The following series of images is the first step in the American Naval Records Society's project to produce a scholarly on-line edition of this important, declassified, primary source.

At this early stage, ANRS is able to provide images of one of the copies of the “Gray Book” that are located in Papers of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz at the Operational Archives, Naval History and Heritage Command, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

This copy consists of loose pages that could be readily scanned. Sections of some of the typed pages in this copy are blurry and difficult to read, and, in addition, this copy does not show the color-coding that is present in the tightly-bound original.

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SECRET

WAR PLANS

CINCPAC FILES 1944

SECRET

SUBJECT Plans "RUNNING ESTIMATE" and Summary, for period

FILE 1 July 1943 to 31 December 1943
SECRET

June 30th. (Cahu Date)

Information regarding the progress in the POLYNESIA
offensive is still sketchy but that which has been received
indicates that the operation is proceeding according to plan.
At 0833 (-11) July 1st 17 B-24s attacked "IVA". At 1310 (-11)
18 TF and 11 TRD attacked "IVA", and at 1410 ten TF attacked
AA positions at IAINUTI plantation. 15 TF, 18 TRD, and
12 TF attacked "SUADA" at 1615 (-11). Com 3rd Fleet 010610 is
a summary for yesterday. Further information states that the
enemy lost 101 planes in the three strikes made on our force
off POLYNUTI yesterday.

The Seventh Air Force will attempt further photo recon-
naissances at POLYNUTI as soon as possible after 14 July.

InCPac 0100015 requests a minimum of 3 advanced air
base assemblies for the Central Pacific.

JConCh 261309 gives a plan for a visit of a British
Joint Service visit to the Pacific.

The North and Central Pacific areas were quiet.

July 1st. (Cahu Date)

The landing planned at Roko Anchorage (LPU, 616010) for
9-11day may be deferred. In general, operations in the Solomons
are proceeding as planned and there is a possibility of a troop
attack on "SUADA" about July 4th (-11).

The North Pacific was quiet.

It is indicated that the SOUTH DIVITA will join the fleet
about the middle of August.

InCPac 020705 deals with the necessity of photo recon-
naissances in the Central Pacific. COMPacific 301203 requests photo
planes.
SECRET

July 2nd. (Oahu Date)

The North Pacific was quiet.

The picture of events in the South Pacific is not clear cut in details. ComSoPac's 021047 and 030145 are summaries of events on 2 and 3 July (local). His (ComSoPac) 022300 (pink) orders a delay of one day on all plans and fixes the MUNDA landing on D plus 10 day.

ComNorPac's 030151 (pink) indicates determination to meet the tentative target date for Kiska.

Captain Steele and Sherman left for Washington to present CinCPac's views re the Marshall's as per CinCPac's 030021 (pink).

CominCh's 021437 (pink) raises questions touching CinCPac's area command function and the staff organization best suited to assist him.

CominCh 012123 (pink) informs of projected aerial mining operation on Asiatic Coast.

July 3rd. (Oahu Date)

Related information from the North Pacific states that a total of 40.7 tons of bombs were dropped on Kiska 2 July, with damage to three of our planes and three officer crew members wounded.

In South Pacific events are summarized ComSoPac's 030534 and 031116. CTF 31's 040122 gives later information.

CG WDC's 031755Z (pink) concurs in CinCPac's approval of ComNorPac's overall plan and CinCPac's amendment thereto. CinCPac's 042013 (pink) approves the plan as amended in the name of CinCPac and CG WDC.
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July 4th. (Oahu Date)

Kiska was clothed in fog - no strike there. Rat Island reconnaissance showed no enemy. Shemya medium bomber strip 87% complete. Aleutian airfield construction is consistently rapid.

ComAmphfoSoPac's three part 031235 is a detailed account of the enemy torpedo plane attack on his transports.

ComSoPac's 040605 contains his summary of new JOKOJA operations. The shore operations appear to be progressing satisfactorily.

CominCh 041851 (pink) states that his re-deployment letter should arrive by courier in a few days.

July 5th. (Oahu Date)

No news from North Pacific, apparently quiet.

In South Pacific, Rear Admiral Ainsworth with 1 CL and 4 DDs engaged 7 enemy targets Kula Gulf early hours of 6th (-11). During this action HELENA was lost probably due to enemy torpedoes. Enemy composition and losses unknown but he thinks he got all 7 ships except 1 or 2 cripples. He withdrew to TULagi leaving NICHOLAS and HADFORD (DDs) to pick up survivors.

While on this task CD2-21 in NICHOLAS reported that at 1000 (-11) 6th he believes that he destroyed 1 enemy 4 stack cruiser with torpedoes, sank 1 destroyer and damaged another. His two ships had rescued 569 men and 50 officers when he had to desist because of enemy plane and sub attacks.

The night of the 4th-5th (-11) date STRONG was torpedoed in Kula Gulf while part of a bombardment task group. She survived until 0123 (-11) 5th when she sank. CHEVALIER rescued 7 officers and 231 men.

As yet only the brief outline of action in Kula Gulf is known.

Asshore operations appear to be proceeding according to plan. CTF 31 (Rear Adm. Turner) 050322 and 060133 are summaries of the 5th and 6th (-11). ComSoPac 060645 is his summary.

CinCPac's 052047, ComNorPac 060350 and CinCPac 060655 all pink deal with plan to air strike Paramushiro in order to discourage enemy from shuttling planes from there to Solomons.

1615
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July 6th. (Oahu Date)

Belated news from North Pacific regarding the 5th (A10) gives no activity because of fog. On the 4th reconnaissance group found no evidence of enemy occupation on Senda Island but found suitable site for fighter strip near Sugar Loaf Head. On the 6th (A10) Rear Adm. Giffen's cruisers heavily bombarded coastal batteries Kiska, hampered somewhat by fog. Planes are being made ready for PARANUSHIRO air strike on the 7th.

In South Pacific further details came in of night action previously mentioned, but results are still obscure. There were air strikes on EALIALE and KAHILI. Enemy launched heavy air attack on RENDOVA at 1340 (-11). 9 Zeros and 3 medium bombers were knocked down, with one of our F4U's missing. Apparently land operations are progressing satisfactorily. Enemy has numerous submarines in NEV GEORGE AREA, some of midget type.

ComSoPac's 070626 is his summary.

ComSoPac's 070603 (pink) is a plea for more fighter aircraft in his area.

July 7th. (Oahu Date)

No activity in North Pacific because of fog. The air strike on PARANUSHIRO was postponed because of terminal weather.

In South Pacific, ComSoPac's summary not received. Rear Adm. Merrill swept up NEV GEORGE STRAIT and encountered no surface craft. He was shadowed by an enemy plane. Daylight plane sweeps in same area revealed no enemy ships.

CTF 31 (Rear Adm. Turner) 080121 is a summary of military situation. Col. Liversedge at RICE ANCHORAGE, KOKA GULF appears to have lost touch with his seniors, and some concern is felt for his supplies.

ComSoPac's 010443 reviews his exchange of dispatches with G.O.C. New Zealand Military Forces re New Zealand divisional organization.

CinCPac's 080441 pink will sail ENTERPRISE to PUGET SOUND on 14 July to complete by 30 October, unless otherwise directed.
SECRET

July 8th. (Oahu Date)

Again PARAMUSHIRO air raid was postponed because of weather. No usual summary of events from North Pacific.

ComSoPac's 080947 is his summary for the 7th (-11) and his 090600 for the 8th (-11). Col. Liversedge in the HICK ANCHORAGE was in communication with a plane and supplies will be dropped for him.

ComSoPac's 090502 pink contains his plan to place a corps commander in command at NEW GEORGIA of all ground forces and attached naval units at an appropriate time.

The increasing destruction of enemy tankers by our submarines is gratifying.

July 9th. (Oahu Date)

ComNorPac's summary for both 9th and 9th indicated nothing unusual - for interfered with operations both days. 9 medium and 8 additional PBY's began basing at ATTI. SHERYA medium bomber strip is now 80% complete. Apparently the PARAMUSHIRO air strike is still held up by weather.

In SoPac the bombardment by T.G. 36.2 is postponed to night 11-12 (-11) due to heater not being in desired position for the assault. No summary from ComSoPac. STF 11 - 100123 in his summary for the 9th (-11).

ComAirPac's 090435, CinCPac's 100227 and CinCPac's 100327 (all pink) are exploratory as regards setting more fighter aircraft for ComSoPac.

CominCh 081210 informs that J.C.G. have reduced the category of defense in continental sea frontiers including Panama. This should operate to provide more personnel and material for fighting zones.

Major General Alexander Vandegrift, USMC relieved Major General C.P. Vogel, USMC as 1st MarAmphCorps in SoPac.
SECRET

July 10th. (Shu Date)

ComNorPac's 110911 is his summary. 8 planes dropped bombs on Paramushiro Strait Area in d.r. runs from Cape Shoniden because of heavy overcast - results not observed, and returned safely to base. Our aircraft struck heavily and turned back a four ship convoy headed for Kiska well to the westward of the latter place. One ship was sunk, one badly damaged, and two hit.

ComSoPac's 100600 is his summary. Events are shaping for SOPDA assault tomorrow.

ComSoPac's 110421 (pink) is a proposed modification of his minor strategy in New Georgia involving a by-pass of Vila. He asks for current from CTF 31 and ComAirSoPac. It appears both suitable and feasible.

Two of our subs apparently severely damaged on XAV and XCL.

PERMIT in a highly successful cruise against enemy unfortunately sunk a Russian trawler, killing 2 people. She will be directed to a port in the Aleutian Chain to turn over survivors.

July 11th. (Shu Date)

ComNorPac's 112055 and 120029 are his summary for the 11th (10). 5 Liberators making a second attack on Paramushiro were forced back by weather 200 miles short of goal.

No summary from ComSoPac. The SOPDA bombardment by Rear Adm. Merrill was carried out according to plan. Col. Liversedge seems to have the rice anchorages - Enorai - Isoroko area in hand. No news of the expected assault on SOPDA.

CinCPac 112347 (pink) informs CominCh of airmailed reply to his 021437 re command and staff organization of CinCPac.

ComNorPac 120015 (pink) gives as his opinion no CBE necessary for Kiska operation.

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July 12th. (Oahu Date)

Activities in North Pacific were nil because of fog.

In South Pacific fairly complete details were received of TG 36.1 (R.Adm. Ainsworth) night encounter, early morning 13th (-11) HONOLULU and ST. LOUIS each received a torpedo hit forward, LEANDER on amidships, and GWEN was ultimately sunk as result of after engine room torpedo hit. Cruisers reached TULAGI. Damage to enemy unknown, but R.Adm. Ainsworth believes one cruiser and three destroyers sunk.

AUSTRALIA and HOBART from 7th Fleet are to join ComSoPac at suggestion General MacArthur.

News of ground activity is scant.

July 13th. (Oahu Date)

No news from North Pacific.

Com 3rd Fleet 130846 is his summary for the 12th (-11) and his 140447 for the 13th (-11).

CTF 31 140240 gives the MUNDA ground forces situation. The grid map referred is not available. This dispatch of R.Adm. Turner indicates that he is confident of the ultimate taking of MUNDA by ear marking defense forces for the place on its capture. It would appear we have now 9 to 10,000 troops about equally divided northeast and east of the MUNDA field.

Com 3rd Fleet 140406 pink requests replacements for his damaged cruisers.

CominCh 132058 pink orders return of VICTORIOUS to U-K to start not later than 1 August.

CinCPac 132137 pink allocates area south of TRUK to ComSoPac for his submarine operations.

[Signature]

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July 14th. (Oahu Date)

No news of importance from North Pacific.

CTF 31 - 150254 is a summary of the ground situation at MUNDA.

ComAirSols 151245 describes repulse of enemy air attack on RENDOVA with claims of shooting down 30 zeros and 15 medium bombers with only 3 of our pilots missing. Evidence accumulates of apparent decreasing skill on part of enemy aviators.


CinCPac's 150005 pink is his reply to Com 3rd Fleet's request for cruiser replacements.

July 15th. (Oahu Date)

ComNorPac's 150629 is his summary for the 14th (10). MONAGHAN bombarded GERTRUDE COVE, KISKA. ComNorPac's 160913 is his summary for the 15th (10). KIRKA continues to be bombarded from sea and air.

Summaries are slow getting in from ComSoPac. Com3rd-Flt's 150547 is his for the 14th (-11). On 15th (-11) land operations NEW GEORGIA passed to Army Command, Major General Griswold. A task group of DD's and APD's successfully evacuated a large party (16 officers and 162 men), survivors from HELENA on VELLA LAVELLA plus 16 prisoners. Ships saw Jap naval personnel in water who resisted capture.

Our subs to north of TRUK were unsuccessful in hitting enemy carrier's bound there.

CominCh 141300 (pink) states his views re asking more planes from Army for SoPac.
SECRET

July 16th. (Oahu Date)

ComNorPac's 170639 is his summary for the 16th (-10). Operations hampered by fog.

In South Pacific CHINCOTEAGUE heavily bombed south of VANIKORO by enemy air probably from MAURU.

CTF 31's 170422 is his summary of ground operations for the 16th (-11) in MUNDA area. ComSndFt 160545 is his summary of the 15th (-11).

A very heavy air strike on KAHIKI shipping from 0940 - 0940 on the 16th (-11) resulted in sinking following enemy ships: 1 CL or DL, 2 DDs, 1 PC, 2 AKs, 1 A0 and 1 AK damaged and beached according to preliminary report. Enemy lost 44 Zeros and we have 5 planes missing.

July 17th. (Oahu Date)

DesRon 22 attacked three enemy DDs in the Vella Gulf and reports one enemy DD possibly sunk. This was a daylight action but the time of day was not reported. During the day large air strikes were made in the MUNDA Area to support the ground forces. A large air strike was made against shore positions and shipping in the Buin Area at 0930 (-11) the 18th. One AK was reported sunk and 2 DD and 1 AK hit by bombs. 13 Zeros were shot down, and our loss was 4 VF. LST 342 was sunk by enemy torpedoes on the 18th off Wickham (New Georgia). The CHINCOTEAGUE was badly damaged by bombs in the New Georgia Area but may be saved.

The THRESHER reported sinking 20000 tons and damaging 19000 tons of enemy shipping while on patrol in the Philippine Area.

In the North Pacific plans are underway to bomb PARA-MUSHIRO tomorrow. Three flights will be made, the first taking off from ATU at 0500. The GILLIS, TEAL, and CASCO will assist the planes.

The Central Pacific was quiet.

There were no new enemy developments.
SECRET
July 16th. (Oahu Date)

At 0830 (-11) 19th 20 SBD and 18 TBF attacked enemy positions north of KUNDA. Com 3rd Flt 190552 is an operation summary for the 16th (-11). Between 0137 and 0239 (-11) 19th 9 B-17s attacked in the BUIN area.

The CHINCOTEAGUE is being towed to port by the SONOMA. There was doubt yesterday as to whether or not she could be saved.

The planned strikes were made on PARAMUSHIRO from ATU today. The S-35 reports two hits in a cannery ship off the west coast of KAMCHATKA. If this is a Jap ship it would indicate Jap fishing in the Sea of OKHOTSK.

There are continued evidence of enemy reinforcements to the SOLOMONS, but no change in major Jap units.

July 19th. (Oahu Date)

A Tokyo Express of 3 CL, 6 DD, 2 APs were sighted by search planes in the VELLA GULF shortly after midnight the 20th (-11). The following morning the Express was attacked by our bombers and fighters. Reported results follow - 1 CL sunk, 2 DD sunk, 1 DD probably sunk, 1 DD and 1 AP sunk; four own bombers were lost. It is doubtful if the cruiser was sunk. Between 0030 and 0258 (-11) 20th 18 B-24s attack KUNILI. At 1610 (-11) 20th 36 VMB attacked enemy gun position near LAMBERT (NEW GEORGIA) in support of ground troops.

The HOBART was hit by a sub torpedo at 2000 (-11) 20th about 150 miles west of ESPIRITU SANTO. Last reports indicate the ship proceeding to ESPIRITU at 7 knots. This again raises the question of surface vessels patrolling a line in known submarine waters. The fast BBs and two CVs are proceeding to a point 250 miles south of the RUSSELLS. Why this move is being made is not clear as information here does not show suitable targets for such formidable force in or near the North CORAL SEA or the SOLOMONS SEA. Enemy submarine activities continue along our lines of communication between ESPIRITU and NEW GEORGIA.

Troops continue pressure on the KUNDA area but no substantial gains are reported. Reinforcements are planned to RENDOVA from GUADALCANAL the night of the 20th-21st (-11). Little troop activity is reported in the HUON GULF area. Evidently the NEW GUINEA operation is not underway in force now. No recent reports have been received regarding progress in KIRWINA and WOODLARK.

As a result of recent enemy action Admiral Halsey sent his 200441 and 192449 both pinks requesting DDs and SSs. Com 7th Fleet 190821 pink requests DDs

(Continued)
SECRET

July 19th. (Oahu Date) (Continued)

Funafuti was raided by three enemy bombers last night. Only slight damage was reported.

The DELLWOOD grounded while laying a cable between SHemya and ATTU today. Salvage seems probable. Bad weather in the western Aleutians prevented air operations.

July 20th. (Oahu Date)

The South Pacific Area was comparatively quiet today. HOBART is making satisfactory progress toward ESPIRITU SANTO. Because the power lead in the cruiser floating drydock at ESPIRITU grounded out when preparing to dock the ST. LOUIS, two weeks delay may be expected in docking the cruisers damaged recently in the New Georgia area.

The Central Pacific was quiet. The ground reconnaissance of the Ellice Islands has been completed and members of the reconnaissance party are now at CinCPac headquarters with their report. There seems to be good possibility of constructing an air strip at both NUKUFETAU and NAKONEA.

Rear Admiral Turner has arrived at Pearl and will start work at once on Central Pacific operations. The Joint Chiefs of Staff met today and may consider Central Pacific Operations. Although no directive has been received from the JCoFS, plans are going ahead for the seizure of the Marshalls.

CinCPac 210119 (pink) states that no additional Pac Fleet subs can be sent to the SoPac as requested yesterday.

The DELLWOOD sank early this morning in the ATTU area. Two DDs bombarded Kiska at 0200 (+10) today. Results were not observed. Further bombardment plans are in ComNorPac 210055. Photos of Paramushiro show 1 CA, 3 CLs, 10 DDs-PC's, 4 AK at the naval anchorage; and 6 DDs-PCs, 6 AKs and about 75 fishing boats at Katoaka.
SECRET

July 21st. (Oahu Date)

The summary of operations in the MUNDA area is contained in CTF 31 220307. The Army troops seem incapable of further offensive operations until the 25th (-11) which probably is due to exhaustion from jungle fighting because they are not battle seasoned troops. A large group of our planes attack shipping in the BUIN area at 1600 (-11) 22nd and report sinking 1 ACV and hitting 1 DD. At 1624 (-11) 22nd 16 Army VBH attacked 1 cruiser or DL and 2 DD in the BUIN area. Results were not observed.

Captain E.A.M. Gendreau (MC) USN, Fleet Surgeon, was killed in action as a result of an enemy dive bombing raid at RENDOVA on the afternoon of the 21st (-11).

A minor raid was made by the enemy on FUNAFUTI at 0545 (4/12) 21st.

Our submarines continue to make successful attacks on enemy shipping. The SAWFISH reports sinking one and damaging two ships of a convoy for 24,000 tons in Empire Waters; and the HADDOCK reports hitting all four ships of a troop laden convoy north of the PELEWS.

JCS 202204 pink is a directive for operations in the GILBERTS and NAHRU.

The INDIANA and VICTORIOUS have been directed to proceed to PEARL. The INDIANA will go to the NVPH for additional AA guns and the VICTORIOUS will proceed to U-K via the PANAMA CANAL and East Coast of U.S.A.

C. G. SAMOA has been asked by MarcCorps what personnel and equipment is necessary for the early movement and operations of the 22nd Marines and the 2nd, 7th, and 8th Defense Battalions.

There were no new enemy developments.

July 22nd. (Oahu Date)

An attempt will be made to land supplies tonight at BNOGAI by APDs and DDs. TF 36,2 will cover. Com 3rd Fleet has issued a directive relieving DDs in TF 31. This should be completed by 1 August. Summary of operations in the MUNDA area is contained in CTF 31 230420.

A coordinated bombardment was made on targets on KISKA by TG of BBs, cruisers and DDs. Weather was good. Bombing missions were also carried out against KISKA targets.

- Continued -
SECRET

July 22nd. (Oahu Date) - Continued -

Our submarines continue to make successful attacks on enemy shipping. TROUT reports sinking an AO and damaging an AK in EAST INDIES waters.

VD-3, basing at FUNAFUTI, will make a reconnaissance of OCEAN ISLAND about 26 July (-11).


In his 222230 pink Admiral Halsey requests that the WASHINGTON be sent to the SOPAC prior to the release of the INDIANA.

Com 3rd Fleet, in reply to CinCPac 210119 stated that additional areas south of TRUK are not desired.

ComAirSoPac 222112 pink discusses return of certain aviation units from SOPAC for Central Pacific Operations.

There were no new enemy developments.

July 23rd. (Oahu Date)

ComSoPac 240532 is a summary of operations in the MUNDA area. During last night troop reinforcements were successfully landed at ENOGAI and casualties evacuated. Two large air strikes were made in the MUNDA area during the day, one of which was in direct support of our troops in NEW GEORGIA.

CinCPac 240115 requests ComSoPac comment on a proposal to use the 19th replacement battalion to bring the 22nd Marines at SAMOA up to complement. CinCPac 240221 states that MAG-13 is no longer available to ComSoPac.

The INDIANA will be sailed north as previously directed. Admiral Halsey estimates that Jap strength in TRUK area by mid-August will require great surface strength available to him. Decision is pending regarding the relief of the INDIANA by the WASHINGTON. CinCPac 232131 pink and ComSoPac 240531 pink.

The TINOSA reported 12 torpedo hits in the TONAN MARU #3. For some reason only one torpedo exploded.

Com 3rd Fleet 230400 pink is a reorganization of SOPAC forces.

The RUNNER, which had been ordered to patrol in Empire waters is overdue, and must be presumed lost.
SECRET

July 24th. (Oahu Date).

Two very large air attacks were made by a total of 250 of our planes on enemy positions in the MUNDA area during the day. Our DDs also bombarded the area. No report has been received regarding troop action although an offensive was planned for today. CTF 31 250158 is a summary for the day of the NEW GEORGIA operation.

6 B-24s attacked WAKE today. One was lost by enemy action near WAKE and another crashed on landing at MIDWAY. The enemy was alerted and intercepted the bombers with about 22 VFs. AA fire was heavy and accurate.

The PORPOISE reports sinking 17000 tons enemy shipping while on patrol in the MARSHALLS.

The North and Central Pacific areas were quiet.

The agenda for the next CinCPac-CominCh conference has been received. CominCh 241556 (pink).

July 25th. (Oahu Date).

The NEW GEORGIA area was generally quiet. Final push on MUNDA was scheduled for yesterday but no report has been received as to progress. Jap VF's and VB's intercepted our patrol, dive bombed and strafed RENDELOVA Beach but no reports have as yet been received. 8 Zeros were shot down. We lost 2 P-39's and 4 P-40's. CTF 31's 230445 is a summary of the day's activities.

Bombing of KISKA was resumed 24 July (24C) with 15/ tons falling on various targets. There seems to be some surface activity in the area but details are now lacking. Some enemy attempt may be made to reinforce KISKA.

12 B-24's are scheduled to leave MIDWAY for a bombing mission against WAKE at 1645Z/26.

The Central Pacific area was generally quiet.

CinCPac 252007 requests CTF 16 plans in the North Pacific after the KISKA operation.

CominCh's 251735 states that the SOUTH DAKOTA and ALABAMA plus BIRMINGHAM will proceed to the Pacific in the next month or so.

Our lack of radio security of plane movements makes it possible for the enemy to get valuable information. Corrective steps are being taken.

Comma 1626
SECRET

July 26th (Oahu Date)

Our bombers made heavy raids against the MUNDA area. Ground forces are advancing slowly. No report of casualties has yet been received. Com 3rd Fleet 260558 and 270622 report events in the general area. Photos show what appears to be a concentration of air strength at KAHILI.

Our submarines are still active. HADDOCK attacked two loaded tankers and forced them to return to PALAU, damaging one.

TO 16.7 fired on radar targets west of AMCHITKA for 40 minutes. 13 bombing missions dropped 108 tons of assorted bombs on various KISKA targets.

4 B-24's from MIDWAY carried out another bombing mission against WAKE. AA was accurate and intense. 20-30 zeros intercepted of which 9 were shot down with 4 more probables and 5 damaged. Enemy pilots seemed to be experienced and highly trained.

CinCPac 270455 (Pink) informs Admiral Nimitz and Halsey of plans for occupations in the ELLICE ISLANDS.

July 27th (Oahu Date)

Our planes attacked both the MUNDA area and VILA today. Aside from these, no activity has been reported from the NEW GEORGIA area.

Our submarines still make encouraging reports. SAWFISH reports sinking 26000 tons and damaging 12000 during a recent patrol in the China Sea. Among those sunk was a loaded AP.

Six bombing missions were able to operate today against KISKA. There are no indications of any enemy surface forces in the Alaskan Area, but our forces are operating upon the assumption that they are still within striking distance.

The Pacific areas were quiet.

CinCPac 281941 pink is a directive to CG Samoa for the ELLICE ISLAND operation.

Cominch 272310 pink requests recommendations for a move of 6 APA and 2 AKA to the Pacific. This was answered in CinCPac 282135.
SECRET

July 28th (Oahu Date)

Light bombing and strafing raids were the only air activity reported in the NEW GEORGIA area. No report of the general area has been received. A heavy air strike against BUNK shipping and KAHILI was postponed a day or two because of weather.

No report of the Alaskan area has been received. That area seems quiet.

The Pacific Ocean is generally quiet.

(Pink) 231941 CinCPac to ComGen Samoa is a directive to occupy and defend NUKUPEPAU and MANOMPA in the ELlice ISLANDS.

(Pink) 282135 CinCPac to CominCh recommends certain troop movements from the East to West Coast and from the West Coast to Pearl in conjunction with the proposed assignment of APA's and AKA's to CinCPac as advised in (pink) CominCh 27231C to CinCPac.

July 29th (Oahu Date)

The only air activity in the NEW GEORGIA area consisted of two bombing raids on the west shore of Beerooko. Two APC's delivered supplies to Enogai without incident. The condition of the ground forces is somewhat static with some success by tanks and flame throwers. The line of the 43rd division is approximately north and south.

Activity in the Alaskan area was greatly curtailed because of weather. Patrol plane radar contact disclosed 7 possible ships Southwest of ATTU at 53-26 N, 167-30 E. Fog prevented any sightings. This may be an attempt to reinforce Kiska.

(Pink) 300250, ComGen Samoa to WarCorps states the strength of the various units under his command.

(Pink) 291850, ComWesSeaFron to ComNorPac announces the sailing of T.O. 51.2.
SECRET

July 30th (Oahu Date)

Our planes heavily bombed MUNDA POINT and GURAMA on one mission and BALLIAE ISLAND on another. Col. Liversedge has taken up a defensive position and is restricting movements to aggressive local patrols. Com 3rd Fleet 310636 contains a summary of ground operations.

Offensive air operations against KISKA were curtailed because of weather. Searches were also curtailed. FARRAGUT and HULL bombarded targets on KISKA with no return fire.

ComSoPac 310052 (pink) gives some changes in his directive to the ground forces in the operations against NEW GIORGIA.

CominCh 302157 (pink) designates the 27th Army Division for the proposed operations against the GILBERTS and MARSHALLS.

July 31st (Oahu Date)

Activity in South Pacific confined primarily to two heavy bombings of MUNDA area and one of the VIJA STANCOKE area. Little change in the ground situation except for movement at one point of our eastern attack force to within 1500 yards of MUNDA airfield.

All air activity in the ALASKAN area stopped because of weather.

KISKA radio not heard since 29th. This may indicate either destruction of radio facilities by bombardments or bombing or the possible evacuation of the KISKA garrison radio personnel.

Other than above Pacific Ocean Areas were quiet.

Com 3rd Fleet 310630 and 310641 contain reorganization of SoPac Task Forces.
SECRET

1 August (Oahu Date)

There was much air activity in the NEW GEORGIA area today. Heavy raids were carried out against KAHILI, BAIKOKO HARBOR and WEBSTER COVE. PTs and DDs operated in BLANCHE CHANNEL during the night. ComGen SoPac 010440 is a general summary of events in the area.

Our submarines are still active. POGY reports scoring 2 hits on an XAV in the Mandates.

Air activity was confined to one radar controlled raid on KISKA because of weather. KISKA radio continues silent.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were quiet.

011359 (pink) CinCLant to CinCPac announces the arrival of RICHMOND, ALABAMA and SOUTH DAKOTA and 5 DD at the CANAL ZONE about 24 August.

2 August (Oahu Date)

Little has happened afloat in the NEW GEORGIA area. Ashore the 43rd Division has advanced on the left to the east end of the MUNDA airfield while the right has occupied BISOLO HILL. The 37th Division is advancing along the entire line against stiffening resistance. No reports have been received concerning air activity.

Two air missions bombed targets on KISKA. Battleships and cruisers, escorted by destroyers carried out an hour's bombardment of KISKA targets while two destroyers carried out a later bombardment of the same targets. ComNorPac's four part 021041 (not herein) is a summary of activities in the Alaskan Area for the month of July.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

030915 (pink) ComNorPac to CinCPac sets D-Day for COTTAGE as 24 August which he considers is the earliest practicable date.
3 August (Oahu Date)

Admiral Nimitz returned to PEARL from a CominCh-CinCPac conference at SAN FRANCISCO.

Our PTs were active in BLANKET STRAIT during the night, reporting several torpedo hits on enemy DDs. Our ground forces are advancing against strong enemy resistance. A combat patrol went through from ENOGAI to the southern lines today without meeting enemy resistance.

Our planes bombed TARAWA on 28 July with no definite results reported.

No report has been received of any action in the ALEUTIAN Area. The Pacific Ocean Area is generally quiet.

040708 (pink) Com 3rd Fleet to CinCPac offers suggestions for administration of certain areas in the Pacific.

CinCPac 032211 (pink) expresses the necessity of meeting the COTTAGE target date (See ComNorPac 030915 noted yesterday).

There were no new enemy developments.

4 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes have been active in the KIRI KIRI Area, staging a bombing raid on REKATA while our VF's intercepted a large number of Zeros over REMDOWA. These latter were driven off with heavy losses. Our loss was very light. Ground forces made better progress today. The Japs are now surrounded in the REMDOWA area. It is planned to send the 35th Infantry to KIRI KIRI Area, arriving 8 August. General Harmon returned to KOLI POINT this morning.

Heavy bombing attacks have been carried out against KIJA yesterday and today. Antiaircraft fire on the island seems progressively weaker.

USS TUNA and USS GROOPER arrived in PUERNE within the last week. Each reported having been depth charged by friendly planes in the SOLOMONS-NEW GUINEA Area, which resulted in considerable minor damage.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CominCh has requested NAUTICAL or NAUTILUS for operations in the Western Pacific. It is tentatively planned to have NAUTILUS available to ComSoPac by 1 October for this operation.

-Continued -
4 August (Oahu Date) (Cont'd)

Rear Admiral J.H. Bickford relieved Vice Admiral W.S. Fieulaine as Chief of Staff and Deputy CinCPac. Vice Admiral Fieulaine assumed command of the Central Pacific Force.

050430 (pink) Com 3rd Fleet to CinCPac discusses the transfer of four submarines from TF 72 to TF 71.

ComNorPac to CinCPac 050431 (pink) discusses D-day for the operation against Kiska. CominCh concurs with CinCPac that D-day should not be postponed.

CinCPac to CominCh 050125 (pink) requests that twenty small landing craft for use during Central Pacific operations be obtained from the Army.

5 August (Oahu Date)

The BUNDA airfield has been captured after 12 days fighting. Mopping up operations are now in progress. There are 1671 known Jap killed, 25 prisoners. Limited air activity continued in the area.

Bombing of Kiska continued with one mission of S-24s today. Photos show large scale damage to buildings including the 2 radio stations. This may account for the absence of any Kiska radio on the air as recently noted herein. DDs again bombarded Kiska targets.

PETO reports sinking a naval auxiliary and damaging an AO during a recent patrol north of the BIZARRE ARCHIPELAGO.

CinCPac to PacFleet 050301 designates the Central Pacific Force as Task Force 10 and lists its initial composition.

More aircraft are needed in the continental U.S. for training and forming new units. All shipments must be curtailed as much as possible commensurate with the need for combat replacements. It is impractical to divert VFPs for support and formation of additional NEW ZEALAND units.

CinCPac to ComGenHawDept 052217 (pink) is a directive to make preparations to occupy and defend BAKER ISLAND.

CinCPac to CominCh 060159 (pink) requests relief as soon as possible for Marines in SAMOA to permit their use in GILBERT-NAURU operations.

CinCPac to CominCh 060341 (pink) requests action on changes in amphibious forces in the Pacific.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CinCPac 052255 pink and ComNorPac 050110 pink discuss D-DAY for COTTAGE.
SECRET

6 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes bombed REKATA BAY heavily. All AA was reported silenced in the target area. T.G. 31.2 engaged 4 enemy ships, including a cruiser, in VELLA GULF and reported definitely sinking 3 with the fourth probable. We suffered no damage or casualties. MUNDA airfield is now being cleaned and repaired and should soon be in operation. The 25th Division is advancing northward and may develop enemy contacts.

Searches operated from ADAK and ATTU. No bombing missions operated against KISKA. Two of our DD's bombarded KISKA targets, each firing 50 rounds. No damage or casualties were sustained, as the enemy did not return the fire. Hits were reported in the target area.

The Pacific Ocean areas were generally quiet.

CominCh to CinCPac 061952 discusses the movement of the 6th Division.

VCNO to Com-11, Com-15 061940 (pink) announces the departure of troops and transports from NORFOLK on 24 August for SAN DIEGO.

CinCPac to CominCh 062221 (pink) requests the movement of LCT's to FUNAFUTI.

CinCPac to CominCh 061945 (pink) suggests employment of BARACUDA, NONITA, and BASS to supply Filipino guerrillas.

ComSoPac 070551 gives estimates to move 2nd MarDiv to Nandi.

7 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes carried out two large bombing missions, one against BAIRIKO Harbor and the other against VIITA. Many hits were reported. A large force of Jap planes attacked KENDOVA but were driven off. One hit was reported on an army hospital which killed 6. There has been no report of ground activities.

Weather prevented any missions against KISKA. Searches were carried out by radar plane from ADAK.

A large bombing mission operated against SALAMAUA. Many hits were reported.

CNO to CinCPac 061940 (pink) discusses the shipment of DUKW's to the SOPAC area.

(Continued)
SECRET

CinCPac to ComGen SAMOA 080145 (pink) requests an estimate of the troops needed to relieve those in SAMOA.

It seems probable that CinC Combined and CinC 3rd are at TRUK. No major move of enemy surface craft is expected south of TRUK in the near future.

CG HawDep 4/01 requests authority to move Army troops in the Pacific, and that CG HawDep be designated CG Army Troops & Central Pacific.

8 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes carried out heavy bombing raids against VILA airfields. REKATA BAY was strafed. Our ground forces are advancing north of MUNDA although hampered by rain and bad terrain. Work on the MUNDA airfield progresses.

Searches in ALASKA were curtailed and bombing missions against Kiska were cancelled because of weather. 2 DDs again bombarded Kiska targets with no return fire. S-30 reports sinking 1 AK with another probable in the vicinity of ARAIDO off PARAMUSHIRO.

CinCPac to CominCh 090043 gives an estimate of additional non-combatant shipping required to support planned Central Pacific Operations.

CinCPac 082049 (pink) directs diversion of DUKW's to FUNAFUTI and estimates of these for the future.

The enemy continues to strengthen positions in the MARSHALLS and GILBERTS.

9 August (Oahu Date)

Our VF's intercepted and turned back a large force of VF's and VB(M)'s over the RENODO-NEW GEORGIA area. One flank of the ground forces encountered some frontal resistance 7000 yards N NW of MUNDA while the other flank made contact with Blue patrols on the BAIROKO River 4000 yards south of BAIROKO Harbor.

No report has been received from the ALEUTIANS.

ComGen SAMOA to CinCPac 091940 (pink) is an estimate of the Army forces needed to defend the SAMOA Area.

SubComServPac to VCNO 091806 (pink) discusses sending amphibious trucks to FUNAFUTI.

ComSoPac to Comdt MarcCor 100357 (pink) is a recommendation as to the relief of Lt.Gen. Vandegrift.

ComNorPac to CinCPac 100615 (pink) sets the D-Day for COTTAGE.
SECRET

10 August (Oahu Date)

Air operations were restricted throughout the NEW GEORGIA area because of weather. A small formation of B-24s bombed KURUMA. Ground forces in the MUNDA area continue to advance against stiffening resistance. The right flank has joined elements of our northern force near the headwaters of the BARROKO River.

Heavy bombing was carried out against KISKA today. Our DDs also bombarded the usual targets. 9 B-24s are scheduled to attack PARAMUSHIRO tomorrow D hour to be designated later.

CinCPac to CominCh 110611 discusses the availability of transports and cargo ships for the Pacific Fleet.

CinCPac to ComNorPac 102215 (pink) requests an estimate as to completion of the COTTAGE Operation so that assault shipping used therein may be used in other Pacific Operations.

ComSoPac to CinCPac and CinCSoWestPac 100112 (pink) discusses the occupation of VELLA VELLES and sets the target date.

In answer to CominCh 071538 (pink) CinCPac 110631 (pink) withdraws suggestion contained in 061945 (herein) for V-type submarines for special mission in the Western Pacific.

11 August (Oahu Date)

The NEW GEORGIA area was quiet.

A mission of 9 B-24s bombed targets on PARAMUSHIRO. 5 of 40 intercepting aircraft were shot down. 2 own planes failed to return. A lone reconnaissance plane made a nuisance raid on KISKA.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CinCPac 120455 (pink) requests comment of ComSoPac relative to the relief of Marines in SAMOA by Army troops.

The Army at SAN FRANCISCO has been directed to transfer 20 DUKW's SubComServPac.

CominCh has directed a NAUTILUS class submarine be made available to Com 7th Fleet by 1 November for a special mission in the Western Pacific.

Navy Yard, Norfolk has been directed to prepare MONROVIA as an APA transport commander flagship and emergency relief AGC.
SECRET

12 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes continue heavy bombing of targets in the NEW GEORGIA area. Ground forces in the MUNDA area advanced yesterday and today, the left column making 1500 yards.

KISKKA was bombed yesterday and today causing many fires and much smoke. FARRAGUT bombarded KISKKA throughout the night.

BatDiv 9, composed of SOUTH DAKOTA and ALABAMA, was formed and ordered to proceed to CANAL ZONE with DD escort about 20 August.

ComSoPac has directed ComGen FMAC to use 19th replacement battalion for shortages in the 22nd Marines.

CominCh 111902 gives the reorganization of amphibious forces effective 15 August.

ComGenSoPac has requested the 298th infantry be diverted from SAMOA to Eaghtritu Santo and that the 147th infantry remain at SAMOA. 129th infantry less one battalion will be sent to GUADALCANAL by the same shipping.

CinCPac 122245 (pink) discusses the shipping of 20 DUKW's to FANAPUTI and the plans for providing them with crews.

ComSoPac 130044 (pink) discusses the relief of Samoan Marines.

There are indications that the enemy has withdrawn a good number of troops from KISKKA. If this is so we can expect early release of NorPac forces. At present it is planned to leave the major part of the forces involved in the KISKKA operation in the ALEUTIANS throughout next winter. They are thus ready for a move to the KIRILES whenever the necessary means can be found for that thrust.

13 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes were active in the NEW GEORGIA-SHORTLANDS area making several heavy bombing raids on enemy targets. One enemy flight was intercepted and turned back over MUNDA. The APA JOHN PENN was sunk by enemy planes off GUADALCANAL early this evening. Ground troops are advancing to the northward in the MUNDA area. It is reported that the MUNDA airfield will be ready at 1500 (L)14.

Heavy bombing raids were carried out over KISKKA today. Single DDs bombarded KISKKA once yesterday and twice today. A cruiser force also carried out a heavy bombardment yesterday.

An enemy VP was reported over HOWLAND today.

(Continued)
SECRET

13 August (Oahu Date) - Continued -

CinCPac 132345 is a directive for the formation of the Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet and is effective 15 August.

General DeWitt 132125 requests support of his proposal to keep assault troops in the ALEUTIANS.

There were no new enemy developments.

14 August (Oahu Date)

Com 3rd Fleet 150540 reported the torpedoing of the Liberty ship M.E. DeYoung, southeast of SUVA.

DD bombarded targets on Kiska. No further information has been received from the Aleutians.

CinCPac 150715 (pink) recommends that assault troops in the Aleutians remain there after the KISKA operation.

ComNorPac 140401 confirms D-Day for assault on KISKA as 15 August.

ComNorPac 142137 (pink) gives estimates of departure of APA's, AKA's and LST's from KISKA after COTTAGE.

Chief of Staff 6017 15th discusses the authority of Lt. General Richardson regarding troop moves as ComGenCentPac. General Richardson has been designated Commanding General, Central Pacific Area.

CominCh 111715 and CinCPac 140325 (pink) discuss the allocation of AK's and AO's for operations in the Central Pacific.

15 August (Oahu Date)

About 4600 of our troops have landed at BARAKOMA on VELLA LAVELLA. Some air opposition was encountered. CAPE ESPERANCE reported being shelled, possibly by a submarine.

Jap planes have been engaged by our PV's in the ELLICE IS. and driven off. Heavy explosions were reported to the eastward by NANOMBA.

Our troops commenced landing on KISKA today and are advancing as planned against no opposition. Air support was not possible because of weather at the bases. Bombardment was carried out according to plan. Weather conditions were good on the beaches and complete tactical surprise was reported.

(Continued)

1637
SECRET

15 August (Oahu Date) - Continued -

VCNO 112125 (pink) and CinCPac 160337 (pink) discuss the shipment of DUKW's to the Pacific area and the rates and conditions of future shipments.

ComGen SAMOA 152255 (pink) describes guns and automatic weapons available to the 2nd, 5th, 7th and 8th defense battalions.

The movement of a task force of APAs, AKAs and DDs from the Atlantic to the Pacific has been directed. These ships are expected to participate in future operations in the Central Pacific.

16 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes made several strikes in the NEW GEORGIA Area yesterday and today. The 25th and 43rd divisions are advancing slowly in the MUNDA Area. Our DD's were attacked by dive bombers upon completion of unloading at TARAKONA and suffered some minor damage. Our PT's were active in the VELILLA-IMIKA Area during the night.

Landing of troops is proceeding on KISKA against no opposition. It is estimated there are now 7000 in the northern sector and 9000 in the southern.

ComSoPac 160502 described the position of Deputy SoPac in the organization.

U.S.S. VIRGO (AKA20) will be added to the convoy which departs from NORFOLK 24 August for SAN DIACO and was reported in CNO's 061941 (pink) herein.

Cominch 161451 and 161462 (pink) discuss the allocation of cargo ships to WTB for Central Pacific operations.

17 August (Oahu Date)

Our DDs attacked Jap DDs and barges off VELILLA and report damaging 2 out of 4 DDs with one possibly sunk. PTs were also active. There has been no change in the position of ground troops.

Landing of troops continues on KISKA with no opposition having been encountered, although all former enemy positions have been reconnoitered. Mine sweeping of VEGA RAY has been completed with negative results. Our transports will complete unloading at KISKA Harbor and GERTRUDE COVE.

ComGen SAMOA 172302 (pink) postpones D-day for NANOMEA about 10 days.

Cominch 171901 (pink) discusses the schedule of West Coast Amphibious Training.

(Continued)
SECRET

17 August (Oahu Date) - Continued -

A force of 6 BB, 6 CV, 5 CA, 6 CL, 16 DD is now believed at TRUK. If the Japs are going to make a raid in force against our outlying positions, their chances of success are much better now than they will be later when the Central Pacific Force is organized and functioning. A raid on MIDWAY, for example, seems within enemy capabilities at the present.

18 August (Oahu Date)

Our troops are slowly advancing on BAANJA Island in the New Georgia Group, while the 25th Division is preparing to make a final assault on BAIROKO.

The fantail of the U.S.S. APNER READ was blown off by an unexplained under water explosion while she was patrolling off KISKA. The ship is now proceeding to ADAK in tow. 61 are reported missing and 26 injured. Patrols continued to search KISKA for Japs but none have been encountered yet. A landing was made on Little Kiska today with similar results. Buildings on KISKA had been hit and sizeable amounts of ammunition and supplies were found. KISKA Harbor is being swept for mines. All planes were grounded because of the weather.

CinCPac 182357 is a plan for the movement of LST's and APA's in the Pacific.

CinCPac 182203 (pink) discusses equipment of defense battalions.

CinCPac 190317 (pink) requests information relative to the supply of APA's and AKA's to be used in future operations in the Pacific.

19 August (Oahu Date)

Our DD's and air have been engaged in minor activity in the NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL area. The 43rd Division is now engaged in flanking operations against hostile resistance on BAANJA Island. The 25th Division reports no contact after active patrolling. Operations against BAIROKO now scheduled to start 21 August.

KISKA is now considered in our hands weeks ahead of schedule with no Japs contacted. Patrolling continues. Booby traps and mines were reported in South Head area. Southern transports continue unloading at GERTRUDE COVE while northern transports are en route to KISKA HARBOR. Reconnaissance in force on TREGULA ISLAND indicates same situation as on KISKA.

CominCh 191758 (pink) directs the return of 1st Special Service Force from ALASKA to the U.S.

- Continued -

1639
19 August (Oahu Date) - Continued -

CincPac 200031 and 200045 (pink) discuss the return of certain ships from ALASKA.for repairs.

VCNO 191825 (pink) discusses the organization and training of proper components for operations in the Central Pacific.

CincPac has approved a letter to CominCh regarding a speed-up of the Pacific Campaign.

Outline plans for the seizure of the MARSHALLS have been completed and will be delivered to CominCh 23 August.

Steps are underway to improve logistic planning.

20 August (Oahu Date)

Blue ground reinforcements have arrived at BARAKOMA on NEW GEORGIA. PTs operated against barges last night and sunk one between VILA and BAIRIKO. No general report has been received from the South Pacific.

Activity at KISKA was confined to unloading transports and mine sweeping. Weather prevented air searches.

The Pacific Ocean areas were generally quiet.

CominCh 210820 (pink) directs the reassignment of certain troops from KISKA to the Central Pacific subject to CincPac concurrence.

ComSoPac 210111 (pink) answers CincPac 190317 (pink) relative to the former supplying APAs and AKAs for the movement of troops and supplies for Central Pacific operations.

CominCh 210252 (pink) approves of the reassignment and reduction of surface force in North Pacific previously recommended by CincPac 200031 (pink) herein.
SECRET
21 August (Oahu Date)

There was very little activity in the NEW GEORGIA area except for operations of some PTs against barges around VELLA VELLA.

There have been reports indicating probable presence of Jap submarines off OAHU.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet, except for definite sighting of enemy surface vessel with large superstructure and possible escort, by one of our submarines in latitude 30°-44° N longitude 177°-30° E (310 miles NW of MIDWAY).

ComGen SAMOA 212006 reports administrative changes of Marine units under his command.

ComNorPac 220847 and 220936 (pink) discuss a possible operation against PARAKHITIWARA.

CincPac 220211, 217345 and 220445 (all pink) direct the movement of certain Army and Navy units from the ALBATROSS area.

CincPac 220215 (pink) discusses the use of hospital facilities in the South Pacific Area.

22 August (Oahu Date)

Activity in the NEW GEORGIA-VELLA VELLA area consisted of routine patrols and minor operations against Jap barges. Many of these latter were attacked and some sunk. The 25th Division is patrolling actively preparatory to its attack on BAIROKO. The 43rd Division captured 2-6" Jap guns during its occupation of BANGA ISLAND. Artillery has been set up at SUITA.

ComNorPac 230651 is a daily summary of Kiska operations.

Com 7th Fleet 230715 discusses a plan to redistribute the submarines in the Southwest Pacific Area.

CTG 19.6 230844 describes fortifications and documents captured at Kiska.

CominCh 221630 is a plan for training additional Marine and Army amphibious divisions.

ComNorPac 230319 is a schedule for the movement of ships from the ALASKAN Area to the West Coast of U.S.
SECRET

23 August (Oahu Date)

Our DD's were active in the NEW GEORGIA-VELLA LAVELLA Area during the night as were the enemy air forces. These latter were intercepted and driven off VELLA LAVELLA and MUNDA. The 25th Division is continuing its advance toward Bairoko and the 43rd is actively patrolling on BALUCA ISLAND with no opposition.

No report has been received from the ALASKAN-ALIJAN Area today.

An enemy observation plane was reported in the vicinity of HOMELAND ISLAND today.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CTG 20.15 240830 (pink) is a reenumbered or the directive ordering APA's and AKA's from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

ComNorPao 240628 (pink) is a description of the movement of naval forces from ALASKA to West Coast ports.

CinCPac 240341 (pink) directs ComNORPAC to continue planning and training for future operations.

24 August (Oahu Date)

There was some DD and PT activity in the NEW GEORGIA area last night. DesRon 21 was bombed and FRE BALE and MONTGOMERY collided while maneuvering but at last report were proceeding to port. No daily report has been received from Com 3rd Fleet.

Unloading is continuing at Kiska. Reconnaissance of RAT ISLAND and BULDIR ISLAND disclosed no evidence of the enemy, past or present. Air searches were carried out from ATTU and ADAK today.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CinCPac 250215 (pink) directs ComNORPAC to prepare a plan for the seizure of the North KURILES and the establishment of bases thereon.

ComNorPao 250631 (pink) informs CinCPac that the 75th Signal Company has been formed for duty with landing forces and is now at Kiska available for further operations.

CinCPac 250235 (pink) directs APAs and AKAs to proceed from the CANAL ZONE to SAN DIEGO thence to PEARL with the 6th Infantry Division.
SECRET

25 August (Oahu Date).

Our DD's and PT's operated in the NEW GEORGIA-VELLA LAVELLA Area during the night. Also last night our DD's laid a mine field west of KOLUMBANGARA ISLAND. Our planes were active in the area, bombing various targets. Enemy resistance has ceased in NEW GEORGIA proper, much food and many vehicles being taken today. Islands south of ARUNDEL and west of BAANGA have been occupied by us without opposition.

Unloading continues at KISKA. Air searches were operated out of ATTU, ADAK, and AMCHITKA today. Another Jap prisoner was taken today on ATTU.

CommNorPac 250656 (pink) directs a certain task unit of 20 EN, 1 CL and 3 DD's to proceed to PEARL from the Aleutian Area.

CinCPac 260906 (pink) assigns certain APA's and AKA's to SoPac for the movement of the 2nd Marine Division from WELLINGTON, N.Z.

CTF 11 250530 (pink) designated D-Day as 1 September for the operation against BAKER ISLAND.

26 August (Oahu Date).

The fourth echelon completed unloading yesterday at BARAKOMA. PT's were active in the NEW GEORGIA Area with negative results. APC's and DD's are being sent to ENOGAI today to evacuate 1st Raider Regiment and unload supplies. No report of today's operations has been received from Comm 3rd Fleet.

No report has been received of operations in the Aleutians.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CommFifthPhibFor 270727 (pink) directs Maj. Gen. Holland M. Smith to proceed to PEARL with headquarters and corps troops.

Vice CNO 262039 (pink) discusses the delivery of SWAN ISLAND tankers to CinCPac.

CominCh 262214 (pink) approves the assignment of 75th Signal Company to CinCPac.

ComBatDiv 9 261533 (pink) is the routing of BB task group to PEARL.
26 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes were very active over the entire Northwest Solomons Area with bombing and strafing missions against the enemy. Recent sweeps by our DD's and PT's have resulted in no enemy contacts. The 1st Raider Regiment has arrived at TETERE after its evacuation from KIOCAI by APD's. The situation of the ground forces remains unchanged.

Weather prevented any air searches in the Aleutian Area. Many land mines and wired grenades have been uncovered on the beach Northeast of WITCHCRAFT POINT, KISEA.

An enemy 4-motored patrol bomber was seen in the vicinity of BAKER ISLAND 25 August (2).

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

Com 5th Phib 282139 (pink) gives 3 September as the date of departure of General Smith for PEARL.

Com 3rd Fleet 200440 (pink) requests information as to the command of BB's in T.G. 12.3 now enroute in the Pacific.
SECRET

29 August (Oahu Date)

Some PT activity was all that was reported today from the NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL Area. Com 3rd Fleet’s daily summary did not arrive.

A heavy gale in the Aleutians prevented any extended air searches yesterday and today and caused a few landing craft to be lost. Captured material is still being inventoried and studied at Kiska. 2900 feet of steel mat at Casco Cove, ATTU will now permit emergency landings.

ComNorPac 300020 (pink) is a directive for TU 16.15.4 to proceed to PEARL.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

30 August (Oahu Date)

The fifth echelon arrived on BARAKOMA today. PTs operated in the area but reported no contacts during the night. The NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL area was quiet.

Our submarines report satisfactory results in EMPIRE and PHILIPPINE Waters.

Air activity was still curtailed in the ALEUTIAN Area because of the weather.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

Vice CHO 301355 (pink) discusses the methods for manning and procurement of DUKWs.

31 August (Oahu Date)

Our planes were active yesterday and today carrying out heavy strikes against KAHILI and VILA. Today our artillery bombarded VILA from ARUWDEL Island. The fifth echelon (local tactical) has completed landing at BARAKOMA. An unconfirmed coastwatch report indicates REKATA is being evacuated.

No report has been received today concerning any activity in the ALASKAN ALEUTIAN Area.

Jap radio has broadcast an account of our raid on MARCUS ISLAND today. No information has been received as yet from TF 15.

CG HawDept 011481 indicates that an operating team for SCR-588 will leave the Hawaiian Area for FUNAFUTI by first available surface transportation.

CG CentPac 312180 (pink) discusses the forces necessary for the GALVANIC and BAKERSITE Operations.

NavAct WELLESWORTH 312340 (pink) informs ComSoPac that Lieut. Webster REINFUR has been released to CinCPac for 6 months to act as adviser on hydrographic and terrain conditions in the GILBERT-ELLIQUE Group.

CominCh 311306 (pink) authorizes CinCPac to delay returning ASHLAND (LSD-1) until 20 November.

(Continued)
SECRET

August 31 (Oahu Date) - Continued -

TO 12.6 311901 (pink) is the routing of APAs and AKAs in the Pacific.

Vice CNO 311739 (pink) discusses the return of certain ships to the Army and WSA.

1 September (Oahu Date)

Our PT's operated in the NEW GEORGIA-CHOSISEUL Area during the night with negative results. The area was quiet. No report of the day's activities has been received from Com 3rd Fleet.

Air searches in the ALEUTIAN Area were active but curtailed because of weather. Examination of material captured on Kiska continues.

During the last two days Jap observation planes have been sighted off MIDWAY and off ATTU.

No report has been received concerning the recent strike on MARCUS by TF 15.

Vice CNO 011839 (pink) is a cancellation of VCNO 311739 (pink) herein and further discusses the return of certain ships to the Army and WSA.

ComNorPac 020213 (pink) is an estimate of the departure of XAP's from ADAK.

ComSoPac 020425 (pink) is a directive for divisional troop movements in the PACIFIC.

Cominch and CNO 302210 (pink) authorizes CinCPac to proceed with construction of base facilities at Kiska.
SECRET

2 September (Oahu Date)

Our PT's operated in the NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL Area with negative results. Our ground forces are advancing on VELLA LAVELLA. Coast watchers now believe SANTA ISABEL has been entirely evacuated. Air activity was curtailed yesterday because of weather.

Preliminary landings were made yesterday on XANOMEA and HUKUKATU in the ELLICE ISLANDS. The 1st echelon of the main occupation force moves forward in LCT and LST tomorrow. No enemy reaction has been reported yet.

Only air activity in the Aleutian Area was carried out from ADAM yesterday. All other fields were closed in.

ComNorPac 021040 (3 parts) is a summary of activity under his command during the month of August.

Our submarine scout reports MALECLAP and NOTJE in the MARSHALLS are quiet but KWAJALEIN is very active with 12 AK's and 2 AO's in the lagoon as well as many patrol craft. Air and surface patrols are active.

Our scout submarine reports heavy damage was imposed on MARCUS ISLAND during the recent raid. No planes are up and the radar is out of commission.

Com 3rd Fleet 030619 (pink) is a plan for the reorganization of the task forces of the 3rd Fleet.

Joint Chiefs of Staff 012115 (3 part - pink) is an operation order for the capture, etc., of the MARSHALL ISLANDS, WAKE, KINIWON, and PUSAIE.

3 September (Oahu Date)

Our planes were active in the NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL area yesterday and today, carrying out heavy bombing raids against KAMILI and VILA. Our troops continue to advance on ARUNDEL ISLAND against Jap delaying action. PT's and DD's operated against barge activity during the night, sinking several. Scouts have confirmed the Jap evacuation of SANTA ISABEL.

Our submarines continue with their good work, ALBACORE and SWAPPER both reporting sinkings on the TRUK-RABaul track.

The initial landing was made on BAKER ISLAND according to plan. Supplies and ammunition is now being landed. A Jap 4 engine seaplane was shot down the first day of the landing, 1 September, apparently without getting off information radio.

Our troops made a landing in the CAPE CRETIN area near PINSCHAUEN according to plan.
SECRET

4 September (Oahu Date)

PT's operated in NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL waters last night with negative contacts. The 6th echelon is due to depart GUADALCANAL for TARAKOVA on 6 September. Preliminary translation of captured enemy documents indicates an increase in RABAUL and vicinity strength estimates. In February, placing 79,901 troops there. January showed 61,501 and December 51,382.

Routine searches were made in the ALEUTIAN AREA yesterday. A Jap observation plane was reported herein.

TF 15 is now enroute to PEARL after completing the attack on MARCUS ISLAND. One TBF and 2 fighters were reported missing. Our submarines were requested to be alert for recovery of missing pilots.

U.S.S. KINGFISH returned to FREMANTLE from a 57 day patrol in the PHILIPPINE, SOUTHERN FORMOSA, CELEBES, VOLLAPA and BANDA SEA Areas. Several contacts were made but no damage was inflicted or sustained.

Landing craft, covered by DD's, landed troops in the vicinity of LAV-HOPOI on NEW GUINEA. Our air supported this force by attacks on various targets.

5 September (Oahu Date)

Our PT's operated west of VELLA VELLELA last night and broke up a small barge formation. The 6th echelon (local 'notical') is on route to BAKAKOMA and is due there at 0600 (I). Our planes were active against various targets in the NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL Area. The enemy continues to fight a delaying action on ARUNDELL with machine guns and light mortars.

It is estimated that the widening, deepening and straightening of TE APAFUA Channel and anchorage at FUNAFUTI will be completed in 4 or 5 weeks. Channel will be buoyed.

It is considered that U.S.S. NORTH CAROLINA will have to be dry docked for engine repair.

Air searches were carried out in the Aleutian Area yesterday and today from ATU, ADAK and AMCHITKA.

VCKO 012148 (pink) discusses the availability and suitability of AI's for future CentPac operations.

ComCenPac 052135 (pink) requests that NAMULUS be made available about 16 September for operations proposed by Com 5th Phib.
SECRET

6 September (Oahu Date)

Our PTs operated south of GANONGGA ISLAND while 2 DDs were scheduled to operate north of KOLOMBANGARA. The 8th echelon (local tactical) landed at BARAKOMA according to plan. Our planes staged heavy bombing raids against various enemy targets in the NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL area yesterday and today. Our ground troops continue to engage the enemy on ARUNDEL and VELLA LAVELLA.

An enemy air reconnaissance in force against BAKER ISLAND was turned back at HOWLAND 3 September. It is possible that the enemy plane shot down off BAKER, reported herein may have given a report of our landing. This landing is continuing slowly.

Routine air searches constituted the only activity in the ALEUTIAN area.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CinCPac approved the headquarters organization of the Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas today.
SECRET

7 September 1943

After occupation of Kiska on 15 August the consolidation of that base and the withdrawal of naval forces from the North Pacific Force proceeded. Most combatant units consisting of BB's, some CA's, ComCruDiv 1 and some destroyers proceeded to West Coast Ports for two weeks rest and rehabilitation. Four CA's remained pending the return of ComCruDiv 1, which is to be the permanent cruiser force in that area. The 7th Army Division which was not used at Kiska, due to the Jap evacuation, is proceeding in the assigned transports to PEARL for use in the Central Pacific.

Assembly and training of the combatant units of the Central Pacific Force, under Vice Admiral Spruance, is proceeding from PEARL HARBOR. Rear Admiral Turner is organizing the Amphibious Force for the GILBERTS operation.

Due to inadequate room at PEARL the training of the combatant units of the Central Pacific Force as a Fleet to meet possible major Jap Fleet opposition during occupation of the GILBERTS will have to be carried out elsewhere, possibly out of Nandi, or even by a concentration of the units a few days prior to start of operations.

Major General Holland Smith, Com5thPhibCorps, reported at PEARL and organization and training of units of the Amphibious Corps is proceeding.

Operations in the SOLOMONS and NEW GUINEA Area are proceeding in accordance with plan.

The enemy continues on the strategic defensive. From the fact that no major combatant units have been used to oppose the Allied advance up the SOLOMON ISLANDS or in the NEW GUINEA Area, together with the evacuation of Kiska and other intelligence information, it may be inferred that the Japs rely on air and troops for defense and do not consider our present advances sufficiently vital to cause them to resist with major combatant surface units.

Strong enemy naval forces and most of Fleet high commands are in TRUK. In spite of logistic difficulties it is within enemy capability to make a raid in force in the HAWAIIAN ISLANDS. Thus, the HAWAIIAN Fron is maintained in a Fleet Opposed Invasion status.
7 September 1943 (Oahu Date)

Our PT's and DD's operated in NEW GEORGIA-CHOISEUL waters during the night with negative results. No detailed report has been received from Com 3rd Fleet covering today's activities.

On HUKUFETAU and NANOMEA, operations are proceeding according to plan. Rear elements for these places leave APIA 9 September. NANOMEA reported a 12 plane raid with no damage or casualties. A Jap observation plane was also reported in the vicinity of BAKER ISLAND which escaped into a cloud before interception could be effected.

No report has been received of today's activities in the ALHUTIAN Area.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

It is planned to send ESSEX and YORKTOWN to SAN FRANCISCO on a quick trip to pick up aviation personnel and material. These should arrive on the West Coast 13 September and return to PEARL 19 September.

Com 3rd Fleet 070012 is a reorganization of the task forces in the Third Fleet.

VJNO 062025 (2 parts) requests certain information relative to the personnel and logistic support of Marine organizations in pending operations.

CominCh 051912 (pink) requests information relative to the forces covering the ELLICE ISLANDS operation.
2 September 1943 (Cahu Date)

Our PT's operated successfully against barges in KULA HARBOUR last night. Our planes were active yesterday attacking supply ships east of BAKER ISLAND. A submarine was reported and attacked off PMAPITI. It is believed the Japs intend to reinforce the WAKINISS area on VELDA IVELDA.

SUMNER (AG 32) on 1936 discusses the various channels at PMAPITI and what will be necessary to make them navigable.

Routine air searches were carried out yesterday and today from ALEUTIAN bases with negative results.

To date two Jap planes have been shot down off BAKER ISLAND - one on 1 September and one on 4 September. It is possible one of these reported on landing. A large strike was headed for BAKER but turned back when the second plane, mentioned above, was shot down.

CinCAd 081925 (pink) discusses the availability of PT's between now and June 1944.

CinCAd 080203 (pink) - The redistribution of garrison troops at CHRISTMAS and PALMYRA.

CinCAd 082111 (pink) requests the Army to furnish 3 defense battalions for Central Pacific Operations.

9 September 1943 (Cahu Date)

Our PT's operated against barges off KOKOMOARA during the night driving several back to port. Our ground troops repulsed another attempt by Jap barges landing at BOMIE VILLAGE on ARUNDEL ISLAND while advancing on the northeast side of the island.

Unloading at NAOMEA and NUIFETAU continues slowly. The NAOMEA strip is scheduled to be ready 22 September. ComGen SAMCA suggest action against nearby enemy bases as hostile moves may be forming against NAOMEA which operation is in a very vulnerable stage at this time.

A Jap bomber formation made a reconnaissance on NAOMEA 1 September and dropped 20 bombs resulting in 6 killed and 7 wounded. A single VB also approached and was driven off.

The BAKER ISLAND strip should be ready 11 September. Another Jap VP was shot down yesterday in addition to 2 others previously reported.

Routine air searches were carried out from ALEUTIAN bases in the face of an approaching front.

(Continued)
9 September (Cahu Date) -Continued-

CinclPac 090615 assigns 5th Amphibious Corps directly to Central Pacific Force instead of to 5th Amphibious Force.

Com 7th Fleet 090243 is a report of aircraft mine laying operations in the FEDERATED STATES EAST INDIES Area and in the vicinity of SORONG, NEW GUINEA.

CuinC 081401 (pink) lists possible Royal Navy units which may be sent to the Pacific.

10 September (Cahu Date)

Our planes in the NEW GEORGIA area were active yesterday, carrying out bombing missions against KAMILI, VILA, and BAILALE. PTs operated against barges today in the KULA GULF, damaging some.

Dey before yesterday a Jap VP (Emily) was seen 135 miles southeast of BAKER ISLAND by one of our planes, apparently searching for our carriers.

ComGen SAMOA reports that our LCTs are not well adapted for conditions at NAMOEKA. 2 have stranded on reef at NAMOEKA with salvage doubtful. NUKUPETAU fighter strip should be ready 30 September, and main field about 1 November.

No report has been received from NorPac.

CominCh 081743 describes the procedure to be followed by Italian ships in surrendering. They have been ordered to proceed to Allied Ports.

11 September (Cahu Date)

A division of Jap DD's was sighted off Tinuta, BONANZA, which may be attempting to reinforce VELA LAULUE. Interception by our PT's has been ordered. Our PT's operated off VELA LAULUE in spite of bombing and strafing by Jap planes. No surface contacts were made. Our planes were active against the enemy. Our troops maintain contact with the enemy on APANGAL and are preparing for a final assault.

Routine air searches in the Aleutians were curtailed because of fuel. The Army submarine cable has been completed from ABLE to ATC via AMCHITKA and VELA.

CominCh 081401, ConPac 120356, and Com 7th Fleet 111227 (all pink) discuss the possibility of a British naval force being assigned to the Pacific and the uses to which it would be put.

CinclPac 120251 (pink) discusses the assignment of SC-2's for the operations against the PILIBITS and FAIRW.

CinclPac 112353 (pink) to ComSoPac is a directive for an air strike against PARU.
12 September (Oahu Date)

Our DD's and PT's operated in the vicinity of KOLOMANJARAD and the latter were subjected to heavy enemy fire. Our planes were also active against targets on southern KOLOMANJARAD scoring several hits. Photos indicate air and surface activity in the southern BONGAIVILLE-VQOSEL Area.

Our submarines continue active. PERMIT has sent in a report of 27,000 tons sunk and 14,000 damaged, while SIRFIORD reports 1 AK sunk and 1 damaged.

Con 3rd Fleet has directed all task forces in port to assume a condition of two hours readiness.

Routine air searches were carried out from the ALEUTIANs today. Yesterday an air mission of 8 B-24's and 12 B-24's bombed PAGATIRC. Many hits on ground targets and ships were reported. 5 B-24's and 5 B-25's returned to base, all damaged by enemy fire.

Blue ground troops have occupied SALAMANCA. Progress is slow against IAE because of enemy opposition and weather.


CB gear has been delivered to NANCYEA by LST and reloading is now in progress. Further personnel and supplies will be loaded at Fa'to Fa'to for both NANCYEA and NUKU'PETAU. Condition RED sounded at NANCYEA for one hour and ten minutes today. Target was picked up by radar but turned back before coming within range.

ComGen SAMA 117216 is a report of the airfields in the SAMA-BILINCE Area.

CirCen 120607 discusses camp facilities for staging and training Marine units in the HAWAIIAN Area.

2nd MarDiv 122300 discusses the training of Marine units.

Cominch 111955 discusses the training of FINE carrier air group 2.

CirCen 120251 (pink) discusses the use of 18 EC-2's in operations in the Central Pacific.
13 September (Cahu Date)

The situation continues to be the following at TRUK: 6 B17s, 3 T2s, 7 CA, 6 CL, 23 PTs. No indications are seen that this force, or a part of it, is preparing for offensive operations. Our sources of information may not be able to report the departure or destination of this force in time to take effective counter action. We would be unable to concentrate our units to meet such an enemy force in the CENTRAL PACIFIC in less than three weeks. The situation will continue until the planned redeployment of the Fleet is completed. Moreover, the Central Pacific Force must be trained as a team before it can meet the main enemy fleet with reasonable assurance of success.

Our PTs were active in the KOLombARRA Area with negative results. Our planes operated in the same area staging heavy raids against various targets yesterday and today.

15 Jap planes staged raids over PINAETAU for seven hours today with little damage. Yesterday 2 landing craft were salvaged from the reef at PAIATUA. An AK is due at PINAETAU today to complete unloading.

Routine air searches constituted the only activity today in the ALBATRANS.

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

CinCPac 140305 answers certain questions concerning Navy's personnel and logistic administration asked by YPNC 062025 herein.

Monish 132208 requests recommendations for the operation of LCS and LSTs in areas of coral reefs.

ComAirSols 140427 (pink) is a directive to ComAirSols for the strike on YAPU.

CinPac 140829 (pink) discusses certain logistic problems connected with MALVANIC.

JDF 7th Fleet 111224 (pink) is the second part of 111227, hereby, which discusses the possibility of certain British forces being assigned to the Pacific and the areas to which they will be put.

CinCPac 132207 discusses the use of certain defense battalions in MALVANIC.
14 September (Cahu Date).

Our PTs operated in the vicinity of VELA LAVELA destroying 5 barges during the night. Our planes were also active against shore targets and ships. Planes attacked enemy submarines, reporting hits on two, one west of ELPHES ANDREA BAY and one southwest of SASHICA. H.M.S. SABRE also reports a possible sub sunk today west of NIKI in cooperation with air attack. Blue ground forces are continuing to advance on ARGUEL ISLAND from the east and west.

Com 3rd Fleet has put all his task forces in port on 8 hours readiness.

Our submarines have also been active, reporting more enemy ships sunk. 525 LM scuttled MARU'S ISLAND and reported it functioning but well battered. PHASEL reported 1 IWSAR low in water escorted by 1 SFGAI and 4 DD entering ROK 154 anchorage.

Com En SAPPA 102160 reports on air activity over WAMPAH.

Com Subpac 150616 is a directive to submarines on handling torpedoes when steep temperature gradients exist.

GINCNAS 150513 assigns certain LSTs to the 5th Fighter.

SINCHAS 150005 requests the 4th Fighter be assigned for duty with Comtac.

Radio deception plan is being carried out in the area either (1) to draw attention away from some other area (2) to create false volume and type of traffic to conceal a future sortie of a major force.

15 September (Cahu Date)

Our PTs operated in the vicinity of VELA, SAMARK and NORTH BULAGARABA during the night with no surface contacts but were bombed and strafed by planes with no resulting damage. Our planes conducted very successful heavy raids on various airfields in the NEW PORT-A-BOUGAINVILLE area yesterday and today. A Blue land patrol reports destroying much material on SAMARKA ISLAND yesterday. Light raids on GUADALCANAL yesterday and today caused slight damage and casualties.

The mine field around MOROA has been enlarged.

Additional personnel and supplies continue to leave WINIFUTI for SAMOHEA. Fighters will probably use Wetrip 19 September.

An AI and escort was reported at WINIFUTI today by a patrolling plane.

-Cont'd-
SECRET

16 September (Oahu Date) - Cont'd -

Routine air searches were prevented at ATTI and ANSIMIL because of weather but were carried out from ADAK. A more complete report of the recent raid on LARAMUSHIRO indicates about 60 VF's attacked our bombers and about 12 were shot down with 3 more probables. More were possibly shot down. An AF was observed on fire and an AF was seen to break in two.

ConCeNav 160043 requests information as to amphibious task available in the SAHOON Area and whether certain landing craft can pass over the reef and enter the lagoon at NORTHEA.

CinCPac 160315 requests early action on 060615 herein.

CinCeNav 160327 requests change of destination of LST Div 19 to SAN DIEGO.

ConSoFAC 150634, ConSoLac 150635, ConSoPan 150644, CinCeWestpac 160310 and CinCPac 160137 (all pink) discuss the time schedule for further CARTHEMEL Operations and diminishing of forces in SOUTH PACIFIC.

16 September (Oahu Date)

RENDOVA PTs continue to operate but with no surface contacts. Our planes again made heavy strikes against KAHILI and BALLALE today. The enemy's reaction to these strikes against Southern BOUGAINVILLE targets has been to reinforce his units in that area. Despite numbers of his planes destroyed in the air and on the ground it is believed his BOUGAINVILLE concentrations have increased slightly.

In answer to a dispatch sent yesterday, ComGen SANGA reports that he believes LCVP's and LCM's can enter the lagoon over the reef at NORTHEA at high tide with reasonably smooth sea.

The bomber strip on BAKER ISLAND is reported 95 per cent complete as of yesterday.

There was very heavy weather in the ALEUTIANS yesterday causing some material damage at MASSACRE BAY and preventing any air searches. Photos of the recent PARAMUSHIRO raid indicate that the taxiways and airport facilities on KASHIWABARA Airfield have been greatly expanded since the last photo coverage.

ConSoPac reports Allied land forces made an unopposed occupation of LAE today.

U.S.S. NAUTILUS departed PEARL today to assist in the reconnaissance of TARAWA.

CominCh 161947 disapproves the formation of an independent TBF rocket squadron.
17 September (Oahu Date)

Late reports of our bombing missions in the 'BE AMERICAN SAMOA' area on the 16th indicate they were very successful. The runway at Punalu'u appears unserviceable from recent bombings and many of her were still unserviceable.

The bomber strip on BAKER ISLAND is now complete. Jap search planes have been reported in the vicinity of TAMBU. The new echelon, 7th defense battalion, has arrived at PUNAFUTI for transshipment to TAMBU. One half squadron of fighters is to be brought into TAMBU tomorrow.

RUKA experienced a bad storm which prevented air searches and caused considerable loss and damage to landing craft and boats.

Com 12 170112 is a plan for a movement of LST's from MUEHEKE to PEARL.

Cinairpac 172322 discusses the movement of aircraft to the SOUTH PACIFIC.

18 September (Oahu Date)

4 PT's operated east and west of KOLOMBANGARA during the night with negative results. A survey indicates LAMBU LAMBU COVE will satisfactorily base & PT boats and it is planned to move them there about 22 Sept. Our planes carried out a successful heavy strike against targets on Southwest KOLOMBANGARA and also intercepted a Jap bombing mission off VELLA LAVELLA. High altitude attacks were made by the enemy on LUNDIA and BAROKOMA with very minor damage.

Preliminary reports have been received on the TARAWA-NAURU strikes. SoPac's planes attacked NAURU from GUADALCANAL and Army planes attacked from CANTON and PUNAFUTI, while Carrier planes hit TARAWA during the day.

3 Jap bombers were reported by our patrol planes southwest of ATTU. Routine air searches operated out of ATTU but all others were prevented by weather.

CominCh 171431 assigns the 4th MarDiv to CinCPac for duty with CentPac.

ComPIFTHPhibFor 190829 discusses the supply of APAs and AKAs to be used in training PIFTHPhib.

CinCPac 180355 and CominCh 182042 (both pink) discuss the proposed widening and deepening of TE SUABUA Channel, PUNAFUTI.
SECRET

19 September (Oahu Date)

Our planes made a bombing raid over VILA today. Yesterday a large enemy strike of VB's and VF's was turned back over BARAKAHA. 12 VAL's and 5 ZEKI's were shot down. Ground forces on ARUNDEL continue to advance in the face of stiff resistance.

Preliminary reports from CTF 15 indicates that TARAWA was effectively bombed and strafed yesterday for seven hours. Minor raids on MAKIN and APAMANA were made at the same time. Four planes were lost. Covering our withdrawal 20 Army B-24's from CANTON, FUSAFUMI again conducted a heavy raid on TARAWA today. One B-24 was lost and some others were damaged.

The Aleutian Area was quiet.

CinCPac 182347 (pink) requests that Rear Admiral Hill be not relieved until after GALVANIC and that MARYLAND and GEORGE C. operate under CombatDiv 2, MARYLAND to act as flagship. CominCh 101629 (pink) replies in the negative and states 16 in. BB's should not be given secondary combat duties.

20 September (Oahu Date)

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet.

First echelon of Marine fighters started operations from fighter strip at NOUENEA on 19 Sept. (local time).

ComSoPac directed T.C. 39 to operate North and East of VILA LAUVELA and a force of about 6 DD to join during the night in an attempt to intercept enemy surface forces attempting evacuation or reinforcement of KOLORI BANANA.

ComAirPac 202136 is a recommendation for the reorganization of carrier divisions in Pacific Fleet. The future organization of a division to be reached in 1944 to include two CV and one CVL.

There are several questions which arise because SoPac positions and troops are being used to support Central Pacific operations. The Command set up and the responsibility for logistic support in that area are now under study by the Joint Staff.

Cur—

1660
SECRET

21 September (Oahu date)

Task Force 39 made a sweep around VELLA LA VELLA last night to intercept any attempt to reinforce or evacuate KOLOMBANGARA area with no contacts. 2 cruisers and 4 DD's are scheduled to make a similar sweep tonight; PT's to remain in port. Our planes were active in the KURILES area yesterday and today. The enemy made several raids on NAMPU and USA 21-4 with little resulting damage.

A submarine scout reports that TARAWA airfield was functioning after our recent raids.

Recent photos indicate a concentration of enemy combatant ships, 1 CA, 1 CL, 9 DD, 5 SS, 21 AK, plus other naval auxiliaries at TARAWA, as well as heavier than usual number of aircraft.

Plans Division now has underway exploratory studies for the capture of TRUK and the Northern KURILES; detailed planning for the capture of the MARIANAS; follow through for the capture of the GILBERTS and NAUKU; follow through for the occupation of the ELLICE Islands.

The proposal to construct air facilities for two CV groups at NAJO, previously disapproved by CominCh was submitted by CinCPac for reconsideration and approved by Vice CNO in his 211924.

ComSoPac 220426 (pink) informs senior commanders of his contemplated plan of moving into northern and central BONIN ISLANDS about 1 November.

CominCh 212219 (pink) is a reply to CinCPac 210253 (pink) in regard to availability of transports for SALVANIC.

There were no new enemy developments.

22 September (Oahu date)

Light cruisers of TF 39 will operate west and north of VELLA LA VELLA and 7 DDs of TG 31.2 will proceed "up the slot" to north of VELLA GULF tonight in order to intercept any enemy craft attempting reinforcement or evacuation of KOLOMBANGARA. Sighting of enemy combatant ships, cruisers and destroyers, at RABAUL is reaffirmed. Organized resistance on ANUNDEL ISLAND has ceased, mapping up continues.

Normal air searches were carried out from the ALEUTIANS with negative results.

At MANOMEA, nine fighters are now operating. The full field 400' by 8000' is now cleared with 500' by 8000' surfaced promised by 15 October. Emergency landings can now be made by heavy bombers. It is estimated that entire garrison will be on the job about 8 October.

At NUKUPELUA the fighter strip will be ready about 10 October and main runway 1 November. All garrison except Argus unit will be on job 31 September.

The 4th Marine Division reports for duty to CinCPac 20 September.

Our submarines continue to report sinkings. The TRIGGER reports 23,000 tons sunk and a 7000 ton ship damaged.

CWH

1631
SECRET

23 September (Oahu date)

T.G.'s 39.1 and 31.2 consisting of 2 CLs and about 10 DD made no contact
with the enemy in their sweep "up the slot" and north and west of VELLA LAVELLA
last night. A similar sweep will be made tonight by 2 CLs and 4 DDs. A PT boat
tender was sent to LAMBU LAMBU on VELLA LAVELLA to service PT boats to base there.
Reinforcements of a battalion of NEW ZEALAND troops was landed on northwest VELLA
LAVELLA to clear out northwest area of 500 Japs reported there.

No report was received from the North Pacific.

Submarines report continued good work. The SUNFISH reports 34,000 tons
sunk, 7,000 damaged while the PARGO claims 27,000 tons sunk 9,500 ton passenger
vessel damaged with 2 hits. Otherwise the Pacific Ocean Areas were relatively
quiet.

CinCPac 240408 (pink) requests reconsideration of CominCh 191629 relative
to employment of MARYLAND as assault flagship RAdm Hill.

ComSoPac and various members of his staff arrived for conferences.

24 September (Oahu date)

ComNorPac reports that fog prevented usual searches yesterday and the
day before except to the southward of ADAM. Diver entered Jap sub grounded at
TWIN ROCKS on KISKA identified as I-7 and found papers, note books, etc. Salvage
will proceed as weather permits. Reconnaissance of MATSUWA Is. was made.

No contacts were made during sweep of cruisers and destroyers around
VELLA LAVELLA. Plan for tonight is for 2 CLs and 4 DD to go up the slot to
VELLA and return to TULAGI. Another similar group to come up from southward
of VELLA LAVELLA and pass around north of the island and return TULAGI.
Aircraft were active on various strikes.

Further sinkings by our subs was reported and damage to ACV which was
slowed and is being pursued.

Study is going ahead to substitute MAKM for MAURU in the GALVANIC
Operation.

CinCPac 250359 (pink) assigns 4th MarDiv to Com 8th Phib Corps for
duty and coordination amphibious training.
SECRET

25 September (Oahu Date)

No report was received from ComNorPac today. The North Pacific is quiet.

In the South Pacific our planes were active with strikes in KAHILI Area where damage was done and 9 Zekes destroyed. No report was received from the surface force sweep around VELLA LALELLA last night. Information received indicates enemy is planning evacuation of KOLOMBANGARA soon.

Reports from SoWesPac imply enemy contemplates withdrawal from PINSCHAFEN Area where on 22nd 17 bombers and 33 fighters were destroyed with 29 probables.

CinCPac 230340 (pink) defines and instructs as to the handling and stowage of the different classifications of despatches.

ComGenSamoa 252238 (pink) gives percentages of completion of various air fields in his area.

CinCPac 260439 (pink) recommends substitution MAHKU for MAHUK in GALVANIC. Cominch concurs.

Cominch and members of staff arrived for conferences, ComSoPac also present.

26 September (Oahu Date)

ComNorPac reports that fog prevented most searches except south of ADAK. On 21 September a 60' fishing boat fired on Catalina search plane near BERING ISLAND. No other activity is reported.

The sweep executed around VELLA LALELLA ISLAND last night was uneventful. Several torpedo tracks passed close to the cruisers but none hit. Apparently enemy subs have been concentrated in this area. Tonight the same sweep will be made by destroyers only. As a routine procedure, other operations permitting, mighty sweeps around KOLOMBANGARA will be made by at least 3 destroyers. Our aircraft again hit KAHILI Area heavily.

CinCPac 252331 from Rear Admiral W.W. Smith recommends obtaining and conversion of AKs for GALVANIC.

Conferences with CinCPac and ComSoPac continues.

ComNorPac and ComGenSamoa by copy of CinCPac 260439 (pink service) were informed of proposed change in objective MAHKU to MAHUK.
SECRET

September 27 (Cahu Date)

The North Pacific was quiet. Re-report one previous from that area.

In the South Pacific our aircraft were active over southern DOUGAIVILLE. Night prowlers were also active along evacuation barge route between KOLOMBANGARA and CHOISEUL BAY. The destroyers swept last night resulted in sinking 3 or 4 enemy barges north of VELLA GULF. Every effort is being made to prevent evacuation of KOLOMBANGARA.

Eight enemy DDs were sighted 60 miles north of BUKA ISLAND heading SE at 30 knots. Our destroyers were ordered up the slot to north of KOLOMBANGARA tonight to intercept.

In SowesPac progress is being made towards FINSCHHAEN.

CominCh 271905 (pink) states J.C.S. approve CinCPac's 260432 (herein) which proposed substitution of MAKIN for NAURU as objective in GALVANIC.

CominCh and CinCPac inspected MIDWAY installations.

28 September (Cahu Date)

The North Pacific was quiet.

In the South Pacific Liberators on night search contacted 6 to 9 vessels NE SHORTLAND area and bombing resulted in near misses. Another B-26 picked up 8 ships west of CHOISEUL but did not attack as identification was uncertain. A second attack on first convoy mentioned resulted in sinking one large ship possibly CVE. Our DDs made no contact with enemy DDs reported yesterday as heading for KOLOMBANGARA which is believed as a probable diversionary maneuver. Our DDs and PTs will continue to operate at night on evacuation route between KOLOMBANGARA to CHOISEUL.

Preliminary reports from scouting parties on DOUGAIVILLE Is. indicate landings at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY feasible with suitable beaches and terrain to construct 4000' fighter strip. Beaches can accommodate 12,000 men. 6000 tons. Report from NUMA states that beaches are suitable but swamps exist between beaches and prospective air field site. Reef formation will keep transports from 3 to 8 miles from beaches. In general report on NUMA NUMA not as favorable as EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY.

CinCPac 290139 (pink) informs ComDesCentPac, ComDesCINCPAC, ComCentPac and ComSoPac of substitution MAKIN for NAURU as objective in GALVANIC.

CominCh and members of staff left for mainland. ComSoPac remains for further conferences.
29 September (Oahu Date)

ComNorPac reports air searches made in clear weather to northwest and variable visibility in other directions with no contacts.

ComSoPac is continuing operations of our DD's in areas around KOLOMBANGARA at night in order to intercept enemy craft attempting evacuation that island. Last night one or more barges bound for KOLOMBANGARA were destroyed and 6 to 9 turned back to CHIUAKUL. PATTERNSON and McCALLA collided last night, each ship suffering damage to bow. Both proceeding TULAGI.

Five of our submarines on their last patrol reported sinking 12 ships damaging 4 others for a total of about 90,000 tons of enemy shipping. The continued successes of our submarines in spite of a high percentage of torpedo duds unquestionably has the effect of limiting the scope of enemy offensive capabilities, and has increased enemy difficulties in maintaining and strengthening her perimeter defenses.

ComSoPac 300239 gives troop requirements for the next six months. In that despatch requirements at PONAP and TRUK are included. As this is a Central Pacific problem, it seems desirable for troop requirements in the MANDATES be requested by CinCPac.

CinCPac-ComSoPac conferences continued during the morning. The main topic of discussion was the employment of Pacific Fleet units in support of both GALVANIC and CANTWHEEL. No decisions were reached. Also under discussion was a major strike on TRUK (PEARL HARBOR in reverse). If we could succeed in sinking a good number of enemy combat units anchored in TRUK, it would solve many of our present difficulties. At the present we are not strong enough for such an effort.

There are no changes in enemy deployment. The force now assembled at TRUK is capable of making a raid on our outlying positions.
SECRET

30 September (Oahu date)

Our surface force activities in the South Pacific are mainly concerned with interception of enemy barges attempting evacuation of troops from KOLUMBANGARA to CHOISIL BAY. For this purpose DDs, PTs and aircraft are employed with CLs used whenever there are indications of larger enemy ships in vicinity. While varying number of enemy DDs have been sighted NE of EUN-PAASI Area, apparently headed for north KULA GULF, none have been contacted by USN surface forces. No Jap combatant ships larger than DDs have been sighted in this area for some time.

Task Force 14 composed of 5 CV, 3 CVL, 3 CA, 4 CL, 2 AO and 24 DD is at sea proceeding to deliver an attack on WAKE with aircraft and ship bombardment in order to destroy installations, aircraft and any surface ships encountered. It will also serve to train and give battle experience to commanders and all personnel. During the air attack, CTF 14 has been directed to obtain photographic coverage.

CinC Eastern Fleet 300651 (pink) is a reply to CinCPac message assuring of fleet Comdr's determination to strike hard when his ships are withdrawn from MEDITERRANEAN.

ComSoPac 010043 (pink) informs CinCSWCPac that plan selected for post-CARTWHEEL operations was plan one which included landings in ENMORE AUGUSTA BAY, BOUGAINVILLE.

CinCPac 010547 informs ComSoPac and interested commands that ELICHE ISLANDS will remain under present command organization and discusses logistic supply in these islands and other logistic matters.

1 October (Oahu date)

In the SOUTH PACIFIC operations against the evacuation barges from KOLUMBANGARA continue with our DDs in sight contact with the largest group seen to date, about 55 of assorted sizes, of which about 20 were destroyed. Although enemy DDs were reported in the vicinity, our surface forces made no contact with them. Intelligence reports state KOLUMBANGARA radio was going off the air permanently, which may mean the evacuation is about completed.

Rear Admiral Kirk delivered an informative talk on Amphibious operations at SICILY. He and his staff will be available for consultation for about two weeks.

The Planning Groups are completing the plans for capture of the MARSHALLS and operations against KUSAIE, ENIWETOK and WAKE. They are making exploratory studies of the Northern KURILES and revising the plans for GALVANIC. A preliminary study for the capture of TRUK is also underway.

CWM

1666
SECRET

2 October (Oahu date)

Operations of our surface and air forces in the South Pacific continue to center around KOLONBALARA where extensive destruction of enemy evacuation barges has resulted. Mopping up of enemy ground forces on VELLA LAVELLA and other small islands in vicinity continues.

Com3rd Fleet has directed T.F.C. in his force to execute Plan One on 1 November. This plan calls for occupation of TREASURY ISLAND and landing and establishment of air fields at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY.

ComSoPac anticipates 22 LST will be available on Nov. 1 which he considers inadequate for projected operations.

CincSoWesPac reports the occupation of FRNCAPEN and the sinking of the destroyer HENLEY off MAROB, NEW GUINEA.

Further developments in connection with enemy submarine reported off BARRERS POINT yesterday indicates possibility of attempts to contact shore to obtain information.

3 October (Oahu date)

The North Pacific since the occupation of KISKA has been quiet. Consolidation of bases and development of airfields is proceeding. The 10,000' runway on SHemya will probably be the largest in the ALKUTIANS. The construction of airfields on the island of TANAGA has begun.

In the South Pacific, operations by our DDs, PTs and aircraft against the evacuation barges from KOLONBALARA continue. Except for some DDs, no enemy surface forces of any size have been sighted in that area.

The training in amphibious operations for GALWAMIC of the 27th Army Division in the HAWAIIAN AREA and the 2nd Marine Division in Iraq starts today.

Admiral Halsey and party completed conferences at PEARL and departed for NOUMEA.
4 October (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific, operations by our surface and air forces against the enemy evacuation barges from KOLOMBANGARA and CHOISEUL continue. No contacts were made, either surface or air. Land operations in northwest VELLA LAVELLA are continuing.

Task Force 14 proceeding to WAKE apparently, so far, has not been detected.

There has been no further information of the enemy submarine reported off BARBER'S POINT, OAHU. Another enemy submarine has been sighted 100 miles northeast of CANTON ISLAND. The extended distance of these two submarines from their usual areas may indicate a change in the enemy's policy of their employment.

CINCPAC 050249 (pink) informs COMINCH that D-Day for GALVANIC is set as 19 November. COMINT 051605 (pink) approves 19 November as firm D-Day for GALVANIC. COMGENCENTPAC letter AG 083/4 of 4 October directs the placing of the 27th Infantry Division under the operational control of COMGENCENTPAC as of this date. The administration and supply of the Division to remain with COMGENCENTPAC.

5 October (Oahu date)

Operations by our surface and air forces against the enemy evacuation barges from KOLOMBANGARA to CHOISEUL and from CHOISEUL to BUIN Area are continuing with several barges destroyed and others damaged. Ground force actions on VELLA LAVELLA are meeting with success.

Nine enemy DDs were sighted 15 miles south of CAPE ST. GEORGE. Despatches indicate that our DDs in the VELLA LAVELLA area were in action of some kind. Three DDs were damaged and are retiring southward under fighter cover.

At dawn today aircraft from carriers of TASK 14 attacked WAKE, apparently achieving surprise. Cruisers of this force divided into North and South groups carried out an effective bombardment without aircraft opposition except for 2 Zekes. Casualties reported so far, one observational plane and 1 officer on S.S. SKATE wounded by strafing. Further air attacks and bombardments are scheduled for tomorrow.

COM 7TH FLEET recommends to COMINCH against reduction of submarines on East Coast of Australia because of existing situation in the South and SW combat areas, and requests action to provide 30 operating submarines in West AUSTRALIA-NET Areas be expedited.

CINCPAC recommends against recruiting of Hawaiian Japanese for use in other areas as the best qualified and most loyal are already employed and any military information they have may be forcibly extracted in event of capture.

Admiral Nalney and staff will arrive BRISBANE 9 October for conferences with General MacArthur.

Continued)
SECRET

5 October (Oahu date) - Continued -

ComSoPac informed all his principal subordinates that target date of 1 November for EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and D-5 day for TREASUREY ISLAND must be met because of importance to other operations in PACIFIC.

CominCh 042043 provides a method for segregating despatch traffic for ready reference by use of serial numbers.

CominCh 042132 (pink) suggests consideration use of arresting and catapulting units on shore during time air strips are under construction.

6 October (Oahu date)

Operations in the NEW GEORGIA area by our light surface and air forces against enemy barges and cargo ships continues. In last nights action northeast of VELLA LAVELLA the CHEVALIER, O'BANNON and SELFRIDGE engaged five enemy DDs (one of which may have been a CL). The CHEVALIER was sunk. The SELFRIDGE was badly damaged and the O'BANNON slightly damaged. It is reported that the enemy lost 2 DD and 1 CL and that other enemy ships received damage. Other light forces of both sides were in the general area but did not get close enough to each other to engage. The surviving enemy withdrew. The O'BANNON picked up fourteen officers and about 95% of CHEVALIER crew.

In the Central Pacific, carrier aircraft from TF 14 struck WAKE today for the second time but no details were received. Apparently several of our planes landed in the water about 50 miles NE of WAKE from which may be deduced that either an air battle took place or bad weather forced the landings. At dawn today 6 Navy VB from MIDWAY bombed and photographed WAKE encountering light AA fire and no aircraft.

CinCPac 062251 informs CinClant, CominCh that 6 DDs were lost by sinkings or battle damage in last week, that shortage of DDs is acute and requests expediting dispatch of PacFIt DDs covered by CinClant 061950 and prior dispatches.

CinCPac 070239 to CominCh, MarCorps, discusses employment of Marine Dive and replacement battalions for future operations in Central Pacific.

CinCPac 061801 directs ComCenPac submit plan to vigorously deny NAUHU minimum requirement being strike about D minus two day with 1 CV and 1 CVL, 5 CA plus DDs. SARATOGA and MONTEREY will probably be available.

JCS 021832 (pink) states the overall strategy in the Pacific and discusses the possibilities for CinCSouthPac advancing into the PHILIPPINES and perfecting plans to accomplish this as quickly as possible.
7 October (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific our air strikes in the FAMILI-FUNI Area were intensified causing heavy damage to shore installations and aircraft on the ground. Operations by our aircraft and PT boats against enemy evacuation barges continue. The sweeping of our mine fields in vicinity KOLON-BAYBARA and enemy mine fields in lower BLACKETT STRAIT will start about 12 October. O'BANNON and SELFRIIDGE, which were damaged in night action with enemy DDs, arrived alongside repair ship in PURVIS BAY.

No further information from CTF 14 except that his task force has cleared the WAKE Area. NOE has been directed to join SKATE in search for survivors of planes forced down off WAKE. Preliminary reports from photographic and bombing mission from MIDWAY and other sources indicate nearly all Jap planes on WAKE put out of action, total about 50, many enemy killed and considerable damage to installations. Our losses have not as yet been reported.

Com 3rd Fleet O72215 (pink) considers it desirable to have additional light cruiser Division plus screen of 4 DD from 25 October to 12 November or later, replacement 5 DDs damaged or sunk and 1 Division DDs to increase coverage for longer lines of communication.

CinCLant 07172C (pink) in answer CinCPac 062251 (pink herein) states that 3 DDs will be sent to PACIFIC prior 12 October and others as soon as available.

Planes conducting photo reconnaissance of MAKIN have been directed to give light token bombing to induce natives to leave for LITTLE MAKIN.

There are no new enemy developments. Our attack on WAKE does not seem to have caused a move of any major ships in the MANDATES. It is increasingly evident that the enemy will not expose his fleet to battle, but will seize every favorable opportunity for attrition.

8 October (Oahu date)

ComNorPac reports that our search planes sighted two enemy Bettys about 275 miles to the West and Southwest of ATTU indicating an increase in air strength and intensification of air search from PARAMUSHIKU.

There were no new developments in the Central Pacific resulting from our strike on WAKE. TF 14 is returning to PEARL HARBOR.

In the SOUTH PACIFIC only minor air activity was reported with no contacts between surface forces. An increasing number of enemy surface ships including cargo ships have recently been sighted in EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY. In view of the forthcoming operations on BOUGAINVILLE this activity should be regarded with concern.
Reports received from SOUTH PACIFIC state that Jap resistance on VELLA LAVELLA has been eliminated and small boat patrols around entire shore KOLOMBANGARA ISLAND drew no enemy fire. Apparently the enemy has completed evacuation of both islands. Further information received on the night destroyer action of 6 October indicates that only one enemy DD was sunk by torpedoes and that no CLs were present.

C.T.P. 14 reports that 320 tons of bombs were dropped on WAKE and that operations were carried out according to plan except that one additional air strike was made on second day. Our air losses were operational 14, combat 15 0 and 21 total flight crews missing.

10 October (Oahu date)

The NORTH PACIFIC area has been quiet. Routine air searches are carried out whenever weather permits.

Action in the SOUTH PACIFIC has been confined to air and small craft surface patrols with a few minor air strikes on enemy positions. Two Jap planes hit two AK's unloading at GUADALCANAL with torpedoes, damaging both.

CinCPac 110141 informs ComGen Samoa that no AI'A are available at present for training 22nd Marines but will be made available prior to employment.

There are no indications that changes in the disposition of major Jap fleet units have been made.

11 October (Oahu date)

The PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS, in general, were quiet.

One heavy air strike was made on KAHILI Airfield and adjacent gun positions. Extensive damage was inflicted and many intercepting planes destroyed. Our plane losses were light.

CinCPac 120450 deals with the requirements and availability of Army defense battalions.

ComSoPac 120452 (pink) outlines tentative future plans of CinCSoWesPac for BISMARCK-ADMIRALTY assault.
12 October 1943 (Oahu date)

In the SOUTH PACIFIC, another heavy air strike was made on the airfields in the KAHILI-WUIN Area starting the neutralization of this area preparatory to the advance into BOMAINVILLE. CinCSoWesPac is to start a similar campaign against RABAUL.

Com 3rd Fleet 150416 (pink) purposes to lay defensive mine fields northwest of EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and to the northeast of CAPE FRIENDSHIP prior to next operation in BOMAINVILLE.

In ComNorPac 120012, Vice Admiral F.J. Fletcher relieved Vice Admiral T.C. Kinkaid as Commander North Pacific Force and assumed command of North Pacific Area on 11 October in accordance CinC Pac 091911.

13 October 1943 (Oahu date)

For the first time since our capture of ATTU enemy bombing planes, 8 to 10 Bettys, carried out a bombing attack in the ALPHTINS. The attack was delivered on MASSACRE BAY, ATU from a high altitude but no damage was done. Our fighter attempt at interception was not successful.

Two enemy light cruisers, the TAMA and the KISO, which have been based in the North KURILES are enroute to RABAUL.

In the SOUTHWEST PACIFIC a very heavy strike was carried out against RABAUL which succeeded in destroying an estimated 100 planes, damaging 50 others on the ground and shooting down 28 fighters out of 40 in the air. Claims were also made for sinking or destroying 3 DDs, 3 AKs, 43 small ships, plus other harbor craft.

ComSubsPac 140030 (pink) is a recommendation on Com 7th Fleet 060637 in regard to redistribution of submarines in SOWES PACIFIC area.

14 October 1943 (Oahu date)

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet. Air strikes in the SOWES PACIFIC were executed against the CAPE GLOUCESTER area with good results.

Air reconnaissance of MAKIN and APAMAMA were completed and results from MAKIN should be received in a few days. No enemy activity or shore construction was noted on APAMAMA.

CinC Pac 150359 directs that on or about 5 November ComGen SAMOA report to ComAirComPacFor (R.Adm. Hoover) for operational control Marine and Navy shore based aircraft and other facilities in SAMOA-ELLICE area in support of GALVANIC.
15 October (Oahu Date)

Operations in the Pacific Area under CinCPac were restricted to air strikes on the BUIW-NAMBILI and NUKA airfields. Good results were obtained.

As all land resistance in the NEW GEORGIA Area had ceased, ComSoPac formally terminated the assault phase of that campaign. Information received from POW indicates that KOLEMBANGABA garrison consisted of about 10,000 troops. About 5,000 of these reached CHOCOHAUL for further evacuation to BUIW Area and the remainder were evacuated by DD to NABAUL. WILLA LAVERELLA was evacuated night of 6 - 7 October by DDs receiving troops from small boats. He further stated the enemy will not evacuate SOLOMONS west of line 186-30 east.

There are no indications that the disposition of major enemy fleet units have been changed.

16 October (Oahu Date)

Action in the South Pacific was limited to air strikes on enemy airfields and barges.

In the Central Pacific a single unidentified fleet plane appeared off OAHU shortly before midnight from the southwest. It was illuminated by searchlights and made off in a southwesterly direction. It is possible that this was a plane from an enemy submarine.

The Planning Groups having completed the detail plan for FLINTLOCK, outline plan for CATCHPOLE and preliminary study for capture of Northern KURILES are currently working on a detail plan for CATCHPOLE and preliminary study for an operation to by-pass TRUK and perhaps PONAPE and capture SAIPAN-TINIAN or the BONINS.

17 October (Oahu Date)

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet. Air strikes were made on enemy air facilities on BOUGAINVILLE and small craft in adjacent waters.

Com 3rd Fleet 180257 directs ComGens Samoa to report for duty to ComAirComPacFor (R. Adm. Hoover) when that officer arrives in ELICHE Area about 5 November in compliance with CinCPac 160285.

Cominch 181830 quotes War Department directive that effective 1 November 1943 the Alaska Defense Command is designated a separate theater of operations and renamed the Alaskan Department under direct control of the War Department.
SECRET

18 October (Oahu Date)

Air activities in the SOUTH PACIFIC continued with resulting damage to enemy ground facilities and many planes shot down. Our air losses were slight.

ComGenCentPac in conference called attention to the very profitable target presented by PEARL HARBOR at this time with its heavy concentration of combatant ships and that the enemy will make every effort to interfere with the initiation of our forward movement in the CENTRAL PACIFIC resorting to suicidal type of air raids if necessary. He further stated that it is essential that everyone be particularly alert at this time and until the forces for GALVANIC depart.

19 October (Oahu Date)

Air strikes on airfields and facilities on BOUGAINVILLE and NEW BRITAIN and various barges and small craft in vicinity continue.

ComAirPac raised the question as to adequacy of aviation gasoline that will be available in the GILBERTS for projected operations. As a result of conference, it was determined that enough gasoline would be there for operations now planned, but that it would be desirable to increase the scale of operations if more gas could be brought in to support the increase.

CominCh 191511 states WarCorps made available for transfer overseas various specialized units.

20 October (Oahu Date)

In the SOUTH PACIFIC, air strikes against the enemy air facilities in Southern BOUGAINVILLE continue at an accelerated rate. Many enemy troops are seen on the southwest coast of CHOISEUL ISLAND, probably awaiting evacuation.

Work on clearing FUAHEA CHANNEL, FUNAFUTI has been completed. Report states 800' ship can negotiate channel with safety.

CinCPac 210259 assigns 2nd and 8th Defense Battalions reinforced to 5thPhibCorps.

In reply to CinCPac query, ComSoPac stated that he is unable to provide Army troops relief of Marine defense battalions in the ELLICE ISLANDS. General Richardson states that he cannot provide this relief unless authorized to do so by the War Department, thus raising the question of CinCPac authority to move Army troops within the Pacific Ocean Areas.
SECRET

21 October (Oahu date)

The Pacific Ocean Areas were generally quiet. In the SHORTLANDS Area, our aircraft and PT boats were active on searches and minor strikes.

There are indications that the enemy is carrying out extensive air and surface operations which are generally believed to be extensive searches extending from the KURILES to the SOLOMONS. Enemy submarines are extending their operations with one located southwest of HAWAII, and four sighted near WOONOA. While it is generally accepted that the current enemy operations are limited to more extensive and intense searches, the fact remains that these activities may result in raids in areas offering sufficiently profitable targets to justify a hazardous attack.

22 October (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific, our air forces continued their operations against enemy air, land installations and shipping. In one air attack by RAAF planes on two light cruisers probably the KISO and TAMA, one cruiser was damaged.

There was further evidence that air searches and submarine patrols were on a wider scale than heretofore.

23 October (Oahu date)

The air strikes against aircraft and air ground facilities on BOUGAINVILLE were intensified yesterday. The neutralization of the BUTU-SHORTLAND area preparatory to the advance into TREASURY ISLAND and EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY is apparently progressing favorably.


ComGenCentPac 210501 relays policy of Combined Chiefs of Staff in regard to handling propagandas.

ComGenCentPac has raised various points regarding command for GALVANIC. The whole command question in the Pacific Ocean Area is now under study.
SECRET

24 October (Oahu date)

Our air offensive in the Southern BOUGAINVILLE area is continuing. Heavy air strikes were also made on RABaul.

Com 3rd Fleet 240601 is Op. Plan 16R-43 which directs T.P. 39, CruDiv 12 and DesRon 23, bombard BUKA airfield 0000 L November 1 to render it temporarily ineffective during initial landing at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY. On return trip in passing SHORTLAND area they are to bombard FAISI, BAJALIE and other facilities in vicinity.

CinCPac Op. Plan 13-43 was modified so as to make it perfectly clear to the Army. The modification makes no change in any fundamentals of the plan. General Richardson, in a series of letters to CinCPac, has shown considerable concern over the command set-up for GALVANIC. There is no disagreement over fundamentals.

CominCh 221319 (pink) requests broad recommendations concerning sequence, timing and nature of Pacific Operations for 1944.

ComSoPac 250815 (pink) states ComSoWePac is submitting Reno 3 Plan ( ) to JCS which covers employment of SoPac forces during 1944.

25 October (Oahu date)

In the SOLOMONS, heavy air strikes against KARILI and surrounding airfields were continued. Heavy damage was inflicted. Reports received from yesterday’s raid on RABaul indicated that considerable damage was caused with many planes destroyed.

C.T.F. 31 directed 3 EM's to proceed to southeastern BOUGAINVILLE to lay minefield in BOUGAINVILLE STRAIT, November 2nd, east longitude date.

Com 3rd Fleet Op. Plan 16C-43 directs CTF 38 with 2 carriers to strike BUKA airfields early morning of D-day and subsequently. ComAirSePac planes will strike BUKA on D-3 or 2 day. CTF 39 will bombard BUKA O001L November 1st.

CTF 31 reports all schelmas for TREASURY ISLAND underway on schedule.

CinCPac 262100 directs ComGenCentPac to use serial 00196, which outlines forces required for Central Pacific Campaign, as a basis for procurement of Army personnel and material.

CinCPac 260019 (pink) to CominCh gives broad outline of Central Pacific Operations during 1944.
SECRET

26 October (Oahu date)

In the northern SOLOMONs, further air strikes were carried out against air installations in the BUIN Area.

Troop landings on TREASURY ISLAND were completed on schedule. Mortar fire, which was encountered on beach, resulted in a few casualties.

Troops were also landed from 4 APD's on northwest CHOSINJUL ISLAND, preparatory to establishing a PT boat base. A considerable number of Jap troops are still reported in CHOSINJUL BAY.

COMSOPAC 270212 proposes to lay aerial mines in eastern entrance BUKA STRAIT and western channel to RAMUN BAY (west side BUKA STRAIT).

As a result of anticipated raids or action against enemy Central Pacific islands, the main forces of Japanese Fleet left TRUK about 16 October for area northeast of there. This may be interpreted to mean that the Japanese may be expected (a) to station their surface forces now at TRUK in positions to counter our moves into the GILBERTS or MARSHALLS, (b) to sortie from TRUK on suspicion of any air raid proceeding toward that base. The surface forces returned to TRUK on 26 October.

27 October (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific, the occupation of TREASURY ISLAND is progressing favorably. An excellent PT boat base there will accommodate 20 boats. Enemy ground forces are retiring to the NE. No report was received from landing force on CHOSINJUL. Air attacks on air facilities in BUIN area continue.

COMINCH 261827 (pink) requests recommendations for greater use of submarines against enemy combatant ships.

COMSOPAC 280643 (pink) requests consideration of moving TF 37 to position to assist in interception any enemy force moving south and at same time be in position to carry out COMSOPAC plans.

COMINCH 262039 (pink) requests recommendation for employment COMSTTHPHIBFOR and staff with CENPACFOR and sets target date for operations against FARA-MUSHIRO as Spring of 1945.

1677
SECRET

28 October (Oahu date)

The occupation of TREASURY ISLAND and establishment of a PT base in SW part CHOISEUL ISLAND are proceeding satisfactorily.

The air strikes on airfields in the BUNI area and BUKA field have been intensified and major destruction accomplished. All airfields in Southern BOUGAINVILLE were unserviceable on 26 October.

ComSoPac 290101 has directed laying of aerial mines in eastern entrance BUKA STRAIT.

ComSoPac 290302 (pink) is Op. Plan 16 D-43 and gives dates of moving of echelons into EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and TREASURY ISLAND.

CincPac 290450 gives intention to return BatDive 6, 6, 9 and one carrier group to SoPac after GALVANIC.

CincPac 290321 (pink) to ComSoPac is reply to request for stationing of new battleships as covering force for BOUGAINVILLE Operation.

Enemy reactions to our move into TREASURY and CHOISEUL ISLAND have been minor in character. They apparently are preoccupied with the defense of BISMARCK ARCHIPELago, and NEW GUINEA and MARSHALL IS. 

29 October (Oahu date)

The operations on TREASURY ISLAND and at VOZA on CHOISEUL are still well in hand. The various Task Forces for the seizure of EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and air strikes and bombardment of BUKA are underway on their missions.

Cominch and CNO 221025 and 291646 (pink) gives the decisions of JCS in regard to (a) changes in "Category of Defense" for ALASKA, ALEUTIANS and HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, (b) garrison force requirements in ALASKA and HAWAIIAN ISLANDS (c) target date for PARAMUSHIRO, (d) construction of bases and 8 airfields in ALEUTIANS for B-29 bombers.

ComSoPac 300450 directs ComAirSoPac to strike NAURU on 20 November (East Longitude date) in support of GALVANIC.

30 October (Oahu date)

Operations on TREASURY ISLAND and CHOISEUL ISLAND, at VOZA and SANOGAI, are proceeding favorably. Air strikes on enemy air facilities on BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND continue daily with heavy damage inflicted.

The very light enemy air opposition encountered confirms the destruction of many enemy aircraft in the RABAUL-BOUGAINVILLE Area and indicates either the inability to make up losses or the reluctance to transfer aircraft from other areas such as the MARSHALLS.

Our transport group, 1st Echelon of the Landing Force, was sighted by enemy aircraft late this afternoon SW of NEW GEORGIA ISLAND and tracked continuously. No report has been received to date from any of our task forces engaged in this operation.
31 October (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific, the initial landing at TORAINA, northern part of EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY, was successfully carried out without opposition from enemy air or surface ships.

The BUKA and BONIS airfields were bombarded by T.F. 39 (4 CLS and 4 DDs) at midnight and T. F. 38 carried out air strikes on same fields at dawn. Large fires were started. T. F. 39 also bombarded the SHORTLAND area early this morning. Enemy surface units about 4 CL and 6 DD were sighted in ST. GEORGE CHANNEL south of CAPE ORFORD.

The planning groups currently are preparing studies and outline plans for carrier raids on the MARSHALL ISLANDS and NAURU immediately after completion of GALVANIC and on TRUK sometime between GALVANIC and FLINTLOCK.

1 November (Oahu date)

Operations in south BOUGAINVILLE and air strikes on BUKA were proceeding as planned with no interference with our landing at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY. An attempted enemy raid by surface forces on transports in the Bay was intercepted by TF 39 and driven off. Results of the battle have not been reported except that DD FOOTE was hit by a torpedo and is being towed to TULagi. Later 70 enemy planes attacked TF 39 and caused minor damage.

CominCh 311400 (pink) directs passing CCF 329/2 to ComCorCentPac and planning, training for Central Pacific Campaign, requesting personnel and material in advance of specific JCS directives.

ComSoPac 010057 (pink) gives latest trends in shaping of RENIO 3 plans which involves VANUS ISLAND, KAVIENG.

2 November (Oahu date)

Operations on TREASURY ISLAND and at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY, BOUGAINVILLE IS, are proceeding satisfactorily. The Marine para-troop battalion has been withdrawn from CHOESEUL.

Information received from CTF 39 states that as a result of the surface battle a preliminary estimate indicates that the enemy had 1 cruiser and 4 destroyers sunk; 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers damaged. Our damage was DD FOOTE torpedoed but towed clear and DENVER received 4 eight-inch hits, none serious. A heavy air strike on RABAUL following the surface battle reported sinking 2 DDs, 1 DL, 6 Marus, 2 AK and several small craft, and damaging 2 CAs, one seriously, 2 DDs, 7 merchant ships and 2 tankers.

(Pink)

ComSoPac 030100 is a request for reinforcement of SOPAC forces with fast BBs and DDs as additional cover for operations on BOUGAINVILLE. This request resulted from the information that a force of cruisers and destroyers left TRUK headed south.
SECRET

3 November (Oahu date)

The operations in the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY Area and on TREASURY ISLAND are proceeding favorably.

CinCPac 030915 (pink) assigns CruDiv 13 and DesDiv 49 temporarily to SoPac for use in current BOUGAINVILLE operations and to assist in repelling 5-8 enemy cruisers and destroyers reported southwest of KAVIENG.

ComSoPac 040446 (pink) is a reply to above dispatch, giving reasons for requesting fast BBs.

NASHVILLE replaced the damaged DENVER in TF 39. Com 7th Fleet made the following ships, at KILIS BAY, available to ComSoPac: (CAEs) AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE; (DDs) ARUNTA, WARRAMUNGA, HELM, RALPH TALBOT.

Chief of Staff, Army 022303 clarifies directive to ComSenCentPac relative to ground forces in Central Pacific Area.

The departure of most of the cruisers and destroyers from TRUK for the KAVIENG-RABAUL area leaves only the carriers and battleships at that base. The enemy cruiser and destroyer force near RABAUL is apparently for the purpose of taking advantage of any opportunity to interfere with the operation of our transports in the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY area. Due to our air coverage of RABAUL the force probably will not base there but may operate out of KAVIENG. The use of our fast BBs in the waters off EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY within range of enemy shore based air and probable concentration of enemy submarines without adequate targets is not considered justifiable. CruDiv 13 and DesDiv 49 have been sent to assist the South Pacific Forces.

4 November (Oahu date)

Operations in the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY Area are proceeding favorably with the 2nd Echelon due tomorrow morning. Mopping up continues on TREASURY ISLAND.

Planes from TF 30 (BARATOGA-PRINCETON) with R. Adm. Sherman in command struck RABAUL apparently shortly after the arrival of the cruiser-destroyer force from TRUK. The force of 23 torpedo planes, 22 dive bombers, and 52 fighters reported the following damage: 5 out of 8 CAEs hit by torpedoes and bombs, the 6th CA was torpedoed; 1 of 2 CAEs was hit by torpedoes and bombs, the other by bombs; 2 DDs of 15 to 20 present were torpedoed; about 24 planes shot down plus 5 probables and several damaged. Our losses were 5 fighters, 2 torpedo planes missing, 1 dive bomber shot down and 32 planes with minor damage.

The 2 CAEs and several CAEs and DDs reported north of KAVIENG retiring northward perhaps were the ships damaged by SoWePac air force in RABAUL.

CinCPac 030916 (pink) is further directive for temporary assignment of CruDiv 13 and DesDiv 49 to SoPac and present intention of detaching them about 12 November for GALVANIC.

CominCh 042125 (pink) approves deferment FLINTLOCK target date to a date as early as possible after 1 January, and not later than 31 January 1945.

Cmr 1680
5 November (Oahu date)

The second echelon for EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and 3rd echelon for TREASURY ISLAND arrived on schedule. Operations are proceeding satisfactorily.

There has been no further information on T.F. 38 air strike on combatant shipping in RABAUL. Two CL's and 5 DD's were sighted northwest of TRESAURA and one-half of T.F. 39 was proceeding to intercept. The other two CL's and DD's after fueling in CATHYAN SOUND, southern end of VAVAV L.A. TIP, were proceeding to join.

CinC Pac 062111 (pink) assigns T.F. 50.2, T. Kunw. Montgomery with 50.6, BURDER HILL, INDEPENDENCE and 3 DD, temporarily to SoPac for immediate strikes against damaged enemy shipping in RABAUL. Present intentions are to withdraw these units for GALVANIC.

ComSoPac 060619 (pink) is a request for one and preferably two carrier divisions to augment SoPac forces in support of operations on BONNAVILLE and retention of Cushman 13 and Dexterity 49 until consolidation AUGUSTA BAY completed about end November.

Information indicates that the following enemy combatant units are in the BISMARCK-SOLOMONS area at present: 6 CA (damaged), 3 CL, 18-20 DD. The planes from the two large carriers are believed shore-based in this area.

6 November (Oahu date)

Operations in the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY Area and on TREASURY ISLAND are proceeding satisfactorily. Echelons are proceeding and unloading both places as per schedule and without interference.

Further information on TF 38 air strike on shipping in RABAUL obtained during the attack indicates that the previously reported extensive damage to the cruisers and destroyers may be correct. Photographs taken during the attack show the following combatant ships present: 8 CA, 2 HAGAMI, 2 HACHI, 3 ATAGO, 1 TONE Classes; 3 CL, 1 each SENDAI, YURARI, HATORI; and 14 DDs.

CinC Pac 060320 (pink) delays Dog Day for GALVANIC one day to 20 November W. Long.

ComSoFleetPac 070213 (pink) sets tentatively Dog Day for DEXTERITY as 5 December.

C of S to ComGenCentPac 070220 (pink) gives War Dept. policies and instructions in regard to training, supply and movements of troops in central Pacific Area.
7 November (Oahu date)

The seizure and occupation of EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and TREASURE ISLAND are proceeding in accordance with plan. Enemy air attacks damaged two of our transports unloading at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY with 1 bomb each. The 3rd Echelon at AUGUSTA BAY and 4th Echelon at TREASURE ISLAND are due 11 November (E. Long. date).

Reports as to the damage inflicted on enemy combatant ships at RABAUL by carrier planes are still lacking. From intelligence information it appears that the damage may not be as extensive as first reported. The same information states that 3 CA's and 16 DD remain in RABAUL and that all other cruisers and destroyers retired to TRUK.

8 November (Oahu date)

Operations at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY are progressing favorably. Enemy air attacks which damaged two transports also damaged the BIRMINGHAM (CL). The most serious part of the damage is to one turret and to hull plating which requires docking to repair.

The two carrier task groups 38 and 50.3 are proceeding to stations from which to launch air attacks on RABAUL morning of 11 November (E. Long. date).

The most recent photo reconnaissance of RABAUL indicates a reduction in shipping there with about 3 cruisers, 7 destroyers and 1 battleship present. The presence of the latter ship is not considered probable.

CominCh 081628 (pink) comments on delay in CALVANIC and use of submarines on TRUK-RABAUL route.

CinCPac 090240 (pink) set the target date for FLINTLOCK as 17 Jan. 1944, East Long. date.

During a conference with those concerned this afternoon, it was decided to withdraw CentPac forces which had been sent to Admiral Halsey to bolster up his BONANVILLE operation, and to order Sherman's task force to strike NAURU as originally planned. There does not seem to be any necessity for support from CentPac after the CV strike on RABAUL now scheduled for the 10th (local date).

The Plans Division of CinCPAC Staff is considering a plan to defeat JAPAN twelve months after GERMANY falls. The assumption is that GERMANY will fall in October 1944.

CINCPAC
9 November (Oahu date)

Our positions on EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and TREASURY ISLAND are being improved and conditions are satisfactory. Work has started on airfields at TOROKINA POINT which will take about 30 days to complete.

Our aircraft continue their attacks on enemy aircraft and airfields in BOUGAINVILLE area with good results. Airfields are kept out of commission. Some bombing of our positions in this area was minor in character and resulted in little damage.

Latest reports confirm the fact that most of the enemy cruisers and destroyers have been withdrawn from the RABUAL area as only two cruisers, 9 DD, plus some auxiliaries and merchant ships were reported there.

Reply to CominCh 262039 Oct. in regard to employment Com9thPhibFor and Staff was made by serial 001430 of Nov. 2 which recommended in effect that the Headquarters 9thPhibFor be sent to SAN DIEGO to complete Group 3, 5thPhibFor and remainder to PhibTrainPac to be organized as nucleus for future expansion into Force or Group Headquarters. CominCh 092220 dissolved 9thPhibFor and action recommended above was approved and will be carried out.

CincPac 092115 to ComSoPac directs that Montgomery's carrier force report V. Adm Spruance in time to carry out GALVANIC and Sherman's force carry out planned strike on NAURU. R. Adm Dubose's cruiser and destroyer force was also ordered to join ComCasPacFor for GALVANIC.

10 November (Oahu date)

The consolidation of our positions in EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and on TREASURY ISLAND is progressing with but minor enemy interference at the former place.

The carrier air strikes made by two groups of carriers on shipping in RABUAL were handicapped by a low cloud cover over that port.

Five DDs were dive bombed and attacked with torpedoes off the entrance to the port with some hits and near misses reported. Carriers in R. Adm. Montgomery's force apparently received minor damage, although the ESSEX reported four air attacks delivered at her. Many enemy planes were reported shot down. Full report of Montgomery's strike is not in. He may have been able to strike RABUAL.

CominCh 101609 (pink) calls attention to seriousness of shipping situation in POA suggesting making South and Central Pacific a single area for transportation of personnel with CinCPAC as coordinating agency of priorities.
11 November (Oahu date)

The consolidation of positions on EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY and TREASURY ISLAND continue as planned. With the completion of unloading of the 3rd Echelon at TOROKINA and 4th Echelon at TREASURY there have been landed 26,700 personnel and 19,000 tons of cargo at the former and 7,700 personnel and 5,800 tons of cargo at the latter place.

HONOSA reported being under attack yesterday by 12 bombers. Forty to sixty bombs were dropped causing minor casualties and damage.

As a result of enemy air attacks on our carrier groups attacking RABAUL it was reported that about 100 enemy planes were shot down by our carrier aircraft.

The results of R.Ads. Montgomery's carrier air strike on shipping in RABAUL are as given in CTG 50.3 dispatch 120321.

12 November (Oahu date)

The consolidation at EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY continues with no interference subsequent to the landing. The 4th Echelon arrived there on schedule.

As a result of enemy torpedo plane attack, 0600 local time, southwest of EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY on T.F. 39 the DENVER was hit aft. With three shafts out of commission the DENVER was proceeding under tow of tug and on one shaft at 7 knots. The DENVER is thus under serious danger of enemy air attack.

The NEED movement of Marine defense battalions in the SAMGAM-EILICE area was discussed with Lt.Gen. Vandegrift, U.S.M.C.

During the morning Admiral Nimitz discussed the POM troop lift problem. Various views and difficulties were presented by those concerned. Admiral Newton will present a proposal on the problem at a conference tomorrow.

13 November (Oahu date)

The enemy's attempts at interference with our occupation of EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY area and TREASURY ISLAND both by air and surface ships have decreased materially since the successful carrier air strikes on RABAUL on the 10th W. Long. date.

Task Force 74, consisting of the AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE and 4 C.D., have been directed to return to command of SowesPac, but with the stipulation that it be available for call when needed.

6 Bombers attacked FUNAPUTI during the night of 12 Nov. W. Long. date with no casualties, some material damage and 3 aircraft destroyed.

ComInCh 132035 (pink) quotes WarDept. directive to ComGen Alaska Sector to actively participate in the planning for operation against PARAMUSHIRU with ComNorPacFor on basis of mutual cooperation.

-Continued-
SECRET

13 November (Oahu date) -Continued-

V. Adm. Newton presented a solution of the priorities problem for study by the Staff. This problem will be discussed further before being sent along to Washington.

During the day Lt. Gen. Vandegrift conferred with various Marine Corps activities on Marine problems in the Central Pacific.

14 November (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific, the occupation of TREASURY IS. has been completed and organized land resistance has ended. The reinforcement and supply of our troops in EXPRESS AUGUSTA BAY continues in accordance with schedule. Sporadic skirmishes in some sectors of our perimeter have taken place. Our air patrols and PT boat operations in the South DOUGALNVILLE area are concentrating on enemy barges and small craft with excellent results.

There are no indications of changes in the location of the major enemy combatant units in the TRUK-MARSHALL-HARAU areas.

The DENVER arrived in PURVIS BAY 0900 15th Nov. (E. Long. date).

ComNesSeaFron in his serial 01866 of 3 Nov. has reduced the Category of Defense of the Western Sea Frontier from "B" to "A".

CinCPac 132235 (pink) states concurrence with CominCh 101609 in regard to CinCPac & POA acting as coordinating agency for combined priority list for Central and South Pacific Areas.

Admiral Nimitz and his staff concerned, today discussed Marine Corps matters with General Vandegrift. It was decided that the present directive from CominCh to move Marine defense battalions forward is unduly restrictive and that a proposal to give CinCPac more latitude be submitted. It was further decided that General Vandegrift prepare a dispatch to the Marine Corps requesting that no action be taken on WarCorps serial 093626343 dated 23 Sept. 1943, until General Vandegrift gets to Washington.

General Vandegrift stated that it was his understanding that the KAVIENG operation is now scheduled for 1 March 1944. While we do not have RENIO 3 (Gen. MacArthur's Plans for 1944 operations) it has been our understanding that the KAVIENG Operation would commence on 1 May 1944. As it is expected that the Central Pacific Force will be required to cover the seizure of KAVIENG and as the CATCHPOLE Operation will be scheduled for about that time, it would appear that the best coverage would be the largest possible carrier strike on TRUK at that time.
SECRET

15 November (Oahu Date)

The consolidation of our position at TOROKINA and movement of reinforcing echelons to that area and to TREASUREY ISLAND continues satisfactorily.

The first air strikes by land-based B-24s preparatory to GALVANIC was made late afternoon of 14 November (U. Long. Date) on TARAWA and MILLE with 9 bombers at each objective. The damage and casualties caused were apparently not extensive. Another attack by 18 B-24s on TARAWA was made late 15 November (U. Long.) with unannounced results.

Intelligence reports indicate rather extensive movement of aircraft in the MARSHALL-GILBERT ISLANDS.

16 November (Oahu Date)

The reinforcement of our troops and position at TAROKINA continues. During the approach of the 5th Echelon at TOROKINA the MOLLAN ABD with Marines on board was torpedoed by aircraft and sank. About 125 men were lost. The 6 DDs escorting the 5th Echelon proceeded to BUKA and bombarded air facilities and enemy positions. Air strikes on BOUGAINVILLE airfields continue to keep them unsusable.

In the North Pacific T.F. 94 composed of 3 CLs and 4 DDs will make a sweep towards the KOMANDORSKI ISLANDS and along the KAMCHATKA coast for the purpose of destroying Japanese patrol craft disguised as Russian fishing boats.

Air strikes were carried out by B-24s from CANTON and EILIGE bases on JALUIT, MILLE and MAKIN. Considerable damage was done at JALUIT where light AA fire was encountered. Antiaircraft fire at MILLE was intense while at MAKIN it was light. No enemy interceptors were encountered and no damage was suffered by our aircraft.

Air reconnaissance photographs have been obtained of MILLE, C KUSAKE and MALOEKAP.
SECRET

17 November (Cahu date)

In the South Pacific, air strikes on enemy air installations on
AROLAVUNI and bombing and strafing of enemy troops and positions in vicinity of
tOROVINA continue daily. Japanese bombers of our positions at TAKELA are
infrequent and have caused little damage.

Aerial mines have been laid in TUKA PASSAGE and will be laid in re-
maining open channel to western side SHORTLAND Area in addition to airfield
west of TAKELA and northeastern passage ROTA BAY STRAIT.

Air strikes by ELIJAH ISLAND bombers on objectives in the KURUS
and MARSHALLS continue as scheduled. Enemy bombers attacked FMARKI early
morning of the 17th of November inflicting minor damage.

CINCPAC 180641 (pink) states that day for landing on TURUKA is
3 December, and for CAPE GLYCERIN will be between 22 and 30 December.

Intelligence reports received to date indicate that no major task forces
are expected and that LANDFORS have been sighted or reported.

18 November (Cahu date)

The consolidation of our position at TAKELA continues. There were
no outstanding incidents reported during the day.

One of our task groups proceeding towards GILBERT ISLANDS was sighted
and reported yesterday. Our carrier group was sighted and reported
approaching TUKU, but delivered air attack as scheduled. Results were not reported.

Another carrier group struck at TURUKA on D-2 day as scheduled. No report of
results was received. Further carrier air strikes on GALVANIC objectives are
scheduled for tomorrow, D-1 day.

CominCh 101837 (pink) to CinPac discusses assignments of destroyers
and patrol craft to Pacific Fleets.

19 November (Cahu date)

Operations in the South Pacific continued without major incidents.
Carriers and land based air strikes were carried out in the GILBERTS and MARSHALLS
in accordance with schedule for D-1 day, GALVANIC Plan.

From intelligence information received, there appears to be no indication
that the enemy is aware of a major amphibious operation approaching its objectives
in the GILBERTS.

CinPac 201116 directs that elements of 27th Division not employed in
GALVANIC revert to command of ComGenCinPac until further orders.

MarCorps 181938 ref. CinCPAO 180025 effective 20 November, the 1st Armored
Amphibious Battalion is attached to 4th Marine Division to permit early training.

CinPac 200321 (pink) to ComSoPac gives intention of assigning 51st Marine
Defense Battalion to ComSoPac in February 1944 and withdrawal of all present
Marines ELIJAH ISLANDS for CentPac operations in late February 1944 with ComSoPac
providing replacement battalions.

1687
20 November (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, the GALVANIC Operation involving assault of TARAWA and MAKIN was carried out on schedule. The 22-hour attack at each objective was set at 0300 H, the first wave at MAKIN landed on time, at TARAWA about 45 minutes late. Operations on MAKIN progressed favorably, and last reports indicate that the success of the operation is assured.

At TARAWA, due to difficulties in negotiating the reef on the lagoon side of BITITU ISLAND, the objective, small beach heads were secured against strong opposition. The use of a combat team from the reserves was necessary. The progress made during the first day was small, but as about 5000 troops have been landed the capture is believed sure. The DE RIMMOLD furnishing fire support from lagoon at TARAWA was damaged by two shells, one below the waterline, and speed was reduced to 25 knots.

As a result of a torpedo plane attack by 16 Betty's on the Southern Carrier Group southwest of TARAWA, the INDEPENDENCE was struck by one torpedo which damaged and flooded a fireroom reducing speed to 15 knots. She is proceeding to FUNAFUTI. An explosion in No. 2 turret of MISSISSIPPI killed 1 officer and 9 men wounding others.

CominCh 191942 (pink) discusses shipping priorities for December.

21 November (Oahu date)

Operations in South BOUGAINVILLE are progressing favorably with heavy air strikes keeping enemy airfields unusable most of the time. The 7th Echelon to TOROKINA is due tomorrow.

Strong enemy resistance continues on TARAWA but a brief dispatch indicates that a turn for the better had occurred towards noon today.

Conditions on MAKIN appear to be well in hand and most of the island is in our possession.

Marines were landed on AFAKAMOA dawn of the 21st and NAUTILUS reports situation there satisfactory.

CinCPac 220233 (pink) informs CominCh of practice of passing important operational dispatches and summaries to him and that CominCh pass to General Marshall messages which relate to Army operations.

CinCPac 212225 informs ComCenPacFor of estimated reaction of enemy to GALVANIC in sending submarines to area and making air attacks on ships from MARSHALLS and NAURU and that planned area of operations of carrier groups were too restrictive.

ComCenPacFor 220630 is a message of instructions to Task Force Commanders to carry out above dispatch.
SECRET

22 November (Oahu date)

In the GILBERTS, CTF 52 (RAdm Turner) reported the capture of MAKIN on D-2 day. ComSgen 27th Div assumed command ashore.

At TARAWA CTF 55 (RAdm Hill) reported that the greater portion of that island was in our hands with isolated pockets of resistance remaining behind our lines. The capture of the eastern tip of the island is progressing slowly. Information received from natives and P.O.W. indicate that there were 4500 Japs on TARAWA on D-day. Our estimate was 2500. Better reconnaissance and photo interpretation indicated.

On APAMAMA the company of Marines landed by the UC-1111 has the enemy force of 25 men isolated and have captured the Jap landing boats.

In the vicinity of TARAWA one (and possibly two) enemy submarine was destroyed by DD.

Intelligence reports indicate that the enemy is assembling aircraft in the MARIANAS for attacks on our forces in the GILBERTS via MILKE. Our carrier strike on MILKE caused sufficient damage to interfere with these attacks.

There are no indications that the enemy intends to use his carriers or other combatant ships at TRUK to interfere with the GILBERT operations.

Operations in the South Pacific are progressing favorably.

23 November (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific, operations are progressing satisfactorily. Our forces at TARAWA hold an area 9,000 yards wide and 7,000 yards deep. An LST unloading on the beach was shelled by enemy artillery, which caused some casualties, indicating that the depth of our holdings is inadequate. Destroyer 23 on patrol last night west of DUKA PASSAGE intercepted an enemy force of five ships in two groups. The Squadron Commander reported first group of two sunk by torpedoes and while in pursuit of the other group one was sunk by gunfire.

at TARAWA, the enemy conducted a heavy counter attack last night which was repulsed and all enemy resistance ended 0130 GCT, 24 November.

On NAKIN, the occupation phase is completed and assault force commander will turn over command to Base Commander, Colonel Tommy, USA, at 2000 GCT 24 November.

Intelligence reports indicate that the enemy is frantically trying to assemble aircraft in the MARIANAS for assault on our forces in the GILBERTS. So far, air attacks have been few. There are some indications that an enemy diversion Attack Force composed of about 4 CA, 1 CL and 6 DD is planning to sortie from TRUK to the eastward.

Cominch 231754 (pink) requests study and report on means of maintaining our subs in the GULF OF SIAM.
SECRET

24 November (Oahu date)

Operations in the South BOUGAINVILLE area are progressing favorably. ComDesRon 23, Capt. Burke, reports that as a result of the recent night action off BUMA, 4 enemy ships were seen to sink and 2 damaged ships escaped westward. ComDesRon 23 arrived PURVIS BAY.

At MAKIN minor isolated enemy resistance on outlying islands is being eliminated. Garrison troops are being landed and consolidation is going ahead under the garrison force commander. At about 0500 25 Nov. local date to the westward of MAKIN the LISCOMBE BAY was hit by one and possibly two submarine torpedoes which resulted in subsequent explosions and extensive fires. The ship sank in 23 minutes with a heavy loss of personnel estimated at about 52 officers and 648 enlisted, including RAdm Mullinix and Captain Millsie.

On TARAWA the airfield will be ready to receive fighters at 1600 Nov. 25th, Oahu date. The ComGen 2nd Marine Div. has assumed control of TARAWA morning of the 25th local time.

Landings made on seaward beaches at TARAWA revealed that they were heavily mined and included barricades and wire. For all landings on enemy beaches hereafter boat channels to the beaches and landing areas on the beaches will have to be cleared of mines prior to landings.

On APANAMA minor enemy resistance still continues.

In the North Pacific T.F. 94 returned to ATTU today from sweep around KOMANDORSKI Islands with no sightings and no contacts.

CincPac 250357 (pink) to ComCenPacFor directs that carrier air strikes be made on MUNIALUS with primary objective KWAJALEIN at earliest practicable date.

Com 7th Fleet to CominCh 240621 (pink) designates first operation Western New Britain as landing at ARAWE AREA vice CASUATA with tentative day as 15 December. Day for CAPE GLOUCESTER remains unchanged between 22-30 December.

The Division attack force reported yesterday apparently is proceeding towards KWAJALEIN.
SECRET

25 November (Oahu date)

The consolidation by our occupation forces of TARAWA and MAKIN is progressing satisfactorily. No outstanding incidents occurred at either place during the last 24 hours. Submarine contacts have been made in the vicinity of TARAWA.

Infantry has been directed to occupy APAMAMA not later than morning of the 27th, E. Long. date and naval forces are proceeding to cover this movement into that island.

ComCenPac has directed some reorganization of his forces and the transfer of aircraft from certain carriers to combatant carriers remaining in GILBERT area. Some of the assault shipping used in GALVANIC with some assault troops have been started on their return voyage to PEARL under escort.

In the South Pacific no major events occurred.

The enemy is still endeavoring to augment his aircraft, submarine, and light surface forces in the MARSHALLS. Additional troops are also apparently going to be moved in.

Admiral King and party, which included General Richardson, departed PEARL for an inspection of the ELLICE and possibly GILBERT groups.

26 November (Oahu date)

Consolidation of our positions on MAKIN, TARAWA and APAMAMA continues. Fighter planes from the NASSAU and BARNES started to land on TARAWA airfield early afternoon of the 25th, W. long. date. Marines on APAMAMA believe that all Japs on that island have committed mass suicide. Enemy aircraft attack on our surface forces at MAKIN was reported but no information on damage, if any, received.

In the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY area enemy ground forces were reported on all sides of our position at TOROKINA and there are indications that an attack in force is to be launched. In view of the large enemy forces in South BOUGAINVILLE the security of our position there is not all assured.

The Divoise Attack Force reported heading for KWAJALEIN apparently was routed to ENITETOK Atoll (BRONW ISLAND) where an oiler was proceeding to fuel the force. Intelligence reports state that the BBs, and CVs at TRUK have been fueled but there were no indications of their probable movements.

In NEW GUINEA, ground forces reported the capture of SATZLBERG on the 26th, E. long. date.

Observers returning from the GILBERTS stress two things: (1) the bombardment and bombing does not prevent the Japs from putting up very stiff resistance. It is very helpful, but not devastating. (2) LVTs are essential to successful assault. Effort will be made to increase numbers of these for FLINTLOCK. Also, as one division was fully committed at TARAWA, it may be necessary to increase troops allotted for FLINTLOCK.
SECRET

27 November (Oahu Date)

The consolidation of our positions on TARAWA and MAKIN are progressing satisfactorily. AA guns including 90mm have been set up and 155mm guns are being landed on TARAWA. Fighters are operating from the airfield but repairs to the field are still necessary and underway. Estimated casualties to date are: MAKIN 63 killed, 119 wounded; TARAWA 1000 killed and missing, 2500 wounded. It is reported that 60 Japs remain in the northern tip of TARAWA ATOLL.

The occupation of APAMAMA is proceeding according to plan.

Carrier Task Group 50.2, west of MAKIN, was attacked by 30 to 40 planes last night. Three night fighters were launched and were largely instrumental in repulsing the attack. The TBF considers that 8 to 10 Bette’s were shot down. There was no damage to our ships.

ComCenPacFor reports that the carrier strike on KUAJALEKIN, TARA and WOTJE will take place 4 or 5 December.

Intelligence reports state that troop reinforcements are being sent to MILLE and JALUIT. No further reports have been received as to the movements of the Diversion Attack Force last reported heading for ENIWETOK ATOLL.

Steps are being taken to survey the availability of LVTs in both the Pacific and in the U.S.A.

There were no major enemy developments.

28 November (Oahu Date)

There has been no enemy interference with our operations in the EMILYTS during the preceding day except for some enemy aircraft, over TARAWA during the night but reports did not state if attack was made. The elimination of the enemy on the NE tip of TARAWA Atoll was apparently completed.

The shore based bombers from the EMILY bases hit MILLE and plan further air strikes on the "MILLI" bases.

Operations in the South RUGAINVILLE area continue favorably.

Our submarine SEAL covering KUAJALEKIN reports 3 CAs, 4 DAs, 8 AEs in harbor and the PADDLE at ENIWETOK reports that 4 CAs, 6 DDs had departed. There have been no reports on movements of other major enemy surface forces.

Major General Holland Smith, USMC, made a brief report on GALVANIC to CinCPac morning conferences. He said that the "TARAWA capture was unbelievably difficult. For similar operations he recommends 450 LVTs per division; improvement in naval gunfire support."
SECRET

29 November (Oahu date)

In the South Pacific there were no major developments. It is estimated that about 5,000 Japs remain in the northwest tip of PULSEL ISLAND.

In the GILBERTS, unloading of supplies continues at all three islands occupied. Assault transports have completed unloading and the majority are returning to PEARL under escort.

There was no interference to our operations either by enemy aircraft or surface ships during the last twenty four hours.

Reports do not indicate any changes in the dispositions of the major enemy surface units.

30 November (Oahu date)

The consolidation of our defenses on MAKIN, TARAWA and APAMAMA continues without interference by the enemy. 42 fighters are operating from the field at TARAWA. The airfield at MAKIN is 10% completed.

There was no action or contacts with the enemy reported from the GILBERTS. The SOLOMONS area was relatively quiet. For purpose of reconnaissance and raiding, one paratroop battalion plus one company of Raiders landed against minor opposition on shore 1/2 miles NW of KOKARIS (about 10 mi. east of TARAWA) during night of 27-28 Nov. (W. long.) after a strong Jap counter attack in which action our troops were supported by aircraft and LCI gunboats, our force withdrew at 2130 on the 28th (W. long.).

Jap casualties were estimated at 200 dead, probably additional number killed by bombing and bombardment. Our casualties 16 killed, 71 wounded.

The PUNGER off MILLI Atoll reported 2 CLs and 1 DD leaving that base at high speed to the westward. There were no reports of movements of other major enemy surface forces.

Admiral Nimitz returned from an inspection of TARAWA, the ELLICE ISLAND bases and CANTON.

1 December (Oahu date)

The consolidation of our bases in the GILBERTS is progressing favorably with no enemy opposition. At MAKIN, ground defenses are about 50% operational with the air strip 15% completed.

At TARAWA, good progress is being made in unloading and searching out and eliminating enemy coast watchers and their stations in surrounding islands. Unloading at APAMAMA continues slowly.

Ten CANTON B-24s bombed TAROA (KALOELAP) during the morning of the 30th of November causing damage and obtaining photographs. Out of 35 Zekes which intercepted 7 were reported destroyed, 12 probably destroyed and 4 damaged. Heavy AA fire was encountered and the B-24s were heavily damaged by fighter fire, but all returned.

(Continued)
SECRET

1 December (Cahu date) - (Continued)

While operating independently East of TARAWA, our destroyers WARD and BROWN were attacked by enemy torpedo planes. By skillful maneuvering all torpedoes were evaded. Three torpedo planes were shot down and 2 probably destroyed.

The Northern SOLOMONS Area was generally quiet.

2 December (Cahu date)

Improvements of our positions in the GILBERTS are proceeding satisfactorily. At MAKIN ground defences are 80% and communications 60% effective. The fighter strip is 20% complete.

At TARAWA, the development of HAWKINS FIELD is proceeding satisfactorily. The unloading of the 2nd echelon Acorn 14 is 50% complete and 1st echelon Acorn 17 is 70% complete. At APAMANA unloading proceeds slowly due mostly to method of loading of transports.

Four B-24s from FUNAFUTI bombed MILLI with 5 tons of bombs. Report states that 60% hit target area starting explosion and fires and 5 Zekes in the air did not close. One of our planes is missing.

There were no major developments in the SOLOMONS. It is now estimated that two to five thousand Japs are concentrated in the northwest tip of CHOISEUL Island apparently awaiting evacuation. Three destroyers are ordered to bomb the CHOISEUL BAY area for one hour at 0900 Dec. 5th, local time.

Two search planes from the South Pacific bombed OCEAN Island and reported that the island appeared deserted.

3 December (Cahu date)

There were no actions or major developments reported from the GILBERTS during the day. At TARAWA, all assault troops with material will be embarked by 0400 JCT. 4 December and the command of TARAWA will pass to the Island Commander, Captain Tate, at 0900 JCT. 4 December.

The SOLOMONS area was generally quiet. The 8th Echelon to TARAWA and 9th Echelon to TAVUHUMA arrived on schedule. The TAVUHUMA convoy was attacked by 20 to 25 torpedo and dive bombers during the night but suffered no damage or casualties. Three enemy planes were shot down with two or three probables.

ComChO 031855 (pink) states increasing demands and production of landing craft is critical, directs limiting use of this type of craft to assault operations and essential training, and directs their transfer from Seafrontiers and Districts to the nearest Fleet commander.

1694
SECRET

4 December (Oahu date)

The development of our bases in the GILBERTS is proceeding satisfactorily.

At WAHIN ground defenses are 85% and communications 60% effective. The airfield is 25% complete. Information has been received that the field will accommodate fighters by 10 December. One enemy TF approached the island from over the lagoon but was driven off.

At TARAWA, Commander Advance Base relieved Contem 2nd MarDiv of command TARAWA at 2000 GCT 4 December. Nine enemy bombers attacked TARAWA about 1600, local time. They dropped 36 - 100 lb. bombs causing the following damage: 1 PV and 1 P2C destroyed, 2 PVs and 6 S2Fs damaged, 200 bbls. gasoline burned. There were no personnel casualties.

At ATAMATA unloading is progressing. Commander Advance Base relieved Asst. Cons. 2nd MarDiv at 0100 GCT 5 December.

In the north SOLOMONS extensive air attacks were carried out against enemy positions throughout the area with good results.

Preliminary intelligence indicates that carrier task forces carried out planned air attacks on MARSHALL Island bases. No report has been received from NAADM, Pownall the Task Force Commander.

5 December (Oahu date)

The consolidation of our positions in the GILBERTS is proceeding satisfactorily.

ComCenPacFor reported that the airfield at MAKEN will be ready for fighters within 10 days provided that the supply of Marston mat is adequate. He also proposes to order combatant ships in the GILBERTS to leave and carry out remaining tasks on 7 December, E. long. date.

CTF 57 reports that 8 Liberators bombed NAURU on the 5th, starting large fires. There was no enemy interception, AA fire was moderate and inaccurate.

Thirty-five Liberators dropped 108 500-lb. and 511 100-lb. bombs on WILLE, about noon the 4th E. Long. date. AA fire was encountered but no enemy aircraft intercepted.

SAILFISH reported sinking the ZUDHO (CV) about 2400 GCT 3 December in Lat. 32°-20' N, Long. 143°-45' E, while enroute to EMPIRE.

CincPac 050248 returns elements of 27th Division and attached troops employed in CALVAMIC to the operational control of CincCenPac.
SECRET

6 December (Oahu date)

The consolidation of our positions in the GILBERTS is progressing. At MILK, ground defenses are 80%, communications 75% and airstrip 40% effective.

At TARAWA fighter strip is 60% cleared and partially graded. Bocage merrings have been planted in the north end of the lagoon.

Although aircraft are using the Japanese airfield on WAKE Island in TARAWA atoll reports indicate that considerable reconditioning of the field will be necessary to permit its use by heavy aircraft. The clearing of the new field in the SE corner of the Atoll is completed and grading is underway.

On 7 December, East longitude date, CTF 37 relieved Commander of command of the GILBERTS.

Intelligence reports do not indicate any gains in the disposition of major enemy fleet units or locations of fleet commanders.

Cominch 002152 (pink) approves plan for operations of submarines in the Gulf of SIA as proposed in CinCPac 030402.

7 December (Oahu date)

Two enemy planes attacked TARAWA during the night of 5 December, K. Long. date, dropping 8 bombs. All bombs but one dropped in the water. Minor damage was caused by the bomb that hit.

"AKIH was attacked by one enemy bomber night of 7 December, K. Long. date. Four bombs dropped in the lagoon causing no damage.

On 4 December, W. Long. date, a carrier air attack was made by 4 CVs and 2 CLs under R. Adm. Fowall on shipping, aircraft and land installations on EWA/LEIP and WAVE Atolls.

At EWA/LEIP, 2 CLs, 1 AG, 3 AKs were reported sunk, 3 AKs damaged or sunk. Ground installations and grounded aircraft were damaged and destroyed. A total of 61 enemy aircraft were shot down. Our losses were 2 F6Fs and 1 SBD.

At WAVE, one AK was badly damaged, 5 enemy aircraft destroyed. Many fires were started and extensive damage caused to hangars and barracks. We had no losses.

A prolonged air attack by many medium torpedo-bombers the night following the strike resulted in one torpedo hit in the LEXINGTON on the starboard side aft. This caused considerable structural damage, breaking of No. 2 shaft, damage to turbine and reduction gears and disabling her steering gear. The LEXINGTON is returning to PEARL at 20 knots.
8 December (Oahu date)

Seven B-24s from NUKUFETAU via NANOMEA dropped 10 tons of 500 lb. bombs on TAROA, 30% hit in target area. Of seven fighters which intercepted, one was shot down. One B-24 which missed TAROA bombed gun positions on MILLA. Squadron from BAKER was unable to take off due to lack of wind.

At TARAWA, hard surfacing on BETIO STRIP was extended 700 by 150 feet. All guns are ready for action, but permanent gun emplacements are partially completed. Clearing for BONRIKI STRIP was extended to 6300 feet and grading partially completed.

During the night of 7-8 December 4 enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the water near the ELLA strip. Night fighters failed to intercept.

MAJIN airfield is 45% complete. APAMANA airfield is 50% cleared and partially graded.

CinCPac 070450 recommends that no further S-Class submarines be withdrawn from combat duty and discusses employment of submarines.

CinCPac 090322 to Com7Fleet proposes to send all submarines of Squadron 18 and Division 121 direct from PEARL to SWESPAC and proposes other reallocations of submarines in the Pacific.

9 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, 22 NUCUMA Army Liberators dropped 44 tons of 500 pound bombs on JALUIT and 11 hit TAROA with 15 tons of 1000 pound bombs. There was no interception at JALUIT and 2 out of 10 intercepting Zeroes were shot down at TAROA.

Aircraft from the ENLICE ISLAND bases are carrying out regular daily searches. One Navy search Ventura strafed ENLICE encountering heavy machine gun fire. It destroyed several small craft in the harbor.

During transit of Gaillard Cut, Panama Canal, the INTREPID struck the channel bank. The forward peak tank was flooded and bottom of ship damaged. Temporary repairs can be made at BALboa.

Rear Admiral Wormall's carrier force arrived at PEARL.

Cominch 082150 states policy and agreement of State, Army and Navy Departments regarding release of control of airfields no longer needed for combat purposes.
SECRET

10 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, 19 Army Liberators from HINAKKI dropped 20 tons of bombs on WILLE during afternoon of the 9th. Clouds obscured results. Of 15 to 25 intercepting fighters 4 were destroyed and 3 probably destroyed. Five of our aircraft were slightly damaged. Consolidation of our positions in the GILBERTS is proceeding satisfactorily.

In the EXPRESS AUGUSTA BAY region our beachhead has been extended to an area about 12,000 yards wide and 9,000 yards deep. We have approximately 62,000 troops in the area. The fighter strip is nearing completion. Some aircraft have been operating from it.

On TREASURY ISLAND an airfield 800 feet long and 300 feet wide has been cleared and 3,000 feet of matting laid.

During the attack on NAURU on 9 December, details of which have not been received, a shell hit on the Boyd caused considerable damage to machinery.

CinCPac 102338 assigned the 22nd Marine Regiment to 5th PhibCorps.

CinCPac 110259 assigned the 7th Army Division and 1 Regimental Combat Team from 27th Army Division to operational control Com6thPhibCorps.

11 December (Oahu date)

The consolidation of our positions in the GILBERTS is progressing favorably. At TARANA, BETIO airstrip is resurfaced 2400 by 150 feet. The new DONITI bomber strip is coral surfaced over area 3000 by 150 feet and the clearing for the fighter strip is started.

At MAKIN, the ground defenses are 80%, communications 70% and airstrip and taxiway 70% completed.

At APAMAMA an area 4000 by 300 feet has been cleared for a fighter strip of which 3000 by 150 feet is surfaced.

CTG 50.8 reports that during air and surface bombardment of NAURU on 8 Dec. 61 tons of bombs, 810 sixteen inch and approximately 3400-5 inch projectiles were dropped on target. Heavy fires were started but dense smoke pall obscured results. Nine enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground and one in the air. Our losses were two aircraft shot down and one from operational causes. Boyd was hit by one shell, causing some casualties and material damage.

The 7th Army Division and 106th Regimental Combat Team and the 22nd Marines reinforced have been attached to the 5th Phib Corps for operational control and amphibious training.

1698
SECRET

12 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, there have been no major developments. The consolidation of our positions in the GILBERTS is progressing without enemy interference.

Bad weather in the ELlice area interfered with air operations.

In the NORTH SOLOMONS our air forces by continuous attacks continue to keep the enemy airfields inoperative, to destroy enemy installations on shore and to destroy and damage enemy barges.

The POOTY in the vicinity of the Palaus reports sinking 2 ships for 16000 tons and damaging and probably sinking one ship for 5400 tons.

13 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, consolidation of bases continues. During the nights of 11th and 12th December about six enemy planes each dropped a 500 lb. bomb on fields at TARAWA. No damage caused; no enemy planes shot down.

About noon 12 Dec. thirty-one Army Liberators from ELlice bases dropped 47 tons of bombs on EMIDJ IS. (JALUIT). Clouds obscured target. Three AKs in harbor, one attacked with unknown results. No enemy planes encountered; AA fire moderate. Some of our planes suffered slight damage.

At APAMAMA runway cleared to 6500 and paved to 3500 feet. Work on taxiway started. Finger pier extends 1000 feet into lagoon, 20 feet of water at end.

Airfields TARAWA have been named: BETIO ISLAND, HAWKINS FIELD; BONRINI VILLAGE, MULLINIX FIELD. Airfield APAMAMA, O'HARE FIELD.

14 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, ten Army Liberators from CANTON struck WOTJE with 15 tons of bombs. Several fires were started and explosions seen. Four ships were seen in harbor and two planes on the ground. One of our planes was slightly damaged.

At TARAWA, HAWKINS FIELD will be ready for full operation of bombers 21 Dec. MULLINIX FIELD will be ready for fighters 15 December and for bombers 25 December. Small enemy raids on TARAWA by about six planes nights of 12th and 13th December. No apparent damage caused by bombing.

At MAXIN ground defenses are 90%, comm. 75%, airfield and taxiway 90% completed. MAXIN was raided by about 2 enemy bombers on nights of 13th and 14th December. During the first raid three officers and one enlisted man were wounded. No damage from the second raid.

At APAMAMA, O'HARE FIELD is paved 4000 by 150 feet and 6000 ft. area is cleared.

In the NORTH SOLOMONS, operations are proceeding satisfactorily. The NEW BRITAIN operation commenced.

- continued -
SECRET

14 December (Oahu date)

CinCPac 150433 directs CTF 57 to operate land based air against enemy forces at maximum rate it is practicable to sustain and designated objectives.

CinCPAO 150312 (pink) directs CTF 57 to operate directly under CinCPAO.

16 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, Army bombers from ELLICE bases and CANTON I. continued the bombing of MARSHALL ISLAND bases. Eight Liberators from CANTON dropped 15 tons on WOTJE morning of the 16th. Explosions were seen and fires started. No enemy planes were seen.

During the afternoon of the 16th, seventeen Liberators from FUNAPUTI dropped 12 tons on TAROA. Large fires in the hangar area were started. Of fifteen enemy aircraft that intercepted one was destroyed, 4 probably destroyed and 5 damaged. Three of our aircraft were damaged slightly.

At MAKIN, one enemy medium bomber on 16 Dec., 8 long. date, reconnoitered the ocean area around MAKIN for two hours at low altitude.

In the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY area, the progress of consolidation is satisfactory. The 11th Echelon departed on the 16th. To date there have been transported 52,000 personnel and 60,200 tons of cargo to TOROKINA and 10,400 personnel and 16,300 tons cargo to TREASURY ISLAND. Minor skirmishes occur along the perimeter at TOROKINA daily. Our aircraft continue their daily assaults on enemy airfields, installations, barges and troops with good results.

CominCh 161500 states that, quote, Transfer to Pacific of Atlantic destroyers in addition to those ordered by MyDis 062851 not contemplated in immediate future.

There are no indications of changes in locations of major enemy combatant ships.

Enemy retaliation to our occupation of the GILBERT ISLANDS has been very slight to date. This may be a result of their inability to do more and their preoccupation in strengthening their MARSHALL bases and preparing their air forces for future operations.

It is indicated that landings on NEW BRITAIN have been effected by the SOUTHWEST PACIFIC Forces.
SECRET

16 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, Army Liberators from MILLICIE bases and CANTON I. continue their bombing of WOTJE and TAROA with good results. Twenty-one B-24s from MANOMRA dropped 25 tons on WOTJE. Of about 30 intercepting fighters 2 were destroyed, 8 probable and 8 damaged. Ten of our planes were damaged and one bomber was forced down near TAROA. Two bombers returning from strikes landed on HAWKINS FIELD, TARAWA. They reported the effective use of incendiary antiaircraft bombs by Japanese fighters.

Ten Liberators from CANTON I. dropped 17 tons on WOTJE at sunset of the 16th. No enemy interceptions but 8 VMB and 25 VF were seen on the ground. At MILLIE bomber crews sighted 4 DDs, 4 AKs and many small craft.

In the Northern SOLOMONS, reports indicate that many Japs are in northeast BOUGAINVILLE, along the coast, with concentrations at PAPAS and TINPUTS. Two destroyers will bombard these concentrations at dawn 20 December, E. Long. date. Reports also state that evacuation of south BOUGAINVILLE is believed commencing.

In NEW BRITAIN, American troops covered by air and naval bombardment occupied ARAKE Area, NEW BRITAIN, morning of 15 December, E. Long. date. Late same day enemy aircraft attacked the beachhead and shipping without damage. Initial reports indicate that our losses in the assault were slight.

Information has been received that the Army fighters and dive bombers escorted by the NASSAU are now operative at MAPIN ISLAND.

17 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, weather interfered with air strikes on MARSHALL ISLAND bases. One Liberator dropped one ton of bombs on MILLIE without opposition.

At TARAWA, bomber strip of Millinix Field has fine grading completed over area 4900 by 150 feet with 10 inch surfacing on 4000 by 150 feet. The tank farm on BEITIO ISLAND is 10 percent completed. The north half of Hawkins Field runway is complete to dimensions 6000 by 150 feet and south half is 33% complete. Forty sorties were flown from Hawkins Field.

In the North SOLOMONS, the first large fighter strike of about 53 VF from TOROKINA FIELD were over RABUAL morning of 17 December, E. Long. date. Of 40-40 intercepting enemy aircraft, 6 fighters were destroyed and two of our fighters were lost.

On TREASURY ISLAND the first fighters and medium bombers landed on the airfield 17 December, E. Long. date. Operations at IMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY area are proceeding satisfactorily. Our aircraft carried out numerous attacks throughout BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND with good results. Enemy airfields are generally kept inoperative. The DEHERTITY operation is apparently proceeding favorably with very few losses.
SECRET

18 December (Oahu date)

In the GILBERTS, the first fighter and light bomber strike by MARIN based Army aircraft was made on MILLE 18 December E. long. date. Six Zekes were destroyed and 3 damaged on the ground. Our loss was one plane operational causes. No air opposition. MARIN airfield and taxiway is 95% complete.

At TARAWA a small raid by about 2 enemy aircraft was carried out night 18-19 Dec. Three bombs hit with no damage.

At APAMAMA bomber strip is 75%, Taxiways 40%, jetty 80% complete.

Minor skirmishes occur daily in various sectors of our perimeter in the EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY area. Our aircraft continue their daily activities against the enemy ashore and afloat.

The PIVA airfield north of TOROKINA will be ready for use about 23 Dec. The airstrip on the coast at TOROKINA has been in use for about 10 days.

19 December (Oahu date)

In Central Pacific, adverse weather deviated Army bombers from MALOELAP and WOTJE and they bombed MILLE instead. On the 19th fourteen liberators from NAMOEMA dropped 19 tons of bombs on MILLE, starting fires. Of four intercepting fighters one was shot down, one probable. Our loss five planes damaged, 1 destroyed on landing. On the 20th nineteen liberators hit MILLE with 27 tons of 100 lb. bombs starting a large fire and dense smoke. One intercepting Zoke dropped aerial bomb damaging one liberator. One Betty and 3 fighters burning on ground.

One Catalina on the 19th made experimental night attack on KWAJALEIN and left a large Mars burning.

During forenoon of the 19th, 12 Army fighters hit MILLE. One Betty and 2 Zekes were destroyed on ground. Of eight intercepting Zekes one was shot down. Our losses were two fighters over target.

During the night of 19 December the 3/2 ASPRO attacked a 18 ship convoy heading for BANNAI Channel. Four Mars were sunk and 2 damaged.

Search planes on the 19th reported 6 large AKs, 6 small AKs, 2 PCs, at KWAJALEIN, 1 small AO at JALUIT and no shipping at WOTJE or MALOELAP.

Com 7th Fleet reports increased enemy naval air activity and fleet plane searches from RABAUL and Kavieng. Our convoys returning from ARABE were bombed by enemy aircraft daylight 18th. One APC was destroyed and 4 LCTs damaged.

In the North SOLOMONS, 16 B-24s with 20 fighter escorts bombed RABAUL on the 19th. Damage was caused to shipping and land installations. One AK or AP exploded. The attack was intercepted by 40 or 50 fighters of which 4 Zekes were destroyed. Our losses 2 P3s and 2 Kittyhawks.

CominCh 142027 gives US JCS directive of 9 July 1943 in regard to unity of command and coordination of reports concerning combat operations.

-continued-
SECRET

19 December (Oahu date) --continued--

CominCh 142055 is a restatement of CominCh policy and instructions in regard to use of gas.

CHO 182138 is a request to inform Russian Fleet to supply markings on their fishing craft and areas of operations KAMCHATKA PENINSULA.

20 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, eleven Army Liberators from CANTON dropped 16 tons of bombs on site of radio station and tank farm on unnamed island in MALOELAP Atoll 2 miles north of TARGA late PM 19 December. Of 25 intercepting fighters, 7 were probably shot down and 5 damaged. Five medium bombers and 7 fighters were seen on ground at TARGA. Two of our planes were damaged.

In North SOLOMONS, two DD bombarded TINPUTF-PAPAS Area in NE BONAINVILLE 20 December starting fires and destroying some buildings. Air spotters reported area well covered, but intelligence reports indicate that damage was done. Our aircraft continue their intensive attacks on the enemy throughout BONAINVILLE ISLAND.

Com 3rd Fleet issued orders for TF 39 composed of 3 CLs, 4 DDs, 4 DDs to bombard BUKA-BONUS Area at 1330 OCT 23 December for twenty minutes, then to retire at high speed and for TF 37.2 BUNKER HILL, MONTEREY and 6 DD to strike KAVIENG at dawn 25 December.

At midday 19 December, local time, 16 Liberators with an escort of 50 fighters struck RABAUL shipping. Three cargo ships were reported damaged. 1 submarine and small craft blanketed by bombs and 4 out of approximately 50 intercepting fighters shot down.

Report from Com 7th Fleet states that enemy search float planes are active over Jap shipping lanes to RABAUL & KAVIENG.

CinCPac 210221 sets Dog Day for FLINTLOCK as 31 January West Longitude date.

21 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, 16 Army Liberators from CANTON and WANAMOA on 20 December dropped 24 tons on MALOELAP. Large fires and explosions in target area were started. Of 30 intercepting Zekes 4 were shot down and 6 probably. Our damage was 3 B-24s shot down and all planes damaged.

At TARAWA two enemy high altitude bombers attacked predawn 20 December and started a small fire and damaged one plane. Results from night interceptors and searchlights were negative.

At MAKIN predawn high altitude attacks by 4 planes on 19th and 6 planes on 20th resulted in no damage. Interceptors in the air on the 19th had negative results.
SECRET

21 December (Oahu date) -continued-

In the north SOLOMONS bad weather interfered with our air operations but otherwise progress is satisfactory.

At ARAWHS in NEW BRITAIN. Our operations are apparently progressing satisfactorily.

CINCPAC 142059 states authority of Commanders vested with unity of command in transfer of units of service to which he does not belong.

CINCPAC 212031 assigns certain French combatant ships to duties in the Pacific and elsewhere.

CINCPAC 220041 gives plan of disposition of Marine, Army ground and air units in SAMOAN-ELLIOT Area.

CINCPAC 212144 assigns following 8 CVEs to Pacific Fleet 74 WENUATA BAY 76 KABASHAN BAY 78 SAVO Island 81 RUYERD BAY 83 SARGENT BAY.

22 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, 9 B-24s and 4 PB4Ys on a photographic reconnaissance flight to KWAJALEIN afternoon 21 December dropped 6 tons of bombs. Results at KWAJALEIN Island were unobserved but fires and explosions were started on ROI Island. Nine fighters intercepted and used aerial bombs. Twenty seven ships including 2 CLs were seen in the lagoon. Our planes were not damaged and no enemy planes were shot down.

The GRAYBACK on 22 December reported sinking 6 ships and damaging two for total of 34000 tons.

In the North Pacific 2 PB4Ys attempted a bombing and photographic mission over PARAVUSHIRO night 20-21 December. One plane located target and dropped bombs on the SHIMUSHU side of Strait. Other plane was unable to identify target because of overcast and jettisoned bombs. Both planes returned ATTU at 1142 local time. There was no evidence of enemy opposition.

Intensive air operations in the north SOLOMONS resulted in extensive damage to enemy installations, barges, etc. Operations in BONGAIINVIGE are proceeding satisfactorily.

CINCPAC 222141 directs ComAirConPac (C.T.P. 57) to mine only WOTJE, MALOELAP, JALUIT, MILK by air at earliest practicable date.

ComSquadFleet 230447 states that unless otherwise directed he plans to repeat carrier strike KAVIENG about 29 December. The initial strike is planned for 25 December. His proposal to move WASHINGTON and NORTH CAROLINA with destroyer screen to sea in support was approved.

1704
23 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, our shore based air has been busy over MARSHALL ISLAND bases.

On the 23rd 16 F6F, 16 P-39 and 11 A-24 attacked MILLE. One AK was left burning and settling. Shore installations were strafed and several fires started. Of 4 to 6 intercepting Zekes, 1 shot down 1 probable and 1 damaged. Slight damage to 3 of our planes.

On the 21st 15 F6F and 17 A-24 hit EMIDJI I. (JALUIT) with 8 tons of bombs. One medium AK was left with stern awash. One SBD lost, 2 F6F received slight damage. No aircraft were seen.

On the 24th, 19 Liberators dropped 28 tons of 500 lb. bombs on shipping and shore installations at KWAJALEIN. Two of three medium AKs were set afire. Nineteen tons of bombs were dropped on KWAJALEIN ISLAND. No enemy aircraft intercepted.

MILLE was hit by 10 Army Dauntless and 20 P-39s on the 24th. The AK left awash yesterday received a direct 500 lb. bomb hit. Two of 5 or 7 intercepting Zekes were destroyed. No damage to our planes.

In the North SOLOMONS, TF 59 successfully bombarded NUSA-BOWIS Area. Large fires were started and ammunition dump destroyed. Ships participating received no damage.

Com 3rd Fleet requests neutralization of enemy air at NAURU on 28 Dec., East Long. date.

AmCon VLADIVOSTOK 232310 replies to CNO 182138 in regard to markings and operations of Russian fishing vessels in the KAMCHATKA-EKOMANDORSKI Area.

24 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, our aircraft bombed WOTJE on the 23rd. NAURU on the 24th and carried out photographic reconnaissance over UJAE and LAE Atolls. Nine B-24s dropped 16 tons on WOTJE with good results. No shipping was seen. Of 36 intercepting Zekes near TAROA, 3 were shot down, 1 probable and 6 damaged.

Seven Navy Venturas from TARAWA dropped 7 3/4 tons of bombs on service and desposral area of NAURU. Entire area was in flames and smoke. There was no interception, but AA was heavy. One of our planes is missing. The staging of strike squadrons through TARAWA began 22 and 23 December.

Photographic reconnaissance of UJAE and LAE Atolls revealed no enemy military installations on either island.

The enemy carried out 2 night raids and 1 day raid on MAJIN 24-25 December and five night raids composed of 2 to 4 planes each on TARAWA. At TARAWA 1 LPV was destroyed and 1 damaged. Night fighters failed to intercept. At MAJIN 6 men were injured and one truck damaged. One P-39 was an operational loss and two enemy planes were shot down. (Continued)
24 December (Oahu Date) —Continued—

CTF 57 232851 gives the progress summary of installations on TARAWA, APAMAMA and MAKIN.

In the South Pacific, the carrier air strike by TG 37.2 under R. Adm. Sherman on KAVIENG on 25 December, E. Long., date was reported as highly successful. The aircraft dropped 32½ tons of bombs and 9 torpedoes on 2 DD, 2 large AKs, 1 medium AK, 8 small AKs and 20 to 30 barges. The estimated results, with the help of photographs, were 1 DD, 2 large AKs, 3 barges sunk; 1 DD, several small AKs, many barges and 1 PT heavily damaged and possibly sunk. Eight to ten float planes at anchor damaged by strafing. Our losses were 1 damaged Avenger landed in water and several planes damaged. The Task Force was heavily attacked at dusk by about 18 Betty's. Gunfire and radical maneuvering prevented the attacks from causing any damage.

Our planes were very active in the North SOLOMONS-BISMARCK Area shooting down many enemy planes including 66 planes in two days over RABaul.

ComNorPac 250329 comments on AmCom 232810 in regard to operations of Russian fishing fleet.

25 December (Oahu Date)

In the Central Pacific, our shore based aircraft struck WOTJE afternoon of the 24th and WILLE on the 25th. Eighteen ELLICE B-24's via TARAWA dropped 45 tons on WOTJE and started fires. There was no interception and our aircraft suffered no damage. One large AK and about 8 barges were sighted in lagoon. Ten P-39's and 10 A-24's presumably from MAKIN bombed and strafed WILLE. Light AA was encountered and 2 dive bombers received minor damage.

Our search planes over the MARSHALLS sighted 7 AKs at KWAJALEIN, one AK near WOTJE, one AK and many small craft at HALOHPAP and one large AK at JALUIT. Two small AKs and escorts near KWAJALEIN were bombed and strafed. One AK was left sinking.

The SKATE reported that in an attack on the 25th one sure hit and one probable hit was made. The TURUKAWA MARU was sunk. The one hit in a carrier reported is believed to refer to a previous attack.

In the Southwest Pacific, preliminary reports indicate that American troops landed at CAPE GLOUCESTER dawn 26th, E. Long., date, without opposition on any of the beaches. Naval bombardment preceded the landing. About five hours after the landing, enemy aircraft with 2 direct bomb hits and one near miss sank the new DD BROWNSON. The MURFORD, SAMSON, SHAW and APC 15 were damaged. The ships were supporting the landings at CAPE GLOUCESTER.

In the South Pacific Task Force 38 have been directed to carry out the bombardment of KIRTA as planned at 1600 - 27 December, local time and to retire to the north and westward of BUKA Island. Com 3rd Fleet has directed the retirement of the carrier group T.F. 37.2 to ESPERITU SANTO after fueling on the 27th. An enemy force of cruisers and destroyers have been reported as heading for KAVIENG with reinforcements. CinCPac 250333 (pink) authorizes Com 3rd Fleet to attack these cruiser targets with carrier aircraft at sea or in port. Also authorizes use of BBs in same general area with the carriers for effective support.
25 December (Oahu date)  - Continued -

Oblique photographs of NUKOI Islands (WRTLOCT) obtained 25 December show a serviceable airfield about 3600 by 300 feet on SATAWAN Island.

26 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific except for air raid alarms during the night at MAKIN and TARAWA the area was quiet.

In the South Pacific, the bombardment of KIETA, eastern central BOUGAINVILLE, was successfully carried out by 2 CLs and 4 DDs. The force retired northward around BUKA Island without incident.

BUNKER HILL and MONTEREY supported by 2 BBs and accompanying destroyers are proceeding to stations northeast of BOUGAINVILLE for air attack on an enemy force of 2 CA's and destroyers heading for NAVAJO. This force was attacked by one of our submarines without results and tracked by one of our search planes. Intelligence indicates the force has turned back to TRUK.

In the Southwest Pacific, reports state that the damage to the SHAW from enemy air attacks during the covering operation of the landing at CAPE GLOUCESTER was more extensive than at first reported and will require yard repairs. The MUGFORD and SAMPSON will require drydocking and the DALY's battery realignment.

CinCPac 262130 (pink) discusses support of FORERM and other operations by units and transports of 5th Fleet.

CominCh & CNO 211610 (pink) states JCS decision relative to authority of CinCPac to reassign Army and Navy air organizations in Central and South Pacific area and Navy air organization in North Pacific.

27 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, five Venturas and 8 Hellcats bombed and strafed JALUIT afternoon 26th. Several small vessels were probably damaged. Heavy AA fire was encountered from ENUDJ Island but caused no damage.

Seventeen B-24's from NAROWA via TARAWA dropped 51 tons of bombs on WOTJE late afternoon of 26th, local date. Fifty percent of bombs in target. Two near misses on medium AF. One of six intercepting Zekes were shot down. Our losses were 1 B-24 shot down, 1 exploded over target from heavy and intense AA fire.

GUNARD returning from patrol reported sinking 2 AKs and damaging one for 11000 and 7000 tons. Also 2 hits in MARU or warship which was surrounded by 10 escorts.

Additional photographs of NUKOI Islands taken on the 27th show new airstrip on SATAWAN Island is 4150 ft. by 210 ft. still unserviceable but surfacing is in progress.
SECRET

28 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, Ventures from TARAWA dropped 8 tons on MAURU at
dawn 28th. Ammunition dump was destroyed and two fires started. One single engine
aircraft was airborne. Intense AA fire was encountered. Three of our planes were
damaged.

Photographic reconnaissance of EMIVITOK was carried out successfully on the
27th. Our planes sighted 3 AXs in lagoon and 10 Bettys on runway of ENGUDEI Island.
No fighters or AA fire were seen.

In the South Pacific, our aircraft are continuing their very active and suc-
cessful actions against enemy aircraft, barges and land installations. ComAirSols
reports that since 23 December our aircraft shot down 113 planes. We lost 19
fighters, rescuing 1 pilot. Our aircraft from EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY airfields are
intensifying their attacks against RABAUL and in vicinity.

CTP 57 280735 gives the progress summary for GILBERT ISLAND airfield and
base construction.

29 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific, fourteen CANTON B-24s noon 28 Dec. dropped 18½ tons
of bombs on MALOLELAP. They were intercepted by 10 Zekes. Sixteen B-24s from
ELLICE bases for MALOLELAP were intercepted in vicinity MALOLELAP by 35 to 50 Zekes.
Six B-24s dropped 18 tons on MAJURO and 10 others missed or jettisoned their bombs.
A total of 2 Zekes were destroyed with 10 probable. Our losses were two B-24s shot
down and 12 damaged.

During the afternoon of 28th, 18 Army Dauntless, 20 P-39s and 9 B-25s pre-
sumably from MAKIN dropped 25 tons on MILLE and strafed ground installations. No
interception. Five of our planes were damaged.

Photographic coverage of KWAJALETH was completed on 28th by 3 PB4Ys with four
planes as escort. Of 10 to 13 intercepting fighters, one was shot down 2 damaged.
Our losses were 1 plane destroyed and 2 planes of escort damaged. Many ships were
sighted in anchorage. Photographic coverage of AILINGLAPALAP and FILI Atoll was
successfully completed. No enemy activity was observed.

At TARAWA, two enemy bombers on the 27th dropped 8 bombs on HANKINS FIELD
with no damage.

At MAKIN three enemy bombers on the 28th dropped 6 bombs in water. Inter-
ception was not successful.

SILVERSIDES on 29 Dec. reported attacking a southbound convoy and sinking
3 ships and probably four including 1 tanker.

The South Pacific area was relatively quiet.
SECRET

30 December (Oahu date)

In the Central Pacific except for the usual air searches, no operations were reported. Photographic reconnaissance of KWAJALEIN on the 28th showed no landing strip on EMYLANSHOA ISLAND.

HERRING reports sinking a 14,000 ton transport and probably sinking a 7,000 ton tanker.

In the North Pacific 4 PSYs are scheduled to make a bombing and photographic flight over PARAUSHRU tonight 30-31 December.

In the South Pacific, our carrier force supported by BBs are proceeding to station east of NEW IRELAND preparatory to launching air attack on enemy forces composed of 7 cruisers and 2 destroyers probably bringing reinforcements to NAVEENG. Operations in the North SOLOMONS have been on a reduced scale.

In the Southwest Pacific the two enemy airfields at CAPE GLOUCESTER have been captured by our forces who are now consolidating their positions.

31 December (Oahu date)

Air activities in the Central Pacific consisted of strikes against KWAJALEIN and MILLE on the 31st and JABOR I. (JALUIT) on the 30th. Seventeen B-24s from NAMAQEA via TARANA dropped 51 tons on KWAJALEIN with primary target shipping. Forty percent of bombs hit island with 1 near miss on medium ship. No interception. One of our planes received slight damage. Planes sighted 2 CAs, 2 DDs, 3 medium AKs and 12 to 16 Harbor craft in harbor.

MILLE was hit by 24 P-39s, 24 Dauntless who dropped 14 tons of bombs and strafed AA positions. Two fires were started. No ships were sighted and no interception encountered. Nine B-25s dropped 5 tons of 500 lb. bombs on JABOR I. (JALUIT) and shelled installations with 75mm cannon from altitude of 55 feet. Hits were observed on radio, fuel dump storage. Our planes received no damage.

GUNNEL reports sinking 10,000 ton unidentified passenger freighter on 3 Dec. with four torpedoes fired and 4 hits made.

In the South Pacific, our carrier force and supporting BBs are retiring without launching air strike as enemy force was reported as again retiring to the North.

In the North Pacific, four Catalinas completed a bombing and photo reconnaissance strike on PARAUSHRU and SHUMISRU. All bombs dropped on the places stated but due to icing of photographic flash bombs, which prevented release of most bombs, the success of the photographic mission is doubtful. One night fighter was encountered but all planes returned ATTU undamaged.

1709
Further summary of GEORGIA activity follows. Rogue alarms delayed RENDOVA landings 2 hours. Jap air attacks which materialized came 1100 L (-11) 1515 L and 1715 L. About 110 total planes. During day long battles at least 65 heavy bombers dive bombers fighters torpedo planes destroyed. 17 Blue planes missing. Para. 2nd major Blue air strike of day was on KUMDA. 25 Mitchells 18 each dauntless Aveners dumped ton and half ton bombs plus fragmentation clusters on defenses and bivouacs starting 1 fire. 1 Avenger missing. Para. 7ANE refloated from Onaivine Reef north of RENDOVA and under tow to TULUGI. GWI reported after ships force repairs she could still make 28 knots. At 1626 L McCANN while under tow Liura attacked 15 dive bombers. No hits due fighter interception and ships gunfire. Para. 1 Rifle Company from HOG forces landed at mouth of CHI RIVER northwest of HOGI to reinforce landing attack on VIMU by 2 Companies Marine Raiders. No contact with latter since 26th. Para. No details NICKX: situation.

01 0035 CINCPAC to VICE CNO, Info COMSERYAC, COMAIRPAC

Your 281502. Desire minimum 3 advanced air base assemblies available for Central Pacific needs. Referring to enclosure A to ComAirPac Letter 00226 of 5 June propose direct movement 0 (Casu and Acorn 14) to Gahu for final training and then arrange for 2 similar assemblies to be held on West Coast for direct movement to Central Pacific destinations. Chief of Staff AirPac will be available for conference this subject in Washington week beginning 5 July.

02 0205 CINCPAC to COMINCH

Satisfactory planning Central Pacific operations largely dependent on adequate photo reconnaissance of objectives. Equipment required includes medium range fighter conversion similar Army F5A. Have asked local Army initiate urgent request on War Department for squadron this or comparable type which I request you strongly support. Para. For very long range reconnaissance including night photos of heavily defended areas Liberator type in many cases is just short of range requirements although every effort being made extend this range to meet immediate demands. With distances and operating bases as they are in Pacific there will be continuing major usefulness for photo reconnaissance planes of absolute maximum range. Request early investigation looking to preparation and assignment here latest Army or Navy heavy bomber or patrol aircraft having such performance.
SECRET
July (GCT)

30 1803 RICHARDSON (HDCSG) to WDCSA, Info CINCPAC.

To provide information required for basic planning of current
and future operations in Central Pacific Area CINCPAC requests
and I concur in prompt assignment to this Headquarters of 1
photographic squadron reconnaissance T/C 1-73T equipped with
P-33 or comparable long range planes. Need for this squadron
is urgent at present and may be expected to increase. Nec-
essary photographic reconnaissance is beyond the capacity of
aircraft now available in this area. Importance of adequate
long range photographic and reconnaissance airplanes cannot
be over-emphasized to insure success of operations being
planned. Requested at earliest practicable date favorable
action.

02 1047 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info ALL TFG SOPAC, DJ KALACANAL.

Summary war today 2 Jly. ZANE towed by NAAL arrived TULAGI.
Report of ZANE damage separately. VURU captured July 1st.
A few Japs in hills at VURU. 79 Japs drowned there trying
to cross river. 2 own DCS bombarded WICKHAM targets for 15
minutes commencing 1330 L today. Japs in foxholes on small
point of land. Commen HENDOVA reports situation quiet and
muddy and one JAP killed total 65 Japs killed HENDOVA June
30. Enemy air attack at HENDOVA 1245 L yesterday no damage.
ICG Field Artillery land HENDOVA Island south of Guava Island
entrance. 19 bombers accompanied by F6A hit HENDOVA this
afternoon material damage apparently confined to dikes and
ration dumps. No info as to personnel casualties.

03 0145 CTF 32 to COMSOPAC Info ALL TFG SOPAC.

Summary for today July 3rd. Estimated 3 JI's 4 LIA's fired
about 100 rounds toward HENDOVA plantation from vicinity
Renard Cove at 0645 L (-11) and retired through Fall Fours
Channel at 0730. HENDOVA ricevance areas and roads in bad
condition preventing rapid dispersal supplies. Air attack
July 2 not intercepted killed mostly 30 wounded 200 troops
no damage to ships. Good beach sound at Zanana and Company
A 169th plus reinforcement platoon landed there yesterday
afternoon. Balance of First Battalion 172nd planned land
at Zanana early this morning. 183rd Field Artillery less
Battery A plus 172nd anti tank company on Dune Island
(Sasavele Island). Jap twin float plane over WACIS (20 453)
RADFORD (20 456) and LST's off HENDOVA about 1900 L July 1st
dropped float light which failed to ignite. Plane driven
off by ships AA. RADFORD caught I-1 class sub on surface
at 2007 L July 1st Lat 3-39 Long 157-35 and sank (Yes I said
sank) sub with gunfire. No reports from VURU SHUT or WICKHAM.
Plan to execute Rice Anchorage landing early morning 5 July.

1711
SECRET
July (OCT)

03 0534 COM 3rd FLEET to CINC(SOPOAC, COM 1st FLEET, COM 7th FLEET etc.

SoPac situation summary. Night 2nd -3 black cats tracked enemy surface force 7 DLS and DDAs to just offshore southwestern RENDOVA. Possibility of troop landing exists. Vessels subsequently attempted shell friendly position on island. Begun retirement 0305 Love (-11) additional RENDOVA details: Total Japs killed these 30th now 651 killed 1st. No damage from enemy air attack midday 1st. Another attack afternoon 2nd resulted in some damage to fuel and ration dumps. Field artillery regiment landed DUBE ILAND south of VONAVALI entrance to NOVANIA LAG. Para. 2 BLUE destroyers bombarded enemy positions. LXXI Area 1330 Love (-11) 2nd. Para. VIRU secure with few Japs in nearby hills. 79 Miners drowned these July 1st attempting to cross river. Para. USS RAPID McDermott 10th AM to RENDOVA POMPOI engaged and sunk surfaced Jap I class sub in RAPID McDermott. 2007 Love (-11) 1st. Para. Coast watcher reports renewed and increased activity at Jap base staging points on south central COHOLUL coast. Para. Aerial reconnaissance ENUTA and BAKAIT Islands GILBERT Group from tree top level July 2nd showed no signs of military installations or enemy occupation.

03 1116 COMPOAC to COM 1st FLEET, CINC(SOPOAC Info COM 7th FLEET etc.

Bringing you up to date on our NEW GEORGIA operations. ConAmphcor doped daily. At dawn today 3rd 12 Lightning escorted Kittens searched unsuccessfully for orange task force which splashed RENDOVA night of 2nd-3rd. Search strike then unloaded bombs on MUNDA acka positions. 18 SBDs attacked 1000 L(-11) 3rd. Careful aerial inspection RENDOVA coastline today 3rd reveals nil enemy activity. Indica- tion suspected enemy landing last night perhaps did not materialize. No report of damage from surface shelling. Para. Estimated 30 killed 200 wounded result unintercepted Jap air attack RENDOVA July 2nd. Para. A reinforced infantry company landed at ZANANA BEACH on NEW GEORGIA mainland northwest of ONAVAI-I entrance landing area there. Balance of 1st battalion 172nd Infantry planned landing there early today.

04 0122 TF 11 to COMPOAC to CINC(SOPOAC, CINCPOAC.

Herewith today's summary July 1st 1 year after ConAmphcor's 1st year. ARMCHAIR VURA VILLAGE captured July 3rd approximately 300 Japs killed remainder on run. Search for better beachheads continues. Our losses relatively slight. BLACKBOY expect fighter field in operation July 10th. CAT'S MEAT. Patrolling continues against isolated Japs. Companies on 4th Marine Raider Battalion casualties 13 men killed 15 wounded 5 missing. Other units CAT'S MEAT force no casualties.

DOVER. South Pacific Scout Company landed ZANANA morning 3rd. HENNETT CP seized Japs had withdrawn. Patrol UGHII killed 4 Japs 10 took to bush. 169th Infantry moved last night to 1712 RENDOVA. 270 casualties left DOVER aboard LST this morning. Majority result air raid 2 July. 1st Raider Regiment less 3 battalions, 3rd Batt 115 Infantry and 3rd Batt 148 Infantry embarked this AM for landing HUE ANCHORAGE tomorrow pushed up to 0100 17-17.
This Part 1 of 3 parts with master number 031255. Para The aircraft torpedo attack made on our forces in Blanche Channel NEW GEORGIA June 30 was of a decidedly higher character than the 2 other torpedo plane attacks experienced by originator. About 25 torpedo planes came in covered in 3 levels to 20,000 feet by the same number of fighters. Our fighters attacked and shot down 5 enemy torpedo planes before they came close to the transports and another of our fighters courageously disregarded the ships bullets and shot down 1 more enemy plane while attacking. Our surface force comprised 6 transports and 7 destroyers. These ships shot down about 11 enemy planes, and other enemy planes were later destroyed by our fighters. Few of their torpedo planes got through.

Part 2 of my 031255. Para Apparently enemy torpedo planes were Ruths or approximates for them. Speed of dropping torpedoes was estimated at 250 miles per hour height 20 to 50 feet. Every transport and several of the screen were separately attacked by from 2 to 4 enemy planes who seemed to know their objectives. Apparently they had a well planned attack and certainly they had a well trained squadron. Torpedoes ran straight without broaching but were of short range Para In accordance with custom the transports presented their broadside to suck in the Japs and then turned 90 degrees away. Apparently the Japs have not yet solved this tactical trick.

Part 3 ComAmphForSoPac 031255. Para The enemy planes finally attacked at an approximate total angle of 45 degrees centered about astern of the transports Para The torpedo which struck the McCATLEY was watched by the Task Force Commander as it came up. It was nearly at end of run when it arrived and hit port side abeam engine room at angle of about 15 degrees to keel. Less than 1 minute later another torpedo passed parallel to starboard about 20 feet away and shortly thereafter broached and stopped. During and after torpedo plane attack fighter planes strafed several of the ships. Fighters observed were not the old Zeroes but of a new type with narrow wings highly maneuverable and very fast. Their guns were 7.7. These fighters looked to the Task Force Commander to be similar to Freda or improved Meats but with folding wheels. Piloting of both the torpedo planes and fighters appeared to be of a high quality. Para FARENHOLT was hit amidships by a torpedo which did not explode dropped from about 300 yards distance. End.
04 0605 COM 3RD FLT to CINCSOUTH PAC. COM 13T FLT Info COM 7TH FLT NCE. ALL TFG'S SOPAC.


05 0322 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC to ALL TFG SOPAC etc.

Summary 5 July from CTF 31. RENDOVA echelons 4 and 5 arrived 4 July continuing unloading. 3rd Bn, 103rd Infantry less 1 Company arrived RENDOVA Plantation today with 1 company remaining Poto. 192nd Field Artillery and 9th Defense Bn harassing MUNDA. Out post and patrol section RENDOVA negative. 18 bombers hit RENDOVA 1410 Lovel (-11) 4 July with moderate casualties and damage. Several small boats destroyed and 2 LCI's hit by bombs were beached. Believe LCI's can be salvaged. Estimate 12 Betsy's downed by AA. No report from ABURAI. BLACKROY normal. CAT-2150 and P Cos. occupying Co. B 103rd Infantry arrived 1000 Lovel (-11) 4 July the enemy withdrawing to north MUNDA area. 1st Bn 172nd Infantry and Co. A 0 I 169th Infantry occupying beach head ZANANA patrolling to BARIKE River. Expect to complete movements of 172nd Infantry to ZANANA today. Light patrol action between ELELO and BARIKE.

06 0133 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info ALL TFG SOPAC, INTERNET.

CTF 31 summary for July 6. RENDOVA had Red alert 1215 to 1320 L (-11) yesterday. 18 twin engine bombers attacked 9 shot down no ships hit. PTs operated west of RENDOVA last night. 3 grounded on KUNDA KUNDA and were destroyed by gunfire from MUNDA. Coda and secret radar parts removed. 1 battalion 14th departs for RENDOVA today to arrive 6th. For RICE Landing see my 050733. LIVERIDGE reports no contact and unable attack at time planned. Ref. ComGen NEW GERMANY 051135 in 2 parts for ground situation at points.
Early today July 6th small Blue cruiser destroyer tank group met engaged and believed virtually annihilated Japanese task force attempting to slip into W.I.A. Gulf. Battle began at about 0200 L (-11) with our forces firing at 7 enemy D.A.s and D.D.s. By 0300 all enemy vessels were either sunk or crippled. Only Blue loss was C.2 TELEMA believed hit by torpedo. During rescue operations 2 Blue D.D.s observed 3 enemy vessels trying to leave the GULF. They sank 4-funnelled light cruiser by torpedo fire, DD with guns and damaged an additional DD. These ships may have been additional to 7 originally engaged. Para. Latest tally TELEMA survivors aboard 2 rescuing 1200 men: 1200 officers, men with many more still on rafts and in boats near scene of northeast HONDA KAI. Sub and air attacks forced rescue ships to retire at daylight but additional rescue measures underway. Para. Early 5th 3 Blue A.T.s which grounded half mile south of HONDA KAI Island (Just Southeast) were destroyed by 24 flat batteries at W.I.A. Personnel and radar parts recovered, Para. BOMBARDA area fairly quiet. Fighter cover of 16 Corsairs intercepted about 40 Zeros over that island early afternoon 5th shot down 3 Zeros. We lost 1 plane pilot recovered. 18 Haunting dive bombers bombed BAEKO north of HONDA with half ton bombs 1555 L (-1) 5th. Friendly forces east of HONDA on Southern HONDA active patrolling and consolidating beach heads. Para. Landing craft forced with all 12 Betties shot down by Ack Ack at W.I.A. July 4th. Para. Evening of 5th Army Liberator failed to find shipping targets in BUN-FAH area where 16 warships 5 A.T.s were seen that morning. So unloaded bombs BOMBARDA, jumped by 12 Zeros but all bombers returned. Para. Searchplane today saw 1 CA, 6 D.D.S course and speed not given 40 miles north KETA at 0920 L (-11). Probably enroute to W.I.A. base.

Amplifying reports battle of W.I.A. Gulf early July 6th indicates minimum of 8 enemy ships on way out of GULF sunk by surface forces. Engagement consisted 3 major phases plus later destroyer phase. First phase entire Blue broadside smashed into group of 4 or 5 enemy D.D.s all of which were destroyed or burning within 5 minutes. Own ships then executed radical course changes took under fire second enemy group 3 or 4 D.A.s. These latter all sunk or afire within 15 minutes except 1 believed beached. Third phase occurred during rescue of TELEMA survivors by 2 D.D.s. These ships destroyed 2 or 3 additional enemy ships trying to leave the GULF damaged the third. Para. During daylight 6th Blue air heavily mounted 2 enemy destroyers stranded on east coast KENT, BOKUGOHA. 1 blew up. Para. Blue air operations 6th. During morning 1 DIVAY attacked by 5 Zeros returned to base after shooting down 2 Zeros plus 1 probable. 1 killed 3 wounded in bomber which had 1 engine shot out. 14 Wildcats escorting strike to hit beached DDs forenoon 6th shot down 4 of 7 Jap Zeros encountered. Formations of heavy bomber
hit KAHILI BARRACKS JUKA evening 6th starting large fires on all 3 targets. 2 Liberators missing from KAHILI strike. Pura. REMILIVA area quiet with Blue patrols on Southern REM with contacting their counterparts numbers along the REMILIVA. No info conditions too small but communications now established. Pura. 17TH:1 class #3 landed 15 boat loads men at VIIsa 6th. Then headed west.

01 0443 COMSO P to CINCPAC.

Following brief resume of correspondence between COMSO P and GOC New Zealand Military Forces, in submitted for your information: 16 June - GOC New Zealand to COMSO P: FJII has offered, subject to your approval, a Fijian Brigade and asks that we accept under Command 3rd New Zealand Division. Manpower situation here makes it impossible to maintain 2 divisions and expanded air force. 1 Fijian Battalion would be employed in each New Zealand Brigade. - COMSO P to GOC New Zealand Military Forces: in conference and correspondence concerning reduction in home defenses in New Zealand, we understood that 3rd Division would be brought to full strength and that such strength would permit interchangeability with American Divisions, we prefer therefore and because of reduction of FJII Garrison that the 3rd New Zealand Division he not expended by use of Fijians. 19 June - GOC New Zealand Military Forces to COMSO P: You correctly stated the understanding in your reply of the 17th. However, strong public opinion here demands either return of second New Zealand Division from Africa or furlough here for long term men of that Division. There is no prospect of completing 3rd New Zealand Division from our own resources. This leaves us with the choice of keeping the 3rd New Zealand Division on a 2-brigade basis or bringing it to 3-brigade basis by use of Fijians. 24 June - COMSO P to GOC New Zealand Military Forces: Due to necessity of maintaining certain garrison in FJII, use of Fijians in 3rd New Zealand Division would ultimately result in holding American units in FJII to release Fijians for offensive combat. It would also deprive us of use of Fijians now in the FJII. We prefer a 2-brigade division to a mixed 3-brigade division. 28 June - GOC New Zealand Military Forces to COMSO P: Suggest using 1 Fijian Battalion from FJII with 3rd New Zealand Division for scouting and raiding. Would strengthen division and cause less disappointment to FJII. Suggest that lower strength could be accepted in TONGA when American Forces leave FJII, and we could despatch our Battalion from there to FJII. 28 June - COMSO P to GOC New Zealand Military Forces: Approve the use of 1 Fijian Battalion provided this will not reduce the Fijian troops present in TONGA.
Here comes CTF 31 summary for July 8th. Second Battalion 145th Infantry arrived DUKWER morning 8th. Ground information in REMA VA’s 072147. REMA VA (DD 433) RE-DEPLOYED (22L4/0) returned MAIN YARD with survivors on in TUN 312, 062040. KELLY reports 3 CT’s previously aground and damaged REMA VA enroute unloading. Unloading now. At SHOFELT small patrol sniper action. PT refuel facilities near completion. From BLACKWELL, nothing. No news from Liverseedge. REMA VA is attempting contact Liverseedge with instructions on low frequencies to break silence. Air drop that morning and patrols. AV’s with additional supplies in CIVAL waiting information from Liverseedge.

19 Avengers 18 Doughtless plastered REMA anti aircraft defenses dumps and bivouac areas 1035 I. (-11) TH shooting many fires. Bombs craters from previous raids were observed on strip. 16 Wildcats covered. At 1045 I. (-11) same day Corsairs over REMA VA engaged 60 enemy aircraft reporting an unknown number of kills. 6 Corsairs 3 Wildcats knocked down to loss of 1 missing. Corsair 3 Mitchells hit KITO again 1000 I. (-11) dropping incendiary clusters. No fires resulted. REMA VA recovered shipping 1900 I. (-11) 31 st was 1 CI or heavy DD 6 DD’s 3 PT’s 7 AR’s (described as small) and 2 small yachts. 38 planes from same time were 60 fighters 1 bomber 15 dive bombers on REMA 31 bombers FALANGE and 11 fighters 1 dive bomber 1 fighter REMA. Pare. Evening of 7th 3 Avengers with Hudson over Clare plane successfully attacked Jap 250 off Kolla Point Southeast FOURWAL. Hudson missing and 1 Avenger crashed returning. 20 Liberators hit KAMHI same evening 1 plane missing believed operational loss. Part 2. Early morning 6th 2 bombs dropped REMA VA by undetermined number planes caused slight damage casualties. Ground situation quiet. All artillery except 1 battery in position for KAMHI attack. REMA VA mainland forces being reinforced. Consolidation and patrolling continues with 1 clash July 6th near Elelo (east of Lambeti). Japs repelled with no Blue losses. Estimated 60 Japs patrolling shipping east southeast Viru. No activity Segl or Nickham. 20 Japs landed Dugiri Island off northeast REMA VA but were driven off by Ugeli patrol. Pare. Tokyo express stayed in the E.W. night of 7-8. Blue cruiser destroyer task group up the slot to cover Rice Anchorage supply movement returned safely although Jap squadron dropped flares over force. Destroyer force engaged in run torpedo duel with surface I class sub while returning down the alley. Results not in yet. CIVDAL search plane was preparing attack Jap freighter 150 miles north of equator at 1C1-1, east 1091 I today 8th. PETO put 2 fish in Jap tanker bound KAPUK and (continued)
SECRET
July (GCT)

00 0947 CONSOPAC to CINC SOWESPAC, CON 1ST PLT, Info CON 2ND PLT, RNZB, FOR AUCKLAND. (Cont'd).

believes she sank it. 2 Blue destroyers brought 31 HELMA survivors including Captain back to GUADALCANAL.

00 0950 CEN 3RD PLT to CON 1ST PLT, CINC SOWESPAC, Info ALL TFC'S SOWESPAC, CON 3RD PLT, RNZC AUCKLAND, NZ.$.

Bombardment of KUNDA by 4 DD's carried out early today July 9th. At 0200 (-11) 30th 16 Avengers 12 Dauntless 16 Corsairs gave VILA its daily 'rinse' over us, taking 97 tons and half a ton bombs. Results unobserved. Bad weather generally hampered air operations 8th. No pictures of ship sights LABI or HUKA. Ballele photos showed only 2 fighters & bombers on ship. VILA VILA had all operational planes. GUADAL search plane missed with depth charges in attack on PC escorted AK 400 miles north of southeastern PALITA 1100 (-11) 8th. 2 more Betties added to Blue fighter score in action over RENDOVA July 7th. By 8th all Blue infantry and artillery in position for KUNDA attack. Our field pieces picking off KUNDA AA positions. Nice Anchorage situation still obscure. Our troops may have contacted enemy about half mile south Enogai Inlet on 7th. Communication continues with this force and supplying underway. VIKU normal with only patrol snipe activity. PT staging base under construction there nearly finished. 1 of 3 PT's which ran aground south Kunda Kunda 6th now at RENDOVA other 2 will be similarly salvaged refloated repaired.

10 0123 CTF 31 to CONSOPAC Info ALL TFC's SOWESPAC.

Summary 9th July from CTF 31. 2 condition HE is NEW KUNDA area no damage. Artillery on Panul Island strafed by 2 Zero's and 4 Betties no casualties or damage. Liversedge messes indicate Enogai Inlet area secured as far west as Leland Beach on his request will bomb Fairoke. 1 latrine has established a road block across KUNDA trail and has turned back 2 groups Japs enroute from Fairoke to KUNDA. Ammunition medicine and rations from mid afternoon 9th south end Enogai. 1 plane drops medical supplies and rations 1000 L (-11) 10th at Leland Beach. Dumbo and Nice Anchorage ship supplies being held up pending further advice. Bester apparently made scheduled advance. Our air bombed run positions and lwound areas KUNDA on his request. CATSNEAT normal. BLACKBOY fighter strip reported now suitable for limited operations on 3200 strip. ARCHONIA no report shipment supplies satisfactory. Your 060045 12 Betties credited by you to landing craft were shot down by 80 mm RENDOVA from 14,000 feet.
SECRET
July 1942

00 1210 COMINCH to ALL SEAPAC OCS EXCEPT COMOPAC PACCOMINCH ALL
COMOPAC PACCOMINCH Info COMMAND, SEAPAC.

This is a recollection of Cominchi 151030 of April. Joint
Chiefs of Staff direct that category of defense be reduced
from C to D in the Eastern, July, Caribbean, Panama, Western
and Northwest Sea Frontiers less Unalaska subsector. Re-
duce defense forces and establishments to conform. Hawaii-
Front and Unalaska subsector NorthwestFront remain in cate-
gory of defense C. Revised Art 31-17 TP will be forwarded by
mail.

11 0911 COMINCH to COMINCH, GINOPAC, CTF 61, 77, 96, Info DEFINT

8 ANESTIA Mitchells over PAKAPUSHIN 1045 W (A10) found
overcast solid to 7000 feet but Cape Lapatka clear. On
line distance run from Cape Lapatka from 9000 feet drooped
32 quarter tonners in PAKAPUSHIN STRAITS Area with unob-
served results. No enemy AA, no enemy planes seen. All
Mitchells returned. At 1000 W (A10) ANESTIA search plane
reported 2 enemy auxiliaries lat 51-16 North long 160-20 East
(taking 060 speed 12). 6 mediums from PENDENT 8 heavies
from PENDENT via ANESTIA off to attack. Contact later
developed into 4 cargo ships. Accurate information size and
type still lacking. At 20-30 W (A10) Catalina reports 2
ships sunk 1 badly damaged 2 hit. Cargo ships lost reported
in lat 51-19 North long 160-12 East on course 210. Cata-
linas apparently assisted in attacks. PBY's have maintained
contact throughout day and will continue during night. 1
Mitchell unaccounted for. Part 1 of 2 parts.

11 0914 Part 2 of 2 parts ComLorPac summary for same date as my
110911. 4 Catalinas off from ANESTIA at 2015 W (A10) to
bomb PAKAPUSHIN. KORASAN (KISKA blockade) scheduled
bombard PAKAPUSHIN Area and Little Kiska tonight.
Searches averaged 300 miles west and southwest from ANESTIA
Same for PENDENT search. Weather better than usual but
some fog and low ceilings encountered. Weather plane found
KISKA partly closed in with fog and mist. Saw no new ac-
tivity. Received light inaccurate ack ack from North Head.
Sequita completely closed in. New subject. Following in-
formation of interest connection AYTNK bombardment of
KISKA night 8-9 July. Enemy returned fire as soon as AYTNK
opened fire on both runs. Enemy fire from automatic weapons
believed 37mm and at least 3 guns believed 3 inch, all on
southwest Sirdriebath Point. Enemy shell bursts were about
200 feet off water, well astern during first bombardment
and 2000 yards over but on indifference during 2nd run.
Same fuse settings apparently used throughout. Apparently
no guns located east side Bukhti Point since no gunfire
observed from that location.

1710
Sight of 9th-10th Tokyo Express of at least 5 ships came down to Central Solomons from KASI or possibly points further north. Picture incomplete but indications some vessels may have come in to VILA while screening force remained off northern entrance to KULA INLE. Last contact with Jan formation identified as 5 DDs 15 miles north by west of KOLOMEKARA retreating up the slot with 2 JAs 6 miles ahead. Time 0235 L(-11) 10th. We had no task force in area. Tracking done by /UADAL Cats. Para. Spotty weather limited photo coverage of enemy planes 9th. Only ship sights were 1 DD, 1 AK off TOKELAO 1 DD off TAMI. Para at 0230 L(-11) 9th. 110 Blue planes hit MINDA, torpedo and dive bombers "literally plastering" entire target area with 70 tons of bombs while fighters covered. Same time 18 Zeus struck ENOAI PAEROKO in 2nd port our ground troops. Para. KUSIHA fighter patrol intercepted estimated 45 zors at 1445 L shot down 4 Japs to loss 1 Wildcat fighter. Para. Ground situation as follows: Northern Force was expected to take ISOLATED POINT by night of 9th but no further info. Part of front has blocked MINDA trail turned back 2 Jan units enroute PAEROKO to MINDA. Our casualties light at least 60 Japs dead. Elsewhere in NEW GEORGIA forward movements troops supplies progressing satisfactorily. ISOLATED POINT fighter strip now ready for limited operations. Strip is 3500 by 150 feet. 16 hard stands on loop ready 5 with revetments. 1 section of fighters was scheduled land here 1300 L today 10th. Para. Coastwatcher scouts report 4 additional HELENA survivors at JANK on northeast VILA. Immediate measures to follow verification. Para at 1030 L today /UADAL search planes sets 2 CAs, 1 up heading south 300 miles north of HUN speed 15.

Deliver same desis as my 110911. Part 1 July 11th summary.
Contact with enemy cargo ships lost 1935 W (-10) 10th.
Regained 1010 W (-10) this morning by Catalina searchers 2 AK's at 47 North long 163-15 East course 270 speed 5. 3 Liberators were off from AMNESIA at 0616 with orders search
for enemy ships enroute and NHAVLI bound to bomb PARAKOMICHI. 4 Cats on PARAKOMICHI attack last night turned back 20 miles short due solid overcast from 0 to 12,000 feet. 2 returned AMNESIA 2 to PREFAK. Enemy ship previously reported badly damaged was half underwater when last seen 10th. Enemy ship sunk was AK larger than other enemy ships which were reported about 150 to 175 feet long mounting automatic weapons. Cargo observed on decks and in water. KOBANHAN reported bombardment Gertrude Cove Area and Little Kiska completed at 0100
11 2055  COKKOPAC to CONTJCH (Cont'd).

and 0615 W (410) respectively today 11th. No return fire noted. New subject. Mitchells which were over PARAJUKIN' 10th report they first attempted minimum altitude approach but heavy fog to water prevented. Attack then made as previously reported. 4 more Japs reported captured on ridge North Massacre-Holt Pass, ATTY.

12 0020 Part 2 and final part COKKOPAC July eleventh, summary.

Searches averaged 300 miles northwest to southwest of AMEBIA and PREEFET and 250 miles south PCK ISLE. Visibility varied from good to fair. 5 Liberators off for PARAJUKIN' as reported in Part 1 turned back about 200 miles short due weather and returned AMEBIA. 3 PREEFET missions consisting of 6 heavies 6 mediums with Venturas lead by dropped using radar 29.6 tons bombs through solid overcast Main Camp and North Head KISKA. 1 mission received light ack-ack others none. 4 Warhawks scouted low level over Skulak and Piska. No enemy activity Skulak. Several hares on beach near Sitka Point. 4 in harbor new excavation in ravine just north Skulak Point. Received AA. Catalina lost contact with remaining 2 small enemy ships at 1015 W (410). 5 AMEBIA mediums off for contact and failed to intercept. All mediums returned except 1 which got lost and landed out of gas. Crew sighted on Little Sitkin. Rescue operations in progress. New Subjecta. Later info attack on enemy 10th. Catalina pilots report following: Mitchells sank 1st ship. Catalina met Liberators above overcast and led them to second target which was soon crippled. Both Catalinas strafed crippled ship and attacked with depth charges, 1 of which was near miss. Stern causing ship to settle. Bow 35 degrees out of water settling fast when fox closed in. Other enemy ships came to rescue. No survivors from first ship. Mitchell previously reported unaccounted for in part 2 of July 10th summary returned safely. If weather suitable FAUSHT bombs KISKA Main Camp area tonight from northeastward.
July (GCT)

13 0846 COM 3RD FLT to CINCSEWPAC, CINCPAC Info COM 7TH FLT, etc.

Daily dope. About 0130 L (-11) today 13th Blue Task Group of 3 CL's 10 DD's engaged Jap surface force estimated 10 ships 15 miles off North KOLOMBANGARA definitely sank 1 enemy CL 3 DD's plus 2 more DD's probably sunk. Orange vessels in 2 groups, 1st definitely 1 CL 5 DD's 2nd believed 4 ships probably CL's or DD's. We suffered torpedo damage to 4 ships of which USS GWIN (DD433) sank this morning while under tow to TULAGI. Nigh of 11th-12th APD's successfully supplied RICE ANCHORAGE while cruisers DD's covered and cruisers destroyers additionally shelled MUNDA for an hour. During these operations USS TAYLOR (DD466) definitely sank large surfaced Jap sub in KULA GULF. Blue fighters intercepted about 20 Zeros north of MUNDA 0615 (-11) 12th shooting down 5 to loss 1 friendly plane. 86 torpedo dive bombers under fighter cover smashed at MUNDA again 0955 (-11) same day. 67 and half tons bombs fell on defenses and living areas. VILA hit by 10 Mitchells 0845 L. 2 LCT's report destroying barge and contents 50 Nips at Batuna Mission northeastern Vanuatu. Lading parties accounted for 2 more barges similarly loaded. Advance against MUNDA continuing despite stiffening resistance. 2 Jap strong points wiped out. Recce patrol killed 13 Japs at Baniesta Point RENDOYA. 9 Jap bombs fell near our RENDOYA positions evening 11th but no damage or casualties.

14 0447 COM 3RD FLT to CINCSEWPAC, CINCPAC First FLT Info COM 7th FLT.

On 13th SBD's and TBF's continued the MUNDA pulverization process dropping 32 tons bombs. 1 large fire started. Daylight strike for retiring express made no contacts but 15 Corsair and Lightning fighters met 18 Vals 10 Zekes out to hit some of our retiring ships shot down 4 Zeros over VISU VISU northern NEW GEORGIA forced Vals to jettison bombs and retire without attack. We lost 1 plane pilot rescued by Blue DD. Para. Photos am 13th showed 39 fighters KAHILI for only partial coverage 11 bombers BUKA. 7 DD's off MUNDA at 0645 L (-11) with possibly 4 more absent at time of sighting but currently in area. Para. Night of 12th 17 Liberators attacked BALLALE starting 5 fires while 2 more B-24's raided VILA. Para. Indications 13th Japs may be running special air searches north and east of area possibly presaging surface movement through that area. Para. Rehash of Blue fighter operations July 11th increases days bag by 4 Zekes 1 Betty decreases our pilot losses by 1 as 4 of 6 Blue pilots downed now safe. Para. Coastwatcher reports 4 DD's called at VILA predawn 13th arriving departing via BLACKETT Strait. Berge active northwestern VELLA. Night of 12th-11th GUADAL planes had 2 surface contacts. First with 3 unidentics 20 miles northwest VELLA second with 2 vessels possibly same group entering Wilson Strait on southeast course. Para. Ground dope meager. Resistance still tough but progress satisfactory. On 12th Blue troops about mile from Lambeti Beach but 2 battalions moving south to secure Lambeti Point.

1722
SECRET
July (GCT)
14 0240 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info ALL TFC's SOPAC.

Summary for July 14th. Coast watcher VELLA LAVELLA reports 20 Nips from Orrnte in Lembu Area on July 12 searching for our survivors. Para. MUNDA forces unable advance on July 12th beyond line George 92 at 0-35.2 - south flank G 91.1-36.0 North flank. Order battle: 2 Battalions 172 moving south to secure Illana Point. 2nd Battalion 172 on South Flank. 169 on North Flank in column of battalions 123. For situation 13th see RENDOVA's 131550. Para. 1/2 24th Seabees proceeding WICKHAM. Styr F 11th Defense proceeding VIRU and platoon radars 578 Signal AW Battalion embarked in RUSSELLS. All to proceed MUNDA upon capture.

15 0254 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info ALL TFCs SOPAC.

Summary 15 July from CTF 31. Liversedge situation little change. Pushing patrols toward KASTRO and reconnoitering SHARK ISLAND. No enemy contacts these operations. ENOAIL and RICE ANCHORAGE bombed by 2 planes at 1930 yesterday and 0100 (-11) today. No casualties or damage. Plan send 6th Raiders to ENOAIL in 4 APDs night of 17/18. VIRU and WICKHAMS no reports. 2 successful forced landings at SNOIL. Mesters situation in his 141425 and 141430. Plan take off HELENA survivors from VELLA LAVELLA early morning 16th.

15 1245 COMAIRSOLS to COMAIRSOPAC Info AIROINTEL.

Jan Flight of 27 Bettys 40 or 50 Zeros and at least 1 twin engine fighter intercepted over RENDOVA area by 44 of our fighters at 1430 L (-11). 15 Bettys 30 Zeros shot down of our pilots missing.

15 0547 COM 3RD FLT to CINCSOWESPAC. COM 1ST FLT. Info COM 7TH FLT, etc.

Daily dope. Total of 36 GUADALCANAL based Heavy bombers attacked KAHLI BUKA night of 13th. KAHILI strip and dispersal areas thoroughly covered large fires started BUKA results unobserved. Morning 14th Mitchell destroyed small Jap AK in BEAGLE CHANNEL of Southwest VELLA 2 new type barges in HUNDA COVE west of VELLA. Para. Full photo coverage KAHILI drone 1000 L (-11) 14th showed 54 fighters 16 dive bombers there. In BUIN FAISI area were 10 DDs 4 PCs 1 large 3 small AKs 6 small tankers. 4 DDs departed north high speed at 1600 L same day. Para. Patrolling aircraft had contacts with 3 groups surface ships night of 13th-14th. First with 3 unidents half way between FAISI and VELLA on 300T east course at 2230 L 21st 231/2 8 miles west of BAGA ISLAND with 2 patrol craft. 3rd 0020 L today with 2 stationary vessels 11 miles south by east of position of first contact. Para. Land situation satisfactory. On NEW GECROIA mainland Blue infantry regiment broke through to beach near LILIOI night 13th where additional Blue forces landed next day. Advance continues to south and west against heavy resistance. Our artillery knocked out at least 4 Jap guns 14th and supported
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15 0547 COM 3RD FLT to CINCSOWESPAC - Continued -

Infantry in stopping Orange counter attack night of 14th. Northern force reports no change in general situation. Pushing patrols out towards BAROLO.

15 0629 COMNORPAC to COMINCH CINCPAC CTF's 51, 97 & 96 hands DEWITT.

ComNorPac's July 16th summary. Searches from ATTU averaged 375 miles northwest 200 west 275 southwest thereof. No searches from ADAK or AMCHITKA and no attacks on Kiska because of fog rain and low ceilings. MONAGHAN (DD354) bombarded GERTRUDE COVE area at 0100 W (+10) 14th. During night 13-14th HULBERT (AVD 6) moved about 20 feet. Attempts to refloat continue. Contact was made with 4 more Japs KLESNIKOF area ATTU but enemy eluded.

16 0913 COMNORPAC to COMINCH CINCPAC CTF's 51, 97, 96. DEWITT.

July 15th summary. Searches averaged 340 miles northwest and west 200 northwest ATTU, 300 northwest to southwest of AMCHITKA, 100 miles south of ADAK. Some fog and low ceilings encountered. AMCHITKA closed in until afternoon. 8 Mitchells 1 Liberator from ADAK and 3 AMCHITKA missions consisting of 6 Liberators 5 Mitchells 2 Lightnings dropped 31.9 tons bombs on North Head and GERTRUDE COVE area with hits reported in target areas. Fires reported near ack-ack batteries GERTRUDE COVE area. AA varied from light to intense. 1 plane received battle damage. At 0300 W (+10) today MONAGHAN bombarded GERTRUDE COVE area. Expended 100 rounds 5 inch. Fire not returned. Today's weather plane reported sighting dock tunnel shoreline VEGA POINT with what appeared to be Jap occupant in entrance. Attempted to bomb tunnel but bombs long. 8 barges seen in Kiska harbor no shipping. 1 ADAK Liberator crashed soon after take off today. Details not fully reported.

16 0545 COM 3RD FLT to COM 1ST FLT. CINCSOWESPAC. Info COM7THFLT etc.

44 Allied fighters intercepted 27 Betties escorted by 40-50 fighters over RENDOVA 1427 L 15th shot down 15 Betties 30 Zeros to loss of 3 Blue pilots. During forearm 15 Mitchell mediums destroyed 2 more small AK's off Ege Island southwest VELLA. Corsairs set fire to barge near Pakoi Bay, northwestern VELLA. 36 Dauntless and same number Avengers dumped 54 tons HE bombs on VILA 1520 L 15th starting fires which were still burning hour and half later. 18 additional Dauntless bombed designated targets BAEROKO Area at 1555 L in support ground operations. 4 more Mitchells continued hunt for Nip shipping around Central Solomans late afternoon 15th strafing and sinking 2 barges on northeast JOHNSTON RPT OWINDONGA Coast. Shortly afternoon 15th GUADAL search plane scored bomb hit on fantail of small enemy vessel east of northern New Ireland. No new info ground situation early 16th 2 APDs covered by 8 DDs rescued 14 naval officers 1 - continued -
SECRET

July (GCT)

16 0545 COM 3RD FLT to COM 1ST FLT. (Continued).

Army officer 160 enlisted men mainly HELENA survivors from northeastern VELLA. Also removed 16 Chinese and 1 Jap Army flier prisoner. Jap snooper plane shadowed our ships all night dropping flares continuously. 2 planes dropped bombs close aboard. Blue AVP Vanikoro reports flares dropped over her 1900 L 15th and radar contacted plane dropped small bomb 15 hundred yards off starboard bow at 0730 L today 16th. At 1110 L this vessel reported attack by 9 enemy planes. Slight damage from shrapnel.

17 0422 CTF 31 Info TF 31, ALL TPCs SOPAC.

Summary for July 16th. Nips may have dropped supplies to MUNDA night 15th. 4th Raider Battalion moves to ENOGAI night 17-18. Our patrols active near Baeroko. For ground situation see RDO RENDOVA 161540, and 161522. Strong Nip position IIANGA Point north 3000 yards. Successful supply drop to our MUNDA forces. PT's blocked Ferguson Passage and Blackett Strait night 16 no report. Raider Battalion reinforced occupies ENOGAI, Enogai Inlet. 148 Infantry arrived RENDOVA morning 17th.

17 0639 COMMORPAC to COMINCH, CINC PAC, NORPACFOR, CTF 51, CTF 96, CTF 97 Info DEWITT.

Summary July 16th from CommNorPac. ADAK searches averaged 300 miles south and southwest thereof. 1 AMCHITKA search plane went 400 miles to southwest. No air attacks on KISKA. Fog and low ceilings at AMCHITKA and ATTU. New subject. 4 survivors from Liberator which crashed at ADAK yesterday. My 160913. Other seven occupants killed.

19 0552 COM 3RD FLT to COM 1ST FLT, CINCSOWESPAC Info COM 7TH FLT. etc.

190 Blue torpedo planes dive bombers heavy bombers and fighters struck at BUIN area 0930L 18th for second mass raid in two days. Heavies concentrated on KAHILI defenses strip and dispersal areas dive torpedo bombers then hit shipping sinking 1 AK and scoring hits on 2 DDs and 1 AK. 13 zeros destroyed with 4 Blue planes missing. Para. 36 Dauntless 26 Avengers bombed LAMETI area and inland Jap positions north MUNDA strip afternoon 16th dropping 31 tons bombs. Para. Our ground troops made limited advances 16th and 17th enlarging beachhead. No further advance contemplated at present in order consolidate position relieve tired troops before Dog day. Fourth raider battalion reinforced northern force at ENOGAI night of 17th-18th. During Jap raids on Blue ground positions east of MUNDA night of 17th estimated total 179 Japs killed our losses 8. Para. Jap sub torpedoed LST south southeast KLIANA BAY early 18th. Para. CHINCOTRADTO
19 0552 COM 3RD FLT to COM 1ST FLT. - Continued -

(AVP24) damage under control. 3 Jap planes attacked ship in company with her afternoon 18th were all shot down. Paro.
6 Forts bombed KAHILI early today 19th 2 more bombed BALLALE starting large fire. 1 Fort missing. Also predawn today 7 Mitchells bombed BALLALE starting 2 more fires.

21 0055 COMNORPAC to NORPACFOR Info CTG 16..6.165

My Op-plan number 2-43, effective 18 hours W (410) July 20, combined air and surface bombardment FIREARM. Task organization as follows Task Group 16.1 no change. Task Group 16.21 (3 CA's 1 CL & DD's RAdm Giffen southern bombardment group). Task Group 16.22 (2 BB's 1 CA & DD's RAdm Griffin northern bombardment group). Task Group 16.23 (Blockade destroyers MONAGHAN AYLWIN). B Day July 22. B-hour to be prescribed by ComNorPac.

22 0307 CTF 31 to CONCPAC info TF 31. ALL TFC COPAC.

CTF 31 sends summary for 21st in 2 parts. Part 2 follows as 220316. Condition Red RENO DOVA 1710 to 1750 L (-11) 21st. Attack by 15 dive bombers 30 to 50 zeros. LTF 343 hit by bomb starboard side abreast pilot house exploding in officers country. 1 dead 10 wounded no other details. Condition Red almost continuously 16 to 450 L (-11) 22nd mostly by individual planes. 6 to 8 bombs dropped no casualties. Paro. For ground situation see RDO RICE 211711 and RDO RENDOVA 212340 and 210911 reenciphered as our 220330. For PTE see RDO RENDOVA 210645.

22 0316 Part 2 and final 220307 CTF 31 summary. RICE ANCHORAGE situation as summarized orally by Griffith sent by Liveridge to KOLI follows. Northern force on 20th fought its way to within 300 yards east bank BAIKDO HARBOR where heavy machine gun mortar and artillery fire made their position untenable. Liveridge executed orderly withdrawal to ENOGAI burdened with 200 wounded and organized his defense. He is continuing active patrolling but reports his force unfit for further offensive action. Casualties in percent 1st Raider Battalion 25. 4th Raider Battalion 30. In Army battalions casualties light but men exhausted by constant movement and carrying supplies. 3 captured 140 millimeter guns are in operating condition with limited supply ammunition for coast defense.
SECRET
JULY (GCT)

23 0420 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info TF 31, ALL TFC SOPAC.

Summary for 22nd. 4 destroyers screening 4 APDs carry supplies to Livermedge tonight. CTG 36.2 with FMQ CLs and 5 destroyers covering to north of KULA GULF. For ground situation see RDO RICE 221818 and RDO REMOVA 212356 and 220760. PYs keep clear LMTSTGS night 22-23 and that they landed VELLA LAVKILLA reconnaissance party morning 22nd without incident. ADRE riding APDs tonight to accompany casualties being evacuated. Expect 5 PTs operate southern KULA GULF from GRACCI LAGOON beginning night 24-25. Para, Prisoners state "Landings made Sunday inlet from KOLONPGANARA". "SHRUGS main north and south defense lines at MUNDA. Plans is to defend MUNDA to the last man. Documents confirm strength of 4 battalions on NEW GEORGIA."

24 0115 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC.

Desire release 19th Replacement Battalion now completing training Samoa plus personnel 2nd Barrage Balloon Squadron when disbanded to ComGen Samoa as replacements 22nd Marines for early employment. Reference CominCh 211414 adequate replacements for your command available in September. Your views requested.

24 0221 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC, COMAIRPAC Info COMMARAIRWINGSPAC, COMHARAIRSPAC, COMGEN SAKMA.

Marine Air Group 13 is no longer available as source of replacement of personnel aircraft or formation units for Marine Air Wings 1 and 2 except as specifically directed by ComAirPac. This action necessitated by preparation of Group 13 for specific operations.

24 0532 COMSOPAC to COM 1ST FLT, CINC SOWESPAC Info ALL TFC SOPAC, etc.

Morning of 23rd SBG's attacked Jap batteries in MUNDA area. Midafternoon same day Dauntlesses Mitchells covered by Warhawks hit REKATA Bay dropping 9 tons bombs in surprise visit to Japs YLEVE. Para, Land situation unchanged. APD's with DD screen unloaded supplies evacuated wounded from ENOGAI early today 24th while striking force of Cruisers DD's lurked in slot for possible express. Black out did contact 3 DD's 30 miles west of VILA course southeast before midnight last night. Previous sightings indicate this group ran non stop HABAUH to NEW GEORGIA. Para, Indications from prisoners Japs landed reinforcements from VILA at Sunday Inlet. In BAENGKO area 23rd Japs were digging in on high ground along northeastern side of harbor. 2 planes bombed ENOGAI at dawn 23rd killing 1 and wounding 8. Para, No photos BUIN area yesterday. Visual recce reported 2 AK's of which 1 burning. 7 possible MTH's noted. 4 mile oil slick seen off BUIN.
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July (GCT)

25 0150 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info ALL TFCs, 30PAC, TF 31.

Summary for the 24th to noon 25th. Bombardment MUNDA conducted as scheduled. No report from destroyers as yet. Plane observer reports target and beach area smeared with bombs. RENDOVA PT's report sinking 1 damaging 2 barges loaded with supplies but no troops 1 and 1/2 miles off KOLOMBANGARA just north of Blackett Strait night 23-24. Enemy planes intermittently bombed and illuminated PT's during operation. Grassi PT's report no barge or other traffic south KULA Gulf last night. Suspect they were sighted. For ground situation see ComGen NEW GEORGIA 240917 reencyphered as our 250156 and RO DICE 241130. Oliana Bay bombed at 4 hours L 25th. No shipping there at this time and no damage or casualties. General Harmon to MUNDA this morning to drop personal bomb.

20 0445 CTF 31 to COMSOPAC Info TF 31, ALL TF COMSPOS S2PAC.

Summary for 26th. For Destroyer bombardment MUNDA see CTF 31.2 250234. Our gunnery officer observing in CONWAY reports target area thoroughly covered by destroyers prior to 030 L (-11) at which time bombers came in and made visual observation impossible. Due to smoke and dust over entire area. Grassi PT's report no sightings or radar contacts last night. Additional 3 PT's due Grassi this evening. RENDOVA PT's report no surface contacts night 24-25. Numerous planes over boats throughout night dropping 8 bombs numerous float flares. Ens. Phillip Hornbrook killed by bombing. Para. For ground situation see ComGen NEW GEORGIA 250040 and 250203. Para. Plan to supply ENOUL by APC's commencing 25th staging through SEGU and proceeding via MONGO Entrance.
by midday yesterday 25th our troops driving on MUNDA had
executed general advance all along line, varying from 200
yards on left to 500 yards on right. This represents ad-
vance against organized prepared enemy positions which
could not be softened by bombing and shellfire due proxim-
ity our lines. No reports casualties received. Entire
operation progressing according expectation. Para, De-
stroyers poured 4000 rounds 5 inch into MUNDA during bom-
bardment yesterday. Para, at 1000 L (-11) yesterday 29
Blue fighters intercepted 30 Jap fighters 35 Bombers over
RENDOVA shooting down 8 Zeros. Dive bombers believed to
have attacked our positions east of MUNDA and at ENOMAI but
no reports of damage or casualties received. Para. Photos
yesterday reveal possible renewed airfield construction ac-
tivity Kasiri Plantation Cape Mabiri eastern Bougainville.
This addition to possible strip being built at Tenekau
Plantation. Weather hampered other photo coverage in SOLO-
MONS, 7 Zeros attacked PBY photo plane which destroyed
1 Jap before friendly fighters drove off rest. Para. Jap
plane bag for SoPac forces now 354 since beginning campaign
on June 30th. Para. 10 Liberators under fighter cover at-
tacked Bibolo Hill positions yesterday afternoon. Para.
Night of 23rd-24th PT's sank 1 damaged 2 loaded barges at-
tempting run supplies from KOLOBANGARA to NEW GEORGIA. Jap
floatplanes intermittently illuminated bombed our PT's with-
out our success. Unstated number enemy planes bombed Oleta
Bay 0400 L (-11) 25th. No shipping present at time and no
damage or casualties sustained. 8 May be 10 dive bombers.

Our forces in MUNDA Area making slow but steady advance.
As of dusk yesterday 26th 103rd Infantry on south flank had
advanced past Tetere. Other regiments in line had either
advanced or were assaulting centers of resistance some of
which were passed and contained by our forward movement and
are now being reduced. Para. To the north general situation
unchanged. Patrolling continues with minor patrol clash and
destruction of enemy outpost reported. Rice Anchorage and
Enogai bombed early 25th with no casualties or damage. Para.
Blue air activity follows. At 1650 L (-11) 25th 58 3BD's
and TEF's under fighter cover hit AA gun positions northeast
of Kindu in MUNDA Area. At 0730 L 26th 61 3BD's and TEF's
worked on AA positions around Bibolo Hill scoring 17 direct
hits which started 2 fires silenced guns. 1 Dauntless lost
but crew saved. At 0930 L (-11) yesterday 10 Liberators
screened by 35 VF and preceded by a 21-plane Corsair sweep
attacked KAHILI with fragmentation clusters. 3 Hoeskos
took off and pursued our retiring strike back to Kolombangara.

- continued -
27 0622 COX 3RD FLT to COM 1ST FLT - continued -

We lost 1 Corsair, 4 additional Liberators failed reach KAHLI bombing VIJA instead. 9 Mitchell's 367 fighters hit Webster Cove Barge Center west of VIJA 1445 L (-11) yesterday starting fires which burned for over 3 hours. At 1520 L (-11) 4 Mitchell's 7 Corsairs failed contact A/K reported off Simbo Island to south. Jap bivouac area there firing huts warehouse. Para. Photo recce yesterday revealed new strip under construction BONIC Plantation Buka Passage cleared additional 750 by 300 feet. BUNIO SHORTLAND shipping was 2 large uniden's 6 A/K's numerous small craft. Sightings yesterday and today indicate 3 warships probably all DD's called at Rokata last night departing for THUK some time after midnight.

27 1223 CONAIRSOLS to CONAIRSOPAC Info AIROFINTEK

Photos 27th, times L (-11). At 0740 KAHLI 39 fighters 9 dive bombers 2 medium bombers, BAILALE 1 fighter 4 medium bombers, BUKA 3 fighters 4 medium bombers. Shipping Tonoel Harbor 1 medium and 1 small AK, 7 unidentified about 80 feet plus 4 barges 1 PC boat off Ambutei River. At Pupukuna Point 1 AK, 1 unidentified. 2 barges off BAILALE. BUKA 1 barge Chinatown and 20 foot vessel. Teneke Plantation Field shows slight progress with possible taxiway being cleared 1500 by 150 feet.

31 0636 COM 3RD FLT to COM 1ST FLT, CINCODWESPAC Info All TPC 3RD FLT

18 TBD's bombed 4 gun positions on west shore BAYROKO MUNDA OR5 0L (-11) 30th followed by 18 TBPs who hit same targets. Numerous good hits were scored in the vicinity and area was strafed. Para. Afternoon yesterday 36 TBD's attacked MUNDA PLANTATION from low level scoring 31 hits in area. Also yesterday afternoon 9 Liberators escorted by 62 fighters heavily bombed BAILALE starting 6 fires along runway. 25 Zeros airborne between BAILALE KAHLI intercepted ineffectively some following our plane back down slot. 1 Corsair crashed off GI'I'G unknown whether shot down or operational loss. Para. Com 3rd Flt's daily dope. BUNIO BUNPEI shipping seen by Liberator strike was 2 DVS 2 medium AKs 9 barges. Photo coverage incomplete and generally poor yesterday due weather. BONIC PLANTATION runway had been cleared additional 1200 feet. TENEKAU strip showed slight progress in clearing surfacing. Para. On MUNDA front 30th no advance was made on north flank. Some progress on south flank and in center of 43rd Division line. With indications arrival Jap reinforcements, preparations are being completed for reduction contained strong point which recce shows to be much tougher nut to crack than originally believed. Para. Japs on GONGOLGA concentrated at MURI on north tip. Believed there in some strength. Para. Night of 30-31st PTs sank 100 ft. Jap auxiliary off MIZEROK COVE southwestern KOLOMBANGARA. Previous night 1730

(Continued)
31 0636 COM 3RD FLT - (Continued)

strafed and possibly sank 2 barges in same area. Para.
coastal transports successfully supplied ENCGAI night before
last.

31 0630 COM 3RD FLT to ALL TFC's SOPAC, AIJSHAY SOIPAC, NAVBACK ESTATE
& ESPIRITU, CONNAVACTSOLS, INFO COMYCH CINCPAC etc.

ComSoPac sends in 2 parts his 310630. This is part 1.
SoPac task forces are reorganized as follows report title
SOPAC ORG 3. Para. Task Force 37 Rear Admiral Hill, MARYLAND,
COLORADO, SUNVANNE, SANGAMON, BRETON, DesRon 12 SELFRIDGE,
RALPH TALBOT, PATTERSON. Task Force 38 Rear Admiral Sherman
SARATOGA, MASSACHUSETTS, NORTH CAROLINA, SAN JUAN, SAN DIEGO,
DesRon 6, DesDiv 5 DUS. Task Force 39 Rear Admiral Merrill
CruDiv 12, DesRon 23. Task Forces 37 and 39 Base ESPIRITU
Task Force 38 base HAVANNAH. Para. Task Force 34 (Operating
directly under Com 3rd Flt) Task Group 34.1 Captain Ryan
DesRon 21. Task Group 34.2 Captain Cooke DesRon 22. Task
Groups 34.1 and 34.2 base initially at ESPIRITU and later
will alternate between SOLOMONS area and ESPIRITU. Task
Group 34.3 CortDiv 8 and Destroyers not otherwise assigned.
Task Group 34.4 PEBBLE, BREEZE, MONTGOMERY, TRACY, MinDiv 3
Task Groups 34.3 and 34.4 normally based NCULEA. Para.

31 0641 Part 2 of Com 3rd Flt 310630. Present Task Forces 31, 32 and
33 not affected by this reorganization. ComSoPac assign-
ed designation CTF 35. Para. SOPAC ORG 3 effective 0700 GCT
August 4th on completion tactical exercises when CTF 36.3
direct units in company proceed to bases assigned herein
arriving during daylight 5 August. Originator will issue
orders for detached units to join Task Force Commanders.
Task Force 36 Task Group and unit designations my OpPlan 14-43
will be changed by separate dispatch.
SECRET
August (CCT)

01 0440 CONGEN COPAC to 7TH AIRFORCE. XANGEN GUADALCANAL, ESPIRITU,
Fiji, 13TH AR FPJ, VUNAKA, ATUANAI, XANGEN CQT etc.

Blue forces WUNDA area achieving success with tanks and flame throwers, lire now runs north-south. Pair large Nip barges damaged by PT boats night 29-30 between GISO and K10KANAKA next night same Blue craft sank small metal auxiliary vessel (100 feet long) same area. Slanted little believed sunk 144 miles NW Kukuya by Blue search plane 0722 L (11) 30th, same plane received ackack fire from enemy tank at 2100 HUT. 18 each Dauntless Avengers bombed 4 gun positions west shore PAPUKO HARBOUR AVEN 30th scoring good hits on target. Same afternoon 16 Avengers with escort 16 Wildcats damped 18 tons
KUNDA POINT and GURASAI. 61 planes seen crashed 4 over WINDI-
WUNDI 1512 L (11) 30th. Photos with partial coverages AVEN
30th show 20-30 fighters KANILI, 1 fighter 4 medium bombers
BALLALE, 10 floats FAICI, also 2 Aks plus some barges in area.
Same afternoon 9 Liberators 62 fighters attacked BALLALE
dropping 230 100 pounds target area starting a large lire, 1 Coraeg down off GISO. Pictures from same morning show 10
fighters 3 medium 3 dive bombers. RENIS PLANTATION runway
cleared additional 1200 feet also some progress noted clearing
and surfacing runway at TANAKO PLANTATION. Nip sub DY even-
ing 30th 50 miles WW VAINIKORO. Allied small arms fire
destroyed single Nip airborne plane RENAREA area 24/7. Blue
ground forces occupied enemy position south SHERWOOD cut south
OROKINDI cut 27/7. Envelopment TAPANGA VIQUITA now in progress
with heavy INVCORITE casualties reported. 18 Mitchells 12 each
Fortes and Liberators dropped 94 tons enemy positions SAGARACA
29/7. Allied PT boats destroyed 5/7 of 30 Nip barges in
Vitiaz Strait 0130 L (11) 30th. Final results Blue strikes
against 3 enemy vessels off SATE GEMMELL 29-29/7, 2 DD sunk
1 Merchant vessel beached and burning 4 enemy planes destroyed.
3 DD, 1 AK, 1 AP (15,000 tons) seen 115 miles east KAVIENG
with air cover AVEN 31st NW course.

05 0301 CONGEN to PAC PLT Info 2 HUGH, VUNAKA, ATUANAI NORTHERN.

Central Pacific Force present designation Task Force 10 is
formed as of 0000 CCT 5 August, VADM Spruance commands.
Ships now assigned: ESSEX, YORKTOWN, INDEPENDENCE, BULLE,
TITANIC, THATCHER, MC KEAN, BUSHIEL, CHANDLER,ケット, TERRY,
ANTHONY, PETTY. This does not change territory assignments
to type commanders for training.
August (GCT)

06 1952 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMAMPHIBFORPAC

Desire transport remainder 6th Division 10,500 troops in 6 APA and 2 AKA which carry about 8088 combat loaded. This will require assigning troops to vessel beyond normal convoy loading capacity by use of hot bunks and other measures. Army concurs. CINCPAC 050545 and 282135 July COMINCH 272910. Also most desirable transport other personnel on priority list to maximum capacity. Advise maximum number personnel that can be lifted.

07 0551 COMCPAC to CINCPAC

Urdis 252209. (A) 2nd MarDiv can be accommodated NANDI 15 days after arrival engineer regiment that Division. (B) Engineer regiment can embark WELLINGTON in 3 days. Embarkation remainder Division will require 7 days. NANDI is only area in FIJI at all suitable but it must be strongly pointed out that area is totally without real port facilities. Debarcation will present no serious problem but if reembarkation in APAs and AKAs is required it will be over an open beach and an exceedingly lengthy proceeding. (C) Shipping requirements for Division follow. 1151 officers, 17900 enlisted. General cargo less vehicles and wheeled equipment 2217833 cubic feet, 21865 wt. tons. This includes inflammables 295000 cubic feet 2030 wt. tons, rations 276401 cubic feet 3644 wt. tons. Vehicles and wheeled equipment require 2442886 cubic feet 316873 square feet 7695 wt. tons. Total 4690719 cubic feet, 29562 wt. tons. This is most secret. SoPac schedule of troop movements and supply forward areas appear preclude any assistance by SoPac combat loaders however definite answer must await your desired data for movement 2nd MarDiv. Advise.

09 0043 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info VICE CNO, COMSERVPAC.

To support Central Pacific Operations and excluding combat auxiliaries following shipping above that now operating or assigned Pacific is required. By 15 October 18 AK of EC 2 type or equivalent, 2 AF, 7 A0, 6 AQG. By 1 December add to foregoing 15 AK of EC 2 type. Above oiler requirements are in addition to 3 of A0 80-88 also A0 51 and 52 and tanker GULF OF CARIBBEAN.
SECRET
August (CCT)

11 0611 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info VCNO.

JCS 202204 July Part 2. 13 APA, 3 AKA, zero AP now available Pac Fleet. My records show 4 APA DU Page, "IXRCE", THERIDAN, MIDDLETON 1 AKA VIRGO ready near future. 3 APA CHICKADEE, FAYETTE and 1 AKA AQUARIUS due complete conversion about 10 September. Request any corrections to above and names and probable date reporting duty CinCPac remainder namely 4 AKA 9 AP.

11 1902 COMINCH to CINCPAC, CINCPACXCPAC, CMC, CINCLANT, CINCPAC, CINCPAC, COMNAVNAY, COMNAVFEU, Info VCNO, VCNAV, USN, US ARMY.

Effective 15 August Amphibious Forces reorganized as follows

(A) Organize 5th Amphibious Force (5th-Phib) Rear Admiral Turner.
(B) Change Amphibious Force South Pacific to 3rd Amphibious Force (3rd-Phib) Rear Admiral Wilkinson.
(C) Change Amphibious Force Pacific Fleet to 9th Amphibious Force (9th-Phib) Rear Admiral Rockwell.
(D) Change Amphibious Force Southwest Pacific to 7th Amphibious Force (7th-Phib) Rear Admiral Frazey.
(E) Change Rear Echelon of Amphibious Force Pacific Fleet to Amphibious Training Command Pacific Fleet (PhibTrainPac) Rear Admiral Davis.
(F) Change Amphibious Force Atlantic to 6th Amphibious Force (6th-Phib) Rear Admiral Kirk.
(G) Change Amphibious Force Northwest African waters to 8th Amphibious (8th-Phib) Rear Admiral Hall.
(H) Change Amphibious Force Europe to 11th Amphibious Force (11th-Phib)
(I) Change Training Activities and Rear Echelon Atlantic Fleet to Amphibious Training Command Atlantic Fleet (PhibTrainLant). Commodore Johnson.
(J) Commander 5th Amphibious Force is Type Commander for all Amphibious Forces Pacific Fleet.
(K) Commander 6th Amphibious Force is Type Commander for all Amphibious Forces Atlantic Fleet.
13 2345 CINCPAC to ALPAC Info COMINCH, COM 12.

Effective 1200 Zebra 15 August Amphibious Forces Pacific Fleet constituted as follows:

(A) 5th Amphibious Force (5th-Phib) Rear Adm Turner, Task Force 55, forces to be assigned by later dispatch.

(B) 3rd Amphibious Force (3rd-Phib) Rear Adm Wilkinson Task Force 32, forces now assigned AmphibFor SoPac.

(C) Amphibious Training Command Pacific Fleet (PhibTrainPac) Rear Adm Davis, Task Group designation to be assigned by Com5thPhib, forces now assigned Rear Echelon AmphibForPac.

(D) 9th Amphibious Force (9th-Phib) Rear Adm Rockwell, forces now assigned Task Force 51 less those in Rear Echelon, Task Force designation remains unchanged during COTTAGE operation. It is assigned to North Pacific Force.

(E) ComPhibTrainPac report to Com5thPhib for operational control.

14 0441 CONNORPAC to NORPACFOR.

Most secret. ComNorPac confirms August 15 as D-Day.

15 0540 COM 3RD FLT to CINCPAC Info COMNAVPAKE FIJI, CBR TONGATATU PORT DUR ESPIRITU, COM 10TH FLT CBR, COMSOUTH.

Liberty ship M.J. DeYoung torpedoes at 175-10 west 21-50 south at 1753 GCT/14 August enroute Espiritu Santo. Tongatapu despatched sub chasers 667 and 677 to scene. Sub chaser 677 indicate DeYoung immobile in water 6 wounded, 1 dead. CATALPA ordered from SUVA to assist. Tanker Quebec practically empty only available vessel in Tonga dispatched to tow vessel to port. Sub chasers escorting.

16 0502 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC.

Your 150215 Deputy SoPac immediately Subordinate ComSoPac and acts for him in case he should be absent or incapacitated. Normally handles SoPac Administration. If shown in diagram would be immediately under ComSoPac.
SECRET

August (OCT)

19 2357 CINCPAC to COMINCH, COMNORPAC Info COMWESBARPHON, COMAR SAN DIEGO COMPHIBPAC, COM 5TH FLEET, CONSCFPAC, CO 2ND MARDIV.

Cominich approval requested for following. When conditions permit route vessels as follows: 1.尽早: Direct to Pearl B all LST to Pearl on completion necessary repairs. C-1 APA plus THURAN to West Coast for voyage repairs thence San Diego load 1st Marine Airplane Battalion destination Pearl D. 3 APA to San Fran available ComWesBarPHON for joint priorities and arrival Wellington by 1 October report Cominich 2nd Mardiv for loading and receiving. Provide escorts as practicable requesting air and surface coverage at destination where necessary. Anticipate arrival APA's Wellington if possible.

21 2006 COMCEN SAMOA to MARCORPS Info CINCPAC COMSOCPAC.

2nd Barrage Balloon Squadron and 19th Replacement Battalion disestablished August 21. 7th Defense Battalion detached from 3rd Marine Brigade same date. Will operate independently as 7th Defense Battalion reinforced PHILINTINE in this command.

23 3944 CTG 12.8 to CINCPAC, COMINCH, COMSOUTHCOM.

G-2 periodic report number 1 from 1701 (8:10) time 21 August to 1700 W time 22 August. Para 1: preliminary interpretation enemy documents transmitted by lack of material data, apparently careful to destroy all evidence however. Major land KISKA attempting to evacuate submarines at time 3125 24 July. Captured diary also lists warning order sent 8th July actual evacuation major forces 24 July. 1 of 3 races evacuation order recovered list destination only as point KNAY. Portion of retrieved diary indicates subs of TFK class entered KISKA Harbor on average 1 every 4 days from 1st May to last July bringing cargo along storage dumps throughout island testify to efficacy this means transportation from island defense plan similar to ATTY where runs exploded to fire down valley however KISKA much better in artillery placement. Example ROSE HILL, where 37mm infantry cannot replaced behind concrete wall, 1.6cm anti-aircraft weapons with limited fields of fire followed. Numerous galleries some resembling ancient catacombs now out of soft sand stone used as supply storage and shelter. Para 2: Diaries indicate prolonged naval and air bombardment was breaking enemy morale particularly effective were delayed action bombs. Para 4 Enemy capabilities consist attack by air and sea forces.

23 7715 Con 7th FLEET to COM 3rd FLEET, Info COMINCH, COM 1ST FLEET, CINCPAC 7TH FLEET, COMINCH, CINCPAC.

Gearing: Cominich 131630 July. 11th concurrence CINCPAC intent redistribute submarines Southwest Pacific Area to provide 12 in PHILINTINE BT SOUTH CHINA SEA area by mid September. Will accomplish by sending all newly arriving Squadron 16 boats to West Coast and sending PHMC to same area leaving PRISIDE 10 September. As Squadron 16 submarines arrive to keep quota filled to 12 will return boat to Squadron 8 to Task Force 72.
August (CCT)

23 0651 COMINCH to COMINCINC, CINCPAC, CTF 97 & 96 Info CINCPAC FDC

August 22nd summary. Amphibious phase KISKA operation completed at 14 hours (410) today. Reconnaissance islands vicinity KISKA continuing. Landing GUNNERS COVE HAT ISLAND 1130 W from PAN. No opposition. Today's air activity consisted of AS patrols over KISKA and 3 ADAK searches which averaged 350 miles to northward on radar. Other bases fog bound.

22 1630 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info OCFS USA, VICE CINC, COMFINCINC PAC, TH FIRST FLINT, COMFINFAC.

Joint Chiefs of Staff decision requires that 4th Marine Division be amphibiously trained by 1 December 1943 and 5th Division by 1 March 1944 followed by 1 division every 3 months thereafter on the West Coast of United States. Take necessary action. You will be advised later as to whether additional divisions will be Marine or Army. (Subject garbled)

27 0625 COMINCH to COMORESSEA FROM COMORESSEA FROM NVY TS, NVY LT, Info numerous.

(Most Secret written up in pink)

01 1451 CG HAW DEPT to CINCPAC.

Answer to your message 292155 Re CG SAMOA 262241. Operating Team for SCR-688 FUNAFUTI leaving Hawaiian Department by 1st water transportation available.

02 1030 COMINCH to COMINCINC, CINCPAC, COMORESSEA FROM, COMORESSEA FROM, COMOREWDC

Monthly summary for August. Part 1 of 3 parts. All times and dates are W (410). Air Operations. During August 11th Air Force dropped 559.4 tons bombs KISKA and in attack on PARAMUSHIRU-SHIMISHI August 11th dropped 19.7 tons. 2 Liberators missing in PARAMUSHIRU attack, 5 damaged. 5 of 50 intercepting enemy fighters shot down, more probable. 2 heavy 10 light surface bombardments on KISKA prior to occupation. Amphibious. On 15 August American and Canadian troops occupied KISKA without opposition. Japs having previously evacuated. Ground reconnaissance made Little KISKA, Little Sitkin, Rat Island, Segula and Baldur without encountering enemy. Air reconnaissance Agatu, no signs enemy. Weather station established Semipechonei. Submarine operations. Not reported July summary. 8 30 reported 2 hits on escorted ships probably sinking same July 27th and reported sinking 5000 ton AK west of Arovo Island July 28th.

021035 Part two ComInCh escorted August monthly summary. KISKA. Army personnel initially landed 20735 Navy 450 including Seabees. Reorganisation ground forces in progress construction begun one ship dock and one barge dock. Landing strips constructed by Japs 100 by 2000 feet rock and gravel without mat suitable for emergency landing. Four Kingfishers based on tender. Navy construction begun South Head
Area. Torpedo net and moorings installed Kiska Harbor. ATU. One
ditional Jap prisoner captured. Army personnel 14750 Navy 4562
including WYE and Seabees. Preliminary Sub Base construction con-
tinues. Two subs completing refits. MTB Base and torpedo cellar oper-
ating. 1 army ship dock 1 Navy ship dock 1 Army LST dock completed.
Another Army ship dock 95 percent complete and barge dock 90 percent 
complete. ALEXANDRIAN POINT matted runway 100 by 4700 feet plus 6 hard
standings and taxiways. Matted cross runway 100 by 3000 feet com-
pleted. CASCO Cove Navy runway construction continues with 2900 by
100 feet ready with mat for emergency landings. 800 yards ground
moorings laid for 1600 yard at net. 6-20 by 50 foot magazines com-
pleted with roof thereon. Naval guns include 4-90mm 8-40mm 4-20mm
17 fixed Cal with 4 additional 40mm guns enroute. Aircraft basing
ATTU. Army 10 Mitchells with 10 crews. 11 Warhawks with 7 pilots.
Navy. 12 Catalinas 8 Venturas 5 Kingfishers.

02 1040 ComNorFrac sends part 3 and final part August monthly summary.

SHEMYA. Army personnel 6349 Navy 178. Main runway has 34 hard standings
and taxiways. Cross runway 150 by 4000 feet to be completed in October.
Barge dock 95 percent complete. Aircraft basing SHEMYA. Army. 9 Light-
ingings with 10 pilots 17 warhawks with 17 pilots. Navy none. AMCHITKA.
Matted cross runway 200 by 5000 feet with 31 hard standings and taxiways
completed. 2nd 2 ship Army dock estimate complete October 10th. Aircraft
Army 23 Lightnings with 23 pilots. 27 warhawks with 25 pilots. Navy. 12
Catalinas. Sand Bay GREAT RITKIN. Personnel. Navy 1045 plus amphibious
unit 392. Fuel dock practically complete and in use. 18-10,000 barrel
fuel oil tanks completed. 2 more to be completed by September 5th. 10
tanks full. Pumping plant completed. Heating system installed 7 tanks.
6-20 by 50 foot magazine with concrete decks constructed. Small arms
warehouse under construction. Fuel dock at Nat complete. Harbor Nat 12
percent complete. ADAK. ComMinthPhil Force temporary headquarters under
construction Finge Bay. Aircraft. Army 6 Liberators with 6 crews 8
Mitchells with 7 crews 1 Lightning with 1 pilot 33 Warhawks with 26
pilots. Navy 6 Catalinas 15 Venturas. In addition following Army planes
without crews at bases indicated. AMCHITKA 4 Liberators 1 Fortress 19
Mitchells. SHEMYA. 2 Liberators. ELMENDORF 14 Liberators 18 Warhawks.
UMNAR has 16 Warhawks with 28 pilots (Canadian).
SECRET

September (OUT)

06 2025 VICE CNO to CINCOPAC Info COM 5th PHIB CORPS, KOMINCH, HAO-FACS, 4TH FLT, CONSOPAC, THORN SAGA.

Here is part 1 of 2 final 06203. In order that the Marine Corps may intelligently administer logistic and personnel support of Marine organizations in pending operations, answers to the following questions are urgently needed. (1) What Marine units will be logistically based on PEARL HARBOR. (2) When should such logistic support commence. (3) Would supplies for such units be loaded in the U.S. for delivery directly in the operating area, or must they be transshipped at OAHU. (4) If transshipped at OAHU what levels of supply in the various categories including days of fuel should be maintained there by the Marine Corps. (5) If any depot stocks are initially located at OAHU is it contemplated that this would be more or less permanent base or will the base be soon advanced. (6) Must camp sites be prepared in OAHU for any Marine units additional to those now there. If so, when, for what units, and length of time. (7) That Marine units operating under Central Pacific control will be logistically based in the South Pacific and will logistic responsibility remain in the South Pacific. (8) What will be the specific location of the logistic base or bases.

06 2031 VICE CNO to CINCOPAC Info KOMINCH, COM 5TH PHIB CORPS, KOMINCH, 4TH FLT, CONSOPAC, THORN SAGA.

Part 2 final. (9) When will logistic support from such base or bases commence. (10) What levels of supply must be maintained at such base or bases. (11) Can any South Pacific Marine Base Depots and Base Depot stocks be moved to such base or bases. (12) Do what depots and what level of stocks will be so moved. (13) Can the levels of supplies now maintained in the South Pacific be reduced. (14) To what extent will the existing joint logistic plans for Central and South Pacific be modified for these operations. (15) That the contemplated staging areas for personnel replacements for the various units. In view of the necessity of economizing on warehouse erosion and because of time limitations, rigid economy is necessary in the amount of reserve stocks built up, the operating units outside of the UNITED STATES.

070012 CINC 3rd FLEET to ALL SHIPS SOFAC AREA, KANJASUR BASE, HANJASUR BASE, ESPIRITU SANTO, ALL FSCS SOFAC Info CONSOPAC, CINCOPAC, COM 3rd FLEET, KOMINCH, KOKARAC, DEPSAC, HAO-FACS, THORN SAGA, 4TH FLT, CONSOPAC, STORY SAGA.

CINC 3rd FLEET Task forces are reorganized as follows effective 070012 14th Sept. Short title SOPACORG 4. TF 37 Rear Admiral Davis 07 TF DAVOSA, WASHINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ALABAMA 14th Sept, GALES TAUKA, PATTERSON. TF 38 Rear Admiral Sherman SARAHAR, BEREON, PRINCE WILLIAM CRUZDIV 11 DesRon 12 DESDIV 15. TF 39 Rear Admiral MERRILL CRUZDIV 12 DESRON 23. TF 37 bases HAVANAH. TF 39 39 bases ESPRITU. TF 34 (operating directly under CINC 3rd FLEET) TG 34.1 Capt. Ryan DesRon 21. Task Group 34.2 Capt. Tuoho DesRon 22. Task Groups 34.1 and 34.2 will normally be alternated between the SOLMEM Area and ESPRITU. Task Group 34.3 CortDiv 3 and 11 plus Destroyers not otherwise assigned. Task Group 34.4 BRESEE TRACY W/Div 3.
Sibele and Mindiv 14 will be assigned to Task Group on arrival SOPAC. Task Groups 64.3 and 64.4 normally base KUHEA. Pahia. Present Task Forces 31, 32, 33 and 35 not affected by this reorganization. Composite Task Force 37, 38 and 39 my OpPlan 14A-43 hereby modified to conform SOPAC OPD 4. Movements of units to prior bases will be ordered by originator.

SUMMER answers CinPac OPV. All passes have been investigated by diver. TE HAUHUA has hard coral bottom nearly level. Believe this pass would be easier to dredge than TE MV IPULOP and would be more serviceable the year around. TE AWA I TE LUI has hard coral bottom nearly level. Local information that ground swells as noted by LETHBRITEN are frequent from November to March. Remainder of year smells generally under 4 feet. TE AWA TAPA 1 has irregular hard coral bottom with occasional coral heads reaching height of 10 feet and large patches of sand. No local information as to ground swells this pass but none running at present. This pass appears easiest to dredge to desired depth. Believe any of the passes could be dredged expeditiously with proper equipment. Blasting in TE KUHEA progressing well with marked improvement already made.
09 0243 COL 7TH FLEET ADMIRAL TO CINCUPAC INFO VICTORY VC, LUMINAT, 2ND AND 3RD FLEET, CTF 71, CTF 72, TIMOR WEST/WEST.

Report following successful aircraft minelaying operations in TIMORLAND EAST/WEST. SCORNGPENG KEISHA 26 and 30 August. 8 Mark 12 Mod 1 and 2 Mark 13 mines. In SCORNGPENG ROAD for channel approaches westward of longitude 131 degrees 13 minutes west. COTRABAYA JAVA, 26 and 29 August. 10 Mark 13 mines. Along COTRABAYA STRAIT between latitudes 6 degrees 18 minutes south and 7 degrees 15 minutes south. SORABAYA JAVA, 2 September. 4 Mark 13 mines. AY AIARAYA SW/FORWARD of 15 September. K£EDARAYA SMALL BAY, 7 September. 4 Mark 12 Mod 1 and 4A Mark 1 to 4 assembles Mark 200 mines. In bay and channel approach westward of longitude 122 33 east. All Mark 12 Mod 1 mines contain M3 or M3 Mod 1 mechanisms. Mark 13 mines Mod 1, 1 aircraft with 2 Mark 12 Mod 1 mines equipped with M3 Mod 1 and 251 mechanisms lost. Probable crashed on land in enemy occupied territory. No sterilizers used.

09 0615 CINCPLAC TO ALPAC INFO COMEUN.

Modify by 261245 August. 5th Amphibious Force is assigned directly to Central Pacific Force instead of to 5th Amphibious Force.

09 1243 COMAIRPAC TO U.S. FLEET.

ITALY has surrendered and all Italian naval and merchant ships have been ordered (A) Approach United Nations Forces in full daylight at speed of not more than 12 knots. (B) To stop as soon as challenged and await instructions. (C) For purposes of identification to fly a large black or blue pendant from the mainmast or only mast and to mark deck by large circular black disc at night to burn dimmed navigation lights and flash 6A when sighted. (D) To use 500 kcs if necessary to use radio for communication with United Nations stations and to shift frequency if this seems desirable by United Nations Station. (E) In MEDITERRANEAN orders of Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Fleet will govern action toward Italian Forces. In other areas attack against Italian ships including submarines will continue unless the indicate unmistakable signs of surrender either as outlined above or in some other manner.

11 1955 COMAIRPAC TO CINCUPAC INFO COMPAIRWEST, COMAIRPLANT, COMFAIR QUONSET R.I., CINCPLAC, COMAIRPLAC.

Spare Carrier Air Group 2 will be operationally ready for assignment after 4 months training on 1 October. Request comments on desirability continuing advanced training including night operation East Coast or transferring to Pacific Fleet about 1 October. If latter recommend locality West Coast for initial transfer.

1741
SECRET

September (OCT)

11 2216 COMGEN SAMOA to COMSOPAC Info CINCPAC, COMAIRSOPAC.

PEONE Airfield 90% complete TAFUNA complete. SAMOA area landing fields. UPOLU complete. WALLIS fields complete. Satellite field. Additional nose hangar 75% additional taxiway and plane hides total completed 16 x 7 new hides under construction 10% main airfield. Relocating widening and resurfacing new taxiway facilities and constructing hard stands 27%. FUNAFUTI Field complete taxiway 96% complete blast pens 95% complete.

12 0607 COMMANDER PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS to COMGEN CENTPAC Info COMINCH, MARCORPS, CSA, CG 6TH PHIBCORPS, COY 6TH PHIBFOR.

Commander Pacific Ocean Areas expects to be in need of camp facilities and training for Marine units to be rehabsilitated in or staged through the HAWAIIAN Area. These camps should be ready by the following dates for 1 division by 1 December. For 6 Defense Battalions by 1 January. For 1 additional division plus a reinforced regiment by 15 January and a camp for 10,000 transients on OAHU by 15 November. Please advise me of the practicability of ComGen CentPac providing such facilities and areas.

12 2350 2ND MARDIV to COMGENPAC Info CINCPAC, COMSOPACFOR, COMSTPHIBFOR, COMGEN BT PHIBCORPS, 1ST MAMAMPHCOPS.

Strongly recommend LLRVC IV landing exercises proposed CINCPac's 090117 be held this area not EPATE or FIJIS following reasons (A) Primary purpose training shore party, beach party and ships crews can be done here better than areas mentioned (B) Time and material difficulties incident reloading from beaches (C) Previous experience indicates probability 20% equipment and supplies not suited operational landing after wear, loss, breakage, and weather incurred training exercises (D) Wear and tear on boots with limited facilities repair or replacement (E) Plan entails troop embarkation four to six weeks attendant loss combat efficiency (F) Necessity begin combat loading not later 1 October reach EPATE middle of month (G) Malaria hazard HEBRIDES. Suggest combat loading on completion logistical exercise here about 30 October proceed FIJIS or other designated area final tactical rehearsal troops on scheme of maneuver freight not to be unloaded until actual operation.

Ref: Request air ground and boat reconnaissance of beaches in FIJIS which may be suitable for rehearsals of combat.
September (223)

13 2200 ZINCHIC to CINCINAC

Coplen SAWA 110310 am concerned with difficulty encountered in LCT and LCI operations on coral reefs. When sufficient experience has been gained desire your recommendations regarding landing ship and craft design special equipment and employment demolition units to meet this problem. Demolition units now enroute your area.

14 0305 CINCINAC to VIP CNC Info COMORET, COMCH, COM CHF, COMDCA, CINCPAC, COM CNA, COMAF, OCMC SAFQT.

FRIDAY, 8/23/45.

The following answers are to questions indicated, (1) 2nd and 4th Bata. (2) 222d Marines reinforced. 7 defense battalions, transit center for 1000G. (3) Following corps troops, headquarters in signal in quartermaster IBM motor transport by rail in construction in Marine Forces at present in 1st Naval District plus any additional troops that may be authorized. (4) In operation by November 15 except for 4th Bata. (5) Transshipped at 6PM. (6) On for all categories less subsistence and petroleum products. Information on medical and post exchange supplies. (7) Permanent at CINC except for such advance depots as may later be established in forward areas. For expected Army will prepare camp sites. Information regarding shelter to be furnished by Marine Corps later. Units as listed in question (1). (8) None. (9) CINC in November also see answer to (7). (10) See answer to (4). (11) Yes subject to concurrence by SAWA. (12) 1 base depot from NEW ZEALAND with all personnel and stock now held for 2nd Bata. (13) Base depot at SAWA after Marines are relieved. (14) Yes by 1 Bata and reinforced regiment and 3 defense battalions. (15) HAWAIIAN Area. It is requested that Proc 14 be directed to acquire a plot of land 1000 by 2640 square feet preferably in the vicinity of Camp Catlin and erection on it 50,000 square feet of temporary covered storage to provide the necessary expansion of facilities for the base depot.

13 2207 ZINCHIC to CINCINAC Info COMINIC, COMCEN, SAWA.

Your 110341. Relief by units arriving from UNITED STATES too late to permit employment APOTHECARY defense battalions in JAMAIC. This relief must be accomplished by 15 October. In your 130044 you state relief of AA units can only be accomplished by stripping TRINIDAD or CHEWIL. In view of present stage CARIBBEAN and strength at HAWAIIAN and JAMAIC and estimated enemy capabilities consider TRINIDAD rear area where enemy air attack least probable. CHEWIL and APOTHECARY are more exposed now and present AA at CHEWIL should not be reduced. If you cannot provide AA for APOTHECARY as recommended in 13 SAWA 110342 and approved in your 130044 from rear area other than TRINIDAD you are authorized to strip that island for APOTHECARY.
14 2102 COMGEN SAMOA TO COMSOPAC, CINCPAC, CENTPAC, COMAIRSOPAC.

Our dive 1945 amplification. 270 radar MAGGIE reports night planes sending old IFF at 0805 range 66 miles bearing 260 degrees circling. Target lost at 0856. FUNAFUTI reports all trackers on 1 only 286 observed radar identification signal on 3 flights NOC bombers 3 similar but not QAMC old IFF. Once similar new type IFF. Other radar negative. No planes this area in air. All planes this area equipped Mark 5. All dates and times OCT 13.
Further information air mail.

16 0059 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info MARCORPS COMGENCENTPAC CG 5TH PHIBCORPS, COM 5TH PHIB.

Reference JCS 012116 not to all addressee. It is requested that the 4th MarDiv be assigned to CinCPac for duty with CentPac/Com immediately in order that Amphibious Training may be coordinated.

15 0513 CINCPAC to COM 5TH PHIBFOR Info COMINCH COMGENCENTPAC COMPHIBFORPAC.

Following LSTs hereby assigned 5th PhibFor. 19, 23, 29, 31, 69, 78, 169, 179, 205, 213, 240, 476 dash 482, 484. Assign appropriate number to ComPhibForPac for joint amphibious training. Letter deliver this dispatch by hand for info to LSTs listed above.

16 0615 COMSUBPAC to ALL SUBS COPYING NPM FOX Info CINCPAC.

Submarines operating in areas where temperature is considerably less than at PEARL or where steep temperature gradients exist are cautioned to check torpedoes for loose handhold plates and studs in steering and depth engines due to effect of change in temperature on dissimilar metal parts. SUNFISH heading home from 11 D with 7 torpedoes remaining reports 29 thousand tons definitely and 7 thousand tons probably okay. Nice going Peterson. Serial 42J. Apologies to Joe Williams. My message last night should have said SPEARFISH instead of SWORDFISH who did the dirty work on convoy leaving BUNGO SUIDO.

10 0226 CONTRANCR 3RD PHIB TO USS ALIHEA Info PD NOUEA, CIC REAR EMBARGO 3RD
NEW ZEALAND DIV: 96 ADVANCE NAV BASES NOUEA, W 1ST PLATTON 4444 NOUEA,
COMGEN SOS STA, COMSERCOM NOUEA, CINCPAC, CENTPAC, COMAIRSOPAC, COM
3RD PHIB, COMOXY OPAC, COMPLANTOPAC, COMM 4TH 14TH, COMAIRSOPAC.

ALIHEA, at NOUEA on Sept 11, at dock assigned by port director, advance loading cargo and personal from 4444 furnished by ComGen SOS STA to include the following units, near echelon 39th W Div., 10 officers, 73 enlisted (includes 3 US Army enlisted) approx 100,000 sq. ft. cargo, 13500 sq. ft. vehicles (6 lifts over 5 tons) advance naval bases, approx 400 tons, construction equipment - 75000 cube, 1st plat, 40th W graves registration co 1 officer, 24 enlisted 14000 cube gen cargo and 4 vehicles approx 500 sq. ft. In space remaining load vehicles from 1st Corps Motor Transport on NOUEA. ATS requested to furnish loading details, prepare loading plan and cargo manifest for prompt air-mail delivery to usual addess. ETD NOUEA Sept 17. Units concerned requested to submit complete shipping data to ComSerCom for purpose of effecting efficient loading.
SECRET

September (387)

16 0337 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info COMINCH, CONAIRPLANT, COMAIRPLANT, RNHEM, 1ST 5TH DIVISION.

In view of relatively short period before SALYAN target date request early action on my 090515.

16 0327 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info CONAIRPLANT, COMAIRPLANT, RNHEM, 1ST 5TH DIVISION.

In accord with request of CompFifthFleet desire destination of LST division 19 be changed to San Diego there to report to Cominorth to replace division 15 required at HPfi by 25 October for combat operations. Remainder assignments by the 260/15 August as scheduled. Horsetooth as a matter of policy all LST's LCT's and LCI's for 5th and 8th Amphibious Forces proceeding from East Coast will be routed to San Diego for training.

16 1947 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMAIRPLANT COMAIRPLANT, RNHEM, 5TH 8TH DIVISION.

My 012040 early formation independent TBF rocket squadron not approved. In lieu thereof designate Pacific Fleet Type ComRon for installation this type equipment in the TBF component immediately following completion ComRon 18 installation.

17 0112 COMINCH to COMINCH Info COMAIRPLANT, VOYNAV, CINCPAC, 4TH 6TH DIVISION.

Following LST's at SanFran undergoing voyage repairs readiness date for loading Sept. 19 LST's 118, 121, 155, 201. In accordance CINCPAC has 010011 propose loading this group RNHEM with portion Acorn 14 personnel and cargo departing Sept. 23 to arrive October 7. LST 10 not assigned can be made available join this group. Advice remaining group LST's 19, 476 to 492 inclusive and 494 total 10 due arrive SanFran Sept. 20 towing 4 or 5 LCT's. Upon completion voyage repairs complete loading Acorn 14 plus 4 or 5 LST's on deck and route to PEARL to arrive early as possible prior Oct. 15 from 100/15. Will load division 15 and 100/09 SanFran to depart Oct. 15 ETA October 25 CominPlTrainPac route 6 LST's to arrive SanFran for loading prior Oct. 10.

17 2322 COMAIRPLANT to COMAIRPAC Info COMAIRPAC, COMAIRPAC, RNHEM, 2ND 4TH DIVISION.

Readiness CATALINA PATROLS for SOPAC being delayed by (A) slow delivery incident to manufacturers changing from production Sackets to production Landcats only (B) Small proportion of experienced personnel in new and reformer patrols arriving "WALNT from WEEP COAST" and consequent need for further training HANALIAN AREA (C) Necessity for meeting center's allocations in part with effective squadrons. Unless situation improves best anticipated schedule for transfers to SOPAC in late November, Patron 14 Seacats late September, Patron 01 Seacats late October, Patron 01 Landcats late November, Patron 12 Landcats late December, Patron 44 Landcats early January. Request comment on relative acceptability of deferment of planned increase in SOPAC CATALINA strength or alternative of lengthening tour of squadrons in area also proposal for return of squadrons based on foregoing transfers.

1745
17 1431 COMINCH to CINCFCPAC, CG 4th MARDIV, CG FFP SAN DIEGO AREA Info HQ USMC DEP T PAC, COMSIXPHIBFOR, CT CENTPACFOR, MARCORPS.

Effective September 20 4th Mardiv assigned CinCPac for duty with CentPacFor. Units or personnel this division will not be transferred from United States until completion scheduled amphibious training except upon authority Cominch.

19 0829 COMSIXPHIBFOR to COMPHIBTRAINPAC, Info CINCFCPAC, COMCENTPAC, COMINCH, COMSIXPHIBFOR.

Due GALVANIC operation commitments no FifthPhib APA's or AKA's now in Pacific will be available for training on dates you desire your 1944 not to all ades. 7 new construction APA's expected be ready depart East Coast early October for West Coast will be assigned to you for amphibious training on completion voyage repairs and operational training. Other new construction APA's and AKA's due depart East Coast estimated dates Oct 20 to Jan 1 will be similarly assigned as practicable. Now plan to assign you about 9 APA's and 2 AKA's latter part December after GALVANIC. Will keep you advised of estimated West Coast arrival dates and probable length of availability to you. Under consideration is combat loading on West Coast of Fourth Mardiv for subsequent operations.

20 1031 CINCFCPAC to VICE CHNo Info COMINCH, COMCENTPAC, COMAIRPAC.

This refers my 161131. Underwater defenses revised as follows. Channels TE AYA FUAGERA and TE BUABAUA latter to be dredged to 45 feet 600 feet wide. Hydrophones for both entrances and antisubmarine net with gate for latter. TE AYA 1 DE LAPE as before. Other passages to be mined.

20 2136 COMAIRPAC to CINCFCPAC.

Confirming recommendations my serial 00818 of 21 August based on tactical experience to date and on unsuitability of light carriers as Flagships recommend immediate reorganization CardDivs to meet requirements operations in near future as follows:

CARDIV ONE SARATOGA MONTEREY RADM SHERMAN
CARDIV TWO ESSEX COWPENS RADM MONTGOMERY
CARDIV THREE YORKTOWN BELLEAU WOOD RADM POWWALL
CARDIV FOUR BUNKER HILL INDEPENDENCE RADM Reeves
CARDIV FIVE LEXINGTON PRINCETON RADM RAIFFORD
CARDIV SIX ENTERPRISE CABOT FLAG OFFICER TBE ASSIGNED X

Recommend future organization to be reached in 1944 include two CV and one CVL to a division.
25 0350 CINCPAC to COMSHER 4TH MAR DIV, CORPSTRAINCOM Info COMSHE 5TH MAR CORPS.

4TH MAR DIV assigned Com 5th MAR CORPS for duty to permit coordination of amphibious training subject to limitations CominCh 171431.

26 2331 CINCPAC to VICE CNO Info COMINCH, COM 12, COMSHEPAC, COMSHERPAC, COMSTEPHERPAC.

From Admiral Smith. Regarding the whole subject of the 18 AK requested by CinCPac for GALVANIC and the 15 for BANKRATE. Of these request we deliver for conversion 15 of lst 15 to be held for CinCPac. 5 ships to be converted to carry approximately 1000 troops. 10 ships to carry necessary GB specials to work ship and 6 landing craft in accordance with plans discussed with Port Director Com 12. Provide adequate fresh water. Prefer Navy manned. Must be ready San Francisco 1 November therefore vessel conversion features may require deferment of some items until later availability of ships. Immediate AK requirements for GALVANIC will be filled from list of vessels named in Com 12 230124 or such as may later become available after discharge PEARL. Some procedure will be followed in future of asking for AK only when and as required to lift personnel awaiting shipment and releasing when no longer needed. CominCh and CinCPac approve.

01 0347 CINCPAC to COMSHEPAC Info COMINCH, MARCORPS, VICE CNO, COMSTEPHEIRCORPS, COMGENTPRPAC, COMAINPAC, CONCENTPACFORCE, COMEM HAINA, COM IV.

This concerns questions Urdis 210349 not to all address our command and other problems SAMOA Area. That area including PUNAPOI, NUKUFETAVU and NAMOEA will remain under present command organization. Internal details of local command of islands in the area will be as ComSoPac decides. ComSoPac is expected to provide necessary service units, communications, supply and hospitalization incident to relief of Marine personnel. ComCom SAMOA will advise ComSoPac of requirements to avoid duplication or paralleling of facilities and supplies. Logistic support of the SAMOA Area as above defined will continue as the responsibility of ComSoPac. This also embraces support of additional Army and Navy shore based units of the Central Pacific Area which are to be located temporarily and mainly in the ELLICE group preparatory to and including GALVANIC. Estimated that there personnel will total not more than 2500 and will be accompanied by 30 days supplies upon departure from PEARL. All logistic support for surface and air units of the Central Pacific Forces operating in SoPac will normally be provided by Central Pacific supply agencies. ComSoPac will be expected to furnish to these such emergency assistance as available and conversely the logistic facilities of the Central Pacific Area are available for such aid as can be rendered to SoPac forces. Information concerning logistics supply for GILBERT Operations will be covered by later dispatches.
SECRET

October (OCT)

03 1715 CINCPAC to ALPAC Info COMINCH, CINCPLANT, CONCOMSPAC, COMCOMMCPAC.

Following changes effective 0000 OCT 15 October 1943. Tactical organisation of Fifth Fleet assigned ComPacFor. 9th Fleet tactical organisation as follows. Task Forces 90 to 94 assigned MarPacFor. TF 97 Hawaiian Sea Frontier. TF 98 Hawaiian Department. Others reserved for CinCPac. All present 5th Fleet Task Force designations cancelled. Tactical organisation 1st Fleet follows. TF 10 11 and 18 reserved for specific tasks as required. TF 12 miscellaneous groups in transit. TF 13 PhibTrainPac. TF 14 Operational Training Command Pacific. TF 15 Cruisers and Destroyers and other units when operating under ComDooPac. TF 16 SurfPac. TF 17 Submarine Force Pacific Fleet. TF 19 Air Pacific

03 2235 CINCPAC to COMCOMMCPAC Info COMINCHCPAC.

Of 7 Defense Battalions referred to in my 002203 and 082231 September 3 must be available by 1 December. Destination for lst 3 Battalions (1st, 2nd and 4th) as indicated by Serial 00198 September 30. It is requested that the remaining 4 be available at the earliest time practicable without disruption of shipping priorities. All of these 4 must be available by 15 January. If necessary, infantry components for Army Defense Battalions can be furnished temporarily from Assault Forces. Will inform you as to destinations last 4 Battalions upon receipt of their readiness dates.

04 2043 COMINCH To US FLEET.

Effective 1 October. To provide a method of segregating despatch traffic in accordance with the necessity for permanency and ready reference because subject matter is one of policy or of long standing importance Fleet and SeaFron Comd's shall incorporate in the text their short title followed by a serial number from 1 to 1000. Recipients shall maintain special files of such despatches in such manner as to have them permanently and quickly available. This is CominCh 1. It is permissible to use the originators despatch serial number for reference purposes where all concerned are known to have received same. This in no manner changes the use of general messages as now existing.

07 0239 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info MARCORPS COMBOPAC COMSEPTECHINCRPS.

URDIS 042221. Present plans call for employment 3rd MarDiv 1 November and 1st MarDiv 1 December. Consider 2 replacement battalions per month plus replacement pool now being set up adequate for SoPac requirements. Para 2nd MarDiv will be employed Central Pacific 16 November 4th MarDiv and 22nd Marines about 1 January. Estimated pool of 3 replacement battalions should be available to rehabilitate each of these divisions after employment. 3rd replacement battalion in Nov. and 2 additional battalions in December will provide pool for 2nd MarDiv in Dec. Attrition in 2nd MarDiv will govern number of replacements that must be made available for expected attrition in 4th MarDiv and 22nd Marines in January. Para. Plan meets 6th MarDiv on Coast therefore it should be moved at T/0 strength. Temps of campaign calls for employment of above units in ComPac about once each quarter. Provision of replacements should be made to maintain this tempo. Therefore request additional battalions my 020289 be provided.
11 0141 CINCPAC to COMGEN SAMOA Info CINCPAC, COMSTAFFFOR, COMSTAFFFORCORPS.

UrDis 242146 September. No APA available at present. Transports for amphibious training will be made available prior to employment of 22nd Marines.

12 0450 CINCPAC to COMGENCENTPAC Info COMGENPAC, COMSTAFFFOR.

Following revision requirements and availability Army defense battalion referred to in my 032255 and 082049 October. The required total of 7 remains unchanged. Only 2 instead of 3 must be available 1 December. The 7th remains designated for employment at KOURBASH. Availability balance of 4 remains unchanged.

12 0012 COMORPAC To CINCPAC, CNO, NORPACFOR, COMINCH, SUPERS Info COMORPAC, COMORPAC, CNO AND, COM IS.

Vice Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher has this date relieved Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kingkaid as Commander NorPac Force and has assumed command of NorPac Area accordance CinPac 091911.

15 0359 CINCPAC to COMOBAPAC Info COMGENCENTPAC COMOBAPAC FOR CG SAMOA COMAIRPAC.

On or about 5 November when ComAeroGenPacFor (Rear Adm. Hoover) in CURTIS arrives in ELLICE area request you direct ComGen SAMOA report to Hoover for operational control of Marine and Navy shore based aircraft in SAMOA-ELLICE area and of such base facilities as may be needed in support of GALVANIC and subsequent operations.

16 1830 COMINCH to COMORPACFOR, COMORPAC, COMNAVFORPAC, CINCPAC, COMPACFOR, COMOBAPAC, COMAIR ALASKA FORC.
in emergency, to make ad hoc decisions when necessary or desirable, and to issue special directives on propaganda policies for appropriate agencies of the theater commanders and US-UK governments. Committee decisions and directives will be binding for all propaganda operations directed to theaters concerned until revised by normal process of consultation between US-UK governments. CCS are charged with the responsibility of establishing all 3 committees at the places designated. Priority will be given for the immediate creation of the committee to be responsible for propaganda in connection with impending operations in the MEDITERRANEAN. Para. Committee membership in each case will consist of 1 representative each of US Chiefs of Staff, British Chiefs of Staff, State Department, British Foreign Office, Office of War Information and British Political Warfare executive. Committees are authorized to call in further assistance when necessary. Para. In conformity with above, U.S. Chiefs of Staff have designated Major General H.W. Strong for Washington Committee and Admiral H.R. Stark for London Committee. Para. U.S. Chiefs of Staff desire that you designate appropriate US military representative to serve on New Delhi committee and notify the War Department of your selection.

This is Com 3rd Fleet Op Plan 16B-43. BUKA Airrome is threat to our RAVENOUS Operation. Additional information later. General Task. This force will bombard BUKA airfield (primary targets aircraft) for purpose of rendering it temporarily inoperative during initial landing CHERRY BLOSSOM. Destroy enemy surface forces encountered if threatening landing at CHERRY BLOSSOM. Bombard SHORTLANDS area. Task Organization. TF 39 Rads Merrill Crudiv 12, Deacon 23. TF 33 Major General Mitchell shore based aircraft SOPAC. TF 39 fuel to capacity TULAGI-PURVIS area. Depart TULAGI in time to pass through Lat 09-10 S, Long. 160 E at 0400 L (-11/3) October. Proceed south of RUSSELTE west of RENDOYA and STIMEO ISLANDS passing through Lat 06 S, 156 E at 1700L/1 at which time increase speed to about 20 knots proceeding west of TREASURY ISLAND and BOUGAINVILLE clear of reefs to arrive off southern tip BUKA Island by 0000 hours L/1 November. Bombard BUKA airfield for a period of about thirty minutes. Additional targets shipping in MATCHIN BAY supply dumps BUKA. On completion bombardment retire at best practicable speed west of BOUGAINVILLE keeping clear of GINVILLAALOJOTALCE and proceeding north of TREASURY ISLAND. Upon passing SHORTLANDS at about 0800 L 1 November for a period of about 15 minutes bombard eastern SHORTLAND ALU POPORAND PAISI and throw a few at BALLALE all while maintaining high speed. Upon completion retire east of VELLA LAVERA and KOLOMBANGARA. Enter KULA GULF fuel from DVL barge in BATHORN SOUND and await further orders. TF 33 furnish air cover for TF 39 during daylight October 31st and November 1st. Provide night fighter for anti-snooper cover from sunset until 2100L/31st. Furnish Black Cats for bombardment spotting and 8-24s for night search and attack and giving warning of approach of enemy surface forces. Communications as in my Com Plan 16-43. This form effective on receipt.
SECRET

October (GCT)

25 2100 CINCPAC to COMSOUTH.

You are hereby directed to use my serial 00199 of 30 September 1945 as a basis for procurement of Army personnel and material for the Central Pacific Campaign.

27 0212 COMSOUTH to CINCPAC.

Desire you to lay aerial mines on eastern entrance to BUKA STRAIT and in western channel to RAMUN BAY northwest of MADEHAS ISLAND between November 9th and 15th. Approval requested.

29 0101 COM 3RD FLT to COMAIRSOPAC Info COMAIRSOLS, COMENSOL, ALL TPC's, SOAC, COMGET PMAC, CINCPAC, COMOUTH.

Lay aerial mines in Eastern Entrance to BUKA STRAIT and in western channel to RAMUN BAY northwest of MADEHAS ISLAND between November 9th and 15th. Submit dispatch plan to me for approval. Be prepared on short notice to shift from mine to torpedo load.

29 0450 CINCPAC to COMSOUTH Info COMINCH, COMSOUTH.

Present intention is to return BatDiv 6, 8, 9 and one carrier group probably ENTERPRISE, PRINCETON to SoPac after GALVANIC and to keep them there until required for FLINTLOCK. Do you wish to base at NATIVE

November (GCT)

2 23103 MARSHALL to RICHARDSON Info CINCPAC, HARMON, MACARTHUR.

Directive clarification to Commanding General, US Army Forces, Central Pacific Area, contained in WD 6004, August 14 to Richardson follows in paragraph beginning "As Commanding General, US Army Forces in the Central Pacific Area, you will be, etc" change last phrase reading "For the employment of Army Forces in that area" to read "for the employment of Army Forces in the Central Pacific Area" thru Var. Department conception of your responsibility for administration and training of US Army Ground and Air Troops within the Central Pacific Area is that, in fullest coordination with CINCPAC you will continue the training of forces to the extent that time and facilities are available or are made available to you. Troops ear-marked for specific operations should pass to the command of CINCPAC. Central Pacific Forces, Fifth Amphibious Force, Fifth Amphibious Corps, or other task force organizations set up by direction of Commander in Chief, Pacific, at the time when, at the discretion of CINCPAC, they are required for specific operational training or rehearsal under the force, corps, or task force commander in preparation for their eventual utilization. The exact determination as to when such training responsibilities will pass from you to CINCPAC or his appropriate subordinate.
October 1943 (GCT)

29 0450  CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMINCH, COMCENPACFOR.

Present intention is to return BatDivs 6, 8, 9 and one carrier group probably ENTERPRISE PRINCETON to Sol'ac after CALVANIC and to keep them there until required for PLINTLOCK. Do you wish them to base at EPAT'E.

30 0116  COMSOPAC to CINCPAC Info COMINCH, CINCSONESPAC, COMCOWESPAC, COMCENPAC.

BatDivs (your 290450) at EPAT'E. Carrier group at ESPIRITU.
commander must, in all cases be decided by CinCPlac after consultation with you and his Army adviser.

07 0220  MARSHALL to CINCENTPAC Info CINCPAC, COMINCH

7812-7th Dispatch, Cominch, 311400/October to CinCPAC directs CCS 329/2 to be passed to ComDenCentFacs. CCS 329/2 covers operations in the Pacific to include December, 1944 para Cominch 311400 is also directive to CinCPAC to formulate plans and train for campaigns in the Central Pacific to include estimates of troop and material requirements for operations subsequent to BANKRATE, para. This radio acknowledges your W 6731 October 29. Your study, now in preparation in accordance with WD letter, subject: Theater Troop Basis, dated 27 Sept., will of necessity be reviewed in the light of present and future availability of forces, and in conformity with the deployment of forces set up by CCS directive 329/2, para. JCS dispatches 202204/July covering GALVANIC Operations and 02115/September covering the BANKRATE Operations are controlling for a major Army ground force units and major army air force combat units set up for these operations. With reference last paragraph urad 6556 November 2, attention is invited to paragraph 2, Annex D, CCS 329/2. The deployment of forces outlined by the combined Chiefs of Staff fixed the overall allotments of major units for operations in the Pacific. In this connection maintenance in Central Pacific of 2 heavy and 1 medium bomber groups plus 7 fighter groups fulfill CCS firm allocations during 1944. Para. Further urad W 66/November 2, your restudy of signal requirements should be so coordinated with the Navy as to bring the requirements which are to be met by Army personnel and equipment within the directive of JCS 436 dated 8 September 1943. The urgent necessity for rigidly screening requirements for technically trained personnel, individuals or units, such as are involved in formation of signal communication units, has been brought to your attention. Para. with regard to your W 6762 October 29, the availability of air force service units included therein will be as by urad 7770 November 4 to you indicated.

09 2220  COMINCH to CINCPAC info MARCORPS CINCPLAC SUPREME COMDR SOWESPAC, COMSOPAC CINCPAC COMD ARMY.

9th Phib hereby dissolved. Modify MyDis 111902 August accordingly. Orders to Radm Rockwell will be issued by BuPers. Members of his staff will be divided between 3rd Group 5thPhibFor and PhibTrainPac in accordance your recommendation. Your serial 001630 November 2nd approved and copy furnished BuPers.
November (COT)

12 0321 CTF 50.3 to COMSOPAC info CINCPAC COMINCH CINCSONESPAC TF COMS SOPAC etc.

This is CTF 50.3 11218. Report of B Group attack on RABaul shipping Nov. 11. Aircraft on strike. ESSEX 29 VF, 19 VT, 26 VB. BUNKER HILL 27 VF, 18 VT, 23 VB. INDEPENDENCE 15 VF, 9 VT. Aircraft arming VT torpedoes, VB 1000 lb GP and SAP 1600 lb AP few 500 lb GP. Attack commenced 0905 completed 0935 L (-11). Rain squall at harbor entrance. Enemy ships claimed sunk BUNKER HILL 1 CL or large DD and 2 DD's. Ships damaged ESSEX 1 CA believed MOGAMI 1 sure torpedo hit 2 probables. 2 other CA or large DD 1 torpedo hit each plus 1000 lb bomb on 2nd. 3 CL or large DD 1 torpedo hit each. BUNKER HILL 1 CL 3 DD. INDEPENDENCE torpedo hit 1 CA. Enemy aircraft shot down certain. ESSEX 13 Zekes, BUNKER HILL 6 Zekes. INDEPENDENCE 5 Zekes. No enemy aircraft destroyed on ground. Own losses operational BUNKER HILL 1 VF, 5 VB, INDEPENDENCE 1 VF. Combat losses ESSEX 1 VF, 1 VB. BUNKER HILL 1 VF, 2 VT. INDEPENDENCE 2 VF. Personnel losses ESSEX 2 pilots 1 mm BUNKER HILL 3 pilots 2 mm. INDEPENDENCE 2 pilots. Own aircraft being launched for 2nd strike when Task Group was attacked by enemy aircraft. After raid beaten off time did not permit completing launch and sending in 2nd strike. Report of enemy attack in separate despatch.

18 1936 MARCORPS to lst ARMORED AMPHIB BN. Info COMINCH CINCPAC CO8thPHIBCORPS etc.

Ref CinCPoA dis 180036 not to all addressees. Effective 20 November lst Armored Amphibian Battalion is attached to 4th Marine Division to permit combined training for early operations.

20 1115 CINCPAC to OCCENTPAC COMCENTPACFOR CO8thPHIBFOR CO8thPHIBCORPS.

27th Div less elements employed in GALVANIC hereby directed revert to command of ComGenCentPac until further orders.

21 2225 CINCPAC to COMCENPACFOR info COMINCH CTF 50.

Reaction by enemy to GALVANIC clearly indicates opposition by submarines and by air attack from MARSHALLS or MAURU. Use of surface craft unlikely. In the circumstances operating area for carrier groups prescribed in Powell's order are too restrictive. If carriers continue too long in such narrow confines they become subjected to progressively greater torpedo hazard. Take corrective action to insure them greater freedom of movement, consistent with their mission.

22 0630 COMCENPACFOR to ALL TF COMS GALVANIC info CINCPAC.

Action should extend or shift their present operating areas to afford maximum practicable protection from enemy air and submarine attacks. CinCPac 212225. This will be done with minimum interference with assigned missions. Task Groups of Task Force 50 operating against MARSHALLS or in support of MAWU remain north of latitude 2 degrees north. Those in support TARANA south of 2 degrees North. During darkness keep clear of areas in which other Task Forces or Groups are known to be operating or moving. CTF 62 and 63 advise carrier task group commanders of their night operating areas.
05 0248 CINCPAC to COMMANDER PACIFIC, COMMANDER FOR MARSHALL ISLANDS.

Elements 27 division and attached troops employed JALIVANIC that have returned to HAWAII hereby directed revert to command of CINCPAC until further orders. Others returning similarly revert on arrival HAWAII.

07 0450 CINCPAC to CHINCH INFO CINCPAC, CINCUSPAC, CINCPAC, CINCPAC.

Recommend no further 5 class submarines be withdrawn from combat duty with Sublon 45 prior June 1944. Stays OA1537. Believe Northern Patrol should be maintained during winter and spring to attack targets in vicinity PAMUSHIRE and fishing industry along coasts TAMANUA at ice conditions permit and to force enemy to maintain anti submarine activities. Also desire continue base these submarines ATIV and BTIV in order complete development repair facilities there. Submarines available in TF 17 are insufficient to replace 6 class submarines in combat areas without handicapping coverage of more profitable areas and cooperation with projected surface operations. By June hope to base tender on ATIV and operate fleet submarines from there in same manner as from VIVAY. Suggest possibility of using French and Italian submarines for ATIV training purposes thus releasing U.S. Subs to sub schools. Present distribution insufficient 8 boats. 3 in South Pacific. 2 at PEARL. 1 with CINCPAC. 4 available for combat patrols.

09 0322 CINCPAC to CHINCH INFO CTF 71, CTF 72, CHINCH, COMMAND.

To expedite arrival of new submarines in southwest propose to send all submarines of Squadron 18 and Division 12 direct from HAWAII to south-west operational areas. If you agree also propose recommend to NHCH sending remaining 4 submarines of Sublon 19 now on east coast direct to AUSTRALIA from PEARL instead of via PEARL where they were schedule for about 3 weeks training. These last mentioned submarines have had only basic training. If above plan carried out, there will be 28 submarines in your operational areas by January 15, 1944 counting 7 remaining Subs in squadron 9 which it is desired be exchanged with 4 Subs of Division 121 and 3 of Sublon 19 as they arrive. Replacement for OMEGA if required will leave PEARL for your areas in latter part December. Request comment.

09 2150 CHINCH to CINCPAC, COMMANDY, COMSOUTH INFO I HAVE PAPER REنتشرת זרם חום עם סכום עצום

By agreement between state war and Navy Departments no release of control or abandonment shall be made of any important naval airfield outside US Continental limits, territories or possessions, constructed in whole or part by US funds, but no longer of immediate naval or military use, without reference to and approval by Navy Department, upon action necessary to protect national interests. Important air fields are those which by reason of facilities, location or suitability for postwar purposes are of particular significance. Temporary combat fields not of above characteristics are not included. War Department has issued similar directive regarding Army airfields 2 is in CHINCH and CRIC. Dater: 7.
December (GCT)

10 2338 CINCPAC to CONSENTPAC-COM 5th PHIBFOR COM 5th PHIBCORPS COMDEM 22nd MARINES (REINF)

22nd Marine Regiment with attached units hereby assigned to 5thPHIBCorps.

11 0259 CINCPAC to CONSENTPAC Info CONCPAC COM 5th PHIBFOR COM 5th PHIBCORPS

Please assign 7th Division with attached units also 1 Regimental Combat Team from 27th Division with attached units to operational control of Com 5th PhibCorps effective immediately.

15 1300 CINCPAC and CNO to CINCPAC, CINCPAC Info CONCPAC, CONCENTPAC, COMDEMSPAC, COMDEMSNAP.

Transfer to Pacific of Atlantic destroyers in addition to those ordered by Mydis 062351 not contemplated in immediate future.

14 2085 CINCPAC & CNO to CINCPAC CINCPAC COMONSFPAC FOR ALL SEAFRON COMC, COMNAVCOM.

In event use of gas by enemy is suspected (A) make immediate despatch report addressed for action to entire chain of command (B) Conduct immediate investigation on spot by qualified personnel (C) Make amplifying report confirmed or not confirmed (D) No not retaliate with gas until authorized by CominCh and CNO. Para. Use of toxic gas will not be initiated by any United States commander. Undertake instruction and training to ensure that retaliation if authorized will be effective. In precaution against initiating use of gas under stress offensive materials are to be kept in ready reserve but not issued to combatant units. DoCrd will keep addresses advised regarding availability of materials. This is restatement CominCh policy and instructions on this subject and is CominCh & CNO Number 8.

14 2087 CINCPAC & CNO to CINCPAC CINCPAC COMONSFPAC FOR ALL SEAFRON COMC, COMNAVCOM, etc.

On 9 July 1943 the US Joint Chiefs of Staff directed as follows: "Sub-para A. It is a function of Commanders exercising unity of command to coordinate reports concerning combat operations of own or enemy forces.

B. Originators will make all such reports to the Commander exercising unity of command for coordination comment when appropriate and prompt retreansmission as indicated below:

Sub-para B1. When the officer exercising unity of command is a member of the service other than that of the originator of the report the report after application of the principles stated above will be rettransmitted to the head of the service of the originator, that is, the Chief of Staff US Army, or the Commander in Chief, US Fleet.

Sub-para B2. If the originator is a member of the same service as the officer exercising unity of command the reports will be treated as required by the practice of that service.

C. Originators of reports whether in Army or Navy service who are not under the jurisdiction of the Commander exercising unity of command in the sphere of activity concerned will by the most direct means available render reports of own or enemy operations to the commander responsible for taking action."

This is CominCh & CNO Number 10.
December (OCT)

18 2138 CNO to AMCON VLADIVOSTOK info ALIENNA MOSCOW, CINCPAC CONDORPAC.

Inform Red Fleet. Imperative they advise US as soon as possible (A) identification markings on fishing vessels both on hull and deck (B) whether they will fly merchant flag other identification hoists or lights also, that they advise whenever their fishing vessels leave territorial waters, including territorial waters bordering KOMANDORSKI ISLANDS. Also, definition boundary or fishing areas. Soviet vessels went west bound from prescribed fishing areas preferably should remain close to KAMCHATKA coast and then if practicable, proceed along 56th parallel to and from KOMANDORSKI ISLANDS. Inform Soviets identification markings or displays are of primary importance and that US forces assume to be seen any ships not showing identification markings or displays which will be agreed upon.

21 0221 CINCPAC to CONCOMPOAC, FLAG OFFICERS PACFLT Info CINCPACORD, CONTINUE.

FLINTLOCK DOG DAY set at 31 January West Longitude.

14 2059 CINCPAC CHO to COMPASSFROM CINCPAC CINCLANT CEFH COMCINPACFOR COMSECNAVFOR COMMANDER COMFORCESFOR CINCPAC FOR CREHNAV FOR CONAVFOR.

Commanders vested with unity of command will not permanently transfer units of service to which he does not belong from assigned stations or sub-divisions of his command without authority from War or Navy Department as indicated. This will not be interpreted to restrict in any way the authority of such commander to make temporary movements of mobile forces of either service required in execution of operations to meet special situation. This is CominCh and CHO number 9. It is a reissue of a despatch from Chief of Staff, Army and CominCh on 4 May 1942.

21 2031 CINCPAC to CYNCEP CINCPAC FORCIN G SF 3RD FLT COMINESSFOR FLTH COMMEDIT FOR ADMIRALTY COMMESSFOR BAD B PLAIN NAVY MISSION CH CINCLANT BAD COMPROP CINCPAC.

On request of Chief of French Naval Mission one following reassignments of certain French ships are authorised by CINCPAC as executive agent GEF with concurrence of bad. Sub-para.
A. CHEVRUIIL assigned FORCIN as replacement for LA GRANDIERE. ComDesdeFrom sail her when ready about 1 January to DAKAR via CANAL ZONE and NORFOLK.
B. LA GRANDIERE assigned 3rd Flt. CinCFF is requested sail ship for NOURMA when ready about 1 February.
C. SAVORGNA DE BRAZEA assigned temporary duty 3rd Flt until relieved by LA GRANDIERE. CinCFF is requested sail her to NOURMA at earliest convenience. Vessels are available as escorts as route.

22 0041 CINCPAC to CONTINCH INFO CINCPAC MARCOMPS CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY.

Plan disposition of units Trident 112050 as follows: To Central Pacific for employment all Marine air units and 5th, 7th and 17th Defense Battalions also Army air and air service units now temporarily based in ELLICIDIA. Army ground units to be made available for SoPac operations.

1758
December (GCT)

21 2144 COMINC to CINCPAC info CINCLANT COMAIRPAC COM 13 COMAIRLANT COMAIRWESTCOAST
Assignments following CVE changed from LantFleet to PacFleet 74. NEILANNA BAY 76 KABASHAN BAY 76 SAVO ISLAND 81 RUDYERD BAY 83 SAPUGEN BAY. Report CompRons now scheduled for CVE 65, 67, 69 and 72 so that complements other LantFleet type CompRons now on West Coast can be changed to PacFleet type.

22 2141 CINCPAC to COMCENPAC info COMCENPAC COM 5TH FRIDFOR
My 060219 and 160327. Mine only WOTJE MALOELAP JALUIT MILLE at earliest practicable date. Plans left by air 21 December.

23 2310 AMCON VLADIVOSTOK to CNO info CINCPAC, CONNOR PAC, MOSCOW
CNO's 182138. Soviets advise impossible inform when ever fishing vessels leave territorial waters or define any limit fishing areas. State incident involving SS TAIGOROS occurred in USSR territorial waters therefore those limits could not be observed. They suggest fishing craft which includes whalers crab mother ships and other RGF ships engaged in fishing as well as the smaller craft be permitted operate anywhere in BERING SEA north of the 55th (preferable) or 55th parallel provided they carry appropriate identification markings which identification will be provided and displayed upon mutual agreement above question. They further desire info to within what distance fishing vessels will be allowed approach ALEUTIAN ISLAND Group.

23 2351 CTF 57 To CINCPAC, COMCENPAC Info CONSOPAC, CONAIRBOPAC
Progress summary. TARAWA as of 251833 GCT Helen tank farm 27%. Hawkins 6000 by 300 complete. West taxiway surface 60% Mallinix surface 6000 by 150. 2100 by 150 additional partly finished. 21 hardstands done. Buildings 80%. Causeway almost done. APARANA as of 220937 GCT 100 bed hospital 80%. Chare 6000 feet but steep sides have slowed coral surfacing. Bomber strip 65%. Taxiways 50%. Hardstands 10%. Jetties 40%. Camps 10%. MAKIN as of 230600 GCT ground defenses 80%. Communications 75. Bomber strip and taxiway 60.

25 0329 CONNOR PAC to CINCPAC Info COMINC, CNO.
AmCon VLAD 212310 (222310 1). Recommend areas operation Russian fishing vessels as follows. North of Lat. 55 and West Long. 175 West. South of Lat. 55 and West International Boundary line. While no difficulties previously experienced, because Russian fishing operations have not been conducted herein, consider Russian fishing vessels should not operate East Long. 175 West when north of Lat. 55, in order avoid any complications. New subject. My 160005. Repeat that proper and positive identification primary importance and areas lesser importance provided proper identification assured and that any type craft not showing proper identification will be presumed enemy.

1759
This is CominCh & CHNO Number 11 and a reissue of 14129 November 1942. Addresses will deliver this despatch to Army and Navy Commanders as necessary. Army and Navy air organizations assigned to the Central and South Pacific areas and Navy air organizations assigned to North Pacific are subject to deployment and redistribution by CinCPac at his discretion. JCS confidential despatch 041819 of May 1942 which was released as CominCh & CHNO Number 9 is modified accordingly. The purpose of authorizing CinCPac to dispose all Army and Navy air organizations in the Central and South Pacific areas at his discretion is to allow the Commander on the spot entire freedom in the disposition of available forces for the defense of positions for which he is responsible. Redistributions under this authority are limited to the forces allotted by the War and Navy Departments and therefore will not be ordered on the basis of creating requirements for additional units. Necessary delegation to CominPac of aforementioned authority is authorized. Any redistribution of air organizations made or planned should be reported to the War or Navy Department as appropriate for information and logistic purposes. War and Navy Departments will keep CinCPac informed of planned replacements and allocations of aircraft and personnel to whole Pacific Ocean Areas so that aircraft and personnel when in all respects ready for delivery can be loaded or flown to destination desired by CinCPac. A similar procedure will be followed in regard to Air organizations made available by War or Navy Department.


Following from my representative Captain Johnson CEC USN. Quote. MAXIN runway 4,000 feet by 150 feet MURTON mat surf ace essentially completed and in use. Shoulders each side 150 feet wide to tree line clearance in progress. Both shoulders completely graded for length of mat surfaces. South shoulder completely paved with 8 inch depth coral. North shoulder about 50% paved. Runway extension 2,900 feet to total 7,000 feet length be constructed as coral surface due lack available mat. This extension graded and coral surface started. Required hardstands, revetments and taxiways progressing very favorably. Runway construction below usual Navy standards. Murtos mat laid on sand without coral foundation and has numerous transverse waves in surface. Shoulders have 6 inch compacted coral full width and are intended as taxiways along runway. Our standards would require 10 inch coral under mat and on shoulders. Time will not permit reconstruction to these standards with available force and equipment. Observation on 2 days landing and take off many fighters and B24 indicates that field will be satisfactory for fighters and will probably stand up for medium bombers provided heavy rains not encountered. Considerable maintenance and repair should be anticipated during long sustained operations. Recommend construction 2,900 foot extension 10 inch thick compacted coral surface, repair waves in mat surface.
SECRET
December (OCT)

29 0750 CTF 57 to CINCPOA Info COMAIRPAC.

as practicable, C increase thickness shoulders now constructed and in progress to 10 inch coral, D provide ample repair and maintenance force for runways after completion and during operations. Unquote. Request you advise shipping data additional one million square feet marston mat authorized for MAXIV. Have arranged plans for basing heavy bombers so as to avoid use of MAXIV as much as possible. Recommend instructions be issued to comply with Captain Johnson's recommendations.
01 2123 COMINCH to ALUSNOR CHUNGKING, CINC PAC, COMPOE N PAC Info CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY, VICE CNO COM MFE US PACIFIC.

HiCom handle as utmost secret. Chief of Staff Army advises that ComGen US Army forces CHINA, HINDA, INDIA plans for 14th Air Force limited mining operations on ASIATIC Coast to force Japanese mine sweeping and push some Japanese shipping now using continental shelf to go out where our submarines can destroy it. Further that in foregoing close liaison will be maintained with Captain W. E. Miles ALUSNOR CHUNGKING previously determined to be acceptable to CINCPAC and Com 7th Fleet. Accordingly Captain Miles hereby assigned additional duty as Navy liaison officer with Army for mining operations on coasts of CHINA and INDIA CHINA. Radio N.C.S. is operated by ALUSNOR CHUNGKING and should be normal channel for mining traffic between CHINA and Fl eet. 2 Technical officers for mining are being assigned 14th Air Force according to Army request.

02 1437 COMINCH to CINC PAC.

HiCom. For Admiral Nimitz only. Expansion of operations in Pacific will involve large increase of Army ground and air attack units, garrison forces, as well as increase Naval units, particularly in Central Pacific area. This ever widening scale and area of joint activities will necessitate overall coordination by Commander in Chief Pacific Ocean Areas as distinguished from the purely NavOp functions of Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet. The overall functions will apply of course both to coordination of the three areas and to coordination of the activities of the two services. Desire your consideration and comment on establishing differentiation between staff work done for you as Commander in Chief Pacific Ocean Areas and that of Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet and further the relationship between the overall command and appropriate Army and Navy commands in the three areas, North, Central and South Pacific.

02 2300 COM 3rd FLT to CTF 31 Info CG SOPAC, CG PAC, CINC WESPAC CINC PAC, ALL TFC SOPAC.

This is most secret. With reference to my 020050 a delay of one day in all plans therein plus WUNDA POINT Landing on DOG plus ten day herewith approved.

03 0021 CINC PAC to COMINCH.

Most Secret for Adm King only. Outline plans information comment and recommendation required by ur 152220 and 241301 will be delivered to you on 4 July by my planners Captains Steele and Sherman who are empowered to confer with your staff.
03 0151 COMNORPAC to CTF 51 Info GC ATF 9, COMPHIBORPAC, GC WDC
CINC PAC.

Your 301941. DeWitts 012050 (C: 0701). HiCom. Letter and
spirit of CominCh 1 1831 govern FIREARM operation. I am
proceeding on basis of present target date which will be de-
layed only as may be absolutely necessary. Special features
of tactical problem, the complicated staging and operational
control of large numbers of transports and landing craft in
the coming operation require thorough indoctrination and
understanding of all commanders concerned. Early arrival
PORRIDGE of commanders and staffs is extremely important.
Their arrival should not be dependent upon completion date
PENNSYLVANIA. Quarters and office space have been construc-
ted and are available ashore. Late arrival of 87th appears
to be only factor in present schedule which may force delay
of operation. Question. Can departure date 87th be ad-
vanced?

03 1755 CG WDC to CINC PAC.

Concur in your 282315 from DeWitt for approval of overall
plan as changed by you. This is classified security, C:
0702.

04 2013 JILIPAC to COMNORPAC info CG WDC.

HiCom. CINCPAC and CG WDC approve ComNorPac serial 0443
with addition to para 7 of "Task Group 16.8 will revert to
Army command when Commanding General reports that status of
occupation of FIREARM warrants this change and when so
directed by ComNorPac."

04 1851 COMINCH to CINC PAC.

Your 032317 letter enroute by regular courier should reach
you in a few days. Salient features were in my 231437.
SECRET
July (GCT)

21 0119 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMSUBPAC, CTF 72, COMSOWESPAC.

Most secret. No additional submarines can be allocated you by SubPac without withdrawal from more productive area. Your 200041. Wolfpack tactics considered suitable only against very large slow convoys which do not exist in Pacific. SoWesPac is receiving 3 additional new subs within 2 weeks. If additional operating areas desired south of PALAU TRUK line advise.

20 2149 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF to CINCPAC OCEAN AREAS Info CINCSOWESPAC, COMSOPAC.

This is very super secret. This is Joint Chiefs of Staff Directive. Part 1 of 3 parts of 20 2204. Tasks: Originate and train forces for amphibious operations in the EILICE and GILBERT groups and against NAURU. B. Occupy such islands and develop airfields and facilities thereon as required to support the operations required by C below. C. Capture occupy, defend, and develop bases in the Gilbert group and NAURU. D. Undertake the preparation of outline plans for follow up operations to capture, occupy, defend, and develop bases in the MARSHALLS about 1 January, 1944, to be submitted, together with a detailed estimate of forces required, to the Joint Chiefs of Staff before 1 September, 1943. End of Part 1.

20 2157 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF to CINCPAC OCEAN AREAS Info CINCSOWESPAC, COMSOPAC.

Extra secret. Part 2 of 20 2204. 2. Purposes: To support the operations in the South-Southwest Pacific and BURMA area by extending the pressure on the Japanese. To improve the security of the lines of communication. To prepare to gain control of the MARSHALLS. To inflict losses on the enemy. Concept of operations: That combat operations for capture of defended bases will be mounted at FIJI or PEARL and that separate objectives will be seized by simultaneous attacks. Forces Available: A. Surface Forces, Pacific Fleet (tentative estimated requirements 5 BB, 70 BB, 6 CV, 4 CVL, 7 CVE, 8 CA, 4 CV, 66 DD); 18 APA, 9 AKA, and 9 AP and other amphibious craft assigned to Central Pacific. B. Air Forces: Pacific Fleet Naval Aircraft exclusive of those assigned for employment in South and Southwest Pacific areas, plus such units of the 7th Air Force as can be made available from the Hawaiian Department, plus 1 Army heavy bomb group and 1 Army medium bomb group (including 2 squadrons heavy and 2 squadrons medium withdrawn from 11th Air Force) will be available for these operations. End of 2.

20 2204 Extra highly secret. Part 3 of 20 2204. C Amphibious and Ground troops: 2nd Marine Division, and 1 Army Division to be designated later, 2 Marine Defense Battalions now in Samoa (To be relieved by Army Troops), 3 Army Aviation
SECRET

July (6:00)

08 0441 CINCPAC to CINCPAC.

Present intention is sail ENTERPRISE about 14 July for AVP availability commencing 20th with completion 30
October. Conforming your April 040941. This is HICOM.

09 0502 CINCPAC to CTF 31. TO DECEIVE Info CINCOPAC Main Task Group, 13 VPAC, X VFC 44.

This is HICOM. Because of increasing size of forces involved a corps commander with staff is being ordered by CG CINCPAC to assume command of all ground forces in the NEW GEORGIA Group. After the corps commander has arrived in the area he will announce to these headquarters and to CTF 31 and CG CINCPAC when he is prepared to assume command of land operations. In orders of CINCPAC all ground forces, including naval units attached to the forces of occupation will pass from the command of CTF 31 to the corps commander who will assume the title of ComGen NEW GEORGIA. TaskFor 31 will continue in full support of the operations. ComGen NEW GEORGIA at appropriate time in consultation with CTF 31 will prepare a plan for the capture of VIETNAM. He will designate such of his forces as are to participate therein and will recommend a time when such forces should pass to command of CTF 31. At the discretion of ComGen NEW GEORGIA and if consistent with the factors then involved CINCPAC would like to have Gen. Hester, because of his demonstrated abilities, designated to command the VIETNAM attack land forces.

09 0455 CINCPAC to CINCPAC.

HICOM. Squadrons in December. Early augmentation of Navy squadrons can only be accomplished by drawing from 20 replacement groups, CVE groups now under training, or modifying plans regarding employment in the Pacific. Considering CINCPAC predictions as reasonably accurate, recommend as first measure Breton embark its squadron plus two trained fighters component another CVE squadron and spare planes to capacity then proceed to the port. Discharge and return. Second measure dispatch to CINCPAC requesting units Marine Air (5) be made available to Pacific Fleet as rapidly as trained, with priority on fighter squadrons. Consider in view great increase in scope land based air operations in CINCPAC allocation Army fighter squadrons that area should be reconsidered by JCS. Commenting on your 071935 there are in CINCPAC area following number fighter squadrons: 10 Marine, 7 Army, 5 Navy, 2 NFZAF. These figures include 2 Marine at Saipan, and 3 Navy normally aboard a new carrier of SARATOA, VICTORIOUS and recently arrived group 12, scheduled to relieve SARATOA group. The number of Marine and Army squadrons meet Joint Chiefs of Staff directives. Navy squadrons are supplemental. Adequate numbers of aircraft are in area to keep Navy and Marine squadrons up to full strength. Information regarding spare Army and NFZAF aircraft is not available. The expansion of Marine

(Continued)
aviation more rapidly than plans contemplated has resulted in critical shortage of pilots, which precludes any immediate further expansion above current plans, which provide for replacing 2 SoPac squadrons in August, 1 in September, 2 in November, 2 plus 2 expansion.

1002 - SINGPAC to COMOPAC. Info SINGPAC, COMAIRPAC.

Kiss for Admiral Halsey only. Halsey expresses concern over reduced level of fighter strength (including shore based OCh-11s) which he anticipates will exist beginning early August as result of essential withdrawal for reorganization. Thereafter he believes he will be unable to maintain fighter cover in adequate strength over active positions and also over shipping during current and anticipated operations. Para. Central Pacific can provide little reinforcement except by employing 5 squadrons from carriers immobilizing them for planned operations. Para. Request you explore possibility of obtaining more Army pilots to insure continued active progress Solomons campaign.

100327 - SINGPAC to COMSOPAC.

Kiss for Vice Admiral Kinkaid only. I contemplated furnishing OCh-11s equipped as BASSA for COTTADE but need for more fighters has developed in SoPac which may require these aircraft. Desire comment.

110421 - SINGPAC to CTCP 31, COMAIRPAC, Info SINGPAC, SINC JSWILSPAC, COMSOPAC, COMSAR, KASH."
SECRET
July (JCT)

11 2307 CINCPAC to COMINCH.

HiCon for Admiral King reply your 021437 being airmailed.

12 0015 COMINCH to CINCPAC.

This is HiCon. Kinkaid replies CINCPAC 100327. Fighters available forPac for considered adequate for COTTAGE. While CVE could move about and search for areas clear of fog, the prospect of operating fighters either from PEARL to eastward of FELDSPAR to westward of FIRMAH whenever conditions at target are suitable, is sufficient to make a CVE unnecessary in the operation.

13 2058 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMSOPAC, COMAIRSOPAC, COMAIRPAC, etc.

Most secret. Admiralty desires HMS VICTORIOUS return UKAY via East Coast. When operations permit but not later than 1 August direct her proceed via PEARL and West Coast to MERCURY where report CinC at Hampton Roads. Use minimum 2 escorts. Authorized curtail shakedown LantFit destroyers as necessary to escort to MERCURY. Ship to bring all Martlets but only 6 TBF planes to East Coast. Advise recommended disposition U.S. Naval personnel now embarked and estimated date arrival MERCURY.

13 2137 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMSOWESPAC, COMINCH, CTF 72, COMSUBPAC.

This is most secret. Area defined my 102337 available to you from 1600 GCT July 14th.

14 0406 COM 3RD FLEET to CINCPAC.

In view damage to Ainsworth's remaining 3 cruisers as well as necessity regunning his 2 U.S. cruisers all requiring Navy yard repairs, request cruiser reinforcement. This is most secret. Because of losses and battle damage to destroyers request earliest arrival destroyers with training period while enroute.

15 0005 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC.

NASHVILLE departs West Coast for SoPac about August 5th. Your 140406. Will expedite departure DDs not escort my 130103 where practicable.
14 1300 ADM KING to ADM NIMITZ Info ADM HALSTEY, TOWERS.

HiCom for Admiral Nimitz from Admiral King Info Halsey and Towers. Am advised by Sherman that early return of personnel of carrier replacements groups 21 and 11 for rehabilitation and re-equipment is essential for contemplated Central Pacific operations no movement of aircraft being involved. Your 100227, These units were not included in JCS commitments to SoPac which will be maintained. Your 122121 and ComAirPac 130258 seem to provide adequate reinforcement for near future. Withdrawal of fighters from active positions for reorganization in SoPac appears to be a matter within Halsey’s control. I prefer not to request Army increase of allocations above commitments until and unless situation requires.

19 0821 COM 7TH FLT to COMINCH Info CINCPAC, COMSOPAC, MACARTHUR.

With forces committed in execution Phases 2 and 3 HITON PLAN destroyers normally assigned this fleet are inadequate to provide requisite protection for movement troops and vital supplies. Furthermore should enemy threaten to westward TORRES STRAIT at such time surfaces forces would not be available counter this move. Request 1 additional destroyer division be make available this fleet not later than 15 August. Retention DesDiv 7 plus MUGFORD will meet requirements.

19 2349 COM 3RD FLT to CINCPAC Info COMINCH COMSUBPAC CINCSOWESPAC CINCSOWESPAC.

Handle this as most secret. Com 7th Fleet 190821. SOLOMONS naval actions and situation to date have required constant use of destroyers without relief. Strain on destroyer personnel coupled with battle damage approaching critical stage. Jap cruiser and destroyer strength now centering in RABAUL dash BUSIN area. Consider urgent that destroyers in referenced dispatch be returned SoPac now.

20 0041 COM 3RD FLT to CINCPAC Info COMSUBPAC, CTF 72, COMSOWESPAC, CINCSOWESPAC.

This is most secret. In view situation SOLOMONS consider most effective employment of submarines this command is now against supply and reinforcement to this area. Desire to cover routes south from TRUK and southeast from PELEW employing a number of submarines in coordinated tactics along each route. Submarines this command have had some experience this type attack and are under training for same. Consider that 1 squadron of 12 submarines can effectively cover these routes employing Wolf Pac Tactics. Recommend that minimum of 12 submarines be assigned this command and that the desired employment be approved.
SECRET
July (GCT)

21 0119 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMSUBPAC, CTF 72, COMSOWESPAC.

Most secret. No additional submarines can be allocated you by SubPac without withdrawal from more productive area. Your 200041. Wolfpack tactics considered suitable only against very large slow convoys which do not exist in Pacific. SoWesPac is receiving 3 additional new subs within 2 weeks. If additional operating areas desired south of PALAU TRUK line advise.

20 2149 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF to CINCPAC OCEAN AREAS Info CINCSOWESPAC, COMSOPAC.

This is very super secret. This is Joint Chiefs of Staff Directive. Part 1 of 3 parts of 20 2204. Tasks: OrIGINATE and train forces for amphibious operations in the ELLICE and GILBERT groups and against NAURU.B. Occupy such islands and develop airfields and facilities thereon as required to support the operations required by C below. C. Capture occupy, defend, and develop bases in the Gilbert Group and NAURU. D. Undertake the preparation of outline plans for follow up operations to capture, occupy, defend, and develop bases in the MARSHALLS about 1 January, 1944, to be submitted, together with a detailed estimate of forces required, to the Joint Chiefs of Staff before 1 September, 1943. End of Part 1.

20 2157 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF to CINCPAC OCEAN AREAS Info CINCSOWESPAC, COMSOPAC.

Extra secret. Part 2 of 20 2204. 2. Purposes: To support the operations in the South-Southwest Pacific and BURMA area by extending the pressure on the Japanese. To improve the security of the lines of communication. To prepare to gain control of the MARSHALLS. To inflict losses on the enemy. Concept of operations: That combat operations for capture of defended bases will be mounted at FIJI or PEARL and that separate objectives will be seized by simultaneous attacks. Forces Available: A. Surface Forces, Pacific Fleet (tentative estimated requirements: 5 BB, 70BB, 6 CV, 4 CVL, 7 CVE, 9 CA, 4 CL; 66 DD); 18 APA, 9 AKA, and 9 AP and other amphibious craft assigned to Central Pacific. B. Air Forces: Pacific Fleet Naval Aircraft exclusive of those assigned for employment in South and Southwest Pacific areas, plus such units of the 7th Air Force as can be made available from the Hawaiian Department, plus 1 Army heavy bomb group and 1 Army medium Bomb group (including 2 squadrons heavy and 2 squadrons medium withdrawn from 11th Air Force) will be available for these operations. End of 2.

20 2204 Extra highly secret. Part 3 of 20 2204. C Amphibious and Ground troops: 2nd Marine Division, and 1 Army Division to be designated later, 3 Marine Defense Battalions now in Samoa (To be relieved by Army Troops), 3 Army Aviation
20 2204 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF (Cont'd)

Engineer or Construction Battalions and 1 Post Battalion 5, Command as specified by Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Areas. 6. Target Date for Task C above, 15 November, 1943, is contingent upon the feasibility of withdrawing certain Naval Forces from the North and South Pacific and assault shipping from the North Pacific, which will be determined by the Joint Chiefs of Staff as early as practicable. 7. In preparing Plans for both operations, assume continuance of currently planned CARTWHEEL operations in South and Southwest Pacific and the Post-CARTWHEEL operations will be initiated about February, 1944 for the capture of VEWAK, MANUS and KAVIENG.

22 2112 COMAIRPAC to CINC PAC Info COMSOPAC.

HICom. Readiness for planned Central Pacific operations will require immediate return of 1 carrier replacement group early return of the other and also adherence to schedules for rotation of Marine squadrons which are designed to maintain numbers allocated by the JCS but not to increase them. Your 220079 while I believe ComSoPac now needs and would make effective use of more squadrons than this will leave with him delays in return of squadrons from his area will inevitably incur corresponding delays in preparations for operations elsewhere.

22 2230 COMSOPAC to CINC PAC Info COMINCH.

HICom. In view threat to our advanced position in SOLOMONS request WASHINGTON be sent to me prior release INDIANA. Your 22009. Speed and firepower this type of battleship considered necessary SoPAC area until we can be reasonably certain of stopping Jap reinforcement efforts NEW GEORGIA.

23 0400 COM 3RD FLEET to CINC PAC.

This is most secret. Present intention reorganize SoPac task forces on August 1st as follows: TF 14 Rear Admiral Sherman SARATOGA MASSACHUSETTS NORTH CAROLINA SAN JUAN SAN DIEGO DesRon 6 DesDiv 15 based at HAVANNAH. TF 19 Rear Admiral Merrill CruDiv 12 DesRon 23. TF 11 Rear Admiral Hill MARYLAND COLORADO CVE's DesRon 12 SELFRIDGE PATTERSON RALPH TALBOT. TF 11 and 19 base at ESPIRITU. Forces directly under Com 3rd Fleet designated TF 34. TG 34.1 DesRon 21 and Task Group 34.2 DesRon 22 alternate between SOLOMONS Area and ESPIRITU. TG 34.3 JAMPSON WARRINGTON 6 DK on reporting and TG 34.4 consisting 4 DM's and 4 large AM's assigned as escorts. Propose assign ComSeromSoPac designation TF 36. Approval requested.
SECRET

Joint Chiefs of Staff - 203140

To: CinCPac Ocean Areas

Info: CinCPacOffCinCPac

This is very super secret. Part 1 of 3 of 202804.

This is Joint Chiefs of Staff Directive:

A. Originate and train forces for amphibious operations in the ELINDEX and GILBERT Groups and against NAURU.

B. Occupy such islands and develop airfields and facilities therein as required to support the operations required by C. below.

C. Capture, occupy, defend, and develop bases in the GILBERT Group and NAURU.

D. Undertake the preparation of outline plans for follow up operations to capture, occupy, defend and develop bases in the MARSHALLS about 1 January 1944, to be submitted, together with a detailed estimate of forces required, to the Joint Chiefs of Staff before 1 September 1943.

PURPOSE

To support the operations in the South-Southwest Pacific and BURMA Area by extending the pressure on the Japanese.

To improve the security of the lines of communication.

To prepare to gain control of the MARSHALLS.

To inflict losses on the enemy.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

That combat operations for capture of defended bases will be mounted at FIJI and BIRISHL and that separate objectives will be seized by simultaneous attacks.
FOREIGN AVAILABLE

A. Surface Forces: Pacific Fleet (tentative estimated
estimated requirements 5 BB, 7 CBB, 6 CV, 4 CVL, 7
CVE, 3 CA, 4 CL, 96 DD) 10 APA, 9 AKA, and 3 AP and
other amphibious craft assigned to Central Pacific.

B. Air Forces: Pacific Fleet Naval Aircraft exclusive
of those assigned for employment in South and Southwest
Pacific areas, plus such units of the 7th Air Force
as can be made available from the Hawaiian Department,
plus 1 Army heavy bomb group and 1 Army medium bomb
group (including 2 squadrons heavy and 2 squadrons
medium withdrawn from 11th Air Force) will be available
for these operations.

C. Amphibious and Ground Troops: 3rd Marine Division,
and 1 Army Division to be designated later, 3 Marine
Defense Battalions now in SAMOA (to be relieved by
Army troops), 3 Army aviation engineer or construction
Battalions and 1 Fort Battalion.

COMMAND

As specified by Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Areas.

TARGT DATE

Target date for Task C above, November 15, 1943, is
contingent upon the feasibility of withdrawing certain
Naval forces from the North and South Pacific and assault
shipping from the North Pacific, which will be determined
by the Joint Chiefs of Staff as early as practicable.

In preparing plans for both operations, assume continuance
of currently planned CARTENLL operations in South and Southwest
Pacific and the Post-CARTENLL operations will be initiated about
February 1944 for the capture of Wewak, NASUS and Kavieng.
SECRET
July (GCT)

23 2131 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMINCH.

HICom. SAIL INDIANA as directed my 220009. Consideration being given to your request for WASHINGTON. Your 222230. Before reaching decision desire further information how you propose use new BB's to prevent enemy reinforcement reaching NEW GEORGIA. Indications received here are that Japs will not use heavy combatant ships to support movement of reinforcements into contested area.

24 1558 COMINCH to CINCPAC.

Super secret. High Command Agenda for next conference.

1. Command and Staff Organization.
2. Central Pacific Operations, Logistics and forces to be employed.
3. Amphibious Organization, Troops and Training
4. North Pacific; present plans; post-COTTAGE strategy and organization.
5. Extent of development ADAK, ATTU, Kiska.
6. Burma requirements from Pacific Fleet.
7. Submarine warfare,
8. Anti submarine warfare.
9. Plans to reduce ship complements particularly carrier squadrons.
10. Flag officer assignments.
11. Transportation of enlisted personnel from West Coast to forward areas.
12. Distribution of destroyers.

Request copy of such CinCPac plans as may be ready.

25 2007 CINCPAC to COMKORPAC.

HICom for VADM Kinkaid only. Current directives from higher authority do not envisage large scale operations against HYPOCRITE from PHAETON after COTTAGE. Your opinion desired by dispatch on kind and scope operations profitable thereafter with estimate number and types forces required. Base reply on 3 assumptions. (A) Operations essential to insure positive security whole PHAETON Area. (B) Diversions and attrition against HYPOCRITE from Aleutian bases. (C) Operations limited only by capacity same bases against HYPOCRITE. Para. This is brief myser 00117 in mail.
SECRET - PRIORITY

A WAR 220200Z WTY WTV WTV

WASHINGTON D.C.

5557 - 21st

Immediately following CARTWHEEL most feasible operations now appear to be the isolation of RABaul by the seizure of KAVINCO and MANUS ISLAND and an operation to capture WENAK paren to MacArthur signed Marshall information copies to Richardson to pass to Nimitz one MARION to pass to Healey paren 3 per email message number two nought zero two two nought four (202204) dated twenty July. If you concur in this conception one outline plans to cover these operations together with a detailed estimate of forces required came including Naval forces came are desired before one September for Joint Chiefs of Staff to consider.

SECRET - PRIORITY

A WTO 260210

BRISBANE AUSTRALIA

06642 26th Story following has been sent paren Richardson pass to Nimitz. Harmon pass to Healey for information paren to General Marshall in reply paren Atty Charlie Five Four Your Miss to Commander and Co Hawaii from MacArthur paren His Five Nine Seven Two Twenty. First quote suggestion contained in your Five Nine Seven Two Twenty. First contemplating capture of WENAK prior to RABaul would involve hazards rendering success doubtful stop Our plans for operations along North Coast of NEW GUINEA do not repeat not contemplate original amphibious move directly against WENAK because of its heavy garrison and other difficulties but rather its initial isolation by capture of the comparatively lightly held locality west of WENAK and the advance of our bomber line resulting from CARTWHEEL stop Outline of this plan and estimate of forces will be forwarded to you shortly. This operation is certain to be opposed by hostile Naval elements in full force and consequently must be supported by our major fleet units stop these are now based at ESPIRITU SANTU and NOKIARA one too remote from the scene of action to permit of necessary support stop An adequate forward naval base must be provided which can not right be met in NEW GUINEA because hazards of VITIAN STRAIT would force major elements to sortie from SOLOMON SEA by route eastward of NEW BRITAIN thus involving excessive distances stop From point of view of physical characteristics and strategic location RABaul is the only locality which lends itself to the development of such a base and in consequence its capture is a prerequisite to a move in force along the North Coast of NEW GUINEA stop It will also provide the facilities necessary for fleet support for subsequent operations.

1774
SECRET
July (OCT)

25 1735 COMINCH to CINCLANT Info CINCPAC.

This is sealed. When ready earliest practicable dates after arrival US direct SOUTH DAKOTA ALABAMA and COMSHAVDIV 13 in BIRMINGHAM proceed CANAL ZONE report CINCPAC for duty. Advise estimated dates arrival CANAL ZONE.

27 0455 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMINCH, CG SAMOA.

HiCom. To execute Task B of JCS 202204 (Not addressed to CG SAMOA) I intend to occupy, defend, and construct air fields for bombers and fighters on NUKUPETAU and NANOMEA. Target Date completion this operation 15 October 1943. Para.
Purpose is to support further moves toward MARSHALLS. Para.
CG SAMOA will have direct command of operations under CINCPac to permit you to devote your entire time and effort to CARTWHEEL but I desire that you support ELlice ISLAND operation in every way practicable without prejudice to CARTWHEEL.
Para. Present forces in SAMOAN-ELLICE ISLANDS will be moved only as directed by CINCPac. Current plan is to employ 7th Defense Battalion now at UPOLO, 2nd Airdrome Battalion now at PEARL and SAMOAN aircraft reinforced from HAWAII for defense at NUKUPETAU and NANOMEA and 2nd CB now in SAMOA re-inforced and reequipped from PEARL plus 16th CB now at PEARL for airfield construction. Expect troops and Seabees from PEARL will arrive SAMOAN-ELLICE area about 22 August. Para.
Except for temporary loan 2 LST and 6 LCT to be subject of later dispatch and assistance in moving 2nd MarDiv to NANDI do not expect any other withdrawal of ships from you.
27 2310 COMINCH to CINCPAC.

HiCom utmost secret. Early decision needed on your plans for use of 6 APA 2 AKA East Coast to Pacific destination my 241237. Several proposals are at hand.

(A) Army can use half lift and cargo East Coast to Pearl. Marines can fill part with 3000 officers and men 4th Marine Division East Coast to San Diego.

(B) Army can use all troop lift and cargo East Coast to South Pacific.

(C) Use all for troop lift and cargo East Coast to West Coast then lift capacity of 6th Army Division West Coast to Pearl. 6th Army Division is scheduled to relieve 27th Army Division which is tentatively designated in CominCh 202204.

(D) Lift 2nd Marine Division replacements West Coast to training and mounting area if required. Request your recommendation and plan.

28 1941 CINCPAC to CG SAMOA Info COMINCH, COHSOPAC, COHSOWESPAC.

This is very super secret. This is CinCPac directive to ComGen Samoa tasks (A) occupy and defend NUKUFETAU and NANOMEA in ELLICE ISLANDS at earliest practicable date. (B) Construct on each island airfield for fighters and heavy bombers. Para. Purpose. To support further moves toward MARSHALLS, Para, Forces. 7th Defense Battalion, 2nd Airplane Battalion, 2nd and 16th Construction Battalions. Samoan aircraft reinforced, surface forces as assigned by CinCPac, Para. Target date for completion of airfields and defenses 15 October 1943.

20 2135 CINCPAC to COMINCH

HiCom, Your 272310. Recommend maximum troop lift and cargo East Coast to West Coast including 4th MarDiv that move. Then lift 6th Army Division West Coast to Pearl. Subsequent employment to be decided later.
23 1941 CINCPAC to COMINCH.

HiCom. Your 272310. Recommend maximum troop lift and cargo East Coast to West Coast including 4th MarDiv that move. Then lift 6th Army Division West Coast to Pearl. Subsequent employment to be decided later.

20 1941 CINCPAC to CG SAMOA Info COMINCH, CINCPAC, CONSOWESPAC.

This is very super secret. This is CINCPac directive to ComGen Samoa tasks (A) occupy and defend NUKUFETAU and NANOKEA in ELLICE ISLANDS at earliest practicable date. (F) Construct on each island: airfield for fighters and heavy bombers. Para. Purpose: to support further moves toward MARSHALLS. Para. Forces: 7th Defense Battalion, 2nd AirDrome Battalion, 2nd and 16th Construction Battalions, Samoan aircraft reinforced, surface forces as assigned by CINCPac. Para. Target date for completion of airfields and defenses 15 October 1943.

29 1850 COMWESTSEAPRON to COMCORPAC, COMINCH, WESTSEAPRON Info COMINCH, CINCPAC.

Most secret arriving CHOP 31st Point T 0600 JCT August 4.
PORDRIDGE 5th TG 512 ZEILEN HARRIS J. FRANKLIN BELL JOYCE
THURMAN escorted by BUSH BEALE MULAY FAUGHT STICKLE
JPA 13. Sailed SanFran 1400 JCT 29th. Knots 15 via F
37-58 126059 43-12 156-50 R 47-35 150-25 S 49-54 161-01
T 50-53 169-50.

30 0250 COMGEN SAMOA to MARCOMPS Info CINCPAC.

Following personnel required. HiCom. Urdia 211939 and
231556. Part 1 or 2 parts. 2nd Defense Battalion none.
7th Defense En 254. 8th Defense En 134. 22nd Marines
Rein 1119. Total shortage 1507. Estimated number available for replacement from 2nd Battalion and Special Service troops Third MarDiv if authorized 540. Total needed to bring units to strength 307. 5th Garrison Detachment included above figures. Other garrison detachments cannot be considered available as they will be required to fill normal attrition losses

30 0250 Total enlisted in area by island including 19th Replacement Battalion and Aviation Units. Part 2 of ComGen Samoa
Punafuti 1402. Base Depot on Tutuila and Punafuti garrisons are only organizations showing appreciable overages. Base Depot overage is performing duties of service and transportation companies for island and area. While units not authorized work must be done. Garrison Punafuti increased 342 men with approval higher authority. This necessary to man additional weapons furnished by CINCPac. Equipment report being sent air mail.
COINCINC to CINCPAC.

My 202204 paragraph 5 C, 27th Division has been designated by Army.

CINCPAC to CINC, CSN, USMC, CINCPAC, ATF 31 etc.

Handle as most secret. ComColNav 110421. Cancel ComColNav 110421. Add any part of ComColNav 230807 which conflicts with following: Change ComColNav Opsplan 14-43 Para 2 to read "At the first favorable opportunity and on orders from ComColNav, capture JACK tart, destroy enemy garrison, construct thereon airfields as directed by ComColNav." Add Paragraph 2 C. "Upon order of ComColNav seize OLA, LAMIN, and such other island as may at the time be designated and construct thereon an airfield. In order to prepare for further operations on the ARTIC." 

CINCLANT to CINCPAC Info COINCINC.

This is very secret HiCom. Estimate BIRMINGHAM 1 destroyer ALABAMA, SOUTH DAKOTA 2 each with 2 destroyers arrive CANAL ZONE about August 24. Cominch 251735. Dates may be anticipated depending upon possibility reduction yard availability details not known. Destroyers will probably be BURNS, HOLLAND, MURRAY, HUDSON, HEIL.

CINCPAC to CINCPAC Info COINCINC.

This is HiCom. JCS 202204. Early movement of 2nd MAIDIV to SANDI required. Advise (A) when can accommodations be made available for that division there (B) earliest possible date division can move from NEW ZEALAND (C) total shipping required for move and amount of total you can supply.

CINCPAC to CINCPAC, COMGEN WDC Info COINCINC.

HiCom. Utmost secret. Headquarters COMPHIBPAC COMGEN ATF 9 established ashore PORIDGE. All COTTON landing force units are in PHASEMON staging areas except 67th Infantry in APA's now enroute and due arrive evening August 4. In order adhere plan to allow 67th 2 weeks familiarization training and complete rehearsal landings about August 24 considered earliest practicable C day and this date has been set.
No. C-4369 31 July 1943 SCR 15709. MACARTHUR to CHIEF OF STAFF WAR DEPARTMENT.

Complete and thorough integration of ground air and naval headquarters with General Headquarters, where the method followed with marked success in the Southwest Pacific Area rather than the assembly of approximately equal members of officers from those elements into General Headquarters Staff. (C-4369 to Chief of Staff War Department from GHE SWPA signed MAC ARTHUR). Land forces, air forces and naval forces, each operate under a commander with completely organized staffs. Naval and air commanders and staffs are in the same building with General Headquarters and land commander and staff are nearby. These commanders confer frequently with the Commander in Chief and principal members of this staff and in addition to complete functions as commanders operate in effect as a planning staff to the Commander in Chief. When operating in forward areas the same command exists. Air officers and naval officers are detailed as members of General Headquarters Staff and function both in planning and operations on exactly the same basis as army officers similarly detailed. The problem in this area is complicated by the fact that it is an Allied effort and Australian and Dutch Army Navy and Air officers have been similarly assigned. The personal relationships established and the physical location of land and air are established at General Headquarters make possible a constant daily participation of the staffs in all details of planning and operations. Every member of General Headquarters from the Commander in Chief down is in intimate daily contact with appropriate members of the 5 lower headquarters. GHQ is in spirit a General Headquarters planning and executing operations each of which demands effective combinations of land, sea and air forces and has successfully developed an attitude that is without service bias. It must be understood in contemplating such an organization that although the physical location and staff procedures of all 5 elements are of the utmost importance it is the inseparable determination that General Headquarters shall act as such rather than as the Headquarters of a single service that will produce the unanimity of action and singleness of purpose that for the successful conduct of combined operations is essential.

No. W-6265 1 August 1943. EISENHOWER to MARSHALL.

Interim report on the organization of Allied Force Headquarters follows. For General Marshall from Eisenhower cite PNCOS. Reference your 3466 of 27 July.

A. Command, General Eisenhower occupies a dual capacity as Commander in Chief Allied Forces and American Theater Commander. He exercises his command functions as follows:

1) With Navy (Royal Navy and United States Navy) through the Commander in Chief Mediterranean.

2) With air (Royal Air Force and American Air Force) through Commander in Chief Mediterranean Air Command.

3) With ground forces and task forces through General Staff AFG.

B. Coordination between Army, Navy and Air is affected as follows:

1) Heads of major Staff Divisions of FFO exercise general coordination and supervision over corresponding Staff Divisions of Naval and Air Staffs.

2) A Joint Planning Staff composed of representatives from the Planning Staff of AFHQ and Naval and Air Staffs functions as a supporting agency of 0-3 AFHQ. The organization, membership and duties of this Planning Staff parallel closely those of the Joint Planning Staff in the Combined Chiefs of Staff organization except that its recommendations are processed through 0-3 AFHQ to the Commander in Chief Allied Forces.

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(3) The Chief of Staff AFHQ presides at a Chief of Staff's Conference with the air and naval Chiefs of Staff, G-3 and G-5 which sits every morning. This is strictly a tactical conference for the coordination of air, naval and ground power and particularly to coordinate the employment of the strategic air forces under the policies outlined by the Commander in Chief.

C, Organisation and Procedure.

(1) General Staff AFHQ.  The War Department General Staff organization and procedure is the basis for the organization and procedure used in AFHQ. Modifications to meet conditions peculiar to this theater have been made and certain modifications will be necessary in any other theater where Allied forces operate. The principal modifications in this theater are:

The Chief of Staff is assisted by 2 deputies, 1 Deputy Chief of Staff is charged with the general coordination of tactical matters, that is with G-3 and G-5 functions. The other Deputy Chief of Staff (chief administrative officer) is charged with the coordination of supply matters. Under him function G-1 and G-4 (Combined British and American). As the Supply Deputy is also the British chief administrative officer he is charged with the administration of British personnel and in this capacity deals directly with the War Office. Special Staff Sections operating directly under the Chief of Staff have been organised to handle military government, French rearmament and other special problems.

Coordination between Army, Navy and Air is effected through the medium of the Joint Planning Staff previously mentioned and through the Staffs of the Commander in Chief Mediterranean, the Commander in Chief Mediterranean Air Command, the General Staff AFHQ, and Staffs of task forces for operations.

D, Personnel. Throughout the General Staff AFHQ both British and American Staff Officers are integrated with the principal sections and subsections so that, in general, the principal sections will be composed of both British and American officers. In those subsections where specialized knowledge of organization, technique, and procedure is necessary the selection of personnel, British or American is made from the best qualified source without regard to Nationality of rank and without regard to maintaining an equal division of nationalities. In those sections which deal with administrative and supply matters it is necessary to some extent to duplicate personnel and to parallel functions since the American channel goes back to Washington and the British channel to London.

E, American Theater Functions. The Commander in Chief exercises his functions as Theater Commander through the Deputy Theater Commander NATUNA. NATUNA handles purely American personnel, supply and disciplinary matters and in this sense parallels the functions of the British Chief Administrative Officer mentioned above. No sig.

Under consideration is formation of complete Joint Army-Navy Staffs for Commander in Chief, Pacific as Theater Commander of Central and South Pacific Areas.(For MACARTHUR from MARSHALL). To assist in study as to appropriate groupings, desire you submit with least practicable delay by radio full data as to integration of Army, Navy and Air Staff personnel in your planning and operational staffs, to include such Allied personnel as are currently assigned there staffs. Similar information being requested from other theaters having comparable or similar Joint Staff organizations. Further request your radio reply be followed by dispatch of organisational chart to amplify and clarify information requested herein.
3 August 1943.

No. 3435 CM-OUT 10477 NCR 13706. For EISENHOWER from MARSHALL site PHOT.

Currently being considered is organization of a complete operational Joint Army-Navy Staff for the Commander in Chief, Pacific as theater commander for Central and South Pacific Areas (for EISENHOWER from MARSHALL site PHOT.).

With the least practicable delay desire you submit by radio in detail full data as to the integration of Army, Navy and Air Staff personnel in your planning and operational staffs. This should include such Allied personnel who function as members of these staffs. Request your reply by radio be amplified and clarified by dispatch of organizational chart with least practicable delay. Above information is also being requested from other theaters where comparable or similar Joint Staff organizations exist.
SECRET
August (CET)

03 2211 CINCPOAC to COMFORPAC Info COMINCH Z-OE NDC.

HiCom. Target Date your 030915 is from my point of view unacceptable because it delays other operations in Pacific Theatre and does not meet Target Date CINCPOAC 292740 May. It appears that only reason for delay is to give 87th Infy additional training while all other forces mark time. Comment.

04 0708 CON 3RD FLT to CINCPOAC Info COMAIRFORPAC A ADV.

Based on the assumption that Central Pacific Forces will be operating soon in vicinity of FUKUFTI under your command the following proposals submitted for consideration in order to avoid confusion and confection. A. Control of search and reconnaissance out of FUKUFTI to be assigned Central Pacific in order obtain proper coordination between strike and search operations. B. Establish dividing line between the two operating areas. Insect Area north and east of MAWNC-WALL Line extended to 15 deg south thence due east to 110 deg west plus area within 150 mile radius of FUKUFTI and WALL be Central Pacific responsibility. C. Logistic support and ground forces for air operations be assigned by Central Pacific. D. VB 137 SoPac Squadron now operating FUKUFTI be reassigned Central Pacific for FUKUFTI searches. 6 Satellites now operating that base be relieved by 6 Cates from Central Pacific. These Cates necessary in SoPac Area.

03 2125 CINCPOAC to COMINCH Info CONSERVPAC COMAIRFORPAC NUCOM.

For first phase Joint Operations Central Pacific there exists shortage small landing craft for ship shore moves. To assist meeting needs request you obtain release from Army to CINCPOAC for immediate shipment from SAN FRANCISCO to MAJUFTI twenty DUKW paren General Motors Amphibious Trucks paren. Understand fifty now available and craft in mass production west coast.

05 0432 COM 3RD FLT to CINCPOAC Info CINCPOAC COMINCH X-OE COMPOAC.

This is most secret. Concur in ultimate transfer four submarines from TF 72 to TF 71 but in view imminent heavy concentration US naval strength in TRK-RABAUL area I strongly recommend that redistribution be deferred. Submarines constitute most reliable means of obtaining information in an area frequently denied to air search by weather and lack of fighter protection. Proposed transfer would result in net loss of two submarines normally at sea in effective areas and such reduction deemed unwise while every intention to use of powerful naval reinforcements is obscure. Submarine must also be used to land reconnaissance parties this month preliminary to approved plans for advance. Para. I recognize that offensive submarine efforts have been less profitable recently in this area than the hunting grounds of TF 71 and at earliest moment consistent with security and status of hunting grounds I intend to effectuate proposed redistribution if you approve my present recommendation to defer transfer.
SECRET

August (GCT)

05 0931 CINCPAC to CINCPAC Info CINCPAC DUDGE CO Y DAY 9 ALBANIAN etc.

ComNorPac replies specifically to CINCPAC 03211 with an utmost secret HiCom. D-Day can be set for August 15, contingent upon scheduled arrival 11-12 August of 2 cargo ships bringing essential troop ammunition and equipment. This advance of 4 days in D-Day necessitates cancellation of planned exercises representing first opportunity for rehearsal of COTTAGE landings which involve diversified types ships and landing craft at same beaches. With arrival of 10 LCI's about 7 August these ships of various types will be assembled for first time. Further training of Army commanders with their troops elements in specific tasks for COTTAGE is desirable. Any postponement of D-Day beyond 15 August, consistent with plan for coordination COTTAGE with other Pacific Operations, could be fully utilized for the above purposes and for highly desirable additional familiarization training on ALBANIA terrain.

05 0110 CINCPAC to CINCPAC Info CINCHOC 35 YDC 33 ADC.

This is HiCom. D Day can and will be advanced. Upon return Corlett AADK this evening specific reply will be made to CinPac 03211. Date in my 030915 was set in accordance landing force training and logistic schedules which were based upon approved overall plan, ComNorPac secret serial 644) of 19 June paragraph 6 B.

05 1913 CINCHOC to CINCPAC Info CINCPAC COM 3RD FLT MAJ DIPAC POLICE HONDO etc.

This is HiCom. Com 3rd Flt 040242 to CinPac. If excess fighter aircraft are on hand in CinPac regulate future shipments accordingly since fighter planes currently required in training establishments and for forming new units in continental United States. Impractical divert fighters for formations and support additional NEW ZEALAND squadrons above present commitments.

05 2217 CINCPAC to CINCPAC Info CINCPAC XINIAN XPAT 4 CINCHOC

This is most secret. Make preparations to occupy and defend BAKER ISLAND, construct airfield. Initial landing about 25 August and completion by 15 September. Naval Forces will cover by air and surface until defenses ready. Shipping tentatively available 1 AP, 1 AK, 1 LCI.

05 2255 CINCPAC to CINCPAC Info CINCPAC

HiCom. Important that prescribed D day be met unless weather or other unavoidable circumstance requires postponement. ComNorPac 050931. Your judgment after consultation with Desmit and other concerned will be relied upon. If state of readiness of participating units is such that success of operations will be jeopardized unless date is postponed so advise me.
SECRET
August (GCT)

06 0159 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info JUNGEN SAMCA.

HICOM. Reference JCS 202149 July expect to employ 2nd and 8th Defense Battalions now at TUTIKA and TAMAR about 1 Nov. Then can relief be expected. These units must be relieved at an early date to permit necessary preparation for conversion.

06 0241 CINCPAC to COMINCH.

Urgent Secret for Admiral King only. Request you authorize an early as practicable change agreed upon last conference regarding amphibious Corp. PacFlt, Amphibious Force PacFlt and establishment of the Amphibious Training Command. PacFlt desire to place Amphibious Training Command under operational control of Turner at earliest date.

06 1945 CINCPAC to COMINCH

Believe substantial benefit will accrue if we can supply guerillas in Philippines with arms and ammunition on increasing scale. Suggest effort be made to fit out HARRACUDA BASS BONITA for this employment.

06 2221 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info COMGEN SAMOE COMPHIBPAC Rear Echelon, COM 15.

HICOM. USDA 032202 desire 5 LST delivered HAMETITE by 5 SoPac LST as proposed. Regarding ARHLAND will execute my dispatch 05004.5. This includes consideration your dispatch 05213. Plan to remove LCT's from Div 15 LST on west coast and transport to HAMETITE possibly in LSD 2.

06 1940 VICE OPMAN to COM 15. COM 11 Info to COMTHORPHIPACFLTL, COMPHIBPACFLTL, COMPHIBLANFLTL, COMTHORPHIPACFLTL, COMPNVFLTL COM 3, CINCPAC, CINCLANT.

6 APA's CALVERT. HICom. MONROVIA, NEVILLE, W.P. BIDDLE, HARRY LEE, LEONARD WOOD also 2 AKA's ALCYONE. BELLATRIX will depart Norfolk 24 August ETA CANAL ZONE 30 August, then report for duty CINCPAC and proceed to SAN DIEGO. 25th Marines 225 officers 3100 men will embark Norfolk in first 3 APA's and 10 officers 500 men will embark GUANTANAMO in BIDDLE all for SAN DIEGO. Marine equipment loaded in 2 AKA's. Arrange with ComGen Canal Zone for embarkation of AKA's personnel consisting of 222 officers 3888 enlisted for passage Canal Zone to LOS ANGELES. Following spaces available for Army personnel. ALCYONE 6 officers 225 men. BELLATRIX 14 officers 53 men. LEONARD WOOD 113 officers 1867 men. HARRY LEE 35 officers 928 men. W.P. BIDDLE 47 officers 749 men. Total spaces for 214 officers 3822 men leaving balance Army personnel 66 enlisted to be assigned spaces on remaining ships.

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SECRET
August (GCT)

06 1940 CNO to CINCPAC Info ARMY GHQ, SERVPAC SUBCOM, COMSOPAC, etc.

HiCom. 20 DUKW's requested in your 032125 now available from 100 scheduled August shipment Army forces for Pacific in 2 organized transport companies. Recommend your diversion of necessary Army complement as an organizational unit. Army concurs will replace for SOPAC early September. Information on your action requested. Para. Army states all DUKW production until early September allocated active areas schedule approved munitions assignments board. Request despatch estimate any possible additional requirements Central Pacific Operations through 1944. Tentative allocation production through January 1944 includes 150 for Army Forces 30PAC additional to 50 in area now and 100 scheduled August.

08 0145 CINCPAC to COMGEN SAMOA Info COMSOPAC COMHAWDEPT COSSOPAC

Request your estimate of Army Forces required to relieve 22nd Marines reinforced, 2nd, 7th and 8th Defense Battalions. Headquarters and service troops connected with above units. Taking into consideration the fact that after contemplated operations SAMOA will be a rear area and its defenses should be materially reduced.

08 2049 CINCPAC to CNO, SERVPAC SUBCOM Info ARMY GHQ OPD, COMSOPAC COMSERVPAC

ServPac SubCom effect diversion including personnel CNO 061940 for earliest possible delivery HARMTITE. Tentatively estimate 100 additional Central Pacific by 1 December 1943 with probable large additions if first 20 demonstrate usefulness operations peculiar to Central Pacific Area.

06 2105 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info CINCPAC RICHARDSON HARMON

HiCom. Ur 060159. You are authorized to redisseze Army forces now available in the Central and South Pacific Areas to accomplish the relief, when necessary, of the following Marine units:

1 Marine Regiment reinforced (22nd Marines)
4 Defense Battalions (1st, 2nd, 7th and 8th)
1 Marine Fighter Squadron (PALMYRA)

Marine headquarters and service troops connected with above units.

Redistribution under above authority is not to create a requirement for additional units over and above those currently allocated including forces set-up by CominCh 202204. CoS Army concurs. Pass to Richardson and Harmon.

1785
UR 4007/6th Richardson to General Marshall.

August (GCT)

Secret

I have been directed by Mr. Mac to build a better strip on Guam for use with Army forces from which to operate long range photographic and bombing missions covering the Marianas and Kauai. We can use the strip to be built and defend it by troops of this command provided I have agreed to do so pending approval by the War Department. This will necessitate the movement of the following to Guam: Colon Garcia, from Richardson for General Marshall; three other colonels; two dozen Army field artillery; one division staff artillery; one division staff anti- aircraft weapons; batteries; six engines; sixteen thirty-seven 50-caliber machine guns; two semi-bicycles; one motorized scutal American cordon; one dash medical detachment per color. One dash ordnance detachment per color. One dash aerial reconnaissance per color. One dash intelligence per color. One dash artillery detachment per color. Sixteen 50-caliber machine guns per engine; one semi-bicycle per engine. One half officer to command each battalion. Therefore, two thousand twenty-six personnel are to be included. Captain Major two; six Air Force personnel per engine. The last three squadrons per engine. Eighteen airplanes per engine. One dash propulsion per engine. The battalion engineer will construct the airfield. All units will be required to maintain high standards of performance and operating efficiency. I hereby request authority to return to Guam, as soon as possible, these troops and equipment as deemed essential after a more detailed study of the future operations which are to take place in this theater. I recommend that it be given appropriate as follows: Colonel Garcia, to have authority to utilize such troops as are under my command for the prosecution of the future operations by agreement with the Commonwealth in essential one always in consultation notifying the War Department in advance of contemplated plans. At present, I am not authorized to use any of the forces of the Commonwealth. As soon as conditions allow, these troops and equipment are to be deployed and the necessary administration and assistance as soon as possible. I believe that such a disposition is highly desirable. As soon as the units have been selected for the BAIKER operation, I will radio their designation.
HiCom. If you will negotiate transfer to originator 20 of Army amphibious trucks mentioned in your 041716, can deliver them at HAMETITE not later than September 12 which date is satisfactory to CinCPac. Trucks will be accompanied by 3 technicians from General Motors Corporation and operated by personnel now at HAMETITE. This arrangement also is satisfactory to CinCPac. If this proposal approved request you arrange with PuPers to authorize passage of the 3 technicians. All other details this movement can be handled here. This takes into consideration your 061940 but is believed best procedure to meet "Earliest possible delivery" requirement of CinCPac's 082049.

Estimate following adequate UrDias 080145. First of 2 HiComs of CG SAMOA to CinCPac. A TUTUIA to be defended by present harbor defense group, not integral part 2nd Defense Bn, consisting of 3 batteries 3 inch AA. 2 batteries coast artillery and 24 machine guns 26 officers 490 enlisted, plus SAMOAN Reserve Bn of 500 men and Naval and Marine personnel of Naval Station and Base Depot. B UPOLU and SAVAI. Artillery unit to man 1 battery heavy AA. 6 40mm guns. 6 20mm guns. 1 battery 155mm guns.

This is Part 2 My HiCom 091940. C WALLIS. Artillery unit to man 3 batteries Heavy AA. 6 40mm guns. 6 20mm guns. 1 battery 155mm guns. Detachments special and service troops as required to be added to garrisons on UPOLU and WALLIS. 1 Regiment infantry now in area to maintain at strength not below 2 effective battalions considered adequate for infantry components of Islands mentioned.

Recommend that Lt.Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift be relieved by Maj.Gen. Charles D. Barrett on 15 September 1943. This is most secret HiCom.

HiCom. D-Day for COTTAGE Operation has been set for August 15th.

1787
SECRET

August (3CT)

07 1538 COMINCH to CINCPAC.

Handle with utmost secrecy. Admiral King sends MiCom to Admiral Nimitz for his personal opinion as to recommendations in CINCPAC 061945 inviting attention to facts that submarines concerned have had main engines removed and /ea of auxiliaries which have not improved with age that diving time is same as in past and that oil leaks are as abundant as always.

10 0112 CONSPAC to CINCPAC CINCPAC WESPACEC Info CG 35 CPAC CTF 31 COMINCH.

Plan to occupy VELLA LAVELLI for purposes of constructing airfield and denial of reinforcement and supply of enemy forces KOLONBANGA and NEW GEORGIA. Target date 15 August. Ground forces to be employed 35th Combat Team, 4th Marine Defense Battalion. This is most secret. Construction personnel initially 58th GB. No APA or AKAs involved in movement plan. ComTaskFor 31 in command.

10 2215 CINCPAC to COMNORPAC Info COMPHBPAC REAR ECHELON.

HiCom. Other Pacific Operations require early release after COTTAGE 11 AmphibPac APAs, AKAs, LSTs. Such ships as can be made ready by appropriate ships of equipment and personnel would be sailed PEIRL direct for immediate employment. Those needing reequipping would be sailed via West Coast to a South Pacific destination. For planning purposes request your estimate date release these ships.

11 0631 CINCPAC to COMINCH

Utmost secret. Your 071538. My 061945 was based on belief that in class we have 3 large hulls not performing useful service and on need for submarines which can perform intelligence and command supply services without diversion of Fleet submarines from profitably fields of tonnage destruction. I understood that purpose or conversion of this class was to fulfill such needs. Am aware of present unsatisfactory features of their alterations. In my opinion proper conversion of these ships requires the following: Power plant in main engine room similar to NARWHAL, cruising speed about 12 knots, auxiliary charging engine, large capacity batteries, cruising radius about 9000 miles, no increase in torpedo tubes, 4 or 5 inch deck gun with 25 millimeter guns, forward engine room and torpedo rooms adapted for cargo with necessary compensating tanks, negative tank. Diving time was originally 60 seconds which can be improved by modernizing floods. Fuel tanks should be welded as in NARWHAL. Realize this large and expensive job cannot be performed without prejudice to program of new submarines and reengining of certain old submarines. Therefore I regretfully withdraw suggestion in my 061945.
SECRET

August (GCT)

12 0455 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMGEN SAMOA.

HiCom. Request comment CG SAMOA 091942. It is my present intention to direct relief as necessary of following SAMOAN Marines by Army troops your area about 15 October. 22nd Marines, 2nd, 7th and 8th Defense Battalions.

12 2245 CINCPAC to COMGEN SAMOA

This is HiCom. Expect 20 DUKW's paren General Motors Amphibious trucks paren will arrive HANETITE about 12 Sept. without crews but with 3 technicians fully qualified in maintenance and as instructors. Crews to be supplied from your command. Persons able to run standard trucks with small boat experience required. After suitable experiments request your opinion desirability obtaining these craft in large numbers for ship shore and shore shore moves thru surf over coral.

13 0044 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC Info COMGEN SAMOA, COMCINCOPAC.

This most secret. Urdis 120455. Requirements listed ComGen Samoa 091942 appear adequate, however availability Army AA and WD in SoPac for this relief dependent on arrival this area of Army units already allocated but whose shipping date is unknown. ComGenSoPac now attempting to ascertain shipping dates these units. Unless Oranges 1 to 4 arrive prior to date for Samoan relief, only means available for Samoan relief involve stripping either Efate or Fiji entirely of AA and WD.

11 1715 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info Vice CNO, COMSERVPAC.

HiCom Utmost secret. Urdis 090043. Para 1. Probable near total requested E22 freighters can be allocated under NT3 civilian manned. Earliest practicable information required loading ports and dates. Para 2. No additional AF available. Will continue Flying Haad in Hawaii service (Vice CNO 101930) obviate this requirement. Para 3. AO 63-87 (inclusive complete shakedown west coast and 53-54 east coast between 15 October and 25 November. Only additional possibility is allocation 4 WSCA tankers 14.5 knots 138,000 barrel capacity each ready West Coast early October. Considering present favorable status Pearl stocks advise your exact requirements. Para 4. 2 ACG assigned SoPac complete shakedown 11 September. 2 SoWestPac and 1 PacFlt 1 October. All East Coast but can be loaded Gulf ports for combat zone direct. Para 5. Final action all items will follow receipt information and recommendations requested above.
14 0325 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info VICE CNO, COMSTEVVPAC.

HiCom Utmost secret. Para 1. In early September expect to furnish you loading ports and times for freighters. Urdu 111715. Most probable ports are San Francisco and Hueneme with few at Pearl. Para 2. Assignment Flying Squad helps but does not entirely solve AP problem. Suggest allocation 2nd vessel that type be deferred for present. Para 3. Question of tankers was not fuel stocks Pearl which are rapidly reaching high level but for supporting operations to westward. Controlling need is about 13 Fleet type AC with but in rear of assault forces. There are or will be available sufficient A's this purpose but assembling and readying these for movement involves some idle time and loss to freighting service on which many now engaged. For that reason 7 additional AO were requested. If AC 83-87 and 53-54 will definitely be available by dates you mention my request for 7 more AC can be held in abeyance. Para 4. Since need for AOC's is urgent all areas recommend no change in assignments those you mention and that efforts be made to acquire more

14 2137 COMNORPAC to CINCPAC.

Contingent upon favorable weather APA's should be unloaded and withdrawn from PHIBARM by D plus 5 day, the 1 AKA by D plus 8 and LST's by D plus 4. Probably not more than 2 APA's can sail PEARL direct with full equipment. Others will require replacement of boats and special equipment. Repairs to LST's will doubtlessly be required before departing this area. With docking facilities now available PORRIDGE plus recent experience considerable repairs can be accomplished locally. ComNORPAC replying to CINCPAC 102215. Every effort will be made expedite departure ships concerned. Will keep you informed as tactical situation develops and it can be determined how release of subject ships is affected by weather, lack of protected anchorages, constricted souther beaches and evacuation wounded.

15 0715 CINCPAC to COMINCH, COMNORPAC Info COMGEN WDC.

Although I see no immediate probability of move to Kuriles from Aleutians because of commitments Pac Fleet in Central and South Pacific believe Army troops employed at ATTU and for COTTAGE should be retained in Aleutians as recommended by General DeWitt's letter of 30 July to Chief of Staff Army. Moreover, these troops are equipped, trained and acclimated for sub arctic duty. By keeping troops at the jump off points we may exploit promptly any situation permitting temporary shift to north of major fleet strength. Substantial additions to Pac Fleet from other theatres would of course increase our offensive ability and tempo in all three Pacific Ocean Areas simultaneously. Recommend ADAK for main base above use in addition to my 070405 July. Increased activity of British Eastern Fleet off Malay barrier also would tend to create favorable situation. Kindly deliver to General DeWitt.
SECRET
August (OCT)

6017 15th MARSHALL to RICHARDSON Pass to CINCPAC.

Construction and defense of bombing strip on RAKER ISLAND and necessary interchange of troops to form RAKER ISLAND garrison comma reference used four nine zero seven August six comma is within authority delegated to you as ComSubCom/CentPac by Ourad six zero zero four August fourteen para For personal attention of Richardson from Marshall semi-colon pass to CINCPac, para authority delegated thereby will not repeat serve to automatically create the requirement for additional troops within the Central Pacific Area para previous instructions re rpt re twenty seventh division and port companies for Central Pacific operations will remain in effect except for any changes recommended by you with concurrence CINCPac.

11 2125 VICE CNO to CINCPAC.

Its HiCom. Your 082049 and ComSubCom/CentPac 091806 Army transferring 20 DUKWs no personnel immediately. In order to assure availability procurement being initiated 100 DUKWs prior October 15. Monthly rates follow 100 in December and January 200 in February, March, April 100 May, June, July August, September. Request comment adequacy against possible requirements Pacific areas not covered Army schedule 30Pac listed my 061940 and recommendations as to operation by Army Navy or Marine personnel.

16 0337 CINCPAC to VICE CNO.

Pending results employment equipment Urdis 112125 in KOLEHILL am not prepared now to comment proposed procurement program. This is HiCom. It appears more than ample unless use elsewhere has demonstrated utility under conditions similar to those existing in Pacific. Consider immaterial which service provides operators but they should accompany vehicles until sufficient trained men in field are available.

15 2255 COMGEN SAMOA to CINCPAC.

HiCom. Following guns and automatic weapons available Urdis 152033. Numbers refer to weapons in 2nd, 5th, 7th and 8th defense battalions in that order. 155mm: 4; 4; 4; 8 5. 90mm guns: all battalions 12. 40mm guns: 0; 14; 6; 10. 37mm AA guns: 4; 0; 4; 0. 20mm guns: 12; 8; 12; 12. .50 caliber MG: all battalions 2 or more. .30 caliber MG: all battalions 30 or more. 2nd Defense has 8 Navy 5 inch 51 caliber guns.
16 1451 COMINCH to VICE CNO Info CINCPAC, COMSERYPAC, COM-12, NUCOM, SERYPAC.

Most Secret. CINCPac 140325 not to all adees (1) arrange NSA allocation to NTS of 18 EC 2 freighters civilian crews. By 15 October place these ships at disposal CINCPac for Central Pacific operations. CINCPac in early September will designate loading ports (probably some each San Francisco, Hueneme and a few at Pearl) and dates. (2) Similar allocation and employment 15 additional EC 2 freighters to be available to CINCPac by 1 December. (3) Arrange allocation to CINCPac 4 Swan Island type tankers to be ready West Coast loading ports in September or October.

16 1452 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info VCNCO.

Most secret HiCom. Urdis 140325 paragraphs 1 and 2 action contained in mydis 161451 to Vinc CNO. Paragraph 2 no further action pending receipt additional recommendations after adequacy present set up has been tested. Paragraph 4 present assignments AGCS will stand. Additional this type on order yet deliveries cannot be expected before second quarter in 1944. Possibility exists of obtaining by 1 October 4 new 810 ton 9 knot 1 product tankers from Army. If obtained do you want them in CentPac.

17 1901 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info 4th MarDiv, 5thPhib, PhibTraPac.

Present schedule for West Coast Amphibious Training requires 4th Marine Division to complete by 1 December when training of Army Division yet to be designated will begin.

17 2302 COMGEN SAMOA to CINCPAC Info COMSOPAC

HiCom. In view of delayed arrival of LSTs at FUNAFUTI all dates my revised Annex C to secret serial A0 956 for occupation of North Island delayed approximately 10 days. Ref. ComTransGroup SoPac 171022.

18 2203 CINCPAC to COMGEN SAMOA.

HiCom. My 152033 referred to combat equipment of defense battalions as they will be organized for future operations. Understand your 180530 as equipment that will be left in Samcan area available to relief defense forces. If this is true desire that all 155mm guns be assigned to defense battalions which are to be moved forward. Letter regarding groupment of these weapons being forwarded by officer messenger.

19 0317 CINCPAC to COM 3RD FLEET Info COMINCH

How many APA and AKA can you furnish ComGen 2nd MarDiv at Wellington by 15 October for Galvanic.

1792
August (CCT)

13 2125 DEWITT to ADMIRAL NIMITZ.

Reference ComNorPac 120913 August 12. See para. 12 my letter to Chief of Staff Army July 30 as to agreement by us on location base ALEUTIANS. As ADAK fulfills all requirements and Kinkaid agrees, hope you will confirm selection and support retention of troops as recommended my letter and so inform CominCh. Favorable action by Joint Chiefs of Staff will profit only development proceed rapidly upon completion COTTAGE Have already initiated preliminary steps subject confirmation higher authority. For Admiral Minitz only.

19 1758 COMINCH to CINCPAC, CGWDC Info COMNORPAC.

Handle this with utmost secrecy. In as much as there has been no opposition in KI'A'A the Joint Chiefs of Staff direct that the 1st Special Service Force be evacuated to the United States without delay, utilizing transports immediately available.

19 1825 VCMO to CINCPAC Info COMSEVPAC.

This is HiCom. Your 270349 July. For procurement organization and training proper components require similar statement of your needs for GALVANIC in order to meet Target Date. While plans not sufficiently definite needs can be stated in 2 parts viz. Form and Forecast with proximate dates required on West Coast.

20 0031 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info COMNORPAC.

HiCom. JCS 202204 paragraph six. Propose ultimate NorPac Force on completion COTTAGE 3 RICHMONDS plus DesRon 24 and CortDiv 14 general relief plan accordance my 200045. Approval requested.

20 0045 CINCPAC to COMNORPAC Info COMINCH.

If My Dis 200031 approved general relief plan is (A) BatDiv 3 LOUISVILLE to NTPS. WICHITA MORRIS MUSSTIN. NMYI. Half DesRon 1 San Fran Area. SANTA FE PENNSYLVANIA RANGCOFT CALDWELL COGLAN to PEARL (B) BatDiv 2. Half DesRon 1 CruDiv 1 DesRon 14 less RANGCOFT COGHLAN CALDWELL plus RACE to NMYI/ San Fran Area. (C) Upon return CruDiv 1 and RACE send PORTLAND SAN FRANCISCO (CA)8 SALT LAKE CITY to a West Coast Area later determined. ANDERSON HUSSLELL to PEARL. Modifications above for providing escorts and to meet current situation authorized. Object of these moves to Coast repairs. personnel replenishment and short rest period. This is HiCom.
SECRET

Auguet (CST)

21 0011 CINCINC to CINCINC info CINCINC

This is HICOM. Reply to your 180317 depends on action taken on
my 201000 to CINCINSCOR to CINCINC and CINCINC.

21 0252 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info COMINCH

HICOM. Your 200031 approved.

21 0820Z COMINCH to CINCINC Info CINCINC DEFUSIUS FOKLAND, CHIEF OF
STAFF ARMY.

Wish following message be sent CINCINC Info CINCINC DEFUSIUS FOKLAND and CHIEF OF
STAFF ARMY quote Joint Chiefs of Staff consider
7th Division should be moved from Kiska to Hawaii for employment in
MARSHALL ISLAND Campaign utilizing combat loaders now at Kiska for
transportation. Other troops except for special service force
already ordered moved are to remain in the ALASKANS. Number 8 from
COMINCH, Para 2. Joint Chiefs of Staff have decided PAPANWORTH
Operation probably impracticable before spring 1944. Para 3. Desire
you consult Richardson as to whether accommodations and training
facilities for 7th Division can be provided until about January 1
when this division will be employed. The remainder of the 8th
Division is now scheduled to arrive HAWAII during September. If
division can be accommodated and trained and you approve Joint
Chiefs of Staff direct you initiate movement without delay.
Note: To be handled as HICOM per CNO.

21 2355 CINCINC to COMINCH Info COMINCH

HICOM. Modify my 200045 WICHITA to NPS, LOUISVILLE remain NAPA for
present, INDIANAPOLIS to San Fran Area report CINCPAC for routing PEARL.

22 0211 CINCINC to COMINCH, CONGEN WRC, CONGEN HAND DEPT, VCHNO.

HICOM. Direct XAP and XAK your area load 7th Army Division with equip-
ment proceed direct PEARL. Modify mydis 200445 as necessary to provide
escorts. 3 APA mentioned Para D mydis 182367 available if required.
Advise names of vessels to VCHNO who is requested to place them under
temporary control CINCPAC for this movement. Designation to 12.5 as-
signed.

22 0215 CINCINC to COMINCH Info COMINCH

Repying your 162367 and 060415. This is utmost secret. After opera-
tions begin do not contemplate using hospital facilities your area ex-
cept such as may be available over and above your needs at that time.
It is expected that at least one of APH now in SoPac will require di-
version to CINCPAC when necessity arises.

22 1846 CINCINC to COMINCH.

HICOM. Initiate movements my 200045 as modified by my 212365 as promptly
as circumstances permit keeping me advised. Particularly desire early
movement CruDiv 1 and BACHE to San Francisco for 2 weeks visit and return

Continued -
SECRET
August (GCT)

21 2249 CINCPAC to VICE CNO Info COMSINCPAC.

Data requested Urdis 191825 in possession Captain Steele now enroute Washington. Utmost Secret. This matter will also be discussed in my reply Urdis 171839.
22 0445 CINCPAC to COMOPAC: (Continued).

...to be read so that they may relieve ships temporarily lost that area will be required elsewhere. In general, the ships not sent next 2 or 3 weeks except those given longer availability at dry yards.

22 0447 CINCPAC to COMOPAC: INFORMATION.

This is COLO. Second and final part. ComNORPAC 220647: CINCPAC is about 500 miles from AAF, about the same distance from JAP, and 500 more from important industrial areas of Japan. JAP will not strike the Central Base Area at all existing stations. All types planes including P-40's with heavy tanks can be flown from AAF to JAP. The 500 mile supply route from Seattle to FPO CANADA is protected throughout 4,5 of the distance by strong chain bases. There are now in the Aleutians about 50,000 troops, including the 7th Division, trained and equipped for amphibious operations in northern climates. This dispatch prepared before receipt year 220647, and sent in order you may have my views.

22 0935 COMOPAC to CINCPAC, SUBCINC:

1st of 2 parts my 220647. This refers to CINCPAC 211717 which is same as DC 210820. Same set of reference indicates probability NARAUNIC operation next spring with some possibility of undertaking prior thereto. COMOPAC is strongly impressed by fact that NARAUNIC-SUSUKI Area is now in early stages of development which is progressing rapidly. Its capture and occupation would be far less costly now than it was the spring. Because of threat to Japanese mainland and industrial area, its capture would precipitate violent enemy reaction, possibly major fleet action, and would draw enemy forces from the South Pacific. Following are pertinent facts. Reasonably good weather in the Aleutian-Kurile area ends about 15 November.

23 0019 COMOPAC to CINCPAC:

HiCom. Initial movements your 182357, 200445, 212355 and 220445 scheduled as follows: X departures from SHIP on dates indicated. CruDiv 1 INDIANAPOLIS, TENSESS, ZEILLIN, J. FRANKLIN HELL, SABRIS BANDOORT, PRASIA, DREAD, JANIE, BACRE FOR SAN FRANCISCO 24th, ZEILLIN thence SAN FRANCISCO, MICHIGAN, V. MEXICO, MISSISSIPPI, IOAN, MORG, MOUTH, HOMES thence POICET Sound about 27th, MORTIC, MOUTH, HOMES thence SAN FRANCISCO. New subject. CruDiv 4 (Nem Admiral Wright) will transfer from INDIANAPOLIS temporarily to DJUO on 24th, then to LOUISVILLE 26th.
SECRET

August (GCT)

24 0841 JUNCTAC to COMNORPAC. HiCom.

Completion KSIA operations and present relative inactivity NorPac area does not lessen necessity of planning for future operations and continued training as forces are made available for amphibious or other operations. Your 232213. NinthPhib which includes its commander is assigned NorPacForce. ComNorPac arrange as necessary for establishment of NinthPhib for Headquarters afloat or afloat.

24 0928 COMHORPAC to CINCPAC, COM 11, COMWESTSEAFRON Info CINCHIN, VICE CNO, COMSERTAC, SUBORCMDSERVAC.

Utmost Secret. Times GCT. Lats North Longs West. TG 16.14 as follows. CombatDiv 2 in TENNESSEE, ComCruDiv 1 in RICHMOND, ComCruCor 14 in GAMSEYPORT, ComTrans 9th Phib in ZEILLN, HARTSF, HAYWOOD, J. FRANKLIN DELL, INDIANAPOLIS, RALEIGH, DETROIT, FRAZIER, MEADE, EDWARDS BACHIE. When ready about O100 August 25 TG 16.14 depart Adak. Proceed in company at speed advance 15 as follows. North of chain and ANKTA PASS to Point A (Lat. 51-30 Long. 170) then Great Circle Route to Point B (Lat. 39-00 Long. 127-00). Upon arrival point B when directed by TG Com, ComTrans 9th Phib in ZEILLN proceed San Diego to arrive about 1500 September lst. Remainder TG proceed San Francisco to arrive about 1000 August 31st. ComWestSeafraon and Com 11 are requested provide local escort in their respective areas for ZEILLN from Point B to destination and air coverage for all units. After arrival San Francisco CruDiv 1 operate accordance separate orders from ComNorPac and other units according further orders from CINCPac. Communications. accordance with USF 70 A and TarPac supplement thereto.

24 0930 CONTASKGR 20.15 to CINCHIN, CINCPAC, CINCLANT, COMUNELSEAFRON, COMCARISEAFRON, COMFANTSAFON, SOTA HAMTON ROYCE, COMCSTRAFRON, COM 8th PHIB.

This is HiCom. Also reencipherment due 240012. Task Group 20.15 constituted as follows. LEONARD COW, CALVIN, MONTIC: MONTANA. WILLIAM F. HICKS, HARRY LEW, BELLEFAM, ARMS, VIRCO, FOLLOX, TURJER, BERRAS, KEID, BUEHRM, O BOWELL, OESTRUD, PAPWS. DONOEY. Depart gate Hampton Roads 0630 24(44) August 24 destination base LOVE. Speed of advance 15 knots. Route to destination through following points: (A) Lat. 30-24 Long. 72-52 (B) Lat. 24-06 Long. 74-06 (C) Lat. 22-00 Long. 74-48 (D) Lat. 18-44 Long. 74-00 (E) Lat. 15-23 Long. 75-06 (F) Lat. 12-00 Long. 76-46 (G) Lat. 10-00 Long. 79-55

ETA SanFrancisco 2100 August 27. Caribbearn 0500 August 27. Panama 0600 August 29 ETA BOLIVAR BIGHT 0700 August 30. Remainder Task Group proceeding through point 3 1300 same date. ETA CINCPAC 1600 August 30. Highest order JICOM messages hold 13C 160 13C 121 13C 160 QIP b. Request air coverage

1797
SECRET

August (07)

25 0215 CINCPAC to COMNORPAC Info COMINCH.

Desire you prepare plan for seizure Northern KURILS and establishment bases therein. Include forces required logistic support necessary, estimate of time required for preparation and execution, etc. Assume RUSSIAN neutrality, but provide for alternatives in case the Soviets enter Japanese War. Amplifying letter will follow.

25 0235 CINCPAC to COMPAESEAFRON Info COMINCH COMSOPAC COMPAESEAFRON COM 11 COM 5thPhili

Form TC 12, 5: NEXVILLE, LEO NARD WOOD, MOONROVA, CALVERT, HARRY LEE, E.R. BIDDE, ALCYONE, VTRIO, BELLATRix, ENGSTROM, DONPEF, WILLIAM C MILLER (DE 269) route to SAN DIEGO unload. Best speed of advance consistent with logistics. Thence report ComPasSEAFRON for reloading and onward routing 6th Infantry Division to PEARL.

25 0631 COMNORPAC to CINCPAC.

Following message from Gen. DeWitt "7th Signal Company specially organized and equipped for communication purposes landing operations now at Kiska strength 9 offices 157 men. Unit participated ATTU and Kiska. Available for coming operations but not organic unit 7th Division and not included in movement. This unit will be made available to you if desired". HiCom.

25 0850 TELL 11 TO TELL 11 Info CINCPAC, HICOM

To (g-order 1-43. Subject to orders by 30 Sep 1940. New hour in daylight local. Landing commences on signal from CT.

25 0945 COMNORPAC to CINCPAC, JTF 57, Task Unit 16.15.4. (Jap List) in PEAR.
HARRA, WYNN, CALWELL, ROMAN, Info JPAORG, HICOM, HICOM, COMNORPAC, CINCPAC, VICE FC.

Times JST. Port secret. Late North Base. Base. Task Unit 16.15.4 proceed ABAY to BASE NATOR as follows. When ready about 4 hours August 20 Depart ABAY via route North of "A" thence "M" BASE to Joint 7 (Lat 51-56 Long 171-36) thence via 3975 1170 to Point 6 (Lat 71-33 Long 173-40). Speed advance 14. Arrive destination about 1720 September 1st. Upon arrival Task Organization canceled and report to CINPAC. Communications. "27th and Indoor supplement therein. At 0400 GMT August 24th cease guarding 4" I Fox and thereafter guard 7" I Fox. New subject. CINPAC requested issue necessary instructions regarding freight mail and personnel for action units.

26 0406 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info CINCPAC 9TH VARIUS DEVIATIONS 3 AXELPER

This is HiCom. Present tentative assignment to you for employment by FIPFTH Info area. APA's with data arrival your area HARRIS HOMMU HENK X J.K. BELL A "DIPLOMAT" APA OCTOBER 1 October APA PELAN 15 September ANPEN 16 September. PILOT 16-30 OCTOBER. PHASE I November cargo characteristics and troop capacities will be forwarded air mail by Com-ComAsFor as data available.

1798
HiCom. All times GMT. Task Group 12.3 arrives PEARL buoy number 1 at 2230 Sept 8 via route points longitude west latitude north following:

G 79-34 09-02
H 79-33 07-29
J 80-11 09-39
J 81-52 09-38 GREAT CIRCLE to K
V 156-32 19-02
I 157-57 20-17

Point of departure Point G 2300 26th August. Speed of advance 12 knots. Will shift to Honolulu forived 0000 August 31st. Rad Hanson in South Dakota Alabama Bullard Burns Huggon and Vido.

Vice CNO to CINCPAC Info COM 12, CAUSE VPAC, COMESSEXAFRON.

HiCom. In addition to 3 replacement SWAN ISLAND tankers by 261730 four similar tankers will be allocated to you during October in compliance with CINCPAC sealed secret 161451 to Vice CNO. Commencing with October SWAN ISLAND tankers will be delivered equipped with reconnaissance decks. Present plans do not contemplate equipping any of the foregoing tankers with fueling at sea gear unless requested by you.

COMINCH to CINCPAC Info DEWITT, COMINCH, COMESSEXAFRON.

This is HiCom. Your 262201 Chief of Staff US Army and CINCPAC approve assignment 75th Signal Co to you and transfer to PEARL with 7th Div.

CINCPAC 261245 proceed with your Headquarters and required corps troops to PEARL report ComFifthPhibFor for command of troops for imminent amphibious combat duty. Release to other authorities the corps troops under your command you consider not required for these operations Para Headquarters and personal quarters for your staff and corps troops will be provided at Schofield Para Acknowledge. Advise as to your plans and date you desire a transport at SAN DIEGO giving numbers officers and enlisted, number and square footage of vehicles and mobile weapons, weight and cubage other freight Para Desire Gen Smith and principal staff officers proceed PEARL by air in advance to arrive soon as practicable. This is most secret.
This is part 1 of CommorPac 270630. Most Secret. Task Unit 16.15.3
Near Admiral Ushen in Wichita, Commodore in New Mexico, Mississippi.  
Mississippi, Task Unit 16.15.3 plus Russell and Anderson depart ARAK when ready about 2 hours after August. Proceed via route north and south and ARAK to point C (Lat 51-10 Long 161). From Point C and Mississippi return ARAK via reverse track and Task Unit proceed to point How (Lat 49-10 Long 129) to arrive 4 hours September 4th.

This is 2nd and final part of CommorPac 270630. Most Secret. At point 4, when directed by Task Unit Commander, Mississippi, Task Unit Mississippi proceeds San Francisco in company via Point 1 (Lat 56 Long 127) and thence direct to arrive destination about 22 hours September 6th. Wichita and New Mexico proceed afloat to arrive about 23 hours Sept 4th. CommorWest-SeaPac requested provide escorts for Wichita and New Mexico from Point 1 Communications. According USF 70A and PacFleet supplement thereto. Upon arrival destination, ships proceed Navy Yards in accordance availability granted by CommorPac and as directed by local frontier command. Task Unit designation expires upon arrival Point H.

This is most secret. Your 270727 General is the same. By 20 officers and a limited plan depart San Francisco for Wichita. This is necessary to the mission and therefore cannot be released. No further advice will be forthcoming until officers involved are authorized to be furnished later.

This is most secret. Your planning next move. Your 271629 will take been force under your command. Question.

Task Unit 16.15.4 Commodore 28 in Bancroft SIABA. Late North Logca west. Times OCT. Most secret. When ready about 3 hours August 28 Task Unit 16.15.4 depart ARAK. Proceed to Pearl Harbor via route as follows. Aukauk Pass to Point U (latitude 51-50 Long 175-86) thence via MHUB line to Point K (Lat 52-10 Long 180-86) thence to destination to arrive about 18 hours September 5. Upon arrival task organization cancelled and report to CincPac. Communications USF 70A and PacFleet supplement thereto. At 5 hours OCT August 31st cease guard MPO Fox and thereafter guard MPH Fox. New subject. CincPac requested issue necessary instructions regarding freight mail and personnel for action ships.
SECRET

August (GCT)

30 1335 VICE CNC to CINCPAC Info ARMY COMGENCENTPAC CONSERNPAC.

Your 160337 and 082049. HiCom. believe Army procurement and planning of any DUKWs needed Central Pacific most efficient method. Army will make available ComGenCentPac 100 DUKWs prior December 1 if desired any additional requested thereafter and will arrange with HiCom provision trained personnel.

31 1306 COMINCH to CINCPAC.

A HiCom. This modifies my 062131. You are authorized to delay returning ASHLAND (LSD-1) until 20 November.

31 1739 VCNO to CINCPAC Info COM 12 CONDE ComMorPac ComGenNewDept CIBF.

Treat as HiCom. Ref your 302041 and my 251840 not to all addresses.

Army and WSA desire vessels returned as follows: San Francisco - WHITE TUJASDAKE, ROC, FAILING, PERIDA, CHIRIKOF, SACAJAWEA, Seattle - FILLMORE, JULIAN, BRANCH, WHITNEY. CinCPac pass Info to Gen Bennons and To Chesterly.

31 1901 TO 12.5 to COM 15, COMINCH CINCPAC COMWEBAFRON COMPANSAFRON BYU.

This is HiCom. TO 12.5 in LEONARD WOOD with MOYERIA, CALVERT, HARRY LES, WN P BIDDLE, LECBEAR, VIRGO, BELLATRIX, NEVILLE, ENGSTRON, DOWFRIT, MCDONNELL, ETA station vessel BALBOA channel entrance 1530 R (x). Route to destination through following points.

(B) Lat 07-29 Long 79-30 (H) Lat 23-32 Long 112-27

(8) 07-03 81-48 (J) 28-07 116-57

(8) 17-57 105-45 (K) 32-22 116-20

Speed of advance 13.5 knots. ETA WestSeaFrom 1600 OCT Sept 3rd. ETA entrance gate SAN DIEGO 1400 OCT Sept 9. QRA 7, QPD 18. For schedule shifted from WBA to NPG at 0000 OCT Sept 3rd. Request air coverage in areas where available.

31 2340 MNAV C WELINGTON to COMSOPAC Info CINCPAC.

This is most secret. Lieut. Webster REENWR released by NZ Government to CinCPac for 6 months duty. UrDis 300031. Request priority air travel AUCKLAND to PEARL.

31 2130 CG CENTPAC to WDCSA Info CINCPAC.

ReMyRad 5274 dated 27 August 42 and UrDis 6277 dated 29 August 43. The 27th Division is marked for GALVANIC Operation. In addition and for planning purposes CinCPac has indicated 5 divisions, of which 1 or 2 will be Marine, will be needed for GALVANIC and BANANATE Operations. All six divisions will be staged and rehabilitated in this department throughout these operations. 10 Army defense battalions each of approximately 1200 men are to be organized and trained here for the occupation and defense of captured bases. The 7th Air Force is to be prepared to operate 4 advanced Army air bases. Preliminary studies indicate that the combined Army defense battalions and service personnel required to execute the above plans on schedule will

- Continued -
31 2130 CG CENTPAC - Continued -

Total approximately as indicated in MyRad 8274 dated 37th Aug. 43. At the moment the plans not sufficiently crystallized nor have I had sufficient information from CinCPac to integrate into my recommended priority list the units required. The shipping situation is appreciated but it was met until receipt of Urad 8277 of the 29th that probable number of available spaces had been indicated it is assumed that the shipping you refer to as available for troop lift to Central Pacific for October, November, and December includes both Army and Navy personnel. MyRad 8274 of the 27th was to keep you informed of the probable requirements for Central Pacific Operations, as indicated by plans to date and based on missions assigned in projected operations. Upon completion of my studies at the earliest practicable date you will be furnished with best possible firm list for November and December priorities and requests for changes in October priorities will be kept to a minimum.

30 2210 COMINCH & CNO to CINCPAC Info VCNO, COMMONWESTSEAFROM, COMDAlASKA SECTOR, COMORPAC.

Very Secret Hicom, ComNorPac 190820 VCNO hereby authorized to go ahead with plan ComNorWestSeaFrom 082259 or such changes in it as CinCPac may recommend, bearing in mind that KODIAK continues to be main ALASKA base and that ADAK is principal advance base and that duplications of facilities at other bases must be avoided.

01 1839 VICE CNO to CINCPAC Info COM 12, COMGEN WEST DEFENSE COM, COMMONWESTSEAFROM, COMGHANDDEP, COMORPAC.

Cancel my 311739. This is Hicom. Army and WSA desire vessels returned as follows: SAN FRANCISCO: WYETH, TJISDALE, ROW, PERIDA, CHIRIKOF, FILMORE, WHITNEY, SEATTLE: JULIAN, BRANCH, FAILING, SACAJAWEA.

02 0213 COMORPAC to CINCPAC.

Most Secret Hicom, My 262250. New estimate departure KAP's from PORIRIO. September 5th. President Fillmore branch JULIAN, WYETH, SACAJAWEA, PERIDA, TJISDALE, ROW, CHIRIKOF. Escorts PEOPLES, DAVE HULL, MONAGAHAN, SICARD, FRUIT. Contemplate covering above movement with NorPac cruiser group as far south as 45th parallel and furnishing air coverage, weather permitting. Departing ADAK about September 16 JOSIAH D'WHITNEY and GEORGE FLAVER. Escorts FRANT LONG and CHANDLER.

02 0425 COMSOPAC to COMGEN NEW GEORGIA, COMGEN GUADAL, CONTRABAND GROUP, CTF 34A, FNAC, COMSOPAC Info COMINCH, CINCPAC, COMMONWESTSEAFROM, CONORD JOAF, COMSERSOPAC.

This is Most Secret. Take necessary action to effect following divisional movements. 3rd NEW ZEALAND Division relieved 35th, 36th, 43rd in Central SOLOMONS. Upon relief by 3rd NEW ZEALAND Division, 37th to COMMONWESTSEAFROM, 43rd to GUADALCANAL, 25th to NEW CALEDONIA. AMERICAN available at FIJI 1 November. ComSersOpac after conference with action ades submit prepared plan for movement of units concerned, including arrangements for command support and sequence. Make maximum exchange equipment to reduce shipping burden. For next operation make preparations use 3rd March 1944Target Date 1 Nov. 37th Division in assault with AMERICAN DIVISION at FIJI in support.
Highly Secret

Joint Chiefs of Staff - 012118 (September)

to: CinCPac.

Tasks

A. Organize and train forces for amphibious operations in the Central Pacific.

B. Secure control of the Marshall Islands by capturing, occupying, defending and developing bases therein.

C. Upon completion or during the accomplishmen of Task B seize or control Wake, Eniwetok, and Kusaie.

Purposes

To prepare to gain control of the Carolines.

To inflict losses on the enemy.

To improve the security of the lines of communications.

To support other operations in the Pacific and Indian Ocean by extending the pressure on the Japanese.

Concept of Operations

That coming operations for capture of defended bases will be mounted at Pearl and selected positions in the South Pacific Area and that separate objectives will be seized by simultaneous attacks.

Forces

A. Surface forces, combatant Pacific Fleet (tentative estimated requirements 6 BB, 7 DBB, 6 CV, 6 CVL, 7 CVKS, 12 CA, 3 CI (AA), 95 DD, 16 AH, 8 DE) and amphibious ships and craft assigned by Fifth Phib. Non-combatant (to be added to Pacific Areas above current levels) 33 AK, 2 AF, 4 AO, 6 AOG.

B. Air forces, Pacific Fleet naval aircraft exclusive of those assigned for employment in the South and Southwest Pacific Areas, plus units of the 7th Air Force.

C. Amphibious and Ground Troops, 4th Marine Division, 22nd Marines reinforced, 7th Army Infantry Division, 4 Marine Defense Battalions or Army equivalent, 4 advanced air base assemblies.
J.C.S. - 012116 (September) -Continued- 

FORCES *Cont'd

4 Naval base personnel units, 4 Argus units, 2 Marine Group Headquarters and Service Squadrons, 4 Army Air Service Squadrons, 3 Army Aviation Engineer Battalions, 1 Port battalion.

COMMAND

As specified by Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

TARGET DATE

Target date for Task B, 1 January 1944 contingent upon the successful completion of the GILBERT Operations. Assume continuance of currently planned CARTWHEEL Operations and that Post-CARTWHEEL Operations will be initiated about February 1944 for further advances in NEW GUINIA and against NEW IRELAND and the ADMIRALTY ISLANDS.
SECRET

September (GCT)

03 0519 COM 3RD PLT TO CINCPAC.

This is most secret. Present intention reorganize 3rd Fleet Task Forces as follows effective about 14 September. Task Force 37 Rear Admiral Davis BatDiv 6 MASSACHUSETTS ALABAMA Desron 45 SELFRIDGE RALPH TALBOT PATTERSON. Task Force 38 Rear Admiral Sherman BARATOGA BRETON PRINCE WILLIAM CruDiv 11 Desron 12 DesDiv 15. Task Forces 31, 32, 33, 34 and 39 unchanged. Task Forces 38 and 39 based ESPERITU. Task Force 37 bases HAVANA. Approval requested.

01 2143 VICE CNO TO CINCPAC, COM 12, INFO COMSERNVAC SUBCOM.

Para 1. In other correspondence the Joint Chiefs of Staff have indicated the availability of 9 AP for future joint Central Pacific operations. This is HICOM. Para 2. It is requested that CINCPAC inform COM 12 of his requirements and arrange with him for the designation of the vessels subject to final approval of the Vice CNO. Para 3. By this method and early action it is anticipated that COM 12 can arrange the most satisfactory solution. Para 4. The following should be considered in selecting vessels: SubPara A. Suitability for support combat operations. Sub Para B. Effect on transporting personnel of the joint priority list. Para C. Probable desirability of having as many as practicable Navy manned HTS transports included. Para D. Assigning desired vessels to Pearl run in order to keep them in position. Sub Para E. Returning transports from South and Southwest Pacific direct to Pearl, or as designated by CINCPAC. Para 5. Army and WSA vessels allocated to Army will be considered in selecting vessels. Para 6. Keep Vice CNO informed of pertinent matters in making above arrangements.

05 2135 COMCENPAC TO CINCPAC INFO COMSUBPAC, COM 5TH PHIB.

Request NAUTILUS be made available about 16 September for operations to be proposed to COMSUBPAC by COM 5th Phib. HICOM.

05 1912 COMINCH TO CINCPAC INFO CINCPACFOR.

HICOM. Your 270355 of July. Cominch requests information forces covering ELLICE ISLAND Operation.

08 0203 CINCPAC TO COMGENTPAC INFO COMINCH, MARCORUS, COM 14.

For operations JCS 012115 not to all addressees desire you secure four Army equivalent of Marine Defense Battalions. New Subject. To provide Marine Defense Battalion for BANCRATE desire Army relieve 1st Marine Defense Battalion at PALMYRA by 15 October. Consider present garrison at CHRISTMAS can be redistributed to provide adequate defense for both CHRISTMAS and PALMYRA.

08 1925 COMINCH TO CINCPAC.

HICOM. Preliminary study by Joint Chiefs of Staff indicates Pacific troop lift critical until at least June 1944. Effect of shortages on operations being examined. For use in this connection request immediate estimate your troop lift required in AP's referred to in VCMO 012149 together with location date and total time AP's may be required. In view of above it is essential that the demands upon AP availability be kept at a minimum.
SECRET

September (307)

09 2131 CINCPAC to COMGENCENTPAC Info COMCHNCH, MACORISLS, COM 14.

Desire you furnish by 15 November 3 Army Defense Battalions for Central Pacific operations. There are in addition to units mentioned in my 080203. This is Hicom.

09 1801 CINCPAC to ADMSLLS Nimitz, Halsey, Carpenter General MAINT for CENTPAC, ComOCEANCOM, ComOPAC.

Hicom. For Admiral Nimitz Halsey Carpenter only letter pass to General MacArthur. British may offer use of 2 VANGUARDS 2 VALIANT 5 to 6 cruisers and 7 to 9 destroyers in U.S. pacific theater of operations from about November 1st for 3 to 4 months. Addressees comment on use to which each could make of these ships during stated period.

11 1227 COMPTL to ATTLN Info COM 3RT FLE. CINCPAC.

Addressees only decode. Hicom. After conference with General MacArthur and with his concurrence submit following comment requested your 091801. An assignment draft outlined in your dispatch closely related to current and future operations this area following analysis is presented. Extant enemy contemplates 2 strong amphibious movements through Taiwan Strait for simultaneous occupation of Saipan and Cape Gloucester. Anticipate strong enemy surface air and submarine reaction will require stronger escort force to cover increased length and density of lines of communication. Fara. Require for accomplishment above tasks: A. 2 2000 search for close support and cover of amphibious operations. B. 4 cruisers and 9 destroyers to provide strong cover against surface forces in Solor and Bismark Seas and necessary additional strength for ocean escort. C. 4 Australian destroyers continue escort east of Wallace. End of Part 1. Part 2 follows.

11 2353 CINCPAC to COMSNAPAC Info ConGen SAVOA, COMCHNCH, CINCPAC.

To support action of my OPN 14-43 briefed in my dispatch 11227A desire if practicable you strike NAURU night of 19 Sept East long date. Purpose to deny air operations.

12 0251 CINCPAC to VICE JCG Info CINCPAC, COMICPAK, CYTFAC, CINCPAC, OPNAV. CINCPAC, COMICPAK, COMICPAK, JCG.

Floyd 140325 Aug and in reply units 092639 neither of which to all adms. Desire the 18 F3-2 assigned as follows: (A) As many as required to be made available to Cytfac for cargo loading of AGS and advanced base assemblies, Destination FRAY. These to be allocated to meet earliest possible readiness dates of base components for loading and two of them to be of converted type for troops. (B) Number necessary for landing craft unit Floyd 040639 units 091904 plus fuller cargoes of drummed petroleum products and dry provisions later to be designated. Destination Samana Area probably WALLIS. (C) At FRAY in early Oct one of trop converted type for which J. H. Kincaid then due is suggested. Request Cytfac advise estimated number of F3-2's remaining after above needs are met and will then either make this balance available for joint priority cargo list to FRAY or for other ConPac needs not now predictable.
SECRET

September (1277)

12 0359 CINCPLAN to COMUNCH Info COMSUBSFACTOR, CINCPLAN, COMPLAN, CENTCOM.

CINC. For Admiral King, Halsey and Carpenito, only latter pass to General MacArthur. If force mentioned your 04001 is assigned Pacific Fleet, it should operate as a unit and not as a mixed force. If in central Pacific it might be used as a separate covering or supporting force on the southern flank of NAVALIC (or letter operations). Logistic support including ammunition supply would add to complexities. Probable assignment would be to Solom Area and withdraw additional U.S. units to central Pacific for employment there. Follove best use units mentioned in to bolster British Eastern Fleet for attack on Japan's western defense perimeter, thereby widening their front that must be vigorously defended. If that is practical then assignment to 7th Fleet for similar purpose is indicated as more profitable than use in Pacific Ocean Areas. Such arrangement might permit greater freedom in moving units of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

12 0261 CINCPLAN to WIL CTC Info COMUNCH, CINCPAC, COMPLAN, COMPHIL, COMTWELE, COMCINCAP, CINCPAC, COMPLAN, COMSUBSFACTOR, COMTWELE, COMTWELE.

USS Piers 140325 Aug. and in reply USS 082039 neither of which to all areas. Desire the 18 EC-2 assigned as follows: (A) As now; as required to be made available to COMTWELE for cargo loading of NAVALIC advanced base assemblies, Destination FRAY. These to be allocated to meet earliest possible readiness dates of base components for landing and two of them should be of converted type for troops. (B) Further as necessary for landing craft unit USS 040659 USS 081004 plus filler cargoes of drums petroleum products and cry provisions later to be designated. Destination SAMAN AREA probably WOLUS. (C) At FRAY in early Sept. one of troop converted type for which USS KINSAID then due is suggested. Request COMTWELE advise estimated number of EC-2's remaining after above needs are met and will then either make this balance available for joint priority cargo list to FRAY or for other fleet needs not now predictable.

11 1234 COM 7TH FLEET to COMUNCH Info COM AND FLEET, CENTCOM.

COM. This is part 2 and last part of my 111027. In craft on west Coast AUSTRALIA perform tasks now assigned. This will require, refer to subparagraphs in order given above: At Lewis or retention of Div 7 now temporarily assigned, plus 1 additional Div 7. (A) British cruisers and 6 British destroyers. Craft available for despatch, plus SHROCKY available this area in October. 1 of these requested to replace AUSTRALIA and HUNGER for overland and neutralization. C. 4 Australian destroyers now available for escort East Coast AUSTRALIA. B. Craft now available west Coast AUSTRALIA. Also require retention 4 AIP's now temporarily assigned for amphibious operations. MELSONS and VALIENTS not suitable for current and pending operations this area.

1807
SECRET

September (GCT)

14 00427 COMAIRSCOLAC to COMAIRSOLS Info CINC PAC, COMSOLAC, COMSSAMOA, TP 16

This is most secret. Op Cdr 17-43. In order to reduce capacity enemy to hinder our central Pacific operations this force will strike TAUTU on night 18-19 September local date. Air Solomons attack with all practicable bombers air facilities and aircraft at NUKU Airlane.

14 0820 CINC PAC to COMINCH INFO COMSOLAC, COMSOLAC, COMSSAMOA, VICE CINC, SUBCOMSOLAC, APO, C CP S.

HIC. Using the same item letters in Urpt 111603 this answers the questions therein not already covered by my 100147 and 100261. (A) San Francisco area to meet earliest possible readiness dates for loading of CINHMAC advanced base assemblies estimated to be between dates 22 September and 6 October. (B) For units mentioned under (A) preceding plus items of joint priority list for which remains space may be available. (D) None. (E) Desire all 7 AYA proceed direct to west coast or via there to PEARL from where they will be returned to west coast for training by Combined. Concur in availability during foregoing voyage or voyages for joint priority list items whose destinations are not beyond PEARL. It is expected that the 14 AYA's requested in my 090043 August will be fully employed to support Pacific operations. Should circumstances not now foreseeable permit any of them to be used temporarily for general pool service in PACIFIC AREA appropriate action will be taken by CINHMAC.

15 0622 NXT/IN/3RD UX to USS ALBETA (LR-1) INFO CINCCDAC. 1ST NEW ZEALAND DIV; 2C, ADVANCE FLD, BASE, NAVAL. TO NWT/IN/3RD UX.

ALBETA, at NWT/IN/30 on Sep 11, at dock assigned by host Director, on 300-1 loading cargo and personnel from list furnished by Combtant CINCCDAC to include the following units: Rear echelon 3rd NZ Div, 10 officers, 79 or-listed (includes 3 US Army enlisted). Approx 100,000 cu ft. cargo, 1.500 sq ft. vehicles (6 lifts over 5 tons). Advance Naval Base, approx 400 tons, construction equipment 35,000 cube. 1st NZ Div 2, 1st Trans, Registration Sq 1 officer, 24 enlisted, 1,000 cu ft. cargo, and 4 vehicles approx 500 sq. ft. In space remaining load vehicle from 1st NZ Div Motor Transport Bn FIAA. ATC requested to furnish loading details, prepare loading plan and cargo manifest for prompt air-mail delivery to naval aides. FPD NWT/IN/30 on Sep 17. Units concerned requested to submit complete shipping data to Combtant for purpose of effecting efficient loading.

15 0934 CINC PAC to NAWF/PPR Info NWT/PPR, FIAA

Most secret. Communications received this date indicate that Combat CINCCDAC will contemplate BUIN/FUJI operation be conducted 15 October - 1 November and that KIETA BUIN/FUJI operation be conducted 1 December - 31 January concurrently with your Eastern BUIN/BRAZIL operations. Such concept precludes the possibility of providing any but short range fighter protected day strikes and unescorted night strikes on ROKUL during your CAPE OLINGCOSTER operation. FIAA. The KIETA BUIN requirement also precludes practical consideration of seizure of airstrip sites in EXPRESS AUGUSTA BAY Area. FIAA. I am further advised by Buin that - cont'd -

(BROKES EASTERN)
there is an overall shortage of ALA and that he hopes to be able to use
in the 16 November MARSHALL operation 5 of these now in Solomons
area. From the foregoing you will see that I am in a most difficult
position as to planning. As the Solom area is aimed at the same area
as your TFN Taskmark push I am most anxious to achieve the closest
possible teamwork with you in order to confuse and destroy our enemy
and would gladly undertake to implement any plan you deem necessary.
You will appreciate that in order to proceed with my plans I must have classi-
ification as to my responsibilities. I refer you further to my 150644
addressed to HIMITZ. Far. I am sending General Harmon and General
Hiley to report to you to present additional aspects of my study of Sol-
om area forward movements.

15 0638 CINCPAC to CINCPAC Info CINCPACCSICAC, GUAM.

Post secret. This is part 1 of 2 my 150644. For HIMITZ. Referring
your letter of 6 September and to my 150644 addressed to MacArthur,
revised estimate of South BAYANVILLE situation indicated direct at-
tack definitely undesirable so therefore offered for consideration an alternate plan involving straingulation South BAYANVILLE
by occupation TREASURY ISLAND and YOKESET Bay areas. On basis of his
recently expressed interpretation of FLEET 3 MacArthur desires neutral-
ization of RABAUL by Solace air during its landing on EPR 29 COMPTER
in December and therefore asked me to review situation with view to attac-
ing airdrome sites in BAYANVILLE from which fighter escorts could oper-
ate against RABAUL in December. This automatically would require landing on BAYANVILLE about 1 November to permit timely construc-
tion of airfields. Fighter radar would impose the necessity of location some
northwest of BAYE area. West Coast more feasible than East Coast for
direct jump and northern EXPRESS AUGUSTA Bay area tentatively selected
as most likely site. Discover EXPRESS AUGUSTA Bay project possible but
it would be a hazardous major operation and is not in accord with practical
timetable enclosed in King's letter of 6 September, fara. I earnestly
recommend that my command relations be clarified once in order that
both MacArthur and I may know whether Solace is committed to BAYANVILLE
OBJECTIVES and timetable or shall carry out operations deemed
by MacArthur to be most suited to the overall success of Solace-Solace
campaign.

15 0644 Handle as most secret this part 2 and final of my 150644. Paragraph,
with reference to your use of APA's. Amphibious essentials in this area
should be conducted during dark of the moon for considered reasons and
if 5 of Solace APA's are used in the MARSHALLS 16 November they will
not be available here 1 November nor 1 December. And unless all are
returned to Solace promptly major landing operations will not even be
possible during the Christmas new moon. Early advice in the premise is
requested so that I may plan accordingly and inform MacArthurs, fara.
An additional Pacific Fleet support of south BAYANVILLE operations
required other than such strategic dispositions of carriers with screens
as you may consider necessary to counter Jap dispositions. Far. In
order to give you the best possible picture of various aspects of the
Solace situation reproduce to send Geary to PEARL early next week
you approve.
10 0137 CINCPOA to COMSOUTHCOM INFO COMUDGEON, COMPOAC.

For Halsey: King MacArthur. Your 150644 I do not consider the graphic time table prepared by Comsou division and sent to you with copy to you by King’s letter dated 6 September to be a directive. As King’s forwarding letter to me states, it merely sets forth the tremendous planning problem for the conduct of the Pacific campaign. It is my understanding that your directives for post RAPPARELE, as well as RAPPARELE will flow from the Joint Chiefs of Staff thru MacArthur as in JCS 290183 March. I have not and do not propose to issue directives which will conflict with those flowing from the Joint Chiefs of Staff. My letter to you dated 1 September included one paragraph exploring the possibility of using five 3rd fleet AKA’s for the RAPPARELE operation. The latter date for that operation is 1 January 1944.

10 0310 CINCPOAC to HALSEY Info HICOM. HICOM for Halsey only for action or limits and King only for information. King pass to Halsey with reference despatches. Reference Com 3rd Flts 150634 and 150644. Appreciate the difficult position in which you are placed. Will be glad to confer with Harmon. It was my understanding that your resources were not to be diminished beyond your needs during the operation except by direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The order of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is clear and explicit on unifying the command direction of our operation. Any deviation therefrom not only places you in an extremely embarrassing position but threatens the future success of the entire operation. I am sure that both Admiral King and Admiral Nimitz will clearly recognize this fact.

18 0355 CINCPOA to COMINCH Info CONCENTPAC, CONSERVPAC, CONCEPTACFOR.

Propose widening and deepening TE BUAABA CHANNEL FUNAPUTI to 45 feet by 600 feet to permit entrance Major Fleet units thus providing new secure anchorage supporting initial phases Central Pacific Campaign. TE AWA PTACGA control depth now 40 feet but channel tortuous. Army engineers state dredging conditions best at TE BUAABA. Estimate completion 1 January 1944 using Army engineers and Army dredges PACIFIC and MACKENZIE to move about half million cubic yards. PACIFIC now available at CANON and MACKENZIE probably available at MIDWAY end October. Para. These and possibly other dredges may be required later in MARSHALLS. CG CentPac has made despatch request to War Dept for authority control employment all Pacific Army dredges as situation demands. Para. Request your approval.

18 2042 COMINCH to CINCPOA Info CONCENTPACFOR, CONSERVPAC, CONCENTPAC.

Your 180355 approved. This is HICOM.

1810
SECRET

September (GCT)

18 2347 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info HUPERS, CONCENTPAC, COMFIFTHPACFOR, COMFIFTHPACFORCOS.

Request no relief be ordered for RAd Hill as CombatDiv 4 until after GALVANIC. If approved Hill will use MARYLAND as his flagship for that operation. MARYLAND COLORADO will operate under CombatDiv 2. No transport with required communications available for Hill to use as assault group commander.

19 1029 COMINCH to CINCPAC, CONCENTPAC Info HUPERS.

Handle this with utmost secrecy. Use of MARYLAND purpose mentioned your 182347 not satisfactory. 16 inch battleships should not be given secondary combat duties. Assign vessel of BatDiv 3 as flagship for Hill.

21 1219 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMINCHRAAC, CONCPAC, CONCENTPAC, CINCLANT, COMTITHPAC, COMFIFTHPACFOR.

Very secret. HICHI Unit 210283 not to all info adees. Expect AFA's WANE, ENWANCE, MINIAR, NOIVAR can arrive San Diego by 1 November. SHERER, CALLAWAY by 9 November. FAVNTE by 25 November. Last 3 can be expedited only by reducing shake-down. If you consider warranted will authorize reduction not exceeding 1 week. Expect BHELBOY (LSD2) and ETTING FORRST (LSD4) each equipped with 14 LCM (3) available at San Diego by 10 November. Regarding 5 XAR your term "above current levels" not clear. However, the 8 AL's being assigned you in accordance with CNO airmailgram 012148 are maximum number that can be made available without unacceptable further delay in movement of joint priority list. Unable reply request C without complete information interlocking training commitments involved. If decision by me is essential amplify your request.

22 0426 CINCPAC to CINCPACFOR Info COMINCH, CINCPAC.

This for MacArthur, King, and Winitz only. This is most secret. I have issued warning order (copies by mail) mounting offensive operation to commence about 1 November in accordance with 1 of 2 plans. Plan 1 calls for seizure and occupation of TREASURY ISLAND for installation radar, advance PT base, and sniping area and North EXPRESS AVISTA BAY area (vicinity PUNA Mission) for construction of airfields in vicinity latter area. Plan 2 (alternate) in 2 phases; phase 1, seizure and occupation TREASURY ISLAND and EXPRESS AVISTA area, for installation radars, establishment advanced PT bases and construction airfields in EXPRESS AVISTA area in preparation for Phase 2; phase 2, seizure and occupation airfields in NUWA NUWA (TENSHA) area, TANGANYVILLE ISLAND, during latter part of December 1943. Forcous for this phase to be assigned later. Final selection of plan dependent on result of reconnaissance despatched via submarines 21 September to NUWA NUWA, KINIL and EXPRESS AVISTA BAY areas.
S10553 CINCPAC to CominCh Info CINCPAC, CONCENTPAC, 24TH 6TH MARDIV, COM 5TH AMPHIB CORPS, MARECCHI.

Hicom. It appears training 4th MarDiv for Bankrate operation may be so delayed by late arrival on west coast of FTA's that target late Bankrate operation will be affected. All present FastFleet assault division fully committed to Bankrate and unit will not be available. Indications are that next 2 FTA's will be available 4th MarDiv until mid-December. Optimum for training is 10 FTA's and 3 FTA's in San Diego by mid-November. para. It is most desirable that tempo of Central Pacific Campaign not be slowed down by lack of adequate number of assault bottoms. Request (A) readiness Supter, Wayne, DeForge Elmore Solivar Callaway Fayette be expedited to permit all arrive San Diego by 1 November. (2) 5 XAP's above current levels and 2 LCP's equipped with landing craft be made available CinCPac at San Diego prior 15 November. (C) 4th MarDiv be assigned 1st priority training west coast. If above is done the 4th MarDiv can sail from west coast by 15th December.

24 0405 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info CONCENTPACFOR.

This is Hicom. Request reconsideration year 191659. MARYLAND preferred to ship Battle 3 for following reasons. Had planned use TENNESSEE with Battle 4 to operate with assault of End MarDiv and PENNSYLVANIA with Battle 3 with assault of 27th Division. Necessity for assembly of ships of each assault group for training and rehearsals makes interchange battleships or ships of assault groups very difficult account present location ships and Navy Yard status and mounting operations at widely separated points. As MARYLAND has slow speed while all ships Battle 3 have good speed the substitution of a ship from latter division is considered tactically undesirable. Early decision requested in order permit installation necessary additional communication facilities in selected ship.

25 0359 CINCPAC to COMINCH 4th MARDIV, CONCENTPACFOR Info COMINCH 5th PHIBCORPS, MARECCHI.

4th MarDiv assigned Com 5th PhibCorps for duty to permit coordination of amphibious training subject to limitations CominCh 171451.
UTMOST SECRET. Recapitulated definitions and instructions for handling dispatches of special classifications follow. Quote HICon.

Designation for messages which should be shown only to senior officer in each command addressed and given only absolute minimum internal distribution directed by him in each specific case. Quote Utmost Secrecy or Highest Secrecy. Normally reserved for messages concerning important future operations and shall be given minimum current dissemination. Quote Ultra or Super. Material gained from decryption enemy dispatches and important non obvious deductions from their special communication security methods. Extreme secure methods of handling and minimum internal distribution required. Only narrowest distribution machine cryptographic systems or one time cipher will be employed with exception in instances where absolutely necessary and operational directives will not serve in which case use only highest security minimum distribution system with barest essentials and least use of exact dates times positions and names of units in order to avoid any connection with source. Words ultra or super in text required to identify this classification of message. Except for safe stowage on shore by area commanders all others burn as soon as possible never carrying into combat. When unavoidably combined with other material this intelligence to be removed from dispatches before filing substituting word super therefore in blanks. File this dispatch without material designated for first priority destruction in the event of possible sinking or capture maintaining only reference and location in normal files. Destroy all translations of MyDis 212345 Feb. 200717 Mar. and 020257 April.

25 2238 COMGEN SAMOA to CCMCOPAC Info CINCPAC, COMAIRSOPAC.

SAMOA area airfields. UPOLU complete. TUTUIA TAPUA complete. LENONE 95% complete. WALLIS fields complete SATELLITE field additional taxiways and plane hides total complete 16. 10 under construction 11% complete. Relocating widening and resurfacing new taxiways and hardstands 40% complete. 27 hardstands now ready. FUMAPUTI field complete taxiway 97% complete blast pens 99% complete. NAUNGA fighter runway 2% complete temporary fighter runway 60% usable except extreme wet weather. Bomber runway 25%. Hardstands for 30 VF or VSB 20%. PUKUPETAU fighter runway 25%. VF housing and facilities 5%. Bomber runway 5% complete. VSB housing and facilities none. Taxiway west end of fighter strip at each end bomber strip 5%.

26 0439 GINCPAC to COMINCH Info COMINCHFTPAC, COMGEN SAMOA.

Ref Task C JCS 202204 July. As a result of extensive detailed study based on further photo reconnaissance and questioning competent British engineer who lived on NAURU 18 years prior Jap occupation, I consider that the capture defense development and logistic support of that island as part of GALVANIC will involve losses of personnel and material and a logistic burden which outweigh advantages. Para 2. I concur with Army Marine amphibious commanders concerned that capture requires employment 1 division and probability of losses which makes success doubtful. Para 3 shipping available for GALVANIC is short 2 APA and 5 AKA indicated to be available by JCS directive. This necessitates assault employment 5 AP. Para 4. As alternative I recommend the capture and development of MAKIN plus vigorous denial NAURU during operation. This task is within assault shipping capacity.
September (GCT)
SECRET

26 0439 CINCPAC to COMINCH [Info CONCERNING PAC, COMINCH, SANTA] -Contd-

provides acceptable alternate search and striking base and reduces losses and logistic burden to acceptable figures. Para 4. After occupation MARSHALLS consider situation "AOR" will become similar to that of KISKA after our capture of ATU. Para 6. For that reason we strongly recommend approval by Joint Chiefs of Staff.

27 1805 COMINCH to CINCPAC [Info WAR DEPT.]

HiCom. Joint Chiefs of Staff approve paragraph 4 year 300439. In forwarding same convey the Chief of Staff US Army states the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, however, wishes to point out the implications (which may have already been considered) in abandoning the seizure of a single island which contains air base facilities ready for immediate use and, instead, seizing and taking one island with only potential air base capabilities, especially since the latter action includes the possibility of losses to our Fleet from the Japanese land based air forces in the MARSHALLS.

29 0139 CINCPAC to COMINCH [Info CONCERNING PAC, COMINCH, SANTA, CONCERNING, COMSOPAC]

HOURBASE has been substituted for AMPHORISM as GALVANIC objective. This is HiCom.

30 0239 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC [Info COMINCH, COMINCH SOPAC]

Cominch 181430. This is most secret. On basis of known aircraft commitments, completion base and airfield construction, effect of operations outside theater upon SoPac defenses and assuming post CAPTURE mission for SoPac will be seize NEW IRISH, we believe requirements for entire present SoPac geographical area are given for phases described below. For brevity and disregarding some differences in organisation and functions, all infantry is in terms Army units, antiaircraft in AA gun groups, seacoast artillery in harbor defense battalions, construction units in Seabees or Navy base maintenance units. Area reserve and Army service units necessary to sustain garrisons not included. Part 1 of 2 my 300243.

1st Phase (present positions and preparation assault BOUGAINVILLE). For garrisons: 4 Divisions plus 2 Bns. 18 gun groups, 13 harbor defense bns., 21 and 1/2 Seabees, 8 and 1/2 special Seabees, 21 and 3/4 maintenance units. For BOUGAINVILLE assault: 3 Divisions, 3 gun groups, 2 harbor defense bns., 7 Seabees plus 1/2 special Seabee. 2nd Phase (completion BOUGAINVILLE operation and initiation KAVING assault) for garrisons: 3 Divisions plus 4 regts. and 13 1/4 gun groups, 13 harbor defense bns., 16 Seabees, 8 and 1/2 special Seabees, 37 and 1/4 maintenance units. For KAVING assault: 3 Division 3 gun groups, 3 harbor defense bns., 5 Seabees, 2 special Seabees.

30 0243 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC [Info COMINCH, COMINCH SOPAC]

Most Secret. Part 2 and final my 300243. Part 1 was 300239.
Para. 3rd Phase (seizure PONAPR and consolidation NEW IRISHLAND) (cont'd. next page)
30 0243 CONSOPAC TO CINCPAC INFO COMINCH, COMINCH SOPAC - Continued-

For garrisons: 3 Divisions plus 4 separate regts., 12 gun
groups, 15 harbor defense bns, 13 SeaBees, 10 and 1/2 special
SeaBees, 44 maintenance units. Para. 4th Phase ( seizure TRUE
Para garrison: 3 1/2 Divisions, 9 1/4 gun groups, 6 harbor de-
fnce bns, 11 SeaBees, 10 special SeaBees, 4) maintenance
units. Para. Schedule movements to rear area for rehabili-
tation. Prior to 2nd Phase 2 Divisions. Between 2nd and 3rd
Phase 2 Divisions. Between 3rd and 4th Phase 3 Divisions.

30 0631 CINC EASTERN FLEET TO CINCPAC.

Most Secret. Cale has given me your message which I greatly appreciate.
You may be assured that "STRAIT STRIKE" are very much in my mind and
will certainly be executed directly my ships are withdrawn from MEDITER-
RANIAN where they have been employed to very good advantage.

October (OCT)
01 0045 AIM. HALSEY to MACARTHUR Info COMINCH, CINCPAC, CONSOPAC.

HiCom. For MACARTHUR only. Admiral HALSEY originates. Based on in-
formation obtained by recent reconnaissance Northern EMPRESS AUGUSTA
RAY Area, have selected plan No. 1, my 001901 of 22 September and my
220426. Dog day 1 November. Request your concurrence.

05 0249 CINCPAC TO COMINCH.

Study most recent photographs and hydrographic information shows necessity
for making initial assaults CALVANIC near high tide. Expositions and
economic accomplishment air and gun fire support missions require suitable
daylight period. Maximum time for landing troops equipment and supplies
and for establishing beachhead 1st day is of utmost importance. As 19
November west longitude date will best meet those requirements plan
that day as D Day. Plan air strikes and operations against MANILA prior
D Day.

05 1605 COMINCH TO CINCPAC.

HiCom. For Admiral Nimitz only. 19 November as recommended your 062240
approved as firm date.

04 2132 COMINCH TO CINCPAC INFO COMAIRPAC.

In view change in plan of forthcoming operations which presents problem
of air protection of an advanced position during construction of airfield
suggest consideration be given to use of HE arrestering and catapulting
units this connection. Experience gained would be of great help in
evaluating usefulness this gear in connection planning future Pacific
operations. 2 units now available at Fort Eustace and 2 at Naval Air
Material Center Philadelphia.
QUADRANT decisions as set forth in CCS 319/5 insofar as they pertain to the war against JAPAN were projected only so far in the future as the situation permitted when the decisions were made. Until the defeat of GERMANY occurs, the Combined Chiefs of Staff have decided to push the war against JAPAN by maintaining unremitting pressure against her from every direction, subject to the availability of the means at our disposal. This pressure initiated by you in the SOUTHWEST PACIFIC and through Halsey in the SOUTH PACIFIC is now to be extended to the CENTRAL PACIFIC and to BURMA. We hope to gain some advantage from operations in CHINA, particularly air, in order to keep CHINA in the war and to maintain constant pressure from that direction. A thrust from the NORTH PACIFIC is also a possibility though at a much later date. The dispositions taken by the Japanese to meet our efforts will have considerable influence on the ultimate decision as the main effort for the forces from the PACIFIC and SOUTHWEST PACIFIC areas. The important thing is constant pressure from all directions until means become available for the kill.

Although decision has not been made by the Chiefs of Staff covering operations in the SOUTHWEST PACIFIC beyond those set forth for the seizure of the ADMIRALTY ISLANDS, BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO and the North Coast of NEW GUINEA as far west as VOSELKOP, plans must be perfected for further operations beyond those phases. It appears that the next logical objective for the SOUTHWEST PACIFIC Forces is the seizure of MINDANAO. However, it may be found practicable to make this effort from the CENTRAL PACIFIC or to concentrate our effort in a thrust farther north through the BONINS. Our rapid expansion and immediate availability of naval surface forces including carriers is giving us a decided advantage in naval strength. Not repeat not to make full use of this would be a serious error. We must seek the best method and the most fruitful area in which to utilize this asset.

The significance of your impending discussions with the Australian Government is appreciated. We hope you will point out that our best chance of a quick defeat of the Japanese can only be obtained by applying the greatest possible effort with coordinated timing along each of the avenues of approach. Any let-down on the part of the Australians can only result in a drag on operations. It is of the greatest importance that they continue supporting you to the utmost.

In order to capitalize on any weakening in the Japanese resistance in your area, it appears of great importance that your plans for the re-entry into the PHILIPPINES be perfected as quickly as possible. With the ground work you have already laid there, you have an excellent chance of success in such an operation as soon after you reach VOSELKOP as means become available, assuming that the naval carrier offensive has made anticipated progress. These plans should be developed on 2 assumptions:

1st on the basis of a gradual build-up of the strength in SWPA generally at the present rate, and

2nd on the basis that the main effort will come in your area.

Decision as to the ultimate plan to be adopted must necessarily be deferred.
SECRET
October (OCT)

062801 CINCPAC to CINCINNATI Info COMINCH.

HiCom. Have lost services 6 destroyers by sinking or battle damage during last week. Present shortage acute and affects present and pending operations. Request you expedite dispatch of Pacific destroyers covered by your CS1890 and prior dispatches. Modified shakedown acceptable.

061801 CINCPAC to COMSOUTHCOM Info COMINCH.

Reference CinCPac Op Plan 13-43. Desire at early date your plan to vigorously deny MAURU. Para. Minimum requirement is an attack on MAURU about D minus two day with 1 CV, 1 CVL, 3 CA and appropriate DD screen. Subsequent denial dependent on circumstances. Para. Expect that SARATOGA and MONTEREY will be available for this strike.

070326 COMINWPAC to COMPHOTORG 3 Info CINCPAC COMINWPAC.

This is most secret. Incident to photographic reconnaissance of MAEHIN conduct a light task bombing of MAEHIN ISLAND for the purpose of inducing natives to leave that island for LITTLE MAEHIN. No men LITTLE MAEHIN. Delivery to all addresses is to be effected by officer messenger only.

071720 CINCLANT to CINCPAC Info COMINCH.

This is HiCom. Handle with utmost secrecy. Your 062251 LUCK (DD522) will be ordered direct from TRINIDAD where she arrives 12 October. COTTON (DD609) from HAMPTON ROADS as soon as practicable. CAPERTON (DD 650) from BOSTON Area 9 October. I shall endeavor to dispatch others as soon as practicable but this is dependent upon commitments over some of which I have no control.

072215 COM 3RD FLEET To CINCPAC Info COMCENTPAC, COMINCH, CINCSWESTPAC, COMSOUTHPAC.

This is most secret. CinCPac action pass info to COMCENTPAC. Referring to recent PEARL discussions now consider it desirable to have 1 additional light cruiser division plus minimum screen of 4 destroyers to alternate with CruDiv 12 from 25 October until 12 November or later if Jap dispositions warrant. In addition to foregoing request (A) immediate replacement of 5 DDs recently sunk or damaged (B) 1 division of DDs to bolster up coverage for longer communication lines incident to DIMEEX operations.
HICOM. Conferred 9-10 October with CinCSoWestPac concerning salient points BISWARCK-ADMIRALTY assault informing MacArthur of highlights of PEARI conferences. SoWestPac and SoPac planners now preparing OBERLINE plan. Next week SoPac base plans and SeronSoPac representatives will visit SoWestPac to collaborate on plans for facilities and logistics.

Tentative plan contemplates (A) SoPac assault on KAVIENG supported by carriers and heavy units of 3rd Fleet; (B) assault on MANUS mounted NEW GUINEA assault forces to be determined later; (C) RABAUL to be initially by-passed; (D) selection of BISMARCK fleet base site deferred until after occupation; (E) Lion assembled and staled as recommended by later despatch; (F) pooling of maintenance and supporting shipping and facilities to be made subject of recommendation about 1 November.

MacArthur desires assurance of fleet protection during his subsequent movement along NEW GUINEA coast beginning about 1 May. He was informed that subject to CinCPac approval fleets strategic disposition and operations would be such as to deter attack in force by any considerable component of Japanese fleet.

Most Satisf. On about D Day in connection next operation purpose lay standard 3 row defensive mine field northwest of EMPRESS AUGUST BAY and 2 row offensive field northeast of CAPE FRIENDSHIP. Latter to be reinforced as soon as available mine layers can be reloaded. Request approval.

HICOM. Your 130455 and Com 7th Flt 060357. Concur as to need for more submarines on West Coast AUSTRALIA but do not concur with necessity keeping 12 submarines on East Coast where targets are few and where chief value of submarines lies in scouting and landing or evacuating personnel. Believe 6 submarines on East Coast AUSTRALIA is maximum that can be profitably employed at present and this number can be gradually reduced as our land and surface forces advance in NEW GUINEA-SOLOMONS area. Recommend increase in number submarines assigned West AUSTRALIA be made by transferring from East AUSTRALIA as strategic situation permits and not by increasing total submarines assigned southwest Pacific which would be at expense of Task Force 17. My present number submarines available is still insufficient to adequately patrol all productive areas available in Central Pacific.
Hi-Com
SECRET

October (GCT)

22 1319 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMOPAC, COMCINCNPAC.

HICOM ONLY. In view probability of another conference similar to quadrant in near future, request your broad recommendations concerning sequence, timing and nature of Pacific operations as outlined in quadrant for 1944.

25 0816 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC Info CinCSoWesPac, COMINCH.

HICOM. Your 230815 on request of JCS General Macarthur is submitting Reno 3 Plan which covers the employment of SoPac forces during 1944. HICOM. SOPAC Operational and Logistic Planners have collaborated at SOWEST CHQ in matters pertaining to SOPAC Forces and have been consulted as to probable reactions in Central Pacific. When authorized by General MacArthur to do so I will send a representative to PEARL with copy of proposed RENO 3. Halsey.

28 0519 CINCPAC to COMINCH.

Your 221319. My serial 00198 dated 26 September 1943 is a broad indication of sequence timing and nature of Central Pacific Operations during 1944. The bulk of Pacific Fleet strength will be required to support such assault. It is expected that FLINTLOCK will involve the simultaneous seizure of control of the MARSHALLS. An extension of that control to include KNINHEK and KUNAIRE will be a simultaneous operation. WAKE, PONAPE and TRUK will be seized in successive phases. YAP and the PELEWES will be seized in a simultaneous operation. All of these operations will be a combination of ship-shore and shore-shore moves. It is now apparent that we will not gain control of the MARSHALLS before early February 1944. However experience gained in CALVIN and FLINTLOCK should permit more rapid progress later so that we can expect the MANDATES to be in our hands by the end of 1944. Para. Means for an advance into the KURILES in 1944 are not in sight, but plans and preparations for that operation are going forward. Para. South Pacific operations are referred to in ComSoPac 250815 which you are information addresses.

26 2030 COMINCH, CNO to CINCPAC.

HICOM. Treat this with greatest secrecy. Target date for offensive operations against PARAMUSHINO has been set for the Spring of 1946. Desire your recommendation regarding employment of Com 9th PhilFor and staff with Central Pacific Forces, possibly with 7th Army Division.

28 0643 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC Info COMINCH CINCPAC SOMOPAC CTP 87 COMCINCNPAC.

This is most secret. Enemy forces now in TRUK may move south in reaction to our present operations. Request consideration immediately moving present CTP 87 to a position where it may assist interception of such move and at same time be in position to carry out assignment under ComComPac. If enemy moves south in strength recommend realignment this task force to me.

1819
SECRET

October (GCT)

22 1826 COMINCH & CNO to CINCPOA, COMNORPAC, COMONESSAFRON, COMHAIIFRON, COMAIRC, COMHAIIFRON into CONCINFAC, COMSOPAC, WAR DEPT COMHAIIFRON

Treat the following as sealed secret. X 1 X The following decisions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are forwarded for your information and necessary action: (A) The category of defense in ALASKA (exclusive of the ALSEUTIAN) is reduced from "P" to "Modified A". That of the UNALASKA subsector of the ALSEUTIANS is reduced from "P" to "Q" and that of the ADAK subsector is reduced from "P" to "Q". As regards naval and air defense the category of defense for HAWAII should be category "D" but as regards ground forces not less than 2 divisions, including ground forces in transit or training, should be considered adequate. (B) The garrison of ALASKA will be reduced to a ceiling of 60,000 by 1 July 1944, or sooner if shipping and construction requirements permit. (C) The target date for planning purposes for the capture of PARAMUSHIRU will not be earlier than the Spring of 1945. (D) Construction of base facilities in the ALSEUTIANS for the capture of PARAMUSHIRU is restricted to providing staging area and facilitating supply for that operation. (E) 3 air bases in the ALSEUTIANS will be prepared for the operations of B-29 bombers not later than Spring 1944.

Para 2. Definition of category of defense "Modified A" referred to in 1A above will be forwarded later as a separate communication. Para 3. This is COMINCH & CNO number 6.

29 1646/8 COMINCH & CNO to CINCPOA, CINCUSPAC, COMAIRC, ALL SEAPRONS COMS INFO ALL NAVY/BIN CHIEF, COMINCH/COMFLA, COMCINCUSPAC, CINCPAC, CINCPOA, COMCINCUSPAC, CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY.

Category of defense A has been modified and redefined. Revise parts 31 A F T P 165 being forwarded by mail. Joint Chiefs of Staff direct that upon receipt this revision the category of defense in ARGENTIA, BERMUDA, and in EASTERN, BULF CARIBBEAN, WESTERN AND NORTHEASTERN SEA FRONTIERS (less ADAK and UNALASKA subsectors) be reduced from B to A. Reduce defense forces and establishments to conform. TaskForce remain in Category B. Changes in category of defense for ADAK and UNALASKA subsectors contain modification for HAIIFRON promulgated to advance concerned by separate despatch. COMINCH and CNO number 6.

30 0450 COMSOPAC to CTY 72, COMAIRC/COMS INFO CINCPOA, CINCPOA, COMONESSAFRON, COMHAIIFRON

Most Secret. ComairPac strike NAHRU with such power as within your means on 20 November. ComSubFor 72 place submarine your force at disposal ComairPac as navigational aid and rescue ship arranging details direct with ComairPac.
26 1627 COMINCH & GCH NO. 5 to CINCPAC info CONSOPAC CONSUMERPACFOR.

Handle this as Utmost secret HiCom. Para 1. Suggest that the time has come for subs to pay more attention to the Jap Fleet and its movements which might affect our own operations. This could be attained by using coordinated submarine groups (not necessarily against combatant ships exclusively) in areas where units of the Jap Navy are likely to be met. Para 2. Malsey's use of Task Force 72 has brought this idea to mind. Scheme is sound but might be expected to work better if a division or squadron commander were embarked in 1 of the subs to coordinate the operation. Para 3. Let me have your views as to use of coordinated submarine groups such as that now operating under: Momen to extend offensive capabilities against Jap Fleet. Idea is to interpose such a group between Jap base and our Fleet when latter is on the offensive or station group on probable line of advance of any Jap move that is estimated to be impending. Para 4.

27 2123 CINC PAC to CONSOPAC, CONSUMERPACFOR.

This is HiCom. Make comment and recommendation on CominCh 261627 No. 5.

29 0302 COM 3RD FLT to CTP 39, ORCH 51/6, 51/7, CTU 31/1.5 Info CINCPAC AND CONSUMERPAC FORWARDArea, COMINCH MAJO, CTU 31/1, COMINCH, CINC PAC, SUPREME COMPTO CONSUMERPAC, CONSUMERPAC, NAVYBASE TULUO, ALL CONSOPAC SOFAC, CONSUMERPAC, ALL TFP'S SOFAC.

This will be Commander 3rd Fleet Operation Plan 16 D-45. GOODBYE has been occupied by blue. 3rd Echelon to GOODBYE enroute to land there D plus 5 daylight. 1st of 2 parts 290302. Composition 3rd Echelon "Southern Landing Force was unit 31/1-6 is 4 LST's 2 LST's 3 DD's Task Unit Comdr. Connow. 1st Echelon Blue Northern Force will land at CHERY BLOSSOM D Day. 2nd echelon will land CHERY BLOSSOM daylight D plus 6 day and 3rd echo day second D plus 10 day. Composition northern force 2nd and 3rd echelons described in CTP 31 Order A 15-45. Tracks of all foregoing echelons will be supplied direct by originator. General task. This force will destroy enemy surface craft, aircraft and submarines attempting to interfere with approach, initial landing and withdrawal of northern forces beyond and 3rd echelons and southern force 3rd echelons. Task organisation. Task Force 39 Rear Admiral Merrill CruDiv 12 DesRon 39. Task Force 38 Major General Mitchell shore-based aircraft SoPac. Task Force 39 fuel depart TULAGI-PURVIS area in time to permit arrival off SIMBO ISLAND ahead of northern force 2nd and 3rd echelons.

29 0321 CINCPAC to CONSOPAC Info COMINCH, CONSUMERPACFOR, CTP 37.

HiCom. Your 290343 carefully considered. My views on employment heavy ships remain as expressed my secret serial 00976 of 29 July. Desire compliance my 131942 regarding designated battleships and destroyers reporting ComConPatFor 0000 OCT 29 Oct. Present intention they depart NEAP about 29-30 October hold specified exercises and arrive HWNDI 6 November fuel and depart for GALVANIC on 10th. Change of schedule would interfere with preparations for GALVANIC without in my opinion increasing safety your forces. Your situation will be closely followed and support furnished if it appear necessary and feasible.
SECRET

October-November (OCT)

31 1400 COMINCH & CNO to CINCPOA Info WAR DEPT. CNO

HiCom. Pass CCS 329/2 to ComCenCentCom. Reference paragraph 18 Annex 1 that paper as executive agency of Combined Chiefs Of Staff CominCh directs you to plan and train for Central Pacific Campaign and to request personnel and material in advance of specific JCS directives giving timing and objective of each operation. War Department concurs.

01 0057 COMSOPAC to CINCPOA, COMINCH, CNO, CPWAV Info CINCBORESFAC, COMSOPAC ADMIN, COMHEROPAC.

This is HiCom. Latest trends in shaping of Memo 3: (A) Assault on MERCANTILE will be under SoWesPac command launched through BOILING POINT from SoWesPac bases and employing a majority of SoWesPac assault troops. (B) Subsequent development of air and naval facilities and provision of units for conversion of such development at MERCANTILE to be a function of SoPac. (C) Assault forces MERCANTILE to be replaced by garrison from SoPac or SoWesPac to be determined later. (D) SoPac will immediately detail 3 Seabees to be stationed in DIMINISH for eventual transportation to MERCANTILE. These Seabees will initially develop DIMINISH staging and base facilities for forces deployed in MERCANTILE Operation. Propose organizing Seabees as regiment which will report to SoWesPac for temporary duty. (E) SoPac will be responsible for seizure and development of FORBALM with SoPac forces augmented by CinCPac and CinCpFz as may be directed by CinCPac. (F) Details of proposed supply of FORBALM now under study. Adets will be advised as early as practicable. (G) Propose install Lion (modified as necessary) in MERCANTILE-FORBALM-SOMBAULIIST Area. Location to be determined after post-assault survey. (A) in separate dispatch will request first echelon of Lion arrive in SoPac waters by 16 March.

03 0100 COMSOPAC to CINCPOA Info CINCBORESFAC, Com 7th FLT, COMINCH.

HiCom. Your 022025 indicates reinforcements enroute RABAUL against which forces now available to ComSoPac will be at disadvantage imperative for success of CHERRYBLOSSOM landing. That subsequent echelons move as planned. Task Force 39 although still effective is reported as having received some minor damage and will require rearming after each extensive engagement. In addition to expected cruiser augmentation I strongly urge that Third Fleet be at once reinforced with fast battleships and destroyers now in SOPAC area. If enemy reinforcement base RABAUL, I intend interpose appropriate covering forces to prevent attacks on convoys or TOROKINA. Halsey.
SECRET

November (GCT)

3 0915 CINCPAC to COMPOAC, COMBATAG.

HiCon, Crdyv 11 and Bsdly 49 temporarily assigned Compoac. Currently plan detach them from Compoac about 12 November for COMCBAC. 2nd address direct units mentioned "proceed next speed toward COMCBAC. Compoac alter 4 situation as desired. My 01236 current information indicates unreliability opposition by enemy carriers and battleships. Paragraph your 030100 consider that battleships should not be employed in enemy air and submarine operating areas unless suitable targets may reasonably be expected. Paragraph 1 circumstances believe reinforcements being furnished coupled with heavy air superiority held by Compoac and Cinco's will meet your requirements. 2nd action address inform others concerned in his vicinity.

4 0446 COMPOAC to CINCPAC.

This is HiCon. Your 030915 I requested use of battleships as most quickly accessible reinforcements which would give Col'sc superiority at probably point of contact. Your information concerning Jap reinforcements en route south leads me to believe that it will still be inferior to Jap strength even with addition of Crdyv 11. Finally with reference to air superiority held by Compoac and Cinco's an important point are offered for your further consideration (A) Geography and distances from PAMUL and Compoac bases are such that surface actions will certainly be fought at night when air superiority cannot be applied (B) Existence other fronts usually prevent Compoac air from consistent attacks on PAMUL or objectives on PAMUL-MAJUL-MAJUL area. Finally PAMUL can be reinforced from JPY faster than the Jap force can from Compoac, Peru. As in the past we will hurt Jap and attack them with everything we have but hope to give them an even break. Halcyon Pet, Crdyv 11 and Bsdly 49 temporarily assigned Compoac. Currently plan detach them from Compoac about 12 November.
SECRET

November (GCT)

05 0915 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC, CONBATPAC Info COMINCH, CONCENTPACFOR, CONBTPACFOR.
COMGROUP 2 5TH PHIBFOR

HICOM. CruDiv 13 and DesDiv 49 temporarily assigned ComSoPac. Currently plan detach them from ComSoPac about 12 November for GALVANIC. 2nd addressess direct units mentioned proceed best speed toward ESPiritu. ComSoPac alter destination as desired. My 022026 current information indicates improbable opposition by enemy carriers and battleships. Para. Your 030100 consider that battleships should not be employed in enemy air and submarine operation areas unless suitable targets may reasonably be expected. Para. In circumstances believe reinforcements being furnished coupled with heavy air superiority hold by ComSoPac and CINC SoPac will meet your requirements. 2nd action addressess inform others concerned in his vicinity.

04 2126 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMSOPACFOR, COMCICRGN 89 (VS-89), VICE CHN, NAV DEPT.
SECRETARIAT JCS, CINCOWSPAC AREA.

HICOM. Referring to your secret security serial 00247 of 26 October may note all information addressess the Joint Chiefs of Staff direct you to undertake task B in JCS despatch 012115 of September as early as possible after 1 January and not later than 1 January 1944.

05 2111 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC, CTG 50.3 Info COMINCH, CONBATPAC, CINCPAC, CONCARTIV 12.
CONCENTPACFOR, COMFIFTH, COMGROUP 2 PHIBFOR, COMFIFTH FOR, COMCARTIV 5.

HICOM. Task Group 50.3 Rear Admiral Montgomery consisting ESSEX, MUNICIPAL HILL, INDEPENDENCE, and 3 destroyers hereby temporarily assigned ComSoPac with view earliest possible strikes repeat strikes on damaged and other ships in and around RABAUL. Montgomery proceed immediately at best speed toward ESPiritu. Halsey issue further instructions. Present intention withdraw these reinforcements immediately after aforementioned operations for GALVANIC as planned. ComSoPac guards 4206 and 4926 kilocycles series. Special air operational intelligence broadcast to zebra 5 tame on 4285 series.

05 0619 COMSOPAC to CINCPAC Info COMINCH.

HICOM. Until we have an operating airfield in DIPPER (about mid-December at earliest) I considered it essential that SoPac air should include minimum of 1 combatant carrier division and would prefer 2 divisions in order to keep one on the firing line. Strike of SANTIA TRUMPION groups to RABAUL has temporarily reduced somewhat the constant threat of night surface raids in force against our DIPPER echelons and landing area. However, the Japs have enough unlaunched cruisers and destroyers to make our consolidating operation tenuous. Further strikes on their combatant ships en route to and in this area can only be made effectively at present by carrier air. Our carrier destroyer strength can only be used defensively. This strength, with the addition of CruDiv 13 and DesDiv 49, and with the temporary operational loan from CinCoPac of 2 CA's and 4 DD's on call from MIRK BAY, is satisfactory at the moment. Any reduction would be serious as it would permit of no relief from continuous steering or alertness against enemy pressure until our position is consolidated in DIPPER (about the end of November). I request A1 that CruDiv 13 and DesDiv 49 be retained SoPac until that time or until the situation ComPac warrants their return to that theater. (9) that carrier strength SoPac be increased to 2 Division.
SECRET

November (GCT)

06 0320 CINCPAC to CENPACFOR Info COMINCH, COMGENCPAC, COMOPAC, COM 14, COMSOCOMCPAC, COMNTH FLTR, COMSMA, COMAIRPAC, COMSPAC, COMSERVCPAC.

Dog Day for GALVANIC is delayed one day and now becomes 20 November West Longitude date.

07 0213 COMSOFSPAC to COMINCH Info COM 3rd FLT, CINCPAC.

This is HfCom. Your 111301 and my 170301 both October letter to Com 3rd Flt Cominich Info addressee. D Day DEXTERITY now tentatively 5 December.

09 0240 CINCPAC to COMCENTPAC FOR CG CENTPAC, COMAIRPAC, COMSERVCPAC Info COMINCH etc

This is HfCom. Target date for FLINTLOCK is 17 January 1944 East Longitude date. Adjust plans and procurement of material to accord.

09 1626 COMINCH to CINCPAC, COMSOPACFOR.

Admirals Hims and Halsey only. CinCPac 072353. Further delay in GALVANIC wholly undesirable from my point of view not only as to taking first step in the Central Pacific but because it will serve to whipsaw enemy and decrease his capability of concentrating on any of RAVENOUS, GALVANIC, DIPPER or DEXTERITY. Para. Am disappointed at available information re paucity of results of sub dispositions to intercept reinforcements TRUK to RASAU.

09 2116 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMINCH COMCENTPACFOR CINPACFOR (HOLDERS CLASS 3) COMAIRPAC COMSUBSPAC COMSERVCPAC.

Most Secret. Direct Montgomery with his task group upon completion operations of your 080016 replenish AMPHIBIANS. Report to Spruance and depart in time to carry out GALVANIC as scheduled. Para 2. Order DuBoise with his task group after replenishing report to Spruance and proceed in time to rendezvous POINT N 11 1900 GCT and enroute to remain outside 600 mile circle from APHORISM. Para 3. Instruct Sherman with his task group carry out ComCenPacFor Operation Plan 2-43 without bombardment, reporting to ComCenPacFor prior leaving port. Para 4 attention invited to fact that GALVANIC D-Day is now 20 November west longitude date. Para 5. Halsey acknowledge.

10 1609 COMINCH & CNO to CINCPAC.

HfCom Hims from King. I need not tell you that the shipping situation in the Foa is critical. Seemy 022220. It is further involved because of the conflicting estimates of requirements between areas and services. There consideration making South and Central Pacific a single area for transportation of personnel with you as CinCPAC submitting combined priorities after your Joint Staff has evaluated Joint requirements. Submit comment.
13 2035 COMINCH to GINGCOA, COMINCPAC.

This is HiCom. The following dispatch from the War Department to the Commanding General Alaskan Department is quoted for your information and guidance: Quote in order to permit the development of a tactical plan for the PARAMOUNT landing force the target date for planning purposes of which is Spring 1945 it is desired that you continue to actively participate in the planning for the operation with the Commander North Pacific Force and North Area on the basis of mutual cooperation. This is necessary in order to take advantage of any unforeseen events. Unquote.

13 2235 GINGCPAC to COMINCH & CHQ.

HiCom limits to King. Concur URDis 101809. Combined priority list for Central and South Pacific Areas will be initiated and 1st Joint List submitted as soon as details of preparation can be worked out satisfactorily. Am forwarding air mail a synopsis of the plan and policies I propose be established. Request approval of plans by dispatch.

18 0641 COM 7TH FLT to COMINCH. Info: COMINCPAC, COM 3RD FLEET, COMINCPAC.

HiCom. Day Day Lasseter landing is 2 December. This operation will be conducted with forces now assigned. Para. Day 2 backhander landing will be between 22 and 30 December. New estimate following additional forces required. WILL confirm upon completion plans. 1 Squadron Destroyers. 1 Division of which required CruDiv 15 Task Force and 1 division supplement escort for landing and resupply as outlined by 0830 11 October. 6 AF/S in addition to 1 new in area until completion landing 26,000 troops. COM 3rd Fleet will be requested from the additional AF/S until operations completed. More later orders.

19 1837 COMINCH to GINGCPAC Info.

This is HiCom. COM 3rd Fleet 162255. Have initiated program to expedite repassing to you of PanFleet destroyers building East Coast. Have directed transfer MinDiv 19 (5 DD's) to PanFleet and transfers of some LongFleet destroyers as additional DE's are delivered. Captain Collins enroute Pearl has detailed info. Para. 27 SC 19 PC are being transferred from various ace frontiers to PanFleet to report during remainder November and December for such assignment as you may prescribe.
20 0312 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC Info COMINCH GIDEON SANGA.

HiCom. Concur your 312334 not to all addressees. Plan to assign 1st Marine Defense Battalion to you Feb '44. Also plan withdraw all present Marines ELLICE ISLANDS for CentPac operations late Feb '44 with ComPac providing replacement garrisons from forces available to him. These garrisons probably can be greatly reduced in weapons and numbers due to expected relative security those positions at that time.

19 1942 COMINCH to CINCPAC Info COMSOPAC.

Answering your HiCom. The priority list for December is the result of numerous compromises. The requirements of all areas totaled over 110,000 for December while pooled shipping for lifting new units in December varied from 60 to 70,000 men. To include vessels under your operational control and miscellaneous unexpected ships the A list was finally set up as follows: CentPac 16,000 plus 16,500 of 6th Marine Division in APA's, SoPac 16,800 plus 10,800 of 40th Army Division, SoNesPac 26,000. This will include down to item 63 on your 061100. If this does not include all of your FLINTLOCK requirements submit revised list within your space allocation.

22 0233 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info COMDEFCENTPAC.

HiCom. Limits to King. It is my present practice to pass immediately to you all important despatches regarding operations in the Pacific Ocean Areas that are not addressed to you for information by the originators. Also operational summaries are sent by me to you when appropriate. I assume that you pass this traffic to General Marshall insofar as it relates to Army operations.

23 1764 COMINCH to CINCPOA, COMSOWESPAC, HDTNS(COMINCH) Info CINCSONESPAC.

Cominches passes 23 1458 GCT. EXTRA SECRET. For headquarters from Cominches number 6. Transmit to CINCPOA and ComSOWESPAC for latter to inform MacArthur. "Examine and report within 10 days on ways and means of maintaining concentration of submarines in GULF OF SIAW to interrupt traffic to BANGOK to cut enemy sea communications beginning not later than January 1st in support of operations in Southeast Asia Command."

24 0821 COM 7TH FLT to COMINCH Info CINCPAC, CINCSONESPAC, COM 3RD FLT.

By 180641. First operation dexterity modified to landing ARANZ area vice GASHATA with Dog day tentatively 16 December. Dog day backhander unchanged. HICOM.
HiCom. Indications many profitable targets assembling ENAJALIN. Successful attacks in MARSHALL area may be expected to give increased protection to our HIIH.F. Forces. Para. Deploying all TV and TVX less BARATOGA, PRINCETON, INDEPENDENCE and those designated below for SoPac plus appropriate A and CLA support and 90 screen strike MARSHALLS primary objective ENAJALIN at earliest practicable date. CAESAR and PAGASA escorted by ELLEN and SAMPFIELD will depart PEARL 1800 plus 9 1/2 25 November proceeding toward point W latitude 14-00 north longitude 173-06 west at 15 knots speed of advance. Further instructions to these vessels as prescribed by you. Para. When SALVADOR situation permits direct BUMPER HILL plus 1 CM designated by you plus Batavis 6 8 9 plus Daron 46 and Tadiv 15 strike NAHU then report ComSoPac for duty and routing. Para. ComSoPac is prepared provide subs as desired when advised. Para. Advise estimated dates of strikes.

03 1036 COMINCH to OCS ALL NUMBERED NAVY AIRPLANE COMMAND ENS CM 10 CM 15 CM 14 Info CINCPAC STAFF ALL NAVY AIRPLANE COMMAND ENS CM 10 CM 15 CM 14 Info CINCPAC STAFF

HiCom. Increasing demands for landing craft are about any possible increased production. This situation is critical and will continue so for some time to come. It is therefore directed that every landing ship and craft shall be available for and applied to maximum battle effort. Fleet commanders will rigidly restrict the use of all types of landing ships and landing craft to (a) amphibious assault operations (b) indispensable followup of amphibious operations and (c) Amphibious training commands at minimum scale for larger types except LCM(3)'s and gasoline powered LCM's which are not considered suitable for combat use but may be used for other purposes and landing craft awaiting assignment or onward routing all landing craft and ships of every kind and their personnel will be immediately and completely transferred from sea frontiers and continental naval districts to the nearest fleet commander.

06 2.62 COMINCH to CINCPAC CINCOSPEAC CINCHOCINPAC CM 7TH FLT INFO CO CHIEF OF STAFF WASHINGTON D.C.

HiCom. Plan proposed in CinCNoPac 030402 approved by Joint Chiefs of Staff. Operations to be conducted by submarines assigned 7th Fleet. Coordination air reconnaissance and aircraft mining in Gulf SIAN and INPI. CININA coast with submarine operations must be arranged direct between MacArthur and Mountbatten. CinCNoPac expedite transfer of subs already directed by -20is 241026 October from subPac to SoMex as practicable. K Ref: 030402(F). Recommend (A) Gulf of SIAN be heavily mined by subs... (B) Sub patrols of SoPac subs be intensified... (C) Pac Fit subs continue operation FORJUSA and LUZON straits.
SECRET

December (GCT)

15 0433 CINCPAC to CTF 87 Info COMGENPAC COMAIRPAC COMCNO COMPOAC COMAIRPAC.

This is HiCom. Commencing now operate offensive aircraft against enemy forces and installations at maximum rate it is practicable to sustain. Increase intensity as FLINTLOCK operations are initiated. Primary objectives ODORAL and ADIPOSE. Secondary objectives CARILLON, CADDIE and ARCHIDIEGO. Destroy shipping engaged in supporting objectives. First 2 Info addresses arrange maximum practicable support these operations.

15 0312 CINCPAC to COMGENPACFOR CTF 87 Info COMGENPAC COMAIRPAC COMCNO COMPOAC COMAIRPAC COMGENPAC.

HiCom. In accordance subparagraph 8-D my OpPlan 12-G3 ComComPac relieved of responsibility for the GILMENTS. Until further orders CTF 87 will operate directly under CinPacO. Assignment of units to Com TF 87 and other ComComPacFor directives remain in effect.

15 1525 COMINCH CNO to CINCPAC info COE ARMY.

Handle with Greatest degree of secrecy. For Admiral Nimitz, only. HiCom. Certain papers which will be delivered to you shortly by Captain Doyle of my staff contain certain decisions covering operations against the Japanese. It is requested that you forward by 15 January Outline Plans for your advance westward during 1944. These plans should include requirements of major units, assault shipping and landing craft. Insofar, as practicable requirements should not exceed resources in assault shipping and landing craft to be allocated through 1944 to the Pacific Fleet. This information is necessary for the integration of operations in your areas with operations in the Southwest Pacific.

23 0447 COM 3RD FLT to CINCPAC info.

Unless otherwise directed. This is HiCom. Plan to repeat carrier strike KATYEN on about 29th.

26 2033 CINCPAC to COMSOPAC.

HiCom. My 262509 modified in that carrier strike authorized against cruiser targets your 261430 at sea or in port. Likewise use of battleships authorized in the same general area with the carriers for effective support.
December (GCT)

26 2130 CINCPAC to COMINCH Info CINCPACESPAC COMSOPAC

HiCom. Movements of carriers, fast battleships and attached light forces will be governing factor. Your 24128. They should cover newly raised positions in MARSHALLS until shore installations permit effective operation of our aircraft then return to Central and South Pacific bases for voyage and battle repairs and rehabilitation of air groups and preparations to make the HAILSTORM Operation as effective as possible since it is the best opportunity now in prospect to bring enemy fleet to action. Movements of APA's and fire support ships can be adjusted as necessary to meet 20 March date. Consider estimate of April 1st more in accordance with probable developments but encourage in earlier date for planning purposes in order to be ready to capitalise on more favorable developments. Much depends on extent of damage inflicted on enemy in all areas in next 2 months.

21 1610 COMINCH & CNO to CINCPAC Info COMSOPAC

This is CominCh & CNO Number 11 and a reissue of 141928 November 1942. Addressees will deliver this despatch to Army and Navy Commanders as necessary. Army and Navy air organizations assigned to the Central and South Pacific areas and Navy air organizations assigned to North Pacific are subject to deployment and redistribution by CinCPac at his discretion. JCS confidential despatch 041819 of May 1942 which was reissued as CominCh & CNO Number 9 is modified accordingly. The purpose of authorizing CinCPac to dispose of Army and Navy air organizations in the Central and South Pacific areas at his discretion is to allow the Commander on the spot entire freedom in the disposition of available forces for the defense of positions for which he is responsible. Redistributions under this authority are limited to the forces allotted by the War and Navy Departments and therefore will not be ordered on the basis of creating requirements for additional units. Necessary delegation to ComSopac of aforementioned authority is authorised. Any redistribution of air organizations made or planned should be reported to the War or Navy Department as appropriate for information and logistic purposes. War and Navy Departments will keep CinCPac informed of planned replacements and allocations of aircraft and personnel to whole Pacific Ocean Areas so that aircraft and personnel when in all respects ready for delivery can be loaded or flown to destination desired by CinCPac. A similar procedure will be followed in regard to Air organizations made available by War or Navy Department.