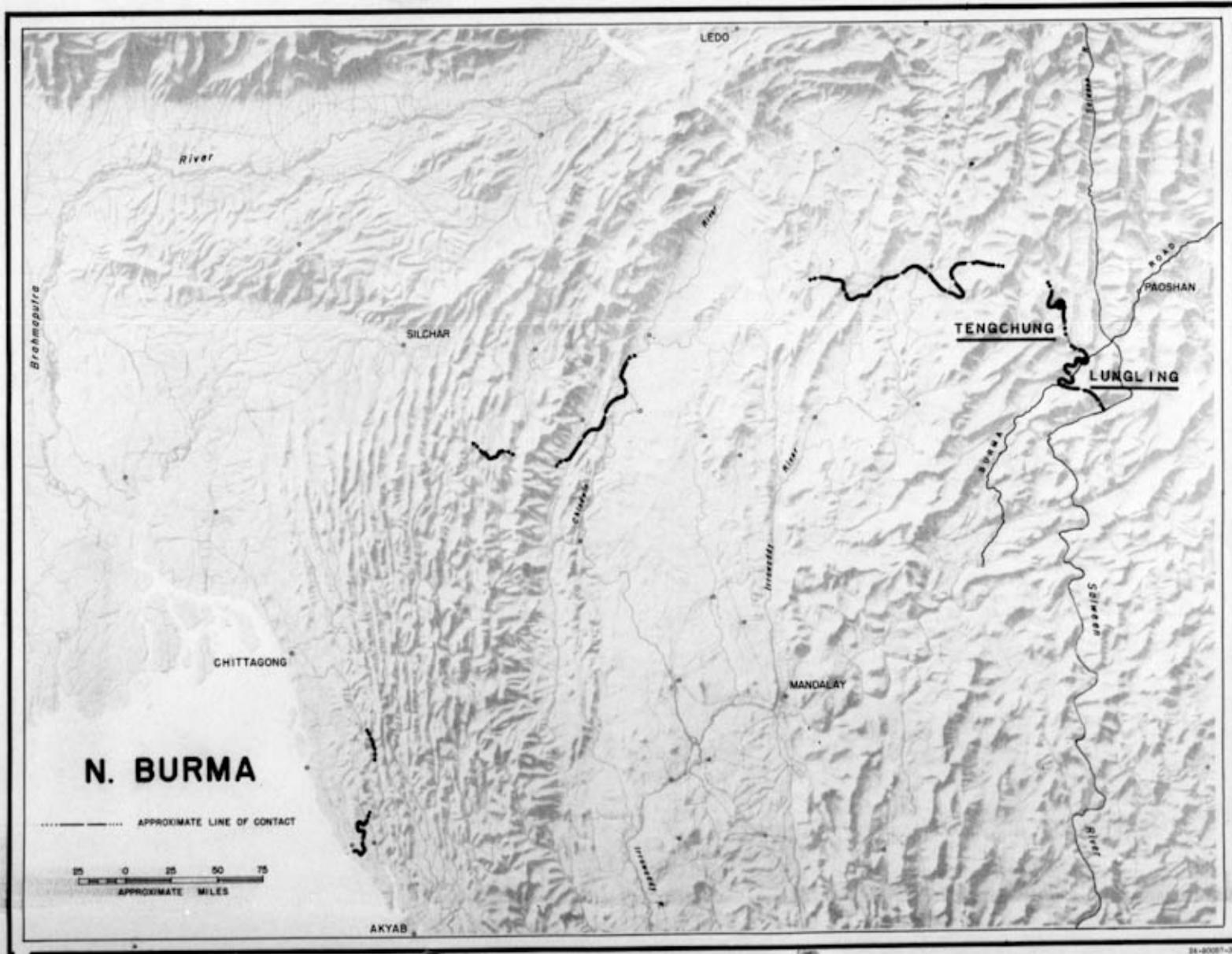
MEDITERRANEAN

1. By 25 August American forces in southern France had occupied Cannes and Antibes. The French II Corps had occupied the greater part of Toulon. Some pockets of resistance continued to hold out in the southern sector of Marseille. Allied armored and infantry columns penetrating to the north were driving on Montelimar and Le Bourg.

157,413 troops were ashore by 20 August.

2. During the 48-hour period ending at 1500, 25 August, there were patrol skirmishes along the Arno in the Fifth Army sector. The

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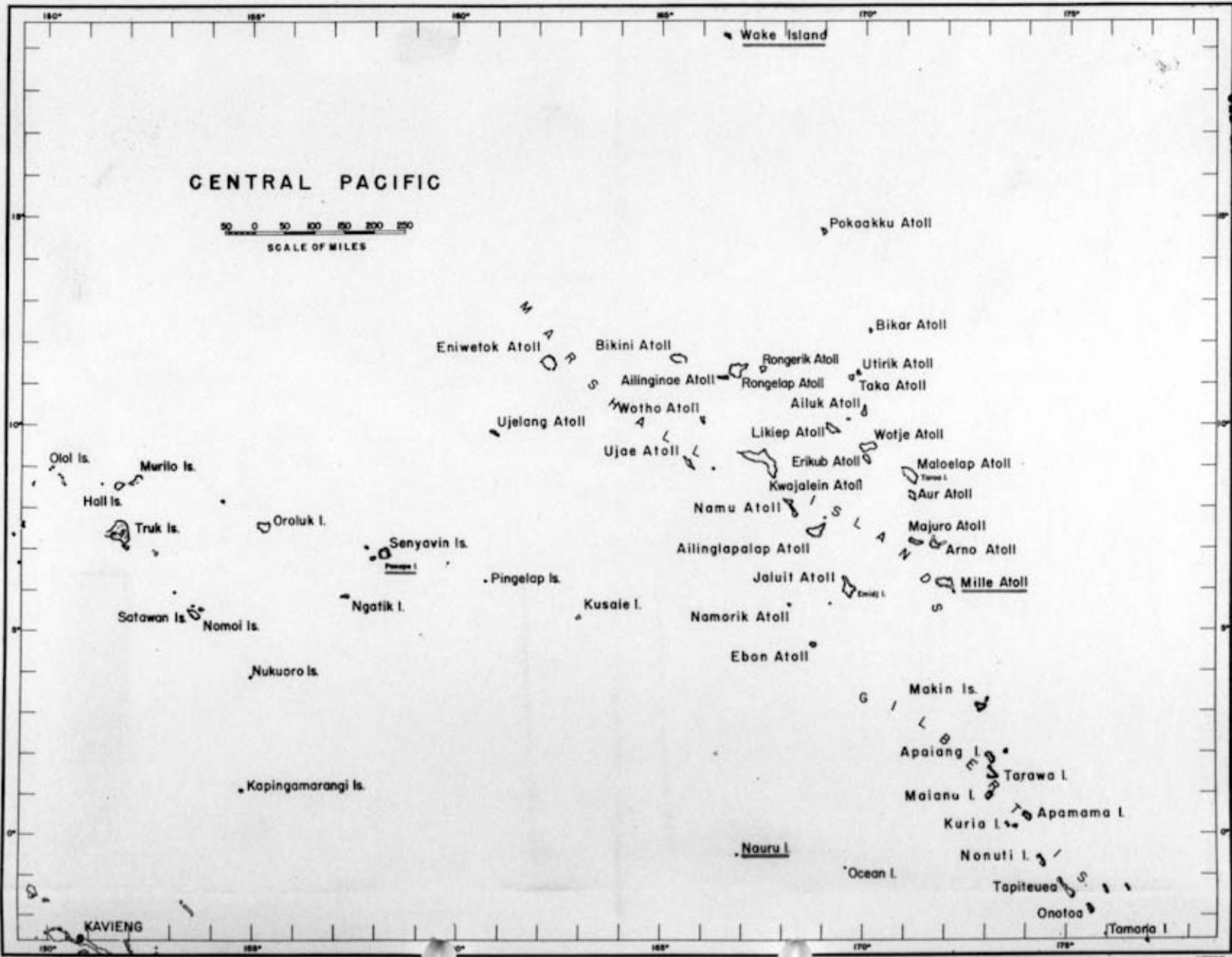
Eighth Army scored considerable gains toward the Gothic Line in the sector east of Pontassieve and made minor advances north and east of Florence. Italian troops in the Apennine region occupied Apecchio and maintained contact with the enemy north and east of Acqualagna.

3. During the night 23-24 August, 52 light bombers of the Tactical Air Force flew armed reconnaissance over northern Italy and the Rhone Valley, attacking motor transportation and fuel dumps. Next day 86 medium bombers and 169 fighters attacked bridges, gun positions and transport targets in southern France and northern Italy. About 350 fighters and light bombers attacked tactical targets north of the Italian battle line. The Balkan Air Force, although hampered by weather, flew more than 75 sorties attacking storage tanks, barracks and locomotives in Yugoslavia and shipping in the Gulf of Venice. Two B-26's are missing from these operations.

During 25 August, 316 escorted heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force operated over Moravia dropping 846 tons of bombs on aircraft factories at Brno and Kurim and on the airdrome at Prostejov. Twenty to 30 enemy fighters were encountered; 14 were shot down for a loss of three bombers and one fighter.

ASIATIC THEATER

On the Salween front Chinese troops were reported fighting within Lungling on 23 August. Local gains were scored in Tengchung.



CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.



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Anatahan I.
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Talon I.
Salpa I.
Aguijan I.
Rota I.
Guam

PHILIPPINE IS.
(Mindanao I.)

Palau I.
Ngemelis I.

Yap I.
Ujae I.
Fais I.

Sorol I.

Gaferut I.

Faroukap I.

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Olae I.

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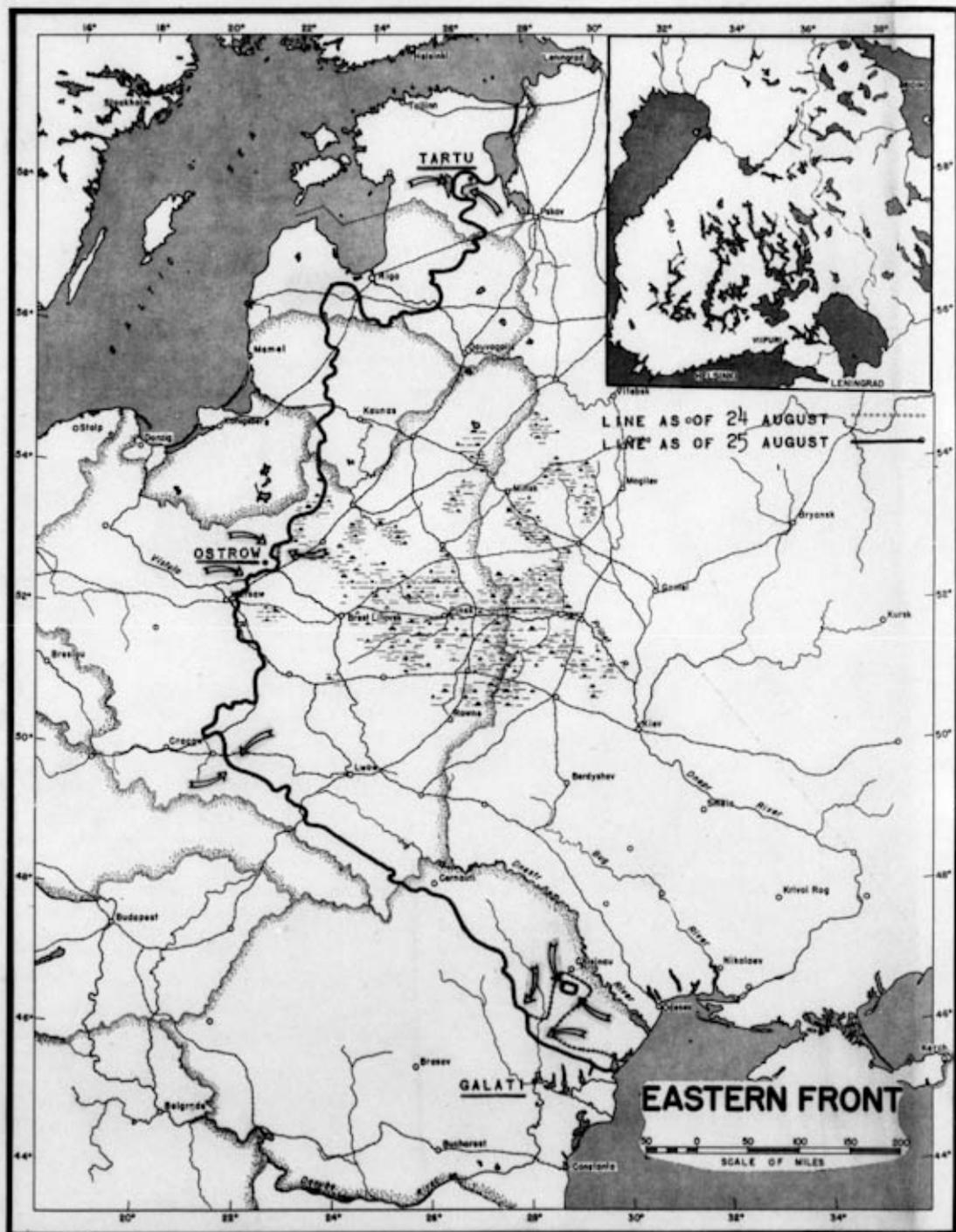
Tabi I.
Halan I.

Marotai I.

Taloud I.

UNCLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

TOP SECRET



PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In 123 sorties on 24 August light and fighter bombers attacked four airdromes in the Babo area of New Guinea. Fifty-three B-24's dropped 59 tons of bombs on supply dumps at Lolobata, Halmahera. Eighteen medium bombers in a mast-height attack struck shipping off the Celebes sinking five merchant vessels, and probably sinking one light cruiser. In the same area, a B-24 on patrol attacked a 4,000-ton freighter and left it burning. Medium and fighter bombers operating to the west damaged enemy shipping and attacked targets on Timor. Aircraft from bases in the Solomons flew 150 sorties against targets in Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland during 23 August.

2. In a previously unreported air action on 23 August, Army B-24's and Marine fighter bombers heavily attacked Mille; Navy search planes hit airfields at Wake and Ponape. The next day two B-24's hit Iwo Jima (Kazan Islands) and 12 B-25's bombed Ponape; other missions attacked Pagan and Agiguan in the Marianas, Mille in the Marshalls, and Nauru in the Gilberts.

EASTERN FRONT

In the north the Red Armies captured Tartu and advanced 10 miles to the west. Along the central sector Soviet spearheads were two miles from Ostrow and in Bessarabia were 30 miles from Galati. Although some Romanian divisions have surrendered, the enemy's southern front has not collapsed.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

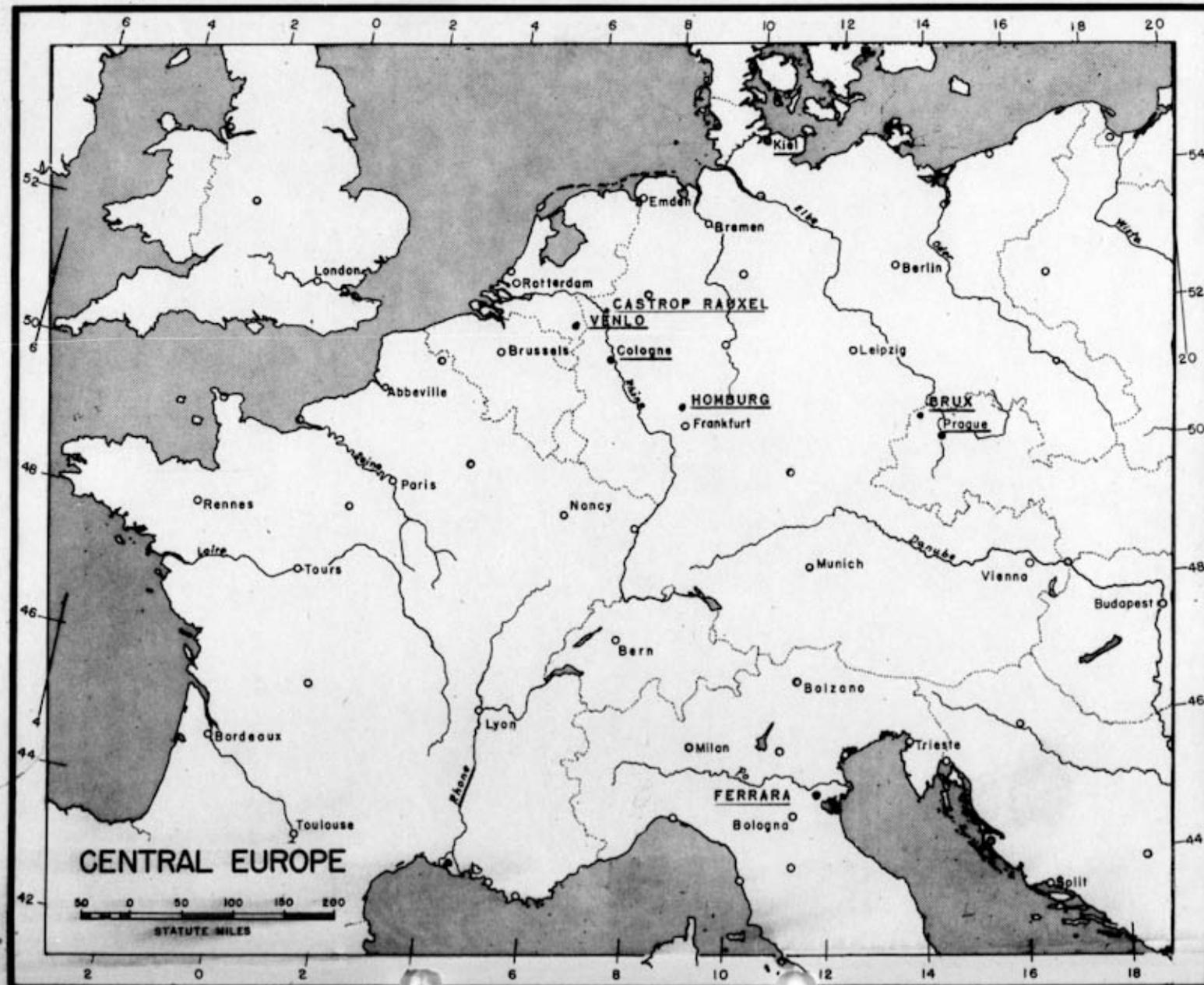
No. 989

0700 August 24 to 0700 August 25, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~



GENERAL

Headquarters Tenth Army (Lt. General Simon B. Buckner, Jr.) has been ordered overseas via a west coast Port of Embarkation. ✓

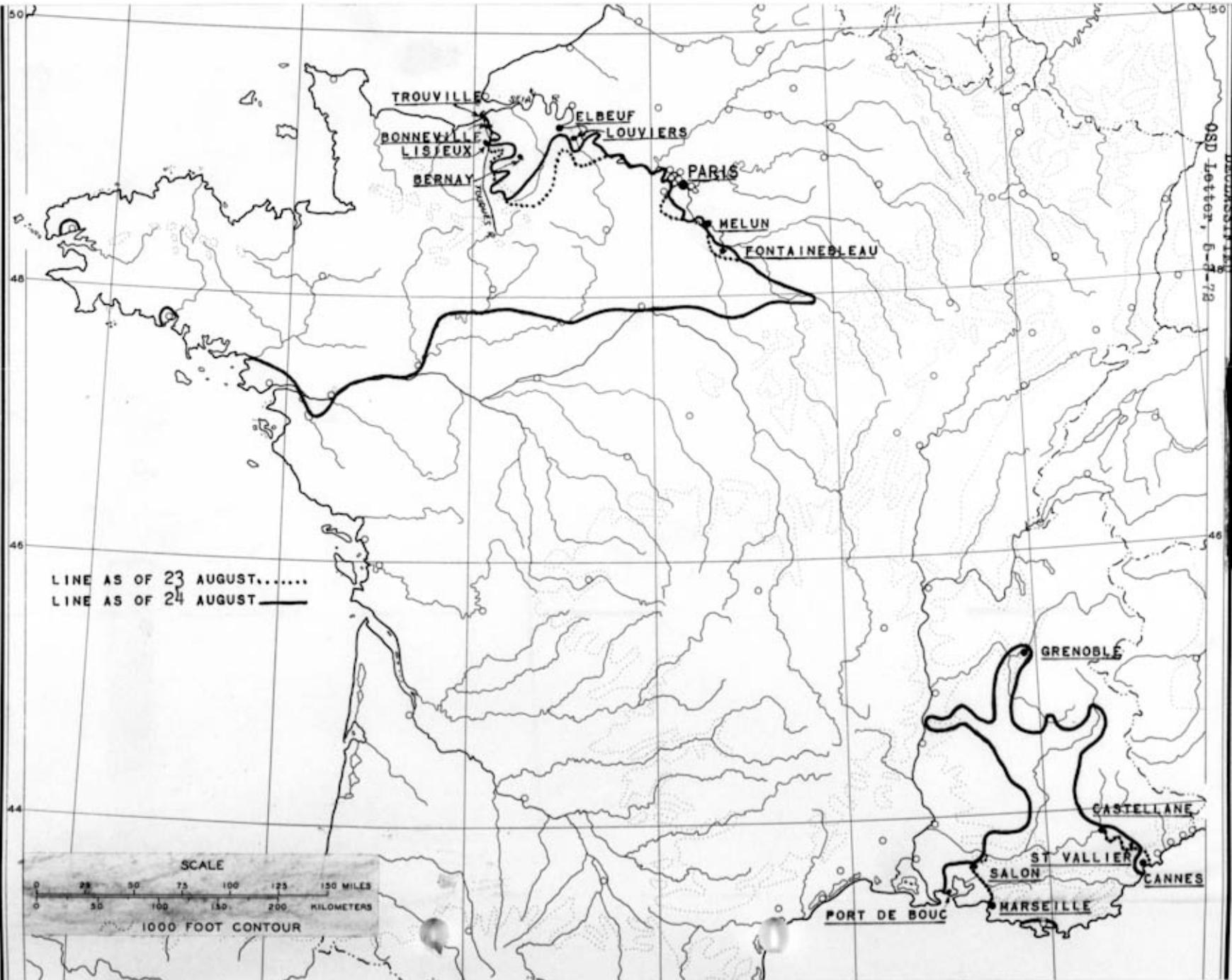
Headquarters III Corps (Major General John Millikin), the 26th Infantry Division (Major General W. S. Paul), the 44th Infantry Division (Major General R. L. Spragins), and the 10th Armored Division (Major General W. H. H. Morris, Jr.) have been ordered overseas via eastern Ports of Embarkation for shipment to UK.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the 24-hour period ending 2100, 23 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 2,134 sorties in support of our ground operations. Eighteen enemy aircraft were destroyed; our losses totalled 18 planes. During this period approximately 150 enemy aircraft operated over the northern French battle area. That night 42 RAF Mosquitoes attacked Cologne.

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending 0600, 24 August: of 97 plotted, 48 made landfall and 22 reached London. It has been confirmed that the flying bombs which were plotted as originating from the direction of the Low Countries about 20 July were launched from aircraft over the Dutch and Belgian coasts.

On 24 August, the 8th Air Force dispatched 1,318 escorted heavy bombers to attack five oil plants, five factories, and three



LINE AS OF 23 AUGUST.....
LINE AS OF 24 AUGUST———

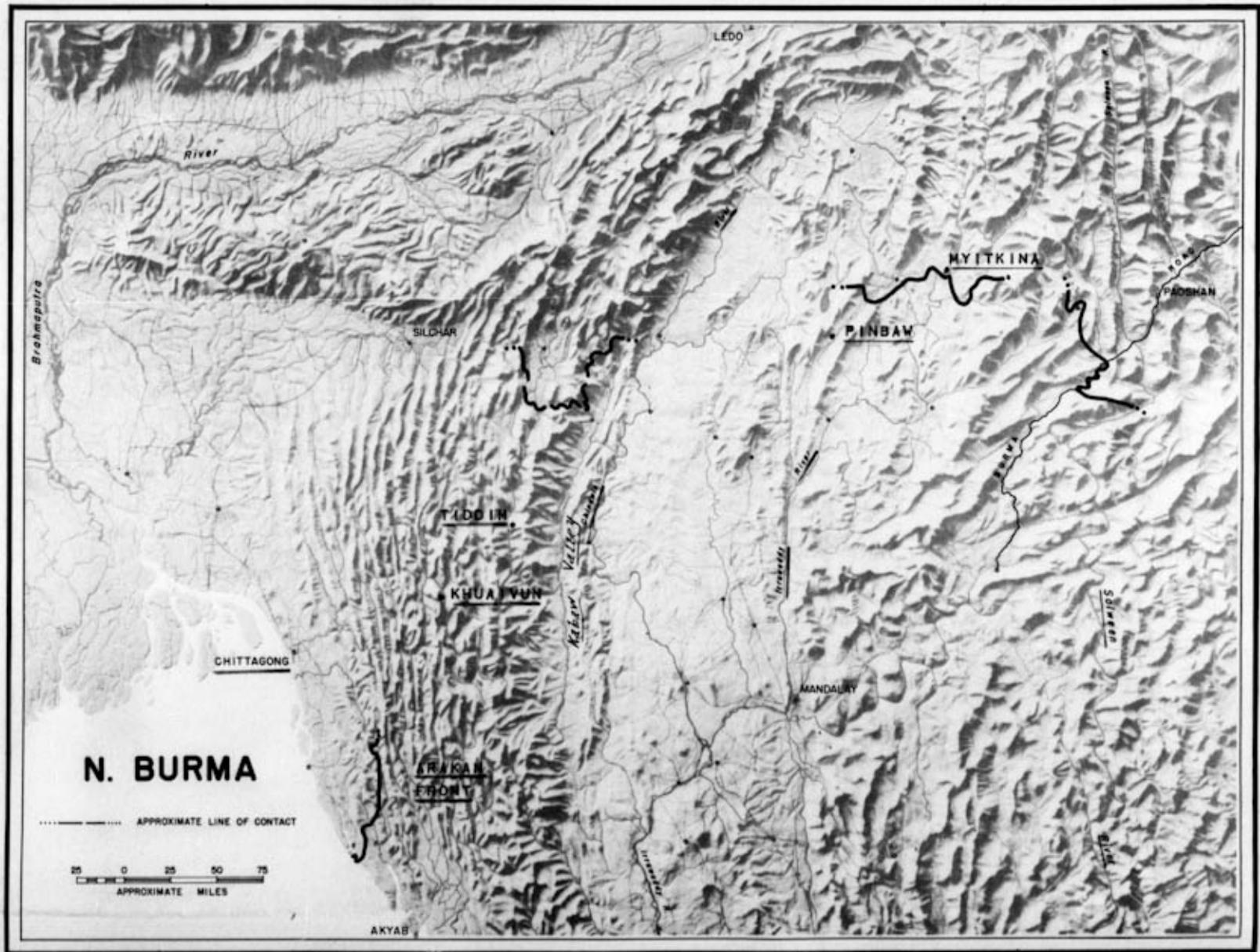
SCALE
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 MILES
0 50 100 150 200 KILOMETERS
1000 FOOT CONTOUR

airdromes over a wide area ranging from Kiel through central Germany to Brux in Czechoslovakia. The operation, coordinated with those of the 15th Air Force, was described as the most effective to date by US Strategic bombers. Preliminary reports indicate that 24 enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of 29 bombers and five fighters.

2. During the period ending noon 24 August, minor gains were reported on our Third Army front south and west of Paris. The Second French Armored Division was reported approaching the outskirts of the city. The XX Corps cleared the Forest of Fontainebleau and established bridgeheads over the Seine near that city and north of Melun. On the First Army front armored columns of the XV and XIX Corps were approaching Louviers and Elbeuf. British and Canadian infantry units advanced seven miles to the northern outskirts of Bernay and scored additional gains across the Touques River north of Lisieux. Columns pushing eastward near the coast crossed the Touques River near its mouth.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On the night of 22-23 August, the Tactical Air Force operated 69 sorties of light and fighter bombers over northern Italy and southern France. The next day 54 medium bombers attacked bridges in the Rhone Valley while 197 fighters attacked tactical targets in support of ground units in southern France. In Italy, 153 medium and light bombers attacked roads, railroads and fuel dumps north of the battle area while 396 fighters provided tactical support for ground units. Coastal aircraft operated along the Italian and French Rivas and attacked targets in



Greece. Six bombers and one fighter are missing from these operations.

During 24 August, 585 escorted heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force dropped 1,313 tons of bombs on an airfield, a railroad yard, two bridges, and two oil refineries over a large area including Prague in Czechoslovakia, Szeged in Hungary and Ferrara in Italy. Of approximately 75 enemy aircraft encountered, 53 were destroyed. Fourteen of our bombers are missing.

2. The French troops in Marseille are reducing pockets of resistance in the southern section of the city. By 1200, 23 August, US troops had pushed west of Marseille to Port de Bouc and Salon. Near Grenoble our infantry and tank columns were probing to the northeast. Airborne troops cleared the enemy from the area south of Castellane-St. Vallier road and gained three miles in their advance on Cannes.

ASIATIC THEATER

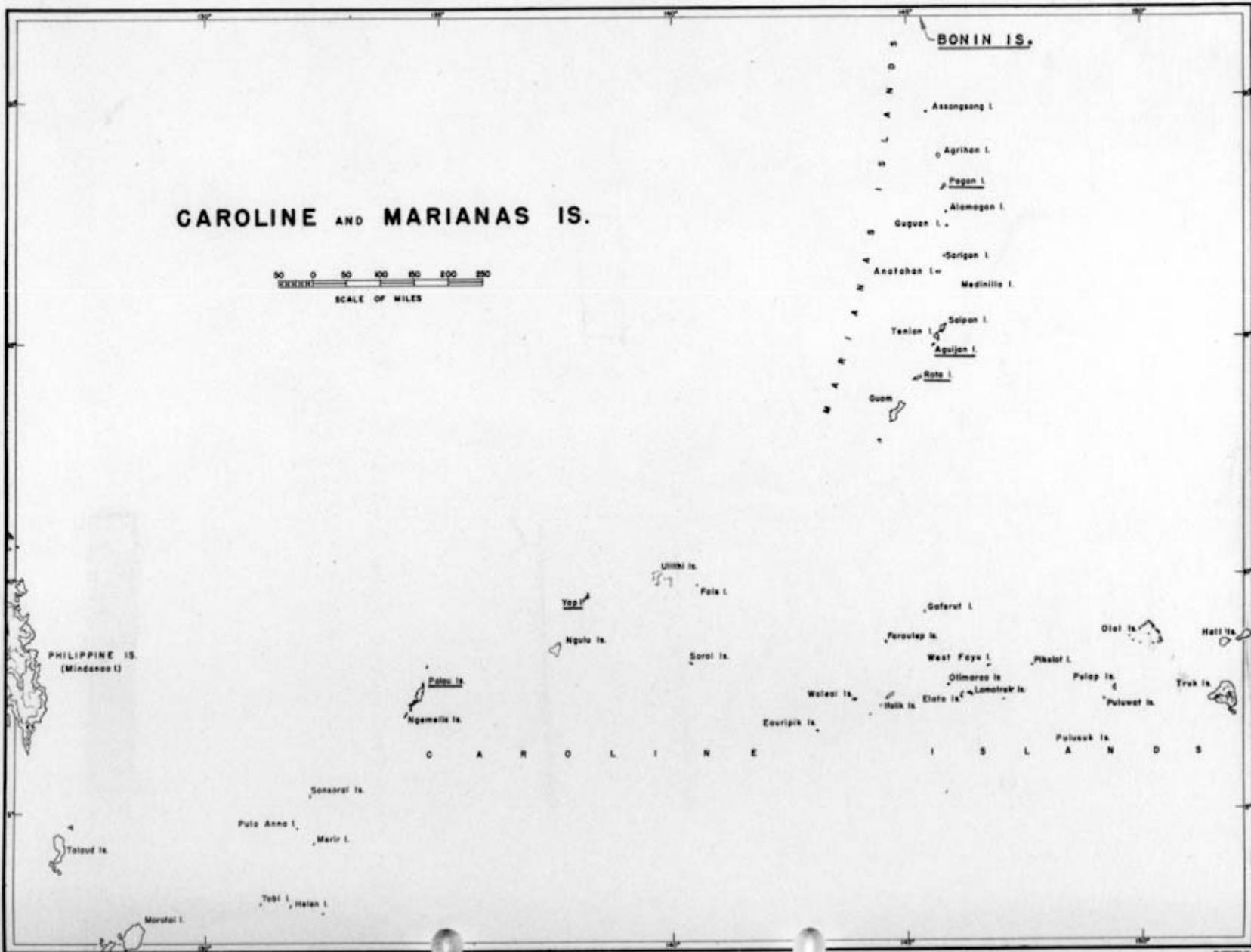
1. During 22 and 23 August the Eastern Air Command flew 297 sorties, attacking communications systems on the Arakan front and in the Kabaw, Chindwin and Irrawaddy Valleys and providing shipping escort off Chittagong. Included in these operations was an attack by 21 B-25's on rail installations at Pinbaw.

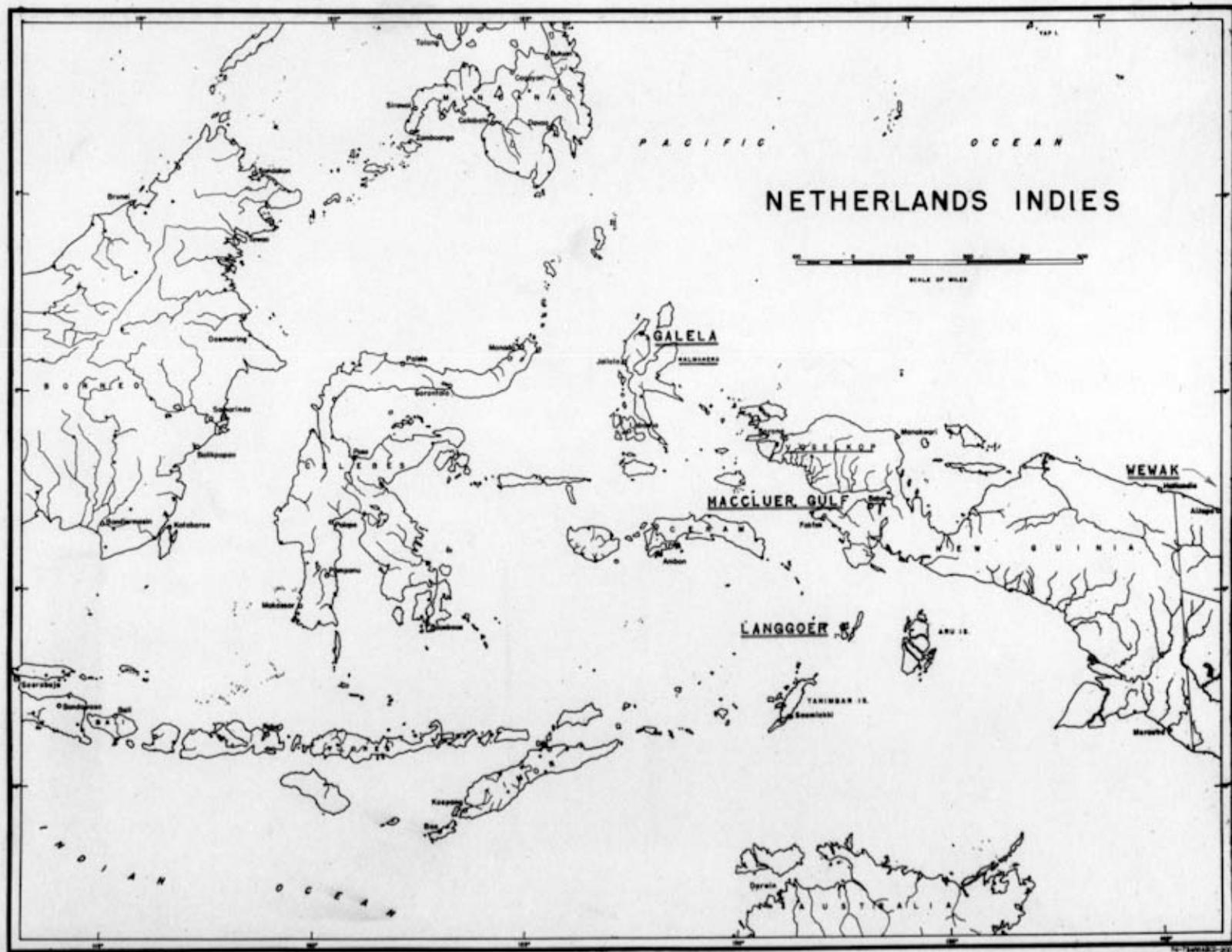
2. During 23 August, British troops pushing south on the Tiddim Road regained contact with the enemy five miles south of Khuavium.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

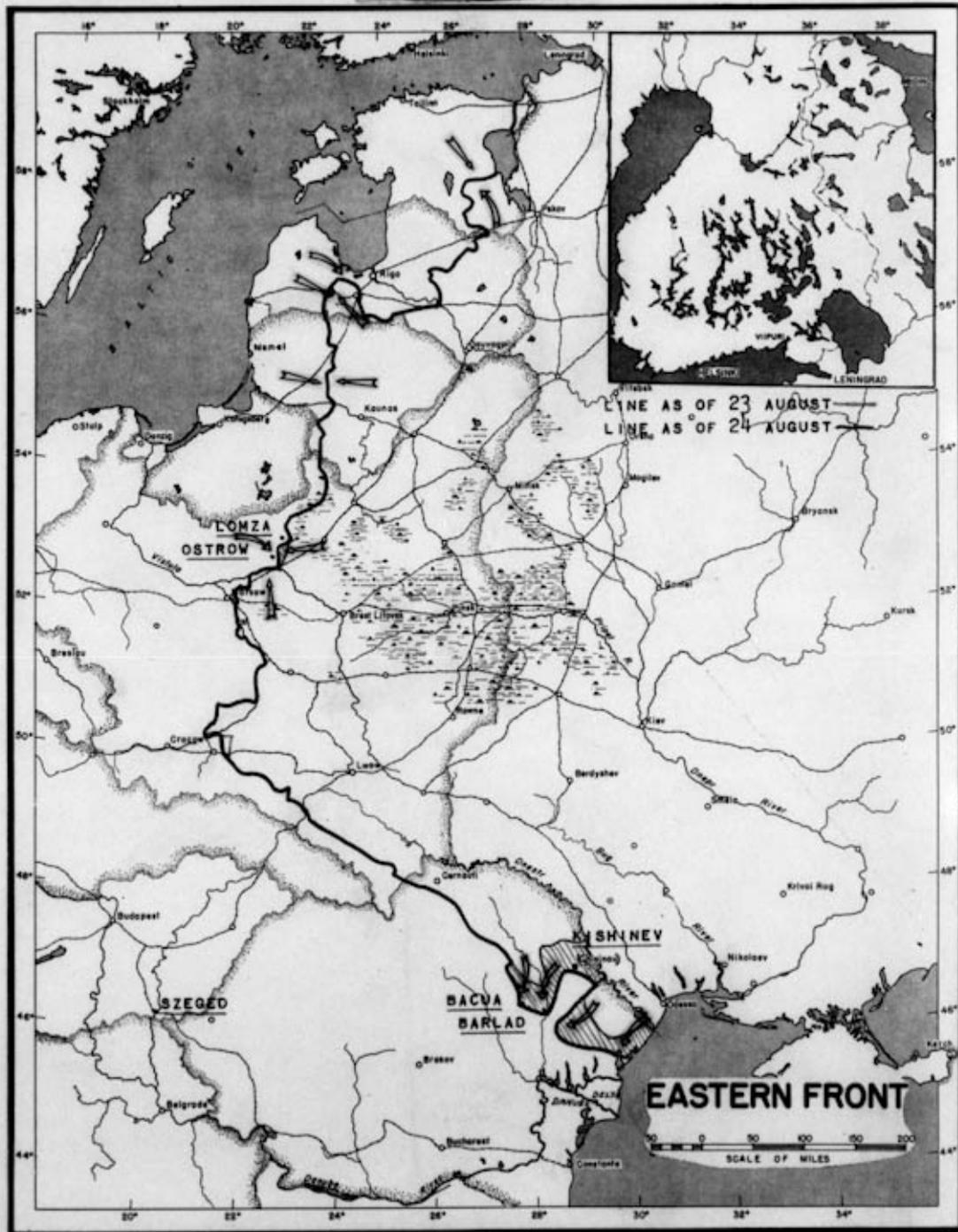
1. During 23 August, 53 B-24's dropped 156 tons on supply areas

CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.





TOP SECRET



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and bivouacs at Galela, Halmahera and 18 B-24's attacked Langgoer airdrome, Kai Islands. On the New Guinea mainland light and fighter bombers flew over 300 sorties against coastal targets from Wewak around the Vogelkop Peninsula to MacCluer Gulf. To the north Palau was attacked by two heavy bombers. On 22 August Solomons-based aircraft flew 68 sorties against targets in the Bougainville and New Ireland areas.

2. During 22 and 23 August Army B-24's dropped 74 tons of bombs on Yap; lighter aircraft attacked targets in the Gilberts, Marianas and Marshalls. Two Navy B-24's sank two freighters east of the Bonin Islands; one bomber was lost.

EASTERN FRONT

The Russian offensive south of Lomza continued during 24 August, forward Red Army units advancing to within eight miles of Ostrow. On the southern front Soviet columns advanced to within 50 miles of the Danube delta after capturing the cities of Bacau, Barlad and Kishinev.

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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

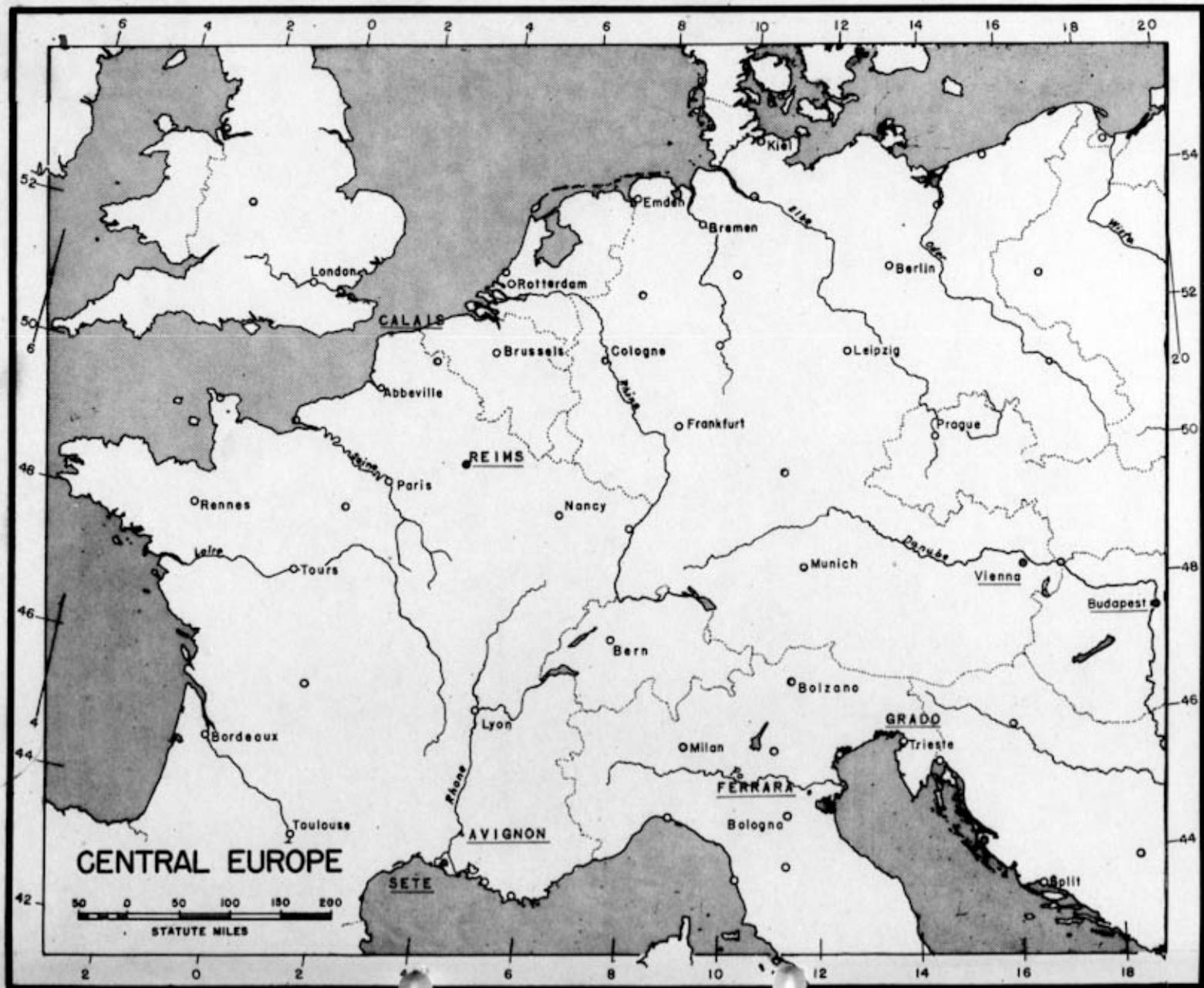
No. 988

0700 August 23 to 0700 August 24, 1944

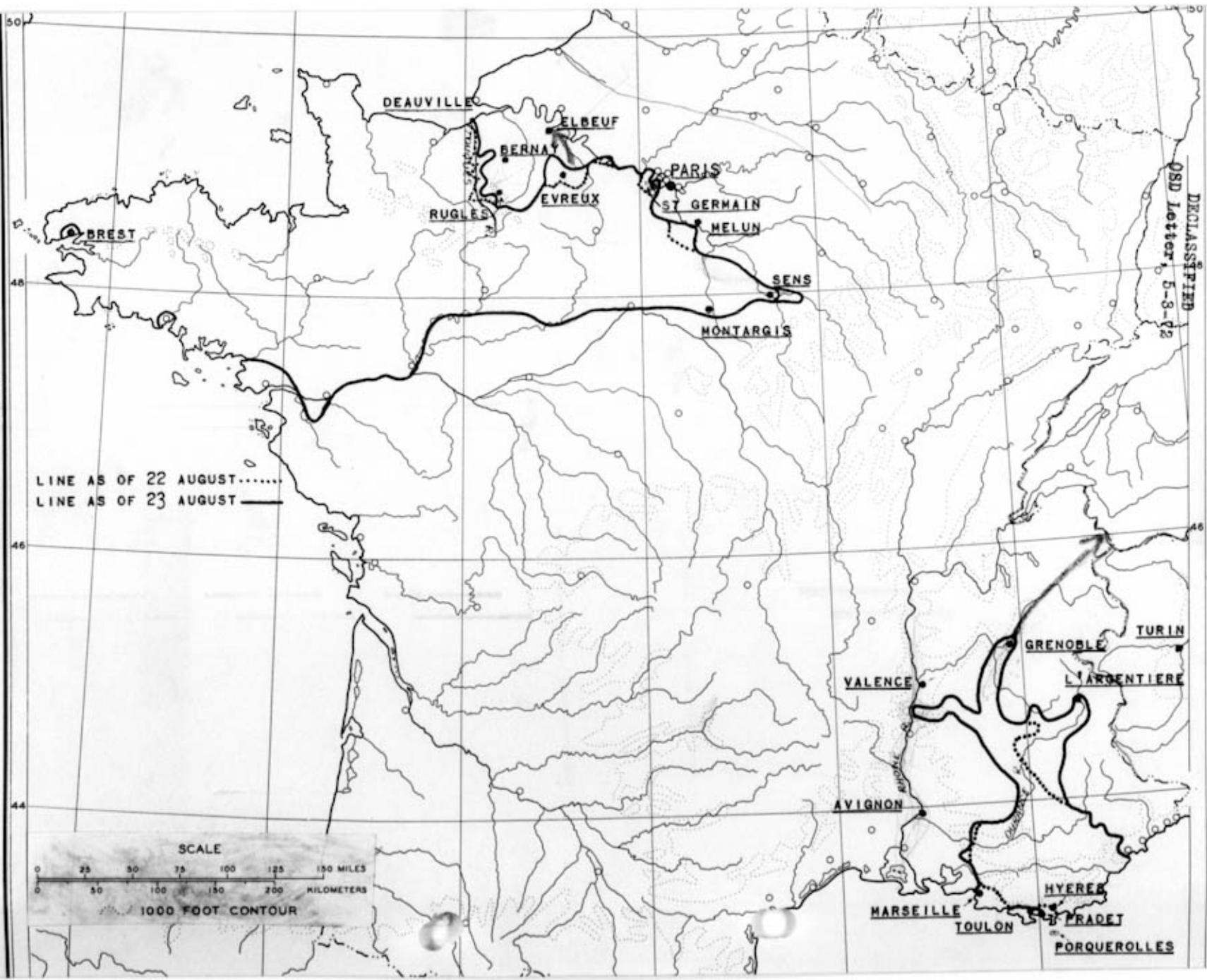
COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~



DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-12



LINE AS OF 22 AUGUST.....
LINE AS OF 23 AUGUST ———

SCALE
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 MILES
0 50 100 150 200 KILOMETERS
1000 FOOT CONTOUR

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Adverse weather again hampered all air operations during 22 August. The Allied Expeditionary Air Force, flying 923 sorties in support of ground operations and against railway facilities, lost three planes. Preliminary reports indicate that on 23 August, 163 P-47's of the 8th Air Force swept the area from Calais to Reims on armed reconnaissance missions.

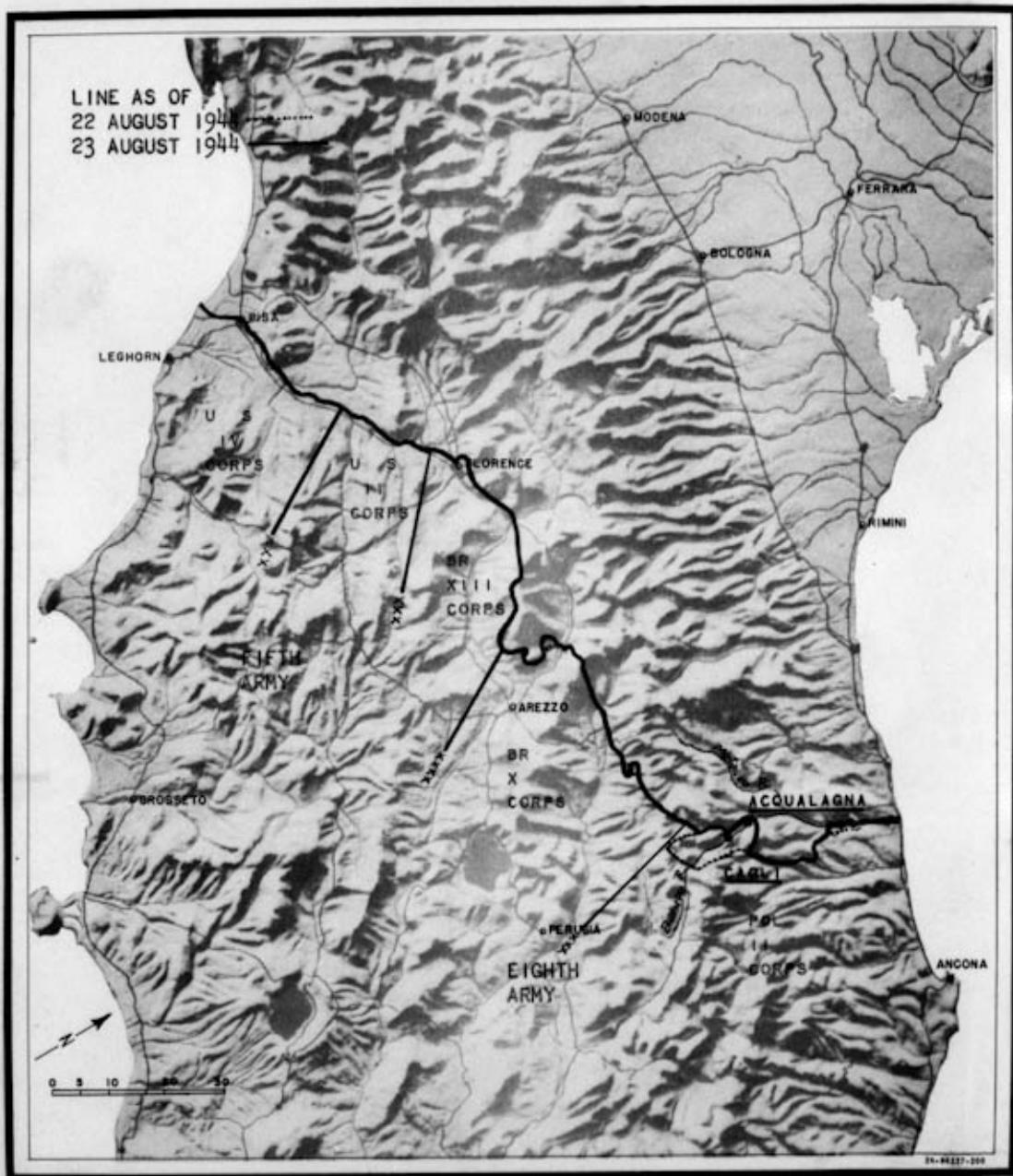
Of the 72 flying bombs plotted during the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 23 August, 16 reached London; 18 others were destroyed.

2. Our troops cleared pockets of the enemy from east and south-east of Brest on 23 August but the situation in the southwest portion of the area covered by our Third Army remained generally unchanged. At noon armored and infantry columns to the east were fighting in Montargis, had pushed 15 miles east of Sens, had reached Melun and had passed through St. Germain-en-Laye. On our First Army front Evreux was liberated and the advance continued toward Elbeuf. French armor and American infantry forces were moving on Paris from the southwest. The British Second Army, advancing on a narrow front, reached Rugles. Canadian First Army columns pushed to within ten miles of Bernay at several points. To the north additional bridgeheads were gained across the Iduques River; Belgian troops were in Deauville.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During 22 August the Seventh Army continued to exploit advances

T [REDACTED]



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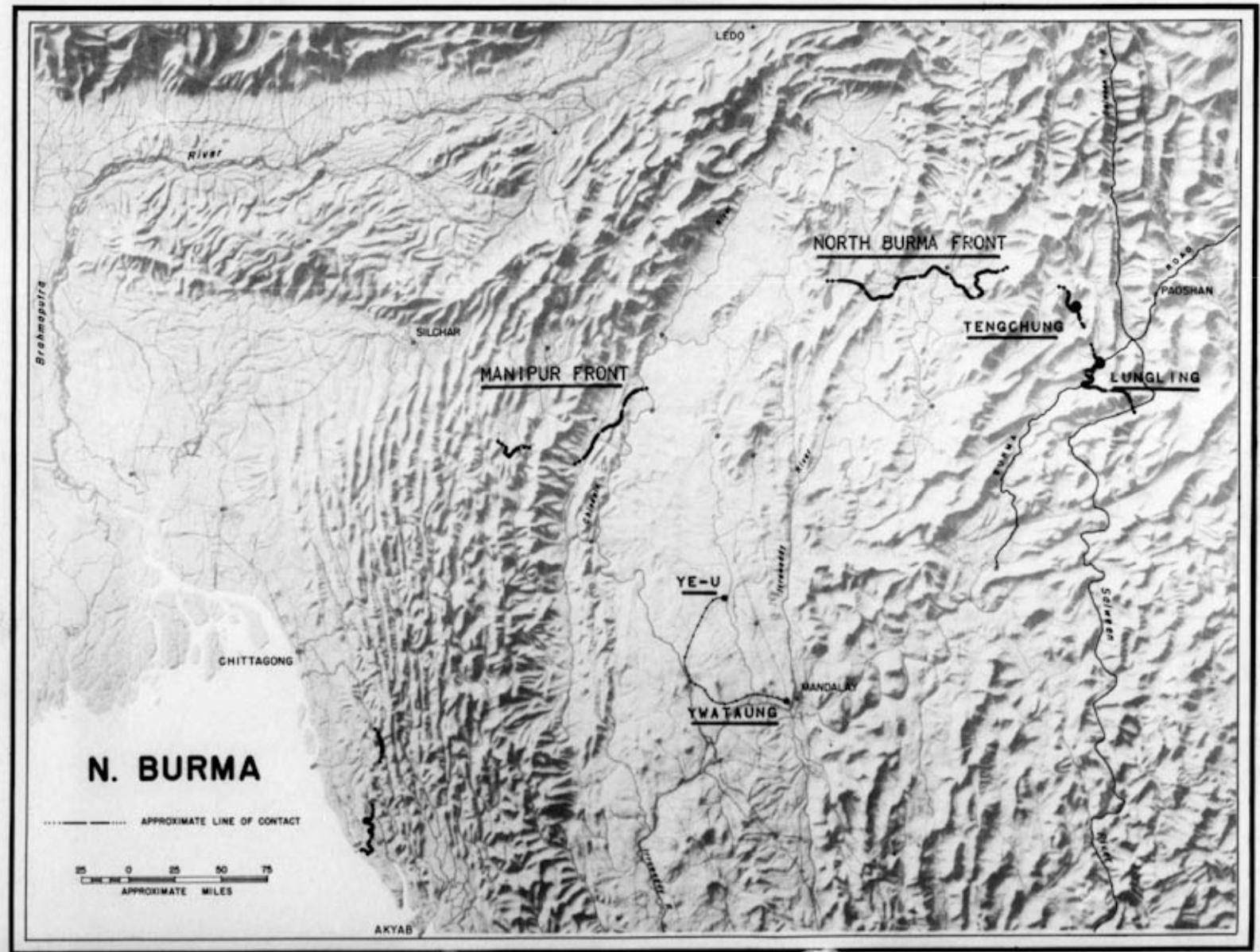
made the previous day. One armored task force column driving northward, augmented by fresh units, reached the Rhone Valley south of Valence, where it arrived in time to ambush the head of a retreating German column. Another column drove up the Durance Valley to l'Argentiere on the highway toward Turin which lies 70 miles beyond. The French II Corps, after taking Hyeres, advanced to the west, reaching Pradet; they had heavy fighting in Toulon. Late reports indicate that Marseille was occupied by the French on 23 August.

On 22 August Porquerolles Island surrendered to a US cruiser.

2. There was no change in the situation on the western and central sectors of the Italian front where active patrolling continued during the 24-hour period ending at 1500 hours on 23 August. The enemy still clung to the north end of Florence. In the eastern sector Italian and Polish units, probing northward, cleared the enemy from south of the Burano-Metauro River lines, occupying Cagli and Acqualagna.

3. During the night of 21-22 August, light bombers attacked communications in the Avignon area and in northern Italy. In 1,400 sorties flown the following day the Tactical Air Force supported our operations in southern France and Italy, while missions were flown against enemy traffic along the Dalmatian coast. Bombers of the Coastal Air Force attacked harbors at Zante Island off Greece, at Grado in northeastern Italy and a chemical works at Sete. One bomber and three fighters are missing from these operations.

During the night of 22-23 August, 52 bombers of the 15th Air



Force dropped 107 tons of bombs on Miskolc marshalling yard northeast of Budapest; three bombers are missing. The next day, 543 escorted heavy bombers attacked an aircraft factory, an airdrome and an oil refinery in the Vienna area and a railroad bridge at Ferrara, dropping bombloads totalling 1,174 tons. Between 100 and 150 enemy aircraft were encountered of which 44 (probably 58) were destroyed. Fourteen heavy bombers and one fighter failed to return.

ASIATIC THEATER

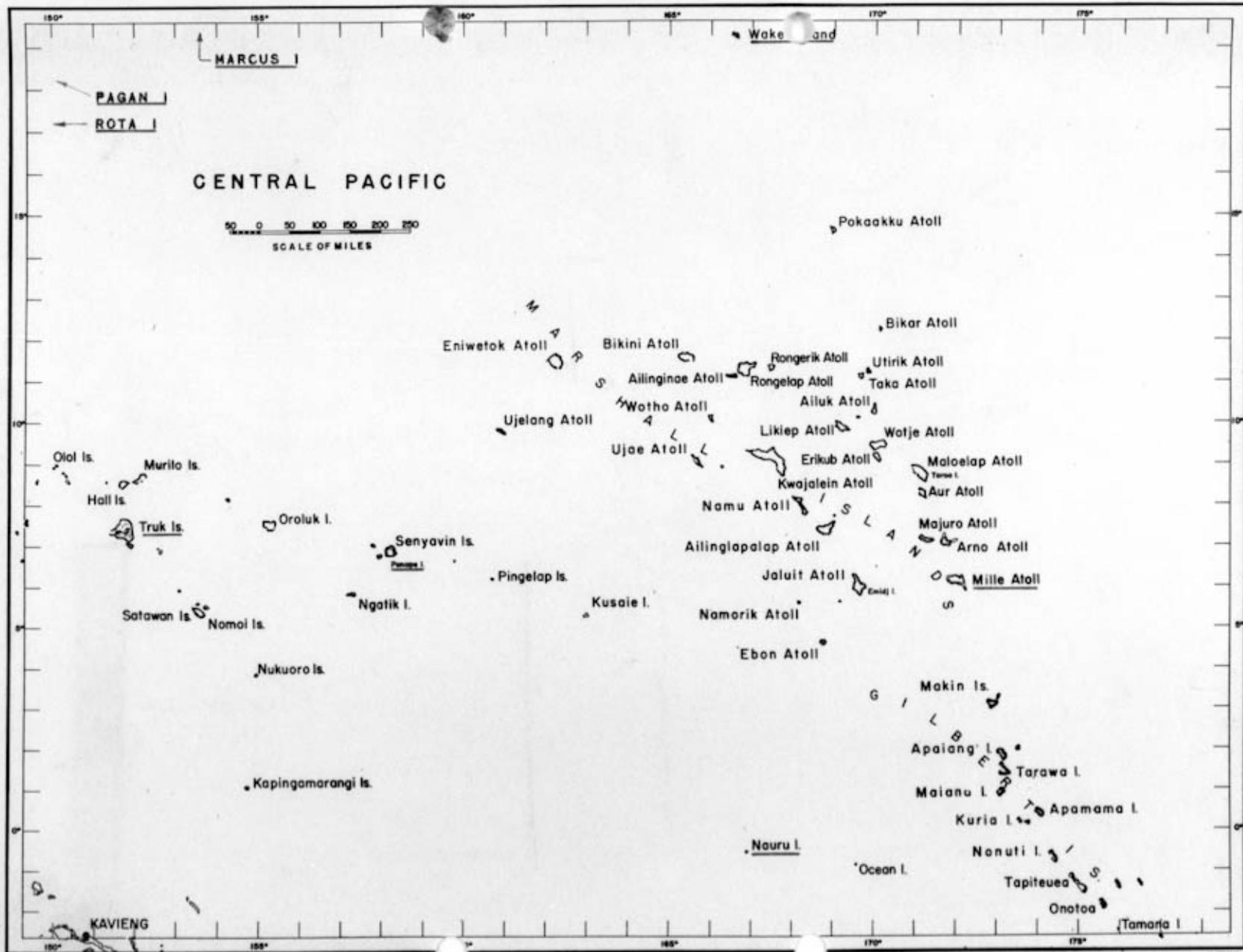
1. During 20 and 21 August a total of more than 230 sorties were flown by the Eastern Air Command over northern and western Burma against communications systems and tactical targets. Included in these operations was a mission of 32 medium bombers which damaged two bridges on the Ywataung-Yeu railroad line.

2. On 21 August, Chinese troops made small gains around Lungling and had occupied the southwestern half of Tengchung.

3. During 21 and 22 August, the 14th Air Force continued operations against airfields and other tactical targets in the Tungting Lake-Hengyang sector flying more than 80 sorties. Numerous river craft were destroyed or damaged and four of some 16 intercepting Japanese fighters encountered were probably shot down for a loss of one fighter. Three B-24's attacking shipping in the South China Sea probably sank a 350-foot naval vessel east of Hongkong.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. In previously unreported air action on 21 August, 60 fighter



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D Letter, 5-8-72

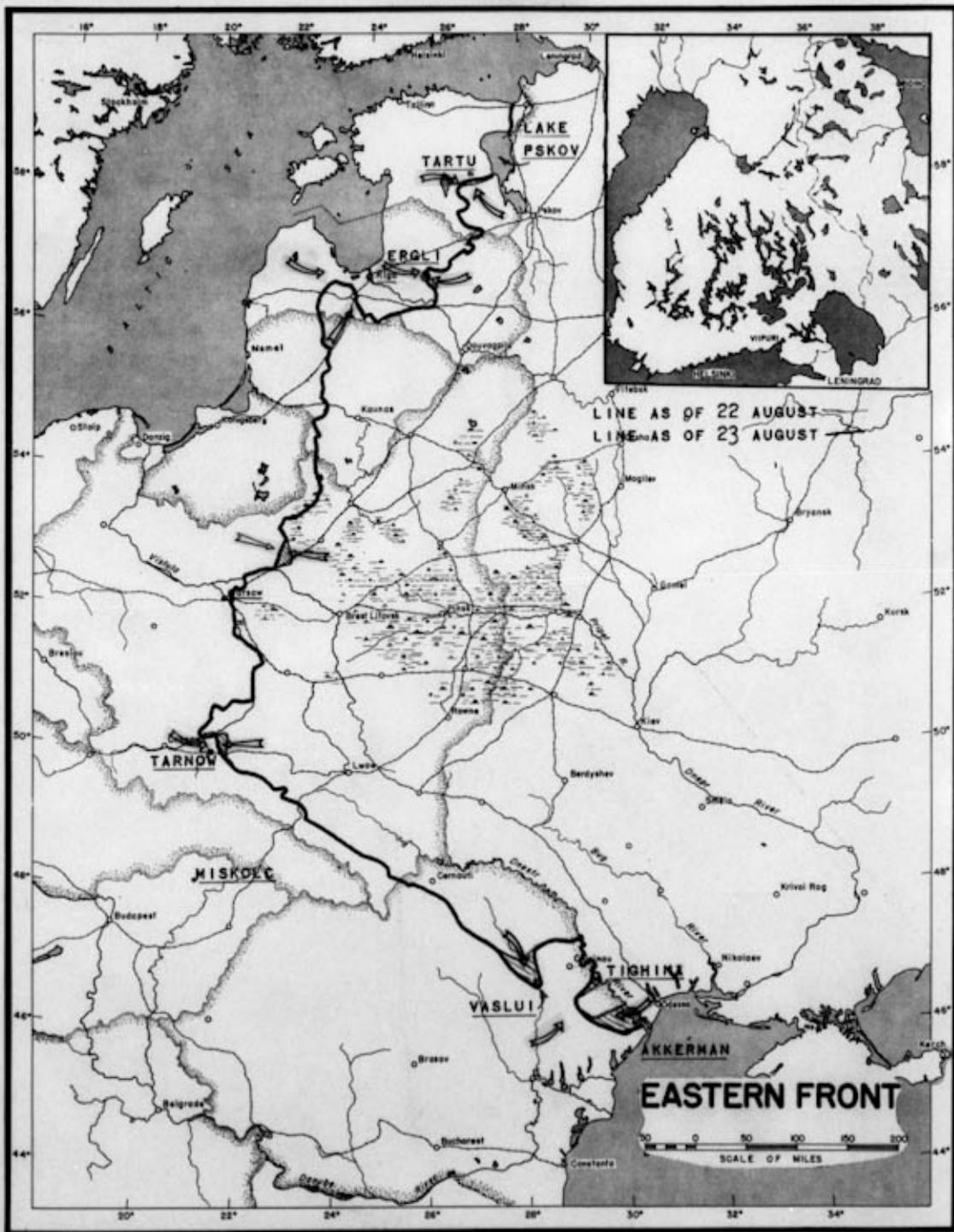
bombers attacked Manokwari and three mediums sank a 4,000-ton vessel off Alor Island. The next day fighter bombers hit targets in the Wewak, Manokwari and Kaimana areas. Nineteen B-24's struck Amaha (Ceram); smaller heavy bomber missions attacked Palau, Davao (Philippines) and Halmahera and sank a 100-foot vessel off Mindanao, drove a tanker-type vessel ashore in the Celebes and damaged a destroyer escort in the Carolines. On 21 August weather restricted activity to 58 sorties against targets in the Solomons and Bismarcks.

2. Late reports add Wake and Rota to the list of targets hit by Central Pacific aircraft during 20 August when 12 B-25's also struck Ponape. The following day 27 B-24's of the 7th Air Force bombed Truk and 20 others attacked Yap.

3. On 21 August two Navy B-24's which caught two freighters, one of 2,000-tons and one of 750-tons, enroute to Marcus Island left the larger in a sinking condition and the smaller on fire. Nineteen fighters attacked Pagan, and Navy and Marine aircraft hit Mille and Nauru.

EASTERN FRONT

During 23 August Soviet columns west of Lake Pskov advanced several miles toward Tartu from the south and southwest. German counterattacks east of Riga forced Red units out of Ergli. On the central front Red Army troops made a 15-mile gain northeast of Warsaw. A new Soviet thrust south of their Vistula bridgeheads broke through the German defenses and gained to within 14 miles of Tarnow.



On the southern front the Roumanian and Russian forces declared an armistice after the occupation, by rapid advances, of Akkerman, Tighina and Vaslui.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 987

0700 August 22 to 0700 August 23, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~

GENERAL

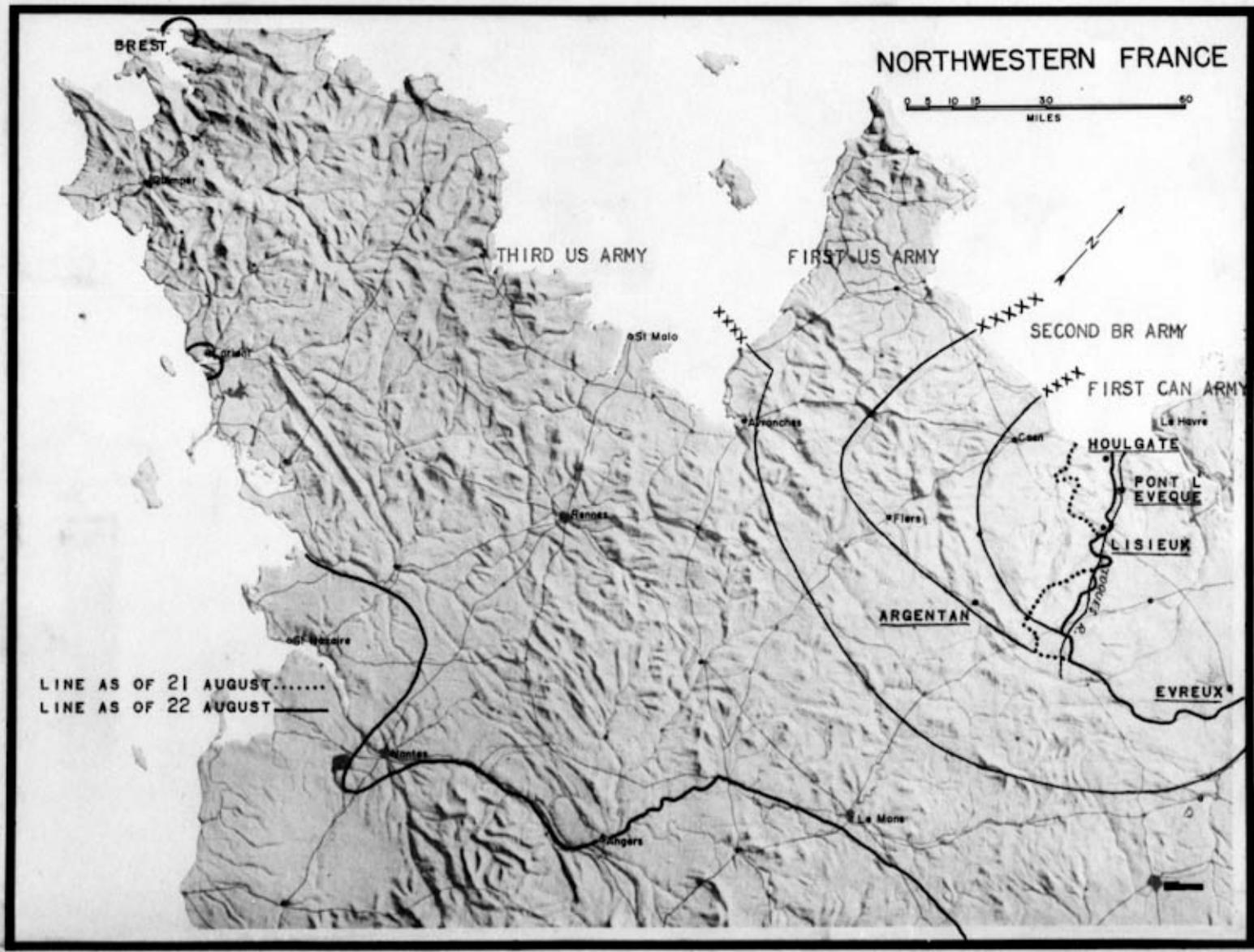
The following is a digest of our Army Air Forces combat operations for July 1944:

	<u>Theaters of Operations</u>					<u>Total</u>
	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Med.</u>	<u>SWPA</u>	<u>CentPac</u>	<u>China & India</u>	
<u>Total Number of Attacking Aircraft</u>	63,296	29,353	9,879	4,245	7,288	114,061
<u>Bomb Tonnage</u>	63,448	40,292	6,023	1,590	2,472	113,825
<u>Losses in Aerial Combat</u>						
<u>Heavy Bombers</u>	122	121	4	0	0	247
<u>Light & Medium Fighters</u>	22	8	1	0	0	31
	87	50	0	1	15	153
<u>Total Net Losses</u>						
<u>Heavy Bombers</u>	382	329	16	8	15	750
<u>Light & Medium Fighters</u>	60	31	32	3	4	130
	444	201	29	14	61	749
<u>Enemy Aircraft Destroyed in Aerial Combat</u>						
<u>Definitely</u>	660	699	123	12	131	1,625
<u>Probably</u>	746	857	143	20	179	1,945

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 21 August, adverse weather limited the Allied Expeditionary Air Force to 377 sorties, the majority of which were directed against river traffic on the Seine.

Bad weather conditions also forced the cancellation of RAF operations during the night of 21-22 August and of 8th Air Force operations during 22 August.



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GMD Letter, 5-8-72

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 22 August: of 128 plotted, 59 made landfall and 29 reached London; 34 were destroyed.

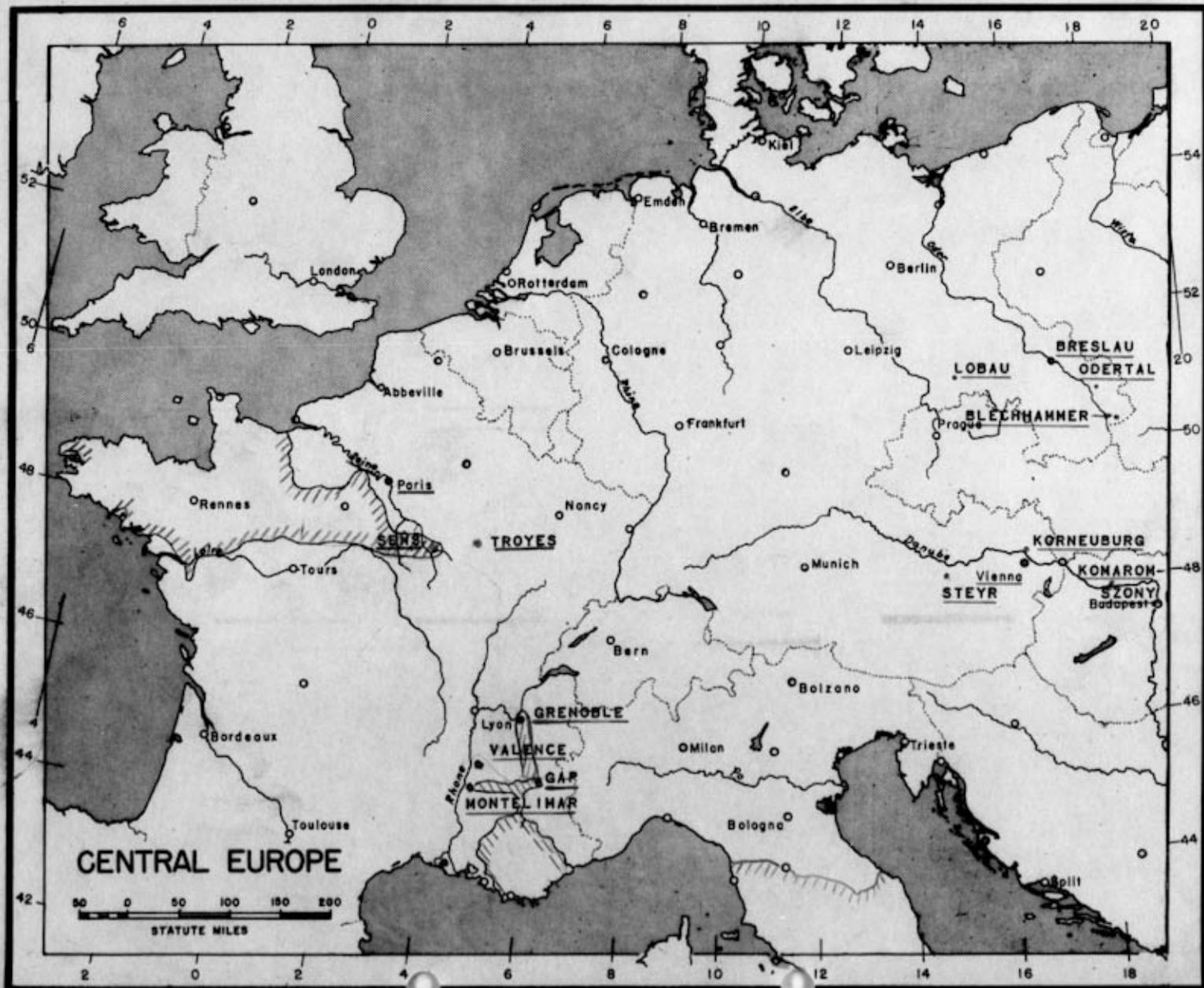
2. By noon of 22 August, leading elements of the Third Army had liberated Sens and were pushing on eastward toward Troyes. South of Paris an armored column had reached Arpajon. Infantry units improved our bridgehead over the Seine at Mantes while armored columns pushed down the west bank past Vernon. The First Army advanced rapidly toward Louviers, its forward troops arriving four miles from Evreux. North of Argentan the last enemy pockets of resistance were removed. Gains were scored all along the British and Canadian Army fronts, forward troops reaching the general line of the Toques River, establishing sizeable bridgeheads at several points, and entering Lisieux from the south. British paratroops reached the Toques west of Pont l'Eveque, and Dutch and Belgian units, advancing along the coast, occupied Houlgate and reached to within three miles of the mouth of the river.

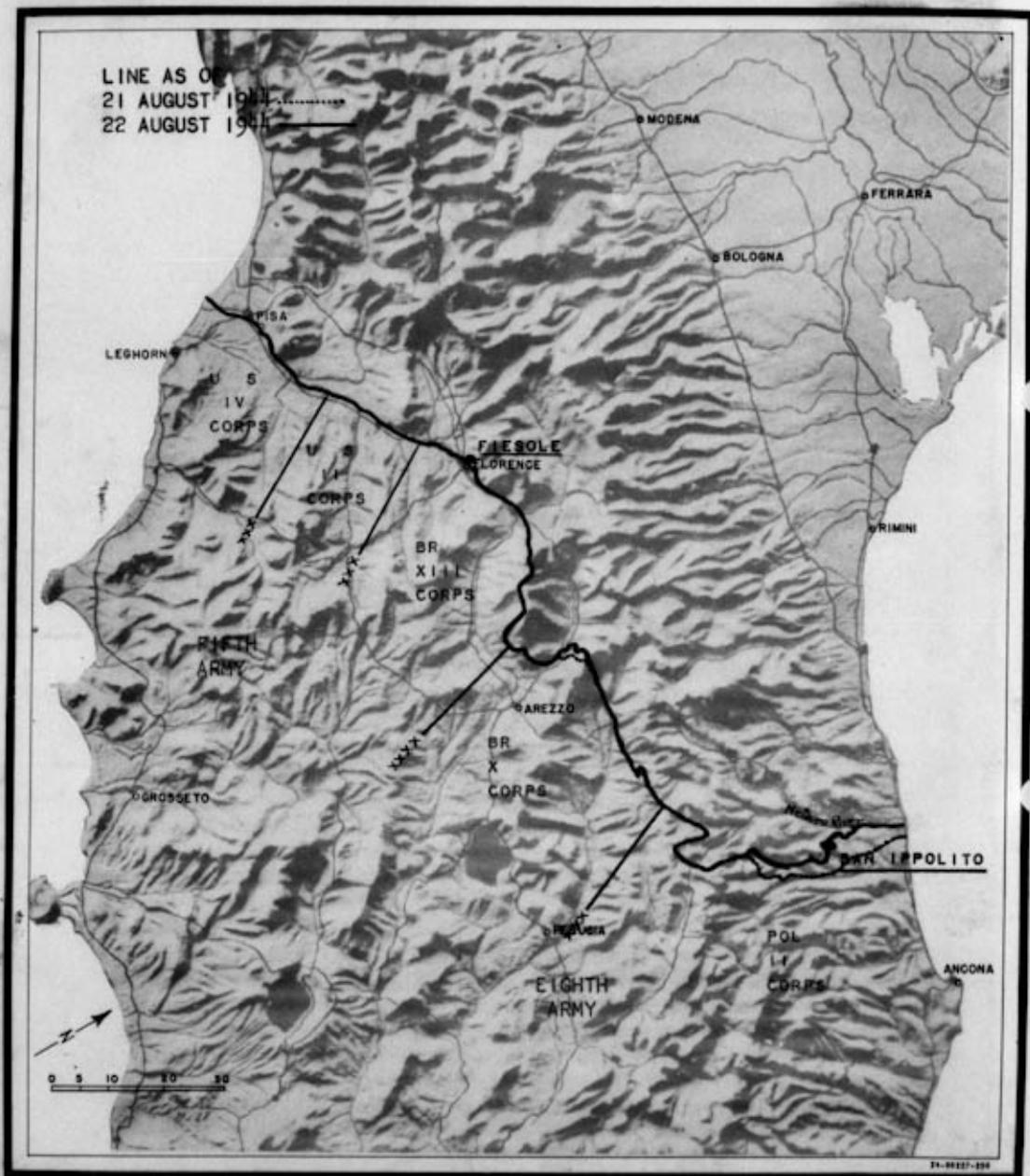
A radio announcement reports the liberation of Paris.

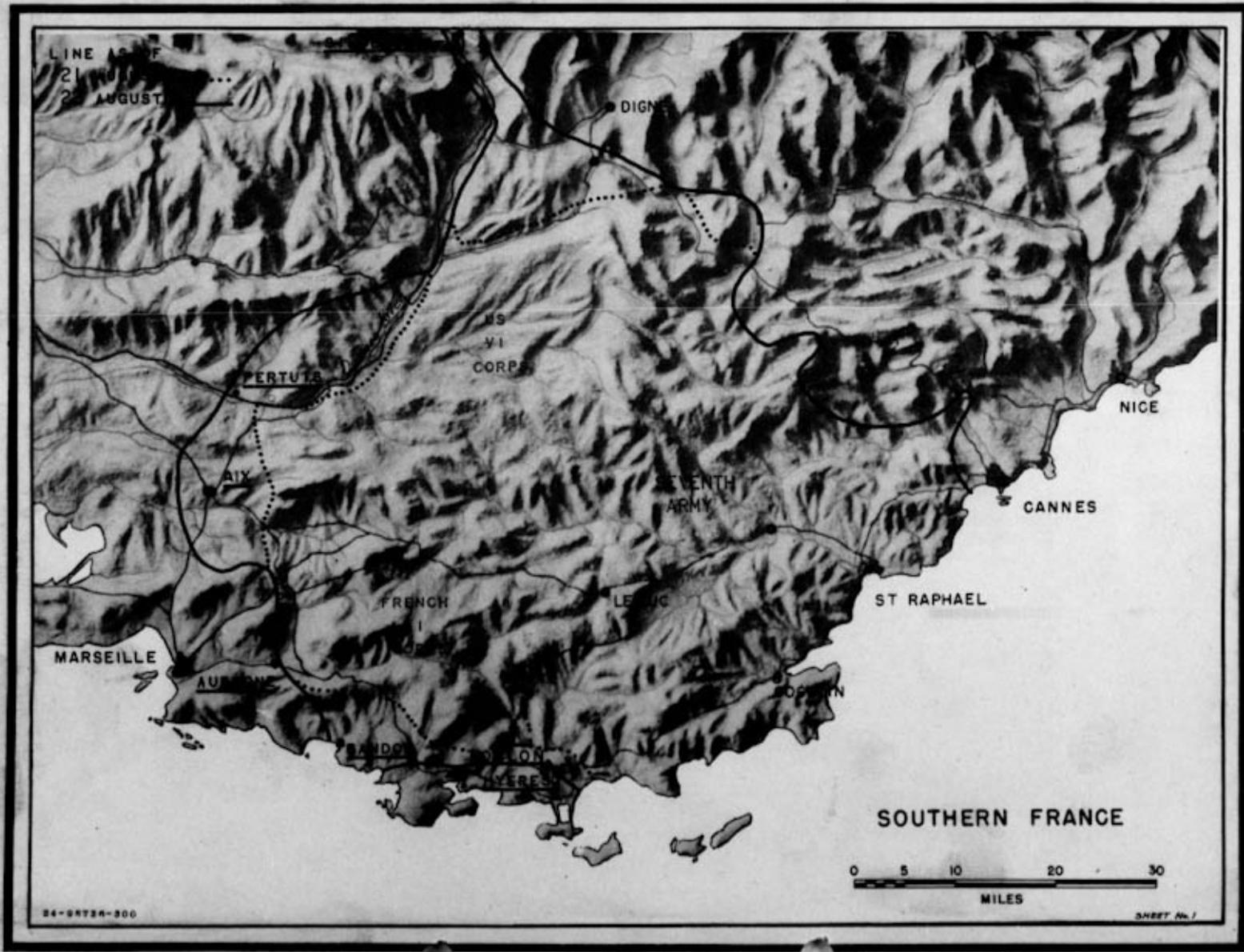
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 20-21 August, 81 Allied bombers concentrated 201 tons of bombs on the St. Valentine tank works at Steyr, Austria, at a cost of six bombers. Sixty-nine sorties were flown by light and fighter bombers against road traffic and coastal shipping in northern Italy. The next day the Tactical Air Force flew more than 700 sorties supporting our operations, chiefly in Italy.

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LINE AS OF
21 AUGUST
22 AUGUST

DIGNE

US
VI
CORPS

PERTUIS

AIX

SEVENTH
ARMY

NICE

CANNES

FRENCH

LEUC

ST RAPHAEL

MARSEILLE

AUBAGNE

BANDOL

NEON

OPPIN

SOUTHERN FRANCE



24-58728-300

SHEET No. 1

During the night of 21-22 August, 75 unescorted heavy and medium bombers of the 15th Air Force dropped 171 tons on the Komarom-Szony (Hungary) oil refinery. One medium and two heavy bombers are missing from this mission.

On 22 August, 555 escorted heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force attacked oil refineries at Odertal, Elechhammer and Lobau (Breslau area, eastern Germany), and at Korneuburg near Vienna. Some 1,200 tons of bombs were dropped through intense, heavy and accurate flak over all targets. Fifty-five (probably 66) enemy aircraft were destroyed. We lost 39 bombers and six fighters.

2. The 21st of August marks the greatest single day's advance by the Seventh Army in southern France since D-Day; substantial progress was made to the north, northwest and southwest. To the west, advances have been made beyond the Durance River to a maximum of seven miles; Aix and Pertuis were cleared of the enemy. The armored task force, driving northward from Sisteron, captured Gap and continued its advance in the area northward of that town. Other elements of this task force drove into the Rhone Valley and was operating between Montelimar and Valence. The communique reports the capture also of Grenoble. The II French Corps, pushing on past Toulon, turned northwest from Bandol on the coast and reached Aubagne; there was heavy fighting in this region. French patrols have entered Hyeres from the east.

3. There was no change in the general situation west of Florence during the 48-hour period ending at 1500 on 22 August. North of the

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72



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ADM Letter, 6-3-72



city Partisan units reported Fiesole cleared of the enemy. In the Apennine and Adriatic sectors Italian and Polish troops advanced rapidly reaching San Ippolito and the line of the Metauro River without contact.

ASIATIC THEATER

During 20 August, the 14th Air Force flew 132 fighter and bomber sorties. Water traffic along the Yangtze from Hankow to Yochow was attacked, as were targets in the Hengyang area. Support was also given to Chinese ground forces on the Salween front.

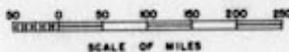
> A delayed report for 18 August states that a B-24 on a shipping sweep northeast of Hongkong sank a 550-foot Japanese cruiser. K

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 20 August, Solomons-based aircraft flew 140 sorties against targets in New Britain, New Ireland, Choiseul and Bougainville. The following day B-24's bombed Palau and attacked Davao and shipping to the south while more than 60 light and fighter bombers hit targets on land and coastal shipping at various points along the New Guinea coast from Wewak to MacCluer Gulf. Seventy-five heavy and medium bombers in two missions struck northern Halmahera also destroying or damaging eight grounded aircraft.

2. On 20 August, Nauru, Wotje and Mille were raided by Navy and Marine aircraft. Twenty Army B-24's dropped 40 tons of bombs on airfield installations at Yap. P-47's dropped eight tons on the dock at Pagan;

CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.



- Assangong I.
- Agrihan I.
- Ragon I.
- Alamagan I.
- Gugyon I.
- Sarigan I.
- Anotahan I.
- Medinilla I.
- Tanlon I.
- Saipon I.
- Aguijan I.
- Rota I.
- Saan

- Gaferut I.
- Feroulep I.
- West Faya I.
- Dilmoro I.
- Eloto I.
- Lamotok I.
- Pulap I.
- Puluwat I.
- Palau I.
- Truk I.
- Helli I.
- Clot I.
- Pikelot I.
- Waleai I.
- Etak I.
- Eoripik I.

- Utihi I.
- Fala I.
- Yes I.
- Ngulu I.
- Sorel I.
- Palau I.
- Ngemala I.

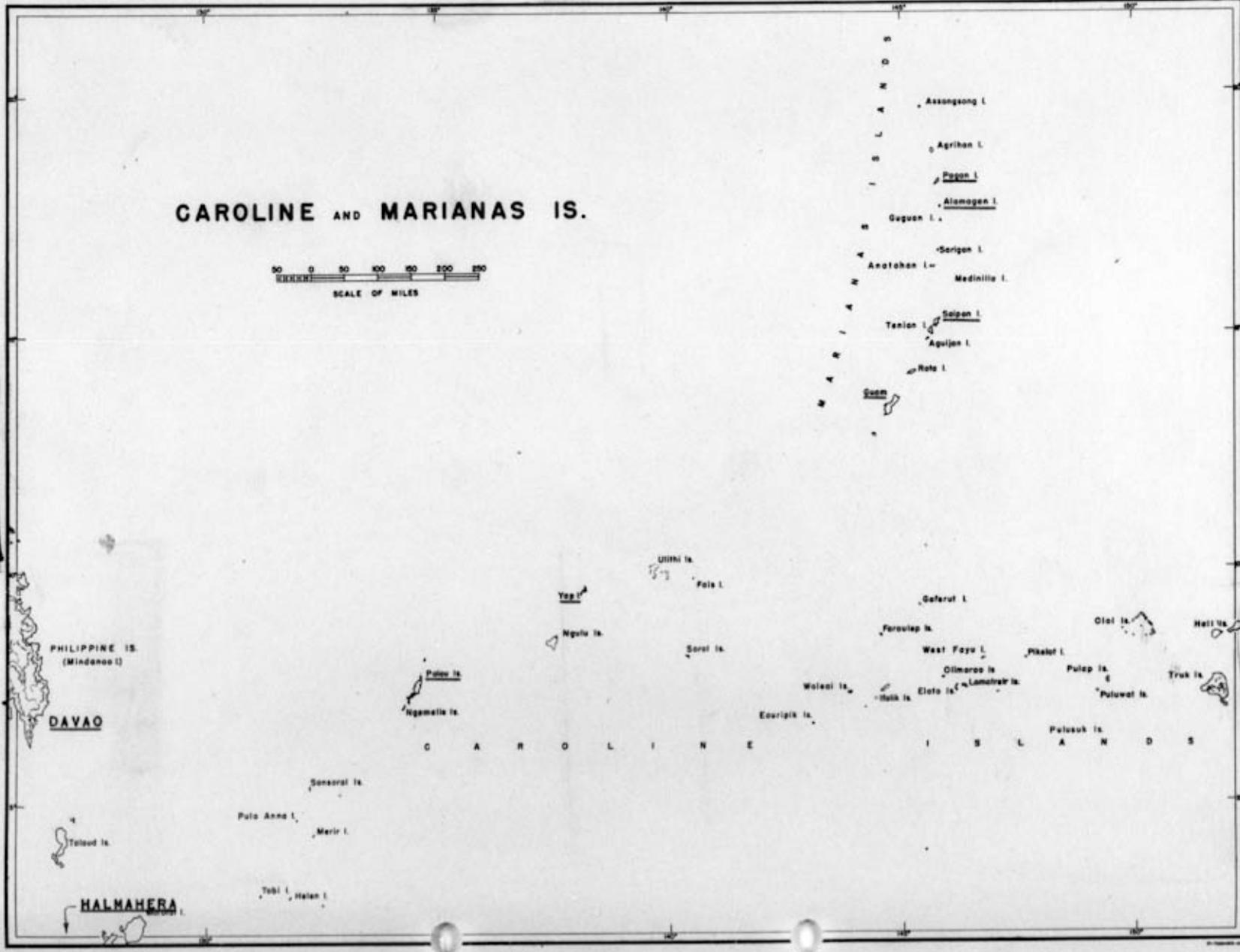
PHILIPPINE IS.
(Mindanao I.)

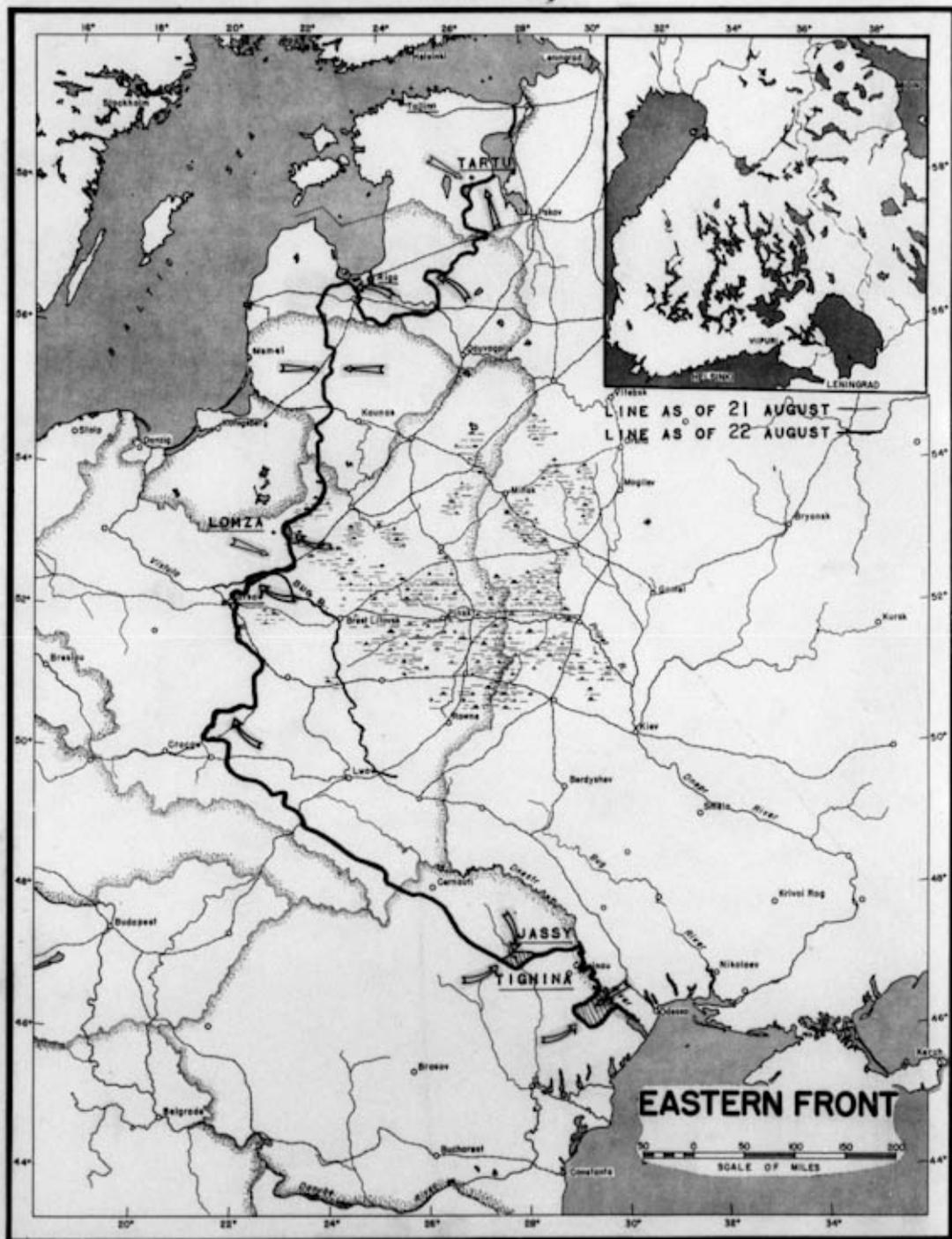
DAVAO

HALMAHERA

- Sonsorol I.
- Pulo Anna I.
- Merir I.
- Tabi I.
- Italen I.

C A R O L I N E I S L A N D S





one B-24 bombed Alamagan.

EASTERN FRONT

On 22 August Soviet forces cut the Tallinn-Riga railroad south of Tartu. They also reached the Bug River on a 35-mile front to the east of Warsaw. The third day of a Soviet offensive on the Romanian front carried the Red Army ten miles past Jassy on a broad front; south of Tighina the offensive scored gains of 45 miles.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

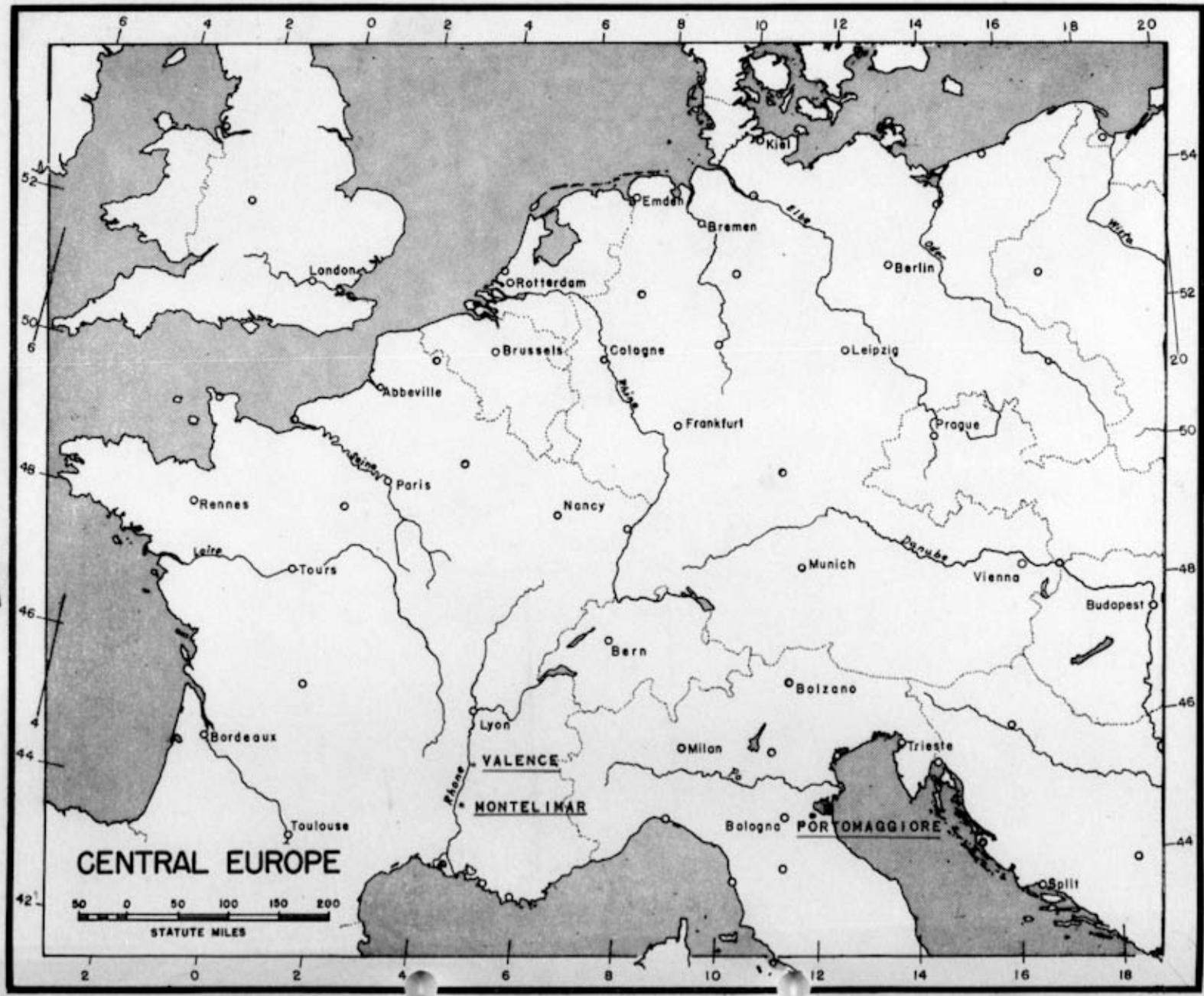
No. 986

0700 August 21 to 0700 August 23, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~



DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Medium bombers made two daylight strikes on Paramushiro in the Kuriles during 20 August. One of seven interceptors was shot down and one of our planes failed to return.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 20 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 1,801 sorties in support of ground operations in France, destroying 12 enemy planes for a loss of 14 of our own aircraft. Strategic air operations were almost completely curtailed due to weather.

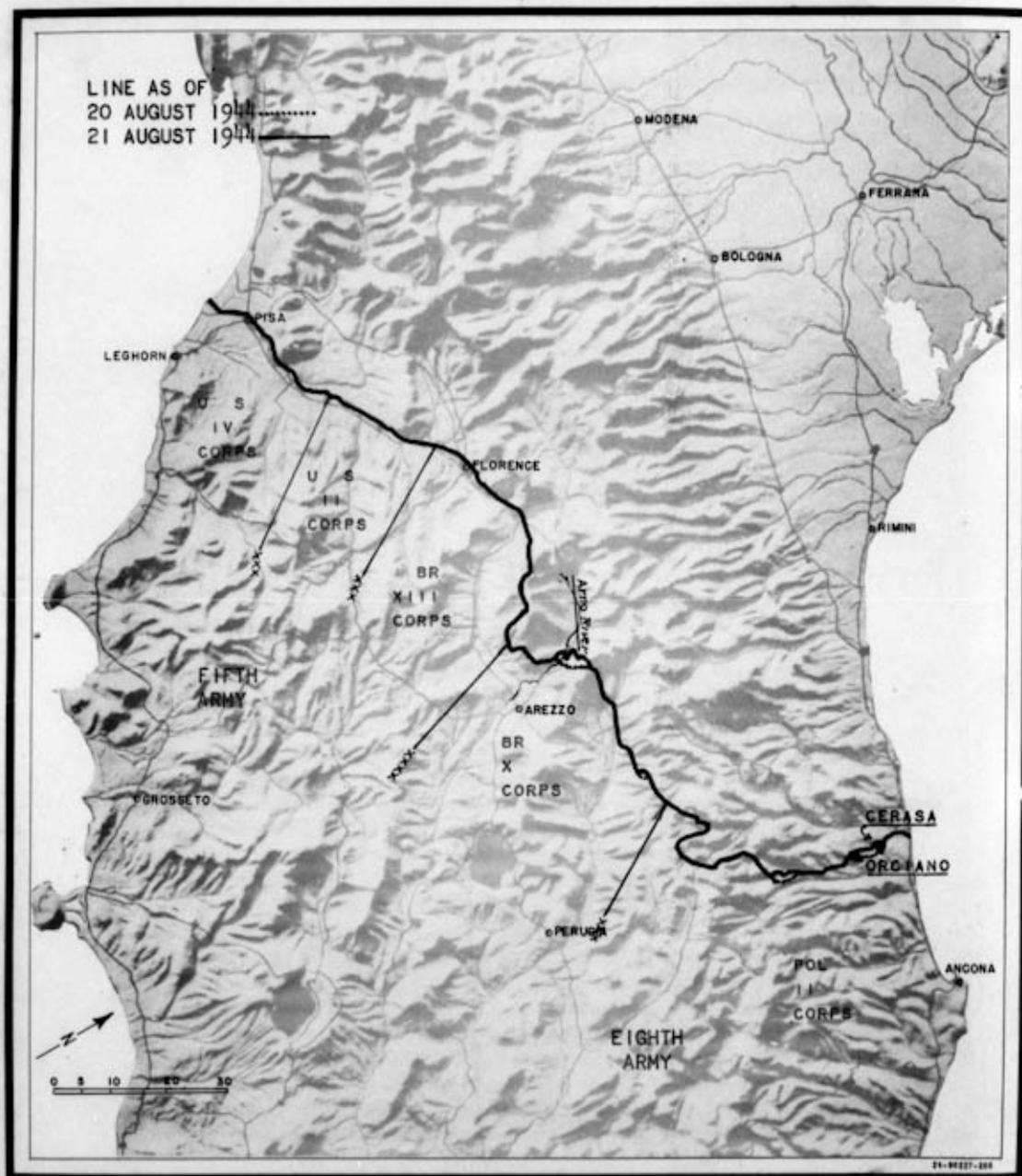
Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending 0600, 21 August: of 98 plotted, 64 made landfall and 22 reached London.

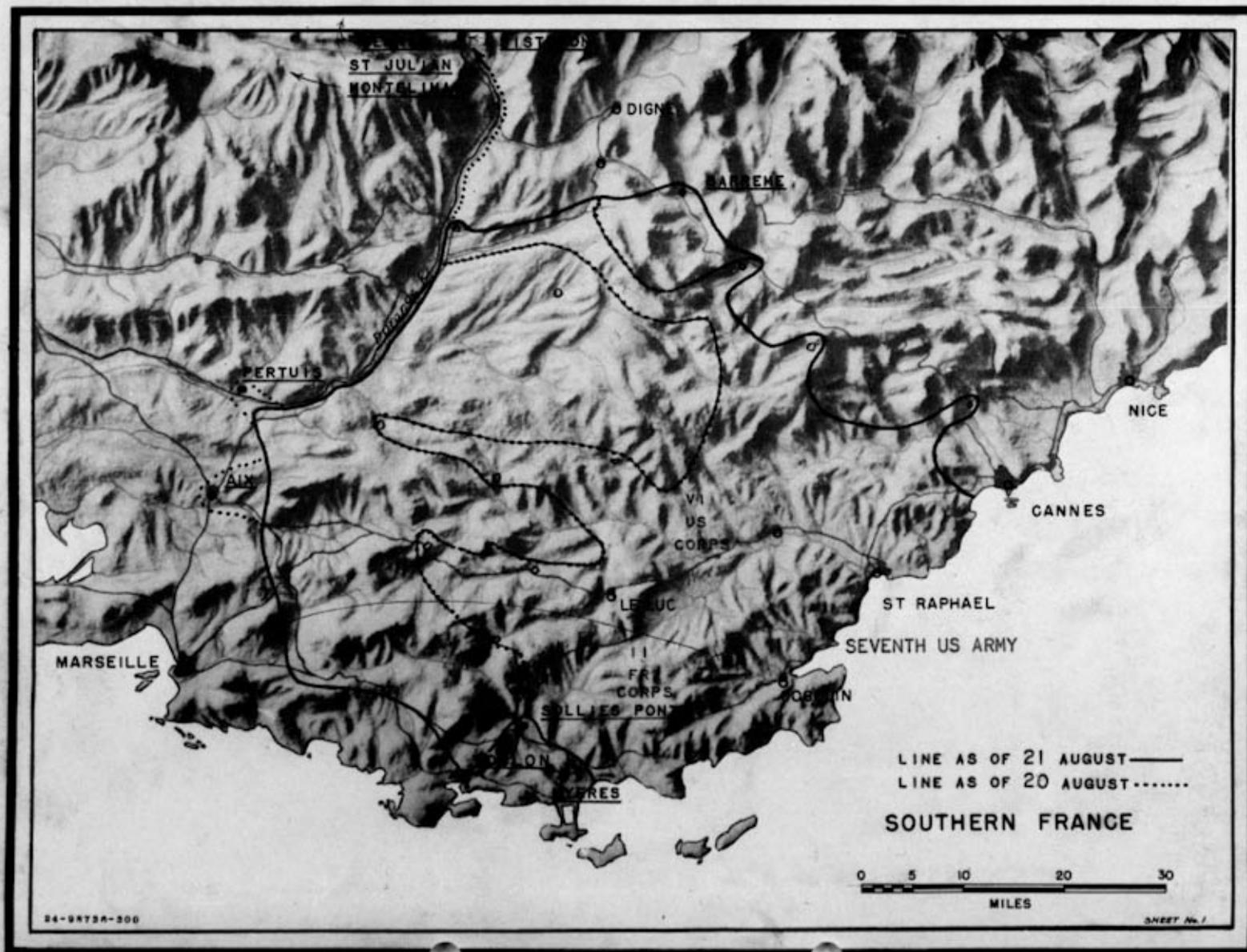
2. Pithiviers was liberated by our Third Army during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 21 August. The First Army made minor gains toward Evreux and occupied Argentan. The British Second Army mopped up scattered remnants of enemy resistance in the pocket. In the Canadian First Army sector infantry and armored units advancing eastward gained two bridgeheads across the Touques River south of Lisieux.

Up to 17 August, 147,989 prisoners had been captured; 10,000 others were taken in the Falaise pocket on 20 August.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. By noon on 20 August our VI Corps had advanced northward as far as Barreme while to the west other columns had cleared the enemy from





east of the Durance River and reportedly captured Aix. Forward troops were reported to have reinforced the Partisans who had surrounded Pertuis; that city, according to a late communique, is now firmly in our hands. The French II Corps, assuming command of the southwestern sector of the beachhead, was attacking Toulon, Sollies Pont and Hyeres; at last account one-quarter of Toulon had been taken. Our armored task force driving northward was reconnoitering from Sisteron towards Serres and heading for St. Julian and Montelimar.

Latest casualty figures:

	<u>Killed or Missing</u>	<u>Hospitalized</u>	<u>Total</u>
Americans	1,221 ✓	1,754 ✓	2,975 ✓
British	314 ✓	54 ✓	368 ✓
French	<u>36</u> ✓	<u>167</u> ✓	<u>203</u> ✓
	1,571	1,975	3,546

14,000 prisoners had been taken by noon on the 20th.

2. On the Italian front active patrolling was continued during 21 August. British Eighth Army troops advanced two miles up the Arno River. Minor gains were reported by the Italian troops moving northward in the Apennines. The Polish Corps attacking on the Adriatic captured Orciano and occupied Cerasa.

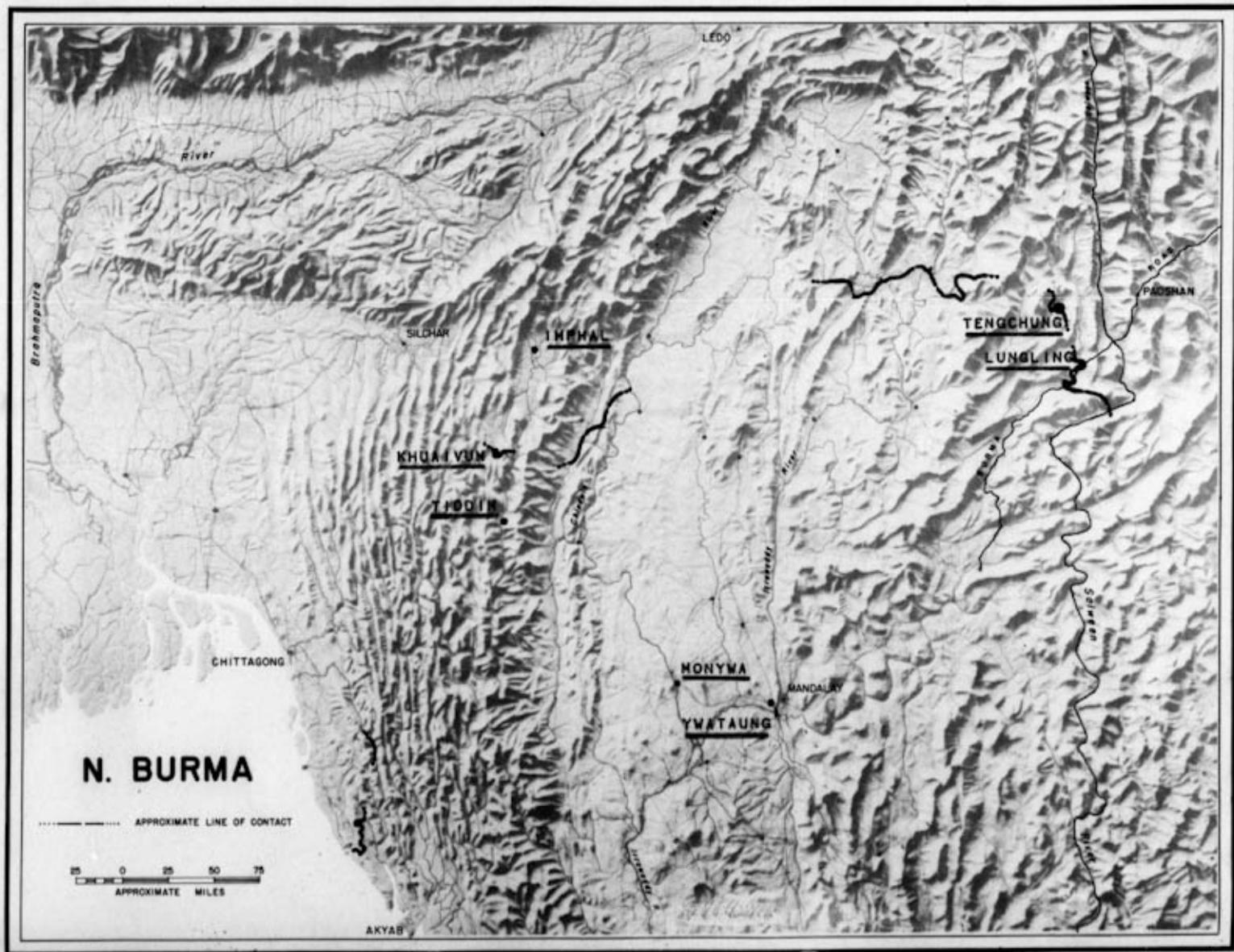
3. During the night of 19-20 August, 64 tactical sorties were flown against road traffic in southern France and northern Italy. The following day 137 medium and light bombers operated against the Valence airdrome and three nearby bridges with good results. Three hundred and sixty-six fighters and fighter bombers attacked gun positions and rail-

road targets in southern France. Over 400 additional sorties were flown against tactical targets in northern Italy including the Portomaggiore rail yards. Other missions were active along the French Riviera, the Ligurian and Dalmatian coasts. Two enemy aircraft were shot down during these operations from which one bomber and two fighters are missing.

On 21 August, 232 escorted heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force attacked the Hajduboszormeny (Hungary) and Nis (Yugoslavia) airdromes with 471 tons of explosives. One (probably two) of some 14 enemy aircraft encountered were destroyed for a loss of two bombers. In a separate mission 46 fighters swept the Hajduboszormeny airdrome, destroying 37 (probably 50) enemy aircraft on the ground and one in the air.

ASIATIC THEATER

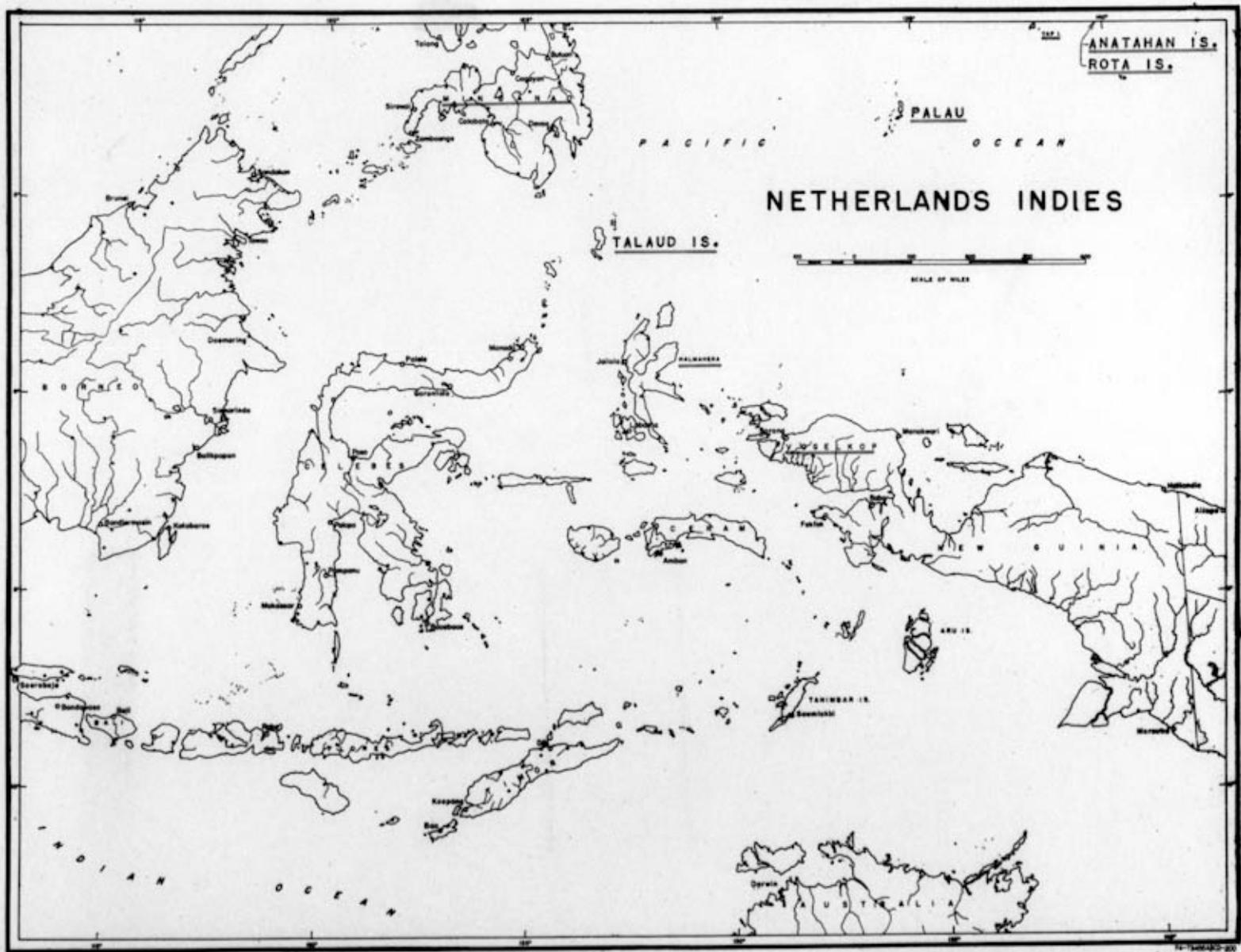
1. Additional reports covering the B-29 operations against the Yawata steel center in southern Japan on 20 August indicate that this target was hit by both day and night missions. In the daylight attack 61 of the bombers operated against the primary target and four others bombed targets of opportunity. Revised claims raised the total of enemy aircraft destroyed to 15 (probably 18). In the night attack ten B-29's hit Yawata and one bombed a target of opportunity in China. Only weak aerial opposition was reported during this operation but antiaircraft fire was heavy and there are indications that ground-to-air rockets may have been used as a defensive measure. Ten of the B-29's are missing and three others crashed near their bases.



N. BURMA

----- APPROXIMATE LINE OF CONTACT

0 25 50 75
APPROXIMATE MILES



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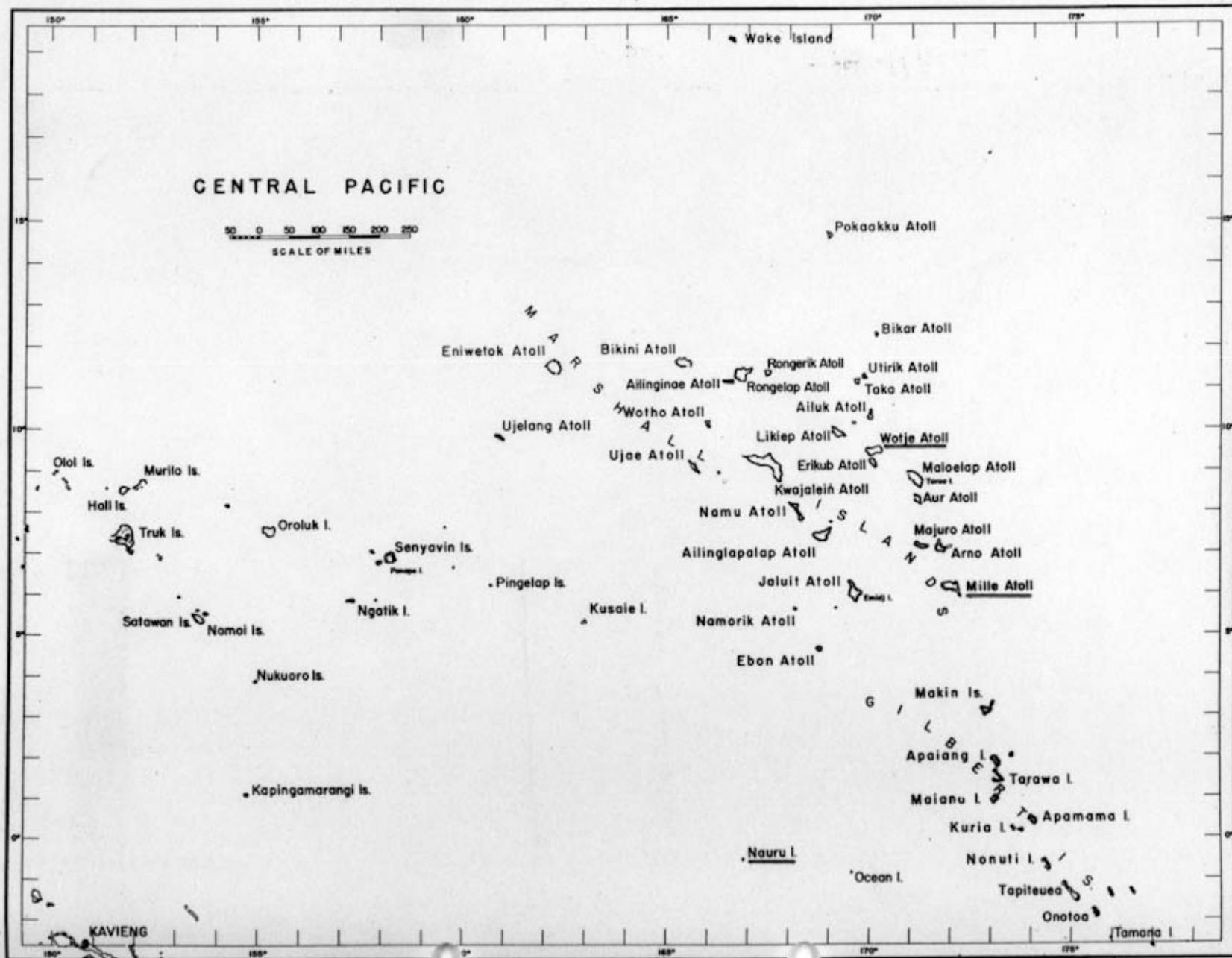
2. Chinese troops scored local gains at Tengchung and Lungling during 18 August and the next day repulsed numerous Japanese counter-attacks in all sectors of the Salween front. On 20 August British troops, advancing south on the Tiddim Road, were 75 miles below Imphal; some elements moving to the west occupied Khuaivum.

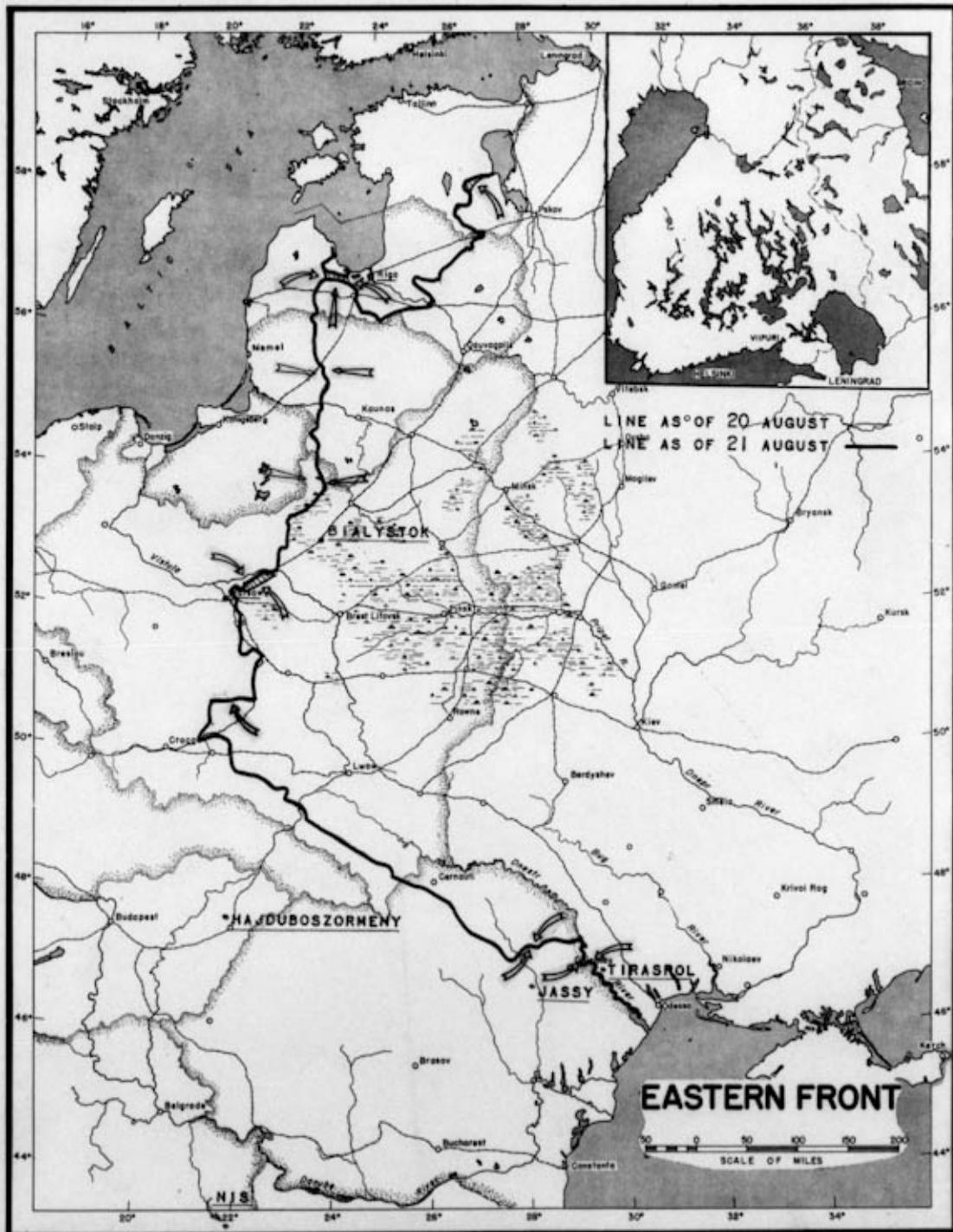
3. During 19 August Eastern Air Command flew 177 sorties against tactical targets in support of ground operations in Burma. Included in these was a strike by 29 B-25's on Monywa and rocket raids against the rail yards at Ywataung.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 19 August nearly 100 sorties were flown by Solomons-based aircraft against targets on New Britain and New Ireland. The following day 70 Southwest Pacific light and fighter bombers attacked bivouacs, gun positions and coastal traffic at various points in the Vogelkop region; two B-24's made a strike at Palau, one scored near misses on a large freighter near Boeroe. Heavy and medium bombers also were active in the area of the Celebes Sea; 41 B-24's struck warehouses on northern Halmahera; others successfully attacked small shipping south of Mindanao; 11 B-25's bombed targets in the Talaud Islands.

2. In addition to those sorties already reported, 21 medium bombers attacked runways and gun positions at Nauru during 18 August and Marine fighters pounded Mille. On the next two days our aircraft raided Anatahan, Alamagan, Pagan and Rota (Marianas) and continued their attacks





against Nauru and targets in the Marshalls. On 20 August, 20 B-24's hit the Yap airfield and barracks area.

EASTERN FRONT

The Germans claim that on 21 August they reestablished contact near Riga with their units isolated in the north. Northeast of Warsaw Soviet troops gained a 22-mile stretch of the railroad from Warsaw to Bialystok, and penetrated the enemy lines near Jassy and Tiraspol.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

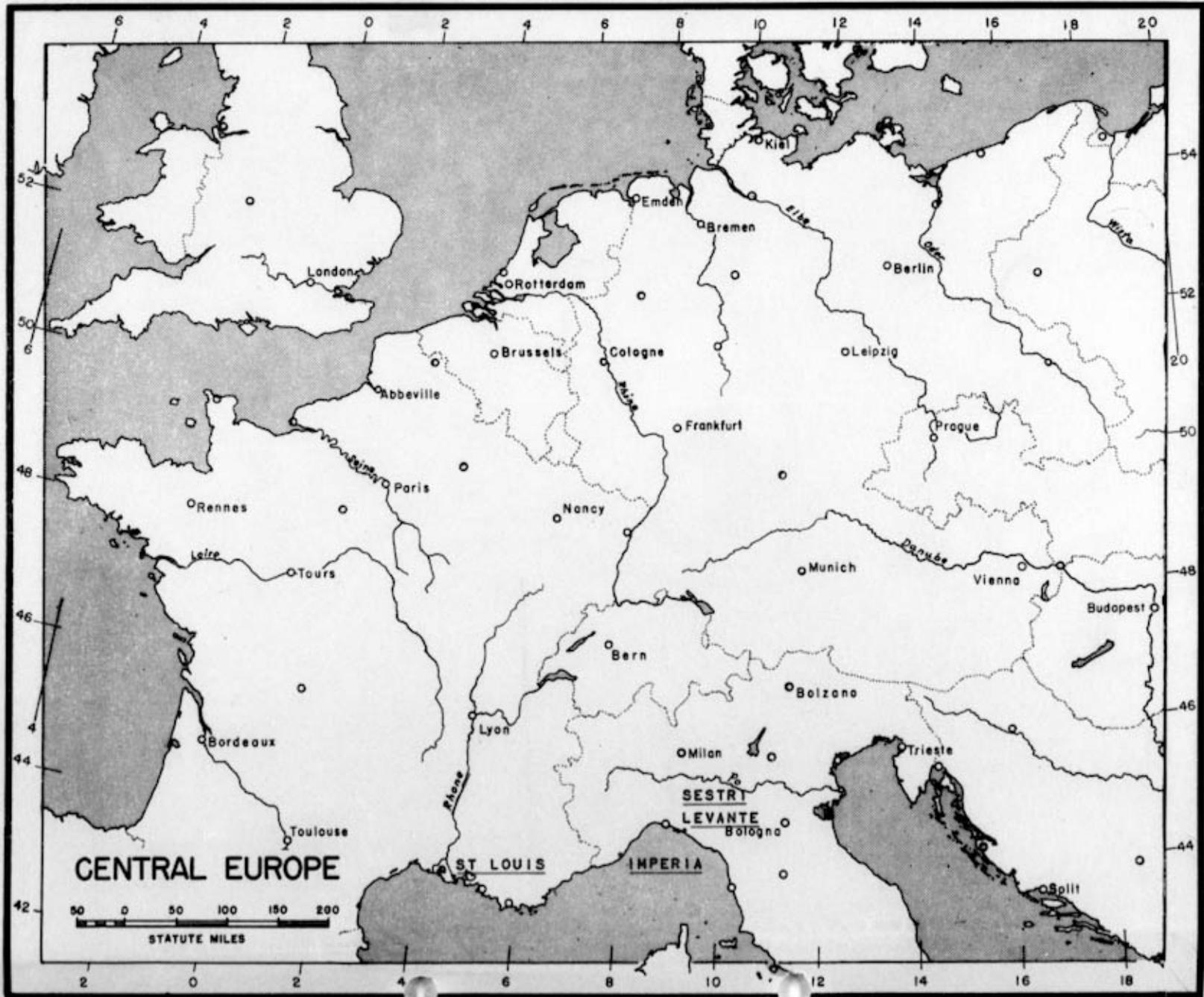
No. 985

0700 August 20 to 0700 August 21, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 19 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,372 sorties in support of ground operations in France, destroying nine enemy planes and 19 flying bombs for a loss of 25 of our own aircraft.

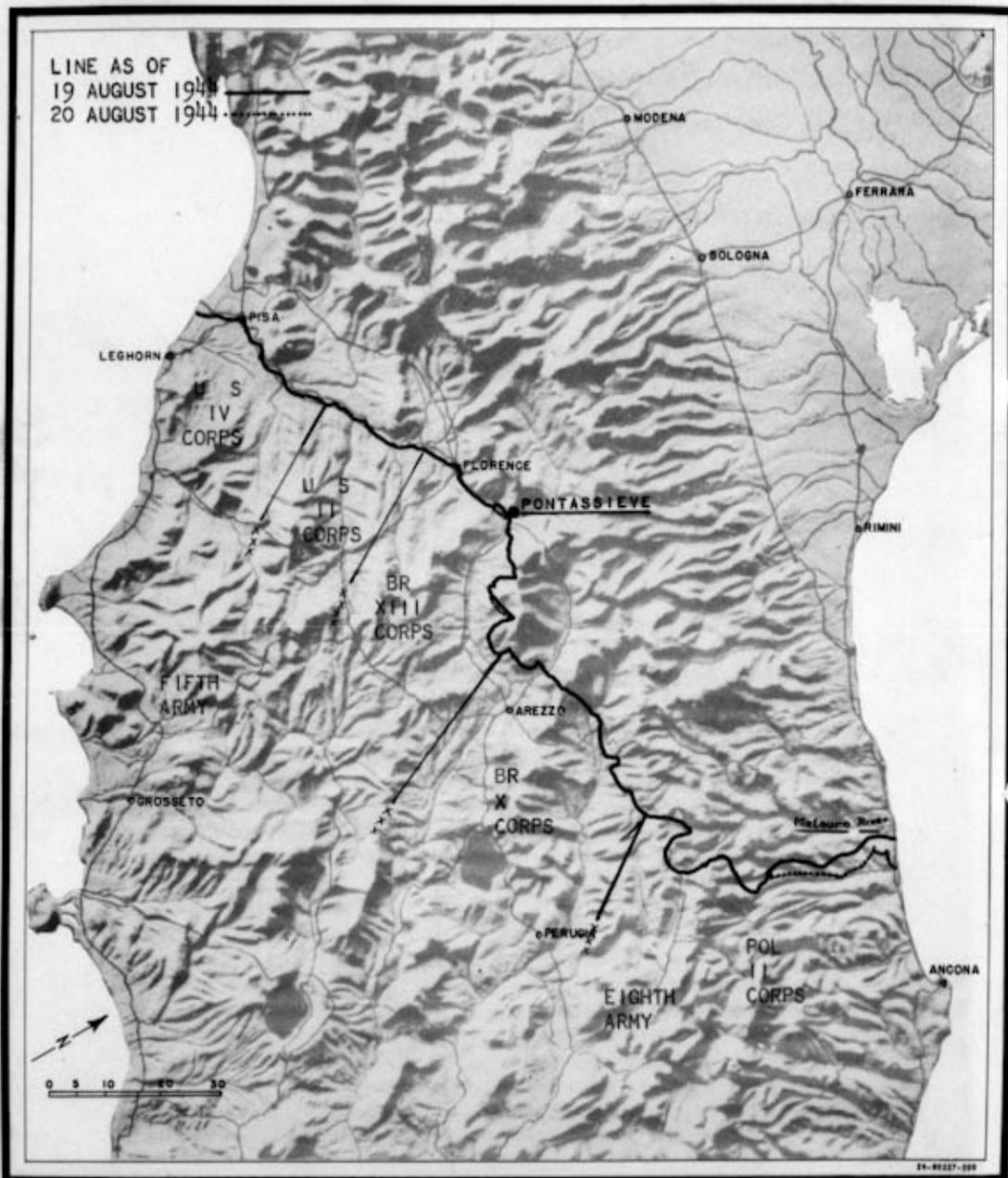
Weather again forced cancellation of 8th Air Force operations during 20 August.

Seventy-one of 78 flying bombs plotted during the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 20 August, were destroyed; 35 reached the English coast but only six penetrated to London.)

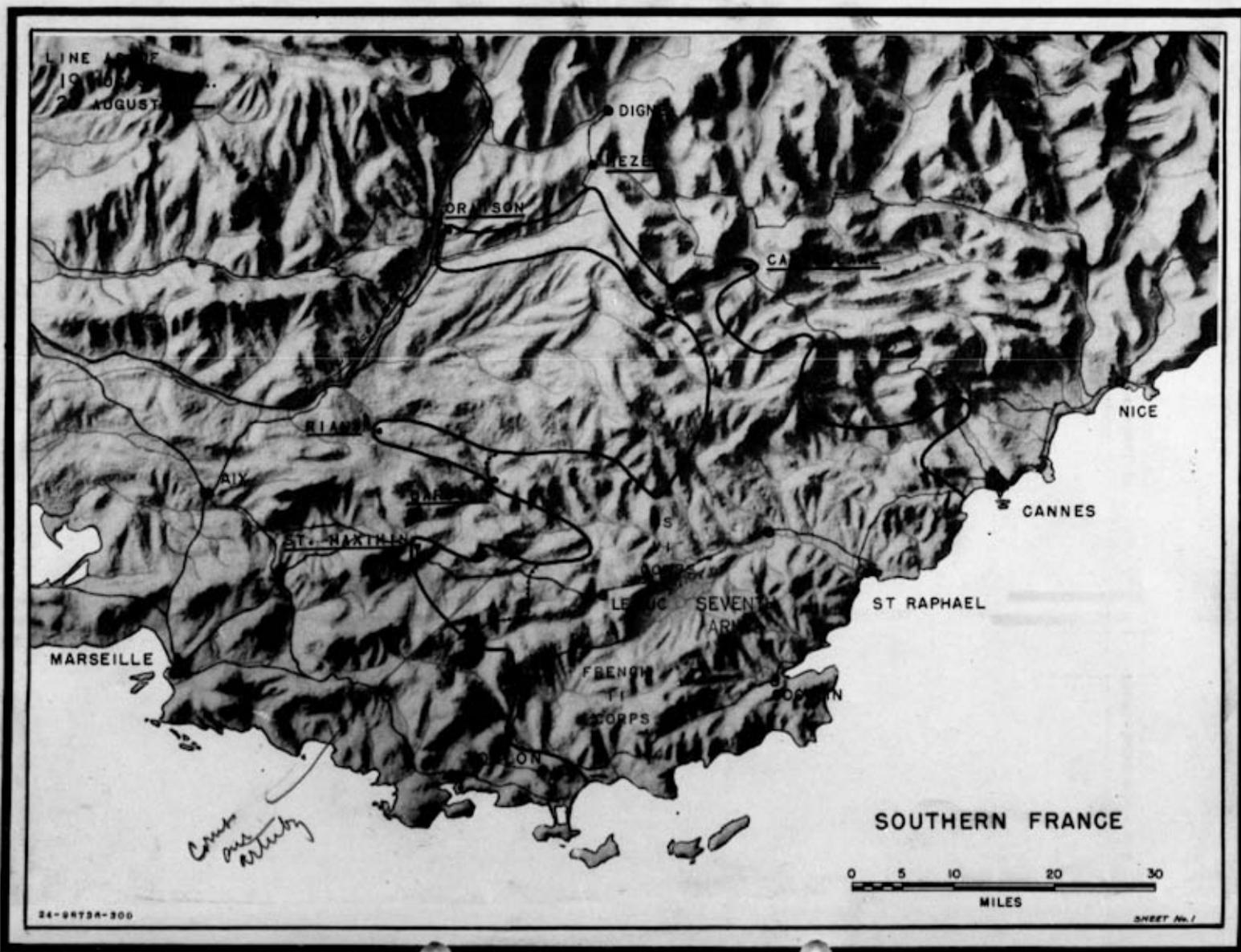
2. Our Third Army reported little change in the situation in the Brittany Peninsula for the 24-hour period ending at noon on 20 August. To the east its XV Corps established a bridgehead beyond the Seine near Mantes and drove down the west bank of the river towards Louviers. On our First Army front the XIX Corps, shifted from the Sourdeval area, was pushing toward Evreux. V Corps troops captured Croisilles. The British Second Army further reduced the size of the enemy-held pocket north of Argentan and the Canadian First Army made minor gains to the east against negligible opposition.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Small missions of light bombers and fighters continued the raids against tactical targets in southern France during the night of 18-19 August. The next day 245 medium bombers attacked six bridges in the Rhone Valley destroying or badly damaging four; communications and other targets in southern France were attacked during the day by 384 fighters. Of some



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OSD Letter, 6-8-78

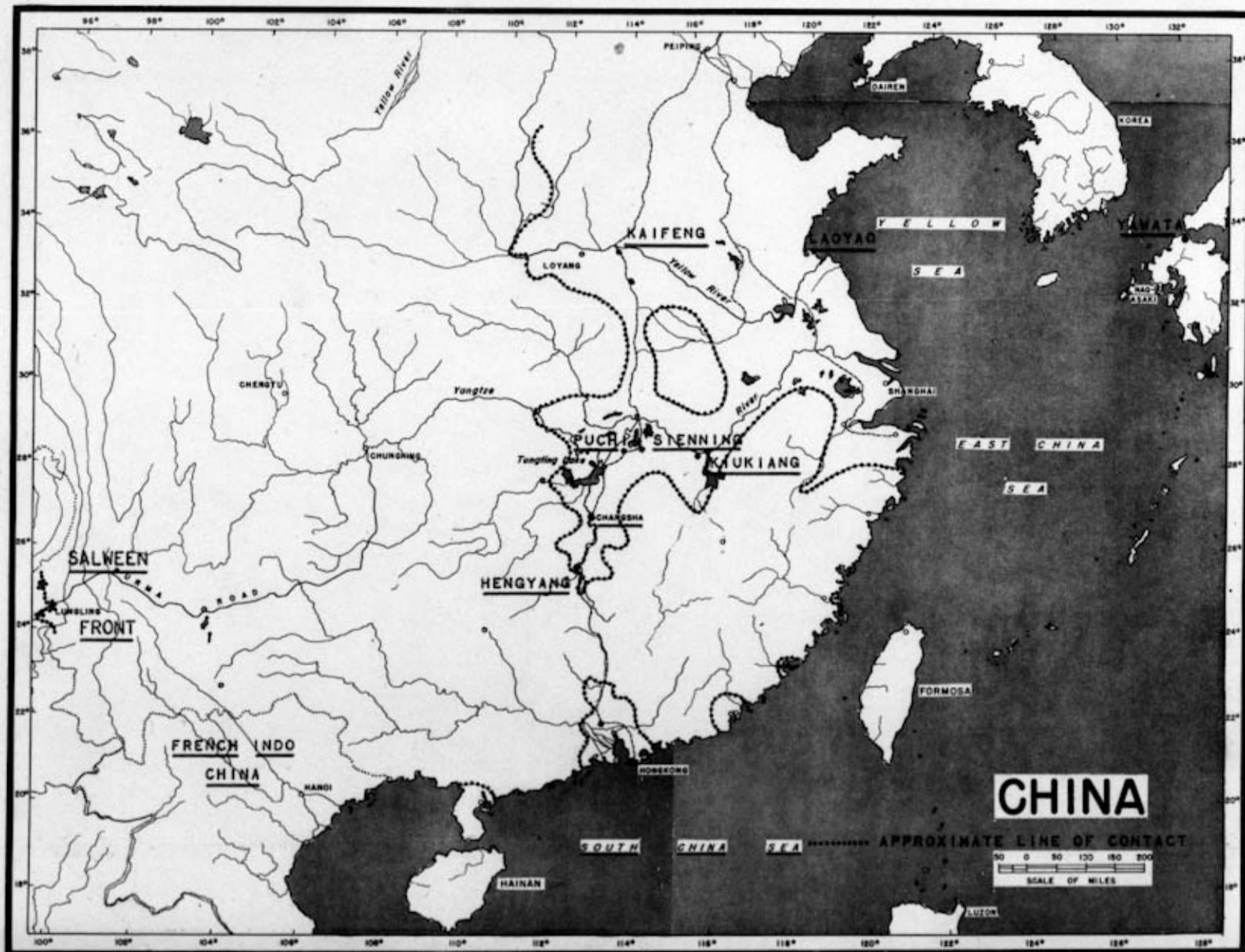


15 enemy aircraft encountered two were destroyed; six of our planes are missing. Three hundred and ten medium bombers and fighters carried out raids against tactical targets over the Italian battle area. Coastal medium bombers concentrated on oil stores at St. Louis de Rhone, Imperia Harbor, and Sestri Levante. Other raids were made in the Balkans by 51 Allied aircraft which flew sweeps over Albania and Greece and hit oil storage tanks and transportation in Yugoslavia.

On 20 August, 471 escorted heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force dropped 1,161 tons on three oil refineries in Poland and the Szolnok marshalling yards and airdrome in Hungary. One (probably two) of 17 enemy aircraft encountered were destroyed for a loss of three bombers and one fighter.

2. During the 24-hour period ending at noon on 19 August, French armored units, passing through American forward troops in the western sector of our beachhead in southern France, advanced ten miles, capturing St. Maximin. One column advanced eight miles west of Barjols. To the north an American fast-moving column composed of tank, tank destroyer, armored field artillery and motorized infantry units drove from the Castellane area to the Durance River at Oraison and to within three miles of Mezel, where forward elements were encountering resistance.

3. On our Fifth Army front, normal patrolling was continued during 20 August with no changes in the general situation. The attack along the Adriatic coast by the British Eighth Army continued against varying resistance, with gains of from two to six miles along the 15-mile sector



of the II Polish Corps as the enemy withdrew during the night toward the Metauro River.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 18 August, the Eastern Air Command flew over 160 sorties against tactical targets and enemy communications in support of our ground operations in Burma.

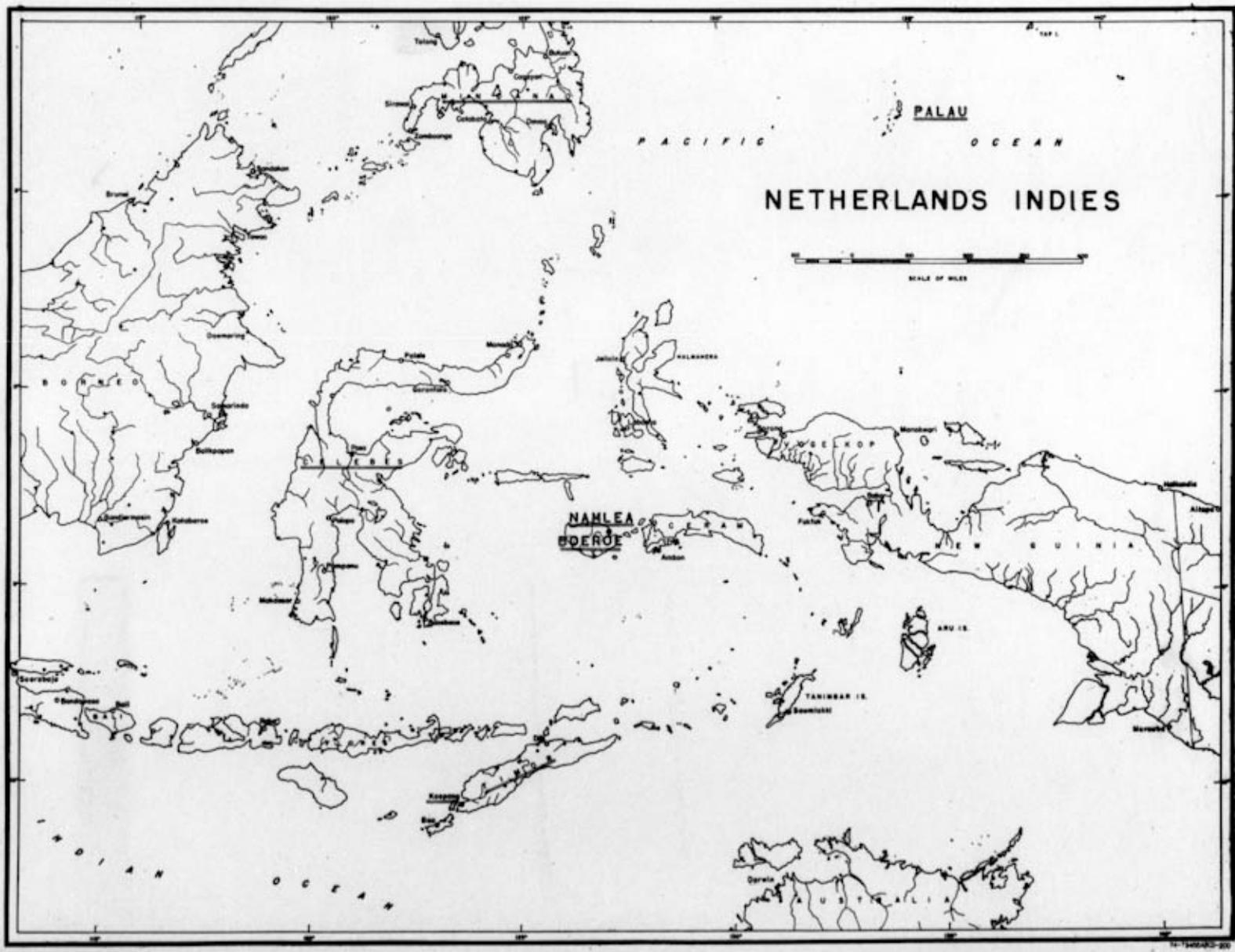
2. On 17, 18 and 19 August some 150 previously unreported Allied medium bombers and fighters attacked targets in the Hengyang-Changsha area; Sianning was bombed by 11 B-25's. A mission of 25 escorted B-24's struck the Puchi storage area. Thirty-seven medium bombers and fighters attacked the Kiukiang railroad yards and storage area damaging a 300-foot river boat. B-24's sank two freighters in the South China Sea. Four fighters over northeast French Indo-China damaged enemy transportation. Fifty-seven combat sorties were flown on the Salween front during 18 August; troop-carrier planes continued to drop supplies to the Chinese.

3. A preliminary report from the 20th Bomber Command mission of 20 August states that 55 B-29's bombed Yawata with good results. Lacyao, Kaifeng (occupied China) and an undisclosed target of opportunity were bombed by one B-29 each. Twelve enemy aircraft were destroyed while four of our planes were observed lost and six more have failed to return.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our forces in the Cape Sansapor area landed a small force in

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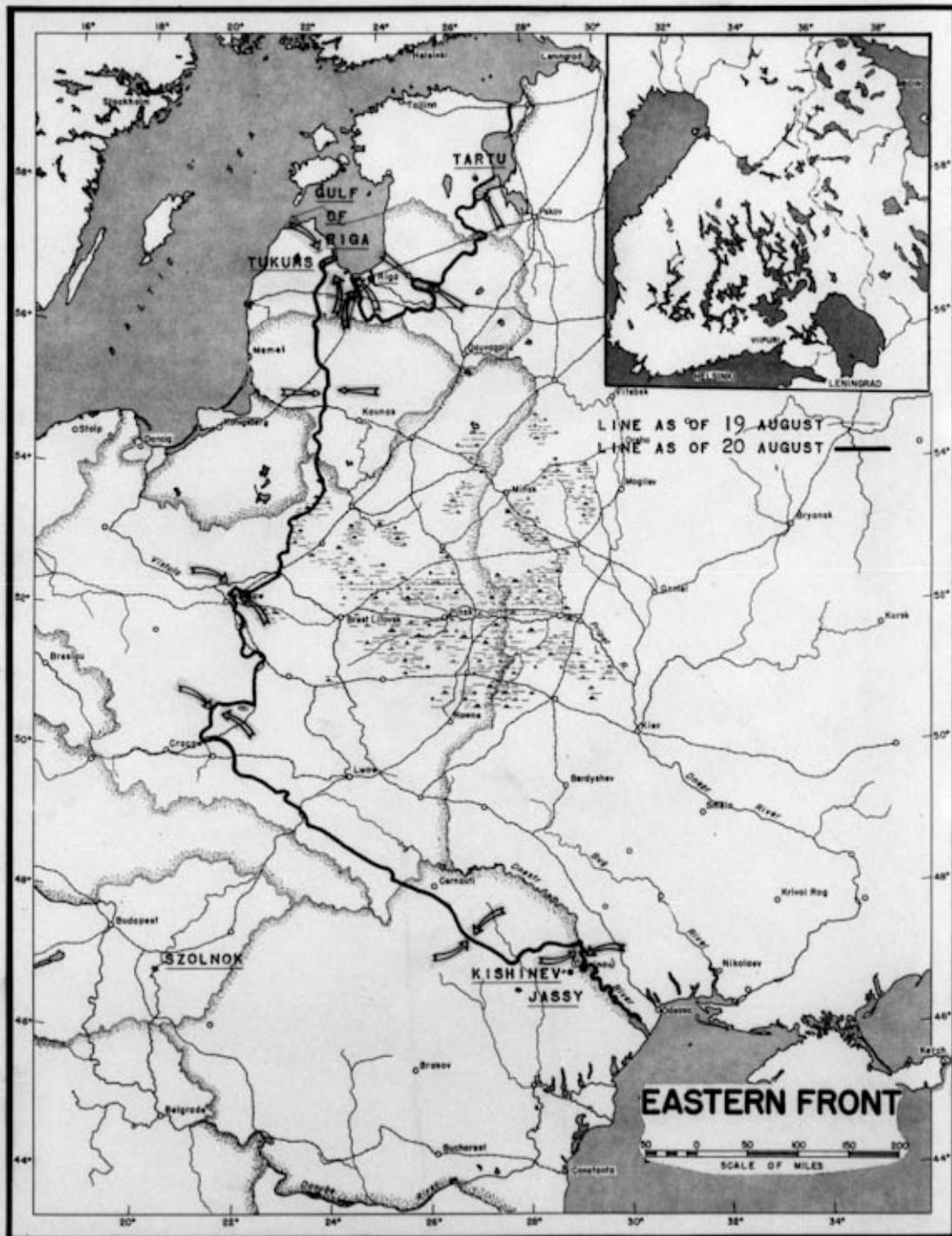


the Mega River area on 19 August; active patrolling continues in that area. Twenty-four Southwest Pacific B-24's destroyed three parked aircraft and started large fuel fires at Namlea airdrome (Boeroe). Other smaller heavy bomber missions attacked shipping in the Celebes and Mindanao areas and bombed Dobo (Aroe Islands) and Palau. Two missions of ten and nine Allied medium bombers attacked Langgoer in the Kai Islands and a barracks area east of Koepang on Timor, respectively; one plane failed to return. Forty other medium bombers and fighters caused explosions in fuel dumps at Wewak and attacked enemy positions in that area. Australian P-40's operated over the Geelvink Bay area attacking airdromes, fuel dumps and trucks. In nearly 180 sorties, Solomons-based aircraft continued their attacks against targets in the upper Solomons and eastern Bismarcks areas on 18 August; gun positions in the Gazelle Peninsula of New Britain received particularly heavy attacks. Two Navy fighters were lost in these operations.

2. Four Navy medium bombers struck runways and dispersal areas on Nauru during 18 August. Army fighters hit Pagan in the Marianas during the same period.

EASTERN FRONT

Soviet forces advanced to within eight miles of Tartu on a broad front during 20 August. East of Riga they advanced 15 miles toward the city against strong German counterattacks. The Germans attacked the Soviet corridor to the Gulf of Riga from east and west, with support



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of German light cruisers in the Gulf, and took Tukums. Red Army troops attacked in considerable strength north of Jassy and north of Kishinev, and were met at both points by determined resistance, with no change in the line.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

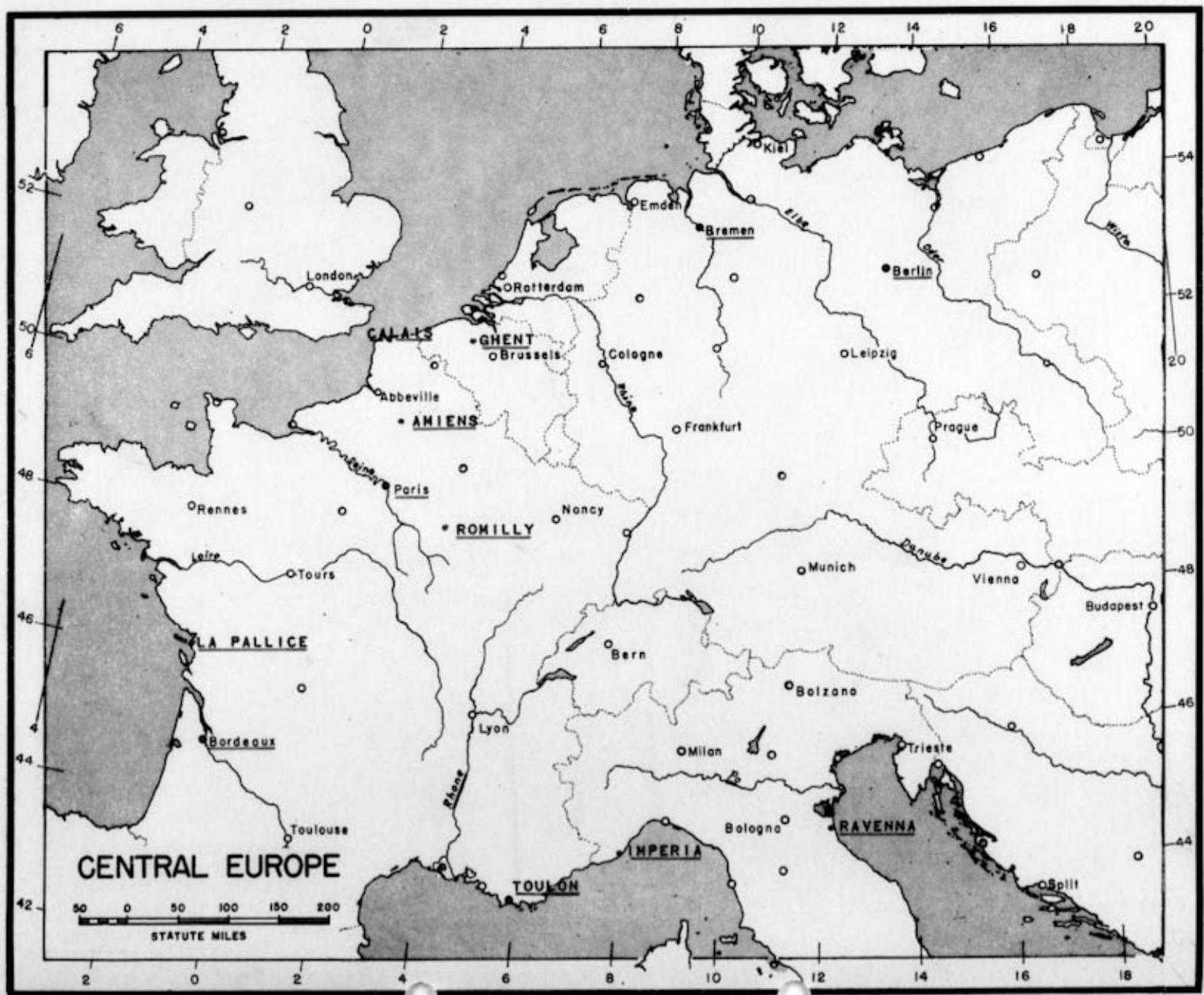
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0700 August 19 to 0700 August 20, 1944

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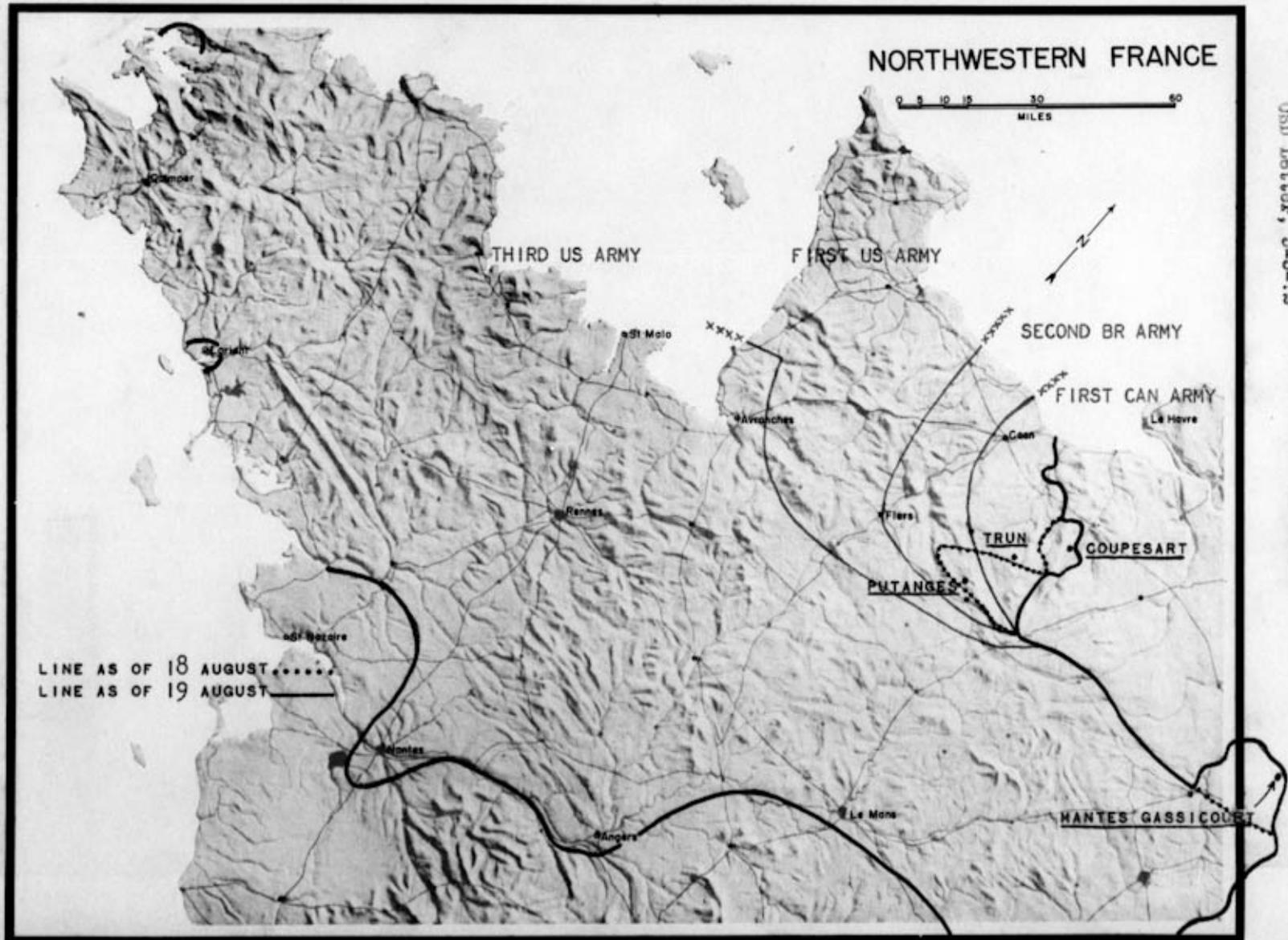
THE WHITE HOUSE

~~TOP SECRET~~



NORTHWESTERN FRANCE

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MILES



LINE AS OF 18 AUGUST
LINE AS OF 19 AUGUST _____

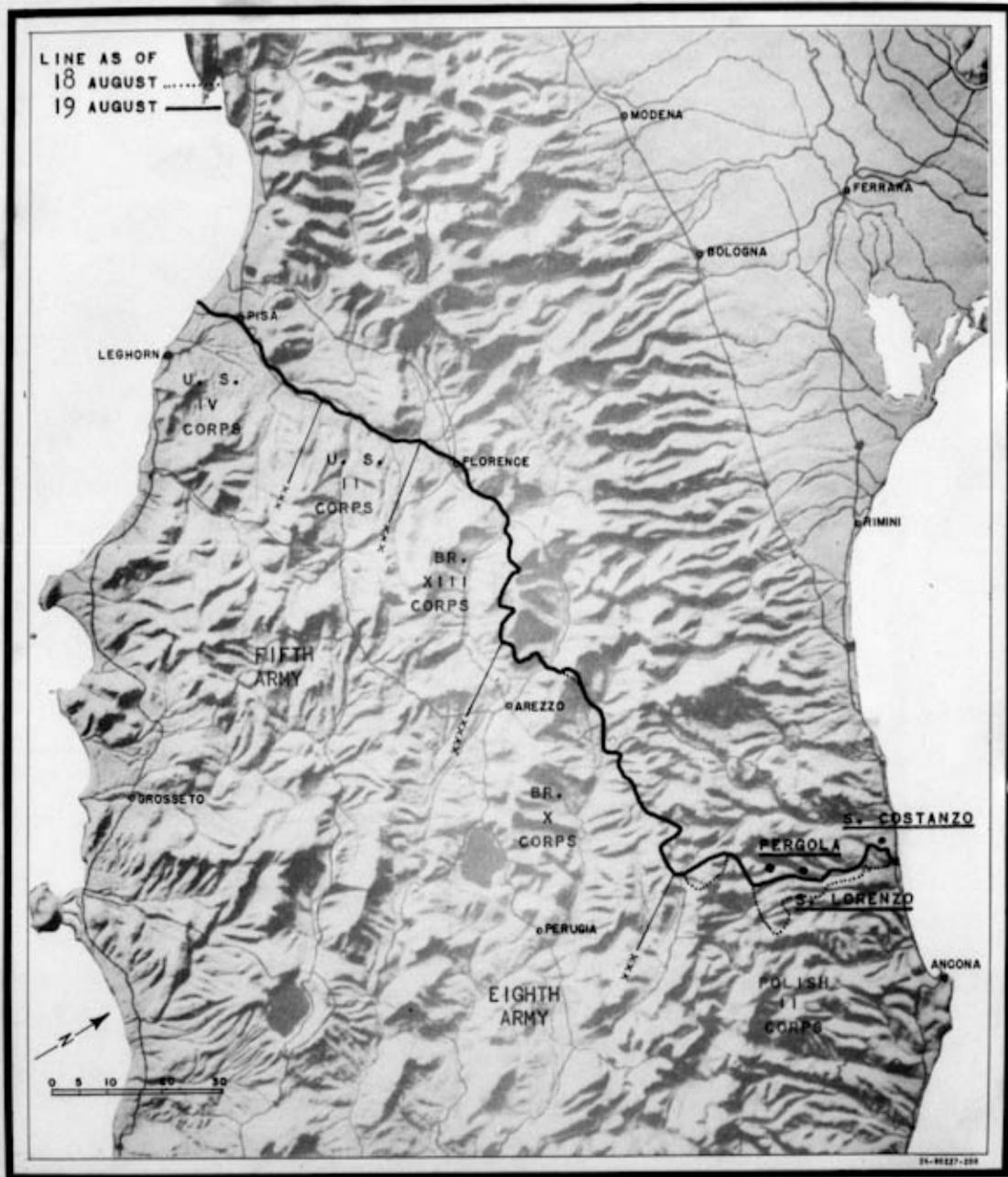
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 18 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,713 sorties in support of ground operations in France, destroying 18 enemy planes for a loss of 38 of our own aircraft.

RAF bombers dropped 860 tons on an underground supply depot north of Paris and 496 tons on fuel depots near Ghent and Bordeaux and on submarine pens at La Pallice. Bomb-launching sites in the Calais and Amiens areas were attacked with 122 tons. Five bombers were lost in these operations. On the night of 18-19 August 760 RAF bombers attacked Bremen, oil plants and other targets in western Germany, a rail center northeast of Romilly and the fuel depot north of Ghent. Twenty-one Mosquitoes attacked Berlin and 14 others were dispatched in small missions against targets in western Germany and Belgium. Two hundred and fourteen bombers carried out diversionary sweeps and support patrols. The next morning 52 heavies were dispatched to attack oil storage tanks at La Pallice.

Adverse weather conditions prevented 8th Air Force operations on 19 August.

2. There was no change in the situation in Brittany during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 19 August. To the east, the Third Army's XV Corps, shifting the weight of its attack to the north, pushed reconnaissance units into Mantes Gassicourt. Our First Army joined with the Canadian First Army south of Trun, completing the encirclement of the enemy pocket to the west. Heavy fighting was reported in progress



near Putanges. Other Allied units advanced and secured high ground near Coupesart.

MEDITERRANEAN

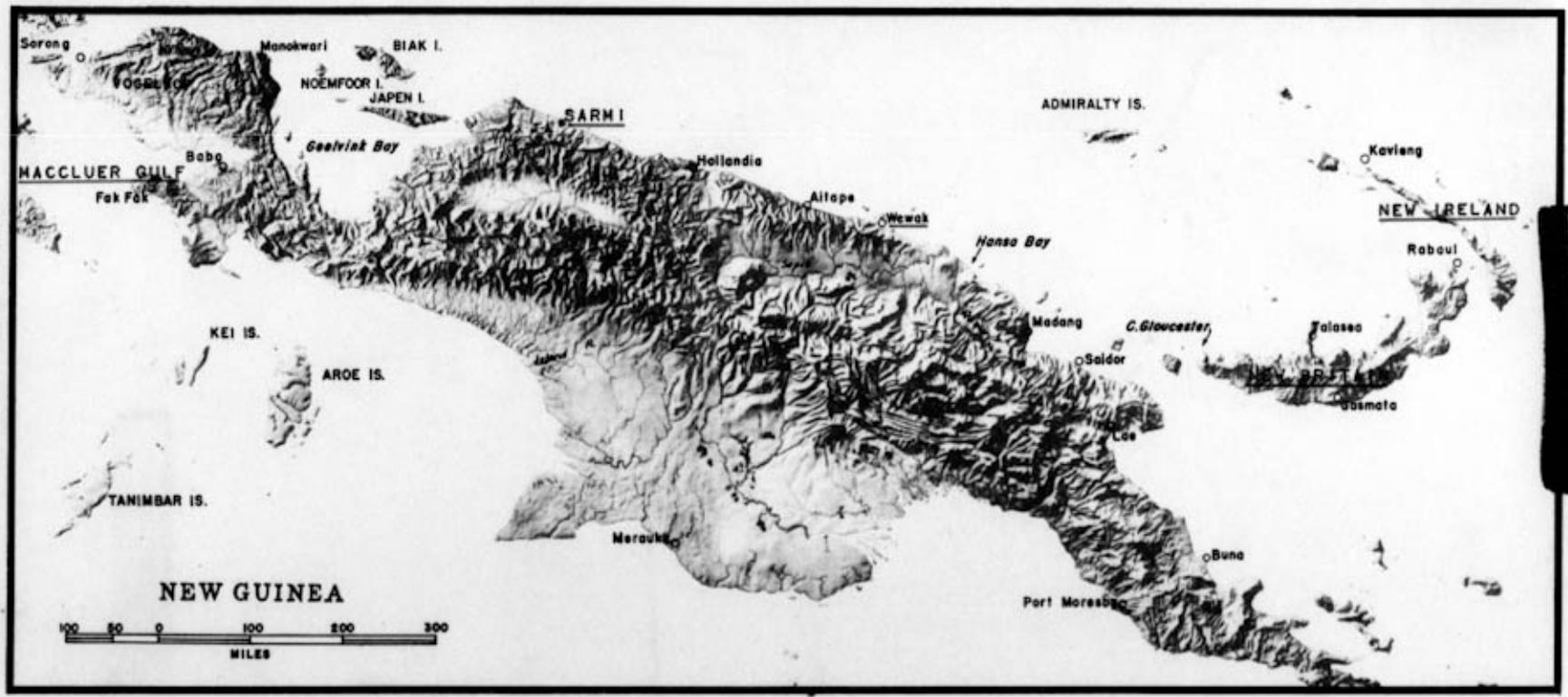
1. During 18 August, 106 Tactical Air Force medium bombers attacked guns in the southern France battle area while 90 others bombed Rhone Valley bridges and set fire to the battleship STRASBOURG in Toulon Harbor. Two medium bombers are missing. Attacks were also carried out against bridges, roads and enemy transportation behind the new battle area by 281 fighters. One hundred and nine other fighters raided tactical targets in support of ground operations in Italy. Support was provided for operations in the Balkans by 55 fighters.

On 19 August, the 15th Air Force dispatched 81 heavy bombers, escorted by 197 fighters to attack oil refineries at Floesti for the third consecutive day; 145 tons were dropped in this operation. Two heavy bombers and two fighters are missing.

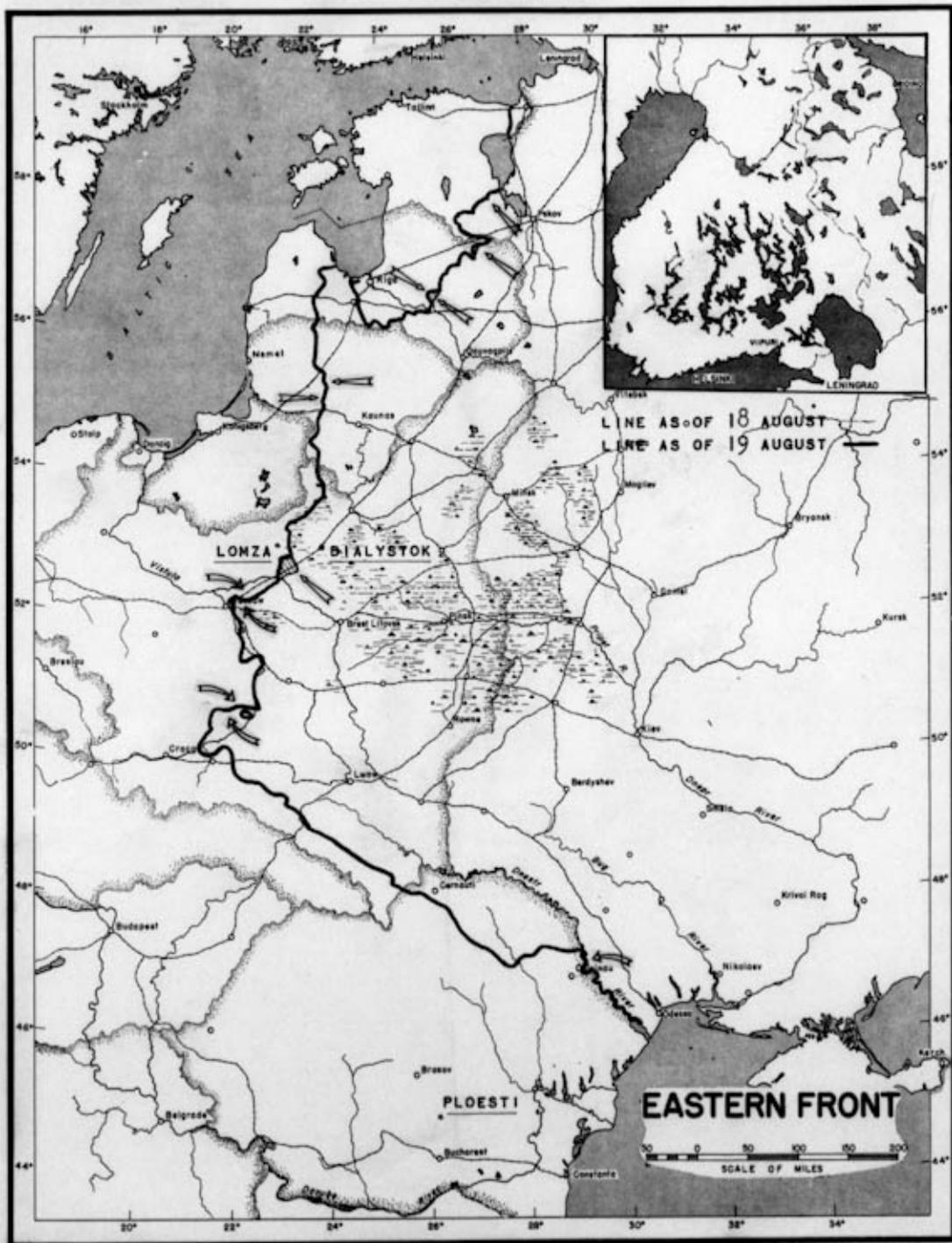
2. Little change was reported in the situation in the western and central sectors of the trans-Italian battle line during 19 August. Italian forces probing northward in the Apennines reported San Lorenzo and Pergola clear of the enemy. On the Adriatic an attack by the Polish Corps, launched during the afternoon on 18 August had by last report advanced more than three miles to just south of San Costanzo despite strong enemy resistance. An enemy counterattack was beaten off, heavy casualties being inflicted on the Germans.

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ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 17 August, 25 escorted B-24's effectively attacked an enemy storage area, believed to be in the Ladrone Islands south of Hongkong; 16 P-40's swept the Yangtze River near Hankow and the Yellow River, destroying seven enemy aircraft and damaging several river boats. On the Salween River front fighters attacked enemy positions and transports dropped more than 100 tons of food and ammunition to Chinese ground forces.

2. Additional reports for 16 August state that 22 B-25's attacked the Thazi railroad yards in central Burma with 48 tons of explosives. The next day, 125 medium bombers and fighters of the Eastern Air Command continued the raids against targets on the Burmese fronts.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

During 18 August, three B-24's struck Palau causing heavy explosions and large fires. Fifty-two A-20's bombed enemy positions near Sarmi. Other planes made scattered attacks at various points on the New Guinea coast from Wewak to MacCluer Gulf, and in the Timor area.

One hundred thirty-four Solomons-based aircraft hit targets on Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland on the 17th.

EASTERN FRONT

West of Bialystok a Soviet break-through on 19 August along a 30-mile front reached to within 13 miles of Lomza railroad junction.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

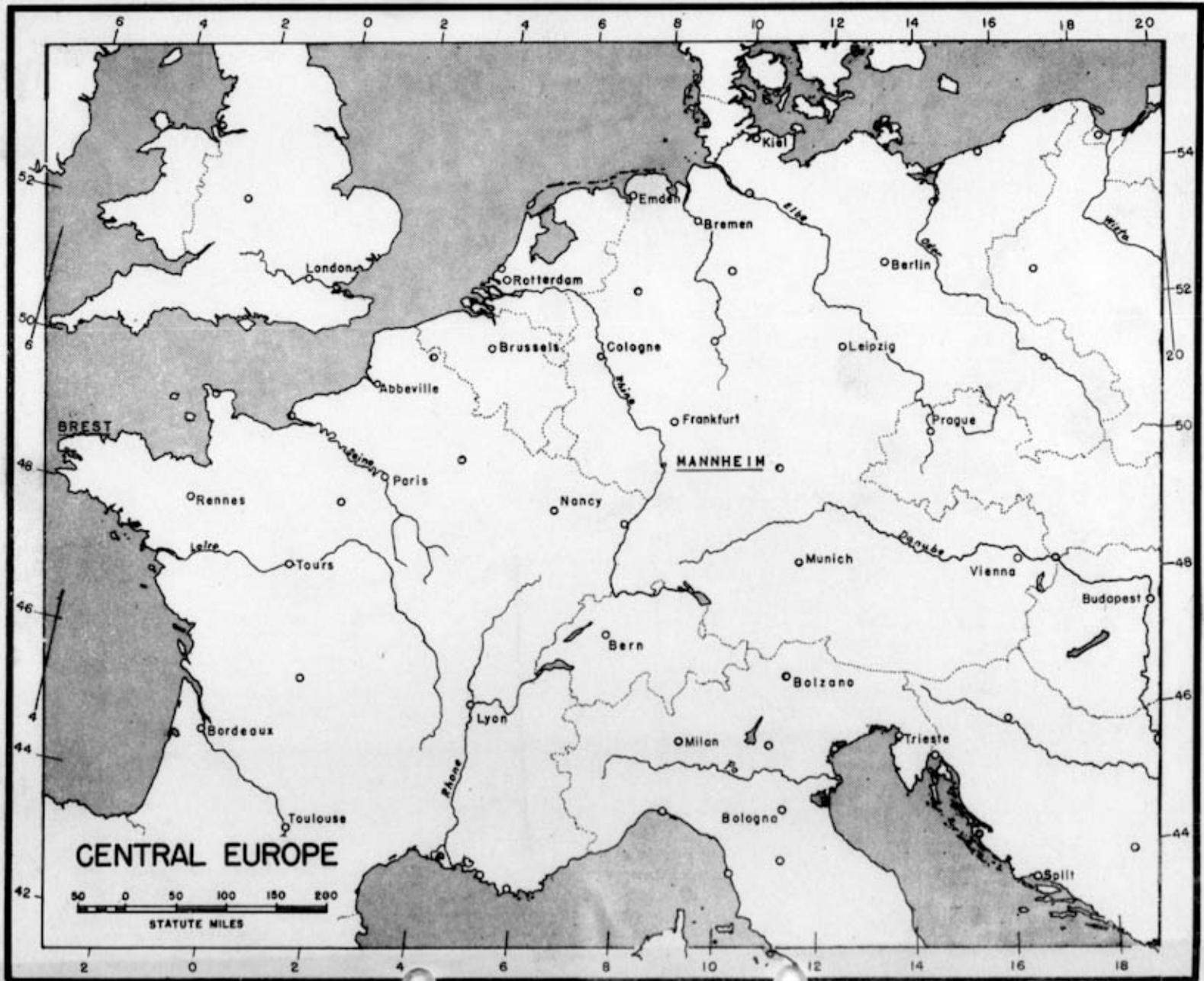
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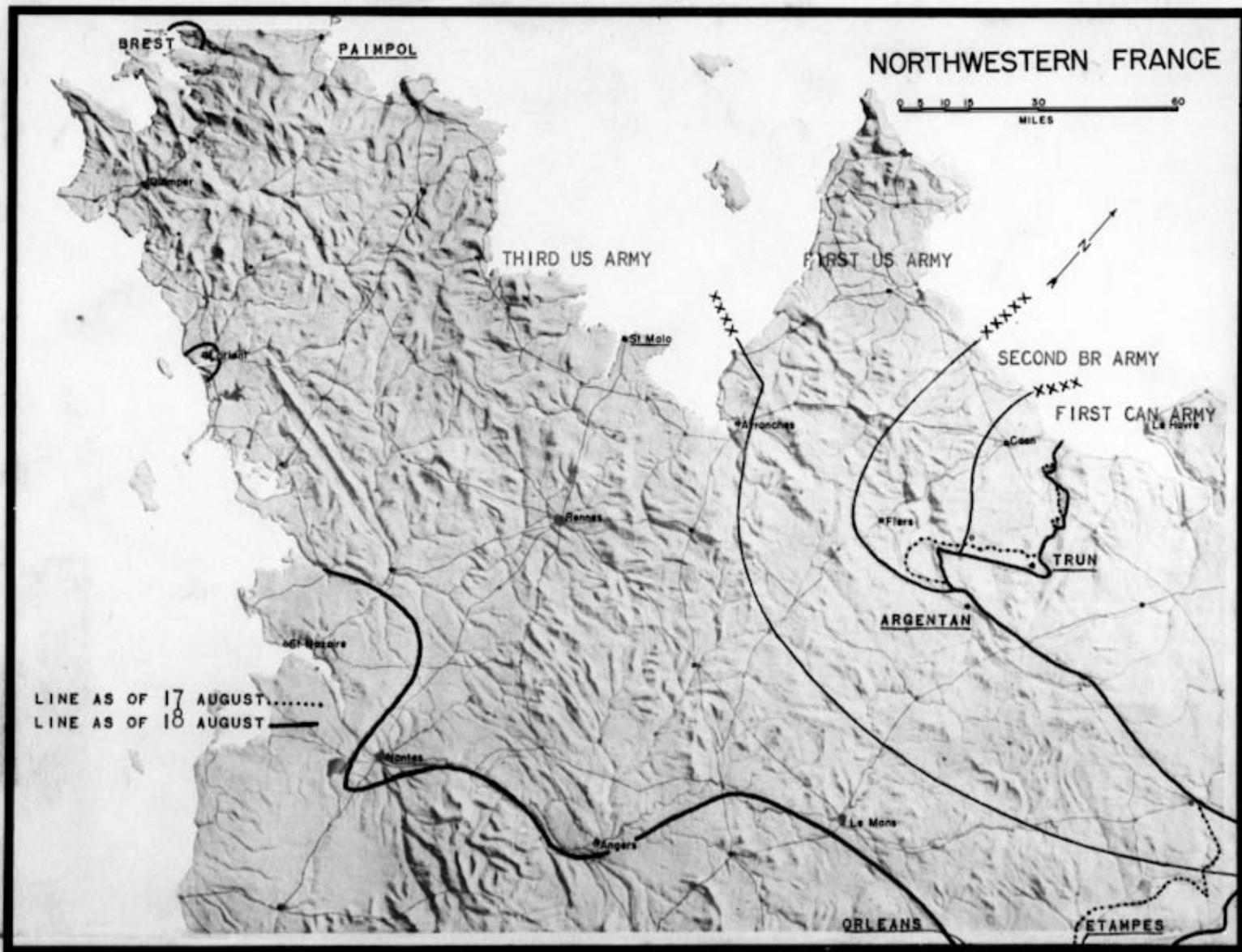
0700 August 18 to 0700 August 19, 1944

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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 OSD Letter, 5-3-78

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 17 August the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 2,655 sorties in support of ground operations in France, destroying four enemy aircraft for a loss of ten planes.

Fifty-four RAF heavy bombers dropped 292 tons on Brest harbor installations, and that night 37 Mosquitoes attacked Mannheim.

Preliminary reports indicate that 780 escorted bombers of the 8th Air Force attacked airfields, factories, fuel depots, and bridges in eastern France and the Low Countries during 18 August. Our heavy bombers encountered no air opposition. Five hundred twenty fighters flew strafing missions against transport targets in France. Sixty-three enemy planes were reported destroyed for a loss of two bombers and 21 fighters.

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 18 August: 116 were plotted; 58 made landfall; 15 reached London; 50 were destroyed.

2. Our Third Army's VIII Corps captured Paimpol and the Citadel at St. Malo during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 18 August. To the east, forward units of this army were reported to have entered Etampes and to have advanced to within five miles of Versailles. Our First Army, assuming command of the Third Army troops in the Argentan area, continued to reduce the recent enemy pocket which now is but twenty miles deep and six miles wide. The Second British Army advanced southeastward for a general gain of eight miles and, together with the Canadian First Army,

reached a general east-west line through Trun. The mass of the German Seventh Army was being forced against the lower Seine.

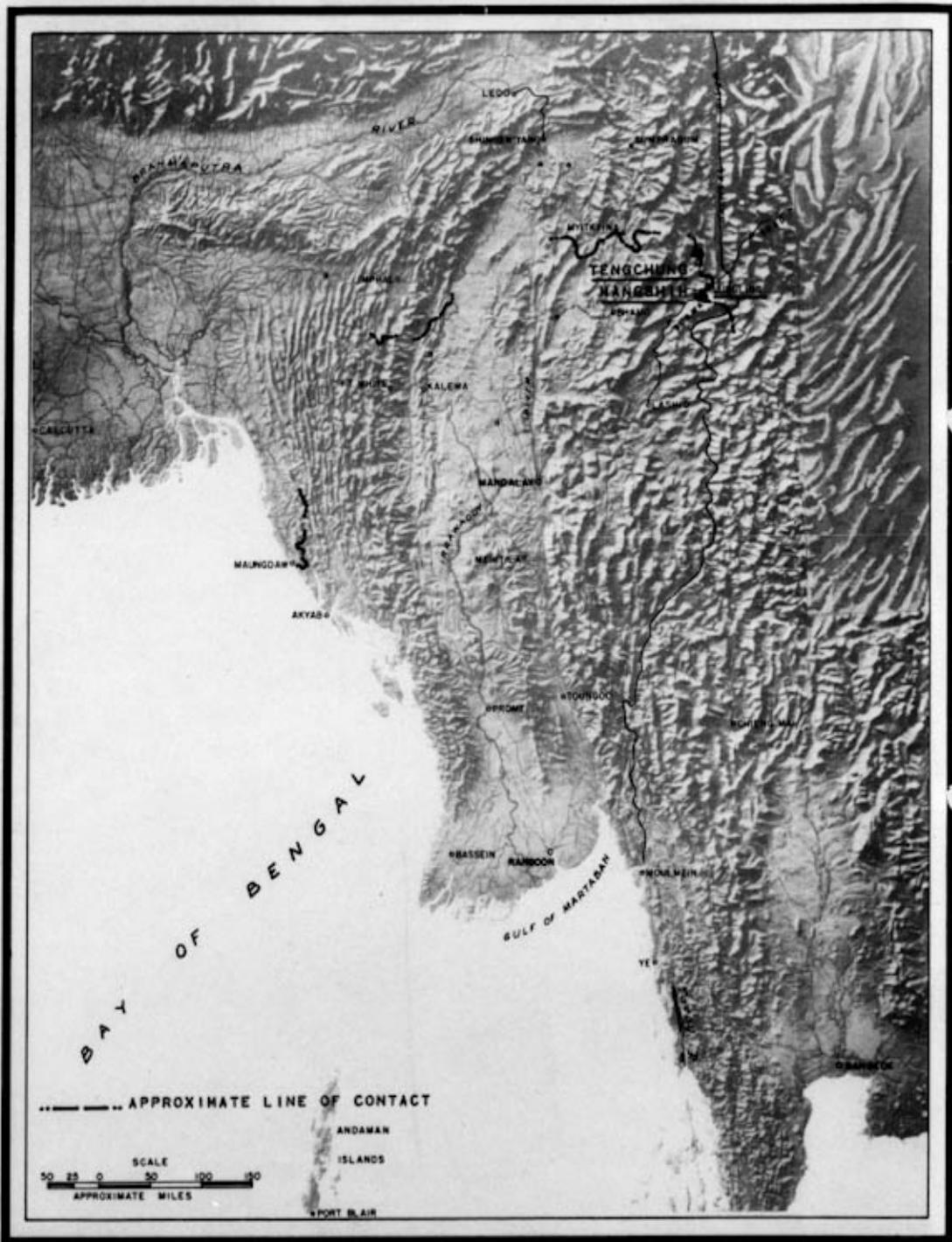
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 16-17 August, 54 Tactical Air Force light bombers operated over southern France and northern Italy. The next day 36 medium and light bombers and 312 fighter bombers attacked tactical targets in the Italian battle area and communications systems to the north. Two hundred thirty-eight sorties of fighter bombers operated over the battle area of southern France in support of our ground units. Other planes hit targets on the Adriatic coasts and communications in Yugoslavia.

During the night of 17-18 August, 56 bombers of the 15th Air Force again dropped 86 tons on an oil refinery in the Floesti area; three bombers are missing. The next day 547 escorted heavy bombers returned to place 694 tons on oil refineries in the same area and on the airdrome at Alibunar (Yugoslavia). Nine enemy planes were destroyed for the loss of nine bombers and one fighter.

2. There was no change in the general situation in Italy during 18 August. The Fifth Army blocked enemy attempts to cross the Arno.

3. In southern France our VI Corps, pushing rapidly inland, had by the evening of 18 August reached Grasse on the east, Castellane on the north, and Barjols and La Roquebrussane on the west. One task force was moving on Digne. Our troops were meeting with little or no opposition.



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Excellent air support continued against negligible enemy air opposition.

About 7,000 prisoners had been taken by noon on 18 August. Extensive railroad disruptions by saboteurs continues, including the PLM main line above Lyon.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 16 August Chinese troops captured positions on the town wall at Tengchung.

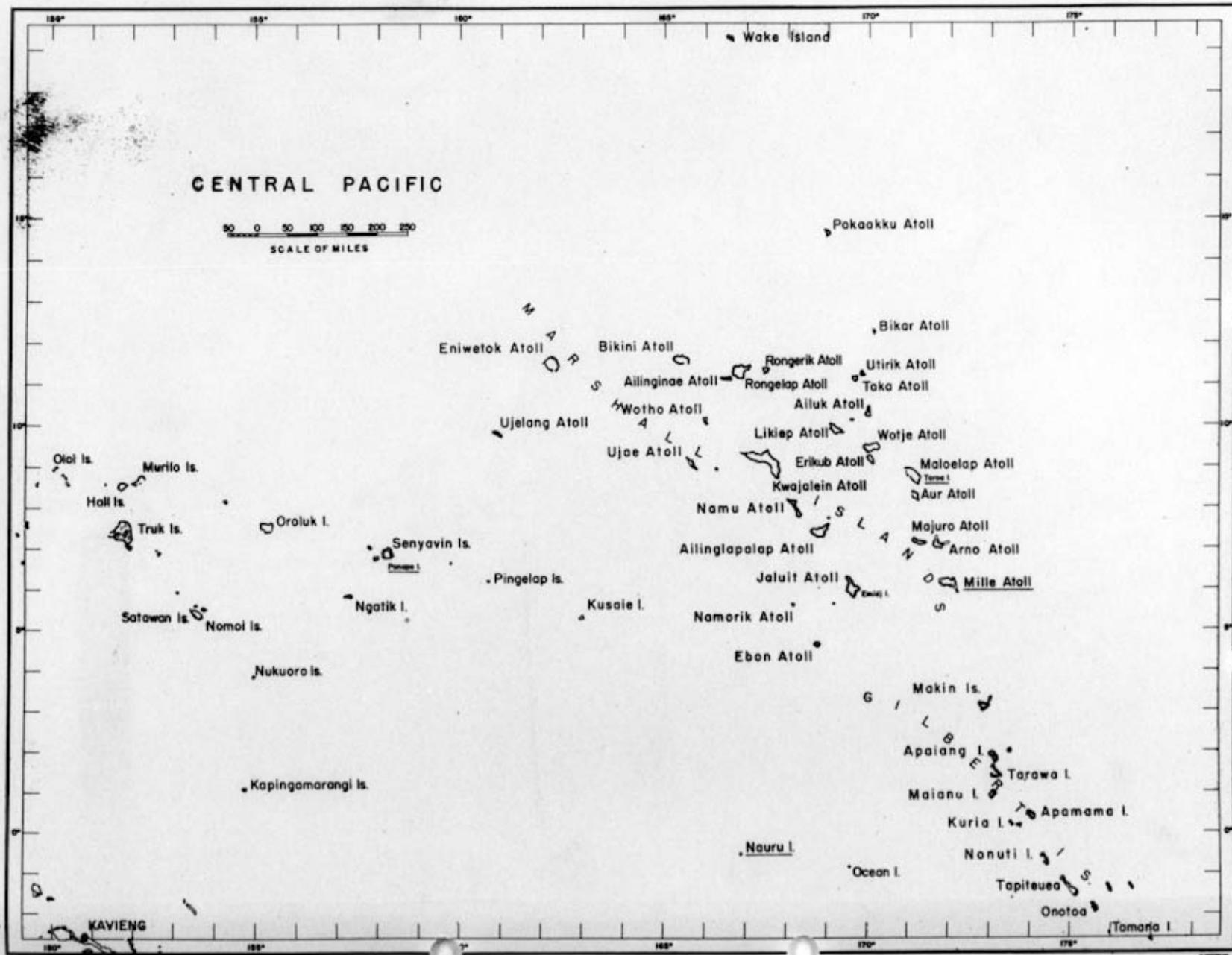
2. During 15 and 16 August, the Eastern Air Command flew over 450 sorties against tactical targets and communications systems in northern and central Burma. Eleven B-24's mined the mouth of the Tavoy River.

3. During 15 August the 14th Air Force carried out more than 100 sorties over the Hengyang area attacking troop concentrations, road and river traffic. The following day tactical missions continued in the Hengyang-Changsha area, medium bombers flew 16 sorties in support of ground operations on the Salween front.

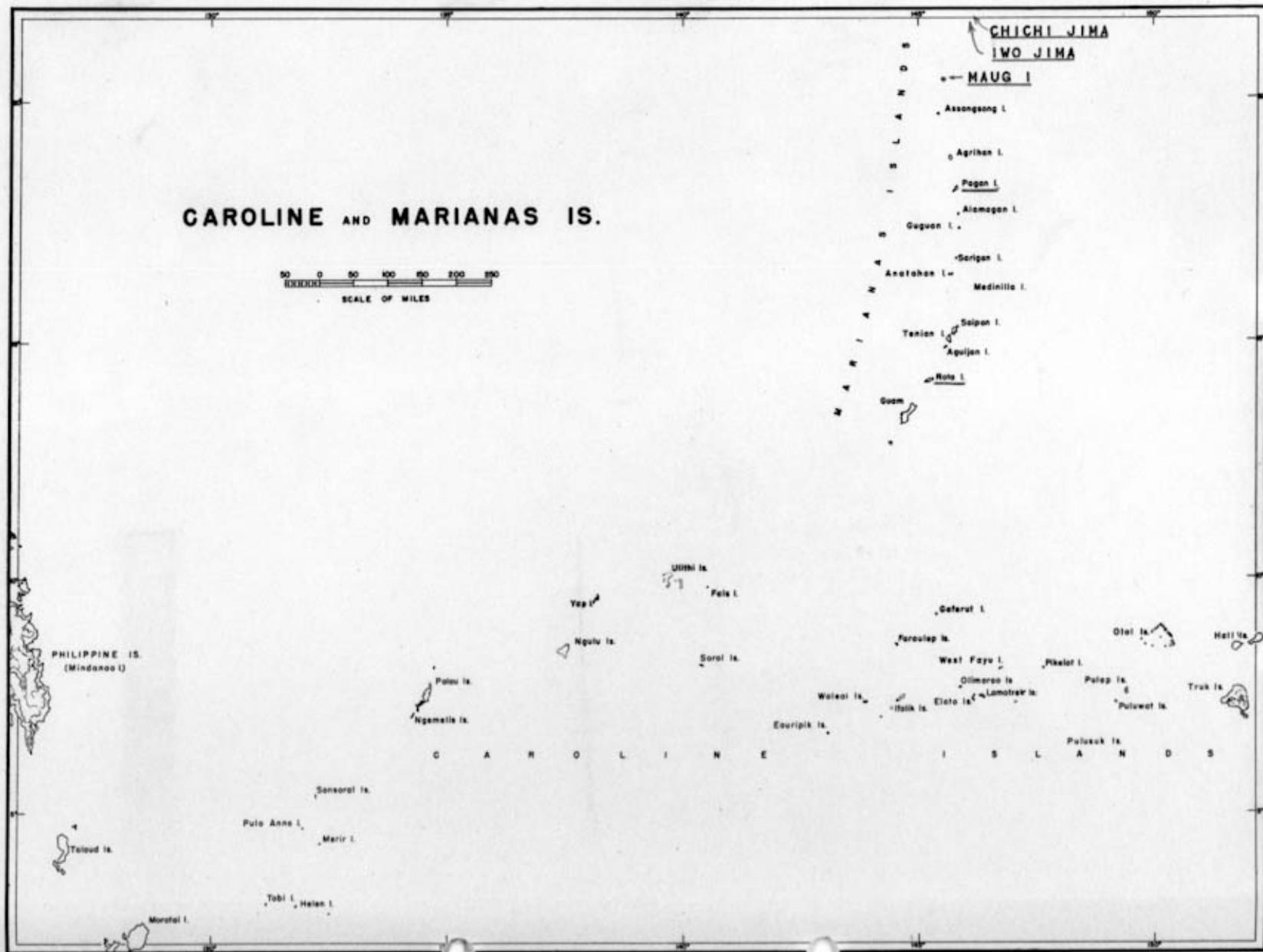
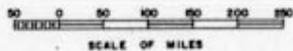
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 17 August, one battalion of our troops, supported by naval and air forces, landed near Wardo on the west coast of Biak Island against light opposition.

Forty-six B-24's in two strikes hit airdromes at Haroekoe (Ceram) and Liang (Amboina), destroying a number of parked planes; P-38 escorts



CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.





to Liang destroyed eight enemy planes for a loss of two. Forty-one medium and heavy bombers attacked Namlea (Boeroe) airdromes, probably destroying four enemy aircraft. Some twenty sorties were flown against targets on Timor and in the Tanimbar Islands. In more than 30 sorties, light and fighter bombers attacked coastal targets from Wewak around the Vogelkop Peninsula to MacCluer Gulf. A heavy bomber hit a ship in Davao Gulf.

Unfavorable weather restricted Solomons-based air operations to 22 sorties against Bougainville and New Ireland during the 16th.

2. During 15 and 16 August, small numbers of Army and Navy planes hit Nauru, Ponape, Mille, Taroa and Maug while Pagan was attacked by 20 P-47's, Rota by 24 Marine Corsairs, and Chichi Jima by 17 B-24's.

On 17 August, 25 B-24's attacked Truk and 19 B-24's pounded Iwo Jima.

EASTERN FRONT

During 18 August, Soviet troops crossed the narrows between Lake Peipus and Pskov to join forces advancing from the south and reach a point 18 miles southeast of Tartu. The main Soviet Vistula bridgehead south of Warsaw was widened by the capture of Sandomierz; three German divisions were encircled north of the city.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 982

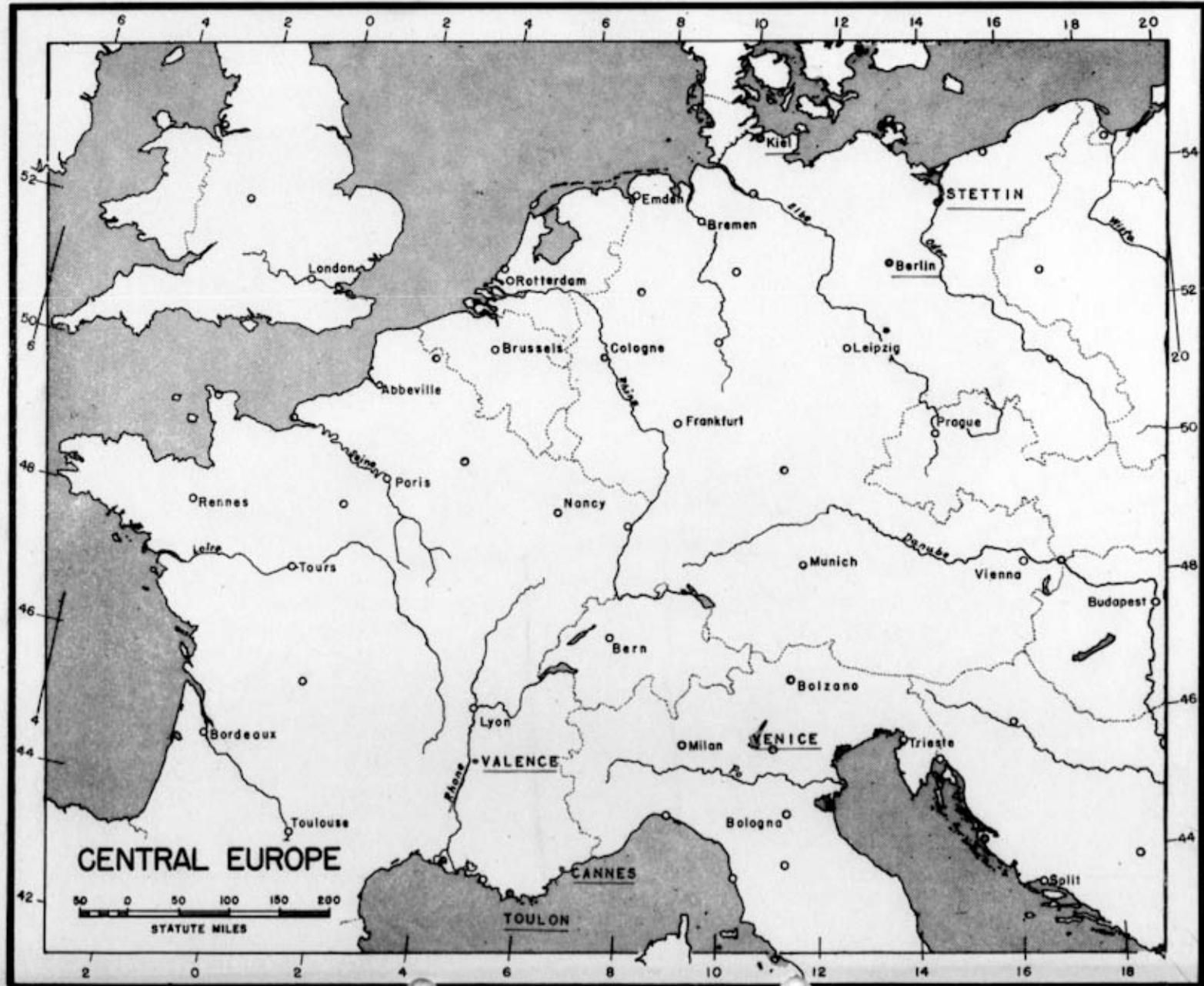
0700 August 17 to 0700 August 18, 1944

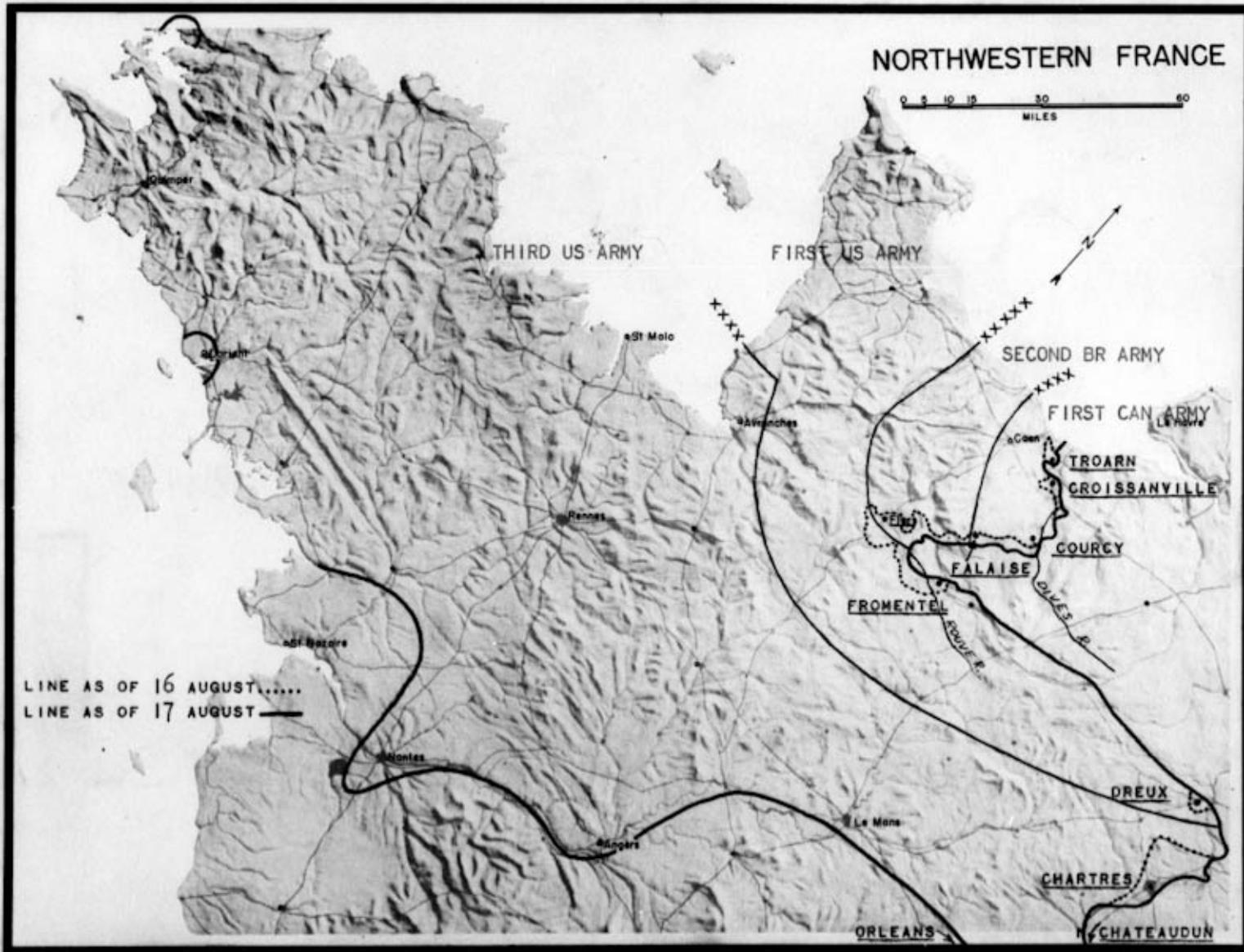
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THE WHITE HOUSE

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

The War Department has scheduled the 104th Infantry Division (Major General Terry M. Allen) for movement to the UK on or after 13 August 1944.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 16-17 August 808 RAF bombers attacked Stettin and Kiel. Twenty Mosquito bombers attacked Berlin; others raided synthetic oil plants in Germany and an airdrome in Holland. Fifty-seven bombers laid mines in the Baltic and off the west coast of France; 202 bombers carried out diversionary sweeps and flew bomber support patrols. Sixteen bombers were lost.

On 16 August the AEF flew 2,660 sorties in support of ground operations in France, destroying two enemy aircraft for a loss of two bombers and ten fighters.

Adverse weather conditions prevented operations by 8th Air Force heavy bombers on 17 August; approximately 620 fighters attacked rail and transportation targets in France.

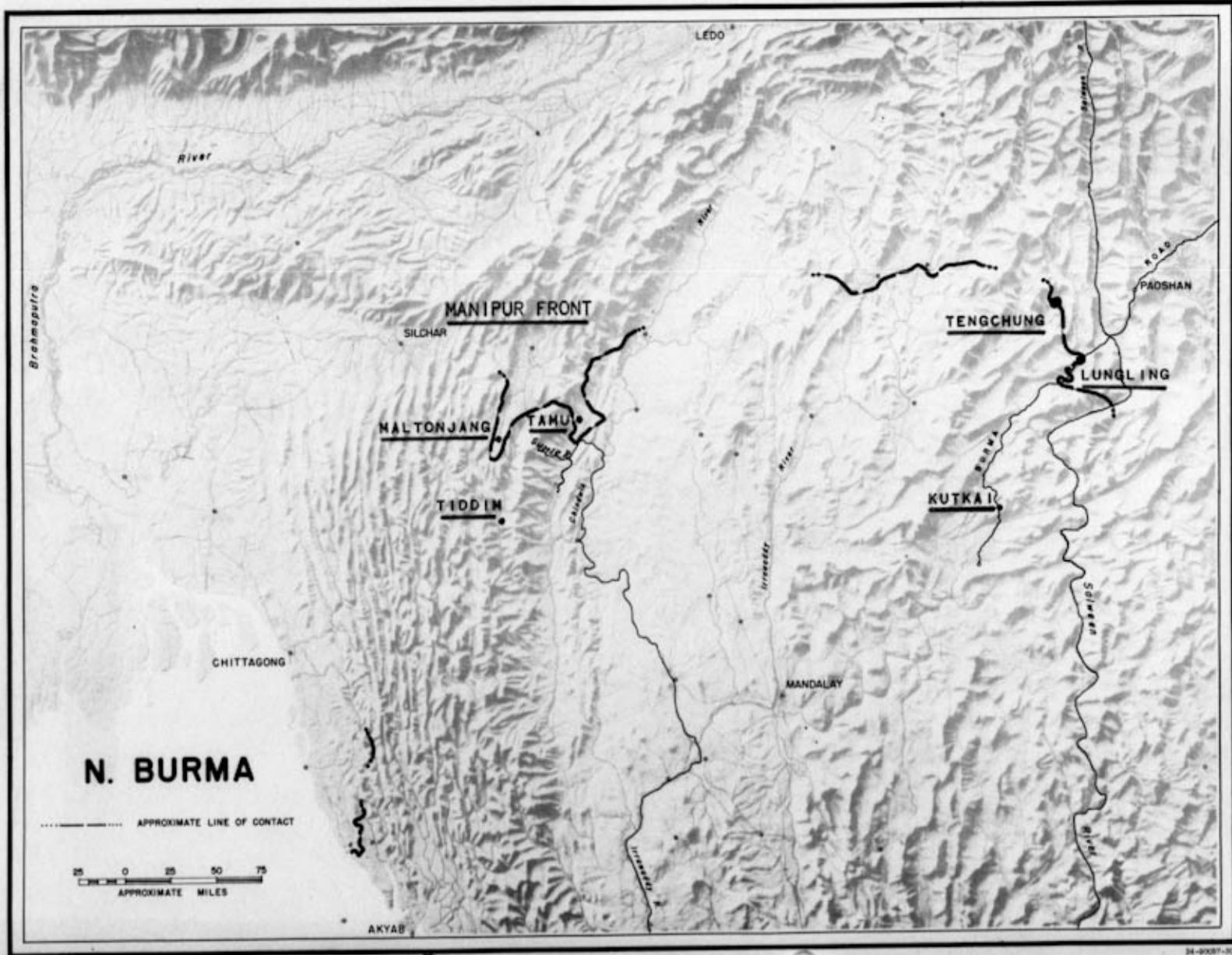
2. The Third Army continued its drive toward the Seine during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 17 August, the XII Corps capturing Orleans and Chateaudun, the XX Corps freeing Chartres, and the XV Corps taking Dreux. Our First Army, mopping up enemy remnants in the western end of the Flers-Falaise pocket, occupied Fromental despite stiff

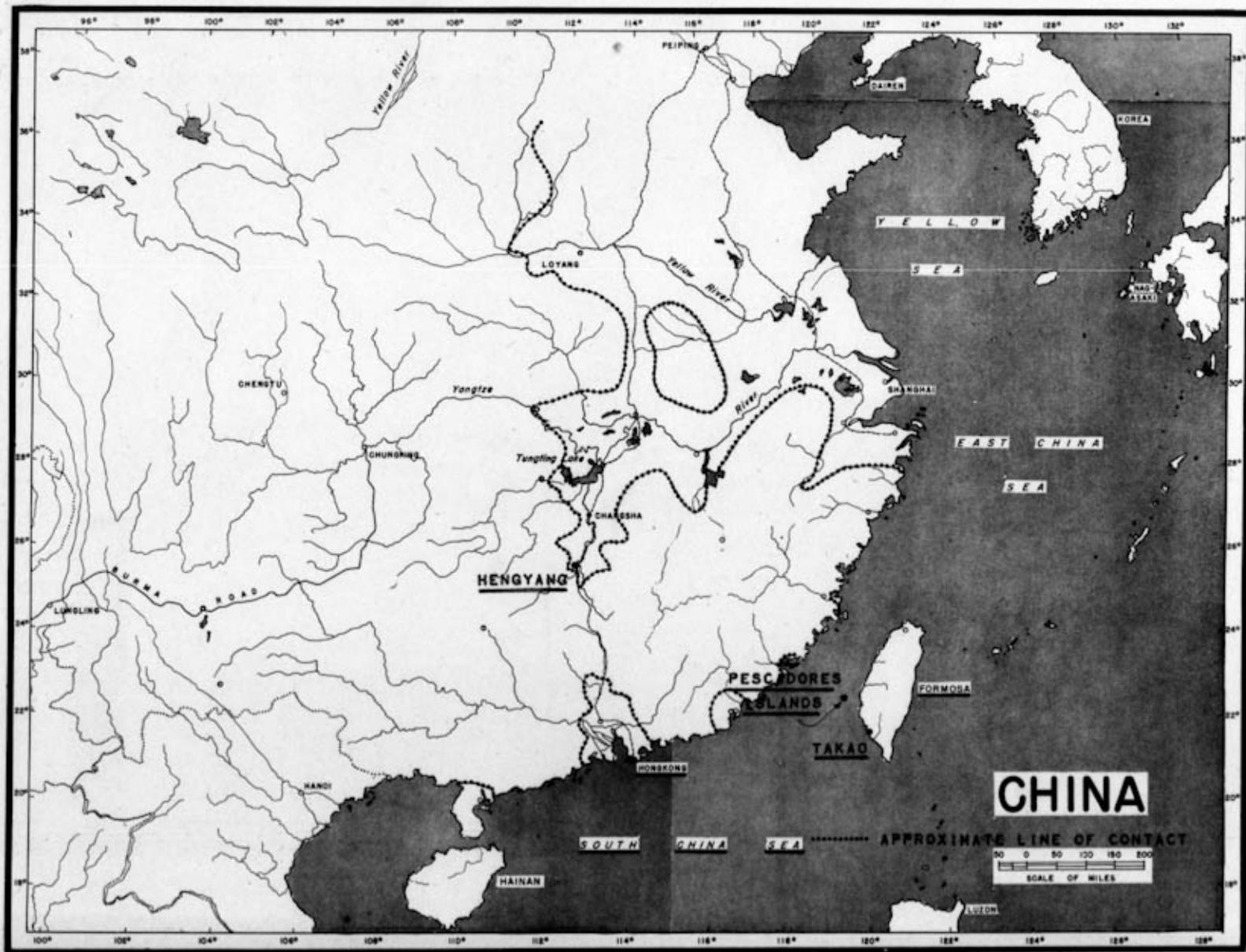
resistance by the Germans. British Second Army units occupied Flers, captured St. Honorine La Chardonne, and reached the Rouve. Other British and Canadian columns advanced to the general southwest-northeast line through Falaise, captured by Canadian infantry during the morning. Canadian armored units seized crossings over the Dives; Polish armored units captured Courcy nearby and two other villages on the southeast tip of the Canadian sector. British units on the eastern end of the Normandy battle line reported general advances of from one to three miles, occupying several villages including Groissanville and Troarn.

126,000 prisoners have been captured in the Normandy operations.

MEDITERRANEAN

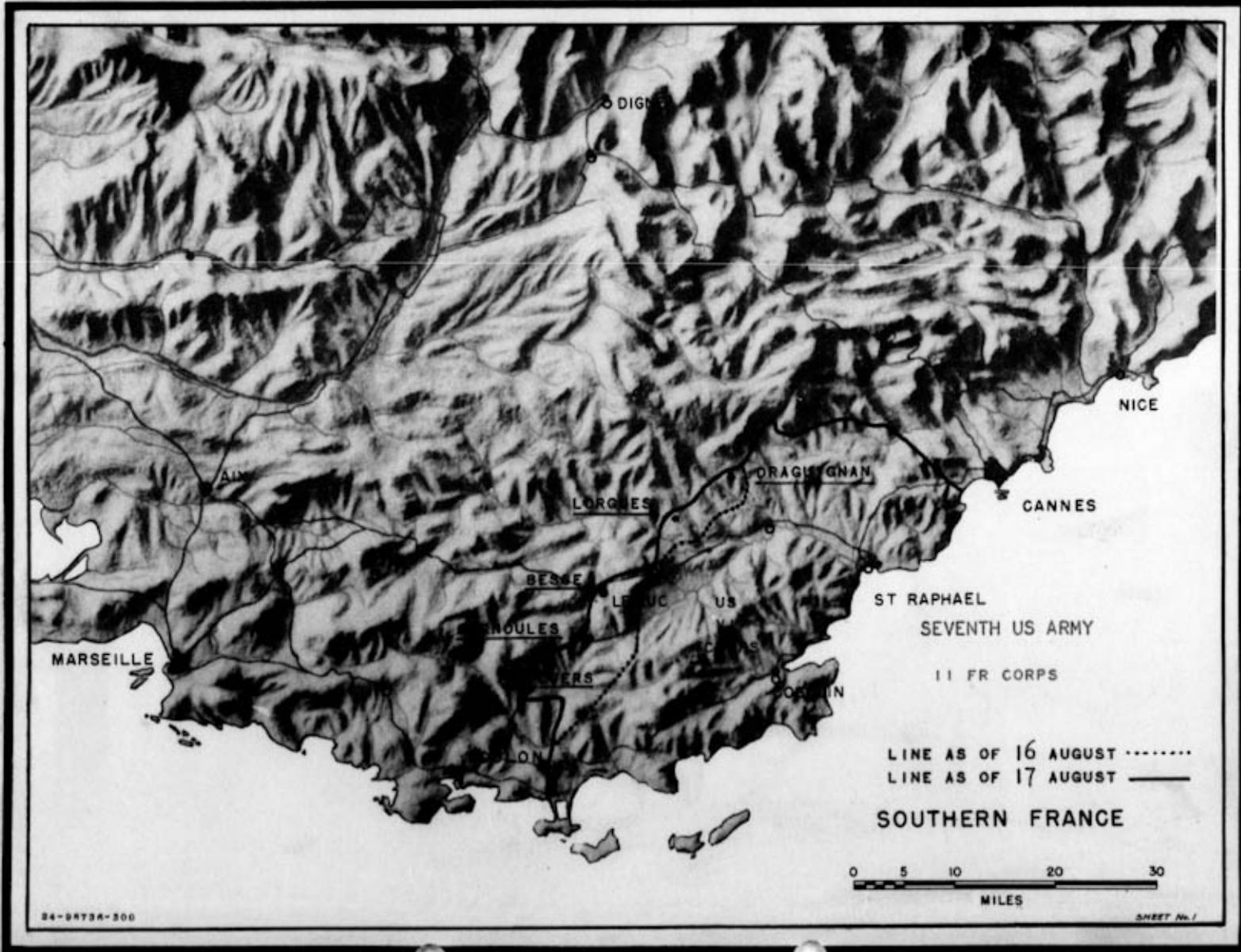
1. During the night of 15-16 August, 58 British bombers of the Strategic Air Force attacked an airdrome in the Valence area; 58 other bombers attacked shipping along the Adriatic coast and targets in southern France. On the following day 129 B-25's raided bridges in the Rhone Valley, 529 fighter bombers attacked targets in the Toulon-Cannes area, and covered our ground operations. Four hundred sixteen other aircraft struck at gun positions in the Italian battle area, rail targets in northern Italy, and patrolled the southern France beachhead. Coastal aircraft attacked shipping south of Venice, while 46 medium bombers and fighters of the Balkan Air Force attacked ammunition dumps, troop concentrations and enemy transportation in Yugoslavia, Greece, and Albania.





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Reports for 15th Air Force operations on 17 August indicate that 346 escorted heavy bombers dropped 656 tons of explosives on three oil refineries in the Ploesti area and an airdrome at Nis (Yugoslavia). Two enemy aircraft were destroyed and 18 of our bombers and four fighters are missing.

2. VI Corps units of our Seventh Army advanced westward during 17 August capturing Draguignan, Lorgues, Besse, Garnoules, and Cuers. Resistance continued to be light. American casualties to midnight of 15-16 August were 198 killed, captured and missing, and 399 wounded. Approximately 2,800 prisoners had been taken.

The French II Corps commenced landing late on 16 August.

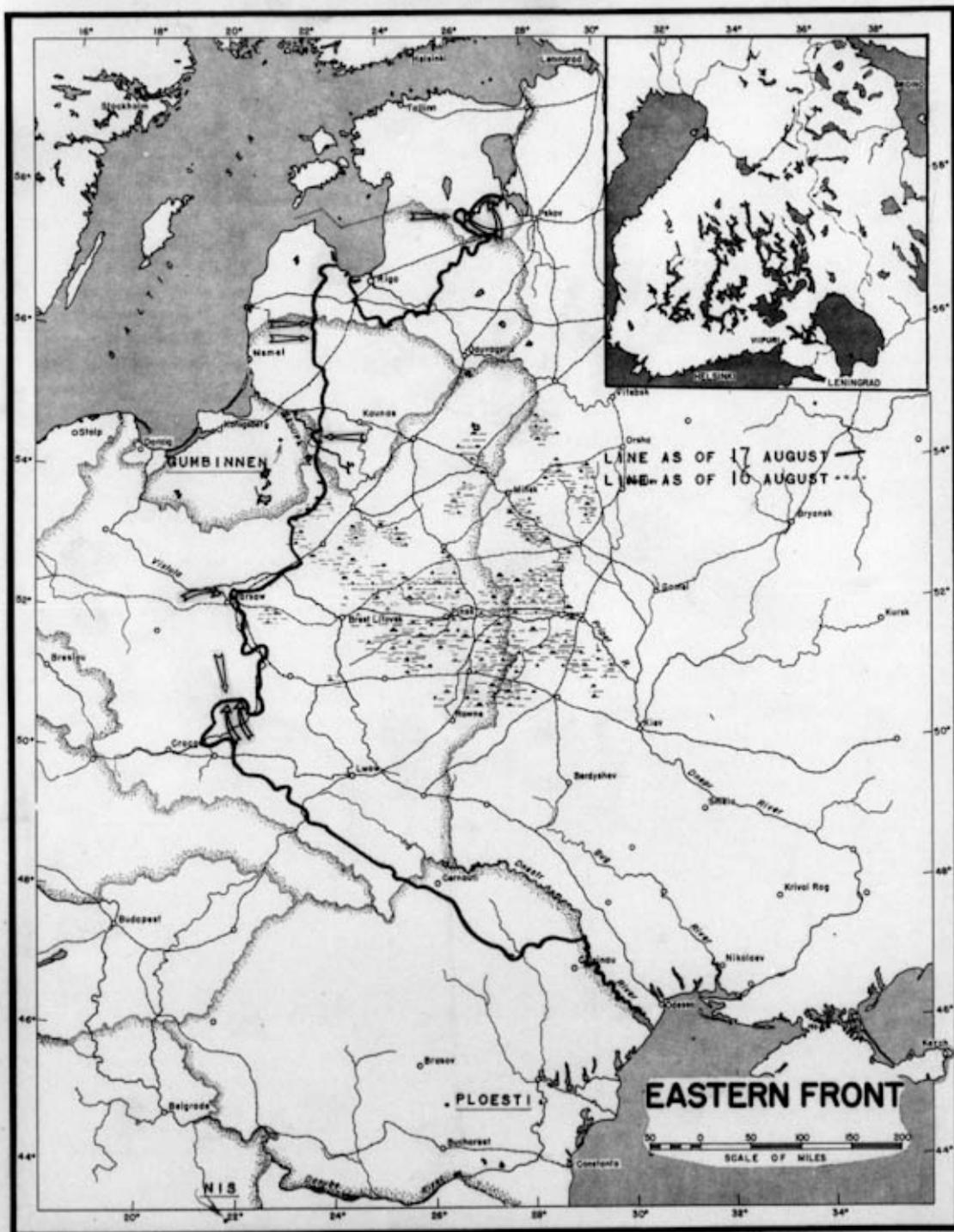
3. There was no substantial change in the situation in Italy during 17 August.

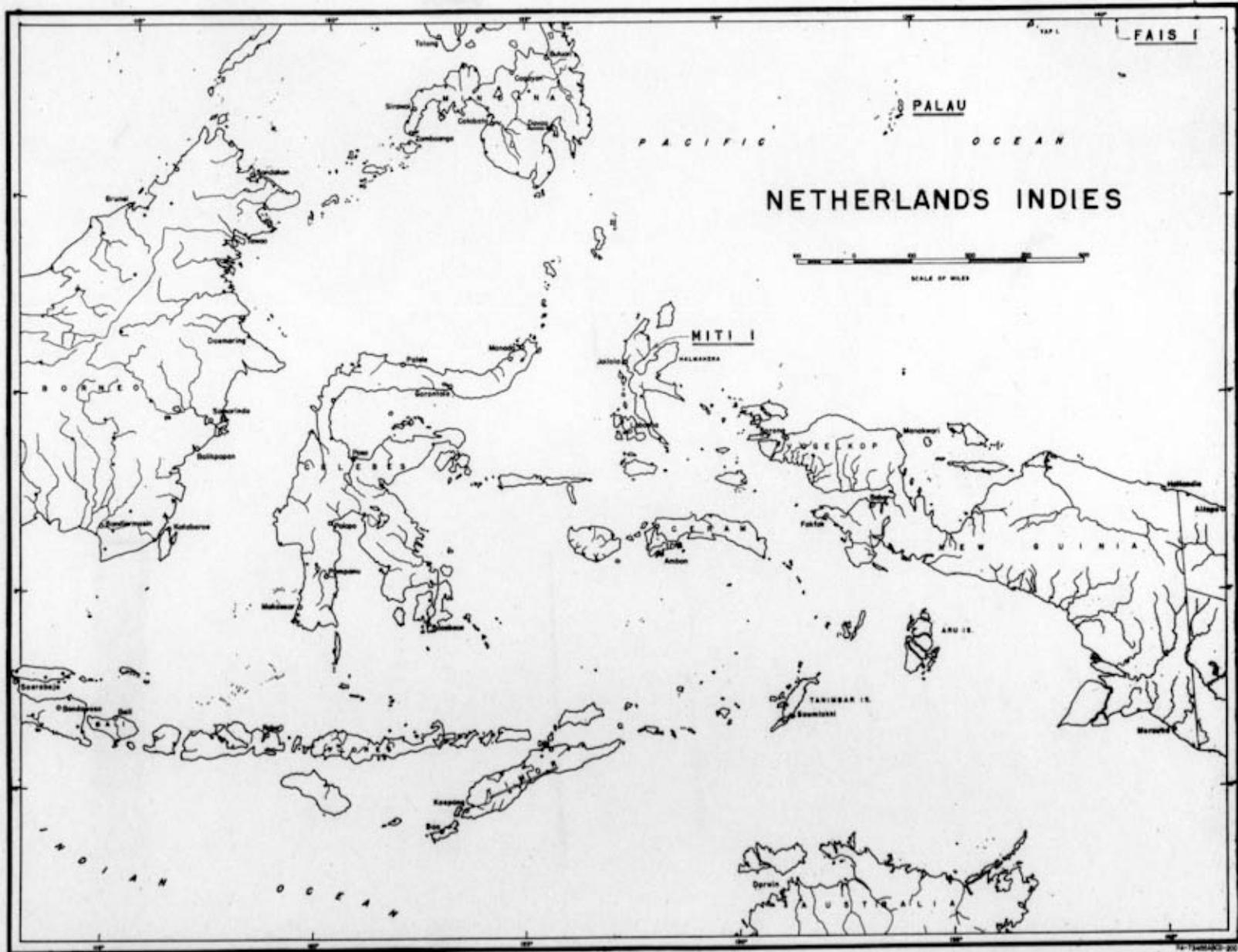
ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 15 August, Chinese troops drove back a Japanese counterattack at Lungling but suffered heavy casualties. Heavy fighting continued around Tengchung.

In Manipur on 16 August British patrols were active to the Sunle River, 21 miles south of Tamu. On the Tiddim Road, British forward elements advanced to a point seven miles south of Maltonjang.

2. General Chennault's reports for 14 August list more than 80 sorties flown against the city of Hengyang and road and river traffic in that area. That night eight heavy bombers on a sweep of Formosa





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TOP SECRET

Strait and the South China Sea harassed an enemy convoy. Four B-24's bombed Takao Harbor (Formosa), a Jap naval base in the Pescadores Islands, and the naval docks at Hongkong. The following day, 12 B-25's attacked Kutkai on the Burma Road, and 45 fighters operated over the Salween River front.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 16 August, 46 bombers hit the Miti (Halmahera) airdrome and destroyed 13 enemy aircraft. Small numbers of B-24's raided Fais and Palau Islands in the Carolines and shipping off Timor and in Davao Gulf. One hundred twenty-three sorties were flown against targets in northern New Guinea.

During the preceding day targets on Bougainville, New Ireland, and New Britain were attacked by more than 170 sorties of Solomons-based aircraft.

2. Twenty-three Central Pacific bombers hit Truk with 57 tons on 13 August. One of some seven intercepting fighters was destroyed.

EASTERN FRONT

Northeast of Gumbinnen the Russians fought their way to the Sesupe River along the border of East Prussia on 17 August. Only minor advances were reported elsewhere by the Soviet Army.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 981

0700 August 16 to 0700 August 17, 1944

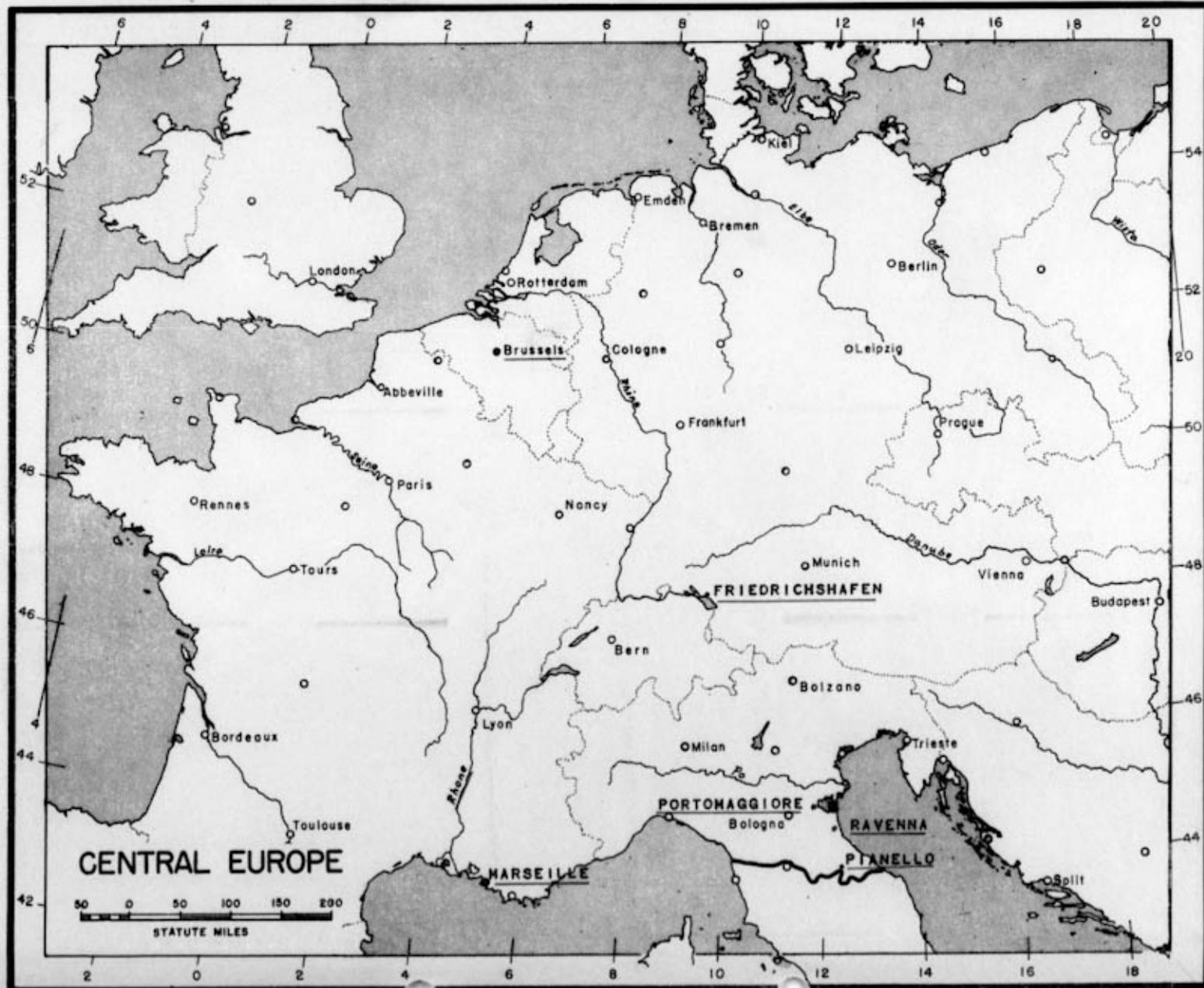
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EUROPEAN THEATER

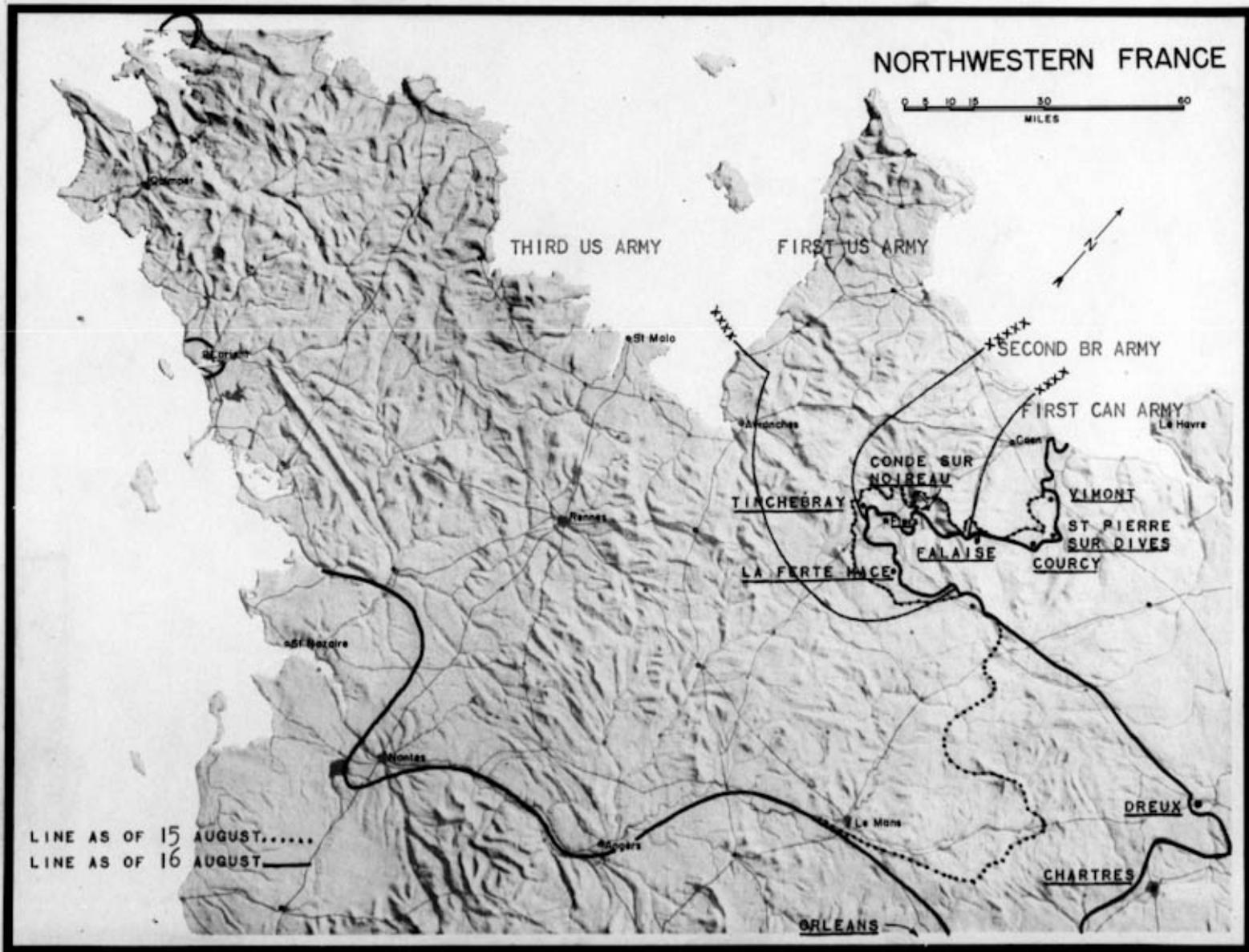
1. During 15 August the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,687 sorties in support of ground operations in France. Unreported claims for previous days list 12 (probably 13) enemy planes as destroyed; nine (probably 11) more were destroyed on the 15th for the loss of 13 fighters and one transport. More than 1,000 bombers of the RAF dropped 5,292 tons on airfields and other targets in the Low Countries and northwestern Germany with good results. Three bombers are missing.

During the 8th Air Force attacks on airforce stations and airdromes in Germany, Belgium and Holland on 15 August, 877 heavy bombers dropped an aggregate bombload of 2,218 tons. Later reports for this operation increased the total enemy aircraft destroyed to 35 (probably 38). A mission of 33 P-47's attacked a railroad yard south of Brussels with 13 tons the same day.

On 16 August, the 8th Air Force dispatched 1,087 escorted heavy bombers to attack aircraft engine plants, synthetic oil plants, and bomber assembly and component plants in central Germany. The most determined air opposition in recent weeks was encountered. Preliminary reports indicate that 31 enemy aircraft, including two jet-propelled fighters, were destroyed for a loss of 23 bombers and three fighters.

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 16 August: 99 were plotted; 43 made landfall; 13 reached London; 39 were destroyed.

2. The Third Army drive on Paris gained momentum during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 16 August, its XII, XX and XV Corps



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reporting gains of 37, 21 and 59 miles respectively which carried them to within eight miles of Orleans, to Chartres and around Dreux. One armored spearhead gained to within 34 miles of the center of Paris. Our First Army, continuing to clear the enemy from the southern portion of the Flers-Falaise pocket, captured La Ferte Mace and Tinchebray. The British Second Army made considerable progress in driving the enemy from the northwestern quadrant of the pocket, pushing to within one mile of Flers and to within three miles of the head of an American column advancing on that city from the southeast.

British armor reaching Conde sur Noireau found the town cleared of the enemy. The Canadian First Army attack on Falaise pushed to the southwest edge of the city. To the northeast the Polish 2nd Armored Division, operating in the Canadian Army, swept forward to Courcy and patrolled south of that town while British units, completed the capture of St. Pierre sur Dives and Vimont and patrolled to a general line between those towns without contact.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 14-15 August, 31 light bombers attacked airdromes and other installations in the Rhone Valley. The next day, nearly 1,000 previously unreported bomber and fighter sorties supported our ground and airborne operations east of Marseille. North of the Italian battle area 466 fighters operated against railway installations and gun positions; fifty-five bombers attacked Ravenna and Portomaggiore railroad yards, and points along the Italian west coast. Fifty-one other aircraft hit shipping in the Adriatic and targets in Yugoslavia.



On 16 August the 15th Air Force dispatched 112 unescorted heavy bombers to drop 293 tons of explosives on Rhone Valley railway bridges; 115 escorted heavies dropped 213 tons on the Ober Raderach chemical factory near Friedrichshafen. Two bombers and one fighter are missing.

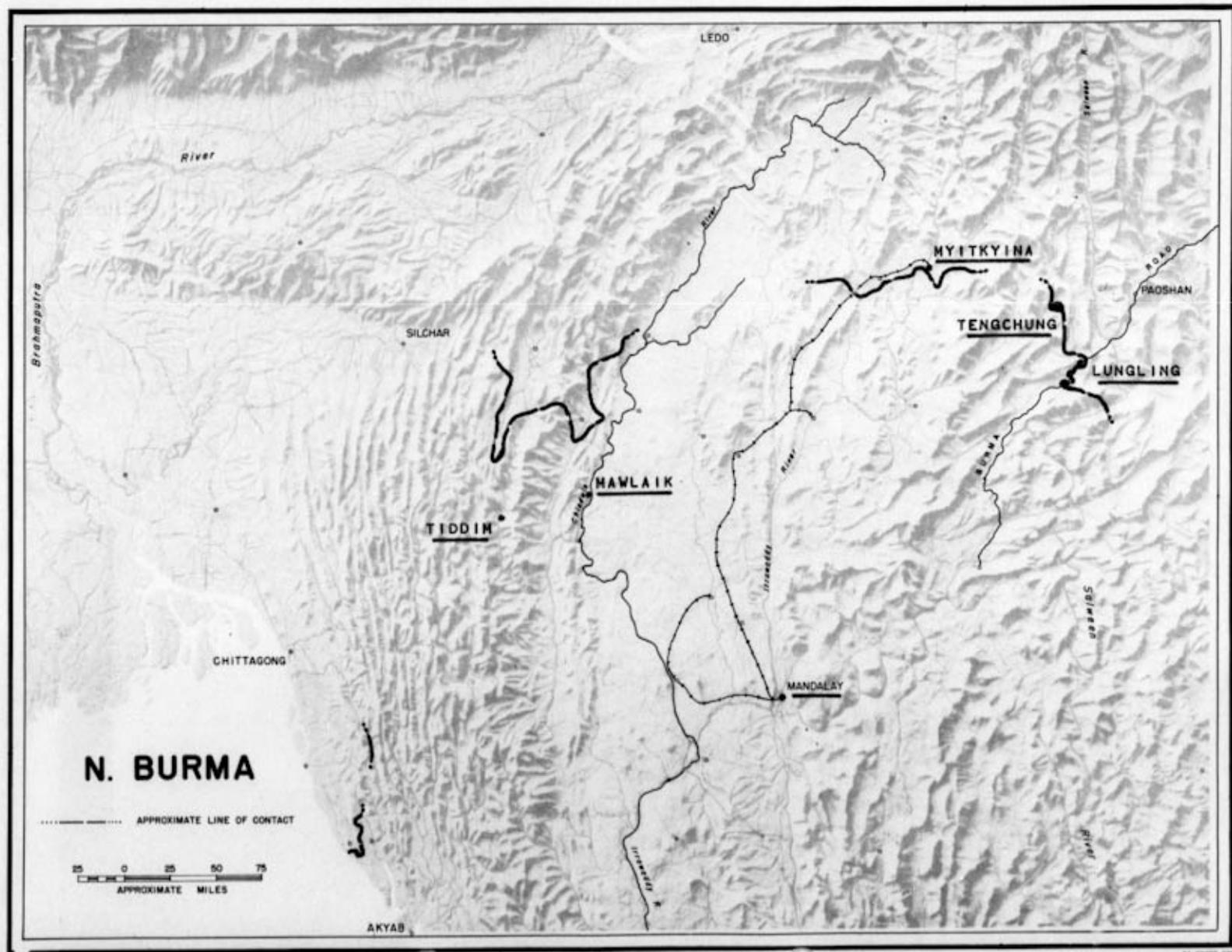
2. All troops of our VI Corps and a combat command of the French Armored Division were ashore in southern France by the night of 16 August. Our forces consolidated and joined their beachheads into one extending eastwards from Hyeres to within four miles of Cannes. Driving inland against light resistance American troops joined with the airborne forces and advanced to a depth of twenty miles occupying Hyeres, Le Luo and Fayence. Between 1,500 and 2,000 prisoners had been captured, 40 percent of which were Russians. Unloading was proceeding considerably ahead of schedule. There was little enemy air activity; our P-38's shot down one enemy plane.

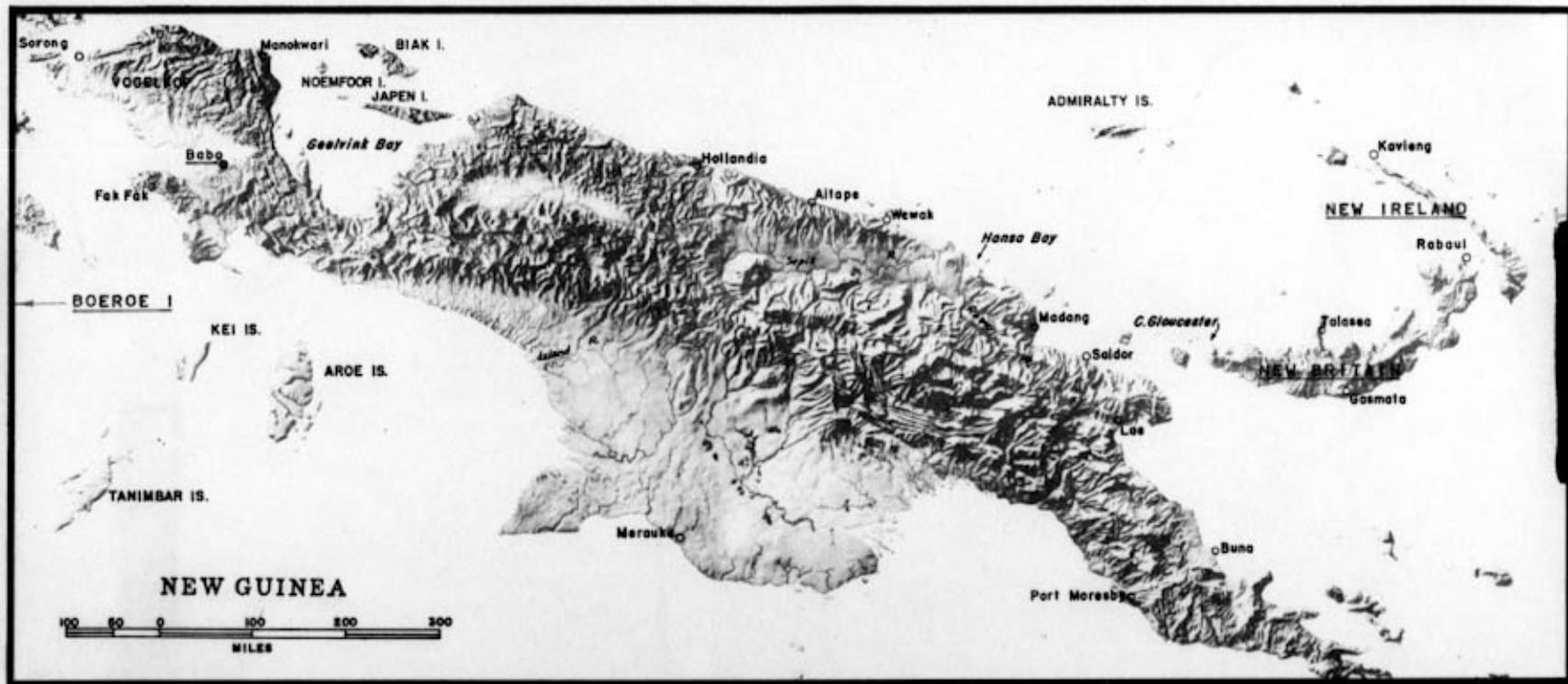
Parachutists supporting the landings in southern France on the previous day dropped successfully through a heavy fog. This was made possible through the use of radar equipment and through the skill and training of the troop carrier crews.

3. During 16 August, activity on the Italian front was limited to patrolling. Allied forward units reached Pianello.

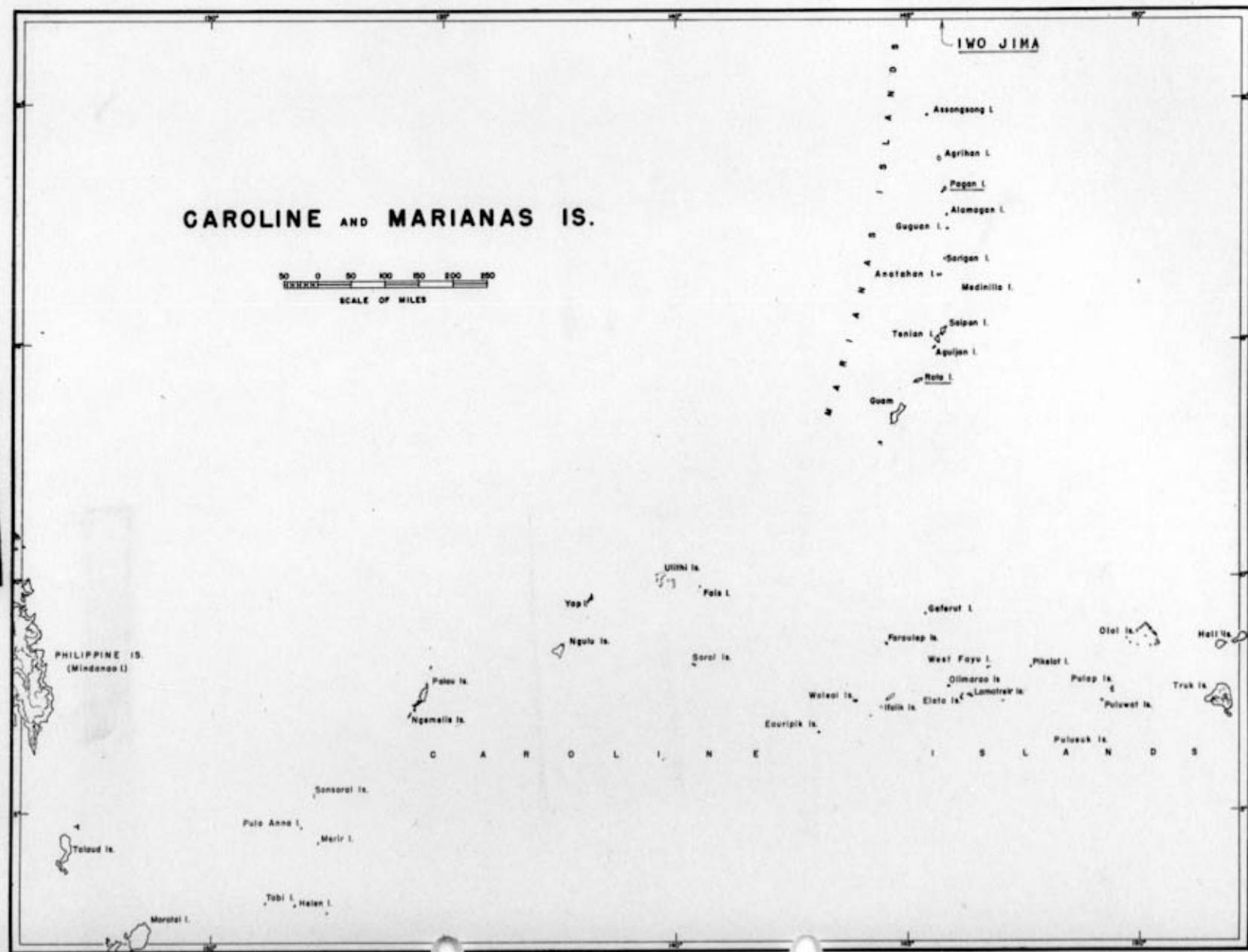
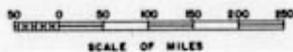
ASIATIC THEATER

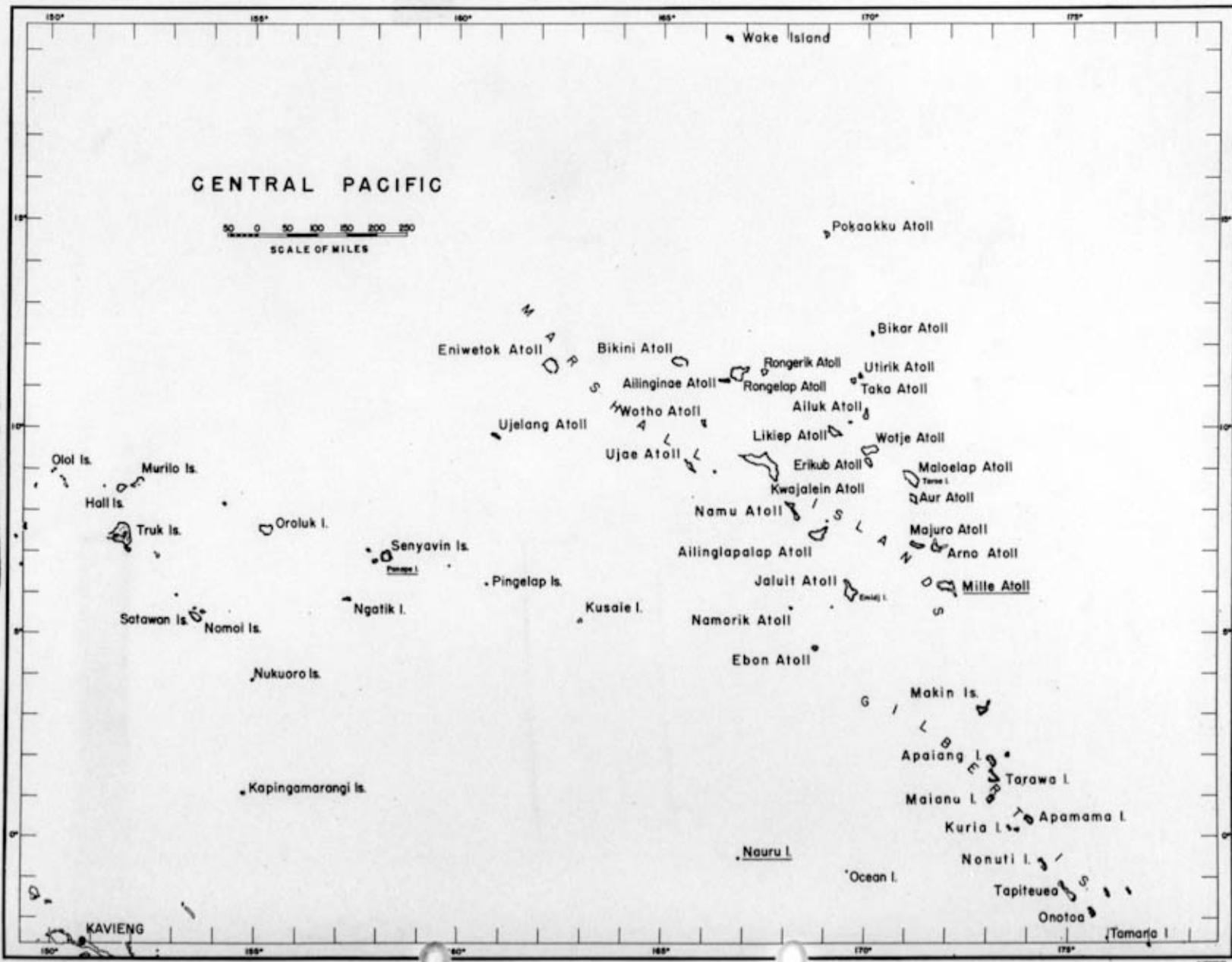
1. During 14 August on the Salween front, Chinese troops attacked the Japs at Lungling and Tengchung. Heavy fighting was in progress at last report.





CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.





2. Fifty-seven medium and fighter bombers operated against targets chiefly along the Burmese railway west and north of Mandalay during 13 August. The next day, 38 B-25's effectively bombed Mawlaik, on the Chindwin, and attacked river shipping to the north. Other air missions raided enemy installations in the Tiddim area and attacked tactical targets south of Myitkyina.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

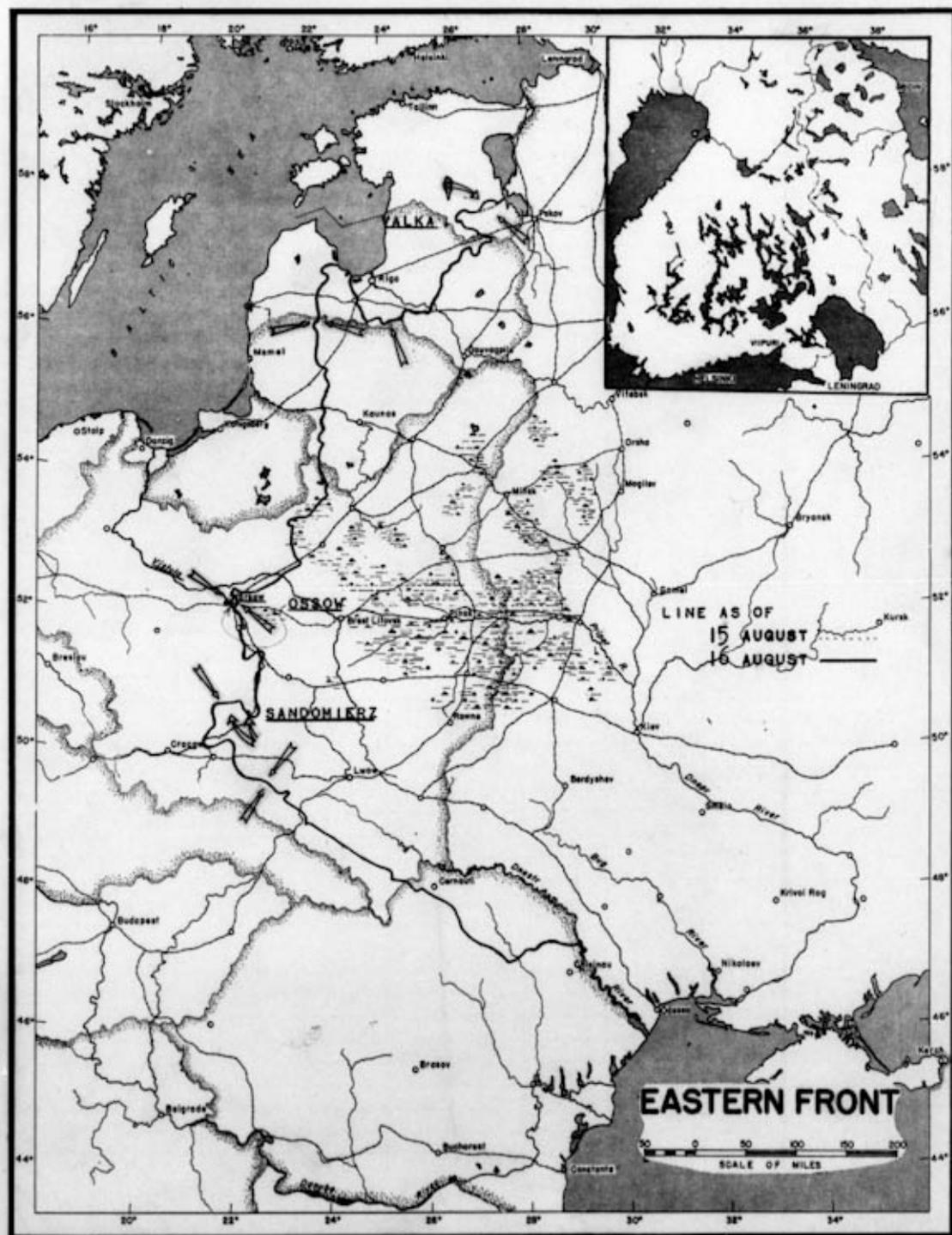
1. During 14 August, 12 B-24's bombed the runways at Babo; that night a B-24 harassed Davao. The next day Allied aircraft continued to attack targets in northern and western New Guinea. Thirty-two B-24's and 13 B-25's attacked supply areas, shipping and an airfield in the Halmahera area, sinking a small freighter, seven luggers and three supply-laden sailboats, and destroying three large warehouses, a jetty and five enemy planes. A reconnaissance B-24 damaged a 3,000-ton vessel southwest of Boeroe. The previous day, 178 sorties of Solomons-based planes hit targets on Bougainville, New Ireland and New Britain.

2. During 14 August, 22 B-24's pounded Iwo Jima with 55 tons; 12 B-25's hit Pagan with 12 tons and eight P-47's attacked antiaircraft positions on Rota. In the Marshalls, Marine dive bombers and fighters raided gun emplacements on Mille. Four Navy bombers hit Nauru. Army B-25's attacked Ponape. In these operations two B-24's were lost, one as a result of a phosphorus bomb attack.

EASTERN FRONT

Northeast of Valka the Soviets advanced six miles on 16 August.

TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

Seven miles northeast of Warsaw German attacks drove the Russians out of Ossow. In the southernmost bridgehead over the Vistula Soviet troops broke into the town of Sandomierz where street-fighting is in progress.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

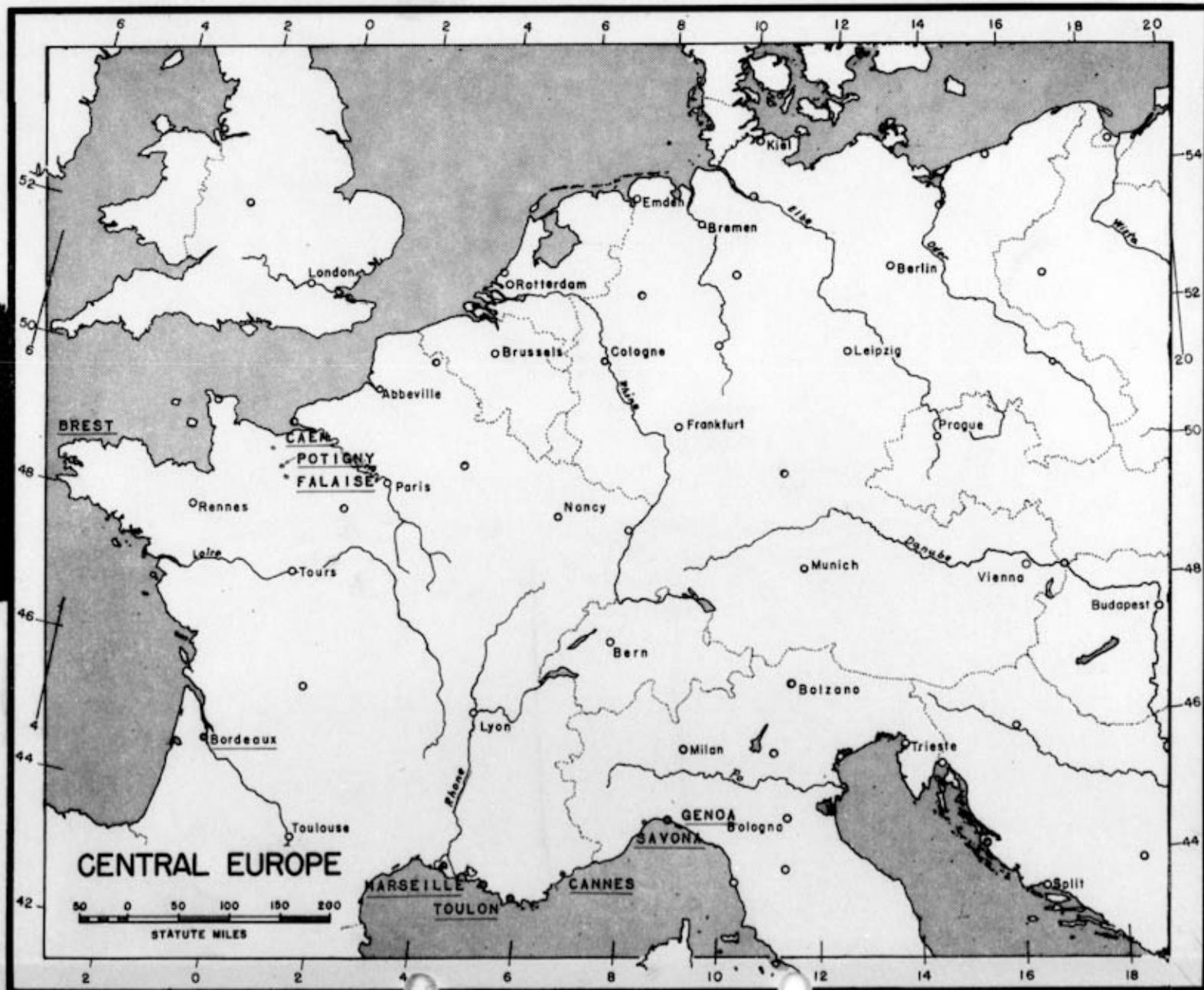
No. 980

0700 August 15 to 0700 August 16, 1944

COFY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

[REDACTED]

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

During the night of 12-13 August, two B-24's of the 11th Air Force attacked targets in the northern Kuriles.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the 8th Air Force attacks on 14 August (reported yesterday) against targets in France and southern Germany, 1,088 heavy bombers dropped 2,850 tons; fighter-bomber missions expended 40 tons against tactical targets. Three heavy bombers and four fighters are missing.

On 15 August, 930 escorted heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force attacked seven Luftwaffe stations and four airdromes in Belgium, Holland and western Germany. Twenty-two enemy aircraft were destroyed, 14 in the air and eight on the ground; 16 of our bombers and three fighters are missing.

RAF bombers during 14 August, dropped 3,997 tons of explosives astride the Caen-Falaise road near Potigny in support of ground operations, attacked Brest shipping with over 1,000 tons and hit the Bordeaux port area with 79 tons. Mosquitoes raided Berlin, dropping 19 two-ton bombs. Five heavy bombers and three escorting fighters failed to return.

During the 24-hour period ending 2100, 14 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force, in 3,307 support sorties, operated against railway facilities, road bridges, an ammunition dump and gun positions in northern France. Only 54 aircraft sorties were reported. Sixteen (probably 25) enemy planes were destroyed for the loss of 21 fighters.

Flying bomb activity for the 24 hours ending 0600, 15 August: 51 launched, 19 made landfall, 10 reached London; 14 were destroyed.

2. During 15 August American troops occupied Dinard. Our Third Army shifted the weight of its attack to the east and XII and XX Corps armored units gained to within 45 miles of Orleans and 23 miles of Chartres. The XV Corps also changing direction to the east started a drive on Dreux. On our First Army front the VII and XIX Corps advanced four miles into the southwest corner of the Flers-Falaise pocket to occupy Domfront.

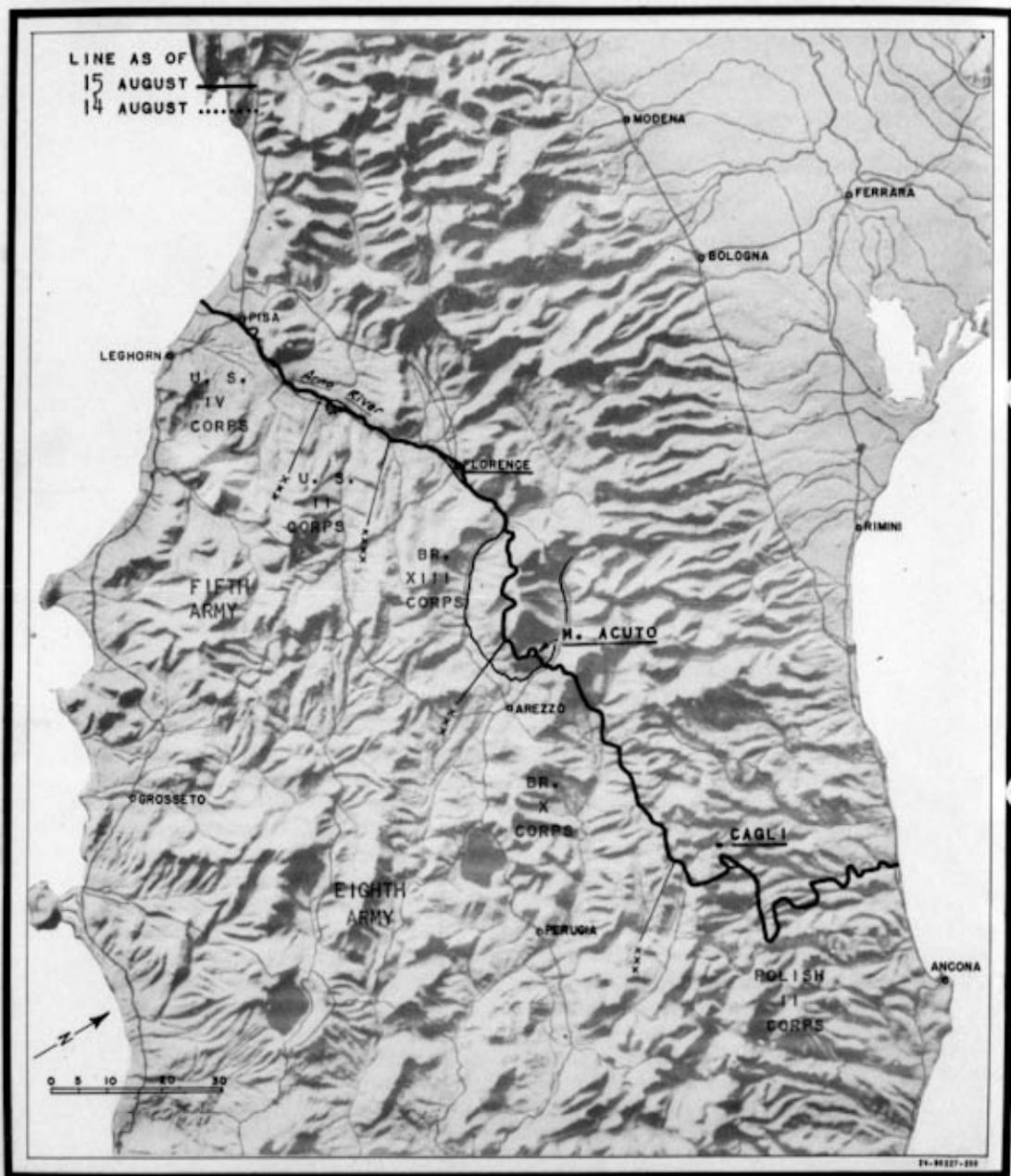
On the British Second Army front the XXX Corps occupied Vassy and, to the east, cleared St. Vigor-des-Mezerets of the enemy; other units advancing toward the Noireau River captured Clecy and St. Denis-de-Mere against heavy resistance. The British XII Corps scored rapid gains to occupy Leffard, four miles northwest of Falaise.

The Canadian First Army also advanced rapidly toward Falaise from the north and northeast; its II Corps was three miles from the town after occupying Potigny, Epancy and Sassy. The British I Corps drove eastward capturing the high ground overlooking St. Pierre-sur-Dives.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 13-14 August, 57 Allied heavy bombers attacked Genoa port. Final reports on our 14 August operations indicate that 538 heavy bombers attacked about 50 coastal gun positions in the Toulon and Savona-Genoa areas, while 144 fighter bombers attacked radar stations and observation posts in northwestern Italy and southern France. Five heavy bombers and three fighters failed to return; one enemy plane was destroyed.

Nearly 400 medium and fighter bombers of the Tactical Air Force attacked defenses in southern France. Over northern Italy bomber and fighter





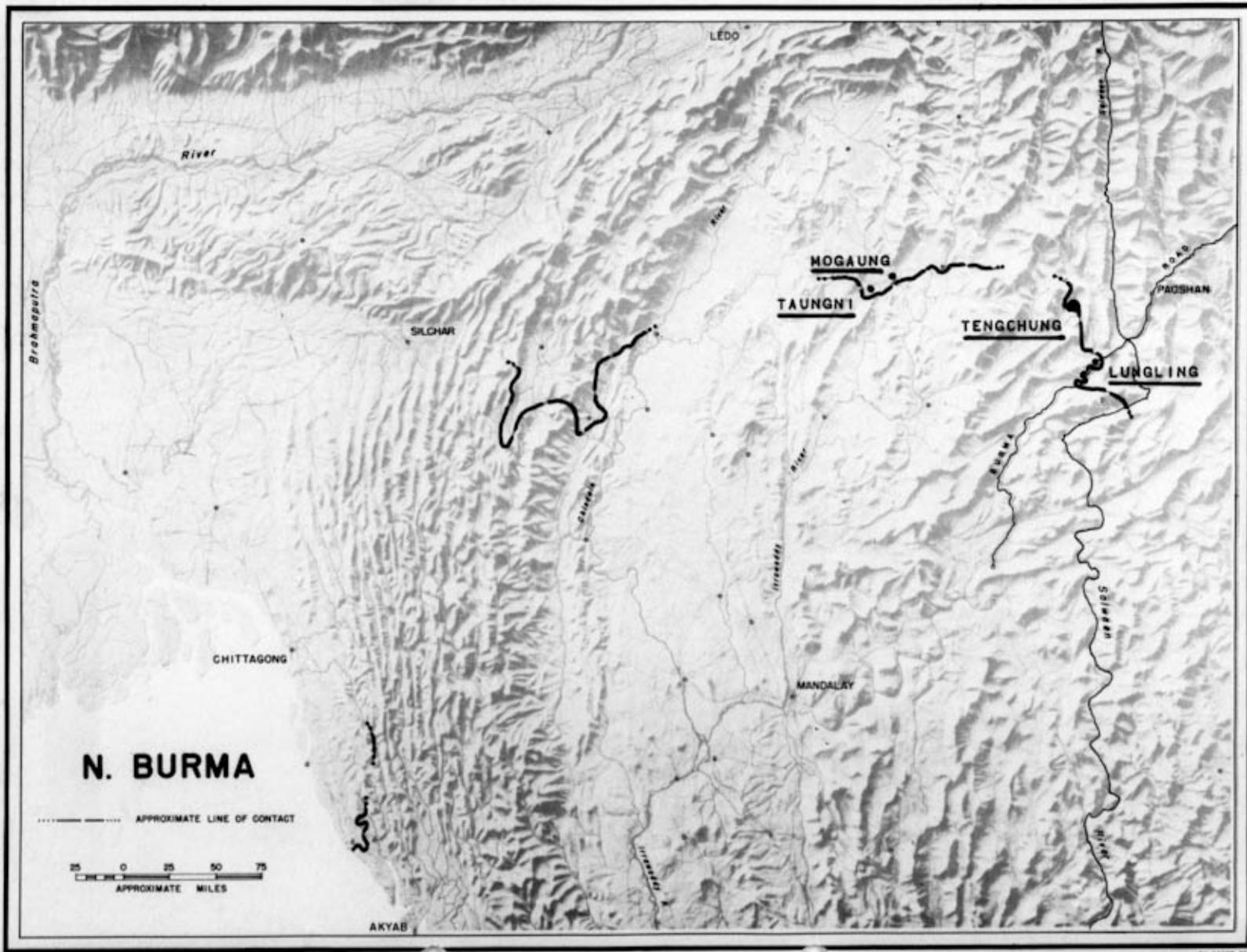
missions, totalling 350 sorties, continued to attack bridges, fuel dumps, communication lines and tactical targets; planes of the Coastal and Balkan Air Forces struck Cannes and other targets along the Ligurian and Yugoslavian coasts respectively. Three aircraft are missing from these operations.

During the night of 14-15 August, 55 British bombers attacked shipping and dock facilities at Marseille; one bomber is missing.

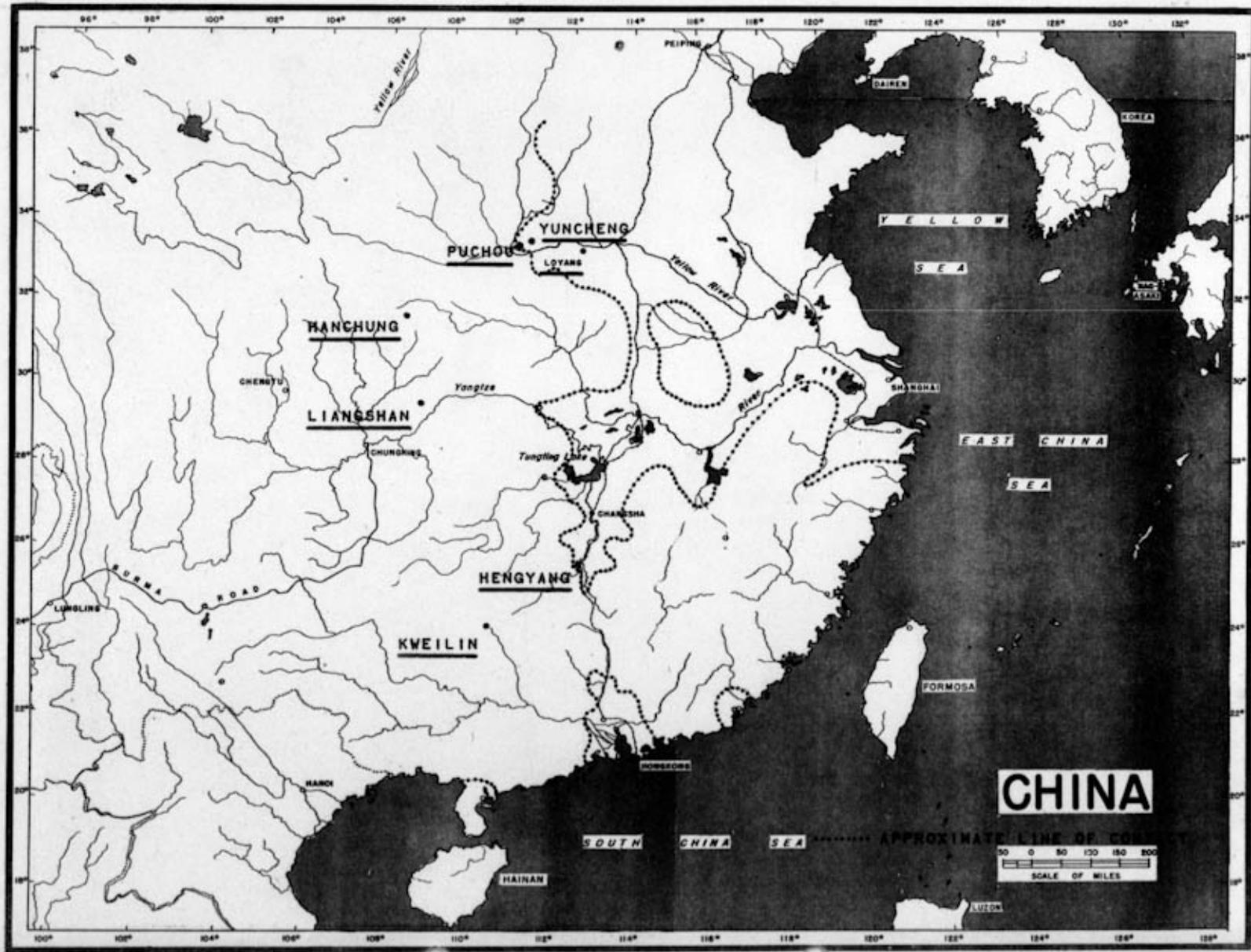
The next day, 394 escorted heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force supported our landings by bombing beach defenses; they also attacked bridges in the Rhone Valley. One hundred seventy-one medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force also supported our invasion forces. Six heavy bombers and seven fighters are missing from these operations.

2. Assault waves of the US Seventh Army, landing from an invasion force of over 1,000 ships, captured beachheads along the coast of southern France between Toulon and Cannes on the morning of 15 August against light opposition. Very effective air and naval bombardments prepared the way and all three US assault divisions reported the successful breaching of beach defenses. Prior to dawn Allied airborne units were dropped astride the Argens River and Commando troops captured the Ile du Levant, Ile de Port Cros, and seized positions on Cape Negre. Slight resistance was encountered by our airborne troops in the Le Muy area. There was no air opposition during the entire operation.

3. During the period ending at noon, 15 August, there was an increase of enemy patrolling in the Fifth Army sector along the Arno River sector of the Italian front. On the Eighth Army front there was



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OSD Letter, 5-8-72



little change. We continued to aid the civilian population as our positions in Florence improved. A patrol to the summit of M. Acuto made no contact. In the Apennines, a force from the Polish II Corps progressed to within three miles of Cagli.

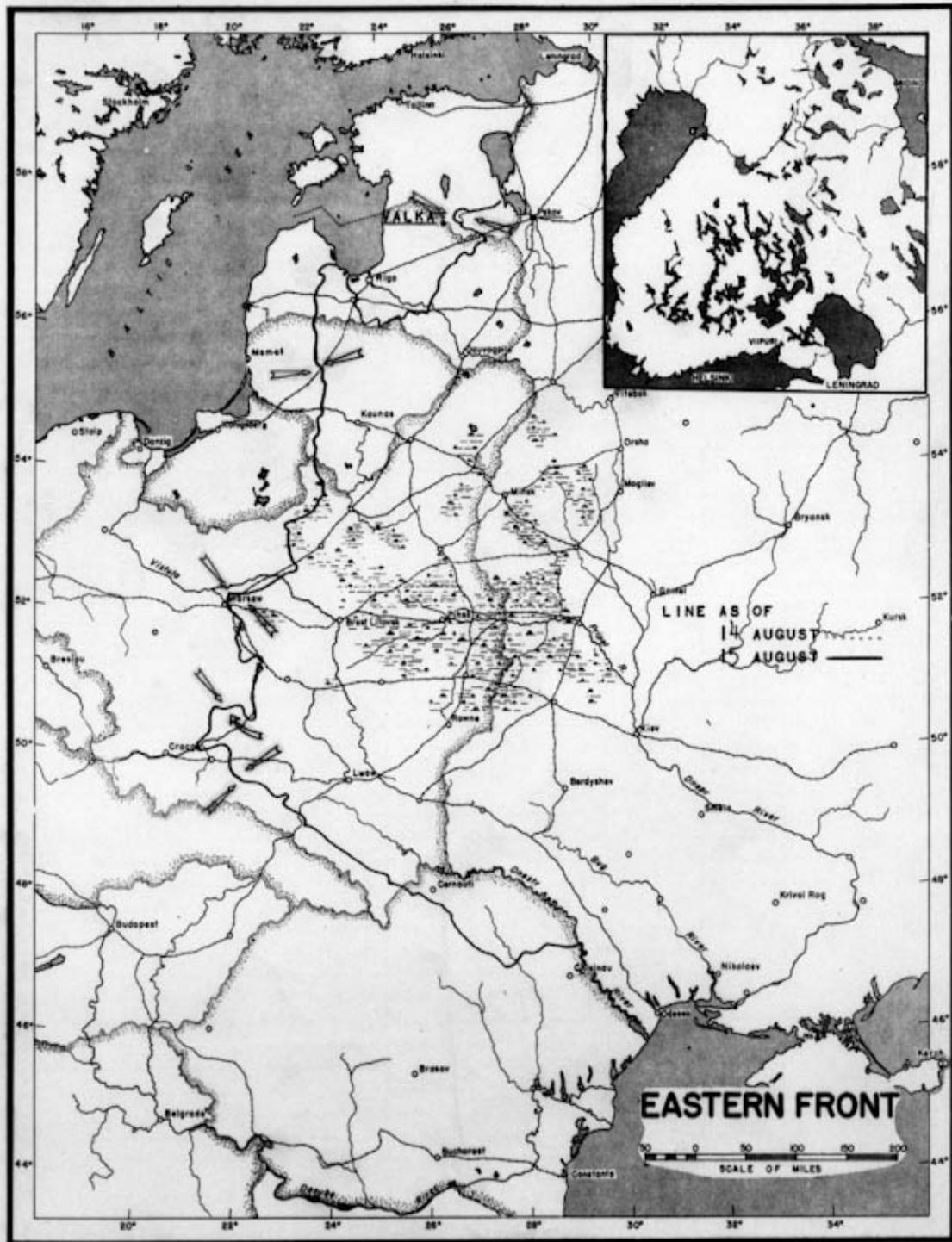
ASIATIC THEATER

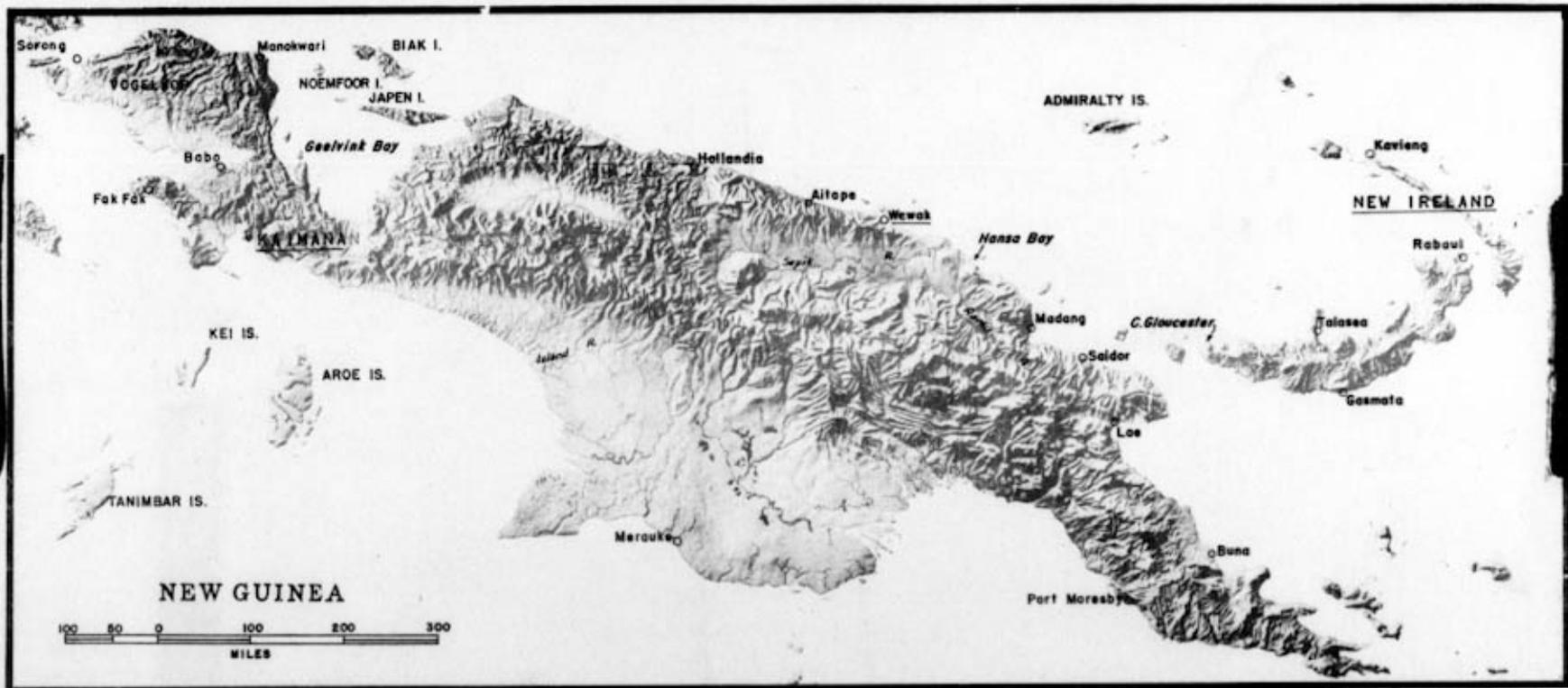
1. Chinese troops repulsed heavy Japanese attacks in the south corner of Tengchung during 13 August. The following day, on the Mogaung front, Chinese forces occupied a village six miles east of Taungni.

2. On 12 August, 39 medium bombers and fighters struck Hengyang rail installations and inflicted heavy casualties on troop concentrations in the surrounding area. Twelve fighters on a successful Yangtze shipping sweep also shot down three of 20 intercepting Japanese planes. Mines were laid off Formosa. In the Yellow River area nine fighters attacked airfields at Loyang, barracks at Yuncheng and a radio station at Puchou. The next day, 18 medium bombers over the Salween front attacked storage areas at Lungling while 36 fighters attacked tactical targets. Japanese bombers caused minor damage at our Liangshan, Kweilin and Hanchung airfields in attacks during the nights of 12 and 13 August.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

On 14 August Allied light and fighter bombers attacked bivouacs and supply dumps in the Wewak area and shipping north of Kaimana. Medium bombers destroyed eight large sailboats off Ceram and bombed warehouses, a radio station and small shipping at Ternate Island (Halmahera).





Six B-24's, continuing the raids on Wasile Bay, destroyed three gun positions.

The previous day, 187 Solomons-based mediums and fighters attacked targets on Bougainville, New Ireland and New Britain.

EASTERN FRONT

Red Army forces advanced west from the Pskov area to within 14 miles of Valka railroad junction on 15 August. Elsewhere the eastern front remained essentially unchanged.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

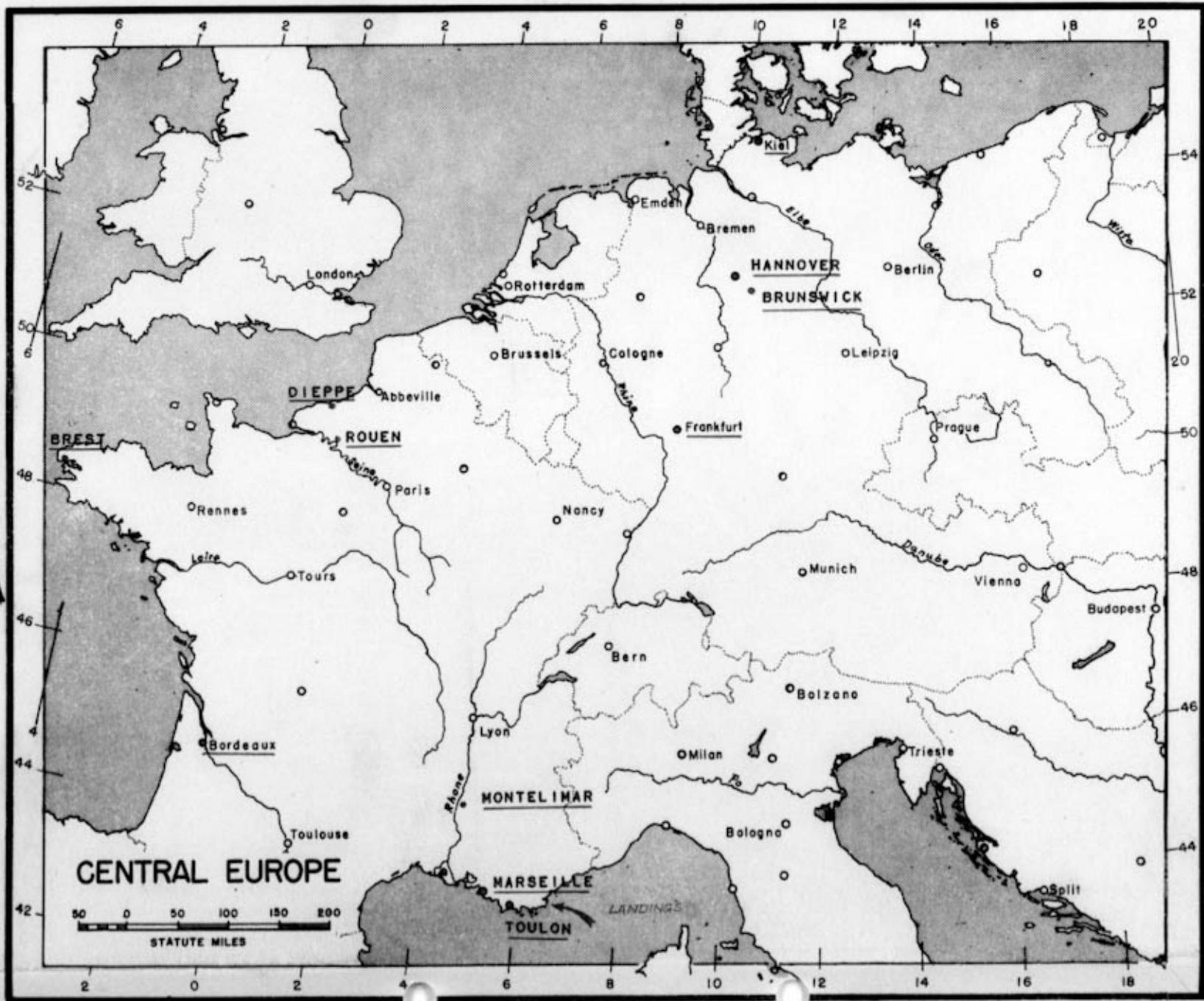
No. 979

0700 August 14 to 0700 August 15, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Eight B-24's of the 11th Air Force and four Navy medium bombers struck Kurile targets during the night of 13-14 August and the following day (target time); of approximately 15 enemy interceptors, three (probably eight) were destroyed; one of our planes reported engine trouble and headed for neutral territory.

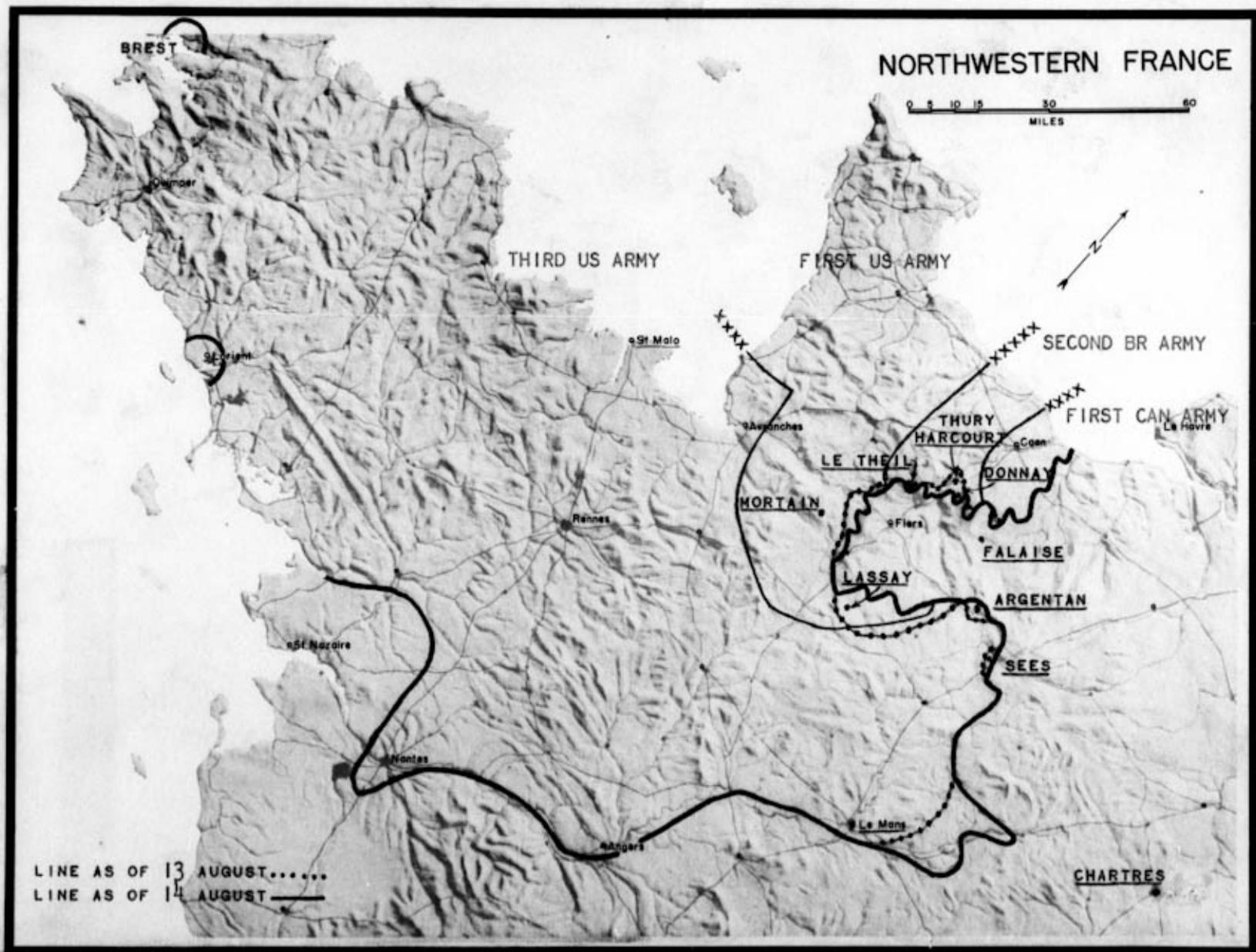
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 12-13 August, 841 RAF bombers dropped more than 2,400 tons of bombs on various missions in the Brunswick, Kiel and Frankfurt districts of Germany, and on the Falaise road net as well as bomb sites in France. The next day 29 bombers hit the submarine pens at Brest with 175 tons. On the night of 13-14 August, 28 Mosquitoes dropped 44 tons of bombs on Hannover, while 14 heavy bombers attacked an oil storage depot at Bordeaux. Nine (probably 18) enemy aircraft were destroyed in these operations; the RAF lost 50 bombers.

During the period ending at 2100 on 13 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew a total of 2,597 sorties against enemy communications and other facilities. Seven (probably eight) enemy aircraft were destroyed; our losses were six bombers and 14 other aircraft.

The 8th Air Force heavy bombers, attacking targets at St. Malo, highways along the Seine and other objectives in northern France during 13 August, dropped 2,653 tons of bombs, while the fighter bombers dropped another 340 tons. Twelve bombers and 13 fighters are missing.

Preliminary reports for 14 August state that 1,187 bombers and 670 fighters were dispatched against airdromes and factories in southern



Germany, and airdromes, bridges and railroads in France. Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of eight of our planes.

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending 0600, 14 August: of 64 plotted, 32 made landfall and 14 reached London; 34 were destroyed.

2. No substantial changes in the situation in Brittany were reported during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 14 August. To the east, however, our Third and First Armies continued their enveloping movement, advancing eastward and northeastward against light opposition. Our XII and XX Corps drove east from the Le Mans area, advancing more than 20 miles, toward Orleans and Chartres, while to the north our XV Corps captured Sees and pushed into Argentan. In the First Army sector our VII Corps gained ground northeast of Lassay and our XIX and V Corps continued to advance east of Mortain. The British Second Army cleared Le Theil and Donnay and captured Thury Harcourt. The Canadian First Army, continuing to drive southeastward toward Falaise, started a new attack north of that city.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. American, British and French troops, strongly supported by Allied Air Forces began landing from American, British and French ships on the French Riviera early this morning.

2. During the night of 12-13 August, 54 British bombers attacked the Hajdu Boszormeny airdrome in Hungary. Fighter and light bombers

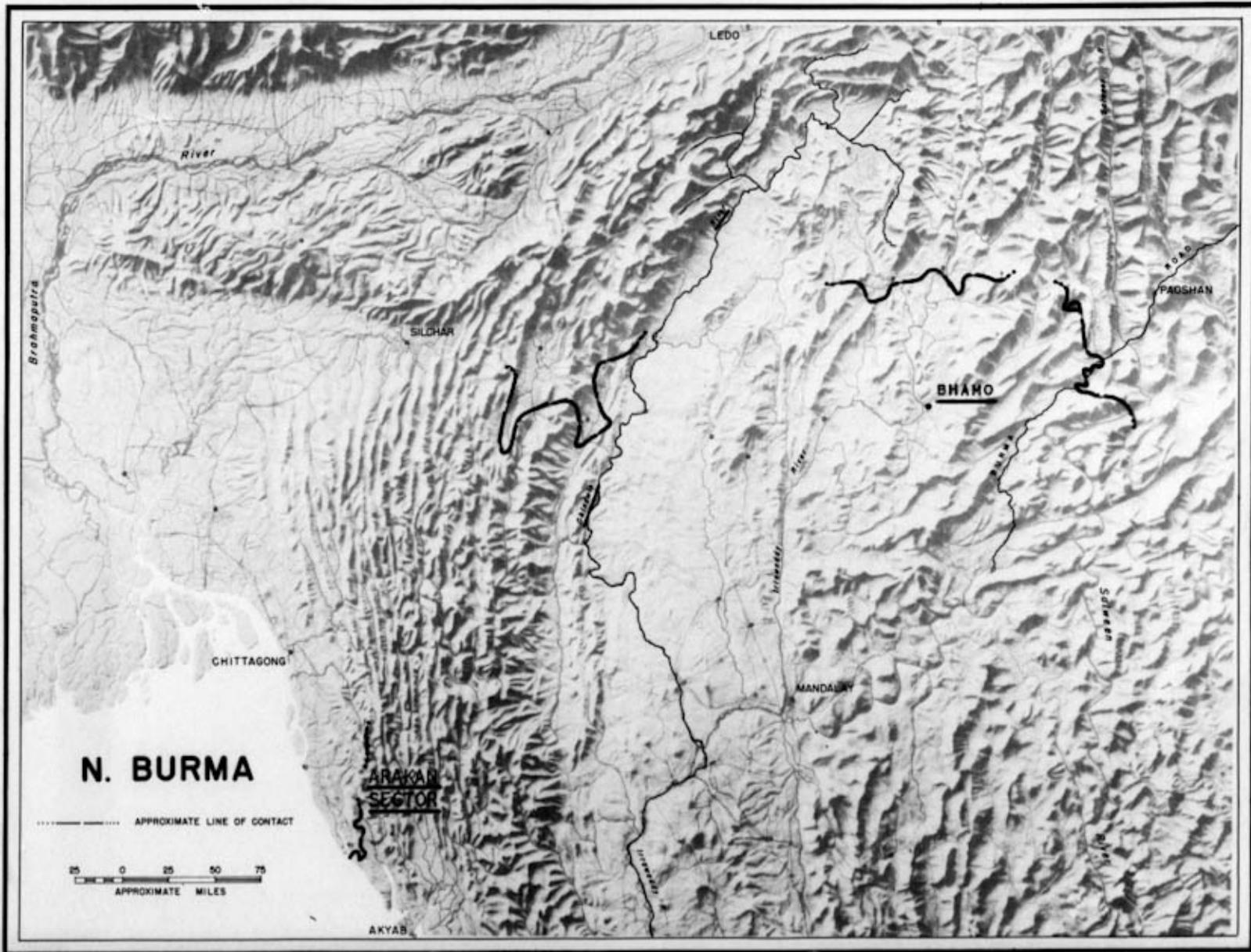
harassed targets in northern Italy and along the French coast as far as Toulon.

On 13 August there was intense activity by the Mediterranean Allied Air Force throughout its entire area. Details of the missions against gun positions and bridges in southern France and northern Italy (reported yesterday) show that 549 heavy bombers escorted by 169 P-51's attacked, dropping 1,522 tons of bombs. In other missions 260 medium bombers attacked gun positions between Marseille and Toulon; 146 fighters and fighter bombers hit the Montelimar airdrome and radar installations in the Marseille area. More than 2,100 sorties were made by the Mediterranean Allied Air Force during the 24 hours to 1800, 13 August; these included the support of our ground forces and sweeps beyond the Adriatic. Twenty-eight B-17's dropped 84 tons on targets at Pec (Yugoslavia). Five (probably seven) enemy aircraft were destroyed at a cost of two heavy bombers and seven other aircraft.

On the morning of 14 August a force of 395 heavy bombers and fighters dropped 874 tons on gun positions along the French-Italian Riviera; in the afternoon an additional mission of 288 bombers and fighters was again dispatched to attack gun positions. Four bombers and three fighters are missing.

3. There was no change in the situation on the Italian front during the 24 hours ending at noon on 14 August. In Florence, where the enemy was holding the northern part of the city, Fascist snipers were active.

4. Our use of Ancona is indicated by the discharge of 17,217 tons of supplies during the week ending 12 August.





5. The War Department has authorized another campaign star, to be worn on the service ribbon by participants in the "Rome-Arno" campaign which began 22 January 1944.

ASIATIC THEATER

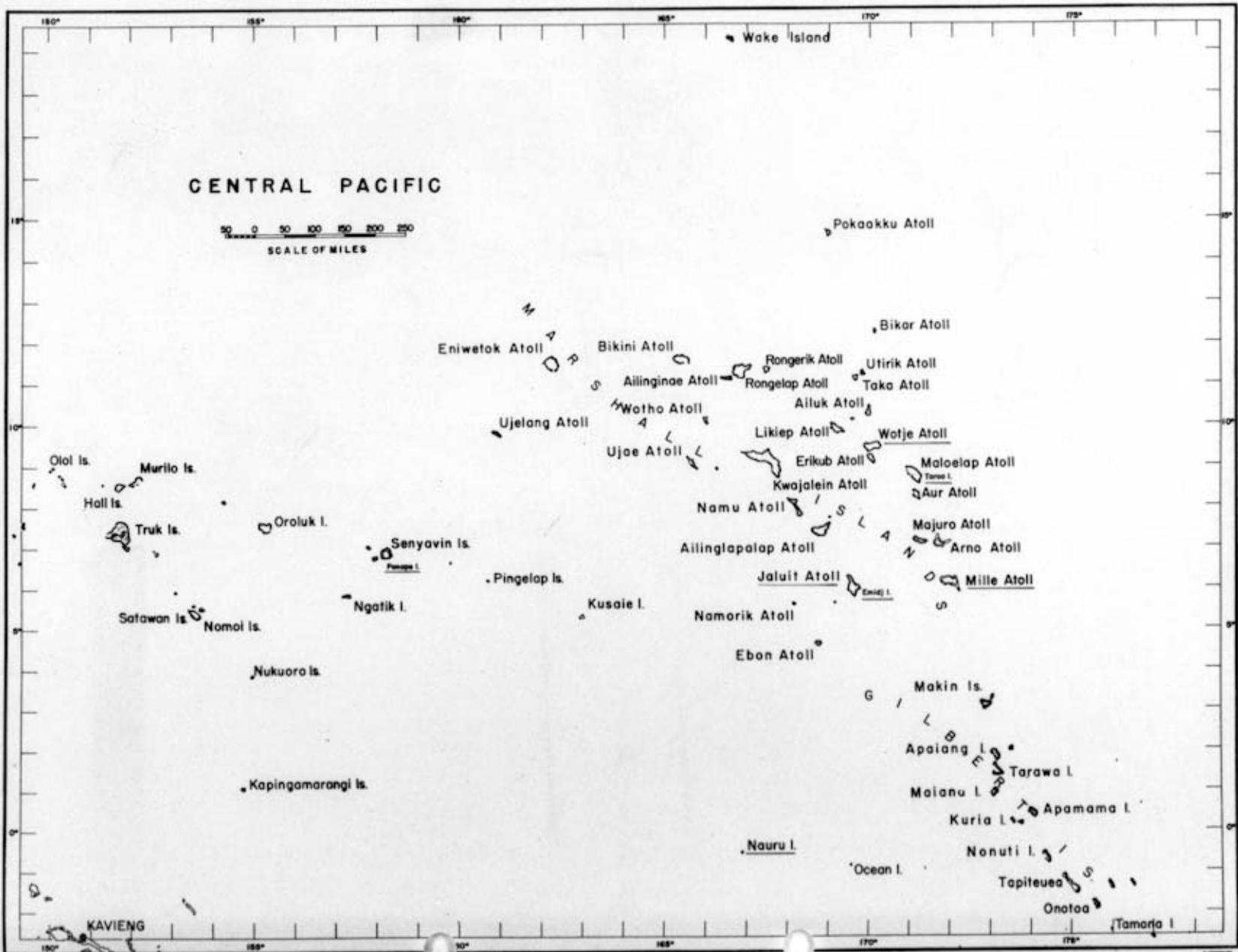
1. The final assessment of the B-29 strike against Sumatra on 10 August shows that one plane was lost. In the attack on Japan the same day one plane landed on our side of the battle line in central China; one plane is still unlocated but part of its crew dropped into friendly territory.

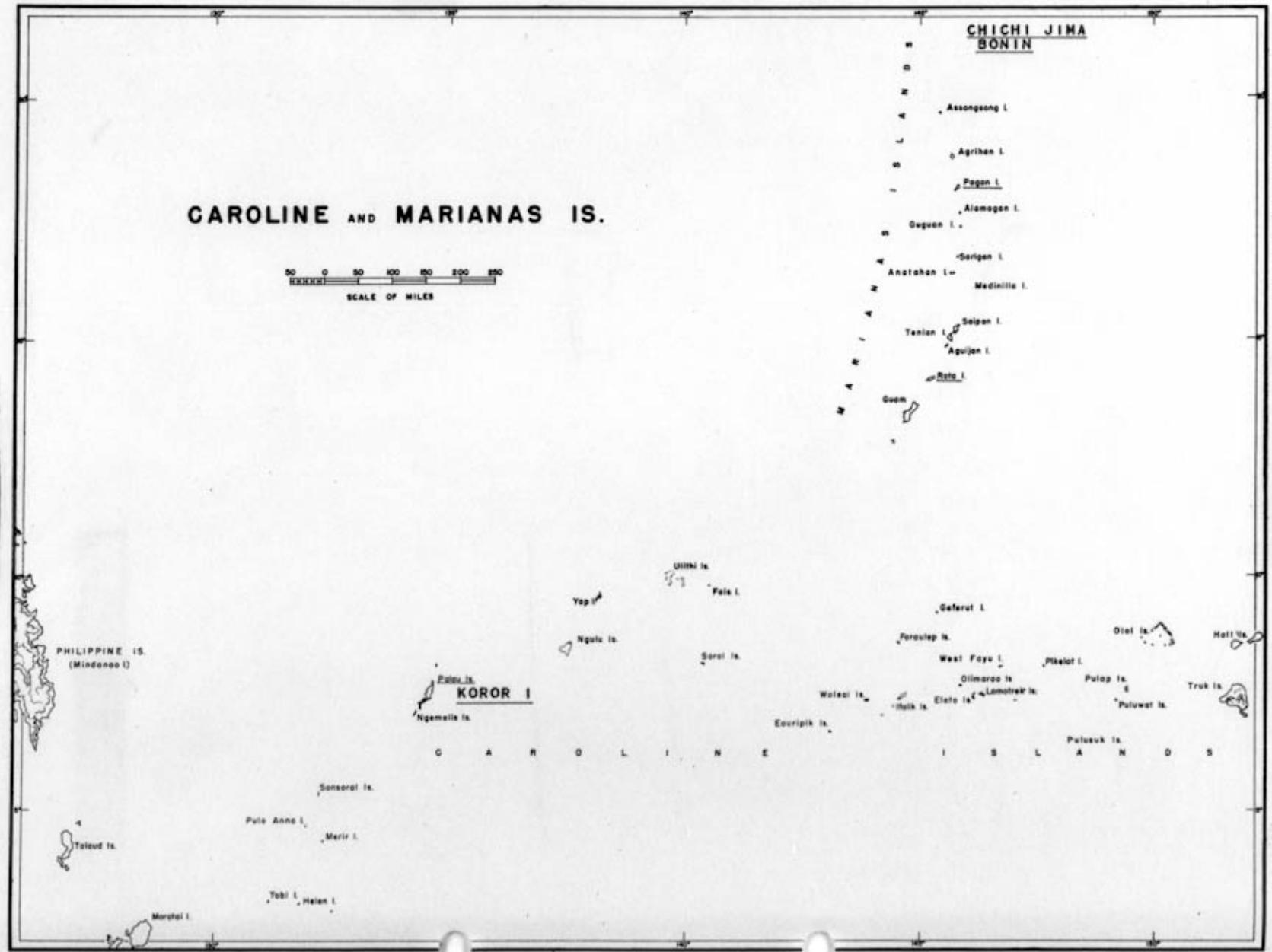
2. On 11 and 12 August more than 90 fighters of the Eastern Air Command operated against ammunition dumps, river traffic, bridges and other targets in the Arakan, Chindwin and Bhamo areas.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On Noemfoor we repulsed three enemy counterattacks during 13 August; at Maffin Bay our patrols encountered heavy opposition at Sawrar Creek. Near Aitape one battalion occupied the Yakumul area and patrolled beyond.

Light and fighter bombers continued to harass enemy positions near Wewak. Thirty-eight B-24's dropped 60 tons on Manokwari while fighter bombers raided the Nabire and Babo areas. Nine B-24's bombed Cape Chater airdrome and 18 B-25's bombed Langgoer airdrome (Kai Islands) as well as barracks and storage areas at Wasile Bay (Halmahera). A B-24 raided Koror Island (Palau).





During 12 August, 190 Solomons-based planes attacked targets on Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland.

2. During 11 and 12 August, 310 Central Pacific fighters and dive bombers struck Mille with a total bombload of 107 tons. During the same period two Navy bombers hit Taroa and Emidj (Jaluit), 12 medium bombers hit an airfield on Ponape and six Army B-24's attacked Wotje.

Pagan and Rota were attacked on 12 August by 42 land-based bombers and fighters. Chichi Jima, in the Bonins, was struck by 16 Army B-24's which attacked the airfield and shipping near the seaplane base.

The attack on Mille continued on 13 August, 19 planes hit Nauru and 12 P-47's harassed Rota.

EASTERN FRONT

East of Valka the Soviets advanced 15 miles along the Valka-Pskov railroad during 14 August. Northwest of Bialystok Red forces occupied the fortified town of Oswiec; heavy fighting took place in the Staszow-Mielec sector.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 978

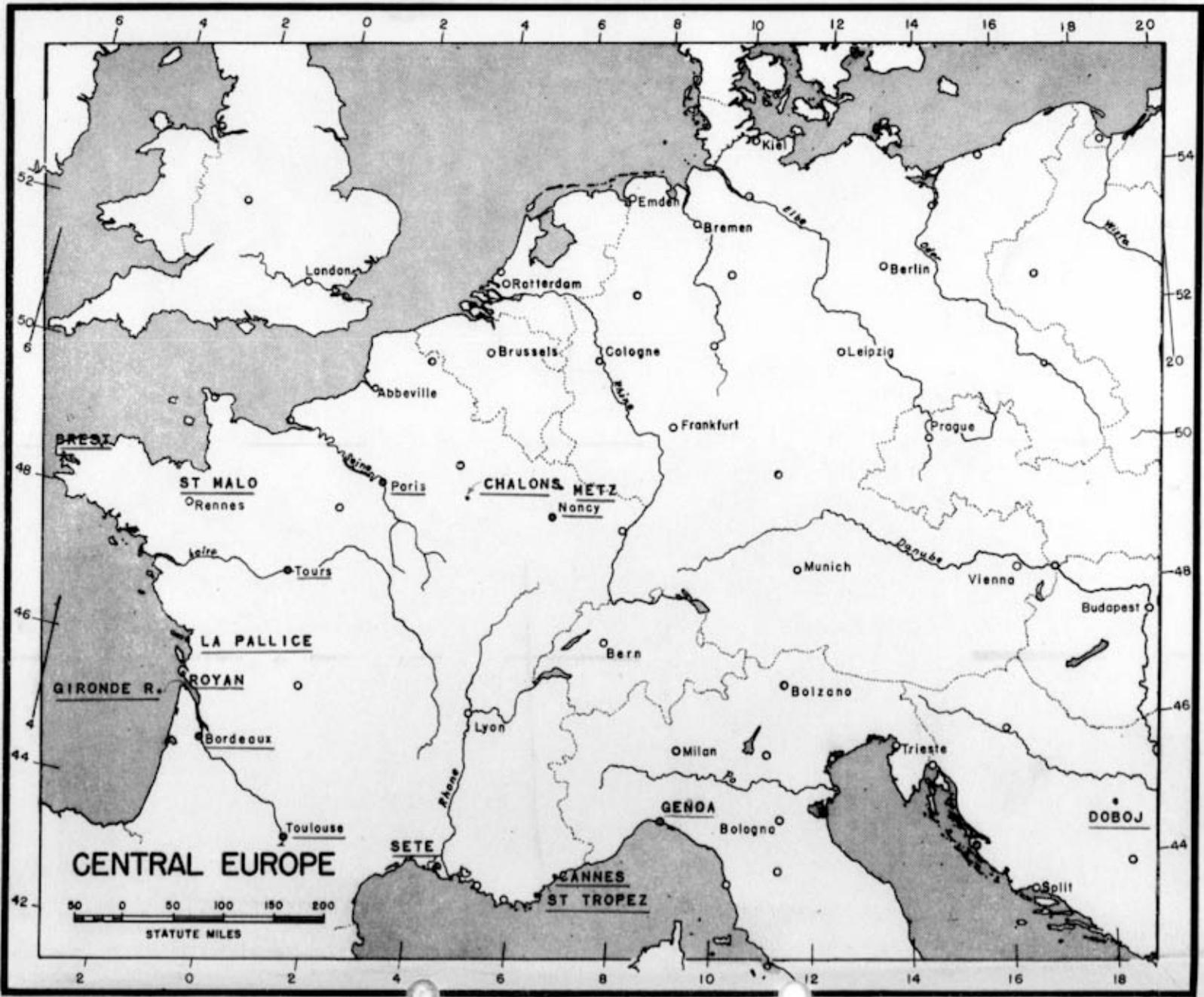
0700 August 13 to 0700 August 14, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(3)

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72



24-87117-300

EUROPEAN THEATER

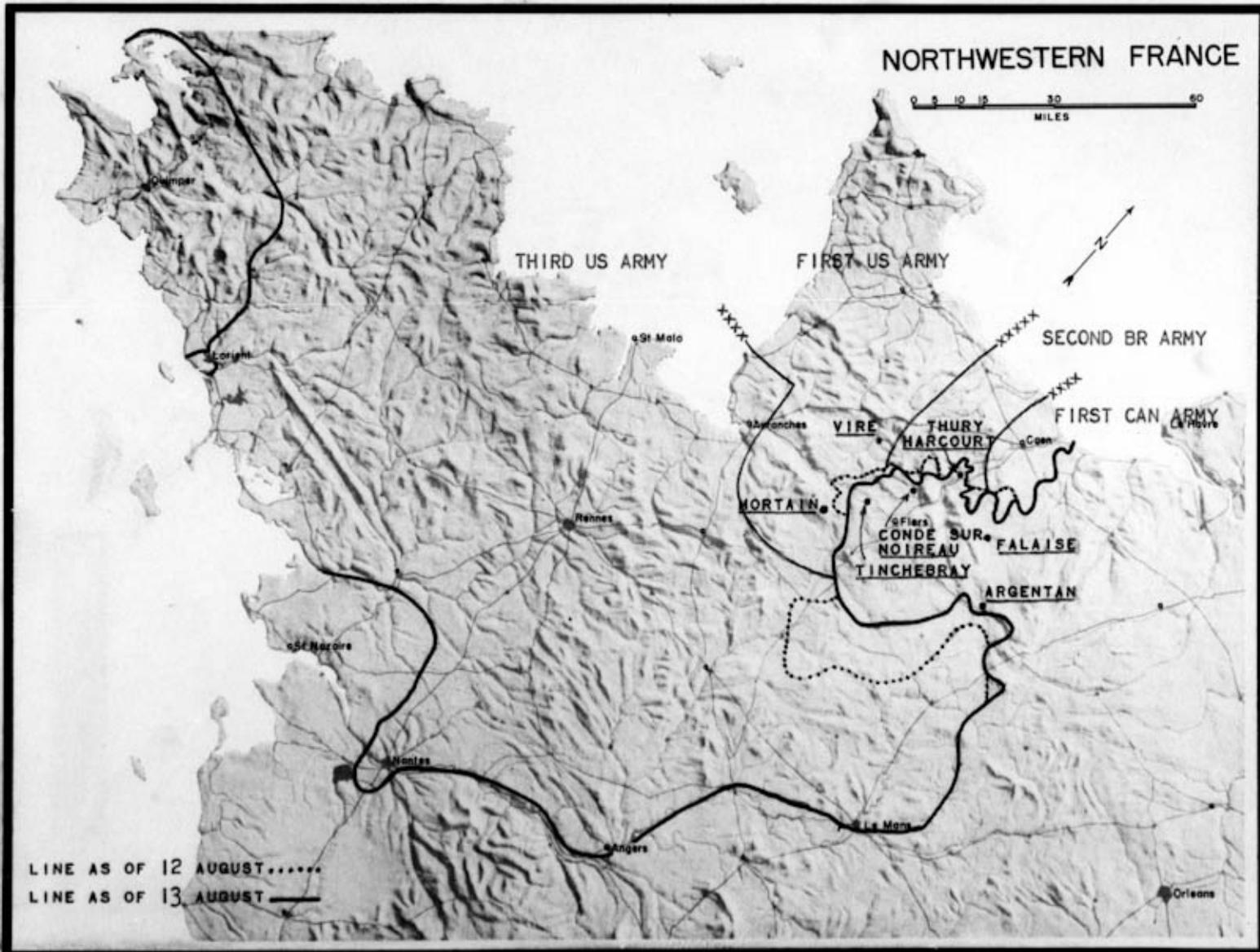
1. During 12 August, 598 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force, escorted by 386 fighters, dropped 1,433 tons of explosives on the marshalling yards at Metz and on airdromes near Paris, in the Chalons-Nancy area and at Toulouse. In a fighter bomber operation against French railroad targets 850 planes scattered 281 tons over a wide area. Seventeen enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of 24 planes.

The same day 173 bombers of the RAF dropped 712 tons of heavy bombs on the submarine pens at Brest, La Pallice, and Bordeaux and on an ammunition dump near Tours; eight 12,000-pound bombs were dropped on Brest. Twenty-five Mosquitoes attacked two groups of vessels off Royan and northwest of the Gironde, sinking one and damaging four others; two of the Mosquitoes were lost.

Reports of the Allied Expeditionary Air Force for the 24-hour period ending at 2100 on 12 August show that a total of 3,422 sorties were flown. Five (probably six) enemy aircraft were destroyed; our losses were 25 bombers of various types and one transport. Included in the above figures are 857 sorties by bombers which dropped more than 650 tons of bombs on a bridge over the Seine north of Paris and various other targets including enemy lines of supply and avenues of withdrawal.

The advance report of 8th Air Force operations for 13 August states that 1,260 bombers and 196 fighters were dispatched to attack enemy gun positions near St. Malo and highways leading to the Seine in rear of the enemy lines. Twelve bombers were lost. A total of 1,018 fighters in two other missions swept road and rail transport in the same

NORTHWESTERN FRANCE



LINE AS OF 12 AUGUST
LINE AS OF 13 AUGUST _____

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 6-3-72

TOP SECRET

area with bombs and machine-gun fire, at a cost of three planes.

Flying bomb activity for the 24-hour period ending 0600, 13 August: of 61 plotted, 26 made landfall and 13 reached London; 15 were destroyed.

2. There was no substantial change in the situation in Brittany during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 13 August. To the east, however, armored and infantry columns of our First and Third Armies scored large gains south and southwest of Argentan; at last report, French and American armor pressing their enveloping movement west and east of that town were within 20 miles of the Canadian units advancing toward Falaise.

The British Second Army reported advances in all corps sectors. Southeast of Vire the British were four miles from Tinchebray while to the east other columns pushed to within three miles of Conde sur Noireau. Adjoining units of the British Second and Canadian First Armies advanced from two to four miles. There was no change in the situation on the eastern end of the battle line; its extremity is now held by Belgian and Dutch contingents.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Five hundred fifty-six heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force hit 32 enemy gun positions along the Mediterranean coast from Genoa to Sete on 12 August, dropping 1,374 tons of bombs while 102 fighter bombers raided radar stations along the coast of southern France. Two hundred thirty-six medium bombers attacked gun positions in the Saint Tropez



and Cannes areas, and 24 light bombers hit a fuel dump at Mondovi. More than 300 fighters hit gun positions, radar stations, and dock installations along the Ligurian coast. North of the Italian battle area nearly 400 fighters raided rail installations, shipping on the Italian east coast, and other targets including the yards at Faenza and Ravenna. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed during these operations; we lost 17 heavy bombers and 11 other planes.

On 13 August, the 15th Air Force dispatched 839 bombers and fighters with 1,613 tons of bombs against gun positions and bridges in southern France and northern Italy. Eight bombers and one fighter are missing.

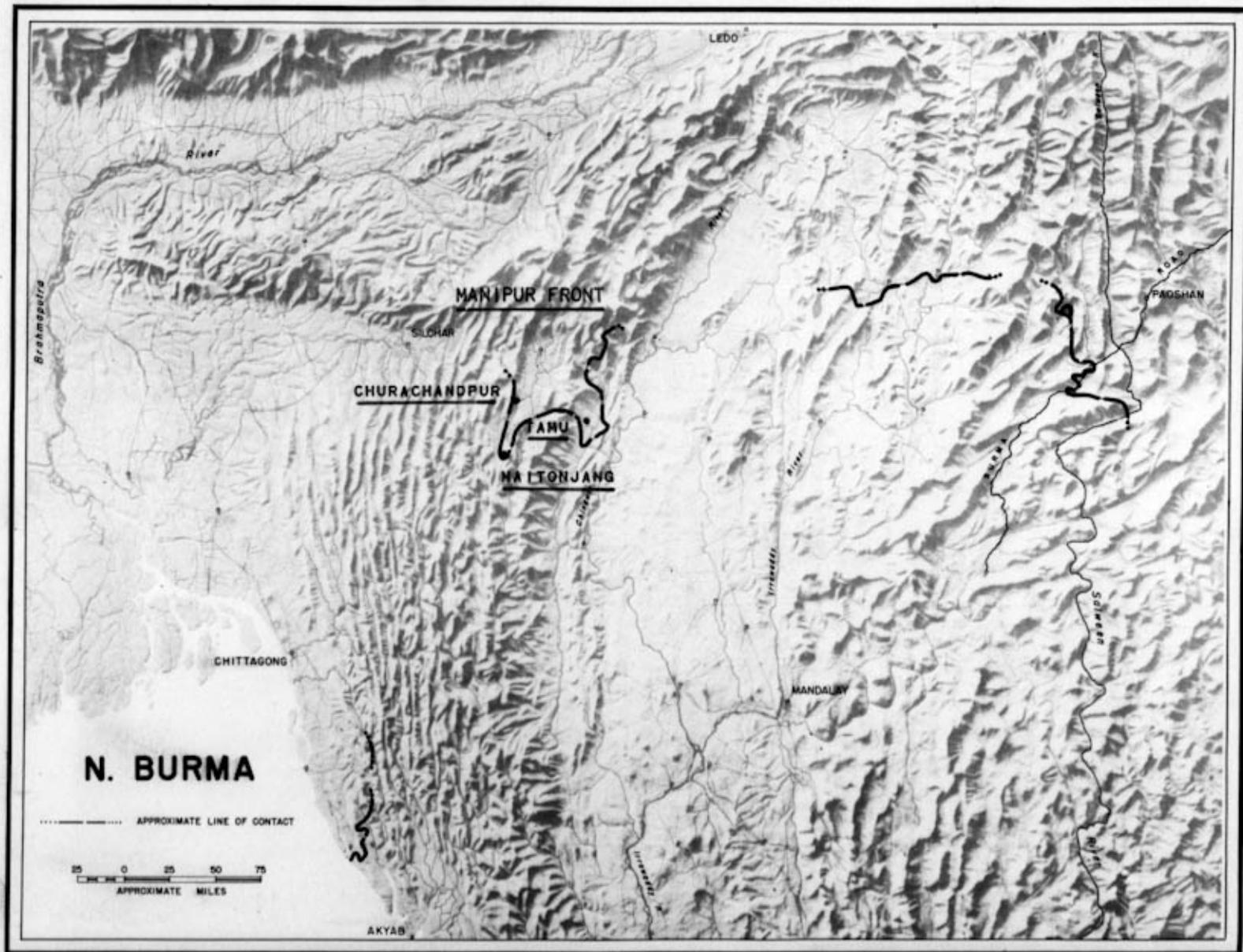
2. AMG officers of the Eighth Army entered Florence beyond the Arno on 13 August after Partisan forces had cleared the city of Fascist resistance. There was no change in the situation on the other sectors of the trans-Italian front.

3. Middle East medium bombers raided Karlovasi Harbor, Samos, for the second consecutive night during 11-12 August. Eight fighters swept an airfield at Kasteli, Crete.

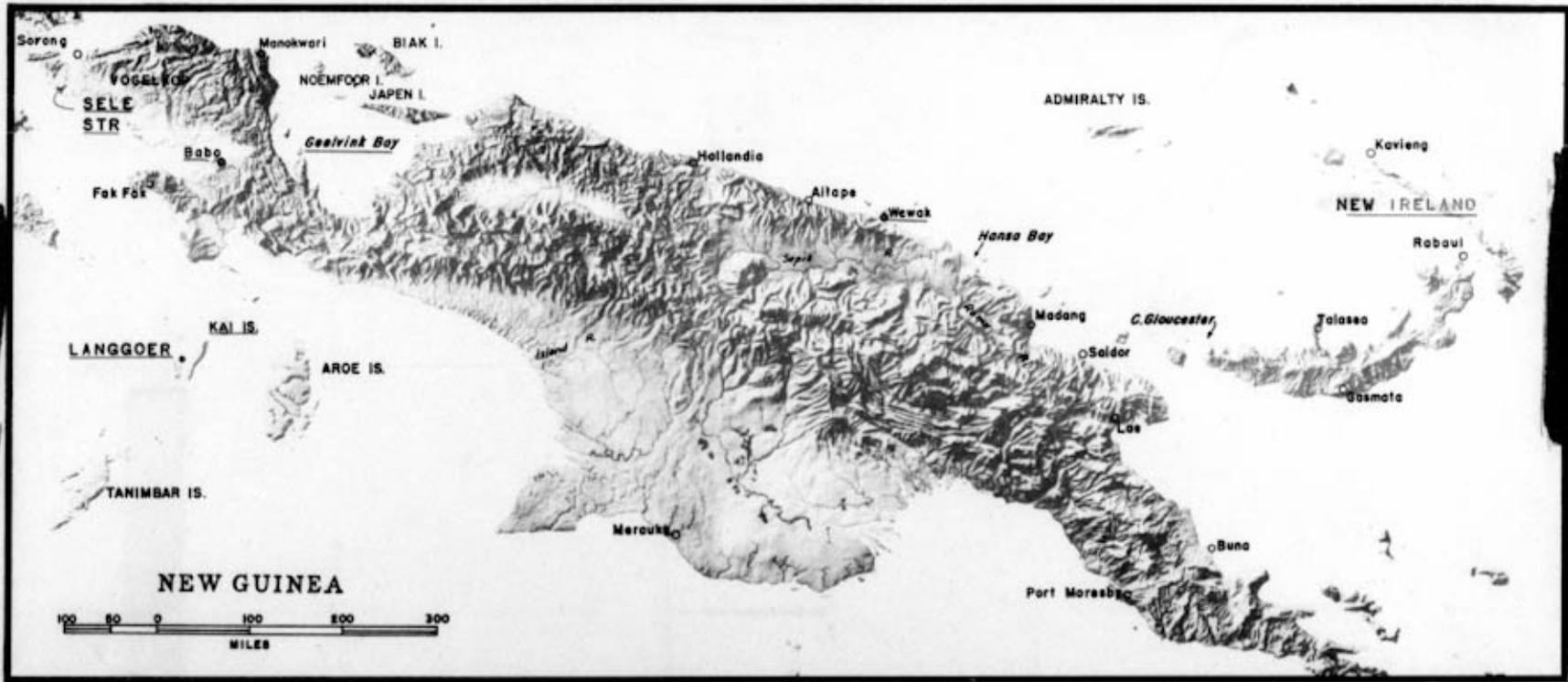
ASIATIC THEATER

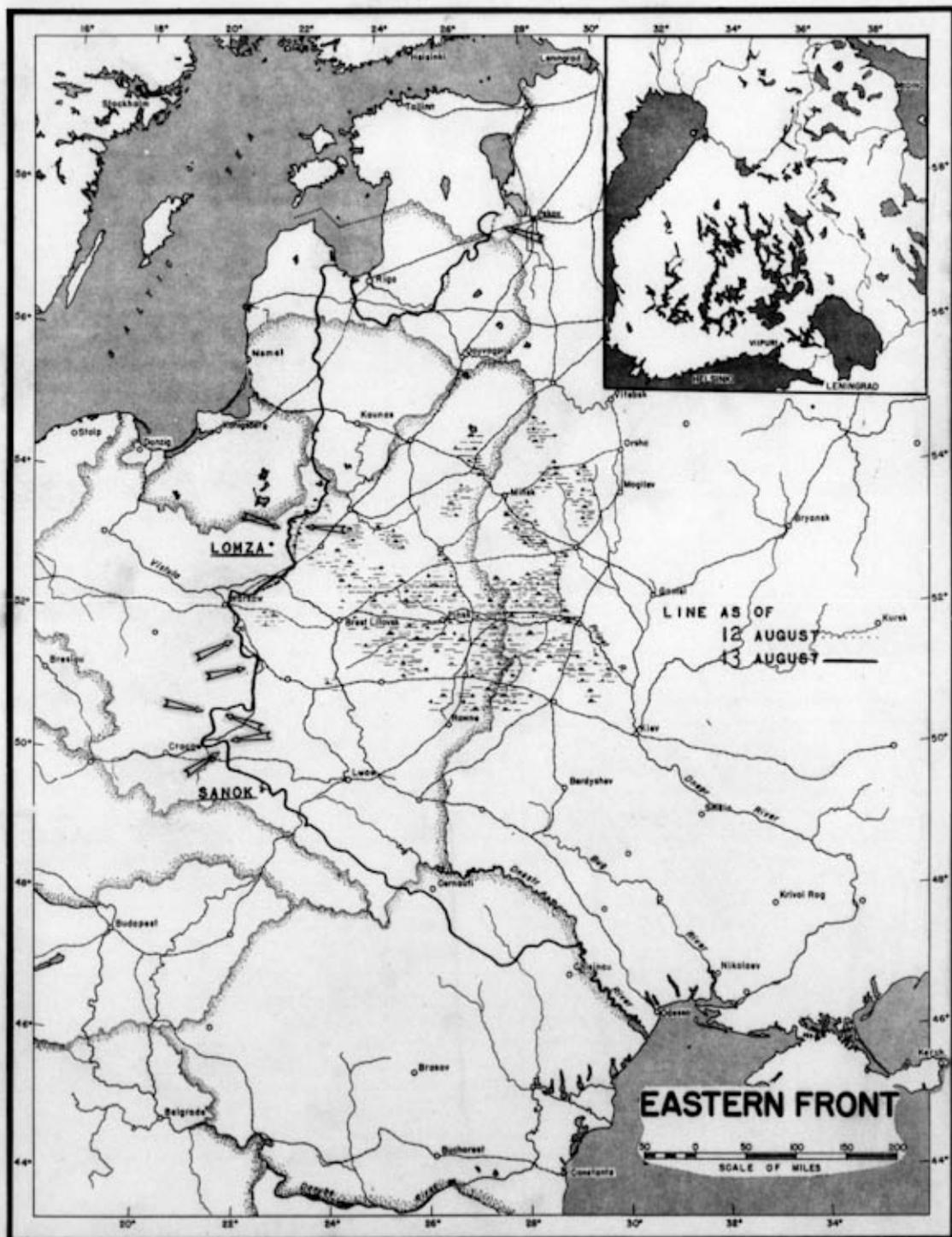
1. 14th Air Force operations for 11 August included 62 sorties over the Hengyang-Tungting Lake area in support of ground operations. During 12 August, ten offensive sorties were flown in the Salween area where troop carriers dropped 64 tons of food and ammunition to Chinese ground forces.

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72



04-80051-300





2. During 12 August, British troops on the Manipur front advanced to a point 14 miles east of Tamu; other forces reached Maitonjang, 24 miles southeast of Churachandpur.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

During 12 August, light and fighter bombers continued to neutralize the Wewak area. Ten B-24's bombed the Babo airdrome, while small missions of lighter aircraft struck the Geelvink Bay and Sele Strait areas. West of New Guinea eleven B-24's attacked the Langgoer airfield (Kai Islands). A single night B-24 sank a 3,000-ton freighter in Davao Gulf and scored a direct hit on a 3,000-ton freighter and fired a sea-truck in Kace Bay. Two enemy raids on Owi Island the previous night destroyed one Allied plane and damaged eleven others. In 171 sorties, Solomons-based planes maintained their attacks on targets in Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland on the 11th.

EASTERN FRONT

On 13 August the Soviet drive west of Pskov continued, advances of 15 miles being scored on a 20-mile front. The Red Armies advance toward Lomza gained five miles on a broad front against determined German resistance. Near Sanok German counterattacks forced the Red forces back at one point.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

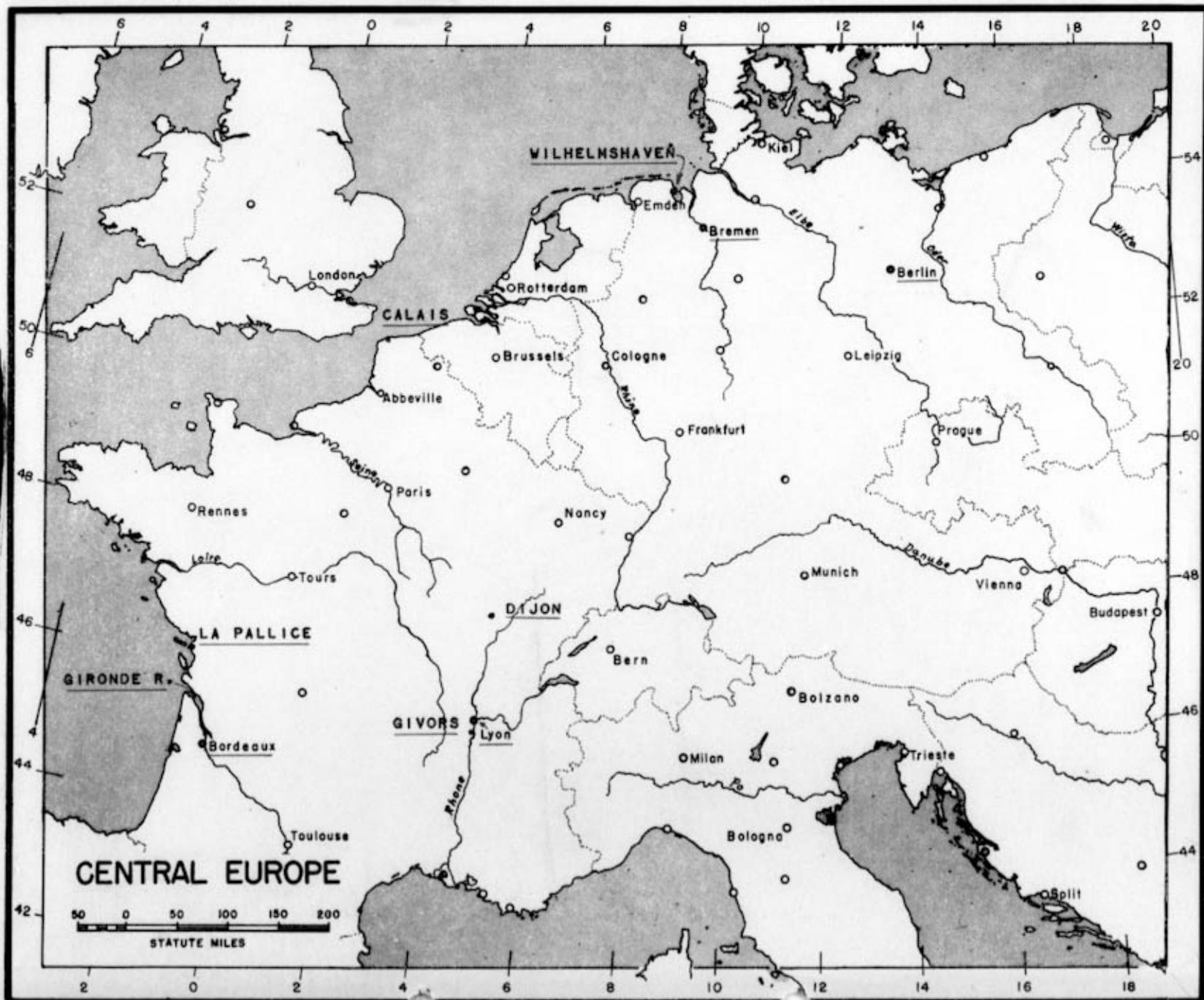
No. 977

0700 August 12 to 0700 August 13, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Medium bombers of the 11th Air Force sank a Japanese picket boat and damaged another off the northern Kuriles during 12 August (target time).

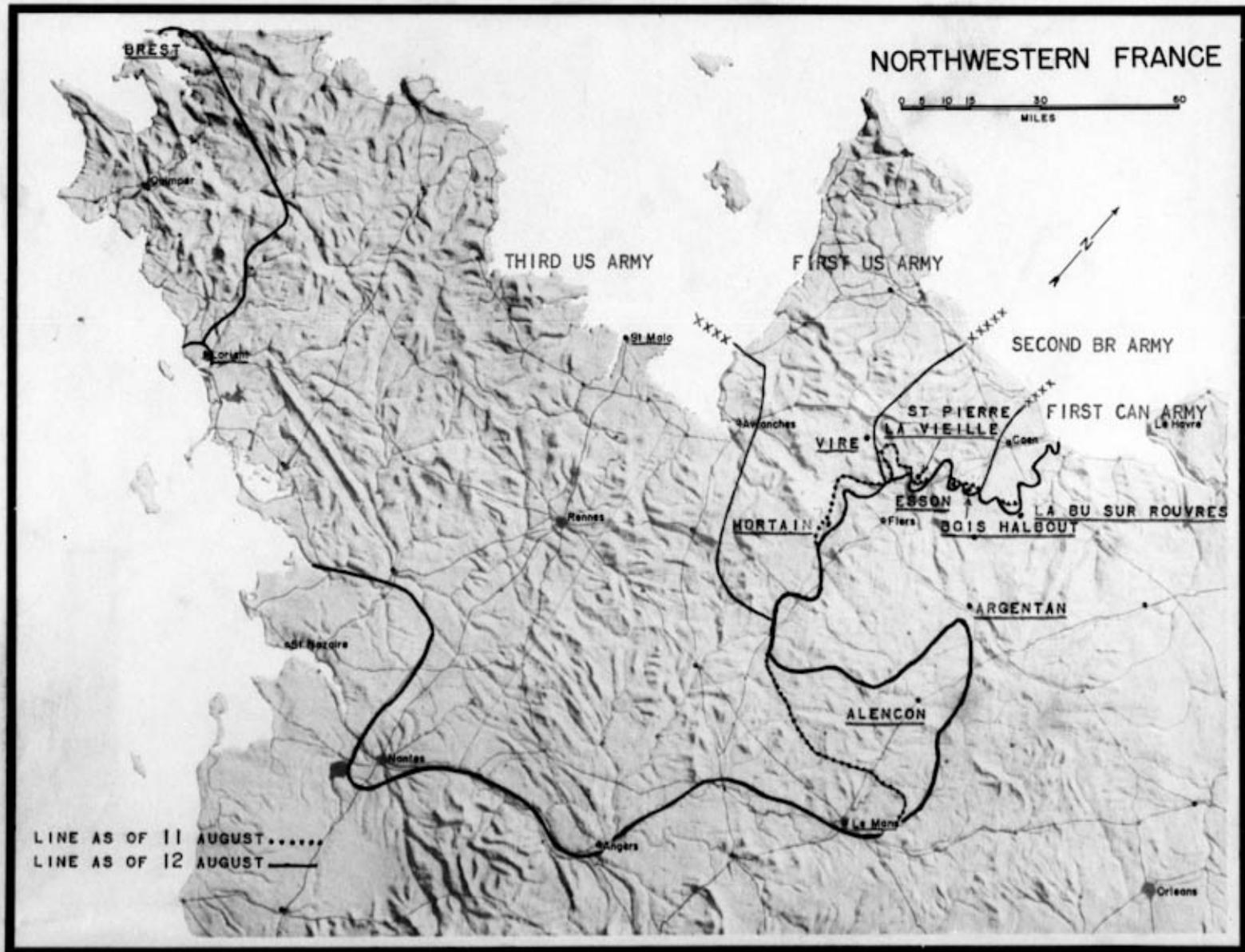
EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 10-11 August, 864 RAF bombers dropped 1,310 tons on oil storage tanks at La Pallice and Bordeaux and on the Dijon rail center. Thirty-one Mosquitoes dropped 44 tons on Berlin and three heavy bombers hit Bremen with 15 tons. Two bombers were lost during these operations; supporting aircraft shot down one enemy plane. Two enemy vessels in a convoy off Wilhelmshaven were sunk and others badly damaged.

The following day RAF bombers flew over 550 sorties, dropping more than 3,000 tons of bombs on five rail centers in France, submarine pens at Bordeaux and La Pallice, and bomb sites in the Pas de Calais; 390 fighter sorties were flown to support these missions. The night of 11-12 August, 187 bombers attacked the Givors rail junction south of Lyon and 32 Mosquito bombers hit Berlin with 47 tons of bombs of which 20 were 4,000-pounders. A mission of 14 bombers was flown to lay sea mines in the waters off La Pallice and in the Gironde River.

On 11 August the 9th Air Force attacked ammunition and fuel dumps and bridges in France with 265 bombers and 779 fighters, losing one bomber and eight fighters.

During the 8th Air Force operations of 11 August over France and Germany, nearly 2,400 tons of bombs were dropped. Five enemy planes were shot down for a loss of six bombers and one fighter.



2. At noon on 12 August the enemy still held out at Brest and Lorient and in the citadel of St. Malo. During the previous 24 hours US troops advanced to the north and northwest of Le Mans bypassing Alencon and reaching a point five miles south of Argentan. In the vicinity of Mortain our forces made general gains of from one to three miles, completely clearing that city. On the front of the British Second Army several local gains were made; a pocket of enemy resistance east of Vire was cleaned out, an advance was made to the south of St. Pierre La Vieille, Thury-Harcourt was cleared of the enemy, and Esson and Bois Halbout were taken. Troops of the First Canadian Army made slight gains to the southeast reaching La Bu sur Rouvres.

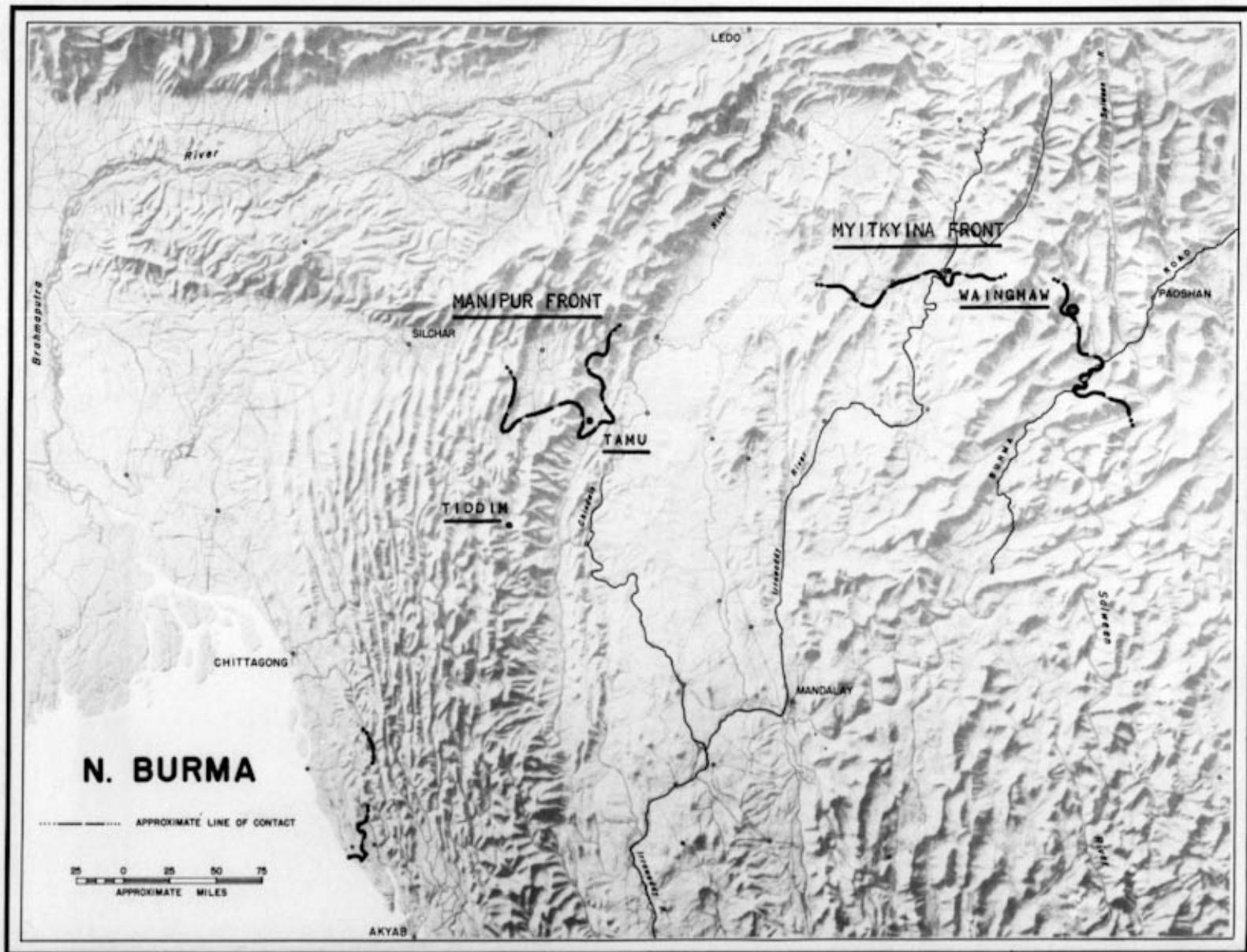
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

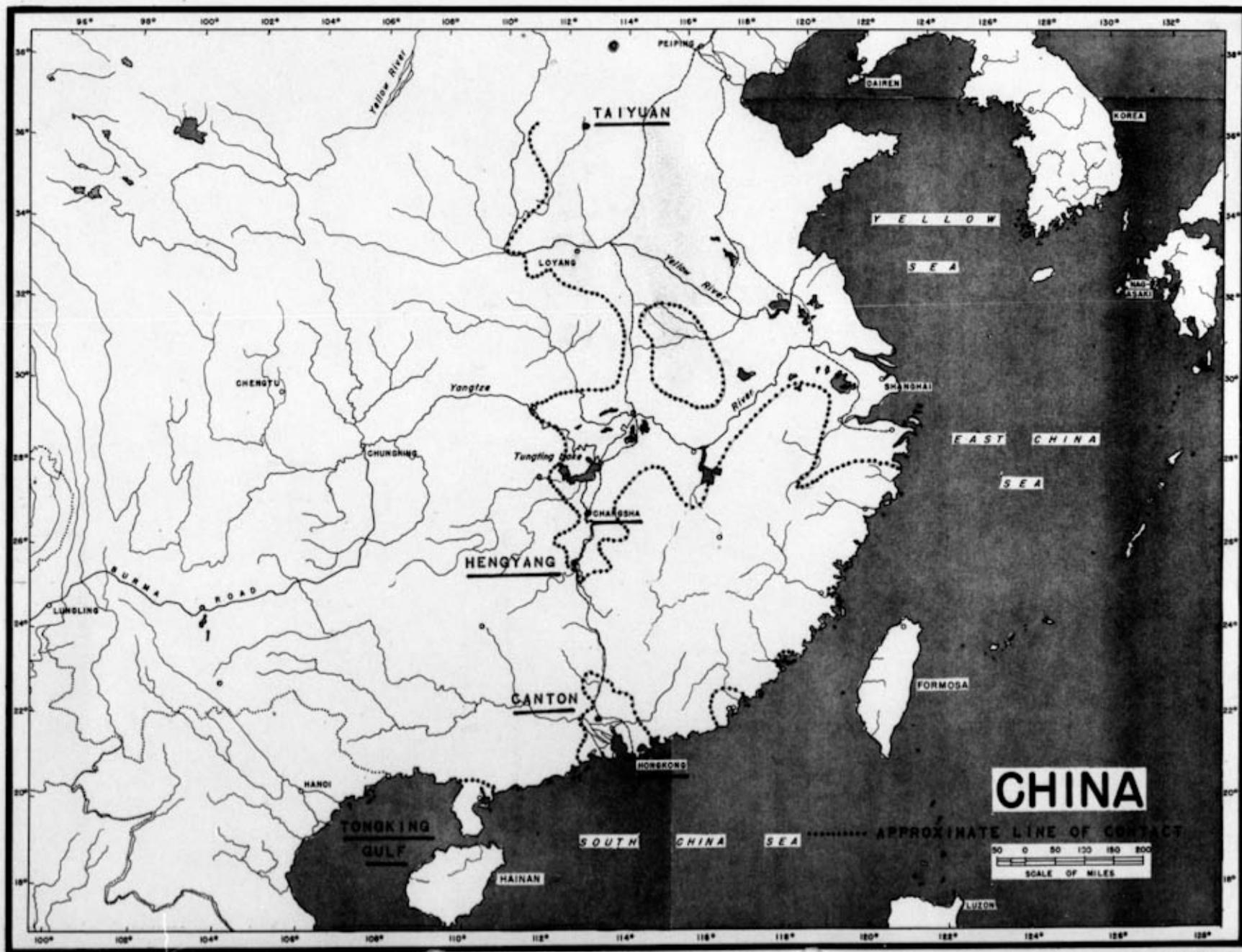
1. During the night of 10-11 August strategic bombers of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force dropped 110 tons on the Kraljevo rail-road yards and sewed 78 mines in the Danube River. On 11 August in spite of unfavorable weather 74 B-26's of the Tactical Air Force effectively bombed gun positions in southern France, and 47 bombers and fighter-bombers attacked rail lines and other targets in northern Italy, while 44 fighters carried out armed patrols. Twenty-four planes of the Balkan Air Force flew offensive sweeps attacking rail transport over Yugoslavia. One Spitfire is missing.

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 OSD Letter # 68-0-000



2. By 1200 of 11 August British Eighth Army troops had advanced into the eastern outskirts of Florence; infantry and armored units had entered and cleared Empoli. Polish troops captured and occupied Frontone.

ASIATIC THEATER

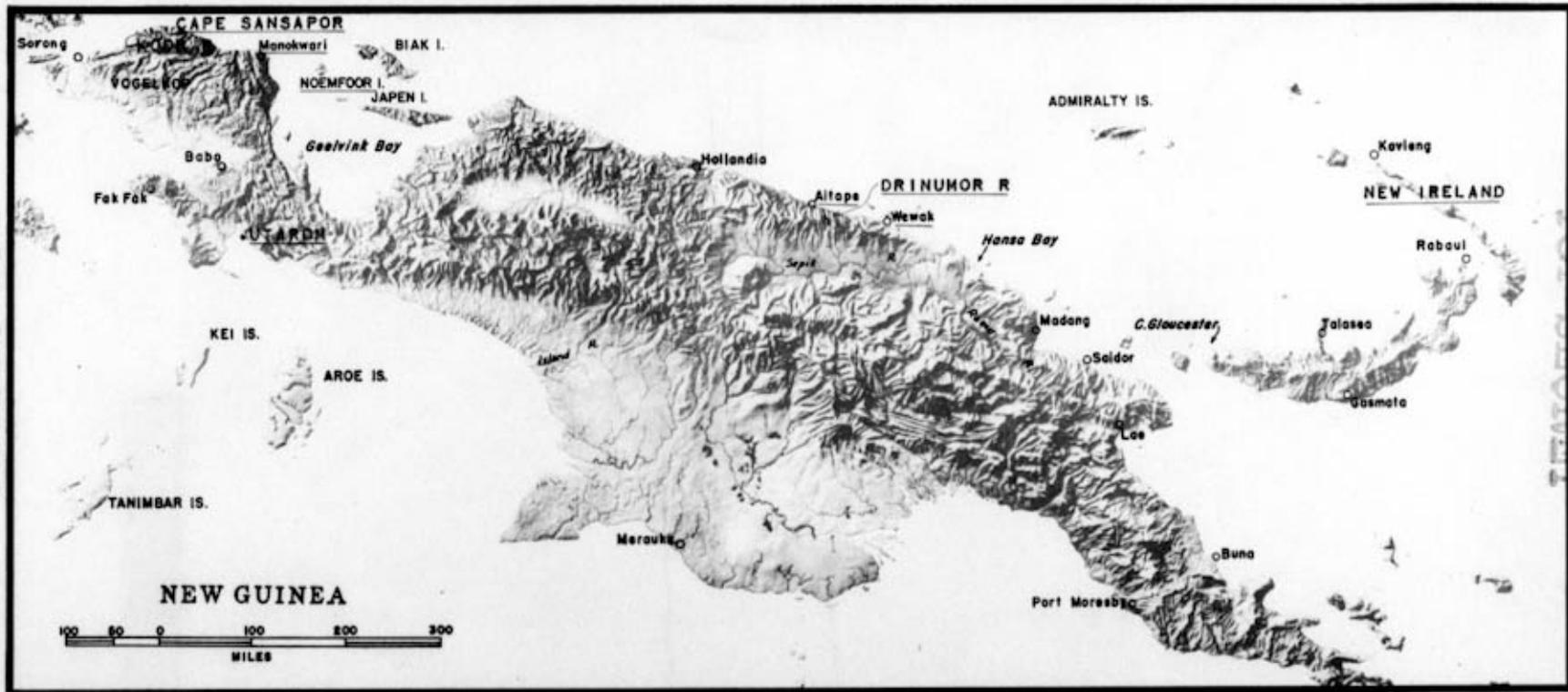
1. Slight gains on 11 August were made by Allied forces south of Waingmaw in the Myitkyina area as well as in the vicinity of Tamu and along the Tiddim Road on the Manipur front.

2. During 9 August and the following night the Eastern Air Command, in some 20 sorties, attacked river craft, road and rail traffic at various points chiefly in western Burma and on the Irrawaddy River. On 10 August river craft on the Irrawaddy and various targets on the Manipur and Myitkyina fronts were attacked in the course of the 81 effective tactical sorties reported.

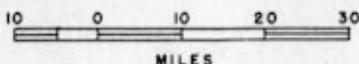
More than 70 sorties by 14th Air Force medium bombers and fighters pounded the Hengyang area during 9 August, damaging enemy transportation, blocking roads and knocking out gun positions. Five fighters raided shipping in the Gulf of Tongking, damaging numerous small craft. That night 12 B-24's mined Hongkong Harbor and the river estuary at Canton; one B-24 is missing. During 10 August nine fighters raided a reported Japanese air training center at Taiyuan in the north Yellow River bend, destroying 21 fighters and three transport planes on the ground and two fighters in the air.

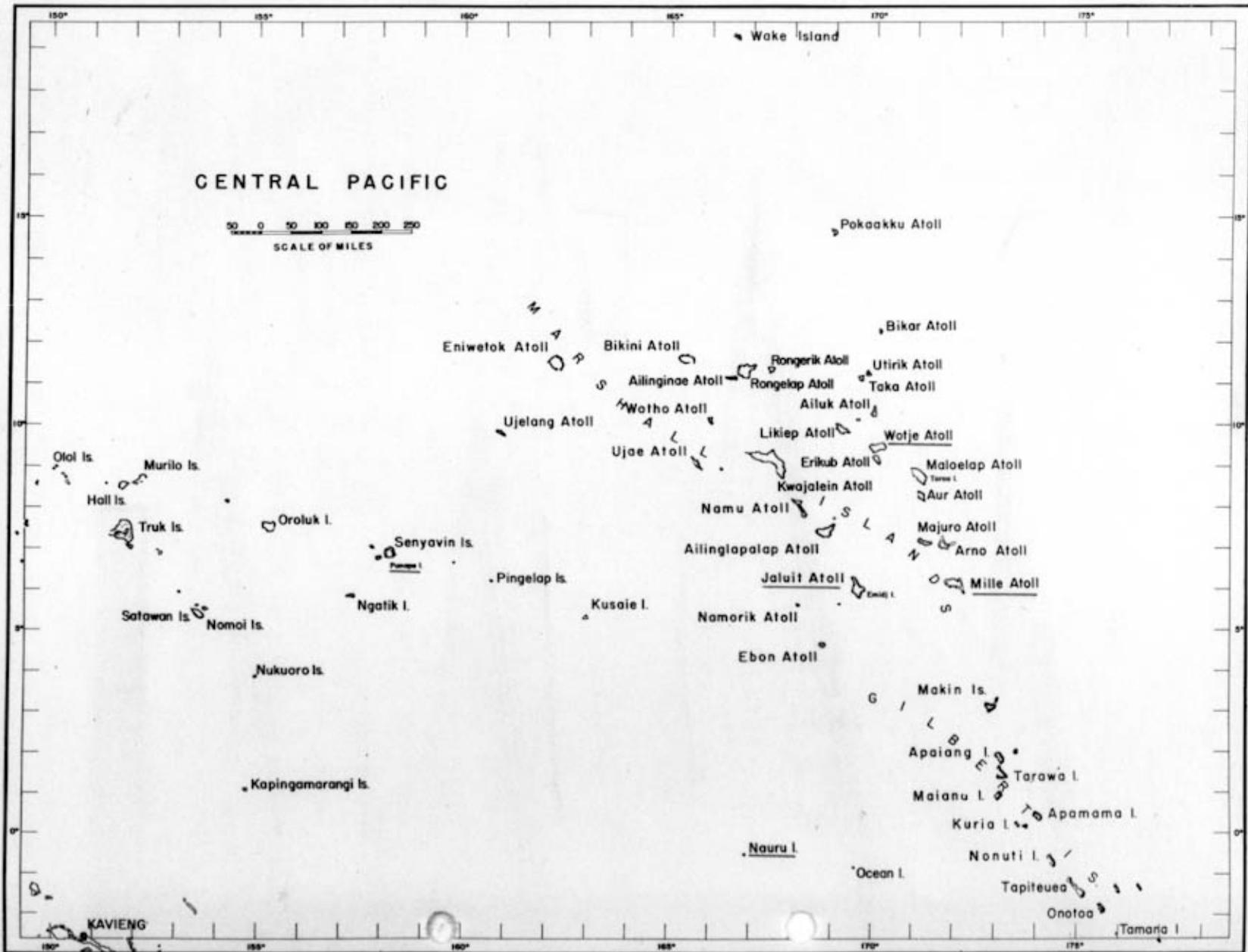
During 11 August, 23 B-24's hit the city of Changsha with excellent results. One plane was lost but the crew was saved. In air operations on the Yellow River front three Japanese planes were destroyed without Allied loss.

TOP SECRET



BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND





PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

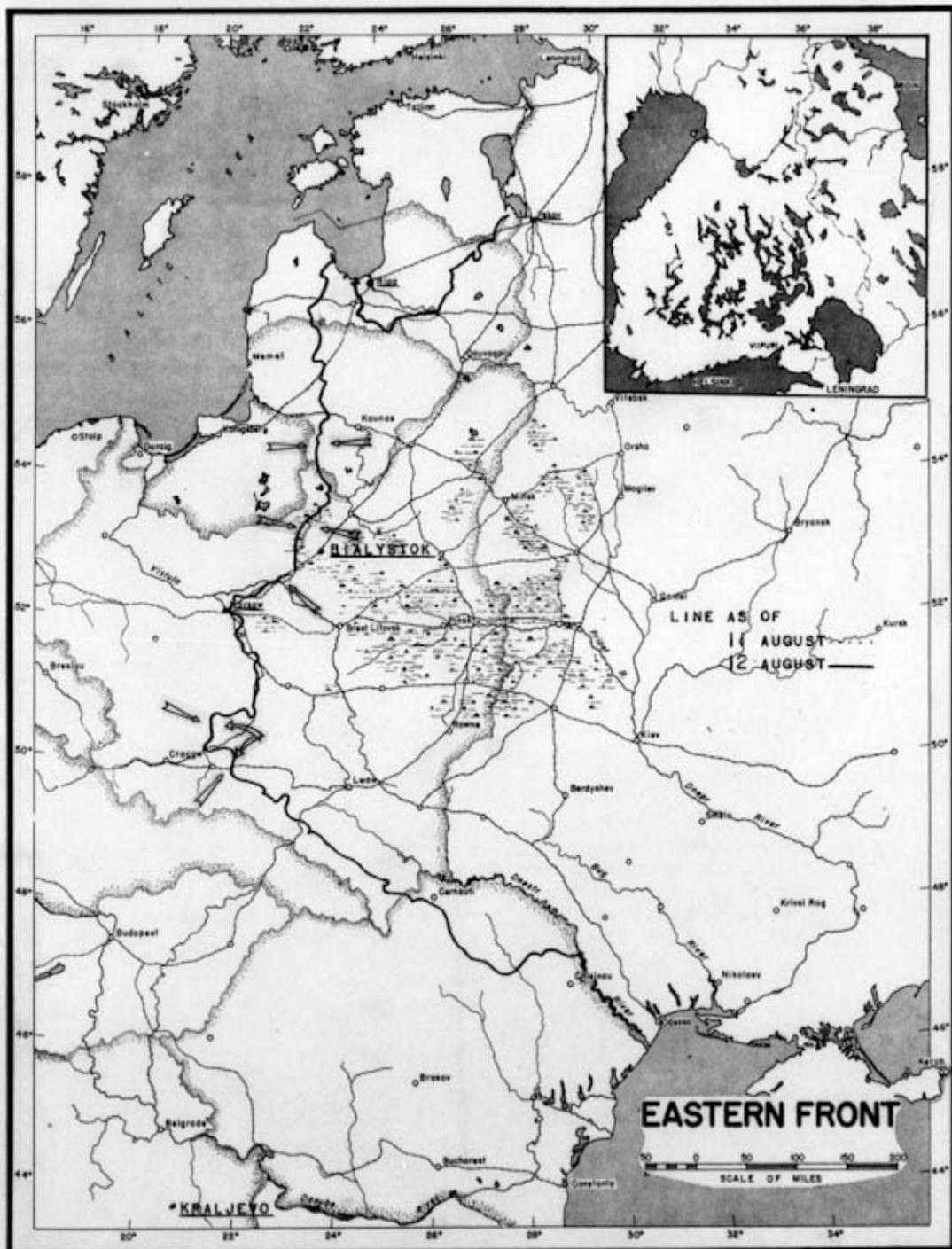
1. American units in the Cape Sansapor region advanced toward the Koor River during 11 August without opposition; to the east the main body of enemy troops remaining on Noemfoor was surrounded. Only small groups of enemy stragglers were encountered in the Drinumor area near Aitape.

US medium, light and fighter bombers again attacked enemy installations and villages in the Wewak area. Australian P-40's furnished an air cover for our Cape Sansapor operations in addition to bombing and machine-gunning targets of opportunity south of Manokwari. A mission of 23 A-20's on anti-shipping sweeps off Utarom sank several enemy barges and four luggers; two planes were lost. B-25's raiding shipping off Halmahera damaged a 3,000-ton freighter, sank one seatruck, two luggers and four barges, and destroyed ten seaplanes at Lolobata. A B-24 on night reconnaissance attacked wharves at Davao in the Philippines. Nine B-25's attacked targets at Langgoer, Timor.

A US Infantry Battalion, reinforced, landed north of the mouth of the Jaba River on Bougainville.

On 10 August air missions by more than 180 of our planes based in the Solomons attacked targets on Choiseul, Bougainville, New Britain and New Ireland.

2. During the night of 9-10 August and the following day three Navy bombers harassed Jaluit, Mille and Wotje, six other medium bombers hit both airstrips on Nauru, and 125 lighter aircraft revisited Mille,



pounding gun positions with 44 tons of explosives. The Ponape airfield was attacked by a Navy search plane.

3. Guam casualties to 1800 on 11 August were reported as follows: 1,219 killed, 5,726 wounded, 327 missing. 11,121 enemy dead have been counted and 87 prisoners of war taken.

EASTERN FRONT

During 12 August small Soviet advances were made at several points along the northern portion of their line, the principal gains being those west of Pskov, in the vicinity of Riga, and between Bialystok and Warsaw.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

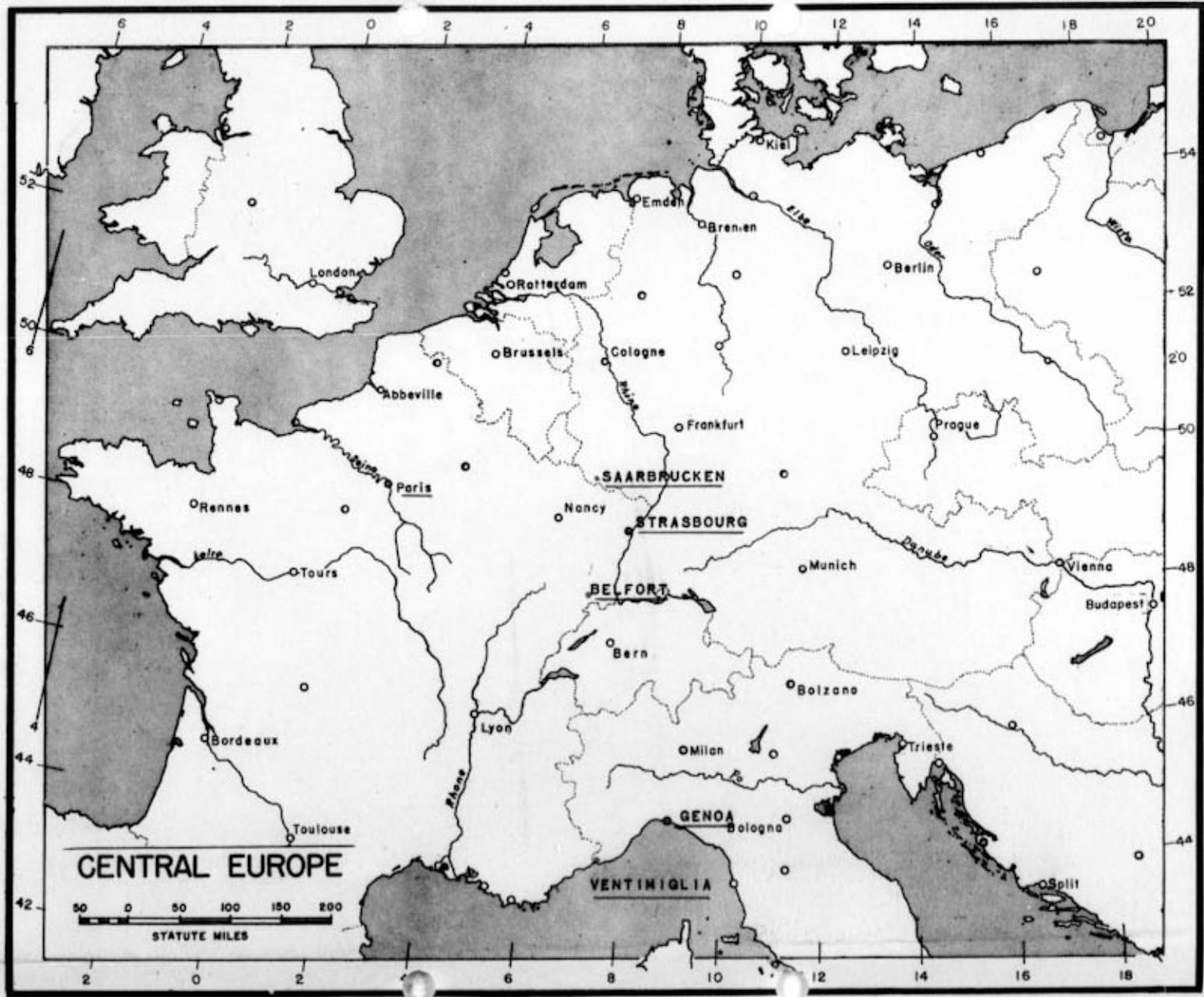
No. 976

0700 August 11 to 0700 August 12, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. On 9 August the 9th Air Force attacked bridges and ammunition and fuel dumps in France with 402 bombers, losing 12. Escort and armed reconnaissance missions were flown by 1,174 fighters which destroyed 15 (probably 17) enemy aircraft for a loss of 12.

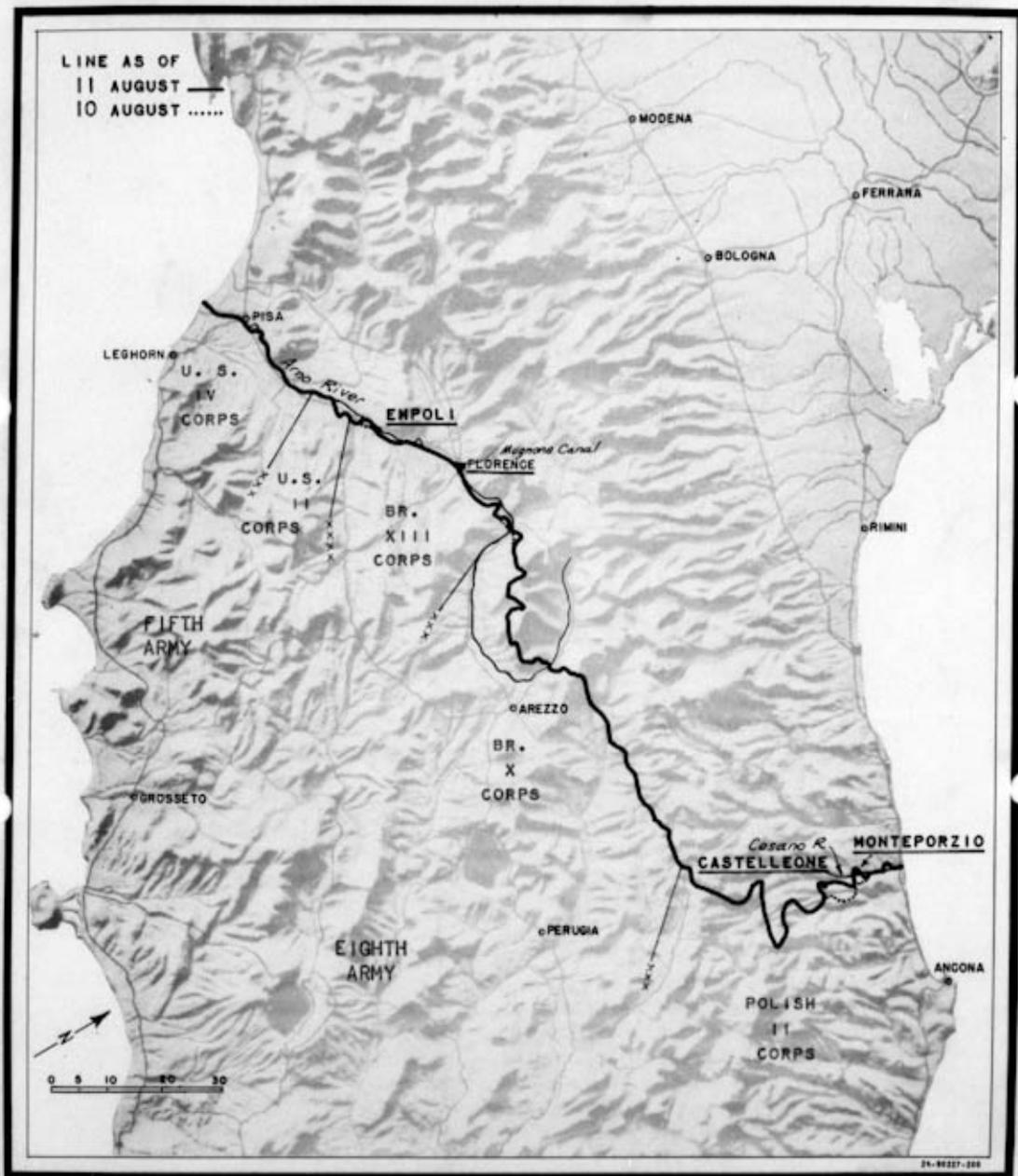
From 2100 9 August to 2100 10 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force including the 9th Air Force flew a total of 3,566 sorties attacking railway installations and various other targets in France; four enemy planes were destroyed. Our losses were ten bombers and 18 fighters. The RAF Bomber Command flew 763 sorties against flying bomb sites and fuel depots, losing two planes while dropping 3,302 tons of bombs.

Preliminary reports of operations for 11 August state that 439 bombers and 240 fighters of the 8th Air Force were dispatched against fuel dumps, airdromes, and marshalling yards in the Paris and Belfort areas; one bomber and three fighters are missing. Two hundred twenty-one bombers and 96 fighters left to attack a fuel dump at Strasbourg and marshalling yards at Strasbourg and Saarbrucken. Two hundred ninety-five bombers and 50 fighters were sent out against targets at Brest.

Flying bomb activity for the period ending 0600, 11 August: Of 34 plotted, 16 made landfall, three reached London and 16 were destroyed.

2. During the 24-hour period ending at noon on 11 August the Allied forces in France continued their enveloping movement, their right flank pushing northward from Le Mans while their left flank made additional progress toward Falaise.

~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~

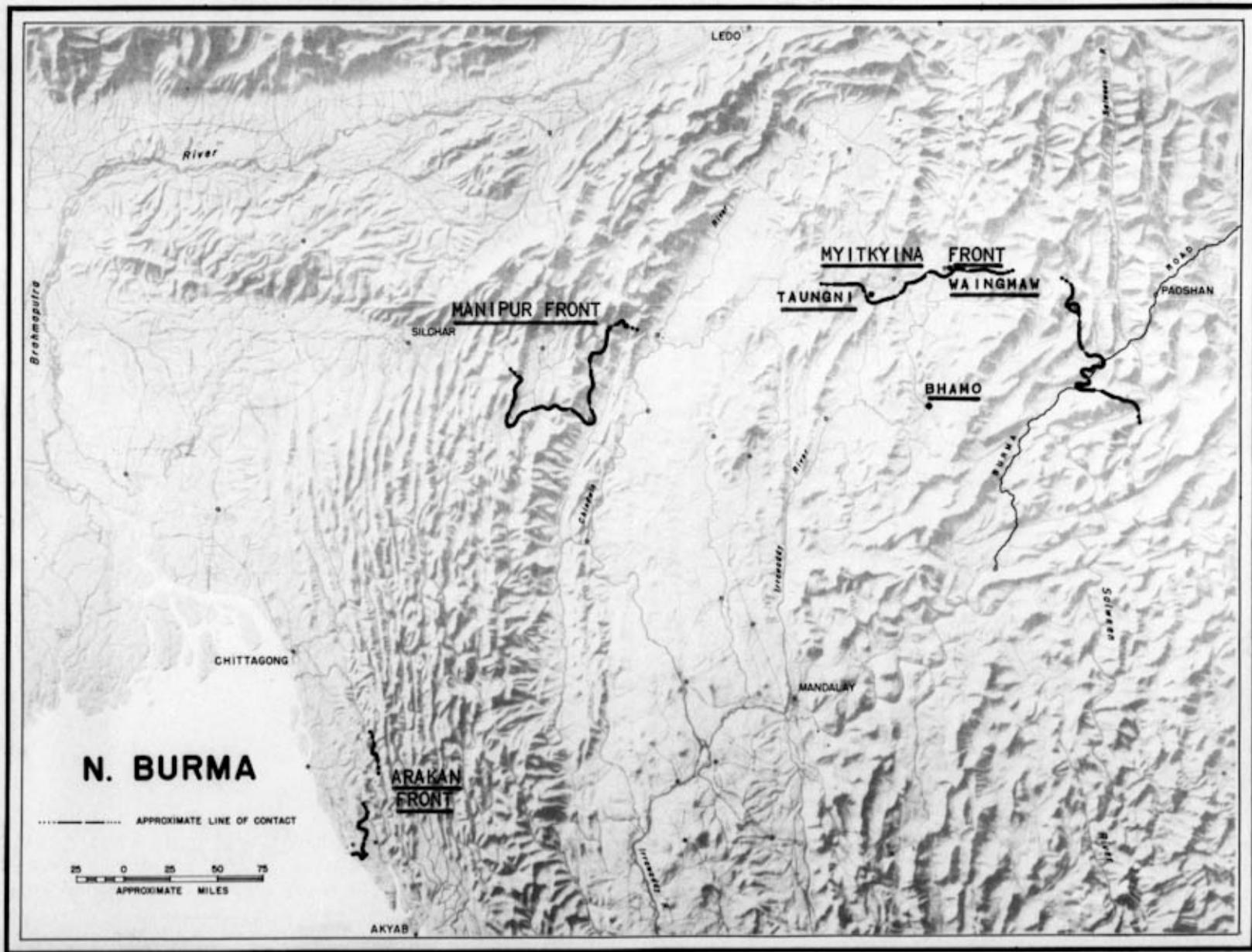
The VIII Corps of the American Third Army, continuing its attacks on Brest and Lorient, pushed an armored column across the Loire 12 miles south of Nantes. XV Corps infantry was at last report 22 miles northeast of Le Mans; a French armored division is now operating in this area. Fighting continued in St. Malo and Dinard. Our First Army made minor gains in the fighting around Mortain and reported a general advance of about two miles in the XIX and V Corps sectors south of Vire. An attack by the British First Army in the area east of Vire gained more than a mile despite heavy enemy resistance. To the northeast, Thury Harcourt was being encircled in three mile gains made east and west of the town. British patrols pushed through the Foret de Cinglais and advanced as far as Barbery. The Canadian First Army consolidated its forward positions five miles southeast of Bretteville sur Laize disposing of an attack by 20 German robot tanks. On the eastern flank infantry repulsed a heavy enemy counterattack and advanced their lines three miles east of St. Sylvain.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. On 10 August, 170 fighter bombers attacked gun positions, lines of communication and ammunition dumps along the Italian coast from Genoa to Ventimiglia. The Balkan Air Force attacked rail traffic and oil storage tanks in Yugoslavia.

Due to adverse weather 15th Air Force operations were cancelled on 11 August.

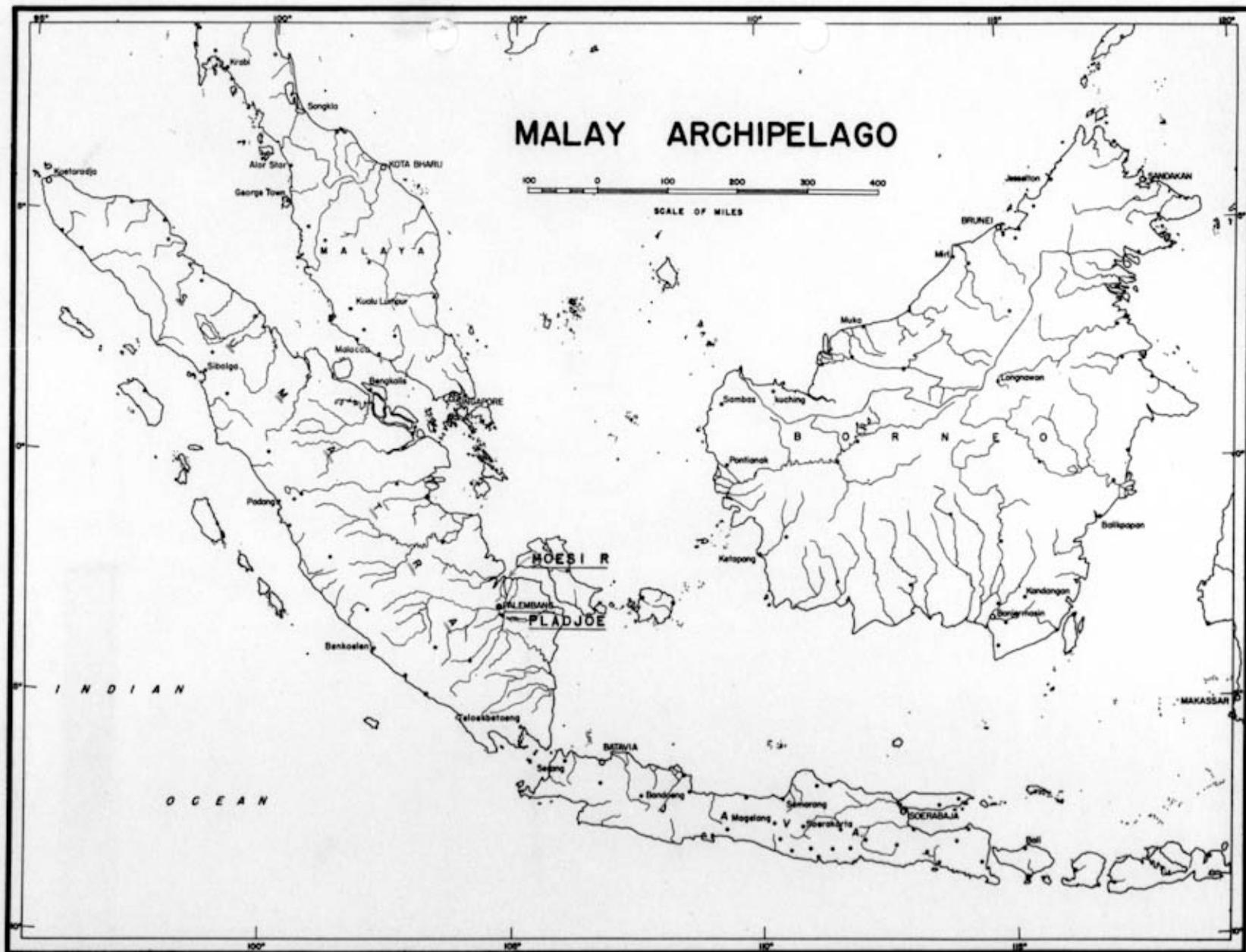
2. Little activity was reported by the Fifth Army during 11 August.



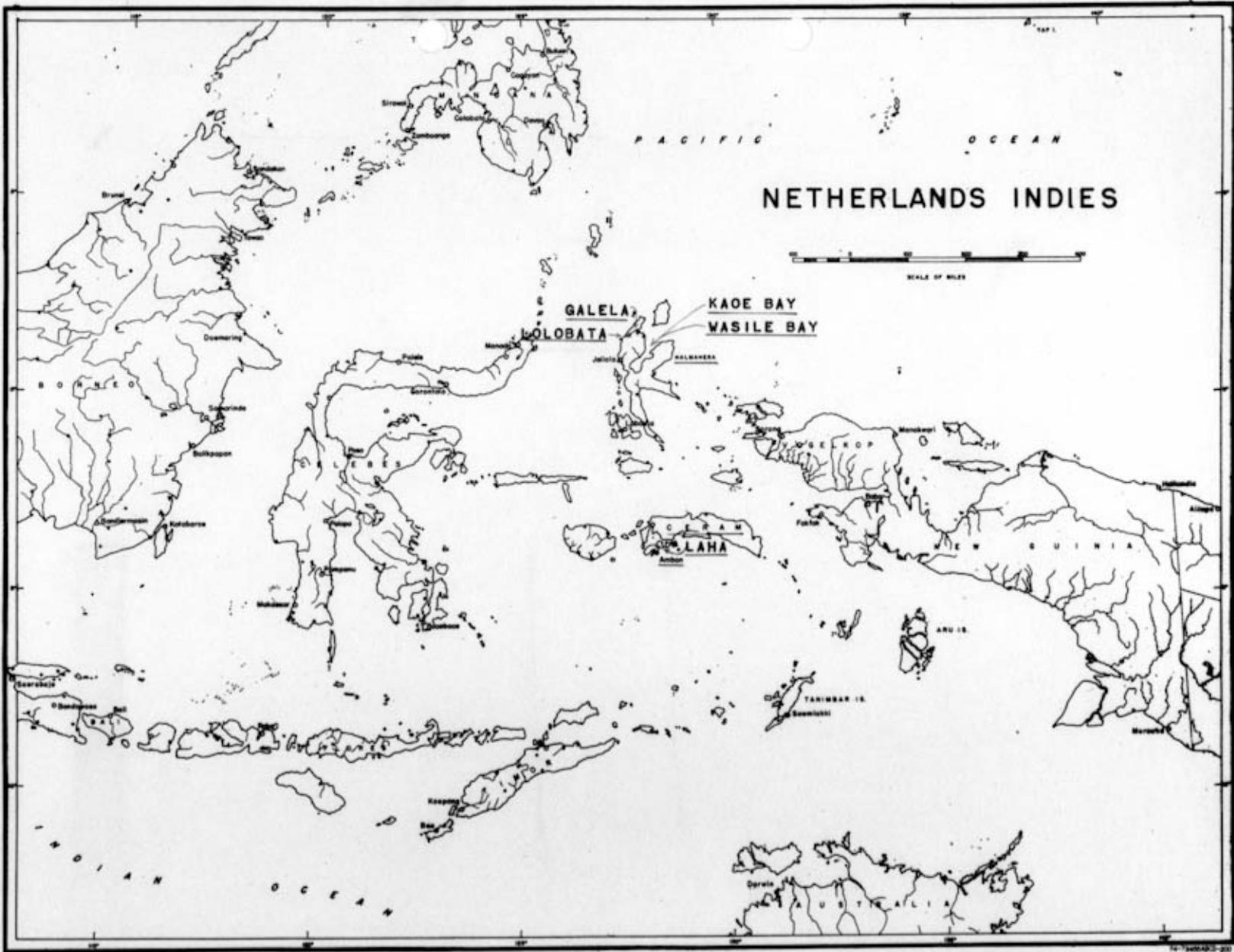
MALAY ARCHIPELAGO



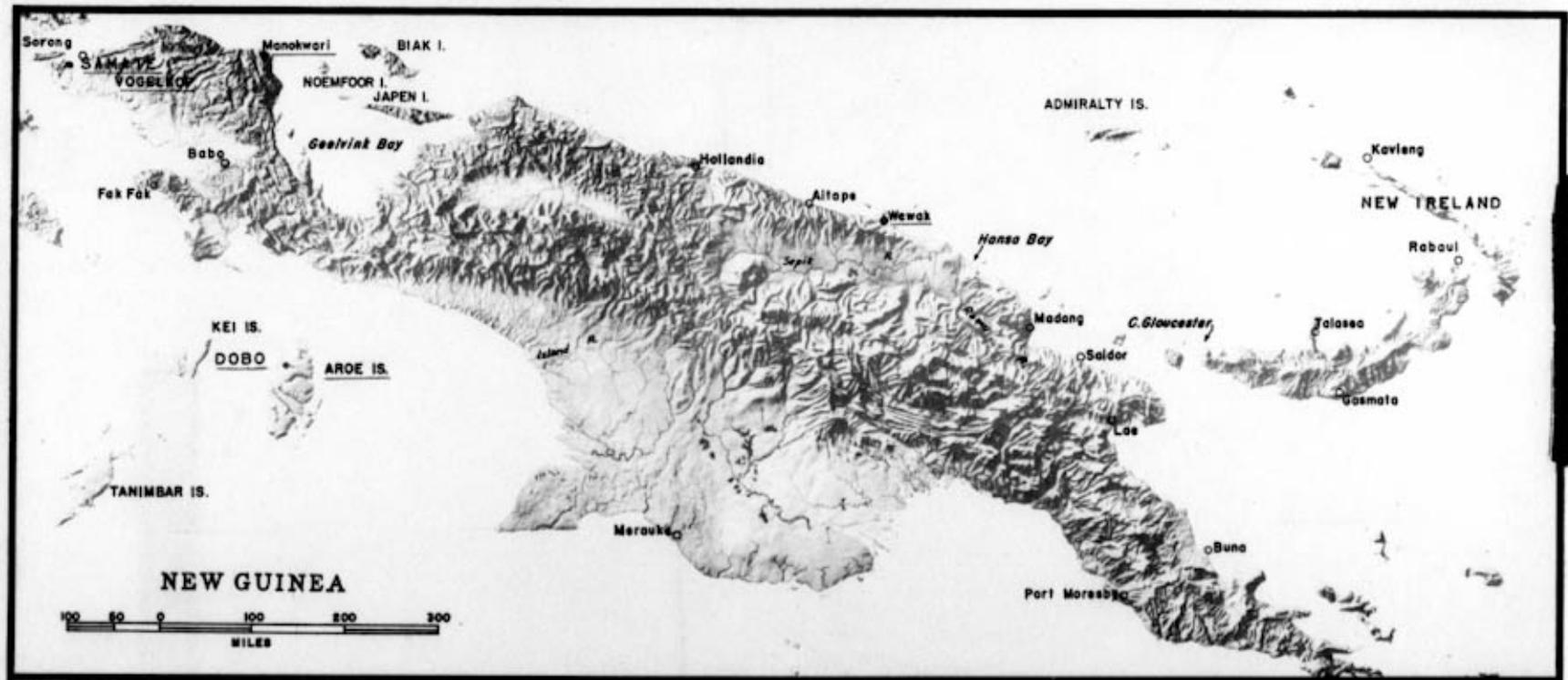
SCALE OF MILES



DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72



14-50842-20



On the Eighth Army front slight advances were made against stiff opposition near Epoli. At Florence the enemy was reported to have withdrawn north of the Mugnone Canal and demolished the bridges; our troops have not occupied the city. To the east of the city patrols crossed the Arno and returned without contact.

On the Polish II Corps front Castelleone di Suasa was occupied, patrols reached Monteporzio without contact; other troops, establishing a bridgehead over the Cesano River, advanced without opposition.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 8 August planes of the Eastern Air Command flew nearly 100 sorties attacking road, rail and river traffic at numerous points on the Arakan, Manipur and Myitkyina fronts. The following day 20 similar sorties were made.

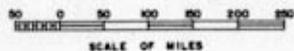
2. One B-29 is missing from the heavy bomber mission against targets in Japan, and one went down at sea during the attack on Sumatra on 10 August.

3. British troops captured Taungni on 10 August. Further to the east some progress was made down the Bhamo Road south of Waingmaw.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 9 August, 24 B-25's sank two 2,000-ton vessels, two sea-trucks, a lugger and several small craft, and damaged a large freighter and a 2,000-ton vessel in a raid on shipping at Wasile and Kaeo Bays, Halmahera. The next day three squadrons of B-24's hit Halmahera, attacking the Galela

CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.



IWO
(KAZAN)

- Assungong I.
- Agrihan I.
- Pagan I.
- Atamogan I.
- Guguen I.
- Sarigan I.
- Anofahan I.
- Medinilla I.
- Tanlan I.
- Salpan I.
- Agujan I.
- Rato I.
- Guam

PHILIPPINE IS.
(Mindanao I.)

Palau Is.
Ngemelis Is.

Yap Is.
Ngulu Is.

LIHINI Is.
Fala I.

Sorol Is.

Gofarol I.
Farouka Is.
West Fozu I.
Olimarao Is.
Elato Is.
Lamatofu Is.
Hak Is.

Diol Is.
Hali Is.
Truk Is.
Polap Is.
Poluwat Is.

C A R O L I N E I S L A N D S

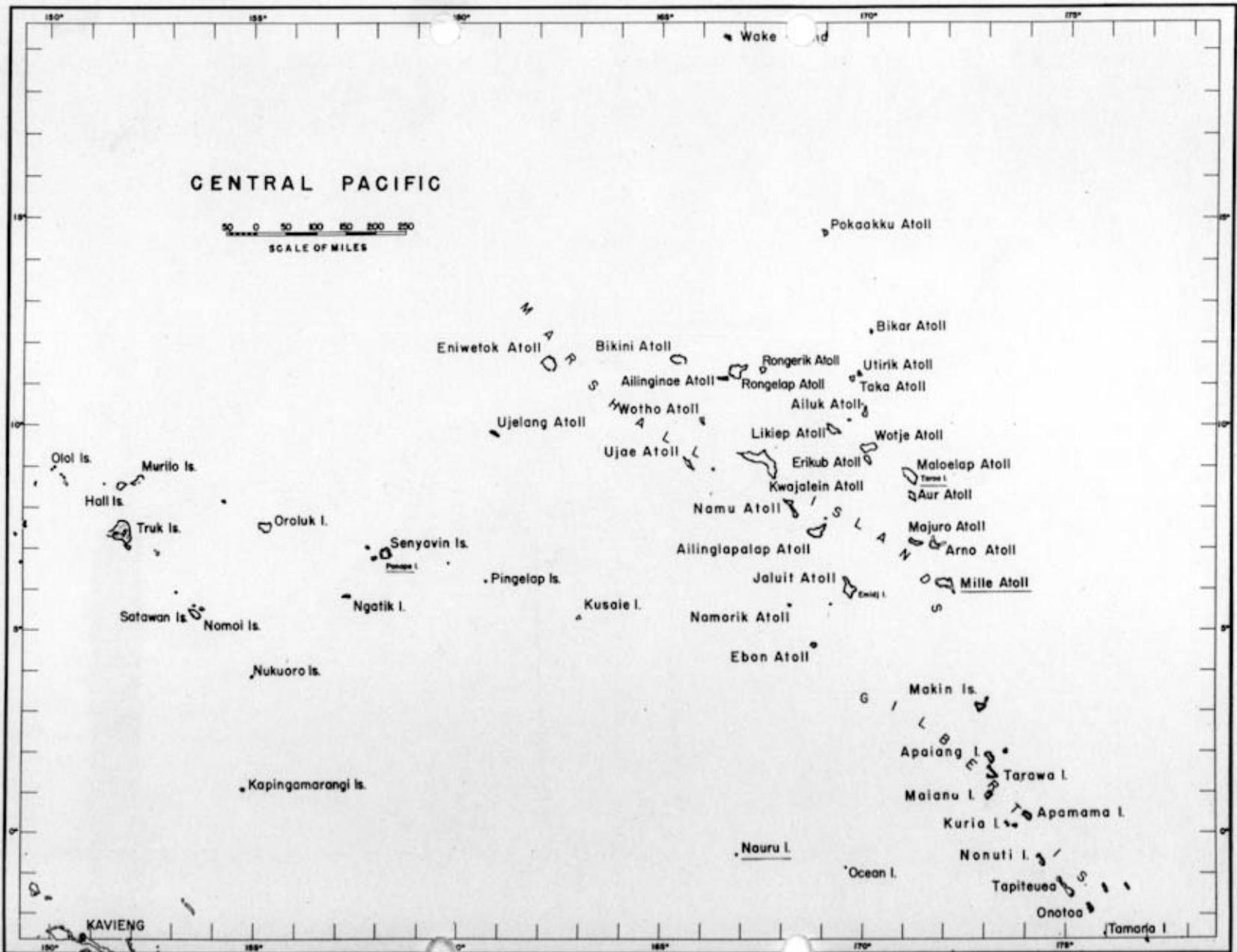
Sansoral Is.
Pulo Anne I.
Merir I.

Taloud Is.

Tobi I.
Helen I.

Morotal I.

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72



airdrome; 12 B-24's bombed Lolobata. Seventeen B-24's dropped 17 tons on the Laha airdrome (Ambon), while medium bombers raided shipping off Ceram and hit Dobo in the Aroe Islands. In the Carolines 21 B-24's dropped 33 tons on the Yap town area and gun positions while small heavy bomber missions raided Palau and Woleai. More than 50 fighters harassed villages and shipping along the north Vogelkop coast and south of Manokwari and, in a surprise raid on the Samate airdrome, inflicted heavy casualties on enemy troops who were parading. The Wewak area was again attacked.

On 9 August, 155 Solomons-based aircraft operated against targets on New Britain, New Ireland and Bougainville.

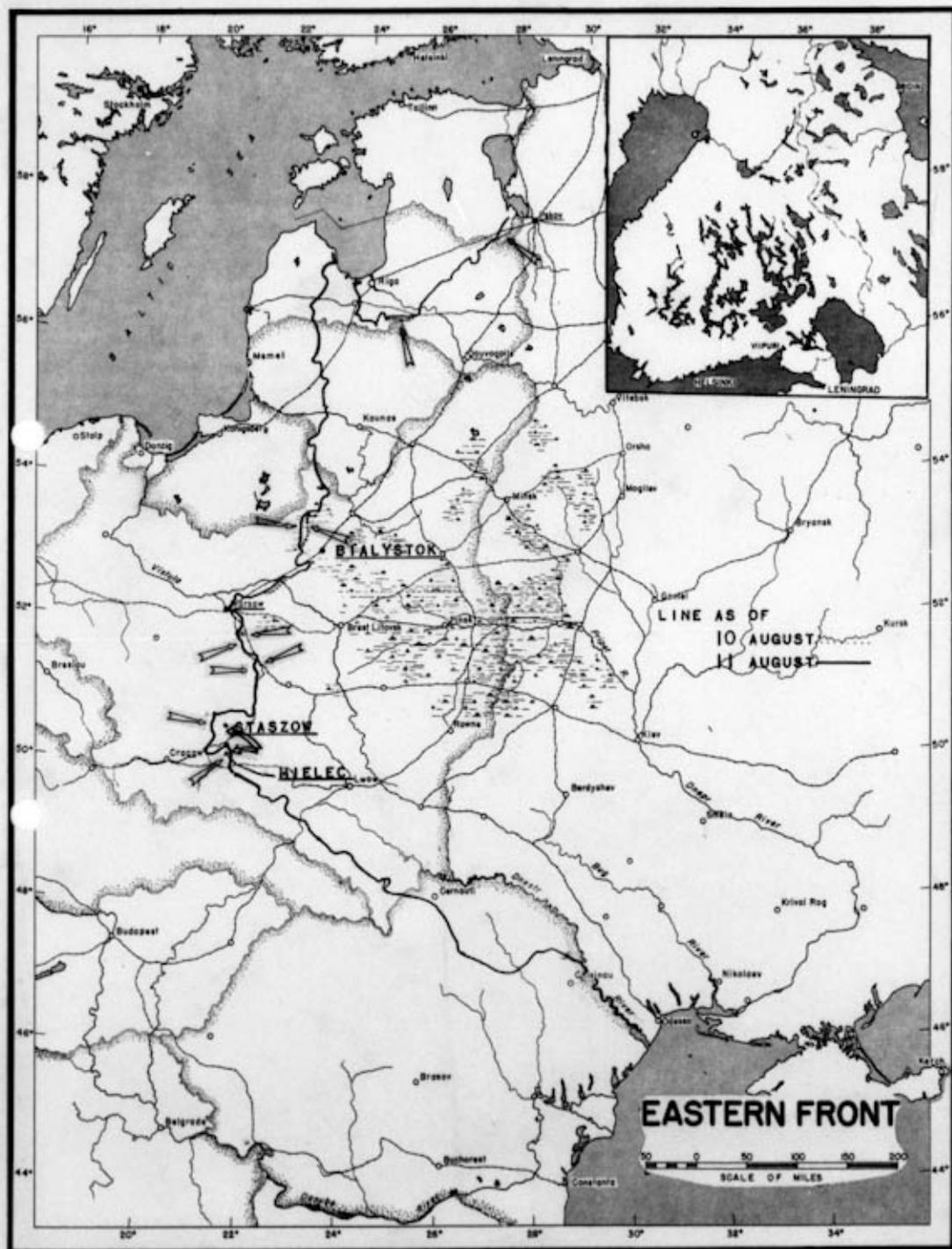
2. Our casualties on Guam up to 9 August were: 1,214 killed; 5,704 wounded; 329 missing. There were 10,971 enemy dead; 86 prisoners of war had been taken and seven Jap civilians interned.

3. Three Navy medium bombers attacked an airfield on Nauru during the night of 8-9 August. The next day 12 escorted medium bombers hit the runways at Ponape, and four bombers again attacked Nauru. Other aircraft harassed Taroa and Mille.

4. On 10 August, 18 B-24's of the 7th Air Force hit Iwo Jima in the Kazan (Volcano) Islands with 47 tons of bombs on airfields and installations; at least one enemy aircraft was destroyed. Twenty P-47's attacked Pagan Island (Marianas) airfield with 10 tons.

EASTERN FRONT

A new Soviet drive west of Pskov on 11 August penetrated into the



German defensive zone for gains up to 15 miles. West of Bialystok the Red Army drove forward 10 miles against stiff resistance. Polish resistance within Warsaw appeared to be disintegrating. West of Mielec and Staszow strong and repeated German attempts to drive the Red forces back failed.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

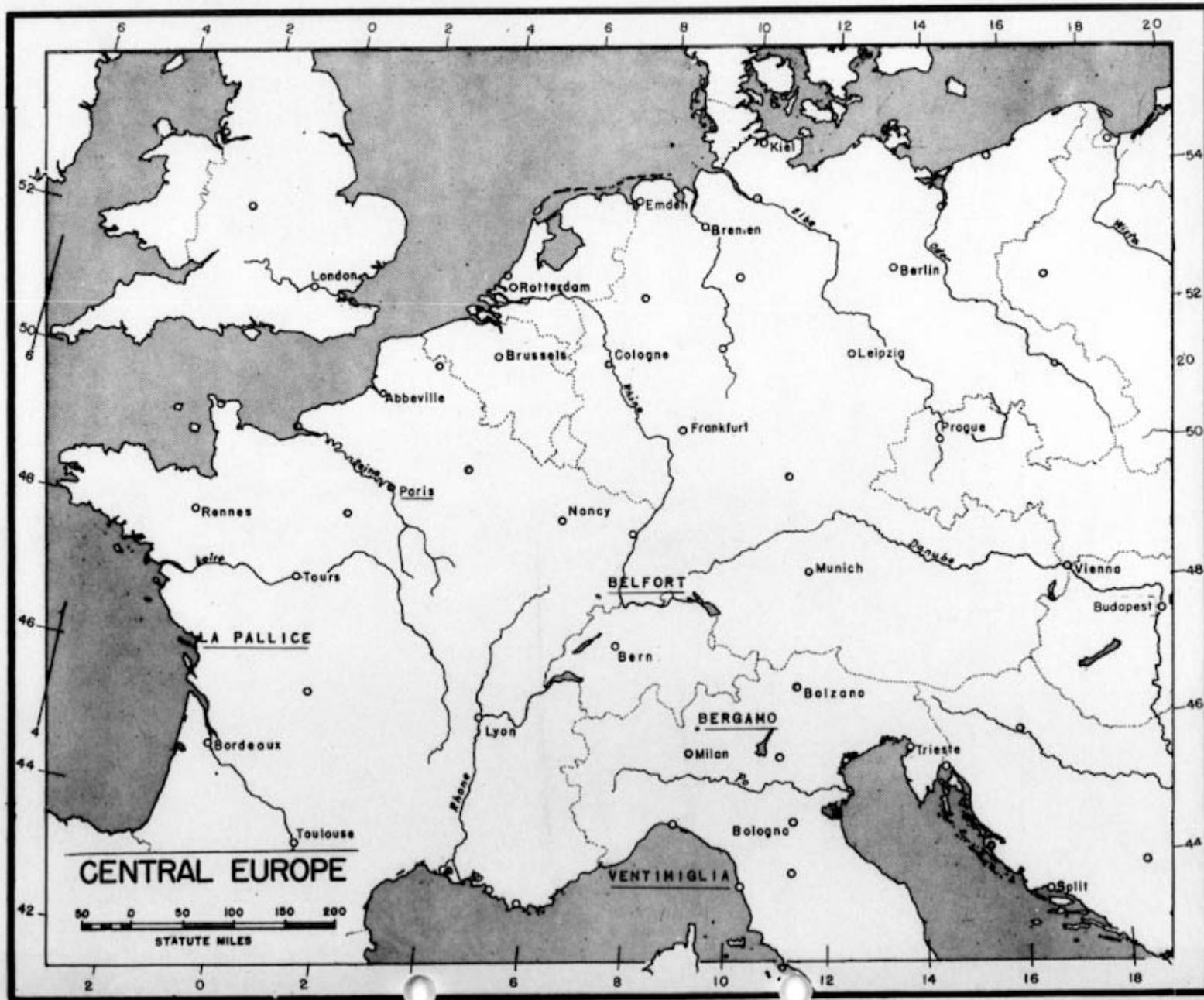
No. 975

0700 August 10 to 0700 August 11, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

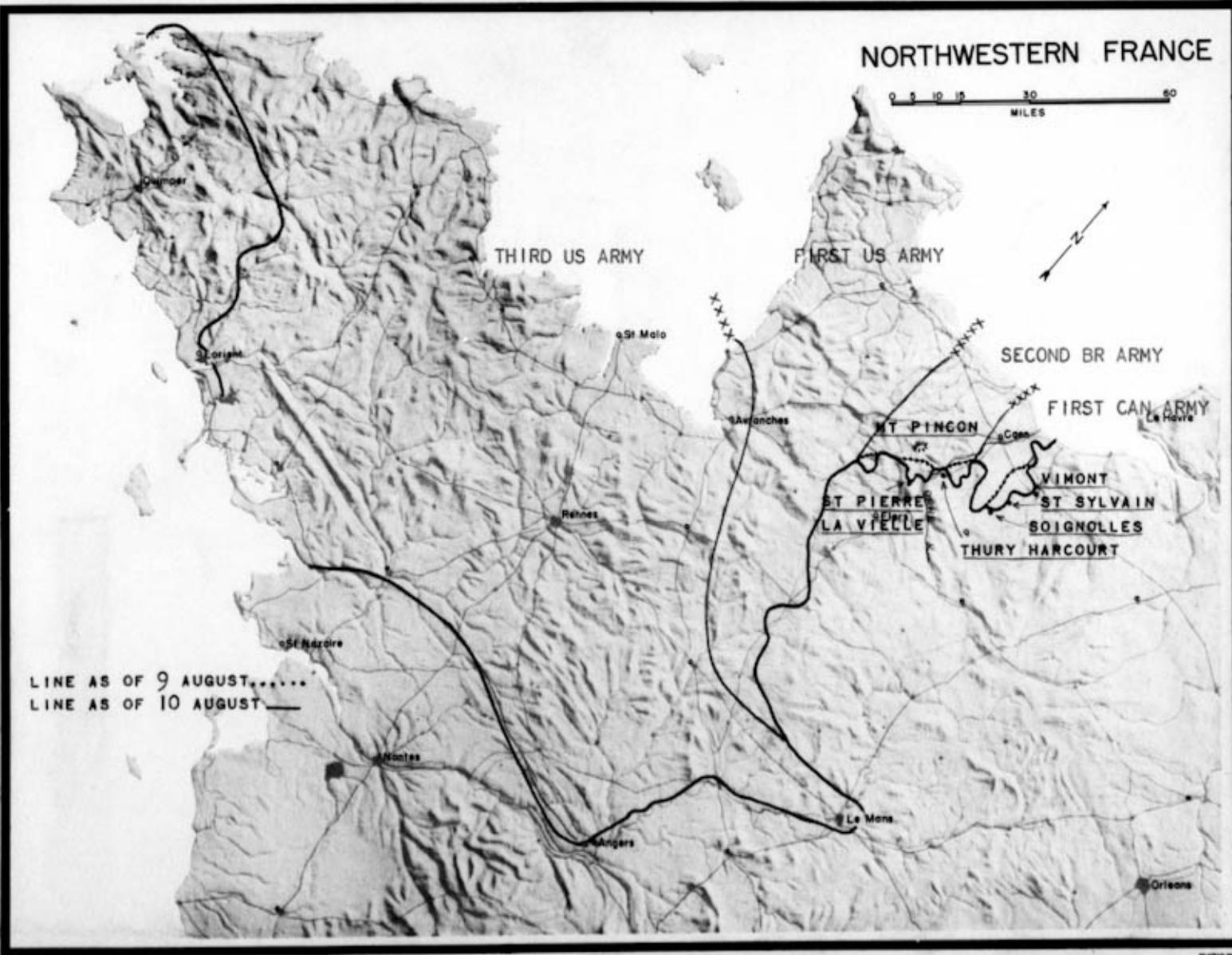
203(A)



NORTHWESTERN FRANCE



LINE AS OF 9 AUGUST.....
LINE AS OF 10 AUGUST——



DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

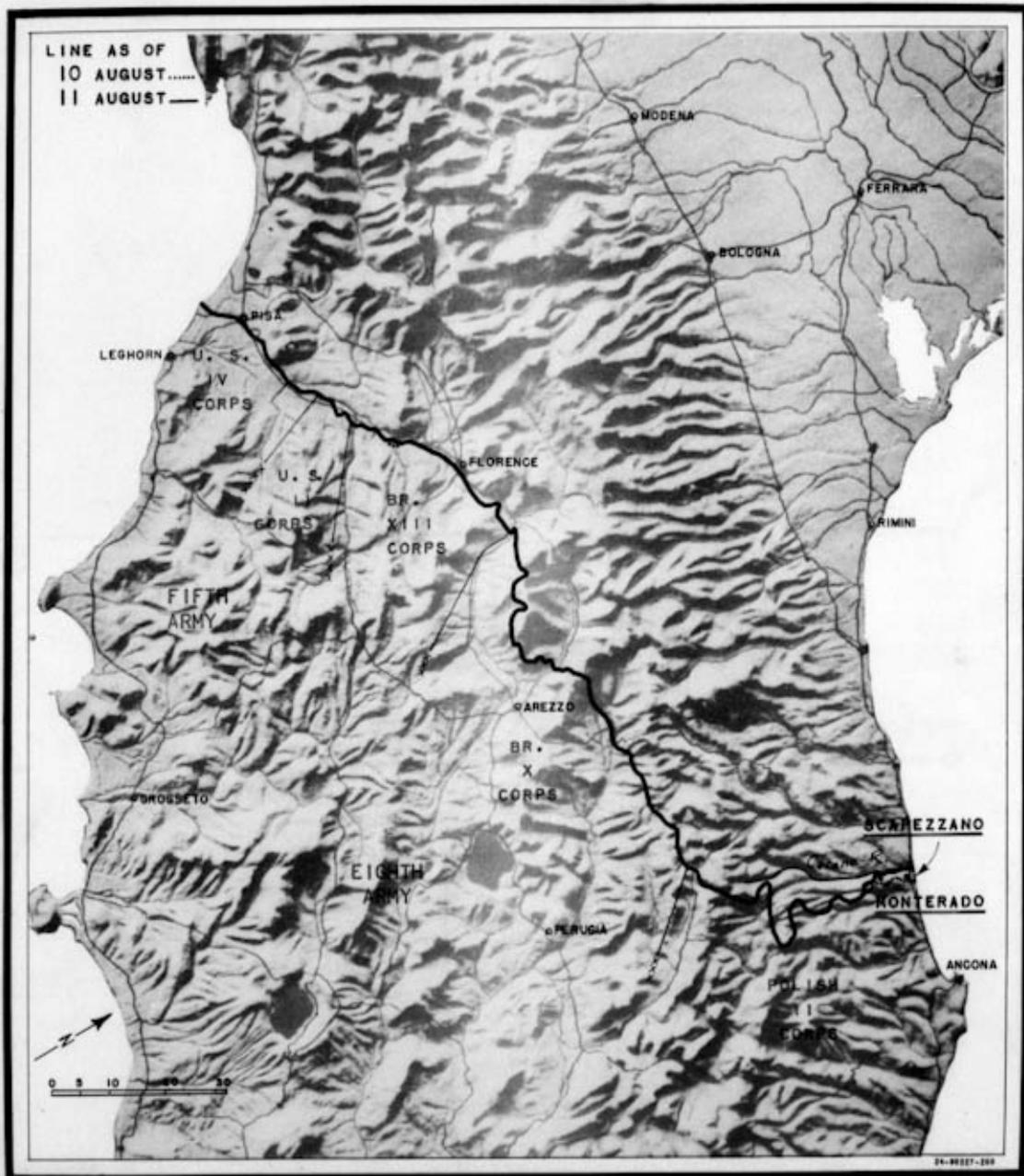
1. During the 8th Air Force attacks on 9 August, 523 heavy bombers dropped a total bombload of 1,295 tons. A mission of 129 fighter bombers attacked rail transportation in France at the same time.

The next day 175 bombers, escorted by 258 fighters, were dispatched against several fuel depots and bridges in the Paris area. The same day, 336 fighter bombers attacked railroads between Belfort and Paris. Fighters claimed 27 enemy aircraft destroyed. Two bombers and nine fighters are missing.

During the night of 9-10 August and the following day the RAF dispatched 522 bombers against three supply dumps in central and northern France and three launching sites. Three hundred thirty-two other bombers escorted by 183 fighters, struck at bomb-launching sites and the submarine pens at La Pallice, delivering 1,580 tons of bombs. On the mission against La Pallice, 12 six-ton bombs were dropped, two of which are claimed to have hit their target directly.

Flying bomb activity for the period ending at 0600, 10 August: Of 49 bombs plotted, 29 made landfall and ten reached the London area. Twenty-eight were destroyed. Four of the bombs arriving during the past week carried incendiary charges. To date 2,180 bombs have struck London; casualties now total 5,203 killed and 34,412 injured.

2. All corps in the British Second and Canadian First Armies reported gains for the 24-hour period ending at noon on 10 August. The British Second Army drove southward from the Mt. Pincon area on a two-



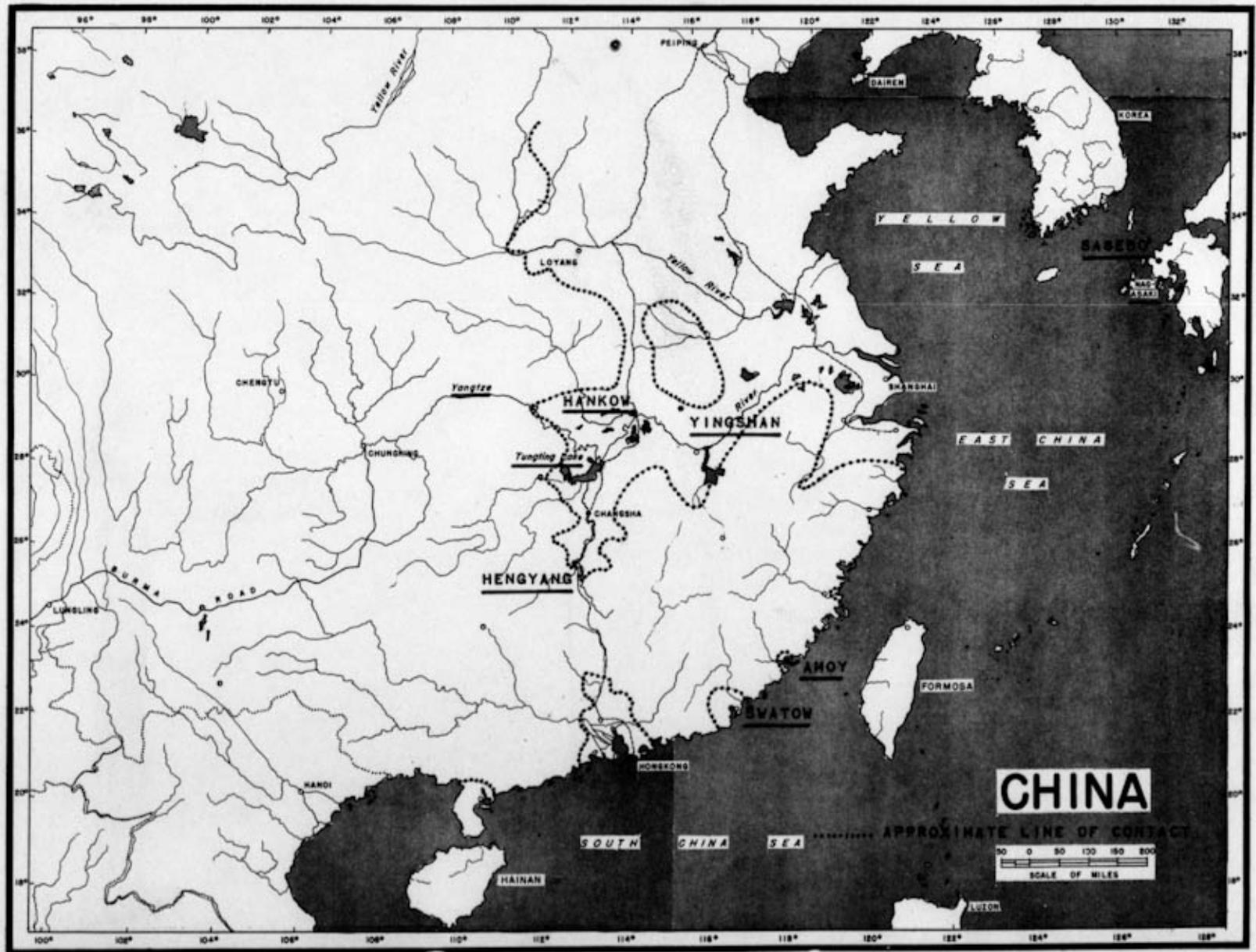
division front, advancing more than two miles and capturing the high ground west of St. Pierre La Vieille. Further gains were made west of Thury Harcourt while northwest of that town the British enlarged their salient east and south of the Orne to a depth of three miles along a five-mile front; its advance southward was impeded by thick anti-tank defenses. The Canadian First Army broadened the base of its salient into the enemy lines by pushing eastwards to Vimont, St. Sylvain and Soignolles. No official report on our own activities has been received.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. The Mediterranean Allied Air Force flew nearly 1,000 tactical sorties during 9 August. A total of 140 medium bombers, supported by 165 fighters, struck the railroad bridge at Ventimiglia and an airdrome at Bergamo. Fighters and fighter bombers continued their attacks against bridges, rail and road transportation in the Po Valley and other targets in the battle area. Coastal and Balkan operations continued. Seven of our planes were lost; claims are six (probably seven) enemy aircraft destroyed, three of them while on the ground.

During the night of 9-10 August, 76 British bombers dropped 120 tons of explosives on an oil refinery at Floesti; 11 bombers are missing.

The next day, 481 B-17's and B-24's, escorted by 348 fighters, continued the attack on the Floesti refineries with 982 tons. Intense antiaircraft fire was encountered in the target area. Sixteen bombers and two fighters are missing; of the enemy aircraft encountered one



bomber and five fighters were destroyed.

2. There was little change in the situation on the American or British fronts in Italy during 9 and 10 August. East of Apennines the Polish II Corps, after capturing Scapezzano and Monterado, pursued the enemy to the line of the Cesano.

ASIATIC THEATER

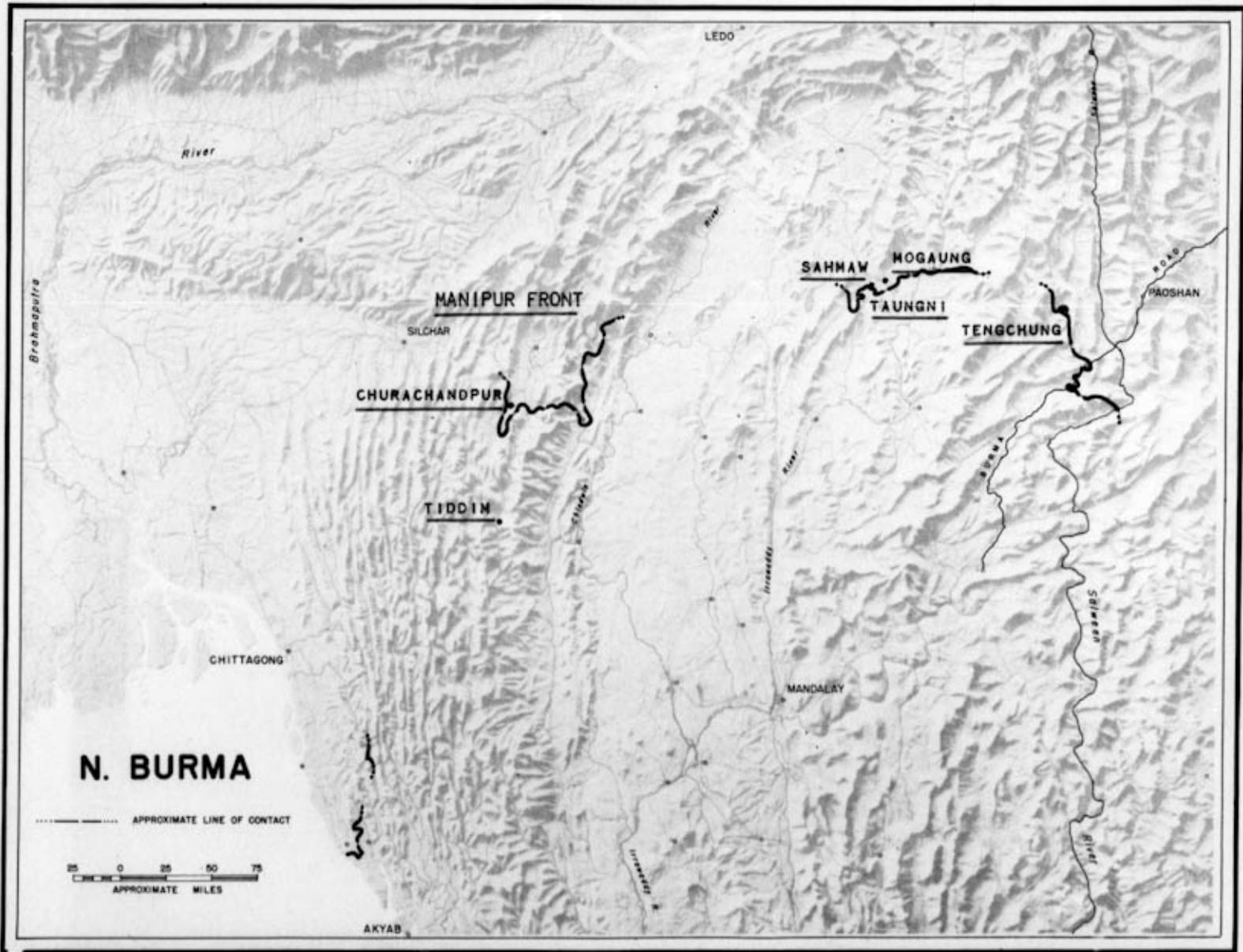
1. Fifty-three B-29's were dispatched on 10 August to attack an oil refinery at Palembang and other targets in Sumatra as well as to mine the Moesi River channel between Bangka Straits and Palembang. This involved a round trip of more than 3,600 miles.

2. A preliminary report states that on 10 August a force of B-29's bombed targets in Japan with good results. Twenty-one attacked Nagasaki and one each raided Sasebo and Yingshan. One B-29 is missing.

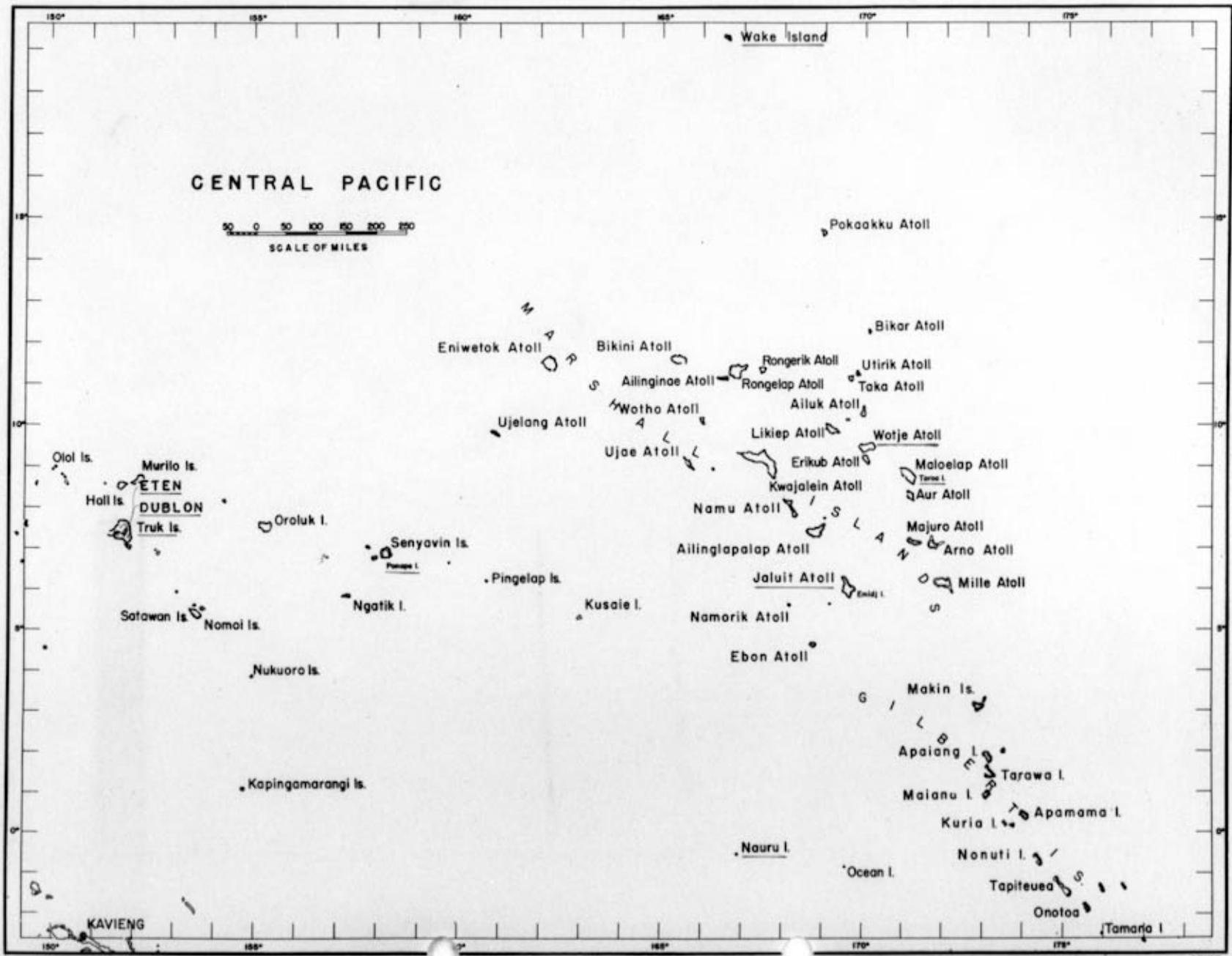
3. On 8 August some 80 planes of the 14th Air Force operated over a wide area, supporting ground operations near Hengyang, hitting airfields and shipping near Swatow and Amoy and harassing other targets. The following day 11 fighters swept the Yangtze from Tungting Lake to Hankow sinking several boats. Nine Japanese planes were destroyed in one action; no loss to our aircraft was reported.

4. During 9 August the advance down the Tiddim Road on the Manipur front met strong enemy positions 14 miles south of Churachandpur. Near Mogaung British troops occupied Sahmaw.

5. The Japanese captured Hengyang on 8 August.







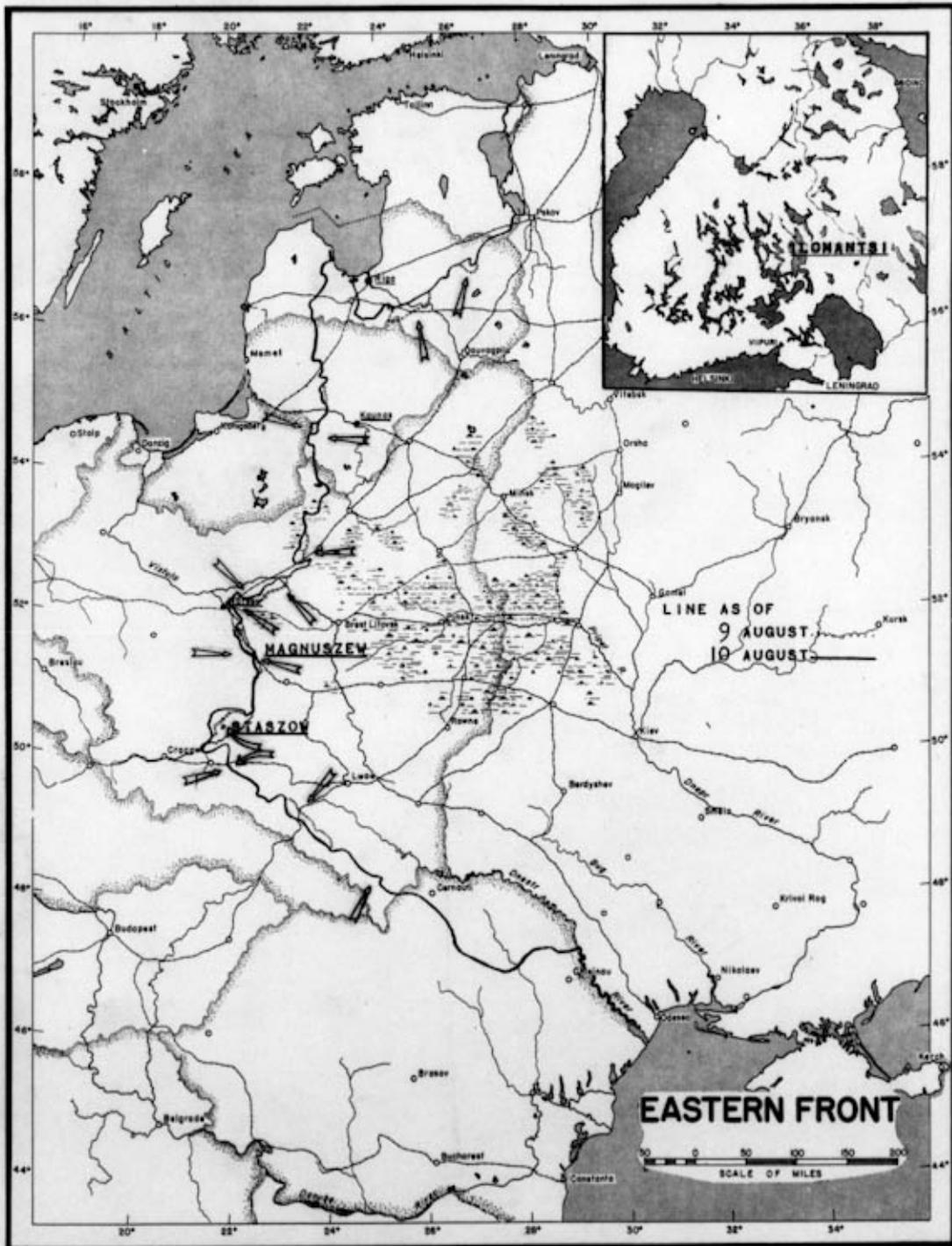
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. On 9 August our troops in the Aitape area reported that the major combat elements of the Japanese Eighteenth Army had been thoroughly defeated, its survivors scattering to the east and toward the mountains on the south without attempting to oppose our forces. We are operating along the Drinumor River south of Afua; patrols east of Yakumul report the area unoccupied. Some 650 enemy dead have been counted and 50 have been captured in this sector since 10 July.

2. In the Carolines, Yap was bombed by 23 B-24's and Palau by two others on 9 August; one is missing. Another B-24 again attacked an airdrome at Davao. Eleven B-24's hit Namlea (Boeroe), 12 others bombed the Liang airdrome (Amboina), and a B-24 group attacked Boela (Ceram) starting fires in the tank farm area. Heavy bombers on reconnaissance attacked airfields in the northwest area and damaged two vessels in waters off Halmahera. Twenty-four US and Dutch B-25's made a heavy attack against the Langgoer airdrome in the Kai Islands. Other missions bombed the retreating enemy in the Yakumul area, raided targets in the Wewak region, covered our Sansapor operations, and hit other targets in the Vogelkop area.

On 8 August our aircraft maintained their neutralization of targets in the northern Solomons.

3. During the evening of 7-8 August and the following day some 90 Central Pacific aircraft attacked Nauru, Taroa, Ponape, Truk, Wotje, Jaluit and Wake in scattered raids.



The next day two Central Pacific planes raided an airfield on Ponape and 26 B-24's dropped nearly 65 tons on Truk. One of some ten intercepting Japanese aircraft over Truk was destroyed.

4. Organized Japanese resistance on Guam Island ended during the afternoon of 9 August (west longitude date).

EASTERN FRONT

The Soviet Armies continued to advance east and southeast of Riga, during 10 August, scoring gains up to ten miles; heavy fighting continued on a 100-mile front west of Kaunas. The Russians made gains east of Warsaw and enlarged their bridgehead at Magnuszew and Staszow against heavy counterattacks. The Finns claim that two Soviet divisions have been encircled in the Ilomantsi area.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

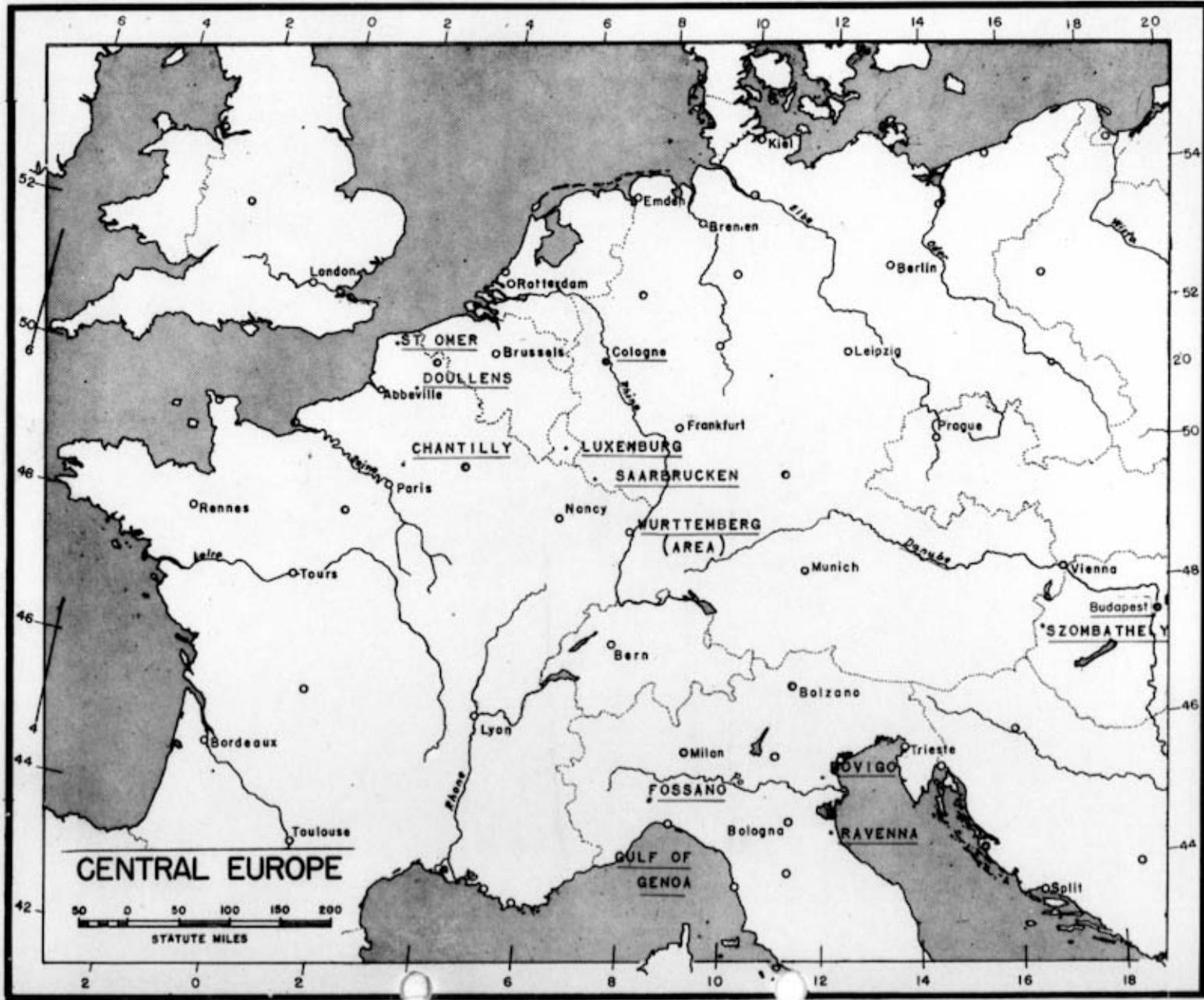
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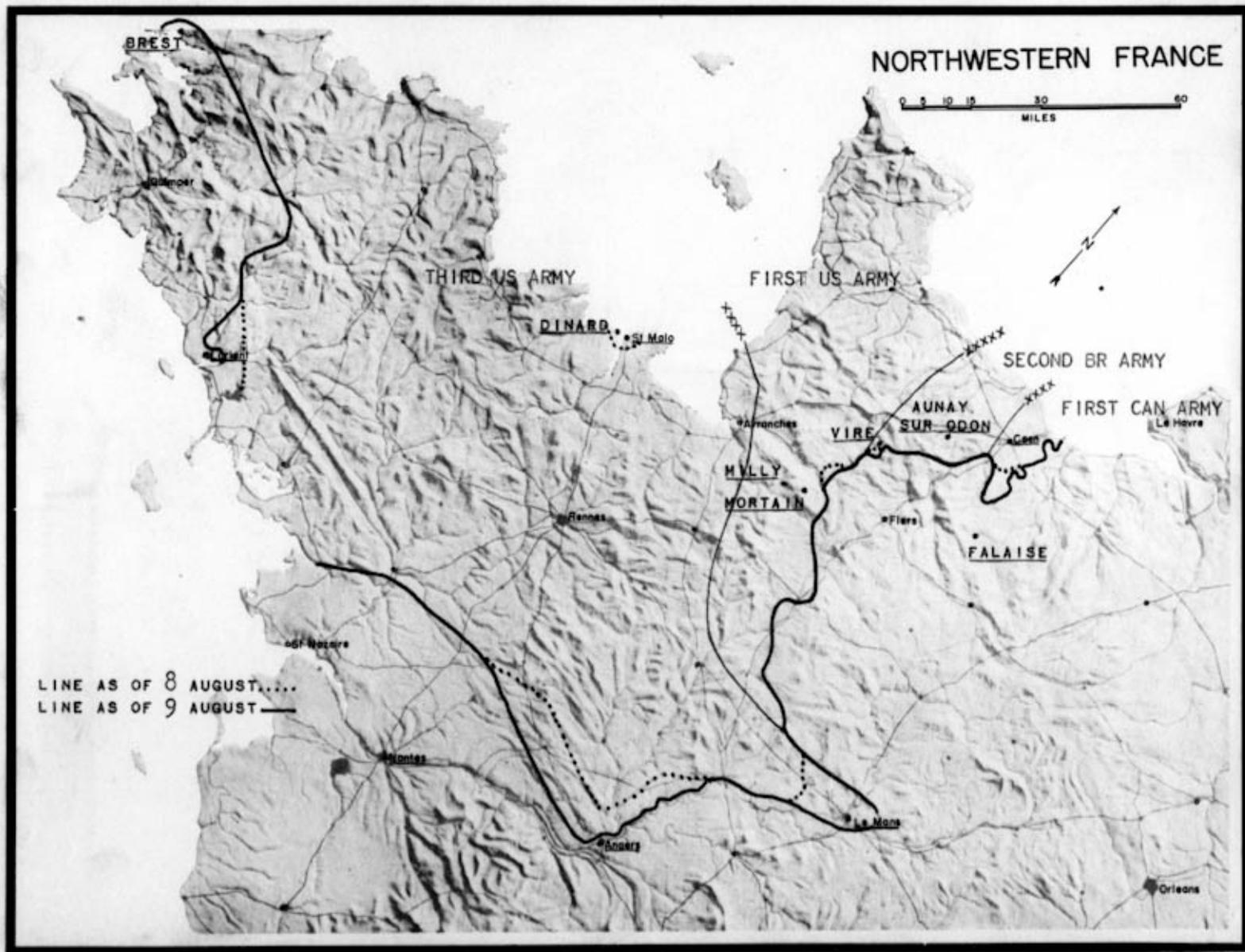
0700 August 9 to 0700 August 10, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)





DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. The Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,586 sorties in the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 8 August, attacking railway bridges, airfields, dumps and numerous other targets, including enemy units in movement on roads and railroads. Thirty-four enemy aircraft were destroyed for the loss of 35 bombers and three fighters.

During the night of 8-9 August, 441 bombers of the RAF dropped 795 tons on an oil dump near Chantilly, 663 tons on fuel dumps northeast of Doullens and southeast of St. Omer, and 279 tons on bomb launching sites; three bombers are missing from these operations. The same night Mosquitoes dropped 52 tons, including 22 two-ton bombs, on Cologne and heavy bombers mined the waters off the west coast of France. Bomber support patrols destroyed two enemy planes.

Of 37 flying bombs plotted for the period ending 0600, 9 August, 12 reached the London area. Thirteen were destroyed.

On 9 August 819 bombers and 690 fighters of the 8th Air Force were dispatched against targets in the Saarbrucken-Luxembourg-Wurtemberg area. Fighters claim 63 enemy aircraft destroyed. Eighteen bombers and two fighters are missing.

2. During 9 August our Third Army exploited its success in Brittany, isolating the enemy in pockets along the coast. Our infantry captured St. Malo and at last report our forward armored units were still encountering stubborn resistance from the German troops entrapped at Dinard, Brest and Lorient. On the south of the Third Army front infantry

~~TOP SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

OSD Letter, 5-3-72

columns advanced towards Nantes and reached the outskirts of Angers. The XV Corps liberated Le Mans and cut the rail lines east and south of the city. An enemy counterattack towards Milly on our First Army front was unsuccessful. The situation in the Mortain area was still confused; our armor, however, held the heights five miles east of the town which the enemy appeared still to be holding. The British Second Army reported minor gains east of Vire and south of Aunay-sur-Odon. The First Canadian Army, continuing its drive south of Caen, broadened the base of its salient into the enemy line and advanced to a point five miles from Falaise.

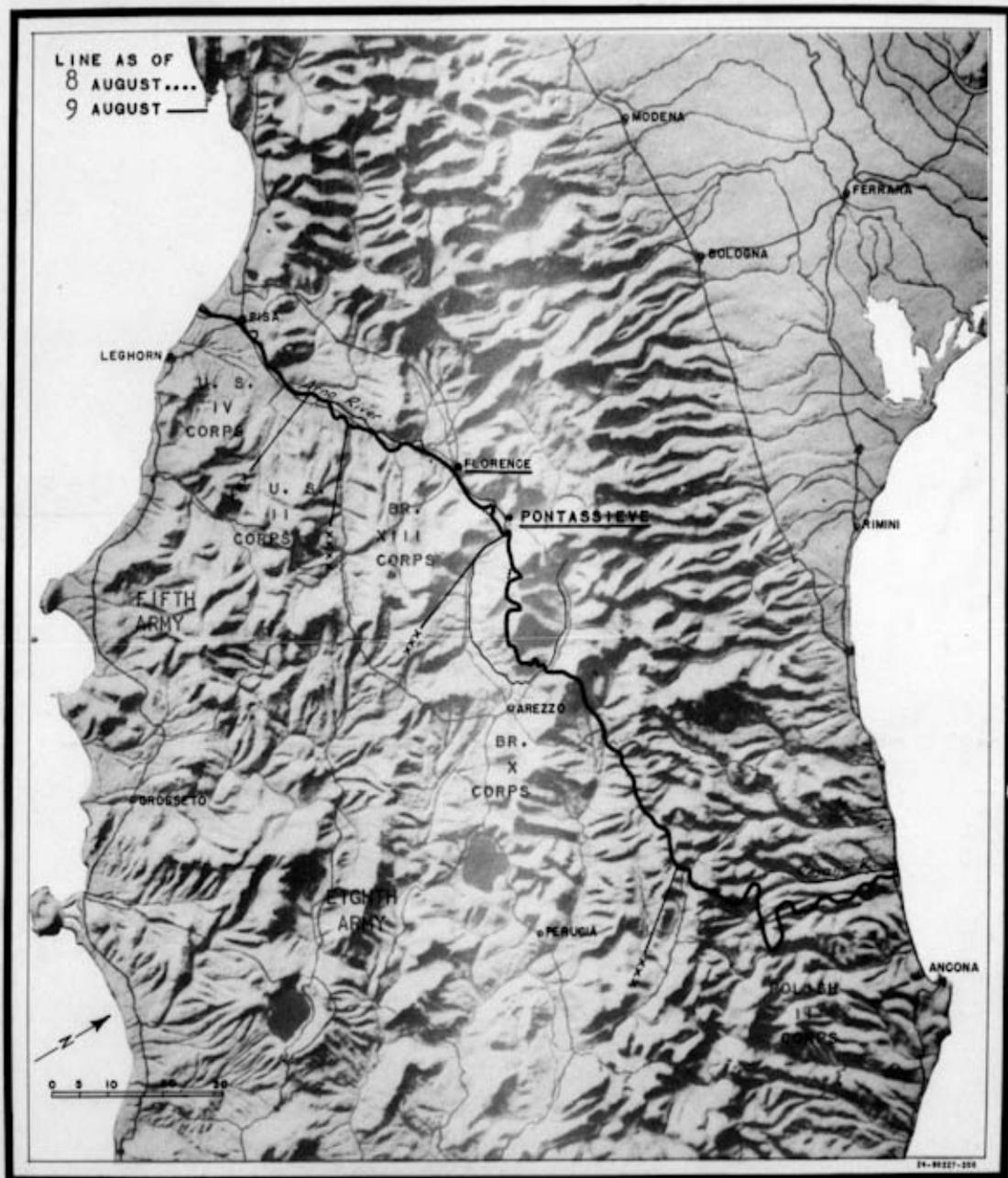
One and three quarters millions of men have been landed in France by the Allies, including more than a million of our own.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Strategic bombers dropped 153 tons of explosives on the Szombathely airdrome in Hungary during the night of 7-8 August; two others mined the Danube. Four Allied planes failed to return.

Although Strategic operations were cancelled next day due to weather, Tactical aircraft flew over 750 sorties against targets such as a railroad bridge near Rovigo, the Ravenna yards, storage dumps south of Fossano and bridges in southern France. Five Allied planes were lost; three enemy planes were destroyed. The Coastal Air Force continued to harass coastal shipping in the Gulf of Genoa; the Balkan Air Force carried out 28 sorties over Yugoslavia.

During 9 August, 423 escorted bombers of the 15th Air Force



dropped 1,026 tons of bombs on two airdromes, two assembly shops, one railroad yard and an oil refinery, near Budapest, with generally good results. One bomber and one fighter are missing.

2. During the 24 hours ending at noon on 9 August the situation on most of the Italian front was static. Both Armies continued routine patrolling, and in the Florence sector units were regrouping. South of Fontassieve the enemy withdrew during the night and British infantry gained two miles without contact. On the Adriatic coast the Polish Corps captured some high ground south of the Cesano River and successfully held its new line against counterattacks.

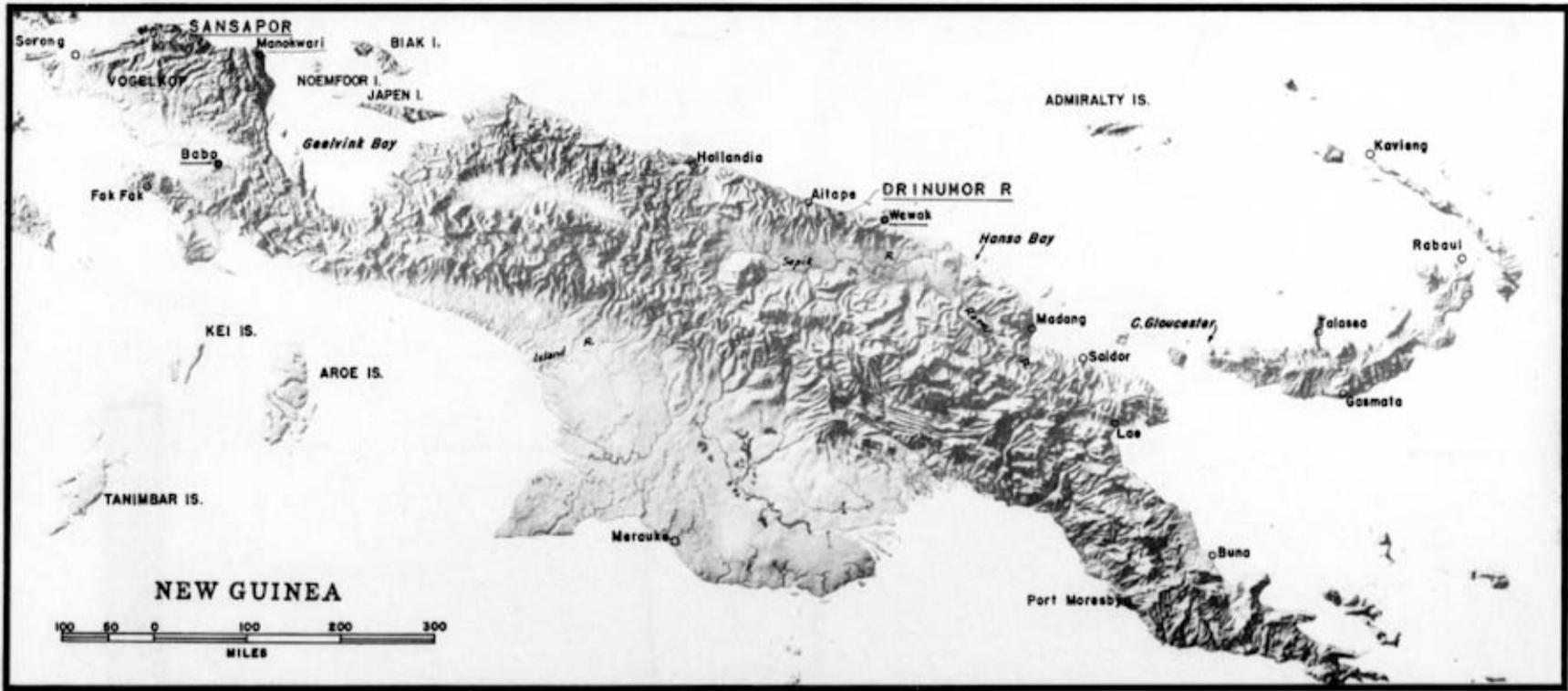
3. Eight British bombers attacked enemy shipping off the island of Leros with observed effect during the night of 7-8 August.

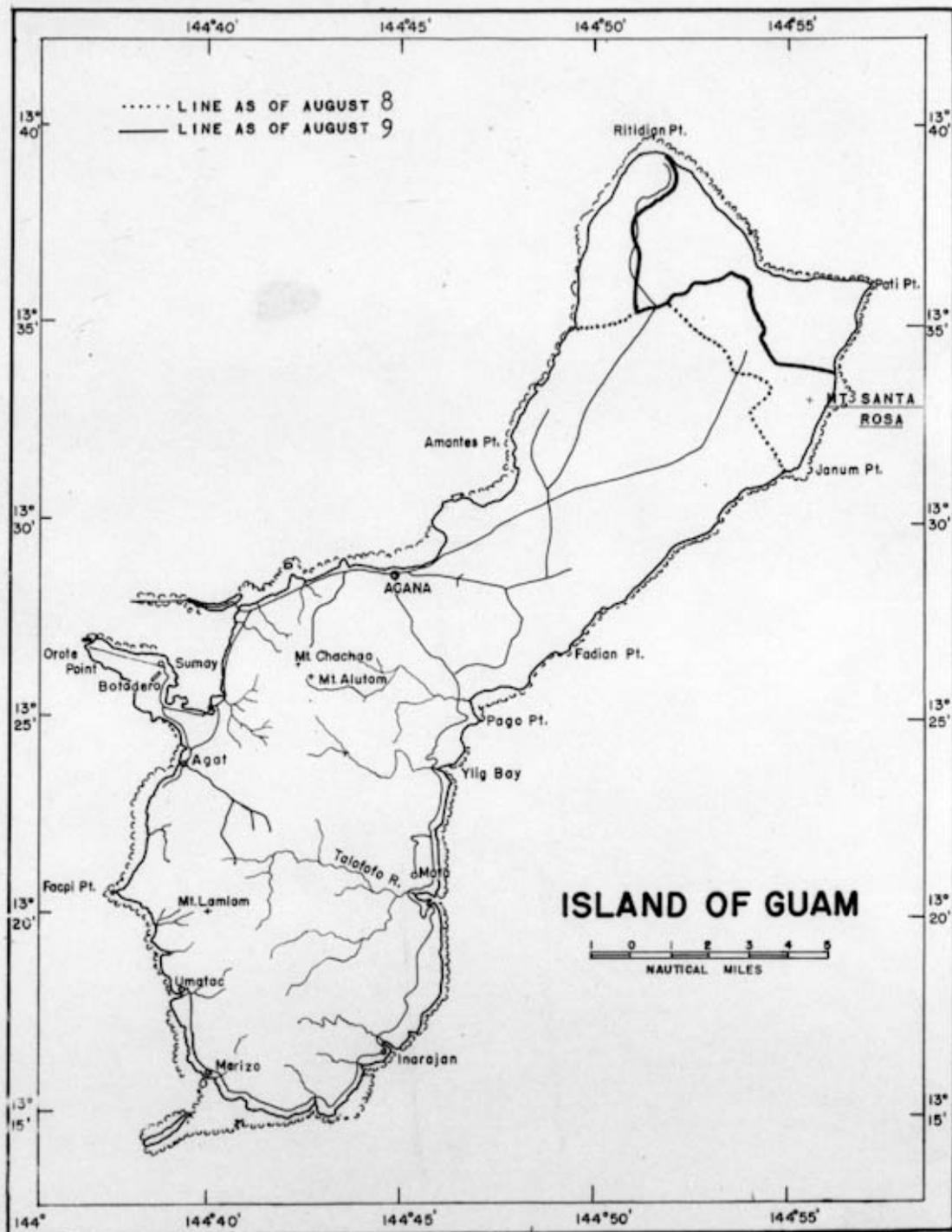
ASIATIC THEATER

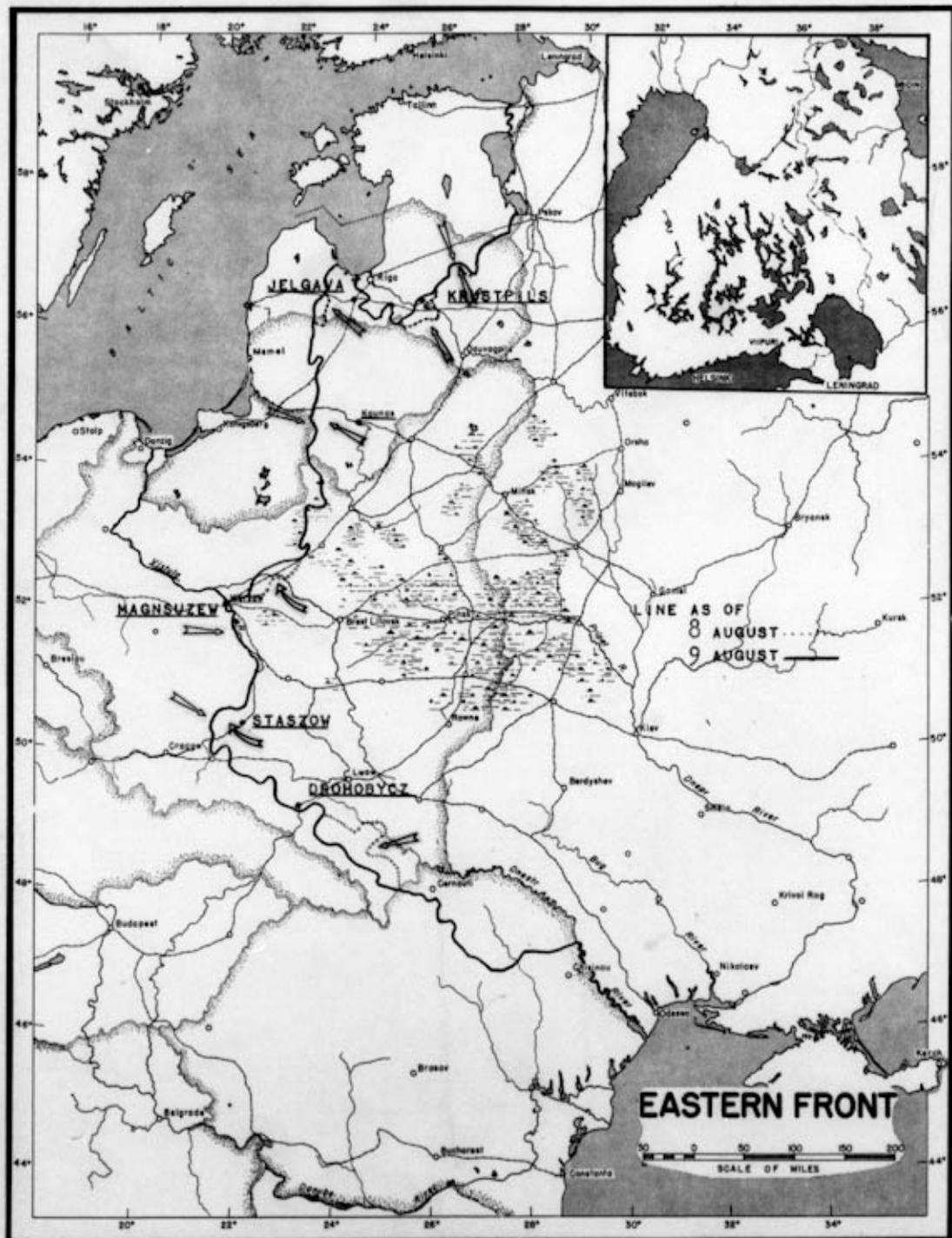
1. A supplementary report for 6 August describes an attack near Hengyang by five Japanese fighters against four P-51's, during which three (probably four) enemy planes were shot down without reported loss on our part. The following day Allied aircraft supported ground operations in the Hengyang area.

2. During 7 August the Eastern Air Command flew over 100 sorties in support of ground operations on the Manipur front.

3. During 8 August there was heavy fighting in the Mogaung Valley north of Taungni. The consolidation of our positions in Tamu continued. Along the Tiddim Road Japanese resistance has broken and the southward







advance continued to a point twelve miles below Churachandpur.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. American troops moved southward up the Drinumor River during 8 August, clearing enemy pockets of resistance.

During the night of 7-8 August a B-24 attacked a 2,000-ton enemy vessel in Sarangani Bay (Philippines). The next day, neutralization of the Wewak area was continued; in addition, 21 B-24's bombed Yap, 61 RAAF P-40's covered the Sansapor area, and one B-24 group bombed Babo. Smaller missions of B-24's harassed Woleai, Fais and Manokwari.

On 7 August the neutralization of Bougainville, New Ireland, and Gazelle Peninsula was maintained.

2. Army and Marine units forced the enemy further into the northeast tip of Guam during 8 August; at the center of the battle front we drove a wedge which virtually separated the Jap remnants into two groups. Mt. Santa Rosa, the main enemy source of water, was taken during the day. Counted Japanese dead totalled 10,100; our casualties to date are: killed 1,154, wounded 5,497 and missing 326.

EASTERN FRONT

During 9 August the Soviets continued to advance north and southwest of Krustpils as well as southwest of Jelgava where their armored forces gained fifteen miles. Very heavy fighting was reported west of Kaunas. The Germans increased their pressure against resistance elements in Warsaw. Red forces repulsed attacks against their bridgehead at Magnuszew, enlarged the bridgehead at Staszow and advanced southwest of Drohobycz.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

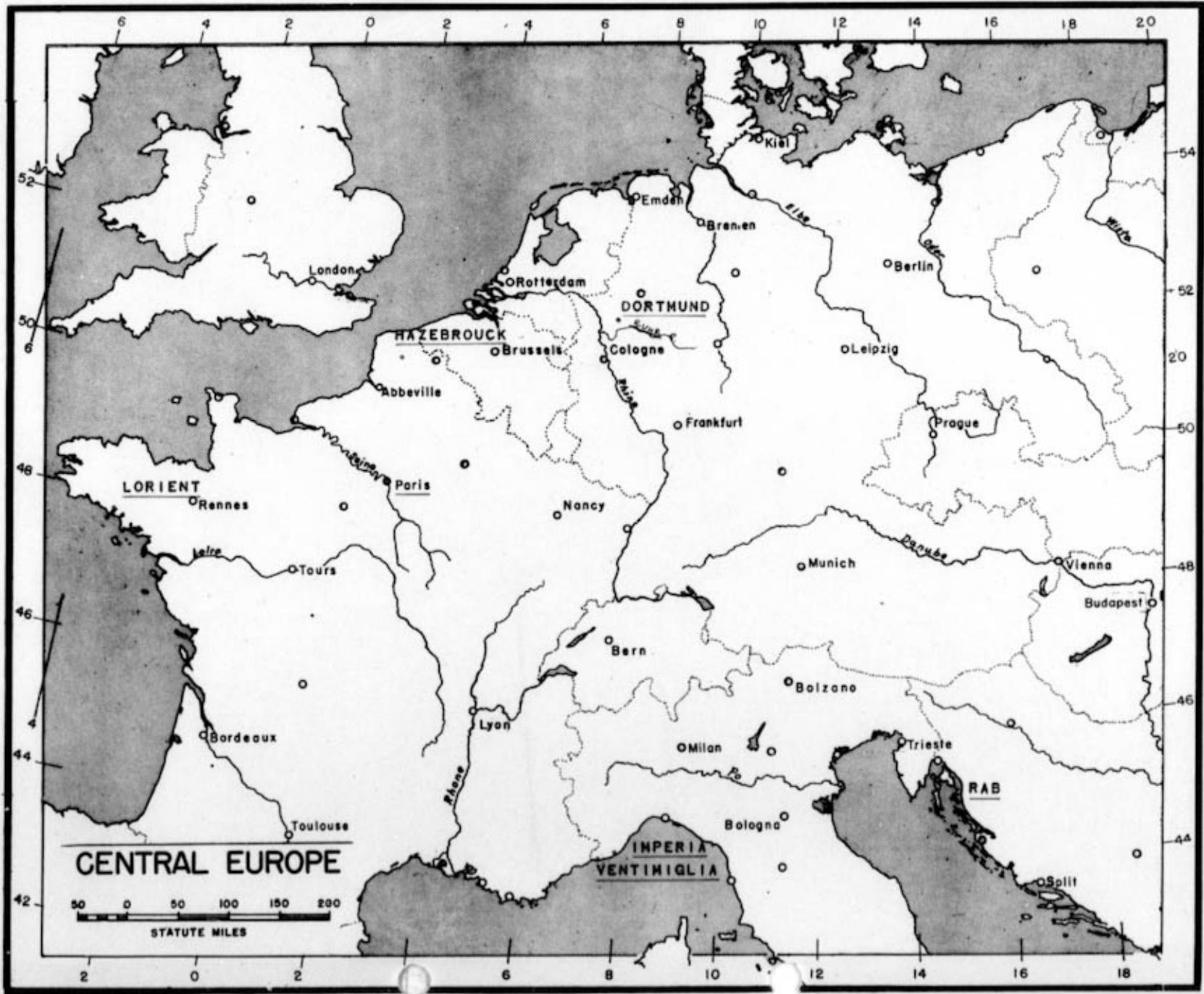
No. 973

0700 August 8 to 0700 August 9, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



GENERAL

Orders have been issued for the movement during the early part of August of the 9th Armored Division (Major General J. M. Leonard), the 17th Airborne Division (Major General W. M. Miley) and the headquarters of the XVIII Corps to the United Kingdom. This Corps will be reorganized as an airborne corps.

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During 8th Air Force operations on 7 August, 1,279 tons were dropped by 483 escorted heavy bombers over a wide area of France. Oil dumps received 677 tons, bridges 151 tons, three airfields 98 tons and more than 300 tons were dropped on miscellaneous targets.

For the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 7 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew more than 2,100 sorties to attack rail facilities, supply dumps, and tactical targets behind the battle line. Six enemy planes were destroyed for a loss of five bombers and nine fighters. Flying bomb activity for the period ending 0600, 8 August: of 122 bombs plotted, 19 reached London and 34 were destroyed.

A preliminary report of operations by the 8th Air Force on 8 August states that 1,113 bombers, escorted by 632 fighters, attacked targets in the Caen area in support of ground operations, airdromes east of Paris, and flying bomb sites. Results were assessed generally as good. Five (probably six) hostile aircraft were destroyed. Initial loss figures indicate that 13 bombers and 13 fighters are missing.

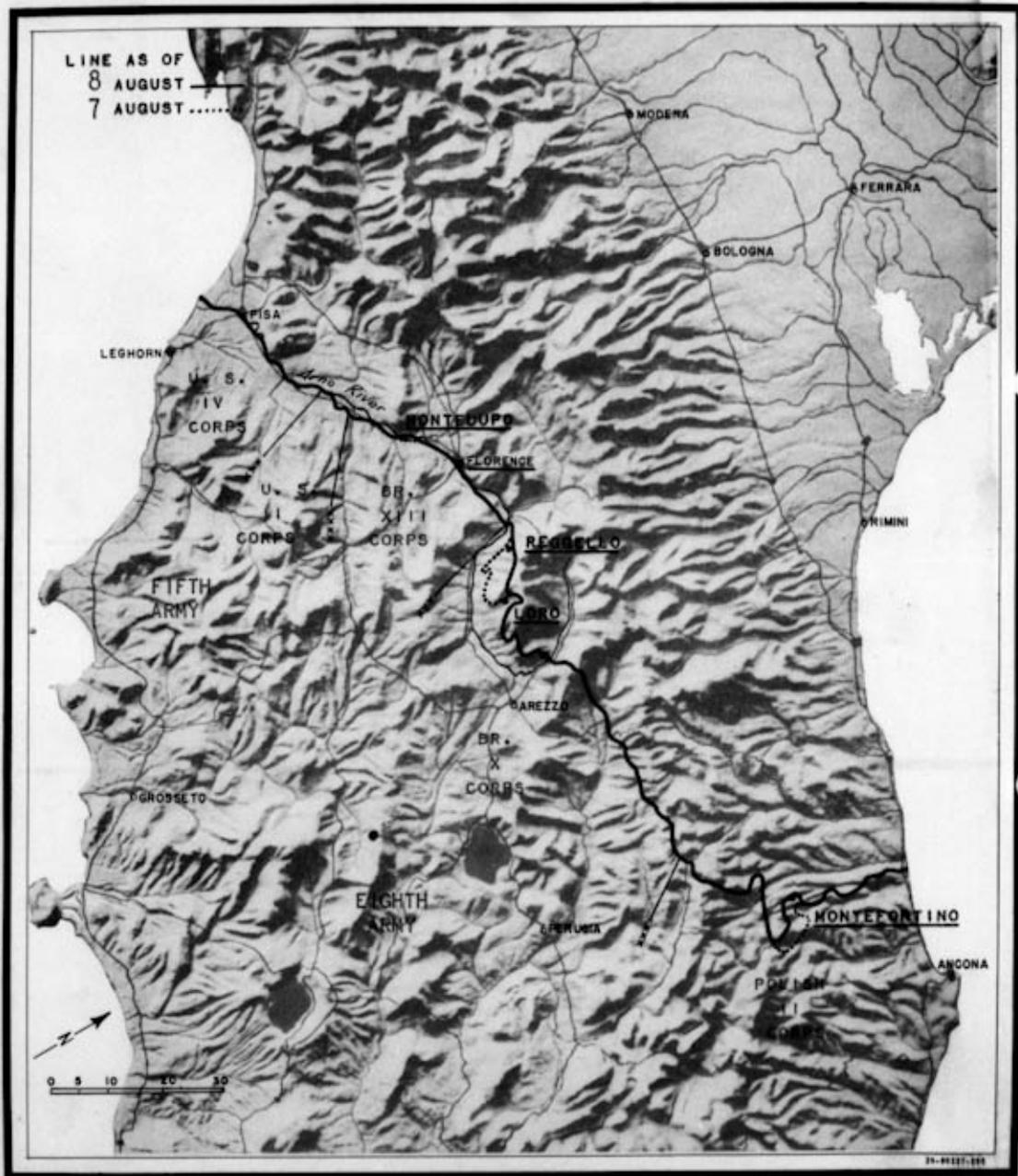
During 6 August and the following night, RAF bombers dropped

nearly 1,150 tons on strategic targets, including supply depots north of Paris, the Hazebrouck railway center, the submarine pens at Lorient and a synthetic oil plant near Dortmund in the Ruhr. Severe icing conditions disrupted operations near Hazebrouck. The following night heavy bombers dropped nearly 3,900 tons on concentrations of tanks in the area north of Bretteville. Sixteen bombers are missing from these operations in which five enemy planes were destroyed.

2. During 8 August, armored columns of our Third Army, fanning out in Brittany, arrived four miles from Brest and five miles from Lorient. Infantry columns were in the outskirts of St. Malo. Other columns pushing eastward toward Le Mans were 12 miles from that city, and elements were west of Angers.

The determined enemy effort to pierce our First Army lines in the Mortain area failed badly; sizeable elements were trapped in the Juvigny area. Many enemy tanks and self-propelled guns were destroyed and at last report Mortain was again in our hands. To the north a German counterattack with tanks and infantry was broken up at Gathemo, which was freed by US infantry. Here, too, heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy by American troops, planes and artillery. The right flank of our First Army continued to push eastward.

The British Second Army completed the capture of Mt. Pincon, the highest feature in the eastern part of the Normandy hills, and drove southeast taking Le Plessis Grimault. The First Canadian Army, launching an attack on a two-division front south of Caen, advanced eight miles toward Falaise capturing Bretteville-sur-Laize.



MEDITERRANEAN

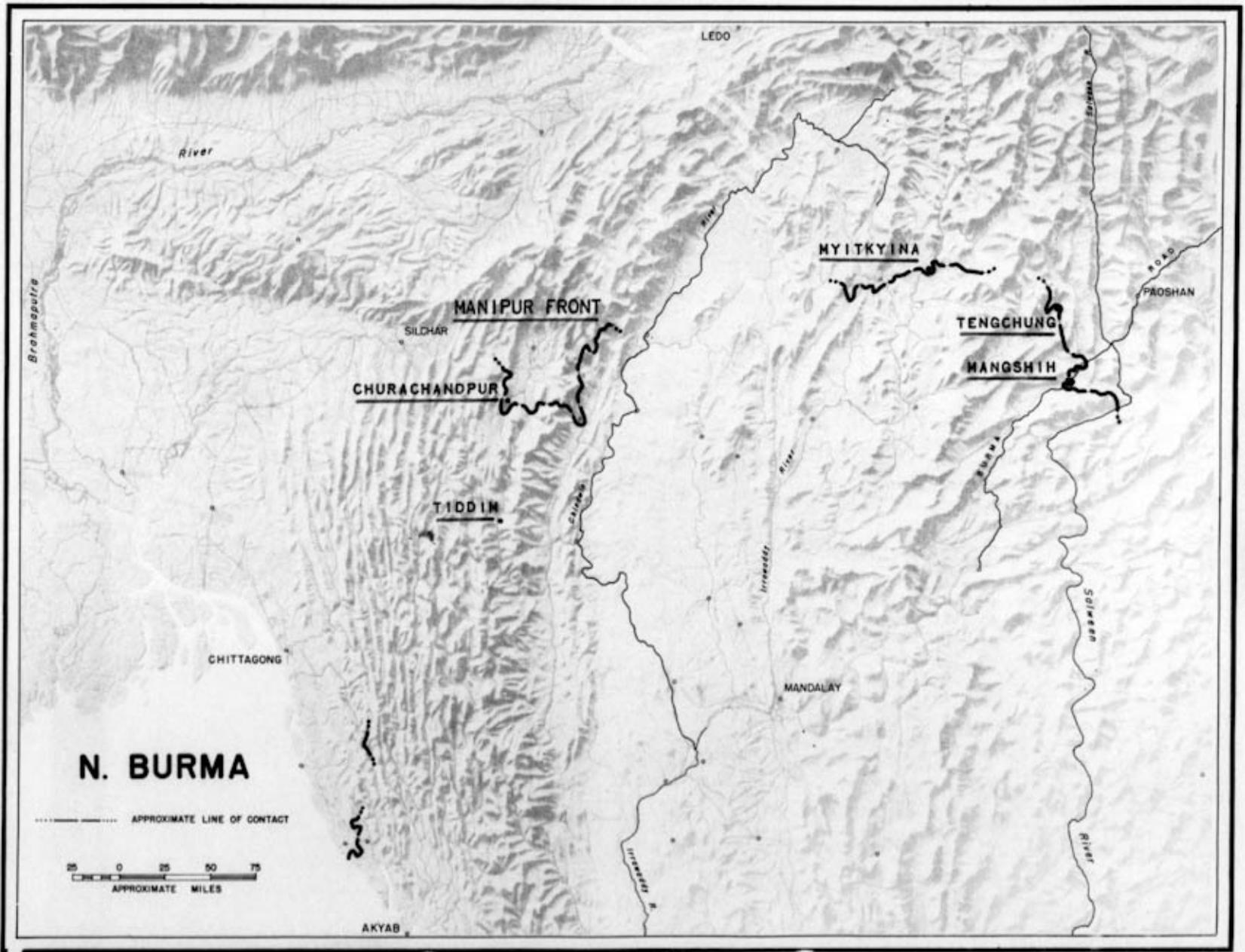
1. During the night of 6-7 August, light bombers of the Tactical Air Force harassed the Italian Riviera and the Italian east coast. The following day medium bombers scored hits on bridges in southern France including the railroad bridge at Ventimiglia while fighter bombers supported our ground forces. Coastal aircraft harassed shipping at Imperia and sank three schooners off Rab; the Balkan Air Force attacked shipping and transportation targets along the Dalmatian coast.

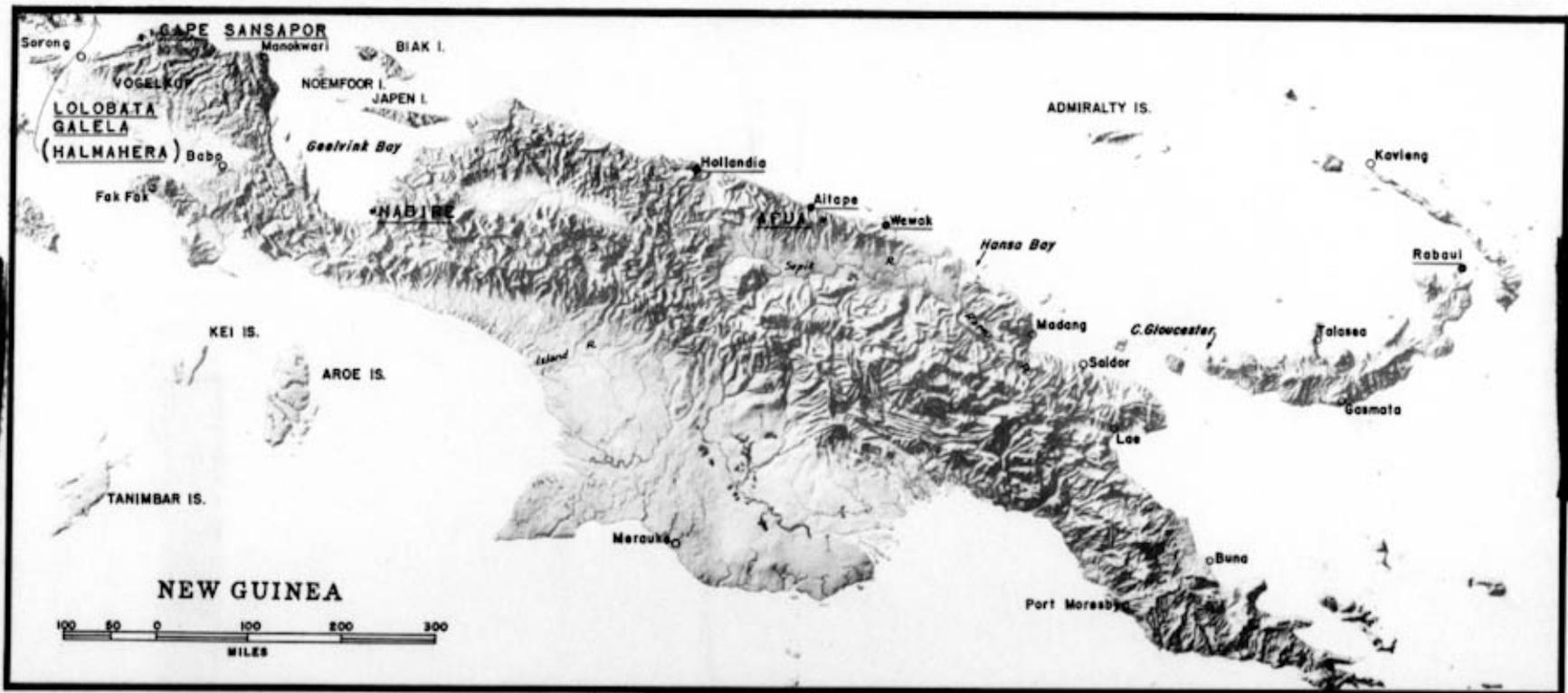
Seventy-three escorted B-17's of the 8th Air Force took off from Russian bases on 8 August, dropped 136 tons on two airdromes north of Bucharest and landed in Italy. Of 12 enemy fighters encountered, one was destroyed without loss to either our bombers or their escort. The 15th Air Force did not operate that day.

2. There was little change in the situation on the Italian front during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 8 August. American forward units reported increased small arms and mortar fire. The British Eighth Army pushed into Montelupo and operated patrols northeast of the Reggello-Loro road without contact. North of Arezzo Allied troops repulsed several counterattacks and registered minor gains. Italian patrols east of the Apennines occupied Montefortino.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 6 August on the Salween front, Chinese troops captured two enemy positions and advanced within two miles of Mangshih. The





NEW GUINEA



battle for Tengchung continued; Chinese forces were fighting inside the walls. On the Manipur front the British advance down the Tiddim Road halted nine miles south of Churachandpur before a strong enemy delaying position which patrols were by-passing.

2. During 5 and 6 August the Eastern Air Command flew over 300 sorties to attack rail and river traffic south of Myitkyina and in the upper Chindwin area as well as communications and other targets along the Tiddim Road and Arakan coast.

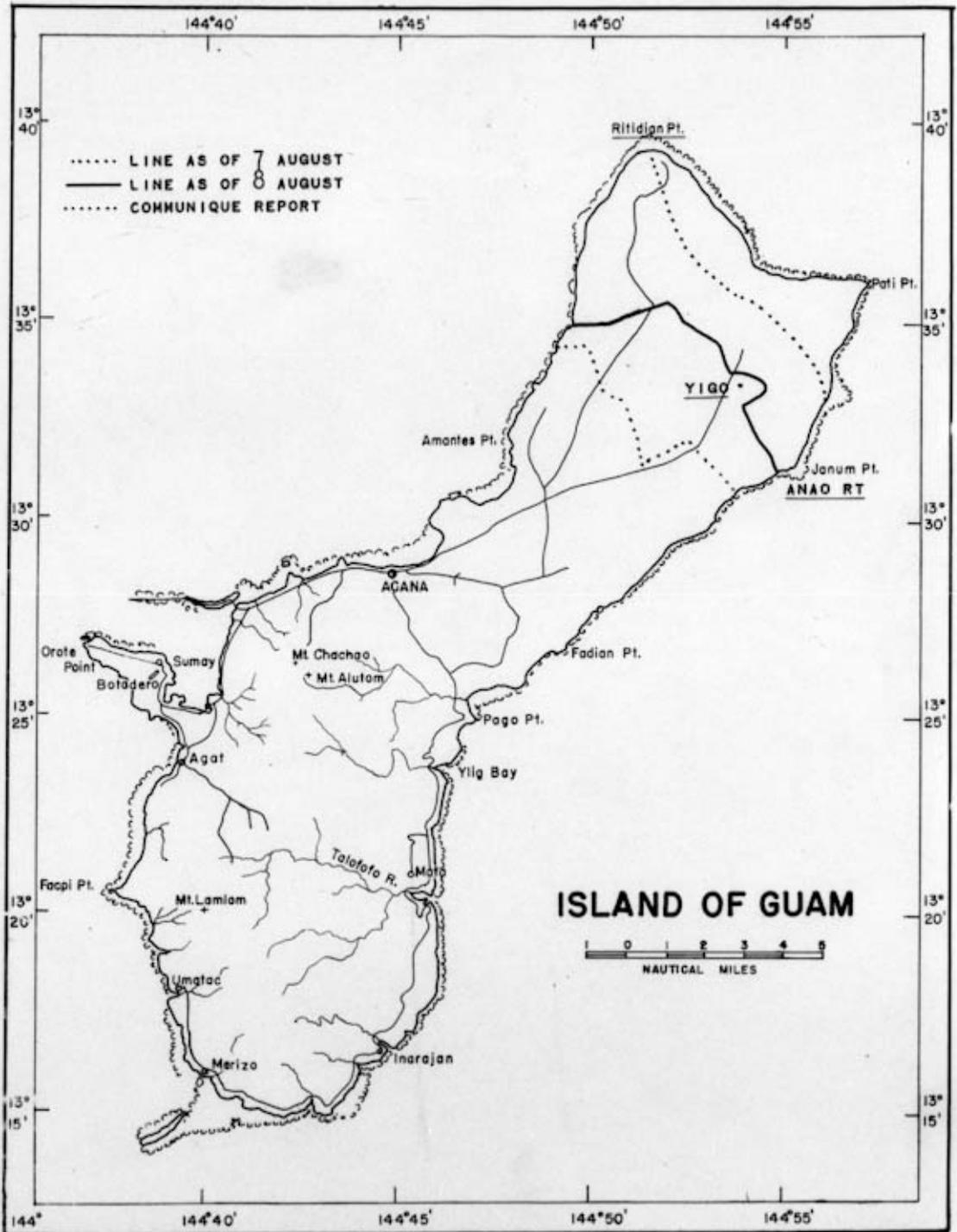
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. American forces in the Cape Sansapor area operated patrols during 7 August; little enemy activity was reported. Near Aitape our troops continued their advance toward Afua from the east.

During 5 August, 36 A-20's raided oil installations at Nabire. That night a B-24 bombed an airfield at Davao in the Philippines; another hit a 3,000-ton freighter off Halmahera. Operations on 7 August included heavy attacks by US and Australian medium and fighter bombers on enemy troop concentrations east of Aitape and installations inland from Hollandia. A total of 31 B-24's bombed two airfields in Halmahera, destroying 13 grounded aircraft and damaging others. Yap town and gun positions were attacked by 24 B-24's; two other heavy bombers hit Woleai.

Twenty-four Solomons-based aircraft attacked targets on Bougainville on 6 August; weather prevented attacks against the Rabaul area.

2. The night of 6-7 August, ten Navy heavy bombers attacked Truk;





the next day 76 Central Pacific aircraft concentrated on gun positions and personnel areas at Mille. Twenty-one B-25's of the 7th Air Force dropped 25 tons on Nauru, and 11 others struck Ponape with 25 tons. Small missions of B-24's attacked Nauru, Wotje, Ponape and Wake.

3. Our troops on Guam made substantial progress during 7 August, advancing one mile on the eastern end of the line and three miles along the western coast. Late reports indicate that our forces have compressed the enemy into a narrow coastal strip averaging about a mile wide along the northeastern tip of the island. Our casualties to date total 1,128 killed, 5,373 wounded and 331 missing.

4. Our occupation of Saipan and Tinian is completed. Command of all forces on these islands passed to Island Commanders 1200, 10 and 12 August respectively.

EASTERN FRONT

Forces of the Red Army progressed on a 50-mile front from Krustpils to Birzai (Latvia) during 8 August and expanded their bridgehead across the Vistula in the general direction of Krakow.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 972

0700 August 7 to 0700 August 8, 1944

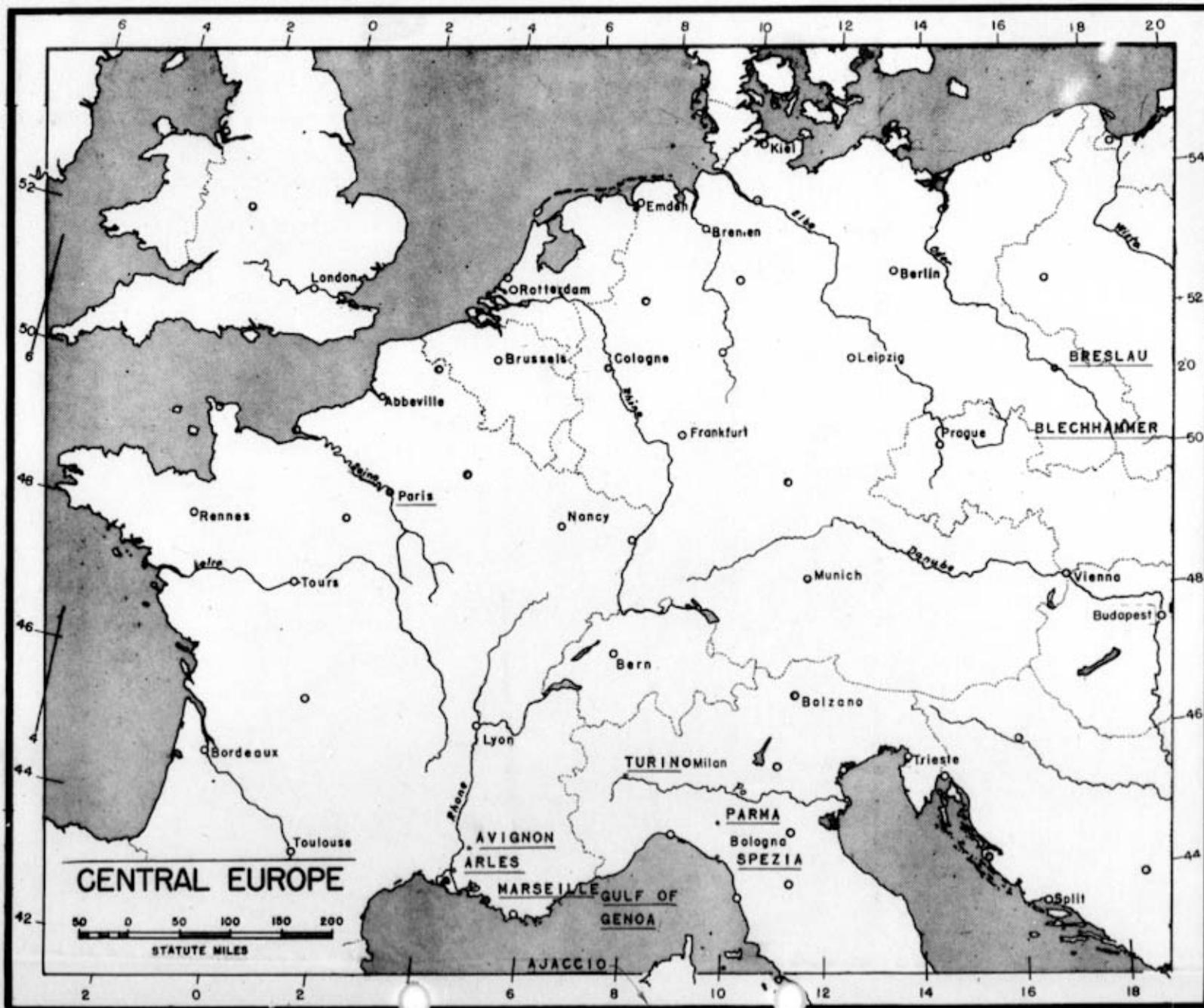
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THE WHITE HOUSE

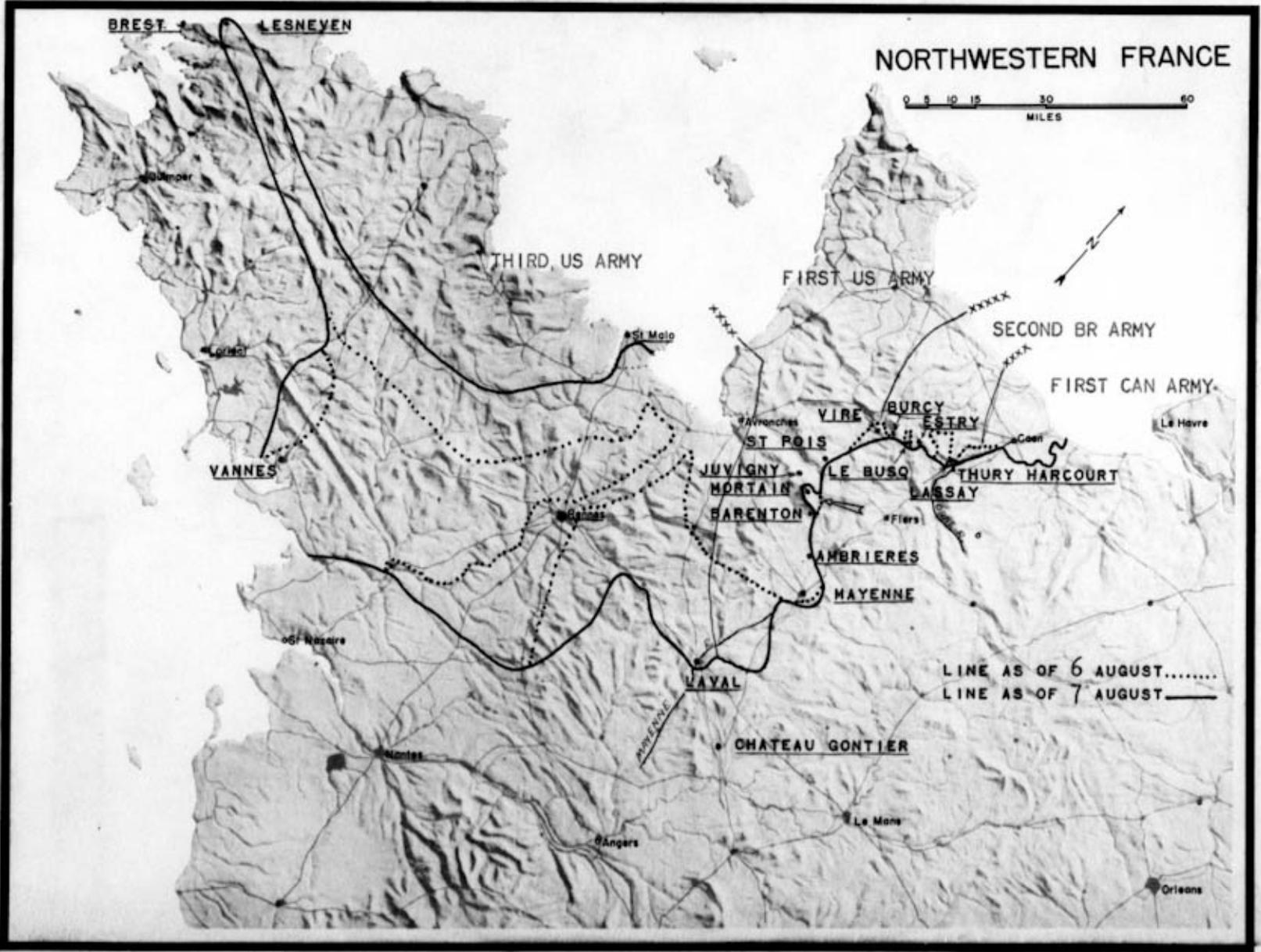
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OSD Letter, 5-3-75

TOP SECRET



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OSD Letter, 5-3-77



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 5-6 August, 85 long-range enemy bombers operated against ground targets in the battle area in France.

During the 24-hour period ending at 2100, 6 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 1,934 sorties in support of our ground operations in France, attacking bridges, supply dumps, river traffic on the Seine and other tactical targets. Seven enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of ten of our planes. Other operations during this period included missions by 223 RAF bombers dropping 613 tons on supply dumps north of Paris and attacks by 24 8th Air Force heavy bombers against bomb launching sites.

During the 24 hours to 0600, 7 August, 91 robot bombs were launched, 21 reached London and 33 were destroyed.

Preliminary report of an operation on 7 August by the 8th Air Force states that 898 escorted heavy bombers attacked fuel depots and railway targets scattered over a wide area of France. Five enemy aircraft were destroyed; two of our bombers and two fighters are missing.

2. By noon on 7 August official dispatches placed Third Army armored units at Lesneven, 12 miles northeast of Brest, while to the southeast, other American tanks were pushing westward from Vannes toward Lorient. Our infantry was fighting hard for St. Malo. Southeast of Rennes infantry and armored columns reached the line of the Mayenne River between Laval and Chateau-Gontier. Laval, by-passed by American armored units driving eastward, was reduced by infantry; a 12-mile gain was reported by troops

operating north of Laval. The First Army captured Mayenne; to the north Mortain was captured but later retaken by the enemy; at last report American infantry and armored troops were holding the high ground west, north and east of the town. On the left flank of the US front St. Pois and Vire were taken.

A counterattack late on 6 August against the British Second Army near Burcy gained initial success; by noon of the next day, however, all lost ground had been regained and additional advances reported. To the northeast the British captured Le Busq and continued their attack on Estry in the face of strong opposition. Lassay also was captured. British infantry crossed the Orne north of Thury Harcourt but made little progress in attacks west of that city. There was little change on the Canadian First Army front.

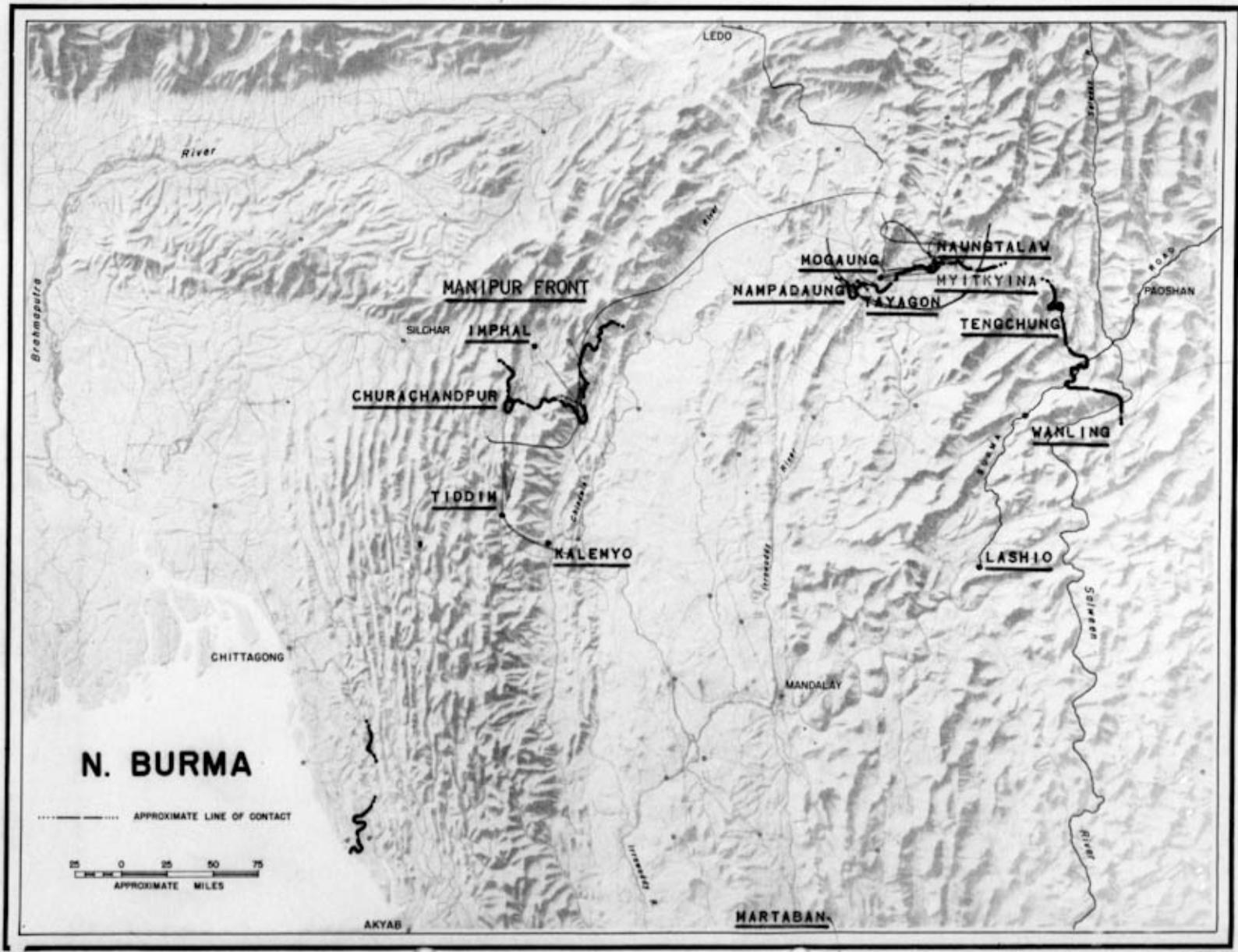
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During 6 August medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force flew a mission against rail targets in the Arles-Avignon area. Fighter bombers supported the Eighth Army while fighters carried out a sweep in the area bounded by Spezia-Parma-Turin-Marseilles. The Coastal Air Force ranged the waters on either side of Italy from Corfu to the Gulf of Genoa shooting down a JU-88 off Ajaccio. Twenty-four planes of the Balkan Air Force swept Yugoslavia.

On 7 August the 15th Air Force dispatched 497 heavy bombers to attack an oil refinery at Elechhammer, 75 miles southeast of Breslau, and oil installations and an airdrome near Belgrade; 993 tons of bombs were dropped with generally good results. Three hundred and fifty-five fighters

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72





accompanied the mission, Twenty-nine (probably 37) enemy aircraft were destroyed at a cost of 15 bombers and five fighters.

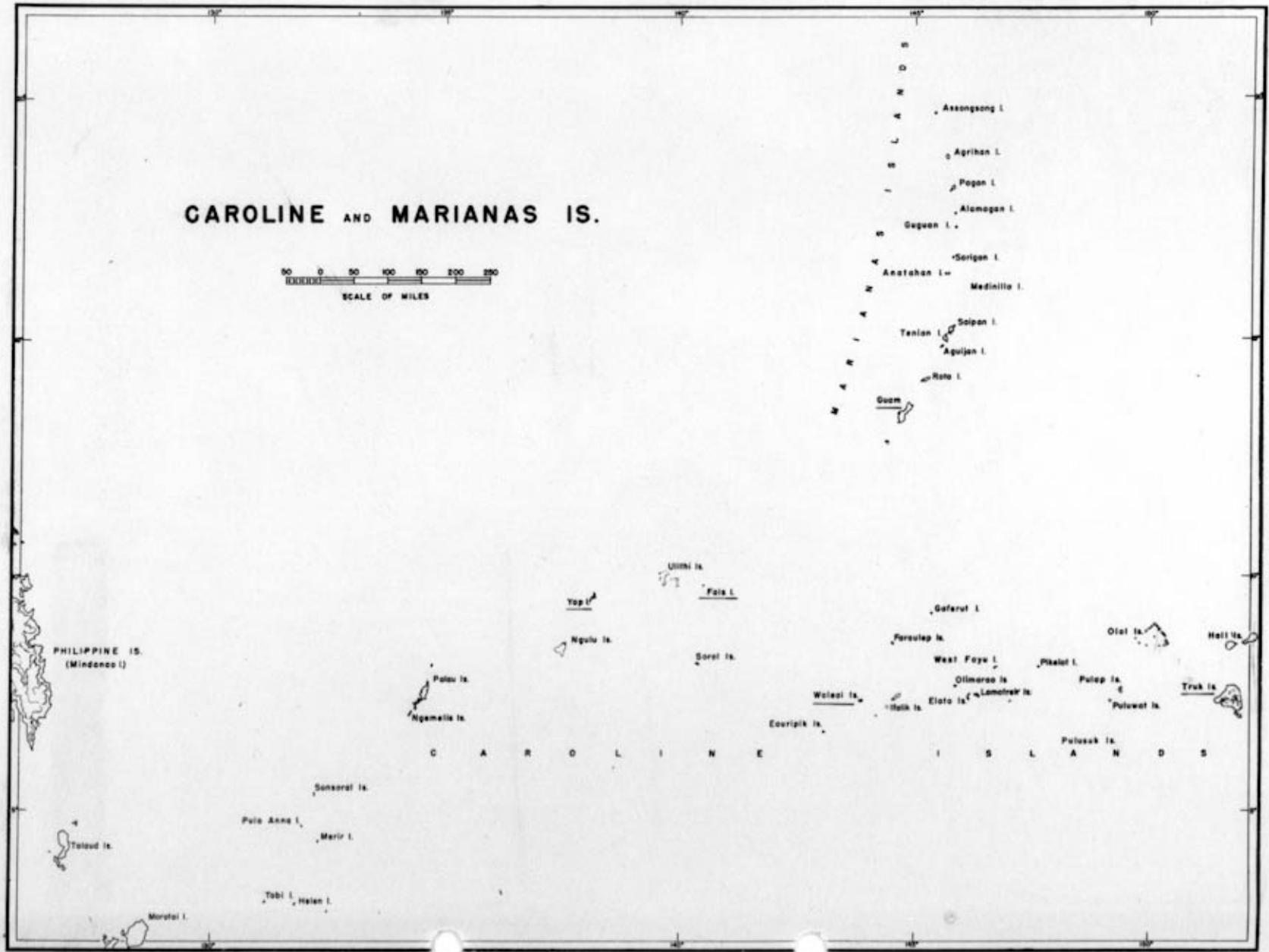
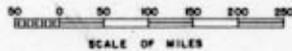
2. There was little change in the situation along the trans-Italian battle line during the 24-hour period ending at noon on 7 August. The Fifth Army conducted routine patrol operations. The Eighth Army, regrouping forward units in the Florence area, held the south bank of the Arno except for pockets of resistance west of Empoli and south of Pontassieve.

ASIATIC THEATER

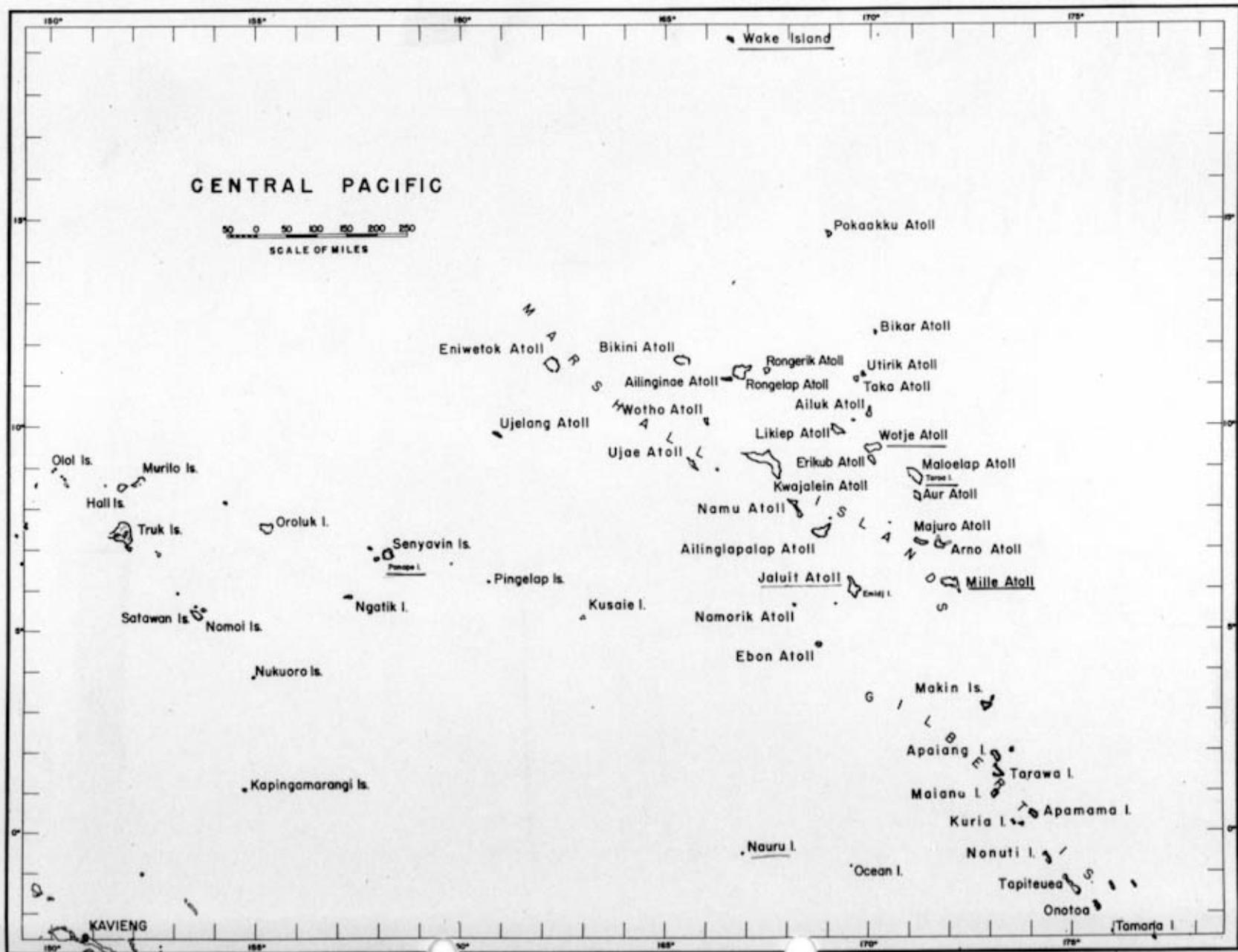
1. In previously unreported heavy bomber strikes on 3 August nine B-24's bombed Martaban and mined nearby waters, and ten British bombers hit the Kalemyo area.

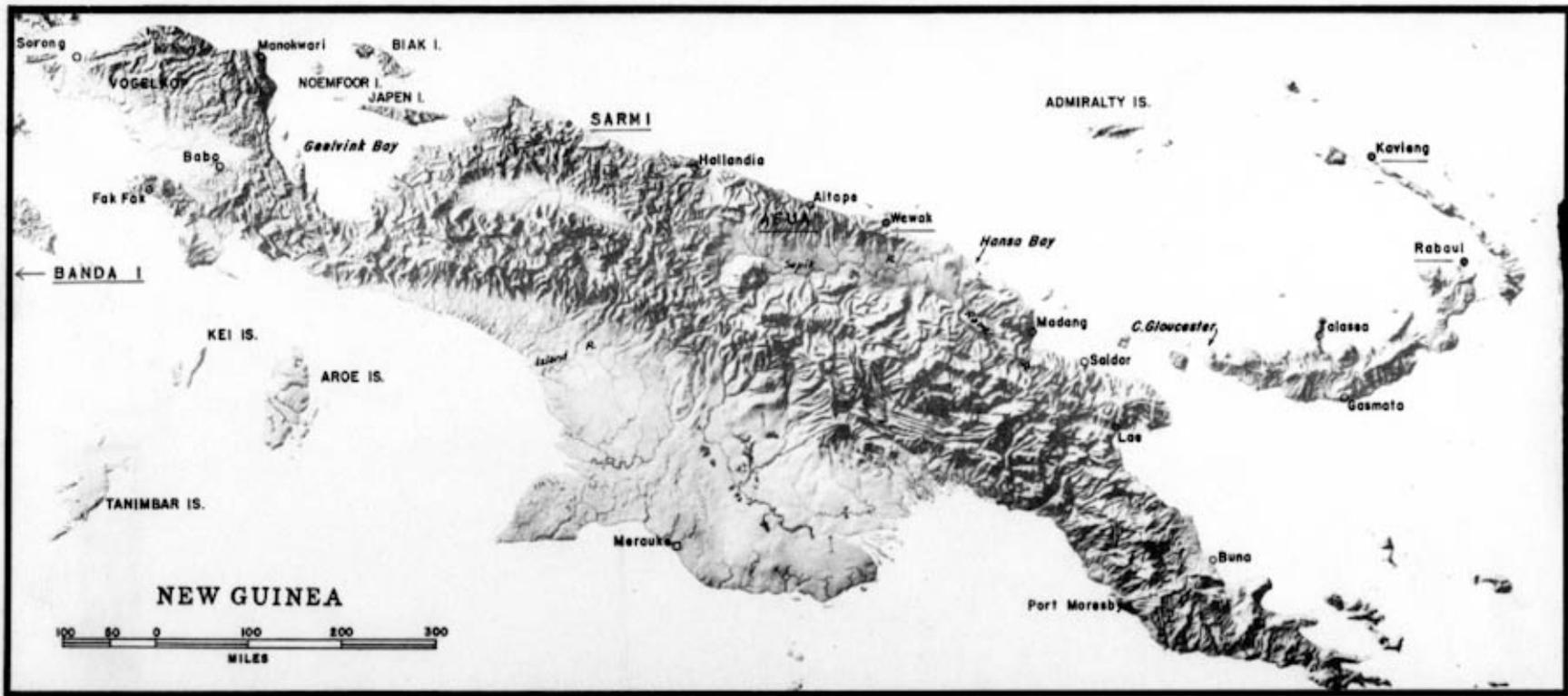
2. More than 160 sorties were flown by the 14th Air Force in support of Chinese ground operations in the Hengyang-Tungting Lake sector during 4, 5 and 6 August. Included was the interception of a 20-plane enemy attack on Hengyang during which the Japanese were driven off with a loss of eleven (probably thirteen) planes. Two (probably six) of 16 Japanese aircraft intercepted over Sinshih were destroyed. Two (probably three) other Japanese planes were destroyed; two of our fighters are missing. Two Japanese transport planes were shot down south of Hankow where heavy damage was done to river boats. On the Salween front 18 B-25's made a damaging attack against Wanling. Other medium bombers and fighters hit the runway at Lashio airdrome and supported operations against Tengchung.

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

3. On the Salween front on 5 August Chinese forces were driven from the breaches in the southwest wall of Tengchung by a Japanese counterattack. The next day Myitkyina was cleared of all enemy; Allied troops captured Naungtalaw northeast of the city. Southwest of Mogaung other Allied troops continued the offensive to the south, capturing Tayagon and Nampadaung. In the Manipur, an area 36 miles southeast of Imphal was found free of the enemy by patrols. Along the Tiddim Road British troops had reached a point ten miles south of Churachandpur.

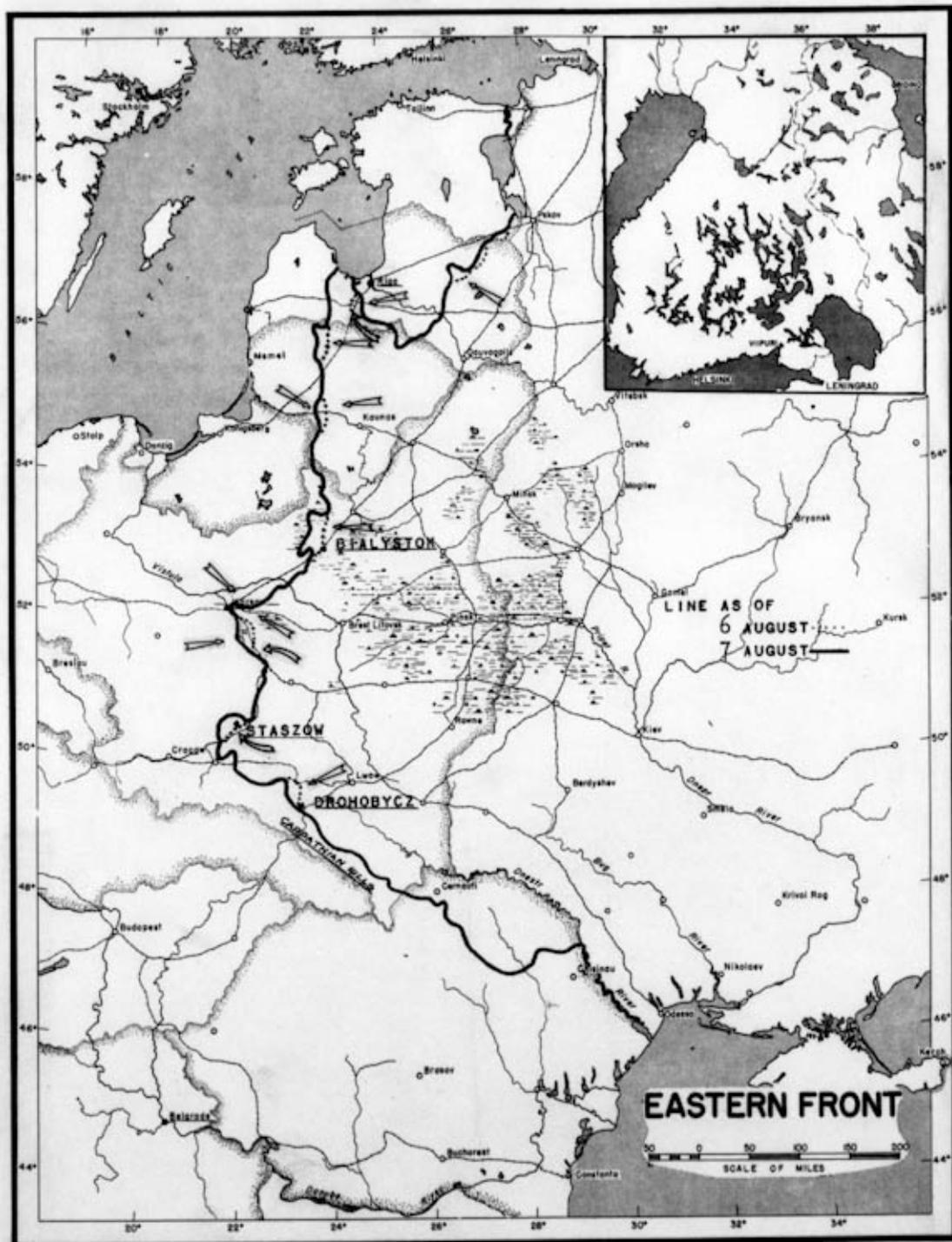
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

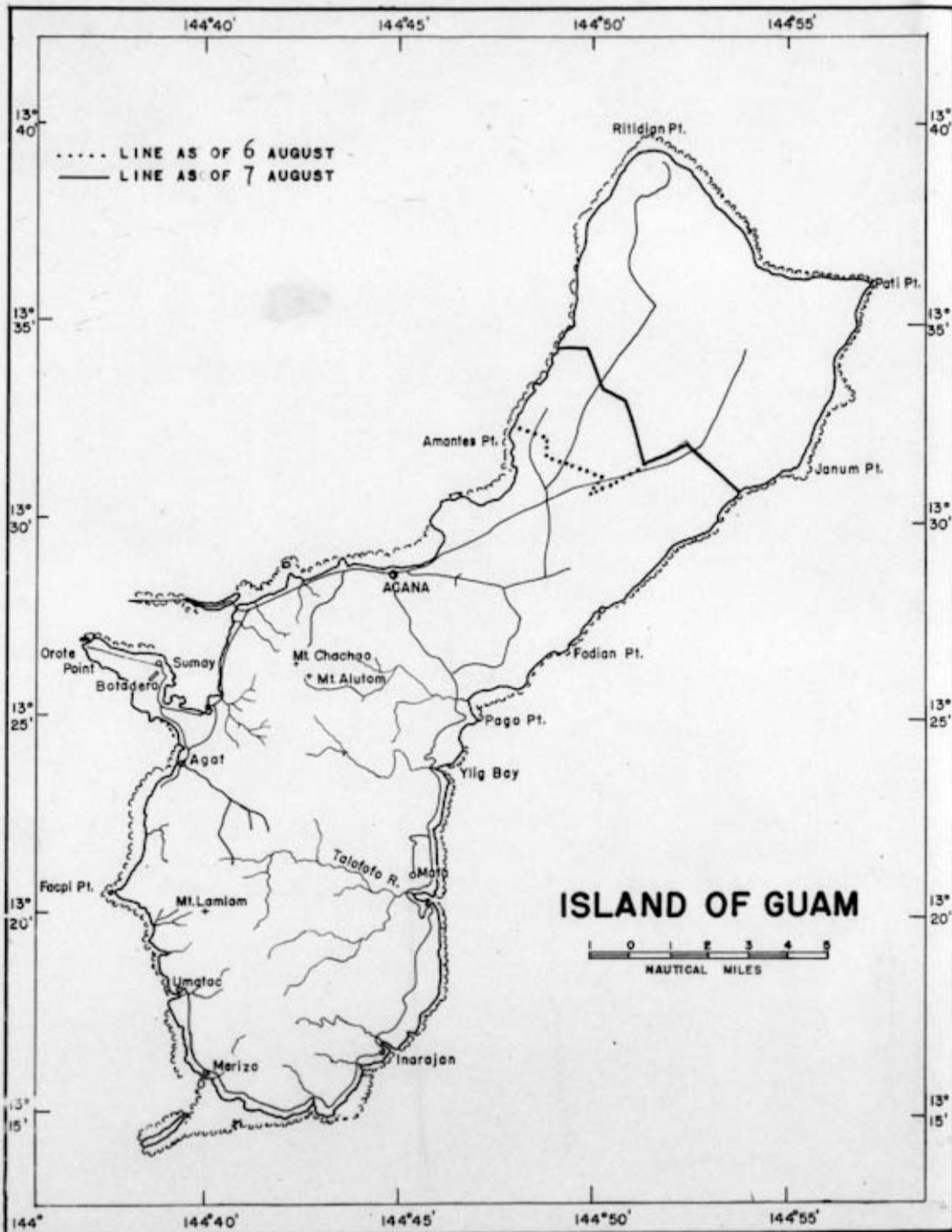
1. Our infantry forces have cut the trail east of Afua and were driving westward toward the town against strong resistance on 6 August.

Storage areas on Yap were hit with 25 tons dropped by a 23-plane B-24 formation; five other B-24's bombed Woleai and Fais Islands. Weather hampered air operations against Wewak targets although a few bombers and fighters raided supply dumps and barge traffic in that area. Twenty-four light bombers supported ground forces in the Sarmi area and Allied B-25's destroyed a 1,500-ton ship in the Banda Islands.

Thirty Solomons-based planes operated in the Bougainville area; 74 others attacked targets between Rabaul and Kavieng.

2. During the night of 4-5 August and the following day 50 Navy and Marine aircraft of the Pacific Area attacked Nauru, Wotje, Taroa and Mille; one Navy B-24 struck the airfield on Wake. Twelve B-25's of the 7th Air Force attacked airfield installations on Ponape. During 5 and 6 August, 22 B-24's dropped 30 tons on Truk.





4. Our forces on Guam continued their advance against stiffening opposition during 6 August, a gain of about two miles being made along the western part of the line.

EASTERN FRONT

On the west flank of the Riga corridor the Russians made gains of some ten miles during 7 August; west of Bialystok they moved forward five miles on a 30-mile front. Red forces 30 miles south of Warsaw appear to have consolidated a third bridgehead. In the area north of Staszow they made an advance of five miles to the north, and in the Drohobycz area the Soviet drive toward the Carpathian passes continued.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 971

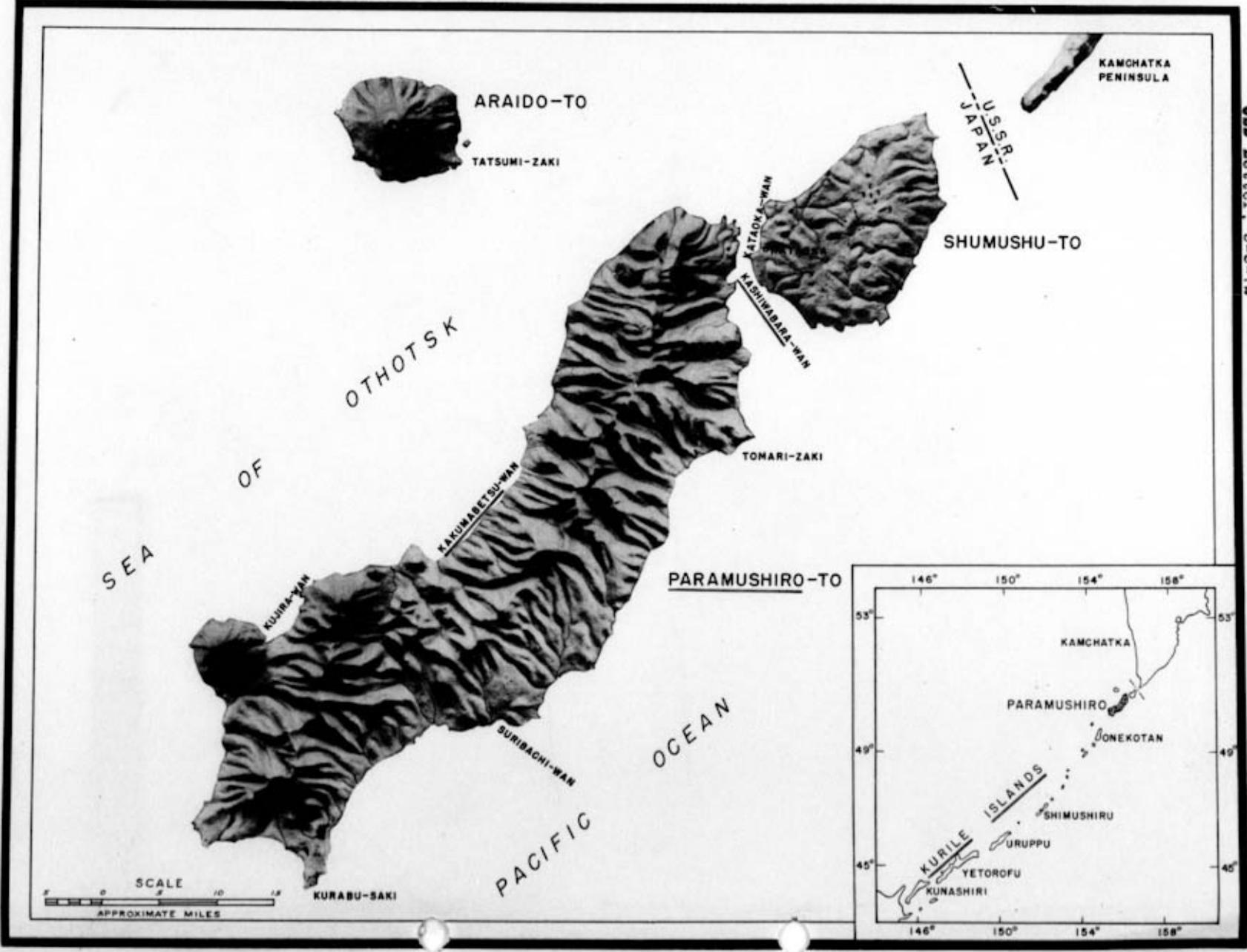
0700 August 6 to 0700 August 7, 1944

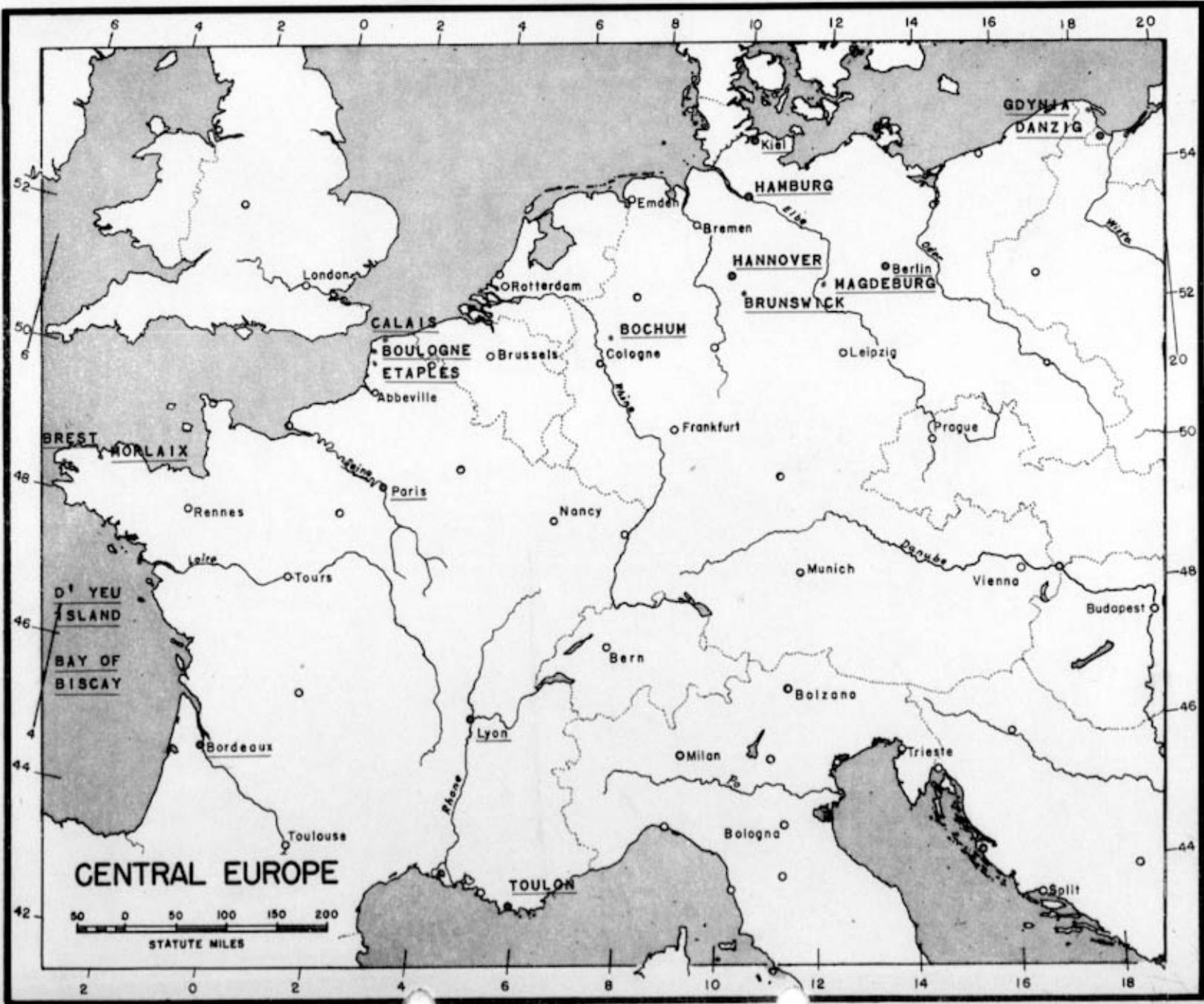
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THE WHITE HOUSE

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89D Letter, 5-8-78





WESTERN HEMISPHERE

In daylight raids during 4 August a total of eight B-24's harassed Kakumabetsu and Kashiwabara, on Paramushiro, and attacked small coastal shipping off the northern Kuriles.

EUROPEAN THEATER

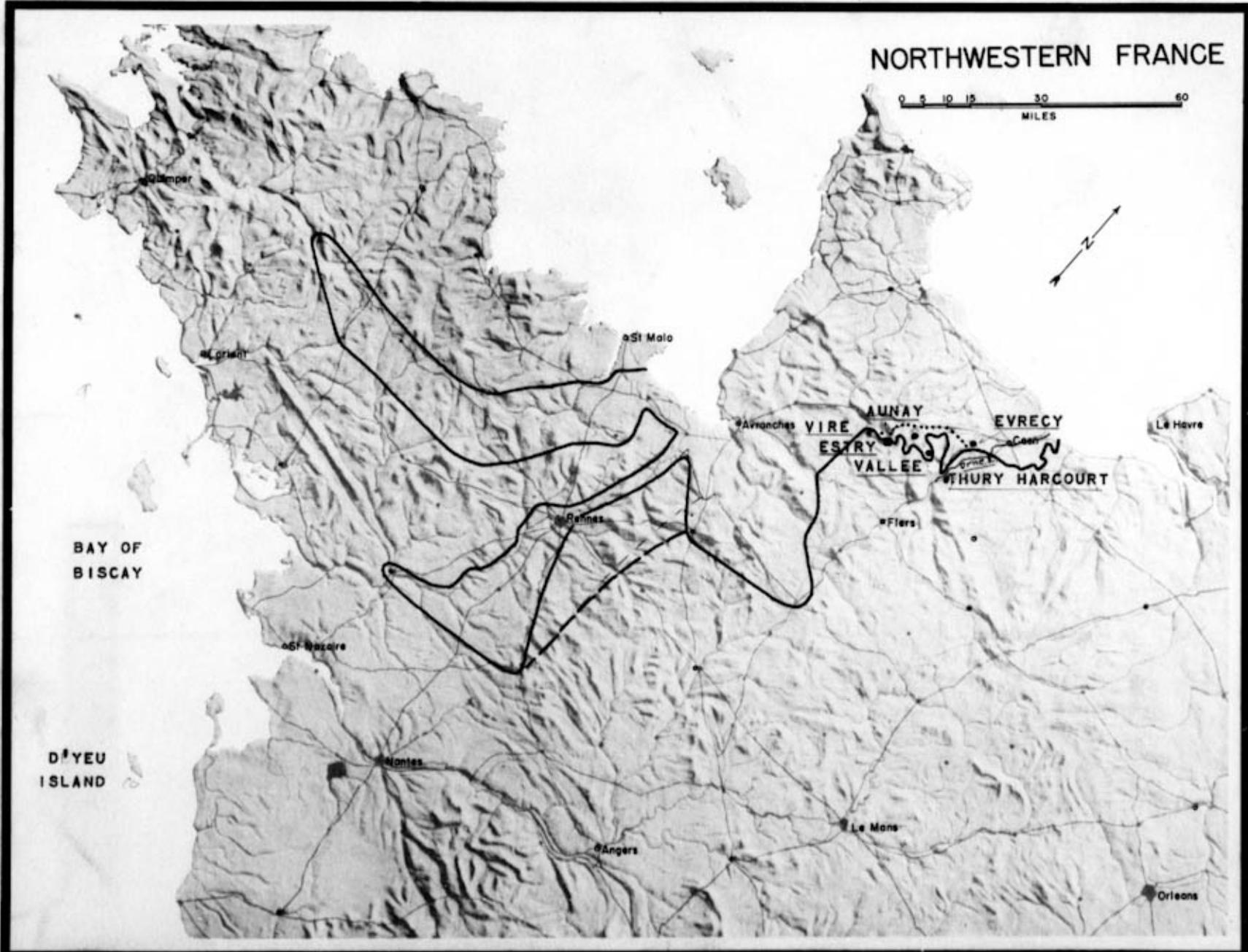
1. Further reports of the mission against the targets in the Hannover-Brunswick-Magdeburg area on 5 August state that 3,158 tons of bombs were dropped with generally good results.

The same day 721 RAF bombers dropped some 3,500 tons of explosives on supply dumps north of Paris and in the Pas de Calais area; 297 bombers dropped 1,430 tons on oil storage areas near Bordeaux and 13 bombers hit the Etaples railway bridge south of Boulogne with 83 tons. Other RAF missions included an 84-ton attack on submarine pens at Brest by 17 bombers, and an attack by 32 Mosquitoes on the Bochum (Germany) oil plant that night. Fighters escorting these operations attacked a radar station at Morlaix, targets in the Pas de Calais area and river traffic on the Seine. Three bombers and two fighters are missing from these operations; another bomber crashed in England.

During the 34-hour period ending at 2100, 5 August, the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 4,363 sorties in support of our ground troops in Normandy and Brittany. Principal targets for medium, light and fighter bombers and fighters were rail facilities southwest of Paris and enemy positions in the battle area. A total of 23 bombers and fighters was lost during these operations; claims are 12 enemy planes destroyed.

NORTHWESTERN FRANCE

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MILES



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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

BAY OF
BISCAY

D'YEU
ISLAND



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Of 114 flying bombs launched against England during the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 6 August, 64 reached the coast, 24 penetrated to London and 41 were destroyed.

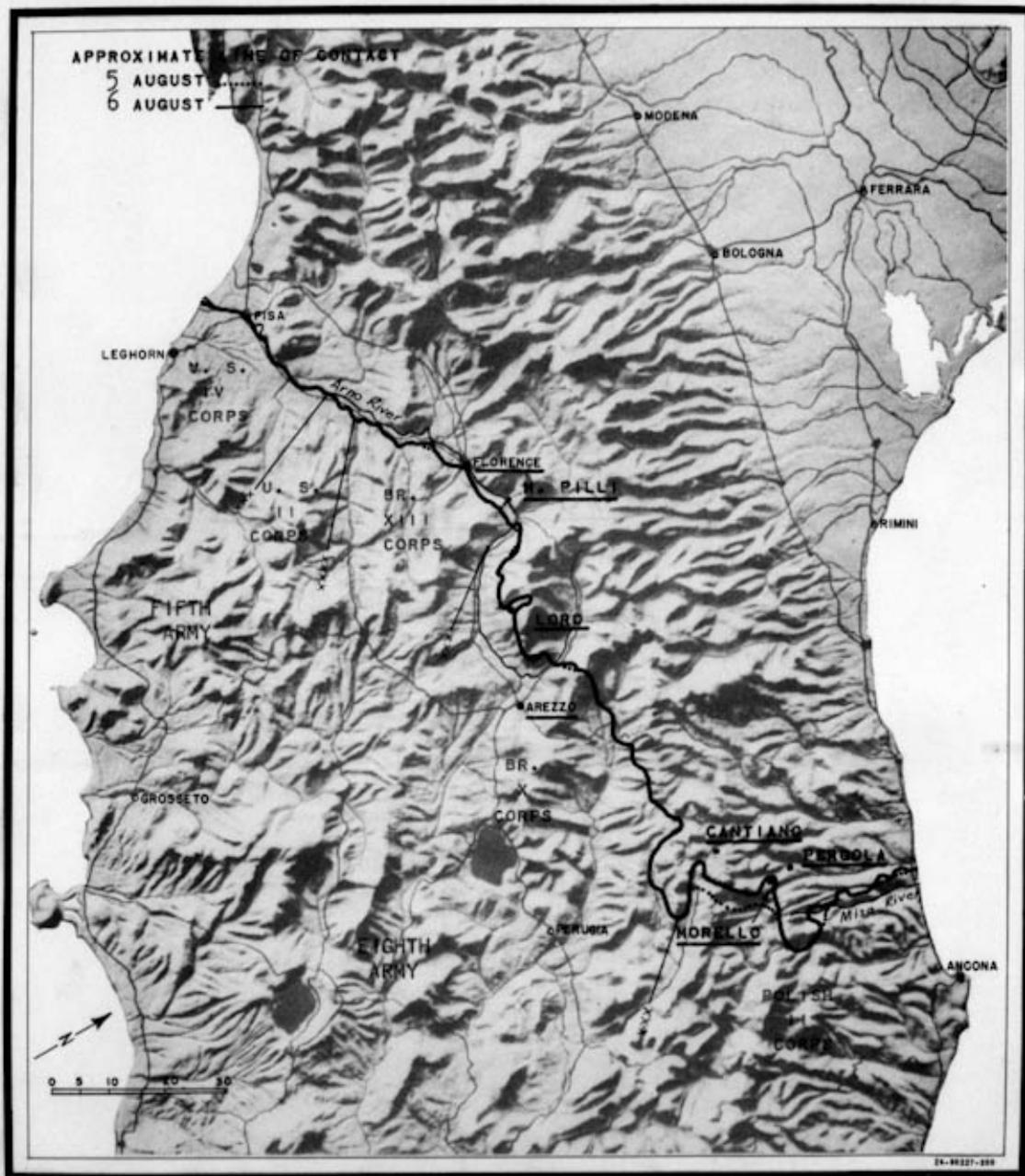
During 6 August the 8th Air Force dispatched 1,177 escorted heavy bombers against oil refineries, aircraft assembly plants, armament works and a diesel motor factory in the Hamburg, Berlin and Kiel areas. One Combat Wing attacked another aircraft assembly plant at Gdynia, north of Danzig, and continued on to Russian bases. Thirty-three enemy aircraft were destroyed; 24 bombers and nine fighters are missing.

2. By noon on 6 August, British VIII Corps armored units reached Estry, northeast of Vire, against stiff opposition. In the XXX Corps sector Aunay sur Odon was found cleared but heavily mined and cratered; further advances were made south and east of the city with armored troops capturing Vallee. South of Evreux forward elements of the XII Corps approached Thury Harcourt; patrols reaching the Orne found the bridges blown throughout the sector. Fierce fighting continued on the Canadian front with little change in the general situation.

During the night of 5-6 August Allied Naval units attacked an enemy convoy in the Bay of Biscay off d' Yeu Island, destroying at least seven enemy ships.

MEDITERRANEAN

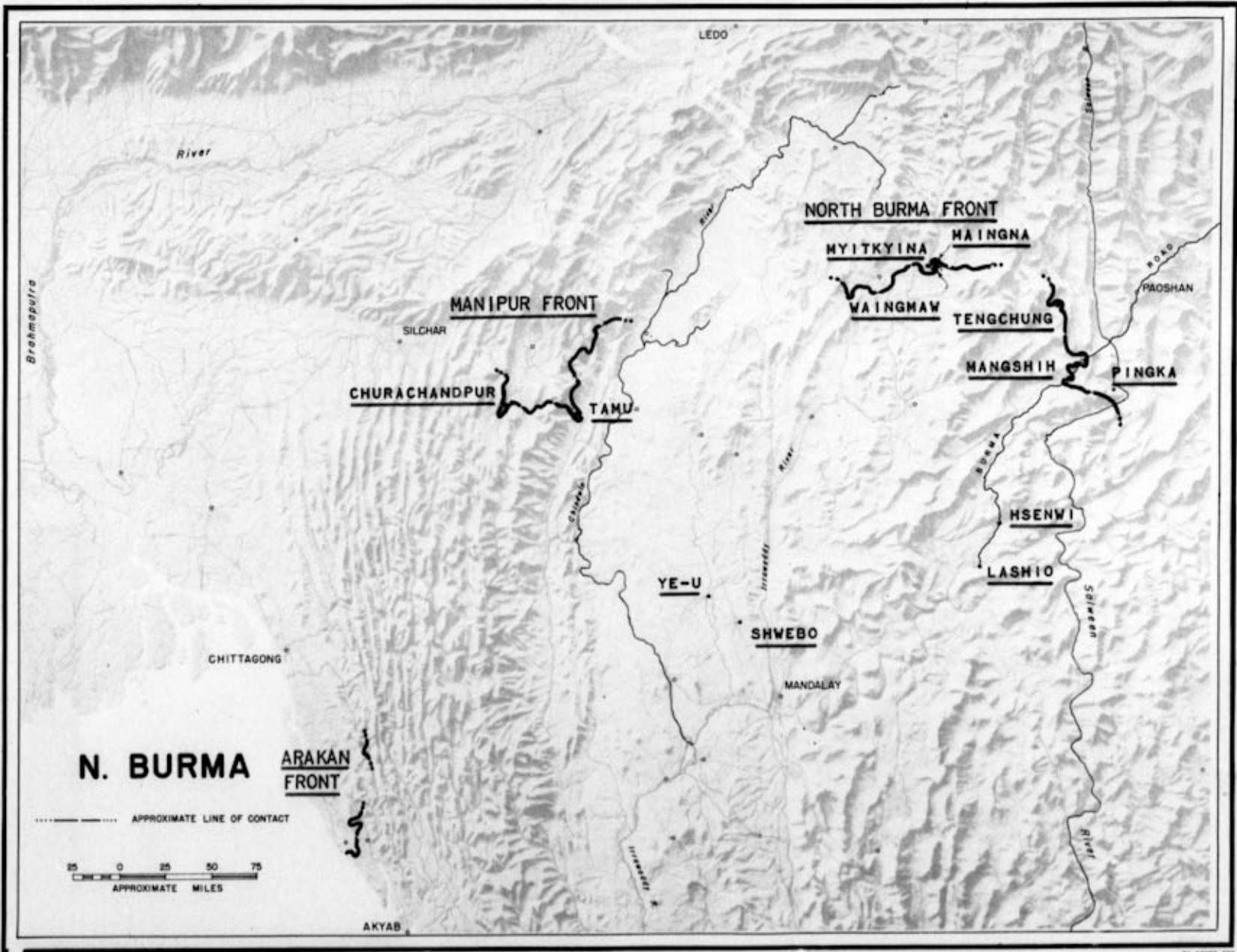
1. Heavy bomber operations were cancelled and medium bomber operations were restricted during the night of 4-5 and day of 5 August due to adverse weather. Tactical aircraft flew some 250 sorties during this period, fighters



and fighter bombers attacking targets in the battle area and operating against road and rail lines in the Po Valley. Coastal aircraft attacked shipping in the Gulf of Genoa and in the Adriatic. One enemy aircraft was destroyed for the loss of five of our planes during these operations.

The next day 738 of our bombers and 324 fighters dropped 1,745 tons of bombs on targets in southern France causing two large explosions in the submarine pens at Toulon, and hitting oil installations, marshalling yards, airdromes and bridges up the Rhone Valley as far as Lyons. Seven (probably ten) enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground. Twenty-six bombers and one fighter are tentatively reported as missing. A fighter task force returning to Italian bases from Russia swept the Bucharest-Floesti area.

2. During the period ending at noon on 6 August Fifth Army units reported normal patrolling and exchange of mortar fire. The British Eighth Army, continuing to clear the enemy from the towns south of the Arno west of Florence, sent several patrols across the river despite heavy machine gun fire. East of the city the battle continued for the remaining high ground beyond Monti Pilli. British patrols advanced three miles beyond Loro in the hills northwest of Arezzo. Indian troops in the upper Arno Valley repulsed counterattacks from the high ground on both sides of the river. In the Appennines patrols from the Polish II Corps were approaching Cantiano without contact and the enemy withdrew from Morello, five miles south of Pergola. Italian troops gained three miles up the Misa River.



ASIATIC THEATER

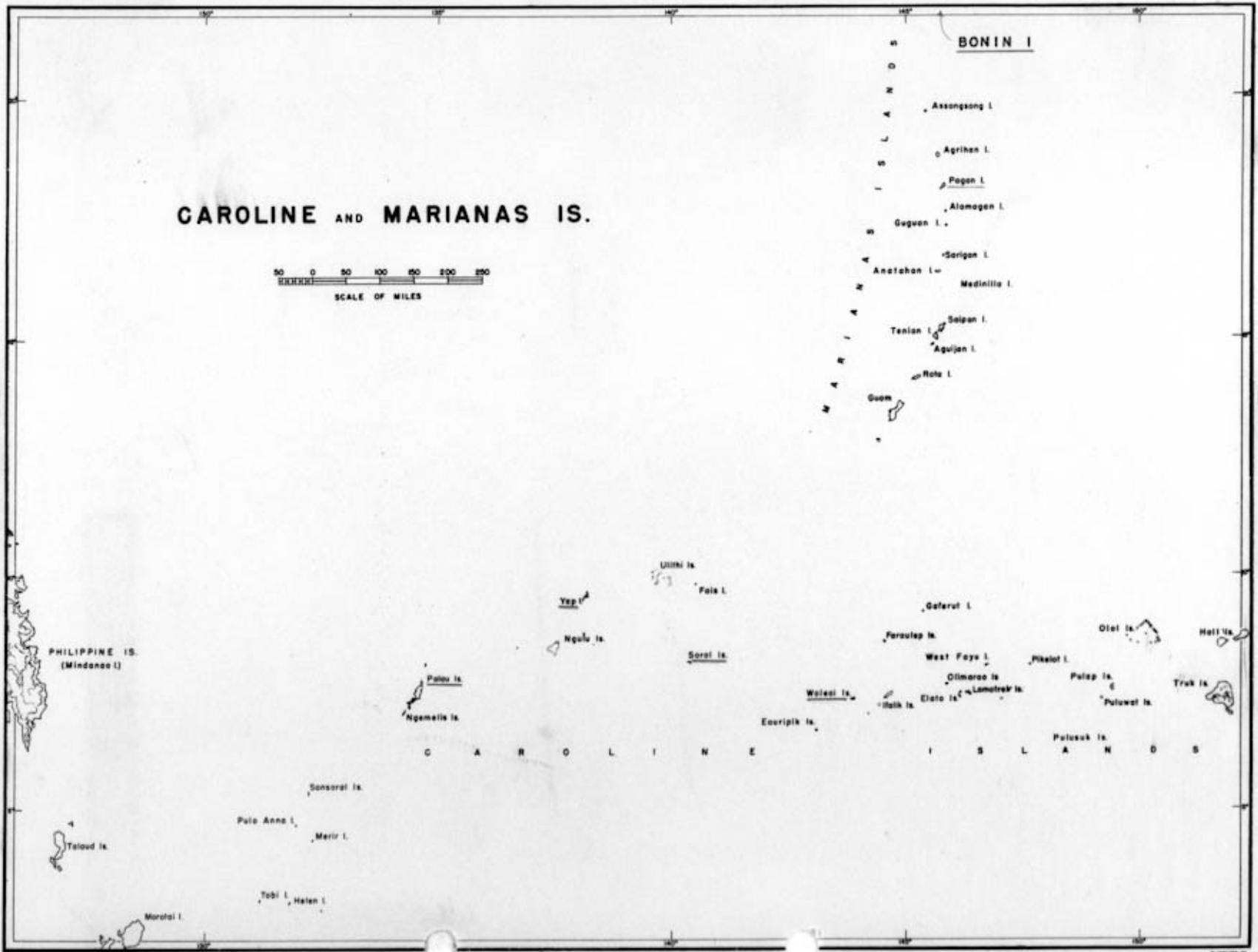
1. Additional reports for 3 August indicate that some 60 14th Air Force aircraft effectively raided the Hengyang-Tungting Lake area. The next day 15 medium bombers and six fighters attacked the Lashio and Hsenwi airdromes in Burma while six other medium bombers hit Mangshih on the Salween River front; 62 fighters bombed the Tengchung walls, strafed enemy transportation and destroyed two river bridges.

2. During 3 and 4 August more than 165 fighters and medium bombers of the Eastern Air Command continued raids against Tactical targets in support of ground operations on the Arakan, Manipur and north Burma fronts and attacked enemy communication targets in central Burma. B-24's attacked the Ye-U railway station northwest of Shwebo.

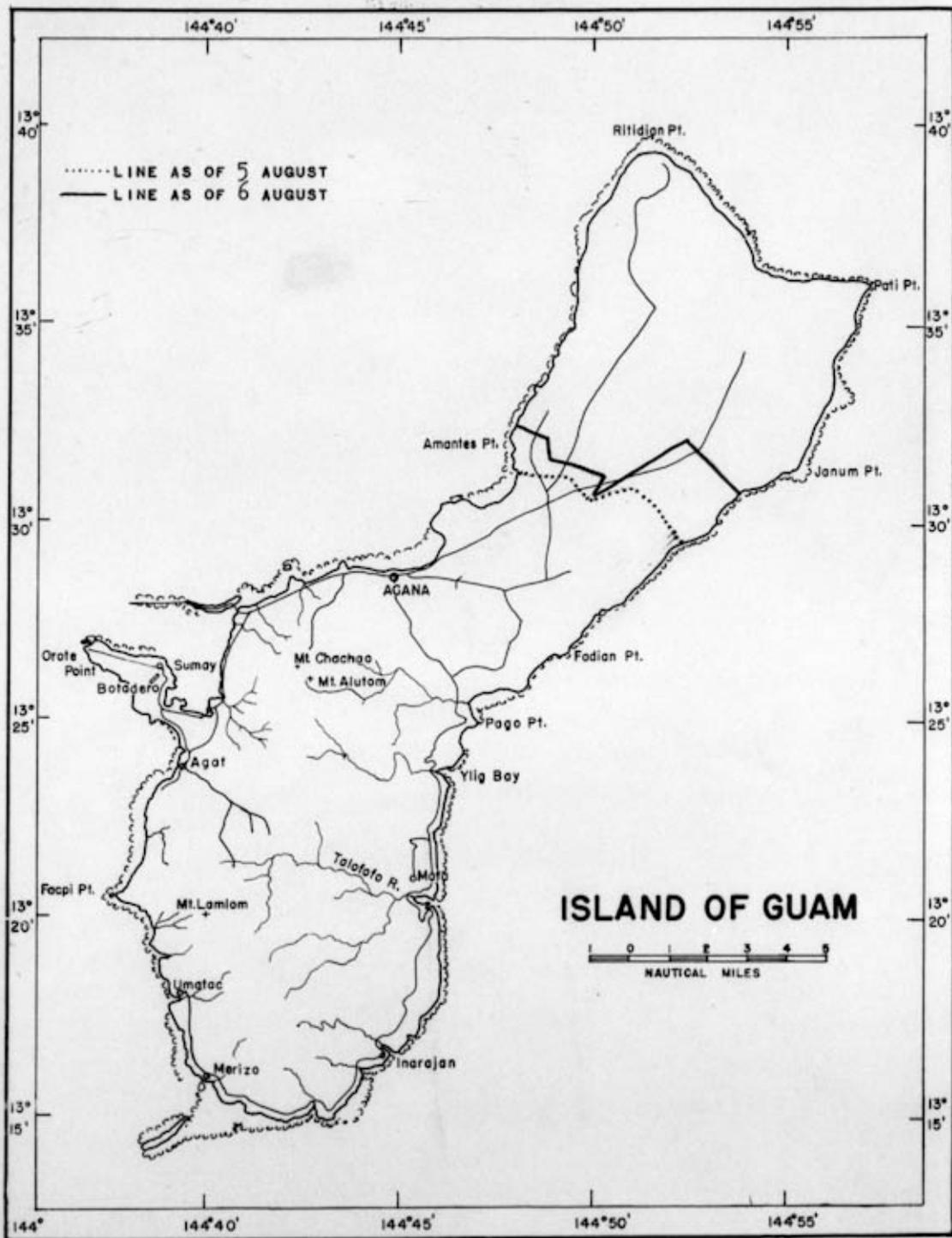
3. During 4 August Chinese troops on the Salween front repulsed a small Japanese attack in the Pingka area; at Tengchung they advanced to positions just inside the southwestern section of the city wall. The next day mopping up of small groups and snipers continued in Myitkyina. The troops which crossed the Irrawaddy River and cleared Waingmaw of the enemy have pushed north of Maingna. British troops have now reached a position six miles south of Churachandpur. Tamu has been occupied and patrols pushed two miles to the south.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our forces at Aitape advanced southward from Niumen Creek against strong resistance during 5 August; contact with the enemy was







maintained at Afua.

During 4 August 24 B-24's bombed Yap airdrome; the following day 23 B-24's returned to attack bivouac and supply areas. Small missions attacked Palau, Sorol and Woleai. Fighter bombers continued their attack against tactical targets on the New Guinea coast near Wewak. In western New Guinea, the Cape Sansapor and Sorong areas were attacked by 63 RAAF P-40's. Navy patrol bombers sank one seatruck and a coastal vessel and probably sank a large sailing vessel off islands to the west of New Guinea. Two groups of B-24's struck storage installations at Boela; seven B-25's attacked villages on Ceram. Six B-24's attacked dock installations at Kokas.

Seventy-one Solomons-based planes attacked enemy-held areas of Bougainville and Choiseul Bay; 154 struck targets on New Ireland and on the Gazelle Peninsula.

2. Antiaircraft positions and coastal gun batteries on Wotje were the target for 57 fighter bombers during 4 August. That night four B-24's harassed Bonin and Pagan Islands; one of our planes is missing.

3. In operations on Guam during 5 August, Army troops on the right of the line gained nearly three miles up the coast, the remainder of our line generally conforming to this advance. An enemy counterattack of about platoon strength was found to have been conducted by naval personnel fighting as infantry.

EASTERN FRONT

The Germans claim to have retaken the railroad center of Jelgava on

~~TOP SECRET~~

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

the Soviet corridor to the Gulf of Riga on 6 August. West of Kaunas heavy fighting continued on a broad front. In the Carpathian sector Red Armies captured the oil center of Drohobycz.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

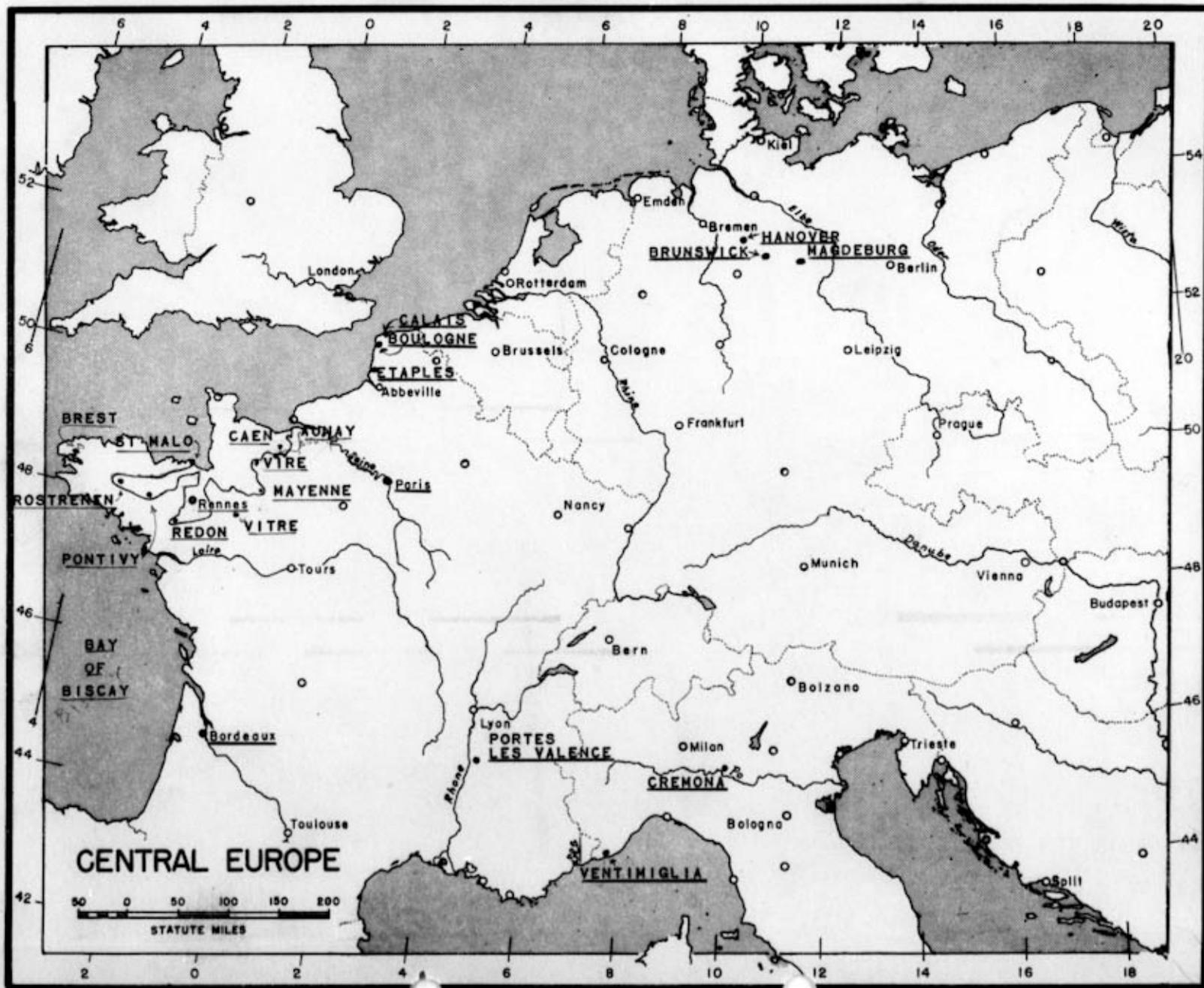
No. 970

0700 August 5 to 0700 August 6, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

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EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During 3 and 4 August 1,374 RAF bombers hit supply dumps north of Paris and in the Pas de Calais area with an aggregate bombload exceeding 6,400 tons. Two hundred eighty-two RAF bombers attacked oil stores and refineries north of Bordeaux with 1,340 tons. In other operations during this period a railroad bridge south of Boulogne was hit with 166 tons, targets around Le Beny Bocage, in support of ground operations, were bombed with 119 tons, and raids against river traffic on the Seine were carried out by 58 fighter bombers which destroyed seven (probably eight) barges. Ten heavy bombers and three fighters from Allied escorts are missing from these operations.

During 8th Air Force attacks against targets in northwestern Germany on 4 August, bombloads totalling nearly 2,600 tons were dropped by 1,176 bombers; 53 (probably 57) enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of 15 heavy bombers and 16 fighters. An afternoon mission of 104 heavies attacked flying bomb sites, gun positions, marshalling yards, and airfields in northern France, dropping 283 tons. The next day 1,170 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force escorted by 670 fighters attacked oil installations, aircraft factories and other targets in the Hannover-Brunswick-Madgeburg areas. Fighters claimed 28 (probably 29) enemy aircraft destroyed for the loss of 13 bombers and 6 fighters.

During the 24-hour period ending at 1100, 4 August, the AEAFF flew nearly 2,700 support sorties principally against rail and barge traffic and supply dumps in northern France. Ten (probably eleven) enemy aircraft were destroyed for a loss of seven of our planes.

For the 24-hour period ending 0600 5 August, 149 flying bombs were

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plotted; 102 reached the mainland, 35 penetrated to London and 56 were destroyed. Revised cumulative figures through this period show: 5,900 launched; 4,326 overland; 2,097 reached England; 2,473 destroyed. Casualties total 5,016 killed, 32,972 injured.

2. Reports covering the 24-hour period ending 1200 on 5 August indicate that US armored columns traversing the Brittany Peninsula, reached Pontivy and pushed to within 50 miles of Brest. The column which moved south from Rennes reached Redon on the Vilaine River, with patrols along the sea on the Bay of Biscay. Other elements of the Third Army patrolled eastward from Rennes to Vitre and pushed southeast from the Fougères-Mortain area to Mayenne, a gain of nearly 30 miles. In the Vire area of the First Army front two counterattacks were repulsed and our armored units reached the outskirts of Vire itself. On the British Second Army front preliminary reports indicate that Aunay-sur-Orne was occupied and that the enemy had withdrawn from Villers Bocage and Evrecy.

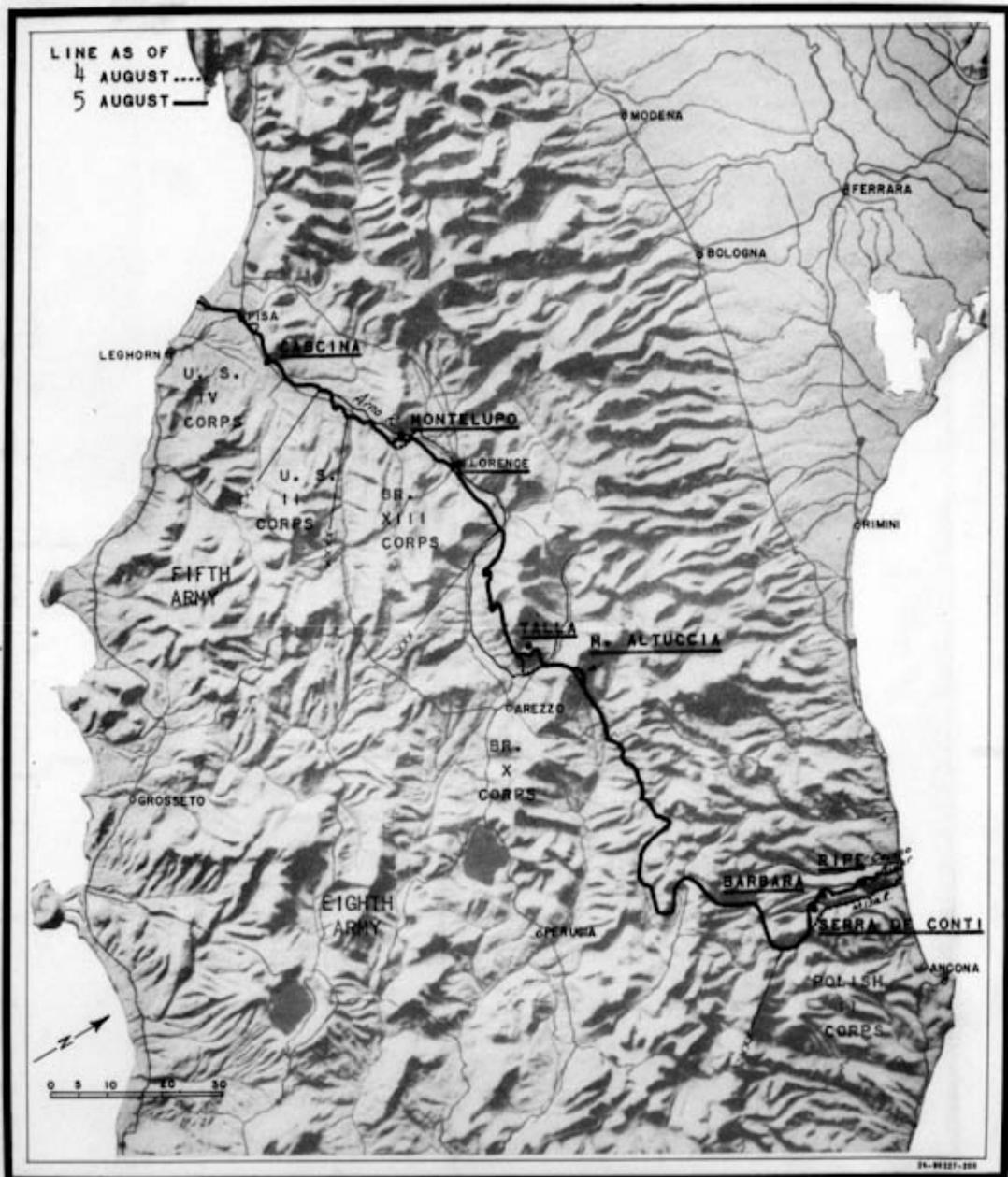
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 3-4 August 79 heavy and medium bombers of the 15th Air Force dropped 158 tons on marshalling yards at Portes les Valences; two bombers were lost. The following day 78 fighter bombers attacked targets in the Bucharest area and continued on to Russian bases. Three locomotives and one airborne and four grounded enemy planes were destroyed; 11 of our fighters are missing.

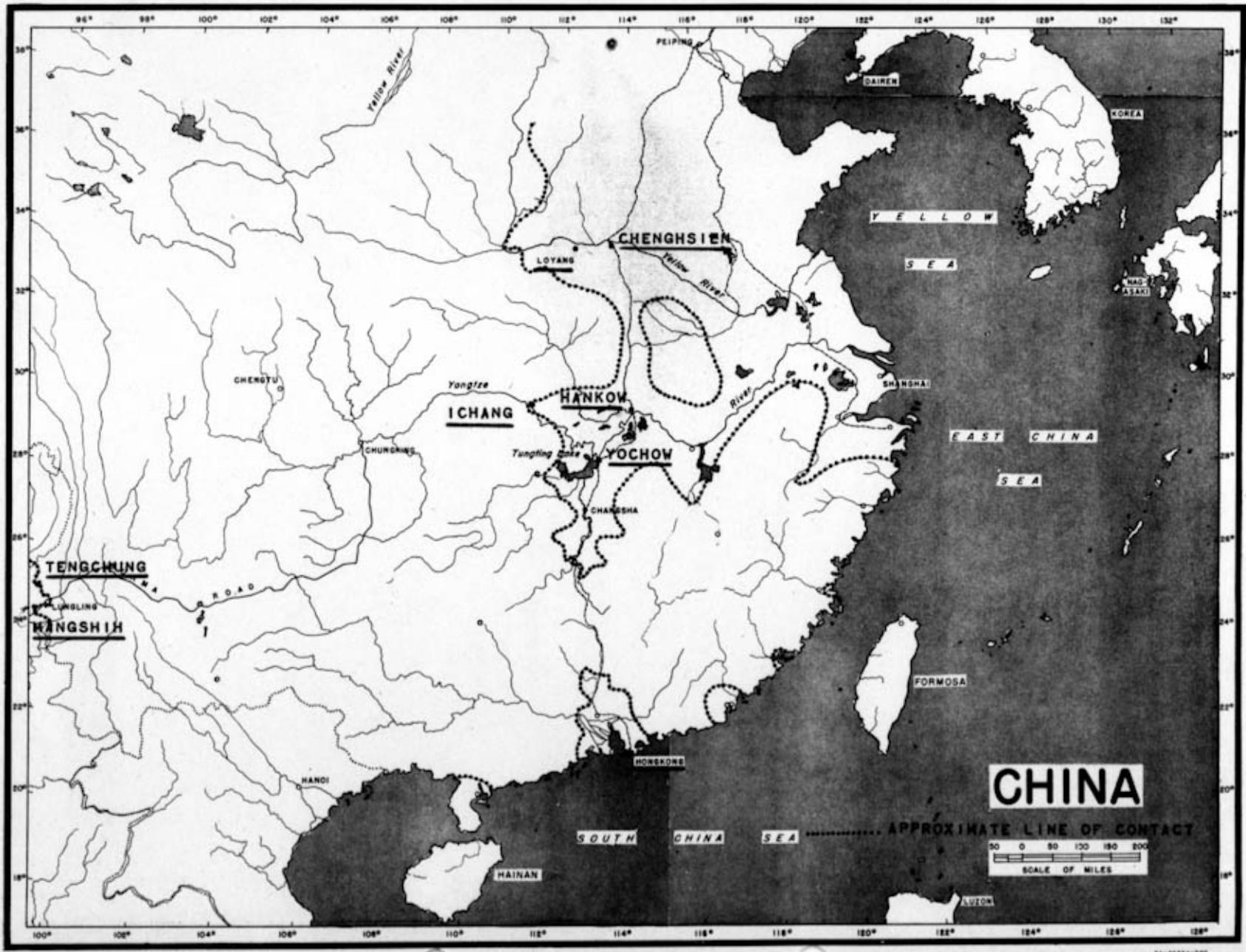
Included in the Tactical Air Force missions flown during this period were strikes by 53 B-26's against railroad bridges at Ventimiglia and 43 B-25's against bridges over the Var River; one medium bomber is missing. Other

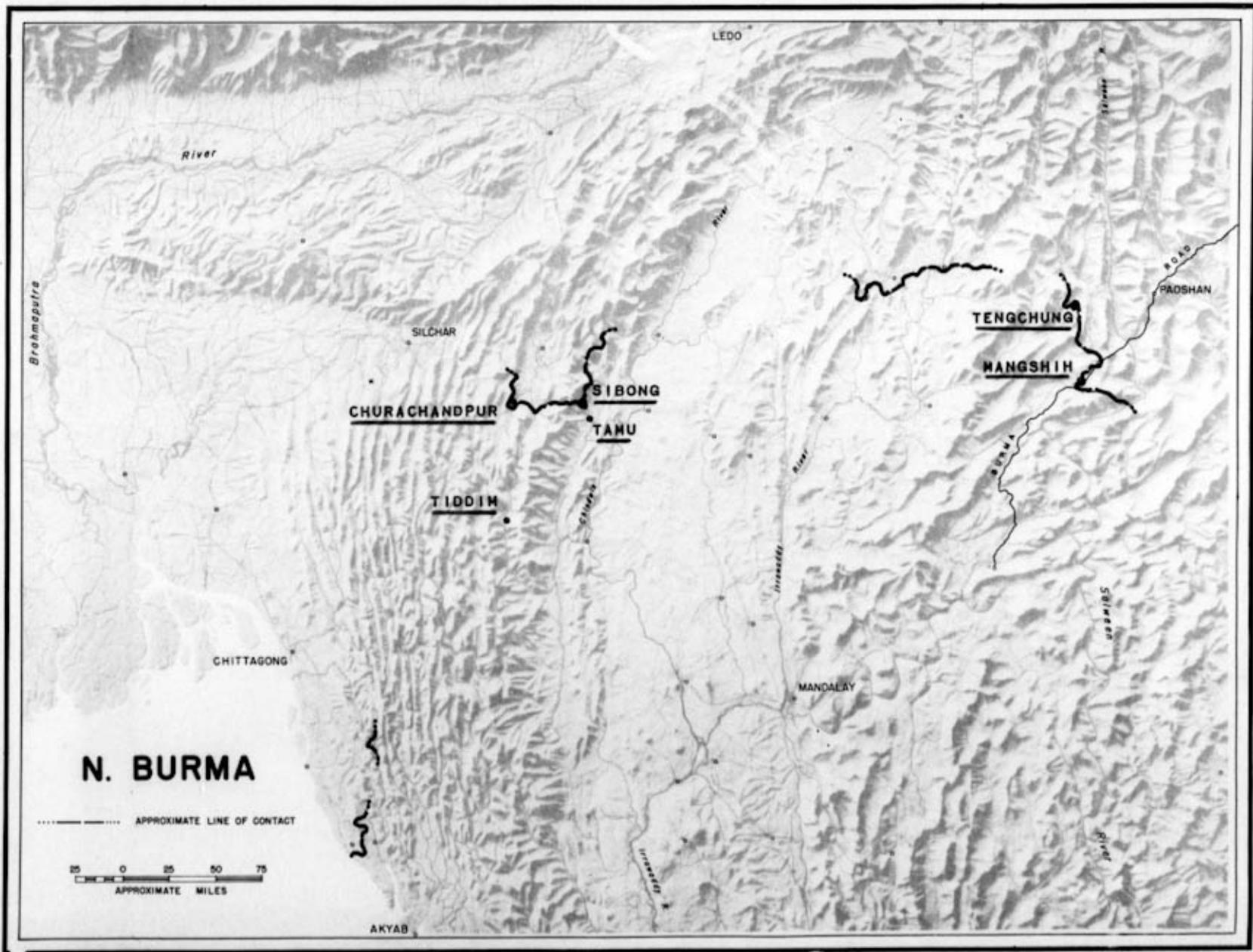
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TOP SECRET





formations operated against road communications around Cremona, tactical targets in the battle area and bridges in the Po Valley. Coastal aircraft bombed Imperia Harbor and attacked enemy transportation along the Dalmatian Coast.

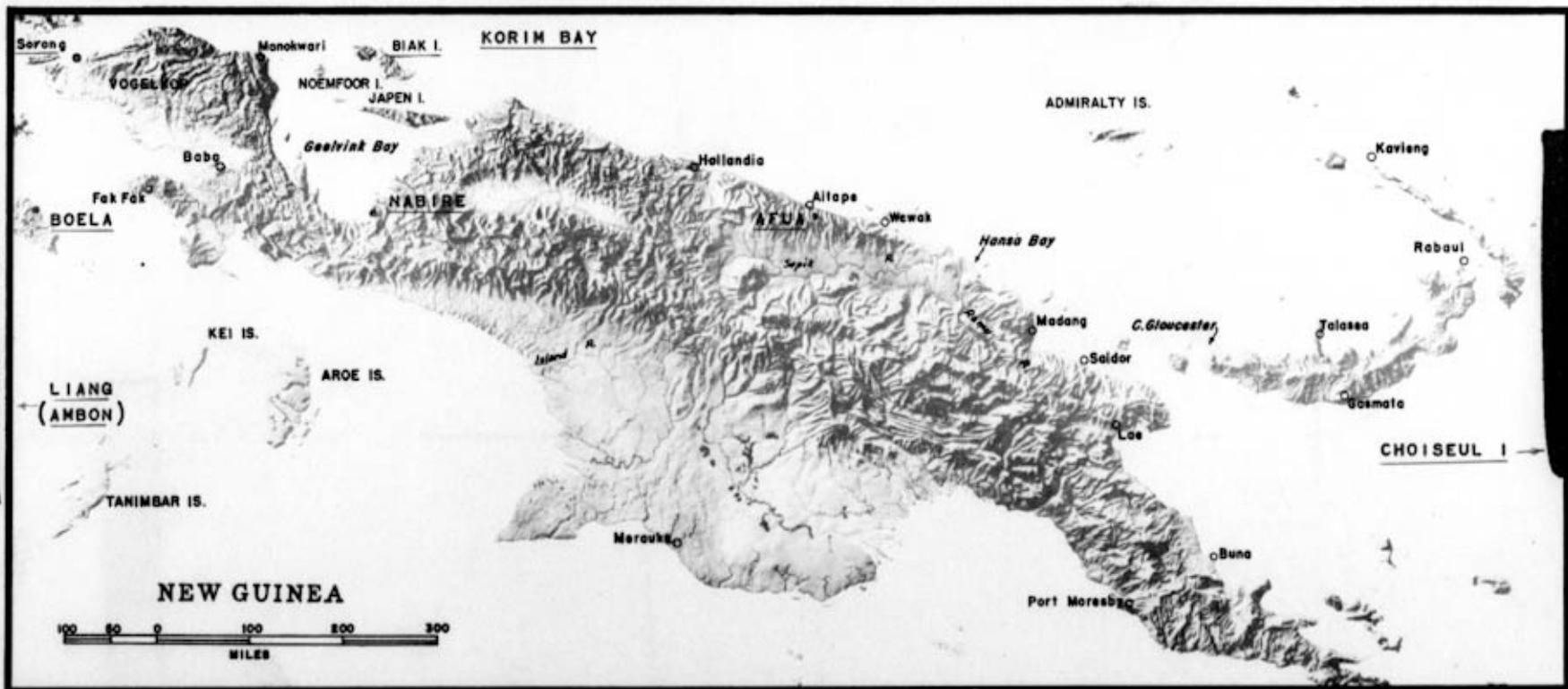
2. During the period ending noon 5 August, our Fifth Army engaged in patrol skirmishes south of the Arno and dispatched a reconnaissance patrol across the river north of Cascina. On the British Eighth Army front the XIII Corps cleared snipers southwest of Florence, maintaining pressure on the city, while Indian troops closed on Montelupo and the British Fourth Division patrolled across the Arno east of Florence. North of Arezzo, infantry units of the British X Corps advanced to within one mile of Talla and captured M. Altuccia. The Polish II Corps crossed the Misa on a broad front and pushed half way to the Cesano River, capturing Ripe, Barbara and Serra de Conti.

ASIATIC THEATER

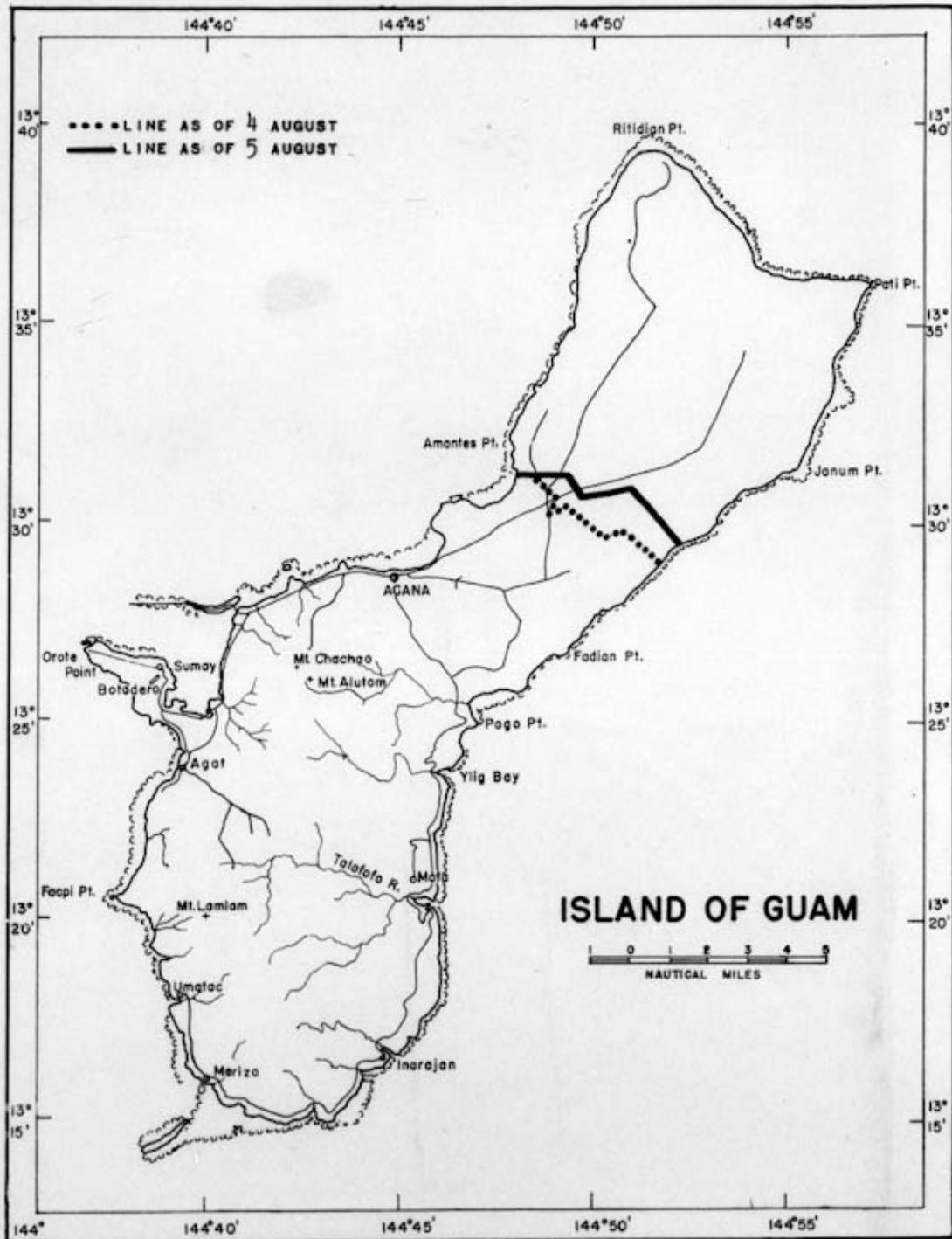
1. On 3 August 23 escorted B-24's destroyed warehouses and damaged other installations at the Yochow rail center. One (probably three) of approximately 15 interceptors were shot down. Other fighters destroyed small shipping on the Yangtze River east of Ichang and swept roads and airfields in the area between Ichang and Hankow. Enemy installations and barracks were raided in the Yellow River area between Loyang and Chenghsien. On the Salween front, B-25's and P-40's scored direct hits on warehouses and ammunition dumps near Mangshih and bombed the walls of Tengchung with good results.

2. During 4 August British troops south of Sibong reached a point four miles northwest of Tamu without opposition. Further progress was reported along the Tiddim Road south of Churachandpur.

TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET

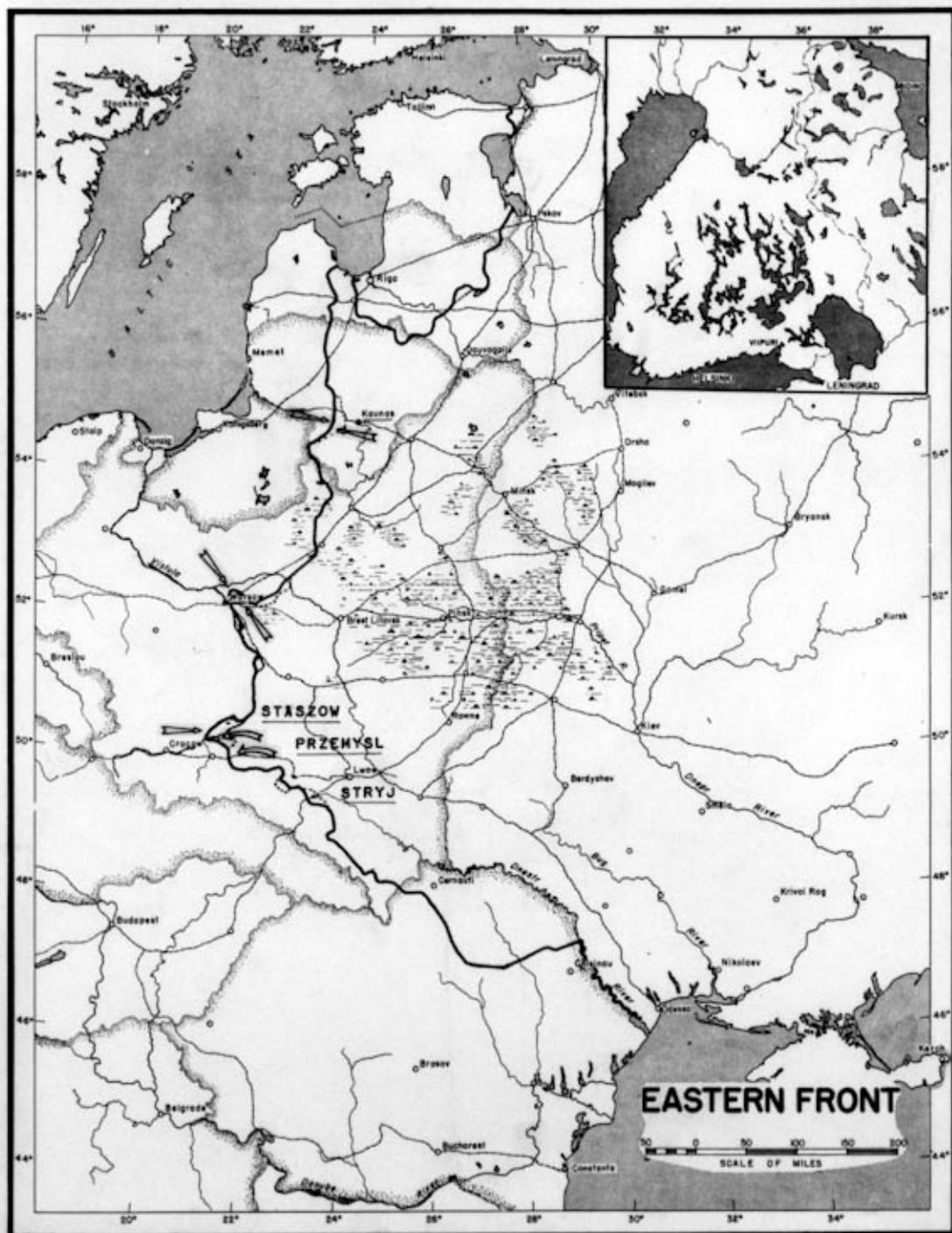
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. An infantry battalion landed at Korim Bay on Biak early on 3 August and moved inland against slight resistance. Fighting continued in the Afua area on New Guinea during 4 August.

2. Late reports indicate that the B-24 raid on Liang airdrome 3 August destroyed at least 10 grounded enemy planes. During 4 August medium, light and fighter bombers attacked tactical targets on the New Guinea coast from Wewak to Afua. Medium and light bombers operated over western New Guinea, striking enemy positions on Biak, the airfield at Nabire and oil fields near Sorong. A heavy patrol bomber fired two seatrucks in a six-ship convoy west of Palau, while two groups of B-24's operated west of New Guinea to attack Boela; escorting P-38's destroyed one enemy interceptor. Two B-24's raided an airfield in the Halmaheras and a single B-25 damaged 11 small craft at Amboina shooting down one (probably 2) intercepting fighters. Three formations totalling 94 bombers and fighters attacked targets in the Bougainville-Choiseul area while other Solomons-based planes hit New Britain and targets on New Ireland.

3. During the night of 2-3 August and the following day Navy patrol bombers harassed Taroa, Mille, Wotje and Nauru. Twenty-seven B-24's bombed Truk with 67 tons during 4 August, attacking gun positions and airfields and firing one freighter transport.

4. The same day our troops on Guam moved forward one mile on the east coast; to the west local gains were reported. On Tinian and Saipan mopping-up operations continued.



EASTERN FRONT

The Red Army overcame strong German resistance and advanced west of Kaunas. South of Warsaw the Germans held against attempts to expand the bridgehead over the Vistula and in the Przemysl area pushed Red forces back at one point.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 969

0700 August 4 to 0700 August 5, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 2-3 August, 90 long-range enemy bombers operated against targets in the Normandy and Brittany battle area and against shipping off the French coast.

On 3 August, 397 heavily escorted B-17's of the 8th Air Force attacked marshalling yards at Mulhouse, Saarbrucken, Strasbourg and the Merckwiller refinery near the latter city with 811 tons, and hit strategic targets in central France with more than 250 tons; we lost six B-17's and five P-51's during engagements in which 15 (probably 16) enemy aircraft were shot down. Other formations totalling 414 heavy bombers attacked flying bomb sites, fuel dumps, airfields and targets of opportunity in northern France with 1,145 tons; three bombers are missing. The next day 1,261 escorted heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force attacked the Peenemunde experimental works, three aircraft factories and two airdromes in the Mecklenburg region of northern Germany. The port area at Kiel and three oil plants in the Bremen-Hamburg area were also attacked. In a second strike 114 other escorted heavy bombers were dispatched against flying bomb installations and coastal batteries in the Pas de Calais area.

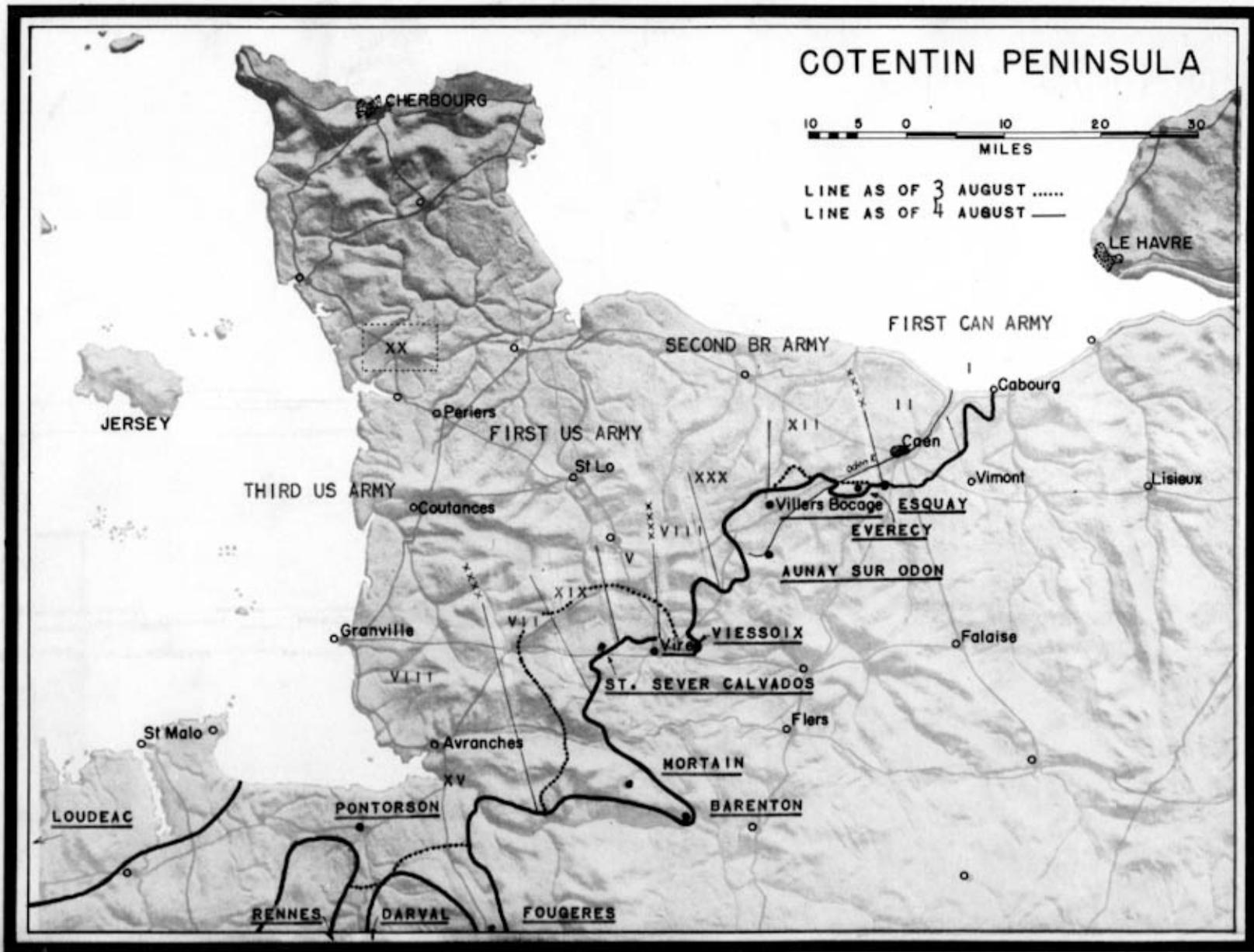
Flying bomb activity was heavy for the second consecutive day. During the 24 hours ending at 0600, 4 August, 119 of 193 launched against England reached the coast; 40 penetrated to the London area with a record number of 81 being destroyed.

2. Armored spearheads of our Third Army, racing west and south into Brittany, by noon on 4 August had captured Loudeac, approximately 50 miles

COTENTIN PENINSULA



LINE AS OF 3 AUGUST
LINE AS OF 4 AUGUST —



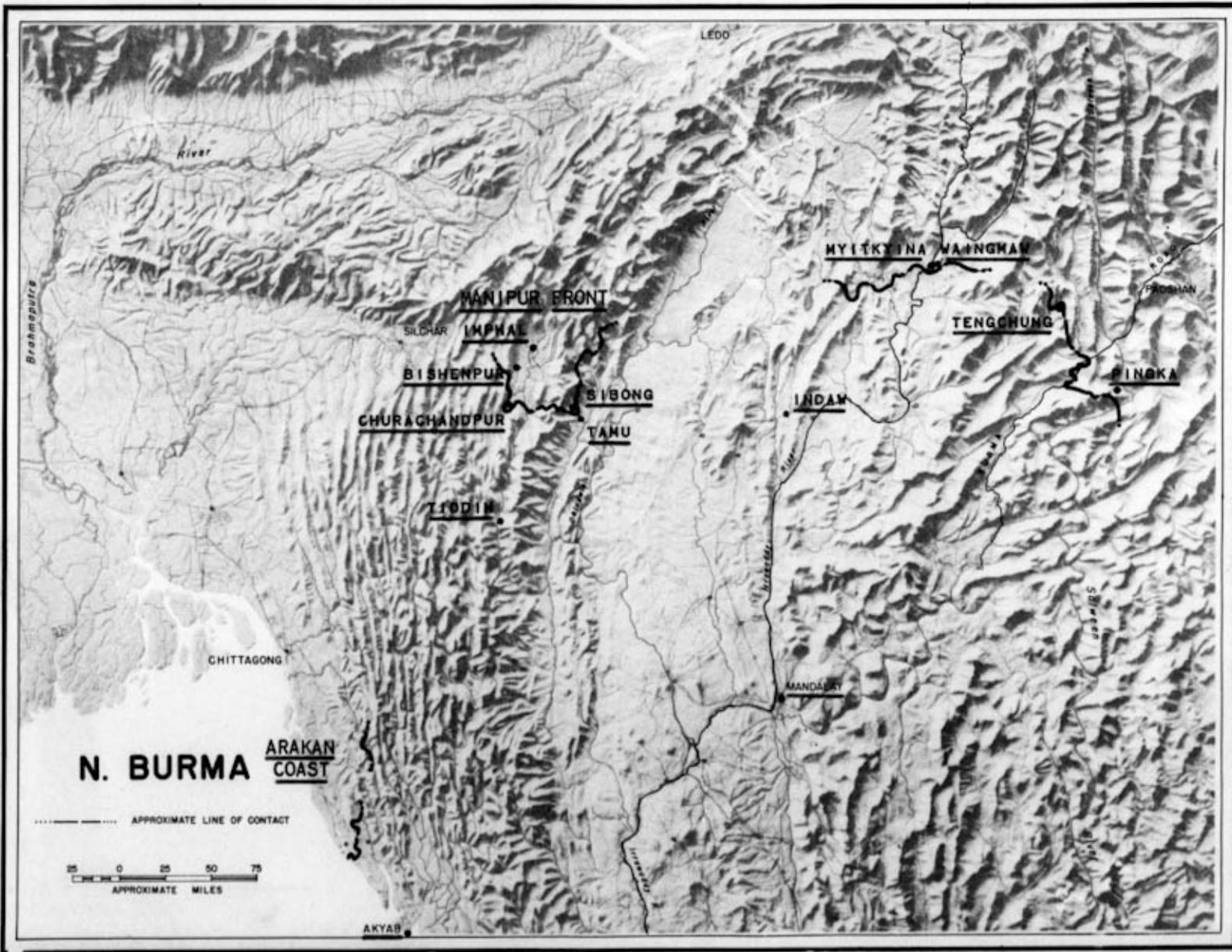
west of Rennes, and reached Derval, only 40 miles from St. Nazaire. Infantry elements pushed southeast from Pontorson, reached Fougères and made contact to the northeast with First Army troops. Mortain was occupied and our forces drove on to the southeast as far as Barenton. On the First Army front our units made substantial gains in the general direction of St. Sever Calvados, an armored spearhead entering the city itself. Infantry units on the left flank closed in on Vire from the north and at last report were within three miles of that city.

Armor of the British Second Army captured Viessoix east of Vire and, to the north, occupied the high ground south of Arclais. Minor gains against stubborn enemy resistance and numerous counterattacks were reported southwest of Aunay sur Odon, north of Villers Bocage and along the Everecy-Esquay line, south of the Odon.

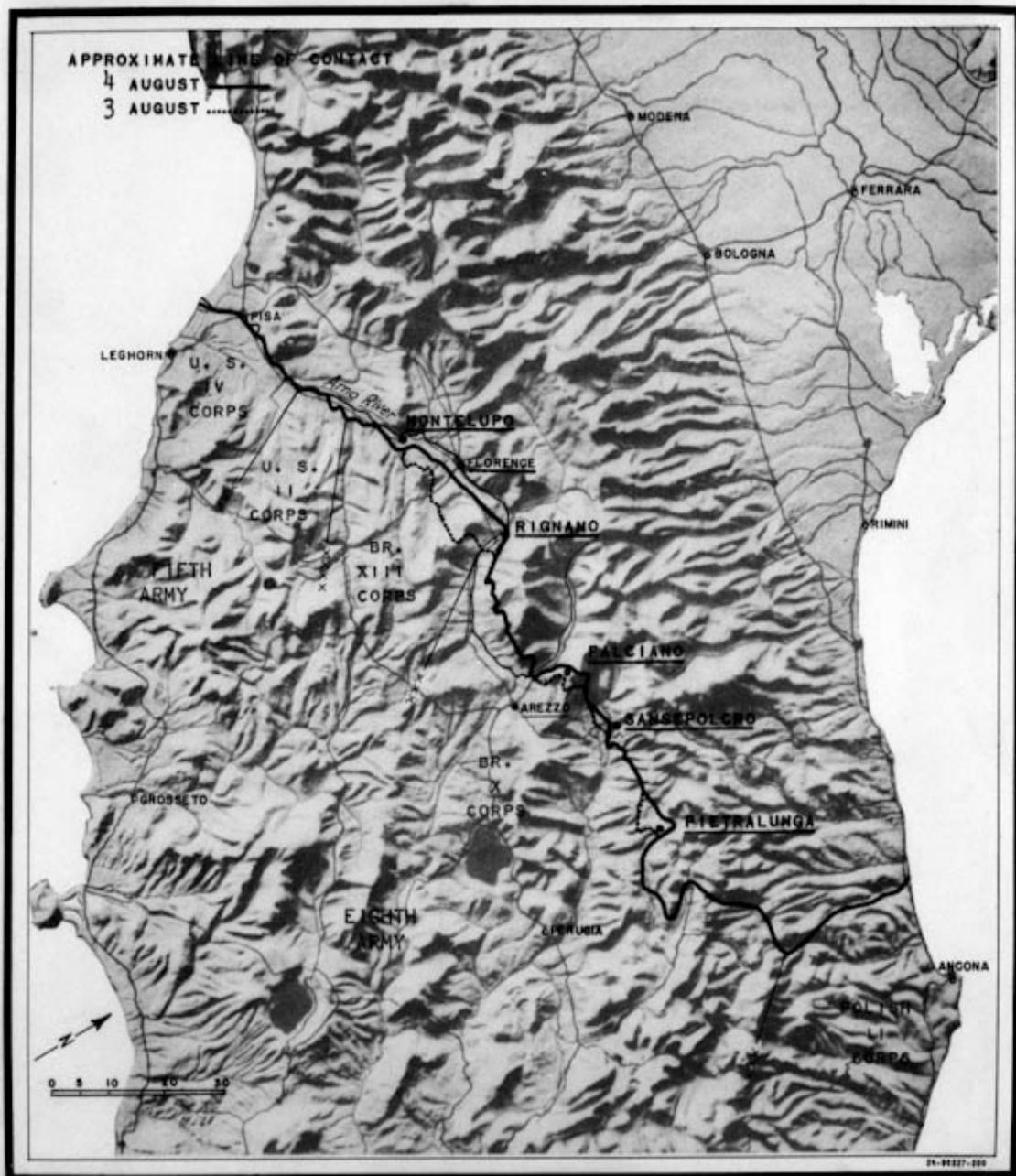
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 2-3 August and the following day medium, light and fighter bombers of the Tactical Air Force continued attacks against bridges, rail and road traffic, coastal shipping and tactical targets in northern Italy. Fourteen enemy aircraft were destroyed. Medium bombers of the Coastal Air Force successfully attacked a large convoy off Portofino and exploded an ammunition dump in the town itself. Forty-one fighter bombers carried out sweeps over Albania and Yugoslavia, damaging five locomotives and other rolling stock.

The 15th Air Force cancelled heavy bomber operations during 4 August due to adverse weather.



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OSD Letter, 5-3-72



2. During the period up to noon 4 August only patrolling and artillery exchanges were reported from the US Fifth Army front. The enemy continues to withdraw in the entire sector south of Florence and, at last report, Allied units on a general line extending from Montelupo to Rignano and approximately one mile south of the Arno were advancing to the river without contact. Advance elements have pushed to the outskirts of Florence itself. North of Arezzo other forces advanced a mile north of Falciano and, to the east, are within one mile of Sansepolcro. Pietralunga fell to Allied troops which drove three miles north of that town. Contact was being maintained along the Adriatic but no changes were reported in that sector.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. Myitkyina was occupied by Allied troops during 3 August. Southeast of the city, on the east bank of the Irrawaddy River, other troops occupied Waingmaw. Elsewhere along the India-Burma front no significant changes were reported.

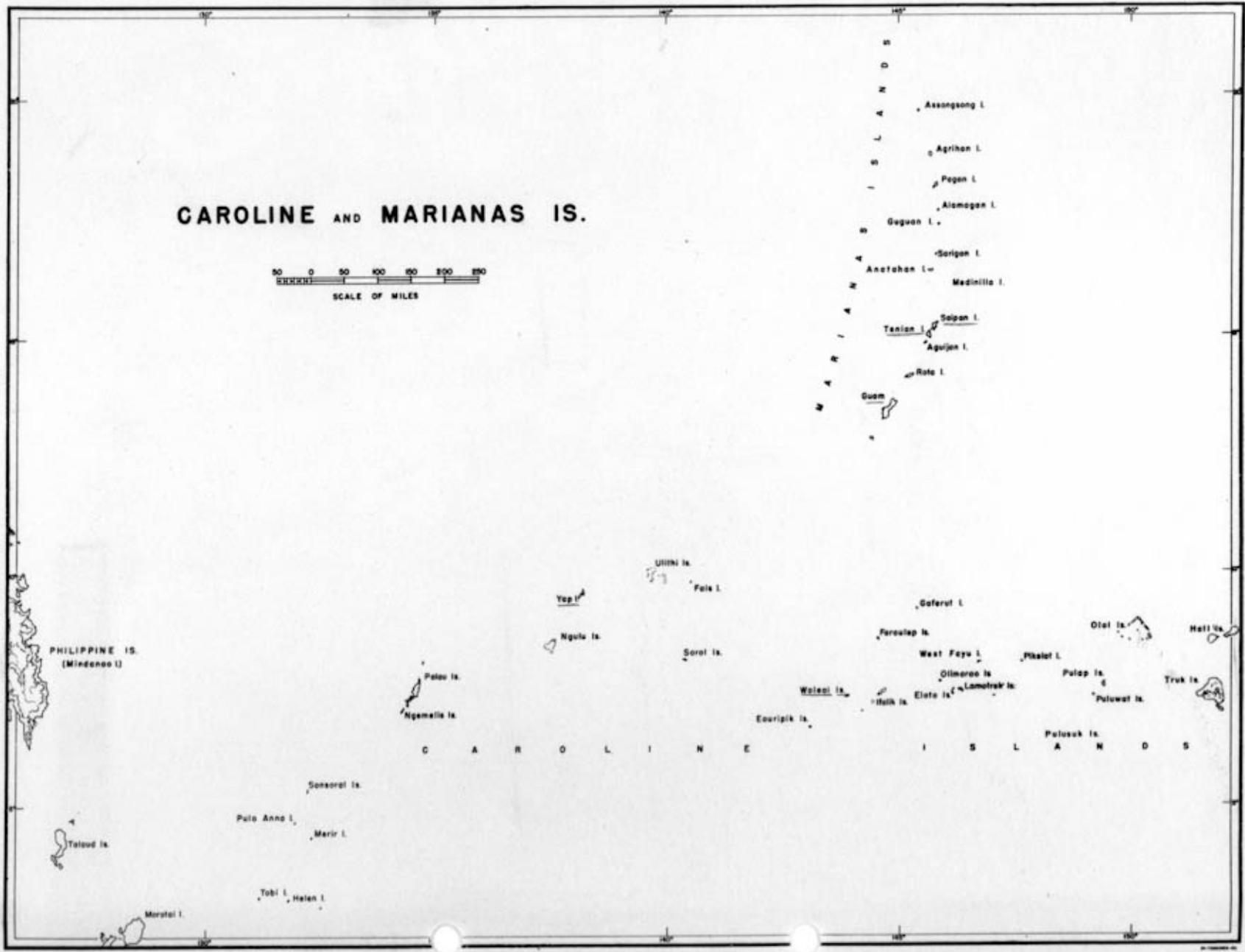
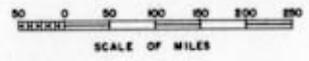
2. Fighters and fighter bombers of the Eastern Air Command, flying well over 200 support sorties on 1 and 2 August, continued their attacks on Japanese positions, transportation, and supply areas behind the Manipur and North Burma fronts. Heavy bombers attacked installations along the Mandalay-Indaw railway during 2 August; that night five B-24's, one of which is missing, hit Akyab on the Arakan coast.

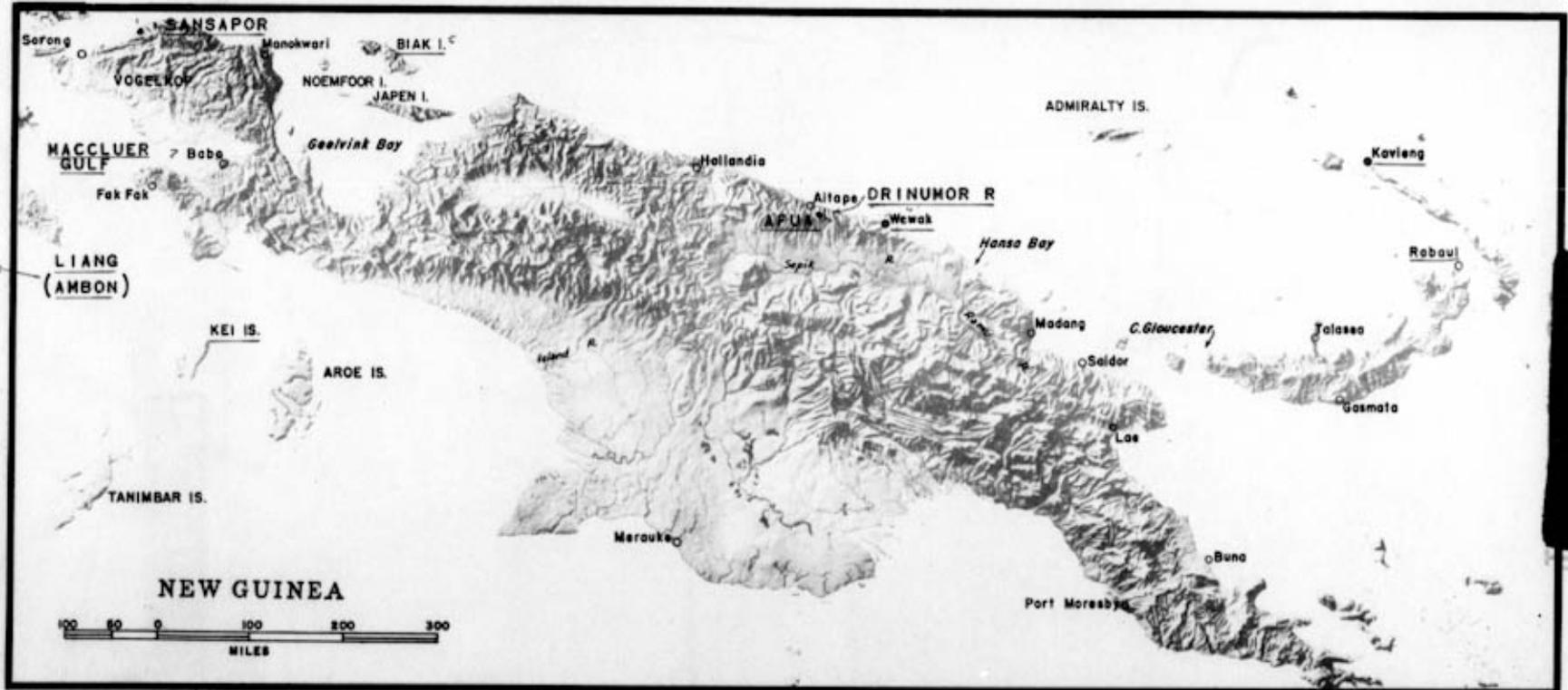
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 3 August, Allied patrols were active in the Cape Sansapor

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CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.





and Afua areas. East of the Drinumor River our troops advanced to the south against considerable resistance.

Eleven B-24's bombed Yap and 12 others hit Woleai with 12 tons. Another mission of 14 heavy bombers hit airdromes and other targets in Timor; one B-24 bombed Liang airdrome on Ambon where nine grounded aircraft were destroyed by a B-24 strike the previous day. Six B-24's hit an airfield in the Kai Islands. Medium, light and fighter bombers operated against targets near Afua, Wewak, the Cape Sansapor area, and Keaukwa, on New Guinea's southwest coast.

Solomons-based aircraft in formations totalling nearly 150 planes attacked the Rabaul region, targets on Bougainville and at Kavieng.

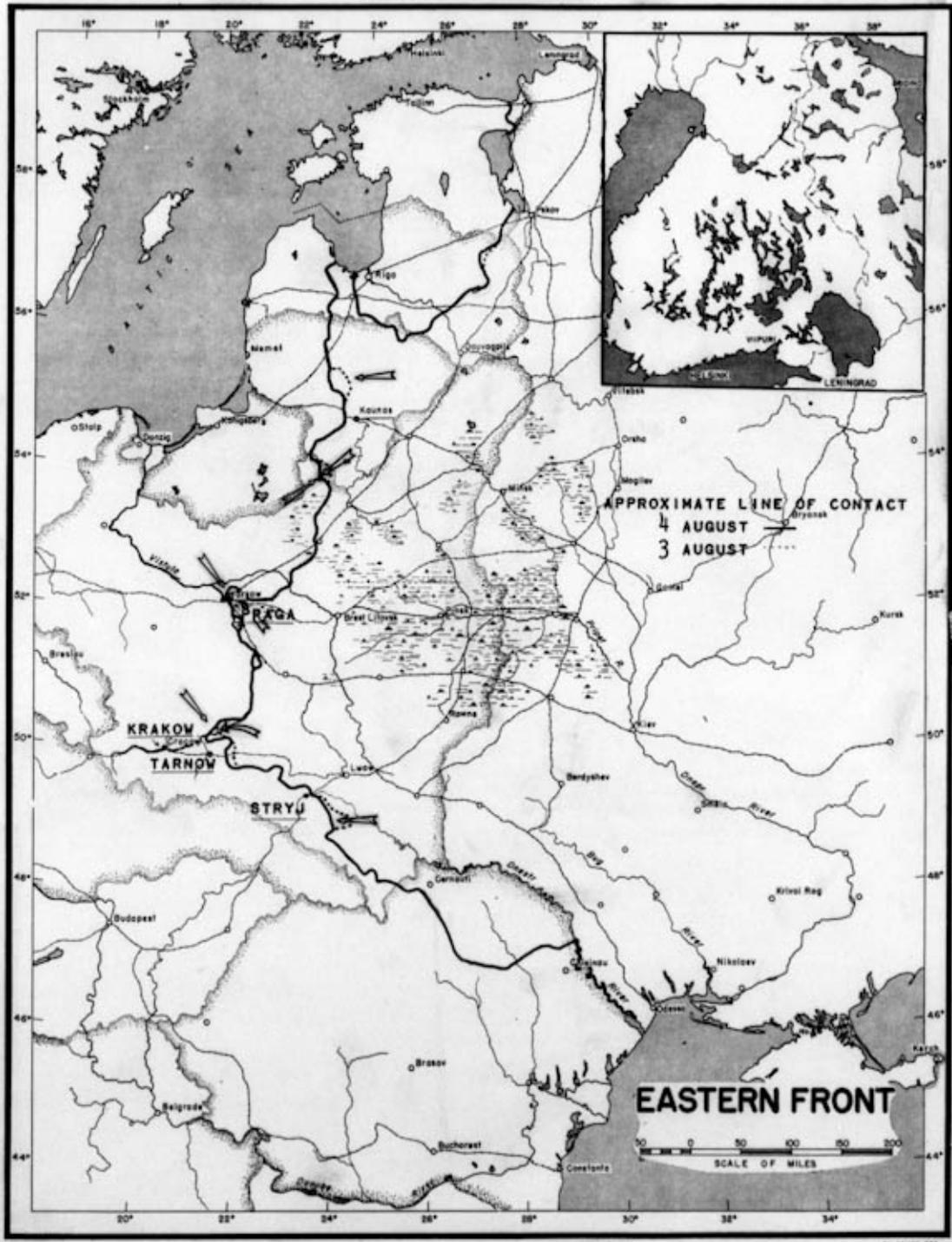
2. Fifty Central Pacific dive and fighter bombers struck Wotje, Taroa and Jaluit during 2 August; 12 B-25's attacked Ponape with 12 tons.

3. During 3 August our forces on Guam pushed northward nearly two miles, capturing an important road junction controlling routes to the north. Resistance was being encountered on the west flank. The Orote airfield is now operative for all types of planes and a land plane shuttle service with Saipan has been instituted.

4. Formal flag-raising services were conducted on Tinian on the afternoon on 3 August.

EASTERN FRONT

North and south of Kaunas Soviet forces continued their advance against stiff German resistance. Fighting continued in the vicinity of



TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

Praga. Polish underground elements, conducting harassing operations within Warsaw, gained control of parts of the city. The Red Armies expanded their bridgehead on the upper Vistula pushing 20 miles up the north bank in a mechanized drive toward Cracow; south of the river they gained in a move on Tarnow.

TOP SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 968

0700 August 3 to 0700 August 4, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

EUROPEAN THEATER

1. Six hundred twenty-six escorted 8th Air Force bombers on 2 August dropped an aggregate bombload of 1,936 tons on oil and supply dumps, rail centers, bridges, airfields around Paris and enemy bomb launching sites. One enemy aircraft was destroyed for the loss of 11 bombers and five fighters and fighter bombers. The next day more than 1,000 heavy bombers were airborne against targets in the upper Rhine Valley and northern France.

During the 24-hour period ending at 1100 on 3 August the Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew 3,250 sorties concentrating on supply dumps, bridges and railroad lines in Normandy and Brittany; five enemy aircraft were destroyed for the loss of nine fighters and fighter bombers. Three hundred ninety-four RAF bombers dumped nearly 1,800 tons of explosives on enemy bomb launching sites, constructional works, supply dumps and labor camps in northwestern France while 60 other RAF bombers hit the Le Havre port area with about 300 tons; two bombers were lost in these attacks.

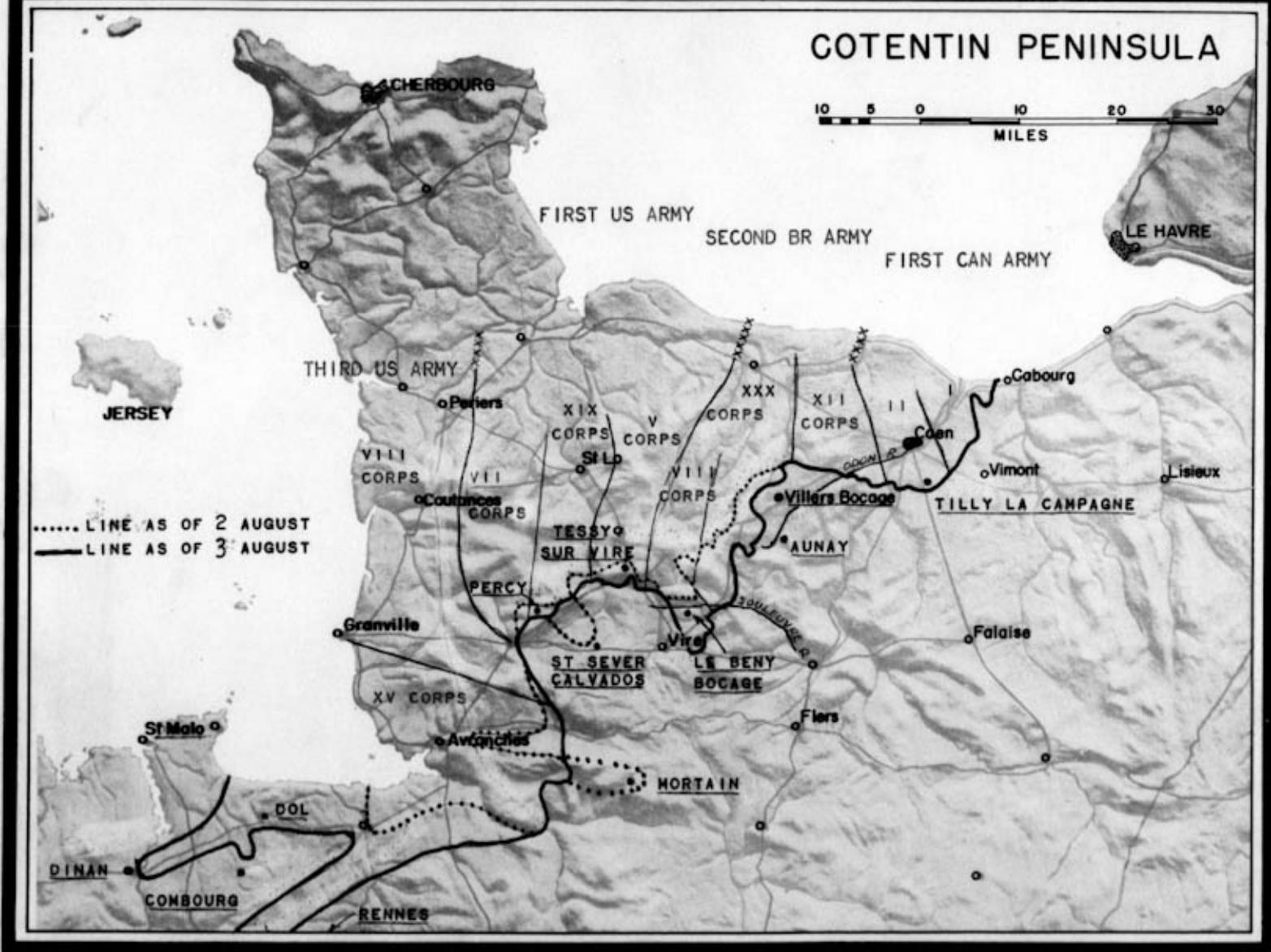
Flying bomb activity increased sharply during the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 3 August, 219 were launched and 92 penetrated to the greater London area; 32 were destroyed.

2. The United States Twelfth Army Group assumed command of our First and Third Armies at noon on 1 August.

During the 24-hour period ending at noon on 3 August our VIII Corps, which passed to command of the Third Army, continued its rapid

COTENTIN PENINSULA

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—— LINE AS OF 3 AUGUST

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

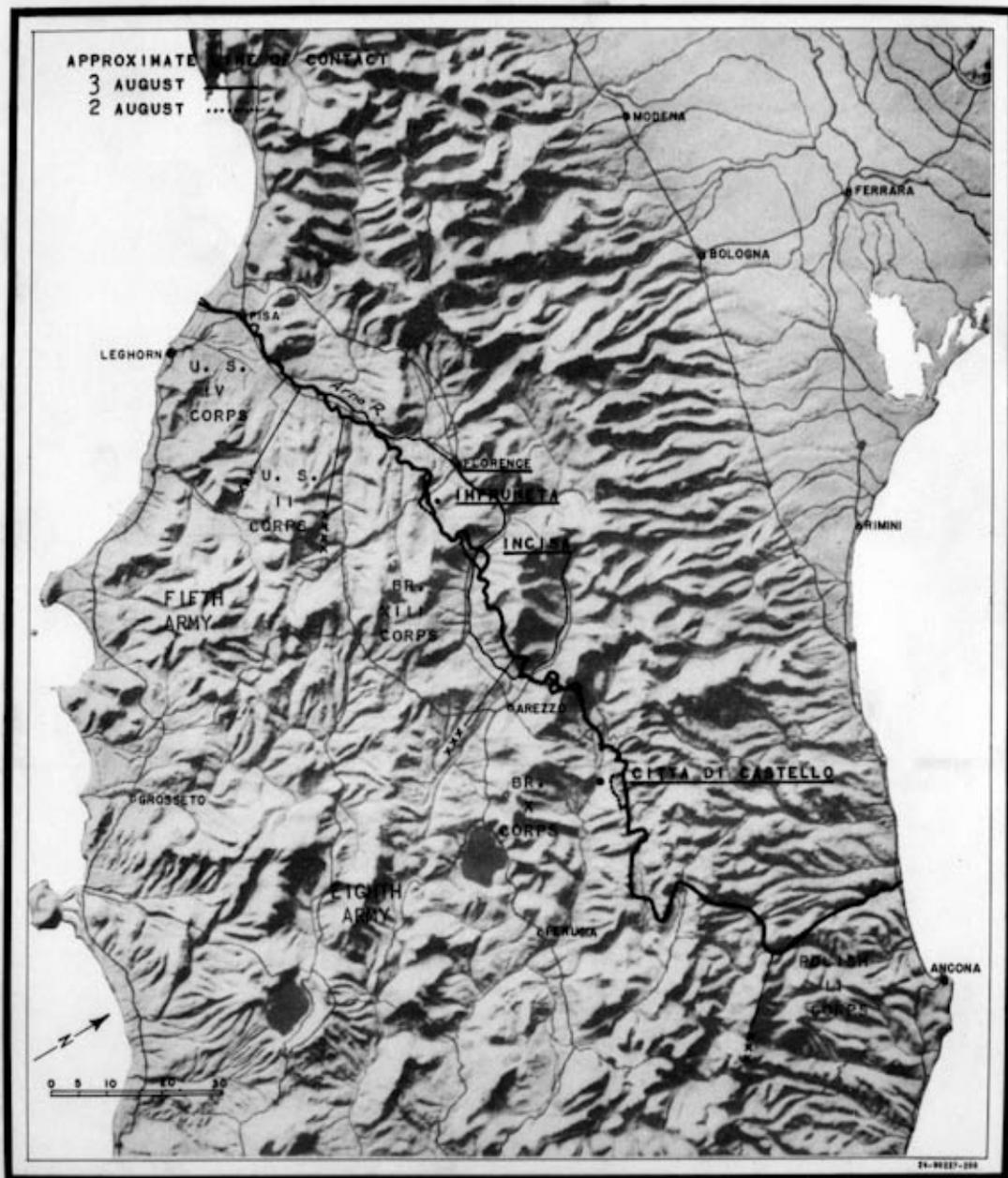
advance to Brittany, captured Dol and advanced on toward St. Malo, Dinan and Combourg. Other forward elements were reported pushing southwest from the Rennes area. The XV Corps is entering the line on the left flank of the Third Army front. In our First Army sector infantry and armored units advanced three miles from captured Percy toward St. Sever Calvados, captured Tessy sur Vire, and pushed forward elements to a general line along the Souleuvre, approximately seven miles north of Vire. Farther south preliminary reports indicate that our columns have entered Mortain. The British Second Army armor made minor gains east of Le Beny Bocage against considerable opposition; infantry columns were at last report approaching Villers Bocage and Aunay and have occupied an important terrain feature southwest of that town. Intense artillery and mortar fire continued to block the advance south toward the Odon. A night attack by Canadian First Army troops on Tilly la Campagne was unsuccessful; the situation along this front remained substantially unchanged.

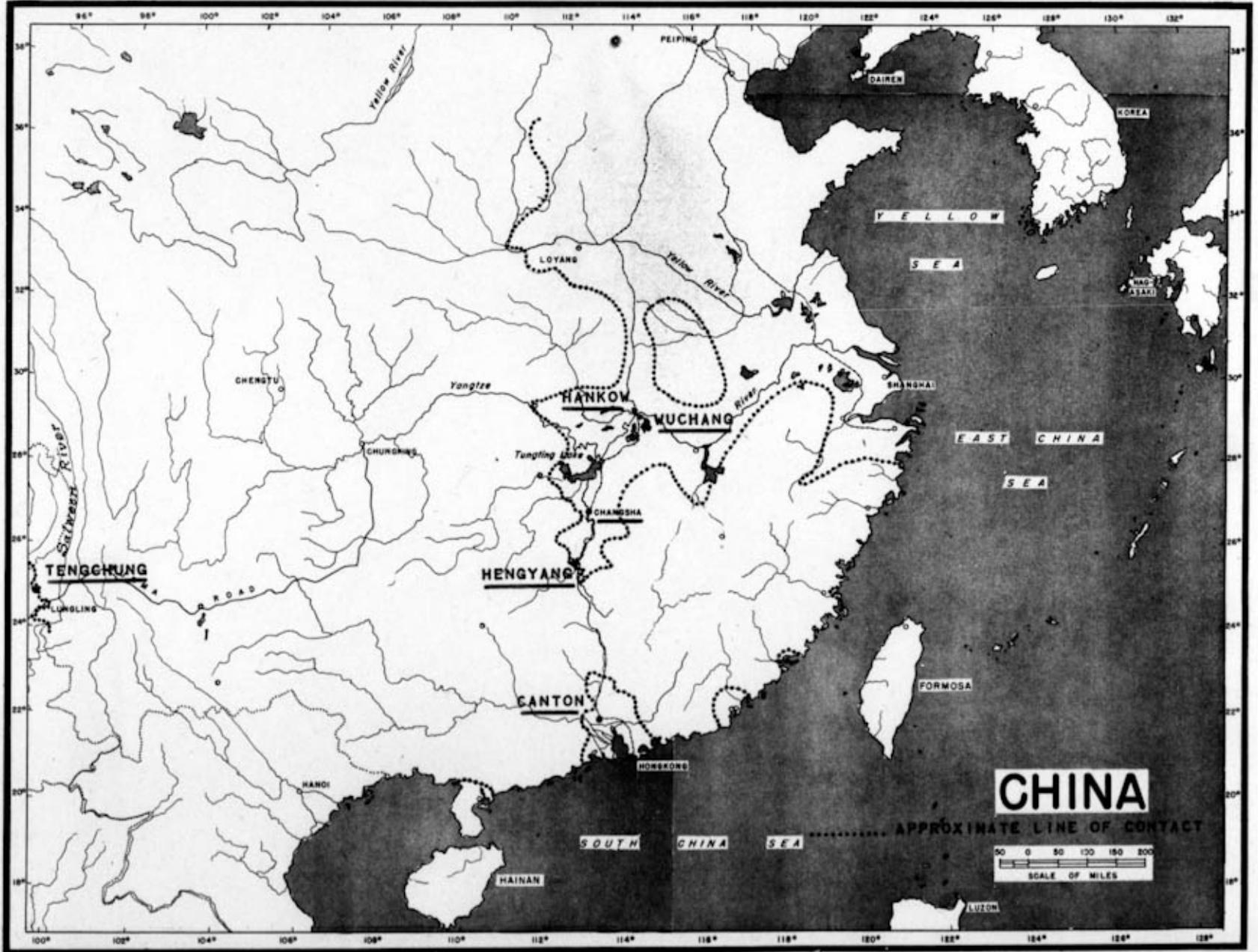
MEDITERRANEAN

1. During the night of 1-2 August and the next day medium bombers and fighters flew more than 750 sorties, supporting ground action, raiding enemy shipping, scoring hits on bridges, cutting rail lines in northern Italy and sweeping the French Riviera as far as Cannes. Fifty-seven medium bombers concentrated on road and rail bridges along the Var River. Three (probably four) of a negligible number of enemy aircraft encountered were destroyed for the loss of four of our aircraft during these operations.

In strategic missions on 3 August, 603 escorted heavy bombers of

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72





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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

the 15th Air Force dropped 1,360 tons of explosives on a viaduct, a bridge, two factories, an airdrome and railroad yards in the Bolzano and Friedrichshafen areas. Eighteen (probably 31) of some 80 enemy aircraft encountered were destroyed; 15 bombers and two fighters are missing.

2. During 2 August, mortar fire inflicted heavy casualties on enemy units attempting to cross the Arno River; artillery concentrations destroyed an enemy ammunition dump. The Eighth Army gained steadily towards Florence, New Zealand infantry, advancing to within four miles of that city, while South African armored troops reached to within one mile of Impruneta. British infantry and armor advanced two miles up the Arno Valley to Incisa. In the hills northeast of Citta di Castello, Indian patrols reduced a three-mile salient. The Adriatic sector remained unchanged.

ASIATIC THEATER

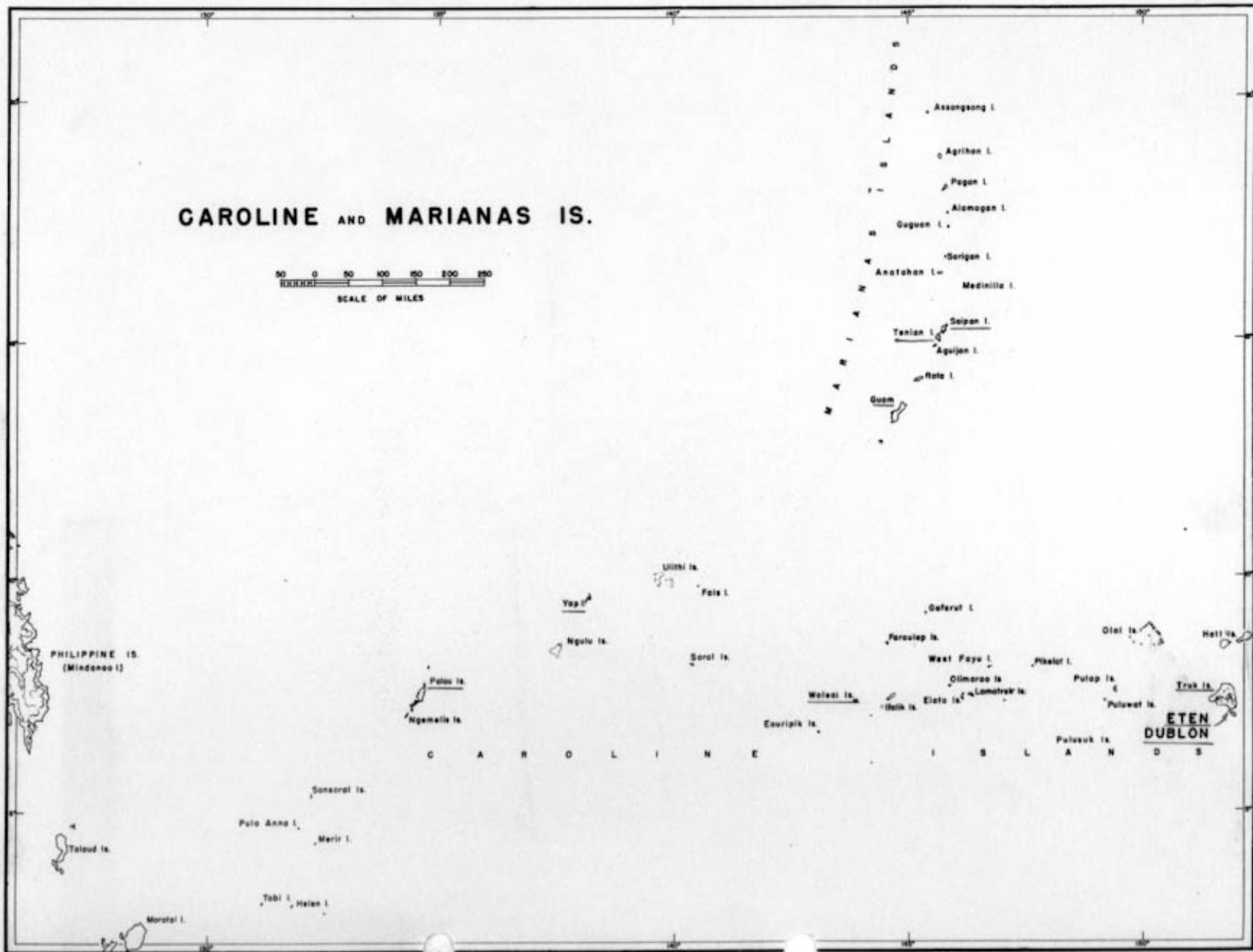
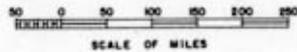
During 1 and 2 August the 14th Air Force missions attacked an airdrome, villages and troop concentrations in the Hengyang-Changsha area. Medium bombers struck enemy airdromes at Hankow and Wuchang, and, in the Canton area, attacked motor transport and airdrome installations. Japanese bombers caused minor damage at three of our airfields. On the Salween River front medium bombers and fighters attacked Tengchung and tactical targets in support of Chinese ground units.

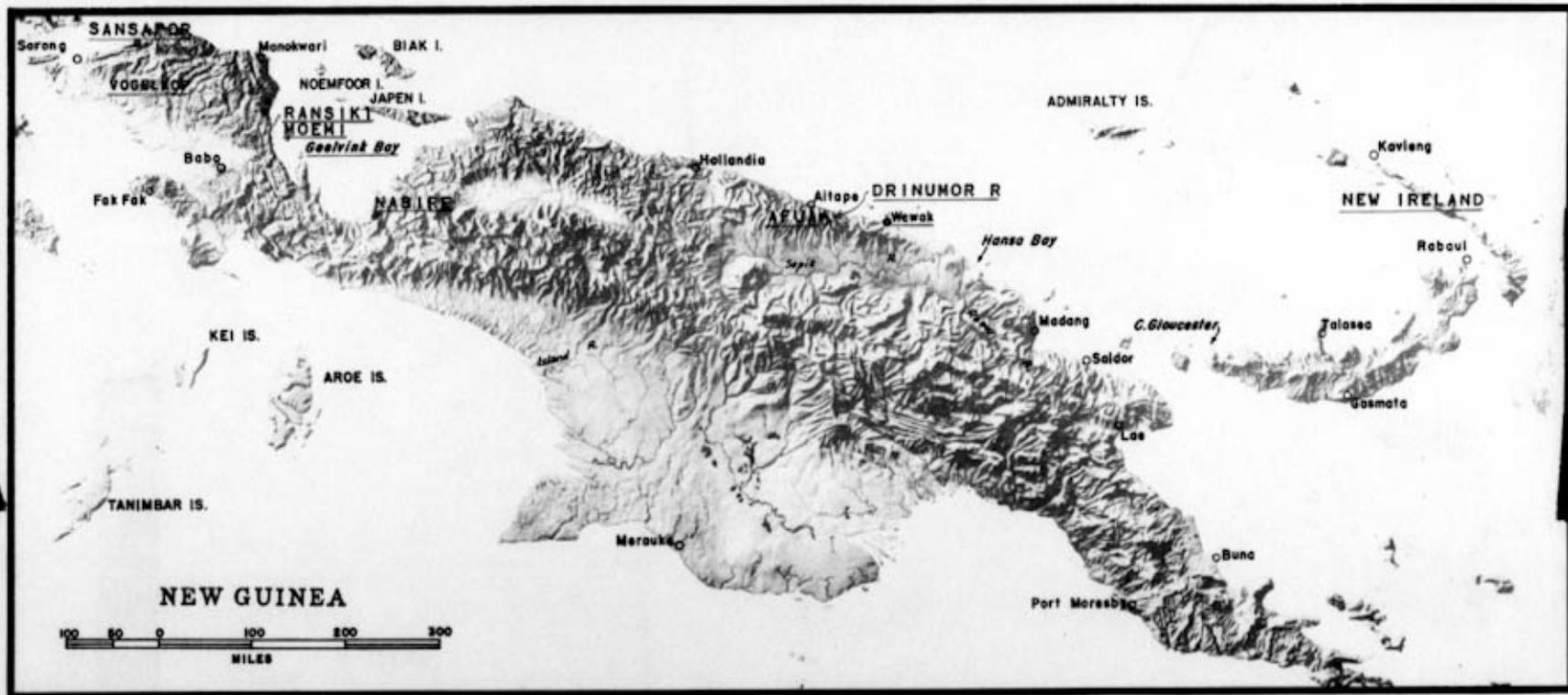
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Our forces in the Cape Sansapor area had taken 126 prisoners by

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CAROLINE AND MARIANAS IS.





2 August. Five enemy attacks in the Afua area were repulsed during 1 and 2 August, the enemy suffering heavy casualties.

A delayed report lists the Ransiki and Moemi airdromes on the Vogelkop Peninsula as targets for twenty-seven B-24's on 31 July; one B-24 was shot down by antiaircraft fire.

Nineteen Southwest Pacific B-24's, during 2 August, bombed the Yap airdrome, destroying four parked aircraft and starting many fires. Others on patrol missions bombed Palau, Woleai, Cape Chater (Timor), and the Liang airdrome (Ambon). Twenty-seven Allied B-25's made a heavy attack on a camp area northwest of Koepang on Timor; 24 A-20's started large fuel fires at Nabire, on Geelvink Bay. Other medium, light and fighter bomber missions continued to attack targets between Wewak and the Drinumor River.

Our aircraft, operating from Solomons bases, flew 144 sorties on 1 August to attack targets on Bougainville, New Britain, New Ireland and northern Choiseul.

2. During 1 August medium bomber missions hit Mille, Wotje and Nauru with a total of 25 tons of explosives. Installations at Truk were the targets for 25 B-24's which dropped 62 tons; of approximately eight enemy interceptors encountered three were shot down without loss.

During the night of 29-30 July, a dump containing 60 tons of explosives was set off in Tanapag Harbor, Saipan, apparently by four Japanese soldiers whose bodies were found near; two Navy guards are missing.

During 2 August our troops on Guam advanced approximately a mile and one-half to the north, occupying Tiyan airfield against increasing



resistance. Our casualties are now 1,022 killed, 4,946 wounded and 305 missing; enemy dead total 7,419.

EASTERN FRONT

The Red Army on 3 August widened its corridor to the Gulf of Riga, moving to within 14 miles of that city. Northeast of Warsaw, Soviets were pushed back at one point; fighting continued in the suburbs of Prague. Staszow fell to Soviet troops as they strengthened their bridgehead over the Vistula; southwest of Przemysl further advances were made into the Carpathian foot hills.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

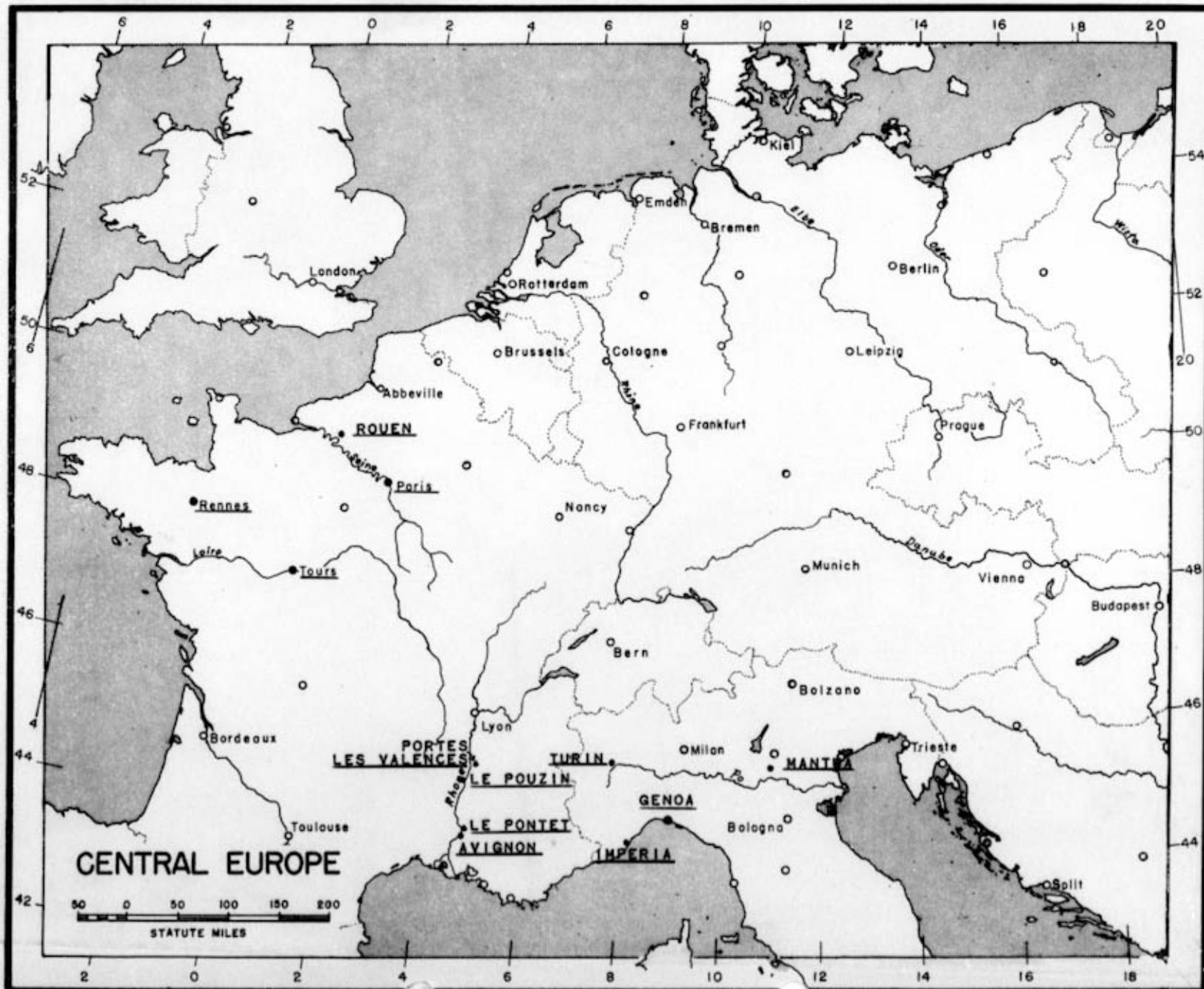
No. 967

0700 August 2 to 0700 August 3, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(v)



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During the night of 31 July-1 August some 70 long-range enemy bombers attacked ground targets in the assault area.

Because of adverse weather on 1 August only 26 of 776 RAF bombers dispatched were able to bomb robot launching sites.

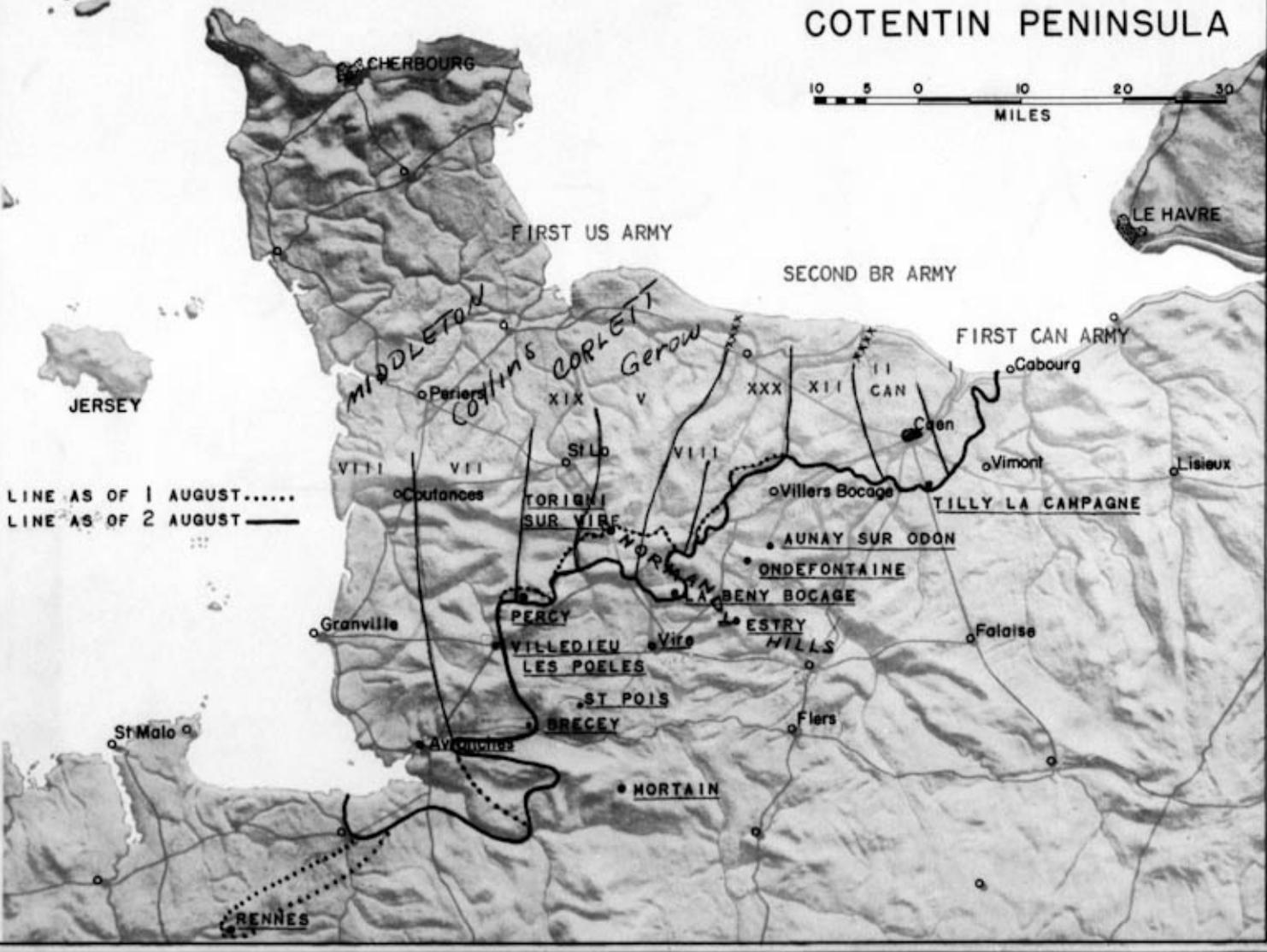
During the day's 8th Air Force operations, 597 escorted heavy bombers struck oil storage tanks, seven airfields and communication lines in the Tours-Paris-Rouen areas with more than 2,000 tons of bombs. Three enemy planes were destroyed for the loss of ten bombers and four fighters.

Two hundred fifty-one 9th Air Force medium and light bombers during this period attacked railroad bridges behind the battle area with 443 tons of explosives while 823 fighters and fighter bombers operated in support of our ground forces and raided enemy communication targets in northwestern France. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed; our losses totalled eight aircraft.

During the 24 hours ending at 0600, 2 August, 81 flying bombs were launched; 32 reached London.

2. Exploiting their breakthrough of the German defenses, both our First and the British Second Armies scored tremendous gains during 2 August. One American column smashing into Brittany captured Rennes while other troops racing eastward from Avranches and Brecey approached St. Pois and advanced to within five miles of Mortain. The enemy remnants in the coastal area from Granville to Avranches have been mopped up. Our infantry

COTENTIN PENINSULA



LINE AS OF 1 AUGUST.....
LINE AS OF 2 AUGUST ———

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78

after fierce fighting drove the enemy out of Villedieu les Poeles, Percy and Torigni sur Vire. The combined British-American drive south of Le Beny Bocage continued to gain ground in the progressive seizure of the Normandy hills which dominate the terrain in this region; forward units reached Vire, cut the highway to the east, and captured Estry. Other Second Army troops were engaged in heavy fighting near Ondefontaine and were approaching Aunay sur Odon. The Canadian First Army reported continued bitter fighting in the Tilly la Campagne sector.

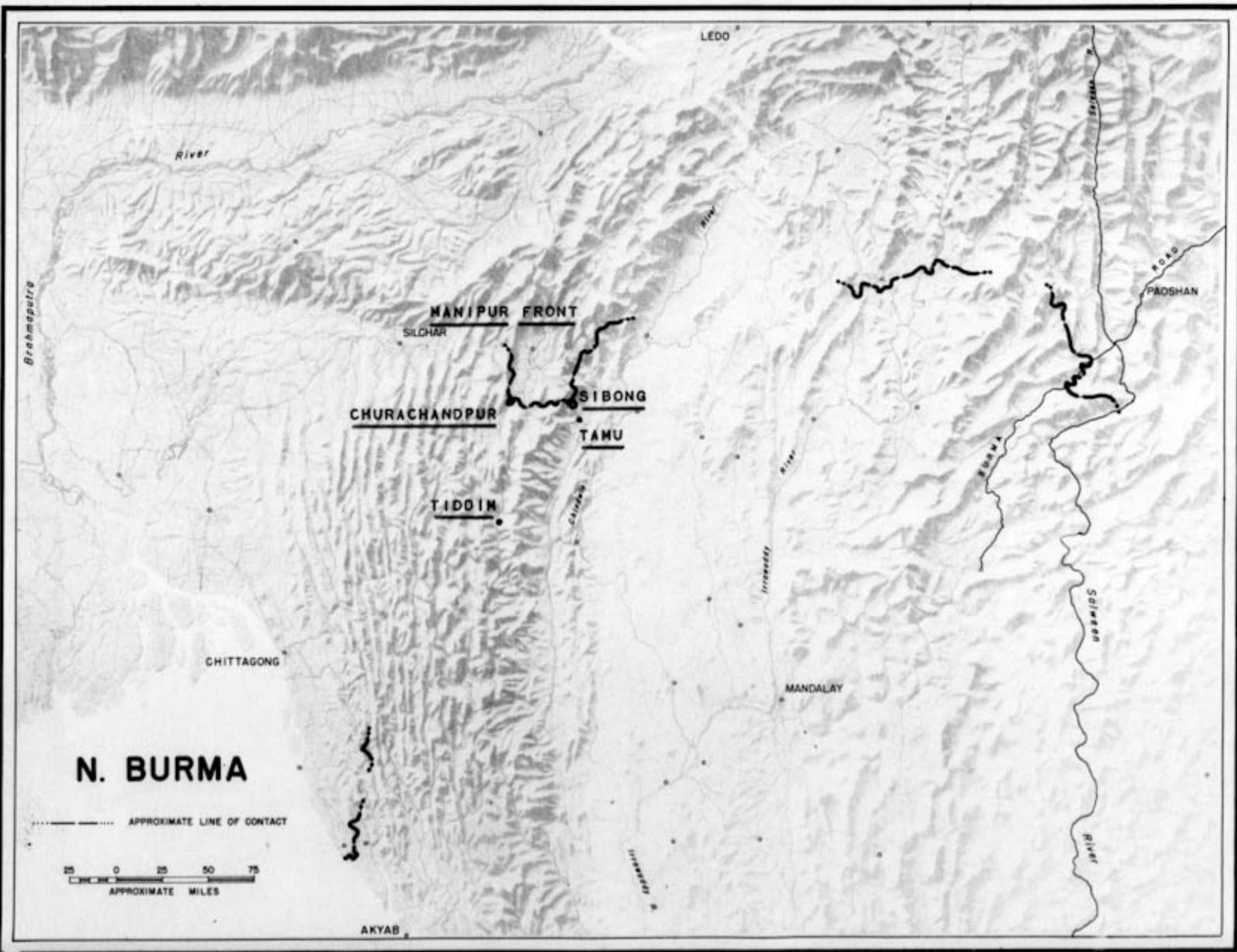
MEDITERRANEAN

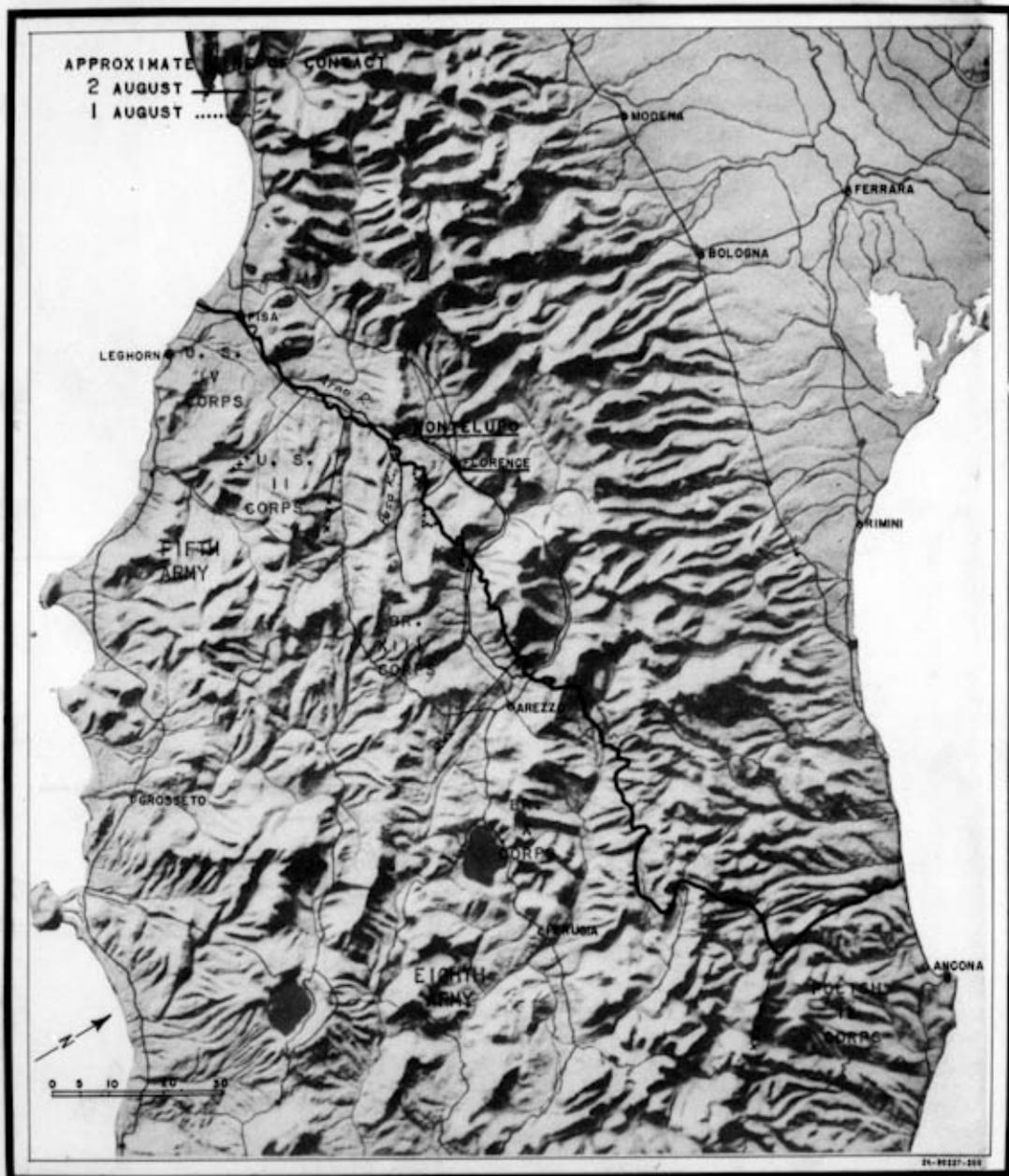
1. In difficult weather which grounded strategic missions on 1 August, the Tactical Air Force flew some 1,100 sorties against battle-field targets and communications in northern Italy. Included in these operations were attacks against bridges in the Mantua-Turin-Genoa area by 112 medium bombers, and against airfields by P-47's which claimed at least 11 enemy aircraft destroyed on the ground. The single enemy aircraft which was seen was shot down; three of ours failed to return. Coastal aircraft attacked Imperia Harbor and rolling stock in Yugoslavia.

On 2 August, 341 escorted B-17's and B-24's of the 15th Air Force attacked oil storage plants at Le Pouzin and Le Pontet, two railroad bridges at Avignon, a torpedo factory and the yards at Portes-les-Valence and harbor installations at Genoa, dropping a total bombload of 874 tons. Two of six enemy fighters encountered were destroyed; four of our bombers are missing.

2. Aside from a few sharp patrol clashes, the Fifth Army front was

DECLASSIFIED
GND Letter, 5-3-72





quiet during the period ending at noon, 2 August. On the Eighth Army front some local gains were made; Indian troops established a firm bridgehead over the Pesa east of Montelupo and New Zealand and South African units made slight gains toward Florence. Other British troops pushed down the Arno toward that city. There was no change in the situation along the Adriatic.

3. Four Middle East medium bombers attacked shipping in Portolago Bay (Leros) during the night of 31 July-1 August. The next day four fighters attacked shipping off the west coast of Greece; two were forced to land at sea.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. During 31 July, the Eastern Air Command flew a few sorties in support of Allied ground forces in Manipur.

2. On 1 August British troops made minor gains below Sibong along the Tamu Road and south of Churachandpur on the Tiddim Road. There were no significant changes on our other India-Burma fronts.

3. A B-29, presumably one of the two missing from the 29 July attack on Mukden, landed north of Vladivostok. The crew was interned.

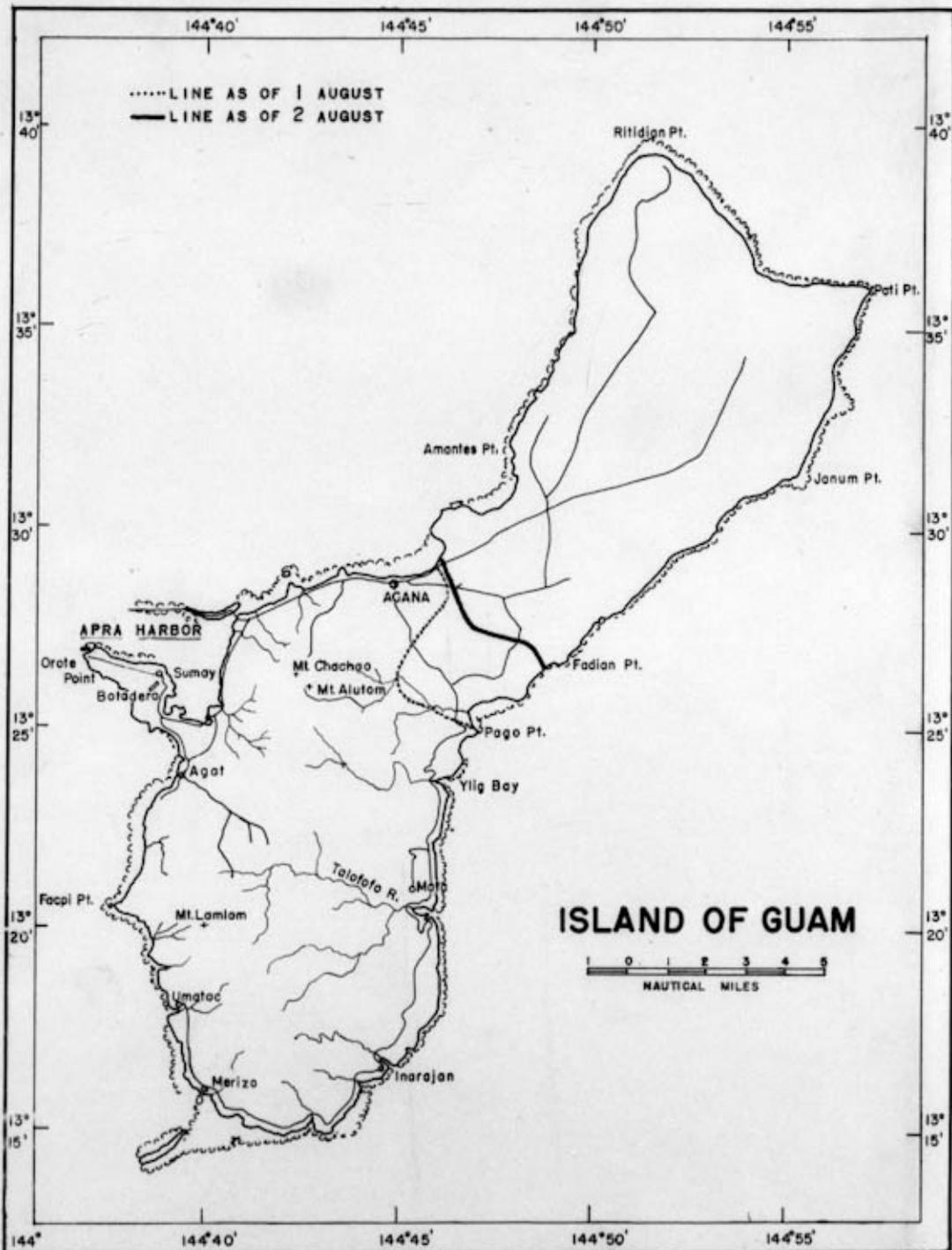
PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. Southwest Pacific B-24's on 1 August bombed Woleai and Palau and two islands to the northeast. Other missions were directed against



NEW GUINEA





installations and barge hideouts in the Wewak area and against shipping and villages on Vogelkop.

Our forces have consolidated their line east of the Drinumor River; in the Afua area our infantry, after repulsing some attacks, resumed the offensive. As a result of our operations in northwestern New Guinea to date, including those at Noemfoor, Biak, Wakde and Hollandia, more than 11,500 of the enemy have been killed and 1,300 captured; of the latter group 402 were Formosans taken when our forces seized Noemfoor. Casualty figures on the Cape Sansapor operation list nine enemy stragglers killed and seven prisoners of war.

Targets in southern Bougainville and northern Choiseul were attacked by 44 Navy planes during 31 July; 32 others bombed Kavieng and attacked targets on New Ireland and 15 hit supply areas near Rabaul.

Two Japanese planes dropped a dozen bombs on Owi Island on 30 July killing nine Allied troops.

2. During 31 July small numbers of Central Pacific planes continued their harassing of Taroa, Mille, Jaluit and Nauru.

3. On 1 August our lines on Guam were advanced northward against little opposition from one-half mile on the west to two and one-half miles on the east. Our supply ships are unloading in Apra Harbor.

4. Organized resistance ceased on Tinian on 1 August.

TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET

5. General Richardson has been designated Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the Pacific Ocean Area; previously he commanded our Army forces in the Central Pacific Area. His new command includes the part of the former South Pacific Area lying east of 159° East Longitude; the remainder of the South Pacific Area had previously passed to General MacArthur's command.

EASTERN FRONT

During 2 August Soviet forces advanced north and south of Kaunas; the railroad from Shavli to Kaunas was cleared and the pre-1939 border of East Prussia was reached at one point. Southwest of Bialystok, the Soviets moved forward on a 35-mile front toward the Narev River. Active fighting continued in the east suburbs of Warsaw with no change in the situation. Soviet forces held two bridgeheads over the Vistula; one south of Deblin, the other near Baranov. Northwest of Przemysl Red forces advanced 20 miles.

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

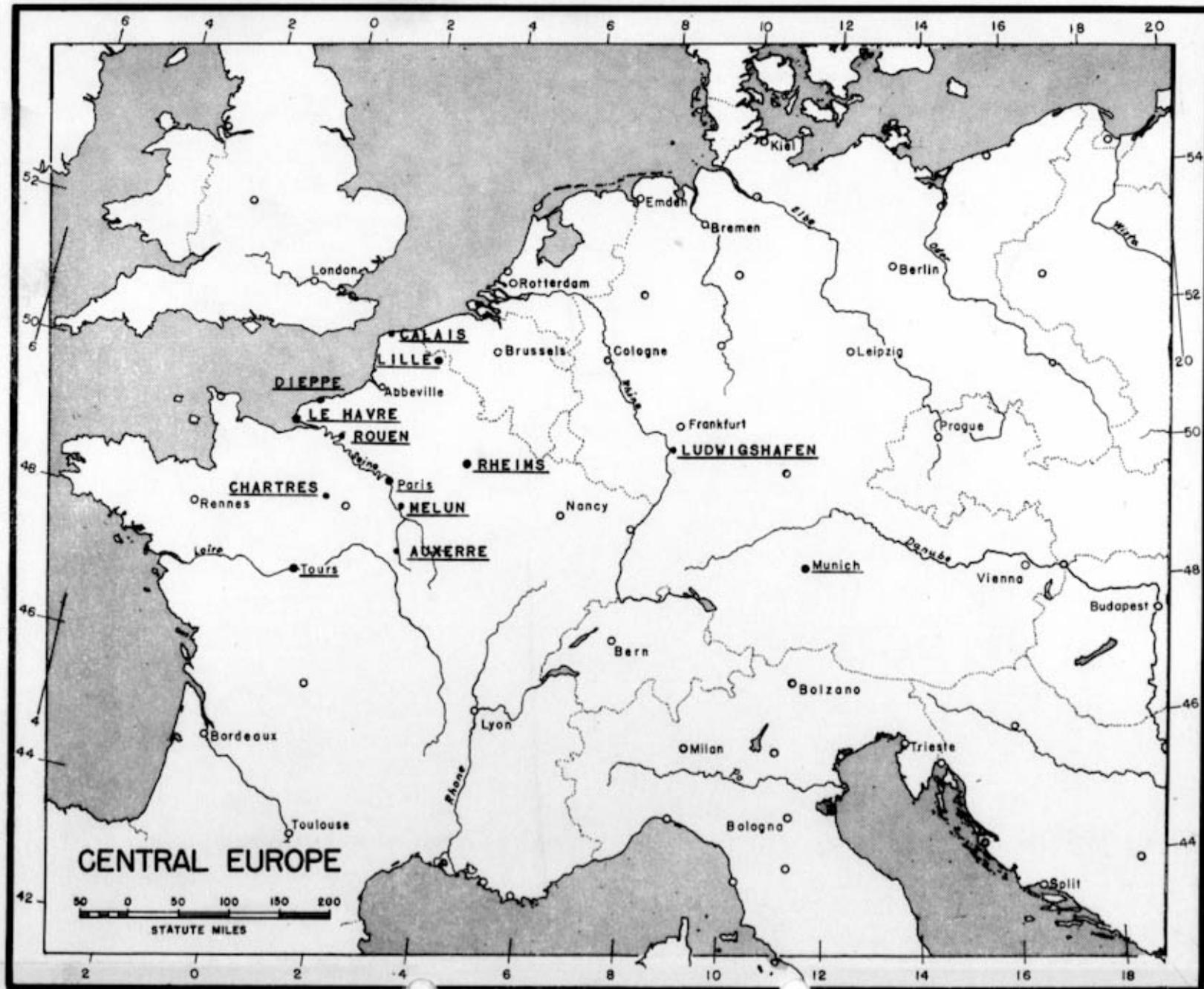
No. 966

0700 August 1 to 0700 August 2, 1944

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)



EUROPEAN THEATER

1. During 8th Air Force operations on 31 July, 1,181 heavy bombers hit targets in the Munich area with nearly 1,700 tons of explosives and incendiaries, dropped 1,230 tons on Ludwigshafen and attacked three French airfields with a total of 197 tons. Escorting fighters shot down 18 (probably 19) enemy planes; 16 heavy bombers and five fighters failed to return.

Early reports covering 1 August operations of the 8th Air Force indicate that 1,290 escorted B-17's and B-24's attacked five airdromes in the Melun-Chartres-Tours area with fair to excellent results and completed successful supply-dropping missions in southern France. Preliminary reports indicate that 14 bombers and four fighters failed to return; our claims are two enemy planes destroyed on the ground.

During 31 July and the night following, RAF bombers dropped nearly 2,000 tons of explosives on supply dumps south of Rheims and east of Lille, the port area at Le Havre, a rail center southeast of Paris and bomb launching sites along the Channel coast. Six bombers are missing from these operations.

The Allied Expeditionary Air Force flew more than 3,300 sorties during the 24-hour period ending at 1100, 1 August, in support of our Normandy operations. Seven enemy planes were destroyed for the loss of two bombers and ten fighter bombers. Six additional bombers were lost in operations against flying bomb sites and other Normandy targets.

During the 24 hours ending at 1100, 1 August, 30 flying bombs penetrated to London; twenty-nine others were destroyed.

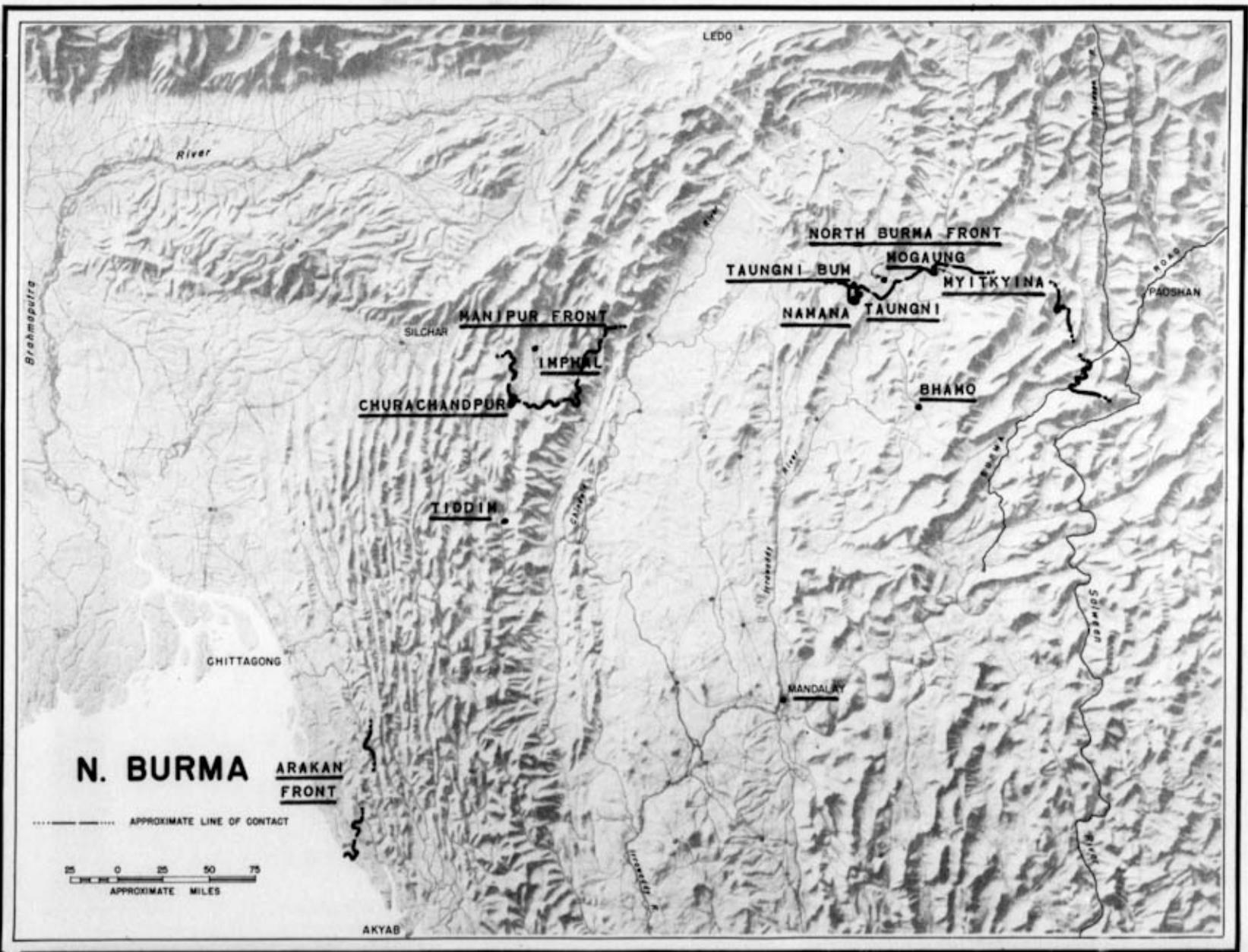
2. Communiques from Supreme Headquarters indicate that our First Army entered Brittany during 1 August, armored columns from Avranches reaching Pontorson and Ducey. Dams in the Ducey and Vezins areas were captured intact. Other US forces held the line of the River See after taking Brecey. Fierce fighting was reported south of Villedieu-les-Poeles and in the Percy area. Farther east our forces overcame a stubborn defense to capture Tessy-sur-Vire. The British Second Army drive south of Caumont gained more than seven miles, crossing the Souleuvre, capturing Le Beny Bocage and joining with American infantry columns pushing south from the Torigni-sur-Vire sector.

3. Because of the acute shortage of infantry riflemen replacements approximately 3,000 infantrymen and 25,000 men from other Arms and Services in the European Theater of Operations are being retrained as riflemen. The cancellation of all furloughs of trained rifle replacements scheduled for shipment to ETO during July and August has been requested by the theater in order to meet the critical shortage of this type replacement.

MEDITERRANEAN

1. Medium bomber operations were cancelled and fighter bomber operations restricted during 31 July because of unfavorable weather. However, more than 600 sorties were flown during which an attack on airdromes in southern France destroyed 15 parked enemy planes and strikes against lines of communication in the upper Po Valley severely damaged several bridges and cratered highways in many places. Four of our planes are missing from these operations. Coastal aircraft flew sweeps over





Yugoslavia and along the southern coast of France.

Weather conditions which hampered tactical operations on 31 July grounded the 15th Air Force during that night and the next day.

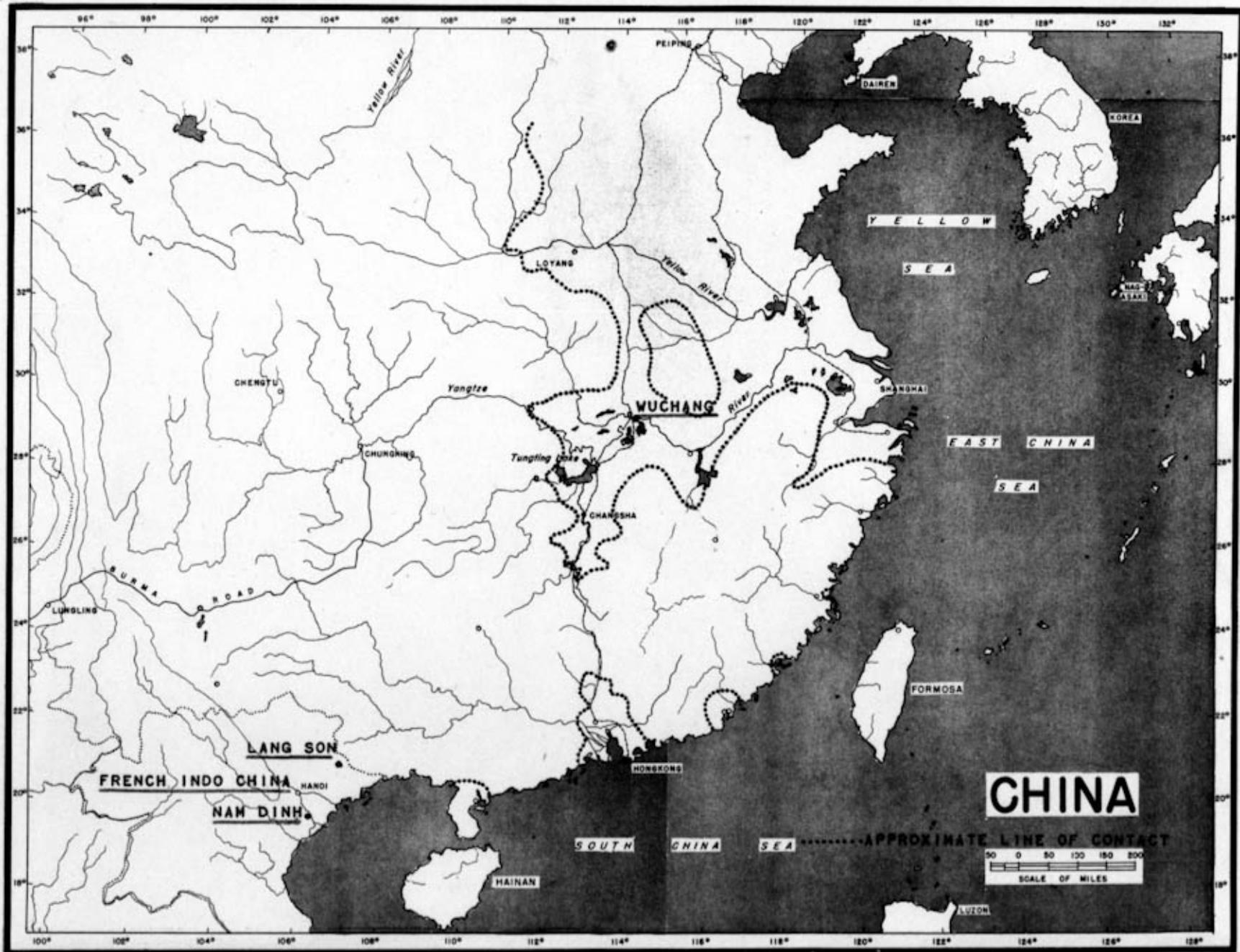
2. The Allied Armies in Italy reported only minor gains during the period ending at 0600 on 1 August. Our Fifth Army engaged in regrouping and patrolling while, to the east, the British Eighth Army continued to advance slowly towards Florence. On the Adriatic coast the enemy opposed all attempts of patrols from the Polish Corps to cross the Misa.

Allied Force Headquarters, in a special release, described a raid by land, sea and air forces against Himare, Albania, on 29 July, during which heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy garrison there and 30 prisoners taken.

ASIATIC THEATER

1. American and Chinese troops moved forward in Myitkyina during 31 July and captured the southern edge of an airstrip north of the town. Indian columns west of Mogaung approached Taungni from two directions occupying villages two and one-half miles to the northwest and two miles to the southwest. On the Manipur front British patrols operated 23 miles east of Imphal. Troops pushing down the Tiddim Road advanced three miles south of Churachandpur.

2. Additional reports for 29 July indicate that Eastern Air Command fighters also attacked bridges, river craft, enemy transportation and an oil pipe line on the Arakan front, bridges in the Bhamo area of north



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Burma, and railroad equipment and airfields in the Mandalay area. The next day, in more than 60 sorties, fighter aircraft supported ground operations on our India-Burma fronts and again hit rail facilities and airfields.

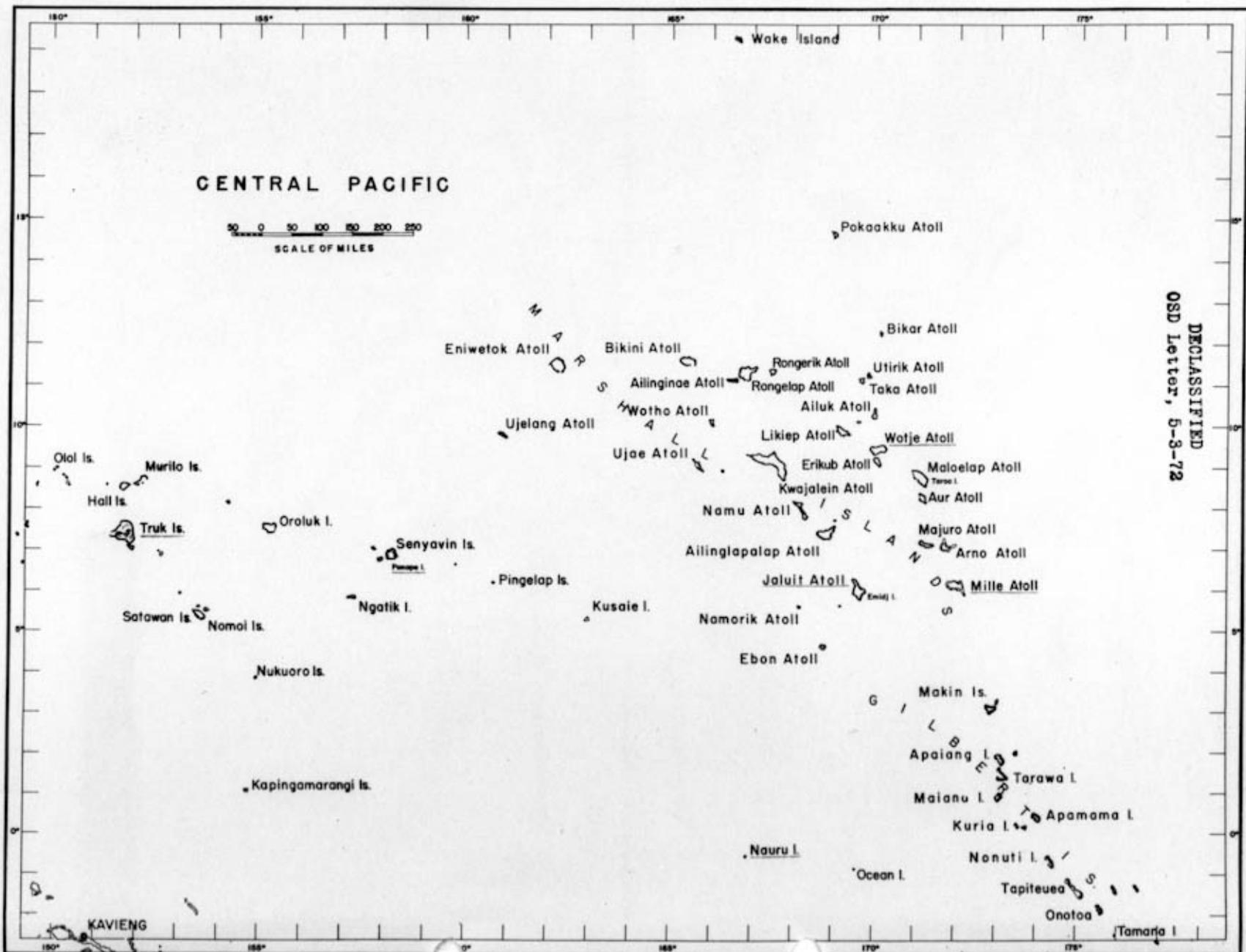
3. Twenty-one 14th Air Force fighters, operating over northeast French Indo-China during 30 July, sank a 300-foot steamer and three 100-foot coal barges on the Red River at Nam Dinh and damaged Japanese barracks at Lang Son. The next day 12 B-24's bombed the Wuchang railroad yards leaving fires visible for 60 miles.

PACIFIC AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATERS

1. During 31 July, US units crossed the Drinumor River and advanced two miles east to the line of the Niumen Creek.

Light and fighter bomber missions supported Australian ground units near the mouth of the Sepik River and attacked Japanese motor transportation, barge hideouts, and supply areas in the Wewak area. B-24 formations dropped 23 tons on supply dumps at Woleai and successfully attacked two airdromes in the Halmaheras, destroying an unstated number of planes on the ground. A total of 26 other B-24's, operating to the west, dropped 34 tons on Namlea (Boeroe) with good effect and 22 tons on the Amahai (Ceram) airfield, starting large fires. Maoemere, on Flores, was the target for two missions totalling 26 Dutch and RAAF B-25's; a Navy reconnaissance bomber sank a 5,000-ton transport east of Amboina.

During 30 July over 120 Solomons-based bombers struck Kavieng and other targets on New Ireland. Smaller missions harassed Rabaul



CENTRAL PACIFIC

0 50 100 150 200 250
SCALE OF MILES

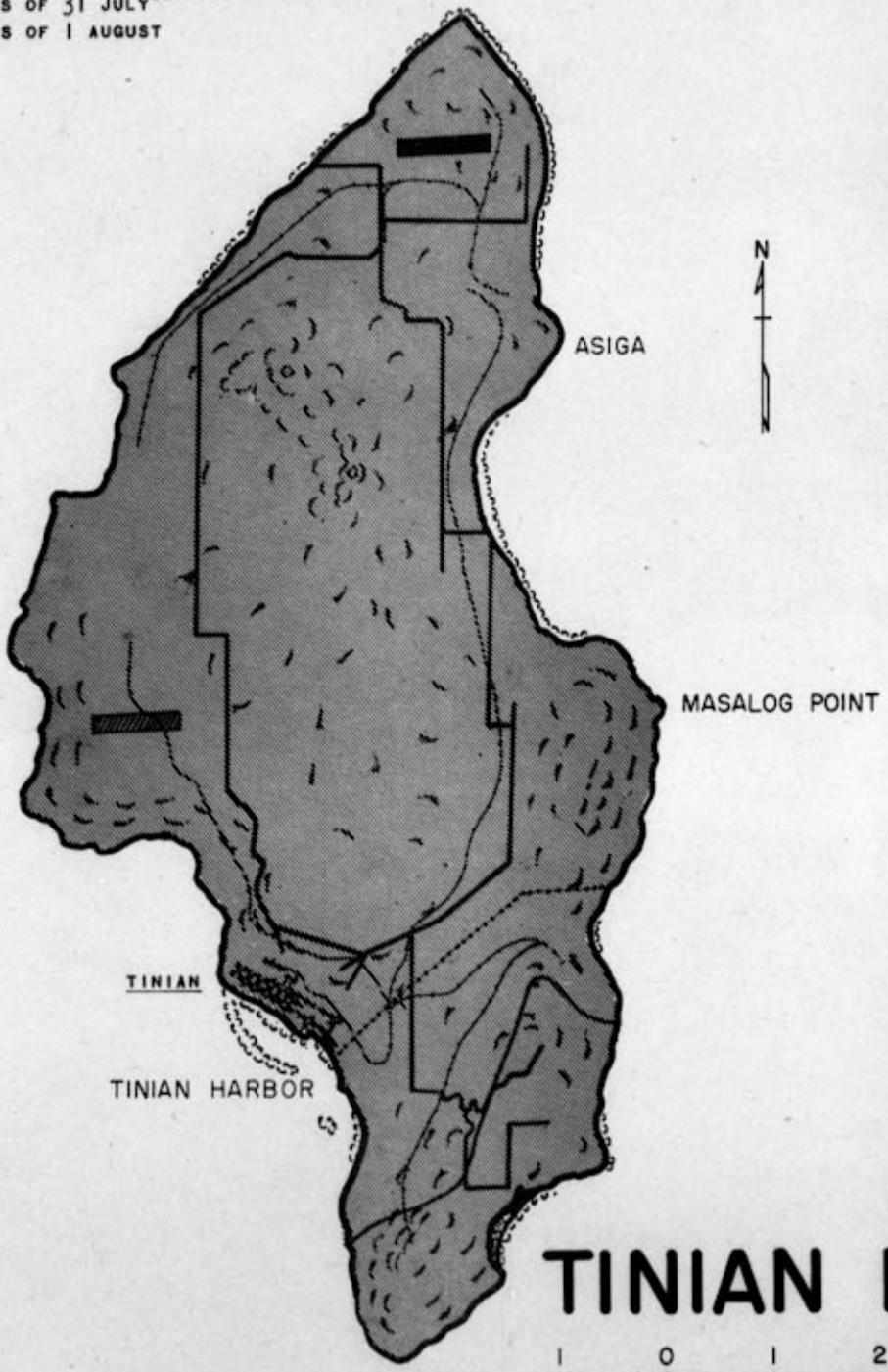
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KAVIENG

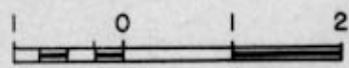
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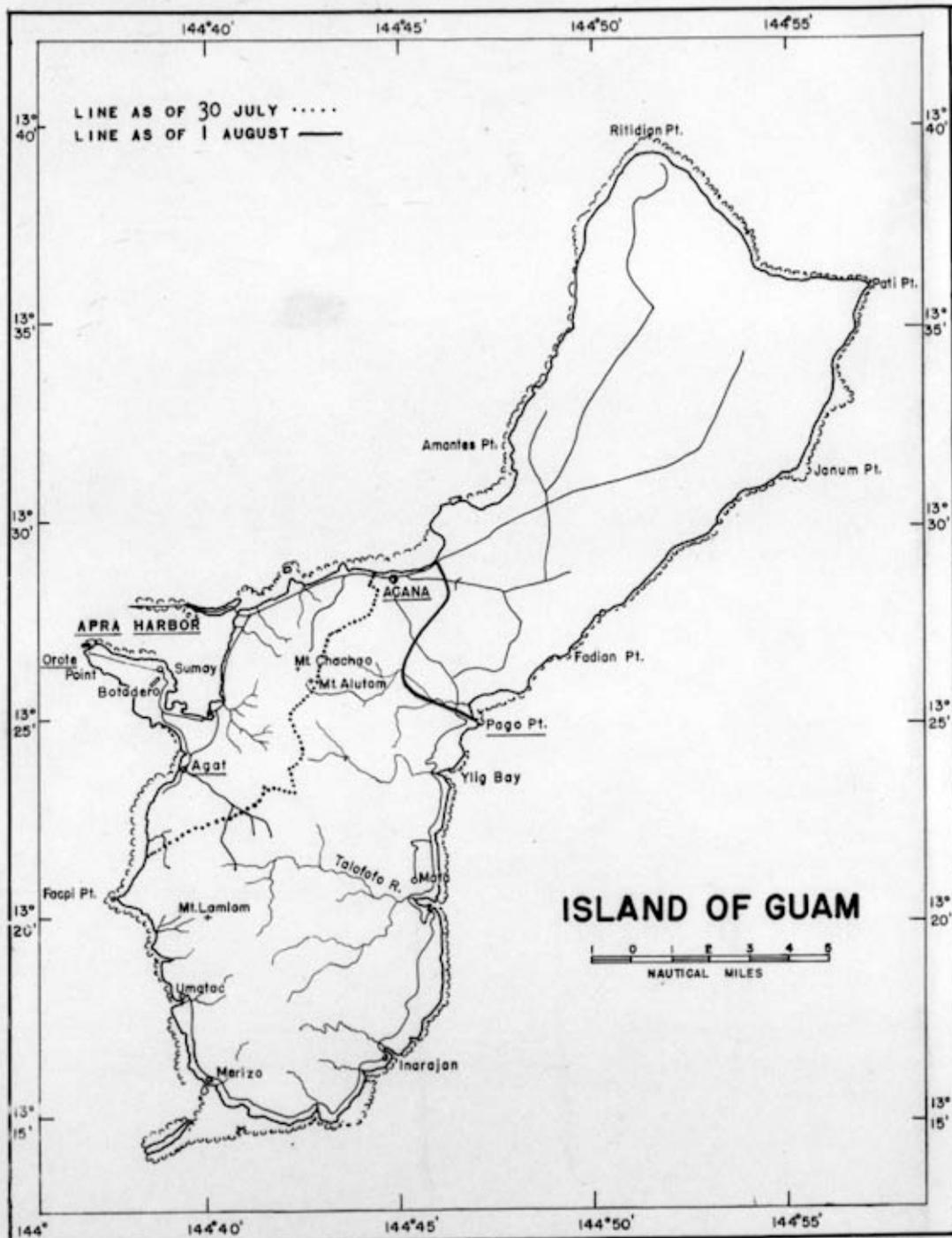
.....LINE AS OF 31 JULY
——LINE AS OF 1 AUGUST



TINIAN I.



Approximate Miles





and hit gun positions and storage facilities in the Bougainville area.

2. Central Pacific aircraft flew over 100 sorties against enemy installations at Ponape, Jaluit, Nauru, Wotje and Mille during 30 July. That night three B-24's dropped more than eight tons on Truk targets.

3. US forces on Guam had cut completely across the island virtually unopposed by nightfall of 31 July. Patrols in the southern half of the island encountered only small, scattered enemy groups. Japanese dead counted exceeded 6,200.

4. After a naval and air preparation, our Tinian forces resumed the attack early on 31 July scoring gains of more than a mile across the entire island against moderate opposition and in difficult terrain. Our casualties up to 1800 on 30 July totalled 140 killed, 682 wounded and 31 missing. Enemy dead totalled 2,800 and 909 civilians have been interned; 2,600 enemy troops are believed to remain in the small pocket of resistance on the southeastern tip of the island.

EASTERN FRONT

Red Armies on the north scored a break-through to the Gulf of Riga along the railroad to Tukums during 1 August. Kaunas was occupied and small gains reported north and south of that town; the drive southwest of Pskov placed forward elements within 11 miles of Gulbene and seized the railroad town of Livani completing Soviet control of the railway from Dvinsk to Panevezys. East of Warsaw the Russians took Siedlce and pushed west to seize more of the railroad leading to the former Polish capital.