

SUNDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 1944

AMERICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS

ALASKA (Eleventh Air Force): A shipping sweep by 4 B-25s is called off due to weather.

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): 19 B-25s and 20 P-51s blast railway cars, station, and track, hit several trucks, and hit town areas at Hochih, China and Phu Lang Thuong, French Indochina. 6 B-25s damage a bridge at Kengluang, Thailand. 90+ P-40s, P-51s, and P-38s hit river, rail, and road traffic and other targets of opportunity over wide S China areas, 40 of them concentrating on targets between Kweiyi and Changsha and around Liuchow, China. A flight of the 21st Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, Fourteenth AF, begins operating from Luliang, China with F-5s (squadron is based at Kunming).

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, 16 P-47s continue close support strikes; about 60 fighter-bombers hit concentrations, supply and ammunition dumps, and rail targets at Panghkai, Kunmong, Mabein, Lashio, Panku, and around Meza; 7 others on a railroad sweep hit targets of opportunity between Maymyo and Man Pyen. Transports fly 300+ sorties to forward areas.

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (ETO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Eighth Air Force): 2 missions are flown.

Mission 725: 1,137 bombers and 732 fighters are dispatched to make attacks on rail viaducts, marshalling yards and oil installations in W Germany; all but 1 attack is with radar; about 550 Luftwaffe fighters intercept and 34 bombers and 9 fighters are lost; the AAF claims 133-14-42 aircraft:

1. 406 B-17s are sent to hit an oil refinery at Misburg (243) and a rail viaduct at Altenbekin (118); 19 hit the secondary, the marshalling yard at Osnabruck; 3 others hit a target of opportunity; they claim 4-6-7 aircraft; 10 B-17s are lost, 4 damaged beyond repair and 160 damaged; 4 airmen are KIA, 6 WIA and 93 MIA. Escorting are 292 P-47s and P-51s; they claim 67-2-11 aircraft; 3 P-51s are lost (pilots MIA) and 2 damaged beyond repair.
2. 350 B-24s are sent to hit the Schidesche rail viaduct at Bielefeld (240) and the Misburg oil refinery (57); targets of opportunity are Hannover marshalling yard (26) and other (1); they claim 12-5-4 aircraft; 21 B-24s are lost, 3 damaged beyond repair and 53 damaged; 15 airmen are KIA, 6 WIA and 196 MIA. Escorting are 208 P-47s and P-1s; they claim 42-0-18 aircraft; 2 P-47s and 3 P-51s are lost (pilots MIA).
3. 381 B-17s are sent to hit the marshalling yard at Hamm (266); other

marshalling yards hit are at Gutersloh (37), Bielefeld (36), Herford (24) plus 3 hit other targets; 3 B-17s are lost, 1 damaged beyond repair and 86 damaged; 1 airman is WIA and 27 MIA. Escorting are 132 of 138 P-51s; they claim 3-0-1 aircraft on the ground; 1 P-51 is lost (pilot MIA).

4. 36 of 36 P-51s fly a scouting mission; they claim 5-1-2 aircraft without loss.

Mission 726: 8 B-17s and 6 B-24s drop leaflets on France, the Netherlands and Germany during the night.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Ninth Air Force): In Germany, 173 B-26s and A-20s bomb supply, storage, stores, and ordnance depots at Gaulsheim, Bergzabern, Giessen, Reichenbach, and Homburg/Saar; fighters fly sweeps and armed reconnaissance over W Germany, search for a lost A-20, escort 9th Bombardment Division, and support the US 29th Infantry Division at Bourheim and the XX and XII Corps in the area of the Maginot Line and German-French border. The 390th and 391st Fighter Squadrons, 366th Fighter Group, move from Couvron Airfield at Laon, France to Asch, Belgium with P-47s.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): 39 P-38s fly an offensive sweep over Seregelyes Airfield, Hungary and strafe nearby road and rail traffic; other fighters fly reconnaissance and escort.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): In Italy, a slight improvement in the weather permits fighter-bombers to increase operations; P-47s closely support ground forces in the US Fifth Army battle area in the Apennines S of Bologna and cut rail lines in over 30 places N of the immediate battle zone.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): P-47s from Saipan Island strafe the airfield on Pagan Island. During the night a B-24 on a snooper mission from Guam Island bombs Iwo Jima Island. B-24s from Angaur Island bomb Arakabesan Island in the Palau Islands.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: In the Philippine Islands, 40+ B-24s, some with fighter support, bomb La Carlota and Talisay Airfields on Negros and Cebu Islands respectively; fighter-bombers hit an airfield and various targets of opportunity throughout the area. B-25s pound airfields in the Ambon-Ceram Islands area and B-24s bomb an airfield near Davao, Mindanano Island. Other bombers and fighters fly light strikes and armed reconnaissance missions against a variety of targets on N Celebes, N Borneo, S Luzon, Mindanao, and Halmahera Islands. HQ 22d Bombardment Group (Heavy) and the 33d Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) move from Leyte Island, Philippine Islands to Angaur Island, Palau Islands with B-24s.