

THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER 1944

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): 6 B-25s bomb Loi Mwe, Burma while 10 P-38s and P-51s hit Kentung, China.

HQ AAF (Twentieth Air Force): Mission 20: 48 B-29s, flying out of the Calcutta, India area, are sent to bomb a railroad bridge at Bangkok, Thailand; 33 hit the primary and 14 others hit targets of opportunity and alternate targets; they claim 0-1-0 enemy aircraft; 4 B-29s are lost.

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, 12 B-25s again bomb the supply and personnel area at Mongmit; Bodegon railroad bridge is severely damaged by 4 P-47s; 48 P-47s hit troop concentrations, supplies, and areas of active enemy movement at Nawngkyaung and Kunlong, China and Panghkam, Hohai, Dobin, Kyaukpyintha, and Ho-naw; 4 others support ground forces near Tonkwa. Large-scale transport operations to forward areas continue. The Japanese garrison at Bhamo, Burma prepares to withdraw. The 1st Fighter Squadron (Commando), 2d Air Commando Group, arrives at Kalaikunda, India from the US with P-51s (first mission is 14 Feb 45).

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (ETO)

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Ninth Air Force): Bad weather grounds the bombers. In Germany, fighters fly armed reconnaissance, hit rail targets and bridges, and support the US 2d and 99th Infantry Divisions in the Monschau Forest, the 8th Infantry Division in the Bergstein area, the 78th Infantry Division in the Simmerath-Resternich area, and the XII and XX Corps around Habkirchen and Saarlautern.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): Bad weather cancels all operations except 1 P-38 reconnaissance mission.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): In Italy, medium bombers score effective hits on railroad bridges at Parma and Chivasso; fighters and fighter-bombers attack rail lines N of the immediate battle area and in the Po River Valley and hit guns and occupied areas on the US Fifth Army front S of Bologna.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): 24 Saipan Island-based B-24s pound Iwo Jima Island. During the night of 14/15 Dec, 6 B-24s from Guam and Saipan Islands

fly individual snooper strikes against Iwo Jima Island.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: B-24s pound airfields on Negros Island. B-25s hit Zettlefield airdrome on Jolo Island, Philippine Islands and Namlea on Buru Island. Other planes carry out sweeps, armed reconnaissance, and light raids against various targets in the C Philippine Islands, Luzon, Mindanao and Palawan Islands, Halmahera Island, N Borneo, and the Sulu Archipelago. The 38th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, Thirteenth AAF [attached to 4th Photographic Group (Reconnaissance)] arrives at Hollandia, New Guinea from the US with B-25s (first mission is 21 Feb 45); the 340th Fighter Squadron, 348th Fighter Group, moves from Tacloban to Tanauan, Leyte Island with P-47s; the 550th Night Fighter Squadron, XIII Fighter Command, arrives at Hollandia, New Guinea from the US with P-61s (first mission is 15 Jan 45).