

MR 203 "JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITY"

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 1942

116

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OBD Let.JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of CPOO, Dec. 31, 1942I. Pacific Coast.

An unidentified SS was attacked 15 miles from Cape Mala (100 miles southwest of Balboa). Five depth charges were dropped, but no results were reported.

II. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomon Islands.

Construction activity at Rekata Bay was observed by air reconnaissance December 29. Three enemy float planes on the water were strafed. The following day 7 SED's and 7 Grumans bombed and strafed this area, scoring hits on buildings.

On December 28, 7 P-39's, 7 Grumans, and 4 P-38's strafed Munda. Three Zeros were set afire in their revetments and an A/A battery with its crew was destroyed. A/A fire was inaccurate and of small calibre. All our planes returned.

Six enemy bombers landed at Munda at 0800, December 29. One plane was bombed by a U.S. reconnaissance plane and fires were seen 10 minutes after.

Catalinas dropped bombs and mortar shells in the Munda area December 29-30. Considerable barge activity and unloading was observed in the islands around Munda.

On December 30, 4 P-39's and 7 Grumans destroyed 5 small Japanese barges off Vangunu Island.

(B) New Britain.

On December 29, the runway at Casuata was bombed. Results were not observed.

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According to a SWPAC press release our heavy bombers attacked Rabaul, December 30. Two large vessels of from 8,000 to 10,000 tons were set afire and an 8,000 ton AP received a direct hit. A/A fire was heavy, but all our planes returned.

(C) New Guinea.

A B-24 dropped five 500-lb. bombs on Lae Airdrome, December 29. Considerable enemy motor transport and aircraft activity has been observed here the last few days.

On December 29, U.S. and Australian troops pushed northwest from the "old strip" to a point approximately 600 yards from our forces on the beach west of Giropa Point. We now control 400 yards of the beach between Buna Govt. Station and Giropa Point. Two 3-inch naval guns, A/A guns, and machine guns were captured by our forces.

(D) Timor.

Fullero airdrome (northeast Timor) was strafed by 3 Beaufighters on December 28. Two or three machine gun posts were silenced and a Zero on the ground damaged. Two Beaufighters made a forced landing at Bathurst Island (just north of Darwin) but the crews are safe.

III. Bay of Bengal.

According to a late press release, U.S. bombers scored hits on a Japanese AO and AK at Rangoon December 30. The AO was burning and an explosion in the AK was observed.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
SUMMARY AS OF 0800 Dec. 30, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomon Islands.

At Guadalcanal, patrol activity continues. Marines killed 110 Japanese on December 27. The following day mortar and artillery fire directed into a Japanese-held area destroyed an enemy mortar and a machine gun and 30-40 Japs were killed. In other operations during the two days 15 enemy troops were killed.

On December 29, our aircraft sank two enemy AK's in Wickham anchorage (southeast New Georgia).

(B) New Britain - New Ireland Area.

On December 28, 4 Catalinas bombed Kavieng airdrome and large fires were started. Heavy A/A fire was encountered, but all planes returned. Two DD's and 4 unidentified ships were observed in this area.

Gasmata airdrome was bombed three times on December 28. Bombs were dropped on the runways by Catalinas and B-24's. The results were not observed.

On December 29, twelve B-17's attacked shipping at Rabaul. Results were unobserved.

(C) New Guinea.

Lae was bombed on December 28 by a B-24. A fire was started.

The Amboga and Kumusi River areas were strafed the same day by three Beaufighters.

The enemy suffered considerable losses during their counter-attack of December 28 in the Buna Mission area. Thirteen enemy bunkers were captured the same day.

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(D) Netherland East Indies.

It is estimated that 1,500-2,500 enemy troops equipped with trucks, guns, and supplies landed at Laival (northeast Timor) December 24.

On December 26, 1 CV, 1 GA, 1 OL, and 2 DD's were reported sighted 62 miles northeast of Surabaya on course 60°.

R. A. Boone.

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WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 29, 1942*It is requested that this document be
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not be placed in any general file.*I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 26 a B-17 dropped eight 500-lb. bombs on an unidentified enemy vessel in Tonolet harbor scoring one direct hit and several near misses.

Buka, Kahili airdrome, Ballale Island airfield, the Shortland-Faisi area and Rekata were bombed by a B-17 during the day of Dec. 26. The results were unobserved.

Munda, the same day, was raided four times by our planes. Three of the attacks were by one B-17 and the fourth by 9 aircraft. Twenty 500-lb. bombs and clusters of fragmentation bombs were dropped. Hits were scored on and near the runway.

(B) New Britain.

Sixty-one unidentified vessels were observed by air reconnaissance in Rabaul harbor on Dec. 27.

The following day, according to a SWPAC communique, B-24's made three direct hits with 500-lb. bombs on a Japanese CA in Rabaul Harbor. The cruiser was in flames and was probably destroyed.

(C) New Guinea.

On Dec. 28, Finschafen airfield was bombed and strafed by a B-24 on reconnaissance.

A P-39 shot down a Japanese reconnaissance plane over Goodenough Island.

On December 27, an enemy float plane inflicted some damage and casualties on an Allied vessel in Merauke harbor.

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(D) Timor.

Fuilloro airdrome, Laivai, and Oasu were bombed by Beau-
fighters and Hudsons on Dec. 27. Zeros intercepted these attacks and 1 Zero
and 1 Hudson were destroyed. The results were not observed.

II. U.S. Submarine Reports.

Two submarines returning from patrol in the southwest Pacific
area report sinking an enemy AK, AO, and AP.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary 84 of 0800, Dec. 28, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

Six B-24's and 9 P-38's made a strafing attack on Holtz Bay, Attu, on Dec. 25. Enemy A/A fire was heavy and accurate. Two P-38's were lost but one pilot was saved.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomon Islands.

Nine ships, including 1 AE, were observed in the Buin-Faisi area on Dec. 23. Six ships were sighted in the same area two days later and three unclassified ships were approaching Buin from Vella Lavella.

SEB's and fighters bombed and strafed Munda on Dec. 27.

Thirty cargo parachutes were discovered at Tassafurunga at dawn on Dec. 27. They were bombed and strafed by P-39's.

Twelve SEB's and 14 P-39's bombed a Japanese bivouac area above Kokumbona.

(B) New Britain.

On Dec. 26 one B-24 scored hits on an 8,000-ton AK in a 7 ship convoy in St. George's Channel. The ship was burning and being abandoned.

The airdrome at Cape Gloucester was bombed by a B-24.

One 15,000-ton AP and two 8,000-ton AK's were destroyed by a bomber attack on Rabaul on Dec. 27, according to official SWPAC press releases.

(C) New Guinea.

On Dec. 26 Madang and Finsehafen were bombed by a B-24 on reconnaissance and the coastal area around Salamaua was strafed by 2

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Bostons.

An enemy force of 25 fighters and 15 dive bombers was surprised by 12 P-38's over the Buna area. A total of 19 enemy planes were destroyed in the day's operation, while one of our planes was damaged.

(D) Timor.

On Dec. 26, 6 Beaufighters strafed the Point Laivai area (northeast Timor) where the Japanese recently made landings. On the same day 4 AK's and a DD were observed at Dili.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports.

Three of our submarines just returned from patrol report sinking two enemy AK's, an AP and a 9,000-ton auxiliary vessel. Another enemy AK was reported damaged.

R. A. Boone.

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Summary as of 0800, Dec. 27, 1942I. Northwest Pacific.

On December 25, our weather plane contacted 8 zero float planes on the surface at Holtz Bay. 7 enemy planes took off and 3 exchanged shots with our tail gunner at 400 yard range, without damage.

II. Western Pacific.

26 B-24's bombed Wake Island December 23. 138 500 pound bombs and 18 incendiary clusters were dropped, starting fires visible 75 miles. Every indication was that the attack was a complete surprise. AA fire was inaccurate and all our planes returned to base. None of the personnel were injured. Later photographic reconnaissance was unsuccessful due to bad weather. The plane was damaged slightly.

III. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomon Islands.

Natives report that 200 Japanese arrived at Raua and Tinputz Mission (25 miles E. S. E. of Buka passage), from Sohana. The buildings were all destroyed and the enemy party then moved inland.

The Balak airstrip is now reported to be 3500 feet long, and work on it is continuing.

Our SED's report sinking a small enemy AK off Wickham Island (near New Georgia Island) on December 25.

(B) New Britain.

Enemy positions were bombed by 1 B-24 on December 25. On the same day a large enemy SS was sighted and strafed by a B-17 at Wide Bay on the SE coast.

(C) New Guinea.

Lae was bombed on December 25.

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On the night of December 24--25, 2 loaded landing barges were attacked by U. S. PT boats in Douglas Harbor (near Cape Ward Hunt). The extent of the damage is not known. The next night our artillery and mortars were used against small enemy boats attempting to land troops near the Buna Mission buildings.

In air actions on December 25, 3 Beaufighters strafed enemy installations at the mouth of the Amboga River.

(D) Timor.

Activity was concentrated around Point Laivia (in N. E. Timor). On December 24, our aircraft reported a small enemy DD or gunboat, 1 AP and 3 AK's landing troops in that area. The plane made one direct hit and several near misses with bombs, and damaged ships with gunfire. On December 25, 1 Beaufighter attacked the same area, strafing troops and barges. 9 planes started on the raid, but 8 turned back because of bad weather.

R. A. Boone.

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Summary as of 0800, Dec. 26, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 22, 2 B-17's dropped eight 500-lb. bombs on Kahili airdrome near Buin.

Photos of the 23rd showed 4 medium bombers (3 damaged) and 15 fighters (9 damaged) on Buka airdrome.

On Dec. 24 our planes made 3 highly successful attacks in the Munda area:

(1) In the early morning, 9 SED's, 9 P-39's, and 4 Grummans attacked. Four Zeros attempted interception, and all were shot down by the P-39's. Twenty to twenty-two more fighters were caught attempting to take off; a Grumman shot down 10 of these in the air, and SED's destroyed the 10-12 aircraft remaining on the ground. Two other fighters were strafed in revetments, and weak AA fire was silenced.

(2) At noon, 8 U.S. dive-bombers and 16 fighters again attacked. Four 500-lb. and eight 100-lb. bombs landed on the runway, and other bombs landed on or near gun emplacements. Only 1 undamaged Zero was seen on the ground.

(3) At 1800 L, 9 SED's, escorted by 4 P-39's and 4 Grummans, bombed a group of 13 landing barges loaded with troops and supplies, nearing Munda. Only 4 barges reached shore, and few Japanese personnel were believed to have escaped. All our planes returned safely from these raids.

(B) New Ireland - New Britain.

On Dec. 23, photos of Kavieng showed 2 CA's, 1 large AP, 1 small AK, and 1 beached merchantman.

A B-17 on reconnaissance was attacked by 6-9 Zeros, 10 miles south of Kavieng. Three Zeros were shot down, and 2 were damaged.

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Three B-25's and later 1 B-24 attacked the airfield at Cape Gloucester (west end of New Britain).

On Dec. 24, a total of 13 B-17's and B-24's, operating singly and in groups, attacked Arawa and Gasmata. An 1800-ton AP was sunk at Arawa, and 3-4 Zeros were shot down by a B-24. Three to 4 more Zeros were destroyed over Gasmata by the same B-24. B-17's succeeded in sinking an enemy vessel of 5,000-6,000 tons at Gasmata, with 3 direct bomb hits.

During the night of Dec. 24-25, 11 B-17's (6 of which reached the target) left Guadalcanal to attack Rabaul. Two B-17's scored 3 direct hits with 500-lb. bombs on a large AP or AK, and also claimed 7 near hits on 3 smaller AK's. The pilots saw 60 ships in the outer harbor, including 1 possible CV. The other B-17's which reached the target bombed Lakunai airdrome and the wharf area, and unsuccessfully attacked a CA in St. George's Channel.

(C) New Guinea.

A DD, attacked by 1 Catalina on the night of Dec. 21-22 about 35 miles north of Cape Ward Hunt, is now believed to have been sunk.

On the ground our forces have made advances in the "old strip" area and near Buna Mission.

On Dec. 24 enemy planes attacked our positions around Gona and in the inland area between the Amboga River and Dobudura. One B-24 attacked Lae airdrome, and 3 Bostons strafed from the Amboga River to Salamaua. Canoes containing 20 Japanese were sunk, and other damage was inflicted on the enemy.

(D) Timor - Aroe Islands.

From Dec. 23 through 25 small flights of Allied planes continued attacks on the partially completed airfield at Fuloro (northeast Timor). A group of enemy AP's was attacked off Laival (northwest Timor). One direct hit and 2 near hits were claimed, and black smoke was observed on 1 vessel.

On December 23, 3 Hudsons started fires at Dobo (Aroe Islands) and shot down 1 enemy seaplane.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 24, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR Naval Aide

Re: 16F-2 Japanese Naval Activities Summary
(Sealed Secret) delivered 12/24/42 P.M. 0036 apo

The date of the Japanese activities Summary
should be December 24, rather than December 23.

Respectfully,

Harry F. Dickinson

Harry F. Dickinson

Ensign USNR

By direction.

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Letter, 5-8-78JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of CSCC, Dec. 21, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

At 1016 L on Dec. 21, 2 DD's and 1 AK were seen about 40 miles west of Shortland Island on an easterly course. Five DD's and 1 AK were seen in the Buin-Tonolei area.

Our dive bombers attacked Munda again on Dec. 22.

(B) New Britain.

A Japanese landing has been reported at Cape Gloucester on the west end of New Britain. One allied watcher was reported killed, and one was captured. Fifty Japanese were seen on the airfield.

An enemy AK, camouflaged with trees and branches, was bombed and strafed near Cape Cunningham on Dec. 22, but results were not observed.

Photographic reconnaissance at Rabaul on Dec. 22 showed essentially the same shipping as on the previous day.

(C) New Ireland.

A U.S. heavy bomber on reconnaissance near Manatani on Dec. 22 was intercepted by 3 fighters. One fighter was shot down, and the other two damaged.

(D) New Guinea.

A delayed report states that 1 enemy DD visited Kaukerua (on the southwest coast of Dutch New Guinea) on Dec. 14 and 16. On Dec. 22, 1 float zero plane bombed Merauke, the capital of Dutch South New Guinea, causing no damage.

The enemy occupied 3 positions within a radius of 10 miles of Madang in his landings the night of Dec. 18-19.

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In the Mambare-Bum area, the following action took place:

1. Two PT boats contacted an enemy SS during the nights of Dec. 18-19 and 19-20 off the Mambare river. On the second night, 3 torpedoes were fired at the SS without hitting it. The SS was suspected of attempting to supply the enemy forces in the area.

2. The Maimba mission and village, also at the mouth of the Mambare, were bombed and strafed by 4 B-25's on Dec. 22, leaving fires in the area.

3. On Dec. 22, enemy headquarters and a dump at the mouth of the Amboga river were bombed and strafed by 4 Bostons. Results were not announced.

4. A slight advance was made on the Soputa-Sarazanda track.

(B) Timor.

On Dec. 22, 4 B-25's machine-gunned personnel and installations at the airdrome being constructed at Fuloro (northeast Timor).

R. A. Beono.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0900, Dec. 23, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) New Britain.

Photographic reconnaissance on Dec. 21 revealed a total of 76 ships at Rabaul. They were: 1 CA, 20 DD's, 1 CM, 2 SS's, 2 patrol craft, 1 PT, 2 AV's, 3 AO's, 44 AK's (of 1,000 to 10,000 tons, totalling about 242,000 tons).

Observation at the same time showed intense activity and new construction at Lakunai airdrome. Three medium bombers and 20 fighters were seen. Construction was continuing on the new runway at Vunikanau, where 25 medium bombers were seen in the dispersal bay.

On Dec. 20 our heavy bombers destroyed a medium AK off Arawa. On the same day a ED was seen about 75 miles northwest of Talasea on a northeast course. The vessel was proceeding at slow speed with several large crates on deck, fore and aft.

(B) New Guinea.

The advance of our troops continued slowly in the face of desperate enemy resistance in the Buna area.

A 1,500 ton unidentified vessel was observed about 35 miles northeast of Buna near midnight Dec. 20. Later that night a Catalina reported attacking a DD 35 miles north of Cape Ward Hunt causing possible damage from 2 very near misses.

Port Moresby was bombed on the night of Dec. 21-22 by one enemy plane. Ten bombs including incendiaries were dropped with no damage or casualties.

(C) Timor.

On Dec. 18, our patrol near Araebe was attacked by 300 Japanese and natives. Turiscar (6 miles east of Macbasse) was occupied by

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an unknown number of Japanese and natives on Dec. 20. Minor casualties were suffered in these contacts. On Dec. 21, our planes attacked enemy installations near Vila De Avis (near eastern tip of Timor). No results were reported.

(D) Sumatra.

According to an Admiralty Communique, during the night of Dec. 20-21, a British naval force operating in the Bay of Bengal carried out a heavy air attack on Sabang, on the northwest end of Sumatra. Large explosions, followed by fires, were observed. All British aircraft returned safely.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 22, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

On Dec. 20, 5 B-24's, 4 B-25's, 4 B-26's and 9 P-38's attacked Kiska harbor. Hits, heavy explosions, and flames in buildings were seen in the SS base area on the south shore of the bay. The camp area on the north shore, both north and south heads and a beached AK on the west shore were bombed and strafed. Direct hits were reported on an AA emplacement and munitions shed. All planes returned.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 21, 2 B-17's attacked 2 AK's in the Buin area from 0200L to 0345L. One direct hit and 2 near misses started a fire on 1 AK, which was last seen settling by the stern. There were 3 near misses on the second AK.

At 0700L, Dec. 20, 4 B-17's again attacked Munda. No damage was reported.

Buka, Munda and Buin were again subjected to harassing raids, each by 1 B-17, during the night of Dec. 20-21. A fire was started on the wharf and northeast jetty at Sohona Island (Buka). 2,000 pound bombs were dropped at Munda, but results were not seen. The plane at Buin dropped 2 bombs on the new landing strip at Ballale Island, which recent observations now indicate as ready for use by the enemy.

(B) New Britain.

On Dec. 20, 1 enemy DD was sighted about 65 miles northwest of Talasea on a northwest course. A B-24 shadowing a naval force in the same area is missing after completing its reconnaissance mission. The plane had not been in contact with the enemy.

(C) New Guinea.

During the night of Dec. 20-21, 1 Catalina bombed and strafed

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1 enemy AK 65 miles east of Finschafen. Results not observed. On Dec. 21, our heavy bombers destroyed 2 medium AK's in Finschafen harbor. The stern of one ship was blown off and the second was left in flames. The building area of the town was strafed, causing fires.

Land fighting in the Buna area was limited to patrol activity. On Dec. 20, Allied forces secured control over the new landing strip. Allied medium bombers attacked the Buna government station area starting small fires.

III. Indian Ocean.

The 3,548-ton Greek freighter S.S. SARONIKOS, previously reported overdue, is now reported sunk off Iouranco Marques.

R. A. Boone.

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Summary as of 0800, Dec. 21, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 19, 7 B-17's and 8 P-38's were intercepted over Shortland Island by about 20 enemy fighters, of which 3 were destroyed. One B-17 and 5 P-38's were damaged. Unable to attack Buin because of bad weather, our planes bombed the Munda area on their return journey. On the same day 12 SBD's escorted by Grummans made an additional attack on Munda meeting no aircraft or AA opposition.

Three SBD's and one Catalina dropped flares and searched unsuccessfully for an enemy AP reported off Tassafaronga at 2300 L, Dec. 19. During the day small groups of Japanese were strafed on the coast road between the Bonagi River and Tassafaronga.

On the same day, 4 enemy flying boats and about 25 float planes (in addition to the 20 planes mentioned above) were sighted in the Shortland area. One CA and one CL near Buin, and one AK and one DD near Buka Passage, were also observed.

During the night of Dec. 19-20, B-17's carried out nuisance raids at Buka, Buin, and Munda. One large fire was observed at Buka.

(B) New Britain.

On Dec. 19, 3 groups of B-24's attacked a CL and a DD north of New Britain, scoring 5 near misses.

(C) New Guinea.

On the morning of Dec. 19, B-24's made two attacks on the enemy convoy reported yesterday off Madang. The convoy, less one CL and one DD, was sighted northeast of Madang on a northeast course. In this area a B-24 destroyed one single-engined aircraft on the water and shot down one out of six intercepting planes. Another enemy plane

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was damaged in this engagement. Three B-17's attacked Madang itself, scoring hits in the warehouse area and near the wharf.

In other air attacks on enemy positions in northeast New Guinea, 6 B-25's and 4 B-24's bombed Iae airdrome, and 9 B-25's followed by 13 Bostons bombed and strafed Ema Mission.

II. U.S. Submarine Report.

One of our SS's returned from a patrol in the Southwestern Pacific has reported sinking a 4,400-ton AK or AP and damaging and possibly sinking a 6,300-ton AK.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0600, Dec. 20, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On December 17 a B-17 bombed and strafed Kahili airdrome and set 4 grounded planes afire. Seventeen unidentified vessels were sighted in the Buin - Tonolei area. At Shortland, 6 seaplanes and an AV were seen. On Dec. 18, 2 DD's, 1 AO, and 3 AK's were sighted in the same area. On Dec. 18, 1 DD and one 5,000-ton AP arrived at Buka from the south. One DD and one large AO were seen 20 miles east of Buka passage on a northerly course.

On Dec. 18 a total of 18 B-17's with escorts were used in bombing attacks on the Munda area.

(B) Admiralty Islands Area.

On Dec. 18, a convoy of 1 CL, 4 DD's, and 2 AK's on a southerly course was bombed north of Manus Island. Four hits were claimed on the CL and several near misses on the AK's. It was reported that the CL was later sighted off Madang in a sinking condition with 1 DD standing by. The balance of the convoy was anchored off Madang.

(C) New Guinea.

1. During the night of Dec. 18-19, 2 DD's or 1 CL and 1 DD were sighted entering Finschaven. One cruiser and 3 DD's were reported off Wewak.

2. On December 18, Allied air formations bombed the air-fields at Alixishaven and Lae and bombed and strafed Kurenada village (at the mouth of the Amboga River).

II. Indian Ocean.

The 3085-ton Netherlands cargo vessel S.S. SANAHLOENTO was torpedoed and sunk 170 miles SE of Durban on Dec. 14.

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The U.S. cargo vessel S.S. SAWOKIA (5882 tons) is overdue at Capetown from Colombo where she sailed on November 18.

The Greek vessel S.S. SARONIKOS is overdue at Durban, having left Aden Nov. 21.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 19, 1942.

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I. Northwest Pacific.

At 1240 X, Dec. 17, three B-24's dropped 35 500-lb. bombs on shore installations at Kiska. One hit in the SS base area and flames in buildings north of the marine railway were observed. Six medium bombers and 8 P-38's failed to reach the target because of bad weather.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 16, our aircraft sighted an AK or AP in Buka Passage, 6 DD's and 10 AP/AK at Buin-Faisi, and 15 float Zeros and 7 4-engined flying boats at Shortland Island. On Dec. 17, a 5,000-ton AP was observed in Buka Passage.

On Dec. 18, B-17's with fighter escorts completed 2 bombing missions against Munda, New Georgia.

(B) New Ireland to New Guinea

On Dec. 17, our aircraft made the following sightings:

- (a) 115 miles NW of Manus Island, on a NW course, one AP (8-10,000 tons) and 3 DD's.
- (b) 35 miles SE of Kavieng, on a NW course, one AP (4,000 tons) with 3 small escort vessels.
- (c) 2 enemy warships arriving off Cape Gloucester (West end of New Britain) and later departing to the NE.
- (d) 1 large SS crash-diving off the Mambare River mouth.

Ground and air actions of Australian and U. S. forces continues from Cape Endiaderere to the Amboga River. Heavy fighting is reported in the Buna Mission area.

(C) Timor

On Dec. 18, our medium bombers again attacked the Maobiese-Mindelo sector in central Portuguese Timor.

III. Central America - West Coast.

On Dec. 17, The S.S. ULUA (American, 6,494 tons?), independent

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was attacked by an SS off the W. coast of Mexico, S. of Salina Cruz.

IV. U. S. Submarine Reports.

One of our SS's in the Pacific has reported sinking 2 Japanese DD's.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 18, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

There is nothing to report.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomon Islands.

Yesterday's report stating that 12 Zeros were shot down by Army planes over New Georgia has been corrected: only 3 Zeros were shot down in this attack.

On Dec. 17, 5 B-17's and 7 F-38's again attacked Munda airfield.

(B) New Ireland - New Guinea.

On Dec. 16, 2 enemy hospital ships were sighted off the S coast of New Hanover. A B-24 attacked a small AK off the W end of New Hanover, but results were not observed.

About 50 miles S of Cape St. George one B-24 unsuccessfully attacked a DD, 2 AO's, and 2 AK's. The ships were on a NW course, probably proceeding to Rabaul.

Some Allied patrols are active in the Salamaua area. Farther south along the New Guinea coast, about 250 Japanese are estimated remaining in the Kambare-Kumusi area. Our pressure continues against Japanese forces in the Sanamanda - Buna Mission - Cape Endiaderes sectors.

(C) Timor.

On Dec. 17 our medium bombers attacked Mindelo, in central Portuguese Timor.

III. Indian Ocean.

The S.S. REYNOLDS (British cargo vessel, 5,113 tons) which sailed

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on Oct. 30 from Durban for Karachi, is now presumed sunk. The S.S. BELITA (Norwegian cargo vessel, 6,232 tons), torpedoed on Dec. 3 about 200 miles E of Italian Somaliland, is presumed sunk.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of CSCO, Dec. 17, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

There is nothing to report.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 14 one DD, 1 PG, and 1 AK (5,000 tons) arrived in Buka Passage during the afternoon. The DD and PG later departed on a SW course. Considerable enemy air activity was reported in the Buka area, and the next day it was reported that enemy patrol aircraft are active nightly over Buka.

On Dec. 15 the enemy landing field on Ballale Island (E of Shortland) was reported to be 90 per cent complete. On the same day 2 AK's and 3 DD's were seen leaving the Buia-Faisi area, while 5 DD's, 4 AK's, and 4 auxiliary craft remained. One B-17 attacked Kahili airdrome, dropping 20 100-lb. bombs on the runway and revetments.

On Dec. 15 2 P-39's and 2 SBD's strafed enemy positions on the NW end of Guadalcanal.

On Dec. 16 a force of our Army bombers was intercepted by 12 land-based Zeros over New Georgia. All the Zeros were shot down. We lost one bomber, but the crew was rescued.

At 2240L, 9 SBD's attacked the Munda area. One plane scored a 500-lb. bomb hit on the stern of a large DD or GL. Near misses were reported with 2 100-lb. bombs. The pilot saw much debris, and the ship was nearly dead in the water. A second SBD attacked this ship but failed to return. Our other 7 planes attacked the Munda airdrome.

(B) New Guinea.

On the night of Dec. 14-15 two enemy medium bombers made 2 runs over Port Moresby, causing 5 casualties. One bomber was probably destroyed by our AA fire.

On Dec. 15 Bostons, attacking the Humbere-Kumusi area, reported

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sighting only 6 barges, all unserviceable.

III. Indian Ocean.

On Dec. 11 one SS was sighted 80 miles N of Madras, and on Dec. 12 a possible SS was reported off the coast of Cuttack, about 200 miles SW of Calcutta.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
SUMMARY as of 0300, Dec. 16, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

There is nothing to report.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 13 our aircraft sighted 2 CL's, 1 DD, and 24 unclassified ships at Buin-Faisi. About 70 miles NE. of Buika Passage, one enemy DD, with her stern blown off, was being towed by another DD. A third DD was in the same area.

On the same day our patrols on Guadalcanal destroyed 2 enemy machine-gun positions and killed the gun-crews.

On Dec. 14, two B-17's bombed Kahili airdrome near Buin, meeting no AA or fighter opposition. Our planes observed 3 DD's, 3 AC's, 4 AK's, and one passenger-liner (possibly used as an AA) in Buin-Faisi waters.

At noon, Dec. 15, 9 SB'D's and 3 P-38's made another attack on Munda airfield. Neither AA fire nor air opposition was encountered.

(B) New Guinea.

More details are now available concerning the enemy's latest efforts to reinforce his positions in SE. New Guinea. A naval force of 2 CL's and 3 DD's was first sighted 70 miles N. of Madang, about noon on Dec. 13. They moved southeastward through Vitias Strait, rounded Huon Peninsula, and approached the estuaries of the Mambare, Kumusi, and Amboga Rivers, where at least 19 barges were used to land troops and supplies. The unloading operations commenced about 0300 K, Dec. 14. Afterwards, the CL's and DD's withdrew in the direction of Rabaul. They were last sighted about 40 miles E. of Casrata, on a NE. course, at 1300 K, Dec. 14.

During their approach and their withdrawal, the enemy ships were subjected to a series of at least 6 attacks by Catalinas, B-17's, B-24's,

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and B-25's. Many near misses were scored on the enemy ships, and incomplete reports show that at least 5 Zeros were shot down. Six B-24's were damaged.

During the actual landing operations, the enemy ships and barges were subjected to a coordinated series of 26 bombing and strafing attacks by B-25's, B-25's, Beaufighters, Bostons, and P-39's. The enemy suffered numerous personnel casualties; landing barges were sunk and damaged, and supplies of all kinds were bombed and strafed in the water and on land. Two of our planes were damaged.

Official SW. Pacific press releases say that on Dec. 15 our aircraft continued to bomb and strafe the remnants of the enemy landing force at the mouth of the Kumusi River.

On Dec. 14, Lae airdrome was attacked by 1 B-24, which dropped four 500-lb. bombs, all in the target area.

III. Indian Ocean.

On Dec. 3 the 6,232-ton Norwegian cargo vessel, BELITA (under British charter) was torpedoed 200 miles E. of Italian Somaliland.

On Dec. 12 the EMPIRE GULL (6,408-ton British cargo vessel) was torpedoed and sunk 120 miles E. of Lourenco Marques.

IV. U.S. Submarine Reports.

One of our SS's, returned from patrol, has reported the following results:

- (a) Two torpedo hits on a 9,000-ton AV, which was not in sight one hour after the attack.
- (b) Sank an AO of about 5,300 tons.
- (c) Raked a 150-ton schooner with 20-mm. shellfire and left her in a sinking condition.

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Summary as of 0800, Dec. 15, 1942**I. Northwest Pacific.**

On Dec. 12, bad weather hampered our aerial activities in the Aleutians.

II. Southwest Pacific.**(A) Solomons.**

Two allied air attacks on Munda airfield were made during Dec. 14: (a) At 1000 L, 7 B-17's dropped 58 100-lb. bombs. Medium 3-inch AA fire was encountered. (b) About two hours later, 8 SED's, 6 P-38's, and 3 P4F4's attacked. Pilots reported that the runway appeared damaged from bomb hits. No air opposition was encountered on either of these sorties.

(B) New Britain - New Guinea.

On Dec. 13 a B-24 dropped 4 500-lb. bombs on a Japanese DD near the south end of St. George's Channel. One near hit on the DD was claimed.

On the same day Cassata airdrome was bombed by 9 B-26's. Two small fuel dumps were set afire.

The Japanese have again attempted to bring reinforcements into the New Guinea area. On Dec. 13 one B-24 attacked an enemy force of 1 CL and 4 DD's north of New Britain. Two near misses were claimed on 1 DD by our planes, which dropped six 300-lb. bombs. Out of an intercepting force of one medium bomber and 4 fighters, our plane shot down the bomber and probably 2 Zeros. At the time of this attack, the enemy ships were moving toward Vitias Strait. During the afternoon in this area, they were again attacked by 9 B-17's. One DD received a direct hit and a near miss; another DD received 2 near misses. Altogether our planes dropped 72 500-lb. bombs. Eight to 10 Zeros intercepted and dropped aerial bombs on the B-17's, but our aircraft suffered no damage.

Press releases added that on Dec. 14 the enemy warships, with many landing barges, attempted to land troops at the Mambare and Kumusi estuaries. Our aircraft sank and disabled some of the barges, with heavy casualties being inflicted on the Japanese and with at least the major portion of the enemy effort being thwarted. A "headquarters spokesman" was quoted as saying the enemy warships were last seen heading northward toward Cassata.

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On Dec. 13 our ground and air attacks from Buna to the Kumusi River continued on a limited scale. During the night of Dec. 13-14 U.S. patrols made some advances between Giropa Point and Buna Mission. On the same night Port Moresby was twice attacked by enemy bombers, but no damage resulted.

At 1000 H, Dec. 14, our infantry occupied Buna Village after a heavy mortar barrage, according to official SW Pacific press releases.

(C) Timor.

Allied SW Pacific estimates now place enemy strength on Timor at 9,600 to 12,000. These include about 7,000 in Portuguese Timor, where enemy strength is believed to have been increased about 2½ times since July. A large part of this increase has been made by shifting 2,000 or more troops from Dutch to Portuguese Timor in the last few months. Japanese remaining in Dutch Timor are now estimated at 2,600 to 5,000.

E. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, December 14, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific

On December 11, Catalina patrol planes sighted one enemy twin-float seaplane fighter N.W. of Kiska and another S.W. of Kiska.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

About 1800L, Dec. 11, 14 SED's, 8 P-38's, and 4 Grummans attacked 7 out of a force of 11 DD's sighted N. of New Georgia Island. Five DD's were hit, with one DD receiving 2 hits.

At 0035L, Dec. 12, our PT's attacked the same enemy force, sinking 1 DD, setting afire another and damaging a third. We lost one PT in this action. The undamaged DD's were sighted before noon, heading back toward Buin.

Our daily air attacks on Munda airfield continue. In one large-scale attack by B-17's, 9 SED's, 8 P-38's, and 3 Grummans on the afternoon of Dec. 12, the Grummans shot down 2 enemy float biplanes which attempted interception.

At 0915L, Dec. 12, our aircraft sighted 1 enemy DD about 110 miles N. of Rekata Bay.

During the last few days ground action on Guadalcanal has been limited to patrol activity. On Dec. 13, one enemy plane dropped 3 bombs in the vicinity of our airfield.

(B) New Guinea

On the ground Dec. 12, Australian troops made a slight advance in the direction of Sanananda and repulsed two enemy counter-attacks near the mouth of the Amboga River, a few miles N. of Gona.

In the air, 6 Bostons and 5 Beaufighters conducted a reconnaissance flight from Buna to Salamona, strafing a large landing barge and 12-15 native canoes between the Kusasi River mouth and the Mambare River mouth. Three Bostons later repeated the above search and strafed about 15 barges, most of which appeared damaged, off Sanananda Point.

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III. Indian Ocean

On Dec. 11, the S.S. MODASA (British freighter of 9,070 tons) was missed by a torpedo 120 miles W.W. of Madras. Another Allied ship sighted a periscope 130 miles N.E. of Madras but was not attacked.

On Dec. 12, the S.S. MULBERRA (British freighter of 9,100 tons) sighted and was possibly attacked by an SS, about 200 miles S.W. of Calcutta.

IV. U.S. Submarine Reports

One of our SS's, returned from patrol, has reported sinking 2 enemy DD's in the South Pacific.

R.A. Boons.

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ON Letter, 13-8-78*It is requested that this document be
burned as soon as it has served its
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not be placed in any general file.*JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 13, 1942I. Northwest Pacific.

On December 11, 3 B-26's scored 2 bomb hits on the enemy vessel which had been refloated at Trout Lagoon, Kiska. Four escorting P-38's also bombed and strafed shore positions.

II. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

Photographs taken December 9, indicate that the Munda Airfield in the New Georgia Islands is about 90% completed.

(B) New Britain.

Photographic reconnaissance of Rabaul Harbor, December 11, revealed 1 CA, 1 CL, 9 DD's, 3 PT boats, 3 patrol craft, 1 possible SS, 1 AV, 2 AO's and 24 merchant vessels (2,000 to 8,000 tons), along with 2 unidentified craft, 2 flying boats and 3 seaplanes. The harbor was obscured by clouds and was only partially photographed.

(C) New Guinea.

Ground activity has been confined to patrol activities. Our forward elements at Cape Endiaderere now occupy the northern edge of the "new strip".

On December 11, our aircraft bombed enemy positions in the Sanananda area and between Old Buna Mission and Buna Mission. Our command Post near Dododura was strafed by 29 zero fighters, but no damage resulted.

Three heavy bombing attacks by B-26's and B-17's were made on the Lae airfield where one enemy aircraft and two AA positions were destroyed. Three B-17's also bombed the enemy airfield at Salamoa.

III. Indian Ocean.(A) Burma.

On December 11, six B-24's bombed the warehouse and dock area of Rangoon. No enemy aircraft were encountered.

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OSP (S) Andaman Islands

On December 11, six B-24's, without encountering enemy aircraft opposition, attacked Port Blair. No Japanese naval vessels were located.

(C) India.

On December 10, twenty-four Japanese bombers with fighter escort raided Chittagong. Three enemy planes were shot down.

R. A. Boons.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 12, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

On Dec. 10 bad weather prevented offensive air operations.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On the evening of Dec. 7, P-38's and 1 P-39 attacked an enemy force of 11 DD's north of New Georgia Island. Four bomb hits were scored, and one DD is believed sunk.

On Dec. 10, our aircraft sighted 13 DD's, 1 sloop, 3 SS's, 3 AO's, and 5 AK's at Buin-Faisi.

The previously reported air attack by 11 B-17's and 6 P-38's against enemy ships in this area took place at noon. The 2 enemy ships which were hit are now believed to have been AO's. Our P-38's shot down 5 Zeros, and a B-17 shot down another Zero. Our aircraft were undamaged.

From Dec. 9 through Dec. 12 the enemy airfield at Munda was subjected to daily attacks by our aircraft, chiefly B-17's. The runway was damaged, and fires were started. No enemy aircraft were encountered during any of these attacks.

(B) New Guinea.

On the ground on Dec. 10, Australian troops were advancing along the coast from Gona toward Cape Killerton and Sarananda. South of Sarananda constant Japanese counter-attacks were repulsed, with heavy casualties being inflicted on the enemy. In the Buna-Cape Endaiadere area U.S. troops continued offensive patrol action.

In the air, 6 Bostons bombed and strafed Japanese positions and trenches at the west end of the "new landing strip". An enemy ammunition dump was reported set afire.

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III. ~~SECRET~~ Indian Ocean.

The S.S. AYARYLIS (reported yesterday as having been sunk by an SS 160 miles northeast of Durban on December 2) has now been identified as the S.S. AMARYLIS, 4,328-ton Panamanian cargo vessel.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 11, 1942

On Dec. 7 the S.S. ARAKI of Japanese registry was
seen 150 miles northwest of Adak.

I. Northwest Pacific.

On Dec. 8 bad weather prevented air attacks against Attu and
Kiska, but our aircraft sighted a probable enemy SS making a crash-dive about
30 miles northwest of Adak.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On Dec. 8 one of our B-17's damaged an intercepting Japanese
two-engine bomber over Ongtong Java, 150 miles north of Santa Isabel. On
Dec. 10 a Catalina was attacked by a two-engine land-based bomber about
60 miles east of Ongtong Java.

On Dec. 10, 11 B-17's escorted by 8 P-38's attacked 2 large
enemy ships in the Buin area. Three bomb hits were scored on one ship, and
two straddles with 1 hit from each were scored on the other ship.

On the same day a B-17 shot down 5 out of an attacking force
of 15 Zeros, off the south end of New Georgia. The co-pilot of the B-17 was
killed.

Our aircraft sighted an enemy SS ten miles south of Munda, on
the same day.

(B) New Guinea.

Australian troops now occupy the entire Gona area, having
mopped-up the remaining Japanese positions on Dec. 9. U.S. troops made several
local advances south of Buna and successfully repulsed Japanese counter-attacks
against our positions on the beach east of Buna.

Small flights of our aircraft strafed two enemy-held villages
at the mouth of the Kumusi River and bombed the main enemy AA position at the
north end of the old landing strip south of Buna. In addition 12 P-40's dive-
bombed the Soputa-Sanamanda track, and 7 B-25's bombed strong enemy positions
between the old landing strip and the sea.

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III. Indian Ocean.

On Dec. 2 the S.S. AYAKYLIS of Panamanian registry was sunk by an SS 160 miles northeast of Durban.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0300, Dec. 10, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

During the morning of Dec. 8 an unidentified SS was sighted $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles northwest of Cape Uyak (between Kodiak Island and the Alaska Peninsula).

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Timor.

On Dec. 7, enemy reconnaissance planes were active over Portuguese Timor.

(B) Australia.

An enemy reconnaissance plane made a flight over Darwin during the morning of December 7.

(C) Solomons.

At 1000 L, Dec. 7, 2 B-17's on reconnaissance sighted 27 enemy ships in the Buin-Faisi-Tonolei area, including 2 BB's, 5 CA's, 3 CL's, 12 DD's, and 5 AP's or AK's. On Dec. 8, photographs of the Buin-Faisi area indicated the presence there of 9 DD's, 2 SS's, one mine-layer, 1 AO, 7 AP's or AK's, and 2 wrecked AK's.

(D) Admiralty Islands.

On Dec. 8 Allied aircraft shadowed an enemy XCV from the Witu Islands (north of New Britain) to the Admiralty area. A probable CL, 2 probable DD's, and 1 large AK were sighted about 30 miles east of Manus Island.

(E) New Britain.

1. On Dec. 8 a B-17 on reconnaissance over Rabaul was damaged when intercepted by 8 - 10 Zeros. One Zero was damaged and another possibly damaged.
2. In the air attack by Allied planes on enemy DD's south of New

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Britain mentioned in yesterday's Summary, a total of 1 B-24 and 11 B-17's took part. The B-24 and 1 B-17 were damaged but it is believed that 7 Zeros were destroyed, and 4 damaged or possibly destroyed.

3. Photographic reconnaissance of Rabaul Harbor on Dec. 8 revealed 39 enemy ships and 4 flying boats. These included 2 CA's, 1 CL, 9 DD's, 2 PT's, 1 (possible) AV, 1 large AO, 1 small AO, 2 PC's, and 17 merchantmen aggregating 93,000 tons. Twenty-four medium bombers were sighted on Vunakanau airdrome.

(F) New Guinea.

Throughout Dec. 8 fighting in the Buna-Gona area was limited to patrol actions with air activity on a relatively small scale.

(G) Ireland

On Dec. 7, 4 B-17's attacked Kanioga airdrome and enemy shipping in the harbor. No hits were scored on the runway. R. A. Boone, B-17 crew chief, was killed. A B-17 was shot down. A B-17 was shot down. A B-17 was shot down.

(H) New Guinea

On Dec. 7 enemy grounded planes at sea were strafed by Seafighters. On Dec. 8 a formation of our medium bombers again attacked the sea airdrome. A formation of our medium bombers again attacked the sea airdrome.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, December 9, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific
(A) Solomons

1. On December 6 our patrols on Guadalcanal maintained contact with the enemy on our western flank while our artillery harassed and neutralized the enemy. No contacts were made to the south.

2. On Dec. 7, air reconnaissance sighted 22 ships in the Buin-Faisi area, including 15 DD's, 2 SS's, 2 AO's, and 3 AK's. A large camp was observed at the northern end of Bougainville Island, composed of many tents extending along the beach and inland.

(B) New Ireland

On Dec. 7, 4 B-17's attacked Kavieng airdrome and enemy shipping in the harbor. No hits were scored on ships, but bombs fell on the runway. 8-10 Zeros made an unsuccessful attempt to intercept our planes.

(C) New Guinea

1. On Dec. 7 enemy grounded planes at Lae were strafed by Beaufighters. On Dec. 8 a formation of our medium bombers again attacked the Lae airdrome, causing large explosions and fires among fuel and ammunition dumps.

2. On Dec. 8 an enemy naval force of 5 DD's attempting to bring relief to their troops in the Buna area was intercepted and attacked by our heavy bombers. Two hits with 500-lb. bombs were scored on the leading DD which was quickly enveloped in flames. The remaining ships in the convoy withdrew.

3. On the ground, fighting took place in the Buna Mission area when strong enemy counter-attacks from Buna village and Buna Mission were repulsed on the beach E. of Buna.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of CSCO, Dec. 8, 1942

I. Alaska.

On Dec. 6, our aerial reconnaissance observed 4 landing barges at Kiska.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) New Britain.

On Dec. 6, a B-24 on reconnaissance over Gaswata was attacked by 14 Zero fighters and 9 medium bombers. Our plane was badly damaged but returned to base. One Zero was probably destroyed.

(B) New Guinea.

1. A maximum of 17 enemy fighters and 6 bombers were reported to be using Iae airdrome on Dec. 6.

2. During the night of Dec. 6 - 7, 6 B-25's with fighter escort bombed and strafed the airdrome at Iae. At least 2 enemy planes were destroyed on the ground.

3. Throughout Dec. 7, intermittent ground fighting took place in all sectors, with Allied medium bombers and dive bombers furnishing support to our ground forces.

4. On Dec. 6, a large force of enemy aircraft, consisting of 18 medium bombers and 16 Zero fighters according to one report, attacked our landing strip at Popondetta (10 miles inland from Buna). The enemy planes continued southward and attacked our positions at Forlock Harbor. Enemy dive bombers also attacked our shipping in Forlock Harbor and off Fergusson Island (D'Entrecasteaux Group). These planes were successfully intercepted by our fighters and, according to official press releases, a total of 18 enemy aircraft were shot down.

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R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, December 7, 1942

I. Alaska.

On December 5, a thorough reconnaissance, under good visibility conditions, was made of the Semichis, Attu, Kiska, and Amchitka. No new signs of enemy activity were observed.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

On December 6, our aircraft observed 27 enemy vessels in the Buin-Faisi area. These included one large ship (possibly either a BB or a CV), 4 cruisers, 12 DD's, and 10 AK's or AP's.

(B) New Britain.

1. On Dec. 5 our aircraft sighted about 35 enemy ships at Rabaul, one of which may have been a CV. Photographs covering portions of the Rabaul area revealed the following:

(a) Partial coverage of Rabaul Harbor: 3 CA's, 4 GL's and 12 merchantmen of 5,000 to 10,000 tons. Also 5 flying boats and 5 seaplanes.

(b) Partial coverage of Lakunai airdrome: 49 fighters, 1 medium bomber, 2 dive bombers.

(c) Vunakunan airdrome: 24 medium bombers and 2 fighters, with intense activity north of the runway.

2. On Dec. 6, our aircraft sighted at least 38 ships in the Rabaul area, including 6 very large ones.

(C) New Guinea.

On Dec. 5, U.S. forces attacked strong enemy positions in the vicinity of Buna village and reached the sea just east of Buna, isolating an enemy pocket of resistance. Along the entire defense perimeter of the village,

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our forward elements are in contact with the enemy.

III. Cocos Island (Indian Ocean).

During the morning of Dec. 6 (12T), Cocos Island reported being bombed by 3 aircraft.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 6, 1942

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I. Indian Ocean.
It is now reported that S.S. GUNDA (Norwegian freighter, 2,241 tons), en route Lourenco Marques for Zanzibar was torpedoed and sunk about 70 miles east of Lourenco Marques on Nov. 19.

II. India.

Japanese bombers and fighters raided the Chittagong area on December 5 (LST). RAF fighters intercepted and forced the bombers to jettison most of their bombs into the sea. One enemy plane was shot down.

III. Southwest Pacific.

(A) New Guinea.

In the Buna-Gona area during Dec. 4 - 5, ground fighting was limited to patrol actions and the situation generally remains unchanged. Some local bombing and strafing was undertaken by Allied planes.

(B) Australia.

The Japanese are apparently making observations of northern Australia, with planes reported over Wyncham (Dec. 1) and Darwin (Dec. 2 and 3).

(C) Solomons.

1. A Marine raider patrol reached Lunga on Dec. 4 after a 30-day operation through mountainous jungles. During this remarkable operation they destroyed 5 Japanese bases and killed 400 Japanese while losing only 17 dead.

2. West of the Matanikau River Army patrols killed 7 Japanese on December 5. On 6 attack missions, P-39's strafed 15 enemy landing barges and rafts in the vicinity of Tassafaronga.

3. On Dec. 4 our reconnaissance early in the morning observed only 7 vessels in the Buin-Faisi area. During the morning, however, 9 DD's arrived from the southeast and 2 DD's with 1 merchantman and 1 small craft arrived from the west.

4. At 0030L, Dec. 5, a B-17 reported sighting 3 CA's and 2 DD's on course 255° in the Shortland Island area.

R. A. Boone.

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1. Indian Ocean

On 3 December (week ending 23-29 Dec) very little was done in the Indian Ocean. About 100 miles SE of Bombay a group of 4 damaged submarines.

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On December 3 an Army patrol on the beachhead west of the town of ... destroyed a machine gun. A mortar round in the night ... killed 16 men and captured some equipment.

At 1100L, December 3, 3 C-47s were observed to land ... from the north. Six hours later they departed and ...

At 1700L, December 3, 17 C-47s were observed to land ... from the north. It is probable that many of these were ... U. S. planes at 1000L north of New Georgia. The composition of these ... was previously reported as 2 C-47s, 2 C-54s, 3 C-47s.

(C) Sea Patrol

Our Army surface vessels were reported to have ... in the disposal bay. The previous day ... 1 AV, 1 SB, 1 AK and 2 small craft.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 5, 1942I. Indian Ocean.

S. S. Cleanthis (Greek cargo vessel of 4,153 tons) was sunk on December 3, about 180 miles NE of Lourenco Marques by a Japanese submarine.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) The Tokyo radio has announced Japanese losses in the Solomons between August 7, and November 30, to have been:

- (a) 41 warships and transports sunk
- (b) 206 planes lost, 31 damaged

It has been noted that since the recent shift of Navy information chiefs admissions of losses have taken an upward trend from the previous ridiculously low figures.

(B) Solomons.

On December 3 an Army patrol on Guadalcanal west of Ft. Cruz killed 5 Japs and destroyed a machine gun. A marine patrol on the upper Lunga River killed 16 Japs and captured some equipment.

At 1100L, December 3, 3 CA's were observed to have arrived at Buin from the north. Six hours later they departed on a northeasterly course with 2 DD's.

At 1300L, December 3, 10 DD's were observed to have left Buin on a southeasterly course. It is probably this group which was attacked by U. S. planes at 1830L north of New Georgia. The composition of this group was previously reported as 2 CA's, 2 CL's, 6 DD's.

(C) New Ireland.

Our Army medium bombers were reported to have attacked Kavieng airfield under cover of darkness on December 4. Fires were started among planes in the dispersal bays. The previous day there were sighted in Kavieng Harbor 1 AV, 1 DD, 1 AK and 2 small craft.

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(D) New Guinea.

On December 4, our Army heavy bombers attacked the Jap airfields at Iae and Salamos. In the land fighting some slight progress has been reported.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0600, Dec. 4, 1942

I. Pacific Coast.

A thorough search of the area mentioned in yesterday's Summary failed to locate any unidentified vessels. The alert, put into effect following the report of sighting of 10 to 20 vessels southwest of San Francisco, has been cancelled.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomon.

1. On Guadalcanal on Dec. 2, patrol action by our forces resulted in killing 14 Japanese. During the day P-39's carried out 5 missions in support of ground forces.

2. On Dec. 2 our aircraft sighted 9 enemy HD's, 1 sloop, 2 AO's, and 5 AK's in the Buin-Faisi area.

(B) New Guinea.

On Dec. 2 stubborn enemy resistance continued at all points in the Buna-Gona area. Australian troops are continuing their advance along the shore east of Gona Mission and have reached a point about halfway to Sanananda.

(C) N.E.I.

Six beaufighters strafed the airdrome at Kookang. Twenty-five to 30 enemy bombers and 12 - 15 Zero fighters were on the airdrome at the time of attack. Five of these aircraft were observed on fire. Hits were also obtained among fuel concentrations.

III. Indian Ocean.

S.S. REYNOLDS (British freighter, 5,113 tons) has been overdue at Karachi since Nov. 20. The vessel sailed independently from Durban.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 3, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific
(A) Solomons

1. On Dec. 1, on the upper Lunga River, Marine raiders attacked a group of 60 Japanese, killing 35. The raiders also captured enemy arms and ammunition. In a patrol action in the Matanikau area, 20 Japs were killed. During the day SBD's and P-39's carried out attacks against enemy positions.

2. Photographs taken at the time of reconnaissance fail to disclose the "possible" CV reported as having been sighted on Nov. 30 in the Buin-Faisi area.

(B) New Guinea

1. During Dec. 1 heavy fighting continued on the ground in the Buna-Gona area with continued air support of our ground troops by Allied planes. Our aircraft carried out a series of 36 sorties against enemy positions.

2. The 4 enemy DD's reported off Buna in yesterday's Summary were repeatedly attacked by Allied air formations. A total of 13 B-17's, 24 B-24's, and 6 B-25's failed to hit any enemy ships but report having destroyed a total of 21 Zeros which attempted to intercept the various formations. Three additional Zeros are reported as probably destroyed and several were damaged. Only 1 B-25 was shot down although others of our aircraft were badly damaged. The DD's succeeded in reaching Waytutu Point (E. of Gona Mission) but remained only a short time. Additional air attacks not included in the above may have forced the withdrawal.

II. U.S. Submarine Operations

One of our submarines returned from patrol in the S.W. Pacific has reported the following results:

- (a) Sank one 7,000-ton AK and damaged another AK in the same convoy.
- (b) Sank two 7,500-ton AK's in another convoy.

III. Pacific Coast

According to a Western Defense Command report late on Dec. 2, a Navy patrol vessel reported sighting 10 to 20 unidentified vessels about

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435 miles S. W. of San Francisco. The course of these vessels was indicated as possibly 70 degrees. 2 PBV's from San Diego and 3 PBV's from Alameda took off between 0108 and 0136 (LZT), December 3 to investigate.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0600, Dec. 2, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. On Guadalcanal, numerous patrol actions continued during the day. A Marine patrol west of the upper Imuga River captured 6 machine guns and killed 15 Japanese. In the river area itself, Marine raiders killed 25 enemy troops and captured a 75mm. and a 30 mm. gun. An Army patrol killed 11 Japanese and captured a 70 mm. gun. P-39's carried out 4 attack missions against enemy positions. Just before midnight, unidentified planes were over Guadalcanal and at 0400L, Dec. 1, unidentified planes were again over our positions.

2. On Nov. 30, Allied air searches observed 1 sloop, several PG's, 1 SS, 2 AO's, and 4 AK's in the Buin-Faisi-Tonolei area. In the evening, our aircraft sighted a possible CV, 5 DD's, and 10 AK's or AP's in the same area. Ten miles southeast of Kieta, 1 large and 4 small enemy ships were sighted, stationary. Two B-17's on reconnaissance west of Choiseul were attacked by 6 Zeros of which 2 were shot down.

3. During the night Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, an Allied Catalina attacked the runway and dispersal areas at Kihili airdrome near Buin. At least one enemy fighter was destroyed.

4. During the morning of Dec. 1, one DD which had arrived the day before and 2 AP's previously sighted were still in Buka Passage.

5. One of our search planes sighted 3 enemy biplanes and 2 flying boats at Rekata Bay on Nov. 30.

(B) New Britain.

At 0130L, Nov. 30, 3 enemy DD's were sighted 10 miles north of Willaumez Peninsula, on a southeast course. These seem to be 3 of 4 DD's attacked by Allied air forces on the 29th in Vitias Strait. When sighted, only 2 of the 3 DD's used evasive tactics. The third was apparently damaged and making only 10 knots.

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(G) New Guinea.

1. On the ground in the Gona area, Australian troops on Nov. 30 improved four of their positions and succeeded in clearing out 6 machine-gun nests. During the day, some progress was made in local attacks on the Soputa-Sanananda track. Some elements of the 32nd U.S. Division were reported to have reached Buna.

2. In the air, an enemy formation of 7 dive-bombers and 12 Zeros engaged in attacking the runway at DoboDura were attacked by 27 P-40's, resulting in 7 Zeros shot down and 1 Zero and 2 dive bombers probably shot down. Our losses were 3 P-40's shot down (2 pilots saved), 2 P-40's damaged in forced landings, and 5 P-40's slightly damaged on the ground. One transport was destroyed on the ground.

3. Near midnight, Dec. 1, 4 enemy DD's arrived in Buna roads after skirting the southern coast of New Britain.

4. A small flight of enemy aircraft made an unsuccessful attack on the Port Moresby area on Nov. 30.

II. Indian Ocean.

On Nov. 29, S.S. EVANTHIA (Greek cargo, 3,555 tons) was torpedoed and sunk off the Mozambique coast.

III. Aleutians.

The freighter previously grounded off Trout Lagoon has been set afloat and is now in the center of Kiska Harbor.

R. A. Boone,

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Dec. 1, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

1. Photographs taken at noon, Nov. 28 (LST) show the enemy freighter attacked in Holtz Bay, Attu on Nov. 26 to be grounded with its back broken and decks amash. Searches of Holtz Bay, Kiska, and the Semichi Islands yielded negative results.

2. On Nov. 29, one of our B-24 weather planes was approached by a twin-float low-wing monoplane which broke off at 1500 yards. Five groups of landing barges were observed in Kiska harbor but no change in shipping was indicated.

II. Burma.

A British submarine torpedoed a northbound 9,000-ton vessel off the Nicobar Islands. The ship was last seen low in the water making for Penang.

III. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Australia.

On November 28, 4 Zeros came over Darwin. One was hit by AA fire and was later seen diving into the sea.

(B) Solomons.

1. Throughout November 30, active patrolling supported by artillery was the only ground activity on Guadalcanal. P-39's carried out strafing attacks against enemy positions.

2. In the New Georgia area, air searches observed a few new huts and tents on Rendova Island. Two launches were also sighted off the southwest end of Ganongga Island.

(C) New Guinea.

1. Photographs of Iae airdrome taken on Nov. 28 indicated the presence of at least 44 enemy aircraft, of which 30 appeared damaged. Nevertheless, it was reported that at least 29 enemy fighters operated from the air-

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drops during the day.

2. On Nov. 28, eleven B-25's attacked Iao airdrome, dropping more than a thousand small fragmentation bombs. One aircraft made a crash landing in friendly territory.

3. Throughout Nov. 28 a series of heavy air attacks were made against enemy positions in the Gona area. After artillery preparation the 7th Australian Division strongly attacked and material progress was made.

4. On the 29th, according to General MacArthur's communique, an enemy flight of 12 Zeros was engaged by our fighters resulting in the loss of 7 Zeros. Two allied fighters were shot down but the pilots are safe. The communique also reports an ineffective enemy air raid on Port Moresby during the night Nov. 28-29.

R. A. Booms.

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Summary as of 0800, Nov. 30, 1942

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I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Australia.

1. At 1500 (LST), Nov. 28 two Allied CL's intercepted a German Auxiliary, the RAMSES (7,983 tons) about 850 miles west of Carnarvon, west coast of Australia. The RAMSES, en route from Kobe to Germany, was scuttled by her crew after some hits by cruiser gunfire. Seventy-eight Germans and 10 Norwegians were rescued off the RAMSES.

2. During the morning of November 28, unidentified reconnaissance aircraft were over the Darwin area.

(B) Solomons.

1. Only minor ground activity took place on Guadalcanal. Our raiders destroyed a considerable amount of enemy arms and ammunition in the vicinity of the upper Lunga River.

2. On Nov. 28, B-17's attacked an enemy convoy of 3 DD's and 2 AK's off the west coast of New Georgia. Five 100-lb. bomb hits were scored on one of the AK's. Ten Zero fighters intercepted, three of which were shot down. No serious damage was caused to the B-17's.

3. During the afternoon of Nov. 28, reconnaissance planes sighted 13 vessels in the Buna-Faisi area, including 12 DD's, 3 merchant ships, 2 AO's, and 1 sloop.

(C) New Guinea.

1. On the ground, the Japanese attacked Allied lines in the Soputa sector and around Sanananda. Both attacks were repulsed. During Nov. 29, according to General MacArthur's communique, pressure was maintained on the enemy by intensive patrolling and harassing with artillery and mortar fire, with intermittent air attacks.

2. The communique adds that our heavy bombers attacked 4 Jap DD's attempting to reinforce the Buna area. Two DD's were hit with 500-lb. bombs. Both were set afire and believed sunk. The remaining 2 DD's fled north-

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ward.

3. Press reports from Australia state that Japanese landings from SS's were indicated by the sighting of a "sizeable" force of enemy submarines off Buna.

R. A. Boone.

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OSD Letter, 6-3-78JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 29, 1942I. Northwest Pacific.

1. Reconnaissance of HOLTZ Bay on November 27, reported that the Japanese AK which was bombed the day before was still afloat but burning.
2. An enemy SS was sighted at 1500 LZT, Nov. 27, near Lincoln Rock, Clarence Straits (about 70 miles N. of Queen Charlotte Is.). The SS crash-dived upon being sighted.
3. A reconnaissance plane reported having been pursued over Attu by a Japanese plane of unknown type.

II. Indian Ocean.

On Nov. 24, SS MORENT HELIOS (Greek freighter, 6,481 tons) was torpedoed about 75 miles S. of LOURENCO MARQUES.

III. China.

On November 27, 10 B-25's and 23 P-40's attacked the Canton area. Two freighters (6-8,000 tons) in the Whampoa Channel were sunk and a number of lighters were sunk or capsized. Fires were started in the dock area on the N. side of the Pearl River. Twenty intercepting Jap planes were shot down. Tinho and White Cloud airfields were strafed and exposed enemy aircraft set afire.

IV. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

1. On Guadalcanal the situation was generally quiet except for the hunting down of enemy snipers and destruction of small enemy resistance points by our forward patrols.
2. On November 27, enemy shipping in HUNDA Bay, New Georgia was attacked by 6 Guadalcanal dive bombers and torpedo bombers. Two near misses were reported.

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OSD Letter, 1944
3. On Nov. 27, a search plane reported an enemy convoy of 3 DD's and 2 AP's about 265 miles N. W. of Guadalcanal on an easterly course. Later, a similar force was sighted about 160 miles N. W. of Guadalcanal on a northwesterly course. One AP was burning and making little progress.

4. Natives report the shelling by a Jap DD from a group of 5 DD's, of four villages on the S. E. coast of GANONGGA Island (New Georgia Group). From three to six shells were fired at each village.

5. Reconnaissance on Nov. 27, revealed 1 sloop, 12 DD's, 3 AK's, and 2 AO's in the BUIH-FAISI area. Two 2,000 ton merchant vessels were sighted in BUKA Passage.

(D) New Britain--New Ireland.

1. On Nov. 27, three Catalinas bombed the Kavieng airfield, starting one small fire. Reconnaissance reported two possible AP's in Kavieng Harbor.

2. On Nov. 26, four enemy DD's, on course 190°, were reported 15 miles E. of Cape Oxford.

(C) Australia.

Twelve enemy bombers ineffectively attacked Darwin early on Nov. 27.

(D) Timor.

On Nov. 27, 3 Hudsons attacked and damaged buildings at MAOBISSE, NOVA LUSA and BICO were also attacked by 3 Hudsons, each with unreported results.

(E) New Guinea.

1. On the ground in the BUNA-GONA area no important changes have occurred and heavy enemy resistance is still being encountered.

2. Heavy Allied bombing and strafing attacks against enemy positions continued throughout Nov. 27.

3. On Nov. 27, 15 Zero fighters attacked our positions at DOBODURI and shot down one of our transport planes. Intercepted by P-40's, 6 Zeros were shot down. During the afternoon, 10 enemy planes bombed and strafed our advance headquarters and dressing station, causing some casualties.

4. On Nov. 27, six B-24's bombed an enemy wrecked cargo vessel off BUNA, making two direct hits. 7 A-20's and 4 Beaufighters bombed and strafed the Lae airfield. Three direct hits were made on enemy planes and fires were started among parked aircraft.

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V. U. S. Submarine Operations.

One of our submarines returned from patrol reports having sunk a 9,500 ton Japanese freighter on Oct. 20, and an enemy OI of the SHIRATKA class on Nov. 9.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, Nov. 28, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific

At 0620 LZT, Nov. 26 a Japanese SS was observed north of Tanaga Island. When sighted it crash dived. On the same day a Japanese freighter, previously reported by our reconnaissance in Holtz Bay, Atta was attacked by B-26's, and the ship was left burning and sinking.

II. Indian Ocean

The British cargo vessel DORRINGTON COURT, 5,281 tons, was sunk by gunfire from one or two SS's in the vicinity of Lourenco Marques on Nov. 26.

III. China

Reconnaissance by 2 P-40's reported 7 vessels at the Kowloon docks near Hongkong, 1 CL, 1 DD, 1 AO and 4 AK's. No damaged shipping was seen.

IV. Southwest Pacific

(a) Solomons

In local operations west of Point Cruz, Guadalcanal 50 of the enemy were killed and a number of machine guns captured on Nov. 27.

On Nov. 25 B-17's on reconnaissance sighted 15 enemy vessels in the Buin-Faisi area. These included 3 CA's or CL's, 10 DD's and 2 AK's. On the same day 1 DD and 3 AK's were sighted about 20 miles SE of Fauro Island on a westerly course. The following day 15 Japanese ships were again sighted in the Buin-Faisi area, and in Buka Passage 2 AK's of 6,000 tons each were sighted.

The night of Nov. 26/27 B-17's attacked the Kahili airdrome at Ejin. Large fires were started in the dispersal areas, and 16 bomb hits were scored on the enemy. No opposition was encountered.

A reliable native report states that 3,000 Japanese are at Rekata Bay.

On Nov. 23 and 24 the Guadalcanal air force bombed Kokongolo Mission, Munda area, New Georgia and destroyed all buildings in the vicinity. During these raids the enemy took to the bush.

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(b) New Britain-New Ireland

On Nov. 25 our reconnaissance aircraft tracked 2 enemy DD's in Dampier Strait. When last sighted they were about 60 miles NE of the western end of New Britain. 4 Japanese DD's were also sighted off the west side of Willametz Peninsula on the north coast of New Britain.

(c) New Guinea

Rabaul natives, who escaped and reached our forces, have confirmed previous reports that the enemy landed troop reinforcements, with some artillery and light machine guns, in the Gona area on the night of Nov. 21.

Slight gains have been made by our forces along the Soputa-Sonananda track and in the area of Cape Endiaderu. Local counter attacks have been repulsed with heavy enemy losses. On Nov. 26 12 Boston bombers made 4 consecutive strikes on the airfield near Buna causing black smoke and fire to rise from a fuel dump. The same day 4 P-40's escorting our air transports were attacked by 8 Zeros over Buna.

At 2133 LZT, Nov. 26 a possible enemy SS or DD was sighted 30 miles off Cape Ward Hunt.

On Nov. 27 a flight of enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the bush near Port Moresby, but no damage was caused.

V. U.S. Submarine Operations

One of our SS's has reported sinking a loaded 10,000 ton AO and 2 AK's of 7,000 tons each.

R.A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, November 27, 1942

I. Alaska

On November 26, our air reconnaissance observed an AK at Holtz Bay, Attu. An attack was ordered but as yet no report has been received. The Semichi island area was searched but no enemy observed. An SS was sighted 30 miles E. of Kiska. The SS crash dived.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) N.E.I.

Vinilale and Bucun on the N. coast of Timor, E. of Dili were raided by 6 Bessfighters on Nov. 25. An AA position was silenced and houses burned.

(B) Australia

General MacArthur's communique reports that four flights of 3 enemy bombers each raided the town area and airdrome of Darwin during the night of November 25-26. Damage was slight.

(C) Solomon Islands

1. On Guadalcanal, our patrols on Nov. 26 were engaged in cleaning out isolated groups of enemy resistance. At 0410L, 2 enemy bombers were over our positions. Bombs were dropped but no damage was caused. Night patrols over enemy lines were continued by our SBD's.

2. On Nov. 26, in the vicinity of Filopile on Ganongga Island, 4 B-17's dropped 8-500 lb. bombs on an enemy convoy consisting of 2 DD's, 2 AK's, and 1 AO. No hits were observed. 4 Zeros intercepted but no damage to either side was reported.

3. At 1015L, Nov. 25 our reconnaissance reported 15 vessels in the Buin-Faisi area. These consisted of 3 CA's or CL's, 10 DD's, and 2 AK's. On the same day, 1 enemy D) and 3 AK's were observed in Choissul Bay.

(D) New Britain

On Nov. 25 reconnaissance reported 1 fighter and 4 medium bombers on the Gasmata airdrome.

(E) New Guinea

1. During Nov. 25, Allied forces in the vicinity of Buna and Gona made little progress. Both the U.S. and Australian forces are being reinforced.

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In the air, General MacArthur's communique of Nov. 26 reports that 6 enemy aircraft were shot down and 3 of our own lost.

2. During the night of Nov. 23-24, 6 B-24's dropped 1000-lb. bombs on the Lao airdrome but the results were unobserved. During the following night, 7 B-24's again attacked the same target and out of 30-1000 lb. bombs dropped 10 direct hits were made on the runway. On Nov. 25, 6 P-38's attacked Lao airdrome probably destroying 1 Zero. Bombs were dropped in the dispersal area and on buildings. On the same day, our positions in the Bobodura area were strafed by 4 Zeros, causing some casualties.

III. U.S. Submarine Activities

One of our submarines returning from patrol has reported 2 torpedo hits in one attack on an unspecified number of AK's.

R.A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, November 26, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Australia.

At 0200 (LZT) November 23 eighteen Japanese medium bombers attacked Darwin. The bombs dropped in Darwin Harbor and near the RAF aerodrome, causing no casualties or damage. One bomber was shot down by a P-40, and another probably shot down by AA fire.

(b) Solomon Islands.

Very few new developments have been noted in Guadalcanal. Our P-39's have been actively supporting our ground forces by conducting strafing and dive-bombing attacks on enemy supply and troop concentrations. At 0300L, November 25, one enemy plane dropped bombs to the south of Henderson Field, killing and wounding several of our personnel.

In the New Georgia area our dive-bombers and fighters attacked the new Jap base at Munda on November 24.

In the Buin-Faisi area our reconnaissance planes sighted 16 enemy vessels on November 24. These included 9 DD's, 2 SS's, 1 AO, 1 sloop and 3 AK's.

(c) New Guinea.

The ground fighting between Cape Endaiadere and Gerua is resulting in the slow withdrawal of the Japanese who are fighting fiercely from prepared positions fortified with barbed wire, dugouts, and all the defensive attributes of a fortress. Slight progress was also made, assisted by air support, in the Sanananda area.

Before midnight of November 24/25 thirteen B-17's attacked a Japanese CL and 4 DD's in the Huon Gulf moving toward Buna. Our planes scored two hits on one DD and another hit on the second DD, both of which were claimed to have sunk. One near miss was also registered on the CL. After the sinking of the above 2 DD's the CL and remaining 2 DD's withdrew northward via Vitias Strait. Subsequently, 20 B-25's again bombed the withdrawing ships, and two near misses with 500 lb. bombs were said to have dropped very close to one of the DD's which stopped for 25 minutes before finally limping off at 7 knots. The CL and single remaining DD escaped to the northward at 35 knots.

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At 1952 (LZT), November 24, a single Jap bomber attacked Port Moresby, but no casualties or damage was incurred although 3 or 4 bombs were dropped near one of the airfields.

II. U. S. Submarine Operations:

One of our SS's has reported making the following successful attacks on enemy shipping:

- (1) One hit amidships in a 7,000 ton freighter similar to the KAMIKAWA MARU. The ship was stranded after the attack.
- (2) One hit in an 8,000 ton German freighter, similar to the Este. The ship was seen to stop and settle by the bow. Numerous small explosions were heard, and one hour later the SS sighted wreckage and 2 lifeboats under sail.
- (3) Two hits in a 14,000 ton naval tanker of the SHIRETOKO type. The SS saw a tremendous explosion and flying debris which broke up the tanker.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, November 25, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. On November 23, an enemy encampment on the north slope of Mambulo, Guadalcanal, was attacked by a marine patrol of 30 men. The enemy lost 5 machine guns and 70 men killed. Two of our men were wounded. On the western flank, our operations have been halted temporarily during reorganization.

2. An air striking force of SBD's and P4F4's from Guadalcanal scored one direct hit on a warehouse at Munda, New Georgia on Nov. 23.

3. The following sightings have been reported:

(a) At 1156L, Nov. 22, 3 enemy float biplanes 15 miles southwest of Gizo Island. At 1400L, 2 DD's, 1 seagoing tug, 1 AO, and 2 barges 40 miles southwest of Gizo Island.

(b) At 0800, Nov. 23, 5 float biplanes at Rekata seaplane base.

(B) Australia.

During the night of November 23, 18 enemy bombers attacked Darwin. No damage was caused and 2 enemy planes were destroyed.

(C) N.E.I.

On Nov. 23, Allied medium bombers attacked Keepang on the southwest coast of Timor. Enemy troop billets were attacked and fires started at Lauten on the northeast coast of Timor.

(D) New Guinea.

1. Increased enemy air forces in this area are apparent. Twenty-six enemy fighters were reported at Salamoa airfield on Nov. 22. On the same day, 15 enemy dive bombers and 8 Zeros were intercepted by 12 P-39's off Buna. One P-39 was shot down and the enemy aircraft headed towards Iae without dropping bombs.

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2. During the night of November 22-23, 4 B-24's attacked the airdrome at Ise, dropping 24 1,000-lb. bombs. Twenty-one fell in the vicinity of the airdrome and 3 on the runway, but results were unobserved.

3. On the ground, fighting along the southeast coast was heavy but inconclusive.

II. Indian Ocean.

On Nov. 24, S.S. TIANA (British freighter, 10,006 gross tons) was torpedoed 650 miles east of Italian Somaliland.

III. U.S. Submarine Activities.

1. One of our SS's has reported the following attacks:

2 hits on a 7,000-ton freighter;
1 large sampan destroyed;
2 hits on a 6,000-ton tanker, 1 hit on a 5,000-ton tanker, and 1 hit on a 5,000-ton AK. It is believed that 2 of these ships sank.

2. Another SS has reported the following:

2 hits in a 5,000-ton AK which sank;
1 Jap 75-ton fishing schooner sunk.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 24, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

During November 23, our operations on Guadalcanal continued with slight local advances west of the Matanikau River. The Japanese are active in the upper Matanikau and Harabulo regions. Our raiders are proceeding southwest from the direction of Kiarokiki to strike along the upper Lunga River. During the night Nov. 22-23 one SBD harassed Jap positions.

(B) New Guinea.

1. On Nov. 22 Australian forces entered Gona and on the 23rd the advance on Sanananda from the south and west was continued. Fierce enemy resistance is being encountered around Buna where an American battalion was within 1500 yards of Buna.

2. Under favorable weather conditions our air units were active throughout Nov. 22. Four attacks were made by our air forces in the Lae area. Nine A-20's and Beaufighters attacked the Lae airrome and barges at Lae and Salamoa. Three barges were destroyed. In a night attack, 7 B-25's caused a large explosion on the edge of the runway at Lae. Persistent support was also afforded to our ground troops in the Buna area and at least two formations of enemy planes were intercepted.

3. Our planes made 3 attacks on enemy vessels:

(a) A B-17 bombed 2 enemy DD's 90 miles east of Lae with unobserved results.

(b) Nine B-25's bombed 2 enemy DD's, making a direct hit on 1 DD and a near miss on a larger vessel.

(c) Ninety miles east of Lae, 6 B-17's bombed DD's and a CL. No hits were made but one of our aircraft was shot down.

(C) Timor.

On Nov. 22, 10 Allied aircraft bombed and strafed Beco on the

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southern coast of Timor.

II. U. S. Submarine Activities.

A U.S. submarine returning from patrol in the southwest Pacific area has reported sinking an 8,000-ton passenger-freighter and destroying by gunfire a 30-ton sampan. Ten members of the crew of the latter were taken prisoner.

III. Indian Ocean.

S.S. CRANFIELD (British freighter, 3,332 tons) was torpedoed and abandoned in a sinking condition off the southern tip of India.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of OBCO, Nov. 23, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

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1. Our advance continued slowly on our western flank on Guadalcanal during Nov. 22, in the face of stubborn enemy resistance. Enemy positions west of the Matanikau River have been under continuous attack missions by P-39's, TBF's, and SB2C's. No activity is reported in other sectors on Guadalcanal.

2. At 0850L, Nov. 21 a B-17 on reconnaissance engaged an enemy flying boat about 120 miles south of Kolombangara Island. The B-17 was damaged. At 0900L, 2 B-17's on reconnaissance engaged 5 enemy aircraft 15 miles west of Rendova Island but no damage to either side was reported. On the same day, a B-17 on reconnaissance strafed a working party and 10-12 bombers on the airdrome, Buika Passage, setting 1 bomber on fire.

(B) New Britain.

At 1715K, Nov. 21, 4 enemy DD's were sighted 70 miles southwest of Gasmata on a southwesterly course.

(C) New Guinea.

1. Throughout Nov. 21 Japanese resistance in the Buna area was very strong. About 2 1/2 miles south of Gona the Australian brigade was held, while the brigade on the Soputa-Sanananda road was held up 1 1/2 miles north of Soputa. American forces were attacking in a northwesterly direction through Coconut Grove, 1/2 mile south of Cape Endiaderere. One U.S. division was at Soputa.

2. General MacArthur's communique has reported that enemy naval forces succeeded in landing reinforcements, probably during the night Nov. 21-22. On Nov. 22, it was stated, our ground troops were continuing to close in on enemy positions. An enemy air force of 12 dive bombers and 20 Zero fighters attempted to attack our positions but were driven off by intercepting units which followed the enemy to Lae Air Base. In air combat and on the ground a total of 19 Jap planes were reported destroyed. The communique also reports the sinking

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of an enemy DD and two smaller craft by our medium bombers.

R. A. Doone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 22, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) New Guinea.

1. On November 20, after capturing Soputa, 6 miles southwest of Buna, Allied forces continued to advance along the Popenetta-Samananda Road to the west of Buna. One element of the American division was in contact with the enemy in the Gerua landing strip - Cape Endaiadere area.

2. During Nov. 20, air operations were limited to reconnaissance because of bad weather. B-17's on reconnaissance shot down three Zeros and probably 2 more.

3. On Nov. 21, heavy fighting on the ground continued, with air support throughout the day. Two Jap fighters were shot down. Enemy naval forces were again sighted maneuvering off the coast.

(B) New Britain - New Ireland.

1. On Nov. 20, our reconnaissance reported 12 ships east of North Cape at Kavieng. The airdrome at Kavieng was bombed by Allied medium bombers during the night Nov. 20-21 but the report of damage has not been received.

2. At Rabaul, on the 20th, 1 probable CA, 1 DD, 1 SS, one 10,000-ton AP, four 2,000-8,000 ton AK's, and 40 unidentified vessels were sighted.

(C) Solomons.

1. On the Kahili airdrome at Buin, photographic reconnaissance on Nov. 20 indicated at least 44 aircraft, probably fighters. The planes were well dispersed and new dispersal lanes and bays were under construction.

2. In the Buin-Faisi area, our air reconnaissance on Nov. 20 sighted 3 DD's, 2 possible DD's, 1 mine-layer, one 6,000-ton AO, 1 partially sunk DD, and 1 burning AP which had been beached.

II. Indian Ocean.

The 3,562-ton Greek cargo vessel S.S. CORINTHIAKOS was torpedoed on

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Nov. 19, 130 miles northeast of Lourenco Marques.

R. A. Boons.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 21, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific.

On November 19, our weather planes observed smoke rising at Chichagof Harbor, Attu. Activities during the day included photographing the west coast of Kiska and heavy bomber reconnaissance of the western Aleutians. No enemy activity was observed at Agattu or Amchitka; there was no enemy shipping at Attu or in waters as far as 100 miles SW of Attu. No change in enemy shipping at Kiska was observed.

II. Indian Ocean.

On November 18, a SS, probably Japanese, was sighted about 30 miles off the NE coast of Ceylon.

On November 20, the S. S. Pierce Butler (U. S. cargo ship of 7,191 tons) was torpedoed about 270 miles SE of Iruéaco Marques. She was travelling independently, enroute to Adéa.

III. Southwest Pacific.

(A) N. E. I.

On November 19, two Seafighters again attacked Manatuto and Baucau, just east of Dilli along the north coast of Portuguese Timor. No results have been reported.

(B) Solomons

On November 18, enemy patrols on Guadalcanal were active and aggressive. Our forces were pushing strong outposts, preceded by patrols, across the Matanikau River to positions west of Pt. Cruz in preparation for a general attack. During November 19, about 35 Japanese were killed during limited patrol activities. On November 21, Army forces were reported carrying out local operations in the vicinity of Point Cruz, preparatory to a general attack. Numerous patrol contacts were also made along the upper Matanikau River.

At 0800L, November 19, our aircraft sighted an unidentified DD on a NE course in Indispensable Strait, about 15 miles east of Florida Island.

At 1430L, November 19, a large, burned out, enemy AK sank close inshore off Cape Astrolabe following an explosion. This AK was not previously reported sunk.

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A native report has stated that the enemy has landed recently fuel, ammunition, railway lines, trucks, engines, power rollers, and a large quantity of building material at Buka Passage.

(C) Fiji Isls

At 1830 (LZT), November 20, a small unidentified vessel, probably an SS, was sighted a half mile off Niuafoou Island (roughly halfway between Suva and Tutuila).

(D) New Britain—New Ireland

At 0847 (LZT), November 19, our aircraft observed two Jap CL's on a NE course off Cape Oxford (75 miles S of Rabaul).

During the day 5 Catalinas attacked Kaireng Air Base, dropping over 7 tons of bombs in dispersal areas and near the runway.

(E) New Guinea

On November 19, from 0830 to 1120 (LZT) our planes shadowed an enemy DD on a northerly course in Vitiaz Strait (north of Huon Peninsula). From 1600—1815 (LZT) our planes observed an enemy cruiser and DD moving NE, off the eastern bulge of Huon Peninsula (50 miles NE of Lae).

IV. U. S. Submarine report.

One of our SS's has reported sinking 15,000 tons of enemy shipping, including a loaded AO.

R. A. Boone.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 20, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) New Guinea.

1. On November 18 an enemy GL and 2 DD's with troop-laden barges were bombed and strafed by 6 B-17's. The GL was hit directly, causing a heavy explosion and fire and when last seen was burning. Another hit split a DD amidships. Bombs dropped among barges caused heavy enemy casualties.

2. On the ground, Allied troops have advanced to the outskirts of Buna.

(B) Solomons.

1. At 0710L, November 18 our reconnaissance planes sighted 12 enemy ships in the Buin-Faisi area, including 6 DD's, 1 AO, and 4 AK's.

2. In the combined raid on shipping in the Buin-Faisi area during the morning of Nov. 18, reported in yesterday's Summary, 11 B-17's, 4 B-26's, and 7 P-38's took part. From 12,000 feet the B-17's dropped 40 1,000-lb. bombs on the AK which was hit by 2 bombs. From 4,500 feet, the B-26's dropped 16 500-lb. bombs on an AK but the results were unobserved. Heavy AA fire was sent up by enemy ships in the vicinity and by shore batteries along each side of the airfield. The leading B-17 was badly damaged and forced down by enemy fighters but at least part of the crew probably reached land.

R. A. Boone.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 19, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

1. Available reports from our battleships engaged in the action off Savo Island during the night of November 14-15 indicate the following enemy vessels sunk:

1 CA or BB
3 large cruisers, probably CA
1 DD

Additional enemy ships damaged:

One 14" gun BB hit repeatedly by 16" and
some 5" shells.
1 cruiser and 1 DD left burning.

Our DD's, by their rapid and accurate fire, contributed to the sinking of the enemy DD mentioned above.

2. Incomplete reports indicate that planes from a U.S. carrier made repeated attacks on Jap ships between November 13 and 15 inclusive. They obtained at least the following results:

- (a) 8 torpedo hits in 1 BB
- (b) 3 torpedo hits in 1 CL
- (c) 4 torpedo hits, 3 bomb hits, and 2 near bomb hits on AP's
- (d) two 500-lb. bombs and 25 incendiary bombs, dropped on troops and equipment.

3. Some 800 of the estimated 1500 enemy troops which landed near Tetere, Guadalcanal have been killed. The remainder have been dispersed into groups which are working back into the jungle. This force is no longer considered effective by reason of their disorganization and losses.

4. During the morning of November 18 (LZT), a combined

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strike in the Buin area resulted in B-17's making 2 hits on AK's and 1 close miss. They also destroyed 10 land Zeros and 2 biplanes. B-26's downed 2 Zeros certain and 1 probable.

5. During Nov. 17, P-39's carried out 4 strafing missions against enemy boats and beach areas on Guadalcanal.

6. On Nov. 17 our air reconnaissance made the following sightings:

- (a) At Buka airdrome, 13 aircraft in dispersal bays.
- (b) At 1220L, 2 enemy CL's and 3 DD's in the vicinity of 21 miles northeast of Kieta.
- (c) At 1230L, 24 enemy ships and about 8 small boats at Buin-Faisi, including 2 CL's, 7 DD's, and a large probable repair ship.

(B) New Britain.

On Nov. 18, our medium bombers attacked the airdrome runway and dispersal areas at Gasmeta. During the night our heavy bombers attacked enemy airdromes and dispersal areas at Rabaul.

(C) New Guinea.

1. An enemy force of 8 DD's in two groups was sighted on November 18 maneuvering off the north coast near Buna, apparently in support of ground forces. Our heavy bombers tried to engage them but details are as yet unavailable.

2. Allied air forces of medium bombers and P-38's attacked the airdromes at Iae and Salamoa on Nov. 18.

(D) N.E.I.

On Nov. 17, 10 Hudsons bombed Baucau, on the north coast of Timor. Fires were started in the building area and several hits made on aircraft.

II. U.S. Submarine Activities.

One of our submarines, returned from patrol in the southwest Pacific area, reports having made 1 hit on each of a FUBUKI class DD (1,700

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tons) and a KAKO or TONE type CA.

III. Northwest Pacific.

The Kiska garrison is now reliably estimated at 10,000 men, troops and services, and at 1 infantry battalion in Attu.

R. A. Boone.

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I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Portuguese Timor.

On Nov. 16, Macbisse and Bobonaro, two enemy-occupied villages, were bombed by 3 Hudsons each. All bombs fell in the target area.

(B) Solomong.

1. According to General MacArthur's communique, Allied medium bombers attacked the airdrome at Buin during the night November 16-17, causing large fires and explosions and destroying 3 aircraft on the ground.

(C) New Britain.

1. On November 16, air reconnaissance photographs of Lakunai Airdrome at Rabaul indicated 1 medium bomber, 10 probable dive bombers, and 53 fighters. Great activity was noted. In Sulphur Creek there were 3 flying boats, and 4 seaplanes were at the north end of the harbor. At 1100 K on the same day, Rabaul Harbor was partly photographed and a total of 76 vessels and 25 landing barges was reported in the area. These included 3 possible cruisers, 7 or 8 DD's, 1 AV, 1 minelayer, and 17 merchant ships (totalling 107,000 tons).

2. During the night November 17-18 (LZT) our heavy bombers raided enemy shipping at Rabaul scoring 2 hits on a large merchant vessel which was set afire.

(D) New Guinea.

1. On November 17 (LZT), enemy air formations from Iae attempted harassing attacks on our troops in the Buna area and along the coast. Two of our trawlers were sunk. A surprise attack was made by our medium bombers with fighter escort on Iae airdrome, destroying 5 medium bombers and 6 fighters. Later, our attack planes destroyed 2 additional bombers and a fighter in a sweep over the field. One Zero which attempted interception was destroyed.

2. On the ground our forces continued to advance, supported by

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constant air attack on the retreating enemy.

II. U. S. Submarine Reports.

One of our submarines returning from patrol in the southwest Pacific has reported inflicting the following damage on the enemy:

- (1) Hits were observed in a 9,000 ton enemy AP.
- (2) Two hits were heard by sound on an 8,000 ton naval auxiliary.
- (3) Three hits in an enemy 8,000 ton merchantman. One hit was seen and two were heard by sound.

The submarine was unable to report positive evidence that these vessels sank in view of depth charge attacks in each case.

III. Indian Ocean.

Dutch tanker S. S. ONDINA, previously reported sunk on November 11 by an enemy raider, is reported as still afloat and making port.

R. A. Boone.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of CSCO, Nov. 17, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

1. On November 15 (LST), enemy bombers accompanied by 3 Zero fighters came over our positions on Guadalcanal. Six Zeros were shot down and the remaining two were possibly destroyed. The enemy bombers turned back, apparently without attacking. Our air losses were nil.

2. A raider patrol has captured a large quantity of ammunition and supplies from the Japanese.

3. It has been reported that the enemy suffered heavy personnel losses from the 4 beached cargo-transports in the vicinity of Tassafaronga. Our aircraft bombed these vessels almost continuously and started a series of fires which were still burning at dawn on the 16th.

4. On November 15 shipping in the Buin-Faisi area was attacked by 7 B-24's. Eighteen 1,000-lb. bombs were dropped and near hits scored on a DD and a medium AP. Two B-24's failed to return but the crews of both planes are safe.

5. At noon, November 15 our aircraft sighted 13 unidentified ships off Kihili near Buin. Entering the Buin harbor area were 17 more vessels, including 2 possible CA's and 4 DD's. Tonolei Harbor was obscured by clouds and was not seen.

(B) New Guinea.

On November 16, various Allied air units repeatedly bombed and strafed Japanese rear positions at Soputa, Sanananda and Gona.

On the ground, the Allied advance has now reached a point 6 miles northeast of Wairopi. U.S. forces have reached the Bofu-Matunga area,

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17 miles southwest of Buna and 13 miles east of Wairopi. Forward patrols are only 6 miles south of Buna. The enemy is retreating steadily under pressure from both flanks.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0900, Nov. 16, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. The following is a summary of the results of the battle off Savo Island, during the night of November 12-13:

The Japanese forces were formed in three groups which consisted of:

2 KONGO class BB's
2 CA's
4 CL's, and about
10 DD's.

These groups were headed towards Guadalcanal and our forces passed between them, firing ranges being from 1500 to 4000 yards. The center and left enemy groups apparently engaged each other, then all remaining ships ceased fire and retired. It is believed that all enemy ships which escaped were hit. Both enemy BB's were badly hit and one of them was attacked on Nov. 14 by our air forces. It is not known what became of this ship. Two enemy CA's were seen to blow up and sink as a result of torpedo hits and gunfire. One CL of the MATORI class (5170 tons) was seen to sink and 2 additional CL's were heavily hit and set afire. Three or 4 enemy DD's blew up and several others were set on fire.

Our losses were 2 CL's and 3 DD's sunk. Others of our cruisers were damaged. Two DD's were slightly damaged.

2. Reports concerning attacks made on an enemy convoy northwest of Savo Island on Nov. 14 are still incomplete but it appears that of the convoy of 12 ships, 3 were sunk or abandoned, and 4 reached Guadalcanal where they were beached at Tassafaronga, only to be destroyed after daybreak by Guadalcanal air forces, U.S. shore batteries, and gunfire from one of our DD's.

3. It is reliably estimated from information to date that the following Japanese ships were sunk or destroyed between November 8 and 16:-

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1 BB, 3 CA, 2 CL, 5 DD's, 10 AP's, 3 AK's, and 2 SS's. Damaged were 1 BB and 6 DD's.

4. At 1800L, air reconnaissance sighted 22 enemy ships in the Buin-Faisi area. These included 3 CA's, 1 CL, 5 DD's, 2 AO's, 3 sloops, and 8 merchantmen.

5. At 0740L, Nov. 14, 3 B-17's bombed and strafed a large enemy convoy north of Kulambangra Island. One 10,000-ton AP was set afire by strafing.

6. Contact reports from our plane scouts on Nov. 15 indicate that Japanese surface units were in a general withdrawal from the Guadalcanal area on northwesterly courses.

(B) New Britain.

During the night Nov. 14-15 a strong force of our heavy bombers attacked enemy shipping at Rabaul, scoring direct hits on 2 vessels, one of which exploded. Fires were started in the dump area at Malagum and in the dock area at the north end of the harbor where 8 explosions were observed.

R. A. Boons.

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purpose and that in the meantime it
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Summary as of 0600, November 15, 1942I. Northwest Pacific:

Our army and navy commanders in the Aleutian theatre have estimated that about 500 enemy troops have re-occupied Attu Island, and that the enemy is attempting to build up air strength secretly in that area with the apparent purpose of making a surprise air attack on Adak Island. It is also considered that the Japanese may attempt an expedition to capture Adak or occupy Amchitka, although no definite indications of this have been encountered.

Air reconnaissance over Attu Island on November 15 drew AA fire from 3 positions in Holts Bay when at an altitude of 2,000 feet. 5 landing barges were observed in Holts Bay and 12 to 15 in Chicagof Harbor. A motor vehicle was observed on the road and the wreckage of burned zero fighters was seen on the beach.

II. Southwest Pacific:(A) Solomon Islands

Contact reports from our plane scouts on November 15 (LZT) show that Japanese surface units were in a general withdrawal from the Guadalcanal area on northwesterly courses after a series of almost continuous engagements which started on November 12. Only four AP or AK's are believed to have reached Guadalcanal in the vicinity of Tassafaronga, and all of these have been destroyed. Although the total damages inflicted on Japanese forces is still uncertain it appears probable that they suffered more heavily than is apparent at the present.

(B) Indian Ocean

The 7,140 ton British cargo vessel EMPIRE GUIDON, previously reported attacked by an SS 150 miles east of Durban on November 1, is now reported sunk.

The 5,187 ton Brazilian cargo vessel PORTO ALEGRE was torpedoed and sunk on November 3 south of East London.

A Royal Netherlands Navy communique announced that a Dutch SS, operating with the British Navy in Far Eastern waters, attacked an enemy convoy and torpedoed a 5,000 ton AK.

R. A. Boone

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 14, 1942I. U. S. Submarine Activities

1. One of our submarines, recently returned from a mine-laying expedition, reported one torpedo hit on each of 2 Japanese AK's (5 and 6,000 tons) which were escorted by a DD. It is believed that both were sunk. He also sank a 3,000 ton motor AO with gunfire.
2. Another SS reported sinking 27,000 tons of Japanese shipping.

II. Southwest Pacific(A) Solomons

1. On the ground on Guadalcanal our troops on November 11 withdrew to the W. bank of the Metapona River after completing mopping-up operations of the enemy group in the vicinity of Tetero. At least 350 Japs were killed. On the west flank, our positions were withdrawn to the E. bank of the Matanikau River in order to establish defense lines and to counter possible enemy landing attempts.
2. Following the naval engagement off Savo Island during the night Nov. 12-13, survivors were picked up from the DD AKATSUKI which was sunk before it could open fire. These survivors state that 2 BB's, 1 CL, and 6 DD's were present in the Japanese Task Force and others added an additional 2 BB's and 2 CL's.
3. A dispatch timed 1403L, Nov. 13 reports a direct hit and near misses on a Fuso class BB (30,500 tons) as a result of 1 strike by B-17's. The BB was still slowly underway but burning, with a slight list to port. The ship was attacked both before and after this strike and 3 additional hits are claimed.
4. During the night Nov. 13-14 our positions on Guadalcanal reported heavy shelling by naval gunfire.
5. At 0830L, Nov. 14 our planes attacked 2 enemy CL's and 4 DD's 45 miles W. of Guadalcanal. 3 direct and 1 possible hits were scored on a CL. 2 - 1000 lb. bomb hits and 1 possible were claimed on the other CL.
6. At about 1500L (?), Nov. 14 one of our planes reported an enemy force of 1 CA, 1 CL, 6 DD's, and 4 AP's 20 miles N. of Russell Island.

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7. At 1600L, Nov. 14 4 CA's, 1 CL and 10 DD's were sighted in Lat. 6° 52' S., Long. 160° E. on course 165° speed 17.

8. As a result of successive bombings, 6 of 11 AP's were seriously damaged and were sighted at 1600L, Nov. 14 milling around 25 miles N. of Russell Island. Several DD's were with them.

9. At about 1820L, one of our planes reported 11 vessels (of which 3 were burning) in a surface battle in Lat. 8°-25' S., Long. 158°-16' E. A report at 2000L, possibly from the same plane, reported a battle in Lat. 9° 10' S. Long. 158° 45' E.

10. According to General MacArthur's communique, at dawn, Nov. 13, our heavy bombers again attacked enemy shipping and the airfield at Bain - Faisi. Direct hits are reported on 2 CL's and near misses on a DD and on an 8,000 ton AP. Bombs were also dropped on the Kihili airdrome.

III. Indian Ocean

1. In the attack on H.M.S. Bengal, previously reported, it now appears that the tanker Ondina (6,341 tons) which was being escorted by the Bengal was sunk. One of 2 attacking raiders was also sunk.

2. On Nov. 13, an enemy SS made an unsuccessful attack on the S.S. Hilda Moller (British) about 65 miles S. of Ceylon.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 13, 1942

I. U.S. Submarine Activities.

One of our submarines which has returned from patrol has reported sinking a 2,500 ton mine-layer and a merchantman of unknown type. The latter was in a DD-escorted convoy.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. Our forces on Guadalcanal on November 13 reported enemy planes approaching at various times as follows:

0655L - 10 aircraft
0900L - unknown number of aircraft
1200L - 6 aircraft
1645L - 12 aircraft

2. During the night of November 12-13 a battle was in progress between U.S. and Japanese naval forces off Savo Island. An enemy BB of the KONGO class was knocked out of action but was still afloat in the vicinity of Savo Island at about 0830L, Nov. 13. It is believed that an enemy OL is out of control in the same area. An unidentified ship blew up and sank 4 miles southeast of Savo.

3. Many sightings of Japanese ships were reported during November 13. The principal ones follow:

- (a) At 0845L, 1 BB, 1 cruiser, 4 DD's on a southeast course, 15 miles north of Florida Island.
- (b) At 0900L, 3 cruisers, 2 DD's and some other ships were reported on a northerly course about 130 miles northeast of Santa Isabel Island.
- (c) At 0925L, 10 AP's and 12 cruisers or DD's on a northwest course 10 miles northwest of Vella Lavella.
- (d) At 1000L, 1 CV, 1 BB, and 3 DD's on a northerly course, 190 miles northeast of Santa Isabel.
- (e) At 1001L, 1 BB reported 8 miles north of Savo Island.

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(f) At 1125L, 2 CA's and 1 DD were reported about 330 miles northeast of Santa Isabel.

(g) During the morning of Nov. 13, searches of the area southwest of the Solomons revealed no enemy CV's.

4. At 1158L it was reported that no hits were observed on an enemy force in Lat. 9° S., Long. 159° 50' E., bombed by a striking force of 8 B-17's.

5. According to a communique by General MacArthur, Allied heavy bombers raided the enemy base at Buin-Faisi at dawn, Nov. 12 (LZT). Four ships were reported hit.

(B) New Guinea.

During Nov. 12, Allied ground forces cleared the Oivi-Gorari area and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. Our forward elements continued to advance toward Wairopi.

III. Indian Ocean.

On Nov. 11, H.M.S. BENGAL, a minesweeper, engaged a raider southwest of the Cocos Islands. The raider caught fire and is believed sunk. BENGAL was damaged but is proceeding.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of OCEO, Nov. 12, 1942

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I. U.S. Submarine Activities.

One of our submarines on patrol in the southwest Pacific has reported the following attacks:

- (a) One 3,500-ton Maru sunk.
- (b) 3 hits in a 9,000-ton motor-ship, last seen on fire and sinking.
- (c) 1 hit in a 5,000-ton Maru, believed sunk.
- (d) One 4,000-ton Maru sunk.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. On Guadalcanal, our advance toward Kokumbona on our west flank was resumed at daybreak, November 10. The advance continued throughout the day with enemy resistance increasing. On our eastern flank, mopping-up operations of the surrounded enemy force near Tetere continue. A raider battalion has reached Binia and is patrolling between the Metapona and Balesuna Rivers.

2. At 0930L, Nov. 11, 10 enemy dive-bombers and 12 Zeros attacked our positions on Guadalcanal, and at 1135L, another formation of 25 twin-engined bombers and 5 Zeros came over. Our planes intercepted in both instances, destroying a total of 1 dive bomber, 6 bombers, and 5 Zeros, with an additional dive bomber, 2 bombers, and 2 Zeros probably destroyed. In these two encounters we lost 7 Grumman fighters, but 2 pilots were saved. In addition, 5 Grummans were damaged.

3. Air reconnaissance of the Buin-Faisi area at noon, Nov. 10, revealed at least 47 enemy vessels, including 2 CA's, 3 CL's, 15 DD's, 2 AC's, 2 AV's, 2 CM's, 16 merchantmen of 3,000 - 10,000 tons, and 2 landing craft carriers. General MacArthur's communique reported an attack on this shipping by heavy bombers during the night Nov. 10-11.

(B) New Caledonia.

S.S. Edgar Allen Poe (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons) reported torpedoed on Nov. 9, has been towed to Noumea.

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(C) New Guinea.

Sharp fighting continues in the Civi area where the enveloped enemy is attempting to cut his way to the rear. Allied air units are continuing their support of ground troops.

III. Northwest Pacific.

1. Japanese strength at Kiaka is estimated at 9,500 Army troops and about 300 naval personnel.

2. One enemy medium transport and 1 DD were sighted in Holts Bay, Attu at noon, Nov. 11 (LZT).

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 11, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. At 1120L, November 11 a large formation of Japanese planes was reported over Guadalcanal.

2. On Guadalcanal, on the east flank near TeTere (about 4 miles east of Koli Point) a Japanese force of undetermined size was surrounded on November 9. On the same day at daylight our attack continued on the west flank toward Kokumbona. Army P-39's flew four attack missions in support of the ground forces.

3. Two Japanese CL's and 3 DD's were sighted during the morning of November 9, 180 miles northwest of Lunga Point, en route to Faisi.

4. At 1025L, November 9, a total of 39 vessels were sighted in the Buin-Faisi area, including 4 large warships (possibly CA's), 2 large unidentified ships, 1 possible AV, and 26 other ships. Between Buin and Faisi 3 possible CL's and 3 AK's were sighted in formation on course 330°.

(B) New Guinea.

During Nov. 9 and 10 ground action in the Oivi area has gradually approached a crisis, with heavy air support given by Allied planes in the Oivi-Buna area.

II. Northwest Pacific.

1. On the evening of October 10 a U.S. submarine engaged an enemy force of 2 AK's under escort in Vega Bay, Kiaka. Torpedoes were fired at the cargo ships and an enemy DD by our SS and one torpedo at our SS by an enemy DD. One torpedo explosion was heard but results are unknown.

2. On Nov. 9 a B-17 escorted by 4 P-38's attacked and destroyed 7 seaplanes in Holtz Bay, Attu Island. At Kiska, same date, 2 B-26's attacked an enemy cargo vessel in Gertrude Cove, Kiska, but only near misses were made.

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III. Burma.

On November 9, six B-24's dropped thirty 1,000-lb. bombs on the main docks and warehouses at Rangoon and Syriam, causing many fires. All our planes returned safely.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 10, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

At 1150L, Nov. 8, reconnaissance reported 33 vessels in the Buin-Faisi area. These included 1 CA, 2 CL's, 3 DD's, 3 mine layers, 1 - 10,000 ton naval auxiliary, 1 possible AV, 2 landing craft carriers, and about 20 AK.

(B) New Britain - New Ireland.

1. During the night of November 7-8, 3 FBV's bombed the Kavieng aerodrome and dispersal areas. The results were not observed. During the night of Nov. 9 - 10 Allied medium units heavily bombed the runways and dispersal areas of the same aerodrome.

2. At 1001 K, Nov. 8 our reconnaissance sighted 1 AK of 2-3,000 tons and 1 possible AO of 6-8,000 tons at Kavieng. Shortly afterwards 1 CL was observed in St. George's Channel on course 270°.

3. On Nov. 9 an Allied heavy air unit bombed and disabled an enemy AP of 5,000 tons off Cape St. George. The vessel was headed for the Solomons and was beached.

(C) New Guinea.

During Nov. 8 and 9 sharp ground action with air support continued in the Kokoda area with Allied forces on the offensive.

(D) New Caledonia.

S.S. Edgar Allen Poe was reported torpedoed 70 miles south of Noumea. Rescue ships have been dispatched.

II. Alaska Sector.

1. On Nov. 8 the previously damaged freighter in Gertrude Cove was attacked by 2 B-26's but no hits made. On the same day, 6 B-24's dropped 6 -1,000 lb. bombs on the SS base from 9,000 feet. Results were unobserved.

R. A. Boons.

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not be placed in any general file. Summary as of 0800, Nov. 9, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. On Guadalcanal on November 7 (LZT), the western area was quiet, but the advance eastward of the Metapona River continued.

2. On November 7, Guadalcanal planes destroyed 3 landing craft on the beaches south of Cape Esperance and 3 additional landing boats north of Tassafaronga. Three beached float biplanes were bombed and strafed at Rekata Bay. One of our DD's bombarded enemy installations east of Koli Point.

3. At 0700L, Nov. 7, 33 vessels were reported in the Buin-Faisi area. These consisted of 4 CA's and 2 - 3 CL's, 13 DD's, 10 AK's, 2 sloops, and 2 AO's. At 2209L, Nov. 7 at least 12 large ships in convoy moving south were sighted 50 miles east of Buks.

(B) New Britain - New Ireland.

1. At 0940L, Nov. 7, 5 vessels were sighted at Kavieng. These consisted of either a seaplane tender or a CA, 1 CL, and 3 DD's.

2. Allied medium bombers destroyed a wireless station and dropped bombs among enemy planes at Gasnata.

(C) New Guinea.

At 1715 LZT, Nov. 6, General MacArthur arrived in New Guinea to assume direct charge of operations.

In the air, Allied planes executed various attack missions in this area on Nov. 8.

(D) N.E.I.

On Nov. 7, an Allied air unit bombed coastal shipping at Koepang.

R. A. Boone.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, November 8, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific

1. During the past few days our activities have been limited to reconnaissance in difficult weather. Minor activity was indicated on Attu on November 6.
2. A large SS was sighted on the surface at 0800Y, November 7 in Lat. 50° 43' N., Long. 177° 32' E., course 85°, speed 10.
3. On November 7, seven float-type Zero planes were sighted in Holtz Bay, Attu.
4. S.S. POLINA OSPENK (Russian, 3474 tons) was reported attacked by an SS in the vicinity 350 miles W. of Vancouver Island at 0845V, Nov. 6.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. On October 25, a Japanese Army light bomber was shot down on Guadalcanal. The uniforms of two bodies recovered indicated that they were Japanese Army fliers.
2. At 0950L, Nov. 7, 11 B-17's bombed Rekata seaplane base with unobserved results. At 1005L, 9 B-17's sighted 11 enemy DD's 55 miles N.W. of Rekata Bay.

III. Indian Ocean

SS TREKIEVE (British cargo, 5246 tons) was torpedoed and sunk S.E. of Laurence Marquess. The vessel had sailed independently from the Seychelles on Nov. 6.

R. A. Boone.

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SECRETNAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 7, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

At 1130 L, Nov. 5, 27 Japanese bombers and fighters came over our positions. Cloud conditions at the time prevented proper interception, and bombs were dropped near our defense lines, killing one and wounding five of our men. We made five separate air attacks on Japanese positions with P-400's and SBD's.

During the night of Nov. 5/6 our Marines repulsed light enemy attacks to the west of Point Cruz.

On Nov. 6 our infantry completed crossing of the Malimbu River, which empties at Koli Point, during the morning and were advancing north to envelop the enemy's southern flank. No large enemy forces were contacted in this area.

Marines from Tulagi successfully completed an operation against a Japanese outpost on Cape Astrolabe, northwest Malaita Island on November 6. Nineteen of the enemy were killed and 1 captured. All radio equipment, documents, arms and ammunition were taken intact. Only 2 unarmed Japanese escaped into the bush. We suffered no casualties.

In the early morning of Nov. 5, 10 enemy ships were sighted in the Buin-Faisi area by air reconnaissance, 2 CA's, 1 GL, 5 AK's and 2 sloops.

At 1040 L, Nov. 5, 14 ships were reported in Bougainville Straits on course 190°, 2 of 10,000 tons, 6 of 6,000 tons, and 6 of 2-3,000 tons.

On the night of Nov. 5/6, 5 FBY's bombed shipping in the Buin-Faisi area. One near miss was scored on a GL.

At 1005L, Nov. 5 our reconnaissance reported 66 Japanese vessels at Rabaul. They included 4 DD's, 5 TB's, 1 converted CV, 7 AO, 1 possible landing craft carrier of 7,000 tons and 30 odd merchantmen ranging from 3,000 to 10,000 tons.

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At about the same time 4 unidentified vessels in a convoy was observed on course 330° in St. George's Channel.

One of our destroyers attacked a Japanese SS south of Guald- canal on Nov. 3 with depth charges. Loud underwater explosions were heard, and it is believed the submarine possibly sank.

II. West Coast.

An SS was sighted on the surface by a Russian vessel 350 miles west of Vancouver Island.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0300, November 6, 1942

WAL

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. It is reliably estimated that there are from 17,500 to 22,300 enemy troops on Guadalcanal.

2. On the 4th and 5th the enemy made a strong counter-attack on positions held by U.S. Marines west of the Matanikau River on Guadalcanal. The enemy was repulsed with heavy losses and our Marines still held these positions at 2358L, Nov. 5. At this time the Marines were also holding in the vicinity of Koli Point, while 2 Army battalions moved to envelop the enemy. Fighting on the 4th in this sector was limited to patrol activity. Our aircraft continue their support of ground activity.

3. At 0900 L, Nov. 4 our reconnaissance planes sighted 29 enemy ships in the Buin-Paisi area, including 1 CA, 2 GL's, 14 DD's, 1 possible AV, 2 AO's, and 8 AK's. According to General MacArthur's communique, an Allied bombardment unit attacked this shipping during the night Nov. 4 - 5 with unobserved results.

(B) New Britain.

Air reconnaissance at 0830 K, Nov. 4 sighted a total of 32 vessels at Rabaul.

(C) New Guinea.

On Nov. 5, medium and heavy bombers with fighter escort attacked supply installations at Salamoa causing heavy explosions and fires.

On the ground, Allied troops are in contact with the enemy in the vicinity of Oivi and are advancing slowly.

(D) Timor.

Minor Allied air activity over Portuguese Timor continues.

R. A. Boone

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NAVY MEMORANDUM
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
WASHINGTON

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OPERATIONAL INFORMATION
1. On 10 May 1968, the 1st Fleet
conducted a series of operations in the
Caribbean Sea.

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1. On 10 May 1968, the 1st Fleet conducted a series of operations in the Caribbean Sea. The operations were designed to test the capabilities of the fleet's command and control systems. The operations were conducted in a series of stages, with the fleet's command and control systems being tested at each stage. The operations were successful, and the fleet's command and control systems were found to be capable of handling the operations.

2. During the night of 10-11 May, the fleet conducted a series of operations in the Caribbean Sea. The operations were designed to test the capabilities of the fleet's command and control systems. The operations were conducted in a series of stages, with the fleet's command and control systems being tested at each stage. The operations were successful, and the fleet's command and control systems were found to be capable of handling the operations.

3. On 11 May 1968, the fleet conducted a series of operations in the Caribbean Sea. The operations were designed to test the capabilities of the fleet's command and control systems. The operations were conducted in a series of stages, with the fleet's command and control systems being tested at each stage. The operations were successful, and the fleet's command and control systems were found to be capable of handling the operations.

4. Summary

A series of operations were conducted in the Caribbean Sea on 10-11 May 1968. The operations were designed to test the capabilities of the fleet's command and control systems. The operations were conducted in a series of stages, with the fleet's command and control systems being tested at each stage. The operations were successful, and the fleet's command and control systems were found to be capable of handling the operations.

5. Recommendations

1. The fleet's command and control systems were found to be capable of handling the operations. The fleet's command and control systems were found to be capable of handling the operations.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 5, 1942I. U.S. Submarine Activities.

One of our submarines has reported sinking a large CM.

II. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

1. Our attack west of the Hatanikau River on Guadalcanal continued successfully through November 3. In one position west of Point Cruz, 350 Japanese were killed. Three enemy field pieces, 12-37 m.m. guns, and 30 machine guns were captured.

2. During the night November 3 - 4 the enemy landed a force at about 7000 yards east of Koli Point. At dawn on the 4th these troops were attacked by a battalion of the 7th Marines. This attack, however, was driven back by superior forces with artillery. During the afternoon of the 4th our troops were concentrating to destroy this enemy force. Beginning at 1630 L, Nov. 4, three of our planes bombed and strafed the area east of Koli Point.

3. At 0955 L, Nov. 3 our search planes observed 12 Zero seaplanes 10 miles northwest of Vella Lavella, New Georgia Group.

(B) New Guinea.

A strong force of medium bombers on Nov. 4 executed a bombing and strafing attack over the town and port of Salanca, starting many fires and destruction of a probable munitions dump. On the same day Allied fighters strafed the beach and landing areas on Samarada Point at Buna.

(C) New Britain.

1. Air reconnaissance photographs on Nov. 2 revealed 61 fighters and 4 medium bombers on Lakunai airdrome.

2. At Rabaul Harbor, during the morning of Nov. 3, air reconnaissance reported 19 large unidentified vessels.

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(D) Fiji Islands.

There is reasonable evidence that a single-engined enemy plane flew over Suva at about 0400 L, Nov. 4.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of OBCO, Nov. 4, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) Solomons.

1. There was no ground activity on Guadalcanal during the night of Nov. 1 - 2, but our SED's harassed Japanese positions. Only small groups of Japanese were encountered by one of our patrols returning from Aola (30 miles east of our positions) on November 2. This apparently occurred prior to the Japanese landing east of Koli Point during the night of November 2 - 3. In an attack west of the Matanikau River during the morning of Nov. 2, our DD's assisted by bombardment.

2. Reconnaissance of the Buin-Faisi area in the afternoon of Nov. 1 indicated 49 vessels, including 2 CA's, 20 DD's or PG's, 3 probable AV's, 15 AK's, 1 AO, and 3 SS's. A CA and a CL were sighted off Ovau Island at approximately the same time. Twenty landing barges were reported along the Buin coast. Further reconnaissance on the morning of Nov. 2 reported a total of only 19 vessels in the Buin-Faisi area, including 1 CA, 1 DD, 2 AV's, 2 AO's, and 12 AK's. This shipping was attacked by our medium bombers during the night Nov. 2 - 3 with unobserved results.

3. At approximately 1500 L, Nov. 2 an enemy force consisting of 4 CL's and 17 DD's was sighted 95 miles northeast of Santa Isabel Island.

4. The following corrections should be made regarding enemy losses in the engagement north of the Santa Cruz Islands on Oct. 26:

- (a) 4 heavy bomb hits were made on a second TOBE class CA making 2 of this class damaged.
- (b) The reported bomb hit on an unidentified BB should be changed to a bomb hit on a CL.
- (c) A third torpedo hit was made in the NACHI class CA, previously reported as hit by 2 torpedoes.

(B) New Britain - New Ireland.

1. At 1500 L, Nov. 2, 3 heavily loaded AP's were sighted

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80 miles south of Manus Island (Admiralty Group).

2. On Nov. 3, the burning hulk of one of the Japanese AP's used in the attempted landing at Buna was located by our reconnaissance planes off the south coast of New Britain. It was in the same location as when last attacked.

(C) N.E.I.

On Nov. 5 the town and wharf areas of Dili on Timor were attacked by two formations of medium bombers. Heavy new damage was inflicted and fires started in the raid of the previous day were still burning. Interception was attempted by 5 Zeros, one of which was destroyed and 2 damaged.

R. A. Doone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 3, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific.

(A) H.E.I.

On Nov. 2 a strong formation of Allied medium bombers attacked Dili on Timor, with heavy destruction reported. Another force attacked enemy installations at Bobonaro (south of Dili), hitting barracks and buildings and starting fires.

(B) Solomons.

1. At 2345 L, Nov. 2 an unidentified DD was reported 3 miles west of Kokumbona, 2000 yards off shore.

2. During the night Nov. 2 - 3, enemy troops were landed east of Koli Point from 1 CL, 1 AP, and 1 DD.

(C) New Guinea.

According to General MacArthur's communique, the Japanese on Nov. 2 attempted to land reinforcements on the coast of New Guinea, near Buna, from 2 large transports, carrying an estimated 7,000 troops. The AP's were escorted by a CL and a DD, with air cover of 9 zeros. Our heavy bombers attacked and scored near misses. Five Zeros were shot down and the convoy retired. In the mid-afternoon our medium bombers again attacked the transports and scored several very near misses. At dusk, a third attack was carried out near the south coast of New Britain and 1 hit made on one AP and many near misses on both AP's.

Kokoda has been captured by Allied troops.

R. A. Boone.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, Nov. 2, 1942I. Southwest Pacific.(A) Solomons.

1. Throughout October 30 no ground activity took place on Guadalcanal. At 1400 L, Oct. 30, 6 Jap dive bombers and 6 Zeros were intercepted by 5 Grumans. The Japs jettisoned their bombs and fled but 4 dive bombers were shot down. We suffered no loss or damage. From 2200L to 0520L, Oct. 31 our SBD's harassed Jap positions.

2. At 0530L, November 1 Grumans destroyed 5 Jap planes at Rekata Bay beach. Many wrecked planes were seen in the vicinity. Buildings were strafed and a fire started. AA fire was very heavy and accurate but our planes, though damaged, returned safely.

3. At daybreak, Nov. 1 the 5th Marines crossed the Matanikau River and attacked westward, supported by B-17's. The enemy withdrew slowly and one wave advanced about 2 miles with relatively light casualties. Jap artillery was silenced by continuous attacks throughout the day by P-400's and SBD's.

4. In the battle of Oct. 26 between one of our Task Forces and a Japanese Force it is now estimated that the following damage was inflicted on the enemy:

- (a) Two 500-lb. bomb hits on #3 elevator of a SHOKAKU Class CV.
- (b) Four to six 1000-lb. bomb hits on a SHOKAKU Class CV.
- (c) Two 1000-lb. bomb hits on #2 turret and starboard side amidships of a KONGO Class BB.
- (d) One 1000-lb. bomb hit on starboard side stern of an unidentified BB.
- (e) 1 possible torpedo hit and 1 possible 500-lb. bomb on an ATAGO Class CA.
- (f) Five 500-lb. bomb hits (1 forward of bridge, 2 between stacks, 1 shaft of stacks, 1 on stern) on a TONE class CA.
- (g) 2 torpedo hits (1 on each side) on a YACHI Class CA.

It is estimated that the planes of 4 Jap CV's, totalling 150 planes, took part in the attack on our CV's. Total Japanese plane losses in this engagement were 115 shot down (certain) and 46 probable.

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5. Air reconnaissance on Oct. 31 reported a total of 47 ships in the Buin-Faisi area, including 2 CA's, 2 CL's, 15 DD's, 3 AV's, 1 possible military landing craft carrier, 1 minelayer, 15 merchantmen totalling 77,000 tons, and 8 unidentified vessels.

6. General MacArthur's communique has announced another heavy air attack on shipping in the Buin-Faisi area. Thirty-three tons of bombs were dropped and seven enemy ships are believed sunk or damaged.

(B) New Britain - New Ireland.

1. Air reconnaissance of Rabaul on Oct. 31 revealed a total of 33 ships in the harbor, including 2 CL's, 2 DD's, 3 auxiliaries of 5000-7000 tons, 2 possible MLC carriers, 1 AV, 20 merchantmen totalling 120,000 tons, and 3 smaller merchantmen. On Lakunai aerodrome were 12 bombers and 45 fighters.

2. A B-17 on patrol near Rabaul probably shot down 3 of 11 intercepting Zeros.

(C) New Guinea.

1. There are indications that the Japanese are increasing their defenses around Lae where 24 enemy fighters were reported having landed on Oct. 31. A pre-dawn air attack was made on Lae aerodrome on Nov. 1 according to General MacArthur's communique. Ten tons of bombs were reported dropped in the target area. Increased air activity is taking place in this area.

2. Port Moresby was lightly raided by 3 enemy aircraft during the night Oct. 31-Nov. 1. No damage was caused.

II. U.S. Submarine Activities.

Up to November 1, 1942 our submarines based on Western Australia have achieved the following results against enemy shipping:

Sunk: 68 ships totalling 453,000 tons.
Damaged: 25 ships totalling 186,000 tons.

R. A. Boons

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