THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 17

8:00 A.M., 27 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

2. Secretary of War
3. Chief of Staff of the Army
4. Chief of Staff, G.H.Q.
5. Deputy Chief of Staff
6. Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
7. Assistant Chief of Staff, W.P.D.
8. Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
9. Chief, Intelligence Branch, M.I.D.
10. Secretary, Joint Board
11. J.I.C. file
12. Secretary of the Navy
13. Chief of Naval Operations
14. Commander-in-Chief, U.S.Fleet
15. Chief, Bureau of Aeronautics
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JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
THE JOINT BOARD  
Joint Intelligence Committee  
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Report  

1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER  

Burma. The Japanese made two air attacks on RANGOON, 25 Dec. They lost 23 planes (in the second raid, 1 bomber and 13 fighters). The AVG lost only 2 planes, with 3 others damaged. Chiang Kai Shek has ordered the 2d squadron, AVG, from KUNMING to RANGOON to reinforce the 1st. A continuous column of Chinese troops is passing west through KUNMING. Military authorities say that 100,000 of CHINA's best soldiers are being sent to BURMA.  

Malaya. Lieut. Gen. Sir Henry Pownall has succeeded Air Chief Marshal Robert Brooke-Popham as Far Eastern Commander-in-Chief at SINGAPORE. No ground contacts reported. J.I.C. Comment: At last report the Japanese were deployed along the PERAK RIVER northwest of IPOH, were 55 miles south of KOTA BHAKU in RELANTAN, and had detachments on the east coast at KUALA TRENGGANU and KUANTAN.  

Indo-China. Reports, possibly rumors, have been received that the Indo-China government is negotiating with the Japanese for dispatch of 2 or 3 French merchant ships from Indo-China with troops to capture TAHITI. While this attack by VICHY is improbable, a Japanese or combined Vichy-Jap attack against Free French territories can not be excluded.  

Hongkong. The Japanese sank or disabled 1 British destroyer, 1 submarine, 1 gunboat and 6 torpedo boats during the attack on HONGKONG. Twenty-one merchant ships were captured.  

China. A joint military conference between Magruder and Brett (U.S.), Wavell (Britain), Chiang Kai Shek, and Ho Ying Chin (Chinese War Minister) has been in session at CHUNGKING since 22 Dec. It has been agreed that it is of first importance to develop the strongest possible air offensive against Japanese air bases, especially those threatening BURMA. Three objectives were uppermost in Wavell's mind: (1) to get control of Chinese lend-lease supplies in BURMA; (2) to secure assignment of the American Volunteer Group to the protection of BURMA; (3) to confer regarding the use of Chinese troops for the defense of BURMA. Magruder found it difficult to convince Wavell that he must obtain Chinese consent for the use of the lend-lease materials. While
demanding these and air assistance, he rejected Chiang Kai Shek's offer of two army corps.

Chiang Kai Shek opposed the release of additional air support for BURMA, probably because of concern regarding the protection of KUNMING and to avoid political repercussions which would result from the relinquishment of his only effective air defense.

J.I.C. Comment: Compare later report on the dispatch of an AVG unit from KUNMING to RANGOON.

The Chinese acknowledge that the new Japanese drive on CHANGSHA has made substantial progress and is within 60 miles of the city.

Chinese troops have cut the KOWLOON-CANTON railway 10 miles north of the HONGKONG frontier.

Philippines. J.I.C. Comment on land operations, based on despatches of C.G., USAFFE: The enemy's secondary effort from LAMON BAY (ANTIMONAN Landing) has gained strength and during the past twenty hours has provided a more serious pressure than the attack debouching southward from LINGAYEN. Nevertheless, the terrain in the southeastern end of LUCON decidedly favors the defender and after an initial advance the attacker must force very difficult defiles. It is particularly significant that our front line in the LINGAYEN sector is still on the AGNO River (well to the north) and, as previously analyzed, the present engagement is primarily a heavy artillery duel. Except for more serious difficulties than might have been anticipated in the southeast, the Philippine defense, with two components (Navy and air) of its combat team out of action, is functioning satisfactorily.

Enemy bombing attacks were carried out in the vicinity of CORREGIDOR against the USS PILLSBURY and PEARY. No substantial damage was done.

South Sea Islands. The Japanese have one division in the MARSHALL ISLANDS which may be used for operations in the GILBERT, PHOENIX, and FIJI ISLANDS, severing direct communications between the UNITED STATES and AUSTRALIA. The RAAF bombed GREENWICH ISLAND (1° N., 155° E.).

Japan. Military authorities in TOKYO are attempting to explain the high cost and long delay in the occupation of WAKE ISLAND.

West Coast of the United States.

J.I.C. Comment: There are numerous reports of enemy submarines off the West Coast. The best indications are that actually there are only two (possibly three) still operating. The most likely locations are off CAPE MENDICINO (200 miles north of SAN FRANCISCO) and off SAN LUIS OBESPO (200 miles south of SAN FRANCISCO).
2. LATIN AMERICA

Guatemala. Army reconnaissance discloses that the airfields at ESQUINTLA and SAN JOSE are unsuitable for bombardment aviation. The only suitable field is that at GUATEMALA CITY. The President has agreed to the location of a squadron there.

Panama. Apprehension is expressed by American Ambassador over continued presence in PANAMA of Axis legation staffs. Panama Constabulary's effort to keep this personnel under surveillance has been unsuccessful.

J.I.C. Comment: The presence of this personnel within the vital defense area of the CANAL affords them opportunities for espionage, sabotage and active helpful assistance in the event of an air raid thru the use of distinguishing flares and radio.

Colombia. Pres. Santos states U.S. Air Force personnel may enter the country: (1) As part of military mission, wearing uniforms, with station at military bases at PALANQUE and CALI; or (2) as civilian personnel of Avianca, with station of civilian airports such as BOGOTA and BARRANQUILLA. Pres. Santos also agreed to the use of non-military personnel travelling throughout COLOMBIA as technicians, prospectors, etc.

Brazil. Scheduled departure of a LATI plane for EUROPE via AFRICA was cancelled, 24 Dec., because American and British oil companies refused sale of aviation gas. (Note: J.I.C. Comment 25 Dec.)

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarine Situation. J.I.C. Comment: The present seeming inactivity on the part of the German Submarine Force would appear to indicate that it was being readied for a major campaign. Coupled with reported concentrations of large numbers of German aircraft (2nd Air Fleet) at Italian bases it would pre-suppose a combined air and naval "all out" attack on the British Mediterranean Fleet and on its bases at MALTA and ALEXANDRIA.

This hypothesis must be retained awaiting the actual deployment of the Axis forces.

St. Pierre and Miquelon. J.I.C. Comment: St. Pierre and Miquelon, occupied by the Free French forces December 24, have little strategic value. They afford no essential port or airfield facilities. Their acquisition by De Gaulists merely tends to disturb the finely balanced diplomatic status now prevailing in the Western Hemisphere.
4. EUROPEAN THEATER

J.I.C. Comment: There have been no substantial changes reported in the European situation during the past twenty-four hours. The Germans are still withdrawing in the northern half of the Russian front. Axis air attention is directed towards deployment on the north shores of the Mediterranean and in France. From TURKEY to PORTUGAL, sensitiveness to the probable winter plans of the Germans is apparent but with no definite indication as to when and where the blow will strike. In first priority, this committee envisages a German plan designed to secure their southwest flank.

LUDWELL MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry, Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 16 Copy 1 of 19.

8:00 A.M., 26 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

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3. Chief of Staff of the Army
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5. Deputy Chief of Staff
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\JCS memo, 1-4-74 MAR 5 1974
BY RHF, NLR, Date

Regraded Unclassified
1. Far East and Pacific Theater

Malaya. The British withdrawal from KELANTAN into PAHANG is covered by a rear guard at DADONG in central KELANTAN (Lat. 5 - 22 N., Long., 102 - 01 E.). The enemy is now in contact with British defenses along the PERAK RIVER northwest of IPOH. The Japanese have begun heavy daylight air attacks on British communications, and have blown up a 40-car ammunition train at IPOH.

Hongkong. Japan claims the surrender of HONGKONG. The British Colonial Office admits that resistance has ended.

China. The Japanese drive on CHANGSHA commenced on 23 December and fighting is now in progress near the HSIN KIAO RIVER (on the road between HANKOW and CHANGSHA). CHANGSHA has been ordered held at all costs.

J.I.C. Comment: Press dispatches from TOKYO declare that a large scale Japanese offensive has been launched in south-central CHINA.

Philippines. J.I.C. Comment on land operations:

Latest reports from the Commanding General (filed 25 Dec., Washington time) contain little information on the enemy situation other than that enemy air activity continues. Our north line (LINGAYEN Sector) was successfully disengaged, according to plan, and a new delaying position occupied. Certain preliminary dispositions on the final defensive position (BATAAN) are also indicated. To sum up, operations would appear to be proceeding normally and satisfactorily against a vastly superior enemy.

Our submarines have definitely sunk one transport and one minesweeper, have probably sunk one transport and possibly one seaplane tender. Several submarines have not reported.

In view of the impending proclamation making MANILA an open city, all oil supplies (lube, diesel, aviation gas, etc.) have been destroyed. All remaining items of military value at CAVITE, SANGLEY POINT, and OLONGAPO have been demolished. All combatant personnel on shore are being withdrawn to CORREGIDOR, except censor units at MANILA.

British Borneo and Netherlands East Indies. Despite aerial attacks, Japanese forces landed at KUCHING, capital

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JGS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
of SARAWAK, 24 Dec. It is estimated that one enemy division is in the KUCHING area, in addition to one previously landed in the MIKI-LUTONG area of northern SARAWAK. Loss of communication with KUCHING indicates that the attack has been successful.

On 24 Dec. five Blenheims from SINGAPORE secured a direct hit on a transport off KUCHING and made six near misses. In addition, there are reports that a Dutch submarine sank a Japanese destroyer of the 2,1000-ton AMAGIRI class in East Indian waters.

On 23 Dec. two Japanese convoys, each consisting of approximately three transports and two cruisers or destroyers, were seen. They apparently intend to land at MANADO (in northern CELEBES) and TERNATE (an island N.W. of NEW GUINEA). Attacks on the convoys will be made by the few Dutch planes left.

N.E.I. planes formerly based in BORNEO are now operating in SUMATRA. It is urgent that bombers be sent to N.E.I. to assist in defense of the BORNEO area.

Timor. Local Portuguese authorities are now amenable to the presence of Dutch and Australian troops in PORTUGUESE TIMOR.

South Sea Islands. Enemy aircraft are still operating over MISSION (northwest of the SOLOMON GROUP).

Hawaii. The U.S.S. DRAYTON definitely sunk an enemy submarine 60 miles south of OAHU. Two other enemy submarines are operating near KAULI.

J.I.C. Comment: In an additional dispatch CINCPAC requests that the publication of submarine sinkings in the press be withheld at least 30 days, since he considers that the publication of such information will cause replacement by the enemy of the submarine on station and thereby create further hazard to convoys. This is current Navy Department policy.

West Coast of the United States. The S.S. EMIDIO is now aground near CRESCENT CITY, CALIFORNIA.

A disabled submarine is reported to be in SANTA MONICA BAY. Details are not available.

2. LATIN AMERICA

Brazil. The government has offered the unlimited use of Brazilian ports to British cruisers and destroyers operating in the vicinity and to Canadian ships of any kind.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

There are no indications of submarine activity off the Atlantic coast of the UNITED STATES.
4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

The 23d Panzer Division has been identified in the vicinity of PARIS. The German 88th Division has returned to the vicinity of the Spanish Frontier. While conditions are not clear in the southwest of FRANCE, it is known that a number of German divisions are concentrating near the Spanish frontier area.

J.I.C. Comment: Attention is again directed toward the probability of a German drive directed against NORTH AFRICA.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

As of 25 Dec., British elements had invested BENGHAZI. Refecting enemy motor columns were jamming roads leading from BENGHAZI.

The Crete-based Axis aircraft interferes seriously with the maintenance of supply routes to BENGHAZI via the sea. Greater dependence on motor supply columns is thus indicated.

6. EASTERN EUROPEAN THEATER

As of 22 December, it is reliably reported that:

1st. The MURMANSK railroad is in operation and clear. The port is receiving supplies.

2nd. Russian operations in vicinity of LENINGRAD consist of an attack debouching from VOLKHOVSTROI with main effort along VOLKOV RIVER towards NOGOOROD and secondary effort westward toward SCHLISSELBERG.

3rd. A general offensive in the MOSCOW sector with VYAZMA as the objective. Direction of attack: Southwest from VOLKHOVSTROI.


J.I.C. Comment: It will be noted that the enemy has not given up ground in the vital southern sector. Until the Germans retire in the south or the Russians advance in the north and center sufficiently to cause the collapse of this Southern front, any conclusion that would tend to give the impression of a major Russian victory must be received with considerable reserve.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD  
Joint Intelligence Committee  
Washington  

DAILY SUMMARY  

No. 15  

8:00 A.M., 25 December 1941  

Copy 1 of 19.  

Distribution  

THE PRESIDENT  

2. Secretary of War  
3. Chief of Staff of the Army  
4. Chief of Staff, O.H.Q.  
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DECLASSIFIED  

By RHJ, MCR, Date MAR 5 1974  

Regraded Unclassified
Report

1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Burma. Chinese divisions moving into BURMA will take up positions from the frontier west of FUERH to the SALWEEN RIVER.

J.I.C. Comment: This report implies a defensive line about 40 miles south of the BURMA ROAD and 225 miles north of Japanese forces now at CHIENG RAI, THAILAND. RANGOON experienced its initial air raid on the morning of 23 Dec. (The TOKYO radio announces a second mass raid on RANGOON, 24 Dec.)

Malaya. An enemy landing is expected at MERSING (80 miles north of SINGAPORE). The British are retreating on KUALA LIPAT (central PAHANG), destroying the railway as they withdraw.

The British have withdrawn to positions in the BEWTONG-RAUB area, 40 miles northeast of KUALA LUMPUR. Enemy pressure has not yet been felt on this line. British positions in PERAK are still maintained.

J.I.C. Comment: This report indicates abandonment of eastern MALAYA north of the lower PAHANG RIVER (170 miles north and northwest of SINGAPORE). British forces in PERAK, 140 miles north of KUALA LUMPUR, are exposed to being cut off by successful attack on that place from the northeast.

Hongkong. The position was unchanged at 5:00 P.M., 23 Dec. The troops are very tired and the water and food situation is precarious. Civilian casualties amount to 4,000, including 1,000 killed.

China. The Japanese have a new type of bomber, with a speed of 275-300 miles per hour. Only 15 of the American Volunteer Group could make contact with the enemy during the raid on KUNMING, 20 Dec.

Four Japanese planes were definitely shot down by the A.V.G. during the raids on KUNMING, 18 and 19 Dec.

Philippine Islands.

J.I.C. Comment: The last detailed enemy situation report received from the Philippines was filed in Manila at 4:15 A.M., 24 Dec. (3:15 P.M., 23 Dec., Washington time). At that time the situation on LUZON was substantially that disclosed in yesterday's J.I.C. Summary No. 14, with the main enemy effort debouching south from LINGAYEN GULF,
an important secondary effort driving west from LAMON BAY and possibly a third effort (not verified) driving north-east from NASUGBU (West coast line of BATAAN). The three enemy efforts would converge on MANILA and east of probable final defensive position of the Philippines command on LUZON.

Of these three efforts, the most dangerous one would be the drive southward in the PAMPANGAS RIVER VALLEY from LINGAYEN GULF, unless demolition blocks and resistance had become ineffective in the two other areas. The PAMPANGAS VALLEY lends itself particularly well to artillery defense from successive stream lines but affords very little commanding terrain for infantry weapons and observation. A final defensive position will be found in BATAAN (approximately an east-west line through ORANI) but by that time most of the terrain in LUZON would have been ceded to the enemy.

It is probable that, at this time, with the absolute control of the air and sea enjoyed by the enemy, a decision by the ground forces to begin the occupation of the final defensive position in BATAAN may be not far removed.

East Indies. Three Australian mine sweepers are being sent to THURSDAY ISLAND to sweep a channel through TORRES STRAITS.

Gilbert Islands. A Japanese landing (or bombardment) at PATANG is reported.

Hawaii. All quiet, except for two submarine contacts, the results of which are unknown.

The Army reveals that large reinforcements of bomber and fighter planes have arrived.

J.I.C. Comment: Air superiority in this area is imperative.

West Coast of the United States. The U.S.A.T. LUDINGTON and the SS J.C. FITZSIMMONS (tanker) have arrived in West Coast ports, after having been reported missing since 7 Dec.

The McCORKIN freighter, SS ABSOKARA, was attacked and badly damaged off the southern California coast and is now being towed into port.

An Army plane bombed and undoubtedly destroyed a submarine with a direct hit 50 miles off the COLUMBIA RIVER the morning of Dec. 24th.

2. LATIN AMERICA

Brazil. The government has grounded all LATI and Condor planes and has shut down all LATI, Condor and Air France radio transmitting stations.
J.I.C. Comment: This action is a heavy blow to the Axis organization throughout LATIN AMERICA, and a major development in united Hemispheric defense.

Mexico. The passage of UNITED STATES troops onto Mexican soil and American use of Mexican air bases and harbors have been authorized.

J.I.C. Comment: Further evidence of rapidly growing Hemispheric solidarity.

Martinique. Admiral Robert asserts that Admiral Darlan approved the new agreement negotiated by Admiral Hone (J.I.C. Summary, Nos. 9, 12, 13.)

J.I.C. Comment: As a precaution, the present Caribbean alert should not be relaxed.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

The Navy is investigating a reported planned meeting between a MEXICAN fishing boat and a GERMAN submarine off JARTLA, MEXICO (north of VERA CRUZ).

J.I.C. Comment: There have been several reports of the alleged transfer of cargo from a Mexican fishing boat LAVATION to a German U-boat.

It is reliably reported that a naval detachment is being assembled at CASABLANCA to escort a convoy of 20 merchantmen to MARSEILLES.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

J.I.C. Comment: While reports from our M/A LONDON and from the American Press indicate that the British pursuit of the defeated Axis forces in LIBYA continues with success, our Consul in TUNIS cables (23 Dec.) of Axis air activity directed towards TRIPOLI. A large concentration of German aviation in SICILY is also reported. Official circles in TUNIS are apprehensive lest the Axis may have designs on TUNISIA. Thus, there are signs that the British victory in CHERNIAKA may be countered by an Axis attempt to reinforce TRIPOLITANIA and/or an occupation of TUNISIA.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY
No. 14
8:00 A.M., 24 December 1941

Copy 1 of 19.

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

2. Secretary of War
3. Chief of Staff of the Army
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DECLASSIFIED
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Burma. One brigade from a Japanese division in the vicinity of BANGKOK has crossed the border between CHUMPHON and PRACHAUB KIRIKHIRI (both points in THAILAND on the west shore of the GULF). This is the only change in previously reported Japanese dispositions.

Malaya. No. change. A comparison of strength, as of 22 Dec., shows that the Japanese have a 4 to 1 superiority in bombers and a 2 to 1 superiority in fighters. They cannot increase this preponderance for a week or more, for lack of airfields and because of maintenance troubles. The Japanese have complete freedom of movement in the SOUTH CHINA SEA and GULF OF THAILAND, and have at least six additional divisions available. At present the British have a superiority of one division in MALAYA, but they cannot reinforce the northern front because of the necessity to guard SINGAPORE and JOHORE against seaborne attack. They are, therefore, fighting delaying actions in the north and concentrating toward the south to hold there. Long-range bombers based on SUMATRA or southern MALAYA could paralyze vulnerable and extended Japanese communications.

Hongkong. The British forces are nearly exhausted, but continue to hold north-west end of the island and STANLEY PENINSULA. Ammunition and food stores at LITTLE HONGKONG have been captured. The situation is serious regarding water and transportation.

British motor torpedo boats have been used with success against enemy landing craft.

China. The use, in recent months, of chemical warfare agents (mustard and lewisite) by the Japanese against the Chinese is established beyond doubt.

The Chinese claim that many puppet troops have been coming over to CHUNGKING forces.

Only in the KWANGTUNG locality can pressure on Japanese forces by the Chinese be noticed. The Chinese affirm that relief for HONGKONG will arrive soon.

Philippines. Enemy situation as of midnight 23-24 Dec. (Washington time) can be summarized as follows (counter-clockwise on LUZON):

APARAI-GONZAGA AREA (northeast LUZON). Enemy holds CAGAYAN Valley to include TUGUERA (60 miles south of APARAI).
VIGAN-SANTA AREA (Northwest LUZON). Enemy has made reconnaissance in force to CANDON (30 miles south of VIGAN) and toward BANANG.

LINGAYEN AREA. Main Japanese effort has developed here. Heavy fighting continues in PANGASINAN.

BATANGAS (Southern LUZON). Enemy ships reported off BATAAN.

ATIMONAN (Southeast LUZON) on LAMON Bay. 40 enemy transports are off this coast.

LEGASPI (Extreme southeastern tip of LUZON). Japanese occupy NAGA and DAET thereby holding the LEGASPI Peninsula.

DAVAO, MINDANAO. Japanese have landed from 3 to 4 transports at DAVAO.

General Summary. Japanese, with superior forces, are encircling LUZON and, by seizing DAVAO, are endeavoring to cut sea lanes to the south. Our ground and air forces appear to be holding their own against a superior enemy.

Returning from DARWIN (AUSTRALIA), nine B-17's bombed 12 Japanese transports at DAVAO with undetermined results.

South Sea Islands. Enemy planes continue to reconnoitre in the vicinity of NEW IRELAND and the GILBERT ISLANDS. MAKIN is being used by them as a seaplane base. Australian troops have reinforced the local garrison of NEW CALEDONIA. (Free French).

Admiral Decoux has been appointed Vichy High Commissioner in the Pacific. The appointment was made so that, should the Japanese occupy Free French islands, he could protect the interests of France.

J.I.C. Comment: In view of Admiral Decoux's experience in INDO-CHINA, the success of this plan is highly improbable.

Outlying Islands of the United States. Communication with WAKE ISLAND has been lost. JOHNSTON and PALMIRA ISLANDS have each been shelled by a submarine.

Hawaii. There has been only one submarine contact, which may have been attacked successfully.

West Coast of the United States. An enemy submarine was attacked with bombs by one of our planes in position Lat. 34 - 18, Long. 126 - 33. (300 miles west of SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA). An oil slick appeared after attack.

The Union Oil tanker, SS MONTEBELLO, was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine near VON HELM ROCK (Lat. 35 - 40, Long. 121 - 17), about 50 miles south of MONTEREY. The crew took to lifeboats, which were shelled by the submarine. Some survivors have landed.

The SS LARRY DOHERTY was unsuccessfully attacked by an enemy submarine off ESTERO BAY (80 miles south of MONTEREY).
J.I.C. Comment: Both of these attacks were carried out in the same general location and could possibly have been made by the same submarine.

2. LATIN AMERICA

Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic has authorized unlimited use of all its facilities for U.S. combat airplanes.


French Guiana. FAA reports unidentified four engine plane fired on over French Guiana. Altering their route accordingly. May abandon stop at CAYENNE.

J.I.C. Comment: Plane may have been from Caribbean Air Defense Command on reconnaissance.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

No recent submarine contacts off the Atlantic Coast have been reported, but there are vague indications that two or three U-boats may now be moving in that direction.

According to naval personnel, the main engines of the French battleship RICHELIEU (at DAKAR) are 5 centimeters out of line as a result of the July, 1940, attack. They cannot be repaired at DAKAR. It is also reported that the forward guns cannot be fired, because of damage to the control apparatus.

J.I.C. Comment: This report supports previous reports that, while temporary repairs had been effected which would make the RICHELIEU capable of 23 knots, she would be employed in the fixed defenses at DAKAR and would not be moved.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

J.I.C. Comment: Unconfirmed and unofficial reports from abroad announce the retirement of PATAIN and assumption of power by D.HLAN. While this announcement may be premature, it is considered likely to occur and will presage fuller collaboration with the Germans. Developments in Western Europe, unfavorable to us, are expected shortly.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

The remaining elements of the German 15th and 21st Armored divisions were last reported (23 Dec.) about 25 miles east of BENGAZI. No Axis reinforcements have yet appeared and British pursuit continues.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 13

8:00 A.M., 23 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

2. Secretary of War
3. Chief of Staff of the Army
4. Chief of Staff, G.H.Q.
5. Deputy Chief of Staff
6. Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
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16. Director, War Plans Division
17. Director, Naval Intelligence
19. J.I.C. file

DECLASSIFIED
JOS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

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THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

Report

1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Malaya. The principal Japanese effort is now down the PERAK RIVER.

J.I.C. Comment: Japanese success in this sector would outflank British positions around TAIPEH, to the west.

The Commanding General considers that IPOH can be held no longer than until 24 Dec.

The Japanese claim that the Sultan of KELANTAN has returned to KOTA BAHU and placed himself under Japanese protection.

A Dutch submarine (PH-16) has been lost in a British mine field off MUJISING, with only one survivor. Another (K-13) has had a battery explosion at SINGAPORE (1 dead, 5 hurt).

Indo-China. The British naval staff believes that 5,000 Japanese troops are being sent from TONGKING to SINGORA (THAILAND base of Japanese operations on the west coast of MALAYA). Fully loaded Japanese transports are reported to have been sunk, 19 Dec., off QUIN-HON POINT, 400 miles north of SAIGON.

Hongkong. Radio communication is still intact.

(11:00 A.M., 22 Dec.).

The British continue to resist in spite of the critical situation. CHUNGKING claims Chinese troops are in the vicinity of CANTON and also near the KWANTUNG-HONGKONG border.

The blockading force at HONGKONG consists of 2 cruisers (KUMA class), 2 destroyers, and 2 motor torpedo boats.

China. The movement of 8,000 Japanese troops to reinforce YUCHOW (south of HANKOW), has so alarmed the Chinese, who fear another drive on CHANGSHA, that they have cancelled preparations to attack on the CANTON-HONGKONG front.

A concentration of 20,000 Chinese troops is underway in the HANKOW area. Their destination is unknown.

If the air raid warning system of China can be improved, Chiang Kai Shek will permit one squadron of American Volunteer Group to remain in RANGOON and two may go back to BURMA if necessary.

Philippines. As of 9:30 A.M., 23 Dec. (8:30 P.M.,
22 Dec., Washington time), it is reported that heavy fighting continues on the eastern shore of LINGAYEN GULF,
centering around DAkORTIS. The enemy has been very active in the air both over LUZON and MINDANAO. Our troops hold a position north of DAkORTIS.

J.I.C. Comment: The freedom of movement permitted enemy transports and escorts will make it difficult to prevent enemy reinforcements from landing and enlarging the bridgehead.

Since 10 Dec., 14 U.S. and Philippine deep sea merchant ships, plus 26 allied ships, have proceeded to M/LOY-WEST ports for further orders. All are believed safe. Two or three ships remain whose departure is doubtful.

Borneo. British troops are still holding out in SARAWAK and have inflicted heavy losses on the Japanese.

The airdrome at KUCHING was bombed by 15 Japanese aircraft.

J.I.C. Comment: KUCHING is the capital and principal city of SARAWAK.

The Japanese also made a renewed attack on PONTIANAK, in DUTCH WEST BORNEO, causing considerable damage to the town.

Dutch East Indies. The Dutch are sorely in need of additional aircraft. They lost 5 planes Sunday. It is suggested that as SOERABAYA (in J.V.) is the remaining naval base open, its offensive power should be increased at once.

Australia. Both public and official AUSTRALIA are shocked by the initial successes of the Japanese in the PACIFIC, thereby realizing AUSTRALIA’s vulnerability and the possibility of her isolation as regards assistance and supplies. Government officials believe U.S. Military power and Naval forces will concentrate in the NORTH PACIFIC and thereby disregard any menace in the SOUTHERN PACIFIC. Accompanying this is the belief that U.S. action will take some time to culminate. In spite of this pessimism, the above-mentioned shock has resulted in an intra-governmental cooperation which previously never existed.

Wake. The enemy made a combined land and carrier based attack at noon (22 Dec.). The carrier bombers were accompanied by modern fighters. Our fighters engaged the enemy and shot down several of them.

The enemy has landed. (0500 Wake time, 23 Dec.).

Several ships, plus transports, are moving in. Two enemy destroyers are aground (0700 Wake time).

West Coast of United States. The Captain and crew members of the SS SAMOA report that an unidentified submarine attacked that vessel on 18 Dec., in Lat. 41 - 09 N., Long. 124 - 37 W. (near CAPE MENDOCINO). The submarine, showing her running lights, first attacked by gunfire (four
shots). She then approached closer, but failed to reply to a hail from the master of the SAMOA. She fired one torpedo at close range, which exploded after passing under the ship, showering her with metal fragments. (These have been collected for examination.)

The master immediately ordered engines and dynamos stopped, radios silenced, running lights off, and drifted until daylight. He believes explosion, vessel's starboard list, and shutting down of all machinery caused submarine to consider vessel struck and sinking.

During the night of 21-22 Dec. the SS PANAMA EXPRESS was unsuccessfully attacked twice with torpedoes from an enemy submarine in a position about 30 miles from SAN DIEGO. No damage was sustained and ship is now in SAN DIEGO.

Two submarine contacts were made by the Navy, one near EUREKA at 1000 PST, and another about 15 miles from PIGEON POINT, at 1230 PST. Results are unknown.

The SS H.M. STOREY, a tanker, was unsuccessfully attacked by gunfire from an enemy submarine near POINT ARGUELLO, CALIFORNIA, but escaped undamaged.

2. LATIN AMERICA

Costa Rica. COSTA RICA plans to call a conference of all Central American and West Indian republics preliminary to the Pan-American conference at RIO DE JANEIRO on 15 Jan. The purpose is to assure absolute solidarity with the UNITED STATES.

J.I.C. Comment: This is another indication of rapidly growing accord among the countries of the Western Hemisphere.

Martinique. The situation remains under close scrutiny by the Navy and the Caribbean Air Force. Two destroyers are off FORT DE FRANCE, and units of Naval patrol planes and the Caribbean Bomber Command are in readiness at ANTIGUA, ST. LUCIA and TRINIDAD.

J.I.C. Comment: Despite the recently concluded agreement with Admiral Robert, Caribbean military, naval, and air units will not be surprised by any enemy action.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarine Situation. There have been no recent contacts with submarines off the Atlantic Coast. Very few have been located over the northern trade routes. There are indications that from ten to sixteen subs are in the area between the AZORES and PORTUGAL and proceeding on northerly courses.

J.I.C. Comment: Many of the subs in this large concentration had been operating well south of the C. VERDES. Their movement suggests that their supply ship may have been sunk causing them to return to home bases. It also discounts the reported presence of a submarine base in the C. VERDES or CANARIES.

DECLASSIFIED
The German H.C. has announced that a U-boat torpedoed and sank a British aircraft carrier in the Atlantic. In a Berlin broadcast it is claimed that this carrier was of the FORMIDABLE Class.

J.I.C. Comment: The British Admiralty have reported (but have not published) that HMS AUDACITY, (an auxiliary aircraft carrier - capacity six planes) was sunk by torpedo attack.

Planes from HMS EMPIRE AUDACITY destroyed two and damaged a third German patrol plane which had been operating in the vicinity of a convoy guarded by the AUDACITY.

J.I.C. Comment: The EMPIRE AUDACITY is an ex-merchant vessel converted to an auxiliary aircraft carrier for convoy protection, and is capable of carrying six planes. Long range German patrol planes make daily flights from French West Coast ports, particularly Bordeaux, for the purpose of detecting, shadowing, and reporting the movements of convoys. Inasmuch as they avoid offensive operations it is seldom that they are attacked.

The non-arrival at PORTLAND, MAINE, of the British Ships PROTEUS and NEREO, due 28 November and 16 December respectively, suggests the possibility of sabotage. They were carrying bauxite from ST. THOMAS. Lacking confirmation of enemy raider or extensive U-boat activity in this area, the possibility of sabotage seems most reasonable.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

The airfields in NORTHERN FRANCE show increased German activity. Stocks of munitions and gasoline are being increased and some bombardment and pursuit units have arrived recently. Headquarters of the 3d German Air Fleet has been established at ETAMPES (South of Paris).

J.I.C. Comment: This new activity and the assumption of command by HITLER once more draw attention to the East Atlantic Coast line and the possibility of operations therein, including attacks on the British Isles. As yet, there is insufficient information on which to base a sound analysis of the enemy's immediate intentions, but the probability of action in NORTH AFRICA must retain a high priority.

5. MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

German heavy bombers have arrived in NORTHERN ITALY and are believed to be enroute to SOUTHERN ITALY, SICILY, and possibly LIBYA.

Two Italian divisions are reported to have been transported to LIBYA by air since November 1st.

J.I.C. Comment: The Central Mediterranean area is not being neglected.

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DECLASSIFIED
6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

As of 21 Dec., it is reliably reported that the German withdrawals to a favorable defensive position are unhurried and orderly. The German withdrawal to straighten their lines and the arrival of Soviet reserves both played a part in Soviet advances. While the Russians are known to possess some reserves, particularly cavalry, which is being used, it is doubtful that they have the capacity and equipment to exploit a breakthrough.

[Signature]

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.
ANNEX

J.I.C. Summary No. 13

I. Japanese Air Tactics.

Reports from Lieut. Gen. Emmons, C. G., Hawaiian Department, indicate that the Japanese air tactics are well co-ordinated, timed, and executed. On primary objectives a combination of high altitude level bombing and dive bombing was used with both elements attacking simultaneously.

The level bombers, attacking in a Vee formation of from 12 to 15 planes, released their bombs at altitudes of from 8,000 to 12,000 feet, while the dive bombers, approaching from all directions, initiated their attacks from 5,000 feet. They dive at angles of 45 to 50 degrees, pulling out at very low altitudes and immediately attacking ground objectives with gunfire. The dive bombers received close support from fighter planes.

In the SINGAPORE area Japanese bombers single out airfields for attack, while their accompanying fighter escort engage the RAF fighters. A second bomber attack is launched immediately after the RAF fighter units have landed for refueling and rearming. This technique is possible because of Japanese air superiority, especially in fighters. The Japanese have been utilizing twin engine reconnaissance planes for photographic purposes upon the completion of each raid.

J.I.C. Comment: The Japanese theory is in accord with our own in having as their first and primary objective "the destruction of the hostile air force."

II. Japanese Air Equipment.

1. Planes.

Pursuit: Single-seat, type O, fighter. Arresting hooks installed for carrier operation. Armament consists of two 20 mm cannon installed in the wings and two 7.7 machine guns firing through the propeller. Reports from British sources indicate this plane is better armed, more maneuverable, and faster than the Brewster Buffalo, which is a counterpart of our Navy F2A-2 type.

Dive Bomber: Low wing, single engine, two-seater, equipped with diving brakes and fixed loading gear. Arresting hooks installed for carrier operation. Armament consists of two 7.7 machine guns firing through the propeller and one 7.7 flexible gun in rear cockpit.
2. Bombs.

25 KG high explosive type
60 KG high explosive type
2 to 50 KG incendiary type

50 KG type containing hexanitrodiphenylamine-trinitroanisol. Five hundred pounds appears to be maximum size of bombs being used.

50 KG gas, type 97 used recently in CHINA contained a mixture of 50 per cent lewisite.

Fuses on type 97 are mechanically operated.
One 60 KG high explosive bomb has both nose and tail fuse.

In the Hawaiian attack Japanese bombers are reported to have used converted 15-inch shells in an attempt to secure penetration.

Bomb sights. No information is available to date in reference to the type of bomb sight being used by the Japanese in either the Hawaiian or Philippine sector.

III General Brett on the Defense of BURMA.

Major General BRETT, head of Special Mission now in BURMA, points out that as RANGOON is now the only entrance port to CHINA it is of extreme logistical importance. Because the Japanese have a large air force at BANGOK, only 350 miles away, situation at RANGOON has become critical.

It is suggested that it is very desirable to give BURMA greater protection by furnishing in coordination with the British (a) anti-submarine force, (b) coastal patrol, (c) aircraft and other warning service, (d) ground anti-aircraft defense. It is equally necessary to give BURMA a greater air force both for defensive and offensive purposes.

A locality 150 miles north of RANGOON is adaptable for airfields and has housing facilities suitable for three fighter squadrons and two heavy bombardment squadrons, and these facilities could soon be expanded. Stocks in the area include two million gallons of one hundred octane gasoline; forty-five thousand gallons one twenty oil; fifteen hundred two hundred and fifty pound bombs; two hundred and forty-five hundred pound bombs; also some spare parts in NORTH BURMA.

Nevertheless, if aircraft are to be sent, it is imperative to increase equipment, spare parts and stocks before they arrive. Unless complete combatant maintenance crews are provided, any aircraft furnished will be of no use.
IV. Summary of U. S. Merchant Shipping Losses from December 7th to 20th.

The following U. S. flag merchant vessels are so long overdue that they may be considered as lost:

SS CYNTHIA OLSON
Last heard from on December 7 while enroute San Francisco to Honolulu.

USAT LUDINGTON
Last heard from December 7 while enroute to Canton Isl. to evacuate civilians.

SS VINCENT
Enroute Panama she reported on December 12 that an unknown ship was stopping her. This was followed by an SOS.

J. C. FITZSIMMONS
A tanker loaded with aviation gas destined for an ice port in the Okhotsk Sea. Being icebound and unable to reach her destination, she was directed to return to Seattle.

PRESIDENT HARRISON
In the China Sea on December 7 enroute to North China to evacuate the U. S. Marines from Tiensin. It is presumed that she was captured by the Japs.

ASTRAL
A tanker twelve days overdue in Lisbon.

The following are confirmed losses:

LAHAINA
Sunk by a submarine on December 11 East of the Hawaiian Isles. Thirty survivors landed in Maui on the twenty-first.

SAGADAHOCS
After being eight days overdue at Point Elizabeth (S. Africa) wreckage from this ship was identified and she must be considered as lost.

SAGOLAND
While at anchor in Manila Bay this ship was bombed and burned during an air raid. Believed to be a total loss.
V. Japanese claims and admissions of losses.

Japanese news agency Domei claims that since the start of the war in the Pacific the Japanese Navy has sunk, damaged or seized 47 enemy warships; captured 38 merchant vessels, along with more than 380 smaller craft; shot down 114 planes. The statement admits the loss of 72 Japanese planes, one Japanese destroyer and one minesweeper. One light cruiser and another minesweeper are reported damaged and five Japanese submarines are said to be missing.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 12

Copy 1 of 17.

8:00 A.M., 22 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT
Secretary of War
Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
Assistant Chief of Staff, W.P.D.
Secretary, Joint Board
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Chief, Intelligence Branch, M.I.D.

Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Naval Operations
Chief, Bureau of Aeronautics
Director, War Plans Division
Director, Naval Intelligence
Head, Foreign Branch, O.N.I.
J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED
JCS memo. 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974
1. **FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER**

Indian Ocean. Ships leaving the Straits and NEI returning to U.S. should be loaded with essential materials unless military conditions affecting safety of ships make other orders mandatory. Ships in ballast or with space should be routed to COLOMBO for orders as strategic materials are available at ports in Indian Ocean.

There is an ever increasing danger of attacks on merchant ships here which must be considered in routing of our ships. The British are clearing all their merchant ships out of here and moving all rubber and tin to COLOMBO. BATAVIA and SOERABAJA are considered safe at present and better ports than SUMATRA and South JAVA.

Burma. Considerable Japanese activity has been noted in the vicinity of MESOD (THAILAND), 65 miles east of MULMEIN. The MESOD-MULMEIN road is the most direct route from THAILAND to RANGOON. It will support no more than three divisions.

Malaya. In PERAK the British are holding temporarily along the KRIAN RIVER and at Lengoong (30 miles south of GRIK and 25 miles north of the tin center of IPOH). In KELANTAN the British have retired to a new position on the railroad at KUALA PERGAU. A limited Japanese force is reported to be at KUALA TRENCHAN.

J.I.C. Comment: This report indicates that the Japanese have reached an east-west line running approximately through KUALA TRENCHAN (inclusive) - TAIFING (exclusive), about 300 miles northwest of SINGAPORE.

Hongkong. The garrison was in radio communication with LONDON on the night of 20 Dec. THE PEAK and environs were still holding out.

Macao. Portugal asserts that Japan has in no way threatened MACAO. British reports to the contrary are greatly resented.

China. In spite of assurances given by CHINA, no Chinese bombers have been brought into action. High Chinese Military sources state that the Japanese are expected to move on CHANGSHA to divert the Chinese attacks in the CANTON area.

J.I.C. Comment: Reported movements of Japanese troops out of the YANGTZE VALLEY make this report highly improbable.
Kweilin, Chinese Military base in the southeast province of Kwangsi, sustained a heavy Japanese bombing and strafing attack.

Philippines. The fighting at DAVAO continues but the exact situation remains obscure. An attack in force on LUZON has developed during the past twenty-four hours. Latest report indicates an enemy force of from 70 to 80 transports off LINGAYEN GULF with an initial attack to establish a bridgehead along the line: ARINGAY-AGOO-SAN FABIAN (Eastern shore of LINGAYEN GULF). The transports, supported by naval escorts, are reported to have complete freedom of movement.

J.I.C. Comment: According to the size of the convoy reported the enemy force threatening LUZON should consist of between 3 and 4 divisions. Inasmuch as any main effort directed against LUZON has always been expected in the LINGAYEN GULF area, this attack will lack the surprise element. The coordinated employment of our available ground and air forces may be relied upon to effect maximum maneuver and stiff resistance.

Netherlands East Indies. It is estimated that the Japanese transported one division to the coast of SARAWAK.

J.I.C. Comment: As previously noted, some units (exact numbers unknown) have already been landed at LUBONG and MIRI.

The flying field at SINGKAWANG in the Western Division of DUTCH BORNEO was bombed, 12 Dec., by 27 Japanese planes. No bombs hit the landing area. Dutch plane losses as yet unknown.

J.I.C. Comment: Dutch air forces have been active and efficient in their attacks on Japanese transports in this area. The Japanese obviously feel the need of weakening the Dutch air arm before extending new campaign in BORNEO.

ROME radio, as yet unconfirmed, claims that the Japanese have carried out a landing on NEW GUINEA.

Timor. The DILKI airfield is now occupied by Australian troops.

J.I.C. Comment: Same source reported, 17 Dec., that full military control of TIMOR was being deferred pending clarification of PORTUGAL's attitude.

New Caledonia (Free French). A U.P. despatch states that 300-400 able-bodied Japanese from NEW CALEDONIA are being interned in AUSTRALIA. In the absence of an official communique, the news is being suppressed as of value to the enemy.

South Seas Area. Aerial reconnaissance in the area of KAPINGAMARANET (GREENWICH ISLAND, Lat. 1° N., Long. 155 E.) reveals enemy seaplanes patrolling that area. This island
was bombed by the Australians (18 Dec.). It is possible that an enemy seaplane carrier is operating between KAPINGAMARANAI and NISSAN (SOLOMON GROUP).

Wake Island. During the two air raids yesterday, one of the 3" AA batteries was destroyed, leaving only one remaining. The power plant and diesel oil buildings were damaged. One casualty.

Hawaii. Thirty survivors of the SS LAHAINA landed at KAHALUTU today. The vessel was shelled and sunk by an enemy submarine in Lat. 27-42 N., Long. 147 W., at 1400 GCT, 11 Dec., on route from AHUKINI, KAUIAI, to SAN FRANCISCO. Two of the crew are dead and two missing.

An oil slick is evident today at the position off the entrance to PEARL HARBOR where a submarine contact was attacked with depth charges yesterday. Another submarine contact was attacked tonight south of OAHU.

West Coast of United States. Thirty-two survivors in two life boats of the SS EMIDIO, including the Master, have been picked up. The Master states that he was first unsuccessfully attacked, at 1:35 PST (20 Dec.), by gunfire from a submarine, and that then the ship was hit astern by a torpedo. Five lifeboats were immediately launched, but three were destroyed by gunfire from the submarine after leaving the ship. When last seen the EMIDIO was still afloat, but low in the water.

J.I.C. Comment: U. S. Naval vessels have been ordered to the scene to search for survivors and to conduct salvage operations if practicable.

General. A Japanese naval communiqué claims the sinking of nine submarines, and declares that an additional four were attacked and possibly destroyed. Their nationality is not disclosed. A Japanese destroyer is alleged to have sunk one submarine yesterday, in which 32 members of the crew were rescued.

2. LATIN AMERICA

Dominican Republic. The establishment of aircraft listening stations on Dominican territory has been approved by the Dominican government.

J.I.C. Comment: These stations are part of the installations of the Caribbean Interceptor Command and will operate in the same manner as similar installations used in recent Army maneuvers throughout the U.S.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Martinique. C.G., Caribbean Defense Command, states that he does not believe that the new agreement signed with Admiral Robert will stand in the way of any action desired by...
GERMANY, and that French forces at MARTINIQUE should be regarded as a potential threat. COM 10 concurs.

A U.S. destroyer conducted depth charge attacks yesterday in Lat. 59-01 N., Long. 34-02 W., following sharp sound contacts. The results are unknown.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

J.I.C. Comment: British pursuit in CIRENAICA continues to be successful. The DERNA airstrip has been cleared for British use. Axis aviation has been deprived of important operational fields. Unless sorely needed supplies and reinforcements are made available soon, ROMMEL's forces will be annihilated.

5. BALCAN AREA

J.I.C. Comment: While confirmed reports are lacking, there is increasing evidence of German activity in the Balkan area. This would seem to take the form of improvement of airfields in Greece and Bulgaria and training in disembarking from barges at various points off the Greek Coast. The net result, thus far, has been to incite nervousness in certain quarters in Turkey and to draw attention to the possibility of a German offensive toward the Middle East.

6. EASTERN EUROPEAN THEATER

J.I.C. Comment: Authentic information from the Russian front is lacking. The Germans appear to be still withdrawing in the north and center. In the all-important southern sector the situation remains unchanged. London sources would indicate that the final defensive position selected by the Germans is: RIGA - SMOLENSK - MARIUPOL.

Despite certain favorable signs, such as Hitler's appeal for warm clothing for his men and his reported assumption of command, it is still considered premature to draw too optimistic conclusions.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 11

8:00 A.M., 21 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

Secretary of War
Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
Assistant Chief of Staff, W.F.D.
Secretary, Joint Board
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Chief, Intelligence Branch, M.I.D.

Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Naval Operations
Chief, Bureau of Aeronautics
Director, War Plans Division
Director, Naval Intelligence
Head, Foreign Branch, O.N.I.
J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED

\ JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Malaya. British evacuation from PENANG to PORT SWettenHAM (SELANGOR) and SINGAPORE, and withdrawal from the MUDA to the KRIAN RIVER, have been effected successfully. There have been heavy Japanese bombing attacks on the KOTA BAHU railroad 40 miles north of KUALA LIPIS (PAHANG). Eleven large transports are reported off PATANI, where there is continuous launch activity.

Burma. The Chinese 6th Army is en route to BURMA, and one regiment has arrived already.

Indo-China. American, British and Dutch Consuls have been placed under arrest by the Japanese in FRENCH INDO-CHINA and their property has been taken over.

Hongkong. HONGKONG was last heard by radio 19 Dec., 4:00 P.M. Washington time. The only defense then left was that of the PEAK.
Chinese forces are alleged to have forced their way into SHUNGHUN, on the mainland border of HONGKONG. An offensive along the CANTON-KOWLOON railway is being undertaken.

Macao. MACAO (Portuguese, opposite HONGKONG at the PEARL RIVER entrance) has been occupied by the Japanese.

China. Japanese flame-throwing tanks have been sent from HATHAN to SAIGONKUNGKING was bombed. There were many casualties, with little damage to property.

General Brett, is due here. (19 Dec.)
The Chinese offensive against the Japanese is half-hearted except for the Generalissimo. British prestige has suffered a serious blow in China. Many near relations of Chinese government officials, now in HONGKONG, will be placed in jeopardy by the fall of that place. They will probably be used as hostages to force the CHUNGKING government to surrender. Good news of some sort is seriously needed in CHUNGKING.
The Japanese are alleged to have lost 4 planes in an encounter with the American Volunteer Air Group during an attack on the Burma Road.

J.I.C. Comment: This is the first reported activity of the A.V.G.
Japan. GERMANY has given 1500 planes to JAPAN. Some Japanese pilots have been trained in GERMANY, while others are actually of German nationality.

From radio traffic and RDF the following Japanese Fleet locations are estimated:
- Cinc Combined Fleet - MANDATE AREA
- Cinc Second Fleet - KALAMHI BAY Area
- Southern Expeditionary Force - PALAU Area
- 1 Aircraft Carrier - SAIGON
- 7 Units - Northeast coast of MALAYA
- 1 Carrier and 40 other units - Northeast coast of BORNEO

Sighted: 8 ships off MIKI and 2 off BELAIT.

JAPAN and THAILAND have signed a ten-year treaty. THAILAND agrees to help JAPAN with all military and political and economic means. Neither country is to conclude peace or armistice without the consent of the other.

Siberia. The American Consul at VLADIVOSTOK reports that the Russian garrison has been in a state of readiness for 10 days, and that movements of troops through MARITIME PROVINCES have increased. Reports indicate that JAPAN and RUSSIA will be at war by the middle of January.

J.I.C. Comment: This is the first indication of Soviet troop movements in this area. The report of a possible Russo-Japanese war is to be taken with great reserve in view of hostilities in European Russia.

An unconfirmed press despatch claims that a Russian freighter identified as the PEREKOP on the VLADIVOSTOK-JAVA run, has been sunk by 17 Japanese planes.

J.I.C. Comment: This news, if true, is important because of its possible effect upon Japanese-Russian relations.

Philippines. The Japanese landing at DIWAO is from 4 transports. Advance elements of the enemy have been engaged.

British sources claim that the Japanese have a naval force West of southern LUZON consisting of 2 battleships, 3 aircraft carriers, 4 light cruisers, 10 submarines and 32 destroyers.

J.I.C. Comment: O.N.I. reports 1 battleship, 2 aircraft carriers, 9 light cruisers, 12 submarines and 32 destroyers in this area.

A light air raid was carried out against NICHOLS FIELD and TAGO.

Borneo. Unconfirmed press dispatches claim that the Dutch, within the last thirty-six hours, have crippled three Japanese cruisers off SARAWAK. The Dutch are also said to have destroyed two Japanese seaplanes and two Japanese transports. One Dutch bomber failed to return.

The Japanese have bombed KUCHING in SARAWAK, setting fire to gasoline dumps there.

Wake. There were two bombing raids on Wake today, one by a squadron of carrier-borne dive bombers. The cumulative damage is considerable. One '3' battery remains.
West Coast of United States. Resumption of commercial
cargo by private owners from WEST COAST to HONOLULU is
authorized, but no luxury goods are to be permitted. Move-
ments of Army transports will be undertaken only by special
arrangement.

A submarine, believed to be of the 2-man type, was
bombed by a plane of my command at the mouth of the Columbia
The S.S. AGWI WORLD (U.S.) was actually attacked by
shell-fire from a large submarine at 2:20 P.M. (P.S.T.),
8 miles off Santa Cruz. No casualties.

The tanker, EMINIO, (U.S.) was torpedoed at 2:07 P.M.
(P.S.T.), 20 miles offshore and 10 miles north of CAPE
MENDOCINO. Two of the crew were killed and 52 are now in
lifeboats.

It has been positively determined that enemy submarines
are operating off BLUNTS REEF and SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA.

2. LATIN AMERICA

Ecuador - Peru. The President of Ecuador declares
that, according to reliable information, the Japanese intend
to seize the TALARA-ZORRITOS area in PERU, and SALINAS,
ECUADOR. They will then seize the G.L/PACOS ISLANDS and
attack the PANAMA CANAL. He said that ECUADOR was unable to
defend SALINAS.

J.I.C. Comment: The TALARA-ZORRITOS area is on the
south side of the entrance of the GULF OF GUAYAQUIL. SALINAS
is on the opposite side of the entrance, less than 200 miles
to the north. Both TALARA and SALINAS are 580 miles eastward
of the G.L/PACOS ISLANDS. Both are oil ports, with refineries
and stocks of aviation gasoline, and both have important air-
fields.

TALARA lacks adequate defenses, especially airplances and
anti-aircraft guns. It is recommended that U.S. troops be
sent to work in conjunction with, or under command of, General
Ureta, who offers to cooperate with the Caribbean Defense
Command. He believes that, if TALARA is attacked, the object
will be capture rather than destruction. He declares that
the Ecuadorian boundary dispute is of no importance in the
present emerency, and that PERU is willing to settle on the
basis of the 1936 status quo line. He warns that ECUADOR
constitutes a danger to the PANAMA CANAL.

J.I.C. Comment: It is significant that Ureta, who led
the recent Peruvian advance into ECUADOR, is willing to with-
draw.

The question of establishing an advanced patrol base at
GUAYAQUIL (ECUADOR) has been referred to the Caribbean De-
fense Command.

J.I.C. Comment: Both ECUADOR and PERU require UNITED
STATES assistance for effective defense of this area, and
both appear to desire it. Each remains jealous and suspicious
of the other, however, and aid based on one exclusively may
offend the other.

-3-
Panama. All naval local defense forces in the Panama Naval Coastal Frontier have been placed under the command of the Commanding General, Panama Canal Department, in accordance with a joint Army-Navy plan.

Comment: This is in accord with joint Army-Navy procedure.

Brazil. Three provisional U.S. Marine companies, each composed of four officers and 46 men, have arrived in BRASIL and are being assigned (one company each) to BELEM DO PARA, NATAL and RECIFE.

J.I.G. Comment: These marines are officially classified as technicians with additional duty of guarding U.S. equipment. They are to cooperate primarily with the Brazilian Air Force and secondarily with the Army. Their arms (rifles, pistols and light machine guns) during shipment were packed in boxes to satisfy Brazilian objections to the entry of armed troops into their country.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarines. During the past week the following contacts of enemy submarines have occurred in the West Indies and along the Atlantic seaboard: (1) On December 13th, a sound contact and a torpedo sighted about 40 miles southeast of FIRE ISLAND LIGHT, and (2) an uncertain contact in the FLORIDA STRAITS. (3) On December 14th, an attack by BROOKLYN planes on a submarine east of the LEeward ISLANDS, with hits claimed. (4) On December 17th, a sound contact and inconclusive depth charge attack by NOA, about 40 miles east of CAPE HENRY. (5) On the same date there was also a report of a periscope east of MARTINIQUE (doubtful), and (6), in the same locality at sunset, a depth charge attack was conducted after a good sound contact. Sound contact was subsequently lost and results are unknown because of darkness. (7) On December 18th, a Submarine was sighted off MIAMI by an Army plane with navy observer; the sub broached during investigation of oil slick. No attack was conducted. (8) This sub was again located on the 19th, and was repeatedly attacked by an army bomber and naval vessels. Results were inconclusive, but hopeful. The search is continuing. (9) An unidentified sub was sighted from an airplane 100 miles SE of CURACAO about noon on the 19th.

J.I.G. Comment: The presence of a submarine off VENEZUELA may account for the disappearance of an ALCOA LINE steamer reported by the NA CARACAS as five days overdue on a voyage from the Island of ST. VINCENT to PUNTA de la CRUZ in eastern VENEZUELA.

French man of war GUEYDON, camouflaged as HIPPER class cruiser, is being towed in S.E. direction off INSE DE POULMIC (in BREST harbor).
J.I.C. Comment: A ship of this name and of 8,189 tons was built in 1897, converted to a fire control ship in 1926 and condemned in 1935. It is believed the Germans use this ship as a decoy.

The SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU were attacked by 47 heavy bombers on 18 Dec. Bursts causing explosions were seen on the sterns of both ships. Two bursts just S.W. of the docks were followed by flashes from each vessel amidships and thick black smoke was observed rising from the GNEISENAU.

J.I.C. Comment: The Admiralty reports as of the 20th that a preliminary study of a photographic reconnaissance shows the above vessels plus the PRINZ EUGEN in dock at BREST. The GUEYDON (referred to yesterday) was not seen.

4. MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER

British troops captured DERNA and MECULLI, Dec. 19th. Mopping up efforts going forward in HALFAYA and BARDIA sectors. Exceptionally stout barriers face the British in the taking of BARDIA. There is some basis for unrest in the fact that the British were not able to maintain contact with seven Italian transports and convoy sailing from Southern ITALY to NORTH AFRICA. It is thought that the Italians were possibly successful in bringing reinforcements to TRIPOLI and BENGHAZI.

5. EUROPEAN THEATERS

No significant news.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 10

8:00 A.M., 20 December 1941

抄 1 of 17.

Distribution

Secretary of War
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J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED

By RHF, NLR, MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

Report

1. FAR EAST AND PACIFIC THEATER

Burma. Large reinforcements of fully equipped Indian troops have arrived.

Malaya. Japanese forces are believed to have occupied PENANG, naval and air base on the west coast of MALAYA evacuated by the British. One Japanese division is in KELANTAN, two are in KEDAH-FERAK, and a fourth is waiting to land at SINGORA (southern THAILAND).

Borneo. Japanese are maintaining and probably increasing fleet concentration off BORNEO. Whereas yesterday only ten Japanese warships were reported in this area, new information speaks of thirteen warships and one tanker north of MIRI. A Dutch plane secured a hit on one of the Japanese destroyers. Japanese continue in occupation of the northern portion of SARAWAK, but the Governor of British NORTH BORNEO states that no landing operations have taken place there up to the present time.

The Dutch bombed Japanese positions in SARAWAK, all planes coming back safe. Japanese planes retaliated with a raid on PONTIANAK, DUTCH BORNEO, killing scores and injuring many more.

Hongkong. Because of deep enemy penetration and the graveness of the situation, all cryptographic and communication facilities are being destroyed.

The military spokesman admits that the Japanese have landed in considerable force on HONGKONG ISLAND. Blacked-out communications are hiding the fate of HONGKONG.

Philippines. In the vicinity of MANILA and ILOILO there have been enemy air raids in force.

There has been a marked increase in ground patrol activity. SANLELY POINT (CAVITE) experienced a heavy bombing raid at mid-day which ruined the gasoline dump, several buildings, air base structures and remaining radio facilities, making that entire area now virtually inoperable. Our casualties 13 dead and 32 wounded. Filipino casualties unknown.

A large Japanese landing operation centered around DAVAO in southeast MINDANAO is reported.

J.I.C. Comment: DAVAO is the well known center of Japanese activity in the Philippines, with a population of about 25,000 Japanese.
Ferrying of aircraft from AUSTRALIA to the PHILIPPINES is considered possible.

Hawaii. There were two doubtful submarine contacts today. CINCPAC

2. LATIN AMERICA

Brazil. Brazil is urged to act directly to shut down LATI operations, since a hidden reserve of fuel appears to be available to the airline. It is believed that LATI carries passengers under direction of Axis embassies (Brazil contends that it carries only mail), and that delay by the Brazilian government will result in safe evacuation of its planes (possession of which is desired by the U.S. Navy). The planes are in good flying condition.

3. ATLANTIC THEATER

Shipping losses for November amounted to 100,491 tons, of which 88,003 were British. This is nearly 100,000 tons lower than the previous month and, except for March 1940, represents the smallest monthly total since the beginning of the war.

The submarine situation in the Atlantic remains about as previously reported. No further contacts have been made with submarines off our coast. Very few reported in the North Atlantic. Concentrations continue to be reported in the Eastern Atlantic.

British bombers attacked the SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, and PRINZ EUGEN in BREST harbor during the night (18-19 Dec.) for the third time in 24 hours.

J.I.C. Comment: The British appear determined not to let these vessels put to sea even at the expense of heavy bomber losses.

4. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

J.I.C. Comment: Reports are confusing and pertain primarily to diplomatic activity.

5. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Axis forces continue to withdraw in LIBYA. Latest reports indicate a three-forked split in their retirement: The Italian armored and motorized divisions towards NECHILI; the Italian normal divisions widely dispersed south and east of MARTHUB; the two German armored divisions towards EL GUBBA, after by-passing Derna.
Three British cruisers and 14 destroyers sailed out to engage the Italian naval force (escorting four merchantmen) approaching DERNA. The British report that action was undertaken at 6:00 P.M., 18 Dec. (11:00 A.M., 18 Dec., Washington) but that contact was lost one hour later.

6. EAST EUROPEAN THEATER

There is no radical change in the situation.

Ludwell L. Montague
LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.
ANNEX

J.I.C. Summary No. 10

I. Japanese tactics in Malaya. (N/A, SINGAPORE)

The British have come to the following conclusions on this subject:
1. A linear defense is ineffectual.
2. The best system of defense consists of self-contained posts, with all-around defense, as pivots of maneuver for an aggressive reserve.
3. The Japanese have unusual aptitude for overcoming terrain obstacles.
4. After infiltrating to the flanks and rear, they press home the assault with great determination.
5. They have great endurance.

II. British technique in spotting dropped mines. (N/A, SINGAPORE)

At PENANG Japanese planes have dropped mines both with and without parachutes. The latter cannot be distinguished from large bombs. The British station men at fixed places afloat and ashore with facilities to take and record the bearings of splashes, plus any range taking gear available. Ships keep power boats equipped with buoys ready to mark spots as soon as the raid is over. Reports from all stations are sent to a central plotting station for analysis.

III. Estimate of Japanese capabilities with respect to HAWAII. (M.I.D.)

1. Repetitions of carrier-borne air attacks are probable, inasmuch as a naval task force is still in mid-Pacific.

(J.I.C. Comment: This task force is now believed to have joined the C-in-C, Combined Fleet, who is reliably reported to be in the Mandate area.)

2. Attempts to seize outlying islands for use as air bases are doubtful, because the protection of supply lines would be difficult and the seizure of the outlying islands would not place HAWAII within bombing range of Japanese planes.

3. Sea, land and air operations to capture OAHU are not probable, because of insufficiency of troops and supply facilities and the necessity of diverting men-of-war now needed for Asiatic operations.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY
No. 9

Copy 1 of 17.

8:00 A.M., 19 December 1941

Distribution

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J.I.C. file (2)

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THE JOINT BOARD
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Report

1. PACIFIC THEATER

Burma. RANGOON was bombed on 17 December. The Commander-in-Chief, INDIA, has assumed command of all land and air forces in BURMA.

J.I.C. Comment: The latter report is positive evidence that Japanese military action has severed BURMA from effective contact with MALAYA.

Malaya. The main Japanese effort is in the GRIK area (in northern PERAK 25 miles south of KICHI), threatening British communications north of KUALA KANGSAR (in central PERAK 60 miles southeast of PENANG). British losses have been heavy and only small reinforcements are available. The British are withdrawing from PENANG and the NUDA RIVER to SUNGEI KRIAN and the PERAK RIVER. In KELAITAN the British are holding at SUNGEI MAL and have inflicted severe casualties on the enemy.

Air reconnaissance reveals large concentrations of enemy transports off PATANI and KOTA BHARU.

Air situation in Malaya is serious. The Dutch have sent bombers to SUMATRA but can spare no more aviation to assist the British.

The Japanese have made effective use of a Fifth Column in Malaya.

Borneo. Ten large Japanese war ships, one tanker and one submarine have been reported off the coast of SARAWAK. Eleven Netherlands East Indies planes from SINKAWANG, DUTCH BORNEO, have bombed three Japanese cruisers, six armed raiders and one tanker off MIRI. (Press reports one cruiser set on fire by this attack.) Japanese troops have definitely landed in British protectorate of SARAWAK, north of MIRI, and have reportedly landed at LUTONG also.

British forces have withdrawn from the fifty mile stretch of the SARAWAK-BRUNEI coast.

The airfield at MIRI, which was previously destroyed, is now in Japanese hands and is probably being reconstructed.

British and Dutch seem unable to offer serious resistance to Japanese moves in SARAWAK, which constitute a serious threat to all of BORNEO.

DECLASSIFIED
JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RH, NR, Date MAR 5 1974

Source
MAGRUDER
CHUNGKING
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ADIRALTY
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M/A BANDONG

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SINGAPORE

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Regraded Unclassified
New Guinea. The unidentified motor vessels sighted off New Guinea 15 Dec. are considered as probably being enemy armed merchant cruisers.

Philippines. The only activity in the past twenty-four hours has been patrol action on ground and minor air operations.

The USS SWORDFISH sank a transport off HAINAN ISLAND.

In addition the USS SAILFISH probably sank a destroyer off CLIPPE BOLINAO (entrance to LINAYEN GULF).

The Japanese have used 17 naval ships and 24 transports to the present time in their attack on the Philippines.

Hongkong. Continuous air attacks are being carried out by the Japanese. The largest formation seen thus far has been 36 planes using 250 pound bombs.

The Japanese proposal for surrender was signed by the G.O.C., Lieut. Gen. SIKAI, and the Naval Chief, Vice Admiral NIMI. This second proposal was perhaps due to trouble among Japanese themselves.

One battery of coast defense guns and waterfront fortifications on the north shore of the island have been damaged by Japanese bombing and artillery fire. British artillery forced Japanese elements and vehicles on the mainland to scatter. The Governor rejected the second surrender demand (17 Doc.) with the statement that he would not listen to any further conversation on the subject.

No authentic information regarding defensive aid from the Chinese is available. Military aid from some source is necessary to withstand Japanese assaults.

China. One division of enemy troops is now en route from HANKOW to SHANGHAI.

KUNMING was bombed by the Japanese 17 Dec.

Chinese military pressure cannot be apparent until the end of December.

British-Chinese conversation concerning the defense of BURMA have been in progress. Chiang Kai-shek has promised to supply troops, but was non-committal concerning the transfer of U.S. Lease-Lend munitions now in BURMA.

Mandates. The Japanese CinC, 4th Fleet, is now at TRUK.

Gilbert Islands. One converted seaplane carrier has been sighted at BUTARITARI, which is now a Japanese air base in the GILBERTS and is considered more suitable for air operation than TARAWA.

Wake. The island was attacked by 27 bombers at 11:20 A.M., C.O., WAKE 19 Dec. (local time).

West Coast. Reports of enemy submarine and airplanes off the coast have proved erroneous.
2. ATLANTIC THEATER

Submarine Estimate 18 December. There are indications of increased submarine activity off the East Coast, in the STRAITS OF FLORIDA, and in the CARIBBEAN. A U.S. destroyer reported a possible, but not conclusive, contact about 40 miles east of CAPE HENRY. Another destroyer made a good sound contact 90 miles east of MARTINIQUE, but attack results are unknown. An Army plane made a definite sight contact east of MIAMI. A number of U-boats are in the eastern Atlantic between GIBRALTAR and the CAPE VERDE ISLANDS.

Aruba and Curacao. The vulnerability of ARUBA and CURACAO is a matter of deep concern to officers of both the army and navy of Venezuela.

J.I.C. Comment: The great volume of ship movement in Venezuelan waters is through ARUBA and CURACAO. ARUBA, with its great oil refineries, is a legitimate military objective. Its sea and air approaches are unguarded and it is extremely vulnerable to attack from the sea. A cruising submarine could set the place on fire with a few incendiary shells. Its principal power plant stands on deep water, and could be torpedoed. Its loss would be a major disaster.

Martinique. The "Greenslade Agreement" has been renewed. In return the State Department has given Admiral ROBERT assurances that certain French merchant ships will be permitted to make specific voyages without hindrance.

J.I.C. Comment: The "Greenslade Agreement" provided that Admiral ROBERT would maintain the status quo regarding his war ships, planes and stored gold, in return for which the United States would facilitate the importation of essential supplies into MARTINIQUE.

The Admiralty reports that the GNEISENAU and SCHARNHORST are preparing to leave BREST, possibly within the week, and that the British are taking all possible measures to prevent their gaining the open sea.

J.I.C. Comment. It is believed that these vessels were the principal target for yesterday's daylight raid on BREST and it has been reported that hits were probably obtained on both vessels.

3. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

France. As of 17 Dec. tremendous pressure is being applied to VICHY and a German ultimatum is expected within the next ten days. In answer to a direct question as to whether the Germans wore demanding bases in AFRICA and the use of the fleet, informant replied: "They are asking for everything."
Portugal. Mr. MORGANTHAU has notified the Secretary of War that the Bank of LISBON has requested a NEW YORK bank to cancel all credits wherever possible. This may indicate fear of an invasion of Portugal.

J.I.C. Comment: The situation in Western Europe has reached the critical stage. In evaluating the situation, it must be remembered that fear of Germany is still the motivating factor in that area. Any promises which the United States may obtain will prove of little value if opposed by German pressure.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATER

Information received early in the morning of 18 Dec. reported that all or most of the Italian fleet, complete with battleships, and covering units, was steaming for the port of DERN. evening of 17 Dec. The fleet was reported to be convoying four heavy merchant ships, but it was not known whether the vessels were heading for evacuation operations or were carrying reinforcements to LIBIA.

Paris Mondial at 3:20 P.M. 18 Dec. reported a naval encounter between German and British Units in the Mediterranean.

The bulk of the Axis Forces is reported (18 Dec.) to be well on the road to DERN. after escaping British concentrations. The only Axis troops not taking part in this movement are the covering units in positions near KELA.

J.I.C. Comment. As analyzed in Daily Summary No. 8, the Axis is running positive action either to reinforce or evacuate their forces in Libya, probably the former. The fleet action reported in the Mediterranean would seem to be a British attempt to counter this Axis plan.

5. EASTERN EUROPEAN THEATER

J.I.C. Comment. Information from all sources, both official and press, indicate that the German withdrawal has been accelerated and that Russian pressure is a definite factor.

Ludwell L. Montague

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry, Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 8

3:00 A.M., 18 December 1941

Copy 1 of 17.

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

Secretary of War
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J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED
JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHF, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
1. PACIFIC THEATRE

Malaya. Three, possibly four, Japanese divisions are attacking Malaya. The British, hard pressed in KEDAH, are evacuating PENANG and withdrawing to the vicinity of TAIPING, 50 miles to the south.

Netherlands East Indies. Some RAF organizations are being transferred to fields on SUMATRA for dispersal reasons.

Ambassador Biddle states that TIMOR (Portuguese) has been occupied by a small force of 230 Dutch and 120 Australian soldiers in spite of representations by local Portuguese officials. Situation now quiet. Two submarines were sighted in this vicinity recently, of which Australians claim the sinking of one.

Air bases at BABO and HALMAHERA, in NEW GUINEA, are approved by NEI authorities, but runways will not be complete at both places for six weeks. The latter must be provided with additional protection.

Australia. There are very meager port facilities available at PORT DARWIN for use by our forces. The water supply is adequate but docking and unloading facilities poor. Labor is scarce. The only coast defense guns available are old 6" and net protection is unfinished. The availability of fighter defense is doubtful. AA guns are being manufactured in Australia but without fire control gear.

Australian naval circles, as well as our MA, believe it practicable to send troops and materials to the Philippines, provided the U.S. Navy will cooperate. This opinion is contrary to the British Admiralty Delegation Cable.

British Borneo. At 5-12 N. 112° E. 200 W. of LABUAN aerial reconnaissance sighted three cruisers, one destroyer and two transports, course west. Three Russian merchant ships report being bombed at 4-55 N. 106° - 45°E. (about 300 miles northeast of SINGAPORE).

Sighted by aerial reconnaissance off MIRI, one battle-CinC Br. FE ship, one cruiser, three destroyers, Troops have landed at FLEET HNRM POIYI, 20 miles off LUTONG.

The Japanese naval parties have landed north of MIRI. M/A LONDON Reports of landings at KUCHING unconfirmed.

Hongkong. There is increased artillery and air bombardment with effectiveness against military objectives. Air raid damage slight during last raid.

The enemy is concentrating ferry craft on the KOW-LOON side, and they may soon attempt an assault.

Regraded Unclassified
Philippines. Enemy effort not apparent.

J.I.C. Comment: Present indications are that the Japanese are containing the Philippines while making the main effort farther south.

Hawaii. Little activity today. No authentic contact with submarines. No damage resulted from shelling of KAHULULI last night by submarine with five point five gun. The attack on JOHNSTON was apparently by two cruisers. No casualties among personnel, but power house in JOHNSTON was demolished.

West Coast of America. Many RDF bearings and positions have been received on reported positions of Japanese naval forces. Search of areas has disclosed only fishing vessels, which leads to the distinct possibility that these craft were practicing radio deception, on station; contacting Jap submarines or acting as lookouts for Jap naval forces.

2. ATLANTIC THEATRE

The Spanish freighter RITA GARCIA, believed to be carrying supplies and oil destined for enemy submarines, was seized by the Cuban Navy upon her arrival at HAVANA yesterday.

A U.S. Naval vessel had two contacts with submarines east of MARTINIQUE. Depth charges were dropped on the second contact, but darkness prevented a visual examination to determine results.

The light cruiser DUNEDIN (displacement 4,850 tons) has been sunk in the Atlantic by a U-boat.

About 12 Nazi U-boats are conducting operations from a base in the Canary Islands with a principal mission of patrolling the coast from DI.KAR to CI.SA.BLANCA.

This information fits in with late reports of submarine concentrations in the GIBRALATAR-CAPE VERDE area.

The FRANZ EUGEN (German light cruiser who was in company with Bismarck when that vessel sunk HOOD) has left the drydock and is now alongside a pier at BREST. (This ship was bombed several times while under repair and it is believed that she will conduct trial runs before being reported for service.)

3. WEST EUROPEAN THEATRE

France. J.I.C. Comment: Although he was directed to report the situation daily, no cablegram has been received from M/A VICHY in the past 48 hours. In view of the fact that even negative reports were required, it would seem that VICHY communication authorities are either suppressing or delaying our M/A telegram.
Iberian Peninsula. The Spanish Ambassador to LISBON has informed the Portuguese Prime Minister that the Spanish Government has granted Germany permission for the entry of German troops into Spain. This entry is to be expected late in December. The Portuguese fear that the Spanish may subsequently move towards Portugal.

The American Minister has heard that Spanish troops are moving towards Portuguese frontier and that fortifications, airfields and roads on the Spanish side are being improved.

The Portuguese fear German pressure in retaliation to Allied occupation of Portuguese TIMOR.

J.I.C. Comment: Indications continue to point to an impending Axis action envisaging Spanish collaboration and the violation of North Africa.

4. MIDDLE EAST THEATRE

As of 15 Dec., Polish, New Zealand and Indian troops have taken many prisoners and inflicted heavy Axis casualties in the GIZALA area. The Axis may try evacuation from Derna by sea and air or may try to move west via MECCHEL. The situation is generally encouraging but complete encirclement would be extremely difficult in such wide areas. Allied pressure and harassing continue.

J.I.C. Comment: Another report from LONDON (Dec. 17) mentions the fact that British bombers from MALTA attacked a "huge naval concentration and merchant ships in TARANTO harbor the night of 15 Dec." While reinforcements to ROHMER's forces in LIBYA would not necessarily embark at TARANTO, it would seem erroneous to assume that the German High Command will make no effort to relieve the present pressure on the Axis forces.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Calvary,
Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 7

Copy 1 of 17.

8:00 A.M., 17 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

Secretary of War
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Deputy Chief of Staff
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J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED

JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
THE JOINT BOARD

Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

Report

1. PACIFIC THEATRE

Lower Burma. Japanese advance from CHIENGRAI has reached the BURMA Frontier at MEHSAI.

Malaya. The Japanese main effort has broken through near KROH, threatening the east flank of British forces in KEDAH. The British are withdrawing, perhaps uncovering PENANG.

Japanese aircraft are reported to be dropping mines without parachutes at PENANG.

East India. Dutch and Australian troops were to occupy Portuguese TAPOR at 6:00 P.M., 16 Dec. (Washington time). Portuguese authorities have assented.

Fifteen big naval ships are off MIRI, BORNEO. (The Japanese claim to have made a successful landing in BRITISH BORNEO.)

Philippines. Enemy activity has been minor in character.

Indo-China. The American Consulate's safe and archives at HANOI have been seized and removed to the Japanese Army Headquarters. The French Governor-Generals' representations for release are without avail. The Consul is being detained at Military Headquarters.

Hongkong. The scale of enemy air raids has increased during last twenty-four hours, and shelling of nuisance value is continuous.

The strength of Japanese troops attacking HONGKONG is probably two divisions.

China. MACAO (Portuguese) and KWANGCHOWAN (French) have fallen into Japanese hands.

There has been no evidence of aggressive action on the part of the Chinese. 40,000 Japanese troops have been withdrawn from YANT'EE valley to HANKO.

Gilbert Islands. The Japanese upon evacuating TARAWA, told natives they would return 18 Dec. The islands south of TARAWA are clear of enemy planes, but over NAAN, TARAWA and AMING single planes have been observed.

Source

M/A LONDON
16 Dec.

C. G.
PHILIPPINES

N/A SINGAPORE

M/A BANDUNG
JAVA
STATE DEPT.
C. G., FIC.
F.C.C.

C. G.
PHILIPPINES

AMB. VICHY

ADMIRALTY
14 Dec.

MAGRUDER
CHUNGKING

MAGRUDER
CHUNGKING
15 Dec.

ADMIRALTY
LONDON

-1-

DECLASSIFIED

JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHF, NLR, Dol.

MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
2. **ATLANTIC THEATRE**

   The U-boat situation in the Atlantic remains unchanged. However, a German decision to intensify submarine warfare, including definite plans for extensive mining in the New York area, has just been reached, according to highly reliable information.

3. **WEST EUROPEAN THEATRE**

   Correction. Summary No. 3 reported a movement of 66,000 troops from FRANCE to NORTH AFRICA, of whom 36,000 had arrived and 30,000 were in transit. This should be revised to show 3,600 arrived, as of 11 December, out of 30,000 being transferred.

   J.I.C. Comment: Revision of the total number of troops involved does not affect the principle that FRANCE is reinforcing ALGERIA and TUNISIA.

4. **MIDDLE EAST THEATRE**

   J.I.C. Comment: There is no substantial change in the situation. The British pressure in the GAZA area continues.

5. **EASTERN EUROPEAN THEATRE**

   Russians have learned from a captured German officer that the Germans are preparing three defensive lines west of MOSCOW: 1st, through MOZHALISK; 2nd, through VIASMA; and 3rd, through SMOLENSK. The Germans expect to hold on the 3rd line through SMOLENSK and resume the offensive next spring.

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ANNEX

J.I.C. Summary No. 7

I. O.N.I. reports Japanese ship casualties to date, according to the best available sources, as follows:

1. Destroyed.

   One battleship, KONGO class, sunk by army bombers off LUZON.
   One light cruiser and one destroyer sunk by gunfire off WAKE ISLAND.
   Three standard-type submarines sunk, one by depth charges and two by bombs.
   Two miniature submarines destroyed and one captured.
   Nine transports destroyed, three by army bombers and four or more by Dutch submarines.

2. Probably damaged.

   One battleship, KONGO class.
   One light cruiser and one destroyer, by gunfire off MIDWAY ISLAND.
   Two transports.
   One submarine.

II. Observations on recent operations in LIBYA, by M/A CAIRO.

1. The brigade group, with all arms and services organically attached, is the largest armored unit which can be effectively controlled in combat. Artillery must be able to fire from self-propelled mounts. Engineer detachments in armored brigades should have facilities for demolishing tanks before they can be recovered. Air support must be immediately available to the brigade commander.

2. An 88 mm antitank gun was the most efficient used by the Germans.

3. British army commanders lacked a proper knowledge of the value of air support.

4. Divided responsibility for command and inadequate communications caused British air support of ground operations to arrive late.

5. A definite system of tank recognition from the air must be devised.

J.I.C. Comment: These sound observations merit careful study.

DEClassified

JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RlP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

Regraded Unclassified
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 6

8:00 A.M., 16 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

Secretary of War
Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
Assistant Chief of Staff, W.P.D.
Secretary, Joint Board
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Chief, Intelligence Branch, M.I.D.

Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Naval Operations
Chief, Bureau of Aeronautics
Director, War Plans Division
Director, Naval Intelligence
Head, Foreign Branch, O.N.I.
J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED
JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date MAR 5 1974

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Report

1. PACIFIC THEATRE

Lower Burma. Japanese advance has reached CHIENGRAI, THAILAND. The British have evacuated VICTORIAI, destroying the air field. The Japanese have bombed military installations at MEGUI.

Malaya. British are reinforcing Indian troops in KEDAH and are preparing defenses at KRATION. No change in KELANTAN.

Hongkong. British claim successful evacuation of KOWLOON; are holding HONGKONG ISLAND.

Chinese guerrillas are active in Japanese rear. Approximately three Chinese armies are en route and will arrive within 15 days.

Philippines. In the north, the number of Japanese transports has increased. Four were unloaded at LEGASPI. Japanese air attacks are increasing in severity; at least 113 planes participated, AM, 14 Dec., of which at least 13 were destroyed.

U.S. heavy bombers attacked LEGASPI, 15 Dec., seriously damaging one transport and perhaps others. Four Jap fighters were shot down; one bomber has not returned.

J.I.C. Comment: There is every indication that our forces are utilizing their limited air strength to the utmost advantage.

Gilbert Islands. The Japanese force which landed at TARAWA destroyed the radio station, burned a few houses, killed a few natives, and departed.

Wake. One Japanese submarine is operating in the vicinity. Thirty bombers raided the island on the afternoon of 16 Dec.

Hawaii. A submarine fired several shells into the town of KAHULUI, MAUI. Two surface vessels bombarded JOHNSON ISLAND.

West Coast of America. Best estimated position of Japanese vessels is: (1) 270 miles S.E. of DUTCH HARBOR (2) 780 miles W. of COLUMBIA RIVER Entrance (3) 150 miles W. of GALAPAGOS.

An enemy submarine was positively identified in the vicinity of PORT ANGELES, Washington.
General. The British estimate of Japanese naval strength and location is given:

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1 Battle Fleet
(Between Mandates and Japan)

2 Southern Fleet
A Malayan Force  
B Philippine Force
C Hainan-Taiwan Force
D Hongkong Blockading Force

3 Mandated Islands
4 5th Fleet and SS
5 Totals

Note (ONI Totals)

This table and distribution is considered fairly reliable. The Hawaiian task force believed to have come from the Battle Fleet and 5th Fleet shown under 1 and 2. According to radio traffic analysis there are still six Japanese merchant ships at sea.

2. ATLANTIC THEATRE

There is no apparent activity on the part of enemy submarines in the North Atlantic. Concentrations of subs are indicated west of GIBRALTAR and in the CAPE VERDE ISLANDS area.

Two observation planes from a U.S. Naval vessel depth bombed a submarine as it was diving and undoubtedly sunk it a short distance East of GUADELOUPE. There had been previous reports of a submarine in this area.

3. WEST EUROPEAN THEATER

Spain. The sailing of the Spanish trans-Atlantic liner MARQUIS DE COMILLAS destined for New York has been cancelled Spanish frontier has been closed to travelers.

4. MEDITERRANEAN THEATRE

Libya. Axis forces are conducting delaying actions west of GAZA which they have evacuated. Headquarters of a German Air Fleet is reported to be moving to Rome.

German Air Marshall Kessel Ring is said to be in Italy where a concentration of 2000 to 3000 German planes is reported to be in progress.

J.I.C. Comment: This air concentration may presage German action against British in Libya and obviously indicates a wider scope of air operations in the Mediterranean,
5. EAST EUROPEAN THEATRE

J.I.C. Comment: While the Russians appear to be advancing at various points of the line, there is at present insufficient confirmed data available to justify any conclusion other than that the Germans are withdrawing to a position of their own choice.

Ludwell L. Montague
LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE,
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.
ANNEX

J.I.C. Daily Summary No. 6

1. Hawaii.

From recovered Japanese documents it appears that four aircraft carriers attacked PEARL HARBOR, 7 Dec. and that two other carriers were included in the Striking Force in the Eastern Pacific. The planes from the four carriers were divided into two wings, each containing four scout bomber squadrons and two torpedo plane squadrons and probably fighters. Total planes used are estimated at approximately 200.

The attack on HAWAII was in three waves commencing at 0747 and ending at 0936 local time. The first attack was on various airfields followed by attacks on ships in PEARL HARBOR and dock at HONOLULU. Torpedoes and large bombs were used and fragments of the latter which have been recovered appear to be converted 15 inch armor-piercing projectile. The torpedoes run successfully in a 40-foot channel. Bombs were released in dive attacks and there were no suicide attacks.

The small two-man Japanese submarine captured in Hawaii has the following characteristics: length 111', beam 5'; conning tower 5' 6'' high; thickness of hull .25'' plate; designed speed 1 to 24.3 knots; maximum speed (actual) 21 knots; cruising radii 175 mi. at 5 knots, 85 mi. at 10 knots, and 18 mi. at 20 knots. All speeds surface. Propulsion by electric batteries and motors only. Submarine equipped with periscope, radio transmitter and receiver, gyro and magnetic compasses, listening gear, two 16'' torpedoes, and 300 pounds T.N.T. under stern hooked up to batteries for suicide attack on ships or harbor objectives.

2. Malaya.

In the sinking of the REPULSE, the first attack was high level bombing with hits near the mainmast. This was followed by an attack by nine torpedo planes which scored two or three hits causing the ship to turn over and sink in a few minutes. The PRINCE OF WALES was attacked by two successive waves of nine torpedo planes, each of which scored several hits. This was followed by a high level bombing attack which scored a hit with one 1000 pound bomb. A fourth attack of torpedo planes scored one hit. The ship capsized twenty minutes later. No air protection was provided throughout all of these attacks.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 5

7:30 A.M., Monday, 15 December 1941

Distribution

THE PRESIDENT

Secretary of War
Chief of Staff of the Army
Deputy Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
Asst. Chief of Staff, W.P.D.
Secretary, Joint Board
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2 (2)
Chief, Intelligence Branch, M.I.D.

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J.I.C. file (2)

DECLASSIFIED
JUS memo, 1-4-74
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1. PACIFIC THEATRE

Malaya. Japanese forces are at CHUMPON, 60 miles northeast of VICTORIA (at the southern tip of BURMA). The VICTORIA airstrip is being prepared for demolition. (A.P. reports from LONDON that this force has entered BURMA near VICTORIA.)

Japanese forces advancing southward from SINGAPORE and PATTANI have reached points 6 miles north of ALOR STAR and 22 miles north of KROH.

1,000 Japanese have landed at the mouth of the PAHANG RIVER (100 miles north of SINGAPORE).

Two more Japanese ships have been sunk by submarines off the east coast of MALAYA.

Borneo. Oil field installations in SARAWAK and the airfield at MIRI have been destroyed by the British.

Hongkong. Japan announces the capture of HONGKONG. (British sources neither confirm nor deny).

China. The Chinese Army is powerless offensively, but should harass Japanese rear areas so as to isolate all possible Japanese units.

Unconfirmed reports state that the Japanese are withdrawing from HANKOW. This, if true, would release 3 Japanese divisions for use elsewhere.

Philippines. Japanese are expanding occupied areas around APARRI, VIGAN, and LEGASPI. Strong air attacks occurred during 14 December at NEILSON AIRPORT, NICHOLS FIELD, FORT MILLS, FORT STOTSENBURG, OLONGAPO, CLARK FIELD, and BAGUIO. There is perceptible deterioration in the accuracy of Japanese bombing. A U.S. air attack on VIGAN brought fine results.

Enemy fighters are now appearing. No damage to our ships or installations resulted from 14 December bombings.

Midway. Commercial Pacific Cable Co. reports that it has lost communication with MIDWAY.

Hawaii. Four submarines were sighted by aircraft in Hawaiian waters 14 December. One miniature submarine entered PEARL HARBOR and was destroyed by depth charge.

The Norweigan M. V. HEOGH, carrying 100 tons of explosives, has sunk 24 miles northeast of OAHU. All

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officers are of the opinion that the sinking was not caused by a torpedo; hence probability of sabotage.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS. Air reconnaissance has failed to reveal the presence of Japanese vessels.

WEST COAST OF NORTH AMERICA. A good R.D.F. bearing at 6:27 A.M. 12 December, indicates that Japanese units are at approximately Lat. 45-00 N., Long. 166-00 W. (1,400 miles off the OREGON coast).

2. LATIN AMERICA

Thirty Japanese code messages were received at LA PAZ 10 December for relay to LIMA with different signature. Average traffic is one per week.

3. WEST EUROPEAN THEATRE

France. As of December 13, French naval reservists were on the alert, subject to call within 24 hours. Sailings of French vessels to the United States have been cancelled.

Numerous German troop trains have been arriving at BORDEAUX and points south during the last several days. This movement continues.

Spanish Morocco. The Germans are known to have tanks in this area.

4. MEDITERRANEAN THEATRE.

Libya. On 10 December the area east of a north-south line through TOBRUK was free of Axis units. The British now use openly the main TOBRUK-BARDIA highway. Axis armored units were centered around AGRUMA on 10 December.

As of 13 December, the War Office believes that Axis forces will attempt to protect the important base of DERNA by holding a line from a coastal point on the east through MECHILI. The British intend to prevent this by encirclement on the south, accompanied by pressure from the east.

5. EAST EUROPEAN

Russia. The Germans, seemingly with drawing at MOSCOW, M/A, LONDON may counterattack at TAGANROG in extreme southern sector. 14 Dec.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Major, Cavalry, Secretary, J.I.C.
THE JOINT BOARD
Joint Intelligence Committee
Washington

DAILY SUMMARY

No. 4

8:30 A.M., Sunday, 14 December, 1941

Note: Effective today, this daily joint summary will replace the separate Army and Navy summaries prepared heretofore.

Unless there is express indication to the contrary, all information contained herein is current and the latest available.

1. PACIFIC THEATRE

Malaya. Tanks and light artillery are in use by the Japanese in KEDAH. The British have retired to a line just north of ALOR STAR. Additional hostile landings are reported (unconfirmed) at KUALA, TREGANNU and DUANUN.

Japanese tactics in Malaya are characterized as follows: (1) fast infiltration and outflanking of defense positions; (2) accurate fire with mortars and machine guns; (3) use of many sub-machine guns; (4) good air-artillery liaison for fire adjustment.

One division of our destroyers arrived at SINGAPUR on the 11th.

Dutch submarines sank four Japanese troopships in PATANI HOALS on the 12th.

Hongkong. Air attacks and long range shelling by the Japanese continued with little damage. The Governor has rejected a Japanese demand of surrender.

China. Chiang Kai shek told the British Ambassador, CHU.CKING, on the 11th that: (1) China wishes role in Allied Far East war planning; (2) CHU.CKING should be seat of Allied Council; (3) ABCD military alliance is important and would help Chinese morale; (4) RSSIA would more likely enter Far East war if coordinated Allied strategy were shown; (5) offensive action should be taken by Allies; (6) China could cause diversion by an Indo-China offensive.
According to an unconfirmed report a Japanese convoy has been sighted off the China coast. It consists of 140 ships, including 100 transports, 8 destroyers, 1 converted armed cruiser, several submarines, and one or two aircraft carriers. This report is believed to be consistent with a report of six divisions of troops known to be available from Japan.

Borneo. Oil field installations are prepared for demolition.

SANDAKAN will not resist attack.

Philippines. Landings at JAPAHI, VIGILN and LEGSPI continue. Enemy bridge heads will probably protect airfields from which fighter planes can support heavy bombers attacking from Formosa.

Wake. This island was attacked by three 4-engine bombers at 3:30 A.M., 14 December (local time), and by forty-one 2-engine bombers at 11:00 A.M. There was no damage in the first attack; two men were killed and one plane damaged in the second. Anti-aircraft fire destroyed two Japanese planes and damaged several.

Hawaii. Japanese submarine operations in the vicinity of OAHU are greatly reduced and contacts are being attacked vigorously. There are indications of submarines northeast of the Hawaiian area, some stationed on the Great Circle track, some hurrying toward the American coast.

West coast of North America. A Japanese force, including an aircraft carrier, is believed to be 400 to 500 miles off the coast north of SAN FRANCISCO. Hostile submarines have been reported in the STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA and near the ALEUTIAN ISLANDS during the past several days.

There is no evidence that TESHON ISLAND (Gulf of California) is being used as a hostile air base.

2. EUROPEAN THEATRE

France and French Africa. Reports from Admiral Leahy continue to indicate subservience of Vichy to Hitler.
It is reported from LONDON, during the night of 13-14 December, that the PAKFs press is demanding military collaboration with Hitler.

Substantial numbers of Germans in civilian clothes are arriving in MARSEILLES. Ordinary travelers are denied passage to ALOJERS in French vessels.

Armed forces in the DAKAR area are on the alert and ready for immediate action. Radio DAKAR has been announcing that a "brutal" sinking of a French merchantman by a British submarine requires protective measures.

Mediterranean. Two Italian cruisers were sunk and one destroyer disabled off CAP BON during the night of 12 December. The beach was littered with survivors and dead. The cruisers are believed to have been the ALBERTO DI GUISSANO and the ALBERTO DA BAIULANO, both of the 5,000-ton CONDOTTIERI class.

Ludwell L. Montague
LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE,
Major, Cavalry,
Secretary, J.I.C.

Distribution:
THE PRESIDENT
Secretary of War
Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Staff of the Army
(Chief of Naval Operations)
(Assistant Chief of Naval Operations)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
Chief, Bureau of Aeronautics
Assistant Chief of Staff, W.P.D.
Director, War Plans Division
Secretary, Joint Board
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Director, Naval Intelligence
Chief, Intelligence Branch, M.I.D.
Head, Foreign Branch, O.M.I.
J.I.C. file (2)
PACIFIC THEATRE

West Coast of United States. RDF bearings have indicated a Japanese unit at latitude 38 - 48 N., longitude 132 - 45 W. (500 miles WNW of SAN FRANCISCO), which remained approximately stationary for two hours. This and adjacent areas were searched without result by planes. Suspicious activities of unidentified planes and vessels caused a blackout from BAKERSFIELD to SAN DIEGO. Armed Japanese fishing boats are reported to be putting in along the LOWER CALIFORNIA (Mexican) coast.

Aleutian Islands. Unidentified Japanese units have been reported in the BEHRING SEA 200 miles N.W. of DUTCH HARBOR, in position Lat. 55 - 03 N., Long. 170 - 15 W., on December 9. Planes are searching in this area, but so far no such ships have been sighted.

Hawaii. Since opening of hostilities, ships in all the fleets of the Japanese Navy have been regrouped as task forces and shifted extensively. At present there is believed to be a force in mid Pacific consisting of 6 aircraft carriers, 2 battleships, 2 heavy cruisers, 5 light cruisers, 24 destroyers, 24 submarines, and 2 submarine tenders.

Evidence points to the attack on Pearl Harbor and other American Islands having been made by a striking force of 6 aircraft carriers, supported by a covering force of 2 battle ships, with a screening force of 2 heavy cruisers and a destroyer squadron. The carriers are believed now to be widely scattered.

The major portion of the submarine fleet is also in the mid Pacific, engaged in offensive measures against widely scattered objectives. Several submarines have been reported operating south of OAHU. One enemy submarine was sunk by plane on the 11th.
No further Japanese attacks on the HAWAIIAN ISLANDS have been reported.

Midway. An enemy air attack occurred on the afternoon of the 10th. The results are unknown.

Gilberts. A Jap submarine is reported east of ABAING, course south. The enemy landed on TAREWA from a light cruiser and a destroyer. Apparently the landing force was withdrawn after dark. This report is unconfirmed.

Wake. Five enemy bombers were shot down in the attack at dawn on the 11th, reported in Summary No. 1.

Guam. Japanese claim the capture of GUAM on the 11th. We have lost radio communications with the island; therefore the Japanese report is probably true.

Mandates. According to an unconfirmed report, RAAF bombers have attacked a Japanese air base on POBRA ISLAND, between CELEBES and POLAN.

Philippine Islands. In NORTHERN LUZON hostile parachute troops are reported to have landed at the airfield at ILLAGAN (170 miles north of MANILA and 80 miles south of APARRI) on the 11th. This report is unconfirmed.

A report from MANILA states that the Philippine Army has recaptured the region around APARRI and is driving the enemy back to the coast.

General MacArthur reported at 10:38 A.M., Dec. 12, (MANILA time) that Japanese forces had effected a landing at LEGASPI, on the east coast of LUZON, and that five heavy ships and eleven destroyers were off ZAMBELES (west of MANILA). Hostile forces at APARRI and VIGAN have been augmented.

General MacArthur’s estimate is that the present phase of enemy action consists of a series of concentric thrusts intended to confuse our command and to cause premature commitment of our forces. The movement in NORTHERN LUZON has the additional objective of securing fields for the operation of land-based aircraft.
Admiral Hart reports that Navy as well as Army bombers have hit heavily and probably sunk a battleship of the Haruna class. This may be the same ship, or it may be that two such ships have been heavily damaged or destroyed.

Malaya. The American Military Observer reports that only one reconnaissance plane accompanied the British naval force when the WALES and REPULSE were sunk. Because of lack of cooperation, fighters could not find the ships when called during the attack.

One Japanese battleship, two light cruisers, seven destroyers, and several transports were off KHOTA BARU on December 10th.

General. Captain Hamilton of the Pan American Clipper which landed at SAN FRANCISCO on December 11th, commented as follows regarding the attack at PEARL HARBOR and on the outlying Islands:

It is estimated that 150 planes had taken part in the bombing of OAHU and these included 2 squadrons of four motor land planes. At each point the Japanese knew the exact time and place to strike. At WAKE the air attack took place during lunch hour; at MIDWAY the attack apparently was such as to safeguard the contractor's men, which suggests that the Japanese plan to return and force the contractors to complete their projects for them. They concentrated on destruction of communications facilities, air fields, and similar installations. One of the Japanese planes destroyed during the PEARL HARBOR raid had a map marked to show the position of every war vessel in PEARL HARBOR, with the particular objective of that plane marked in red. During the flight from PEARL HARBOR to SAN FRANCISCO, the radio operator intercepted a strong Japanese signal which came from the estimated position Lat. 34° N., Long. 130° W.

ATLANTIC THEATRE

The Canadian ice-breaker MONTCALM has been offered to and accepted by
From a fairly reliable source it has been ascertained that 195 submarines have been lost to the Reich from September 1939 until November 15, 1941. In addition to these, from 5 to 10 submarines were overdue on the latter date. There is a great shortage of adequately trained submarine personnel, both officers and men. Submarine officers who had been transferred to Air Corps are now being required to return to submarine duty.

The Admiralty reports that during the period November 27 through December 4, there has been no submarine activity on the NORTH ATLANTIC convoy routes. Submarines now seem to be concentrated in an area east and west of GIBRALTAR, with some operating in the SOUTH ATLANTIC.

London reports the following disposition of the units of the German fleet: Operating in the BALTIc: TIRPITZ, ADMIRAL SCHEER, HIPPER, LEIPZIG, KOLN and EMDEN; LUTZOW at KIEL; SEYDLITZ at BREMEN; NURNBERG at FLENSBURG; GRAF ZEPPELIN at GDYNIA; GNEISENAU, SCHARNHORST, and PRINZ EUGEN at BREST. All indications are that the SCHARNHORST and PRINZ EUGEN are ready for sea. Submarines: 43 in FRENCH WEST COAST ports; 22 operating in the ATLANTIC; 76 in the BALTIc for training and trials; 14 in the MEDITERRANEAN.

Appropriate contact reported the following vessels at CASABLANCA at noon December 7: 15 submarines; 11 destroyers; 15 merchant ships; 1 patrol ship cruiser and 3 armed trawlers.

On December 11, it was established that the following French vessels were at FORT DE FRANCE - the EMILE BERTIN, BEARN AND BARFLEUR. The JEANNE D'ARC is at GUADELUPE. The BARFLEUR departed during cover of darkness last night (11th).

VICHY

Marshal Pétain, Admiral Darlan and Admiral Leahy met at 6:00 P.M.,
December 11 (noon, WASHINGTON time). Marshal Pétain stated that he was very anxious that economic aid be continued to AFRICA and hoped that they would be able to meet our demands in connection therewith. Admiral Darlan stated that the French ships in French colonial ports in the WESTERN HEMISPHERE have no intention of leaving port and that they have been disarmed. Pétain said that so far no demands had come from Germany for a change in attitude towards the United States because of the declarations of war on us by Germany and Italy, but he also said that if they did, Vichy was helpless, because Germany could starve the entire civilian population. Admiral Leahy said that the Marshal and others expect Germany to ask Vichy to break with the United States sometime in the near future.

J.I.C. Comment: There is no confirmation that French ships at MARTINIQUE have been disarmed. Vichy's alleged "helplessness" prepares the way for further concessions to Germany.

MIDDLE EASTERN THEATRE

Libya. A report from M/A London states that as of 9 December British Forces from TOBRUK had a firm junction with those to the south and that the road to the east was opened. The Axis still held BARDIA and HELLFIRE PASS but British mopping up action was proceeding satisfactorily. The Axis Forces are withdrawing on GAZALA or on DERNIA.

J.I.C. Comment: Barring French collaboration in transporting Axis reinforcements, the situation is definitely favorable to the Allies.

EAST EUROPEAN THEATRE

Finland. Two reliable sources report that FINLAND is displeased by German cessation of operations in RUSSIA for the winter. A source of unknown reliability states that the Finnish objective had been seizure of SOROKA (rail junction 40 miles south of KEM) in order to interrupt Russian communications with MURMANSK.
North Russian Front. Russians have retaken TIKHVIN, a key point on the LENINGRAD-VOLOGDA railroad, the German occupation of which had threatened Russian communications with ARCHANGEL.

Central Russian Front. The German encirclement of MOSCOW has been slowed down. Local Russian counterattacks have been reported.

South Russian Front. In the TAGANROG area, the front appears to be stabilized along the MIUS RIVER.

J.I.C. Comment: All indications point to a definite slowing down of the German operations along the whole front.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE, Major, Cavalry, Secretary, J.I.C.
J.C. Summary No. 1
Not Received

J.C. Summary No. 3
Not Received