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MR 203(2), Sec. 39 -- WAR DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

April 1-12, 1945

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

CONTINUED

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1217

0700 April 9 to 0700 April 10, 1945

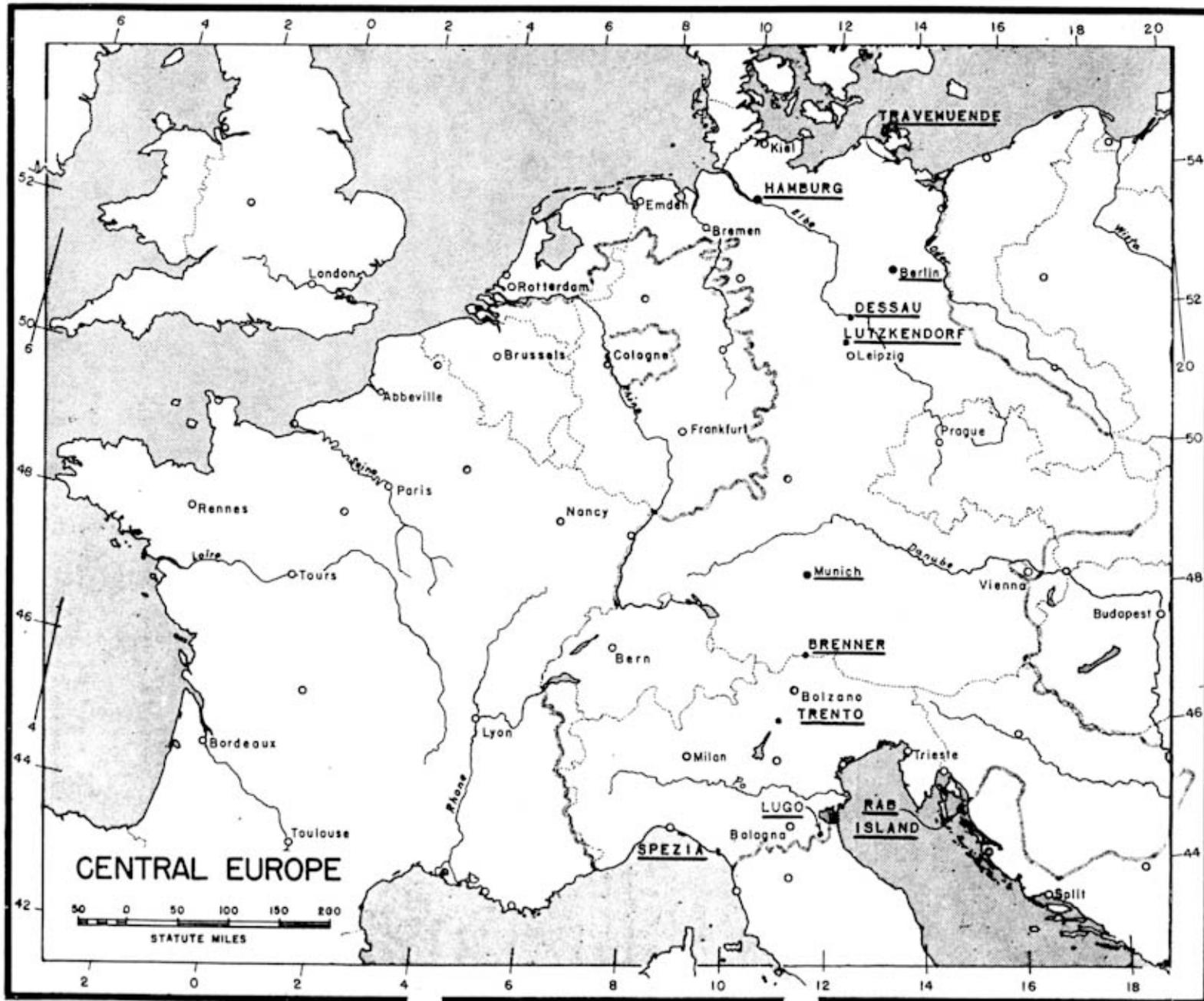
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THE WHITE HOUSE

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EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

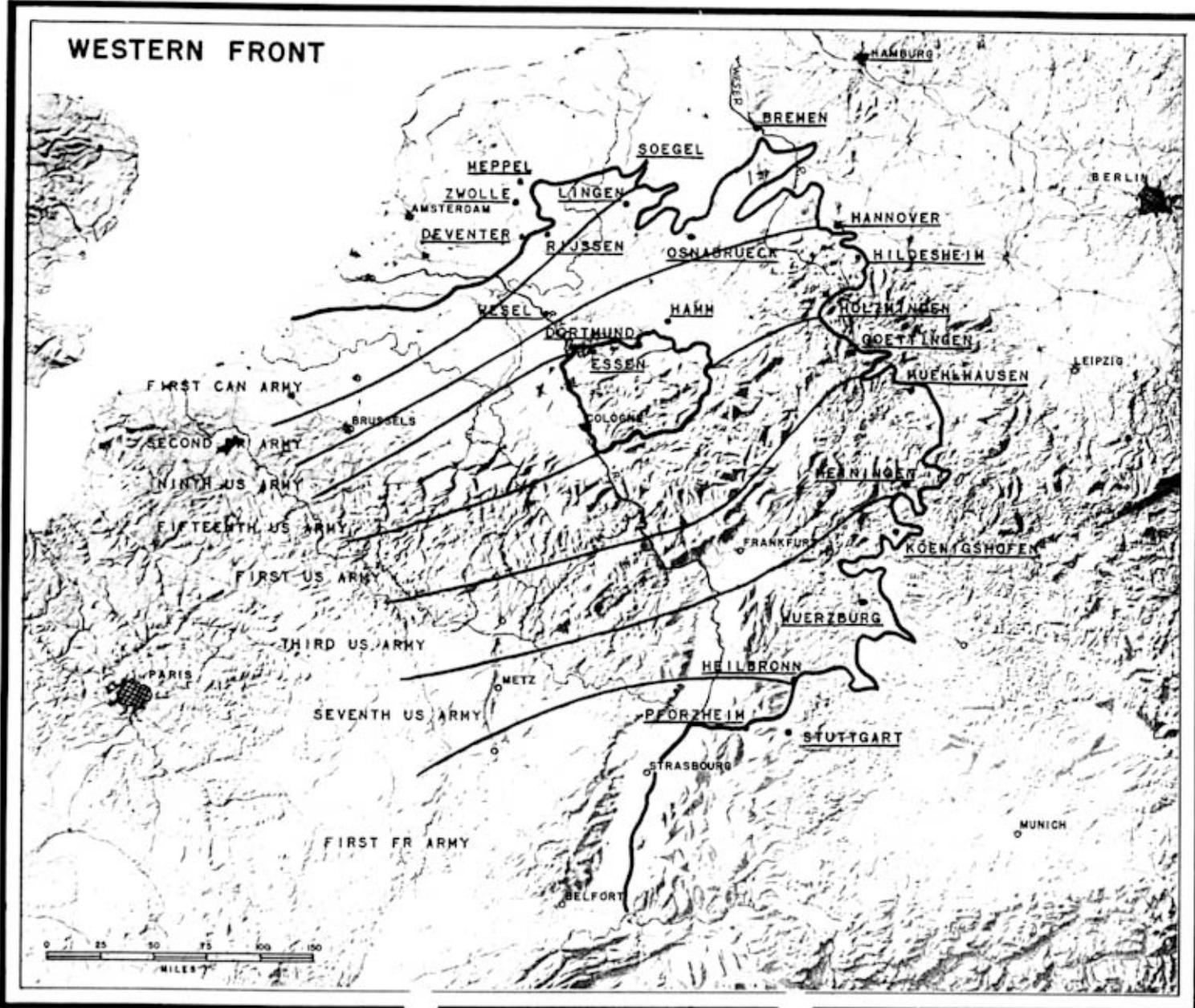
8 April. During the night, 423 RAF heavy bombers attacked submarine yards in Hamburg and 231 bombed the Lutzkendorf synthetic oil plant. Twenty-nine Mosquitoes assisted in these attacks, and 107 others attacked Dessau, Berlin, and Munich. A feint attack on Travemuende was made by 22 RAF bombers and 12 US heavy bombers. From all operations, 11 bombers are missing.

During the night 45 RAF Strategic heavy bombers dropped 154 tons on the Trento railyard.

9 April. Ten airdromes, industrial targets and a railyard in central and southern Germany were the targets for 1,251 escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers. One hundred and four enemy aircraft were destroyed and 67 damaged. We lost 14 bombers and three fighters. Seven other fighters have not yet returned.

Eight hundred twenty-five heavy bombers and over 200 fighters of the 15th Air Force attacked troop concentrations and gun positions in the area southwest of Lugo on the Eighth Army front. Eighty-one fighters attacked two rail bridges in Austria, destroying one of them. One bomber and one fighter are missing.

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AND Letter, 5-3-72

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REF ID: A66573

EUROPEAN THEATER

8 April. The Tactical Air Forces flew 4,383 sorties and dropped 1,194 tons of bombs. Airfields, oil refineries and railyards in central Germany were attacked by medium bombers, while fighters and fighter bombers rendered close support and attacked targets in the Ruhr pocket. One hundred seventy-four enemy aircraft were destroyed; 19 of our planes are missing.

9 April. Infantry divisions of the Canadian Army, advancing along a 20-mile front, pushed to two miles southeast of Deventer, where stiff resistance was met, and to the northeast of Rijssen, which was cleared. Farther north, other elements driving west were within three miles of Meppel through which runs the only escape route open to German forces southwest of the town. An armored thrust to the northeast gained 14 miles.

On the front of the Second British Army, elements continued to advance northeast of Lingen with gains of from five to ten miles. Infantry made local progress northwest of Osnabrueck, and armor continuing to drive toward Bremen was four miles south of the city. Other armored forces pushing on Hamburg registered a maximum gain of ten miles on a 15-mile front northwest of Hannover. Contact was established with our Ninth Army ten miles west of Hannover.

On the Ninth Army front our drive northeast across the Weser was closing in on Hannover from the west and south. Our armor gained 25 miles to reach the outskirts of the city to the southeast. To the south, other troops advancing on a ten-mile front, made gains up to six miles and captured Hildesheim. South of the city other elements made advances up to seven miles on a 15-mile front; another column

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captured Holzminden.

On the First Army front we advanced from four to eight miles northwest of Goettingen, which has been captured. Other elements advanced 12 miles east of the city.

On the Third Army front local gains were made northwest and southeast of Muehlhausen; armor gained five miles southeast of Meiningen and made contact with units of the Seventh Army south of the city. The Ninth and First Armies continued to constrict the Ruhr pocket. Gains of from three to seven miles were made around the perimeter.

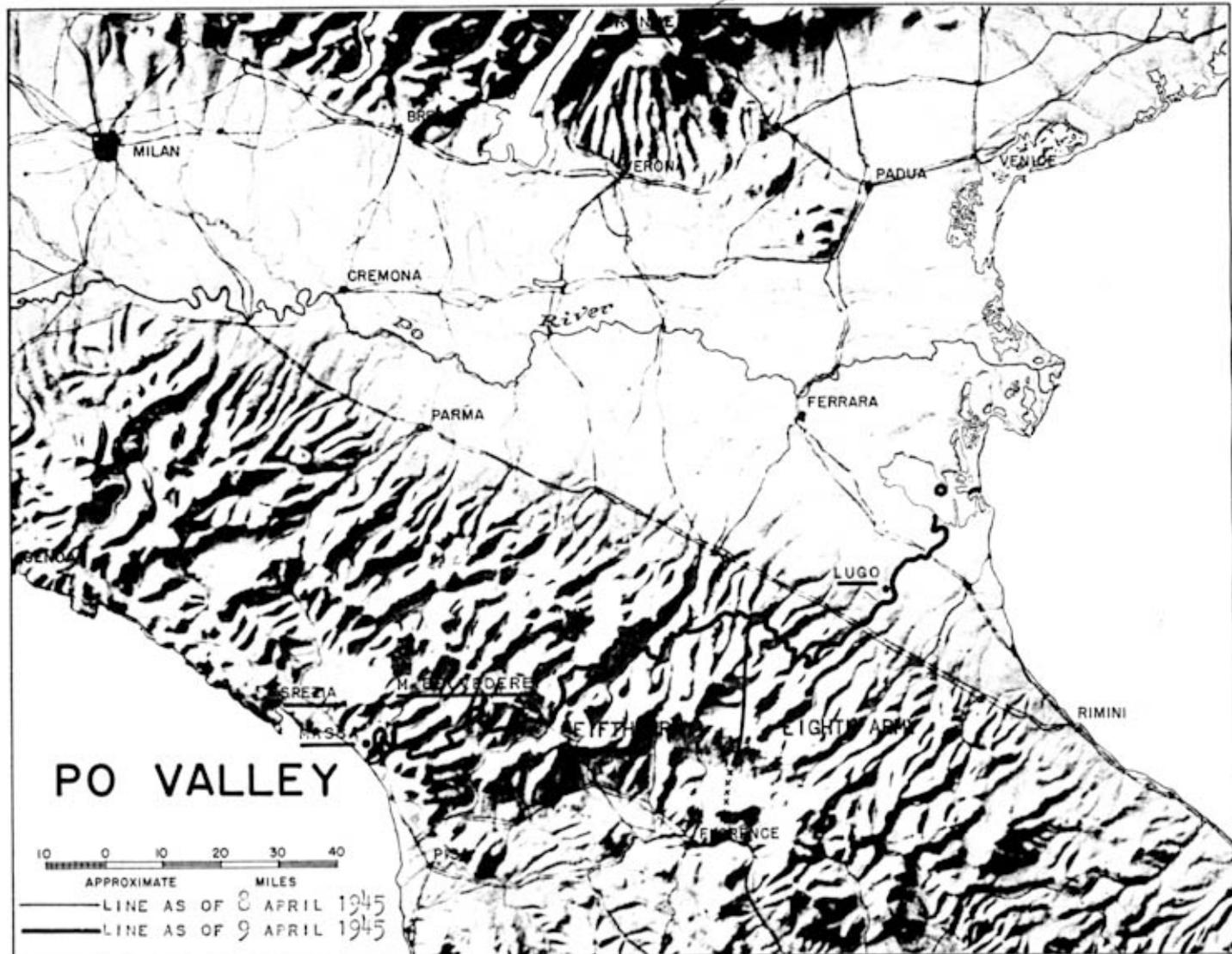
On the Seventh Army front, units advancing to the east gained 18 miles, reaching a point eight miles east of Koenigshofen. We made local progress northeast of Wuerzburg and advanced up to four miles south on a 20-mile front northeast of Heilbronn. The French made gains up to five miles northwest of Stuttgart and also advanced along a 15-mile front running west from Pforzheim.

More than 40,000 prisoners were taken by the British and American Armies on 7 April.

8-9 April. Our first railroad bridge across the Rhine at Wesel, was opened to traffic, and the first train crossed at 2315 hours, 8 April, ten days and five hours after construction began on 29 March. By the 9th, Army engineers had constructed 46 bridges of various categories across the Rhine. Three floating bridges were completed in less than ten hours' construction time.

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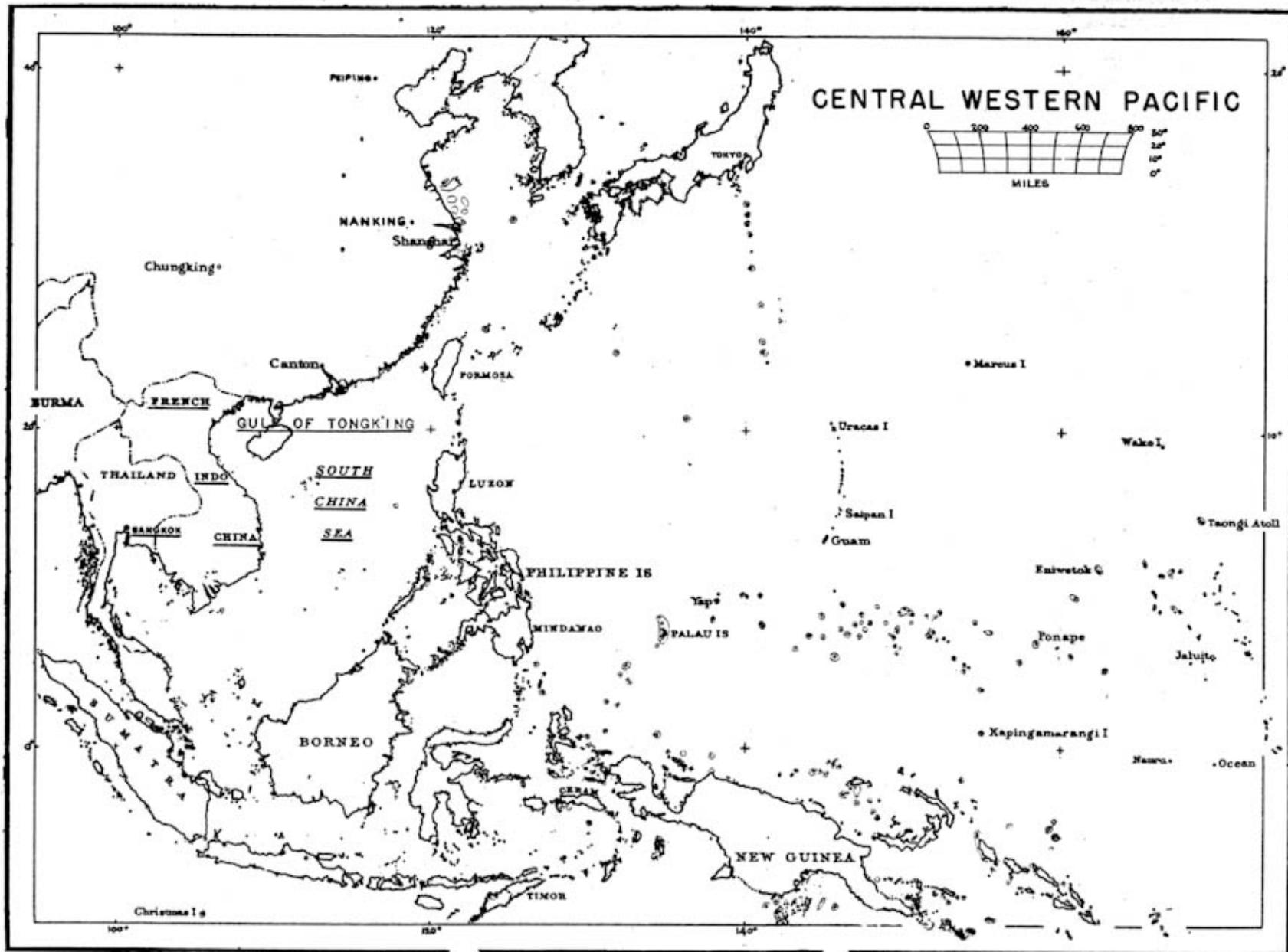
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MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

8 April. The Tactical Air Force flew 590 sorties. Medium bombers attacked rail targets along the Brenner line and bombed gun positions at Spezia. Lighter planes concentrated on communications along the Brenner Route and in northeastern Italy, and on dumps in the Po Valley. Targets in the battle area were also attacked. Four Tactical Air Force planes are missing. The Coastal and Balkan Air Forces flew 109 sorties against shipping in the Adriatic, targets on Rab Island and rail lines and enemy positions in northern Yugoslavia.

9 April. On the Ligurian coast, Fifth Army units scored gains along a five-mile front, advancing to the southern outskirts of Massa. There were no other substantial changes reported on the remainder of the Italian battle line.

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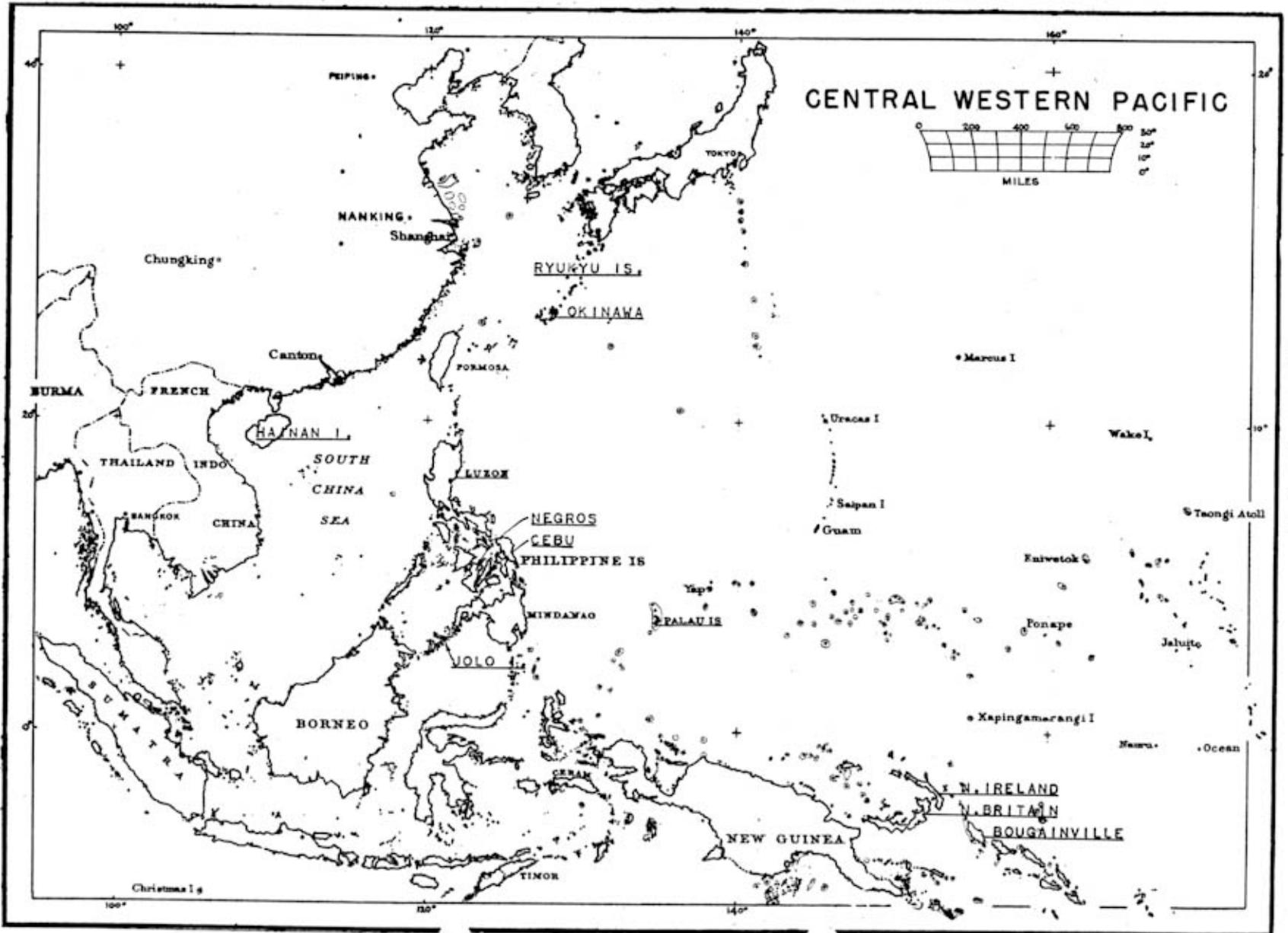
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ASIATIC THEATER

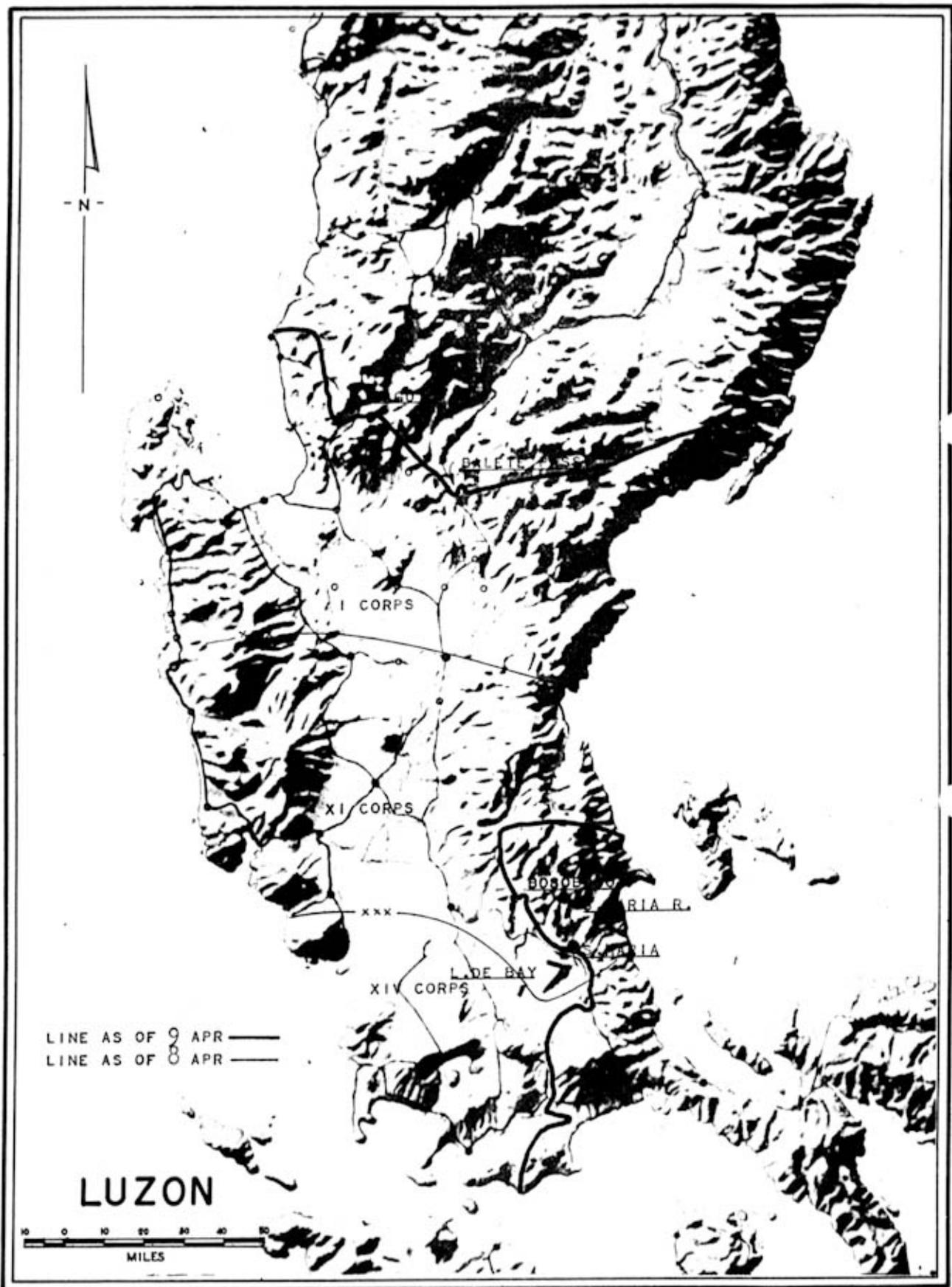
6-7 April. The 14th Air Force flew 47 previously unreported offensive sorties. Heavy bombers, on a sweep over the Tongking Gulf and the South China Sea, attacked airports and industrial targets along the coast. Other sorties were made against rail and industrial targets and troop concentrations in northern and north central China.

8 April. Indian troops of the British Army gained an additional 15 miles along the Lashio-Mandalay road and are now within seven miles of Maymyo. The clearing of enemy pockets in the area between Myingyan and Myittha continues. South of Meiktila an armored brigade broke out for a ten-mile gain. Local progress was made by British units in the areas east of Myittha and northeast of Wundwin.

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SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

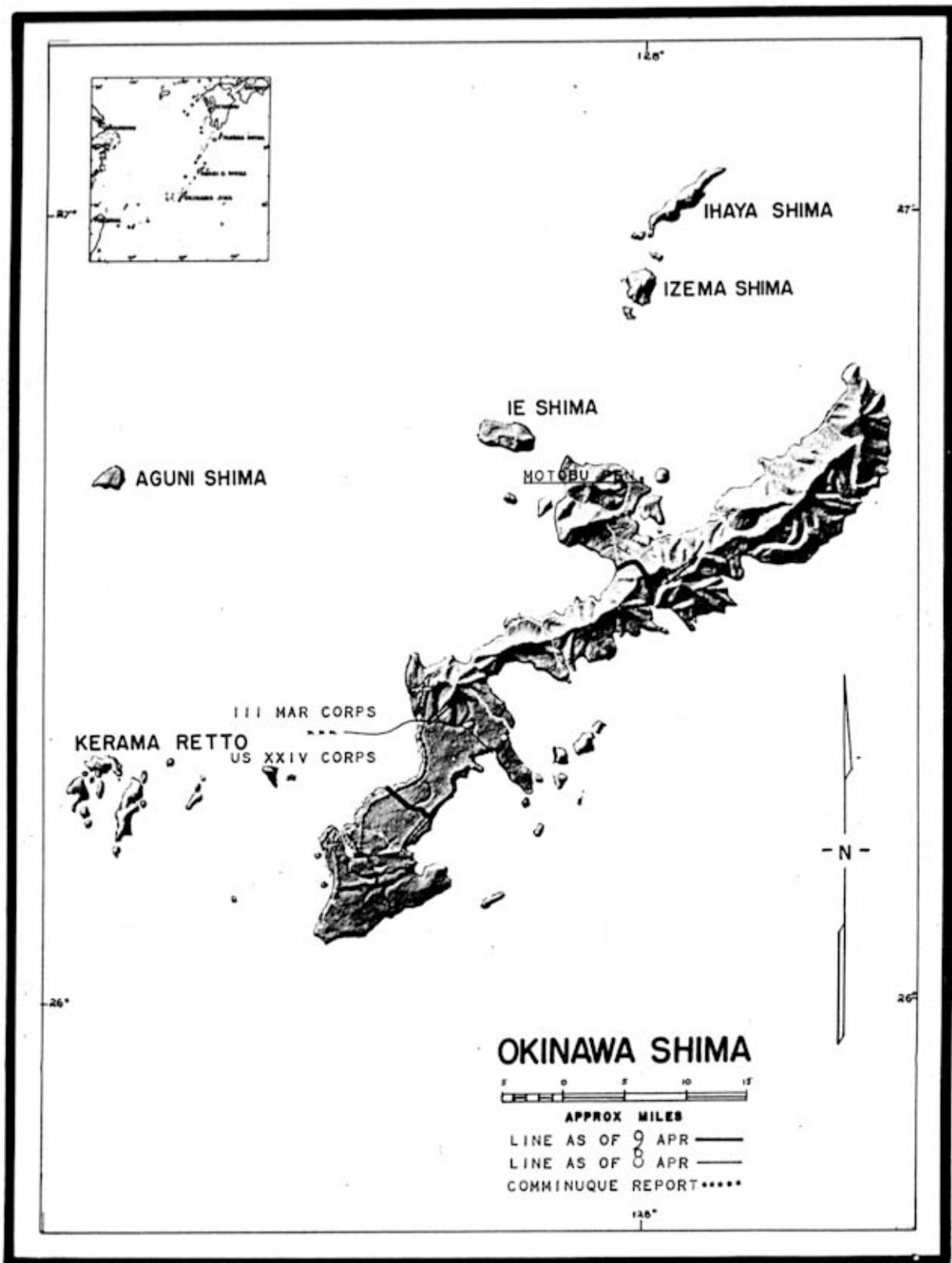
7 April. Search planes sank a coastal vessel and two smaller ships near Hainan Island and destroyed two enemy fighters in the Ryukyus. Solomons-based aircraft flew 60 sorties against targets on New Britain, New Ireland and Bougainville.

8 April. Despite adverse weather, more than 500 sorties were flown. Troop concentrations and gun positions on Luzon were attacked by 344 planes which also supported ground operations. Eighteen heavy bombers hit defense positions on Jolo Island. One enemy plane was shot down; we lost one.

On Luzon, units of the I Corps continued to encounter stubborn opposition to their advance northward. Slight gains were reported northwest of Baguio and in the Balete Pass area. The XI Corps, fighting in the mountains north of Laguna de Bay, was encountering heavy opposition. Our troops captured Santa Maria and reconnoitered the Santa Maria River without contact. Two counterattacks were repulsed northeast of Bosoboso. South of Laguna de Bay resistance limited our progress.

Our troops on Cebu and Negros reported local gains. A US combat team landed four and one-half miles northeast of Jolo town in the Sulu Archipelago.

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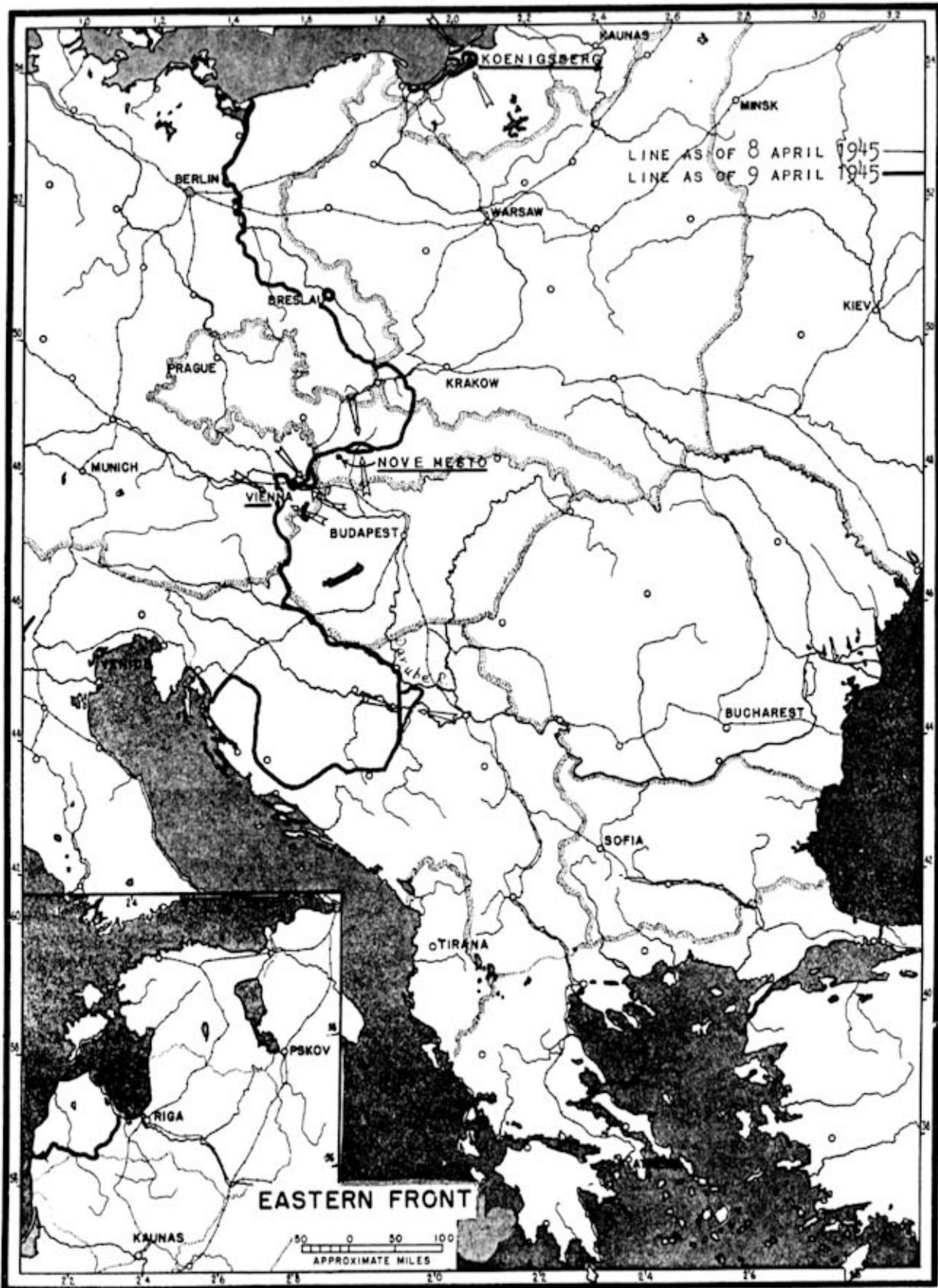
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PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

9 April. Communique reports that half of Motobu Peninsula has been secured by the Marines. To the south, opposition continued heavy. Supported by artillery and by heavy gunfire from Fleet units, our Army forces made only local gains.

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EASTERN FRONT

9 April. The fortress of Koenigsberg was captured by Soviet troops. East of Nove Mesto, Slovakia, further advances were registered. With two-thirds of Vienna taken, the Russians on the north bank of the Danube east of the city made substantial gains. They also advanced in the Austrian mountains southwest of Vienna. In Yugoslavia, Partisan forces pushed forward on a wide front south of the Danube.

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REF ID: A66666
War Letter, 5-8-78

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1216

0700 April 8 to 0700 April 9, 1945

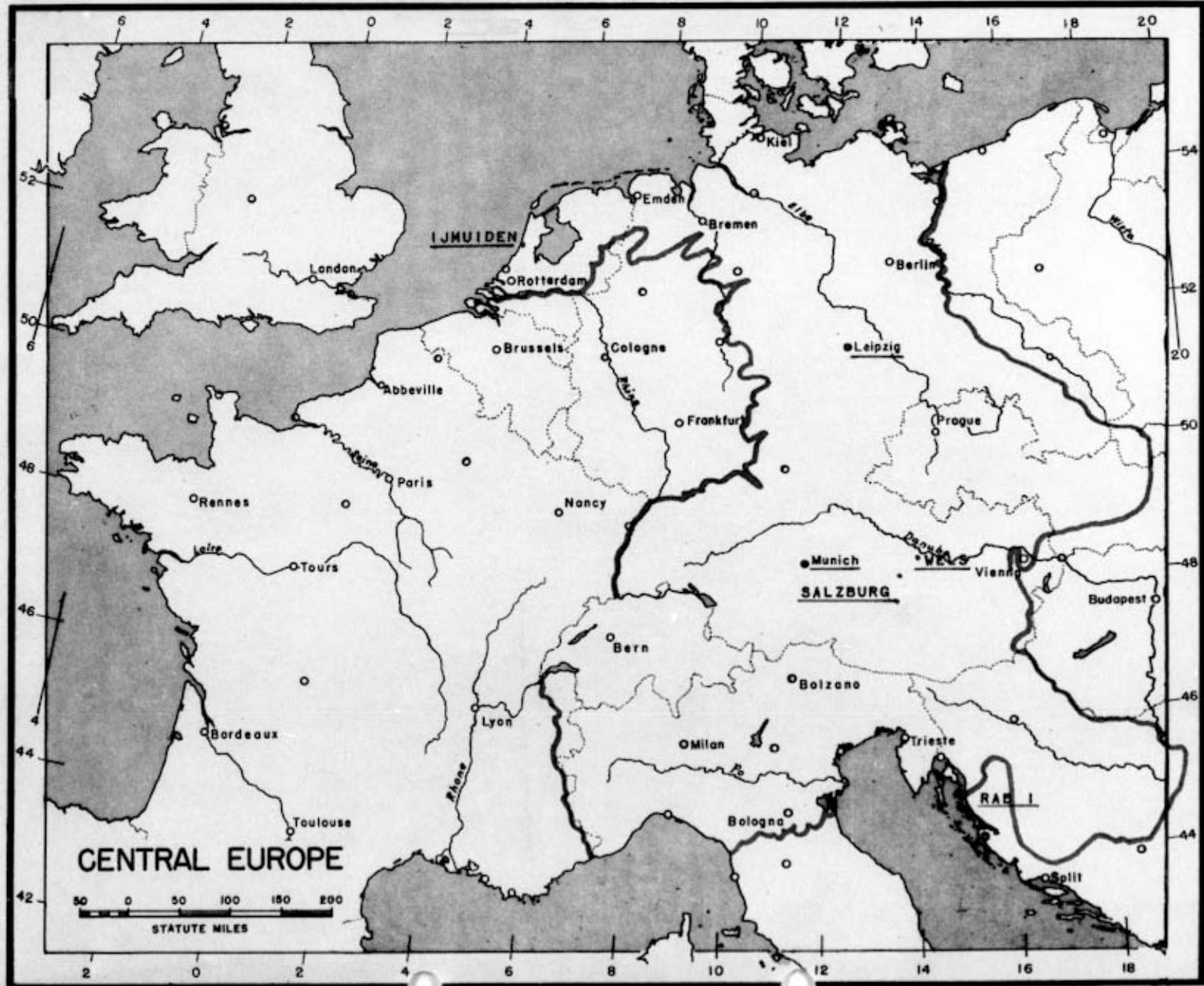
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DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter 5-8-72

EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

7 April. Fifteen RAF heavy bombers attacked a blockship at IJmuiden with six-ton deep penetration bombs. That night 147 heavy bombers and 11 Mosquitoes bombed an oil distillation plant in the Leipzig area.

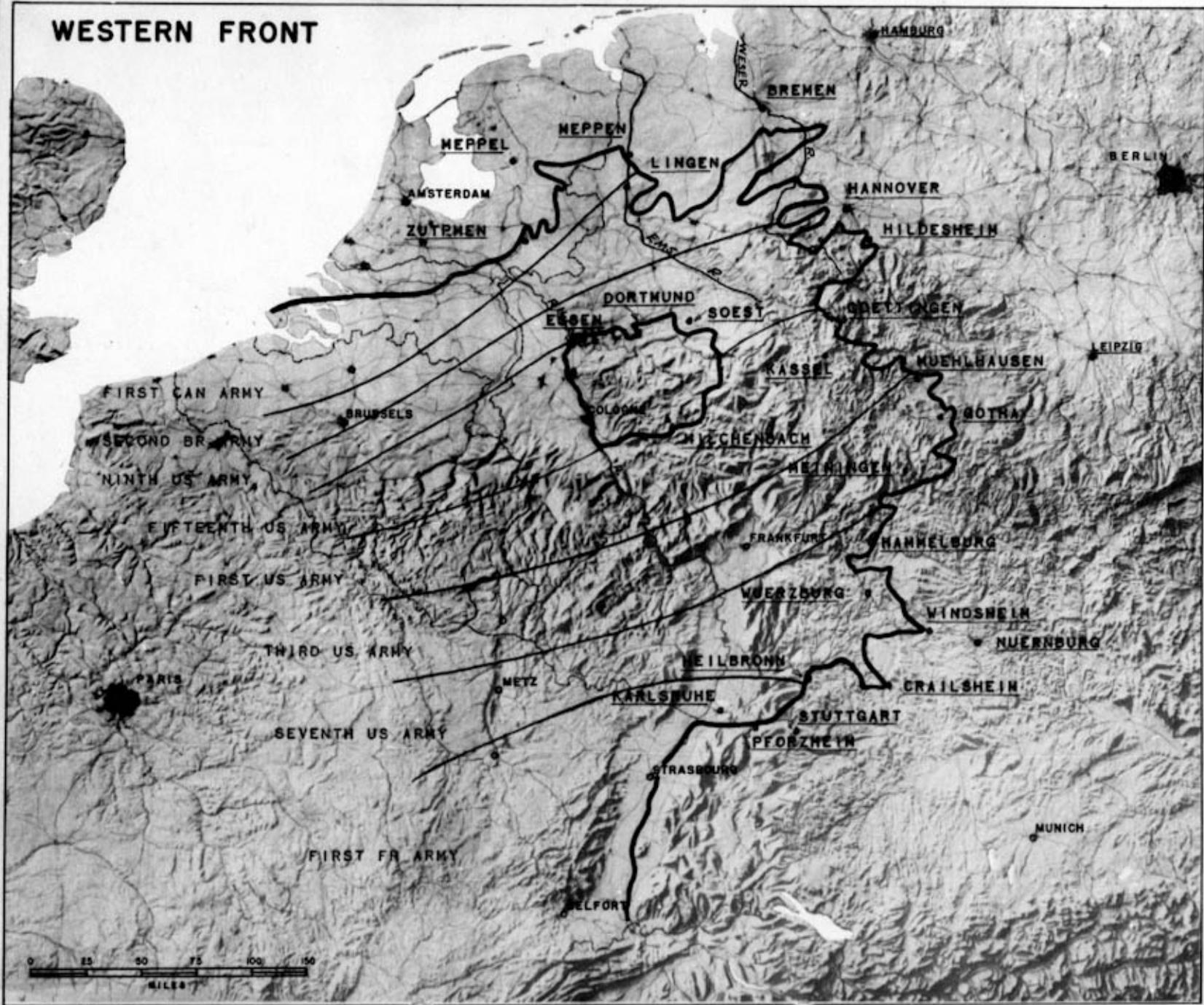
8 April. 1,223 heavy bombers of the 8th Air Force with fighter escort were airborne to attack ordnance depots, oil targets, communications and airdromes in central Germany. Six enemy aircraft were destroyed; 11 bombers and one fighter are missing from this mission.

Rail bridges and railyards in northern Italy and southern Austria were the targets for 508 15th Air Force heavy bombers. Escorting fighters strafed rail lines between Munich and Salzburg and destroyed nine enemy aircraft at an airdrome near Wels. Six bombers and one fighter are missing.

WESTERN FRONT

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EUROPEAN THEATER

7 April. The Tactical Air Forces flew 3,242 sorties, according to incomplete reports. Medium bombers dropped 470 tons on railyards and towns northeast of Kassel. Fighters supported our ground forces throughout the battle areas and swept airfields in the Ruhr pocket and areas west of Leipzig. One hundred fifteen enemy planes were destroyed; we lost 14.

8 April. By noon strong resistance held elements of the II Canadian Corps to limited gains northeast of Zutphen. The town itself, however, has been cleared. Farther north, armored reconnaissance patrols moving to the northwest were within five miles of Meppel on the eastern side of the Zuider Zee. Other armored elements of the Corps scored gains northwest of Meppen.

On the front of the British Second Army, elements of the XXX Corps crossed the Dortmund-Ems Canal, north of Lingen, and the Ems River south of the city; in the center, they advanced through the Lingen Forest. Armor of the XII Corps continued its rapid pace towards Bremen and Hamburg in a two-prong drive. Forward elements, thrusting north towards Bremen, were ten miles south of the city, while other elements, driving to the northeast, crossed the Weser, and were within 50 miles of Hamburg. The VIII Corps, advancing to the east of the Weser, and closing in on Hannover from the northwest, was nine miles from the city.

On the US Ninth Army front, the XIII Corps, moving northeast along the super-highway, gained 21 miles and was approaching Hannover from the west. Leading elements were approaching a junction with units of

the British VIII Corps northwest of Hannover. The XIX Corps was closing in on Hannover from the southeast and armored elements were within eight miles of the city between Hildesheim and Hannover. Other units advanced, southwest of Hildesheim, some 13 miles along a 30-mile front.

On our First Army front, the VII and V Corps advanced along a 20-mile front north and northeast of Kassel. Forward elements of the V Corps entered Goettingen.

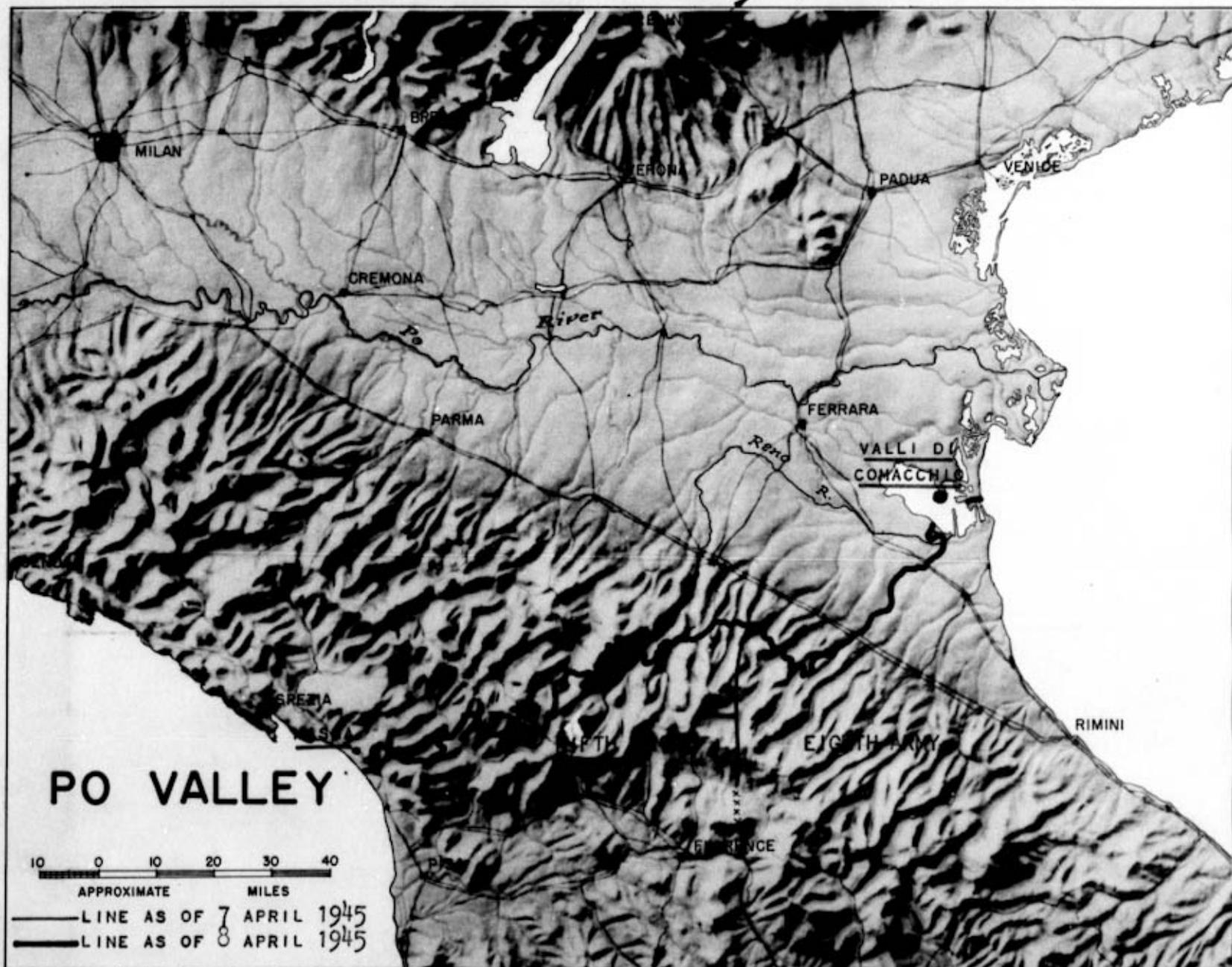
On the Third Army front, the XX Corps made local progress south of Goettingen and northwest of Muehlhausen and the VIII Corps gained slightly northeast of Gotha. The XII Corps made small gains east of Meiningen.

Elements of the XVI Corps of the Ninth Army, and the III and XVIII Airborne Corps of the First Army were tightening the ring on the trapped German forces in the Ruhr pocket. Elements of the XVI Corps were in Dortmund and on the outskirts of Essen; others were driving southwest, in the area south of Soest. The III Corps was advancing towards the center of the pocket from the west, while the XVIII Corps was reducing the pocket along the southern edge. Two counterattacks were repulsed south of Hilchenbach.

On the Seventh Army front, the XV Corps, advancing to the east, made gains up to 15 miles, between Meiningen and Hammelburg. XXI Corps troops registered gains up to 12 miles on a 15-mile front north of Wuerzburg. Others were driving to the southeast with advance elements in the vicinity of Windsheim. The VI Corps made progress west of Crailsheim.

The II French Corps continued its advance towards Stuttgart on a curving front between Heilbronn and Pforzheim, which was entered; a counterattack was repulsed, and an average gain of four miles was made along this front. Two counterattacks were repulsed south of Karlsruhe where resistance is weakening.

According to a late communique, Allied airborne forces have been dropped over a wide area in northwestern Holland.



MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

7 April. The Tactical Air Force flew 820 sorties, principally by fighters and fighter bombers in attacks upon communications in northeastern Italy, northern Yugoslavia and southern Austria, supply dumps and oil targets in the Po Valley and close support targets in the battle area. Seven oil storage tanks and a rail bridge were destroyed. Medium bombers were grounded by weather. Balkan and Coastal Air Force planes, among a total of 87 sorties, attacked transportation in the Po Valley, garrisons near the Italian-Yugoslavian border, and targets on Rab Island. One light bomber was lost.

8 April. On the Fifth Army front local progress was made south-east of Massa. On the Eighth Army front a small gain was made between the Valli di Comacchio and the Reno River. Activity on the remainder of the Italian battle line was confined to patrolling and sporadic raiding.

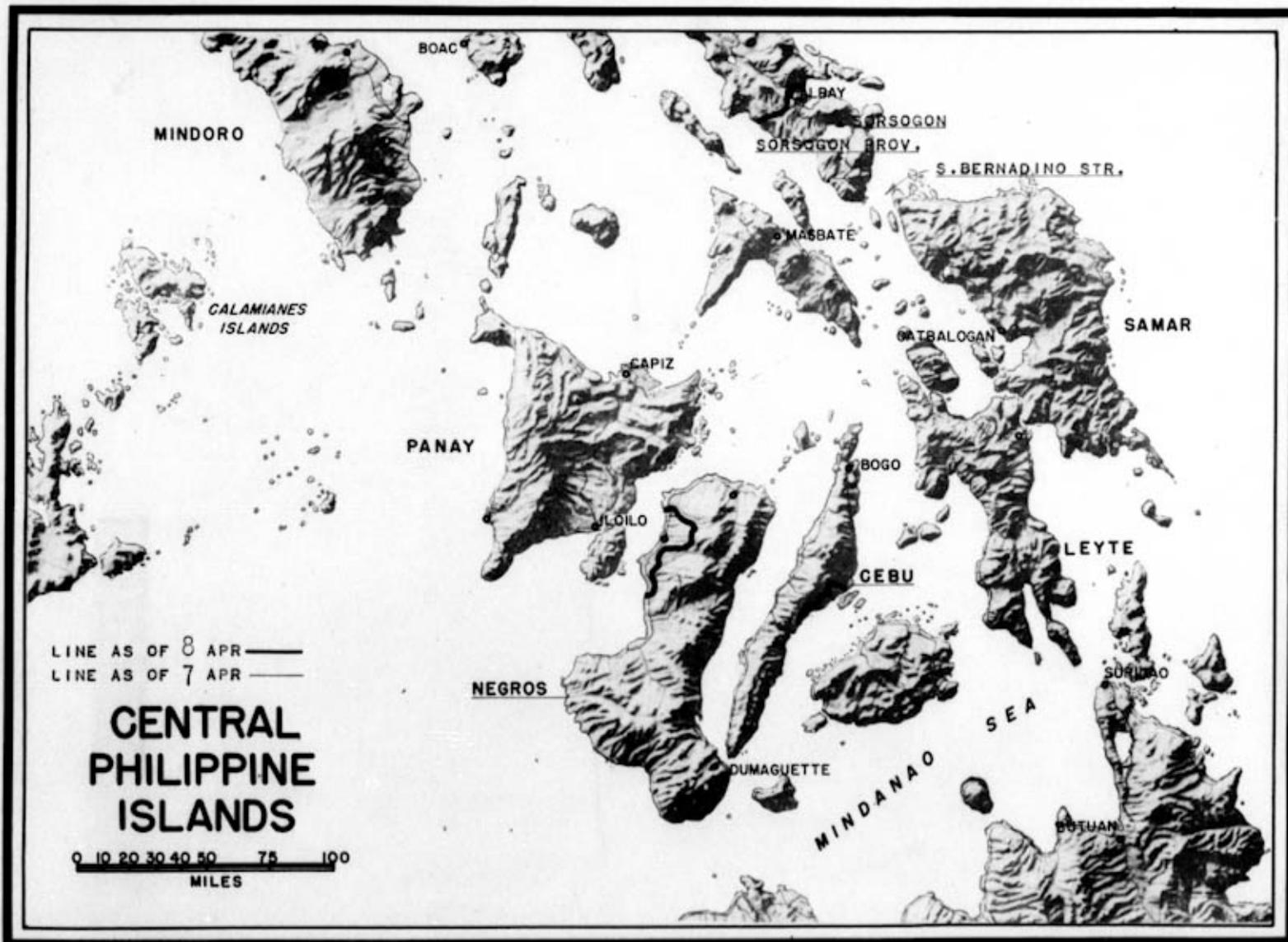
ASIATIC THEATER

6 April. Eleven hundred thirty-three sorties were reported by the Eastern Air Command of which 480 were offensive. Heavy bombers dropped 24 tons on rail bridges along the Rangoon-Toungoo railway. Medium bombers attacked rail targets and troop concentrations near Toungoo. Lighter planes supported ground operations.

5-7 April. The 14th Air Force reported 46 additional offensive sorties, principally against road and rail transport, river shipping, and fortified positions in central and north central China.

7 April. There was no substantial change on the battle fronts in Burma.

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LINE AS OF 8 APR ———
LINE AS OF 7 APR - - - -

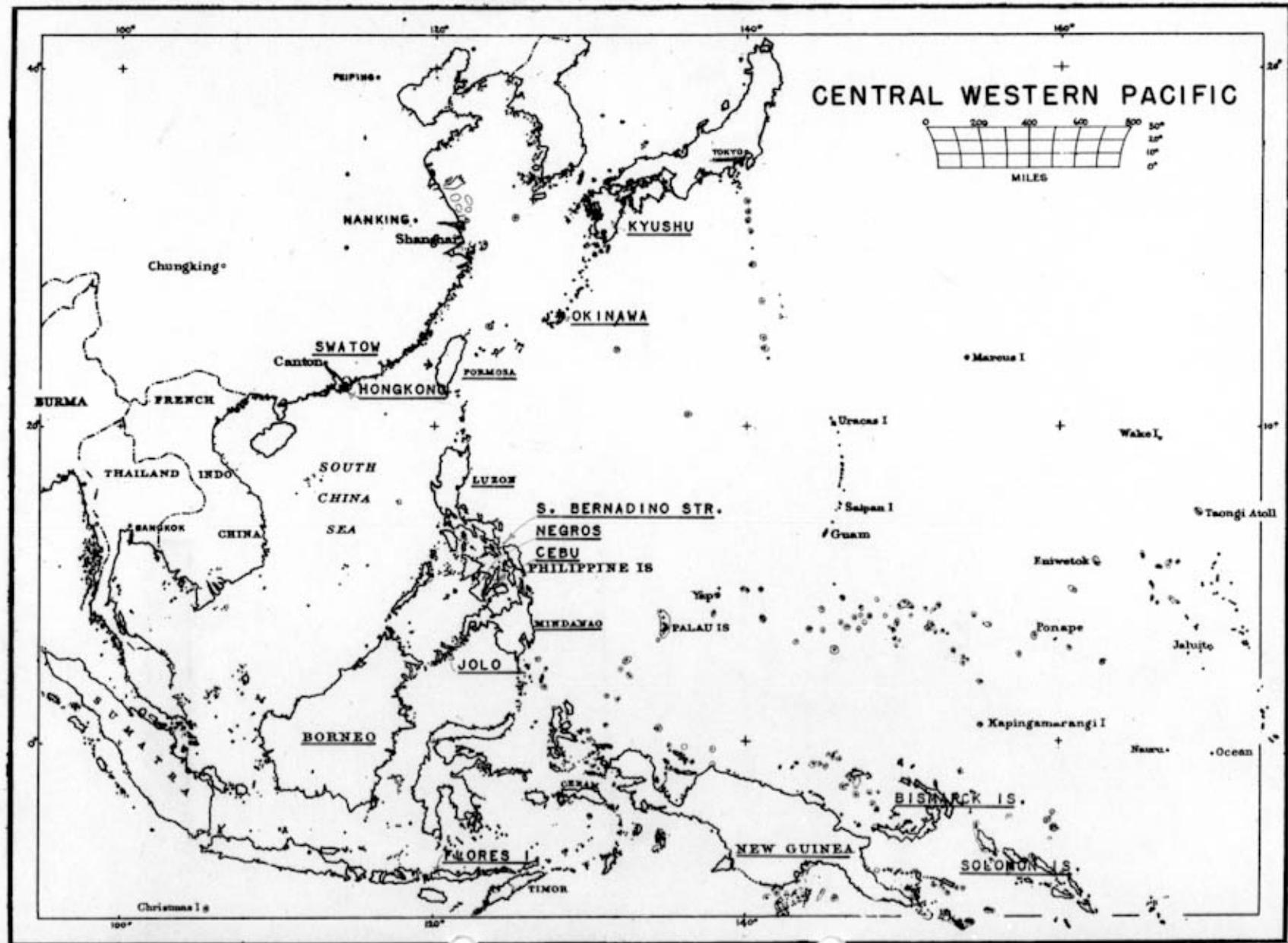
CENTRAL PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

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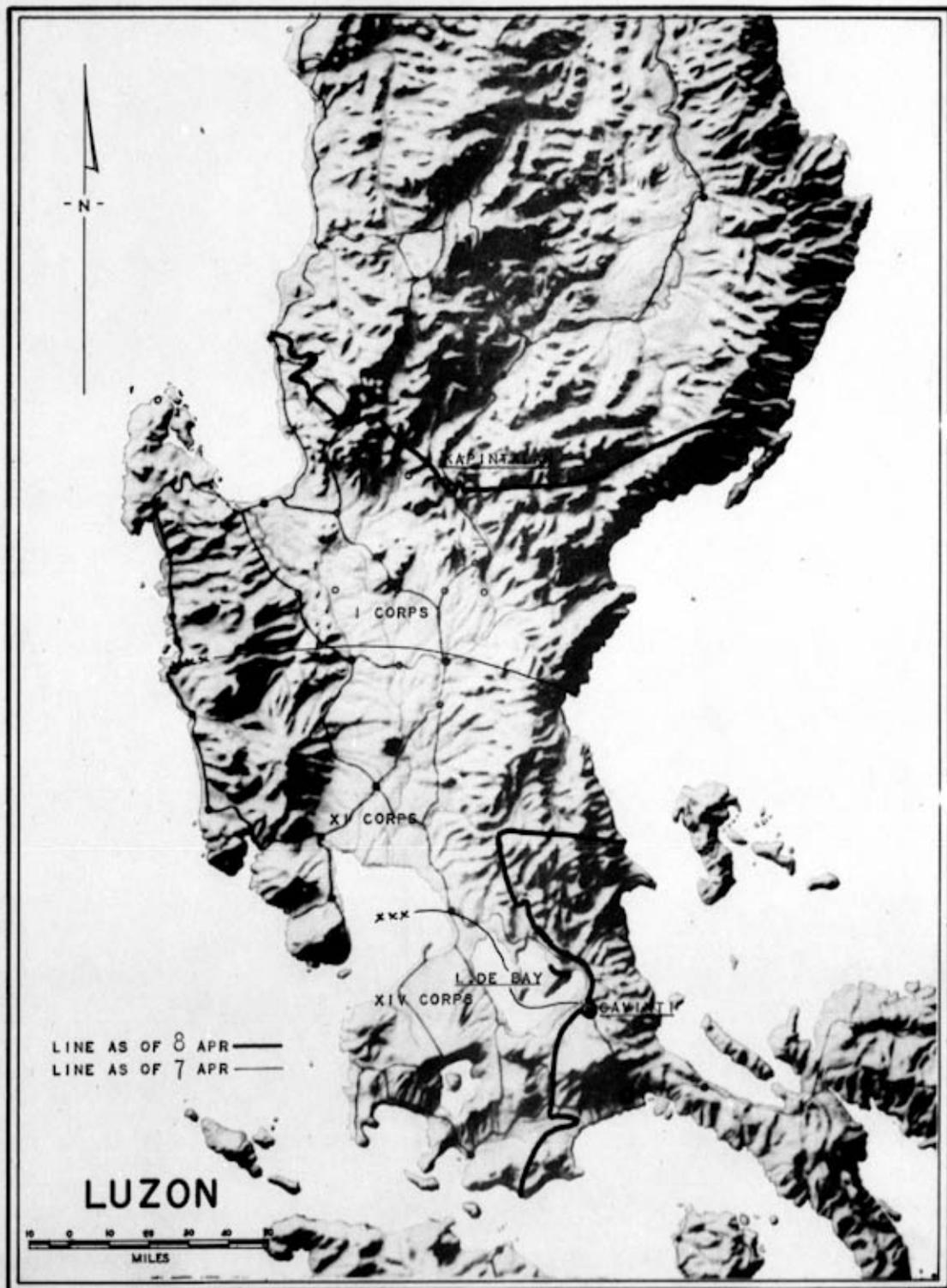
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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

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SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

5-6 April. During this period, Southwest Pacific planes flew an additional 390 sorties, of which 108 were against targets in the Bismarcks and Solomons.

7 April. More than 645 sorties were flown throughout the theater. Ground forces on Luzon were supported by over 250 aircraft. One hundred twelve planes, including 83 heavy bombers, struck enemy installations on Formosa. Other heavy bomber strikes were reported against Mindanao, Jolo Island in the Sulu Archipelago, and targets on New Guinea. Four heavy bombers sank a medium transport and a destroyer near Swatow. Patrol planes off Hongkong fired three coastal vessels and left another sinking. Medium bombers swept coastal shipping off Borneo.

On northern Luzon, the I Corps reported limited gains in all sectors. An enemy night attack near Kapintalan was repulsed. Slight advances were reported by XI Corps units fighting in the mountains north of Laguna de Bay, where stiff opposition continues. A cavalry unit of the XIV Corps captured Cavinti east of Laguna de Bay; airborne forces to the south carried out extensive patrolling. In southeastern Luzon all resistance in Sorsogon Province was reported ended.

Continued progress was reported on Cebu, Negros and Mindanao.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72



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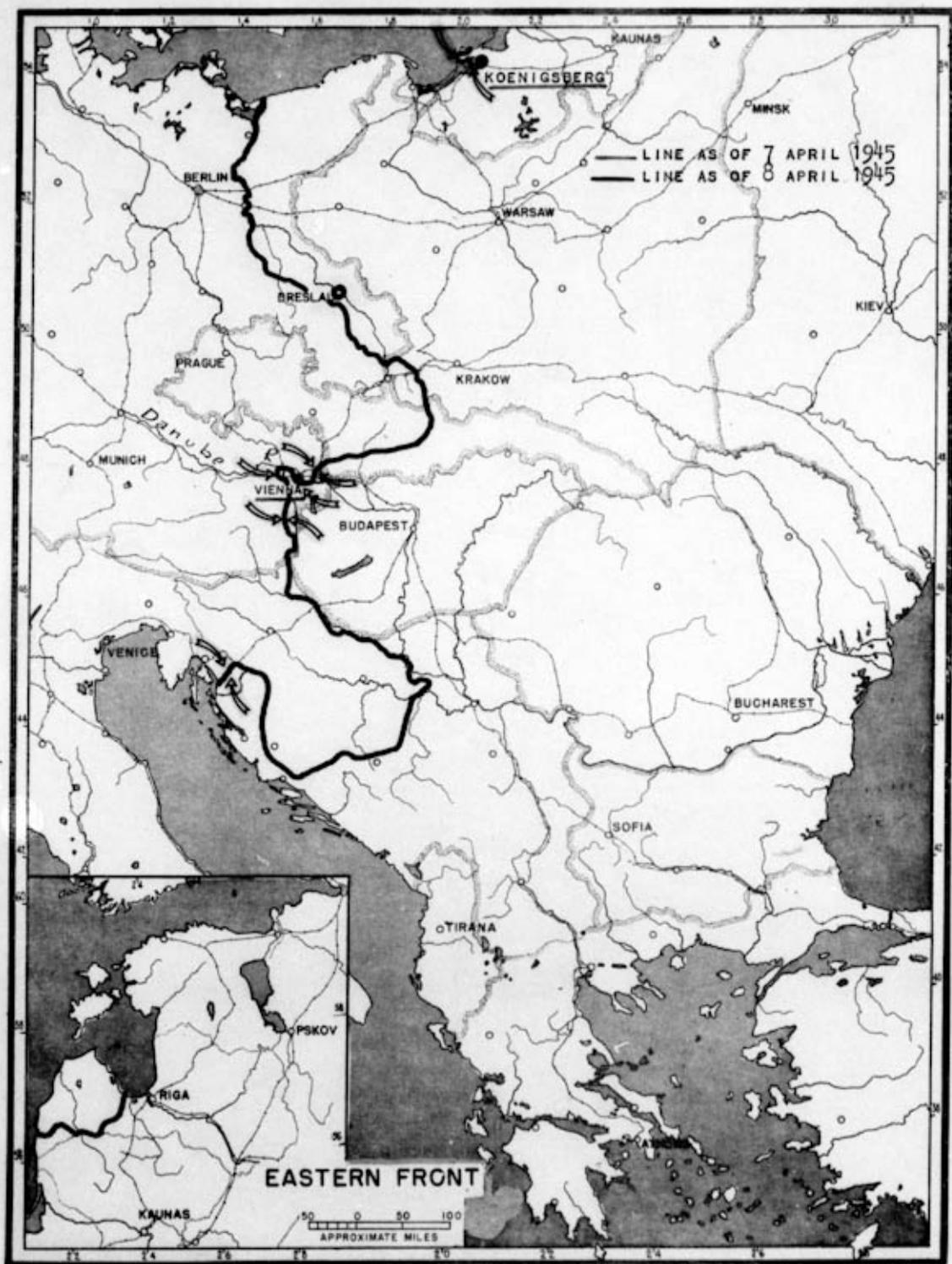
PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

7 April. Of 20 enemy raiders over Okinawa, 12 were shot down by fighters and naval antiaircraft.

On Okinawa, the XXIV Corps advancing south was encountering stubborn opposition from pillboxes and prepared positions in the broken terrain. Gains averaging slightly less than a mile were scored along the entire front and the town of Uchitomari was captured. Marines on the northern flank advanced four miles, meeting only light resistance. Patrols reached the town of Nakaoshi.

The Nakajima aircraft engine plant at Tokyo was attacked by 104 B-29's, each carrying five tons of bombs; 80 fighters escorted the bombers. Fifty enemy planes were destroyed. We lost three bombers to enemy action over the target; two others are reported missing.

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50-1004-810

EASTERN FRONT

8 April. Soviet units broke through the outer defenses of Koenigsberg and are fighting in the outskirts of the encircled city. East of Vienna the Soviets crossed the Morava River on a wide front. They continue to close in on the city and to the west have extended their hold along the south bank of the Danube. South of Vienna substantial gains were reported.

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O&D Letter, 8-8-78

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1215

0700 April 7 to 0700 April 8, 1945

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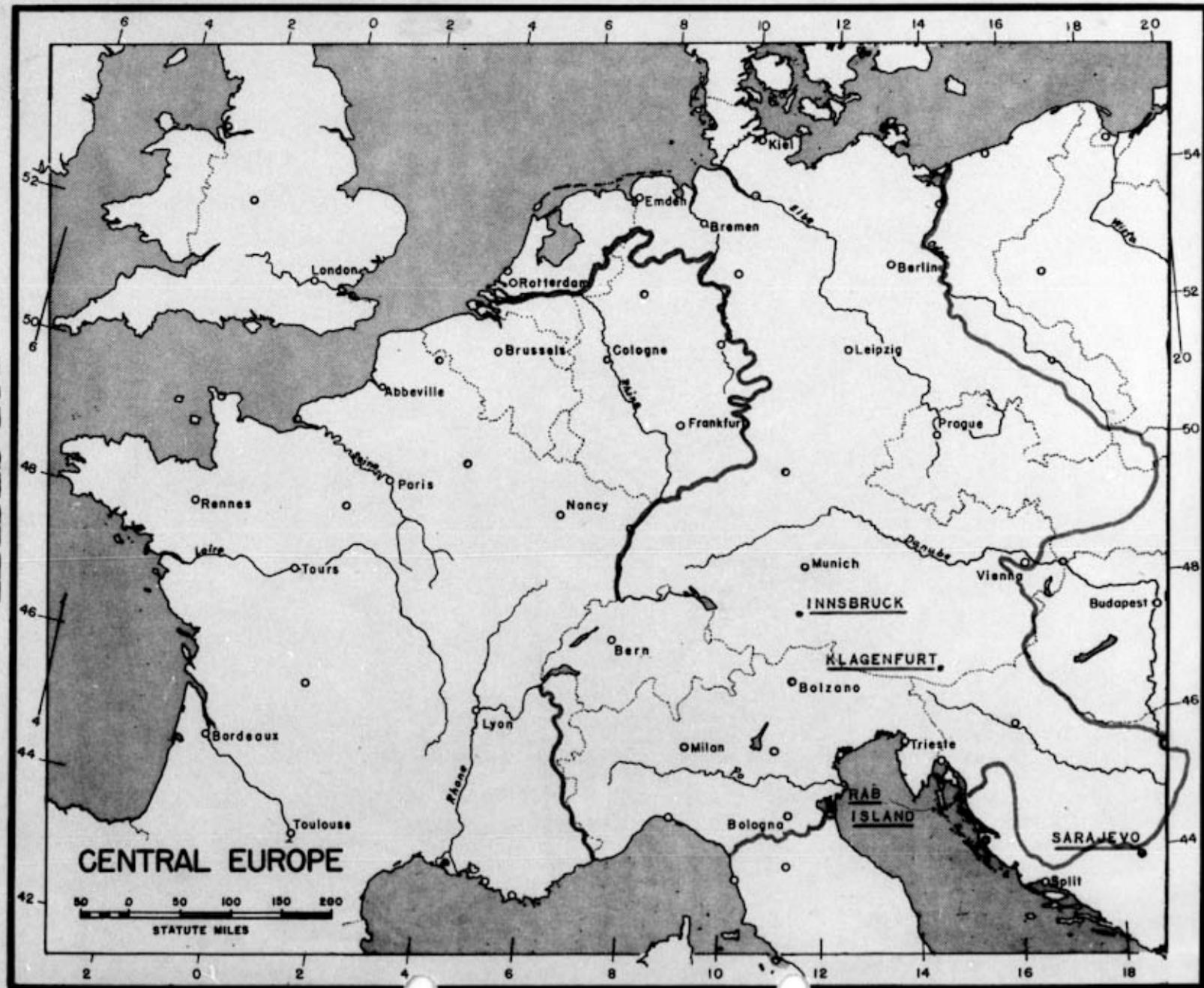
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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

7 April. Sixteen bombers attacked a number of targets along the eastern coast of Paramushiro Island in the Kuriles.

EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

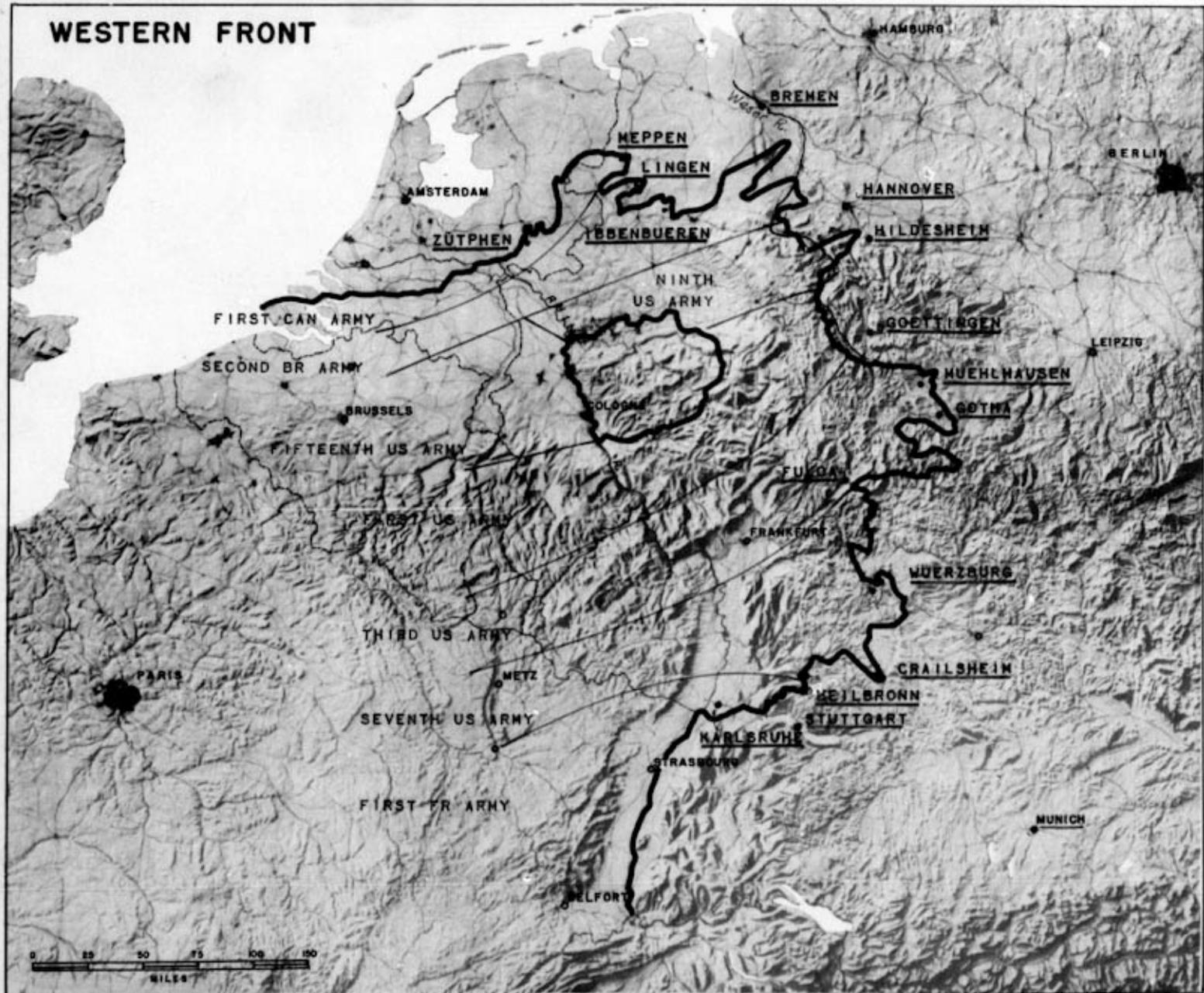
6 April. Adverse weather forced the abandonment of RAF bomber operations.

During previously reported 8th Air Force operations for this date, 646 heavy bombers dropped 1,090 tons on targets in central Germany. Revised figures show that we lost four bombers.

7 April. Oil storage plants, munitions factories and airfields in central Germany were the targets for 1,308 escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers. Strong enemy opposition was encountered and 64 enemy aircraft were shot down. Preliminary reports of our losses list 22 bombers and six fighters as missing.

Of 668 escorted 15th Air Force heavy bombers dispatched, only 120 were able to penetrate the weather to bomb rail bridges in north-central Italy and Austria, and railyards at Innsbruck and Klagenfurt.

WESTERN FRONT



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EUROPEAN THEATER

6 April. The Tactical Air Forces flew 1,393 sorties and dropped 382 tons of bombs. Medium bombers attacked railyards, ammunition dumps, and communications near the front lines. Fighters and fighter bombers gave direct support to ground forces. Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost 12.

7 April. Elements of the II Canadian Corps made local progress to the north and northeast of Zutphen. Other elements of the Corps repulsed a counterattack in Meppen on the Dortmund-Ems Canal and cleared the west bank of the canal for some five miles south of the town. The XXX Corps of the British Second Army advanced six miles through the Lingen Forest against stiff opposition. Infantry of the XII Corps made local gains north of Ibbenbueren, while armored units continued their rapid advance gaining over 30 miles to a point approximately 20 miles southeast of Bremen. Farther south, airborne troops and armor of the VIII Corps crossed the Weser on a 15-mile front and advanced some 12 miles.

Ninth Army tanks east of the Weser drove 18 miles to within three miles of Hildesheim. To the south, elements of the Ninth and First Armies drove into the Weser Valley on a 35-mile front.

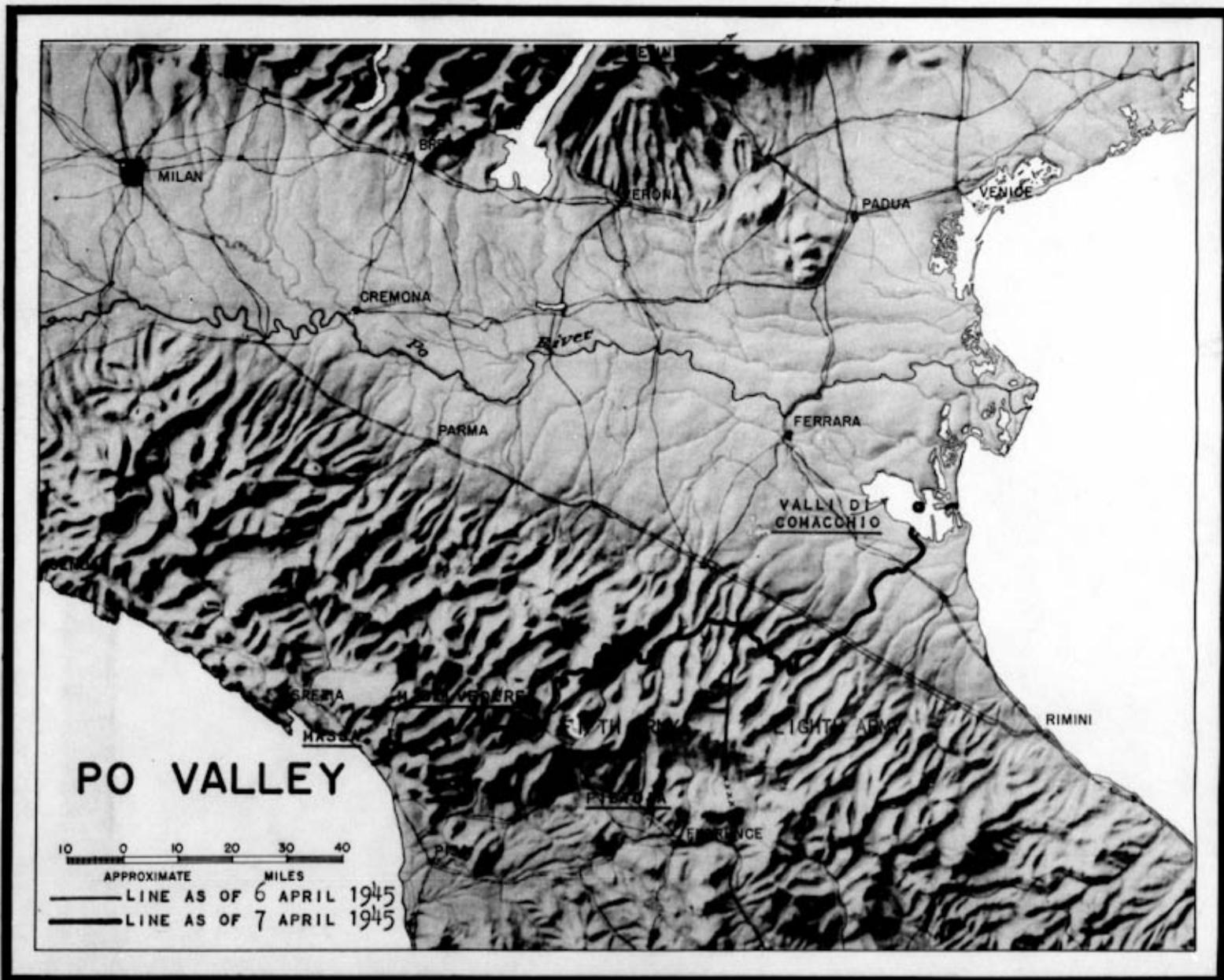
The Third Army repulsed three counterattacks south of Goettingen and registered limited advances east of Muehlhausen and southeast of Gotha.

On the Seventh Army front, the XV Corps made gains of four to six miles along a 25-mile front south-southwest of Fulda. The XXI Corps

advanced along a ten-mile front east of Wuerzburg. Infantry of the VI Corps, advancing to the southeast in the area northeast of Heilbronn, made gains up to five miles along a 20-mile front. An armored column driving 25 miles to the southeast entered Crailsheim, less than 100 miles from Munich.

Elements of the First French Army met fierce resistance on the northern edge of the Black Forest and repulsed three counterattacks coming from south and southeast of Karlsruhe. Other units made advances up to 12 miles on a 30-mile front northwest of Stuttgart with forward elements within 15 miles of that city.

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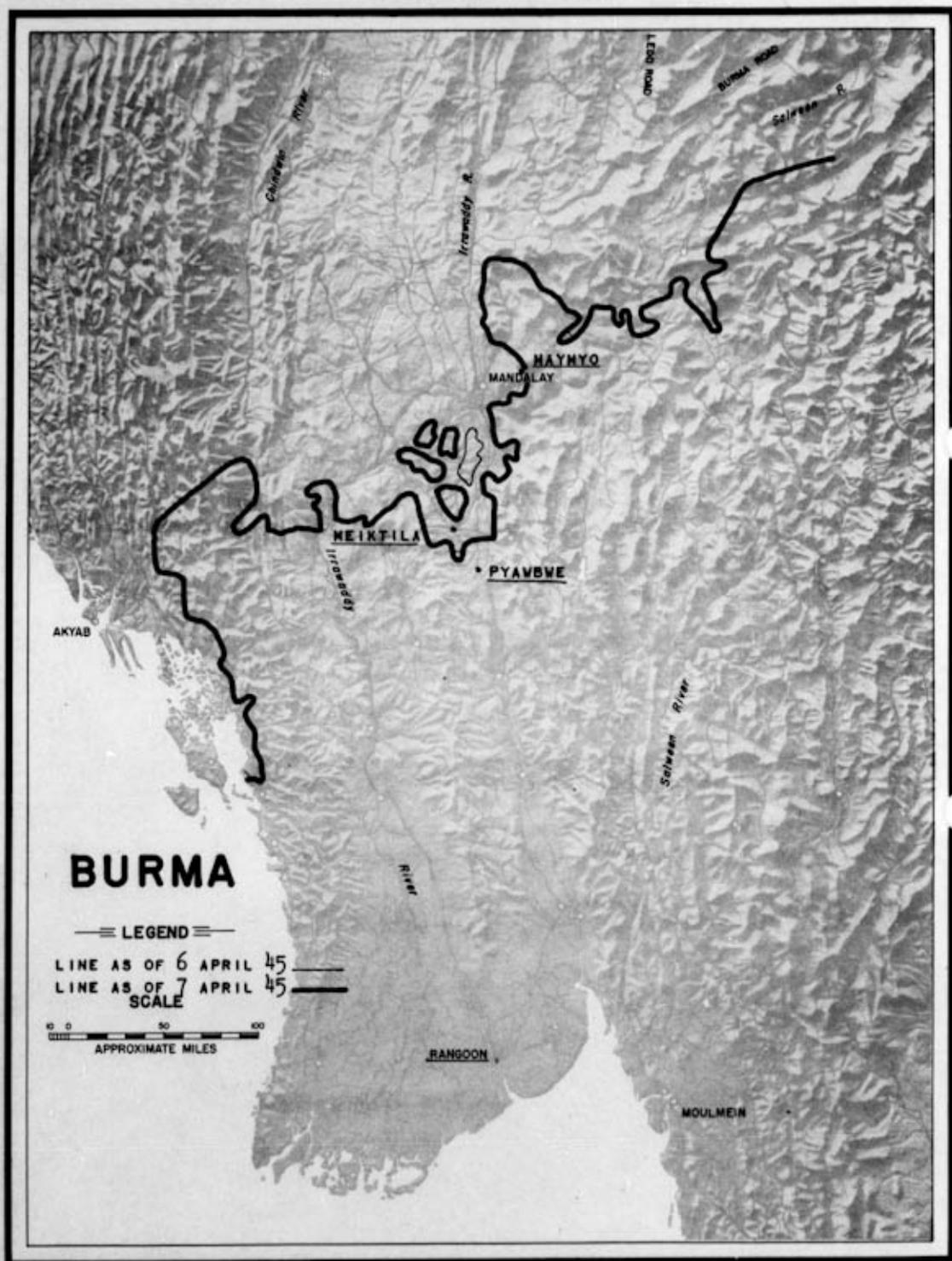


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MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

6 April. The Tactical Air Force flew 1,137 sorties. Bridges on the Brenner Route and in the Po Valley were attacked by medium bombers. Fighters struck industrial targets and communications in the Po Valley and supported our ground forces. Three enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost two planes. The Balkan Air Forces, in 128 sorties, attacked gun positions on Rab Island and supported Yugoslav Partisan operations. The Coastal Air Force flew 91 sorties against communications in Yugoslavia and northwest Italy.

7 April. East of Massa on the Fifth Army front, Monte Belvedere was taken and a counterattack to the east was smashed by artillery fire. Partisans occupied additional ground without opposition in the area northwest of Pistoia. On the Eighth Army front, British troops broke up a small enemy raid on one of the recently occupied islands in Valli di Comacchio.



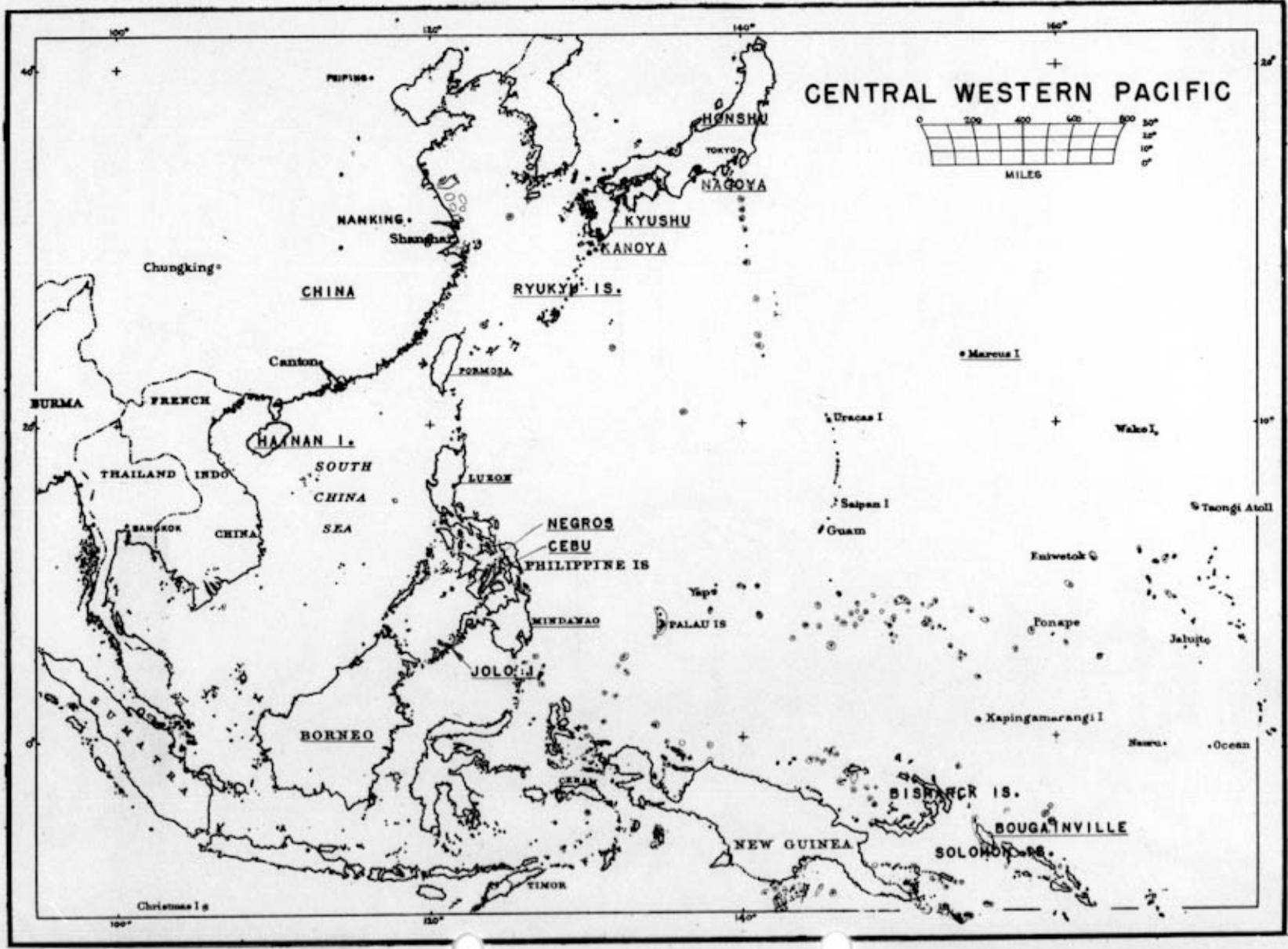
ASIATIC THEATER

4 April. Fighter bombers of the 14th Air Force flew 24 sorties to attack bridges on the Yellow River in north-central China and rail lines in that area.

5 April. The Eastern Air Command flew 1,356 sorties, of which 571 were offensive. Fifty-nine heavy bombers struck dumps at Rangoon. Lighter planes attacked troop concentrations, bridges and supply areas in the active battle areas of Burma.

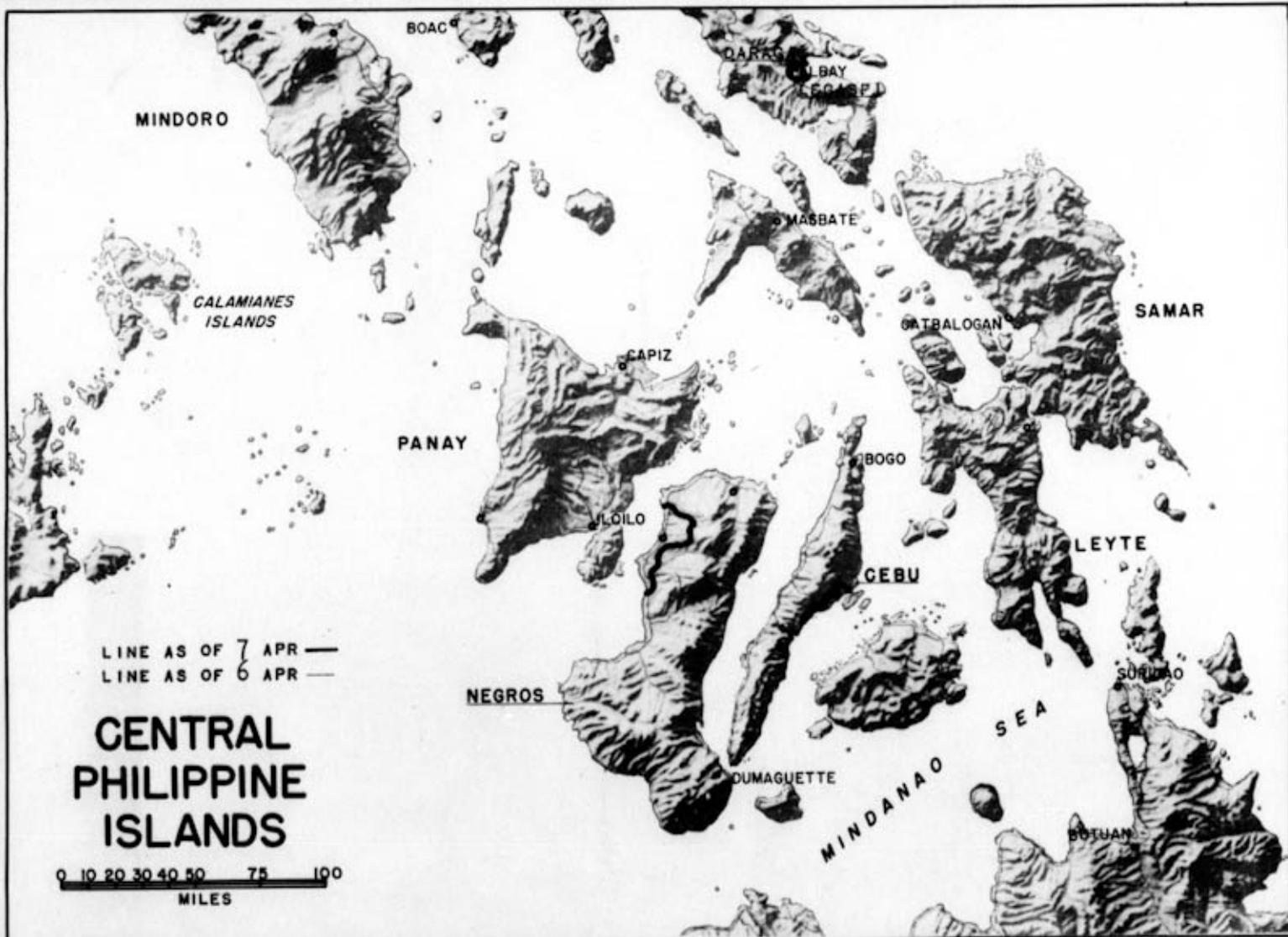
6 April. Indian troops moving southwest toward Maymyo advanced nine miles without contact. South of Meiktila, further gains were made on the road toward Pyawbwe.

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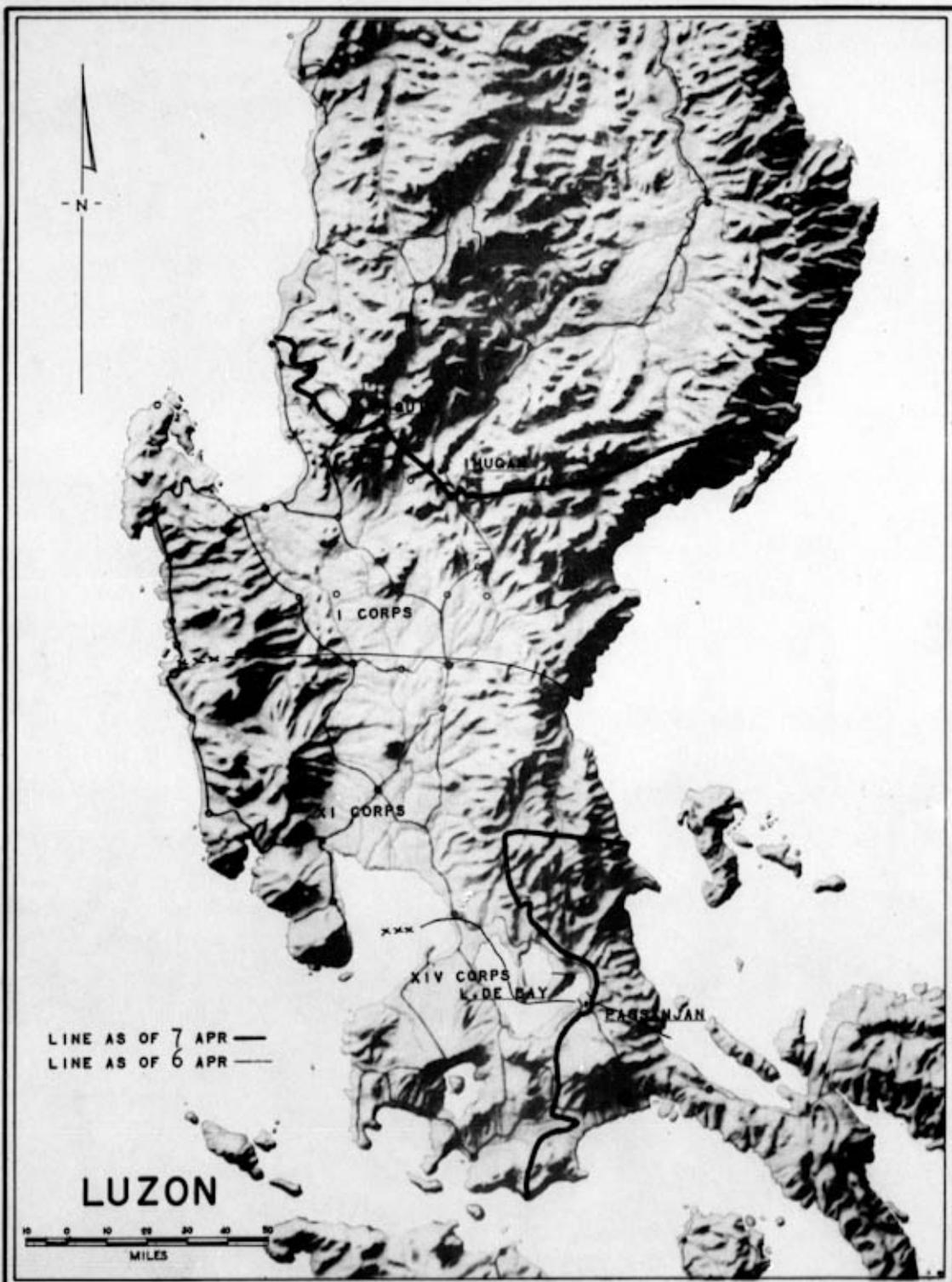
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OBD Letter, 0-377



LINE AS OF 7 APR —
LINE AS OF 6 APR - -

LUZON

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MILES

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25-21241-200

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

6 April. More than 440 sorties were flown, of which 270 were in support of ground operations on Luzon. Twenty-three B-24's struck Hainan Island off southern China; 18 others attacked defense positions and dumps on Jolo Island, in the Sulu Archipelago. Other missions attacked targets on Borneo and Formosa. Five enemy vessels were sunk and another set afire off the China coast. One enemy plane was shot down; we lost two medium bombers.

On Luzon, the I Corps seized hill positions southwest of Baguio and in the Imugan area. The XIV Corps captured Pagsanjan and patrolled southward over the Laguna roads. In the Legaspi area an enemy force was isolated one mile southwest of Daraga. Extensive land and amphibious patrolling was carried out to the southeast.

We repulsed night attacks on our positions on Mindanao and Cebu. Our troops on Negros, following the coastline, have advanced halfway across the northern end of the island. Australians on Bougainville, repulsing an attack, killed 152 enemy troops.



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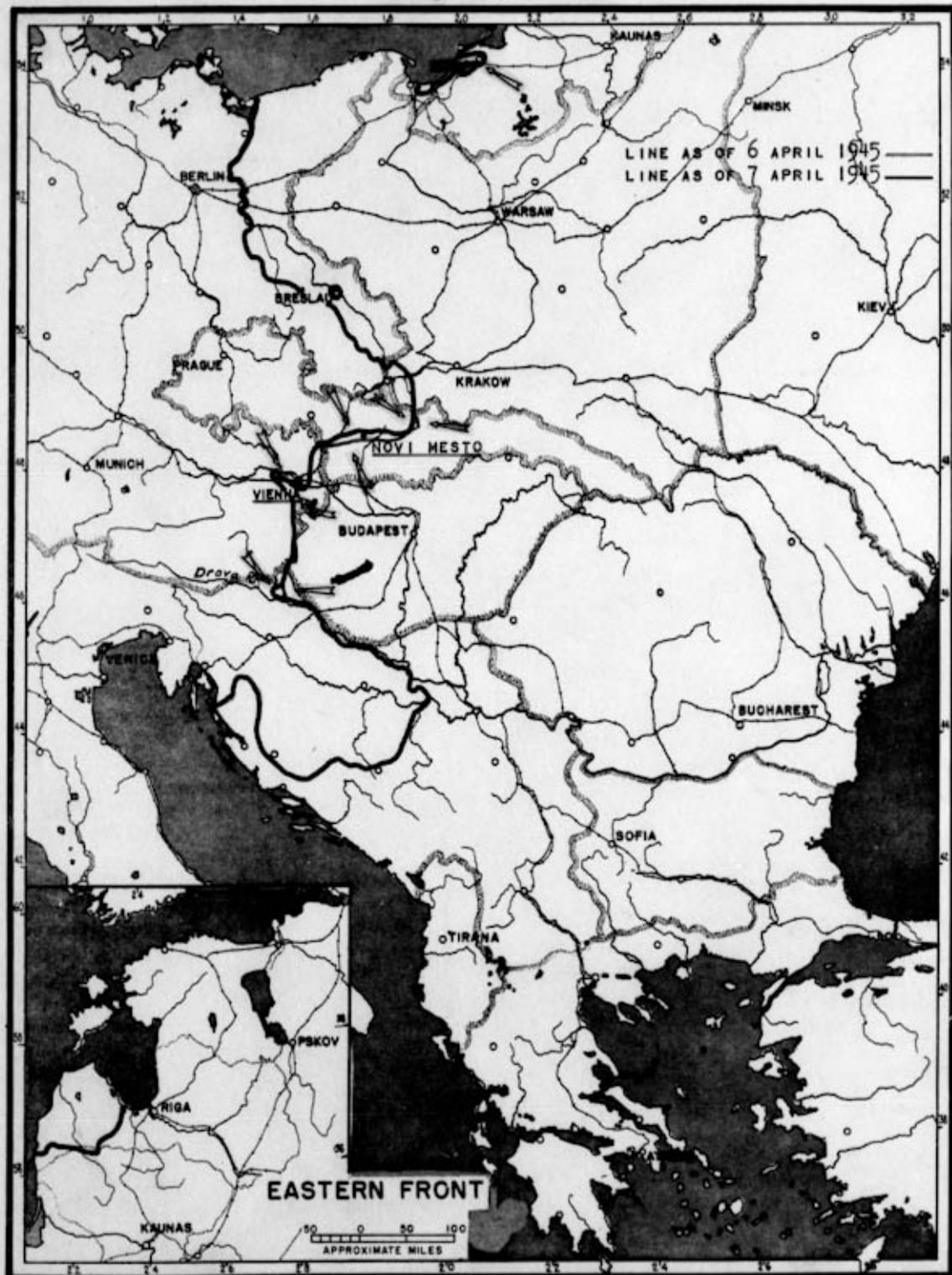
PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

6 April. Eleven heavy bombers of the 7th Air Force raided enemy fortified positions on Marcus.

7 April. According to preliminary report, the 21st Bomber Command dispatched 158 B-29's to attack the Mitsubishi Aircraft Plant at Nagoya, 27 to attack airfields at Kanoya on Kyushu, and 35 against other targets. Fourteen enemy aircraft were shot down. Two of the Superforts were reported as lost over the targets and a third is missing.

6 April. Marines on Okinawa, advancing to the north, made gains up to seven miles and occupied Chuda on the west coast and reached Kushi Bay on the east coast. XXIV Corps units were encountering stiff resistance to their advance southward. On their left flank an advance of four miles was scored and the town of Tsuwa on the east coast was seized.

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EASTERN FRONT

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APPROXIMATE MILES

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20-8204-201

EASTERN FRONT

7 April. Soviet and Rumanian troops further reduced the German salient in Slovakia and occupied the communications center of Nove Mesto. The Russians have reached the Danube northwest of Vienna, and now are halfway around the city. Fighting continues in the southern part of Vienna. Soviet and Bulgarian units registered small gains along the Drava River.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1214

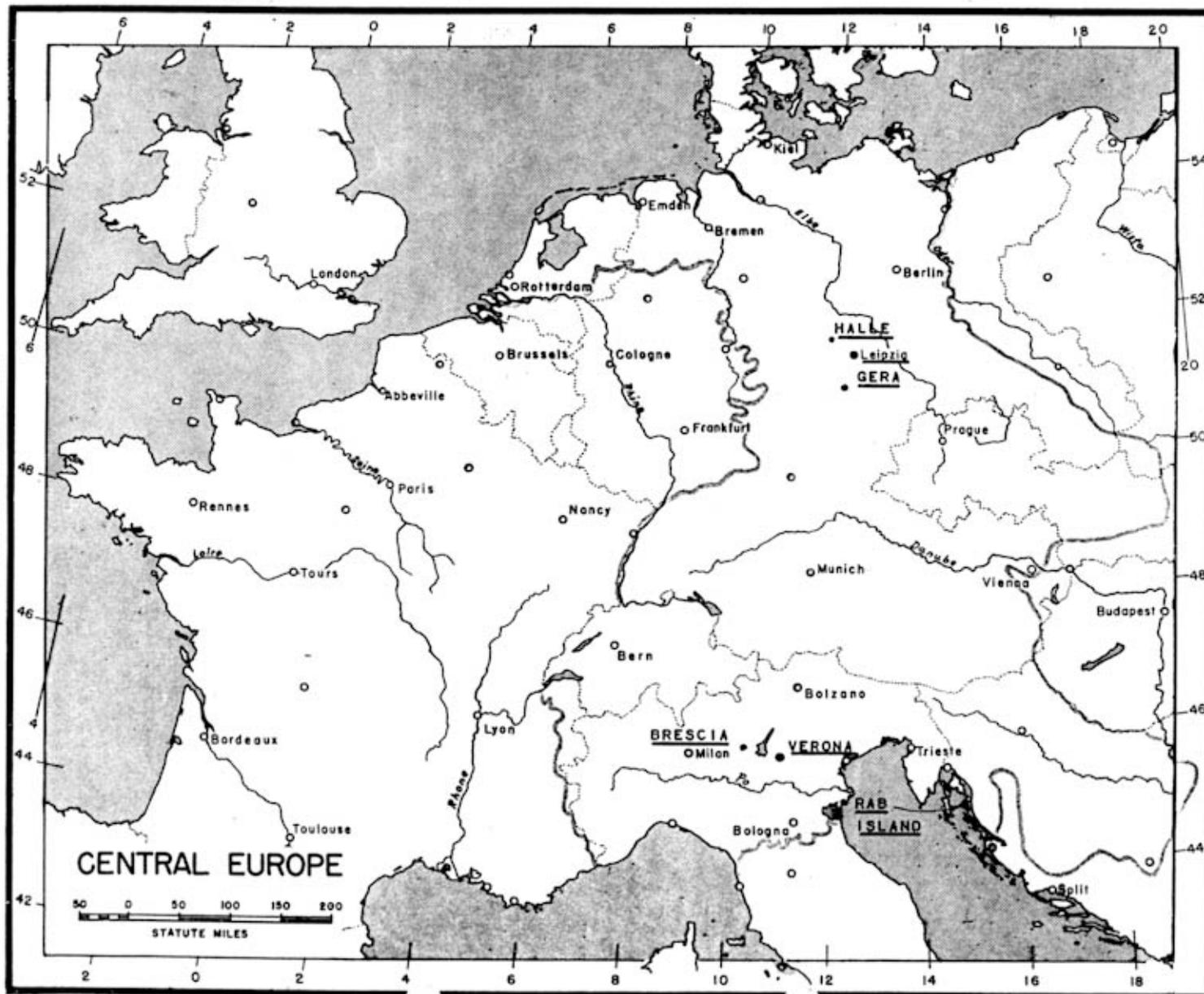
0700 April 6 to 0700 April 7, 1945

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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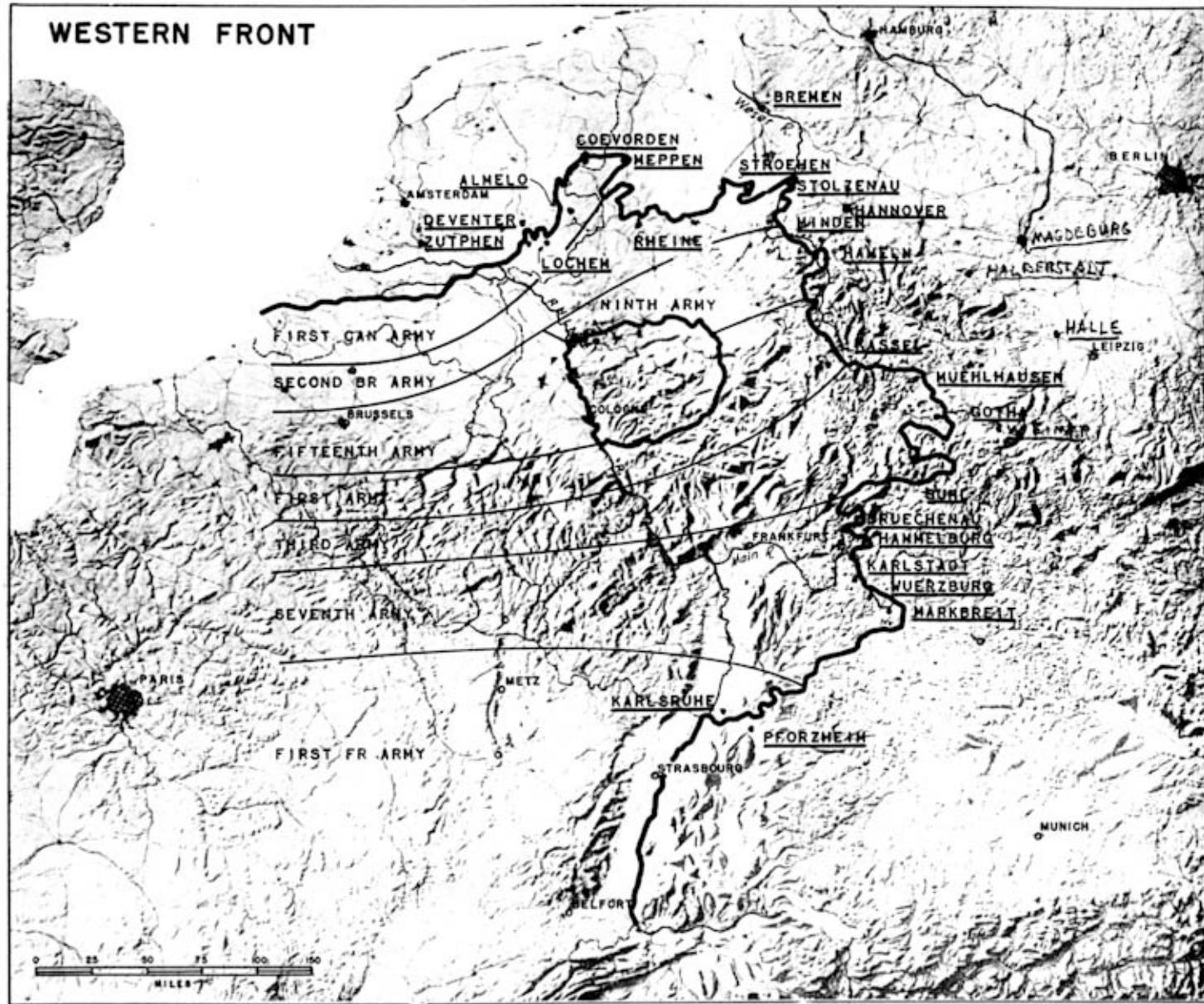
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EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

6 April. Rails at Leipzig, Halle and Gera were attacked by 658 escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers. Nine bombers and one fighter are missing.

More than 600 escorted 15th Air Force heavy bombers hit communications and industrial areas at Verona and Brescia. We lost three bombers and one fighter.

WESTERN FRONT



TOP SECRET
REF ID: A66878

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EUROPEAN THEATER

5 April. The Tactical Air Forces flew 2,936 sorties. Medium bombers, restricted by weather, dropped 159 tons on storage depots in southwestern Germany. Fighters over Holland and western Germany attacked enemy positions, transportation and airfields, with large claims against rail and motor transport. Ninety-five enemy planes were destroyed; we lost 18.

There have been no reports of rocket or flying bomb incidents since 30 March.

6 April. By noon the Canadian Army had expanded its bridgehead over the Twente Canal west of Lochem to a depth of five miles on a five-mile base. During the day another crossing of the canal was made north of Zutphen; advance elements from this bridgehead were two miles south of Deventer. Canadian armor drove 35 miles northeast of Almelo, reaching Coevorden and Meppen.

On the British Second Army front infantry, driving generally north from Rheine, made a three-mile advance along a 15-mile front against heavy resistance. Armored units captured Stroehen, 37 miles south of Bremen. The Weser River was crossed at Stolzenau and just north of Minden.

South of Hameln our Ninth Army expanded its Weser bridgehead to a depth of six miles to place forward elements within 20 miles of Hannover. To the south in conjunction with the First Army, a drive toward the Weser scored advances of ten miles on a 45-mile front in

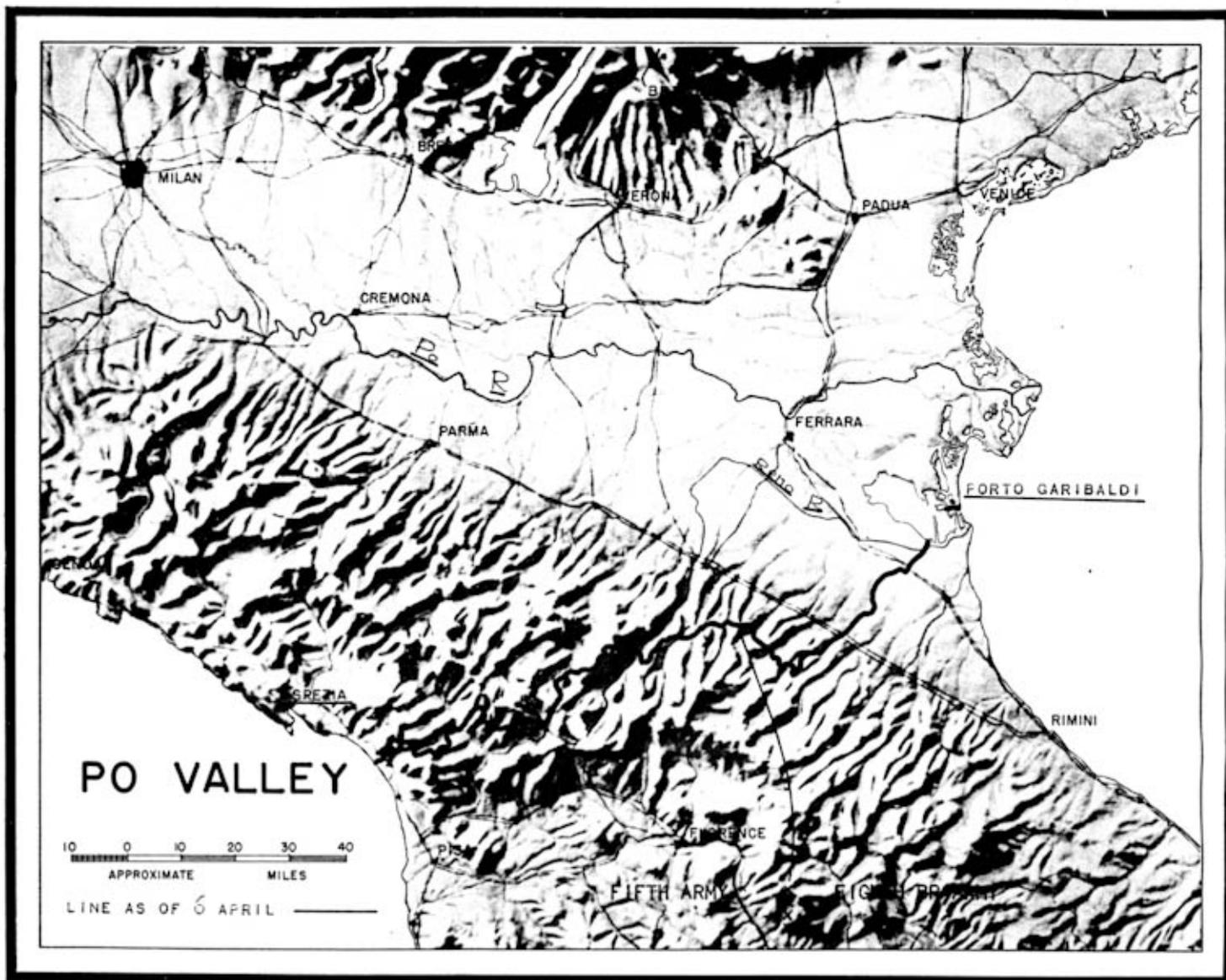
the sector north of Kassel. The reduction of the Ruhr pocket continued.

The Third Army gained four miles in the area east of Kassel and consolidated its positions between Muehlhausen and Gotha. A seven-mile advance was registered east of Suhl.

Our Seventh Army drove east to reach Brueckenau, Hammelburg and Karlstadt, cleared three-fourths of Wuerzburg, and extended its bridgehead across the Main at Marktbreit to a depth of three miles.

The French Army pushed five miles south of Karlsruhe, and to the east advanced to within four miles of the important communications center of Pforzheim.

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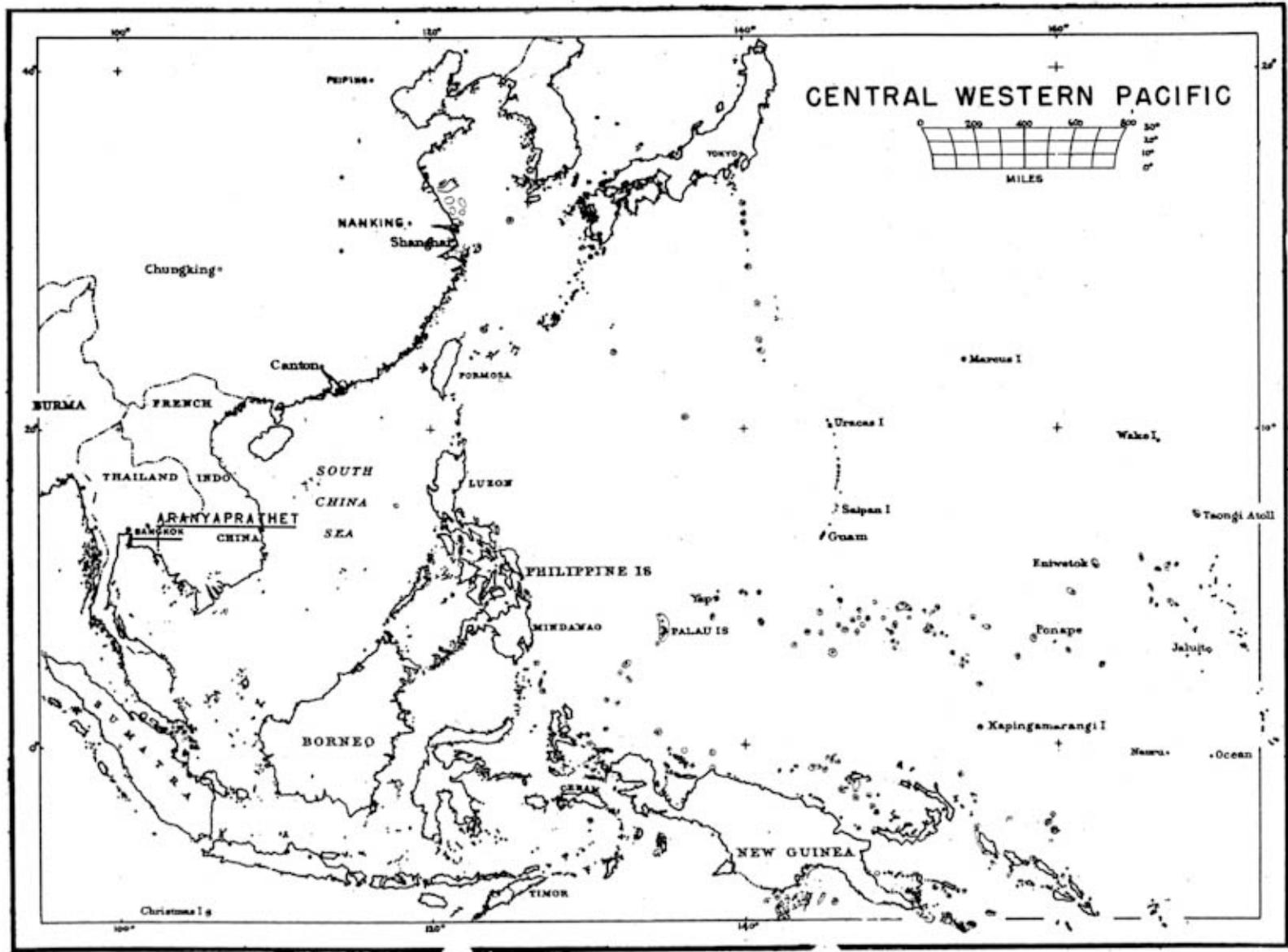
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

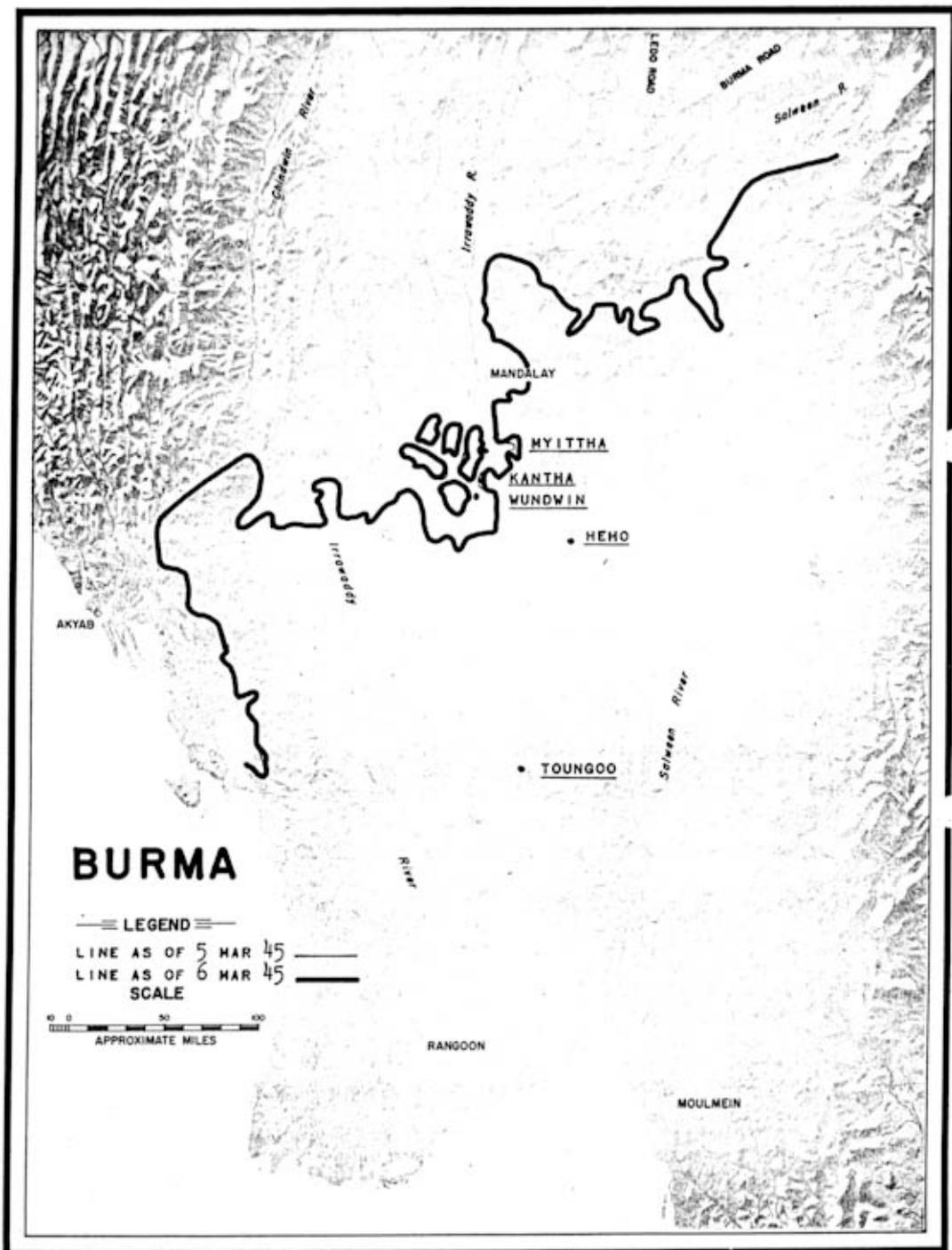
5 April. The Tactical Air Force flew 1,413 sorties. Medium bombers attacked rail targets along the Brenner Route in north central Italy and Austria, and bombed occupied areas near Porto Garibaldi and La Spezia. Fighters hit communications and industrial targets in northern Italy, northern Yugoslavia and northwestern Austria. The Balkan Air Force flew 194 sorties against gun positions on Rab Island and rails in northern Yugoslavia. The Coastal Air Force, during 85 sorties, bombed rail targets in northwest Italy and shipping in the Adriatic. We lost four planes.

6 April. British Eighth Army troops successfully attacked across the Reno River, gaining about a mile on a five-mile front. On the US Fifth Army front, our troops consolidated mountain positions overlooking the Ligurian coast. Only patrol actions were reported elsewhere on the Italian front.

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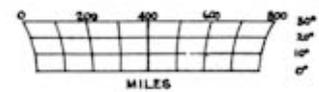


ASIATIC THEATER

4 April. The Eastern Air Command flew 1,279 sorties, of which 495 were offensive. Fourteen B-24's bombed a bridge on the Bangkok-Aranyaprathet railroad. Medium and light bombers attacked bridges, railyards and supply dumps in the Heho-Toungoo area. Ground support along the front lines was furnished by fighters and fighter bombers. One plane was lost.

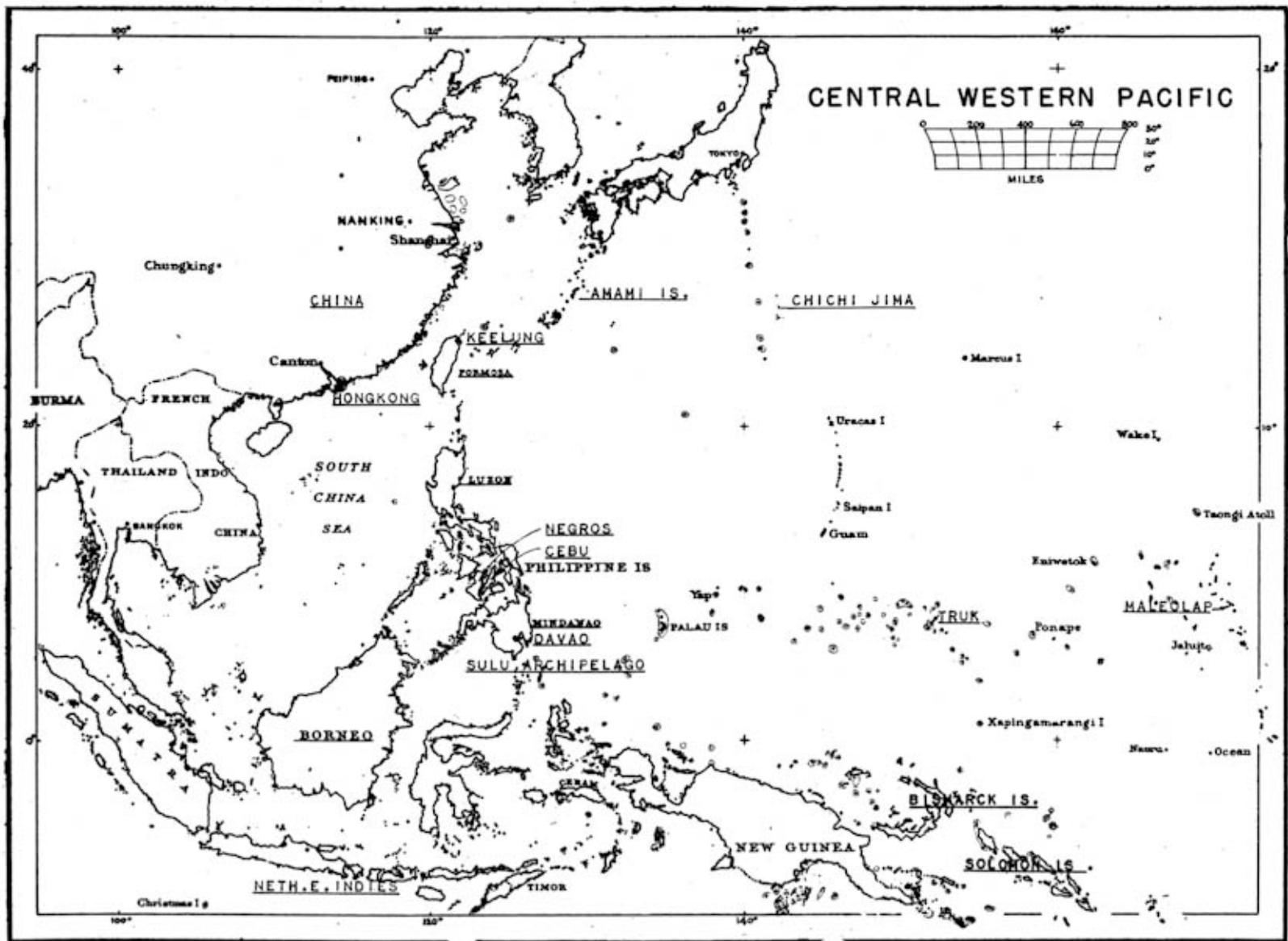
5 April. British Indian units pushing eastward from the Myittha area scored an average advance of two miles along an eight-mile front. Other Allied units north of Wundwin advanced to Kantha. There were no significant changes on other Burma sectors.

CENTRAL WESTERN PACIFIC



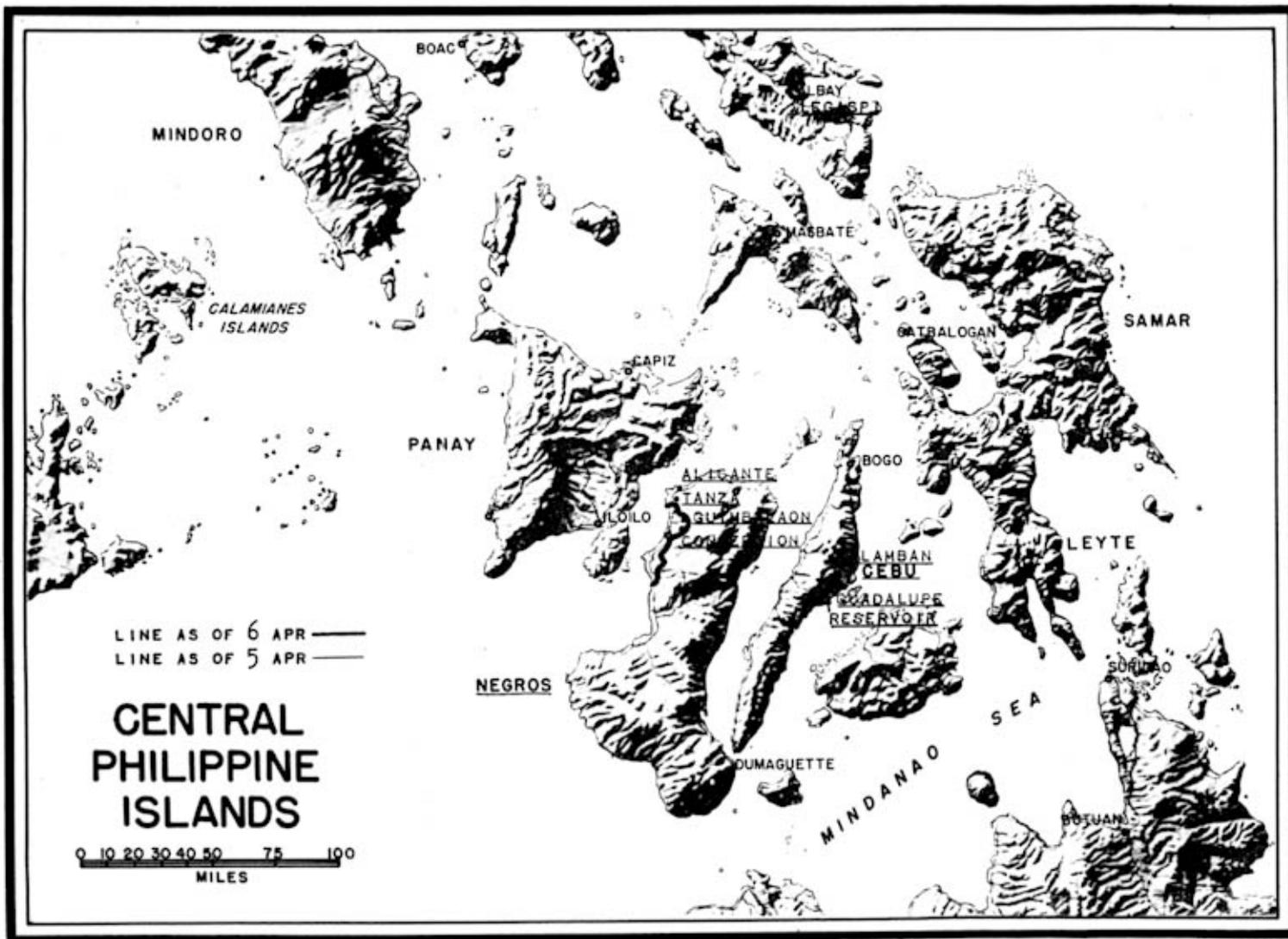
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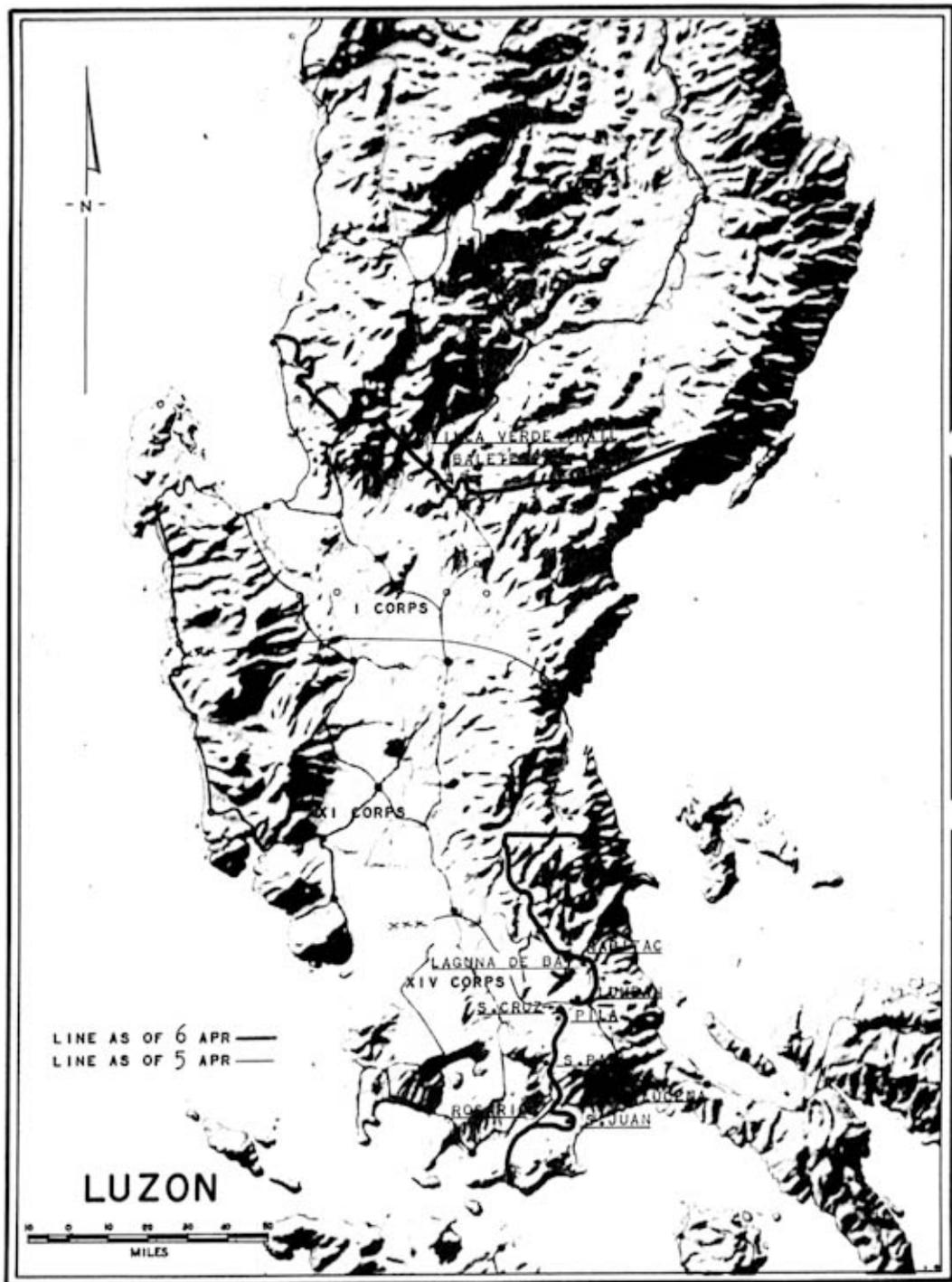


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OP Letter, 5-3-78



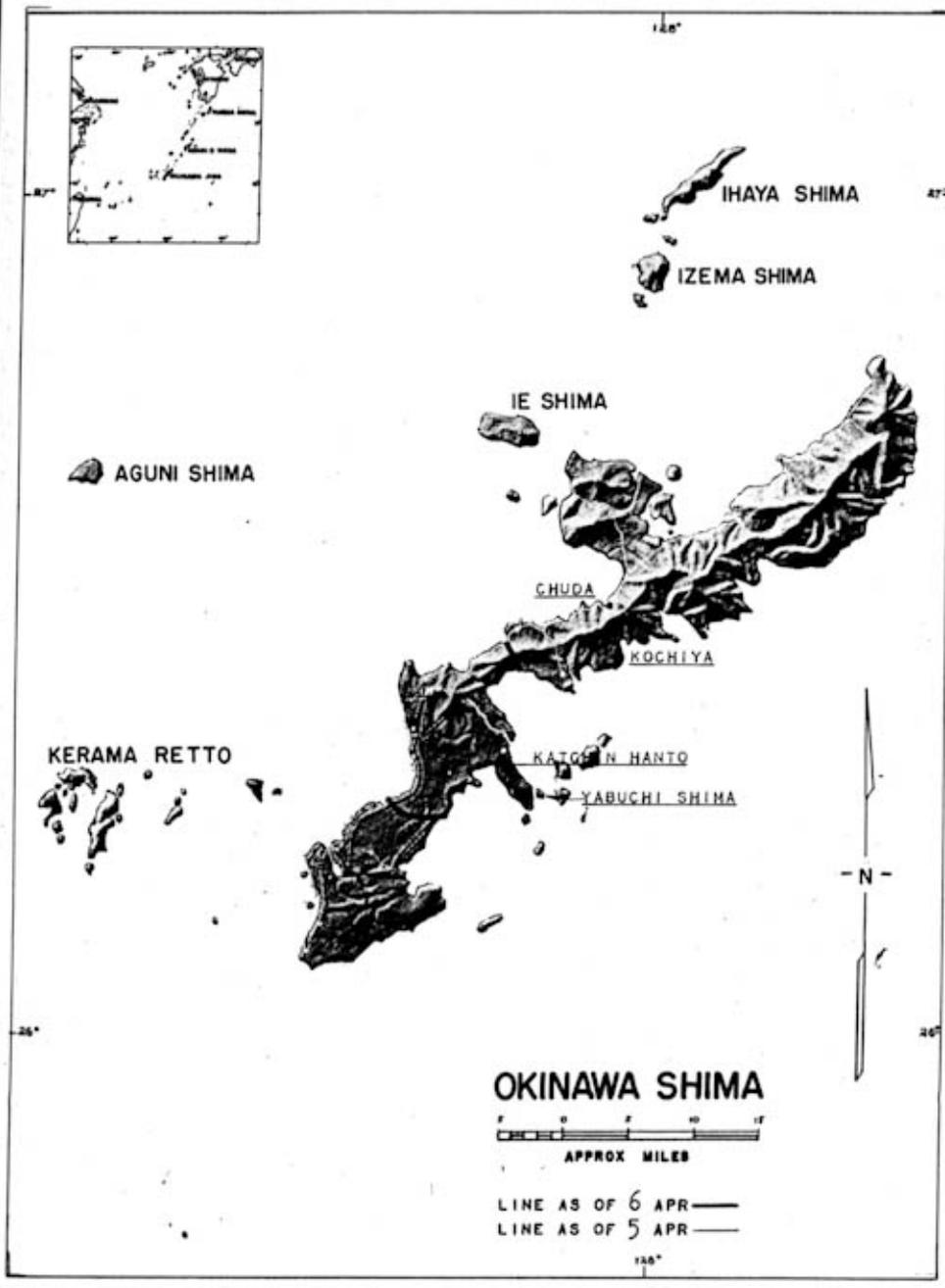
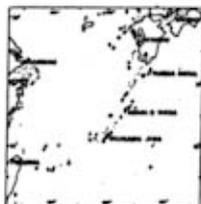
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SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

4 April. Three hundred sixty-five additional sorties were flown throughout the theater with 93 against Japanese installations in the Bismarcks and Solomons. Thirty-nine B-24's hit targets in central Mindanao and the Davao area. Other aircraft struck Cebu, Negros, the Sulu Archipelago and the Netherlands Indies.

5 April. Among more than 570 sorties reported, 294 were against enemy defenses and supply dumps throughout Luzon. Thirty-eight heavy bombers struck Keelung Harbor, Formosa; 20 hit an airdrome and docks in the Hongkong area; others attacked Borneo and southern Mindanao. Search planes sank a 10,000-ton freighter transport and two smaller vessels off southern China and left two other ships burning. Another enemy vessel was sunk in the Netherlands Indies.

On northern Luzon, I Corps infantry attacking north toward Balete Pass scored local gains despite strong Japanese opposition. Minor advances were also reported along the Villa Verde Trail. The XI Corps, driving down the eastern shore of Laguna de Bay, captured Mabitac and then swept south along the shore to seize Lumban. XIV Corps cavalry advanced from Pila to Santa Cruz and contacted elements of the XI Corps. In eastern Batangas, we advanced eastward from Rosario to San Juan. Airborne troops entered Lucena, the provincial capital of Tayabas. In the Legaspi beachhead we continued to expand the perimeter to the west in the face of heavy opposition. Our infantry on Cebu restored their lines near the Cebu Reservoir after a Japanese counterattack had forced a slight withdrawal. We patrolled to Talamban, and to the

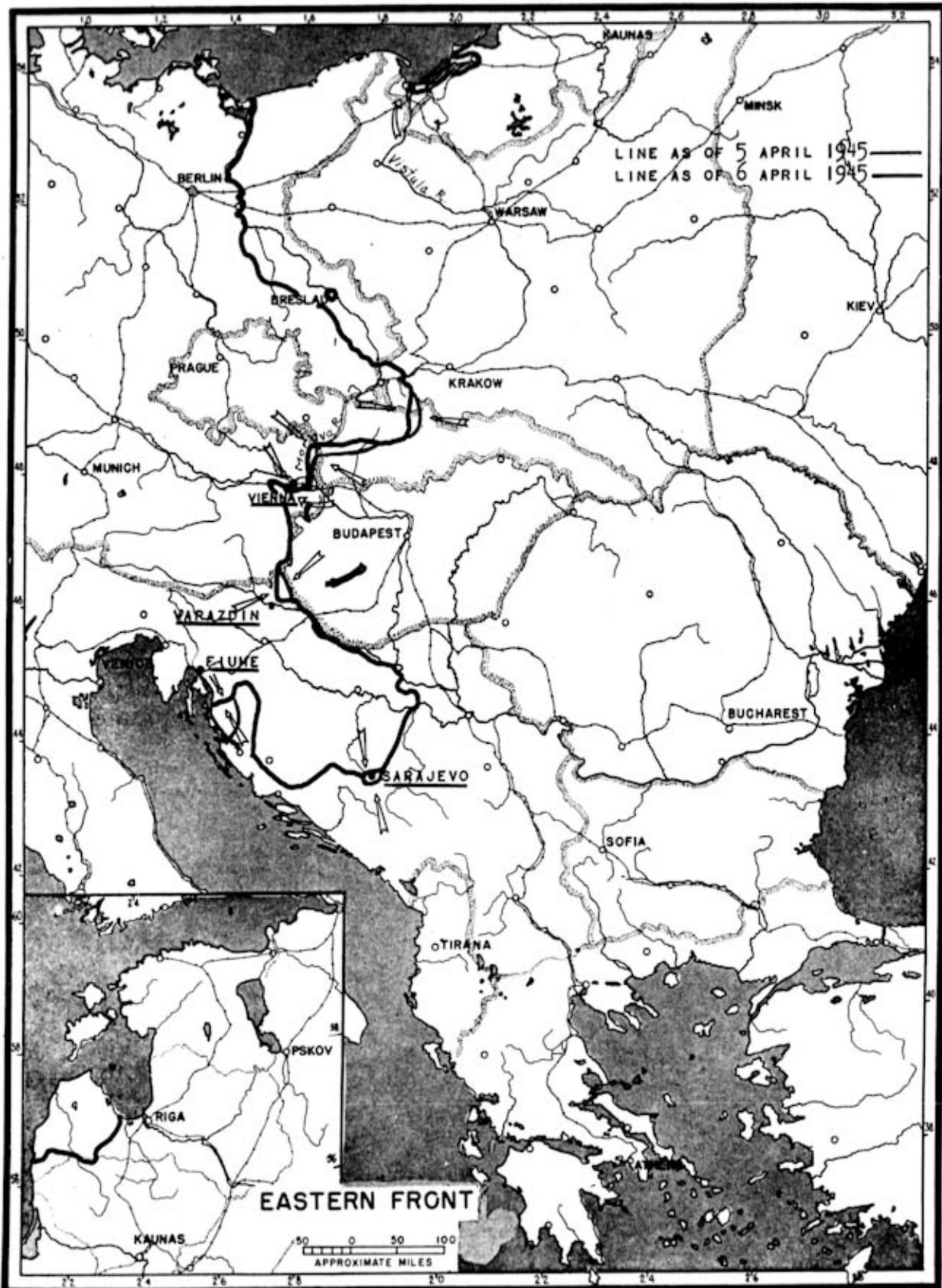
northwest of Guadalupe.

US forces captured a large supply dump at Guimbalaon on Negros. The reduction of Concepcion was completed and northern flank patrols pushed to Tanza and Alicante.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

5 April. Eighteen 7th Air Force B-24's bombed harbor facilities and other targets in the Truk area.

On Okinawa, US Marines continued their attack to the north and pushed patrols to Kochiya on the east coast and to Chuda on the west coast. Other Marines landed on Yabuchi Shima near the Katchin Hanto peninsula. On the southern front, supported by surface vessels and carrier aircraft, the XXIV Army Corps continued its attack to the south. Up to noon no reports had been received as to progress.



EASTERN FRONT

6 April. Soviets continued to reduce German positions at the mouth of the Vistula. In Slovakia they made general advances reaching the Morava River on a broad front. Gains were also made southeast of Vienna. In Yugoslavia, Russian units advanced to within two miles of Varazdin while Partisans captured Sarajevo and made further gains southeast of Fiume.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1213

0700 April 5 to 0700 April 6, 1945

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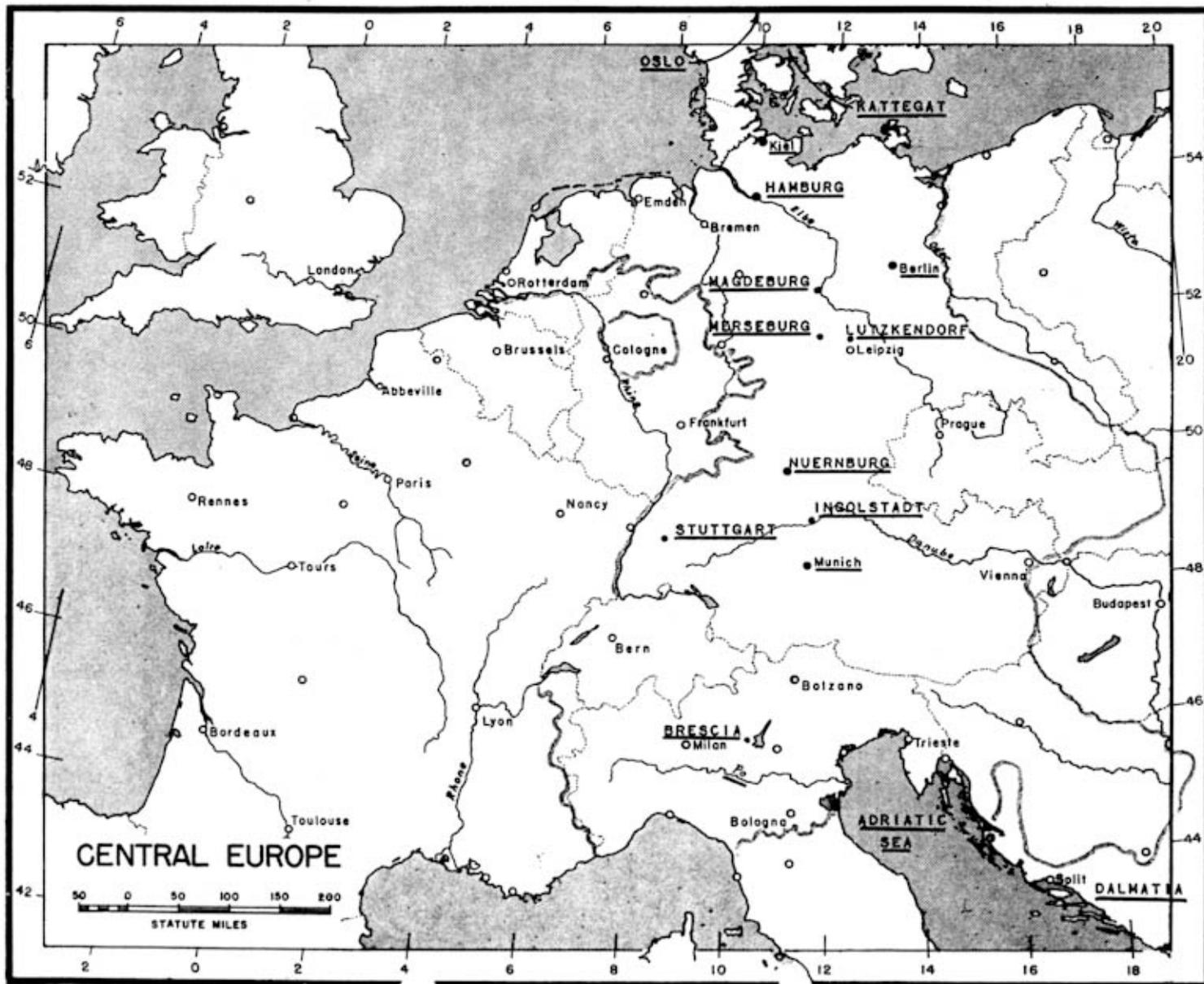
THE WHITE HOUSE

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EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

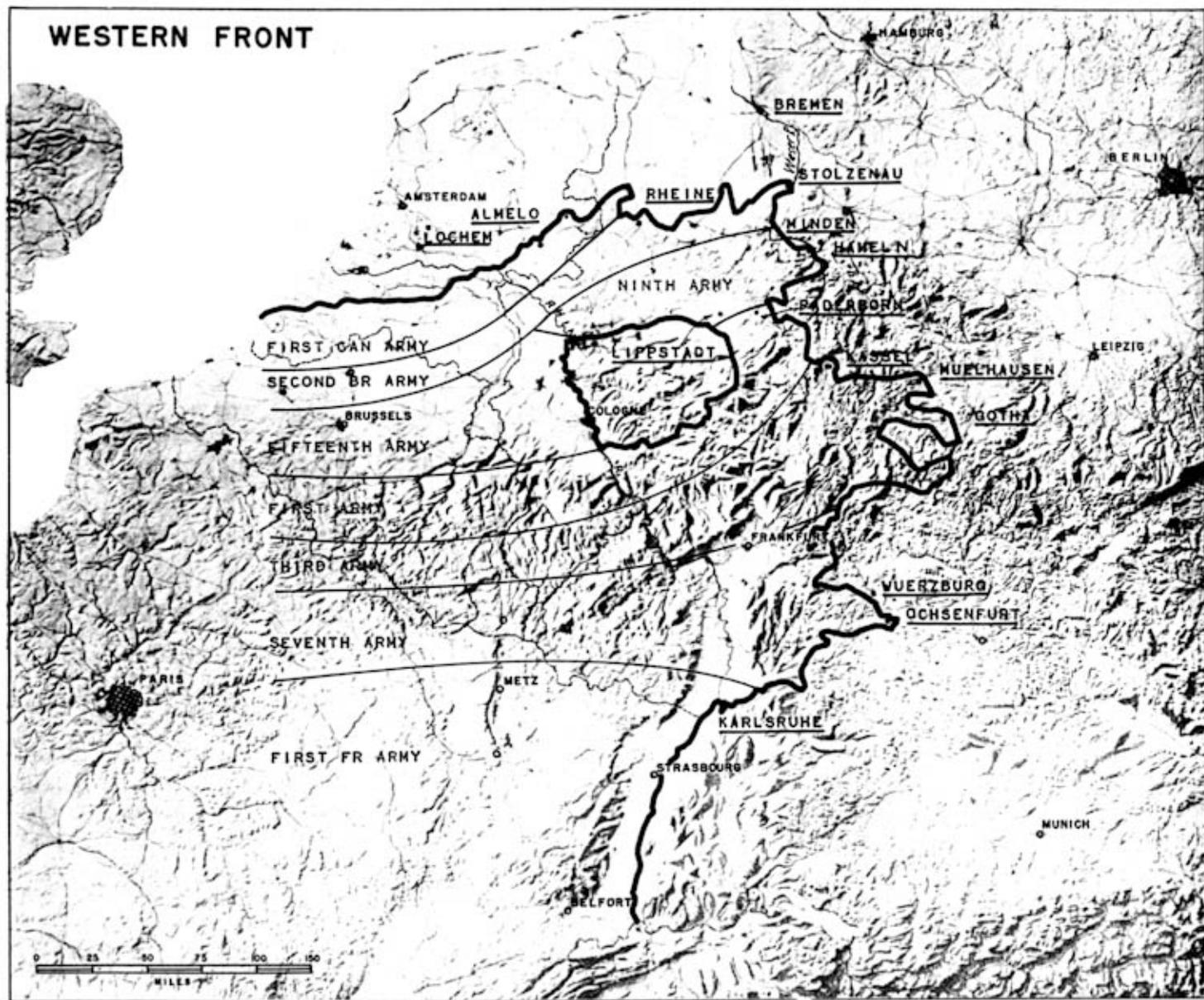
4 April. Attacking at night, 898 RAF heavy bombers, accompanied by 45 Mosquitoes, hit the German synthetic oil industry at Merseburg, Hamburg and Lutzkendorf. Thirteen heavy bombers are missing. Twenty-six Lancasters mined Oslo harbor and the Kattegat. Three are missing. Berlin was raided in a second attack by 35 Mosquitoes; 31 others made a feint attack on Magdeburg. Two Mosquitoes are missing.

Seventy-five Mediterranean Strategic RAF heavy bombers struck the Brescia railyard at night. Two bombers were lost by collision.

5 April. Airdromes and rail targets in north central Italy and rail bridges in northern Yugoslavia were attacked by 640 escorted 15th Air Force heavy bombers. Fifteen enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost one bomber and three fighters.

Targets in the Nuernberg-Munich area, including the ordnance depot at Ingolstadt, were attacked by 1,361 escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers. Eight German aircraft were destroyed; twenty-one of our bombers and six fighters are missing.

WESTERN FRONT



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EUROPEAN THEATER

4 April. During the 24-hour period ending at sunset, the Tactical Air Force flew 3,633 sorties and dropped 998 tons of bombs. Medium bombers attacked oil storage areas, barracks, marshalling yards, supply dumps and communications in the Stuttgart-Nuernberg area. Fighters and fighter bombers supported our ground forces throughout the battle area. Thirty-three enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost 20 planes.

5 April. By noon, infantry units of the Canadian First Army had driven a bridgehead north of the Twente Canal to a depth of three miles on a six-mile base west of Lochem. Armored units captured Almelo after an average advance of five miles.

On the Second British Army front infantry units pushed three miles northeast of Rheine. An armored column, driving north towards Bremen, advanced 15 miles to place its leading elements 40 miles southwest of that town. Other armored columns pushed 30 miles to the east, reaching Stolzenau and the Weser River in that area. To the south, a parallel infantry column advanced 13 miles to capture Minden; the bridge across the Weser at this point has been blown by the retreating Germans.

The US Ninth Army reverted to command of the Twelfth Army Group from the Twenty-first Army Group.

On 5 April, the XIX Corps of this army contacted the British at Minden. To the south the XIX Corps advanced 25 miles, reached Hameln, and crossed

the Weser below that town. Infantry units, driving south against the Ruhr pocket, gained an average of five miles along a 40-mile front southwest of Lippstadt.

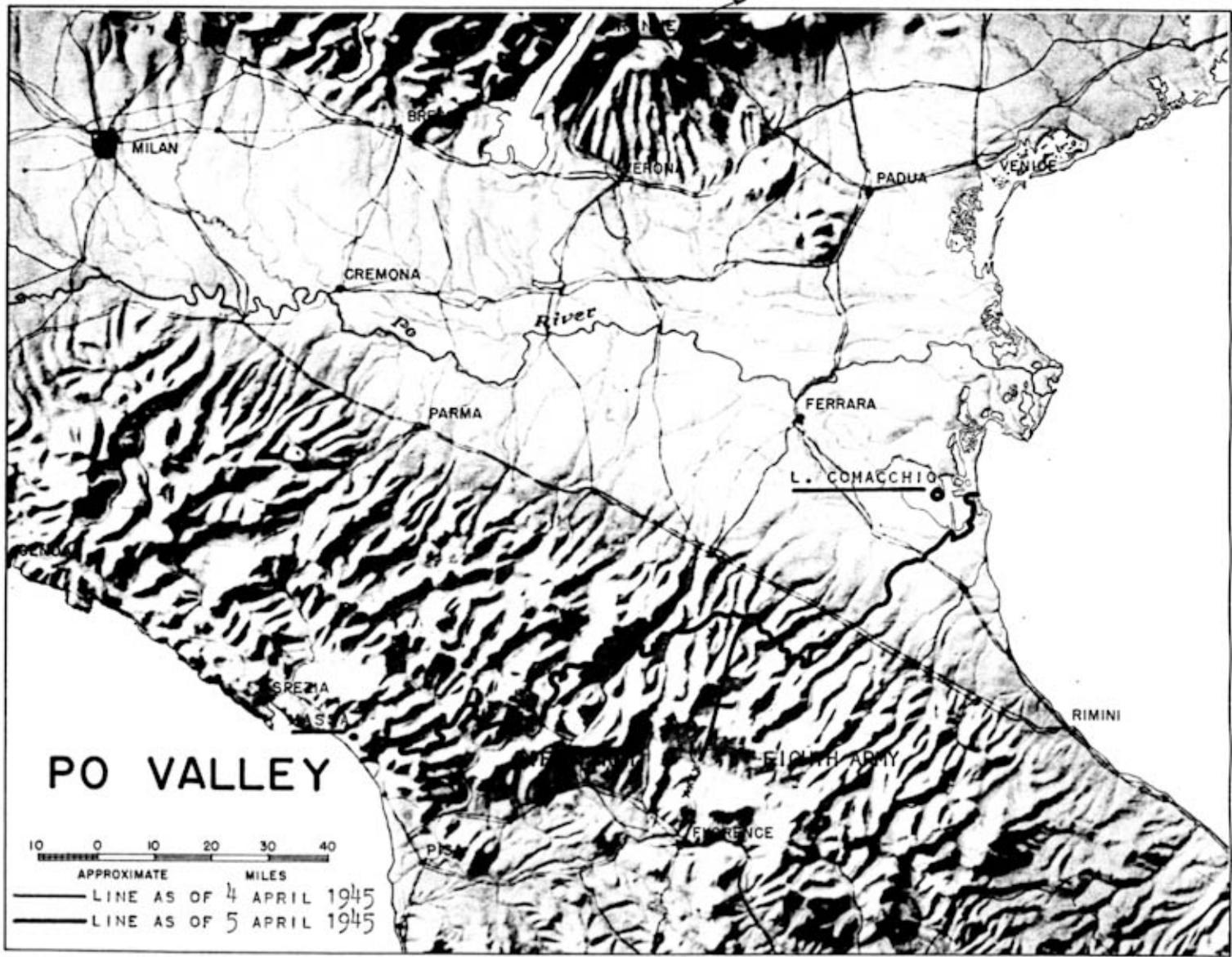
Southeast of Paderborn VII Corps armor of our First Army advanced an average of three miles along a 13-mile front.

The Third Army completed the reduction of Kassel and pushed two miles to the north. Armor, driving westward, captured Muelhausen. The VIII Corps advanced an average of two miles along a ten-mile front, capturing Gotha.

A late communique reports that our Seventh Army is engaged in heavy fighting at Wuerzburg; most of the city has been cleared. Our armor and infantry made substantial gains northeast and southeast of Ochsenfurt. French troops captured Karlsruhe and reached the Neckar river, 30 miles to the east.

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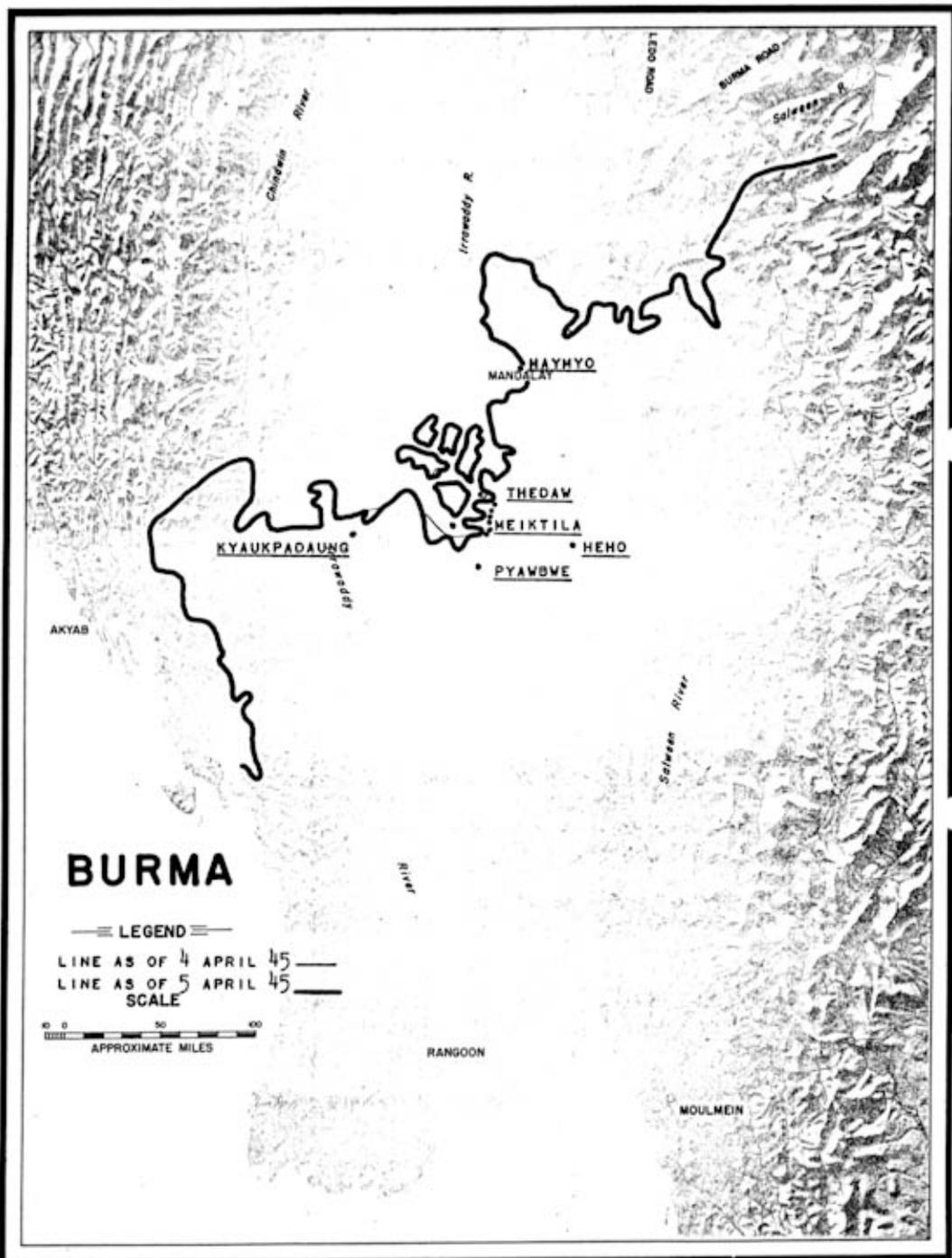
PO VALLEY

10 0 10 20 30 40
APPROXIMATE MILES
— LINE AS OF 4 APRIL 1945
— LINE AS OF 5 APRIL 1945

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

4 April. During the 24-hour period ending at 1800, the Tactical Air Force flew 1,033 sorties. One hundred ninety-four medium bombers attacked industrial plants and rail targets in north central Italy and along the Brenner Route. Rail movements and enemy storage areas in the Po Valley were strafed and bombed by 750 fighters and fighter bombers. The Coastal and Balkan Air Forces, flying 168 sorties, attacked shipping in the Adriatic, transportation in the Po Valley, and enemy defenses in northern Yugoslavia and along the Dalmatian Coast. During all these operations we lost seven planes.

5 April. In the Adriatic sector of the British Eighth Army, Allied troops occupied four small islands in Lake Comacchio. On the US Fifth Army front, Japanese and Negro units of our IV Corps launched an attack against mountain positions southeast of Massa; by noon they had scored an advance of about one mile along a four-mile front.

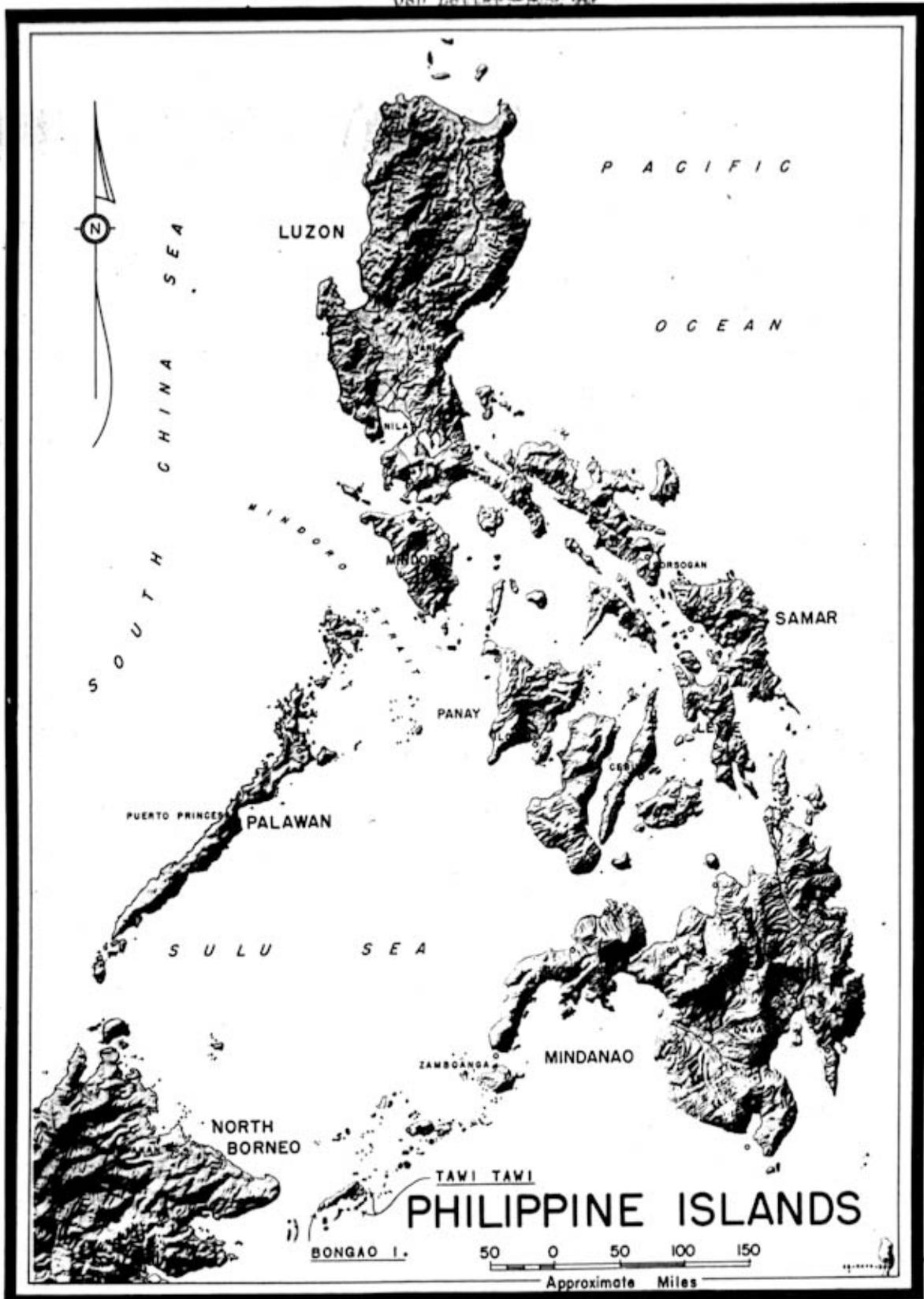


ASIATIC THEATER

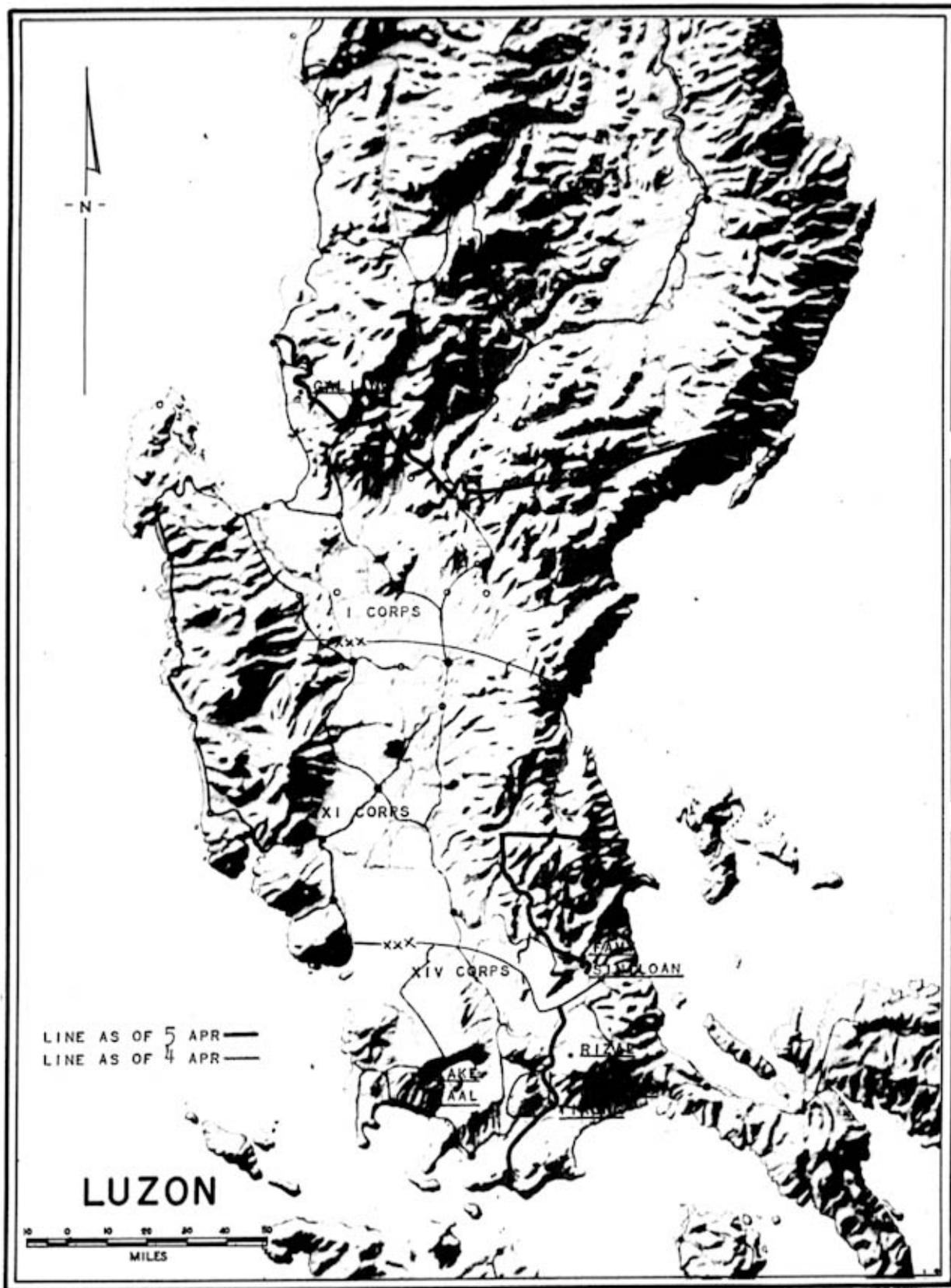
3 April. During the past 24 hours, the Eastern Air Command flew 1,373 sorties; 499 of these were offensive. Eighteen B-24's again bombed the Burma-Siam rail line. Medium bombers hit supply dumps and bridges in the Heho area, while fighter bombers and fighters swept central Burma and supported our ground forces on all fronts.

The 14th Air Force flew some 65 offensive sorties. Five heavy bombers swept the Gulf of Tongking, while medium bombers and fighters concentrated on river traffic, dock installations and bridges in southern China.

4 April. Allied units, pushing southwest astride the old Burma Road, gained three miles during the day to place leading elements within 29 miles of Maymyo. British troops driving east from Thedaw advanced four miles. Indian forces scored advances on all sides of the Meiktila salient. Units moving south on the Pyawbwe road were 14 miles northwest of that town. British forces, moving southwest to Kyaukpadaung, advanced three miles during the day. There were no other significant changes on the Burma battle fronts.



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LINE AS OF 5 APR —
LINE AS OF 4 APR - - -

LUZON

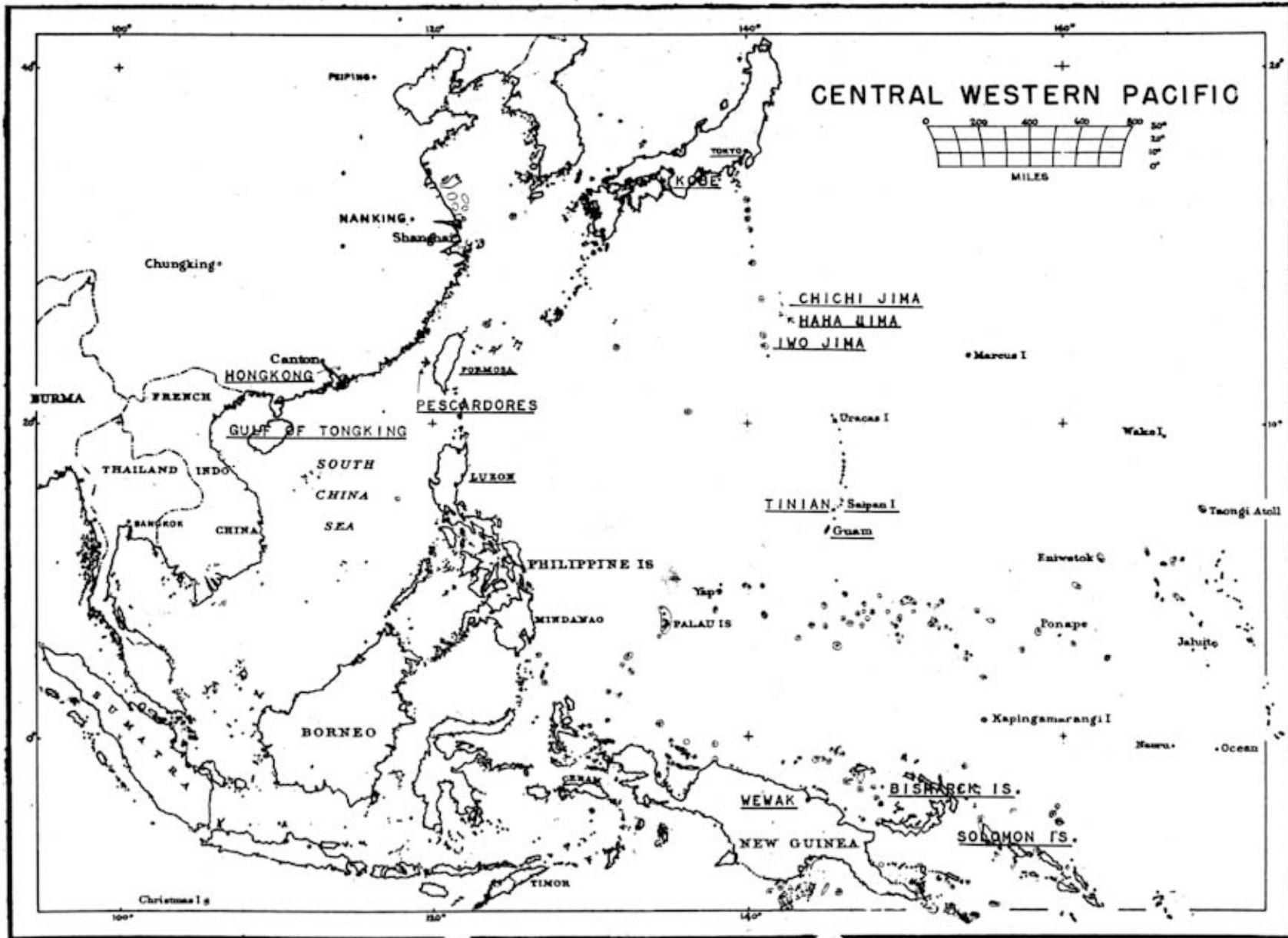
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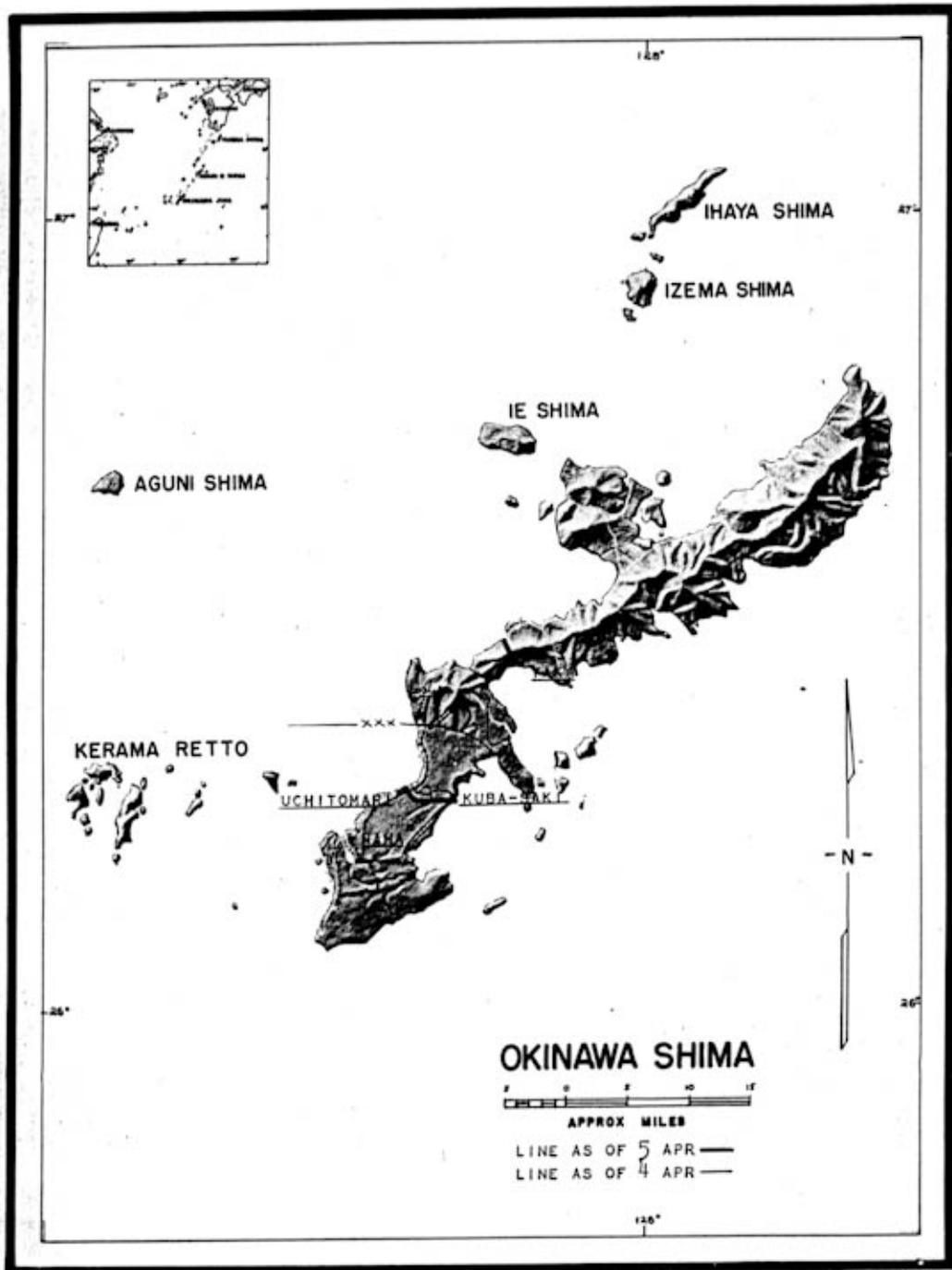
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PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

31 March-1 April. During this two-day period, the 7th Air Force reported 95 sorties against Japanese positions on Chichi Jima and Haha Jima and night patrols over Iwo Jima and Tinian. We lost two planes.

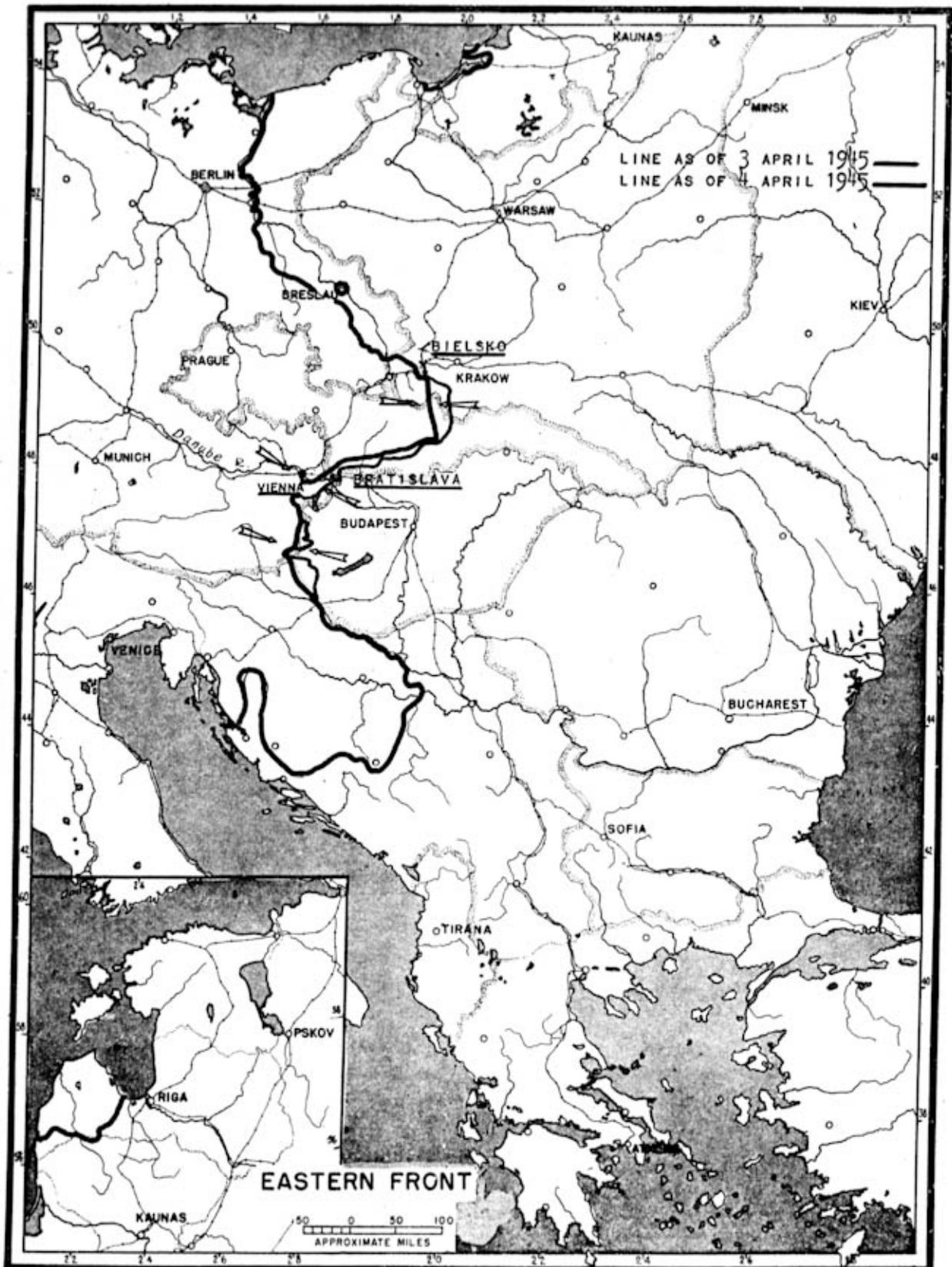
1 April. Two B-29's, on individual night weather missions, bombed Tokyo and Kobe; one enemy plane was shot down.

3 April. Our Ryukyu campaign casualties to 2400 are:

	<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>TOT</u>
Marine	42	128	0	170
Army	<u>95</u>	<u>432</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>535</u>
	137	560	8	705

4 April. On Okinawa, 1st Marine Division units, advancing north against spotty resistance, made gains up to four miles on a two-mile front. We now control the east coast from Yaka to Kuba-Saki. On the southern front, the XXIV Army Corps gained a mile along a five-mile front and now holds a line from Uchitomari to Kuba-Saki. Leading elements were four and one-half miles northeast of the island capital of Naha. On both the northern and southern fronts our lines extend completely across the island.

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EASTERN FRONT

5 April. In northwestern Slovakia, an average gain of eight miles was made on the 130-mile front between Bratislava and Brezno by the Red Armies. Street fighting was reported in the southern suburbs of Vienna and the Soviets have cut the Vienna-Linz railroad west of the city.

TOP SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1212

0700 April 4 to 0700 April 5, 1945

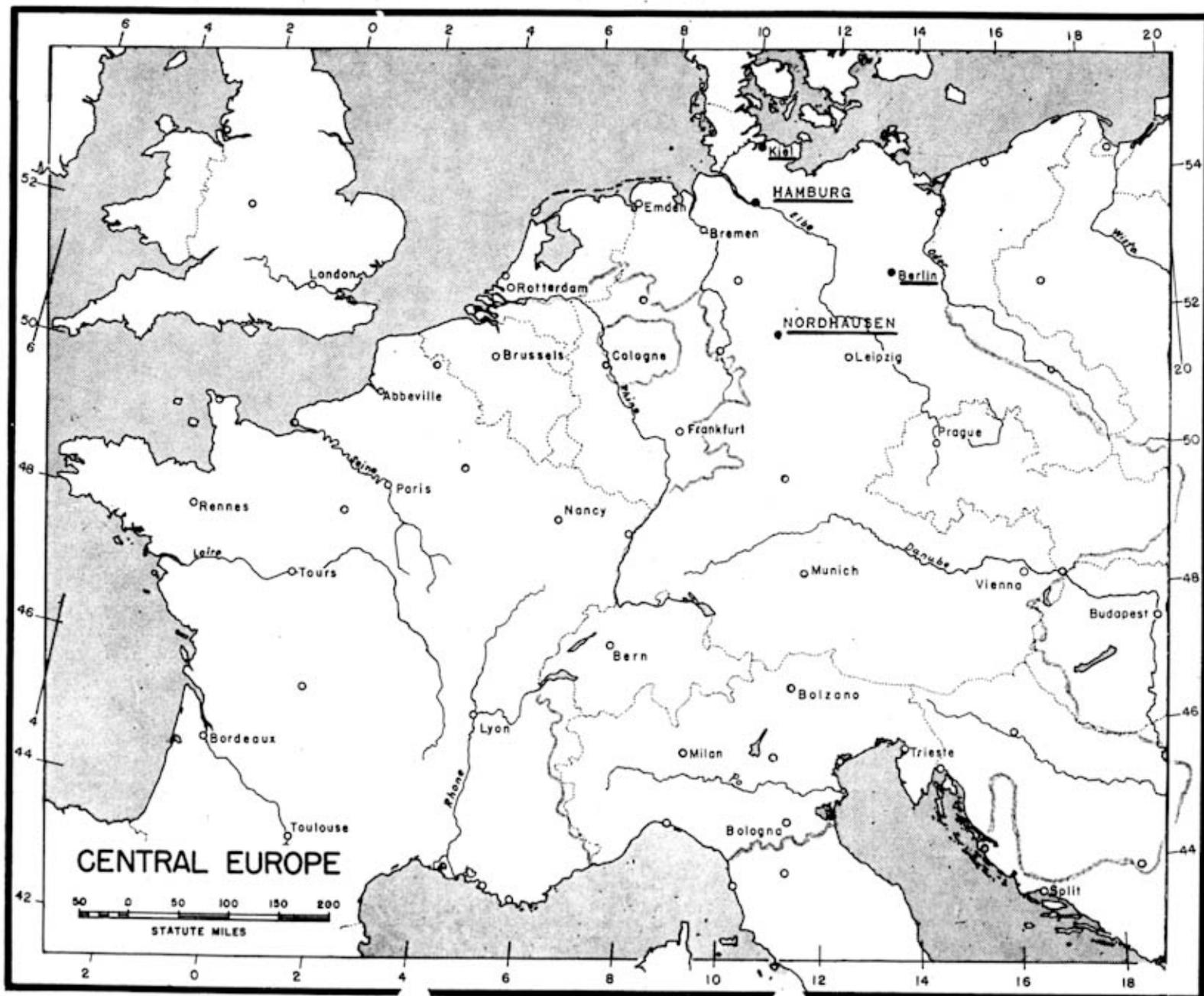
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THE WHITE HOUSE

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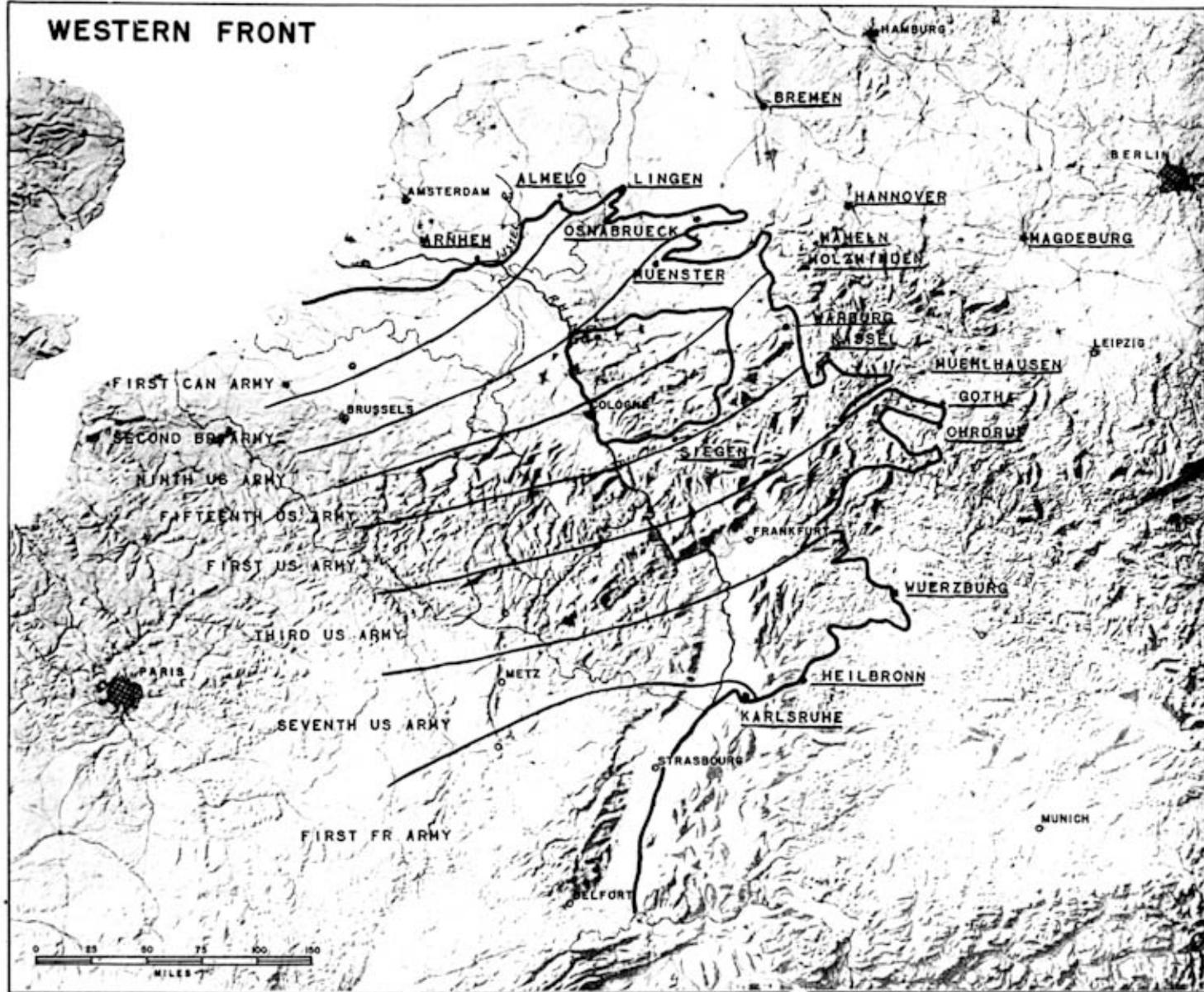
EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

3 April. Troop concentrations at Nordhausen were the target for 247 heavy RAF bombers and eight Mosquitoes. That night, Berlin was attacked by 90 Mosquitoes; 13 others made widespread attacks in north central Germany. Two heavy bombers and one Mosquito are missing.

4 April. Widespread targets in the Kiel-Hamburg area and in northwestern Germany were attacked by 1,433 8th Air Force heavy bombers. Ten enemy planes were shot down. We lost nine bombers and three fighters. Eleven other fighters have not yet returned.

Weather cancelled 15th Air Force heavy bomber operations, but 99 fighters strafed rail movements and other targets in southern Germany and Austria. Five enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost one fighter.

WESTERN FRONT



TOP SECRET

OSD Letter, 5-3-78

EUROPEAN THEATER

3 April. The Tactical Air Forces flew 1,961 sorties and dropped 534 tons of bombs. Most fighter and fighter bomber activities were curtailed due to weather. The principal targets for medium bombers were railyards at Hameln and Holzminden. Transportation in the Bremen and Magdeburg areas and in Holland was also attacked. Ten enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost 11.

4 April. During the 24-hour period ending at 0600, no rockets or flying bombs fell in England.

By noon, Canadian First Army troops had pushed ahead some five miles along a 30-mile front to place their left flank along the lower Rhine just south of Arnhem; other units were all along the Ijssel. On the right, the Canadians were two miles south of Almelo.

On the British Second Army front, Lingen was captured while other forces broadened the southern shoulder of the salient in this area. British armored units advanced 25 miles east of Osnabrueck to place leading elements 50 miles south of Bremen and 40 miles west of Hannover.

Ninth Army troops averaged an eight-mile gain along a 25-mile front northeast of Muenster.

Principal action on our First Army front continued to be the reduction of German forces trapped in the Ruhr. In the southeastern

corner of the pocket, infantry units driving northwest scored advances of about ten miles along a 15-mile front. Numerous counterattacks were thrown back northwest of Siegen. Northwest of Warburg limited gains were scored by V Corps armor.

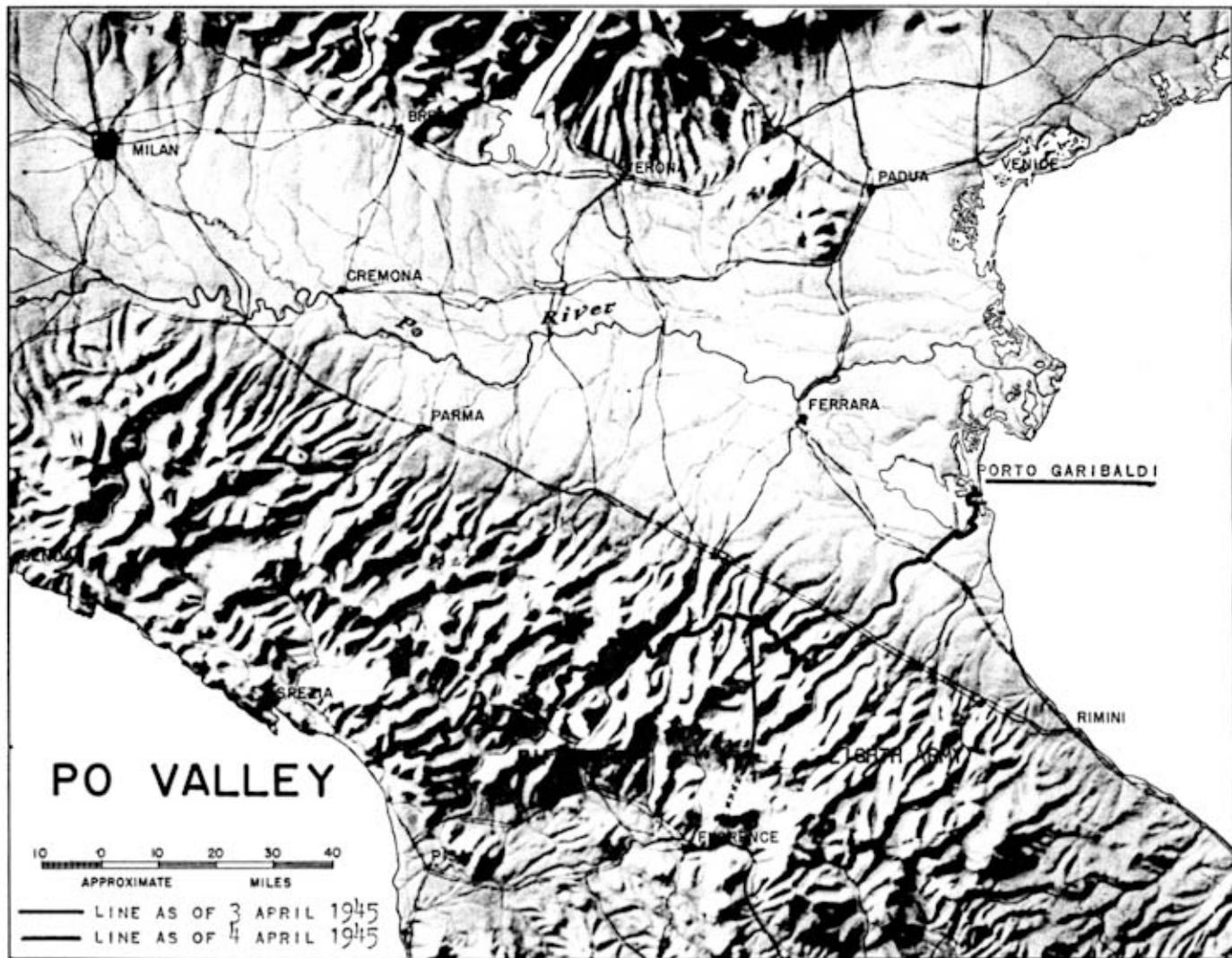
On the US Third Army front, with infantry elements heavily engaged around Kassel, armored columns to the east drove to within six miles of Muehlhausen. A parallel column moving east astride the superhighway advanced 27 miles with leading elements in Gotha and Ohrdruf. Another column to the south was within ten miles of a juncture with our forces at Ohrdruf.

The Seventh Army gained seven miles northwest of Wuerzburg and drove south for two-mile gains along a 20-mile front northwest of Heilbronn.

First French Army troops are now fighting in Karlsruhe.

A late communique reports that Muenster, Kassel and Karlsruhe are in our hands and that 28,817 prisoners were taken on 3 April.

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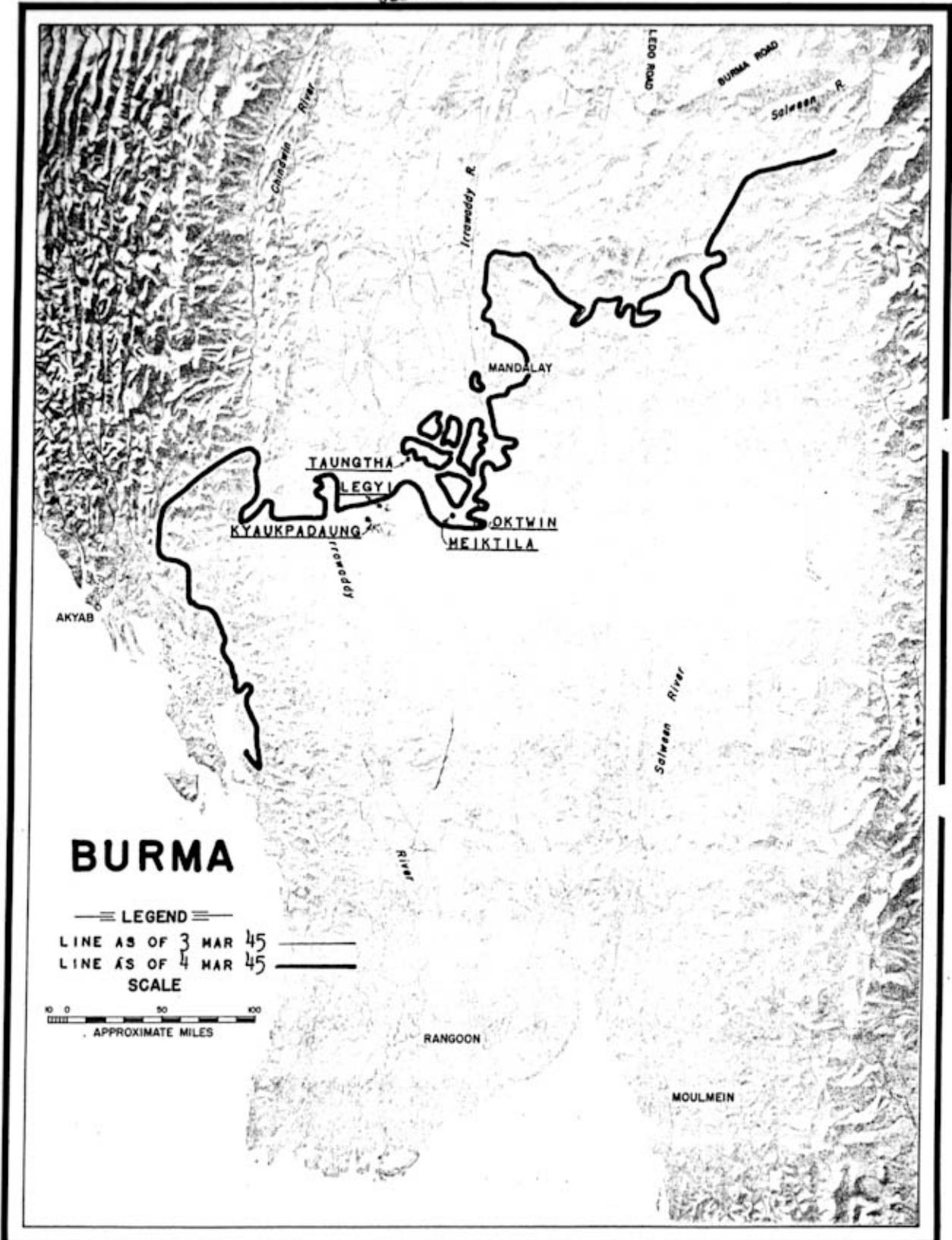


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MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

3 April. Although restricted by weather, the Mediterranean Tactical Air Force flew 743 offensive sorties. Medium bombers were limited to small-scale attacks against bridges in the central Po Valley, but fighters and fighter bombers hit communications and transport in southern Austria, northern Italy and Yugoslavia. The Balkan Air Force flew 175 sorties against rail and road targets in northern Yugoslavia. The Coastal Air Force reported only 44 sorties, principally on search missions in the northern Adriatic. During all these operations one enemy plane was destroyed; we lost seven.

4 April. On the right flank of the British Eighth Army, Allied troops advanced northward to the outskirts of Porto Garibaldi. There were no significant changes elsewhere on the trans-Italian battle line.

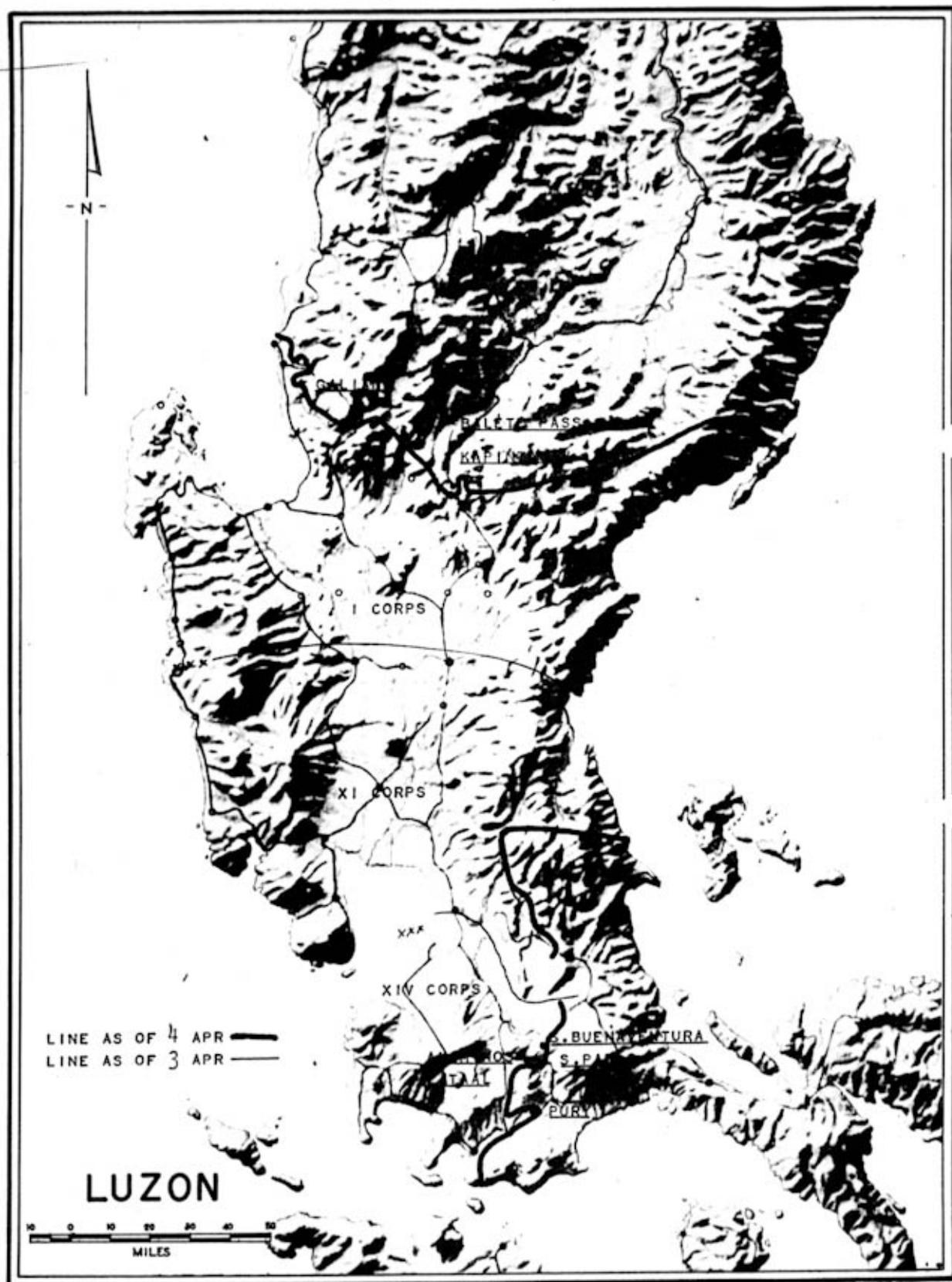


ASIATIC THEATER

2 April. The Eastern Air Command flew 1,928 sorties of which 691 were offensive. Forty RAF Liberators attacked rail installations northeast of Bangkok; others mined Port Swettenham. Medium bombers and fighters attacked river shipping, troop concentrations, and supply areas throughout central and southern Burma and supported our ground forces in all sectors. Twenty-four fighters swept two Thailand airfields destroying one Japanese plane.

The 14th Air Force reported 105 sorties against Japanese targets in central and southern China and in French Indo-China. Four B-24's mined the Yangtze River.

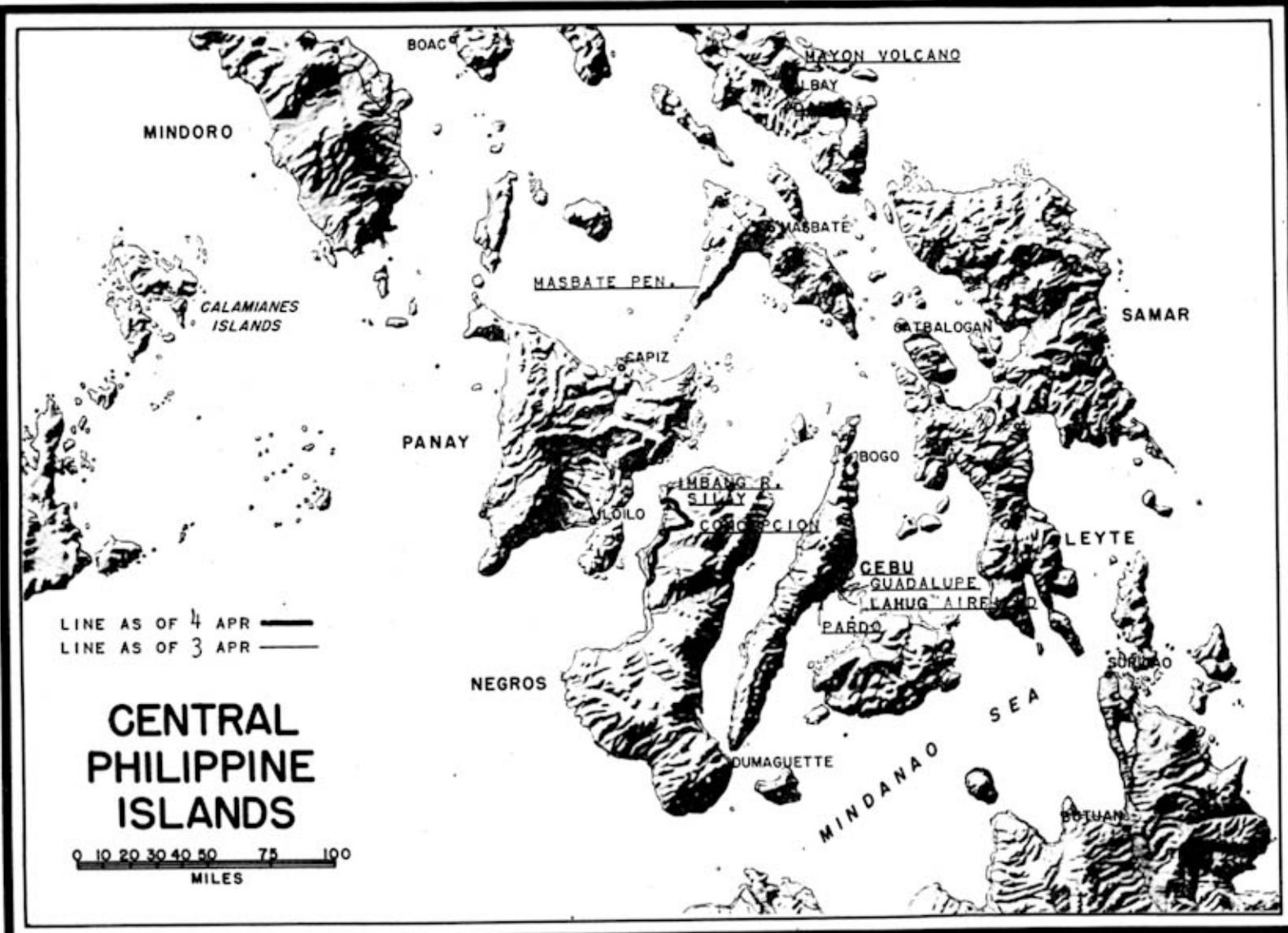
3 April. In the Meiktila area, British units advancing east were at Oktwin. Patrols moving down the Taungtha-Kyaukpadaung road encountered Japanese units at Legyi. On other Burma sectors only patrolling and mopping up operations were reported.



LUZON

TOP SECRET

Official Letter, S-2-78



LINE AS OF 4 APR —
LINE AS OF 3 APR - - -

CENTRAL PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

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MILES

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

1 - 2 April. During this period Southwest Pacific planes flew 107 previously unreported sorties. Gun positions and air installations in the Bismarcks and Solomons were attacked by 99 aircraft. Six B-24's attacked shipyards at Sandakan, Borneo, and sank two coastal vessels off the coast.

3 April. Out of 720 sorties flown, 284 were against supply areas and enemy concentrations on Luzon. Heavy bombers struck Hongkong dockyards, an airdrome on Formosa and the Wewak area on New Guinea. Three freighters were sunk and three enemy aircraft shot down. We lost three planes.

On northern Luzon, the I Corps made some progress east of Galiano. In the Balete Pass area we made limited advances east and northeast of Kapintalan but withdrew slightly from the northwest due to the difficult terrain. East of Lake Taal, cavalrymen of the XIV Corps cleared the Alaminos-San Pablo highway. San Buenaventura, north of San Pablo, has been captured. Farther south, we advanced as far as Pury, with patrols reaching Tiaong. In southern Luzon, some gains were made west of Daraga against heavy resistance. Patrols reconnoitered towards the Mayon Volcano.

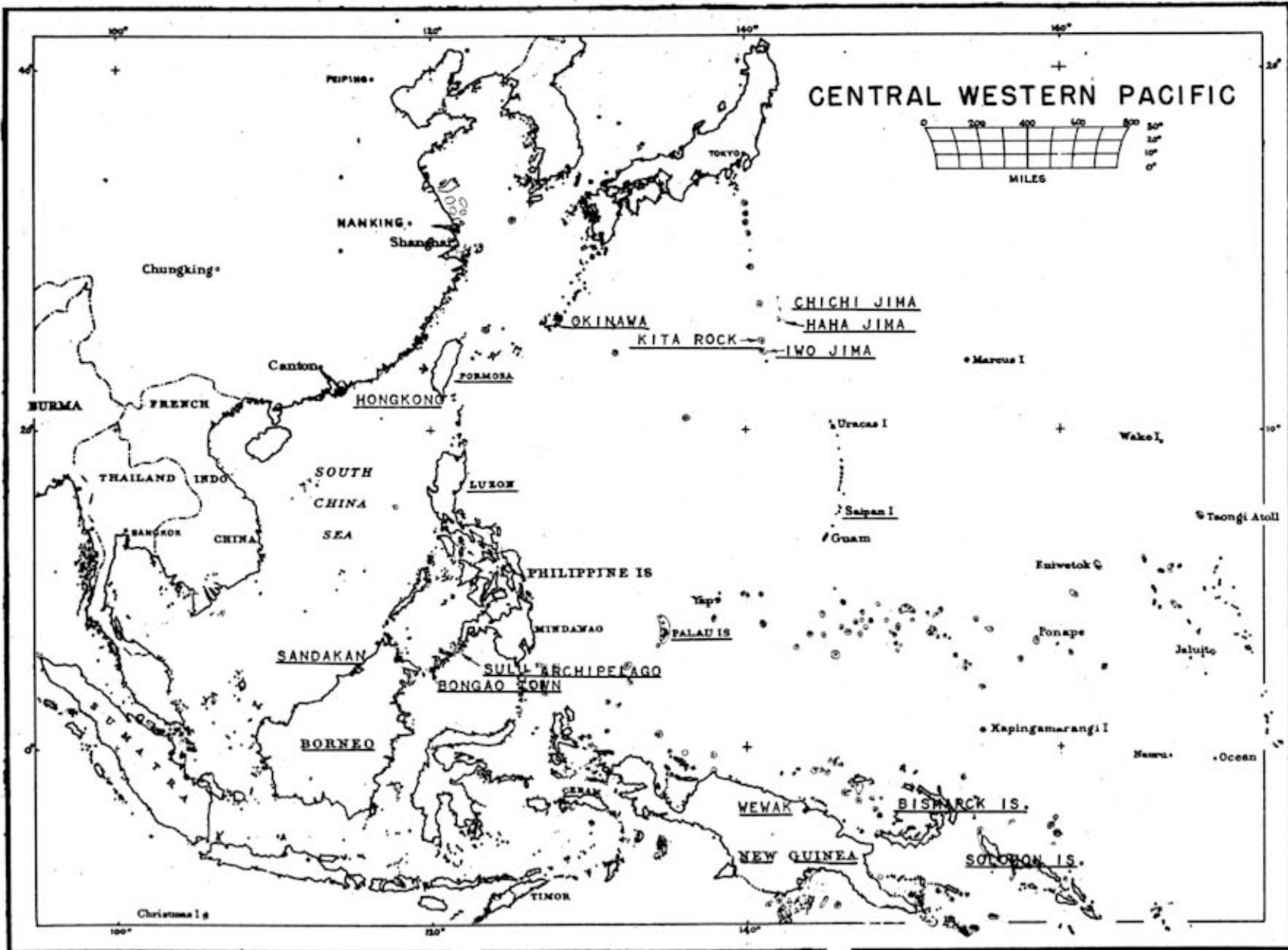
On Cebu, we made small advances northwest of Pardo. Heavy resistance continued north of Lahug airfield and Guadalupe.

Our forces on Negros advanced north, secured Silay and reached the Imbang River mouth. Other units advancing inland were at the western edge of Concepcion.

In the Sulu Archipelago, Bongao town was captured.

Elements of an Infantry Regimental Combat Team have secured Masbate Peninsula.

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TOP SECRET



PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

29 March. One hundred sixty-six sorties were reported by Pacific Ocean Area aircraft on night patrols over Saipan and Iwo Jima, and bombing attacks on Chichi Jima, Haha Jima and Kita Rock.

2 April. Yontan and Kadena airfields on Okinawa are in use by observation planes. Kadena is open for emergency landings.

Marine fighters raided the Palaus.

3 April. Forty-one fighters destroyed four ammunition dumps, a bridge and a storage area in the Palaus.

On Okinawa the III Marine Division scored advances up to four miles and reached the outskirts of Ishicha and Gushikawa on the eastern coast of the island. A late communique indicates that we have completely cleared the waist of the island in this sector. Marines are now driving northward.

The XXIV Army Corps, pushing south on Naha and its adjacent airfields, scored advances of about four miles during the day with the front line extending from Kuba-saki on the east coast to Chiyunna on the west coast. Late communique places forward elements about four and one-half miles northeast of Naha.



EASTERN FRONT

4 April. The Red Army has cleared all Hungary of the Germans. In Austria, the Soviets are within four miles of Vienna and have advanced to the Danube on a broad front east of the city. Substantial gains were made along the front between Bielsko and Bratislava, which was captured during the day's advance.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1211

0700 April 3 to 0700 April 4, 1945

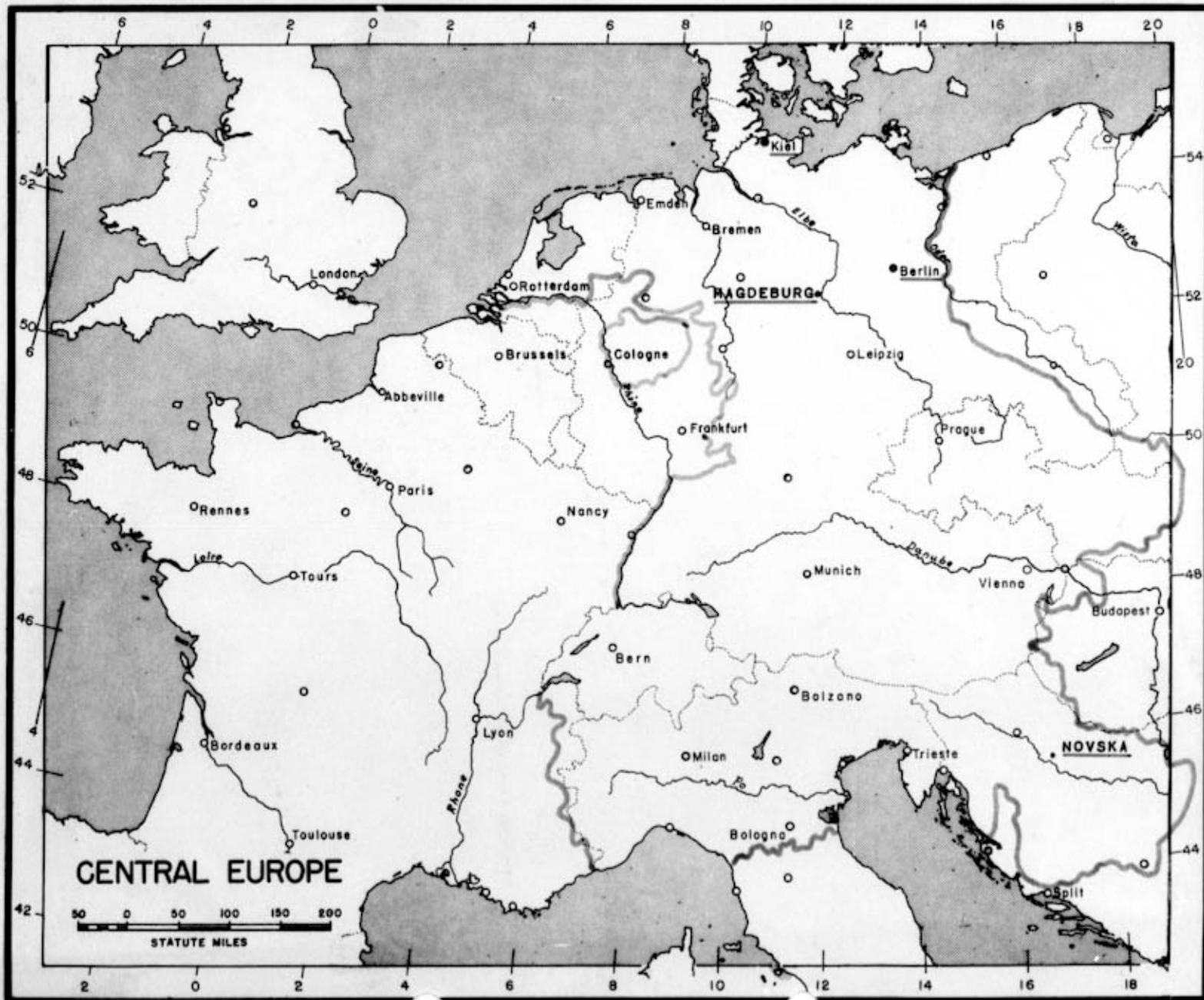
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THE WHITE HOUSE

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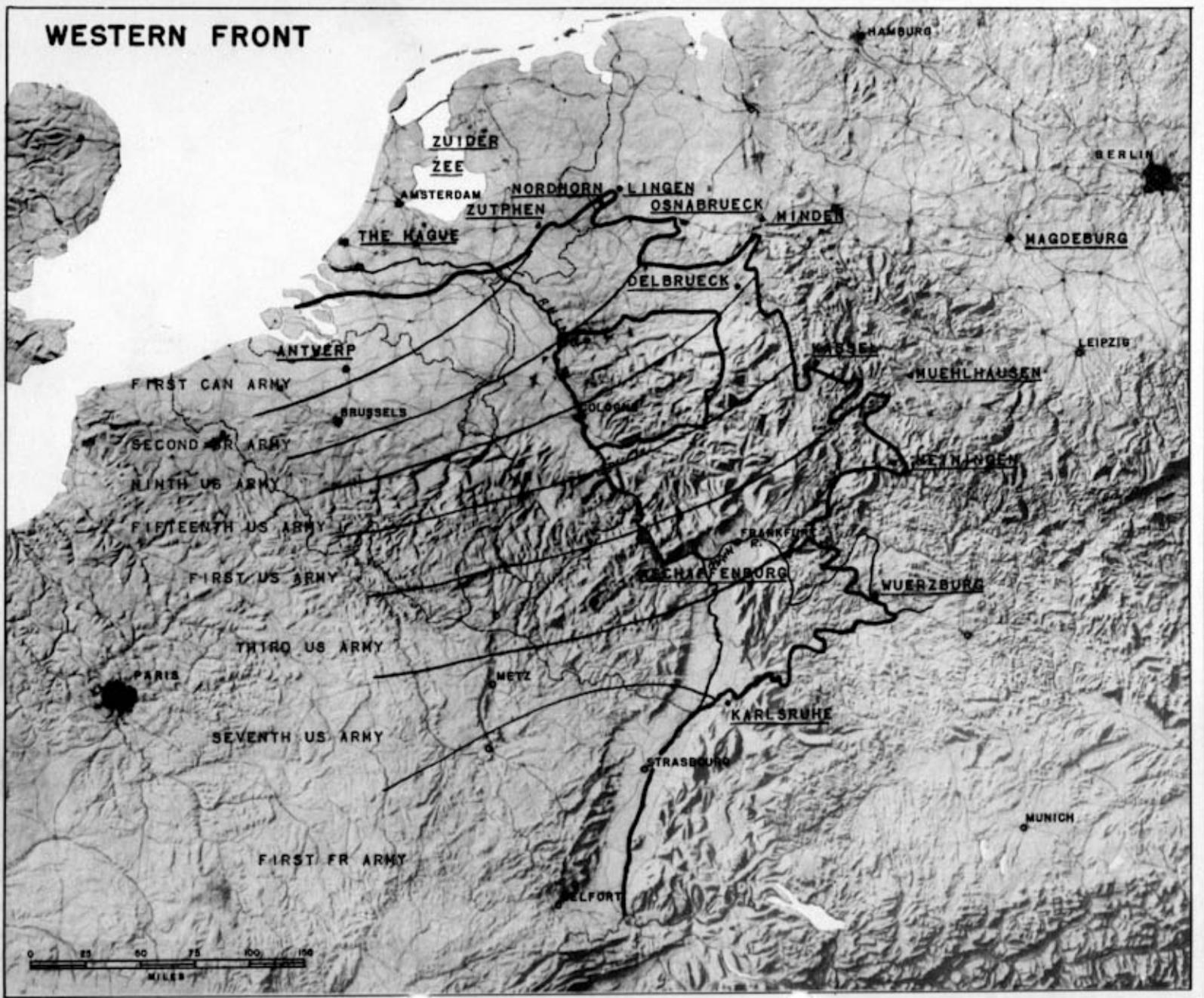
EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

2 April. At night, 54 Mosquitoes raided Berlin and 50 others attacked Magdeburg; ten others made widespread attacks over Germany.

3 April. The naval base at Kiel was the target for 752 escorted 8th Air Force heavy bombers. One bomber and four fighters are missing.

Weather prevented 15th Air Force heavy bomber operations during the day. At night 59 RAF Liberators bombed railyards at Novska, Yugoslavia. Two bombers are missing.

WESTERN FRONT



TOP SECRET

REF ID: A66157, 0-8-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

2 April. The Tactical Air Forces flew 1,574 sorties. Weather hampered our efforts, but 1,175 aircraft supported ground forces throughout western Germany. Rail targets near The Hague were attacked, and road traffic was strafed from Holland to Magdeburg. Twenty-two enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost eight planes.

During the 24-hour period ending at 0600, no rockets nor flying bombs fell in the Antwerp area.

3 April. Neither rockets nor flying bombs fell in England during the 24-hour period ending at 0600.

By noon leading elements of the Canadian First Army had scored gains up to five miles along a 40-mile front in the drive northwest toward the Zuider Zee. On the right flank they were just east of Zutphen.

The British Second Army maintained the tempo of its advance all along the Army front. Nordhorn was captured and advanced elements pushed to within two miles of Lingen. Farther east, they were fighting in the outskirts of Osnabrueck.

On our Ninth Army front, armored columns pushed 18 miles to the northeast and leading troops were seven miles south of Minden. Farther south, units of the XIX Corps scored advances of ten miles along an eight-mile front against increasing resistance. A German counterattack was repulsed east of Delbrueck.

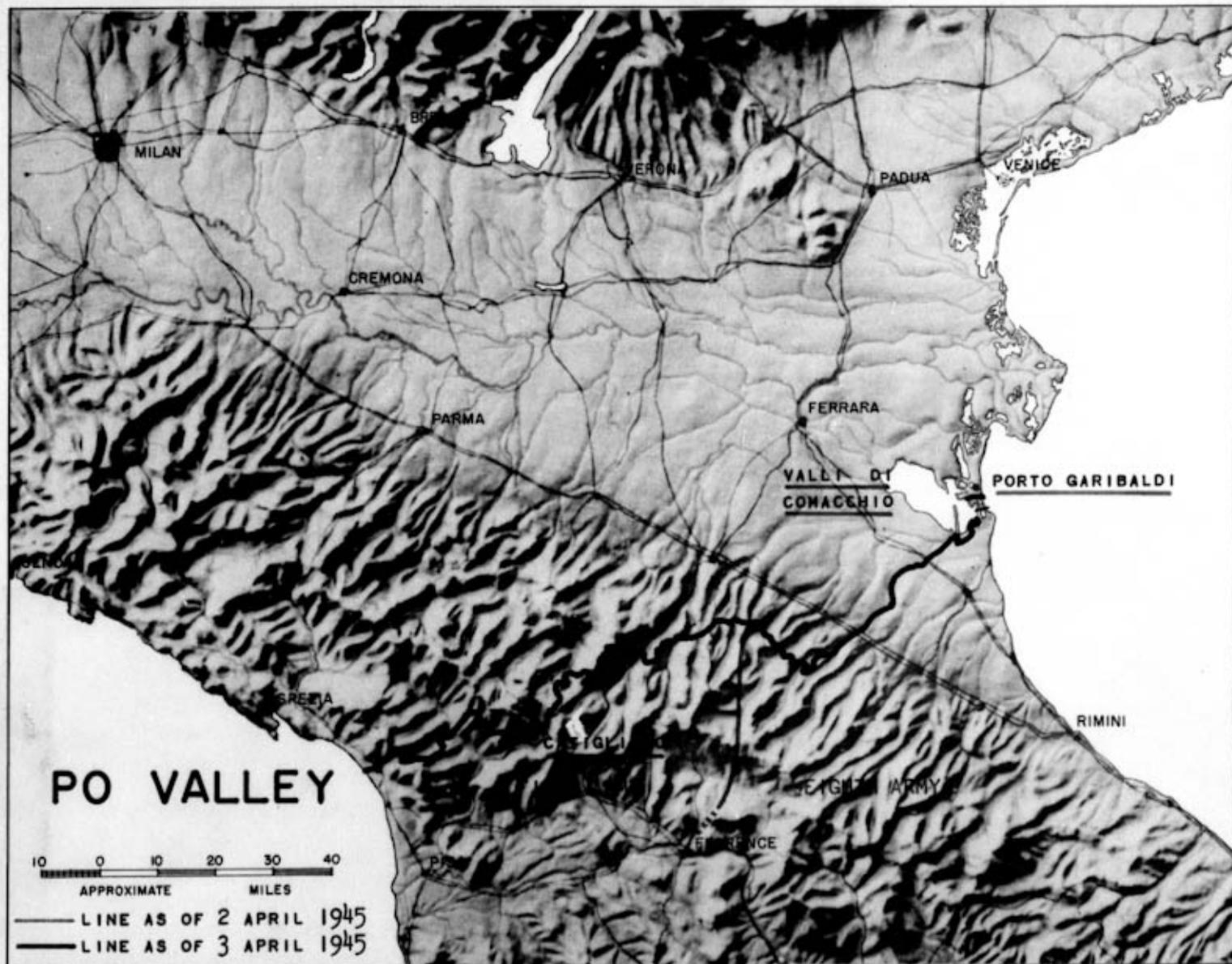
The US First Army continued to reduce German forces isolated in the Ruhr pocket.

On our Third Army front fighting continued in the southern outskirts of Kassel. To the southeast we scored gains of 20 miles and leading tank elements were 12 miles southwest of Muehlhausen. Armored columns on the southern flank captured Meiningen.

The US Seventh Army cleared three-quarters of Aschaffenburg and drove ten miles northeast along a 15-mile front. The Main River was crossed at Wuerzburg and also ten miles southeast of the city. According to a late communique we are along the Main River for some 20 miles north of Wuerzburg.

The French Army's drive on Karlsruhe carried to within two miles of the city.

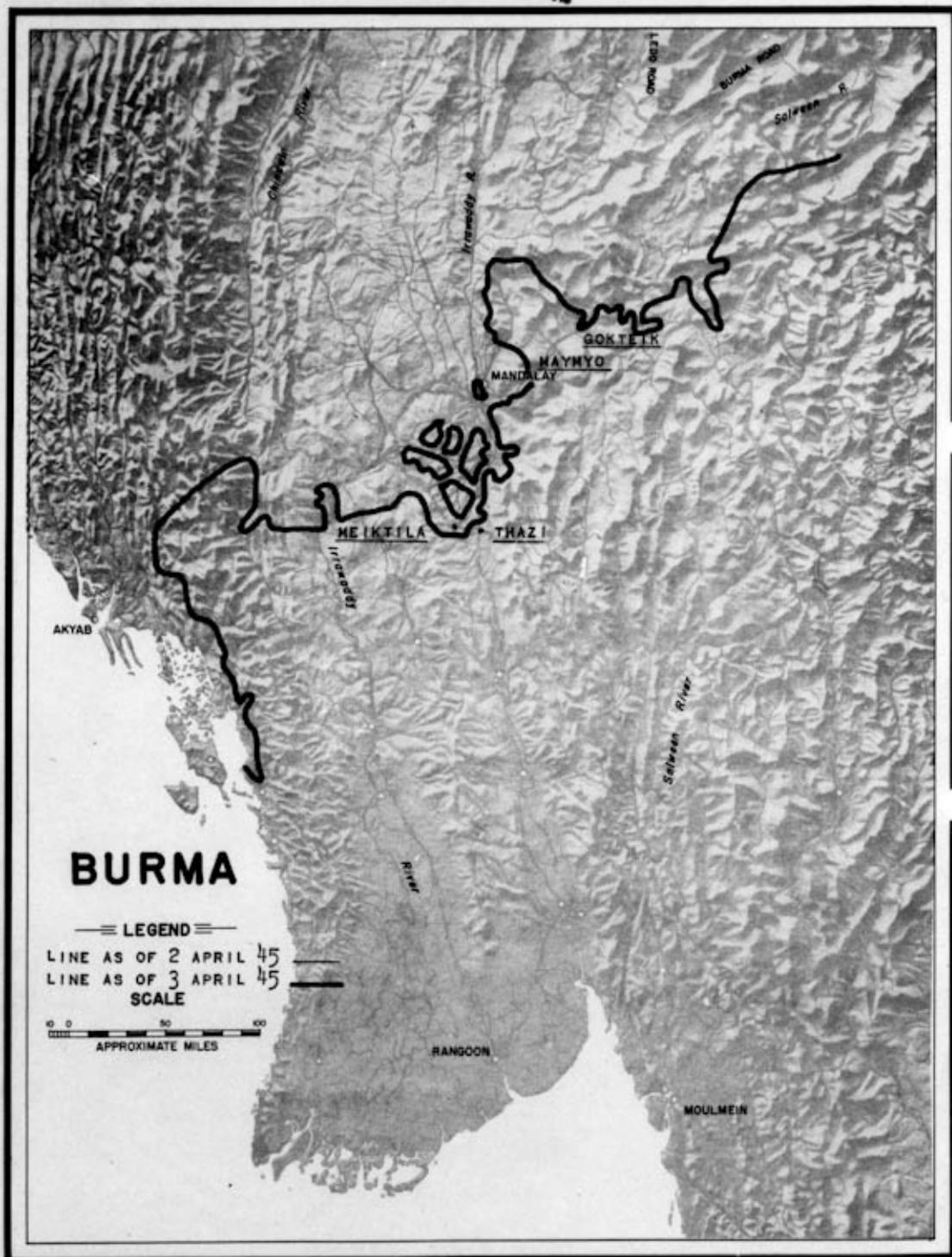
TOP SECRET



MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

2 April. The Tactical Air Force flew 1,397 sorties. One hundred twenty-six B-25's bombed bridges along the Brenner Route in northern Italy and Austria; escorting fighters shot down 13 of 36 enemy interceptors. More than 900 fighters continued to pound communications in northern Italy and supply dumps and enemy installations throughout the battle area. The Coastal Air Force, during 63 sorties, attacked shipping in the Adriatic and ammunition dumps and communications in northeastern Italy. The Balkan Air Force flew 136 sorties against enemy installations in Yugoslavia. During all these operations 15 enemy planes were destroyed; we lost eight.

3 April. British Eighth Army troops driving northward on the spit between Valli di Comacchio and the Adriatic were two miles south of Porto Garibaldi. On the Fifth Army front, Partisan forces west of Catigliano gained two miles to the northwest. There were no other changes on the Italian battlefield.

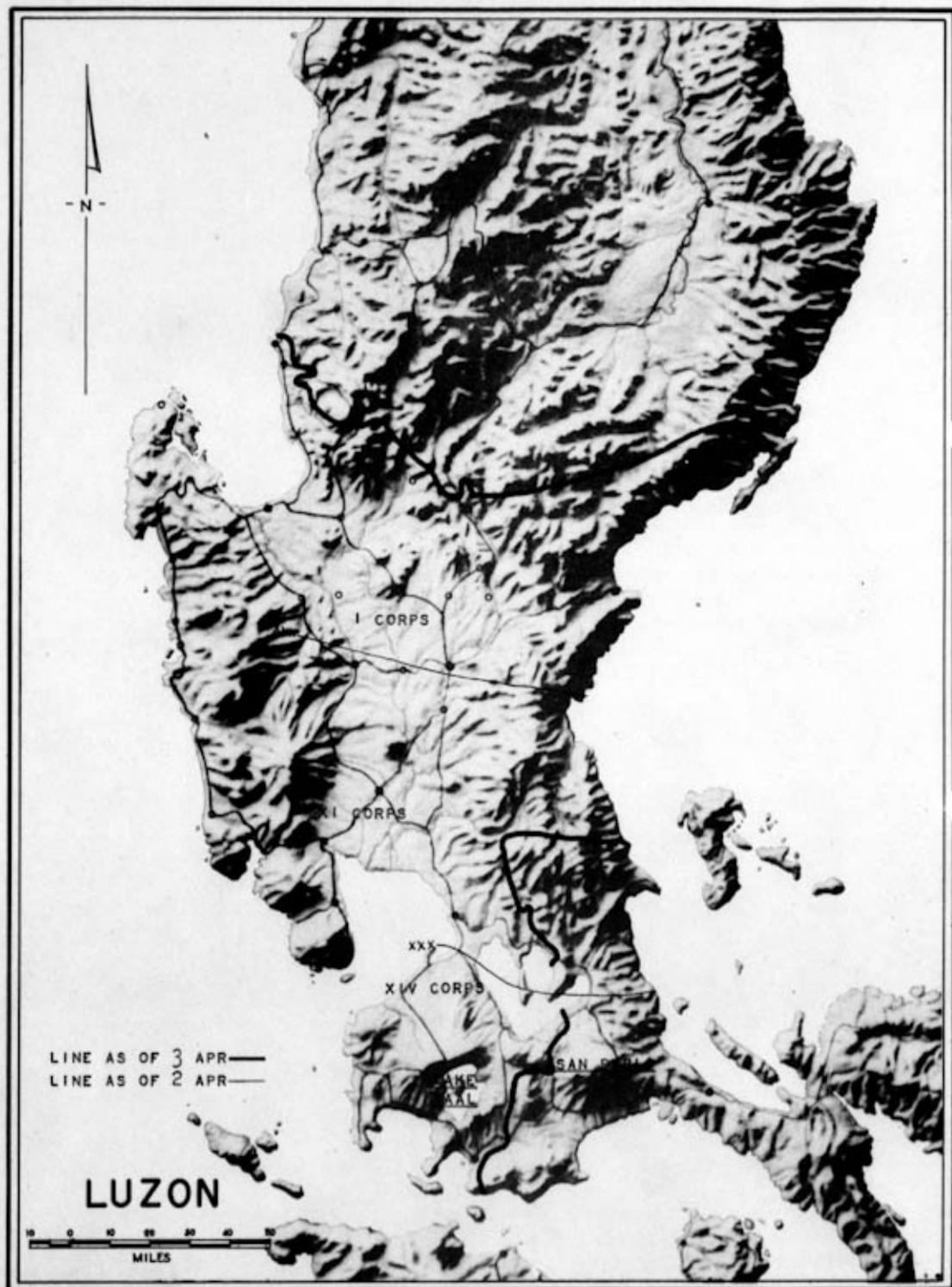


ASIATIC THEATER

1 April. The Eastern Air Command reported 2,021 sorties, of which 671 were offensive. Most of our blows fell on Japanese installations and communications throughout central and southern Burma.

2 April. British Indian units continued to advance along the road to Maymyo, and secured Gokteik. In the Meiktila area, British forces were two miles from Thazi, on the Meiktila-Thazi road. Only minor skirmishes and patrol activity was reported from other Burma sectors.

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REF ID: A61,037



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28-21341-200

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

1 April. Southwest Pacific planes flew 325 previously unreported sorties including 97 against targets in the Solomons and Bismarcks. One hundred ninety-seven planes supported our forces on Mindanao and struck bivouacs and supply dumps in the Sulu Archipelago. A B-24 patrol bomber sank two coastal vessels off the China coast and shot down a dive bomber over Formosa.

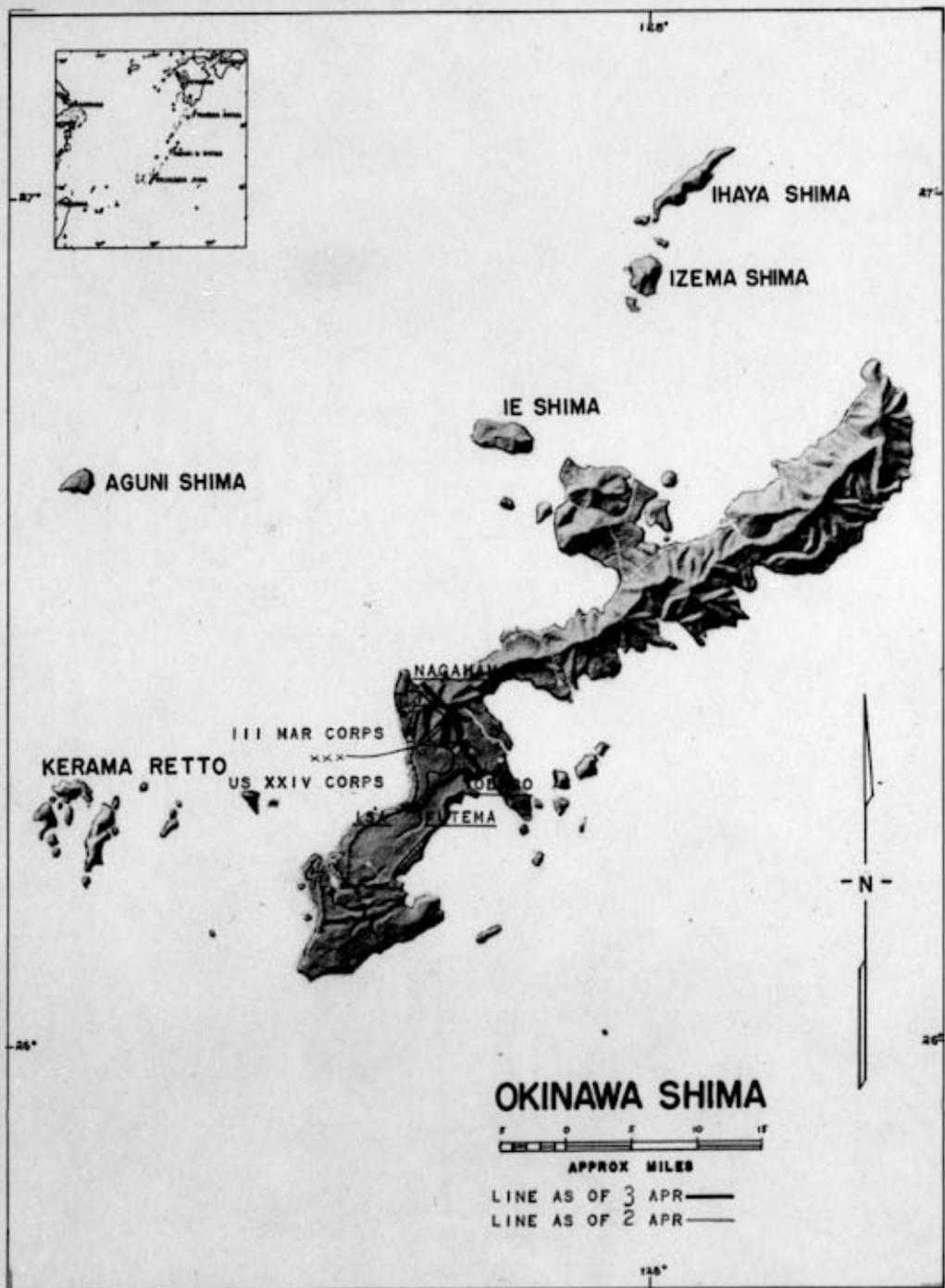
2 April. More than 660 sorties were reported throughout the theater. Forty-eight heavy bombers attacked Hongkong dock areas and escorting fighters shot down three fighters. Targets on Mindanao, Borneo, the Celebes and Sulu Archipelago were bombed in 42 heavy bomber sorties. Three hundred thirty aircraft hit Japanese installations on Luzon. Patrol planes sank a 10,000-ton tanker in Hongkong harbor and off Formosa, our planes exploded a destroyer escort. In all, we lost five planes.

The I and XI Corps reported extensive patrol action on Luzon. Our troops fighting east of Lake Taal entered San Pablo and captured several nearby ridges. In the Legaspi area, we drove southward against heavy opposition and patrolled northward to Tiwi Point.

On Cebu, our troops northeast of Lahug airfield were compelled to withdraw slightly by heavy enemy attacks. Small gains were registered north of Pardo against medium resistance.

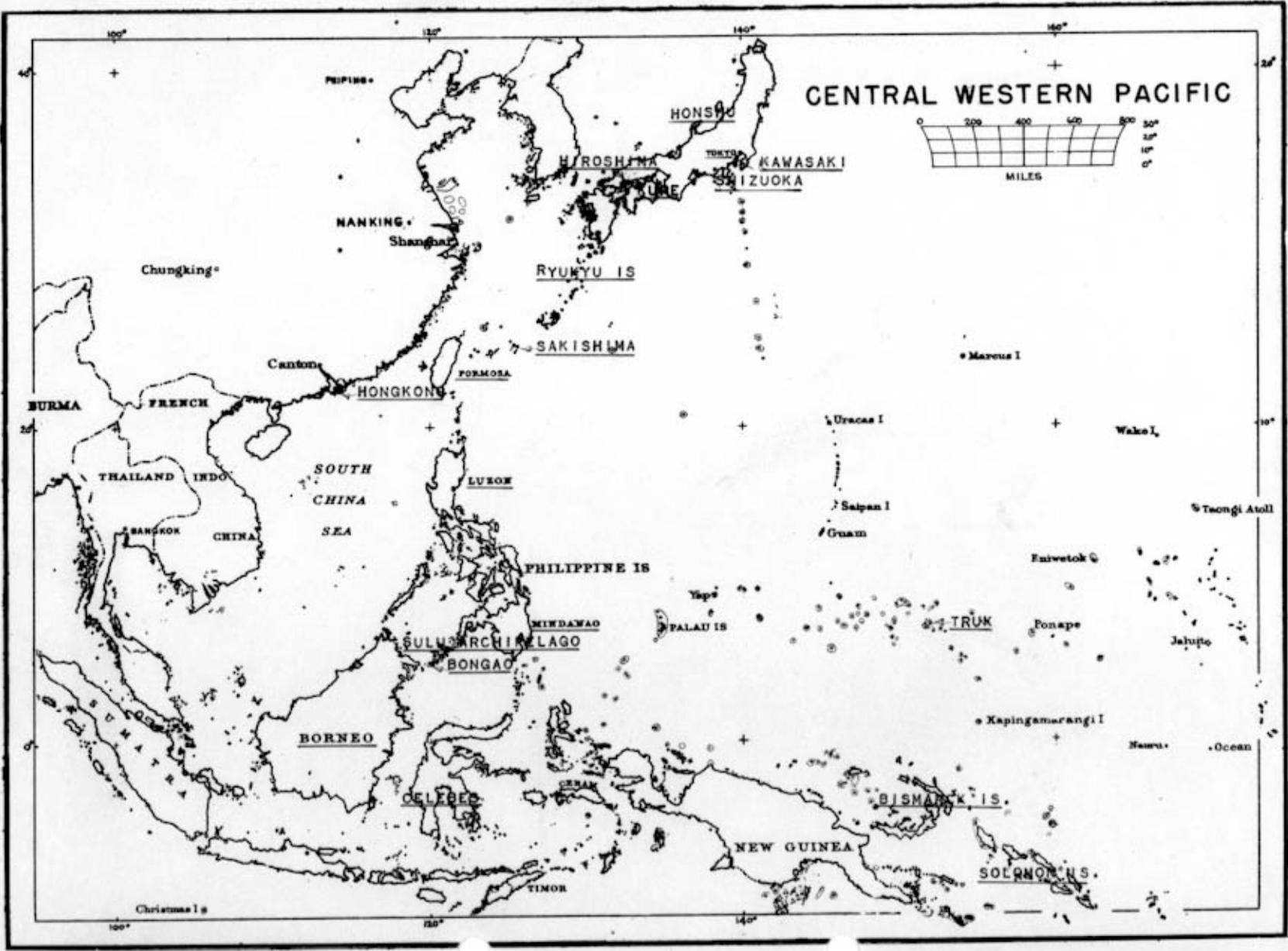
We reached Guinhalaran on Negros and drove northeast from Talisay across the Imbang River. Slight gains to the east of Granada were reported.

We established a beachhead on Bongao Island in the Tawi Tawi Group.



25-23109-00

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PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

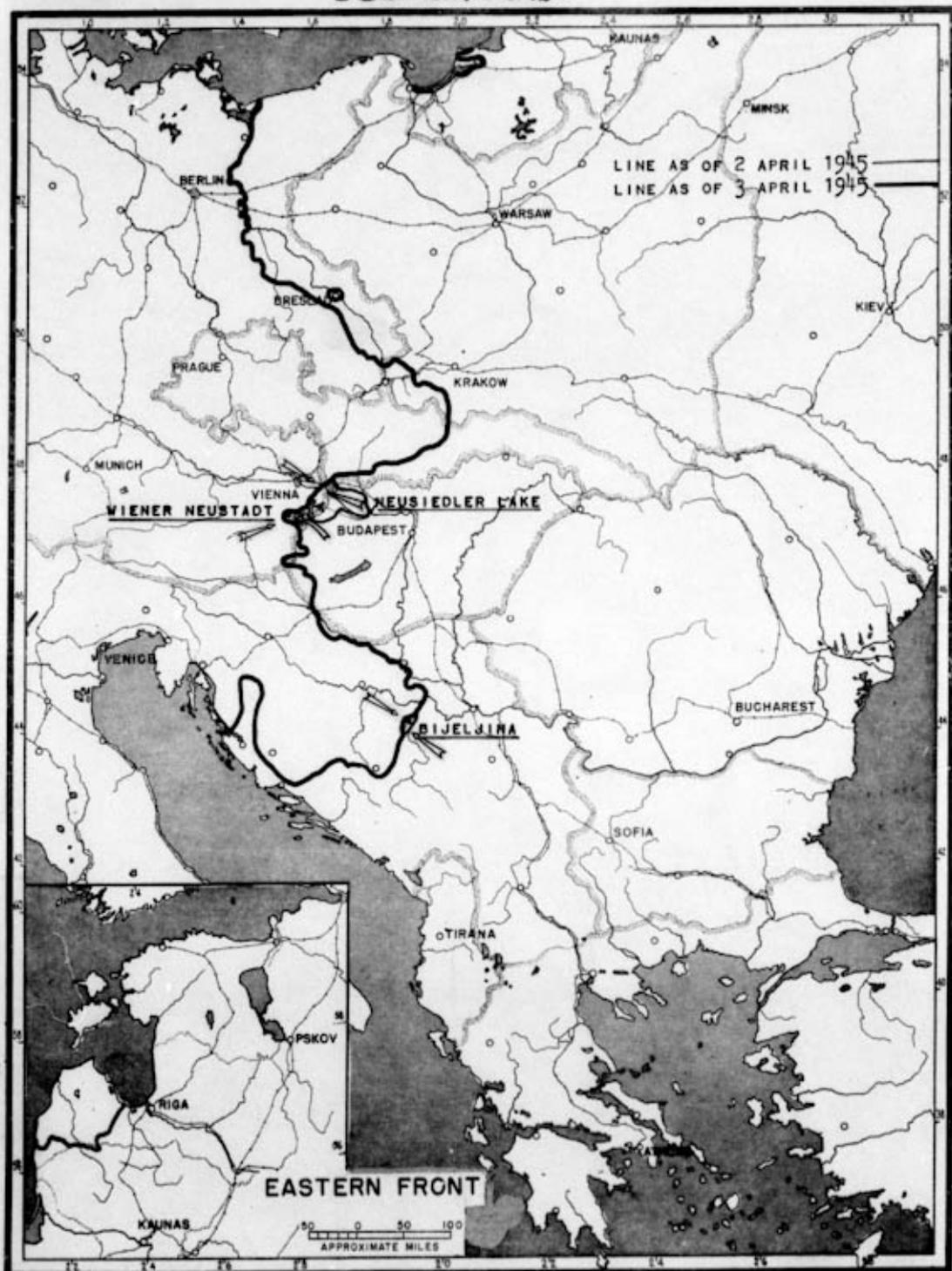
31 March. Eighty-seven B-29's mined the straits between Honshu and Kyushu Islands. A total of 818 mines were laid. We lost one plane. A single B-29, on a weather mission, dropped bombs on Tokyo.

1 and 2 April. Fifteen B-29's of the XXI Bomber Command laid mines in the Kure-Hiroshima area in Japan.

4 April. The XXI Bomber Command dispatched three separate missions totalling 224 B-29's to bomb the Nakajima, Shizuoka and Tachikawa aircraft plants, all on Honshu. Other targets included the urban areas of Tokyo and Kawasaki. Preliminary reports carried the loss of only one B-29.

2 April. The III Marine Corps on Okinawa had advanced inland an average of a mile on a five-mile front and pushed north to reach the coast near Nagahama. The XXIV Corps reached the east coast near Tobarō. To the south we were encountering increased resistance in the rugged terrain. Our southern flank reached the Futema area with advance units penetrating to Isa. Heavy naval vessels and carrier aircraft continued support of operations. Sixteen enemy planes were shot down; we lost one.

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EASTERN FRONT

3 April. In Austria, the Red Army captured Wiener Neustadt and closed the pocket east of Neusiedler Lake. Partisans took Bijeljina in Yugoslavia.

TOP SECRET
081 October, 5-8-78

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1210

0700 April 2 to 0700 April 3, 1945

COPY FOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

203(2)

TOP SECRET

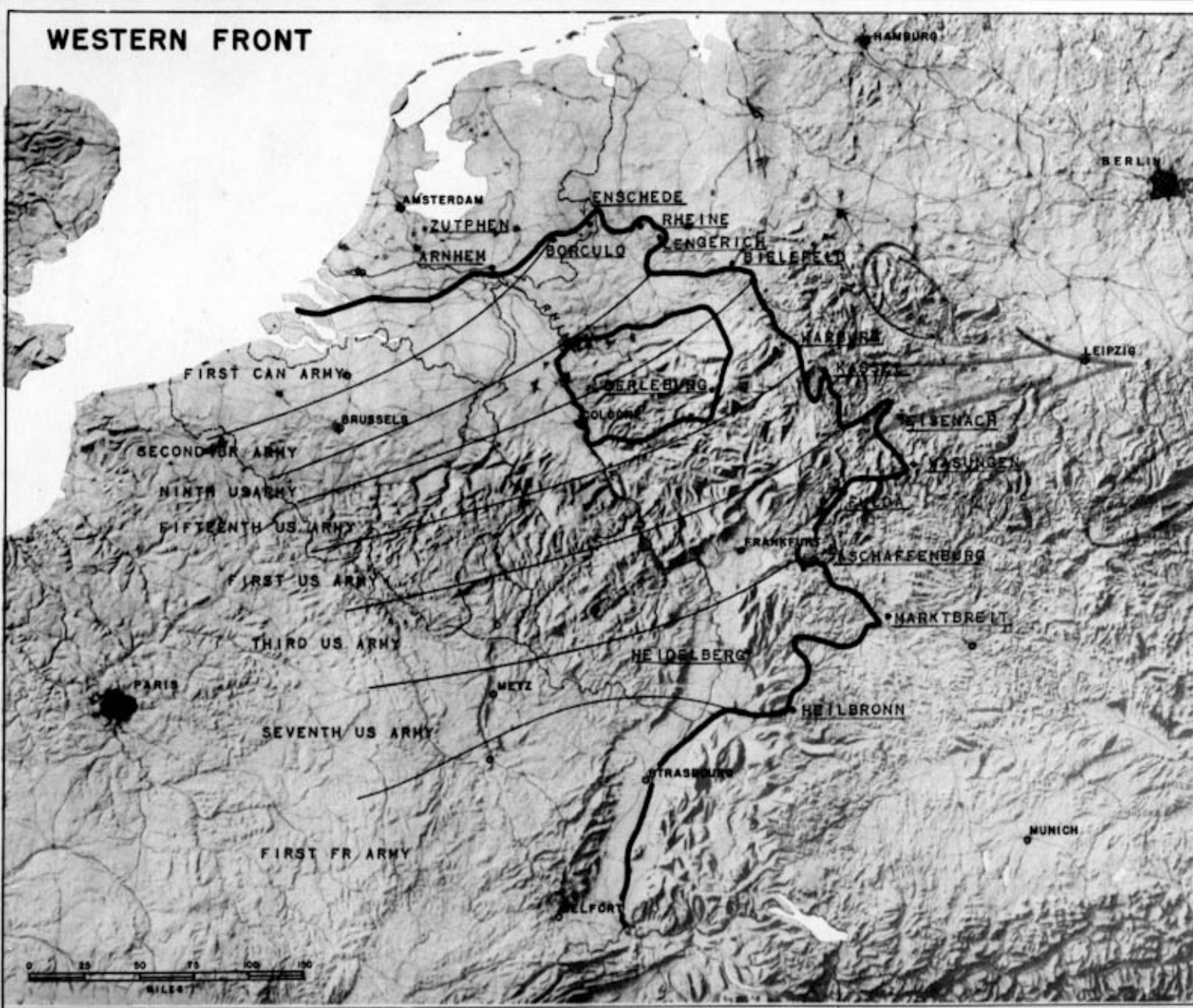
EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

1 April. Adverse weather prevented RAF bomber operations.

2 April. Seven hundred eight 8th Air Force heavy bombers were airborne to attack airdromes on the Danish Peninsula but were forced back from the mission by adverse weather.

Railyards in Austria were the targets for 618 escorted 15th Air Force heavy bombers. A total of 1,500 tons was dropped. Fighters dive-bombed a rail bridge and strafed rail movements. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost two bombers and two fighters. That night 66 Mediterranean-based Liberators bombed the Trento railyard.

WESTERN FRONT



TOP SECRET

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TOP SECRET

EUROPEAN THEATER

1 April. By sunset, the Tactical Air Forces, restricted by weather, flew 2,054 sorties. Medium bombers dropped 200 tons on supply and ammunition depots and barracks in southwestern Germany. Lighter aircraft continued to hit transportation in western Germany and supported our ground forces throughout the battle zones. Forty-six enemy planes were destroyed; we lost 34.

In the 24 hours to 0600, no rockets or flying bombs fell in Antwerp or adjacent areas.

2 April. For the third successive 24-hour period ending at 0600, neither rockets nor flying bombs fell in England.

By noon, units of the Canadian First Army, driving northwest into Holland, had scored gains up to nine miles along a 30-mile front; leading elements were within five miles of Zutphen and seven miles southeast of Arnhem. British Second Army, with its left flank on the Twente Canal, captured Borculo and pushed 14 miles northeast of Enschede. On the right flank British troops captured Rheine and Lengerich.

On our Ninth Army's front, XIII Corps infantry and armor continued to push eastward and were on the western outskirts of Bielefeld. To the south, armor of the XIX Corps firmly established their contacts with First Army units, thus closing the pocket on all German forces in the greater Ruhr area.

Our First Army infantry threw back a strong German attempt to break out of the Ruhr pocket around Berleburg; other units attacked to the west and north starting the reduction of this pocket in conjunction with Ninth Army troops. V Corps units scored advances north and east of Warburg of five miles along a 40-mile front.

Third Army infantry, driving ten miles to the north, is fighting in the southern part of Kassel, while armor pushing to the northeast advanced eight miles. Further to the south, tank spearheads of our Third Army sweeping northeast gained 13 miles and were five miles northwest of Eisenach. Another armored thrust advanced 25 miles to the vicinity of Wasungen. Infantry units following these armored thrusts are continuing to reduce by-passed pockets of resistance; heavy street fighting is in progress in Fulda.

On our Seventh Army front, heavy fighting continued in Aschaffenburg; southeast of the city, substantial advances were made. Our forces were along the Main River almost to Marktbreit. East of Heidelberg, an armored spearhead gained 30 miles and, farther to the south, a parallel column entered Heilbronn.

On the French First Army front gains of more than nine miles were reported along a 12-mile front.

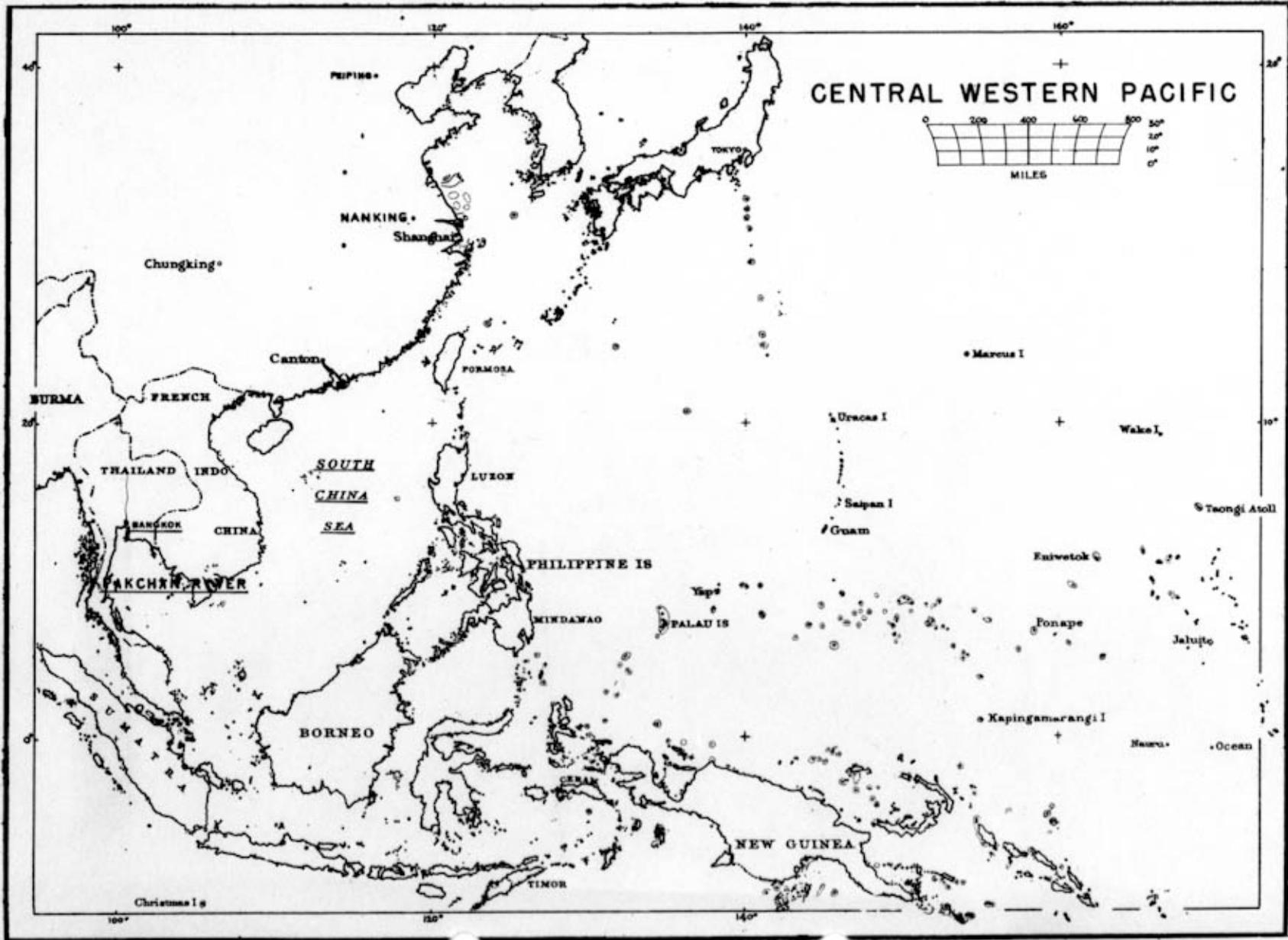
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

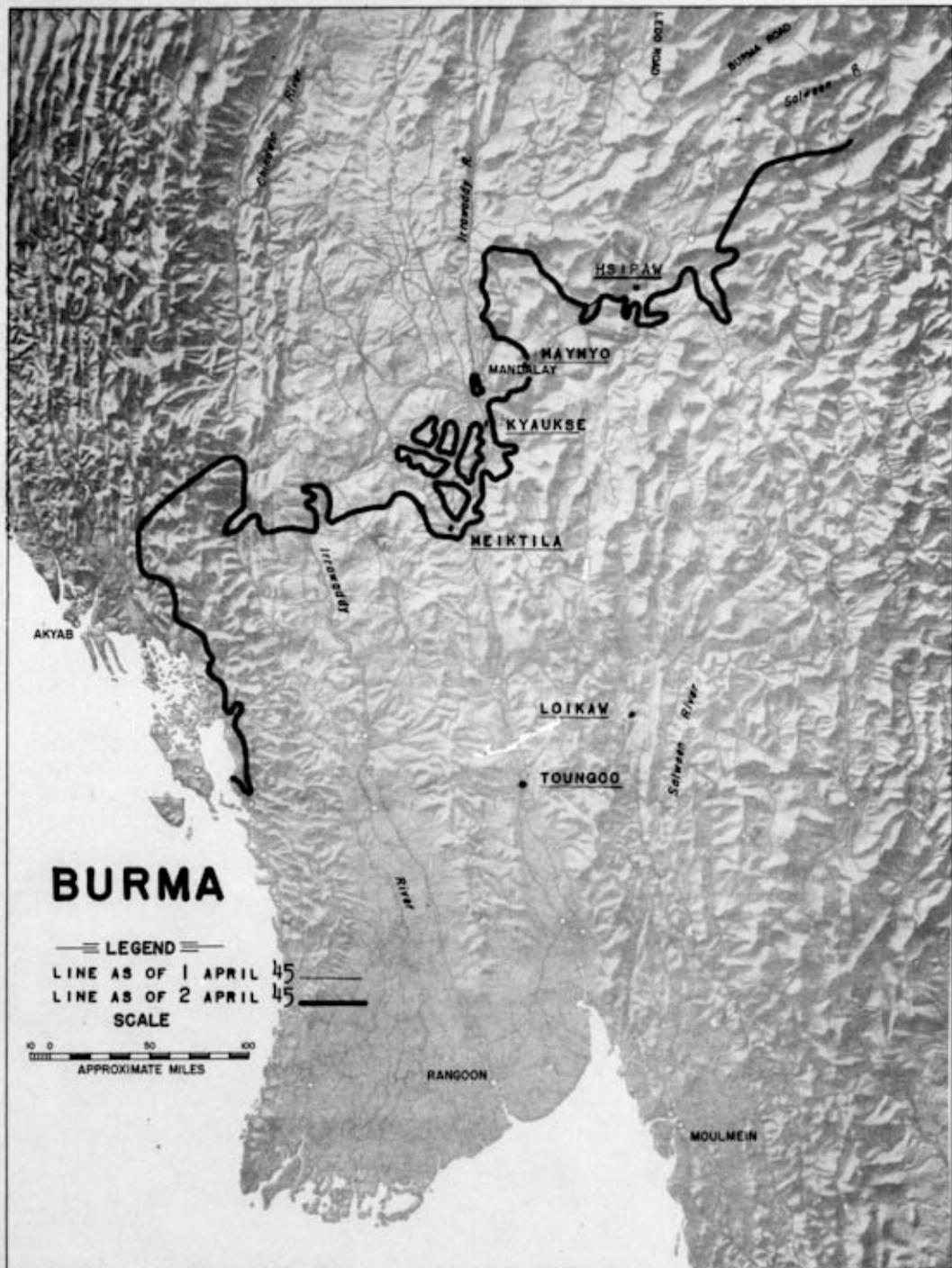
1 April. The Mediterranean Tactical Air Force reported 1,323 sorties. One hundred ninety medium bombers attacked rail bridges in the Po Valley and northern Italy and ammunition dumps in northeastern Italy. Communications in Italy, Yugoslavia and Austria were struck by 909 fighters and fighter bombers. German dumps and installations throughout the Po Valley were again raided. The Coastal Air Force flew 88 sorties against Adriatic shipping and communications in northwestern Italy. The Balkan Air Force reported 154 sorties against rails and enemy concentrations in Yugoslavia. Nine of our planes are missing from these operations.

2 April. No significant changes were reported on our north Italian battle line.

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BURMA

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LINE AS OF 2 APRIL 45 ———
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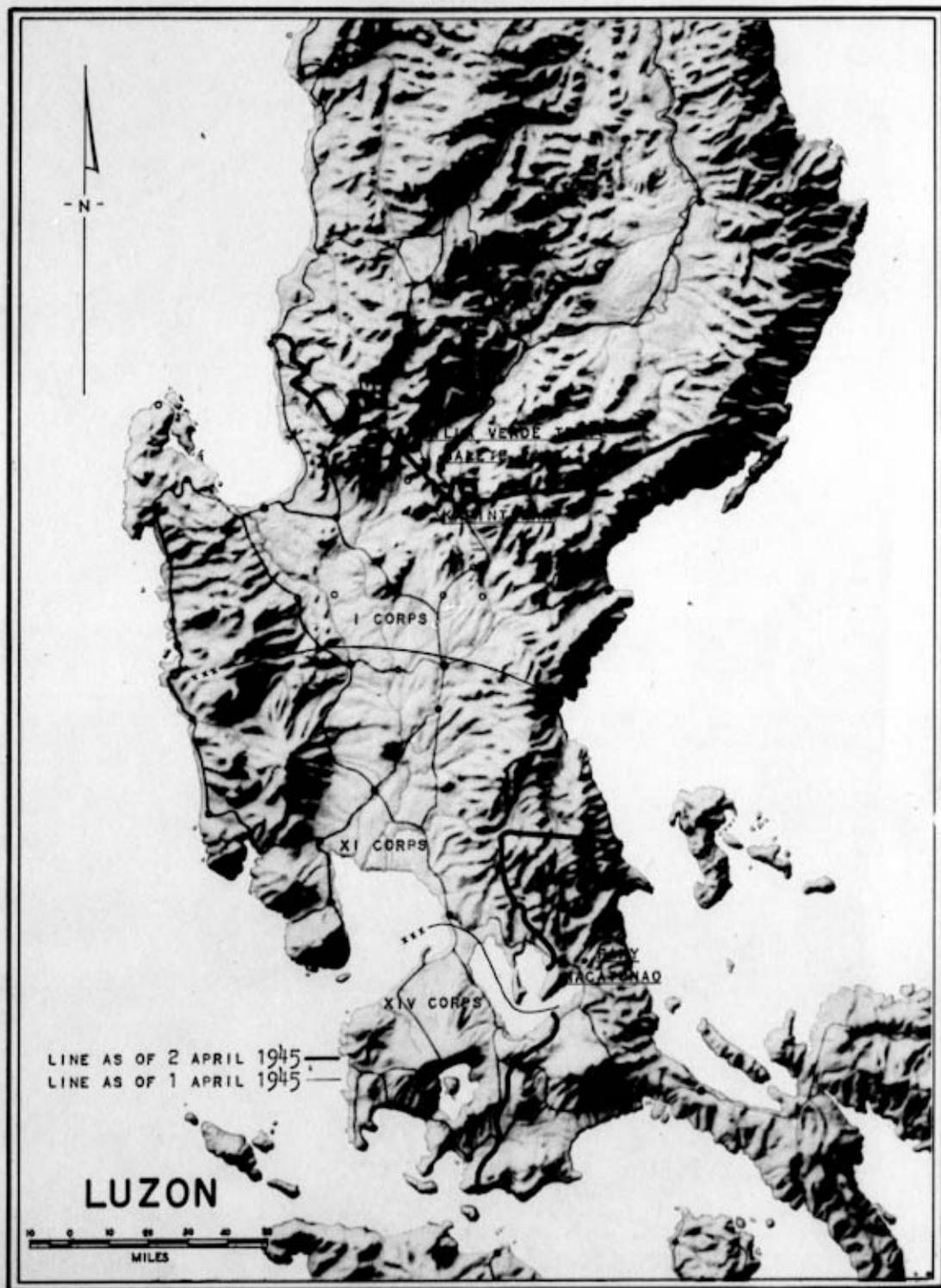
ASIATIC THEATER

31 March. The Eastern Air Command flew 1,897 sorties, of which 618 were offensive. Nine B-24's bombed rail bridges on the Burma-Siam line. RAF Liberators mined the Pakchan River and Bangkok port. Medium bombers destroyed three road bridges near Loikaw, and hit troop concentrations in the Meiktila area. Rail bridges around Toungoo were the targets for 33 fighters. Other planes supported Allied ground forces on all fronts. Three of our planes are missing.

26 March-1 April. During this period the 14th Air Force flew 467 previously unreported offensive sorties. Eight heavy bombers on a shipping strike in the South China Sea probably sank a destroyer. Thirty other heavy bombers struck railyards and storage areas in north central China. Light bombers and fighters attacked Japanese communications, troop concentrations and airfields in central and southern China. Twelve enemy planes were destroyed. We lost seven planes.

1 April. British Indian units advancing southwest along the Hsipaw road to Maymyo gained nine miles. Allied troops scored gains up to two miles along a ten-mile front southeast of Kyaukse. No other significant changes were reported on the Burma battle fronts.

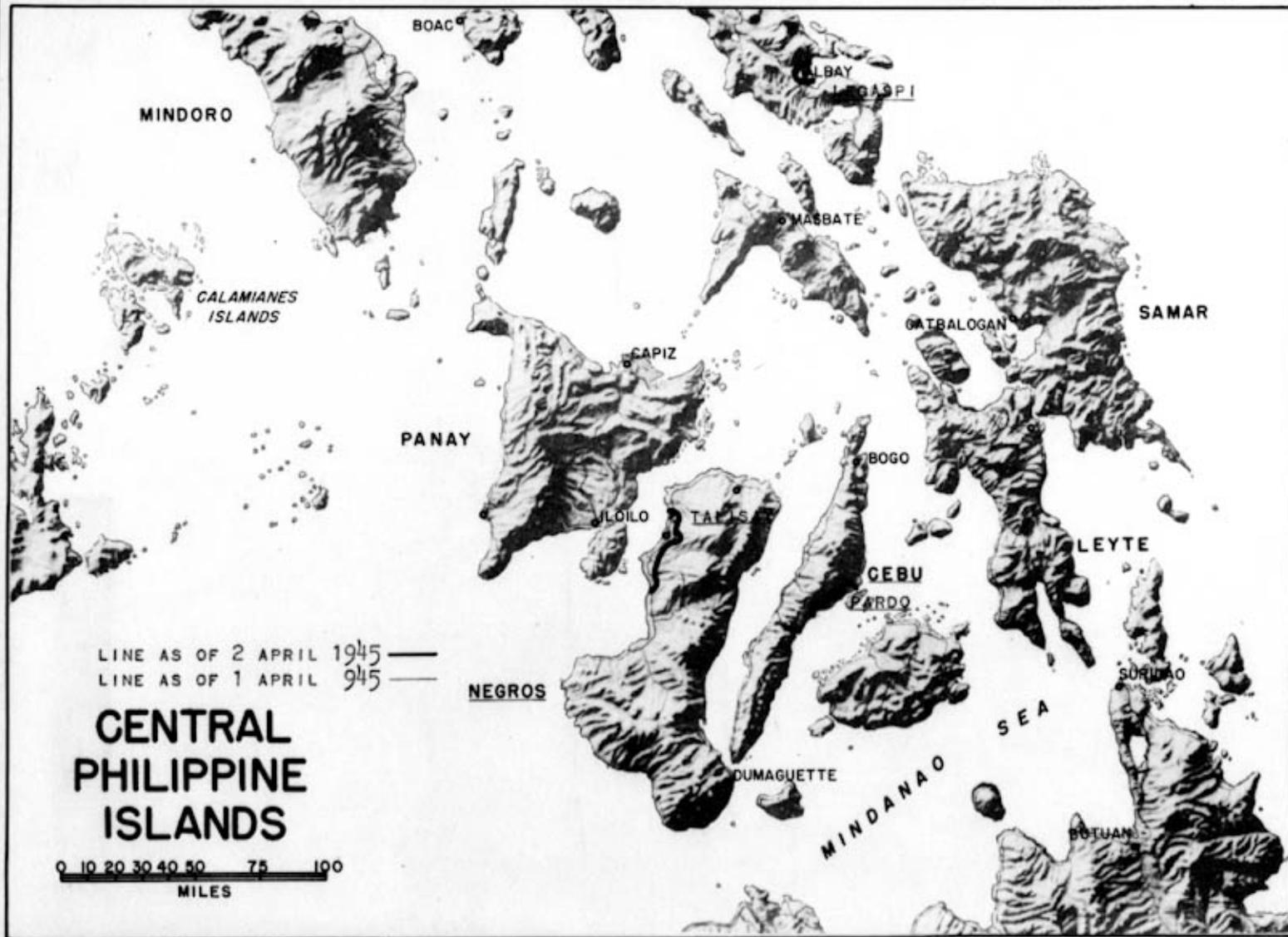
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REF ID: A66189
WFO Letter, 6-8-78



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89-21261-200

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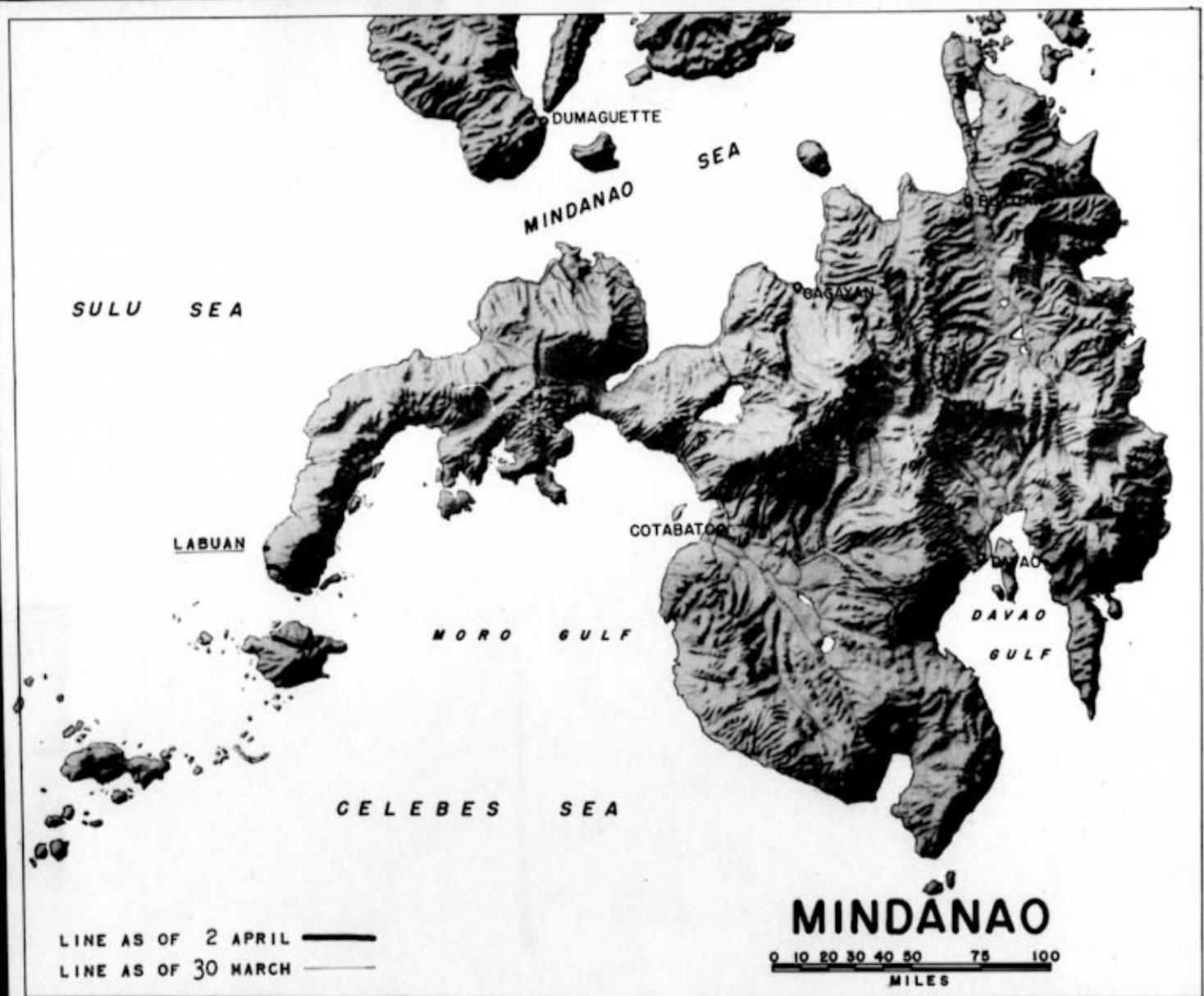


LINE AS OF 2 APRIL 1945 —
LINE AS OF 1 APRIL 1945 - -
**CENTRAL
PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS**

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ON Letter, 5-8-78

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EOP Letter, 5-8-78

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

30-31 March. Among more than 400 previously unreported sorties 148 were against Japanese installations, motor transport, and plane hideouts in the Bismarcks and Solomons. Supply and personnel areas in the Sulu Archipelago were attacked by 169 planes. Heavy and medium bombers supported our ground forces on Negros.

1 April. More than 730 sorties were reported throughout the theater. Targets on Luzon were attacked by 588 planes; 46 heavy bombers and 28 light bombers supported our southeastern Luzon operations at Legaspi. An airdrome on Formosa was hit by 20 B-24's. Nine fighter planes, in a sweep off northern Borneo, fired a medium size freighter.

The I Corps, on northern Luzon, repulsed two strong Japanese counterattacks, supported by artillery, on the Villa Verde Trail. Our infantry launched an attack against enemy positions northeast of Kapintalan in the Balete Pass area. XI Corps patrols pushing southeast reached Macatunao on the road to Famy. On southeastern Luzon, we have taken Legaspi and its airfield and patrols are pushing to the north and west.

On Cebu, our forces repulsed three strong night attacks; northeast of Pardo local gains were made against stubborn resistance.

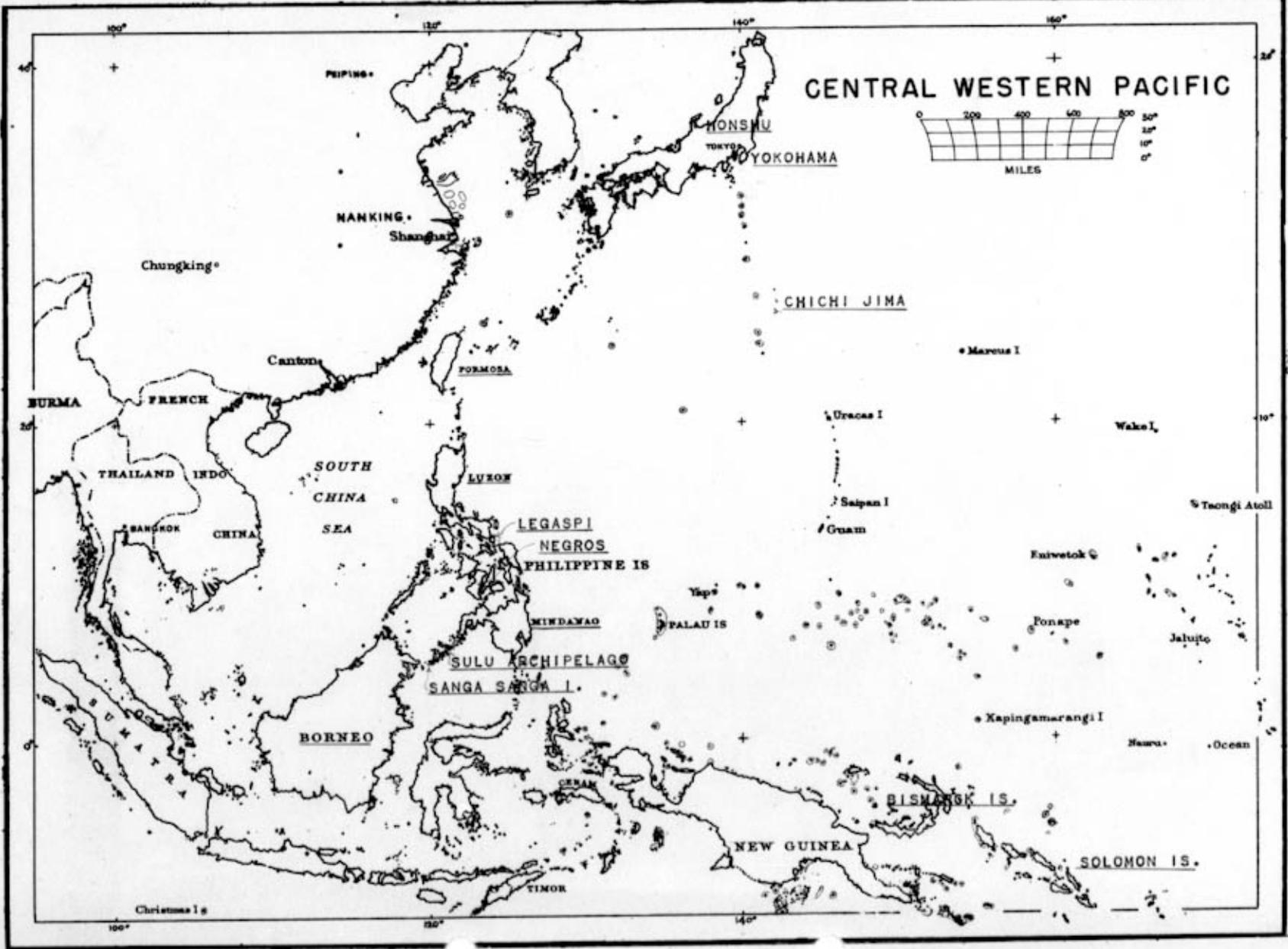
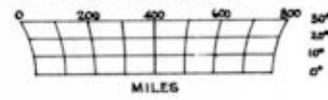
Our patrols have pushed up the west coast of Mindanao to Labuan.

2 April. On Negros, we occupied Talisay.

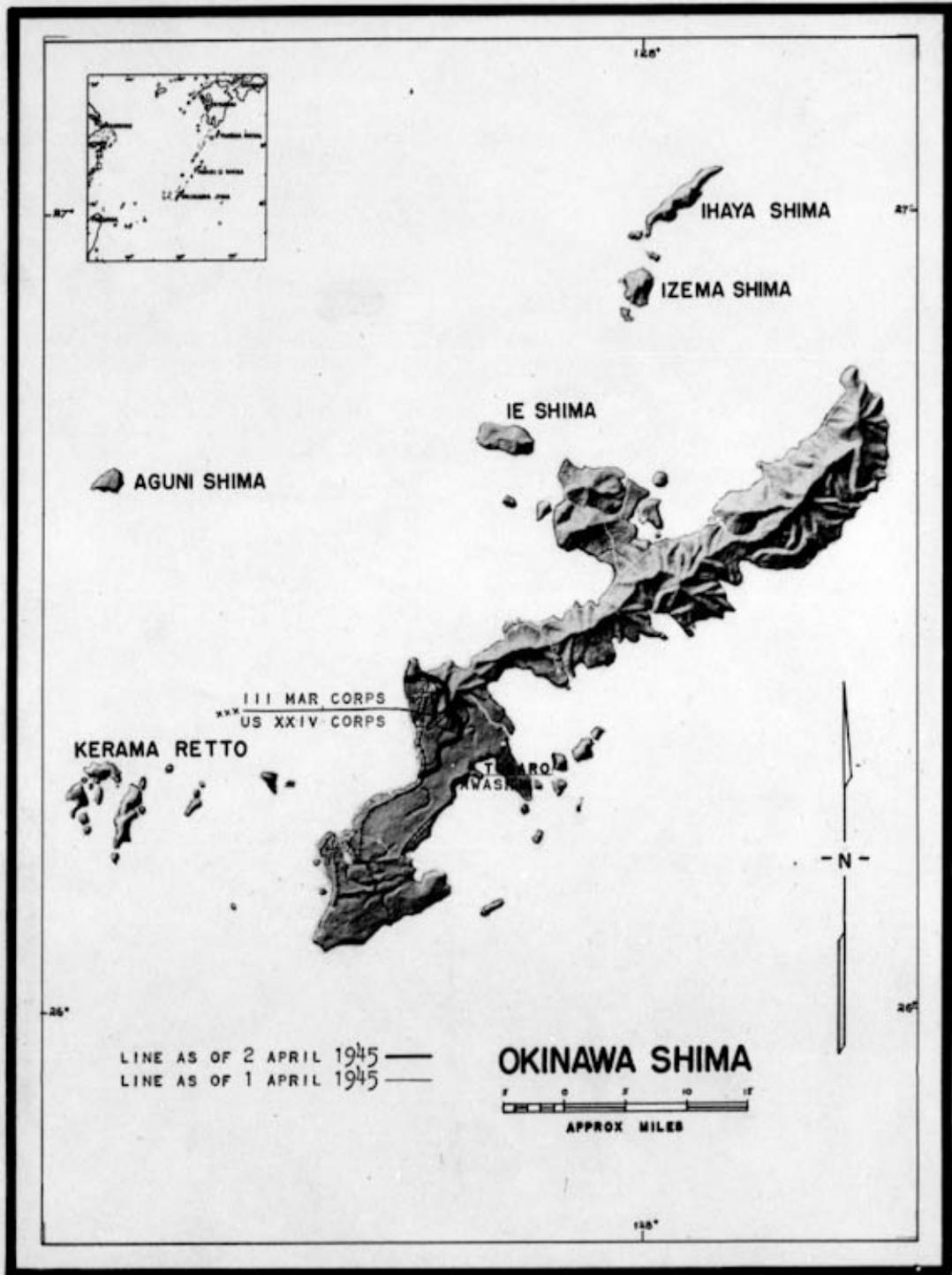
Sanga Sanga Island in the Tawi Tawi Group, with its airfield, has been captured.

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CENTRAL WESTERN PACIFIC



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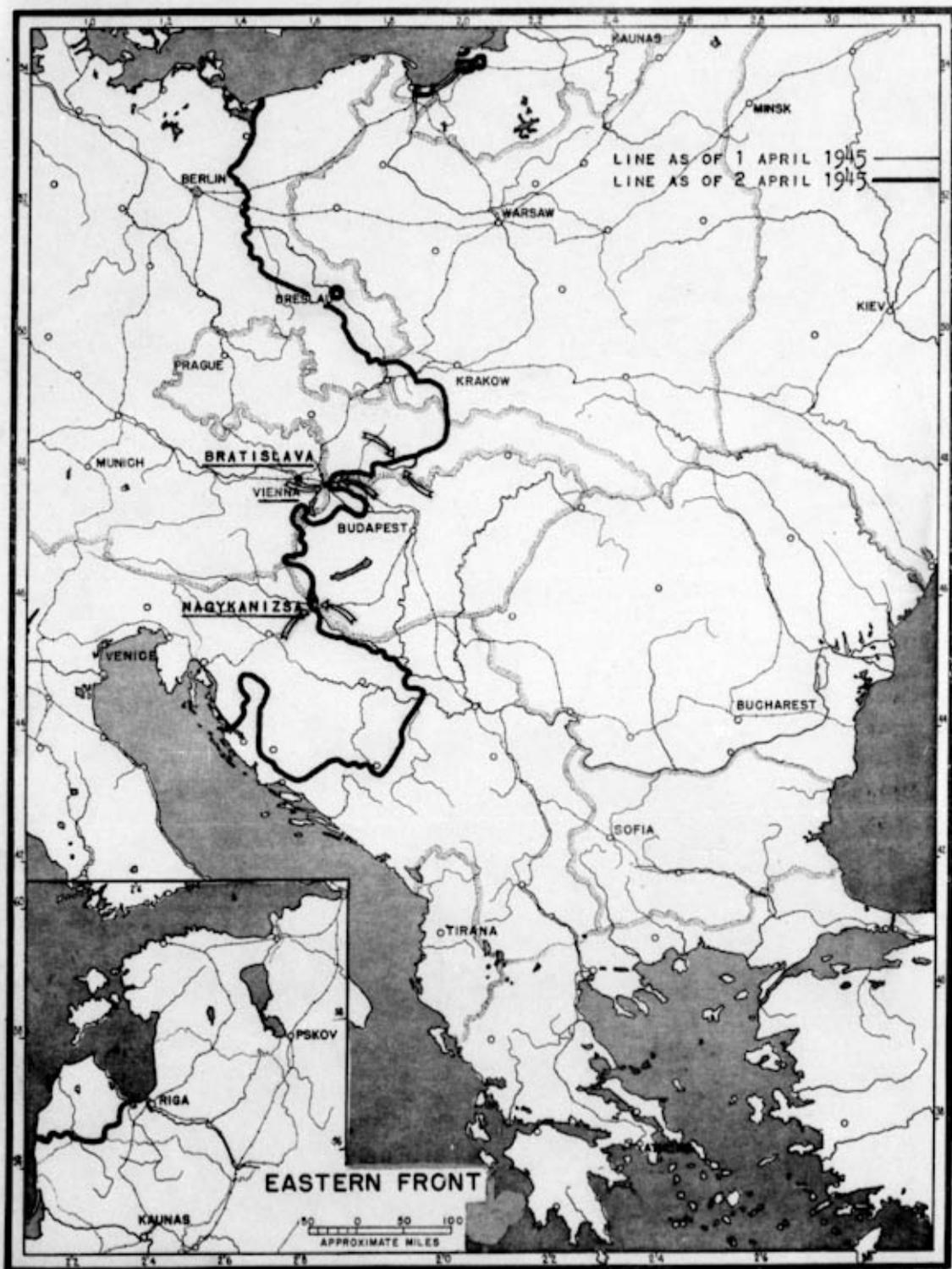
PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

29-30 March. Two B-29's, on individual weather missions, attacked an aircraft factory on Honshu and an oil plant at Yokohama.

1 April. By 1800, our forces on Okinawa had expanded the beachhead to a depth of three miles on a seven-mile base against light opposition. Approximately 50,000 troops, including eight Regimental Combat Teams with their supporting light artillery battalions and two battalions of medium artillery, have been landed. About 15,000 service troops are also ashore.

2 April. A late communique reports that elements of the XXIV Corps have pushed across the island of Okinawa reaching the east coast near the village of Tobaru. Advances of several thousand yards were reported all along the Tenth Army front.

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67-5004-202

EASTERN FRONT

2 April. East of Vienna the Red Army's drive reached to within three miles of Bratislava. In Hungary, the oil center of Nagykanizsa was captured by the Soviets.

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en letter, 6-3-48

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1209

0700 April 1 to 0700 April 2, 1945

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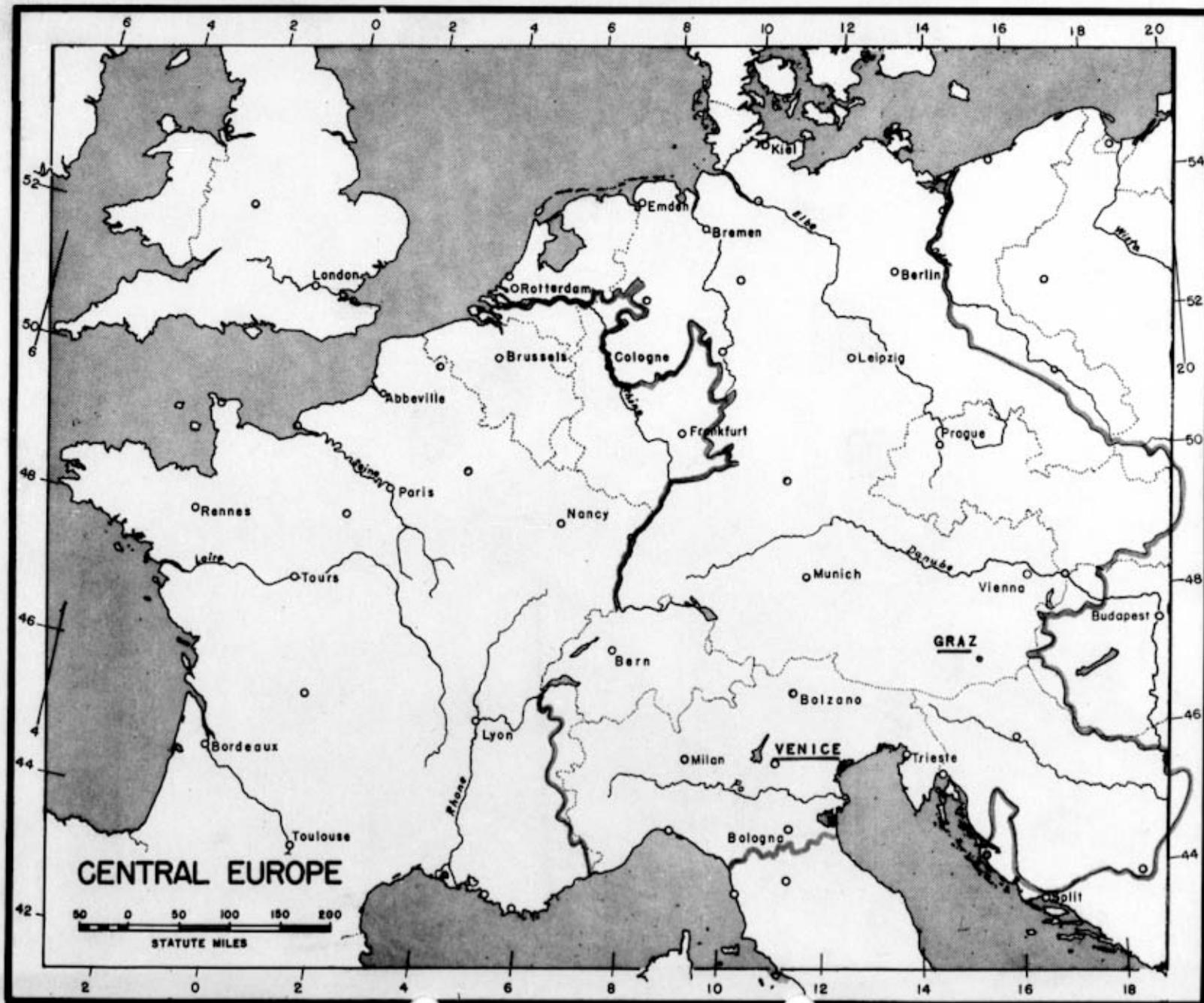
THE WHITE HOUSE

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24-87117-300

EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

31 March. Seventy-nine RAF heavy bombers of the Strategic Air Force, attacking at night, dropped 235 tons on rail yards at Graz. One bomber was lost.

1 April. Six hundred fifty-five escorted 15th Air Force heavy bombers attacked railyards in Austria and Yugoslavia and gun positions in Venice. Twelve enemy planes were shot down. We lost three bombers and three fighters.

Adverse weather grounded the 8th Air Force.

EUROPEAN THEATER

31 March. During the 24-hour period ending at sunset, the Tactical Air Forces flew 4,615 sorties and dropped a total of 1,219 tons of bombs. Medium bombers attacked oil and storage depots at Ebrach, Würzburg, and Marienburg. Light bombers gave close support along the front lines. Rail transport in northwestern Germany and The Hague area were also attacked. Fifty-five enemy aircraft were destroyed; we lost 29 planes.

1 April. During the 24-hour period ending at 0600, neither rockets nor flying bombs fell in England.

By noon, the British Second Army had made rapid progress on its left flank and in the center despite German rear guards and demolitions. Leading elements are now on the western edge of Enschede and in the southern part of Rheine. On the right flank two bridgeheads have been established over the Dortmund-Ems Canal south of Bissenbeck, 16 miles west of Osnabrueck.

On the Ninth Army front, advance elements of the US XIII Corps were in the western part of Muenster. To the south, armored columns drove through Hamm north of the Lippe Canal, captured Beckum, Enniger and Widenbrueck, where patrols made contact with US First Army units advancing from Paderborn. Leading elements of this thrust are now five miles southeast of Bielefeld.

On our First Army front, units of the VII Corps, attacking German tanks and entrenched infantry, captured Paderborn and Geseke and pushed on to Lippstadt where a combat command established another contact with Ninth Army units. V Corps troops, after consolidating their gains,

drove four miles northeast of Warburg.

Third Army cavalry advancing 27 miles to the northeast, reached the Fulda River between Niederellenbach and Hersfeld. Leading armored elements were 14 miles west of Eisenach, after capturing Ausbach and Heringen. Other units pushed to within one mile of Fulda. Infantry advanced some eight miles along a 20-mile front to capture Schluechtern and XII Corps cavalry units contacted Seventh Army cavalry in the vicinity of Bernbach.

On our Seventh Army front, fanatical resistance continued in Aschaffenburg. At Schweinheim the enemy kept up resistance by infiltrating after the town had been cleared. The rapid armored advance up the Main River continued unchecked and gains were made up to 18 miles. Our forces now control more than 14 miles along the Main River southeast of Wuerzburg and have generally broken out of the Odenwald into the Wuerzburg-Heilbronn Plain. South of Mannheim troops who made the last Rhine crossing advanced east up to 18 miles and crossed the superhighway.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

31 March. The Tactical Air Force reported 1,055 sorties. Rail targets along the Brenner route in Italy and Austria were attacked by 150 medium bombers. Seven hundred thirty-six fighters and fighter bombers made fifty-nine rail cuts and destroyed two bridges in north-eastern Italy. The Coastal Air Force flew 73 sorties, principally against rail targets in the Po Valley and the San Remo tunnel. The Balkan Air Force, restricted by weather, reported only 24 sorties.

1 April. There were no significant changes on the north Italian battlefield.

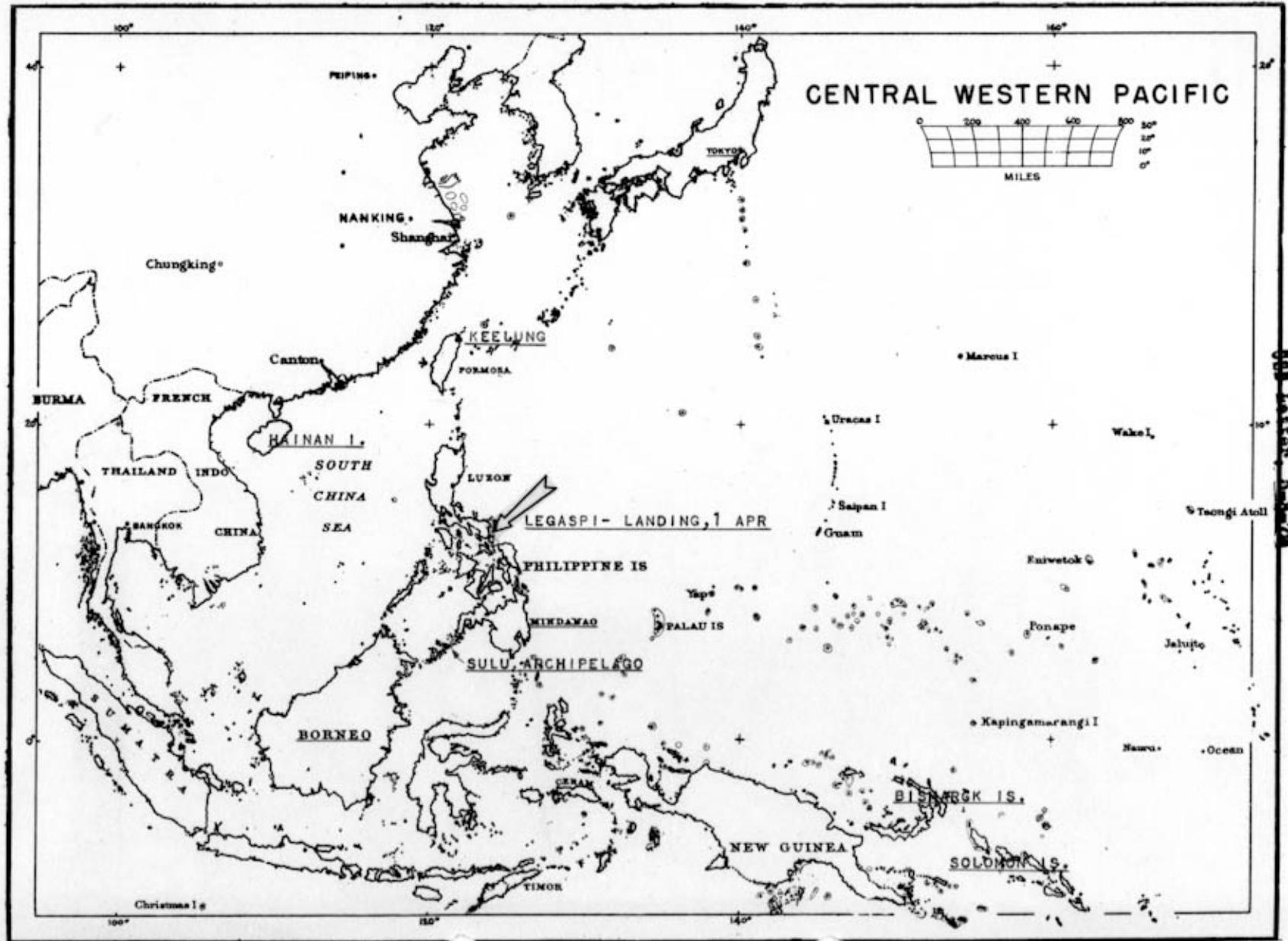
ASIATIC THEATER

30 March. The Eastern Air Command flew 2,234 sorties of which 557 were offensive. Medium bombers attacked bridges along the Heho-Thazi road, and dumps and troop concentrations in the Heho-Pyinmana areas. Fighters supported Allied ground forces throughout the battle zones.

26-30 March. The 14th Air Force flew 159 previously unreported sorties against Japanese communications, troop concentrations and airfields in central and southern China. Heavy bombers again hit South China Sea shipping.

31 March. Chinese units, pushing west from Hsipaw, contacted British Indian troops in Kyaukme. British forces advanced two miles south of Kyaukse. Gains of five miles were made by Allied units north-east and southeast of Myittha. The road between Myingyan and Natogyi has been cleared; however, Japanese pockets still remain north and south of the road.

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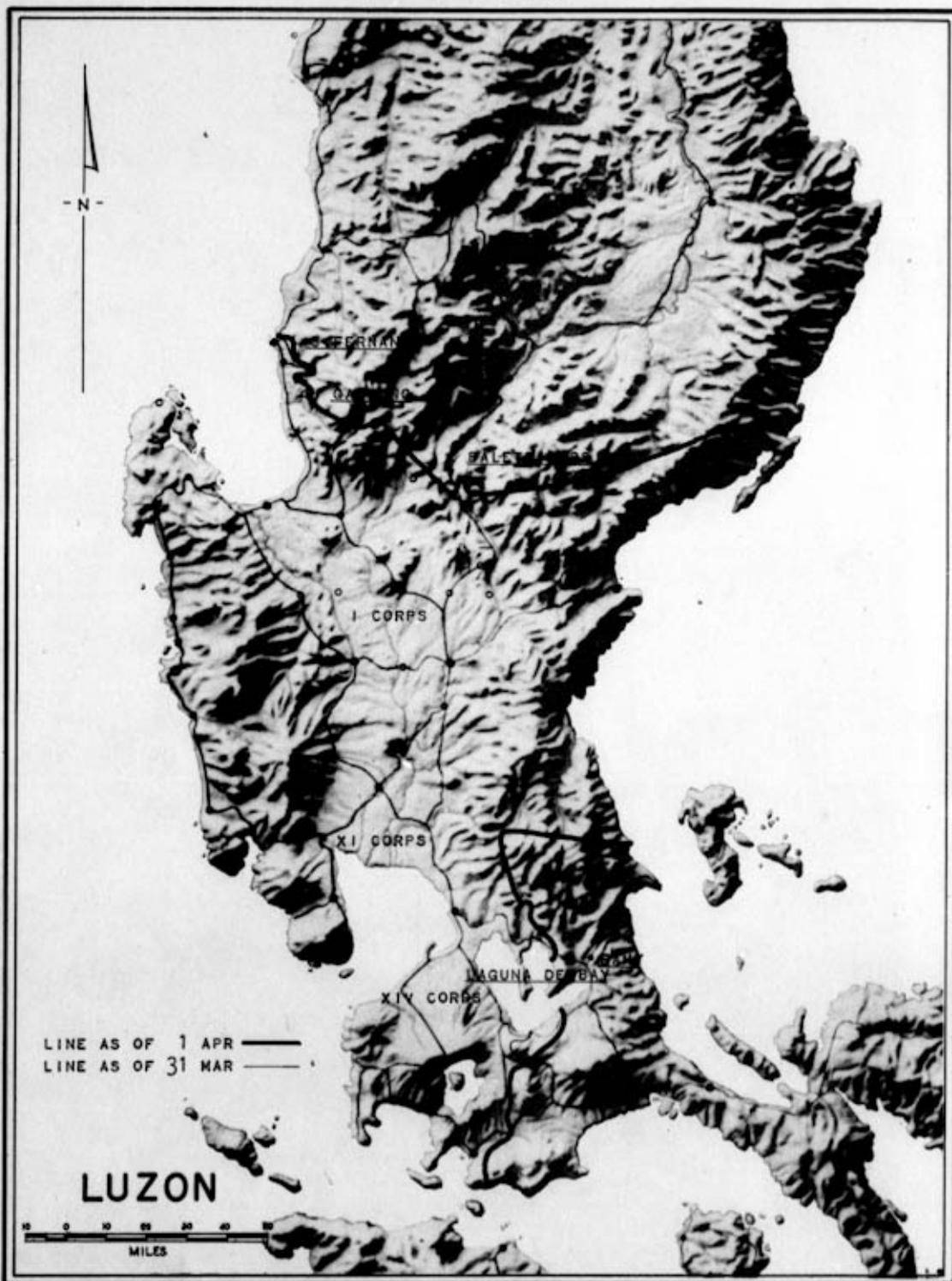


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ORD Letter, 5-3-72



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LUZON

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80-21241-200

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

28-29 March. During this period more than 480 previously unreported sorties were flown by Southwest Pacific aircraft. Troop concentrations, supply depots, and gun positions in the Bismarcks and Solomons were hit by 115 planes. Eighteen heavy bombers attacked airfields on Borneo. Japanese installations in the Sulu Archipelago and on Mindanao were bombed by 161 aircraft. Two enemy planes were destroyed.

31 March. Seven hundred sixty-seven sorties were reported. Enemy positions on northern Luzon, in the Legaspi area, and along our front lines were attacked by 627 planes. Fourteen B-24's raided shipping in a harbor on Hainan Island and 15 others bombed Keelung Harbor on Formosa; one freighter and four smaller vessels were sunk. Six heavy bombers, on a shipping search off Borneo, sank a small freighter and fired two coastal vessels. Four enemy planes were shot down during the day.

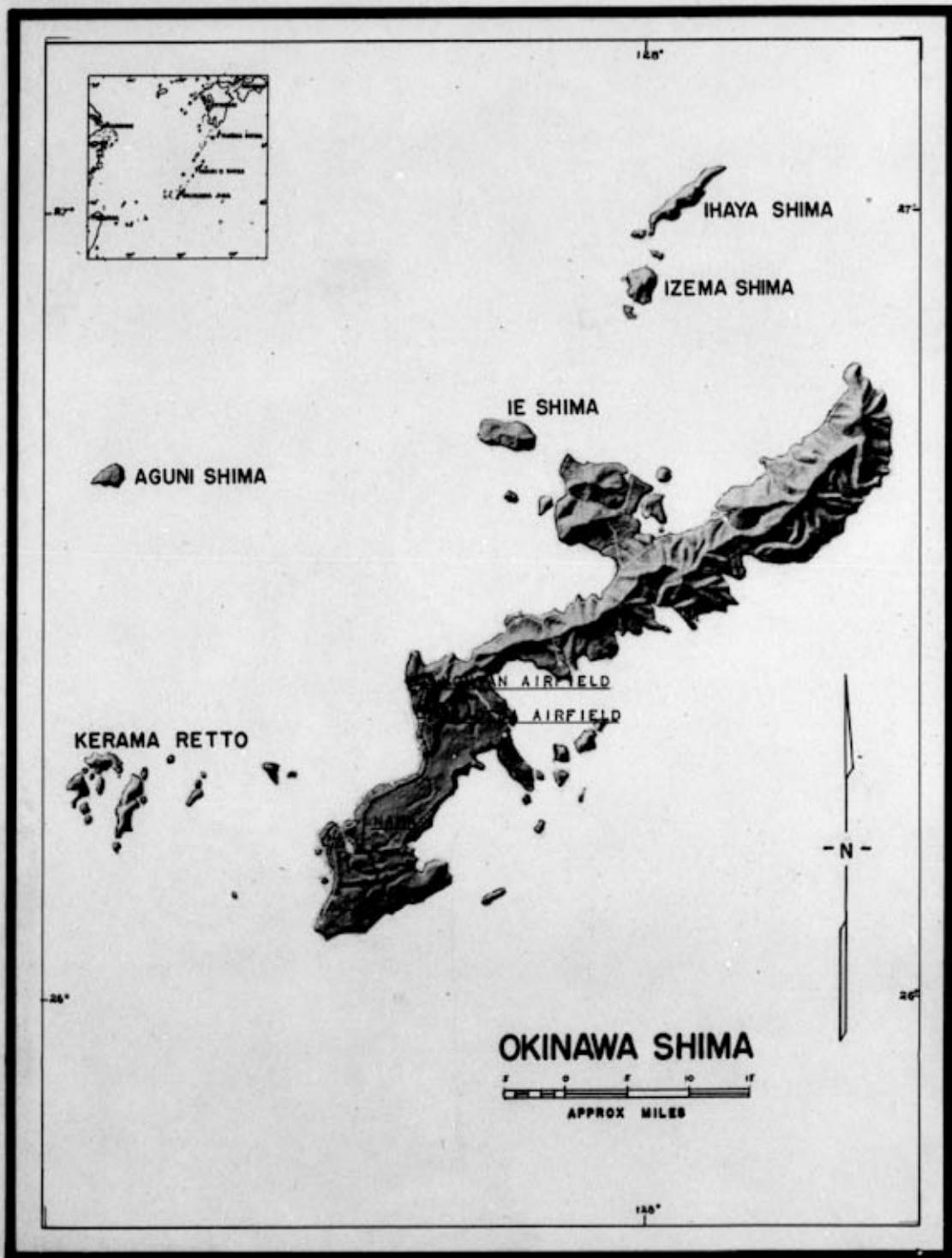
31 March. The I Corps, attacking east from Galiano, scored advances of over a mile. Other units on northern Luzon occupied high ground east of San Fernando and made minor gains towards Balete Pass. Our forces, north of Laguna de Bay, attacking towards Famy were within five miles of the town.

On Cebu, we were encountering extensive Japanese fortifications about a mile south of Buhisan reservoir; numerous Japanese infiltrations and counterattacks have been repulsed in this area. Our forces were receiving heavy fire from Consolacion.

On Negros, we advanced to the southern outskirts of Talisay against heavy opposition. A strong enemy force was encountered east of Bacolod.

Local gains were reported on Mindanao; several counterattacks were repulsed.

1 April. A reinforced combat team landed at Legaspi on southeastern Luzon; some artillery fire was encountered.



20-22100-00

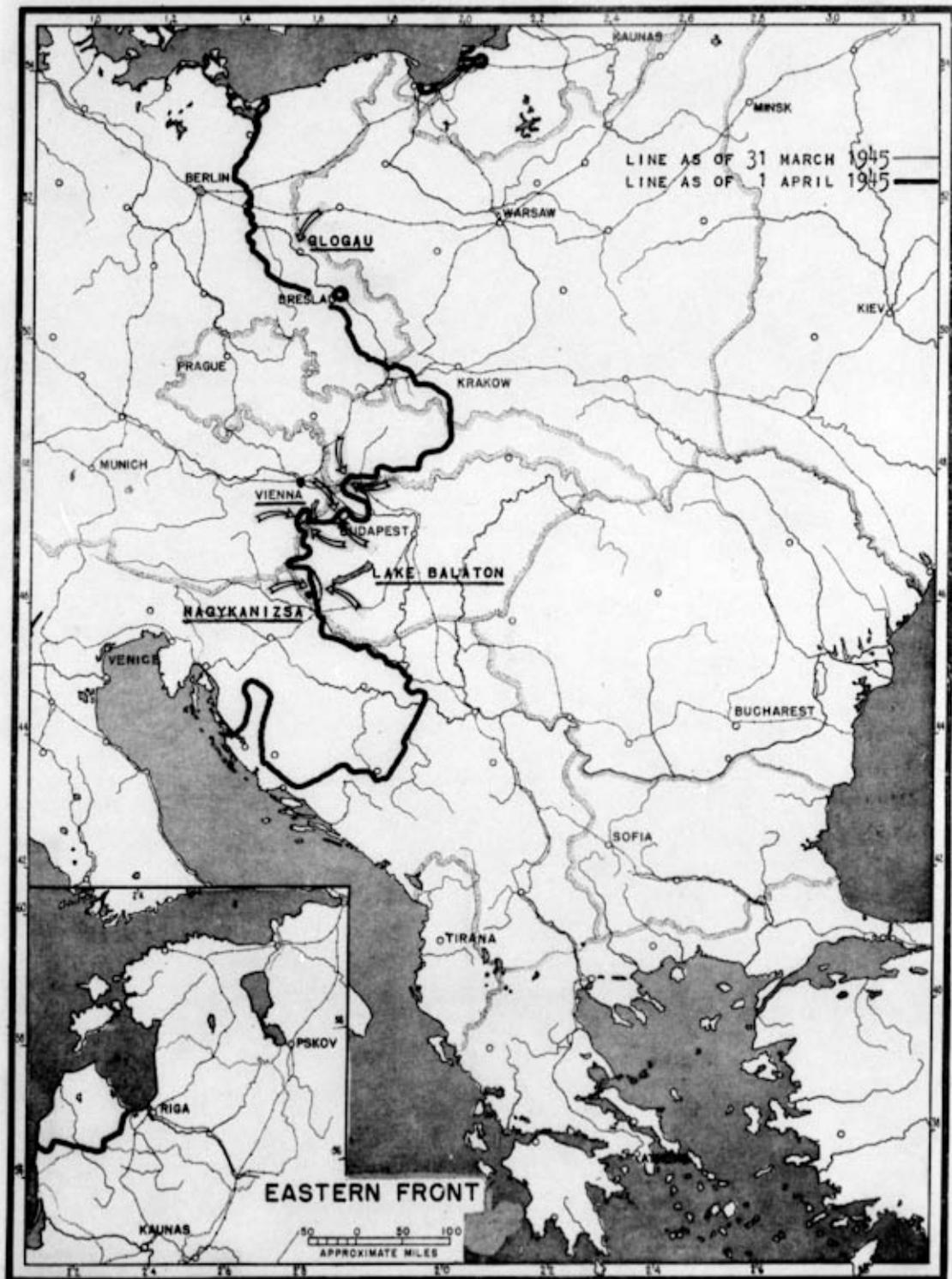
PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

29 March. 7th Air Force B-24's attacked Marcus.

1 April. Preceded by an intense Naval and air bombardment, units of the Tenth Army made a landing on Okinawa Island in the Ryukyus. We encountered light opposition, and a considerable number of tanks and artillery have been landed. Yontan and Kadena airfields were quickly captured. By the end of the first day the US XXIV Corps and the III Marine Corps had expanded their beachhead to a depth of three miles at several points.

2 April. One hundred twelve B-29's bombed an airplane engine plant in Tokyo. One enemy plane was destroyed; we lost two.

DECLASSIFIED
TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET

87-1004-270

EASTERN FRONT

1 April. The by-passed city of Glogau fell to the Red Army. Two Soviet columns, driving on Vienna, reached to within 15 miles of the city from the south and 35 miles from the east. South of Lake Balaton the Russian advance into the Nagykanizsa oil fields continued on a wide front.

TOP SECRET
DSD Delivery 6-23-75

WAR DEPARTMENT

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

No. 1208

0700 March 31 to 0700 April 1, 1945

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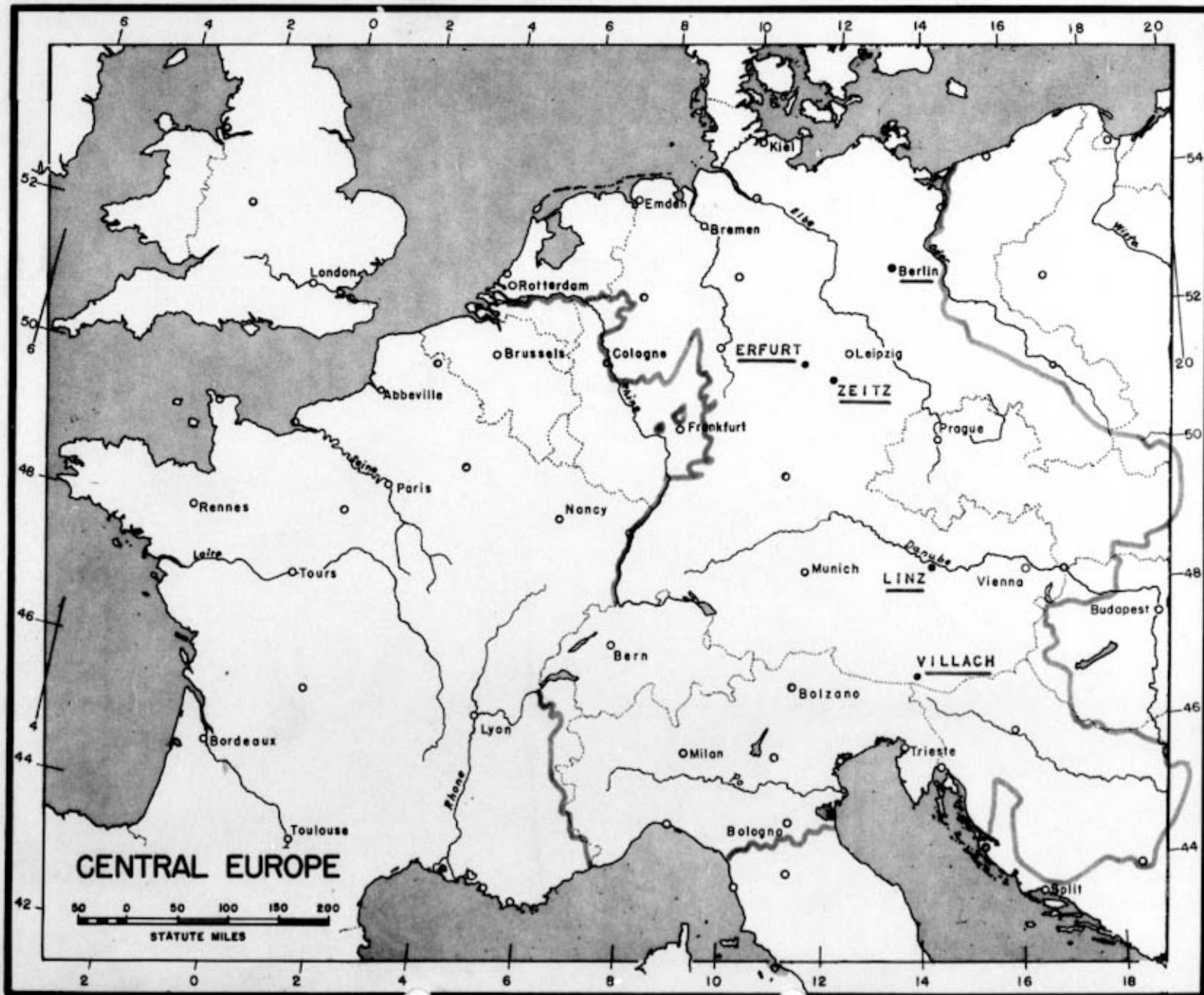
THE WHITE HOUSE

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24-87117-300

EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN - STRATEGIC AIR

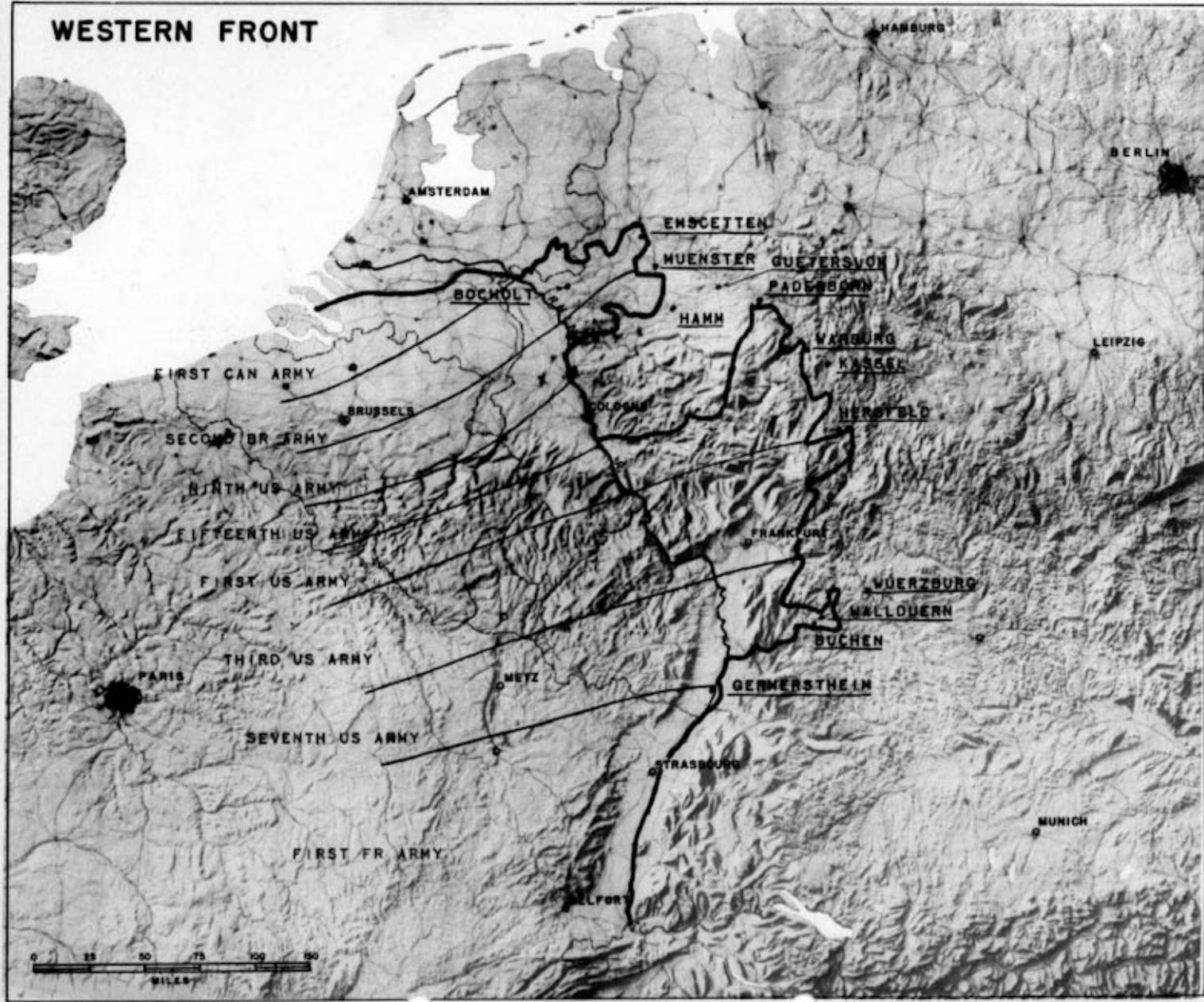
30 March. During the night 40 Mosquitoes raided Berlin and 43 attacked Erfurt. Seven other Mosquitoes made widespread attacks in northwestern Germany.

31 March. A synthetic oil plant at Zeitz and widespread rail yards and oil storage plants in Germany were the targets for 1,345 escorted 8th Air Force bombers. Six enemy planes were shot down. We lost ten bombers and six fighters.

Submarine yards in northwestern Germany were attacked by 469 RAF bombers and fighters.

The railyards at Linz and Villach were bombed by 540 escorted 15th Air Force heavy bombers dropping a total of 1,160 tons of bombs. Thirty-five enemy aircraft were destroyed; eight bombers and nine fighters are missing.

WESTERN FRONT



TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET
and Letter, 5-3-72

EUROPEAN THEATER

30 March. During the 24-hour period ending at sunset, the Tactical Air Forces flew 2,886 sorties and dropped a total of 1,257 tons of bombs.

Principal targets were storage depots and enemy installations attacked during missions in support of our advancing ground forces. Transport in northwestern Germany was hit resulting in the destruction or damaging of 30 locomotives, 650 rail cars, and 425 motor vehicles. Thirty-seven enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground at Guetersloh and one enemy plane was shot down; we lost 15 planes during these missions.

During the 24-hour period ending at 0600, 11 flying bombs fell near Antwerp; antiaircraft batteries destroyed 16 other flying bombs.

31 March. To 0600 hours no rockets or flying bombs fell in England.

31 March. By noon, elements of the British Second Army scored advances of about 15 miles into the Netherlands north of Bocholt. To the east, armored spearheads advanced 25 miles to capture Emscetten; other forces in this thrust were some eight miles north of Muenster. The US XIX Corps bypassing Muenster to the south are less than five miles from Hamm after an advance of 13 miles.

Elements of our Ninth Army reducing German positions in the Ruhr were still meeting heavy opposition.

The First US Army has pushed to within two miles of Paderborn. Tank columns of our V Corps have advanced to Warburg, made contact with the VII Corps on the west, and on the east are within 18 miles of Kassel.

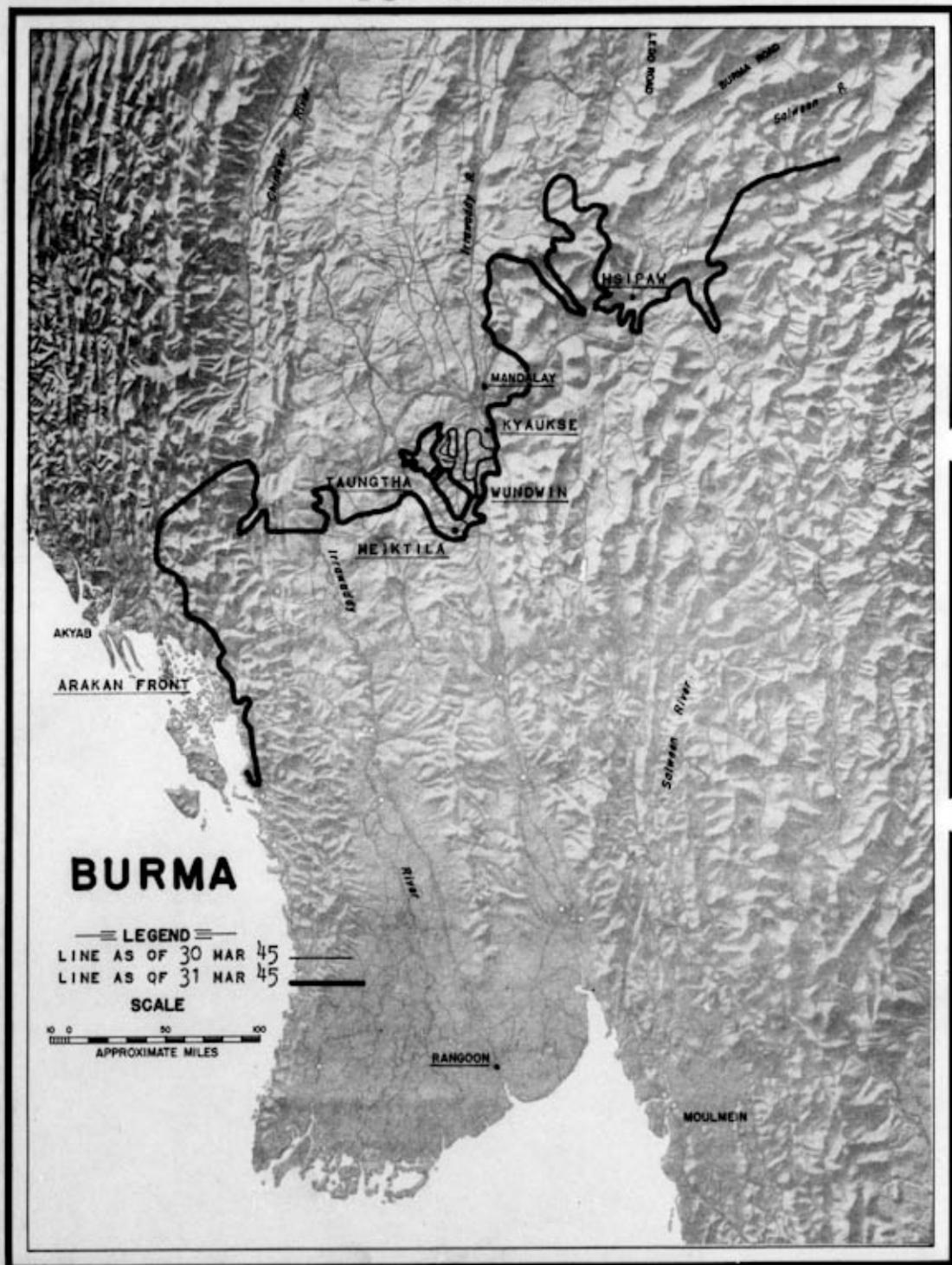
On the Third Army front, one armored column drove northeast 25 miles to within ten miles of Kassel and another is in the vicinity of Hersfeld. Other units to the south scored advances of 12 miles along a 30-mile front.

Troops of our Seventh Army captured Buchen and Wallduern to move within 20 miles of Wuerzburg. The II French Corps crossed the Rhine in the vicinity of Germerstheim, initially against little opposition, and has established contact with units to the north.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

30 March. During the 24-hour period ending at 1800, the Tactical Air Force flew 894 sorties. Medium bombers attacked bridges along the Brenner route, and in northeastern Italy. Fighters and fighter bombers concentrated on communications throughout central and northeastern Italy and on ammunition and supply dumps in the Po Valley. The Coastal and Balkan Air Forces in 145 sorties attacked shipping in the Gulf of Genoa and the Adriatic, and enemy positions in Yugoslavia.

31 March. Activity on the Italian battlefield was confined to patrolling.



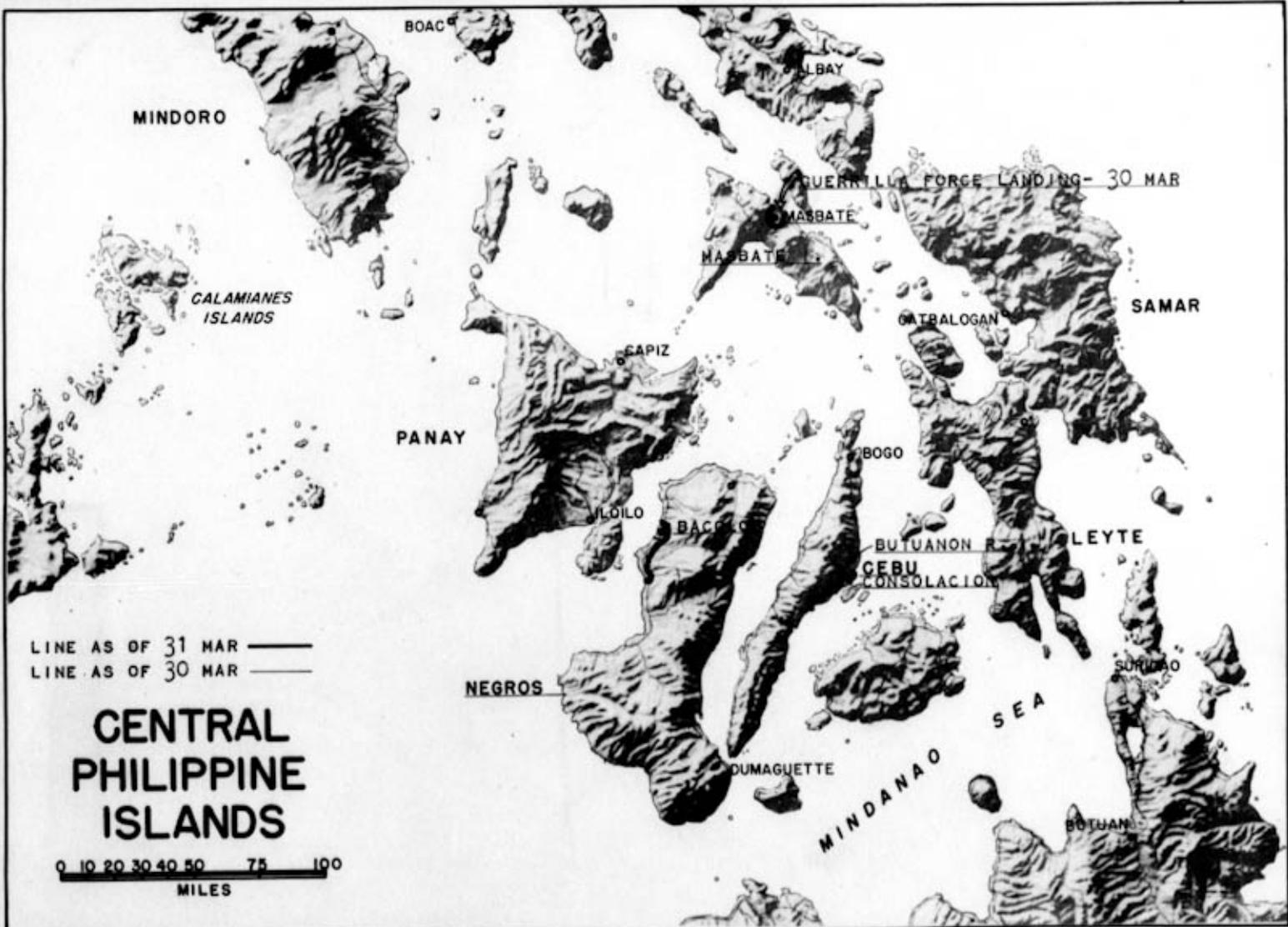
ASIATIC THEATER

29 March. The Eastern Air Command flew 2,642 sorties, of which 769 were offensive. Heavy bombers attacked a Japanese headquarters in Rangoon and bridges along the Burma-Siam railway; medium bombers and fighters continued to pound enemy dumps, installations and communications throughout central and southern Burma.

29 March. The 14th Air Force flew 48 previously unreported offensive sorties. River shipping, troop concentrations, and road movements in the Liuchow, Hengyang, and Hochih areas were the principal targets. Numerous small vessels were destroyed or damaged.

30 March. Chinese columns pushing west and south from Hsipaw scored advances of some four miles. British units have occupied all of Taungtha Ridge. Allied columns south of Mandalay occupied Kyaukse, and other units south of Wundwin have made contact with Allied forces in the Meiktila area. There were no significant changes on the Arakan front.

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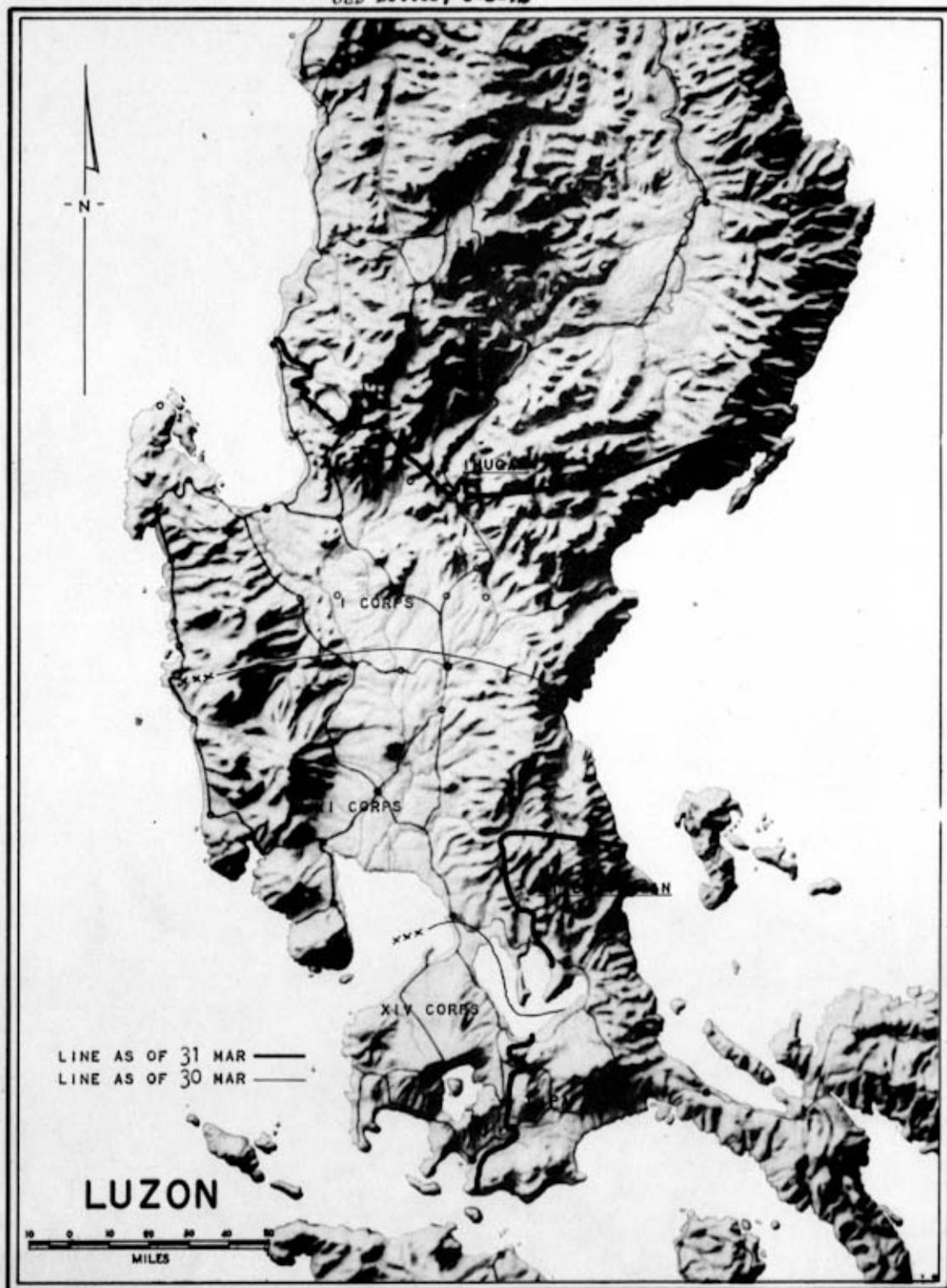


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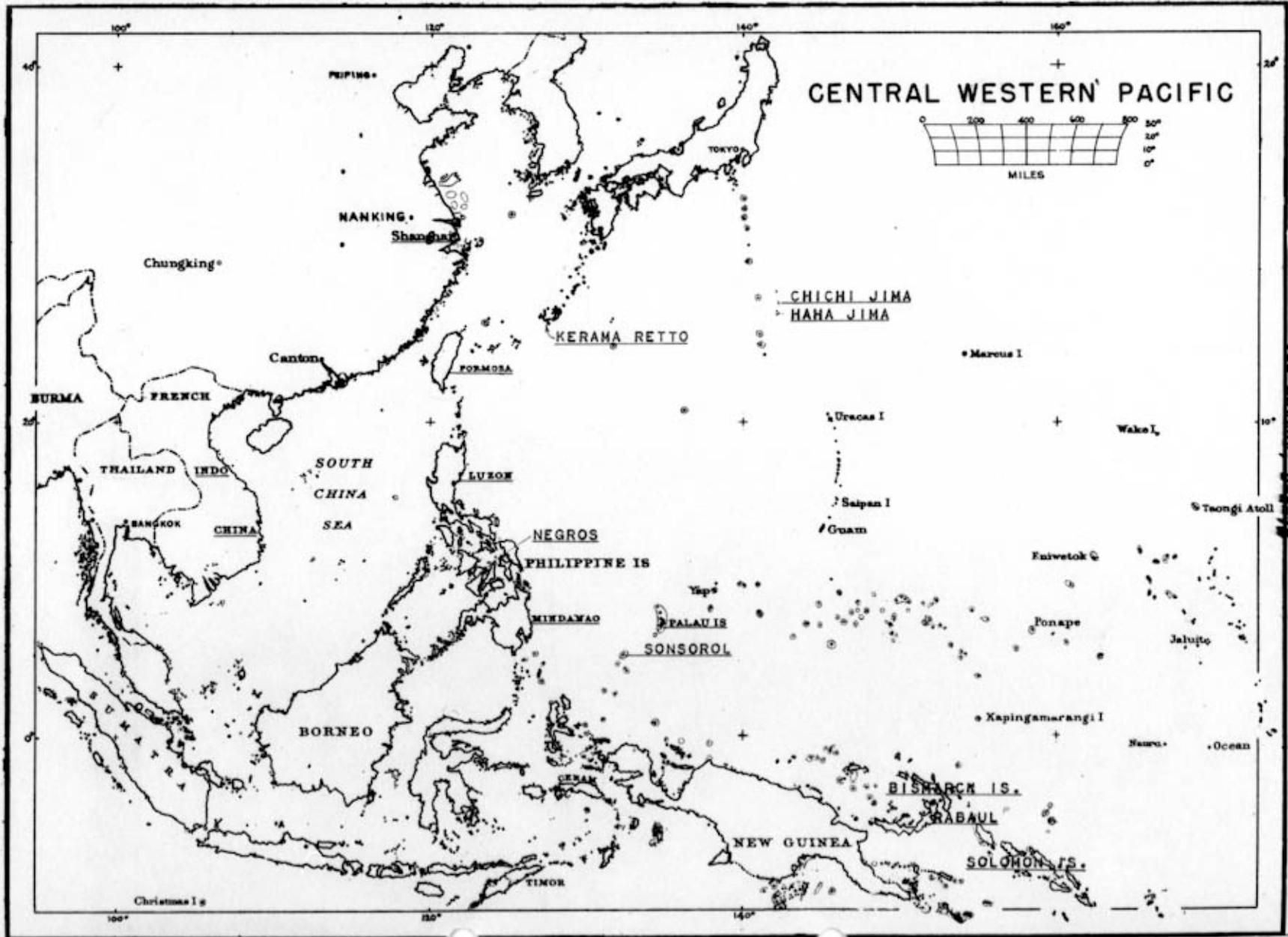
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SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THEATER

29 March. Southwest Pacific planes flew 300 previously unreported sorties, including 112 against gun positions and enemy installations in the Bismarcks and Solomons. B-24's sank a small freighter near Shanghai. Other heavy bombers attacked targets on Luzon, Negros and Mindanao. Fighters shot down five enemy planes.

30 March. More than 730 sorties were flown, of which 612 were against targets on Luzon. Two heavy bombers exploded a fuel storage tank on Formosa. Twenty-three B-24's bombed airfields on Formosa; twelve others hit airdromes near Rabaul. We lost two planes.

Minor gains and patrol activity were reported by the I Corps on northern Luzon; a Japanese counterattack was repulsed northwest of Imugan. Troops of the XI Corps were encountering heavy opposition northwest of Mount Baytangan where enemy mortar fire forced a slight withdrawal. East of Lake Taal, our forces pushing north made contact with cavalry units at Lipa.

On Cebu, our forces were encountering heavy opposition to their advance inland. Patrols pushed northward along the coast to Consolacion and reconnoitered the Butuanon River. We have captured Bacolod, the capital of Negros, and its airfield.

On Mindanao, we continued to encounter heavy opposition. Several Japanese night attacks were repulsed.

Following a naval bombardment, guerrilla forces landed on Masbate Island and captured the town of Masbate and high ground to the south.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

30 March. Twenty-four fighters attacked targets in the Palaus and four bombed small shipping in the Sonsorol Islands. Four other planes raided targets on Chichi Jima and Haha Jima.

29 March. All islands in the Kerama Retto have been secured by our forces.

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EASTERN FRONT

31 March. Ratibor in upper Silesia has fallen to the Soviets. The Red drive north of the Danube gained over ten miles, overrunning the communications center of Nitra. Further advances were made in Austria south of Vienna.