

FRIDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 1944

AMERICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS

ALASKA (Eleventh Air Force): 4 B-24s bomb Suribachi Airfield on Paramushiru Island; 2 fighters intercept and damage 1 B-24 which force-lands on Kamchatka, USSR.

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): In China, 3 B-24s bomb Kowloon Docks, Hong Kong; 15 B-25s, in flights of 2 or 3 each, attack gun positions, storage areas, and village and town areas N of Chuchou, W of Nanyo, and at Chefang and Nanyo and S of Hpalen, Burma; also a bridge at Tingka is knocked out; 100+ P-40s and P-51s hit targets of opportunity throughout SE and SW China, concentrating on the Mangshih and Changsha areas.

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, 33 P-47s hit troop and vehicle concentrations and supply areas at Manlu, Loi-Lum, Nawngmloi, and Kyaukme; 10 P-47s support ground forces in the N Burma railroad corridor near Meza; 16 others sweep the rail line from Hsipaw to Sedaw hitting rolling stock, gun positions and other targets of opportunity while 3 bomb the Meza railroad station; 16 others strafe airfields at Nawngkhio, Anisakan, and Onbauk; 9 B-25s bomb bridges at Lashio, knocking out a bypass bridge and damaging others; several machinegun positions are silenced in the bridge area; transports continue to operate on large scale, flying 266 sorties to forward areas.

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (ETO)

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Ninth Air Force): 30 bombers of the 9th Bombardment Division hit Haguenau, France; weather prevents 100+ bombers from attacking targets; fighters escort bombers, fly patrol and armed reconnaissance over a wide area of W Germany, and support the US 104th and 4th Infantry Divisions and 2d Armored Division, E of Aachen and near Hurtgen, Germany.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): 630+ B-17s and B-24s attack Blechhammer S oil refinery, Germany; Floridsdorf oil refinery in Vienna, Austria; the industrial area in and near Vienna; marshalling yards at Maribor, Yugoslavia; Gyor, Hungary; Graz, Salzburg, Villach, and the town of Sankt Johann in Tirol, Austria; plus several scattered targets of opportunity.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): For the first time in several

months the Twelfth's medium bombers attack targets in Yugoslavia, hitting bridges along the Brod-Zagreb-Maribor railroad; in Italy, medium bombers also hit rail bridges and viaducts in the NE, concentrating on the Brenner Pass where ground haze and smoke screen at the Avisio viaduct hamper the attacks; fighter-bombers of the XXII Tactical Air Command cut rail lines, hit larger concentrations of railroad cars, and blast several ammunition and fuel dumps N of the battleline below Bologna; fighter-bombers closely supporting ground forces also hit guns and other military targets in battle area.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): In the Bonin Islands, 15 B-24s, flying a shipping strike out of Saipan Island, attack vessels SW of Moko Jima Island and the attack harbor and town of Okimura.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: In the Philippine Islands, B-24s bomb Legaspi Airfield on Luzon Island; on Mindanao Island, B-24s bomb Sasa and Likanan Airfields; other B-24s and B-25s fly heckling missions over the C Philippine Islands, Mindanao Island, and NE Celebes Island B-25s continue to support ground forces on Mapia Island. HQ 317th Troop Carrier Group moves from Hollandia, New Guinea to Leyte Island.