

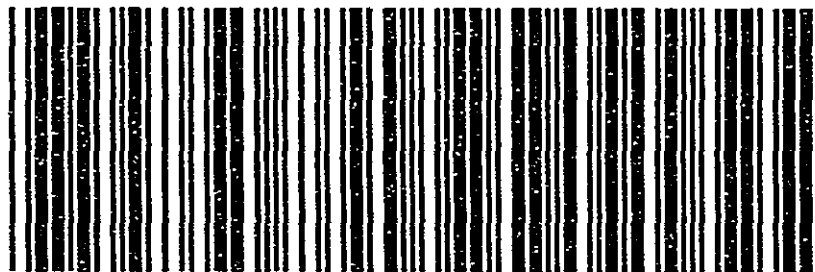
AWM52

Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters,
formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

**1/3/5
ARMY**

**First Army General Staff
(Intelligence) (First Army
GS (Int))**

August 1944



1/3/5-0297

SECRET

WAR DIARY

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

Month. AUGUST

Year... 1944...

Branch. INTELLIGENCE..

Place	Date	Summary of Events	Ref to Appendices	Comments
HQ FIRST AUST ARMY	1	Landops Revsit No 734	1	
	2	Landops Revsit No 735	2	
	3	Landops Revsit No 736	3	
		First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 117	4	
	4	World Review Situation No 82	5	
		Landops Revsit No 737	6	
		Maj C.C. MARR marched out on 30 days' leave		
	5	Capt D.L. KENNAWAY visited CAIRNS on Intelligence duties	7	
		Landops Revsit No 738		
	6	Landops Revsit No 739	8	
	7	Landops Revsit No 740	9	
	8	Landops Revsit No 741	10	
	9	Landops Revsit No 742	11	
	10	Landops Revsit No 743	12	
		First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 118	13	
		Lt I. SHARPLEY marched out on 12 days' leave		
	11	Landops Revsit No 744	14	
	12	Landops Revsit No 745	15	
		World Review Situation No 83	16	
		Lt-Col T.P. SELLORS returned from 11 Aust Inf Bde		

SECRET

WAR DIARY

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

Month. AUGUST.

Year...1944..

Branch. INTELLIGENCE..

Place	Date	Summary of Events	Ref to Appendices	Comments
HQ FIRST AUST ARMY	13	Landops Revsit No 746	17	
	14	Capt D.L. KENNAWAY visited TOWNSVILLE on Intelligence duties. Landops Revsit No 747 Lt N.D. KING departed for LHQ School of MI Photo Interpretation Wing	18	
	15	Landops Revsit No 748	19	
	16	Landops Revsit No 749	20	
	17	First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 119 Landops Revsit No 750 Capt D.L. KENNAWAY returned from TOWNSVILLE	21 22	
	18	World Review Situation No 84 Landops Revsit No 751	23 24	
	19	Landops Revsit No 752	25	
	20	Landops Revsit No 753	26	
	21	Landops Revsit No 754	27	
	22	Landops Revsit No 755 Lt BEAMAN returned from Special Duty	28	

Month, AUGUST.

Year...1944...

WAR DIARY

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

SECRET

Branch INTELLIGENCE...

Place	Date	Summary of Events	Ref to Appendices	Comments
HQ FIRST AUST ARMY	23	Landops Revsit No 756 Security Conferences - ATHERTON TABLELAND GSI 8508 Lt SHARPLEY returned from LEAVE 2 AAAPIU arrived under Comd First Aust Army - Capt H.W. MILLER and 4 OR's.	29 30	
	24	Landops Revsit No 757 First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 120	31 32	
	25	World Review Situation No 85 Landops Revsit No 758	33 34	
	26	Capt D.L. KENNAWAY visited CAIRNS on Intelligence duties. Landops Revsit No 759	35	
	27	Landops Revsit No 760	36	
	28	Landops Revsit No 761	37	
	29	Landops Revsit No 762 Lt J. GILBERT marched in from Hospital	38	
	30	Landops Revsit No 763	39	
	31	Landops Revsit No 764 First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 121	40 41	

JPf11003
Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUST ARMY

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 734 to 010015Z

LANDOPS

NEW BRITAIN
MONTAGU HARBOUR AREA

Reliable report states natives killed 30 of 50 Japanese vicinity AMAL.

NEW GUINEA
SEPIK RIVER AREA

Patrols report 60/70 Japanese vicinity ALIN SINGARIN (9 miles SW SEPIK RIVER mouth) also field gun and some activity KOKA (SEPIK RIVER mouth).

AITAPE

Estimated 160 Japanese killed during action AFCH 29/30 Jul. Considerable evidence enemy traffic to EAST and WEST reported 1300 yards SE KHAMLOHIRE.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
BIAK ISLAND

30 Jul 7 of 25 Japanese seen vicinity I PIADI (approximately 6 miles NW SORIDO) killed. Reported 2/300 enemy roaming this area in search food.

CAPE SANSAPOR AREA

30 Jul Allied troops occupied MIDDLEBERG and AMSTERDAM ISLANDS (11 miles NE CAPE SANSAPOR)

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

30 Jul 14 Corsairs bombed gun positions SOHAW ISLAND (near BONIS Plantation).

NEW IRELAND

30 Jul 123 aircraft bombed targets northern NEW IRELAND destroying buildings.

NEW BRITAIN

30 Jul 32 Corsairs bombed RABAUUL starting fires.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

30 Jul 7 Beauforts bombed strafed airstrip TIMOEKA and dumps and installations between TIMOEKA and JAPERO.

BOEROE

31 Jul 15 Liberators bombed old MAMLEA airfield scoring hits revetment area.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

31 Jul 12 Liberators bombed supply areas WOLEAI and TAGAULAP causing explosions.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

30 Jul 2 aircraft dropped 10 bombs KAMIRI strip and unknown number on KORNESOREN strip.

SEA

CERAM

31 Jul of 2 small merchant vessels 13 miles NE MLELI (North coast) course SW by WEST one sunk by our aircraft.

AMBOINA

31 Jul outbound convoy of 4 vessels, 3 miles EAST AMBOINA attacked by one Catalina. One 4000/6000 ton freighter transport sunk. 31 Jul photographs show 6 freighter transports (one 6000 two 2800 one 1000 one 800 one 600 tons) 11 luggers AMBON BAY (Partial coverage only).

Distributed by GS (Int) on 1 Aug 44 to:

GOC G(I) A
BGS G(SD) Q
G(O) DA & QMG W. J. DIARY

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 735 TO 020015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

310800K Allied forces along DRINIUMOR RIVER from coast to point 2-1/2 miles SOUTH CHAKILA commenced Eastward drive. By 1330K troops on left and centre had reached NIUMEN CREEK where resistance being met. Right flank encountered enemy 1100 yards WEST NIUMEN CREEK at 1500K were meeting strong opposition. Patrols to HARECH RIVER are reported enemy parties 5/600 strong moving WEST from point 3000 yards SW YAKANUL to NIUMEN CREEK thence SW. Enemy attack unreported strength repulsed one mile SE KWAMAGNIRK. 1 Aug 1100K 75 Japanese killed by artillery and small arms counted 1800 yards SE KWAMAGNIRK. Several light mortars and machine guns captured. At 1330K artillery fire same locality killed additional 76.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

30 Jul enemy artillery and mortar fire fell in general area 1500 yards SW WOSKE RIVER mouth approximately 50 Japanese reported SARMI PENINSULA Area. 31 Jul estimated two platoons enemy encountered WEST bank WOSKE RIVER.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

30/31 Jul patrols killed additional 53 Japanese 3 PW taken.

CAPE SANSAPOR AREA

Ref Revsit 733. Allied landing 30 Jul took place vicinity CAPE OPEARA (approximately 14 miles NE CAPE SANSAPOR). 31 Jul other Allied forces landed unopposed SANSAPOR Plantation (approximately 2 1/2 miles SSW CAPE SANSAPOR.) Evidence suggests approx 100 Japanese fled from area just prior to Allied landing.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

31 Jul 27 Dauntlesses bombed TAREKEKORI (CHOISEUL BAY) 17 Corsairs bombed strafed KAHILI area.

NEW IRALAND

31 Jul 26 aircraft bombed KAVIENG and MAINE ISLAND (BALGAI BAY).

NEW BRITAIN

31 Jul 15 Corsairs bombed NORDUP.

NEW GUINEA

31 Jul 47 aircraft bombed strafed supply areas coastal roads WEWAK to AITAPE. 31 Jul 18 Bostons bombed vicinity SEPIK RIVER mouth. 31 Jul and 1 Aug total 66 aircraft bombed strafed village troop concentrations installations WEWAK to AITAPE destroying 9 Motor trucks ULSAN (3 miles WNW BUT).

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

29 Jul 6 Liberators bombed airfield ORAWIRI scoring 23 hits runway.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

Ref Revsit 731 now reported following grounded aircraft destroyed : 9 Lolobata; 17/20 Miti; 9 Galela. 68 escorting Lightnings shot down 16 aircraft.

CERAM ISLAND

Night 31 Jul 11 Liberators bombed airfield AMARAI starting several fires. 29 Jul 10 Liberators bombed storage tank area and waterfront BOELA causing fires explosions leaving 3 tanks burning.

FLORES ISLAND

31 Jul 25 Mitchells bombed MAUENRE causing many fires explosions.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

1 Aug 11 Liberators bombed supply area UTAGAL ISLAND (WOLEAI) starting fires.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Night 30/31 Jul 2 aircraft dropped 10/12 bombs ONI ISLAND causing some casualties.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

30 Jul one lugger 18 barges MUSIHU Island area.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

29 Jul one small stack aft freighter one 200 ton Merchant vessel 5 barges vicinity CAPE BORONG.

BALAMERA ISLAND

29 Jul small stack aft freighter 2 luggers sunk by Mitchells WIDA BAY. Small stack aft freighter damaged one lugger set afire by Mitchells CALELA BAY.

CERAM ISLAND

29 Jul 3 probable freighter transports 2000/4500 tons stationary INGLIAS BAY (15 miles WEST SOELA ISLANDS). Night 31 Jul/1 Aug one 4000/6000 ton freighter transport 2 destroyer - escorts stationary NW coast LANGOLE ISLAND attacking Catalina scored 2 direct hits freighter transport which probably sunk.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

30 Jul 2 small cargo vessels entered SAMANGANI BAY (DAVAC GULF). 31 Jul one small cargo vessel left DAVAC GULF.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 1 Aug 44 to:

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 736 TO 030015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

31 Jul/1 Aug determined attacks by 4/500 Japanese vicinity AITAPE repised 182 enemy killed. Enemy attacked in suicidal waves on 75 yard front. No penetration of Allied lines made. 021025K enemy in unreported number again attacked same locality. Results as yet unreported. 1 Aug Allied forces along NIUMEN CREEK report light contact in patrolling Eastward.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFLI BAY

1/2 Aug two light Mortars observed firing towards Allied lines from position 1000 yards EAST SAKAR airfield.

BIAK ISLAND

1 Aug approx 100 enemy partly armed seen vicinity IMPENDI. Native patrols killed 23 captured 26 Japanese KORRING and killed 14 vicinity KORRING BAY.

CAPE SANSAPOR

Ref Revsit 755. CAPE OPMARAI should read approx 14 miles NE CAPE SANSAPOR - NOT NW. Actual landing point approx 5 miles SW CAPE OPMARAI.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

1 Aug 24 Dauntlesses bombed CHOISEUL BAY. 18 Venturas bombed targets BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

1 Aug 24 aircraft bombed NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

1 Aug 79 aircraft bombed RABAUL area.

NEW GUINEA

2 Aug 50 aircraft bombed bridges stores bivouac WEWAK - AITAPE.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

1 Aug 24 Bostons bombed KABIRE starting fuel fires.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

Night 1/2 Aug PT boats sank one damaged, 3 of 4 Eastbound laden barges WEWAK Area.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Night 1/2 Aug PT boats destroyed one Southbound barge MAWI BAY.

CERAM

2 Aug 2 Mitchells sank one 500/1000 ton freighter and several small boats NE and NW CERAM.

CELEBES

1 Aug 12 Luggers BOETOENG.

PHILIPPINES

31 Jul two large Tankers (One 19,000 tons) 50 miles NW BALABAR ISLAND (off Southern PALAWAN IS).

Distributed by CS (Int) on 3 Aug 44 to:

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G(SD)
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C
WAR DIARY

G.S.I.

HO FIRST ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 117

Compiled from information received from
1200 hrs 27 Jul 44 to 1200 hrs 3 Aug 44

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Significant Events	Page/s	3
-------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	--------	---

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - NW SECTOR

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	4
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	5-7
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	7-8
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	8

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SWPA AND CENTRAL PACIFIC

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	8-9
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	10
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	10
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	10

PART II

SECTION 2 - PERSONALITIES

Personalities in JAPAN's Crisis	"	11
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---	----

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

Japanese 57mm (2.24 in) Model 97 (1937) Tank Gun	"	11
--	---	----

SECTION 5 - TACTICS

Japanese Raiding Parties in the SARMI Area	...	"	11-13
Japanese Anti-Strafing Tactics	...	"	13
Japanese Method of Laying Mines	...	"	13-14

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

Japanese Aircraft Carriers	...	...	...	"	14-15
Japanese Indoctrination	...	...	...	"	16

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL.

PALAU GROUP	"	16
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	----

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	17
ITALY	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	17
EURMA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	17-18
EASTERN FRONT	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	18

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

PART V

SECURITY

Japanese Intelligence Organisations - Intercept
and Coast-Watching 'Kikans' ... Page/s 18-19

APPENDICES.

- Appendix 'A' - Allied Operations GUAM - Map.
- Appendix 'B' - Personalities in JAPAN's Crisis.
- Appendix 'C(i)' - Japanese 57mm (2.24 in) Model 97
(1937) Tank Gun - Description.
- Appendix 'C(ii)' - Japanese 57mm (2.24 in) Type 97
(1937) Tank Gun - Illustration.
- Appendix 'D(i)' - PALAU GROUP - Description.
- Appendix 'D(ii)' - PALAU ISLANDS - Map.
- Appendix 'E' - Order of Battle and Organisation.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

On 30 and 31 Jul Allied troops made unopposed landings in the area CAPE SANAPOR 65 miles NE of SORONG thus restricting the escape of the MANOKWARI garrison of 16,000 to the possible escape route MANOKWARI - BABO and offering a serious threat to the SORONG garrison of 8000.

During the week shipping sightings in the area CLERAM - AMBOINA have shown an interesting increase sufficient to suggest that the enemy is possibly making a last bid to build up supplies in this area and the adjacent area KAI - AROE ISLANDS occupied by 5 Division. This is in accordance with past known policy where isolated Jap garrisons are required to fight to the last man, instead of being withdrawn, when isolated by flanking moves of the Allies.

Allied successes continue on GUAM. The Allies now hold the only port on the coast, the airstrips and the principal administrative centre on the island.

On 1 Aug organised enemy resistance had ceased on TIKIAN ISLAND.

The first major air attack on the MALIANERAS by our forces was carried out during the week. Runways and adjacent installations were the targets.

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - NW SECTOR

LAND

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MAFFIN BAY

Extensive Allied patrolling continues principally in a general area NW of SAWAR airfield. Slight sniper fire was encountered on 27 Jul at the WEST end of MAFFIN airfield.

Allied naval gun fire destroyed two trucks operating at MISDADOE on 27 Jul. Patrols on 28 Jul located two machine guns 500 yards NW of SAWAR airfield, and encountered fire from automatic weapons 400 yards NORTH of MOUNT SAKSIN. Forty cases of Japanese ammunition were destroyed by our troops. On 30 Jul an estimated two platoons of enemy were encountered on the WEST bank of the WOSKE RIVER.

Enemy casualties to 25 Jul were 3170 killed and 53 captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - BIAK ISLAND

Since 25 Jul when it was reported that all pillboxes and material in the IEDI POCKET had been destroyed, patrols have been actively engaged accounting for enemy stragglers.

On 29 Jul native patrols reported 60 armed Japs near WARDO and an Allied patrol saw 35 Japanese, 12 of whom were killed. On 29 Jul 200/300 were reported roaming in the vicinity of IMPENDI (six miles NW SORIDO) in search of food.

Total enemy casualties to 29 Jul were 3751 killed and 82 captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - NOEMFOOR ISLAND

Activity in this area has been limited principally to patrolling.

On 25 Jul one Japanese was captured at INASI after approaching our lines waving a white flag. An artillery concentration was laid down on reported enemy position WEST and SW of BAWE on 26 Jul, and patrols on 30/31 Jul killed an estimated 53 Japanese and captured three.

Japanese casualties to 30 Jul were 971 killed and 68 captured, plus 379 Formosans captured.

CAPE SANSAPOR

After the usual softening up by components of the Navy and Air Force, Allied troops on 30 Jul landed in the vicinity of CAPE OPMARAI (approximately 14 miles NE CAPE SANSAPOR). On the same day MIDDLEBURG and ALSTERDAH ISLANDS were also occupied.

On 31 Jul Allied forces landed unopposed at SANSAPOR PLANTATION (approximately two and one quarter miles SSW CAPE SANSAPOR). Evidence suggests a party of 100 Japanese fled from the area just prior to the Allied landing.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MANOKWARI-SORONG

There has been a slight increase in sightings in the area for the past week. Our aircraft successfully attacked numerous craft.

Sightings Reported

- 24 barges
- 3 camouflaged vessels
- 2 - 400/600 ton masted schooners
- 2 - 1000/1500 ton freighter transports
- 1 small stack aft freighter
- 1 - 200 ton merchant vessel

Sunk and Damaged

<u>Sunk</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
3 barges	3 small vessels 17 barges

WAIGEO ISLAND

In KABOEI BAY our aircraft sank one 500 ton vessel and one 500/1000 ton freighter was left sinking.

CERAM - AMECINA

Enemy shipping reported in this area during the past week has increased sufficiently to indicate that he is building up substantial reserves of supplies. The main sightings were in AMBOINA BAY and PIROE BAY. Our aircraft carried out a number of successful attacks against shipping.

Sightings Reported

<u>Naval Shipping</u>	<u>Merchant Shipping</u>
2 destroyers	39,500/52,500 tons of freighter transports
1 gunboat	3 stack aft 500/1000 ton vessels
1 sub escort	Number of 2000/4500 ton freighter transports
	1 auxiliary transport
	2 medium cargo vessels
	11 luggers
	2 unidentified vessels
	Numerous small cargo vessels

Sunk and Damaged

<u>Sunk</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
1-4000/6000 ton freighter transport	1-2000/4500 ton freighter transport
1 medium merchant vessel	1-4000/4500 ton freighter transport
1 small merchant vessel	1-500/1000 ton vessel

BOEROE

Sightings reported in this area have shown a sharp decline. Three 500/1000 ton stack aft vessels only were sighted. One large barge was destroyed by aircraft.

TIMOR

Photographs show on 21 Jul one 500/1000 ton freighter transport and 11 barges at KOEPANG. These were the only sightings reported in this area.

FLORES SEA

A small tonnage only of merchant shipping was reported in this area. It included one 6000 ton vessel, five small merchant vessels, one unidentified vessel and 25 barges. Principal sightings were at MAOMERE.

HALMAHERA

Shipping in this area appears to have been concentrated in WASILE BAY and GALELA BAY, and shows an increase in gross tonnage as against that reported during the previous week. Sightings and sinkings for the week are as below :-

Sightings

2 escort vessels
31,500/41,500 tons of merchant vessels
11 medium merchant vessels
7 small cargo vessels

Sunk

1 small stack aft vessel
2 luggers

PALAU

These islands were subjected to another attack by a carrier-borne force on 25 Jul and excellent results were achieved.

Sightings Reported

Naval Shipping

1 aircraft carrier
4 destroyers
1 submarine
2 motor torpedo boats

Merchant Shipping

10,000 tons cargo vessels
3 medium vessels
104 luggers and barges

Sunk

1 destroyer
1 destroyer escort
1 small tanker
7 small cargo vessels
Numerous small craft

PHILIPPINES

Main concentrations of shipping were at DAVAO GULF and movement generally has been normal.

Sightings Reported

<u>Naval Shipping</u>	<u>Merchant Shipping</u>
1 light cruiser	1 large tanker
5 destroyers	12 medium cargo vessels
12 escort vessels	12 small cargo vessels
	9/10 cargo vessels

AIR - OWN

SOUTHERN DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Allied aircraft made low level bombing and strafing attacks over KEAUKHA, TIMOEKA and JAPERO on 30 Jul. Results were generally unobserved due to low cloud but TIMOEKA strip was reported to be well cratered, heavily grassed and apparently non-operational.

VOGELKOP PENINSULA

Our air force units were again very active over VOGELKOP PENINSULA this week. Various opportunity targets were attacked and our fighters also covered the Allied landing at CAPE SANSAPOR on 30 Jul.

Japanese occupied villages and enemy barges along the northern coast from MANOKWARI to SCRONG were repeatedly strafed by our fighters and several barges were destroyed, whilst co-operative missions with Allied PT boats accounted for more barges in the vicinity of MANISMAN ISLAND.

Continuous attacks on airfields in this area have rendered EABO and SAMATE airstrips unserviceable and heavy damage was inflicted on the runway at RANSIKI. At least seven grounded aircraft were destroyed and numerous fires started in these attacks.

On 29/30 Jul Allied medium bombers and fighters carried out a series of daylight attacks on enemy installations in MACCLUER GULF. Severe damage was caused to buildings and an oil derrick was destroyed at CAPE KARAKRA (NORTH shore MACCLUER GULF).

KAI ISLANDS - TIMOR

The main SW-NE road from KOEPANG to ATAMBOEA has been continuously strafed by Allied long range fighters. During the period 27/29 Jul damage was caused to troop concentrations, camouflaged camps and MT along this road and a medium tank, carrying personnel, was over-turned and set on fire SOUTH of MT NEKU.

Other Allied air activity throughout this area included attacks on airfields at LANGGOER, PENFOEI and KOEPANG, whilst four laden barges were damaged three miles WEST of WALIR ISLAND.

CERAM - AMBOINA

BOELA and LAHA were visited by our heavy bombers this week. Direct hits in the oil storage area and on the radio station at BOELA were reported and two enemy grounded aircraft were destroyed on LAHA airfield.

A small enemy convoy, comprising three medium tanker vessels, was attacked in INGELAS BAY on 30 Jul and one vessel was damaged.

HALMAHERAS

The first major air attack on the HALMAHERAS took place during the week. On 27 Jul a strong force of Liberators and Mitchells with fighter cover bombed LOLOBATA, MITI and GALELA airfields. A total of 30 grounded and 15 airborne aircraft were destroyed. Runways and dispersal areas were damaged, two fuel dumps were ignited and large quantities of supplies were destroyed while fires were caused in each area.

On 29 Jul a further attack by Mitchells along the eastern coast of MOROTAI ISLAND started many fires in native villages.

PALAU

During an attack on PALAU on 25 Jul, Allied carrier based aircraft destroyed 75 enemy planes, one destroyer, one small tanker, seven small cargo vessels and many smaller craft.

AIR - ENEMY

Only two enemy-planes were reported over SOUTHERN DUTCH NEW GUINEA this week; a decided decrease over recent enemy air activity in this theatre.

Two aircraft attacked each of BIAK and NOEMFOOR ISLANDS on 25 and 30 Jul respectively. A small number of bombs were dropped during each raid but no damage was reported. The raid on BIAK was the first in that area since 9 Jul and the first in SWPA since 14 Jul, when two or three bombs were dropped near the KAMIRI RIVER. On night 30/31 Jul two further enemy aircraft dropped some bombs on OWI ISLAND causing some damage and casualties.

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SWPA and CENTRAL PACIFIC

LAND

SOLOMON ISLANDS

One report only relative to this area, has been received during the week. It deals with a patrol to the UPPER LARUMA VALLEY on 28 Jul when 12 Japanese were engaged, one being killed.

FENI ISLANDS

On 27 Jul an Allied reconnaissance party to FENI ISLANDS found no indication of enemy occupation. Natives reported that the Japanese left four months ago.

NEW GUINEA - AITAPE

The possibility of a further large scale attack to break through the Allied perimeter remains, but the plight of the Japanese does not improve. The enemy made one counter attack on the right flank of our DRINIUMOR RIVER position on 24 Jul. This was repulsed.

On 26 Jul it was estimated that one company of the enemy was dug in 80 yards SE of the mouth of the DRINIUMOR RIVER.

A new track, showing indications of extensive use during the previous 24 hours, was located leading into this position from the SOUTH.

On 27 Jul Allied troops supported by artillery attacked SOUTH and EAST from a point 1000 yards SW of AFUA and re-established their position along the AFUA - PALAURU trail against slight opposition. 50 Japanese were killed.

Patrols on 29 Jul encountered enemy of an estimated strength of two companies, 300/400 yards SW of AFUA. At 1500K this force attacked the Allied covering force in the vicinity of AFUA forcing the withdrawal of our troops to a position 700 yards to the NORTH. Approximately two companies of Japs surrounded an Allied patrol two and one half miles SW of YAKAMUL, but the patrol fought its way out killing seven Japs. It is estimated 160 Japanese were killed during an action at AFUA on 29/30 Jul.

On 31 Jul Allied forces along the DRINIUMOR RIVER from the coast to a point two and one half miles SOUTH of CHAKILA commenced an eastward drive. By 1330K our troops on the left and in the centre had reached NIUMEN CREEK where they met resistance. The right flank encountered the enemy 1100 yards WEST of NIUMEN CREEK and at 1500K they were meeting strong opposition.

Patrols to HARECH RIVER reported enemy parties 500/600 strong, moving WEST from a point 3000 yards SW of YAKAMUL to NIUMEN CREEK thence SW. An enemy attack of unreported strength was repulsed one mile SE KWAMAGNIRK.

On 1 Aug artillery and small arms fire killed 151 Japanese 1800 yards SE KWAMAGNIRK.

Enemy casualties to 1 Aug were 3931 killed and 48 captured.

CENTRAL PACIFIC

GUAM: Allied forces landed on the western coast of GUAM on 21 Jul. By 26 Jul, the northern and southern assault forces had joined thus dominating the area between ADELUP POINT (NE of ASAN) to a point four miles SOUTH of OROTE PENINSULA. To 26 Jul 2800 enemy dead had been counted.

Map showing Allied operations on GUAM is attached as Appendix 'A' to this summary.

TINIAN: Following the Allied landing on 24 Jul, our forces made rapid advances, and now occupy the entire northern third of the island. Enemy killed to 26 Jul totalled 1958.

By 1 Aug all organised resistance had ceased.

SEA

CENTRAL PACIFIC

CAROLINE ISLANDS: In the NOMOI ISLANDS one gunboat and one 1200 ton vessel were sunk, and three vessels were damaged by our aircraft. Four 1500 ton cargo vessels were sighted in SATAWAN LAGOON.

TRUK: Several sightings have been reported which include one cruiser, one gunboat, four merchant vessels and one unidentified vessel. Our aircraft damaged two merchant vessels.

AIR - OMM

SOLOMONS - NEW BRITAIN

Allied air activity over BOUGAINVILLE this week consisted of small harassing attacks on enemy installations and troop concentrations along the EAST coast.

Large forces of Allied aircraft again visited RAPAUL area both by day and night. Over 100 planes daily pounded the area destroying buildings, trucks, fuel dumps and gun positions. Wharf installations at TOMOI were heavily damaged and several anti-aircraft positions were destroyed at PRAED POINT.

NEW GUINEA

Included in the targets for Allied aircraft in the area WEWAK - AITAPE this week were an enemy Headquarters at SUAIN, troop concentrations SOUTH of PARAKOVIO and ammunition dumps, stores and supply areas at WEWAK. All of these targets suffered heavy damage.

The coastal road from BAKIANG to SUAIN and barges and shore installations from SUAIN to WEWAK were strafed daily by our fighters. All areas were reported to have been well covered.

CENTRAL PACIFIC

TRUK - WOLEAI: Allied heavy bombers over TRUK ISLAND on 25/26 Jul attacked DUBLON Naval Base and barracks and damaged two freighters of a four ship convoy 160 miles SSE of TRUK. Six to eight enemy fighters, two of which were destroyed, intercepted during these attacks,

WOLEAI ISLAND has been attacked daily since 25 Jul. The main targets have been the airfield and supply areas, in which large fires and explosions were reported on each mission.

AIR - ENEMY

Enemy air activity in SWPA for the period was totally ineffectual. Interception has shown a further marked decline. Liberators over TRUK on 26 Jul encountered only six to eight enemy fighters whilst our aircraft over WOLEAI daily this week have not reported the presence of a single airborne enemy fighter.

PART II

SECTION 2 - PERSONALITIES

The internal unrest in JAPAN culminated in the resignation of General Tojo and his cabinet on 18 Jul 44 and the appointment of General Kuniaki KOISO as premier and Admiral Mitsumasa YONAI as Navy Minister in charge of a new cabinet. Interesting facts and sidelights concerning the personalities in JAPAN's political crisis are contained in Appendix 'B' hereto.

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

JAPANESE 57mm (2.24 in) MODEL 97 (1937) TANK GUN

Details and photographs of the Japanese 57mm (2.24 in) Model 97 (1937) Tank Gun are attached as Appendix 'C(i)' and 'C(ii)'.

SECTION 5 - TACTICS

JAPANESE RAIDING PARTIES IN THE SARMI AREA

Japanese "Diversion Unit" Instructions extracted from captured enemy documents belonging to 224 Infantry Regiment were published in NEW GUINEA Force Weekly Intelligence Summary No 178. First hand accounts are now available describing the activities of these raiding parties and similar units in the WAKDE - SARMI area. The reports below confirm that the Japanese have, in part at least, applied the tactics as described in the "Diversion Unit" Instructions.

It should not be thought that there is anything novel or unprecedented in these tactics. Basically, the Japanese have used the same methods ever since the start of the PACIFIC War. Moreover, these raiding parties are not specially trained commando-type troops, but ordinary infantry troops organised to do the particular job required.

The Japanese reconnaissance for these raids was particularly thorough; they knew either by daylight observation or drawing fire the location of our perimeter and of all the principal weapons and installations against which their attacks were to be directed. There was no set time or pattern of attack.

Following are the reports of the units concerned :-

ATTACK AGAINST AN INFANTRY BATTALION PERIMETER

At 2030 hours, during a pitch black night, an estimated 100 Japanese, divided into small groups, armed with rifles, light machine guns, 50mm mortars, grenades, knives and grapple hooks, attacked the battalion perimeter.

The Japanese preceded the attack with a 50mm mortar barrage. As they approached the perimeter during the barrage, they discharged our booby traps by means of an anchor-like hook on a rope, without apparent damage or delay to themselves. They attacked on signal from a ground flare in two groups from the SOUTH, about 150 yards apart. One group made a feint, shouting wildly, throwing grenades, and firing a light machine

gun. The other group, consisting of an estimated 35-40, made the main effort, rushing in and breaking through the perimeter. About 25 actually succeeded in penetrating the perimeter and of these, 10 almost managed to reach the CP, before they were killed. Upon a whistle signal the few survivors withdrew.

ATTACK AGAINST AN ENGINEER BATTALION PERIMETER

At 2300 hours, an estimated 35-50 Japanese, divided into groups of five to six, armed with rifles, grenades, bayonets, light machine guns, mortars and grapples attacked the perimeter of an Engineer Battalion.

Just after dark and throughout the early part of the night, the enemy, by using grapple hooks, discharged several of our booby traps, but no further movement of the enemy could be heard. At 2300 hours, Japanese voices were heard outside the perimeter, an enemy rifle fire opened along a 100-150 yard front on the WEST side of the perimeter. Enemy light machine guns opened fire from three positions; one at the NORTH end of the line, one in the centre and one at the SOUTH end of the perimeter. Mortar shells fired from the NW began falling within the perimeter. The Japanese made no attempt to assault. After approximately 15-20 minutes the enemy withdrew. At daylight the following morning, it was found that the Japanese after discharging the booby traps by the use of the grapples, had sneaked up to the barbed wire and cut it in two places. Signs and tracks showed less than 10 Japanese had penetrated through the gap in the wire.

ATTACK AGAINST AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN POSITION

At 1830 hours a co-ordinated attack was launched against four anti-aircraft gun positions. Reports of the previous day showed that the enemy had been active in the jungle just SOUTH of the gun positions.

At 1825 hours a guard at one of the gun positions challenged two men in the wooded area across the road and also noticed about 15 Japanese moving WEST thereon. Receiving no response to the challenge, he opened fire and took cover. Immediately after he fired, enemy rifle, mortar, machine gun and hand grenades started falling on the gun positions. Each gun position was attacked approximately by 15-25 men who rushed over the road from the SOUTH. At the same time three enemy attacked gun B-8 from the beach. All Japanese were heavily camouflaged with foliage and nets reaching to their hips, making them hard to distinguish against the jungle background. Some were armed with bayonets. In the vicinity of gun position B-6, a Japanese officer with sabre was observed giving orders. At 2400 hours, four Japanese made an attack along the beach from the WEST against gun A-6 and were engaged with the M-51 gun. At gun position B-6 the M-3 gun jammed and the M-51 gun had become overheated causing the section to retire to gun position A-7. At 0130 hours enemy set fire to a tent at one of the abandoned gun positions. The enemy assembled and withdrew at 0430 hours. Equipment consisted of machine guns, rifles, hand grenades, both American and Japanese types, high explosives, and glass containers filled with inflammable liquid.

Inspection the next day revealed the enemy had tapped one of our telephone lines. Demolitions had been used to destroy one 40mm gun. All enemy dead in the vicinity had rolls of

white gauze in their mouths and the Jap. Officer had completely covered the lower part of his face. This possibly was done to prevent any calls or screams when wounded.

ATTACK AGAINST A FIELD ARTILLERY BATTERY PERIMETER

At 2005 hours on a very clear night, a Japanese officer and four men attacked our artillery positions in an attempt to demolish the field pieces.

During the day two Japanese had been seen in front of the positions but escaped when fired upon, also a patrol reported a blazed trail leading SOUTH from the WEST end of our positions.

At 2000 hours a single Japanese crawled into a parapet next to the road. At 2005 hours he ran down the road to the WEST of our gun positions. Four grenades were thrown into the gun pits on either side of the road and one land mine was tossed into the number three gun pit, it did not explode. At 0530 hours, three more Japanese attacked in the same direction. All were armed with land mines and had dynamite tucked under their arms. One Japanese again ran down the road adjacent to the gun positions and tried to hurl himself in the gun pit. Rifle fire hit him and at the same time his demolitions exploded, throwing him into the centre of the road. The other two Japanese crawled across the road and hurled one grenade and a charge of TNT at the position. The explosive charge was not detonated and both Japanese were killed..

No warning preceded the attacks by this group. The officer was equipped with a sabre, wrist compass, watch and a map case with a map showing the location of all our artillery weapons and all our troops in the area. Four charges of dynamite and land mines, all wired and wrapped were found in the area, presumably one for each of the artillery pieces.

(Adapted from ALAMO Force G-2 Weekly
Report No 47)

JAPANESE ANTI-STRAFING TACTICS

In First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 116, information was published on Japanese Anti-Strafing Tactics in BURMA and it was stated that no report had been received to date of the employment of these tactics in the SOUTHWEST or SOUTH PACIFIC Areas.

In this regard a document recently made available discloses that similar tactics have been used successfully in the SWPA on at least one occasion. A report to 3 AIR ARMY on 5 Feb 44 on the general situation at RABAU, HOLLANDIA and WEWAK states with regard to Allied air raids "In one case we destroyed an enemy (Allied) airplane by placing a powder-charge on a coconut tree." It is therefore feasible to expect the type of tactics described in Summary 116 also to be encountered in the SWPA.

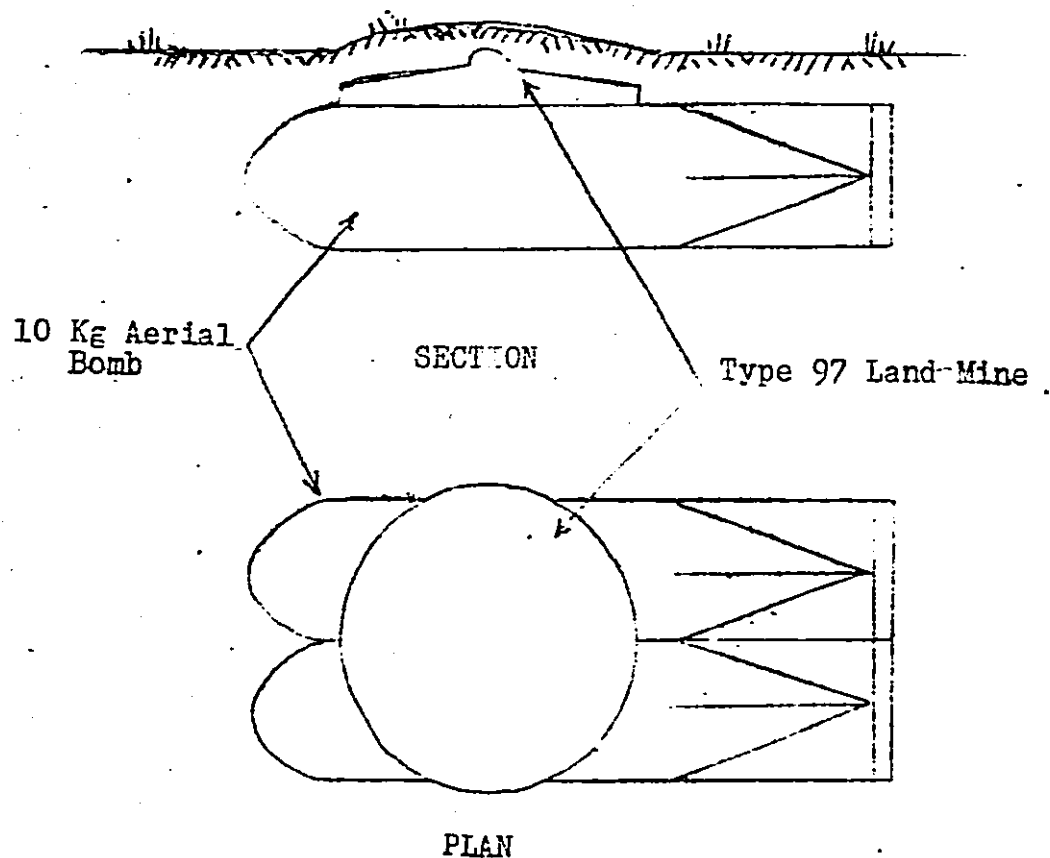
JAPANESE METHOD OF LAYING MINES

Japanese mines in the MADANG - ALEXISHAFEN area were found to be laid as follows :-

Normal Type 97 mine was used with two types of fuses, the variation being a heavy and light shear wire. The mine was laid in direct contact with aerial bombs. The mine was buried so that the pressure plate was one or two inches below ground level. No definite plan was used, the mines just lying indiscriminately over road and tracks and, in most cases, were very badly concealed. Bomb and fuse boxes were strewn along the roadside in the mined area.

With the light shear wire type fuse, a man walking on the mine would be sufficient to detonate it.

It was found that some of the mines on the road had had the shear wire severed but the mine had failed to explode.



(NGF Summary 183)

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

JAPANESE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

Since the actions of the CORAL SEA, MIDWAY ISLAND and SOLOMON ISLANDS in May, Jun and Aug 42, when JAPAN lost six of her aircraft carriers, carrier strength has been one of the weakest points in her Navy. Prior to the Naval-Air engagement WEST of the MARIANAS in Jun 44 her navy comprised only 14 known

carriers. Of these, only two were large operational carriers of recent design, originally laid down as carriers. These are SHOKAKU and ZUIKAKU. Both were launched during 1939 and are therefore modern ships. They have a displacement of 29,800 tons, maximum speed 33 knots and a plane carrying capacity of about 72 aircraft.

Next most formidable are HIYO and JUNYO (HYATAKA Class). These ships were converted from liners to carriers before launching, and are slightly slower than the SHOKAKU Class. They have a displacement of 28,000 tons, maximum speed 28 knots and a normal complement of 54 aircraft with a maximum capacity of 63.

Of the remaining carriers, all of which are smaller and slower, the RYUHO, ZUIHO and TAIHO may be used for combatant work and the HOSHO, TAIYO, UNYO, KAIYO, JINYO, CHIYODA and CHITOSE are probably used for ferrying and escort duties only.

In operations WEST of the MARIANAS on 19 and 20 Jun 44 the JUNYO was definitely sunk, a light aircraft carrier was probably sunk and two carriers (probably the ZUIKAKU and another of HYATAKA Class) were severely damaged, whilst a fifth carrier was also damaged. It will thus be seen that of JAPAN's four known really combatant carriers, one was sunk and probably only one of the remaining three is undamaged.

Information on the manner in which the Japanese are endeavouring to remedy this shortage has recently been given by a Prisoner of War captured at SAIPAN, who was apparently in a position to know. He states that the AMAGAI, KASURAGI and SAGAMI which were being laid down as battleships are now in process of conversion to aircraft carriers. The SAGAMI is said to have been planned as a sister ship to the YAMATO. The ISE Class battleships, ISE and HYUGO are now said to be equipped with flight decks aft of the centre turrets from which airplanes can take off but cannot land.

It is of interest to note that the YAMATO is the newest class of enemy battleship estimated to be 320 feet long, with a displacement of 40,000/57,000 tons and a maximum speed of 28 knots. If the SAGAMI retains these characteristics as a carrier, she should be a formidable addition to the Japanese navy.

Until such time as replacements in carrier strength are made it appears certain that the Japanese striking Fleet will be out of commission. His probable future strategy seems well defined in the following announcement from a Japanese Wireless Station on 25 Jul 44 :-

"Our combined fleet is not venturing forth to intercept the enemy Task Forces because our fleet aims at carrying on the battle on a rational basis.

..... The main theatre of a naval battle should be selected in waters where collaboration with a land-based force is available."

JAPANESE INDOCTRINATION

The extent to which Japanese combat troops may be influenced by the doctrine of "death before surrender" is clearly illustrated by the last entries in the diary of Lance Corporal HISUMI who was apparently one of the 100 suicides found by Allied troops in a cave on BIAK ISLAND :-

"25 Jun 44 - Under the existing situation, we are helpless. "Let us be the guardian spirits of the Empire", said one Sgt from 35th Div before he killed himself. There were about 30 of us wounded soldiers left in the cave. Those who could move assisted others. They all shouted "Long live our Emperor," before leaving this world. My friend NAGASAKA stabbed his throat with a knife, but he did not succeed in killing himself. I finally decided to assist him so that he could rest in peace. I stabbed my own brother in arms. Who could understand my horrible predicament?

I still have two hand grenades; one to destroy myself, and one for the enemy. I don't know whether or not my rations will last till we are rescued. I am determined to kill myself before I lose the power to pull the grenade pin. I want to restore my health so that I can die on the battlefield and follow NAGASAKA.

25 Jun 44 - Long live the Emperor!

Father and Mother, please forgive me for dying before you do. I hope that you will be able to live the rest of your lives in peace. I wish you good health. I have done my duty to my country. My dearest parents, I am committing suicide with a hand grenade, my ashes will not reach you."

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

Some indication of the importance which the Japanese place upon PALAU is given by the fact that the garrison at that base has been increased by an estimated 10,000/15,000 in the past month. Escorted convoys sighted at PALAU on 25 and 27 Jul may have brought in further reinforcements, or alternatively, supplies, but in either case, their presence is indicative of the enemy's intention to hold these islands as long as possible.

Attached Appendices 'D(i) and 'D(ii)' give topographical information concerning PALAU GROUP.

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE

The advance of American troops to the junction of the CHEREBOURG and BRITTANY PENINSULAS was the most significant move on this front during the past week. This advance, aided by the British-Canadian thrust SOUTH from CAUMONT has turned the left flank of the German line which had endeavoured to contain the Allied forces in the CHEREBOURG PENINSULA. It is now probable that, with a lengthened front to defend, Rommel will be unable to muster immediately, sufficient strength to seal off a break-through, and will be forced to withdraw to defensive positions further EAST.

In the US Sector, advanced elements have penetrated to within 25 miles of ST MALO and 30 miles of RENNES, in the BRITTANY PENINSULA, and to the EAST and SE of AVRANCHES, are fanning out over a wide area.

SOUTH of CAUMONT, British-Canadian troops have advanced up to 20 miles and have by-passed the road centre of VIRE. Stubborn resistance is still being encountered at TESSY and FERCY, while the position at TORIGNY is obscure.

The number of PW taken during the last week is approaching 20,000, most being captured on the US Sector, where approximately 500 German tanks and vehicles have also been captured or destroyed.

ITALY

Operations on a decreased scale have been reported from the Italian front for the period under review, the main centre of activity being the area SOUTH of FLORENCE. On the ADRIATIC Coast some progress has been made but the Fifth Army line along the RIVER ARNO has remained static.

The rugged terrain SOUTH of FLORENCE has proved ideal for German delaying tactics, but despite strong opposition, Eighth Army troops have advanced to within three miles of the city and are at present engaged in overcoming German positions in the last line of hills before the downward slope to the ARNO is reached. To the EAST of FLORENCE, further Eighth Army troops are still encountering stiff resistance in the UPPER TIBER VALLEY. NW of ANCONA the outskirts of SENIGALLIA have been reached.

BURMA

During the past week operations have nowhere been on a large scale, mainly being confined to the TIDDIM, PALEL-TAMU and MYITKYINA areas.

In these first two, British troops are slowly eliminating the Japanese rearguards delaying their southern advance, last reports placing British and Indian forces 40 miles SOUTH of IMPHAL on the IMPHAL - TIDDIM ROAD, and within eight miles of TAMU on the PALEL-TAMU ROAD.

At MYITKYINA, the Japanese garrison is being subjected to constant pressure and their position has been rendered extremely precarious by the establishing of Allied road blocks SW of the town. A considerable number of Japanese attempting to escape from MYITKYINA down the IRRAWADDY RIVER have been intercepted and prisoners taken.

EASTERN FRONT

The isolation of the German BALTIC Army by the rapid Russian advance through LATVIA to the GULF OF RIGA, has been the culmination of a week's steady progress on all Sectors of the EASTERN FRONT. The announcement of the occupation of DVINSK, REZECKNE, SIAULIAI, BIALYSTOK, LWOV and STANISLAWOW early in the week has been followed by continued gains beyond those cities.

In LATVIA, Russian troops after occupying JELGAVA (MITAU) and TUKUMS, have reached the BALTIC SEA to the WEST of RIGA, thus isolating the bulk of 25 to 30 Divisions comprising some 250,000 men, whose only means of escape is now by sea.

The capture of KOVNO (KAUNAS) has enabled an advance to be made to within 11 miles of the EAST Prussian border along the route which passes through INSTERBURG to KONIGSBERG.

At WARSAW, fighting is proceeding in the suburbs of the Polish capital, and German demolitions within the city indicate that they are preparing to evacuate. To the SE of WARSAW, the VISTULA RIVER has been reached along 50 miles of its length and bridgeheads have been established across the river.

In the CARPATHIAN foothills, Russian columns thrusting beyond LWOV have occupied PRZEMSL and JAROSLAV and are now in a position to drive on CRACOW.

PART V

SECURITY

JAPANESE INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATIONS - INTERCEPT AND COAST-WATCHING 'KIKANS'

Reliable sources of information have recently revealed the existence of two further Japanese Intelligence 'Kikans', respectively designated 'KA' Kikan and 'TA' Kikan.

These two organisations had been operating in forward areas in NEW BRITAIN. One station was disorganised by recent patrol activity. It is believed that other similar units existed previously towards the western end of the island, but that these latter have been abandoned.

Their functions included coast-watching and reporting of observations made concerning Allied shipping, and aircraft. They also recorded and reported data gained through intercepting Allied radio messages. The two Kikans maintained radio communication with one another, with Divisional Headquarters and with Area Army Headquarters.

The 'KA' unit commenced operations with four months' supplies which they carried to their camp, taking great care that no natives should know of its whereabouts. They did not move from this camp, once it had been established, lest its security be compromised.

Further, a report recently received from a FS Detachment at a forward post on the SOUTH coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA notified the discovery of a deserted Japanese post in that area. It has been established that this Japanese post, when in use, had been equipped with W/T apparatus.

(AMF Intelligence Review No 104 of
28 Jul 44)

C. Maw
mai

for Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUST ARMY

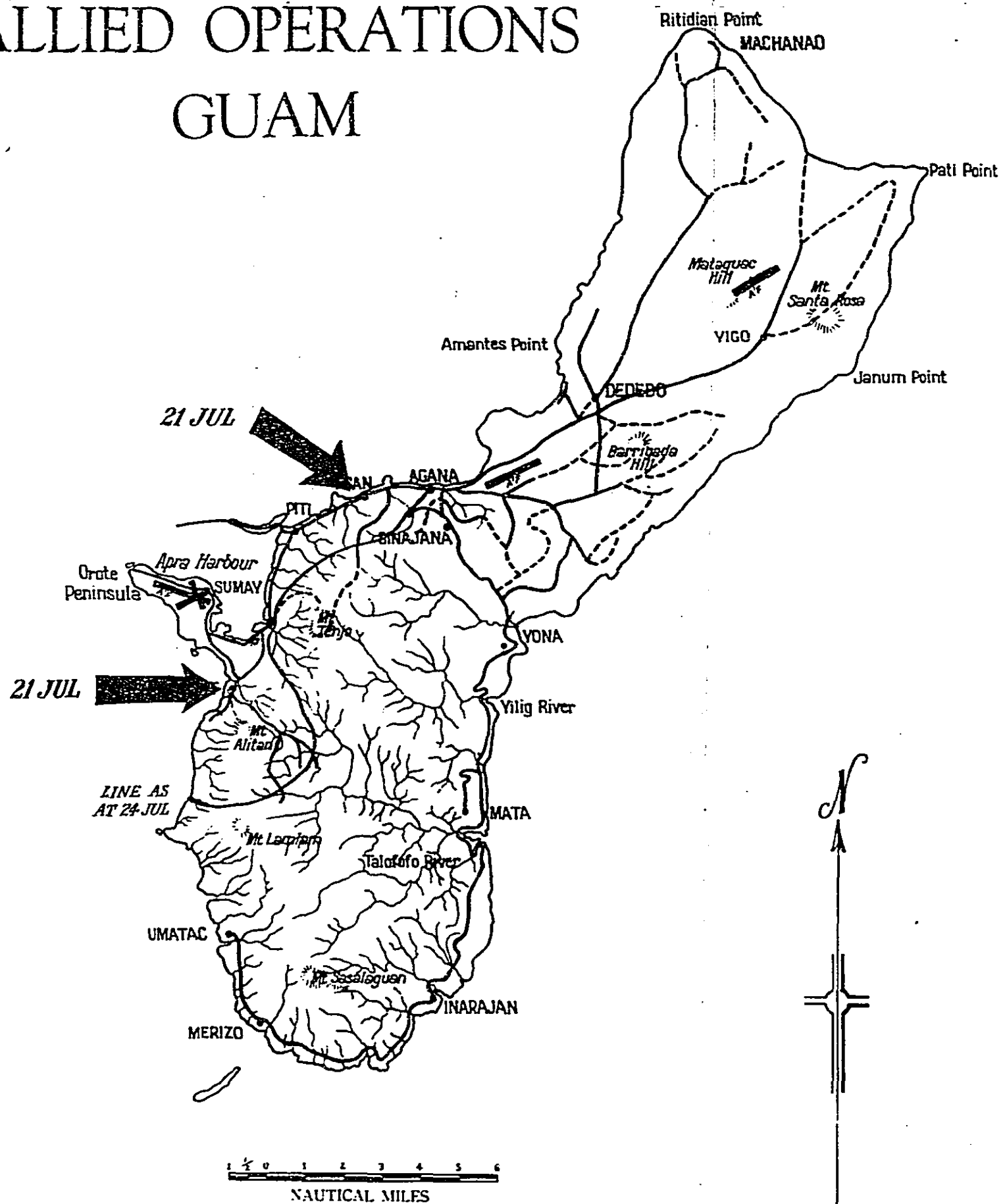
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	<u>Copy No</u>
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1 Aust Corps	2-110
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BRISBANE Fortress	123
TOWNSVILLE Fortress	124
CAIRNS Fortress	125
BRA First Aust Army	126-131
Aust Trg Centre (JW)	132-135
7 Aust Comd AL Sec	136
Corps HQ VDC (QLD)	137
Sigs First Aust Army	138
1 Aust Para Bn	139
First Aust Army Regt Trg School	140
First Aust Army School of Sigs	141
First Aust Army AASC School	142
GOC	143
BGS	144
G(O)	145
G(I)	146-151
G(SD)	152
DA & QMG	153
A (1 copy to circulate to: AMS, Legal, Chaplains, Med, Pro and Education)	154-155
Q (1 copy to circulate to: S & T, Ord, AE & ME, and Postal)	156-158
CE	159-161
CSO	162
Svy	163
LHQ (Aust)	164
Adv LHQ	165-169
NT Force	170
Q'LAND L of C Area	171-174
7 Aust Div	175-210
LHQ School of MI	211-212
FELO	213
NOIC CAIRNS	214
3 Tac R Sqn (RAAF)	215
MLO Security Service (CANBERRA)	216
File	217
War Diary	218-219

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ALLIED OPERATIONS GUAM



GSI(a) Adv LHQ

Appendix 'B' to
HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 117
dated 3 Aug 44.

PERSONALITIES IN JAPAN'S CRISIS

As a result of the recent political crisis in JAPAN, half of the Prime Minister's seat will now be occupied by Admiral MATSUMASA Yonai, who sat in it wholly about four years ago. Purely on the basis of personalities, there is an added hint of history rewinding itself in his resumption of the post this week in succession to General TOJO. Yonai first became Prime Minister in Jan 1940, during the quiet of the European war. Six months later, after FRANCE fell, his War Minister resigned. The probable events attending that resignation are discussed later in this article; the point here is that when Yonai's War Minister resigned, the post remained vacant, apparently because the Admiral and the Army could not get together. The resultant and embarrassing gap in his cabinet forced Yonai himself to resign to make way for someone under whom the vacancy could be filled. It seems rather incidental now that Prince Konoye became the new Prime Minister, inasmuch as the new War Minister was General Hideki Tojo, Iron Man of the Army.

This was Tojo's first important governmental post. Most of his previous life had been spent directly in the Army after his graduation from the Military Academy in 1905. He early identified himself with JAPAN's unruly younger officers, and Mr. Willard Price (an author who spent many years in JAPAN) has reported that Tojo was in the group which engineered the incident that ended finally with the capture of MANCHURIA. Tojo studied German military strategy as military attache in that country after the first world war. His practical battle experience came from several years with the KWANTUNG Army, and he finished there as Chief of Staff in 1938. At one time during this tour Tojo served as Commander of Gendarmerie Headquarters, which was a Manchurian Gestapo. His efficiency at this job earned him the title of "Bogey Man". A good list of respectable commands added to his background, including Director-Generalship of Military Aviation.

His most familiar nickname was the "Razor", applied to his swift and cutting tongue. It also has seemed to slip from control on occasions. During some of Tojo's most important speeches in this war, Allied monitors have reported that whole sentences become unintelligible because of the high and frenzied pitch into which he, purposely or otherwise, shrills his voice. The analogy with Hitler is obvious. Tojo's undistinguished appearance is something which he is reported to prefer unmentioned. He lives simply, almost ascetically; and has seven children.

One of the characters of the word Hideki means "brilliant opportunity" and it is as an ardent opportunist that he has been known. His career has made it obvious that he regarded JAPAN's destiny as unlimited. When only a few weeks old, the Konoye cabinet, with Tojo as War Minister, joined the Axis. Preparations for, and provocations to, war were continued apace. The consensus is that Konoye opposed war with the Allies, but that he was made relatively impotent until finally in late 1941, when the brilliant opportunists were ready for war, he was kicked out.

Tojo stepped into the Prime Ministership. He did not relinquish the War Ministry, but instead lavished additional powers upon himself by taking on other Ministries. In Feb 1944, he even dipped directly into operations, ousting Marshal Sugayama in favour of himself as Chief of General Staff. This last-acquired power was the first he lost. Though he maintained himself to the end as a symbol of Japanese invincibility (he

was promising a great new offensive in May 44), Allied pressure from without brought too much pressure on him from within. On 18 Jul, Radio TOKIO announced that Tojo was no longer Chief of General Staff. The heat was on, and it was melting the Man of Iron.

On the following day, Radio TOKIO flashed its listeners to stand by for an important announcement. After a pause, the standers-by were told that the flash would be postponed until the following day. On 20 Jul the announcement came. Tojo was out, lock, stock and cabinet. It was the biggest political news from inside JAPAN since the beginning of the war. The event, it was said, had occurred two days earlier - on the 18th. The proud cabinet's announcements of its own resignation was humble, self-condemning, patriotic.

Middle Man

The Emperor immediately called in the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal for counsel. Although this is normal procedure, the Lord Keeper's background is sufficiently prominent to warrant a record of him here. He is 55-year old Marquis Koichi Kido, born to the purple. His first achievement, aside from finishing law at Kyoto Imperial University, appears to have been the inheritance of his peerage in 1920. He served in the Upper House, and has held other odd and important jobs; but the facts of possible significance about him are that he is a personal friend of Prince Konoye, that he served in the cabinet of the latter and also of Baron Hiranuma, and that he was said to be a favourite of Prince Saionji. All three of these associates have been identified with elements which originally opposed an extreme expansionist policy; and Prince Saionji, last of the Elder Statesmen, is described by Hugh Byas (former TOKIO correspondent of the NEW YORK and LONDON "Times") as a believer in real constitutionally representative government.

The Stars

The next news after the conference between Kido and the Emperor, according to Radio TOKIO, was that the Emperor had summoned Admiral Yonai and General Junichi Koino jointly to form a new cabinet.

Yonai is from north-east JAPAN, a section of the country that rears its men large and husky. Born in 1880, to the traditions of the Samurai, and reared in poverty, he was a strong, tall and quietly deliberate youth who entered the Naval Academy at 18. In the conventional four years he became an ensign, but had given little sign of being an outstanding one. He finished 60th in his class of 125. In nine years he was a lieutenant-commander; it took him four more for his next promotion. But his career then began to take on the well-rounded aspect of a future Naval leader. He was graduated from the Naval Staff College, studied at the Japanese Embassy in RUSSIA, went to EUROPE and WASHINGTON, and held successively higher commands at sea and at Naval bases. About the only noteworthy feature of his personal file is the extensive amount of sea duty served. From 1923 through 1925, he captained four old battleships, one at a time. He commanded the First Foreign Service Squadron, which operated along the YANGTZE RIVER. This was followed by various active Fleet commands. Whether it was cause or effect, Yonai has acquired the reputation of being an excellent tactician.

His political career started in 1937 when he became Navy Minister. He soon became known as a diplomatic but nonetheless strong-willed man, reticent but articulate, plodding but forceful. He speaks good English and Russian and some Chinese.

As for Yonai's political and broad strategic views, not too much is known. His associations suggest an ambition for JAPAN more in line with his plodding but forceful nature than with Tojo's limitless dreams.

Mr. Byas states that Yonai was given the Prime Ministership in Jan 1940, as something of a dark horse. Yonai had served well as Navy Minister in two cabinets, was popular, and was not associated with any failures. The civilian statesmen at that time, Mr. Byas states, enjoying their last chance to put in a safe Prime Minister who would be content to pursue only the war in CHINA, turned to Yonai. The Admiral ran the government more or less on their basis, and apparently fared satisfactorily until FRANCE collapsed. This event stirred the appetite of the Japanese Army, which believed it signalled an invitation to step into the possessions of the western powers everywhere in EAST ASIA. Yonai stuck to his policy of war in CHINA only.

The Army precipitated the crisis by having the War Minister, Hata, present to the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet a detailed statement of the Army's wishes. On the following day, Mr. Byas continues, Hata "presented the Prime Minister with his written 'advice' in favour of a 'new structure' at home and a new foreign policy - in plain language, military socialism and an alliance with GERMANY.

"The Prime Minister replied that he did not share the War Minister's views, was prepared to accept his resignation, and desired the Army to name a new War Minister." (The War Ministry is traditionally headed by a General officer on active duty, nominated by the Army). "Hata resigned at once, and in the afternoon the triumvirate (Hata and two other high Army officers who were acting in concert during the crisis) met. In the evening General Hata told the Prime Minister that 'in view of the circumstances', the Army could not find a qualified officer willing to serve as War Minister. Admiral Yonai, his cabinet thus broken up, presented his resignation to the Emperor." As previously related, Konoye was then made Prime Minister and Tojo his War Minister, and a few weeks later the Axis lengthened to TOKIO. Admiral Yonai dropped out of the spotlight and, as far as is known, from top responsibility, until recalled this week.

The other new co-Prime Minister, General Koiso, is the same age - 64 - as Yonai. He was retired, as a full General, six years ago this month, but has served rather steadily since that time. Because of the limited information available on Koiso, too strong an interpretation should not be placed on the facts which are known. The most striking thing about his career, in relation to his new job, is that he appears never to have had any concern with or responsibility for operations outside of CHINA. A large number of his desk jobs were in rather specialised branches, such as the National Resources Bureau, Military Preparatory Bureau, Military College, and Military Affairs Bureau. He has also served, however, though not in recent years, as Chief-General of Military Aviation Headquarters, and on General Staff Headquarters. Most of his active experience and his tours in the past few years have been concentrated on the mainland. He acted as Chief of Staff of the KWANTUNG Army in 1933, Commanding General of the Fifth Division in 1934, and of the Chosen Army in 1938. Indeed he seems to have been preoccupied exclusively with KOREA since May 1942, at which time he took over the Governor-Generalship of the peninsula. In the following year the Korean Garrison was placed under his command. These jobs were undoubtedly anything but sinecures. The traditional lack of love between

Koreans and Japanese would not allow the milking of the land for Empire and the introduction of conscription to be placed in the category of routine duties. They are not, however, related to such tasks as repelling amphibious invasions, with which General Koiso, as Prime Minister, may now presumably be occupied at least indirectly. On the other hand, Koiso is known as a vigorous man, both physically and intellectually, and may be well equipped in background, if not in experience, for some of the problems at present in his "In Basket".

His political bents are apparently along the same lines as those of Admiral Yonai, for Koiso served in the latter's cabinet in 1940 as Minister for Overseas Affairs. He had previously served in the same capacity under Baron Hiranuma, who is reported to have had narrow nationalistic views. Several years earlier, in 1932, Koiso was Vice-Minister for War. That seems to have been the extent of his political career in the homeland until he took over this week with his old ex-boss, Yonai. Koiso nevertheless earned for himself, in those jobs, a reputation for broadminded and statesman-like qualities (that is, for a Japanese); and built up a large following of friends in and out of the Army.

Lesser Lights

The parade of stars in TOKIO this week has distracted attention from changes among some of the supporting characters, who, at any other time, would have received considerable notice. Tojo's job as Chief of General Staff has been assumed by General Yoshijiro Umezu. If his appointment may be taken as a guide, Umezu combines two qualities, which are only infrequent companions in one personality. He is a forceful, soldierly commander and a diplomat. As a subaltern in the Russo-Japanese war, he was cited for outstanding bravery, and has since climbed steadily up the military ladder, having commanded the KWANTUNG Army since Sep 1939. Concurrently with this important command, he has served as Japanese ambassador to MANCHUKUO and HSINKING. Though these ambassadorships would not consist of wholly fraternal duties, they would nonetheless be filled best by a man who could carry a big stick in gloved hands. Umezu's manner is said to be almost lazy, but his perception and judgment are quick.

He, too, in experience, is an all-CHINA man. Except for four years (1935-1939) on the staff in JAPAN, his past ten have been spent on the continent in duties which should have given him a rather complete grasp of both the military and political situation there. In 1934 he commanded the Army of Occupation in CHINA; the following year he led the 2nd Division; and, after his staff work in JAPAN, was placed in command of the KWANTUNG Army. That was the post he left to replace Tojo as Chief of the General Staff.

Admiral Shimada, who before 17 Jul was concurrently Navy Minister and Chief of Naval General Staff, earned a double distinction in the recent shake-up; He was the first man to be kicked out of the Tojo cabinet in the upheaval, since his resignation from the Navy Ministry was announced on 17 Jul. He is also perhaps the only member of the Tojo cabinet who today retains a responsible position, as he presumably keeps his job as Chief of Naval General Staff.

Shimada's resignation occasioned the appointment in his place of Admiral Naokuni Nomura. If the Japanese Cabinet is installed in a structure one-fifth as large or as complicated as the Pentagon Building, Nomura could not have found his office before he was relieved of it when the whole Tojo Ministry collapsed.

It appears that in the general reshuffling, General Jun Ushiroku may have lost one or more of his jobs. In Mar of this year he became head of the Army Air Forces and concurrently Inspector-General of Military Aviation.

Radio TOKIO, coincident with the first Tojo announcement on 18 Jul, announced that a Vice-Admiral (Chuichi Manamaguna, Supreme Commander, SAIPAN area), a Rear-Admiral (Takehasa Tsujamura, Commander Naval Forces, SAIPAN), and a Lieutenant-General (Yoshitsugu Saito, Commander Army Force, SAIPAN) were presumed killed as the entire garrison was lost. Their unspectacular files are not quite closed, for, if precedent serves, they are due now for posthumous promotion of one or perhaps two ranks.

(AF Intelligence Summary No 227)

Appendix 'C(1)' to
First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 117
dated 3 Aug 44.

JAPANESE 57mm (2.24 in) MODEL 97 (1937) TANK GUN

The weapon was recovered from a Japanese picket boat and has been identified as the Model 97 Tank Gun which is normally mounted in the Japanese M2597 Medium Tank.

Translation of the nameplate shows that it was manufactured at OSAKA ARSENAL in 1939 and the serial number of the gun examined was 409.

CHARACTERISTICS

Calibre	: 57mm (2.24 in)
Total weight in firing position	: 293 lbs
Overall length of barrel and breech ring	: 41 1/2 in
Length of rifled portion of barrel	: 32 1/2 in
Weight of barrel and breech ring	: 138 lbs
Type of recoil	: Hydro spring
Length of recoil	: 11.02 in
Rifling	: Uniform right hand
Breech	: Automatic horizontal sliding
Elevation	: 11 degrees (estimated)
Depression	: 9 degrees (estimated)
Traverse (independent of turret)	: 5 degrees right and left
Rate of fire	: 20 rpm (estimated)
Sights	: Telescopic
Ammunition	: Fixed HE and AP

DESCRIPTION

When tank mounted, the gun is carried in two sets of trunnions giving elevation and traverse independently of the turret. The inner vertical trunnions provide traverse and are carried in a heavy steel bracket mounted on the recoil mechanism.

The breech ring is box-shaped and the breech block is of the vertical sliding type automatically opening on recoil, being held in the open position by the extractors and automatically closing when a shell is loaded.

Three safety features are embodied :-

- (i) When the breech is not completely closed, the firing pin cannot be released because the rear of the breech block is held in the outward or safe position by a cam which is an integral part of the breech ring.
- (ii) The connecting link between the trigger mechanism and sear operating link will not engage.
- (iii) On misfire, the weapon can be recocked without opening the breech.

-2-

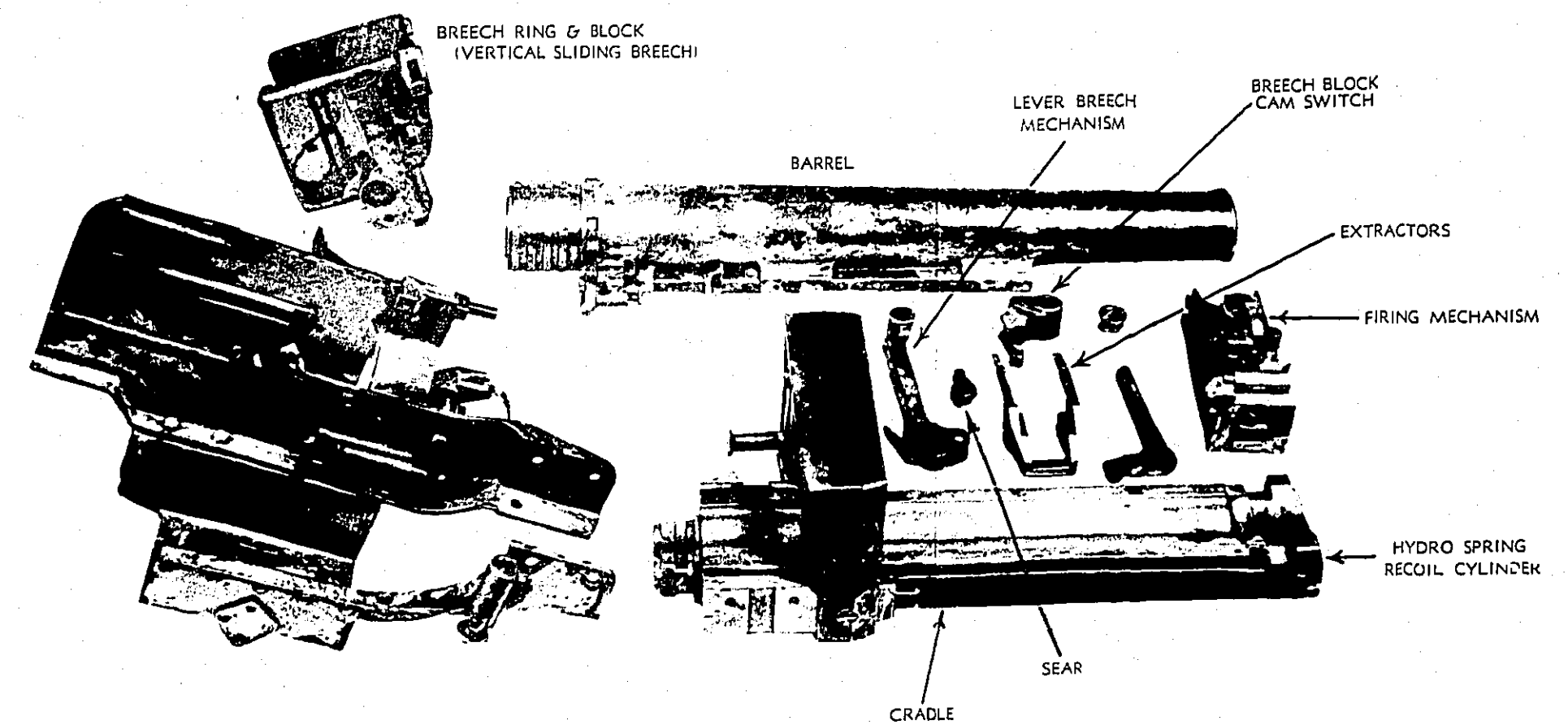
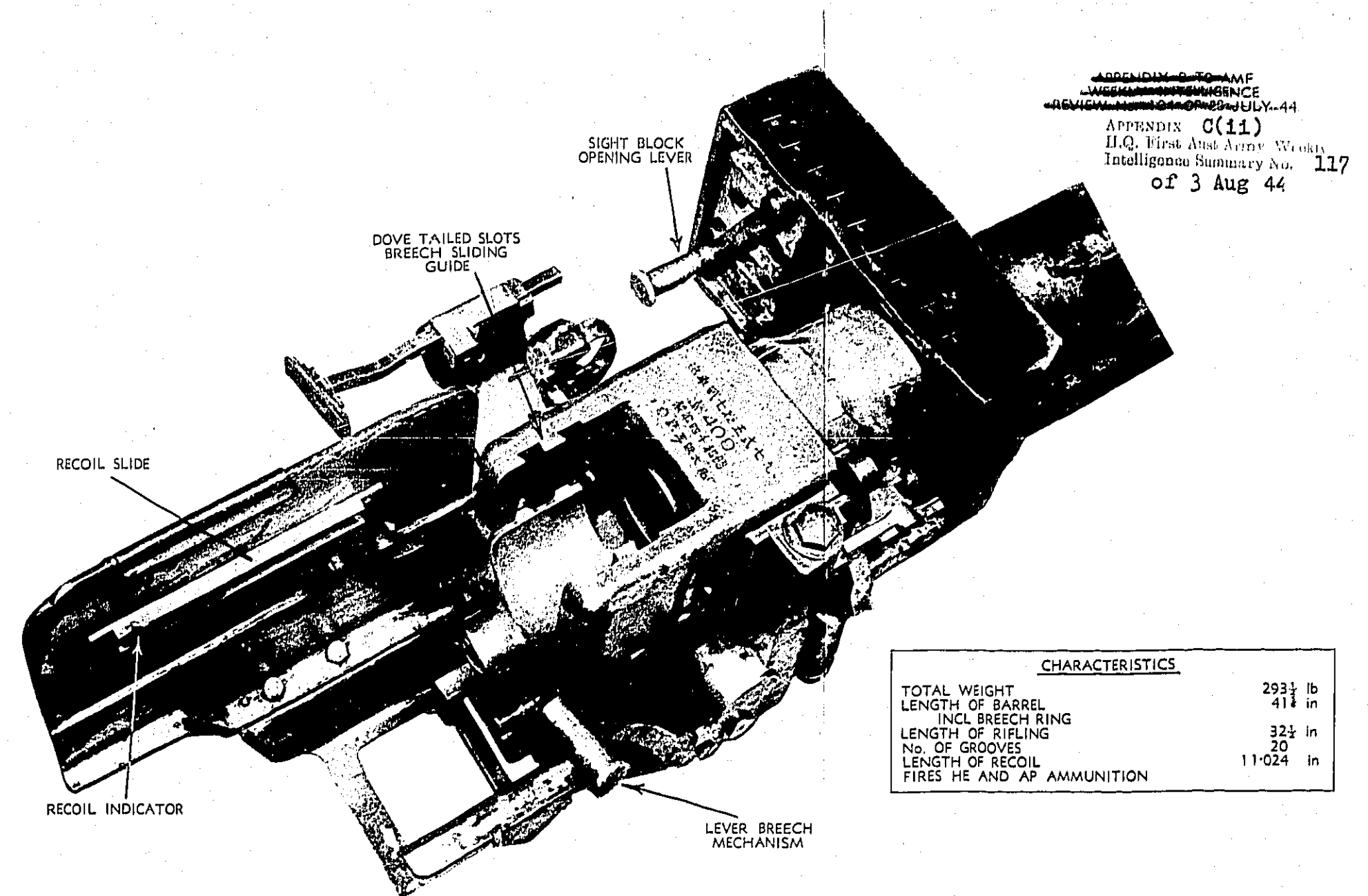
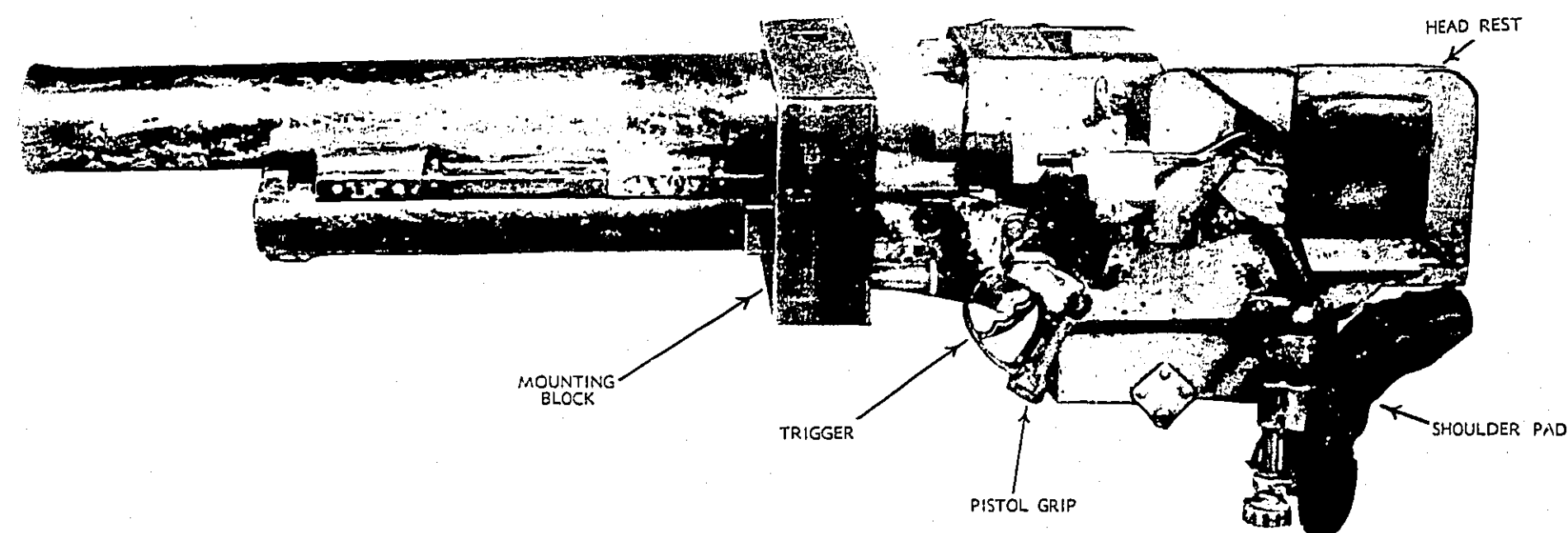
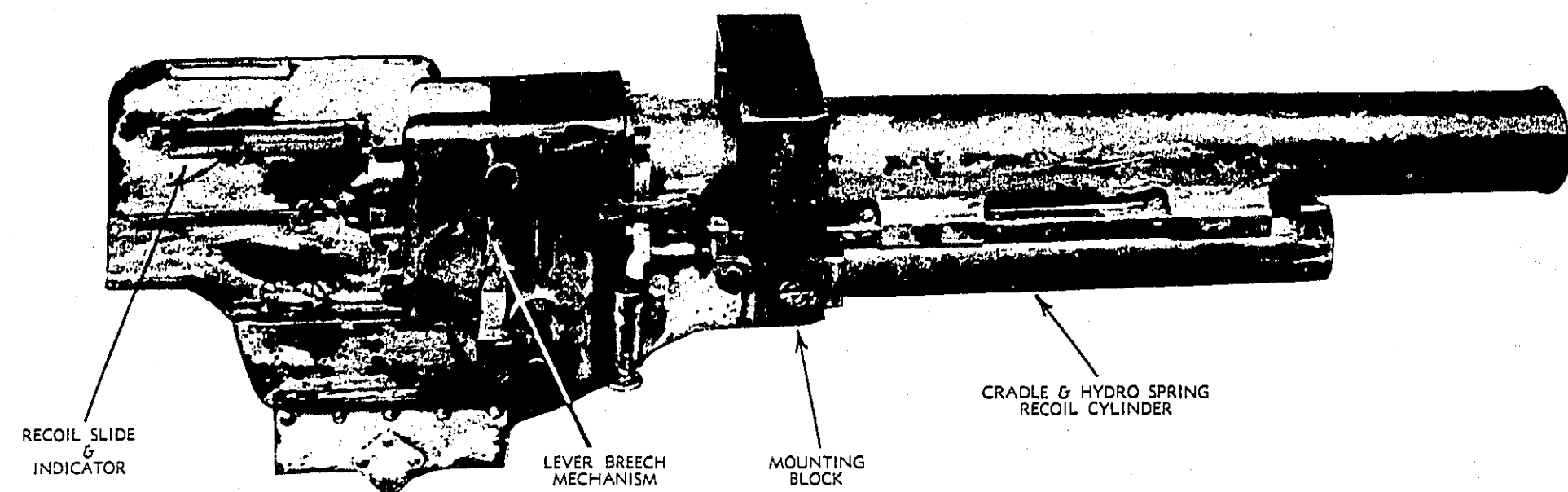
Firing is effected by a trigger on the left side of the gun and is protected by a trigger guard and pistol grip. The cocking lever is actuated by the breech and the weapon is automatically cocked when the breech is opened.

No sighting equipment was recovered with the weapon but appearance and location of head rest, shoulder rest and sight bracket indicate that a straight telescopic sight is used.

The ammunition used with this weapon is of the fixed type and both HE and AP have been recovered and reported on to date.

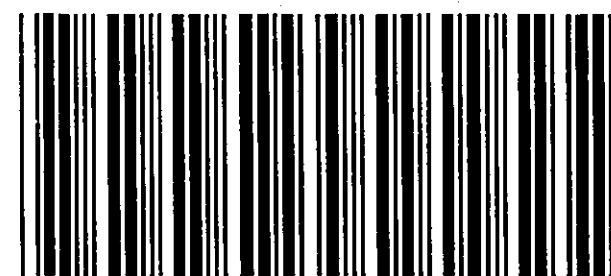
(AMF Weekly Intelligence Review 104)

JAPANESE 57 mm (2.24 in) TYPE 97 (1937) TANK GUN



GSI (s) ADV LHQ

000844G



Appendix 'D(i)'
to HQ First Aust Army Intelligence
Summary No 117
dated 3 Aug 44

TOPOGRAPHICAL

PALAU GROUP

The PALAU Group, at the WESTERN end of the CAROLINE chain, is about 500 miles EAST of the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS. KOROR I (Lat 7°20'28"N, Long 134°28'16"E) is in the centre of the group and was the seat of government for the Japanese SOUTH Seas Mandated Territory.

There are six large islands and numerous islets in the group proper which runs 80 miles NNE/SSW with a maximum width of about 20 miles. SOUTH of these, extending some 275 miles, are several islands which are included in the group collectively. They are namely SONSOROL, PULO ANNA, MERIR and TOBI Islands and HELEN REEF. With the exception of KOROR and PELELIU which are mostly flat, the islands consist of long narrow forested hills (up to 600 feet) with slopes to seaward. Anchorages abound and the entire group, with the exception of ANGAUR I, is situated on and surrounded by coral reefs.

1. MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE

PALAU ISLANDS are vital to the Japanese in the defence of the PHILIPPINES. KOROR is a potential naval base and airfields already in existence would bring the PHILIPPINES within Allied medium-bomber range. With PALAU in our hands, we would possess a chain of bases from which Allied air and naval Task Forces could dominate all waters EAST of the PHILIPPINES.

PALAU also provides the only remaining route to TRUK and the CAROLINES still available to the Japanese.

2. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The NORTHERN end of the group proper is formed by several offlying detached reefs and the EASTERN side has a fringing reef for most of its length. The WESTERN side is flanked by some 50 miles of broken barrier reef, which in some cases lies 10 miles off shore.

The most developed of the islands are BABELTHUAP, KOROR, MALAKAL, PELELIU and ANGAUR; the remainder are densely forested and of little value commercially in their present state.

BABELTHUAP ISLAND - The largest of the entire group has an area in excess of the sum total of the other islands. Little of it is developed although large quantities of bauxite and laterite are mined. There is an MT road from NGARDMAU to the SOUTHERN end of the island where it crosses over a causeway to KOROR ISLAND.

KOROR ISLAND - Is the main administrative base in the PALAU GROUP. It is flat and has good roads and wharves. The town of KOROR, where the main administrative buildings are situated, is modern and neat. Causeways join KOROR with MALAKAL, ARAKABESAK and BABELTHUAP Islands.

MALAKAL ISLAND - Although small, is crowded with houses and factories on the Northern and Eastern sides; the remainder being mountainous. There is a drydock under construction on the North Western tip.

PELELIU ISLAND - Is mostly flat and inclined to be swampy in parts. There is a good M¹ road from AKALOKUL SOUTH WEST to ASIAS. The island is productive in phosphates, the crushing and refinery plant being at AKALOKUL.

ANGAUR ISLAND - Lies at the Southern extremity of the group proper. It is densely wooded and steep all round and formed of coral. Trading was unlike other mandated islands, permitted with foreign countries before the war. Most of the phosphate produced in the CAROLINES comes from ANGAUR where there are refineries and other buildings. A light railway about 12 miles in length, transports the phosphates from mines to refinery.

HELEN REEF - Is some 275 miles SOUTH of the group proper - is the most Southerly of the lesser islets. It encloses a lagoon 10 miles by 4 miles which could possibly be made into an excellent harbour. HELEN ISLET which is low and thickly wooded lies at the Northern end of the reef.

3. AIRFIELDS AND SEAPLANE BASES

Three known airfields have been constructed and developed in the PALAU GROUP, these are situated on PELELIU, NGESEBUS and BABELTHUAP ISLANDS. Suitable sites have been reported in ARAKABESAN, EIL MALK, KOROR and URUKTHAPEL ISLANDS.

PELELIU airfield is the largest with two runways, one NW-SE and the other NE-SW. NGESEBUS and BABELTHUAP strips run ENE-WSW and EAST WEST respectively, the former having been extended from NGESEBUS Island to an adjoining unnamed islet by means of a "fill".

There are two seaplane bases at ARAKABESAN Island, - one operating in the SW and the other in the NE season. Aprons and ramps have been constructed at both. There are also facilities for storage and repair work. Little is known of other reported bases of which KAYANGEL LAGOON is the most Northern and HELEN REEF the most Southern.

4. ANCHORAGES

There are numerous well protected anchorages for small craft throughout the island but large ships are dependent mostly on the seasonal winds. KOSSOL PASSAGE, MALAKAL and KOROR HARBOURS afford excellent anchorage for large ships in all seasons. Wharves, which are plentiful, are constructed in most cases over the shore reef into deep water.

5. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The E- trade winds blow continuously from Oct to Apr during which period there is little rain. From May to Sep during the SW season the rainfall is heavy, the islands experiencing up to 24 rainy days a month and in excess of 52 inches rainfall.

Average wind velocity is approximately 5 knots but sudden violent squalls are frequent, those from the SOUTH being especially strong. Typhoons, although infrequent, are particularly violent and cause much damage.

Daily temperature differences are reported rarely to exceed 9°F, and are generally about 7°F. Cool sea breezes blow throughout most of the year.

Although the rainfall is heavy the water supply is far from reliable throughout the islands. Adequate means of storage have been neglected and those that do exist are open to contamination. Reports from enemy sources indicate that concern is felt due to the prevalence of dysentery and bowel disorders.

134° 20' E

NGARUANG L REEF

APPENDIX 'D' II
TO FIRST ARMY
WEEKLY INT SUMMARY
No. 117 OF 3 AUG '44

PALAU ISLANDS

NGARUANG L PASSAGE

KAYANGEL ISLANDS & LAGOON

KAYANGEL PASSAGE

08° 00' N

LEGEND

M/T ROADS

AIRSTRIPS

REEFS

08° 00' N

NORTHWEST REEF

CORMORAN REEF

NGAMEGEI PASSAGE

AIWOKAKO PASSAGE

AREKALONG PENINSULA

07° 40' N

BABELTHUAP

NAMUL BAY

MELEKEOK PT.

ISLAND

NAMELAKL PASSAGE

AIRAI LAGOON

07° 20' N

WEST REEF

KOROR HER

KOMEBAIL LAGOON

KOROR TOWN

ARAKABESAN

MALAKAL

MALAKAL HSB

KOROR

07° 20' N

PACIFIC OCEAN

GAMUDOKA

URUKTHAPEL I.

EIL MALK I

NGEREGONG I.

NGESEBUS I.

AKALOKUL

ASIA

PELELIU I

07° 00' N

0 5 10 15
N. MILES.

SAWAH ANGAUR I.

NOTE: HELLEN REEF

SECRET

Appendix 'E'
to HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 117
dated 3 Aug 44.

ORDER OF BATTLE AND ORGANISATION

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

LAND

The most important changes in estimates of enemy strengths in the SWPA as at 26 Jul 44 are in those for MANOKWARI and SORONG. The estimate for SORONG has been further reduced to 8000 due to the exclusion of part of 35 Division now carried at MANOKWARI. The remaining divisional troops include only elements of 35 and 36 Divisions. The number of identified fighting troops appears low but it is possible that this area has been reinforced with units not yet identified.

At MANOKWARI, the estimate has been increased to 16,000 due to the inclusion of troops of 35 Division previously carried at SORONG. Divisional troops are assessed at 6,500, which includes the bulk of 35 Division (6,100) and elements of 36 Division.

A change has been made in the estimate for CELEBES which has been increased to 13,000.

At BIAK ISLAND only remnants remain and the strength in this area has been reduced to 400. At NOEMFOUR, the estimate has been deleted, mopping up having been practically completed on this Island.

In the NORTH EASTERN SECTOR the estimate of strength for enemy forces EAST of AITAPE has been reduced to 50,000. The number of Divisional troops has been reduced to 21,000, comprised of:

20 Division	-	9,500
41 Division	-	6,500
51 Division	-	5,000

In the SOLOMONS deduction for estimated casualties and attrition alters the estimate to 13,500.

The above changes in strength necessitate amendment of Sector totals to the following -

NW Sector	398,900/403,900
NE Sector	113,500
Total SWPA	512,400/522,400

IDENTIFICATIONS

2 ARMY HEADQUARTERS

A prisoner has stated that 2 Army Headquarters has moved from MANOKWARI to BABO. A move has been considered likely but whether it is to SORONG or BABO is not yet clear.

18 ARMY

No material alteration is known in the disposition of 18 Army as reported in First Aust Army Summary No 116. From identifications it now appears that 78 and 237 Inf Regts formed the spearheads of the attack on AFUA on 11 Jul with 239 Inf Regt in a supporting role attacking Allied coastal positions. The absence of identifications of

79 and 238 Inf Regts in the combat area suggests that they are divisional reserves.

(Adapted from NCF Weekly Intelligence Summary No 184)

3 GUARDS DIVISION

Indefinite evidence of the existence of this division has been noted in the past. An official document, dated May 44 containing a specific reference to 3 GUARDS Division has now been captured.

3 DIVISION AND
2 AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE

An association between 3 Division and 2 Amphibious Brigade has been noted. Though the evidence to date is meagre, it does suggest that elements of 3 Division may have been used in the formation of 2 Amphibious Brigade. It is to be recalled that 3 Division was destined for SWPA and elements were identified in MANOKWARI, but plans for its move were cancelled. 2 Amphibious Brigade is believed to be present in the SWPA, possibly at DAVAO, and its strength is tentatively carried in the PHILIPPINES.

2 TANK DIVISION

In an official document dated Feb 44, a reference to one officer of 2 Tank Division has been noted. Little information on the Division has come to hand previously though its existence has been considered very probable.

3 INDEPENDENT MIXED
BRIGADE

Since May 1944 it has been thought possible that 8 Independent Mixed Brigade was in the SOUTHWEST PACIFIC Area and its strength has been tentatively carried in the HALLAHARA estimate.

A 2 ARMY operation order captured about that time and dated 29 Mar listed HARU (the code name for this formation) in the distribution. This evidence was the most reliable received up to that date for considering 8 Independent Mixed Brigade to be in the SWPA.

Similar evidence of its location in this area has just become available. A weather chart issued in Mar 1944 by 2 Area Army includes this Brigade in the distribution to formations under command. This document confirms the presence of 8 Independent Mixed Brigade in the SWPA but until its precise location can be determined it will still be carried in the HALLAHARA estimate.

AIR

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - SWPA

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 28 Jul, is listed page 3 :-

Area	F	L/B H/B	T/B D/B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 28 Jul	Total 27 Jun
NEW BRITAIN	2				2	2	6	6
NEW IRELAND					5		5	5
SOLOMONS					3		3	3
NEW GUINEA	3	4			3	2	12	65
HALMAHERAS	86	41	4		9	9	149	230
PHILIPPINES	209	132	60	12	27	15	455	368
AMBON-CERAM-								
BOROE	50	45		9	17	30	151	109
CELEBES	50	32	4		9		95	71
AROE & KAI IS	5					2	7	7
TIMOR-SOEMEA-								
SOEMEAWA-FLORES	21	9			3	3	36	39
JAVA-BALI-LOMBOK	12	12			12	5	41	47
BORNEO	16				9	3	28	28
Total	454	275	68	21	99	71	988	978

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - CENTRAL PACIFIC

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 28 Jul, is listed below:-

Area	F	L/B H/B	T/B D/B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 28 Jul	Total 7 Jul
PALAU	60	13	18	4	8	8	111	177
YAP	21	9	18			3	51	108
MOLEAI		3					3	3
TRUK	50	9	18		12	12	101	129
Total	131	34	54	4	20	23	266	417

(AAF Summary No 229)

(5)

SECRET

WORLD REVIEW SITUATION NO. 82

The following world review of the situation has been received from War Office, LONDON, covering the period 25 Jul to 1 Aug 44 :-

NAVAL:

Channel: HMS 'EXETER' and Dutch gunboat 'FLORIS' have continued their bombardments of German positions. Early on the 27 Jul 12 E-boats attacked a convoy off Dover, two ships were damaged by torpedoes and one beached. Several E-boats were damaged by escorts. H.M. ships 'FORBES', 'ST. YVES', 'RELIANCE' with coastal forces have sunk one E-boat and badly damaged three E-boats off Cape D'Auvergne. Two E-boats were lost. None of the ships were sunk in the assault area. Weather and enemy shelling caused some interference in unloading.

Reconnaissance on 23/24 Jul located the 'LUTZIG' at Calcutta, the 'SCHMIDT', 'LUTZIG', 'LUTZIG', 'LUTZIG' and two old battleships at Gdynia.

MEDITERRANEAN: Coastal forces continue to take toll of enemy shipping and light craft off the Riviera in the Gulf of GENOA and in the ADRIATIC. H.M. submarines report two ships were sunk in the ALBA. ADRIATIC, and one small ship sunk in the ALBA SEA. The first convoy has arrived at ALBA.

INDIAN OCEAN and FAR EAST: Early on the 25 Jul the Eastern Fleet attacked SABANG. A bombardment from 12,000 yards by 'JAMES CLIFTON', 'VALIANT', 'TRIDENT', 'ERIC ALLAN' and from 8000 yards by 'CULPERLAND', 'TRIDENT', 'TRIDENT', 'TRIDENT' and 'GARRIA'. 'ILLUSTrious' and 'VICTORIOUS' escorted by 'FRODO' flew off fighters which bombed the wireless stations and scouted for battleships. An inshore force consisting of the Dutch cruiser 'TROMP', H.M. ships 'VILLIANT', 'VILLIANT' and H.M. 'VILLIANT' entered the harbour for close range bombardment. The only casualties were three ships of the inshore force slightly damaged. Results reported were very satisfactory.

U-BOAT: U-boats were very ineffective in the Channel during the week ending 23 Jul. No ships were sunk by U-boats in any theatre. Since then two have been torpedoed in the SOUTH ATLANTIC. 10 Atlantic Ocean convoys totalling 411 ships arrived safely. Week ending 22 Jul imports in convoy to UNFIELD ALINGDON totalled 1,475,000 tons of which 625,000 tons were oil.

MILITARY:

In FRANCE: INTRODUCTION: It is probable that most of the German armour in the American sector, though severely mauled, has been extricated and will not be cut off. At least one panzer division is moving across from the British sector.

OPERATIONS: FIRST US ARMY: On the 25 Jul a major attack was launched to the WEST of ST LO. US forces broke through the enemy defences in considerable depth and armoured columns are now fanning out.

SECOND BRITISH ARMY: An armoured thrust to the EAST of CAEN was halted by a strong enemy defensive position and bad weather. Subsequent operations were largely confined to consolidation and regrouping. On the 25 Jul Canadians attacked the E. side of the CAEN-FALaise ROAD, infantry encountered strong resistance and the attack was ultimately brought to a halt.

FRANCE RESISTANCE: Sabotage continues with undiminished determination. Intensification of strong German attacks with tanks and aircraft on main resistance areas caused some dispersal of the resisters.

ITALY: Slow but steady progress.

RUSSIA: The most important feature is the rapid increase of the threat to WARSAW but the forcing of the RIVER SAN and the reaching of the RIVER VISTULA may prove scarcely less important. These rivers constitute the last good defence line EAST of the German frontier.

AIR:

USAF: 22-28 Jul: Bomber Command, apart from attacking long range weapon and other targets in FRANCE in daylight and at night, have resumed large scale night operations against German industrial centres. 2753 tons on KIEL (town and port), 2784 tons on STUTTGART; a considerable amount of fresh damage was done to both targets. 1060 tons caused considerable destruction to oil storage tanks at DONGES.

Eighth USAF attacked FOLLRINGENSKREUTH Chemical Works on the 19 Jul and it is known good results were achieved. Heavies dropped nearly 3000 tons in support of the army in the PERIERES-ST LO area on the 25 Jul. LEUNA-MERSEBURG synthetic oil plant was attacked in great strength on the 28 Jul; results are awaited. Eighth Air Force fighters have attacked airfields in GERMANY and railway communications in FRANCE.

AAF aircraft continued harassing activity night and day in the battle area and across the SEINE.

Coastal Command home based aircraft flew nearly 1400 anti U-boat offensive and reconnaissance sorties for the loss of five aircraft. 100 aircraft made attacks on 58 shipping targets off the NORTH and WEST coasts FRANCE and in the NORTH SEA using torpedo RP, six far cannon and cannon with success.

TOTAL SORTIES: Bomber Command: 4179 sorties flown.
55 a/c missing, 15 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat.

8th USAF: 4816 heavy bomber & 2651 fighter sorties.
33 aircraft missing, 36 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat.

AAF: 18,874 sorties, 101 aircraft missing,
105 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat.

NAVY ACTIVITY: The number of day sorties over the battle area increased steadily from approximately 40 at the beginning to some 400 at the end of the week. At night, minelaying operations off NORMANDY coast continued on a somewhat reduced scale, and occasional small scale bombing attacks were made against battle area targets. Night fighter reaction to Bomber Command attacks are strong.

Flying bomb attack against LONDON continued. Number of bombs launched greater than previous week but substantial proportion destroyed by defences. Weight of attack per 24 hours varied considerably; intermittent and sometimes continuous activity interspersed with long lull periods. A very large number of launching sites are now operational and comparatively easy to repair, but bombing of these and of supply dumps have limited attacks.

MEDITERRANEAN: 19/20 - 25/26 Jul. More than 10,000 effective sorties were flown; 228 enemy aircraft were destroyed in combat, 124 allied aircraft are missing. A strategic air force of heavy bombers attacked oil targets in CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ROMANIA, ALBANIA, industrial targets SOUTHERN GERMANY, AUSTRIA, ITALY, rail centres ITALY and ROMANIA, airfields SOUTHERN FRANCE, GERMANY and AUSTRIA. Fighters machine gunned airfields in ROMANIA, landed at Russian bases and later operated against airfields in POLAND. It is now known that of the 10 railway bridges across the river PO between TURIN and the ADRIATIC, AF have rendered all but one impassable. The BALKAN Air Force in support of the Partisans, struck at communications, enemy held towns and military targets in YUGOSLAVIA.

FAR EAST: 18-24/25 Jul: BURMA: Nearly 2000 offensive, defensive and transport sorties were flown for the loss of three aircraft.

CHINA: Heavy bombers attacked CHANGSHI town and storage area and rail yards OYCHOW, causing much damage. From 23/27 Jul medium and fighter bombers attacked targets in the YELLOW RIVER battle area and destroyed 10 of 15 enemy fighters which attempted interception.

ECONOMIC:

Goebbels' plan as Reich Trustee for total mobilisation is not yet known but is unlikely to result in the release of any significant numbers of Germans suitable for the armed forces or for armament industries.

Striking evidence of the disorganisation of the ROMANIAN oil industry, is afforded by German arrangements to supply over 20,000 tons of oil fuel during Jul to the ROMANIAN railways which represents two-thirds of monthly requirements.

GSI
4 Aug 44.

[Signature]
Lt-Col
SS FIRST AUST ARMY

Distributed by GSI First Aust Army for information of Comds or Heads of Branches or Services as set out below :-

Rear Hq First Aust Army	1	G(SD)	1
1 Aust Corps	4	CM	1
11 Aust Div	1	CSO	1
4 Aust Div	3	DA & GEG	1
Hq BRISBANE Fortress	1	A (circulate to AGS,	
Hq PERTHVILLE Fortress	1	ISO & AD Educ)	1
Hq CAIRNS Fortress	1	& (circulate to DDST	
BMA First Aust Army	1	& DDPS)	1
Corps Hq VDC & LAND	1		
GOC	1	LAND L of C Area	1
BGS	1	File	1
G(C)	1	War Diary	2

(6)

CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 737 TO 040015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

2 Aug Allied patrol 1400 yards NW KAMAGNIRA ambushed by approximately 50 Japanese. At 1900Z 2/300 enemy supported by mountain gun mortar fire attacked allied positions vicinity KAMAGNIRA. Later additional 75 to 100 attacked same locality. All attacks repulsed. Continuous movement small groups enemy crossing DRINUMBAH EAST to WEST approximately one mile SW AFUA. 3 Aug Allied troops NIUMBA CRANK area moving SOUTH met increasing resistance.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
BLAN ISLAND

2 Aug natives report 100/150 Japanese KORIE BAY area searching for food. Many sick and wounded.

CAPE SAHSAFOR
AREA

2 Aug Japanese medical officer surrendered vicinity CAPE OPHARAI later led our patrols to further 92 Japanese who also surrendered. Enemy casualties to 2 Aug 12 killed 126 captured.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

2 Aug 50 aircraft bombed various targets BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND.

NEW IRELAND

2 Aug 38 aircraft bombed targets NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

2 Aug 37 aircraft bombed KAPUL and TALILI BAY supply area.

KAI ISLANDS

3 Aug six Liberators bombed dispersal areas FAAM.

TIMOR

3 Aug 12 Liberators bombed LAUTEM town and CAPE CRATER airfield causing explosions fires.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

2 Aug 19 Liberators bombed YAP airfield.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

Night 1/2 Aug PT boats and one Beaufort set fire to one of two barges off CAPE WOM and attacked two barges moving NW off CAPE WOM. 3 Aug two barges DAMDAIMAD RIVER mouth.

CERAM ISLAND

Night 1/2 Aug one direct hit one near miss scored on destroyer or destroyer escort 40 miles WEST by NORTH CAPE HATOEALANG (BOANO ISLAND - NW CERAM) course ESE SOELA ISLANDS. 2 Aug one destroyer escort one 1500 ton merchant vessel 10 miles EAST AUBIL (EAST coast LANGOLE ISLAND) course WEST.

CELEBES ISLANDS

021500Z three merchant vessels 25 miles NW KEM BAY (northern CELEBES). 021430Z to 1700Z one 7000 ton freighter transport southern mouth LEMBEH STRAIT (KEM BAY area) three 500/1000 ton freighters 20 miles SOUTH of southern mouth LEMBEH STRAIT four unidentified vessels 20 miles EAST LEMBEH ISLAND. These vessels apparently assembling SOUTH mouth LEMBEH STRAIT.

EGORIO

3 Aug three merchant vessels BALKAPAN HARBOUR.

PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS

2 Aug one destroyer one tanker SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT course EAST. All informed

Distributed by Gc (Int) on 4 Aug 44 to:

G(C)
G(SD)

A

SEA B. 17

(7)

LANDOPS REVISIT NO 738 TO 050015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

3 Aug main resistance met by Allied forces EAST of DRINIMOR occurred 4000 yards NE AFUA. Enemy strength estimated one battalion well equipped good condition 203 enemy dead counted after engagement. Allied advance continued. All Allied patrols S.I from southern flank met Japanese resistance about 200 yards from our perimeter.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
HOLLANDIA AREA

31 Jul - 2 Aug delayed report states 50 Japanese found dead ARSO. Enemy casualties to 3 Aug killed 3703 captured 658.

BIAK ISLAND

Night 2/3 Aug PT boat supported landing Allied troops KORIM BAY. Two Mitchells co-operated bombing strafing enemy positions.

CAPE SASSAPOR AREA

Ref Revisit 737 92 Japanese reported surrendering now reported Formosans. 3 Aug Allied patrols killed 15 Japanese mouth WESAN RIVER. Enemy casualties to 3 Aug killed 27 captured six Formosans captured 125.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

3 Aug 30 aircraft bombed targets CHOISEUL BAY. 34 Corsairs strafed southern BOUGAINVILLE targets. 30 Corsairs bombed targets of opportunity BUKA ISLAND.

NEW ISLAND

3 Aug 12 Corsairs bombed KAVIENG six Venturas destroyed one bridge damaged four between EAST CAPE and NAKATANAI and 12 Corsairs attacked TAMBARAR area (due EAST DUKE OF YORK ISLANDS).

NEW BRITAIN

3 Aug 16 Corsairs bombed RABAU.

NEW GUINEA

3 Aug 52 aircraft attacked bivouac areas motor transports and stores WETAK AITAPE 4 Aug 35 Beauforts bombed strafed troop concentrations AFUA and YONGITEI (28 miles SE AITAPE) and supply dumps.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

3 Aug six Beauforts bombed strafed KEAUKA (TIMORCA area) scoring hits in dump areas and installations.

AMBOINA

2 Aug 23 Liberators attacked LIANG airfield destroying nine grounded aircraft and starting many fires.

CAROLINE ISLANDS
WOLEAI ISLAND

3 Aug 12 Liberators bombed UTAGAL ISLAND.

YAP ISLANDS

11 Liberators bombed GAGIL TOJIL ISLAND (southern YAP).

WAR DIARY

8

LANDOPS REVISIT NO 739 TO 060015Z AUG

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS

BOUGAINVILLE

3 Aug Allied patrol working towards IBU surprised an estimated company of Japs 400 yards NORTH SISIVIE. 20 enemy killed. Enemy killed to 4 Aug 9514.

NEW GUINEA

AIAPA

3/4 Aug northern attack force moving SOUTH between DRINIKOR River and AIUKIN Creek reached EAST-WEST line approximately two miles NORTH AFUA 030800Z. Advance continued until 031150Z our troops destroying four enemy radios 20 Light Machine Guns 15 Mortars. 4 Aug our troops overran artillery command post 3300 yards NE AFUA killing 49 Japs destroying one mountain gun and six light machine guns. An enemy attempt to infiltrate our lines 8000 yards WEST AFUA on PALAURU trail prevented by counter attack. 4200 yards SW TADJI airstrip unstated number Japanese contacted by a patrol. Japanese command post well organized and well used observed 1200 yards NORTH KWADAGHARK. 5 Aug Allied forces vicinity AFUA encountered unknown number enemy 600 yards SOUTH of perimeter. Enemy casualties to 4 Aug 5413 killed 66 captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

MARIN BAY

4 Aug Allied patrol 374 miles up WOSKE River killed 5 Japs and captured 2 damaged artillery pieces and light machine guns. Allied patrol killed 4 of enemy platoon supported by mortar and machine guns near centre SAWAR airfield. 5 Aug Allied patrol which subjected to mortar and artillery fire during day destroyed fuel ammunition and food vicinity SAWAR airstrip.

BEAK ISLAND

3 Aug following Allied unopposed landing by a battalion at KORIN BAY our patrols moved inland against light resistance. 20 Japs killed 13 captured. Seven cases 70mm and 10,000 rounds .303 ammunition one 70mm battalion gun 11 rifles captured and destroyed. Enemy casualties to 4 Aug 3901 killed 167 captured. Reports indicate 200/300 Japs KORIN BAY and 400/500 AIAPA (3 miles SOUTH KORIN BAY). Majority believed weak hungry and partially armed.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

4 Aug 30 aircraft attacked targets CHOISEUL BAY. 15 aircraft attacked targets eastern and southern BOUGAINVILLE. 16 Corsairs bombed plantation targets BUKA ISLAND.

NEW IRELAND

33 aircraft bombed targets NEW IRELAND destroying several buildings.

NEW BRITAIN

4 Aug 121 aircraft bombed targets LABAU. Probable fuel dump ignited several fires started one barge destroyed 5 damaged and hits scored on several others several buildings destroyed.

NEW GUINEA

4 Aug additional 55 aircraft attacked WEWAK AITAPE.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

4 Aug 12 Bostons bombed strafed NAERE airfield demolishing buildings. 5 Aug 47 Warhawks strafed targets CAPE SANAPOR area. 4 Aug 4 Mitchells destroyed buildings derricks and oil tank KASIK (SELE STRAIT) and KLASONO (24 miles SE SORONG).

CAROLINE ISLANDS

4 Aug 24 Liberators bombed YAP ISLAND causing one tremendous explosion and starting fires. 5 Aug 23 Liberators bombed YAP personnel supply areas starting fires and explosions.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

5 Aug one enemy bomber shot down vicinity KORNABOOR and two aircraft dropped 12 bombs KORNABOOR area without damage.

SEA

BANDA ISLANDS

5 Aug one 1000/1500 ton freighter transport off BANDALONGAR ISLAND (SOUTH CENTRAL CERAM).

CERAM

Night 4/5 Aug one submarine chaser one possible vessel WEST of KELANG ISLAND.

AMBOINA

2 Aug seven 500/1000 ton freighters 5 barges WAAI (5 miles SOUTH LIANG) one 2000/4500 ton freighter 3 barges BAGOALA BAY (SE AMBOINA). Night 4/5 Aug one Catalina destroyed one 500/1000 ton freighter and damaged 2 others off SEMI BAY (SOUTHERN AMBOINA) heading for AMBON.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

5 Aug one 500/1000 ton freighter or large lugger sunk 5 miles SOUTH DJORONGA ISLAND.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

4 Aug one 1000/1500 ton cargo vessel SARANGANI BAY.

CELEBES

5 Aug 5 large warships (one believed battleship) 4 small warships 10 merchant vessels anchored LEMBILI STRAIT attacked by one Liberator. Results unobserved due cloud.

BORNEO

3 Aug photographs reveal 3 freighters (one 7500 one 1000 one 600 tons) 96 luggers and barges BALIKPAPAN.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

4 Aug one 5500/7000 ton freighter transport with escort 320 miles SE by SOUTH WOLEAI ISLAND. One 5000 ton freighter 2 small stack aft freighters 3 gunboats eastbound 160 miles WEST PELELIU ISLAND attacked by Liberator which left 2 small freighters burning. Six vessel ~~was~~ convoy including one possible transport ~~was~~ tanker one ~~destroyer~~ just LOUGH PALAU ISLAND. All informed.

Distributed by GS(Int) on 6 Aug 44 to:

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DAAGMG	WAR DIARY

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 740 TO 070015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

4 Aug attack to SOUTH by Allied forces on southern flank DRINUMOR RIVER positions advanced 200 yards against opposition. 5 Aug our forces moving SOUTH from NIULAN CRANK encountered stiff resistance throughout day. Opposed by approximately two companies enemy 4000 yards EAST by SOUTH AREA. Estimated enemy platoon encountered 1300 yards SSW YAKAMUL.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
CAPE DURVILLE AREA

Night 30/31 Jul Allied outpost 60 miles WEST SARAI attacked by 40 Japanese who landed from canoes. Enemy driven off.

BIAK ISLAND

5 Aug 35 Japanese killed two captured KORIN BAY area. Natives captured 32 Japanese IREKI PENINSULA and INSOBABI ISLAND (both SW KORRIDO). Also captured further 25 vicinity KORRIDO.

AIROPS - ALLIED.

SOLOMONS

5 Aug 30 aircraft attacked DOUGAINVILLE targets.

NEW IRELAND

5 Aug 11 Corsairs attacked targets southern NEW IRELAND and 12 Corsairs bombed KAVIENG area.

NEW BRITAIN

5 Aug 57 aircraft bombed RABUL.

NEW GUINEA

5 Aug 11 Beauforts attacked SUAIN-DEKAK gun positions and exploded ammunition dump.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

6 Aug 12 Warhacks in strafing SANSAPOR area damaged two barges CAPE SRABAPAN. 5 Aug six Liberators attacked docks installations KOKAS.

CERAM

5 Aug seven Mitchells bombed strafed villages NORTH CERAM started oil fires BUSAR ISLAND.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

5 Aug one aircraft dropped two bombs HOKER airfield and one unsuccessfully attacked Allied shipping SOUTH BIAK.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

4 Aug 12/15 barges TAPAR BAY (SW MASCIHER-GULF).

CERAM

4 Aug one small freighter two barges LAPOE (SW CERAM). 5 Aug one small cargo vessel one lugger sunk by Mitchells NORTH CERAM. 4 Aug two 5000 ton vessels NE CAPE KILBON (SE CERAM).

BANDA ISLANDS

6 Aug one 1000/1500 ton freighter transport one lugger GOMBOENGAPI ISLAND attacked by four Mitchells. Freighter transport probably destroyed.

BOEROE ISLAND

5 Aug one small freighter near NAMLEA course SE.

allotted and of the other side of the island. The
freighter transport probably destroyed.

and one small freighter near HAWAII course 22.

REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
-2-

CHIEF, JAGC

SECRET

CELEBES

4 Aug several of vessels sighted LEMBEH STRAIT appeared to be unloading. 6 Aug seven vessels off WEST coast BANGKA ISLAND (NE CELEBES).

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

5 Aug one large tanker 12 miles SSE CAGURAN (SW entrance DAVAO GULF). One small cargo vessel left SARANGANI BAY for DAVAO. 6 Aug two vessels five miles NNE CAGURAN, course WEST by SOUTH one vessel anchored CAGURAN, two vessels anchored DAVAO. 5 Aug one large tanker one destroyer off PANDAN ISLAND (central WEST coast MINDORO ISLAND) course SOUTH; all informed.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 7 Aug 44 to:

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LANDOPS REV. IT NO 743 TO 010015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

Estimated 150 enemy dead found in area 1500 yards NORTH by EAST KUALAGHINK abandoned by Japanese 5 Aug. 6 Aug allied forces EAST of DRILLION RIVER killed estimated 422 Japanese destroyed 25 machine guns in area 1000 yards EAST AITA.

NOERAKOOR ISLAND

5 Aug additional 31 Japanese killed. Total casualties to 6 Aug killed 1055 captured 21 Formosans captured 427.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

6 Aug 20 Corsairs strafed targets FONGAIWILLI and four Corsairs bombed anti-aircraft guns SONCA ISLAND.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

6 Aug 24 Bostons supported ground operations SARAI area. 7 Aug 57 aircraft carried out armed reconnaissance and watercraft sweep over VOGELKOP PENINSULA and MACCLER GULF.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

6 Aug 23 Liberators bombed YAP supply areas causing explosions.

SEA

CERAM

5 Aug one large tanker WAHAL. One small freighter CAPE KISALAOET (SE coast) and one 5000 ton vessel CAPE NILON (10 miles SE CAPE KISALAOET).

UAEHALLER ISLAND

5 Aug three 2000/4500 ton cargo vessels two escorts MASSILL BAY. One Liberator scored direct hit one cargo vessel.

SULU ARCHIPELAGO

5 Aug 10 Warships course NW two warships course SOUTH OFF WEST coast TAWITAWI.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

6 Aug one escort carrier two possible destroyers one unidentified vessel 20 miles SE YAP course NW. Sighting of doubtful accuracy.

BONIN - VOLCANO ISLAND

4/5 Aug carrier task force virtually wiped out convoy this area. 4 Aug four 4000 ton cargo vessels three destroyers or destroyer escorts four barges sunk one cargo vessel remainder of escorts damaged by aircraft. One cargo vessel one small tanker one large destroyer several barges sunk and one escort damaged by surface vessels. 5 Aug one escort two small craft sunk one light cruiser five smaller vessels possibly sunk one destroyer escort 10 small craft five barges (two carrying troops) one landing craft three smaller vessels two landing ships damaged. Surface vessels shelled shipping and shore facilities CHIENTI-JIMA destroying OUMA town. Ground installations 100 JIMA HABA JIMA 100 JIMA hit. Six airborne aircraft shot down six damaged six grounded aircraft destroyed. all informed.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 6 Aug 44 to:

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DA & QLG

WAR DAILY

(11) W/D

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 742 TO 090015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

Ref Revsit 741. Action 1000 yards EAST AFUA. Corrected casualties 146 Japanese killed 44 machine guns captured. 7 Aug Allied forces EAST of DRINIUMOR maintained advance to WEST and SE against continuous opposition. Estimated 275 Japanese killed. 75 enemy dead found one mile SOUTH AFUA as result our mortar artillery fire. Patrols one mile SOUTH and SE AFUA contacted scattered enemy parties. During 6/7 Aug 1000 Japanese killed. Total to 7 Aug 7070 killed 77 captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MOERFOUR ISLAND

7 Aug. 13 Japanese killed in scattered patrol contacts.

BLAK ISLAND

6/7 Aug Allied patrols various areas killed 45 Japanese captured or destroyed two machine guns one 20mm gun 30 rifles and stores.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

7 Aug 58 aircraft bombed strafed MUGUAI area (SE BOUGAINVILLE) scoring two direct hits anti-aircraft positions.

NEW IRELAND

7 Aug 18 Corsairs bombed KAVIENG.

NEW BRITAIN

7 Aug 22 aircraft bombed strafed GAZELLE PENINSULA area destroying four buildings one bridge.

NEW GUINEA

7 Aug 116 aircraft bombed strafed troop concentrations PARAKOVIO and opportunity targets WEWAK-AITAPE exploding large ammunition dump vicinity DAGUA strip.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

18 Bostons attacked wireless station troop concentrations SAJIA 30 miles SOUTH HOLLANDIA.

CAPE SANSAFOR
AREA

8 Aug 61 Warhawks patrolled area.

MAJANERA ISLANDS

6/7 Aug 19 Liberators bombed airfield GALSIA destroying six grounded aircraft damaging many others. 12 Liberators bombed airfield LOLOBATA destroying seven grounded aircraft causing two large explosions and fires.

PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS

Night 6/7 Aug two Liberators bombed airfield BASSA (five miles NORTH DAVAO).

CAROLINE ISLANDS

7 and 8 Aug total of 45 Liberators bombed airfield town YAP causing five large fires and explosions scoring direct hit power house.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Night 7/8 Aug one aircraft dropped six bombs vicinity NAKEER strip causing nil damage or casualties.

12

LANDOPS

SOLCHONS

BOUGAINVILLE
ISLAND

Night 7/8 Aug attempted enemy infiltration attack on Allied trail block KAVAVANOFIA in upper LARUMA RIVER valley repulsed. Following morning 31 enemy dead counted. To 8 Aug 9547 Japanese killed.

NEW GUINEA
ATTAKA

8 Aug patrols operating SOUTH AFUA killed 83 Japanese captured 12 found 102 new graves one heavy 2 light machine guns. Patrols EAST bank BRINIUMOK RIVER SOUTH of AFUA encountered slight resistance killing 25 enemy. Patrol clashes vicinity SELLER resulted 123 Japanese killed 2 mountain guns knocked out. Enemy casualties to 8 Aug 7597 killed 96 captured.

DETAILED H. H. DETHEA
MATFIN DAY

8 Aug 80 Japanese contacted 1500 yards SE SAKAN estimated company located SE corner MOUNT HAKKO (1800 yards SSE CRAI RIVER mouth). Enemy casualties to 8 Aug 3315 killed 65 captured.

BIAK ISLAND

1 Aug patrols NORTH and SOUTH along SCHIDO-KORIK track killed 13 Japs captured 7 organised resistance from rifle machine gun and mortar fire encountered on plateau 5000 yards EAST OLKINAN (4 miles NORTH SCHIDO airfield). Native patrols around WEST coast BIAK killed 54 captured 7 Japanese and reported 300 vicinity NAFIDU (NW coast SOEPHOKI). Casualties to 8 Aug 4048 killed 222 captured.

FOREFOUR ISLAND 8 Aug patrols killed 14 Japanese captured 6.

AIRCRAFT - ALLIED

SOLCHONS

8 Aug 79 aircraft bombed targets SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE, hitting anti-aircraft guns.

NEW GUINEA

8 Aug 9 bombers bombed enemy concentrations ATTAKA.

DETAILED H. H. DETHEA
GUINIA

9 Aug 15 warhawks bombed strafed bivouac area and other targets vicinity HANBIKI airstrip.

KAI ISLANDS

9 Aug 24 mitchells bombed LANGGOUR airstrip.

LOLLOE ISLAND

9 Aug 11 liberators bombed strafed OLD HANLEA airfield scoring hits dispersal and barracks area.

SEA

KAI ISLANDS

9 Aug two 500/1000 ton freighter 23 barges TOTAL area.

C. RAY

9 Aug three 2000/4500 ton freighter transports HOANU STRAIT (WEST coast CAMAN).

ALLOINA

9 Aug one 500/1000 ton freighter WEST LIANG.

LIANG-LIANG IS

9 Aug preliminary report states two 1500/2500 ton merchant vessels KAOE LAY two 500/1000 ton freighters one 1500/2500 ton merchant vessel WASILU LAY. One 500/1000 ton freighter sunk and balance of vessels damaged.

- 2 -

TALAUD ISLANDS 9 Aug one 7000/9000 ton vessel IEO BAY damaged.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

LUZON

6 Aug one small cargo vessel vicinity DILL POINT.
7 Aug 2 large cargo vessels near cape BOLINAC and
night 6/7 Aug one destroyer 60 miles WNW MANILA.

MINDANAO

8 Aug one 1500/2500 ton vessel SARANGANI BAY
entrance. All informed.

Distributed by US (Int) on 10 Aug 44 to:

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G(SD)	Q
DA & QMG	WAR DIARY

G.S.I.

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 118

Compiled from information received from
1200 hrs 3 Aug 44 to 1200 hrs 10 Aug 44

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Significant Events Page/s 3

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - NW SECTOR

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	"	4
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	"	5-6
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	"	6-7
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	"	8

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SWPA AND CENTRAL PACIFIC

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	"	8-9
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	"	9
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	"	10

PART II

SECTION 2 - PERSONALITIES

Lt-Gen KATAGIRI	...	...	...	...	"	10-11
Suicide of Vice Admiral CHUICHI Nagumo	...	...	...	...	"	11

SECTION 4 - ENEMY EQUIPMENT

Japanese Experimental Self-Projecting Smoke Candle	...	"	11
Japanese 7.7mm Explosive Ammunition	...	"	11-12
Japanese Emergency Ration	...	"	12-13

SECTION 5 - TACTICS

Japanese Booby Traps - HANSA BAY Area	...	"	13
Japanese Artillery Methods at SAIFAN	...	"	13-16

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

The Sorry State of Japanese Shipping	...	"	17-18
Japanese Air Strength	...	"	19
Enemy Operational Airplane Strength - Japanese Air Services	...	"	19

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

BONIN ISLANDS	...	"	20
---------------	-----	---	----

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE	...	...	...	...	"	20
ITALY	...	...	...	...	"	20-21
BURMA	...	...	...	...	"	21
EASTERN FRONT	...	...	...	...	"	21

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

PART V

SECURITY

JIFS Page/s 22

APPENDICES

- Appendix 'A' - Japanese Experimental Self-Projecting
Smoke Candle - Illustration
- Appendix 'B(i)' - BONIN ISLANDS - Description.
- Appendix 'B(ii)' - BONIN ISLANDS - Map.
- Appendix 'C' - Perspective Map of EUROPE.
- Appendix 'D' - JIFS (So called INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY).
- Appendix 'E' - Order of Battle and Organisation.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

On the night of 6/7 Aug the first Allied raid against the PHILIPPINES was carried out when two Liberators bombed the airfield at BASSA POINT (five miles NORTH of DAVAC).

YAP ISLAND was visited daily by Allied aircraft during the week. On no occasion was enemy interception encountered.

Shipping sightings in the PHILIPPINES and CELEBES areas have shown a marked increase over those for the previous period. On 5 Aug a sighting, larger than any recorded in SWPA since the enemy's vain attempt at reinforcement in June of this year, was made in LEMBEH STRAIT.

On 4/5 Aug an Allied task force virtually destroyed a large enemy convoy in the BONIN - VOLCANO ISLAND area. Surface vessels also shelled shore installations on CHICHI JIMA and are reported to have destroyed the town of OMURA.

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - NW SECTOR

LAND

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - HOLLANDIA AREA

The first report received for some considerable time from this area states that 50 Japanese were found dead at ARSO on 31 Jul. Total enemy casualties to 3 Aug killed 3703 captured 658.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MAFFIN BAY

In this area the main Allied activity has been confined to patrolling in the general areas of SAWAR airfield and the WOSKE RIVER.

On 4 Aug a patrol killed four of an enemy platoon supported by mortar and machine guns near the centre of SAWAR airfield and on 5 Aug destroyed fuel, ammunition and food dumps in the vicinity of the SAWAR airstrip.

A further patrol up the WOSKE RIVER killed five Japanese.

CAPE DURVILLE

On the night 30/31 Jul an Allied outpost situated in the vicinity of the MAMBERAMO RIVER was attacked by 40 Japanese who landed from canoes. The attack was repulsed.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - BIAK ISLAND

After several days of extensive patrolling an Allied force of one battalion supported by a PT boat and aircraft made an unopposed landing at KORIM BAY on the night 2/3 Aug. On 3 Aug our patrols moved inland against light resistance killing 20 Japanese and capturing 13. Seven cases of 70mm ammunition, 10,000 rounds .303 ammunition, one 70mm battalion gun and 11 rifles were captured and destroyed. Reports indicate 200/300 Japanese in KORIM BAY area and 400/500 at ARWIMBA (three miles SOUTH of KORIM BAY). The majority are believed to be weak, hungry and partially armed.

Enemy casualties to 7 Aug killed 3981, captured 226.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - NOEMFOOR ISLAND

An additional three Japanese were killed on 5 Aug by Allied patrols who continue to mop up remnants of the enemy force. Total casualties to 7 Aug killed 1068, captured 81, Formosans captured 427.

CAPE SANSAPOR

Enemy resistance to date has been negligible and our patrols have pushed forward to the mouth of the WESAN RIVER where 15 Japanese were killed on 3 Aug.

On 2 Aug, a Japanese medical officer who surrendered with a surrender pamphlet in the vicinity of CAPE OPMARAI led our patrols to 92 Formosans who also surrendered.

Enemy casualties to 3 Aug killed 27, captured six, Formosans captured 125.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Two sightings only have been reported during the past week. 12/15 barges at JAWAR BAY and one 1000/1500 ton freighter transport at UTAROM. Naval forces sank one barge at MAWI BAY and one power boat loaded with ammunition stores and fuel at an unstated point.

CERAM - AMBOINA

Enemy shipping reported in this area has shown a decrease over the past week's figures but is still quite substantial. Principal sightings have been on the WEST coast of CERAM and SOUTH of LIANG at WAAI. Our aircraft destroyed and damaged numerous vessels.

Sightings Reported

Naval

1 destroyer escort
1 sub chaser

Merchant

16,000/27,000 tons of freighters
9 small freighters
4 vessels
1 lugger
Many barges
1 large tanker
1-500/1000 ton stack aft vessel

Sunk

2-500/1000 ton freighters
1 destroyer escort
2 vessels
1 lugger

Damaged

1 destroyer
2-500/1000 ton freighters
1 tug

BANDA ISLANDS

11,500/12,500 tons of merchant vessels, plus one lugger were sighted in this area. Our aircraft sank one 1000/1500 ton freighter.

HALMAHERA

Principal sightings were at DJORONGA ISLAND and WASILE BAY where one light cruiser, four destroyers, three 2000/4500 ton cargo vessels, five unidentified vessels, and two escorts were seen. Aircraft sank one 500/1000 ton merchant vessel. In the MOLUCCA SEA SW of HALMAHERA three vessels were sighted.

CELEBES

The main concentration of shipping was sighted anchored at LEMBEH STRAIT, and it is the first occasion since the Japanese reinforcement attempts early in Jun that such strength has been seen in the SWPA.

Sightings

Naval

5 large warships
(1 believed battleship)
4 small warships

Merchant

20 merchant vessels
8900/10,400 tons of freighters
7 vessels
4 unidentified vessels
19 luggers
Numerous barges

BORNEO

The only sighting from this area was of shipping in BALIKPAPAN HARBOUR. The sighting included 9100 tons of freighter transports, three merchant vessels, 96 luggers and barges.

PALAU

In this area a six vessel convoy was sighted which included one destroyer, one transport, one tanker and three other vessels. Aircraft damaged two 500/1000 ton stack aft vessels.

PHILIPPINES

Shipping sightings in this area for the period have increased considerably over those for the previous week. The principal sightings were in the SULU ARCHIPELAGO and at DAVAO GULF. One freighter was sunk by aircraft and one tanker damaged.

Sightings Reported

Naval

12 warships
5 destroyers
1 light cruiser

Merchant

18,500/23,000 tons merchant vessels
1-19,000 ton tanker
5 tankers
21 vessels
2 large ships
1 small cargo vessel

AIR - OWN

SOUTHERN DUTCH NEW GUINEA

On 3 Aug Allied aircraft carried out a low level bombing and strafing attack on KEAUKWA village and areas to the NW. Hits were scored in dump areas and enemy installations were damaged.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - BIAK ISLAND

Allied aircraft co-operated with PT boats in bombing and strafing enemy positions during the Allied landing at KORIM BAY on night 2/3 Aug.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - VOGELKOP PENINSULA

Our aircraft continued their bombing and strafing sweeps over the VOGELKOP PENINSULA this week. A wide area was covered and considerable damage was reported.

NABIRE was the recipient of three daylight attacks during this period, in which the airfield, radio station, dispersal areas and barracks were the principal targets. Several buildings were demolished and numerous fires were started in these attacks.

The docks and enemy installations at KOKAS were bombed by Liberators on 5 Aug, whilst similar aircraft rendered the runways at MOEMI and RANSIKI unserviceable with numerous direct hits on 31 Jul.

Allied fighters continued their support of ground forces in CAPE SANSAFOR area with strafing attacks against enemy positions and barges along the coast. On 4 Aug our aircraft bombed and strafed SELE STRAIT area, when buildings, derricks and an oil tank were destroyed.

TIMOR - FLORES

Enemy troop concentrations, stores and dispersal areas constituted the primary targets for Allied bombers over TIMOR this week. Target areas were reported to have been well covered and fires and explosions were caused in most areas.

An enemy camp 20 miles NE of BABOE suffered heavy damage and fires were started on both LAUTEM and CAPE CHATER airfields, whilst numerous hutments were destroyed in villages along the northern coast.

On 31 Jul strong forces of Liberators carried out two attacks on MAOEMERE. Many fires and explosions were caused in possible fuel dumps and further damage was reported in other areas.

CERAM - AMBOINA

Considerable damage was caused to AMAHAI, LIANG and LAHA airfields during attacks by our heavy bombers this week. Several hits on runways and numerous fires in dispersal areas were reported while 26 grounded enemy aircraft were destroyed.

On 29 Jul Liberators dropped 69 tons of bombs on oil installations and harbour works at BOELA. No detailed reports are available but damage was reported to be generally heavy. A further attack on BOELA took place on 4 Aug when the power plant, pumping station and oil tanks were hit.

Other Allied air activity in this area consisted of bombing and strafing attacks against enemy occupied villages along the northern coast of CERAM and against enemy shipping.

HALMAHERAS

MITI, LOLOBATA and GALELA airfields were again bombed by Liberators during the week. Fires were started in each area and a total of 13 grounded aircraft were destroyed whilst several others were damaged.

PHILIPPINES

The first Allied air attack on the PHILIPPINES was carried out on night 6/7 Aug by two Liberators which bombed the airfield at BASSA POINT (five miles NORTH of DAVAO). No results have been reported.

CENTRAL PACIFIC - YAP

The airfield and supply areas on YAP ISLAND were visited daily by our heavy bombers and large explosions and fires were reported. No interception was encountered during these attacks despite the fact that on 2 Aug no fewer than 20 fighters were observed on the airfield.

AIR - ENEMY

During the period 4/5 Aug enemy aircraft were active over the NW Sector. No large scale attacks were reported but small harassing attacks were carried out.

Both KORNASOREN and MOKMER airstrips were ineffectively bombed, for the loss of one enemy aircraft. A further lone bomber unsuccessfully attacked Allied shipping SOUTH of BIAK ISLAND.

On 31 Jul an enemy reconnaissance plane was observed over Allied positions at CAPE SANSAPOR and on 5 Aug an enemy plane bombed and strafed COCCS ISLAND causing slight damage.

During night 7/8 Aug one enemy aircraft dropped six bombs in the vicinity of NAMBER strip. No damage or casualties were reported.

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SWPA AND CENTRAL PACIFIC

LAND

SOLOMONS - BOUGAINVILLE

On 3 Aug an Allied patrol moving towards IBU surprised an estimated company of Japanese 400 yards NORTH of SISIVIE. 20 of the enemy were killed.

Enemy killed to 4 Aug 9514.

NEW GUINEA - AITAPE

Naval and air bombardment has resulted in systematic destruction of the Japanese lines of communication and bivouac areas and has seriously retarded Japanese offensive effort in the 18 Army Area. Our forces have taken the initiative and are attacking.

The enemy continues to make futile attacks, which are being repulsed with heavy losses. On 1 and 2 Aug the enemy made suicidal attacks in numbers varying from company strength to 4/500 on four separate occasions, resulting in 162 enemy killed and all attacks repulsed.

On 3 Aug our forces EAST of the DRINIUMOR RIVER 4000 yards NE of AFUA were engaged by an enemy battalion, well equipped and in good condition. After the engagement 203 enemy dead were counted and the Allied advance of its northern force continued southwards until it reached an EAST-WEST line approximately two miles NORTH of AFUA.

An artillery command post NE of AFUA was over-run by our troops on the 4 Aug. 49 Japanese were killed and one mountain gun and six light machine guns destroyed.

Our forces moving SOUTH from NIUMEN CREEK on the southern flank of DRINIUMOR RIVER encountered stiff resistance during the 5 Aug. They were opposed by approximately two companies of enemy 4000 yards EAST by SOUTH of AFUA.

On 6 Aug Allied forces EAST of the DRINIUMOR RIVER killed approximately 146 Japanese and captured 44 machine guns. The Allied forces maintained their advance to the WEST and SW against continuous opposition, on the 7 Aug. During 6/7 Aug 1000 enemy were killed in the area.

Enemy casualties to 7 Aug 7070 killed, 77 captured.

SEA

CENTRAL PACIFIC

CAROLINE ISLANDS: The most significant sightings have been SOUTH of WOLEAI ISLAND and WEST of PELELIU ISLAND, where a convoy was attacked by aircraft and two small stack aft freighters were left burning.

Sightings Reported

Naval

1 escort carrier
1 destroyer
3 gunboats
1 escort

Merchant

1-5500/7000 ton freighter transport
1-5000 ton freighter
2 small stack aft vessels
1 unidentified vessel

TRUK: One destroyer, one submarine and one 5000 ton freighter were the only sightings reported in this area during the week.

NEW GUINEA - WEWAK

There has been very little activity reported in this area during the week. Two barges were sunk and four damaged in the WEWAK area by aircraft and naval forces.

NORTH-WEST PACIFIC

BONIN - VOLCANO ISLAND: On 4/5 Aug a carrier task force virtually wiped out an enemy convoy in this area. Surface vessels shelled shipping and shore facilities at CHICHI JIMA destroying OMURA town. Six enemy airborne aircraft were shot down and six damaged. Six grounded aircraft were also destroyed. Vessels sunk or damaged by aircraft and surface vessels are as follows :-

Sunk

4-4000 ton cargo vessels
1 light cruiser
1 large destroyer
3 destroyers or destroyer escorts
2 cargo vessels
1 small tanker
1 escort vessel
2 small crafts
Numerous barges

Possibly Sunk

1 destroyer escort
10 small craft
5 barges
(two carrying troops)

Damaged

Remainder of Escorts
2 landing ships
1 landing craft
3 small vessels

AIR - OWN

SOLOMONS - NEW BRITAIN - NEW IRELAND

Our air force units continued their regular missions over BOUGAINVILLE, RABUL and NEW IRELAND during the period under review.

Activity over BOUGAINVILLE and NEW IRELAND comprised principally bombing and strafing attacks against enemy troop concentrations, bivouac areas and targets of opportunity.

Targets in the RABUL area consisted of anti-aircraft positions, guns, barges, fuel dumps and buildings. Fires were caused throughout the area, a fuel dump was ignited and several buildings were destroyed.

NEW GUINEA

The area NEWAK - ALTAPPE was again well covered by our bomber and fighter aircraft this week. Daily harassing attacks against troop concentrations, stores and supply areas resulted in further damage and fires. Nightly co-operative missions with Allied PT boats along the coast inflicted damage on enemy positions and hindered the enemy's barge traffic.

CENTRAL PACIFIC - TRUK

The airfield at ETEN and the waterfront areas at DUBLON were each subjected to an Allied air attack on 1 and 3 Aug respectively. Hits were observed on the runway and fires were started among wharf installations. Small flights of enemy fighters intercepted during these attacks and a total of five enemy aircraft were destroyed.

PART II

SECTION 2 - PERSONALITIES

It is apparent from the following extract from a captured instruction issued by Maj-Gen NAKAI as Acting Commander of 20 Division on 7 May 44 that Lt-Gen KATAGIRI has been killed:-

"I have been appointed acting divisional commander. The division has been honoured with a citation. We must uphold that honour. We must revenge Lt-Gen KATAGIRI and his staff."

Lt-Gen KATAGIRI was Commander of 20 Division as late as 14 Apr 44 with Maj-Gen NAKAI as Commander of 20 Division Infantry on the same date. In the move of 20 Division from HANSA BAY to WEWAK in late Apr 44, the Advance Headquarters was to move by sea and the main body of the Headquarters overland. As reference is made to "Lt-Gen KATAGIRI and his staff", it seems likely that the Commander and the personnel of Advance Headquarters were killed at sea in the above move.

A document dated 8 Jul 44, was signed by Maj-Gen NAKAI as Divisional Commander, so far apparently without promotion. A report on 1 Apr 44 by the then 20 Division Commander Lt-Gen KATAGIRI on Major Generals on active service, gives the following interesting comment on Major General NAKAI :-

"Brilliant in every way. Suitable for present appointment (20 Div Infantry Group Commander) and also for that, of Army Chief of Staff."

As 20 Division is the only Divisional Headquarters identified to date at AITAPE, it is possible that Maj-Gen NAKAI is in charge of operations in the DRINIUMOR RIVER area.

SUICIDE OF VICE ADMIRAL CHUICHI NAGUMO

The US Navy last week announced the death of 57-year old Vice Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, C in C CENTRAL PACIFIC Area Force and 14th Air Fleet, who commanded the Task Force which attacked PEARL HARBOUR.

According to the Admiral's chief yeoman (now a PW), who apparently witnessed the episode, Nagumo and his Chief of Staff - Rear Admiral Hideo Yano - committed suicide on the morning of 7 Jul at his temporary headquarters inland from MATANSA, on NORTH SAIPAN. Nagumo had previously ordered a Japanese counter-attack for the same morning, and had directed all remaining military and civilian personnel trapped in NORTH SAIPAN to kill themselves.

Admiral NAGUMO was one of the most influential men in the Japanese Navy. He first became prominent in the early 1930s by urging the adoption of the 24-inch torpedo for destroyers and cruisers. He spent a much larger proportion of his service at sea than most flag officers, and his sea commands were important ones. During his career he commanded every major type of combatant ship.

As C in C 1st Air Fleet, 1941-42, Nagumo directed the carrier action against PEARL HARBOUR. This task force, retiring from OAHU, struck WAKE. Nagumo was later in charge of carrier operations against DARWIN and the Bay of BENGAL. His prestige fell sharply after MIDWAY, where he commanded carriers. The Japanese, it will be remembered, lost four carriers and about 275 planes.

On 8 Mar 44, Nagumo was transferred to his final post from C in C 1st Fleet (the old BB Fleet, now absorbed into the First Mobile Fleet and non-existent as a tactical unit). This gives some indication of the importance attached by the enemy to protecting the Marianas.

Rear Admiral Yano came to his post after duty with the Naval General Staff and the Naval Information Bureau.

(NAF Intelligence Summary No 231)

SECTION 4 - ENEMY EQUIPMENT

JAPANESE EXPERIMENTAL SELF-PROJECTING SMOKE CANDLE

Details and photographs of the Japanese Experimental Self-Projecting Smoke Candle are attached as Appendix 'A'.

JAPANESE 7.7mm EXPLOSIVE AMMUNITION

Ammunition captured at HOLLANDIA indicates the use of explosive small arms ammunition in infantry weapons by the Japanese. Several cases of a new type 7.7mm cartridge were

found and sample rounds were examined by Ordnance Intelligence personnel. All rounds examined were found to be explosive.

The explosive ammunition can be identified by the blunt nose and the dark purple band around the neck of the cartridge case. The ammunition comes in five round clips similar to those used for Type 99, 7.7mm ball ammunition.

Firing tests were conducted by this Headquarters using a Japanese rifle, Type 99, and the following results observed:

Round	Range	Target	Effect
1	50 yds	55 gal drum	3" hole at point of entry 7 shrapnel holes at point of exit, 1/2" diameter
2	"	"	2 1/2" hole at point of entrance, 5 shrapnel holes at point of exit, largest 3" diameter
3	"	"	3 1/2" hole at point of entrance, 2 shrapnel holes at point of exit, largest 2" diameter
4	75 yds	"	3" hole at point of entrance, 3 shrapnel holes at point of exit, largest 2" diameter
5	"	"	Results same as round four.

Conclusions:

This ammunition cannot be used in any US weapon. It can be used in the following weapons :-

- Type 99, 7.7mm Rifle
- Type 99, 7.7mm Light Machine Gun
- Type 92, 7.7mm Heavy Machine Gun

The round contains a small amount of what appears to be PETN as an explosive charge. The effect of this round against personnel would be considerably greater than the effect of 7.7mm ball ammunition.

(ALAMO Force G-2 Weekly Report No 50)

JAPANESE EMERGENCY RATION

A sample of compressed egg yolk has been recovered at CYCLOPS Airstrip, HOLLANDIA, and the following information extracted from a report which included a translation of the directions on the packet.

This translation (directions) is given as follows :-

"This article is made from fresh egg yolk by a special process of concentration and drying (1) so that it retains its original ingredients and has storage properties. It must not be used when fever is being controlled by the use

of drugs (2). It is chiefly to be eaten after an emergency descent. As it is small and highly nutritious it allays hunger (3) and it gives energy (4)."

(1) Smoking process.

(2) Probably refers to the old theory that eggs should not be eaten when taking sulphanilamide drugs.

(3) Calms the stomach.

(4) Speeds the feelings.

It would appear that this substance is partially dried egg yolk mixed with some added fat.

(AMF weekly Intelligence Review No 105)

SECTION 5 - TACTICS

JAPANESE BOOBY TRAPS - HANSA BAY AREA

Two booby traps set in dumps have been encountered in HANSA BAY area. In both cases the enemy has incorporated US 23 lb Parafrag bombs with nose bomb fuse AN-M120.

In one case four parafrag bombs were covered with a sheet of galvanised iron. It relied on the sensitivity of the AN-M120 fuse so that any careless movement on the iron would detonate it.

The second trap was comprised of three parafrag bombs and one Jap 50 kg HE bomb, all of which were in different parts of the dump. The trap was initiated by a trip wire pull igniter, which was connected to a detonator and each of the bombs by a length of instantaneous fuse.

(Adapted from NGF Summary No 185)

JAPANESE ARTILLERY METHODS AT SAIPAN

The following information on Japanese artillery methods encountered on SAIPAN by US troops, was compiled from various sources, largely from interview with officers and men who were on SAIPAN. Information on this subject is still incomplete. Official reports and analysis have not yet been received.

GENERAL

Primarily, no new developments on the use of Japanese artillery were encountered, except for an artillery curtain barrage laid down along the reef as our landing waves approached. The Japanese took full advantage of their time before our landing to organise their artillery defence, siting some of their 75mm guns singly along the beaches for anti-boat mission, others in batteries, inland, to cover the coastal plain and approaches to the beaches, and their heavier artillery along the backbone ridge of the island, in primary positions to engage landings being made on the WEST coast SOUTH of GARAPAN, with alternate positions selected and probably constructed, to be occupied in case of landings made on the NORTH, EAST and SOUTH shores.

Observation posts were very well located on high ground, so that the entire coastal plain was under excellent observation. Registration had been carried out before D-day on the reef, and range markers, made from can buoys carrying flags, were anchored along the reef and at intervals between the reef and the shore. Firing data had also probably been obtained on prominent terrain features such as road junctions and crossroads inland from the beaches.

Concentrated fire by any large number of the available artillery does not appear to have been utilized after the barrage, laid along the reef, broke up into battery fire against groups of landing craft. Concentrations placed on areas containing personnel were of very short duration. In general, the excellent observation afforded the Japanese by the commanding ground above our beach heads, and the availability of pre-determined firing data, were the predominant factors in making the Japanese artillery so effective against our troops.

ARTILLERY AND FORCES AVAILABLE

Japanese forces consisted of :-

43 Division (understrength)	11,000
47 Independent Mixed Brigade	3,100
Navy Combat Troops	2,500/3,500
Service and Labour Units	3,500

The field artillery supporting the 43rd Division consisted of three battalions of field artillery, each with six type 95, 75mm field guns and three type 38, 75mm guns. These battalions appear to have been allotted to the infantry regiments to form "combat teams". In the 47th Independent Mixed Brigade was one battalion of mountain guns with 12 type 94, 75mm mountain guns. In general support of the force was a heavy artillery battalion with 12, 155mm howitzers, four field guns of unidentified type, and eight 105mm howitzers. This makes a total of -

39	75mm guns
8	105mm howitzers
12	155mm howitzers
4	unidentified field guns

Artillery in the hands of the Navy troops, which defended the naval establishments, and the coast defence guns are not considered in this paper, as the former were probably comparatively few, and the latter entered into the artillery situation negligibly, compared to the army artillery.

ARTILLERY DISPOSITIONS

Detailed information as to the dispositions of the artillery batteries prior to our landing has not yet been received, but the general scheme is evident. A number of 75mm field guns were sited at the beaches to fire anti-boat tasks. Some of these were in covered positions, others were placed in shallow, open emplacements. Most of these guns were sited to fire flanking fire down the beach. Many of these guns held their fire until our LVTs were at the water line, and then opened up to knock out a vehicle. More of these guns were emplaced along the forward slopes of the first ridge 1500 to 2000 yards inland from the beach.

One battery so located had a marvellous field of fire for direct fire tasks with an OP that overlooked the entire plain from CHARAN KANOA SOUTH, but its guns were dispersed over a front of at least 500 yards, with up to 200 yards between guns.

Another battery (calibre unreported, but possibly 75mm field guns) was hastily emplaced among the trees at the SOUTH edge of the ball park behind the mill in the town of CHARAN KANOA. These guns could deliver fire on the coastal plain SOUTH of that town.

Other batteries were found in normal positions, utilising reverse slopes and defilade, with OPs on hills that commanded the plain.

The heavy artillery battalion dispersed its batteries along the ridge backbone of the island, from a point inland from OREAI to the ASLITO aerodrome road (over 5000 yards). From these positions they could engage targets along the western coasts. Alternate positions were either selected or constructed above the northern, southern and eastern beaches, to be occupied if the situation required.

Information is still incomplete on the types of battery positions occupied by the inland batteries, but dispersal of guns, extensive use of natural concealment, supplemented with natural camouflage material locally available, and the use of hasty emplacements appeared as general practice.

Of especial importance were the observation posts. They were placed in excellent locations well forward on hills and prominent ridges overlooking the plain.

APPLICATION OF FIRE

As was noted before, massed fire was encountered only on our approaching the reef during the initial landing. This barrage was a curtain of fire, which one officer said, "threw up such sprays of water that I couldn't see the island". To prevent use of the channel, a concentration was laid down just off the beach, as our boats approached the channel. One of our artillery battalions, in DUKWs and LVTs, approaching the channel as the concentration began, doubled back, and tried again after the concentration of some 30 rounds had ended. On the second try they were not fired on.

As soon as our landing craft had passed through the barrage along the reef, the barrage broke up, and individual guns, twos and batteries began engaging LVTs and groups of LVTs. Several observers noted their craft being "chased" by individual guns, but with the bursts never quite catching up. Loss of landing craft during these first two phases does not appear to have been as high as would be imagined.

The guns sited along the beach to fire anti-boat tasks were evidently laid on what might be compared to a machine gun's fixed line. One officer reported a single gun firing such a task, steadily and continuously, even though no landing craft were in its line of fire, and no ships were lying in its impact area.

From the time our troops were on the beach, the picture of the Japanese artillery was the same as we have seen in other areas, altered only by the number of guns available

and the excellent observation which made fire adjustment easy. As before, the Japanese failed to utilise the full capabilities of their artillery. They caused us heavy losses, but not as heavy as they might, had their artillery been properly used.

Again the Japanese fought their guns singly, in twos, and in batteries. No reports have come in of more than one battery firing a single mission after the reef line barrage broke up.

The effectiveness of their fire apparently depended largely on whether or not they had predetermined firing data. Also, increased range to the target and lack of elevation of the OP seemed to result in inefficient adjustment of fire. In such a case the observation of fire seemed poor, and round after round would be fired without any adjustment.

Troops or material appearing at points previously ranged on were engaged with effectiveness, but fire delivered at those appearing elsewhere was usually erratic, and adjustment was not good.

Concentrations fired at limited areas usually would last only a very short time. Twentyfive to thirty shells would be fired by what sounded like one or two guns firing, or by a battery firing in the manner we call "troop fire" (each gun firing successively from right to left at brief intervals). After an area had received a concentration, it would be left alone for some minutes while the battery probably engaged another target; and then it would be fired on again. These concentrations seemed to be fired in a fixed pattern, with successive concentrations landing almost in the same spot. Area neutralisation fire apparently was not used.

Counter battery fire by the Japanese was of the above type with concentrations being fired on battery areas. During one night, counter battery fire was brought down on the batteries of one battalion, within a minute after each time our guns were fired.

HE with instantaneous fuses seemed to have been used almost entirely by the Japanese artillery. No reports of timed fire (air bursts) have come in, except for reports of such fire delivered by dual purpose guns, or anti-aircraft guns being fired against ground targets.

During the first two days in the 4th Marine Division area, fire on the beach areas appeared to be directed largely at material such as tanks, trucks, and artillery, and at vehicles, especially when they appeared at a point previously registered. In one instance, predicted fire was placed on a cross road and short stretch of road leading inland from the beach. This was increased in rate when a vehicle was on that road. However, a large number of personnel dug-in in an open wood adjoining the crossroad did not appear to be fired on, except to receive the shells which struck in the woods due to normal dispersion in line and range. On our occupation of the enemy OP overlooking this area, it was evident that the personnel in that area had been readily visible to the observer.

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

THE SORRY STATE OF JAPANESE SHIPPING

The last ONI estimate of the Japanese merchant shipping position (as at 1 Apr) was published in First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 114. The estimate has now been brought up to 1 Jul 44 (ONI Weekly, 19 Jul 44) and is published below. It will be noted that in the three months period total serviceable tonnage has dropped from 3,972,477 to 3,604,216.

Japan was estimated, as of 1 Jul, to have in serviceable condition 3,604,216 gross tons of ships of 100 gross tons and upwards (excluding sail and auxiliary). This total is less than the tonnage which JAPAN is believed to require in order to maintain her recent rate of industrial output.

At a rising rate of attrition, JAPAN has lost well over half the tonnage available at the time of PEARL HARBOUR; she has lost three gross tons of shipping for every gross ton built during the past two and one half years, while in the past six months she has lost four gross tons of shipping for every gross ton of construction.

Estimated Japanese Shipping Position as of 1 Jul, 1944
Vessels 100 G.R.T. upwards

	Freight & Transport		Tankers(& AOs)		Total	
	Number	G.T.	Number	G.T.	Number	G.T.
Estimated Dec 7, 1941 ^x	2686	5911204	95	555989	2781	6467193
Captured or acquired ^{xx}	207	633895	13	46201	220	700096
Construction 1942 ^{xxx}	176	316000	11	44000	187	360000
Construction 1943 ^{xxx}	432	575000	26	110000	458	685000
Construction first half 1944	590	370000	18	65000	608	435000
Subtotal (assets)	4091	7826099	163	821190	4254	8647289
War Losses (1000t. up) ^z	924	3840615	58	359066	982	4199681
War Losses (100-1000 t.) ^{zz}	400	125000			400	125000
Rebuilt as CVs	5	82354			5	82354
Subtotal (losses)	1329	4047969	58	359066	1387	4407035
Total available	2762	3778130	105	462124	2867	4240254
Total serviceable ^{zzz}	2348	3211411	89	392805	2437	3604216
Estimated additional serviceable sail and auxiliary (100-1000 gross tons)						500000

- ^x Note inclusion of Naval oilers and their new gross tonnage assessment of 6500 g.t. for SHIRETOKO class and 4000 g.t. for all new oilers.
- ^{xx} Represents an upward revision of former captures and seizures figures. Does not include the CHARLOTTE SCHLIEHMANN and BRAKE, considered German vessels.
- ^{xxx} Including no wooden ships for 1942; 50,000 g.t. for 1943; 100,000 g.t. for first half of 1944. Average size of wooden ships is reckoned at 200 g.t.

- / Latest officially reported figures, which are perhaps low for the month of Jun 1944.
- // Unofficial figures deduced from the activities of 500,000 g.t. of ships in the 100-1000 g.t. category.
- /// An allowance of 15% for layups and repairs has been subtracted from the total available to give the total serviceable.

In amplification of the above table, the following points should be emphasised :-

1. Although the Japanese appear to have as many ships today as they had at the beginning of the war, the average size of ships over 100 g.t. (exclusive of sail and auxiliary) has decreased from 2325 g.t. to only 1480 g.t.
2. Since JAPAN will not be able to maintain her present rate of industrial output with such heavy losses to her shipping, it is doubtful if she can realise more than 600,000 g.t. of steel ship construction in 1944, even if the highest priorities are assigned.
3. JAPAN's maritime communications are seriously disrupted by the shortage of escort vessels. Ships are often tied up in port an extra two or three weeks awaiting escort vessels. With mounting Allied strength in the FAR EAST and demands for greater protection on convoy runs, the Japanese shipping situation is likely to deteriorate progressively.
4. There is very little evidence of substantial progress in construction of full-powered wooden ships over 100 g.t. The so-called "armada" of wooden ships appears to be more of an aspiration than a reality.
5. Salvage operations will result in a steady accretion to JAPAN's merchant ship assets, but will not lower the rate of attrition to any appreciable degree.
6. Repair facilities outside of the Empire are limited, while over-taxed Empire repair yards have an even slower rate of turnover, than was believed. It is therefore considered conservative to estimate tonnage serviceable as 85 percent of tonnage available rather than as 90 percent, which was the previous policy in preparing these estimates.

JAPANESE AIR STRENGTH

At the outbreak of hostilities Japanese operational aircraft production was estimated to be approximately 800 planes per month. This figure had risen to between 1300 and 1400 by Jun 44, and in proportion with this increase, it can be assumed that at the moment his total output of operational aircraft would be in the vicinity of 1450 per month.

Today the operational Japanese Air Force strength is set at 5200 planes and is greater in numbers than the German Air Force. Therefore, it is clear that his Air Force is both formidable, and despite heavy losses, quite capable of further heavy reinforcement. Further, it is predicted that the enemy is attempting, and can attain, a front line air strength of some 10,000 aircraft, including immediate reserves.

His casualties in aircraft have been heavy in most theatres of war, but still he maintains a steady, if slow, increase. His chief weaknesses in the SWPA have been attributed to lack of first class or fully trained pilots and difficulties experienced in obtaining the necessary maintenance facilities due to Allied air superiority over his forward bases.

Consequently, it would appear that no lessening of his overall strength can be expected until his centres of production in JAPAN itself are subjected to heavy and constant Allied air attacks. It is indicative that it was by this means that the German Air Force was dealt such a crucial blow.

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - JAPANESE AIR SERVICES

Estimate of Japanese Operational Airplane Strength in all zones on information to 1 Aug, is listed below :-

Zone	Location	ARMY			NAVY		
		F	B	Recce	F/B	F/P	Total ARMY & NAVY
1.	JAPAN, KURILES, BONINS, RYUKYU, MARCUS	1089	1199	139	40	238	2703
2.	MANCHURIA, KOREA	127	9	81		12	229
3.	CHINA, HAINAN, FORMOSA, INDO-CHINA (N 15°N)	293	212	59	10	46	620
4.	BURMA, SIAM, MALAYA, SUMATRA, SOUTH INDO-CHINA	219	116	50	5	25	415
5.	PHILIPPINES, NEI (excl SUMATRA) NEW GUINEA	468	349	66	19	80	982
6.	BISMARCKS, SOLOMONS	2		2		10	14
7.	MICRONEASIA	100	65	23	5	20	213
Total Shore Based ARMY		1129	712	315			
Total Shore Based NAVY		1169	1236	105	79	431	5176
		2298	1948	420			
Ship Based						30	30
Grand Total							5206

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

A topographical description and map of the BONIN ISLANDS are attached as Appendices 'E(i)' and 'B(ii)'.

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE

The rapid exploitation by US forces of the breakthrough between AVRANCHES and MORTAIN has completely altered the situation in FRANCE during the past week. The occupation of almost the whole of the BRITTANY PENINSULA and the growing threat to the EAST has caused the enemy to make dispositions which will undoubtedly aggravate a situation which he has already found most unsatisfactory. The abortive German counter-attack through MORTAIN towards AVRANCHES has been halted and flung back with heavy losses of armour to the enemy. On the British-Canadian Sector, a break-through has been effected SOUTH of CAEN and is making good progress.

With the exception of garrisons still holding the naval bases of BREST, LORIENT and ST MALO, the re-occupation of the BRITTANY PENINSULA is complete. The port of ST MALO was captured after strong resistance had been overcome. To the SE, Allied positions have been established along the RIVER LOIRE. NANTES has been occupied while further EAST US troops are in the outskirts of ANGERS. Driving EAST along the route to PARIS, US advanced elements have passed LE MANS and are now within 100 miles of the capital.

The strong German counter-attack in the MORTAIN area at the base of the CHEREBOURG PENINSULA proved a costly failure. Although initial progress was made, Allied air support inflicted severe casualties on enemy armour and restored the original position.

In the CAEN Sector, a heavy air bombardment allowed Canadian troops to effect a break-through to the SOUTH. Good progress has been made to date and a point within five miles of FALAISE has been reached. At least 3000 PW have been taken. This drive, together with the American thrust through LE MANS leaves the German forces in the MORTAIN area in a deep salient. This salient is likely to prove highly dangerous, as aircraft reconnaissance suggests that a general German withdrawal has commenced in the CAEN Sector, and the salient may well become a pocket.

ITALY

During the past week operations have almost wholly been confined to the area SOUTH of FLORENCE, the only other items of note being slight advances on the ADRIATIC COAST and increasing resistance NORTH of AREZZO.

The SOUTH bank of the RIVER ARNO is now in Allied possession from the sea to a point several miles EAST of FLORENCE. In this latter area German resistance is strong. Allied patrols have crossed into the northern part of FLORENCE and skirmishes with German rearguards have taken place. In the

UPPER TIBER VALLEY NORTH of AREZZO increased German resistance has been noted in the vicinity of CAPOLONA. On the ADRIATIC COAST, SENIGALLIA has been occupied and a line is now held from a point several miles beyond the town, inland to OSTRA.

Elements of 26 German Divisions have been identified in ITALY. Of these 16 are in contact and six are disposed along both the LIGURIAN and ADRIATIC flanks, for which the enemy is apparently showing acute anxiety. Notwithstanding the number of enemy Divisions identified, the total manpower available would equal only approximately 13 Divisions. Limited numbers of reinforcements are reaching the front from GERMANY.

BURMA

The extent to which casualties were inflicted on the Japanese force which crossed the ASSAM - BURMA border earlier in the year, is becoming increasingly apparent as British and Indian troops continue to advance SOUTH and SE of IMPHAL against negligible opposition.

On the IMPHAL - TIDDIM ROAD, a point 50 miles SOUTH of IMPHAL has been reached, while in the TANU area, the ASSAM - BURMA border has been recrossed and advances of four miles made beyond the village of TANU.

On the NORTH BURMA and SALWEEN fronts the situation is quiet, although there are many indications that Japanese withdrawals to the SOUTH are being effected.

EASTERN FRONT

While the Russian threat to EAST PRUSSIA and WESTERN POLAND has become no less acute, the actual progress of Soviet troops has been on a decreased scale during the period under review. It is likely that consolidation is being effected prior to a direct assault being made on German territory.

In LATVIA, German troops reacted strongly to the increasing pressure which is being exerted on RIGA from the SE and heavy fighting occurred 15 miles from the city. In this encounter German losses in both men and equipment were severe.

Along the EAST Prussian border, local gains only have been recorded by Russian troops. Despite German statements that the border has been crossed, no Russian claim to this effect has yet been made.

At WARSAW, stiff resistance before the city still prevents actual Russian penetration, but to the NE an outflanking move is threatened. Fighting between German troops and Polish partisans is reported within the capital.

SOUTH of WARSAW, Russian bridgeheads across the LOWER VISTULA have been strengthened, and a point 40 miles NE of CRACOW has been reached. This places Russian troops within 60 miles of German SILESIA.

Further advances in the CARPATHIANS are reported and the occupation of BORISLAW has been announced.

PART V

SECURITY

JIFS

The so-called Indian National Army organised by the Japanese to operate against our forces, is the one and same organisation as that known to us as JIFS. This is an abbreviation for Japanese Inspired Fifth Columnists.

As the strategical situation of the war changes and there comes the likelihood of our forces coming into contact with ex Indian PW and other disloyal Indians in the pay of JAPAN, it is timely that all should be aware of the existence of JIFS and have some knowledge of the insidious but subtle methods by which these people acquire information.

For this reason, reports of the JIF Organisation have been collated and included as Appendix 'D' to this summary, particularly with regard to its clandestine activities and special intelligence groups.

Defm Gaur Capt
for Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUSTRALIAN ARMY

DISTRIBUTION

FIRST AUST ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 118

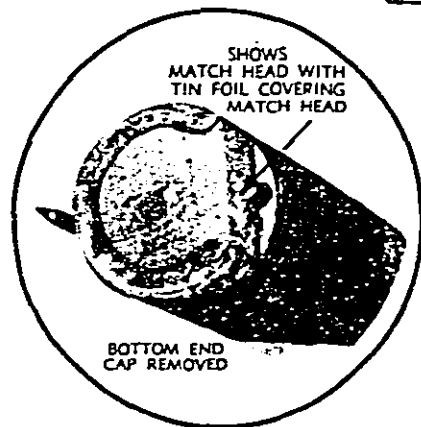
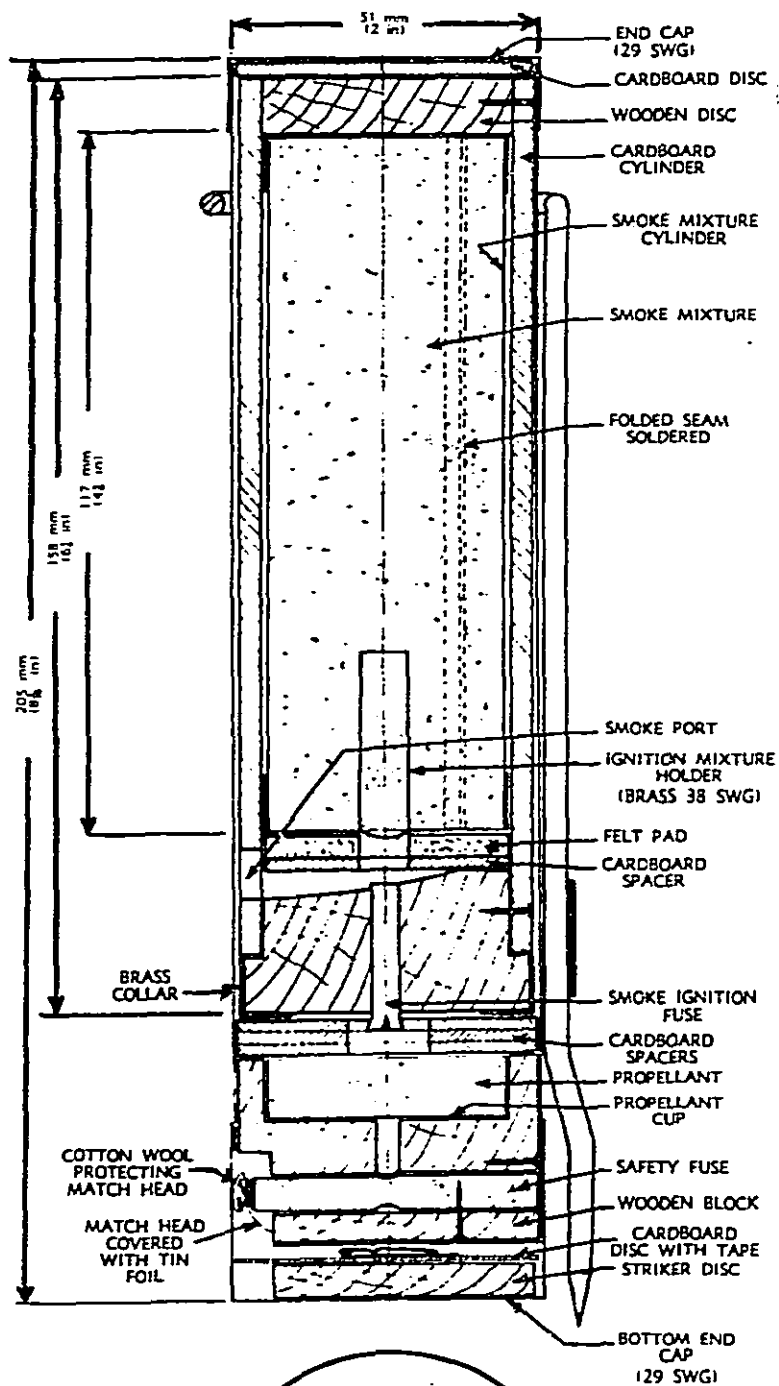
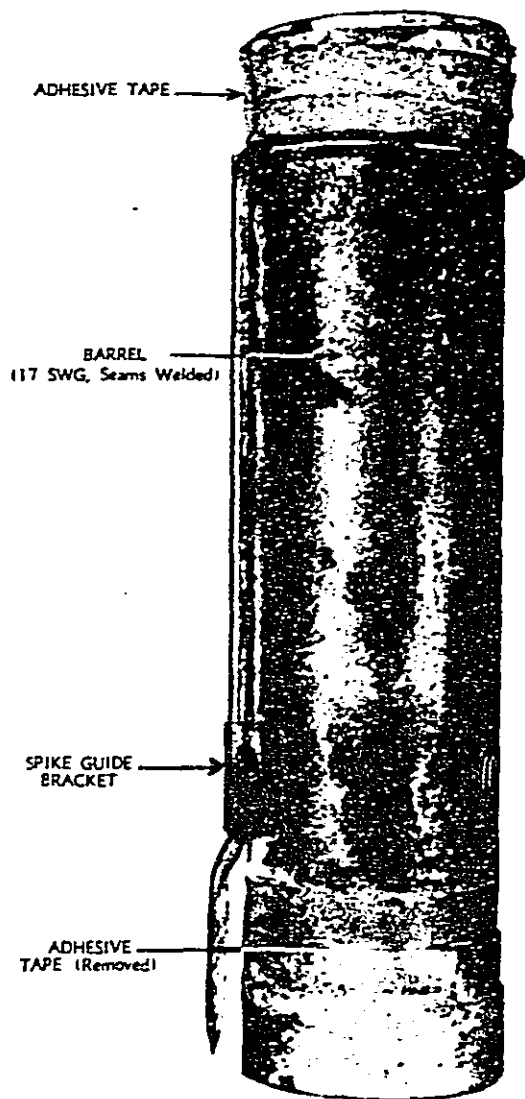
	<u>Copy No</u>
Rear HQ First Aust Army	1
1 Aust Corps	2-110
4 Aust Div	111-116
11 Aust Div	117-122
BRISBANE Fortress	123
TOWNSVILLE Fortress	124
CAIRNS Fortress	125
BRA First Aust Army	126-131
Aust Trg Centre (JW)	132-135
7 Aust Comd AL Sec	136
Corps HQ VDC (QID)	137
Sigs First Aust Army	138
1 Aust Para Bn	139
First Aust Army Regt Trg School	140
First Aust Army School of Sigs	141
First Aust Army AASC School	142
GOC	143
BGS	144
G(O)	145
G(I)	146-151
G(SD)	152
DA & QMG	153
A (1 copy to circulate to - AMS, Legal, Chaplains, Med, Pro and Education)	154-155
Q (1 copy to circulate to S & T, Ord, AE & ME and Postal)	156-158
CE	159-161
CSO	162
Svy	163
IHQ (Aust)	164
Adv IHQ	165-169
NT Force	170
QUEENSLAND L of C Area	171-174
7 Aust Div	175-210
IHQ School of MI	211-212
FELO	213
NOIC CAIRNS	214
5 TAC R Sqn (RAAF)	215
MLO Security Service (CANBERRA)	216
File	217
War Diary	218-219

Please destroy by fire after perusal.

JAPANESE EXPERIMENTAL SELF-PROJECTING SMOKE CANDLE

CHARACTERISTICS

Total weight (1 lb 8.4 oz)	690 gms
Weight of projectile (14.2 oz)	402 gms
" " propellant (0.3 oz)	9.2 gms
" " ignition mixture (0.1 oz)	2.5 gms
" " smoke mixture (18.5 oz)	240 gms



THE external dimensions of this generator are identical with those of the "Japanese Self Projecting Smoke Candle—Type 99," from which it can be distinguished however by the colour, and the absence of Japanese characters on the side. The "Experimental Smoke Candle" has a grey painted body with a Japanese character (Translated "top") painted in purple on the top end cap. The wire spike attached to the side, slides down the body allowing the generator to be set in the ground before firing.

BONIN ISLANDS

1. GENERAL

The BONIN GROUP (OGASAWARA GUNTO) lies some 500 miles to the SOUTH of the Japanese mainland between latitudes $26^{\circ}32'N$ and $27^{\circ}45'N$ and longitudes $140^{\circ}52'E$ and $142^{\circ}15'E$. Together with the KAZAN ISLANDS they constitute the SOUTH NANPO SHOTO which is the most important group NORTH of the MARIANAS on the SOUTH approaches to JAPAN proper.

Four groups comprise the BONINS, MUKO SHIMA, CHICHI SHIMA, HAHARA SHIMA and NISHINO SHIMA, of which CHICHI SHIMA is the most important commercially and militarily.

2. HISTORY

As far back as 1230 America had a nebulous claim to these islands, but relinquished it in 1873. Japan, suddenly accepting the idea of an Empire, formally annexed the BONINS in 1876 and proceeded to colonise with a rigid prohibition against foreigners. A thorough-going Japanese civilization soon developed, schools were established for patriotic indoctrination and former European residents absorbed. Japanese became the standard language, Shintoism and Buddhism the principal religions.

3. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ISLANDS

CHICHI SHIMA RETTO ($27^{\circ}05'N$ $142^{\circ}11'E$ at OLURA)

CHICHI JIMA (4 miles by 2 1/2 miles) is the Southernmost and largest island of CHICHI JIMA RETTO and the second largest island in the BONIN ISLANDS. The only other islands of any size are ANI and OTOTO JIMA but they have not been developed to any extent.

The principal town, OLURA, is situated on the NORTH shore of FUTAMI KO, it is well developed commercially, and is the base of the Japanese military command for the NANPO SHOTO. This received the attention of an Allied task force quite recently.

The islands are sparsely vegetated and have extremely rugged terrain. Most of the shore line is rough and rock-studded with shoals and reef offshore. Tidal currents are very strong and the sea on the EAST side is usually rough.

Motor transport roads on CHICHI JIMA connect various fortifications, three cross the island but are reported rough and in poor condition.

MUKO SHIMA RETTO

This group comprises three large islands and numerous small islands which are rugged and bound by steep cliffs. There are however several small coves with sandy beaches. CHOTO, the main village in the group, is situated on the NORTH side of a small cove on the SOUTH side of MUKO JIMA. The highest elevation some 509 feet, is to be found on TAKODO JIMA.

NISHINO SHIMA (ROSARIO I) $27^{\circ}16'N$ $140^{\circ}51'E$

NISHINO SHIMA lies 70 miles WEST of CHICHI SHIMA and is the smallest of the BONIN GROUPS, consisting of one island only, NISHINO JIMA. The island is 700 yards long by 200 yards wide with

a maximum altitude of 80 feet in the NW where there is a cliff. It is surrounded by rocky beaches, except for the cliff area, on which a heavy surf breaks. Up to Jun 44 there appeared no signs of habitation.

HAHA SHIMA RETTO

This group of six islands is located 20 miles SOUTH of CHICHI SHIMA, the most important being HAH JIMA. They are rocky, sparsely vegetated and surrounded by steep cliffs. The highest elevation is in the vicinity of 1500 feet. There are few buildings on the islands, the largest village being OKUNURA on HAH JIMA.

4. AIRFIELDS & SEAPLANE BASES

Owing to the rugged terrain of the BONINS, there are few airfield sites available. The only airfield and seaplane base known to exist at present are at FUTAMI KO on CHICHI JIMA.

An airfield and seaplane base have been reported on HAH JIMA but their positions are unknown.

SUSAKI AIRFIELD

Situated on the SOUTH side of FUTAMI KO the strip is limited to 2200 feet owing to cut and fill operations which are in progress at the NORTH and SOUTH end of a narrow peninsula. The strip was operational during a recent Allied raid.

OMURA SEAPLANE BASE

Is on the NW shore of FUTAMI KO just WEST of OMURA. It is well developed with hangars, aprons, slips and numerous installations.

5. HARBOURS & ANCHORAGES

Although of volcanic origin the BONINS have few harbours of any size. Anchorage outside sheltered parts is extremely dangerous owing to strong tidal currents (3/4 knots), winds and small protruding rocks which characterize the waters in and around the islands. There are few sandy beaches clear offshore.

FUTAMI KO (FUTAMI HARBOUR) is the main fleet anchorage for the BONINS. Situated in CHICHI JIMA it is capable of taking six capital ships and many small craft. Light swells set in during SW and WSW winds but do not affect the harbour unduly. There are two wharves and many naval installations.

Other suitable anchorages for large ships are OKIMURA KO, HIGASHI MINATO, TATSUMI WAN, with temporary anchorages at HIGASHIZAKI WAN and OKUZURE WAN. There are numerous small craft anchorages throughout the islands.

6. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The group lies Northward of the NORTHEAST trade region and Eastward of the monsoons and is reported to experience remarkably fine weather.

From January to March Westerly winds, variable between NORTH and SOUTH, prevail with occasional calms. WEST and NORTHWEST winds in January and February often freshen into gales. April to June Easterly winds from NORTHEAST to SOUTHEAST are experienced with

occasional gales in May from SOUTHEAST shifting to SOUTH and WEST. July to September Easterly winds prevail variable to SOUTH and SOUTHWEST. For the remainder of the year winds are Northerly, sometimes Eastward of NORTHEAST and Westward of NORTHWEST. Westerly gales are experienced in December. Cyclones are not unknown.

Average annual rainfall is reported as 48 inches with a mean annual temperature of about 70°F.

7. DISTANCE TABLE

Approximate distances in nautical miles from CHICHI JIMA:-

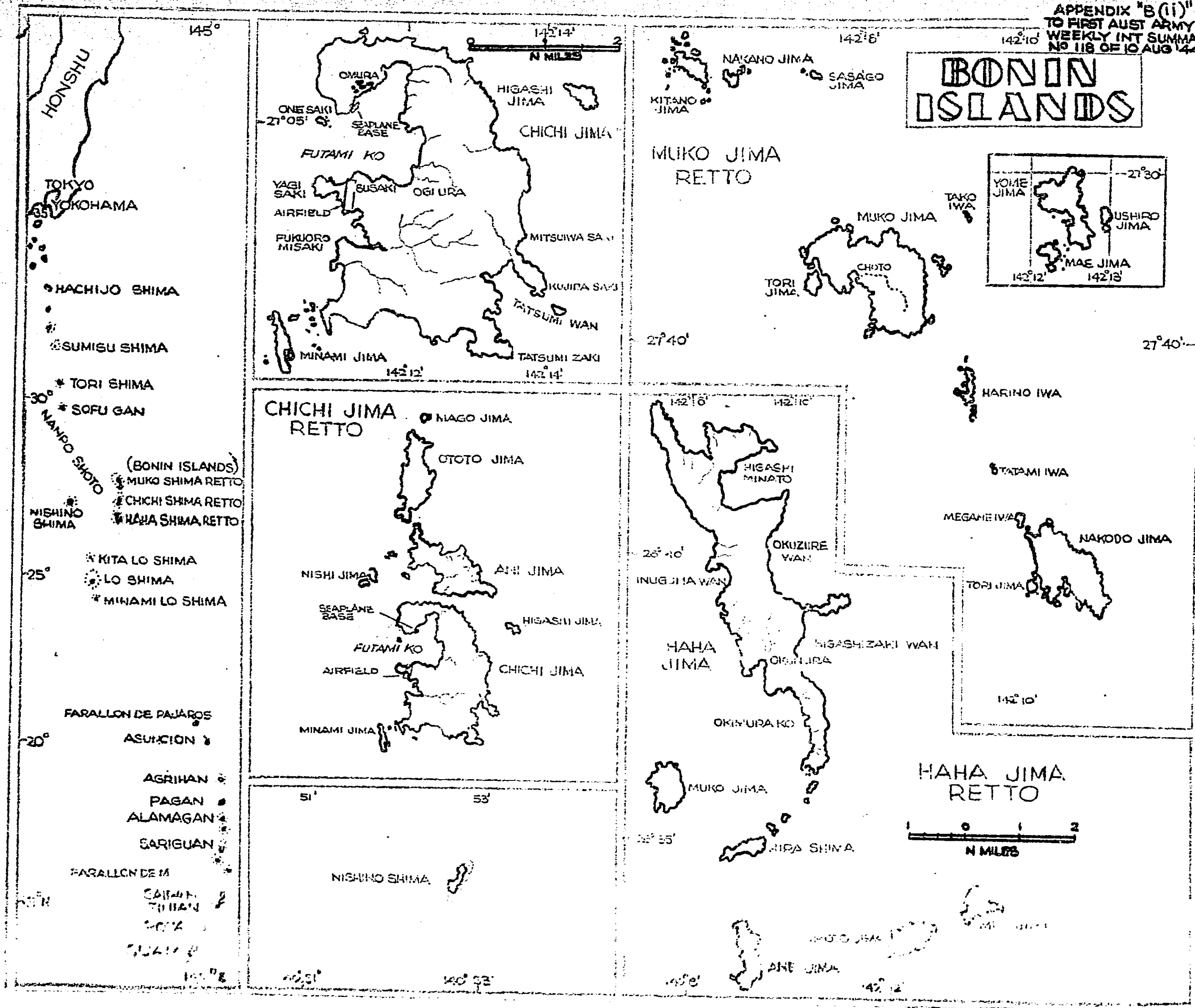
Japanese Bases

HAKA JIMA	20
IWO JIMA	140
TOKIO	540
MARCUS	660

Allied Bases

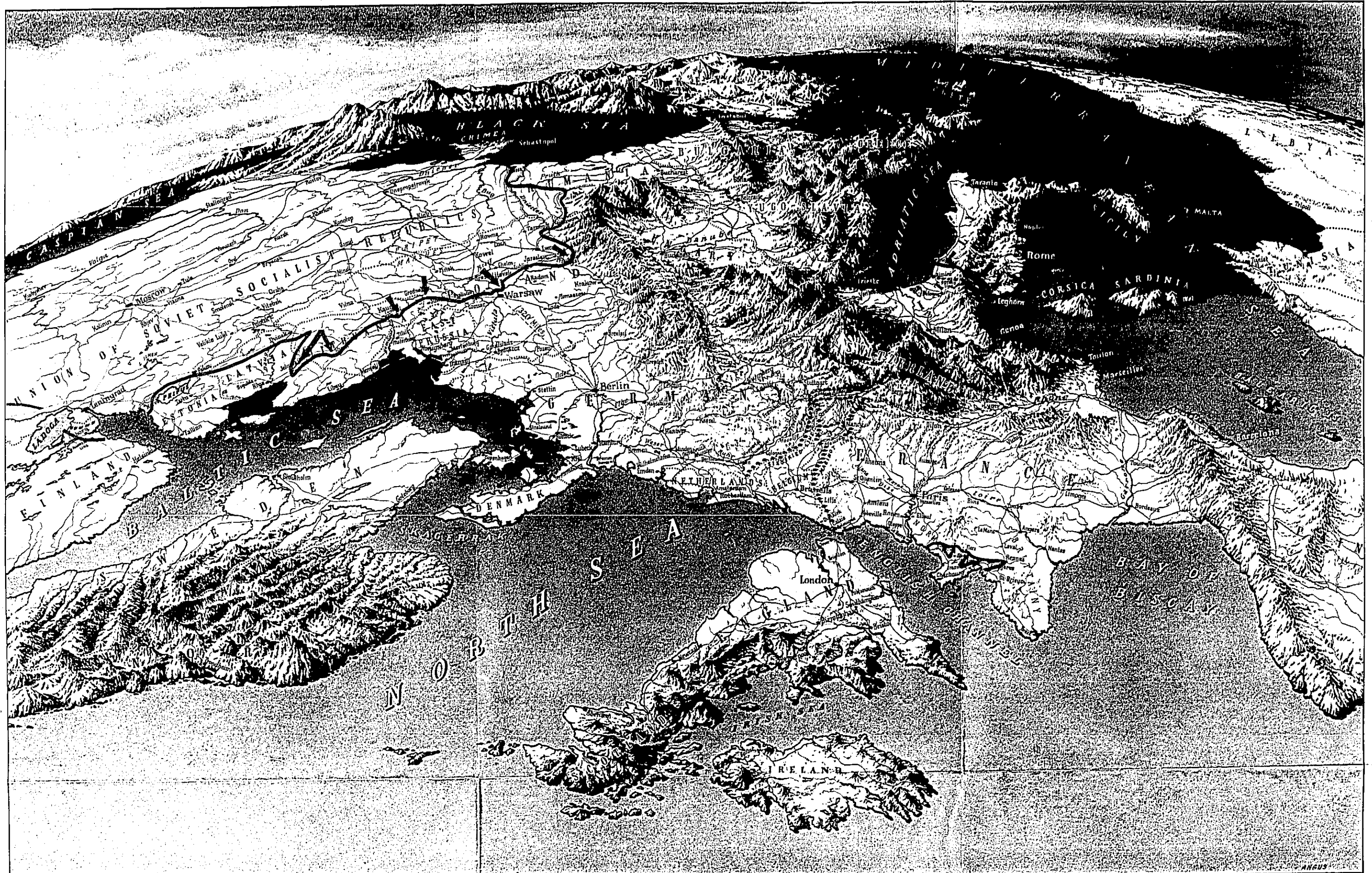
SAIPAN	737
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BONIN ISLANDS



PERSPECTIVE MAP OF EUROPE

APPENDIX C
11.Q. First Aust Army War
Intelligence Summary 118
of 10 Aug 44



LEGEND

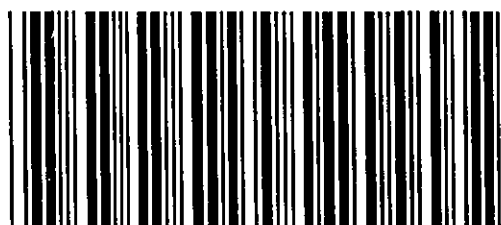
Main Railways
Canals
Enemy Fortifications
International Boundaries
Allied Lines as at 1 Aug 44

GS1 (a) ADV LHQ

ADV/MISC/5376

Reproduced by 1 Aust Mob Litho Sec (AIF) Aust Svy Corps

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SECRET

Appendix 'D'
to HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 118
dated 10 Aug 44

JIFS (so called INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY)

Order of Battle

Order of Battle of the INA as follows is considered fairly accurate. Army HQ is located in SINGAPORE while the "Army" is reported to consist of three "Divisions"; a Signal Company; four hospitals; three MT Companies; two Workshop Companies; an Intelligence Group; a Reinforcement Group; a Special Service (Bahadur Group); a "Crack" regiment (whatever that may be); a Guerilla Regiment; a Women's Regiment (Rhani or Jhansi Regiment); a "MES"; a Welfare Department, and some artillery. Of this force the following are reported by JIFS to be in BURMA :-

- No 1 "Division"; the Intelligence Group, the Special Service Group; the Reinforcement Group;
- No 2 MT Company; and probably some artillery.

Of this advance force, the Intelligence Group, the Bahadur Group and elements of the Reinforcement Group are operating in the forward areas. So far only ex PW have been identified in these units. Captured JIFS report that the Intelligence Group (the "eyes" of the INA) and the Bahadur Group are attached troops of the fighting portion of the army. Since elements of both these groups are active all the way along the INDO-BURMA frontier, it is possible that they are being used in an effort to soften our Indian troops there and thus to lighten the task of the fighting troops of the INA.

Special Service Group and INT Personnel:

The Special Service Group referred to above is composed of companies which have undergone intensive training; consisting of lectures on the INA, the art of disguise, world history, the "national struggle for independence", and map reading.

The greatest stress was however, laid on work in the front line, and on propaganda, espionage and sabotage in rear of our troops. Two interesting features were instruction in the installation of loud-speakers in the forward areas, and the use of bows and arrows to shoot propaganda leaflets amongst our forward troops.

an interrogation report of a captured JIF shows that at a course held at one of the JIF schools for training "I" operatives, emphasis was laid on the following points :-

- (a) How to move and live in the jungle with the minimum of kit;
- (b) How to move about a town in an inconspicuous manner.
- (c) How to obtain information from casual friends, while having a drink;
- (d) How to organise sabotage groups from amongst released convicts and disgruntled people;
- (e) How to write subversive propaganda leaflets and methods of distribution amongst villagers;

(f) How to leave similar leaflets in latrines used by Indian Other Ranks and under the saddles of Army Transport Animals.

(g) How to make explosives and incendiary bombs from local products for sabotage purposes.

At the beginning of Sep 43 about eight mixed parties from Special Service Group Companies, totalling approximately 130, were despatched to all fronts. One party was given its ultimate destination as INDIA before it left RANGOON. A few have surrendered or been captured, some are awaiting infiltration, while others operate with Japanese patrols either as combatant troops or intelligence agents. They are controlled by Japanese officers and are usually well-armed and liberally supplied with money.

It is also probable that many more than the original 130 Special Service personnel have moved into the forward areas. This is supported by the statement of a captured JIF that about 110 Special Service agents were operating on the ARAKAN front alone. The Special Service Group is composed entirely of captured Indian personnel, and as far as is known has enlisted none of the INA troops who arrived in RANGOON in Nov 42.

JIF 'Interpreters'

'Interpreters' have made their appearance during recent operations. Their work is reported to be interrogation of Indian PW, but it is possible that they are also intended for liaison work between the Japanese and JIFS, although the interpreter for the party of MAGER SINGH, whose objective was the IMPHAL airfield, was a Japanese NCO trained in the Indian language.

Earlier vague reports of 500 Indians undergoing training as interpreters in a school at MAYMYO are now strengthened by reports of interpreters operating with JIFS in MANIPUR. A JIF considered reliable states that in mid Jan 44 a party of 60 interpreters passed through WUNTHO on their way to LE-U. One of these told him that the 500 interpreters under training in MAYMYO were to be sent to various fronts. They were mainly Zerbadis, Madrassis, Gurkhas and Sikhs, and were being paid between Rs 60/- and Rs 120/- a month. Other reports show that JIF interpreters are now featuring more prominently in the present JIF offensive.

JIFS at work

Recently a JIF, a young Gurkha of the INA Bahadur Group, (other classes may be similarly employed), is said to have infiltrated behind our lines where he was picked up and taken to the CO, who questioned him. He wept copiously in front of the CO and said he was a refugee from BURMA who had lost both his parents at the hands of the Burmese.

The CO believed him and gave him a certificate to show to any person who regarded him with suspicion. He roamed around for some considerable time and finally slipped back into BURMA with valuable information. He is alleged to have made two more trips into INDIA, using the certificate and a few tears to get him through the security net, and on both occasions to have taken back useful intelligence to the Japanese in BURMA.

On another occasion two JIFS attempted to infiltrate behind the British lines using AB64's (pay books) of newly captured Indian PW. This time this new technique failed, but as JIFS are dressed and equipped similarly to our own Indian troops, the production of pay books belonging to a neighbouring unit would have a good chance

-3-

of deceiving the most security minded personnel.

This calls for close scrutiny of Indian escapees and stragglers found in any area.

(Collated from AMF Weekly
Intelligence Review and
FS Wing Security Bulletins)

SECRET

Appendix 'E'
to HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 118
dated 10 Aug 44

ORDER OF BATTLE AND ORGANISATION

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

LAND

Revised estimates of enemy strength in the SWPA as at 2 Aug 44 increased the enemy strength in the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS to 190,000 due to the arrival of fresh troops. This force is disposed throughout the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS as follows:-

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ESTIMATED STRENGTH</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
LUZON	80,000	Includes HQ SOUTHERN ARMY 32 and 33 Independent Mixed Brigades.
CENTRAL	55,000	Includes HQ 14 ARMY, 16 Division, 31 Independent Mixed Brigade.
MINDANAO	55,000	Includes 30 Independent Mixed Brigade.

TOTAL PHILIPPINES 190,000

Remnants only of the original force on BLAK ISLAND remain, and the estimate for that area has been deleted.

In the NE Sector, the estimate of strength for enemy forces EAST of AITAPE has been reduced to 45,000/50,000, allowance having been made for known and estimated casualties.

As a result of the above revisions the sector totals at 2 Aug 44 are :-

NW SECTOR 418,500/428,500

NE SECTOR 108,500/113,500

TOTAL SWPA 527,000/542,000

32 DIVISION

A report of low grading states that there are tanks at GALELA. This suggests 32 Division Tankette Company is with the division.

35 DIVISION

With the exception of a tank unit (not identified) and some variation of the normal divisional artillery, it is now confirmed that this formation is organised similarly to 36 Division. It would appear that the normal divisional artillery regiment has been replaced by 4 Independent Mountain Artillery Regiment. Unlike 36 Division however, it is not proportionately split up amongst the infantry regiments, but part only is so divided.

The divisional components identified are as follows :-

- 35 Divisional Engineer Unit
- 35 Divisional Transport Unit
- 35 Divisional Signal Unit
- 35 Divisional Field Hospital
- 4 Independent Mountain Artillery Regiment (official documents)

THE ST ANDREW ISLANDS GARRISON

A detachment of 35 Division was established recently as the garrison of ST ANDREW ISLANDS. A document captured at NOEMFOOR and dated 24 Apr 44 shows the composition, strength and disposition of the garrison as follows :-

	<u>SONSORAL MERIR IS IS</u>	<u>TOKOBEI IS (probably TOBI IS)</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
35 Divisional Troops	17	18	54
219 Regiment			
Regimental Troops	7	1	8
1 Battalion	291	214	859
2 Battalion (11 company)	156	1	157
4 Independent Mountain Artillery Regiment (5 Battery)	66	41	107
26 Field Machine Cannon Battery	57	38	134
TOTAL	594	271	1319

So far as is known, none of the forces above have been withdrawn from the islands, and it is possible that the garrison has received some reinforcement since 24 Apr 44.

ONE INDEPENDENT BRIGADE

8 INDEPENDENT BATTALION

It is now established that 1 Company of this unit was organised from 102 Airfield Construction Unit.

SANSAPOR GARRISON

Reports from forward troops are as yet indefinite but there are indications that elements of the following units were in the general area prior to our landing :-

- 219 Regiment (35 Division)
- 221 Regiment (35 Division)
- 35 Transport Unit (35 Division)
- 47 Anchorage Headquarters
- 2 Airfield Construction Headquarters.

There is also a suggestion that elements of 32 Division were present in the area. However, pending further information this is treated with great reserve.

AIR

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - SWPA

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 4 Aug 44, is listed below :-

Area	F	B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 4 Aug	Total on 4 Jul
NEW BRITAIN	2			2	2	6	6
NEW IRELAND				5		5	5
SOLOMONS				3		3	3
NEW GUINEA	3	4			2	9	49
HALMAHERA-TALAUD	66	39		12	6	123	242
PHILIPPINES	248	225	13	27	24	537	368
AMBON-CERAM-BOEROE	44	33	6	18	24	125	128
CELEBES	53	33		9		95	71
AROE & KAI IS	5				2	7	7
TIMOR-SOEMBA-							
SOEMBAWA-FLORES	21	9		3	3	36	39
JAVA-BALI-LOMBOK	12	12		12	5	41	47
BORNEO	16	5		9		30	28
TOTAL	470	360	19	100	68	1017	993

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - CENTRAL PACIFIC

Estimate of Enemy Based Air Strength on information to 4 Aug 44, is listed below :-

Area	F	B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 4 Aug	Total on 28 Jul
PALAU	49	21		10	8	88	111
YAP	15	17				32	51
WOLEAI		3				3	3
TRUK	35	15		8	7	65	101
TOTAL	99	56		18	15	188	266

(A&F Summary No 231)

14

LANDOPS REVERSE NO 744 to 110000Z

LANDOPS

EST GUINEA
ATTAPPE

8 Aug Allied Forces attacking from EAST crossed BRINTON 1000 yards SOUTH AFUA. This force killed estimated 500 enemy during day. 9 Aug ATTAPPE task force commander reports enemy forces ATTAPPE area defeated. Remnants in disorganized groups scattered SOUTH and EAST. Holding line formed along BRINTON RIVER from one mile SOUTH of AFUA to TORRIGILL mountains to prevent enemy EAST-WEST movement. Five Japanese killed one heavy machine gun one mountain gun captured vicinity TIRIKUL. Enemy casualties to 9 Aug killed 7023 captured 54.

DUEM N. GUINEA
SANDEH RIV

8 Aug enemy artillery firing from position 2400 yards N. SANDER successfully engaged by Allied guns.

SEAN ISLAND

9 Aug patrols moving NORTH on SCRIDO track killed 25 Japanese. Other patrols moving SOUTH from KURIK IAI reached the SANGORDRI RIVER seven miles SOUTH KURIK. Reports received of continuous enemy evacuation from WARDU (WEST coast SEAN) to SCRIDO and WARDU (SOUTH and WEST coast SCORPIS).

AIRCORP - ALLIED

SCORPIS

9 Aug 12 aircraft bombed targets SOUTHVILLE.

EST BRITAIN

9 Aug 115 aircraft bombed targets RADAN area.

NEW GUINEA

10 Aug 12 B-24s bombed villages WAKA-ATTAPPE.

DUEM N. GUINEA

9 Aug 12 B-24s bombed WARDU airstrip starting fires. 10 Aug 12 B-24s covering WARDU SANDER area strafed buildings ruins SANDER WARDU area (70 miles WEST WARDU). 9 Aug 12 Mitchell's bombed WARDU and WARDU (NORTH coast SEAN ISLAND). 9 Aug 24 B-24s bombed enemy concentrations ASAP (7 miles N. WARDU).

ARON ISLANDS

10 Aug 6 Ventura's bombed installations WARDU.

AMARA

9 Aug 12 Liberators bombed GIANG airfield.

CAROSING ISLANDS

9 Aug 23 Liberators bombed anti-aircraft position WAP starting one large several small fires.

SEA

WALANTA ISLANDS

9 Aug two 7000/10000 ton tankers possibly in KLOK FAY. 10 Aug 2 Merchant vessels departing WALANTA waters off FAY.

WALANTA ISLANDS

9 Aug one Liberator scored one near miss on one 1000/1000 ton freighter WOG Bay. Probably same vessel as reported paralytic 743.

WALANTA ISLANDS

8 Aug 2 Northbound warships 3 miles WEST by SOUTH SAN JOSE (WALANTA ISLAND). All informed.

Disseminated by CS (Int) on 11 Aug 44 to:

C(0) A
C(50) C
DA / QEC LAR DIARY

115

LANDSIT NO 745 to 120015.

LAND OPS

SCLOKOR
DOUGANVILLE

9 Aug allied perimeter established NORTH bank JABA RIVER (13 miles SE CAPE TOROKIMA). 10 Aug Allied troops supported by artillery crossed JABA RIVER and engaged enemy party estimated 20 strong mouth of river.

NEW GUINEA
AIKAP

11 Aug only small non-aggressive Japanese stragglers encountered BINTINOR RIVER area. Patrols to EAST SE and SOUTH AIKAP report no major contacts. Night 10/11 Aug Allied patrols sighted 100 poorly equipped Japanese moving EAST three miles SOUTH BINTINOR. Heavy casualties to 10 Aug killed 7071 captured 94.

WESTERN GUINEA
BLAK ISLAND

9/10 Aug additional 40 Japanese killed or found dead found captured. Heavy casualties to 10 Aug killed 4101 captured 227.

HONOLULU ISLAND

10 Aug outposts of main enemy body encountered 2500 yards SSW IWASI. Enemy force estimated 200 to 300 strong reported dug in along 1000 yard front on HILL 300 (4750 yards SSW IWASI). 11 Aug following all night bombardment by Allied artillery our troops established contact with main enemy force. Heavy machine gun and rifle fire encountered.

AIR OPS ALLIED

NEW IRELAND

10 Aug 10 aircraft bombed targets KILKING.

NEW IRELAND

10 Aug 141 aircraft attacked targets KILKING.

WESTERN GUINEA

9 Aug 6 Albacores destroyed many buildings MANOKARI. 12 Aug 24 Warhawks bombed strafed MANOKARI airfield and nearby village.

NEW ISLANDS

11 Aug 6 Mitchells bombed LANIGOM.

ALBOINA

10 Aug 17 Liberators bombed LANA airfield.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

10 Aug 2 Liberators bombed MAP.

SEA

ALBOINA

10 Aug 4/5 small/medium merchant vessels numerous small craft AMBON BAY.

WALKER ISLANDS

9 Aug 24 Mitchells sank 4 freighters (two 1500/2500 tons) damaged one large freighter on 1500/2500 ton freighter KACE and LABILE BAYS. 11 Aug 3 vessels KACE BAY.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

10 Aug large convoy (composition not reported) 120 miles NW MANILA BAY course 12. All informed

Distributed by CS (Int) on 12 Aug 44 to: C(C) A
C(SD) Q
DA - QMG CAR DIARY

SECRET

WORLD REVIEW SITUATION NO 83

The following world review of the situation has been received from War Office, LONDON, covering the period 1 Aug to 8 Aug 44:-

NAVAL

CHANNEL: Increased E-boat activity culminated in an attack on the 31st Jul on a convoy SOUTH of BEACHY HEAD; one ship was sunk and four damaged, an escort ship damaged two E-boats. HMS 'EREBUS' and HMS 'FLORES' have continued to bombard enemy positions in the assault area. Early on the 3 Aug enemy one-man torpedoes and explosive motor boats launched a heavy attack on shipping in the assault area. At least 20 explosive motor boats and 30 human torpedoes were destroyed; some by Spitfires. One E-boat was sunk and another damaged during a diversionary attack by E-boats and low flying aircraft. 31 prisoners were taken. Our losses were HMS 'QUORN', one trawler and one LCG sunk, HMS 'BLENCATHRA', one MTB and two merchantmen damaged.

The PORT of CHERBOURG is now in use. 12 Liberty ships arrived in addition to LST and many smaller craft.

MEDITERRANEAN: Week ending 31 Jul a total of 16,000 tons was discharged through ANCONA.

FAR EAST: HM subs report five small ships sunk off PENANG and SUMATRA.

U-BOAT WARFARE: Week ending 30 Jul two ships torpedoed in the SOUTH ATLANTIC were the only casualties by U-boat action. Four ATLANTIC OCEAN convoys totalling 103 ships arrived without loss. Week ending 29 Jul imports in convoy to the UNITED KINGDOM totalled 1,123,000 tons of which 589,000 tons were oil.

SUMMARY OF ANTI-SUBMARINE ATTACKS IN JULY REPORTED TO NOON 2 AUG:

Of 115 Attacks made	:	64	were by shorebased a/c
	:	6	by carrier borne a/c
	:	45	by warships.
Sunk and probably sunk	:	5	by shore based a/c of Coastal Command.
	:	1	by carrier borne a/c
	:	6	by warships.
Possibly Sunk	:	2	by shore based a/c
	:	1	by warships operating with carrier borne a/c
	:	3	by warships.

MILITARY

NW FRANCE: INTELLIGENCE: The enemy left wing is completely disrupted. Resistance in BRITANY appears patchy while two coastal divisions SOUTH of the LOIRE are probably moving up to hold the main crossings of the river from about MORTAIN to the NORTH and EAST. The enemy is still holding and is swinging slowly eastwards. Two panzer divisions have been switched from the CAEN sector to stem the British advance and the last panzer division NORTH of the SEINE has been brought across against the Americans.

CASUALTIES: (All Ranks)

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
British Up to 30 Jul	6,203	30,991	6,204	43,398
Canadian Up to 30 Jul	1,363	6,803	2,152	10,318
TOTAL SECOND BRITISH ARMY AND FIRST CANADIAN ARMY	7,566	37,794	8,356	53,716
AMERICAN Up to 27 Jul	13,449	61,041	5,717	80,207
TOTAL ALL FORCES	21,015	98,835	14,073	133,923

FRENCH RESISTANCE: Sabotage of communications is being well maintained. The PARIS-DIEPPE line has been cut 10 times since the 15 Jul. Resistance groups dispersed by recent strong German attacks are now reforming. Substantial supplies, arms and ammunition have been sent to the resisters.

EIGHTH ARMY: Intelligence: German divisions in ITALY 11 May totalled 23. Since then five have arrived but one has left and one is believed to be disbanded. Of the 26 divisions now believed there, 16 are in the line and at least three are covering each coast.

RUSSIA: The Russians have advanced practically the whole of their front from the GULF OF FINLAND to the CARPATHIANS. There is still no sign of the Russians being seriously delayed by major administrative difficulties and the Germans are not being given an opportunity to re-organise their battered forces and stabilise their line.

DISPOSITION OF GERMAN ARMOUR: The Germans have 48 panzer and panzer grenadier divisions. Eastern Front 27, DENMARK one, FRANCE and LOW COUNTRIES 12, SE EUROPE (including HUNGARY) two, ITALY six.

AIR:

EUROPE: 29 Jul - 4 Aug:

ALLIED OPERATIONS: Bomber Command maintained the offensive against German industrial centres; particularly STUTTGART and HAMBURG, also flying bomb sites and dumps of which two were considerably damaged. Other operations included 1,200 tons on oil installations NORTH of BORDEAUX and 1,300 tons on troop concentrations in the CAUMONT area in close support of the Second Army's attack.

The Eighth USAF operated daily and in great strength despite thick cloud. Extremely heavy damage was caused to the MERSEBURG - LEUNA synthetic oil plant on the 28 and 29 Jul and over 2,600 tons were dropped with great accuracy. Aircraft factories and airfields in FRANCE and GERMANY, rail centres SAARBRUCKEN, MULHOUSE, STRASBOURG, fuel dumps in FRANCE; PENNEMUNDE experimental establishment and long range weapon installations were also attacked in considerable strength.

Supplies/dropped to French Patriots.

TOTAL SORTIES:

BOMBER COMMAND -- 5484 sorties flown; 84 aircraft missing, 10 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat.

8th USAF - 7247 heavy bomber sorties, 4319 fighters sorties; 113 aircraft missing, 84 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat.

AEAF - 19,912 sorties; 71 aircraft missing, 63 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat.

Coastal Command home-based aircraft flew nearly 1000 anti-U-boat offensive and reconnaissance sorties for the loss of four aircraft.

ENEMY ACTIVITY: Day fighter activity has been much less over the battle area, and opposition to USAF attacks was negligible. Bomber Command encountered stiff opposition on the night 28/29 Jul. Minelaying operations off NORMANDY coast and small scale bombing attacks on assault area targets continued. Some ineffective anti-shipping sorties also flown. Flying bomb attacks on LONDON on a somewhat higher scale continued with a tendency to fire in salvos and concentrate activity in periods of heavy cloud conditions separated by prolonged bomb free intervals.

MEDITERRANEAN: 27 Jul-2 Aug; Nearly 10,000 effective sorties flown; 61 enemy aircraft destroyed in combat, 52 Allied aircraft missing. Our strategic air force successfully attacked oil targets ROUMANIA and HUNGARY, rail centres HUNGARY, YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE, aircraft factories and airfields HUNGARY, torpedo factory SOUTH FRANCE. Our tactical air force maintained attacks on communications in ITALY, the coastal air force striking at ADRIATIC harbours, shipyards, shipping and BALKAN air force targets in YUGOSLAVIA.

EUR EAST: 26 Jul - 1 Aug:

BURMA: Some 2000 offensive defensive and transport sorties were flown. Losses half per cent,

CHINA: Storage areas MAIMAK ISLAND and rail yards at MICHENG were successfully attacked. An outstanding operation was carried out on the 29 Jul when 168 tons were dropped on ANSHAN steel works and dock area TONGTU with very good results. Two super fortresses were lost.

ECONOMIC:

The total production of oil of all types in German EUROPE is estimated to have been 52% of normal (i.e. before offensive against oil) compared with 59% for June.

The Assembly at KONIGSBERG of rolling stock apparently from all parts of the REICH was ordered on July 7 presumably in preparation for the evacuation of EAST PRUSSIA. The REICH defence commissioner for this area on July 20 ordered general enlistment of population for emergency construction work on frontier.

A heavy raid on the very large tank assembly plant of NIBELUNGEN-ERK near LINZ July 25 together with raids earlier last month on component factories at SCHWEINFURT and LEIPZIG are believed to have seriously interfered with tank production.

GSI
12 Aug 44

W. J. H. L. Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUST ARMY

Distributed by GSI First Aust Army for information of Comds or
Heads of Services or Branches as set out below :-

Rear HQ First Aust Army	1	G(SD)	1	120
1 Aust Corps	4	CE	1	120
11 Aust Div	1	CSO	1	
4 Aust Div	3	DA & QMG	1	
HQ BRISBANE Fortress	1	A (Circulate to AMS,		
HQ TOWNSVILLE Fortress	1	LSO & AD Educ)	1	
HQ CAIRNS Fortress	1	Q (circulate to DDST		
ERA First Aust Army	1	& DDPS)	1	
Corps HQ VDC Q'LAND	1	AA & CA	1	
GOC	1	Q'LAND L of C Area	1	
BGS	1	File	1	
G(O)	1	War Diary	2	

(17)

LANDOPS-REVSIT NO 746 TO 130015Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

11 Aug Allied forces established perimeter 1100 yards SOUTH JABA RIVER without opposition. NORTH of river mouth 9 japs in pillboxes withdrew when attacked. REINI - TEKESSI rivers area contact maintained with/determined number Japanese.

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

11 Aug small parties Japanese EAST from YAKAMUL. 2 EMGS one mountain gun captured 10 enemy killed one captured vicinity YAKAMUL. Six 75 mm artillery guns destroyed 3 miles EAST AFUA. 193 Japs killed one captured all areas making total enemy casualties 8064 killed 95 captured.

DUTCH NEW
GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

11 Aug 33 enemy dead found in area approximately 2 mls SOUTH MAFFIN. Patrol near SAWAR CREEK experienced fire from enemy heavy and light mortars machine guns and small arms. Enemy casualties to 11 Aug 3392 killed 67 captured.

BIAK ISLAND

11 Aug native patrols reported 50 enemy with one machine gun rifles grenades SAWADORI (NE tip BIAK) 100 Japanese with rifles one machine gun 2000 yards NORTH INSEROM. 11 Aug 77 Japanese killed 11 captured making total enemy casualties 4238 killed 238 captured.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

11 Aug our forces retired from hill 380 after encountering heavy machine gun and rifle fire. During day troops moved up to Japanese perimeter but did not cross hill. High ground on all flanks of hill being occupied. 12 scattered Japanese-killed indicating enemy tendency to scatter. 37 Japanese found dead as result artillery aerial bombardment. Enemy casualties to 11 Aug 1236 killed 101 captured.

CAPE SANSAPOR

11 Aug Allied forces advanced to within 300 yards of KOR RIVER (5 1/2 miles EAST CAPE OPMERAI) meeting nil opposition. Enemy casualties to 11 Aug 69 killed 13 captured.

MACCLUER GULF

11 Aug patrol killed estimated 20 Japanese captured 3 vicinity METAMANI RIVER headwaters.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

11 Aug 29 aircraft bombed strafed MUGUAI mission and opportunity targets southern BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

11 Aug 18 corsairs bombed NORTHERN NEW IRELAND area.

NEW BRITAIN

11 Aug 121 fighter bombers attacked GAZELLE peninsula area destroying 9 buildings TOBERA starting fires RATAVAL scoring hits on buildings RABAUL. 12 Aug 12 beauforts bombed bivouac area MILIM and opportunity targets WIDE BAY well covering bivouac area.

NEW GUINEA

10 Aug 16 airacobras strafed villages WEWAK - AITAPE area. 11 Aug 35 aircraft bombed strafed personnel areas coastal gun positions WEWAK.

DUTCH NEW
GUINEA

11 Aug 20 bostons bombed strafed enemy headquarters bivouac areas SOUTH SAWAR.

HALMAHERA
ISLANDS

10 Aug 16 liberators attacked GALELA destroying 5 aircraft probably destroying 16 damaging 10.

KAI ISLANDS

12 Aug 11 liberators bombed LANGGOER scoring hits runway dispersal area.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

10 Aug warships destroyed bridge SALAMINAR CREEK mouth (5 miles EAST DOGRETO BAY).

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

11 Aug small freighter WANDAMEN BAY (WEST GEELVINK BAY) damaged by bostons. 10 Aug unidentified merchant vessel heading into MANOKWARU. 11 Aug 2 small freighters unstated number barges UTA ROM sunk by bostons.

BALMAHERA ISLANDS

10 Aug 2 small unidentified vessels one which burning WASILE BAY. Ref revsit 745 shipping KAOE BAY now reported comprising 3 medium vessels two 2000/4500 ton freighters (one which damaged by mitchells) KAOE township. Night 10/11 Aug medium vessel heading NORTH out of KAOE BAY. Night 11/12 Aug small freighter CAPE JAWAL. Small freighter left sinking 2 luggers 4 barges sunk 3 luggers 4 barges damaged by mitchells WASILE BAY. 10 Aug one 5500/8500 ton merchant vessel vicinity TOBELO ISLANDS (35 miles NORTH WASILE BAY). 11 Aug one 500/600 ton freighter SOUTH coast MOROTAI ISLAND left sinking by liberators.

TALAUD ISLANDS

12 Aug one 600 ton freighter BEO BAY.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

12 Aug three 2000/4500 ton cargo vessels 45 miles SW by SOUTH CAPE SAN AGUSTIN. 10 Aug one light cruiser one destroyer one medium cargo vessel 5 miles WSW CAPE BOLINAO (LUZON).

CELEBES

Night 11/12 Aug one 2500 ton vessel TINORO STRAIT.

CERAM

Night 11/12 Aug one transport possibly 1500 tons 15 miles SOUTH TALOETI BAY (central SOUTH COAST) course SE. All informed.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 13 Aug 44 to:

G(0)
G(SD)
DA & 2MG WAR DIARY

(18) V/D

LANDOPS RVSIF HQ 747 TO 140015Z

LANDOPS

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

12 Aug enemy forced withdraw from two pillboxes encountered SOUTH of JAMA RIVER. Minor patrol contacts Boine-Tekessi River area.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

13 Aug reliable report states 20 Japanese located vicinity TONU (12 miles NORTH of TONU) 30 with radio in house four miles inland and 50 in houses seven miles NE TONU. Also reported road TONU to TUA (13 miles SOUTH of TONU) is NORTH of TONU RIVER for 10/15 miles not SOUTH as on map. Anti aircraft position reported PAKU PAKU (11 miles NORTH TONU) also observation post and 240 Japanese four miles NE.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

11/12 Aug Allied amphibious patrol two miles EAST of MARUBAK observed two parties Japanese 70 and 125 strong. All well equipped travelling EAST. 12 Aug 15 Japanese killed in extensive patrolling EAST and SOUTH MARUBAK. Patrol saw 40 enemy moving EAST between MARUBAK and MARUBAK.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

12 Aug two enemy tanks and 20 Japanese observed vicinity MARUBAK (2 miles NE MARUBAK airfield) automatic weapon and small arms fire encountered from enemy platoon dug in NE MARUBAK CROSS.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

12 Aug Allied patrols re-established contact with main force 500 yards SW of SUMIT of HILL 330.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

CODE

11 Aug amphibious patrol at MARUBAK saw 30 Japanese moving EAST on coastal track.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

12 Aug 55 aircraft attacked villages and aircraft guns bivouacs BOUAKVILLE.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

12 Aug 74 aircraft in sweep over BOUAKVILLE destroyed or damaged several bridges and buildings.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

12 Aug 54 aircraft bombed GAZALIL. Philippines area.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

11 Aug 6 aircraft bombed Fuel Camp BOUAK. 12 and 13 Aug 20 and 14 aircraft respectively attacked villages BOUAK - ALAK. 12 Aug 4 aircraft co-operating with PT boats bombed strafed BOUAK coastal targets.

COLOMBO
COLOMBO AREA

11 Aug 17 thunderbolts attacked opportunity targets BOUAK area. 12 Aug 6 Mitchells bombed BOUAK airfield and 3 aircrafts bombed strafed BOUAK control tower and buildings. 13 Aug 4 warhawks on armed reconnaissance BOUAK EAY to BOUAK RIVER strafed BOUAK village (7 miles SW BOUAK). 30 liberators bombed stores area BOUAK area. 11 Aug 12 thunderbolts attacked villages BOUAK area. 12 Aug 10 liberators bombed BOUAK runway.

19

LANDOPS REVISIT NO 74 to 150015K

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

13 Aug Allied patrol MARUBIAN Area reported continued withdrawal Eastward by small scattered groups enemy.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MARTIN BAY

12/13 Aug Allied patrol which included five tanks returned to perimeter after subjecting enemy positions to mortar artillery and tank fire.

BIAK ISLAND

13 Aug native patrols reported estimated 150 Japanese SIAMES (10 miles NW SORIDO AIRFIELD) and state many Japanese had passed through en route to WARDO (WEST coast BIAK)

NORMFOOR ISLAND

13 Aug five Japanese killed three machine guns captured vicinity HILL 380. Remnants enemy force now confined to an area 700 by 400 yards being engaged by Allied troops.

CAPE SANSAPOR

13 Aug patrols continued to contact small groups enemy moving WEST to SORONG.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

13 Aug 55 aircraft bombed enemy head quarters bivouac area MOSIGETTA buildings occupied by enemy BOVO RIVER and opportunity targets Southern BOUGAINVILLE. 16 Corsairs attacked LEMAN MANU Mission Buildings (BUKA ISLAND)

NEW IRELAND

13 Aug 73 aircraft bombed targets NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

13 Aug 40 aircraft bombed RATAVAL supply dumps DUKE OF YORK ISLAND and REBAUL targets.

NEW GUINEA

14 Aug 49 aircraft bombed bivouac area ammunition dump CAPE TERESU.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

11 Aug 6 Mitchells bombed enemy buildings TEMINABOEAN (55 miles SE SORONG). 14 Aug 4 Warhawks on armed reconnaissance WINDERSI ARGORNI BAY and KAITERO RIVER destroyed one beached barge one lugger KAMRAU BAY.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

13 Aug one submarine WARSA BAY (NORTH Coast BIAK).

BANDA SEA

14 Aug 2 unidentified vessels probably 500 tons NW TIOOR ISLAND.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

13 Aug 2 vessels anchored off TATE.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

13 Aug 3 destroyers one light cruiser 3 small tankers 3 large 19 small cargo vessels CEBU HARBOUR.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 15 Aug 44 to:

GOC A
G(O) Q
G(SD) WAR DIARY
DA & QMG

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AIKAP

14 Aug scattered contacts only. Enemy casualties to 14 Aug killed 8117 captured 99.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

13 Aug patrol encountered 46 Japanese at bridge 6 miles from TOR RIVER mouth. Five enemy killed. Enemy casualties to 14 Aug killed 5424 captured 70.

BIAK ISLAND

51 Japanese killed 21 captured during 14 Aug. Enemy casualties to that date killed 4409 captured 279.

HOEFPOOR ISLAND

14 Aug 104 enemy killed or found dead during day. 15 Aug contact maintained enemy forces vicinity HILL 380. Enemy casualties to 14 Aug killed 1422 captured 110 formosans taken 439.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

14 Aug 39 aircraft bombed strafed opportunity targets BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

14 Aug 32 fighter-bombers bombed NORTHERN NEW IRELAND. 12 mitchells bombed NAMATAMAI strip. 20 corsairs bombed KALILI plantation (27 miles SOUTH NAMATAMAI).

NEW BRITAIN

14 Aug 70 aircraft bombed strafed GAZELLE peninsula destroying or damaging 5 buildings MANDERS sawmill (ATALIKLIKOH BAY) and destroying bridge near mouth HENRY REID RIVER.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

15 Aug 4 warhawks strafed NASIRE. 4 bostons bombed strafed WINDENSI. 17 warhawks bombed strafed RAKSINT destroying 2 motor vehicles scoring hit anti-aircraft position. 14 Aug 4 airacobras bombed strafed air-fields WARREN. 15 Aug 3 bostons bombed strafed opportunity targets VOESLXOF to WAIGEO.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

14 Aug 8 mitchells bombed strafed TERHATE starting fires. 16 liberators bombed barges personnel areas heavy anti-aircraft positions WASILE BAY causing explosions starting many fires and destroying or damaging 5 gun positions.

SEA

NEW IRELAND

15 Aug photographs reveal 50 probably serviceable barges SUWON harbour.

BANDA SEA

15 Aug one 2000/4500 ton freighter transport one 500/1000 ton stack aft freighter one escort vessel 55 miles WEST by SOUTH BORNEO ISLAND course WEST. Attacking liberator scored 2 direct hits one near miss freighter transport which left stationary.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

14 Aug three 500/1000 ton stack aft freighters TERHATE. 3 unidentified merchant vessels 20/30 small craft WASILE BAY.

PHILIPPINES

15 Aug one cargo vessel 5 escort vessels entering DAVAO GULF. 15 Aug 2 unspecified vessels 24 miles SSW DAVAO. 14 Aug one light cruiser one destroyer SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT course SOUTH. All informed.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 16 Aug 44 to:

GOC	DA & QMG
EGS	A
G(O)	Q
T(ED)	WAR DIARY

G.S.I.

HO FIRST AUSTRALIAN ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 119

Compiled from information received from
1200 hrs 10 Aug 44 to 1200 hrs 17 Aug 44

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Significant Events Page/s 3

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - NW SECTOR

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	4-6
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	6-7
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	7-9
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	9

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SEA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	9
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	9
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	9

PART II

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

AIR	"	9
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---

SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION.

Organisation of a Japanese 3 Regiment Division	"	9
Field Airfield Survey and Construction Unit	"	10-11

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

Japanese Type 99 (1939) Hand Grenade (B)	...	"	11
Japanese Type 89 (1929) Grenade Discharger	...	"	11
Experimental Target Indicator Shell	...	"	12-13
Type 10 (1936) 120mm Dual Purpose Battery	...	"	12-13

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

Japanese Ration Position NEWAK - AITAPE	...	"	13-14
Japanese Development of Occupied Territories...	...	"	14
Analysis of recent Enemy Atrocities Propaganda...	...	"	15-16
Extracts from Captured Documents	...	"	16-17

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

NORTHERN FRANCE	...	...	...	...	...	"	17-18
SOUTHERN FRANCE	...	...	...	...	...	"	18
ITALY	...	...	...	...	...	"	18-19
BURMA	...	...	...	...	...	"	19
RUSSIA	...	...	...	...	...	"	19-20

OVER /

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

PART V

SECURITY

Japanese Translation of Allied Documents. . . . Page 20

APPENDICES

- Appendix 'A' - Comparison of Enemy Operational Aircraft Strengths by Areas.
- Appendix 'B' - Organisation of a Japanese 3 Regiment Division.
- Appendix 'C' - Japanese Type 99 (1939) Hand Grenade (B) (with Pull Type Igniter).
- Appendix 'D' - Order of Battle and Organisation.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS.

There are no events of special
significance to report.

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - NW SECTOR

LAND

SOLOMONS - BOUGAINVILLE

The enemy has displayed increased activity in this area. An attempted infiltration attack on an Allied trail block at KAVAVAROPIA in the UPPER LARUMA RIVER VALLEY was repulsed on the night 7/8 Aug. The following morning 31 enemy dead were counted.

On 9 Aug an Allied perimeter was established on the NORTH bank of the JABA RIVER. On 10 Aug, supported by artillery, Allied troops crossed the JABA RIVER and engaged an enemy party estimated at 20 strong at the mouth of the river.

A further perimeter was established without opposition on 11 Aug by Allied forces 1100 yards SOUTH of the JABA RIVER. In the REINI - TEKESSI RIVERS area contact is being maintained with an undetermined number of Japanese.

The enemy was forced to withdraw from two pillboxes SOUTH of the JABA RIVER on the 12 Aug. Patrol activity continues.

Enemy casualties to 8 Aug total 9547 Japanese killed.

NEW BRITAIN - OPEN BAY AREA

Allied patrols on 13 Aug reported that three parties, consisting of a total of 80 Japanese, were located in the vicinity of TORIU. One party has a radio.

A further report states that an observation post and 240 Japanese are located four miles NE of PONDO POINT.

NEW GUINEA - AITAPE.

After nearly a month of abortive attempts by the Japanese forces to break through in this area the Allied task force commander announced on 9 Aug that the enemy forces were defeated and the remnants of the enemy force were scattered SOUTH and EAST. A holding line was formed on the 9 Aug along the DRINIUMOR RIVER from one mile SOUTH of AFUA to the TORRICELLI MOUNTAINS to prevent any enemy EAST-WEST movement.

Allied patrols are carrying out extensive mopping up operations and during the period 10 to 12 Aug 208 Japanese were killed and one captured. One mountain gun was captured and six 75mm artillery guns were destroyed. On 13 Aug an Allied patrol in the MARUBIAN area reported continued withdrawal eastwards by small scattered groups.

Enemy casualties to 14 Aug number 8117 killed and 99 captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - RAFFIN BAY

The main activity in this sector has been patrolling in the vicinity of SANAR CREEK and SANAR airfield. On 11 Aug a patrol near SANAR CREEK encountered fire from enemy heavy and light mortars, machine guns and small arms.

Patrols to BAGEISERWAR (NW of SAWAR airfield) observed two enemy tanks and 20 Japanese on 12 Aug. On 12/13 Aug an Allied patrol, which included five tanks, returned to our perimeter after subjecting enemy positions to mortar, artillery and tank fire. On 13 Aug a further patrol encountered 46 enemy at a bridge approximately six miles from the mouth of the TOR RIVER. Five of the enemy were killed.

Enemy casualties to 14 Aug number 3424 killed 70 captured.

BIAK ISLAND

Allied and native patrols have relentlessly harassed the Japanese forces in this area and from 1 to 11 Aug killed 218 and captured 29.

Patrols on 9 Aug reported continuous enemy evacuation from WARDO to KORRIDO and NAPIDO.

A native patrol on 11 Aug reported one group of 50 enemy with one machine gun, rifles and grenades at SAWADORI and a further group of 100 Japanese with rifles and one machine gun 2000 yards NORTH of INSEROM. On 13 Aug native patrols reported that 150 Japanese were at SIWES and that many had passed through en route to WARDO. During patrol clashes on 14 Aug a further 51 enemy were killed and 21 captured.

Total enemy casualties to 14 Aug were 4409 killed and 279 captured.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

The main enemy force was encountered on the 10 Aug --- 2500 yards SSW of INASI. A further enemy force estimated 250/350 strong was reported dug in along a 1500 yards front on HILL 380 (4750 yards SSW of INASI).

Following an all night bombardment by Allied artillery our troops established contact with the main enemy force on the 11 Aug. Heavy machine gun and rifle fire was encountered and our forces retired from HILL 380.

During the day Allied troops moved up to the Japanese perimeter but did not cross the hill. High ground on all flanks of the hill was occupied by the enemy.

On 12 Aug Allied patrols re-established contact with the main force 800 yards SE of the Summit of HILL 380.

Five Japanese were killed and three machine guns captured in the vicinity of HILL 380 on 13 Aug. The remnants of the enemy force are now confined to an area 700 by 400 yards and are being engaged by our troops. Up to 15 Aug contact was still being maintained and an additional 104 Japanese had been killed or found dead.

Enemy casualties to 14 Aug were 1422 killed and 110 captured, and a total of 489 Formosans had fallen into our hands.

CAPE SANSAPOR

Allied forces on 11 Aug continued their advance and meeting no opposition reached a point 300 yards from the

KOR RIVER (five and one half miles EAST of CAPE OPMARAI). The same day an amphibious patrol at CAPE GOEDE HOOP saw 35 Japanese moving WEST on the coastal track.

Total enemy casualties to 11 Aug 69 killed and 13 captured.

MACCLUER GULF

A patrol to the vicinity of the METAMANI RIVER headwaters on 11 Aug killed an estimated 20 Japanese and captured three.

SEA

NEW BRITAIN

Aerial photographs revealed the presence of 50 barges in SIMPSON HARBOUR on 15 Aug.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - BIAK ISLAND

One submarine was sighted in WARSA BAY on the NORTH coast of BIAK on 13 Aug.

VOGELKOP PENINSULA

The only sightings reported in this area were one 1000/1500 ton freighter transport at KAIMANA on 8 Aug and two unidentified vessels in GEELVINK BAY on 10 and 11 Aug. Our aircraft sank one lugger, two small freighters, and a number of barges, while PT boats sank four barges loaded with supplies and radios off WINDEHSI on the night 11/12 Aug. One small freighter was damaged by aircraft in WANDAMEN BAY on 11 Aug.

KAI ISLANDS

2800/5300 tons of merchant vessels, plus two luggers and three barges were sighted in this area during the week.

BANDA SEA

Our aircraft sank one 1000/1500 ton freighter transport and one 40 foot power lugger on 6 and 9 Aug respectively and damaged one 150 ton lugger on 6 Aug. On 15 Aug an Allied aircraft sighted and attacked one 2000/4500 ton freighter transport and a smaller freighter with one escort vessel WEST by SOUTH of BOEROE ISLAND. Two direct hits were scored on the larger vessel which was left stationary.

CERAM - AMBOINA

Enemy shipping reported in this area has shown a sharp decrease over the sightings for the previous week. Total shipping sighted included 8200/16,300 tons of merchant shipping plus four to five small freighters, one medium merchant vessel and numerous small craft.

HALMAHERA

The volume of sea traffic in this area has increased considerably during the past week. In numerous attacks our aircraft have registered considerable success. Principal sightings were in WASILE BAY and KAOE BAY.

Sightings Reported

Merchant

Sunk

17,500/34,500 tons of freighters	2-1500/2500 ton freighters
2 large merchant vessels	2 freighters
2 merchant vessels	1 small freighter
7 vessels	1-500 ton freighter
1 small freighter	1-500/600 ton freighter
3 unidentified vessels	6 luggers
	7 barges
	1 small power boat

Damaged

Possibly Sunk

1-1500/2500 ton freighter	2 luggers
1 large freighter	1 power boat
1 medium vessel	21/23 barges
1 small unidentified vessel	
3 luggers	
4 barges	

TALAUD ISLANDS

Shipping reported in this area consisted of one 1000/1500 ton freighter and one 600 ton freighter, both sighted in BEO BAY on 9 and 11 Aug respectively. The former was damaged by aircraft.

PHILIPPINES

Sightings in this area continue above normal. A large convoy was sighted on 10 Aug 120 miles NNW of MANILA BAY travelling NE. Principal sightings have been at CAPE SAN AUGUSTIN and CEBU HARBOUR. Our aircraft sank one destroyer, 3850/6350 tons of merchant vessels and damaged one armed trawler.

Sightings

Naval

Merchant

2 light cruisers	7500/16,000 tons merchant vessels
6 destroyers	3 large cargo vessels
4 warships	2 large tankers
3 escorts	3 small tankers
	2 tankers
	1 medium cargo vessel
	3 cargo vessels
	3 unidentified vessels
	3 barges

AIR - OWN

SOLOMONS - NEW BRITAIN - NEW IRELAND

There has been little change in the scale of daily air attacks over these areas during the past week.

BOUGAINVILLE and NEW IRELAND were the targets for Allied bombers while GAZELLE PENINSULA was effectively covered by both bombers and fighters.

NEW GUINEA

A slight reduction in Allied air activity over the area WEWAK - AITAPE was evident during the week.

Strafing attacks against villages, personnel, bivouac and supply areas further harassed the enemy while Allied fighters, co-operating with PT boats, bombed and strafed coastal targets in the vicinity of WEWAK.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - VOGELKOP PENINSULA

Enemy bases and airfields in this area were again visited regularly by Allied bombers while fighters concentrated on barges and personnel.

Heavy attacks were carried out against NABIRE and MANCKWARI airfields. Large fires and explosions were caused in both areas and the control tower was destroyed at NABIRE. On 15 Aug four aircraft bombed and strafed INDEHSI area, in which vicinity HQ 2 Army is reported.

The area MANCKWARI - WAIGEO ISLAND was well covered in bomber and fighter sweeps in which buildings, huts and other installations were demolished or damaged.

BABO airfield and enemy concentrations at ASAP (seven miles NW BABO) were also visited by our heavy bombers while Beaufighters strafed the radar station at KAIMANA.

KAI ISLANDS

Since 9 Aug LANGGOER airfield has been bombed and strafed daily. Several direct hits on the runway and in the dispersal areas have caused severe damage.

CERAM - BOEROE

LIANG airfield, visited on two occasions during the week, suffered heavy damage and barrack buildings on LAHA and NAMLEA strips were either demolished or damaged. Strafing attacks were carried out against barges along the northern coast of CERAM. On 15 Aug, a Liberator scored two direct hits and one near miss on a 2000/4500 tons freighter transport 55 miles WEST by SOUTH of BOEROE ISLAND. The vessel was stationary when last sighted.

HALMAHERAS - PHILIPPINES

Our heavy bombers were again over the HALMAHERAS this week. During an attack on GALELA on 10 Aug 15 grounded enemy aircraft (including 10 seaplanes) were destroyed and a further 16 were probably destroyed.

Enemy shipping in KAOE and WASILE BAYS was also attacked and four freighters were sunk, while the enemy barge centre at BATJAN ISLAND was visited by Mitchells on 13 Aug.

On 14 Aug barges and personnel areas in WASILE BAY were the target for heavy bombers, which caused explosions and fires and also destroyed or damaged three anti-aircraft gun positions.

On 8 and 9 Aug Liberators again bombed the airfield at BASSA POINT. No results of this attack have been reported. Our Mitchell bombers attacked enemy positions on TERNATE ISLAND on 14 Aug, starting many fires.

AIR - ENEMY

Only two enemy air raids were reported in the SWPA this week. On the night 7/8 Aug a single aircraft dropped bombs in the vicinity of NAMBER strip and on the night 11/12 Aug seven aircraft bombed OWI ISLAND. No damage or casualties were reported in either attack.

The latter raid is the largest reported in this area since 3 Jun when 10/20 enemy aircraft attacked Allied positions on BIAK ISLAND.

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SEA

CENTRAL PACIFIC - CAROLINE ISLANDS

Two medium freighters at YAP on 10 Aug was the only sighting reported in this area during the past week.

AIR - OWN

CENTRAL PACIFIC - YAP

During the period 9/11 Aug, YAP town, airfield and anti-aircraft positions were bombed on three occasions. No detailed reports of these attacks are available.

AIR - ENEMY

Enemy air activity in the CENTRAL PACIFIC has been practically negligible. No air support of any kind has been accorded the defenders of GUAM. No recent fighter interception has been encountered over YAP, and at TRUK, the scale of interception has greatly diminished.

PART II

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

AIR

Included as Appendix 'A' is a graph showing a comparison of enemy operational aircraft strengths by areas for the period Jun 1943 to Jul 1944.

SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION

ORGANISATION OF A JAPANESE 3 REGIMENT DIVISION

In First Aust Army Weekly Intelligence Summaries Nos 114 and 115 respectively, the organisation of Japanese Divisional Artillery and Infantry was given. This information has been combined with other available data, to produce the ORGANISATION CHART OF A JAPANESE 3 REGIMENT DIVISION included as Appendix 'B' hereto.

FIELD AIRFIELD SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION UNITS

The Japanese, in their efforts to build up a number of air bases in as short a time as possible, have made wide use of units known as Field Airfield Survey and Construction Units. These units may be manned either entirely by Japanese personnel, in which case they will have a certain amount of mechanical equipment, or by civilian labourers - Formosan, Indonesian etc - or Indian PW, with a small number of Japanese Army personnel acting as guards, when all the work will be done by manual labour. Strengths vary considerably from 300 upwards.

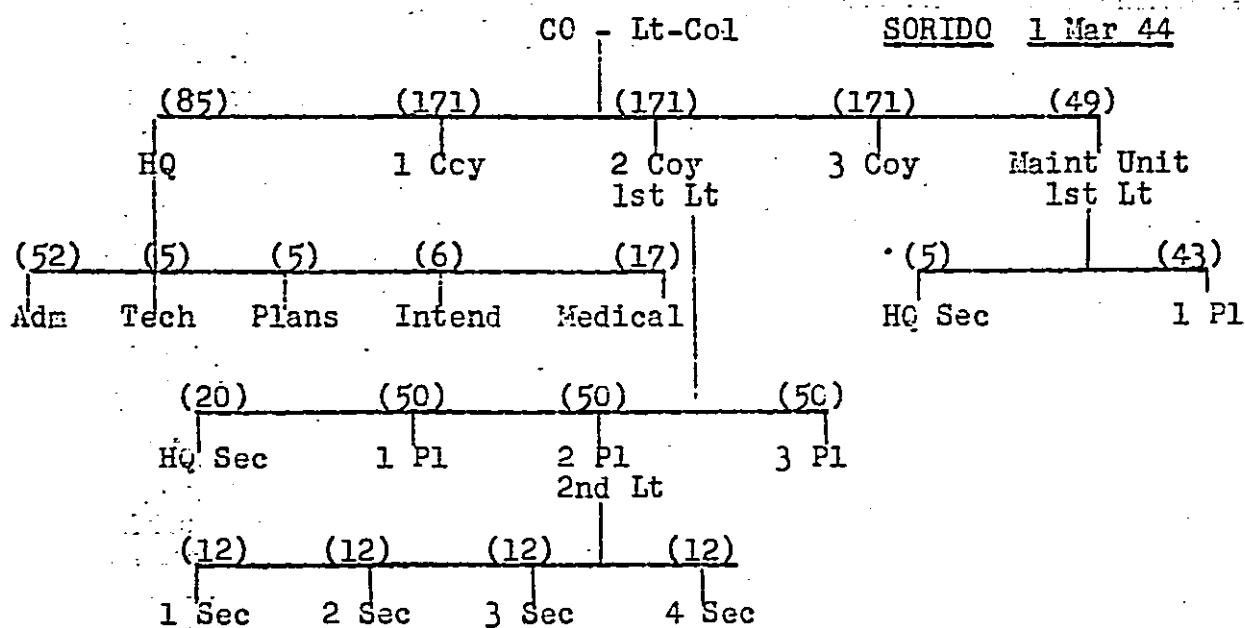
The chief duties of these units are to carry out surveys to determine areas suitable for the establishment of airfields, and to construct and maintain these airfields.

If several Airfield Survey and Construction Units are working in the same area, they may be grouped together under the command of a Field Airfield Construction Headquarters. This Headquarters will normally come under command of the senior army formation in the area in which it is located. Thus, 17 Field Airfield Survey and Construction Unit on 1 Mar 44, was temporarily under command of the CO 222 Infantry Regiment, although the normal chain of command was 2 Field Airfield Survey and Construction Headquarters, under 2 Army.

107 Airfield Survey and Construction Unit on BIAK ISLAND on 1 Jan 44, shortly after the Japanese occupation of that island, had a strength of 147 officers and men and a Labour Group of 991 Formosans. During the ensuing three months they were reinforced by a further 70 Jap personnel and 719 Formosans, whilst 122 Formosans were returned to FORMOSA because of their inefficiency. The field diary of the unit reports the death almost daily of Labour Group personnel, and generally indicates the contempt with which they are treated. On 31 Mar 44, the diary states that the present strength of the unit was only 146 officers and men and 807 Labour personnel, disclosing a discrepancy of 704 Formosans over and above those reported dead.

The following chart shows the organisation and strength of 17 Field Airfield Survey and Construction Unit. This unit was composed entirely of Japanese personnel, and equipment included tractors, power shovels, rollers and trucks. Personnel were armed with the "MEIJI 38" Short Rifle.

17 FD A/F SVY & CONSTR UNIT



Total Strength - 648

(AMF Review No 106)

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

JAPANESE TYPE 99 (1939) HAND GRENADE (B)

Characteristics and diagrammatic sketches of a modified form of the Type 99 Hand Grenade, fitted with "pull type igniter", are reproduced as Appendix 'C'.

JAPANESE TYPE 89 (1929) GRENADE DISCHARGER EXPERIMENTAL TARGET INDICATOR SHELL

This shell is discharged from the Type 89 Grenade Discharger and is used to indicate the target by the emission of flashes or coloured smoke.

Three varieties of shell are known, viz: red, yellow and white flash. The two former emit red and yellow smoke respectively, and are used for daylight indication, whilst the latter emits a white flash and is used at night.

The character (天) is stencilled in white on the body of the projectile to signify target indicator shell. The nature of the shell is determined by a red, yellow or white circular band which is painted around the character (天)

<u>Type of Shell</u>	<u>Marking</u>
Red	Red circle
Yellow	Yellow circle
Flash	White circle

(AMF Review No 106)

TYPE 10 (1936) 120mm DUAL PURPOSE BATTERY

Included amongst equipment captured at MOKMER on BIAK ISLAND was a four gun Type 10 (1936) 120mm dual purpose battery. As information regarding this weapon is limited, the performance and characteristics as listed below are tentative only.

Weapons of this type have been located in two-gun and four-gun installations at RABUL and BABU.

Of the four guns in the battery captured at MOKMER on BIAK ISLAND, two were destroyed and two severely damaged. Evidence indicates that these two guns were brought in "knocked down" and were assembled in the pits. Name plates on the guns indicate that they were manufactured in 1943.

The breech block of the guns at BIAK is a horizontal sliding type, manually operated, and is of excellent design. Two large recoil cylinders are set side by side just above the barrel. A standard naval pedestal mount is used with this weapon. At BIAK, a large base plate, or spade - similar to that used with the 25mm and 40mm Naval anti-aircraft weapons - was buried in the floor of each gun pit to provide stable foundation. This base plate measured 28' to 30' in diameter, and was evidently made in sections welded together as it was assembled in the pit. The weight of this plate is estimated at three or four tons.

With the battery at BIAK was recovered a Naval type director which had not been uncrated or set up. No technical information regarding the director is available, but in outward appearance it is distinct from other anti-aircraft directors captured to date. The only other fire control instrument found was a height finder. Each gun was equipped with match pointer dials for azimuth, elevation and fuse range. Also, each was equipped with simple speed ring sights. No fuse cutters for any of the guns were recovered.

The gun pits at BIAK measured approximately 28' in diameter and 6' in depth. Six or eight ready magazines of 12-round capacity were spaced around the sides of the pits, which were reinforced with oil drums and logs. Set in an arc, atop a high ridge, the guns were well placed for horizontal as well as anti-aircraft fire.

No information is available regarding ammunition, other than that fixed rounds are used and that these are packed in individual boxes.

The presumed characteristics of the Type 10 (1936) 120mm D.P. gun are as follows :-

Service	: Navy
Flakintel Classification	: Heavy
Diameter of bore	: 120mm (4.72")
Calibre length	: 45
Elevation	: 6° to 85°
Traverse	: 360°
Maximum horizontal range	: 21,000 yards .
Maximum vertical range	: 35,000 feet
Maximum effective range	: 19,000 feet
Muzzle velocity	: 2600 feet/second
Rate of fire	: 10/12 round/minute
Type of mount	: Pedestal

Average pit diameter : 25-30'
Ammunition : High explosive (fixed)
Identification features : Pedestal mount
Two large recoil
cylinders above
barrel

(Adapted from AAF Summary No 232)

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

JAPANESE RATION POSITION WENAK - AITAPE

An extract from a captured operation order of 1 Bn
41 Mtn Arty Regt reads :-

- "1. With the exception of the units WEST of the SONAMU RIVER all units will change the amount of their rations.
2. The rations for all units (Comment: presumably EAST of the SONAMU RIVER) after 1 Jun (44) will be as follows :-

Regular ration 1 man per day (Comment: Staple Food)	330 grams
Supplementary rations	10 grams
Spice	15 grams"

(Note: Total - 355 grams or
 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb approx).

The SONAMU RIVER is unlocated. The units affected by this reduction are possibly those not in the combat area. The daily ration of $\frac{3}{4}$ lb per man per day represents less than one-third of the normal field ration.

The effect of the general ration shortage is summed up in a captured letter from one officer to another :-

"If you have any spare rations, please forward them in care of 2/Lt YASUKAWA. Those in the rear area are starving and in no condition to fight."

Forward troops just EAST of AITAPE are also affected. Orders were given to conserve ammunition and rations, to consider means of replenishment and "try to make your two days' ration last for three days and two meals."

Such an extenuation elicited the following comment, dated 28 Jun 44, from a platoon commander in 80 Inf Regt :-

"Have had only two meals a day for a long time. When I stand up my legs feel weak. I have lost weight. I try to gather whatever food is available, but there is nothing we can eat to live off the land. It isn't so bad when I stay here all day but when I go out on patrols just two meals a day is not enough to give me energy to move. But we cannot complain now about lack of food. There are many who are fighting without eating for several days. Supplies have finally reached them, and they are getting a meagre handful of rice daily."

It is not only because of the shortage of barges and the difficulty of supply that the ration scale for the forward troops is low. Rations for most, if not all, troops in the 18 Army area appear to have been on a reduced scale for some months.

There is no doubt that the fighting efficiency of 18 Army has been considerably reduced by these shortages, - even though its morale has been tempered by hope and glory; but not even the Japanese can fight and march for ever on a continually empty stomach.

(NGF Intelligence Summary No 186)

JAPANESE DEVELOPMENT OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

An undated plan for the development of agriculture and forestry in NEW GUINEA was captured recently.

In 1943, the MITSUI Agriculture and Forestry Co Ltd established agricultural training schools at HOLLANDIA and SENTANI. Whilst the immediate object was probably for Army supplies, further emphasising the Japanese policy of self-support, there was very probably a longer-range policy for after the war.

The scheme was co-ordinated by the Naval Development Department, which drew up the syllabus and provided instructors. It catered for the training of natives in both the Japanese language and Agriculture, for a period of six months in each subject. The training plan was divided into the following subjects :-

- (1) Language
- (2) Training
- (3) Insect Pests
- (4) Fertilisation

The inclusion of "Insect Pests" and "Fertilisation" shows evidence of some measure of thoroughness.

After consultation with school teachers and native chiefs, pupils from 13 - 17 years of age, with "healthy bodies and high moral principles", were selected. This suggests some care in the choice of the individual. It is apparent from this that the Japanese were primarily concerned with the indoctrination of intelligent native youths. It was probably intended that the latter should supervise labour in Japanese gardens of the type which are now common in the SWPA.

A captured Japanese sketch dated 8 Feb 44 of KABAREI BKY on the NORTH coast of WAIGEO ISLAND shows two areas, one of about 29 acres, stated to have been reclaimed and under cultivation as a farm by the SOUTH SEAS SETTLEMENT COMPANY Branch Office. This Company was probably under the control of the MITSUI Company referred to above.

(Adapted from AMF Review No 106)

ANALYSIS OF RECENT ENEMY ATROCITY PROPAGANDA

A notable feature of Japanese radio and newspaper propaganda over the past week has been the re-introduction of allegations of Allied atrocities. This theme has been neglected by the Japanese for some considerable time; in fact the Japanese allegations of Allied bombings of hospital ships some 12 months or more ago was the last large-scale attempt to blacken the character of the Allied forces. However, as that campaign was something in the nature of a "cover-up" for the sinking of the "CENTAUR", another reason must be found for the present outbursts.

The genesis of the present spate of vituperation was apparently a photograph which appeared in the American magazine "LIFE". This ill-advised photograph showed an American girl contemplating what was supposed to be the skull of a Japanese soldier, which had been sent to her by a friend in the SWPA. This photograph immediately brought forth considerable adverse comment from US circles, and it was not until then that any Japanese reaction was noticed. Immediately, the Japanese propaganda machine began seizing upon any act or utterance which could be possibly misconstrued and present the Allies in an unfavourable light.

Consequently upon the original denouncement, there followed in quick succession, a series of allegations of reprehensible conduct on the part of the Allies. These accusations included a wide variety of subjects. Beginning on the original theme of desecration of the war dead, attention was directed to the statement that President Roosevelt uses a letter opener made from the forearm of a Japanese soldier killed in the SWPA. Next came allegations that British troops in BURMA were using Japanese dead as road-repairing material and were filling in shell holes and bomb craters with Japanese remains. This was followed by the supposed discovery that in NORTH BURMA, dead Japanese were being disembowelled and their remains filled with mortar bombs to act as booby traps against Japanese troops burying their dead. TOKYO also thought it pertinent to mention the 'ruthless Allied bombing and strafing of women and children at prayer in wayside shrines in ITALY'.

The enemy finding himself short of reports of current atrocities has had no hesitation in reverting to long past events to emphasise Allied inhumanity. In reverse chronological order, the Amritsar Massacre of 1919 and the Indian Mutiny of 1856 were revived and held up as examples of British brutality. One commentator, broadcasting from SINGAPORE, went so far as to give in full a lurid account of the old British custom of hanging, drawing and quartering, in furtherance of the theory of "Anglo-American barbarity."

Another extremely interesting aspect of this campaign was the storm of protest which greeted the suggestion of one, Major Elliott, an American citizen, that poison gas be used against the Japanese in retaliation for their use of gas in CHINA, and also that chemical warfare be initiated as a means of exterminating the Japanese in their homeland. This advocacy, rightly or wrongly, was taken to be the confirmed policy of the Allies and was used as a further example of our ruthlessness. Incidentally in an endeavour to make the most of every opportunity, this last example was also used by the Japanese to illustrate Allied gullibility in accepting Chinese propaganda at face value.

In searching for an explanation for this new trend of Japanese thought, several widely varied theories can be brought to light for examination. They are as follows :-

- (a) Firstly to draw attention of the public eye and ear from the unsatisfactory internal situation which now exists in JAPAN.
- (b) In view of the fact that a considerable amount of the propaganda of this type is directed to INDIA, it can also be assumed that a further object is a 'cover-up' for the failure of the Japanese campaign in BURMA.
- (c) As a 'cover-up' for disclosures of Japanese atrocities in occupied territory which may soon be liberated.

Secondly, to endeavour to justify the carrying out of, or the building up of a basis for, "reprisals" which could conceivably take the form of :-

- (a) Reprisals against, or justification for the neglect of, Allied PW in Japanese hands; or
- (b) Initiation of Chemical warfare by the Japanese.

Thirdly, to scare the apparently lethargic Japanese 'man-in-the-street' into exhibiting a little more patriotic fervour than he is credited with.

One positive conclusion can be drawn from the foregoing. The Japanese High Command has been forced on to the defensive and has realised that it will be extremely difficult to convince the people of JAPAN that the reason for such a state of affairs does not solely lie with the Japanese General Staff. The Japanese High Command must surely realise that in a few months the whole weight of Allied Sea, Land and Air power will be centred on the PACIFIC theatre. Such being the case, it will also be realised that survival of the Japanese (for any length of time) will only be brought about by the close co-operation of every Japanese man, woman and child. So a 'bogey-man' has been created, which it is no doubt fondly hoped, will prove a better ally for JAPAN than their more substantial but nevertheless impotent Axis partners.

EXTRACTS FROM CAPTURED DOCUMENTS

The following extracts from Japanese diaries found at SAIPAN give a graphic description of the losses inflicted by Allied submarines on a large enemy convoy bound for SAIPAN.

The writer of the following diary was not identified:-

29 May "Today at 1200 we were actually leaving YOKOHAMA. There is nobody to see us off. The convoy seems to consist of seven ships. Besides these there are escort ships. The commanding officer is Commander MIYASHITA. Leaving our country, we

are on our way with high spirits. The TAKAOKA MARU (comment: 7006 gross tons) is the leading ship. At 1500 we passed off YOKOSUKA."

4 Jun "At 1520 suddenly an enemy submarine attacked and with three torpedoes sank a transport, the KACHIGAWA MARU. Out of three ships we lost one. Realising that under such conditions our entire convoy could be sunk inside of ten minutes, the lookout crew was more zealous in carrying out its duties. We prayed for a safe voyage for the TAKAOKA MARU during the remaining three days. We also prayed for the safety of our comrades on the torpedoed ship."

5 Jun "Our transport, the TAKAOKA MARU was hit directly at 1630 by a torpedo today just before supper. Our ship was struck by three torpedoes. I just happened to be on the upper deck. I had a narrow escape. My feelings at that time were indescribable. At the same time that the TAKAOKA MARU sank, another naval transport exploded and sank. About 3½ hours later we were rescued by an escort vessel. Death toll continues to rise. Yesterday the KACHIGAWA MARU was sunk and today two more ships were lost."

6 Jun "Two more transports were sunk! What can this mean, losing five out of seven ships! The naval escorts were doing their best to repulse the submarine attacks. We did our best too. It is fully 10 days since we left JAPAN."

A second diary was written by an Army probationary officer. The following entry was made at SAIPAN on 7 Jun, and presumably refers to the same convoy :-

"According to the survivors, out of the second transport echelon (eight ships) and its escort of eight ships, six transports and two escort vessels were sunk by enemy subs. Of 10,000 men only 4,000 were rescued. The affair is too regrettable for words."

Remarking on the safe arrival of his own convoy, the diarist has this succinct comment: "For a convoy of troops to reach its destination unscathed is almost unknown among the stories of troops transported heretofore. We were favoured by the Gods!"

(US Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas "Weekly Intelligence").

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

NORTHERN FRANCE

While the attempted Allied encirclement of the German Seventh Army was not a total success, there can be no doubt that the striking power of this formation has been greatly impaired and will remain so for a considerable time. Even

so, it has not managed to extricate itself completely from the pocket and a crossing of the SEINE has yet to be negotiated. With all bridges across this river destroyed, with Allied air superiority still unchallenged and advanced American columns forming a deep salient on the German Southern flank, several major hazards remain to jeopardise the German chances of successful withdrawal.

With the neck of the FALAISE Gap reduced to approximately six miles, only very few enemy troops are managing to make their way out of the Allied trap. Canadian troops are fighting in FALAISE itself and their artillery dominates all routes out of the town. Further WEST, British forces have by-passed CONDE and cut road communications SOUTH of this town. Pressure is being exerted on the German forces remaining in the pocket but no sign of disorganisation has yet made itself manifest. At the western end of the pocket US troops have made some impression on the enemy positions, having occupied DOMFRON and reached the outskirts of GER. The position at MORTAIN is still obscure. The American troops SOUTH of the FALAISE Gap are fighting in, and have passed beyond ARGENTAN and their artillery covers the remaining escape routes.

A strict Allied censorship has imposed restrictions on the mention of any area EAST of FALAISE but enemy sources report heavy fighting at DREUX and CHARTRES approximately 40 miles WEST and WSW of PARIS.

SOUTHERN FRANCE

The Allied landings in the French RIVIERA have as yet, met with little organised resistance. This was more or less to be expected in view of the precarious situation of German manpower. Elements of from four to seven German divisions are known to be stationed in the French MEDITERRANEAN coastal area but they are without armoured support, and in all probability will be mainly confined to the MARSEILLES - TOULON area and to a lesser degree in the NICE - CANNES area. It is interesting to note that in the ALPES de PROVENCE, BASSES ALPES and ALPES MARITIMES areas which lie in the hinterland beyond the invasion coast, the French Forces of the Interior (MAQUIS) operate in strength.

Official reports have so far stated that two islands of the d'HYERES Group have been occupied and that French, British and American troops had effected landings in the mainland in the vicinity of CANNES and at ST TROPEZ. Airborne troops have been dropped inland over a wide area, and unconfirmed reports state that Allied penetrations have reached a distance of 20 miles from the coast, although the area of these advances is not specified. German reports state that TOULON is under artillery fire. A late official Allied communique stated that advances had been made up to eight miles inland in the area between NICE and MARSEILLES, that 2000 prisoners have already been taken and Allied casualties are extremely light.

ITALY

Operations in ITALY over the past week have again been on a negligible scale. The centre of interest is still the Northern portion of the city of FLORENCE from which German troops have almost wholly withdrawn, the exception being

snipers who are having a nuisance effect on Allied patrols. As yet no Allied attempt in force has been made to occupy this part of the city, possibly because it is still within range of German artillery sited in the hilly country to the NORTH of the town and possibly because of the suspicion of German delayed action mines and booby traps. British and Indian troops have effected small scale crossings of the RIVER ARNO both WEST and EAST of the city and have made light contacts with enemy rearguards in the former area, but in the latter stubborn resistance has been encountered.

On the ADRIATIC sector, Polish troops have made advances up to eight miles beyond SENIGALLIA.

The German overall strength in ITALY remaining unchanged at 26 nominal divisions elements of 16 of which are in contact.

BURMA

Reports from BURMA indicate that activity is still mainly confined to the areas SOUTH and NE of IMPHAL. No large-scale resistance is being offered to the British advance in these areas and evidence is accumulating of the extreme disorganisation of the retreating Japanese forces.

On the IMPHAL - TIDDIM ROAD advance British elements are reported in the area adjacent to the INDIAN - BURMA border. Advances up to eight miles are reported beyond TAMU.

In the MYITKYINA - MCGAUNG area, mopping up continues and small advances to the SOUTH have been made.

On the SALWEEN front an advance of 18 miles has been made by Chinese troops from TENGCHUNG in the direction of BHAMO.

Evidence is to hand that reinforcements have been reaching BURMA from SUMATRA. These have been on a small scale only, but it is an indication that the Japanese are lacking trained reinforcements. This assumption is borne out by the fact that these troops were committed to action two days after their arrival in the TAMU Area.

RUSSIA

Operations by Russian troops have been mainly confined to consolidation and defensive actions during the past week. Advances have been made in LATVIA and ESTONIA.

WEST of PSKOV, Russian troops have advanced to within several miles of the important rail junction of VALGA on the LATVIA - ESTONIA border and on the main line between RIGA and TALLINN. The German troops in this area are counter-attacking strongly in an effort to hold this town.

Against stiff opposition slight advances have been effected on the southern flank of the east Prussian border. Three large Russian forces are now in a position to launch a co-ordinated attack on German territory.

Fierce fighting still rages in the outskirts of WARSAW. Despite stubborn resistance, Russian troops effected a crossing of the VISTULA NORTH of the city, thus increasing

the threat of encirclement. To the SE the Russian bridgeheads over the river have been strengthened against opposition in the area SW of LUBLIN and important German defensive positions have been occupied.

No major gains have been reported in the CARPATHIAN Sector where strong German counter-attacks are holding up the Russian advances towards CRACOW and the CARPATHIAN Passes.

PART V

SECURITY

JAPANESE TRANSLATION OF ALLIED DOCUMENTS

The 'Intelligence Records File' of YAMANAKA Butai HQ, which was found in the KOHIMA area (SEATIC Trans Report No 12) proved to be of special interest in that it contained translations into Japanese of a number of captured Allied documents. Some of the translations even included explanatory Japanese translators' notes.

These Allied documents comprised a bundle of military telegrams, a circular issued by a Corps giving the names of pro-Japanese fifth columnists believed to be making their way into INDIA, a statement of Counter-Measures against Indian Special Operatives of the Japanese Army and particulars of propaganda directed towards Japanese employed Indian Special Operatives.

The telegrams were captured by a 2/Lieutenant KUZUSHIMA and members of the NISHI Organisation, and later translated by a member of the HIKARI Organisation. The Japanese reaction to the perusal of these telegrams is contained in the covering letter which forwarded the translations to YAMANAKA Butai :-

"They have been translated, and are now presented for study to show how much was known at the time of the movements of KAWAGUCHI Tai..

Secrecy of plans must be enforced in future and it must be borne in mind that as these documents show, there are many spies working for the enemy, especially of late, even among the local inhabitants. You will take every precaution and wipe out this spy network. By exercising the strictest supervision, you will concentrate on achieving perfect security."

(AMF Weekly Intelligence Review No 106)

TP/Hon Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUSTRALIAN ARMY

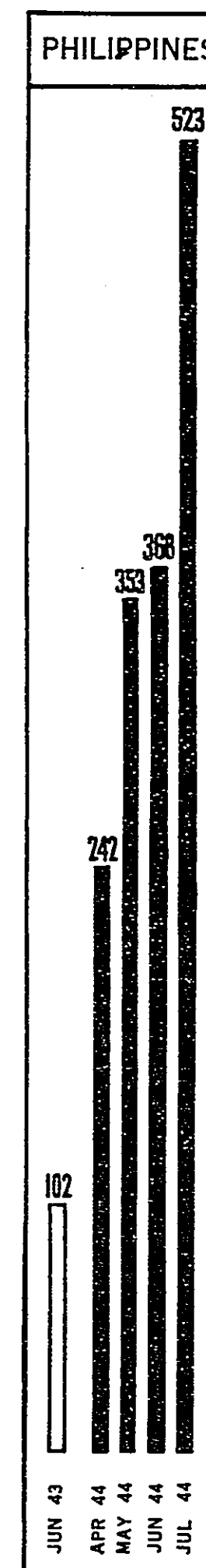
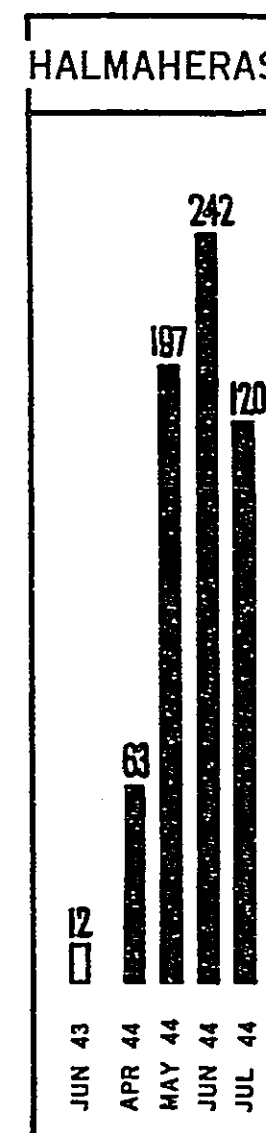
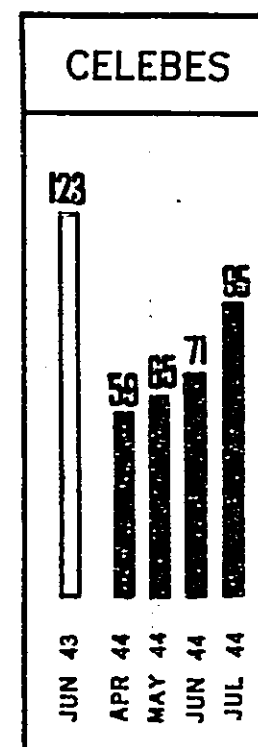
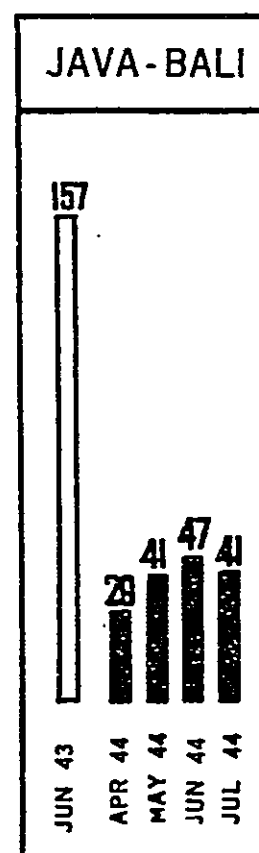
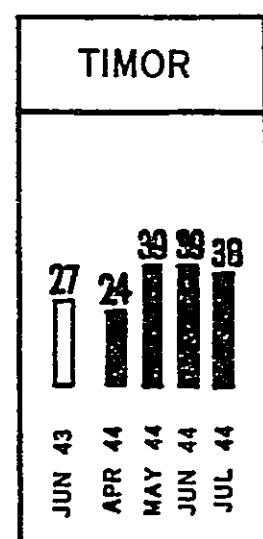
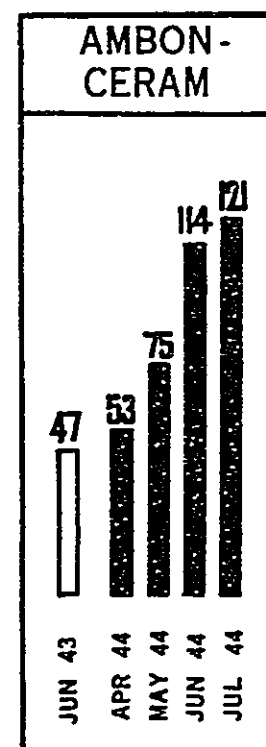
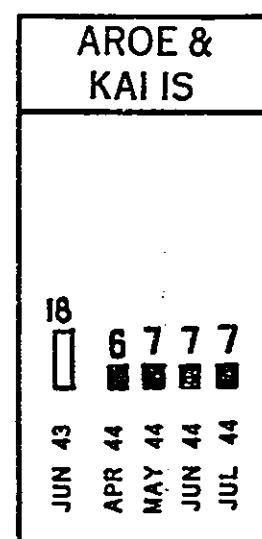
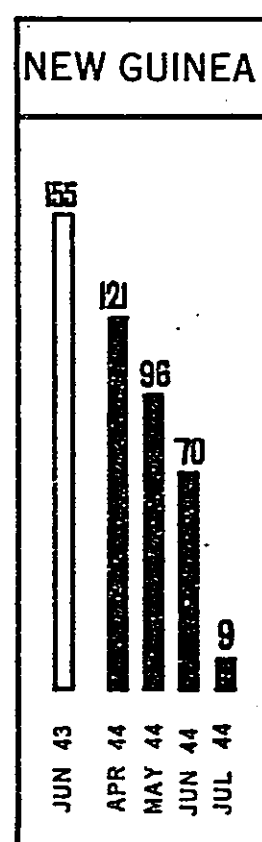
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TOWNSVILLE Fortress	124
CAIRNS Fortress	125
ERA First Aust Army	126-131
Aust Trg Centre (JW)	132-135
7 Aust Comd AL Sec	136
Corps HQ VDC (QLD)	137
Sigs First Aust Army	138
1 Aust Para Bn	139
First Aust Army Regt Trg School	140
First Aust Army School of Sigs	141
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G(I)	146-151
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CSO	162
Svy	163
LHQ (Aust)	164
Adv LHQ	165-169
NT Force	170
QUEENSLAND L of C Area	171-174
7 Aust Div	175-210
LHQ School of MI	211-212
FELO	213
NOIC CAIRNS	214
5 TAC R Sqn (RAAF)	215
MLO Security Service (CANBERRA)	216
File	217
War Diary	218-219

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COMPARISON OF ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT STRENGTHS BY AREAS

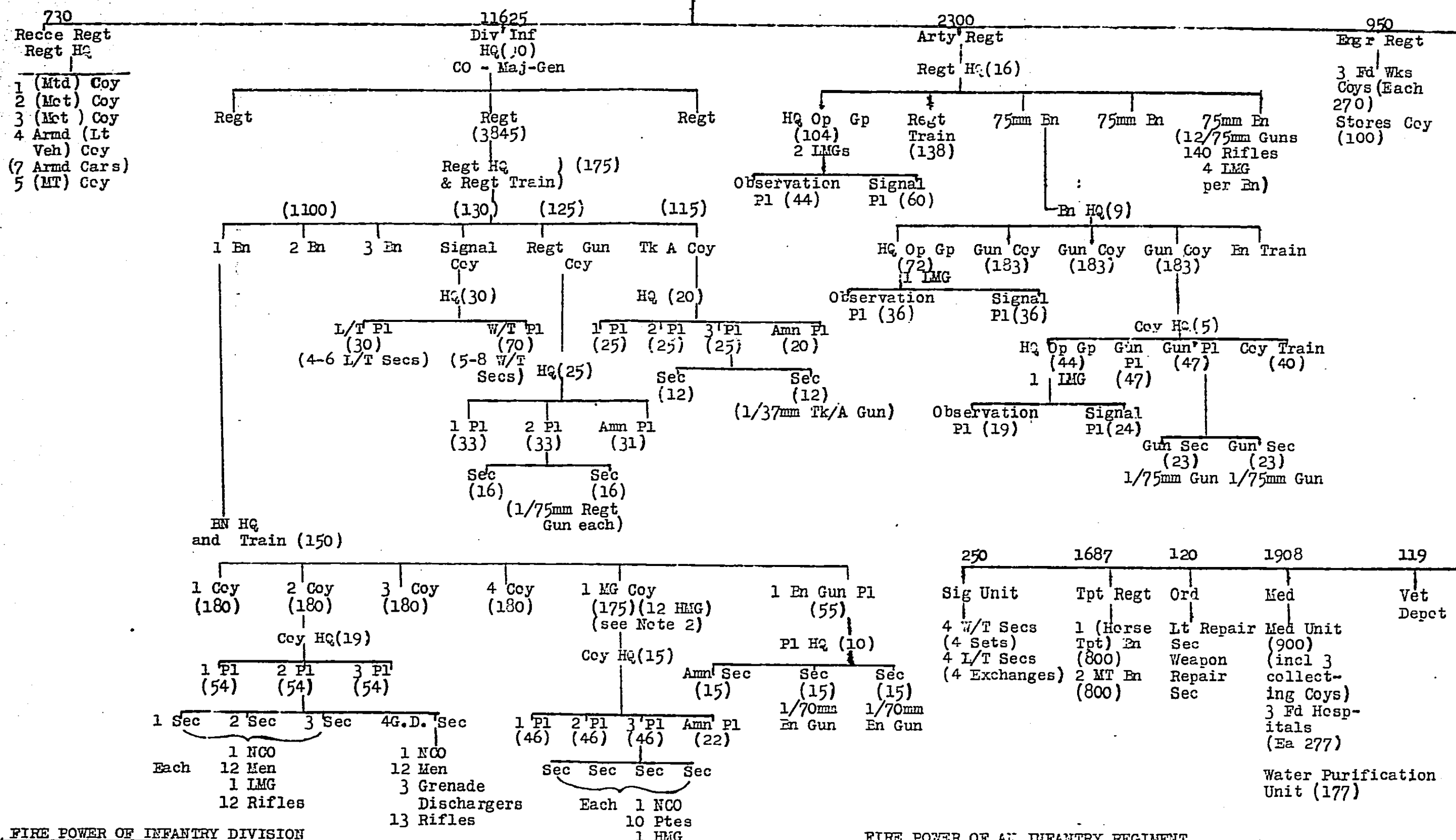


ORGANISATION OF A JAPANESE 3 REGIMENT DIVISION

TOTAL PERSONNEL 20,000

Div HQ (300)
GOC - Lt-Gen

Appendix "B"
To HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 119
of 17 Aug 44



NOTES:
1. The totals are given at full war establishment and are unlikely to be found in the field. The Japanese Operational strength for their Standard Division is approximately 16,000
2. Usually Inf Regiments operate in the field with only 24 HMGs in which case the strength of the MG Coy is 145, surplus personnel being distributed amongst the Regt.

3. 32, 35 and 36 Divisions exclude Recce Regt and include an Inf Tankette Unit comprised of approx 150 personnel and 17 to 20 Tankettes

GS1 FIRST AUST ARMY
16 Aug 44

JAPANESE

TYPE 99 (1939) HAND GRENADE (b)

(with Pull Type Igniter)

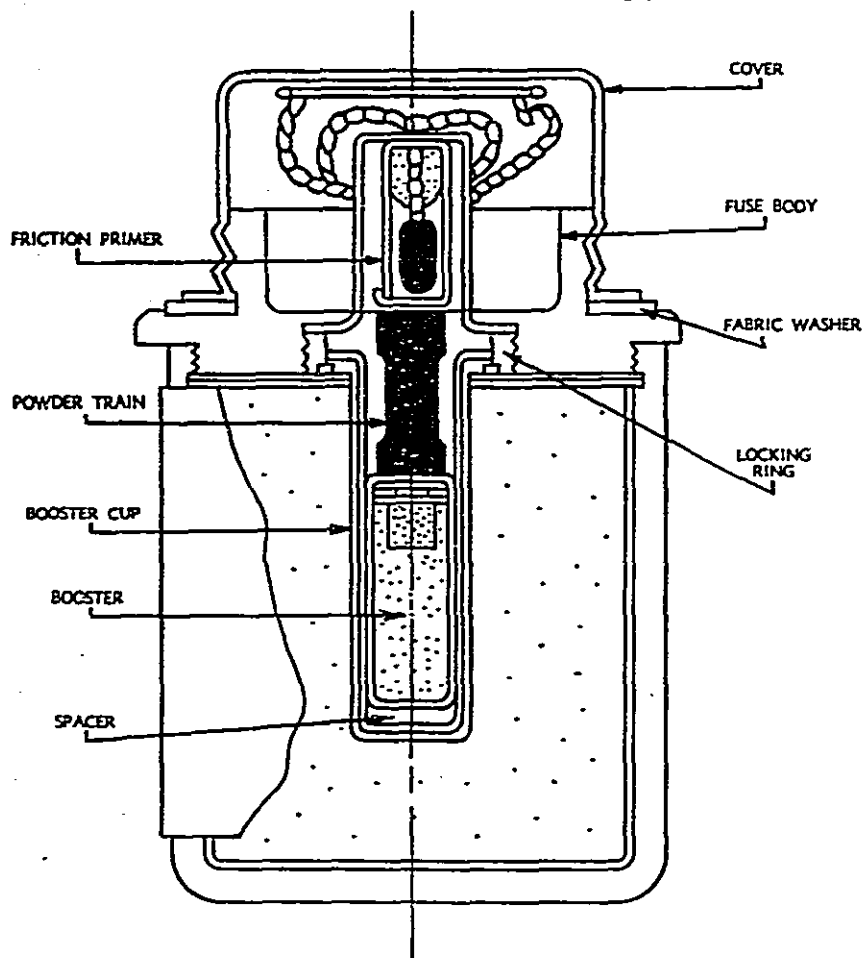


DIAGRAM "A"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The grenade is thrown by hand only and is used against the enemy at close range. Hold the grenade in the right hand as shown in diagram "B," remove the cover and place the ring attached to the pull cord over a finger. When the grenade is thrown, the ring and the pull cord will be left on the hand and only the grenade will be thrown. Another method of use is to arrange the grenade in any desired position so that the pull cord will be pulled as a trip wire, etc., by unsuspecting enemy troops. The grenade may also be used as a land mine by fixing it in a pre-determined position, attaching a long length of cord and initiating it from behind cover. The effectiveness of this grenade is approximately the same as that of the Type 99 (a) reported in AMFWIR of 17 Mar 44 No. 85 as a "New Improved Type Hand Grenade ('Kiska')." "

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

When the grenade has been made ready for use and then is not used the pull cord should be returned to its original position within the grenade, and the cover replaced. It is important to have covers on hand at all times. Be sure that no tension is applied to the pull cord until such times as the grenade is thrown, as there is always a danger of friction between the igniter and the friction compounds.

GENERAL

The grenade consists of the body, bursting charge, fuse and instruction label. Its total weight is approximately 273 grams (9.63 oz). The body is a cast iron cylinder with a threaded recess at the top to receive the fuse. The bursting charge is approximately 55 grams (1.93 oz) of pressed picric with a central recess to receive the powder train and booster.

The fuse consists of the fuse body, friction igniter, fabric washer, fuse cover, powder train, booster, booster cup and locking ring. The fuse body is of cast iron. It serves as a screw cover and plug at the top of the grenade. This is brought about by a lip which is knurled to facilitate assembly with the grenade body.

The friction igniter consists of an aluminium tube, pull cord, ring, igniter compound and friction compound. One end of the cord is impregnated with a friction compound which adheres to the igniter compound in the aluminium tube. By withdrawing the pull cord from the grenade body the friction between the two compounds causes a flash which ignites the powder train.

A fibre washer of flannelette is soaked in a paraffin solution and placed on the lip of the fuse body, thus ensuring a water tight fit.

The powder train is contained in the central recess of the bursting charge and has a delay of approximately 4 seconds. Relay pellets are fitted to both sides of the powder train to facilitate the ignition.

The booster is identical with that contained in the Type 99 (a) reported in AMFWIR of 17 Mar 44 No. 85.

The characteristics and diagrams have been extracted from translations of a captured document.

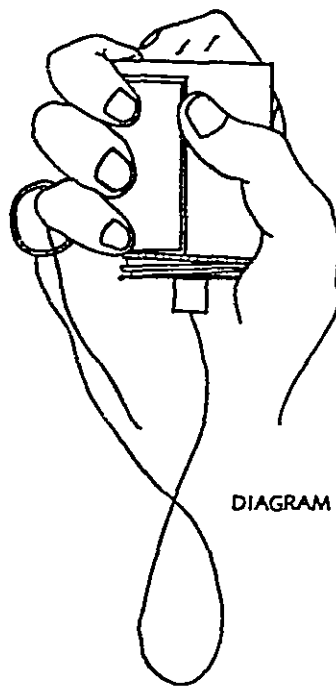


DIAGRAM "B"

Appendix 'D'
to HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 119
Dated 17 Aug 44.

ORDER OF BATTLE AND ORGANISATION

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

LAND

The following changes are recorded in the estimate of enemy strengths in the SWPA as at 9 Aug 44.

Following the Allied landing at NOEMFOOR on 2 Jul 44, a re-distribution of enemy forces in the VOGELKOP PENINSULA was made. 2 Army Headquarters was withdrawn from MANOKWARI to WINDEHSI (located in GEELVINK BAY opposite MACCLUER GULF) and the bulk of 35 Division is believed to have moved westward towards SORONG.

To implement these changes a new estimate of 1000 has been introduced for WINDEHSI to include HQ 2 Army and some Base and L of C troops, and the estimate for MANOKWARI has been reduced to 11,000, which figure includes 3000 Divisional troops and 8000 Base and L of C troops. Tentatively, no alteration has been made at SORONG.

The estimate of strength at SARMI has been reduced to 2500, allowing for some evacuation westward and general attrition.

These changes alter the total for NORTH coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA from 27,500 to 23,000.

In the NE Sector, the estimate of enemy troops EAST of AITAPE has been reduced to 40,000 due to deduction of known and estimated casualties. The remaining strengths of divisions are estimated as :-

20 Division	5000
41 Division	5000
51 Division	4000

As a result of the above changes, sector strengths have been correspondingly reduced as follows:-

NW SECTOR	414,000/424,000
NE SECTOR	<u>103,500</u>

TOTAL SWPA 517,500/527,500

2 Army Area of Responsibility

Following on the re-distribution of forces referred to above, the proposed dispositions at 9 Jul 44 were as follows:-

35 Division - Responsible for the area SORONG, EAST to but excluding KAIRONI.

One Independent Brigade - Responsible for the area MANOKWARI, WEST to and including KAIRONI. Captured documents disclose that One Independent Brigade is commanded by Maj Gen FUKABORI, formerly, Commanding General of 48 Divisional Infantry.

-3-

mfp
12

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 750 TO 170015Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

14 Aug patrols from TOROKINA killed nine Japanese at DARIE (40 miles NW CAPE TOROKINA).

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
BIAK ISLAND

15 Aug patrol encounter with armed enemy party in caves 1400 yards NE MOKMER.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

15 Aug 22 Japanese killed seven captured during day.

CAPE SANSAPOR

15 Aug 40/50 Japanese seen moving WEST vicinity CAPE MAINAK (2 miles NE KOK RIVER mouth).

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

15 Aug 28 aircraft attacked targets BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

15 Aug 25 aircraft destroyed buildings KALILI and Northern NE IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

15 Aug 120 aircraft bombed strafed targets CAZELLE PENINSULA.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

15 Aug 8 airacobras bombed concentrations WINDHESI MAJANSI (WEST coast CEELVINE BAY) and ROEMERFON ISLAND and 4 airacobras destroyed buildings WARREN Airfield. 16 Aug 24 Warhawks strafed opportunity targets MANOKWARI area. 4 Bostons attacked possible enemy Headquarters SAOMER ISLAND (off SOUTH shore WAIGEO ISLAND) setting afire possible fuel dump destroying and damaging huts. 14 Aug 12 Liberators bombed BABO strip scoring direct hits.

HALMAHERA ISLAND

15 Aug 32 Liberators bombed dispersal areas LOLOBATA airfield maximum 12 grounded aircraft damaged 2 destroyed. 12 Mitchells attacked TERNATE destroying 3 large warehouses and jetty.

SEA

ALOR ISLAND

16 Aug one small stack aft freighter off KIKILAI (KEBOLA BAY) probably sunk by Mitchells.

JAVA

15 Aug one 8000 ton merchant vessel five 1500 ton vessels five vessels one of which 7000 tons SOUABAYA.

CELEBES

15 Aug 2 Merchant vessels (one 1500 one 1200 tons) LAMEN STRAIT.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

14 Aug 6 freighters (Two 2000/4500 tons one of which probably damaged three 500/1000 one 400/5800 tons) four unidentified vessels (one possibly 2000/4500 two possibly 2000 ton) 20/30 barges and 15 Aug estimated 25 vessels TASILA BAY. 14 Aug one 2000/3000 ton vessel 4 burning barges TERNATE.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

15 Aug one 4000/5000 ton freighter one small freighter DAVAO GULF. 14 Aug one destroyer off MINDORO ISLAND. 16 Aug one medium cargo vessel off EAST coast MARINDUQUE ISLAND course SOUTH one small cargo vessel 7 motor type ships covered by 2 aircraft MINDORO STRAIT course SSW.

Distributed by GS (Int) First Aust Army on 17 Aug 44 to:

GOC	A
G(C)	Q
G(SD)	WAR DIARY
DA & QMG	

(23)

SECRET

WORLD REVIEW SITUATION NO 84

The following world review of the situation has been received from War Office, LONDON, covering the period 9 Aug to 15 Aug 44:-

NAVAL

WESTERN EUROPE: On the 10 Aug naval aircraft from HM carriers escorted by Home Fleet cruisers and destroyers operating off the NORWEGIAN coast, raided an enemy airfield, set 2 armed ships ablaze and destroyed 6 fighters.

Early on the 9 Aug 40 enemy explosive motor boats were destroyed attacking in the assault area. There was no damage to our ships. During the week Allied casualties included 1 hospital ship sunk by a mine, HMCS 'REGINA' sunk by a mine or torpedo and HMS 'FROBISHER', HMS 'ALBATROSS' (Landing Ship), and 1 HM mine-sweeper damaged by an underwater explosion.

Enemy strength in the French ATLANTIC and BISCAY ports is estimated at 4 destroyers (2 decked), 7 corvettes or escorts, 22 Sperrbrecherrs, 40 M class minesweepers. Of these 1 Elbing destroyer, 3 escorts, 13 Sperrbrecherrs and about 24 minesweepers are in threatened ports. In the CHANNEL area there are about 75 E or R-boats and up to 20 TLC3's. Recce of DUNKIRK and DIEPPE shows considerable damage done to harbour facilities attributable to premature demolition or sabotage. Recce of BLANKENBERGHE, GRAVELINES, NIEUPORT, ETAPLES, TROUVILLE and MARSEILLES shows some demolition in harbour areas and the sinking of blockships. No widespread demolition as yet reported from BREST or LORIENT.

Merchant losses by enemy action during July 1944 show a slight increase in the average figure for the three previous months. 4 ships were sunk by U-boat activity in the ATLANTIC, 5 in the INDIAN OCEAN, 2 in British coastal waters. 31 ATLANTIC OCEAN convoys totalling 1306 ships arrived without loss. For the week ending 5 Aug imports in convoy to UK totalled 1,572,000 tons of which 592,000 tons was oil. Of this total over 1,050,000 tons were brought in one convoy - the largest yet sent across the ATLANTIC.

MILITARY

WESTERN EUROPE: INTELLIGENCE: Total divisions in the battle area are now 33 (including ten panzer) of which at least six (including one panzer) is represented only by remnants. During the past week 4 infantry divisions were drawn in from the NORTH of the SEINE (there is evidence there are more yet to come) and 2 (including one panzer from the SOUTH of the LOIRE, leaving only one panzer division in FRANCE not committed in the battle area (located in SOUTH of FRANCE).

OPERATIONS: US forces are clearing isolated resistance in the BRITTANY PENINSULA. The main effort is directed to exploiting success to the EAST and turning NORTH from LE MANS. Considerable headway was made by the British Army NE of VIRE and a bridgehead was established across the ORNE in the area THURY-HARCOURT. The Canadian offensive SOUTH of CAEN is progressing satisfactorily. A powerful enemy armoured counter-attack between BARENTON and VIRE directed on AVRANCHES was contained, and the general position remains intact.

BUILD-UP: (British Sector): Sailings during the past week averaged some 7,500 men, 1,850 vehicles and 16,000 tons stores daily. Totals of men, vehicles and stores landed to 8 Aug:- 1,754,204, 373,411 and 2,036,670 tons respectively.

FRENCH RESISTANCE: Resisters operating under the Twelfth US Army Group are playing an important part in BRITTANY. Sabotage of

communications is being strongly maintained over all FRANCE and numerous ambushes have been carried out on road transport.

MEDITERRANEAN: ARMY INTELLIGENCE: The enemy intention in ITALY is to await the next Allied moves and probably force the Allies to make a two push effort before their assault on the GOTHIC LINE; namely the crossing of the ARNO and a pursuit to the line. The enemy is holding a thin but coherent front as far forward of the final position for as long as possible.

29 Jul.: An allied Commando raid carried out on the coast NORTH of CORFU, was assisted by Partisans on the mainland and by a bombardment from the sea and the air. Casualties (approx) :- Enemy: 40 killed, 40 wounded and 30 captured. British: 7 killed and 47 wounded.

EASTERN EUROPE: Russian progress although on a wide front is slower than in previous weeks. The Russians have probably paused to regroup but are meeting stiffer opposition, particularly near EAST PRUSSIA and WARSAW.

BALKAN satellite forces on the Russian Front:- Hungarian divisions:- about 18 out of a total of 33 are engaged in heavy fighting chiefly in the LWOV and STANISLAWOW areas, and since the end of July defending CARPATHIAN passes. Morale is not high. Roumanian divisions:- about 21 out of a total of 24 at the front with 15 in MOLDAVIA NORTH of the line GALATZ-FOCSANI and the remainder in Bessarabia.

AIR:

WESTERN EUROPE:

ALLIED OPERATIONS 4/5-11 Aug: Priority was given to enemy fuel dumps in FRANCE.

Bomber Command attacks were made on U-boat pens at EREST, LORIENT, BORDEAUX, LA PALlice, coupled with sea mining operations off WESTERN FRENCH Coast and successful attacks on oil storage depots at BORDEAUX and LA PALlice, the raids were aimed at impeding any enemy attempts at escape. U-boat shelters at EREST and LORIENT were both hit by 12,000 pdrs. EREST shelters were penetrated four times. To disorganise enemy shipping further, Bomber Command Mosquitos laid mines in DORTMUND-EMS CANAL whilst Coastal Command aircraft attacked 2 NORTH SEA convoys.

Very successful attacks were made by USAF on German aircraft and armament industries, only 1 of many primary targets escaping serious damage. Outstanding attack was on the DAIMLER-BENZ Aero-Engine works at GENSHEIM, where almost all buildings, specially widely spaced for protection against air attack, were hit.

Other important targets of RAF and US heavies included rail centres in FRANCE and SOUTHERN GERMANY, flying bomb installations in NORTHERN FRANCE and enemy tank and troop concentrations SOUTH of CAEN on which over 4,000 tons of bombs were dropped.

TOTAL SORTIES:

Bomber Command 5509. 29 a/c missing, 8 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.

USAAF 6455 heavy bomber, 4659 fighter, 124 a/c missing, 118 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.

AEAF 20,157 a/c missing, 79 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.

Coastal Command 1373 anti-U-boat, offensive and recce sorties.
(Home-based a/c) 8 a/c missing, 2 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.

ENEMY ACTIVITY: Day fighter sorties over the battle area remain approximately 200, but the enemy is reluctant to attack. There is fairly strong but not very effective reaction to USAAF attacks. GERMANY 9 Aug Night ... Long range bomber activity 70/80 sorties against targets mainly in AVRANCHES area. Torpedo JU 88's occasionally active in the CHANNEL. A small number DO 217, operated ineffectively against shipping off BREAST PENINSULA with radio controlled bombs. Flying bomb attacks against LONDON continued. Short periods of comparatively high concentration more marked than previously, but the number of bombs launched in the latter part of the week decreased.

MEDITERRANEAN: 3-9 Aug. Despite adverse weather some 10,000 effective sorties were flown. 57 enemy aircraft were destroyed, 78 Allied aircraft are missing. Attacks were successfully maintained on oil installations in SOUTHERN GERMANY, SOUTHERN FRANCE, HUNGARY and YUGOSLAVIA, industrial targets in SOUTHERN GERMANY and AUSTRIA, rail targets in SOUTHERN FRANCE, AUSTRIA, ITALY and YUGOSLAVIA, airfields in HUNGARY and YUGOSLAVIA, and TOULON U-boat pens.

FAR EAST: A I R:

BURMA: 2/8 Aug. 2192 offensive, defensive and transport sorties were flown for the loss of 4 Allied a/c.

CHINA: 3 Aug. Escorted heavy bombers attacked YOCHOW rail centre with excellent results. 4/11 Aug Fighters (1 missing) attacked targets in HENYANG area destroying 11 of 20 enemy a/c which attempted interception. Approximately 900 sorties were flown, 22 enemy a/c were destroyed, 7 Allied a/c were lost.

ECONOMIC:

Appointment of Dr. Goebbels with 'Special Power' from the Fuehrer to restore oil output emphasises German anxiety. First priority has been given to the repair of the less seriously damaged synthetic plants and oil refineries in GERMANY, AUSTRIA and RUMANIA. Increasing output is already observed in RUMANIA and appears imminent elsewhere. Nevertheless, present production of oil of all types is only about 50% of the pre-attack level. This figure allows for loss of some 100,000 tons a year of naval fuel by the Russian advance in ESTONIA, and of nearly 400,000 tons a year from the EASTERN Polish and Galician fields. The fixing and distribution of foodstuff rations in FRANCE given to local authorities from 1 Aug is an inevitable consequence of dislocation of transport.

Eight Finnish ships are detained in Swedish waters by Swedish Government. Attempts by Finnish companies to transfer other vessels to SWEDEN are also reported, presumably as insurance.

GSI
18 Aug 44

9/18/44 Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUST ARMY

Distributed by GSI First Aust Army for information of Cnds or
Heads of Services or Branches as set out below :-

Rear HQ First Aust Army	1	G(SD)	1
1 Aust Corps	4	CE	1
11 Aust Div	1	CSO	1
4 Aust Div	3	DA & QMG	1
HQ BRISBANE Fortress	1	A (Circulate to AMS, LSO & AD Educ)	1
HQ TOWNSVILLE Fortress	1	Q (Circulate to DDST & DDPS)	1
HQ CAIRNS Fortress	1		
RA First Aust Army	1		
Corps HQ VDC Q'LAND	1	Q'LAND L of C Area	1
GOC	1	File	1
BGS	1	War Diary	2
G(O)	1		

CONFIDENTIAL

JAITHRTSV09

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 751 TO 180015Z

SR10081 OT 127 ON T12VUH 190021

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

16 Aug patrol encountered 20 Japanese JABA RIVER
killing two. 19 Japanese fired on UPPER LARUMA
VALLEY results undetermined. 25 enemy seen
PATOPOTAI (20 miles NW CAPE TOROKINA)

NEW BRITAIN
WIDE BAY AREA

16 Aug reliably reported enemy naval party 30 strong
JABER BAY employed coast watching. 15 Aug Allied
land attack against MELIM (WIDE BAY AREA) unsuccessful
Enemy warned of approach and manned weapons. Japanese
garrison estimated one composite company.
Other areas patrol activities only.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

16 Aug 6 Corsairs strafed opportunity targets
southern BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

16 Aug 14 Corsairs patrolled Northern NEW IRELAND.

NEW GUINEA

16 Aug 8 Airacobras bombed strafed anti aircraft
positions WEMAK POINT destroying one medium 3 light
positions. 16 Airacobras attacked WEMAK-AITAPE.

JAITHRTSV09

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

16 Aug 63 Bostons attacked enemy lines MT HAKKO
(1800 yards SSE CHAI RIVER mouth MAPPIN BAY AREA)
8 Airacobras bombed track from WARDORI (7 miles
NW WARDU) to WARDU hit supplies or ammunition
causing 2 explosions. 16 Warhawks divebombed
enemy troops SIAMBS (10 miles NW SCHIDO). 17 Aug
9 aircraft bombed HANSIKI and gun positions CAPE
KOLFI and possible stores dump MAROENI (10 miles SSE
MANOKWARI). 4 Bostons started fire destroyed and
damaged buildings KLANONG oilfield area (25 miles
SE BORONG).

SRVH
16 Aug

KATOUELA ISLANDS

17 Aug 11 Mitchells bombed strafed TIORR ISLAND.

POEROE ISLAND

17 Aug 18 Liberators bombed NAMLEA town and old
NAMLEA airfields cratering runway NAMLEA town airfield
and destroying 4 grounded aircraft.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

16 Aug 34 Liberators 12 Mitchells attacked MITI ISLAND
destroying estimated 13 aircraft probably damaging
10 and causing one large and several small fires in
dispersal area.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

15 Aug Allied Warships bombarded bivouac area between
SUI and DACUA destroying 30 huts.

JAITHRTSV09

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

17 Aug PT boats destroyed 15 barges MANOKWARI area.
One small freighter off SOUTH coast + MISOCL ISLAND
19. burning by 2 Beaufighters.

KAI ISLANDS

17 Aug photographs show one 700 ton freighter 38
barges TUEAL.

SRVH
16 Aug

BOERNE ISLAND

17 Aug one large Merchant vessel 14 miles ESE
HAMILA.

CELEBES

15 Aug one escort vessel one mine layer 12 miles
NE PARIGI.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

15 Aug one 500/1500 ton Merchant vessel TERNATE.
Mitchells set on fire one lugger destroyed another
lugger same area. 14 Aug 3 Medium Merchant vessels
KAOE BAY 3 medium to large Merchant vessels WASILE
BAY. 15 Aug 2 freighter transports (one 2000/4500
one 1000/1500 tons) several luggers KAOE BAY one
small freighter 12 luggers WASILE BAY

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Night 15/16 Aug one Liberator sank one small freighter
SOUTH DAVAO GULF and sighted 4 larger vessels Northern
part of GULF. 16 Aug one tanker anteped TACLOBAN
HARBOR (LEYTE GULF between LEYTE and SAMAR ISLANDS).

Distributed by GS(Int) on 18 Aug 44 :-

GCC	A
G(O)	Q
G(SD)	WAR DIARY
DA & QMG	

15 W/D
CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REVIEW NO 752 TO 190015Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

17 Aug light contacts JABA RIVER and upper LARUMA valley.

NEW GUINEA
ATTAPE

Enemy casualties to 17 Aug killed 8204 captured 101.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
HOLLANDIA

17 Aug 75 Japanese bodies found vicinity POEE.
Enemy casualties to 17 Aug 3780.

BIAK ISLAND

17 Aug allied forces landed at WARDO (WEST coast BIAK). Only light resistance encountered. 17 Japanese killed. Enemy casualties to 17 Aug killed 4468 captured 290.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

17 Aug three Japanese killed 17 captured by Allied naval craft when attempting to escape by native canoes. Enemy casualties to 17 Aug killed 1546 captured 144.

CAPE GOEDE HOOP

Night 16/17 Aug PT boats covered landings by two small parties Allied troops.

CAPE SANSAPOR
AREA

17 Aug 15 Japanese attempting by-pass Allied position killed. Enemy casualties to 17 Aug killed 138 captured 21.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

17 Aug 74 aircraft bombed enemy bivouacs ration dump BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

Night 16/17 and 17 Aug 5 mitchells and 18 dauntlesses respectively attacked NORTHERN NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

17 Aug 32 aircraft bombed targets RABAU area.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

17 Aug 17 warhawks skipbombed enemy shore position WARDO in support amphibious landings and 16 warhawks struck enemy pocket SLAWES.

CERAM

17 Aug 26 liberators escorted by 15 lightnings bombed HAROEKOE airfield dispersal areas resulting 3 grounded aircraft destroyed or damaged medium fires and explosions caused. Of 15/20 intercepting aircraft 4 destroyed.

AMBOINA

17 Aug 21 liberators 15 lightnings attacked LIANG airfield and dispersal area. Target area well covered. 5 of 11 intercepting aircraft destroyed.

BOEROE ISLAND

17 Aug 24 mitchells bombed strafed the NAMLEA airfields scoring direct hits runway dispersal areas.

SEA

GORONG ISLANDS

18 Aug one small freighter KAILAKAT.

CERAM

18 Aug one unidentified vessel 20 barges WAROE BAY (25 miles SE BOELA)

AMBOINA ISLAND

17 Aug one probable small freighter 10 barges
WAAI (SE LIANG) 22 barges LIANG 3 small cargo
vessels HAROEKOE STRAIT.

FLORES ISLAND

18 Aug one small possible auxiliary PANGABATANG
STRAIT (NE MAOEMERE) course SOUTH one possible
medium merchant vessel HADING BAY.

CELEBES

17 Aug 2 small vessels POMELAA.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

16 Aug 2 medium transports 15 barges KAOE BAY.

PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS

17 Aug one large unidentified vessel 8 miles
SSE COLAPSIN POINT (in DAVAO GULF) course SOUTH
one small vessel 13 miles further east course NW.
Hits scored on smaller vessel. 3 large merchant
vessels one escort 70 miles SSW SARANGANI STRAIT
course SE by EAST. 18 Aug one battleship 335
miles EAST SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT. All informed.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 19 Aug 44 to:

GOC	DA & QMG
BGS	A
G(O)	Q
G(SD)	WAR DIARY

LANDOPS

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

17 Aug Allied artillery fired on targets vicinity MOUNT HAKKO with undetermined results. 19 Aug recce aircraft observed several small dumps 1100 yards SW ORAI RIVER mouth. Patrol reported enemy dummies in foxholes EAST end SAWAR airfield. Automatic weapon and rifle fire encountered NW dispersal area.

BIAK ISLAND

Troops who landed WARD0 17 Aug reported 200 Japanese in caves NORTH DEDIFOR (near WARD0). 18 Aug 12 Japanese killed 17 captured vicinity WARD0. Natives killed 35 Japanese SOUTH and SE coast SOEPORI ISLAND and five NORTH coast BIAK ISLAND. Total 55 enemy killed 19 captured during 18 Aug.

CAPE SANSAPOR

18 Aug Allied outpost WESAN RIVER area killed five and captured two Japanese of numerous enemy groups attempting to by-pass our forces in endeavour to reach SORONG. 180757H small Allied force supported by PT boats landed MEGA RIVER mouth (15 miles SW CAPE SANSAPOR).

AIROPS - ALLIED

NEW IRELAND

18 Aug 16 Corsairs bombed opportunity targets northern NEW IRELAND. 17 Dauntlesses bombed opportunity targets EAST DUKE of YORK ISLANDS.

NEW BRITAIN

18 Aug 120 aircraft started numerous fires damaged buildings RABAUL areas obtained good coverage VUNAKANAU anti-aircraft guns.

NEW GUINEA

17 Aug eight Airacobras bombed strafed WEWAK area. 18 and 19 Aug 18 aircraft and 18 Beauforts respectively attacked same area.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

18 Aug 52 Bostons bombed strafed enemy defence lines MOUNT HAKKO. 16 Warhawks attacked NAPIDO village. 19 Aug seven Warhawks bombed strafed fuel stores dumps HABIRE destroying fuel dump. Eight Warhawks attacked MANOKWARI.

TIMOR

19 Aug nine Beauforts bombed barracks area NORTH SOE (45 miles NE KOEPANG) starting large fires.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

17 Aug 25 Liberators bombed warehouse storage areas DUBLON causing fires large explosions. Of six intercepting aircraft one destroyed.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

17 Aug PT boats destroyed two large barges WINDEHSI. 18 Aug PT boats sank three damaged six barges SW MANSIMAN ISLAND.

CERAM

19 Aug small freighter stationary SELMAN BAY left smoking by Beaufighters. Seven beached barges SOUTH WAROE BAY.

FLORES ISLAND

18 Aug photographs show 25 barges MAOZERE.

CELEBES

18 Aug one 7000-ton merchant vessel stationary
PADAMARANG ISLAND (10 miles WEST POMERIAN).
18 Aug one unidentified vessel 35 miles NW NORTH
CAPE. All informed.

Distributed by GS (Int) on 20 Aug 44 to :-

GOC DA & QMG
EGS 1
G(O) 0
G(SD) WAR DIARY

W/P (27)
CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 754 TO 202300Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

19 Aug patrol encounters JABA RIVER and UPPER LARUMA.

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE
DUTCH NEW GUINEA
BLAK ISLAND

19 Aug 21 Japs killed one captured during day.

19 Aug 43 Japanese killed or found dead 4 captured.

CAPE SANSAPOR

19 Aug patrolling activity general area. Javanese sources report 60 Japanese with 5 armed outposts EAST KOR Village.

AIROPS - ALLIED

NEW IRELAND

19 Aug 63 aircraft attacked targets NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

19 Aug 16 Corsairs destroyed warehouse fired several trucks RABAUL area.

NEW GUINEA

18 Aug 17 aircraft bombed CAPE WOM stores area. 8 Aircobras strafed opportunity targets WEWAK.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

19 Aug 16 Warhawks attacked enemy positions KAPIDO. 4 Aircobras bombed strafed WINDEHSI scoring direct hits starting fires. WINDEHSI village reported destroyed. 20 Aug 5 Warhawks bombed strafed RASI (EAST shore ENDAMEN BAY). 24 Warhawks covering SANSAPOR strafed opportunity targets.

KAI ISLANDS

19 Aug 12 Mitchells bombed LANGGOER Airfield scoring direct hits strip and in NORTH dispersal area, where fire started.

BOEROE ISLAND

19 Aug 54 Liberators attacked NAMLEA scoring direct hits dispersal areas NAMLEA airfield starting fires destroying 3 aircraft.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

20 Aug one submarine submerging 20 miles EAST by SOUTH WADE ISLAND. 19 Aug one submarine off KAPIDO village. 20 Aug 3 small freighters 7 barges KAHANA Area. 4 Boaufighters sank one freighter scored hits on barges.

CELEBES

14 Aug photographs show 7 freighter transports totalling 19400 tons one 2000 ton tanker one auxilliary escort vessel one unidentified escort vessel 8 luggers MANADO Harbour one 150 ton freighter 4 luggers 28 barges and one lugger 4 barges under construction MANADO RIVER mouth. 15 Aug photographs show one auxilliary escort vessel one 500 ton freighter transport one 100 ton Merchant vessel. 9 luggers 18 barges MANADO HARBOUR. 20 Aug one 2000 ton cargo vessel 14 smaller cargo vessels mostly 500/1000 tons MANADO BAY 2 smaller cargo vessels damaged. Several 500/1000 ton cargo vessels anchored and/or

underway around NORTH CAPE and BANGKA Strait.
19 Aug one unidentified transport off SE coast
PADAMARANG one 500/1000 ton freighter off SOUTH
END PADAMARANG Island course SW several barges
NE tip PADAMARANG ISLAND. 19 Aug two 3000 ton
freighters one 500 ton freighter AMOERANG BAY
(18 miles SW by WEST MALACCO) one large freighter
damaged one smaller sunk. Several barges
between KOENKEE and BENTENAN Islands (19 miles
SSW 14 miles SSE LANGKAN respectively).

HALMAHERA ISLANDS 20 Aug two 6000 ton freighter transports four
500/1000 ton cargo vessels one 8000 ton tanker
several small vessels KAOE BAY. 5 cargo vessels
(one 4000/5000 four 500/1000 ton) 10 Unidentified
smaller vessels MASILE BAY.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 19 Aug 27 vessels DAVAO GULF including some
warships and 5 large merchant vessels. One 10000
ton destroyer - tender WEST KOPIA ISLAND
(Northern DAVAO GULF) 2 Destroyers one small
Merchant vessel one medium tanker off SE tip
NEGROS ISLAND course SW 4 medium tankers 4 gun-
boats 2 launches entering SARANGANI BAY.

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CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 755 TO 220005Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

20 Aug Allied patrol to SISIVIE (UPPER LARUMA VALLEY) found area under enemy control. JABA RIVER area outposts report several contacts with Japanese. Our artillery shelled enemy troop concentrations.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

20 Aug 20 Japanese dead found vicinity ARARA. Air observer reports newly constructed huts and dugouts eight miles from WOSKE RIVER mouth.

BLAK ISLAND

20 Aug no organised resistance being encountered WARDO. Large amount mortar small arms ammunition and grenades destroyed. 124 Japanese killed 45 found dead, eight captured all areas during day.

MACCLUER GULF

20 Aug Allied Recce patrol operating on METAMANI RIVER killed 23 Japanese.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

20 Aug 34 Corsairs attacked supply and anti-aircraft positions TONOLEI HARBOUR and 8 Corsairs patrolled Southern BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

20 Aug 18 Corsairs patrolled Northern NEW IRELAND. 16 Dauntlesses attacked KALILI Plantation leaving one large building burning. 33 Aircraft attacked other targets.

NEW BRITAIN

20 Aug 12 Corsairs destroyed 2 buildings RaBAUL sank 2 barges damaged 2 WATOM ISLAND

NEW GUINEA

21 Aug 8 Beauforts bombed fuel dump NEWAK scoring direct hit.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

20 Aug 19 Thunderbolts bombed personnel Areas MANOKWARI. 4 Airacobras strafed and set afire buildings SAGAN.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

20 Aug 41 Liberators attacked stores personnel TOBELO demolishing Warehouses and other buildings starting many fires causing 4 large explosions.

TALAUD ISLANDS

20 Aug 23 Mitchells attacked targets KARAKELANG ISLAND starting fires destroying several buildings.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

21 Aug attack on watercraft KAIMANA Area by Allied aircraft resulted 4 barges destroyed or sunk 12 damaged.

CERAM

21 Aug one barge fired one damaged by 2 Bostons EAST tip TALOETI BAY.

ALOR ISLAND

21 Aug one 400/500 ton freighter probably destroyed one barge fired 4 sighted northern and western coast ALOR ISLAND.

TALAUD ISLANDS 20 Aug one small freighter fired by Mitchell's
BEO HARBOUR.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 20 Aug one northbound cruiser 17 miles SOUTH
CAPE SAN AGUSTIN. One near miss scored on one
2000 ton freighter transport 25 miles SW SARANGANI
STRAIT course NW. 17 Aug numerous vessels entered
CEBU Harbour during week ended 17 Aug including
3 heavy cruisers one light cruiser 5 destroyers.
14 Aug one aircraft carrier 6 transports MANILA.
No destroyers or cruisers present.

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CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 756 TO 230015Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

21 Aug Allied patrol REINI-TEKESSI RIVER destroyed enemy dump containing over 12,000 rounds small arms mortar ammunition.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

21 Aug 24 Japanese killed 3-1/2 miles SW KAMORTIWA (4 miles SW WOSKE RIVER Mouth). 100 Japanese bodies found along track six miles SE KAMORTIWA. 20/30 enemy troops telephone lines and pillboxes seen vicinity SAMAR Airfield. Enemy casualties to 21 Aug killed 3828 captured 71.

BIAK ISLAND

Additional enemy casualties brings total to 21 Aug to killed 4732 captured 330.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

21 Aug 16 enemy killed. Total casualties killed 1627 captured 158.

CAPE SANSAPOR AREA

Additional 16 Japanese killed 6 captured. Total enemy casualties to 21 Aug 183 killed 37 captured.

AIRCPS - ALLIED
SOLOMONS

21 Aug 29 Dauntlesses bombed FAISI with good coverage gun positions. 5 Mitchells bombed LAGUCU Plantation (SHORTLAND ISLANDS). 16 Corsairs bombed strafed opportunity targets southern BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW GUINEA

21 Aug further 10 Beauforts bombed SAURI Village area. 12 Airacobras strafed enemy personnel along WENAK Beaches. 22 Aug 19 Beauforts bombed personnel stores areas CAPE BORNE.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

21 Aug 19 Bostons bombed stores area SARMI POINT starting fires. 20 Aug further 21 Thunderbolts bombed buildings and stores KAMOKWARI starting fires.

CERAM

22 Aug 19 Liberators bombed airfield AMANAI.

HALEHHERA ISLANDS

21 Aug 23 Mitchells bombed strafed airfield and town KAOE destroying or damaging 8 grounded aircraft starting fires. 52 Liberators bombed anti aircraft positions stores personnel areas MASILE BAY setting fuel dumps stores on fire causing explosions.

SEA

CELEBES

21 Aug 3 Stack-aft vessels 2 cargo vessels (one 800 one 2500 tons) 3 barges LEMBEE STRAIT. Two 600 ton cargo vessels several smaller vessels KINADO HARBOUR. Three 650/800 ton merchant vessel 18 smaller vessels ABORING BAY. One 250 foot escort vessel 25 miles WEST ANCERANG BAY course WEST. Many small craft NORTH coast CELEBES.

BORNEO

20 Aug Escorted 9 ship convoy 55 miles NORTH by EAST KUCHEING (WEST BORNEO) course SW.

-2-

HALMAHERA ISLANDS 21 Aug two 1000/1500 ton merchant vessels EAST KACE BAY. Two 300/1000 ton merchant vessels 8/10 barges vicinity WASILE PIER. 20 Aug one 300/1000 ton stack-aft freighter 3/4 barges TOHELO

SANGIHE ISLANDS 21 Aug stackaft vessel off WEST coast SANGIHE ISLAND sunk by Liberator.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 20 Aug 13/15 6000/8000 ton freighters stationary DAVAO GULF. 210820Z one heavy cruiser 10/15 5000 ton freighters stationary DAVAO HARBOUR. Above two sightings observed by reconnaissance aircraft at great height. 211030Z attacking Liberator reported 8 vessels (of which 3 large 3 medium) vicinity DAVAO. 21 Aug one 1500 ton Q ship one subchaser with destroyer escort 65 miles NE SANTA CRUZ (EAST Coast MINDANAO) course 100E. One 5000 ton freighter heading NE to SANTA CRUZ. 19 Aug 2 tankers (one of which 17,000/19000 tons) 200 miles NW MANILA. 21 Aug 4 Warships not larger than cruisers southbound LEXTE GULF (central Eastern PHILIPPINES).

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Subject:- SECURITY CONFERENCES - ATHERTON TABLELAND

HQ First Aust Army (AIF)
GSI 8508
23 Aug 44

1 Aust Corps	(8)
11 Aust Div	(2)
1 Aust HQ Area Comd	(1)
NQ Det 1 Aust Fd Censorship Coy CAIRNS	(2)
101 Aust FS Sec	(1)
Qld L of C Area	(1)
Security Services CAIRNS	(2)

Copy for info to:
GSI Adv LHQ
IO Qld L of C CAIRNS
HIO Security Services

1. OBJECT:

It is proposed to hold Security Conferences from time to time on the ATHERTON TABLELAND to enable general security and censorship matters affecting all formations to be brought forward and discussed, and to further liaison between FS Sections, Field Censorship and Security Services in the area. It is considered that these meetings should not be held more regularly than every three weeks and any definite period between conferences can be decided by the meeting itself.

2. MEMBERS:

It is desired that representatives attend from the following :-

First Aust Army
1 Aust Corps
6 Aust Div
7 Aust Div
9 Aust Div
11 Aust Div
1 Aust HQ Area Comd
NQ Det 1 Aust Fd Censorship Coy
Qld L of C Area (IO CAIRNS)
Security Services, CAIRNS

Names and appointment of officers attending will be obtained by First Aust Army prior to meetings.

3. TIME AND PLACE:

The first meeting will be held in the Conference Room of Officers' Club, ATHERTON. Tentative time and date - 1030 hours 8 Sep 44, to be confirmed.

4. AGENDA FIRST MEETING:

It is requested that formations and units listed as in para 2 forward through normal channels to reach GSI First Aust Army by 2 Sep 44, any items of security or censorship interest which they desire to be included in the Agenda of the first meeting.

Distributed by GSI on 23 Aug 44 to:

G(SD)

9ph/11-14-14
Brig
GS FIRST AUST ARMY

31
CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 757 TO 240015Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

22 Aug slight enemy artillery fire JABA RIVER area. Enemy machine gun and defensive positions located headwaters REINI RIVER.

NEW BRITAIN
WIDE BAY AREA

17 Aug Allied troops withdrew from MILIM (1/2 miles NE KIEP) area after inflicting casualties on enemy.

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

22 Aug when several small white flags seen vicinity PARAKOVIO Allied troops landed and captured five Japanese abandoned by unit.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MARFIN BAY

22 Aug Allied troops contacted estimated two platoons enemy 3 1/2 miles SW KAMORTIWA.

BIAK ISLAND

22 Aug patrols found enemy dump containing 25 cases 81mm mortar and 40 cases 20mm ammunition.

CAPE SANSAPOR

22 Aug 14 Japanese killed two captured during day.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

22 Aug 40 aircraft attacked targets SISIVIE WEST coast BUKA ISLAND KIEPA and KAHILI.

NEW IRELAND

22 Aug 14 corsairs in NORTHERN NEW IRELAND sweeps destroyed damaged several buildings.

NEW GUINEA

22 Aug additional 24 aircraft bombed targets WEWAK - AITAPE.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

21 Aug 60 thunderbolts bombed stores personnel areas MANOKWARI. 22 Aug 12 thunderbolts attacked same area. 23 Aug 107 thunderbolts bombed BABO runways. 24 aircraft bombed SAGAN airfield and 15 aircraft attacked OTAWIRI airstrips and 8 bostons bombed MONGOSAH airfield.

KAI ISLANDS

23 Aug 18 liberators bombed LANGGOER airfield probably destroying 2 unserviceable aircraft causing fires.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

21 Aug 6 additional mitchells attacked KAOE.

TALAUD ISLANDS

20 Aug 11 mitchells bombed strafed KARAKELANG ISLAND scoring direct hits BEO town and among adjacent warehouse.

SEA

KAI ISLANDS

23 Aug one 300/1000 ton freighter 16 miles SE LANGGOER off NIROEN village and several barges ROSENBERG STRAIT.

ALOR ISLAND

23 Aug one 300/1000 ton freighter left beached and burning by 4 mitchells at NE tip of island.

FLORES SEA

22 Aug photographs show 14 barges WAINGAPOE.

CELEBES

22 Aug one 300/1000 ton freighter beached by
liberator 90 miles SW LEMBEH STRAIT.

BORNEO

14 Aug one large tanker one large cargo vessel
SW MIRI.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

21 Aug two 300/1000 ton freighters both
apparently loaded five 4000/7500 ton freighter
transports numerous barges and luggers WASILE
KACE BAYS. 22 Aug one 300/1000 ton freighter
NW PITOE course WEST.

PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS

18 Aug one large tanker one medium cargo vessel
20 miles WEST BULALOC BAY (PALAWAN ISLANDS).
18/19 Aug 13 vessel convoy including one large
tanker one large one medium unidentified vessel
one large freighter transport CAPE BOJEADOR
(NW tip LUZON ISLANDS). 21 Aug one medium
transport one large cargo vessel vicinity
MINDORO ISLAND. 22 Aug 3 gunboats one 2000/4500
ton cargo vessel one tanker southbound outside
entrance to DAVAO GULF one 600/800 ton transport
off EAST coast LEYTE ISLAND northbound and
3 possible light cruisers 2 large tankers
entering MANILA BAY. 21 Aug 3 large unidentified
merchant vessels 15 miles SW by SOUTH CABURAN
one medium merchant vessel SARANGANI BAY and
30/40 barges same area. Photographs taken
morning 21 Aug show 11500 gross tons merchant
shipping one submarine chaser many small craft
DAVAO GULF.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

23 Aug 6 large cargo vessels PALAU ISLANDS
group. All informed

Distributed by GS(Int) on 24 Aug 44 to:

GOC BGS
G(O) A
G(SD) Q
DE & QMG WAR DIARY

G.S.I.

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 120.

Compiled from information received from
1200 hrs 17-Aug 44 to 1200 hrs 24-Aug 44

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Significant Events Page/s 3

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - SWPA

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	4-5
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	5-7
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	8-10
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	10

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

SEA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	10
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	10
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	11

PART II

SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION

Re-Organisation of Parts of 18 Army	...	...	"	11-12
Japanese Re-Organised Division (Island Warfare)	...	...	"	12
9 Tank Regiment	...	...	"	12-13

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

Japanese Tank Attack Grenade Bomb	...	...	"	13-14
Japanese AA Rockets	...	...	"	14

SECTION 5 - TACTICS

Japanese Tactics - "Infiltration Attack"	...	...	"	15-16
Enemy Mine Fields, NOEMFOOR ISLAND	...	...	"	16-18

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

The Story of the "West Caves" on BIAK ISLAND	"	19-20
--	-----	-----	---	-------

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

TALAUD and SANGIHE ISLANDS	"	20-23
----------------------------	-----	-----	---	-------

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	24
ITALY	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	24-25
BURMA	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	25
EASTERN FRONT	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	25-26

OVER /

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

PART V

SECURITY

Security of Documents - Japanese Page/s 26-27

APPENDICES.

- Appendix 'A' : Jap Operational Air Strength May and August 1944.
- Appendix 'B' : Japanese Re-organised Division (Island Warfare).
- Appendix 'C' : TALAUD and SANGIHE ISLANDS - Map.
- Appendix 'D' : Order of Battle and Organisation.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

There are no events of special
significance to report.

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - SWPA

LAND

SOLOMONS - BOUGAINVILLE

Patrol encounters on 14, 16, 17 and 19 Aug have been reported from the JABA RIVER and UPPER LARUMA VALLEY. An Allied patrol to SISIVIE on 20 Aug reported the area under enemy control.

Total enemy casualties reported for week number 19 killed.

NEW BRITAIN - OPEN BAY AREA

An Allied land attack on 15 Aug against MILIM (WIDE BAY Area) was unsuccessful. The enemy evidently had previous knowledge of our intention and all defences were manned. It is reliably reported that a Japanese naval party of strength approximately 30, with Headquarters at JAMMER BAY, have set up a coast watching system in that area.

Patrol activity only is reported from other sectors.

NEW GUINEA - AITAPE

Patrol activity only is reported.

Enemy casualties to 19 Aug numbered 8225 killed and 102 PW.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - HOLLANDIA

A further 75 enemy dead were found in the vicinity of POEE on 17 Aug.

Enemy casualties to 17 Aug were 3780 killed.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MAFFIN BAY

An aerial reconnaissance over ORAI RIVER on 17 Aug reported the presence of several small dumps 1100 yards SW of the river mouth. A similar reconnaissance on 20 Aug reported newly constructed huts and dugouts eight miles SOUTH of the WOSKE RIVER mouth. Allied patrols operating in the SAWAR sector during the period under review, encountered automatic weapon and rifle fire NW of the dispersal area. A report states that enemy dummies were located in foxholes EAST of the airfield.

Casualties in operations in this area to 21 Aug total 3828 killed and 71 captured.

BIAK ISLAND

On 17 Aug an Allied landing was made at WARDO (WEST coast). Light resistance only was encountered from enemy positions in adjacent caves. A large quantity of enemy mortar and small arms ammunition and grenades was captured.

Enemy casualties to 21 Aug in all operations on BIAK ISLAND number 4732 killed and 330 captured.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

An attempt by a small body of enemy troops to escape from the island by native canoes on 17 Aug was frustrated by Allied naval craft.

Enemy casualties to 21 Aug numbered 1627 killed and 158 PW.

CAPE SANSAPOR

A small Allied force supported by PT boats effected a landing at MEGA RIVER mouth (15 miles SW CAPE SANSAPOR) on 18 Aug. Further enemy casualties totalling 183 killed and 37 captured were inflicted on enemy forces attempting to bypass Allied positions in this area.

Enemy movement has been reported WEST of CAPE WAIMAK and EAST of KOR village.

CAPE GOEDE HOOP

Allied landings on a small scale, with PT boat support, were made on night 16/17 Aug.

MACCLUER GULF

A reconnaissance patrol operating on METAMANI RIVER on 20 Aug killed 23 of a party of enemy encountered.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

On the 15 Aug Allied warships bombarded a bivouac area between BUT and DAGUA destroying 30 huts.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - WAKDE ISLAND

A submarine was sighted on 20 Aug submerging 20 miles EAST by SOUTH of WAKDE ISLAND.

BIAK ISLAND

One submarine was sighted off NAPIDO village on the NORTH WEST coast of BIAK ISLAND on 19 Aug.

VOGELKOP PENINSULA

Units of Allied naval and air forces have been active in this area. Two small freighters and 24 barges were sunk and a further 18 barges and several luggers damaged in the MANOKWARI, WINDEHSI and KAIMANA areas during the week.

KAI ISLANDS

One 700 ton freighter and 38 barges were sighted at TOEAL during the week.

GORONG ISLANDS

The only sighting made in this area during the week was of one 500/1000 ton stack aft freighter at KAILAKAT.

CERAM - AMBOINA - BOEROE

Principal sightings in this area were at BOANO ISLAND, KELANG ISLAND and LIANG. Our aircraft sank five to eight sailboats, one small freighter and one barge and damaged two barges.

Sightings Reported

1-500/1000 stack aft freighter
3-two masted schooners
4 small cargo vessels
2 large vessels
4 sailboats
3 unidentified vessels
89 barges

H. LAHERA

The volume of shipping in this area remains at a very high figure and it is evident that the enemy is watching his defence measures and preparing for internal supply on which he can depend for a long period in the event of an allied attack on the islands. Allied aircraft sank three sailing vessels and one small lugger and damaged four luggers, one stack aft vessel and four barges during the week. Principal sightings were in WASILE BAY and KAOE BAY.

Sightings Reported

54,900/83,400 tons merchant shipping
1-8000 ton tanker
25 vessels
5 medium transports
10 small unidentified vessels
Several small vessels
17 luggers
46/55 barges

SANGIHE ISLANDS

One stack aft vessel was sunk off the WEST coast of SANGIHE ISLAND by our aircraft.

PHILIPPINES

A considerable tonnage of naval and merchant shipping has been reported in this area, and it is reasonable to assume that the enemy is building up a strong reserve of supplies and rushing in reinforcements. Allied aircraft successfully attacked shipping, sinking one small freighter, badly damaging one battleship and damaging one 4000/5800 ton freighter, one small vessel and one unidentified vessel. The most significant sightings were in DAVAO GULF, SARANGANI BAY and CEBU HARBOUR.

Sightings Reported

Naval

3 heavy cruisers
2 cruisers
1 aircraft carrier
1-10,000 ton destroyer
tender

Merchant

11,000/12,000 ton freighter
transports
13/15-6000/8000 ton freighters
22 vessels
15 large merchant vessels

Sightings Reported (Contd)

<u>Naval</u>	<u>Merchant</u>
9 destroyers	1-19,000 ton tanker
4 gunboats	1-17,000 ton tanker
1 sub-chaser	6 transports
1 escort vessel	7 motor ships
1-1500 ton 'Q' Ship	4 medium cargo vessels
	3 small cargo vessels
	5 medium tankers
	1 tanker
	2 unidentified vessels
	2 launches

FLORES SEA

A small tonnage only of shipping has been reported in this area during the week. The sightings included two medium merchant vessels, two small auxiliary vessels, 33 barges and two luggers. Allied aircraft successfully attacked and sank one 400/500 ton merchant vessel, one 80-foot patrol launch and one barge and damaged one 50-foot barge.

CELEBES

The heaviest concentration of merchant shipping reported in this area for some considerable time has been sighted and revealed by aerial photographs during the past week. The principal sightings were in the vicinity of MANADO HARBOUR. Our aircraft sank one small freighter, and damaged one 2000/4500 freighter transport, one large freighter and two small cargo vessels.

Shipping Reported

<u>Naval</u>	<u>Merchant</u>
1 Minelayer	62,680/72,100 ton merchant shipping
2 Escort vessels	1-2000 ton tanker
1 Unidentified Escort Vessel	3 unidentified vessels
	Several small vessels
	27 luggers
	51 barges
	3 stack aft vessels
	1 lugger and 4 barges under construction

JAVA

22,500 tons of merchant shipping and four vessels were sighted adjacent to the naval dockyard at SOURABAYA.

BORNEO

An escorted convoy of nine ships, possibly en route to SINGAPORE, was sighted 55 miles NORTH by EAST of KUCHING (WEST of BORNEO).

AIR - OWN

SOLOMONS - NEW BRITAIN - NEW IRELAND

Allied air activity against the enemy was continued in this area during the week under review. Buildings, supply dumps, and anti-aircraft positions were the principal targets. The largest raids were made on 15 and 18 Aug when, on each occasion, 120 Allied aircraft participated. Targets on the GAZELLE PENINSULA were the objects of the first of these attacks and buildings in the RABAU area and anti-aircraft guns at VUNAKANAU received close attention in the second large attack when numerous fires were started and buildings damaged.

NEW GUINEA

During the week the WEWAK - AITAPE area was again an objective of Allied air activity, the tempo of which increased slightly.

Anti-aircraft positions, stores areas, and fuel dumps were successfully bombed and strafed. One large fire was started and numerous casualties were inflicted on personnel. A suspected barge hide-out on the HAWAIN RIVER was also attacked.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MAFFIN

On 16 and 17 Aug Allied aircraft bombed the MT HAKKO area.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - BIAK ISLAND

The track between WARDO and MARDORI (seven miles NW of WARDO) was bombed by Allied aircraft on 16 Aug when hits were scored on supply and ammunition dumps. On 17 Aug, in support of Allied amphibious landings, enemy shore positions at WARDO and enemy pockets at SIWES, were bombed.

On 18/19 Aug, enemy positions at NAPIDO, and NAPIDO village were attacked.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - VOGELKOP PENINSULA

On 15 Aug Allied aircraft bombed MANOKWARI and RANSIKI, silencing two anti-aircraft guns, destroying motor transport, one possible tanker and many buildings.

RANSIKI was again bombed on 17 Aug, as were gun positions at CAPE MOEPE, and a possible dump at MAROENI (10 miles SW of MANOKWARI). The KLAMONO oilfield area (25 miles SE of SORONG) was also bombed. Buildings were destroyed and damaged, and fires started.

On 19 Aug an attack was carried out against WINDEHSI. The area was bombed and strafed. Direct hits were scored and fires started. WINDEHSI village was reported destroyed. On the same day, Allied aircraft, covering Allied land operations, in the SANSAPOR area, strafed targets of opportunity, and scored a hit on an ammunition dump at MANOKWARI.

MANOKWARI was again the objective on 20 Aug when personnel areas, buildings and stores were bombed. Fires were started.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MACCLUER GULF-WANDAMEN BAY

On 14 and 20 Aug Allied aircraft bombed and strafed BABO area.

On 15 Aug enemy concentrations at WINDEHSI (WEST coast of GEELVINK BAY) were attacked.

RASI (EAST shore of WANDAMEN BAY) was the target for an Allied strafing attack on 20 Aug.

KAI - AROE ISLANDS

Activity in this area has been on a small scale over the past week. Allied aircraft raided SAUHLAKI on 14 Aug, scoring hits on the jetty and on buildings.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - WAIGEO ISLAND

On 16 Aug, an Allied attack was carried out against a possible enemy Headquarters on SAONEK ISLAND (off southern shore WAIGEO ISLAND), setting fire to huts and a possible fuel dump.

CERAM - AMBOINA - BOEROE

Allied activity in this area has shown a considerable increase. NAMLEA (BOEROE ISLAND) was the principal target for the week.

On 16 and 17 Aug coastal strips on TIOOR ISLAND were bombed and strafed, LIANG airfield was attacked also on 17 Aug and of 11 intercepting enemy aircraft five were destroyed.

On the same day heavy attacks were carried out against NAMLEA airfields. Direct hits were scored on the runways and dispersal areas. Four grounded aircraft were destroyed. On 19 Aug a further attack accounted for a further three more grounded aircraft destroyed and started many fires.

HALMAHERAS

Air activity over this area has shown a marked increase during the week. Strong forces of Allied heavy and medium bombers have carried out regular attacks on airfields, shipping and installations.

On 14 Aug the barracks and dump areas at WASILE BAY and shipping in WASILE and WEDA BAYS were bombed. Numerous buildings were destroyed, a jetty was damaged, two oil dumps were destroyed, and fires were started.

LOLOBATA airfield and dispersal areas were heavily bombed on 15 Aug. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed and 12 damaged. On the same day, Allied aircraft attacked TERMATE, destroying three large warehouses, a jetty and four barges. Enemy shipping at DOWORA LIMO ISLAND and barges on the WEST coast of HALMAHERA ISLAND were bombed and heavily strafed on the same day. Several small craft were damaged, two warehouses were destroyed, and buildings, a jetty, and a radio station damaged.

MITI ISLAND was attacked by Allied aircraft on 16 Aug, when aircraft and dispersal areas were bombed and fires started. An estimated 13 enemy aircraft were probably destroyed.

On 21 Aug KAOE airfield and town were the targets for Allied bombing and strafing. Eight grounded aircraft were destroyed or damaged and fires were started. On the same day enemy anti-aircraft positions, stores and personnel areas at WASILE BAY were bombed. Fuel dumps and stores were set on fire and many explosions were caused.

TALAUD

Fires were started and several buildings destroyed in an Allied attack against KARAKELONG (TALAUD GROUP) on 20 Aug.

PHILIPPINES

On 20 Aug DAVAO was bombed by Allied aircraft. One small fire was started.

TIMOR - FLORES

There has been very little air activity in this area during the week.

On 18 Aug Allied aircraft attacked and destroyed a power barge, three miles NORTH of CAPE NASIKONIS and strafed an unidentified vessel at ATAPOEPOE.

AIR - ENEMY

Enemy air activity over the NW Sector has been slight during the week. Only two interceptions were reported.

On 17 Aug 11 enemy aircraft intercepted Allied aircraft attacking LIANG (AMBONIA), as a result of which five enemy aircraft were destroyed. On the same day 15 to 20 enemy aircraft intercepted Allied aircraft attacking HAROEKOE. This interception resulted in the destruction of four of the enemy.

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

CENTRAL PACIFIC - PALAU

One NATORI Class cruiser, three destroyers including one of 1368 tons displacement, and one unidentified vessel were the only sightings reported in this area during the week.

AIR - OWN

CENTRAL PACIFIC

Allied air activity during the week in this area has been slight. DUBLON ISLAND was subjected to the only raid, when Allied aircraft, on 17 Aug, bombed a warehouse and storage areas, causing fires and large explosions.

MALAKAL ISLAND and KOROR ISLAND in the PALAU GROUP were attacked on 18 Aug by Allied aircraft on armed reconnaissance.

AIR - ENEMY

The only enemy air activity reported in the CENTRAL PACIFIC area for the week was an interception on 17 Aug by six enemy aircraft of Allied aircraft raiding DUBLON ISLAND. The interception resulted in one enemy aircraft being destroyed.

PART II

SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION

RE-ORGANISATION OF PARTS OF 18 ARMY

Recently captured documents all indicate that the Japanese 18 Army in the AITAPE - WEWAK area was suffering from shortages of personnel, equipment and food prior to its attack on the Allied perimeter which commenced on 11 Jul 44. In view of the casualties inflicted and corresponding loss of equipment and expenditure of ammunition and supplies, the future operational role of 18 Army must be reduced to one of defence only.

20 Division: A captured 20 Division Operation Order dated 10 Apr 44 outlines the re-organisation of that division.

Certain battalions and companies were to be disbanded and reinforcements absorbed in bringing other units up to strength. At this time the enemy was on the alert for a possible Allied landing at HANSA B.Y. There is no evidence yet to confirm the execution of this re-organisation plan or to indicate whether such was to be temporary or permanent. The departure of the division for WEWAK - AITAPE area (scheduled to commence on 14 Apr 44) would probably not allow of sufficient time for complete re-organisation, but possibly this could have been effected on the arrival of 20 Division in the WEWAK area.

The planned re-organisation shows a marked reduction in the composition of the Infantry, Artillery and Engineer Regiments as follows :-

Inf Regts : HQ
Three bns consisting of HQ
Two Coys
MG Coy

Inf Gun Unit (incorporating Regt
Gun Coy, Tk & Gun Coy and Mortar Pl)

Labour Unit

Sig Coy consisting of one WT Pl
one LT Pl

Arty Regt : HQ
Two bns consisting of HQ
Two Btys
Arm Train
(Regt & Arm Train to be disbanded)

Engr Regt : HQ
One Coy
One Material Pl
(From 20 Engr Regt and 33 Indep
Engr Regt)

66 Infantry Regiment, 51 Division: A captured officers' list shows the organisation of 66 Infantry Regiment as at 5 Jun 44. The regiment's weakness is apparent. The original 1 Battalion, of which a provisional organisation was at PALAU on 3 May 44 under Maj KOZAKURA, is practically non-existent. Part of the regiment left NEW GUINEA in Feb 44 for PALAU to re-organise. The organisation as at 5 Jun 44 (with strengths engaged at AITAPE) was as follows :-

66 Inf Regt HQ	(115)	2 Bn	(270)
		HQ	(90)
1 Bn	(300)	5 Coy	(70)
HQ	(120)	6 Coy	(-)
7 Coy	(80)	2 MG Coy	(60)
8 Coy	(50)	2 Bn Gun Pl	(50)
1 MG Coy)	(50?)		
1 Bn Gun Pl)		Regt Gun Coy	(105)
		Regt Sig Coy	(80)
3 Bn	(320)		
HQ	(100)		
9 Coy	(75)		
10 Coy	(90)		
11 Coy)			
3 MG Coy)	(35?)		
3 Bn Gun Pl)			

Total Strength (at AITAPE): 1190

The weapons then carried by 66 Infantry Regiment were :-

LMG	37
50mm Mortars	23
MMG	6
Bn Guns	1
Regt Guns	1
Type "TA" Grenade Discharger (probably Hollow Charge Grenade)	27
Type 100 Grenade Launcher	34

(Adapted from NCF Intelligence Summaries
182 and 187)

JAPANESE RE-ORGANISED DIVISION (ISLAND WARFARE)

Attached as Appendix 'B' are details of the organisation of a new type Japanese Infantry Division designed for Island warfare.

9 TANK REGIMENT

A document, dated May 44, and captured on SAIPAN, gives the organisation of 9 Tank Regiment, which at that time was located on SAIPAN and GUAM.

This regiment consisted of one light and four medium tank companies, thus differing from the previous estimated regimental organisation of one light and three medium companies. However, it is probable that the Japanese are

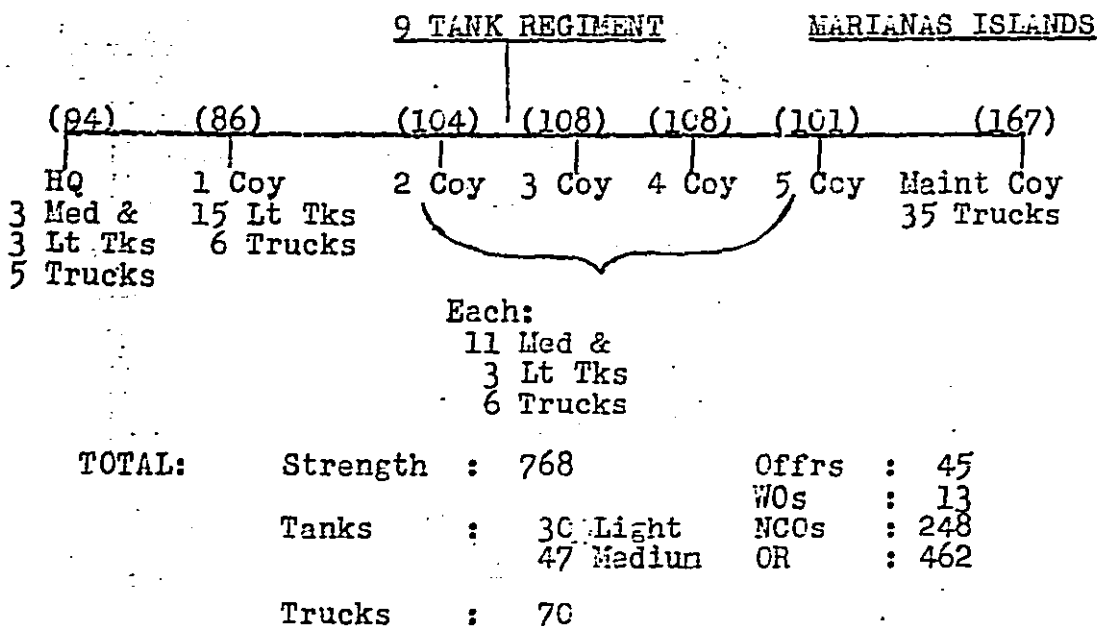
still experimenting with different types of organisations for tank units, as several different set-ups have been discovered in documents, and it appears likely that further variations may be encountered at a later date.

As a general rule, in a regiment with four medium companies, there are 10-11 medium and 2-3 light tanks to a company, and in a regiment with three medium companies, there are 17 medium and 2 light tanks to a company, so that the total number of tanks does not vary greatly. The light tanks normally are attached to company headquarters. The first company generally consists of 13-15 light tanks, and total regimental strength may vary from 750 to 970, depending on the numbers and types of tanks.

In the past, composite companies of both medium and light tanks have been recorded, but it is believed that this type of organisation is now out of date.

In 9 Tank Regiment the Regimental Train apparently was not included in the organisation, and the Maintenance Company carried no reserve tanks, contrary to general practice.

The following chart shows the organisation and strength of 9 Tank Regiment, as of 15 May 44 :-



NOTE: From the above, it appears probable that the normal strength of the medium tank companies was approximately 108 all ranks, which would give a regimental total of 779 personnel.

(AMF Intelligence Review 107)

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

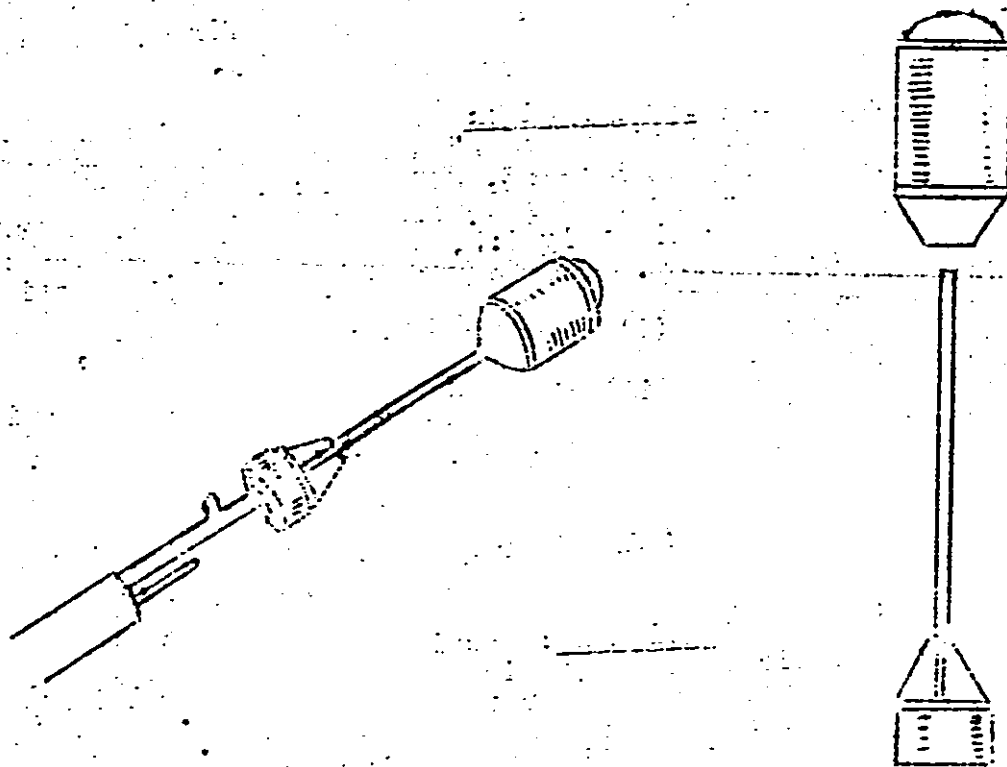
JAPANESE TANK ATTACK GRENADE BOMB

An undated document, captured at SARNI, contains sketches and brief specifications of what is called a "Tank Attack HE Shell, Incendiary Bottle".

This piece - actually a bomb - is fired from a rifle by the use of a small adapter attached to the muzzle. A blank cartridge provides the propellant. The bomb is used, according to the document, against tanks with armour plate less than 30mm in thickness, and has an effective range of 50-60 metres. Two men, a gunner and a loader, comprise the crew.

Description: The bomb is in three pieces; the grenade, a thin shaft and a finned tailpiece. It is apparently assembled prior to firing, by sliding the tailpiece over one end of the shaft and screwing the grenade on the other. Nothing further is known of the bomb except what can be gleaned from the title - that it is HE filled with an incendiary element.

The following sketches are reproduced from the document :-



(NGF Intelligence Summary 187)

JAPANESE AA ROCKETS

The use of Japanese AA rockets against Allied aircraft over the GAZELLE PENINSULA area has been reported. No further information is available at present relating to their construction or effect.

(adapted from AAF Intelligence Summary No 232 of 9 Aug 44).

SECTION 5 - TACTICS

JAPANESE TACTICS - "INFILTRATION ATTACK"

A diary captured at ANAMO (AITAPE area) belonging to 2/Lt ONIZUKA of 80 Infantry Regiment contains notes, dated 9 Jul 44, on tactics under the heading of "Infiltration Attack". These tactics are of the same offensive pattern as those used by diversionary units, raiding and demolition parties.

Three possible instances of the "infiltration attack" are believed to have occurred to date in the AITAPE area. All were unsuccessful attacks against Allied artillery positions at ANAMO. The first occurred on the moonless night of 17/18 Jul about 0200 hours and was carried out by an estimated 40 Japanese who waded in from the sea. The second and third attacks, on nights 3/4 and 4/5 Aug about an hour after moonset, were attempted by three and one Japanese respectively, who may have belonged to the demolition section only.

The infiltration attack is a small scale operation. Raids of from section to company strength were experienced by US troops in the SARMI area; these were described in First Army Weekly Intelligence Summary No 117. Judging from previous Japanese raids, it is possible that an estimate of the scale of the raid can be determined by the intensity, or absence, of local supporting fire (LMGs and light mortars) provided for the demolition party.

Organisation: The number of personnel employed in an "infiltration attack" unit varies from three to 30. The unit is divided into HQ, Demolition Section and Security Section. The proportion of demolition to security personnel appears to be approximately 1:2, the demolition section being the smaller of the two. The duties of the Security Section are :-

- (i) the protection of the unit,
- (ii) the drawing of fire and attention from the Demolition Section and its objectives to its own position if the plan is discovered, and
- (iii) if required, the transportation of supplies and equipment.

Equipment: Equipment is as light as possible. Officers leave their swords and helmets behind, and carry pistols and one or two hand grenades. NCOs carry pistols, four hand grenades and wear helmets. All other ranks, except those in the Security Section, carry pistols. If possible, enemy uniforms are worn.

The Demolition Section carries the explosives kept dry in rubber or cellophane. The demolitions consist mainly of grenades to which two or three sticks of explosives are attached.

Approach: Reconnaissance is by unit, section and squad leaders individually and covers an infiltration route, the selection of bases, an escape route, or, if the raid is to be followed by a general attack, a concealment point. Bases are set out as follows :-

No 1 Base - $1\frac{3}{4}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from enemy lines according to the situation. Storage point for food and equipment.

No 2 Base - 1000 yards from enemy lines. Explosives, clothing and equipment needed for the raid. This base may be used as a concealment point.

No 3 Base - 500 yards from enemy lines. Start line for demolition patrols.

From No 3 Base the demolition party will travel across difficult terrain avoiding native paths and crawling the last 100 yards, and halts 10 to 20 yards from the objective before attacking. The Security Section takes up positions in the opposite direction from the concealment point to draw the enemy fire on its direction in case the plan is discovered. When discovered by an enemy sentry at extremely close range, it is best to advance into the sentry line.

A IMG is placed at the concealment point and is fired occasionally to give its location.

Time of Attack:

- (i) About one hour after supper
- (ii) 0200 - 0300 hours
- (iii) About one hour after moonset.

(NGF Intelligence Summary 187)

ENEMY MINE FIELDS, NOEMFCOR ISLAND

Recent operations on NOEMFCOR ISLAND have permitted close examination and study of several areas in which the Japanese have utilised mine fields as a part of their defensive scheme.

While the few mine fields thus far encountered in the SWPA have been crude, improvised affairs, it is to be anticipated that they will become more numerous and more formidable as Allied forces penetrate deeper into Japanese-held territory, and it is almost certain that the use of mine-fields and booby traps will play a much more important part in future operations.

The following information is reproduced from a report made by a US Engineer Combat Battalion on the installation of mine fields on NOEMFCOR ISLAND :-

TYPES

- (a) Enemy mine fields encountered in the NOEMFCOR ISLAND Operation to date have been without exception of an expedient type. Airplane bombs ranging up to 50 kilograms were used almost exclusively. These bombs were set tail down in the earth with the nose pointing upward. The nose of the bomb with fuse attached was approximately level with the surface of the ground. About 400 of such bomb-mines have been disarmed and removed.

- (b) A few of the model 93 pancake type mines were found, but these were not set up in fields by themselves, or even included as supplementary portions of the expedient bomb-type fields.
- (c) A few of the model 99 (magnetised) armour piercing mines were found in the foxholes located behind the mine fields, apparently ready to be hand-placed on or thrown at vehicles or tanks.

PATTERN

No attempt was made to lay the fields according to any pattern. Some fields consisted of a single row of bomb-mines spaced on the average about three yards apart. Other fields consisted of several rows in depth with six to eight feet between bomb-mines. An attempt was made in the more elaborate fields to tie the ends of the field in with terrain features that in themselves constituted an obstacle to all vehicles and tanks.

ORGANISATION OF THE GROUND

- (a) Artillery, machine gun and rifle positions were constructed behind the fields in some instances. A few of these positions were so situated that the occupants would have been stunned, wounded or killed by the detonation of nearby bomb-mines, e.g. one 75-mm gun was above the surface of the ground and within 10 feet of the nearest bomb-mine.
- (b) Barbed wire was used in front of some fields. One beach position was protected by wire strung on wooden posts which were about 15 feet apart and placed parallel to the beach. Three strands of wire were strung approximately 18 inches apart, the top wire being about five feet above ground level. Two rows of smaller supporting stakes about two feet high were placed about seven feet on each side of the centre posts and one strand of wire was stretched over these parallel to the main wire. From these small side stakes, right-angle and diagonal strands supported the main posts.
- (c) The tactical objectives of these bomb-mine fields were apparently two: That of protecting the beach at an expected point of attack and that of blocking roads.

FUSE

- (a) A bomb-type fuse was screwed into the nose of the bombs. This type of fuse was obviously the same kind used to arm bombs before dropping them from planes. The fuse is set off by pressure on its nose. A propeller-type safety device prevents detonation until unscrewed. When dropped from a plane, the propeller is rotated by the pressure of the wind and causes the safety nut to fall off while the bomb is in flight. When used as a bomb-mine this propeller safety device is unscrewed and removed by hand. An

additional safety device consists of a wire clip which prevents pressure on the nose of the fuse and will not allow the propeller safety to rotate. An external knob on the side of the fuse may be set for instantaneous or delayed detonation. All bomb-mines encountered were set for instantaneous detonation.

- (b) A field test (not to be considered conclusive) indicated that the weight of a man would not set them off.
- (c) Of the bomb-mines described above, about 70 per cent were effectively armed and would have been set off had a vehicle passed over them. The remainder would not have been effective because one or both of the safety devices had not been removed, or because no fuse had been inserted in the nose of the bomb-mine. Bomb-mines, effective and ineffective according to the definitions given above, were found side by side in the same field. Moreover, fuses in sufficient quantity to arm all mines without fuses were found in the immediate vicinity.

BOOBY TRAPS

No bomb-mine removed was booby trapped and there was no indication of any attempt on the part of the enemy to do so.

ENEMY MINE FIELD SKETCHES

Captured enemy mine field sketches were used in the removal of some of the fields. These were crude field sketches made without any but the most general reference points. Mine fields were shown as areas only. Although individual mine symbols were sometimes shown within the area of the field, they did not correspond to the positions of individual mines as they were actually found. Although the number of mines in each area was shown there was no indication as to the distances between mines, azimuths etc. These sketches were of value in some cases because they indicated the general location and limits of the field. Some sketches were of no value either because no fields existed as shown or because boundaries were indefinite and the number of mines supposedly present was in error.

CAMOUFLAGE

In ninety per cent of the cases no effort was made to conceal these bomb-mines. Small hollows indicated their presence and in some instances their tops were fully exposed. Sticks about 12 inches high were placed as markers and had not been removed. Mine detectors proved of value in the cases where bomb-mines were covered.

(Adapted from HQ ALAMO Force G-2
Weekly Report No 53)

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

THE STORY OF THE "WEST CAVES" ON BIAK ISLAND

The BIAK Detachment commander, Colonel KUZUME, Naoyuki, faced with the ever-present Japanese dilemma of defending an extensive coastline with a relatively small number of combat troops, wisely chose to concentrate his defences on terrain that would prevent to the last our use of the aerodromes of BIAK ISLAND. For this purpose he chose as his main defensive area the coral ledge to the NORTH of MOKMER and BCROKCE drones. This ledge rises steeply from the flat drone area to a height of 60 to 100 feet. The top of the ledge is more or less flat for about 600 yards NORTH where high ground rises to 320 feet or more. It is covered with thick secondary growth with an occasional large tree. In this general area the enemy placed at least one battery of mountain guns, five 120-mm dual purpose guns, four 3-inch AA guns, the remnants of his tank company, and a large number of his mortars and automatic weapons. As the detachment forward headquarters, Colonel KUZUME chose a coral cavern area which he called the "West Cave". This was originally the Naval Headquarters, but it also became the detachment headquarters when battle was joined in the MOKMER drone area. This amazing natural formation consisted of three large depressions in the ground about 150 feet NORTH of the coral ledge overlooking MOKMER drone. One of these caves was almost circular, having a diameter of 75 feet and a depth of about 100 feet. The second was oval in shape, 100 feet wide, 160 feet long, and 50 feet deep. The third cave was in the neighbourhood of 80 feet in diameter, the bottom sloping from near the top of the EAST side to a depth of about 100 feet at its WEST side. Connecting these three holes were a series of tortuous tunnels and caverns that had a shelter capacity of about 1,000 men. These provided very effective shelter from our artillery fire and aerial bombardments.

The existence of the West Cave was known early in the campaign, and its importance in the enemy scheme of defence was soon realised. However, the exact location of the cave was not known, other than that it was on this coral ledge NORTH of MOKMER drone.

Enemy defences in this area having been probed by our forces, a battalion, on 14 Jun, was given the task of seizing this area. On 18 Jun this battalion reached the cave area after fighting their way up the coral ridge in the face of heavy automatic weapon, mortar and sniper fire. Approach to the caves even after the ledge was gained was not easy. The area around the caves was infested with mutually-supporting hasty-defence positions. These had to be systematically eliminated before our assault groups could approach the caves. On 21 Jun flame throwers were used against the caves but with only limited success. The winding tunnels in which the Japanese took shelter, the extreme distances over which the flame had to be projected, and the inherent tendency of the flame thrower to flash back when projected into caves, prevented this from being an effective weapon here. By this time most of the area around the caves was occupied by our forces and a close watch maintained to prevent enemy evacuation. Our sniper fire, tank-gun fire and rifle grenades were found to be effective to a limited degree. Many Japanese were killed in this manner, but the bulk of them were still safe in the recesses of the caverns.

On 21 Jun many barrels of gasoline were dumped in the cave openings and ignited. Large quantities of TNT were lowered into the caverns and detonated when in the proper position. A combination of these methods was used against the caves daily till 26 Jun, when the last Japanese resistance collapsed.

From captured documents and PW, it was learned that on the night of 21 Jun the Detachment Commanding Officer, realising the futility of the situation, burned the regimental colours (222 Infantry Regiment), ordered an evacuation of all those who were able to walk for one final glorious attack against our forces, distributed hand grenades to the wounded who had to remain behind and who were instructed to use the grenades for self-destruction, and then himself committed hara-kiri. This evacuee group on the night of 21-22 Jun launched an abortive attack against part of our defences, which were about 600 yards to the NW of the caves. 115 Japanese bodies were counted around this perimeter on the following morning.

On 27 Jun a combat patrol accompanied by certain CIC and intelligence personnel entered the caves. Japanese bodies littered almost every square foot of the ground. Due to many of the dead being in advanced stages of decomposition, a complete count could not be made. The 125 bodies counted were considered to be the minimum figure. Three more Japanese were killed in the various recesses of the caves.

It was discovered that houses had been built in the caverns and that several gasoline-driven generators had been in use providing power for radios.

In the fight for the caves, the following pieces of Japanese equipment in the caves and in the area adjoining were captured by our forces :-

- 2 - 75mm guns with 100 rounds ammunition
- 2 - 7.7mm heavy machine guns
- 5 grenade dischargers
- 2 - 7.7mm light machine guns
- 2 - 20mm tank attack guns
- 2 - 37mm tank attack guns
- 1 - 60mm mortar
- 2 - 30 power Naval telescopes
- Quantities of small arms ammunition, radios and radio equipment.

(From HQ ALLMC Force G-2 Weekly Report No 53)

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

TALAUD AND SANGIHE ISLANDS

GENERAL

The TALAUD and SANGIHE ISLANDS, with the exception of the isolated northern island of MIANGAS (PALMAS), lie between latitudes 2° and 5° NORTH and longitudes 125° and 128° EAST. These major groups include the lesser groups of NANOESA, KAWIO and TOADE. Prior to Japanese occupation the islands were under Dutch Government control and formed one territorial sub-division for administrative purposes under direct control

of the Resident of MANADO (CELEBES). It is interesting to note that the Treaty of PARIS 1898, included the island of MIANGAS in the territory of the PHILIPPINES, but in 1928 the Permanent Court of International Justice ruled that it was a part of the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The SANGIHE, TCADE and KAWIO ISLANDS extend almost due NORTH from the extremity of the northern arm of the CELEBES. TALAUD and NANOESA GROUPS lie to the NE of SANGIHE and are in a direct line between HALMAHERA and DAVAO (MINDANAO).

The entire area is subject to volcanic eruption. The islands are volcanic and generally mountainous, with narrow alluvial plains. They are fairly heavily wooded, but the thickness of vegetation does not compare with that of NEW GUINEA. Movement by troops is comparatively easy throughout.

Prior to Japanese occupation motor traffic on the islands was almost non-existent and road communications were correspondingly poor. Villages are almost all situated near the coast and connected by native tracks. Communications between the villages and with the outside world was mainly by sea. SANGIHE ISLANDS are densely populated, and the soils are much more fertile than those of the TALAUD GROUP.

Water is generally abundant except in a few of the smaller uninhabited islands. It is obtainable from streams and springs, and wells can be dug almost anywhere.

MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE

Situated approximately midway between HALMAHERA and MINDANAO these islands occupy an important strategic position in relation to any advance on the PHILIPPINES from the SOUTH. There were no airfields in these islands prior to Japanese occupation but investigation shows a number of possible sites. Seaplane bases existed at TACENA and MANALOE BAYS (SANGIHE ISLAND).

DESCRIPTION

TALAUD ISLANDS: This group is comprised of three islands - KARAKELONG (KARAKELLONG), SALEBABOE and KABAROEANG - of which KARAKELONG is the largest, being 33 miles in length. They are all hilly to mountainous, and thickly wooded, with many coastal villages connected by good horse tracks.

On KARAKELONG ISLAND, BEC is the main village and the seat of the Rajah of the TALAUD GROUP.

This island is divided into two clearly defined parts by a low valley between the villages of BEC on the WEST coast and RAINIS on the EAST. The only recognised track across the island links these villages. It is a hard red-surfaced bullock-cart track and is considered trafficable by jeeps.

SANGIHE ISLANDS

This group is comprised of 14 islands scattered over an area of more than 100 miles from NORTH to SOUTH. All islands of the group are densely populated and the soils are much more fertile than those of the TALAUD GROUP. The largest and most important are SIAOE and SANGIHE ISLANDS.

SIAGE ISLAND is very mountainous and has a range of volcanic cones, the highest (5992 feet) of which is an active volcano. There are no flat areas of any size, and the island is practically covered with coconuts except for the conical peaks of the mountains. Some sections of motor road were completed in 1939.

SANGIHE ISLAND is mountainous, rising in places to 4000 feet. The coast line is very broken by numerous inlets and bays affording many anchorages. There are no motor roads on the island but all the main tracks have reasonable surfaces and width and would be probably trafficable by jeeps.

TCADE, KAWIC and NANCESA ISLANDS: These comprise groups of small islands. They are all hilly and coconut trees abound. Some are uninhabited and only KARATOENG ISLAND in NANCESA GROUP offers any scope for airfield sites.

MIANGAS (PALMAS) ISLAND: This island is the northernmost of the Dutch possessions. It is low lying for the most part - only five feet above sea level. Two short ranges of grass covered hills are located, one in the WEST and the other in the NE, rising to 360 feet. It is mostly covered with coconut plantations and there are three fresh water swamps in the NORTH and centre of the island. The island is entirely surrounded by a wide reef.

HARBOURS AND ANCHORAGES

Most of the islands in these groups are fringed with coastal reef, generally narrow, which falls away steeply to great depths. There is little danger to navigation at more than a half mile from the shore. The islands are indented with many bays affording good anchorages of various sizes in depths ranging from 20 to 40 fathoms. Sandy beaches suitable for landings are known on all the larger islands. The coast of SANGIHE ISLAND is especially suitable.

In the TALAUD GROUP, the best anchorage is in the roadstead SOUTH and SE of KIAMA village on the SOUTH coast of KARAKELONG ISLAND, where there is an area of two square miles with depths of 15 to 35 fathoms. This roadstead could accommodate about 30 vessels of 10,000 tons with reasonable shelter at all times. On the opposite side of LIROENG STRAIT there is anchorage for 12 similar vessels and a large number of small craft.

Other good anchorages in this group are at EEO, ESSANG, ARANGKAA and RAINIS BAYS, all on KARAKELONG ISLAND.

In the SANGIHE GROUP, with the exception of SANGIHE ISLAND itself, anchorages are somewhat open and some are difficult on account of the deep water and steepness between sea bottom and shore. The best of these anchorages are in the bay on the NORTH coast of BIARO ISLAND, the BOEHAS ROADSTEAD on the SW side of TAHOELANDANG ISLAND, and OELOE and SAWANG ROADSTEADS.

At SANGIHE ISLAND there is upwards of 20 known anchorages of which MANALOE BAY is probably the largest and best, being nearly always calm. Other good anchorages are in TAHOENA, MANGANITOE, TAMAKO and DAGO BAYS.

At MIANGAS ISLAND no good anchorages exist. The best position with a depth of 16 fathoms, is in a tight on the SE side of the island.

AIRFIELDS AND SEAPLANE BASES

There are no known airfields on any of these islands and few suitable sites have been reported. On TALAUD ISLAND, three suitable areas are thought to exist, at ESSANG BAY, BEC and possibly KIAMA. On SANGIHE ISLAND five sites are reported, two being in TAHOENA BAY area and the most likely site on MANALOE BAY. On KARATCENG ISLAND it is stated that two clearings each 6000 feet long could be made along the coast.

A sighting of three parallel strips on the SW side of MIANGIS ISLAND on 27 May 44 was reported, but it has not been confirmed. The island is flat, and if swamps were filled in, an extensive area may be available for fighter strips.

Two seaplane bases were used prior to the Japanese invasion both on SANGIHE ISLAND at TAHOENA and at LEBESSAN in the southern part of MANALOE BAY. A further potential site exists in DAGO BAY, also on SANGIHE ISLAND.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

These islands are small and separated by wide sea passages, hence they experience an equatorial even climate of frequent heavy rains, moderate high temperatures, persistently high humidity and gentle winds.

They have two seasons :-

NW Monsoon - Dec to Apr
SE Monsoon - Jun to Oct

Northerly winds prevail from Dec to Apr, southerlies from Jun to Oct, SW in May and NW in Nov. The average wind is a gentle breeze, and heavy squalls are rare. Rough seas are frequent between May and Oct. Typhoons in Nov and Dec occasionally pass on a more southerly course than normal and in so doing may bring cyclonic weather of strong winds, high seas and heavy rain squalls to the northern units of these groups.

Rainfall is heavy and frequent, being 156 inches annually at TAHOENA on SANGIHE and 113 to 133 inches on TALAUD. The lowest average monthly rainfall in the area is 7½ inches, but most rain tends to fall in the NW monsoon.

Tide ranges depending on the phases of the moon vary between one and six feet. Sea level temperatures vary between 80° and 90° by day and 70° to 75° by night.

DISTANCES FROM BASES

Direct distances to BEC, principal port of the TALAUD GROUP from various military bases are :-

<u>Allied Bases</u>		<u>Enemy Bases</u>	
HOLLANDIA	924 nautical miles	MANILA	711 nautical miles
BIAK	635 " "	SARANGANI	151 " "
SAIPAN	1302 " "	KENDARI	551 " "
SANSAPOR	430 " "	HALONG (AMCON)	477 " "

PART IV.

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE

The rapid extension of Allied operations towards the SOUTH of PARIS in close co-operation with French Forces of the Interior (MAQUIS) is beginning to reveal the Allied grand strategy in FRANCE. The obvious aim is to link with forces pushing northwards from TOULON and MARSEILLES, thus compelling the German garrison in SW FRANCE to make a hurried withdrawal NORTH of a line PARIS-DIJON-GENEVA or suffer complete disintegration. This scheme is being carried into a practical stage by the activities of the MAQUIS who are reported to have occupied ANGOULEME, LIMOGES and VICHY, thus compromising all the enemy elements remaining on the BISCAY COAST. Other MAQUIS activities are in the ANNECY-GRENOBLE area where they virtually control all the UPPER SAVOY region and westwards towards LYONS where they threaten German communication in the RHONE VALLEY. The unconfirmed reports of an Allied landing in the area SW of BORDEAUX ties in with the MAQUIS occupation of the French PYRENEAN border and will prevent any large scale German escape into SPAIN.

In NORTHERN FRANCE, all organised resistance in NORMANDY has ceased and the Allied pursuit of the German Seventh Army towards the SEINE is being made against decreasing opposition. The FALAISE Pocket has been eliminated after a costly and unsuccessful attempt to rejoin the main German body. The Allied forces now hold a line TRUCVILLE-LISIEUX-ORBEC. A further threat to the retreating Army is being implemented by the advance of the US Third Army along the SEINE towards the coast, and although stiff resistance is being met, a point within 50 miles of the mouth of the river has been reached.

The recapture of PARIS by its own population will have an enormous morale effect not only on the French people but on the peoples of other occupied territories.

The most southern reported advance by the US Third Army is the occupation of SENS, 60 miles SE of PARIS. This advance menaces German movement between PARIS and south-eastern FRANCE.

The progress of the Allied landings in SOUTHERN FRANCE has been little less than sensational, and clearly indicates the total unpreparedness and impotence of the enemy. Already advanced elements have entered GRENOBLE and linked up with the MAQUIS. This advance narrows the gap between the northern and southern armies in FRANCE to a little over 200 miles and a speedy junction may be anticipated in view of the disorganisation existing in the intervening area.

The announcement that MARSEILLES has been liberated followed closely on the announcement of the recapture of PARIS. At TOULON, only a small area of the city is still in enemy possession.

ITALY

A slight increase in tempo has been evidenced in ITALY over the past week. This may in part be due to the Allied desire to prevent a firm German defence line from being

established in the northern APPENINES and partly due to a slight withdrawal of German troops in order to strengthen their lines in the French-Italian border area, although there is nothing substantial on which to base this latter theory.

FLORENCE is now entirely in Allied hands and Eighth Army patrols have penetrated several miles beyond the city where German forces are dug in on high ground. It is not likely that rapid progress will be effected in this area. Between FLORENCE and the ADRIATIC COAST desultory actions are still ensuing in the UPPER TIBER VALLEY.

The most significant move in ITALY has been the advance of armoured elements of the Eighth Army along the ADRIATIC COAST. After overcoming resistance and inflicting considerably heavier casualties than have been normal in this area, a stretch of 40 miles of the SOUTH bank of the METAURO RIVER has been occupied.

BURMA

No sign of a Japanese attempt to halt the Allied advances down the TIDDIM ROAD has yet been reported. It is also becoming increasingly apparent that the wastage of Japanese manpower through starvation and disease has been on a larger scale than previously anticipated. NO Japanese troops now remain in INDIA and contact has been broken with their forces five miles SOUTH of the INDIA-BURMA border on the TIDDIM ROAD.

The MYITKYINA area has now been cleared of all enemy pockets of resistance and Allied troops are continuing to advance southwards to BHAMO, a point 18 miles SE of MYITKYINA having been reached by Chinese troops.

EASTERN FRONT

The capitulation of RUMANIA and its consequent acceptance as a co-belligerent of the UNITED NATIONS cannot otherwise but spell the complete disintegration of all German aspirations in the BALKANS. As yet, the immediate effects cannot be assessed, as it is not clear whether such German forces as remain in RUMANIA will be able to extricate themselves. The Rumanian oilfields, through Allied bombings have ceased to be an important factor in German strategy, and because of this, it is possible that the bulk of the German troops have been withdrawn.

EAST of CRACOW, Russian troops have continued to advance along the line of the CARPATHIANS, and have occupied DEBICA, an important railway junction on the WISTOKA RIVER.

The Russian bridgehead across the VISTULA in the area SOUTH of WARSAW has been the scene of heavy fighting. The fortress city of SANDOMIERZ has been completely occupied and Russian forces have advanced to the SW in the direction of CRACOW.

At WARSAW, the situation is practically unchanged and fierce fighting is still in progress for the possession of the city.

In LATVIA, a determined German counter-attack WEST of RIGA succeeded in dislodging the Russians from the town of TUKUMS, while to the NORTH, Russian advances further threaten enemy communications between RIGA and TALLINN in the area of the LATVIA-ESTONIA border.

PART V

SECURITY

SECURITY OF DOCUMENTS - JAPANESE

Considerable 'tightening up' of security precautions by the Japanese to prevent secret documents falling into our hands is evident from a perusal of a captured enemy pamphlet.

In this captured order, detailed instructions are given as to the method of handling secret documents, in both forward and rear areas; action to be taken by personnel permitted to receive or read them; manner of carrying, guarding, action upon loss, and arrangements for disposal of such documents in case of emergency.

Particular attention is paid to code books as shown in the following extract :-

"Code Difficulties during Operations:

MAIN POINTS: As with all secret documents the loss of code books will rapidly influence a wide area through leakage of contents. It may also cause confusion in the liaison of the command in question. That is to say that everyone from the commander to the coder must exercise particular care for the document's protection, thus preventing any mishaps. If, unfortunately, a mishap does occur, the opportunity to minimise damage by devising a counter plan, must not be lost. Thus concord in security and communications will be maintained."

Some examples given in this document of actual occurrences whereby secret documents have been lost and subsequent opinions expressed by the enemy Headquarters are of interest :-

"Summary: An automobile exploded from ignited gasoline in bivouac, the code book burned because there was not time to save it.

Instructions: Bivouac discipline must be maintained strictly."

"Summary: While travelling with code documents transported by oxen, unexpected enemy fire scared the oxen into scampering towards the enemy, while soldier was busily engaged in self-protection. (Report from a certain group signal unit RANGCON sector).

"Instructions: Precautions should have been taken to meet such an incident. It is difficult to comprehend why the oxen were permitted to escape without at least saving some documents."

Instruction in the manner of burning documents is given as follows :-

"TO BURN DOCUMENTS completely, insert an object between each page about the thickness of a celluloid sheet 0.12 MM. (Thinnest sheets which are sold in stores). Cut a little larger than the size of the paper. Devise something similar to a book-stand by bending wire (larger than No 8 guage). Stand the aforementioned documents, with the binding down, with appropriate intervals between each book and destruction will be more easily accomplished."

With the Japanese acutely aware of the imperative need to prevent documents falling into enemy hands, it would be well to remember that our own security measures are not always 100%. Instances have occurred whereby valuable information has been gained by the Jap from captured documents, which would not have fallen into his hands if security precautions had been observed.

W. M. G. G. G. G.
Lt-Col
GS FIRST AUST ARMY

DISTRIBUTION

FIRST AUST ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 120

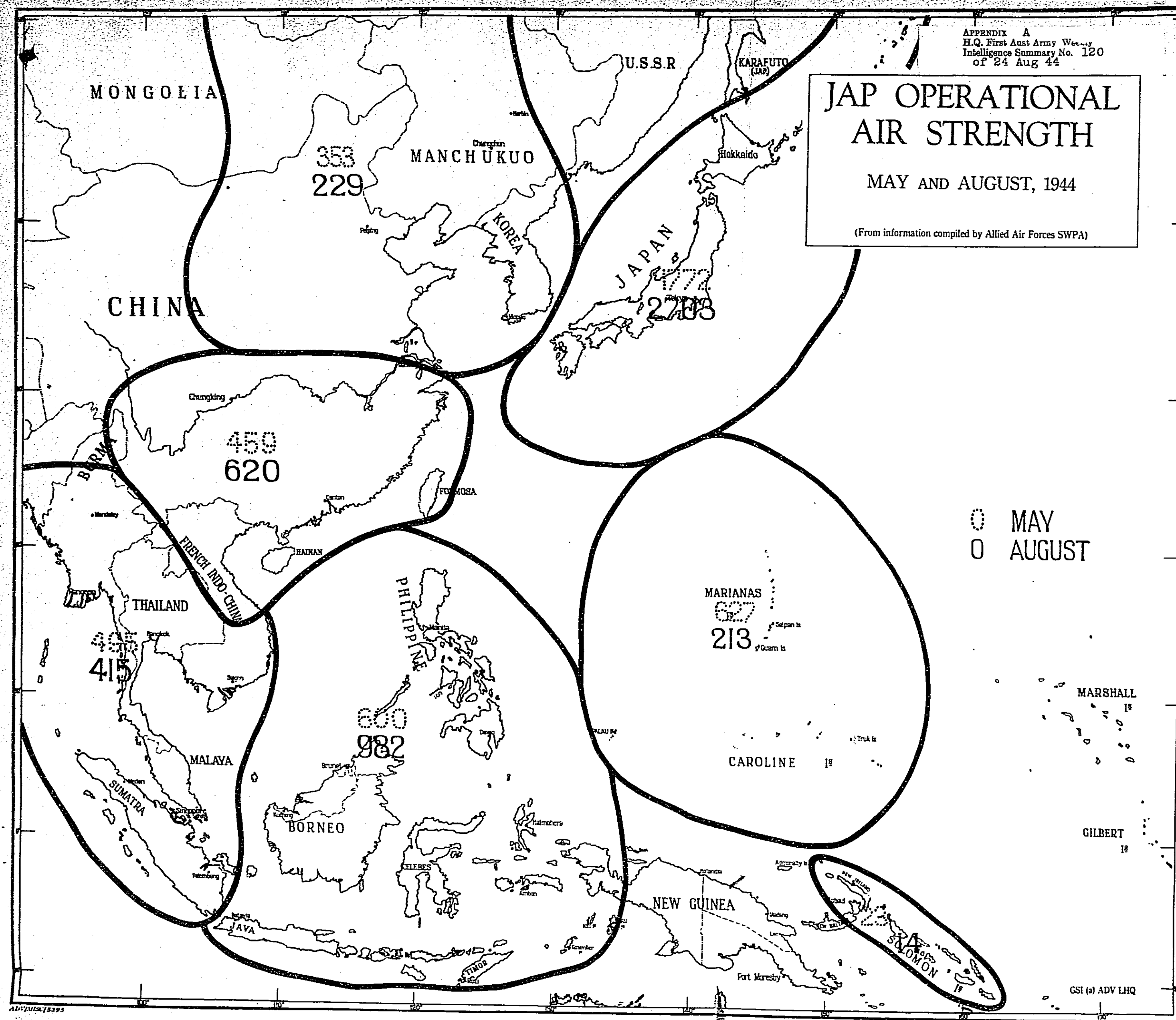
Rear HQ First Aust Army	1
1 Aust Corps	2-110
4 Aust Div	111-116
11 Aust Div	117-122
BRISBANE Fortress	123
TOWNSVILLE Fortress	124
CAIRNS Fortress	125
BRA First Aust Army	126-131
Aust Trg Centre (JW)	132-135
7 Aust Comd AL Sec	136
Corps HQ VDC (QLD)	137
Sigs First Aust Army	138
1 Aust Para Bn	139
First Aust Army Regt Trg School	140
First Aust Army School of Sigs	141
First Aust Army AASC School	142
GOC	143
BGS	144
G(O)	145
G(I)	146-151
G(SD)	152
DA & QMG	153
A (1 copy to circulate to - AMS, Legal, Chaplains, Med, Pro and Education)	154-155
Q (1 copy to circulate to S & T, Ord, AE & ME and Postal)	156-158
CE	159-161
CSO	162
Svy	163
LHQ (Aust)	164
Adv LHQ	165-169
NT Force	170
QUEENSLAND L of C Area	171-174
7 Aust Div	175-210
LHQ School of MI	211-212
FELO	213
NOIC CAIRNS	214
5 TAC R Sqn (RAAF)	215
MLO Security Service (CANBERRA)	216
File	217
War Diary	218-219

Please destroy by fire after perusal

JAP OPERATIONAL AIR STRENGTH

MAY AND AUGUST, 1944

(From information compiled by Allied Air Forces SWPA)



JAPANESE RE-ORGANISED DIVISION (ISLAND WARFARE)

Sufficient evidence is now to hand to confirm the fact that the Japanese divisions, in the Central and South-west Pacific areas at least, have now been re-organised into more compact fighting units, with Regimental Groups as the chief tactical formations. The total strength of this new type of division is approximately 14,000. It is believed that this re-organisation does not apply to any of those divisions operating on the Asiatic mainland.

Of the divisions lately encountered in operations, 36 Division in DUTCH NEW GUINEA, and 14, 29, 43 and 52 Divisions in the MARIANAS ISLANDS, have been reorganised by disbanding the Infantry Group Headquarters, Artillery Regiment, Engineer Regiment, Transport Regiment, and Medical Unit, and a proportionate number of these troops re-allotted to the Infantry Regiments, thereby contributing to the formation of self-contained Regimental Groups. The Field Hospitals have been grouped together as the Divisional Field Hospital, from which Branch Hospitals are allotted to the Regiments as required.

In all the aforementioned divisions, with the exception of 43 Division, two of the Regimental Groups have consisted of a Headquarters, three Infantry Battalions, Artillery Battalion, and Engineer, Signal, Transport and Medical Companies. The third Regimental Group has adopted an even more "streamlined" form of organisation, with an Infantry Mortar Company and Artillery Battery attached to each Battalion, and in addition, a Tank Company and Machine Cannon Company form part of the Group.

The Division Cavalry or Reconnaissance Regiment has been replaced by a Tank Company equipped with Light Tanks, and in place of the normal Transport Regiment a Sea Transport Unit, equipped with MLC, and with a strength of approximately 1,542, has been substituted. A small Transport Unit, of less than company strength, has been retained and this, together with the Regimental Transport Companies, should prove sufficient to satisfy all land transportation requirements.

This latter development appears quite logical, as the uselessness of the orthodox land Transport Regiment for the particular type of warfare now being engaged in has been amply demonstrated during earlier campaigns.

As all divisions of this re-organised type, with the probable exception of 43 Division, have included a Sea Transport Unit in their organisation, it appears reasonable to assume that in future all further divisions identified as having a Sea Transport Unit will be of this new type, and that the intention will be for them to be located in areas outside JAPAN or the Asiatic mainland.

In the light of the foregoing information, a logical assumption would be that all divisions encountered in future operations in the Pacific will be of this new type, instead of the old "Standard" type of organisation.

Two more divisions are known to have been lately reorganised, but excepting that the Infantry Group Headquarters have been disbanded, no information is available as to the exact form taken by this reorganisation. These divisions are 5 Division, located in the ARAFURA SEA - South coast DUTCH NEW GUINEA area, and 48 Division, located in the TIMOR area.

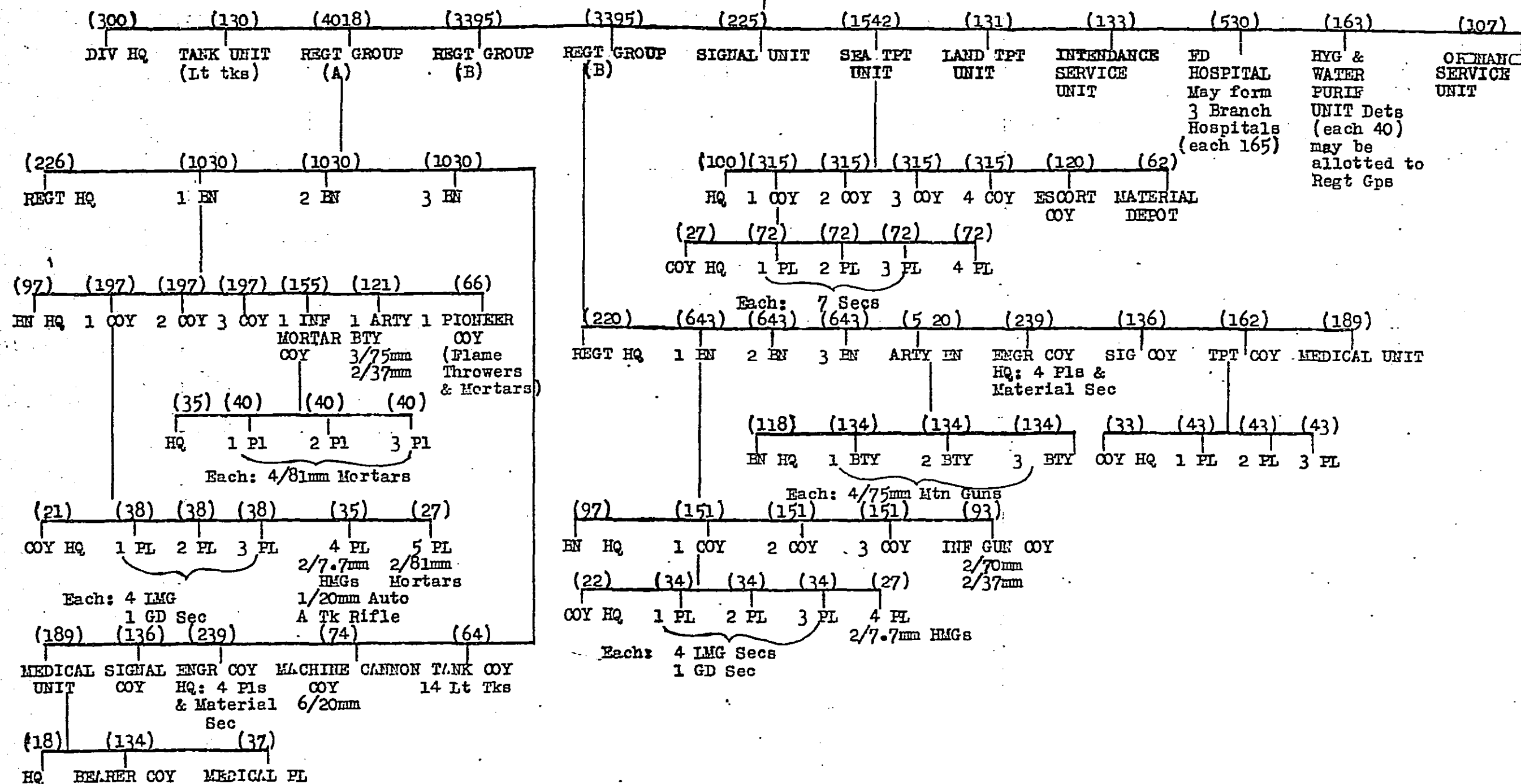
It is not yet known whether 32 and 35 Divisions, located respectively in the HALMAHERAS and North West DUTCH NEW GUINEA, have also taken on this new formation, although slight evidence suggests that 35 Division at least has undergone some change.

The following chart, compiled from all available information, shows the organisation of this new type of division. The given strengths will undoubtedly vary slightly among the different divisions, but the general organisational details and over-all strengths should remain unaltered.

(AMF WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REVIEW 107)

Appendix 'B'
to HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 120
of 24 Aug 44.

JAPANESE RE-ORGANISED DIVISION (ISLAND WARFARE)
(13,949)



NOTES: (i) Identified divisions organised as above -

14 DIV PALAU
29 DIV SOUTHERN MARIANAS
36 DIV DUTCH NEW GUINEA
52 DIV TRUK

Unconfirmed -

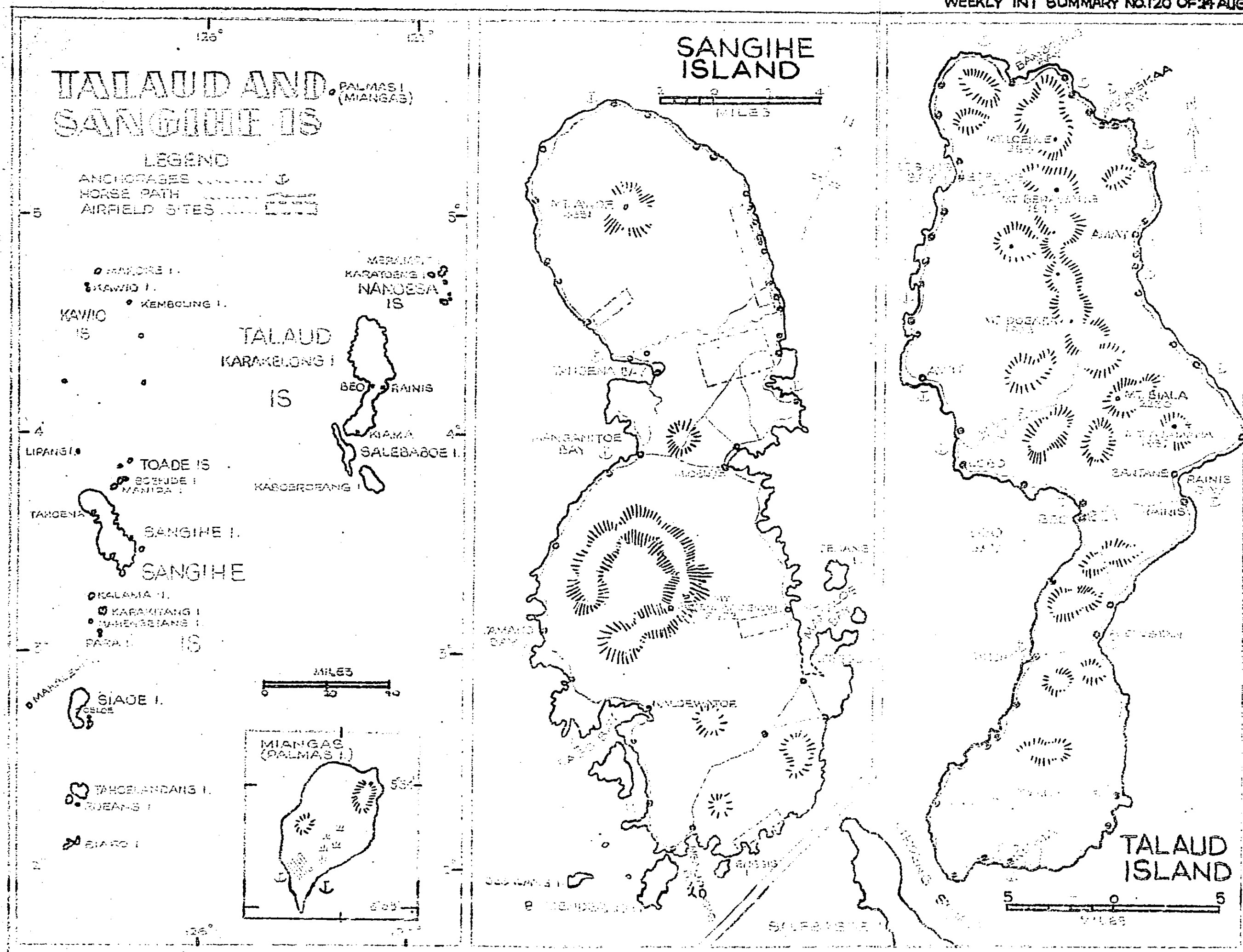
5 DIV ARAFURA SEA - SOUTH COAST DUTCH NEW GUINEA
48 DIV TIMOR

NOTES: (ii) 43 DIV (SAIPAN) was organised as follows -

Div HQ 220
118 Regt Gp (B) 3,165
135 Regt Gp (B) 3,165
136 Regt Gp (B) 3,165
Signal Unit () Identified, but no strength obtained to date

Tpt Unit 131
Intend Service Unit 123
Fd Hospital 530
Hys & Water Purif Unit 163
Ord Service Unit 107

Total on SAIPAN 10,769



ORDER OF BATTLE AND ORGANISATION

SECTION I - ORDER OF BATTLE

LAND

The changes recorded in estimate of enemy strengths in SWPA as at 16 Aug 44 are as set out below.

In the NW Sector, the estimate for BORNEO has been increased to 15,000. At AMBON it is considered that Base, L of C and Naval troops have arrived from ARAFURA SEA and SOUTHWEST DUTCH NEW GUINEA and the total for that area has been increased to 17,000.

On the NORTH Coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA, the estimate for MANOKWARI has been reduced to 10,000 as further evacuation to the SOUTH is considered to have taken place. At SARMI, enemy strength has been further reduced by evacuation westwards and general attrition. The estimate for that area now is 2,000 which includes 500 Divisional troops.

In the NE Sector the enemy force EAST of AITAPE is estimated at 35,000. The decrease is due to casualties. The strength of divisional troops is estimated at :

20 Division	2,500
41 Division	2,500
51 Division	4,000

As a result of the above changes, sector totals are as follows:-

NW Sector	419,500/429,500
NE Sector	93,500.

TOTAL SWPA 518,000/528,000

The non-divisional troops in AITAPE-NEWAK area estimated at approximately 26,000, are reported by HQ, NEW GUINEA FORCE to comprise:-

18 Army HQ	380
Arty	300
AA	4310
Engrs	3250
Tpt	1250
Sigs	2050
Med	1610
Misc Army	3420
Shipping	5850
Air	2780
Naval	1000

Strength 16 Aug 44 26,200

Changes and New Identifications

38 INDEPENDENT
MIXED BRIGADE

A semi-official document captured on BOUGAINVILLE locates this formation in that area probably mid 1944. Recently formed from units already in the area, it appears to consist basically of 17 Division personnel. A reorganised 81 Regiment comprises the infantry component. The brigade is commanded by Major General KIJIMA presumably the former commander of 17 Divisional Infantry Group.

So far as is known the organisation does not include personnel of 6 Division and the brigade as such has not yet been engaged in combat.

2 AMPHIBIOUS
BRIGADE

An order issued by 2 Army on 17 June stated that "after the arrival of 2 Amphibious Brigade at SORONG, the main strength of 35 Division will move to MANOKWARI". There is no evidence to suggest the arrival of this brigade at SORONG, and apart from some elements that may be in the area, the presence of any major portion is considered doubtful.

ONE INDEPENDENT
BRIGADE

The organisation of this brigade at early June 44 is believed to have included 12 independent battalions. Most of these appear to have been located in the general MANOKWARI area. To date, 4, 6, 8 and 12 have been identified. 12 was in process of formation on 7 June 44.
(. . .)

UNITS ATTACHED ONE INDEPENDENT BRIGADE

The following are units which were attached to One Independent Brigade in the MANOKWARI area on 9 Jul 44. At this stage the brigade was responsible for defence of the area EAST of KAIRONI to MANOKWARI (including MAPIA ISLAND).

35 DIVISION

- 219 Regiment (part)
- 221 Regiment (bulk)
- 4 Independent Mountain Artillery Regiment (bulk)
- 35 Division Signals (part)
- 35 Division Field Hospital (approximately half)

36 DIVISION

- 223 Regiment, 5 Company (bulk)
- 7 Company (on MAPIA ISLAND)

OTHER UNITS

- 20 Field Air Defence Headquarters
- 57 Field Anti-aircraft Battalion
- 73 Field Anti-aircraft Battalion
- 74 Field Anti-aircraft Battalion (one Platoon, 2 Battery)
- 45 Field Machine Cannon Battery
- 9 Independent Searchlight Company
- 15 Independent Engineer Regiment (bulk)
- 24 Signal Regiment (part)
- 227 Independent Motor Transport Company (less one Platoon)
- 229 Independent Motor Transport Company (part)
- 29 Special Motor Transport Company (part)
- 125 Lines of Communication Hospital (bulk)
- 18 Casualty Clearing Unit Headquarters
- 88 Casualty Clearing Platoon (part)
- 27 Water Purification Unit (part)
- 55 Lines of Communication Sector Unit (bulk)
- 2 Army Field Ordnance Depot (bulk)
- 2 Army Field Motor Transport Depot (bulk)
- 2 Army Field Freight Depot (part)
- 73 Construction Duty Company (bulk)
- 14 Airfield Construction Unit

AIR

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - SWPA

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 18 Aug 44, is listed below:-

AREA	F	B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 18 Aug	Total on 18 Jul
NEW BRITAIN	2			2	2	6	6
NEW IRELAND				5		5	5
SOLOMONS				3		3	3
NEW GUINEA	3				2	5	16
HALMAHERA-TALAUD	40	28		6	3	77	163
PHILIPPINES:	297	209	13	27	36	582	440
AMBON-CERAM-							
BOEROE	40	33	6	12	16	107	142
CELEBES	75	38		15		128	78
ARO & KAI IS	5	4			2	11	7
TIMOR-SOEMBA-							
SOEMBAWA-FLORES	21	9		3	3	36	39
JAVA-BALI-LOMBOK	12	12		12	5	41	47
BORNEO	16	23		9		48	28
TOTAL	511	356	19	94	69	1049	974

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - CENTRAL PACIFIC

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 18 Aug 44, is listed below:-

AREA	F	B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 18 Aug	Total on 21 Jul
PALAU	24	4		10	3	41	111
YAP	5	17				22	62
MOLEAI		3				3	3
TRUK	22	20		8	7	57	109
TOTAL	51	44		18	10	123	285

(A&F Summary No 235)

JAPANESE AIRPLANE CASUALTIES

Estimate of Japanese Airplane Casualties in all theatres resulting from Allied operations during Jul 44 is listed below:-

LOCATION	DESTROYED	PROBABLY DESTROYED	DAMAGED
SWPA	155	37	31
SOUTH PACIFIC	1	-	3
CENTRAL PACIFIC (Jul)	160	26	36
CENTRAL PACIFIC (Jun-additional)	90	-	-
CHINA and SE ASIA	166	62	122
TOTAL	572	125	192
Previously estimated as at 30 Jun 44	13330	2710	2501
Total as at 31 Jul 44	13902	2835	2693

(A&F Summary No 233)

W/D
(32)
SECRET

WORLD REVIEW SITUATION NO 85

The following world review of the situation has been received from War Office, LONDON, covering the period 16 Aug to 22 Aug 44:-

NAVAL

WESTERN EUROPE: Early 17 Aug the enemy launched another full scale attack using human torpedoes against shipping in the assault areas. 14 torpedoes were destroyed, several by aircraft. The only casualties reported were 1 already damaged M/V and 1 landing craft. Enemy mining and U-boats have caused a few casualties among coastal craft and auxiliaries.

A reconnaissance of NANTES shows 2 destroyers, 2 liners and a large floating dock sunk, and some demolition of the quays.

A reconnaissance on the 12 Aug showed the 'HIPPER', at PILLAU, the 'LUTOW', 'EUGEN', 'MURFBERG', 'ELDEN' and 2 old battleships at GDYNIA, the 'KOLN' at SWINEMUNDE and the 'LEIPZIG' was last seen in COPENHAGEN on 7 Aug.

MEDITERRANEAN: Allied naval forces supporting the PROVENCE landings included - 5 battleships, 22 cruisers, 109 destroyers, 60 coastal craft and 84 minesweepers. Fighter cover was provided by 7 H M and 2 US Escort carriers, pending the capture of airfields. Enemy naval casualties were 2 Corvettes sunk by US destroyer 'SOMERS' and 3 small warships sunk by Allied minesweepers. Only Allied casualties reported were 1 LST sunk by aircraft and minor damage to other small craft. On the last count there were 450,000 gross registered tons of shipping under enemy control:-

WEST MEDITERRANEAN:- Tankers 90,000 vessels laid up and under repair 190,000 naval requisitions and hospital ships 100,000, merchant tonnage available 70,000. Main concentrations are as follows:-

GENOA	: 60,000
TOULON	: 18,000
SAVONA	: 25,000
MARSEILLES AREA	: 29,000

Over 200,000 gross registered tons of this tonnage has been handed back to the French.

MILITARY

WESTERN EUROPE : No estimate is yet possible of the size of the enemy force in the pocket WEST of FALAISE. The enemy has few forces to protect his southern flank. Elements of two further infantry divisions from NORTH of SEINE were identified EAST of TROARN.

Guerilla activity is rapidly increasing in CENTRAL and SOUTH EAST areas where numerous towns and villages were occupied and further large areas are fully controlled by resisters. Sabotage continues with railways still the main targets.

MEDITERRANEAN: Elements of two infantry divisions have been identified. Reinforcements from the WEST of RHONE are held up by damaged communications. US casualties for the first 24 hours were 198 killed, captured and missing, 399 wounded.

EASTERN EUROPE : German counter attacks succeeded in temporarily halting the Russians but have regained no ground. Germans appear to be unable to launch a full scale offensive.

YUGOSLAVIA: Marshall TITO'S HQ report that a section of the KRALIEV-ASKOPLJE railway between RASKA and MITROVICE has been seriously damaged, it is also reported that three weeks ago the IS-SKOPLJE railway was cut in seven places by Partisans. These two lines carry the entire GREEK, ALBANIAN and YUGOSLAV export of chrome ore, also TREPDA output of lead, zinc and pyrites. Hitherto BALKAN rail routes have been repaired quickly.

AIR

ALLIED OPERATIONS: 11/12-18 Aug - FRANCE, Low Countries and GERMANY. Over 10,000 tons were dropped. The outstanding operation was on 15 Aug when Bomber Command in daylight dropped 5,218 tons on 9 night fighter airfields for the loss of only two aircraft.

In addition to laying mines off the WESTERN FRENCH coast Bomber Command maintained a heavy attack on U-Boat bases and oil storage installations at BREST, BORDEAUX, LA PALlice, while Coastal Command aircraft attacked enemy shipping in the same area.

German synthetic oil plants at ROSITZ, ZRITZ were successfully bombed by USAAF, on 16 Aug, but vital parts of the Bohlen Plant escaped damage. Apart from attacking aircraft component and aero engine factories, USAAF caused considerable damage to IG Farben Chemical Plant at LUDWIGSHAFEN and to industrial plants producing precision tools and electrical equipment at MANNHEIM.

977 tons were dropped with excellent results on PLOESTI oil refineries in day and night attacks on the 10 Aug. Chemical factory in SOUTH GERMANY attacked on the 16 Aug and DANUBE mining continued. Some supplies were successfully dropped to Patriots in WARSAW area during the night 14/15 Aug. Enemy reaction to all these operations were negligible.

Heavy weight attacks by Bomber Command on the 12/13 Aug on BRUNSWICK and RUSSELSHEIN caused new but scattered damage. Results attack on the 16/17 Aug on KIEL and STETTIN are believed good. In addition Bomber Command carried out a large scale mining operation in BALTIC 16/17 Aug.

TOTAL SORTIES:

Bomber Command	- 5,593 sorties flown. 79 a/c missing, 11 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.
USAAF	- 5,599 by bomber, 5,553 fighter. 128 a/c missing, 100 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.
RAAF	- 22,580. 107 a/c missing, 54 enemy a/c destroyed in combat.
Coastal Command	- 1,816 sorties for loss of 15 a/c.

ENEMY ACTIVITY : Day fighter activity in battle areas was reduced. Moderate but ineffective reaction over GERMANY to USAAF attacks on 15-16 Aug. A marked diminution in long range bomber activity during the latter part of the week was noticed. Some anti-shipping sorties were flown by Bomber Command, attack on 12-13 Aug provoked stiff night fighter opposition whilst the reaction to the attack on 16-17 Aug was somewhat less.

459 flying bombs were launched - the aggregate for previous eight weeks was 861, 735, 993, 711, 516, 792, 711 and 935. The recent

decline is probably attributable to demands made on the enemy's strained transport by military operations, the delayed effects of air attacks on supply sites and the reluctance to launch bombs in poor visibility. Increasingly successful counter measures have appreciably reduced the proportion reaching the LONDON area.

MEDITERRANEAN: 10 to 16 Aug over 13,000 sorties were flown. 91 Allied aircraft are missing. 13 enemy aircraft were destroyed in combat. Preparatory to landings, targets, airfields, communications, and gun positions in SOUTHERN FRANCE and the ITALIAN RIVIERA were heavily bombed. During the first fortnight of August all railway bridges over RHONE below AVIGNON were cut and lines running up and down RHONE VALLEY and along RIVIERA from MARSEILLES to NICE were continually interrupted. 15 and 16 Aug 830 transport aircraft dropped paratroops, supplies, and landed gliders.

German and Italian traffic : The NICE route was finally closed and MORANE route is NOT available to GERMAN-ITALIAN traffic on any scale. The Germans still have three SWISS routes; SIMPLON, CHIASSO and LUINO.

The BRENNER and group of routes entering NORTH EAST ITALY are only intermittently available. Traffic has been seriously affected by Allied air attacks and sabotage.

ECONOMIC:

During first week of August German AFV industry was severely hit by air attacks.

GSI
25 Aug 44

W. M. G. G. G.
Lt-Col
GSI FIRST AUST ARMY

Distributed by GSI First Aust Army for information of Comds or Heads of Services or Branches as set out below :-

Rear HQ First Aust Army	1	G(SD)	1
1 Aust Corps	4	CE	1
11 Aust Div	1	CSO	1
4 Aust Div	3	DA & QMG	1
HQ BRISBANE Fortress	1	A (Circulate to AMS, LSO & AD Educ)	1
HQ TOWNSVILLE Fortress	1	Q (Circulate to DDST & DDPS)	1
HQ CAIRNS Fortress	1	Q'LAND L of C Area	1
BRA First Aust Army	1	File	1
Corps HQ VDC Q'LAND	1	War Diary	2
GOC	1		
BGS	1		
G(O)	1		

CONFIDENTIAL

LANDOPS REPORT NO 758 TO 250005Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE

22 Aug 30 Japanese killed as result air strafing between BABIANG and DAGUA. Casualties to 23 Aug 8315 killed 115 captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
HAFFIN BAY

Enemy casualties to 23 Aug 3834 killed.

BLAK ISLAND

23 Aug 125 armed Japanese reported in area 9000 yards SW KORIM. Enemy casualties to 23 Aug 4754 killed 331 captured.

NOEMFOOK ISLAND

Enemy casualties to 23 Aug 1641 killed 162 Japanese 544 FORMOSANS captured 403 Japanese recovered.

CAPE SANSAPOR

23 Aug many small enemy groups intercepted endeavouring bypass Allied positions. 39 killed during day. Enemy casualties to 23 Aug 236 killed 41 Japanese 152 Formosans captured.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

23 Aug 44 aircraft attacked BOUGAINVILLE targets.

NEW IRELAND

23 Aug 81 aircraft operated over NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

23 Aug 63 aircraft strafed fires RATVAL and KERVALT supply areas sank one barge strafed 6 others WATOM ISLAND.

NEW GUINEA

23 Aug 10 Airacobras strafing motor pool one mile SOUTH CAPE PUS destroyed 4 trucks 2 staff cars and started fires.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

23 Aug 34 Bostons supported SARMI ground forces. 93 aircraft attacked NABIRE rendering runway unserviceable and starting large fuel fire. 6 Warhawks glide-bombed personnel area MANOKWANI. 24 Aug 93 aircraft bombed strafed BABO SAGAN OTAWIRI airstrips.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

23 Aug 53 Liberators attacked personnel supply areas GALELA destroying many buildings starting many fires.

SEA

NEW GUINEA

24 Aug one submarine 125 miles EAST ROSSEL ISLAND.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

22 Aug 2 barges one small canoe moved from SAGEWIN ISLAND (NW tip SALAWATI ISLAND) towards SORONG.

MBQINA

222335Z 6 freighters (four 700 two 1000 tons) 20 barges MBQIN. 230200Z 3 possible destroyers 1 possible destroyer escort 11 freighters (300/1000 tons) three 1500 ton cargo vessels numerous small craft MBQIN.

TIMOR

24 Aug 4 Beaufighters left one barge sinking damaged another in sweep along NORTH coast TIMOR.

CELEBES

23 Aug 6 freighter transport (one 5500/7000 five 300/1000 tons) ten 300/1000 ton freighters large number barges and small craft LEMBEH STRAIT. One 2000/4500 ton freighter transport one destroyer escort covered by one Zeke EAST LEMBEH ISLAND course SW by WEST. One large unidentified vessel 4 smaller vessels BANGKA STRAIT course ESE. Two 300/1200 ton freighter transports five 300/1000 ton freighters 20 barges AMOERANG BAY. 2 near misses scored on one freighter transport.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

22 Aug one large unidentified vessel DJAILOLO passage (SE HALMAHERAS) course SOUTH. 23 Aug 10 barges TIABO RIVER mouth (vicinity GALELA) one 300/1000 ton freighter 3 miles WEST CAPE WJAMLI (EAST Coast HALMAHERAS) course NW.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

AM 22 Aug one 8000 ton aircraft carrier 3 small escorts off CEBURAN Course SW and afternoon 2 gunboats 3 small tankers entered SARANGANI BAY. Night 22/23 Aug 12 vessels EAST side and entrance to SARANGANI BAY and entrance DAVAO GULF. One hospital ship 30 miles SE SARANGANI BAY. One unidentified vessel 33 miles WEST SARANGANI BAY Another WEST entrance DAVAO GULF. 23 Aug 3 large 2 small freighter transports headed SOUTH past LUMUYON POINT (20 miles WEST by NORTH SARANGANI BAY.) One light cruiser or destroyer between SAMAR and HOMOMHON ISLANDS (LEYTE GULF) heading SOUTH. 12 small tankers headed SW past SE tip NEGROS ISLAND. 2 hours later two small tankers headed NORTH past same position. 21/22 Aug 2 Destroyers 2 tankers one loaded transport WEST LUZON ISLAND heading for MANILA.

Distributed by GS(Int) on 25 Aug 44 to:

GOC DA & QMG
EGS A
G(O) Q
G(SD) WAR DIARY ✓

CONFIDENTIAL

35

LANDOPS REVSIT NO 759 TO 260030Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

24 Aug JABA RIVER area . Allied outpost received automatic weapon fire from force undetermined strength. Slight enemy artillery fire also reported.

NEW BRITAIN
OPEN BAY AREA

23 Aug reliable report states 60 to 80 armed Japanese army personnel vicinity PONDO. Large radio in camp and coast watching post on nearby hill.

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE AREA

24 Aug 51 Japanese killed eight captured during day.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

23 Aug patrol encounters vicinity SAWAR CREEK 12 Japanese killed. enemy ammunition dump containing 10 cases small arms ammunition 20 cases hand grenades destroyed nine miles up TOR RIVER.

MAPIA ISLAND

(120 miles NORTH MANOKWARI). Allied reconnaissance patrol landed night 23/24 Aug. Intense small arms fire encountered from estimated 100 well equipped enemy. Patrol withdrew without suffering casualties.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

24 Aug 24 aircraft attacked BOUGAINVILLE targets.

NEW IRELAND

24 Aug 23 aircraft patrolled northern NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

24 Aug 28 aircraft attacked GAZELLE PENINSULA area practically destroying village NATOM ISLAND.

NEW GUINEA

23 Aug additional 14 Airacobras bombed strafed NEWAK AITAPE. 24 Aug six Airacobras strafed coastal installations same area. 25 Aug 22 Beauforts bombed strafed stores area CAPE FUS village and gardens KARASAU ISLAND and huts SOUTH DAGUA airfield.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

24 Aug four Airacobras bombed strafed WARSA (NORTH coast BIAK). 25 Aug 24 Warhawks bombed RANSIKI WARREN airstrips. 68 aircraft bombed strafed BABO SAGAN MONGOSAH OTAWIRI airstrips. 24 Aug four Airacobras strafed villages KOKAS area and damaged one lugger. 28 Warhawks attacked UTAROM airstrips and dump area.

KAI ISLAND

25 Aug 12 Mitchells bombed LANGGOER airstrip scoring direct hits.

AMBOINA ISLAND

25 Aug 18 Liberators bombed dispersal barracks area LAHA.

CELEBES

24 Aug 12 Mitchells attacked LEMBEH STRAIT warehouses and slipways starting fires.

HALMAHERAS ISLAND

24 Aug 13 Lightnings carried out fighter sweep KAOE BAY. 53 Liberators bombed LOLOBATA destroying many buildings starting five fires and causing large explosions two of which probably in ammunition dump.

CAROLINE ISLAND

25 Aug 36 Liberators bombed targets KOROR town and shipping MALAKAL HARBOUR starting fires causing explosions town. Two of eight intercepting aircraft damaged.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

23 Aug two barges departed MANOKWARI course SE by EAST. night 22/23 Aug PT boats sank one loaded barge SELE STRAIT. 24 Aug three barges moved from SAGEWIN ISLAND to SORONG.

KAI ISLAND

25 Aug two 300/500 ton vessels HOH BAY (NE tip GROOT KAI ISLAND) one of which destroyed by two Mitchells.

CERAM ISLAND

24 Aug six to seven barges CAPE HENAI (three miles NE WAHAI).

AMBOINA ISLAND

23 Aug photographs show two destroyers one gunboat three large nine small submarine chasers one submarine 8600 tons of merchant shipping including 33 small vessels of which largest 1000 tons AMBON (coverage 50/60 percent. 25 Aug one large 18 others unidentified vessels three 2000/4500 ton freighter transports AMBON BAY seven and two small merchant vessels NORTH of LIMA and 10 miles SOUTH CAPE NOESANIVE (SE entrance AMBON BAY respectively).

BOEROE ISLAND

25 Aug four merchant vessels (one 6000 one 1500 two 800 tons) one corvette attacked by one Liberator 80 miles SW BOEROE ISLAND. Two direct hits scored largest merchant vessel. One submarine same area. One aircraft covered convoy. One submarine 60 miles NE by NORTH NAMLEA.

CELEBES

24 Aug summary of attack by 18 Mitchells on shipping LEMBEH STRAIT area states five merchant vessels sunk one light cruiser probably sunk two merchant vessels many luggers and barges damaged.

HALMAHERA ISLAND

25 Aug two cruisers off KAOE. 24 Aug two 2000/4500 three 300/1200 ton freighter transports KAOE BAY. Four 300/1000 ton freighters 30 landing craft many barges and luggers WASILE BAY.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

24 Aug one 8000/10000 ton hospital ship 22 miles SOUTH DAVAO. AM 24 Aug 16 small cargo vessels hugging coast between

-3-

DIPOLOG and LANBOYAN POINT (NW COAST
MINDANAO) course SE. One large tanker
one large transport three medium freighter
transports one small cargo vessel one
destroyer VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE (MANILA
area) course EAST. All informed.

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(36)

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 760 TO 270015Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
BOGADJIM

25 Aug seven enemy killed three captured one wounded in patrol encounter vicinity BANGRI (13 1/2 miles SSE BOGADJIM).

SEPIK RIVER

25 Aug reliable report through native sources states small party Japanese located vicinity MAAM (42 miles SW SEPIK RIVER mouth).

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
HOLLANDIA

25 Aug 150 Japanese in poor condition and equipped with only 38 rifles located SAMIJA (27 miles SOUTH HOLLANDIA).

MAEFIN BAY

25 Aug nil contact made by patrols to an area 3800 yards SSW WOSKE RIVER mouth but enemy patrol observed 1/2 miles WEST river mouth.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

25 Aug one Heavy Machine Gun and ammunition captured SE INASI.

CAPE SANSAPOR

25 Aug our KOR RIVER outpost killed 30 captured two of 50 enemy troops encountered. 8 miles S. SANSAPOR VILLAGE our troops killed 39 of 55 Japanese and captured numerous sabres machine guns small mortars and documents.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

25 Aug 49 aircraft attacked gun positions installations and other targets BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND.

NEW IRELAND

25 Aug 88 aircraft bombed strafed opportunity targets NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

25 Aug 59 aircraft started fires scored several direct hits anti-aircraft positions RABAU area.

NEW GUINEA

25 and 26 Aug additional 12 Airacobras and 19 Beauforts respectively attacked WEWAK-AITAPE targets.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

25 Aug 12 Bostons supported ground troops WOSKE RIVER area. 10 Airacobras bombed strafed villages along WEST GEELVINK BAY. 26 Aug 12 Warhawks bombed KOKAS sawmill scoring direct hits.

ALBOINA

25 Aug 27 Liberators attacked LIANG HAROEKOE airfields scoring direct hits dispersal areas.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

24 Aug additional 12 Liberators participated attack LOLOBATA.

SEA

AMEOINA

25 Aug two probable small freighters 10 luggers WAAI (EAST Coast) five probable small freighters TOELEHOK (two miles SOUTH WAAI) 14 barges ~~between~~ ^{between} WAAI and TOELEHOK 13 luggers NORTH LIANG VILLAGE three small freighters 2/30 barges BINNEN BAY WEST and SOUTH HALONG.

CELEBES

26 Aug one 500/1000 ton vessel one smaller vessel
55 miles NE BINONGKO ISLAND (SE tip CELEBES).
24 Aug photographs show two cargo vessels (one
2000 one 150 tons) destroyed one minelayer
(previously reported as light cruiser) possibly
damaged three small vessels one 3000 ton cargo
vessel two small cargo vessels numerous small
craft damaged LEMBEH STRAIT.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

25 Aug two cruisers sighted off KAOE township
now reported as probably being two freighter
hulks.

TALAUD ISLANDS

23 Aug one 2000/4500 ton freighter transport &
300/1000 ton freighters TALAUD ISLANDS.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

During week ending 24 Aug 88 merchant vessels
one light cruiser two destroyers one minelayer
one ocean going tug 72 barges reported to have
entered CEBU. 25 Aug convoy of 12 vessels off
CAPE BOJEADOR course SOUTH. All informed.

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 761 TO 280015Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY

26 Aug patrols to Upper LARUMA area killed seven Japanese. Estimated enemy platoon in strong Defensive positions located in area.

NEW GUINEA
ATTAPE

26 Aug patrols killed 19 Japanese vicinity HYAPARAKE. Captured two. Additional 24 killed by our strafing aircraft.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
BIAK ISLAND

25 Aug Allied troops effected unopposed landing WARSA BAY (10 miles NW KORIM EGY)
26 Aug 35 Japanese killed two captured during day.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

26 Aug 28 aircraft bombed BOUGAINVILLE TARGETS.

NEW IRELAND

26 Aug 69 aircraft destroyed damaged enemy installations NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

26 Aug 10 aircraft attacked anti-aircraft positions and opportunity targets RABAU Area.

NEW GUINEA

25 Aug 10 Airacobras strafed enemy personnel between ABAU and BOIKEN. 26 Aug 12 Airacobras made strafing attacks WEWAK area damaging 2 laden barges and igniting Fuel Dump KAIRIRU Island. 27 Aug 16 Beauforts started 3 Fuel Fires BORAM airstrip and in gardens KARASAU Island.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

26 Aug 4 Airacobras bombed strafed ITIOBI (5 miles NW WINDEHSI). 8 Thunderbolts bombed RANSIKI MANOKWARI airstrips 23 Lightnings attacked BABO airfield destroying several buildings one anti-aircraft position.

AMBOINA

26 Aug 23 Liberators bombed LIANG airfield cratering northern half airfield starting 3 fires.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

26 Aug 6 Lightnings strafed dispersal stores areas MITI airfield destroying one aircraft starting large fuel fires. Nil anti-aircraft or interception.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

26 Aug 33 Liberators bombed KOROR town and PELELI airfield (PALAU) starting large fires.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Night 25/26 Aug one aircraft attacked MIDDLEBURG Island.

SEA

NEW BRITAIN

26 Aug 50 serviceable barges SIMPSON HARBOUR.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Night 25/26 Aug PT boats destroyed one large barge 3 miles SE SACEKRISI-CAPE WAIOS Area.
27 Aug 2 barges KAMARIN RIVER mouth (13 miles EAST of NORTH CAPE NAMBOEMBI).

AMBOINA

26 Aug numerous merchant vessels AMBON BAY
barge concentrations WAAI one 300/1200
ton freighter transport CAPE BATOEITAM
(2 miles SOUTH LIANG).

TIMOR

26 Aug photographs show 2 Freighters totalling
400 tons 10 luggers 4 Barges DILLI.

CELEBES

Am 27 Aug Catalinas attacked 4 large cargo
vessels 6 freighter transports (one 500/1200
Five 300/1000 tons) MANADO. 2 Freighter
transports hit.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

26 Aug 4 freighters (two 1500/2000 two 300/1000
tons) one submarine 14 barges KLOE-WASILE BAYS.
One 300/1000 ton Freighter AKELAMO Bay.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

26 Aug three 7000 Two 4000 ton vessels one
Destroyer escort 7 Freighters (Five 300/1000
Two 150/300 tons) ZAMBOANGA Harbour (SW
MINDANAO). Six 150/300 ton Freighters
3 Armd launches 31 miles EAST by NORTH
ZAMBOANGA course ESE.

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 762 TO 290005Z

LANDOPS

SOLOMONS
BOUGAINVILLE

27 Aug Allied troops established a small perimeter at the mouth of the TEKESSI RIVER (EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY).

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE AREA

27 Aug 50 Japanese were killed and two captured during the day.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

27 Aug Allied artillery destroyed enemy supply dumps vicinity FOEMAOE Plantation (ORAI RIVER).

BIAK ISLAND

27 Aug aerial reconnaissance reported 100 to 150 partially armed Japanese vicinity ROEBER and SANSENDI (5/6 miles NW WARSA)

CAPE SANAPOR

27 Aug 26 Japanese killed four captured during day.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

27 Aug 63 aircraft attacked BOUGAINVILLE

NEW IRELAND

27 Aug 88 aircraft attacked northern and southern NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

27 Aug 69 corsairs bombed installations supplies RAISUL.

NEW GUINEA

28 Aug 10 Beauforts bombed coastal dumps ELAK area causing one explosion 2 fires.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

25 Aug 12 Bostons bombed strafed enemy troops supplies MAFFIN BAY Area. 27 Aug 4 Airacobras attacked NABIRE barracks area. 15 Thunderbolts bombed anti-aircraft positions buildings WARREN RANSIKI MOEMI. 7 thunderbolts attacked MANOKWARI stores personnel areas. 28 Aug 11 Warhawks scored direct hit KOKAS sawmill. 11 Warhawks attacked airstrips BABO.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

27 Aug 2 Airacobras hit two 300/1000 ton freighter CAPE YAKAKRA (MACCLUER GULF AREA). 28 Aug 2 heavily laden barges KAMARIE RIVER (central NORTH coast MACCLUER GULF) sunk.

MEOLINA

Night 27/28 Aug one minesweeper 3 small cargo vessels ALBON.

CELEBES

28 Aug 6 Freighter transports (five 5500/7000 one 300/1200 ton) 2 escort vessels TOLITOLI BAY (NW CELEBES). One probable cruiser one destroyer one destroyer escort one freighter various small craft LEMBER STRAIT.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

27 Aug one cruiser one destroyer off TAANCAH POINT (SURIGAO STRAIT) course SE. 27 Aug two 7000/10300 ton tankers one 7000/8500 ton freighter transport 3 small armed launches SIEUTU PASSAGE course WNW.

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 763 TO 300030Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE AREA

28 Aug 10 Japanese killed 160 found dead from starvation DRIMEOI Plantation (BABIANG AREA). Enemy casualties to 28 Aug killed 8766 captured 128.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
BIAK ISLAND

28 Aug natives report 100 Japanese arrived BOSNAERAI (4 miles NW KORIM). Also report 30 Japanese escaped by native canoe to ROERBASBEBA ISLAND (SOUTH of OWI ISLAND) thence via JAPEN ISLAND to mainland. Enemy casualties to 28 Aug killed 4864 captured 277 Japanese 126 Formosans.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND

Enemy casualties to 28 Aug killed 1695 captured 173. 550 Formosans 403 Javanese also taken.

CAPE SANSAPOR

Enemy casualties to 28 Aug killed 354 captured 52 plus 154 Formosans.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

38 aircraft bombed southern BOUGAINVILLE.

NEW IRELAND

28 Aug 56 aircraft destroyed or damaged several bridges and buildings northern NEW IRELAND. 25 aircraft destroyed 3 bridges southern NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

28 Aug 51 aircraft bombed strafed GAZELLE PENINSULA Area.

NEW GUINEA

27 Aug 21 aircraft bombed BRANDI and CAPE MOEL Areas. 28 Aug 10 beauforts bombed strafed dumps BRANDI.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

(29 Aug 10 kittyhawks bombed airfield BABO. (28 Aug 32 kittyhawks 16 thunderbolts bombed airfield UTAROM rendering strips unserviceable AMBOINA ISLAND. 28 Aug 62 liberators 27 lightnings dropped 189 tons bombs AMBON causing large explosions and fires with smoke to 5000 feet

CAROLINE ISLANDS

28 Aug 28 liberators bombed PALAU ISLAND starting fires KOROR town.

ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Night 27/28 Aug 3 light bombers dropped 12 bombs MIDDLEBURG ISLAND causing some damage. Anti aircraft fire destroyed one probably destroyed one aircraft.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

29 Aug 2 barges sunk one left sinking by air craft AMBERIAWAR (19 miles SOUTH MANOKWARI) 28 Aug one small freighter (left burning by air attack) 6 barges vicinity UTAROM.

KAI ISLANDS

29 Aug one 800 ton stack aft vessel sunk one 300/500 ton vessel left partially submerged between KAI and TANIMBAR ISLANDS by 2 mitchells.

CERAM

29 Aug one 150/300 ton stack aft freighter 2.

luggers vicinity mouth BOBOT RIVER (SE coast CERAM). 28 Aug one 100 ton lugger left sinking 45 miles WEST WAHAI by one mitchell.

AMBOINA ISLAND

29 Aug seven 300/1000 ton stack aft freighters AMBON harbour.

CELEBES

28 Aug five 300/1000 ton stack aft freighters BOLA-NGOEKI (74 miles SW MANADO) one 150/300 ton stack aft freighter 9 luggers KOZANDANG BAY (65 miles WEST BOLA-NGOEKI).

SANGHE ISLANDS

night 27/28 Aug 2 unidentified vessels 10 miles NORTH by WEST SANGHE ISLAND.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

22 Aug photographs reveal 15 vessels totalling 4550 tons 17 luggers 65 barges DAVAO GULF. 29 Aug eleven 300/1000 ton stack aft vessels 30 miles NE BAROBO (NE MINDANAO) three 300/1000 ton stack aft freighter 63 miles NORTH SANTA CRUZ attacked by aircraft resulting 2 left smoking and beached other damaged.

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LANDOPS REVSIT NO 264 to 310010Z

LANDOPS

NEW GUINEA
AITAPE AREA

29 Aug BABIANG village found burnt probably by Japanese. Native patrols unable penetrate EAST of village owing number of well armed enemy encountered.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA
MAFFIN BAY

29 Aug Allied tank knocked out enemy tankette vicinity SAWAR CREEK. This area under enemy machine gun mortar fire supported by artillery from vicinity MOUNT HAKKO.

BIAK ISLAND

29 Aug patrols vicinity SAMBERI (12 miles WEST SORIDO) killed 24 captured 14 Japanese. Natives report further 190 partly armed enemy in area.

AIROPS - ALLIED

SOLOMONS

29 Aug 10 Corsairs patrolled BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND.

NEW IRELAND

29 Aug 16 Corsairs destroyed machine gun position fired several huts northern NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN

28 Aug one Catalina shot down one enemy fighter CAPE ST GEORGE. 29 Aug 147 aircraft destroyed damaged buildings PONDO-TORIN district. 24 Corsairs attacked targets RABAU area.

NEW GUINEA

28 Aug additional 32 aircraft attacked WEWAK-AITAPE and 29 Aug 28 aircraft attacked same target.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

29 Aug 12 Airacobras bombed strafed targets BENTONI ISTHMUS destroying buildings WINDEHSI and on 30 Aug 16 Warhawks attacked same target. 14 Lightnings bombed RANSIKI airfield. Eight Thunderbolts bombed MANOKWARI stores area. 30 Aug 30 Warhawks bombed strafed targets KOKAS area including anti-aircraft positions. 29 Aug 16 Lightnings bombed BABO runway and started fires by dropping belly tanks. 15 Thunderbolts bombed UTAROM runway.

TANIMBAR ISLANDS

30 Aug 10 Mitchells bombed strafed LARAT village and anti-aircraft positions.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

29 Aug 23 Mitchells attacked KAOE township area starting many fires in fuel dump and other areas. 39 Liberators attacked WASILE BAY stores and personnel area starting two large fires covering target with smoke and flames.

CAROLINE ISLANDS

30 Aug 33 Liberators attacked PALAU ISLANDS starting fires KOROR town and MALAKAL ISLAND.

MAPIA ISLAND

28 Aug four Airacobras bombed targets MAPIA ISLAND.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

28 Aug six barges OEMAR BAY (50 miles NW by WEST NABIRE).

AMBOINA

28 Aug photographs show 4400 tons shipping including one 2000 ton cargo vessel two picket boats AMBON BAY.

GORONG ISLANDS

30 Aug one 150/300 ton freighter 10 miles WEST PANDJANG ISLAND.

CELEBES

29 Aug one 2000/4500 ton freighter transport one 200 ton vessel heavily laden two luggers four barges TIWORO STRAIT. 12/15 vessels including one possible destroyer or destroyer escort four large cargo vessels one freighter transport MANADO HARBOUR.

HAIMAHERA ISLANDS

29 Aug eight 2000/4500 ton freighter transports many barges or luggers KAOE-WASILE BAYS. Four 4000/7500 ton freighters also reported WASILE BAY but may be included in above sighting.

SANGIHE ISLANDS

28 Aug 20 barges under way KALEA (SOUTH coast SANGIHE ISLAND).

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

29 Aug three 300/1000 ton freighters 100 miles SE MANILA course SOUTH. All informed

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HQ FIRST AUSTRALIAN ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 121

Compiled from information received from
1200 hrs 24 Aug 44 to 1200 hrs 31 Aug 44

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Significant Events	Page/s	3
-------------------------------	-----	-----	--------	---

PART I

SECTION 1 - OPERATIONS - SWPA

LAND	...	...	...	...	...	"	4-5
SEA	...	...	...	...	...	"	5-8
AIR - Own	...	...	...	...	...	"	8-10
Enemy	...	...	...	...	...	"	10

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

CENTRAL PACIFIC Area	"	10
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	----

PART II

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

AITAPE	"	11
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	----

SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION

Field Anti-Aircraft Battalions	...	...	...	"	11-12
Japanese "Standard" Divisional Cavalry and Reconnaissance Regiments	...	...	...	"	12-13

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

New Trends in Japanese Weapons	"	13-14
--------------------------------	------	-----	-----	---	-------

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

The Japanese and "Glorious Death"	"	14-16
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	---	-------

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE	...	...	...	...	...	"	16
ITALY	...	...	...	...	...	"	16-17
BURMA	...	...	...	...	...	"	17
EASTERN FRONT	...	...	...	...	...	"	17-18

OVER /

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

PART V

SECURITY

Japanese Intelligence Organisations KAMI KIKAN -
HOLLANDIA

Page 18

APPENDIX

Appendix 'A'

Order of Battle and Organisation

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

During the week heavy shipping sightings continued to be reported around the PHILIPPINES, MALANAP and CELEBES. Although the enemy, profiting from past experience, must be conscious of the risks involved in bringing ships within the range of Allied air forces, he still persists in doing so, in spite of serious losses. In recent months he has lost ships at a rate out of all proportion to his merchant tonnage resources, a circumstance that affords adequate proof of the lengths to which he is prepared to go in order to ensure the defence of his outer bastions.

PART I

SECTION I - OPERATIONS - SWPA

LAND

SOLOMONS - BOUGAINVILLE:

Allied positions in the JABA RIVER area were lightly shelled by enemy artillery on 22 and 24 Aug. Allied patrols to the headwaters of the REINI RIVER on 22 Aug located enemy defence positions in that area. Similar defended strong-posts were located in the UPPER LARUMA area on 26 Aug.

Allied forces established a small perimeter at the mouth of the TEKESSI RIVER on 27 Aug.

NEW BRITAIN - OPEN BAY AREA

It is reliably reported that 60/80 armed Japanese were in the vicinity of PONDO on 23 Aug. A camp in this vicinity is reported with a large radio and a system of coast watching has been established in the area.

NEW GUINEA - BOGADJIM

Seven Japs were killed and three captured in a patrol clash in the vicinity of BANGRI (13 1/2 miles SSE BOGADJIM) on 25 Aug.

NEW GUINEA - SEPIK RIVER

A report from native sources indicates that a small party of enemy is located in the vicinity of KAAM (42 miles SW SEPIK RIVER mouth).

NEW GUINEA - AITAPE

Strafing of enemy personnel in this area by Allied aircraft during the period under review accounted for at least 54 enemy killed. Patrol encounters on 24, 26 and 27 Aug further increased these casualties by 120 killed and 17 captured.

Enemy casualties in this area to 28 Aug number 8766 killed and 128 PW. 10 Japs were killed and 160 were found dead from starvation at DRIMBOL PLANTATION in the BABIANG area on 29 Aug.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - HOLLANDIA

An enemy party of strength 150, in very poor condition and equipped with 38 rifles only, were located at SAWIJA (27 miles SOUTH of HOLLANDIA) on 25 Aug.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MAFFIN BAY

On 22 Aug an enemy force, of estimated strength two platoons, was contacted three and one half miles SW of KAMORTIWA. Patrols on 25 Aug penetrated to 3800 yards SSW of WOSKE RIVER mouth without contacting the enemy.

On 23 Aug patrols operating in the SAWAR CREEK area killed 12 Japs. Allied artillery on 27 Aug destroyed enemy supply dumps situated near the ORAI RIVER in the vicinity of FOE MAOE PLANTATION.

Enemy casualties to 23 Aug number 3834 killed.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - BIAK ISLAND

An unopposed Allied landing at WARSA BAY on 25 Aug accounted for 35 enemy killed and two captured. Allied patrols elsewhere on the island during the period under review found an enemy dump containing 25 cases 81mm mortar and 40 cases 20mm ammunition.

Aerial and other reconnaissances on 23 and 27 Aug report enemy troops in the vicinity of KORIN, ROEBER and SANSOENDI. A native report on 28 Aug stated that 100 Japanese had arrived at BOSNABRAIDI, and that 30 enemy escaped by native canoe via ROERBASBEE ISLAND to the mainland.

Enemy casualties to 28 Aug number 4864 killed and 277 Japanese and 126 Formosans captured.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - NOEMFOOR ISLAND

One heavy machine gun and a quantity of ammunition was captured SE of INASI on 25 Aug.

Enemy casualties to 28 Aug number 1695 killed and 173 Japanese and 550 Formosans captured. 403 Javanese were also released from enemy control.

MAPIA ISLAND

A landing was effected by an Allied reconnaissance patrol on MAPIA ISLAND on the night 23/24 Aug. Intense small arms fire was encountered from an estimated force of 100 well equipped Japs. A withdrawal was made without casualties.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - CAPE SANSAPOR

Small enemy groups moving WEST towards SORONG continue in their endeavours to bypass our forces in this area. During the period under review 79 enemy were killed and six captured.

Allied patrols in the KOR RIVER and SANSAPOR village area on 25 Aug killed a further 69 enemy and captured two. A large quantity of machine guns, sabres, small mortars and documents were also captured.

Enemy casualties to 28 Aug number 354 killed and 52 Japanese and 154 Formosans captured.

SEA

NEW BRITAIN

50 barges were sighted in SIMPSON HARBOUR on 26 Aug. These are quite likely the same barges which were revealed by photographs on 15 Aug. It is reasonable to assume that, with the shortage of food, on NEW IRELAND they are being utilised to transfer food and personnel to and from NEW IRELAND.

NEW GUINEA

One submarine was reported 125 miles EAST of ROSSEL ISLAND on 24 Aug.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - VOGELKOP PENINSULA

Eight barges were sighted in the MANOKWARI - SORONG area. Allied naval and air force units sank two 300/1000 ton freighters and six barges in the CAPE WAIOS and MACCLUER GULF areas.

KAI ISLANDS

1600/3000 tons of merchant shipping were reported at LANGGOER and HOH BAY on 23 Aug. Our aircraft sank one 300/500 ton freighter.

CERAM - AMBOINA

Shipping in this area has shown a significant increase during the past week both in naval and merchant shipping, the principal sightings being at AMBON. One 100 ton lugger was left sinking WEST of WAHAI on 28 Aug.

Sightings Reported

<u>Naval</u>	<u>Merchant</u>
2 destroyers	47,200/68,700 tons of merchant vessels
1 gun boat	22 small freighters
1 minesweeper	22 unidentified vessels
12 subchasers	14 luggers
	70/100 barges

BOEROE

Two submarines, one corvette and 9100 tons of merchant shipping were sighted SW of BOEROE ISLAND and NORTH of NAMLEA. Of this sighting our aircraft damaged one 1500 ton merchant vessel.

HALMAHERA

Interpretation of photographs taken recently indicate that an important base has been developed in the vicinity of GOEROEA, on the SOUTH shore of WASILE BAY.

A considerable volume of shipping traffic has been maintained during the past week. Principal sightings were in WASILE BAY and KAOE BAY. Allied aircraft on the 24 Aug left one 300 ton vessel burning fiercely in KAOE BAY.

Sightings Reported

<u>Naval</u>	<u>Merchant</u>
1 submarine	41,500/85,100 tons of merchant shipping
30 landing craft	17 vessels
	5 unidentified vessels
	Many luggers and barges

TALAUD ISLANDS

The only sightings in this area during the week consisted of 2600/6500 tons of freighter transports.

SANGIHE ISLANDS

Two unidentified vessels were sighted NORTH of SANGIHE ISLANDS on the night 27/28 Aug.

PHILIPPINES

The enemy continues to pour reinforcements and supplies into the PHILIPPINES. This is evidenced by the abnormal shipping activity reported during the past week. The largest concentrations were in DAVAO GULF and CEBU HARBOR. On the 18/19 Aug one 13-vessel convoy was sighted off CAPE BOJEADOR (NW tip of LUZON ISLAND)

Sightings Reported

<u>Naval</u>	<u>Merchant</u>
1 heavy cruiser	125,100/188,300 tons of merchant shipping
5 light cruisers	1-8000/10,000 ton hospital ship
1 cruiser	24 tankers
1-8000 ton aircraft carrier	4 large freighter transports
6 destroyers	6 medium freighter transports
2 gunboats	131 merchant vessels
10 escorts	5 unidentified vessels
1 minelayer	100/140 barges
3 armed launches	

Sunk

1 large freighter
1 medium transport
3 vessels
1-300/1000 ton stack aft vessel

MANDA SEA

Tonnage in this area shows an increase over the previous week's figures and includes two corvettes, 12,100 tons of merchant shipping and two unidentified vessels. Our aircraft damaged one 6000 ton merchant vessel.

TIMOR

The only sighting reported in this area for the week was of two 200 ton freighters, 10 luggers and four barges at DILLI.

FLORES SEA

Allied aircraft were active over the general area and successfully attacked enemy shipping, destroying one 1000/1500 ton vessel, one 500/1000 ton vessel, and one 50 ton lugger, and damaging one 75 ton lugger, one barge and one launch. 14 barges were sighted at WAINGAPOE.

CELEBES

A significant trend noted during the past two weeks has been the development of a major anchorage and base in LEMBEH STRAIT on the NE tip of the CELEBES.

The most successful air strikes against enemy shipping during the past week in the SWPA were made in this area, and accounted for a substantial tonnage of urgently required shipping.

Shipping sightings in LEECH STRAIT continue at a very high figure and are detailed as follows :-

Naval

<u>Sightings</u>	<u>Sunk</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
1 probable cruiser	1 light cruiser	1 minelayer
1 destroyer	1 destroyer	
5 escort vessels		

Merchant

<u>Sightings</u>	<u>Sunk</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
80,550/121,800 tons of merchant shipping	3650/4650 tons merchant vessels	6000/7000 tons merchant vessels
4 large cargo vessels	6 merchant vessels	4 freighter transports
9 vessels		1 small cargo vessel
9 luggers		Many luggers and barges
Large number of barges and small craft		

BORNEO

One large tanker and one large cargo vessel were sighted at MIRI.

AIR - OWN

SOLOMONS - NEW BRITAIN - NEW IRELAND

Large areas were constantly patrolled and numerous opportunity targets were attacked on BOUGAINVILLE, NEW BRITAIN and NEW IRELAND during the week.

Several gun positions and buildings were destroyed along the WEST coast of BOUGAINVILLE and further buildings and enemy installations were demolished along the NORTH coast of NEW IRELAND.

In the RABUL area anti-aircraft positions, buildings, supply areas, MT and barges were the principal targets. On 24 Aug heavy damage was inflicted on WATOM ISLAND where an enemy occupied village was reported practically destroyed.

NEW GUINEA

Allied fighters were again active over the area WEWAK - AITAPE during the week. Daily strafing and harassing attacks were carried out against MT, coastal installations, fuel dumps and hutments. Numerous enemy personnel were reported killed during these attacks and fires and explosions were caused throughout the general area.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - MAFFIN BAY

During the period 23/25 Aug, strong forces of Bostons continuously bombed and strafed enemy ground forces in MAFFIN BAY area, inflicting casualties on personnel and damaging installations.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - VOGELKOP PENINSULA

Allied air activity over the VOGELKOP PENINSULA has shown a further marked increase during the past week. Practically every enemy occupied airfield was visited by large forces of our bombers and extensive damage and fires were caused on each occasion.

On 23 Aug a particularly strong force of Allied aircraft attacked NABIRE. The runway was rendered unserviceable and large fires were started in fuel and dump areas. Similar heavy damage was caused to BAEU airfield during attacks on 25 and 28 Aug.

Stores and personnel areas at MANOKWARI were also bombed during the week whilst Allied fighters strafed and damaged buildings in KOKAS area and enemy installations from SARA to CAPE TEGIN (BAEU area). In co-operation with PT boats, Beaufighters successfully strafed enemy positions on the SW coast of PECUN ISLAND (MAPIA ISLANDS).

KAI ISLANDS

On 23 and 25 Aug Allied heavy bombers attacked LANGGGER airfield. Several direct hits were scored on the runway, numerous fires were started and two grounded aircraft were probably destroyed.

AMBOINA - CERAM

Airfields in this area comprised the principal targets for our aircraft during the current week. AMAHAI, LIANG, HAROEKOE and LAHA strips were attacked and each suffered damage, particularly LIANG runway which was well cratered with several direct hits.

Our long range fighters also participated in strafing attacks against enemy barge traffic along the NORTH coast of CERAM and left several barges burning.

On 28 Aug a strong force of Liberators dropped 189 tons of bombs on AMEN. Large fires and explosions were caused with smoke rising to a height of 5000 feet.

HALMAHERAS

Allied air force units have visited enemy bases in the HALMAHERAS daily during the past week. On 23 and 24 Aug over 100 aircraft bombed GALELA and LOLOBATA respectively. Many buildings were demolished and numerous fires were started in each area, whilst two probable ammunition dumps were also destroyed at LOLOBATA. Simultaneously with these attacks escorting fighters carried out harassing sweeps against enemy shipping in KAOE BAY.

It is significant that during the above attacks no enemy fighter interception was encountered and during an attack on MITI airfield on 26 Aug, when stores and dispersal areas were strafed, no anti-aircraft fire was observed.

TALAUD ISLANDS

KARAKELONG ISLAND was well covered by Mitchells on 20 Aug and several direct hits were observed on buildings and warehouses in BEC town.

PHILIPPINES

On 25 Aug Allied aircraft again bombed DAVAO. No details of this attack have been received.

CELEBES

On 24 Aug Allied aircraft damaged warehouses, slipways and left fires burning among other enemy installations in LEMBEH STRAIT.

AIR - ENEMY

The only two enemy air attacks reported in SWPA were on the nights 25/26 and 27/28 Aug. Allied positions on MIDDLEBURG ISLAND were the objectives and slight damage was reported on each occasion. During the latter raid our anti-aircraft fire accounted for one and probably destroyed another of the raiders.

SECTION 2 - OPERATIONS - OTHER FRONTS

CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

MARIANAS ISLANDS

As a result of mopping up operations on the islands occupied by US Forces, considerable additional casualties have been inflicted on the enemy.

The following figures are the latest received :-

GUAM ISLAND to 18 Aug -

Killed - 14,067
Captured 119

TINIAN ISLAND to 18 Aug -

Killed 5,745

SAIPAN ISLAND to 16 Aug -

Killed 25,144

CENTRAL PACIFIC - PALAU

Shipping sighted in this area is well in excess of the previous week's figures and shows one destroyer, one hospital ship, six large cargo vessels, and seven smaller cargo vessels, and considerable barge activity.

AIR - OWN

CENTRAL PACIFIC

KOROR TOWN, MALAKAL HAREOUR and PELELIU airfield, in the ELAU GROUP, were subjected to Allied air attacks during the week, and fires were started in each area.

On 25 Aug Liberators attacked enemy installations on TRUK ISLAND.

During these attacks approximately 16 enemy fighters attempted interception, and of these, three were destroyed.

PART II

SECTION 1 - ORDER OF BATTLE

AITAPE

After the initial Japanese attack, across the DRINIUMOR RIVER by 237 and 80 Infantry Regiments, and from AFUA by 78 Infantry Regiment, had been broken on 13 Jul the main force, of 20 and 41 Division Infantry and 66 Infantry Regiment, with at least part of the divisional troops, was assembled in the AFUA - KWAMAGNIRK area. From identifications it would appear that complete divisions were not allotted to specific areas in the vicinity of AFUA. Since the breaking of contact on 19 Aug, identifications have been limited; the present dispositions of the Japanese forward regiments, therefore, are not definitely known.

The units listed below are believed to have been engaged in the forward area at AITAPE and do not include units employed on the coastal supply line from WEWAK to NYAPARAKE.

18 Army Command Post	41 Div:-
18 Army Sigs (Part)	41 Div HQ
20 Div:-	41 Div Inf HQ
20 Div HQ	237 Inf Regt
20 Div Inf HQ	238 Inf Regt
78 Inf Regt	239 Inf Regt
79 Inf Regt	41 Mtn Arty Regt
80 Inf Regt	41 Engr Regt
26 Fd Arty Regt	41 Tpt Regt
20 Engr Regt	41 Div Sigs
20 Tpt Regt	41 Div Med Unit
20 Div Sigs	1 Fd Hospital
20 Div Med Unit	3 Fd Hospital
1 Fd Hospital	
2 Fd Hospital	8 Indep Engr Regt
4 Fd Hospital	33 Indep Engr Regt
	37 Indep Engr Regt
66 Inf Regt	12 Fd Air Defence HQ
	(possibly commanding some
	Anti-aircraft Battalions
	converted for use as
	close support artillery).

The forces engaged in the offensive against AITAPE are estimated to have been 20,000, representing 40% of the total strength of 18 Army at that date, and 80% of the combat strength. Since 10 Jul, when the offensive began, 7416 have been reported killed and captured. This, together with an estimated one-third additional number of battle casualties, would reduce the combat strength of 18 Army to approximately 9000 of which 7500 are combat troops from 20, 41 and 51 Divisions. Possibly only one-third of this total is infantry.

(Adapted from NGF Intelligence Summary
No 188)

SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION

FIELD ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTALIONS

The organisation of a Field Anti-Aircraft Battalion has been established as comprising three batteries each of two platoons of two sections, giving a total of 12 type 88 75mm

anti-aircraft guns available to the battalion.

Two PW from 68 Field Anti-Aircraft Battalion - one a medical officer and the other a superior private - were captured recently but at different times in the HOLLANDIA area. On comparison the information given by these PW agrees in practically all respects and may therefore be accepted as reliable. Both have stated that 1, 2 and 3 Companies of this Battalion at HOLLANDIA, each had six type 88 75mm anti-aircraft guns, making a total of 18 guns for the Battalion.

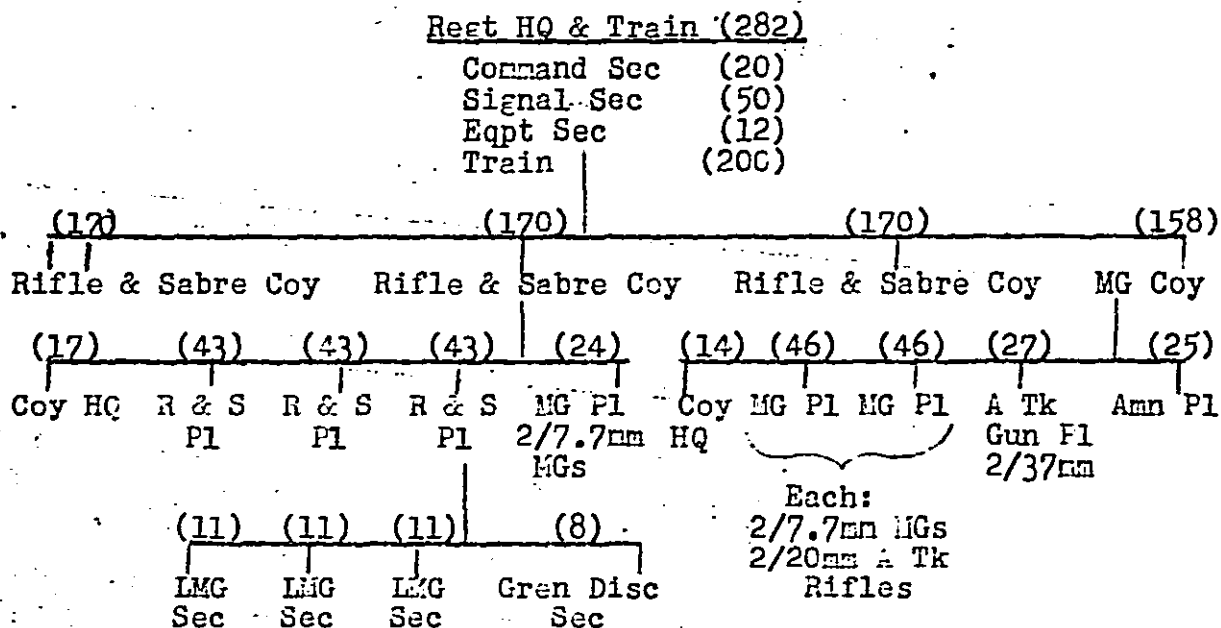
The organisation of a Field Anti-Aircraft Battalion has been based previously on information dated Feb and Sep 42. As 68 Field Anti-Aircraft Battalion was not organised until 26 Oct 43 in JAPAN, the organisation of Field Anti-Aircraft Battalion may have been revised and it is possible that other such battalions (probably with serial numbers higher than 47) may be encountered equipped with 18 75mm guns.

JAPANESE "STANDARD" DIVISIONAL CAVALRY AND RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENTS

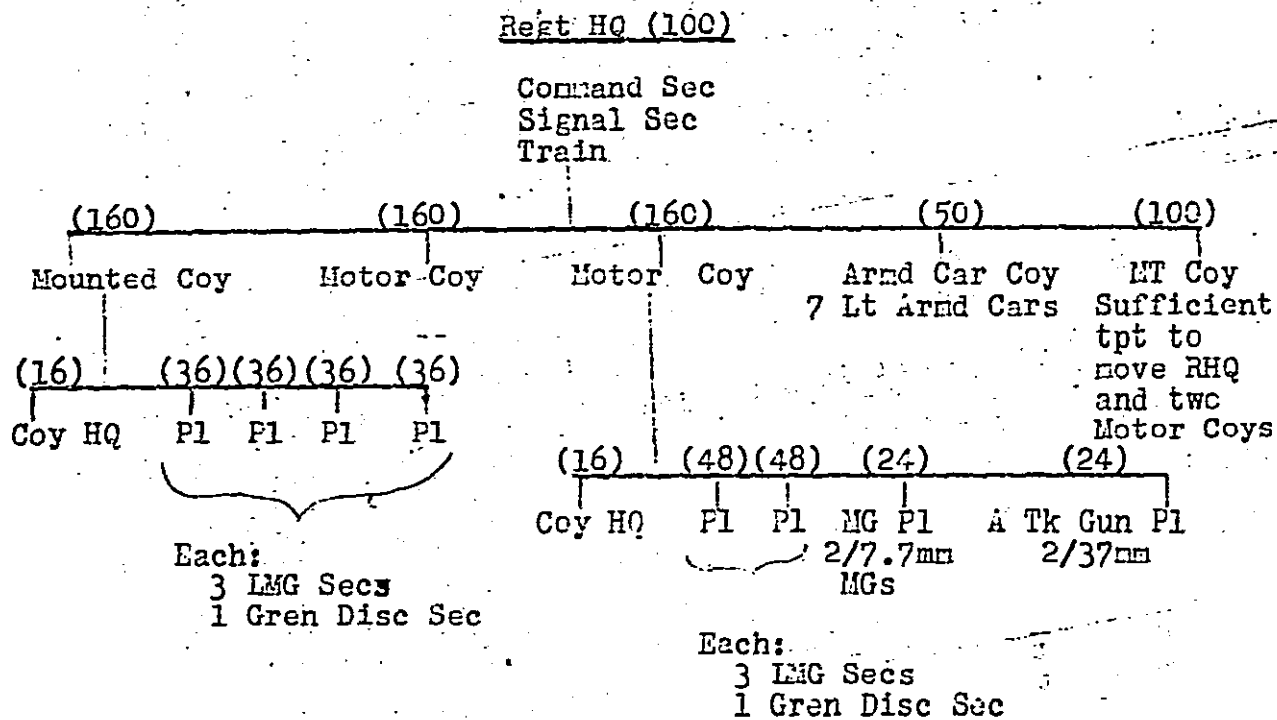
Each Japanese infantry division normally contains either one cavalry regiment or one reconnaissance regiment.

The cavalry regiment is not suited for the type of warfare at present being conducted in the PACIFIC areas, and consequently the divisions operating in these areas generally include in place of it either a reconnaissance regiment or a tank company of from 9-18 light tanks. Some cavalry regiments in CHINA and BURMA are believed lately to have undergone mechanisation, but it is not known if their general organisation has been altered during this process.

(a) Cavalry Regiment - The division cavalry regiment consists of a headquarters and train, three rifle and sabre companies and a machine gun company. Total strength is 950 officers and men. The organisation is as follows :-



- (b) Reconnaissance Regiment - The division reconnaissance regiment consists of a head-quarters, one cavalry company, two motor-borne companies, one armoured car (or tankette) company, and one motor truck company. The total strength is about 730 officers and men. The organisation is as follows :-



(c) Equipment Table (estimated)

Equipment	Cavalry Regt	Recce Regt
Rifles or Carbines	500	260
LMGs	28	28
Grenade Dischargers	18	16
7.7-mm MGs	10	4
20-mm A Tk Rifles	4	4
37-mm (47-mm) A Tk Guns	2	4
Lt Arm'd Cars (Tankettes)		7
Vehicles		61
Horses	1,100	188

(AMF Weekly Intelligence Review No108)

SECTION 4 - EQUIPMENT

NEW TRENDS IN JAPANESE WEAPONS

- (a) GENERAL: Occupation of SAIPAN has resulted in the capture of the largest amount of enemy equipment so far encountered in the CENTRAL PACIFIC.

A wide variety of weapons has been taken, including good examples of almost every known type of infantry weapon. To date, only preliminary information is available pending receipt of the material in rearward areas, where detailed studies can be made.

While details as to the volume of material taken at GUAM and TINIAN are lacking, it may be assumed that these islands will produce as much or more additional equipment for study.

- (b) RIFLES. The most frequently encountered rifle was the Type 99. Two interesting modifications of this model were observed, both apparently for use by paratroops. One, which appeared to be an experimental model, was segmented at the body so that it could be disassembled and broken in two. The other, a later design, has as an added feature an interrupted thread at the chamber. This rifle can be disassembled by operating a simple locking device and unscrewing the barrel.
- (c) 81mm MORTAR AMMUNITION: A new type of 81mm mortar ammunition was also found, the fuses appearing to be a time mechanism of German design. The body of the projectile was more tapered than the standard ammunition and a new type tail fin, with circular power increments, was used. The appearance of this possibly German inspired device may be of significance. German influence on Japanese weapons is not new, and it is known that GERMANY has become increasingly open handed in turning over ordnance secrets to JAPAN. It is considered that new German designs, therefore, may be expected to appear in the future in the PACIFIC area.
- (d) BOOBY TRAPS: One booby trap was constructed by placing anti-personnel mines in an obvious position, with a pull type igniter installed at the bottom of the mine. These mines were so arranged as to be apparently safe but to ignite upon attempted removal by inexperienced personnel. A number of cases were reported in which the enemy dead were used for booby traps. In one instance, a wristwatch on the arm of a dead officer was attached to a pull type igniter. A souvenir hunter, who tried to remove the watch, was seriously wounded.
- (e) 47mm GUN: Other new developments included a 5cm mountain gun, short type. Only a brief description is available pending further study. Land to land measurement shows the calibre to be actually 47mm. It has a well constructed drop type breech block and hydrospring type recoil mechanism. The gun is mounted on wooden wheels and has a split trail. There is no traversing mechanism. The only ammunition found was an armour piercing projectile with corrugated copper driving bands. The propellant charge was black powder and was contained in a brass case 50mm in diameter and approximately five inches long. Use of this gun as a tank attack weapon seems hardly likely in view of the weak powder charge and short barrel.

(AMF Weekly Intelligence Review No.108)

SECTION 8 - GENERAL

THE JAPANESE AND "GLORIOUS DEATH"

It has become obvious in recent months that the Japanese High Command is concerned with the fatalistic attitude of

mind of the Japanese soldier towards death. This has, of course, been induced by a process of indoctrination. Doubt now seems to have arisen as to whether the state of mind so induced is not a military liability when Japanese forces are faced by superior Allied formations.

It appears also from some recent Japanese Home Propaganda Broadcasts, that the enemy may be apprehensive and uncertain as to whether similar considerations do not apply equally to the civilian population.

It is obvious that if the Army or the Nation, after years of belief that "death is lighter than a feather" and "Bushido is found in death", comes to confuse the issues sufficiently to regard death as an end in-itself, its determination to wage war with all means in an endeavour to force a successful conclusion, will become weakened.

There is accumulating evidence that in several theatres, the Japanese realise that their indoctrination measures are, in a sense, "back-firing."

The Commander of the ADMIRALTY ISLAND garrison wrote as follows to Unit Commanders when it became obvious that an Allied attack could soon be expected :-

"Although there is a similarity between fighting till the end and desperate self-destruction, the spiritual interpretations are the exact opposites. The former implies fighting till the end to destroy the enemy. The latter refers to acts of suicide, and are not an expression of true loyalty."

Having thus clearly shown his disapproval of suicide from motives of despair, the Commander went on to confuse the issue by stressing the need for self-destruction, even by those critically wounded, to avoid the disgrace of becoming PW. This is a clear demonstration of the difficulties of handling the problem in the face of the traditional Japanese attitude to the question and the extent of successful indoctrination already achieved.

A recently captured diary states that prior to a convoy leaving JAPAN for the SOUTHERN PACIFIC "The Transport CO ordered us not to use the term "glorious death" hereafter, for we must keep fighting to defend the nation."

A recent Japanese Home Broadcast took the form of an interview between the Head of Information Department, Naval Headquarters and a reporter. The reporter referred to the great impression made by the news of "the intentional headlong crashing" of two naval pilots. The naval spokesman then proceeded to examine the implications of "self-explosion" and emphasised that it was not a matter for personal or hasty decision. "Airmen" he said "are always instructed to do all they can to bring back their planes safely."

The interview developed along these lines. While the time might come for "self-explosion" it was preferable to return alive. The Naval representative examined the saying "Bushido is found in death" and speculated on whether this meant that death was the fulfilment of Bushido. His conclusion was that "we must understand thoroughly that what is of value is not death but duty. We must press forward on the road of duty along which death may await us."

Such propaganda as this conducted on Japanese Home Broadcasts, may be a sign that the Japanese Government is concerned with the possibility that increasing Allied pressure, reaching eventually to JAPAN itself, may find the Japanese people fatalistic and resigned to death and self-destruction, rather than active and aggressive in their desire to live and defend their country. As defeat piles on defeat death, which the Japanese are told "is lighter than a feather", may seem to many of them the only solution to a hopeless problem.

(AMF Weekly Intelligence Review No.108)

PART IV

OTHER FRONTS

FRANCE

While German resistance between PARIS and the CHANNEL COAST is still comparatively well organized, the rapidity of the American advance EAST and NE of PARIS constitutes a threat to any attempt to form a defensive line along the SOMME. This advance which has already reached points within 40 miles of the BELGIAN border will probably cause a German evacuation of the CHANNEL COAST, although the British troops advancing beyond the SEINE will undoubtedly set a strong influence in this regard. In Southern FRANCE, heavy casualties are still being inflicted on the German Nineteenth Army retreating up the RHONE VALLEY.

Little resistance is being encountered from the German forces WEST of SEINE. These remaining elements have been wedged into two loops of the river SW of ROUEN. Between ROUEN and PARIS, a series of bridgeheads, have been established across the SEINE and have now been linked together. Advances up to 25 miles beyond the river have carried Allied troops about half the distance to the SOMME. Unconfirmed reports state that ROUEN has been entered. In the area immediately WEST of PARIS, German troops are still holding out around the junction of SEINE and OISE.

The American drive to SW of PARIS has swung to the NORTH and crossed the RIVER MARNE on a broad front between VITRY and MEAUX. Continuing northward the RIVER AISNE was crossed in the vicinity of SCISSONS and swinging to the NE a point less than 40 miles from the BELGIAN border has been reached. US troops have now reached RHEIMS, 80 miles ENE of PARIS between the MARNE and the AISNE.

In the SOUTH of FRANCE, all German resistance has now ceased in MARSEILLES and TOULON. Allied advanced elements are within six miles of VALENCE in the RHONE VALLEY. Pushing eastwards along the coast, further Allied troops are in the vicinity of NICE and further inland have entered BRIANCON almost on the French-Italian border and 80 miles WEST of TURIN.

ITALY

The most significant item from the Italian Front is the rapid advance being made along the ADRIATIC COAST by Eighth Army elements. No change is reported along the RIVER ARNO between FLORENCE and the LIGURIAN SEA.

In the area immediately NORTH of FLORENCE patrolling is continuing with the object of testing the enemy's defensive positions and slight advances have been made NE of PONTASSIEVE. In the UPPER ARNO and TIBER VALLIES steady Allied pressure is being maintained on the outer defences of the GOTHIC Defence Line in the area beyond BABBENA and SAN SEPOLCRO.

On the ADRIATIC COAST it is becoming apparent that the whole German line in ITALY is in danger of being unhinged in its entirety. British and Polish elements of the Eighth Army supported by armour have crossed the METAURO RIVER on a broad front and have reached the FOGLIA RIVER less than 20 miles from RIMINI after overcoming spirited resistance by a German Parachute Division. The FOGLIA RIVER is the last water barrier of any size before RIMINI, which town, lying at the entrance of the PLAIN OF LOMBARDY, constitutes a highly important link in the chain of German defences.

The proximity of Allied forces to the Italian border in their drive from FRANCE must also be taken into consideration. An official statement places advanced Allied elements at ERIANCON, approximately 50 miles WEST of TURIN and thus in a position to enter the UPPER PO VALLEY.

There are indications that a number of enemy reinforcements are still arriving in ITALY and also that adjustments have been made in the siting of mobile formations in order to cope with the impending Allied assault on defensive positions.

BURMA

At no point in BURMA has there been any sign of major organised Japanese resistance.

Further advances down the TIDDIM ROAD have brought British troops to a point a little over 40 miles from TIDDIM.

EAST of TAMU, further British troops have reached the CHINDWIN RIVER in the vicinity of THAUNGDU. Penetrations up to 15 miles have also been made SOUTH of TAMU.

The advance SOUTH of MOGAUNG has continued and a point on the MOGAUNG - MANDALAY Railway 30 miles SOUTH of MOGAUNG has been reached.

EASTERN FRONT

The cessation of resistance by Rumanian troops has caused a collapse of the German defence system in RUMANIA. In quick succession, GALATZ, BRAILA, CONSTANTA and PLOESTI have been captured, and advances made into the LOWER CARPATHIANS. The situation on the POLISH and BALTIC Fronts is practically unchanged.

The dual Russian offensive across the DNEISTER succeeded in surrounding an estimated 12 German divisions in the area SOUTH of CHISINAU (KISHINEV) and this force has now been wiped out.

Continuing down the valley of the RIVER PRUTH, GALATZ on the DANUBE was occupied, while other Russian troops advanced down the BLACK SEA to the DANUBE DELTA. This latter drive

continued and with the assistance of Russian naval craft effected the capture of CCNSTANTA, almost intact. Meanwhile advances SW of GALATZ had pushed through ERAILA, an important Danubian port, to PLOESTI, meeting little resistance. 80 miles NORTH of PLOESTI a Russian thrust through the LOWER CARPATHIANS is approaching ERASOV in TRANSYLVANIA. This town is an important road and rail junction giving direct access to the HUNGARIAN PLAIN.

PART V

SECURITY

JAPANESE INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATIONS

KAMI KIKAN - HOLLANDIA

The cumulative evidence of several captured Japanese documents gives an outline of the Japanese Intelligence Special Service Organisations which existed in the HOLLANDIA area before its capture by Allied forces.

The principal organisation in the area appears to have been the KAMI KIKAN, from whose files of Intelligence Reports, Operation Orders, and telegrams the following particulars are obtained. (ATIS Bulletins 1046, 1074, 1118 and 1330).

KAMI Special Service Organisation issued Intelligence Reports on the following aspects of the HOLLANDIA area :-

- Natives - Customs, characteristics, pacification, management, trade, precautions, etc.
- Geography - Topography, communications, population, health, industry, taxation, education, administration.
- Security - Anti-Japanese activities of local natives.

A statement made by a Japanese PW gives further details of the organisation.

This PW states that he came to HOLLANDIA from AITAPE in the latter part of 43, when, for the first time, he learned that there was an Army Special Service Organisation in HOLLANDIA, viz the KAMI or JIN Special Service Organisation.

Chief of this Special Service Organisation was an Army Captain NIHO, and about Dec 43, the organisation had its headquarters at HOLLANDIA. Personnel consisted of 40 trained native soldiers from JAVA and AMEON areas, two Japanese NCOs and 20 Japanese enlisted men. PW had heard that there was also a Special Service Organisation in the area to the WEST of HOLLANDIA.

He also states that in Eastern NEW GUINEA there was neither a Naval Special Service Department, nor an Army Special Service Organisation. However, in those areas, the Army MP Units had carried out functions similar to those of the Special Service Organisations.

(AMF Weekly Intelligence Reviews Nos
107 and 108)

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FIRST AUST ARMY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 121

Rear HQ First Aust Army	1
1 Aust Corps	2-146
4 Aust Div	147-152
11 Aust Div	153-158
BRISBANE Fortress	159
TOWNSVILLE Fortress	160-162
CAIRNS Fortress	163
BR 1 First Aust Army	164-169
Aust Trg Centre (JW)	170-173
7 Aust Comd AL Sec	174
Corps HQ VDC (QLD)	175
Sigs First Aust Army	176
1 Aust Para Bn	177
First Aust Army Regt Trg School	178
First Aust Army School of Sigs	179
First Aust Army LASC School	180
GOC	181
BGS	182
G(O)	183
G(I)	184-189
G(SD)	190
DA & QMG	191
A (1 copy to circulate to AMS, Legal, Chaplains, Med, Pro and Education)	192-193
Q (1 copy to circulate to S & T, Ord, AE & ME, and Postal)	194-196
CE	197-199
CSO	200
Svy	201
LHQ (Aust)	202
Adv LHQ	203-207
NT Force	208
Q'LAND L of C Area	209-212
LHQ School of MI	213-214
FELO	215
NOIC CAIRNS	216
5 TAC R Sqn (RAAF)	217
MLO Security Service (CANBERRA)	218
File	219
War Diary	220-221

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Appendix 'A'
to HQ First Aust Army Weekly
Intelligence Summary No 121
Dated 31 Aug 44

ORDER OF BATTLE AND ORGANISATION

LAND

There were no significant changes in the estimates of enemy strength in SWPA for the week ending 23 Aug 44.

The estimate for SARMI has been reduced to 1500 effectives, the decrease being due to deduction for known casualties and estimated attrition.

In BRITISH NEW GUINEA, the estimate for EAST of AITAPE is now 30,000 the reduction being made to allow for casualties. The strength of divisional troops is estimated as:

20 Division	1,500
41 Division	2,000
51 Division	4,000

As a result of the above changes sector totals as at 23 Aug 44 are as follows:-

NW Sector	419,000/429,000
NE Sector	93,500

TOTAL SWPA	512,500/522,500
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NEW IDENTIFICATION

1 SOUTH SEAS DETACHMENT The tank company of this formation was to be attached to 8 Area Army from 31 Army as at 10 Mar 44. Though possible, its presence in this area is considered doubtful.

REORGANISATION of 31 ARMY (Prior to the SAIPAN Operation)

Section 1. GENERAL

Of paramount interest is information recently obtained on SAIPAN, giving a temporary re-organisation and recasting of forces in the Central Pacific, which became the area of responsibility of the 31 Army.

By decree, signed TOJO Hideki as minister of war on the 22 May 44, certain major formations, particularly nine Manchurian Divisions, were involved in the supply of troops to supplement the defence forces of the Central Pacific, which area was divided into various Sectors - namely, TRUK, NORTHERN MARIANAS, SOUTHERN MARIANAS, OGASAWARA, and PLELU Sectors. The number of troops to be made available by this decree is estimated to have been at a figure between 55,000 and 60,000.

The procedure to be adopted by the nine Manchurian Divisions and 19 KOREAN Division, in supplying the necessary troops, is worthy of note. In general, six of these divisions (namely 1, 8, 11, 12, 19 and 24) were to supply three infantry battalions each, three (namely 9, 25 and 71) were responsible for two battalions, and 10 Division for only one battalion. In addition, each Division also supplied a battalion of artillery (approximately equivalent to an Australian Field Regiment) and a company of engineers, excepting 25 Division, which was relieved of its obligation to supply any artillery and 10 Division likewise any engineers.

Although these divisions were relieved of the above mentioned units, these units did not retain their previous designations, but were variously grouped together into Expeditionary Units, which ultimately were regrouped again to form entirely new formations, namely Independent Mixed Brigades and Independent Mixed Regiments. It is believed that what actually took place was that trained troops, required for bolstering up the defences of the Central Pacific, were withdrawn from the various divisions as stated. However, the order of battle of the divisions remained unchanged and it is considered likely that recruits would be brought from JAPAN to provide replacements.

In the case of the 109 Division, it is thought that the primary object of this Division was to absorb, if not in toto, then partially, the Fortress Units already stationed in the OGASAWARA Sector, and so by the consequent unification of command, achieve some measure of correlated manoeuvrability. It appears possible that the Fortress Infantry Units known to be involved in the general scheme of the reorganisation were stationed in the BONINS (of the OGASAWARA Sector) and contributed to the Division. As in the case of the other newly formed Independent Mixed Brigades and Mixed Regiments, these Fortress Units, although they probably subscribed to the formation of 109 Division, actually remain on the Enemy Order of Battle, and as such, are available for reconstruction.

Section 2 (on the following page) gives the organisation, as submitted by the War Minister, for those units concerned in the reorganisation. Again it will be noted that these units vary in their composition and strength, and that they merely represent formations organised for a specific purpose or operation.

Section 2

(a) ORGANISATION AND STRENGTH, 109 DIVISION

Unit	Strength	Organisation	Remarks
109 DIV HQ	60		An additional 108 personnel may be added for Guard, veterinary and Orderly duties
1 MIXED BDE	3,980	Bde HQ 28 303-308 Indep Inf Bns (each 579) 3,474 Arty Coy 129 Engr Unit 221 Signal Unit 128	Each Indep Inf Bn consists of a HQ(36), three Inf Coys (each 114) a HMG Coy (119) and an Inf Gun Coy (82) Org from part of CHICHIJIMA Frt Hy Arty Regt Org from 22 Frt Engr Unit
2 MIXED BDE	4,376	Bde HQ 28 309-314 In- dep Inf Bns (each 579) 3,474 Arty Unit 415 Engr Unit 221 Signal Unit 128 Fd Hospital 110	HQ (64) and three Btys (each 117) equipped with Fd or Mtn guns or 10cm Hows. Org from part CHICHIJIMA Frt Hy Arty Regt and part 7 Frt Mtn Arty Unit. Org with one coy, 9 Indep Engr Regt as a nucleus
1 MIXED REGT	1,412	Regt HQ 70 Two Indep Inf Bns 1,152 (each 576) Arty Coy 117 Signal Unit 73	
9-HY ARTY REGT	531	Regt HQ 70 1 Coy(L) 140 2-4 Coys(B) 321 (each 107)	Org with major part CHICHIJIMA Frt Hy Arty Regt as a nucleus
109 DIV AA ARTY UNIT	711	HQ 104 Three AA Coys (each 146) 438 S/L Coy 169	Formed from CHICHIJIMA Frt AA Defence Unit
109 DIV SECUR- ITY UNIT	53		
109 DIV SIGNAL UNIT	136		
CHICHIJIMA ARMY HOSPITAL	138		
TOTAL STRENGTH	11,397		

NOTE - The Independent Infantry Battalions were formed presumably from the personnel of Fortress Infantry Units, a number of which were included in the list of units taking part in the reorganisation.

(b) ORGANISATION AND STRENGTH OF THE INDEP MIXED BDES AND INDEP MIXED REGTS

Unit	Location	Total Strength	HQ	Inf	Tank Unit	Arty Unit (Coy)	AA Unit (Coy)	Engr Unit	Sig Unit	Remarks
47 Indep Mixed Bde	SAIPAN	3,108	28	2,316		415		221	128	4 Indep Inf Bns
48 Indep Mixed Bde	GUAM	3,108	28	2,316		415		221	128	4 Indep Inf Bns
49 Indep Mixed Bde	YAP	5,594	28	4,632		415	170	221	128	8 Indep Inf Bns
50 Indep Mixed Bde	WOLEAI	3,949	28	2,895	92	415	170	211	128	5 Indep Inf Bns
51 Indep Mixed Bde	TRUK	5,392	28	3,474		930	711	221	128	6 Indep Inf Bns: 2 Arty Units
52 Indep Mixed Bde	PONAPE	3,200	28	2,316	92	415		221	128	4 Indep Inf Bns
53 Indep Mixed Bde	PALAU	4,266	28	3,474		415		221	128	6 Indep Inf Bns
9 Indep Mixed Regt	PAGAN	2,671	63	1,734		414	170	217	73	3 Indep Inf Bns
10 Indep Mixed Regt	GUAM	2,501	63	1,734		414		217	73	3 Indep Inf Bns
11 Indep Mixed Regt	PULUWAT	2,671	63	1,734		414	170	217	73	3 Indep Inf Bns
12 Indep Mixed Regt	MARCUS	2,068	63	1,734	90	118			74	3 Indep Inf Bns
13 Indep Mixed Regt	WAKE	1,599	63	1,158	180	118			74	2 Indep Inf Bns: 2 Tank Units

NOTES:

- An Independent Infantry Battalion consists of a Headquarters (36), three Infantry Companies (each 114), a Heavy Machine Gun Company (119) and an Infantry Gun Company (82). In the case of 9, 10 and 11 Independent Mixed Regiments the Battalion Headquarters strength is 35, giving a total strength of 578. It should be noted that the Infantry Companies, presumably drawn from "A" Type (Strengthened) Divisions, have a strength well below the accepted figure of 262. In addition, the fourth company in each battalion has been dropped, and the personnel distributed among the remaining three companies to bring them up to a strength of 114, thus indicating that a large number of personnel remained behind in MANCHURIA to assist in the re-formation of the units.
- An Artillery Unit consists of a Headquarters (64) and three Companies (each 117) equipped with Field or Mountain Guns or 10-cm Howitzers.
- An Anti-aircraft Artillery Unit consists of a Headquarters (104), three Anti-aircraft Artillery Companies (each 146) and a Searchlight Company (169).
- The Independent Infantry Battalions numbered from 315 to 351 (both inclusive) have been allotted in sequence to 47 to 53 Independent Mixed Brigades.

(c) Principal Units and Formations contributing to the New Formation

Independent Mixed Regiments

<u>New Formation</u>				<u>Contributing Units and Formations</u>
9	Independent Mixed Regiment			71 Division (mainly), 25 Division (by medium of 5 Expeditionary Unit)
10	"	"	"	1, 11, 12 and 24 Divisions (by medium of 6 Expeditionary Unit)
11	"	"	"	8 Division
12	"	"	"	5 Independent Mixed Regiment, 2 South Seas Garrison Unit, 16 Tank Regiment
13	"	"	"	3 South Seas Garrison Unit, 5 Independent Mixed Regiment, 16 Tank Regiment.

Independent Mixed Brigades

<u>New Formation</u>				<u>Contributing Units and Formations</u>
47	Independent Mixed Brigade			24 and 25 Division (by medium of 1 Expeditionary Unit)
48	"	"	"	1 and 11 Divisions (by medium of 6 Expeditionary Unit)
49	"	"	"	10, 12, 24 and 51 Divisions. NOTE - A battalion of 66 Infantry Regiment, 51 Division was used. This is probably from reinforcement personnel in PALAU.
50	"	"	"	24 Division, 5 South Seas Detachment, 4 Expeditionary Unit
51	"	"	"	9, 19 Divisions (mainly), 2 Independent Garrison Unit.
52	"	"	"	3 South Seas Detachment, 5 Independent Mixed Regiment
53	"	"	"	Forces in PALAU

109 Division

Appears to have been formed largely from forces in the BONIN ISLANDS.

Order of Battle 31 Army - CENTRAL PACIFIC Area
as at 8 Jun 44.

Following on the re-organisation of 31 Army referred to above, it has become possible to assess the strength and disposition of Japanese forces in the CENTRAL PACIFIC.

The following summary extracted from information obtained at SAIPAN, shows the major formations under command of 31 Army and the approximate total Army Strength throughout the CENTRAL PACIFIC as at 8 Jun 44. Since that date, a considerable portion of the forces in the MARIANAS have been destroyed. Total figures shown in brackets probably represent a projected increase in strength.

OGASAWARA Sector

CHICHI JIMA	109 Div	5722	
	1 Mxd Bde (109 Div)		
IO JIMA	2 Mxd Bde (109 Div)	4380	
HAHA JIMA	1 Mxd Regt (109 Div)	1419	
MARCUS ISLAND	12 Indep Mxd Regt	2116	
			13637 (15300)

NORTHERN MARIANAS Sector

SAIPAN	43 Div	24061	
	47 Indep Mxd Bde		
	9 Tank Regt		
PAGAN	9 Indep Mxd Regt	2788	
			26849 (33026)

SOUTHERN MARIANAS Sector

GUAM (incl ROTA)	29 Div	15083	
	48 Indep Mxd Bde		
	10 Indep Mxd Regt		
TINIAN	50 Inf Regt (29 Div)	4228	
			19311 (19800)

TRUK Sector

TRUK (incl NOMOI)	52 Div	15028	
	51 Indep Mxd Bde		
	4 South Seas Det		
PONAPE	52 Indep Mxd Bde	5089	
	107 Inf Regt (part)		
PULUWAT	11 Indep Mxd Regt	2688	
WOLEAI	50 Indep Mxd Bde	3942	
KUSAIE	2 South Seas Det	2953	
	107 Inf Regt (part)		
			29754 (30195)

PALAU Sector

PALAU (incl	14 Div	19933	
PELELIU & ANGAUR)	53 Indep Mxd Bde		
YAP	49 Indep Mxd Bde	5587	
			25520 (28200)

DIRECTLY UNDER 31 ARMY

MILLE	1 South Seas Det (bulk)	2733	
JALUIT	1 South Seas Det (part)	370	
WAKE	13 Indep Mxd Regt	1627	
			4730

TOTAL STRENGTH

OGASAWARA Sector	13637
NORTHERN MARIANAS Sector	26849
SOUTHERN " "	19311
TRUK Sector	29754
PALAU Sector	25520
Directly under 31 Army	4730
	119801

TOTAL MAJOR FORMATIONS

Divisions	5
Independent Mixed Brigades	7
Independent Mixed Regiments	5
South Seas Detachments	3

(JMF Weekly Int Review No 108)

AIR

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - SWPA

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 25 Aug is listed below:-

Area	F	B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 25 Aug	Total on 25 Jul
NEW BRITAIN	2			4	2	8	6
NEW IRELAND				3		3	5
SOLOMONS				3		3	3
NEW GUINEA	3				2	5	12
HALMAHERA-TALAUD	9	3		6	3	21	149
PHILIPPINES:							
MINDANAO	145	149	9	17	21	341	
VISAYAS	65	24		3	3	95	
LUZON	126	36	4	7	12	185	
						621	446
AMBON-CERAM-BOEROE	47	33	6	12	16	114	151
CELEBES	81	67		15		163	79
AROE & KAI IS	5				2	7	7
TIMOR-SOEMBA-							
SOEMBAYA-FLORES	21	9		3	3	36	36
JAVA-BALI-LOMBOK	12	12		12	5	41	41
BORNEO	16	26		9		51	28
Total	532	359	19	94	69	1073	963

ENEMY OPERATIONAL AIRPLANE STRENGTH - CENTRAL PACIFIC

Estimate of Enemy Shore Based Air Strength on information to 25 Aug is listed below:-

Area	F	B	F/B	F/P	Obsn	Total on 25 Aug	Total on 28 Jul
PALAU	24	4		12	3	43	111
YAP	5	17				22	51
WOLEAI		3				3	3
TRUK	22	20		8	7	57	101
Total	51	44		20	10	125	266

(AAF Summary No 237)