

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 763

Date 1 March, 1944

PART I.SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/1:

- (1) "SC'S 732, 748" departed Milne Bay 1400/29 for Langemak ETA 0700/2.
- (2) "YMS 334" departed Milne Bay 1500/29 for Lae ETA 1300/1.
- (3) "GASCOYNE" (PF) "PC.1121" maintaining A/S patrol vicinity of "PRESIDENT GRANT", aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Practically all personnel disembarked except ship's complement; one ship standing by to disembark remaining personnel if required; discharge of valuable cargo proceeding; salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (4) "GLENELG" (AMS) conducting A/S patrol China Strait.
- (5) "BALLARAT" departed Cairns 0420/29 to RV at 0600/29 with Convoy TN.223 ("OZARK") ex Townsville, off Fitzroy Is. whence "BALLARAT" escorts to Port Moresby ETA 1100/2.
- (6) "BROOME" escorting Convoy TN.224 (2 MV) departed Townsville 1600/28. "CASTLEMAINE" "SC.744" (ex Cairns) to RV off Fitzroy Is. at 0900/29 whence convoy proceeds Milne Bay ETA 1600/2.
- (7) "WESTRALIA" (APA) departed Sydney 1100/26 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/2.
- (8) "STUART" (DD) escorting Convoy MV.70 ("SEA SNIPE" "CAPE NEDDICK") 0500/2; "SEA SNIPE" 1800/3.
- (9) "BUNDABERG" "BENDIGO" "PIRIE" escorting Convoy MV.69 departed Milne Bay 0600/29 for Townsville ETA 1500/3.
- (10) "KAPUNDA" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1430/29 for Grafton Passage ETA 0500/2.
- (11) "BOWEN" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 1042/29 for Egret Reef ETA 1700/1 thence Cairns; to render any assistance and investigate and report position of "OMAHA" aground on S. point Egret Reef.
- (12) "KATOOMBA" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (13) "BUNGAREE" (CM) departed Brisbane 1050/27 for Townsville due 1200/1.
- (14) "SC.745" was to depart Caloundra 2100/27 to relieve "WHYALLA" on Sandy Cape patrol, returning Brisbane 1200/2. "WHYALLA" returns Brisbane on relief.
- (15) "GRISWOLD" (DE) proceeding Sydney ETA 1 March.
- (16) "GILMER" (APD) departed Sydney 1826/28 for Milne Bay ETA 2000/2.
- (17) "SC.731" to RV at 1800/28 at Caloundra with 3 LCM. and 3 picket boats (for Cairns ETA 0800/8) and accompany to Wide Bay Bar whence "SC.731" proceeds Townsville ETA 1800/2 for onward routing to Thursday Is. for escort duty between Merauke and Thursday Is.
- (18) "DELORAIN" departed Sydney 0920/29 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (19) "RANEE" (CVE) proceeding Fremantle via Bass Strait using Barren Rocks

as gunnery target a.m. 1 March.
(20) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COWRA" intended to depart Brisbane 2 March, after boiler cleaning, for Milne Bay.
- (2) "CALAMARES" (AF) to depart Sydney 2 March for Milne Bay.
- (3) "SC.749" to sail as necessary to arrive Sandy Cape patrol area at 1200/2, carrying out A/S patrol until relieved by "WHYALLA" at 1200/5, returning thence to Brisbane.

(c) In Harbour:

Tuam Is:

Escorts 1 AMS : "SHEPPARTON"
Saidor:
Merchantmen 3 : "R.P.WARNER" "COMARA"
Pinschhafen:
Combat Units 41 PT
Escorts 2 PC : 1131, 1133
6 SC : 650, 734, 735, 737, 746, 750
6 YMS : 53, 73, 313, 314, 315, 335
4 ML : 428, 801, 803, 806
Auxiliaries 5 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "OCTANS"
(AF) "VICTORIA" (AO) YP.283
Merchantmen 23 : "BARBARA C." "F.P.BLAIR" "BORGFRED" "BOTH"
"RAMO" "MACAN" "YOHOW" "B.T.OSBORNE"
"J. DEERE" "J.ROLPH" "J.NICOLET" "W.B.
ALLISON" "G.V.L.MEYER" "W.ATWATER" "CAPE
FLATTERY" "CAPE PERPETUA" "KLIPFONTEIN"
"A.THOMAS" "R.P.WARNER" "CAPE CLEARE"
"C.DARROW" "M.FULLER" "J.EARL"

Lae:

Escorts 2 ML : 425, 431
Merchantmen 12 : "M.DALY" "J.B.KENDRICK" "H.T.RAINEY" "J.W.
MELDRUM" "M.M.STEWART" "J.H.RUSK" "WICHITA"
FAILS" "F.BILLINGS" "STAGEN" "PONCE"
"ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" "VAN OUTHORN"

Buna:

Escorts 1 PS : "MORESBY"
1 AMS : "BENALLA"
3 SC : 637, 648, 736 1 ML: 427 1 HDML: 1129
"BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "SUSQUEHANNA"
"TRINITY" (AO) "MERKUR" "MIZAR" "CARTER
HALL" (LSD) "PINGWO" "POYANG" (ASIS)
2 YP: 278, 280
Merchantmen 4 : "A.D.WHITE" "J.ALDEN" "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM
WRIGHT"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 11 : "W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT"
"S.G. PORTER" "W.BEAUMONT" "K.D.WIGGINS"
"F.A.WARDELL" "MANA" "J.BURROUGHS" "D.
CROCKETT" "J.P.BRADLEY"

Kiriwina:

Combat Units 6 PT
Escorts 1 ML : 819
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (PG)
Merchantmen 1 : "VAN SWOLL"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 1 YMS : 50

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 5 : "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "M.GRIFFITH" "N.E.MACK"
"ORIZABA" "VAN DER LIJN"

*Milne Bay:

Combat Units

1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 28 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "HOBBY" "KALK" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER" "LAMSON" "SMITH"
 "MAHAN" "CONYNGHAM" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
 "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "VENDETTA" "THORNE"
 "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA"

23 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown

Escorts

1 AMS : "ARARAT"
 7 PC : 476, 479, 1119, 1122, 1124, 1133, 1134
 8 SC : 698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 747, 750, 981
 7 YMS : 11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 316, 336
 5 ML : 424, 430, 802, 816, 818

Auxiliaries:

16 : "HUMPEREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" (AFD)
 "HAMILTON" "LONG" (DMS) "SAN PABLO"
 (AVP) "DOBBIE" (AD) "AASE MAERSK"
 "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "GOUCAL" (ASR) "OTUS"
 "FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" (APA) "KOOPA"
 (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS)

Merchantmen

68 : "H.L.AEBOTT" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "
 "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.D.BAKER" "J.BARBARA"
 "S.K.EARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "S.BOLIVAR"
 "S.BRANNON" "J.CAERILLO" "CAPE BON" "CAPE
 GREIG" "CEFALU" "T.M.COOLEY" "J.COOK"
 "P.C.DODD" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "DON MARQUIS"
 "S.EGERTON" "EMPIRE HAMBLE" "ESSO BAYONNE"
 "EMPIRE SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO
 PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD" "M.FLINDERS"
 "HANYANG" "D.HEWES" "D.E.HUGHES" "B.F.
 IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JANSSENS" "L.S.KELLY"
 "O.KELLY" "MCKERR" "LAKE ORMAC" "W.S.LADD"
 "J.LIND" "W.MCLENNAN" "GEO.LUKS" "B.
 MATTHEWS" "MCRMACDALE" "Z.LYKES" "GEO.
 LUKS" "B.MATTHEWS" "MCRMACDALE" "Z.LYKES"
 "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NANCY HANKS"
 "MORMACSEA" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "POINT SAN
 PEDRO" "REIJNST" "PAUL REVERE" "A.
 ROBINSON" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER"
 "SEA DEVIL" "SIBIGO" "N.J.SINNOTT"
 "O.SKINNER" "C.SPRECKERS" "THUNDERER"
 "TRIANGULUM" "S.T.WHITE" "VAN DER LIJN"
 "VILLALOBOS" "M.WALKER" "WEST TEXAS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts
Auxiliaries
Merchantmen

1 SC : 741
 1 ML : 426
 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "KURUMBA" (AO)
 7 : "MULIAMA" "W.J.SUBJETT" "S.C.PAYNE"
 "S.BRANNON" "JACKSONVILLE" "H.V.WHITE"
 "TARCONA"

Thursday Is:

Escorts
Cairns:
Escorts

1 AMS : "INVERELL"
 2 PF : "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
 5 AMS : "ARARAT" "KALGOORLIE" "MILDURA"
 "ROCKHAMPTON" "STAWELL"
 3 SC : 703, 743, 982 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
 3 PC : 477, 1120, 1132 6 YMS: 8, 46, 47, 48,
 50, 393

Auxiliaries

4 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA)
 "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS)

Townsville:

Escorts

3 AMS : "TOWNSVILLE" "WAGGA" "LATROBE"
 1 ML: 817

Palm Island:

Auxiliaries

2 : "HALF MOON" (AVP) YP. 291

Mackay:

Auxiliaries

1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Escorts	1 PS	:	"SWAN"
	5 AMS	:	"BUNBURY" "COWRA" "GOULBURN" "GYMPIE" "WHYALLA"
Auxiliaries	1 SC	:	749 2 YMS: 9, 10 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
	5	:	"MAETSUYCKER" (AH) "PYRO" (AE) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
	2 CL	:	"HOBART" "BOISE"
Escorts	1 PF	:	"BARGOO" 3 ML: 812, 822, 823
	6 AMS	:	"WILCANNIA" "EYOHUCA" "KIAMA" "COLAC" "WARRNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE"
	4 A/S	:	"KYBRA" "YANDRA" "ABRAHAM ORIJNSSEN" "DOCBEA"
Auxiliaries	3	:	"CALAMARES" (AF) "WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDAH" (AH)

Melbourne:

Escorts	1 AMS	:	"LITHGOW" 2 ML: 824, 826
Auxiliaries	1	:	"GANYMEDE" (AK)

Adelaide:

Escorts	1 AMS	:	"GEE LONG" (Refitting)
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(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Buin Base: Photos 28-29 Feb show Kahili runway serviceable for 3200 x 80 feet. Nil aircraft.
- (2) S.W. Bougainville: During the night 28 - 29 Feb., three southbound enemy barges were bombed and strafed by a Catalina off Aitara Mission. PT Boats then engaged and LCM shelled the area getting 1 direct hit. Accurate shore fire was encountered.
A further 11 - 16 Northbound barges were sighted close inshore in the same area; also 7 beached barges which were shelled by LCM. Our PTs closed to attack but were driven off by shore batteries and an attack by an enemy floatplane. This represents considerably increased barge activity in this area.
- (3) N.E. New Ireland: At 1145/29, a large cargo vessel was sighted by aircraft close inshore 30 miles N.W. of Namatanai.
- (4) Rabaul: Rabaul was again attacked by all types of bombers on 28 Feb. Once again no interception was encountered. Details of the attacks are as follows:
At 1050/29, 14 Corsairs carried out a fighter sweep over Rabaul, unsuccessfully pursuing two aircraft to Open Bay. Two barges were strafed at Wide Bay one being set on fire.
At 1055/29, 4 Corsairs experimentally dropped quarter ton bombs on Pando Point.
At 1055/29, Vunapope was attacked by 48 Dauntless, 24 Avengers with 16 Warhawks, 11 Corsairs, 8 Hellcats escorting. 48 tons were dropped on the telephone exchange building, warehouse area, labour quarters. Fighters reported the whole Vunapope coast burning and smoking. Lakunai, the primary target, was not reached.
A medium cargo vessel was sighted standing into Rabaul.
At 1111/29, the North east part of Rabaul town was bombed through clouds by 22 Mitchells dropping 3 half tonners each. Results were obscured by clouds but 15 escorting Corsairs saw 3 fires.
At 1122/29, Rabaul town was bombed through clouds by 11 Liberators, dropping 43 tons of bombs.
Rapopo was bombed by 6 Liberators as alternative target; scoring numerous hits on the runway and dispersal areas, where one medium bomber was destroyed.
Ten escorting Corsairs made no contacts.
At 1126/29, Rabaul town was bombed by 12 Lightnings, dropping 12 x 1000 lb. bombs in a gliding approach from 26000 to 6000 feet.

- (5) Adler Bay: At 1400/29, the radar station at Adler Bay (W. Coast of St. George's Channel) was bombed by New Zealand (Soupac) aircraft, scoring six direct hits.
- (6) Open Bay: On the night of 27 - 28 Feb., a possible submarine was sighted by aircraft 4 miles West of the Torin River (N.E. of Open Bay).
- (7) Admiralty Islands: Between 1235 - 1253/28, personnel and supply areas at Lorengau and Momote were bombed and strafed by 21 Mitchells.

On the morning of 29 Feb., after naval and air bombardment, a surprise landing from destroyers was effected on the Admiralty Is. By 0950/29, the Momote airfield was captured. Enemy resistance is being rapidly overcome.

Details of the supporting air attacks by Mitchells are not yet complete.

- (8) Hollandia: Photographs taken at 1240/26, show a strong concentration of aircraft on the three Hollandia airfields:

	<u>F</u>	<u>L/B</u>	<u>M/B</u>
Hollandia	46	54	75
Sentani	1	35	-
Cyclops	71	1	-
Total 277 A/c. whereof	112F	90L/B	75M/B

Between 0310 and 0432/29, Hollandia was attacked by a force of Liberators. Reports are not yet complete.

At 0220/29, a 5 ship convoy was sighted, by aircraft 40 miles East of Hollandia heading Northwest. A preliminary report indicates that at 0320/29 the aircraft attacked the convoy, then reported 20 miles W. of Hollandia, scored a hit and sank one vessel.

- (9) Wewak: Early a.m. 29 Feb. airfields in the Wewak area were attacked by some of the Liberators returning from Hollandia or unable to reach the target. Fires were started.

At 0124/1, a subchaser was reported by aircraft 55 miles NW x E of Wewak; and at 0400/1, a possible destroyer 40 miles NNW of Wewak.

- (10) Hansa Bay: 1235 - 1316/28, a final report reveals that stores, personnel areas and A/A positions at Hansa Bay were bombed and strafed by 22 Liberators and 39 Bostons, starting fires.

- (11) Madang - Alexishafen: At 0953 - 1058/28, strips at Alexishafen and targets of opportunity in the area were bombed and strafed by 23 Vengeances and 29 Kittyhawks (both RAAF), while Madang strip was bombed and strafed by 9 Vengeances.

At 1150/29, the Gogol River barge hideout was bombed and strafed by 31 Vengeances while at 1200 - 1245/29, personnel and supplies at Madang were bombed and strafed by 13 Kittyhawks.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/1:

- (1) "WARREGO" (PS) escorting "DUNTROON" departed Darwin 1351/29 for Thursday Is. ETA 2330/2.
- (2) "COOTAMUNDRA" (AMS) escorting "W. PROUSE" departed Thursday Is. 1800/27 for Darwin ETA 1530/1.
- (3) 18 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

<u>Darwin:</u>	1 AMS	:	"FREMANTLE" 3 ML: 429, 809, 815
<u>Merchantmen</u>	3A	:	"COOLEBAR" "KAILUA" "MILDURA"
<u>Groote Eylandt:</u>			
<u>Merchantmen</u>	1	:	"BABINDA"
<u>Melville Bay:</u>			
<u>Merchantmen</u>	1	:	"SUVA"

(11) ENEMY FORCES

NIL

3 SOUTHWESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/1:

- (1) "SUSSEX" (CA) departed Fremantle 25 Feb. for escort duties Indian Ocean.
- (2) "YUMA" (AT) towing 1 ARD departed Melbourne 1740/20 for Fremantle ETA 0900/2 March.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	2 AMS	:	"DUBBO" "HORSHAM" 1 SC:739
Auxiliaries	6	:	"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) 1 YP: 288

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	2 "CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) 1 YP: 286
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SOUTH PACIFIC

- (1) New Hebrides: At 0935/29, a possible enemy submarine was reported at Meli Bay, Efate Is.
At 2309/28, a possible submarine was sighted 200 miles N.E. of Espiritu Santo.
- (2) New Zealand: At 0115/1, an allied vessel ("RANGATIRA") reported an attack by an enemy submarine, 100 miles N.E. of Christchurch. One torpedo was reported to have passed across the stern.
- (3) Noumea: At 0705/1, "PETER TRIMBLE ROWE" reported sighting a submarine 280 miles S.W. of Noumea.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC

- (1) Marshalls: On 26 - 27 Feb., attacks involving up to 12 Mitchells or Dauntless, were carried out on Tarca, Wotji, Jaluit and Mille.
A small vessel was strafed at Mille on 27 Feb.
- (2) Carolines: On 29 Feb., two cargo vessels (2000 tons) were sighted by aircraft at Ponape. One of these vessels attempting to leave harbour was strafed and turned back.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>			<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
	<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks Solomons</u>
			<u>Carolines</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-
<u>CA</u>	AUSTRALIA SHERO PSHIRE	-	-
<u>CL</u>	BOISE NASHVILLE PHCENIX * HOEART	COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM * DENVER * LEANDER	-
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	HERON HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-
<u>DD</u>	ARUNTA WARRANUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER CONYNGHAM REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHIES HOBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ	Approx 40	5
			20 (some repairing)
			MUSASHI
			ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
			NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
			KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
			AKITSUSHIMA
			3

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines
	BALAO	} On Patrol	15	25
	BASHAW			
	CERO			
	FLOUNDER			
	GATO			
	PETO			
	DACE	} At Milne Bay		
	SCAMP			
	BLACKFISH	} At Brisbane		
	DARTER			
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	62	Approx 80	?	?
<u>PA/APD/AKA</u>	H. T. ALLEN	10 APA		
	KANIMBLA	5 APD		
	WESTRALIA	5 AKA		
	ALGORAB			
	GILMER			
	SANDS			
	HUMPHREYS			
	BROOKS			
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	OTUS		?	?
	FULTON			
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		1	1
<u>AR</u>	RIGEL	PROMETHEUS		
	PLATYPUS			
	AMYCUS			

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.) 167
 Light & M/Bombers 136
 SE/Bombers 7
 Flying Boats 1
 Floatplanes 25
 Obsn. a/c 22

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	ABUKUMA TAMA
<u>DD</u>	22	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	* YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk) 1 or more poss. ex- Malaya
<u>CV</u>	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		ZUIKAKU
<u>(L)</u>	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	HITAKA HAYATAKA RYUHO TAIHO * ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND MISSION BAY NASSAU	COPAHEE CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA WHITE PLAINS BRETON RANEE MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY	CHIYODA CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>GA</u>	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE		MOGAMI ASHIGARA (en route) * MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-		3
<u>CL</u>	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD		YAHAGI KISO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU * KASHII
<u>(T)</u>	-		3
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-		Approx 20 Approx 25 2 (one repairing)
<u>DD</u>	?		
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30		
<u>AS</u>	?		

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific (Western Section) Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines

<u>BB</u>	-	QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	NAGATO (poss. Caroline) KONGO HARUNA ISE HYUGA FUSO YAMASHIRO
			} 1/more } poss. } returned } Japan

<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	SHOKAKU
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<u>CV(E)</u>	-	BATTLE UNICORN SHAH	-
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<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER	AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA
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<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	CEYLON KENYA NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK EMERALD	YUBARI TATSUTA KINU KUMA * KITAGAMI OI (prob. sunk)
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<u>AV/CVS</u>	CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOJ
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<u>XCL</u>	-	CANTON CHITRAL	-
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<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	1
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<u>AS</u>	-	Approx 27	17 (incl. 6 German)
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ANGLER	LAPON	} On Patrol
BILFISH	POMPOM	
BONFISH	PUFFER	
BLUEFISH	NORWHAL	
CABRILLA	RASHER	
COD	RATON	
FLASHER	RAY	
GUNNEL	ROBALO	
HOE	K.15	
JACK		
K.12		
BOWFIN		
CREVALLE			} At Fremantle
HADDO		
HAKE		
REDFIN		
<u>AS</u>	PELIAS	
	ORION	

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng.) 112
 Light & M/Bombers 39
 SE/Bombers -
 Flying Boats 3
 Floatplanes 61
 Obsn. A/c 26

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No.764

Date 2 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREAEASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/2:

- X (1) "LAMSON" "CONYNGHAM" (DD) departed Milne Bay 1130/28 proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (2) "GILMER" (APD) departed Sydney 1826/28 for Milne Bay ETA 2000/2.
- (3) "PC.1133" "SC.747" departed Milne Bay 0600/1 for Langemak ETA 1600/2.
- (4) "GASCOYNE" (PF) departed Milne Bay 1700/1 to RV with "BASHAW" at 0700/2 and escort to Milne Bay.
- (5) "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900/1 to stand by "PRESIDENT GRANT", aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef, then taking over A/S patrol focal area outside China Strait. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (6) "BALLARAT" departed Cairns 0420/29 to RV at 0600/29 with Convoy TN.233 ("OZARK") ex Townsville, off Fitzroy Is. whence "BALLARAT" escorts to Port Moresby due 1100/2.
- (7) "BROOME" escorting Convoy TN.224 (2 MV) departed Townsville 1600/28. "CASTLEMAINE" "SC.744" (ex Cairns) to RV off Fitzroy Is. at 0900/29 whence convoy proceeds Milne Bay ETA 1600/2.
- (8) "BUNDABERG" "PIRIE" escorting Convoy MV.69 (3 MV) departed Milne Bay 0600/29 for Townsville ETA 1500/3.
- (9) "KAPUNDA" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1430/29 for Grafton Passage ETA 0500/2.
- (10) "BOWEN" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 1042/29 for Egret Reef ETA 1700/1 thence Cairns; to render any assistance and investigate and report position of "OMAHA" aground on S. point Egret Reef.
- (11) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (12) "YP.291" was to depart Cairns 0700/2 for Thursday Is. ETA 1100/6.
- (13) "KATOOMBA" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (14) "SC.731" to RV at 1800/28 at Caloundra with 3 LCM. and 3 picket boats (for Cairns ETA 0800/8) and accompany to Wide Bay Bar whence "SC.731" proceeds Townsville ETA 1800/2 for onward routing to Thursday Island for escort duty between Merauke and Thursday Island.
- (15) "SC.749" departed Brisbane 2011/1 to relieve "SC.745" on Sandy Cape Patrol area, carrying out A/S patrol until relieved by "WHYALLA" at 1200/5, returning thence to Brisbane.
- (16) "CALAMARES" (AP) was to depart Sydney 0900/2 for Port Moresby.
- (17) "ROE" (DD) escorting "EURYALE" (AS) proceeding Brisbane ETA 1000/5.
- (18) "RANEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Fremantle via Bass Strait ETA not known.
- (19) 6 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COWRA" intended to depart Brisbane 2 March, after boiler cleaning, for Milne Bay.

- (2) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March.
 (3) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.
 (4) "GOULBURN" to depart Sydney p.m. 4 March for Brisbane.
 (5) "BUNBURY" to sail at 0600/3 to carry out full calibre practice; on completion to depart Caloundra 1400/3 for Milne Bay ETA 1800/7.

(c) In Harbor:

Tuan Is:
 Escorts 1 AMS : "SHEPPARTON"
Saidor:
 Merchantmen 2 : "R.P. WARNER" "COMARA"
Finschhafen:
 Combat Units 41 PT :
 Escorts 2 PG : 1131, 1133
 6 SC : 650, 732, 734, 735, 748, 750
 2 YMS : 53, 73
 4 ML : 428, 801, 803, 806
 Auxiliaries 5 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "OCTANS" (AF)
 "VICTORIA" (AO) 1 YP: 283
 Merchantmen 18 : "F.P. BLAIR" "BORGFRED" "BOTH" "RAMO" "MACTAN"
 "YOCHOW" "J. DEERE" "J. ROLPH" "M. FULLER" "CAPE
 CLEAR" "J. NICOLET" "W.B. ALLISON" "G.V.L. MEYER"
 "W. ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY" "KLIPFONTEIN"
 "A. THOMAS" "C. DARROW"
Lae:
 Escorts 1 YMS : 334
 2 ML : 425, 431
 Merchantmen 7 : "J.B. KENDRICK" "H.T. RAINEY" "F. BILLINGS"
 "STAGEN" "PONCE" "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" "VAN OUTHORN"
Buna:
 Escorts 1 PS : "MORESEY" 3 YMS: 73, 313, 315
 1 AMS : "BENALLA" 1 HDML: 1129
 5 SC : 637, 648, 736, 737, 746 1 ML: 427
 Auxiliaries 9 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "SUSQUEHANNA" "TRINITY" (AO)
 "MIZAR" (AF) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "PING WO"
 "POYANG" (ASIS) 2 YP: 278, 280
 Merchantmen 9 : "A.D. WHITE" "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C. KERR"
 "D.E. HUGHES" "H.C. PAYNE" "H.L. ABBOT" "P.T.
 DODDRIDGE"
Oro Bay:
 Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
 Merchantmen 12 : "W. SHARON" "G.R. HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "S.G.
 PORTER" "W. BEAUMONT" "K.D. WIGGINS" "MANA"
 "J. BURROUGHS" "J. P. BRADLEY" "GEO. LUKS" "J. ALDEN"
 "B. MATTHEWS"
Kiriwina:
 Combat Units 6 PT
 Escorts 1 ML : 819
 Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (PG)
 Merchantmen 1 : "VAN SWOLL"
Woodlark Is:
 Escorts 1 YMS : 50
Goodenough Is:
 Merchantmen 4 : "W.C. CLAIRBORNE" "M. GRIFFITH" "N.E. MACK"
 "VAN DER LIJN"
Milne Bay:
 Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 26 DD : "STOCKETON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE"
 "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "HOBBY" "KALK"
 "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER"
 "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON"
 "WARRAMUNGA" "VENDETTA" "THORNE" "ABNER READ"
 "ARUNTA"
 23 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Milne Bay (Contd.) -

Escorts	2 AMS	:	"ARARAT" "GLEWELG"
	7 PC	:	476, 479, 1119, 1121, 1122, 1124, 1134
	8 SC	:	698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 743, 750, 981
	9 YMS	:	11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 314, 335, 336
	5 ML	:	424, 430, 802, 816, 818
Auxiliaries	18	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" (APD) "HAMILTON" "LONG" (DM) "SAN PABLO" (AVP) "DOBBIN" (AD) "ASE MAERK" "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "COUGAL" (ASR) "OTUS" "PULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "MERKUR" (AF) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS) "
Merchantmen	79	:	"ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALGOA PATRIOT" "ARANSAS PASS" "E.D.BAKER" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K.BARLOW" "R.S. BEAN" "D.BELASCO" "S.BOLIVAR" "S.BRANNON" "J.CABRILLO" "CAPE BON" "CEPALU" "T.M.COOLEY" "J.COOK" "D.CROCKETT" "G.L.CUREY" "CAPE SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE PERPETUA" "M.DALY" "J.W.DAVIS" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J.EARL" "S.EGERTON" "ESSO BAYONNE" "EMPIRE SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD" "M.FLINDERS" "HANYANG" "D.HEWES" "E.F.IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JANSSENS" "L.S.KELLY" "O.KELLY" "LAKE ORMAC" "W.S.LADD" "J.LIND" "J.S. MANSEFIELD" "MCCLENNAN" "GEO. LUKS" "B.MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "Z.LYKES" "I.MCGOY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NANCY HANKS" "B.T.OSBORNE" "MORMAC SEA" "ORIZABA" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "POLUX" "A.ROBINSON" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "SIBIGO" "N.J.SINNOTT" "O.SKINNER" "C.SPREGKERS" "M.M.STEWART" "THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M. WHITE" "VAN DER LIJN" "VILLALCBOS" "M.WALKER" "F.A.WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS" "WICHITA FALLS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts	1 SC	:	741	1 ML:	426
Auxiliaries	2	:	"POLARIS" (AGS) "KURUMBA" (AO)		
Merchantmen	6	:	"MULIAMA" "W.J.SUBJETTE" "S.BRANNON" "H.V. WHITE" "JACKSONVILLE" "TAROONA"		

Thursday Is:

Escorts	1 AMS	:	"INVERELL"
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Cairns:

Combat Units	1 DD	:	"STUART"		
Escorts	2 PF	:	"LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"		
	5 AMS	:	"ARARAT" "KALGOORLIE" "MILDURA" "ROCKHAMPTON" "STAWELL"		
	2 SC	:	703, 982	4 ML:	804, 805, 811, 820
	3 PC	:	477, 1120, 1132	6 YMS:	8, 46, 47, 48, 50, 393

Townsville:

Auxiliaries	3	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA)
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Escorts

	3 AMS	:	"TOWNSVILLE" "WAGGA" "LATROBE" 1 ML: 817
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Auxiliaries

	1	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM)
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Palm Island:

Auxiliaries	1	:	"HALF MOON" (AVP)
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Mackay:

Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
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Brisbane:

Escorts	1 PS	:	"SWAN"
	5 AMS	:	"BUNBURY" "COWRA" "GOULBURN" "GYMPIE" "WHYALLA" 1 SC: 745 2 YMS: 9,10
	3 ML	:	808, 821, 827
Auxiliaries	7	:	"MAETSUYCKER" (AH) "PYRO" (AE) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MESQUITE" (CGC) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) "BOOTES" (AK) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
	2 CL	:	"HOBART" (E) "BOISE"
Escorts	1 DE	:	"GRISWOLD"
	1 PF	:	"BARCOO" 3 ML: 812, 822, 823
	7 AMS	:	"WILCANNIA" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "COLAC" "WARNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE" "DELORAINÉ"
	4 A/S	:	"KYBRA" "YANDRA" "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA"

Sydney (Contd.)
 Auxiliaries 2 : "WANGANELLA" (AH) "(Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH)
 Melbourne:
 Escorts 1 YMS : "LITHGOW" 2 ML: 824, 826
 Auxiliaries 1 : "GANYMEDE" (AF)
 Adelaide:
 Escorts 1 AMS : "GEELONG" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Guadalcanal - At 1045/1, a submarine was sighted by aircraft 30 miles W. of Cape Esperance.
- (2) Empress Augusta Bay - At 0140/28 Feb., one Jap plane ineffectively bombed PT boats off Matsukai (S.W. Bougainville).
 Ground forces report intensified patrols in all sectors of the perimeter.
- (3) Southern New Ireland - During the night 29 Feb.-1 March, Cape St. George, Borpop River and Namatanai (last-named after daybreak) were bombarded by U.S. destroyers. Spotting aircraft reported fires started at Namatanai where a shore battery was silenced.
- (4) Admiralty Islands - At 0400/1, an enemy counter attack on our positions on Los Negros Island was repulsed and about 60 Japs killed. Our forces are reported in contact with the enemy around the beachhead perimeter.
 At 2015/1, enemy aircraft (probably about 4) were reported in the vicinity of Momote. This is the only report received to date of enemy counter air activity.
- (5) Hollandia - The night raid on Hollandia 28-29 Feb. referred to in Summary No. 763, was conducted by 13 Liberators between 0310 and 0510/29. Several small fires, not incendiaries, were seen burning as a result of the raid.
- (6) Tadji - At 1325/29, 7 enemy fighters attacked 2 photographic Lightnings over Tadji. One Lightning is missing.
- (7) Wewak - At 1810/29, an enemy bomber which had just landed on Wewak drome was caught and destroyed by 2 Lightnings on a sweep.
 At 1320/29, 3 naval vessels possibly including destroyers were observed by a Lightning 60 miles N.W. of Wewak heading S.E.
 At 0230/1, a Navy Catalina reported a 5-ship group including one or more escort vessels 43 miles N.W. of Wewak on a westerly or northerly course.
- (8) Hansa Bay - At 1600-1615/29, Nubia and Condor airfields were bombed by 17 Liberators escorted by 11 Kittyhawks.
 At 1140-1155/1 March, supply and camp areas also airfields were attacked by 38 Liberators, 24 Mitchells escorted by Kittyhawks. The target areas were well covered.
- (9) Madang-Alexishafen - At approx 1400/1, both airfields at Alexishafen and the airfield at Madang were bombed by 21 Vengeances escorted by 12 Kittyhawks.
- (10) Cape Ward Hunt - At 1500/29, a possible submarine was reported by aircraft off Cape Ward Hunt heading N.W.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/2:

- (1) "WARREGO" (PS) escorting "DUNTRON" departed Darwin 1351/29 for Thursday Island ETA 2330/2, and Townsville.
- (2) 18 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin: 815
 Escorts 2 AMS : "COOTANUNDRA" "FREMANTLE" 3 ML 429,809,
 Merchantmen 4 : "GOOLEBAR" "KAILUA" "MILDURA" "W. PROUSE"
 Groote Eylandt:
 Merchantmen 1 : "BABINDA"
 Melville Bay:
 Merchantmen ; : "SUVA"

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/2:

- (1) "SUSSEX" (CA) departed Fremantle 25 Feb. forecourt duties Indian Ocean.
- (2) "GAMBIA" (CL) proceeding Fremantle ETA 1530/2.
- (3) "YUMA" (AT) towing 1 ARD departed Melbourne 1740/20 for Fremantle ETA 0900/2 March.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	2 AMS	:	"DUBBO" "HORSHAM" 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	6	:	"GHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) 1 YP: 288

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) 1 YP:286
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B. SOUTH PACIFIC

ENEMY FORCES

New Caledonia - At 0705/1, an enemy submarine was reported by surface craft 260 miles S.W. of Noumea.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC

ENEMY FORCES

Carolines - At 1035/28, Ponape was bombed by 20 Liberators. Two small cargo vessels were observed in the Harbour.

Marshalls - On 28 and 29 Feb. moderate allied air raids were conducted on Tarca, Jaluit, Wotje and Mille while light raids were made on Rongelap and Utirik.

NAVAL INCIDENTS

N.W. New Guinea - On 22 Feb. a U.S. submarine reported sinking a 5,800 ton cargo vessel in the approaches to the N. coast ports of N.W. New Guinea. In the same area, two cargo ships aggregating about 11,000 tons were sunk on 29 Feb. and another of 3000 tons believed carrying ammunition was probably sunk.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE
I. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines
<u>BB</u>		-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CA</u>	AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CF</u>	BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	COLUMBIA ✓ CLEVELAND ✓ MONTPELLIER ✓ HONOLULU ✓ ST. LOUIS ✓ SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM ✓ * DENVER * LEANDER		
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	HERON HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER CONYNGHAM REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ	Approx 40	5	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines
	BALAO) BASHAW) CERO) FLOUNDER) GATO) PETO)	On Patrol	15	23
	DACE) SCAMP)	At Milne Bay		
	BLACKFISH) DARTER)	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	62	Approx 80	?	?
<u>APD/AKA</u>	H. T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 5 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	OTUS FULTON		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		1	1
<u>AR</u>	RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.) 167
 Light & M/Bombers 136
 SE/Bombers 7
 Flying Boats 1
 Floatplanes 25
 Obsn. a/c 22

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	DETROIT RALBIGH RICHMOND	ABUKUMA TAMA
<u>DD</u>	22	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES →

ENEMY FORCES

BB 18
INDIANA
NORTH CAROLINA
IOWA
NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON
CALIFORNIA
MASSACHUSETTS
SOUTH DAKOTA
WEST VIRGINIA

COLORADO
MARYLAND
TENNESSEE
MISSISSIPPI
NEW MEXICO
IDAHO
ALABAMA
PENNSYLVANIA
* OKLAHOMA

2 * YAMATO
MUTSU (prob. sunk)

CV 7
ENTERPRISE
YORKTOWN
LEXINGTON
SARATOGA
INTREPID
ESSEX
BUNKER HILL

ZUIKAKU (en route
Malayan
area)

(L) 7
COWPENS
BELLEAU WOOD
MONTEREY
PRINCETON

CABOT
LANGLEY
* INDEPENDENCE

HITAKA
HAYATAKA
RYUHO
TAIHO
* ZUIHO

CV(T)

HOSHO

CV(E) 25
SANGAMON
SUWANNEE
CHENANGO
CORAL SEA
BARNES
PRINCE WILLIAM
LONG ISLAND
~~MISSION BAY~~
NASSAU

COPAHEE
CORREGIDOR
ALTAMAHA
WHITE PLAINS
BRETON
~~RANGER~~
MIDWAY

CHIYODA
CHITOSE
JINYO
KAIYO
* OTAKA
* UNYO

CA
BALTIMORE
BOSTON
CHESTER
* CANBERRA
WICHITA
NEW ORLEANS
MINNEAPOLIS
PENSACOLA
INDIANAPOLIS
SAN FRANCISCO
SALT LAKE CITY
PORTLAND
LOUISVILLE

PATROLLER
FANSHAW BAY
CASABLANCA
* NATOMA BAY
* MANILA BAY
* KALININ BAY
~~...~~
* SANTEE
* KITKUN BAY
* GAMBIA BAY
* NEHENTA BAY
* HOGGATT BAY

KOGAMI
ASHIGARA
* MAYA

OCA
CL
-
* OAKLAND
* RENO
~~CONCORD~~
* BILLOXI
* SANTA FE
* SAN DIEGO
* SAN JUAN
* MOBILE
* BIRMINGHAM

3
YAHAGI
KISO
* NAGARA
* NATORI
* ISUZU

CL(T)
AV/CVS
DD
SS
AS
-
-
?
Approx 30
?

* KASHII
3
Approx 20
Approx 25
2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 765

Date 3rd March, 1944.

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/3:

- (1) "VENDETTA" (DD) was to depart Milne Bay 2nd March for Sydney.
- (2) "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900/1 to stand by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef, then taking over A/S patrol focal area outside China Strait. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMERIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (3) "GALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (4) "BOWEN" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 1042/29 for Egret Reef ETA 1700/1 thence Cairns; to render any assistance and investigate and report position of "OMAHA" aground on S. point Egret Reef.
- (5) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/2 for Thursday Is. ETA 1100/6.
- (6) "BUNGAREE" (CM) and "LATROBE" (AMS) departed Townsville in company at 1800/2, "BUNGAREE" for Normandy Sound and "LATROBE" for Thursday Is. ETA 0930/5. "LATROBE" for instruction and onward routing to Darwin.
- (7) "KATOOMBA" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (8) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) departed Brisbane 1555/2 ETA Port Moresby 0700/6.
- (9) "BUNBURY" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane at 0600/3 to carry out full calibre practice; on completion to depart Caloundra 1400/3 for Milne Bay ETA 1800/7.
- (10) "SC.749" departed Brisbane 2011/1 to relieve "SC.745" on Sandy Cape Patrol area, carrying out A/S patrol until relieved by "WHYALLA" at 1200/5, returning thence to Brisbane.
- (11) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Sydney 1359/2 for Port Moresby ETA 0800/8.
- (12) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1725/2 for Thursday Is. via Townsville ETA Townsville 1600/7.
- (13) "ROE" (DD) escorting "EURYALE" (AS) proceeding Brisbane ETA 1000/5.
- (14) "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" (AIS) departed Sydney 0909/2 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (15) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COWRA" intended to depart Brisbane after 2 March, after boiler cleaning for Milne Bay.
- (2) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March.
- (3) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.
- (4) "GOULBURN" to depart Sydney p.m. 4 March for Brisbane.

(c) In Harbor:

Tuam Is:
Escorts 1 AMS : "SHEPPARTON"

Saidor:
Merchantmen 2 : "R.P.WARNER" "COMARA"

Finschhafen:
Combat Units 41 PT :
2 PG : 1131, 1133
6 SC : 650, 732, 734, 735, 747, 750
2 YMS : 53, 73
4 ML : 428, 801, 803, 806
Auxiliaries 5 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "OCTANS" (AF)
"VICTORIA" (AO) 1 YP: 283
Merchantmen 19 : "F.P.BLAIR" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MAGTAN" "YOCHOW"
"J.DEERE" "J.ROLPH" "N. FULLER" "CAPE CLEAR"
"J. NICOLET" "W.B.ALLISON" "G.V.L.MEYER"
"W.ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY" "KLIPFONTEIN"
"A.THOMAS" "C.DARROW" "H.C.PAYNE" "A.D.WHITE".

Lae:
Escorts 1 YMS : 334
2 ML : 425, 431
Merchantmen 7 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "E.T.RAINEY" "F.BILLINGS"
"STAGEN" "PONCE" "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" "VAN
OUTHORN"

Buna:
Escorts 1 PS : "MORESEY" 3 YMS: 73, 313, 315
1 AMS : "EENALLA" 1 HDML: 1129
6 SC : 637, 648, 736, 737, 746, 748, 1 ML: 427
Auxiliaries 9 : "ELUR RIDGE" (AGC) "TRINITY" (AO) "GOLDSTAR"
(AG) "MIZAR" (AF) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)
"PING WO" "POYANG" (ASIS) 2 YP: 278, 280
Merchantmen 8 : "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR"
"D.E.HUGHES" "H.L.ABBOT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE"
"ESSO BAYONNE" "SIBIGO"

Oro Bay:
Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
: "W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT"
"W.BEAUMONT" "K.D.WIGGINS" "MANA"
"J.BURROUGHS" "J.P.BRADLEY" "GEO.LUKS"
"F.ALLEN" "B.MATTHEWS"

Kiriwina:
Combat Units 6 PT
Escorts 1 ML : 819
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILC" (PG)
Merchantmen 1 : "M. DALY"

Woodlark Is:
Escorts 1 YMS : 50
Merchantmen 1 : "VANDER LIJN"

Goodenough Is:
Merchantmen 4 : "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "M.GRIFFITH" "N.E.MACK"
"VAN SWOLL"

* Milne Bay:
Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
"BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
"HOBBY" "KALK" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES"
"REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON"
"SWANSON" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "THORNE"
"AENER READ" "ARUNTA"
23 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Milne Bay (Contd.) 1 PF : "GASCOYNE"
4 AMS : "ARARAT" "GLENELG" "BROOME" "CASTLEMAINE"
7 PC : 476, 479, 1119, 1121, 1122, 1124, 1134
8 SC : 698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 743, 750, 981

Milne Bay (contd).

Escorts.	8 YMS	:	11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 314, 335, 356
	5 ML	:	424, 430, 802, 816, 818 "GILMER"
Auxiliaries	20	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS"/(APD)
		:	"HAMILTON" "LONG" (DM) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
		:	"DOBBS" (AD) "AASE MAERSK" "BISHIPDALE"
		:	"SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "COUCAL" (ASR) "OTUS"
		:	"FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)
		:	"MERKUR" (AF) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYGUS" (ARL)
		:	"YUNNAN" (ASIS)
Merchantmen	79	:	"ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT"
		:	"E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "E.D.BAKER"
		:	"W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C."
		:	"S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "D.BELASCO"
		:	"S.BOLIVAR" "BONTEKOE" "S.BRANNON" "BOOTH"
		:	"J.COOK" "D.CROCKETT" "G.L.CURRY" "CAPE
		:	SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE PERPETUA" "J.W.DAVIS"
		:	"F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J.EARL"
		:	"S.EGERTON" "EMPIRE SLIVER" "ESSO HARRIS"
		:	BURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD"
		:	"M.FLINDERS" "HANYANG" "D.HEWES"
		:	"B.F.IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JANSSENS" "L.S.KELLY"
		:	"C.KELLY" "LAKE ORMAC" "W.S.LADD" "J.LIND"
		:	"MAETSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.McLENNAN"
		:	"GEO.LUKS" "B.MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE"
		:	"Z.LYKES" "I.McCOY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER"
		:	"CRIZABA" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE"
		:	"POLLUX" "A.ROBINSON" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS"
		:	"J.ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "N.J.SINNOTT"
		:	"O.SKINNER" "C.SPRECKERS" "M.M.STEWART"
		:	"THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M.WHITE"
		:	"VAN DEN BOSCH" "VAN DER LIJN" "VILLALOBOS"
		:	"M.WALKER" "F.A.WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS"
		:	"WICHITA FALLS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts	1 AMS	:	"BALLARAT"
	1 SC	:	741 1 ML: 426
Auxiliaries	2	:	"POLARIS" (AGS) "KURUMBA" (AO)
Merchantmen	7	:	"W.J.SUBJETTE" "S.BRANNON" "H.V.WHITE"
		:	"JACKSONVILLE" "TAROOMA" "S.G.PORTER"
		:	"OZARK"

Thursday Is:

Escorts	1 AMS	:	"INVERELL"
	1 SC	:	731

Cairns:

Combat Units	1 DD	:	"STUART"
Escorts	2 PF	:	"LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
	6 AMS	:	"ARARAT" "KALGOORLIE" "MILDURA"
		:	"ROCKHAMPTON" "STAWELL" "BUNDABERG"
	2 SC	:	703, 982 4ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
	3 PC	:	477, 1120, 1132, 6 YMS: 8, 46, 47, 48, 50, 393
Auxiliaries	3	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "EANIMELA" "MANOORA" (APA)
Townsville:		:	
Escorts	3 AMS	:	"KAPUNDA" "TOWNSVILLE" "WAGGA" 1 ML: 817
Auxiliaries		:	"HALF MOON" (AVP)
Palm Island:		:	
Auxiliaries		:	
Mackay:		:	
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
Brisbane:		:	
Escorts	1 PS	:	"SWAN"
	4 AMS	:	"COWRA" "GOULBURN" "GYMPIE" "WHYALLA"
		:	1 SC: 745 2 YMS: 9, 10
	3 ML	:	808, 821, 827
Auxiliaries	5	:	"FYRO" (AE) "ALCORAB" (AKS) "MESQUITE"
		:	(CGC) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
	2 CL	:	"HOBART" "BOISE"
	1 DE	:	"GRISWOLD"
	1 PF	:	"BARCOO" 3 ML: 812, 822, 823
	6 AMS	:	"ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "COLAC" "WARRNAMBOOL"
		:	"GLADSTONE" "DELORAINÉ"
	3 A/S	:	"KYBRA" "YANDRA" "DOOMBA"

Sydney (contd).

Auxiliaries 2 : "WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AB)
Melbourne:
Escorts 1 YMS : "LITHGOW" 2 ML:824, 826
Adelaide:
Escorts 1 AMS : "GEEELONG" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Buin Base - At 1120/1 Kahili was bombed by 21 Liberators and at 1145/1 Ballale was bombed by 12 Lightnings. These targets were alternative to Rabaul which could not be reached due bad weather.
- (2) Empress August Bay - At 1115-1355/29 enemy ground positions on the central and southern shores of Empress August Bay were bombed by 90 Dauntless and 45 Avengers.
P.M. 1 March, Jap troop concentrations outside the N.E. Sector of the Torokina perimeter were bombed by 110 Dauntless and 71 Avengers in eight waves.
At 1730/1 the Monoitu Mission (on the supply road midway between Buin and Marawaka) was bombed and strafed by 12 Aircobras.
- (3) Buka - At 1700/1 aircraft reported a possible gunboat in Queen Carola Harbour.
- (4) S. New Ireland - A.m. 29 Feb. Corsairs and Hellcats made four barge sweeps around the East and West coast of Southern New Ireland, damaging or destroying five barges and three small craft.
One large barge carrying an estimated 80 troops was strafed off Halis Plantation and approx. 30 personnel were thought killed.
- (5) Rabaul - Light and medium bomber strikes on Rabaul 29 February were cancelled due to weather but 23 Mitchells, 12 Lightnings with 8 Corsairs covering bombed the waterfron and the Eastern shore of Simpson Harbour. Large fires resulted.
- (6) Gasmata - At 1210 - 1225/1, Gasmata strip was bombed and strafed by 6 Kittyhawks. An unserviceable fighter on the ground was further damaged by a near miss.
- (7) Arawe Area - On 29 Feb. our advanced elements reached the West bank of the Pulie River (approx 5 miles N.E. of Arawe airfield).
Next day, following artillery bombardment a fresh landing was made by our troops 3 miles East of the Pulie River mouth near Murien without opposition. Westward progress of this unit was delayed by mines but the enemy had apparently vacated prepared positions.
- (8) Admiralty Islands - A.m. 1 March, Lorengau township and other designated targets on Manus and Los Negros Islands were attacked by 10 Liberators and 24 Mitchells (escorted).
The same targets were again attacked approx. 1800/1 by another 6 Mitchells.
Preliminary reports also indicate that enemy positions West of Momote airfield were also bombarded by naval units 1 March.
Further details concerning the enemy counter attack at 0400/1 state that 100 Japs were killed and not approximately 60 as previously reported. During the following night, two enemy attacks were repulsed also another daylight attack prior to 0900/2 at which time our perimeter was still intact.
Despite intermittent mortar fire further allied reinforcements were landed and unloaded a.m. 2 March. Our losses are reported moderate. At 1500/2, preliminary reports indicate that the entire Momote airfield area is in the control of our ground forces, following a ground assault p.m. 2 March supported by 8 Squadrons of escorted Mitchells. Some enemy air opposition was apparently encountered.
- (9) Hollandia - At 0900/2, an enemy convoy comprising 6-7 ships including two tankers and two or three escorts was reported approx. 180 miles North of Manokwari on course 140°, possibly bound for Hollandia (see Naval Incidents).
- (10) Mindjim Valley - Supporting our ground troops enemy positions at Saipa No.2 were divebombed and strafed by 16 Aircobras at 1040-1100/1.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/3:

- (1) "WARREGO" (PS) escorting "DUNTROON" departed Darwin 1351/29 for Thursday Is. ETA 2330/2 and Townsville.
(2) 18 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts 2 AMS : "COOTAMUNDRA" "FREMANTLE" 3 ML 429, 809, 815
Merchantmen 4 : "COOLEBAR" "KAILUA" "MILDURA" "W. PROUSE"
Groote Eylandt:
Merchantmen 1 : "BABINDA"
Melville Bay:
Merchantmen 1 : "SUVA"

SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/3:

- (1) "RANEE" (CVE) proceeding Fremantle ETA not known.
(2) "YP 286" departed Exmouth Gulf 2045/2 for Fremantle ETA 6 March.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units 2 CL : "ADELAIDE" "GAMBIA"
Escorts 2 AMS : "DUBBO" "HORSHAM" 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries 9 : "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK"
"WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS)
1 YP:288 1 AT: "YUMA" 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries 2 : "CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)

NAVAL INCIDENTS

- (1) Carolines - New Guinea: On 2nd., Feb., a U.S. submarine attacked a 6 or 7 ship convoy approximately 180 miles north of Manolewari on course 140°. The convoy included two tankers but other units were unidentified. Two or probably three torpedo hits were claimed but no sinkings resulted.
- (2) Malaya Area - Admiralty has announced that a British submarine recently sank a 7,000 ton aircraft carrier in the Malacca straits (between Malay and Sumatra). Several torpedo hits were scored including one hit amidships. A terrific explosion followed after which the carrier heeled over and sank. Another submarine torpedoed an enemy cruiser in the same area, with unobserved results, besides sinking a sup ship and a small coastal craft.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES.

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
(2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
(3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
(4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
(5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CA</u>	AUSTRALIA SHRCP SHIRE	-	-	ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM * DENVER * LEANDER	-	NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	HERON HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER CONYNGHAM REID SMITH AMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ	Approx 40	5	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines
<u>SS</u>	BALAO BLACKFISH FLCUNDER GATO PETO BASHAW DACE SCAMP CERO DARTER K.9	) ) ) On Patrol)))) At Milne Bay))) At Brisbane) At Sydney	15	25
<u>PT</u>	62	Approx 80	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 5 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	OTUS FULTON		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		1	1
<u>AR</u>	RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.) 161
 Light & M/Bombers 136
 SE/Bombers TB *← D/Bombers* 7
 Flying Boats 1
 Floatplanes 25
 Obsn. A/c 22

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	ABUKUMA TAMA
<u>DD</u>	22	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	INDIANA	COLORADO	KONGO
	NORTH CAROLINA	MARYLAND	HARUNA
	IOWA	TENNESSEE	* YAMATO
	NEW JERSEY	MISSISSIPPI	MUTSU (prob. sunk)
	WASHINGTON	NEW MEXICO	
	CALIFORNIA	IDAHO	
	MASSACHUSETTS	ALABAMA	
	SOUTH DAKOTA	PENNSYLVANIA	
	WEST VIRGINIA	* OKLAHOMA	

<u>CV</u>	ENTERPRISE		ZUIKAKU
	YORKTOWN		
	LEXINGTON		
	SARATOGA		
	INTREPID		
	ESSEX		
	BUNKER HILL		

<u>CV(L)</u>	COWPENS	CABOT	HITAKA
	BELLEAU WOOD	LANGLEY	HAYATAKA
	MONTEREY	* INDEPENDENCE	RYUHO
	PRINCETON		TAIHO
			* ZUIHO

<u>CV(T)</u>	-		HOSHO
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<u>CV(E)</u>	SANGAMON	COPAHEE	CHIYODA
	SUWANNEE	CORREGIDOR	CHITOSE
	CHENANGO	ALTAMAHA	JINYO
	CORAL SEA	WHITE PLAINS	KAIYO
	PRINCE WILLIAM	MIDWAY	* OTAKA
	LONG ISLAND	PATROLLER	* UNYO
	NASSAU	FANSHAW BAY	
	MISSION BAY		

<u>CA</u>	BALTIMORE		MOGAMI
	BOSTON		ASHIGARA
	CHESTER		* MAYA
	CANBERRA		
	WICHITA		
	NEW ORLEANS		
	MINNEAPOLIS		
	PENSACOLA		
	INDIANAPOLIS		
	SAN FRANCISCO		
	SALT LAKE CITY		
	PORTLAND		
	LOUISVILLE		

<u>OCA</u>	-		3
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<u>CL</u>	OAKLAND		YAHAGI
	* RENO		KISO
	* CONCORD		* NAGARA
			* NATORI
			* ISUZU

<u>L(T)</u>	-		* KASHII
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<u>AV/CVS</u>	-		3
<u>DD</u>	?		Approx 20
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30		Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?		2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific (Western Section) Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines

BB - QUEEN ELIZABETH NAGATO (poss. Carolines)
VALIANT ISE
RENOWN HYUGA
FUSO
YAMASHIRO

CV - ILLUSTRIOUS SHOKAKU

CV(E) RANEE BATTLER -
UNICORN
SHAH

CA SUSSEX SUFFOLK AOBA
HAWKINS KUMANO
FROBISHER SUZUYA
TONE
CHIKUMA

CL ADELAIDE CEYLON YUBARI
GAMBIA KENYA TATSUTA
NEWCASTLE KINU
EMERALD OI
DANAE * KITAGAMI
TROMP

AV/CVS CHILDS VAN HEEMSKERK * KAMO I
W.B. PRESTON ALBATROSS

XCL - CANTON -
CHITRAL

XAV/XCVS - ? 1

DD - Approx 27 25

SS ANGLER LAPON) ? 17 (incl. 6 German)
BILLFISH POMPOM)
BONEFISH PUFFER)
BLUEFISH MORWHAL) On Patrol
BOWFIN RASHER)
CABRILLA RATON)
COD RAY)
GUNNEL ROBALO)
HOE)
JACK)

K.12)
CREVALLE)
FLASHER)
HADDO) At Fremantle
HAKE)
REDFIN)
K.15)

AS PELIAS
ORION

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng/) 112 111
Light & M/Bombers 39 57
SE/Bombers -
Flying Boats 3
Floatplanes 61
Obsn. A/c 26

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 766

Date 4th March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/4:

- (1) "HILO" (AGP) departed Milne Bay 1500/2 for Buna ETA 1100/5.
- (2) "GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 1700/3 to RV with a U.S. submarine and escort to Milne Bay.
- (3) "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900/1 to stand by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef, then taking over A/S patrol focal area outside China Strait. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (4) "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "WICHITA FALLS" departed Milne Bay 0515/3 for Townsville ETA 0500/6.
- (5) "BROOME" (?) (AMS) escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" was to depart Milne Bay 1000/4 for Townsville.
- (6) "VENDETTA" (DD) escorting "CAPE PERPETUA" en route Milne Bay to Brisbane and Sydney.
- (7) "BOWEN" (AMS) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (8) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/2 for Thursday Is. ETA 1100/6.
- (9) "KALGOORLIE" departed Cairns 1403/13 to relieve "K ATOOMBA" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.
- (10) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) departed Brisbane 1555/2 ETA Port Moresby 0700/6.
- (11) "PIRIE" escorting Convoy TN.225 (4 MV) departed Townsville 0026/4. "BUNDABERG" (ex Cairns), "KALGOORLIE" RV off Fitzroy Is. as additional escort to Milne Bay ETA 1100/8.
- (12) "INVERELL" escorting Convoy TD.45 (3 MV) departed Thursday Is. 1623/3 for Darwin.
- (13) "SC.731" departed Townsville 1600/3 for Thursday Is.
- (14) "BUNBURY" (AMS) en route Brisbane to Milne Bay ETA 1800/7.
- (15) "SC.749" departed Brisbane 2011/1 to relieve "SC.745" on Sandy Cape patrol area, carrying out A/S patrol until relieved by "WHYALLA" at 1200/5 returning thence to Brisbane.
- (16) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Sydney 1359/2 for Port Moresby ETA 0800/8.
- (17) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1725/2 for Thursday Is. via Townsville ETA Townsville 1600/7.
- (18) "ROE" (DD) escorting "EURYALE" (AS) proceeding Brisbane ETA 1000/5.
- (19) "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" (ASIS) departed Sydney 0909/2 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (20) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COWRA" intended to depart Brisbane after 2 March, after boiler cleaning for Milne Bay.
- (2) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 Mar.
- (3) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.

- (4) "GOULBURN" to depart Sydney p.m. 4 March for Brisbane.
 (5) "PYRO" (AE) to depart Brisbane 1400/4 for Townsville ETA 0700/7, for onward routing and escort to Milne Bay.
 (6) "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" (PF) escorting "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) to depart Cairns 1800/4 for Milne Bay.

(c) In Harbour:

Tuam Is:

Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Saidor:
 Merchantmen 2 : "R.F.WARNER" "COMARA"
Finschhafen:
 Combat Units 40 PT :
 Escorts 2 PC : 1131, 1133
 6 SC : 650, 732, 734, 735, 747, 750
 5 YMS : 50, 53, 72, 73, 334
 4 ML : 428, 801, 803, 806
 Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)
 "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) 1 YP: 283
 Merchantmen 18 : "F.F.BLAIR" "BOGEFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN"
 "YOCCHOW" "J.DEERE" "J.ROLPH" "M.FULLER" "CAPE
 CLEAR" "J.NICOLET" "W.B.ALLISON" "G.V.L.MEYER"
 "W.ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY" "A.THOMAS"
 "C.DARROW" "H.C.PAYNE" "AD.WHITE"

Lae:

Escorts 9 ML : 425, 431
 Merchantmen 4 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" "PONCE"
 "STAGEN"

Buna:

Escorts 10 : "BENALLA" (AMS) 2 PC: 479, 1134 1 ML: 427
 6 SC: 637, 748, 736, 737, 746, 748
 Auxiliaries 10 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "TRINITY" (AO) "GOLDSTAR"
 (AG) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF) "CARTER
 HALL" (LSD) "MORESEY" (AGS) "POYANG" (ASIS)
 2 YP: 278, 280
 Merchantmen 10 : "J.ALLEN" "CAPE BON" "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT"
 "M.C.KERR" "D.E.HUGHES" "H.L.ABBOTT" "SIBIGO"
 "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "ESSO BAYONNE"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
 Merchantmen 12 : "W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT"
 "W.BEAUMONT" "K.D.WIGGINS" "MANA" "GEO.LUKS"
 "J.BURRUGHS" "J.P.BRADLEY" "H.T.RAINEY"
 "B.MATTHEWS" "VAN SWOIL"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 1 : ML.819
 Merchantmen 1 : "M.DALY"
Goodenough Is:
 Merchantmen 3 : "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "M.GRIFFITH" "N.E.MACK"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACH"
 "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "HOBBEY" "KALK"
 "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER"
 "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
 "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "THORNE" "ABNER READ"
 "ARUNTA"
 36 PT
 Escorts 1 PF : "GASCOYNE"
 1 AMS : "ARARAT"
 5 PC : 476, 1119, 1121, 1122, 1124
 8 SC : 698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 743, 750, 981
 10 YMS : 11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 313, 314, 315, 335, 336
 5 ML : 424, 430, 802, 816, 818
 Auxiliaries 19 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" (APD) "LONG"
 "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP)
 "DOBBIN" (AD) "AASE NAERSE" "BISHOPDALE" (AO)
 "OTUS" "FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA"
 (APA) "MIZAR" "MERKUR" (AF) "KOOPA" (AGP)
 "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS)

*-Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay Not shown.

Milne Bay (Contd.)
Merchantmen

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: "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G. ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "E.D. BAKER" "W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K. BARLOW" "R.S. BEAN" "D. BELASCO" "F. BILLINGS" "S. BOLIVAR" "BONTEKOE" "S. BRANNON" "BOTH" "J. COOK" "D. CROCKETT" "G.L. CURRY" "CAPE SAN ANTONIO" "J.W. DAVIS" "F.H. DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J. EARL" "S. EGERTON" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "L. FAIRCHILD" "M. FLINDERS" "HANYANG" "D. HEWES" "B.F. IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JACKSONVILLE" "JANSSENS" "L.S. KELLY" "O. KELLY" "KLIPFONTEIN" "LAKE ORMAC" "W.S. LADD" "J. LIND" "MARTSON" "J.S. MAN SFIELD" "W. McLENNAN" "B. MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "Z. LYKES" "I. McCOY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "MULIANA" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "POLLUX" "A. ROBINSON" "ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS" "J. ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "N. J. SINNOTT" "O. SKINNER" "C. SPRECKERS" "M.M. STEWART" "THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M. WHITE" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "VAN DER LIJN" "VAN OUTHOORN" "VILLALOBOS" "M. WALKER" "F.A. WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 3 : "BALLARAT" (AMS) 1 SC: 741 1 ML: 426
Auxiliaries 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "KURUMBA" (AO)
Merchantmen 6 : "W.J. SUBJETTE" "S. BRANNON" "H.V. WHITE"
"PAROONA" "S.G. PORTER" "OZARK"

Cairns:

Combat Units 1 DD : "STUART"
Escorts 22 : "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" (PF)
"ARARAT" "MILDURA" "ROCKHAMPTON" "STAWELL"
"BUNDABERG" (AMS) 2 SC: 703, 982
4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 3 PC: 477, 1120, 113
6 YMS: 8, 46, 47, 48, 50, 393

Auxiliaries
Townsville:

3 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "KANIMELA" "MANOORA" (APA)
Escorts 6 : "WARREGO" (PS) "KAPUNDA" "TOWNSVILLE" "PIRIE"
"WAGGA" (AMS) 1 ML: 817

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Escorts 11 : "SWAN" (PS) "COWRA" "GOULBURN" "GYMPIE"
"WHYALLA" (AMS) 1 SC: 745 2 YMS: 9, 10
3 ML: 808, 821, 827

Auxiliaries

5 : "PYRO" (AE) "ALGORAE" (AKS) "MESQUITE" (CGC)
"SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CA : "AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
2 CL : "HOBART" (") "BOISE"
1 DE : "GRISWOLD"
Escorts 1 PF : "BARCOO" 3 ML: 812, 822, 823
6 AMS : "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "COLAC" "WARRNAMBOOL"
"GLADSTONE" "DELORAINÉ"
3 A/S : "EYRA" "YANDRA" "DOOMBA"
2 : "WANGANILLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH)
Auxiliaries 3 : "LITHGOW" (AMS) 2 ML: 824, 826
Melbourne:
Escorts 3 : "LITHGOW" (AMS) 2 ML: 824, 826
Adelaide:
Escorts 1 : "GEELONG" (AMS) (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

(1) S.W. Bougainville - During the night 1-2 March, 3 enemy barges near the Puriata River mouth were contacted by PT boats. One was completely destroyed, another left on fire and sinking but the third apparently escaped to the south.

During 2 Mar. enemy positions in the Mosiga area were bombarded by 2 destroyers.

(2) Kavieng - Photos 1015/2 show 6 barges in the Harbour. Coverage of Kavieng and Panapai airfields shows the former possibly serviceable for 2700 ft. with 4 fighters, 2 medium bombers present and the latter unserviceable with no aircraft present.

(3) Adler Bay (E. Coast New Britain) - At 1630/2, the radar station at Adler Bay was attacked by 12 Dauntless, 6 Avengers led in by a Ventura. Photos show 5 hits in the radar clearing but the installation was apparently still standing.

(4) Rabaul - During the night 29 Feb.-1 Mar. PT boats operating off Rabaul badly damaged or possibly sank 3 barges of a 6 barge convoy: 2 of the barges were noticed to be carrying troops. The barges were apparently unarmed.

On 2 March, the air offensive against Rabaul was resumed. At 1030/2, shipping and installations in N.W. Keravia Bay were attacked by 47 Dauntless, 24 Avengers escorted by 39 Warhawks and Corsairs. Hits were scored on an A/A position, amongst some 30 barges, on 2 small cargo ships and in addition 16 rocket hits were reported on a small escort vessel. At 1040-1050/2, Rabaul town was hit with 96 tons of bombs from 20 Liberators, 12 Mitchells, while Rapopo was bombed by 11 other Mitchells, 5 Corsairs; 8 Hellcats escorted. At 1100/2, Rabaul town was again hit with 6½ tons bombs from 14 Lightnings. Photographs at 1215/2, show a total of 136 hits N.E. Rabaul area, 50 buildings destroyed and Chinatown area gutted with large fires still burning.

Photos 0915-0935/2 show:

Aircraft &

<u>Airfields:</u>	Lakumai	:	11 F.	(10 poss.unserviceable)	?
	Vunakanau	:	-	22 D/B.	2 M/B Serviceable
	Tobera	:	26 F.	-	"
	Rapopo	:	-	1 D/B	1 M/B "
	Karavat	:	Nil		Unserviceable

Harbour:

2 submarines
2 subchasers
12 small freighters (100-175 feet)
Approx 400 barges
9 floatplanes
1 flying boat

(5) Gasmata - At 1100-1115/2, roads in the Gasmata area were bombed by 18 Beauforts and 12 Kittyhawks.

(6) Admiralty Islands - Further details concerning the enemy air opposition to our attacking Mitchells and Bostons (respectively 40 and 16 aircraft) approx 15 enemy fighters were seen and of these the Thunderbolts escorting shot down 7 and probably shot down another 4. In addition, the Mitchells shot down one fighter and a supply-dropping Fortress destroyed one more.

Enemy installations on Los Negros and Manus Islands were apparently also bombarded 2 March by allied destroyers.

Incomplete reports indicate that p.m. 3 March, enemy positions in the area were again attacked by Bostons and Mitchells while destroyers also bombarded.

Latest reports late p.m. 3 March, indicate that the perimeter position is unchanged and that there had been no enemy air activity.

(7) Hansa Bay - At midday 2 March, aerodromes at Hansa Bay were attacked by 32 Liberators escorted by Kittyhawks and Thunderbolts. 6-8 enemy fighters were encountered and one was destroyed and another damaged.

At 1330/3, incomplete reports relate that A/A positions at Hansa Bay were again attacked by a substantial formation of Liberators.

(8) Madang-Alexishafen - At 1050/2, Kurum Mission on Karkar Island was attacked by 24 Vengeances escorted by 12 Kittyhawks.

At 1130/2, A/A positions at Alexishafen No. 2 strip were bombed by 6 Liberators.

(9) Pommern Bay - At 1115/3, Mindiri Village and Mission and Herwarth Pt. were bombed and strafed by 24 Vengeances and 13 Kittyhawks.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/4:

(1) 18 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" "FREMANTLE" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	:	"COOLEBAR" "KAILUA" "MILDURA" "W. PROUSE"
<u>Groote Eylandt:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"BABINDA"
<u>Melville Bay:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"SUVA"

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/4:

- (1) "RANEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Fremantle ETA p.m. 6 March.
- (2) "YP.286" departed Exmouth Gulf 2045/2 for Fremantle ETA 6 March.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	2 CL	:	"ADELAIDE" "GAMBIA"
Escorts	3	:	"DUBEO" "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	9	:	"CHANICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT) 1 YP: 288 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)
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B. INDIAN OCEAN

ENEMY FORCES

X Night 3 Mar. a British merchant ship reported being torpedoed approx 340 miles S.S.W. of Colombo.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls - On 1 March, Wotje was raided by 10 Liberators, Taroa by 7 Liberators and Mille by 5 Liberators, 2 Mitchells. Slight A/A was encountered at Mille but none over Taroa and Wotje.

Wake Island - Midday 29 Feb. Wake Island was raided by aircraft and complete surprise effected to the extent that gun covers were still on when the aircraft passed over the target. Six planes were seen on the ground and all were strafed and possibly destroyed.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY
PART II
ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CA</u>	AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX x HOEART	COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS SAN DIEGO MOBILE x BIRMINGHAM x DENVER x LEANDER	-	NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	HERON HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBAY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THOEN ABNER READ	Approx 40	5	20 (some repairing)

xv Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines
<u>SS</u>	BALAO) BLACKFISH) FLOUNDER) On Patrol GATO) PETO)		15	25
	BASHAW) DACE) At Milne Bay SCAMP)			
	CERO) DARTER) At Brisbane K.9 At Sydney			
<u>PT</u>	70	Approx 80 -	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	H. T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS JUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 5 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	OTUS FULTON		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		1	1
<u>AR</u>	RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.)	152		
	Light & M/Bombers	124		
	SE/Bombers	7		
	Flug Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	23		
	Obsn. A/c	22		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	ABUKUMA TAMA
<u>DP</u>	22	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA OKLAHOMA	KONGO HARUNA * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk) M
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<u>CV</u>	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		ZUIKAKU
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<u>V(L)</u>	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	HITAKA HAYATAKA RYUHO TAIHO * ZUIHO
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<u>CV(T)</u>	-		HOSHO
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<u>CV(E)</u>	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA LONG ISLAND PRINCE WILLIAM NASSAU MISSION BAY	COPAHEE CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA WHITE PLAINS MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSEAW BAY	CHIYODA CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
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<u>CA</u>	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE		MOGAMI ASHIGARA * MAYA
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<u>OCA</u>	-		3
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<u>CL</u>	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD		YAHAGI KISO * HAGARA * HATORI * ISUZU
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<u>CL(T)</u>	-		* KASHII
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<u>AV/CVS</u>	-		3
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<u>DD</u>	*		Approx 20
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30		Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?		2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

MOST SECRET
4th March, 1944

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	NAGATO (poss. Carolines) ISE HYUGA FUSO YAMASHIRO
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	SHOKAKU
<u>CV (E)</u>	RANEE	BATTLER UNICORN SHAH	-
	SUSSEX	SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER	AGBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE GAMBIA	CEYLON KENYA NEWCASTLE EMERALD DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK	YUBARI TATSUTA KINU OI # KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	# KAMOI
<u>XCL</u>	-	CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	1
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx 27	25
<u>SS</u>	ANGLER BILLFISH BONEFISH BLUEFISH BOWFIN COD GUNNEL HADDO	HOE JACK LAPON POMPOM PUFFER NORWHAL RASHER RATON RAY ROBALO	Approx 15 17 (incl. 6 German)
	CABRILLA CREVALLE FLASHER HAKE REDFIN K.12 K.15	) At Fremantle	
<u>AS</u>	PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng.) 111
 Light & M/Bombers 57
 SE/Bombers -
 Flying Boats 3
 Floatplanes 61
 Obsn. A/c 26

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 767

Date 5th March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/5:

- X (1) "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" (PF) escorting "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Cairns 1800/4 for Milne Bay.
- (2) "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900/1 to stand by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef, then taking over A/S patrol focal area outside China Strait. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (3) "BUNDABERG" "KALGOORLIE" "PIRIE" escorting Convoy TN.225 (4 MV) to Milne Bay ETA 1100/8.
- (4) "SC.744" escorting "BOTH" departed Milne Bay 0700/4 for Port Moresby ETA 1400/5.
- (5) "BALLARAT" escorting "KURUMBA" (AO) departed Port Moresby 1915/4 for Cairns ETA 1915/6.
- (6) "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "WICHITA FALLS" departed Milne Bay 0515/3 for Townsville ETA 0500/6.
- (7) "BROOME" (AMS) escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" departed Milne Bay 1210/4 for Townsville ETA Grafton Passage 0900/6.
- (8) "KATOOMBA" was to depart Townsville 0800/5 for Sydney ETA 2200/9.
- (9) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (AMS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (10) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/2 for Thursday Is. ETA 1100/6.
- (11) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) departed Brisbane 1555/2 ETA Port Moresby 0700/6.
- (12) "TOWNSVILLE" (ex Townsville) conducting A/S patrol outer Grafton Passage.
- (13) "BUNBURY" (AMS) en route Brisbane to Townsville ETA 0900/6.
- (14) "SC.749" departed Brisbane 2011/1 to relieve "SC.745" on Sandy Cape patrol area, carrying out A/S patrol until relieved by "WHYALLA" at 1200/5, returning thence to Brisbane.
- (15) "WHYALLA" was to depart Brisbane 2100/4 to relieve "SC.749" on A/S patrol Sandy Cape area. "SC.749" to return Brisbane.
- (16) "COLAC" (AMS) departed Sydney 0910/4 for A/S patrol to Sandy Cape and return.
- (17) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Sydney 1359/2 for Port Moresby ETA 0800/8.
- (18) "GOULBURN" was to depart Sydney for Milne Bay at 1600/4.
- (19) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1725/2 for Thursday Is. via Townsville ETA Townsville 1600/7.
- (20) "ML's 824, 812, 826" en route Fremantle departed Adelaide 2035/3.
- (21) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COWRA" intended to depart Brisbane after 2 March, after boiler cleaning for Milne Bay.
- (2) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March.
- (3) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.

(c) In Harbour:

Tuam Is:
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Saïdor:
Escorts 2 : 1 SC:748 1 PC:1119
Merchantmen 3 : "R.P.WARNER" "COMARA" "WATCHER"
Onschhafen:
Combat Units 40 PT
Escorts 17 : 2 PC:1151, 1133 3 YMS: 50, 53, 72
8 SC: 650, 732, 734, 735, 737, 746, 747, 750
4 ML: 423, 801, 803, 806
Auxiliaries 7 : "FORTUNUS" "OYSTER" "BAY" (AGP) "OCTANS" (AF)
"COUGAL" (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA"
(AO) 1 YP:283
Merchantmen 18 : "J.ALLEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCHOW"
"J.DERRE" "J.RCLPH" "M.FULLER" "CAPE CLEARE"
"J.NICOLET" "W.B.ALLISON" "G.V.L.MEYER"
"W.ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY" "A.THOMAS"
"C.DARROW" "H.C.PAYNE" "A.D.WHITE"
Lae:
Escorts 1 : ML.425
Merchantmen 3 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" "SIBIGO"
Suna:
Escorts 8 : "RENALLA" (AMS) 2 PC: 479, 1132 2 YMS:73,334
3 SC: 637, 736, 748
Auxiliaries 10 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "HILO" (AGP)
"TRINITY" (AO) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL"
(LSD) "MORESEY" (AGS) "POYANG" (ASIS)
2 YP: 278, 280
Merchantmen 9 : "CAPE BON" "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR"
"D.E.HUGHES" "H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE"
"ESSO BAYONNE" "ALCIBIADES"
Oro Bay:
Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 12 : "W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "MANA"
"W.BEAUMONT" "K.D.WIGGINS" "GEO.LUKS" "STAGEN"
"J.BURROUGHS" "J.F.ERADLEY" "H.T.RAINEY"
"B.MATTHEWS"
Woodlark Is:
Merchantmen 1 : "VAN DER LIJN"
Kiriwina:
Escorts 1 : ML.819
Merchantmen 2 : "M.DALY" "W.E.MACK"
Goodenough Is:
Merchantmen 2 : "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "M.GRIFETH"
* Milne Bay:
Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
2 GL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
"BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
"HOBBEY" "KALK" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES"
"REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON"
"SWANSON" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "THORNE"
"ABNER READ" "ARUNPA"
Escorts 36 PT
1 PF : "GASCOYNE"
2 AMS : "ARARAT" "GLENELG"
4 PC : 476, 1121, 1122, 1124
8 SC : 698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 743, 750, 981
10 YMS : 11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 313, 314, 315, 335, 336
7 ML : 424, 427, 430, 431, 802, 816, 818
Auxiliaries 18 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (APD)
"LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON"
(AVP) "AASE MAERSK" "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OTUS"
"FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)
"KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS)
"GOLD STAR" (AF)

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Milne Bay (Contd.)
Merchantmen

72

: "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G. ACHESON"
"ARANSAS PASS" "E.D. BAKER" "W.B. AYER"
"J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K. EARLOW" "R.S.
BEAN" "F. BILLINGS" "F.P. BLAIR" "S. BOLIVAR"
"BONTEKOE" "S. BRANNON" "J. COOK" "D. CROCKETT"
"G.L. CURRY" "CAPE SAN ANTONIO" "J.W. DAVIS"
"F.H. DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J. EARL" "ESSO
HARRISBURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "L. FAIRCHILD"
"M. FLINDERS" "HANYANG" "D. HEWES" "B.F. IRVINE"
"ISOLATOR" "JACKSONVILLE" "JANSSENS" "L.S.
KELLY" "C. KELLY" "KLIPFONTEIN" "LAKE ORMAC"
"W.S. LADD" "J. LIND" "Z. LYKES" "MAETSON"
"J.S. MANSFIELD" "W. McLENNAN" "B. MATTHEWS"
"MORMACDALE" "I. McCOY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST
FARMER" "MULLIAMA" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL
REVERE" "POLLUX" "PONCE" "A. ROBINSON"
"ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS" "J. ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL"
"N.J. SINNOTT" "O. SKINNER" "C. SPRECKERS" "M.M.
STEWART" "THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M. WHITE"
"VAN DEN BOSCH" "VAN OUTHOORN" "VAN SWOLL"
"VILLALOBOS" "M. WALKER" "F.A. WARDELL"
"WEST TEXAS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 2 : 1 SC:741 1 ML:426
Auxiliaries 1 : "POLARIS" (AGS)
Merchantmen 6 : "W.B. SUBJETTE" "S. BRANNON" "H.V. WHITE"
"S.G. PORTER" "OZARK" "ORMISTON"

Cairns:

Combat Units 1 DD : "STUART"
Escorts 21 : "ARARAT" "BOWEN" "MILDURA" "ROCKHAMPTON"
"STAWELL" (AMS) 3 SC: 703, 731, 982
4 ML:804, 805, 811, 820
3 PC:477, 1120, 1132
6 YMS: 8, 46, 47, 48, 50, 393
Auxiliaries 1 : "PLATYPUS" (AR)

Townsville:

Combat Units 1 DD : "VENDETTA"
Escorts 4 : "WARREGO" (PS) "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA" (AMS)
1 ML: 817

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Combat Units 1 DD : "ROE"
Escorts 9 : "SWAN" (PS) "GOWRA" "GYMPIE" (AMS) 1 SC: 745
2 YMS: 9, 10 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
Auxiliaries 6 : "EURYALE" (AS) "PYRO" (AE) "ALGCRAB" (AKS)
"MESQUITE" (CGC) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CA : "AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
2 CL : "HOBART" (") "BOISE"
1 DE : "GRISWOLD"
Escorts 12 : "BARCOO" (PF) "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "WARRNAMBOOL"
"GLADSTONE" "DELORAINIE" (AMS) 2 ML: 822, 823
"KYBRA" "YANDRA" "DOOMEA" "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN"
(A/S)
Auxiliaries 3 : "WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH)
"GANYMEDIE" (AK)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITHGOW"

Adelaide:

Escorts 1 AMS : "GEELONG" (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Solomons-Eastern Bismarcks - It is estimated that on 4 March, 6-7 Japanese submarines were operating in and around Solomons-Eastern Bismarcks. All these units appear to be engaged on transportation missions with the exception probably of one, which may be patrolling off the New Georgia area. In addition, one or more units are estimated to be engaged on supply runs direct from Truk to the Buin area.

- (2) Rabaul - Weather hampered scheduled air strikes on Rabaul 3 March but at 1025/3, Simpson Harbour area was bombed by 48 Dauntless, 24 Avengers with 36 fighters escorting. The Harbour area was again bombed at 1058/3 by 24 Mitchells and at 1103/3 by 20 Liberators. All results were unobserved.
36 Corsairs, Hellcats conducted barge sweeps around the Rabaul and Southern New Ireland coast a.m. 3 March. Four launches were strafed.
- (3) Admiralty Islands - During the night 3-4 March and a.m. 4 March, the enemy continued vigorous attacks against our Momote perimeter but at 1800/4, the perimeter was still intact. A total of 700 enemy dead have been counted; our casualties to date total 61 killed, 244 wounded.
During 4 March, enemy aircraft dropped 2 bombs in the Momote air strip area without inflicting damage.
Supporting our ground forces, assigned enemy targets on Los Negros Island were attacked 1200-1300/4 by 12 Mitchells, 16 Bostons. In addition, enemy coastal guns in the area were bombarded by our destroyers.
- (4) Hollandia - At 0001-0315/4, Cyclops, Sentani and Hollandia airfields were bombed by 19 Liberators with satisfactory coverage of targets.
Preliminary reports from aircraft in flight 2000-2230/4 indicate some shipping in the Humboldt Bay area, but details are incomplete. The total number of ships involved would appear to be about six.
- (5) Tadji - A delayed report relates that approx 1800/1, 3 enemy bombers and 5 fighters were intercepted over Tadji by 2 Lightnings. Two enemy bombers and one fighter were shot down.
At 0300/4, a small sea truck was reported by aircraft off Sissano Lagoon (20 miles W. of Tadji) on course 350°.
- (6) Wewak - At 1145-1200/4, But aerodrome was bombed by 22 Liberators escorted by Kittyhawks. The strip was rendered temporarily unserviceable by bombing and the dispersal and dump area were well covered. Preliminary estimates indicate 8-10 aircraft destroyed or damaged on the ground. Two enemy fighters intercepted although some 20 were seen airborne in the area. One enemy fighter was damaged.
- (7) Hansa Bay - A delayed report relates that at 1010/1, an enemy reconnaissance plane was attacked by 4 Thunderbolts over Manam Island and was destroyed.
Details concerning the Liberator strike on A/A positions at Hansa Bay at approx 1530/3 show that 17 Liberators participated scoring many hits around gun positions.
- (8) Bogadjim Area - At 1000-1540/3, gun positions near Erima jetty were bombed and strafed by 22 Bostons with excellent coverage of the target.
- (9) Bogadjim Road - At 1020/3, supply dumps at Mabelubu (in the Yaula area) were bombed and strafed by 9 Aircobras, led in by one Boomerang.
- (10) Pommern Bay - At 0950-1025/4, suspected enemy positions at Mindiri Plantation and Herwath Point were bombed and strafed by 33 Vengeances and 12 Kittyhawks.
- (11) Carolines-New Guinea - Ships probably from the enemy convoy of 2 tankers, 2 or 3 escorts and 4 u/i merchant ships reported at 0900/2 180 miles N. of Manokwari southbound (refer Summary No.755) were attacked 3 and 4 March by submarines at the mouth of Hageelvink Bay (see Naval Incidents).

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/5:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.45 (3 MV) departed Thursday Is. 1623/3 for Darwin.
- (2) 18 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" "FREMANTLE" (AMS) 5 ML: 4291, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	:	"COOLEBAR" "KAILUA" "MILDURA" "W. PROUSE"
<u>Roote Eylandt:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"BABINDA"
<u>Melville Bay:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"SUVA"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

South China Sea - A.m. 3 March, an enemy convoy of 9 merchant ships and 3 escorts was reported 350 miles S.E. by E. of Saigon on course 212°.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/5:

- (1) "RANEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Fremantle ETA p.m. 6 March.
- (2) "YP.286" departed Exmouth Gulf 2045/2 for Fremantle ETA 6 March.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	: 2	CL :	"ADELAIDE" "GAMBIA"
Escorts	3	:	"DUBBO" "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	9	:	"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT) 1 YP: 288 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)
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NAVAL INCIDENTS

Carolines-New Guinea - At 1120/3, a U.S. submarine unsuccessfully attacked a southbound convoy (previously reported in this Summary) off Cape D'Urville (N.E. jaw Hageelvink Bay.

At 0130/4, a U.S. submarine sank a 6000 ton cargo vessel reported as carrying ammunition 45 miles E. of Cape D'Urville.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific</u> (Eastern Section)	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks</u> <u>Solomons</u>	<u>Marianas</u> <u>Carolines</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) TAKAO ATAGO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(3) HERON HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(26) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBY KALK GILLESPIE WEILES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ	Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>SS</u>	(6) BALAO BLACKFISH FLOUNDER GATO PETO SCAMP	) ) ) ) ) ) ) On Patrol	15	25
	(2) BASHAW DACE	) ) At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO DARTER K.9	) ) At Brisbane At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 75	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAE GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS FULTON		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	1
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)

Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.)	169
Light & M/Bombers	124
Seaplane and D/Bombers	24
Flying Boats	1
Floatplanes	23
Obsn. A/c	22

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	2. <u>NORTHERN PACIFIC</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-		NACHI
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND		(2) ABUKUMA TAMA
<u>DD</u>	9		5
<u>ES</u>	10		Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-		1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	* COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3-4)	KONGO HARUNA * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		ZUIKAKU
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MCNTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO * ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	SANGAMON SUNAWNKE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA COPAHEE CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIA BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY NEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3)	MOGAMI ASHIGARA * MAYA
<u>OGA</u>	-	-	-		6
<u>CL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILOXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(5)	YAHAGI KISO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-		* KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	-		3
<u>DD</u>		Approx 85 Approx 30			Approx 25 Approx 25
<u>AS</u>		?			2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON
DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(5) NAGATO (poss. ISE Carolines) HYUGA FUSO YAMASHIRO
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	SHOKAKU (poss. Carolines)
<u>CV (E)</u>	RANEE	(3) HATTLER UNICORN SHAH	-
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(3) SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER	(5) ACBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA
<u>CL</u>	(2) ADELAIDE GAMBIA	(7) CEYLON KENYA NEWCASTLE EMERALD DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK	(5) YUBARI TATSUTA KINU OI * KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W. B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOJ
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx 27	25
	(18) ANGLER LAPON) BILLFISH POMPOM) BONFISH PUFFER) BLUEFISH NORWHAL) BOWFIN RASHER) COD RATON) GUNNEL RAY) HADDO ROBALO) HOE) JACK)	On Patrol	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(7) CABRILLA REDFIN) CREVALLE K.12) FLASHER K.15) HAKE)	At Fremantle	
<u>AS</u>	(2) PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)

Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng.)	111
Light & M/Bombers	57
Flying Boats	3
Floatplanes	61
Obsn/ A/c	26

**GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA**
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.
Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 768

Date 6th Msrch, 1944.

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA. PART 1.

EASTERN AREA.

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/6:

- (1) "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" (PF) escorting "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Cairns 1800/4 for Milne Bay.
- (2) "SC 750" YMS's 313, 314 "ML 816" escorting convoy BG 52 ("D. HEWES" "LAKE ORMAC" for Langemak) departed Milne Bay 0700/5 ETA Langemak 0900/7.
- (3) "ML 802" departed Milne Bay 1500/5 for Buna ETA 0700/6 and has ETA 1800/6
- (4) "MORESBY" (AGS) departed Buna 1800/5 for Cairns ETA 1300/8.
- (5) "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900/1 to stand by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef, then taking over A/S patrol focal area outside China Strait. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (6) "BUNDABERG" "KALGOORLIE" "PIRIE" escorting Convoy TN.225 (4MV) to Milne Bay ETA 1100/8. "PIRIE" to detach at Bryer Island and proceed Port Moresby for escort duty with "BOTH" to mainland. "KALGOORLIE" proceeding also to Port Moresby ETA 0800/6 to escort "ORMISTON" to Townsville.
- (7) "BALLARAT" escorting "KURUMBA" (AO) departed Port Moresby 1915/4 for Cairns ETA 1915/6.
- (8) "BROOME" (AMS) escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" departed Milne Bay 1210/4 for Townsville ETA Grafton Passage 0900/6.
- (9) "KATOOMBA" departed Townsville 0800/5 for Sydney ETA 2200/9.
- (10) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (AHS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (11) "YMS's 47, 48, 51" were to depart Cairns 0700/6 for Brisbane ETA 0800/9.
- (12) "LATROBE" (AMS) proceeding to Wyborn Reed ETA 1030/6 to assist "CITY OF HOUSTON".
- (13) "MIZAR" (AF) was to depart Grafton Passage 1500/5 for Brisbane ETA 1600/7.
- (14) "VENDETTA" (DD) was to depart Townsville 0730/5 for Sydney ETA 0700/8.
- (15) "TOWNSVILLE" (ex Townsville) conducting A/S patrol outer Grafton Passage.
- (16) "WHYALLA" was to depart Brisbane 2100/4 to relieve "SC.749" on A/S Patrol Sandy Cape Area. "SC.749" to return Brisbane.
- (17) "PYRO" (AE) departed Brisbane 0855/5 for Townsville ETA 1800/7.
- (18) "COLAC" (AMS) departed Sydney 0910/4 for A/S patrol to Sandy Cape and return.
- (19) "GOULBURN" departed Sydney 1422/5 for Brisbane ETA 1630/7 and Milne Bay.
- (20) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1725/2 for Thursday Is. via Townsville ETA Townsville 1600/7.
- (22) 6 CLI's departed Sydney 1124/5 for Noumea ETA 0700/9.
- (23) "ML's 824, 812, 826" en route Fremantle departed Adelaide 2035/3.
- (24) "CASTLEMAINE" "BOWEN" "MILDURA" "ML's 804, 811" on search for submarine contacted at 0304/6 by "ML 805" Grafton Passage area.

(25) 6 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COWRA" intended to depart Brisbane after 2 March, after boiler cleaning for Milne Bay.
- (2) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March.
- (3) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.
- (4) "MESQUITE" (CGC) to depart Caloundra 2000/6 for Townsville ETA 1600/9.
- (5) "STUART" (DD) to depart Cairns 1500/6 for Townsville ETA 0300/7 for onward routing to Sydney.
- (6) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting "KLIPFONTEIN" to depart Milne Bay 1400/6 for Brisbane ETA 2200/9. "GASCOYNE" escorts for 200 miles.

(c) In Harbour:

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 2 : 1 PC:1131 1 SC: 732.
 Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Saidor:

Merchantmen 2 : "R.P.WARNER" "WATCHER"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units 40PT : 3 PC: 1119, 1122, 1133 3 YMS: 50, 53, 72
 Escorts 17 : 6 SC:650, 734, 735, 747, 749, 750
 : 4 ML: 428, 801, 803, 806
 Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)
 : "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) 1 MP:283
 Merchantmen 16 : "J. ALDEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCROW"
 : "J.ROLPH" "M.FULLER" "CAPE CLEARE" "J.NICOLET"
 : "W.B.ALLISON" "W.ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY"
 : "A.THOMAS" "C.DARROW" "H.C.PAYNE" "A.D.WHITE"

Lae:

Escorts 1 : B ML.425
 Merchantmen 4 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" "SIBIGO"
 : "G.V.L.MEYER"

Buna:

Escorts 8 : "BENALLA" (AMS) 2 PC: 479, 1132 2 YMS:73,334
 : 3 SC: 637, 736, 748
 Auxiliaries 9 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "HILO" (AGP)
 : "TRINITY" (AO) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL"
 (LSD) "POYANG" (ASIS)
 : 2 YP: 278, 280
 Merchantmen 11 : "CAPE BON" "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR"
 : "D.E.HIGHES" "H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE"
 : "ESSO BAYONNE" "ALCIBIADES" "W.B.SUBJETTE"
 : "W.BEAUMONT"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
 Merchantmen 11 : "W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "MANA"
 : "K.D.WIGGINS" "GEO.LUKS" "STAGEN" "J.BURROUGHS"
 : "J.P.BRADLEY" "H.T.RAINEY" "B.MATTHEWS"
 : "BONTEKOE"

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen 1 : "VAN DER LIJN"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 1 : ML.819
 Merchantmen 3 : "M.DALY" "N.E.MACK" "M.GRIFFITH".

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "J. EARL"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE"
 : "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "HOBBEY" "KALK"
 : "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER"
 : "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON"
 : "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "THORNE" "ABNER READ"
 : "ARUNTA"

36 PT

Escorts 1 PF : "GASCOYNE"

x Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Milne Bay (contd)
Escorts (contd).

2 AMS : "ARARAT" "GLENELG"
3 PC : 476, 1121, 1124
10 SC : 698, 699, 735, 737, 738, 741, 742,
743, 746, 981
8 YMS : 11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 315, 335, 336.
5 ML : 424, 427, 430, 431, 818

Auxiliaries

19 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER"
(APD) "LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO"
"HALF MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" "BISHOPDA"
(AO) "OTUS" "FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN"
"WESTRALIA" (APA) "KOOPA" (AGP)
"AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS)
"GOLD STAR" (AG) "OCTANS" (AF).

Merchantmen

69 : "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT"
"E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "E.D.BAKER"
"W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARAC".
"S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "F.BILLINGS"
"F.P.BLAIR" "S.BOLIVAR" "S.BRANNON"
"J.COOK" "G.L.CURRY" "CAPE SAN ANTONIO"
"J.W.DAVIS" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON
MARQUIS" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
"ESSO PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD"
"M.FLINDERS" "HANYANG" "B.F.IRVINE"
"ISOLATOR" "JACKSONVILLE" "L.S.KELLY"
"O.KELLY" "KLIPFONTEIN" "W.S.LADD"
"J.LIND" "Z.LYKES" "MAETSON"
"J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.MCLENNAN"
"B.MATTHEWS" "MORNACDALE" "I.McCOY"
"MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "MULIAMA"
"JOHN I. NOLAN" "JAMES D.PHALAN"
"PAUL REVERE" "POLLUX" "PONCE" "RING
LARDNER" "A.ROBINSON" "ROSEVILLE"
"J.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL"
"N.J.SINNOTT" "C.SPRECKERS" "M.M.STEWART"
"THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M.WHITE"
"GEO. VANCOUVER" "VAN DEN BOSCH"
"VAN OUTHOORN" "VAN SWOLL" "VILLALOBOS"
"M.WALKER" "F.A.WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts
Auxiliaries
Merchantmen

2 : 1 SC: 744 1 ML: 426
2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH)
5 : "H.V.WHITE" "S.G.PORTER" "OZARK"
"ORMISTON" "BOTH"

Thursday Island.

Auxiliaries
Cairns:
Combat Units
Escorts

2 : "BUNGAREE" (CM) 1 YP:291
1 DD E "STUART"
14 : "ARARAT" "ROCKHAMPTON" "STAWELL" (AMS)
3 SC: 703, 731, 982
4 ML: 820
3 PC: 477, 1120, 1132
4 YMS: 8, 46, 50, 393

Auxiliaries

2 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "BOOTES" (AE)

Townsville:

Escorts

4 : "WARREGO" (PS) "BUNBURY" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA"
(AMS)
1 ML: 817

Mackay:

Auxiliaries

1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Combat Units
Escorts

1 DD E "ROE"
9 : "SWAN" (PS) "COWRA" "GYMPIE" (AMS)
1 SC: 745, 749.
2 YMS: 9, 10 3 ML: 808, 821, 827

Auxiliaries

5 : "EURYALE" (AS) "ALGORAB" (AKS)
"MESQUITE" (CGC) "SHIKELLANY" (AO)
1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units

1 CA : "AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
2 CL E "HOBART" (") "BOISE"
1 DE : "GRISWOLD"

Escorts

12 : "BARGOO" (PF) "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "WAARNAMBOOL"

Sydney (contd)

Escorts (contd)

"GLADSTONE" "DELORAINIE" (AMS) 2 ML: 822, 823
"KYABRA" "YANDRA" "DOOMBA" "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN"
(A/S)

Auxiliaries

3 : "WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH)
"GANYMEDE" (AK)

Melbourne:

Escorts

1 AMS: "LITHGOW"

Adelaide:

Escorts

1 AMS: "GEE LONG" (REFITTING)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

X S.W. Bougainville. During the night 2-3 Mar 3 enemy barges off shore were attacked by PT boats, accompanied by a Ventura, and were driven ashore at Aitara Mission. One enemy floatplane apparently escorting the barges ineffectually attacked the PT boats.

Empress Augusta Bay. On 3 Mar enemy positions E. of Saua River (northern Empress Augusta Bay) were twice bombed and strafed by 12 Avengers.

Feni - Lihir Is. Area. Enemy submarine sightings in this area have been reported as follows :-

(a) Approx. 0900/5, 1 submarine 8 miles N.N.E. of Babase Is. (northeastern Is. of Feni Group) course 60°.

(b) 1351/5, 1 submarine 21 miles N.E. of Babase Is. course 80°.

(c) 0110/6, 1 probable submarine south of Lihir Is.

X The above reports indicate possible an enemy submarine northbound from a transportation mission to the Solomons perhaps direct to Truk.

Cape Saint George. At 1135/3 the radar station at Cape Saint George was attacked by 5 Lightnings. Hits were scored within the area.

Rabaul. Photos 1300/4 of the airfields gave an incomplete count of aircraft but Tobera Vunakanau and Rapopo were serviceable, Keravat was unserviceable and Lakunai was cloud covered. 1 submarine (330 ft) 12 small freighters (100 - 175 ft.) barges normal (probably about 400) although Keravia Bay was 50% cloud covered.

Open Bay. Local observers report 5 Mar that the garrison at Ulamona was reinforced during the previous week by some 500 troops.

Cape Hoskins. At 1920 - 1945/4, the strip was effectively bombed by 10 Beauforts.

At 2210/5, 7 enemy barges were attacked by aircraft off Cape Hoskins.

Talasea. At 1925 - 1945/4, Talasea airfield and buildings in the area were bombed by 17 Beauforts. Results were unobserved due cloud.

Gasmata Area. At 1907/4, 4 barges were seen by aircraft leading E. between Baronga Is. (10 miles E. Gasmata) and the mainland.

W. New Britain. On 4 Mar the area between Itni River and Pulie River (in the Arawe Area) was reported clear of the enemy. Our forward elements are firmly established at Iboki Plantation (Rein Bay) 5 Mar and report no enemy air or ground action.

Admiralty Is. It is estimated that the enemy attack launched on 4 Mar involved 3 battalions including several machine gun companies, light artillery units, 3-inch mortars and several tanks. Harbour troops are reported to be in action in the front lines, using pikes.

Admiralty Is. (contd.)

A large number of Japanese are reported at Salami Plantation and this area was shelled by allied destroyers 4 Mar.

During the night 4-5 Mar enemy activity was limited to occasional sniper fire.

After a successful air strike on enemy positions on Los Negros Island at approx. 1100/5 (involving 17 Mitchells, although 4 squadrons of Liberators and 2 of Bostons failed to reach the target due to bad weather), the enemy launched an attack S. and S.W. of Momote strip. The attack was repulsed by 1300/5 when the situation was under control.

Late afternoon 5 Mar our forces established a bridgehead N. of Native Skidway (a causeway 700 yards N. of Momote airfield on W. shore of Hyane Harbour).

Hollandia Area.

(a) At 0250/5, one ship was seen by a Catalina in Hollandia Harbour, apparently the only ship in the Harbour.

(b) At 2000/4 a U.S. submarine reported a 4,000 ton freighter (no additional ship reported) 270 miles N. of Cape D'Urville on course 320° speed 9 knots. 2 dud torpedo hits were claimed.

Wewak Area. At 0230/6, 1 ship with 3 escorts was reported by aircraft southbound 40 miles N.W. by W. of Wewak.

Alexishafen. At 1045/5, No.2 strip was bombed and strafed by 23 Vengeance, 12 Kittyhawks.

Pommern Bay. At 1425/4, Mindiri Plantation area was bombed and strafed by 21 Vengeance, 12 Kittyhawks.

Yalau Plantation. (midway between Saidor and Bogadjim) co-ordinated with a destroyer bombardment and air strike involving 4 Bostons, 3 Mitchells at 0700 - 0730/5 allied troops landed unopposed at Yalau Plantation. Cape Rigni, 8 miles further West was bombed and strafed by 4-5 Mitchells at 09(5 - 0920/5.

Lae Area. At 1915/4, indications of a submarine received 12 miles east of Lae. There is no confirmation of this report.

Grafton Passage. At 0340/6, an ML reported contact with a very probable submarine 7 miles N.W. of Grafton Passage (refer Allied Forces at sea p.z. this summary). There is no other evidence to support the likelihood of an enemy submarine in this area, although a possible submarine was reported by aircraft 12 miles S. of Port Moresby on course 250° at 0945/3.

Horn Is. At 0145/3, a probable enemy aircraft was located west of Horn Island.

At 1145/4 an unidentified aircraft was again reported over Goode Island (10 miles W. of Horn Is.)

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES
(a) At Sea to 1200/6:

(1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.45 (3 MV) departed Thursday Is. 1623/3 for Darwin.

(2) 17 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "FREMANTLE" (AMS)
		3 ML: 4291, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	: "COOLEBAR" "KAILUA" "MILDURA" "W. PROUSE"
Groote Eylandt:		
Merchantmen	1	: "BABINDA"

(b) In Harbour (contd)

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Melville Bay:
Merchantmen 1 : "SUVA"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Arafura Sea. At 1010/5 an enemy floatplane was sighted, by aircraft, 125 miles N.W. of Wessel Island.

Derby Area. At 0911/5 a probable enemy aircraft was located in the Derby area.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA.

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/6:

- (1) "RANEE" (CV(E) proceeding Fremantle ETA p.m. 6 March.
- (2) "YP.286" departed Exmouth Gulf 2045/2 for Fremantle ETA 6 March.
- (3) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/5 for Melbourne ETA 1000/13 thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	: 2 CL	: "ADELAIDE" "GAMBIA"
Escorts	3	"DUBBO" "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	8	"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT) 1 <u>WP</u> : 1 <u>ARD</u> .

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	: "CHILDS" (AV) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD)
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CEN PAC

Carolines. Photos show the following damage inflicted on Ponape up to 5 Mar:- Over half the town destroyed including one third of dock area, and radio station seaplane hangar and workshop at Langar Is. destroyed, ramp and apron and other buildings damaged. 2 buildings on Japutik Is. destroyed. Ponape was again attacked 0510/3 by 5 Liberators.

Marshalls. On 2-3 March, light air raids were conducted on Wotje, Taroa, Jaluit and Mille.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES.

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
 - (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarchs.
 - (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
 - (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
 - (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.
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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV (L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) TAKAO ATAGO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL (T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY * KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC - EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(4-5) KONGO HARUNA * YAMATO HYUGA MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	ZUIKAKU
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4) HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO (en route Malaya) * ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25) SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA COPAHEE CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY STEPHENIA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3) MOGAMI * ASHIGARA * MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILOXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(5) YAHAGI KISO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	* KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	3
<u>DD</u>	Approx 85	-	Approx 25
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30	-	Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?	-	2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 769

Date 7 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/7:

- (1) "MANOORA" "KANIMBLA" (APA) returning to Gladstone ETA 0800/8.
- (2) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (3) "MORESBY" (AGS) departed Buna 1800/5 for Cairns ETA 1300/8.
- (4) "SC.744" departed Port Moresby 0833/6 to overtake "OZARK" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (5) "BUNDABERG" (AMS) escorting Convoy MV.71 ("BISHOPDALE" (AO)) departed Milne Bay 1730/6 ETA Grafton Passage 2200/8 whence "BISHOPDALE" proceeds Sydney ETA 0600/14.
- (6) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting "KLIPFONTEIN" departed Milne Bay 1407/6 for Brisbane ETA 2200/9. "GASCOYNE" escorts for 200 miles.
- (7) "WAGGA" escorting Convoy TN.226 (2 MV, 2 LCI, 1 APC) departed Townsville 1800/6. "MILDURA" "BROOME" to RV with Convoy off Fitzroy Is. at 0900/7 whence convoy proceeds Milne Bay ETA 1100/9.
- (8) "KATOOMBA" departed Townsville 0800/5 for Sydney ETA 2200/9.
- (9) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (10) "YMS's 47, 48, 51" were to depart Cairns 0700/6 for Brisbane ETA 0800/9.
- (11) "BALLARAT" "BOWEN" "ARARAT" "TOWNSVILLE" "ML's 804, 811" on search for submarine contacted at 0304/6 by "ML.805" North West of Fitzroy Island.
- (12) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Sydney 1359/2 for Port Moresby ETA 0800/8.
- (13) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1725/2 for Thursday Is. via Townsville ETA Townsville 1600/17.
- (14) "MESQUITE" (CGC) was to depart Caloundra 2000/6 for Townsville ETA 1600/9.
- (15) "GOULBURN" departed Sydney 1422/5 for Brisbane ETA 1630/7 and Milne Bay.
- (16) "WHYALLA" was to depart Brisbane 2100/4 to relieve "SC.749" on A/S patrol Sandy Cape area. "SC.749" to return Brisbane.
- (17) "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" (A/S) departed Sydney 0906/6 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (18) "COPAHEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Brisbane ETA 11 March.
- (19) 6 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "ROE" (DD) to depart Caloundra 1200/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/9.
- (2) "ROCKHAMPTON" to RV at 0100/8 with Convoy TN.227 (1 MV) off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Port Moresby ETA 1300/10.
- (3) "EURYALE" (AS) to be sailed from Brisbane 12 March for Milne Bay.
- (4) "YMS.8, 46" to depart Cairns 1400/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/9.
- (5) "COWRA" to depart Brisbane 1500/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/11.
- (6) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March.
- (7) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.

(c) In Harbour:

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 2 : 1 PC: 1131 1 SC: 732
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Saidor:

Merchantmen 2 : "R.P.WARNER" "WATCHER"

Manusshafen:

Combat Units 40 PT 314
Escorts 19 : 2 PC: 1119, 1133 6 YMS: 50, 53, 73, 313, /334
6 SC: 650, 734, 735, 747, 749, 750
5 ML: 428, 801, 803, 806, 816

Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)

Merchantmen 18 : "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) 1 YP: 283
"J.ALLEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCHOW"
"M.FULLER" "J.NICOLET" "W.B.ALLISON" "W.ATWATER"
"CAPE FLATTERY" "A.THOMAS" "C.DARROW" "H.C.PAYNE"
"A.D.WHITE" "CAPE BON" "WM.BEAUMONT" "D.HEWES"
"LAKE ORMAC"

Lae:

Escorts 2 : ML's 802, 425
Merchantmen 3 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "SIBIGO" "G.V.L.MEYER"

Buna:

Escorts 7 : "BENALLA" (AMS) 3 PC: 479, 1122, 1132
3 SC: 637, 736, 748

Auxiliaries 10 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOEBIN" (AD) "HILO" (AGP)
"TRINITY" "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)
"POYANG" "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 2 YP: 278, 280

Merchantmen 10 : "ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR" "D.E.HUGHES"
"H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "ESSO BAYONNE"
"ALCIBIADES" "W.B.SUBJETTE" "HANYANG"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 11 : "W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "MANA"
"K.D.WIGGINS" "GEO.LUKS" "J.BURROUGHS" "J.P.
BRADLEY" "H.T.RAINEY" "B.MATTHEWS" "BONTEROE"

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "VAN DER LIJN" "T.M.COCLEY"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 1 : ML.819
Merchantmen 3 : "M.DALY" "N.E.MACK" "M.GRIFFITH"

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "J.KARL"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE"
"AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "HOBBY" "KALK"
"MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER"
"SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON"
"WARRAMUNGA" "THORNE" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA"

Escorts 36 PT :
2 PF : "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
2 AMS : "GLENELF" "BENDIGO"
2 PC : 476, 1121
10 SC : 698, 699, 735, 737, 738, 741, 742, 743, 746, 981
9 YMS : 11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 72, 315, 335, 336

Auxiliaries 5 ML : 424, 427, 430, 431, 818
18 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (APD)
"LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON"
(AVP) "AASE MAERSK" "BISEOPDALE" (AO) "OTUS"
"FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)
"KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "GOLD STAR" (AG)
"OCTANS" (AF)

Merchantmen 76 : "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "ADMIRAL
HALSTEAD" "E.G.ACHESON" "ANHUI" "ARANSAS PASS"
"E.D.BAKER" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C."
"S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "F.BELLINGS" "F.P.BLAIR"
"S.BOLIVAR" "S.BRANNON" "CAPE CLEARE" "J.COOK"
"G.L.CURRY" "CAPE SAN ANTONIO" "J.W.DAVIS"
"J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DEN MARQUIS" "ESSO
HARRISBURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD"

Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown. (Contd.)

Milne Bay:
Merchantmen
(Contd.)

: "M. FLINDERS" "B.F. IRVINE" "ISOLATOR"
"JACKSONVILLE" "JAPARA" "L.S. KELLY" "O. KELLY"
"KATOOMBA" "M.E. KINNEY" "W.S. LADD" "J. LIND"
"Z. LYKES" "MAETSON" "J.S. MANSFIELD" "W. McLENNAN"
"B. MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "I. McGOY" "MEXICO"
"MIDWEST FARMER" "MULIAMA" "JOHN I. NOLAN"
"JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "POLLUX" "PONCE"
"RING LARDNER" "A. ROBINSON" "J. ROLPH"
"ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS" "J. ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL"
"N.J. SINNOTT" "C. SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "M.M.
STEWART" "THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M. WHITE"
"GEO. VANCOUVER" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "VAN OUTHOORN"
"VAN SWOIL" "VILLALOBOS" "M. WALKER" "R.J.
WALKER" "F.A. WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 3 : "KALGOORLIE" "PIRIE" (AMS) 1 ML:426
Auxiliaries 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH)
Merchantmen 4 : "H.V. WHITE" "S.G. PORTER" "ORMISTON" "BOTH"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 1 : "LATROBE" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 2 : "BUNGAREE" (CM) 1 YP:291

Cairns:

Escorts 14 : "CASTLEMAINE" "STAWELL" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS)
3 SC: 703, 731, 982 1 ML:820
3 FC: 477, 1120, 1132 4 YMS:8, 46, 50, 393
Auxiliaries 4 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "BOOTES" (AK) "KURUMBA" (AO)
1 ARD?

Townsville:

Combat Units 1 DD : "STUART"
Escorts 4 : "WARREGO" (PS) "BUNBURY" "KAPUNDA" (AMS)
1 ML:817
Auxiliaries 1 : "PYRO" (AE)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Combat Units 1 DD : "ROE"
Escorts 9 : "SWAN" (PS) "COWRA" "GYMPIE" (AMS) 1 SC:745
2 YMS:9,10 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
Auxiliaries 5 : "EURYALE" (AS) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MIZAR" (AF)
"SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CA : "AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
2 CL : "HOBART" (") "BOISE"
1 DD : "VENDETTA"
1 DE : "GRISWOLD"
Escorts 12 : "BARCOO" (PF) "COLAC" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA"
"WARRNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE" "DELORAINÉ" (AMS)
2 ML:822, 823 "KYBRA" "YANDRA" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
Auxiliaries 3 : "WANGANELLIA" (AH)-Refitting "MANUNDA" (AH)
"GANYMEDE" (AK)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITHGOW"

Adelaide:

Escorts 1 AMS : "GEELONG" (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Choiseul - On 4 March, enemy embarkation points in the N.W. portion of Choiseul Island were bombed by 2 Squadrons of Catalinas, Liberators, Venturas and Dauntless, dropping 105 tons of bombs and also heaving strafing the area.
- (2) S.W. Bougainville - On 4 March, Monoitu Mission was bombed and strafed by 12 Aircobras.
- (3) Feni Islands - A.m. 6 March, 4 enemy barges including one already damaged hidden under the trees in Anir Harbour were all destroyed by PT boats. No return fire was encountered.
- (4) St. George's Channel - At 1515/4, a submarine headed South off Cape Gazelle was strafed by Corsairs.
At 1715/4, 2 submarines were sighted by Corsairs in St. George's Channel; one was heading towards Rabaul and the other heading S.W.

- (5) Rabaul - At 0150-0300/4, Rabaul was harassed by one Liberator.
 At 1100/4, A/A positions on a ridge East of Rabaul were bombed by 48 Dauntless, 24 Avengers with 27 fighters covering.
 At 1115/4, Rabaul town particularly the wharf area was bombed by 24 Mitchells with 12 Corsairs escorting. At 1121/4, the Harbour area was again bombed by 23 Liberators with 11 Corsairs escorting. At 1135/4, Rabaul town was bombed by 12 Lightnings.
 At 1115/4, a small cargo ship in Blanche Bay was bombed by 3 Avengers with unobserved results: 8 Corsairs escorted. Also during a.m. 4 March, 4 small cargo vessels and a few small craft in Atiliklikun Bay were strafed by 28 Corsairs.
 At 1600/4, 4 small freighters in Atiliklikun Bay were bombed by 9 Avengers with 25 Corsairs escorting: 2 were sunk. Some bombs were also dropped on the "ATAGO MARU" hulk in Simpson Harbour. No enemy interception was met during all these operations.
 On 5 March, 3 camouflaged barges at anchor in Atiliklikun Bay were bombed and strafed by Venturas: One was sunk, another damaged and listing.
- (6) Cape Hoskins - At 1840-1850/5, Hoskins strip and Gavuvu village were bombed by 16 Beauforts.
 At 2300/5, two barges were sunk and 5 heavily damaged by a Catalina off Cape Hoskins (These 7 barges were reported in yesterday's Summary No. 768).
 At 0907/6, Cape Hoskins strip was bombed by 8 Beauforts.
- (7) Willaumez Peninsula - At 1000/6, only slight enemy opposition was encountered by U.S. Marines landing in the vicinity of Volupai Plantation (West coast - approx. 5 miles N.W. of Talasea).
 At 0918/6, Talasea village was bombed by 9 Beauforts.
- (8) Gasmata - At 1908/5, a dump area North of Gasmata was bombed by 10 Beauforts.
- (9) Admiralty Islands - A.m. 4 March, enemy gun positions on the islands each side of the entrance to Seadler Harbour were bombarded by a cruiser/destroyer task force.
 By 1215/6, the road junction $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N.E. of the native skidway had been reached by allied troops and by 1400/6, Porlaka as well as the landing beach on the West coast of Salami Plantation had been occupied, after a supporting air strike by 16 Mitchells. dead
 Up to 6 March, 1008 Japs/had been counted on Los Negros Island. At approx 2100/5, there was an air raid alert on Los Negros but no bombs were dropped.
 A/m. 5 March, an allied destroyer draw fire from 2 guns on Hauwei Island (entrance to Seadler Harbour) after closing to 850 yards. The guns were estimated to be 4" and both were reported destroyed.
- (10) Wewak - Further reports concerning the air strike on But aerodrome about noon 4 March (refer Summary No. 767) relate that an additional 14 Liberators participated making a total of 36. Our fighter cover met 4 enemy fighters in the Wewak area and destroyed one while 3 more enemy fighters were seen South of Bogadjim during the return journey and two were destroyed.
 At 1710/5, three enemy bombers and one fighter were encountered by 3 Thunderbolts on a sweep over Wewak and all 4 enemy aircraft were shot down. In addition, one enemy fighter was seen landing at Dagua and 8 taking off the same field. One Thunderbolt is missing.
- (11) Hansa Bay - At 0142-0220/6, Nubia and Awar aerodromes were effectively bombed by 3 Liberators. One Liberator is missing.
 Incomplete reports relate that at 1332/6, Awar aerodrome was bombed by 13 Liberators which dropped a good pattern across the strip.
- (12) Uligan Area - During the night 3-4 March, one barge and one large landing craft were sunk by PT boats about 13 miles S.E. of Uligan.
- (13) Yalau Plantation - The Yalau landing a.m. 5 March was supported by 7 rocket-firing PT boats, not destroyers as previously reported. Shore fire by 3" batteries was returned.
 On 5 March, our patrols reached Bigi ($3\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Yalau) and Dumun ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. of Yalau) without enemy contact.
- (14) Merauke - A.m. 5 March, probably two enemy aircraft were over Kameam (105 miles W.N.W. of Merauke). At noon 5 Mar. a probable enemy reconnaissance plane was located in the Merauke-Cape Valsch area.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/7:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.45 (3 MV) departed Thursday Is. 1623/3 for Darwin.
- (2) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) escorting "KAILUA" "MILDURA" departed Darwin 0813/6 for Thursday Is. ETA 0800/9. "MILDURA" detaches off Cape Wessel and proceeds independently to Melville Bay ETA 1000/8.
- (3) 17 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts 4 : "COOTAMUNDRA" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen 2 : "COOLEBAR" "W. PROUSE"

Groote Eylandt:

Merchantmen 1 : "BABINDA"

Melville Bay:

Merchantmen 1 : "SUVA"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Kai Islands - P.m. 6 March, Total was bombed by 7 Mitchells with unobserved results.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/7:

- (1) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.
- (2) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/5 for Melbourne ETA 1100/13 thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

1 CV(E): "RANEE"
Combat Units 2 CL : "ADELAIDE" "GAMBIA"
Escorts 3 : "DUBBO" "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries 9 : "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK"
"PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT)
2 MP: 286, 288 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries 2 : "CHILDS"^(AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)

B. CENTRAL PACIFIC

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls-Carolines - During 4 March, light air strikes were conducted against Kusaie, Jaluit, Mille, Ponape, Tarca and Wotje by land-based aircraft.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY
PART II
ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE
I. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)		South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	+	-	(5) TAKAO ATAGO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER		(3) NAKA CYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	+	-	-	(2) KASHIMA } Poss. KATORI } sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR BALLARD	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO		-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>SS</u>	(4) BALAO GATO PETO SCAMP	On Patrol	15	25
	(4) BASHAW BLACKFISH DACE FLOUNDER	At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERC DARTER	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>				
	(8) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.) 165
 Light & M/Bombers 120
 Torpedo and D/Bombers 24
 Flying Boats 1
 Floatplanes 23
 Obsn. a/c 22

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RICHMOND RALEIGH	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC - EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3-4)	KONGO HARUNA * YAMATO MUTSU (prob.sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		ZUIKAKU
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO (en route Malaya) * ZUIHO
<u>(T)</u>	-	-	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA COPAHEE CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FAN SHAW BAY GAMEER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER GAMBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3)	MOGAMI * ASHIGARA * MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	-		6
<u>CL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILOXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(4)	YAHAGI * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-		* KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	-		3
<u>DD</u>		Approx 85			Approx 25
<u>SS</u>		Approx 30			Approx 25
<u>AS</u>		?			2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.
Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 770

Date 8 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/8:

- (1) "PC.1121" departed Milne Bay 1830/7 to RV with "OREGON TRAIL" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (2) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party: "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (3) "MORESEBY" (AGS) departed Buna 1800/5 for Cairns ETA 1300/8.
- (4) "BUNDABERG" (AMS) escorting Convoy MV.71 ("BISHOPDALE" (AO)) departed Milne Bay 1730/6 ETA Grafton Passage 2200/8 whence "BISHOPDALE" proceeds Sydney ETA 0600/14.
- (5) "YP.291" departed Thursday Is. 0600/7 for Cairns ETA 1100/10.
- (6) "WAGGA" escorting Convoy TN.226 (2 MV, 2 ICI, 1 APC) departed Townsville 1800/6. "MILDURA" "EROOME" to RV with Convoy off Fitzroy Is. at 0900/7 whence convoy proceeds Milne Bay ETA 1100/9.
- (7) "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) proceeding to RV at 0100/8 with Convoy TN.227 ("EDNA") off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Port Moresby ETA 1300/10.
- (8) "YMS's 8, 46" departed Cairns 1400/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/9.
- (9) "KALGOORLIE" proceeding Port Moresby to Grafton Passage was due 2300/7.
- (10) "STUART" (DD) departed Townsville 1000/7 for Sydney ETA 0500/10.
- (11) "KATOOMBA" departed Townsville 0800/5 for Sydney ETA 2200/9.
- (12) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (13) "YMS's 47, 48, 51" were to depart Cairns 0700/6 for Brisbane ETA 0800/9.
- (14) "ARARAT" "TOWNSVILLE" "ML's 804, 805" on search for submarine contacted at 0304/6 by "ML.805" northwest of Fitzroy Is. If search negative by 0700/8, normal patrol to be resumed.
- (15) "ROE" (DD) was to depart Brisbane 1200/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/9.
- (16) "COWRA" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 1500/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/11.
- (17) "MESQUITE" (CGC) was to depart Caloundra 2000/6 for Townsville ETA 1600/9.
- (18) "WHYALLA" was to depart Brisbane 2100/4 to relieve "SC.749" on A/S patrol Sandy Cape area. "SC.749" returns Brisbane.
- (19) "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" (A/S) departed Sydney 0906/6 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (20) "DELOIRINE" was to depart Sydney 0900/8 northbound.
- (21) "YANDRA" exercising between Sydney and Newcastle.
- (22) "COPAHEE" (CV(B)) proceeding Brisbane ETA 11 March.
- (23) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (24) 4 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "BARCOO" (PF) to depart Sydney so as to arrive Brisbane 11 March; then to escort "EURYALE" to Milne Bay. On arrival Milne Bay, "BARCOO" to be transferred to operational and administrative control of N.O.I.C., New Guinea.
- (2) "GOULBURN" (AMS) to depart Brisbane 1500/8 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/14, carrying out A/A practice off Cape Moreton.
- (3) "EURYALE" (AS) to be sailed from Brisbane 12 March for Milne Bay.
- (4) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March.
- (5) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.

(c) In Harbour:

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts	3	:	2 PC:1131, 1133	1 SC:732
Auxiliaries	1	:	"SHEPPARTON" (AGS)	
Saidor:				
Merchantmen	2	:	"R.P.WARNER" "H.C.PAYNE"	
Finschhafen:				
Combat Units	40 PT	:		
Escorts	17	:	1 PC:1119	4 YMS:50, 53, 313, 314
			7 SC: 550, 734, 735, 747, 748, 749, 750	
			5 ML: 428, 801, 803, 806, 816	
Auxiliaries	5	:	"PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)	
			"HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)	
Merchantmen	15	:	"J.ALDEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCHOW"	
			"J.NICHOLET" "W.B.ALBISON" "W.ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY" "A.THOMAS" "G.DARROW" "CAPE BON"	
			"WM.BEAUMONT" "D.HEWES" "LAKE ORMAC"	

Lae:

Escorts	2	:	ML's 302, 425	
Merchantmen	2	:	"J.B.KENDRICK" "SIBIGO"	

Buna:

Escorts	10	:	"BENALLA" (AMS)	3 FC: 479, 1122, 1132	
			3 SC: 537, 736, 741	3 YMS: 73, 334, 335	
Auxiliaries	10	:	"BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "HILO" (AGP)		
			"TRINITY" "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)		
			"FOYANG" "YUNNAN" (ASIS)		2 YP: 278, 280
Merchantmen	15	:	"ETAMIN" "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR" "D.E.HUGHES"		
			"H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "ESSO BAYONNE"		
			"ALCIBIADES" "W.B.SUBJETTE" "HANYANG" "M.WALKER"		
			"VAN DER LIJN" "J.COOK" "A.ROBINSON" "MULIAMA"		

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)	
Merchantmen	11	:	"W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "MANA"	
			"B.MATTHEWS" "K.D.WIGGINS" "GEO.LUKS" "BONETKOE"	
			"J.BURROUGHS" "J.P.BRADLEY" "H.T.RAINEY"	

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen	1	:	"T.M.COOLEY"	
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Kiriwina:

Escorts	1	:	ML.819	
Merchantmen	2	:	"N.E.MACK" "M.GRIFFITH"	

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen	3	:	"W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "J.EARL" "ANHUI"	
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* Milne Bay:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SHROPSHIRE"	
	2 CL	:	"NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"	
	25 DD	:	"STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE"	
			"AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "HOBBEY" "KALK"	
			"MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WEELES" "REID" "FLUSSER"	
			"SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON"	
			"WARRAMUNGA" "THORNE" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA"	
	36 PT	:		
Escorts	3 PF	:	"LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" "GASCOYNE"	
	2 AMS	:	"BENDIGO" "GLENELG"	
	1 PC	:	476	
	10 SC	:	698, 699, 735, 737, 738, 742, 743, 744, 746, 981	
	8 YMS	:	11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 72, 315, 336	
	5 ML	:	424, 427, 430, 431, 318	

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Milne Bay (Contd.)

Auxiliaries 20 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (AFD)
"LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON"
(AVP) "AASE MAERSE" "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OTUS"
"FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)
"KOOPA" (AGP) "AMECUS" (ARL) "GOLD STAR" (AG)
"OCTANS" (AF) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 1 MP:283
Merchantmen 77 : "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "ADMIRAL"
HALSTAD" "E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "E.D.
BAKER" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA G."
"S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "F.BILLINGS" "F.P.BLAIR"
"S.BOLIVAR" "S.BRANNON" "CAPE CLEARE"
"G.L.CURRY" "CAPE SAN ANTONIC" "M.DALY" "J.W.
DAVIS" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS"
"HARRINGTON EMERSON" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO
PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD" "M.FLINDERS" "M.
FULLER" "B.F.IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JACKSONVILLE"
"JAPARA" "L.S.KELLY" "O.KELLY" "KATOOMBA"
"H.E.KINNEY" "S.S.LADD" "J.LIND" "Z.LYKES"
"MAETSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.MCLENNAN"
"B.MATTHEWS" "MCRMACDALE" "I.MCCOY" "MEXICO"
"GEO.V.L.MEYER" "MIDWEST FARMER" "JOHN I.NOLAN"
"OZARK" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "POLLUX"
"PONCE" "RING LARDNER" "J.ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE"
"J.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "N.J.SINNOTT"
"C.SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "M.M.STEWART"
"THUNDERER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.M.WHITE" "GEO.
VANCOUVER" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "VAN OUTHOORN"
"VAN SWOLL" "VILLALOBOS" "R.J.WALKER" "F.A.
WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS" "A.D.WHITE"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 2 : "FIRIE" (AMS) 1 ML:426
Auxiliaries 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "CALANARES" (AF)
Merchantmen 4 : "H.V.WHITE" "S.G.PORTER" "ORMISTON" "BOTH"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 1 : "LATROBE" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 11 : "CASTLEMAINE" "STAWELL" (AMS) 3 SC:703,731,982
1 ML:820 3 PC:477,1120,1132 2 YMS:50,393
Auxiliaries 4 : "PEATYPUS" (AR) "BOOTES" (AK) "KURUMBA" (AO)
1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 5 : "WARREGO" (PS) "BUNEURY" "KAPUNDA" "WILCANNIA"
(AMS) 1 ML:817
Auxiliaries 1 : "PYRO" (AE)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2 : "MANOORA" "KANIMELA" (APA)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Escorts 9 : "SWAN" (PS) "GOULBURN" "GYMPIE" (AMS) 1 SC:745
2 YMS:808,821,827
Auxiliaries 5 : "EURYALE" (AS) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MIZAR" (AF)
"SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP:236

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CA : "AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
2 CL : "HOBART" (") "BOISE"
1 DD : "VENDETTE"
1 DE : "GRISWOLD"

Escorts

10 : "BARCOO" (PF) "COLAC" "EUBUCA" "KIAMA"
"WARRNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE" (AMS) 2 ML:822,823
Auxiliaries 3 : "KYBRA" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
"WANGANILLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MAUNDA" (AH)
"GANYMED" (AK)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITHGOW"

Adelaide:

Escorts 1 AMS : "GEELONG" (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

(1) Buin Base - At 0633/5, a huge explosion and geyser were seen in the West Shortlands area near an allied minefield. Com.3rd Fleet suggests the possibility that a Japanese submarine may have struck a mine.

(2) Empress Augusta Bay - During 5 March, enemy positions around Torokina perimeter were attacked by 193 aircraft including 118 Dauntless, 72 Avengers and 3 Liberators.

At 1745/5, the Monoity Bridge was bombed and strafed by sixteen Aircobras. One Aircobra was shot down by ack ack.

At 1000/7, a submarine heading on course 300° was sighted on the surface by aircraft 25 miles W.N.W. of Cape Moltke.

(3) Buka Island - At 0741/7, a submarine on course 170°, was sighted by aircraft 60 miles North East of Cape Henpan and at 2008/7, a submarine was sighted by another aircraft 15 miles E.N.E. of Cape Henpan.

These sightings are still further evidence of submarine supply and transportation missions to the Solomons, possibly direct from Truk.

(4) Rabaul - During the night of 4-5 March, Rabaul was harassed by a single Liberator. At 1058/5, the wharf areas N.W. of Simpson Harbour were bombed by 22 Mitchells with 17 escorting Corsairs. Fire and damage resulted from the attack. At 1125/5, Rabaul township was bombed by 9 Liberators while Tobera revetments were bombed by 13 other Liberators. Photos confirm 5 aircraft burning in revetments: one Liberator was shot down but three of the crew were rescued. 19 Corsairs escorted.

At 0845/5, the two remaining small merchantmen in Atiliklikun Bay were attacked by 6 Avengers with 8 escorting Corsairs. The two vessels were left beached as a result of the attack.

At 1715/5, no submarines were sighted in Rabaul Harbour by 3 Avengers with 9 escorting Corsairs but the "ATAGO MARU" hulk was again bombed. The Corsairs carried out a thorough reconnaissance of all Rabaul airfields sighting 16 single/engined aircraft on Lakunai and none elsewhere.

At 0905/6, photographs show the following:

<u>Aircraft:</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>D/B.</u>	<u>M/B.</u>	<u>F/P.</u>	<u>F/B.</u>
Tobera	23	-	-	-	-
Vunakanau	-	2	2	-	-
Rapope	-	1	1	-	-
Lakunai	7	1	-	-	-
Simpson Harbour	-	-	-	4	1

(Counting complete) 30 F. 4 D/B. 3 M/B. 4 F/P. 1 F/B - 42 a/c.

Airfields:

Tobera : Serviceable.

Vunakanau : Eastern coral strip unserviceable: remaining strips serviceable.

Rapope : Centre strip serviceable for 2600 feet: Western strip serviceable for 2000 feet but rough.

Shipping:

2 small cargo ships

25 large barges

235 small to medium barges.

In Keravia Bay, there are no undamaged ships and barges are not counted.

(5) Borpop - At 1117/5, Borpop was bombed by 11 Lightnings unable to reach Rabaul.

(6) Jacquinet Bay - Native reports on 6 March indicate the reinforcement and consolidation of defences in the Jacquinet Bay area. Troops are transported nightly by two submarines from Rabaul to Palmamal (S. coast Jacquinet Bay) whence they are transhipped by small vessels to Kamalagan and Aniho (7½ miles N. The natives were told this area will be the new Rabaul.

(7) Cape Hoskins - During 3 March, 10 barges and a two masted schooner were strafed by 3 night-fighter Bostons. Between 1830 and 1930/6 3 barges were strafed East of the Hoskins strip by 3 similar aircraft.

- (8) Willaumez Peninsula - On 6 March, 12 Japs were killed during our landing operations West of Talasea. At 2210/6, our forces at Volupai Plantation were meeting stiff enemy opposition. Air reports late on 6 March report fighting on the beachhead line and strong enemy fire from heavy weapons near Laipo (1 mile S.E. of Volupai).
- (9) Admiralty Islands - Between 1145 and 1203/5, personnel areas on Los Negros Island were attacked by 18 Liberators and 16 Mitchells, in support of our ground forces.
On 7 March, Papitalai Point was occupied by allied forces while other units later landed at Papitalai Mission and are holding out against strong enemy opposition. Aircraft are now using Momote strip. An enemy attempt at landing on the captured Salami beachhead was repulsed and our artillery sank one barge killing five of the enemy.
On 7 March, Hauwei and Ndrilo Islands, guarding the entrance to Seeadler Harbour were bombed by 8 Liberators.
- X (10) Humboldt Bay - Early a.m. 5 March, the wakes of 5-6 ships were sighted by aircraft heading into Hollandia, also several small craft approaching the convoy from Hollandia.
- (11) Wewak - At 0915/4, nine enemy bombers were seen taking off from Dagua by 2 Thunderbolts, who attacked one of the bombers on taking off. The bomber relanded and was then strafed by the Thunderbolts. Six enemy fighters then intercepted and no casualties were inflicted or suffered. At 1145/4, 4 enemy fighters were intercepted by the Thunderbolts 50 miles S. of Wewak and one fighter was shot down.
- (12) Bogia Harbour - During the night 5-6 March, our PT boats destroyed two tuggers in Bogia Harbour and strafed personnel and installations on the beach destroying a fuel and ammunition dump.
- (13) Bogadjim Area - At 1015-1035/6, personnel areas at Iayaw (8 miles S.W. of Bogadjim) were strafed by 11 Aircobras, led in by one Boomerang.
- (14) Yalau Plantation - On 6 March, patrols to the west of the bridgehead reached Kumisangger (6 miles W.) and the Yaganon River (6 miles E.) of the bridgehead. A large quantity of medical supplies was captured at Mindiri and no opposition was encountered throughout the patrols.
- (15) Upper Ramu Valley - At 1230/4, three enemy fighters heading north 18 miles South of Bogadjim were intercepted by 16 Thunderbolts which shot down 2 of the enemy fighters.
Between 1230 and 1240/4, four enemy fighters attacked dispersal areas at Gusap dropping two "dud" bombs and making one strafing run. No damage or casualties have been reported.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/8:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.45 (3 MV) departed Thursday Is. 1623/3 for Darwin.
- (2) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) escorting "KAILUA" "MILDURA" departed Darwin 0813/6 for Thursday Is. ETA 0800/9. "MILDURA" detaches off Cape Wessel and proceeds independently to Melville Bay ETA 1000/9.
- (3) 16 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	4	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" (AMS)	3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	:	"GOOLEBAR" "W. PROUSE"	
<u>Groote Eylandt:</u>				
Merchantmen	1	:	"BABINDA"	
<u>Melville Bay:</u>				
Merchantmen	1	:	"SUVA"	

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Frederik Hendrik Island - Between 0755-0905/7, an enemy aircraft was reported over Princess Marianne Strait.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/8:

- X (1) "SUSSEX" (CA) proceeding Fremantle ETA 1315/9.
- (2) "RANEE" (CVE) was to depart Fremantle 1230/7. "GAMBIA" (CL) to RV off Rottnest Island at 1400/7 and escort westwards.
- (3) "DUBBO" (AMS) was to depart Fremantle 1200/7 for Albany.
- (4) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.
- (5) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/5 for Melbourne ETA 1100/13 thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units 1 CL : "ADELAIDE"
 Escorts 2 : "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
 Auxiliaries 9 : "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT)
 2 YF: 286, 288 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries 2 : "CHILDS" (AV) "PRESTON" (AVD)

B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Nooumea - At 1600/7, a possible submarine was sighted 35 miles S.W. of Nooumea.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

X Marshalls - On 5 March, light air strikes were continued against Taroa, Wotje, Mille and Jaluit. The Japanese continue to repair the runways at Wotje and Taroa and usually manage to keep one strip serviceable at each place.

D. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Enemy Submarine Activity - CinC Eastern Fleet reports continued enemy offensive submarine activity in the Indian Ocean:

- X (1) 28-29 Feb: "ASUA" (?) torpedoed and sunk 800 miles E. of Diego Suarez.
- (2) 1058/29: "British Fusilier" unsuccessfully attacked 240 miles S. of Colombo.
- (3) 2030/29: "PALMA" (Brit., 5419 tons) ^{torpedoed} sunk 70 miles S. of Colombo.
- (4) 2150/3: "FORT MACLEOD" (Brit., 7127 tons) ^{torpedoed} sunk 240 miles S.W. Colombo.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre. "
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines, and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) TAKAO ATAGO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYEDO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS(2)</u>	HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES NICHOLSON WILKES STOCKTON STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>SS</u>	(4) BALAO GATO PETO SCAMP	} On Patrol	15	25
	(4) BASHAW BLACKFISH DACE FLOUNDER			
	(2) CERO DARTER			
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 5 twin-eng.)	162		
	Light & M/Bombers	118		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	24		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	23		
	Obsn. a/c	21		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>SS</u>	(3) DETROIT RICHMOND RALEIGH	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3-4) KONGO HARUNA * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	ZUIKAKU
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4) HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO (en route Malaya) * ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24) SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER PANSRAW BAY CAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY PATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3) MOGAMI ASHIGARA (poss. N. Pacif.) * MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILOXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(4) YAHAGI * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	* KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	3
<u>DD</u>	Approx 85	-	Approx 25
	Approx 30	-	Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?	-	2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific
(Western Section) Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines

BB - (3) QUEEN ELIZABETH (5) NAGATO
VALIANT ISE
RENOWN FUSO
YAMASHIRO
HYUGA (poss. Japan)

CV - ILLUSTRIOUS SHOKAKU

CV (E) RANEE (3) BATTLER
UNICORN
SHAH

(4) SUSSEX (5) AOBA
SUFFOLK KUMANO
HAWKINS SUZUYA
FROBISHER TONE
CHIKUMA

CL (2) ADELAIDE (7) SEYLON (5) YUBARI
GAMBIA KENYA TATSUTA
EMERALD OI
NEWCASTLE KINU
DANAE * KITAGAMI
TROMP
VAN HEEMSKERK

AV/CVS (2) CHILDS ALBATORSS * KAMOI
W.B. PRESTON

XCL - (2) CANTON
CHITRAL

XAV/XCVS - ?
- Approx 27 25

SS (16) ANGLER LAPON) Approx 15 17 (incl. 6 German)

BILLFISH POMPON)
BLUEFISH PUFFER)
BONEFISH NORWHAL) On Patrol
COD RASHER)
GUNNEL RATON)
HADDO RAY)
JACK ROBALO)

BOWFIN At Darwin

(8) CABRILLA HOE)
CREVALLE REDFIN)
FLASHER K.12) At Fremantle
HAKE K.15)

PELIAS
ORION

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)

Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng.) 117
Light & M/Bombers 57
Torpedo and D/Bombers -
Flying Boats 3
Floatplanes 61
Obsn. A/c 26

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 771

Date 9 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/9:

- X
- (1) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting "JACKSONVILLE" (departing S.W.P.A.) departed Milne Bay 1500/8. "GASCOYNE" escorts for 200 miles thence proceeding to RV with "WEST POINT" and escort to Milne Bay.
 - (2) "PC.1121" departed Milne Bay 1830/7 to RV with "OREGON TRAIL" and escort to Milne Bay.
 - (3) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
 - (4) "OCTANS" (AF) departed Milne Bay 1740/7 ETA Brisbane 0500/12.
 - (5) "BUNDABERG" (AMS) escorting Convoy MV.71 ("BISHOPDALE" (AO)) departed Milne Bay 1730/6 ETA Grafton Passage 2200/8 whence "BISHOPDALE" proceeds Sydney ETA 0600/14.
 - (6) "PIRIE" (AMS) escorting "BOTH" departed Port Moresby 1240/8 for Grafton Passage whence "PIRIE" proceeds Cairns ETA 1730/10, "BOTH" to Townsville ETA 0930/11 for onward routeing to Brisbane.
 - (7) "LATROBE" escorting Convoy TD.46 (2 MV) was to depart Thursday Is. 0400/9 for Darwin.
 - (8) "YP.291" departed Thursday Is. 0600/7 for Cairns ETA 1100/10.
 - (9) "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) proceeding to RV at 0100/8 with Convoy TN.227 ("EDNA" off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Port Moresby ETA 1300/10.
 - (10) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Townsville 0910/8 for Thursday Is. ETA 1200/11, for onward routeing to Darwin.
 - (11) "SC.731" departed Cairns 1605/8 for Thursday Island ETA 1700/10.
 - (12) "BALLARAT" departed Cairns 1741/8 for RV with "PYRO" (AE) off Fitzroy Is.
 - (13) "YMS. 8, 46" departed Cairns 1400/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/9.
 - (14) "STUART" (DD) departed Townsville 1000/7 for Sydney ETA 0500/10.
 - (15) "KURUMBA" (AO) proceeding Gladstone ETA noon 10 March, thence proceeding to Brisbane.
 - (16) "KATOOMBA" departed Townsville 0800/5 for Sydney ETA 2200/9.
 - (17) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
 - (18) "YMS's 47, 48, 51" were to depart Cairns 0700/6 for Brisbane were due 0800/9.
 - (19) "ROE" (DD) was to depart Brisbane 1200/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/9.
 - (20) "COWRA" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1500/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/12.
 - (21) "GOULBURN" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 1500/8 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/14, carrying out A/A practice off Cape Moreton.
 - (22) "ARARAT" "TOWNSVILLE" "ML's 804, 805" on search for submarine contacted at 0304/6 by "ML.805" north west of Fitzroy Is. If search negative by 0700/8, normal patrol to be resumed.
 - (23) "WHYALLA" departed Brisbane 2100/4 on A/S patrol Sandy Cape area.
 - (24) "MESQUITE" (CGC) was to depart Caloundra 2000/6 for Townsville ETA 1600/9.

- (25) "DELORAINÉ" departed Sydney 0900/8 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
 (26) "YANDRA" exercising between Sydney and Newcastle.
 (27) "COPAHEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Brisbane ETA 11 March.
 (28) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
 (29) 4 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) to depart Gladstone 2000/9 ETA Fitzroy Is. 1900/11, ETA Finschhafen 0700/14, returning thence Gladstone by 18 March.
 (2) "BARCOO" (PF) to depart Sydney so as to RV with "EURYALE" (AS) off Caloundra Head at 1900/10 and escort to Milne Bay. On arrival Milne Bay "BARCOO" to be transferred to operational and administrative control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
 (3) "GYMPIE" (AMS) to depart Caloundra 1300/9 for Townsville ETA 0900/12 for onward routing to Cairns.
 (4) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) to depart Caloundra 1200/9 for Townsville ETA 0800/12 for onward routing and escort to Port Moresby.
 (5) "YMS.10" to be sailed to Cairns earliest practicable.
 (6) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 March
 (7) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.

(c) In Harbour:

Cape Gloucester:

Auxiliaries	1	:	"SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
<u>Saïdor:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	PC.1123
Merchantmen	3	:	"R.P.WARNER" "H.C.PAYNE" "ETAMIN"
<u>Finschhafen:</u>			
Combat Units	40	PT	
Escorts	18	:	5 PC: 479, 1119, 1122, 1131, 1133 3 YMS: 50, 53, 314 3 ML: 428, 803, 806 7 SC: 650, 732, 734, 735, 747, 748, 749
Auxiliaries	6	:	"PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" "HILO" (ASP) "COUCAL (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen	15	:	"J.ALDEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCHOW" "J.NICOLET" "W.B.ALLISON" "CAPE BON" "W.ATWATER" "CAPE FLATTERY" "A.THOMAS" "C.DARROW" "WM.HEAUMONT" "D.HEWES" "LAKE ORMAC"
<u>Lae:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	ML's 802, 425
Merchantmen	3	:	"J.B.KENDRICK" "SIBIGO" "W.B.SUBJETTE"
<u>Buna:</u>			
Escorts	11	:	"BENALLA" (AMS) 1 PC: 1132 1 ML: 816 4 SC: 637, 736, 741, 750 4 YMS: 73, 313, 334, 335
Auxiliaries	9	:	"BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 2 YP: 233, 278
Merchantmen	20	:	"DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR" "KATOCOMBA" "H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "ESSO BAYONNE" "ALCIBIADES" "H.T.RAINEY" "HANYANG" "M.WALKER" "J.BURROUGHS" "VAN DERLIJN" "J.COOK" "A.ROBINSON" "MULIAMA" "K.D.WIGGINS" "TRIANGULUM" "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "BONTEKOE" "GEO.LUKS"
<u>Oro Bay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	2	:	"RIGEL" (AR) "FULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen	9	:	"W.SHARON" "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "MANA" "B.MATTHEWS" "J.P.BRADLEY" "GEO.V.L. MEYER" "S.BRANNON" "D.E.HUGHES"
<u>Woodlark Is:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"T.M.COOLEY"
<u>Kiriwina:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	ML.819 YMS.315
Merchantmen	1	:	"M.GRIFFITH"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"ANHUI"

* Milne Bay: *

Combat Units

1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "HOBBEY" "KALK" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN"
 "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON" "THORNE"
 "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA"

Escorts

36 PT
 2 PF : "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
 5 AMS : "BENDIGO" "GLENELG" "WAGGA" "MILDURA"
 "BROOME"
 1 PC : 476
 10 SC : 698, 699, 735, 737, 738, 742, 743, 744, 746
 981

Auxiliaries

7 YMS : 11, 49, 52, 70, 71, 72, 336
 6 ML : 424, 427, 430, 431, 801, 818
 20 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (APD)
 "LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP)

Merchantmen

"AASE MAERSK" "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OTUS"
 "FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)
 "KOGPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "GOLD STAR"
 (AG) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 2 YP: 283, 280
 76 : "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "ADMIRAL
 HALSTEAD" "E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS"
 "E.D.BAKER" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA
 C." "S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "F.BILLINGS"
 "F.P.BLAIR" "S.K.BOLIVAR" "CAPE OLEARE"
 "G.L.CURRY" "M.DALY" "J.W.DAVIS" "J.DEERE"
 "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "HARRINGTON
 EMERSON" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG"
 "L.FAIRCHILD" "M.FLINDERS" "M.FULLER"
 "A.HILL" "B.F.IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JAPARA"
 "E.JOHNSON" "L.S.KELLY" "O.KELLY" "M.E.
 KINNEY" "W.S.LADD" "J.LIND" "Z.LYKES"
 "MAETSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.McLENNAN"
 "N.E.MACK" "B.MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO"
 "I.McCOY" "MIDWEST FARMER" "JOHN I.NOLAN"
 "OZARK" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE"
 "POLLUX" "PONCE" "A.REHAN" "RING LARDNER"
 "J.ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER"
 "SEA DEVIL" "N.J.SINEOTT" "C.SPRECKERS" "SWA"
 "STAGEN" "M.M.STEWART" "THUNDERER" "S.M.
 WHITE" "GEO.VANCOUVER" "VAN DEN BOSCH"
 "VAN OUTHOORN" "VAN SWOLL" "VILLALOBOS"
 "R.J.WALKER" "F.A.WARDELL" "ED.N.WESTCOTT"
 "WEST TEXAS" "A.D.WHITE"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 1 : ML: 426
Auxiliaries 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "CLAMARES" (AF)
Merchantmen 2 : "H.V.WHITE" "S.G.PORTER"

Thursday Island:

Escorts -
Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 11 : "CASTLEMAINE" "KALGOORLIE" "STAWELL" (AMS)
 2 SC:703, 982 2 ML:811, 820 1 YMS:393
 3 PC:477, 1120, 1132
Auxiliaries 4 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "BOOTES" (AK) "MORESBY" (AGS)
 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 4 : "WARREGO" (PS) "BUNBURY" "KAPUNDA" (AMS)
 1 ML: 817

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2 : "MANOORA" "KANIMBLA" (APA)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Escorts 9 : "SWAN" (PS) "GUMPIE" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749
 2 YMS: 9,10 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
Auxiliaries 5 : "EURYALE" (AS) "LAGORAB" (AKS) "WIZAR" (AF)
 "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) 1 YP: 236

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Sydney:

Combat Units : 1 CA : "AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
2 CL : "HOBART" (") "BOISE"
1 DD : "VENDETTA"
1 DE : "GRISWOLD"
Escorts 11 : "BARCOO" (PF) "COLAC" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA"
"WARRNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE" (AMS)
2 ML: 822, 823 "AB.CRIJNSSEN" "KYBRA"
"DOOMBA" (A/S)
Auxiliaries 3 : "WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH)
"GANYMEDE" (AK)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITHGOW"

Adelaide:

Escorts 1 AMS : "GEELONG" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

(1) Buin Base - On 7 March, Piano Mission (inland from Buin) was bombed by 10 Aircobras.

(2) Empress Augusta Bay - On 6 March, Monoitu Mission and huts near Mibe River were bombed and strafed by 16 Aircobras while enemy positions on the Eastern shore of the Saua River mouth were bombed by 8 Dauntless.

During the night 6-7 March, a single enemy floatplane ineffectively attacked PT boats operating off S.W. Bougainville and shore gunfire was also encountered. Two barges and a possible dredge or floating crane at the Puriata River mouth were engaged and the latter craft destroyed.

Throughout 7 March, enemy positions along the Empress Augusta Bay shores were bombed and strafed by 12 Dauntless, 6 Avengers, 2 Liberators and 46 Aircobras.

Commencing at 0548/8, heavy enemy artillery fire was put up from N.E. of the Torokina perimeter centred on Piva airfield. Some damage was suffered to aircraft and a few minor casualties were reported. No damage, however, was inflicted on Piva or Torokina strips.

(3) Numa Numa - At 2125/8, a submarine was sighted by aircraft 22 miles N.E. of Numa Numa, possibly on a southerly course.

(4) Kavieng - At 1310/6, Kavieng and Panapai airfields were attacked by 24 Liberators escorted by 12 Lightnings. Photos show four direct hits on revetments at Kavieng aerodrome and 12 hits on the runway which was left unserviceable. A 200 ft. pier at Kavieng was shown on fire.

At 1258/7, Panapai was bombed by 24 Liberators with 14 Lightnings escorting. Subsequent photographs show the runway to be unserviceable.

(5) Rabaul - During the night 5-6 March, Rabaul was harassed by a single Liberator. One enemy night fighter ineffectually intercepted.

At 1225/6, Lakunai was attacked by 48 Dauntless, 24 Avengers with 37 fighters escorting, but results were unobserved due cloud. At 1235/6, Tobera was bombed by 24 Mitchells - 22 fighters escorted. Fires were started in revetments, of which some were believed to be burning aircraft. Also during 6 March, 6 barges in Massaba Bay and one barge off Wotam Island were strafed by 14 Corsairs (0820-0920/6). Fighters patrolling the Rabaul bomber strikes effectively strafed two smallcraft in the area. At 1235/6, 2 small ships (100 feet) and 10-15 barges were strafed by Corsairs.

During the night 6-7 March, Rabaul was again harassed by a single Liberator.

At 0900/7, Lakunai, A/A positions and installations in the vicinity were bombed and strafed by 47 Dauntless, 24 Avengers with 26 fighters covering. Several grounded aircraft were destroyed or damaged: the "ATAGO MARU" hulk was hit and left settling and several hits were scored on machine gun positions. At 0906/7, Tobera was bombed by 24 Mitchells escorted by 14 Corsairs. At 1105/7, targets in the town area were bombed by 18 Warhawks. Also a.m. 7 March, some 20 barges and small craft in the Harbour area and also in Atiliklikan Bay area were all strafed by 16 Corsairs.

'(5) Rabaul (Contd.) -

At 1707/7, 5 small ships at Malaguna were attacked by 3 Avengers covered by 10 Corsairs. One ship was sunk and another hit and last seen low in the water.

Photos 1330/7 show:

Tobera	:	19 F.	-	-	able
Vunakanau	:	-	2 D/B	-	Mainly unserviceable/Serviceable
Lakunai	:	6 F.	1 D/B	-	"
Rapopo	:	-	1 D/B	1 M/B	-

Total 30 a/c whereof 25 F. 4 D/B 1 M/B

X (6) Cape Hoskins - At 1600-1815/7, 8-10 barges which were apparently not present the previous day were strafed near Cape Hoskins.

(7) Talasea - On 7 March, heavy enemy opposition was holding up our advance in the Volupai Plantation. 55 Jap dead had been accounted for up to this date.

At 1700/7, targets in the Talasea area were bombed by 11 Beauforts.

(8) Garove Island - During the night 5-6 March, a barge off John Albert Hr. was strafed and rendered unserviceable by PT boats.

(9) Admiralty Islands - Counted enemy dead up to 1200/7 total 1231. Many others have not yet been counted.

At 2150/7, enemy aircraft dropped 8 bombs on our positions on Los Negros Island. No damage has been reported.

On 7 March, enemy gun positions at Hauwei and Ndrilli were shelled by 3 destroyers. No return fire was encountered.

(10) Hollandia - At 0210/8, 3 small sea trucks towing barges were reported by a Catalina 40 miles down the coast from Hollandia heading S.

At 0215/8, six cargo ships including one of 2-5000 tons, remainder small, were reported by aircraft in flight in Humboldt Bay.

X (11) Aitape -

(a) During the night 7-8 March, a Catalina reported 3 small unidentified ships in Sissano Lagoon (12 miles S.E. of Aitape).

(b) At 0105/9, a small enemy merchant vessel was attacked by a Catalina 10 miles S. of Aitape.

(12) Wewak - Midnight 7-8 March, Wewak area was bombed by 6 Liberators, starting several fires. One enemy night fighter ineffectively attempted interception.

(13) Hansa Bay - During the night 5-6 March, a lugger in Hansa Bay was attacked by PT boats and many hits registered.

At 1300/8, Nubia airfield was bombed by 6 Liberators.

Several aircraft were seen on the ground and one or more reported destroyed or damaged.

(14) Uligan Harbour - At 0930-1000/8, three loaded barges and 2 empty barges all in Uligan Harbour were thoroughly strafed by a Boston.

(15) Alexishafen - At 1145/8, Rempi village and mission (approx 4 miles N. of Alexishafen) were bombed and strafed by 36 Avengers escorted by 12 Kittyhawks.

(16) Rai Coast - Reports continue (7 March) of groups of enemy stragglers passing along the escape trail over the mountains South of Saidor.

On 7 March, allied patrols reached Cape Rigny (16 miles E. of Bogadjim) killing 2 Japs and capturing a light machine gun they were manning.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/9:

(1) "COOTAMUNDRA" (AMS) escorting "W. PROUSE" departed Darwin 0638/8 for West Bay ETA 2030/9.

(2) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.45 (3 MV) departed Thursday Is. 1625/3 for Darwin.

(3) "PREMANTLE" (AMS) escorting "KAILUA" "MILDURA" departed Darwin 0813/6 for Thursday Isl. ETA 0800/9. "MILDURA" detaches off Cape Wessel and proceeds independently to Melville Bay ETA 1000/8.

(4) 16 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:
Escorts 3 : ML's 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen 1 : "COOLEBAR"
Groote Eylandt:
Merchantmen 1 : "BABINDA"
Melville Bay:
Merchantmen 1 : "SUVA"

(11) ENEMY FORCES

Tanimbar Islands - Assigned targets at Saumlaki were bombed and strafed by 6 Beaufighters on 8 March. Results were unobserved.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/9:

- (1) "SUSSEX" (CA) proceeding Fremantle ETA 1315/9.
- (2) "RANEE" (CV(E)) was to depart Fremantle 1230/7. "GAMBIA" (CL) to RV off Rottnest Island at 1400/7 and escort westwards.
- (3) "DUEBO" (AMS) was to depart Fremantle 1400/7 for Albany.
- (4) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.
- (5) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/6 for Melbourne ETA 1100/13 thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:
Combat Units 1 CL : "ADELAIDE"
Escorts 2 : "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries 9 : "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK"
(AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT)
2 YP: 286, 288 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:
Auxiliaries 2 : "CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)

B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Espiritu Santo - A possible enemy submarine was contacted at 1255/8 60 miles S.W. of Espiritu Santo.
- (2) Nauru - A light air strike was conducted on Nauru 6 March.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Truk - P.m. 7 March, a convoy comprising one destroyer, 3 escort vessels and 4 cargo vessels were sighted leaving Truk for the N.W.
- (2) Carolines - Ponape aerodrome and the dock area were bombed at 1035/6 by 13 Liberators. A light raid was also carried out on Kusaie 6 March.
- (3) Marshalls - During 6 March, light air strikes were carried out on Mille, Jaluit, Taroa and Wotje.

D. INDIAN OCEAN

ENEMY FORCES

X Submarine Activity - It is estimated that there are at least 5 and possibly as many as 9 enemy submarines including at least 2 German, operating in the Indian Ocean thus:-
(a) 1 German unit in area East of Socotra as fixed by D/F night 5 March.

D. INDIAN OCEAN (Contd.)

- (b) 1 Japanese unit in area of northern approaches of Mozambique Channel as shown by a poor D/F fix night 7 March. In this area, a submarine was attacked by aircraft off Diego Suarez at about dawn 6 March.
- (c) 1 unit possibly still in area Bombay-Cochin-Lacadvive Is. although there has been no evidence since latter half of February when a Japanese submarine was believed in the area.
- (d) 1 unit possibly still in the coastal belt Calcutta to N. Ceylon although no evidence since a Jap unit was fixed by D/F 22 Feb. in the area.
- (e) 2-3 Jap units and 1 German unit operating in Maldiva Is.- E. coast Ceylong-Chagos Archipelago area. A Jap sub. was fixed by D/F between Maldiva Island and Chagos Archipelago a.m. 5 March.
- (e) Possibly 1 more unit (Japanese) south of Chagos Archipelago

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismareks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines, and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) TAKAO ATAGO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUMTA WARFAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Marianas Carolines
<u>SS</u>	(4) BALAO -) GATO) PETO) SGAMP)	On Patrol	15	25
	(4) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) DACE) FLOUNDER)	At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO) DARTER)	At Brisbane		
	K.S	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL FLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS.		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E.Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	165		
	Light & M/Bombers	122		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	19		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

(2. NORTHERN PACIFIC)

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON CALIFORNIA MASSACHUSETTS SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE MISSISSIPPI NEW MEXICO IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3-4)	KONGO HARUNA * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)	} en route } South
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		ZUIKAKU (en route South)	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO * ZUIHO	
<u>(T)</u>	-	-	-		HOSHO	
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24)	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA EARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS ERETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSEAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY MATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO	
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3)	MOGAMI (en route South) ASHIGARA (poss.N.Pacific) * MAYA	
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	-		6	
<u>GL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILOXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(4)	YAHAGI * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU	
<u>GL(T)</u>	-	-	-		* KASHII	
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	-		3	
<u>DD</u>		Approx 85			Approx 35	
<u>SS</u>		Approx 30			Approx 25	
<u>AS</u>		?			2 (one repairing)	

* Non-affective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific (Western Section) Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines

BB - (3) QUEEN ELIZABETH (5) NAGATO
VALIANT ISE
RENOWN FUSO
YAMASHIRO
HYUGA (poss. Japan)

CV - ILLUSTRIOUS SHOKAKU

CV(E) RANEE (3) BATTLEUR
UNICORN
SHAH

CA SUSSEX (3) SUFFOLK (5) AOBA
HAWKINS KUMANO
PROBISHER SUZUYA
TONE
CHIKUMA

CL (2) ADELAIDE (7) CEYLON (5) YUBARI
GAMBIA KENYA TATSUTA
EMERALD OI
NEWCASTLE KINU
DANAE * KITAGAMI
TROMP
VAN HEEMSKERK

AV/GVS (2) CHILDS ALBATROSS * KAMOI
W.B. PRESTON

XCL - (2) CANTON
CHITRAL

XAV/XCVS - ?
- Approx 27 25

SS (16) ANGLER LAPON } Approx 15 17 (incl. 6 German)
BILFISH POMPON }
BLUEFISH PUPPER }
BONFISH NORWHAL } On Patrol
COD RASHER }
GUNNEL RATON }
HADDO RAY }
JACK ROBALO }

BOWFIN At Darwin

(8) GABRIELLA HOE }
CREVALLE REDFIN } At Fremantle
FLASHER K.12 }
HAKE K.15 }

PELIAS
ORION

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng.) 111
Light & M/Bombers 57
Torpedo and D/Bombers -
Flying Boats 3
Floatplanes 61
Obsn. A/c 26

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.
Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 772

Date 10 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/10:

- (1) "YMS's 334,73" escorting Convoy GB.53 ("CAPE FLATTERY" "R.P.WARNER") departed Finschhafen 1200/9 for Milne Bay ETA 1100/11.
- (2) "GASCOYNE" (PF) was to RV with "WEST POINT" and escort to Milne Bay due 1015/10.
- (3) "PC.1121" departed Milne Bay 1800/9 to RV with "PANDA" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (4) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (5) "OCTANS" (AF) departed Milne Bay 1740/7 ETA Brisbane 0500/12.
- (6) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) departed Milne Bay 1516/8 for Brisbane ETA 1700/11.
- (7) "PIRIE" (AMS) escorting "BOTH" departed Port Moresby 1240/8 for Grafton Passage whence "PIRIE" proceeds Cairns ETA 1730/10, "BOTH" to Townsville ETA 0930/11 for onward routing to Brisbane.
- (8) "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) proceeding to RV at 0100/8 with Convoy TN.227 ("EDNA") off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Port Moresby ETA 1300/10.
- (9) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Townsville 0910/8 for Thursday Island ETA 1200/11, for onward routing to Darwin.
- (10) "SC.731" departed Cairns 1605/8 for Thursday Is. ETA 1700/10.
- (11) "BOWEN" on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (12) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) (ex Convoy MV.71) proceeding independently to Sydney ETA 0600/14.
- (13) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) were to depart Gladstone 2000/9. ETA Fitzroy Is. 1900/11, ETA Finschhafen 0700/14, returning thence Gladstone by 18 March.
- (14) "GYMPIE" (AMS) was to depart Caloundra 1300/9 for Townsville ETA 0900/12 for onward routing to Cairns.
- (15) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) was to depart Caloundra 1200/9 for Townsville ETA 0800/12, for onward routing and escort to Port Moresby.
- (16) "KURUMBA" (AO) proceeding Gladstone ETA noon 10 March, thence proceeding to Brisbane.
- (17) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) assisting "OMAHA" aground on Egret Reef.
- (18) "COWRA" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1500/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/12.
- (19) "GOULBURN" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 1500/8 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/14, carrying out A/A practice off Cape Moreston.
- (20) "WHYALLA" departed Brisbane 2100/4 on A/S patrol Sandy Cape area.
- (21) "DELORAINE" departed Sydney 0900/8 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (22) "MIZAR" (AF) was to depart Caloundra 2359/9 for Melbourne ETA 0630/12.
- (23) "COPAHEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Brisbane ETA 11 March.
- (24) "BARCOO" (PF) departed Sydney 1332/9 for Caloundra to RV at 1900/10 with "EURYALE" (AS) and escort to Milne Bay ETA 1500/13. On arrival Milne Bay, "BARCOO" to be transferred to operational control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea.

- (25) "YANDRA" (A/S) was to depart Sydney 0900/10 northbound.
 (26) "GRISWOLD" (DE) departed Sydney 1237/9 for Espiritu Santo.
 (27) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
 (28) 4 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "YMS.10" to be sailed to Cairns earliest practicable.
 (2) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 Mar.
 (3) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Escorts 1 : SC.738
 Merchantmen 1 : "LAKE ORMAC"

Cape Gloucester:

Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Saidor:

Merchantmen 2 : "H.C.PAYNE" "ETAMIN"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units 40 PT
 Escorts 20 : 5 PC: 479, 1119, 1123, 1131, 1133
 3 YMS: 50, 53, 314; 3 ML: 428, 803, 806
 9 SC: 650, 732, 734, 735, 743, 747, 748, 749
 981

Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "CYSTER BAY" "HILO" (AGP) "COUGAL"
 (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)

Merchantmen 20 : "J.ALLEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOOCHOW"
 "W.B.ALLISON" "J.NICOLET" "CAPE BON"
 "A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES"
 "C.DARROW" "W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG"
 "K.D.WIGGINS" "VAN DER LIJN" "M.T.HERRICK"
 "GEO.LUKS" "VAN DEN BOSCH"

Lae:

Escorts 2 : ML's 802, 425
 Merchantmen 6 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "SIBIGO" "W.B.SUBJETTE"
 "BONTEKOE" "J.BURROUGHS" "H.T.RAINEY"

Buna:

Escorts 10 : "BENALLA" (AMS) 1 PC: 1132 1 ML: 816
 5 SC: 637, 735, 736, 741, 750 2 YMS: 313, 335

Auxiliaries 10 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGG) "DOBBI" (AD) "TRINITY"
 "SUSQUEHANNA" (AC) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) 1 ARD
 "POYANG" "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 2 YP: 233, 278

Merchantmen 15 : "DUNHAM WRIGHT" "M.C.KERR" "KATOOMBA"
 "H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "ESSO BAYONNE"
 "ALCIBIADES" "M.WALKER" "J.COOK" "MULIAMA"
 "TRIANGULUM" "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "MANA"
 "W.SHARRON" "D.E.HUGHES"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "FULSA" (PG)
 Merchantmen 7 : "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "B.MATTHEWS"
 "J.P.BRADLEY" "GEO.V.L.MEYER" "S.ERANNON"
 "T.CRAWFORD"

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "T.M.COOLEY" "ANNUI"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 2 : ML. 819 YMS. 315

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 1 : "ED.N.WESTCOTT"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 26 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "HOBBEY" "KALK" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN"
 "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON" "THORNE"
 "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"

36 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Milne Bay (Contd.)

<u>Escorts</u>	2 PF	:	"LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
	5 AMS	:	"BENDIGO" "GLENELG" "WAGGA" "MILDURA" "BROOME"
	2 PC	:	476, 1122
	6 SC	:	698, 699, 737, 742, 744, 746
	10 YMS	:	8, 11, 46, 49, 52, 53, 70, 72, 336
	6 ML	:	424, 427, 430, 431, 801, 818
<u>Auxiliaries</u>	19	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (APD) "LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP) "AASERMAERSK" "BISHOPDALE" (AD) "OTUS" "FULTON" (AS) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "GOLD STAR" (AG) 2 YP: 283, 280
<u>Merchantmen</u>	74	:	"ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "E.D.BAKER" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "F.BILLINGS" "F.P.BLAIR" "S.K.BOLIVAR" "G.L.CURRY" "M.DALY" "J.W.DAVIS" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "HARRINGTON EMERSON" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "L.FAIRCHILD" "M.FLINDERS" "M.FULLER" "M.GRIFFITH" "A.HILL" "B.F.IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JAPARA" "E.JOHNSON" "L.S.KELLY" "O.KELLY" "W.E.KINNEY" "W.S.LADD" "J.LIND" "Z.LYKES" "MARTSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.MCLENAN" "N.E.MACK" "B.MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO" "I.McCOY" "MIDWEST FARMER" "JOHN I.NOLAN" "OREGON TRAIL" "OZARK" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "POLLUX" "PONCE" "A.REHAN" "RING LARDNER" "J.ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "N.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "N.J.SINNOTT" "C.SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "M.M.STEWART" "THUNDERER" "S.M.WHITE" "GEO.VANCOUVER" "VAN OUTHOORN" "VAN SWOLL" "VILLALOBOS" "R.J.WALKER" "F.A.WARDELL" "WEST TEXAS" "A.D.WHITE"

Port Moresby:

<u>Escorts</u>	1	:	ML: 426
<u>Auxiliaires</u>	2	:	"POLARIS" (AGS) "CALAMARES" (AF)
<u>Merchantmen</u>	3	:	"H.V.WHITE" "S.G.PORTER" "TAROOHA"

Thursday Island:

<u>Escorts</u>	1	:	"FREMANTLE" (AMS)
<u>Auxiliaries</u>	2	:	"BUNGAREE" (GM) 1 YP: 291

Cairns:

<u>Escorts</u>	15	:	"ARARAT" "CASTLEMAINE" "KALGOORLIE" "STAWELL" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS) 2 SC: 703, 982 1 YMS: 393 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 3 PC: 477, 1120, 1132
<u>Auxiliaries</u>	4	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "BOOTES" (AK) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

<u>Escorts</u>	5	:	"WARREGO" (PS) "BUNBURY" "BUNDABERG" "KAPUNDA" (AMS) 1 ML: 817
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Mackay:

<u>Auxiliaries</u>	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
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Gladstone:

<u>Escorts</u>	2	:	"CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF)
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Brisbane:

<u>Escorts</u>	11	:	"SWAN" (PS) 2 SC: 745, 749 3 ML: 808, 821, 827 5 YMS: 9, 10, 47, 48, 51
<u>Auxiliaries</u>	4	:	"EURYALE" (AS) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" (AF) 1 YP: 236

Sydney:

<u>Combat Units</u>	1 CA	:	"AUSTRALIA" (Refitting)
	2 CL	:	"HOBART" (") "BOISE"
	2 DD	:	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
<u>Escorts</u>	11	:	"COLAC" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOO" "GLADSTONE" (AMS) 2 ML: 822, 823 "KYBRA" "AB.CRIJJSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
<u>Auxiliaries</u>	3	:	"WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH) "GANYMEDE" (AK)

Melbourne:

<u>Escorts</u>	1 AMS	:	"LITHGOW"
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Adelaide:

<u>Escorts</u>	1 AMS	:	"CEELONG" (Refitting)
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(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Solomons Airfields - Photos 8 March show Kahili, Kara, Ballale, Buka and Bonis airfields all unserviceable and no aircraft present.
- (2) Empress Augusta Bay - A.m. 7 March, enemy positions E. of Torokina River were bombarded by U.S. destroyers.

The enemy artillery fire ranged on Piva airfield 8 Mar. (as reported in Summary 771), was returned by allied artillery which silenced some positions. During the night 8-9 Mar. some 40 more shells were centred in the area just N.E. of Piva and again slight damage was caused to aircraft and minor casualties and damage to installations.

During 8 Mar. enemy gun positions around Torokina perimeter were attacked by:

1110/8 - 24 Dauntless, 12 Avengers on hill positions.

a.m. - 3 Aircobras on coastal positions.

1615-1730/8 - 54 Dauntless, 28 Avengers on hill positions.

1645/8 - Avengers (turned back from Rabaul) 5 tons on perimeter positions.

In addition, enemy camp areas were bombed and strafed by 8 Dauntless, 4 Corsairs and some Aircobras.

Cdr. 3rd Fleet reports indications of enemy preparations for a general ground attack in the area.

- (3) N.E. Bougainville - At 0835/9, an enemy submarine was sighted by aircraft 37 miles N. by W. of Kieta.
- (4) Namatanai - Photos 1212/8 show no aircraft present on Namatanai airfield but the strip is serviceable for 2700 feet.
- (5) Rabaul - During the night 7-8 March, Rabaul was harassed by a single Liberator.

At 1052/8, the wharf area on eastern shores of Simpsons Harbour were bombed by 23 unescorted Liberators: Photos show 131 hits destroying at least 27 buildings. Between 1200 and 1305/8, the same area was bombed by 46 Warhawks and Aircobras. At 1317/8, the town area was bombed by 23 unescorted Mitchells causing large explosions and fires. All our aircraft returned except 1 Mitchell which water-landed: crew rescued.

Photos of the Harbour a.m. 8 March show 2 small freighters (under 1000 tons), 1 probable "flak" ship and approx 400 barges.

- (6) Cape Hoskins - At 1330/8, a small freighter was reported by aircraft off Cape Hoskins. Although the ship was reported as apparently serviceable it is considered possibly to have been the wreck known to be in the area.

At 1010/9, Cape Hoskins strip was bombed by 8 Beauforts.

- (7) Talasea - After overcoming stiff opposition on the N. side of Little Mount Werri on 7 March, Marines advanced overland and during the following night reached Bitokara (2 miles from Talasea airfield). The airfield was occupied 8 March and advanced elements continued to 1 mile S. of the strip. Total enemy casualties to 8 Mar. are 83 counted dead: our losses are 13 killed and 80 wounded.

Supporting ground forces, Waru Village was bombed at 0815-0855/8 by 8 Kittyhawks. The village, which is 1 mile W. of the airstrip was subsequently occupied.

- (8) Gasmata - At 2200/8, 3 westbound barges were seen off Lindenhafen Plantation by a Catalina in addition to 3 barges and one fishing boat eastbound.

At 0955/9, dumps were bombed by 6 Beauforts.

- (9) Admiralty Islands - On 8 March, Mokerang Plantation (northern end of Los Negros Island) was reported clear of the enemy, but there are still enemy on the southern end of the Island.

At 1630/8, a landing was effected at Lombrum Point (on Los Negros Island - Southern shores of Seeadler Harbour) by our troops from 7 LCV's brought in by destroyers and minesweepers. Lombrum Point area was occupied by 1500/8 apparently without opposition.

The landing operation in Seeadler Harbour on 8 March was supported by about 10 Liberators and a few Mitchells.

Shortly before noon 8 March, one enemy aircraft strafed Momote airfield without effect.

At 1000/9 Bear Point (on Manus Island - In Seeadler Hr.) was bombed by 11 Mitchells.

- (10) Hollandia - At 0230/10, two freighters (2-5000 tons) were reported by aircraft in Hollandia.
- (11) Vanimo - During the night 7-8 March, 2 ships, possibly a destroyer or submarine, and a gunboat, were reported by aircraft 25 miles N.E. of Vanimo heading N.W.
At 0220/10, a tug was attacked by aircraft 20 miles S.E. of Vanimo and left sinking.
- (12) Aitape - At 1130-1230/8, aircraft reported 3 luggers and 3 barges at Aitape. One lugger was strafed and left on fire. Afternoon reports indicate some shipping, possibly the same six or part thereof, in Aitape area.
At 0130/10, one sea truck was reported by aircraft 25 miles E.S.E. of Aitape, course 300°.
- (13) Wewak - Following the night raid on Wewak 7-8 March, by 6 Liberators (refer Summary 771), a strong force of heavy and attack bombers was despatched to attack Dagua airfield. Very heavy weather was encountered and only 5 Liberators reached the target bombing an estimated position. Other aircraft unable to locate targets at Wewak bombed various objectives down the coast, mainly Hansa Bay. Approx 40 enemy fighters attacked our heavy bombers at various stages and of these 17 were shot down definitely (including one by the fighter cover) and 10 more probably shot down.
- (14) Yalau Area - Advanced allied ground elements reached Bau Plantation (2½ miles S.W. Of Cape Rigny) on 8 March encountering only slight opposition.
- (15) Saidor - At about midnight 8-9 March, one enemy bomber attacked the Saidor area causing a few casualties.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/10:

- (1) "COOTAMUNDRA" (AMS) was due escorting "W. PROUSE" departed Darwin 0638/8 for West Bay was due 2030/9.
- (2) "LATROBE" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.46 ("ADMIRAL CHASE") departed Thursday Is. 0619/9 for Darwin ETA 1600/13.
- (3) 15 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

<u>Darwin:</u>		
Escorts	4	: "INVERELL" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	: "COGLEBAR" "P.A. EILERS" "SCHWEDAGON" "DILGA"
<u>Groote Eylandt:</u>		
Merchantmen	1	: "BARINDA"
<u>Melville Bay:</u>		
Merchantmen	2	: "SUVA" "MILDURA"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Babo: During the night 7-8 March, Babo airfield was bombed by 4 Catalinas starting fires.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/10:

- (1) "RANEE" (CV(E)) was to depart Fremantle 1230/7. "GAMBIA" (CL) to RV off Rottnest Island at 1400/7 and escort westwards.
Destination "GAMBIA": Volombe; destination "RANEE": Cochin.
- (2) ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.
- (3) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/6 for Melbourne ETA 1100/13 thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	3	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	9	:	"CHANTIGLEER" (ASR) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "PELIAS" "ORION" (AS) "YUMA" (AT) 2 YP: 286, 288 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD)
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B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Nauru - Five aircraft were reported 7 March on Nauru strip by reconnaissance aircraft, in addition to 5 barges in the boat basin.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls - On 7 March, light air strikes were conducted against Wotje, Mille and Taroa. At 0825/8, fires were started at Jaluit by a strike involving 18 Dauntless and 11 Hellcats. Rongelap was also bombed 8 March.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>DV(E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) TAKAO ATAGO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HITCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(4) BALAO GATO PETO SCAMP	} On Patrol	15	25
	(4) BASHAW BLACKFISH DACE FLOUNDER	} At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO DARTER	} At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H. T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Lighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	165		
	Light & M/Bombers	122		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	19		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>B</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENN SYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3-4)	KONGO) en route HARUNA) South * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		ZUIKAKU (en route South)
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	QOWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO * ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24)	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROILER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3)	MOGAMI (en route South) ASHIGARA (poss. N. Pacific) * MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	-		6
<u>CL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILOXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(4)	YAHAGI * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-		* KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	-		3
<u>DD</u>		Approx 85			Approx 25
<u>SS</u>		Approx 30			Approx 25
<u>AS</u>		?			2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 773

Date 11 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. NORTH EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORGES(a) At Sea to 1200/11:

- (1) "YMS's 334, 73" escorting Convoy GB.53 ("CAPE FLATTERY" "R.P. WARNER") departed Finschhafen 1200/9 for Milne Bay ETA 1100/11.
- (2) "SC.737" departed Milne Bay 1000/10 escorting 1 LCT for Kiriwina thence to Buna.
- (3) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Gladstone approx 2000/9 ETA Fitzroy Is. 1900/11, ETA Finschhafen 0700/14, returning thence Gladstone by 18 March.
- (4) "COWRA" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1500/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/12.
- (5) "BARCOO" (PF) escorting "EURYALE" (AS) from Caloundra to Milne Bay ETA 1500/13.
- (6) "GOULBURN" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 1500/8 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/14.
- (7) "KALGOORLIE" "KAPUNDA" "BOWEN" "PC.1120" "YMS.393" escorting Convoy TN.228 (6 MV including "MESQUITE" (IX); 1 MV for Port Moresby, 5 others for Milne Bay) departed Fitzroy Is. area approx 1100/11 ETA Port Moresby portion with "BOWEN" escorting 1000/13, ETA Milne Bay portion with remainder of escorts 1100/13.
- (8) "PC.1121" departed Milne Bay 1800/9 to RV with "PANDA" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (9) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (10) "WAGGA" "MILDURA" "YMS.72" escorting "WEST TEXAS" (for Sydney ETA 17 March) departed Milne Bay 1650/9. Escorts detach at Grafton Passage.
- (11) "BAILARAT" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1800/10 for Grafton Passage ETA 1100/12.
- (12) "GOLD STAR" (AG) departed Milne Bay 0700/10 for Sydney.
- (13) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Townsville 0910/8 for Thursday Is. ETA 1200/11, for onward routing to Darwin.
- (14) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 1515/10 for air-sea rescue mission 150 miles W.S.W. Horn Island.
- (15) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) departed Cairns 1500/10 for Gladstone ETA 0800/12.
- (16) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (17) "OCTANS" (AF) departed Milne Bay 1740/7 ETA Brisbane 0500/12.
- (18) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) departed Milne Bay 1516/8 ETA Brisbane 1700/11.
- (19) "GYMPIE" (AMS) was to depart Caloundra 1300/9 for Townsville ETA 0900/12 for onward routing to Cairns.
- (20) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) was to depart Caloundra 1200/9 for Townsville ETA 0800/12, for onward routing and escort to Port Moresby.

- (21) "COPABEE" (CV(E)) proceeding Brisbane ETA 11 March.
 (22) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) was to depart Sydney 1200/11 for Milne Bay.
 (23) "MIZAR" (AF) was to depart Caloundra 2359/9 for Melbourne ETA 0630/12.
 (24) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0900/10 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
 (25) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
 (26) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "BOISE" (CL) to depart Sydney 1430/11 for Cape Moreton.
 (2) "YMS.10" to be sailed to Cairns earliest Possible.
 (3) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 Mar.
 (4) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 March.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Escorts 1 : SC.738
 Merchantmen 1 : "LAKE ORMAC"

Cape Gloucester:

Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Saidor:

Combat Units 11 PT
 Escorts 2 : SC's 732, 748
 Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "ETAMIN" "K.D.WIGGIN"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units 50 PT
 Escorts 20 : 5 PC: 479, 1119, 1123, 1131, 1133
 4 YMS: 50, 53, 314, 335 3 ML: 428, 803, 806
 8 SC: 650, 734, 735, 741, 743, 747, 749, 981
 Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "OYSTER BAY" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL"
 (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
 Merchantmen 23 : "J.ALDEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCHOW"
 "W.B.ALLISON" "J.NICOLET" "CAPE BON" "J.NEGOLE"
 "A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES"
 "C.DARROW" "W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG" "VAN DER LIJN"
 "M.T.HERRICK" "GEO.LUKS" "VAN DEN BOSCH"
 "MULIAMA" "J.COOK" "D.E.HUGHES" "W.SHARRON"

Lae:

Escorts 1 : ML.802
 Merchantmen 7 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "W.B.SUBJETTE" "BONTEKOE"
 "J.BURROUGHS" "H.T.RAINEY" "KATCOMBA" "MANA"

Ma:

Escorts 8 : "BENAILA" (AMS) 1 PC:1132 1 ML: 816
 4 SC: 637, 735, 736, 750 1 YMS: 313
 Auxiliaries 10 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TIRNITY"
 "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) 1 ARD.
 "POYANG" "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 2 YP: 233, 278
 Merchantmen 13 : "M.C.KERR" "F.BILLINGS" "H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.
 DODDRIDGE" "G.L.CURRY" "ALCIBIADES" "POLLUX"
 "M.WALKER" "TRIANGULUM" "W.C.CLAIRBORNE"
 "ESSO PITTSBURG" "R.J.WALKER" "J.W.DAVIS"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
 Merchantmen 9 : "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOCKOUT" "B.MATTHEWS"
 "J.F.BRADLEY" "GEO.V.L.MEYER" "S.BRANNON"
 "T.CRAWFORD" "RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN"

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "T.M.COOLEY" "ANHUI"

Miriwina:

Escorts 1 : ML.819

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 1 : "ED.N.WESTCOTT"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
 26 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUPCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "KALK"
 "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID"
 "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
 "NICHOLSON" "THORNE" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ"
 16 PT : "ARUNTA" "ROE"

* Milne Bay (Contd.)

Escorts	3 PF	:	"LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" "GASCOYNE"
	3 AMS	:	"BENDIGO" "GLENELG" "BROOME"
	2 PC	:	476, 1122
	5 SC	:	698, 699, 742, 744, 746
	9 YMS	:	8, 11, 46, 49, 52, 53, 70, 315, 336
	7 ML	:	424, 425, 427, 430, 431, 801, 818
Auxiliaries	16	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (APD) "LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "OTUS" "FULTON" (AS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) 2 YP: 283, 280 "CALAMARES" (AF)
Merchantmen	70	:	"ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G. ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K. BARLOW" "R.S. BEAN" "F.P. BLAIR" "S.K. BOLIVAR" "M. DALY" "J. DEERE" "F.H. DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J. DOTY" "EMERSON" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO BAYONNE" "L. FAIRCHILD" "H. FLINDERS" "M. GRIFFITH" "A. HILL" "B.F. IRVINE" "ISOLATOR" "JAPARA" "E. JOHNSON" "L.S. KELLY" "O. KELLY" "M.E. KINNEY" "W.S. LADD" "J. LIND" "E. LYKES" "MAETSON" "J.S. MANSFIELD" "N.E. MACK" "W. McLENNAN" "B. MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO" "I. MCCOY" "MIDWEST FARMER" "OREGON TRAIL" "OZARK" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "POUCE" "A. REHAN" "J. ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS" "J. ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "SIDICO" "N.J. SINNOTT" "C. SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "S.M. WHITE" "THUNDERER" "GEO. VANCOUVER" "VAN OUTHORN" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "VAN SWOLL" "VILLALOBOS" "F.A. WARDELL" "WEST CACTUS" "WEST POINT" "A.D. WHITE" "D. WRIGHT"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 ML: 426
Auxiliaries	1	:	"POLARIS" (AGS)
Merchantmen	3	:	"S.G. PORTER" "EDNA" "TAROONA"
<u>Thursday Is:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	SC: 731
Auxiliaries	1	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	13	:	"ARARAT" "CASTLEMAINE" "STAWELL" "PIRIE" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS) 2 SC: 703, 982 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 2 PC: 477, 1132
Auxiliaries	4	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "BOOTES" (AK) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.
<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	4	:	"WARREGO" (PS) "BUNBURY" "BUNDABERG" (AMS) 1 ML: 817
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
<u>Gladstone:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF)
Auxiliaries	1	:	"KURUMBA" (AO)
<u>Brisbane:</u>			
Escorts	12	:	"SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749 3 ML: 800, 821, 827 5 YMS: 9, 10, 47, 48, 51
Auxiliaries	3	:	"ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" (AF) 1 YP: 236
<u>Sydney:</u>			
Combat Units	2 CL	:	"HOBART" (Refitting) "BOISE"
	2 DD	:	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	:	"COLAC" "DELORAINÉ" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE" (AMS) 2 ML: 822, 823 "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
Auxiliaries	3	:	"WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH) "GANYMEDÉ" (AK)
<u>Melbourne:</u>			
Escorts	1 AMS	:	"LITHGOW"
<u>Adelaide:</u>			
Escorts	1 AMS	:	"DEELONG" (Refitting)

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Choiseul Island - On March 10, it is reliably reported enemy troops in the Choiseul Bay area, estimated to number 500, were being evacuated to Buin-Faisi at night by means of barges.
At 2145/10, an enemy submarine was attacked by a light surface unit 7 miles W. of Choiseul Bay and some debris was observed following the attack. This submarine may also have been engaged transporting supplies and/or personnel in this area.
- (2) S. Bougainville - Eight barges were reported in photos of anchorages in this area March 9.
- (3) Empress Augusta Bay - Our ground troops around the Torokina perimeter report patrol contacts. During the night March 8-9, the enemy made a shallow penetration into our eastern perimeter but this perimeter was re-established the following day. 100 enemy dead were counted while our casualties on 8 March were 5 killed and 93 wounded.
P.m. March 9, one U.S. destroyer bombarded enemy positions East of the Torokina perimeter.
Throughout March 9 and 10 slight intermittent enemy artillery fire was continued to be directed at the air strips in this area. Early hours March 9, a single enemy aircraft approached the Torokina strip area, but our night fighters failed to make contact.
During night March 9-10, our PT boats operating in this area were twice shelled by heavy calibre batteries at Mosiga and Lakuruaei but apparently not hit. They were also unsuccessfully attacked by one enemy floatplane which dropped two flares and one bomb before our night fighters intercepted. Other PT boats were shelled by an enemy battery at Motupena Point which was later silenced by U.S. destroyer gunfire.
During March 9, further strong forces of Dauntless and Avengers heavily attacked enemy ground positions in the Empress Augusta perimeter. One Avenger was damaged.
- (4) Buka - Photos this area reveal only two barges on March 9. P.m. March 8, nine Kittyhawks failing to reach Rabaul dropped 9 x 1000 lb. bombs on Buka strip scoring 3 hits on the runway.
- (5) Peni Islands - Night March 9-10, Soupac PT boats destroyed a large enemy barge off Babase Island.
- (6) Rabaul - Noon March 9, the dock area, Simpson's Harbour and Talili Bay were attacked by 25 Soupac Mitchells, while the Rabaul town area was attacked by 19 Soupac Liberators.
At 1700/9, four Soupac Avengers attacked 15 enemy barges or small coastal schooners in Keravia Bay sinking three and damaging two.
- (7) Greenwich Island - Afternoon March 9, a Soupac Liberator destroyed a small enemy auxiliary 35 miles S. of Greenwich Island and later attacked a small cargo vessel at Greenwich Island leaving the vessel burning and listing.
- (8) Gazelle Peninsula - It is reliably reported on March 10 that enemy outposts cover all tracks from Wide Bay to Open Bay.
- (9) Cape Orford - During March 9, Navy Catalina strafed and damaged two enemy westbound barges in the Cape Orford area.
- (10) Willaumez Peninsula - During night March 8-9, U.S. PT boats destroyed three enemy barges loaded with troops and severely damaged another three in the Cape Hollman area. Rifle fire was encountered from the barges.
On March 9, Talasea village was occupied by Marine troops and the enemy was reported retreating towards Numundo (15 miles S.E. of Talasea).
On March 10, off Northern tip of Willaumez Peninsula, a U.S. LCM transporting a light tank to Garua, destroyed with 37 mm. fire a large enemy barge carrying 75 Japs. Personnel were also strafed by the tank's machine guns.
- (11) Gasmata - Night March 7-8, U.S. PT boats destroyed a small enemy 175 ft. cargo vessel off the Eastern entrance to Lindenhafen while heading S.W.
A.m. March 9, 14 R.A.A.F. Beauforts were engaged in attacks on enemy positions this area, while a.m. the following day, 10 five Liberators attacked the Ring Ring Plantation area.

- (12) Arawe - On March 9, Moewe Harbour was reported to be occupied by our troops.
- (13) Admiralty Islands - During March 9, enemy minefields in Seeadler Hr. were reported being cleared by our surface craft.
P.m. same day, our ground troops were engaged in mopping up operations on Los Negros Is. P.m. March 10, 11 Liberators attacked Lorengau aerodrome and bivouac area.
- (14) Hollandia - Night March 9-10, Navy Catalinas attacked two medium sized enemy freighters and one sea truck type vessel in Humboldt Bay scoring a direct hit on the latter vessel which was believed destroyed and also a direct hit on one of the freighters causing a huge fire and heavy smoke. Other freighter was later observed to be possibly beached.
- (15) Vanimo - During night March 9-10, a Navy Catalina attacked a small enemy vessel described as a tug-boat which was abandoned by the crew and beached 15 miles E.S.E. of Vanimo. Three lifeboats launched from the vessel were also sunk.
- (16) Aitape - Early hours March 10, two Liberators were involved in attacks against a small enemy coastal freighter heading towards Tadjil.
- (17) Hansa Bay-Uligan - A.m. March 9, 4 barges were observed in Hansa Bay area and 5 stationary in Uligan Harbour.
- (18) Madang-Alexishafen - Night March 8-9, U.S. PT boats bombarded Madang, Cape Juno and Alexishafen.
- (19) Rai Coast - Preliminary report dates March 8 indicates possibility 300 enemy made hasty evacuation from the Mindiri village leaving medical supplies, shore batteries and barges.
- (20) Saidor - Night March 8-9, further reports indicate that 3 enemy aircraft bombed Saidor causing nil damage. Our A/A battery claims destroying one aircraft.
Night March 9-10, two enemy medium bombers attacked this area without effect.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/11:

- (1) "LATROBE" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.46 ("ADMIRAL CHASE") departed Thursday Is. 0619/9 for Darwin ETA 1600/13.
- (2) 24 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "INVERELL" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	: "COOLEBAR" "F.A.EILERS" "SCHWEDAGON" "DILGA" "W. PROUSE"

Groote Eylandt:

Merchantmen	1	: "BABINDA"
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Melville Bay:

Merchantmen	2	: "SUVA" "MILDURA"
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(11) ENEMY FORCES

Merauke - Early a.m. March 10, enemy reconnaissance aircraft was reported in this area. Our fighters failed to make contact.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/11:

- (1) "YP.288" departed Fremantle 1544/10 for Exmouth Gulf.
- (2) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.
- (3) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/6 for Melbourne ETA 1100/13, thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	3	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SG: 739
Auxiliaries	6	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) 2 <u>YP</u> : 286 1 <u>ARD</u> .

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD)
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Albany:

Auxiliaries	3	:	"ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR)
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B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- X (1) Palau - At 0900/9, an enemy force comprising two "NACHI" Class heavy cruisers and 3 destroyers were reported departing Palau on a S.W. course.
- (2) Marshalls-Carolines - Night 8 March, Engebi Island in Eniwetok Atoll was twice bombed by an estimated number of 8 enemy bombers. 24 x 500 lb. bombs are thought to have been dropped causing a few casualties and some damage to installations and aircraft but not to the airfield.
Light air strikes were conducted 8 March on Mille, Taroa, Jaluit, Wotje and Kusaie.

C. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

X A further allied merchantment has been reported sunk by an enemy submarine operating in the Maldiva Island area.
On March 9, the British freighter "BRITISH LOYALTY" was torpedoed in Addu Atoll Harbour, making the second victim reported this month.

NAVAL INCIDENTS

X South China Sea - Evening 8 March, a U.S. submarine attacked an enemy convoy comprising 4 cargo vessels, 1 tanker, 3 gunboats, 230 miles S.S.E. of Hongkong on course 240°. One cargo vessel is claimed as sunk and the tanker as probably sunk.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines, for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u> (2) * AUSTRALIA SEROPSHIRE		-	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u> (4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART		(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u> (2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO		BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u> (27) AZUETA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE		Approx 45	-	20 (some repairing)

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(5) BALAO GATO PETO SCAMP S.47	} } On Patrol } On Passage	15	25
	(4) BASHAW BLACKFISH DACE FLOUNDER	} } At Milne Bay }		
	(2) CERO DARTER K.9	} } At Brisbane } At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS		10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA	
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS		PROMETHEUS	
<u>AIRCRAFT</u> (N.E. Area Only)				
Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)		152		
Light & M/Bombers		116		
Torpedo and D/Bombers		2		
Flying Boats		1		
Floatplanes		19		
Obsn. A/c		20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	NACHI
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	5
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3-4) KONGO) en route HARUNA) South * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	ZUIKAKU (en route South)
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(3) HITAKA HAYATAKA * ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24) SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGCATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	(3) MOGAMI (en route South, ASHIGARA (poss. N. Pac.) * MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-		6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD BILCXI	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE * BIRMINGHAM	(5) YUBARI * NAGARA YAHAGI * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-		* KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-		3
<u>DD</u>	Approx 85		Approx 25
<u>BS</u>	Approx 30		Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?		(2) one repairing

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES - INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(5) NAGATO ISE FUSO YAMASHIRO HYUGA (poss. Japan)
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	SHOKAKU
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	TAIHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLE UNICORN SHAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(5) SUFFOLK HAWKINS FRIBISHER LONDON JUMBERLAND	(5) ACBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA
<u>CL</u>	ADELA IDE	(8) CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA EMERALD NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) TATSUTA OI KINU * KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOJ
<u>XCL</u>	2	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>YAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>SS</u>	(24) ANGLER JACK BILLFISH ROE BLUEFISH LAPON BONEFISH POMPON BOWFIN PUFFER CABRILLA NORWHAL COD RASHER FLASHER RATON GUNNEL RAY HADDO REDFIN HAKE ROBALO K.12 K.15	Approx 27 Approx 15 On Patrol	25 17 (incl. 6 German)
	GREVILLE	At Fremantle	
	PELIAS ORION		
<u>AIRCRAFT</u> (N.W. Area Only)			
Fighters (incl. 27 twin-eng.)		111	
Bight & M/Bombers		54	
Torpedo and D/Bombers		-	
Flying Boats		3	
Floatplanes		61	
Obsn. A/c		26	

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 774

Date 12 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. NORTH EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/12:

- (1) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Gladstone approx 2000/9 ETA Fitzroy Is. 1900/11, ETA Finschhafen 0700/14, returning thence to Gladstone by 18 March. "ARARAT" "TOWNSVILLE" to RV off Fitzroy Is. for escort.
- (2) "COWRA" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1500/7 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/12.
- (3) "BARCOO" (PF) escorting "EURYALE" (AS) from Caloundra to Milne Bay ETA 0730/14.
- (4) "GOULBURN" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 1500/8 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/14.
- (5) "PC.1124" proceeding to RV with "J.W.VAN DYKE" and escort to Milne Bay ETA China Straat 0900/12.
- (6) "WARREGO" (PS) was to depart Townsville 0800/12 for Milne Bay ETA 1300/14.
- (7) "YMS.11" departed Milne Bay 1200/11 for Cairns ETA Grafton Passage 1200/13.
- (8) "KALGOORLIE" "KAPUNDA" "BOWEN" "PC.1120" "YMS.393" escorting Convoy TN.228 (6 MV including "MESQUITE" (IX): 1 MV for Port Moresby, 5 others for Milne Bay) departed Fitzroy Is. area approx 1100/11 ETA Port Moresby portion with "BOWEN" escorting 1000/13, ETA Milne Bay portion with remainder of escorts 1100/13.
- (9) "GLENELG" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (10) "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1800/10 for Grafton Passage was due 1100/12.
- (11) "GOLD STAR" (AB) departed Milne Bay 0700/10 for Sydney.
- (12) "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) departed Port Moresby 0841/11 for Cairns ETA 2301/12.
- (13) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/11 for Brisbane, calling at Palm Island. ETA Caloundra 1400/15.
- (14) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 1515/10 for air-sea rescue mission 150 miles W.S.W. Horn Island.
- (15) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (16) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) departed Sydney 1200/11 for Moreton Bay ETA 1900/12.
- (17) "BOISE" (CL) departed Sydney 1349/11 for Milne Bay ETA 1100/15, carrying out battle practice off Cape Moreton from 1430/12.
- (18) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0900/10 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (19) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (20) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) to carry out firing practice off Cape Moreton at 1730/13 and 0750/14.
- (2) "SC.749" to depart Brisbane 1200/12 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol departing patrol area 1600/16 for Brisbane.
- (3) "YMS.10" to be sailed to Cairns earliest possible.
- (4) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 Mar.
- (5) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units 15 PT :
Escorts 1 : SC.738
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen 1 : "LAKE ORMAC"

Cape Gloucester:

Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Saidor:

Combat Units 11 PT
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "ETAMIN" "K.D.WIGGIN"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units 35 PT
Escorts 23 : "HENALLA" (AMS) 5 PG: 479, 1119, 1123, 1131, 1133 4 YMS: 50, 53, 314, 335
4 ML: 428, 802, 803, 806
9 SC: 732, 734, 735, 741, 743, 747, 748, 749, 981
Auxiliaries 5 : "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)
"HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen 23 : "J.ALLEN" "BORGFRED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCROW"
"W.B.ALLISON" "J.NICOLET" "CAPE BON"
"A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES"
"G.DARROW" "W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG" "VAN DER LIJN"
"M.T.HERRICK" "GEO.LUKS" "VAN DEN BOSCH"
"MULIAMA" "J.COOK" "D.E.HUGHES" "KATOOMBA"

Lae:

Merchantmen 7 : "J.B.KENDRICK" "W.B.SUBJETTE" "BOWTEKOE"
"J.BURROUGHS" "H.T.RAINEY" "MANA" "W.SHARRON"

Buna:

Escorts 9 : 5 SC: 637, 735, 736, 737, 750 1 ML: 816
3 YMS: 73, 313, 334
Auxiliaries 11 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY"
"SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)
"PING WO" "POYANG" "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 1 ARD.
2 YP: 233, 278
Merchantmen 17 : "M.C.KERR" "F.BILLINGS" "H.L.ABBOTT" "P.T.
DODDRIDGE" "G.L.CURRY" "ALCIBIADES" "POLLUX"
"H.WALKER" "TRIANGULUM" "W.C.CLAIRBORNE"
"H.V.WHITE" "R.J.WALKER" "J.W.DAVIS" "W.E.
MACK" "ISOLATOR" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "L.KELLY"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 10 : "G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "B.MATTHEWS"
"J.F.BRADLEY" "GEO.V.L.MEYER" "S.BRANNON"
"T.CRAWFORD" "RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN"
"WEST CACTUS"

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "T.M.COOLEY" "ANHUI"

Tiriwina:

Escorts 2 : ML. 819 YMS.315
Merchantmen 2 : "VAN OUTHORN" "VAN SWOLL"

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 1 : "ED.N.WESTCOTT"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
26 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
"BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
"ZALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES"
"REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON"
"SWANSON" "NICHOLSON" "THORNE" "WARRAMUNGA"
"ABNER READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"

16 PT

* Milne Bay (Contd.)

Escorts	3	FF	: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" "CASCOYNE"
	2	AMS	: "BENDIGO" "BROOME"
	4	PC	: 476, 1121, 1122, 1132
	6	SC	: 650, 698, 699, 742, 744, 746
	7	YMS	: 8, 46, 49, 52, 53, 70, 336
	7	ML	: 424, 425, 427, 430, 431, 801, 818
Auxiliaries	16		: "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" (AFD) "LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO" ("HALF MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "OTUS" "FULTON" (AS) "KOOPA" (APG) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "CALAMARES" (AF) 2 YP: 280, 283
Merchantmen	68		: "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "AUN" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K.BOLIVAR" "S.K.BARLOW" "R.S.BEAN" "BOOTES" "CAPE FLATTERY" "CITY OF HOUSTON" "M.DALY" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J.DOTY" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO BAYONNE" "ESSO PITTSBURG" "M.FLINNERS" "M.GRIFFITH" "A.HILL" "B.F.IRVINE" "JAPARA" "E.JOHNSON" "O.KELLY" "M.E.KINNEY" "W.S.LADD" "J.LIND" "Z.LYKES" "MAETSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.McLENNAN" "B.MATTHEWS" "NORMACDALE" "MEXICO" "I.McCOY" "W.McCRACKEN" "MIDWEST FARMER" "OREGON" "TRAIL" "OZARK" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "PONCE" "A.REHAN" "W.G.ROGER" "J.ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS" "J.ROSSITER" "SEA DEVIL" "SHAWNEE" "SIBIGO" "J.SINGER" "N.J.SINNOTT" "C.SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "S.M. WHITE" "THUNDERER" "GEO.VANCOUVER" "VILLALOBOS" "F.A.WARDELL" "WEST POINT" "A.D.WHITE" "D.WRIGHT"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	1		: ML.426
Auxiliaries	1		: "POLARIS" (AGS)
Merchantmen	5		: "S.G.PORTER" "EDNA" "TAROCNA" "ORMISTON" "MICHAEL THWAITES"
<u>Thursday Island:</u>			
Escorts	2		: SC.731 "WILCANIA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1		: "BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	13		: "CASTLEMAINE" "WAGGA" "MILDURA" "STAWELL" "PIRIE" (AMS) 2 SC: 703, 982 1 YMS: 72 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 1 PC: 477
Auxiliaries	3		: "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.
<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	4		: "BUNBURY" "BUNDABERG" "GYMPIE" (AMS) 1 ML:817
Auxiliaries	1		: "SHIKELLAMY" (AO)
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1		: "HERON" (AVP)
<u>Gladstone:</u>			
Escorts	2		: "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF)
Auxiliaries	2		: "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)
<u>Brisbane:</u>			
Combat Units	1	CVE	: "COPAHEE"
Escorts	12		: "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749 3 ML: 808, 821, 827 5 YMS: 9,10, 47, 48, 51
Auxiliaries	6		: "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" "OCTANS" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO) "NAETSUYCKER" (AH) 1 YP: 236
<u>Sydney:</u>			
Combat Units	1	CL	: "HOBART" (Refitting)
	2	DD	: "VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12		: "COLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" "GLADSTONE" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB.CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S) " 2 ML: 822, 823
Auxiliaries	3		: "WANGANILLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH) "GANYMEDE" (AK)
<u>Melbourne:</u>			
Escorts	1	AMS	: "LITHGOW"
Auxiliaries	1		: "MIZAR" (AF)
<u>Adelaide:</u>			
Escorts	1	AMS	: "GEELONG" (Refitting)

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Buin Area - At 0955/11, a submarine was sighted by Sopac aircraft 3 miles N.W. of Treasury Island.
- (2) Empress Augusta Bay - Enemy shelling of the Piva airfield was intensified for a short spell at about 0845/10. Damage to the runway was quickly repaired. Contacts are reported by patrols around the perimeter.
Enemy casualties during 9 Mar., when the perimeter positions were restored, are reported as considerable: allied losses were 20 killed and 136 wounded.
Between 0730 and 1600/10, enemy gun positions around the perimeter were subjected to 160 aircraft sorties involving 48 Mitchells, 84 Dauntless, 28 Avengers.
- (3) Rabaul - At 1715/9, wharf area E. of Simpson Hr. was bombed by 43 Warhawks and Corsairs. During the night 9-10 Mar. Rabaul was harassed by a single Liberator. At 1055/10, Vanapope was bombed by 22 Warhawks: 8 enemy fighters were seen but no interception encountered. At 1105/10, the town was bombed by 19 Liberators escorted by 11 Lightnings. At 1710/10, small ships in Keravia Bay were attacked by 6 Avengers with 8 Corsairs escorting, sinking 1-90 ft. barges. Two Zeros ineffectively intercepted.
- X (4) Wide Bay-Jacquinet Bay Area - At 0100-0200/11, a Navy Catalina strafed 4 barges in Rondahl Harbour and another 4 off Cape Jacquinet. One of the latter group burned fiercely, thought to have been carrying petrol. In addition, a high speed boat was observed off Cape Orford. A single enemy float-plane was also seen apparently patrolling the Wide Bay area.
- (5) Gasmata Area - At 1935/10, the supply area north of Bertha Channel was bombed by 9 Beauforts.
- (6) Cape Hoskins - At 1920/10, the dump area at Gavuvu was effectively bombed by 17 Beauforts.
- (7) Talasea - Patrols from Talasea reached Bola (2 miles S. of the village) on 11 March. At 1130/11, the escape trails near Dagi River (E. of Tala sea) were bombed and strafed by 6 Beaufighters.
- X (8) Witu Islands - During the night 10-11 Mar. an enemy armoured craft heading for Garove Island from the direction of Unea Island was forced ashore on Garove Island by PT boats. It was heavily strafed and believed destroyed.
- (9) Admiralty Islands - Up to 2000/8, enemy known dead since the landing on Los Negros Island total 1579.
Strong enemy resistance was encountered 10 Mar. on the high ground west of Papitalai and intermittent artillery fire was centred on this area the following night. The northwestern extremity of Los Negros Island (through Mokerang Plantation) was patrolled 11 Mar. with only minor enemy contacts. 7 prisoners were apparently taken on 10-11 Mar.
Small boat activity was reported at Pityilu Is. on 10 Mar.
At 1143-1548/10, Lorengau aerodrome and positions along N. coast Manus Island were bombed and strafed by 19 Liberators, and 12 Mitchells. The same targets were again attacked 11 Mar. by 12 Mitchells and 2 squadrons of Liberators.
At 2130/10, enemy aircraft raided Los Negros Island, but no details are yet available.
- X (10) Hollandia - Subsequent reports indicate that in addition to the 3 small freighters in Hollandia Bay early a.m. 10 Mar. a 7-10,000 ton tanker was also present.
A Catalina over the area at 0200/11 reported one sea truck on a reef (further damaged by a near miss), approx 20 barges and several boats in the Bay indicating departure of remaining sizeable shipping since the previous night.
- (11) Tadji - At 0300/11, 2 small sea trucks with one escort vessel were observed by a Catalina close in-shore 5 miles S.E. of Tadji, course West.

- (12) Wewak - Between 1210 and 1350/11, Boram airfield was heavily attacked in four waves involving 18 Liberators, 19 Mitchells, 46 Bostons with fighter escort, preceded by a fighter sweep at about 1030/11. Results are not yet assessed, but considerable damage and destruction was caused on the ground (including some serviceable aircraft), while enemy fighters in great strength intercepted our formations from the first fighter sweep. Preliminary combat reports indicate 26 enemy fighters destroyed and 6 probably destroyed: our losses amounted to 1 fighter.
- (13) Sepik River - P.m. 10 Mar. 3 luggers were seen by aircraft in the Sepik River mouth area.
- (14) Ramu Valley - On 10 Mar. supply dumps at Atembre were attacked by 10 Bostons.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/12:

- (1) "LATROBE" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.46 ("ADMIRAL CHASE") departed Thursday Is. 0619/9 for Darwin ETA 1600/13.
- (2) 24 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" "INVERELL" (AMS)
			3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	:	"COOLEBAR" "P.A.EILERS" "SCHWEDAGON" "DILGA" "W. PROUSE"

Groote Eylandt:

Merchantmen	1	:	"BABINDA"
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Melville Bay:

Merchantmen	2	:	"SUVA" "MILDURA"
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(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Nabire - At 1257/11, a possible freighter of 1000-1500 tons was seen off Nabire.
- (2) Japen Island - At 1209/11, a possible sea truck was seen at a jetty at Seroei (Central S. coast).

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/12:

- (1) "ADELAIDE" (CL) departed Fremantle for Albany ETA 1800/12.
- (2) "DUBBO" (AMS) departed Fremantle 1631/11 for Albany ETA 1300/13.
- (3) "YP.288" departed Fremantle 1544/10 for Exmouth Gulf.
- (4) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.
- (5) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/6 for Melbourne ETA 1100/13 thence Brisbane.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
Escorts	2	:	"HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	6	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT)
			2 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)
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Albany:

Auxiliaries	3	:	"ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR)
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B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Marshalls-Carolines - On 9 Mar. light air strikes were conducted against Mille, Kusaie, Wotje, Ponape, Jaluit and Taroa. At Kusaie, 1 large and 2 small ships and 1 floatplane were observed in harbour.
Subsequent detail concerning the enemy raid on Eniwetok 9 Mar. relates that the Japs use counter radar strips.

C. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Burma - During the daily air raids on enemy-held territory, Arakan and Shwebo airfields were raided 8 Mar. by 23 Mustangs and 32 enemy aircraft are claimed destroyed on the ground in addition to one in combat plus 2 probables and 2 damaged.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES.

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines, for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>		<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX x HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS x DENVER x LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	15

x Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u> (5)	BASHAW) BLACKFISH) GATO) PETO) SCAMP)	On Patrol	15	25
(2)	S.47) S.42)	On Passage		
(4)	DACE) FLOUNDER)	At Milne Bay		
(2)	CERO) DARTER)	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>				
(8)	H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u> (3)	OTUS FULTON BURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AP</u> (3)	RIGEL PLATYPUS ANYOUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (H.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	152		
	Light & M/Bombers	116		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	19		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-	(2)	NACHI ASHIGARA
<u>CL</u> (3)	DETROIT RAL EIGH RICHMOND	(3)	ABUKUMA TAM A KISO
<u>DD</u>	9		7
<u>SS</u>	10		Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-		1
<u>T</u>			

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTE CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	x	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA OKLAHOMA	(3) YAMASHIRO x YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA		INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	x	CABOT LANGLEY INDEPENDENCE	(3) HITAKA HAYATAKA x ZUJHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-			HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTHE CASAPLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA		WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO x OTAKA x UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS		MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	x MAYA
<u>CGA</u>	-			6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND x RENO x CONCORD		SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE	(5) YUBARI x NAGARA x NATORI x ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-			x KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-			3
<u>DD</u>	Approx 85			20 - 25 (approx. 15 repairing)
<u>S</u>	Approx 30			Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?			2 one repairing

x Non-effective.

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON
DD 2

5. EAST INDIES - INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific (Western Section) Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines

<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(6) NAGATO ISE FUSO KONGO HARUNA HYUGA
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	TAIHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLE UNICORN SEAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(5) SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) ACBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA MOGAMI
		(8) CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA EMERALD NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK	(5) TATSUTA YAHAGI OI KINU x KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W. B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	x KAMOI
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx 27	25
<u>SS</u> (24)	ANGLER JACK) BILLFISH HOE) BLUEFISH LAPON) BONFISH POMPON) BOWFIN PUFFER) CABRILLA NORWHAL) On Patrol COD RASHER) FLASHER RATON) GUNNEL RAY) HADDO REDFIN) HAKE ROBALO) K.12 K.15)	Approx 15	17 (incl. 6 German)
<u>AS</u>	CREVALLE PELIAS ORION	At Fremantle	

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area only)
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 12
Light & M/Bombers 15
Torpedo and D/Bombers -
Flying Boats -
Floatplanes 42
Obsn. A/c 23
152

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 775

Date: 13 March, 1944.

PART 1.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. NORTH EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/13:

- (1) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA departed Gladstone approx 2000/9 ETA Fitzroy Is. 1900/11, ETA Finschhafen 0700/14, returning thence to Gladstone by 18 March. "ARARAT" "TOWNSVILLE" to RV off Fitzroy Is. for escort.
- (2) "SC 744" "YMS's 53, 336" "ML 424" escorting Convoy BG 57 (4 MV) departed Milne Bay 1020/12 for Buna ETA 0900/13, Lae ETA 0200/14, Langemak ETA 0900/14.
- (3) "PC 1132" departed Milne Bay 1700/12 to RV with "ALGOA POLARIS" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (4) "PC 1124" proceeding to RV with "J.W. VAN DYKE" and escort to Milne Bay was due China Strait 0900/12.
- (5) "BARCOO" (PF) escorting "EURYALE" (AS) from Caloundra to Milne Bay ETA 0730/14.
- (6) "GOULBURN" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 1500/8 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/14.
- (7) "WARREGO" (PS) departed Townsville 0800/12 for Milne Bay ETA 1300/14.
- (8) "ML 426" escorting "S.G. PORTER" departed Port Moresby 1645/12. "ML 426" escorts to China Straits returning thence to Port Moresby ETA 0830/14; "S.G. PORTER" proceeds independently to Buna ETA 0730/14.
- (9) "YMS 11" departed Milne Bay 1200/11 for Cairns ETA Grafton Passage 1200/13.
- (10) "GLENELG" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (11) "SC 731" escorting "GORGON" departed Thursday Island 2123/12 for Merauke ETA 1400/13.
- (12) "WILCARELIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy D.47 ("BOMBO" "BANGALOW" "CORIO") departed Thursday Island 2046/12 for Darwin ETA 1700/17.
- (13) "GOLD SPAR" (AG) departed Milne Bay 0700/10 for Sydney.
- (14) "BOISE" (CL) departed Sydney 1349/11 for Milne Bay ETA 1100/15, carrying out battle practice off Cape Moreton from 1430/12.
- (15) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/11 for Brisbane, calling at Palm Island. ETA Caoundra 1400/15.
- (16) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (17) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) exercising off Cape Moreton from a.m. 13 March to p.m. 15 March, departing thence for Milne Bay.
- (18) "SC 749" was to depart Brisbane 1700/12 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol, departing patrol area 1600/16 for Brisbane.
- (19) "DE GRAYNE" (AMS) departed Sydney 0927/12 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (20) "ML 807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (21) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Fremantle 1900/6 for Melbourne; was due 1100/13; thence proceeding Brisbane.
- (22) 5 submarines on patrol.

3) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "COPANEE" (CVE) to depart Brisbane 1300/13 proceeding out of SWPA.
- (2) "YMS's 51, 10, 47, 48" to depart Caloundra 1600/13 for Cairns ETA 0400/17 "APC 14" accompanies, ETA Townsville 1200/16.
- (3) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 Mar.
- (4) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

<u>Los Negros Is:</u>		
<u>Combat Units</u>	15 PT	:
Escorts	1	: SC.738
Auxiliaries	1	: "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen	1	: "LAKE ORMAC"
<u>Cape Gloucester:</u>		
Auxiliaries	1	: "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
<u>Saidor:</u>		
<u>Combat Units</u>	11 PT	
Merchantmen	3	: "H.C.PAYNE" "ETAMIN" "K.D.WIGGIN"
<u>Finschhafen:</u>		
<u>Combat Units</u>	35 PT	
Escorts	23	: "BENALLA" (AMS) 5 PC:479, 1119, 1123, 1131, 1133 4-YMS: 50, 53, 314, 335. 4 ML:428, 802, 803, 806 1 CSC:732, 734, 735, 741, 743, 746, 747, 748, 749, 981
Auxiliaries	5	: "PORTUNUS" "HILG" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen	23	: "J.ALLEN" "BORGERED" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOHOW" "W.E.ALLISON" "J.NICOLET" "A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES" "C.DARROW" "W.EEAUMONT" "HANYANG" "VAN DER LIJN" "M.T.HERRICK" "GEO.LUKS" "MULIAMA" "J.COOK" "J.W.DAVIS" "G.L.CURRY" "W.SHARRON" "H.L.ABBOTT"
<u>Lae:</u>		
Merchantmen	9	: "J.B.KENDRICK" "W.B.SUBJETTE" "BONTEKOE" "J.BURROUGHS" "H.T.RAINEY" "MANA" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS"
<u>Buna:</u>		
Escorts	8	: 40 SC: 637, 736, 737, 750 1 ME: 816 3 YMS: 73, 313, 334.
Auxiliaries	12	: "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBS" (AD) "TRINITY" "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "CALAMARES" (AF) "PING WO" "POYANG" (ASIS) "PYRO" (AE) 1 AKD. 1 YP: 278
Merchantmen	13	: "M.C.KERR" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "ALCIBIADES" "POLIUX" "M.WALKER" "TRIANGULUM" "W.C. CLAIRBORNE" "H.V.WHITE" "N.E.MACK" "ISOLATOR" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "L.KELLY" "KATOOMBA"
<u>Oro Bay:</u>		
Auxiliaries	2	: "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen	12	: G.R.HEBARD" "CAPE LOOKOUT" "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "GEO.V.L.MEYER" "S.BRANNON" "T.CRAWFORD" "RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS" "D.E.HUGHES" "J.ROSSITER"
<u>Woodlark Is:</u>		
Merchantmen	2	: "T.M.COOLEY" "ANHUI"
<u>Kiriwina: (escorts)</u>	2	: ML.819 YMS.315
Merchantment	2	: "VAN OUTHORN" "VAN SWOLL"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>		
Merchantmen	1	: "ED.W.WESTCOTT"
<u>Milne Bay:</u>		
<u>Combat Units</u>	1 CA	: "SHROPSHIRE"
	2 CL	: "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
	26 DD	: "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "KALK" "HOBBEY" MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON" "THORNE" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"
	16 PT	

Milne Bay (Contd)

Escorts 3 PF : "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" "GASCOYNE"
 3 AMS : "BENDIGO" "BROOME" "COWRA"
 3 PC : 476, 1121, 1122
 4 SC : 650, 698, 699, 742
 6 YMS : 8, 46, 49, 52, 70, 336
 6 ML : 425, 427, 430, 431, 801, 818
 Auxiliaries 20 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE"
 "SCHLEY" (APD) "LONG" "HAMILTON" (DMS) "SAN PABLO"
 "HALF MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO)
 "OTUS" "FULTON" (AS) "KOOPA" (APG) "AMYGUS" (ARL)
 "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 3 YP:233, 280, 283
 Merchantmen 65 : "ALAMO" "ALCOA" "PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G.ACHESON"
 "ARANSAS PASS" "W.E.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C."
 "S.K.BOLIVAR" "S.K.BARLOW" "ECOTES" "BRASTAGI"
 "CAPE BON" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DONMARQUIS"
 "J.DOTY" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO BAYONNE" "ESSO
 PITTSBURG" "ETOLIN" "DD FIELD" "M.FLINDERS"
 "M.GRIFFITH" "A.S.HEWITT" "A.HILL" "B.F.IRVINE"
 "JAPARA" "E.JOHNSON" "M.E.KINNEY" "W.S.LADD"
 "J.LIND" "Z.LYKES" "MAETSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD"
 "W.McLENFAN" "B.MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO"
 "I.McCOY" "W.McCRACKEN" "MIDWEST FARMER" "OREGON"
 "TRAIL" "OZARK" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE"
 "PONCE" "W.G.ROGER" "J.ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS"
 "SEA DEVIL" "SHAWNEE" "SIBICO" "J.SINGER"
 "H.J.SINHOTT" "C.SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "SWARTENHONDT"
 "S.M.WHITE" "THUNDERER" "GEO. VAN COUVER"
 "VILLALCROS" "F.A.WARDELL" "WEST POINT"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 1 : "BOWEN" (AMS)
 Auxiliaries 1 : "POLARIS" (AGS)
 Merchantmen 4 : "ORMISTON" "A.ROHAN" "CANBERRA"

Thursday Island: 1 (escorts)

Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 17 : "BALLARAT" "CASTLEMAINE" "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO"
 (PF) "MAGGA" "MILDURA" "STAWELL" "PIRIE"
 "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 2 SC: 703, 922 1 YMS: 72
 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 1 PC: 477
 Auxiliaries 3 : "SLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESEY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 4 : "BUNBURY" "BUNDABERG" "GYMPIE" "(AMS) 1 ML: 817
 Auxiliaries 1 : "SHIKELLAMY" (AO)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Escorts
 Auxiliaries 2 : "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA)

Brisbane:

Combat Units 1 CVE : "COPANEE"
 Escorts 11 : "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 1 SC: 745,
 3 ML: 308, 821, 827 5 YMS: 9, 10, 47, 48, 51
 Auxiliaries 6 : "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" "OCTANS" (AF)
 "KURUMBA" (AO) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 1 YP:236

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 Escorts 12 : "COLAC" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL"
 "GLADSTONE" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB.CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA"
 "YANDRA" (A/s)
 2 ML: 822, 823
 Auxiliaries 3 : "WANGANELLA" (AH) (Refitting) "MANUNDA" (AH)
 "GANYMEDE" (AK)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITHEGOW"
 Auxiliaries 1 : "MIZAR" (AF)

Adelaide:

Escorts 1 AMS : "GEELONG" (Refitting)

* Note: Special operational-movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

(11) ENEMY FORCES

1. Choiseul - Early a.m. 12 Mar. the barge centre at Moli Point (10 miles S.E. Choiseul Bay) was shelled by 2 U.S. Destroyers.
2. Empress Augusta Bay - At 1645/10 enemy artillery again bombarded Piva airstrip, some 15 shells scoring hits. Torokina airstrip was not shelled. At 0630/11 a few shells again landed at Piva airfield. No damage or casualties were suffered at Piva. Allied artillery is continuing counter fire with believed good results.

P.m. 10 Mar. enemy positions east of the Torokina perimeter were bombarded and shelled by 2 destroyers.

During the day 1500/10 - 1500/11 approximately 250 Japs were contacted by our ground forces on the eastern sector of the perimeter. Early a.m. 11 Mar. the enemy attacked in force, but our counter attack restored the position resulting in many enemy casualties. Allied casualties 10 Mar. number 14 killed, 118 wounded.

During 11 Mar. enemy positions including gun emplacements around the perimeter were attacked by 103 Dauntless, 57 Avengers. The Moncitu Mission was also attacked by 4 Liberators and Mosigetta by 3 Kittyhawks.

3. North East Bougainville - On 9 Mar. 3 barges beached in the Timputs area were strafed by 8 Corsairs and on 11 Mar. 1 barge in the same area was strafed by 8 Corsairs.
4. Bougainville airfields - All enemy held airfields at Bougainville - Buka were shown by photographs 10 - 11 Mar. to be unserviceable with no aircraft present. One possibly serviceable floatplane was shown 11 Mar. at Buka Passage.
5. St. George's Channel - At approximately 1720/10 2 loaded enemy barges were seen by aircraft off the west coast of New Ireland, 30 miles above Cape St. George.
6. Southern New Ireland - Photos p.m. 11 Mar. showed Borpop runway unserviceable and Namatanai runway serviceable for 2,700 feet. No aircraft were present on either airdrome.
7. Tabar Islands - On 12 Mar. a single enemy plane ineffectually bombed P.T. boats operating near Tatau (central Tabar Group).
8. New Hanover - At 1400/12 an enemy submarine was reported by aircraft 10 miles south of New Hanover heading east.
9. Rabaul - At 1030 - 1100/11 Rabaul town was bombed by 24 Mitchells and 20 Liberators escorted by 24 Lightnings, and Vunapope by 20 Warhawks. Large fires were started in the Vunapope area, and photos show large fires blazing in the town area. 6 possible enemy fighters were seen airborne but no interception was effected.

Small craft in Keravia Bay were strafed a.m. 11 Mar. by 12 Hellcats and Corsairs and again at 1700/11 by 6 Avengers, escorted by 10 Hellcats, Corsairs. The latter formation scored direct hits on 4 vessels while strafing covered many small craft.

10. Gazelle Peninsula - During the night 10/11 Mar. enemy small craft and barges on the east coast of Gazelle Peninsula immediately south of Cape Gazelle were attacked by P.T. boats supported by a Catalina. 6 - 8 barges and small craft were met; one was sunk and at least 3 were damaged or possibly sunk. One enemy floatplane in the area was shot down.
10. Jaquinet Bay - At 1900 - 1940/11 suspected enemy concentrations and hideouts around Ethena Bay were bombed by 26 Beauforts.

1. Cape Hoskins Area - At 1100 - 1130/11 escape trails between Willaumez Peninsula and Cape Hoskins were bombed and strafed by 5 Beaufighters.

2. Talasea Area - On 11 Mar. allied patrols reached Bola (1 1/2 miles south of Talasea Village) without enemy contact.

3. Admiralty Islands - On 11 Mar. a light enemy counter attack on our positions on the high ground west of Papitalai Mission was repulsed.

On 11 Mar. allied forces landed and occupied Butjolino Island (north coast Manus Is. 3 miles east of Lorengau) without opposition.

On 12 Mar. enemy gun positions at Hauwei and Pityilu Islands were bombarded by allied destroyers.

4. Hollandia - At 0030/12 one merchant ship (1500 tons) and 2 gun boats were attacked by a Catalina in Hollandia Bay. Results were unobserved.

Preliminary aircraft reports 0230 - 0250/13 indicate a convoy comprising three 800 ton freighters 40 miles W.N.W. of Humboldt Bay, heading east and possibly an additional 7 ships (6 of 500 - 1000 tons and 1 of 2000 tons) with 9 barges approximately 30 miles WNW. Humboldt Bay, course E.S.E.

5. Wewak - Further reports concerning the air strike at Boram airfield midday 11 Mar. indicates that enemy opposition involved 35 - 40 fighters and A/A fire was the most heavily concentrated of any yet encountered in this area. 1 small freighter was the only ship reported observed in the area.

Boram airfield was again heavily attacked 1030 - 1200/12 by escorted Liberators, Mitchells and Bostons, but results are not yet completed.

6. Nightingale Bay - (16 miles E.S.E. Wewak). At 1249/11, 1 500 ton freighter was seen by a/c anchored in Nightingale Bay.

7. Si Coast - On 11 Mar. Kambara River (15 miles east of Bogadjim) was reached by forward allied elements. Light enemy fire was encountered from the west bank of the river.

2 air raid alerts were sounded at Saigon 10 - 11 Mar. but no enemy a/c were seen.

8. Finchhafen - There were indications of an enemy submarine 15 miles south of Finchhafen at 1840/11.

NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/12:

- 1) "LATROBE" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.46 ("ADMIRAL CHASE") departed Thursday Is. 0619/9 for Darwin ETA 1600/13.
24 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:	
Escorts	5 : "COOTAMUNDRA" "INVERELL" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantment	4 : "COOLEBAR" "F.A.EILERS" "SCHWEDAGON" "DILGA" "W. PROUSE"
Route Eylandt:	
Merchantmen	1 : "BABINDA"
Elville Bay:	
Merchantmen	2 : "SIRIA" "MONTGOMERY"

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(11) ENEMY FORCES.

1. Philippines - At 1230/11 a U.S. Submarine reported an enemy force comprising 2 battleships, 1 heavy cruiser, 1 a/c carrier and several destroyers, 20 miles north of Luzon on course 225°.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At sea to 1200/13:

- (1) "DUBBO" (AMS) departed Fremantle 1631/11 for Albany ETA 1300/13.
(2) "YP.288" departed Fremantle 1544/10 for Exmouth Gulf.
(3) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Ceduna for Albany 1915/6.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
Escorts	2	:	"HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	6	:	"APREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) 2 <u>YP</u> : 286 1 <u>ARD</u> .

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD)
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Albany:

Combat units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Auxiliaries	3	:	"ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANFICLER" (ASR)

4. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA.

ENEMY FORCES

1. Palau - at 1200/10 2 medium sized tankers were reported 60 miles S.E. of Palau, course N.W.
2. Marshalls - Carolines - At 1000/10 small craft and wharf installations at Kusale were bombed by 5 Liberators and 3 Mitchells.

At 1000/10 A/A batteries at Ponape were bombed by fifteen Liberators.

Other light and medium air strikes were contacted 10 Mar. at Taroa, Wotje and Jaluit by 9 Mitchells 5 Venturas and 10 Dauntless respectively.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES.

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
(2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarchs.
(3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
(4) Use of Barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
(5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.
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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIES & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>		<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarck Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUNO
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAHN	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * ROBERT	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(3) NAKA CYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	(2) KASHIMA) Poss. KATORI) sunk
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DE</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRANUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENS THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	15

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Caroline Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(5) BASHAW BLACKFISH GATO PETO SCAMP	On Patrol	15	25
	(2) S.47 S.42	On Passage		
	(2) BACE FLOUNDER	At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO DARTER	At Brisbane		
	R.9	At Sydney		
	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H. T. ALLEN KAWIMELA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>BP</u>	DOBIN		-	-
	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	182		
	Light & M/Bombers	116		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	19		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI ASHIGARA
	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	7
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4
<u>AS</u>	-	1

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>SS</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3) YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob.sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COMPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4) HITAKA HAYATAKA ZUIHO TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	HOSHIO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24) SANGAMON SUNANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTER CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER PANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KIPKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY NEHEMIA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA
<u>CA</u>	-	-	6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD * BIRMINGHAM	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(6) YUBARI TATSUTA * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	3
<u>SS</u>	Approx 65	-	20-25 (approx. 15 repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30	-	Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?	-	2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON
 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines
(Western Section)

<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(6) NAGATO ISE FUSO KONGO HARUNA HYUGA
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLE UNICORN SHAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(5) SUPPOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA MOGAMI
<u>CL</u>	ADLAIDE	(8) CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA EMERALD NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU * KITAGAMI
<u>/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOI
<u>CL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVE</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx 27	25
<u>SS</u>	(24)	ANGLER JACK BILLFISH HOE BLUEFISH LAPON BONEFISH POMPON BOWFIN PUPPER CABRILLA NORWAL } On Patrol COD RASHER FLASHER RATON GUNNEL RAY HADDO REDFIN HAKE ROBALO K.12 K.15	Approx 15 17 (incl. 6 German)
	CREVALLE	At Fremantle	
<u>AS</u>	PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 72
Light & M/Bombers 15
Torpedo and D/Bombers -
Flying Boats -
Floatplanes 42
Obsn. A/c 27

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 776

Date 14 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREAEASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/4:

- (1) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) were to depart Gladstone 1300/13 for Cape Sudest ETA 0600/18 passing via Fitzroy Is. ETA 0600/15 and Milne Bay ETA 2200/16. Escort to be provided by N.O.I.C. Townsville and N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
- (2) "PC.1132" departed Milne Bay 1700/12 to RV with "ALCOA POLARIS" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (3) "PC.1124" escorting "ESSO PITTSBURG" departed Milne Bay 1425/12 was to be relieved p.m. 13 March by "HAMILTON" "LONG" (DMS). On relief "PC.1124" to proceed to "PRESIDENT GRANT".
- (4) "KALGOORLIE" escorting Convoy MV.72 departed Milne Bay 1600/13 ETA Townsville 2200/16.
- (5) "WARREGO" (PS) departed Townsville 0800/12 for Milne Bay ETA 1300/14.
- (6) "STAWELL" (AMS) departed Cairns 1731/13 for Milne Bay.
- (7) "GLENELG" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AF) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (8) "MILDURA" "CASTLEMAINE" "BUNBURY" "SC.982" "ML.817" "GYMPIE" proceeding to RV at 0800/14 off Fitzroy Is., escorting thence Convoy TN.229 (5 MV, 1LST, 1 APC for Milne Bay; "SHIKELLAMY" (AO) for Port Moresby). "GYMPIE" escorts Port Moresby portion; remaining escorts detailed for Milne Bay portion: ETA both portions 1300/16.
- (9) "WANGANELLA" (AH) departed Port Moresby 1845/13 for Townsville ETA 1215/15.
- (10) "BOISE" (CL) departed Sydney 1349/11 for Milne Bay ETA 1100/15, carrying out battle practice off Cape Moreton from 1430/12.
- (11) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) exercising off Cape Moreton from A.M. 13 March to p.m. 15 March, departing thence for Milne Bay.
- (12) "YMS's 51, 10, 47, 48" were to depart Caloundra 2200/13 for Cairns ETA 0400/17. "APC.14" accompanies, ETA Townsville 1200/16.
- (13) "GOLD STAR" (AG) departed Milne Bay 0700/10 for Sydney.
- (14) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (15) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/11 for Brisbane, calling at Palm Island. ETA Caloundra 1400/15.
- (16) "COPAHEE" (CVE) departed Brisbane 1300/13 proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (17) "OCTANS" (AF) departed Caloundra 1700/13 for Sydney ETA 0600/15.
- (18) "SC.749" was to depart Brisbane 1700/12 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol, departing patrol area 1600/16 for Brisbane.
- (19) "DELORAINÉ" (AMS) departed Sydney 0927/12 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (20) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (21) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up about 15 Mar.
(2) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units 15 PT
Escorts 2 : 1 SC:738 1 ML:425
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen 2 : "LAKE ORMAC" "SEA LARK"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 2 : 1 PC:1134 1 SC:747
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Saidor:

Combat Units 11 PT
Escorts 2 : 2 PC: 479, 1131
Merchantmen 4 : "E.C.PAYNE" "ETAMIN" "K.D.WIGGIN" "W.SHARRON"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units 35 PT
Escorts 25 : "ARARAT" "BENALLA" (AMS) 4 PC:476,1119,1123/ 1135
5 YMS: 50, 53, 314, 335, 336
5 ML: 424, 428, 802, 803, 806 981
9 SC: 732, 734, 735, 741, 743, 744, 748, 749/
Auxiliaries 7 : "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "HILO"
(AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP)
"VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen 23 : "J.ALLEN" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "YOCHOW" "N.E.MACK"
"W.B.ALLISON" "J.NICOLET" "A.ROBINSON"
"W.ATWATER" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES" "W.BEAUMONT"
"HANYANG" "VAN DER LIJN" "L.S.KELLY" "M.DALY"
"M.T.HERRICK" "GEO.LUKS" "MULIAMA" "J.COOK"
"J.W.DAVIS" "G.L.CURRY" "H.L.ABBOTT"

Lae:

Merchantmen 12 : "W.B.SUBJETTE" "BONTEKOE" "R.S.BEAN" "O.KELLY"
"J.BURROUGHS" "H.T.RAINEY" "MANA" "VAN DEN
BOSCH" "R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE"
"C.DARROW"

Buna:

Escorts 11 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
5 SC: 637, 736, 737, 746, 750 1 ML: 816
3 YMS: 73, 313, 334
Auxiliaries 12 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY"
"SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)
"CALAMARES" (AF) "PING WO" "POYANG" "(ASIS)
"PYRO" (AE) "MINK" (IX) 1 ARD. 1 YP: 278
Merchantmen 12 : "M.C.KERR" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "POLLUX" "BRASTAGI"
"M.WALKER" "TRIANGULUM" "S.C.CLAIRBORNE"
"ISOLATOR" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "KATOOMBA"
"L.STEWART" "S.G.PORTER"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 13 : "G.R.HEBBARD" "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY"
"GEO.V.L.MEYER" "S.BRANNON" "T.CRAWFORD"
"RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS"
"D.E.HUGHES" "J.ROSSITER" "JACK SINGER"
"BORGFRED"

Woodlark Is:

Merchantmen 2 : ".T.M.COOLEY" "ANHUI"

Iriwina:

Escorts 2 : ML: 819 1 YMS:315
Merchantmen 2 : "VAN OUTHORN" "VAN SWOLL"

Goodenough Is:

Merchantmen 4 : "ED.N.WESTCOTT" "D.D.FIELD" "ETOLIN"
"SWARTENHONDT"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units 1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
2 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX"
26 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE"
"AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "KALK" "HOBBEY"
"MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER"
"SMITH" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "THORNE"
"NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA"
"ROE" 16 PT

* Milne Bay (Contd.)

Escorts	2 PF	:	"BARCOO" "CASCOYNE"
	6 AMS	:	"BENDIGO" "BROOME" "COWRA" "TOWNSVILLE" "KAPUNDA" "GOULBURN" 3 PC: 1120, 1121, 1122
	4 SC	:	650, 698, 699, 742
	7 YMS	:	8, 46, 49, 52, 70, 336, 393
	5 ML	:	427, 430, 431, 801, 818
Auxiliaries	18	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "OTUS" "EURYALE" "FULTON" (AS) "KOOPA" (APG) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 3 YP: 233, 280, 283
Merchantmen	64	:	"ALAMO" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G.ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B. AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K.BOLIVAR" "S.K.BARLOW" "BOOTES" "CAPE BON" "CAPE BLANCO" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "J.DOTY" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "M.FLINDERS" "W.GRENFELL" "M.GRIFFITH" "A.S.HEWITT" "A. HILL" "B.F.IRVINE" "JAPARA" "E.JOHNSON" "J.B.KENDRICK" "M.E.KINNEY" "W.S.LADD" "S.LANCASTER" "J.LIND" "Z.LYKES" "MAETSON" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "W.McLENNAN" "B.MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE" "MIXICO" "I.McCOY" "W.McCRACKEN" "MIDWEST FARMER" "OZARK" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "A.REHAN" "PAUL REVERE" "PONCE" "W.G.ROGER" "J.ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "J.ROSS" "SEA DEVIL" "SHAWNEE" "SIBIGO" "N.J.SINNOTT" "C.SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "S.M.WHITE" "THUNDERER" "GEO.VANCOU- ER" "J.W.VAN DYKE" "VILLALOBOS" "WEST POINT" "F.A.WARDELL"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"BOWEN" (AMS) 1 ML: 426
Auxiliaries	1	:	"POLARIS" (AGS)
Merchantmen	3	:	"ORMISTON" "CANBERRA" "OREGON TRAIL"
<u>Thursday Is:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"FREMANTLE" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	14	:	"CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "WAGGA" "PIRIE" "BALLARAT" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 SC:703 2 YMS: 11, 72 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 1 PC: 477
Auxiliaries	3	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.
<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"BUNDABERG" (AMS)
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
<u>Brisbane:</u>			
Escorts	7	:	"SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 1 SC:745 3 ML: 808, 821, 827 1 YMS: 9
Auxiliaries	5	:	"ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 1 YP: 236
<u>Sydney:</u>			
Combat Units	1 CL	:	"HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD	:	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	:	"COLAC" "ECHUCA" "KIAMA" "KATCOMBA" "GLADSTONE" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) "KYBRA" "A.B.CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" "YANDRA" (A/S) 2 ML: 822, 823
Auxiliaries	2	:	"MANUNDA" (AR) "BISHOPDALE" (AO)
<u>Melbourne:</u>			
Escorts	1 AMS	:	"LITHGOW"
Auxiliaries	2	:	"MIZAR" (AF) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM)
<u>Adelaide:</u>			
Escorts	1 AMS	:	"GEELONG" (Refitting)

* Note: Special operational move ments forward of Milne Bay not shown.

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - During 12 March, enemy gun positions N.E. of the Torokina perimeter were bombed by 159 Dauntless and Avengers. Intermittent enemy shelling of the airfields in the area is reported, causing some damage to A/A and installations and minor casualties.

- (2) Nissan Island - At 0500/12, two enemy aircraft ineffectively bombed Nissan Island.
- (3) New Ireland - Airfields - Photographs 12 Mar. show Kavieng, Panapai and Borpop runways all unserviceable: Namatanai is serviceable for 2700 feet. No operative aircraft are present on any of the airdromes.
- (4) Rabaul - During the night 11-12 Mar. Rapopo was bombed by one harassing Liberator.

At 1055/12, the waterfront area northern Simpson Harbour was bombed by 22 Mitchells escorted by 11 Corsairs.

At 1107/12, the town area was bombed by 18 Liberators escorted by 11 Corsairs. Some fighters were seen scrambling from Tobera but there was no interception of either formation.

Simultaneously with these two strikes, Atiliklikun Bay was swept by 8 Corsairs. 7 Zeros were met and one shot down. Between 1100 and 1200/12, the same area was swept by another 8 Corsairs, strafing and setting fire to two 100 ft. craft and an 80 ft. tug. Six Zeros were encountered over Tobera and three were shot down, a fourth probably shot down.

At 1130-1245/12, Rabaultown was bombed by 64 Warhawks, Aircobras and Lightnings causing explosions and fires including one probable oil dump.

At 1645/12, the general Rabaul area was reconnoitred by 8 Corsairs. No enemy aircraft were seen airborne but five were seen grounded at Lakunai, one of which was destroyed by strafing. One Aircobra is missing and one Corsair water landed; otherwise all planes returned.

Photos 12 Mar. show 2 small freighters (under 1000 tons) and approx 350 barges in Rabaul Harbour, indicating a reduction of some 50 barges within the last week or so, possibly as a result of recent air strikes against small craft or dispersal.

- (5) Jacquinet Bay - During the night 12-13 Mar. an enemy floatplane attacking our PT boats operating off Jacquinet Bay, was shot down by the PT's.
- (6) Talasea Area - On 13 Mar. our patrols reported nil enemy contact at Kumeraki Nos. 1 and 2 (respectively 4½ miles West and 5 miles S.W. of Talasea Village). An enemy outpost is reported at Grilli (on the coastal trail 5 miles S.S.E. of Talasea Village).
- (7) Eleanora Bay - On 11 Mar. an allied party landed at Linga Linga Plantation (Southern shores Eleanora Bay). During the operation, 23 enemy were killed and two prisoners taken.
- (8) Admiralty Islands - Delayed reports indicate that at 1155/11, Lorengau was bombed by 8 Liberators.

During the night 11-12 Mar. enemy aircraft dropped four bombs in the sea off Momote. During the same night, an enemy barge was sunk by PT boats at the S.E. end of Los Negros Island.

On 12 March, supported by naval, air and artillery bombardments, our forces landed at Hauwei Island, overcoming entrenched and well-equipped enemy elements. By 1 500/12, the Western half of Hauwei Island was occupied and a late report p.m. 13 Mar. states that Hauwei Island is now completely in our possession. Air units utilized in this operation involved 12 Mitchells.

Enemy elements are reported 13 Mar. still active in the area West of Papitalai on Los Negros Island. Enemy dead counted to 12 Mar. number 1432/

During the night 12-13 Mar. enemy aircraft dropped 3 bombs near Momote strip without effect.

- (9) Hollandia - Further details concerning the shipping sighted by Catalinas early a.m. 13 Mar. confirm the presence of apparently two convoys, one of three 800 ton cargo ships and the other of 7 small freighters and 9 barges heading towards Hollandia from the West. In addition, one possible small freighter and a gunboat were observed in Humboldt Bay.
- (10) Vanimo - At 0025/13, two small fishing boats were strafed by a Catalina 3 miles E.S.E. of Vanimo.
- (11) Wewak - The air strike on A/A positions in Boram area 12 Mar. (reported in Summary 775) involved approx 26 Liberators, 36 Mitchells, 42 Bostons with substantial Thunderbolt escort. 170-175 tons of bombs were dropped and the Bostons severely strafed the area. Reports indicate that 30-40 enemy fighters attempted interception, although apparently very few penetrated the fighter screen.

(11) Wewak (Contd.) -

At 1100-1200/13, Wewak Point and Brandi Plantation (5 miles Eastwards from Wewak) were again heavily attacked by escorted aircraft. A preliminary report states that about 120 bombers of which reports from 38 Liberators, 40 Mitchells and 25 Bostons have been received, were involved dropping over 210 tons of bombs. Some 30 enemy fighters intercepted and 8 were shot down and another probably shot down.

(12) Rai Coast - At about midday 12 Mar. gun positions at Marakum (on Melanra Harbour) were effectively bombed and strafed by 12 Bostons.

At 0003/12, two enemy bombers dropped 4 bombs near the Namkina River mouth (at Saidor). At 0407/13, one enemy bomber again ineffectively raided the Saidor airfield area.

(13) Cape Ward Hunt - At 2000/12, there were indications of an enemy submarine 40 miles N.E. of Cape Ward Hunt. It is recalled that at 1840/11, an enemy submarine was indicated 15 miles S. of Finschhafen.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/14:

- (1) "LATROBE" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.46 ("ADMIRAL CHASE") departed Thursday Is. 0619/9 for Darwin ETA 1600/13.
- (2) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.47 ("BOMBO" "BANGALOW" "CORIO") departed Thursday Island 2046/12 for Darwin ETA 1700/17.
- (3) 24 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "INVERELL" (AMS)
		3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	: "COOLEBAR" "F.A.EILERS" "SCHWEDAGON" "DILGA"
		"W. PROUSE"

Groote Eylandt:

Merchantmen	1	: "BABINDA"
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Melville Bay:

Merchantmen	2	: "SUVA" "MILDURA"
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Merauke:

Escorts	1	: SC. 731
Merchantmen	1	: "GORGON"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

X Soemba Island - Reconnaissance 1200/12, reported a convoy shown by photographs as a cargo vessel of 3500 tons, 1 sub-chaser and one mine-layer, 10 miles East of Soemba Island on course 350°. Four or five enemy fighters prevented the reconnaissance Liberator from approaching close to the convoy.

Photographs at ~~1800~~ time show 3 small cargo vessels (1000 tons or less) and 15 barges at Waingapoe.

SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/14:

- (1) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) proceeding Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf ETA 1800/14.
- (2) "YP.288" departed Fremantle 1544/10 for Exmouth Gulf.
- (3) "ML's 824, 812, 826" were to depart Albany 0800/14 for Fremantle.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "ADELAIDE" (CL) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) escorting "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) to depart Albany 1830/14 for Fremantle ETA a.m. 16 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1CA	:	"SUSSEX"
Escorts	2	:	"HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
Auxiliaries	6	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) 2 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV)
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Albany:

Combat Units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	1	:	"DUBBO" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	3	:	"ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR)

B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls: Light air strikes were conducted 11 Mar. against Mille, Jaluit, Taroa and Wotje.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

Southwest Pacific
(eastern Section)

South Pacific

Bismarcks
Solomons

Carolines
Marianas

<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAREE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	+	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR BALLART	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO		-	3
	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA NAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	15

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
	(5) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) GATO) PETO) SCAMP)	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.47) S.42) ELUEGILL)	On Passage		
	(2) DACE) FLOUNDER)	At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO) DARTER)	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Sydney		
	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>PA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H.T.A. LEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGOHAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON BURYALE		?	?
<u>RD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL FLATYPUS AMYOUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIR APT</u>	(N.E. Area Only)			
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	152		
	Light & M/Bombers	116		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	19		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	2. <u>NORTHERN PACIFIC</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-		(2) NACHI ASHIGARA
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND		(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9		7
<u>SS</u>	10		Approx 4

MOST SECRET
14th March, 1944.

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3)	YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(4)	HITAKA RAYATAKA ZUIHO TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24)	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHEHANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY NEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA	
<u>OCA</u>	-				6
<u>CL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD * BIRMINGHAM	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(6)	YUBARI TATSUTA * NAGARA * NATORIA * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-				3
<u>I</u>	Approx 85				20-25 (approx. 15 repairing)
<u>S</u>	Approx 30				Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?				2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective.

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

Southwest Pacific (Western Section) Eastern Fleet Area East Indies-Philippines

<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(6) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA ISE PUSO HYUGA
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(5) SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA MOGAMI
<u>CE</u>	ADELAIDE	(8) CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA EMERALD NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU * KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAWOI
<u>EL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
	-	Approx 27	25
<u>SS</u>	(25) ANGLER MINGO) BILLFISH LAPON) BLUEFISH POMPON) BONEFISH PUFFER) BOWFIN NORWHALE) CABRILLA RASHER) COD RATON) FLASHER RAY) GUNNEL REDFIN) HADDO ROBALO) HAKE K.12) JACK K.15) HOE)	On Patrol	17 (incl. 6 German)
	CREVALLE	At Fremantle	
	PELIAS		
	ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 72
Light & M/Bombers 15
Torpedo and D/Bombers -
Flying Boats -
Floatplanes 42
Obsn. A/c 27

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 777

Date 15 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREAEASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/15:

- (1) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) were to depart Gladstone 1300/13 for Cape Sudest ETA 0600/18, passing via Fitzroy Is. ETA 1200/15 and Milne Bay ETA 2200/16. "BROOME" "BAILARAT" to RV off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Milne Bay.
- X (2) "WEST POINT" (AP) departed Milne Bay 1220/14 proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (3) "PC.1122" departed Milne Bay 0400/14 to RV with "E.J.HENRY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (4) "PC.1131" escorting 2 LCT. departed Langemak 1700/13 for Massawe (?) was due 0700/14.
- (5) "KALGOORLIE" "KAPUNDA" escorting Convoy IV.72 (2 MV) departed Milne Bay 1600/13 ETA Townsville 2200/16.
- (6) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CANBERIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (7) "STAWELL" (AMS) departed Cairns 1731/13 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/15.
- (8) "MILDURA" "CASTLEMAINE" "BUNBURY" "SC.982" "ML.817" "GYMPIE" proceeding to RV at 0800/14 off Fitzroy Is., escorting thence Convoy IV.229 (5 MV, 1 LST, 1 APC for Milne Bay; "SHIKELLAMY" (AG) for Port Moresby). "GYMPIE" escorts Port Moresby portion; remaining escorts detailed for Milne Bay portion: ETA both portions 1300/16.
- (9) "WANGANELLA" (AH) departed Port Moresby 1845/13 for Townsville ETA 1215/15.
- (10) "BOWEN" (AMS) escorting Convoy IV.74 ("CANBERRA" "ORMISTON") departed Port Moresby 1745/14 for Townsville ETA Grafton Passage 0700/16.
- (11) "YMS.9" was to depart Caloundra 2200/14 for Cairns ETA 0600/18, for onward routing to Milne Bay.
- (12) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) exercising off Cape Moreton from a.m. 13 March to p.m. 15 March, departing thence for Milne Bay.
- (13) "YMS's 51, 10, 47, 48" were to depart Caloundra 2200/13 for Cairns ETA 0400/17. "APC.14" accompanies, ETA Townsville 1200/16.
- X (14) "GRAYSON" (DB) escorting "TANGIER" (AV) proceeding Brisbane ETA 1300/5.
- (15) "GOLD STAR" (AG) departed Milne Bay 0700/10 for Sydney.
- (16) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (17) "YP.291" departed Cairns 0700/11 for Brisbane, calling at Palm Island. ETA Caloundra 1400/15.
- (18) "SC.749" was to depart Brisbane 1700/12 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol, departing patrol area 1600/16 for Brisbane.
- (19) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0911/14 for Smoky Cape and return on A/S patrol.
- (20) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (21) "GEEBONG" (AMS) was to depart Adelaide a.m. 15 March for Sydney.
- (22) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "KIAMA" to be sailed for Brisbane to complete working up by about 15 Mar.
- (2) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.
- (3) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) to depart Port Phillip 1300/15 for Caloundra ETA 0900/20.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units 15 PT
Escorts 4 : 1 SC: 738 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen 1 : "LAKE ORMAC"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 3 : 2 PC: 1123, 1134 1 SC: 747
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen 1 : "YOCHOW"

Saidor:

Combat Units 11 PT
Escorts 1 : 1 PC: 479
Auxiliaries 1 : "ETAMIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C. PAYNE" "K.D. WIGGIN" "W. SHARRON"

Schhafen:

Combat Units 35 PT
Escorts 19 : "ARARAT" "BENALLA" (AMS) 3 PC: 476, 1119, 113
3 YMS: 53, 314, 336 5 ML: 424, 428, 802, 803, 80
6 SC: 732, 734, 743, 744, 749, 981
Auxiliaries 7 : "KANIMBLA" "MANGORA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "HILO"
(AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR) "HALF MOON" (AVP)
"VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen 21 : "J. ALDEN" "RAMO" "MACTAN" "N.E. MACK"
"W.B. ALLISON" "J. NICOLET" "A. ROBINSON"
"W. ATWATER" "A. THOMAS" "D. HEWES" "W. BRAUMONT"
"HANYANG" "VAN DER LIJN" "L.S. KELLY" "M. DALY"
"M.T. HERRICK" "GEO. LUKS" "J. COOK" "J.W. DAVIS"
"G.L. CURRY" "H.L. ABBOTT"

Lae:

Merchantmen 11 : "W.B. SUBJETTE" "BONTEKOE" "R.S. BEAN" "O. KELLS"
"H.T. RAINEY" "MANA" "VAN DEN BOSCH"
"R.J. WALKER" "F. BILLINGS" "H.V. WHITE"
"C. DARROW"

Ma:

Escorts 14 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 ML: 816
7 SC: 637, 735, 736, 741, 746, 748, 750
4 YMS: 73, 313, 334, 335
Auxiliaries 14 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY"
"SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "POLLUX" "TRIANGULUM" (AKS)
"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "CALAMARES" (AF) "PING
WO" "POYANG" (ASIS) "PYRO" (AE) "MINK" (IX)
1 ARD. 1 YP: 278
Merchantmen 13 : "BRAGTAGI" "M. WALKER" "S.C. CLAIRBORNE"
"J. DOTY" "ISOLATOR" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "BORGFRED"
"L. STEWART" "S.G. PORTER" "J. ROSSITER"
"G.R. HERBARD" "S. BRANNON" "Z. LYKES"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 11 : "B. MATTHEWS" "J.F. BRADLEY" "GEO.V.L. MEYER"
"T. CRAWFORD" "RING LARDNER" "J.I. NOLAN"
"WEST CACTUS" "D.E. HUGHES" "J. SINGER"
"A. REHAN" "P.T. DODDRIDGE"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 1 : 1 YMS: 50
Merchantmen 2 : "P.M. COOLEY" "ANHUI"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 3 : 1 ML: 819 1 YMS: 315 1 SC: 737
Merchantmen 2 : "VAN OUTHORN" "VAN SWOLL"

Goodenough Is:

Auxiliaries 1 : "ETOLIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen 3 : "ED.N. WESTCOTT" "D.D. FIELD" "SWARTENOHNDT"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units

1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
 26 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN"
 "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "THORNE" "NICHOLSON"
 "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"

Escorts

16 PT
 2 PF : "BARCOO" "GASCOYNE"
 1 PS : "WARREGO"
 5 AMS : "BENDIGO" "COWRA" "GLENELG" "TOWNSVILLE"
 "GOULBURN"

Auxiliaries

2 PC : 1120, 1132
 5 YMS : 49, 52, 70, 336, 393
 5 ML : 427, 430, 431, 851, 818
 19 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE"
 "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP)
 "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "OTUS" "PULTON" "EURYALE"
 (AS) "BOOTES" (AKS) "KOOPA" (APG) "AMYCUS"
 (ARL) "YUNNAN" (ASIS) 3 YP: 233, 280, 283

Merchantmen

60 : "ALAMO" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA
 PATRIOT" "ALCOA POLARIS" "E.G. ACHESON"
 "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA"
 "BARBARA C." "S.K. BOLIVAR" "S.K. BARLOW"
 "J. BURROUGHS" "CAPE BLANCO" "J. DEERE" "F.H.
 DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
 "M. FLINDERS" "W. GRENPELL" "M. GRIFFITH"
 "A.S. HEWITT" "B.F. IRVINE" "JAPARA" "E. JOHNSON"
 "KATOOMBA" "J.B. KENDRICK" "M.C. KERR"
 "M.E. KINNEY" "W.S. LADD" "S. LANCASTER"
 "J. LIND" "MAETSON" "J.S. MAN SFIELD"
 "W. McLENNAN" "B. MATTHEWS" "MORMACDALE"
 "MEXICO" "I. McCOY" "W. McCracken" "MIDWEST
 FARMER" "MULIAMA" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL
 REVERE" "PONCE" "W.G. ROGER" "J. ROLPH"
 "ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS" "SEA DEVIL" "SHAWNEE"
 "N.J. SINNOTT" "C. SPRECKERS" "STAGEN"
 "J.W. VAN DYKE" "S.M. WHITE" "THUNDERER"
 "GEO. VANCOUVER" "VILLALOBOS" "F.A. WARDELL"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 2 : 1 ML: 426 1 PC: 1121
 Auxiliaries 1 : "POLARIS" (AGS)
 Merchantmen 1 : "OREGON TRAIL"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 2 : "FREMANTLE" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
 Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 13 : "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "WAGGA" "PIRIE"
 "ROCHEHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 SC: 703 1 PC: 477
 2 YMS: 11, 72 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
 Auxiliaries 3 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESEY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 1 : "BUNDABERG" (AMS)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Escorts 6 : "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 1 SC: 745
 3 ML: 808, 821, 827

Auxiliaries 5 : "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO)
 "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 1 YP: 236

Ddney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)

Escorts 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 12 : "COLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "GLADSTONE"
 "KIAMA" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS)
 "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
 2 ML: 822, 823

Auxiliaries 3 : "MANUNDA" (AH) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LIGHGOW"
 Auxiliaries 2 : "MIZAR" (AF) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM)

*-Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Buin Base - Photographs 13 Mar. show Kahili runways unserviceable but under repair while an emergency landing could be made on the western side of Kara runway. 10 barges are shown in the general Ballale-Shortlands area.
- (2) Empress Augusta Bay - Reports to 1500/12 reveal that pillboxes and 350 Japs were liquidated inside our perimeter. Three major attacks East of our perimeter were repulsed; the enemy however made a slight gain. A conservative estimate of enemy killed during the 3 days to 12 March totals 1000.
- (3) New Ireland - Photographs 13 Mar. show all New Ireland airfields unserviceable except Namatanai and nil aircraft save one fighter and 2 medium bombers on Kavieng.
- (4) Cape St. George - During the night 11-12 Mar. two enemy aircraft attacked our PT boats East of Cape St. George. One floatplane was shot down by the PT's.
- (5) Rabaul Area - Native reports on 13 Mar. state our sustained air attacks on Rabaul have had a demoralising effect on the garrison causing a dispersal of troops to Warangoi (12 miles S. by W. of Cape Gazelle) and also causing a shortage of food.
- (6) Adler Bay - During the night 11-12 Mar. empty barges were strafed by aircraft 5 miles North of Adler Bay.
- (7) Jacquinet Bay - At 1839-1917/13, suspected enemy concentrations at Kamalgaman were bombed by 26 R.A.A.F. Beauforts causing fires.
- (8) Bangula Bay - At 1140-1155/13, suspected enemy concentrations 7 miles South of Bangula Bay were bombed and strafed by 3 Aircobras. A report on 12 Mar. stated there were approx 200 Japs in the area.
- (9) Eleanora Bay - To 13 Mar. enemy casualties during the Linga Linga operation were 55 killed and 12 prisoners. On 14 Mar. a further 5 Japs were killed and 9 captured.
- (10) Gasmata - A report to 14 Mar., as yet unconfirmed, states the main enemy force travelling light has departed Gasmata overland with 35 days of rice supply.
- (11) Admiralty Islands - Enemy casualties in the occupation of Hauwei Island totalled 42 killed.
Enemy resistance is reported to be increasing in the area West of Papitalai. On 13 Mar. estimated maximum effective combat strength of the enemy was 2831.
- (12) Aitape Area - At 0450/14, a large unidentified merchant vessel 80 miles N. by E. of Aitape was attacked by aircraft. No further details are to hand.
At 0340/15, an enemy hospital ship (5000 tons) was reported by aircraft 30 miles W. N.W. of Aitape on course 280°.
- (13) Tadji - A preliminary report indicates that Tadji aerodrome was bombed by several squadrons of Liberators at 1052/14. Reports from 17 Liberators have been received.
- (14) Wewak - Between 1100 and 1200/14, A/A positions at Boram and Brandi Plantation were again attacked in strength by heavy, medium and attack bombers. Incomplete reports reveal that 27 Liberators, 18 Mitchells and 37 Bostons participated, causing widespread destruction.
- (15) Hansa Bay - During the night 12-13 Mar. an enemy barge was destroyed off Manam Island by PT boats.
At 1015/14, three small cargo vessels were sighted by aircraft in Hansa Bay.
- (16) Cape Rigny - On 13 Mar. Saga Saga (6 miles S. of Cape Rigny) was occupied by an allied patrol following an air strike on the village by 16 Aircobras led in by one Bocmerang.

NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/15:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy DT.44 (2 MV) departed Darwin 0630/14 for Thursday Is. ETA 1600/17.
- (2) "LATROBE" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.46 ("ADMIRAL CHASE") departed Thursday Is. 0619/9 for Darwin ETA 1600/13.
- (3) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.47 ("BOMBO" "BANGALON" "CORIO") departed Thursday Is. 2046/12 for Darwin ETA 1700/17.
- (4) 24 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	4	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	4	:	"COOLEBAR" "DILGA" "W.FROUSE"
<u>Groote Eylandt:</u>			
Merchantmen	1	:	"BABINDA"
<u>Belville Bay:</u>			
Merchantmen	2	:	"SUVA" "MILDURA"

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/15:

- (1) "ADELAIDE" (CL) "CHANICLEER" (ASR) escorting "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) were to depart Albany 1830/14 for Fremantle ETA a.m. 16 Mar.
- (2) "YP.288" departed Fremantle 1544/10 for Exmouth Gulf.
- (3) "DUBBO" (AMS) "ML's 824, 812, 826" were to depart Albany 0800/15 for Fremantle.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
Escorts	2	:	"HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC:739
Auxiliaries	7	:	"ATREUS" (OM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) 2 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	1	:	"CHILDS" (AV)
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B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Nauru - At 1350/12, Nauru was bombed by 5 Liberators dropping 11 tons of bombs.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls - On 12 Mar. allied parties landed on Lib Island (30 miles S.W. of Kwajalein) and Ujae Island (70 miles W. of Kwajalein). No enemy were encountered on Lib Island and only 6 on Ujae of which 5 committed Harakiri and one was captured.

On 12 and 13 Mar. light attacks were carried out on Tarca and Wotje.

Wake Island - At 1150/12, Wake Island was bombed by 22 Liberators dropping 51 tons of bombs and starting large fires.

D. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Cocos Island - Between 1140 and 1200/14, Cocos Island was reconnoitred by an enemy twin/engined bomber.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(3) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI
	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(27) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE	Approx 45	-	15

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
SS	(5) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) GATO) On Patrol PETO) SCAMP)		15	25
	(3) S.47) S.42) On Passage BLUEGILL)			
	(2) DACE) FLCUEDER) At Milne Bay			
	(2) CERO) DARTER) At Sydney			
PT	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
PT	APA/APD/AKA			
	(8) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
AGC	BLUE RIDGE			
AS	(3) OTUS FULTON BURYALE		?	?
AD	DOBBIN		-	-
AR	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)				
	Interceptors (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	132		
	Light & M/Bombers	116		
	Torpedo and D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	19		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
CA	-	(2) NACHI ASHIGARA
CL	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
DD	9	7
SS	10	Approx 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC - EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>B</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(2) *YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-
<u>V(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5) HITAKA HAYATAKA ZUIHO RYUHO TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	-	HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24)	SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHIA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY NEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>A</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	-	6
<u>CL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND * RENC * CONCORD * BIRMINGHAM	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(6) YUBARI TATSUTA * HAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	-	3
<u>DD</u>	Approx 85	-	-	20-25 (approx. 15 repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30	-	-	Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?	-	-	2 (One repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 778

Date 16 March, 1944

PART I.

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

1. EASTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/16:

- X (1) "PC's 476, 479" escorting "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) were to depart Megum Island 1530/14 for Gladstone, ETA 1050/18.
- X (2) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) were to depart Gladstone 1300/13 for Cape Sudest ETA 0600/18, passing via Fitzroy Is. ETA 1200/15 and Milne Bay ETA 2200/16. "ERCOOME" "BALLARAT" to RV off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Milne Bay.
- (3) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) was to depart Cape Moreton area 2030/15 for Milne Bay.
- (4) "PC.1122" departed Milne Bay 0400/14 to RV with "E.J.HENRY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (5) "PC.1132" departed Milne Bay 1700/14 to RV with "CAPE HENLOPEN" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (6) "BENDIGO" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 0500/15 to RV with "ESSO BAYWAY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (7) "KALGOORLIE" "KAPUNDA" escorting Convoy MV.72 (2 MV) departed Milne Bay 1600/13 ETA Townsville 2200/16.
- (8) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (9) "BOWEN" (AMS) escorting Convoy MF.74 ("CANBERRA" "ORMISTON") departed Port Moresby 1745/14 for Townsville ETA Grafton Passage 0700/16.
- (10) "WANGANELLA" (AH) departed Townsville 1850/15 for Brisbane ETA 1800/16.
- (11) "WAGGA" (AMS) departed Cairns 0829/15 for outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (12) "YMS.9" was to depart Caloundra 2200/14 for Cairns ETA 0600/18, for onward routing to Milne Bay.
- (13) "YMS's 51, 10, 47, 48" were to depart Caloundra 2200/13 for Cairns ETA 0400/17. "APC.14" accompanies, ETA Townsville 1200/16.
- X (14) "GRAYSON" (DD) escorting "TANGIER" (AV) proceeding Brisbane ETA 1300/16.
- (15) "GOLD STAR" (AG) departed Milne Bay 0700/10 for Sydney.
- (16) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- "SC.749" was to depart Brisbane 1700/12 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol, departing patrol area 1600/16 for Brisbane.
- (17) "WHYALLA" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 16 March, carry out A/A firings Moreton Bay and proceed on Sandy Cape A/S patrol till 1600/22, then returning Brisbane.
- (18) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0911/14 for Smoky Cape and return on A/S patrol.
- (20) "GANYMEDE" (AKS) was to depart Newcastle Mar.16 for Caloundra ETA 1300/18.
- (21) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (22) "GEEBONG" (AMS) departed Adelaide 0955/15 for Sydney ETA 0900/19.
- (23) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) was to depart Port Phillip 1300/15 for Caloundra ETA 0900/20.
- (24) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "KIAMA" (AMS) to depart Sydney for Milne Bay via Brisbane p.m. 16 Mar.
On arrival to transfer to control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
(2) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units 15 PT
Escorts 4 : 1 SC: 738 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen 1 : "LAKE ORMAC"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 1 : PC.1134
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen 1 : "YOCHOW"

Saïdor:

Combat Units 11 PT
Escorts -
Auxiliaries 1 : "ETAMIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "K.D.WIGGIN" "W.SHARRON"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units 35 PT
Escorts 23 : "ARARAT" "BEHALLA" (AMS) 2 YMS: 53, 336
4 PC: 1119, 1123, 1131, 1132
5 ML: 424, 428, 802, 803, 804
10 SC: 732, 734, 741, 743, 746, 747, 748,
749, 981
Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)
"HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
"CALAMARES" (AF)
Merchantmen 20 : "J.ALDEN" "MACTAN" "N.E.MACK" "W.B.ALLISON"
"J.NICOLET" "A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER"
"A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES" "W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG"
"L.S.KELLY" "M.DALY" "M.T.HERRICK" "J.COOK"
"GEO.LUKS" "J.W.DAVIS" "G.L.CURRY"
"H.L.ABBOTT" "G.Von L. MEYER"

Lae:

Merchantmen 11 : "W.B.SUBJETTE" "BONTEKOE" "R.S.BEAN"
"O.KELLY" "H.T.RAINEY" "MANA" "VAN DEN
BOSCH" "R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.
WHITE" "C.DARROW"

Buna:

Escorts 12 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 ML: 816
4 SC: 637, 736, 737, 750
5 YMS: 75, 313, 314, 334, 335
Auxiliaries 13 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY"
"SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "POILUX" "TRIANGULUM"
(AKS) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "PING WO"
"POYANG" (ASIS) "PYRO" (AE) "MINK" (IX)
1 ARD. 1 YP: 278
Merchantmen 14 : "BRASTAGI" "M.WALKER" "S.C.CLAIRBORNE"
"J.DOTY" "ISOLATOR" "VAN SPILBERGEN"
"BORGFRED" "L.STEWART" "S.C.PORTER" "RAMO"
"J.ROSSITER" "G.R.HEBARD" "S.BRANNON"
"Z.LYKES"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 10 : "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "T.CRAWFORD"
"RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS"
"D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGER" "A.REHAN"
"P.T.DODDRIDGE"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 1 : YMS. 50
Merchantmen 2 : "ANHUI" "T.M.COOLEY"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 1 : ML. 819
Merchantmen 1 : "VAN SWOLL"

Goodenough Is:

Escorts 1 : YMS. 315
Auxiliaries 1 : "ETOLIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen 4 : "ED.N.WESTCOTT" "D.D.FIELD" "SWARTENHONDT"
"VAN OUTHOORN"

Milne Bay:
 Combat Units

1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
 26 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "FLUSSER" "SMITH" "MAHAN"
 "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "THORNE" "NICHOLSON"
 "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"

Escorts

16 PT
 2 PF : "BARCOO" "CASCOYNE"
 1 PS : "WARREGO"
 6 SC : 650, 698, 699, 735, 742, 982
 8 AMS : "COWRA" "GLENELG" "TOWNSVILLE" "GOULBURN"
 "BUNBURY" "CASTLEMAINE" "MILDURA"
 "STAWELL"

Auxiliaries

2 PC : 1120, 1121
 5 YMS : 49, 52, 70, 336, 393
 6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 817, 818
 19 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER"
 "KANE" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" "HALF
 MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" "(AO) "OTUS"
 "FULTON" "EURYALE" (AS) "BOOTES" (AKS)
 "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN"
 (ASIS) 3 YP: 233, 280, 283

Merchantmen

68 : "ALAMO" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS"
 "ALCOA PATRIOT" "ALCOA POLARIS" "E.G.
 ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B. AYER"
 "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K. BOLIVAR"
 "S.K. BARLOW" "J. BURROUGHS" "CAPE BLANCO"
 "CAPE PERPETUA" "J. DEERE" "P.H. DODD"
 "DON MARQUIS" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "G.E.K.
 FITCH" "M. FLINDERS" "W. GRENFELL"
 "M. GRIFFITH" "A.S. HEWITT" "B.F. IRVINE"
 "JANSSENS" "JAPARA" "E. JOHNSON" "KATOOMBA"
 "J.B. KENDRICK" "M.C. KERR" "M.E. KINNEY"
 "W.S. LADD" "S. LANCASTER" "J. LIND" "MAETSON"
 "J.S. MANSFIELD" "W. McLENNAN" "B. MATTHEWS"
 "L. MERRITT" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO" "I. McGOY"
 "MIDWEST FARMER" "W. McCRACKEN" "MULIAMA"
 "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE" "PONCE"
 "W.J. ROGER" "J. ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS"
 "SAN ANTONIO" "SEA DEVIL" "SEA MARLIN"
 "SHAWNEE" "N.J. SINNOTT" "C.L. SMITH" "C.
 SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "THUNDERER" "J.W. VAN
 DYKE" "S.M. WHITE" "GEO. VANCOUVER" "VAN DER
 LIJN" "VILLABOBOS" "F.A. WARDELL"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 2 : 1 AMS: "GYMPIE" 1 ML: 426
 Auxiliaries 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO)
 Merchantmen 1 : "OREGON TRAIL"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 2 : "FREMANTLE" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
 Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Gairns:

Escorts 12 : "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "PIRIE"
 "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 SC: 703 1 PC: 477
 2 YMS: 11, 72 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
 Auxiliaries 3 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 1 : "BUNDABERG" (AMS)

Okay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Escorts 5 : "SWAN" (PS) 1 SC: 745 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
 Auxiliaries 7 : "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO)
 "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 2 YP: 236, 291
 "LEOPARD" (IX)

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 Escorts 12 : "COLAC" "DELORAINE" "ECHUCA" "GLADSTONE"
 "KIAMA" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS)
 "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
 2 ML: 822, 823
 Auxiliaries 2 : "MANUNDA" (AH) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AT)

* Note - Special Operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Melbourne:

Escorts

Auxiliaries

1 AMS : "LITHGOW"

2 : "MOUNT VERNON" (AF) "MIZAR" (AF)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- 1) Empress Augusta Bay - A strong enemy assault on the northern sector of the Torokina perimeter was repulsed during the day ended 1500/13. Three counter-attacks using tanks restored the original positions. 209 Japs were killed in these attacks and many more during mopping up. During the same day enemy gun positions were attacked by 131 Dauntless and 95 Avengers. During the following day up to 1200/14 enemy gun positions around Torokina perimeter were again attacked by 118 Dauntless and 54 Avengers. Enemy shelling in the Torokina airfield area was reported to have diminished sharply up to early a.m. 15 Mar. but was resumed again at 0600/15 with some damage to the Piva strip and installations. No aviation casualties or damage is reported.
- (2) Rabaul - At 1125/13, Tobera was strafed by 16 Hellcats. Between 1125 and 1300/13, Rabaul town and harbour and Vunapope supply area were bombed and strafed by 22 escorted Liberators, and 27 Aircobras, Warhawks and Lightnings. At 0925/14, Vunapope was bombed by 22 Warhawks and Aircobras. Later during the morning the harbour front was bombed by 23 Liberators, 22 Mitchells, 24 Dauntless and 18 Avengers with fighter cover. Fires were started and two naval 4.7" guns demolished. At 1700/14, Tobera-Rapope area was reconnoitred by 4 Hellcats but no enemy were encountered.
- (3) Admiralty Islands - Supported by bombing and strafing by escorted Mitchells (27 reported to date) and naval bombardment involving 4 destroyers, substantial U.S. forces landed in the Lugon Mission (approx 2 miles West of Lorengau aerodrome) at 0945/15. The preliminary bombardment left little uncleared opposition. By 1300/15, our advanced elements had reached a position $\frac{1}{2}$ mile West of Lorengau airfield. Enemy opposition continues in the area West of Papitalai on Los Negros Island. Total enemy killed on Hauwei Island since the occupation and up to 14 Mar. numbered 75.
- (4) Aitape - The merchant vessel seen at 0450/15, 80 miles N. by E. of Aitape (reported yesterday's Summary No. 777) was on course 60°, indicating probably that the vessel was departing from the New Guinea area. At 1100/14, aircraft reported one possible destroyer and two merchant vessels in addition to another unidentified type vessel in or near Sissane Lagoon.
- (5) Wewak - The air offensive against Wewak was continued 15 Mar. when at 1020-1145/15, A/A positions and installations in the Wewak area and targets at Kairiru Island were attacked by escorted light, medium and heavy bombers. Reports received show that 25 Liberators, 28 Mitchells and 24 Bostons were involved. Fires were started visible from 75 miles away. Enemy fighter opposition was apparently met and some planes destroyed but results are not yet complete.
- (6) Ramp River Mouth - During the night 14-15 Mar. 8 barges westbound off Broken Water Bay were strafed by a Catalina and driven ashore.
- (7) Saidor - At 0408/15, enemy aircraft dropped 6 bombs on the Saidor supply area causing some material damage.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/16:

- (1) "INVEREIL" (AMS) escorting Convoy DT.44 (2 MV) departed Darwin 0630/14 for Thursday Is. ETA 1600/17.
- (2) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.47 ("BOMBO" "BANGALOW" "CORIO") departed Thursday Is. 2046/12 for Darwin ETA 1700/17.
- (3) 24 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:
Escorts 5 : "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS)
3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen 4 : "COOLEBAR" "DILGA" "W.FROUSE" "ADMIRAL
CHASE"
Groote Eylandt:
Merchantmen 1 : "BABINDA"
Melville Bay:
Merchantmen 2 : "SUVA" "MILDURA"

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/16:

(1) "DUBBO" (AMS) "ML's 824, 812, 826" departed Albany 1100/15 for Fremantle ETA 1100/17.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:
Combat Units 1 CA : "SUSSEX"
1 CL : "ADELAIDE"
Escorts 2 : "HORSHAM" (AMS) 1 SC:739
Auxiliaries 9 : "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AMS) "YUMA" (AT)
"W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS)
"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.
Exmouth Gulf:
Auxiliaries 2 : "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288

B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA.

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls-Carolines - During 13 Mar. light air strikes were conducted against Kusaie, Mille, Wotje, Jaluit and Taroa.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV (E)</u>	COPAHEE	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>GA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROFSHIRE	-	-	(3) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI
<u>C</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONT PELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL (T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(28) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH ARMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY RUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	15

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(5) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) GATO) On Patrol PETO) SCAMP)		15	25
	(3) S.47) S.42) On Passage BLUEGILL)			
	(2) DACE) FLOUNDER) At Milne Bay			
	(2) CERO) DARTER) At Sydney			
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>FA/APD/AKA</u>	(8) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 FA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(3) OTUS FULTON EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL FLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT</u> (N.E.Area Only)				
fighters (incl.13 twin-eng.)		132		
Light & M/Bombers		116		
Torpedo and D/Bombers		2		
Flying Boats		1		
Floatplanes		19		
Obsn. A/c		20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>GL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	7
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(2)* YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5) HITAKA HAYATAKA ZUIHO RYUHO TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(24) SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALINUN BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-		6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND *RENO *CONCORD * BIRMINGHAM	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(6) YUBARI * TATSUTA * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-		KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-		3
<u>SS</u>	Approx 85		20-25 (approx. 15 repairing)
<u>AS</u>	Approx 30		Approx 25
	?		2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 779

Date 17 March, 1944.

PART 1.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/17:

- (1) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) was to depart Cape Moreton area 2030/15 for Milne Bay.
- (2) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) were to depart Gladstone 1300/13 for Cape Sudest ETA 0600/18, passing via Fitzroy Is. ETA 1200/15 and Milne Bay ETA 2200/16.
- (3) "FLUSSER" "SMITH" (DD) escorting "FULTON" (AS) were to depart Milne Bay 16 March proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (4) "BENDIGO" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 0500/15 to RV with "ESSO BAYWAY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (5) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBERIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (6) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT) towing 1 APD proceeding Milne Bay ETA 18 March.
- (7) "KANIMBLA" "MANOCRA" (APA) departed Megum Island 1530/14 for Gladstone ETA 1050/18.
- (8) "WAGGA" (AMS) departed Cairns 0829/15 for outer A/S patrol Grafton passage area.
- (9) "YMS.9" was to depart Caloundra 2200/14 for Cairns ETA 0600/18 for onward routeing to Milne Bay.
- (10) "WHYALLA" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1623/16 to carry out A/A firings Moreton Bay and proceed on Sandy Cape A/S patrol till 1600/22, then returning Brisbane.
- (11) "DELORAINÉ" (AMS) departed Sydney 0907/16 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (12) "KIAMA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1729/16 for Brisbane ETA 1100/18.
- (13) "GANYMEDE" (AKS) departed Newcastle 1500/16 for Caloundra ETA 0500/18.
- (14) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (15) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/16 for Sydney.
- (16) "GEELONG" (AMS) departed Adelaide 0955/15 for Sydney ETA 0900/19.
- (17) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) was to depart Port Phillip 1300/15 for Caloundra ETA 0900/20.
- (18) "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) was to depart Port Phillip 0930/17 for Fremantle.
- (19) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) to depart Milne Bay 22 March proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
(2) "FREMANTLE" to be sailed on completion boiler cleaning to arrived Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units 15 PT
Escorts 3 : 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen 2 : "LAKE ORNAC" "M. DALY"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 1 : PC.1134
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen 1 : "YOCHOW"

Saidor:

Combat Units 11 PT
Escorts 2 : 1 PC:1131 1 SC:744
Auxiliaries 1 : "ETAMIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "W.SHARRON" "J.H.ROSSETER"

Fischhafen:

Combat Units 35 PT
Escorts 22 : "ARARAT" "BENALLA" (AMS) 5 YMS:53, 73,316
335, 336.
3 PC:1119, 1123, 1132
5 ML:424, 428, 802, 803, 804
7 SC:732, 734, 737, 743, 747, 748, 981.
Auxiliaries 7 : "PONTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)
"HALF MOON" (AVP) "SUSQUEHANNA" "VICTORIA"
(AO) "CALAMARES" (AF)
Merchantmen 29 : "BRASTAGI" "MACTAN" "N.E.MACK" "W.B.ALLISO"
"CITY OF HOUSTON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER"
"S.BRAN NON" "LYMAN STEWART" "A.THOMAS"
"D.HENES" "W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG"
"G.R.HEBARD" "L.S.KELLY" "M.T.HERRICK"
"J.COOK" "G.R.HEBARD" "GEO.LUKS" "J.W.DAVIS"
"G.L.CURRY" "ISOLATOR" "AUN" "H.L.ABBOTT"
"G.Von L.MEYER" "E.JOHNSON"
"VAN SPILBERGEN" "K.D.WIGGIN" "J.DOTY"
"Z.LYKES"

Lae:

Auxiliaries 1 : "MINK" (IX)
Merchantmen 11 : "W.B.SUBJETTE" "BONTEKOE" "R.S.BEAN"
"O.KELLY" "H.T.RAINEY" "MANA" "VAN DEN BOSCH"
"R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE"
"C.DARROW"

Buna:

Escorts 11 : 2 PP: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 ML:816
5 SC: 637, 736, 741, 746, 750
3 YMS:313, 314, 334.
Auxiliaries 9 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGG) "DOBBIN" (AD)
"TRINITY" (AO) "POILUX" "TRIANGULUM" (AKS)
"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (ASIS)
"PYRO" (AE) 1 ARD.
Merchantmen 7 : "M.WALKER" "S.C.CLAIRBORNE" "BORGFRED"
"S.G.PORTER" "RAMO" "C.L.SMITH"
"CAPE PERPETUA"

OrO Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 13 : "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "T.CRAWFORD"
"RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS"
"D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGER" "A.REHAN"
"ALCOA POLARIS" "P.T.DODDRIDGE"
"SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE SPENCER"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 1 : YMS.50
Merchantmen 1 : "T.M.COOLEY"
Auxiliaries 1 : YP:278

Kiriwina:

Escorts 1 : ML:819
Merchantmen 1 : "VAN SWOLL"

Goodenough Is:

(c) In Harbour (contd).

Goodenough Is:

Escorts
Auxiliaries
Merchantmen

1 : YMS:315
5 : "ED. N. WESTCOTT" "D. D. FIELD" "SWARTENHONDT"
"VAN OUTHOORN" "ANHUI"

Milne Bay:
Combat Units

1 CA: "SHROPSHIRE"
3 CL: "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
24 DD: "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
"BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
"KALK" "HOBBY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
"WELLES" "REID" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
"THORNE" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ"
"ARUNTA" "ROE"

Escorts

16 PT
2 PF: "BARCOO" "CASCOYNE"
1 PS: "WARREGO"
7 SC: 650, 698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 982
9 AMS "COWRA" "GLENELG" "GOUBLURN" "BUMBURY"
"CASTLEMAINE" "MILDURA" "STAWELL" "BROOME"
"BALLARAT"
5 PC: 476, 479, 1120, 1122, 1132
5 YMS: 49, 52, 70, 336, 393
5 ML: 427, 431, 801, 817, 818

Auxiliaries

19 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE"
"SCHLEY" (AVP) "SAN PABLO" "HALF MOON" (AVP)
"AASE MAERSK" (AO) "OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS)
"BOOTES" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL)
"YURNAN" "PING WO" (ASIS) 3 YP: 233, 280, 283

Merchantmen

70 : "ALAMO" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA
PATRIOT" "E. G. ACHESON" "J. ALDEN" "ARANSAS
PASS" "W. B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C."
"S. K. BARLOW" "S. K. BOLIVAR" "J. BURROUGHS"
"CAPE BLANCO" "CAPE HENLOPEN" "CAPE ST.
GEORGE" "CEFALU" "J. DEERE" "F. H. DODD"
"DON MARQUIS" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "G. E. K. FITCH"
"M. FLINDERS" "W. GRENPELL" "M. GRIFFITH"
"E. J. HENRY" "A. S. HEWITT" "B. F. IRVINE" "JANSSENS"
"JAPARA" "KATOOMBA" "M. C. KERR" "M. E. KINNEY"
"W. S. LADD" "S. LANCASTER" "J. LIND" "MAETSON"
"J. S. MANSFIELD" "W. McLENNAN" "W. G. McCrackin"
"B. MATTHEWS" "L. MERRITT" "MORMACDALE"
"MEXICO" "I. MCCOY" "MIDWEST FARMER"
"MULIAMA" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL REVERE"
"PONCE" "W. G. ROGER" "J. ROLPH" "ROSEVILLE"
"J. ROSS" "SEA DEVIL" "SEA MARLIN" "SHAWNEE"
"N. J. SINNOTT" "C. SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "TAROONA"
"THUNDERER" "J. W. VAN LIJN" "VILLABOBOS"
"F. A. WARDELL"

Port Moresby:

Escorts
Auxiliaries
Merchantmen

3: 1 AMS: "GYMPIE" 1 ML: 426 1 PC: 1121
2: "POLARIS" (AGS) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO)
2: "OREGON TRAIL" "GORGON"

Thursday Is:

Escorts
Auxiliaires

2: "FREMANTLE" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
1: "BUNGARSE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts

19: "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "KALGOORLIE"
"KAPUNDA" "ROCKHAMPTON" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS)
1 SC: 703 1 PC: 477 6 YMS: 10, 11, 47, 48, 51
4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
3: "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Auxiliaries

Townsville:

Escorts

2: "BUNDABERG" "BOWEN" (AMS)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries

1: "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Combat Units

Escorts

Auxiliaries

1 DD: "GRAYSON"
6 "SWAN" (PS) 2 SC: 745, 749 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
9 "TANGIER" (AV) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "MERKUR" (AF)
"KURUMBA" (AO) "WAETSUYCKER" (AH) 2 YP: 236, 291
"LEOPARD" (IX) "WANGANILLA" (AR)

Port Moresby (contd)

Sydney:

Combat Units

1 CE : "HOEART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 11 : "COLAC" "ECFUCA" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOKEA"
 "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) "KYABRA"
 "AB. GRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
 2 ML: 822, 823

Auxiliaries

4 : "MATUNDA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AG) "BISHOPDALE"
 (AO) "OCTANS" (AL)

* Note - Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Melbourne:

Escorts

1 AMS : "LIEHGGW"

Auxiliaries

1 : "BIZAK" (AF)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

1. S.W. Bougainville - On 14 Mar. both bridges over the Mibo River 6 miles upstream were demolished by 14 bombing Aircobras and Warhawks.
 2. Empress Augusta Bay - By p.m. 13 Mar. the allied lines in the northern sector of the perimeter had been completely reestablished and wired. Total Jap dead counted to 13 Mar. during the recent actions numbered 1173 excluding those outside visual range from within our lines.
 Enemy gun positions around the Torokina perimeter were attacked p.m. 14 Mar. by 12 Dauntless and during the night 14-15 Mar. by 16 Avengers. At least 3 guns received direct hits. During the 24 hours ended 0930/16 the only enemy artillery fire received in the area was 3 shells on the Piva airfield.
 During the night 15-16 Mar. 3 barges off Jaba river were attacked by PT boats co-operating with a destroyer and a Catalina. All 3 barges were hit and beached, at least 2 being burned.
 3. St. Georges Channel - At 1250 - 1600/15 the approaches to Rabaul and southern New Ireland coast were swept by 25 Hellcats. 6 barges and 1 boat were strafed and destroyed or damaged and the Cape St. George radar station left burning briskly following an explosion.
 4. Kavieng - Reconnaissance 14 Mar. reported 2 small patrol vessels only in the Kavieng anchorage.
 5. Rabaul - Between 1055/15 and 1130/15 Lakunai, Tobera and Rapopo airfields and Vunapope supply area were attacked by 24 escorted Liberators, 22 unescorted Liberators, 8 escorted Mitchells 36 Dauntless 25 Avengers with escort, and 31 Lightnings, Aircobras, Warhawks. The runways at all 3 airfields were rendered unserviceable and fires started including some probably burning aircraft and large fires also started at Vunapope.
 At dusk 15 Mar. Rabaul coastline was again swept by 16 Corsairs in 2 flights. A burning ship was seen in Koravia Bay and a floatplane taking off Nabuto Bay (Namatani).
 Photographic coverage 15 Mar. reveals :-

Aircraft	Lakunai	2 F. 2 DB.	Unserviceable
"	Vunakanau	2 " 2 MB.	SERVICEABLE
Airfields	Tobera	3 F.	UNSERVICEABLE
	Rapopo	Nil	"
	Keravat	" nil nil	"
- Total 11 a/c whereof 5 F. 4 DB. 2 MB.
6. Open Bay - P.m. 15 Mar. 6-8 barges in Open Bay were strafed by 4 Aircobras. At least 2 were sunk but other results were unobserved.
 7. Ubili and Ulamona - were attacked 0100/16 by 17 Beauforts covering targets satisfactorily.
 8. Talasea - On 15 Mar. our forward elements were in contact with the enemy between Patanga and Kilu (9 miles S.S.W. of Talasea).

9. Eleonora Bay - On 15 Mar. 21 Japs were killed by our patrols near the Kavilapo River mouth.
10. Admiralty Is. - During the night 13 - 14 Mar. one enemy barge was destroyed by PT boats off Mataan (south coast Los Negros Is.) and another captured intact. On 15 Mar. enemy resistance was maintained in the dense terrain west of Papitalai. Total enemy dead up to 15 Mar. numbered 1446. Enemy effective strength in the entire Admiralty Is. is estimated at 2000.
- X 11. Vitu Islands - During the night 13 - 14 Mar. 3 enemy barges were encountered by PT boats off Garove Is. but the barges escaped.
12. Hollandia - At approx. 2100/15 a convoy described as 3 freighter transports of 2-4,500 tons each with 5 escorts including 1 destroyer type, was reported by Catalinas 70 - 100 miles N.W.W. of Hollandia on course 176°. The ships were attacked but results have not yet been assessed.
13. Wewak - Final details of the air strike 15 Mar. shows that 47 Liberators effectively bombed assigned targets in the Wewak Mission area with approx. 175 tons of 1000 lb. and 2000 lb. bombs. Kairuru Is. floatplane base and installations were attacked by 35 Bostons and 35 Mitchells heavily strafing the area in addition to dropping over 60 tons of 500 lb. and 250 lb. bombs. Weak enemy air interception was attempted and 5 fighters were shot down and another probably shot down by escorting Lightnings. Two Lightnings are missing but 1 pilot was rescued. The offensive was maintained 16 Mar. (1025 - 1100/16) when 31 Liberators attacked Wewak with 103 tons of 250 lb. and 300 lb. bombs destroying the Army Headquarters. The supply area at Brandi Plantation was effectively bombed and strafed by 10 Mitchells and 35 Bostons. There was no interception. The only shipping reported in the Wewak area 15 Mar. a normal concentration of barges.
14. Hansa Bay - A.m. 16 Mar. stores and personnel at Nubia plantation were attacked by 19 Mitchells. There was no interception.
- X 15. Hansa Bay - Bunabun - Reconnaissance p.m. 16 Mar reported at least 100 barges along the shore between Hansa Bay and Bunabun. Apparently an additional 30 - 40 barges including 1 vessel resembling an LST were seen in Uligan Harbour.
16. Bogadjim Road - Our forward elements were in contact with the enemy 1000 yars N.W.W. of Daumoina on 15 Mar.
17. Dumpu - On 15 Mar. 2 enemy bombers ineffectually raided Dumpu airfield: 1 bomber was shot down by A/A.
18. Huon Gulf - At 2210/15 a submarine was indicated 35 miles E.S.E. of Salamaua.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/17:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy DT.44 92 MW) departed Darwin 0630/14 for Thursday Is. ETA 1600/17.
- (2) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) Escorting Convoy TD.47 ("BOMBO" "BANGALOW" "CORIO") departed Thursday Is. 2046/12 for Darwin ETA 1700/17.
- (3) 17 submarines on patrol

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS)
		3 ML: 429, 809, 816
	4	: "COOLEBAR" "DILGA" "W. PROUSE" "ADMIRAL CHASE"
<u>Groote Eylandt:</u>		
Merchantmen	1	: "BABINDA"
<u>Salville Bay:</u>		
Merchantmen	2	: "SUVA" "MILDURA"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Sourabaya - At midnight 15 - 16 Mar. the naval docks and factory area at Sourabaya were bombed by 9 Liberators. Clouds prevented observation of results and of any shipping in the harbour. One enemy night fighter was seen airborne but no interception was effected.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/17:

- 5 -

(b) in Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	:	"ATREUS (CM) "LARK" (AMS) "YUMA" (AT) "W.D. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHARICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 AMD.
<u>Exmouth Gulf:</u>			
Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288.

SOUTH PACIFIC

ENEMY FORCES.

New Caledonia - At 0210/15 a possible submarine was contacted 105 miles S.W. of Noumea.

CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA.

ENEMY FORCES

Carolines - Marshalls - On 14 Mar, a U.S. Submarine reported warships at Woleai but no details could be given. Aircraft were also reported operation on or off the island.

INDIAN OCEAN -

ENEMY FORCES.

Cocos Island - At 1230/16 an enemy flying boat reconnoitred Cocos Island.
Killindini Area - An unidentified aircraft was reported approaching Killindini during the night 13 - 14 Mar, considered probably from a Japanese submarine located within 150 miles to southward. At 1800/15 a submarine was attacked by "LULWORTH" (PS) in a position 150 miles S.E. of Mombasa.

Submarine Activity. 2 submarines were fixed by D/F during the night 14 - 15 Mar. to the S.E. of Mauritius, and the following night, 15 - 16 Mar. a German submarine was fixed by D/F in the area east of Chagos Archipelago - south of Seylon.

Raider Activity. At approx. 0900/9 Mar. (local time) the British merchantman "BEHAN" (6100 tons) made a distress signal from a position 780 miles S.W. by S. of Cocos reporting being attacked and shelled by an enemy warship. No further message was received. In addition the British freighter "SUTLEY" (5189 tons) which is estimated to have been in the same area on March 3rd, is now reported 5 days overdue at Fremantle suggesting she may also have been a victim to the enemy force.

This is the first evidence of enemy surface raider activity in the Indian Ocean since June 1943 and there is no evidence to suggest any German surface raiders operating in this area at the present time.

It is possible that a Japanese raiding force (possibly cruisers) may have proceeded south from N.E.I. waters and be operating in the Indian Ocean.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES.

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific</u> <u>(Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks</u> <u>Solomons</u>	<u>Caroline's</u> <u>Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHEROPSHIRE	-	-	(3) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO NOSHIRO
<u>CL (T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(28) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON FLUSSER REID SMITH AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	15

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Caroline s Marianas
SS	(5) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) GATO) PETO) SCAMP)	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.47) S.42) BLUEGILL)	On Passage		
	(2) DACE) FLOUNDER)	At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO) DARTER) K.9	At Brisbane At Milne Bay		
	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?

APA/APD/AKA

(8) H.T.ALLEN	10 APA
KANIMELA	10 APD
WESTRALIA	5 AKA
ALGORAB	
GILMER	
SANDS	
HUMPHREYS	
BROOKS	

AGC BLUE RIDGE

AS (3) OTUS ? ?
FULTON
EURYALE

AD DOBBIN - -

AR (3) RIGEL PROMETHEUS
PLATYPUS
AMYCUS

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)

Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	145
Light & M/Bombers	122
Torpedo and D/Bombers	2
Flying Boats	1
Floatplanes	18
Obsn. A/c	20

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	7
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(3) YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5) HITAKA HAYATAKA ZUIHO RYUHO TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-	-	HOSHIO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25) COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAMTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAMA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALINUN BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-	-	6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD * BIRMINGHAM	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(5) YUBARI * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	3
<u>SS</u>	Approx 85	-	20-25 (approx. 15 repairing)
<u>AS</u>	Approx 30	-	Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?	-	2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

2

5. EAST INDIES - INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
BB	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH	(6) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA RYUGA ISE FUSO
CV	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
CV(E)	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAH RAMEE	-
CA	SUSSEX	(5) SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(8) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE CHIKUMA MOGAMI MYOKO HAGURO
CL	ADELAIDE	(3) CARADOC CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA VAN HEEMSKERK	NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP EMERALD (4) YAHAGI OI KINU * KITAGAMI
AV/CVS	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOI
XCL	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
XAV/XCVS	-	?	-
DD	-	Approx 27	25
	(17) ANGLER BILLFISH BLUEFISH BOWFIN CABRILLA GUNNEL HADDO MINGO LAPON	POMPOM PUFFER NORWHAL RASHER RATON RAY K.12 K.15	Approx 15 On Patrol 17 (incl. 6 German)
	(9) BONEFISH COD CREVALLE FLASHER HAKE	JACK HCE REDFIN ROBELO	At Fremantle
AS	PELIAS ORION		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)</u>			
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.)		63	
Light & M/Bombers		15	
Torpedo and D/Bombers		-	
Flying Boats		-	
Floatplanes		42	
Obsn. A/c		23	

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 780

Date 18 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/18:

- (1) "AUSTRALIA" (CA) departed Cape Moreton area 2030/15 was due Milne Bay 0935/18.
- (2) "H.T.ALIEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) en route Gladstone to Cape Sudest were due 0600/18.
- (3) "BENDIGO" "BUNBURY" "STAWELL" "GLENELG" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 0700/17 for Finschhafen ETA 1700/18.
- (4) "YMS.335" "SC.737" escorting Convoy GB.59 (4 MV, including "SUSQUEHANNA") departed Finschhafen 1115/16 for Milne Bay ETA 1100/18.
- (5) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT) towing 1 ARD proceeding Milne Bay ETA 18 March.
- (6) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting "TAROONA" departed Milne Bay 1345/17 was due Port Moresby 1000/18.
- (7) "BROOME" "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1430/17 for Cairns ETA 1300/19.
- (8) "MILDURA" "CASTLEMAINE" (AMS) escorting Convoy MV.73 (4 MV) departed Milne Bay 1640/16 for Townsville ETA 0600/19. Escorts proceed Cairns ETA 1700/18.
- (9) "YP.238" departed Milne Bay 0830/15 for Brisbane ETA 21 March.
- (10) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (11) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Megum Island 1530/14 for Gladstone ETA 1050/18.
- (12) "PIRIE" (AMS) was to depart Cairns 1100/18 for Thursday Is. ETA 1400/20.
- (13) "YMS.9" en route Caloundra to Cairns was due 0600/18 for onward routing to Milne Bay.
- (14) "BUNDABERG" escorting Convoy TN.230 (4 MV) en route Townsville to Fitzroy Is. to RV with "KALGOORLIE" "KAPUNDA" "TOWNSVILLE" and 1 MV ex Cairns at approx 1600/18 for onward escorting to Port Moresby (1 ship) and Milne Bay (4 ships).
- (15) "WAGGA" (AMS) conducting outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (16) "MIZAR" (AF) departed Port Phillip Heads 1500/17 for Brisbane.
- (17) "WHYALLA" returning Sydney from A/S patrol Sandy Cape area on relief by "DELORAINIE" departed Sydney 0907/16. "WARRNAMBOOL" was to depart Sydney 0900/18 to relieve "DELORAINIE".
- (18) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (19) "KIAMA" (AMS) departed Sydney 1729/16 for Brisbane ETA 1100/18.
- (20) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (21) "GEELONG" (AMS) departed Adelaide 0955/15 for Sydney ETA 0900/19.
- (22) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Port Phillip 1300/15 for Caloundra ETA 0900/20.
- (23) "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) departed Port Phillip 0930/17 for Fremantle.
- (24) 5 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "GYMPIE" escorting "GORGON" to depart Port Moresby p.m. 18 Mar. for Townsville.
- (2) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) to depart Milne Bay 22 Mar. proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (3) "PREMANTLE" to be sailed on completion boiler cleaning to arrive Melbourne for refit by 31 Mar.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Island:

Combat Units	15	PT	
Escorts	3		: 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
Auxiliaries	1		: "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen	2		: "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY"
<u>Cape Gloucester:</u>			
Escorts	2		: PC's 1133, 1134
Auxiliaries	1		: "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen	2		: "YOCHOW" "MELINGA"
<u>Saidor: Combat Units</u>			
Escorts	11	PT	
Escorts	3		: 1 PC:1131 2 SC: 744, 748
Auxiliaries	1		: "ETAMIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen	3		: "H.C.PAYNE" "W.SHARRON" "J.H.ROSSITER"
<u>Finschhafen:</u>			
Combat Units	35	PT	
Escorts	20		: "ARARAT" "BENALLA" (AMS) 4 YMS:53,73,316,336
			3 PC: 1119, 1123, 1132
			4 ML: 424, 428, 803, 804
			7 SC: 637, 648, 732, 734, 743, 747, 981
Auxiliaries	7		: "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR)
			"HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) "CALAMARES
			(AP) "TRIANGULUM" (AKS)
Merchantmen	28		: "BRASTAGI" "MACTAN" "N.E.MACK" "W.B.ALLISON"
			"CITY OF HOUSTON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.ATWATER"
			"S.BRANNON" "LYMAN STEWART" "A.THOMAS"
			"D.HEWES" "W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD"
			"L.S.KELLY" "M.T.HERRICK" "J.COOK"
			"GEO.LUKS" "J.W.DAVIS" "G.L.CURRY" "AUN"
			"ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT" "G.V.L.MEYER"
			"E.JOHNSON" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "J.DOTY"
			"Z.LMKES"
<u>Lae:</u>			
Merchantmen	8		: "R.S.BEAN" "O.KELLY" "H.T.RAINEY" "VAN DEN
			BOSCH" "R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.
			WHITE" "C.DARROW"
<u>Buna:</u>			
Escorts	10		: 2 PF:"LONGHEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 ML: 816
			4 SC: 736, 741, 746, 750 3 YMS:313,314,334
Auxiliaries	7		: "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOEBIN" (AD) "TRINITY"
			(AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (ASIS)
			1 ARD. "MINK" (IX)
Merchantmen	6		: "M.WALKER" "S.C.CLAIRBORNE" "BORGFRED"
			"S.G.PORTER" "C.L.SMITH" "CAPE HERPETUA"
<u>Oro Bay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	2		: "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen	13		: "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "T.CRAWFORD"
			"RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS"
			"D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGER" "A.REHAN" "ALCOA
			POLARIS" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "SAN ANTONIO"
			"CAPE SPENCER"
<u>Woodlark Is:</u>			
Escorts	1		: YMS:50
Auxiliaries	1		: YF: 278
Merchantman	1		: "T.M.COOLEY"
<u>Kiriwina:</u>			
Escorts	1		: ML: 819
Merchantman	1		: "VAN SWOLL"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>			
Escorts	1		: YMS: 315
Merchantmen	4		: "ED.N.WESTCOTT" "D.D.FIELD" "ANHUI"
			"VAN OUTHORN"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units

1 CA : "SHROPSHIRE"
 3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
 24 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
 "THORNE" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER
 READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"

16 PT

* Note: Special Operational Movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts

1 PF : "BARCOO"
 1 PS : "WARREGO"
 7 SC : 650, 698, 699, 735, 738, 742, 982
 2 AMS : "COWRA" "GOULBURN"
 4 PC : 476, 479, 1120, 1122
 5 YMS : 49, 52, 70, 336, 393
 6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 813

Auxiliaries

21 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE"
 "HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PAULC" "HALF
 MOON" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "OTUS"
 "EURYALE" (AS) "PYRO" (AE) "BOOTES" "POLLUX"
 (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN"
 "PING WO" (ASIS) 2 YP: 280, 283

Merchantmen

64 : "ALAMO" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PEGASUS" "ALCOA
 PATRIOT" "E.G. ACHESON" "J. ALDEN" "ARANSAS
 PASS" "W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C."
 "S.K. BARLOW" "S.K. BOLIVAR" "J. BURROUGHS"
 "CAPE BLANCO" "CAPE HENLOPEN" "CAPE ST.
 GEORGE" "CEFALU" "J. DEERE" "F.H. DODD"
 "DON MARQUIS" "ESSO BAYWAY" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
 "G.E.K. FITCH" "H. FLINDERS" "W. GRENFELL"
 "M. GRIFFITH" "E.J. HENRY" "A.S. HEWITT"
 "B.F. IRVINE" "JANSSENS" "JAPARA" "M.E. KINNEY"
 "W.S. LADD" "J. LIND" "MAETSON" "J.S. MANSFIELD"
 "W. McLENNAN" "W.G. McCRACKIN" "B. MATTHEWS"
 "L. MERRITT" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO" "I. McCOY"
 "MIDWEST FARMER" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "PAUL
 REVERE" "PONCE" "RAMO" "W.G. ROGER" "J. ROLPH"
 "ROSEVILLE" "J. ROSS" "SEA DEVIL" "SEA MARLIN"
 "SHAWNEE" "S.M. WHITE" "N.J. SINNOTT"
 "C. SPRECKERS" "STAGEN" "THUNDERER" "J.W.
 VAN LIJN" "J.W. VAN DYKE" "GEO. VANCOUVER"
 "VILLALOBOS"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 3 : 1 AMS: "GYMPIE" 1 ML: 426 1 PC: 1121
 Auxiliaries 2 : "POLARIS" (AGS) "SHIKELLAMY" (AO)
 Merchantmen 2 : "OREGON TRAIL" "GORGON"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 3 : "FREMANTLE" "INVERELL" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
 Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 18 : "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "KALGOORLIE"
 "KAPUNDA" "ROCKHAMPTON" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS)
 1 SC: 703 1 PC: 477 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
 6 YMS: 10, 11, 47, 48, 51
 Auxiliaries 3 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 1 : "BOWEN" (AMS)

Kay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Brisbane:

Combat Units 1 DD : "GRAYSON"
 Escorts 6 : "SWAN" (PS) 2 SC: 745, 749 3 ML: 808, 821, 827
 Auxiliaries 10 : "TANGIER" (AV) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "GANYMEDE"
 (AKS) "MERCUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO)
 "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) 2 YP: 236, 291
 "LEOPARD" (IX) "WANGANILLA" (AH)

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 Escorts 9 : "COLAC" "EUCHUCA" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA"
 (AMS) "KYERA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA"
 (A/S) 2 ML: 822, 823
 Auxiliaries 4 : "MANUNDA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AG)
 "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITHGOW"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - On Mar. 15 and during 24 hours ending 0800/17, enemy artillery shelled the Piva air strip intermittently causing slight damage which was quickly repaired.

At 0400/15, enemy troops attacked our perimeter making a slight penetration on the Eastern flank. Our troops restored the position by a tank-supported counter-attack. On Mar. 15, our patrols reported the enemy entrenching in the N.E. sector of the perimeter.

Sopac Avengers, Dauntless, Liberators and fighter aircraft have been making both day and night attacks against enemy positions in this area, while our PT boats have also been active around the coast.

- (2) Cape St. George - On Mar. 17, a Sopac fighter reported observing pillboxes and shore fortifications in the area approx 30 miles N.E. of Cape St. George.

At 1320/17, a possible submarine was reported off this area.

- (3) New Ireland - Photos of Borpop on 16 Mar. reveal nil aircraft and the runway unserviceable.

On Mar. 16, Sopac Dauntless and Avengers scored hits on coastal guns, A/A positions and ammunition dumps at North Cape and Kavieng. One enemy fighter was observed airborne and intense A/A fire was encountered. A 200 ft. cargo vessel with 2 barges was reported N. of Nusa Island and was apparently the only shipping observed during the attack.

Photos of Kavieng Mar. 16 reveal Kavieng runway serviceable with 3 aircraft and Panapai unserviceable with nil aircraft visible. Nine barges were observed in Kavieng Harbour and two 4-gun and one 3-gun batteries in the Kavieng-Nusa Island area.

- (4) Rabaul - Photos of Rabaul area Mar. 16 reveal:-

Airfields:	F.	D/B.	F/P.	F/B.	
Vunakanau	-	3			Serviceable
Tobera	3	-			"
Rapope	Nil.				Unserviceable
Lakunai	4	2			Serviceable
Keravat	Nil.				Unserviceable
Duke of York	Nil.				No change.
Simpson Hr.			1	1	

Total 14 a/c 7 F. 5 D/B 1 F/P 1 F/B.

Shipping: 2 smallcoasters
299 barges.

On Mar. 16, Sopac aircraft attacked Rabaul supply and bivouac areas. 23 Liberators, 25 Mitchells, 17 Lightnings and 11 Kittyhawks were involved in these attacks.

- (5) Gasmata - On Mar. 17 an allied patrol was landed by PT boats at Gasmata Island and reported observing no Japs and several destroyed guns. Natives report the enemy evacuates this area two days previously.

- (6) New Britain - On Mar. 16, Beaufighters strafed enemy positions Wide Bay, Ubilli and Jacquinet Bay areas.

On Mar. 17, natives report Japs had abandoned Palmalmal (Jacquinet Bay) but some still remained at Kalmalgaman.

- (7) Cape Hoskins - On Mar. 17, natives report Japs were assembling a large number of carriers at Cape Hoskins in preparation for a move to Bialla (15 miles N.E. of Bangula Bay).

- (8) Admiralty Islands - On Mar.16, our troops moving South from Lorengau air strip encountered strong enemy pillboxes S. and W. of the strip. Mortar and tank fire enabled our troops to continue their advance on the Lorengau township. Total enemy dead now number 1585 while of the estimated 1876 enemy effective troops remaining, approx 300 are on Western Los Negros Island, the remainder on Manus and outlying islands.
- On Mar.16, strong enemy resistance continued in the area W. of Papitalai. During Mar.16 our PT boats operating in the Manus Island area were also responsible for killing several enemy troops and capturing four.
- On Mar.18, our destroyers and shore batteries continued their bombardment of remaining enemy position.
- (9) Garove Island - On Mar.17, 7 Kittyhawks attacked this area destroying 3 barges and strafing personnel areas.
- (10) Hollandia - Results of the air attacks on the enemy convoy N.W. of Hollandia early a.m. 16 Mar. are shown in Naval Incidents in this Summary.
- Preliminary reports indicate further successful attacks on a convoy in the area N. of Hollandia early a.m. 18 Mar. The convoy is described as comprising 7-8 ships including 2 merchant ships of 5-8000 tons, probably heading north about 40-70 miles N. to N.E. of Hollandia.
- (11) Wewak - A.m. Mar.17, 21 Bostons, 6 Mitchells and 6 Liberators attacked personnel and supply areas and A/A positions.
- (12) Rai Coast - On Mar.16, allied positions on the East bank of Kambara River received heavy mortar fire from enemy positions on the West bank.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/18:

(1) 17 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	6	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" "WILCANNIA" (AMS)
		3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	5	: "COOLEBAR" "DILGA" "W. PROUSE" "ADMIRAL CHASE" "CORIO"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Merauke: A.m. Mar.17, an enemy reconnaissance aircraft was over this area.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/18:

Nil.

(b) Proposed Movements:

(1) "SUSSEX" (CA) to depart Fremantle 1600/19 to RV with "MOUNT VERNON" in position 35°11'S 114°59'E at 0800/20 and escort to Fremantle.

(c) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	: "SUSSEX"
	1 CL	: "ADELAIDE"

6. SOUTH WESTERN AREA (Contd.)

(c) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Escorts	6	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 "A 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AMS) "YUMA" (AT) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ERION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.
<u>Exmouth Gulf:</u>			
Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288

B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

11

- (1) Carolines - Night Mar. 15-16, Central Pacific Liberators attacked Truk, dropping 16½ tons of bombs on airfield installations, fuel dumps and ammunition stores on Eten and Dublon Islands. Heavy A/A fire was encountered from ships in Harbour but only one possible fighter was reported airborne.
On Mar. 14, 15 Liberators attacked Ponape, while on Mar. 16 11 Liberators attacked the same target and also Oroluk Is.
- (2) Marshalls - At least 2 enemy submarines were indicated in the Mille-Jaluit area Mar. 15, indicating probable supply runs to these remaining bases.
Mille was attacked by Mitchells and Venturax on Mar. 13 and 14, Wotje by Dauntless and Hellcats Mar. 14, Jaluit and Wotje by Dauntless and Mitchells on Mar. 15.

NAVAL INCIDENTS

Hollandia - Reference the convoy comprising 3 freighter transports (2-5000 tons each) and 5 escorts which was attacked N.W. of Hollandia early a.m. 16 Mar. (reported in Summary 779), hits were scored on 2 merchant ships by Catalinas. Shortly afterwards Liberators attacked again and also claimed hits on 2 ships. The Liberators reported that prior to their attack, one freighter and 1 escort vessel were already smoking.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines, destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive patrol activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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18th March, 1944.

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART 11

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(3) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX x HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS x DENVER x LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO NOSHINO YUBARI (en route)
<u>CL (T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TAIGHIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
XAV/XCVS	(2) BALF GOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(26) ARANTA WA RAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN BRAYTON REID ARMEN BACHE BEACE BUSH DAIY MULLANY MUTCHINS ROEBY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES SECCOTON NICHOLSON WILKES STAVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	15

x Non-effective

18th March, 1944.

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>S</u>	(5) BASHAW BLACKFISH CATO PETO SCAMP	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.47 S.42 BLUEGILL	On Passage		
	(3) DACE FLOUNDER	At Milne Bay		
	(2) CERO DARTER	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Milne Bay		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>				
	(8) H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	BOBBIN		-	-
<u>AI</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYOUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	138		
	Light & M/Bombers	119		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers		2	
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-		(2) NACHI) ASHICARA) Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND		(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9		7
<u>SS</u>	10		Approx 4

18th March, 1944.

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	x	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA OKLAHOMA	(3)	YAMASHIRO x YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
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<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA		INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
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<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	x	CABOT LANGLEY INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA ZUIHO RYUHO TAIHO
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<u>CV(T)</u>	-					HOSHIO
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<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHSE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAMTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMARA		WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROGLER PANSRAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALINUN BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO x OTAKA x UNYO
--------------	------	---	--	--	-----	--

<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CAMBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS		MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	x	MAYA
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<u>OCA</u>	-					6
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<u>CL</u>	(8)	OAKLAND x RENO x CONCORD x BIRMINGHAM		SANTA FE DAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(3)	x NAGARA x NATORI x ISUZU
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<u>CL(T)</u>	-					KASHII
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<u>AV/CVS</u>	-					3
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<u>D</u>	Approx 85					20-25 (approx. 15 repairing)
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<u>SS</u>	Approx 30					Approx 25
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<u>AS</u>	?					2 (one repairing)
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x Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle
19 March, 1944

No. 781

Date

PART I.

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

1. EASTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/19:

- (1) "YMS's 334, 73" escorting Convoy GB.60 (3 MV, 1 YF) departed Langemak 1310/17 for Buna, Oro Bay and Milne Bay ETA 1300/19.
- (2) "WARREGO" (PS) departed Milne Bay 0930/18 for Townsville ETA 0800/21.
- (3) "PC.1132" departed Milne Bay 1100/18, escorting "J.W.VAN DYKE" for 200 miles from China Strait.
- (4) "PC.1121" escorting Convoy MF.17 ("SHIKELLAMY" (AO) "OREGON TRAIL") departed Port Moresby 1430/18 for Milne Bay ETA 1700/19.
- (5) "GASCOYNE" (PF) departed Port Moresby 0036/19 for Milne Bay ETA 1900/19.
- (6) "GYMPIE" (AMS) departed Port Moresby 1903/18 for Cairns ETA 1400/21.
- (7) "BROOME" "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1430/17 for Cairns ETA 1300/19.
- (8) "YP.233" departed Milne Bay 0830/15 for Brisbane ETA 21 March.
- (9) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (10) "PIRIE" (AMS) departed Cairns 1100/18 for Thursday Is. ETA 1420/20.
- (11) "BUNDABERG" escorting Convoy TN.230 (4 MV) en route Townsville to Fitzroy Is. to RV with "KALGOORLIE" "TOWNSVILLE" and 1 MV ex Cairns at approx 1600/18 for onward escorting to Port Moresby (1 ship) and Milne Bay (4 ships).
- (12) "KAPUNDA" (AMS) towing 1 APC (ex Convoy TN.230) to Fitzroy Is.
- (13) "SC.705" departed Cairns 0831/18 for Milne Bay.
- (14) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.48 ("DARVEL" "ALAGNA") departed Thursday Is. 1800/18 for Darwin ETA 1700/23.
- (15) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 0955/18 for Townsville ETA 0800/21.
- (16) "WAGGA" (AMS) conducting outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (17) "MIZAR" (AF) departed Port Phillip Heads 1500/17 for Brisbane ETA 1500/20.
- (18) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Brisbane 0200/19 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/22.
- (19) "WANGANELLA" (AH) departed Brisbane 1645/18 for Sydney ETA 0600/19.
- (20) "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) departed Sydney 1015/18 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (21) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (22) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (23) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) departed Port Phillip 1300/15 for Caloundra ETA 0900/20.
- (24) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "GRAYSON" (DD) to depart Brisbane 1430/19 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/22.
- (2) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) to depart Milne Bay 22 Mar. proceeding out of S.W.P.A.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:
Combat Units 15 PT
Escorts 3 : 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGF)
Merchantmen 2 : "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY"
Cape Gloucester:
Escorts 2 : 2 PC: 1133, 1134
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen 2 : "YOCHOW" "MELINGA"
Arawe:
Escorts 1 : "ARARAT" (AMS)
Saidor:
Combat Units 11 PT
Escorts 3 : 1 PC: 1131 2 SC: 744, 748
Auxiliaries 1 : "ETAMIN" (AKS)
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "W.SHARRON" "J.H.ROSSITER"
Finschhafen:
Combat Units 35 PT
Escorts 26 : "BENALLA" "BENDIGO" "BUMBURY" "GLENELG"
"STAWELL" (AMS) 4 YMS: 53, 73, 316, 336
2 PC: 1119, 1123 4 ML: 424, 428, 803, 804
11 SC: 637, 648, 732, 734, 735, 741, 743,
746, 747, 981, 982
Auxiliaries 7 : "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AF) "GOUCAL" (ASR) "HALF
MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) "CALAMARES" (AF)
"TRIANGULUM" (AKS)
Merchantmen 27 : "BRASTAGI" "MACTAN" "W.E.MACK" "W.B.ALLISON"
"CITY OF HOUSTON" "W.ATWATER" "S.BRANNON"
"LYMAN STEWART" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES"
"W.BEAUMONT" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD" "L.S.
KELLY" "J.COOK" "GEO.LUKS" "J.W.DAVIS"
"G.L.CURRY" "AUN" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT"
"G.V.L.MEYER" "E.JOHNSON" "VAN SPILBERGEN"
"J.DOTY" "Z.LYKES" "CAPE PERPETUA"
Lae:
Merchantmen 9 : "R.S.BEAN" "O.KELLY" "H.T.RAINEY" "VAN DEN
BOSCH" "R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS" "C.DARROW"
"H.V.WHITE" "C.L.SMITH"
Buna:
Escorts 8 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 ML: 816
2 SC: 736, 750 3 YMS: 313, 314, 334
Auxiliaries 9 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA"
(APA) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" (AO)
"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (ASIS) 1 ARD
"MINK" (IX)
Merchantmen 9 : "M.WALKER" "JEAN NICOLET" "W.L.SUBJETTE"
"S.G.PORTER" "STAGEN" "W.S.LADD" "ALAMO"
"TABINTA" "ALCIBIADES"
Oro Bay:
Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 16 : "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "T.CRAWFORD"
"RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS"
"D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGER" "A.REHAN" "ALCOA"
POLARIS" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "SAN ANTONIO"
"CAPE SPENCER" "CEPALU" "M.T.HERRICK"
"BORGFRED"
Woodlark Is:
Escorts 2 : "GOULBURN" (AMS) 1 YMS: 50
Auxiliaries 1 : 1 YP: 278
Merchantman 1 : "T.M.COOLEY"
Kiriwina:
Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 819
Merchantman 1 : "VAN SWOLL"
Goodenough Is:
Escorts 1 : 1 YMS: 315
Merchantmen 4 : "E.D.N.WESTCOTT" "D.D.FIELD" "ANHUT"
"VAN OUTHOORN"

* Milne Bay:
 Combat Units

2 CA : "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
 3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
 24 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
 "WELLES" "REID" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
 "THORNE" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER
 READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"

16 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts 1 PF : "BARCOO"
 6 SC : 650, 698, 699, 737, 738, 742
 1 AMS : "COWRA"
 4 PC : 476, 479, 1120, 1122
 6 YMS : 49, 52, 70, 335, 336, 395
 6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818

Auxiliaries 23 : "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE"
 "HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (AFD) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
 "AASE MAERSK" ("SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "OTUS"
 "EURYALE" (AS) "PYRO" (AE) "BOOTES" "POLLUX"
 (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN"
 "PING WO" (ASIS) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT)
 "1 ARD. 2 YP: 280, 283

Merchantmen 61 : "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G. ACHESON" "J. ALDEN"
 "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA"
 "BARBARA C." "S.K. BARLOW" "S.K. BOLIVAR"
 "J. BURROUGHS" "CAPE BLANCO" "CAPE HENLOPEN"
 "CAPE ST. GEORGE" "J. DEERE" "F.H. DODD"
 "DON MARQUIS" "ESSO BAYWAY" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
 "G.E.K. FITCH" "M. FLINDERS" "W. GREENFEIL"
 "M. GRIFFITH" "E.J. HENRY" "A.S. HEWITT"
 "B.F. IRVINE" "JANSSENS" "JAPARA" "M.E. KINNEY"
 "J. LIND" "A. LYKES" "MAETSON" "MANA"
 "J.S. MANSFIELD" "W. McLENNAN" "W.G. McCRACKEN"
 "E. MATTHEWS" "L. MERRITT" "MORMACDALE" "MEXICO"
 "I. MCCOY" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK" "JAMES
 D. PHALAN" "PONCE" "RAMO" "M. ROBERTSON"
 "W.G. ROGER" "J. ROLPH" "J. ROSS" "SEA DEVIL"
 "SEA MARLIN" "SHAWNEE" "S.M. WHITE" "N.J.
 SINNOTT" "C. SPRECKERS" "THUNDERER" "VAN DER
 LIJN" "GEO. VANCOUVER" "VILLALOBOS" "K.D.
 WIGGIN" "E. YOUNG"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 426
 Auxiliaries 1 : "POLARIS" (AGS)
 Merchantmen 2 : "MULIAMA" "TAROONA"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 1 : 1 SC: 731
 Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 16 : "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "CASTLEMAINE"
 "MILDURA" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 PC: 477
 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
 6 YMS: 9, 10, 11, 47, 48, 51

Auxiliaries 3 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 1 : "BOWEN" (AMS)

Okay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2 : "KAHIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA)

Brisbane:

Combat Units 1 DD : "GRAYSON"
 Escorts 7 : "SWAN" (PS) "KIAMA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749
 3 ML: 808, 821, 823

Auxiliaries 9 : "TANGIER" (AV) "ALGORAB" (AKS) "GANYMEDE" (AKS)
 "MERKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO) "MAETSUYCHER"
 (AR) 2 YP: 236, 291 "LEOPARD" (IX)

Sydney:

Combat Units	1 CL	: "HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD	: "VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	: "COLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "GEEELONG" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WHYALLA" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S) 2 ML: 822, 823
Auxiliaries	4	: "MAFUNDA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AG) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)

Melbourne:

Escorts	1 AMS	: "LITHGOW"
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(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - Between 1310/15 and 1335/17, enemy gun positions around Torokina perimeter were attacked by 31 Avengers and 116 Dauntless.

At noon 15 Mar. an enemy assault on the N. sector of the perimeter was repulsed with 125 Japs killed. At 0300/17, the enemy launched an attack in force effecting slight penetration but our counter-attack restored the position. As a result of this action 195 Jap dead were found inside our wire with 52 around one pill-box and many more inside. Total Jap dead counted since 8 Mar. now number over 1500.

During the night 17-18 Mar., 2 enemy barges northbound off Jaba River mouth were driven ashore by PT boats and a co-operating destroyer then engaged, demolishing one barge and rendering the other unserviceable.

- (2) Namatanai - At 1250/17, the airfield at Namatanai was attacked by 23 Liberators escorted by 16 Corsairs. Subsequent photos show the runway to be unserviceable due bomb craters and 2 heavy A/A guns probably destroyed.

- (3) Rabaul - During the night 16-17 Mar. Rabaul was harassed by one Liberator. At 0800-0900/17, Vunapope supply area was bombed by 11 Lightnings and 10 Aircobras. Raluana was bombed by 22 Mitchells at 1020/17 and by 10 Warhawks at 1210/17. Vunapope was bombed by 9 Mitchells at 1035/17.

- (4) Wide Bay - At 1620-0725/17, Kalai Plantation (central Wide Bay shores) was attacked by 24 Beauforts.

- (5) Ubili - At 1100-1130/17, 6 barges loaded with large cans were strafed by 2 Aircobras off Ubili. Two barges were sunk and at least one more damaged.

- (6) Admiralty Is. - Enemy resistance continues on Los Negros Island, west of Papatalai, but our forces captured a hill strong-point in this area p.m. 17 Mar.

On Manus Is. Lorengau township was taken on 18 Mar. and the Japs pushed into the hills to the South although some fighting is still in progress to the N. and E. of Lorengau.

Suspected gun positions on Pityilu Is. were bombarded 18 Mar. by a destroyer.

- (7) Hollandia-Wewak - Further detail concerning the convoy sighted and attacked by aircraft early a.m. 18 Mar. (refer Summary 780) indicates that the ships, originally comprising probably 1 freighter transport (4-6000 tons), 3 freighter transports (2-4000 tons), 4 possible escort vessels, departed Hollandia before midnight 17-18 Mar. for Wewak. After being forced to take evasive tactics by our aircraft, the convoy proceeded towards Wewak and at 0815/18 was reported 70 miles E. by S. of Humboldt Bay on course 95°, speed 10 knots. Composition at this time was described as 2 cargo vessels, 4 destroyers.

By 1800/18, the convoy had reached the area between Valif Is. and Kairiru Is. heading for Wewak, and had possibly been joined by another escort vessel which had been seen and attacked proceeding from Wewak towards the convoy early a.m. 18 Mar.

The air attacks on the convoy met with some success, but results have not yet been fully assessed. During the night 18-19 Mar. Wewak and shipping in the vicinity was bombarded by 5 allied destroyers, but final results are not yet to hand.

In addition to the above, aircraft over Hollandia at 1030/18, reported 3 merchant ships and 1 large escort of cruiser or destroyer type in Humboldt Bay.

(8) Wewak - Final details of the air strike a.m. 17 Mar. show that 36 Liberators bombed Boram airfield and the surroundings while 22 Mitchells, 30 Bostons bombed and strafed Cape Moem area. Fighters escorted our bombers. Much damage and a number of casualties are believed to have been inflicted. There was no interception and all our planes returned.

The attack was resumed at approx 1000-1100/18 and reports received cover 20 Liberators attacking A/A positions and 13 Mitchells, 12 Bostons attacking the supply area at Cape Brandi.

Aircraft attacking Wewak 17 Mar. reported a number of barges in the area, and in addition possibly 3 possible sea trucks and 2 small possible escort vessels.

- (9) Alexishafen - At 1315/17, No. 2 strip at Alexishafen was bombed and strafed by 9 Mitchells.
- (10) Rai Coast - Our forces were still held up on the E. bank of Kambara R. 18 Mar.
- (11) Saidor - Early a.m. 18 Mar. 3 enemy aircraft ineffectually raided Saidor.
- (12) Finschhafen - At 1744/17, a probable enemy reconnaissance aircraft was over Finschhafen.

NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/18:

(1) 15 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	6	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" "WILCANNIA" (AMS)
			3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	5	:	"COOLEBAR" "DILGA" "W. PROUSE" "ADMIRAL CHASE" "CORIO"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Sourabaya Area - At 2350/17-0205/18, the Naval Base and factory area were bombed by 12 Liberators but clouds obscured observation. A landing strip on Java coast about 110 miles E.S.E. of Sourabaya was bombed by one additional Liberator at 0010/18. Three aircraft were seen taking off this strip.

A lighted ship with a barge alongside was observed off Prantjak (S.W. tip of Bali).

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/19

Nil.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- 1) "SUSSEX" (CA) to depart Fremantle 1600/19 to RV at 0800/20 in position 35°11'S 114°59'E with "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) (departed Melbourne 0930/17) and escort to Fremantle.

(c) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CA	:	"SUSSEX"
	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
			3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AMS) "YUMA" (AT)
			"W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS)
			"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA (Contd.)

(c) In Harbour (Contd.):

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries

2

: "CHILDS" (AV) 1 XP: 288

B. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Enemy submarines are reported active again off the Hoogli River mouth 16 Mar. and N.E. Arabian Sea 13 Mar. (see Naval Incidents).

NAVAL INCIDENTS

Indian Ocean - On 13 Mar. "H.D. COLLIER" (prob. Liberty ship) was torpedoed approx 220 miles S.S.W. of Karachi and afternoon 16 Mar. "ELMADINA" (Br. 4000 tons) was torpedoed and sunk off the Hoogli River mouth.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carelines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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19th March, 1944.

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART 11

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	NUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHU ZUIHO
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(3) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX x HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS x DENVER x LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(26) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLARY HUTCHINS HOBBY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN AENER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	20

x Non-effective

19th March, 1944.

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(7) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) DACE) On Patrol DARTER) FLOUNDER) GATO) SCAMP)		15	25
	(2) S.42) BLURGILL) On Passage S.47) At Milne Bay GERO) At Brisbane K.9) At Milne Bay			
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>				
	(11) H.T. ALLEN) KANIBLA) WESTRALIA) 10 APA ALGORAB) 10 APD GILMER) 5 AKA KANE) SAIDS) SCHLEY) HUMPHREYS) BROOKS) HERBERT)			
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS) EURYALE)		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
	(3) RIGEL) PLATYPUS) PROMETHEUS AMYCUS)			
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	138		
	Light & M/Bombers	119		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers		2	
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn. A/c	20		
<u>2. Northern Pacific</u>				
<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>			<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>	
<u>CA</u>	-		(2) WACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan	
<u>OL</u>	(3) DETROIT) RALBIGH) RICHMOND)		(3) ABUKUMA) TAMA) KISO)	
<u>DD</u>	9		10	
<u>ES</u>	10		Approx 4	

19th March, 1944.

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CV</u>	(18)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	x	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA OKLAHOMA	(5)	YAMASIRO x YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA		INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWpens BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	x	CABOT LANGLEY INDEPENDENCE	(3)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>		-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPANEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTO CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMIRA		WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER PAWSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALINUN BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO x OTAKA x UNYO
<u>CCA</u>						6
<u>CL</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CAMBRIDGE WICHITA NEW ORLEANS		MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	x	NAYA
<u>CL</u>	(8)	OALLAND x RENO x CONCORD x BIRMINGHAM		SANTA FE DAN DIEGO MOBILE BILLOXI	(4)	YOSHIRO x SAGARA x NATORIA x ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>		-				KASHII
<u>CVS</u>		-				3
<u>DD</u>		Approx 85			20	(Several repairing)
<u>SS</u>		Approx 30			Approx 25	
<u>AS</u>		?			2	(one repairing)

x Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 782

Date 20th March, 1944.

PART 1.A. SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA.1. EASTERN AREA.(1) ALLIED FORCES.(a) At Sea to 1200/20:

- (1) "YMS's 313, 314, 333, 71" "ML 428" escorting Convoy BG 63 ("PANDA") (IX) for Lae ETA 0200/2; "GEO. GANCOUVER" for Langemak departed Milne Bay 1030/19 ETA Langemak 0900/21.
- (2) "GOULBURN" (AMS) escorting "T.M. COOLEY" departed Woddlark 1500/19 for Goodenough Is. ETA 1500/20.
- (3) "GRAYSON" (DD) departed Brisbane 1430/19 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/22.
- (4) "SAN ANTONIO" aground off Cape Nelson, was proceeding Milne Bay to Oro Bay.
- (5) "WARREGO" (PS) departed Milne Bay 0930/18 for Townsville ETA 0800/21.
- (6) "GYMPIE" (AMS) departed Port Moresby 1903/18 for Cairns ETA 1400/21.
- (7) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (8) "PERIE" (AMS) departed Cairns 1100/18 for Thursday Is. ETA 1420/20.
- (9) "BUNDABERG" escorting Convoy TN.230 (4 MV) en route Townsville to Fitzroy Is. to RV with "KALGOORLIE" "TOWNSVILLE" and 1 MV ex Cairns at approx 1600/18 for onward escorting to Port Moresby (1 ship) and Milne Bay (4 ships).
- (10) "KAPUNDA" (AMS) towing 1 APC (ex Convoy TN.230) returning to Cairns ETA 1200/20.
- (11) "SCOTCH CAP" towing 1 YDG and 1 AFD proceeding Cairns ETA not known.
- (12) "SC.703" departed Cairns 0831/18 for Milne Bay.
- (13) "YP.233" departed Milne Bay 0830/15 for Brisbane ETA 21 March.
- (14) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Thursday Is. 0955/18 for Townsville ETA 0800/21.
- (15) "WAGGA" (AMS) conducting outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage area.
- (16) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Brisbane 0200/19 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/22.
- (17) "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) departed Sydney 1015/18 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (18) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (19) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ANS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (20) 7 submarines on patrol
- (b) Proposed Movements:
- (1) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) to depart Milne Bay 22 Mar. proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (2) "KIAMA" (AMS) to depart Caloundra 1200/20 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/24.

(c) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:
Combat Units 15 PT
Escorts 3 : 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8,46
Auxiliaries 1 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen 4 : "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY" "N.E.MACK" "W.BEAUMONT"

Cape Gloucester:
Escorts 1 : 1 PC: 1134
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen 2 : "YOOHOO" "MELINGA"

Saidor:
Combat Units 9 PT
Escorts 2 : 2 SC: 744, 748
Auxiliaries 1 : "ETAMIN" (AK)
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "W.SHARRON" "J.H.ROSSITER"

Finschhafen:
Combat Units 38 PT
Escorts 24 : "ARARAT" "BENALLA" "BENDIGO" "BUMBURY"
"GLENELG" "STAWELL" (AMS) 3 YMS: 53, 316, 336
3 PC: 1123, 1132, 1122 3 ML: 424, 803, 804
9 SC: 637, 648, 732, 734, 735, 743, 747,
981, 982
Auxiliaries 6 : "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASH) "HALF
MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) "CALAMARES" (AP)
Merchantmen 24 : "BRASTAGI" "MACTAN" "W.B.ALLISON" "CITY OF
HOUSTON" "W.ATWATER" "S.BRANNON" "LYMAN
STEWART" "A.THOMAS" "D.HEWES" "HANYANG"
"G.R.HEBARD" "L.S.KELLY" "J.COOK" "GEO.LUKS"
"J.W.DAVIS" "G.L.CURRY" "AUN" "ISOLATOR"
"H.L.ABBOTT" "G.V.L.MEYER" "E.JOHNSON"
"VAN SPIEBERGEN" "J.DOTY" "CAPE PERPETUA"

Merchantmen 7 : "O.KELLY" "H.T.RAINEY" "R.J.WALKER"
"F.BILLINGS" "C.DARROW" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH"

Buna:
Escorts 10 : 2 PT: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 PC: 1119
1 ML: 816 4 SC: 736, 741, 746, 750
2 YMS: 73, 334
Auxiliaries 11 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA"
(APA) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" (AO)
"SUSQUEHANNA" (AOG) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)
"POYANG" (ASIS) 1 ARD "MINK" (IX)
"TRIANGULUM" (AKS)
Merchantmen 9 : "M.WALKER" "JEAN NICOLET" "W.L.SUBJETTE"
"S.G.PORTER" "STAGEN" "W.S.LADD" "ALAMO"
"TABINTA" "ALCIBIADES"

Oro Bay:
Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 17 : "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "T.CRAWFORD"
"RING LARDNER" "J.I.NOLAN" "WEST CACTUS"
"D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGERS" "A.REHAN" "ALCOA"
POLARIS" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "CAPE SPENCER"
"CEPALU" "M.T.HERRICK" "BORGFRED" "CAPE
HENLOPEN" "R.S.BEAN"

Woodlark Is:
Escorts 1 : 1 YMS: 50
Auxiliaries 1 : 1 YP: 278

Kiriwina:
Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 819
Merchantman -

Goodenough Is:
Merchantmen 5 : "E.N.WESTCOTT" "DD.FIELD" "ANHUI" "VAN
SWOLL" "M.TRWAITES"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units

2 CA : "SEMPREPARTE" "AUSTRALIA"
 3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PUGENIX" "BOISE"
 24 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENS" "BUTCHINS" "DALY"
 "BACON" "ARMY" "BLAKE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
 "WALK" "ROBERTY" "MULLARY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES"
 "REID" "MAHAR" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "THOMAS"
 "NICHOLSON" "MAREBAROUCA" "ARMER READ" "ARUNTA"
 "ROE"

14 PT

Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts

2 PF : "BARCOO" "GASCOYNE"
 6 SC : 650, 698, 699, 737, 738, 742
 1 AS : "CONRA"
 6 PC : 476, 479, 1120, 1122, 1131, 1132
 6 YAS : 49, 52, 70, 318, 335, 336
 6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818

Auxiliaires

24 : "HURPHEYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILDER" "KANE"
 "HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (APL) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
 "AASE MAENSK" (AO) "SHIRRELLARY" (AOG) "OPUS"
 "FURYALE" (AS) "PYRO" (AE) "BOOTES" "POLLEX"
 (AKS) "KOOFA" (AGP) "ANYCUS" (ARL) "YUNIAN"
 "PIPO WO" (ASIS) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" "CHUMCO"
 (AT)

Merchantmen

1 ARD: 2 YP: 280, 283
 36 : "ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.C. ACHESON" "J. ALDEN"
 "ANASSAS PASS" "W.S. AYER" "J. BARBARA"
 "BARBARA G." "S.K. BARLOW" "S.K. BOLIVAR"
 "J. BERRIGANS" "CAPE BLANCO" "W.C. CLAIBORNE"
 "J. BERRY" "F.H. DODD" "DOE HARRIS"
 "A.S. BUNTAY" "ESBO BAYWAY" "ESBO HARRISEBURG"
 "G.E.K. FITCH" "H. FLIDDERS" "W. GREENFELD"
 "H. GRIFFITH" "E.J. HENRY" "A.S. HEWITT"
 "E.P. IRVING" "JAMESONS" "JAFARA" "W.S. KIRNEY"
 "A. LYNES" "Z. LYNES" "MARTSON" "MARA"
 "J.S. SAUSFIELD" "J. SC. CLEAV" "E. MCLENNAN" "W.G.
 McCRACKEN" "E. SATELWS" "L. PERRIET"
 "W.V. HOODY" "MORRISDALE" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST"
 "PARNER" "PARNIK" "OREGON TRAIL" "JAMES D.
 PHALAN" "PONCE" "RANO" "E. ROBERTSON"
 "A. ROBINSON" "W.C. ROGER" "J. ROLPH" "J. ROSS"
 "SEA DEVIL" "SEA MARLIN" "SHANNEE" "S.W. WHITE"
 "E.J. SINNOTT" "C. SPRECKERS" "T.W. SYMONS"
 "THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJF" "VAN OUTBORN"
 "VAN DEN BOSCH" "VILLALOBOS" "K.D. WIGGIN"
 "E. YOUNG"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 426
Auxiliaires 1 : "POLARIS" (ACS)
Merchantmen 2 : "MULIAMA" "MAREBUTA"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 1 : 1 SC: 731
Auxiliaires 1 : "BUNGARIE" (CV)

Cairns:

Escorts 18 : "CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "BACOME" "BALLARAT"
 "CASTLEMAINE" "MILDURA" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS)
 1 PC: 477 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820
 6 YAS: 9, 10, 11, 47, 48, 51

Auxiliaires 3 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORSEY" (ACS) 1 ARD.

Townsville:

Escorts 1 : "BOWER" (AMS)

Okay:

Auxiliaires 1 : "MUROR" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaires 2 : "KALINEJA" "MAREBUTA" (APA)

Brisbane:

Escorts 7 : "SWAN" (PS) "KIARA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749
 3 ML: 808, 821, 823

Auxiliaires 11 :

"TANGIER" (AV) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALBORAB"
 (AK) "CANYARDE" (AK) "MURKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA"
 (AO) "MARTSUYCKER" (AM) "MIZAR" (AF)
 2 YP: 256, 291, "LEOPARD" (IX)

Sydney:

Combat Units	1 CL :	"HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD :	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12 :	"CCLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "GEEBONG" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WHYALLA" (AMS) "KYBRA" AB. CRIJMSSEN "DOOMBA" (A/S) 2 ML: 822, 823
Auxiliaries	5 :	"MANONDA" "WANGANELLA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AG) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)

Melbourne:
Escorts 1 AMS: "LITHGOW"

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Choiseul - Enemy positions and concentrations at Choiseul Bay were bombed and strafed 18/3 by 24 Dauntless and 10 N.Z. Venturas.
(2) Empress Augusta Bay - 6 enemy aircraft approached Torokina perimeter 0300 - 0431/18 but only 1 dropped bombs. The remainder may possibly have dropped supplies.

During 18 Mar enemy gun positions and pill boxes were bombed by Dauntless and Avengers in moderate strength.

During the night 18-19 Mar very slight shelling was received on Torokina and Piva strips but heavier activity was experienced shortly after 0600/19. Piva strip was rendered unserviceable for a short period.

At 1015/19 a submarine was seen by aircraft south of Motupina Point probably on a transportation mission.

- (3) Nissan Island - At 0530/19, 4 enemy aircraft approached Nissan Island but turned off when 7 miles away.

- (4) Rabaul - On 16 Mar aircraft reported 4 strings of yellow truncated cone shaped mines between Duke of York Island and Cape Gazelle.

Between 1050 - 1200/18 fuel stores at Keravia Bay were bombed by 12 Warhawks 12 Aircobras, an ammunition dump at Tarvui Point by 13 Lightnings and A/A positions, wharf and town area by 24 Liberators, 33 Mitchells, 32 Dauntless and 24 Avengers. 15 Corsairs gave fighter cover which saw only 1 Zero airborne. One Lightning was lost p.m. 18/3. Massava Bay ~~is~~ dock was destroyed by 2 Venturas dropping 12 depth charges: Barges in Ataliklikun Bay and Keravia Bay were also strafed by 8 Hellcats, 6 Corsairs.

- (5) Gasmata Area - During daylight 18 Mar a tug-type lugger was driven ashore by PT. boats at Baronga Island (off Lindenhafen Plantation). A storage tank and pill-boxes on the mainland, *was strafed*. No enemy were seen during the operation.

- (6) Admiralty Island - At 1140/18, 1 enemy aircraft approached from the West but dropped no bombs.

During the capture of Lorengau township 18 Mar considerable equipment was captured including anti-tank mines, a 16.5 M.M. LMG. and 3 heavy M.G. 350 Japs were killed. Remaining enemy forces are arranged more or less in an arc S. and S.W. of the township.

Enemy known dead in the Admiralties number 2002 plus an estimated 500 leaving an estimated effective strength of just over 1500 of which probably 600 are combat troops.

- (7) Hollandia - Wewak - The results of attacks on the shipping of the Hollandia - Wewak coast early a.m. 18 Mar are given in Naval incidents. The destroyer sweep (involving 5 units) at about midnight 18 - 19 Mar covering the coast from But to Dagua, Kaiuiu and Muschu Island also from Wewak Point to Dabiap (about 10 miles eastward) failed to locate the convoy meeting only one small freighter or large barge off Wewak: The barge was sunk, also many small craft. Muschu Harbour and Kairiru float plane base were bombarded, also the Wewak area. Some enemy shore gunfire was encountered and 4 enemy aircraft attacked the destroyers all without effect.

The convoy was however located by aircraft at about 1005/19 approx. 35 miles N - N.W. of Wewak on northerly course apparently awaiting an opportunity to get into Wewak. The convoy at this time was described as comprising 2 merchant ships 3 escort vessels. The convoy was attacked twice during the day, involving 40 Liberators, 62 Mitchells and Bostons with escort, with complete success but full details are not yet available.

(7) Hollandia - Wewak (contd.)

Co-ordinated with the strong air strikes on the convoy off Wewak 19/3, Wewak, Boram, But, Dagua and Tadji airfields were attacked by 6 Liberators and approximately 100 Mitchells and Bostons plus escorting fighters. In all, 3 of our attack bombers were lost: 2 enemy fighters were shot down.

(8) Bogadjim Area - On 17 Mar an allied patrol landed at Melamu Plantation (8 miles E of Bogadjim) and made contact with an inland patrol at Barum some 5 miles to the S.W. on 18 Mar some 30 Japs were encountered in the Barum - Nangapo area by these patrols

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA (i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/19:

(1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TB48 ("DARVEL" "ALAGNA") departed Thursday Island 1800/18 for Darwin ETA 1700/23.

(2) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy DF45 (2 MW) departed Darwin 1003/19 for Thursday Island, ETA 0900/23.

(3) 15 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts 5 : "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS)
3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen 3 : "COOLEBAR" "W. PROUSE" "CORIO"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES.

Merauke - At 0p01/19 a probable enemy reconnaissance plane was over Merauke.

Monokwari - Night 18 - 19 Mar the following shipping was observed off Monokwari :-

2 merchant ships (2 - 3000 tons each)
1 small U/I ship
1 medium U/I ship (300 ft)
1 probable gunboat.

Babo - At 0237 - 0337/19 Babo was bombed by 3 Liberators causing fires and explosions.

Makassar Strait - At 1300/18 a U.S. submarine sighted an auxiliary aircraft carrier escorted by 2 destroyers in the north entrance to Makassar Strait on course 225°.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA.

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/20:

(1) "SUSSEX" (CA) was to depart Fremantle 1600/19 to RV at 0800/20 in position 35°11'S 114°59'E with "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) (departed Melbourne 0930/17) and escort to Fremantle.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units : 1 CL: "ADELAIDE"
Escorts 6 "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries 9 "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT)
"W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS)
"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries 2 "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288

4. SOUTH PACIFIC (ii) ENEMY FORCES

New Caledonia - At 0755/18 a submarine was reported 120 miles N.N.E. of Noumea on course 106°.

5. CENTRAL PACIFIC ENEMY FORCES

Marshall's - Carolines - On 16 Mar light air strikes were conducted against Oroluk, Pingelapp, Tarva, Wotje and Mille.

*

NAVAL INCIDENTS

Hollandia - Wewak - Liberators attacking the convoy described as comprising 1 medium 3 small freighter transports and 4 escort vessels off Hollandia early a.m. 18 Mar sank one of the smaller merchant ships and damaged another. A destroyer or escort vessel proceeding out of Wewak to the N.W. was also hit and damaged.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES.

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	-	6	MUSASHI
<u>CV (L)</u>	-	-	-	RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(3) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CT (T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(5) TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(26) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN AEMER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(7) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) DACE) DARTER) On Patrol FLOUNDER) HATO) SCAMP)		15	25
	(2) S.42) BLUEGILL) On Passage			
	S.47	At Milne Bay		
	CERO	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Milne Bay		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SANDS SCHLEY HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>ACC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 18 twin eng.) 138
 Light & M/Bombers 119
 Torpedo and D/Bombers 8
 Flying Boats 1
 Floatplanes 14
 sn. A/c 20

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	10
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(18) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA	COLORADO MARYLAND TENNESSEE NEW MEXICO MISSISSIPPI IDAHO ALABAMA PENNSYLVANIA * OKLAHOMA	(4) ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
	(7) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(3) HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-		HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25) COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALFAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY MATOMA BAY MEHRETA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-		6
<u>CL</u>	(8) OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD * BIRMINGHAM	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	(4) NOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-		KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-		3
<u>DE</u>	Approx 85		20 (several repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30		Approx 25
<u>AS</u>	?		2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 783

Date 21 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREAEASTERN AREA(i) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/21:

- (1) "YP.283" departed Milne Bay 1340/20 for Langemak ETA 1600/22.
- (2) "GRAYSON" (DD) departed Brisbane 1430/19 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/22.
- (3) "KANIMBLA" "MANODRA" (APA) departed Gladstone 1900/20 ETA Fitzroy Is. 1800/22, ETA Finschhafen 0700/25.
- (4) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT) departed Milne Bay 0700/20 to render assistance to "SAN ANTONIO" aground off Cape Nelson.
- (5) "PC.1124" standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (6) "BUNDABERG" escorting Convoy TN.230 (4 MV) en route Townsville to Fitzroy Is. to RV with "KALGOORLIE" "TOWNSVILLE" and 1 MV ex Cairns at approx 1600/18 for onward escorting to Port Moresby (1 ship) and Milne Bay (4 ships).
- (7) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) departed Port Moresby 1330/20 for Brisbane ETA 0700/24.
- (8) "SCOTCH CAP" towing 1 YDG and 1 ARD proceeding Cairns ETA not known.
- (9) "SC.703" departed Cairns 0831/18 for Milne Bay.
- (10) "MILDURA" (AMS) on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (11) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Brisbane 0200/19 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/22.
- (12) "KIAMA" (AMS) departed Caloundra 1200/20 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/24.
- (13) "DOOMBA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0855/20 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (14) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (15) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (16) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) to depart Milne Bay 22 Mar. proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (2) "SC.749" to depart Caloundra 2100/21 to relieve "WHYALLA" on Sandy Cape patrol, leaving patrol area 1200/25 to return to Brisbane.

(c) Convoy Procedure:

- (1) MV, TN and NT Convoys are to be discontinued after the sailing, on Friday 24 March, of Convoys TN.232 and NT.77.
- (2) All ships, except those mentioned below, may be sailed independently North and South between Grafton Passage and Milne Bay or Port Moresby, save when enemy submarines are known or strongly suspected to be operating near shipping routes.
- (3) Escort is however to be arranged by N.O.I.C. New Guinea for the following types of vessels when within 200 miles of Milne Bay, if Westward of 150°E, and North of 14°S., if to Eastward of 150°E.

- (i) Combat Units from cruisers upwards.
(ii) Troop ships.
(iii) Naval auxiliaries over 2000 tons.
(iv) Tankers.

Air escort will also be provided for these vessels when ships are within 100 miles of mainland of Australia and when ships are within 200 miles of Milne Bay.

- (4) The following AMS's are to be transferred to operational and administrative control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea:-
"BOWEN" "BUNDABERG" "CASTLEMAINE" "GYMPIE" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA".

(d) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units	15	PT	
Escorts	3		: 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
Auxiliaries	1		: "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen	4		: "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY" "N.E.MACK" "W. BEAUMONT"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts	1		: 1 PC: 1134
Auxiliaries	1		: "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen	2		: "YOGHOW" "MELINGA"

Saïdor:

Combat Units	9	PT	
Escorts	3		: "ARARAT" (AMS) 2 SC: 744, 748
Auxiliaries	1		: "ETAMIN" (AK)
Merchantmen	4		: "H.C.PAYNE" "W.SHARRON" "J.H.ROSSITER" "TIMOSHENKO"

Finschhafen:

Combat Units	38	PT	
Escorts	30		: "BENALLA" "BENDIGO" "BUNBURY" "GLENEILG" "STAWELL" (AMS) "WARREGO" (PS) 9 YMS: 53, 71, 73, 313, 314, 316, 334, 336 393 3 PC: 1123, 1122, 1132 3 ML: 424, 803, 804 9 SC: 637, 648, 732, 734, 735, 743, 747, 981, 982
Auxiliaries	8		: "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR) "TRIANGULUM" (AK) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen	27		: "BRASTAGI" "MACTAN" "W.B.ALLISON" "CITY OF HOUSTON" "W.ATWATER" "LYMAN STEWART" "A.THOMAS" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD" "L.S. KELLY" "J.COOK" "GEO.LUKS" "GEO.VANCOUVER" "J.W.DAVIS" "G.L.CURRY" "AUN" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT" "G.V.L.MEYER" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY" "CAPE PERPETUA" "ALAMO" "TABINTA" "H.T.RAINEY" "JOHN I.NOLAN" "T.CRAWFORD"

Es:

Escorts	1		: 1 ML: 428
Auxiliaries	1		: "PANDA" (IX)
Merchantmen	7		: "O.KELLY" "R.J.WALKER" "P.BILLINGS" "C.DARROW" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH" "S.BRANNON"

Buna:

Escorts	7		: 2 PT: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 1 PC: 1119 1 ML: 816 3 SC: 736, 741, 746
Auxiliaries	8		: "ELUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" "SUSQUEHANNA" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LBD) "POYANG" (AE) "MINK" (IX) "PING WO" (ASIS) 1 ARD.

<u>Buna: (Contd.)</u>			
Merchantmen	6	:	"M.WALKER" "JEAN NICOLET" "S.G.PORTER" "STAGEN" "W.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES"
<u>Oro Bay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	2	:	"RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen	14	:	"B.MATTHEWS" "J.W.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "WEST CACTUS" "D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGER" "A.REHAN" "ALCOA POLARIS" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "CAPE SPENCER" "CEFALU" "M.T.HERRICK" "CAPE HENLOPEN" "R.S.BEAN"
<u>Woodlark Is:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	1 YMS: 50
Auxiliaries	1	:	1 YP: 278
<u>Kiriwina:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	1 ML: 819 1 SC: 750
Auxiliaries	2	:	2 1-YP+278
Merchantmen	1	:	"MANA"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"GOULBURN" (AMS)
Merchantmen	7	:	"ED.W.WESTCOTT" "D.D.FIELD" "ANHUI" "VAN SWOLL" "M.THWAITES" "BORGFRED" "T.W.CODLEY"
<u>Milne Bay:</u>			
Combat Units	2 CA	:	"SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
	3 CL	:	"NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
	24 DD	:	"STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "NUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON" "THORNE" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER READ" "ARUNTA" "ROE"
	14 PT	:	
* <u>Note:</u> Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.			
Escorts	2 PF	:	"BARCOO" "GASCOYNE"
	6 SC	:	650, 698, 699, 737, 738, 742
	1 AMS	:	"COWRA"
	6 PC	:	476, 479, 1120, 1122, 1131, 1132
	6 YMS	:	49, 52, 70, 315, 335, 336
	6 ML	:	427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
Auxiliaries	21	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE" "HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "SHIKELLAMY" (AOG) "OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "PYRO" (AE) "BOOTES" (AK) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "CHETCO" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" (IX) "CALAMARES" (AF) 1 ARD. 1 YP: 280
Merchantmen	67	:	"ALCOA PATRIOT" "E.G.ACHESON" "J.ALDEN" "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C." "S.K.BARLOW" "SK. BOLIVAR" "J.BURROUGHS" "W.N.BYERS" "CAPE BLANCO" "W.C.CLAIRBORNE" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "A.B.DUNWAY" "ESSO BAYWAY" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "G.E.K.FITCH" "M.FLINDERS" "W.GRENFELL" "M.GRIFFITH" "E.J.HENRY" "A.S.HEWITT" "D.HEWES" "B.F.IRVINE" "JANSSENS" "JAPARA" "KATOOMBA" "M.E.KINNEY" "A.LYKES" "Z.LYKES" "MATTSON" "J.S. MANSFIELD" "J.MCLEAN" "W.MCLENNAN" "W.G.MCCRACKEN" "B.MATTHEWS" "L.MERRITT" "W.V.MOODY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK" "OREGON TRAIL" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "PONCE" "RAMO" "M.ROBERTSON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.G.ROGER" "J.ROLPH" "J.ROSS" "SEA DEVIL" "SEA MARLIN" "SHAWNEE" "S.M.WHITE" "N.J. SINHOFF" "C.SPRECKERS" "W.H.SUBJETTE" "T.W.SYMONS" "THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJN" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "VAN SPILBERGEN" "K.D.WIGGIN" "E.YOUNG"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	1 ML: 426
Auxiliaries	1	:	"POLARIS" (AGS)
Merchantmen	4	:	"MULIAMA" "TAROONA" "ORMISTOE" "CHARON"

<u>Thursday Is:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"PIRIE" (AMS) 1 SC:731
Auxiliaries	1	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	18	:	"CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "GYMPIE" "CASTLEMAINE" "KAPUNDA" "ROCKHAMPTON" "WAGGA" (AMS) 1 PC: 477 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 6 YMS: 9, 10, 11, 47, 48, 51
Auxiliaries	3	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.
<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	4	:	"BOWEN" "BROOME" "BALLARAT" "FREMANTLE" (AMS)
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
<u>Gladstone:</u>			
Auxiliaries	-	:	
<u>Brisbane:</u>			
Escorts	7	:	"SWAN" (PS) "KIAMA" (AMS) 2 SC:745, 749 3 ML: 808, 821, 823
Auxiliaries	11	:	"TANGIER" (AV) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" "GANYMEDE" (AK) "MERKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AO) "MIZAR" (AF) 3 YP: 233, 236, 291 "LEOPARD" (IX)
<u>Sydney:</u>			
Combat Units	1 CL	:	"HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD	:	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	:	"COLAC" "DELORAINÉ" "ECHUCA" "GEELONG" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" "WHYALLA" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB.CRIJNSSEN" (A/S) 2 ML: 822, 823
Auxiliaries	5	:	"MANUNDA" "WANGANELIA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AF) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)
<u>Melbourne:</u>			
Escorts	1 AMS	:	"LITHCOW" (AMS)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Buka Passage - During the night 17-18 Mar. 4 heavily laden barges were engaged E. of Buka Passage by PT boats: 2 barges were beached, the other 2 forced ashore and destroyed. Some shore fire was encountered without effect.
- (2) Kavieng-Mussau Island - Preliminary reports indicate that a successful allied landing was made on Emirau Island at 0830/20 without opposition. The island of Elomusao was seized after overcoming slight opposition, but no allied casualties are reported. Co-ordinated with the landing, Kavieng was bombarded by heavy naval units over a period of 3½ hours (see Naval Incidents). Enemy shore fire was ineffective during the approach of our task force and nonexistent after the bombardment except for occasional A/A. Large fires and explosions were caused; Chinatown was levelled and only a few buildings left standing in Kavieng. There was no shipping present.
- (3) Admiralty Islands - During the night 18-19 Mar. enemy positions at Lankau (S.W. shore of Rambutyo Island - S.E. of group) were strafed and shelled by PT boats.
- On Los Negros Island, strong enemy resistance was still being encountered 19 Mar. in the area W. of Papitalai. Enemy positions in the hills in this sector were shelled by destroyers expending 600 x 5" shells on 20 Mar.
- Enemy activity on 19 and 20 Mar. around Lorengau was limited to sniping and stubborn defence of bunkers, except for one suicidal assault by a small party of Japs on 19 Mar.
- Estimated enemy strength 19 Mar. in the Admiralties is as follows:
- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Lorengau vicinity | 315 |
| S.W. Los Negros Is. | 620 |
| Off-lying Islands | 10 |
| Unlocated | 500 |
| | <u>1445</u> |
- (4) Open Bay - At dawn 19 Mar. Pondo Plantation (W.coast Gazelle Peninsula) was bombed and strafed by 30 Beauforts and 2 Beaufighters. Pondo Plantation was thought possibly to be a staging point for troop movement.

- (5) Jacquinet Bay - Natives report 19 Mar. that submarine transportation apparently is continuing to Jacquinet Bay arriving at Palmalmal at about dusk.
- (6) Central New Britain - A patrol ~~is~~ reconnoitring Lindenhafen 19 Mar. killed 3 Japs. The patrol returned to base 20 Mar. having found no enemy installations and no further personnel.
Contact was lost with the enemy 19 Mar. by patrols in the Numundo Plantation (15½ miles S.S.E. Talasea).
- (7) Garove Island - At 1515/19, A/A positions and camp area on Garove Is. were bombed and strafed by 12 Kittyhawks. Direct hits were scored on gun positions and in the camp.
- (8) Hollandia - At 1030/19, one freighter (estimated 5000 tons) was observed by aircraft in Hollandia Bay.
At 0300/20, 2 merchant ships (one small, one medium) and 2 escort vessels were attacked by reconnaissance Liberator 12 miles N.N.W. Hollandia. The ships were attacked with some success but results are not yet assessed. The course of the convoy was not reported but evidence suggests that it was in-bound to Hollandia.
At 1015/20, reconnaissance aircraft observed 2 freighters and 5 barges in Hollandia Bay.
- (9) Hollandia-Wewak - Results of the attack on the convoy off Wewak 19 Mar. are given in Naval Incidents.
Preliminary reports from aircraft in flight indicate probably 3 small groups of shipping along the coast Hollandia-Wewak during the night 20-21 Mar. -
- (a) Probably 3 small ships were apparently in the area N.-N.W. of Sissano (85 miles S.E. of Hollandia), course undetermined, between 0100-0300/21.
- (b) One small freighter, 1-2 escort vessels, W-bound 15-20 miles E. of Tadjj, 2300/20-0120/21.
- (c) 2 barges, 1 escort vessel off Nightingale Bay at 2200/20-0210/21.
- (10) Tadjj - At approx 1045/20, Tadjj airfields were attacked by 38 Liberators dropping 152 tons of bombs. The south strip was rendered unservicable and damage inflicted includes several grounded aircraft destroyed.
- (11) Sepik River - At 1115/20, 7-8 barges were observed by aircraft heading up the Sepik River.
- (12) Bogadjim Area - At 1015/19, enemy positions N.E. of Daumoina were bombed and strafed by 5 Aircobras led in by 2 Boomerangs and on 20 Mar. a bridge in the Daumoina area was bombed by 14 Aircobras.
- (13) Saidor - During the night 17-18 Mar. 2 enemy bombers raided camp area at Saidor causing insignificant casualties and damage.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/21:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.48 ("DARVEL" "ALAGNA") departed Thursday Island 1800/18 for Darwin ETA 1700/23.
- (2) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy DT.45 (2 MV) departed Darwin 1003/19 for Thursday Island, ETA 0900/23.
- (3) 15 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS)
		3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	3	: "W. PROUSE" "CORIO"

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/21:

- (1) "SUSSEX" (CA) was to depart Fremantle 1600/19 to RV at 0800/20 in position 35°11'S 114°59'E with "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) (departed Melbourne 0930/17) and escort to Fremantle.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units 1 CL : "ADELAIDE"
Escorts 6 : "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries 9 : "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT)
"W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS"
(AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286
1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries 2 : "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288

B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

New Hebrides - At 0715/20, a submarine was sighted off Northern tip
Ambryn Island (60 miles E. of Espiritu Santo).

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls-Carolines - On 17 and 18 Mar. light to moderate air strikes
were conducted against Ponape, Kusaie, Wotje (twice), Maloelap
(twice), Jaluit (twice) and Mille.

NAVAL INCIDENTS

- X
- (1) Kavieng-Mussau Island - During the bombardment of Kavieng, a task
force including battleships, expended 1080 x 14" and 12,275 x 5"
shells. As reported earlier in this Summary, ineffective enemy
fire was encountered during the approach but gun positions were
silenced except for odd A/A. The bombardment was entirely
successful. The only damage and casualties to our ships resulted
from premature explosions.
 - (2) Wewak - The convoy described as comprising 3 escort vessels (probably
gunboats), one freighter transport of 6000 tons and one
freighter transport of 4000 tons (reported in yesterday's
Summary No. 782) was attacked off Wewak in 2 full-scale air
strikes at approx 1045/20 and 1500-1600/20, involving in total
40 Liberators, 62 attack bombers (Mitchells and Bostons) plus
fighters. All 5 ships were sunk; the largest merchant vessel
being credited to the Liberators and the others to the attack
bombers. Approx 4-500 Jap troops were seen in the water and a
similar number is estimated to have gone down with one of the
ships.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea,
East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation
runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine
activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian
Oceans.

--oOo--

21st March, 1944.

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>		<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>		
	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	-	-	MUSASHI
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(7) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS * DENVER * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u> (2)	HALF MOON SAN PAOLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(26) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON REID AMISEY BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANEY HUTCHINS HOBBEY TALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ASNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	20

* Non-effective.

21st March, 1944.

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

B (18) INDIANA
NORTH CAROLINA
IOWA
WASHINGTON
NEW JERSEY
MASSACHUSETTS
CALIFORNIA
SOUTH DAKOTA
WEST VIRGINIA

COLORADO
MARYLAND
TENNESSEE
NEW MEXICO
MISSISSIPPI
IDAHO
ALABAMA
PENNSYLVANIA
* OKLAHOMA

(4) ISE
YAMASHIRO
* YAMATO
MUTSU (Prob. sunk)

CV (7) ENTERPRISE
YORKTOWN
LEXINGTON
SARATOGA

INTREPID
ESSEX
BUNKER HILL

CV(L) (7) CONFENS
BELLEAU WOOD
MONTEREY
PRINCETON

CABOT
LANGLEY
* INDEPENDENCE

(5) HITAKA
HAYATAKA
TAIHO
RYUHO
ZUIHO
HOSEO

CV(T) -

CV(E) (25) COPAHES
SANGAMON
SUWANNEE
CHENANGO
CORAL SEA
BARNES
PRINCE WILLIAM
LONG ISLAND
NASSAU
SANTRE
CASABLANCA
CORREGIDOR
ALPAMAHA

WHITE PLAINS
BRETON
MIDWAY
PATROLLER
FANSHAW BAY
GAMBIER BAY
HOGGATT BAY
KALININ BAY
KITKUM BAY
MANILA BAY
NATOMA BAY
MEHENTA BAY

(5) CHITOSE
JINYO
KAIYO
* OTAKA
* UNYO

CA (13) BALTIMORE
BOSTON
CHESTER
CANBERRA
WICHITA
NEW ORLEANS

MINNEAPOLIS
PENSACOLA
INDIANAPOLIS
SAN FRANCISCO
SALT LAKE CITY
PORTLAND
LOUISVILLE

* MAYA

OCA -

CL (8) OAKLAND
* RENO
* CONCORD
* BIRMINGHAM

SANTA FE
SAN DIEGO
MOBILE
BILOXI

(4) NOSHIO
* NAGARA
* NATORI
* ISUZU

CL(T) -

KASHII

AV/CVS -

3

DD Approx 85

20 (several repairing)

SS Approx 30

Approx 25

AS ?

2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

20th March, 1944.

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD 2

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific
(Western Section)

Eastern Fleet Area

East Indies-Philippines

<u>BB</u>	-	(3)	QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(5)	NAGATO KONGO HARUNA	HYUGA FUSO (poss. Palau area)
<u>CV</u>	-		ILLUSTRIOUS	(2)	ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU	
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	(4)	BATTLE UNICORN SHAH RANEE		CHIYODA	
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(5)	SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6)	AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA TONE	CHIKUMA MOGAMI
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9)	CARADOC CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA VAN HEEMSKERK	NEWCASTLE (4)	YAHAGI OI KINU * KIRAGAMI	
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON		ALBATROSS		* KAMOI	
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2)	CANTON CHITRAL		-	
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-		?		-	
<u>DD</u>	-		Approx 27		25	
<u>ES</u> (15)	ANGLER POMPOM) BILFISH PUFFER) BLUEFISH NORWHAL) BOWFIN RASHER) CABRILLA RATON) GUNNEL RAY) HADDO) HAKE) MINGO) LAPON)		On Patrol			
(11)	BONEFISH HOE) COD REDFIN) CREVALLE ROBALO) FLASHER K.12) JACK K.15)		At Fremantle			
<u>AS</u>	PELIAS ORION					

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 63
 Light & M/Bombers 15
 Torpedo and D/Bombers -
 Flying Boats -
 Floatplanes 42
 Obsn. A/c 23

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 784

Date 22 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/22:

- (1) "SC.757" "YMS.336" departed Milne Bay 1630/21 for Buna ETA 1400/22.
- (2) "YP.283" departed Milne Bay 1340/20 for Langemak ETA 1600/22.
- (3) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Gladstone 1900/20 ETA Fitzroy Is. 1800/22, ETA Pinschhafen 0700/25.
- (4) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT) departed Milne Bay 0700/20 to render assistance to "SAN ANTONIO" aground off Cape Nelson.
- (5) "HARMON" (DE) escorting "CELENO" (AK) proceeding Milne Bay ETA 0800/22.
- (6) "PC.1124" departed Milne Bay 1900/21 to RV with "CAPE DOUGLAS" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (7) "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) "CAMERIAN SALVOR" (ARS) standing by to assist.
- (8) "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS) escorting Convoy MV.74 (2 MV) departed Milne Bay 1700/21 for Townsville ETA 0200/26.
- (9) "CASTLEMAINE" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA" departed Cairns 0600/21 to join Convoy TN.231 (1 MV for Port Moresby; 3 MV, 3 LCI for Milne Bay).
- (10) "MAETBUYCKER" (AH) departed Port Moresby 1330/20 for Brisbane ETA 0700/24.
- (11) "BUNDABERG" (AMS) escorting "ORMISTON" departed Port Moresby 1630/21 for Townsville ETA 1830/23. "BUNDABERG" detaches off Fitzroy Is. ETA Cairns 0730/23.
- (12) "KALGOORLIE" on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (13) "SCOTCH CAP" towing 1 YDG and 1 ARD proceeding Cairns ETA not known.
- (14) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Townsville 0830/22 for Sydney ETA 0700/26, thence Melbourne for refit.
- (15) "YMS's 11, 72" departed Cairns 0800/22 for Fremantle via Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Albany. ETA Brisbane 1800/25.
- (16) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Brisbane 0200/19 for Milne Bay ETA 1400/22.
- (17) "KIAMA" (AMS) departed Caloundra 1200/20 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/24.
- (18) "MIZAR" (AF) departed Caloundra 0001/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/25.
- (19) "SC.749" departed Caloundra 2100/21 for Sandy Cape A/S patrol: to depart patrol area 1200/25 and return to Brisbane.
- (20) "DOOMBA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0855/20 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (21) "ML.807" on A/S patrol Coff's Harbour area.
- (22) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) in company with "WANAKA" under tow departed Cairns 1119/10 for Sydney.
- (23) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) to depart Milne Bay 1700/22 proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (2) "MERKUR" (AF) to depart Caloundra 1700/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/29.

- (3) "TANGIER" (AV) to depart Brisbane 1300/22 for Palm Island ETA 1000/24; departing thence 1600/24 for Milne Bay ETA 1000/26.
 (4) "GEEELONG" (AMS) to depart Sydney 23 March for Brisbane.

(c) Convoy Procedure:

- MV, TN and NT Convoys are to be discontinued after the sailing, on Friday 24 March, of Convoys TN.232 and NT.77.
- (2) All ships, except those mentioned below, may be sailed independently North and South between Grafton Passage and Milne Bay or Port Moresby, save when enemy submarines are known or strongly suspected to be operating near shipping routes.
- (3) Escort is however to be arranged by N.O.I.C. New Guinea for the following types of vessels when within 200 miles of Milne Bay if Westward of 150°E, and North of 14 S., if to Eastward of 150°E.
- (i) Combat Units from cruisers upwards.
 (ii) Troop ships.
 (iii) Naval auxiliaries over 2000 tons.
 (iv) Tankers.

Air escort will also be provided for these vessels when ships are within 100 miles of mainland of Australia and when ships are within 200 miles of Milne Bay.

- (4) The following AMS's are to be transferred to operational and administrative control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea:-

"BOWEN" "BUNDABERG" "CASTLEMAINE" "GYMPIE" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA".

(d) In Harbour:

Los Negros Is:

Combat Units	15 PT	
Escorts	3	: 1 ML: 425 1 YMS: 8
Auxiliaries	1	: "OYSTER BAY" (AGP)
Merchantmen	3	: "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY" "W.BEAUMONT"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts	2	: 1 PC:1134 "WARRECO" (PS)
Auxiliaries	1	: "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen	2	: "YOCHOW" "MELINGA"

Saidor:

Combat Units	9 PT	
Escorts	3	: "ARARAT" "BUNBURY" (AMS) 1 SC:744
Auxiliaries	1	: "ETAMIN" (AK)
Merchantmen	3	: "H.C.PAYNE" "J.H.ROSSITER" "TIMOSHENKO"

Langemak:

Combat Units	38 PT	
Escorts	24	: "BENALLA" "BENDIGO" "GLENELG" "STAWELL" (AMS) 7 YMS: 53, 71, 313, 314, 316, 336, 393 2 PC: 1122, 1132 3 ML: 424, 803, 804 8 SC: 637, 648, 734, 735, 743, 747, 981, 982
Auxiliaries	10	: "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUCAL" (ASR) "TRIANGULUM" (AK) "MINK" (IX) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AOG) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO)
Merchantmen	28	: "ERASTAGI" "MACTAN" "CITY OF HOUSTON" "AUN" "W.ATWATER" "LYMAN STEWART" "A.THOMAS" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD" "L.S.KELLY" "J.COOK" "GEO.LUKS" "GEO.VANCOUVER" "J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT" "G.V.L.MEYER" "ALAMO" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY" "CAPE PERPETUA" "STAGEN" "TABINTA" "H.T.RAINBY" "JOHN I.NOLAN" "T.CRAWFORD" "W.SHARRON" "N.E.MACK"

Lae:

Escorts	1	: 1 ML: 428
Auxiliaries	1	: "PANDA" (IX)
Merchantmen	7	: "O.KELLY" "R.J.WALNER" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH" "S.BRANNON" "S.G.PORTER"

Buna:

Escorts	10	: 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 2 YMS: 73, 334 1 ML: 816 2 PC: 1119, 1123 3 SC: 736, 741, 746
Auxiliaries	7	: "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "PEYANG" (AE) "PING WO" (ASIS) 1 ARD.

Buna; (Contd.)

Merchantmen 6 : "M.WALKER" "S.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "ANHUI"
"ALCOA PATRIOT" "C.SPRECKERS"

Orc Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)
Merchantmen 14 : "B.MATTHEWS" "J.F.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER"
"WEST CACTUS" "D.E.HUGHES" "J.SINGER"
"A.REHAN" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "CAPE SPENCER"
"CEPALU" "M.T.HERRICK" "R.S.BEAN"
"ED.N.WESTCOTT" "A.LYKES"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 1 : 1 YMS: 50
Auxiliaries 1 : 1 YP: 278

Kiriwina:

Escorts 2 : 1 ML: 819 1 SC: 750
Merchantmen 1 : "MANA"

Goodenough Is:

Escorts 1 : 1 YMS: 335
Merchantmen 5 : "D.D.FIELD" "VAN SWOLL" "M.THWAITES"
"BORGFRED" "T.W.COOLEY"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units 2 CA : "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
25 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY"
"BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES"
"KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE"
"WELLES" "REID" "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" "SWANSON"
"THORNE" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "SABNER"
REID" "ARUNTA" "ROE" "GRAYSON"

14 PF

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts 2 PF : "BARCOO" "GASCOYNE"
8 SC : 650, 699, 703, 738, 742, 748, 732
2 AMS : "COWRA" "GOULBURN"
6 PC : 476, 479, 1120, 1122, 1131, 1132
9 YMS : 9, 10, 45, 48, 49, 51, 52, 70, 315
6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
Auxiliaries 21 : "HUMPEREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE"
"HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
"AASE MAERSK" (AO) "SHIKELLAWY" (OG) "OTUS"
"EURYALE" (AS) "FYRO" (AE) "BOOTES" (AK)
"POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL)
"YUNNAN" (AE) "CHETCO" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" (IX)
"CALAMARES" (AF) 1 ARD. 1 YP: 280
Merchantmen 70 : "E.G.ACHESON" "J.ALDEN" "W.B.ALLISON"
"ARANSAS PASS" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA"
C." "S.K.BARLOW" "S.K.BOLIVAR" "J.BURROUGHS"
"W.N.EYERS" "CAPE BLANCO" "W.C.CLAIRBORNE"
"G.L.CURRY" "C.DARROW" "J.DEBERE" "F.H.DODD"
"DON MARQUIS" "A.B.DUNWAY" "ESSO BAYWAY"
"ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN"
EVANS" "G.E.K.FITCH" "M.FLINDERS" "W.GRENFELL"
"M.GRIFFITH" "E.J.HENRY" "A.S.HEWITT" "D."
HEWES" "B.F.IRVINE" "JANSSENS" "JAPARA"
"KATOOMBA" "M.E.KINNEY" "Z.LYKES" "MAETSON"
"J.S.MANSFIELD" "J.MCLEAN" "W.MCLENNAN"
"S.G.MCCRACKEN" "B.MATTHEWS" "L.MERRITT"
"W.V.MOODY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK"
"JEAN NICOLET" "OREGON TRAIL" "JAMES.D."
PHALAN" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "RAMO" "REIJNST"
"M.ROBERTSON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.G.ROGER"
"J.ROLPH" "J.ROSS" "SEA MARLIN" "SHAWNEE"
"S.M.WHITE" "N.J.SIMOTT" "W.H.SUBJETTE"
"T.W.SYMONS" "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN"
DER LIJN" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "K.D.WIGGIN"
"E.YOUNG"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 426
Auxiliaries 1 : "POLARIS" (AGS)
Merchantmen 3 : "MULIANA" "CHARON" "EMPIRE SILVER"

Thursday Is:

Escorts	2	:	"PIRIE" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
Auxiliaries	1	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	12	:	"CORONADO" "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "GYMPIE" "MILDURA" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 PC:477 4 ML: 804, 805, 811, 820 2 YMS: 47, 51
Auxiliaries	3	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) "MORESBY" (AGS) 1 ARD.
<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	3	:	"BOWEN" "BROOME" "BALLARAT" (AMS)
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
<u>Brisbane:</u>			
Escorts	6	:	"SWAN" (PS) "KIAMA" (AMS) 1 SC:745 3 ML: 808, 821, 823
Auxiliaries	10	:	"TANGIER" (AV) "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" "GANYMED" (AK) "MERKUR" (AF) "KURUMBA" (AD) 3 YP: 233, 236, 291 "LEOPARD" (IX)
<u>Sydney:</u>			
Combat Units	1 CL	:	"HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD	:	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	:	"COLLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "GEEELONG" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" "WHYALLA" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB.CRIJNSEN" (A/S) 2 ML: 822, 823
Auxiliaries	5	:	"MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AS) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)
<u>Melbourne:</u>			
Escorts	1 AMS	:	"LITHGOW" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Kieta Area - On 20 Mar. the Numa Numa trailand A/A positions were bombed by 8 Kittyhawks, while coastal area around Numa Numa was bombed and strafed by 4 Aircobras.
- (2) Empress Augusta Bay - Between 8 and 19 Mar. 12 enemy guns near the Torokina perimeter were destroyed by air and surface bombardment. On 19 Mar. perimeter targets were bombed by 21 Dauntless and 6 Avengers, and on 20 Mar. the Japanese supply area was bombed by 19 Dauntless and 6 Avengers. P.m. 20 Mar. enemy perimeter positions in the Torokina area were bombed by 24 Dauntless and 6 Avengers spotting for artillery. Between 2339/20 and 0015/21, an enemy aircraft was indicated in the Torokina area but no contact was made.
- (3) Feni Islands - Photographs 0930/20 show 6 barges in the area.
- (4) Cape St. George - On 19 Mar. the Cape St. George radar station was bombed by 6 Dauntless. Accompanying Avengers reported one hit on the radar station and a column of smoke and also stated that the radar screen was missing.
- (5) St. George's Chanel - At 1150/21, a submarine on course 300° was observed to crash-dive in St. George's Channel.
During 21 Mar. 5 rust-coloured spherical mines were sighted by aircraft between Cape Gazelle and Duke of York Island.
- (6) Rabaul - Between 0100 and 0345/19, Rabaul was harassed by a single Liberator. Between 1105 and 1140/19, Vunapope was attacked by 24 Dauntless, 18 Avengers, 16 escorting Corsairs and 32 Mitchells starting numerous fires. Between 1117 and 1134/19, the Tawui Point ammunition dump was bombed by 12 Kittyhawks, 12 Aircobras and 10 Lightnings. During the afternoon, a possible fuel dump fire was started on the shore of Keravia Bay by 8 Corsairs.
Between 0950 and 1135/20, the Rataval supply area was bombed by 12 Lightnings and 12 Aircobras covered by 16 Corsairs. Between 1125 and 1135/20, Lakunai was bombed by 31 Mitchells. Between 1115 and 1155/20, Vunakanau airfield and A/A positions were bombed by 24 Dauntless, 17 Avengers and 23 Liberators, scoring several direct hits on gun positions. One 105 mm. gun is shown by photographs as destroyed by a direct hit. During the afternoon 20 Mar. barges in Kabaira Bay and Keravia Bay were strafed by 28 Sopac fighters.
At 1200/20, a submarine was sighted by aircraft in Matupi Hr.

(7) Panapai - At 1127/19, Panapai runways and revetments were bombed by 24 Liberators covered by 16 Corsairs. The strip was left heavily hit and ploughed up and a probable fuel dump was fired.

(8) Admiralty Islands - On 19 Mar. Loniu Village on the S.W. coast of Los Negros Island was raided by an allied patrol which reported that the village was apparently a naval headquarters and captured important documents, destroyed food, ammunition and stores and burnt 25 huts and 30 canoes.

On 20 March, destroyers expended 600 rounds of 5" shells in support of ground forces in a bombardment of enemy positions in the hills West of Papitalai. One ammunition dump was destroyed. Another destroyer expended 177 rounds of 5" shells in bombarding the S.E. tip of Manus Island.

To 20 Mar. enemy casualties in the Admiralty Is. to date are:

Known dead	2076
Estimated	600
	<u>2676</u>

(9) Jacquinet Bay - Between 0650 and 0716/21, Palmamal was bombed and strafed by 8 Beauforts.

(10) Western New Britain - On 20 Mar. total enemy casualties sustained in the following areas were reported as follows:

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>P.W.</u>
Cape Gloucester-Rein Bay	3686	73
Eleanora Bay	149	38
Talasea	151	13
	<u>3986</u>	<u>124</u>

(11) Aitape Area - At 2359/20, three merchant ships of 3-4000 tons were sighted by aircraft 35 miles W.N.W. of Aitape, course 290°. At 0250/21, an unidentified ship, course unknown, was sighted in the same area.

Between 2258/20 and 0207/21, a destroyer was attacked by 2 Liberators 22 miles E. by S. of Tadjji (see Naval Incidents).

(12) Wewak Area - At 1000/21, Brandi Plantation was bombed and strafed by a substantial force of Bostons and Kairiru Island stores and personnel areas were bombed and strafed by Mitchells and Liberators. Reports are not yet complete but those to hand cover 26 Bostons, 18 Mitchells and 10 Liberators. Up to 50 barges were observed by these aircraft in the Wewak-Muschu-Kairiru Is. areas.

(13) Murik Lagoon - At 1535/21, 11 Mitchells unable to reach Kairiru, the primary target, bombed and strafed the Murik Lagoon area (about 30 miles down the coast from Wewak).

(14) Cape Ward Hunt - At 1000/21, a submarine was reported off Cape Ward Hunt.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/22:

(1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.48 ("DARVEL" "ALAGNA") departed Thursday Is. 1800/18 for Darwin ETA 1700/23.

(2) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy DT.45 (2 MV) departed Darwin 1003/19 for Thursday Island, ETA 0900/23.

(3) 15 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS)
		3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	: "W. PROUSE" "CORIO"

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(a) At Sea to 1200/22: (1) ALLIED FORCES

(1) "SUSSEX" (CA) to depart Fremantle 1600/19 to RV at 0800/20 in position 35°11'S, 114°59'E with "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) (departed Melbourne 0930/17) and escort to Fremantle.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288
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B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

New Hebrides - At 1130/15, an allied vessel struck a mine off the E. coast of Espiritu Santo. The vessel reached port safely.

C. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Recent evidence indicates probably 6 enemy submarines, including possibly one German unit, operating in the Indian Ocean in addition to probably 3 German blockade running submarines in passage. The locations are summarised:-

- (i) One Jap unit off Hoogli River mouths fixed by D/F a.m. 19 Mar. and seen by aircraft p.m. 17 Mar. This is probably the unit that sank "ELANDINA" on 16 Mar. as previously reported.
- (ii) One unit probably Jap in the area W. of Maldive Is: "ITTERSUM" (Dutch-5,200 tons) reported being shelled by a probable submarine S.W. of Eight Degrees Channel night 17-18 Mar.
- (iii) One unit, could be either Jap or German, off West coast India between Karachi and Bombay. "H.D.COLLIER" was torpedoed 220 miles S.S.W. Karachi p.m. 16 Mar.
- (iv) One Jap unit fixed by D/F p.m. 17 Mar. N.E. of Socotra.
- (v) One Jap unit N.E. of Seychelles where an unsuccessful torpedo attack was made p.m. 19 Mar.
- (vi) One prob. Jap unit in the N. approaches Mozambique Channel, E.S.E. of Mombasa, where an aircraft contacted a submarine a.m. 18 Mar.

The 3 German probable blockade running units were located by D/F in the area S. Central Indian Ocean 30°-33° S, 65°-73° E: Two were in this area night 14 Mar. and another night 19 Mar.

D. NORTHERN PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Kuriles - On 19 Mar. Paramushiro Island was bombed by Cenpac Venturas, starting several fires.

NAVAL INCIDENTS

Aitape Area - The destroyer attacked 20 miles E. of Tadjj between 2258/20 and 0207/21, received 2 direct hits with 1000 lb. bombs and two direct hits with 500 lb. bombs. Explosions occurred and dense black smoke was seen while the ship slowly settled.

Aitape Area (Contd) - The vessel was claimed as sunk. The attack was observed by a Navy Catalina who confirmed three hits and reported at 0400/21, the vessel appeared dead in the water.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>GA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER DENVER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
	(26) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON REID AMMEN CACHE EEALE HUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKEE STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	20

* Non-effective

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(4)	ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(7)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON SARATOGA	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAEA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE		* MAYA
<u>OCA</u>	-				6
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4)	NOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				KASHII
<u>AV/GVS</u>	-				3 20 (several repairir ↓ Approx 25 ↓
<u>ED</u>		Approx 85			
		Approx 30			
<u>AS</u>		?			2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD -

5. EAST INDIES - INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(5) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA HYUGA FUSO
<u>CV</u>	-	ILLUSTRIOUS	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(3)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAH RANEE	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(5) SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA CHIKUMA MOGAMI TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA VAN HEEMSKERK	NEWCASTLE DANAE TROMP EMERALD (4) YAHAGI OI KINU KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOJ
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>D</u>	-	Approx 27	25
<u>SS</u>	(16) ANGLER BILLFISH BLUEFISH BOWFIN CABRILLA GUNNEL HADDO HAKE	MINGO LAPON POMPON PUFFER NORWHAL RASHER RATON RAY	} Approx 15 } On Patrol } 17 (incl. 6 German)
	(10) BONEFISH COD CREVAILE FLASHER JACK	HOE REDFIN ROBALO K.12 K.15	} } } At Fremantle
<u>A</u>	PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 63
Light & M/Bombers 15
Torpedo and D/Bombers -
Flying Boats -
Floatplanes 42
Obsn. A/c 23

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 785

Date 23 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/23:

- (1) "MAHAN" "DRAYTON" (DD) departed Milne Bay 1700/22 proceeding out of S.W.P.A.
- (2) "SAN PEDRO" (PF) "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) escorting "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA) departed Fitzroy Island area 1800/22, ETA Pinschhafen 0700/25
- (3) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT) departed Milne Bay 0700/20 to render assistance to "SAN ANTONIO" aground off Cape Nelson.
- (4) "PC.1124" departed Milne Bay 1900/21 to MV with "CAPE DOUGLAS" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (5) "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) standing by to assist.
- (6) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Milne Bay 1440/22 for Gladstone ETA 0200/26.
- (7) "TOWNSVILLE" (ANS) escorting Convoy MV.74 (2 MV) departed Milne Bay 1700/21
- (8) "MILDURA" "CASTLEMAINE" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA" escorting Convoy TN231 (4 MV, 3LCL) "MILDURA" escorts 1 MV to Port Moresby; remaining escorts escort 3 MV 3 LCL to Milne Bay.
- (9) "MORESEY" (AGS) proceeding Milne Bay ETA 23 March.
- (10) "MAETSUYCKER" (AM) departed Port Moresby 1330/20 for Brisbane ETA 0700/24
- (11) "BUNDABERG" (AMS) escorting "ORMISTON" departed Port Moresby 1630/21 for Townsville ETA 1830/23. "BUNDABERG" detaches off Fitzroy Is. due Cairns 0730/23.
- (12) "PIRIE" (AMS) escorting "J.W.TROY" departed Thursday Is. 1835/21 for Darwin ETA 1400/24
- (13) "KALGOORLIE" on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage
- (14) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Townsville 0830/22 for Sydney ETA 0800/26 thence Melbourne for refit.
- (15) "YMS's 11,72" departed Cairns 0800/22 for Fremantle via Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Albany. ETA Brisbane 1800/25
- (16) "KIAMA" (AMS) departed Caloundra 1200/20 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/24
- (17) "MIZAR" (AF) departed Caloundra 0901/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/25
- (18) "TANGIER" (AY) departed Brisbane 1300/22 for Palm Island ETA 1000/24; departing thence 1600/24 for Milne Bay ETA 1000/26.
- (19) "MERKUR" (AF) departed Caloundra 1700/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/29
- (20) "SC.749" departed Caloundra 2100/21 for Sandy Cape A/S patrol: to depart patrol area 1200/25 and return to Brisbane
- (21) "GEELONG" (AMS) departed Sydney 1416/22 for Caloundra ETA 0700/24.
- (22) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0800/22 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return
- (23) 7 Submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "GASCOYNE" (PF) to sail as escort for Convoy MV75 ETA Grafton Passage 26 March, "GASCOYNE" will then be available for repairs and boiler cleaning.
- (2) "YP291" to depart Caloundra 1500/23 for Palm Island ETA 1000/26 thence Cairns ETA 1800/27.

(c) Convoy Procedure:

- (1) MV, TN and NT Convoys are to be discontinued after the sailing, on Friday 24 March, of Convoys TN.232 and NT.77.
- (2) All ships, except those mentioned below, may be sailed independently North and South between Grafton Passage and Milne Bay or Port Moresby, save when enemy submarines are known or strongly suspected to be operating near shipping routes.
- (3) Escort is however to be arranged by N.O.I.C. New Guinea for the following types of vessels when within 200 miles of Milne Bay if Westward of 150°E, and North of 14°S., if to Eastward of 150°E.
 - (i) Combat Units from cruisers upwards.
 - (ii) Troop ships.
 - (iii) Naval auxiliaries over 2000 tons
 - (iv) Tankers.

Air escort will also be provided for these vessels when ships are within 100 miles of mainland of Australia and when ships are within 200 miles of Milne Bay.

- (4) The following AMS's are to be transferred to operational and administrative control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea :-

"BOWEN" "BUNDABERG" "CASTLEBAIN" "GYMPIE" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA".

(d) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units	15	PT	
Escorts	4		: 1 ML: 425 1 YMS: 8,46 "BENALLA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	2		: "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "ETAMIN" (AK)
Merchantmen	3		: "LAKE ORMOG" "H.DAL" "W.BEAUMONT"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts	2		: 1 PC:1134 "WARREGO" (PS)
Auxiliaries	1		: "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen	3		: "YOOCHOW" "MELINGA" "H.T.RAINE"

Saidor:

Combat Units	9	PT	
Escorts	3		: "DUNBURY" "STAWELL" (AMS) 1 SC:744
Auxiliaries			
Merchantmen	3		: "H.C.PAINE" "J.H.ROSSITER" "PIMOSHENKO"

Langemak:

Combat Units	38	PT	
Escorts	23		: "ARARAT" "BENDIGO" "GLENELG" (AMS) 7 YMS: 53, 71, 313, 314, 316, 336, 393 2 PC: 1122, 1132 3 ML: 424, 803, 804 8 SC: 637, 648, 734, 735, 743, 747, 981, 982
Auxiliaries	11		: "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "HILO" (AGP) "COUGAL" (ASR) "TRIANGULUM" (AK) "MINK" (IX) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AGC) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AG) YP283
Merchantmen	28		: "BRASTAGI" "MACTAN" "CITY OF HOUSTON" "AUN" "W.ATWATER" "LYMAN" "STEWART" "A.THOMAS" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD" "L.S.KELLY" "J.COOK" "GEO.LUKS" "GEO. VANCOUVER" "J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT" "G.V.L.MEYER" "ALAMO" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY" "CAPE PERPETUA" "STAGEN" "TABINTA" "JOHN I. MOLAN" "T.CRAWFORD" "W.SPARRON" "N.E.MACK" "W.S.LADD"

Lae:

Escorts	1		: 1 ML: 428
Auxiliaries	1		: "PANDA" (IX)
Merchantmen	7		: "O.KELLY" "R.J.WALKER" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH" "S.BRANNON" "S.G.PORTER"

Buna:

Escorts 12 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 3 YMS: 75, 334, 336 1 ML: 816 2 PG: 1119, 1123 4 SC: 736, 737, 741, 746

Auxiliaries 7 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (AE) "PING WO" (ASIS) 1 ARD.

Merchantmen 11 : "M. WALKER" "W.S. LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "ANHUI" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "C. SPRECKERS" "L. HERRITT" "W. MCCRACKEN" "ESSO BAYWAY" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.S. HEWITT"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries 2 "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG)

Merchantmen 14 : "B. MATTHEWS" "J.F. BRADLEY" "RING LANDNER" "WEST CACTUS" "D.E. HUGHES" "J. SINGER" "A. REHAN" "P.T. DODDRIDGE" "CAPE SPENCER" "CEPALU" "M.T. HERRICK" "R.S. BEAN" "ED N. WESTCOTT" "A. LYKES"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 1 : 1 YMS: 50

Auxiliaries -

Kiriwina:

Escorts 2 : 1 ML: 819 1 SC: 750

Merchantmen 1 : "MANA"

Goodenough Is.

Escorts 2 : 1 YMS: 335 "GOULBURN" (AMS)

Merchantmen 5 : "D.D. FIELD" "VAN SWOLL" "M. THWAITES" "BORGFRED" "T.W. COOLEY"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units 2 CA : "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"

3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"

23 DD : "STOCKTON" "STEVENSON" "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "WILKES" "KALK" "HOBBEY" "MULLANY" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "REID" "SWANSON" "THORNE" "NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "ABNER REID" "ARUNTA" "ROE" "GRAYSON"

14 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts 1 DE : "HARMON"

2 PF : "BARCOO" "GASCOYNE"

8 SC : 650, 699, 703, 738, 742, 748, 732

1 AMS : "COWRA"

5 PG : 479, 1120, 1122, 1131, 1132

8 YMS : 9, 10, 48, 49, 51, 52, 70, 315

6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818

Auxiliaries 26 : "HOMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE" "HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "SHIKELLAMY" (AOG) "OFUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "PYKO" (AE) "BOOTES" "CELENO" (AK) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "ABYGUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "CHETCO" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" (IX) "TASMAN" (AH) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) 1 ARD. 2 YP: 278 280

Merchantmen 69 : "E.G. ACHESON" "J. ALDEN" "W.B. ALLISON" "ARANSAS PASS" "W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "S.K. BARLOW" "S.K. BOLIVAR" "J. BUR ROUGHS" "W.N. BEYERS" "J. CABRILLO" "P. CHANDLER" "CAPE BLANCO" "G.L. CUNRY" "C. DARROW" "J. DEERE" "F.H. DODD" "DCN MARQUIS" "A.B. DUNNIWAY" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTEN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K. FITCH" "M. FLINDERS" "W. GRENPELL" "M. GRIFFITH" "E.J. HENRY" "D. HEWES" "B.F. IRVINE" "JAN-SSENS" "JAFARA" "KATOOMBA" "M.B. KINNEY" "Z. LYKES" "P.B. LINDERMANN" "J.S. MANSFIELD" "J. CLEAN" "W. MCLENNAN" "B. MATTHEWS" "J.W. MELDRUM" "W.V. MOODY" "MORMACSEA" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET" "GREGGON TRAIL" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "RAMO" "REIJNST" "M. ROBERTSON" "A. ROBINSON" "W.B. ROGERS" "J. ROLPH" "J. ROSS" "SEA MARLIN" "SHAWNEE" "S.M. WHITE" "N.J. SINNOTE"

Milne Bay (contd)
Merchantment
 (contd.)

: "SOUTHWAST PASS" "W.H.SUEJETTE" "T.W.SYMONS"
 "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJN"
 "VAN DEN BOSCH" "K.D.WIGGIN" "E.YOUNG"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 426 1 PG: 476
 Auxiliaries 1 : "POLARIS" (AGS)
 Merchantmen 3 : "MULIAMA" "CHARON" "EMPIRE SILVER"

Tuesday Is:

Escorts 2 : "WILCANNIA" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
 Auxiliaries 1 : "BUNGARREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 9 : "CORONADO" (PF) "GYMPIE" (AMS) 1 PC:477
 4 ML: 804, 808, 811, 820 2 YMS: 47, 51
 Auxiliaries 2 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD

Townsville:

Escorts 3 : "BOWEN" "BROOME" "BALLARAT" AMS.

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2 : 1 YDG 1 ARD

Brisbane:

Escorts 6 : "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 1 SC: 745
 3 ML: 808, 821, 823
 Auxiliaries 8 "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA)
 "GANYMEDE" (AK) "KURUMBA" (AO) 3 YP: 233,
 236, 291 "LEOPARD" (IX)

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 Escorts 12 : "COLAC" "DELOIRINE" "ECHUCA" "GLADSTONE"
 "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) "KYBRA"
 "AB.ORIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/S)
 3 ML: 807, 822, 823
 Auxiliaries 7 : "MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AK) "GOLD STAR"
 (AS) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)
 "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LITGOW" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - The reduction of enemy gun positions and installations around the Torokina perimeter was continued 20-21 Mar. involving 20 Dauntless, 18 Avengers, 3 Liberators and 4 Aircobras, besides one destroyer and counter-artillery fire. There was no enemy artillery activity on our positions from a.m. 19 Mar. up to 1500/21. Mopping up in one sector on 20 Mar. resulted in 98 Japs killed, but the enemy still appears to be gathering strength outside the Northern sector of the perimeter.

- (2) Rabaul - At 1205/21, Vunakanau aerodrome was bombed by 37 Dauntless, 18 Avengers. Both the concrete and the coral runways were hit.

Photos 21 Mar. show:-

<u>Aircraft & Aerodromes</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>D/B.</u>	<u>L/B.</u>	
Vunakanau	1	1	1	Coral strip partially serviceable
Lakunai	2	1	-	Serviceable
Rapope	Nil a/c	-	-	Unserviceable
Tobera	3	-	-	"
Keravat	Nil a/c	-	-	"
Total 9 a/c whereof	<u>6 F.</u>	<u>2 D/B.</u>	<u>1 L/B</u>	

- (3) Eastern New Britain - Further evidence of the enemy withdrawal from Eastern New Britain towards Gazelle Peninsula is contained in a report of a local observer to the effect that 200 Japs were seen on 20 Mar. in the Cape Hoskins area moving Eastwards.

- (4) St. Matthias Group - The occupation of Emirau Island was completed by 2000/21, when no enemy activity was reported. Natives report that there has been no Japs on the Island for 2 months.

Shipping Rabaul Harbour: 2 (usual) small freighters
 Approx 300 barges. 1 F/B 1 F/P

- (5) Admiralty Islands - Slight enemy contacts were made 21 Mar. on Los Negros Island in the area W. and S.W. of Papitalai. A destroyer bombarded enemy positions in this area 21 Mar. Mopping up continues in the area around Lorengau on Manus Island. Enemy activity is confined to sniper fire and determined resistance of prepared positions.

The enemy numbers on 21 Mar. in the Admiralties are:-

Known dead	2166
Estimated dead	<u>650</u>
	<u>2816</u>

Maximum remaining effective strength 1122

- (6) Hollandia-Wewak - The offensive against enemy coastal traffic Hollandia-Wewak was continued a.m. 21 Mar. (incompletely reported Summary No. 784) and involved 34 Liberators, 24 Mitchells with Lightning cover, which attacked the barge base and repair depot on Kairiru Island. 160 tons of bombs were dropped causing many explosions and fires in fuel dumps and destruction of important installations. Simultaneously the Wewak supply area at Brandi Plantation was bombed and strafed by 38 Bostons (see Naval Incidents).

This offensive was continued approx 1100/22 when shipping and small craft along the coast towards Wewak and Aitape was attacked by 32 Mitchells, 30 Bostons and 35 divebombing Kittyhawks with Lightning cover. The strikes met with some success but results have not yet been fully assessed. At the same time, A/A positions around Wewak town and Boram strip were bombed by 36 Liberators.

There was no interception but one Boston was lost.

At 0955/21, reconnaissance aircraft observed 3 small merchant ships and 2 small escort vessels in Hollandia Bay.

At 1100/22, reconnaissance aircraft reported 3 small to medium freighters at anchor in Hollandia Bay.

- (7) Hansa Bay - A preliminary report from aircraft in flight indicates 2 sea trucks and about a dozen barges in Hansa Bay at 1115/22.
- (8) Bogadjim Road - Midday 22 Mar. enemy army Headquarters in the Bogadjim area was divebombed and strafed by 16 Aircobras.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA.

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/23:

- (1) "INVERELL" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.48 ("DARVEL" ALAGNA") departed Thursday Is. 1800/18 for Darwin ETA 1700/23.
- (2) 16 Submarines in patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS)
		3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	: "W. PROUSE" "CORIO"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Arafura Sea - At 0906/22 an enemy aircraft was reported over Princess Marianne Straits.

SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(a) At Sea to 1200/23: (i) ALLIED FORCES

- (1) "SUSSEX" (CA) to depart Fremantle 1600/19 to RV at 0800/20 in position 35°11'S, 114°59'E with "MOUNT VERNON" (AP) (departed Melbourne 0930/18) and escort to Fremantle.

(b) In Harbour:

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	:	"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS (AV) 1 YP: 288
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B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Marshalls - Carolines - On 19th. Mar. Mille was shelled by a battleship task force and bombed by carrier-borne aircraft. On the same date, Jaluit was subjected to a moderate air strike and light air strikes were conducted against Wotje, Taroa, and Ponape, where a small freighter transport was sunk.

On 20 Mar. light to moderate air strikes were conducted against Mille, Jaluit, Taroa and Wotje.

At 0916/20 Wake was attacked by Liberators dropping 40 tons of bombs.

NAVAL INCIDENTS

Hollandia - Wewak - A composite signal from 5th. Air Force reports one 1500 ton merchantship and one 1000 ton merchantship believed sunk in addition to the Destroyer reported in Summary No. 784, during air strikes night 20-21 Mar. and 21 Mar. off Hollandia-Wewak Coast.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North Coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED & ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(5) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER DENVER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDEBEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(26) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA MAHAN DRAYTON REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(7) BASHAW BLACKFISH BLUEGILL DACE FLOUNDER SCAMP SILVER SIDES	On Patrol	15	25
	(2) S.42 S.47	At Milne Bay		
	(2) DARTER CERO	At Brisbane		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx 85	Approx 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALCORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(5) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)
 Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.) 146
 Light & M/Bombers 107
 Torpedo and D/Bombers 2
 Flying Boats 1
 Floatplanes 14
 Obsn. A/c 20

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	10
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC-EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(4) ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	.
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COMPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5) HITAKA HAYATAKA TALHO RYUHO ZUHO HOSHU
<u>CV(T)</u>	.	.	.
<u>CV(B)</u>	(25) COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHEWANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTER CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FAIRSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KIRKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MORHENTIA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JIMYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	* MAYA
<u>CGA</u>	.	.	6
<u>CL</u>	(7) SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4) NOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	.	.	KASHII
<u>AV/CVB</u>	.	.	3
<u>DD</u>	Approx 85		20 (several repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx 30		Approx 25
	?		2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 786

Date 24 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/24.

- (1) "SC 746" "YMS 315" departed Milne Bay 1530/23 ETA Buna 1400/24.
- (2) "PC's 1122, 1132" proceeding to RV at 0900/24 off Dorasi Shoal with "Kanimbla" "MANOORA" (APA) for onward escort to Langemak ETA 0700/25.
- (3) "PC 1120" departed Milne Bay 1700/22 to RV with "SEA WITCH" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (4) "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operation in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) standing by to assist.
- (5) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Milne Bay 1440/22 for Gladstone ETA 0200/26.
- (6) "PYRO" (AE) departed Milne Bay 1330/23 for Brisbane ETA March 27.
- (7) "TOWNSVILLE" (ANS) escorting Convoy MW.74 (2 MV) departed Milne Bay 1700/21 for Townsville ETA 0700/25.
- (8) "MILDURA" "CASTLEMAINE" "WAGGA" (AMS) proceeding to investigate life boats reported off Hood Point at 1020/23.
- (9) "POLARIS" (AGS) departed Port Moresby 0740/23 for Thursday Island ETA 1600/26.
- (10) "MORESBY" (AGS) departed Cairns 1030/23 for Milne Bay.
- (11) "CORONADO" "PC 477" proceeding to Milne Bay.
- (12) "NORAB" (AH) departed Cooktown 0830/23 for Lae ETA 1030/25.
- (13) "ML 820" on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (14) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Townsville 0830/22 for Sydney ETA 0800/26 thence Melbourne for refit.
- (15) "YMS's 11,72" departed Cairns 0800/22 for Fremantle via Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Albany. ETA Brisbane 1800/25.
- (16) "KIAMA" (AMS) departed Caloundra 1200/20 for Milne Bay ETA 1600/24.
- (17) "MIZAR" (AF) departed Caloundra 0001/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/25.
- (18) "TANGIER" (AV) departed Brisbane 1300/22 for Palm Island ETA 1000/24; departing thence 1600/24 for Milne Bay ETA 1000/26.
- (19) "YP 291" departed Caloundra 1500/23 for Palm Island ETA 1000/26 thence Cairns ETA 1800/27.
- (20) "MERKUR" (AF) departed Caloundra 1700/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/29
- (21) "SC.749" departed Caloundra 2100/21 for Sandy Cape A/S patrol; to depart patrol area 1200/25 and return to Brisbane.
- (22) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0800/22 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (23) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "KALGOORLIE" (AMS) to escort "GORGON" to Merauke at about 1800/24.
- (2) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting Convoy MV.75 to depart Milne Bay 1800/24 for Townsville ETA 0300/27.
- (3) "GANYMEDE" (AK) to depart Brisbane 1700/24 for Cairns ETA 0700/28.
- (4) "GEELONG" (AMS) to depart Brisbane 0800/25 to carry out A/S patrol off Sandy Cape till 1700/30 when "WHYALLA" will relieve.

(c) Convoy Procedure:

- (1) MV, TN and NI Convoys are to be discontinued after the sailing, on Friday 24 March, of Convoys TN.232 and NI.77.
- (2) All ships, except those mentioned below, may be sailed independently North and South between Grafton Passage and Milne Bay or Port Moresby, save when enemy submarines are known or strongly suspected to be operating near shipping routes.
- (3) Escort is however to be arranged by N.O.I.C. New Guinea for the following types of vessels when within 200 miles of Milne Bay if Westward of 150°E, and when North of 14°S., if to Eastward of 150°E.
 - (i) Combat Units from cruisers upwards.
 - (ii) Troop ships.
 - (iii) Naval auxiliaries over 2000 tons.
 - (iv) Tankers.

Air escort will also be provided for these vessels when ships are within 100 miles of mainland of Australia and when ships are within 200 miles of Milne Bay.

- (4) The following MAS's are to be transferred to operational and administrative control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea :-

"BOWEN" "BUNDABERG" "CASTLEMAINE" "GYMPIE" "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA".

(d) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units	10 DD	:	"GILLESPIE" "HOBAY" "KALK" "STEVENSON" "STOCKTON" "THORN" "WELLES" "ROE" "SWANSON" "WILKES".
	18 PT (approx.)		
Escorts	4	:	1 ML: 425 YMS: 8,46 "BENALLA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	2	:	"OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "ETAMIN (AK)
Merchantmen	3	:	"LAKE ORMOG" "M.DALY" "W.BEAUMONT"
<u>Cape Gloucester:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"WARREGO" (PS)
Auxiliaries	1	:	"SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen	3	:	"YOCHOW" "MELINGA" "H.T.RAINEY"
<u>Rein Bay:</u>			
Combat Units	14 PT (approx.)		
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HILO" (AGP)
<u>Saidor:</u>			
Combat Units	12 PT (approx.)		
Escorts	1	:	"BUNBURY" (AMS)
Merchantmen	3	:	"H.C.PAYNE" "J.H. ROSSITER" "TIMOSHENKO"
<u>Langemak:</u>			
Combat Units	20 PT (approx.)		
Escorts	24	:	"HARMON" (DE) "ARARAT" "BENDIGO" "GLENELG" "STAWELL" (AMS) 7 YMS: 71, 73, 313, 334, 336, 393, 314 1 PS: 1134, 3 ML: 424, 803, 804. 8 SS: 637, 648, 734, 735, 757, 743, 981, 982.
Auxiliaries	10	:	"H.T. ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "COUCAL" (ASR) "CELENO" (AK) "MINK" (IK) "SUSQUENHANNA" (AOG) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) YP.283.
Merchantmen	26	:	"MACTAN" "W.ATWATER" "LYMAN" "STEWART" "A.THOMAS" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD" " "L.S.KELLY" "GEO.LUKS" "GEO.VANCOUVER" "J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT"

Langemak (Contd.)
Merchantmen (Contd.)

: "G.V.L. MEYER" "ALAMO" "E. JOHNSON"
 "J. DOTY" "STAGEN" "TABINTA" "JOHN I.
 HOLAN" "ANHUI" "T. CRAWFORD" "W. SP
 "N.E. MACK" "JANSSENS" "W.S. LADD"
 "CLAUS SPRECKLES"

Iae:

Escorts	1	:	1 ML: 428
Auxiliaries	1	:	"PANDA" (IX)
Merchantmen	7	:	"O. KELLY" "R. J. WALKER" "P. BILLINGS" "H. V. WHITE" "G. L. SMITH" "S. BRANNON" "S. G. PORTER"

Buna:

Combat Units	5 DD	:	"REID" "BUSH" "NICHOLSON" "ARUNTA" "WARRAMUNGA"
Escorts	12	:	2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 2 YMS: 53, 316, 2 ML: 816, 819, 2 PC: 1119, 1123, 4 SC: 736, 741, 744, 747
Auxiliaries	8	:	"BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "DOBBIN" (AD) "TRINITY" (AO) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (AE) "PING WO" (ASIS) 1 ARD "BOOTES (AK)
Merchantmen	9	:	"W.S. LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "L. MERRITT" "W. MCCRACKEN" "ESSO BAYWAY" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.S. HEWITT" "M. GRIFFIT"

Oro Bay:

Auxiliaries	3	:	"RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG) "TRIANGULUM" (AK)
Merchantmen	15	:	"B. MATTHEWS" "J. P. BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "WEST CACTUS" "D. E. HUGHES" "J. SINGER" "A. REHAN" "P. T. DODDRIDGE" "CAPE SPENCER" "CEFALU" "M. T. HERRICK" "R. S. BEAN" "ED. N. WESTCOTT" "A. LYKES" "M. WALKER"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts	2	:	2 YMS: 50, 335
Merchantmen	1	:	"D. D. FIELD"

Kiriwina:

Escorts	1	:	1 SC: 750
Merchantmen	1	:	"MANA"

Goodenough Is:

Escorts	1	:	"GOULBURN" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1	:	"TASMAN" (AH)
Merchantmen	3	:	"VAN SWOLL" "M. THWAITES"

Milne Bay:

Combat Units	2 CA	:	"SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
	3 CL	:	"NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
	8 DD	:	"HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "MULLANY" "ABNER READ" "GRAYSON"
	12 PT	:	

Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts	2 PF	:	"BARCOO" "SAN PEDRO"
	7 SC	:	650, 699, 703, 738, 742, 748, 732
	3 AMS	:	"COWRA" "ROCKHAMPTON" "KAPUNDA"
	4 PC	:	479, 1124, 1131, 1132
	7 YMS	:	9, 10, 48, 49, 51, 52, 70
	6 ML	:	427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
Auxiliaries	23	:	"HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "KANE" "HERBERT" "SCHLEY" (APD) "SAN PABLO" (AVP) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "SHIKELLAMY" (AOG) "OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" "CHETCO" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" (IX) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) 1 ARD. 2 YP: 278 280
Merchantmen	75	:	"E. G. ACHESON" "J. ALDEN" "W. B. ALLISON" "ARANSAN PASS" "AUN" "W. B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "S. K. BARLOW" "S. K. BOLIVAR" "BORGFRED" "J. G. BRADY" "BRAGSTAGT" "BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS" "J. BURROUGH S" "WM. BYERS" "J. CABRILLO"

Milne Bay (Contd.)
Merchantmen (Contd)

: "P.CHANDLER" "CAPE DOUGLAS" "CITY OF HOUSTON" "CAPE PERPETUA" "G.L.CURRY" "J.COOK" "C.DARROW" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "A.B.DUNNINWA" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K.FITCH" "M.FLINDERS" "W.GRENFELL" "A.E.HAMMOND" "E.J.HENRY" "D.HEWES" "B.F.IRVINE" "JAPARA" "KATOOMBA" "M.E.KINNEY" "Z.LYKES" "F.E.LINDERMANN" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "J.MCLEAN" "W.MCLENNAN" "B.MATTHEWS" "J.W.MELDRUM" "W.V.MOODY" "MORMACSEA" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "RAMO" "REIJNST" "M.ROBERTSON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.B.ROGERS" "J.ROLPH" "J.ROSS" "SEA MARLIN" "SHAWNEE" "S.M.WHITE" "N.J.SINNOTT" "SOUTHWEST PASS" "W.H.SUBJETTE" "T.W.SYMONS" "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJN" "VAN DEN BOSCH" "K.D.WIGGIN" "E.YOUNG"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 2
 Auxiliaries
 Merchantmen 5

: 1 ML: 426 1 PC: 476

: "MULIAMA" "CHARON" "EMPIRE SILVER" "CANBERRA" "TARCONA"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 2
 Auxiliaries 1

: "WILCANNIA" (AMS) 1 SC: 731

: "BUNGAREE" (CM)

Cairns:

Escorts 11

: "CORONADO" (PF) "BOWEN" "BUNDABERG" "GYMFIE" "KALGOORLIE" (AMS) 1 PC: 477
 3 ML: 804, 805, 811. 2 YMS: 47, 51
 : "PLATYPUS" (AK) 1 ARD

Auxiliaries 2

Townsville:

Escorts 2

: "BROOME" "BALLARAT" (AMS)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1

: "HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2

: 1 YDG 1 ARD

Brisbane:

Escorts 7

: "SWAN" (PS) "GEELONG" "WHYALLA" (AMS)
 1 SC: 745 3 ML: 808, 821, 823
 : "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAS" (AKA)
 "GANYMEDE" (AK) "KURUMBA" (AO)
 2 YP: 233, 236. "LEOPARD" (IX)
 "MAETSUYCKER" (AH)

Auxiliaries 8

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL

2 DD

Escorts 12

: "HCBART" (Refitting)
 : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 : "OGLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA"
 "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL"
 (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB.CRIJNSSSEN" "DOOMBA"
 (A/S) 3 ML: 807, 822, 823
 : "MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AM) "GOLD
 STAR" (AS) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS"
 (AF) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS)
 "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS

: "LITHGOW" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

(1) San Cristobel - At 0800/21 a submarine was sighted by aircraft 80 miles South of San Cristobel.

(2) Buin Base - At 2100/21 two large barges were seen by aircraft of the North East Coast of Choiseul heading South.

P.m. 22 Mar. some 50 barges were reported by aircraft drawn up on the shore on the East side of Fauro Island.

Buin Base (contd) On 22 Mar. Kara Airfield was bombed by 3 Liberators, and Kahili by 6 Liberators as alternative targets to Rabaul.

- (3) Empress Augusta Bay - Enemy gun positions, installations and supplies were attacked 21-22 Mar. by 41 Avengers, 24 Dauntless, 3 Liberators and 34 Lightnings, Aircobras and Warhawks. No enemy artillery fire was experienced within the Torokina perimeter during the day or night 22 Mar.

During the night 22-23 Mar. enemy shore fire was encountered by PT boats operating on Tekessi River. A gun position in this area was silenced by aco-operating destroyer.

- (4) Nissan-Feni Island Area - At 1150/21 a submarine was sighted by aircraft 25 miles East of Nissan Island and on 23 Mar. possible submarine attacks were twice made by PT boats in the Babase Is. (Feni).

- (5) Rabaul - In addition to the torpedo and dive bomber strike at 1205/21 (reported in Summary No. 785) Lakunai was bombed 1125-1140/21 by 24 Mitchells, 31 Lightnings, Aircobras, Warhawks: The runway was well covered during the strike. At 1138/21 Vunacanal was bombed by 22 Liberators: again the runway and adjacent revetments were well covered by bombs.

At 2115/21-0300/22 bombs were dropped on Lakunai, Vunapope, Rapopo and area North East of Rabaul by 5 Mitchells operating separately.

Next day weather hampered air operations but at 1125/22 Vunacanal was effectively bombed by 24 Avengers, 46 Dauntless: At 1125/22 Lakunai was bombed by 23 Mitchells and at 1157 Tobera was bombed through clouds by 10 Liberators.

The above light bombers reported a surfaced submarine sighted in the Simpsons Harbour.

- (6) Admiralty Islands. - On 22 Mar. all the remaining Japs on Los Negros Island were encircled in one Sector to the South West of Papitalai.

During daylight 20 Mar. 30 miscellaneous craft including boats barges and canoes were destroyed at Loniu (Southern shore Wtn Los Negros Is.) by 2 PT boats which also set fire to 55 buildings at the same place. The small craft destroyed were apparently loaded with stores indicating possible preparations of escape.

- (7) Aitape - Included in the composite total of aircraft reported in yesterday's summary No. 785 as attacking targets along the New Guinea Coast between Wewak and Hollandia were 8 Mitchells and 16 Kittyhawks which bombed Aitape. The Japanese Headquarters and largest building in Aitape were destroyed.

- (8) Wewak-Hollandia - A feature of the reports of sightings of small craft along the Sector of the Coast by attacking aircraft 22 Mar. is the number of luggers, barges and armed patrol boats and would seem to be concentrated around the shores of the off-lying Islands rather than along the Coast of the Mainland: Muschu, Valif, Tendanye, Kariru Is. off Wewak, and Tunleo Is. off Aitape seemed to house the main concentrations.

Examinations of photographs 19 Mar. revealed 220 aircraft on the 4 airfields around Hollandia and only 19 aircraft on 3 of the 4 Wewak fields. Thus:

	F	LB	MB	Total
Hollandia	36	65	55	156
Sentani	1	14	-	15
Cyclops	47	1	-	48
Tami	1	-	-	1
	85	80	55	220
Wewak	10	4	-	14
Boram	5	-	-	5
But	-	-	-	-
	15	4	-	19

Dague was not covered: apparently no aircraft at Tadjil in 90° coverage.

- (9) Wewak-Hansa Bay - The heavy strike scheduled for Wewak 23 Mar. was hindered by bad weather and only part of the formations reached their targets. Squadrons already reported involved 18 Mitchells, which attacked Kariru Island. In addition 6 Mitchells and 32 Liberators bombed personnel areas and ack ack positions around Hansa Bay as alternative to Wewak.

The offensive against Coastal traffic however was maintained

Wewak-Hansa Bay (contd) to some degree: At 0045/23 four small probable freighters (120-150 feet) were attacked by Liberators off Broken Water Bay and one of the largest vessels was capsized.

- (10) Hansa Bay-Madang - During the night 21-22 Mar. PT boats sank a barge just south of Bogia and also strafed a camp at Kronzprinz Harbour and a gun position south of Neptune Point.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/24:

- (1) "PIRIE" (AMS) escorting "J.W.TROY" departed Thursday Island 1833/21 for Darwin ETA 1400/24.
(2) 16 Submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "INVERELL" "LATROBE" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	: "W. PROUSE" "CORIO" "ALAGNA" "DARVEL"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- X Halmahera - Aircraft sighted at 1150/23 e# 4 merchantships, 2 small destroyers, and one small craft at the Northern entrance of Kau Bay on course 210°. In addition 10 merchantships were observed in Wasile Bay.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(a) At Sea to 1200/24: (1) ALLIED FORCES

Nil.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	: "ADELAIDE
Escorts	6	: "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	: "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD.

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	: "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288
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B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Kapingamarangi - At 1215/23 an enemy bomber probably on reconnaissance was shot down by a Soupac patrol plane 30 miles West by South of Kapingamarangi. This is the second successive day on which an enemy plane has been destroyed in this area.
(2) Truk - Fixes 22 Mar. indicated that at least 3 enemy submarines in the area 130-200 miles S.E. of Truk.
(3) Marshalls - Light air strikes were conducted 21 Mar. on Wotje Mille Taroa and Jaluit.

C. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- X Submarine activity - CincEP. reports 23 Mar. that survivors from British freighter "NANCY MOLLER" (3900 tons) have been picked up approximately midway between S.E. Ceylon and Addu Atoll. It would appear likely that "NANCY MOLLER" was a victim of the Jap Submarine located by DF in this general area p.m. 22 Mar.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea. East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC*

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
BB	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	(2) -	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SEROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELLIER DENVER HONOLULU ST LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) CYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(7) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) DACE) DARTER) On Patrol FLOUNDER) SCAMP) SILVERSIDES)		15	25
	(3) S.42) S.47) At Milne Bay BLUEGILL)			
	(1) CERO) At Brisbane K.9 At Sydney			
<u>PT</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	146		
	Light & M/Bombers	107		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	10
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx. 4

5. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14) INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(4) ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. su sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6) ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7) COMBENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5) HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>(T)</u>	-	-	HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25) COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTER CASABLANCA CORRECIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER PANSRAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY MATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5) CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UMYO
<u>CA</u>	(13) BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	
<u>CCA</u>	-	-	6
<u>CL</u>	(7) SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE SILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4) NDSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-	-	5
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85		20 (several repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx. 30		Approx. 25
<u>AS</u>	?		2 (one repairing)

* Non-effective

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD -

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT REXNOWN	(5) NAGATO KONGO HYUGA) Poss. HARUNA FUSO) Empire
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAN RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	SUSSEX	(3) SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA CHIKUMA KUMANO MOGAMI SUZUYA TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU * KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMO I
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u> <u>SS</u>	(16) ANGLER MINGO) BILLFISH LAPON) BLUEFISH POMPON) BOWFIN PUFFER) CABRILLA NORWAL) GUNNEL RASHER) HADDO RATON) HAKE RAY)	Approx. 27 Approx. 15	25 17 (incl. 6 German)
	(10) BONEFISH HOE) COD REDFIN) CREVALLE ROBALO) FLASHER K.12) JACK K.15)	On Patrol At Fremantle	
<u>AS</u>	PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area Only)

Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng)	67
Light & M/Bombers	15
Torpedo & D/Bombers	-
Flying Boats	-
Floatplanes	42
Obsn. A/c.	16

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 787

Date 25 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.B. EASTERN AREA.(i) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/25.

- (1) "COWRA" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1600/24 for Langemak ETA 0700/26.
- (2) "BARCOO" escorting Convoy BG 65A (2 MV) en route Milne Bay to Lae ("SHAWNEE" was due 1100/25) and Langemak "SEA MARLIN" ETA 1500/25).
- (3) "TRIANGULUM" (AK) en route Milne Bay to Woodlark Island.
- (4) "PRESIDENT GRANT" aground on S.W. corner of Uluma Reef. Salvage operations in progress with diving party; "RESERVE" "SONOMA" (AT) standing by to assist.
- (5) "KALGOORLIE" (AMS) departed Cairns to RV with "GORGON" off Fitzroy Island at 2000/24 for escort duty to Merauke and return to Thursday Island. ETA Thursday Island 0800/26.
- (6) "MORESBY" (AGS) departed Cairns 1030/23 for Milne Bay.
- (7) "CORONDO" "PC.477" proceeding to Milne Bay.
- (8) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting Convoy MV.75 (3 MV) was to depart Milne Bay 1800/24 for Townsville ETA 0300/27.
- (9) "CALAMARES" (AF) departed Milne Bay 1440/22 for Gladstone ETA 0200/26.
- (10) "PYRO" (AE) departed Milne Bay 1330/23 for Brisbane ETA March 27.
- (11) "MILDURA" "CASTLEMAINE" "WAGGA" (AMS) investigating debris found off Hood Point.
- (12) "POLARIS" (AGS) departed Port Moresby 0740/23 for Thursday Island ETA 1600/26.
- (13) "TANGIER" (AV) departed Brisbane 1300/22 for Palm Island ETA 1000/24; departing thence 1600/24 for Milne Bay ETA 1000/26.
- (14) "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS) assisting "WM.D. BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage). "TANGRED" (tug) proceeding to assist, ETA daylight 26 Mar.
- (15) "GANNYMEDE" (AK) en route Brisbane to Cairns ETA 0700/28.
- (16) "YP.291" departed Caloundra 1500/23 for Palm Island ETA 1000/26 thence Cairns ETA 1800/27.
- (17) "MERKUR" (AK) departed Caloundra 1700/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/29.
- (18) "ML.820" on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (19) "SC.749" departed Caloundra 2100/21 for Sandy Cape A/S patrol; to depart patrol area 1200/25 and return to Brisbane.
- (20) "GEELONG" (AMS) was to depart Brisbane 0800/25 to conduct A/S patrol Sandy Cape until 1700/30 when "WHYALLA" is to relieve.
- (21) "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) departed Sydney 0917/24 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (22) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Townsville 0830/22 for Sydney ETA 0800/26 thence Melbourne for refit.
- (23) "YMS's 11,72" departed Cairns 0800/22 for Fremantle via Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Albany. ETA Brisbane 1800/25.
- (24) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Convoy Procedure:

MV, TN and NT Convoys are to be discontinued after the sailing, on Friday 24 March, of Convoys TN.232 and NT.77.

(c) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

X
Combat Units 9 DD : "GILLESPIE" "HOBBY" "KALK" "STEVENSON"
"STOCKTON" "THORN" "WELLES" "ROE" "WILKES"
18 PT
Escorts 4 : 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46 "BENALLA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 2 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "ETAMIN" (AK)
Merchantmen 3 : "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY" "W.BEAUMONT"
Cape Gloucester:
Escorts 1 : "WARREGO" (PS)
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
Merchantmen 3 : "YOCHOW" "MELINGA" "H.T.RAINEY"
Rein Bay:
Combat Units 14 PT
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (AGP)
Saïdor:
Combat Units 12 PT
Escorts 1 : "BUNBURY" (AMS)
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "J.H.ROSSITER" "TIMOSHENKO"
Langemak:
Combat Units 20 PT
Escorts 25 : "HARMON" (DE) "ARARAT" "BENDIGO" "GLENELG"
"SPAWELL" (AMS)
5 YMS: 71, 313, 336, 314, 393
4 FC: 1122, 1122, 1133, 1134.
3 ML: 424, 803, 804. 8 SC: 637, 648, 734,
737, 743, 981, 982.
Auxiliaries 12 : "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA"
(APA) "PORTUNUS" "COUCAL" (ASR) "CELENO" (AK)
"MINK" (IX) "SUSQUENHANNA" (AOG) "HALF MOON"
(AVP) "VICTORIA" (AO) YP.283.
Merchantmen 30 : "MACTAN" "W.ATWATER" "LYMAN" "STEWART"
"A.THOMAS" "G.R.HEBARD" "GEO.VANCOUVER"
"J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT"
"G.V.L.MEYER" "ALAMO" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY"
"STAGEN" "TABINTA" "JOHN I.HOLAN" "ANHUI"
"T.CRAWFORD" "W.SPARRON" "N.E.MACK"
"JANSSENS" "W.S.LADD" "ALGOA PATRIOT"
"CLAUS SPRECKLES" "M.GRIFFITH"
"ED.N.WESTCOTT" "B.MATTHEWS" "P.T.DODDRIDGE"
"W.MCCRACKEN"
Lae:
Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 428
Auxiliaries 2 : "PANDA" (IX) "TASMAN" (AH)
Merchantmen 6 : "O.KELLY" "P.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE"
"G.L.SMITH" "S.BRANNON" "S.G.PORTER"
Buna:
Combat Units 6 DD : "REID" "BUSCH" "SWANSON" "NICHOLSON"
"ARUNTA" "WARRAMUNGA"
Escorts 13 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
3 YMS: 53, 315, 316, 2 ML: 816, 819
2 FC: 1119, 1123, 4 SC: 736, 744, 746, 747
Auxiliaries 14 : "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "TRINITY" (AO) "HUMPHREYS"
"SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "SCHLEY" "KANE"
"HERBERT" (APD) "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG"
(AE) "PING WO" (ASIS) 1 ARD "BOOTES" (AK)
Merchantmen 6 : "W.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "L.MERRITT"
"ESSO BAYWAY" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.S.HEWITT"
Oro Bay:
Auxiliaries 3 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG) "DOBBIN" (AD)
Merchantmen 13 : "J.F.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "J.SINGER"
"A.REHAN" "CAPE SPENCER" "CEFALU" "M.T.
HERRICK" "R.S.BEAN" "A.LYKES" "M.WALKER"
"SAN ANTONIO"

<u>Woodlark Is:</u>			
Escorts	3	:	2 YMS: 9,50 SC: 741
Merchantmen	1	:	"D.D.FIELD"
<u>Kiriwina:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	1 SC: 750
Merchantmen	1	:	"MANA"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"GOULBURN" (AMS) 1 YMS: 335
Auxiliaries	1	:	
Merchantmen	2	:	"M.THWAITES" "W.GRENFELL"
* <u>Milne Bay:</u>			
Combat Units	2 CA	:	"SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
	3 CL	:	"NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
	8 DD	:	"HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "AMMEN" "SEALE" "MULLANY" "ABNER READ" "GRAYSON"
	12 PT	:	
* <u>Note:</u> Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.			
Escorts	1 PF	:	"SAN PEDRO"
	7 SC	:	650, 699, 703, 738, 742, 748, 732
	3 AMS	:	"ROCKHAMPTON" "KAPUNDA" "KIAMA"
	6 PC	:	476, 479, 1120, 1124, 1131, 1132
	8 YMS	:	10, 48, 49, 51, 52, 70, 73, 334
	6 ML	:	427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
Auxiliaries	16	:	"SAN PABLO" (AVP) "AASE WAERSK" (AO) "MIZAR" (AF) "OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" "CHETCO" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" (IX) "CAMERIAN SALVOR" (ARS)
Merchantmen	87	:	1 ARD: 2 YP: 278, 280 "E.G.ACHESON" "W.B.ALLISON" "ARANSAN PASS" "AUN" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "S.K.BARLOW" "S.K.BOLIVAR" "BORGFRED" "J.G.BRADY" "BRAGSTAGI" "BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS" "J.BURROUGHS" "WM BYER" "J.CABRILLO" "P.CHANDLER" "W.E.CHANNING" "CAPE CLEARE" "CAPE DOUGLAS" "CAPE PERPETUA" "G.L.CURRY" "C.DARROW" "J.DEERE" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "A.E.DUNNIWAY" "L.L.DYCHE" "EMPIRE SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.B.K.FITCH" "M.FLINDERS" "W.GRENFELL" "A.B.HAMMOND" "HANYANG" "E.J.HENRY" "D.HEWES" "B.F.IRVINE" "JAPARA" "KARSIK" "KATOOMBA" "L.S.KELLY" "M.E.KINNEY" "P.B.LINDERMANN" "Z.LYKES" "J.S.MANSFIELD" "GEO.LUKS" "LURLINE" "J.MCLEAN" "W.MCLENNAN" "B.MATTHEWS" "J.W.MELDRUM" "W.V.MOODY" "NORMACGULL" "MONTEREY" "MORMACSEA" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "HARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET" "NORINDIES" "PAHUD" "PENNANT" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "RAMO" "REIJNST" "MROBERTSON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.B.ROGERS" "J.ROLPH" "J.ROSS" "SEA WITCH" "S.M.WHITE" "N.J.SINNOTT" "SOUTHVAST PASS" "W.H.SUBJETTE" "T.W.SYMONS" "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN DERLIJN" "VAN SWOLL" "R.J.WALKER" "J.M.WHISTLER" "K.D.WIGGIN" "E.YOUNG"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	ML: 426
Merchantmen	4	:	"MULIAMA" "CHARON" "CANBERRA" "TAROONA"
<u>Mursday Is:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"WILCANNIA" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
Auxiliaries	1	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	10	:	"CORONADO" (PF) "BOWEN" "BUNDABERG" "GYMPIE" (AMS) 1 PC: 477 3 ML: 804, 805, 811. 2 YMS: 47, 51
Auxiliaries	2	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD
<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	"EROOME" "BALLARAT" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1	:	"SHIKELLAMY" (ADG)
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2 : 1 YDG 1 ARD

Brisbane:

Escorts 6 : "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 1 SC: 745
3 ML: 808, 821, 823 "

Auxiliaries 7 : "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAS" (AKA)
"KURUMBA" (AO) 2 YP: 233, 236.
"LEOPARD" (IX) "MAERSUYCKER" (AH)

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts 12 : "COLAC" "DELORAINÉ" "ECHOCA" "GLADSTONE"
"KATOOMBA" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN"
"YANDRA" "DOOMBA" (A/S) 3 ML: 807, 822, 823
Auxiliaries 7 : "MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AK) "GOLD STAR"
(AS) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)
"CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) "APRINGDALE"
(YDG)

Melbourne:

Escorts 1 AMS : "LEITHGOW" (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - Between 0610 and 0730/23 enemy artillery fired approximately 70 shells within our perimeter near the Piva strips. P.M. March 21 - P.M. March 22 our ground forces killed 33 Japs in minor patrol attacks around Torokina perimeter. During Mar 23 18 Dauntless operating over our perimeter scored a damaging hit on an enemy gun position in the area while 6 Avengers bombed positions around the Mupeka River.
- (2) South Bougainville - A.M. Mar. 23 7 Liberators unable to reach Rabaul due to weather bombed Kahili while 14 Lightnings dropped their bombs on Shortland Island Area. Heavy accurate ack ack fire was encountered from Ballale.
- (3) Buka - A.M. Mar 23, 25 Mitchells unable to reach Rabaul due to weather bombed runway and revetments area Buka airfield.
- (4) Kieta - P.M. Mar 23, 1 launch and 5 barges were reported 20 miles N.N.E. of Kieta heading West indicating continued attempt at barge movement along East Bougainville Coast.
- (5) Rabaul - A.M. Mar. 23 2 Soupac Corsairs strafed barges off Cape St George and 2 large barges or small coastal craft in Karibi Bay. During Mar. 23 15 Liberators, 12 P40's and 4 Mitchells succeeded in attacking Keravia Bay and Rataval supply areas in spite of bad weather conditions. 30 Dauntless and 24 Avengers also scheduled to strike Rabaul had to abandon their missions due to bad weather.
- Nil enemy interception during these strikes.
- (6) Admiralty Islands. - In early hours Mar. 22 an enemy patrol in United States Combat uniforms unsuccessfully attempted to capture one of our radio stations on Los Negros Island. 5 Jap Officers and 10 other ranks were killed during this attempt. Our patrols continued to encounter small enemy groups on Manus Island principally west of Lorengau strip while our troops to the South of Lorengau have advanced within 100 yards of Rossun. Up to P.M. Mar. 23 enemy casualties number 2323 killed while enemy effectives are estimated 1034.
- (7) North New Britain Coast - There are continued indications of enemy troop movements to the Eastwards towards Gazelle Peninsula from Central New Britain. On Mar. 23 approximately 200 Japs in two parties were reported going East in the Cape Hoskins area. A.M. Mar. 23 R.A.A.F. Kittyhawks strafed enemy positions and odd parties along the North New Britain Coast in the Bangula Bay area.
- (8) Wewak - A.M. Mar 23, 21 Mitchells escorted by 15 Thunderbolts attacked Dagua and Kariru Island. 20-30 unidentified aircraft reported on Dagua Strip with 8 wrecked fighters. Air operations in this area were also hindered throughout the day due to bad weather conditions.

Several small groups of barges were reported in area around Kariru Muschu Islands and off Wewak itself.

Early hours Mar. 24 a patrol Liberator attacked an enemy small vessel described as a mine sweeper approximately 100 miles

- (8) Wewak (contd) - N.W.W. of Wewak heading North. One direct hit was scored with a 500 lb. bomb causing vessel to remain stationary. At 0600/24 an unidentified vessel was reported in Wewak Harbour.
- (9) Hansa Bay - Further details of air strikes in this area Mar. 23 indicate that 44 Liberators and 6 Mitchells dropped 174 tons of bombs on ack ack positions and personnel areas. Heavy ack ack fire was encountered and at least 10 enemy barges sighted in the area.
- (10) Bogadjim - The enemy's main strength in this area is reported by our patrols to be at Erima Plantation. On Mar. 23 an allied patrol found the village of Jam Jam (4 miles SSW of Bogadjim) unoccupied.
- (11) Ramu Valley - Patrol activity continues in this area.
- (12) Greenwich Island - Noon Mar. 24 a Soupac Liberator attacked an enemy submarine 240 miles west by North of Greenwich Island.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/24

- (1) "PIRIE (AMS) escorting "J.W.TROY" departed Thursday Island 1833/21 for Darwin ETA 1400/24.
- (2) 16 Submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	7	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "INVERELL" "LATROBE" "PIRIE" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	5	: "W. PROUSE" "CORIO" "ALAGNA" "DARVEL" "J.W.TROY"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Dutch New Guinea - A.M. Mar. 23 Liberators over Babo area reported continued evidence of air facilities being developed including 3 strips under construction one of which is possibly serviceable. A.M. Mar. 23 our aircraft reported enemy small shipping around McCleure Gulf area as follows:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| <u>Fak Fak</u> | 1 small Coaster, 2 barges |
| <u>Kokas</u> | 7 small Coastal craft in Kokas Harbour and 1 small Coaster and several barges off Sekace Is. |
| <u>Sagan</u> | 6 barges |
| <u>Kaimana</u> | at least 2 small coasters, several barges and other small craft in Kiamana Harbour and two other small Coasters heading South along Coast in this area. |
- (2) Manokwari - On Mar. 23 4 probable small coasters were reported in this area in addition to several luggers and small craft.
- (3) Halmahera - Photos of this area Mar. 23 reveal 38 aircraft on Galela strip including 15 fighters and 23 bombers. One runway serviceable another under construction with a total of 55 dispersal points. Shipping Galela Bay included 3 small merchantmen. Shipping Wasile Bay included 3 small freighters, 3 other small coastal merchantmen and other small craft, while in Kace Bay 2 medium sized freighters, 1 subchaser, 1 fuel barge, 2 small coasters and 11 barges were observed. There was further evidence of air facilities being developed including a new strip being developed near Kace Village. On Miti Island strip 15 aircraft were observed including 11 twin engine fighters and 2 single engine fighters. The runway was serviceable for 4250 feet and extensive dispersal areas were under construction. 1 small merchantman, 1 small coastal and 7 barges were observed off this Island. It is apparent that the enemy has attempted to extensively develop both air and shipping facilities in the general North Halmahera area.
- (4) Ceram Island - A.M. March 23 3 aircraft were observed on Amahai strip and a small coastal vessel in Seleman Bay.
- (5) Broome - A.M. Mar. 24 an enemy reconnaissance aircraft was indicated in the Broome-Derby area.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/25:

Nil

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	:	"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	:	"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC:739
			3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	9	:	"ATREUS" (AM) "LARK" (AM) "YUMA" (AT)
			"W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS)
			"CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:	"CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288
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B. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Submarine activity - A submarine, believed German, torpedoed Norwegian Tanker "GRENA" (8,100 tons) midday 21 Mar. in position 20°27'N 59°38'E (N.W. Arabian Sea about 60 miles off S.E. Omar Coast.)

Further details received relate that "NANCY MOLLER" was sunk by a Jap. submarine a.m. 18 Mar. approx. midway between S.E. tip of Ceylon and Addu Atoll (refer yesterday's Summary No. 786)

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ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North Coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	<u>Southwest Pacific</u> <u>(Eastern Section)</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>	<u>Bismarcks</u> <u>Solomons</u>	<u>Carolines</u> <u>Marianas</u>
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO OHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID ANNEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ HOE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(7) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) DACE) DARTER) FLOUNDER) SCAMP) SILVERSIDES)	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.42) S.47) BLUEGILL)	At Milne Bay		
	(1) CERO) K.9	At Brisbane At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?

APA/APD/AKA

(11) H.T. ALLEN	10 APA
KANIMBLA	10 APD
WESTRALIA	5 AKA
ALGORAB	
GILMER	
KANE	
SCHLEY	
SANDS	
HUMPHREYS	
BROOKS	
HERBERT	

AGO BLUE RIDGE

AS (2) OTUS ? ?
EURYALE

AD DOBBIN - -

AR (3) RIGEL PROMETHEUS
PLATYPUS
AMYCUS

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)

Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	146
Light & M/Bombers	107
Torpedo & D/Bombers	2
Flying Boats	1
Floatplanes	14
Obsn. A/c	20

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>GL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALBIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	10
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx. 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(4)	ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>OV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>OV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>(T)</u>	-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAWTEE CASABLANCA CORRECIDOR ALTAMARA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKON BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY NEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * URYO
	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CRESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE		
<u>CCA</u>	-			6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE SILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4)	NDSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-			5	
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85			20	(several repairing)
<u>CV</u>	Approx. 36			Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>	?			2	(one repairing)

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

OL TRENTON

DD -

* Non-effective

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT <i>Renown</i>	(5) NAGATO KONGO HYUGA) Poss. HARUNA FUSO) Empire
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAN RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) OABA KUMANO SUZUYA CHIKUMA MAGAMI TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOI
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx. 27	25
<u>SS</u>	(16) ANGLER MINGO) BILLFISH LAPON) BLUEFISH POMPON) BOWFIN PUFFER) On Patrol CARRILLA NORWAL) GUNNELL RASHER) HADDO RATON) HAKE RAY)	Approx. 15	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(10) BONEFISH HOE) COD REDFIN) CREVALLE BOBALO) At Fremantle FLASHER K.12) JACK K.15)		
<u>AS</u>	PELIAS ORION		
<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	(N.W. Area only)		
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng)		67	
Light & M/Bombers		9	
Torpedo & D/Bombers		-	
Flying Boats		-	
Floatplanes		42	
Obsn. A/c		16	

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 788

Date: 26 March, 1944

PART 1.

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.

EASTERN AREA.

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/26.

- (1) "SHEPPARTON" (AGS) was to depart Langemak 1130/25 for Milne Bay ETA 1030/27.
- (2) "PC.1120" departed Milne Bay 1900/24 to RV with "PANAMA EXPRESS" and escort to Milne Bay ETA 1900/25.
- (3) "KALGOORLIE" (AMS) departed Cairns to RV with "GORGON" off Fitzroy Island at 2000/24 for escort duty to Merauke and return to Thursday Island. ETA Thursday Island 0800/26.
- (4) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting Convoy MW.75 (3 MV) was to depart Milne Bay 1800/24 for Townsville ETA 0300/27.
- (5) "BUNDABERG" "BOWEN" "TOWNSVILLE" escorting Convoy TN.232 (4 MV) en route Fitzroy Island to Port Moresby ("TOWNSVILLE" with 1 MV) ETA 0900/28 and to Milne Bay ("BUNDABERG" "BOWEN" 3 MV) ETA 0900/28.
- (6) "PC.479" departed Milne Bay 0600/25 for Cairns ETA 1000/27.
- (7) "CASTLEMAINE" searching route from Milne Bay to Port Moresby for "CANONBAR" overdue at Port Moresby, but reported possibly anchored off Keakaro Bay.
- (8) "MILDURA" proceeding to Port Moresby.
- (9) "PYRO" (AK) departed Milne Bay 1330/23 for Brisbane ETA March 27.
- (10) "POLARIS" (AGS) departed Port Moresby 0740/23 for Thursday Island ETA 1600/26.
- (11) "ML.805" was to RV at 0730/25 with "MORGLAY" (AT) and pilot her to "WM.D.BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage); "TANGRED" (AT) diverted to Sydney.
- (12) "GANYMEDE" (AK) en route Brisbane to Cairns ETA 0700/28.
- (13) "YP.291" departed Caloundra 1500/23 for Palm Island ETA 1000/26 thence Cairns ETA 1800/27.
- (14) "MERKUR" (AK) departed Caloundra 1700/22 for Milne Bay ETA 0900/29.
- (15) "ML.820" on A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (16) "GEEELONG" (AMS) conducting A/S patrol Sandy Cape until 1700/30 when "WHYALLA" is to relieve.
- (17) "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) departed Sydney 0917/24 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (18) "YMS's 11,72" departed Cairns 0800/22 for Fremantle via Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Albany. ETA Brisbane 1800/26
- (19) 7 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "LEOPARD" (IX) to depart Caloundra 1500/27 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/2 April
- (2) "ETOLIN" (AK) to depart Caloundra 1430/26 Southbound.

(c) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units 7 DD : "BUSH" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "HOBBEY"
"NICHOLSON" "KALK" "WARRAMUNJA"
18 PT
Escorts 5 : "HARMON" (DE) 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
"BENALLA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 4 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
"ETAMIN" (AK) "CELENO" (AK)
Merchantmen 3 : "LAKE ORMAG" "M.DALY" "W.BEAUMONT"
Cape Gloucester:
Escorts 1 : "WARREGO" (PS)
Auxiliaries
Merchantmen 3 : "YOGHOW" "MELINGA" "H.T.RAINEY"
Rein Bay:
Combat Units 14 PT
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILC" (AGP)
Saidor:
Combat Units 12 PT
Escorts
Merchantmen 3 : "H.C.PAYNE" "J.H.ROSSITER" "TIMOSHENKO"
Langemak:
Combat Units 20 PT
Escorts 26 : "BARCOO" (PF) "ARARAT" "BENDIGO" "COWRA"
"GLENELG" "BUNBURY" "STAWELL" (AMS)
5 YMS: 71, 313, 314, 336, 393
4 FC: 1122, 1132, 1133, 1134
3 ML: 424, 803, 804, 8 SC: 637, 648, 734,
737, 743, 981, 982.
Auxiliaries 9 : "KANIMBLA" "MANCOORA" (APA) "PORTUNUS" "COUCAL"
(ASR) "MINK" (IX) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "VICTORIA"
(AO) YP.283 "CHETCO" (AT)
Merchantmen 31 : "MACTAN" "W.ATWATER" "LYMAN" "STEWART"
"A.THOMAS" "G.R.HEBARD" "GEO.VANCOUVER"
"J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT"
"G.V.L.MEYER" "ALAMO" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY"
"STAGEN" "TAEINTA" "JOHN I.NCLAN" "ANHUI"
"T.CRAWFORD" "W.SPARRON" "N.E.MACK" "JANSSENS"
"W.S.LADD" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "CLAUS SPRECKLES"
"M.GRIFFITH" "ED.N.WESTCOTT" "B.MATTHEWS"
"P.T.DODDRIDGE" "W.MCCRACKEN" "SEA MARLIN"
Isa:
Escorts 1 : 1 ML: 428
Auxiliaries 2 : "PANDA" (IX) "TASMAN" (AH)
Merchantmen 6 : "O.KELLY" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH"
"S.G.PORTER" "SHAWNEE"
Buna:
Combat Units 8 DD : "STEVENSON" "STOCKTON" "THORN" "ROE" "WILKES"
"REID" "SWANSON" "ARUNTA"
Escorts 13 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
3 YMS: 53, 315, 316, 2 ML: 816, 819
2 FC: 1119, 1123, 4 SC: 736, 744, 746, 747
Auxiliaries 15 : "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" (APA) "TRINITY" (AO)
"HUMPEREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "SCHLEY"
"KANE" "HERBERT" (APD) "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC)
"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (AE) "PING WO"
(ASIS) 1 ARD "BOOTES" (AK)
Merchantmen 8 : "W.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "L.MERRITT"
"ESSO BAYWAY" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.S.HEWITT"
"J.W.MELDRUM" "CAPE CLEARE"
Oro Bay:
Auxiliaries 3 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG) "DOBBIN" (AD)
Merchantmen 11 : "J.F.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "J.SINGER"
"A.REHAN" "CAPE SPENCER" "M.T.HERRICK"
"R.S.BEAN" "A.LYKES" "SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE
DOUGLAS" "RAJAH STAN".
Woodlark Is:
Escorts 4 : 3 YMS: 9, 50, 335 SC: 741
Auxiliaries 1 : "TRIANGULUM" (AK)
Merchantmen 1 : "D/D. FIELD"

<u>Kiriwina:</u>		
Escorts	1	: 1 SC: 750
Merchantmen	1	: "MANA"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>		
Escorts	1	: "GOULBURN" (AMS)
Merchantmen	2	: "M. THWAITES" "W. GRENFELL"
<u>Milne Bay:</u>		
Combat Units	2 CA	: "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
	3 CL	: "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
	8 DD	: "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "AMMEN" "BEALE"
		"MULLANY" "ABNER READ" "GRAYSON"
	12 PT	
* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.		
<u>Escorts</u>		
	2 PF	: "SAN PEDRO" "CORONADO"
	7 SC	: 650, 699, 703, 738, 742, 748, 732
	4 AMS	: "ROCKHAMPTON" "KAPUNDA" "KIAMA" "WAGGA"
	5 PC	: 476, 477, 1124, 1131, 1132
	8 YMS	: 10, 48, 49, 51, 52, 70, 73, 334
	6 ML	: 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
<u>Auxiliaries</u>		
	18	: "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "TANGIER" (AV) "MIZAR" (AF)
		"OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA"
		(AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE)
		"BAYOU ST. JOHN" "SUSQUEHANNA (AOG) "MORSEBY"
		(AGS) "SONOMA" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" (IX)
		"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) 1 ARD:
		2 YP: 278, 280.
<u>Merchantmen</u>		
	81	: "E.G. ACHESON" "ARANSAN PASS" "AUN" "W.B. AYER"
		"J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "S.K. BARLOW"
		"S.K. BOLIVAR" "BOROFRED" "S. BRANNON"
		"J.G. BRADY" "BRACSTAGI" "BRITISH COLUMBIA
		EXPRESS" "J. BURROUGHS" "WM. BYER"
		"J. CABRILLO" "CEPALU" "P. CHANDLER"
		"W.E. CHANNING" "G.L. CURRY" "J. DEERE"
		"F.H. DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "A.E. DUNNIWAY"
		"L.L. DYCHE" "EMPIRE SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
		"ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K. FITCH"
		"M. FLINDERS" "W. GRENPELL" "A.B. HAMMOND"
		"HANYANG" "E.J. HENRY" "B.F. IRVINE" "JAPARA"
		"KARSIK" "KATOOMBA" "L.S. KELLY" "GEO. LUKS"
		"LURLINE" "J. MCLEAN" "W. MOLENNAN" "LINDERMAN"
		"B. MATTHEWS" "W.V. MOODY" "MORMACGULL" "MANSFIELD"
		"MONTEREY" "MORMACSEA" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST
		FARMER" "NARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET" "NORINDIES"
		"PAHUD" "PENNANT" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "RAMO"
		"REIJNST" "M. ROBERTSON" "A. ROBINSON"
		"W.B. ROGERS" "J. ROLPH" "J. ROSS" "SEA WITCH"
		"W.C. SQUIRE" "S.M. WHITE" "N.J. SINNOTT"
		"SOUTHWEST PASS" "W.H. SUBJETTE" "T.W. SYMONS"
		"M. THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN DERLIJN"
		"VAN SWOLL" "R.J. WALKER" "J.M. WHISTLER"
		"K.D. WIGGIN" "E. YOUNG"
<u>Port Moresby</u>		
Escorts	1	: ML: 426
Merchantmen	6	: "MULIAMA" "CANBERRA" "TARGONA" "M. WALKER"
		"C. DARROW" "MONTORO"
<u>Thursday Is:</u>		
Escorts	2	: "WILCAN NIA" (AMS) 1 SC: 731
Auxiliaries	1	: "BUNGAREE" (CM)
<u>Cairns:</u>		
Escorts	5	: "GYMPIE" (AMS) 2 ML: 804, 811. 2 YMS: 47, 51
Auxiliaires	2	: "PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD
<u>Townsville:</u>		
Escorts	2	: "BROOME" "BALLARAT" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1	: "SHIKELLAMY" (AOG)
<u>Mackay:</u>		
Auxiliaries	1	: "HERON" (AVP)
<u>Gladstone:</u>		
Auxiliaries	3	: 1 YDG 1 ARD "CALANARES" (AF)
<u>Brisbane:</u>		

Brisbane:
Escorts 6 : "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749
3 ML: 808, 821, 823
Auxiliaries 8 : "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA)
"ETOLIN" (AK) "KURUMBA" (AO) 2 YP: 233, 236
"LEOPARD" (IX) "MAETSUYCKER" (AH)

Sydney:
Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts 13 : "COLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "FREMANTLE"
"GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" (AMS) "KYBRA"
"AB. CRIJNSSEN" "YANDRA" "DOOMBA" (A/s)
3 ML: 807, 822, 823
Auxiliaries 7 : "MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AH) "GOLD STAR" (AS)
"BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF)
"CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)

Melbourne:
Escort 1 AMS : "LITHGOW" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) S.W. Bougainville - During the night 22-23 Mar enemy positions at the Puriata River mouth were strafed by PT boats. Return shell fire was experienced.
- (2) Torokina Perimeter - During the day ended 1500/24 the enemy made a determined assault on the Northern sector of the Torokina perimeter. While penetration was effected one allied counter attack restored the position. An estimated 300 enemy dead were left within our defence lines.
During 24 Mar enemy gun positions installations and supplies were attacked by 34 Dauntless and 18 Avengers.
During the 24 hours ended 0900/25 while enemy artillery activity was experienced within the perimeter 13 shells were fired causing no damage or casualties.
- (3) Rabaul - Midday 24 Mar Vunacanal and Tobera airfields were attacked by 49 Dauntless 25 Avengers and 24 Mitchells. Both runways were hit.
In addition Vunapope supplies area was bombed by 37 Lightnings Warhawks and Aircobras.
- (4) New Ireland - Photos taken a.m. 24 Mar reveal Borpop, Namatanai, Panapai airfields to be unserviceable. Nil aircraft present. Kavieng aerodrome is serviceable and one fighter and divebomber present.
- (5) St Matthias - No further reports of the land situation on Emirau have been received but on 23 Mar a petrol dump was destroyed by U.S. destroyer bombardments, estimated at 150 drums. Eloaue was also bombarded without visible results.
Three enemy aircraft circled Emirau Island during the night 22-23 Mar. but no bombs were dropped.
- (6) Admiralty Island. - On Los Negros Is. the enemy encircled S.W. Papitalai and is offering desperate resistance. Little change is reported on the ground situation on Manus Island.
Pityilu Is., near approaches to Seeadler Harbour, was bombarded by 3 allied destroyers 24 Mar. All visible buildings, 3 launches and a petrol dump were destroyed.
Ndrova and Amo Islands, off S.E. coast Manus Island, were occupied 24 Mar: no enemy were contacted.
On 25 Mar. Loniu and Bataan, on S.W. Los Negros Island, were bombarded by 3 destroyers also Lankau village on Rambutyo Is.
- (7) Open Bay - Kimbe Bay - A.M. 24 Mar enemy installations along the North Coast of New Britain in this Sector were bombed and strafed by 6 Bostons and 2 Beaufighters. Again A.M. 25 Mar targets in the same area were subjected to attacks by 7 Bostons and 2 Beaufighters, while in addition Headquarters area Cape Hoskins was bombed and strafed by 10 Kittyhawks.
- (8) Garove Island - Gun positions on Garove Island were bombed and strafed 1300-1400/24 by 21 Kittyhawks.
Early a.m. 25 Mar. an enemy troop laden barge was sunk by PT boats 6 miles S.E. of Garove Island and 35 Japs were eliminated and 4 taken prisoners.
- (9) Wakde Island A preliminary report from aircraft in flight relates that 4 ships (2-4000 tons) were sighted at 1300/25 20 miles N.W. by N. Wakde Island on an Easterly course.

- (10) Hollandia - Photos 0950/21 covering 3 airfields Hollandia, Sentani and Cyclops, disclosed 274 aircraft including 132 fighters 97 light bombers and 45 medium bombers.
- (11) Aitape - A hospital ship was reported by aircraft at 0530/24 170 miles North of Aitape, on course 90°. Probably the same vessel was subsequently reported several times: last report was at 1018/25 5 miles off But - course 125°.
- (12) Wewak - The reduction of Wewak was resumed 1050-1150/25 by heavy medium and attack bombers. Reports received cover 23 Liberators 37 Mitchells 16 Bostons plus fighter cover. Preliminary reports indicate that much damage was effected: Little ground opposition and no aerial opposition was reported.
- (13) Bunabun - Bunabun Mission and Coastal strip were bombed and strafed 1115/25 by 18 Bostons.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/26 :

- (1) "PIRCE" escorting convoy DT 46 (2 MV) departed Darwin 0733/25 for Thursday Is. ETA 1730/29
- (2) "INVERELL" escorting Convoy DT47 ("DARVEL") departed Darwin 0714/25 for Thursday Is. ETA 0500/28 "DARVEL" proceeding independently, from Cape Wessel to Melville Bay ETA 0900/27
- (3) 15 Submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	:"COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS) 3 ML:429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	:"W. PROUSE" "J.W. TROY"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Geelvinck - 25 Mar. Reconnaissance observed 4 small merchantships including 3 sea trucks at Noenfoor Island off Manoekwari.
- (2) Kaukenau ^{Kaukenau} - Photos 23 Mar. show both runways at Utarom serviceable Two fighters were present.
- (3) Macleur Gulf - Photos 23 Mar disclose new strip under construction near Saigan village (Southshore midway between Babo and Kolgas) Visual observations during reconnaissance 25 Mar. indicate 3 new strips between Saigan and Babo.
- (4) Ceram Island - Reconnaissance 25 Mar. sighted 1 vessel at Boela.
- (5) Flores Island - Photos 24 Mar. disclose a new strip quarter of a mile South west of Macemere under construction, apparently in addition to the 2 known runways both of which are serviceable although only one appears to be in use. 7 small ships of 1000 tons or less are at anchor off Macemere and 2 small merchant vessels at Ende.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At sea to 1200/25: Nil

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	:"ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	:"HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC:739 3 ML:812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	8	:"ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CEANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP:286 1 ARD

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	:"CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288
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ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North Coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHEROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO OHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>X/KCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolins Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(7) BASHAW BLACKFISH DACE DARTER FLOUNDER SCAMP SILVERSIDES	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.42 S.47 BLUEGILL	At Milne Bay		
	(1) CERO K.9	At Brisbane At Sydney		
<u>PF</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?
<u>APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGO</u>	BLUE RIDGE			
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>A</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area Only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	189		
	Light & M/Bombers	125		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI ASHIGARA) Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	10
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx. 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCE

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(4)	ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO HOSHO
<u>(T)</u>	-				
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAWTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UMYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	-	
<u>OCA</u>	-			6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE SILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4)	NOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZO KASHII
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-			5	
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85			20 (several repairing)	
<u>SS</u>	Approx. 30			Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>	?			2 (one repairing)	

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

DD -

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific (Western Section)		Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>B</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(5) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA HYUGA) Poss. FUSO) Empire
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAW RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) OABA KUMANO SUZUYA CHIKUMA MOGAMI TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) GARADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK ALBATROSS	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU KITAGAMI KAMOJ
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON		
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx 27	25
<u>SS</u>	(15) ANGLER MINGO) BLUEFISH LAPON) BOWFIN PUFFER) CAERILLA NORWHALE) GUNNEL RASHER) On Patrol HADDO RATON) HAKE RAY) POMPOM)	Approx 15	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(11) BILLFISH HOE) BONEFISH REDFIN) COD ROBALO) At Fremantle CREVAILE K/12) FLASHER K/15) JACK)		
<u>AS</u>	(2) PELIAS ORION		
<u>AIRRAFT</u>	(N.W. Area Only)		
Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.)		67	
Light & M/Bombers		9	
Torpedo & D/Bombers		-	
Flying Boats		-	
Floatplanes		42	
Obsn A/c		16	

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 789

Date 27 March, 1944

PART 1.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.1. EASTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/27.

- (1) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Oro Bay 1755/26 for Brisbane ETA 0900/31.
- (2) "PC.477" departed Milne Bay 1400/26 to RV with "BOTH" and escort to Milne Bay ETA 1300/28.
- (3) "PC.1124" departed Milne Bay 1900/26 to RV with "HADLEY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (4) "WAGGA" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1700/26 to RV with "MERKUR" (AF) and escort to Milne Bay ETA 0900/28.
- (5) "YMS.70" departed Milne Bay 1300/26 for Cairns ETA 1500/28.
- (6) "GLENELG" (AMS) departed Milne Bay 1400/26 for Grafton Passage ETA 0700/28.
- (7) "GASCOYNE" (PF) escorting Convoy MV.75 (3 MV) was to depart Milne Bay 1800/24 for Townsville ETA 1100/28.
- (8) "BUNDABERG" "BOWEN" "TOWNSVILLE" escorting Convoy TN.232 (4 MV) en route Fitzroy Island to Port Moresby ("TOWNSVILLE" with 1 MV) ETA 0900/28 and to Milne Bay ("BUNDABERG" "BOWEN" 3 MV) ETA 0900/28.
- (9) "CASTLEMAINE" searching route from Milne Bay to Port Moresby for "CANONBAR" overdue at Port Moresby, but reported possibly anchored off Keakare Bay.
- (10) "PYRO" (AE) departed Milne Bay 1330/23 for Brisbane ETA March 27.
- (11) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) departed Thursday Island 1355/26 for Richardson Reef.
- (12) "ML.805" was to RV at 0730/25 with "MORGLAY" (AT) and pilot her to "WM. D. BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage): "TANCRED" (AT) diverted to Sydney.
- (13) "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Townsville 1540/26 for A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (14) "GANYMEDE" (AK) en route Brisbane to Cairns ETA 0700/28
- (15) "PY.291" departed Caloundra 1500/23 for Palm Island ETA 1000/26 thence Cairns ETA 1800/27.
- (16) "GEEELONG" (AMS) conducting A/S patrol Sandy Cape until 1700/30 when "WHYALLA" is to relieve.
- (17) "DOOMBA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0908/26 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (18) "ETOLIN" (AK) was to depart Caloundra 1430/26 Southbound.
- (19) "GOLD STAR" (AG) was to depart Sydney 0800/27 for Caloundra.
- (20) 8 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "GYMPIE" (AMS) escorting 2 APC to depart Cairns as soon as possible for Milne Bay and Port Moresby.

(c) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units 8 DD : "BUSH" "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "HOBBEY"
"NICHOLSON" "WARRAMUNGA" "STOCKTON" "THORN"
Escorts 7 : "HARMON" (DE) 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
"BENALLA" "BUNBURY" (AMS) 1 HDML: 1325
Auxiliaries 5 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
"ETAMIN" (AK) "CELENO" (AK) "KANE" (APD)
Merchantmen 5 : "LAKE ORMAC" "M.DALY" "W.BEAUMONT"
"P.T.DODDRIDGE" "B.MATTHEWS"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 2 : "WARRECO" (PS) "ARARAT" (AMS)
Merchantmen 3 : "YOCHOW" "H.T.RAINEY" "ANHUI"

Rein Bay:

Combat Units 14 PT
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (AGP)

Saidor:

Combat Units 12 PT
Merchantmen 3 : "M.GRIFFITH" "J.H.ROSSITER" "TIMOSHENKO"

Langemak:

Combat Units 20 PT
Escorts 24 : "BARCOO" (PF) "BENDIGO" "COWRA" "STAWELL" (AMS)
6 YMS: 71, 313, 314, 316, 336, 393
2 PC: 1122, 1152 4 ML: 424, 803, 806, 816
8 SC: 537, 648, 734, 735, 743, 744, 981, 982
Auxiliaries 5 : "PORTUNUS" "COUCAL" (ASR) "VICTORIA" (AO)
"CHETCO" (AT) "BOOTES" (AK)
Merchantmen 27 : "MACTAN" "LYMAN" "STEWART" "GEO.VANCOUVER"
"J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT"
"G.V.L.MEYER" "ALAMO" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY"
"STAGEN" "TABINTA" "JOHN I.NOLAN" "T.CRAWFORD"
"W.SPARRON" "N.E.MACK" "JANSSENS" "W.S.LADD"
"ALCOA PATRIOT" "CLAUS SPRECKLES"
"ED.N.WESTCOTT" "W.MCCRACKEN" "SEA MARLIN"
"H.C.PAYNE" "S.G.PORTER" "SHAWNEE"

Lae:

Escorts 2 : 2 ML: 428, 430
Auxiliaries 1 : "PANDA" (IX)
Merchantmen 10 : "O.KELLY" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH"
"D.E.HUGHES" "L.MERRITT" "A.S.HEWITT"
"POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.THOMAS" "W.GRENFELL"

Ma:

Combat Units 4 DD : "REID" "SWANSON" "ARUNTA" "KALK"
Escorts 12 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 2 YMS: 53, 315
2 ML: 816, 819 2 PC: 1119, 1120,
4 SC: 736, 737, 746, 747
Auxiliaries 15 : "H.T.ALLEN" "WESTRALIA" "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA"
(APA) "TRINITY" (AO) "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS"
"BROOKS" "GILMER" "SCHLEY" "HERBERT" (APD)
"BLUE RIDGE" (ACC) "CARTER HALL" (LSD)
"POYANG" (AE) 1 ARD
Merchantmen 6 : "W.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "ESSO BAYWAY"
"J.W.MELDRUM" "CAPE CLEAR" "W.ATWATER"

Oro Bay:

Combat Units 1 DD : "BEALE"
Auxiliaries 3 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG) "DOBBIN" (AD)
Merchantmen 12 : "J.F.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "J. SINGER"
"A.REHAN" "CAPE SPENCER" "M.T.HERRICK"
"R.S.BEAN" "SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE DOUGLAS"
"RAJAHSTAN" "A.S.DUNIWAY" "PANAMA EXPRESS"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 4 : 3 YMS: 9, 50, 335 SC: 741
Auxiliaries 1 : "TRIANGULUM" (AK)
Merchantmen 1 : "D.D. FIELD"

Kiriwina:

Escorts 1 : 1 SC: 750

Goodenough Is:

Escorts 1 : "GOULBURN" (AMS)
Merchantmen 2 : "M.TEWAITES" "MANA"

* Milne Bay:

Combat Units

2 CA
3 CL
10 DD

: "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
: "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
: "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "MULLANY"
"AENER READ" "GRAYSON" "STEVENSON"
"ROE" "WILKES"

12 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts

2 PF
7 SC
2 AMS
6 FC
7 YMS
6 ML

: "SAN PEDRO" "CORONADO"
: 65G, 699, 703, 732, 742, 748, 738
: "KAPUNDA" "KIAMA"
: 476, 1120, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134
: 10, 48, 49, 51, 52, 73, 334
: 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818

Auxiliaries

23

: "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "TANGIER" (AV)
"HALF MOON" (AVP) "MIZAR" (AF) "OTUS"
"EURYALE" (AS) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AGP)
"AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "SUSQUEHANNA"
(AOG) "MORESEBY" (AGS) "SONOMA"
"BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" "MINK"
(IX) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) 1 ARD
"PING WO" (ASIS) 3 YP: 278, 280, 283
"SHEPPARTON" (AGS)

Merchantmen

81

: "E.S. ACHESON" "ARANSAS PASS" "AUN"
"W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C"
"S.K. BARLOW" "S.K. BOLIVAR" "BORGFRED"
"S. BRANNON" "J.C. BRADY" "BRAGSTAGT"
"BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS" "J. BURROUGHS"
"WM. BYER" "J. CABRILLO" "CEFALU" "P. CHANDLER"
"W.E. CHANNING" "J. DEERE" "F.H. DODD"
"DON MARQUIS" "L.L. DYCHE" "EMPIRE SILVER"
"ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTAN"
"JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K. FITCH" "M. FLINDERS"
"W. GREENFELL" "A.B. HAMMOND" "HANYANG"
"G.R. HEBARD" "E.J. HENRY" "B.P. IRVINE"
"JAPARA" "KARSIK" "KATOOMBA" "L.S. KELLY"
"GEO. LUKS" "LURLINE" "F.B. LINDERMANN"
"A. LYKES" "J. MCLEAN" "W. MCLENNAN"
"MANSFIELD" "B. MATTHEWS" "W.V. WOODY"
"MORMACGULL" "MONTBREY" "MORMACSEA" "MEXICO"
"MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET"
"NORINDIES" "PAHUD" "PENNANT" "JAMES D. PHALAN"
"RAMO" "REIJNST" "M. ROBERTSON" "A. ROBINSON"
"W.B. ROGERS" "J. ROSS" "SEA WITCH" "SIBIGO"
"W.C. SQUIRE" "SOUTHWEST PASS"
"STANVAC WELLINGTON" "W.H. SUBJETTE"
"T.W. SYMONS" "M. THORNTON" "THUNDERER"
"VAN DER LIJN" "VAN SWOLL" "R.J. WALKER"
"J.H. WHISTLER" "S.M. WHITE" "K.D. WIGGIN"
"E. YOUNG"

Port Moresby:

Escorts 2
Merchantmen 5

: ML: 426 "WILDURA" (AMS)
: "MULIAMA" "CANTERRA" "M. WALKER" "C. DARRON"
"MOLPORO" "MOLPORO"

Thursday Is:

Escorts 1
Auxiliaries 2

: 1 SC: 731
: "BURGAREE" (SM) "POLARIS" (AGS)

Cairns:

Escorts 8

: "GYMPIE" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 PG: 479
3 ML: 804, 811, 820 2 YMS: 47, 51
: "PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD

Auxiliaries

2

Townsville:

Escorts 1
Auxiliaries 1

: "BROOME" (AMS)
: "SHIKELLAMY" (AOG)

Mackay:

Auxiliaries 1

: "HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:

Auxiliaries 2

: 1 YDG 1 ARD

Brisbane

Escorts 9

: "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749
3 ML: 808, 821, 823 2 YMS: 11, 72

Brisbane:

Auxiliaries 7 : "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA)
 "KURUMBA" (AO) 2 YP: 233, 236
 "LEOPARD" (IX) "MATSUYCKER" (AH)

Sydney:

Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 Escorts 13 : "COLAC" "DELOIRINE" "ECHUCA" "FREMANTLE"
 "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS)
 "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "YANDRA" (A/S)
 3 ML: 807, 822, 823
 Auxiliaries 6 : "MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AH) "BISHOPDALE" (AO)
 "OCTANS" (AF) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS)
 "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)

Melbourne:

Escort 1 AMS : "LITHGOW" (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Kavieng - At 1035/25 Kavieng airfield was attacked by 12 Dauntless but subsequent photographs show the runway still serviceable with one fighter and two medium bombers present.
- (2) Admiralty Islands - Some progress has been made by our troops on Manus Island where they are driving South from Rossun. The situation at Los Negros remains unchanged 25-26 Mar.
 At 100-1025/26 enemy positions South of Lorengau were bombed and strafed by 8 Bostons in support of ground forces.
 Suspected emplacements off Pityilu Is. were bombarded 26 Mar. by a Destroyer.
- (3) Rabaul - During the night 24-25 Mar Rabaul was harassed by 7 Mitchell A.M. 25 Mar. gun positions also Keravia Bay and Rataval supply areas were bombed by 30 Dauntless 24 Avengers, 23 Mitchells and 34 Fighter Bombers. Large fires were started.
 At 1600/25 an ammunition dump at Tawai Point was bombed by 12 Dauntless. Also on 25 March a dam at Massava Bay was destroyed by 2 Venturas which dropped 8 depth bombs.
- (4) Kimbe-Open Bay - During the night 24-25 March an enemy barge was destroyed by PT boats 6 miles N.E. of Biiala Plantation (25 miles S.W. Ubili).
 On 25 Mar. Air strike on Jap. Headquarters at Cape Hoskins (refer Summary 788) was conducted by a total of 35 Kittyhawks. Local sources report continued pedestrian traffic along the Coast moving Eastwards.
- (5) Aitape - Preliminary reports indicate that stores and personnel at Aitape were attacked by aircraft 1000-100/26: reports received involved 18 Bostons.
- (6) Wewak - Final details of the air strike on Wewak-Boram personnel and supply area 1050-1150/25 show that 35 Liberators, 37 Mitchells and 39 Bostons and fighter escort were involved.
 The reduction of Wewak was continued a.m. 26. Reports received cover 34 Liberators and 44 Mitchells.
- (7) Aitape-Wewak Coast - Reports of shipping along this Coast a.m. 26 Mar vary considerably. A number of barges and small craft were observed at various points along the Coast, and in addition 3 small freighters or luggers were reported off Kariru Island and 3 possible sea trucks off Sissane Lagoon and a hospital ship at But.
- (8) Bogadjim Road. The enemy Headquarters on the Bogadjim Road, also gun positions and supply areas, were bombed and strafed a.m. 26 Mar. by 16 Aircobras and 12 Bostons.

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2. NORTH WESTERN AREA(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/27:

- (1) "PIRIE" escorting convoy DT 46 (2 MV) departed Darwin 0733/25 for Thursday Island ETA 1730/29.
- (2) "INVERELL" escorting Convoy DT47 ("DARVEL") departed Darwin 0714/25 for Thursday Island ETA 0500/28 "DARVEL" proceeding independently

- from Cape Wessel to Melville Bay ETA 0900/27
- (3) "KALGOORLIE" (AMS) escorting "GORGON" departed Thursday Island 2037/26 for Werauke ETA 1300/27.
 - (4) 15 Submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS) 3	ML:429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	:	"W. PROUSE" "J.W. TROY"	

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Kaimana - Reconnaissance 1145/25 observed 2 small freighters, 2 sea trucks and 8 barges stationary in Kaimana Bay, and another 4 barges underway in the area.
At 1245/25 Utarom Airfield was bombed by Liberators 12 bombs hitting the runway.
- (2) Babo - At 1216/25 Babo was bombed by Liberators 12 bombs falling on the runway and in the jetty area. Photographs show 12 serviceable aircraft on the field including 8 fighters and 4 medium bombers.
- (3) Sagan - (South shore Macclaur Gulf midway between Babos and Kokas). It is recalled that photographic coverage 23 Mar. showed a new air strip under construction near Sagan village: Reconnaissance Liberators reported midday 25 Mar. that there were apparently 3 strips under construction, respectively 16, 20 and 25 miles N.E. of Sagan.
- (4) Geelvinck Bay - Photographs 25 Mar. show 2 airfields on Noenfoor Is. 1 at Kaimiri on the N.W. Coast, the other at Nambar, Central West Coast. The former is probably serviceable, the latter partly surfaced but not yet serviceable.
3 other strips are under construction on Mainland; 1 at Waren 43 miles south by East of Manokwari, 1 at Moenei, just North of Waren, and a third at Kansiki, just N.E. of Waren. None of these fields is yet operational.
- (5) Ceram - Photos 25 Mar. show slight progress on the airfield at Bula, but no aircraft are visible. One small freighter is shown off shore.
- (6) Timor - Reconnaissance 26 Mar. observed 4 small ships off Lautem.
- (7) Philippines - A convoy reported to comprise 3 heavy cruisers, 4 light cruisers, 1 destroyer, and 2 large tankers, was observed at 1525/24 in Basilan Strait (South western tip of Mindanao) heading South East. The report graded B3.

B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

- (1) Phoenix Is. A.M. 22 Mar. (West long date) 2 Submarines were sighted by aircraft 25 miles N.W. of Gardner Island.
- (2) Wake Island At 1800/24 Wake Island was bombed by 18 Liberators which dropped nearly 50 tons of bombs on fuel storage, tanks and barracks.
- (3) Marshalls-Carolines On 23/24 Mar. light to medium air strikes were conducted on Penape, Wotje, Mille, Taroa and Jaluit.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North Coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>C</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO OHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>OL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA MOTORO
<u>XA/CVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCE

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(4)	ISE YAMASHIRO * YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAWTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBLER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	-	
<u>OGA</u>	-			6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTE FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE SILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4)	NOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-			5	
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85			20	(several repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx. 30			Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>	?			2	(one repairing)

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON
DD -

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines																																
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(5) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA HYUGA) Poss. FUSO) Empire																																
<u>GV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU																																
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAN RANEE	-																																
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA CHIKUMA MOGAMI TONE																																
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC CEYLON KENYA GAMBIA VAN HEEMSKERK	NEWCASTLE (4) DANAE TROMP EMERALD KITAGAMI																																
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	KAMOJ																																
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-																																
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-																																
	-	Approx. 27	25																																
<u>SS</u>	(15)	<table border="0"> <tr><td>ANGLER</td><td>MINGO</td><td>)</td><td>Approx. 15</td></tr> <tr><td>BLUEFISH</td><td>LAPON</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>BONFIN</td><td>PUFFER</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>CABRILLA</td><td>NORWHAL</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>GUMMEL</td><td>RASHER</td><td>)</td><td>On Patrol</td></tr> <tr><td>HADDO</td><td>RATON</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>HAKE</td><td>RAY</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>POMPOM</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr> </table>	ANGLER	MINGO)	Approx. 15	BLUEFISH	LAPON)		BONFIN	PUFFER)		CABRILLA	NORWHAL)		GUMMEL	RASHER)	On Patrol	HADDO	RATON)		HAKE	RAY)			POMPOM)		17 (incl. 6 German)
ANGLER	MINGO)	Approx. 15																																
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JACK)																																	
	(2)	PELIAS ORION																																	
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area only)</u>																																			
	Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.)	103																																	
	Light & M/Bombers	15																																	
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	-																																	
	Flying Boats	-																																	
	Floatplanes	42																																	
	Obsn A/C	16																																	

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 790

Date 28 March, 1944

PART I.A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.EASTERN AREA.(1) ALLIED FORCES(a) At Sea to 1200/28.

- (1) "PC.477" departed Milne Bay 1400/26 to RV with "BOTH" and escort to Milne Bay ETA 1300/28.
- (2) "PC.1124" departed Milne Bay 1900/26 to RV with "HADLEY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (3) "PC.1120" departed Milne Bay 1700/27 to RV with "AGWI PRINCE" and escort to Milne Bay.
- (4) "YMS.70" departed Milne Bay 1300/26 for Cairns ETA 1500/28.
- (5) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Oro Bay 1755/26 for Brisbane ETA 0900/31.
- (6) "CASTLEMAINE" searching route from Milne Bay to Port Moresby for "CANONBAR" overdue at Port Moresby, but reported possibly anchored off Keakara Bay.
- (7) "ML.805" was to RV at 0730/25 with "MORGLAY" (AT) and pilot her to "WM.D.BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage). "TANCRED" (AT) diverted to Sydney.
- (8) "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Townsville 1540/26 for A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (9) "GASCOYNE" (PF) proceeding Sydney ETA 16 00/31
- (10) "LEOPARD" (IX) was to depart Caloundra 1500/27 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/2 April.
- (11) "GEELONG" (AMS) conducting A/S patrol Sandy Cape until 1700/30 when "WHYALLA" is to relieve.
- (12) "DOOMBA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0908/26 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (13) "WHYALLA" (AMS) and "TONGKOL" (M/S) departed Brisbane 1700/27 and 1300/27 respectively for Wide Bay to stand by 19 ALCM's.
- (14) "ETOLIN" (AK) was to depart Caloundra 1430/26 Southbound.
- (15) "GOLD STAR" (AG) departed Sydney 0800/27 for Caloundra ETA 1000/29.
- (16) 8 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "KAPUNDA" to depart Milne Bay for Langemak p.m. 28 March; to provide additional escort for Convoy BG.70 from Buna to destination. On arrival to relieve SC.735 which is to be sailed to Milne Bay.
- (2) "GYMPIE" (AMS) escorting 2 APC to depart Cairns as soon as possible for Milne Bay and Port Moresby.

(c) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units 5 DD : "GILLESPIE" "WELLES" "HOBBEY" "KALK"
"NICHOLSON"
18 PT
Escorts 6 : "HARMON" (DE) 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46
"BENALIA" "BUNBURY" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 5 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
"COUCAL" (ASR) "ETAMIN" (AK) "CELENO" (AK)
Merchantmen 3 : "M.DALY" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "B.MATTHEWS"
Cape Gloucester:
Escorts 5 : 2 PG: 1122, 1132 2 SC: 735, 982 1 YMS: 313
Merchantmen 5 : "YUOHOW" "H.T.RAINEY" "ANNUI" "T.CRAWFORD"
"J.ROSSITER"

Rein Bay:

Combat Units 14 PT
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (AGP)

Saidor:

Combat Units 12 PT
Escorts 1 : ML: 619
Merchantmen 2 : "M.GRIFFITH" "TIMOSHENKO"

Langemak:

Combat Units 1 DD : "REID"
20 PT
Escorts 21 : "BARCOO" (PT) "ARARAT" "BENDIGO" "COWRA"
"STAWELL" (AMS) 5 YMS: 71, 314, 316, 336, 393
4 ML: 424, 803, 806, 816
7 SC: 637, 648, 734, 737, 743, 744, 981
Auxiliaries 7 : "FORTUNUS" "VICTORIA" (AO) "CHETCO"
"RESERVE" (AT) "BOOTES" (AK) "KANE"
"SCHLEY" (APD)
Merchantmen 28 : "MACTAN" "LYMAN STEWART" "GEO.VANCOUVER"
"J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT"
"G.V.L.MEYER" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOPY" "STAGEN"
"JOHN I.NOLAN" "W.SPARRON" "N.E.MACK"
"JANSSENS" "W.S.LADD" "ALCOA PATRIOT"
"CLAUS SPRECKLES" "CAPE CLEAR"
"ED.N.WESTCOTT" "W.MCCRACKEN" "SEA MARLIN"
"S.G.PORTER" "SHAWNEE" "T.M.COOLEY"
"J.W.MELDRUM" "LAKE ORMAC" "W.BEAUMONT"
"P.S.DUPONT"

Lae:

Escorts 2 : 2 ML: 428, 430
Merchantmen 10 : "O.KELLY" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH"
"D.E.HUGHES" "L.MERRITT" "A.S.HEWITT"
"POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.THOMAS" "W.GRENFELL"

Buna:

Combat Units 10 DD : "WILKES" "STEVENSON" "STOCKTON" "THORNE"
"GRAYSON" "BUSH" "ROE" "SWANSON" "ARUNTA"
"WARRAMUNGA"
Escorts 10 : 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 2 YMS: 53, 315
1 ML: 816 2 PG: 1119, 1123
3 SC: 736, 746, 747
Auxiliaries 14 : "H.T.ALLEN" "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" (APA)
"TRINITY" (AO) "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS"
"GILMER" "HERBERT" (APD) "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC)
"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "POYANG" (AE) 1 ARD
"SONOMA" (AT)
Merchantmen 4 : "W.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "ESSO BAYWAY"
"BORGFRED"

O Bay:

Auxiliaries 3 : "RIGEL" (AR) "TULSA" (PG) "DOBBIN" (AD)
Merchantmen 14 : "J.F.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "J.SINGER"
"A.REHAN" "CAPE SPENCER" "M.T.HERRICK"
"R.S.BEAN" "SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE DOUGLAS"
"RAJAHSTAN" "A.S.DUNIWAY" "PANAMA EXPRESS"
"W.ATWATER" "JAPARA"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 4 : 3 YMS: 9, 50, 335 SC: 741
Auxiliaries 1 : "TRIANGULUM" (AK)
Merchantmen 1 : "D.D.FIELD"

Kiriwina:
Goodenough Is:
Escorts 2 : "GOULBURN" (AMS) SC:750
Merchantmen 2 : "N. THWAITES" "MANA"

* Milne Bay:
Combat Units 2 CA : "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
7 DD : "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "MULLANY"
"ABNER READ" "AMMEN" "BEALE"
12 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts 2 PF : "SAN PEDRO" "CORONADO"
1 PS : "WARREGO"
7 SC : 650, 699, 703, 732, 742, 748, 738
5 AMS : "KAPUNDA" "KIAMA" "WAGGA" "BUNDABERG" "BOWEN"
5 PC : 476, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134
7 YMS : 10, 48, 49, 50, 52, 73, 334
6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818

Auxiliaries 25 : "WESTRALIA" (AFA) "AASE MAERSK" (AO)
"TANGIER" (AV) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "MIZAR" (AF)
"OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "POLLUX" (AKS) "KOOPA" (AG)
"AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AOG)
"MORESBY" (AGS) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT)
"VILLALOBOS" "MINK" "PANDA" (IX) "
"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) 1 ARD "PIGWO" (ASIS)
3 YP: 278, 280, 283 "SHEPPARTON" (AGS)
"MERKUR" (AF)

Merchantmen 86 : "E.G. ACHESON" "ALAMO" "ARANSAS PASS" "AUN"
"W.B. AYER" "J. BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "S.K. BARLOW"
"D.F. BARRY" "S.K. BOLIVAR" "BONTEKOE"
"S. BRANNON" "J.G. BRADY" "BRITISH COLUMBIA
EXPRESS" "J. BURROUGHS" "WM. EYER" "J. CABRILLO"
"CEFA U" "P. CHANDLER" "W.E. CHANNING"
"COLORADO" "J. DEERE" "F.H. DODD" "DON MARQUIS"
"L.L. DYCHE" "EMPIRE SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
"ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K. FITCH"
"M. FLINDERS" "M. FULLER" "W. GRENFELL"
"A.E. HAMMOND" "HANYANG" "E.J. HENRY"
"B.F. IRVINE" "KARSIK" "KATOOMBA" "L.S. KELLY"
"GEO. LUKS" "LURLINE" "F.B. LINDERMANN"
"A. LYKES" "J. MOLEAN" "W. MOLENNAN" "MANSFIELD"
"B. MATTHEWS" "W.V. MOODY" "MORMACGULL" "MONTERE"
"NORMACSEA" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER"
"NARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET" "NORINDIES" "PAHOD"
"H.C. PAYNE" "PENNANT" "JAMES D. PHALAN" "RAMO"
"REIJNST" "M. ROBERTSON" "A. ROBINSON"
"W.B. ROGERS" "J. ROSS" "SEA WITCH" "SIBIGO"
"O. SKINNER" "W.C. SQUIRE" "SOUTHWAST PASS"
"STANVAC WELLINGTON" "W.H. SUBJETTE"
"T.W. SYMONS" "TABINTA" "M. THOMPSON"
"THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJN" "VAN SWOLL"
"R.J. WALKER" "J.M. WHISTLER" "S.M. WHITE"
"K.D. WIGGIN" "D. WRIGHT" "E. YOUNG"

Port Moresby:
Escorts 3 : ML: 426 "MILDURA" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS)
Merchantmen 7 : "MULIAMA" "CANBERRA" "M. WALKER" "C. DARROW"
"MONTORD" "ORMISTON" "BALIKPAPAN"

Thursday Is:
Escorts 2 : 1 SC: 731 "WILCANNIA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 2 : "BUNGAREE" (CM) "POLARIS" (AGS)

Orns:
Escorts 9 : "GYMPIE" "GLENELG" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 PC:
479 3 ML: 804, 811, 820 2 YMS: 47, 51
Auxiliaries 4 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD "CANYMEDE" (AK)
1 YP: 291

Townsville:
Escorts 1 : "ERCOME" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHIKELLAMY" (AOG)

Mackay:
Auxiliaries 1 : "HERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:
Auxiliaries 2 : 1 YDG 1 ARD

Brisbane:
 Escorts 8 : "SWAN" (PS) 2 SC: 745, 749,
 3 ML: 808, 821, 823 2 YMS: 11, 72
 Auxiliaries 7 : "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA)
 "KURUMBA" (AO) 2 YP: 233, 236 "MAETSUYCKER" (AH)
 "PYRO" (AE)

Sydney:
 ● Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
 2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
 ● Escorts 13 : "COLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "FREMANTLE"
 "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS)
 "KYBRA" "AB. GRIJNSSEN" "YANDRA" (A/S)
 3 ML: 807, 822, 823
 Auxiliaries 6 : "MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AH) "BISHOPDALE" (AO)
 "OCTANS" (AF) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS)
 "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)

Melbourne:
 Escort 1 AMS : "LITRGOW" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Choiseul - Local sources estimate 25 Mar. that there are still 200 Japs in the Choiseul Bay area.
- (2) Empress Augusta Bay - During 25 Mar. enemy gun positions and installations around the Torokina perimeter were attacked by 40 Dauntless, 12 Avengers, 24 Aircobras and Warhawks.
 At 0115/26, 5 barges 2 miles S. of the Jaba River mouth were bombed and strafed by a Catalina.
- (3) Buka Passage - At 0130/26, an enemy barge was sunk by PT boats off Tabut (N.E. coast Bougainville - 6 miles from Buka Passage). The barge was heading for Buka and was apparently loaded with fuel.
- (4) Rabaul - At 0900/26, the supply area at Talili Bay was attacked by 37 Warhawks. The entire area was covered by a thick pall of smoke and photographs showed at least 18 buildings razed to the ground. At 1008/26, Vunakanau airfield was bombed by 23 Mitchells. 100 x 500 lb. hits were scored on the runway but it was observed that repairs to the strip were commenced immediately after the strike.
 Photos p.m. 26 Mar. show Tobera, Rapopo and Keravat strips unserviceable, Lakunai serviceable but the condition of Vunakanau could not be determined. Only 5 fighters and one light bomber were visible in these photos, which apparently covered all 5 airfields. Coverage of the Harbour was incomplete but indicated little change although the barge concentration may be somewhat reduced from the previous report of 300.
 At 1605/26, probably 4 Dauntless bombed the Vunapope supply area.
 A delayed report relates that the Adler Bay radar installation (E. coast Gazelle Peninsula) was destroyed on 25 Mar. by a direct hit from a Mitchell.
- (5) Kavieng - At 1155/26, Kavieng aerodrome was bombed by 37 Dauntless and 22 Avengers. Subsequent photographs show one fighter and 2 medium bombers on Kavieng but the runway is unserviceable. Panapai runway was also unserviceable.
- (6) St. Matthias Group - At midnight 25-26 Mar. 3 enemy aircraft approached Emirau Island but no raid apparently eventuated.
- (7) Admiralty Islands - The encircled Japs S.W. of Papitalai on Los Negros Is. are being slowly squeezed by our forces making gradual advance against slight resistance.
 On Manus Island, the drive southward from Rossum progresses rapidly.
 Up to 27 Mar. known enemy dead number 2594, and the estimate remaining enemy effective strength is 890, including some labour troops.
- (8) Ubili - At 0715-0815/27, Pandi River mouth (10 miles N.E. of Ubili) was bombed by 2 Beaufighters. Pandi River mouth is reported to be a barge base occupied by some 500 Japs.
- (9) Western New Britain - 15 Japs were taken prisoner by natives on Poi Is. (8 miles off Linga Linga in Eleanora Bay) and were turned over to our forces.
 On 26 Mar. over 100 Japs were found dead on the trail from Lomogai to Neru in the Arawe Area.

- (10) Witu Group - At 0330/26, a possible enemy submarine was seen by PT boats 3 miles E. of Garove Island.
- (11) Hollandia - At 1530/26, a hospital ship was seen by aircraft 115 miles N.N.W. of Humboldt Bay, course 360°. This may be the unit that was in the Wewak area a.m. 25 Mar.
- (12) Aitape-Wewak - At 0510/27, a gunboat was bombed without success and also strafed by 2 Liberators 40 miles N. by W. of Aitape, course 360°.
- At 0940/27, a vessel described as a destroyer was sighted by a Liberator 55 miles N.N.E. of Aitape on course 80°.
- At 1300/27, probably the same vessel was again sighted 60 miles W. of Wewak on a southerly course.
- At 1125/27, a vessel described as a mine craft was reported by aircraft 250 miles N. of Aitape on course 20°.
- If the times and positions of the above reports are all correct, there must be 3 vessels in the area, but allowing for some slight discrepancy there would still appear to be at least 2 ships involved.
- (13) Wewak - Final details concerning the strike on Wewak a.m. 26 Mar. indicate that 34 Liberators and 35 Mitchells were involved with fighter escort; another 9 Mitchells attacked the Kairiru Island barge and seaplane base.
- Wewak was again attacked a.m. 27 Mar. but results are not yet completed. Reports received cover 17 Liberators, 6 Mitchells and 16 Bostons which attacked Kairiru Island, A/A positions Wewak aerodrome and supplies at Cape Wom.
- (14) Ramu River Mouth - At 1530/26, a lugger in Broken Water Bay was strafed and set on fire by Mitchells.
- (15) Hansa Bay - At 0945-1000/27, personnel and supplies at Hansa Bay were bombed by 4 Liberators and 24 Mitchells as alternative target to Wewak.
- (16) Uligan - At 1050/27, installations at Uligan Harbour were bombed by 5 Liberators as alternative target to Wewak.
- (17) Bogadjim Road - At 1130/27, Bonggu Plantation supply dumps were strafed by 16 Aircobras.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/28:

- (1) "PIRIE" escorting Convoy DT.46 (2 MV) departed Darwin 0733/25 for Thursday Is. ETA 1730/29.
- (2) "INVERELL" escorting Convoy DT.47 ("DARVEL") departed Darwin 0714/25 for Thursday Island ETA 0500/28. "DARVEL" proceeding independently from Cape Wessel to Melville Bay ETA 0900/27.
- (3) 15 submarines on patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

<u>Darwin:</u>			
Escorts	5	:	"COOTAMUNDRA" "LABROBE" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	:	"W. PROUSE" "J.W. TROY"
<u>Merauke:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"KALGOORLIE" (AMS)
Merchantmen	1	:	"GORGON"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Kaimana - At 0130-0210/27, the waterfront area at Kaimana was bombed by 2 R.A.A.F. Catalinas. An unidentified type merchant ship at the water's edge was hit and set on fire.
- (2) Western Timor - Photographs 27 Mar. show 4 fighters including one twin-engined on Penfoei aerodrome where further construction work is in progress. 11 bombers are shown on Poeloeti (near to Penfoei) where the runway is serviceable. Atamboea runway is probably serviceable and no change is noted in the golf course strip (Keopang) and Oesace.

3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/28:

(1) "YUMA" (AT) departed Fremantle 1945/25 for Melbourne ETA 0800/31, thence Noumea.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	: "ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	: "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739
		3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	8	: "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 <u>ARD</u>

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	: "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288
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B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

New Hebrides - Shortly before midnight 27-28 Mar, a submarine attack on an allied vessel was reported 5 miles off West coast of Malekula.

C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- X (1) Truk Area - On 26 Mar. Eten Island (Truk) was scheduled target for 24 Sopac Liberators, but weather prevented achievement of the objective. Pulusuk Island (180 miles S.W. of Truk) was bombed instead by 22 of the Liberators.
- (2) Kapingamarangi - On 26 Mar. one small cargo vessel or tender and 2 floatplanes were observed by aircraft in the lagoon S.E. of Hare Island.
- (3) Carolines-Marshalls - Light to medium air strikes were conducted 25-26 Mar. on Jaluit, Malelap, Wotje and Ponape. Two cargo vessels near Ponape were strafed and sunk 25 Mar.
- X (4) Palau - Reconnaissance Liberators (Sowespac) sighted a large number of ships in Malakea Harbour, estimated total over 300,000 tons, but it was not possible to distinguish between warships and merchant ships. The entire area including the ships, was lit up during the first run, but practically all lights had been doused by the time the aircraft left Palau.

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY.

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV (E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SIRROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX # ROBERT	(3) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONT PELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS BIRMINGHAM # LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL (T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(8) BASHAW BLACKFISH CERO DACE DARTER FLOUNDER SCAMP SILVERSIDES	) ) ) ) ) ) ) )	15	25
	(3) S.42 S.47 BLUEGILL)))		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE		-	-
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		

AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area only)	
Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng.)	190
Light & M/Bombers	125
Torpedo & D/Bombers	2
Flying Boats	1
Floatplanes	14
Obsn A/e	20

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

	<u>ALLIED FORCES</u>	<u>ENEMY FORCES</u>
<u>CA</u>	-	(2) NACHI) Poss. ASHIGARA) Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9	10
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx. 4

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(5)	ISE YAMASHIRO HYUGA YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAWTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR AITAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FAN SHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	-	
<u>OCA</u>	-			6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4)	NOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-			5	
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85			20	(several repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx. 30			Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>	?			2	(one repairing)

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

HL TRENTON

LD -

* Non-effective

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(4) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA FUJIO
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLE UNICORN SHAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOKI KUMANO SUZUYA CHIKUMA MOGAMI TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.D. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	■ KAMOI
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) GANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx. 27	25
<u>S</u>	(15) ANGLER MINGO BLUEFISH LAPON BOWFIN PUFFER CABRILLA NORWHAL GUNNEL RASHER HADDO RAPON HAKE RAY POMPOM	} Approx. 15 } On Patrol	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(11) BILLFISH HOE BONEFISH REDFIN COD ROBALO GREVALLE K.12 PLASHER K.15 JACK	} } At Fremantle	
<u>AS</u>	(2) PELIAS ORION		
<u>AIRCRAFT</u> (N.W. Area only)			
	Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.)	103	
	Light & M/Bombers	15	
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	-	
	Flying Boats	-	
	Floatplanes	42	
	Obsn A/c	16	

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No. 791

Date: 29 March, 1944

PART I

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

1. EASTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/29:

- (1) "KAPUNDA" (AMS) was to depart Milne Bay for Langemak p.m. 28 March: to provide additional escort for Convoy BG70 from Buna to destination. On arrival to relive SC735 which is to be sailed to Milne Bay
- (2) "PC477" was to RV at 1300/28 with "POLLUX" (AKS) departing Milne Bay at 1100/28 for Sydney ETA 1300/2, "PC477" escorts as far as possible detaching so as to RV at 0600/29 with "CONTESSA" and escort to Milne Bay, ETA 1700/29
- (3) "PC1124" escorting "E.J.HENRY" (proceeding out of S.W.P.A.) departed Milne Bay 1530/28. "PC1124" later to RV which "F.M.QUINONES" and escort to Milne Bay ETA 1130/29
- (4) "PC.1120" departed Milne Bay 1700/27 to RV with "AGWI PRINCE" and escort to Milne Bay
- (5) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD 49 (3 MV) was to depart Thursday Island 0800/29 for Darwin
- (6) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Oro Bay 1755/26 for Brisbane ETA 0900/31.
- (7) "ML.805" was to RV at 0730/25 with "MORGLAY" (AT) and pilot her to "M.D.BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage). "TANCRED" (AT) diverted to Sydney.
- (8) "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Townsville 1540/26 for A/S patrol outer area Grafton Passage.
- (9) "GASCOYNE" (PF) hove to off Magnetic Island.
- (10) "LEOPARD" (IX) was to depart Caloundra 1500/27 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/2 April.
- (11) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0906/28 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.
- (12) "FREMANTLE" (AMS) departed Sydney 1050/28 for Melbourne ETA 0700/30
- (13) "YUMA" (AT) departed Fremantle 1945/25 for Melbourne ETA 0800/31, thence Noumea.
- (14) "DUNTEROON" (AP) was to depart Adelaide 1630/28 for Fremantle
- (15) "ETOLIN" (AK) was to depart Caloundra 1430/26 Southbound
- (16) 8 Submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements :

- (1) "GYMPIE" (AMS) escorting 2 APC to depart Cairns as soon as possible for Milne Bay and Port Moresby.

(c) In Harbour:Admiralties:

Combat Units	3 DD 18 PT	: "WELLES" "KALK" "NICHOLSON"
Escorts	6	: "HARMON" (DE) 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46 "BENALIA" "BUNBURY" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	4	: "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "SAN PABLO" (AVP) "ETAMIN" "CELENO" (AK)
Merchantmen	3	: "M.DALY" "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "B.MATTHEWS"
<u>Cape Gloucester:</u>		
Escorts	3	: 2 PC: 1122, 1132 1 YMS : 313
Merchantmen	4	"H.T.RAINEY" "ANHUI" "T.CRAWFORD" "J.ROSSITER"
<u>Talasea:</u>		
Combat Units	14 PT	
Auxiliaries	1	: "HILO" (AGP)
<u>Saidor:</u>		
Combat Units	12 PT	
Escorts	1	: ML: 819
Merchantmen	3	: "M.GRIFFITH" "TIMOSHENKO" "JOHN I.NOLAN"
<u>Langemak:</u>		
Combat Units	3 DD 20 PT	: "REID" "HOBBEY" "GILLESPIE"
Escorts	22	"ARARAT" "BENDIGO" "COWRA" "STAWELL" (AMS) 5 YMS: 71, 314, 316, 336, 393 4 ML: 424 803, 806, 816 9 SC: 637, 648, 734, 735, 737, 744, 981 982
Auxiliaries	9	: "TANGIER" (AV) "PORTUNUS" (AGP) "VICTORIA" (AO) "CHETCO" (AT) "BOOTES" (AK) "KANE" SCHLEY" (APD) "TULSA" (PG) "COUCAL" (ASR)
Merchantmen	29	: "MACTAN" "LYMAN STEWART" "GEO.VAN COUVER" "J.W.DAVIS" "ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT" "G.V.L.MEYER" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY" "STAGEN" "W.SPARRROW" "N.E.MACK" "JANSENS" "W.S.LADD" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "CLAUS SPRECKLES" "CAPE CLARE" "ED N. WESTCOTT" "W.MCCRACKEN" "SEA MARLIN" "S.G.PORTER" "SHAWNEE" "T.M.COOL EY" "J.W.MELDRUM" "LAKE ORMAC" "W.BEAUMONT" "P.S.DUPOINT" "H.C.PAYNE" "YOCROW"
<u>ae:</u>		
Escorts	2	: 2 ML: 428, 430
Merchantmen	9	: "O.KELLY" "F.BILLINGS" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH" "D.E.HUGHES" "L.MERRITT" "A.S.HEWITT" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "A.THOMAS"
<u>Buna</u>		
Combat Units	7 DD	: "WILKES" "STEVENSON" "STOCKTON" "THORNE" "GRAYSON" "ROE" "SWANSON"
Escorts	11	: 2 PF: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" 3 YMS: 53, 315, 334 1 ML: 816 2 PC: 1119, 1123 3 SC: 736, 746, 747
Auxiliaries	13	: "TRINITY" (AO) "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "BROOKS" "GILMER" "HERBERT" (APD) "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "POYANG" (AE) 1 ARD "SONOMA" (AT) "MERKUR" "MIZAR" (AF) "MORESBY" (AGS)
Merchantmen	9	: "W.S.LADD" "ALCIBIADES" "ESSO BAYWAY" "RAMO" "BORGFRED" "MORMACGUIL" "MORMACSEA" "J.BURROUGHS" "W.H.SUBJETTE"
<u>Oro Bay:</u>		
Auxiliaries	2	: "RIGEL" (AR) "DOBBIN" (AD) "J.F.BRADLEY" "RING LARDNER" "J.SINGER" "A.REHAN" "CAPE SPENCER" "M.T.HERRICK" "R.S.BEAN" "SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE DOUGLAS" "RAJAHSTAN" "A.S.DUNINWAY" "PANAMA EXPRESS" "W.ATWATER" "JAPARA" "KARSIK"
<u>Woodlark Is:</u>		
Escorts	4	: 3 YMS: 9, 50, 335, 1 SC : 741
Auxiliaries	1	: "TRIANGULUM" (AK)
Merchantmen	1	: "D.D.FIELD"

<u>Goodenough Is.</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"GOULBURN" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	4	:	"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" "H.T.ALLEN" (APA)
Merchantmen	2	:	"M.THWAITES" "MANA"
<u>Milne Bay:</u>			
Combat Units	2 CA	:	"SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
	3 CL	:	"NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
	10 DD	:	"HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "MULLANY" "ABNER HEAD" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "ARUMTA" "WARRAMUNGA"
	12 PT		
<u>Note:</u> Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown			
Escorts	4 PF	:	"SAN PEDRO" "CORONADO" "BARCOO" "WORCESTER"
	1 PS	:	"WARREGO"
	8 SC	:	650, 699, 703, 732, 738, 742, 748, 750
	4 AMS	:	"KIAMA" "WAGGA" "BUNDABERG" "BOWEN"
	5 PC	:	476, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134
	6 YMS	:	10, 48, 49, 50, 52, 73
	6 ML	:	427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
Auxiliaries	22	:	"WESTRALIA" (APA) "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "ANYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AOG) "SHEPPARTON" (AGS) "BAYOU ST JOHN" "RESERVE" (AT) "VILLALOBOS" "MINK" "PANDA" (IX) "ALABASTER" (PYC) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS)
Merchantmen	81	:	1 ARD "PINGWO" (ASIS) 3 YP: 278, 280, 283 "E.C.ACHESON" "ALAMO" "ARANSAS PASS" "AUN" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "S.K.BARLOW" "D.P.BARRY" "S.K.BOLIVAR" "BONTEKOE" "BOTH" "S.BRANNON" "J.G.BRADY" "BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS" "WM.DYER" "J.CABRILLO" "CEPALU" "P.CHANDLER" "W.E.CHANNING" "COLORADO" "J.DEERS" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "L.L.DYCHE" "EMPRESS SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K. PITCH" "M.FLINDERS" "M.FULLER" "R.HADLEY" "A.E.HAMMOND" "HANYANG" "J.HENRY" "B.F.IRVINE" "KATOOMBA" "L.S.KELLY" "GEO.LUKS" "LURLINE" "F.B.LINDERMANN" "A.LUKES" "J.MCLEAN" "MANFIELD" "B.MATTHEWS" "W.V.MOODY" "MONTEREY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "NARVIK" "JEAN NICOLET" "NORINDIES" "PAHUI" "PENNANT" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "REIJNST" "M.ROBERTSON" "A.ROBINSON" "W.B.ROGERS" "J.RCSS" "SEA WITCH" "SIBIGO" "O.SKINNER" "W.C.SQUIRE" "SOUTHWEST PASS" "STANVAC" "WELLINGTON" "R.STUART" "T.W.SYMONS" "TABINTA" "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJN" "VAN SWOLL" "R.J.WALKER" "WEST CACTUS" "J.M.WHISTLER" "S.M.WHITE" "K.D.WIGGIN" "D.WRIGHT" "E.YOUNG"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	4	:	ML 426 "CASTLEMAINE" "MILDURA" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS)
Merchantmen	8	:	"MULLAMA" "CANBERRA" "M.WALKER" "C.DARROW" "MONTORO" "ORRISTON" "BALIKPAPAN" "NORAB"
<u>Thursday Island:</u>			
Escorts	3	:	1 SC: 731 "KALGOORLIE" "INVERELL" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	2	:	2 "BUNGAREE" (CM) "POLARIS" (AGS)
<u>Cairns:</u>			
Escorts	10	:	"GYMPIE" "GLEBELG" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 PC: 479 3 ML: 804, 811, 820 3 YMS: 47, 51, 70
Auxiliaries	4	:	"PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD "CANYMEDE" (AK) 1 YP: 291

<u>Townsville:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"BROOME" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1	:	"SHIKELLAMY" (AOG)
<u>Mackay:</u>			
Auxiliaries	1	:	"HERON" (AVP)
<u>Gladstone:</u>			
Auxiliaries	2	:	1 <u>YDG</u> 1 <u>ARD</u>
<u>Brisbane:</u>			
Escorts	10	:	"SWAN" (PS) "GEELONG" "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC : 745, 749 3 <u>ML</u> 808, 821, 823 2 <u>YMS</u> : 11. 72
Auxiliaries	7	:	"WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA) "GOLDSTAR" (AG) "KURUMBA" (AO) 2 <u>YP</u> : 233, 236 "MAETSUYCKER" (AH) "PYRO" (AE)
<u>Sydney:</u>			
Combat Units	1 CL	:	"HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD	:	"VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	:	"COLAC" "DELORAIN" "ECHUCA" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" 3 <u>ML</u> : 807, 822, 823.
Auxiliaries	6	:	"MANUNDA" "WANGANELLA" (AH) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF) "CANEDONIAN" "SALVOR" (ARS) "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)
<u>Melbourne:</u>			
Escort	1 AMS	:	"LITHGOW" (Refitting)

(11) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - on 24-25 Mar. severe damage and casualties were inflicted on the enemy by heavy artillery fire: One of their Units was reduced from 700-200 and an attack on the perimeter is believed to have been frustrated. On 26 Mar. snipers were active in the Northern perimeter where concentration on Japanese has been located. In this area 376 enemy dead were counted. On 25 Mar. 2 enemy gun positions were destroyed by our artillery and enemy supply areas were also hit. Many enemy were killed during mopping up of Hill 260. 15 Japs. were killed by patrol in the Numa Numa track area, a 77 m.m. field gun was captured. From Mar. 9 to 1400/26 2384 enemy dead have been counted. Our losses on the 24/25 were: 35 killed and 151 wounded: 26th. 8 killed 33 wounded, On 27 Mar. Patrol activity continued with numerous attacks around the Eastern perimeter. During the afternoon 25 Mar. 3 enemy gun positions were silenced by a destroyer. During the night 25/26, the Jaba River mouth was shelled by gun boats: 5 barges were also attacked one of which was sunk and 3 driven ashore by the gun boats, where they were shelled by a destroyer.
- On 26 Mar. enemy perimeter targets were attacked by a total of 46 Dauntless, 16 Avengers, 12 Kittyhawks and 4 Aircobras, and on 27 Mar. similar targets were attacked by a total of 32 Dauntless, 9 Avengers and 8 Kittyhawks starting fires.
- (2) Kilinailau Islands Area - On the morning March 28 a periscope was sighted by aircraft 90 miles North East by East of Kilinailau Is.
- (3) Kavieng - Night 25/26 Mar. Kavieng was bombed by a single Liberator and 27 Mar. Kavieng was bombed by one Liberator of 24 which failed to reach Truk because of weather conditions.
- (4) New Hanover - Night 25-26 Mar. a beached and burning barge ~~was~~ tanker was attacked by a Scoupa Catalina 14 miles N.E. of Cape Matanalen. Two direct hits were scored.
- (5) Emirau Islands - At 1730/27 an enemy submarine was attacked by allied destroyers 3 miles South of Emirau Is.
- (6) Admiralty Islands - On March 27th. total enemy casualties were: killed 2610, Prisoners 16. On the 27 Mar. destroyers continued to support ground troops in the Admiralty Islands.
- (7) Rabaul - From 2100/25 to 0345/26 Rabaul was harassed by 7 Mitchells starting fires setting the entire Simpsons Harbour area aflame. One or two enemy night fighters were seen airborne. From 1900/26 to 0355/27 Rabaul was again harassed by 5 Mitchells. At 0955/27 Talili Bay ammunition dump was bombed by 26

Dauntless and 21 Avengers. At 1014/27 Vunapope was bombed by 23 Mitchells and 34 Kittyhawks. At 1510/27 the Tawui Point Ammunition dump was bombed by 17 Dauntless and 10 Avengers. The primary target of these aircraft was 3 Destroyers thought to be in Simpsons Harbour. These vessels were not located.

Wide-spread destruction was caused by these attacks with many large fires and explosions resulting.

Photographs between 0920 and 1400/27 reveal the usual 2 small cargo vessels in Simpsons Harbour, and 245 barges whereof 29 are considered inoperative.

- (8) Jacquinet Bay - During the night 26-27 Mar. an enemy floatplane scored near miss with one bomb on an allied PT boat 10 miles S.W. of Cape Cunningham.
- (9) Cape Hoskins - A reliable report timed 0945/28, states that an estimated 3000-4000 Japs passed Eastwards of Cape Hoskins over the last 10 days carrying rifles and light machine guns only. The Japs are reported to be moving mostly at night with irregularly located day camps.
- (10) Hollandia-Tadji - Nocturnal small craft and small shipping activity continues on the North New Guinea Coast between Hollandia and Tadji. At 2345/27 one possible destroyer was sighted by aircraft manoeuvring off the Coast 36 miles West North West of Vanimo. At 0145/28 8 barges were seen 2 miles East of Vanimo - course uncertain. At 0150/28 an unidentified ship on course 270° was sighted 2 miles East of Vanimo. At 0330/28 a small unidentified ship was sighted 60 miles S.E. of Hollandia: At the same time three small steady white lights on the water were seen about 40 miles N.W. of Hollandia at 2000/28, 3 unidentified targets (possibly small ships) were seen heading East 27 miles East of Tadji.
- (11) Hollandia - Between 0337 and 0520/28 Hollandia airfields were bombed by 2 Liberators whose target was indicated by 2 other Liberators acting as Pathfinders.
- (12) Wewak - At 1210/27 one gun boat was sighted 100 miles N.N.W. of Wewak heading South East.
- (13) Bogadjim Area - Between 1450 and 1530/27 Jap position one mile South of Kaliko was bombed and strafed by 16 Air-cobras and 2 Kittyhawks led in by one Boomerang as Pathfinder.
- (14) Long Island - A report dated 27 Mar. states 4 Japanese were captured by a patrol on Long Island.

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(i) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/29:

- (1) "PIRIE" escorting Convoy DF 46 (2 MV) departed Darwin 0733/25 for Thursday Is. ETA 1730/29
- (2) 15 Submarines on Patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATHOBE" (AMS) 3 ML:429 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	: "W. PROUSE" "J.W. TROY"

Melville Bay:

Merchantmen	1	: "DARVEL"
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(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Babo - Between 2232/27 and 0020/28 Babo aerodrome was bombed by 2 Catalinas.
- (2) Eilanden Area - Between 0802/28 and 0931/28 at least two enemy aircraft reconnoitred while at 1505/28 Frederik Heindrik Is. was reconnoitred by an enemy aircraft.
- (3) Banda Is. - At 1025/27 2 merchantmen and some small Harbour craft were sighted by an aircraft in Bandamaira Harbour.
- (4) Ceram - At 1012/27 1 sea-truck was sighted in Taloceti Bay (South Central coast of Ceram) heading west.
- (5) Macclaur Gulf - At 1200/27 a sea truck was sighted East of Misool Is, and a small freighter transport was seen stationary off

the West Coast of Misool Is. (off the entrance of Maccleur Gulf)

- (6) Roti Island - Between 0739 and 0815/28 9 small praus were strafed and damaged by 6 Beaufighters.
- (7) Timor - Between 1010 and 1212/28 Penfoei aerodrome and Barracks were bombed by 12 Liberators starting numerous fires. Two small freighter transport, 2 possible sea trucks, 1 small unidentified vessel and numerous barges were sighted in the Koepang-Tenau area.
- Further intelligence shows that 11 bomber revetments and not 11 bombers are shown in the photos off Soeloeti on the 27 Mar as previously reported.
- (8) Philippines - At 1630/27 a six ship convoy including 2 transports and 4 cargo ships was reported by an allied submarine heading South 150 miles west of Manila.

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3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/29:

- (1) "W.B.PRESTON" (AVD) departed Fremantle 1120/28 for Exmouth Gulf.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	: "ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	: "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	7	: "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	: "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP: 288
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B. SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Russell Islands - At 1747/27 a submarine was sighted North of Russell Islands.

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C. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Truk - On 27 Mar. Truk was again scheduled for a strike by 24 Liberators but a heavy front prevented the attack from being carried out. On 26 Mar. Ponape was attacked by 13 Mitchells. 15 Zeros intercepted the first wave of 3 Mitchells who shot down 4 Zeros plus one probable without loss save damage to one Mitchell.
- (2) Marshalls - On 26 Mar. light air strikes were carried out off Mille Tarca, Jaluit and Wotje.

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ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North coast New Guinea East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>C</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONT PELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST. LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(8) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) CERO) DACE) DARTER) FLOUNDER) SCAMP) SILVERSIDES)	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.42) S.47) BLUEGILL)	At Milne Bay		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PF</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?
<u>APD/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE		-	-
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS ANYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E.Area only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl.18 twin-eng.)	190		
	Light & M/Bombers	133		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>C</u>	-	(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA)	Poss. Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND	(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO	
<u>DD</u>	9	10	
<u>SS</u>	10	Approx. 4	

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(5)	ISE YAMASHIRO HYUGA YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL		
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CAEOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>		-		HOSHO	
<u>CV(T)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUNANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FAIRSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OFAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE		
<u>OCA</u>		-		6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(4)	MOSHIRO * NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>		-		KASHII	
<u>AV/CVS</u>		-		5	
<u>DD</u>		Approx. 85		20 (several repairing)	
<u>SS</u>		Approx. 30		Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>		?		2 (one repairing)	

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

* Non-effective

5. EAST INDIES-INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(4) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA FUSO
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYA CHIKUMA MOGAMI TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	KAMOJ
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DL</u>	-	Approx. 27	25
<u>SS</u>	(15) ANGLER MINGO) BLUEFISH LAPON) BOWFIN PUFFER) CAERILLA NORWHAL) GUNNEL RASHER) HADDO RATON) HAKE RAY) POMPOM)	Approx. 15 On Patrol	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(11) BILLFISH HOE) BONEFISH REDFIN) COD ROBALO) Crevalle K.12) FLASHER K.15) JACK)	At Fremantle	
<u>AS</u>	(2) PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area only)
 Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 103
 Light & M/Bombers 15
 Torpedo & D/Bombers -
 Flying Boats -
 Floatplanes 42
 Obsn A/c 16

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
Combined Operational Intelligence Centre
DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle

No.
792

Date:
30 March, 1944

PART I

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.

1. EASTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/30:

- (1) "YMS.50" was to depart Milne Bay 29 March for Thursday Island.
- (2) "POLLUX" (AKS) departed Milne Bay at 1100/28 for Sydney ETA 1300/2.
- (3) "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS) departed Port Moresby 1030/29 for Cairns
ETA 1000/31.
- (4) "GYMPIE" (AMS) escorting 2 APC departed Cairns 0900/29 for Milne Bay
ETA 1300/31. 1 APC detaches and proceeds independently to
Port Moresby ETA 1800/31.
- (5) "GASCOYNE" (PF) departed Townsville 0900/29 for Sydney ETA 0900/1.
- (6) "TASMAN" (AH) departed Oro Bay 1755/26 for Brisbane ETA 0900/31.
- (7) "ML.805" was to RV at 0730/25 with "MORGLAY" (AT) and pilot her to
"WM.D.BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage).
"TANCRED" (AT) diverted to Sydney.
- (8) "BALLARAT" (AMS) departed Townsville 1540/26 for A/S patrol outer
area Grafton Passage.
- (9) "LEOPARD" (IX) was to depart Caloundra 2000/29 for Milne Bay ETA
1500/2 April.
- (10) "GEELONG" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1247/29 for Wide Bay.
- (11) "YANDRA" (A/S) departed Sydney 0906/28 on A/S patrol to Smoky Capé
and return.
- (12) "YUMA" (AT) departed Fremantle 1945/25 for Melbourne ETA 0800/31,
thence Noumea.
- (13) 8 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "YMS's 11, 72" to depart Caloundra 1600/31 for Cairns ETA 0800/4,
for onward routing to Thursday Island and Darwin.

(c) Convoy Procedure:

The following convoy short titles have been allotted, and are to be brought into force forthwith: -

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| (1) New Guinea - New Britain: | <u>NB</u> |
| (2) New Britain - New Guinea: | <u>BN</u> |
| (3) New Guinea - Admiralties: | <u>NA</u> |
| (4) Admiralties - New Guinea: | <u>AN</u> |

(d) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units 3 DD : "WELLES" "KALK" "NICHOLSON"
18 PT
Escorts 5 : 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46 "BENALLA"
"BUNBURY (AMS)"
Auxiliaries 3 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
"ETAMIN" (AK)
Merchantmen 6 : "P.T.DODDRIDGE" "B.MATTHEWS"
"LYMAN STEWART" "G.V.L.MEYER" "P.BILLINGS"
"J.P.BRADLEY"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 4 : "BENDIGO" 2 PC: 1122, 1132 1 YMS: 313
Merchantmen 4 : "H.T.RAIMEY" "T.CRAWFORD" "J.ROSSITER"
"A.THOMAS"

Talasea:

Combat Units 14 PT
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (AGP)

Saidor:

Combat Units 12 PT
Escorts 1 : ML: 819
Merchantmen 3 : "M.GRIFFITH" "TIMOSHENKO" "JOHN I.NOLAN"

Langemak:

Combat Units 3 DD : "REID" "GRAYSON" "SWANSON"
20 PT
Escorts 21 : 1 DE: "HARMON": "ARARAT" "COWRA" "STAWELL"
(AMS) 3 YMS: 315, 316, 336
4 ML: 424, 803, 806, 816
10 SC: 637, 648, 734, 735, 737, 744, 746
750, 981, 982
Auxiliaries 10 : "TANGIER" (AV) "PORTUNUS" (AGP)
"VICTORIA" (AO) "CHETCO" (AT) "BOOTES"
"CELENO" (AK) "KANE" "SCHLEY" (APD)
"TULSA" (PC) "GOUCAL" (ASR)
Merchantmen 27 : "MACTAN" "GEO.VAN COUVER" "J.W.DAVIS"
"ISOLATOR" "H.L.ABBOTT" "E.JOHNSON" "J.DOTY"
"STAGEN" "W.SPARRON" "N.E.MACK" "M.DALY"
"JANSSENS" "CLAUS SPRECKLES" "CAPE CLEARE"
"RAMO" "ED N.WESTCOTT" "W.MCCRACKEN"
"SEA MARLIN" "S.G.PORTER" "SHAWNEE"
"T.M.COOLEY" "J.W.MELDRUM" "LAKE ORMAC"
"JAPARA" "W.BEAUMONT" "P.S.DUPONT" "YOHOW"

Lae:

Escorts 2 : 2 ML: 428, 430
Merchantmen 8 : "O.KELLY" "H.V.WHITE" "G.L.SMITH"
"D.E.HUGHES" "L.MERRITT" "A.S.HEWITT"
"POINT SAN PEDRO" "W.S.LADD"

Buna - Oro Bay:

Combat Units 7 DD : "WILKES" "STEVENSON" "HOBBEY" "GILIE SPIE"
Escorts 13 : "STOCKTON" "THORNE" "ROE"
2 PP: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE"
5 YMS: 53, 71, 314, 334, 393 1 ML: 816
2 PC: 1119, 1123 2 SC: 736, 747
"KAPUNDA" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 17 : "TRINITY" (AO) "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS"
"BROOKS" "GILMER" "HERBERT" (APD)
"BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "POYANG" (AE) 1 ARD
"POINT LOMA" "SONOMA" (AT) "MERKUR"
"MIZAR" (AF) "MORESBY" (AGS) "WESTRALIA"
(APA) "RIGEL" (AR) "DOBBIN" (AD)
Merchantmen 30 : "ALCIBIADES" "BOTH" "W.E.CHANNING"
"ESSO BAYWAY" "BORGFRIED" "MORMACGULL"
"P.C.CHANDLER" "M.FULLER" "MORMACSEA"
"J.BURROUGHS" "W.H.SUBJETTE" "S.M.WHITE"
"SEA WITCH" "COLORADO" "A.ROBINSON"
"D.F.BARRY" "RING LARDNER" "J.SINGER"
"CAPE SPENCER" "M.T.HERRICK" "R.S.BEAN"
"SAN ANTONIO" "CAPE DOUGLAS" "RAJAHSTAN"
"A.S.DUNIWAY" "PANAMA EXPRESS" "J.ROSS"
"KARSIK" "O.SKINNER" "REIJNST"

<u>Kiriwina Island:</u>			
Merchantmen	2	:	"GEO LUKS" "ANKUI"
<u>Woodlark Island:</u>			
Escorts	3	:	3 YMS: 9, 50, 535
Merchantmen	1	:	"D.D.FIELD"
<u>Goodenough Is:</u>			
Escorts	1	:	"GOULBURN" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	4	:	"CARTER HALL" (LSD) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA" "H.T.ALLEN" (APA)
Merchantmen	2	:	"M.THWAITES" "MANA"
<u>Milne Bay:</u>			
Combat Units	2 CA	:	"SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
	3 CL	:	"NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
	10 DD	:	"HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "MULLANY" "ABNER READ" "AMJEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" ARUNTA "WARRAMUNGA"
	12 PT		
<u>Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown</u>			
Escorts	4 FF	:	"SAN PEDRO" "CORONADO" "BARCOO" "WORCESTER"
	1 PS	:	"WARREGO"
	8 SC	:	650, 699, 703, 732, 738, 741, 742, 748
	5 AMS	:	"KLAMA" "WAGGA" "BUNDABERG" "CASTLEMAINE" "BOWEN"
	8 PC	:	476, 477, 1120, 1124, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134
	4 YMS	:	10, 48, 52, 73
	6 ML	:	427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818
Auxiliaries	22	:	"AASE MAERSK" (AO) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "OTUS" "EURYALE" (AS) "KOOPA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL) "YUNNAN" (AE) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AOG) "SHEPPARTON" (AGS) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" "RESERVE" (AT) "TRIANGULUM" (AK) "VILLALOBOS" "MINK" "PANDA" (IX) "ALABASTER" (PYC) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS) 1 ARD "PING WO" (ASIS) 3 YP: 278, 280, 283
Merchantmen	78	:	"E.G.ACHESON" "ALAMO" "W.ATWATER" "ARANSAS PASS" "AUN" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA" "BARBARA C" "ALCOA PATRIOT" "S.K.BARLOW" "S.K.BOLIVAR" "BONTEKOE" "S.BRANNON" "J.G.BRADY" "BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS" "WM.DYER" "J.CABRILLO" "CEPALU" "J.DEBRE" "CITY OF PHILADELPHIA" "CONTESSA" "F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "L.L.DYCHE" "EMPRESS SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG" "ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K.FITCH" "M.FLINDERS" "HADLEY" "A.B.HAMMOND" "HANYANG" "J.HENRY" "E.F.IRVINE" "KATOOMBA" "L.S.KELLY" "LURLINE" "F.B.LINDERMANN" "J.MCLEAN" "MANSFIELD" "B.MATTHEWS" "W.V.MOODY" "MONTEREY" "MEXICO" "MIDWEST FARMER" "MONTAUK POINT" "NARVIK" "JEAN MICOLET" "NORAB" "NORINDIES" "PAHUD" "PENNAINT" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "TAKWI PRINCE" "A.REHAN" "F.M.QUINONES" "M.ROBERTSON" "W.B.ROGERS" "SIBIGO" "W.C.SQUIRE" "SOUTHWEST PASS" "STANVAC" "WELLINGTON" "R.STUART" "T.W.SYMONS" "TABINTA" "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER" "VAN DER LIJN" "VAN SWOLL" "M.WALKER" "WEST CACTUS" "J.M.WHISTLER" "WICHITA FALLS" "K.D.WIGGIN" "D.WRIGHT" "E.YOUNG"
<u>Port Moresby:</u>			
Escorts	2	:	ML: 426 "MILDURA" (AMS)
Merchantmen	8	:	"MULIAMA" "CANBERRA" "STIKLESTAD" "C.DARROW" "MONTORO" "ORMISTON" "BALIKPAPAN" "G.R.HEBARD"
<u>Thursday Is:</u>			
Escorts	5	:	1 SC: 731 1 YMS: 49 "KALGOORLIE" "IVERELL" "PIRIE" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	2	:	"BUNGAREE" (CM) "POLARIS" (AGS)

<u>Cairns:</u>		
Escorts	9	: "GLENELG" "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) 1 PC: 479 3 ML: 804, 811, 820 3 YMS: 47, 51, 70
Auxiliaries	4	: "PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD "GANYMEDE" (AK) 1 YP: 291
<u>Townsville:</u>		
Escorts	1	: "BROOME" (AMS)
Auxiliaries	1	"SHIKELLAMY" (AOG)
<u>Mackay:</u>		
Auxiliaries	1	: "HERON" (AVP)
<u>Gladstone:</u>		
Auxiliaries	2	: 1 YDG 1 ARD
<u>Brisbane:</u>		
Escorts	9	: "SWAN (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749 3 ML: 808, 821, 823 2 YMS: 11, 72
Auxiliaries	7	"WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA) "GOLDSTAR" (AG) "KURUMBA" (AO) 2 YP: 233, 236 "PYRO" (AE)
<u>Sydney:</u>		
Combat Units	1 CL	: "HOBART" (Refitting)
	2 DD	: "VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts	12	: "COLAC" "DELORAI NE" "ECHUCA" "GLADSTONE" "KATOOMBA" "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) "KYBRA" "AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" 3 ML: 807, 822, 823
Auxiliaries	5	: "MANUNDA" (AH) "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AF) "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)
<u>Melbourne:</u>		
Escort	2AMS	: "LITHGOW" "PREMANVILLE" (Refitting)

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - On 28 March enemy positions around Torokina perimeter supply and camp areas and installations were raided by 58 Dauntless 23 Avengers and some fighter bombers. In addition supplies and installations at Tavera River Mouth were bombarded 27 March by 1 United States Destroyer.
- During the day ended 1500/28 patrols reported Hill 260 outside the Eastern sector of the perimeter, to be clear of enemy. It would appear that the enemy have broken close contact and may be withdrawing towards Kieta.
- (2) Rabaul - Between 1950/27 and 0400/28 the Rabaul area was raided by 8 Mitchells, 6 of which reported being trailed by an unidentified aircraft. At 0900/28 Lakunai was bombed by 36 Dauntless and 24 Avengers: 40 hits were scored on the runway. At 0916/28 Tobera was bombed by 24 Mitchells: 50 hits were scored on the runway. At 0915/28 the South Eastern portion of Rabaul was bombed by 11 Lightnings and at the same time the supply area at Rataval was bombed by 21 Warhawks and Kittyhawks: Several fires were started by these strikes. At 1530/28 Talili Bay was bombed by 3 Avengers starting fires. During the day a barge sweep around Keravia Bay was conducted by fighters: 3 barges were set on fire and a gun boat was also strafed.
- Photos 28 March confirm that Lakunai runway was rendered unserviceable by the air strike, but repairs were apparently commenced immediately afterwards.
- Vunacanal concrete runway is serviceable but the coral runway was unserviceable. Tobera, Rapope and Keravat runways were all unserviceable. Only 6 aircraft including 5 fighters and one light bomber (same as on 27 March) were present on the airfields.
- (3) Jacquinet Bay - On 1752/28 Nalmai Mission was bombed by 8 Beauforts.
- (4) Ubili - At 1730-1800/28 the Pandi River mouth area where a barge base and enemy concentration were reported recently, was bombed by 14 Beauforts.
- (5) Cape Hoskins - Eastbound traffic continued 26 March in the Cape Hoskins area about 500 personnel being reported involved.
- (6) Witu Island - At 1040-1100/27 ack ack positions on Garove Island were bombed by 11 Kittyhawks.
- At 0715-0900/28 targets of opportunity on Garove Island including one hidden barge were strafed by 8 Kittyhawks.
- (7) Carolines - New Guinea - At 1240/29 a vessel shown by photos to resemble a Terutsuki class destroyer was reported by aircraft 80 miles

- (7) Carolines-New Guinea (contd) North East of Wakde Island on a Northerly course.
- (8) Hollandia - At midnight 28-29 March Hollandia airfields were bombed by 8 Liberators including 2 serving as Pathfinders: results were unobserved.
- (9) Wewak - Air offensive against Wewak was resumed 29th. March: Reports received cover an attack on personnel area at Dagua by 35 Mitchells, at 1135/29, and on barges and encampments on Muschu Island by 16 Bostons at 1200/29.
- (10) Bogadjim Area - Following the allied landing at Melamareu, 8 miles East of Bogadjim, on 17 March, the enemy apparently evacuated their positions on the West bank of Kambara River, probably about 25 March. The whole area between Kambara River and Gaube River was reported clear of enemy on 28 March.

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2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At sea to 1200/30:

- (1) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.49 (3 MV) departed Thursday Island 0827/29 for Darwin ETA 1130/2.
- (2) 13 Submarines on Patrol

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts	5	: "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816
Merchantmen	2	: "W. PROUSE" "J.W. TROY"

Melville Bay:

Merchantmen	1	: "DARVEL"
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(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Babo - At midnight 28-29 March Babo aerodromes and installations were bombed by 2 Catalinas starting large fire.

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3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At sea to 1200/30:

- (1) "W.B. PRESTON" (AVD) departed Fremantle 1120/28 for Exmouth Gulf.
- (2) "DUNTROON" (AF) departed Adelaide 1630/28 for Fremantle ETA 0600/2.
- (3) "WARGANELLA" (AH) proceeding Fremantle ETA 1815/30.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units	1 CL	: "ADELAIDE"
Escorts	6	: "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739 3 ML: 812, 824, 826
Auxiliaries	7	: "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 286 1 ARD

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries	2	: "CHILDS" (AV) 1 YP : 288
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4. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

- (1) Central Carolines - At 0100/29 Woleai Island Aerodrome was bombed by 2 Souwespac Catalinas. 2 large fires were started which set off intermittent explosions lasting over half an hour.

- (1) Central Carolines (contd) - About 15 ships were seen in the Lagoon.
At 0942/28 a Soupac Liberator was intercepted over Satawan Island in Nomoi Group by 10 Zeros. 12 Fighters were seen on the ground and one cargo vessel with two escorts in the Harbour.
- (2) Eastern Carolines - At 1004/27 Ponape was bombed by 12 Mitchells escorted by 18 Corsairs. 15 Zeros - 9 were shot down and 3 more probably shot down.
- (3) Marshalls - On 26-27 March light to medium strikes were conducted by Cenpac aircraft, on Maloelap, Jaluit, Wotje and Mille.

- - - -

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan Theatre.
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North Coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of barges, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian oceans.

- - - -

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	-	-	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKA HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MO MONTPELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(2) OYODO YUBARI
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>X/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ABNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(8) BASHAW) BLACKFISH) CERO) DACE) DARTER) FLOUNDER) SCAMP) SILVERSIDES)	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.42) S.47) BLUEGILL)	At Milne Bay		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T. ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 AHD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE		-	-
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>Aircraft (N.E. Area only)</u>				
	Fighters (incl. 18 twin-eng)	190		
	Light & M/Bombers	133		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn. A/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-		(2) NACHI) ASHIGARA)	Poss. Japan
	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND		(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO	
<u>DD</u>	9		10	
<u>SS</u>	10		Approx. 4	

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BP</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	✱	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA OKLAHOMA	(5)	ISE YAMASHIRO HYUGA YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>GV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON		INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	✱	CABOT LANGLEY INDEPENDENCE	(5)	HITAKA HAYATAKA TAIHO RYUHO ZUIHO
<u>CV(T)</u>	-					HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SANTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA		WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO ✱ OTAKA ✱ UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS		MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	-	
<u>CCA</u>	-				6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTEE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	✱	OAKLAND RENO CONCORD	(4)	WOSHIRO ✱ HAGARA ✱ HATORI ✱ ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-					KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-				5	
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85				20 (several repairing)	
<u>SS</u>	Approx. 30				Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>	?				2 (one repairing)	

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

5. EAST INDIES - INDIAN OCEAN

Southwest Pacific (Western Section)		Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippines
<u>BB</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(4) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA FUSO
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLER UNICORN SHAH RANEE	-
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS FROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOBA KUMANO SUZUYO CHIKUMA MOGAMI TONE
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(9) CARADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU * KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	* KAMOI
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx. 27	25
<u>S</u>	(13) ANGLER LAPON) BLUEFISH MINGO) BOWFIN NORWHAL) CARRILLA PUFFER) GUNNEL RASHER) HADDO RATON) HAKE)	Approx. 15	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(12) BILLFISH JACK) BONEFISH RAY) COD REDFIN) CREVALLE K.12) FLASHER K.15) HOE) ROBALO)	At Fremantle	
	(2) PELIAS ORION		

AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area only):
 Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.) 103
 Light and M/Bombers 15
 Torpedo and D/Bombers -
 Flying Boats -
 Floatplanes 42
 Obsn. A/c 16

British - MOST SECRET
U.S. - SECRET

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

Combined Operational Intelligence Centre

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

Part I: Allied and Enemy Activity.

Part II: Allied and Enemy Order of Battle.

793

31 March, 1944

No.

Date :

PART I

A. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA.

EASTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At Sea to 1200/31:

- (1) "YMS.53" departed Milne Bay 1300/29 to RV at 0900/30 with Convoy BG.71 off Buna.
- (2) "GILMER" "BROOKS" (APD) escorting 7 LST proceeding Cape Sudest.
- (3) "BARCOO" (FF) departed Milne Bay 1700/29 to RV with "SEA BARD" and escort to China Strait, detaching to RV with "PANAMA EXPRESS" departing North Foreland 1500/30 and escort Southwards until 0600/31, returning thence to Milne Bay.
- (4) "YMS.50" proceeding to Thursday Island ETA 1600/1.
- (5) "BROOME" (AMS) departed Townsville 1600/30 to relieve "BALLARAT" on Grafton Passage A/S patrol at 0800/31. "BALLARAT" on relief to proceed to Cairns.
- (6) "ML.805" was to RV at 0730/25 with "MORGLAY" (AT) and pilot her to "WM.D.BOYCE" aground on Arlington Reef (Grafton Passage). "TANCRED" (AT) diverted to Sydney.
- (7) "POLLUX" (AKS) departed Milne Bay at 1100/28 for Sydney ETA 1300/2.
- (8) "GASCOYNE" (PF) departed Townsville 0900/29 for Sydney ETA 0900/1.
- (9) "LEOPARD" (IX) was to depart Caloundra 2000/29 for Milne Bay ETA 1500/4 April.
- (10) "YMS.70" departed Cairns 0700/31 for Brisbane ETA 1600/3.
- (11) "ROCKHAMPTON" (AMS) was to depart Cairns 0730/31 for Sydney ETA 2200/4; thence to proceed to Port Adelaide by April 12 for refit.
- (12) "MANUNDA" (AH) departed Sydney 1301/30 for Port Moresby ETA 0500/5.
- (13) "GEEELONG" (AMS) departed Brisbane 1247/29 for Wide Bay.
- (14) "WARRNAMBOOL" (AMS) departed Sydney 0903/30 for A/S to Smoky Cape and return.
- (15) 8 submarines on patrol.

(b) Proposed Movements:

- (1) "WHYALLA" to depart Brisbane 1400/31 on Sandy Cape patrol.
- (2) "YMS's 11, 72" to depart Caloundra 1600/31 for Cairns ETA 0800/4, for onward routing to Thursday Island and Darwin.

(c) Convoy Procedure:

The following convoy short titles have been allotted, and are to be brought into force forthwith:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| (1) New Guinea - New Britain: | <u>NB</u> |
| New Britain - New Guinea: | <u>BN</u> |
| New Guinea - Admiralties: | <u>NA</u> |
| Admiralties - New Guinea: | <u>AN</u> |

(d) In Harbour:

Admiralties:

Combat Units 5 DD : "WELLES" "KALK" "REID" "SWANSON" "GRAYSON"
18 PT
Escorts 5 : 1 ML: 425 2 YMS: 8, 46 "BENALLA" "BUNBURY"
(AMS)
Auxiliaries 7 : "OYSTER BAY" (AGP) "SAN PABLO" (AVP)
"KANE" "SCHLEY" (APD) "BTAMIN" (AK) "CHETCO" (AT)
"MINK" (IX)
Merchantmen 6 : "F. BILLINGS" "J. P. BRADLEY" "P. T. DODDRIDGE"
"E. MATTHEWS" "C. V. L. MEYER" "LYMAN STEWART"

Cape Gloucester:

Escorts 2 : "BENDIGO" (AMS) 1 YMS: 313
Merchantmen 4 : "T. CRAWFORD" "H. T. RAINBY" "J. ROSSITER"
"A. THOMAS"

Talasea:

Combat Units 14 PT
Auxiliaries 1 : "HILO" (AGP)

Saidor:

Combat Units 12 PT
Escorts 3 : ML: 819, 2SC: 735, 982
Merchantmen 2 : "JOHN I. NOLAN" "TIMOSHENKO"

Langemak:

Combat Units 1 DD : "NICHOLSON"
20 PT
Escorts 20 : "HARMON" (DE) "ARARAT" "COWRA" "STAWELL" (AMS)
2 PC: 1122, 1132, 3 YMS: 315, 316, 336
4 ML: 424, 803, 806, 815
8 SC: 637, 648, 734, 737, 744, 747, 750, 981
Auxiliaries 9 : "TANGIER" (AV) "PORTUNUS" (AGP) "MERKUR" (AF)
"VICTORIA" (AO) "BOOTES" "CELEMO" (AK)
"TULSA" (PG) "COUCAL" (ASR) "BAYOU ST. JOHN" (AT)
Merchantmen 34 : "H. L. ABBOTT" "J. C. BAROSA" "BORGFRED"
"W. BEAUMONT" "J. BURROUGHS" "CAPE CLEAR" "
"T. M. COOLEY" "J. W. DAVIS" "J. DOTY" "P. S. DUPOIN"
"ISOLATOR" "JAPARA" "E. JOHNSON" "LAKE ORMAC"
"W. MCCracken" "N. E. MACK" "MACTAN" "J. W. MELDRUM"
"MORMACSEA" "S. G. PORTER" "RAMO" "A. ROBINSON"
"SEA MARLIN" "SEA WITCH" "SHAWNEE" "W. SPARRON"
"CLAUS SPRECKLES" "J. ROSS" "STAGEN"
"GEO. VANCOUVER" "W. L. SUBJECTTE" "ED. N. WESTCOTT"
"S. M. WHITE" "YOOHOW"

L:

Escorts 2 : 2 ML: 428, 430
Merchantmen 7 : "A. S. HEWITT" "D. E. HUGHES" "O. KELLY" "W. S. LADD"
"L. MERRITT" "POINT SAN PEDRO" "G. L. SMITH"

Buna - Oro Bay:

Combat Units 7 DD : "WILKES" "STEVENSON" "HOBBY" "GILLESPIE"
"STOCKTON" "THORNE" "ROE"
Escorts 13 : 2 PT: "LONGBEACH" "GLENDALE" "KAPUNDA" (AMS)
4 YMS: 71, 314, 354, 393 1 ML: 816
2 PC: 1119, 1123 2 SC: 736, 746
Auxiliaries 13 : "TRINITY" (AO) "HUMPHREYS" "SANDS" "HERBERT"
(APD) "BLUE RIDGE" (AGC) "POYANG" (AE) 1 ARD
"POINT LOMA" "SONOMA" (AT) "MORESBY" (AGS)
"WESTRALIA" (APA) "RIGEL" (AR) "DOBBIN" (AD)
Merchantmen 21 : "ALCIBIADES" "D. F. BARRY" "R. S. BEAN" "BOTH"
"CAPE DOUGLAS" "CAPE SPENCER" "P. CHANDLER"
"W. E. CHANNING" "COLORADO" "A. S. DUNIWAY"
"M. FULLER" "M. T. HERRICK" "JANSSENS" "KARSIK"
"MORMACGULL" "RAJAHSTAN" "REINJST"
"RING LARDNER" "SAN ANTONIO" "J. SINGER"
"O. SKINNER"

Kiriwina Is:

Merchantmen 2 : "ANHUI" "GEO. LUKS"

Woodlark Is:

Escorts 4 : "WAGGA" (AMS) 3 YMS: 9, 50 335
Merchantmen 2 : "D. D. FIELD" "J. S. WANSFIELD"

Goodenough Is:
Escorts 1 : "GOULBURN" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 4 : "CARTER HALL" (LSD) "KANIMBLA" "MANOORA"
H.T.ALLEN" (APA)
Merchantmen 2 : "MANA" "M.THWAITES"

* Milne Bay:
Combat Units 2 CA : "SHROPSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA"
3 CL : "NASHVILLE" "PHOENIX" "BOISE"
10 DD : "HUTCHINS" "DALY" "BACHE" "MULLANY"
"ABNER READ" "AMMEN" "BEALE" "BUSH" "ARUNTA"
"WARRAMUNGA"
12 PT

* Note: Special operational movements forward of Milne Bay not shown.

Escorts 3 PF : "SAN PEDRO" "CORONADO" "WORCESTER"
1 PS : "WARREGO"
8 SC : 650, 699, 703, 732, 738, 741, 742, 748
6 AMS : "KIAMA" "BUNDABERG" "CASTLEMAINE" "BOWEN"
"HILDORA" "GYMPIE"
8 PC : 476, 477, 1120, 1124, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134
4 YMS : 10, 48, 52, 73
6 ML : 427, 431, 801, 802, 817, 818

Auxiliaries 21 : "AASE MAERSK" (AO) "HALF MOON" (AVP) "OTUS"
"EURYALE" (AS) "KOGA" (AGP) "AMYCUS" (ARL)
"YUNNAN" (AE) "SUSQUEHANNA" (AOG) "SHEPPARTON"
(AGS) "RESERVE" (AT) "TRIANGULUM" (AK)
"MIZAR" (AF) "VILLALOBOS" "PANDA" (IX)
"ALABASTER" (PYC) "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (ARS)
1 ARD "PING WO" (ASIS) & YP: 278, 280, 283

Merchantmen 76 : "E.G.ACHESON" "ALGOA PATRIOT" "ARANSAS PASS"
"W.ATWATER" "AUN" "W.B.AYER" "J.BARBARA"
"BARBARA C" "S.K.BARLOW" "S.K.BOLIVAR"
"BOOTEKOE" "J.G.BRADY" "S.BRANNON"
"BRITISH HONOUR" "J.CABRILLO" "CEFALU"
"J.DEEBE" "CITY OF PHILADELPHIA" "CONTESSA"
"F.H.DODD" "DON MARQUIS" "WM.DYER" "L.L.DYCHE"
"EMPRESS SILVER" "ESSO HARRISBURG"
"ESSO MANHATTAN" "JOHN EVANS" "G.E.K.FITCH"
"M.FLINDERS" "HADLEY" "A.B.HAMMOND" "J.HENRY"
"B.F.IRVINE" "KATOOMBA" "L.S.KELLY" "LURLINE"
"F.B.LINDERMANN" "J.MCLEAN" "E.MATTHEWS"
"MEXICO" "MONTEREY" "MIDWEST FARMER"
"MONTAUK POINT" "W.V.MOODY" "MARVIK"
"JEAN NICOLET" "NORAB" "NORINDIES" "PAHUD"
"PENNANT" "JAMES D.PHALAN" "AGWI PRINCE"
"A.REHAN" "P.M.QUINONES" "M.ROBERTSON"
"W.B.ROGERS" "SIBIGO" "W.C.SQUIRE"
"SOUTHVAST PASS" "STANVAC WELLINGTON" "R.STUART"
"T.W.SYMONS" "TABINTA" "M.THORNTON" "THUNDERER"
"VAN DER LIJN" "VAN SWOLL" "N.WALKER"
"WEST CACTUS" "J.M.WHISTLER" "H.V.WHITE"
"WICHITA FALLS" "K.D.WIGGIN" "D.WRIGHT"
"E.YOUNG"

Port Moresby:
Escorts 1 : ML: 426
Merchantmen 11 : "BALIKPAPAN" "CANBERRA" "E.CHAMBERS" "C.DARROW"
"GORGON" "HANYANG" "G.R.HEBARD" "MONTORO"
"ORMISTON" "STIKLESTAD" "TAROONA"

Thursday Is:
Escorts 6 : 1 SC: 731 2 YMS: 49, 50 "KALGOORLIE"
"INVERELL" "FIRLE" (AMS)
Auxiliaries 2 : "BUNGAREE" (CM) "POLARIS" (AGS)

Cairns:
Escorts 8 : "GLENELG" "TOWNSVILLE" (AMS) 1 PC: 479
3 ML: 804, 811, 820 2 YMS: 47, 51
Auxiliaries 4 : "PLATYPUS" (AR) 1 ARD "GANYMEDE" (AK) 1 YP:291

Townsville:
Auxiliaries 1 : "SHIKELLAWY (AOG)

Mackay:
Auxiliaries 1 : "FERON" (AVP)

Gladstone:
Auxiliaries 2 : 1 YDG 1 ARD

Brisbane:
Escorts 8 : "SWAN" (PS) "WHYALLA" (AMS) 2 SC: 745, 749
2 ML: 808, 821 2 YMS: 11, 72
Auxiliaries 8 : "WHIPPOORWILL" (AM) "ALGORAB" (AKA)
"GOLDSTAR" (AG) "KURUMBA" (AO) "TASMAN" (AH)
2 YP: 233, 236 "PYRO" (AE)

Sydney:
Combat Units 1 CL : "HOBART" (Refitting)
2 DD : "VENDETTA" "STUART"
Escorts 12 : "COLAC" "DELOIRINE" "ECHUCA" "GLADSTONE"
"KATOOMBA" (AMS) "KIBRA" "YANDRA"
"AB. CRIJNSSEN" "DOOMBA" (A/s)
3 ML: 807, 822, 823
Auxiliaries 4 : "BISHOPDALE" (AO) "OCTANS" (AP)
"CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (ARS) "SPRINGDALE" (YDG)

Melbourne:
Escorts 2 AMS : "LITHGOW" "FREMANTLE" (Refitting)
Auxiliary 1 : "YUMA" (AP)

(11) ARMY FORCES

- (1) Empress Augusta Bay - On 29 March enemy positions around the Torokina Perimeter were attacked by 12 Avengers 12 Warhawks 6 Lightnings.
- (2) Rabaul - At 1055-1150/29 supply areas at Vunapope and Katalaval were bombed by 26 Dauntless 19 Avengers 24 Mitchells 11 Warhawks. Large fires were started and substantial damage was inflicted. In addition on 29 March a cargo vessel in the area which turned out to be a hulk was bombed by 10 Dauntless while a Camouflage Naval craft possibly light destroyer type or mine-layer, and some small craft in the Keravia Bay area were strafed by fighters.
- (3) Admiralty Islands - On Manus Island only slight enemy attacks were reported 29 March. On Los Negros Is. 29 March, an enemy hideout was discovered in caves near Lonui village (south coast of Los Negros Island). 2 guards outside the caves were killed, but an undetermined number of Japs remain inside the caves, which are thought capable of holding some 2-300 personnel. On 30 March an allied party landed on Pityilu Island supported by air and by destroyer and PT bombardment. Landing was accomplished successfully against light sniper fire only: 18 Japs are reported to have been killed.
- (4) Stettin Bay - On 29 March 3 enemy barges were observed in Stettin Bay by LCM's. The barges escaped to the North East.
- (5) Hollandia - Photographs giving 100% coverage of the 3 Hollandia airfields 25 March, show 264 aircraft thus:

Hollandia	58 F.	80 LB.	43 SB	173
Sentani		15 LB		15
Cyclops	75 F.	1 LB.		76
	<u>125 F.</u>	<u>96 LB.</u>	<u>43 SB</u>	<u>264</u>

During the night 29-30 March Hollandia airfields were bombed by 4 Liberators lead in by 1 Pathfinder Liberator. The area was satisfactorily covered by 960 20lb. fragmentation bomb clusters.

At approx. 1100/30 Hollandia and Cyclops airfields were attacked by 65 Liberators (presumably escorted but reports not yet received) which dropped 15,000 20lb. fragmentation bombs.

Reports indicate that the 25 grounded aircraft were destroyed and over 60 damaged. About 40 enemy fighters intercepted and 10 were shot down, in addition to 7 probably shot down. All our planes returned.

- (6) Vanimo - At 1105/30 1 merchantship was reported by aircraft off Vanimo on course 290°.
- (7) Sissano Lagoon - At 0945/29 a small freighter and two barges were observed by aircraft in Sissano Lagoon.
- (8) Aitape - Photographs of Tadjil airfield 25 March show no aircraft present.

At approx. 1000/30 the runways at Tadjil were effectively bombed by 23 Mitchells rendering these runways unserviceable.

- (9) Wewak - Photos of the 4 Wewak airfields - Wewak, Soram, Dagua and But - show only 16 aircraft present including 11 fighters and 5 light bombers.

(9) Wewak (contd) - Final reports of the strike 29 March (refer Summary 792) show that 35 Mitchells attacked stores and camp area near Dagua, 33 Bostons attacked stores dumps at Cape Wom and 16 Bostons attacked small craft around Muschu Island. Fighters escaped.

At 1030/30 But airfield was bombed by 4 Liberators which failed to reach Hollandia.

(10) Nadang - At 1115-1155/29 coastal gun position at Malaga was bombed and strafed by 16 Aircobras 2 Kittyhawks. The gun emplacement received several direct hits.

(11) Daumoina area - At 1000/30 enemy positions North East of Mataloi were bombed and strafed by 11 Bostons and ground support.

- - - -

2. NORTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At sea to 1200/30:

(1) "WILCANNIA" (AMS) escorting Convoy TD.49 (3 MV) departed Thursday Island 0827/29 for Darwin ETA.1130/2.

(2) 13 Submarines on Patrol.

(b) In Harbour:

Darwin:

Escorts 5 : "COOTAMUNDRA" "LATROBE" (AMS) 3 ML: 429, 809, 816.

Merchantmen 2 : "W. PROUSE" "J.W. TROY"

(ii) ENEMY FORCES

Kai Island - At 1040/30 Langgoer airfield was bombed by 21 Liberators. 7 fighters and 2 medium bombers were observed in dispersal areas, and 5 or 6 aircraft were apparently attempting to take off. Bombs fell among some of these aircraft. 5 enemy fighters attempted interception but 3 were shot down. All our aircraft returned. 3 possible small seatrucks and numerous barges were observed in the Langgoer neighbourhood.

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3. SOUTH WESTERN AREA

(1) ALLIED FORCES

(a) At sea to 1200/31:

"DUNTRON" (AP) departed Adelaide 1630/28 for Fremantle ETA 0600/2.

(b) In Harbour:

Fremantle:

Combat Units 1 CL : "ADELAIDE"

Escorts 6 : "HORSHAM" "DUBBO" (AMS) 1 SC: 739, 3 ML: 812, 824, 826

Auxiliaries 8 : "WANGANILLA" (AH) "ATREUS" (CM) "LARK" (AM) "ORION" "PELIAS" (AS) "CHANTICLEER" (ASR) 1 YP: 826, 1 ARD

Exmouth Gulf:

Auxiliaries 3 : "CHILDS" (AV) "W.P. PRESTON" (AVD) 1 YP: 288

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B. CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

ENEMY FORCES

(1) Truk - At approx. 0415/29 Dublon Is. in the Truk Atoll was bombed by 2 Liberators starting large fires.

At 1159/29 Eten Is. also in the Truk Atoll, was bombed by 20 Soupac Liberators. Photos confirm 200 direct hits in the

- (1) Truk shop and hangar area, also on the parking aprons and runways. 35 fighters 4 medium bombers and 10 dive bombers are shown on the runways and all are believed to have been destroyed. In addition, large explosions and fires were started in the hangar and building area and beside the runway.

Approximately 90 enemy fighters intercepted with aggression and persistency for 45 minutes. Combat results have not yet been co-ordinated but at least 5 enemy fighters were shot down. 1 Liberator was lost in the target area and another crash landed on Nissan Island.

Preliminary interpretation photos taken during the above strike show 3 large cargo vessels present; at least 2 destroyers and possibly a light cruiser, in addition to many barges, small craft and also 37 float-planes.

- (2) Woleai - Shortly after midnight 30-31 March Woleai airfield and installations were bombed by 2 Catalinas and 2 Navy Liberators. Eurapic Island (60 miles S.W. of Woleai) was bombed by another Catalina.

- (3) Palau - A United States submarine reported the following sightings:-

(a) 1030/29 19 ship convoy leaving Palau on course 310 degrees - Speed 9 knots.

(b) 1740/29 1 Battleship (reported as "KONGO" class), 1 light cruiser and 2 destroyers leaving Palau, Course 330 degrees, Speed 16 knots.

Marshalls - On 28 March light to medium strikes were conducted by Cenpac aircraft on Mille, Taroa, Wotje and Jaluit. Up to 0800/23 - 38 Japs had been killed and 3 captured by an allied force on Ailinglapalap (100 miles S.E. of Kwajalein). On 25 March some enemy were encountered on Ebon Atoll (100 miles S.S.W. Jaluit) - 16 were killed and only 3 were believed to be remaining on the Island on 26 March.

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C. INDIAN OCEAN AREA

ENEMY FORCES

Submarine Activity - Further offensive activity is reported concerning a submarine attack on a merchant ship night 19 March N.W. of Lacadive Islands (see Naval Incidents). The Unit is presumed to be on passage either to or from the North Arabian Sea. Another possible submarine contact was made by surface craft off Bombay night 25 March.

Latest reports indicate possibly 2 Jap submarines operating in the Northern Arabian Sea, 1 Unit fixed by D/F night 27 March in the vicinity of One and a half degree Channel and another S.E. of Chagos Arch. on 25 March believed moving East.

- - - -

NAVAL INCIDENTS

Indian Ocean - At 2115/19 March (local time) a merchantship (identity received corrupt but probably a liberty ship) was sunk by submarine in position 13°58' N. 70°30' E (N.W. of Lacadive Islands) as reported by survivors.

- - - -

ESTIMATE OF ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES

- (1) Increased naval and air strength Malayan Theatre
- (2) Withdrawal of forward positions in Bismarcks.
- (3) Consolidation of defences Carolines, Marianas, North Coast New Guinea, East Indies, Malayan areas.
- (4) Use of bar es, submarines and destroyers for night transportation runs to forward areas.
- (5) Continued use of submarines for reconnaissance and offensive submarine activity in allied operational areas in Pacific and Indian oceans.

- - - -

DAILY NAVAL SUMMARY

PART II

ALLIED AND ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>BB</u>	-	(4) IDAHO NEW MEXICO PENNSYLVANIA TENNESSEE	-	MUSASHI
<u>CV(L)</u>	-	-	-	(2) ZUIHO RYUHO
<u>C</u>	(2) AUSTRALIA SHROPSHIRE	-	-	(6) ATAGO TAKAO CHOKAI MYOKO HAGURO MAYA
<u>CL</u>	(4) BOISE NASHVILLE PHOENIX * HOBART	(8) COLUMBIA CLEVELAND MONTPELIER DENVER HONOLULU ST LOUIS BIRMINGHAM * LEANDER	-	(3) OYODO YUBARI NOSHIRO
<u>CL(T)</u>	-	-	-	KASHIMA
<u>AV/CVS</u>	TANGIER	(2) WRIGHT CHANDELEUR	-	(2) AKITSUSHIMA NOTORO
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	(2) HALF MOON SAN PABLO	BALLARD	-	3
<u>DD</u>	(24) ARUNTA WARRAMUNGA STUART VENDETTA REID AMMEN BACHE BEALE BUSH DALY MULLANY HUTCHINS HOBBEY KALK GILLESPIE WELLES STOCKTON NICHOLSON WILKES STEVENSON THORN ADNER READ ROE GRAYSON	Approx. 45	-	20

* Non-effective

	Southwest Pacific (Eastern Section)	South Pacific	Bismarcks Solomons	Carolines Marianas
<u>SS</u>	(8) HASHAW BLACKFISH CERO DACE DARTER FLOUNDER SCAMP SILVERSIDES	On Patrol	15	25
	(3) S.42 S.47 BLUEGILL	At Milne Bay		
	K.9	At Sydney		
<u>PT</u>	Approx. 85	Approx. 110	?	?
<u>APA/APD/AKA</u>	(11) H.T.ALLEN KANIMBLA WESTRALIA ALGORAB GILMER KANE SCHLEY SANDS HUMPHREYS BROOKS HERBERT	10 APA 10 APD 5 AKA		
<u>AGC</u>	BLUE RIDGE		-	-
<u>AS</u>	(2) OTUS EURYALE		?	?
<u>AD</u>	DOBBIN		-	-
<u>AR</u>	(3) RIGEL PLATYPUS AMYCUS	PROMETHEUS		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.E. Area only)</u>				
	Fighters (inc. 18 twin-eng.)	190		
	Light & M/Bombers	133		
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	2		
	Flying Boats	1		
	Floatplanes	14		
	Obsn. a/c	20		

2. NORTHERN PACIFIC

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>CA</u>	-		(2) NACHI) Poss. ASHIGARA) Japan
<u>CL</u>	(3) DETROIT RALEIGH RICHMOND		(3) ABUKUMA TAMA KISO
<u>DD</u>	9		10
<u>SS</u>	10		Approx. 4.

3. CENTRAL PACIFIC EMPIRE

ALLIED FORCES

ENEMY FORCES

<u>BB</u>	(14)	INDIANA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WASHINGTON NEW JERSEY MASSACHUSETTS CALIFORNIA	SOUTH DAKOTA WEST VIRGINIA COLORADO MARYLAND MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA * OKLAHOMA	(5)	ISE YAMASHIRO HYUGA YAMATO MUTSU (prob. sunk)
<u>CV</u>	(6)	ENTERPRISE YORKTOWN LEXINGTON	INTREPID ESSEX BUNKER HILL	-	
<u>CV(L)</u>	(7)	COWPENS BELLEAU WOOD MONTEREY PRINCETON	CABOT LANGLEY * INDEPENDENCE	(3)	TAIHO (en route South) HITAKA * HAYATAKA
<u>CV(T)</u>	-				HOSHO
<u>CV(E)</u>	(25)	COPAHEE SANGAMON SUWANNEE CHENANGO CORAL SEA BARNES PRINCE WILLIAM LONG ISLAND NASSAU SAMTEE CASABLANCA CORREGIDOR ALTAMAHA	WHITE PLAINS BRETON MIDWAY PATROLLER FANSHAW BAY GAMBIER BAY HOGGATT BAY KALININ BAY KITKUN BAY MANILA BAY NATOMA BAY MEHENTA BAY	(5)	CHITOSE JINYO KAIYO * OTAKA * UNYO
<u>CA</u>	(13)	BALTIMORE BOSTON CHESTER CANBERRA WICHITA NEW ORLEANS	MINNEAPOLIS PENSACOLA INDIANAPOLIS SAN FRANCISCO SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND LOUISVILLE	-	
<u>OCA</u>	-			6	
<u>CL</u>	(7)	SANTA FE SAN DIEGO MOBILE BILOXI	OAKLAND * RENO * CONCORD	(3)	* NAGARA * NATORI * ISUZU
<u>CL(T)</u>	-				KASHII
<u>AV/CVS</u>	-			5	
<u>DD</u>	Approx. 85			20	(several repairing)
<u>SS</u>	Approx. 30			Approx. 25	
<u>AS</u>	?			2	(one repairing)

4. SOUTH EASTERN PACIFIC

CL TRENTON

* Non-effective

5. EAST INDIES - INDIAN OCEAN

	Southwest Pacific (Western Section)	Eastern Fleet Area	East Indies-Philippine:
<u>B</u>	-	(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH VALIANT RENOWN	(4) NAGATO KONGO HARUNA FUSO
<u>CV</u>	-	(2) ILLUSTRIOUS SARATOGA	(2) ZUIKAKU SHOKAKU
<u>CV(E)</u>	-	(4) BATTLE UNICORN SHAH RANEE	CHIYODA
<u>CA</u>	-	(6) SUSSEX SUFFOLK HAWKINS PROBISHER LONDON CUMBERLAND	(6) AOKA KUMANO SUZUYU CHIKUMA MOCAMI TOME
<u>CL</u>	ADELAIDE	(8) CANADOC NEWCASTLE CEYLON DANAE KENYA TROMP GAMBIA EMERALD VAN HEEMSKERK	(4) YAHAGI OI KINU KITAGAMI
<u>AV/CVS</u>	(2) CHILDS W.B. PRESTON	ALBATROSS	■ KAMOJ
<u>XCL</u>	-	(2) CANTON CHITRAL	-
<u>XAV/XCVS</u>	-	?	-
<u>DD</u>	-	Approx. 27	25
<u>AS</u>	(13) ANGLER LAPON) BLUEFISH MINGO) BOWFIN NORWHAL) CABRILLA PUFFER) GUNNEL RASHER) HADDO RATON) HAKE)	Approx. 15 On Patrol	17 (incl. 6 German)
	(12) BILLFISH JACK) BONEFISH RAY) COD REDFIN) GREVAILE ROBALO) FLASHER K.12) HOE K.15)	At Fremantle	
	(2) PELIAS ORION		
<u>AIRCRAFT (N.W. Area only)</u>			
	Fighters (incl. 12 twin-eng.)	103	
	Light & M/Bombers	15	
	Torpedo & D/Bombers	-	
	Flying Boats	-	
	Floatplanes	42	
	Obsn. A/c	16	