

## **WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 1944**

### **AMERICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS**

ALASKA (Eleventh Air Force): 4 B-25s weatherabort a shipping search.

### **CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER**

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): 6 B-25s severely damage the warehouse area at Hsenwi, Burma. 2 bomb the town of Wuming, China. 24 P-51s and P-38s hit the town of Bac Ninh and the rail yards at Phu Lang Thuong, French Indochina, and damage a bridge at Chiengmai, Thailand. HQ 341st Bombardment Group (Medium) moves from Kunming to Yangkai, China.

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, 12 B-25s bomb the storage and personnel area at Mongmit; 7 P-47s damage the approach to the Hay-ti road bridge while 4 support US infantry forces near Tonkwa; supply areas, personnel, Japanese-held buildings, vehicles, and general targets of opportunity are hit by 60+ fighter-bombers at several places including Hosi, Longkin, Kyauktaing, Tigyaing, Kantha, Man Pwe, and Konnyaung. 260+ transport sorties carry men and supplies to forward areas.

### **EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (ETO)**

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Ninth Air Force): In Germany, 250 A-20s, A-26s, and B-26s hit a supply dump at Schleiden, plus defended positions in several villages and marshalling yard at Euskirchen; fighters escort the 9th Bombardment Division, fly night bombing missions, attack targets in the Cologne area, and support the XX Corps in the Dillengen-Saarlautern bridgehead area, and the XII Corps in the Habkirchen-Bliesbruck area along the Blies River. The 158th Liaison Squadron, Ninth AF, arrives at Nantwich, England from the US with L-1s and L-4s.

### **MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)**

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): Weather restricts operations to reconnaissance and escort missions.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): In Italy, weather again hampers operations; the only B-25 bombing mission of the day aborts; fighters and fighter-bombers attack mainly occupied areas and buildings in the battle area S of Bologna, communications throughout the C Po River Valley, and coastal defense and AA guns S of La Spezia.

### **PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)**

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): With most of its personnel aboard the SS Sea Flasher and its equipment aboard the SS Cape Catoche, HQ Seventh AF arrives at Tanapag, Saipan Island from Hawaii; the remainder of HQ arrives by air, 14-19 Dec.

15 Guam Island-based B-24s bomb Iwo Jima Island; 3 from Saipan Island, on an armed reconnaissance mission, bomb Marcus Island in the North Pacific Ocean. During the night of 13/14 Dec, 6 B-24s make individual harassment raids against Iwo Jima Island from Saipan and Guam Islands.

HQ AAF (Twentieth Air Force): Mission 12: 90 B-29s from the Mariana Islands are dispatched to attack the Mitsubishi aircraft engine plant at Nagoya, Japan; 71 hit the primary target causing considerable damage as bombing accuracy is improved; 9 others hit alternate targets; they claim 4-1-0 Japanese aircraft; 4 B-29s are lost.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: B-24s bomb Carolina and Talisay Airfields on Negros Island. B-25s bomb San Roque Airfield on Mindanao Island; Haroekoe Airfield on Haroekoe Island, Moluccas Islands; Amahai Airfield on Ceram Island; Old Namlea Airfield on Buru Island; and Liang Airfield on Ambon Island. B-25s, P-38s, and P-47s on small raids hit shore positions at Galela Bay on Halmahera Island, while covering an attempted rescue of a downed pilot by a PT boat, and bomb the Goeroea supply area in the Moluccas Islands. Other B-25s and B-24s on reconnaissance hit targets of opportunity in the Sulu Archipelago. The 2d Photographic Charting Squadron, 311th Photographic Wing (attached to FEAF), moves from Hollandia, New Guinea to Morotai Island with F-7s.