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OSD Letter, 16-8-72

MR 203 (6) Sec. 7 - "DAILY G-2 REPORTS"

April, May, June, 1943.

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MR 203 (6) Sec. 7 - "DAILY G-2 REPORTS"

(April, May, June, 1943)

[Requires both Army + Navy Clearances

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~~SECRET~~ 5-3-72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 15, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

On information received--

From: 1201 Z, April 14, 1943

To : 1200 Z, April 15, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 15, 1943.

No. 18.

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On April 13 a total of 10 bombing and strafing attacks were made on Kiska. Hits were observed on Main Camp, the landing strip, North Head, and among float-planes on the beach. Little Kiska also was bombed. A total of 65 tons of bombs were dropped. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: One U-boat was sighted on April 13, E of Puerto Rico.

2. Latin American Theater

Admiral Robert's supply ship, the SS DOMINIQUE, which is being detained by Dominican authorities, will be permitted to return to Martinique, but without the food supplies which were desired by Robert.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: In the Kuban the enemy has again been thrown sharply on the defensive by a new Soviet attack of some strength. Red Army units succeeded in making slight penetrations. Southern, Central, and Northern Fronts: Artillery duels and reconnaissance raids continue. The tempo of air activity has increased. Soviet bombers have made several raids on Koenigsberg.

b. Western Europe

On the day of April 13, enemy aircraft were active in coastal reconnaissance over south England and northeast Scotland. From Bordeaux, FW-200s continued to operate in anti-shipping patrol.

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During the night April 13-14, a large force of RAF bombers attacked the Italian naval base at Spezia.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

On April 13 the enemy counterattacked in the Beja--Mateur valley sector, N and S of Sidi Nsir. His northern thrust was repulsed, but he gained some ground S of the town. Eleven miles due W of Djebibina, the enemy withdrew, yielding Dj. Sefsouf. The enemy was encountered by patrols at various points S of the Enfidaville--Djebibina Line. During the period March 20 to April 10, approximately 6,000 Germans and 22,000 Italians were captured. On April 13, some 60 offensive sorties were flown by enemy fighters and dive-bombers against Allied forward positions SW of Tunis. An increase has been noted in Italian fighter activity. About 40 transport planes landed at Tunis. A flight of enemy torpedo bombers was intercepted 40 miles W of Sardinia, and forced to jettison about 18 torpedos. Enemy airfields in Tunisia and Sicily, especially those used as termini for transport aircraft, were heavily bombed by Allied planes. Many Axis planes were parked on the airfields at Milo and Castelvetro, Sicily, when U.S. bombers attacked. At the latter field more than 25 enemy planes were estimated destroyed. A group of enemy paratroops were encountered NE of Souk Aharas, and 9 of a group of 14 Italian paratroops were captured N of Laghout, about 200 miles S of Algiers.

5. Asiatic Theater

Nothing to report.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 14, enemy barges and installations in Viru Harbor were bombed and strafed by U.S. planes. New Guinea--New Britain Area: A communique reports an attack April 14 on Milne Bay by 75-100 Japanese aircraft. Intercepting Allied planes shot down 15 of these aircraft, with 9 more probably destroyed and 6 damaged. On the same date, according to the communique, an enemy cargo vessel was bombed and left sinking in Hansa Bay. This was the only vessel observed in the harbor. NW Australia--Banda Sea Area: A communique reports damaging near hits, April 14, on an enemy light cruiser moving east near Babar Island.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

On April 14, a small British cargo ship was sunk by E-boat off the southwest channel coast of England. No other attacks against Allied shipping have been reported in any theater. During the first

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half of April 26 ships, totaling 132,500 tons, have been reported sunk or presumed lost through enemy action. This is a decline of 39 percent below losses during the corresponding period last month. General: The 7,000-ton German blockade runner PORTLAND, outward bound, was intercepted and sunk in the South Atlantic on April 13.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton

R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt

A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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SECRET letter, 5-5-72

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~~SECRET~~ 5-8-78

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2
Date April 14, 1943
Initials RSB
R.S.B.

On information received--
From: 1201 Z, April 13, 1943
To: 1200 Z, April 14, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 14, 1943.

No. 17.

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On April 11, a third air attack was made on enemy positions at Kiska in addition to the 2 attacks previously reported. On April 12, enemy installations on Kiska and Little Kiska islands were bombed and strafed 6 times. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: No submarine sightings have been reported in North American coastal waters.

2. Latin American Theater

The SS DOMINIQUE, one of Admiral Robert's supply ships, has been detained by Dominican authorities at Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic. Dominican authorities have requested American advice as to the disposition of the ship and crew.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

No significant change.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In northern Tunisia on April 12, all major Axis forces in the southern sector were north of the line Enfidaville--Djebibina--northern slope of Djebel Bou Hadjar. Construction of defensive positions were in progress in the center and eastern parts of this line. Rear-guards were still active S of Enfidaville and in the Djebibina area. In the northwest sector, Axis forces withdrew to the N of Chaouch, but offered determined resistance S of Sidi Nsir in the Beja--Mateur valley. During the night of April 11-12 and the following day, forward airfields in the enemy's Enfidaville bridgehead were heavily attacked by Allied bombers. Numerous fires were started by 3 separate

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bombing attacks on the enemy airfield at Ste. Marie Du Zit, where in one instance more than 40 aircraft were reported on the ground. Many interception flights were encountered by a strong Allied air offensive against troops and motor vehicles. Axis dive-bombers and fighters attacked Allied forward units on the new battle line to the south. Seven enemy ports on Sicily and Italy, the Tunisian port of Bizerte, and enemy shipping in the Sicilian Straits were subjected to heavy attacks by Allied planes.

5. Asiatic Theater

Nothing to report.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 12 Kahili was bombed, and the following day Munda was subjected to a heavy bombing and strafing attack. New Guinea--New Britain Area: On April 12, the airdromes at Rabaul were attacked before dawn by Allied planes, and 3 of 5 intercepting enemy fighters were shot down. Other points on New Britain were also bombed with good effect. Photographs taken later in the day showed 3 submarines, 2 submarine chasers, 10 destroyers, 4 tankers, 1 minesweeper, and 36 cargo vessels in Rabaul Harbor, and a total of 186 aircraft on the 4 airdromes. At approximately the same time 100 enemy aircraft, probably from Rabaul and Kavieng, were attacking Port Moresby. In this attack, reported yesterday, intercepting Allied planes destroyed 24 enemy aircraft and probably destroyed 5 others. Two Japanese planes were shot down by AA fire and 6 others probably destroyed. On this date, enemy planes were increasingly active against Allied reconnaissance planes over Japanese bases. During the day, at other points, at least 14 Japanese aircraft were destroyed and 1 other probably destroyed. Including the attack on Port Moresby, the enemy lost a total of 40 planes destroyed, with another 12 probably destroyed in the entire area.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

A U.S. tanker, torpedoed in an eastbound Atlantic convoy on April 5, remains overdue and is presumed lost. On April 11, a British cargo ship was mined and sunk in the Mediterranean off Tobruk, and on April 5 a second British cargo ship was sunk by a German U-boat SE of Durban.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

R. S. Bratton
R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

A. V. S. Pickhardt
A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 13, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

On information received--

From: 1201 Z, April 12, 1943

To: 1200 Z, April 13, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 13, 1943.

No. 16.

1. North American Theater

Alaska: An enemy submarine net is believed to extend from Little Kiska to North Head. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: Three U-boat sightings have been reported in North American coastal waters: one about 65 miles SE of Montauk Point, Long Island, one about 50 miles E of Cape Henry, and the third off the southeast coast of Cuba.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

No significant change.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

Enemy withdrawal under pressure continued in the hilly country 17 miles NE of Beja and 10 miles NE of Oued Zarga on April 11. In the south, enemy retirement continued N of Kairouan and Sousse on the 12th. On April 11, about 10 enemy torpedo-bombers were active between Algiers and Bougie, and Axis dive-bombers and fighters were intercepted by Allied fighters over the battle area in northern Tunisia. All planes in a flight of 21 enemy transport aircraft were destroyed, together with 5 of the escorting planes, by attacking U.S. planes. Many of the Ju-52s were armed with machine guns and apparently were transporting gasoline. Another formation of about 28 transport planes was intercepted and 5 were shot down. This formation carried 21-mm cannon in the top turrets, and was not

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escorted. A third formation of Ju-52s was attacked by RAF fighters in the Tunis--Bizerte area, and 4 of the transports were destroyed. Around-the-clock attacks were made on enemy motor vehicles and tanks as they withdrew to the Enfidaville area. Many enemy planes were on the ground when Allied planes successfully attacked the airfields at Ste. Marie Du Zit, Oudna, Menzel Temime, and Enfidaville. Five enemy merchant ships were hit by Allied bomber attacks on Marsala, Trapani, and Tunis harbors. Photographs showed 1 Italian heavy cruiser sunk and another on fire at La Maddalena as a result of the U.S. bomber raid of April 10. Palermo and Naples harbors were also attacked on the 10th. More than 30 enemy aircraft were found destroyed on La Fauconnerie airfield when it was taken by Allied troops.

5. Asiatic Theater

Japanese infiltration continues along the British flank in the Mayu Peninsula. On April 11, enemy bombers raided Maungdaw twice and Cox's Bazaar once.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 11, enemy bases at Kahili, Ballale, and Rekata Bay were attacked by U.S. planes. The following day Vila was subjected to a heavy attack by dive-bombers. New Guinea--New Britain Area: Photographs of Hansa Bay, near Nubia, taken April 10, reveal 26 camouflaged barges, and AA and machine gun emplacements. In the Japanese air attack on Oro Bay, reported yesterday, Allied planes shot down 12 fighters and 5 dive-bombers and probably destroyed 5 more fighters and 1 dive-bomber. A communique reports that on April 12, a force of 100 Japanese planes attacked the Port Moresby area. Intercepting Allied planes shot 19 enemy bombers and 10 fighters out of action. An additional 2 bombers were destroyed and 6 other planes probably destroyed by AA fire. Some of the Japanese planes returning from this raid were intercepted by an Allied fighter patrol and lost 3 more bombers and 1 fighter. Allied heavy bombers executed a dawn attack on the Japanese airdromes at Rabaul, where large fires were started. On the return, an enemy submarine was attacked and sunk in St. George's Channel, and 3 of 9 intercepting enemy fighters were shot down. Japanese shipping in Hansa Bay was attacked by Allied planes; 2 cargo vessels were set on fire.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

Two Allied cargo ships in another eastbound Atlantic convoy were sunk on April 12 in mid-ocean, and a third torpedoed vessel in

this convoy is considered unsalvageable. One Norwegian cargo ship, in a westbound Atlantic convoy, was sunk in mid-ocean on April 11. A small British cargo ship was mined and sunk on April 11 in a coastal convoy off the southeast coast of England. Three independent ships have been reported sunk: one on April 2, SE of Bermuda, one on April 9 off Dakar, and the third on April 8 about 200 miles NW of Freetown. In the Pacific 1 cargo ship, traveling in a coastal convoy, was sunk off Cape Howl, Australia, on April 11.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton
R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt
A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A. C. of S., G-2

Date April 11, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

From: 1601 Z, April 10, 1943

To : 1600 Z, April 11, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 11, 1943.

No. 14

1. North American Theater

Alaska: East of Gertrude Cove on Kiska, photographs reveal 4,650 feet of new trenches, additional gun emplacements and revetments, and 6 new buildings. Two barges were seen in Chichagof Harbor, Attu, on April 9. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: No submarine sightings have been reported in U.S. coastal waters.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

No important changes.

b. Western Europe

On April 9 enemy fighters over southern England made a small bombing raid on Folkestone. Enemy patrols over the Dover Straits were intercepted and lost 4 FW 190s. Three other enemy planes were destroyed off the English coast during the day. A 6,000-ton enemy tanker was torpedoed off western Norway by Allied aircraft. The tanker blew up.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In northern Tunisia the enemy withdrew from Toukabeur during the night of April 8-9. Chaouach, 5 miles NW of Medjez el Bab, was evacuated on the 9th. Axis forces resisted strongly in the Pichon--Fondouk area during most of April 9, but retreated

in the afternoon from Fondouk Pass. By noon April 10, Allied patrols were 5 miles W and 10 miles S of Kairouan. In the south the enemy continued his rapid withdrawal, and on April 10 the Eighth Army occupied Sfax and La Hencha. Patrols from units on its western flank were 30 miles S of Kairouan. On April 8-9, the town of Sousse and enemy road traffic between Sousse and Sfax were bombed and strafed. Eight Ju-88s and one Me-109 were destroyed in combat near Kairouan.

5. Asiatic Theater

On April 6, a force of 9 Japanese bombers escorted by 12 fighters bombed Argatala airdrome in eastern Bengal. On April 7, the Rangoon Central Railway station was attacked by U.S. heavy bombers, with good results. Dehazari airdrome, near Chittagong, was raided April 8 by 27 Japanese bombers escorted by 10 to 12 fighters. On the same date Meiktila airdrome was attacked by U.S. bombers. Japanese encirclement of British forward elements in the Mayu Peninsula continues.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

New Guinea--New Britain Area: Photographs taken April 9 of Kavieng airdrome show a total of 90 aircraft, including 51 fighters, 24 medium bombers, and 13 single-engine bombers. Heavy activity was evident, and the runway is being resurfaced. At Nubia (on the northeast coast about halfway between Wewak and Madang) the old landing strip is now being lengthened, and work is being done on dispersal bays. A communique reports another low-level bombing and strafing attack April 10 on Madang and Alexishafen. At Madang new fires were started in the dock area, where fires from the attack on April 9 were still burning. Wewak was also subjected to a heavy air attack at dawn April 10. A small enemy cargo ship was destroyed in the harbor and two smaller ships were damaged.

NW Australia--Banda Sea Area: A communique states that on April 10 the enemy-occupied villages of Ossu and Viqueque on Timor were successfully bombed and strafed by Allied planes.

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7. Action against Allied Shipping

No successful attacks against Allied shipping have been reported in any theater.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton

R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt

A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A. C. of S., G-2
Date April 10, 1943
Initials R.S.B.

From: 1601 Z, April 9, 1943
To : 1600 Z, April 10, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 10, 1943.

No. 13

1. North American Theater

Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: One submarine is probably operating in the vicinity of Cape Hatteras and another off New York harbor, possibly about 50 miles S of Montauk Point. Another U-boat has been sighted about 50 miles NE of Trinidad, and a fourth probably remains in West Indian waters, N of Santo Domingo.

2. Latin American Theater

Since Bolivia's declaration of war on the Axis, the Paraguayan Foreign Minister has informed our Ambassador that Paraguay desires that the United States guarantee freedom from attack by Bolivia.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

No important changes.

b. Western Europe

During the night of April 8-9, Duisburg (Ruhr) was attacked by a strong force of RAF bombers.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

Axis forces in central Tunisia continued their northward withdrawal throughout April 8. All enemy units except isolated pockets of resistance were N of the Mezzouna--Mahares railroad. A considerable part of the withdrawing German armor moved into the Faid Pass area. An Allied communique estimates

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that 9,500 Axis prisoners were taken from April 6 through April 8; most of these were Italian. Pichon and important heights to the N were evacuated by Axis forces. In northern Tunisia the enemy continued to retire slowly under pressure in the sector NE of Oued Zarga, where over 400 German prisoners have been taken since April 7. During the night of April 7-8, enemy installations in Sfax and transport concentrations in the forward areas were attacked by Allied bombers. Other strong forces of fighter and light bombers effectively attacked targets northward along the coast from Mahares. On April 8 intensive air attacks were continued against the retreating enemy forces in the Mahares--Mezzouna area. Little enemy air opposition was encountered, and enemy planes made only 3 small attacks on our advancing troops. During the past 2 days, approximately 130 enemy motor vehicles have been destroyed and some 200 damaged in the heaviest air attacks ever made against Rommel's forces.

5. Asiatic Theater

Japanese headquarters in Toungoo were badly damaged by U.S. heavy bombers on April 7. Shwebo was heavily attacked by RAF bombers. On April 8, Fort Bayard in Kwangchowwan was successfully strafed. A large quantity of enemy stores was destroyed SE of Shinbuiyang (northern Burma) by U.S. fighter planes.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

New Guinea--New Britain Area: A communique reports that the airdrome, town, and docks at Madang were bombed and strafed by Allied planes on April 9. AA positions were silenced, 2 bombers and 4 fighters were destroyed on the ground, and large fires were started. Five loaded barges at Alexishafen were also strafed.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

No successful attacks against Allied shipping have been reported in any theater. Thus far this month Allied and neutral shipping losses have been 50 percent below those of March: 10 ships of 60,000 tons, as against 23 ships of 122,000 tons

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reported by the same date last month.

For the A. C. of S., G-2: For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton

R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt

A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A. C. of S., G-2

From: 1801 Z, April 8, 1943

Date April 9, 1943

To : 1800 Z, April 9, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 9, 1943

No. 12

1. North American Theater

Atlantic W of 28th Meridian: In the Eastern Sea Frontier there are possibly 2 U-boats, one S of the eastern tip of Long Island and the second off Cape Hatteras. Another submarine may still be operating in the east Florida Straits S of Miami, and one more, that has not recently been located, in the Caribbean. One U-boat is probably off the north coast of Santo Domingo.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Nothing to report.

b. Western Europe

On April 7, three FW-190s made a light raid on the southeast English coast. Eight Me-109s bombed and strafed a town on the Isle of Wight. Two of the enemy planes were destroyed.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

By afternoon of April 8, Axis forces formerly in the Wadi Akarit and El Guettar areas of central Tunisia had been forced to withdraw N and NE to a line running generally eastward from Mezzouna to the sea. Many prisoners and much equipment were captured. Isolated enemy units to the SW of this line continue resistance. Throughout the night of April 6-7 and the day following, the withdrawing enemy

columns were heavily attacked by Allied planes. Strong enemy defensive aviation was encountered in this area, as well as around Tunis and Bizerte. In northern Tunisia on April 7, Axis forces made a slight withdrawal about 10 miles NW of Medjez el Bab and were preparing a new defensive line about 14 miles W of Mateur. On the night of April 6-7, enemy installations in the Tunis area were heavily bombed by RAF planes. In the Mateur--Medjez el Bab area, on April 7, a formation of 20 enemy dive-bombers with escort was driven off by Allied fighters. Nine of the bombers were reported destroyed.

5. Asiatic Theater

Japanese transportation facilities in upper Burma were raided by Allied planes on April 6 and 7.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: Photographs taken late on April 7 showed 50 fighters and 5 bombers at Kahili; 25 fighters and 1 bomber at Ballale; and 25 float-planes at Faisi. Although this is in contrast to the much larger numbers reported at these points earlier on the same day, the heavy concentration in the general area continues. On April 8, Kahili was raided by U.S. planes. New Guinea--New Britain Area: On April 7, the coast area between Mur and Singor (Saidor area), Finschhafen, and the Salamaua Isthmus were bombed and strafed by U.S. planes. NW Australia--Banda Sea Area: On April 7, Babo was bombed by Allied planes. Explosions and fires were observed. A communique reports that on April 8 an Allied reconnaissance plane successfully bombed and strafed a group of enemy supply barges off Kaukenau. Pacific Area: A U.S. submarine reports sinking 2 Japanese cargo vessels and 2 tankers, and probably sinking another cargo vessel.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

No successful attacks against Allied shipping have been reported in any theater. Persistent countermeasures by air and surface units escorting the eastbound Atlantic convoy,

previously reported under attack, have frustrated enemy action against this convoy since April 6.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton

R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt

A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 8, 1943

Initials A S Y
R.S.B.

From: 1601 Z, April 7, 1943

To : 1600 Z, April 8, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 8, 1943.

No. 11

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On April 6, enemy installations on Kiska were attacked a total of 5 times. Hits were observed in all target areas. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: Two U-boats may now have moved into the Eastern Sea Frontier, one possibly about 100 miles SE of the eastern tip of Long Island and the other possibly 200 miles off Cape Hatteras. One submarine is apparently still operating N of Haiti, another in the south Florida Straits, and two more in the eastern and central Caribbean.

2. Latin American Theater

Governments of Brazil and the Dominican Republic have agreed to prevent contemplated food shipments from their countries to the French West Indies.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: In the Kuban area, the enemy successfully defended against scattered small-scale attacks. Southern Front: In the Izyum area local fighting continues. Central and Northern Fronts: Artillery duels and reconnaissance raids were the only signs of activity along the entire front.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In central Tunisia, after a series of counterattacks against the British breakthrough in the Akarit Line on April 6 had failed, Axis units withdrew during the night of April 6-7 toward Sfax. Counterattacking enemy troops and later his withdrawing columns.

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north of Wadi Akarit were bombed and strafed by Allied planes. On April 6, SE of El Guettar, enemy rearguard action with machine guns and some tanks was stubborn, but on April 7 he began withdrawing to the E and NE. During the afternoon of April 7 British and American patrols made contact 30 miles NW of Gabes on the Gabes--Gafsa road. In northern Tunisia on April 6, the enemy continued a slow withdrawal SE of Sedjenane. Enemy airfields in central and northern Tunisia were attacked 8 times by Allied planes. Three enemy convoys in the Sicilian Channel, and docks and shipping in the harbor at Trapani were successfully bombed. At least 6 merchant ships were destroyed or set on fire and many others were hit during these attacks. The Messina ferry terminal was also bombed. At least 28 enemy planes were destroyed in combat during the day.

5. Asiatic Theater

On April 6, Japanese action caused withdrawal of British forces from Indin, 10 miles north of Donbaik, leaving the enemy in possession of the southern portion of Mayu Peninsula.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: Sightings April 7 revealed a marked increase in enemy aircraft strength in the northern Solomons. At Kahili there were 114 fighters, 5 medium bombers, and 1 large four-engine bomber with a 100-foot wing span; at Ballale, 95 fighters and 1 medium bomber; at Buka, 37 fighters and 6 medium bombers; and at Faisi, 6 float-planes. On the same date Tulagi was attacked by 50 enemy bombers and 48 fighters. U.S. planes shot down 21 fighters and 5 dive-bombers. Allied shipping in this area was attacked by 7 enemy planes, 3 of which were shot down. Three enemy planes also dropped bombs on Guadalcanal. Enemy bases at Vila and Rekata Bay were subjected to heavy dive-bombing attacks by U.S. planes. At Rekata Bay, a Japanese 4-engine flying-boat was destroyed by a direct hit.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

No new attacks against trans-Atlantic shipping have been reported. A 6,500-ton British tanker was mined and beached in the Thames Estuary on April 6. A British cargo ship was

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torpedoed and beached on the African west coast 350 miles
north of Capetown on April 2.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton

R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt

A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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OSD Letter, 6-6-72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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By Auth A. C. of S., G-2

Date April 7, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

From: 1601 Z, April 6, 1943

To : 1600 Z, April 7, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 7, 1943.

No. 10

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On April 6, enemy landing-strip construction at Attu suffered damage from a U.S. bombing raid. A large explosion followed by a fire was observed between the strip and the bay. On Kiska, the Main Camp area, landing-strip construction, and submarine base were bombed, and hits were observed on all targets. Two barges were seen in Chichagof Harbor, Attu. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: One U-boat is probably still operating in the Florida Straits, a second in Windward Passage, and 2 more in the central or eastern Caribbean. A fifth U-boat may be patrolling E of Cape Cod.

2. Latin American Theater

President Penaranda decreed on April 5 that a state of war exists between Bolivia and the Axis, and ordered the mobilization of the Bolivian Army.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: In the Kuban the enemy appears to have stopped the new Soviet attack. Southern Front: In the Izyum and Chuguev areas, continued local enemy attacks registered some advance despite strong Soviet resistance. Northern Front: In the Kirishi area on the Volkhov River, local enemy counterattacks somewhat bettered his positions at this vital point.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

Italian positions along the Wadi Akarit in central Tunisia were heavily attacked during the early morning hours of April 6.

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OSD Letter, 15-3-72

A wide wedge was driven into the recently prepared line, and large numbers of the enemy were captured. Strong enemy resistance was encountered April 6 on Djebel Berda S of El Guettar. On the day before, the 21st Panzer Division was moved into this area and 75 enemy tanks with infantry were observed moving westward on the road S of Djebel Berda. On April 5, enemy bombers made light raids near Gabes and in the Maknassy area. Many defensive flights were made by the enemy throughout Tunisia. The Axis airdromes at Trapani, Palermo, Tunis, and Bizerte were heavily bombed by Allied planes. Many planes were observed on each of the fields, and more than 80 enemy aircraft were believed destroyed on the ground. From April 2 through April 5 inclusive, some 150 enemy air transports operated daily between Sicily and Tunis. On the 5th, a formation of transport aircraft was intercepted and 18 were destroyed by U.S. fighters. Of the aircraft escorting the transports, 5 Ju-87s, 1 Me-110, 1 Me-210, and 5 Me-109s were destroyed. The harbors at Palermo, Trapani, and Sfax were also heavily bombed. Two enemy merchant ships and 2 barges were hit and 1 destroyer was sunk by medium bombers in the Sicilian Channel.

5. Asiatic Theater

Enemy fighter planes have been unusually active in Burma and eastern Bengal, indicating a definite shift from defensive to offensive tactics in that area. Eighteen heavy bombers and 10 fighters attacked the RAF base at Dohazari, near Chittagong, on April 4. On the next day, a force of 50 Japanese bombers and fighters raided objectives in eastern Bengal. Railway yards and warehouses in Pyawbwe, Maymyo, and Mandalay were successfully bombed by U.S. planes. Japanese forward units N of Shingbuiyang were bombed and strafed.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 4, in the Buin--Tonolei area, sightings included 3 light cruisers, 5 destroyers, 4 large cargo ships, and 2 small unidentified vessels. An enemy convoy of 1 light cruiser, 2 destroyers, and 2 merchant ships was sighted SW of Kolombangara Island on April 6. The convoy put up a smoke screen and when last seen was moving SW through Ferguson Passage. On the same date Vila was subjected to a dive-bombing attack. No AA fire was encountered and no enemy interception was attempted. New Guinea--New Britain Area: On April 5, harassing raids were made on Cape Gloucester, Finschhafen, Madang, and the Saidor area. A communique reports a heavy Allied low-level air attack on the Salamaua area on April 6. NW Australia--Banda Sea Area:

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

On April 5, Lamoka, SW Dutch New Guinea, was raided by Allied planes. An enemy medium cargo ship was observed in Sekar Bay, on the south coast of MacCluer Gulf.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

In the eastbound trans-Atlantic convoy, previously reported under attack, a third cargo vessel was sunk on April 6. Twelve other attempted attacks against this convoy have been driven off successfully. One U.S. cargo ship independently en route from southern Cuba to Mobile was sunk by a U-boat in Windward Passage.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton

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Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

A. V. S. Pickhardt

A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
Captain, U. S. N.,
Asst. Dir., Intelligence Group.

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OSD Letter

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A. C. of S., G-2

Date April 6, 1943

Initials R. S. B.

From: 1601 Z, April 5, 1943

To : 1600 Z, April 6, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 6, 1943.

No. 9

1. North American Theater

Alaska: Recent photographs of the landing-strip construction on Kiska show little progress since March 16. This information changes the estimated date of completion of this strip to a time later than April 14. Wire was observed strung to a height of 150 feet across Bluff Cove, apparently for the purpose of intercepting U.S. aircraft in their strafing runs in this area. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: One U-boat is probably operating in the Florida Straits, another N of Haiti, and 2 more, whose positions have not recently been verified, in the eastern Caribbean. North of Florida, U.S. coastal waters are probably free of submarines.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: In the Kuban, Axis forces held their main positions after the new Soviet attack had spread to the entire northern and eastern defenses of the bridgehead. The Red Army attack, which threatened to cut the main supply line between Novorossisk and Tamanskaya, has diminished after making a few minor penetrations. Southern Front: In the Izyum area the enemy's attack on the Soviet bridgehead appears to have had some success, although the Red Army still maintains a foothold on the right bank. Northern Front: South of Ilmen the enemy counter-attacked and succeeded in bettering his positions around Staraya Russa. Local fighting continues S of Ladoga. Enemy air forces broke up a Soviet attempt to open a supply lane through the ice on Lake Ladoga.

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b. Western Europe

During the night of April 4-5, Kiel was heavily attacked by an exceptionally large force of RAF bombers. On the following day industrial targets at Antwerp were heavily raided by U.S. bombers supported by RAF Spitfires. AA fire was slight, but strong enemy fighter reaction was encountered, with attacks concentrated on the leading elements. Early reports claim more than 10 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In central Tunisia during the night of April 3-4, the enemy captured the strategic height of Djebel El Kreroua, 10 miles SE of El Guettar. On April 4 his attack against our position about 12 miles E of El Guettar was repulsed. A number of enemy bombing attacks were carried out in central Tunisia. Enemy fighters were active on strafing raids throughout the battle front and in defense of the area W of Sfax. Italian planes were again active. Axis landing grounds and motor vehicles in the central sector were successfully bombed by Allied planes. Eight enemy planes were destroyed on the ground at El Djem airfield. The railroad yards, airdrome, and harbor facilities at Naples were heavily bombed by U.S. planes. Five enemy ships were hit, and an estimated 25 planes were destroyed on the airdrome. Enemy fighters strongly defended a convoy with naval escort which was attacked by our bombers; 3 merchant ships were set on fire. The dock area and 10 small boats at Carloforte, Sardinia, were hit by U.S. bombers. Axis shipping between Sicily and Tunisia continues to suffer from Allied naval attack. An Axis convoy was attacked off Bizerte on the night of March 31 by light naval craft. One ship was sunk, and another probably sunk. On April 3 a large southbound tanker was torpedoed off southern Italy. On April 4, three merchant vessels, including one 8,000-ton ship, were torpedoed off Palermo. On the night of April 4, ships in Milazzo Harbor (northeast Sicily) were attacked. In other attacks in Sicilian waters, 4 schooners were sunk and 1 damaged.

5. Asiatic Theater

Japanese infiltration to the coastal road 12 miles N of Donbalk menaces the supply of British forces in that area. Japanese oil production facilities at Yenangyaung, Burma, were bombed by the RAF on April 3, with excellent results. On April 4, the refinery at Thilawa, near Rangoon, was heavily damaged by U.S. bombers.

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6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 4, there were indications of increased enemy activity on the northeast coast of Bougainville. A possible landing strip is reported being developed at Numa Numa. A surfaced enemy submarine was attacked with promising results 50 miles NNW of the Russell Islands by a U.S. warship. A communique reports an extended, harassing air raid on Buka on April 5. New Guinea--New Britain Area: Photographs taken April 4 show a portion of the old runway at Saidor now being cleared by burning off the grass and brush. Finschhafen strip appears unserviceable. In addition to the heavy air attack on Lae on April 4, enemy positions in the vicinity of Kitchen Creek were thoroughly strafed. SWPA headquarters has assessed enemy losses, during the attacks on shipping at Kavieng, as 7 warships of the cruiser or destroyer type and 5 merchant vessels either sunk or severely damaged. In addition, 3 other destroyers and 1 merchant vessel were attacked and possibly damaged.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

The eastbound trans-Atlantic convoy reported under attack yesterday has thus far lost 2 cargo ships. Another cargo ship, a straggler from an earlier eastbound convoy, is now reported sunk on March 29.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton
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Colonel, G. S. C.,
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A. V. S. Pickhardt
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052 601101, 6-3-72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 5, 1943

Initials N S / B
R.S.B.

From: 1601 Z, April 4, 1943
To : 1600 Z, April 5, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 5, 1943.

No. 8

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On April 2-3 enemy installations on Kiska were raided 8 times, and the landing strip on Attu was bombed once. Hits were observed on all targets. There are indications of further increase in Japanese air reconnaissance activity. Photographs taken April 1 disclose continued work on the Kiska North Head defensive installations. An 85-foot revetment and some 575 feet of new trenches were observed. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: Three or four submarines apparently remain in Caribbean waters; another is probably operating in the east Florida Straits. A U-boat sighting was reported off the west tip of Cuba on April 4.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: In the Kuban bridgehead, the enemy's eastern defenses S of the river were strongly attacked by a large Soviet force astride the Krasnodar-Novorossisk railroad. The enemy's defenses have been pierced in some places, and the battle continues. The center of gravity of fighting on the Eastern Front appears to have shifted back to the Caucasus. Southern Front: South of Izyum small enemy forces attacked unsuccessfully in an attempt to clean out this Soviet bridgehead W of the river. Southeast of Orel an enemy attack of local significance gained some ground. Northern Front: South of Ilmen and Ladoga, the enemy continued his successful defense against renewed Soviet attacks.

b. Western Europe

On the day of April 3, twelve FW-190's raided a southeast

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Regraded Unclassified

England town, and 13 other enemy planes were active in coastal reconnaissance over the Thames Estuary. The following night 20 hostile aircraft were active over this same area. On the same night, the Krupp works at Essen were successfully attacked by large formations of RAF heavy bombers. The Renault works in Paris were heavily bombed April 4 by strong forces of U.S. bombers, escorted by RAF Spitfires. On this attack AA fire was slight, but very strong fighter reaction was encountered. According to early reports, 25 enemy fighters were destroyed.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In northern Tunisia the enemy evacuated Cap Serrat on April 2. There was no significant enemy ground activity in Tunisia on April 3. Axis aviation operated on a heavier scale throughout the battle area, and especially in defense of landing grounds. About 55 offensive sorties were made in the Medjez el Bab-Sedjenane area. Dive-bombers and fighters attacked the Allied landing ground at Souk el Khemis. A similar attack was made on Allied forward positions in the El Guettar area, where intercepting Allied fighters destroyed 14 dive-bombers. The landing ground at Ste. Marie Du Zit (26 miles SSE of Tunis) was successfully attacked by Allied light bombers. Enemy gun positions and motor vehicles north of Wadi Akarit were attacked 5 times by Allied planes. On the night of April 3-4, enemy bombers operated over the battle front, and enemy torpedo-planes were active between Bougie and Algiers.

5. Asiatic Theater

Japanese units have infiltrated behind British forward lines N of Donbaik and appear to control the passes in the southern half of the Mayu Peninsula.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 2 a small, well-camouflaged merchant vessel off Vella Lavella was bombed, strafed, and set on fire. New Guinea--New Britian Area: According to a communique, on April 4 enemy defenses in the Lae area were heavily bombed and strafed. Damage was believed to be heavy. The same communique reported that another low-level bombing attack on enemy shipping at Kavieng scored direct hits on 3 vessels, including a light cruiser or destroyer, a destroyer, and a merchant ship. Another destroyer, a probable submarine tender, and a cargo vessel may have been hit, but darkness and searchlights prevented observation of results. The enemy made no attempt to intercept.

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7. Action against Allied Shipping

Two British cargo ships in a southbound convoy from the British Isles were sunk by submarines on April 2 W of Portugal. A U.S. tanker en route from Galveston to New York was sunk on April 3 in the Florida Straits, S of Miami. An eastbound trans-Atlantic convoy was attacked in mid-ocean by a wolf-pack on April 5. Two ships were torpedoed.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

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~~SECRET~~ 72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 4, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

From: 1601 Z, April 3, 1943

To : 1600 Z, April 4, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 4, 1943.

No. 7

1. North American Theater

Atlantic W of 28th Meridian: Four submarines still appear to be in Caribbean waters; one of these is probably in the south Florida Straits, another S of Jamaica, another SE of Navassa Island, and the fourth in the vicinity of Trinidad. One U-boat was reportedly sighted off the south tip of Florida on April 3.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Other than routine patrols and artillery exchanges, the only action on the entire front was small and unsuccessful enemy attacks S of Izyum.

b. Western Europe

During the U.S. attack on Wilhelmshaven March 22, an Me-109 which appeared to be damaged emitted black smoke on spiraling down. However, on reaching the level of a Liberator formation, the enemy fighter straightened out to attack. The same attack again encountered the enemy practice of dropping objects suspended by parachutes over the Allied formations. On the night of April 2-3, St. Nazaire and Lorient were attacked by large formations of RAF bombers.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

Enemy ground activity was limited to patrols in the northern sector and along the Akarit positions in the south. Enemy forces are grouping for defense of the pass at Djebel Zemlet el Belda. Thirty-two

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Axis tanks were shelled 12 miles SE of El Guettar. Enemy air showed some increase in fighter activity in central Tunisia, and light raids were made by German planes in the Gabes--Maknassy area. A decrease was noted in enemy air activity in the north. For the past 2 days, no Italian planes have been observed. Four torpedo-planes made an unsuccessful attack on Allied ships off the Algerian coast. Enemy positions and motor vehicles N of Akarit were attacked by Allied planes, and 2 bombing raids were made on the enemy landing ground at La Fauconnerie. AA fire was intense. The ferry termini at Messina and San Giovanni were successfully bombed by Allied planes.

5. Asiatic Theater

On March 31, oil dumps and barracks at Bhamo were bombed and fired by Allied planes. On April 2, Allied bombers scored hits on the railroad junction at Thazi, Burma. Eighteen enemy bombers inflicted slight damage at Maungdaw. Enemy ground units on the Arakan front made slight gains in the Laungchaung area.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

New Guinea--New Britain Area: Enemy shipping at Kavieng was again attacked April 1, and a medium cargo vessel was damaged. A communique reports that just before dawn April 3, a heavy low-level attack on Kavieng shipping resulted in the sinking of 1 heavy cruiser, 1 light cruiser, and probably a destroyer. Two other destroyers were reported to have been hit and severely damaged. The enemy made no attempt to intercept our planes. The same communique reported that enemy positions in the Mubo area at Salus and Lababia (on the coast), were bombed and strafed. Some barge activity had been previously noted along the coast. Madang, Finschhafen, Cape Gloucester, and Gasmata were subjected to harassing raids. NW Australia--Banda Sea Area: A communique reports that enemy transports, supply dumps, and barges at Timoeke, Dutch New Guinea, were bombed and strafed on April 3. The communique also reported that Saumlaki, in the Tanimbar Islands, was bombed.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

One Allied cargo ship was sunk in the Caribbean, NW of Bahia Honda, on April 1. No further attacks against Allied shipping have been reported.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

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For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

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A. V. S. PICKHARDT,
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SECRET
OSD Letter, 0-3-72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G 2
Date April 3, 1943
Initials R.S.B.

From: 1201 GCT, April 2, 1943
To : 1200 GCT, April 3, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 3, 1943.

No. 6.

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On April 1 enemy installations on Kiska were attacked 3 times. One attack was made the following day on the same target area. Increased enemy aerial-reconnaissance activity has been noted in the Aleutian area. Two probable enemy supply dumps were observed at Stellar Cove, Attu. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: Three or 4 submarines appear to remain in the Gulf of Mexico--Caribbean area, one of which is probably in the south Florida Straits, and a second W of Jamaica. A possible U-boat sighting was reported on April 2 off the Maine coast, SE of Portland.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian, Southern, and Central Fronts: Along these fronts the usual artillery duels, small-scale reconnaissance raids, and air force activity continued with no important change in position of the lines. In the rear areas both armies are regrouping in preparation for activities to come at the end of the present thaw season. Northern Front: South of Ilmen and Ladoga, the enemy continues to hold his defensive position against Soviet attacks of local significance. On the Karelian Isthmus, Finnish troops successfully repelled a reconnaissance raid in strength.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In central Tunisia on April 1, strong enemy resistance continued in the El Guettar--Maknassy--Fondouk sectors. Activities along the Beida--Akarit line were limited to patrolling. Enemy offensive

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Regraded Unclassified

air action was chiefly centered in the El Guettar--Maknassy area, where dive and fighter-bombers attacked Allied ground units. A majority of the Axis fighters in Tunisia escorted these operations. There was no air opposition to an Allied bomber attack on Sfax, but one formation of fighters was encountered when our planes attacked the airfield at La Fauconnerie (NW of Sfax). El Djem landing ground was also attacked by Allied aviation, and enemy ground troops were bombed and strafed. In northern Tunisia the heights of El Harchia S of Sedjenane were cleared of the enemy, but his resistance N of Sedjenane continued. Enemy fighters made offensive sweeps in this area.

5. Asiatic Theater

On April 1, thirty Japanese bombers caused slight damage in an attack on Feni, in Eastern Bengal; 5 were destroyed. Railway installations at Ywataung, Maymyo, Kanbalu, Alon, and Mandalay were successfully bombed by Allied planes. A considerable increase in enemy road, rail, and river transport was noted in upper Burma. Seven Japanese fighters were destroyed in combat near Lingling.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On April 2, an enemy cargo vessel off Vella Lavella was set on fire by Allied fighters. New Guinea--New Britain Area: On April 1, the enemy was reported occupying positions along the Bitoi River and in the Kitchen Creek area. On this same date, the Kitchen Creek area was heavily bombed and strafed by Allied planes. In the Kavieng area, Allied planes sighted 3 light cruisers, 4 probable destroyers, 5 medium cargo vessels, and 1 large transport. Later this shipping was attacked by Allied heavy bombers, and a large explosion indicated that one of the vessels was hit. Photographs taken April 1 show the runways at Boram and But airdromes to be serviceable. NW Australia--Banda Sea Area: On March 31, Babo was subjected to a heavy bombing attack. Very little enemy air opposition was encountered. Timoeka was also heavily bombed and strafed. On March 30, shipping at Kaimana was attacked.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

One British cargo ship has been reported sunk SW of Freetown on March 29. No new attacks against Allied shipping have been reported thus far in April.

For the A. C. of S., G-2: For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

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MONTHLY G-2 SUMMARY

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 2, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

From: 1201 GCT, March 1, 1943

To : 1200 GCT, April 1, 1943

War Department,
Military Intelligence Service,
April 2, 1943.

No. 2.

1. North American Theater

a. Alaska

Japanese activity in the Near and Rat Islands showed a marked upswing. The enemy fighter strip on Kiska is now estimated to be within 15 days of completion, and a landing strip is under construction on Attu near the East Arm of Holtz Bay. On Kiska the enemy is constructing new trenches and defensive positions, which are dispersed for protection against aerial attack and are located in rugged terrain easily defended against ground assault. Northwest of Reynard Cove a new outpost and new roads are reported, creating a defense line across the island. On Attu new defense works and AA batteries have been noted around Holtz Bay and Chichagof Harbor. Over 500 foxholes were counted in the vicinity of the new runway construction at Holtz Bay. Toward the last of the month, an increasing number of barges was reported in Kiska Harbor and at several points on Attu. This attempt to supply his bases the enemy supplemented with a naval task force which met our fleet surface units W of Attu on March 26. Although the enemy withdrew to the westward, it is probable that he has not left Aleutian waters. During March there was no enemy offensive air action against U.S. bases in the Aleutians. Our own forces repeatedly bombed and strafed Japanese installations on Kiska, and on March 26 dropped bombs in the camp area at Attu Village. Enemy defensive air action was weak. The largest number of enemy float-planes seen at one time in Kiska Harbor was 18, on March 16. Pending successful completion of the strips on Attu and Kiska, enemy air action will be restricted to weak defensive measures, possible light raids on our forces at Amchitka, and aerial reconnaissance of U.S. naval vessels in waters around the Rat and Near Islands. The enemy naval force encountered off Attu could have been intended to reinforce Attu, or might be in the nature of a diversion intended to precede a blow at Adak or Amchitka.

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b. Greenland

The seizure of the radio and weather station at Eskimonaes on March 23 marks the first enemy encroachment upon the eastern side of North America. The enemy strength is not known, but might well be sufficient to capture the Scoresby Sound station and any isolated patrols or posts in the area. Meteorological information from north-east Greenland would be of immense value to enemy U-boats and to Norway-based patrol bombers. For several months, this entire area will be shut off from shipping by ice, and the only effective means of ingress will be by parachute.

c. Domestic Situation

The German-American population has maintained a discreet quiet. No organizational activity of a subversive nature has been reported. Indications continue of Nazi attempts to secure neutral couriers for espionage service and for the transmission of precious metals and stones. Several of the so-called "free" groups, composed of foreign nationals, remain subject to suspicion of being pro-Nazi and of tendencies toward political opportunism. A sharp decrease has been noted in the pro-Japanese activities of internees at the War Relocation Centers. This is considered to reflect their generally improved morale, resulting from the War Department decision to organize a combat team from this group. Investigations have disclosed no evidence of enemy-inspired sabotage. The causes of incidents in war industry and transportation have been normal operational hazards, except for employee dereliction of duty for personal reasons.

d. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian

In the first part of the month, there was a fairly extensive regrouping of submarines in the North Atlantic. This was followed in the third week of March by various "wolf-pack" attacks on 2 eastbound convoys, resulting in our heaviest convoy losses of the war. The attacks were mainly delivered in mid-ocean, out of range of land-based planes. Over 600,000 tons of shipping have been lost to the United Nations in March. Several submarines operated in the Caribbean during the month, and 1 entered the Gulf of Mexico.

2. Latin American Theater

The situation of the French colonies moved toward clarification with French Guiana's swing to the United Nations on March 17, followed by General Giraud's installation of a governor. Admiral Robert, although faced by food shortages in Martinique and Guadeloupe, maintained adherence to Vichy. Meanwhile Paraguay announced that the

contract of the Vichy Military Mission would not be renewed, and has requested them to leave. This group has been a source of pro-Axis propaganda. Peru, Chile, Ecuador, and Paraguay all moved in various ways to hamper the activities of Axis agents. Heralding closer military co-operation between Latin America and the United Nations, military missions were sent from Brazil and Mexico to North Africa, and from Brazil to French Guiana. The Commander in Chief of the Chilean Army completed a visit to the United States. Tension continued in the long-standing disputes between Peru and Ecuador, and between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Threatened difficulties between Cuba and the Dominican Republic were averted by President Batista in the interests of Pan-American solidarity. The Axis appears to be temporarily quiescent in Latin America. The most probable lines of enemy effort in the immediate future are propaganda activities to make the most of slight internal and international difficulties, and continued submarine activities in Latin American waters.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

In the northwest Caucasus, the enemy bridgehead on the Taman Peninsula and lower Kuban is now reduced to an area about 75 miles long and 50 miles wide. Enemy forces in the bridgehead are believed to have been reduced to 2 or 3 divisions. The terrain is rapidly drying, and the scale of fighting is increasing.

On the southern front the enemy counteroffensive has practically restored his 1941-42 winter line. Axis forces now hold the Taganrog area and a line following the direction of the Mius River N to a point E of Lisichansk on the Donets. From there the front follows the Donets to, and including, the Belgorod area. Kharkov has been recaptured by the enemy. From Belgorod the front generally follows the line of the railroad Belgorod--Lgov--Bryansk. The Soviet salients at Sumy and Sevsk have been practically eliminated. The enemy's Bryansk--Orel springboard has held firm and now constitutes the main threat to the Red Army and Moscow. The height of the muddy season is at hand on this front, and although the enemy may attempt to straighten his lines by taking Kursk, it is extremely doubtful whether a more ambitious operation will be initiated before the mud dries. There is some evidence that Axis Panzer units are being moved from the southern to the northern part of this front.

On the central front, the enemy has withdrawn and been forced back to a defensive line running E of Orel--Kirov--Smolensk and W of Velikie Luki. The solidly frozen marshes in this area are rapidly melting, and no large-scale operations are expected in the immediate future.

On the northern front the long-held enemy springboard at Demyansk has been wiped out, and he now holds a fairly straight line N of Velikie Luki along the Lovat River, E of Kholm--Staraya Russa--Novgorod, thence N along the Volkhov River to Volkhovstroi, and turning W at this point to the Neva River. Although the Red Army has opened a slender corridor into Leningrad, it is doubtful whether any of the main lines of communication to the city lie in Soviet hands. It is believed that once the ice in this area melts, the Soviets will find it hard to maintain any land supply routes to the city.

In the far north the line remains unchanged. Enemy bombing of the Murmansk port and shipping continues, and was particularly heavy in the middle of March.

b. Western Europe

There is little change in the Iberian situation. Spanish mobilization continues to be hampered by lack of clothing and equipment. The over-all picture shows 32 German divisions in France and the Low Countries, as compared with 34 at the beginning of March. Whereas on March 1 there were 15 offensive and 19 defensive divisions in this area, there are now only 12 offensive and 20 defensive divisions, indicating a decline not only in numbers of divisions but also in their offensive strength. Six Italian divisions, the same number as reported for March 1, are E of the Rhone in southeastern France. Since the Germans are actively pushing work on their fortifications in the area considered, and have not only withdrawn divisions but have also decreased the offensive strength of the divisions which remain, their activities in France and the Low Countries would appear at present to be of a defensive nature. However, the capability of a German thrust through Spain, with or without Spanish collaboration, is ever present and cannot be ignored.

Enemy air action over England was restricted chiefly to scattered light raids by fighter-bombers. The attacks were focused generally over the southeast coastal areas, with a few raids over north England and the Scotch lowlands. Toward the middle, and again at the end of the month, the tempo of GAF activity increased in daylight raids by both fighter-bombers and fighters. Enemy coastal reconnaissance flights continued, and some minelaying operations were carried out. Over Western Europe, enemy fighter interception substantially increased during this period against the almost daily heavy raids by Allied bombers. Industrial areas, railroad centers, and submarine bases were targets for heavy attacks, and Berlin was subjected to 3 very heavy raids. Off the Iberian coast, Axis long-range aircraft continued to operate against Allied shipping. All these enemy air activities may be expected to continue, with some increase in offensive measures.

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OSD Ltr. 4-3-72

c. Southern Europe

There are many indications that the Axis is preparing for a resolute defense of Italy and the Balkans. Additional troops have been sent to Sicily and Sardinia, and hitherto unknown Coastal Divisions, charged with local defenses, are constantly appearing. (These probably represent a reorganization of the former Coastal Militia.) In Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, fortification continues. Many railways in Yugoslavia are protected by pillboxes at short intervals. In Bulgaria, the Black Sea and Aegean coasts have been much strengthened, and special precautions have been taken against attack by parachutists and air-borne infantry in the vicinity of Xanthi, in Bulgarian (formerly Greek) Thrace. German, Italian, and Swiss civilians are being urged to withdraw from the Balkans. There is evidence from German sources that Axis troops are engaged in operations on a considerable scale against the Partisans in southern Croatia.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

Increased Axis motor transport movement during the first week of March presaged an enemy attack which was launched against the British Eighth Army on the 6th. On that date, the German 21st Panzer Division and elements of the 10th Panzer came down from the north under cover of the Matmata Hills to Toujane and Hallouf. From these points the German armor turned eastward and drove toward Metameur just W of Medenine. At the same time, Axis infantry went on the offensive in the Line proper and made a slight advance. Heavy fighting ensued, but all attacks were repulsed and by the afternoon of the 7th all ground formerly occupied was again in British hands. Fifty-two Axis tanks were destroyed or captured. With the exception of an unsuccessful Axis armored-car raid on the French positions at Ksar Rhilane on March 10, and the preparation of new Axis defensive positions, the sector remained quiet until the night of March 21-22. That night General Montgomery's Eighth Army went on the offensive in the Mareth area, with an infantry thrust through the Mareth Line and a wide encirclement movement by a strong force through the corridor between the Matmata and Tebaga Hills. German armored strength was moved north rapidly to counter this wide envelopment, and German infantry and armor successfully counterattacked the British breakthrough in the main Mareth fortifications. Increased pressure from the flanking force, however, caused Rommel to transfer so much of his strength to that area that the weakened Mareth positions were again entered on March 28. By the end of the month, Marshal Rommel had withdrawn his forces both from the Mareth Line and from the positions protecting its flank, and had taken up positions in the recently prepared defense line running along the Wadi el Akarit to Djebel Zemlet el Belda, about 15 miles N of the Gabes--El Hamma area.

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Throughout the month, the enemy maintained consistent pressure against the forces holding the left flank of the Allied line in northern Tunisia. In an apparent effort to widen the Bizerte--Tunis bridgehead, he pressed the attacks begun the latter part of February, and by March 21 had reached positions immediately northwest and north of Djebel Abiod. By stubborn fighting and at considerable cost, the enemy had advanced roughly 30 miles, and in so doing had established a position threatening the Allied left flank. However, about March 21, the enemy was obliged to withdraw the 10th Panzer Division and the 501st Heavy Panzer Battalion to meet the attack by American forces in the El Guettar and Maknassy sectors, thereby weakening his strength in northern Tunisia. On March 27 Allied forces counterattacked from the vicinity of Djebel Abiod, and by March 31 had forced the enemy eastward and northward of Sedjenane. This attack continues against strong resistance. Between Medjez el Bab and Pichon, no changes of importance took place during the month. The enemy evacuated Ousseltia on March 9, but retained his positions on the ridges E of the Ousseltia Valley. Activity in this sector during the month was limited to patrolling.

In central Tunisia, the enemy continued the retreat which began on February 23. By March 18, he was forced to evacuate Gafsa and El Guettar, and by the 21st he had retired to the east of Maknassy. Further retreat would have definitely endangered the Gabes corridor and the line of retreat of Rommel's forces on the Mareth Line. The 10th Panzer Division and the 501st Heavy Panzer Battalion were accordingly moved from northern Tunisia to the Maknassy and El Guettar sectors and stiffened the resistance of the Italian 131st Centauro Division in these areas. On March 27 the enemy evacuated Fondouk, SE of Pichon, after slight resistance, and S of the Chott Fedjadj Axis forces were forced northward from Kebili.

Recent information from North Africa indicates that a portion of the 999th African Brigade (German) has begun to arrive in northern Tunisia. This is a recently organized special formation with an estimated strength of 7,000 men. Its appearance is a matter of considerable interest, since it is the only new large German unit which has arrived in Africa since January.

It is apparently Marshal Rommel's intention to retire northward slowly, as evidenced by his orderly evacuation of Gabes on March 30. A number of natural defensive positions are available to him on the road to Tunis. Each of these may be occupied by him for a time, and they might even be used as bases from which vigorous counterattacks may be launched at Allied positions in the major passes to the west.

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5. Asiatic Theater

Japanese activity in China is still limited. On the Salween front in western Yunnan, the Japanese engaged in patrol action N of Tengchung. In Central China, enemy units crossed the Yangtze River at several points between Ichang and Yoyang and occupied several of the larger towns in a fertile, rice-producing region. This move also enabled them to secure their traffic on the river in this area.

In the Akyab area the initiative passed to the enemy. Japanese reinforcements from the Kaladan Valley infiltrated along the British flank, necessitating readjustment of front-line positions. In northern Burma, where increased numbers of enemy troops were reported, the enemy has withdrawn his forward positions and is consolidating on a line S of Sumprabum. A British force, which for some weeks has been raiding with marked success across the Chindwin and Irrawaddy Rivers in northern Burma, is now reported to be in difficulty and is apparently confronted with the necessity of making a perilous withdrawal. Increased and determined fighter resistance to Allied bombing raids was noted during March, and several attacks were made against Allied airfields and facilities in eastern Bengal. Allied air activity has been constant and intense. Railway bridges, installations, tracks, rolling stock, and engine sheds in central Burma have been severely damaged. The Rangoon dock and warehouse area, which is being developed extensively by the Japanese, was subjected to repeated damaging attacks. Photographic reconnaissance revealed that all production activity has ceased at the Laokay phosphate mines in Indo-China, following 2 Allied air raids. The enemy continues to reinforce the Burma theater. Road construction from Prome to the Bay of Bengal over Taungup Pass is proceeding rapidly, and construction of the Thailand--Burma railroad is being pushed from both ends. Enemy ship construction has been observed in Rangoon, and the enemy is reportedly attempting to accelerate his ship-building activities in Hong Kong.

No major offensive by the enemy appears likely in this theater in the near future. Stronger defense against Allied air action is indicated, and Japanese air attacks on Allied air bases will probably be intensified. The Japanese strength in Burma is believed adequate to resist any Allied attack before the end of the monsoon (i.e., November, 1943).

7. Southwest Pacific Theater

a. Solomons Area

During March, Japanese air bases at Vila, Munda, Ballale, and Kahili were subjected to almost daily attacks, ranging from light harassing raids to intensive bombings. In addition, the airfields at

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REF ID: A66783-72

Munda and Vila were shelled by U.S. surface vessels. These attacks have greatly restricted the enemy's use of Munda and Vila, but a substantial air strength continued to be concentrated in the northern Solomons. Enemy air activity was limited to small sporadic raids on Guadalcanal and on Allied positions in the Russell Group. Only 5 enemy bombers and 3 fighters were reported shot down in this area during the month.

b. New Guinea--New Britain Area:

On March 2 an enemy convoy of 3 light cruisers, 7 destroyers, and 12 merchant ships was sighted N of Cape Gloucester en route to Lae. Allied planes in repeated attacks through March 4 sank all of the 22 vessels, and shot down 49 planes of the enemy air cover. An estimated 8,000 Japanese ground troops, believed to be the bulk of the 51st Division, perished. Despite this loss, the Japanese continued to strengthen previously occupied positions along the northeast New Guinea coast. The enemy is reported to have constructed a strong perimeter defense at Salamaua, which includes the airdrome, Kela Village, and Kera Hill. In the Mubo area, the enemy defense is in depth along the Komiatum track. At the end of the month, Japanese and Allied patrols were in contact NE of Observation Hill. New airfield construction was noted at Boram (3 miles E of Wewak), at Dagur (21 miles NW of Wewak), at But or Buteim (30 miles NW of Wewak), and at a point 2 miles N of Madang. In addition a new field was noted on an island 3 1/2 miles W of Arawe, and another 15 miles SE of Ubill on New Britain. The increase of enemy air strength in the area is indicated by the presence of over 250 planes on Rabaul airdromes on March 23. Japanese aircraft were increasingly active in the New Guinea area during the month. Allied positions at Dobodura, Milne Bay, and Oro Bay were attacked. In the March 27 attack on Oro Bay, the enemy employed 40 bombers and a large number of fighters. Including the air losses during the attempt to reinforce Lae, the enemy lost at least 87 aircraft as a result of Allied air action.

c. Northwest Australia--Banda Sea Area

Activity in this sector was largely limited to Allied air attacks on Japanese bases at Dobo in the Aroe Islands, at Ambon, and at Langgoer and Faan in the Kei Islands. Allied planes, however, did reconnoiter Surabaya in Java, and as far north as the southeast coast of Borneo. During this period the Japanese occupied Kaimana on southwest Dutch New Guinea and were reported constructing a landing field. In addition, the landing strip at Timoeka was well on the way to completion. Early in the month, the enemy made a heavy attack on the Darwin area. At least 22 enemy planes were shot down by Allied aircraft in this area during the month.

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d. General

The fact that the enemy is not only replacing his losses but actually increasing his air strength in the New Guinea and the Solomons areas indicates his determination to maintain a strong defensive position. This defense may involve an increased scale of effort in enemy air operations; more numerous and larger bombing attacks on Allied positions; and more determined interception of Allied bombing attacks on his own positions. The increased number of airfields gives the enemy greater freedom in shifting his air units wherever occasion requires. With this increased air strength, the enemy may engage in limited offensive operations with the idea of retaking some of the positions he has recently lost in these areas.

7. Pacific Theater

At the beginning of the period, enemy submarines were active in the vicinity of the Fiji Island Group. During the latter half of the month, enemy air activity developed in the central part of the area. There were 3 light raids on Canton Island, on March 19, 22, and 26, and an intercepted attempt to reach Funafuti Island in the Ellice Group on March 27. Little damage resulted from these raids.

The enemy will probably continue raids on strategic islands concurrently with attacks on shipping.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

F. S. Bratton
F. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

MIS 319.1 SITUATION
(4-16-42)

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AND LATER, 6-3-78
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CURRENT ESTIMATE OF AXIS FORCES, APRIL 1, 1943

GROUND FORCES		Divs	Finnish (excl. 1 Cav, 5 CA, 1 Mtn, and 1 Armd Brigs)		
(O=Offensive; D=Defensive; A=Administrative)			14		
German, Total (O, 203; D, 65; A, 44)		312	Croatian (incl. the 3 permanent operative groups of the permanent militia and 1 equivalent Div)		
Located in:			10		
Russia (O, 161; D, 20)		181	Slovakian (incl. 2 in Russia)		
Germany (O, 5; D, 7; A, 38)		50	4		
France & Lowlands (O, 12; D, 20)		32	Serbian (the state guard equivalent to 1 Div)		
Norway (O, 6; D, 5)		11	1		
Balkans (incl. Greece and Crete) (O, 2; D, 9)		11	AIR FORCES		
Finland (O, 9)		9	I.--Total Strength		
North African (O, 8)		8	Nationality		
Poland (D, 2; A, 6)		8	Combat Planes		
Denmark (D, 2)		2	Squadrons		
Italian, Total (incl. 8 semi-Mtz, 3 alpine, 1 mobile, 1 Mtz, 2 Armd, and 6 equivalent Divs)		65	German		
Located in:			9,800*		
Yugoslavia & Montenegro (incl. 1 alpine, 1 mobile, and 1 mobile equivalent)		18	Italian		
Italy (incl. 3 semi-Mtz, 1 alpine, and 1 Inf equivalent)		18	1,435		
Greece & Aegean (incl. 1 mobile, 1 mobile equivalent, and 1 Div at Rhodes equivalent 2 normal Inf Divs)		13	4,000**		
France (incl. 1 alpine, 1 Mtz, 1 Armd)		6	*These combat planes are found in the following categories:		
North Africa (incl. 5 semi-Mtz, and 1 Armd)		6	Operating Squadrons		
Albania		4	Reserve Training Units		
Russia (Combat effectiveness destroyed. Probably all in Italy.)		0	Operational Training Units		
Japanese, Total (excl. 14 Tk Regts, 17 Depot Divs, 18 Ind Brigs, 5 Cav Brigs, 191,000 Garrison troops)		83	Others		
Located in:			1,680		
Japan, Korea, Sakhalin, Manchuria (excl. 8 Tk Regts, 16 Depot Divs, 3 Cav Brigs, 150,000 Garrison troops)		38	(The category "Others" includes planes sent from factories to depots for adjustments; planes requiring new installations or repairs; and other unattached planes.)		
China (excl. 2 Tk Regts, 17 Ind Brigs, 2 Cav Brigs, 8,000 Garrison troops)		20	**Includes 400 combat planes in Operational Training Units.		
Malaya, New Guinea, N.E.I., Solomon & Bismarck Islands (excl. 1 Tk Regt and 1 Ind Brig, 20,000 Garrison troops)		12	II.--Planes per Squadron		
Thailand, Burma, Indo-China (excl. 2 Tk Regts)		7	Nationality		
Formosa, P.I., Mandates (excl. 1 Depot Div, 15,000 Garrison troops)		3	Active		
Unlocated (excl. 1 Tk Regt)		3	Reserve		
Rumanian (incl. 15 in Russia)		20	German		
Bulgarian (incl. 1 Armd)		18	Italian:		
Hungarian (incl. 6 in Russia)		12	Bombardment		
			Other		
			Japanese:		
			Navy:		
			Flying Boats		
			Other		
			Army:		
			Fighters & Light Bombers		
			Reconnaissance		
			Heavy Bombers		
			NAVAL FORCES		
			Type		
			German		
			Italian		
			Japanese		
			Battleships		
			Carriers		
			Heavy Cruisers		
			Light Cruisers		
			Destroyers		
			Submarines		

*2 obsolete †4 obsolete ‡3 obsolete
 †† 3 obsolete ††3 obsolete **12 obsolete

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OSD 5-3-72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2

Date April 2, 1943

Initials R.S.B.

From: 1201 GCT, April 1, 1943

To : 1200 GCT, April 2, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 2, 1943

No. 5.

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On March 30, four enemy barges were observed in Kiska Harbor and 8 to 10 barges in Chichagof Harbor, Attu. The runway area at Holtz Bay parallels the stream which flows into the East Arm of the bay. Three gun positions were observed SW of the runway, and another 3 to the north. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: One submarine appears to be in or near the Florida Straits, another E of Jamaica, another NW of Trinidad, and a fourth, whose position has not recently been verified, in the western Caribbean. Three U-boat sightings in U.S. coastal waters were reported yesterday; one off the New Jersey coast, one SE of Pensacola, Florida, and one off Cape Henry. A fourth sighting was made about 300 miles E of Halifax.

2. Latin American Theater

Nothing to report.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: Enemy positions N of the Kuban were again attacked, and several small villages off the main road were occupied by Soviet troops. Southern Front: At the northern end of the front, the enemy conducted small attacks in the Sevsk area. Northern Front: On the Leningrad front the enemy continues his successful defense against Soviet attacks of local significance. Long-range enemy artillery again bombarded Leningrad.

b. Western Europe

On March 29, nine FW-200s from Bordeaux made an attack on Allied shipping W of Portugal, and on the 30th, two light low-level

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Regraded Unclassified

attacks were made on southwest England by 8 B-190s. On the Stuttgart raid of March 11-12, an attempt to intercept the RAF bombers was made by 2 enemy-operated Wellingtons.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In northern Tunisia on March 31, the enemy withdrawal continued E of Sedjenane. An Axis counterattack about 7 miles SE of Sedjenane was repulsed. Enemy dive-bombers and fighters were active against Allied ground troops and motor vehicles in this area. In central Tunisia enemy forces made a slight penetration S of Fondouk near Djebel Touila. Mobile enemy reconnaissance units reached Sidi Bou Zid. In the Maknassy sector, he made light infantry attacks. Farther south, Axis units were preparing positions W of the Akarit--Beida line. In the area E and S of Gabes, enemy fighters and dive-bombers made at least 2 strong offensive flights. Many enemy motor vehicles were destroyed by Allied planes ranging over the battle area, especially in the south. Allied aviation of all types stepped up its already intense activity. Three airfields on Sardinia and the harbor at Cagliari were heavily bombed by Allied planes. Many Axis planes were destroyed on the airfields, and hits were made on ships in the harbor. In the Sicilian Channel, 1 cargo ship was sunk, 3 were left burning, and 2 others were hit when U.S. medium bombers attacked 2 convoys. Two of the escorting destroyers were protected by a balloon barrage. In addition to planes destroyed on the ground, 31 enemy planes were destroyed in combat during the day.

5. Asiatic Theater

On March 30, five enemy planes were probably destroyed and 12 were damaged during a determined attack on Ramu, in eastern Bengal, by more than 20 Japanese planes. At Pynmana, 50 miles N of Toungoo, 7 enemy fighters vigorously intercepted a large force of U.S. bombers on March 31. Two Japanese fighters were destroyed.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On March 31, Rekata Bay was subjected to a heavy dive-bombing attack by U.S. planes. During the night of March 31-April 1, a force of 5 Japanese destroyers and 1 cargo vessel was sighted SW of Kolombangara Island, probably returning to Buin from Vila. Allied planes attacked, but a smoke screen prevented observation of results. On April 1, a force of 30 to 40 enemy planes was intercepted NW of Guadalcanal by U.S. fighters, and 16 Japanese planes were shot down. New Guinea--New Britain Area: A communique reports that on April 1, enemy positions in the Mubo area were heavily bombed and strafed. NW Australia--Banda Sea Area: On March 31,

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four enemy cargo vessels were sighted 40 miles SE of Fak Fak (south-west Dutch New Guinea). At Babo (Dutch New Guinea), 2 enemy cargo vessels were in the harbor.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

There have been no new attacks against Allied shipping reported from any theater.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton
R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

Robert Henderson
ROBERT HENDERSON,
Captain, U. S. N., Ret.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

ARMY - NAVY
DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

By Auth A.C. of S., G-2
Date April 1, 1943
Initials R.S.B.

From: 1201 GCT, March 31, 1943
To : 1200 GCT, April 1, 1943

War and Navy Departments,
Washington, D. C.,
April 1, 1943.

No. 4.

1. North American Theater

Alaska: On March 30-31 enemy installations at Kiska were raided 3 times. Hits caused large explosions in the submarine base and radar installation areas. On March 30 the enemy landing field under construction at Holtz Bay, Attu, was bombed. Atlantic W of 26th Meridian: One submarine appears to be moving into the Caribbean through Windward Passage, and a second appears to be departing through Anegada Passage. Probably 2 or 3 more are dispersed throughout the Gulf of Mexico--Caribbean area. A submarine sighting has been reported off the Florida coast just NE of Miami. Between 50 and 60 U-boats, the majority of those operating in the western Atlantic, appear to be concentrated between 50 and 57 N, and 26 and 33 W. The 8,000-ton German blockade runner, Regensburg, intercepted in Denmark Strait on March 30, was scuttled by her crew. The Regensburg had been at Rangoon for some time, and the position of her interception may indicate that the Germans intend using Denmark Strait as an alternate route for blockade runners from the Far East.

2. Latin American Theater

In an apparent move to control publication of news from Axis broadcasts, the Government of Chile has decreed that papers, magazines, and periodicals may publish only news distributed by responsible news agencies registered with the Mail and Direction Board. Stefani, Transocean, and Domei permits were cancelled on January 30, 1943.

3. European Theater

a. Eastern Europe

Caucasian Front: Anastasevskaya has been taken by Soviet forces. This is the easternmost of the 3 important towns held by enemy forces N of the Kuban River. Central Front: Mud and rain have reduced activity on this front to small-scale activity of local significance. Northern Front: South of Ilmen, in the Staraya Russa

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

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sector, an enemy counterattack has succeeded in shortening their lines by reducing a Soviet salient established in the recent offensive. South of Ladoga the enemy continues his successful defense on terrain which is rapidly becoming too muddy for large-scale operations.

b. Western Europe

During the day of March 31, the harbor facilities at Rotterdam were raided by a strong force of escorted U.S. heavy bombers. Slight AA fire and little fighter interception were encountered.

4. African and Middle Eastern Theater

In southern Tunisia on March 31, the Eighth Army was in contact with the Axis positions in the Beida--Akarit line. The enemy is holding this line with at least 3 infantry and 1 armored divisions, with the much-depleted 15th Panzer Division 13 miles N of the line. The fate of 3 Italian infantry divisions is not known. In central Tunisia on March 30, Axis forces offered stubborn resistance in the Fondouk, Maknassy, and El Guettar sectors. Heavy enemy motor transport movement eastward along the El Guettar--Gabes road was observed. Throughout the battle front, Axis planes were more active on defense. Enemy landing grounds and motor transport in the Oudref --El Guettar--Sfax triangle were successfully attacked by Allied light bombers and fighters. In northern Tunisia on March 31, the enemy after hard fighting was driven back eastward and northward of Sedjenane. On March 30, enemy troops launched a light counterattack from positions on Djebel Tebouna. Enemy offensive air action was directed against Allied ground troops and motor vehicles in the Medjez el Bab--Sedjenane area. A chemical plant and other installations at Crotona, Italy, were bombed by Allied planes.

5. Asiatic Theater

On March 29, photographic reconnaissance in central Burma revealed 21 Japanese planes at Heho, 21 at Toungoo, 23 near Meiktila, and 10 at other fields. This indicates an increase in the number of Japanese planes in that area. Japanese concentration points N of Mandalay were subjected to bombing and strafing attacks.

6. Southwest and South Pacific Theater

Solomons Area: On March 31, Munda was heavily attacked by U.S. dive-bombers. New Guinea--New Britain Area: On March 30, newly constructed and well-built bridges were observed on the track between Wewak and Madang. Enemy troops are reported to be occupying most of the villages in the Saidor area. The group of 4 destroyers that

attempted to reach Finschhafen was last sighted about 120 miles NE of Cape Gloucester, moving northeast. The Finschhafen area was heavily bombed and strafed. Barges were seen in the harbor, but no stores appear to have been landed. The Gasmata area was also heavily bombed.

7. Action against Allied Shipping

There have been no new attacks against transatlantic shipping. In the Mediterranean 2 Allied merchantmen, one a 9,500-ton tanker, were sunk on the 30th, E of Algiers. At the month's end, combined shipping losses thus far reported total 117 vessels of 643,000 tons, as against 57 vessels of 322,000 tons reported on the corresponding date last month.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

For the Director of Naval Intelligence:

R. S. Bratton
R. S. BRATTON,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief, Intelligence Group.

R. Henderson
ROBERT HENDERSON,
Captain, U. S. N., Ret.