

MR 203(3) Sec. 11 -- JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

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MARCH-APRIL, 1944

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

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March-April, 1944

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of OSCO, 30 April 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

A. Kurile Islands

On the morning of 30 April at 0200 K, SHIMUSHU and PARANTUSHIRU were attacked by 3 PV's of Fairwing 4. Bombs were dropped on KAKIMABETSU, KATAOKA and KASHIWABARA through the overcast. Light A/A fire was met.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Mariana Islands

At midday (1208 K), on 25 April, GUAM was attacked by 7 Army B-24's escorting 7 Navy photo planes. 18 tons of bombs were dropped. Photographs were taken. There was no enemy air interception, although at 2 airfields a large number of Jap Navy planes were observed. No A/A fire was encountered. The planes landed in the ADMIRALITIES.

B. Caroline Islands

Details of the pre-dawn attack on Truk on the morning of 27 April (Naval Summary 29 April 1944) state that 16 Sopac B-24's participated. Targets were DUBLON TOWN, seaplane base, and tank farm; and BTAN ISLAND, where a fuel dump was hit. Fires and explosions were caused. PUPAN and TON were also hit. Of 3 intercepting enemy night fighters, 1 was destroyed. A/A fire shot down 1 B-24, which was caught by searchlights.

On the afternoon of 27 April (1500 L), PONAPE was attacked by 6 B-25's. 3 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfields. There was no A/A fire. The same day, PONAPE was also hit from 1315-1410 L by 6 B-24's covering 4 photo planes. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on LANTAR I. and PONAPE TOWN.

On 28 April, MOLEAI airfield was attacked by 23 B-24's of the 13th Air Force. 67 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Slight A/A fire was encountered.

On 29 April, off PULUHAT, a 100-ft. AK and a smaller AK or escort vessel were attacked without success, by PB4Y's on patrol. At SATANAN, a 60-ft. schooner was also attacked, and a near-miss scored. It was reported that no repair work was evident on the airfield at SATANAN.

C. Marshall Islands

On 27 April, the following attacks were made on targets in the MARSHALLS:

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Results</u>
0815-1332 L	6 PV's	Almost 14 tons	Moderate A/A.
1050 L	6 P4U's	2 tons	" "
1425 L	5 P4U's	2 tons	No A/A.
JALUIT			
0825-0908 L	12 B-25's	7 tons	A/A guns at ENYBOR hit. Slight A/A.
WOTJJE	11 B-25's	11 tons	1 fire caused.
1304 L			No A/A.
1400 L	1 PV 24 P4U's (Marine)	4 1/2 tons	
		20,000 rounds W/S	Slight A/A.
TAROA			
0822 L	4 P6F's 10 SBD's (Marine)	4 1/2 tons	Strafed Moderate A/A.
1400 L	4 P6F's 10 SBD's (Marine)	4 1/2 tons	1 A/A battery probably hit.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 27 April, MBO RIVER mouth, PORORANI I. and BUKA were raided by Sopac planes on patrol.

B. New Britain

On 27 April, a stretch of 56 miles along S. coast of NEW BRITAIN from BALEN (CAPE OXFORD) to RAIRIMAN (S. of CAPE CUMBERLAND) was reported clear enemy troops.

Also on 27 April, TALILI BAY was the main target for Sopac bombers hitting RABAU area. TALILI was attacked by 23 SBD's and 24 TBF's, 4 P-39's, and 14 B-25's. 54 tons of bombs were dropped. Large fires were caused. It was reported that in this area some 20 MM and 12.7 A/A guns were mounted on trucks.

At 1024 L, TOBERA was raided by 4 B-24's. 10 tons of bombs were dropped.

The RABAU area was swept by fighters which set a fuel dump, 2 barges and 3 trucks on fire.

C. New Ireland

On 27 April, HAVING was attacked by 42 SBD's and 12 TBF's. 33 tons of bombs were dropped. Targets were gun positions and the airfield. 4 SBD's were damaged by A/A fire.

D. Admiralties

On 27 April, the total number of known Jap dead to date in the Admiralties action was set at 3,088.

E. New Guinea

On 28 April, at HOLLANDIA, along the road from SENTANI airfield to PIU VILLAGE, enemy equipment was reported captured by our troops. Among the stores were gasoline and airplane engines.

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The same day, N. of ALEXISHAPEN, our patrols were active, but did not meet any enemy troops. However, land mines were encountered.

On 27 April, in addition to previous reports, the coastal area between HANSA BAY and CAPE CROISILLES was attacked by 36 P-39's and 46 P-47's. About 26 tons of bombs were dropped, and the targets strafed with M/G and M/G. Fires were caused, and bridges wrecked.

On 27 April, at HANSA BAY, personnel and supply areas were hit by 19 A-20's. About 39 tons of bombs were dropped, and 57,400 rounds of M/G expended. Moderate A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, off BIAK ISLAND, an enemy sea truck was attacked and damaged by a B-24 based at the ADMIRALTIES.

On the night of 27 April, off ALIAPES, our shipping was attacked by about 3 enemy planes, 1 of which was reported destroyed. Some damage was caused to 1 AK.

Also on the night of 27 April, BAKARAIN RIVER (between TABJI and BUT) was strafed by U.S. PT's.

On 28 April, in the WENAK area, BRAEDI and BORAM vicinity was attacked by 43 A-20's. About 39 tons of bombs were dropped, and 57,300 rounds of M/G fired in strafing. Excellent results were reported. Some A/A fire was met.

The same day, coastal areas of BOGUMUR BAY and BOGIA were attacked by 12 P-38's and 27 P-47's. About 14 tons of bombs were dropped.

Meanwhile, MURIK LAGOON villages were raided by 2 P-70's.

Also Friday, SAWAR airfield, SAKI town and WAKES airfield were heavily attacked by 55 B-25's and 35 B-24's. About 175 tons of bombs - including 2,286 paraeage - were dropped, and 57,200 rounds of M/G expended. At SAWAR, 4 enemy planes on the ground were wrecked. At WAKES, damaged planes were further wrecked. Explosions and fires were caused. WAKES ISLAND was reported evidently evacuated. At SAWAR, intense and accurate A/A fire was encountered. WENAK was also raided by 1 of the B-24's.

Also on 28 April, at BIAK ISLAND, MOKMER airfield was attacked by 34 B-24's. 59 tons of bombs were dropped. About 12 enemy planes intercepted our bombers - 2 were destroyed, and 2 more probably destroyed. In addition, 14 enemy planes on the ground were destroyed, and others probably damaged. WENAK was raided by 2 of the B-24's as an alternate target.

W. I. BALES.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 29 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 26 April at Puluwat, the new airstrip at Alet Island was attacked by U.S. search planes. Fires were started. Intense A/A was met, causing slight damage to our plane.

Also 26 April Satawan was attacked by U.S. B-24's on patrol. Results were not reported.

On the morning of 27 April at Truk, Dublon island was attacked by 17 B-24's. Further details are not yet available.

The same day at Satawan, the runway was bombed by a Sopac search plane. The field was reported to be not serviceable.

Late the night of 27 April Truk was attacked in two waves by 20 B-24's which dropped a total of 54 tons of bombs on Dublon, Eten, Param, and Moen. Search light positions were hit. 1 large fire was started. Search lights and meager A/A were met. Several enemy fighters were airborne but did not intercept.

At the same time Ponape town and old airfield area were attacked by 2 B-24's which dropped $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of incendiary bombs, starting fires.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 26 April, U. and NW of the Torokina perimeter, patrols of the 37th Division met no enemy resistance. The same day 24 Infantry patrols moving S. of the Moy River mouth along the shore met no enemy resistance.

E. of Saua River (vicinity of Hill 150) minor contacts with the enemy were met by our patrols.

On 26 April, gun positions at Tonolei were attacked by 3 U.S. B-25's which dropped 12 tons of bombs (0820 L). In accurate A/A was met.

On the afternoon of 26 April at Buka 17 SBD's and 11 TBF's attacked enemy gun positions. Huts were destroyed by 8 P-40's on the coast of NE Bougainville. Huts were destroyed by Sopac search planes in E. Central Bougainville.

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(B) New Ireland

On the night of 25 - 26 April, Kavieng airstrip was bombed by Sopac search planes. Results were not reported.

(C) New Britain

On the morning of 26 April gun positions at Ropopo and Vunakanau were attacked by 84 SBD's and 33 TBF's. 75 tons of bombs were dropped. At Vunakanau, 1 TBF was shot down. Several SBD's were damaged by A/A at Ropopo.

On 26 April 24 U.S. B-25's attacked Lakunai with 36 tons of bombs (1028 L). The runway and dispersal area were hit. Inaccurate A/A was met.

At the same time (1020 L) 35 U.S. fighter bombers attacked the Tobera airstrip with 5 3/4 tons of bombs. A/A was met. The Tobera airstrip was attacked again the afternoon of 26 April (1330 L) by 10 U.S. fighters which dropped 5 tons of bombs. No A/A was encountered in this raid.

On 26 April 1 enemy fighter was observed on Lakunai. The same day at Simpson Harbor 57 barges and 4 oil barges were observed. Coverage was less than 50%.

(D) New Guinea

On the night of 25 - 26 April at Aitape, in a minor enemy counter-attack, 10 Japs were killed.

On 26 April at Alexishafen, Sek Island was captured by Australian troops. The troops landed during the afternoon and all opposition was eliminated before dark.

On 27 April at Hollandia, patrols were active and perimeter defenses in the airfield area were established. Cape Soedja was occupied by the 1st Battalion of the 162nd Infantry. Enemy forces in the Hollandia area were estimated at 5,000.

On 27 April at Aitape enemy casualties were 21 killed and 17 prisoners. The same day Alexishafen was occupied by Allied patrols.

On 27 April in the Kronprinz - Hansa Bay area, air patrols reported indications of considerable traffic on the coastal road recently.

On 26 April at Biak Island, (Schouten Islands) aerial reconnaissance showed a new enemy airfield on the S. coast. Taxiways and a dispersal loop had also been completed.

On 26 April the Wewak area was again attacked, by 12 A-20's which dropped 12 tons of bombs from 100 feet. In addition, 14,800 rounds were used in strafing. A/A was met at Wewak point.

The night of 26 April at Jefman after U.S. raids on the field, 9 Jap bombers and 6 fighters were shown to be probably destroyed or damaged. 10 serviceable bombers and 18 fighters were seen on the field after the raid.

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On 27 April at Murik lagoon (W. of the Sepik River mouth) 3 P-70's dropped a ton of bombs and strafed barge hideouts.

The same day in the Newak area, all four airfields were bombed and left unserviceable by 49 B-24's which dropped 187 one-ton bombs and 6 half-ton bombs (total of 190 tons).

Later 27 April, the Newak airfields were attacked by 32 A-20's and unserviceable aircraft were further damaged. 36 A-20's bombed and strafed villages and barge hideouts on the coasts and in the Sepik. 26½ tons of bombs and 31,350 rounds of .50 calibre ammunition were used.

The same day Kairiru and Muschu Islands were shelled and strafed by 9 B-25's. Fires were started at the seaplane base.

On 27 April S. of Hansa Bay 8 P-39's strafed targets of opportunity. The same day between Cape Croisilles and Bunabun, 29 P-47's dropped over 6 tons of bombs and strafed targets.

Also on 27 April at Babo 9 B-24's bombed the waterfront and air-drome, dropping over 11 tons of bombs. Explosions and numerous fires were started. 1 enemy A/C was destroyed with a direct hit. 6 enemy bombers and 15 fighters were seen on the air-drome.

The morning of 27 April over Mirauke an enemy reconnaissance plane was seen.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 28 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

Further details of the Sopac raid on the morning of 26 April on Truk have been received. 15 B-24's attacked Moen, Dublon, Fofan, Uman and Falo before dawn. 22½ tons of bombs were dropped. Results were unobserved. Enemy night fighters intercepted our planes and damaged one, but all returned.

The same morning, 1 B-24 bombed Satawan as an alternate target.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 24 April, the occupation of Ujelang was completed when slight resistance was overcome.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 25 April, scattered targets in Bougainville and Shortland Islands were raided by our planes. (Motupena, Tsirogei and Soraken were hit by planes on patrol. Baitsi, W. of Motupena, was hit by 12 P-39's, which started fires in supply dumps. The S. Shortland area was hit by 12 SBD's.

On the morning of 26 April, off NW Bougainville, an enemy SS was attacked by U.S. Navy SBD's.

Also 26 April, a U.S. patrol sent N. from Totokina reached Cape Moltke. No enemy troops were met.

(B) New Ireland

On 26 April, Borpop airfield was attacked by 12 TBF's and 36 SBD's. Details were not reported.

Also 25 April, N. New Ireland coast was swept by 8 F4U's. Huts and trucks were set afire. 1 F4U was downed by A/A, but the pilot was rescued.

On the night of 25 - 26 April, enemy coastal guns at Borpop fired on U.S. PT's without success.

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(C) New Britain

On 25 April, Lakunai airfield was attacked by 64 U.S. Navy dive and torpedo bombers (47 SBD's, 17 TBF's). The runway and gun positions were hit. 1 dive bomber was downed, but its pilot was rescued.

Also 25 April, Tobera was attacked by 23 B-25's. 34½ tons of bombs were dropped on the runway and revetments. 4 bombers were damaged by A/A fire.

The same day, the MW coast was swept by 8 F6F's. At Ataliklikun Bay, a small boat was sunk, and in the Rabaul area, 4 trucks were destroyed. 1 F6F was lost.

On the night of 25 - 26 April, Ubili and Pondo Point were strafed by U.S. PT's.

(D) New Guinea

On the night of 25 April, in the Aitape area, enemy troops launched a feeble counter-attack on our lines, but were repulsed. 10 Japs were killed.

On 26 April, our patrols in the Aitape area were active, but details were not reported.

At Hollandia, according to a STPA communique, the 2 columns from Tanahmorah Bay and Humboldt Bay effected a junction. The number of enemy casualties in this area was set at: 274 killed, 21 taken prisoner. There have been no Jap counter-attacks on our forces, but some resistance by small enemy groups was met. Meanwhile, units of the 41st Division were moving E. along S. Humboldt Bay. No enemy troops were met.

Also 26 April, in the Hansa Bay area, enemy activity in the form of heavy motor traffic was indicated, it was reported. At Karkar Island, it was reported that enemy troops may have evacuated to the mainland.

In the Alexishafen area, an amphibious force shelled enemy positions at Sek Island. According to a STPA communique, Sek Island and Alexishafen were occupied by Allied forces. On the road between Alexishafen and Madang, Amron Mission was occupied. At Madang, Australian units encountered a large number of land mines.

On 24 April, Wakde airfield was again attacked by U.S. Navy planes operating from a task force in support of the Hollandia and Aitape operations.

On 25 April, in the Sopik River, an enemy lugger was sunk in an attack by a B-25.

On 26 April, Hansa Bay area was again attacked by 13 B-24's, which dropped 32 tons of 1-ton bombs on personnel areas. Excellent results were reported.

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The same day, Newak area was heavily attacked by 102 A-20's. 228 tons of bombs were dropped, and 135,900 rounds of m/g expended in strafing. Damaged planes on the ground were wrecked, and the area to the N. and S. -- trails and villages -- was hit. The only opposition was some m/g fire from the ground.

Also 26 April, S. of Bunabun, the coastal area was attacked by 4 P-39's and 16 P-47's. 9 tons of bombs were dropped on bridges and plantations.

The same day, in NE New Guinea, Jefman airfield was attacked by 10 B-24's, which dropped over 11 tons of bombs. 1 Jap fighter beginning to take off was destroyed. The dispersal area was hit, and large fires caused. Seen on the field were about 50 planes - 30 bombers, 20 fighters.

The same target was raided the night of 26 April by a PB4Y, which dropped incendiary bombs. Large fires and big explosions were caused.

Also 26 April, in the Sorong area, 1 small enemy AK was sunk, and another forced to the beach in an attack by a PB4Y on patrol. In addition, 10 Jap barges loaded with troops were sunk by this plane.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking a large enemy AK and a submarine. A second U.S. SS reports sinking 4 enemy AK's and 1 destroyer.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 27 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A). Caroline Islands

On 24 April (1030K) at Ponape 8 B-25's dropped 6 tons of bombs at both airfields and at Langar Island. Results were not observed. Some A/A was met. The same day, 240 miles SW of Woleai, a U.S. search plane destroyed an enemy bomber.

On the morning of 25 April (1130K) Ponape was hit with 8 tons of bombs from 8 B-25's. Fires were started in barracks at the old airfield. The new airfield area was also hit. Slight A/A was met.

The same day U.S. search planes reported the Alet airstrip (at Puluwat) serviceable and aircraft on it. At Satawan the airstrip appeared serviceable. 7 enemy fighters intercepted without result. In the lagoon 3 small escorts and 2 small AK's were seen.

On the night of 25 - 26 April (1941 - 0312 K) at Truk 16 U.S. Army B-24's dropped 37 tons of fragmentation cluster bombs. Dublon, Moen, Tol, Param and Eten were attacked. Explosions were noted at Dublon and Param. 2 or 3 enemy night fighters were airborne but did not intercept. A/A and searchlights were encountered but were inaccurate. Our planes returned without damage.

On 26 April before dawn (0145 K) at Ponape, the old airfield area and town were hit by 3 U.S. Army B-24's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 24 April, U.S. planes attacked the following enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Mille	3 B-25's	3 tons	Hit gun positions. No A/A.
Jaluit	4 F6F's	strafed	Boat strafed on beach. Undetermined results. No A/A.
	8 B-25's	8 tons	Hit gun positions at Enidj. Meager but heavy A/A.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Tarea	8 F6F's 20 SBD's (Marine)	9 tons & strafed	Hit gun positions. Moderate A/A. 4 SBD's suffered some damage.
	7 B-25's	7 tons	Hit gun positions. Meager but heavy A/A.
Wotje	24 F4U's	3 tons	Coastal guns strafed. Hit fuel storage. Moderate A/A. 1 F4U suffered minor damage.
Taongi	3 PV's	2 tons & strafed	Hit installations
	3 PV's	2 tons	Destroyed buildings. Started fires. No A/A.

On 25 April, U.S. planes attacked the following enemy positions;

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	23 B-24's	85 tons	Large fire in vicinity of magazine. No A/A.
	23 F4U's (Marine)	3 tons & strafed	Hit gun positions and fuel storage. 2 fires started. Meager A/A. 1 F4U suffered damage.
	11 B-25's	11 tons	No A/A.
Jaluit	12 B-25's 5 PV's	19 tons	Hit gun positions at Emidj, Sydney Pier, Jabor, Enybor. Explosions observed. A/A ranged from meager to none.
Mille	6 F4U's 6 F4U's	6 tons	Coastal battery suffered direct hit. Meager but heavy A/A in 1st raid. No A/A in 2nd raid.
Taroa	16 SBD's (Marine) 8 F6F's	11½ tons	Explosion observed. A/A position possibly suffered direct hit. No moderate A/A. 4 SBD's suffered some damage.
Taongi	2 PV's	3 tons	Hit buildings. Several explosions. Rifle fire but no A/A.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 24 April, targets in NE and SE Bougainville, were raided by our planes. (Teopasino, Maika, Tiaraka were hit). A jetty on N. Shortland Island was also damaged by our planes.

(B) New Ireland

Early the morning of 24 April (0200 L), near Kavieng, a Jap truck moving along a coastal road was strafed and hit by U.S. PT's at a range of 450 yards.

On the morning of 24 April, Borpop was raided by Sopac bombers on patrol. The same day, the New Ireland coast was swept by fighters, which sank 2 barges and strafed shore targets.

(C) New Britain

On 24 April, Tobera airfield was attacked by 10 Sopac fighter-bombers (P-39's) which dropped 2½ tons of bombs.

The same day, the NW coast of New Britain was swept by Sopac fighters, which at Tobera set afire a hut which possibly housed a fuel dump, and also set 19 trucks on fire.

On the night of 24 - 25 April, near Pondo Point, 2 enemy barges were sunk by U.S. PT's.

(D) New Guinea

On 25 April, the 3 airfields in the Hollandia area were occupied by our forces moving E. from Tanahmerah Bay and W. from Humboldt Bay. The junction of the 2 columns was described in a SWPA communique as "imminent". There was still no major enemy land opposition.

In the Tanahmerah Bay area, Hollandia airfield was taken by units of the 24th Division.

In the Humboldt Bay area, units of the 41st Division--which had reached the shores of Lake Sentani 24 April--moved across the lake in LVT's and made a landing at Nefaar Village. They then pushed forward and at 1430 K took Cyclops airfield and--according to the communique--Sentani airfield.

In the Aitape area, 4 islands offshore--Seleo, Tumleo, Angel and Ali--were announced as occupied by our forces. Allied planes, operating from the Tadjil Airfield were patrolling the area. A point 20 miles E. of Aitape was reached by our ground patrols, which reported meeting a few enemy troops.

Also 25 April, Madang was taken by Australian patrols of the 5th Division from Bogadjim. Minor enemy resistance, in the form of rear-guard action, was overcome. The SWPA communique reported the capture of large quantities of supplies and equipment.

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Further details of the attack on 24 April on Kamiri (Noemfoor) airfield (Naval Summary for 26 April 1944) state that 20 enemy planes on the ground were destroyed by the B-24's. Photos taken by these bombers showed 26 serviceable and 23 unserviceable enemy planes present.

On the night of 24 - 25 April, off Hollandia, an Allied DD was attacked without success by 12 enemy torpedo bombers.

On 25 April, W. of Sentani Lake, trails and villages were attacked by 12 B-25's, which dropped 12 tons of bombs and strafed with 18,000 rounds of m/g. This area was reported to be a possible route of evacuation for the enemy.

The same day, Karkar Island was raided by 3 P-70's. 1½ tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed.

Also 25 April, in the Manokwari area, 3 Jap planes were shot down by 2 B-24's on patrol. The enemy planes had attempted to intercept our bombers.

(E) N. E. I.

On 25 April photos of Penfoei (Timor I.) airfield showed no enemy planes present.

Also 25 April, Viqueque Village (E. Timor I.) was strafed by 4 Australian fighters (Beaufighters).

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 26 April 1944I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On the night of 24 - 25 April (2300K) Matsuwa was bombed with unobserved results by one of three 11th Air Force B-24. The remaining two planes turned back because of weather. The same night (0147 - 0230K) 4 Fairwing 4 Venturas dropped 4 tons of bombs on Shimushu and Paramushiro. Results were not observed. A/A fire was met but was not accurate.

All planes returned safely.

On 25 April, a reconnaissance plane of the 11th Air Force reported that no enemy installations or signs of habitation could be seen on Onnekotan, Harumukotan or Shasukotan.

On 26 April (0000 - 0100K) before dawn, Matsuwa was attacked by 3 11th Air Force B-24's. Results were unobserved. The same morning (0043 - 0145K) Shimushu and Paramushiro were bombed by 4 Fairwing 4 medium bombers which dropped 4 tons of bombs at Kurabuzaki, Kashiwabara and Shimushu. Intense inaccurate A/A was met.

II. Central Pacific Area(A) Caroline Islands

A delayed report gives details of the raid on Kolsai on 23 April. 23 Sopac B-24's dropped 45 tons of bombs. 25 to 30 enemy fighters were airborne and intercepted our planes. 17 enemy planes were destroyed and 4 were probably destroyed. 1 B-24 was lost.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area(A) Solomon Islands

On 23 April, Shortland Island was raided by patrol planes, which hit jetties. The SE and NE coasts of Bougainville were also bombed. The same day, S. of Numa Numa, a barge loaded with Jap troops was sunk by F4U's.

Also 23 April, Mobiai and Puriata Rivers mouths were strafed by U.S. gunboats and PT's. Fires were caused.

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On 24 April, E. of the Torokina perimeter, the coast from the perimeter to the mouth of the Moy River was reported cleared of enemy troops by units of the Americal Division aided by tanks, which launched an attack from the Mavavia River.

Meanwhile, the area along the E. bank of the Saua River to the mouth of the river was searched by a combat patrol. 46 enemy troops were killed.

Also, E. of the Saua River, near Hill 150, a Jap unit was attacked by a Fiji patrol. 7 enemy troops were killed.

(B) New Ireland

On 23 April, Kavieng was raided by 2 B-25's, which bombed the airfield. The same day, the coast of New Ireland was swept by our fighters searching for barges. Namatanai was strafed. 1 U.S. Navy fighter was reported missing.

(C) New Britain

On 23 April, in addition to previous reports, Rabaul area was also attacked by:

Tobera was hit by P-39's and P-40's. Slight, heavy-calibre A/A fire was met.

Photos on 23 April of Rabaul airfields showed 3 of them serviceable - Tobera, Vunakanau and Lakunai.

On the night of 23 - 24 April, in Open Bay, at the Toriu River mouth, an enemy barge was sunk after meeting our PT's.

(D) New Guinea

On 24 April, from the 3 landing points at Hollandia and Aitape, our ground forces continued to advance without meeting any effective enemy land or air opposition.

In the Tanamerah Bay area, patrols of the 24th Division moved forward from Sabron towards the Hollandia airfields. Between Sabron and Dazai, some small Jap pockets were being encountered. In the area about 15 miles W. of Sentani Lake, a strong enemy force was reported.

In the Humboldt Bay area, Sentani Lake was reached by units of the 41st Division moving W. from Pim towards the Hollandia airfields. Minor resistance was being met. Other units moved NE. along the shores of Imbi Bay, from Hollandia Town. In this area, about 150 Sikhs were taken prisoner, according to first reports.

In the Aitape area, on the morning of 24 April, Aitape Village was taken by units of the 41st Division. No enemy resistance was met. The area between the village and Tadji airfield is now controlled by us. From the Nigia River, which was reached 23 April, patrols were sent S. and E.

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On 24 April at midday, in the Madang area, the Gum River, 3 miles S. of Madang, was reached by Australian patrols from Bogadjim. In the Alexishafen area, it was reported that at Sek Island, enemy troops were evidently constructing positions for defense.

The heavy aerial attacks on Hollandia, Wakde and Sawar by U.S. Navy planes operating from a powerful task force (as reported in Naval Summary for 25 April 1944) took place on 21 April, New Guinea time, not 20 April as reported. The bombardment of Wakde and Sawar occurred on 21 April, not the night of 20 April.

Photos on 23 April of Nabire airfield showed no planes on the runway, which was serviceable. Howsef, Number airfield was unserviceable.

On the afternoon of 24 April, at Nosmfoor, Kamiri airfield was again attacked by 13 B-24's which dropped almost 16 tons of bombs and strafed with 14,500 rounds of m/g. About 30 enemy planes were seen on the ground -- some of these were destroyed. The runway and fuel dumps were also hit. Slight, light-calibre A/A fire was met. Later that afternoon, in this area, 13 Jap planes heading E. were seen by our patrol planes.

Also 24 April, Kowak area was again heavily attacked by 49 B-24's covered by P-40's. Incomplete reports state that 120 tons of 1-ton bombs were dropped by 32 of the 49 bombers. All the airfields remained unuseable. There was no A/A fire.

The same day, the Hansa Bay area was heavily attacked by 64 A-20's, 45 B-25's and 17 B-24's. 122 tons of bombs and over 85,000 rounds of m/g were expended. Fires at fuel dumps were caused, and trails and personnel areas were hit.

Also 24 April, off Muschu Island, 5 Jap barges were sunk in an attack by 10 A-20's. At Uligan, another barge was destroyed and a bridge along the coast was also wrecked by these planes. 10 tons of bombs were dropped, and 17,000 rounds of m/g expended.

The same day, at Uligan, enemy gun positions were raided by 2 B-25's using 75 mm and m/g. Meanwhile, the coast along Bogia, Malala, etc., was swept by 4 P-47's, which hit guns by glide-bombing.

Also 24 April, Alexishafen, Sek Island, Karkar Island, and Sarang were attacked by 7 P-70's.

The same day, about 100 miles NW of Mapia Island, a Jap flying boat was shot down by our Momote based B-24's on patrol. These planes also at Manokwari damaged 2 barges, and about 60 miles NW of Manokwari, off N. coast of Vogelkopf, forced several barges and 3 small vessels ashore, setting fire to 1 vessel and 1 barge.

(E) Australia

On 21 April, at Darwin, 2 Jap planes on reconnaissance were reported.

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IV. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. Submarine returning from patrol reported damaging a total of 11,000 tons of enemy shipping (1 large AK, 1 small AK, 1 small AK by gunfire).

Another U.S. Submarine reported sinking 1 medium AK.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 25 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 23 April at Ponape, (1330L) 6 U.S. B-25's dropped 4½ tons of bombs. The old airfield area and barracks area were hit. Fires were started and an explosion was observed. Meager A/A.

The same day U.S. search planes hit Ponape gun positions. Fires were started.

Also 23 April, Sopac B-24's bombed Woleai. Many fires were started. 2 of 8 enemy interceptors were shot down.

On 23 April, at Ulul a U.S. search plane bombed the radio station.

On the night of 23 - 24 April (2319 - 0219K) at Truk 19 U.S. 7th Air Force B-24's bombed Param, Eten and Moen airfields. Explosions and fires started at all three fields. A/A was meager and inaccurate. 2 enemy fighters were airborne but did not attack.

The same night (2235 - 0047K) at Ponape 2 B-24's bombed the town and old airfield areas. Fires were started in the town area.

The night of 23 - 24 April (0010K) Puluwat was bombed by a U.S. B-24. Results were unobserved.

On the night of 24 April, Truk was again hit by a force of Sopac heavy bombers (B-24's). No details are yet available.

On 24 April, at Murilo a U.S. search plane bombed enemy installations and damaged a vessel. The same day at Minto Reef, 135 miles NE of Truk, a U.S. search plane bombed a ship's hulk.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 23 April, the following attacks on enemy positions took place:

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	14 EHD's (Marine) 16 F4U's	7 tons and strafed	Hit gun positions. Storage tanks strafed at Tonton and Charutabba. Meager A/A.
Wotje	2 B-24's	4 tons	Hit runways and barracks.
Mille	3 B-25's	3 tons	Airfield. Meager A/A.
Tarao	9 B-25's	9 tons	Runways hit. Meager A/A.
Jaluit (Gmidj)	6 B-25's	6 tons	Hit area around sea- plane ramp. Meager A/A.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 22 April, Ibu Village, SW of Ruma Ruma, was attacked by 6 TBF's. Huts were destroyed.

Meanwhile, at N. Mibo River, Shishigatero was raided by 2 P-38's. A possible radio station was hit.

Also 22 April, E. of Matchin Bay, at Chabai, a pier was hit directly by patrol bombers, which also raided Lamankoa, NW Buks, Karolingar, SE of Bonis, and near Buks Passage, about 12 Japs were killed after they had abandoned their barge.

On 23 April, in the upper Laruma River area, strong enemy trail blocks have been maintained, it was reported.

NE of the Torokina perimeter, a Jap force estimated as a platoon was met by a U.S. patrol of the Americal Division. 6 Japs were killed. Our artillery fire was directed at the enemy, who withdrew. Minor patrol contacts were reported outside the E. perimeter.

(B) New Ireland

On 22 April, the coast of New Ireland was swept by our fighters. At Borpop, some repair work was observed. At Dyaul Island, a barge was set afire.

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(C) New Britain

On 22 April, in addition to previous reports (Naval Summary, 24 April 1944), Rabaul area was also attacked by 32 B-25's which at 1145L hit Rataval and Keravat.

At 0939L, Lakunai was hit by 9 P-39's. Over 2 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway.

On 22 April in the Cape Hoskins area, enemy units comprising about 50 troops were reported evacuating eastwards. It was also reported that in Wide Bay, at the Henry Reid River mouth, Jap barges come in every night.

On 23 April, in spite of weather conditions, Rabaul area was again attacked.

At 1034L, Matupi was attacked by 24 B-25's. 22½ tons of bombs were dropped.

At 1005L, Talili Bay was hit by 9 TBF's and 21 SBD's. 16 tons of bombs were dropped. Slight A/A fire was met.

(D) New Guinea

On 20 April, according to a U.S. Navy announcement (from Washington), at Hollandia, 67 Jap planes on the ground were destroyed, and at Wakde and Sawar, 21 Jap planes on the ground were destroyed by U.S. Navy planes. In addition, 13 airborne enemy planes were shot down, and 17 more damaged.

On the night of 20 April, Wakde and Sawar airfields were bombarded by U.S. cruisers and DD's. No effective opposition was met. It was reported.

Photos on 22 April of 2 Noemfoor airfields - Namber and Kamiri - showed no planes at the former, and 5 useable ones at the latter.

Also 22 April, off Mapia Island, an enemy vessel was strafed and shore targets bombed by PB4Y's on patrol.

The same day, the Bogia area was hit by 16 more P-47's which dropped 8 tons of bombs on buildings at Ulamba Plantation, while Amuk Village, SE of Hansa Bay, was attacked by 8 P-39's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped, and buildings wrecked. Also Cape Croissilles and Uligan were raided by 2 P-70's.

Photos of 22 April of Madang showed that the enemy had removed from gunpits all useable guns. There were no signs at all of enemy activity.

On 22 April, at Tadj, quantities of supplies and 13 trucks were captured by our troops. The radio station was also taken. On the airfield were 25 wrecked Jap planes.

On the night of 22 - 23 April, Malala, near Crown Prince Harbor, was strafed by U.S. LST's.

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On 23 April, our troops continued to extend their lines from the 3 landing-points, while enemy air reaction came on the night of 23 April, at 1940K, when Humboldt Bay beach was raided by a single enemy plane. Fires were caused.

Details:

Tanahmerah Bay: Sabron was reached by patrols of the 24th Division. Slight resistance was encountered. The SWPA communique stated that our troops were 5 miles from the Hollandia airfield. Humboldt Bay: A point 3 miles W. of Pim - Hill 650 - on the road to the airfields was reached by units of the 41st Division. Supply and ammunition dumps were captured. The W. shore of Imbi Bay was also reached. Hollandia Town, Pim and Leimok Hill were taken.

Aitape: On 23 April, (not 22 April as reported in Naval Summary for 24 April, 1944), Tuleo and Selec Islands were taken by units of the 41st Division, following an aerial and naval bombardment. Slight opposition was still being met on the afternoon of 23 April at Tuleo. On the mainland, active patrolling was reported, with units reaching the Nigia River, E. of Tadjil. Between this river and the Raihu River, there are no enemy troops, it was reported. To date, in this area, 98 Japanese have been killed, 50 Javanese have been killed, and 15 have been taken prisoner.

Also 23 April, 3 enemy airfields in W. New Guinea were attacked - Namber and Kamiri by 12 B-24's and Nabire by 3 B-24's. Over 16 tons of bombs were dropped. Our planes were intercepted by 30 Jap fighters - whose pilots were described as experienced - and 14 were shot down, with 3 more probably shot down.

The same day, Hansa Bay area was heavily attacked by 16 B-24's, 51 B-25's and 35 A-20's. 160 tons of bombs were dropped, and over 93,000 rounds of m/g and 135 rounds of 75 mm were expended in strafing. Excellent results were reported. The only sign of enemy opposition was a slight amount of m/g fire from the ground.

Also 23 April, Newak area was heavily attacked by 45 B-24's and 46 A-20's. The heavies concentrated on the airfields, dropping 180 tons of 1-ton bombs, while the A-20's went W. and S. of Dagua to hit trails and villages with over 21 tons of bombs and 65,000 rounds of m/g. There was no A/A fire.

Meanwhile, the coast from Crown Prince Harbor to Karkar Island was attacked by 40 A-20's. Bivouacs and supply dumps received 23 1/2 tons of bombs and 67,400 rounds of m/g fire. Fires were caused. A slight amount of light-calibre A/A fire was encountered.

The coast S. of Bogia was also hit by 44 P-39's which dropped almost 5 tons of bombs and strafed. Buildings were wrecked and fires started. Also, the coastal area from Sarang to Bogia was attacked by 51 P-47's which dropped 25 tons of bombs.

Also 23 April, our patrols from Bogadjim continued their advance towards Madang, reaching the Gohil River. Between Gori and Palpa River, 16 damaged enemy trucks were found.

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On the afternoon of 24 April, U.S. planes began landing at Tadjik airfield.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0000, 24 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 19 April before dawn (0200 - 2430K) at Truk, 9 B-24's of the 7th Air Force dropped 2 tons of bombs at Moon, Dublon, Eten and Mesegon Islands. No A/A was met. 2 enemy fighters were seen.

On 19 April at Hall Island, N. of Truk, a B-24 dropped 2 tons of bombs with unannounced results.

Photos taken at Truk showed at least 17 operational enemy bombers and 101 fighters. 2 Jap Navy escort vessels, 4 AK's and 131 small craft were seen in the harbor.

On 20 April, 270 miles NE of Truk an enemy bomber was attacked and damaged by a U.S. search plane. The enemy plane escaped.

On 21 April, at Puluwat a Sepac search plane bombed supply and personnel areas. The runway was reported being repaired.

On 22 April (1040L), at Ponape, 5 B-25's dropped 4 tons of bombs at both airfields. Both fields were hit and installations at the old field were damaged. Inaccurate A/A was met. The same day 250 miles SE of Woleai, U.S. planes shot down an enemy bomber.

On 23 April (0307 to 0441L), at Truk, 17 B-24's bombed Moon, Dublon, Eten, Param with 25 1/2 tons of bombs. At Dublon the town area, tank farm and seaplane base were set afire. At Param, 3 planes started a fire on the NE part of the island and exploded an ammunition dump. Medium and heavy A/A was encountered over Dublon and Eten. 1 B-24 was slightly damaged. Several enemy planes were sighted but only one intercepted and was probably shot down.

The same day, about 250 miles SE of Truk, U.S. search planes destroyed an enemy bomber.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 22 April, the following attacks on enemy positions took place:

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Milo	11 F4U's (Marine)	5 1/2 tons	Hit defenses along coast. No A/A.
Tarao	11 B-25's	11 tons	Hit gun positions. Moderate A/A. 1 U.S. plane suffered slight damage.
Jaluit	11 B-25's	11 tons	Undetermined results. Meager A/A.
Wotje	18 B-24's	27 tons	Undetermined results. No A/A.
	17 F4U's (Marine)	5 1/2 tons	Fires started. Gun positions
	12 SBD's (Marine)	and	hit. Meager A/A.
	1 JV	strafed	

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On the morning of 21 April, Tinputi Harbor was attacked by 11 P-39's. Results were not observed. The same day, Kahili was attacked by 12 SBD's, 2 of which were damaged by A/A.

On the night of 21 April, Buka was raided by A PRY.

On 22 April in the upper Iaruma River area and NE of the Torokina perimeter, an unreported number of enemy troops were met by our patrols. 2 enemy 75 mm guns were found.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 21 - 22 April, Namatanai and Kavieng were raided by U.S. Navy PRY's.

On the night of 22 - 23 April, Kaveing was raided by 2 Marine B-25's on patrol. There was no A/A fire.

(C) New Britain

On 21 April, at Wide Bay, enemy-held villages were attacked by 17 Australian Beauforts. 12 tons of bombs were dropped. Early 21 April, the Rabaul area was harassed by 4 B-25's.

On the morning of 21 April (0830L), Matupi area was attacked by 24 B-25's. Buildings and supply dumps were hit with 36 tons of bombs.

The same morning, Kabanga Bay was hit by 7 TBF's and 34 SBD's. Supply dumps were the target.

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(D) New Guinea

On 21 April, in the Newak area, Kairiru and Maschu Islands were attacked by 22 A-20's. 8 tons of bombs were dropped, and the targets strafed. A barge was sunk and buildings wrecked.

Photos on 21 April of Kamiri airfield showed a total of 28 planes present. 15 of these were probably serviceable.

On the morning of 22 April, our landings on the New Guinea coast at 3 points in the Hollandia and Aitape areas were entirely successful, and our forces, aided by artillery, were moving forward. Only minor enemy land opposition and no air opposition have been encountered. The landings were preceded by a heavy aerial and naval bombardment, with excellent coverage reported. Our ships met no opposition on their way to the landing points.

Details so far available:

Tanahmerah Bay: At 0700K, landing was accomplished without opposition by combat teams of the 24th Division. Slight opposition was encountered about midday when front units arrived 3 miles S. of Depapre Bay, at Paipou.

Humboldt Bay: At 0700K, landing was made at Jautefa Bay at 4 points, without opposition, by combat teams of the 41st Division. By 1000K, both sides of Jautefa Bay were reported in our hands.

Aitape: At 0645K, in the face of slight opposition, landing was made and our lines established by units of the 41st Division. By 0906K, the LST's were unloading on the beach. By afternoon, the airfield had been taken. The next day, landings were made on Tumblee and Seleo Islands.

Enemy casualties so far were at least: 35 killed and 83 taken prisoner. Our casualties were very light.

Also 22 April, in the Madang area, it was reported that indications point to an evacuation of the area by the enemy.

The same day, 1 mile N. of Hansa Bay, 1 enemy barge was sunk and 3 damaged by U.S. PT's, which also strafed Matsfeldt Harbor. U.S. surface units, in the Hollandia - Aitape area set a small enemy ship on fire and sank 7 barges.

On 22 April, the Newak area was heavily attacked by 68 A-20's and 17 B-24's. The B-24's dropped 69 tons of 1-ton bombs, and the A-20's dropped 79½ tons of bombs, and expended 87,800 rounds of m/g.

The same day, Hansa Bay area was hit by 50 B-25's and 47 B-24's. Bivouacs, supply dumps, and gun positions received 56 tons of bombs from the B-25's and 156 tons - including 115 1-ton bombs - from the heavies.

Also 22 April, the following attacks took place:

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Results</u>
Tadji	6 A-20's	5 tons	Airfield hit.
Kuschu I.	5 A-20's	5 tons	Unreported.
Bogia	19 P-47's	9 tons	Glide-bombod bivouacs.
Dogumur Bay	22 P-39's	Strafed with 37 MM and m/c.	7-10 barges sunk; fires ashore started.
Bunabun-Palus	20 A-20's	19 tons strafed	Unreported.
Alexishafen, Hansa Bay, Hatzfeldt Harbor	7 P-70's	Over 1 ton strafed	6 barges damaged.
Angoram	12 B-25's	12 tons 50,000 m/c rounds.	Fires caused; huts wrecked.

Also 22 April, Mamber and Kamiri airfields were again attacked by 22 B-24's, which dropped almost 20 tons of bombs. Fires were caused. Our bombers were ineffectively intercepted by 5 Jap fighters.

(E) M. E. I.

On 22 April at dawn, Billi Town was attacked by 11 Dutch B-25's covered by fighters. About 14 tons of bombs were dropped.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS returning from patrol reported damaging an enemy 200-ton trawler.

M. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 23 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Mariana Islands

On 17 April, Saipan and Tinian Islands were attacked by U.S. Navy and Army heavy bombers (PB4Y's and B-24's) of Fleet Air Wing 2 and the 7th Air Force, according to an official announcement from Pearl Harbor. 25 enemy fighters intercepted our planes - 1 was shot down and another probably shot down. Moderate A/A fire was encountered. Further details were not reported.

(B) Caroline Islands

On the night of 20-21 April, at Puluwat, Alet Island airfield was attacked by Sopac B-24's.

On the afternoon of 21 April, 2 Ponape airfields were attacked by 6 B-25's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped, causing large fires. Intense but inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

Also the same day, Ulul was raided by a single bomber on patrol.

On the morning of 21 April, about 240 miles SSN of Woleai, an enemy medium bomber was shot down by a PB4Y.

On the night of 21-22 April, Truk was attacked by 6 7th Air Force B-24's, which dropped 12 tons of bombs. 3 islands were hit: Tol, Dublon, and Moen. Explosions and fires were caused at the airfield area at Moen, while at Dublon fires were started in the hangar area. 3 enemy night fighters ineffectively intercepted. Moderately-intense A/A fire was met but our planes suffered no damage.

Also the same night, Truk was to be attacked by 21 Sopac B-24's. Results have not been reported.

On the morning of 22 April, about 100 miles SE of Truk, a Jap medium bomber was damaged in an attack by a PB4Y. On the afternoon of the same day, about 180 miles S. of Truk, a Jap medium bomber was shot down by a PB4Y.

The same day, S. of Alet Island, an 800-ton AK was damaged and a 75-ft. escort vessel was set afire in an attack by a PB4Y on patrol. The AK seemed to be out of control. Also on 22 April, off Marilo, 1 small AK was sunk, 1 was damaged and a patrol craft was also damaged in an attack by PB4Y's on patrol.

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(C) Marshall Islands

On 21 April, Aur and Erikub Atolls were searched by U.S. ground units which reported finding no enemy troops. At Ujelang, U.S. troops were landed but details were not reported.

Also the same day the following attacks on enemy-held atolls took place:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje 1235-1550L	2 PV's 4 P6F's 19 F4U's (Marine) 20 SBD's (Marine) 11 B-24's	39½ tons 14,550 rounds of M/G in strafing	Fires and 1 explosion. 1 SBD lost. Moderate A/A.
Taroa 0857-1022L	12 B-25's	12 tons	A/A positions hit. Slight A/A.
Jaluit 1200L 1529L	2 PV's 2 PV's	3 tons 3 tons	Moderate A/A.
Jaluit (Emidj) 1224-1404L)	12 B-25's	12 tons	A/A positions hit. Radio station strafed.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 19 April Numa Numa was attacked by 8 P-39's. Results were not seen.

The Torokina perimeter was patrolled on 20 April by 17 SBD's and 4 TBF's.

The same day Mamagata was raided by 2 P-38's.

Early on 20 April, NE. Bougainville targets - including Numa Numa and Tinipute - were attacked by PBV's on patrol.

On the night of 20-21 April the mouth of the Jaba River was strafed by U.S. PT's.

The same night, S. Shortland Island was shelled by U.S. DD's. Enemy coastal guns, which had fired on our ships, were the target.

(B) New Britain

On 22 April the following raids were made on the Rabaul area;

2 PV's

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<u>Area Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Rapopo 0940-1140L	45 fighter- bombers	12½ tons	Slight A/A.
Rapopo 1135L	24 TBF's 53 SBD's	51 tons	Airfield covered. 2 TBF's damaged by A/A. 4 planes also attacked Vanapope, starting fires.

(C) New Ireland

On the morning of 22 April Kavieng was attacked by 2 TBF's and 38 SBD's. 21 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway and gun positions. Slight A/A fire was encountered.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 20 April Mandrin Island, W. of Pityilu Island, was occupied by U.S. forces. There was no opposition.

Total known enemy casualties were set at 3,100 with about 200 enemy troops still remaining.

(E) New Guinea

In the attack of 20 April on 2 strips at Noemfoor (Naval Activities Summary, 22 April 1944), 1 enemy fighter on the ground was destroyed and 4 more probably wrecked.

On the same day, in addition to previous reports (Naval Activities Summary, 22 April 1944), Bunabun area was hit by 34 more A-20's - making a total of 80 A-20's - and by 3 P-70's. The additional A-20's dropped almost 33 tons of bombs and expended 40,750 rounds of M/G in strafing. The P-70's dropped 1½ tons of bombs on a bridge.

On 21 April, at Noemfoor, 2 enemy airfields - Namber and Kamiri - were attacked again by 21 B-24's. Almost 24 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires were caused. Our bombers were ineffectively intercepted by 4 enemy fighters.

At noon the same day, at Mapia Island, 2 small enemy AK's were forced to the reefs and another small AK was bombed and left sinking in an attack by a PB4Y on patrol. Supply dumps on the island were also bombed by this plane.

On the morning of the same day the Tadjai-Aitape area was heavily attacked by 71 A-20's, 47 B-25's and 31 B-24's. 250½ tons of bombs were dropped, and 80,000 rounds of M/G expended in strafing. Results were reported excellent. All runways were unserviceable. Islands off-shore were also hit. Some of the bombers reported some M/G fire from the ground.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 22 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

An additional report on the 19 April raid at Woleai in which large fires were started has been received. 18 B-24's took part in this raid and dropped 38 tons of bombs. Many fires and explosions were started. 2 enemy planes on the ground were destroyed.

On 20 April 3 squadrons of heavy bombers again attacked Woleai. A large fire was started. 3 enemy bombers were destroyed on the ground. No further details were received.

The same day Ujelang, Ant and Pakin were attacked by U.S. search planes which dropped incendiaries.

The night of 20 - 21 April at Alet Island (W of Truk) a jetty tower was strafed by one U.S. search plane.

The following day, 21 April, at 1210 K, Satawan was attacked by 21 Sopac heavy bombers (B-24's) which dropped 49 tons. The runway suffered 20 - 39 hits. A float plane in the lagoon was also hit. Meager A/A was met, causing damage to 1 U.S. plane.

The same day, the Woleai airstrip was attacked by 6 B-24's. Fires were started. 1 enemy bomber was destroyed on the ground.

B. Wako Island

On 20 April, at Peale Island, a U.S. search plane dropped incendiaries which started a fire. No A/A was met. No other details were reported.

C. Marshall Islands

On 19 April, at Madagai Island in the Mille Atoll, an enemy boat was strafed by 4 F6F's. The A/A was moderate and caused minor damage to 1 U.S. plane.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 19 April Tonoiei was attacked by 2 B-24's. Results were unobserved.

The same day on the upper Faruma River, an enemy ammunition dump was destroyed by a 37th Division patrol. Another patrol to Cape Moltke found no enemy. 1,000 yards south of Hill 1111, 2 disabled 75 mm guns were found.

Also the same day patrols of the Americal Division found no enemy in the vicinity of Hills 280 and 65 (just W of the Saua River).

At the Mavavia River mouth, 19 April, a tank-supported 24th Infantry company encountered and attacked a Jap unit. 5 enemy machine guns were destroyed. Our losses were 6 killed and 8 wounded.

The same day at Torokina, 14 SBD's and 8 TBF's fired on enemy ammunition dump.

Also 19 April, Numa Numa was bombed by 11 TBF's, Buka was bombed by a patrol B-24, and 8 F4U's killed 20 of the enemy S of Buka.

B. New Britain

The night of 18 April, at Ulamona, PT boats bombarded buildings.

The following day, 19 April, Vunakana, Takumai and Obara appeared serviceable; Rapopo was serviceable for 1,350 feet. 2 fighters were at Tobera and 1 was serviceable at Takumai. In the harbor area 197 barges and 2 110-foot oil barges were seen with not complete coverage.

Also 19 April, Takumai was attacked by 14 SBD's and 12 TBF's. 34 tons of bombs were dropped.

The same day Matupi was bombed by 38 fighter-bombers which dropped 10 1/2 tons of bombs. Fires were started.

Also the same day, at Ubili, a large party of Japs was observed.

On 20 April the following raids were made on the Rabaul area:

<u>Area Attacked</u>	<u>Planos</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Tobai wharf 0920 L	34 SBD's 18 TBF's	35 tons	Whole area covered with smoke. Many fires. A/A damaged 2 SBD's.

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<u>Area Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Vunakanau 0945 L	47 SED's 10 TEF's	?	25 bomb hits on runway. Intense A/A. No damage.
Matupi Island 1032 L	22 B-25's (Army)	33 tons	Large fires and explosions. Photos show several burned out areas. 1 B-25 damaged.
Lakunai 0945 L - 1020 L	35 fighter bombers	9 tons	Airfield damaged. No A/A at end of strike.
Veravat 0935 L	12 P-39's	3 tons (?)	Runway hit. Some A/A met.

The same day, 20 April, Vunabal on the E coast of Gazelle Peninsula was attacked in a fighter sweep. 8 enemy trucks were destroyed.

The following day, 21 April, photos showed Vunakanau and Tobora serviceable. Rapopo was serviceable about 1,350 feet. Takunai was unserviceable, but repairs were being made. Veravat could not be seen. No serviceable enemy aircraft were seen.

C. New Ireland

On 20 April Tabar was attacked in a U.S. fighter sweep. Buildings were destroyed.

D. New Guinea

On 19 April, at Palas Point, an additional 19 A-20's dropped 19 tons of bombs and strafed the area with 23,700 rounds of .50 calibre fire.

The following day, 20 April, 50 miles NW of Hollandia 1 of 3 enemy coasttrucks were sunk by a B-24.

The same day Vanimo was bombed by 8 B-25's. 8 tons of bombs and 16,000 rounds of .50 calibre started many fires.

From Uligan Harbor to Bogia, 20 April, 16 P-39's strafed bridges, buildings and damaged 2 barges.

The same day at Dunabun 46 A-20's dropped 22 tons of bombs and strafed supply areas and personnel. Some A/A was encountered.

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On 20 April major air strikes were prevented by weather.

The same day at Moemfoor both Vamiri and Vamber strips were attacked by 20 B-24's. 24 tons of bombs were dropped on dispersal areas and runways. Results were not announced. 1 enemy fighter intercepted.

On 22 April, at Tanahmerah Bay, Humboldt Bay and Aitape, U.S. forces made landings and established beachheads against negligible opposition. No enemy air opposition has been reported. Further details have not been received.

III. U.S. SS Reports

A U.S. SS has reported boarding, searching and later destroying a small enemy vessel.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 21 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 18 April at noon Satawan was attacked by 14 Sopac B-24's. 34 tons of bombs were dropped on revetments and runways. A large oil fire was started N. of the airstrip. 16 hits were reported on the runway with many others reported in the taxiway areas. There was no enemy interception. No A/A was met.

Details of the attack on Woleai on 18 April have been received. 21 Sopac B-24's bombed the airdrome area. Explosions and large fires were seen. 2 enemy bombers on the ground and a fighter taking off and a float plane were destroyed. 3 other floatplanes were probably destroyed. 2 of 11 intercepting enemy fighters were shot down. 20 to 30 enemy planes were seen on the field. 1 B-24 crashed when landing after the raid.

On 19 April (1822 K) at Truk, a U.S. Navy PD4Y attacked an enemy 2,000 ton AK E. of Pefan. 1 direct bomb hit was reported on the ship with a 100-pound bomb.

The same day, Woleai was again attacked by Consopac B-24's, according to a preliminary report. Large fires were started. Further details have not been received.

On the morning of 19 April, Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's which dropped 6 tons of bombs. 1 75-foot boat suffered a direct hit. Fires were started in the old and new airfield areas. Inaccurate moderate A/A was met.

On the night of 19 - 20 April (2009 - 2057 K, 0018 - 0125 K) Truk was attacked in waves by 17 7th Air Force B-24's. 46 tons of bombs were dropped on the Dublin town and supply areas, and the Moen airstrip and barracks. Explosions, many small fires and 4 large fires were started at Dublin. A/A and searchlights were met but were inaccurate. 3 airborne enemy planes did not intercept.

The same night (2010 L, 0147 L) Ponape was attacked by 3 B-24's. 9 tons of bombs started fires.

All planes on strikes at both targets returned without casualty or damage.

On 19 - 20 April, 215 miles N. of Ponape, a U.S. rescue plane picked up 4 men from a U.S. plane lost from the attack on Truk 16 April.

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On 20 April, Ponape was hit by 6 B-25's which dropped 5 tons of bombs on targets in the new airfield area. Meager A/A was met.

On 20 April, at Ponape a U.S. search plane bombed buildings and strafed gun positions.

The same day, a U.S. search plane shot down an enemy bomber about 220 miles SE of Palau.

(B) Wake Island

On 19 April, 1 B-24 attacked the Wake runway area dropping 3 tons of bombs. No enemy aircraft was seen. 2 small enemy vessels were observed in the lagoon. Intense A/A was met.

On 20 April, 12 B-24's hit Wake targets with 29 tons of bombs. Moderate A/A was met.

(C) Marshall Islands

On 19 April, U.S. planes attacked the following enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Mille	11 F4U's (Marine)	5 1/2 tons	Hit H. area installations. Started small fire. No A/A.
Jaluit	12 B-25's	12 tons	Meager A/A
Sidney Pier	4 P6F's	strafed	2 boats strafed. Results undetermined. No A/A.
Wotje	16 F4U's (Marine) 20 SBD's 2 PV's	12 tons strafed	Gun positions & barracks bombed & strafed. Moderate A/A.
Tarao	11 B-25's	11 tons	Results not reported. Meager A/A.

On 20 April, U.S. planes attacked the following enemy positions:

Wotje	20 SBD's (Marine) 16 F4U's 2 PV's	12 tons	Gun positions & barracks A/A moderate. 1 20 mm. shell hit cockpit of 1 PV. (Killed pilot, 3 crew members injured.
Mille	3 PV's 3 PV's	8 tons	Destroyed 2 bldgs. in area of Northern barracks. Gun positions also hit. Moderate A/A.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	1 FV	1 1/2 tons	Radio station & power plant hit.
	14 B-25's	14 tons	Hit target area with 90% of bombs.
Tarao	14 B-25's	14 tons	Results unreported. Moderate A/A.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 18 April, Buika area was raided by 3 P-38's. Gun positions were the target. 1 direct hit was scored, and other bombs on a cliff caused a landslide, which wrecked more coastal guns emplaced in the side of the cliff. 1 P-38 was downed by A/A. The same day, in NE Bougainville, Katsinkoveri was hit by 3 P-38's. Meanwhile, Kahili was attacked by 12 P-40's, while targets in SE Bougainville were hit by 12 P-39's.

On 18 April, Mahela, N. of Buika, was strafed by 4 F4U's. A/A brought down 2 F4U's, but the pilot of 1 was picked up. Also 18 April, Kuma Kuma, Motupena, Bonis and Mosiga were raided by bombers on patrol.

On the night of 18 - 19 April, the mouth of the Jaba River was strafed by U.S. PT's. The same night, Aitara and Mosiga were attacked by U.S. PT's aided by a PBV.

On 19 April, in the upper Laruma River area, 2 parties of enemy troops were met by a patrol of the 37th Division.

S. of the Torokina perimeter, near Kavavia, U.S. tanks were landed. These will be used to support our ground operations against an enemy force in the area.

(B) New Ireland

On 18 April, Kavieng was raided by a Gopac bomber on patrol.

Early the morning of 19 April, on the coast between Kamatanai and Borpop, near Nubai River, shore targets were attacked by U.S. PT's aided by a PBV. 4 wooden houses were attacked. Shore batteries ineffectively fired on the PT's.

(C) New Britain

On the morning of 18 April, the daily aerial attacks on Rabaul continued. Kabunga Bay area was hit by 24 TBF's and 37 SBD's. 12 buildings were wrecked, supply dumps hit, and fires started.

At O952 L, Tobora was attacked by 12 B-25's. 16 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield. The same target was hit by 39 TBF's and 12 SBD's.

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1 TBF was downed, but the crew picked up. 2 SBD's collided and crashed.

At 0840 L, Keravat was attacked by 9 P-39's. About an hour later, the same target was hit by 12 B-25's. 10 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped.

On 18 April (0845 L), Vanapope was attacked by 39 fighter-bombers. Fires and explosions were caused. Very heavy A/A fire was met.

(D) New Guinea

On 19 April, S. of Wakde Island, a 1000 ton AK and a seatruck were damaged in an attack by a B-24 on patrol. A launch was also strafed. The same day, off Vanimo, a small AO was sunk in an attack by 2 B-25's. At Manam Island, a large barge was strafed.

Also 19 April, in the Aitape area, 2 villages -- Megira and Yakamul -- were attacked by 9 B-25's. 7 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped, and 16,000 rounds of m/g expended in strafing. Gun positions were put out of action.

Meanwhile, Palas Point area was hit by 24 A-20's which dropped 15 1/2 tons of bombs and expended 26,000 rounds of m/g in strafing. Buildings were hit and fires started. The same target was also raided by 2 P-70's, which also strafed Bagabag I.

On 19 April, the coast from Bogia to Uligan was swept by 18 P-39's. Trenches, gun positions and roads were strafed. Meglar, near Mugil Harbor, was raided by 16 P-47's, which bombed personnel areas.

Also 19 April, at Hatsfeldt Harbor, E. of Dogumar Bay, 5 Jap barges were sunk by 2 P-39's. Along the coast, 3 more were damaged. The same day, Sarang was hit by 17 P-47's. The personnel area was glide-bombed. Fires were caused.

On 19 April, Allied patrols at Brima Plantation and Bogadjim reported that no Jap troops remain in the area.

(E) N. E. I.

On 18 April photos of Manokwari revealed increased activity in construction of defenses. Offshore were 4 AK's, 90 barges, 1 gunboat and 1 minelayer.

On 19 April, Manokwari was attacked by 9 B-24's, which dropped over 11 tons of bombs on the airfield. Intense and accurate A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, Utarom was attacked by 10 B-24's which dropped 12 1/2 tons of bombs on the airfield. Our bombers were ineffectively intercepted by 3 Jap fighters. Babo, the primary target, was not reached because of weather conditions.

Also 19 April, at Timor Island, Soe Village was attacked by 15 Australian Beauforts escorted by 8 Australian fighters (Beaufighters), and by 11 Dutch B-25's. A total of about 23 tons of bombs was dropped. Explosions and fires were caused.

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On 19 April at dawn, Sabang and Lho nga, in N. Sumatra, were attacked by an Allied task force under command of Admiral Sir James Somerville, CINC of the British Eastern Fleet. The task force was said to include BB's, carriers, cruisers, DD's and SS's. Much damage was reported caused to airfields and installations at Sabang - including an oil fuel cistern, dock yard, power station, barracks, hangars, the radio station, etc. 2 medium AK's received direct hits, and 2 DE's were set afire. 22 Jap planes on the ground were destroyed. The only Allied loss was reported to be 1 plane, whose pilot was rescued by a SS. 3 Jap torpedo bombers which attempted to attack the carriers were shot down by Allied fighters.

On 20 April at noon, about 125 miles N. of Manokwari, an enemy convoy was attacked by a U.S. Navy PTG. The convoy was on a W. course and was made up of 3 small AK's and 1 auxiliary vessel.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking an enemy DD and 1 AK. A second DD was reported damaged.

H. L. Dales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 20 April 1964

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

Further details of the Sopac raid on 17 April on Satawan indicate that 20 B-24's bombed the bivouac, taxiway and runway areas at noon (1200L). 27½ tons of bombs were dropped. 8 500 pound bombs hit the runway, and 21 hits were made in dispersal areas.

The same day off Pikelot Island, 175 miles N, U.S. search plane strafed and bombed 2 small AK's and 1 coastal vessel. No damage was reported.

On the morning of 18 April, an undisclosed number of Sopac planes attacked Kolocal. Fires and explosions were seen in supply areas. Hits were made on the runway. 20 enemy fighters were seen over the area.

Pakin was attacked by U.S. search plane dropping ½ ton of bombs on 18 April. Results not reported.

On the Ulul weather station area ½ ton and incendiaries were dropped by search planes causing fires.

An enemy DD was sighted (1300L) by U.S. search planes 250 miles E. of Truk.

At Honape, 6 tons of bombs were dropped in the old airfield area on 6 B-25's. No enemy ships or planes were observed. Our planes met no A/A.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 17 April in Mille lagoon, 2 small boats were seen by U.S. search plane. Ormed was strafed by 1 B-34 which was damaged as a result of moderate A/A fire.

On 18 April, U.S. planes attacked the following enemy positions:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotjo	19 F4U's (Marines) 20 SB2's (Marines) 8 FGF's	13½ tons strafed	Engine trouble downed 1 SB2. Pilot & gunner rescued. Minor damage to 1 SB2. Meager A/A.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Taongi	2 PV's	2 tons strafed from 150 feet	Photo recon. Bombed area of radio station. Meager A/A. No damage to U.S. planes.
Mille	6 F4U's) 6 F4U's) 12 B-25's)	15 tons	Target: Gun positions. Started 1 large fire. Moderate A/A. No damage to U.S. planes.
Taroa	12 B-25's	12 tons	Meager A/A.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On the afternoon of 17 April, Ruka area was attacked by 6 TBF's and 2 SBD's. Coastal and A/A guns were the target. The same day, Mosiga was hit by 8 TBF's and SBD's. Coastal guns were again the target.

Also 17 April, outside of the Torokina perimeter, Jap gun positions were attacked by 20 TBF's. The same day, Kara was raided by 2 B-24's, while Mibo, Tonolet and Mosiga were raided by bombers on patrol.

On the night of 17 - 18 April, Lupeka was strafed by U.S. PT's aided by a TBY.

On 18 April, S. of the Torokina perimeter, patrols of the Americal Division were being sent to the Saua River.

It was announced that Hills 501 and 500 have been taken by units of the Americal Division. At Hill 500, many enemy dead were reported.

(B) New Ireland

On 17 April, Kavieng was raided by a Sopac bomber on patrol. The same day, the central and S. coast of New Ireland was swept by fighters. An oil dump and a dock were set afire.

(C) New Britain

Early 17 April, Rapopo was raided by 3 B-25's.

On the morning of 17 April, the Matupi causeway and Lakunai airfield were attacked by 31 TBF's and 48 SBD's. 56 tons of bombs were dumped, with good coverage. Fires were caused. 2 of our planes were downed, but the crew of 1 was picked up. At 0920 L, Matupi Island was attacked by 55 fighter-bombers, which unloaded 14 tons of incendiary bombs. Explosions and fires were caused.

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Earlier, at 0802 L, Keravat was attacked by 10 P-39's. The runway was hit. At 0945 L, Rapopo was hit by 24 B-25's. The airfield and vicinity were bombed.

Talili Bay was swept by fighters.

On 18 April, shore targets at Wide Bay were raided by 2 Australian A-20's.

On the night of 18 - 19 April, Ulaomona (Ubili area) was strafed by U.S. PT's which employed bazookas and 40 MM.

(D) New Guinea

On the afternoon of 17 April, Bogia was hit by 7 more P-39's which dropped 1 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed A/A gun positions. The same day, S. of Sunabun, a bridge over a river was wrecked by 2 P-70's. 1 ton of bombs was dropped. Observation on Monday of Boram airfield showed 6 Jap planes present.

Because of weather conditions, no heavy attacks were reported in this area on 18 April.

Early 18 April, off Aitapo, Tumleo Island was raided by 2 B-24's on patrol. 2 tons of bombs were dropped.

Also 18 April, Sarang Island and the coast N. of Mugal Harbor were raided by 4 P-39's and 3 P-70's. 1-3/4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the targets strafed.

(E) N. E. I.

On 18 April at midday, Dobo was attacked by 11 B-24's which dropped almost 14 tons of bombs on the airfield and vicinity. Some direct hits were scored, and explosions and fires were caused. On the field were 8 enemy planes 4 fighters, 2 bombers and 2 possible transport planes.

At about the same time on 18 April, Manokwari was attacked by 6 B-24's while Moemi - Woren airfield area was hit by 6 more B-24's. A total of 15 tons of bombs was dropped.

On the afternoon of 18 April, S. of Manokwari, S. of Schouten Islands, a small Jap AK was attacked and probably badly damaged by a U.S. Navy PT. Barges in the area were also strafed.

On the morning of 18 April, Babar Island was bombed and strafed by 11 Australian (Spitfires) and 2 Australian Beaufighters. Targets were the radio station - which was wrecked and personnel areas. Also a lugger offshore was probably sunk.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of OROU, 19 April 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On the night of 18 April, (2240 - 0138 K), Paramushiru and Shimushu were bombed by 1 11th Air Force B-24. 2 other heavy bombers did not release bombs. Results were not observed because of overcast. All planes returned.

Just E. of Paramushiru, an enemy bomber was sighted by a U.S. search plane, but no interception was reported.

II. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 16 April (1210 L) at Satawan the bivouac and airfield areas were attacked by 15 Sopac B-24's. 34 tons of bombs were dropped. 30 hits were reported in the dispersal areas and the field was left partly unserviceable. No A/A was encountered and there was no interception.

The same day, Oroluk was bombarded by a U.S. submarine.

On 16 - 17 April, just after midnight (0018 - 0343 K), Truk was attacked by 18 7th Air Force B-24's. 38 tons of bombs and incendiaries were dropped at Dublon, Fefan and Moen. Explosions and fires were seen at Dublon and Fefan. A/A was meagre and not accurate. 1 enemy interceptor was seen.

On 17 April, at Ponape, the old airfield and town areas were bombed by 2 B-24's. 6 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped and explosions were seen. 1 B-24 has not returned.

On 17 April before dawn at Woleai, 5 RAAF Catalinas bombed the airfield area. Results were not observed. Our planes were intercepted ineffectively by one enemy float plane. 4 medium enemy AK's and one other small ship were seen in the lagoon.

On 17 April, Satawan was again attacked by an undisclosed number of Sopac B-24's. 5 enemy planes were seen in the area. No A/A was met. Further details have not been received.

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III. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 16 April, Mamagata was attacked by 3 SBD's and 8 TBF's. Gun positions were the target. The same day at Buka Passage gun positions were attacked by 3 SBD's and 6 TBF's.

Meanwhile, Mosiga, Mikrik Island, Buka area, Numa Numa and Kieta area were attacked by PBY's on patrol.

At Numa Numa, a jetty was badly damaged, while S. of Tonolet, 10 Japs were killed after leaving their boat.

Also 16 April, in N. Choiseul, enemy-held points were attacked by 4 B-34's and 21 SBD's. We lost 1 SBD, but its crew was picked up.

On 17 April photos of Kahili airfield showed it useable for emergency landings. Also 17 April, in the Upper Laruma River area, an enemy platoon was met by a patrol of the 37th Division. The Jap troops were busy constructing shelters of logs.

S. of the Torokina perimeter, on the S. slope of Hill 500, a pillbox was wrecked and 7 Japs killed by units of the 132nd Infantry. Enemy troops were reported dug in here.

N. of Peko (about 2,000 yards N. of Hill 65), an enemy unit was forced to withdraw under pressure by a Fiji unit. 12 Japs were killed and an armored car destroyed by the Fiji patrol. Minor patrol contacts were made at scattered points.

(B) New Ireland

Early 16 April, Kavien, Balgai and Panapai were raided by U.S. Navy PBY's.

(C) New Britain

On 14 April, near Cape Hoskins airfield, some enemy troops were met by U.S. Marine patrols. Meanwhile, it was reported that about 100 enemy troops withdrawing eastwards had passed Ubili.

On 16 April, at Wide Bay, 9 Jap barges on the beach were damaged by 2 B-25's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped. Targets in this area were also attacked by 2 Australian A-20's.

Early 16 April, Rabaul area was harassed by 4 B-25's, which encountered 2 Jap night fighters.

On the morning of 16 April, Vunakana was attacked by 24 TBF's and 48 SBD's. Some 94 definite hits were made on the airfield runway. At 0917 L, Rataval was hit by 21 B-25's. Almost 30 tons of bombs were dropped on supply dumps. At the same time Raluana supply dumps received 6 tons of bombs from 3 more B-25's.

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Then Rapopo was attacked by 38 SBD's while Tobera was hit by 13 TBF's. The runway was bombed.

At 1015 L, in Simpson Harbor, Toboi waterfront area was attacked by 34 fighter-bombers. 10 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires were caused.

Ten minutes later, Keravat was hit by 8 P-39's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped.

At Keravia Bay, our fighters strafed 3 Jap barges.

(D) New Guinea

Further, but still incomplete, details of the attack on Hollandia on 16 April state that about 100 A-20's, 42 B-25's and 60 B-24's participated, in addition to a fighter force. Sighted on the airfields were 14 serviceable Jap planes -- 4 bombers, 10 fighters. On the homeward trip, our planes ran into rough weather, it was reported.

Also 16 April, off Aitape, a 2000 ton AK was probably damaged in an attack by 2 B-25's on patrol. 2 tons of bombs were dropped, and near misses were scored. The same day, the coast from Uligan to Bogia was swept by 15 P-39's. Supply dumps and villages were strafed with 37 MM and m/c. The coast from Madang to Bunabun was also swept by 2 P-70's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped on a bridge, and villages were strafed.

Apparently because of weather conditions, no heavy attacks were reported in this area on 17 April.

On the morning of 17 April off Vanimo, a Jap lugger was sunk in an attack by 2 B-25's on patrol. The same planes, off Aitape, sank another lugger. The attacks were made at very low-level.

On the afternoon of 17 April, at Bogia, A/A gun positions were attacked by 7 P-39's. Almost 2 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed.

On 17 April, inland from Madang, much Jap activity at trails and villages was reported.

(E) N. E. I.

On 17 April at midday, targets in Kai Islands were attacked by 24 B-24's which dropped over 21 tons of bombs on bivouacs and supply dumps. Fires and explosions were caused. Of at least 8 intercepting enemy fighters (probably based at Langgoer), 1 was probably shot down. All of our planes returned.

Also 17 April about noon, SE of Mapia Island, a Jap flying boat was shot down by a U.S. Navy PB4Y on patrols.

IV. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking an enemy AK.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0600, 18 April 1944

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I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On the night of 10 April Paramushiru and Shimushu were bombed by 2 U.S. Navy IV's on armed reconnaissance. Results were unobserved because of overcast. Inaccurate A/A fire was met.

The same night Onnokotan and Paramushiru were bombed by 3 U.S. Army B-24's on armed photo reconnaissance. Results were unobserved because of overcast. All planes returned.

II. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

Further details of the Sopac raid on Truk on the morning of 14 April are: 10½ tons of bombs were dropped on Eten Island and 4½ tons on Param. 3 tons of bombs dropped by instrument reckoning because of overcast. A/A fire was encountered.

Early the morning of 15 April (0335 L) at Truk a Sopac search-plane bombed Dublon.

Early the morning of 16 April (0110 L) at Truk, Dublon was bombed by a Sopac search plane. Several fires and a large explosion resulted. The same day, Ulul, Pakin and Ant Islands were bombed by U.S. search planes. Buildings were set afire at Pakin.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 16 April, the following attacks were made by U.S. aircraft against enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	16 F4U's (Marine) 2 IV's	3 tons and strafed	18,800 rounds.
	10 SBD's (Marine) 10 SBD's (Marine) 8 F6F's	4½ tons 4½ tons	Target: Barracks and gun positions. 2 small boats strafed. A/A moderate at Wotje. Heavy A/A at Rue. U.S. planes no damaged.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Mille	6 F4U's (Marine) 6 F4U's (Marine) 9 B-25's	3 tons 3 tons 9 tons	No A/A. Results not observed. Meager A/A. No U.S. Planes damaged.
Tarua	12 B-25's	12 tons	Results not observed.
Jaluit	3 B-25's	2-3/4 tons	Results not observed.

On 17 April the following attacks were made by U.S. aircraft against enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wot'e	19 SBD's (Marine) 16 F4U's 2 PV's	14 1/2 tons and strafed	Fires started: Barracks, radio station. 1 PV, 1 SBD, F4U slightly damaged. A/A moderate.
Mille	5 F4U's 5 F4U's	5 tons	Bombs dropped, gun positions radio station area. A/A meager.
Jaluit	12 B-25's 6 PV's	19 1/2 tons	Jabor town and Enybor Island hit. Meager A/A. 40% bombs hit target area.
Tarua	12 B-25's	6 tons	Target area hit with 60% of bombs. Meager A/A.

I.I. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 15 April, the Torokina perimeter was patrolled by 8 TBF's, while Kosiga was attacked by 6 TBF's and 4 SBD's. Gun positions were bombed. The same day, the NE Bougainville coast was bombed by 5 TBF's and 4 SBD's, on the search for coastal guns.

Also 15 April, N. of Buika, Jap-held villages were raided by 4 strafing P-38's. Fires were caused.

Early 15 April, Puriata area, Aitara and Kosiga were raided by planes on patrol.

On the night of 15 - 16 April, the mouth of the Mibe River was strafed by U.S. PT's.

On 16 April, in Central Bougainville N. of Torokina, at a point where the Keriaka - Lesolpia trails meet, a trail block was set up by a patrol of the 37th Division. Outside the S. perimeter, between Hills 501 and 503, 100 yards from the coast, a trail block was set up by a patrol of the 37th Division.

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43 Japs were killed out of about 50 met. Hill 500 was taken by our forces.

Enemy artillery opened up again, sending 10 shells to Nagine Island. Also 16 April, the mouth of the Tokessi River was bombarded by a U.S. DD.

(B) New Ireland

On 15 April, the E. coast of New Ireland was swept by Sopac fighters. A small boat was sunk, and off Duke of York, a barge was set afire.

Early 15 April, Kavieng was raided by Sopac bombers on patrol. On 16 April photos of Kavieng showed that repair work on the runway was proceeding.

(C) St. Matthias Group

On 15 April, at Muesau Island, a reconnaissance unit was landed from U.S. PT's, which later picked it up. No enemy activity was observed.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 15 April, Allied patrols moving along the E. coast of Manus Island occupied 2 villages - (Metawari and Drabito).

Only about 275 effective enemy troops remain in the Admiralties, it was estimated. The total number of enemy dead which have been counted has reached 3,043.

(E) New Britain

Early 15 April, Rabaul area was harassed by 3 B-25's. On the morning of 15 April, Keravat and Vunakana were attacked by 11 B-25's and 29 SBD's, while Lakunai was struck by 17 TBF's and 50 SBD's. The runway was hit, and a gun position was wrecked.

At 0940 L, Talili Bay area was attacked by 24 B-25's. Over 23 tons of bombs were dropped on ammunition dumps. Several fires were started. A fire damaged 3 B-25's. The same target was hit at 1010 L by 11 P-39's. 5 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped.

At 0915 L, Vunapope was raided by 3 P-38's. 1 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Also 15 April, Sulphur Creek area was swept by 8 strafing F4U's.

In the attacks on Rabaul on 15 April, it was reported that 5 Jap fighters took to the air.

On the night of 15 - 16 April, in Jacquinot Bay, U.S. PT's were ineffectively attacked by a single enemy floatplane.

On 16 April photos of 3 Rabaul airfields showed 2 serviceable (Tobera and Vunakana) with a total of 4 fighters and 1 light bomber present. Lakunai was unserviceable, but had 1 fighter present.

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(F) New Guin

On 15 April, in addition to previous reports (Naval Summary 17 April, 1944) Tadjil area was attacked by 65 more A-20's. This makes a total of 102 A-20's participating. Fires and explosions were caused.

Also 15 April, Palpa River was reached by an Allied patrol advancing N. from Bogadjim. No enemy troops were met. According to natives, the road S. of Amole (S. of Madang) was evacuated by the enemy since last Monday (10 April).

On 16 April at midday, according to preliminary reports, Hollandia area was heavily attacked by a large, but unstated, number of A-20's, B-25's, and B-24's, escorted by fighters. Incomplete reports state that at least 200 tons of bombs were dropped. Along the shores of Jautefa and Humboldt Bays and Hollandia, extensive damage was caused. Buildings and jetties were wrecked, supply dumps set afire, coastal defense positions demolished, while offshore, a small AK was set afire. There was no A/A fire, and no enemy air interception.

Early 16 April, Wakde Island was attacked by 5 B-24's. 10 tons of bombs were dropped on personnel and supply areas. Big explosions were caused. The same day, at Hansa Bay, enemy gun positions were hit by a B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

(G) N. E. I.

On 16 April, Kespang was attacked by 11 Australian Beauforts and 12 Dutch B-25's. Over 22 tons of bombs were dropped on buildings and warehouses, causing large fires.

Also 16 April, off Roti Island, 5 enemy luggers were attacked by 6 Australian Beaufighters. 3 luggers were sunk, and 2 were damaged.

W. L. Balos.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 17 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On the morning of 14 April (0430 - 0518 L) Truk was attacked by 18 Consopac B-24's. Eten, Param and small islands in the vicinity were bombed with unobserved results. Enemy night fighters intercepted our planes, but further details are not available.

On 15 April (0824 and 1554 L) Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped in both airfield areas. No details were reported. A/A fire was reactive.

On 15 April (1345 L) about 80 miles W. of Ponape 2 B-25's attacked an enemy convoy of 1 small AO and 2 escorts. The ships were strafed. Near misses were made with bombs. The same convoy was again attacked 4 hours and 15 minutes later (1800 L) only 30 miles from Ponape by 3 B-25's. The AO was sunk, and both escorts were set afire and beached at Ant Island. 3 of the planes were damaged by A/A fire, one seriously. There were no casualties.

(B) Marshall Islands

The following attacks were made on enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	10 SBD (Marine) 2 B-34's 21 P4U (Marine)	12 tons strafed	Gun positions and barracks hit. 1 SBD slightly damaged by A/A. 19,950 rounds.
	10 SBD (Marine) 12 P4U	10 1/2 tons	Not seen. Light A/A.
Jaluit	10 B-25's 1 B-24 1 B-24	14 1/2 tons	Fires at Jabor. B-34 damaged by A/A.
Tarao	14 B-25's	7 tons	Not seen. 1 plane minor damage.
Mille	4 B-25's	2 1/2 tons	Gun positions hit. No A/A.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 14 April, the Torokina perimeter was patrolled by 34 TBF's, which also, at Mamagata, wrecked a gun. The same day, Buka was attacked by 2 TBF's and 6 SBD's. 2 gun positions were destroyed.

Also 14 April, S. of Torokina and in NE Bougainville, coastal targets were attacked by 23 fighter-bombers. Hits were wrecked. The same day Mosiga, Para and Aitara were raided by TBY's.

On the night of 14 - 15 April, Mosiga was shelled by a U.S. gunboat (ICI), while Puriata and Jaba Rivers mouths were strafed by U.S. PT's. Off Jaba River, an unidentified plane strafed the PT's.

(B) New Ireland

On 14 April, the N. New Ireland coast was swept by 38 fighters, which had previously swept Rabaul area. At Katherine Harbor, 3 barges were strafed, while targets at Lamban Bay were also hit.

Also 14 April, Borpop and Cape Reis were raided by U.S. Navy TBY's.

(C) New Britain

Early 14 April, Rabaul area was harassed by 5 B-25's. Fires were caused.

On the morning of 14 April, Vunakanau was attacked by 33 TBF's and 18 SBD's. The SBD's concentrated on gun positions, dropping 24 tons of bombs, and scoring hits on 7 positions. The TBF's hit the runway.

Then, Rataval was struck by 24 B-25's. Fires and a large explosion were caused in the supply area.

Kabaira Bay was then hit by 5 TBF's and 23 SBD's, while Vunapope was the target for 8 P-40's.

N. Koravat area was attacked by 13 TBF's and 29 SBD's. Keravin Bay was swept by 38 fighters. 5 barges were damaged.

(D) New Guinea

Photos on 12 April of 3 Hollandia airfields showed a total of 16 planes present - 4 bombers, 12 fighters. Photos of Boram showed 6 planes present. Photos of Wakde showed 35 planes - 21 bombers, 14 fighters, while at Sawar there were 6 planes.

On 15 April at midday, Tadji area was heavily attacked by 37 A-20's, 49 B-25's and 45 B-24's. 284 tons of bombs were dropped, and over 105,000 rounds of m/g expended in strafing. Seleco and Tuleco Islands were also attacked. Buildings were wrecked, explosions and many fuel fires were caused. 1 squadron reported a slight amount of m/g fire from the ground.

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On the homeward trip, 4 tons of bombs were dropped on Hansa Bay by B-24's.

Also 15 April, off Aitape, 2 enemy luggers were sunk by 2 patrolling B-25's. The same day, the coast from Cape Croisilles to Bogia was swept by 14 strafing P-39's. Supply dumps and buildings were hit, and a barge damaged.

Also 15 April, Angoram, on the Sepik River, was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. 2 buildings were wrecked.

Meanwhile, in the Mintjim Valley area, U.S. and Australian patrols were reported active, but no enemy troops were encountered.

Early the morning of 15 April, in the Newak area, 3 Jap fighters were reported airborne, while 2 Jap light bombers were observed on a ... course.

(C) N.E. I.

On the morning of 15 April, at Timor Island, See Village area was attacked by 6 Australian fighter-bombers (Beaufighters). 1 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed, starting fires and destroying a motor truck. Intense light-calibre A/A fire was met.

III. (F) India

On the afternoon of 14 April in Bombay Harbor 2 devastating ammunition ship explosions started fires which damaged much of the harbor area, gutted possibly 21 ships excluding the 2 ships which exploded, killed 2,000 persons outright and injured several thousand more. At 1500 (local time) at #1 berth Victoria dock, fire was reported on a ship carrying 1,000 tons of TNT and other explosives; at 1620 the ship exploded setting fire to 10 other ships in Victoria dock. 1/2 hour later (at 1650) another explosion in a second ship at berth 2, Victoria dock, caused fire to spread to 11 ships anchored in adjoining Prince's Dock. The adjoining shore area, running to the E. trunks was completely gutted and the fire was continuing to spread in the tencent area. Alexandra Dock, S. of the devastated area, escaped damage as did the Mereweather Dry Dock, N. of Prince's Dock. 2 ships sailed 20 minutes before the explosion.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 16 April 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

A. Kuriles Area

On the night of 14 - 15 April (2200 - 2300 K), SHIMUSHIRU and PARAKUSHIRU were attacked by 3 U.S. Navy medium bombers (B-24's). A 4th bomber started out, but did not reach the target. Bombs were dropped through the overcast. Inaccurate A/A fire was not.

The same night (2157 - 2315 K), PARAKUSHIRU and ONKOTAN were raided by 3 B-24's. Pictures were taken. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered. All planes returned to their base safely.

The following night (2223 K), MATSUWA was raided by 3 B-24's. Bombs were dropped through the solid overcast on MATSUWA and unidentified islands. Photos were not taken because of weather conditions and camera failure. All planes returned to their base safely.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

The morning of 13 April (0445 L), according to preliminary reports, THUK was attacked by 23 Sopac B-24's. Fires were started at STEN ISLAND.

At midday the same day, in KULLEAT lagoon (W of THUK), a loaded wooden ship, about 250 tons, was left listing after an attack by a Sopac B-24 on patrol. At ALTA ISLAND, the radio station was bombed by the same plane.

On 14 April, near UJELANG, an enemy plane - apparently a 4-engined land plane - escorted by a fighter was sighted by a U.S. bomber on patrol.

The same day, UJUL was strafed by another search plane. A fire was started. At PAKIN, 2 tons of bombs were dropped by a search plane. 3 buildings were wrecked.

The same morning (0800 - 1030 L), POKAPE was attacked by 10 B-25's and 3 Marine F4U's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped near the old airfield.

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on a workers' camp. Fires were caused. Moderately-intense A/A fire was met. 1 F4U made a forced landing, but the pilot was rescued.

The same morning (0745 L), MILE HARBOR (KUSATE) was raided by 3 B-24's, which dropped 3 tons of bombs. Warehouses, gun positions and piers were hit. Moderately-intense A/A fire was met.

B. Marshall Islands

On 14 April, the following attacks were made by U.S. aircraft against enemy positions:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs</u> <u>Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
WOTJE 1100 L	19 B-24's 16 F4U's (Marine)	9 tons strafed	Storage tanks, gun positions, barracks hit. Slight A/A.
MILE 1300 L	1 B-25 6 F4U's (Marine)	3 1/2 tons	Runway hit. No A/A
JALUIT 0900 - 1030 L	12 B-25's	12 tons	JABOR hit. MUDJ magazine area explosion. Slight A/A.
TAROA 1115 - 1315 L	12 B-25's	6 tons	3/4 in target area.
1100 L	8 F4U's	4 tons	Runways hit. Slight A/A.

The night of 14 - 15 April (2310 - 0200 L), Wotho was attacked by 3 - 10 enemy bombers, which dropped bombs from high altitude. The bombers were intercepted by 4 U.S. night fighters. 2 enemy bombers were shot down, and another probably shot down. 2 of our planes were lost. The Jap planes approached and left in a SW direction.

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III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 13 April, Moegetta, Moivo and Maldi were attacked by 17 fighter-bombers. Bombs were dropped on supply and personnel area.

The same day, at Bulu Passage, gun positions were attacked by 2 TBF's and 4 SBD's.

That night, 13 - 14 April, at the mouths of Jaba and Tavona Rivers, enemy barges were strafed by a U.S. PT assisted by a PBX.

On 14 April, at Torokina, patrols of the 37th Division were sent to the upper Laruma River and to Ateinina Bay. No enemy troops were met.

Patrols of the Americal Division met some Japs near Havavia and N of the perimeter. 10 Japs were killed, and 4 m/g's captured.

No fire was received from enemy gun batteries.

B. New Britain

On 13 April, a point 1 mile SW of the airfield at Cape Hoskins was reached by U.S. Marine patrols from Talasea. A Jap ambush was encountered here, but details were not reported.

Early that morning, Rabaul Town was raided by 2 B-25's.

Then Lakunai was attacked by 18 TBF's and 50 SBD's. 48 tons of bombs were dropped on A/A gun positions - on which 8 hits were scored - and the runway, and a large barge offshore was sunk. 2 SBD's were damaged by A/A fire.

At 0832 L, 13 April, Talili Bay, Rataval and Rabaul town were hit by 24 B-25's. Over 21 tons of bombs were dropped on supply dumps. 4 buildings were wrecked, and large fires started.

At 0928 L the same day, Rabaul Town was attacked by 11 P-39's. Almost 3 tons of bombs were dropped.

Then the Malaguna area was attacked by 40 fighter-bombers. Over 17 tons of bombs were dropped. Offshore, a barge was sunk.

At the same time, the Rabaul - S New Ireland area was swept by 36 fighters. In Rabaul Harbor, a patrol craft was strafed, and buildings ashore were strafed. We lost 1 P4U.

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The night of 13 - 14 April, in Wide Bay, 8 enemy barges were met by our PT's. 4 barges were sunk, 2 on the beach were damaged, and the other 2 escaped. The PT's were ineffectively attacked by unidentified planes.

C. New Ireland

Early the morning of 13 April, Kavieng was attacked by 38 U.S. Navy dive and torpedo bombers (12 TBF's, 26 SHD's). 25 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway. We lost 1 plane (SHD).

The same target was also raided by bombers on patrol. Fires were started.

Photos on 13 April of Kavieng and Panapai showed both airfields unserviceable.

D. New Guinea

Correction to the Japanese Naval Activities Summary for 14 April 1944 - On 12 April, Tami airfield - not Tadjj as reported - was attacked by 46 A-20's.

On 13 April, in addition to previous reports (Japanese Naval Activities Summary for 15 April 1944), But and Dagua were hit by 24 A-20's. 20 tons of bombs were dropped, and 37,800 rounds of m/g expended. 5 apparently serviceable planes on the ground - 2 bombers, 3 fighters - were destroyed. 2 fuel dumps were hit, and fires started.

The same day, coastal targets from Alexishafen to Sepik River were strafed by 12 P-39's. A boat was destroyed.

On 14 April, off Prittwitz Point, 3 enemy luggers were sunk in an attack by 2 P-25's on patrol.

The same day, in the Alexishafen area, villages were strafed by 4 P-39's, which also, off Bogia, sank a small barge.

Major air activity on Friday was prevented by weather conditions.

E. N. E. I.

The morning of 14 April, about 130 miles N of Manokwari (near Mapia Island), 2 small AK's were destroyed by an Admiralties-based U.S. Navy heavy bomber (B-24). 1 ship was set afire and beached. The other, about 350 tons, exploded and burned; it was carrying drums of fuel.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 15 April 1944

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not be placed in any general file.*

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On the morning of 13 April 3 Army B-24's followed shortly afterwards by 4 Navy B-34's were over the Paramushiru area. Bombs were dropped on targets but results for the most part were unobserved. No enemy planes were met, A/A fire from Kurabu was heavy, all our planes returned safely. Weather was bad so photos probably were not successful.

The night of 13 - 14 April Shashukotan, Paramushiru area, was again raided by 3 Army B-24's. 25 100-lb. bombs and many photos bombs were dropped. All planes returned safely and photos were taken.

II. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 13 April, Ponape (1305 K) was raided by 6 B-25's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield and other installations. 1 of our planes was damaged by A/A fire.

On the night of 13 - 14 April Truk was raided twice by a total of 21 B-24's. 62 tons of bombs were dropped. An explosion and fires resulted at Param and Moen. 3 Jap fighters were airborne during the second attack. Enemy A/A fire and searchlights were ineffective. All our planes returned safely.

The same evening six B-24's dropped 2 - 3 tons of bombs on Ujelang and Ponape.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 13 April the following attacks were made by U.S. aircraft against enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	12 B-25's	12 tons	9 tons on Midj, 3 tons on dock and warehouse area Jabor. No A/A.
	5 B-34's	6 tons	Explosions resulted magazine and building area. Moderate A/A. 2 U.S. planes damaged.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Malcoelap	12 B-25's	12 tons	Direct hits on headquarters bldg. Moderate A/A.
Wotjo	18 F4U's (Marine) 2 B-34's	Bombed and Strafed	Fires started barracks area.
	9 SBD's	4 tons	Target A/A positions. League A/A fire.
Mille	3 B-34's 1 F4U (Marine) 3 B-34's	4 1/2 tons 4 1/2 tons	Results unobserved Results unobserved. Moderate A/A.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

The night of 11 - 12 April, Sopac search planes bombed Oema atoll, Fauro Island, Poston and Soraken Plantations, Mik Mik Island and the Malitim Bay area.

On 12 April at 1045 L, Tonolet Harbor was attacked by 10 P-39's. Over 3 tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results. The same morning Numa Numa was bombed by 2 P-39's. Results were not observed.

On the E. Torokina perimeter, Americal Division patrols contacted enemy troops dug in about 5,500 yards NE of Hill 600. No enemy troops were found at Hills 150 and 165.

Outside the NE perimeter, the enemy was contacted 4,000 yards E. of Hill 260 by Fiji patrols. The Sana River enemy bivouacs were attacked by 20 TBF's and 9 SBD's.

Houses were destroyed at Kieta by 2 SBD's, Numa Numa was strafed by 2 P-38's and on the Torokina perimeter 14 SBD's were patrolling.

The night of 12 April, just before midnight, 25 enemy shells hit a fuel dump, badly damaged 4 U.S. bombers, slightly damaged 5 other planes and 1 man was wounded.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 11 - 12 April, Sopac search planes bombed New Hanover Island.

On 12 April, fires were started at Berpop by U.S. fighters. The following day, photos showed that ground defenses between Panapai and Kavieng are being developed.

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At Rut and Dar-un 53 B-24's bombed bivouac and stores areas. 252 tons of bombs were dropped and photos showed 75% destruction in personnel areas. 4 gun positions were hit, 2 ammunition and 1 fuel dump were destroyed and 60 buildings were destroyed.

At Hansa Bay on 13 April, enemy gun positions were bombed with 2 tons of bombs. At Uligan the same day 1 ton of bombs was dropped by 1 B-24.

On 13 April in the Cape Gourdon area 11 P-39's damaged a barge and strafed supplies. At Alexishafen a barge was destroyed.

(P) M. E. I.

Early the morning of 12 April, Penfodi airdrome was bombed by 2 Dutch B-25's. Results were not observed.

IV. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS returned from patrol reports damaging 2 9000 ton AK's or AO's, also 1 1215 ton DD and sank 1 I class Jap SS of 2100 tons. 1 Jap aviator was captured.

Another U.S. SS returned from patrol reports sinking a medium Jap SS of 7500 tons.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 14 April 1944

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not be placed in any general file.*

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's on 11 April. 6 tons of bombs were dropped, mainly in the old airfield area. A/A fire damaged 1 plane.

On 12 April Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's and 8 F4U's. 5½ tons of bombs and incendiaries were dropped near the radio station and storage areas. Small boats in the area, and both airfields were strafed. No shipping or aircraft were sighted. Intense A/A fire was met.

The same day in the Caroline Area a U.S. search plane reported sighting an SS with Japanese inside. 1 direct hit and 1 near miss were made with 500 pound depth charges. Later, an underwater explosion was noted and wooden debris and an oil slick appeared.

Also 12 April U.S. search planes dropped incendiaries at Ponape, bombed a beached ship at Oroluk and bombed the radio area at Ulul. No shipping was sighted.

Early the morning of 12 April (0253 L), about 45 miles S. of Truk, a Sopac search plane was reported down.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 11 April the following attacks were made by U.S. aircraft against enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Taroa	12 B-25's 12 F6F's	14 tons	Not observed. Light A/A. F6F down but pilot rescued by DD.
Jaluit	12 B-25's	12 tons	9 tons of bombs at Midj. 3 tons at Jabor. 80% of bombs in target area B-25 damaged by A/A.
Mille	5 F4U's	2½ tons	Unobserved - overcast. No A/A.
Wotje	16 F4U's (Marine) 10 SBD's (Marine)	Strafed 4½ tons	23,165 rounds and bombs on heavy A/A batteries on S. shore. 1 F4U was damaged.

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On 12 April, the following places were attacked by U.S. planes:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	12 B-25's	12 tons	Radio station at Enidj damaged. Jabor also hit. No A/A.
Tarao	12 B-25's	12 tons	Gun positions hit. Slight A/A.
Kotje	18 F4U's 2 B-34's	strafed 10 1/2 tons	Runway and gun positions bombed and strafed. 2 F4U's damaged. No personnel injured.
	10 SBD's	4 1/2 tons	1 plane damaged by A/A.
	12 TBF's 10 SBD's	10 1/2 tons	Runway and A/A positions.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On the afternoon of 11 April, Aitara gun positions, and Maririel and Tavena Rivers supply dumps were attacked by 21 P-40's and P-39's.

The same day, Lamagata was hit by 12 TBF's and 6 SBD's. Gun positions were bombed and a large fire caused. Meanwhile, in the Buka area, a Jap barge was strafed by 4 P-39's.

Also 11 April, around the Torokina perimeter, enemy positions were attacked by 10 TBF's. The same day, Kosiga and Ballale Island were raided by bombers on patrol.

On the night of 11 - 12 April, off NE Bougainville, enemy shore guns ineffectively fired on U.S. PT's.

On the morning of 12 April (0700 - 0715 L), enemy artillery landed 4 shells on the Piva Uncle Strip. 2 of our planes were slightly damaged, and 1 man was wounded. Other shells aimed at the Torokina strip landed in the water. Outside the NE perimeter, about 4,500 yards NE of Hill 600, an enemy company was met by units of the Americal Division.

On the E. perimeter, 4,000 yards NE of Hill 600, the enemy bivouac and supply area was attacked by our planes.

On the night of 12 - 13 April, Kosiga was shelled by U.S. gunboats (LCI's). The same night, Mibo and Puriata Rivers area were strafed by U.S. PT's. At Mibo River, 4 large explosions were caused.

(B) New Ireland

On 11 April, Kavieng was attacked by 41 U.S. Navy dive and torpedo bombers (9 TBF's, 32 SBD's). Hits were scored on the runway - which is believed being used by Jap bombers.

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(C) Admiralty Islands

On 11 April, it was announced that no enemy troops remain on Pak Island.

To date in the Admiralties action, total known enemy dead are 2,984. Remaining in the area an estimated 325 effective Jap troops. It was also estimated that 1,100 ineffective Japs and unburied dead were in the area.

(D) New Britain

On 11 April, at Wide Bay, bridges over the Bulus River were bombed by 2 Australian A-20's.

On the morning of 11 April, the daily aerial attacks on Rabaul continued. Supply dumps at Malaguna and A/A guns at Rabaul Town area were hit by 24 TBF's and 50 SBD's. 2 buildings were destroyed.

At 1022 L, Rataval was attacked by 24 B-25's. Large explosions and fires were caused. A/A fire caused slight damage to 4 B-25's. Later photos showed deep craters in the area.

At 1030 L, E. side of Rabaul Town was hit by 39 fighter-bombers. Almost 12 tons of bombs were dropped.

Talili Bay area was hit by 12 P-40's. Bombs were dropped on an ammunition dump.

On the night of 11 - 12 April, in the Ubili area, near Ulamona, 2 large and 2 medium enemy barges were sunk by U.S. PT's, which also hit targets ashore, strafing buildings and a sawmill.

(E) New Guinea

Later reports of the strike against Wewak area on the morning of 11 April state that of 10 - 15 intercepting enemy fighters, 1 was shot down by our fighters. We lost 3 P-47's.

On 12 April, S. of Lepsius Point (in Bumbu area), 104 Jap dead were found by our patrols.

Also 12 April, Hollandia was heavily attacked by 43 B-25's and 54 P-24's escorted by fighters. 243 tons of bombs were dropped. Large fires were started, gun positions were destroyed or damaged, supply dumps hit, and buildings wrecked. 8 enemy fighters were shot down and 10 more damaged - out of 23 intercepting. Moderately intense A/A fire was met. We lost 1 B-24.

Hollandia was then hit by 40 A-20's. At least 30 tons of bombs were dropped. Large supply dumps were set afire. Off-shore, a 2,000 ton ship was sunk, and 2 small AK's, several barges and 7 luggers were set afire.

On 12 April, Tadjil airfield was attacked by 46 A-20's. Fires were caused.

Also 12 April, Bogia was attacked by 12 B-25's. 12 tons of bombs were dropped and 18,000 rounds of m/c expended in strafing. 3 fires were

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started in the building area.

The same day, Dagua was hit by 6 B-24's which dropped 23 tons of bombs on supply dumps. Meanwhile, Karkar Island was raided by 4 A-20's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed. Buildings were wrecked.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported damaging 2 enemy ships.

W. L. Bales

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started in the building area.

The same day, Dagua was hit by 6 B-24's which dropped 25 tons of bombs on supply dumps. Meanwhile, Karkar Island was raided by 4 A-20's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed. Buildings were wrecked.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

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WASHINGTONJapanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 13 April 1944*It is requested that this document be
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not be placed in any general file.*I. Northwestern Pacific Area

Early the morning of 12 April (0437 K) Matsuwa was attacked by 1 of 3 11th Air Force B-24's. 6 100-pound bombs were dropped but results were not observed. Photos taken reveal an enemy airfield with L-shaped runways, approximately 4000' and 2200' in length. At least 13 twin-engined planes were observed on the field.

Early the same morning (0130 - 0215 K) 3 U.S. Navy Venturas attacked Kashiwabara, Kurabuzaki, Suribashi and Shimushu. Over 2 tons of bombs were dropped with undetermined results. Some inaccurate A/A was met. All planes returned.

Early the morning of 13 April (0140 - 0250 K) Suribashi and Kurabuzaki were bombed by 4 U.S. Navy Venturas. Over 2 tons of bombs were dropped and fires were started. The airfields appeared serviceable but no planes were seen. Poor A/A was met, but enemy searchlights encountered were accurate.

The same morning (0025 - 0210 K) Katsuwa and Shasukotan were attacked by 3 U.S. 11th Air Force B-24's which dropped 6 100-pound bombs. There was no enemy opposition.

All planes returned.

II. Central Pacific Area(A) Caroline Islands

On the night of 10 - 11 April (0215 - 0430 K) at Truk, 23 7th Air Force B-24's attacked the enemy airfields at Param and Moen, Dublon town and small islands on the SE side of the atoll. 57½ tons of bombs were dropped. Explosions were noted at Moen and Dublon, and a fire was seen at the latter place. Of 6 enemy planes seen, one made an ineffective attack. 2 U.S. planes are missing from unknown causes.

Early the morning of 11 April, Ponape was attacked by 1 B-24 as an alternate target. 2½ tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results. 2 unidentified planes followed the bomber for about 15 miles after the bombing, but did not attack.

On 11 April, search planes bombed Oroluk and attacked enemy shipping W. of Ulul. The same day, patrolling U.S. B-24's bombed warehouses on Dublon and strafed the enemy airdrome at Satawan.

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III. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 10 April, the NW coast of Buka was raided by 2 B-34's. Early the same day, Aitara was raided by a U.S. Navy TBY, which bombed gun positions.

Also 10 April, Mamagata was bombarded by a U.S. DD with hit gun positions.

On the morning of 11 April (0850 L), enemy artillery E. of the perimeter landed 4 large shells on the Torokina strip. No damage was caused to our planes, but slight damage was caused to the strip.

It was reported that in the N. Saus River area, the enemy was constructing shelters and a trench system.

(B) New Ireland

On the morning of 10 April, off Uri Plantation at Duke of York, an enemy barge exploded in an attack by Soupac fighters.

Also 10 April, Tabar Island was raided by U.S. Navy patrol bombers.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 10 April, U.S. troops were landed on a small island (Hulunsiu) off Pak Island. No opposition was met. On Pak, Lanus and Rambuto, mopping-up of remaining enemy troops continues. Air support was provided at Pak, where targets were bombed and strafed by 11 Australian fighter-bombers (P-40's).

(D) New Britain

On 10 April, revised figures of enemy casualties in the area between Talason and Cape Gloucester set the total number of enemy troops killed at 4,252, with 2-3 taken prisoner.

Early 10 April, Rabaul airfields were raided by 7 U.S. Navy B-25's. At Simpson Harbor, an enemy floatplane was observed taking off.

On the morning of 10 April, Talili Bay was hit by 9 TBF's and 12 SBL's. 12 buildings were wrecked.

Then, Rataval was attacked by 22 B-25's. Large fires were started, and an explosion caused.

Tobera was then attacked by 8 P-38's, 11 P-39's, and 24 P-40's. 18 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway.

Then Raluana, Keravia Bay and Vunapope were the targets for 18 TBF's and 40 SRD's. 42 tons of bombs were dropped. There was no enemy air interception, although 4 or 5 enemy fighters were airborne.

The same day at Lassul Bay, 1 enemy barge was sunk and 2 damaged in a sweep by 16 PGF's and F4U's.

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On the night of 10 - 11 April, at Garove Island, John Albert Harbor and Peter Harbor were shelled by U.S. PT's.

(E) New Guinea

On the night of 7 - 8 April, off Uligan Harbor, 1 enemy barge was probably sunk and 3 damaged by our PT's.

On the night of 10 - 11 April, Maider was raided by a single enemy plane. Slight damage was caused, after 3 bombs were dropped.

Also the night of 10 - 11 April, at Vanimo (E. of Hollandia), a small AK was beached after an attack by a PB4Y, while Kairiru Village was raided by a PB4Y, which also strafed 3 barges.

The same night, near Crown Prince Harbor, enemy gun positions were raided by a single B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

On the morning of 11 April, Hansa Bay area was heavily attacked by 53 B-24's which dropped 210 tons of bombs on supply dumps, gun positions and jetties. Several barges were also destroyed, and large fires started. Moderately intense, some accurate, A/A fire was encountered.

The same morning, Uligan Harbor was hit by 11 other B-24's. 41 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires were started.

Also the morning of 11 April, the Boram-Newak area was heavily attacked, first by 36 A-20's which dropped about 35 tons of bombs and expended 55,900 rounds of M/G, and 35 minutes afterward, by 46 B-25's which dropped about 24 tons of bombs. Gun positions were destroyed or silenced, supply and fuel dumps were destroyed and large fires started; smoke columns rose 8,000 feet in the air, and many buildings were wrecked. 2 serviceable enemy planes on the ground were wrecked. Some A/A fire was met by the A-20's, but none by the B-25's. 1 A-20 was lost, but the pilot was rescued. Escorting the bombers were P-38's.

On the homeward trip, Marenberg was raided by A-20's, which dropped 1 ton of bombs and strafed.

Also the morning of 11 April, Karkar Island was attacked by 12 B-25's which scored direct hits on buildings and started fires. Much destruction was reported.

Also 11 April, off Walif Island (N. of But), 10 barges were destroyed in an attack by a single B-25 on patrol, while off Aitape, a loaded supply barge was sunk by 2 B-25's. Meanwhile, in the Mintjim Valley, Australian troops advancing on Bogadjim occupied more enemy positions.

Also 11 April, about 160 miles N. of Wakde, an enemy SS on a NE course was attacked by a patrol plane.

The same day, 5 miles S. of Bogadjim, an enemy-held village was strafed by 8 P-39's, aiding Australian ground units.

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(F) N. E. I.

On 11 April, Penfoei was raided by 2 Dutch B-25's which dropped 3 tons of bombs through the clouds.

IV. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS returned from patrol has reported sinking a 4,500 ton enemy AK and an AK/AO of 3,000 tons for a total of 7,500 tons.

A second U.S. SS reports sinking 3 large enemy AK's of unspecified tonnage.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 12 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

Enemy losses in the Central Pacific from 1 January 1941 - 31 March 1944, have been estimated at 33,663 Navy - Army personnel and 1,586 labor troops killed, drowned or died of wounds. In addition, 660 prisoners were taken. These figures do not include enemy losses at sea for the first quarter of 1944 nor do they include figures for enemy personnel dying from disease, nor for those incapacitated for further military service by wounds or disease.

A. Caroline Islands

On the night of 9 - 10 April, in Woleai lagoon, U.S. search planes hit an enemy 9,000 ton AK with a half-ton bomb. 2 near misses were reported on the same vessel. A near miss was made on a large sea truck and both were reported badly damaged. Installations at Woleai were also bombed by 2 search planes. An additional 6 unidentified vessels were also noted in the area.

At Puluwat Atoll on 10 April, Sopac search planes reported a new enemy airfield and bivouac area at Alet Island.

The same day at Satawan, Sopac search planes bombed and strafed an enemy bomber on the airfield. A/A positions were also attacked.

Also the same day, Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped on the old airfield area. Some A/A was met. Ponape was also bombed by U.S. search planes which hit the new airstrip area (which has been located about 2 1/2 miles SW of the old strip in an ENE-WSW position) and strafed 2 boats on the S coast.

At Oroluk, on 10 April, search planes strafed and bombed a beached ship and island installations. The same day Ulul was attacked by search planes, where installations and towers were hit.

B. Marshall Islands

On 10 April the following enemy positions were attacked:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs</u> <u>Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
MILLE 1400 L	6 F4U (Marine) 6 F4U (Marine)	11 1/2 tons	Runway, 1 F4U damaged by A/A.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
JALUIT 0813 L	6 SBD (Marine) 8 F6F	3 tons	Fire started at N. wharf, Jaber.
0800 L	14 B-25	14 tons	Light A/A.
TAROA 0935 L	3 B-24's	4½ tons	Barracks and buildings destroyed. No A/A.
1057 ~ 1408 L	15 B-25	15 tons	Hits on gun positions, barracks and hangars. A/A. 1 B-25 damaged.
WOTJE 1230 L	10 SBD (Marine) 8 F4U (Marine)	5½ tons strafing	Fire started.
1325 L	10 SBD (Marine) 11 F6F	10 tons	Runways hit. Light A/A.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 9 April, around the Torokina perimeter, enemy bivouacs, huts and pillboxes were attacked by 25 TBF's and 9 SBD's, while on the same day, Mosigetta was raided by 2 P-38's.

It was reported that total enemy casualties in the Solomons area for the period 1 January 1944 - 1 April 1944, have been estimated at 15,700. This includes 6,800 dead, 4,900 wounded and 4,000 out of action because of sickness.

On the night of 9 - 10 April Aitara was raided by a PBV.

On 10 April enemy artillery E of the Torokina perimeter fired 12 shells on the Piva Uncle strip in a 10-minute period. Several of our planes were damaged. Our artillery batteries then opened up and silenced the enemy gun.

About 1,200 yards E of Hill 1111, considerable enemy equipment and a 75 mm gun were found by patrols of the Americal Division.

Meanwhile, Kuraio Mission (N of Cape Moltke) and a point about 13,000 yards N of Hill 700 were reached by patrols of the 37th Division. No enemy troops were encountered.

(B) New Britain

On the night of 8 - 9 April Rabaul Town waterfront area was

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harassed by 7 B-25's. A large fire was started. 1 or 2 enemy night fighters rose to intercept but were ineffective.

On the morning of 9 April Rapopo was attacked by 12 TBF's and 34 SBD's. The runway received 29 tons of bombs. Vunakanau was then hit by 23 TBF's and 59 SBD's. The runway and nearby gun positions received 50 tons of bombs.

At 1100L the same day, Lakunai was attacked by 23 B-25's which scored 65 hits on the runway. 2 B-25's were damaged by A/A fire. At 1130 L, Malum was hit by 9 P-38's and 22 P-39's. Over 9 tons of incendiary bombs were dropped, causing large fires and a column of smoke rising 7,000 ft. in the air. Then, Vunapope was attacked by 22 P-40's.

In addition, in the Mabaul area, 4 barges were strafed by fighters, while at Massawa Bay 6 enemy barges were attacked by B-25's.

Photos of enemy airfields in the Bismarcks on 10 April showed them all unserviceable except for Vunakanau.

Lindenhafen was reached by U.S. patrols from Casmeta on 10 April. No enemy troops were encountered.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 10 April, in the Admiralties, our patrols killed an unreported number of Jap stragglers on Manus, Pak and Rambutyo Islands. It was announced that the total number of known enemy dead has reached 2,692.

(D) New Guinea

Photos on 5 April of 3 Hollandia airfields showed a total of 10 operational enemy planes present. (On 30 March, at Hollandia, there was a total of 208 planes). At Wakde Island airfield there were 39 planes. At Sawar airfield there were 19 planes.

On 8 April, N. of Newak, an enemy lugger and a barge were set afire in an attack by 8 P-40's which bombed and strafed. In addition, 2 store-houses were wrecked.

On 9 April, an enemy camp at Venus Point (at the mouth of the Ramu River), was strafed by 4 P-39's which also swept over Awar airfield, where an apparently serviceable bomber was strafed and set afire.

On the morning of 10 April (not 9 April as reported in the Naval Activities Summary for 11 April 1944), Hansa Bay, Madang and Uligan Harbor were bombarded by U.S. DD's. Targets covered at Hansa Bay were Nubia and Awar Plantations and Laing Island in the bay. Supporting and covering the DD's were 61 B-24's which dropped 227 tons of bombs on Nubia and Awar. Excellent results were reported. Gun batteries were hit. A/A fire brought down 1 B-24. There was no enemy air interception, and no enemy shipping was seen. Uligan was also bombed by 4 other B-24's.

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Also on 10 April, S. of Bogadjim, Australian units from the Mintjim Valley encountered some enemy opposition. However, a point 1 mile SW of Bogadjim was reached by a patrol traveling down the Mintjim River.

(E) N. E. I.

Early on the morning of 10 April Dilli was raided by 3 Australian light bombers. 1 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped.

The same morning, at Amboina, Halong seaplane base was raided by 2 Australian PBY's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped but results were not observed.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports.

A U.S. SS has reported 2 torpedo hits on an enemy AK.

W. L. BALES.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 11 April 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

The night of 10 - 11 April (0152 - 0225 K) in the Kuriles Matsunawa was bombed by 2 U.S. 11th Air Force B-24's. The same night (0230 K) another area in the Kuriles probably Onnekotan was bombed by a U.S. B-24. Results of the bombings were unobserved. All planes returned safely.

II. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 9 April, (0830 L) Ponape was hit by 6 B-25's and 8 Marine F4U's. Bombs and incendiaries were dropped in the new airfield area. Meagre A/A was met, but 1 plane was slightly damaged.

On 10 April, at Uroluk, a U.S. search plane dropped incendiary bombs with unreported results.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 9 April, the following enemy positions were attacked:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs</u> <u>Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	9 F4U's	3 tons strafed	2 fires started at SE Radar area.
	18 SBD's (Marine)	8 tons	Unobserved. Light A/A.
Tarao	11 F6F's	5 1/2 tons	Runway area hit. No A/A.
	12 B-25's	12 tons	Runway area out. Some A/A.
Mille	6 F4U's (Marine)	3 tons	Runway area hit.
	6 F4U's (Marine)	3 tons	Runway area hit. Some A/A.
Jaluit	8 F6F's	strafed	Fire started at Jabor.
	7 SBD's (Marine)	3 tons	A/A meagre.
	11 B-25's	10 1/2 tons	Small fires started at Jabor. No A/A at Jabor, Some at Emidi

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III. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 8 April, the Mamagata area was attacked by 12 SBD's and 4 P-39's. Bridges and enemy positions were bombed and strafed. The same day, Monoitu was raided by 4 B-24's, while Kieta was raided by 2 SBD's, which hit a gun position.

In support of ground troops, N. of the TOROKINA perimeter, the enemy bivouac area was attacked by 5 TBF's and 6 SBD's. Fires were started.

On the night of 8 - 9 April, Aitara and Siposai Island (Choiseul Bay) were raided by PBY's on patrol.

On 9 April, the coastal area from the Torokina perimeter to Navavia was occupied by our ground units. Meanwhile, E. of the Torokina River forks, at Hill 165, an enemy force was engaged by our ground units, supported by planes. 46 Japs were killed.

From 8 March - 8 April, total enemy dead counted reached, 5,370.

Further reports from the patrol of the 37th Division which reached Cape Moltke, state that it was advancing towards Kuralo Mission. No Japs have been encountered.

Also 9 April, near Mesiga, enemy bivouacs and gun positions were bombarded by a U.S. DD. 1 gun position received a direct hit.

(B) N.E. IRELAND

On the night of 7 - 8 April, Kavieng was raided by 4 Sopac B-25's. Fires were started around the airfield.

On the morning of 8 April, Kavieng was attacked by 16 U.S. Navy F4U's. 2 enemy planes on the ground were strafed. 1 of our fighters was lost, but the pilot was rescued.

On the night of 8 - 9 April, Borpop and Tingwon Islands were raided by U.S. Navy PBY's.

(C) St. Matthias Group

On the night of 8 - 9 April, a reconnaissance party was landed on Mussau Island by PT's, which later picked it up. No enemy troops were met, and no enemy activity was noted at Mussau.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 8 April, in Kelaun Bay, (SE Manus) villages and a barge were strafed by 4 P-39's.

On 9 April, in N. Manus Island, villages and roads were attacked by 20 Australian fighter-bombers (P-40's) which bombed and strafed.

In ground action:

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At Manus Island, 16 Jap troops were killed by our patrols.

At Rambutoe Island, 8 enemy troops were killed.

U.S. cavalry units were landed on Pak Island (E. of Los Negros). No opposition was encountered.

(E) New Britain

On 8 April, the daily aerial attacks against Rabaul continued. At 1014 L, Lakunai was attacked by 24 B-25's. The runway was hit with 30 500 lb. bombs.

At 1050L, Rabaul Town harbor area was struck by 55 fighter-bombers. Over 27 tons of bombs were dropped, causing explosions and large fires.

Talili Bay area was attacked by 17 TBF's, which caused fires in supply dumps. Meanwhile, the area outside Rabaul Town, W. of Malaguna Road, was hit by 40 SBD's. 3 heavy A/A gun positions were wrecked.

On 9 April, Wide Bay area was searched by 2 Australian Beaufighters. Villages and a bridge were strafed.

(F) New Guinea

On the morning of 8 April, in addition to previous reports (Naval Summary 10 April, 1944), Hollandia was attacked by 11 more B-24's. 33 more tons of bombs were dropped.

The same day, W. of Aitape, off Prittwitz Point, a 700 ton AK was sunk and another 700 Ton AK probably sunk in an attack by a B-25 on patrol. In the same area, enemy camps were strafed and a barge sunk.

Early 9 April, Wakde was raided by a single B-24 on reconnaissance. 2 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway. A fire was started.

Also 9 April, about 40 miles N. of Nowak, a 300-ton lugger was sunk in an attack by 2 B-25's on patrol. At Murik Lagoon, a barge was also sunk by these planes.

The morning of 9 April, the Tadji area was heavily attacked by 55 fighter-escorted B-25's. Over 50 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield areas at St. Anna and Pro. Many big fires were started. On the homeward trip, Muschu Island was strafed.

The same morning, the Nowak area was heavily attacked by 14 B-24's and 83 A-20's covered by fighters. The heavies dropped about 50 tons of bombs; the A-20's about 67 tons and expended over 76,000 rounds of m/g. Main targets were Nowak, Dagua, Boram, Cape Mom. 8 barges were sunk or damaged, buildings were hit. A/A gun positions bombed, and supply dumps set afire.

At about the same time, Hansa Bay area was heavily attacked by 41 fighter-escorted B-24's. 130 tons of bombs were dropped on Nubia and Awar. 13 heavy guns were silenced and probably wrecked, fuel fires and an explosion were caused. A/A fire shot down 1 B-24.

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In these strikes against Hansa Bay, Tadji and Kewak areas, there was no enemy air interception.

On the afternoon of 9 April, 30 miles N. of Aitape, an enemy SS was attacked by a PB4Y on patrol. The SS was possibly damaged, and left an oil trail. Near Makde Island, a medium AK was attacked without success by this bomber.

On 9 April, S. of Bunabun, bridges were damaged in an attack by 8 P-39's, while near Bogia, a pontoon bridge and 2 barges were destroyed by 3 more P-39's.

Also 9 April, 1 mile S. of Kaliko (E. of Bogadjim), enemy units were met by Australian patrols. Details were not reported.

Also 9 April, Hansa Bay area was bombarded in daylight hours by U.S. DN's. Details were not reported.

(G) E. E. I.

On the night of 8 - 9 April Kamlea was raided by 2 Australian PB4Y's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped on the waterfront area.

The same night, Penfoei was attacked by 7 Dutch B-25's which dropped almost 5 tons of bombs on the barracks area. Fires were caused.

Meanwhile, Lautem was hit by 3 Australian Beauforts which dropped over 2 tons of bombs. Results were not observed.

On the morning of 9 April, at Timor Island, Soe Village (about 50 miles E. of Kospang) was raided by 6 Australian Beaufighters which dumped 1 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed the barracks area. A fuel dump and buildings were set afire.

The same morning, off N. coast of Boeroe Island, a medium AK-AP was attacked by 5 B-24's, which scored near misses, possibly damaging the ship. With the AK-AP were 2 escort vessels. They were heading towards Ambon.

On the night of 9 - 10 April, Penfoei was again attacked by 5 Dutch B-25's which dropped almost 4 tons of bombs on the barracks area. Fires were caused.

IV. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported damaging a large enemy AO with 2 torpedo hits.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 10 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 7 April, (1500 L), Ponape was attacked by 4 B-25's and 8 Marine F4U's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the old airfield was strafed. Medium intense A/A was met and 2 F4U's are reported missing.

On the night of 8 - 9 April (2308 - 0050 K) the Dublon area at TRUK was attacked by 12 7th Air Force B-24's. 12 tons of bombs caused 2 explosions in the fuel storage and town wharf area.

The same night (2320 L) Ponape was hit with 3 tons of bombs from a B-24. The old airfield and building area were the targets.

The night of 8 - 9 April (0100 K) searchplanes just NW of Woleai located an enemy convoy of 1 large and 4 medium AP/AM with 3 escorts on a SE course. 4 500-pound bombs were dropped within 20 feet of the large AP/AM with unobserved results. Some A/A was met. Another searchplane hit Woleai with 1 ton of bombs. Results were not seen. No shipping was seen.

Before dawn 9 April (0220 K) the Moen airfield area at Truk was attacked by 1 B-24. 3 tons of bombs were released with unobserved results because of overcast. Light A/A was met.

The night of 8 April just after midnight (0020 K) Oroluk was hit by 3 tons of bombs from 1 B-24.

Early the morning of 9 April (0428 L) Ujelang was hit by a B-24. 3/4 tons of bombs were dropped on the radio station area.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 6 April, according to a delayed report, Mille was attacked a second time by 2 B-34's. 2-1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. No A/A was encountered.

On 7 April the following attacks were made against enemy positions:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Notje	13 F4U (Marine) 13 SBH	strafed 6 1/2 tons	Magazine area hit. Light A/A.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	12 B-25	11 tons	Not announced.
	11 F6F	strafed	Waterfront bombed and strafed. Meagre A/A.
	13 SBD	6 tons	
Malaelap	12 F6F	6 tons	Runways hit
	3 B-25	3 tons	
	14 B-25	14 tons	All bombs hit target area.

On 8 April, the following attacks were made on enemy positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	10 SBD (Marine)	5 tons	2 F4U's damaged by A/A fire.
	13 F4U	strafed	
	11 F6F	10 tons	Unannounced. Light A/A met.
	10 SBD (Marine)		
Mille	6 F4U	6 tons	Some A/A.
Taroa	11 B-25	6½ tons	Large explosion W. of hangars and small explosion in positions at U. 3 planes slightly damaged by A/A.
Jaluit	11 B-25	7½ tons	Large fire at Jabor town. Some A/A was met at Eridj, none at Jabor.
	6 B-34	6½ tons	Explosions and fires. Warehouses, magazine, barracks and A/A areas. A/A met. No damage.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 7 April, the mouth of Tokessi River was attacked by 4 P-40's, which hit pillboxes. Other targets in the Torokina area were hit by 14 SBD's. The same day, Monitu was raided by 2 B-24's.

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On the night of 7 - 8 April, the mouth of Puria River was strafed by U.S. PT's. Meanwhile, Aitara and Mosiga were raided by PBV's.

On 8 April, Cape Moltke was reached by a patrol of the 37th Division which reported meeting no Japs.

In the sector held by the Americal Division, E. of the Torokina River, an advance of 1700 yards along the beach was made. Scattered resistance was encountered.

It was reported that Blue Ridge and Hills 1111 and 1000 were clear of Japs, and that Hills 250 and 600 have been occupied by our forces.

In the hills on the NE perimeter, all Japs have been reported cleared out except for possible stragglers.

Also 8 April, an enemy bivouac at the Jaba River was bombarded by a U.S. DD.

(B) New Ireland

On 7 April, at Dyuul Island, a possible radar station was strafed by fighters.

On the morning of 7 April, Kavieng was attacked by 45 U.S. Navy dive and torpedo bombers (15 TBF's and 30 TBD's). 30 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway. 1 TBF was lost. 1 Jap bomber was seen taking off, and 15 more were reported in revetments.

Photos of Kavieng on 8 April showed no planes and the runway unserviceable. Borpop and Panapai were also unserviceable.

On 8 April, a U.S. patrol was landed on Muguria Group. Natives which were reported very friendly - stated that for the past several months there have been no Japs on the islands.

(C) New Britain

On the night of 6 - 7 April, Rabaul Harbor area and Talili Bay were raided by 6 B-25's, which bombed supply dumps.

On 7 April in Spon Bay area, near Baia, enemy bivouacs and supply dumps were attacked by 4 strafing Australian P-40's.

Again the morning of 7 April, Rabaul area was heavily attacked by Sopac planes.

Talili Bay area was attacked by 35 TBF's and 9 B-25's. Then U. Simpson Harbor was hit by 39 TBD's which bombed gun positions. Rataval supply dumps were attacked by 53 fighter-bombers (incl. P-38's and P-35's) which dropped over 15 tons of incendiary bombs. Photos later showed fires and 10 wrecked buildings. A/A fire damaged 1 P-39.

At 1127 L on 7 April, Tobora was attacked by 13 B-25's, which dropped 19 1/2 tons of bombs on the runway. Vunakanau was hit by 11 more B-25's.

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Also 7 April, at Ataliklikun Bay, a sawmill was strafed by fighters. The same day, in S. Stettin Bay, Gonga and Baluma were reached by U.S. Marine patrols from Talasea. No enemy troops were encountered.

(D) New Guinea

On 7 April, the coast from Tadjil to Newak was searched by 12 A-20's. 1 beached barge was attacked.

The same day, in the Newak area, Boikin Village was raided by a single B-24, which also set 1 loaded barge afire and strafed 2 others. 3 tons of bombs were dropped.

On the morning of 8 April, Hollandia Town and vicinity were heavily attacked in rough weather by 40 fighter-escorted B-24's, which dropped over 120 tons of bombs. Fuel and supply dumps were set afire, a jetty was damaged, and 15 buildings wrecked. Also, 2 small ships offshore were set afire. There was no enemy air interception.

The morning of 8 April, But was attacked by 8 B-24's which dropped over 11 tons of bombs while Marienberg was raided by a single B-24, which dropped 3 1/2 tons of bombs. These planes did not reach their primary target, Hollandia, because of weather conditions.

Also 8 April, the Newak area was heavily hit by 59 fighter-escorted B-25's -- according to first reports, 17 of these dropped 20 tons of bombs and expended 27,000 rounds of m/g in strafing. Brandi Plantation and Cape Mon were the targets. These bombers did not reach their primary target, Hollandia, because of weather conditions.

Again 8 April, bad weather turned back 94 fighter-escorted A-20's due to bomb Hollandia. Supply dumps around Mensa Bay were hit instead by 34 A-20's, with 34 tons of bombs and over 14,000 rounds of m/g. Large fires were started. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was not.

Also 8 April, in the Mintjim Valley, contacts with enemy troops were reported by Australian patrols advancing on Bogudjim.

M. L. Balos.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 9 April 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

A. Kuril Islands

On 7 April an enemy convoy was reported in the central Kuriles.
7 B-24's set out from SHANAI. Only 1 plane reached the target area because
of bad weather and no Jap vessels were sighted.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

Total figures of the 2 April Soupac raid on TRUK show 38 Jap
planes destroyed, 7 probably destroyed, 9 damaged. This considerably increased
the last figure which reported between 25-30 planes destroyed.

On evening of 6 April (2133L-2331L) DUKLON, TRUK was attacked
by 34 Soupac B-24's which dropped 51 tons of bombs causing large explosions
and fires. 1 Jap plane feebly attempted interception. 1 B-24 was believed lost
over the target.

On 7 April the radio station at UJUL was bombed and strafed by a
U.S. search plane. Also at POKHAT, airfields and bauxite plant were attacked
by 3 B-25's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped but results were not observed. No
enemy ships or planes were seen. Jap A/A fire damaged 1 plane and wounded 1
man.

B. Marshall Islands

On 5 and 7 April the following U.S. plane attacks were made on
Jap positions:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs</u> <u>Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
<u>5 April</u>			
MIKE	2 B-34's	2 1/2 tons	not reported
<u>7 April</u>			
WOTW	13 SB2's (Marine) 13 PB4's (Marine)	6 1/2 tons	1 ammunition dump possibly hit. Weak A/A
203(3) JALUIT	12 B-25's 13 SB2's (Marine) 11 PGF's (Marine)	11 tons 6 tons strafed	not reported fires started

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
TAIOELAP	12 P6F's	6 tons	6 hits on runway all bombs hit runway results not ob- served but bombs hit island
	3 B-25's	3 tons	
	14 B-25's	14 tons	

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On early morning of 6 April A/A positions S of KISTA were bombed and silenced by Soupac PDY's. The same day KISTA and NUT NUT jetties were attacked by 4 Soupac P-40's.

On the night of 6-7 April 'DSIGA gun position was shelled by an Allied LCI.

On the afternoon 7 April the beach area 1000 yards E of the mouth of the TOROKINA RIVER had been cleared of Japs. 15 enemy pillboxes were destroyed. Other patrols active in the area killed 3 Japs, found 5 others dead and 50 graves. Some enemy ammunition was captured. A patrol went 2000 yards NW of HOUSE KIAP without encountering any Japs. Enemy dead counted since 8 March total 4929 in this area.

B. New Britain

On early morning 6 April the KTAVAL - KABAHA area (S ADALIKIKU BAY) was bombed and strafed by Soupac patrol bombers. At noon LAHUMAI was attacked by 22 Soupac B-25's. 33 tons of bombs fell on the runway and revetments but the following day the field was again serviceable. 1 B-25 was damaged by A/A fire. At the same time RAENUL warehouse area was hit with incendiaries from 11 Soupac P-30's and 23 Soupac P-40's. 6 large and numerous small fires resulted. Photos showed 100 barges in SUTTON HARBOR. Also TALIN BAY supply base was attacked by 25 Soupac TBF's and 29 Soupac SHD's covered by fighters. Many buildings were set afire and a possible ammunition dump exploded. Fighters sank a 100-ft. barge in SUTTON HARBOR. Total enemy killed and captured:

ARWEN	570
CAPE GLOUCESTER-RUMI BAY	3003
TAIASCA	215

These figures do not include corpses found on trails or graves of enemy dead.

C. New Ireland

On 6 April the E coast of NEW IRELAND was swept by Allied fighters. Enemy trucks were strafed.

D. Admiralty Islands

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2912 and others were believed rotting in swamps. About 400 effective Jap troops now remain in the Islands.

E. New Guinea

On 6 April an additional 16 P-39's and 9 P-47's took part on the sweep along the NEW GUINEA coast reported in Summary 3 April. This made a total of 17 P-40's, 23 P-47's, 24 P-39's.

On night 6 April SAIDOR was raided by a single Jap bomber which dropped 3 bombs. Little damage resulted but 16 men were killed and 34 wounded. Also, the same day, 6 miles SW of DOGADJIM on the road a Jap ambush was encountered. Results were not reported. Known enemy dead in the SAIDOR area total 1053.

On early morning 7 April Allied PT's operated along the NEW GUINEA coast between ALLEXSHAPEN and HANSA BAY. 5 beached barges were destroyed near CAMP GROEDILL'S. Shore batteries caused only minor damage to the PT's. The same morning shortly after sunrise KAR KAR ISLAND installations were shelled by 11 Allied PT's. Many buildings were destroyed and fires started. 11 B-25's attacked these targets in support of our PT's. Over 3 tons of bombs were dropped and the area strafed. Accurate moderate to heavy A/A fire was encountered. On morning 7 April the NEW GUINEA coast from ALLEXSHAPEN to WENAK was swept by 47 Allied P-40's and P-39's. 3 enemy planes at DAQUA destroyed (1 or more were serviceable). Barges were set afire, A/A positions at WENAK and JUMABUN were silenced, and a building and jetty at WENAK hit by bombs. 1 P-40 was lost. On afternoon 7 April at BORKI 2 B-25's dropped 3 500-lb. bombs and 2 Jap aircraft were destroyed by direct hits. A B-24 on reconnaissance hit gun positions at ULIKAN KIDOR with 2 1000-lb. bombs.

F. Philippine Islands

On afternoon 6 April in BASILAN STRAIT, S of ZAMBALAN an enemy surface force of 5 CA's, 1CL, and 4 DD's were sighted heading west.

G. M. E. I.

On morning 7 April LANGOOT airfield received 50 tons of bombs from 23 B-24's. Large fires and explosions resulted. 10 small vessels were seen in the area. The same day, PINTOLI airfield was raided by 6 Dutch B-25's and LAUTEM was hit by 3 RAF Beauforts.

IV. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS returned from 2 patrols in the SW Pacific area reports sinking a total of 23,502 tons of enemy shipping and damaging an additional 7,064 tons. Sunk: 1 AP of 6,993 tons; 1 AP-AR of 6,434 tons; 1 AP-AR of 4,797 tons; 1 AK of 5,360 tons; 1 AP-AR of 4,463 tons. Damaged: 1 AK of 7,064 tons.

W. L. Dales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 8 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

A Pacific Fleet communique gives the following information concerning operations of Pacific Fleet forces, under the tactical command of Admiral R. A. Spruance, USN, against enemy installations and forces in the Western Carolines.

"The Palau Islands were attacked on 29 and 30 March (W. longitude U.S. -- Date), Yap and Ulithi Islands on 30 March and Koloi Island on 31 March by planes from carrier task forces commanded by Vice Admiral Marc A. Mitscher, USN. Damage to enemy surface ships at Palau included:

"2 DD's, 1 unidentified combat ship, 2 large AK's, 6 medium AK's, 8 small AK's, 3 large AO's, 1 medium AO, 1 small AO, 1 patrol vessel; damaged 1 DD beached and burning, 1 large repair ship, 1 medium AO, 2 small AO's, 1 small AK burning, 2 small AK's beached and damaged, 1 large AK, 2 medium AK's and 5 small AK's beached, 1 small AK and ground installations destroyed at Palau, 40 buildings at Arakabesan; at seaplane base 4 hangars and small buildings; at Lalakal more than 20 warehouses destroyed and extensive damage to docks and numerous large fires; at Koror warehouses, dumps and hangars destroyed; at Angaur phosphate plant damaged including docks and storage buildings; at Babelthuap ord dock damaged.

"Enemy aircraft casualties at Palau were: Destroyed, airborne, 93; destroyed on ground or water, 39; probably destroyed or damaged, airborne, 29; probably destroyed or damaged on ground or water, 20.

"At Ulithi several small vessels were sunk, the dock, radio station and other buildings were damaged.

"Yap airdrome facilities and buildings in the settlement were damaged.

"At Koloi 7 planes were destroyed and 5 probably destroyed and extensive ground installations were damaged on Mariakon and Koloi Islands including stores, dumps, buildings and small craft.

"During the nights preceding and following our attacks on Palau our carrier aircraft shot down 17 attacking enemy planes and 4 were shot down by ships, anti-aircraft batteries. 3 small enemy ships were also sunk at sea by ships' gunfire."

Later reports of the 7th Air Force attack on Truk on 5 April, reveal 2 U.S. B-24's missing, possibly due to collision over the target area.

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On 6 April, Ponape was attacked by 6 U.S. B-25's which dropped 8 tons of bombs in the new airfield area, starting a large fire. Keagre A/A fire was met.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 6 April the following U.S. plane attacks were made on Jap positions:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	10 SBD's (Marine)	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	Not announced
	13 P4U's (Marine)	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons strafed	No A/A fire Weak A/A fire.
	11 F6F's	10 tons	Weak A/A.
	10 SBD's (Marine)		1 SBD slightly damaged.
Tarao	12 B-25's	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	Large fire started. Slight A/A.
Jaluit	11 B-25's	11 tons	Weak A/A fire.
Mille	3 B-34's	4 tons	No A/A fire.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On the morning of 5 April, Kara was attacked by 12 B-25's, which dropped 18 tons of bombs on the airfield. The same morning, Kahili airfield was attacked by 12 more B-25's.

On the afternoon of 5 April, in support of our ground forces on the W. bank of the Sava River, enemy positions were attacked by 12 TBF's and 12 SBD's. Meanwhile, at Lotupona Point, enemy coastal guns were hit by 10 SBD's.

On 5 April, Numa Numa was raided by 2 P-38's, while that night, near Tonolei, a barge was bombed, and gun positions at Mosiga were raided by our planes on patrol.

On 6 April, in the Torokina sector, minor patrol contacts were reported.

(B) New Ireland

On 5 April, Cape St. George was bombed by our planes on patrol.

On the afternoon of 6 April, N. of Kavieng, a Jap medium bomber was shot down by our planes.

(C) Admiralties

On 5 April, at Rambutoy and Manus Islands, mopping-up of enemy positions was continuing. Minor patrol contacts were reported.

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(D) New Britain

On the night of 5 - 6 April, off Jacquinot Bay, U.S. PT's were ineffectively attacked by a single enemy floatplane. The same night, in the NE New Britain, enemy barges were bombed by our planes on patrol.

On 6 April, Pondo Point and Rondahl Harbor were raided by a B-25 on patrol. (1 ton of bombs was dropped, and the targets strafed.) The same day, from Jacquinot Bay to the N., buildings along the coast were strafed by 2 Australian fighter-bombers (Beaufighters). Thick weather continued in the New Britain area.

(E) New Guinea

On the night of 4 - 5 April, in Bunabun Harbor area, 2 enemy barges were sunk and another possibly damaged by our PT's. The barges were heavily loaded, and returned the PT's fire. Enemy positions along the shore were also strafed by the PT's.

Later reports of the 5 April heavy attack on Hollandia state that the target was hit by a total of 90 A-20's, 72 B-25's and 48 B-24's. Escorting were 65 P-38's. A total of 320 tons of bombs were dropped, and 250,000 rounds of m/c expended. A small AK was set afire, many fires and explosions were caused. Smoke columns rose 15,000 feet in the air. There was no enemy air interception. We suffered no losses.

Also 5 April, throughout the day, the New Guinea coast from Alexis-hafen to Aitape was swept in 112 sorties by P-40's and P-47's. Buildings on islands in the Aitape area were wrecked; at Tadji, 2 enemy planes on the ground were destroyed; off Kairiru Island, many barges were set afire.

On the night of 5 - 6 April, enemy positions in the Sarang area, and the N. part of Karkar Island were attacked by U.S. PT's, which rocket-shelled and strafed.

On the night of 5 April, Makde (Dutch New Guinea) was attacked by 6 PB4Y's, 4 PBY's and 6 B-24's. 23 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield and bivouac areas, with excellent results. Many explosions were caused, and fires could be seen 50 miles away. There was no enemy air interception, but 4 Jap planes were airborne. Hollandia was also hit by 1 of the B-24's. A/K fire damaged 3 planes, but all returned safely.

On 6 April, sweeping attacks along the New Guinea coast from Alexishafen to But continued, in spite of rough weather. Participating were 17 P-40's, 14 P-47's and 8 P-39's. Off Newak, a medium AK or AO was set on fire in a dive-bombing attack by P-40's, which scored 2 direct hits. In addition, a lugger, 8 barges, and villages were attacked.

The same day, at the mouth of the Sepik River, Murik Village was raided by B-24's on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

(F) N. B. I.

At midday on 6 April, targets around Semao Island (near Koepong) were attacked by 8 Australian Beaufighters. A small AO or a large oil barge was sunk, 3 barges were set on fire, and buildings ashore wrecked.

On 6 April, Lautem was hit by 5 Australian Beauforts which dropped 10 tons of bombs. Large fires and explosions were caused. DECLASSIFIED
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On the night of 6 - 7 April, Keepang area was attacked by 7 Dutch B-25's which dropped 10 1/2 tons of bombs. Fires were started.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS returned from patrol has reported sinking 1 AP/AK of 8360 tons, 1 XAO of 10,020 tons, 1 AC of 10,000 tons and an AK of 4000 tons for a total of 32,380 tons. In addition, an AK of 7390 tons was damaged by torpedo, 1 75 ton and 1 25 ton fishing vessel were damaged by gunfire for a total of 7490 tons.

A second U.S. SS returning from patrol has reported sinking a loaded enemy AP of 15,105 tons.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 7 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 4 April (2123 - 0236 L) Truk was attacked by 20 U.S. 7th Air Force B-24's. 32 tons of bombs were dropped on the tank farm area at Dublon and on targets at Moen. Many fires were seen at Dublon and one fire was seen at Moen. 6 - 8 enemy planes intercepted, 1 being destroyed and a second probably destroyed. False fires were seen burning outside the reef. There were no casualties.

The night of 4 April at Ponape, the old airfield was hit with 3 tons of bombs from a B-24.

Also the same night (2445 L.) at Truk, 2 Navy PB4Y's were on reconnaissance. 2 tons of bombs bracketed an enemy DD which was believed sunk.

On 5 April (0835 L) Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's and 7 Marine F4U's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped, hitting the old airfield and installations. 1 B-25 was damaged by A/A fire.

Before dawn 6 April (0430 L) Truk was attacked by a Sopac B-24. 1 ton of bombs were dropped. Searchlights and A/A fire were encountered.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 5 April, the following attacks were made by U.S. planes on Jap positions:

<u>Place</u> <u>Attacked</u>	<u>No.</u> <u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs</u> <u>Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Mille	5 F4U's (Marine)	2-1/4 tons	Runway hit. No A/A.
Wotje	10 SBD's (Marine)	4-1/2 tons	Shops and power plant hit. 1 F4U shot down.
	13 F4U's (Marine)	strafed	1 F4U, 1 SBD damaged.
	10 SBD's	10-1/2 tons	Pilot picked up by DD's which received 2 hits from enemy shore batteries, 1 man killed. Positions fired on. Results not known.
	12 F6F's		

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>No. Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	13 SRD's Marine 11 F6F's Marine	10 tons	Small vessel at Jaber damaged.
	12 B-25's 3 B-34's	11 tons	Jaber attacked. Explosions and fires started.
Taroa	11 B-25's	11 tons	Large explosions.
Mille	1 B-25	1 ton	Unknown.

(C) Wake Island

On the night of 6 - 7 April, Wake was attacked by 20 U.S. 7th Air Force B-24's. The planes struck in 2 waves (2015 L and 0100/7 L) and dropped 44 tons of bombs. Large explosions and fires were started in storage, repair and maintenance areas. Meagre A/A fire was met. We suffered no casualties.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area(A) Solomon Islands

On the morning of 4 April (1108 L) Buka was attacked by 10 B-25's which dropped 9 tons of bombs. 2 bursts of A/A fire were encountered. These planes were turned back from their primary target, Rabaul, because of rough weather.

On the night of 4 - 5 April, enemy shore batteries along NE Bougainville and E. Buka coast fired on our PT's, which sustained no damage.

On 5 April, in the Torokina sector held by the 37th Division, 3 prisoners and several guns (2 x 90 MM mortars, a 75 MM Gun, 3 heavy m/c's) were captured by our patrols.

In this sector, 8,000 yards N. of our lines, an unreported number of enemy troops were met by the 1st Fiji Battalion.

The patrol which reached House Klappe reported meeting no enemy troops. In the sector held by the Americal Division at a point near Hill 500, 51 Japs were killed by our patrols. Near Hill 280, a party of Japs was met by another patrol. In this sector enemy ammunition and 5 x 90 MM mortars were captured.

Meanwhile, on 5 April, E. of Torokina River, enemy pillboxes were bombarded by U.S. DD's.

On the night of 5 - 6 April, the mouth of the Puriata River was strafed by U.S. PT's, while off Mosiga, enemy shore batteries ineffectively fired on a U.S. gunboat (LCI).

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(B) New Britain

On 4 April, in the New Britain area, rough weather prevented the usual daily attacks against Rabaul.

However, Wide Bay plantations were raided by 2 Australian A-20's, which caused damage to buildings. A small boat was also sunk by strafing.

On 5 April, a village in Open Bay area was strafed by 4 Australian P-40's.

(C) New Guinea

On 4 April, S. of Madang, near the Gum River, a road was attacked by 13 P-39's, which dropped over 3 tons of bombs.

On 5 April, in the Mintjim Valley, a point 6 miles S. of Bogadjim was reached by Australian patrols, which encountered no enemy troops.

Also 5 April, the Hollandia area was again heavily attacked, according to preliminary reports. Targets were Hollandia Town, and Jantefa and Humboldt Bays. First, 41 fighter-escorted B-24's swept in, dropping over 135 tons of bombs. Then came 17 B-25's, which dropped 21 tons of bombs, and expended over 40,000 rounds of m/g. Also present were 21 A-20's, which dropped 16 tons of bombs and expended 30,000 rounds of m/g. 8 luggers and some barges were sunk, gun positions were put out of action, large fuel fires were caused, and many buildings were wrecked. Slight to moderately intense, but inaccurate, A/A fire was met.

Also 5 April, Dagua was raided by 3 B-24's, which did not reach their primary target, Hollandia. Over 10 tons of bombs were dropped.

On 5 April, Marienburg, on the Sepik River, was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

(D) N. E. I.

On 5 April, Koepang was raided by 4 Dutch B-25's while Dilli was hit by 2 Australian Beauforts.

Also 5 April, Kaimana was attacked by 5 B-24's which dropped 4 tons of bombs. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, Cape Noejow (Sorong area) was raided by 4 B-24's which dropped 4 tons of bombs. Intense and accurate A/A fire was met.

W. L. Dales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 6 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

Additional reports on the 2 April Copac Truk strike now claim from 25 - 30 enemy planes destroyed with the count not yet completed. Previous reports put the figures at 7 destroyed for sure, and 2 probables.

On 4 April (1107 L) Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's. 3½ tons of bombs were dropped on the new airfield. 3 planes were damaged and one crew member was injured.

Early the morning of 4 April (0430L) a large fire was started by a U.S. B-24 at Dublon town (Truk).

(B) Marshall Islands

On 4 April, the following attacks were made on enemy-held locations:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	15 B-25's	15 tons	Unannounced. McGregor A/A.
Tarao	15 B-25's	15 tons	Unannounced. 1 plane damaged by A/A fire.
Tarao	6 B-25's 16 F4U's	6 tons 8 tons	Fires started. Runway hit.
Wille	6 F4U's 6 F4U's	3 tons 3 tons	Runways attacked. No A/A.
Wotje	13 F4U's (Marine) 20 TBD's (Marine)	strafed 9 tons	Motor pool area hit. Slight A/A.

(C) Wake Island

On 4 April, at Wake Island, a U.S. search plane sighted what was believed to be an enemy SS together with 3 barges. 2 U.S. B-24's later found the vessel to be a small AK at the pier. The ship was destroyed by our planes.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 3 April, off Motupena Point, an enemy barge was sunk by our planes on patrol. Motupena Point area was also bombed. Meanwhile, Muma Muma trails were strafed by other planes on patrol.

Early 3 April, S. of Motupena Point, 3 enemy barges were attacked by PBV's on patrol. Lemonkoa Village, NW Buka, was also raided by these planes.

On the morning of 3 April, mouth of Tekessi River was shelled by U.S. DD's.

On 4 April, in the Tobokina sector held by the Americal Division, much patrol activity was reported. Patrols were sent to the Saua River, but did not meet any enemy troops. However, about 1,000 yards N. of Mavavia, 10 enemy dead were found, while at a point 1,000 yards SE of Hill 1111, 4 enemy troops were killed.

In the sector held by the 37th Division, in the area between the Laruma River and the perimeter, much 90 MM mortar ammunition, many graves, and many unburied enemy dead were found. During the 24-hour period, over 300 dead Japs were counted.

Meanwhile, the Muma Muma trail was cut by our patrols, who were following the retreating enemy. The same day, 3 points along the coast were attacked by fighter bombers and DD's - Jaba River, Mamagata River and Gaselle Harbor areas.

Also the morning of 4 April, Buka airfield and Sohana Island seaplane base were attacked by B-25's.

On the night of 4 - 5 April, off N. Bougainville, about 1 mile N. of Tosisvi, 6 enemy barges were sunk by U.S. PT's.

The same night, Mosiga was raided by a PBV on patrol.

(B) New Ireland

On 3 April, Kavieng was raided by Sopac bombers on patrol. On the afternoon of 3 April, along the E. coast of New Ireland, 5 trucks were strafed and hit by Sopac fighters, which also, off Dyaul Island, sank a barge.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 3 April, it was reported that in the Admiralties action to date, the total number of known enemy dead has reached 2,839.

(D) New Britain

During the night of 2 - 3 April, Rabaul area was raided by 6 B-25's in individual attacks. Fires were started.

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On 3 April, the daily aerial attacks on Rabaul area continued. Tobera and Vunakanau were attacked by 59 SBD's which dropped 30 tons of bombs on gun positions and the airfields.

Then, Talili Bay was hit by 30 LBF's and 6 SBD's. Over 30 tons of bombs were dropped on supply dumps and warehouses.

On 3 April (1040L), NE section of Rabaul Town was attacked by 23 B-25's. 11 tons of bombs were dropped, resulting in 3 large fires.

Keravia Bay area was then hit by 9 P-38's and 44 P-40's and P-39's. 26 tons of bombs were dropped on fuel supplies. Many fires resulted.

On the afternoon of 3 April, Keravia Bay area was swept by Sopac fighters, which strafed 2 possible PT boats.

Also 3 April, off Cape Arghway, NE of Wide Bay, a barge was strafed by Sopac planes on patrol.

(B) New Guinea

On 2 April, Kairiru and Masohu Islands were attacked by 15 P-40's which fired 6,000 rounds of m/g at low-level to set 8 barges and fuel stores on fire. The same day, a Sepik River village (Darapop) was raided by 14 strafing P-47's.

On 3 April, Burui airfield was attacked by 16 strafing P-40's, which set huts and buildings on fire.

The same day, in the Bunabun area, 3 enemy gun positions were attacked by 8 P-39's, while at Mugil Plantation, another gun position was strafed by 11 more P-39's. 2 tons of bombs were dropped and the targets strafed.

Meanwhile, in a barge sweep by 8 P-47's at Sarang Harbor, 1 barge was sunk, and at Daganur Bay, 1 barge was sunk. Also at Sarang, supply dumps were bombed by 3 P-39's, which also wrecked a bridge over the Wagon River, and at the Karim River, damaged another bridge.

Also 3 April, S. of Madang, a bridge over the Gum River was bombed by 2 P-39's.

The same day, the coast from Bunabun to Bogia was raided by 9 strafing P-47's. At Uligan, a gun position was hit.

Also 3 April, a plantation in the Madang area was attacked by 4 A-20's, which bombed and strafed supply dumps and personnel areas. We lost 1 A-20.

Further details of 4 April Newak strike (Naval Summary for 5 April 1944): 52 B-24's dropped 206 tons of 1,000 lb. bombs on Boran and Newak. Bombing was said to be extremely good. 13 enemy planes on the ground were wrecked, buildings razed, and many fires started. The only sign of Jap resistance was a single flash from 1 A/A gun.

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Also 4 April, along the New Guinea coast from Bogia to Cape Gourdon, coastal villages were raided and buildings and a pontoon bridge were hit by 12 P-39's which strafed with 37 MM and m/g.

The same day, in the Mintjia Valley, a point 9 miles S. of Bogadjin, (1/2 mile NE of Kwate), was reached by Australian patrols. In this area, which had served the enemy as a motor park, 30 trucks and considerable amount of supplies were captured. The Australians did not meet any Jap troops, and were continuing their advance.

(F) N. E. I.

On the afternoon 4 April, in the Tanimbar Islands, villages in N. Jomdena Island and Larat were raided by 3 strafing Allied long-range fighters (Beaufighters).

On the evening of 4 April, Lautem was raided by 3 Allied light bombers (Beauforts) which dropped over 2 tons of bombs, while Koepong was attacked by 5 Allied Beauforts which dropped 3 1/2 tons of bombs. Several fires were started.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking 3 enemy AK's for a tonnage of 20,982. In addition, 2 enemy AK's totalling 11,464 tons were damaged.

Another U.S. SS has reported damaging 2 enemy AK's. Tonnage unreported.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 5 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 2 April (0945 L) Ponape was attacked by 6 B-25's and 8 Marine F4U's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped starting fires in the service area and barracks. Light A/A fire was met.

Further details of the 2 April Sopac raid on Truk (reported in the Naval Summary for 3 April) are; 31 B-24's attacked Dublon starting 6 large fires across warehouses and docks, and 6 more large fires in supply areas, warehouses, piers, barges and a large building were reported hit. From 40 to 60 enemy planes intercepted. 7 were claimed shot down with 2 more probably shot down in a 45-minute running fight. 4 B-24's are missing, 1 having been seen downed S. of Truk, 1 west of Momoi, 1 down north of Green Island and 1 unaccounted for. The crew of 1 (downed north of Green Island) was rescued by a U.S. DD. Photographs taken show 25 bombers, 20 fighters, 1 flying boat and 3 floatplanes in the area.

On the morning of 2 April (0635 L) Dublon was harassed by 2 B-24's. 1 ton of bombs was dropped. 1 of the planes is missing.

On the night of 3 April (2431 - 0200/4 L) Eten and the seaplane base at Dublon were heavily hit by 20 7th Air Force B-24's. 59 tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results. 3 enemy planes intercepted. Many searchlights but no A/A fire were encountered. Unidentified large enemy ships were seen through overcast. No suffered no casualties or damage.

On the night of 3 April (023/4 L) Ponape was bombed by 1 B-24. 3 tons of bombs were dropped on the old airfield.

(B) Marshall Islands

Delayed reports give the following details for U.S. air raids on enemy positions 2 April:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Mille	6 F4U's	4 1/2 tons	Runways hit.
Taroa	9 B-25's	7 tons	Runways damaged.
Jaluit	9 B-25's	9 tons	Attacked 2midj
Wotje	12 F4U (Marine) 13 B-24 (Marine)	3 tons and incendiaries	Strafed targets. Fires started in service area.

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Delayed reports indicate an additional raid on Motje, 3 April (1450 L). 10 Marine SBG's and 11 FGF's dropped 10 tons of bombs on the runways and storage areas.

Further reports of U.S. reconnaissance at Mejit claim radio equipment captured and 7 Japs killed. The reconnaissance at Mejit has been completed.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

Correction to Naval Summary for 4 April 1944 - on 1 April, Toboi area near Rabaul, not in Bougainville as reported, was attacked by 12 P-39's.

On 2 April, off Bonis, an enemy barge was sunk in an attack by 12 F4U's. The same day, around Empress Augusta Bay, enemy gun positions were hit by 6 TBF's while a bridge over the Purlata River was hit by 6 more TBF's.

On 3 April, on the E. Torokina perimeter, about 1,300 yards E. of Hill 501, 44 enemy troops were killed by our patrols.

In the sector held by the 37th Division, patrols - including a mortar platoon - were operating in the Laruma River area and on the Kuma Kuma trail. The enemy was still withdrawing to the E. and N.

Meanwhile, patrols from the 37th Division have been sent N. to House Kiapo area.

Also 3 April, Mamaregu River area was bombarded by U.S. DD's. Good results were reported.

(B) New Ireland

On 2 April, Cape St. George was attacked by 11 U.S. Navy torpedo bombers and fighters (8 F4U's covering 3 TBF's). We lost 2 planes, but their crews were rescued.

The same day, the coast from East Cape to Cape Lambert was swept by 17 fighters. 8 enemy barges were sunk, and 14 trucks wrecked.

On the night of 3 - 4 April, Kavieng airfield was raided by a single U.S. Navy PBX.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 3 April, Rambutyo Island was occupied by units of the 1st Cavalry Brigade. No opposition was encountered.

(D) New Britain

On 2 April, in addition to previous reports (Naval Summary for 4 April, 1944), Carove Island was attacked by 12 more Allied P-40's. 3 tons

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of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed.

Also 2 April, near Commodore Bay, an enemy boat was strafed by 4 Allied P-40's, while in Wide Bay, another boat and bridge were strafed by 2 Allied Bomafighters.

On 2 April, the Rabaul area was once more heavily attacked. At 0900 L, Rabaul Town was hit by 12 P-38's, which dropped 6 tons of incendiary bombs. Many fires were started. Then the area N. of Rabaul was hit by 21 P-40's and 9 P-39's which dropped 7 1/2 tons of bombs.

The same area was also attacked by 83 TBF's and SBD's and 7 B-25's. Large fires were started and gun positions and buildings were wrecked.

At 1220 L, Lakunai was struck by 23 B-25's which dumped 33 tons of bombs. A/A fire damaged 5 B-25's.

Then Talili Bay area was attacked by 12 TBF's and 15 SBD's. An ammunition dump was blown up, and 3 warehouses wrecked. We lost 2 SBD's.

Early 2 April, the Rabaul area was harassed by 5 B-25's, 1 of which was lost.

In recent strikes against the Rataval supply area, it was reported, about 20 per cent of the area has been destroyed.

On the night of 2 - 3 April, off Open Bay, 1 enemy barge was sunk and another captured by U.S. PT's. An L-class SS was also encountered here. Torpedoes were fired by the PT's, which felt an explosion, but did not observe results.

On 3 April photos showed Tobera and a Vunakanau runway were serviceable, with 3 enemy fighters present at the former.

(E) New Guinea

On 1 April, Hansa Bay area was attacked by 8 A-20's which dropped almost 4 tons of bombs and strafed. Fires were caused.

On the night of 2 - 3 April, near Madang, 3 enemy barges were sunk and another damaged by U.S. PT's. Shore targets were also strafed, causing a large fire in Madang Harbor, and putting a gun position out of action.

On 3 April, Hollandia was hit in the heaviest attack so far in SWPA operations. The first wave was made up of G7-fighter-escorted B-24's, which dropped 268 tons of bombs. Following these were 74 B-25's, which dropped 89 tons of bombs and expended 106,000 rounds of m/g. Then came 95 A-20's, but details of bomb loads were lacking. The 3 airfields in the Hollandia area, and A/A gun positions were hit. According to the reports of returning pilots, all planes on all airfields were destroyed - according to preliminary reports, all of the 285 enemy planes which on 30 March were at Hollandia have been destroyed or badly damaged in subsequent attacks.

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Our planes shot down 26 intercepting enemy fighters; we lost 1 fighter (P-38). Installations and many buildings were also wrecked. Slight to moderately-intense A/A fire was encountered.

Also 3 April, in the Madang area, a bridge was bombed by 3 P-39's.

On 4 April, Newak area was heavily attacked by 52 B-24's. Personnel and supply dumps were bombed. Results were reported excellent. There was no enemy air interception, no A/A fire. We suffered no losses. The primary target, Hollandia, was not hit because of weather conditions.

(F) N. E. I.

On the night of 2 - 3 April, Penfoei airfield was attacked again by 6 Dutch B-25's which dropped about 3 1/2 tons of bombs. Results were not observed.

On 3 April, Langgoer airfield was attacked by 27 B-24's which dropped 57 tons of bombs, starting fires and causing large explosions.

.. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 4 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On the night of 2 April (2145 - 2310 L), at Truk, warehouses and the town area of Dublon were attacked by 22 7th Air Force B-24's. 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of general purpose and incendiary bombs were dropped. Many fires were started. 3 enemy planes intercepted. Some A/A fire and many searchlights were met.

The same night (2145 L) as an alternate target the old airfield at Ponape was bombed by 1 B-24.

There were no casualties or damage from these attacks.

On 3 April, Pnnape was bombed by 6 B-25's. 4 tons of general purpose and incendiary bombs were dropped. In addition, 59 rounds of 75 mm cannon fire were expended against targets at both airfields. 3 planes were slightly damaged by A/A fire.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 3 April, the following attacks took place on enemy positions in the Marshalls:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Jaluit	7 B-25's	4 tons	Unobserved. No A/A.
Tarao	7 B-25's	7 tons	Unobserved. A/A moderate.
Jaluit	26 SBD (Marine) 8 F6F	14 tons	Small fires dock and ship at Jabor and at Emidj. Area strafed. Moderate A/A. 1 SBD slight damage.
Tarao	12 F6F	6 tons	Runway hit. No A/A.
Wotje	13 F4U	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	Fires started. Area strafed. Slight A/A.

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At Ailuk, reconnaissance has been completed. Rongelap and Mejit were reconnoitered on 2 April. Results have not as yet been reported.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 1 April, Monoitu was attacked by 12 P-38's which dropped 6 tons of incendiary bombs. This was an alternative to the primary target, Rabaul.

The same day, Numa Numa was attacked by 12 P-40's which bombed supply dumps, while Porton Plantation, N. tip of Bougainville, was raided by 2 SB2's.

Also the morning of 1 April, Toboi area, N. of Cape Moltke, was attacked by 12 P-39's, which dropped 3 tons of bombs on fuel supplies.

Early 1 April, Lemankoa Village, NW Buka, Mosiga, and Aitara were raided by PBV's on patrol.

On the night of 1 - 2 April, Mikmik Island was strafed by U.S. PT's and raided by a PBV. In Matchin Bay, a barge was also attacked by the PBV.

On 2 April, at Torokina, enemy troops near Hill 250 withdrawing across the Torokina River were fired on by our m/g's and artillery. Many casualties resulted.

In the sector held by the 182nd Infantry, about 2500 yards E. of Hill 260, an enemy force was met by our patrols.

Enemy troops at Hill 1111 were being cleared out. Our patrols near Hills 501 and 500 reported meeting no Japs.

On the N. perimeter, about 3500 yards NW of Lake Kathleen, an enemy force was met by our patrols.

Elsewhere, there were minor patrol contacts.

Also 2 April, E. of Tokessi River, enemy supply dumps were bombarded by U.S. DD's.

On the night of 2 - 3 April, S. of Motupena Point, 3 enemy barges were spotted by a searchplane, and later were beached when U.S. DD's shelled the area.

(B) New Ireland

On 1 April, Cape St. George was raided by a single U.S. Navy dive-bomber.

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(C) St. Matthias Group

On 1 April, a reconnaissance party which had been landed on Mussau Island returned to Emirau. The party reported the destruction of 243 drums of gasoline, bombs, and 8 buildings. In addition, 3 m/g's, radio equipment and documents were taken.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 2 April, Rambutyo Island was attacked by 9 U.S. B-25's which dropped almost 9 tons of bombs and strafed.

Meanwhile, on Manus Island, remnants of enemy forces, believed heading for the S. central part of the island, were being searched for by our patrols.

(E) New Britain

On 1 April, near Ubili, bivouacs were strafed by 4 Allied P-40's while N. of Cape Holman, a small enemy boat was sunk by 2 more Allied P-40's.

On 1 April, daily air attacks against Rabaul continued. Early in the morning, the area was harassed by 8 B-25's.

Later in the morning of 1 April, Katakau supply center was hit by 25 TBF's and 28 SBD's. Flames covered the whole area, some rising 300 feet, and a large explosion was caused.

At 1030 L, Vunapope was then attacked by 24 B-25's, which dropped 36 tons of 500-lb. incendiary bombs on supplies. Many fires were started, and much smoke arose. 7 B-25's were damaged by A/A fire.

Then, NE Simpson Harbor, the wharf area was hit by 12 P-39's and 20 P-40's. Large smoke columns rose.

On the afternoon of 1 April, Keravia Bay was swept by 14 TBF's and 24 SBD's. 2 large barges and hulks were bombed.

On 2 April, Garove Island was attacked by 12 Allied P-40's which dropped 3 tons of bombs on jetties, buildings and gun emplacements, and strafed.

Early the morning of 2 April, off E. coast of Commodore Bay, 3 large Jap barges were damaged after meeting out PT's.

Meanwhile, it was reported that enemy withdrawal to the E, from Cape Hoskins area is continuing.

(F) New Guinea

On 2 April, Newak and Kairiru Island were raided by 3 B-24's. 12 tons of bombs were dropped, causing fires.

Shortly afterwards, Muschu and Kairiru Islands were attacked by 22 A-20's covered by 18 P-40's. 20 tons of bombs were dropped, and 27,400 rounds of .50 calibre fired in strafing. 1 barge was sunk, 12 more set afire, huts wrecked, supply and fuel dumps set afire.

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Also 2 April, Mansa Bay area was heavily attacked by 32 fighter-escorted B-24's. 128 tons of bombs were dropped on bivouacs and gun positions. Excellent results were reported.

The same day, the coast from Madang westwards was swept by 4 P-39's which at Palas Point strafed vehicles and at Mugil Harbor a coastal gun.

Also 2 April, W. of Brima Plantation, bivouacs were attacked by 12 dive-bombing P-39's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped and the target strafed with 57 mm and m/g.

(G) N. E. I.

On the night of 31 March and 1 April, Penfoei was attacked by 6 Allied light bombers (Beauforts). Results were not observed.

On the night of 1 - 2 April, Penfoei was again attacked by 7 Dutch B-25's. Fires were caused.

The same night, Dilli was attacked by 5 Allied Beauforts which dropped 3½ tons of bombs. Results were not observed.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking a loaded enemy gasoline tanker.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 3 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On the morning of 1 April (0535 L) Dublon was bombed by 1 B-24. 1 1/2 tons of bombs started a fire visible for 50 miles. No A/A fire was encountered. 3 - 4 searchlights were seen. The same day (0805 - 0900 L) Dublon town (Truk) was bombed by 14 7th Air Force B-24's. Large fires were started from 19 1/2 tons of general purpose and incendiary bombs. 2 airborne enemy fighters did not intercept. Both heavy and light A/A and searchlights were encountered.

On 1 April Ponape was attacked by 11 B-25's and 14 Marine F4U's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results. 1 F4U was slightly damaged by A/A fire.

On 1 April (2125 L) Ponape was again attacked, by 1 B-24. 1 1/2 tons of incendiary bombs were dropped on the town area starting a fire. The same day (0828 L) 180 miles NE of Ponape, a U.S. search plane sighted an ES. 2 depth charges were dropped very near, and a 75-foot oil slick was observed. At 1801 L, a relief plane sighted a wake 150 miles NE of Ponape, but due to darkness, was unable to close with the target.

The night of 1 April, Woleai was again bombed by 2 Navy PBV's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. Off the reefs at Woleai, a U.S. Navy plane pilot was rescued by a U.S. SS. Off Palau, U.S. SS picked up a Jap pilot.

On 2 April (1245 L) Dubon (Truk) was attacked by 4 squadrons of Sopac B-24's. 72 tons of high explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped. No further details are available. Before the attack started at Dublon 2 AK's and 50 barges were seen. At Aten, the runway was unserviceable and no aircraft were seen. Much damage was noted among the buildings.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 31 March, Taroa was bombed by 12 B-25's. 11 tons of bombs were dropped and a large explosion was observed at the N. tip of the N. runway. Some A/A fire was met.

On 1 April the following raids took place on enemy positions in the Marshalls:

<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
KOTJE	10 B-24, 17 F4U (Marine)	4 1/2 tons	A/A meagre Strafed.

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<u>Place Attacked</u>	<u>Planes</u>	<u>Bombs Dropped</u>	<u>Results</u>
Wotje	10 SBD	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	Radar possibly destroyed. 1 F4U damaged.
Taroa	15 B-25	15 tons	Large gasoline explosion. A/A fire encountered.
Jaluit	15 B-25	15 tons	Large fires. Some A/A fire met.

On 1 April, a U.S. search plane strafed a 50' enemy boat at Jaluit.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 31 March, targets at Tuvona River were attacked by 16 SBD's, which sank a small barge, while a Pariata River bridge was hit by 6 more SBD's. In the Hongorai area, bivouacs were attacked by 6 TBF's and 5 SBD's.

On 31 March, Numa Numa was attacked by 2 P-38's and 22 P-39's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed. Meanwhile, Nonaitu Mission was raided once more by 2 B-24's which dropped 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs.

Early 31 March, Ballale and Poporang were raided by PSY's on patrol.

On 1 April, in the sector held by the 132nd Infantry, an enemy force near Hill 501 met our patrols and then withdrew.

Some enemy forces were spotted crossing the upper Torokina River (moving E.) and were brought under fire by our artillery.

In front of the sector held by the 129th Infantry, indications were found that mass enemy burials had taken place here. The number of enemy killed here could not be estimated. In this sector, enough foxholes for a minimum of 2 Jap regiments were found. Also, 5 Jap guns were found that had been wrecked by our artillery.

N. of this, along the Numa Numa trail, our patrols were pushing forward.

Meanwhile, the area between the Laruma River and our lines was reported free of enemy forces. Complete defeat of the enemy was indicated. Remnants of the enemy forces were withdrawing to the E. and N.

(B) New Ireland

On the morning of 31 March, the lighthouse at Cape St. George was attacked by 3 U.S. Navy torpedo bombers, -- 2 of which were damaged by A/A fire.

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(C) Admiralty Islands

On the morning of 1 April, in the N. Goodler Harbor, Koroniat and Edrile Islands were bombarded by U.S. DD's and PT's. Ground forces then landed, meeting no opposition.

(D) New Britain

On 31 March, Garove Island was raided by 2 Allied P-40's which dropped $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of bombs and strafed gun positions.

On 31 March, aerial attacks against Rabaul continued. Early in the morning, the area was harassed by 6 B-25's.

Lakunai was attacked by 18 TBF's and 50 SBF's which dumped 40 tons of bombs on the runway and gun position. 3 buildings were also wrecked. A/A fire brought down 1 TBF, but its crew was rescued.

Meanwhile, Rataval was hit by 23 B-25's which dropped incendiary bombs on supply dumps. 31 buildings were leveled. A number of fires were started. A/A fire damaged 1 plane.

On the afternoon of 31 March, NE Rabaul Town was attacked by 12 P-39's and 14 P-38's, while Vunapope was hit by 11 P-40's. Incendiary bombs were dropped on supply dumps.

Afterwards, Talili Bay area was attacked by 12 TBF's and 17 SBD's. Fires were started and 3 warehouses hit. A gun position and 2 trucks were destroyed by escorting fighters, which also wrecked buildings and sank 2 barges.

Also on 31 March, Keravina Bay was swept by 6 SBD's and 6 TBF's, covered by fighters, which sank another small AK.

On 1 April, in the Cape Hoskins area, Gavuvu and Malalia villages were attacked by 12 strafing Allied P-40's.

(E) New Guinea

On 31 March, Karkar Island was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. A building was wrecked. Meanwhile, Uligan Harbor A/A positions were hit by 2 B-25's on patrol.

Also 31 March, the Tadjil area was attacked by 23 A-20's. Supply dumps and bivouacs were bombed and strafed. Meanwhile, Borja Plantation was hit by 12 A-20's. Almost 6 tons of bombs were dropped and 17,000 rounds of .50 calibre expended in strafing. Uligan Harbor was also hit by 12 A-20's which dumped 5 tons of bombs on supply dumps and gun positions, and expended 13,900 rounds of .50 calibre.

On 31 March, the Kabenau River mouth, 10 miles E. of Bogadjim, was reached by U.S. patrols, while in the Kintjim Valley, 10 miles SE of Bogadjim, a point 300 yards S. of Yaula was reached by Australian patrols which beat back an enemy counter-attack.

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On 1 April, the Aitape - Tadjil area was again heavily attacked by 44 B-25's, which dropped over 52 tons of bombs and expended 32,000 rounds of m/c in strafing. Villages and supply dumps were hit, and buildings were wrecked. Only a few bursts of A/A fire were encountered.

(F) N. E. I.

On the afternoon of 1 April, Boela (NE coast of Ceram) was attacked by 7 B-24's. 7 tons of bombs were dropped, causing fires.

On the evening of 1 April, Lautem (NE coast of Timor) was attacked by 6 Dutch medium bombers which dropped about 8 tons of bombs. Fuel fires were started.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 2 April 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

Later reports of the Truk attack by Sopac B-24's on 29 March state that of the intercepting enemy planes, 31 were destroyed, 12 probably destroyed, and 10 damaged.

Further details of the strike on Truk by Sopac bombers on 30 March (Naval Summary 1 April 1944) - Early the morning of 30 March, Moen Island was raided by 2 B-24's.

Moen was again hit at 1235L by 11 more Sopac B-24's. The runway and revetment areas were bombed. 30-40 enemy fighters intercepted our planes, and engaged in a running battle for 45 minutes. 11 enemy planes were shot down, and 2 more probably shot down. 1 B-24 was shot down NE. of Green Island, but most of its crew was rescued. 6 B-24's were damaged.

Photos of Moen airfield on 30 March showed a total of 42 enemy planes present - (20 medium bombers, 4 dive bombers, 18 fighters).

On the night of 30 March, Woleai was raided by 3 Sopac-based PBV's, which bombed supply and personnel areas. Fires were caused. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. In the area, 6 unidentified planes were seen. The same target was also raided by a single Sopac B-24, which dropped 2 tons of bombs.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 30 March, on the E. coast of Bougainville, Terara (S. of Kuma Kuma) and Taki (S. of Kieta) were raided by 2 B-24's. Meanwhile, Monoitu Mission was raided by a single B-24, while Mamaragu-Pariata Rivers area was strafed by 2 P-38's.

The same day Mupeka River area was hit by 4 P-39's.

On 31 March, in the Torokina sector held by the Americal Division, Hills 501, 250, and 600 have been occupied by our units. Long-range patrol activity was continuing. It was reported that Jap wounded were being moved from the Torokina River fork to a point S. of the trail.

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In the sector held by the 37th Division, our patrols have met no enemy troops in the Atsinina Bay-Laruma River area.

About 250 yards outside the perimeter, in front of the 129th Infantry, an enemy force peeked by a Fiji unit was being worked on. Meanwhile, E. of this and about 2,000 yards from the perimeter, enemy forces were engaged by another Fiji unit.

Close support was continued by our DD's - which bombarded Maririel River mouth - and our planes, which hit roads and bivouacs.

B. New Britain

On 30 March, the Rabaul area was heavily attacked again. At 1208L, Vunapope was hit by 24 B-25's which dropped 34½ tons of incendiary bombs. Many fires were started, and explosions caused. A/A fire damaged 2 planes.

At 1210L, Rabaul Town was hit by 10 P-38's which dropped 5 tons of incendiary bombs. Many fires were started. Vunakanau was attacked by 22 TBF's and 36 SBD's. The runway was bombed and probably left unserviceable, and 5 gun positions were destroyed or damaged. A/A fire damaged 1 TBF and 3 SBD's.

During the morning and afternoon, Keravia Bay was swept by U.S. Navy planes. Direct hits were scored on an enemy DD hulk and a small AK. A/A damaged 2 P4U's. Also the same afternoon, Massava Bay-Pondo Point area was raided by 2 B-34's. Buildings were destroyed.

On 31 March, Pondo Point was attacked by 12 Allied P-40's and 2 U.S. P-39's. Fires were started. The same day, S. of Stettin Bay, Gonga Village was hit by 4 strafing Allied P-40's, while villages S. of Wide Bay, in the Cape Comoran area, were raided by 2 Allied A-20's and 2 Allied Beaufighters. Fires were caused.

C. Admiralties

On 31 March, it was reported that our occupation of Pityilu Island was completed. Meanwhile, S. of Lorengau, enemy units were scattered by our patrols. U.S. DD's were providing close support to ground action.

D. New Guinea

Further details of the attack on Hollandia on the morning of 31 March (reported in Naval Summary for 1 April 1944) - The target was struck by 68 fighter-escorted B-24's. 57 enemy planes on the ground were destroyed. 14 out of 30 intercepting enemy fighters were shot down, and 6 more probably shot down. 140 tons of bombs were dropped - bombing was said to be very accurate. Smoke from large fuel fires rose 15,000 feet in the air. We lost 1 fighter (P-38). Photos taken before this attack revealed that 30 enemy planes on the ground, which were said to have been damaged in the attack of 30 March, were actually destroyed. It was estimated that in the 2 days'

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strikes, a total of 190 enemy planes were put out of action - 25 shot down, and 165 destroyed or damaged on the ground.

Also on 31 March, the Newak area was heavily attacked by 35 A-20's and 42 B-25's. Over 44 tons of bombs were dropped on Kairiru and Muschu Islands, and the targets were strafed with over 111,000 rounds of H/G. Several barges were sunk, buildings were wrecked, and bivouacs hit. A number of fires were caused.

The same day, Tadji was attacked by an unreported number of bombers. Also on 31 March, in the Mintjin Valley, the area 300 yards S. of Yaula was reached by Australian patrols.

E. H. E. I.

On the night of 31 March, Penfoei was attacked by 7 Dutch B-25's. Results were not observed.

W. L. Sales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 1 April 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On the night of 29 March a raid on Woleai was made by 2 PB4Y's in addition to the 2 Catalinas previously reported.

Eurapik was bombed by a Catalina on the night of 29 March. Results were not announced.

On 29 March, before dawn, Truk (Dublon Island) was bombed by 2 B-24's. 2 very large fires were started. No searchlights or A/A fire were encountered.

Later reports on the Truk raid at noon 29 March, indicate the shipping to have been 3 DD's, 1 PC, 5 AK's, 1 AM barge, and 220 barges. In addition, 3 DD's, 2 SE's and 1 AK were probably present. A total of 31 enemy planes have been reported shot down.

On 30 March (1920 - 2100 L.) Truk was attacked by 19 B-24's. Flares and 32 tons of bombs were dropped on Uman, Param, Pefan, Dublon, and Moen. At Moen and Uman large fires were started, at Dublon there were fires and explosions. Inaccurate A/A fire was encountered at all targets. 1 enemy fighter was reported, and numerous searchlights were seen.

On the night of 30 March, Ponape was bombed by 1 B-24 as an alternate target.

Preliminary reports indicate another Consopac raid on Truk at midday, 30 March. 11 of from 30 to 40 intercepting enemy planes have been reported shot down. No further details are available.

On the night of 31 March (2144 - 2333L) Truk was again attacked by 11 B-24's which dropped 42 tons of bombs on barracks and the airstrip at Moen, on targets at Dublon and Aten. Delayed explosions at Aten were visible 60 miles. In addition, large fires were seen at both Dublon and Aten. 2 enemy planes intercepted. Heavy A/A fire and searchlights were encountered. 2 of our planes were damaged slightly.

The same day a search plane bombed gun emplacements at Kusaie. Another search plane strafed Hara Island, Greenwich. A damaged floatplane and enemy installations were hit. Observations showed considerable damage from shelling, but a small radar or radio station was apparently undamaged.

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(B) Marshall Islands

On 30 March (1250 - 1517 L) Jaluit was bombed by 11 B-25's. 11 tons of bombs were dropped. Very little A/A fire was encountered.

On 31 March, (0803 - 1100 L) Jaluit was bombed by 12 B-25's. 9-1/2 tons of bombs were dropped starting small fires.

The same day at Motje, 21 Marine F4U's strafed targets, silencing 1 A/A position. A second attack was made at Motje (0830 L) by 20 Marine SBD's which dropped 9 tons of bombs. 1 SBD was shot down by A/A fire but the crew was rescued by a U.S. DD.

On 31 March at Mille (0935 L) 6 Marine F4U's dropped 3 tons of bombs.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On the night of 28 - 29 March the Buka coast and islands in Choiseul Bay were bombed by Sompac patrol bombers.

On 29 March enemy positions around the Torokina perimeter and Jaba River were attacked by 12 Sompac torpedo bombers (TDF's) and 17 P-40's. These raids were preceded and followed by shelling from our DD's and PT's.

The same day enemy targets in SE Emprass Augusta Bay were attacked by 5 fighters. The Mibo River area and the Numa Numa trail were strafed by other Sompac planes.

On 30 March along the Numa Numa trail a Jap defense pocket was encountered by Fiji patrols. The same day our artillery forced the Japs from Hill 501 and 30 Japs were killed. 1 battalion of the 148th Infantry is now located at the mouth of the Laruma River and patrols are active toward Atsinima.

On the night of 30 - 31 March Ballale and Poporang Islands received 1 - 2 bombs from Sompac patrol planes.

(B) Admiralty Islands

Early the morning of 30 March 1 squadron of the 7th Cavalry Regiment landed on Pityilu Island, N. of Lanus Island. 2 TD's and 7 PT's shelled the area and planes bombed targets prior to the landing. 18 dead Japs were found, some sniper fire was encountered but our casualties were light and most of the island was occupied by noon.

Some contact was reported with the enemy S. of Lorengau.

(C) New Britain

At noon 29 March, Vunapope was attacked by a total of 70 Sompac medium, dive, and torpedo bombers (25 B-25's, 25 SBD's, 19 TDF's). 66 tons

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of bombs were dropped on gun and supply positions starting fires. 7 gun positions were damaged. 10 more SBL's with fighters attacked shipping in Keravia Bay. Strafing caused an explosion on a DD type vessel. 11 other fighters (P-40's) started fires at Talili Bay. We lost 1 fighter, 6 bombers (2 SBD's, 4 TBF's) were damaged.

On 30 March Ubili and Garove were attacked by 18 fighters (P-40's). A launch and slipway at Ubili were damaged. 1 fighter (P-40) was hit by A/A fire.

(D) New Guinea

On 29 March Maraga, 6 miles N. of Bogadjim, was attacked by 16 P-39's and 2 P-40's. 8 bomb hits were scored on enemy coastal gun emplacements.

On 30 March Tadjil received 34 tons of bombs from 23 B-25's. Both airfields were made unserviceable and fires started. 4 B-24's raided But airfield with unobserved results.

The Bogadjim Road area was raided by 11 A-20's. Jap defenses, 6 miles SE of Bogadjim, were strafed by 2 P-40's and 6 P-39's. (Army Brisbane reports the latter raid by 14 P-39's.)

On 31 March Kewak was raided by our attack bombers.

(E) N. E. I.

On 30 March Langgoer airfield, Kai Islands was attacked by 21 B-24's. Over 46 tons of bombs were dropped. 3 of 5 intercepting Jap planes were shot down, another crashed into the sea on its take-off.

The night of 30 March Penfoel airdrome, Koepang, Dutch Timor, was attacked by 7 Dutch B-25's followed by 3 - 4 RAAF Beauforts. Fires were started visible for 80 miles.

The attacks on 30 March on Hollandia as reported in the Naval Summary for 31 March were made by a total of 70 B-24's/ 16,140 20 lb. fragmentation bombs were dropped. Total enemy losses on the ground and in the air totalled 51 destroyed, 7 probably destroyed, 67 damaged. None of our planes was lost.

On the morning of 31 March, Koepang was attacked by 8 Beauforts. 1 500-ton Ak was destroyed, 1 100-foot oil barge was sunk, another barge damaged and 3 small vessels strafed. The evening of the same day, 7 more B-25's bombed Koepang again.

On the morning of 31 March, Hollandia was again heavily raided by B-24's, covered by fighters. Approximately 50 Jap fighters intercepted of which 7 were shot down. We lost 1 P-38.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS reports scoring 1 or 2 torpedo hits in an enemy DD.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 31 March 1944

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burned as soon as it has served its
purpose and that in the meantime it
not be placed in any general file.*

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 29 March at midday (1259L) Truk was heavily bombed by 20 Com-
sopac B-24's from Torokina. Eten Island was hit with from 20 to 30 tons of
bombs. About 200 hits were observed in the target areas with most of them
reported on the runway, parking aprons, hangar and shop areas. Almost nine-
tenths of the field was completely covered with bomb hits. A very large fire
was started E. of the runway, large explosions and fires were seen in the
building and hangar area, and on other parts of the island.

On the W. jetty, a crane was destroyed. Photos taken showed 49
planes (36 fighters, 10 dive-bombers and 4 medium bombers) on the runway, and all
were believed to have been destroyed. 16 were seen to explode.

Our planes encountered A/A fire from many of the islands and
from ships in the harbor. In addition, interception was made by about 90 enemy
fighters which followed our planes 90 miles S. of the target. In the fighting,
incomplete reports claim from 5 to 20 enemy fighters shot down. One B-24
was shot down and a second bomber crash landed at Green Island. 4 men were
killed, and 5 were wounded. Of 8 additional planes landing at Torokina, 7 men
were wounded.

First reports of shipping sighted at the target give the following
3 large AK's, 2 DD's, (possibly 1 CL), 1 AO, about 200 barges and 3 float-
planes.

The night of 29 March, Truk was again attacked by 12 B-24's. At
Koen (2030L), 9 tons of bombs were dropped, starting several fires. At Eten
(2015L) 8 tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results. Intense A/A
fire and searchlights were encountered. One enemy night fighter was seen.

Also the night of 29 March, Woleai was bombed by 2 Catalinas.
Fires and explosions were started.

Ponape was attacked by a U.S. searchplane from a very low level
on 29 March. Fires were started in the town, radio station, and hangar area.
Heavy A/A fire was met.

On 30 March, Ponape was attacked by 3 B-25's and 16 Marine F4U's.
Bombs were dropped in the warehouse area starting large fires. A/A fire was
met but did no damage.

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According to a U.S. Navy communique, strong Pacific Fleet forces attacked Palau at dawn 30 March. Apparently the heavy enemy ship concentration left the area before our strikes. Further details are not available.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 28 March, Namorik and Kili were both covered by reconnaissance parties without meeting opposition. U.S. forces were on Bikini also on 28 March.

On 29 March (0830 - 1124L), at Jaluit, 15 B-25's dropped 15 tons of bombs with unobserved results. Some A/A fire was encountered.

The same day (1120 - 1440L), Taroa was bombed by 11 B-25's which dropped 10 tons of bombs. Large oil fires were started. Medium A/A fire was encountered.

On 29 March (1530L), Mille was bombed by 4 B-25's which dropped 4 tons of bombs on the runway. A second strike was made on Mille at 0747L by 2 B-25's which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs and third strike was made at the same place by 5 Marine F4U's, at 0855L. Results were unobserved in the second and third strikes. No A/A fire was met on any of the three strikes.

On 29 March (1045L), Ujelang 3 Marine SBD's strafed buildings and gun positions. Slight A/A fire was met. The same day (1605L), Jaluit was again attacked by 3 B-25's. 1 3/4 tons of bombs were dropped. No A/A fire was encountered.

On 29 March (0915L), Wotje was bombed by 13 Marine SBD's. 7 tons of bombs were dropped which hit Radar and heavy A/A positions. At the same time 16 Marine F4U's strafed the same targets and A/A positions on adjacent islands. A/A fire damaged 1 F4U.

Another raid was made on Wotje at 1015L by 7 Marine SBD's and 4 F6F's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. A/A fire damaged 1 SBD and injured 1 man.

On 30 March, Wotje was attacked 3 times. 10 Marine SBD's dropped 4 1/2 tons of bombs at 1256L, 16 Marine F4U's strafed the target areas at 1330L and 10 Marine SBD's and 4 F6F's dropped 4-1/2 tons of bombs at 1400 L. All strikes were concentrated on heavy A/A fire and coast defense guns, and the radio station. 2 F4U's were damaged by A/A fire.

The same day, Mille was bombed by 3 B-34's at 0925L and 6 Marine F4U's. 6-3/4 tons of bombs were dropped.

On 30 March, Taroa was bombed by 11 B-25's at 0855L with unobserved results.

Jaluit was heavily hit by 14 SBD's and 19 F6F's on 30 March. 6 tons of bombs were dropped and 2 landing barges were strafed. 1 SBD was damaged by A/A fire.

On 30 March, at Jaluit, a ship was reported in the lagoon.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 28 March, bivouacs and supply dumps in the Maririci River area were attacked by 17 TBF's and 36 SBD's which dropped 28 tons of bombs.

The same day, that area and the perimeter were patrolled by 6 TBF's and 28 SBD's. Enemy installations were bombed.

Also 28 March, along Empress Augusta Bay, possible barge hide-outs were raided by 2 P-38's, which Monoitu was raided by a single B-24. The same day, Numa Numa was attacked by 4 P-40's.

On the afternoon of 28 March, enemy positions near the perimeter were shelled by a U.S. DD.

Also on the afternoon of 28 March, mouths of Reini, Tekessi and Jaba Rivers were shelled by U.S. gunboats (LCI's), which destroyed at least 1 barge.

On the night of 28 - 29 March, Jaba River mouth was strafed by U.S. PT's, which encountered some ineffective shore fire.

On 29 March, on the E. Torokina perimeter at Hill 200, our positions were being consolidated. It was reported that much ordnance equipment was captured here. 202 more enemy dead were counted here. E. of Hill 260 and at other points in this sector, minor contacts with the enemy were reported by Americal Division patrols.

In the sector held by the 129th Infantry, 1400 yards in front of our lines, about 100 enemy troops were contacted. On the E. perimeter, 200 yards outside our lines, enemy troops were contacted by 1 Fiji unit which reported that the enemy seemed to be fighting a rear-guard action. Another Fiji unit went forward along the trail 500 yards.

It was reported that enemy troops on the N. perimeter are possibly withdrawing to Kieta. From 8 March to date, known enemy dead was announced as totalling 4,389.

On the night of 29 - 30 March, the area S. of Tekessi River was bombarded by a U.S. DD. Fires had been observed here. The same night, Mosiga was shelled by a gunboat (LCI).

(B) Carteret Group

On 29 March, the Carteret Islands area was searched by U.S. PT's. No enemy activity or installations were seen. According to natives no enemy troops have been there.

(C) New Ireland

On the morning of 28 March (0700L), about 65 miles E. of Kavieng, a 1900-ton enemy ship was forced to the beach in an attack by our planes, which hit the ship with rockets.

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On the night of 27 - 28 March, Namatanai and Kavieng were raided by Sopac bombers on patrol.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 28 March, about 1 mile NE of Loniu, S. Los Negros, an unreported number of enemy troops were found hiding in caves. At the entrance to the caves, 2 Jap guards were killed.

There was minor patrol action elsewhere; no organized enemy resistance was encountered.

To date, the total number of known enemy dead was set at 2,628. It was estimated that, remaining in the area were about 600 effective enemy troops.

(E) New Britain

On 28 March, Open Bay targets were attacked by 15 Allied Beauforts which dropped 14 tons of bombs on bivouacs. Excellent results were reported. Meanwhile, at Jacquinot Bay, Malmal was hit by 8 Beauforts which dropped over 7 tons of bombs. 1 Beaufort was missing.

On 29 March, Wide Bay villages were strafed by 2 Allied Beaufighters, while Pondo Point area was hit by 2 Allied A-20's. Buildings were set afire. Meanwhile, Waterfall Bay buildings were strafed by 6 Allied Beaufighters, while at Ataliklikun Bay barges and buildings were raided by a single B-25.

Also 29 March, in addition to previous reports (Naval Summary for 30 March 1944), Rabaul Town was also attacked by 11 P-38's which dropped almost 3 tons of bombs. At the same time, Rataval was hit by 12 P-40's and 9 P-39's, which dropped over 5 tons of incendiaries. Large fires were caused.

The same day, Koravia Bay was swept by fighters. 3 barges were set afire, and a gunboat was strafed. 1 P4U was lost. That afternoon, Talili Bay area was raided in rough weather by 3 TBF's.

On 29 March and the preceding day, U.S. Marine patrols from Numanda, Linga Linga, and Iboki Plantation reported killing 6 Jap troops and capturing 48.

(F) New Guinea

On 28 March, N. of Cape Croisilles, the coast was swept by 2 P-39's. A village was strafed.

On the night of 28 - 29 March, about 100 miles NW of Hollandia, an enemy DD was attacked without success by a B-24 on patrol. The same night Hollandia was attacked by 7 B-24's. 5 tons of bombs and some fragmentation bombs were dropped through the clouds. 1 B-24 was reported missing.

On 29 March, the area near Bogadjim Plantation was reached by Australian units coming up the Mintjim River Valley. They reported meeting no enemy troops.

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On 29 March, before noon, the Newak area was again attacked by fighter-escorted bombers. Dagua area was hit by 35 B-25's which dropped 44 tons of bombs on bivouacs and supply dumps. Buildings were wrecked, and many fires caused. Then the Newak area was hit by 33 A-20's which released 29 tons of bombs and strafed supply dumps. Next, off Muschu Island, small craft were attacked by 16 more A-20's. 1 lugger was probably sunk and others damaged. On the homeward trip, coastal villages near Sepik River were raided.

The same day, in Mugil Harbor, 7 enemy barges were strafed by 13 sweeping P-47's.

On 29 - 30 March, Hollandia was again attacked by 4 B-24's. 16 planes were reported wrecked or damaged on the ground.

On the morning of 30 March, Hollandia was heavily attacked by B-24's. Bombs were dropped on a recently-assembled concentration of enemy planes -- destroying 25 and damaging at least 67 of them. Of about 40 intercepting enemy fighters, 10 were shot down, and 7 more probably shot down. We suffered no losses.

(G) N. E. I.

On the night of 28 - 29 March, Babo was raided by 2 Allied PBV's which dropped over 3 tons of bombs. Explosions and large fires were caused.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports.

A U.S. SS reports sinking a 7,000 ton (empty) AK.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 30 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 27 March 8 of 24 U.S. B-24's reached Truk but the area was completely overcast. Planes cruised over the area 45 minutes searching for a break but did not locate one.

On 28 March, Greenwich atoll was bombarded by U.S. surface forces. 572 rounds of 5" ammunition and 430 rounds of 40 MM were expended at Nunakitsu Island, the meteorological station area was blanketed. All but one concrete building were destroyed, it was damaged. Buildings on Uoru and adjacent islands were destroyed. No shipping or aircraft were present. No A/A fire was received, and no positions were seen.

The same day, Satawan airfield was hit by a comsopac search plane. 1 enemy fighter was set afire. 12 enemy fighters, 1 AK and 2 escorts were seen.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 23 March, at Ailinglapalap, 38 Japs were killed, and 3 civilians were taken. We suffered 3 wounded.

On 24 March, at Ebon, 16 Japs were killed when they fired on our troops after showing a flag of truce. 3 were taken prisoner and 3 remain to be mopped up.

On 24 March, Mamu was reconnoitered. 4 Japs including 2 children were taken. The U.S. flag was raised and proclamation posted.

On 28 March at 0935 L, Mille was attacked by 6 Marine F4U's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. No A/A fire was met. The same day at 0930 L, Taroa was bombed by 9 B-25's which dropped 4 1/2 tons of bombs on the runways and barracks. Slight A/A fire damaged one plane.

On 28 March at 1215 L, Jaluit was bombed by 6 B-34's. 8 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped at JABOR, JALUIT and MUDJ ISLANDS. Later (1325 L) JABOR was hit with 4 1/2 tons of bombs from 3 B-34's. In a third raid (1225 L) 8 B-25's dropped 6 tons of bombs at MUDJ. A/A fire was encountered.

On 28 March at 1035 L, Notje was attacked by 10 Marine SBD's and 12 Marine F4U's. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped, and the area was strafed. A second attack at 1100 L was made by 20 Marine F4U's which dropped 10 tons of

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bombs. A third attack (1210 L) made by 8 F6F's and 10 Marine SBD's dropped 4 tons of bombs. 2 planes were slightly damaged by A/A fire but all returned.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 27 March, Tavena River mouth, Empress Augusta Bay, was bombed by a U.S. DD. Installations and supply dumps were hit, and a fire was started at a possible ammunition dump.

Also 27 March, the Torokina perimeter was patrolled by 26 SBD's, which also ranged to the Puriata River, where a bridge was wrecked. Meanwhile, near the Tekocsi River, a fuel dump was attacked by 8 P-40's, while near the Reini River, a supply dump was hit by 6 SBD's and 9 TBF's. Fires were started.

On the night of 27 - 28 March, Moaiga was again shelled by a U.S. gunboat (LGI).

On 28 March, on the E. sector of the Torokina area, large-scale patrol activity was carried out. It was reported that the enemy has been cleared out of Hill 260.

Reports from the Fiji patrol state that many uncounted Jap dead lie in front of the sector held by the 129th Infantry.

There were indications that enemy losses were much more than the number of dead counted - (from 9 - 26 March, counted enemy dead totalled 2,384) - and that in the W. sector, it is possible that the Japs are withdrawing, for close contact with our forces has been broken.

Since the early morning of 24 March, no enemy shells have landed inside our lines.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 26 - 27 March, Namatanai and Kavieng were again raided by 2 Sopac bombers on patrol.

On 27 March, Kavieng was raided by a single B-24 returning from the Truk strike.

(C) St. Matthias Group

On the night of 27 - 28 March, at Mussau Island, a reconnaissance patrol was landed from U.S. PT's which later picked them up.

(D) Admiralties

On 28 March, the tip of Los Negros, Loniu Village was occupied by U.S. forces. Patrols moved E. to Loniu from Lombum Point without meeting any enemy troops.

Meanwhile, our patrols were active S. and SW of Lorengau.

(E) New Britain

On 27 March, it was reported that in the last 10 days, an enemy force of over 3,000 men had evacuated to the E. past Cape Haskins. The enemy troops were said to have been lightly equipped, and moved generally at night.

Also 27 March, Garove Island was hit by 11 more Allied P-40's which dropped almost 3 tons of bombs and strafed A/A gun positions.

Again 27 March, the Rabaul area was heavily attacked. Early in the morning, Rabaul Town, Talili Bay and Vunapope were harassed by 5 B-25's which dropped over 3 tons of bombs, causing many fires. Our bombers were trailed by unidentified planes. A/A fire damaged 1 B-25.

Then Talili Bay area was hit by 21 TBF's and 26 SBD's which dropped 34 tons of bombs on supply dumps and buildings. Fires and explosions were caused, and 16 buildings wrecked.

The same target was attacked by 34 fighter-bombers (P-40's, P-39's, P-38's) which dropped 8 1/2 tons of incendiary bombs, leaving the whole area afire. Smoke columns rose 2,000 feet in the air. Intense A/A fire was met. Later photos of this area showed 23 buildings wrecked and 12 still on fire.

Then Tawui Point was hit by 10 TBF's and 17 SBD's. 18 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires were caused.

At 1114 L, Vunapope was attacked by 23 B-25's which dropped 33 tons of bombs on supply dumps. Smoke from fires could be seen 75 miles away. Intense A/A fire damaged 8 B-25's.

Also 27 March, the N. coast of New Britain from Cape Lambert to Ataliklikun Bay was raided by 2 B-25's.

On 28 March, Pondo Point was attacked by 8 Allied P-40's which strafed buildings and a barge, and also ranged along the N. coast of New Britain, hunting for targets of opportunity.

The same day, the aerial attacks on Rabaul continued. Early in the morning, the area was harassed by 8 Marine B-25's which dropped 5 1/2 tons of bombs. Unidentified planes trailed some of the B-25's.

At 1010 L, Lakunai was hit by 24 TBF's and 36 SBD's. 40 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway and gun positions. A/A fire damaged 2 planes.

At 1016 L, Tobera was hit by 24 B-25's which dropped 35 1/2 tons of bombs on the runway.

(F) New Guinea

Observation on 27 March of But and Dagus airfields revealed 6 bombers and 10 fighters present.

On 27 March, in addition to previous reports (Naval Guntery for 29 March 1944), in the Newak area, Cape Hem was attacked by 23 more A-20's escorted by fighters which dropped over 21 tons of bombs and expended 24,600 rounds of m/g in strafing. On the homeward trip, the coast at ULIAN and PALAS

Point was strafed by the fighters, which set a truck on fire.

Meanwhile, 1 mile S. of Kaliko, E. of Bogadjim, enemy defense positions were attacked by 16 P-39's which dropped almost 4 tons of bombs and strafed with 37 MM and m/g. The target was reported covered, with direct hits scored.

On 28 March, Karkar Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol. On the morning of 28 March, in the Broken Water Bay area, a B-25 on patrol met 5 Jap fighters, which intercepted weakly.

Before dawn on 28 March, Hollandia was raided in spite of weather conditions by 4 B-24's. Of the 3 other B-24's which started out, 1 hit Karkar Island and the other 2 jettisoned their load because of the weather.

Also 28 March, E. of Bogadjim, the coastline to Gunbe River was reported free of the enemy by a U.S. patrol from Yalau which crossed the Kambara River.

(G) N. E. I.

On 25 March, off N. coast of Sumatra, Iassihing Bay, M. Lineulou Island, was attacked by 2 India-based B-24's which dropped bombs on enemy installations. 2 other B-24's were over the area on a reconnaissance mission.

On the night of 27 - 28 March, Babo was raided by 2 U.S. Navy PBV's which dropped 3 1/2 tons of bombs on the runway. Several fires and a large explosion were caused.

On 28 March at midday, Penfoei airfield, Timor Island, was attacked by 12 B-24's which dropped over 19 tons of bombs. Many fires were started. Meanwhile, Roti Island was raided by 6 Allied long-range fighters (B-24's) which strafed buildings. Offshore, 9 praus were damaged by strafing at very low-level. 1 fighter was lost when it struck the mast of a prau.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported 2 probable hits on an enemy battleship. A second SS has reported damaging a large enemy AO.

A. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 29 March 1944

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burned as soon as it has served its
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not be placed in any general file.*

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 26 March, Pulusuk Island, GN of Truk, was heavily bombed with unobserved results by 22 U.S. B-24's. The planes were scheduled to hit Truk but bad weather interfered.

The same night, at Palau, the first reconnaissance by U.S. planes disclosed more than 300,000 tons of enemy shipping in Malakal Harbor.

On the morning of 27 March at 0815 L, Ponape was attacked by 12 U.S. B-25's and 18 fighters (F4U's). 12 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield installations and town with good results. 15 enemy fighters intercepted. 9 were shot down and 3 were probably shot down. Intense A/A fire was met. 1 medium bomber was lost and 1 was damaged. A rescue attempt was driven off by enemy fighters, and a second found no survivors.

On 28 March, Pukin Island was bombed by a U.S. search plane. 2 tons of bombs were dropped on buildings. The same day at Kusaie, a U.S. search plane was damaged by A/A fire.

On 28 - 29 March at 0100 K, Woleai was bombed by 2 U.S. Catalinas. 3 tons of bombs and incendiaries were dropped near the jetty, across the airstrip, and along the side of the strip. 2 large fires and explosions were started and when the planes left, 1 hour later, explosions were continuing. No searchlights were encountered, but intense A/A fire was met from positions on the island and from approximately 15 boats in the lagoon.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 27 March at 0900 L, Jaluit was hit by 12 B-25's. 9 tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results because of overcast.

Midday the same day at 1130 L, Taroa was hit by 9 tons of bombs from 6 B-34's.

On 27 March, Kotje was heavily hit by 20 Marine SBD's, 16 F4U's, and 7 PCF's. The area was both bombed and strafed. 1 F4U was lost, but the pilot was rescued.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 25 March, Torokina perimeter gun positions were hit by 12 TBF's and 40 SBD's. (See Daily Summary for 28 March 1944). During the day, there was no enemy artillery fire.

Early 26 March, near Buka, a large enemy barge was sunk by U.S. PT's, which sustained slight damage from shore fire. The same day, targets around the Torokina perimeter were attacked by 4 TBF's and 26 SBD's which also spotted targets for our artillery and ships. Meanwhile, near the Tekessi River, 3 enemy pillboxes were destroyed in an attack by 4 P-39's and 12 P-40's, while at the Maririci River, supply dumps were hit by 12 TBF's and 20 SBD's. Fires were started. Also 26 March, Konaitu was raided by 3 B-24's and 4 P-39's. Fires were started.

On the night of 26 - 27 March, Purata and Sana River mouths were shelled by U.S. LCT's.

On 27 March, on the front held by the 129th Infantry, minor patrol contacts were reported. On the E. perimeter, near Kavavia, our patrols met an enemy force (details were not reported).

Minor patrol activity was reported on other sectors.

(B) New Ireland

Later details of the dive-bomber attack on Kavieng on 26 March, stated that 12 SBD's participated. 1 was reported missing. The airfield remained serviceable, however, with 3 planes present.

On the E. coast of New Ireland, 2 enemy troop-carrying trucks were strafed by fighters on 25 March.

On the night of 25 - 26 March, Kavieng and Namatanai were each raided by a bomber on patrol.

On 26 March at midday, Kavieng airfield was attacked by 22 TBF's and 37 SBD's. 60 tons of bombs were dropped. A/L gun positions were also hit. Later photos showed both Kavieng and Panapai unserviceable, with 3 planes at the former.

Early the morning of 27 March, Tingwon Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol. Buildings were hit.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 26 March on the S. coast of Manus Island, enemy troops were attacked by 8 A-20's, aiding our ground forces. 12 tons of bombs were dropped, and 13,000 rounds of m/c expended in strafing.

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Meanwhile, a point 800 yards NE of Mossun was reached by our ground forces, which captured strong Jap positions on the way.

On Los Negros, an advance westward of 500 yards was made. Slight resistance was encountered. About 425 enemy troops were encircled.

On 27 March, in the Admiralties area, the total of enemy dead was set at 2,594. Remaining in the area were about 890 enemy troops, it was estimated. Our patrols were active during the day.

(L) New Britain

On 25 March, Sanremo Plantation, S. Stettin Bay, was reached by U.S. Marine patrols from Talusea. 15 Japs were killed. Meanwhile, in Riebeck Bay, in the Geru area, 28 Japs were captured by a U.S. Marine patrol from Linga - Linga. The same day, NE of Arawe, on the track N. of Lamogai, over 100 enemy dead were found by a U.S. patrol.

On 25 March, in the Open Bay area, 1 barge was set afire and another damaged by 3 Allied P-40's, which also strafed 2 buildings. The Cape Hoskins area was hit by 25 more Allied P-40's which dropped over 6 tons of bombs and strafed.

Later details of the attack on 25 March on Rabaul area state that Rabaul Town was hit by 24 TRF's and 30 EBD's. 31 tons of bombs were dropped. Tawui Point was hit by 12 EBD's. (Daily Summary 28 March, 1944).

On the night of 25 - 26 March, Rabaul area was raided by 7 B-25's. Many fires were started.

On 26 March, Cape Dampier area was raided by 2 Allied Beau-fighters, while Bangula Bay area was raided by 2 Allied A-20's. The same day, Pondo Point villages were attacked by 21 Allied P-40's, which expended 15,000 rounds of m/g.

Meanwhile, targets NE of Bangula Bay, from Humnook Head to Cape Koas, were strafed by 8 Allied P-40's. On 26 March, the Rabaul area was attacked again. Vunakanau was hit at 1008 L by 23 B-25's which dropped 33 tons of bombs on the runway. A/A fire damaged 9 planes. Talili Bay, NE of Rabaul Town, was attacked by 37 P-40's which dropped bombs on supply dumps. Smoke covered the area, and at least 18 buildings were wrecked. Later photos of all 6 airfields showed only 3 planes present.

Also 26 March, Rabaul was raided by a single B-24.

On the afternoon of 26 March, Vunapope was hit by EBD. Details were not reported. The same day, Adler Bay radar station was attacked by 2 B-25's. A direct hit was scored, possibly destroying the radar installation. A barge in Ataliklikun Bay was also hit with 75 MK shells by these planes.

Also 26 March, natives captured 15 enemy troops on Poi Island, NE of Linga Linga, and turned them over to U.S. Marines.

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The same day, off the S. coast of New Britain, our PT's were attacked without success by an enemy floatplane.

Early the morning of 27 March, in Open Bay, 2 barges were sunk by a B-24 on patrol.

Later 27 March, Open Bay villages were strafed by 2 A-20's and 2 Allied Beaufighters. 1 barge and 2 small craft were sunk. The same day, villages near Jacquinot Bay were strafed by 2 Allied Beaufighters, while Garova Island was raided by 2 Allied P-40's which bombed gun positions.

(E) New Guinea

On 24 March, Alexishafen was strafed by 15 P-39's. Buildings were set on fire, and a launch and barge damaged.

On 25 March, in addition to previous reports, the Nowak area was attacked by 23 more A-20's. Fires were started, and the radio station was hit. Almost 18 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed with 25,300 rounds of m/g.

On 26 March, Uligan Harbor was raided by a B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped on gun positions. The same day, Aitape was attacked by 18 A-20's. Over 24 tons of bombs were dropped at low-level, and 21,000 rounds of m/g expended. 1 A-20 was lost.

Also 26 March, Nowak was hit by 35 B-25's and 34 B-24's, escorted by fighters. 6 guns were put out of action, and large fires were started. There was no enemy air interception, and only slight A/A fire was met. In the attack on shipping near Nowak, 17 B-25's participated.

The same day, Palas Point, S. of Bunabun, was strafed by 3 P-39's, while an enemy camp located on the Boradjim Road and gun positions N. of Daumoina were hit by 16 P-39's.

On 27 March, in the Mintjim Valley, Australian patrols were reported active. Details were not reported.

Early the morning of 27 March, 40 miles N. of Aitape, a gunboat was attacked by B-24's on patrol. Results were not reported. Also, Manam Island area was raided. 2 barges were sunk, and buildings were hit by B-24's on patrol.

The same day, the Nowak area was attacked again in spite of bad weather. Kairiru Island was hit by 6 B-25's and 12 B-24's escorted by fighters. A jetty was wrecked, bivouacs were bombed, and large fires started. Mom Point was attacked by 16 A-20's which caused severe damage to a lugger and wrecked houses and bridges. About 74 tons of bombs were dropped, and 19,400 rounds of m/g expended in strafing. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

Also 27 March, the Mansa Bay area was again attacked. Iwar and Nubia airfields were attacked by 24 B-25's and 14 B-24's which dropped 84 tons

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of bombs. 3 gun positions were hit, and fires in fuel dumps started.

The same day, Uligan Harbor was hit by 5 B-24's which dropped 20 tons of bombs. 2 bridges and huts were wrecked. Moderately-intense A/A fire was encountered.

Also 27 March, N. of Bongu Plantation, near Bogadjim, supply dumps were attacked by 16 P-39's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the targets strafed with 37 mm and m/g fire. A large explosion was caused.

A patrol from a PT was landed on Long Island on 27 March.

(F) N. E. I.

Early the morning of 27 March, Kaimana was raided by 2 U.S. Navy PRY's which dropped 3 tons of bombs on the waterfront area. Fires were started. In addition, an unidentified AK offshore was attacked and set afire.

The same morning, Langgoer and Paan were raided by a 3rd U.S. Navy PRY. 2 tons of bombs were dropped.

Also the morning of 27 March, in S. Banda Sea, E. of Babar Island, a small AK was attacked without success by a B-24 on patrol.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported damaging an enemy DD.

W. L. Dalos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 28 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 25 March at Ponape a U.S. search plane sank 2 small enemy
AK's and strafed the new airfield.

On the morning of 26 March at 0945 L, Ponape was attacked by
3 B-25's which dropped fragmentation bombs on barracks and the new airfield,
which is not operative. 15 enemy fighters intercepted our planes -- 4 were
shot down and another probably shot down. Damage was caused to 1 B-25.

At 1005 L, 26 March, the same target was attacked by 10 more
B-25's covered by 16 Marine SBD's. Fragmentation and incendiary bombs were
dropped on buildings and on the old airfield, causing fires. The targets
were strafed. Intense but inaccurate A/A fire was encountered, but all our
planes returned safely.

Pingelap and Ant Islands were both bombed by U.S. search planes
on 26 March. The radio station area was the target at Pingelap, and buildings
were hit on Ant Island.

On 27 March both Kusaie and Pingelap were attacked by U.S.
search planes.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 26 March at 1007 L, Jaloslap atoll was attacked by 3 B-25's
which dropped 3 tons of bombs and strafed with 75 MM. The same day at 1105 L,
Tarao was hit by 10 B-25's, which dumped 10 tons of bombs on the runway.
Moderately-intense but inaccurate A/A fire was met.

Also 26 March at 1124 L, Jaluit was attacked by 6 B-24's which
dropped 9 tons of bombs and strafed Jabor, Enybor and Enidj. Heavy explosions
were caused. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met over Enidj.

The afternoon of 26 March at 1400 L, Totje was hit by 13 Marine
SBD's covered by 12 Marine F4U's. Over 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped and
the targets strafed. 3 fires were started. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire
was encountered. Also the same day Mille was raided by a single B-25, which
dropped 1 ton of bombs. Moderately-intense A/A fire was met.

On 26 March, Ujelang atoll was strafed by B-25's and F4U's
returning from the Ponape strike. A/B fire was met, but no enemy
were seen.

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All planes on all strikes returned safely.

On 27 March, at Ujelang, a U.S. search plane strafed a small boat in the lagoon.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 25 March, in the Mibo River area, bivouacs and a bridge were bombed by 10 P-40's and 14 P-39's.

On the afternoon of 25 March, enemy gun positions around the Torokina perimeter were shelled by U.S. DL's and bombed by an unreported number of TBF's and SBD's.

Correction to Daily Summary for 27 March, 1944 - the Fiji patrol captured a 77 MM field gun - (not 177 MM, as reported).

On the night of 25 - 26 March, Jaba River mouth was shelled by LCI's aided by a spotting plane. 5 barges were flushed - 1 was sunk, another probably sunk, and the other 3 driven ashore. Then the beached barges were shelled by a U.S. DD.

On 26 March, E. of the Torokina perimeter, in the Kavavia area, increased activity was reported.

In the sector held by the 148th Infantry, some increased patrol activity was reported.

In front of the 129th Infantry, the enemy was still building up concentrations. There was little activity on other sectors.

Since 9 March to date, a total of 2,384 enemy dead have been counted.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 24 - 25 March, Kavieng was raided by a Sopac bomber on patrol. 2 tons of bombs were dropped on the revetment area.

On the morning of 25 March, Kavieng was attacked by U.S. Navy dive-bombers. The runway, which had been repaired, was hit.

The radar station at Cape St. George was strafed by a B-25 on 25 March.

(C) Admiralties

On 26 March, Pityilu Island was again shelled by U.S. DL's. Enemy gun positions were hit.

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(D) New Britain

On 25 March, the aerial pounding of Rabaul continued. At 1111 L, NW of Rabaul, Rataval was attacked by 23 B-25's which dropped over 20 tons of bombs on supply dumps. Smoke columns - some 7,500 ft. high -- hung over the area. 14 buildings were wrecked. A/A fire damaged 3 planes.

Around the shores of Keravia Bay, fuel supplies were hit by 34 fighter-bombers, which released over 8 tons of bombs. A large fire was started.

Early the morning of 25 March, Rabaul Town and Rapopo were attacked by 7 B-25's. At Rapopo, fires were started.

Also the morning of 25 March, NE part of Rabaul Town was hit by an unreported number of fighter-escorted TBF's and SBD's which wrecked 30 buildings, started fires and bombed gun positions - scoring a direct hit on 1. 1 of our TBF's was shot down by A/A, and 1 SBD, 1 TBF and 1 fighter damaged.

On the afternoon of 25 March, at Tawui Point, an ammunition dump was attacked by SBD's. The same day, at Kassava Bay, an enemy dam and 2 barges were destroyed in an attack by 2 B-34's.

Also 25 March, Adler Bay was raided by a B-25, which wrecked the radar shack.

(E) New Guinea

On the night of 25 - 26 March, at Karkar Island, enemy positions were strafed by U.S. PT's.

J. I. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 27 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 23 March near Greenwich Island, an enemy barber was destroyed by a U.S. search plane.

On 25 March at 1133 L, Ponape was again bombed. 13 B-25's dropped 7 tons of bombs and strafed buildings and the air strip.

Ant Island was attacked 25 March by the same planes that raided Ponape. A building was destroyed. Some A/A fire was met.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 25 March at 1245 L, Wotje was attacked by 13 Marine SBD's and 12 F4U's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped and the area was strafed. A direct hit was made on the water distillation plant.

The same day at 1300 L, Jaluit was hit by 12 B-25's which dropped 10 tons of bombs. A/A fire damaged 1 plane slightly.

Malaelap atoll was attacked by 4 PV's on 25 March at 1440 L. 6 tons of bombs were released.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 24 March, enemy gun positions around the Torokina perimeter particularly in the Laruma River area, were hit by 25 TBF's and 64 SBD's, which also attacked supply dumps near the Iavona River. The same day, Matchin Bay targets were strafed by 4 P-40's.

Also 24 March, in the Puriata and Tekessi Rivers area, enemy gun positions were harassed by our M's and PT's.

On 25 March, on the E. sector of the perimeter, mopping-up operations were continuing. Our positions elsewhere remained unchanged.

On the N. perimeter outside our lines, a Fiji patrol reported killing 15 enemy troops, and find 30 more enemy dead. A 177 PT field gun was

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captured, and m/g positions destroyed.

Since 9 March to date, a total of 2,186 enemy troops have been killed. On the Choiseul Bay area, about 200 enemy troops are still present, it was estimated.

On the night of 25 - 26 March, Mosiga was shelled by a LCI and bombed by a PSY.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 23 - 24 March, Kavieng and Namatanai were raided again by 2 bombers which dropped 2 tons of bombs on each target.

On 24 March, between E. Cape and Danfu Point many enemy A/A gun positions camouflaged as haystacks directed intense fire at 2 of our planes over the area.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 25 March, Pityilu Island was strafed by a single medium bomber (B-25).

On 25 March, near Rossum, enemy positions were circled from the west and east by U.S. patrols, while the enemy moved back to a point 200 yards S. of Rossum in the face of pressure by another unit.

Meanwhile, 2400 yards E. of Lombrum Point, the east-west line was occupied by our troops, which also hold a line 2 miles N. of Papitalai.

On 25 March, S. coast of Los Negros, Matuan and Loniu villages were bombarded by U.S. DD's. At Rambutyo Island, a village was also shelled by U.S. DD's.

Also 25 March, Mdrova and Amor Islands were occupied by U.S. patrols, while patrols landed from IT's at Tong Island, N. of Los Negros, and Gali Bay, N. coast of Manus, met no enemy troops.

(D) New Britain

On 24 March, S. of Bangula Bay, Biella Plantation and Cogosi village were attacked by 6 Allied A-24's. Almost 4 tons of bombs were dropped. Meanwhile, Cogosi and Stockholm Plantation, near Open Bay, were strafed by 2 Allied B-24's, which also sank 2 barges.

The same day, at Wide Bay, jetties and a bridge were bombed and strafed by 2 Allied B-24's.

Also 24 March, at Garove Island, bivouacs and gun positions were hit by 23 Allied P-40's which dropped 5 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed. The same day attacks in Rabaul area continued.

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At noon, 24 March, Yunakenu was hit by 21 TBF's and 49 ORD's which dropped 28 tons of bombs. A/A gun positions and runway were hit. A/A fire damaged 5 planes. The same target was then raided by 3 B-25's. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped.

Tobora was attacked 24 March by 21 B-25's which dropped 25 tons of bombs on revetments and the runway. At the same time, Yunapope was attacked by 37 P-40's, P-39's, and P-38's. 9 tons of bombs were dropped. Many fires were started.

Rapopo and Tobora were then strafed at tree top level by an unreported number of fighters, which ranged to the New Ireland coast, where a small barge was sunk.

On 25 March, Open Bay targets were strafed by 2 Allied Bomber-fighters, which sank a barge, while the Cogosi-Bialla area was hit by 7 A-20's.

On the morning of 25 March, at Cape Hoskins, enemy headquarters area was attacked by 10 Allied P-40's which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed.

Early the morning of 25 March, off Garove Island, an enemy barge was sunk by U.S. PT's. 35 enemy troops were killed, and 4 taken prisoner. Meanwhile, N. of Bangula Bay, another large enemy barge was sunk by U.S. PT's.

On 25 March, in Otettin Bay, Numundo Plantation was reached by U.S. Marine forces, while a patrol made a circling movement around Willaumez Peninsula without meeting any enemy troops. Other Marine units moved to Linga Linga and to the Kulu River.

(E) New Guinea

Later reports of a U.S. patrol which on 23 March reached Boradim Plantation (Daily Summary for 25 March 1944) state that it was an amphibious patrol which later withdrew.

On the morning of 25 March, the Boram - Lewak area was again attacked by G-PA bombers and fighters. The area was first swept by 17 P-38's. Then 16 A-20's, 37 B-25's and 36 B-24's swept in, dropping 211 tons of bombs and expending over 20,000 rounds of m/c. 3 enemy planes on the ground were wrecked, and 4 more damaged. Large fires and explosions in bivouac and supply areas were caused. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

The same morning, Hansa Bay was raided by a single B-24.

Also the morning of 25 March, Bunabun Harbor was attacked by 18 A-20's which dropped over 13 tons of bombs and strafed with 23,000 rounds of .50 calibre. Fires were caused.

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(F) M. E. I.

On the afternoon of 25 March, SW coast of Dutch New Guinea, Utarom was raided by 3 B-24's which dropped 3 tons of bombs on the airfield. Babo airfield was also raided by 3 other B-24's which dropped 3 tons of bombs.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking an enemy LD and a medium AK. In addition, the SS probably sank 2 large AK's and damaged an unidentified vessel.

M. J. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 26 March 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

A. Kuril Islands

The night of 25 - 26 March, E. Shikashu was raided by a single PV on an armed reconnaissance mission. A solid overcast was over the target. Of the 5 PV's which set out on this mission, 2 turned back, 1 crashed after taking off, and 1 did not return.

The same night, (2130 - 0055 K), Paramushiru and Onkotan were raided by 3 B-24's. Bombs were dropped on Kashimabara, Kurabuzaki and Onkotan. Results were not observed. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

On 22 March, Ant Islands (W. of Ponape) were attacked for the first time by a bomber on patrol. The radio station was destroyed.

The afternoon of the following day at 1630 L, Ponape was hit by 9 B-25's which dropped 8½ tons of bombs on shops and barracks.

At 1131 L, 24 March, Ponape was attacked by 7 B-25's. The barracks here received 6 tons of bombs.

The same day, at 1415 L, Ant Islands were raided by 3 B-25's which dropped 3 tons of bombs.

B. Wake Island

The morning of 24 March at 1000 L, Wake Island was attacked by 13 B-24's, which hit fuel stores and barracks with 49½ tons of bombs. Intense A/A fire was encountered, causing damage to 5 bombers, and killing 1 man.

C. Marshall Islands

On the morning of 24 March, at 0915 L, Motje was raided by a single B-24. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. At the same time, the Motje radio station was struck by 13 Marine SB2C's covered by 12 Marine P4U's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed.

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The same day at 1326 L, Bougelep was raided by another B-24, which dropped 2 tons of bombs.

Also on 24 March at 0900 L, Taroa was attacked by 12 B-25's, which dropped 8 tons of bombs. These bombers returned to their base, reloaded, and hit Jaluit at 1300 L, dropping 8 1/2 tons of bombs. Jaluit was also attacked at 1146 L by 12 B-34's which dropped 17 tons of bombs. The radio station at Aineran Island was hit twice.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 23 March, Kahili was attacked by 7 B-24's. Results were not observed. Weather conditions prevented these planes from reaching their primary target, the Rabaul area.

The same day, Buika was struck by 24 B-25's - again as an alternative to the Rabaul area. The runway, revetments and town were bombed. The same target was also hit by a single B-24.

Also 23 March, in the Shortlands, Komaliai Point was attacked by 14 P-38's. Over Ballale, some A/A fire was encountered.

Also the same day, enemy gun positions around the Torokina perimeter were attacked by 10 SBD's, while S of Jaba River mouth, Napuka was hit by 6 TBF's.

The following day, 24 March, the Torokina area was again shelled by enemy artillery, which had not landed any shells within our perimeter since Sunday, 19 March. No damage was caused, but several men were wounded.

The same day, on the N. and N.E. perimeters, long-range patrolling activity was being carried on by units of the Americal Division. On the N. perimeter, the enemy attacked, broke through our lines slightly, and was then repulsed and our lines entirely restored. Inside our wire were about 300 enemy dead. Further attacks were expected in this sector. On the N.E. and E. perimeters, minor patrol contacts were reported.

B. New Britain

The night of 22 - 23 March, the Rabaul area was raided in individual attacks by 4 B-25's.

On 23 March, it was reported that an enemy force of about 200 men had left Cape Hookins and was evacuating to the N.

The same day, N. of Bangula Bay, an enemy barge hideout at Lapoi

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and trails and bivouacs in the Butiolo area were attacked by 24 Allied B-40's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped, the targets were strafed, and huts were set afire.

Also on 23 March, in spite of rough weather, the Rabaul area was again attacked. At 1200 L, H.H. of Rabaul, supply dumps at Tatalov were hit by 15 B-24's which dropped 19 tons of bombs. Buildings were hit, and 4 fires started. 4 bombers were damaged by intense A/A fire.

Also the same day, Koravia Bay was swept by 12 B-40's and some other fighters, including F4U's. Shipping was strafed. We lost 1 F4U.

Photos of Rabaul airfields, 24 March, showed Rapopo, Lalunai, 2 Vunakanau strips and Koravat all unserviceable. At Lalunai were 3 planes; at Vunakanau, 2; none at the others. At Keravia Bay, Simpson Harbor and off Vunapope were a total of 253 barges.

C. New Ireland

The night of 22 - 23 March, Namatanai and Kavieng were raided by 2 bombers on patrol. 2 tons of bombs were dropped on each target.

Photos of New Ireland airfields, 24 March, showed Panapai, Dorpop and Namatanai all unserviceable, and without any planes. Kavieng, however, had 3 planes and was serviceable.

D. Admiralty Islands

On 24 March, S. of Lorengau, Jap positions constructed in depth 100 yards from Rossum were met by units of the 7th and 3th Regiments of the 1st Cavalry Division. Neumhilo, 13 miles S.W. of Lorengau, Bruno has been reached by our patrols. Other patrols, going by way of Saleisia Plantation, reached Drama.

About 1 1/2 - 2 miles S.W. of Papitalai Mission, enemy troops on high ground have been surrounded by units of the 5th and 12th Regiments.

The total of known enemy dead was set at 2,323. About 1,034 effective enemy troops still remain, it was estimated.

Also 24 March, H.H. Secondlor Harbor, Pityilu Island was bombarded by U.S. DD's. A/A gun emplacements, houses, hideouts for snipers, gasoline stores and 3 launches were destroyed.

E. New Guinea

On 24 March, in the Bogadjin area, there was routine patrol activity. Details were not reported.

The same day, 100 miles N. of Mowak, a direct hit was scored on

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an enemy mine sweeper by a B-24 on patrol. The vessel was stopped and a large explosion caused.

The same day, off Alcedisshafen, Sak Island was hit by a B-24 on patrol. 3 tons of bombs were dropped, and buildings wrecked. Alcedisshafen Town was also raided; 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

Weather conditions on 24 March prevented major strikes.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 25 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 23 March, a U.S. search plane shot down a Jap medium bomber 15 miles W. of Kapingamarangi Island.

(B) Marshall Islands

On the morning of 23 March at 0905 L, Kotje was bombed by 12 U.S. Navy F6F's and 13 Marine SB2C's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped. 1 LBD was slightly damaged by A/A fire.

The same day at 1210 L, Taroa was bombed with 8 tons of bombs from 7 B-34's. The radio station, gun positions, and barracks were hit. Fires were started. A/A fire was encountered.

On 23 March (0955 - 1410 L) Enidj (Jalut) was hit with 7 tons of bombs from 12 B-25's. A large explosion was noted. Some A/A fire was encountered.

The same day (0640 L and 1230 L) a total of 16 F4U's and 4 B-25's sorties were over Mille. 11 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. A fire was started. For the third day straight no A/A fire was met.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(.) Solomon Islands

On 22 March, enemy supply dumps in the Laruma River area were attacked by 22 TBF's and 34 fighter-bombers (P-40's, P-38's, P-38's). Fires were started. The same day, enemy gun positions around the Torokina perimeter were hit by 24 LBD's, while the Meini River area was bombed by 12 TBF's.

Also 22 March, Monoitu Mission was raided by 3 B-24's, while Duka was raided by a single B-24. The same day, as an alternative to Rabaul, Kara was attacked by 3 B-24's while Kahili was hit by 6 B-24's. The runways and revetment areas were hit. Along the E. coast of Isuro Island, about 50 small barges were reported.

Early the morning of 23 March, off the mouth of the Tokessi River,

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enemy shore guns fired on our PT's. These gun positions were later shelled by a U.S. DD. Early the same morning, Purata River area was strafed by our PT's. 5" enemy shore guns here returned the fire.

On 23 March, on the E. Iorokina perimeter, a considerable enemy force was met by U.S. patrols. Details were not reported. Another large enemy force was indicated on the W. perimeter. A large number of the enemy was encountered off the N. perimeter by a Fiji unit engaged in a reconnaissance in force. On the E. perimeter, extensive patrolling continued.

On 23 March it was reported that a major enemy attack on 24 March was expected on the NE or N. perimeters, or both.

Since the morning of 19 March, there has been no enemy shelling within our perimeter.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 21 - 22 March, Kavieng was raided by a Sopac bomber on patrol. 2 tons of bombs were dropped.

(C) St. Matthias Group

On the night of 22 - 23 March, 3 enemy planes were over Emirau Island, but did not drop any bombs.

On 23 March at midday, Cleave Island, S. of Mussau, and Nai Plantation, SE Mussau Island, were bombarded by U.S. DD's. About 100 drums of gasoline were destroyed.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 23 March, S. of Lorengau, enemy resistance continued. Meanwhile, on Los Negros, all enemy troops have been surrounded by units of the 1st Cavalry Brigade.

On 23 March, SE of Manus Island, patrols from U.S. PT's were landed on Ndova and Rambutyo Islands. (Further details were not reported).

(E) New Britain

On the night of 21 - 22 March, Rabaul Town, Rapopo, Vunapopo and Lakunai were raided in individual attacks by 5 B-25's.

On the morning of 22 March the daily aerial blows at Rabaul continued. Vunakanau was attacked by 46 SBD's and 24 TBF's the same day. Fires were started after the runway and gun positions were bombed. 6 SBD's and 5 TBF's were damaged by A/I fire.

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Lakunai was then hit at 1145 L by 23 B-25's which dropped 34 tons of bombs on the runway and dispersal area. 2 enemy planes on the ground were probably set afire. Intense A/A fire damaged 4 bombers.

At 1157 L, 22 March Tobera was bombed through the clouds by 10 B-24's. Results were not observed. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met. Meanwhile, Rabaul town was raided by a single B-24. Keravia Bay was swept by our planes which strafed installations and a small AK.

On 23 March, the Pondo Point area was raided by 2 strafing Allied Beaufighters while villages and barges in the Bangula Bay area were hit by 5 strafing Allied P-40's.

(F) New Guinea

On 22 March, at Tadjil, later reports state that 2 enemy planes were destroyed. The same day, off Aitape, Meleo Island was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

Also 22 March, Yoschan Village on the Sepik River was again raided by 2 B-25's which dropped almost 1 ton of bombs and strafed. The same day, at Kuba, a single enemy plane on the ground was strafed by 8 P-47's, which also moved down the coast to strafe Uligan and Alexishafen.

Meanwhile, along the Bogadjim Road, enemy positions were hit by 16 P-39's which dropped 3 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed with 37 mm and 1 1/2". Guns were put out of action. Moderately-intense and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

On 23 March, Bogadjim Plantation was reached by a U.S. patrol which reported meeting no enemy troops.

Early the morning of 23 March, SE of Newak, off Lightingale Bay, a small coastal vessel capsized after an attack by a B-24 on patrol. 3 other small coastal vessels in the same area were also attacked, after which Uligan was raided, with 1 ton of bombs dropped.

On the morning of 23 March, the Newak area was struck again, although a solid overcast prevented a heavier attack. Dagua airfield was hit by 21 B-25's, while the barge depot at Kairiru was hit by 6 B-25's. 2 barges were probably sunk. About 32 tons of bombs were dropped. There was no enemy air interception, and we suffered no losses. In this area, a total of 44 heavy A/A gun positions have been smashed since 11 March.

On the morning of 23 March, Alexishafen was raided by 3 B-25's which dropped over 3 tons of bombs.

Also the morning of 23 March, Hansa Bay area was heavily attacked by 6 B-25's and 44 B-24's. A total of 174 tons of bombs was dropped on A/A gun positions, at least 2 of which were silenced. Fires were started. Moderately intense and some accurate A/A fire was encountered, but all of our planes returned safely. There was no enemy air interception.

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(G) Ne E. I.

On 23 March, Babo airfield was attacked by 5 B-24's which dropped 5 tons of bombs. Results were obscured by clouds. About 12 miles W. of Babo, 1 new strip and possibly a second were observed under construction.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported damaging an enemy AS, a DD and 2 large merchant vessels (probably AO's).

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 24 March 1944

I. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

Enemy positions in the Empress Augusta Bay area were bombarded by an Allied DE during the night of 20 March. Good results were reported.

Enemy positions outside the Torokina perimeter were bombed 21 March by 20 SBH's, 18 TRF's, 3 B-24's and fighters. An ammunition dump exploded. 14 P-39's bombed the Muma Muma area with unobserved results.

A bridge S. of Meivo was bombed by 4 P-40's with unobserved results on 21 March. Monoitu was bombed by 3 B-24's. 5 tons of bombs were dropped and a fire was started.

On 22 March, on the Torokina perimeter, minor patrol clashes were reported. No large enemy forces were within 1,500 yards of the perimeter, although it has been indicated the enemy is gathering strength. 33 enemy troops were killed during the day.

(B) St. Matthias Group

On 21 March the occupation of Emirau Island was reported completed by evening. No enemy activity was noted.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 22 March enemy resistance is continuing on St. Los Negros Island, but enemy positions have been encircled in that area. In the Lorengau area, the enemy continues sniping and resistance from prepared defenses. Enemy dead in the Admiralties are estimated more than 2800, with an estimated 1100 effectives remaining.

(D) New Britain

On 20 March in the Cape Hoskins area, 2.0 Japs were reported moving eastward.

On 21 March Lakunai was bombed at 1128 L by 24 B-25's which dropped 18 tons of 100-pound bombs. 4 planes were damaged by A/A fire. Soon after (1138 L), 22 B-24's bombed Vunikanau with 29 tons of 100-pound

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bombs. 10 planes were damaged by A/A fire. Lakunai was again attacked at 1130 L by 8 P-38's, 11 P-39's and 12 P-40's which dropped 7 3/4 tons of bombs. 1 P-39 was shot down by A/A fire. 37 SBD's and 18 TBF's dropped 36 tons of bombs across the runway at Vunakanau. 3 SBD's and 4 TBF's were damaged by A/A.

Photos of Rabaul airfields showed only 9 planes (6 fighters, 1 medium bomber and 2 dive bomber). At the same time, Koravut, Rapopo and Tobura were reported unserviceable. 1 strip was serviceable at Vunakanau, and Lakunai was cloud-covered but probably not serviceable.

Enemy shipping reported seen at Rabaul included 2 small AK's, 300 barges, 1 flying-boat and 1 floatplane.

Massawa Bay was bombed by 2 PV's on 21 March.

On 21 March a large enemy supply area has been reported on Tulili Bay and buildings were seen at Kabagada Bay. At Pondo Point, 4 barges were destroyed by 2 A-20's.

(E) New Guinea

On 20 March enemy positions N. of Daumoina were bombed and strafed by 12 A-20's with reported excellent results. A bridge N. of Daumoina was raided by 14 P-39's the same day.

On 21 March enemy casualties in the Saidor area to date are 219 killed, 529 have been found dead and 16 prisoners have been taken.

In the Kaliko area U.S. and Australian patrols are active on 21 March. Kairiru Island and Brandi Plantation were again heavily attacked by 18 B-24's and 12 A-20's. 79 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires and large explosions were started. Escorting fighters strafed barges along the coast.

Yeschan Village on the Sepik River was bombed and strafed by 2 B-25's on 21 March. 2 tons of bombs were dropped. 7000 rounds of 50 calibre were used in strafing.

On 22 March the enemy HQ in the Bogadjim area was bombed and strafed by 16 P-30's. Fires were started. A/A positions in the Newak - Boram area were bombed by 36 B-24's. 8 emplacements and 2 enemy aircraft on the ground were reported destroyed.

The coast area from Newak to Mitapo was attacked by 32 B-25's, 30 A-20's and 35 P-40's which reported destroying 2 small AK's (1 1000 ton, 1 500 ton), 15 barges and 7 luggers. In addition, 8 barges were reported probably destroyed. No enemy air opposition was encountered. 1 A-20 is missing. 12 enemy barges and 2 seatrucks were sighted at Hansa Bay on 22 March.

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On 22 - 23 March Allied PT's sank a barge and started fires at Kronprins Harbor, also strafed gun positions on Neptune Point, CE of Kronprins.

(F) H. K. I.

On 22 March in the Arafura Sea - Princess Marianne Straits area, a probable enemy reconnaissance plane was noted.

In Hollandia Bay an Allied search plane noted 3 enemy AK's on 22 March.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of ORO, 23 March 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Wake Island

On the morning of 20 March at 1016 L, Wake was attacked by 13 U.S. B-24's which dropped 40 tons of bombs through a heavy overcast. A fire was observed in the fuel storage area. Some A/A fire was encountered.

(B) Marshall Islands

On the morning of 20 March at 0926 L, Motje was bombed by 1 U.S. B-24 which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs. Motje was again attacked the same morning at 1025 L by 7 SBD's and 2 F4U's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. Intense A/A fire was encountered.

On 20 March at 1115 L, Taroa was bombed by 9 B-25's. An ammunition dump exploded. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Medium A/A fire was met. The same day (0900 - 1350 L) Kille was attacked by 7 F4U's, 2 B-24's and 2 B-25's. 11 tons of bombs were dropped.

On 20 March (0708 - 1050 L) Jaluit was bombed by 6 B-34's and 3 B-25's. 12 tons of bombs were released. Fires and explosions were started at Enidj. There was some A/A.

Taroa was hit by 6 B-34's at noon (1130 L) on 21 March. 6 tons of bombs were dropped starting fires and explosions. Medium A/A was met.

On the morning of 21 March at 0830 L, Motje was attacked by 12 F4U's and 13 Marine SBD's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped and the area was strafed, causing a large explosion. 2 SBD's were damaged slightly by A/A fire.

On 21 March at 1120 L, Enidj, Jaluit was bombed by 8 1/2 tons of bombs from 12 B-25's. Some A/A was met.

The same day (0840 L) Kille was bombed by 8 F4U's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped with unobserved results. No A/A was met.

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II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 20 March, enemy positions around the Torokina perimeter were again attacked by 12 TBF's and 43 SBD's. Fires were started, and an enemy gun was probably destroyed. These planes also aided our artillery by spotting targets. The same day, targets of opportunity around the coast were hit by 4 P-39's.

Again on 21 March, there was no enemy artillery fire in the perimeter. Extensive patrol activity continued, with the major contact reported on the E. perimeter, although details were lacking. 51 more enemy dead were found.

It was reported that the main enemy force was being concentrated in front of the sector of the 37th Division.

(B) New Ireland

On the night of 20 - 21 March, Kavieng and Namatanai were raided by Bopac bombers on patrol. 2 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on each target.

Cape St. George radar station was also raided by a patrol bomber.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 20 March, Rara Island, in Seeadler Harbor 1 mile N. of Lorengau, was occupied by a U.S. patrol.

Some enemy resistance was reported in the areas S. of Lorengau and on the W. tip of Los Negros.

In the Admiralties operation to date, total enemy dead was set at 2,076, with 600 more estimated killed.

Again 20 March, enemy positions at the SE tip of Manus Island were shelled by U.S. MD's aided by a plane.

Later reports of the raid on 20 March on Loniu Village, SE Los Negros, (Daily Summary for 22 March 1944) state that a patrol was landed from PT's. About 30 canoes, built for the enemy by natives were set afire, and many documents taken. The enemy naval headquarters was probably located here previously.

(D) New Britain

Total enemy casualties up to 20 March in N. part of New Britain were reported as 4,457 dead and 127 captured.

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This breaks down to:

Arawa:	371 dead 100 found dead 3 captured
Cape Gloucester - Rein Bay:	3,686 dead 73 captured
Talasea:	161 dead 13 captured
Elcanora Bay:	149 dead 38 captured

On 20 March, at Massava Bay, E. of Rabaul, buildings were wrecked in an attack by 3 B-34's.

On the morning of 21 March, at Jacquinot Bay, Palmal Plantation was attacked by 24 Allied Beauforts which dropped over 21 tons of bombs and expended 14,000 rounds of m/g in strafing personnel areas. Fires were started.

The same day, at Cape Beechey, Rano Plantation was raided by 2 Allied A-20's, while in the Ubili area, Ulamona was hit by 2 strafing Beaufighters, which damaged 2 barges. Meanwhile, Garove Island was raided by 4 Allied P-40's which dive-bombed and strafed gun positions.

(B) New Guinea

On 18 March, Brima Plantation was attacked by 16 P-39's which dropped almost 4 tons of bombs and strafed supply dumps and bivouac areas.

On 20 March, Brima Plantation was raided by 2 P-51's which strafed and hit a truck. The same day, Burui airstrip was reported evidently abandoned by the enemy. Meanwhile, S. of Iris Point, in the Sinda Ma area, 200 enemy dead were found by our patrols.

Early the morning of 21 March, about 20 miles E. of Tadj, an enemy DD was reported sunk after 2 B-24's on patrol scored 4 direct hits. In addition, in the same area, according to incomplete reports, a 1,500 - ton and a 1,000 ton AK's were reported sunk by other bombers. Intense but inaccurate A/A fire was met.

Again on the morning of 21 March, the Mowak area was heavily attacked by 28 A-20's, 24 B-25's and 16 B-24's. Over 123 tons of bombs were dropped on Brandi Plantation supply dumps and the barge repair depot at Kairiru Island, and the targets were strafed with 30,500 rounds of m/g. Smoke rose 4,000 ft. in the air, and many large explosions and fires were caused. Only slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

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On 21 March, Awar was raided by a single B-24 which dropped 4 tons of bombs.

Late the afternoon of 21 March, Murik Lagoon area, 35 miles E. of Newak, the barge staging depot, was hit by 11 B-25's which dropped 9 tons of bombs and heavily strafed the target. Our positions were put out of action, barges sunk, supply dumps destroyed, and villages bombed.

On the morning of 21 March, NE of Daumoina, enemy positions were attacked by 15 P-51's which dive-bombed and strafed.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking an enemy AP of 6500 tons. In addition, 4 torpedo hits were reported made on an enemy 7500 ton AO.

W. L. Sales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 22 March 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 20 March, Satawan Island was bombed by a U.S. search plane. The radio station and A/A positions were hit. No enemy planes were seen, but the runway was reported serviceable.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 19 March, enemy positions around the Torokina perimeter were attacked again by 6 TBF's and 21 CRD's. The same day, Choiseul Bay and Ballale were raided by bombers on patrol.

Also 19 March, Skotolan Mission (SK Buka) was raided by 2 strafing P-39's which also attacked a barge off Bougainville coast. The same day, Shortland Island was raided by a single P-38.

On 20 March, Numa Numa was hit by 8 P-40's, which met some A/A fire of light-calibre.

From the morning of 19 March to noon of 20 March, at Torokina, there was no enemy artillery fire inside the perimeter.

On the E. perimeter, 98 more enemy troops were killed by our forces mopping-up the area.

On another part of the perimeter, an enemy bivouac area was located by U.S. patrols which found 11 enemy dead and some rifles and m/c. U.S. patrol activity continued. Shelling of enemy positions by our ships and artillery continued.

(B) New Ireland

On the morning of 19 March, Panapai was hit by 24 B-24's which dropped 55½ tons of bombs on the runway, dispersal area, fuel dumps and

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buildings. 5 fires were started. A/A fire damaged 1 B-24.

On 19 March, the Cape St. George radar station was attacked by 6 SBD's which set it afire.

Also 19 March, Kavieng and Namatanai were both raided by bombers on patrol. Results were not observed.

(C) St. Matthias Group

On the morning of 20 March at 0830 L, U.S. Marines successfully landed on the SE part of Emirau Island. There was no opposition. By midday (1202 L), no enemy troops had been met. Natives reported that for the past 2 months there have been no enemy troops at Emirau. Our forces were consolidating their positions, and completing unloading operations.

The same morning, U.S. Marine units also landed on Elomusao Island. Light opposition was met, but no U.S. casualties were reported.

(D) Admiralty Islands

On 20 March, enemy positions on the N. end of Los Negros were raided by a B-25 which dropped 1 ton of bombs. The same day, in support of ground forces, targets near Matuan, SW coast of Los Negros, were shelled by U.S. DD's. An ammunition dump was destroyed.

Near Matuan, at Loniu, a village was raided by a ground patrol, which wrecked huts, supplies, ammunition stores, and some coastal craft.

In the Lorengau area, 295 enemy bunkers were captured, and 408 Japs killed.

Our patrols operating 800 yards S. of Rossum, S. of Lorengau, and 3 miles SW of Lorengau reported meeting some enemy troops.

It was announced that the Momote airfield can now handle all types of planes. A B-24 has already landed on the strip.

(E) New Britain

On 18 March, villages in the Cape Hoskins area were attacked by 7 Allied P-40's. In addition, 6 barges were strafed and left unserviceable.

On 19 March, it was reported that enemy troops were still in Jacquinot Bay, but were withdrawing from areas to the west. There were indications that the enemy here was being supplied by SS.

Also 19 March, Garove Island was hit by 12 Allied P-40's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped on bivouacs and gun positions, and the targets strafed. An explosion was caused.

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On 19 March, Pondo Point was attacked by 21 more Allied Beauforts. Almost 17 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires were started. The same day, near Jacquinot Bay, Henry Reid Bay targets were raided by 2 Allied Beaufighters, which strafed jetties.

Again 19 March, in the morning heavy air attacks continued against Rabaul. Vunapope was struck by 24 B-25's which dropped over 14 tons of bombs. Many fires were started. A/A fire damaged 9 bombers.

Tawui Point area was hit by 10 P-38's which dropped 2½ tons of bombs. A/A fire damaged 2 planes. The same target was hit by 12 P-39's which dropped 3 tons of bombs on an ammunition dump.

Vunapope was also hit by 18 TBF's and 24 SBD's.

On 20 March, Bangula Bay villages were raided by 4 strafing P-40's. The same day Rabaul was pounded again.

Lakunai was hit by 24 B-25's which dropped 23½ tons of bombs. A gun position was put out of action. A/A fire damaged 6 planes.

Sulphur Creek area was attacked by 9 Marine B-25's which dropped over 5 tons of bombs on gun positions. Intense A/A fire damaged 1 of 16 escorting F4U's.

The morning of 20 March, Vunakanau was struck by 17 TBF's and 24 SBD's. Direct hits were scored on A/A positions. 3 TBF's were damaged by A/A fire. A 105 MM gun suffered a direct hit and was destroyed.

Vunakanau was also hit by 23 B-24's which dropped 69 tons of bombs on the airfield, and A/A positions. Intense and very accurate A/A fire damaged 7 B-24's.

Rataval supply areas were hit by 12 P-39's and 12 P-38's. Almost 6 tons of bombs were dropped.

On the afternoon of 20 March, the Rabaul area and the NE. coast of New Britain were swept by 28 fighters. About 33 barges and small craft were strafed.

(F) New Guinea

On 19 March, 12 miles NW of Hollandia, a 6000 ton AK-AP was damaged in an attack by 8 B-24's, which dropped 2 tons of bombs, scoring direct hits. In addition, an escort vessel was halted by a near miss.

Also 19 March, on the homeward trip from the convoy attack off Newak (Daily Summary for 21 March 1944), Rabia, coastal targets to the E, and Alexishafen were attacked by B-25's. The same day, returning from the Newak area strike, P-40's strafed Angorum, on the Sepik River. Fires were started.

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Meanwhile, S. of Bogadjin, NE of Daumaina, enemy positions were attacked by 8 P-39's. 4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed.

On the morning of 20 March, Tadjil airfield was heavily attacked by 38 B-24's. Over 148 tons of bombs were dropped, starting fires and wrecking some planes on the ground. The runway was left unserviceable.

The same day, Burui airfield and Yeschan, on the Sepik River, were hit by 4 B-25's. Almost 4 tons of bombs were dropped, and the targets strafed.

Also 20 March, Awar Plantation, at Hansa Bay, was hit by 8 strafing P-38's. The same day, villages near Madang were raided by 8 P-39's, which started fires. Offshore, 2 barges were sunk.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking an enemy AO of 17,500 tons and an AK of 3,712 tons by torpedo, and a sailboat of 60 tons by gunfire for a total of 21,272 tons sunk. In addition an AO of 19,425 tons was damaged.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 21 March 1944

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not be placed in any general file.*

I. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

On 19 March, PINGELAP was bombed by a U.S. search plane with unreported results.

B. Marshall Islands

On 18 March KILE was bombarded and bombed by a U.S. Naval force and carrier-based planes. Results were reported as satisfactory.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 18 March, enemy positions around the TOROKINA perimeter were attacked by 3 TRF's and 36 SBD's which hit pillboxes and gun positions, and aided artillery and U.S. DD's. Some new enemy construction of gun positions was noted.

The same day, off JABA RIVER, barges were strafed by 18 P-39's and F6F's, while off BUKA, barges were hit by B-24's on patrol.

Also on 18 March, CHOISEUL BAY targets were attacked by 10 Allied B-34's and 24 SBD's. 22 tons of bombs were dropped and the area strafed.

On 19 March, along the TOROKINA perimeter, our patrols were active, but no enemy attacks were reported. There was further indication of enemy activity on the N part of the perimeter. Since 8 March, 2 x 15 cm. enemy guns and 10 x 75 mm. guns have been destroyed. Enemy artillery continued to shell the air strips sporadically.

B. New Ireland

17-

On night of/18 March, NAMATANAI was raided by 2 bombers on patrol. (5 tons of bombs were dropped.)

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On 18 March, off AMBITLE ISLAND, barges were attacked by a heavy bomber (B-24) on patrol - which sank 1 - and by 4 U.S. Navy F4U's which hit 3 barges.

The afternoon of 18 March, NEW IRELAND villages in the vicinity of CAPE SENA were strafed by 4 more P-39's.

At midday, 20 March, KAVIENG was heavily bombed for 3½ hours by a U.S. Navy task force, which expended 12,275 rounds of 5" and 1,080 of 14". During the approach, slight and ineffective enemy return fire was encountered; this soon died down entirely except for occasional fire from A/A guns. Great damage was done to KAVIENG - few buildings were left in the town and the CHINATOWN district was leveled to the ground. Explosions continued during the length of the bombardment, and a large ammunition dump was blown up. Large fires were started. No shipping was seen.

C. Admiralty Islands

On 18 March, S of PAPITALAI, our ground forces were attacking remaining enemy packets. 47 more Japs were killed.

On 18-19 March, enemy positions were shelled by U.S. PT's.

On 19 March, enemy positions S of PAPITALAI were bombed by U.S. DD's. Good results were reported. Meanwhile, in the LORENGAU area, our forces were consolidating their positions. The enemy was retreating S and W to the hills. 75 enemy bunkers were wrecked in capturing the town area.

Known enemy dead to 19 March in the Admiralties action was reported to total about 2,000, with 500 more estimated enemy dead.

D. New Britain

On 18 March OPEN BAY targets were raided by 2 strafing P-39's which also sank 1 barge and damaged 2. GAROVE ISLAND gun positions were hit by 8 Allied P-40's which also set huts afire and caused damage to 3 barges. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

On 18 March, E of GASWATA, the LINETHAFEN area was searched by U.S. PT's. A patrol was landed, but no enemy troops were met, and the area appeared to have been evacuated. Pillboxes and storage tanks were shelled. A large lugger on a reef was badly damaged by a boarding party.

Again on 18 March, the RABAU AREA continued to be pounded. Early that morning, the area was raided by a B-24 which encountered about 15 accurate searchlights.

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Later in the morning of 18 March, fuel supplies along KIRAVIA BAY shoreline were hit by 12 P-40's and 12 P-39's. Fires were started. At the same time, TAKUI POINT was hit by 13 P-38's which dropped over 3 tons of bombs on an ammunition dump. Intense A/A fire brought down 1 P-38, but the pilot was rescued. A few minutes later, RABAU TOWN was attacked by 24 THF's and 32 BHD's. Gun positions were hit, and incendiary bombs dropped. Many fires were started. Then the waterfront area of RABAU TOWN was attacked by 24 B-24's after which the E side of RABAU TOWN was hit by 33 B-25's. A single enemy fighter was seen at a distance by 15 F4U's which escorted. A/A fire damaged 5 B-24's and 6 THF's.

On afternoon 18 March, off N coast of NEW BRITAIN, an enemy barge was sunk by 8 F6F's on a sweep, while in MASSARA BAY, a dump was destroyed by 2 B-34's which also hit a pier. At the same time, in KIRAVIA BAY barges were strafed by 6 F4U's.

On morning 19 March, at OPEN BAY, PONDO POINT was attacked by 9 Allied Beauforts and 2 Beaufighters. 9½ tons of bombs were dropped. Buildings and a sawmill were hit. This target is probably a staging point on the line of enemy withdrawal from W. NEW BRITAIN to RABAU.

E. New Guinea

On 18 March, SE of BOGADJIM (and S of ASTROLABE BAY), at BARUM, U.S. and Australian patrols met. On the coast of ASTROLABE BAY, just E of BOGADJIM, in the vicinity of KALIKO, Aussies and U.S. troops conducted patrols.

On night of 18-19 March, KEKAK, MUSCHU and KAIRIRU ISLANDS were shelled by U.S. DD's. (See Naval Summary for 20 March, 1944). Fires in these areas could still be seen 30 miles away. Enemy shore guns were put out of action, and many small craft were sunk or damaged. Enemy planes ineffectively attacked the DD's.

On 19 March, the KEKAK area was heavily attacked once more. 113 tons of bombs were dropped by a total of 106 bombers escorted by fighters. (6 B-24's and 100 A-20's and B-25's). The CAPE MOM district was the principal target. Large warehouses were set afire, A/A gun batteries heavily strafed, many fires started.

In 2 attacks on morning and afternoon 19 March off KEKAK on an enemy convoy (heading for WEKAK), consisting of 2 AK-AP's and 5 escorts, 5 ships were reported sunk - a 6,000-ton AK-AP, a 4,000-ton AK-AP, and 3 escort vessels. The attacks were made by a total of 102 bombers (62 B-25's and A-20's, and 40 B-24's), in addition to escorting fighters. It was estimated that about 500 Japs went down in 1 of the ships, and a like number was seen in the water. Also, 1 loaded barge was sunk. 2 enemy fighters which attempted to intercept were shot down. We lost 3 A-20's.

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F. N. E. I.

In the early morning of 19 March, BABO, DUTCH NEW GUINEA, was raided by 3 B-24's, which dropped over 4 tons of bombs. Explosions and fires were caused. Meanwhile, LINGAT VILLAGE (TANIMBARU) was raided by another B-24 which dropped fragmentation bombs.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SC has reported sinking an enemy AO and damaging an AK.

E. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 20 March 1944

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I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On 18 March, 3 B-24's were over the central Kuriles on armed reconnaissance. 2 of the three planes bombed through solid overcast.

On 19 March, 3 B-24's were over the Central Kuriles on armed reconnaissance. Bombs were dropped through solid overcast with unobserved results. All planes returned.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

On the morning of 18 March (0925 L) Ponape was attacked by 11 B-24's which dropped 8 tons of bombs and incendiaries. Many fires were started. 1 plane was slightly damaged by A/A fire.

The same morning (0719 L) Kusaie was bombed by 6 B-24's which started fires and explosions with 5 tons of bombs.

On the afternoon of 18 March (1800 L), Ponape was again bombed by 2 B-25's. A small enemy AK was sunk and large fires were started at Japutik Island (N. Ponape). Some A/A was met.

B. Marshall Islands

On 18 March (1307 - 1430 M) Rmdj was bombed by 1 B-24 and 11 B-25's. 7 tons of bombs were dropped.

Taroa was attacked by 4 PGF's and 10 Marine SBD's. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were released. 1 SBD and crew are missing. The same day (1507 M), Taroa was again hit, with 5 1/2 tons of bombs from 5 B-24's.

On 19 March, (1005 M), Notje was hit by 2 PGF's and 8 Marine SBD's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. In addition, an enemy landing barge was strafed. The same evening (2140 M) Mille was bombed by 8 F4U's which dropped 4 tons of bombs on enemy gun emplacements. Some A/A was encountered.

On 19 March (1201 M) Mille was bombed by 1 B-24. 1 ton of bombs were released. The same day (1007 - 1305 M) Jaluit was attacked by 18 B-25's.

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13 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Some A/A was encountered. On 19 March Taroa was bombed by 8 B-34's which released 9 tons of bombs. There was no A/A.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On the night of 16 March, on the E. Torokina perimeter, enemy gun positions were attacked with rockets and bombs by 7 TBF's.

On 17 March, near the Saua River mouth, enemy gun positions and a supply dump were hit by 6 TBF's and 18 SBD's. The same day, Vatchin Bay and supply dumps at Numa Numa were raided by 4 P-40's.

On the night of 17 March, E. of Buka Passage, 4 loaded enemy barges were destroyed or badly damaged by U.S. PT's, aided by a U.S. Navy patrol bomber (PBY). Ineffective shore fire along the coast was received by the PT's.

On the morning of 18 March (0300 L - 0431 L) Torokina was raided by enemy planes which caused slight damage and a few casualties.

During the afternoon of 17 March to 18 March, intensive patrols were made along the perimeter, but no fighting was reported. Our pounding by ships' gun and artillery of Jap positions continued. On the N. perimeter, the enemy is believed to be reorganizing his forces for a counter-attack.

On the night of 18 March, Mosiga was shelled by a LCM. The same night, Ballale was raided by a PBY.

On 19 March, Choiseul Bay targets were raided by a PBY, which sustained slight damage from m/g. ground fire.

B. New Britain

On the night of 18 March, the Rabaul area was raided by a single B-24.

On 17 March, in the Ubili area, 3 enemy barges were sunk and others damaged in a strafing attack by 2 P-39's and 2 Allied Beaufighters, which also hit supply areas on the coast. On the same night, near Pondo Point, 2 enemy barges were bombed and strafed by B-25's on patrol. Again, on 17 March, the Rabaul area was heavily hit by Sopac planes. At 0800 L, 17 March, Vunapope was attacked by 11 P-38's which released almost 3 tons of bombs. A/A fire damaged 1 P-38. At 0855 L, 17 March, Ralun (N. of Vunapope) was hit by 10 P-39's which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs. Fires were started. At 1020 L, the same day, the same target was attacked by 22 B-25's with 13 tons of bombs. A 200-foot-high fire was started. 3 planes were damaged by A/A fire. The same target was hit by 10 P-40's.

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Vunapope was hit again by 9 B-24's. A large fire was started at supply dumps. On 17 March, in Wide Bay, an enemy barge was sunk by F4U's, which set afire another barge off Kabaira, W. of Rabaul.

C. New Ireland

On 17 March at midday (1250 L), Namatanai airfield was attacked by 23 heavy bombers (B-24's), 53 tons of bombs were dropped, causing 4 fires. The airfield was left unserviceable. There was no enemy air interception and no A/A fire was encountered. Weather conditions prevented these planes from hitting Kavieng, their primary target.

On the homeward trip, along the E. coast of New Ireland, an enemy floatplane was chased by 16 U.S. Navy fighters (F4U's) which escorted the bombers.

On 17 March, Duke of York and the radar station at Cape St. George were raided by B-25's on patrol. Off Duke of York, a 100-ft. vessel was strafed by 13 U. S. Navy fighters (F4U's) which also hit a barge off Borpop.

D. Admiralty Islands

On 16 March, SE. of Lorengau, Ndrubiu Pt. on Los Negros, was strafed by a B-25.

On the afternoon of 18 March, (1700 X), Lorengau was occupied by units of the U. S. 2nd Cavalry Brigade. 75 Japs were killed. Meanwhile, about 2300 yards W. of Papitalai, our forces repulsed 2 enemy counter-attacks, and killed 67 more Japs.

E. New Guinea

On 17 March, Uligan Harbor was raided by 8 P-38's which put gun positions out of action by strafing. The same day, Bogia was raided by a B-25 on patrol, which dropped bombs on a gun position.

On the night of 17 March, 65 miles E. of Hollandia, a medium AK-AP was sunk and a second AK-AP was believed damaged in an attack by B-24's. Also, 40 miles NE. of Tadjil, an enemy DD was damaged by these planes.

On 18 March, W. of Saga Saga, 5 Japs were killed by U. S. patrols.

On 18 March, in the early morning, Saidor was raided by 3 enemy planes which caused slight damage. The same day, Nowak-Brandi Plantation area was hit for the 8th straight day. The Nowak area was the target first for 26 B-24's which dropped 103 1/2 tons of bombs. Gun positions were put out of action, fires and explosions caused, and buildings destroyed.

Brandi was hit by 24 A-20's and 36 B-25's which dropped 71 tons of bombs and expended 98,800 rounds of M-G. Fires and explosions resulted, and

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buildings were hit. Slight to intense but inaccurate A/A fire was met.

Also, on 18 March, Alexishafen was raided by 2 B-24's which did not reach Towak. 8 tons of bombs were dropped.

P. N. E. I.

On the night of 17 March, Soorabaya naval base was again attacked by 12 heavy bombers (B-24's) which dropped 18 1/2 tons of bombs, causing fires and explosions. Another heavy bomber (B-24) dropped its load on an airstrip on the E. coast of Java. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 19 March 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On the morning of 18 March (0240-0320K), Paramushiru-Shimushu area was again attacked by 5 PV's on an armed reconnaissance mission. Suribachi, Kakumbetsu and Kurabu Zaki were bombed through the overcast but results were not observed. At Kashiwabara, a large fire was started. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met. A sixth PV turned back before reaching the target.

At about the same time, Onkotan-Shimushu area was hit by 3 B-24's. Results of their bombing were not observed. No A/A fire was met and all of the planes returned safely.

On the morning of 19 March (0205K-0305K) Paramushiru was again bombed for the third consecutive day by 3 PV's on an armed reconnaissance mission. Arakawa, Runo Zaki, Kakumbetsu and Kurabu Zaki were hit. Fires were started at Kurabu Zaki. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered. All of our planes returned safely.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Marshall Islands

On the morning of 17 March (1015M) Wotje and Ormed Islands were attack by 11 B-25's which released 7 1/2 tons of bombs, starting large fires.

At 0935 M, the same day, Taroa was struck by 5 F6F's and 10 Marine SBD's. 3 tons of bombs were dropped. Meager A/A fire was met.

Also the same day (1050M), Jaluit Atoll was attacked by 7 B-34's which dropped 8 tons of bombs on Maidj Island, causing a big explosion. Moderately-intense A/A fire was encountered.

Mille was also hit on 17 March by 12 B-25's which dropped 14 tons of bombs.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 15 March, in the Shortlands area, Poporang Island was attacked by 16 P-40's and P-39's which bombed and strafed gun positions.

The afternoon of the same day, N. of the Torokina perimeter, NW of Lake Kathleen, enemy gun positions were bombed by 47 SBD's which also aided the DD's bombardment of the same area.

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Throughout 15 March, in the vicinity of Saua River and Hongorai River, gun positions and a bridge were attacked by a total of 68 SBD's and 6 TBF's. (It is not clear whether this figure includes the 47 listed above).

Also the same day, Mosiga was shelled by an LCM.

On 16 March, Monoitu Mission was raided by 3 B-24's which dropped 4 1/2 tons of bombs. Buildings were wrecked and fires started.

The same day, off the Jaba River, 5 enemy barges were strafed by 2 P-38's. 1 barge was probably damaged.

Along the S. coast of Bougainville on 16 March, 3 barges were strafed by 4 P4U's, 3 of which were slightly damaged by A/A fire.

In the Torokina area the same day, enemy supply dumps were attacked by 6 TBF's and 12 SBD's. Fires were started.

On the night of 16 - 17 March, NW of Torokina, the area at the mouth of the Atsinime River was bombed by U.S. PT's, while the same night Mosiga was raided by a patrol bomber.

During the same night, Torokina and Piva airfields were shelled sporadically by enemy artillery, which stopped Friday morning. Slight damage to the Piva airfield was repaired immediately. 1 plane was damaged and 1 man killed.

At 0300L the same night, on the N. perimeter, a strong enemy attack was made and our lines penetrated slightly. However, our ground forces restored our lines in a counter-attack. Inside our wire were 195 enemy dead. Around one pillbox alone were 52 enemy dead.

On the night of 17 - 18 March, N. of the Jaba River mouth, 2 enemy barges were forced ashore by PT's. The barges were then shelled by a DD which destroyed 1 and damaged 1.

B. Indian Ocean

On 17 March, a ship about 780 miles SW of Cocos Island was reported being shelled by an enemy raider.

C. New Britain

On the night of 15 March, in Bengule Bay, Sulu Village was attacked by 8 Allied Beauforts which dropped about 7 tons of bombs and strafed.

On the night of 15 - 16 March, near Cape Beechey, our PT's were attacked without success by a single enemy plane.

The same night, the Rabaul area was raided by a single B-24. 25-30 searchlights were seen. The same area was also hit that night by a B-34.

On 16 March, in Expectation Strait, off Ulaeoa, 6 barges were set afire and 2 more damaged by 4 strafing Allied Beaufighters which also strafed plantations nearby.

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On 16 March the daily aerial pounding of Rabaul continued. At 0930L, Tawui Point was hit by 10 P-38's which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs on an ammunition dump. Fires were started. A/A fire damaged 1 P-38.

Vunakapu was struck the same day at 1049L by 13 B-24's and at 1101L by 12 B-25's. The B-25's attacked the radar station with over 7 tons of bombs. In the first raid 2 B-24's were damaged by A/A fire.

The Rabaul Town area was attacked the same day by 11 more B-25's which dropped 16 tons of bombs. Fires were started. 5 enemy planes were seen airborne from Tobera.

At 1113L, the same day, Tobera was hit by 10 B-24's which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs on the airfield and revetment area. 4 B-24's were damaged by A/A fire.

Also on 16 March, at 1200L, Vunapope was attacked by 12 P-39's which dropped 3 tons of bombs on supply dumps. This same target was also hit by 11 P-40's and 9 B-25's, while in Keravia Bay, barges were strafed and an enemy 2-engined patrol plane shot down by 7 P-38's.

14 P4U's covered the bombers. A total of 8 B-25's were damaged by A/A fire.

Photos on 16 March of Rabaul Harbor showed 2 small AK's and about 300 barges.

For 6 hours on the morning of 17 March, the Gasmata area was patrolled by a U.S. PT. A patrol from this boat was landed on Gasmata Island but no enemy troops were found. It was reported that the area was entirely evacuated by the enemy 2 days previously. 2 large and 3 small enemy barges were sunk by the PT.

The same day, in the Linga Linga area (Eleanora Bay), 45 more Japs were killed by U.S. Marine patrols.

Also the same day, in Wide Bay, Kelai Plantation was attacked by 24 Allied Bomforts which dropped over 21 tons of bombs & strafed. A jetty was destroyed and fires started.

D. New Ireland

On the morning of 16 March, Kavieng was attacked by 24 TBF's and 36 SBD's. Direct hits were scored on A/A gun positions and an ammunition dump. 42 tons of bombs were dropped. Only 1 airborne fighter was seen. 5 planes (3 TBF's and 2 SBD's) were damaged by intense A/A fire.

On the night of 16 - 17 March, Namatanai was raided by a single patrol bomber which dropped 2 1/2 tons of bombs, while Kavieng and Duke of York were also raided.

E. Admiralty Islands

On 17 March, about 1 mile SW of Pepitalai, an enemy-held hill was captured by our ground forces which killed 50 Japs.

The same day, U.S. DD's and artillery shelled enemy positions E. of the Lorengau River in support of our ground forces which moved forward to the E. bank of the river. They are now on the outskirts of Lorengau Township.

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Meanwhile, NW of Lorengau airfield, fighting is continuing along the road.

It was estimated that about 1800 effective enemy troops remain in the Admiralties. Of this number, about 300 were left on the N. part of Los Negros. To date, 17 March, it was estimated that enemy casualties total 1,585.

Also on 17 March, S. of Lorengau, Drawa and Werambu Villages were shelled by U.S. DD's.

On 18 March, Pitylilu Island, NW Seeadler Harbor, was shelled by U.S. DD's.

F. New Guinea

Further reports of the 15 March attack on the Newak-Keiriru area state that 12 more A-20's escorted by fighters hit Keiriru. (See Naval Summaries 17, 18 March 1944). 2 more intercepting enemy fighters were shot down.

Later details of the attack on the morning of 16 March on an enemy convoy about 70 miles NW of Hollandia (See Naval Summary 18 March 1944) state that 2 B-24's came in after the PEY's had set afire 1 AK and 1 escort vessel. The B-24's scored hits on 2 ships and strafed. (It is not clear if the 2 ships hit by the B-24's were the same as those hit by the PEY's).

On the night of 16 - 17 March, at Mischu Island, 6 enemy barges on the beach were strafed by PEY's which also started fires in a strafing attack on Seleo Island (near Taifi).

On the morning of 17 March, the Newak area was heavily attacked for the 7th consecutive day. Boram was hit first by 36 B-24's escorted by fighters. About 130 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield and gun positions, explosions were caused, and A/A guns put out of action. Some enemy planes on the ground were destroyed. At the same time, Cape Mon-Newak Township area was attacked by 39 A-20's coming in at a low level while 22 B-25's attacked at medium level. An unknown number of fighters escorted. 64 tons of bombs were dropped on supply dumps, A/A guns, and personnel areas. Many casualties and much damage resulted. Slight to intense, both accurate and inaccurate A/A fire was met. There was no enemy air interception. All of our planes returned safely.

The same day, Nubia airfield was raided by a B-24 on petrol. 1 ton of bombs was released.

Also the same day, Alexishafen airfield was hit by 9 B-25's as an alternative to the primary target, Newak. Over 11 tons of bombs were dropped and 3 fires started.

On the afternoon of 17 March, over the Lae area, an enemy plane was observed, but no attack was evidently made.

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On the night of 17 - 18 March, near Hollandia, an AK-AP was sunk and a second AK-AP was believed damaged in an attack by PHY's.

On 18 March, in the Newak area, a small AK was sunk by a U.S. Navy task group which swept the area.

U.S. Submarine Reports.

U.S. SS reports sinking 1 of 4 ships in a convoy.

A second U.S. SS reports sinking 1 AK and leaving another AK afire and sinking after being hit by torpedoes and shells. In addition, 3 AK's were believed sunk and a 4th damaged.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 18 March 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

On 17 March, before dawn (0445 K) the Paramushiru - Shimushu area was bombed by 4 U.S. Navy PV's. The bombing was through almost solid overcast with unobserved results. Some ineffective A/A fire was encountered. The same morning 2 of 3 U.S. Army B-24's bombed Matsuwa Island with unobserved results. No A/A fire was met. All planes returned safely.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 15 March, 8 P-40's and 8 P-39's raided Kavaraka, Piano Mission and Poporang. A/A damaged 1 P-39 at Poporang. The same day 12 SBD's attacked enemy gun positions on the perimeter. 1 SBD was lost. Laruma was also attacked by 8 SBD's.

On 15 March, enemy bivouac areas up the Reini river were struck by SBD's. 125 dead enemy troops were counted N. of the perimeter where a Jap attack was repulsed. Total enemy dead since 8 March are 1325.

On 15 March at Ruti Bay, a B-24 bombed and strafed enemy positions. The Buka area was also attacked.

On 15 March, at Jaba, a B-24 destroyed an enemy barge and at Motupena bombed enemy gun positions. The same day Kahili was bombed by a B-24.

On 16 March, the Torokina strip was reported being shelled by the enemy. The SE slope of the hill 260 is reported still held by a small force of enemy troops.

(B) New Ireland

On 15 March in the afternoon 39 fighters (F6F's, P4U's) covered S. New Ireland. The radar station at Cape St. George was set afire, 6 barges and a boat were destroyed or damaged and a Jap floatplane was shot down near Namatanai.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On the night of 15 - 16 March, 4 U.S. DD's shelled Lorengau area supporting our ground forces. The same night Lorengau airfield was

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captured by the 8th Cavalry which continued on to positions about 600 yards N. and N. of Lorengau Village by the afternoon of 16 March. Strong enemy pill box positions and mortar fire was encountered all the way. Other troops about 2 miles SW of Lorengau continued to meet mortar and m/g fire.

The 5th Cavalry against strong opposition (estimated 240 Japs) advanced 2300 yards N. of Papitalai on Los Negros.

It is believed that only about 2000 effective enemy troops now remain in the Admiralties. Known enemy killed since landing totals 1440.

Our PT's operating in the area on 16 March captured 4 prisoners and killed 5 other enemy troops.

(D) New Britain

The morning of 15 March Lakunai was attacked by 24 B-25's covered by 11 fighters F4U's. At the same time 8 B-25's covered by 8 F4U's hit Vunapope supply areas. Shortly after 22 additional B-24's, 36 SBD's, 24 TBF's with 5 F4U's heavily bombed Rapopo and Tobera. 31 fighters finished the job by bombing Vunapope again. Fires were started at all targets, some believed to be burning planes. Sopac planes made these attacks. All airfields but Vunakanau were rendered unserviceable. 4 TBF's, 11 B-24's and 4 B-25's were damaged by A/A fire. 39 Allied fighters (P6F's, F4U's) swept the Gazelle Peninsula area (see New Ireland for further details).

Ubili and Ulamona areas were raided by 17 RAAF Beauforts which dropped over 13 tons of bombs on 16 March. The target was well plastered.

The same day Carove Island was hit by 6 - 7 P-40's. The area was strafed and 3 barges attacked.

Open Bay villages were strafed by 2 P-39's on 16 March. Fires resulted.

Marines on the Talasea area killed 21 Japs.

(E) New Guinea

On 15 March, 5 more B-24's and 11 more A-20's participated in the Wewak - Kairiru reported in Summary 17 March 1944. About 25 additional tons of bombs fell on the targets.

At noon 16 March Nubia supply area and airfield was attacked by 19 B-25's. Enemy troops were killed, A/A positions hit and fires started. The afternoon of 16 March a B-24 on patrol saw over 100 barges along the coast between Hansa Bay and Bunabun. The plane dropped 4 100 lb. bombs on Bunabun Harbor.

Wewak was raided for the 6th straight day. 103 tons of bombs were dropped by 31 B-24's while 10 B-25's and 10 A-20's dropped 40 more tons

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on Brandi Plantation, of Newak. Considerable damage was inflicted on supply areas and defense positions. The army headquarters was reported destroyed. No enemy interception was encountered and A/A was weaker than during previous raids. 1 B-24 failing to reach Newak bombed Alexishafen.

P-39's bombed and strafed Amele and village near Madang. 2 more P-39's strafed the Malas Point area.

(F) N. E. I.

Early the morning of 16 March Sourabaya Naval Base was attacked by 7 B-24's. 2 others bombed the factory area of the city while 1 more bombed Den Pasar, Bali. Almost 10 tons of bombs were dropped. Clouds prevented accurate observation of results.

The same morning 70 miles N. of Hollandia bombers (PBV's) attacked a convoy of 3 3000 ton AK's and 5 escort vessels. Full details have not been reported but 3 hits were scored on 2 of the vessels.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking 4 10,000 ton enemy tankers (AO), all loaded with gasoline, 2 7,500 ton AK's and 1 2,500 ton AK for a total of 57,500 tons sunk.

Another U.S. SS has reported sinking a 7,350 ton enemy tanker and 2,473 ton AK by torpedo, and a 30-ton sampan by gun fire for a total of 9,853 tons sunk.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 17 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 16 March (0130 K - 0220 K) Truk was attacked by 11 of 22 B-24's from Kwajalein which bombed Eten and Dublon islands. Fires were observed to have been started in many places. Very heavy A/A fire was encountered both from shorebased and shipboard A/A. Searchlights and possibly 1 enemy night fighter were encountered.

Ponape and Oroluk were bombed by 11 B-24's which had started on the Truk raid but were turned back by bad weather.

On 16 March U.S. search planes bombed both Pingelap and Oroluk. Oroluk appeared deserted.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 15 March at 1005 L, Jaluit was attacked by 10 Marine SBD's. 2 fires were started by the 4½ tons of bombs dropped. 1 plane was damaged by A/A fire. The same day at 1040 L, Motje was hit with 10 tons of bombs by 12 B-25's. Dumps, barracks and the radio station were the targets. Some A/A was met.

On 16 March at 1220 L, an ammunition dump was exploded and radar installations were damaged at Taroa by 6 tons of bombs and cannon fire from 12 B-25's. A/A fire damaged 2 planes and wounded 3 men. The same day at 1215 L, 18 tons of bombs were dropped on Motje from 6 B-34's. Explosions and fires were started.

On 16 March, Mille was bombed with 4½ tons of bombs and 2 barges were strafed by 10 Marine SBD's and 4 F6F's. A/A fire damaged 2 planes and wounded 2 men.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 14 March around the Torokina perimeter, enemy gun positions were again attacked by 54 TBF's and 118 SBD's. 145 tons of bombs were dropped.

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Bombed and strafed by 18 medium bombers coming in at a low level. When U.S. Army troops were landed. Little opposition was met.

In the afternoon of 15 March, our troops, moving E. along the coast, had reached a point $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the airfield. Some enemy mortar and m/c fire was being encountered. 55 Japs were killed.

Another Army unit from Lugos Mission moved S. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles and then turned E.

The Lorengau area was again attacked by 18 more B-25's escorted by fighters.

(D) New Britain

On the night of 13 - 14 March, off Garove Island, 3 enemy barges were contacted but escaped from our PT's.

On 14 March, S. of Talasea, near Patanga, enemy units have been met by U.S. Marine patrols.

On the morning of 14 March, Vunapope was bombed by 12 P-40's and 10 P-39's. Then the Rabaul waterfront was attacked by 22 B-25's and 23 B-24's which dropped 102 tons of bombs. 50 buildings were hit and large fires were started. Escorting were 12 F6F's and 12 F4U's. The same day, Keravia Bay shipping was attacked by 18 TBF's and 24 SBD's escorted by F4U's and F6F's. 5 barges were hit and 2 4.7" naval guns wrecked. All of our planes returned safely, although A/A fire damaged 1 B-24, 4 B-25's, 3 SBD's and 4 TBF's. There was no enemy air interception.

On 14 March, in the Rabaul - New Ireland area, 10 F4U's, 6 F6F's and 8 P-38's, hunting for shipping, set afire a coastal vessel in Keravia Bay, damaged 7 barges and strafed 12 small craft.

At 1700 L, observation of all Rabaul fields showed only 2 planes at Lakunai.

On 15 March, in Open Bay, 2 enemy barges were sunk and villages raided by 4 strafing P-39's.

(E) New Guinea

On 12 March, according to delayed reports, Wards Village, 3 miles S. of Deumolina, was hit again (See Naval Summary 16 March 1944) by 11 A-20's, which dropped 10 tons of bombs and strafed the target. Huts were wrecked.

On the night of 12 - 13 March Yalau was ineffectively raided by 2 enemy planes which dropped their bombs into the sea.

Photos on 13 March of Hollandia airfield showed a total of 121 bombers and 39 fighters, while at Wakde Island, 100 miles to the NW, were

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9 fighters and 37 bombers.

On the night of 13 - 14 March, enemy installations at Karkar Island and Cape Croisilles were shelled and strafed by U.S. PT's.

On 14 March, Karkar Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped. The same day, Alexishafen was hit by 12 A-20's which dropped 10 1/2 tons of bombs on the airfield and expended 13,000 rounds of m/g in strafing. Meagre A/A fire was met. 2 fires were started.

On the night of 14 - 15 March, Saidor was raided by a single enemy plane which bombed a small fuel dump. 6 bombs were dropped. The same time, Dumpu airfield was attacked by 2 enemy bombers which caused no damage. Our A/A brought down 1 of them.

Also the night of 14 - 15 March, in Broken Water Bay, NW of Hansa Bay, 8 enemy barges were sunk or damaged after being driven to the beach in an attack by a PBY. The same night, PBY's were over the Newak area, where they sunk or damaged 15 barges and hit Muschu Island with 1 1/2 tons of bombs.

Before noon on 15 March, the Newak area was heavily attacked for the 5th consecutive day. Newak gun positions were pounded by 42 B-24's which dropped 161 tons of bombs - including 2,000 pounders. Explosions and fires were caused after direct hits were scored. Buildings were wrecked. Fires could be seen 75 miles away.

Meanwhile, Kairiru Island was attacked by 24 A-20's and 35 B-25's which dropped 57 tons of bombs on the floatplane base. The ramp was badly damaged, a lugger was sunk, houses were wrecked and a fuel dump set afire. Enemy air interception was weak. Slight to intense A/A fire was met.

Covering our bombers were P-38's, which shot down 5 Jap fighters, and probably a sixth.

Also 15 March, villages N. of Madang were raided by 5 strafing P-39's.

R. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities

Summary as of 0800, 16 March 1942

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 14 March, Ponape was attacked by 15 U.S. B-24's which dropped 22 tons of bombs on enemy installations and the airfield area. Very little A/A was met. The same day at 0800 L, Kusaie was also bombed by 2 B-24's which dropped 3 tons of bombs. Some A/A was met.

On 14 March at 1319 K, an enemy medium bomber was shot down 280 miles NE of Truk by a U.S. search plane. The same day, U.S. search planes bombed and strafed Kusaie, Oroluk and Ponape. At both Kusaie and Oroluk, beached ships were strafed, and at Ponape the airfield was strafed.

(B) Marshall Islands

On the night of 13 - 14 March, after midnight (0115 M), Mille was bombed by 7 B-24's which dropped 12 tons of bombs amid very heavy A/A fire.

Early the morning of 14 March (0600 M) Jaluit was attacked by 1 B-24 and 4 B-24's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped. Some A/A was encountered.

Midday (1130 M), 14 March Wotje was hit by 10 Marine SBL's and 4 F6F's. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped. Little A/A was met. The same day (0925 - 1555 M) Mille was again attacked by 18 B-25's which dropped 12 1/2 tons of bombs. Some A/A was encountered.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 13 March, NE and E. of the Torokina perimeter, enemy gun positions were heavily attacked again by 95 TBF's and 131 SBD's. A total of 123 tons of bombs were dropped, with excellent results reported. The same day Monoitu was hit by 2 B-24's which bombed buildings and started fires, while Mamagata was raided by 4 P-3's.

Also 13 March, Kahili was raided by a single B-24, which dropped 4 tons of bombs, and Bonis was raided by 1 B-25.

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Shortlands targets were bombed by 4 P-38's on 13 March.

Early the morning of 13 March, at Choiseul Bay, off Sipoai, an enemy sailboat was sunk by a PBY, which also bombed Aitara.

Early the morning of 14 March, over Torekina, an enemy floatplane was shot down by a B-34.

Also 14 March, near the SE perimeter near Mavavia, an enemy patrol was ambushed by a U.S. patrol. 3 Japs were killed.

Near the NE perimeter, the total of enemy dead has reached 615, although a force of enemy troops was still present in the area.

It was reported that 2 entire enemy battalions have been wiped out.

On the N. perimeter, our forces have wired their lines which were re-established at 1 points in this area. Inside our wire and on it were 300 enemy dead.

Along our perimeter, excellent results were obtained with direct fire from 90 MM A/A guns.

Total enemy dead, which includes only those which can be seen, was estimated at 1,173.

On the night of 14 - 15 March, in Choiseul Bay, Poropora was strafed by U.S. PT's. The same night, off Jaba River, an enemy barge was hit in a bombing attack by a PBY.

(B) New Ireland

On 13 March, Kavien; and Mamtanai were each raided by a single B-24. Results were not observed.

Early the morning of 13 March, the radar station at Cape St. George was bombed by a U.S. Navy PBY on patrol.

(C) The Admiralties

On 13 March, 800 yards SW of Papitalai, high ground which had been held by the enemy was taken by our ground forces, which met some opposition. Much patrol activity was reported.

On the morning of 16 March, Lorengau area was shelled for 2 hours by U.S. LL's. Afterwards, a U.S. Army force of 2,000 men were landed on Lorengau, and before noon, were reported to have reached a point half-way to the Lorengau airfield, which is just N. of Lorengau Town.

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(D) New Britain

On the night of 12 - 13 March, in the Vitu Islands, our PT's reported that 15 4.7" and 3" guns sent intense fire at them.

On the evening of 13 March, Jacquinot Bay targets (Cutarp and Kamalgaman) were hit by 26 Allied Beauforts. Almost 17 tons of bombs were dropped on suspected enemy concentrations. The same day, E. of Jacquinot Bay, Palmamal Plantation was raided by 2 Allied A-20's.

At noon on 13 March, Tobera was attacked by 16 P6F's which strafed revetments. Meanwhile, N. area of Rabaul Town was hit by 22 B-24's covered by 11 P4U's. 80 tons of bombs were dropped. Many fires were started. 4 B-24's were damaged by A/A fire.

On 13 March, the N. shore of Rabaul Harbor and Vunapope were attacked by 22 B-25's. 31 tons of bombs were dropped, and fires started. On the homeward trip, near the E. coast of New Ireland, 3 enemy planes were seen.

On 13 March, Vunapope was hit by 11 Allied P-40's, 4 P-38's and 12 P-39's, which dropped 500-pound bombs on buildings and supply dumps.

On 14 March, it was reported that an enemy force totalling 190 was moving up the coast to Pondo from Open Bay area.

Meanwhile, another report of the evacuation of the Gasmata area (see Naval Summary for 15 March 1944) states that the main enemy force, carrying a supply of rice to last 35 days, but travelling light, had left Gasmata and was proceeding overland.

(E) New Guinea

On the morning of 10 March, according to delayed reports, Amaimon, N. of Madang, and Atemble were attacked by 10 A-20's. Over 6 tons of bombs were dropped and 15,000 rounds of m/g used in strafing.

On 12 March, according to later reports (see Naval Summaries, 14 and 15 March 1944), Brandi Plantation in the Milne Bay area was hit by 12 more A-20's. This makes a total of 68 A-20's. Over 10 more tons of bombs were dropped, and 14,000 rounds of m/g expended.

Also 12 March, 3 miles S. of Daumoina, Wards Village was hit by 15 P-39's, which dropped almost 4 tons of bombs and strafed. Heavy damage was reported.

On 13 March, 20 miles E. of Bogadjim, Soga Soga Village, Melanua Harbor, was occupied by U.S. patrols. Preceding this, the village was attacked by 16 P-39's, which dive-bombed and strafed.

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Meanwhile, in the Mintjim Valley, our patrols were reported in contact with the enemy about 400 yards ~~MMW~~ of Daumoina.

Also 13 March, off Masohu Island, 4 barges were wrecked by 8 PBV's, which also at Kurik Lagoon, strafed a fishing boat.

The same day, Alexishafen was hit by 10 A-20's which bombed and strafed the airfield. Intense and accurate A/A fire brought down 1 A-20.

On 13 March, 25 miles W. of Brima, Casual Village was hit by 12 A-20's which bombed and strafed. Huts were wrecked.

Later reports of the raid on 13 March on the Kowak area showed 10 more A-20's participated.

On 14 March, 10 miles SE of Bogajim, Yangalam was reached by Australian patrols which had come from the upper Ramu Valley.

Also at noon 14 March, Boram - Brandi Plantation area was heavily attacked for the 4th consecutive day by 38 A-20's, 35 B-25's, and 27 B-24's. Over 170 tons of bombs were dropped on supply and fuel dumps, buildings and A/A positions. Explosions and fires were caused. Of more than 30 intercepting enemy fighters, 8 were shot down, and 2 more probably shot down. We suffered no losses. Meanwhile, Hansa Bay was hit by 3 B-24's.

The morning of 14 March, Tadji airfield was attacked by 17 B-24's. 68 tons of bombs were released, wrecking a plane on the ground, leaving the runway unserviceable and starting fires.

(F) N. E. I.

On the night of 13 - 14 March, Babo was raided by a single Allied PBV. Almost 2 tons of bombs were dropped, causing fires.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U. S. SS reported sinking 1 enemy AK. In addition, the SS reported a second AK probably sunk and a CL damaged.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of OBCO, 15 March 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Wake Island

Details of the U.S. Air attack on 12 March on Wake are:

At 1305 L 22 B-24's and 4 photo planes attacked the area. 51 tons of bombs were dropped, 80% of which were claimed in the target area. Some A/A was encountered but did not damage our planes.

(B) Ocean & Nauru

Details of the raid on 12 March on Nauru indicate it took place at 1550 L. 5 B-24's dropped 11 tons of bombs and encountered considerable A/A fire.

(C) Caroline Islands

On 13 March at 1550 M, Kusaie was hit with 3 tons of bombs from 3 B-25's. The same day a U.S. search plane was intercepted by 2 enemy fighters N. of Ponape. 1 enemy plane was probably shot down and the second was damaged.

On 13 March, Oroluk and Pingelap were bombed by U.S. search planes. Fires were started in building areas.

(D) Marshall Islands

On 12 March, Taroa was attacked by 10 B-25's which dropped 5½ tons of bombs. Heavy but inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

On 13 March at 1030 M, Motje was attacked by 7 B-24's which dropped 6 tons of bombs. A/A fire was met.

On 13 March at 1204 M, Mille was bombed by 1 B-24 which dropped 2 tons of bombs. The same day at 1200 M, Motje was hit by 3 B-24's which released 6 tons of bombs. Some A/A fire was encountered.

On 13 March at 1132 M, Taroa was attacked by 3 B-24's and 10 SBD's. 10½ tons of bombs were dropped. A/A positions were hit and an ammunition dump was exploded. 1 B-24 and 1 SBD were damaged by A/A fire.

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On 13 March Jaluit was attacked by 12 B-25's. 12 tons of bombs were dropped on enemy positions, with concentrations on A/A positions. Very heavy A/A fire was encountered.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 12 March, enemy gun positions around the Torokina area, NE perimeter and N. of Saia River, were attacked by TBF's and SBD's, which dropped 80 tons of bombs during 159 sorties.

On 12 March, our positions were shelled intermittently by enemy artillery. Some damage and a few casualties were caused. Also 12 March, Buika was raided by 2 B-25's. Meanwhile, Shortland Island gun positions were hit by 4 P-39's which bombed and strafed.

Tiniputs was raided by strafing F4U's on 12 March. Also the same day, near Motupena Point in Gazelle Harbor, a barge was attacked by 4 strafing F6F's.

On the night of 12 - 13 March, off SW coast of Bougainville, our PT's were again attacked without success by enemy floatplanes.

On 13 March in the Torokina sector, a strong enemy attack at the N. perimeter was repulsed. 109 Japs were killed. Our casualties were only 3 slightly wounded.

On the NE perimeter, our forces, aided by tanks, attacked the enemy who had made a slight penetration on the previous day. Our lines were restored, and 100 Japs killed.

On the E. perimeter, our forces were mopping-up, and killed many enemy troops.

Also 13 March, enemy positions around Torokina were shelled again by U.S. DD's. As a result of shelling and bombing, enemy artillery fire has decreased.

(B) Green Islands

On the night of 11 - 12 March, Nissan Island was attacked without damage by 2 enemy planes.

(C) New Ireland

Photos on 12 March of Borpop, Namatanai, Panapai and Kavieng airfields showed no operative enemy planes present, and all the runways unserviceable except a fighter strip at Namatanai.

Also 12 March, Borpop, Namatanai and Kavieng were all raided by our bombers on patrol.

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(D) Admiralty Islands

On the night of 11 - 12 March, Momote was ineffectively raided by enemy planes.

On the night of 12 - 13 March, Momote was again ineffectively raided by enemy planes.

On 13 March, Hauwei Island was captured by our ground forces. Enemy dead in this action were 42. To date, the total number of enemy dead was estimated at 1,891.

It was reported that in the Seeadler Harbor area were not more than 3,000 Japanese troops.

Again 13 March, about 800 yards SW of Papitalai, enemy positions were shelled by our artillery and mortars.

The same day, E. of Momote, an enemy barge was sunk by our PT's.

(E) New Britain

On the morning of 11 March, at Eleanora Bay, U.S. Marines made a successful landing at Linga Linga Plantation. To date, a total of 55 Japs has been killed and 12 captured.

On the night of 11 - 12 March, Rapopo was raided by a single B-24.

On 12 March, it was reported that enemy troops and equipment (including tanks) were being evacuated by barge to Wide Bay area from Gasmata.

The same day, 5 miles E. of Talasea, at Garilli, enemy outposts have been contacted by U.S. Marine patrols.

On the morning of 12 March the aerial pounding of Rabaul continued.

In the 1st attack, the waterfront in M. Simpson Harbor was hit by 22 B-25's escorted by 11 P4U's. 31 tons of bombs were dropped, and fires started. There was no enemy air interception.

Shortly afterwards, the same area was attacked by 18 B-24's covered by 11 P4U's. 72 tons of bombs were released. Fires and explosions resulted. Enemy fighters were seen over Tobera, but no interception was attempted. A/A fire damaged 6 B-24's and 1 B-25.

At noon Rabaul Town was hit by 16 P-38's, 24 P-40's and 24 P-39's. 16 tons of bombs were dropped. A probable oil dump was destroyed and explosions caused. We lost 1 P-39.

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In the afternoon of 12 March, Rabaul area was swept by 8 P4U's. Of 5 enemy planes seen on the ground at Lakunai, 1 was destroyed. A/A fire brought down 1 P4U.

Also the morning of 12 March, at Ataliklikun Bay, 1 of 7 enemy fighters seen was shot down by 8 sweeping P4U's. Later over Tobora, 8 more P4U's met 6 Jap fighters, 3 of which were shot down, and another probably shot down. At Ataliklikun Bay, these P4U's set 3 small craft afire.

Photos on 12 March of Tobora showed 14 enemy fighters present.

On the night of 12 - 13 March, off Jacquinot Bay, a single enemy floatplane was shot down by U.S. PT's. These PT's also sank a barge.

On 13 March, Commodore Bay villages were raided by 12 Allied Beaufighters. Meanwhile, targets in Bangula Bay were hit by 3 P-39's.

(F) New Guinea

On the morning 12 March, according to later reports, Boram was attacked by 24 more A-20's, 18 more B-25's and 6 more B-24's. This makes a total (see Naval Summary for 14 March 1944) of 56 A-20's, 36 B-25's and 24 B-24's, with a strong fighter escort - constituting the heaviest concentration of bombers yet used in this area. A total of more than 175 tons of bombs were dropped on fuel stores, supply dumps, A/A positions, and the airfield. Fires were started, and several planes on the ground wrecked. Of 30 - 40 intercepting enemy fighters, 18 were shot down, and 6 more probably shot down. We lost 2 A-20's to A/A fire.

Also 12 March, N. of Alexishafen, Amaimon Village was hit by 14 A-20's and 16 P-39's. 13 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target sprayed with over 15,000 rounds of m/g. Huts were wrecked.

The same day, S. of Madang, Bili Bili was attacked by 12 A-20's. 10 tons of bombs were dropped and the area strafed heavily. Huts and a bridge were wrecked, and an explosion caused.

On the night of 12 - 13 March, off Hollandia, 3 sea trucks were attacked by PBY's. 2 of these were set afire and left sinking, and the third was beached. The enemy was abandoning all 3. Muschu Island was also raided by the PBY's, which also at Vanimo, strafed 2 patrol boats.

Also the night of 12 March, Seidor was raided by enemy planes which caused no damage. 3 bombs were dropped. The same night, Markar Island was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

On 13 March, according to incomplete reports, the Newak area was again hit, in an attack which was even heavier than the preceding day's. It was reported that a total of 120 bombers participated - details so far list 25 A-20's, 30 B-25's, and 38 B-24's. A total of at least 210 tons of bombs was dropped on A/A positions at Newak Point and supply dumps at Brandt Plantation.

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Over 25,000 rounds of m/g were expended. Many fires and explosions were caused. Of about 30 intercepting Jap fighters, 8 were shot down and another probably shot down. We suffered no losses. Intense A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, Madang area was hit by P-39's which strafed gun positions.

D. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 14 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Wake Islands

On the afternoon of 12 March Wake Island was attacked by a force of U.S. heavy bombers, according to a Pacific Fleet Communique. Approximately 50 tons of bombs were dropped. No further details are available.

(B) Caroline Islands

On 12 March Pingelap was again bombed by a U.S. search plane. 1 ton of bombs destroyed buildings.

The same day, search planes observed no shipping at Kusaie or Ponape.

(C) Marshall Islands

On 11 March Lib Island, S. of Kwajalein, was reconnoitered by a U.S. unit. No Japs were found.

Ujae Island, N. of Kwajalein, was occupied by a Marine force. 1 enemy soldier was captured.

(D) Ocean & Nauru

On 12 March, Nauru was raided by U.S. Army heavy bombers, according to a Pacific Fleet Communique. No further details are available.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

On the night of 10 - 11 March, Nanpan Village, NW Buaka, and Motupona Point were raided by U.S. Navy patrol bombers.

On 11 March, enemy positions around the Torokina perimeter were attacked by a total of 100 U.S. Navy dive and torpedo bombers (57 TBD's, 103 SBD's). 78 tons of bombs were dropped, putting enemy positions out of action, hitting an ammunition dump, and causing fires.

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Much enemy activity was observed in the area at the upper Reini River. The same day, Monoitu Mission was raided by 4 B-24's, which started a fire. Meanwhile, Mosigetta was hit by P-40's, Tinputs was raided by 8 U.S. Navy fighters (F4U's), and Kieta and Kaldii were each raided by a single B-24.

On the night of 11 - 12 March, E. of Puriata River, our PT's were attacked twice by enemy floatplanes. The PT's were hunting beached barges. The same night, our PT's were ineffectively shelled by enemy guns near the Reini River.

On 12 March, an enemy pillbox within the Torokina perimeter was knocked out by our ground forces. 349 enemy dead within our lines were counted, but many more were killed.

On the E. sector of the perimeter, the enemy made 3 major attacks, all of which were repulsed. However, a slight penetration of our lines was made. In the last 3 days, it was estimated conservatively that more than 1,000 enemy troops have been killed.

(B) New Ireland

On 11 March, Namatanai was twice raided by patrol bombers, while Kavieng was also raided by a single bomber on patrol.

It was reported that the radar station at Cape St. George has evidently been repaired.

On the night of 11 - 12 March, E. of Cape St. George, enemy floatplanes ineffectively attacked U.S. PT's, which shot down 1 plane.

(C) Admiralty Islands

On 11 March, W. of Lorengau along the coast, Lugos Mission was attacked by 7 B-24's which dropped over 10 tons of bombs and strafed. Meagre and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered. The same day, Lorengau was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. Buildings were hit.

On 11 March, at the entrance to Seeadler Harbor, Hauwei Island was shelled by U.S. Navy surface units and by artillery, putting out of action large-calibre guns there. Then our forces landed. It was reported that the enemy here is well-entrenched and well-armed.

Also 11 March, our forces landed on Butjo Luo Island, 3 miles E. of Lorengau, meeting no opposition.

On the afternoon of 11 March, E. of Papitalai, the enemy was driven out of his strong positions by our ground forces.

On the night of 11 - 12 March, in Seeadler Harbor, 2 enemy barges were sunk by U.S. PT's.

On 12 March, the Lorengau area was again attacked by 12 B-24's which dropped 13 tons of bombs and expended almost 19,000 rounds of m/c fire

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in strafing roads. Huts were wrecked.

Also 12 March, on Manus Island at Bear Point, it was reported that there were no enemy troops there.

(D) New Britain

On the morning of 11 March, Rabaul Town was heavily attacked by 2 waves of bombers.

In the 1st attack, 24 B-25's came in at 1037 L, and dropped 27 tons of bombs. 2 barges were sunk, a pier was damaged, and many hits were made on the target. There was no enemy air interception, although 6 airborne enemy planes were seen. Intense and accurate A/A fire caused damage to 6 B-25's.

Ten minutes later, the same target was hit by 20 B-24's. 79 tons of bombs were dropped. Supply dumps were hit, fires started, and buildings were wrecked. A/A fire damaged 2 B-24's.

In these 2 attacks, a total of some 60 buildings were wrecked.

Covering both waves of bombers were 12 P-38's.

Meanwhile the morning of 11 March, Vunapope and Rabaul Town were hit by 20 P-40's which dropped a total of 6 tons of bombs. Fires were started.

The same morning barges in Keravial Bay were attacked by 7 P4U's and 5 P6F's. These planes also later swept down the coast to Adler Bay, where repaired radar installations were strafed.

On the afternoon of 11 March, barges in Keravial Bay were again attacked by 6 TBF's escorted by 4 P4U's and 6 P6F's. Direct hits were made on 4 barges. A/A fire damaged 1 of our planes. It was reported that no enemy planes were seen at Keravat, Vunakanau, Tobera and Rapopo.

On the evening of 11 March, Jacquinot Bay targets were attacked by 25 Allied Beauforts. About 18 tons of bombs were released. The same day Cape Cunningham was raided by a single B-25 on patrol.

On the night of 11 March, off Warangoi, a small enemy vessel was attacked by patrolling bombers, which scored near misses, while at Adler Bay, a barge was bombed.

On 12 March, the Gasmata airfield was reported being held by only a small enemy force, while the islands nearby were reported free of enemy troops.

(E) New Guinea

On the night of 11 March, Seidor was ineffectively raided by 2 enemy bombers.

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Later reports of the 11 March attack on Boran airfield (Daily Summary 13 March, 1944) state that 22 A-20's, 19 B-25's and 26 B-24's participated, escorted by P-47's. 122 tons of bombs were dropped, and 52,000 rounds of m/g fire expended. Moderately intense A/A fire was met. Hansa Bay was hit by 3 B-24's, which dropped 9 tons of bombs, while Alexishafen was raided by 1 B-24, which dropped 3 tons of bombs.

Also 11 March, at Uligan and Bunabun, gun positions were hit by B-24's on patrol.

The night of 11 March, near Hollandia, enemy shipping was attacked without success by a PBY on patrol.

On 12 March, W. of Yalau, it was reported that our ground forces at the mouth of the Kambara River, 15 miles E. of Bogadjim, had met some Japanese troops.

The same day, Karkar Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

On the morning of 12 March, Boran airfield was once more heavily attacked by 32 A-20's, 18 B-25's and 18 B-24's. 121 tons of bombs -- some of them 1 ton bombs -- were dropped on supply dumps, A/A guns and the airfield. The targets were strafed with 37,700 rounds of m/g. Explosions and fires were caused. Intense A/A fire was encountered. There was some enemy air interception, but details were not reported.

W. L. Boles

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 13 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

On 10 March Kusale was attacked by 3 B-25's. Shore installations were bombed and A/A fire was met.

The same day, at Oroluk, a U.S. search plane observed a previously damaged AK to be beached.

On 11 March U.S. search planes observed an airfield at Satawan Atoll. Heavy A/A fire encountered damaged 1 plane and killed 1 crew member. The same day over Oroluk Atoll, a U.S. search plane met heavy A/A fire.

At Pingelap, on 11 March, a search plane bombed and destroyed a building at the radio station.

B. Marshall Islands

On 10 March it was announced that Wotho Atoll had been occupied by a U.S. Marine mopping-up detachment.

At midday, 11 March, Mille was hit by 7 A-24's and 8 P-40's. 8 tons of bombs were dropped. Intense A/A fire was encountered. Mille was previously hit on the morning of the same day by 1 B-25 which released 1 ton of bombs. This plane met no A/A fire.

Jaluit was attacked the same day by 10 SBD's. 4 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped and some A/A fire was met.

Also on 11 March, at midday, Wotje was bombed by 9 B-25's. 6 tons of bombs were released in the pier and runway area. No A/A fire was met.

On the evening of the same day, 6 B-34's hit Teroa with 7 tons of bombs, starting explosions. Some A/A fire was met.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 10 March, E. of the Torokina perimeter, enemy gun positions were attacked by 28 TBF's and 55 SBD's. Excellent results were reported.

The same day, at the Sava River mouth, gun positions were put out of action by 29 SBD's.

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Also the same day, at NE. Bougainville, Tinian Harbor was attacked by F4U's which also strafed Kepia Plantation at Shortland Island, and barges along the E. coast of Bougainville.

Shortland Island was hit by 8 P-39's on 10 March. Good results were reported.

On 11 March, in the E. section of the Torokina perimeter, about 250 enemy troops were engaged by our ground forces, while the same morning, in another sector of the perimeter, a strong enemy attack was repulsed and our line restored by a counter-attack. Many enemy casualties were reported. Our artillery continued to pound enemy guns and positions.

On the morning of 11 March, the beaches near Torokina were being covered by PT's and DD's. Meanwhile, E. of Saua River, a supply road was shelled by U.S. DD's.

Also on the same morning, N. of Metchin Bay, N. of Taiof Island, 2 SS's on the surface were strafed by 4 of our fighters.

Early on the morning of 12 March, 10 miles SE of Choiseul Bay, at Moli Point, an enemy barge and unloading operations were shelled by U.S. DD's.

B. New Britain

On 9 March, E. Simpson Harbor area was attacked by 21 P-39's and 22 P-40's. More than 9 tons of bombs were dropped and a wharf hit.

The same day, at Wide Bay, a barge was strafed by 4 F6F's.

On the night of 9-10 March, the Rabaul area was raided by a single B-24 which hit Keravat, Rapopo and Rabaul. Fires were caused at Rabaul Town.

On 10 March the Rabaul area was again attacked by Sopac planes. The NW section of Simpson Harbor was hit by 19 B-24's which dropped 76 tons of bombs. Many fires were started. Intense and accurate A/A fire caused slight damage to 5 B-24's. Our bombers were covered by 11 P-38's.

The same day, Vunapope was attacked by 22 Allied P-39's and P-40's which dropped bombs on supply dumps. Some enemy fighters and 7 dive-bombers were seen in the air but no interception was attempted. Slight A/A fire was met.

Later the same day, Keravia Bay shipping was hit by 6 TBF's. 2 schooners and a large barge were sunk and 2 more barges and a pier were damaged.

Also on March 10, at Jacquinot Bay, a gun position was attacked by a B-25 on patrol.

Early on the morning of 10 March, at Jacquinot Bay, a fuel barge was sunk and 2 more badly damaged in an attack by PBV's which also, off Cape Orford, strafed a patrol boat, and at Rondahl Harbor, strafed 4 barges.

The same day, Casamata was hit by 9 Allied Beauforts which dropped almost 7 tons of bombs on supply dumps. Gwuvu was attacked by 17 more Allied Beauforts which dropped over 10 tons of bombs.

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Also the same day, 20 miles N. of Cape Hollman, 1 barge was sunk and another left sinking in an attack by 2 A-20's and 8 Allied Beau-fighters. The barges were loaded with troops. W. of Bangula Bay other barges were strafed, while Fulleborn Harbor and Ubai (S. of Commodore Bay) were strafed.

Also on 10 March, at Garove Island, an enemy patrol boat was badly damaged and run aground after meeting our PT's.

On 11 March, at S. Stettin Bay, trails and villages were attacked by 5 Allied Beau-fighters, while at Cape Beechey, Rano Plantation was hit by 2 Allied A-20's, which dropped 1 1/2 tons of bombs.

C. New Ireland and Admiralties

On 10 March, at Hauwei Island, at the entrance to Seeadler Harbor, enemy gun positions were shelled by a U.S. surface unit.

Also the same day, Kavieng, Nematani, Borpop, and Cape Narum were all raided by patrolling bombers.

On the night of 10-11 March, N. of Cape St. George, 5 enemy barges and 1 boat were sunk by U.S. PT's aided by a PBV. Shore guns and a floatplane attacked the PT's, causing slight damage to 1 of them.

On 11 March, at Los Negros Island, N. of Papitalai, some enemy resistance was encountered on the high ground there. Our artillery shelled the enemy positions.

The same day, Lorengau area was hit again by 12 B-25's. 6 of these were reported to have dropped more than 11 tons of bombs and heavily strafed the targets. Huts and a bridge were wrecked.

D. New Guinea

Early on 10 March, at Hollandia Bay, gun positions were put out of action by PBV's on patrol.

The same day, near the mouth of the Sepik River, 2 luggers were attacked by a strafing B-25 on patrol. Meanwhile, Madang area was raided by 2 P-39's which strafed supplies, buildings and 5 trucks. These planes reported that new supplies were observed in the area and that the roads appeared used often.

At midday, 10 March, Atemble was attacked by 10 A-20's, while early that morning, at Hollandia, a sea truck was sunk in an attack by a PBV. Later, a 3,000-ton AK in the same area was set afire by another PBV, which also bombed along the shore, hitting barges. The same morning, 15 miles E. of Vanimo, a small tug was attacked by a third PBV. The tug was beached.

On 11 March, according to incomplete reports, Boran airfield was heavily attacked by B-25's, B-24's and A-20's, escorted by fighters. Supply dumps and the runway vicinity were bombed, gun positions put out of action and

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many fires started. Some enemy planes were wrecked on the ground, while many others intercepted our planes. 26 enemy planes were shot down, and probably 6 more shot down. We lost 2 planes (1 fighter and 1 bomber). Meanwhile, Hansa Bay targets were attacked by other bombers.

Also the same day, Manam Island was raided by 4 P-47's which strafed and damaged a warehouse. These planes also damaged a beached boat at Bagabag Island.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS reports probably sinking a 6,000-ton AP and damaging an 8,000-ton AO.

W. L. Bales.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 12 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 10 March, at Greenwich, the floatplane area was strafed and bombed by a Sopac search plane, which observed no activity.

Also 10 March at midday (1220 M), Ponape was attacked by 15 B-24's which dropped 22½ tons of bombs on Langar Island. An A/A battery was put out of action, and fires and explosions caused. We suffered no casualties or damage.

At 1200 M, Kusaie was hit by 3 B-24's which dropped 4½ tons of bombs on Iale Harbor wharves and small ships.

(B) Marshall Islands

On the afternoon of 10 March, at 1441 M, Taroa was attacked by 4 B-25's preceded at 1255 M by 5 others. A total of 9 tons of bombs was dropped. Moderately-intense A/A fire caused slight damage to 2 B-25's.

At 1950 M, Kotje was hit by 5 PV's which dropped 5½ tons of bombs. No damage was caused to our planes by slight A/A fire.

At 1010 M, Jaluit was attacked by 10 SBD's which dropped 5 tons of bombs, starting fires. Slight A/A fire was met but all of our planes returned safely.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 8 March photos of Bonis, Buks, Ballale, Kara and Kahili airfields show no planes and all the runways unserviceable.

On 9 March, in the Torokina area, very slight shelling by enemy artillery was reported, while along the perimeter there were minor patrol contacts. Enemy casualties were not known, but were believed large.

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The same day, Buka was raided by a single B-25, while Kahili was raided by 1 B-24 which put a heavy A/A gun position out of action with 3 tons of bombs.

Also 9 March, around the Torokina perimeter, enemy gun positions were attacked by 11 TBF's and SBD's. Near the Saua River, 1 SBD was lost.

The night of 9 - 10 March, at Motupena Point, enemy shore guns were silenced by U.S. DD's.

The same night, in the Piva area, continuous but slight shelling by enemy artillery was reported. 2 of our planes were slightly damaged, and 1 man wounded.

On the afternoon of 10 March, E. of the Torokina perimeter, enemy positions were again shelled by U.S. DD's.

On the morning of 10 March at 0845 L, at Piva enemy shelling continued. The runway was hit but repaired immediately. It was reported that the enemy was preparing to attack in the northern sector.

The same day, in support of ground forces near Torokina, enemy installations were attacked by 2 squadrons of B-25's.

On the morning of 11 March at 0740 L, N. of Matchin Bay, N. of Taiof Island, 2 SS's on the surface were strafed by 4 of our fighters.

(B) Feni Islands

On the night of 9 - 10 March, off Feni Island, an enemy barge was sunk by U.S. PT's.

(C) New Ireland & Admiralties

Up to 1900 K on 8 March, in the Admiralties, total enemy casualties counted were 1,579.

On 9 March at Manus Island, consolidation of our gains was continuing. The same day, Cape St. George radar station was hit by 19 B-24's on the homeward trip from Rabaul. 4 tons of bombs were dropped.

Namatanai was raided by 1 B-25 on 9 March. Early the same day at 0045 L, Kavieng was raided by a single patrol bomber which hit the runway with 3 bombs, and the taxi strip with 11 more.

Early the morning of 9 March, Cape Sena, S. of Borpop, was raided by a Sopac patrol bomber.

On 10 March, Lorengau and Lugos Mission were heavily attacked in rough weather by 19 B-24's which dropped 66½ tons of bombs. Buildings and huts were wrecked.

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On 10 March, E. of Lorengau along the N. coast of Manus Island, targets at Bawat Bay and Inrim Plantation were attacked by 12 B-25's. Almost 15 tons of bombs were dropped from medium to low level, and the targets heavily strafed. Buildings and huts were destroyed, and a barge damaged. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

(D) New Britain

On 8 March, (not 9 March as stated in Naval Summary, 11 March 1944), Talasea airfield was occupied by U.S. Marines, which also took Maru Village and proceeded 1 mile S. of the airfield. Up to the morning of 8 March, in this area, 83 enemy dead were counted.

On the night of 8 - 9 March, Rabaul area was raided by a single B-24 which dropped bombs on Rapopo, Keravat and Rabaul.

On 9 March, near Gasmata, Abingi area was hit by 2 P-39's which also strafed a barge.

Also 9 March, Gasmata supply dumps were attacked by 8 more Allied Beauforts which dropped almost 7 tons of bombs, starting fires. Slight to moderately-intense A/A fire was met.

The same day, near Ubili, a sawmill at Ulamoa was hit by 2 Allied Beaufighters which dropped 2 tons of bombs and also attacked small craft by strafing.

On the afternoon of 9 March, the Rabaul area was the target again for continuing Sopac air attacks.

Along the N. shore of Simpson Harbor, the dock area was attacked by 24 B-25's which dropped 36 tons of bombs, starting fires. Meanwhile, the Rabaul - Talili Bay area was hit by 2 more B-25's. Moderately-intense A/A fire slightly damaged 1 B-25.

Shortly afterwards, the wharf area in the N. section of Rabaul was attacked by 19 B-24's which also bombed Rapopo, Vunakanau and Keravat. 52 tons of bombs were dropped. Many fires were started, buildings were hit, air-strips bombed and fires caused in fuel supplies and trucks.

In the above attacks, our bombers were not escorted by fighters.

At 1700 L, Keravia Bay shipping was attacked by 4 TBF's, which sank 3 barges and damaged 2 more out of 15 barges or schooners seen.

Early 9 March, E. of Waterfall Bay, 2 barges were damaged in a strafing attack by PBY's on patrol.

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On 10 March, at the N. tip of Willaumez Peninsula, off Cape Hellen, an enemy barge loaded with 75 troops was sunk by a light tank carried in a LCM.

The same day, in the Talasoa area, our positions from Bitokara to the airfield were reported secure. Some mopping-up was continuing.

Also 10 March, N. of Gasmata, Ring Ring Plantation was hit by 3 B-24's which dropped 12 tons of bombs. A large explosion was caused.

(S) New Guinea

On the night of 9 March, Saidor was again raided by 2 enemy planes. No damage was caused.

Also 9 March, at Alexishafen, Militat Plantation was raided by a single B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped.

On 10 March, 8 miles E. of Aitape, a sea truck was bombed and damaged by B-24's on patrol. 4 tons of bombs were dropped. The same day, Karker Island was raided by patrolling B-24's, which dropped 1 ton of bombs and strafed.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0000, 11 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

Ponape was raided by 7 B-24's on 9 March. 10 tons of bombs were dropped on the dock and airfield areas. 1 plane suffered some damage from A/A fire. The same day Kusaie was attacked by 4 B-24's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped on enemy installations. No A/A was encountered.

Shipping in the Greenwich Island area was twice attacked by a U.S. search plane on 9 March. A small auxiliary about 35 miles S. of Greenwich was exploded from strafing and later a small AK was hit and was left afire and listing at the island.

(B) Marshall Islands

Further details of the enemy raid on Engebi (Eniwetok atoll) on the morning of 9 March indicate that the enemy used approximately 8 medium bombers which struck our positions at 0407 H and again at 0550 H. Some casualties and damage were caused, but the airfield was not damaged.

On 9 March at 1420 H, Jaluit was hit by 10 SED's which dropped 4 1/2 tons of bombs. Some A/A fire was encountered. The same day (1925 H) Taroa was bombed by 4 B-34's which dropped 5 tons of bombs. There was no A/A.

Wotje was hit by 9 B-25's on 9 March. 8 tons of bombs were released. No A/A was encountered. Also 9 March at Milie, 6 P-40's and 9 SED's dropped 8 1/2 tons of bombs. 1 SED was damaged and 2 men were wounded by A/A fire.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 8 March the Puriata - Mosiga area and Poporang Island were bombed by Allied aircraft on night patrol.

Enemy gun positions along the Upper Torokina River were heavily attacked by a force of 87 Soupac SED's with 40 TBF's. F4U's strafed the area at the mouth of the Jaba River while P-39's attacked gun positions N. of the

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Torokina River and the Roini River area. 8 more SED's bombed the Smau River area, N. of Torokina 1 TEF was damaged.

Jap artillery shelled Piva airstrip and destroyed 1 E-24 and 3 F4U's. 11 additional F4U's were damaged but can be repaired. 13 of our men were wounded and 1 killed.

During the night of 8 - 9 March Jap artillery continued to pour into Piva destroying 1 TEF and damaging 2 more. 12 men were wounded.

The Japs also made ground attacks at night which penetrated our perimeter but they were forced back the following day. Jap casualties were 100, while our totalled 5 killed and 93 wounded.

The afternoon of 9 March a DD bombarded Jap positions N. of Torokina perimeter. The night of 9 March U.S. PT's off SW Bougainville were shelled by shore guns and attacked by a single enemy plane.

(D) New Ireland & Admiralties

Lorongau and other targets in the Admiralties were bombed by 15 B-24's and 10 B-25's on 8 March. Mauvud, Mdrilo and Pityilu Islands on the outside perimeter of Soodlor Harbor, Bear Point and Kali Plantation were the other targets. Explosions resulted and some buildings were destroyed. Over 40 tons of bombs were dropped and the area was thoroughly strafed.

An Allied patrol plane bombed the radar station at Cape St. George on 8 March. A single Jap plane strafed the area S. of Momote airstrip.

Mopping up operations continue on Los Negros and only occasional enemy fire was encountered. Enemy A/A guns and dumps were captured. Mokorang Plantation and the N. end of Los Negros is reported cleared of Japs.

Bear Point, Lorongau and Lagos Mission were bombed and strafed by 11 B-25's on 9 March. Buildings were destroyed. Over 13 tons of bombs were dropped and strafing attacks were effective against enemy targets.

(C) New Britain

On 7 March off Mindenhafen at night Allied PT's sank a small AK.

A single PTX on night patrol sank 2 barges at Mindenhafen on 8 March. N. of Uthli an enemy barge was strafed and left burning by a B-25. Waru Village, Talasea area was bombed and strafed by 8 P-40's supporting our ground troops.

2 RAAF A-20's and some B-25's on patrol bombed and strafed 2 villages in Comodore Bay, N. of Cape Hoskins, strafed a barge off Fulldoorn Plantation 30 miles E. of Oaseta, and attacked buildings at Case Dampier.

Rabaul Town and wharf area were heavily bombed by a force of 23 Soupac B-24's which dropped 26 tons of bombs and later by 23 B-25's and 46 fighters (P-40's and P-39's). Piers were hit, 1 fuel fire started, and 27 buildings destroyed (disclosed by photos). 1 B-25 was lost. 6 B-24's were

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damaged by A/A fire. 2 more B-24's later attacked Rabaul causing explosions. 1 B-24 shot down but entire crew rescued.

Off Cape Holman, Milne Bay Peninsula, Allied PT's sank 3 barges loaded with troops and damaged 1 more barge on 8 March.

Cape Hoskins and Masanta dump areas were attacked by a total of 14 BAAF Beauforts on 9 March. Fires were started. Other BAAF -20's strafed a loaded fuel barge E. of Waterfall Bay, N. of Jacquinot Bay. The barge was left burning.

Allied patrols from Arave continued to advance E. and reached a point 27 miles N. of Moewe (point reached should be about Ayut Bay, less than 20 miles N. of Masanta.)

Marines in N. New Britain captured Talasea, Waru village and the airfield.

(D) New Guinea

A single PRY on night patrol scored a hit on a small AK off Tadij, bombed troop quarters at Maschu Island and beached a 2000 ton enemy vessel near Hollandia with a near miss on 8 March.

Dagua was bombed by 12 B-24's which dropped their load through the clouds when enemy planes attempted interception. These planes were part of the force reported in the Daily Summary for 10 March which raided the Wewak area.

Amele Plantation, N. of Madang was strafed by 2 P-39's.

3 Jap planes raided the Saidor area the night of 8 March, causing a few casualties and a little damage. A fire resulted which destroyed 1 of our bombers. Allied PT's fired 75 mm shells into the Madang area the night of 8 March.

Karkar Island was bombed and strafed by a single B-24 on reconnaissance on 9 March. Buildings were destroyed. Allied patrols in the Saidor area reached Bau with only meagre opposition.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U. S. SS has reported damaging an enemy AK (6182 tons).

W. L. Dales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0000, 10 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

A. Caroline Islands

At 1615 H, 8 March, 110 miles NE of Ponape, a U.S. search plane shot down a Japanese medium bomber. The same day U.S. search planes bombed Kusaie and Pingelap.

B. Marshall Islands

On 8 March U.S. search planes bombed enemy positions at Rongelap (where new construction was seen).

Early the following morning (from 0410 H) U.S. positions in Eniwetok atoll were attacked for the first time by several waves of Japanese planes over a period of 1½ hours. A fire was started and there were explosions at Eniwetok. No damage was reported at Eniwetok Island. Further details are lacking.

C. Ocean and Maura Islands

On 8 March U.S. search planes bombed Maura Island and reconnoitered Ocean Island. Some A/A fire was encountered at Maura, but none at Ocean. No activity was noted at Ocean.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

The night of 6 - 7 March at MW Buka, Lomax Mission was raided by PTB's on patrol.

The following day, in the Empress Augusta Bay area, enemy positions were hit by Sopac planes. Monoitu was raided by 2 P-24's which hit A/A positions and buildings. Piano Mission area was attacked by 10 P-39's, which hit huts.

Also 7 March the S side of Jaba River was attacked by 24 P-39's which dropped over 5 tons of bombs on supply dumps. Fires were started. The same day Koronira, S of Kieta, was hit by 4 P-33's which dropped 1 ton of bombs. Also the same day, near Meive, an enemy bivouac area was struck by 22 P-39's.

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Fires resulted. The Maririci River area and the Saua - Reini area were attacked by 12 SED's and 6 TFF's the same day.

The following day, 3 March, at 2125 L, off the central coast of Bougainville, a SS on the surface was attacked by a Sopac plane.

D. New Britain

The night of 5 - 6 March, at Tarovo Island, an enemy barge in the harbor was damaged by U.S. PT's.

The night of 7 March, Bitokara, (on the N side of Milne Bay Peninsula just N of Talasea), was reached by U.S. Marines. 75 enemy troops have been killed.

Early 7 March Talasea and Maru village (next to Talasea) were attacked by 11 Allied Bomforts which dropped 54 bombs. That morning, Lakunai airfield was hit by 24 TFF's and 47 SED's covered by 26 F4U's and P6F's. Large fires were started, and 5 planes on the ground were destroyed and 1 plane (a bomber) damaged. In addition, m/c positions were hit, and a hulk in the harbor left settling.

A short time later, Tobora was attacked by 24 B-25's covered by 14 F4U's. Almost 16 tons of bombs were dropped. Fires were started when revetments and the runway were hit. In the harbor, a 100-foot tug was strafed by fighters. A/A fire damaged 2 B-25's.

The same morning, in outer Pabaul Harbor, about 20 barges and boats were strafed by 16 F4U's. In the afternoon, in Simpson Harbor, off Milne Bay, 1 small ship was sunk and another probably sunk in an attack by 3 TFF's. 5 small ships in all were seen. Rabaul town was hit by 9 P-40's which dropped over 2 tons of bombs. A large explosion was caused.

The same afternoon, off Cape Hoskins, about 3 enemy barges were strafed by 2 P-39's. Photos on the afternoon of the same day, 7 March, of 5 Pabaul fields showed a total of 30 planes - 1 medium bomber, 4 dive bombers and 25 fighters.

Again the same day the Pabaul area was heavily attacked by Sopac planes. There was no enemy air interception. Early in the morning the area was raided by a single B-24.

On 3 March Kumeraki (S of Talasea airfield), was strafed by 2 P-39's which also ranged to Bangula Bay, where a barge was strafed. It was reported that near Jacquinot Bay are concentrations of enemy troops.

C. New Ireland and Admiralties

The night of 6 - 7 March, at Maratanai, a barge and buildings

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were attacked by a U.S. Navy patrol bomber. The following day, Panapai airfield was attacked by 24 B-24's covered by 14 P-33's. The runway was left unserviceable, and 1 plane on the ground set afire. There was no enemy air interception.

The night of 7 - 8 March, 7 of Momote in the Capitalei area, enemy positions were shelled by our artillery units. On the morning of the following day, 8 March, Seeadler Harbor was entered by our surface units, which supported a landing evidently without opposition on the SW shore of the harbor, at Lombrun Point. By 1400 E, the area was reported occupied. In support of these operations, the Lombrun Point area was strafed by 2 B-25's, 1 of which landed at Momote.

The same day at Kavieng, 13 single-engined planes were seen on the ground.

D. New Guinea

The night of 5 - 6 March, in Hansa Bay, a lugger was sunk by U.S. PT's which met considerable fire from the shore.

The night of 7 - 8 March, Doran airfield was attacked by 6 P-24's which dropped 19 tons of bombs and strafed. Explosions and large fires were caused. Intense and accurate A/A fire was met.

The following day, 8 March, off Aitape, a lugger was set afire in a strafing attack by 2 P-38's, 1 of which was lost to small-arm fire. The same day, Aitape and Kronprinz Harbor were each raided by 1 B-25. 2 tons of bombs were dropped. Rough weather prevented other bombers from reaching their targets.

On the morning of the same day, Uligan Harbor was raided by a single A-20 which damaged 5 barges in a strafing attack, and also hit villages and trucks.

Also 8 March, Wovak was to be the target for 24 B-24's escorted by fighters, which however encountered rough weather and did not bomb this target. Over Wovak, about 40 enemy fighters arose to intercept our bombers. 17 of these were shot down, and 10 more probably shot down. We lost 1 B-24. On the homeward trip, Avar and Mubda airfields were attacked by 13 of the B-24's. 56 tons of bombs were dropped. Results were not observed.

At midday the same day, Rompi village area was hit by 36 Allied A-31's covered by 12 P-40's. More than 19 tons of bombs were dropped, and the target strafed. Slight A/A fire was encountered. Off Madang, the same day, a lugger and supply dumps were strafed by 2 P-39's, which also strafed 2 trucks at Trina.

At midday, 8 March, in the upper Ramu Valley, Aterble was attacked by 12 A-20's which bombed enemy concentrations.

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Early 3 March, 140 miles N by E of HOLLANDIA, 3 small sea trucks with barges in tow were attacked without success by a U.S. Navy PBY. Early the same day, near Aitape, a small AM was reported sunk in an attack by PBY's on patrol.

8. H. T. I.

The night of 7 - 8 March, Dabo airfield was raided by 4 PBY's which dropped almost 3 tons of bombs. Timooka airfield (near Maukonau) and Kaimana waterfront were also hit with 3 more tons of bombs.

Early the morning of 8 March, Saumlaki waterfront was hit by 5 long-range Allied Bombers which dropped 1 ton of bombs and strafed barges and huts.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 9 March 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Ocean & Nauru

On 6 March Nauru was hit with 3½ tons of bombs from an Allied searchplane. Results were not seen.

(B) Carolines

On 8 March, Kusaie was hit with 1½ tons of bombs from a U.S. B-24.

(C) Marshall Islands

On 7 March at 0820 M Mille was bombed by 1 B-24. 2 tons of bombs were released. 1 fire was started. Later the same morning at 1030 M 8 A-24's and 8 P-40's again attacked Mille. 5 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway and storage areas. Small ships were strafed. Some A/A fire was met.

The same day (1133 M - 1333 M) Wotje was hit with 6 tons of bombs released from 9 B-25's. There was no A/A.

Also 7 March (1050 M) Jaluit was hit by 18 SHD's and 11 F6F's. 14 tons of bombs were dropped. Several fires were started. A/A fire damaged 5 37D's and 1 F6F slightly.

Taroa was hit with 4 tons of bombs from 4 PV's the night of 7 March at 1920. Some A/A fire was received.

Both pilots reported down on the raid on Jaluit 6 March have been reported rescued.

On 8 March (0820 - 1400 M) Taroa was attacked by 16 B-25's which struck enemy gun positions with 16 tons of bombs. Islands in the vicinity were strafed. 2 fires were started. A/A was met and 3 planes were damaged.

The same day Taroa was again hit with 2 tons of bombs from 2 B-34's. There was no A/A fire.

At noon, 1230 M, 8 March Enidj, Jaluit was hit by 10 B-24's (as an alternate target to Ponape which was not reached because of bad weather). 16 tons of bombs were dropped. 1 plane was damaged by A/A fire.

Jaluit was again attacked by 10 CBD's during the morning (1020 M). 4½ tons of bombs were dropped. A/A fire was met.

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Mille was hit by 16 P-40's the morning of 8 March at 0650 H. 6 tons of bombs were dropped. Intense A/A fire was met.

Mille was again attacked during the afternoon (17.0 H) by 4 F6F's, which strafed enemy launches. A/A fire was met and 1 plane was lost.

The afternoon of 8 March, Kotje was again bombed by 6 PV's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped on barracks and the airfield. Some A/A fire was met.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 4 March in the Laruma River Valley, 500 yards N. of the Torokina perimeter enemy troops were seen constructing defenses. Our artillery was active against bivouacs and supply areas. About 400 yards E. of the Torokina River, an enemy column moving N. was seen. 1 Jap along the perimeter was killed by our patrols.

On 6 March, in the Empress Augusta Bay area, E. of Sana River, in support of our ground forces, enemy positions were attacked by 8 JBD's while Monoitu Mission and Mibo area were hit by 16 P-39's.

The same day, Soraken Plantation was raided by 3 P-38's. Results were not observed.

Also 6 March, Aliang, Shortland, was raided by 4 strafing P-39's.

On 7 March, E. of the Torokina River, enemy positions were bombarded by U.S. DD's.

Early the morning of 8 March at 0545 L, the Piva area was shelled by enemy artillery. Some of our planes on the ground were damaged and several men injured. Our artillery units returned the fire and were reported to have hit several enemy guns. Ground contact had not been reported as yet, but a general ground attack was reported to be developing.

(B) New Ireland & Admiralties

On 4 March, N. of Hyane Harbor, enemy positions were hit by 2 strafing P-38's. 1 of our planes was lost during the homeward trip.

The same day, N. of Salami Plantation, enemy concentrations were hit by 6 B-24's which dropped 29 tons of bombs and strafed.

On 5 March, N. of Hyane Harbor, enemy positions were attacked by 12 more B-24's which dropped 48 tons of bombs and expended 14,000 rounds of m/g in strafing.

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On the afternoon of 6 March, Kavieng was attacked by 21 B-24's covered by 12 P-38's. 62 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield and vicinity and the town. Panapai was hit at the same time by 3 more B-24's. The Kavieng runways were left unserviceable. Moderately-intense and accurate A/A fire was encountered.

On the afternoon of 7 March, W. of Momote, Papitalai Mission was captured by Allied ground forces against stiff opposition. A large quantity of medical supplies was captured. In the morning, the area N. of Porlaka was taken by our ground forces, which were using enemy-built bunkers as defense positions. To date, a total of at least 1231 Japs has been killed.

Naval units continued throughout the day to support ground action. In the afternoon, the N. section of Seeadler Harbor was shelled by surface units. Targets were gun emplacements, and positions.

Coastal batteries in this area were the target also for 6 B-24's which dropped 6 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed.

On the evening of 7 March, Momote was ineffectively raided by enemy planes. 8 bombs were dropped, but no damage caused.

(C) New Britain

On the night of 4 March, off Cape Hoskins, an enemy schooner and 10 beached barges were damaged in a strafing attack by 3 P-70's.

On 5 March, Gasmata was attacked by 10 Allied Beauforts. Results were reported excellent.

Photos on 6 March of the Rabaul area showed Tobera runway serviceable with 23 fighters, while in Simpson Harbor there were 260 barges and 2 small AK's.

Wide Bay targets were hit by B-25's 6 March, while at Cape Hoskins 3 beached barges were strafed by 2 P-70's.

On 6 March, coordinated air attacks against Rabaul continued.

Early in the morning, the area was raided by a single B-24. A night fighter attempted to intercept, but was driven off.

At midday, Lakunai was attacked by 24 TBF's and 48 F4U's escorted by 8 P-40's, 8 F6F's and 21 F4U's. 46 tons of bombs were dropped, but results were not observed. There was no enemy air interception.

A few minutes later, Tobera was hit by 24 B-25's escorted by 22 fighters. 257 fragmentation clusters were dropped. Fires were started and 3 planes on the ground possibly destroyed. In the revetments there were 10 - 12 planes. At Rapopo, 7 enemy fighters starting to land were attacked without success by 1 F4U while in Rabaul Harbor, 10 - 15 barges and 2 small coastal vessels were strafed by other F4U's.

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On the morning of 6 March, the N. coast of New Britain was swept by 14 P-40's which at Massava Bay damaged 6 barges and S. of Watom Island strafed a small coastal vessel.

The same day, Adler Bay radar station and barges at Ataliklikun Bay were attacked by Sopac patrol planes.

On 7 March, in the Talasea area, the enemy directed artillery fire at U.S. Marines, and enemy opposition stiffened. 67 Japs were killed during the day. Meanwhile, a U.S. ground patrol from Arawe arrived at Rein Bay.

(D) New Guinea

On 4 March, But airfield was attacked by 14 B-24's escorted by 17 P-47's. 56 tons of bombs were dropped; fires were started and explosions caused. Moderately-intense but inaccurate A/A fire was met. Later 4 more B-24's dropped 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs on But.

The same day, Cape Rigny was hit by 12 A-20's. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs were dropped and the target strafed. Huts were destroyed.

Also 4 March at Dagua, an enemy bomber was damaged on the ground by 2 P-47's on patrol. 6 enemy fighters tried ineffectively to intercept. On the night of 4 March, Nubia - war airfields were raided by 4 B-24's. Fires were started. 1 B-24 was missing.

The same day, Mugil Harbor and the Erima area were raided by 2 P-39's which strafed 3 trucks and supply dumps.

Also 4 March, in the Mintjim Valley, Malugu Village was hit by 13 P-39's which dropped 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs and strafed.

At noon on 4 March, in the Markham Valley, Cusap airfield was ineffectively attacked by 4 enemy fighters, which strafed and dropped 2 dud bombs.

On 5 March, 27 miles E. of Hollandia, a small AX-AP was possibly damaged in an attack by 2 B-24's on patrol. 2 tons of bombs were dropped.

Also 5 March, in support of our landing, Yalau Plantation was attacked by 11 A-20's which dropped 3 tons of bombs and strafed. Enemy gun fire was silenced.

Correction to Daily Summary, 8 March 1944 - U.S. PT's strafed the beach near Bogia, not Bogad'im as stated.

On 6 March, in the Mintjim Valley, Ayau was hit by 11 P-39's. Almost 3 tons of bombs were dropped and 22 strafing runs made. Meanwhile, Rempi Plantation, N. of Alexishafen was raided by 2 strafing P-39's, which hit trucks.

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On 7 March, Kumisangd, 12 miles W. of Yalau, and Mindiri were reached by our ground patrols which met no enemy troops. At Mindiri, a quantity of medical supplies were captured.

Also 7 March Karkar Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol which bombed the Dagowan River area.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking a 10,000-ton enemy AP.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0830, 8 March 1944

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I. Northwestern Pacific Area

The night of 6 - 7 March U.S. planes were over Paramushiru and Shimushu. Bombs were dropped through solid overcast along the E. coast of Paramushiru (0210 K) and the E. part of Shimushu (0230 K). A/A fire was encountered but our planes returned safely.

II. Central Pacific Area

(A) Wake Island

On 6 March, U.S. photo reconnaissance planes released $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs on enemy installations at Wake Island. Results were not observed.

(B) Caroline Islands

At midday on 6 March (1135 L) Ponape was heavily attacked by 13 U.S. heavy bombers (B-24's). 30 tons of bombs caused a very large explosion in the airfield area, and damage in the dock area. Some A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, Kusaie was hit with $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs from 2 heavy bombers (B-24's).

On 6 March, at Ponape a U.S. search plane attacked enemy shipping dropping $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of bombs on a small vessel with unreported results.

(C) Marshall Islands

On 6 March, (0820 M) Jaluit, Enidj was attacked by 18 F6F's and 11 F6F's. 9 tons of bombs were dropped. Some A/A fire was encountered. 2 F6F's are missing, but one pilot has been reported sighted on land.

The same morning (0840 M) 15 P-40's dropped 6 tons of bombs on Mille. A/A fire was met.

At noon 6 March (1230 M) 5 P-40's dropped 5 tons of bombs on Notje. Slight A/A fire was met.

On 6 March (1102 M), islands near Taroa in Maloelap atoll were hit by 8 B-25's. 8 tons of bombs were dropped. There was no A/A.

Midday 6 March (1335 M) Mille was hit with 4 tons of bombs from 4 B-25's. There was no A/A. The same day, Mille was again hit by 2 B-24's. $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs were released.

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III. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 5 March, around the Torokina perimeter, enemy positions and bivouacs N. of the Torokina River fork, the W. fork of the Torokina River, and N. of Kuraio Mission, were heavily attacked by 72 TBF's and 118 SBL's. A total of 111 tons of bombs was dropped, with good results reported.

On 5 March, NE of Empress Augusta Bay, enemy concentrations at the Reini River were attacked by 12 LBD's which also aided our artillery.

That afternoon, Konoitu was hit by 16 P-39's which bombed a bridge. 1 P-39 was missing.

Also 5 March, Siar Plantation, NE Bougainville, was raided by 3 P-38's which dropped 1 1/2 tons of bombs, while Kawaraka was hit by 3 B-24's.

On the night of 6 - 7 March, off SE Bougainville, our PT's were attacked ineffectively by a single enemy floatplane and also received shore fire from Mosiga. The same night, at the Puriana River, a direct hit was scored on a floating crane or dredge by a PBV.

(B) Feni Islands

On the morning of 6 March, at NE Ambitle Island, 4 enemy barges were destroyed by U.S. PT's, which encountered no return fire.

(C) New Ireland & Admiralty Islands

On 5 March, Borpop was raided 3 times. The airfield was hit by 11 P-38's which dropped 5 1/2 tons of bombs, starting fires. The same target was hit with 1 ton of bombs from an Allied patrol plane, while later, Borpop was raided by a single heavy bomber (B-24).

On the night of 5 - 6 March, at Los Negros our positions were shelled with mortar fire by the enemy.

In the afternoon of 6 March, our forces landed on the Seeadler Harbor shore of Los Negros, forming a beachhead at Salami Plantation; also Porlaka was occupied. enemy supplies and ammunition were captured.

On the evening of 6 March, at Salami Plantation, the enemy attempted to land, but was beaten back. 1 enemy barge was sunk by our artillery. It was estimated that a total of 1,179 enemy troops have been killed.

On 6 March, in support of our landing, enemy positions at Salami Plantation were attacked by 17 medium bombers (B-25's). 18 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped.

That morning, the entrance to Seeadler Harbor was shelled by a U.S. surface unit, which silenced 2 x 4" guns. The ship was slightly damaged.

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(D) New Britain

On the night of 4 - 5 March, off Cape Hoskins, 2 enemy barges were sunk and 5 more badly damaged in an attack by a PBV. The same night Rabaul area was raided by a single B-24.

On the evening of 5 March, Gavuvu and Cape Hoskins were attacked by 16 Allied Beauforts. 16 tons of bombs were dropped.

Rabaul area was again heavily attacked the morning of 5 March. The N. part of Simpson Harbor was hit first by 22 B-25's covered by 17 P4U's. 33 tons of bombs were dropped on the wharf area, starting fires. A/A fire damaged 2 B-25's.

Rabaul Town was then attacked by 9 B-24's, which dropped 34 tons of bombs, while Tobera was hit by 13 more B-24's which dropped 50 tons of bombs. 19 P4U's covered the B-24's. 5 planes on the ground were wrecked, and the runway was seen to be serviceable. Intense A/A fire brought down 1 B-24, (but some of the crew were rescued), and damaged 3 more.

In the afternoon of 5 March the Rabaul area was searched by 3 TBF's and 9 P4U's. Of all the Rabaul fields, only Lakunai had any planes -- 16 were observed in revetments there. Our planes saw no submarines but attacked a hulk.

On the morning of 5 March, in Ataliklikun Bay, 2 remaining small AK's (Daily Summary, 7 March 1944) were forced to beach in an attack by 6 LBD's and 8 P4U's. In addition, 2 enemy barges were damaged.

On 6 March, Talasea was attacked by 9 Allied Beauforts. The same day, Cape Hoskins was hit by 8 more Allied Beauforts, which dropped bombs on the airfield and vicinity.

On the morning of 6 March, Willaumez Peninsula, U.S. Marines made a successful landing at Volupai Plantation, meeting light opposition. Talasea is 5 miles to the SE. The Marines were aided by LVT's and tanks.

Meanwhile, Amgoring, 28 miles E. of the Arawe airfield, has been reached by our ground forces.

(D) New Guinea

On 4 March, according to delayed reports, about 20 miles S. of Bogadjim, 3 enemy fighters were encountered by 16 P-47's, which shot down 2. The same day, about 50 miles S. of Mowak, 4 enemy fighters met a single P-47, which shot down 1 of them.

The evening of 5 March, near Mowak, a Jap fighter and 3 bombers were shot down by 3 P-47's. Also 5 March, our ground units from Yalau extended their beachhead by moving E. to Ganglau.

On the night of 5 - 6 March, near Hansa Bay, 2 enemy luggers were sunk by U.S. PT's, which also caused fires in ammunition and fuel dumps by strafing the beach. Later, the PT's were off Bogadjim, where they strafed a native village.

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The same night, Sissano Lagoon, E. of Aitape, was raided by a PBV which dropped fragmentation bombs.

Early the morning of 6 March, 40 miles NE of Newak, a medium AK and 3 escort vessels were attacked without success by a PBV. The convoy was on a E. course.

The same day, Hansa Bay airfields were attacked by 13 B-24's covered by P-40's. 52 tons of bombs were dropped. Barges along the coast were strafed by the P-40's on the homeward trip.

(E) N. E. I.

On the evening of 6 March, the Kai Islands were attacked by 7 Dutch B-25's. Fires were started. Although 3 enemy planes were airborne, they did not intercept our bombers.

IV. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS has reported sinking 2 enemy AK's of 6,785 tons each, a third AK, of 5,303 tons and an AO of 10,526 tons for a total of 29,399 tons sunk. In addition, a 10,052 ton AO was damaged.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 7 March 1944

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I. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 1 March, E. of the Torokina River, 2 enemy troops were killed by our forces in an ambush. Later, 4 more were killed in the same area in an action in which 15 - 20 Japs were ambushed.

On 4 March, E. of the Torokina perimeter in the Sana-Jaba Rivers area enemy positions were again attacked by 10 SBD's and 12 TBF's. The same day in S. Empress Augusta Bay, enemy positions were again shelled by U.S. DP's.

Also 4 March, at Mw Choiseul, enemy evacuation ports were heavily attacked throughout the day. A total of 105 tons of bombs were dropped and the targets strafed heavily. Good results were reported. B-24's, SBD's, B-34's and PBV's participated.

The same day Monoitu gun positions were hit by 12 P-39's, while at Kieta, gun positions were hit by 3 P-38's. Also 4 March in the Shortlands, Malial was raided by 4 strafing P-40's.

Early the morning of 4 March, near Torokina, a B-34 on patrol drove off a single enemy floatplane.

On the night of 4 - 5 March, off Cape Hanpan, NE. tip of Buks, 3 enemy barges were attacked and forced to the beach by a PBV on patrol.

Photos on 5 March of Kahili and Ballale airfields show unserviceable runways with no planes.

(B) New Ireland & Admiralties

On the afternoon of 4 March, enemy troops on Los Negros Island and the N. entrance to Seeadler Harbor, where coastal batteries are located, were heavily shelled by U.S. task force units.

On the night of 4 March, around the Momote perimeter, enemy snipers were active.

It was estimated that enemy forces on Los Negros consisted of 3 battalions, as well as light tanks and machine gun units. It was reported that at Salami Plantation were many enemy troops.

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Also on 4 March, N. of East Cape, sheds and houses were raided by 2 B-34's. Over Mamatanai, intense A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, Duke of York was raided by 2 P-38's, while Borpop was hit by a single B-24.

On 5 March, our perimeter S. of Momote was again vigorously attacked by enemy forces which were beaten back. Some enemy tanks were seen.

On the afternoon of 5 March, N. of the native skidway, N. of Momote, a bridgehead was established by our ground forces.

The same day, Salami Plantation was attacked by 17 B-25's which dropped 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs and expended 37,000 rounds of m/g in strafing. Later, N. of Hyane Harbor, enemy positions were raided by a single B-24, which dropped 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs. Weather conditions prevented other bombers from reaching the target, and 2 B-24's were missing.

Photos of Mamatanai on 5 March showed the runway partly serviceable but no planes were seen,

Photos of Borpop on 5 March show the runway to be unserviceable and no planes present.

(C) New Britain

On 4 March, Cape Hoskins was attacked by 10 Allied Beauforts which dropped 8 tons of bombs on the runway.

The same day, Talasea was hit by 16 Allied Beauforts which dropped 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs. Results were in general obscured. Meanwhile, Amwok River supply dumps were raided by 1 Beaufort.

On 4 March, the Rabaul area was heavily attacked once more. There was no enemy air interception, and all our planes returned safely. Before dawn, the area was raided by a single B-24.

On the morning of 4 March, E. of Rabaul, gun positions were hit by 24 TBF's and 48 SBD's escorted by 8 F6F's and 11 F4U's. 48 tons of bombs were dropped, and many hits scored.

A short time later, Rabaul Town was attacked by 24 B-25's escorted by 12 F4U's. 35 tons of bombs were dropped on the harbor area.

Following this, the same area was attacked by 23 B-24's covered by 11 F4U's. 92 tons of bombs were dropped NE of the harbor. Large fires were started.

Rabaul Town was then raided by 12 P-38's which dropped 6 tons of bombs.

The same morning at Ataliklikun Bay, 4 small AK's were strafed by 26 F4U's. In the afternoon, these AK's were again attacked by 9 TBF's escorted by 25 F4U's. 2 AK's were sunk. At Simpson Harbor these planes also attacked

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another AK, and badly damaged it, and also bombed supply dumps N. of Rabaul. Simpson Harbor was hit earlier by 3 TBF's covered by 8 F4U's, and 1 small AK (probably the same as above) was bombed.

On 4 March, off Cape Gazelle, an enemy SS was strafed by F4U's. The SS was on a S. course.

(D) New Guinea

On the night of 3 March, near Bunabun, 2 large enemy barges were sunk by U.S. PT's. Also 3 March, N. of Manam Island, an enemy bomber was shot down by a B-25 on patrol.

The same day Alexishafen was heavily hit by 17 B-24's which dropped 52 tons of bombs on supply dumps and the airfield. Weather conditions prevented these planes from reaching their primary target, Los Negros.

On the morning of 5 March, Yalau Plantation area, 26 miles E. of Bogadjim, was bombarded by U.S. PT's with gunfire and rockets, some return fire caused no damage. Following this, U.S. ground forces made a landing without meeting any opposition. Patrols were then dispatched to Bibi, again without meeting any enemy troops.

Prior to the landing, Yalau was attacked by 4 A-20's which dropped more than 3 tons of bombs and strafed the area.

On 5 March, in support of ground action, Cape Wigny area, W. of Bibi, was raided by 4 B-25's, while Duman Village, S. of Yalau, was hit by 3 more B-25's. The bombers were escorted by Allied P-40's. Almost 8 tons of bombs were dropped and the targets strafed. We lost 1 B-25.

Also 5 March, Alexishafen was attacked by 23 Allied A-31's covered by 8 P-40's. More than 13 tons of bombs were dropped and the targets strafed. The unserviceable runway was damaged further. Moderately intense A/A fire was encountered. 1 of our planes was missing.

The same morning, in the Daumoina area, an enemy camp was attacked by a squadron of P-39's supporting our ground units. Fires were started and 2 huts destroyed.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of OESCO, 6 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 4 March, at 0730H, Ponape was attacked by 3 B-24's. A wooden coastal vessel was damaged by bombs. 2 fires were started by 2 tons of bombs dropped on installations. An enemy patrol plane at a water hangar was strafed.

Midday, 1250H, the same day, Ponape was again attacked. 21 tons of bombs were dropped by 12 B-24's. Fires were started in warehouses SE of Ponape town. Intense, heavy A/A fire damaged 2 planes.

Kusaie was hit by 5 tons of bombs from 3 B-24's on 4 March. Fires were started in the warehouse area, and 2 near misses were scored on a 200-foot AK. No A/A fire was encountered.

The afternoon of 4 March, at 1410H, the Taroa airfield was damaged by 12 tons of bombs dropped by 12 B-25's. Large fires were started. Some A/A fire was met. The same afternoon Jaluit was hit by 2 B-24's. 3½ tons of bombs started a fire. Some A/A fire was met.

Ville was hit by 1 B-24 the afternoon of 4 March. No A/A fire was met.

On 5 March, at 1330H, Motje was bombed by 6 B-34's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped on installations and runways. Some A/A fire was encountered.

The morning of 5 March, at 1135H, Motje was attacked by 9 B-25's. A fire and an explosion were started by the 9 tons of bombs dropped. There was no A/A fire. The same morning Jaluit was raided by 13 B-24's and 12 B-25's. The Enidj area was hit with 4 tons of bombs and was strafed. 6 B-24's and 1 B-25 were damaged by A/A fire.

6 B-34's hit Taroa with 6½ tons of bombs starting 1 fire at noon. 11.5H, 5 March. Some A/A fire was met without casualties.

Observation revealed continued effort to keep the airfields in repair.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On the night of 2 - 3 March, off St. Bougainville, 3 enemy barges were attacked by U.S. PT's aided by a medium bomber (PV). Our PT's were bombed without damage by a single enemy floatplane.

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The morning of 3 March, E. of the Torokina perimeter in Empress Augusta Bay, enemy positions were attacked by 30 U.S. Navy dive and torpedo bombers (18 TBD's, 12 TBF's).

At noon, 3 March, Buka was hit by 10 P-38's which bombed revetments and the runway, causing fires. 5 tons of bombs were dropped.

The same day, SE of the Torokina perimeter, enemy positions were shelled by U.S. DD's aided by 2 U.S. Navy dive-bombers (SBD's).

On the afternoon of 3 March at Shortland Island, an enemy floatplane was strafed by 4 fighters (P-38's.). The same day, off SE Buka an enemy barge was set afire in a strafing attack by 3 P-39's.

(B) New Ireland & Admiralty Islands

On 3 March Mussau Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped. The same day the radar station at Cape St. George was attacked by 5 P-38's. 3 hits were scored. The same day, Kaboman was raided by our fighters.

The night of 3 March and morning of 4 March our perimeter around Momote was attacked repeatedly by enemy forces, but they did not succeed in breaking our lines. The same night Momote was ineffectively attacked by enemy planes.

On the morning of 4 March U.S. 7th Cavalry units were landed at Los Negros suffering no losses.

Also 4 March, in support of our ground units, enemy positions N. of Hyane Harbor were attacked by 16 A-20's and 12 B-25's. A total of 32 tons of bombs was dropped, and about 50,000 rounds of m/g expended in strafing.

(C) New Britain

On 3 March the Rabaul area was the target again for 3 Sopac bombing attacks in rough weather.

In the morning of 3 March, Rabaul Town was attacked by 24 TBF's and 48 SBD's covered by 16 P-40's and 20 F4U's. Results were not seen. Later the same target was hit by 24 B-25's. 36 tons of bombs were dropped, and the customs wharf was hit. A few minutes later the same target was attacked by 20 B-24's. 80 tons of bombs were dropped, but again results were not seen.

There was no enemy air interception, although 6 enemy planes were seen in the air. Also there was no A/A fire encountered in any of these attacks.

On the afternoon of 3 March, at 1745L, Rabaul area was searched by 4 F4U's and 4 F6F's which engaged 8 Jap fighters. 1 enemy plane was shot down, and another probably shot down. We suffered no losses.

Also the morning of 3 March in the Rabaul - St. George - New Ireland area, a total of 14 barges and boats were sunk or damaged in attacks by 36 sweeping U.S. Navy fighters (8 F6F's, 28 F4U's).

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On 4 March, photos of Tobra airfield showed 21 fighters present.

Also 4 March, in Stettin Bay, Mumundo Plantation was raided by 2 Allied Beaufighters which dropped 500 lbs. of bombs and strafed.

(D) New Guinea

On 3 March, over Tadi, 8 enemy planes (5 fighters, 3 bombers) were engaged by 2 P-38's which shot down 3 - (1 fighter, 2 bombers). In this area that night, much activity was noted.

On 3 March Bunabun - Alexishafen coast was raided by 2 strafing P-39's which put a gun at Alexishafen out of action, and strafed houses.

Also 3 March near Manam Island, a Jap patrol bomber was shot down by 4 P-47's which also were over the Madang area, where a barge was left on fire.

Meanwhile, the Bogadjim - Erima area was attacked by 22 A-20's which dropped 15 1/2 tons of bombs and expended 25,500 rounds of m/c fire in strafing. A big explosion was caused, and excellent results were reported.

Also 3 March, in the Mintjim Valley, Mabelubu was attacked by 9 P-39's which dropped more than 1 1/2 tons of bombs and strafed supply dumps.

Before dawn, 4 March, Hollandia was attacked by 18 B-24's which dropped 34 tons of bombs on airfields. Fires were started, but results were in general obscured.

At noon, 4 March, But airfield in the Kowak area was hit by 22 B-24's escorted by Allied P-40's. 88 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield and supply dumps, causing fires and explosions. 16 enemy planes were wrecked on the ground. 2 enemy planes intercepted, but 1 of these was damaged. The runway was left unserviceable. Slight to moderately-intense A/A fire was encountered.

On the morning of 4 March Mindiri area was attacked by 33 Allied A-31's covered by 12 P-40's, while in the afternoon, the same target was hit by 21 A-31's escorted by 12 P-40's. A total of almost 30 tons of bombs were dropped and more than 25,000 rounds of m/c expended in strafing. Buildings and huts were wrecked, and gun positions hit. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

Early the morning of 4 March, between Humboldt Bay and Kowak, a small coastal AK was attacked without success by a PDY on patrol. The AK was on a E-W course.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 5 March 1944

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I. Central Pacific Area

A. Marshall Islands

On 3 March (1050 - 1205M) Wotje was attacked by 6 B-34's. 6 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfield. Slight A/A fire was met. Also on 3 March at 1300M, Taroa was hit by 11 B-25's which dropped 11 tons of bombs on gun positions and the airfield, starting large fires. Intense A/A fire was encountered.

B. Caroline Islands

On 3 March (0936M), Kusale shipping was raided by 2 B-24's. A medium AK and small craft were the target for 3 tons of bombs, but no damage inflicted. Our bombers met no A/A fire. Also on 3 March at 0810M, Ponape was attacked by 5 B-24's. 7 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on the town, the bauxite plant and the airfield. Moderately intense A/A fire was encountered.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

On 2 March, in the upper Soga River area, enemy positions were attacked by 6 TBF's and 6 SB2's. The same day, Monoitu and Piano Missions were attacked by 8 P-39's which wrecked huts.

Early the morning of 2 March, near Aitara and Puriata River, enemy barges and shore installations were bombed by PBV's.

B. New Britain

On 2 March, Gaswata area was attacked by 18 Allied Beauforts escorted by P-40's. 15 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on shore installations, and an explosion was caused. Slight to moderately-intense and accurate A/A fire was encountered.

On the morning of 2 March, air attacks on Rabaul were resumed.

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First, Rabaul Town, Tobera and Lakunai were raided by a single B-24 which dropped almost 4 tons of bombs.

Next, Keravia Bay shipping and installations were attacked by 24 TBF's and 47 SBD's, escorted by F4U's. 2 small AK's were set afire after receiving 3 direct hits, and a small DD was hit 16 times by rockets. In addition, hits were scored on barges, guns and buildings at Raluana Point and SW. of Vulcan. Meanwhile, the fighter escorts strafed Rabaul docks and 12 barges. 1 F4U and 2 TBF's were damaged by A/A fire. No enemy planes were seen.

Rabaul Town was the target for 12 B-25's, 20 B-24's, 14 P-38's, and 6 F4U's. The B-24's dropped 78 tons of bombs, causing large fires and explosions. The B-25's dropped 18 tons of bombs and the P-38's dropped over 3 tons of bombs. 2 hours after the strike, large fires were still burning.

The same morning, Rapopo was attacked by 11 B-25's which dropped 11 tons of bombs. Escorting the bombers were 8 F3F's. Heavy A/A fire was encountered. At Rapopo, 1 enemy 4-engined flying-boat was observed taking off.

All of our planes returned.

Also on 2 March, targets along the N. New Britain coast were hit by 31 F4U's. Near Cape Gazelle, a gunboat was damaged and 9 barges strafed. In St. Georges' Channel 2 more barges were strafed, while a bridge over the Warangoi River was hit.

On the afternoon of 2 March, Adler Bay radar station was attacked by 6 TBF's and 12 SBD's. In spite of near misses, the radar was observed still standing.

The same day at Cape Hoskins, there were no signs of activity, and the revetment area appeared overgrown.

C. New Ireland and Admiralties

Further reports of air attacks on Lorengau area on 1 March state that 6 more B-24's hit buildings with 18 tons of bombs.

On 2 March, in addition to previous reports (Daily Summary 4 March 1944), enemy positions on Los Negros and at Lorengau were attacked by 25 B-25's. 20 tons of bombs were dropped and over 20,000 rounds of M/G fire expended. Of 8 intercepting enemy fighters, 1 was shot down.

The same day, Lorengau was raided by 3 strafing P-38's, 1 of which was lost.

Also 2 March, Cape St. George radar station was raided by 4 P-38's returning from the Rabaul strike. Intense and accurate A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, in St. Georges' Channel, a small vessel was bombed and probably sunk by a B-24 on patrol.

Early on the morning of 2 March, at Danfu, (N. of East Cape), bridges, buildings and a pier were raided by 2 Sopac Venturas.

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On the night of 2 - 3 March, around the Momote perimeter, vigorous enemy counter-attacks were launched but beaten back. Our lines remained the same. According to a SWPA communique, total enemy casualties were estimated at 3,000. The communique said that our men on the W. perimeter of Momote airfield buried 700 Japs. It was stated that our casualties were 61 killed and 244 wounded.

On 3 March, at the Lorengau harbor entrance, enemy gun positions were shelled by U.S. DD's.

Also on 3 March, N. of Hyane Harbor, (Los Negros), enemy positions were attacked by 9 A-20's and 5 B-25's. Over 6 tons of bombs were dropped.

On the night of 3 - 4 March, at Los Negros, in support of our ground forces, attacking enemy troops were shelled by U.S. DD's.

The same night, NW. of Los Negros, 4 enemy planes ineffectively attacked U.S. DD's.

Also on 3 - 4 March, at New Hanover, rifle fire directed at patrolling PBT's was silenced with fragmentation bombs.

D. New Guinea

On 1 March, Alexishafen was attacked by 6 A-20's which dropped almost 6 tons of bombs on gun positions and strafed the target. Fires were started. Moderately intense and accurate A/A fire was met.

On 2 March, Karkar Island and Modilon Plantation, near Madang, were raided by B-24's on patrol. 1 ton of bombs was dropped on each target.

The same day, N. of Alexishafen, huts along the coast were hit by 12 Allied P-40's, which also strafed 2 barges. A/A fire brought down 1 P-40.

Also 2 March, Karkar Island was attacked by 24 Allied A-31's covered by 12 P-40's. Almost 12 tons of bombs were dropped on villages and 23,000 rounds of M/G fire expended. In addition, 1 of 2 enemy barges seen was sunk. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was encountered.

The same day, Alexishafen was attacked by 15 B-24's. 44 tons of bombs were dropped on gun positions and the airfield. Meanwhile, Modilon area was raided by 2 more B-24's, which dropped 6 tons of bombs.

Also 2 March, N. of Madang, a truck was hit by 2 strafing P-39's.

On 3 March, Hansa Bay area was attacked by 22 B-24's which dropped 88 tons of bombs on gun positions. Large fires were started. Slight to moderately-intense A/A fire was met.

The same day, Mindiri and Herwath Point were hit by 24 Allied A-31's covered by 15 P-40's. 13¹/₂ tons of bombs were dropped and the targets were strafed. Huts were wrecked.

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III. U. S. SS Reports

A U.S. SS reports sinking a 6,000-ton AK, a 7,000-ton AK, a 4,442-ton AK and a 7,269-ton AO by torpedoes, and a 40-ton sampan by gunfire. In addition, gunfire damaged another 40-ton sampan. (Total tonnage sunk: 24,751.)

A second U.S. SS reports scoring 1 torpedo hit in a large enemy tender.

W. L. Beles.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 4 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 2 March an Allied search plane attacked an enemy AO 60 miles
NW of Ponape. No results obtained.

(B) Marshall Islands

On 2 March at 1335M Iaroa was hit by 6 B-34's and 12 B-25's which
dropped 20 tons of bombs. Some A/A fire was encountered.

The same day Jaluit was attacked by 9 A-24's and 11 P-40's. 4¹/₂
tons of bombs were dropped and the area was strafed. Intense A/A fire was
encountered.

Also 2 March at 1510H Mille was bombed by 8 P-40's. 3 tons of
bombs were dropped in the runway area. Some A/A fire was met.

Results were described as excellent.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 27 February, 14 enemy soldiers were killed by an Allied patrol
near the east-west trail, some 2,000 yards E. of the Torokina River.

71 TBF's and 110 SBD's attacked enemy supply and bivouac areas
NE of the Torokina perimeter and near the fork of the N. Torokina River the
afternoon of 1 March. Some fires were started. The same day F4U's attacked
Porton Plantation.

On 1 March, Kahili was bombed by an unreported number of B-24's.
34 tons of bombs were dropped on the runway and on A/A positions, one of which
suffered a direct hit. 1 large fire was started. A/A fire damaged 1 plane.

The same day, Monoitu Mission, NE of Mamagata, was bombed and
strafed by 12 P-39's. Explosions resulted and fires were started.

Balle was hit by 12 P-38's which dropped 6 tons of bombs with
unobserved results on 1 March. Intense A/A fire was encountered. The same
day Buka was bombed by 2 P-38's. Hits were noted N. of the airstrip.

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The night of 1 March Allied PT's were attacked by an enemy plane which dropped a float flare and large bomb but did not damage our boats.

The same night, near the Puriata River, PT's attacked 3 enemy barges. 1 barge left, but the other two returned fire. 1 barge was blown up by a direct hit, and the second was hit repeatedly, left smoking and sinking. Later a third barge was damaged in the same area.

Also the night of 1 March, PT's and LCM's shelled enemy positions in the Reini River and strafed the vicinity of recently wrecked barges. Heavy gunfire was encountered.

On 2 March at Torokina our forces continued to improve defenses. Artillery was used to support patrols along the east-west trail in the Saua River area. Enemy bivouac and supply positions in the Kalaris, Reine and Tekessi areas were shelled by our guns.

(B) New Ireland & Admiralty Islands

Lorengau, Lombrum Plantation and Papitalai Mission, E. of Lorengau, were heavily bombed and strafed by 10 B-24's and 30 B-25's on 1 March. These same planes bombed and strafed the area 500 yards W. of Momote supporting our ground forces. 64 tons of bombs were dropped. Mussau Island was bombed by B-24's on reconnaissance.

3 barges on St. George Channel, the pier at Namatanai and the Cape St. George radar station were attacked by Allied reconnaissance planes on 1 March.

1 March our forces were in close contact with the enemy around Momote airfield where a determined resistance continues to prevent the expansion of our perimeter. U.S. DD's shelled enemy positions on Los Negros Island the same day.

During the night of 1 March and the morning of 2 March the Japs again counter-attacked but were repulsed. Heavy mortar fire was encountered throughout the night.

On 2 March enemy positions 100 yards W. and SE of Momote were again heavily bombed and strafed by 18 B-25's and 16 A-20's. Enemy fighters attempted interception enroute to the target and 7 of the Jap planes were shot down, 4 others probably destroyed. Another Jap fighter was shot by a B-17 on a supply mission to Momote. 37 tons of bombs were dropped by the B-25's and A-20's. Enemy guns at the entrance to Seeadler Harbor were shelled by U.S. DD's.

(C) New Britain

The night of 29 February off Rabaul U.S. PT's either sank or badly damaged 3 enemy barges. These barges were apparently unarmed and part of a 6 barge column.

On 1 March Gasmata runway, jetty, and dump areas were bombed and strafed by 6 RAAF P-40's. 2 P-39's strafed 3 barges off Cape Hoskins.

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There were no raids on Rabaul 1 March due to bad weather. Our planes started out to attack but were forced to return to base. This was the first time in 15 days that Rabaul has not been subjected to air attacks.

On 2 March Jap troops were reported SE of Iboki, Rein Bay area. The trails appear to have seen heavy use. Cape Gloucester and Arawe patrols report no contacts.

Photos of Rabaul airfields show 22 dive bombers at Vunakanau, 26 fighters at Tobera, and 11 fighters at Lakunai, 10 of which may be unserviceable.

(D) New Guinea

On 29 February about 50 miles N. of Aitape a B-24 scored 2 hits and a near miss on a 7,000 ton Jap AK. The vessel was left sinking.

On 1 March Modilon Plantation, Madang, was bombed by a single B-24. 2 other B-24's bombed Kar Kar Islands and Dove Point on the mainland N. of Kar Kar.

Brima was raided by 9 A-20's. A gun position was destroyed, also a barge off Alexishafen was left burning. We lost 1 A-20.

3 barges at Madang were strafed and damaged by 6 P-39's. A loaded truck at Mugil Harbor, 10 miles N. of Alexishafen, was left sinking. 16 more P-39's bombed and strafed Saipa #2 on the Upper Mintjim River. A landslide resulted.

On 2 March 40 B-24's set out to attack Hansa Bay but found the target closed in. 17 of the planes bombed Manam Island, midway between Newak and Madang. Another bombed Bunabun, and the rest jettisoned their load when enemy fighters attacked. 1 Jap plane was shot down, 2 others damaged.

On trails N. of Singor, Saidor area, patrols found 13 more dead Japs. U.S. PT's operated in the Madang area and silenced some enemy m/g fire.

III. U.S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS on patrol in the NW Pacific reports the sinking of 3 Jap AK's.

W. L. Balos

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 3 March 1944

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

A. Kurile Islands

The night of 1 - 2 March the Paramushiro - Shimushu area was again bombed by U.S. planes. 3 of 6 Venturas reached the target areas, 2 bombing the Kataoka area (0323 - 0412 K/2) and the third bombing the Suribashi area (0425 F/2). Because of solid overcast, results could not be observed. Some ineffective A/A fire and searchlights were encountered. All planes returned.

II. Central Pacific Area

A. Ocean and Maura Islands

On 29 February a U.S. search plane bombed enemy A/A positions on Maura Island.

B. Marshall Islands

At 1233 H, 1 March, Wotje was attacked by 10 U.S. B-24's which dropped 30 tons of bombs. At 1241 H the same day Taroa was bombed by 7 B-24's which dropped 21 tons of bombs. At 1435 H the same day Mille was bombed by 5 B-24's and 2 B-25's which dropped 17 tons of bombs. At noon, also the same day, Jaluit was bombed by 11 B-25's which dropped 11 tons of bombs. No A/A fire was encountered at Wotje or Taroa. Some A/A was met at Jaluit and Mille, but caused no damage.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

A. Solomon Islands

At midday, 29 February, enemy positions along the S shores of Empress Augusta Bay were heavily attacked by 45 TBF's and 90 SBH's. 76 tons of bombs were dropped. n/c fire slightly damaged 2 SBH's. The same day the Bougainville coast was searched by 4 P-39's, 12 P-40's and 16 P-4U's. 1 enemy barge was sunk and 2 damaged off Tonolet Harbor, while off the Puriata River vicinity, other barges were hit. Fauro Island was also strafed, and a number of enemy troops were killed. Faasi was also raided by 4 P-39's and a barge and a floatplane were damaged and a truck wrecked. Also the same day Buks was

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raided by B-34's on patrol.

At midday, 1 March, the SW coast of Bougainville was searched and targets shelled by U.S. DD's. In the Mosiga, Mongorai and Puriata areas, observation posts and pillboxes were shelled, as well as several damaged barges. A shore battery returned the fire, causing slight damage to our ships.

B. New Britain

On 29 February Rabaul area was attacked once more, although weather conditions prevented heavier strikes. Rabaul town was hit by 23 B-25's escorted by 3 F4U's. 34 tons of bombs were dropped on the waterfront area. Large fires resulted. The same target was hit again a short time later by 12 P-38's. The same day in the Arawa area the Pulio River mouth was reached by advance units of the 158th Infantry. No enemy troops were met.

Also the same day, near Adler Bay, an enemy lookout station and camp were raided by B-34's which also strafed Warangi River bridge and nearby trucks. In addition, at Ueber Bay, a radar station was hit. The same day at Waterfall Bay, coastal shipping was raided by sweeping F4U's and F6F's.

The night of 29 February - 1 March, off Rabaul, an enemy barge was damaged and possibly sunk by U.S. PT's, 1 of which entered Koravia Bay but saw no shipping.

On 1 March, in the Arawa area, Marien was reached by advance ground units. The advance was preceded by an artillery bombardment. Again there was no opposition, although land mines delayed further advances. Meanwhile, a point 14 miles S of Pein Bay has been reached by advance patrols from Arawa. The morning of the same day Cape Gaselle was raided by a SOPAC patrol bomber.

C. New Ireland and Admiralties

On 28 February, according to later reports, Los Negros Island was attacked by 7 more B-24's and 6 B-25's. About 23 tons of bombs were dropped and the target strafed.

The following day, according to later reports, the landing on Los Negros was covered by P-47's, P-39's and P-38's. The same day Duke of York was raided by 3 P-38's.

The same morning (29 February), near Maratanai, a large barge carrying troops was strafed by F4U's and F6F's. Of about 88 troops in the barge 30 were believed killed. These planes were on a barge sweep along the S New Ireland coast, and scored a total of 7 barges and 2 boats sunk, damaged or set afire (including the troop-carrying barge above). 1 F6F was lost by A/A fire off Maratanai. The same day, off S New Ireland, 2 barges were attacked by a B-34 on patrol. That afternoon, near Porpop, buildings and huts

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were bombed by a New Zealand B-34, while, off Feni Island, 3 enemy barges were set afire in a strafing attack by U.S. fighters.

The night of 29 February - 1 March Cape St. George and Borpop were shelled by U.S. DD's. Early the following morning Manatani was shelled by U.S. DD's. A 2-gun shore battery which returned the fire was silenced. Results of the bombardment were reported excellent, and fires were started.

Later details of the enemy counter-attack at Los Negros early the morning of 1 March state that about 60 enemy troops were killed. Our casualties were reported light. During Wednesday, enemy troops were contacted around the perimeter. On Wednesday night, enemy planes were over Manus Island, but evidently did not attack. The same morning, at Cape St. George, a direct hit was scored on the radar station by SOPAC patrol bombers.

D. New Guinea

On 23 February Markar Island was raided by 2 P-24's on patrol. Madang was also raided. 1 ton of bombs was dropped on each target. The same day, at Wewak, a Jap bomber coming in to land was destroyed by 2 P-38's on patrol. Hansa Bay area was also raided by these planes, which strafed a barge and trucks. Also the same day the Bogadjim - Madang area was raided by 4 P-39's which strafed enemy troops.

The following day Alexishafen area was attacked by 3 P-47's which strafed gun positions, bridges and barges. Meanwhile, Gragat Island, off Madang, was raided by 2 strafing P-39's.

Also 29 February Trina Plantation was attacked by 12 A-20's which dropped more than 6 tons of bombs and expended 20,000 rounds of .50 calibre in strafing. Fires were started, and a jetty left burning. Slight, light-calibre A/A fire was encountered. That afternoon, at Tadjil, 2 P-38's on reconnaissance mission were intercepted by enemy fighters. 1 P-38 was missing.

On 1 March Hansa Bay was heavily attacked by 24 P-25's and 37 B-24's escorted by P-40's. 170 tons of bombs were dropped. Large fires and explosions were caused after fuel dumps, supply dumps and bivouac areas were hit. In addition a jetty was wrecked.

The same day Alexishafen area was attacked by 12 Allied A-31's covered by 12 P-40's. 5 1/2 tons of bombs were dropped on the airfields and nearby villages, and the targets were strafed.

The Madang area was hit by 9 Allied A-31's escorted by 2 P-39's the same day. 4 tons of bombs were dropped. Slight A/A fire brought down 1 P-39.

Observation of the Hansa Bay area on 1 March showed a serviceable

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3,000-foot strip 14 miles S of Hubia, near Wasambu. It was also reported that at Malas, 15 miles NW of Cape Croisilles, there is another strip with 1 fighter on it.

Early that morning, 40 miles NW of Novak, 5 enemy ships on a NW course were attacked without results by U.S. Navy PTB's.

IV. U. S. SS Reports

A U.S. SS returned from patrol has reported sinking 3 enemy AK's by torpedo, and a tug and sailboat by gunfire for a total of 19,801 tons. In addition, 4 AK's totalling 20,000 tons were damaged.

W. L. Balos.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 2 March 1942

I. Northwestern Pacific Area

SE Paramushiru was bombed by 3 Navy PV's on reconnaissance before dawn 28 February at 0230 K. A/A fire and searchlights were encountered but all planes returned safely.

II. Central Pacific Area

(A) Lake Island

At midday, 29 February, Lake Island was bombed and strafed by 7 U.S. Navy PB4Y's. 5 tons of bombs were dropped and fires were started in enemy positions. 6 grounded planes were destroyed or damaged. Slight A/A fire was encountered.

(B) Caroline Islands

Before noon, 1135L, 28 February Langan Island at Ponape was heavily hit by 20 U.S. B-24's. 2 large explosions and fires were started with 30 tons of bombs. 2 bombers were damaged by intense A/A fire.

On 29 February, Greenwich Island was hit with 3 500-lb. bombs from a U.S. search plane. A/A positions were hit and 3 guns were silenced.

(C) Marshall Islands

Tarawa was bombed by 6 U.S. Venturas at noon, 1145L, 28 February. 9 tons of bombs were dropped. A/A fire damaged 3 planes.

The same day at 1130M Jaluit was raided by 8 TBD's and 12 P-40's. Some A/A fire was encountered.

On 28 February Jaluit was again hit with 6 tons of bombs from 4 B-24's.

On the morning of 28 February at 0930M Motje airfield and the harbor areas were hit with 11 tons of bombs from 11 B-25's. Some A/A fire was met.

The afternoon of 28 February at 1400M Mille was hit with 11 tons of bombs from 11 B-25's. 1 plane was damaged by A/A fire. The same afternoon (1520M) a large fire was started at Mille in the storage area by 3 P-40's.

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On 29 February at 1100H Wetje was bombed by 5 Venturas which dropped 5 1/2 tons of bombs on the airfield areas. 1 plane was damaged by A/A fire.

Wetje was again attacked by 9 B-25's the afternoon of 29 February at 1430H. 9 tons of bombs were dropped on the runways.

The morning of 29 February at 0730H Mille was bombed by 12 P-40's. 6 tons of bombs were dropped on enemy positions. Some A/A fire was encountered.

III. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

On 26 February Monoitu was attacked by 12 P-39's. 2 planes were damaged by intense A/A fire.

The same day, in the Saua River area, enemy positions were hit by light-bombers, while off Cape Friendship, an enemy boat was strafed by 4 P-39's.

(B) New Ireland and Admiralty Islands

On 28 February barges off Feni Island were strafed by Sopac planes on patrol.

Later details of the landing by U.S. forces on the morning of 29 February on Los Negros Island:

Early the morning of 29 February, Hyane Harbor, Los Negros, and Manus Island installations were shelled by U.S. surface units.

At 0815L, at Hyane Harbor, units of the 1st Cavalry Division were landed without opposition. Light opposition was later encountered in the capture of Momote airfield and vicinity. There was no enemy air opposition. U.S. patrols were moving SW and N., meeting enemy units to the N. near the native midway, where a Jap gun was silenced by our artillery units.

Also 29 February, in support of the landing, Lou and Pak Islands were attacked by 23 B-25's which came in at low-level to drop 23 tons of bombs and strafe. Buildings were wrecked.

Early the morning of 1 March, according to a GHI SWPA communique, enemy units launched a counter-attack against troops holding Momote airfield, but were repulsed. The communique said that our forces were consolidating their position, and that the airfield will shortly be in use by our planes.

(C) New Britain

On 28 February in Rein Bay, large quantities of supplies and ammunition, 2 serviceable barges and a heavy m/g were captured by U.S. Marines

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Again 28 February, Rabaul was hit by Sopac bombers and fighters. There was no enemy air interception.

In the 1st attack, Rabaul area was swept by 14 F4U's which sighted and unsuccessfully chased 2 enemy planes.

A short time later, Vunapope was attacked by 24 TBF's and 48 SBD's, covered by 35 fighters (11 F4U's, 8 F6F's, 16 P-40's). 48 tons of bombs were dropped, and the entire coast near Vunapope was reported afire or smoking.

Shortly afterwards, NE section of Rabaul Town was attacked by 22 B-25's escorted by 15 F4U's. 33 tons of bombs were dropped, and fires started. A few minutes later, Rabaul Town was again hit by 11 B-24's. 43 tons of bombs were dropped.

Meanwhile, Rapopo was attacked by 6 B-24's which wrecked an enemy bomber on the ground and scored hits on the runway. 10 F4U's escorted the B-24's.

In the last attack, Rabaul Town was raided by 12 P-38's which dropped 6 tons of bombs.

Also 28 February, Pondo Point was raided by 4 F4U's which dropped 500-lb. bombs. The same day in the Adlor Bay 6 direct hits were scored on an enemy radar station in an attack by New Zealand planes.

(D) New Guinea

On 28 February, Hansa Bay area was attacked by 23 A-20's (in addition to the 16 A-20's reported in the Naval Summary 1 March 1944). 17 tons of bombs were dropped on buildings and supply dumps, and the targets were strafed.

Hollandia was attacked by 8 B-24's before dawn the morning of 29 February. Almost 14 tons of bombs were dropped. Small fires were started. At the same time, Tadjil airfield and Hansa Bay area were hit by 5 B-24's which dropped a total of 14 tons of bombs.

Also 29 February, Hansa Bay was attacked again by 17 B-24's covered by 12 Allied P-40's. Nubia and Condor airfields were left unserviceable, and gun positions were hit. 68 tons of bombs were dropped. Slight to intense A/A fire, both accurate and inaccurate, was encountered.

Madang area was hit by 34 Allied A-31's escorted by 13 P-40's the morning of 29 February. A total of almost 14 tons of bombs were dropped on supply dumps, bivouacs and barge hideouts and the targets were strafed.

The same day, N. of Bogadjim, targets of opportunity were hit by 2 strafing P-40's which also raided Erima Plantation dumps, causing explosions.

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(D) N. E. I.

On the afternoon of 29 February, SW of Timor, shipping off Roti Island, Koepang, was raided by 2 Allied Beaufighters which strafed and sank a 50-foot vessel, and damaged 4 barges and 3 luggers.

W. L. Bales

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, 1 March 1944

I. Central Pacific Area

(A) Caroline Islands

On 27 February, at Kusaie a 400-ton Ship and the port were strafed by a U.S. patrol plane.

On the night of 28 February at 2340L, about 12 miles S. of Kapingamaran, 1 enemy barge was probably sunk and 7 damaged in an attack by a Sopac patrol plane. 10 barges in all were sighted.

II. Southwestern Pacific Area

(A) Solomon Islands

Mibo River area was shelled by a LCM the night of 26 February. The same night Buka and Toop Island, NE Bougainville, were raided by Sopac bombers on patrol.

On 27 February, off Motupena Point, a damaged enemy barge was attacked by 2 U.S. Navy torpedo bombers (TBF's) which fired rockets at the target. The same day, off the coast of SE Bougainville, 3 enemy barges were sunk and 2 damaged in an attack by 16 fighter-bombers.

On 28 February in the Torokina area patrol activity in all sectors increased. Meanwhile, it was reported that an enemy force was moving S. towards Mura Mura along the E. coast.

On the night of 28 February, near Aitara, 3 enemy barges were attacked by Sopac PBV. These barges were heading S., but were forced ashore by U.S. PT's. Meanwhile, the area was shelled by a LCM. The PT's were attacked by an enemy floatplane, which caused no damage. In addition, Mosiga and Sipsai areas were strafed.

(B) New Ireland & Admiralty Islands

On 27 February Momote and Lorengau were raided by 2 B-25's and 2 B-24's on patrol. Fires were caused. The same day Lorengau and Los Negros were attacked by 25 B-25's. More than 30 tons of bombs were dropped and the target was strafed with more than 60,000 rounds of m/g fire.

Also 27 February Borpop was raided by 6 strafing F6F's which wrecked a truck and started fires. Meanwhile, E. of Borpop, an enemy floatplane

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plane was shot down by a single F4U returning from the Rabaul strike. The same day Cape St. George was hit by 3 P-38's, which strafed the radar station. This target was also hit by 13 F4U's returning from the Rabaul strike.

In Kavieng Harbor no shipping was sighted by a SOPAC patrol plane on 27 February. The same day off Feni Island an enemy barge was sunk by SOPAC planes.

On 28 February Lorengau and Salami Plantation, near Momote, was attacked by 21 B-25's escorted by fighters. 24 tons of bombs were dropped and over 46,000 rounds of m/g fire expended in strafing. Slight, light-calibre and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

Early the morning of 29 February, elements of the 1st Cavalry Division landed on Los Negros Island according to a GHQ SWPA communique. Troops were put ashore from Allied destroyers after naval and air bombardment. Resistance was reported light, and the enemy airfield at Momote was captured. Resistance was reported rapidly overcome. No further details are yet available.

(C) New Britain

Rapopo was raided by a single B-24 the night of 26 February. The following day at midday, Rabaul attacks continued. In the 1st attack, Lakunai was hit by 24 TRF's and 8 B-25's covered by 20 P-40's and 25 F4U's. 48 tons of bombs were dropped on A/A gun positions and buildings. In addition, Cape Vunata lighthouse was reported wrecked.

Meanwhile, Rabaul area was swept by 13 F4U's which sank a 70-foot steam launch in a strafing attack.

Later, Vunapope was hit by 24 B-25's escorted by 16 F4U's. 24 tons of bombs were dropped on supply dumps causing explosions.

Shortly afterward, Vunapope was again hit by 21 B-24's and 15 F4U's. 83 tons of bombs were dropped, causing fires, explosions and wrecking buildings.

Later, Vunapope was again hit by 14 P-38's which dropped 500-lb. bombs. A/A fire brought down 1 P-38.

For the 6th consecutive day, there was no enemy air interception, although 6 enemy fighters were seen airborne.

Also 27 February, off Cape Orford, an enemy floatplane was shot down by F4U's. During the night of the same day, N. of Open Bay, Toriu River mouth was raided by PBY's on patrol.

On 27 February, off Cape Kias, S. of Ubiil, 2 enemy barges were damaged in a strafing attack by 2 Allied Seafighters. Meanwhile Gasrata was raided by an Allied A-20 which dropped a ton of bombs, while Montagu Harbor was raided by 2 P-38's.

Also the afternoon of 27 February, Cape Hoskins airfield was raided by 2 P-38's which wrecked a fighter on the ground. In addition, banta

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and a launch were destroyed. Later, in the same area, a Jap bomber was shot down by 2 patrolling P-47's.

On 28 February, in the Arawe area, Mio was reached by advanced patrols, while 3 miles E. of Mielelek, enemy units were met by our patrols.

Incomplete reports state that on 28 February, Rabaul Town and Rapopo were hit by B-24's, which met no enemy air interception.

(D) New Guinea

On 27 February, Karkar Island was raided by a B-24 on patrol. A ton of bombs was dropped on buildings. Muschu Island was raided by a PBV on patrol the night of 27 February.

Again the morning of 27 February, Towak area was hit by 17 B-24's covered by 33 P-47's. 53 tons of bombs were dropped on Boram. Supply dumps were hit, and fires and explosions caused. Moderate to intense A/A fire was met.

Also 27 February Hansa Bay area was attacked by 17 more B-25's which dropped almost 20 tons of bombs. Excellent results were reported.

On the morning of 27 February, Marakum, 14 miles E. of Bogadjim, was hit by 12 A-20's and 10 P-39's. 13 tons of bombs were dropped and the target strafed with 37 MM and m/g fire. Slight and inaccurate A/A fire was met.

The same day N. of Alexishafen 2 enemy barges were sunk and others damaged in a strafing attack by 2 P-39's. Alexishafen airfield was attacked the afternoon of 27 February by 11 A-20's covered by 8 P-47's. More than 8 tons of bombs were dropped and the target was strafed. A fuel fire was caused. Sek Island was also strafed.

On 28 February, S. of Saidor, 4 Japs were killed by U.S. patrols which also found 18 more enemy dead. Meanwhile, in the Mintjim Valley, enemy units were encountered by Allied patrols near Saipa #2.

Also 28 February Hansa Bay area was attacked by 22 fighter-escorted B-24's which dropped 92 tons of bombs on the airfield and Concor Point A/A gun positions. Fires were started and 1 plane on the ground was wrecked.

At the same time, Hansa Bay was also hit by 16 A-20's which dropped more than 17 tons of bombs and strafed supply dumps and gun positions. Intense A/A fire shot down 1 A-20.

Again 28 February Alexishafen and Madang were hit by 32 Allied A-31's covered by 29 P-40's. A total of about 16 tons of bombs were dropped on the runways, all of which were left unserviceable, and the target was strafed. In addition, Modilon Plantation and villages S. of Bogadjim were raided by the P-40's on the homeward trip.

(E) N. E. I.

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On 25 February photos of Hollandia show a total of 277 enemy planes in the area, (90 light bombers, 75 medium bombers, 112 fighters).

Early the morning of 28 February, 30 miles N. of Hollandia, 3 enemy AK's were attacked without results by a B-24 on patrol. The ships were on a NW course.

III. U. S. Submarine Reports

A U.S. SS returned from patrol reports sinking a 6,100 ton AK and damaging a 8,600 ton AK.

W. L. Bales.

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