

SUNDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 1944

AMERICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS

ALASKA (Eleventh Air Force): 4 B-25s abort an offensive sweep off Suribachi on Paramushiru Island due to intense shore fire; 4 more B-25s fly armed reconnaissance over Shimushu Island and at decklevel bomb Torishima Island targets; of 4 fighters intercepting the B-25s, 1 is downed; 4 B-24s bomb Onnekotan and Matsuwa Islands; 3 more B-24s bomb Katalka naval base on Shimushu Island, starting fires; 7 fighters intercept and the B-24s down 1.

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER

CHINA THEATER (Fourteenth Air Force): In China, 49 P-40s, P-38s, and P-51s attack storage facilities and other targets of opportunity around Wanling, Burma and Mangshih, Chefang, and Kweihsien; the 22d Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 341st Bombardment Group (Medium), based at Yangkai, sends a detachment to operate from Yunnani with B-25s; the 426th Night Fighter Squadron, Fourteenth AF, moves from Madhaiganj, India to Chengtu with P-61s (detachment begin operating from Kunming during the month).

INDIA-BURMA THEATER (Tenth Air Force): In Burma, about 70 P-47s attack Lashio Airfield, hit gun positions on Kyundaw Island, bomb the Kanbalu marshalling yard, hit targets of opportunity along the Naba-Wuntho railroad and on the Burma Road and bomb the town of Namhpakka and the Lasai area; 28 other P-47s maintain patrols S of Myitkyina; transports fly 300+ sorties carrying men, equipment and supplies to various forward areas.

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Twentieth Air Force): 53 Calcutta, India-based B-29s bomb the Singapore naval base in Malaya putting the King George VI Graving Dock (one of the world's best drydocks) out of operation for 3 months, and blast other targets at the base; 7 other B-29s bomb the secondary target and Pangkalanbrandan refinery on Sumatra while 4 more hit other target.

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (ETO)

AIRBORNE OPERATIONS (IX Troop Carrier Command): In France, HQ 442d Troop Carrier Group moves from Bonnetable to St-Andre-de-L'Eure; the 91st Troop Carrier Squadron, 439th Troop Carrier Group, moves from Lonray to Chateaudun with C-47s; the 98th Troop Carrier Squadron, 440th Troop Carrier Group, moves from Le Mans to Orleans with C-47s; the 303d Troop Carrier Squadron, 442d Troop Carrier Group, moves from Peray to St-Andre-de-L'Eure with C-47s.

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Eighth Air Force): 2 missions are flown. Mission 702: 1,272 bombers and 666 fighters in 3 forces attack marshalling

yards in W Germany; H2X radar is used by all forces; 12 bombers and 6 fighters are lost.

1. 452 B-17s are dispatched to the marshalling yard at Frankfurt (396); 36 hit the marshalling yard at Hanau and 4 hit other targets; 1 B-17s is lost, 2 damaged beyond repair and 126 damaged; 1 airman is KIA, 3 WIA and MIA. Escort is provided by 206 P-47s and P-51s; 2 P-51s are lost (pilots MIA)

2. 454 B-17s are dispatched to hit the marshalling yard (219) and industrial area (177) at Ludwigshafen; targets of opportunity are the marshalling yard at Kaiserslautern (33) and other (4); 11 B-17s are lost and 298 damaged; 1 airman is KIA, 5 WIA and 103 MIA. Escort is provided by 192 P-47s and P-51s; 1 P-51 is lost (pilot MIA).

3. 333 of 366 B-24s hit the secondary target, the Karlsruhe marshalling yard; 12 others hit Landau; 3 B-24s are damaged beyond repair and 28 damaged; 6 airmen are KIA and 8 WIA. Escort is provided by 228 P-47s and P-51s; 2 P-47s and 1 P-51 are lost (pilots are MIA).

Mission 703: 3 B-17s and 7 B-24s drop leaflets in France, the Netherlands and Germany during the night without loss.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Ninth Air Force): 160 B-26s and A-20s strike ammunition, ordnance, and supply depots at Hamburg, Germany; fighters escort the bombers, fly armed reconnaissance, attack railroads and bridges, and cover ground forces of the V and XIX Corps; the IX Tactical Air Command aids the US 28th Infantry Division in withstanding a counterattack near Kommerscheidt, Germany. HQ 362d Fighter Group moves from Prosnes to Rouvres, France. The 33d Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, 363d Tactical Reconnaissance Group, moves from Gosselies to Le Culot, Belgium with F-5s.

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO)

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS (Fifteenth Air Force): 500 B-24s and B-17s bomb the Floridsdorf oil refinery at Vienna, Austria in the largest operation against a single target during World War II; 10 other heavy bombers bomb about 20 scattered targets of opportunity and 1 alternate target, the Kapfenberg, Austria tank works; 139 P-38s and 198 P-51s provide escort; 16 of the fighters strafe targets of opportunity in the target area; 42 other B-24s, with fighter escort, bomb troop concentrations at Mitrovica and Podgorica, Yugoslavia.

TACTICAL OPERATIONS (Twelfth Air Force): In Italy, medium bombers, flying 300+ sorties, bomb bridges in the Brenner Pass and in the NE Po Valley to interdict the Germans' 2 main supply routes from the N; fighters and fighter-bombers hit defenses and forces in the battle areas in the N Apennines S of Bologna and attack communications targets to the N as well as in battle zone.

PACIFIC OCEAN AREA (POA)

AAFPOA (Seventh Air Force): B-24s from Guam Island hit shipping in the Bonin Islands and, during an armed reconnaissance mission, bomb Marcus Island.

HQ AAF (Twentieth Air Force): 24 Mariana Islands-based B-29s bomb 2 Iwo Jima Island airfields, starting tactical operations against the island in preparation for the US invasion in Feb 45.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA [SWPA, Far East Air Force (FEAF)]: B-24s and P-40s attack airfields and barges in the C Philippine Islands. B-24s also hit the town of Bima and Waingapoe Bay shipping on Soembawa Island in the Lesser Sunda Islands. B-25s and fighter-bombers strike airfields, troop concentrations, and communications targets throughout the Halmahera Island area and NE peninsula of Celebes Island. Fighter-bombers and A-20s hit Amahai and targets of opportunity on the S coast of Ceram Island. Almost 50 A-20s, supporting ground forces, blast installations in Sarmi, New Guinea area. HQ 71st Tactical Reconnaissance Group arrives on Leyte Island from Biak Island. The ground echelons of the 35th and 36th Fighter Squadrons, 8th Fighter Group, move from Morotai Island to Dulag, Leyte Island (air echelon continues to operate P-38s from Morotai).