

FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER 1944

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): 6 B-24s attack targets of opportunity in the S China Sea. 8 B-25s destroy 3 storage buildings and damage 6 others at Wanling, Burma; 9 fighter-bombers pound troop positions in the area and destroy or damage several trucks. Several other fighter-bombers hit trucks, locomotives, and villages in the Chefang, China area; between Lashio and Hsenwi, Burma; and from Linfen to Taiyuan, and at Kunlong, China.

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, 30+ P-47s continue support of ground forces in the Bhamo area; town areas, troops, warehouses, and supply dumps at Myitson, Mingon, Alezeik, Lenaung, and Old Lashio are pounded by 30+ P-47s; 17 more hit bridges in N Burma and 8 strafe the Hsenwi landing ground. 290 transport sorties are flown to forward areas. In India, a detachment of the 6th Fighter Squadron (Commando), 1st Air Commando Group, begins operating from Fenny with P-47s (squadron is based at Asansol); the 14th and 15th Combat Cargo Squadrons, 4th Combat Cargo Group, arrive at Sylhet from the US with C-46s; during Dec 44, the detachment of the 1st Combat Cargo Squadron, 1st Combat Cargo Group, operating from Hathazari with C-47s, returns to base at Tulihal, the 427th Night Fighter Squadron, AAF, India-Burma Theater, moves from Pandaveswar to Myitkyina, Burma with P-61s, and the 436th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 7th Bombardment Group (Heavy), based at Madhaiganj, India with B-24s sends a detachment to Luliang, China to ferry gasoline to Suichwan, China.

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (ETO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Eighth Air Force): Mission 733: 7 B-17s and 7 B-24s drop leaflet in the Netherlands, France and Germany during the night.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Ninth Air Force): In Germany, 134 B-26s and A-20s strike defended areas at Fraulautern, Ensdorf, and Saarlautern; fighters fly sweeps, armed reconnaissance, and bombing missions over W Germany and support US VII Corps elements at Inden and the Hurtgen Forest and the 8th Infantry Division of the V Corps at Tiefenbach Creek and Brandenberger Forest. In France, HQ 354th Fighter Group and the 355th Fighter Squadron move from Orconte to Meurthe-et-Moselle and Rosieres-en-Haye respectively with P-47s (the 355th is operating from St Dizier); the 15th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 10th Photographic Group (Reconnaissance), moves from St Dizier to Giraumont with F-6s; the 72d Liaison Squadron, Ninth AF, moves from Epinal to Buhl with L-5s.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): During Dec 44, HQ 305th Bombardment Wing (Heavy) moves from Bari to Torremaggiore, Italy.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): In Italy, B-25s attack 4 railroad bridges in the W Po Valley, damaging the bridges at Voghera and Torre Beretti; the XXII Tactical Air Command hits motor transport and train cars at several points in N Italy and hits rail lines over a widespread area N of the Apennines Mountains, including the Brenner Pass where lines are cut at 3 points; the 524th Fighter Squadron, 27th Fighter Group, moves from Tarquinia to Pontedera with P-47s.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): 26 Guam Island, Mariana Island-based B-24s pound the airfield on Iwo Jima Island, Volcano Islands. During the night of 1/2 Dec, a B-24 bombs Iwo Jima during a snoop mission.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: Major FEAF strikes

in the Philippine Islands include B-24 raids on Bacolod and Fabrica Airfields on Negros Island, and a B-25 attack, with P-47 support, on Lahug Airfield on Cebu Island; and B-25s attack Cagayan Airfield on Mindanao Island. B-25s and fighter-bombers also hit several airfields and numerous targets of opportunity on Halmahera Island, Moluccas Islands, during a series of raids. Other FEAF aircraft maintain armed reconnaissance and sweeps over a wide area of the Netherland East Indies and Philippine Islands. HQ 3d Air Commando Group, the 3d Fighter Squadron (Commando) and the 157th, 159th and 160th Liaison Squadrons (Commando), arrive on Leyte Island from the US with P-51s and UC-64s and L-5s (first mission is 8 Jan and 7 Feb 45); a detachment of the 4th Photographic Charting Squadron, 311th Photographic Wing (attached to Thirteenth AF), begins operating from Morotai Island, Moluccas Islands, with F-7s (squadron is based at Hollandia, New Guinea); the 342d Fighter Squadron, 348th Fighter Group, moves from Noemfoor Island, New Guinea to Tacloban, Leyte Island with P-47s; the 408th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 22d Bombardment Group (Heavy), moves from Leyte Island to Angaur Island, Palau Islands, Caroline Islands with B-24s.