

## **THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 1944**

### **AMERICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS**

ALASKA (Eleventh Air Force): A weather sortie is the only mission.

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

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): 12 B-25s and 8 P-51s damage 2 railroad bridges and several buildings at Phu Lang Thuong and Phu Ly, French Indochina. 11 bomb 5 warehouses and several other buildings at Lashio and Wanling, Burma. 9 fighter-bombers hit shipping, rail targets, and troops at various points in Thailand. In China, 23 fighter-bombers attack targets of opportunity in the Chefang area; the 25th Fighter Squadron, 51st Fighter Group, based at Yunnani with P-40s and P-51s, sends a detachment to operate from Poashan.

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, 9 B-25s knock out and damage bridges at Bawgyo, Namhkai, and Hsenwi; 16 P-47s support ground forces at Bhamo; the town of Pinwe is found to be free of enemy forces; about 70 fighter-bombers attack troops and supply areas at several locations including Molo, Naungmo, Namun, Hkumpen, Myadaung, Kutkai, Kanbalu, Kyauk, and Natpe; 13 others attack bridges at Meza and in the Bawdwin area; 8 strafe targets of opportunity along the Kyaukme-Panglong road. 321 transport sorties are flown to forward areas. In India, HQ 1st Combat Cargo Group and the 4th Combat Cargo Squadron move from Sylhet to Tulihal with C-47s; the detachment of the 5th Fighter Squadron (Commando), 1st Air Commando Group, operating from Fenny with P-47s, returns to base at Asansol; the detachment of the 9th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, 8th Photographic Reconnaissance Group, operating from Tingkawak Sakan, Burma with F-5s, returns to base at Barrackpore (other detachments are at Myitkyina, Burma and Chittagong); the 317th Troop Carrier Squadron (Commando), 2d Air Commando Group, moves from Sylhet to Bikram with C-47s.

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

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Eighth Air Force): 2 missions are flown. Mission 731: 1,281 bombers and 972 fighters are dispatched to hit synthetic oil plants in SE Germany and rail targets; intense accurate flak downs 29 bombers and 3 fighters are lost:

1. 451 B-17s are sent to hit the Zeitz (132) and Bohlen (68) oil plants; 116 hit the secondary, the Leuna oil plant at Merseburg; targets of opportunity are Gotha (22), Gera (17), Rudolstadt (17), Fulda (12), Saalfeld (12), Ohrdruf (10), Meerane (6) and other (9); 11 B-17s are lost, 4 damaged beyond repair and 287 damaged; 8 airmen are KIA, 16 WIA and 100 MIA. Escorting are 357 of 384 P-51s; they claim 4-0-0 aircraft in the air; 2 P-51s

are lost (pilots MIA).

2. 539 B-17s are sent to hit the Leuna oil plant at Merseburg (301) and the Lutzkendorf (169) oil plant; targets of opportunity are Zeitz oil plant (19), Weissenfels (9) and other (12); 17 B-17s are lost, 6 damaged beyond repair and 325 damaged; 17 airmen are KIA, 42 WIA and 295 MIA. Escorting are 452 P-47s and P-51s; 2 P-51s are damaged beyond repair.

3. 291 B-24s are sent to hit marshalling yards at Neunkirchen (180) and Homburg (104). Escorting are 56 of 60 P-47s; 1 P-47 is lost (pilot MIA).

4. 30 of 33 P-51s fly a scouting mission.

Mission 732: 7 B-17s and 6 B-24s drop leaflets in the Netherlands and Germany during the night.

## TACTICAL OPERATIONS

First Tactical Air Force (Provisional): The 415th Night Fighter Squadron, 64th Fighter Wing, moves from Longvic to Ochey, France with Beaufighters.

Ninth Air Force: In Germany, 288 B-26s and A-20s attack the defended villages of Vettweiss, Stockheim, Erp, and Pirmasens, an armored vehicle repair center at Gemund, a rail tunnel, a military camp at Malsbenden, and a marshalling yard at Zweibrücken; fighters escort the 9th Bombardment Division, give area support to Eighth AF heavy bombers at Leipzig, fly sweeps, dive bombing missions, and reconnaissance over W Germany, and support elements of the US VII Corps in the Hurtgen area (especially the 104th Infantry Division at Lammersdorf and Inden). The 12th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 10th Photographic Group (Reconnaissance), moves from St Dizier to Giraumont, France with F-6s.

## MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): In Austria during the night of 29/30 Nov, 18 B-17s bomb a benzol plant at Linz; 3 others hit marshalling yards at Villach, Klagenfurt, and Gmunden. B-24s hit marshalling yards at Munich, Germany and Innsbruck, Austria. During the day P-38s and P-51s fly reconnaissance over Yugoslavia, Italy, and Germany.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): In Italy, B-25s bomb bridges at Romano di Lombardia and Crema; fighters and fighter-bombers attack communications in the Po Valley, cutting rail lines and destroying a large number of railroad cars and motor transport; targets also include bridges, guns, and buildings.

## PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): 23 B-24s from Saipan Island bomb the airfield on Iwo Jima Island. 8 Guam Island-based B-24s, escorting photo aircraft over

the Kazan and Bonin Islands, bomb Haha Jima Island. 37 from Angaur Island hit Legaspi Airfield on Luzon Island. During the night of 29/30 Nov, 2 B-24s from Guam and Saipan Islands, bomb the Iwo Jima airfield during snooper missions.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: B-24s in major strikes of the day hit Malimpoeng and Parepare Airfields on Celebes Island, Legaspi Airfield on Luzon Island, Matina Airfield on Mindanao Island, and 4 airfields on Halmahera Island. B-25s strike Dumaguete Airfield on Negros Island. Fighter-bombers, B-24s, and B-25s fly armed reconnaissance, harassing strikes, and light raids over various areas of the Netherlands East Indies and Philippine Islands. The air echelons of the 36th and 80th Fighter Squadrons, 8th Fighter Group, operating from Morotai Island with P-38s, return to base at Dulag, Leyte Island; the 340th Fighter Squadron, 348th Fighter Group, moves from Noemfoor Island to Tacloban, Leyte Island with P-47s; the ground echelon of the 418th Night Fighter Squadron begins a movement from Dulag, Leyte Island to San Jose, Mindoro Island (air echelon is on Morotai Island with P-61s).