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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
1	<u>Italy:</u> Rome announces that German Foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop, has been in Rome conferring with Mussolini, the Axis answer to the Casablanca Conference.	<u>West Atlantic:</u> Convoy north-bound from Bahia attacked by Axis U-boats and SS Fitz John Porter (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons) torp. and sunk at 12-20 S, 36-50 W.	<u>Germany:</u> About 300 RAF planes successfully bomb Berlin at night, starting fires visible for 200 mi.; greatest fighter reaction to date encountered; 17 British planes missing; 1 FW-190 and 1 JU-88 destroyed.	<u>Russia:</u> Germans report repulse of Soviet attacks on Kuban fronts; Russians report advances W of Rostov, where enemy is still on the defensive. Berlin announces gains in Izyum sector and claims that Red Army forces are pushed back across the Donets. Russians claim repulse of enemy counterattacks SW of Voroshilovgrad; enemy reports repulse of Soviet thrusts W of Kharkov. Moscow announces that, a few days ago, an offensive on the NW front was begun under the command of Marshal Timoshenko and that Demyansk, Lichkova and Zaluchie have been captured. Soviet attacks against enemy salient S of Lake Ladoga are again repulsed. Axis aircraft raid Murmansk harbor, damaging 2 Allied merchant ships.	<u>Italy:</u> Nine B-24's bomb Naples, scoring hits on mole and adjoining quays; localities in Catanzaro and Cosenza also attacked; 1 ME-109 shot down. <u>Sicily:</u> Palermo docks and shipping bombed by 18 B-17's which score hits on docks, warehouses and town area; 1 large and several small merchant vessels damaged. Enemy planes oppose attack; 5 destroyed, 1 probably, and 1 damaged. Second raid on Palermo carried out by 20 B-17's with escort of P-38's; 40 2,000-lb. bombs dropped, damaging drydock and shipbuilding areas; 1 large explosion observed. Of enemy aircraft which intercept, 3 are destroyed, 1 probably, and 2 damaged.
2	<u>Chile - U.S.:</u> Lend-lease agreement signed between Chile and U.S. <u>Argentina:</u> Decree issued authorizing manufacture of war materials for Britain who is to provide the raw materials; these not to be included in computing export quotas.	<u>South Atlantic:</u> SS Affonso Penna (Brazilian cargo ship, 3,540 tons) torp. and sunk at 16-17 S, 36-03 W.	<u>North Atlantic:</u> SS Meriwether Lewis (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons) sunk by SS at 62-10 N, 28-25 W.	<u>Russia:</u> Russians report gains in Kuban area but Germans claim their counterattacks smashed Soviet advances. W of Rostov, Red Army is fighting against stiff enemy resistance. Thaws and mud are hampering operations but Germans claim advances in Izyum sector. Russians report repulse of Nazi counterattacks SW of Voroshilovgrad and W of Kursk, and claim gains W of Kursk. Germans assert Soviet attempts to break through their defenses N of Orel	<u>Lampedusa I.:</u> Airdrome bombed by 4 Malta-based Spitfires which score many hits in target area.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
Tunisia: Germans continue to press their drive in Beja area but are forced to withdraw N in Beja-Mateur Valley and E of Medjes el Bab-El Aroussa road. In drive on Sedjenane, enemy forces reach Tennel. Armored rcn reports Sbeitla clear of Axis, and pushes 3 mi. E of this point. Patrols to S reach Oued el Kebir without encountering enemy. Along the Algerian border, French forces occupy Bir el Ater and customs house at Tamerza. Medenine landing ground shelled by enemy. Bizerta successfully bombed by 18 Wellingtons night of Feb. 28/Mar 1; bursts observed in town, docks, passenger and goods stations. Spitfires and Hurricanes successfully attack enemy troops, transport, and tanks in Mateur-Beja area. Twenty-four Spitfires and 12 B-25's bomb RR and road junction E of Mateur. La Hencha RR bridge destroyed in attack by 15 B-26's with escort of 17 P-38's which encounter enemy planes, destroying 10 and damaging 4. AA gun positions silenced but 2 of our bombers shot down. Algeria: Early morning enemy raid on Bone damages British DD and MTB. Two groups of E-boats approach Bone area; 1 group driven off by shore batteries and the other by MTB's.	Burma: During 46 P-40 sorties over the Hukawng Valley, considerable damage is inflicted on bridges, buildings, and trucks. Eight B-25's, attacking Thazi RR Junction, score at least 5 direct hits on main tracks leading N from Thazi. RAF operations limited to patrolling in Akyab area and RR sweep in vicinity of Katha. Twenty enemy fighters are over Mayu battle area. China: P-40's strafe motor pool at Hwanglike, S of Tengyueh, destroying or damaging trucks and buildings and inflicting casualties.	Solomon Is.: B-24's and TBF's, dispatched to raid shipping in Buin area, fail to locate target and attack alternate targets, Ballale and Kahili airdromes in the Shortland I. area. Force of 17 SBD's escorted by 9 F4F's bombs Munda, New Georgia I., starting fires. Bismarck Sea: Enemy convoy consisting of 14 ships sighted 40 mi. NW of Ubili, shadowed throughout the day, and attacked at night by rcn B-24. New Britain: Force of B-17's fails to locate convoy, but 2 of the planes bomb Gasmata airdrome, scoring 4 hits on runway. New Guinea: Allied ground patrol destroys 4 barges at mouth of Waria R. Three A-20's bomb and strafe Guadagasel Saddle and Mubo-Komiatum track. N.E.I.: Rcn B-24 attacks enemy shipping in Waingapoe harbor, Soemba I.	1
Tunisia: Enemy pressure in Sedjenane area continues; minor Axis attack at Sidi Nsir repulsed. Area 15 mi. E of Sbeitla reported clear of enemy. Patrols of 1st armored division reach Sidi Bou Zid and contact enemy in area. Twenty B-17's bomb docks and shipping in Tunis harbor; hits scored on quays and on industrial and warehouse districts of city. La Goulette harbor attacked by 18 B-17's escorted by 20 P-38's which damage power house, shipyard, and drydock sections; enemy planes intercept; 2 ME-109's and 1 FW-190 destroyed. Force of 17 B-25's escorted by 24 Spitfires successfully attacks Mateur; 3 ME-109's probably destroyed; 1 Spitfire damaged. Hits scored on road and rail junction WNW of Mateur by 18 B-25's and 23 Spitfires. Another flight, 14 Spitfires and 9 Hurricanes scores near misses on tanks and transport near Sidi Nsir; 3 Spitfires	Burma: Twelve B-25's escorted by 5 P-40's damage barracks and installations at Myitkyina with direct hits. Two P-40's bomb and strafe Wehsi, starting 2 fires, and 2 more strafe 4 trucks near Nzopzup. RAF bombing in Sagaing area hampered by weather. Three enemy planes bomb Mayu Peninsula. Force of 6 B-25's escorted by 5 P-40's attacks enemy encampment and storage area near Nameng, destroying 70% of the target.	Solomon Is.: Hudson patrol bomber drops bombs on Munda. Bismarck Sea: Enemy convoy, proceeding westward to Lae along N coast of New Britain, is attacked NW of C. Gloucester by total of 34 B-17's, 2 B-24's, and 16 P-38's; 3 AK's sunk, 1 DD and 3 AK's damaged, and a 10,000-ton AP left in sinking condition; 6 protecting enemy fighters destroyed and 9 more probably destroyed; no Allied planes lost. Convoy is increased by additional units in afternoon and 15 ships pass through Vitiaz Strait during night, shadowed by Allied planes. New Britain: B-24 on rcn scores direct hit on small AK, probably ammunition ship, in Wide Bay, sinking it. Gasmata airdrome bombed at night by 2 B-17's from force which fails to locate convoy. New Guinea: Lae airdrome successfully bombed and strafed by 6 A-20's; machine gun position silenced. Rcn B-24 bombs waterfront at Finschafen.	2

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
3	<u>U.S.:</u> State Department announces that German and Italian diplomats captured in Algiers are interned until Germany agrees to surrender U.S. representatives to Vichy. <u>India:</u> Mohandas K. Gandhi ends his 21-day fast.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Four P-40's, each carrying 1 300-lb. bomb and light fragmentation bombs, attack main camp area at Kiska; clouds prevent observation of results. <u>North Atlantic:</u> SS City of Pretoria (British cargo ship, 8,049 tons) presumed sunk by SS at 41-45 N, 42-30 W. <u>South Atlantic:</u> SS Staghound (U.S. cargo ship, 8,591 tons) torp. and sunk at 16-45S, 36-33 W.	<u>Germany:</u> Hamburg heavily bombed at night by about 400 planes, including RAF, 82 RCAF, 23 RAAF, and 8 New Zealand planes; enemy reaction reported increased; 10 Allied planes missing from raid; 1 JU-88 destroyed in course of several combats. <u>England:</u> Enemy raids London area twice, using total of 65 planes; slight damage and casualties result; 3 enemy planes destroyed and another damaged.	(Cont'd) and S of Lake Ilmen failed. Moscow announces sinking of 8,000-ton enemy transport and 800-ton patrol ship in Barents Sea.	
				<u>Russia:</u> Soviet attacks in Kuban area and on Mius front fail to gain. Germans report reaching middle Donets R. on a broad front. Russians report progress W of Kharkov although enemy reports indicate that they are changing to the offensive in this area. Soviet pressure W of Kursk and against Orel continues as Red Army troops capture RR junction of Lgov and town of Dmitriev-Lgovsky. Russian offensive on central front makes substantial gains as Soviets capture Rzhev, N anchor of enemy line on this front. Berlin reports bombing of establishments of Murmansk RR.	<u>Sicily:</u> Seven B-24's bomb Messina; RR bridge at Bianco and bridge at Siderne Marina hit. <u>Mediterranean:</u> RAF planes attack convoy N of Palermo; 7,000-ton enemy ship set on fire.
4			<u>Germany-Holland:</u> Sixteen B-17's attack RR center at Hamm with excellent results; no opposition encountered	<u>Russia:</u> Enemy is still on defensive in Kuban area but is counterattacking strongly W of Rostov where rain and	<u>Italy:</u> Naples attacked by 6 B-24's which start fires in harbor area; twenty-three fighter planes acting as

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) damaged by AA fire. Concentration of Mk. VI tanks NE of Beja attacked by 9 Hurricanes and 18 Spitfires which score near misses and possible direct hits. Enemy forces and equipment throughout Beja area attacked by waves of Spitfires and Hurricanes. Transport in Bou Arada-Goubellat-Pont du Fahs area strafed by 8 Spitfires on rcn. <u>Tunisia:</u> Enemy continues attack in Sedjenane area, but is still withdrawing to positions E of Medjes el Bab-Bou Arada road. Patrols active in Medjes el Bab sector, and around Bou Arada. Sidi Bou Zid occupied by American patrols which pushed E from Sbeitla. Air rcn in afternoon shows enemy MT moving S from Gabes toward Matmata and Rommel's forces around Mareth Line launch thrust against British positions in Arram region, forcing withdrawal of carrier screen to next ridge. Mateur attacked by 7 B-25's escorted by 23 Spitfires; enemy aircraft encountered; 1 Spitfire missing. Seventeen B-25's with escort of 22 Spitfires bomb Medjes el Bab station, scoring hits on N side of RR line; 2 Spitfires lost. Force of 19 B-17's escorted by 24 P-38's attack El Aouina airdrome at Tunis; bursts observed in target area. Of 12 ME-109's which attempt interception, 1 is destroyed and 2 damaged. Twenty Spitfires sweep Bizerta area and attack Mateur road. Landing ground NW of Gabes heavily bombed in two attacks; one group, 20 B-17's escorted by 25 P-38's, scores many hits; second force, 18 B-25's, also unloads its bombs in target area. Flight of 10 B-26's escorted by 20 P-38's attacks an Axis landing ground and scores hits among dispersed aircraft; heavy AA fire encountered and 1 P-38 shot down. During night, Halifaxes and Wellingtons attack road transport in Matmata area. <u>South Atlantic:</u> North-bound Allied convoy attacked off Durban; following ships sunk at approximately 31-50 S, 30-40 E: SS Harvey W. Scott (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons), SS Empire Mahseer (British cargo ship, 5,087 tons), SS Marietta E (British cargo ship, 7,623 tons), SS Nirpura (British cargo ship, 5,961 tons). <u>Tunisia:</u> Axis forces continue strong pressure in Sedjenane area and heavy street fighting takes place in Sedjenane. During night, British troops establish new positions around Tamera. Three companies of enemy infantry and 15	<u>Burma:</u> Enemy installations in Rangoon area subjected to 3 attacks: (1) 5 B-24's bomb Ahlone docks, scoring hit and 8 near misses on docks, 2 on warehouses, and 3 on RR yard adjoining warehouses; (2) 6 B-24's attack Mahlwagon round-house, scoring 4 direct hits which result in large explosion and heavy smoke near round-house, as well as 35 hits in target area; (3) 9 B-24's bomb Pazundaung RR bridge, scoring hits on N and S approaches and near misses on S span. Total of 4 enemy planes intercept the raids, 2 of which are damaged and a 3d believed hit. RR yards at Maymyo bombed by 3 B-25's, which score hit on shed and hits and near misses on yards. RAF bombs Pinlebu in Chindwin area. British small naval craft captures enemy supply vessel in mouth of the Mayu R., night of 3/4. <u>Burma:</u> Japanese force, estimated at 2,500, occupies Sumprabum, night of 4/5. Three B-25's	(Cont'd) <u>Australia:</u> Fifty-second raid on Darwin is carried out by 15 Zeros; landing strip and camp area strafed and 1 plane destroyed and another damaged. Intercepting Allied planes destroy 3 Zeros and probably destroy 3 more. <u>Solomon Is.:</u> Ten PB4Y's depart to bomb shipping at Buin, but fail to locate ships due to poor visibility; part of the force bombs Ballale, Kahili, and Vila in the NW Solomons. Ten SBD's escorted by 16 fighters raid Munda, starting 1 fire. Two Japanese planes bomb our positions on Guadalcanal at night, without causing damage or casualties. <u>Bismarck Sea:</u> Japanese convoy, which proceeds to Huon Gulf, is attacked repeatedly by force of B-17's, B-25's, RAAF Beaufighters, A-20's, P-38's, 1 RAAF Catalina, and 1 B-24. As a result of attacks on March 2 and 3, at least 18 warships and AK's are sunk and others badly damaged and sinking; 46 enemy planes destroyed and 25 probably destroyed for loss of 1 B-17 and 3 P-38's; enemy troop losses estimated at 15,000. <u>New Guinea:</u> Enemy installations at Lae attacked 3 times by total of 3 RAAF A-20's and 29 P-40's; barge sunk off shore, but other results unobserved; 6 of 16 intercepting Zeros destroyed and 3 others probably destroyed. <u>Aroe Is.:</u> Six RAAF Hudsons bomb and strafe Dobo, starting fires. <u>Kei Is.:</u> Nine Dutch B-25's attacking Toعال start large fire, probably on fuel dump.	3
<u>Tunisia:</u> Axis forces continue strong pressure in Sedjenane area and heavy street fighting takes place in Sedjenane. During night, British troops establish new positions around Tamera. Three companies of enemy infantry and 15	<u>Burma:</u> Japanese force, estimated at 2,500, occupies Sumprabum, night of 4/5. Three B-25's	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Four B-24's bomb Kahili and 2, Ballale. Munda attacked by 12 SBD's escorted by 15 F4F's; 4 fires result. <u>New Guinea:</u> Rcن of Huon Gulf area during early morning reveals that only	4

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
			(Cont'd) to or over target, but 29 enemy fighters engaged on return trip; 13 enemy planes shot down, 3 probably destroyed, and 4 damaged for loss of 4 B-17's. Shipbuilding yards at Rotterdam successfully bombed by 28 B-17's; bombs well concentrated and many hits scored; attack opposed by some AA fire and a few enemy fighters; 3 enemy planes destroyed and 3 damaged for loss of 1 B-17. Thirteen B-24's make diversionary flight over NW coast of Germany and Holland. <u>France:</u> Le Mans and Valenciennes successfully attacked by 12 Mosquitos.	(Cont'd) mud have become so extensive that large-scale operations must almost cease. Enemy continues his offensive along middle Donets front and recaptures Slavyansk, recovering much of the standard gauge RR to Voroshilovgrad. Red Army troops advance in Kursk region and capture Suja to the SW and Sievsk to the NW. Striking out from Rzhev, Soviets capture Olenino and Chertovino, clearing the Moscow-Rzhev-Velikye Luki RR of the enemy.	(Cont'd) top cover destroy 1 ME-109 and damage 2; 1 B-24 shot down.
5	...	...	<u>Germany:</u> More than 400 RAF planes raid Essen at night, dropping 987 tons of bombs, including 8,000, 4,000, and 2,000-lb. bombs; many very large fires and several explosions result; conflagration spreads over an extensive area, with smoke rising to 15,000'; intense AA fire and searchlights encountered; 14 RAF bombers missing. <u>North Sea:</u> RAF fighters destroy 2 E-boats and probably 2 others off Dutch coast.	<u>Russia:</u> Germans report smashing a Soviet attempt to outflank them in Kuban bridgehead. W of Rostov only artillery exchanges reported. Nazis, pushing toward Donets, capture Lisichansk, and report that the Third Soviet Army, encircled S of Khar'kov, is about to be wiped out. Russians claim gains in Sievsk area, W of Lgov, and S and W of Rzhev. Germans report repulse of Soviet attacks between Gzhatsk and Lake Ilmen, and on either side of Staraya Russa.	<u>Mediterranean:</u> Convoy bound for Malta attacked at dusk by 12 JU-88's; 1 tanker slightly damaged; attack broken up and 1 enemy plane destroyed by gunfire.

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(Cont'd) tanks make unsuccessful attack along Beja road. S of Gafsa, enemy infantry occupies hills near Sidi Asker and Djebel Menndel and Djebel Tabouna. In S, much movement of enemy MT in Mareth - Matmata - Gabes triangle observed; carrier patrol contacts enemy infantry N of Metameur. Enemy withdraws and our carrier screen is established in original position from which they fell back yesterday. Fifteen B-17's with escort of 24 P-38's, on anti-shipping sweep NW of Bizerta, attack convoy of 6 ships; 4 reported sunk and 2 damaged. Enemy planes encountered over target; 1 probably destroyed, 2 damaged. Convoy also bombed by 9 B-26's escorted by 18 P-38's which, with 15 B-25's escorted by 20 P-38's, are on anti-shipping mission between Tunis and Sicily. Djedeida attacked by 12 B-25's and 24 Spitfires which score hits on landing ground and dispersal area; heavy AA fire damages 1 Spitfire. Seventy-four Spitfire and 9 Hurricane sorties are carried out over Mateur - Beja - Medjes el Bab area; bombs dropped on MT and fires started; Spitfires attack 15-20 JU-87's escorted by 10 ME-109's in Sedjenane-De Jefna sector; 2 enemy planes destroyed, 1 probably, and 4 damaged. Spitfires damage 4 of 6 ME-109's encountered over Beja. In S, Kittybombers escorted by Spitfires bomb road transport and tanks in Toujane - Hallouf area; 2 ME-109's and 1 of our bombers lost. <u>Tunisia:</u> Enemy makes a small unsuccessful attack about 5 mi. NW of Munchar. In central sector, Pichon is occupied by Allied forces, although Axis continues to hold hills N and S of Pichon and N slopes of Djebel Trozza. Troops advancing from Sidi Bou Zid reach point halfway to Gafsa without encountering enemy. Patrols of 34th Division advance to Oued Kerd but, meeting enemy fire from Kef Mazir, withdraw slightly. Increased enemy activity observed in area N of Haddada; small enemy working parties dispersed. Enemy reported withdrawn from Nefta area. Bomber operations cancelled because of weather. Heavy rcn sorties carried out over Faid - Pichon, Jefna - Sedjenane - Medjes el Bab areas. East Atlantic: SS Melchura (Spanish cargo ship, 125 tons) sunk by mine at 33-43 N, 07-24 W.	(Cont'd) attack marshalling yards at Ywataung scoring direct hits on a train, a storage shed, and in RR yards. Escorted Blenheims bomb enemy positions at Rathedaung and Kamai. Pinlebu in Chindwin area also bombed by RAF. <u>Burma:</u> Tingpai (20 mi. SSW of Sumprabum) reported occupied by enemy, date of occupation unspecified. During engagements between RAF and enemy fighters in Akyab area, 7 enemy planes are destroyed, 5 probably and 2 damaged; 1 Hurricane is lost. Rail and water shipping in Monywa-Mogaung area attacked by RAF planes during day, and Thazi Junction bombed at night.	(Cont'd) 2 DD's remain from the convoy; these are sunk and lifeboats and personnel destroyed during attacks by B-17's and B-25's. Four of 20 enemy fighters intercepting a B-17 are destroyed. The B-25's also attack Tami I., off C. Cretin, starting large fire, and strafe barges near the island. Lae airdrome bombed by rcn B-24; later, attacks on Lae and Malahang by total of 12 A-20's and 11 RAAF Beau-fighters, covered by 12 P-38's and 8 P-40's, result in destruction of 6 planes on ground at Malahang and possible destruction of 3 more at Lae; building and petrol wagon at Malahang set on fire. Fighters attack 20-27 enemy fighters; 6 enemy planes shot down, 2 probably destroyed, 7 damaged. Enemy-occupied village near mouth of Waria R. bombed and strafed by 5 RAAF A-20's. <u>New Britain:</u> Three B-17's on rcn bomb Ubili. <u>Tanimbar Is.:</u> Matkus I. and Saumlakki attacked by 3 RAAF Hudsons; large fire results from direct hit on oil tank at Saumlakki. <u>Solomon Is.:</u> Nine PB4Y's make pre-dawn raid on Ballale I. and Kahili, starting large fires at the latter. During morning, Munda is attacked by Hudson on rcn and by force of 10 TBF's escorted by 15 F4F's. At night, U.S. naval task force successfully bombards Vila and Munda and sinks 2 large enemy DD's in Kula Gulf. Japanese planes raid Tulagi during night; our losses are 2 killed and 11 wounded. <u>New Guinea:</u> Ten RAAF Beau-fighters, in 2 attacks, strafe loaded barges and lifeboats in Huon Gulf, destroying 9 barges and inflicting heavy casualties. Allied PT boats destroy 3 more barges, containing 200 men, in same area. Total of 3 RAAF Hudsons, 5 RAAF Beau-fighters, and 6 A-20's, covered by 16 P-40's and 8 P-38's bomb and strafe Lae and Malahang airdromes; large fire visible for 40 mi. started in dispersal area at Lae. Fighters shoot	7 5

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			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
			(Cont'd) <u>East Atlantic:</u> Allied convoy travelling northward from Gibraltar is attacked by Axis SS's at 43-56 N, 14-53 W, and the following ships torp. and sunk: SS Empire Tower (British cargo ship, 4,378 tons); SS Fidra (British cargo ship, 1,547 tons); SS Tre-fusis (British cargo ship, 5,299 tons); SS Ger-Y-Bryn (British cargo ship, 5,108 tons).	(Cont'd) <u>Barents Sea:</u> Con- voy returning from Murmansk attacked by Axis U-boats; SS Executive (U.S. cargo ship, 4,978 tons) torp. and sunk at 72-44 N, 11-27 E.	
6			<u>France:</u> Sixty-three B-17's attack power station for Lorient submarine base; many hits scored in target area and nearby RR bridge partially destroyed; AA fire and a few fighters encountered; 3 B-17's lost. Fifteen B-24's supported by RAF Spitfires make diversionary raid on Brest with fair results; intense, accurate AA fire and enemy planes oppose attack; 2 Spitfires lost. During both attacks 9 enemy planes are destroyed, 2 probably destroyed, and 3 damaged.	<u>Russia:</u> Enemy in Kuban area still fighting defensively against outflanking by Soviet forces; latter claim local success W of Ros-tov. Germans report mopping up operations S of Kharkov. Russians claim gains W of Kursk where enemy is counterattacking with tanks. Farther N, the important Nazi stronghold of Gzhatsk is captured; Germans again announce heavy Soviet attacks at Staraya Russa but claim they are repelled.	

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER.	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
<u>Tunisia:</u> Germans continue attack in N and establish positions near Sidi Asker; one patrol pushes to point SE of Tamera where British have established new positions after withdrawing from Sedjenane. Little except patrol activity reported S of Medjes el Bab; Axis forces apparently withdrawn E of Goubellat - Bou Arada road. In Pichon area, Allied troops retire to El Ala positions; area W of Djebel Seagdal and Djebel Sidi Kralif reported clear of enemy. In the south, Rommel's troops launch attack from direction of Hallouf and Toujane against British positions on high ground W of Medenine. Axis makes 2 main thrusts: one just before dawn and the other in the afternoon by panzer divisions with artillery and air support. Heavy fighting ensues but attacks repulsed and 30 enemy tanks destroyed. In N, Spitfires carry out continuous offensive sweeps on Sedjenane - Beja areas; Hurricanes escorted by Spitfires attack Axis MT NE of Medjes el Bab, scoring hits on farms and transport. Four Spitfires in Beja sector attack 5 ME-109's and 5 FW-190's; 1 FW-190 destroyed; 1 Spitfire damaged. Nefatia landing ground attacked by 29 ME-210's. In S region, considerable numbers of enemy aircraft, ME-210's, FW-190's and JU-87's, attack our forward troops and landing grounds; Spitfires offer interception, destroying 2 enemy planes. <u>East Atlantic:</u> Axis SS's attack convoy bound for North Africa; SS Fort Battle River (British cargo ship, 7,133 tons) torp. and sunk at 36-30 N, 10-17 W.	<u>Burma:</u> Northern column of British 77th Brigade has been active in Chindwin area, damaging railway and bridges. Night of 6/7, Japanese capture Kyauktaw in the Kaladan Valley and British withdraw to Rathedaung area. Sabahta (4 mi. NNE of Rathedaung) also reported occupied by the enemy. Three B-24's bomb Moulmein docks; large fire starts in target area where all bombs hit. Myitnge bridge is target for 6 B-24's, which score 30 hits in target area near S and N approaches. Four B-24's attack 2 vessels in Rangoon R.; straddle, near misses, and a probable hit scored on stern of 1 400' vessel and near misses on the other (300'). Two P-40's bomb Indaw, starting 2 fires with 3 direct hits on buildings. Single B-24 attacks airdrome at Pagoda Pt. scoring hits on runway with 1,000-lb. bombs. RAF bombs	(Cont'd) down 3 enemy planes and damage another. <u>Goodenough I.:</u> Single enemy bomber ineffectively raids Vivigani strip. <u>New Britain:</u> Gasmata airdrome bombed and strafed by single B-17. <u>Tanimbar Is.:</u> One B-24 bombs Saumlakki, damaging buildings. <u>Solomon Is.:</u> Munda is target for bombing and strafing attack by 69 Allied planes, which report that naval bombardment of 5th has left the runway unserviceable. Kahili and Ballale airfields bombed by 5 and 3 B-24's, respectively; fires result in dispersal areas at each place. First enemy raid on Allied positions in Russell Is. is carried out by about 12 dive bombers and 25 Zeros; 2 fires result. Four P-39's intercept, shooting down 4 dive bombers and probably another. <u>New Guinea:</u> Guadagasel Saddle area bombed and strafed by 3 A-20's. Four RAAF Bostons bomb and strafe village at mouth of Waria R. <u>Goodenough I.:</u> Allied fighters shoot down enemy medium bomber off NE coast. Later, Vivigani runway is ineffectively bombed by 9 enemy bombers and 15 Zeros. This is the first enemy raid on Goodenough I. <u>New Britain:</u> AA positions at C. Gloucester airdrome bombed by B-24 on rcn.	6

1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
7	<u>North Africa:</u> General Giraud de- clares that decrees signed at Vichy are invalid in North Africa. He also refuses to recog- nize the incorpora- tion of Alsace into the Reich.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Kiska is target for total of 483 bombs drop- ped during 2 attacks by Allied planes; 4 P-40's bomb main camp area with un- observed results; later, 6 B-24's and 10 B-25's heavily bomb North Head district, scoring numerous hits in target area; 1 B-25 is slightly damaged by heavy AA fire. One B-24 and 4 P- 38's bomb and strafe enemy installations at Chicagof Harbor, Attu; fighters also strafe Attu village and Holtz Bay. <u>North Atlantic:</u> Allied convoy suf- fers minor Axis SS attack; SS Empire Light (British tank- er, 6,537 tons) torp. and sunk at 53-50 N, 46-14 W. SS Baron Kinnaird (British cargo ship, 3,355 tons) pre- sumed sunk by SS at approximately 50- 00 N, 40-00 W.	<u>England:</u> Total of 44 enemy planes cross S and SE coast of England during day and at night; 5 of these destroyed. <u>North Atlantic:</u> SS Jamaica (Nor- wegian cargo ship, 3,015 tons) pre- sumed sunk by SS at 48-00 N, 23-40 W. Axis SS wolf pack attacks east-bound convoy about 300 mi. SE of C. Fare- well; SS Egyptian (British cargo ship, 2,868 tons) torp. and sunk.	<u>Russia:</u> Fighting in Kuban area is still on small-scale; enemy defending himself successfully against Soviet at- tacks. Artillery duels carried on a- long Mius front. Enemy is counter- attacking SW of Vor- oshilovgrad and S of Kharkov; Soviet units are forced back. Russians claim advances W of Sievsk, S of Olenino, and W and NW of Gzhatsk; Germans report repulse of strong Soviet attacks in Staraya Russa sec- tor and gains S of Lake Ladoga. Rus- sians claim sinking of 6,000-ton enemy transport in Bar- ents Sea.	

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
Libya: Axis aircraft make evening raid on Tripoli; British tug damaged by near miss. Tunisia: Enemy positions established E of Sidi Asker, SW of Sedjenane, and in Oued Zarga sector. In S Tunisia, Moulares reported occupied by Italian garrison. In Mareth Line sector, Axis forces which failed in attempt to envelop British positions begin withdrawal: 21st Panzer moves toward Zelten and the 10th Panzer Division toward Gabes. Small attacks NW and W of Metameur and Medenine are repulsed and enemy retreats from the plains toward Toujane and from Medenine toward hills to W. New defense line reported from Djebel Tebaga to Melab. French forces occupy Redeyef and patrols moving toward Tozeur reach Bir el Hanek and Kriz. Several large formations of enemy planes operate against British forward troops. Spitfires attack forces retreating along passes to Toujane and Hallouf, encountering MC-202's and ME-109's, of which 9 are destroyed, 6 probably, and 11 damaged. Shipping and marshaling yards at Sousse attacked by 18 B-17's with escort of 19 P-38's which damage large ship in harbor, warehouses, and buildings. Mediterranean: Six B-25's with escort of P-38's attack enemy convoy of 3 merchant ships and 5-7 naval escorts. Although enemy planes intercept, 1 small merchant vessel sunk, 1 large one left sinking, and 2 ships set on fire. Three enemy aircraft destroyed; 2 probably, and 2 damaged. Second attack on convoy made by 19 B-17's escorted by 20 P-38's which score hits on 3 ships; 1 blows up and sinks immediately and 2 are left burning. Four Axis fighters oppose attack; 1 destroyed, 1 probably, 1 damaged. South Atlantic: SS Sabor (British cargo ship, 5, 212 tons) torp. and sunk	(Cont'd) Kalachaung on Mayu Peninsula and fighters carry out offensive rcn of Arakan coast; RR center at Mandalay is target for 16 tons of bombs dropped by RAF Liberators. China: Two P-40's operate against enemy MT in Tengchung and Lungling areas. Burma: Attempts to dislodge small enemy parties which have infiltrated into British positions NW of Rathedaung fail. During the night, enemy gains further ground in foothills NW of Rathedaung. Twelve B-25's bomb Gokteik viaduct, scoring 3 hits at base of bridge. Two P-40's bomb and strafe enemy positions near KC8 warning station at Hkalak-Ga. RAF continues active in Akyab area. China Sea: SS Kola (Russian cargo ship, 4,994 tons) torp. and sunk S of Tsushima.	Solomon Is.: Single PB4Y bombs enemy AK at Kieta, Bougainville I. Kahili, Ballale, and Vila bombed by PB4Y's during early morning. At night, B-24's make harassing raids on Kahili, Vila, Rekata Bay, and Munda. Single enemy plane drops 4 bombs on Guadalcanal at night; no damage results. New Guinea: Guadagasel Saddle area bombed and strafed by 6 A-20's, and B-24 on rcn bombs airdrome at Salamaua. An 8,000-ton enemy AK in Stephen Strait is attacked by B-24 on rcn; results unobserved. Enemy floatplane drops 1 bomb on Merauke without causing damage. New Britain: Hits scored on runways at Gasmata and C. Gloucester by rcn B-24. Kei Is.: Two attacks on Toeal area carried out by 3 RAAF Hudsons and 5 Dutch B-25's, respectively; buildings hit and fires started during 1st attack, but smoke prevents observation of results of 2d raid. Australia: Allied fighters shoot down enemy rcn plane over Darwin.	7

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1243 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
8	<u>Russia:</u> Admiral William H. Standley, U.S. Ambassador, declares to British and U.S. press in Moscow that Russian press never mentions U.S. Lend-Lease, Red Cross, and American-Russian Relief aid. <u>U.S.:</u> Under-Secretary of State, Sumner Welles, states that Admiral Standley's remarks in Moscow were made without prior	 <u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Six B-24's and 4 B-25's escorted by 12 P-38's attack Kiska, dropping 43 half-ton bombs in main camp area; hits	<u>France-Germany:</u> Fifty-four B-17's bomb marshalling yards at Rennes with good results; many fires started. A simultaneous attack on marshalling yards at Rouen is carried out by 13 B-24's. Spitfires provide escort for both missions. Strong fighter opposition and light AA fire encountered during both attacks; 4 Allied bombers and 2 fighters lost; enemy casualties are 28 destroyed, 4 probably destroyed, 8 damaged. Sixteen Mosquitos successfully attack RR centers in France and Germany; 1 Mosquito missing. Over 300 RAF planes carry out heavy night raid on Nuremburg, dropping 775 tons of bombs; 1 large explosion and many scattered fires result; AA fire moderate; 8 RAF planes missing. <u>North Atlantic:</u> Further SS attacks on Allied east-bound convoy result in sinking of the following ships at approximately 58 N, 31 W: SS Vojvoda Putnik (Yugoslavian cargo ship, 5,879 tons); SS Guido (British cargo ship, 3,921 tons); SS Fort Lamy (British cargo ship, 5,242 tons). <u>France:</u> Fifteen Mosquitos, attacking Renault works S of Le Mans, score many hits on factory buildings; 1 Mosquito missing.	<u>Russia:</u> Artillery duels W of Rostov and strong Nazi attacks SW of Voroshilovgrad reported. German forces fighting SW of Kharkov claim to have carried attack into region W of the town. Soviets claim gains NW of Kursk and S of Olenino, although Germans report repulse of Russian assaults in Orel region. Red Army troops capture Sychevka, N of Vyazma, forcing Nazis back toward this town and Smolensk; they also report advances W of Gahatsk. The heavy fighting S of Lake Ilmen continues as enemy successfully defends his positions against strong Russian attacks. <u>Russia:</u> Russians acknowledge heavy Nazi counterattacks in Donets Basin and Kharkov area, and announce that Krasnograd, Lozovaya,	<u>Sicily:</u> Four Malta-based Spitfires score hits on shipping sheds S of Avola and on RR bridge and tracks S of Sciacca, and strafe trucks and signal boxes. Palermo bombed by 28 Wellingtons; bursts observed in harbor and fires started. Agrigento and Licata also attacked. <u>Gulf of Genoa:</u> Allied SS of patrol sinks 2 enemy ships by torpedo and 2 by gunfire.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) at 34-30 S, 23-30 E. Tunisia: Minor tank attack in Tamera area badly disorganizes enemy. Germans reoccupy Kef el Ahmar Pass. In S, enemy settles down to preparing new defense lines running from Djebel Tebaga to Djebel Melab and the other, from the sea to Djebel Fatnassa, N of Gabes. Spitfires on sweep over Bizerta attack 10 ME-109's, damaging 6. Seventeen Hurricanes and 107 Spitfires carry out offensive sorties over Sidi Nsir - Sedjenane - Beja - Cape Serrat - Tabarka - Bizerta area. Spitfires near Pichon destroy 1 out of 4 FW-190's encountered. Three fighter bomber attacks made on enemy transport and tanks retreating in Hallouf area. Twenty-two B-17's escorted by 24 P-38's and covered by 22 Spitfires attack convoy N of Cape Bon, reporting near misses on 1 ship; large group of Axis fighters intercept; 15 ME-109's destroyed, 10 ME-109's, 1 JU-88, and 1 FW-190 probably destroyed, 5 ME-109's and 1 FW-190 damaged. Indian Ocean: SS James B. Stephens (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons) torp. and sunk at 28-53 S, 33-18 E.	Burma: Japanese troops are astride Apaukwa-Kanzauk track, in Rathedaung area. RAF Blenheims and Hurricanes, supporting ground operations, attack objectives NE of Rathedaung. Kanzauk subjected to enemy artillery fire throughout the day. Six B-25's bomb Myitnge bridge, scoring probable hits and near misses, but haze obscures results. Another force of 6 B-25's bombs AA position near Myitnge bridge, RR yards at Monywa, and industrial section of Myingyan. Bassein docks attacked by 4 B-24's, which score 20 hits on docks and warehouses. Single B-25 bombs Maingkwan. Eight P-40's, in 4 flights of 2 each, attack enemy positions "near Dinjan area air warning station at Pebu." Five P-40's bomb and strafe Wahat (6 mi. S of Sumprabum).	Solomon Is.: B-24's make harassing raids on Kahili, Ballale, Munda, and Vila. New Guinea: Three enemy lifeboats strafed and sunk by B-17 on rcn. Another, attacking Finschafen, causes 2 heavy explosions among buildings. In Dutch New Guinea, single B-24's on rcn bomb Kaukenau area and 1 of 2 merchant vessels at Babo. Allied ship-ping near Porlock Harbor attacked by force of 9 bombers escorted by 13 fighters and SS S. Jacob (Dutch cargo ship, 2,939 tons) is sunk. Oro Bay also bombed by same force; 1 enemy bomber and 1 fighter shot down by 4 intercepting P-38's. New Britain: Nine Zeros intercept B-17 on rcn near Gasmata; 4 Zeros shot down, another probably destroyed. Tanimbar Is.: Saumlakki bombed by single B-24 on rcn. N.E.I.: Timor: Two RAAF Beau-fighters strafe runway at Fuiloro and destroy 1 plane on the ground.	8
Tunisia: Offensive patrols toward Sedjenane encounter enemy strong points on both sides of road. Axis persistently shells our positions in Tamera sector. Enemy evacuates Ousseltia and withdraws from Kef el Ahmar Pass. In S, Tozeur and possibly	India: One Italian and 3 German ships interned in Portuguese Goa set on fire by their crews. Burma: Mogaung attacked 4 times by	Solomon Is.: Eleven TBF's and 18 SBD's escorted by 31 F4F's attack enemy installations at Munda, starting fires at AA positions and in supply dump area. Kahili, Ballale, Vila, and Munda bombed in early morning by 3 B-24's.	9

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1943 Mar	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
	(Cont'd) consultation with the government.	(Cont'd) observed in target area. Heavy AA fire slightly dam- ages 1 B-25 and 2 B-24's, but all our planes return. West Atlantic: Convoy from Bahia again attacked; SS Kelvinbank (British cargo ship, 3,872 tons) torp. and sunk at 07-24 N, 52-11 W.	(Cont'd) Germany: About 250 RAF planes raid Munich at night; bombs dropped in- clude 3 8,000 and 120 4,000-lb. bombs; huge explosion oc- curs on gasworks and many fires started; AA fire moderate; 8 RAF planes missing; 2 enemy planes de- stroyed. England: During day and at night, a total of 24 enemy planes cross English coast; Worthing, Hove, and Yorkshire are principal targets; 3 Axis planes de- stroyed. North Sea: British light forces sink 1 enemy ship and leave 2 burning. North Atlantic: Allied convoy re- turning from Russia attacked by enemy SS's and SS Puerto Rican (U.S. cargo ship, 6,076 tons) sunk at 66-44 N, 10- 41 W. Attacks on Allied east-bound convoy continue: SS Malantic (U.S. cargo ship, 3,837 tons) and SS Rosewood (Brit- ish tanker, 5,989 tons) torp. and nk at 58-37 N, approx- imately 22 W.	(Cont'd) Pavlograd, Krasno- armeisk, Krama- torsk, Barvenkova, Slavyansk, and Lisichansk have been abandoned but report that stiff re- sistance is checking further enemy at- tempts to advance. Enemy announces capture of Valki and Lyubotin. Soviets report capture of Temkino, E of Vyazma and gains W of Gzhatsk. Red Army troops S of Lake Ilmen advance slightly, announcing capture of Staro- Ramushevo and Novo-Ramushevo.	
10	U.S.: President Roosevelt sends Congress the report of the National Resources Planning Board which out- lines a national social security pro- gram and post-war economic adjust- ments and reforms.	Aleutian Is.: Four P-40's bomb Kiska, scoring at least 1 hit in submarine base area. Six B- 24's, 10 B-25's, and 12 P-38's carry out second raid on Kis- ka; B-25's and fighters bomb and strafe 2 radar in- stallations, a near- by AA battery, and North Head, scoring hits; B-24's drop 1,000-ton bombs in main camp area, hitting several build- ings. Heavy AA fire	North Atlantic: Allied east-bound convoy suffers fur- ther losses from hostile SS's: SS Nailsea Court (Brit- ish cargo ship, 4,946 tons) sunk at 58-45 N, 21-57 W; SS Bonneville (Nor- wegian cargo ship, 4,665 tons) sunk at 58-48 N, 22-00 W. A second east- bound convoy pro- ceeding from New York is attacked by Axis SS's with the following results:	Russia: Russian forces in Kuban district further com- press Nazi units and capture Krasno- armeisk. Enemy attack W and NW of Kharkov is gaining ground; Russians advance S of Olen- ino, SW of Sychevka, capturing Novo- Dugino, and SW of Gzhatsk. NW of Vyazma, Soviet forces seize Byelyi. Nazis report de- crease of Soviet at- tacks in Staraya	

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) Kriz abandoned by enemy. In Mareth sector, enemy armored cars and artillery attack patrols during night, forcing a slight withdrawal. Heavy bombing missions cancelled because of weather. Eight P-38's and 4 Spitfires carry out rcn in Gafsa and Maknassy areas. Enemy operates against our MT on Djebel Abiod - Beja road. Axis aircraft make three attacks on Medenine, but the third intercepted by RAF fighters. South Atlantic: SS Tabor (Norwegian cargo ship, 4,768 tons) torp. and sunk at 37-30 S, 23-00 E.	(Cont'd) 6 P-40's each; hit on ammunition dump results in large explosion, 7 direct hits on RR bridge destroy N span and leave center span sagging, fires result from hits in town area; other towns, airdromes, and MT in vicinity of Mogaung strafed. Twenty-one escorted Blenheims continue offensive against ground targets in Kanzaung area NE of Rathedaung. At night, 7 RAF Liberators bomb Promé. China: Japanese units cross the Yangtze R. at several points between Yoyang and Ichang during March 8 and 9.	(Cont'd) New Guinea: Further convoy survivors killed or captured during 8th and 9th at Tufi, Goodenough I., and Lusancay I. Twenty-six Japanese bombers escorted by 21 fighters bomb Wau airdrome; little damage results.	
Tunisia: In afternoon, enemy makes unsuccessful attacks in Tamera and Sedjenane areas. Axis artillery shells Sidi Bou Zid. Metlaoui occupied by Allied troops and forward elements reach Oued Gound. In Mareth sector, 30 Axis armored cars with artillery surround and attack Allied positions at Ksar Rhilane, SW of Mareth. By evening, attacks die down; our positions still intact, although enemy artillery approaches to within 1,000 yards of main French concentrations. El Aouina airdrome bombed by 41 B-17's with P-38 escort; hits scored on 3 large aircraft on ground; 8-10 planes left burning. Fifteen ME-109's intercept attack; of these, 5 destroyed, 2 probably, and 2 damaged. Force of	Burma: Mingaladon airdrome and Pazundaung bridge at Rangoon attacked by 4 and 5 B-24's, respectively; at the airdrome, several hits are scored on runway, buildings, and revetments; 5 hits scored on N end of bridge, but smoke prevents observation of results. After leaving the target the formation is attacked by 11-13 enemy planes, 3 of which are destroyed	Solomon Is.: Two PB4Y's bomb Kahili, Munda, and Vila during early morning. Vila heavily attacked by 18 SBD's, 12 TBF's, and 31 F4F's; several large fires result. Eight P-38's intercept enemy force of about 10 dive bombers and 12 Zeros near Russell Is.; 3 Zeros and 1 dive bomber shot down. New Guinea: In Mubo area, our forward units in contact with enemy at Guadagasel Ridge. Enemy is reported to be occupying Lababia Ridge. Four B-17's make dawn attack on 6 ships in Wewak harbor, scoring near misses which leave 1 ship smoking and extinguish searchlight. Another B-17 or rcn strafes building at Wewak. New Britain: Gasmata runway bombed	10

1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
		(Cont'd) slightly damages 1 B-24, 1 B-25, 2 P-38's, and photo plane, but all return. Allied weather plane unsuccessfully attacked by 5 enemy floatplanes near Gertrude Cove. West Atlantic: East-bound Allied convoy attacked by Axis SS's; SS Clarissa Radcliffe (British cargo ship, 5,754 tons) presumed sunk at approximately 42-00 N, 62-00 W. Caribbean: SS James Sprunt (U.S. cargo ship, 7,177 tons) and SS Virginia Sinclair (U.S. tanker, 6,151 tons), both in convoy, torpedoes and sunk at approximately 20-00 N, 74-05 W.	(Cont'd) SS Andrea F. Luckenbach (U.S. cargo ship, 6,565 tons) and SS Tucurınca (British cargo ship, 5,412 tons) sunk at 51-23 N, 29-18 W; SS Brant County (Norwegian cargo ship, 5,001 tons) sunk at approximately 52 N, 27 W. West-bound convoy returning from Russia loses another ship to enemy SS's; SS Richard Bland (U.S. cargo ship, 7,191 tons) sunk at 66-48 N, 14-15 W. Mid-Atlantic: SS California Star (British cargo ship, 8,300 tons) sunk by SS in Mid-Atlantic. France-Belgium: USAAF P-47's in operation for first time make sweep off Walcheren I., Netherlands.	(Cont'd) Russia sector and heavy Luftwaffe raids on Soviet columns and supplies. Russians claim gains S of Lake Ilmen.	
11	Chile: Chilean Government orders filing of sworn statements covering all Axis-held or controlled securities and funds, preliminary to a general freezing of Axis assets.	Caribbean: SS Olanchó (Honduran cargo ship, 2,493 tons) torpedoes and sunk at 22-03 N, 85-14 W.	Germany: Stuttgart heavily raided at night by about 300 RAF planes; 769 tons of bombs dropped; many fires resulting merge into large conflagration; moderate AA fire and fighters encountered; 11 RAF planes missing. England: About 20 GAF planes attack Hastings, causing some casualties and damage. At night, 25 hostile planes drop some bombs over NE counties; damage slight. Enemy losses during above operations are 6 planes destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, 1 damaged. North Atlantic: Allied convoy east-bound from New York is again attacked by enemy SS's and SS William	Russia: Germans claim repulse of fresh Soviet attacks in Kuban area. Enemy troops continue to drive toward Kharkov, with the heaviest fighting taking place at N and W edges of city, and report frustration of Russian attacks in Orel sector. In Vyazma sector, Red Army forces capture Andreyevsk, and claim gains S of Byelyi. Germans report unsuccessful Soviet attacks on position S of Kholm.	Sicily: Forty-one heavy bombers attack Palermo, causing fires among harbor installations Comiso and Porto Empedocle also successfully bombed.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) 36 B-17's escorted by P-38's attack La Marsa airfield; bursts observed on entire target area; 20 ME-109's and FW-190's encountered; 3 of these destroyed, 4 damaged. RAF planes bomb and strafe attacking enemy in south; 1 Kittyhawk raid encounters force of heavily escorted JU-87's; 3 ME-109's and 1 JU-87 destroyed. Axis planes carry out 6 fighter bomber attacks on Ksar Rhilane during day. Twelve B-26's escorted by 36 P-40's carry out heavy and successful raid on Gafsa. Indian Ocean: SS Richard D. Spaight (U.S. cargo ship, 7,177 tons) torp. and presumed sunk at 28-00 S, 37-00 E.	(Cont'd) and several damaged. Four B-25's attack Gokteik viaduct, but clouds hinder bombing; no hits scored. RAF continues active in Akyab-Rathedaung areas.	(Cont'd) by single B-17 on rcn. Trobriand Is.: Allied fighters shoot down enemy rcn medium bomber. Tanimbar Is.: Saumlakki attacked by 3 RAAF Hudsons, which silence AA fire and score probable hits on wharf and gun positions. N.E.L.: Two vessels sighted and attacked by rcn B-24 near Boeton I. (SE of Celebes); 1 6,000-ton merchant ship is left burning as result of direct hit.	17
Tunisia: Enemy again makes unsuccessful attacks in Tamera sector. Weak enemy resistance in Ousseltia area encountered by Allied troops. Patrol activity only around Sidi Bou Zid. Bombing operations cancelled due to inclement weather. Force of B-26's with escort of P-38's, on anti-shipping mission between Tunis and Sicily, attack convoy of 7 Siebel ferries with 4 escort vessels W of Marettimo I; hits scored on 1 and near misses on others. A large number of JU-88's, ME-210's, and ME-110's encountered; 2 destroyed and 1 B-26 shot down. Indian Ocean: SS Aelbryn (British cargo ship, 4,986 tons) torp. and sunk at 28-30 S, 34-00 E.	Burma: British troops engage enemy force in Sumprabum area, inflicting casualties, then withdraw to positions 12 mi. N of Sumprabum. Force of 7 B-25's attacks Myitnge bridge, scoring near misses on N approach. RAF planes attack enemy positions at Donbaik.	Solomon Is.: Three PB4Y's carry out harassing raids on enemy airfields at Kahili, Ballale, and Vila during early morning. At night, 2 enemy planes bomb our positions on Guadalcanal; no damage results. New Guinea: Japanese positions in Guadagasel area bombed and strafed by 3 A-20's. Rcn B-24 scores direct hits on airdrome, warehouse, and possible dumps at Finschhafen. Dobodura area twice raided by enemy planes. Force of 24 bombers escorted by 16 Zeros bombs airdrome near Dobodura, destroying 3 planes on ground; 24 intercepting Allied fighters shoot down 9 Zeros and probably destroy 3 Zeros and 2 bombers; 1 Allied fighter lost. In the evening, single enemy plane ineffectively raids Dobodura, dropping 2 bombs. Two enemy bombers raid Allied positions in Wau area at night, dropping 8 bombs; no damage results. New Britain: Two B-24's bomb Lakunai airdrome at Rabaul, but clouds obscure results. Abandoned enemy vessel in Open Bay bombed and strafed by B-24 on rcn.	11

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
			(Cont'd) C. Gorgas (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons) sunk at 51-35 N, 28-30 W. Allied east-bound convoy, which has been under attack since March 7, suffers further losses from enemy SS's: SS Empire Impala (British cargo ship, 6,116 tons); SS Milos (Swedish cargo ship, 3,058 tons); SS Empire Lakeland (British cargo ship, 7,015 tons); and SS Leadgate (British cargo ship, 2,125 tons) overdue and presumed sunk. Mid-Atlantic: British DD, Harvester, sunk by Axis SS while escorting convoy.		
12	<u>U.S.:</u> Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary of Great Britain, arrives in Washington for a conference on war and post-war problems. <u>Great Britain:</u> General Charles de Gaulle broadcasts from London an appeal to French people to oppose by obstruction and sabotage German labor conscription. <u>Italy:</u> Mussolini summons a meeting of Fascist party leaders to discuss preparations for the imminent war threat to Italy.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Twelve Allied fighters, on rcn mission over Kiska, strafe gun positions; moderate AA fire encountered from Vulcan Pt.	<u>France:</u> Sixty-three B-17's escorted by Spitfires attack Rouen with good results; many hits scored in marshalling yards and around engine sheds; heavy smoke rises to 12,000'; AA and fighter opposition light; all our planes return. Force of B-24's carries out uneventful sweep along Channel coast. Armament works near Lille successfully bombed by 11 Mosquitos, 1 of which is missing. <u>Germany:</u> About 450 RAF planes carry out destructive night raid on Essen dropping over 1,000 tons of bombs, including 156 4-ton bombs; many large explosions result and fires are well concentrated; photographs taken the next day reveal oil fires still burning and the Krupp Works apparently	<u>Russia:</u> Soviets report repulse of enemy attack in Izyum sector and heavy fighting around Kharkov; Germans report violent street fighting in progress in Kharkov and claim Russians are being pushed eastward. Fighting in Orel area appears to have slowed down; Russians announce raid on Orel air-drome and claim destruction of 15 Axis planes. Soviet troops on N end of this front advance SW of Sychevka to capture the important Nazi base of Vyazma, SW of Temkino to capture Znamensk, and S of Byelyi.	<u>Sicily:</u> Ragusa bombed by 8 Malta-based Spitfire bombers with escort of Spitfire fighters; RR station sidings, and buildings damaged. <u>Mediterranean:</u> Beauforts and Albacores from Malta successfully attack Axis convoy off Palermo; 1 merchant ship damaged and 1 tanker left burning. Two Malta-based Beaufighters strafe schooner E of Lampedusa; boat believed sunk.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
Tunisia: Area S of Djebel Tabouna occupied by 1 company of enemy. Axis artillery heavily shells area N of Djebel Mansour. In central Tunisia, Djebel es Stah reported occupied by enemy. Spitfires and Hurricanes on tactical rcn in N sector attack MT and cars. Force of B-26's escorted by P-40's attacks RR bridges and supply dumps at Enfidaville; hits scored on dumps; of intercepting enemy aircraft, 2 ME-109's shot down; 1 B-24 lost. B-17's with escort of P-38's attack docks and marshalling yards at Sousse; bursts observed in RR yards, docks, oil storage, and near power house; large fires started. Fifteen to twenty enemy planes oppose attacks; 2 destroyed, 2 probably, and 2 damaged against loss of 1 P-38. Axis fighter bombers attack roads in Kasserine-Sbeitla area. Enemy planes make 2 attacks on Thelepte airdrome, damaging 3 Spitfires on the ground; 5 ME-109's destroyed, 4 damaged. Algeria: Enemy torpedo bombers and bombers operate in Bone area; 1 JU-88 shot down, 1 HE-111 probably destroyed. Mediterranean: Force of B-25's escorted by P-38's attacks 18 Siebel ferries 20 mi. NNW of Cape Bon; 3 sunk, 3 probably sunk, and near misses scored on others. Italian planes intercept of which 2 are destroyed; 1 B-25 shot down. Enemy E-boat sinks British DD, Lightning, N of Cape Guardia.	Burma: In Rathedaung area, enemy makes night attack on British left flank, causing slight withdrawal of forward units. Pazundaung bridge at Rangoon attacked by 6 B-24's; 1 intercepting enemy bomber destroyed and 2 Zeros destroyed or damaged. Enemy positions near air warning station KC8 bombed and strafed by 4 P-40's.	Solomon Is.: Before dawn, Japanese airfields at Kahili, Ballale, Munda, and Vila suffer harassing raids by 3 B-24's. Twenty-one TBF's bomb Munda at night, starting 2 fires; 1 TBF is missing. B-24's continue to harass enemy airfields, bombing Kahili, Ballale, and Munda during the night; small fire is started at Kahili and a large one at Ballale. New Guinea: Guadagasel Gap bombed and strafed 4 times by 3 A-20's, which also strafe building area at Salamaua. New Britain: Eight B-17's bomb Lakunai airdrome at Rabaul, causing a large explosion. Single B-24 scores 2 hits on runway at C. Gloucester airdrome. N.E.I.: Three B-24's attack shipping and harbor installations at Ambon, scoring direct hit on a 6-7,000-ton vessel; 6-8 enemy fighters attempt interception; B-24's shoot down 2 and damage 2 more. Fuilloro airdrome, Timor, bombed and strafed in coordinated attack by 3 Dutch B-25's and 2 RAAF Beaufighters; results of bombing attack obscured by clouds, but Beaufighters damage grounded enemy fighter, and at Lautem, damage a 300-ton motor vessel and strafe personnel on beach; one of 4 enemy fighters attempting interception is shot down and another probably destroyed.	12

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
			(Cont'd) inactive; heavy AA fire encountered; 23 RAF planes missing; 3 enemy planes destroyed. England: Total of 30 enemy planes over Essex and Devon during day and 12 attack Tyne-side area at night.		
13	U.S.: Mr. Eden tells press that post-war collaboration between the United Nations is indispensable if a lasting peace is to be achieved. Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, states that numerous French sailors are deserting from their warships in U.S. harbors to join Fighting French. North Africa: French National Committee in London publishes a memo to General Giraud which states that they desire incorporation of North and West Africa in Fighting French movement, that the armistice be declared null and void, and that French liberties be restored in freed territories.	Aleutian Is.: Twelve P-40's attack Kiska, dropping bombs on beached enemy planes, runway near Salmon Lagoon, and in main camp area; hits observed among planes. A second attack on Kiska is carried out by 4-P-38's and 8 P-40's, which strafe gun emplacements at Vulcan Pt. and beached enemy aircraft; hits scored on 3-6 of the 14 beached planes. One P-38 suffers minor damage from intense AA fire, but all our planes return. Caribbean: Allied convoy attacked by enemy U-boats and following ships sunk at 14-50 N, 71-46 W: SS Cities Service Missouri (U.S. tanker, 7,506 tons) and SS Ceres (Dutch cargo ship, 2,680 tons).	France: Seventy-five B-17's escorted by Spitfires attack RR targets in France, 44 bombing Amiens and 31 raiding other RR objectives; bombing hampered by heavy haze over entire area; moderate AA fire and fighter reaction encountered; 5 enemy planes destroyed, 5 probably destroyed, and 4 damaged for loss of 6 Spitfires. England: Four of 8 enemy planes crossing SW coast destroyed and another damaged. Twenty-one reported operating off SE and E coasts at night, of which 9 fly overland. East Atlantic: Allied convoy outbound from the United Kingdom attacked by hostile SS's at 42-45 N, 13-50 W and the following ships sunk: SS Sembilangan (Dutch cargo ship, 4,990 tons); SS Marcella (British cargo ship, 4,592 tons); SS Oporto (British cargo ship, 2,352 tons); SS Claa Alpine (British cargo ship, 5,442 tons).	Russia: Enemy reports surprise attack on Soviet forces in Kuban area and claims to have shattered them. Soviets claim repulse of German attacks in Izyum area. Street fighting in Kharkov continues, but Russians report repulse of Nazi attacks to south of city. Germans attack on wide front W of Belgorod and claim capture of Bogodukhov, Akhtyrka, and Graivoron. Fighting around Orel has slackened; on Vyazma front, Russian forces gain, capturing many inhabited localities, including RR station of Ugra. Nazi fighter bombers attack Murmansk RR, town, and harbor; SS Ocean Freedom (British cargo ship, 7,173 tons) sunk and SS Lena (Russian cargo ship, 1,459 tons) considered total loss as result of raid.	Italy: Naples harbor bombed by 18 B-24's; clouds prevent observation of results. Six B-24's make second attack on Naples; results unobserved.
14	Martinique: Admiral Robert, French High Commissioner, again publicly reaffirms his adherence		France: Airfields at Cherbourg and Abbeville attacked by escorted Whirlwind bombers. England: About 11	Russia: Local fighting continues in Kuban and Mius areas, Germans report Kharkov area largely in	Sicily: Eight Spitfire bombers and 8 Spitfires attack Pozzallo factory area; results unobserved because of clouds.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	
<u>Tunisia:</u> Minor enemy attack in Tamera sector repulsed. Patrol activity only in Ousseltia sector. Enemy artillery activity increases on Mareth front; armored cars and MT observed still in vicinity of Ksar Rhilane. Bombing operations cancelled due to inclement weather. About 25 enemy aircraft carry out offensive sweeps over Mateur - Beja - Sedjenane, and Kairouan areas. Spitfires and P-39's dispatched to attack landing ground near La Fanconnerie are intercepted by 12 ME-109's and FW-190's; 7 P-39's destroyed. <u>Algeria:</u> Small number of enemy torpedo bombers and JU-88's operate over Bone in early morning, causing slight damage to power station. In afternoon, of 7 or 8 Axis aircraft over Bone, 2 are destroyed. <u>Mediterranean:</u> Malta-based planes make night attack on enemy convoy of 4 merchant vessels with DD escort; 1 ship of 6,000 tons blown up and 2 others damaged. <u>East Atlantic:</u> Convoy for Mediterranean attacked by enemy U-boats; SS Keystone (U.S. cargo ship, 5,565 tons) torp. and sunk at 37-59 N, 27-40 W. <u>South Atlantic:</u> SS Empress of Canada (British cargo ship, 21,517 tons) torp. and sunk at 01-13 S, 09-57 N.	<u>Burma:</u> Fighting continues in Rathedaung area. Pazundaung bridge at Rangoon is attacked for second successive day, by force of 4 B-24's; 2 near misses scored on bridge. Five-seven enemy twin-engine fighters intercept, 1 of which is destroyed, 1 probably, and several damaged; 2 B-24's destroyed. RAF attacks objectives in Donbaik and Akyab areas. <u>Andaman Is.:</u> Dutch SS sinks 4,000 ton enemy ship off Andaman Is.	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Force of 18 SBD's escorted by 23 fighters bombs Vila, dropping bombs in dump and camp area; heavy explosion and smoke results. Four P-38's strafe small vessel near Rendova I., destroying it. Three RAAF Catalinas make night attack on Buka airdrome, dropping bombs on runway and in dispersal area. <u>New Guinea:</u> Mubo area clear of enemy to point 500 yards N of Guadagasel by evening. Allied patrols contact enemy at Mambare Delta. Enemy convoy sighted NE of Wewak about noon and shadowed. In the evening, force of 6 B-17's attacks the convoy; 4,000-ton tanker is hit and believed sunk, hits on an AP cause it to explode and burst into flames, hits and near misses scored on a 7-8,000-ton AK and on deck of a large DD; Wewak town and airdrome also bombed, but results are unobserved. Komiatum-Salamaua track and nearby trails strafed by 3 RAAF Beaufighters. B-24 on rcn attacks enemy merchant vessel at Babo, drops 2 bombs on AK's near Kaimana, and strafes river ferry, forcing it ashore at Kaimana; 1 of 6 enemy planes intercepting over Babo is shot down. <u>New Britain:</u> One B-17 strafes warehouses in vicinity of Wide Bay, and another drops 4 bombs on Gasmata runway.	13
<u>Tunisia:</u> Italian infantry reported on Djebel Goussa. In S, Axis rcn units observed still in Ksar Rhilane area but Kreddache and Hallouf reported evacuated by enemy. Hill NW of Djebel el Harch attacked by enemy who	<u>Burma:</u> Enemy pressure continues in Rathedaung area. Four B-24's attack Moulmein docks, hitting ware-	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Three B-24's make minor attacks on Munda, Vila, and enemy positions on Shortland I. during early morning. <u>New Guinea:</u> Three B-24's drop bombs on Wewak runway near 3 air-	14

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1943 Mar	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
	(Cont'd) to Marshal Petain.		(Cont'd) enemy planes cross NE at night; 4 de- stroyed.	(Cont'd) their hands but Russians resist desperately and heavy fighting con- tinues. Axis forces drive E from Poltava and Sumy, and claim advances toward Belgorod, capturing Boris- ovka. Soviets con- tinue to gain in Vyazma area, re- porting progress W and SW of the town and S of Byelyi; Red Army troops cross Vyazma R. while other units break up large enemy concen- trations at Kholm - Zhirkovsky and force a passage of the upper Dnieper, oc- cupying several en- emy strong points on W bank.	
15	<u>North Africa:</u> General Giraud sends message to General Catroux, stating that the time for the union of Frenchmen has arrived and he is ready to receive General de Gaulle "in order to give this union a concrete form." <u>Finland:</u> Germany and Finland sign trade agreement, to mutually supple- ment production of each other.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> More than 70 Allied planes (B-24's, B-25's, and fighters) participate in 6 at- tacks on Kiska. Approximately 50 tons of bombs drop- ped on main camp area and installa- tions at North Head; many hits scored in target areas, but details of damage unreported. One P-38 is lost. Three enemy float planes unsucces- fully attack weather plane returning from Kiska.	<u>France:</u> Enemy airfield in Brittany is target for 11 es- corted Venturas. <u>England:</u> Ten en- emy planes cross NE at night; 4 de- stroyed.	<u>Russia:</u> Germans report sinking of 7,000-ton Soviet tanker off Tuapse. Nazi offensive in upper Donets ad- vances and enemy recaptures Kharkov, still the RR center of southern Russia. Axis forces NW of the city continue their drive toward Belgorod, although a determined Soviet counterattack W of Belgorod checks the advance. Soviet troops on central front gain in the drive for Smolensk, capturing Kholm- Zhirkovsky, and advancing W and SW of Vyazma. Baturina, S of Byelyi also captured. Germans report fresh Russian at- tack in Staraya Russa area; Russians claim gains S of Lake Ilmen.	<u>Italy:</u> Malta- based Mosquitos strafe targets in Calabria; search- light position destroyed.

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1943 Mar	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
16		Aleutian Is.: Kiska is attacked 3 times by total of 12 B-24's, 12 B-25's, and 12 P-38's; hits scored in main camp area, on AA installations at North Head, and on submarine base; radar installation possibly hit; large fires started in camp area. Heavy AA fire encountered; 1 B-25 missing; several planes damaged. Eight P-38's engage 8 enemy fighters 20 mi. S of Vega Pt., Kiska; 1 and possibly 2 enemy planes shot down; all our fighters return to base. North Atlantic: East-bound Allied convoy attacked SE of Cape Farewell, Greenland; following ships torp. and sunk at 50-38 N, 34-46 W: SS William Eustis (U.S. cargo ship, 7,194 tons), SS James Oglethorpe (U.S. cargo ship, 7,176 tons), SS Zaanland (Dutch cargo ship, 6,813 tons), and SS Elin K (Norwegian cargo ship, 5,214 tons). Mid-Atlantic: SS Thorstrand (Norwegian cargo ship, 3,041 tons) torp. and sunk at 41-22 N, 42-59 W.	Germany: Twelve Mosquitos carry out successful daylight raid on Paderborn (40 mi. E of Hamm); 1 Mosquito missing.	Russia: Germans claim to have enveloped Russian forces SE of Khar'kov; Russians report heavy engagements in upper Donets area and repulse of enemy attacks. German offensive in Belgorod-Kursk region continues, endangering the Soviet salient in Sumy area; enemy reports repulse of Russian counter-attack W of Belgorod. Moscow announces gains S of Byelyi and S of Lake Ilmen, where occupation of several populated places is claimed.	Sicily: Comiso airdrome attacked by 8 Spitfire bombers escorted by Spitfire fighters; results unobserved. Two Spitfires bomb locomotives at Paolo. Lampedusa I.: Four Spitfire bombers escorted by fighters attack airdrome, scoring hits on SE corner.
17	North Africa: General Giraud formally restores the laws of the French Republic. Local, elected assemblies holding office on June 22, 1940, will function until post-war elections can take place; Jews and Masons regain civil rights.	Aleutian Is.: Two P-40's bomb enemy ship and main camp area at Kiska. North Atlantic: East-bound convoy again attacked; SS Irene Dupont (U.S. cargo ship, 6,125 tons), SS Harry Luckenbach (U.S. cargo ship, 6,366 tons), SS Coracero (British cargo ship,	East Atlantic: SS E. V. George (British cargo ship, 16 tons) sunk by mine 5 mi. S of Rye.	Russia: Soviet forces SE of Khar'kov, in Chuguyev area, counterattack Nazi encircling forces in attempt to relieve trapped Red Army units and claim capture of advantageous positions. Germans claim advances to E in Belgorod area and repulse of	Italy: Mosquitos, during night, strafe trains in toe of Italy, attack RR station at Amatea where explosions are observed, and raid RR junction of Samenzia. Sicily: Eight Malta-based Spitfires attack Comiso airdrome.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
<u>Libya:</u> Night of 16/17, 15 JU-88's bomb Tripoli; hits scored on barracks, hospital, and MT. <u>Tunisia:</u> Enemy makes small, unsuccessful attack in Hunts Gap area, NE of Beja; only other contacts on N front are patrol clashes. On S front, British artillery shells enemy positions. Bombing operations cancelled because of weather but 3 missions, Kittyhawk bombers, Baltimores with fighter escort, and B-25's with fighter escort, attack enemy positions in Zelten, Arram, and Zaret areas. Enemy rcn over forward landing grounds and S flank increases. RAF planes patrol Axis forward areas and Gabes landing ground without interception. <u>Algeria:</u> Two enemy planes approach Bone; 1 JU-88 shot down. In Djidjelli area, Allied nightfighters damage a JU-88. <u>Mediterranean:</u> Force of B-17's escorted by P-38's attacks Siebel ferry convoy W of Marsala; direct hits scored on 3; several fires observed. <u>East Atlantic:</u> Enemy U-boats again attack convoy, bound for Mediterranean; SS Benjamin Harrison (U.S. cargo ship, 7,191 tons) torp. and sunk at 39-09 N, 24-15 W.	<u>Burma:</u> Fighting E of Mayu R. results in withdrawal of British forward units. Enemy is reported active up to point about 12 mi. above Rathedaung. Pazundaung bridge at Rangoon bombed by 6 B-24's; bombs land in vicinity of N and S approaches. Eight B-25's attack Myitnge bridge, scoring 2 hits on N approach. P-40's bomb and strafe enemy positions in Myitkyina area, leaving buildings burning and starting fires. Two P-40's strafe trucks in Taungzup area and bomb Wasat and Tingpai. RAF active in support of ground forces in Rathedaung area. <u>Indo-China:</u> Enemy installations near Laokay strafed by 2 P-40's; buildings left burning. <u>China:</u> SS Ming Chow (Chinese cargo ship) sunk by aircraft in Yangtze R.	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Enemy installations at Vila successfully bombarded before dawn by Allied naval forces; airfield heavily damaged. During early morning, 2 B-17's raid Kahili, Vila, and Munda. Later, 19 SBD's escorted by 20 fighters bomb Vila area; another SBD bombs Munda. Viru harbor strafed by 7 P-38's. <u>New Guinea:</u> Allied patrols find Mambare R. mouth area, with elaborate defense system, abandoned by the enemy. Force of 6 B-25's escorted by 8 P-38's bombs Lae, and 7 RAAF Bostons make low-level bombing and strafing attack on Salamaua, starting 1 large fire and several others among fuel dumps. Two B-24's on rcn sight and unsuccessfully attack 3 AK's 18 mi. W of C. Van Den Bosch, Dutch New Guinea. <u>New Britain:</u> Rcن B-17 ineffectively bombs Ubili sawmill, but shoots down an intercepting enemy bomber. At night, seven B-17's bomb Rapopo airdrome, Rabaul; fires and explosions, probably among aircraft, result. <u>Aroe Is.:</u> Dobo attacked by 6 RAAF Hudsons and 6 RAAF Beaufighters, respectively; direct hit scored on radio station, 3 luggers sunk by strafing, and buildings at Dobo damaged by strafing.	16
<u>Tunisia:</u> Enemy infantry supported by dive bombers attacks our positions near Tamera in morning. Allied troops counterattack but by evening, Axis units achieve some gains and turn S to attack our forces in Djebel Abiod area. Allied troops at Djebel Zebila, NE of Beja, also attacked. In central sector, Allied forward elements enter Gafsa; rcn pushes toward El Guettar, encountering only slight artillery and air opposition. Stadjia Zannouch also occupied. United Nations planes attack enemy	<u>India:</u> Twelve enemy planes bomb Ramu, RAF forward landing ground 10 mi. E of Cox's Bazaar, causing slight damage. <u>Burma:</u> Sumprabum reoccupied by Kachin levies, which are patrolling southward. On Arakan front, fighting continues in	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Three B-24's harass Munda, Vila, Kahili, and Ballale during early morning. Buka airdrome attacked at night by 3 RAAF Catalinas, which drop bombs on dispersal bays and along runway and silence AA position with strafing; same force drops a few bombs on Kahili. <u>New Guinea:</u> Allied rcn plane ineffectively bombs 3 enemy coastal vessels in McCluer Gulf, SW Dutch New Guinea. Merauke bombed by single enemy floatplane; no damage results.	17

1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
	(Cont'd) <u>French Guinana:</u> The government repudiates Vichy and asks Generals Giraud and De Gaulle to appoint a new governor.	(Cont'd) 7,252 tons), SS Terkoelei (Dutch cargo ship, 5,158 tons), SS Southern Princess (British tanker, 12,156 tons), and SS Nariwa (British cargo ship, 8,714 tons) torp. and sunk at approximately 51-00 N, 33-50 W. Second east-bound convoy, which suffered first attack on the 10th, also attacked SE of Cape Farewell. Following ships sunk at approximately 52-14 N, 32-00 W: SS Port Auckland (British cargo ship, 8,789 tons), SS Kingsbury (British cargo ship, 4,898 tons), SS King Gruffyd (British cargo ship, 5,072 tons), SS Fort Cedar Lake (British cargo ship, 7,100 tons), SS Alderamin (Dutch cargo ship, 7,886 tons), SS Zouave (British cargo ship, 4,256 tons), and SS Granville (Panamanian cargo ship, 4,071 tons).		(Cont'd) strong Russian counterattacks, reporting heavy air raids on Soviet troops. Moscow asserts enemy Dnieper defense line is penetrated at several places and strong points on W bank captured. S of Lake Ilmen, and Soviet offensive continues but no material gains reported.	(Cont'd) <u>Mediterranean:</u> Enemy convoy attacked by 9 Beauforts escorted by Beaufighters; 10,000-ton tanker set on fire; of 15 intercepting enemy planes, 1 destroyed 2 probably, and 6 damaged.
18	...	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Kiska twice raided by Allied planes: 6 B-24's, 6 B-25's, and 12 P-38's bomb main camp, North Head, and fighter strip near Salmon Lagoon, and strafe personnel on the fighter strip and gun positions on North Head; 12 P-38's, in 3 flights of 4 each, also attack Kiska, dropping bombs in main camp area; results of first attack unobserved, but fires are started on W slope of main camp during fighter raid. AA fire and coastal guns oppose attack, but	<u>Germany:</u> Enemy installations at Vegesack heavily damaged during attack by 97 heavy bombers (73 B-17's and 24 B-24's); entire target area left in flames; subsequent photographs show that many shops in submarine base and buildings in shipyards are demolished or badly damaged; moderate to intense AA fire encountered and enemy fighters attack continuously; enemy losses are 52 planes destroyed, 20 probably destroyed; 23 damaged; 1 B-24 and 1 B-17 missing.	<u>Russia:</u> Russians report heavy fighting in Chuguyev area where Germans claim to have annihilated encircled Soviet forces. Berlin announces that offensive between Kharkov and NW of Kursk is steadily gaining ground, the German army being effectively supported by the air force. Soviets make fresh attack S of Orel. In drive toward Smolensk, Russians capture Izdeshkovo, on Vyazma-Smolensk RR, and claim advances S of Byelyi. Nazis report repulse of Soviet attacks S	<u>Italy:</u> Naples bombed by 17 B-24's; cloud cover prevents observation of results. <u>Sicily:</u> Two Malta based Spitfires strafe locomotives at Noto.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) throughout Tunisian front. Force of 140 Spitfires carries out offensive sweeps over Sedjenane area; of intercepting enemy aircraft, 1 destroyed. Medium bombers make heavy raid on Gafsa as prelude to ground attacks. Fighters strafe tanks and MT moving from Gafsa to El Guettar. Enemy dive bombers support ground forces attacking in N. Area E of Arram attacked 5 times by Axis dive bombers and fighter bombers. Enemy aircraft make 3 attacks NW of Medenine. East Atlantic: Convoy again attacked and SS Molly Pitcher (U.S. cargo ship, 7,200 tons) torp. and sunk at 38-21 N, 19-54 W.	(Cont'd) Taungmaw area, 18 mi. N of Rathedaung; British troops make further withdrawals. Enemy positions N of Donbaik attacked by British with some success. Eight B-25's bomb Myitnge bridge, scoring hits on track and road at N approach and on AA battery. Bridge 4 mi. NW of Myitkyina suffers 2 attacks by 8 P-40's each; 2 hits scored on bridge, 3 on approach spans, and 5 on tracks, which are considerably damaged. Eight P-40's score several near misses on Kadrangyang bridge and inflict considerable damage on motor pool at Hpunginzup. RAF is active in battle areas, and bombs Bhamo at night, starting fires on the waterfront; 8 Beaufighters attack Tennant and train near Thayetkon.	(Cont'd) New Britain: Rcn B-17 bombs and strafes Ubili ground installations. Kei Is.: Three Hudsons and 5 B-25's attack Langgoer, hitting wharf and barracks area.	
Tunisia: British abandon Tamera which is occupied by Axis forces. Attacks then launched against our positions in Djebel Abiod area but they are repulsed. Patrol activity only in central sector. Troops at Gafsa push on to El Guettar which Axis had abandoned. Hurricanes attack Tamera Station, scoring hits on buildings and adjacent transport. Bombing operations cancelled because of weather conditions. Enemy air activity decreases. Mediterranean: SS Dafila (British cargo ship, 1,940 tons) torp. and sunk at 32-59 N, 22-21 E. SS Kaying (British cargo ship, 2,626 tons) torp. and sunk at 32-59 N, 22-21 E. East Atlantic: SS Lulworth Hill (British cargo ship, 7,628 tons) torp. and sunk at 11-44 S, 01-44 E.	Burma: Laukhaung, 60 mi. NE of Myitkyina, reoccupied by 600 Japanese. In Hukawng Valley, British levies reoccupy position 5 mi. W of Shingbwiyang. N of Donbaik, British pressure on enemy positions continues, but is unable to reduce strongpoints; attacks cease with positions substantially unaltered. Pazundaung RR bridge near Rangoon attacked by 16 B-24's 1-3 direct hits and many near misses scored on bridge and both approaches	Solomon Is.: Kahili, Ballale, and Vila airfields harassed by 2 B-17's in early morning. Vila heavily attacked in afternoon by 11 SBD's escorted by 16 fighters; fire started in camp area. Despite intense AA fire, all our planes return. New Guinea: Madang heavily bombed and strafed during coordinated attack by 12 B-24's with 16 P-38's as cover and 9 RAAF Beaufighters; large fires and explosions result. Subsequent photographs reveal many bomb craters on airdrome and town, 3 buildings and 2 AA positions destroyed, fighter plane damaged on airfield. On return trip, Beaufighters strafe Alexishafen, starting fire on enemy Hq. Six RAAF A-20's bomb and strafe Salamaua, setting several buildings on fire; AA fire destroys 1 A-20. Timika, Dutch New Guinea, bombed by single B-24 on rcn; large explosion results.	18

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
		(Cont'd) all our planes re- turn. North Atlantic: East-bound convoy attacked for third successive day; SS Matthew Luckenbach (U.S. cargo ship, 5,848 tons), SS Walter Q. Gresham (U.S. cargo ship, 7,191 tons), and SS Canadian Star (Brit- ish cargo ship, 8,293 tons) sunk at approximately 53- 00 N, 23-00 W.	(Cont'd) Holland: Objec- tives near Rotter- dam attacked by 12 escorted Venturas; 2 enemy planes de- stroyed and 2 others probably destroyed. England: During the night, 20 Axis planes cross East Anglian coast, in- flicting some dam- age at Norwich and Great Yarmouth; 5 enemy planes de- stroyed and another probably shot down.	(Cont'd) of Lake Ilmen; Rus- sians report sinking of 6,000-ton enemy transport in Barents Sea.	
19	Italy: Rome an- nounces that Ad- mirals Doenitz and Riccardi, chiefs of German and Italian navies, held a con- ference in Italy from March 15 to 17, and reached agreement on con- tinuation of the war. U.S.: Vice-Pres- ident Henry A. Wallace leaves for tour of Pacific coast Latin Amer- ican countries.	Aleutian Is.: Allied rcn plane strafes 2 enemy barges carrying troops to Massacre Bay, Attu. North Atlantic; Second east-bound convoy again attack- ed; SS Carras (Greek cargo ship, 5,234 tons) torp. and sunk at 54-00 N, 23-00 W.	North Sea: SS Glendalough (British cargo ship, 868 tons) sunk by mine at 53- 17 N, 01-04 E.	Russia: Nazis re- port gains in Chu- guyev area and an- nihilation of rem- nants of trapped Soviet forces SE of Kharkov. Strong enemy forces ad- vance in N Donets area and press Soviet troops back. Germans, in sur- prise attack, recap- ture Belgorod, and report repulse of Russian attacks at Borisovka. Berlin claims Soviet at- tacks S of Orel, S of Vyazma, and at Staraya Russa are unsuccessful. Heavy fighting S of Lake Ilmen is reported, and Russians claim recapture of several settlements.	Sicily: Malta planes destroy or damage 10 locomo- tives in Sicily and S Italy.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
Libya: About 12 Axis bombers and torpedo planes make night attack on Tripoli; SS Ocean Voyager (British cargo ship, 7,174 tons) and SS Varvara (Greek cargo ship, 1,354 tons) torp. and sunk at 32-54 N, 13-11 E British DD, Derwent, damaged and beached; 4 JU-88's shot down by AA fire. Tunisia: Enemy artillery active in Djebel Abiod - Tamera area and around Faid. Patrol activity continues on Mareth front. Allied aircraft heavily attack enemy's Mareth positions throughout day. Escorted Bostons and Baltimores attack enemy gun positions in Mareth village district; Wellingtons and Albacores make night raid on targets in Mareth area, encountering concentrated AA fire; 1 good fire and explosion observed. Force of Bisleys makes night attack on Axis landing grounds at Djebel Tebaga and Mezzouna with good results; several fires started.	(Cont'd) damaged by hits. Shortly after leaving target 4 enemy planes intercept; 1 Zero destroyed and 1 I-45 damaged. (twin-engine fighter) Eight B-25's bomb Myitnge bridge damaging bridge with direct hit and N and S approaches with several hits. AA positions around Myitnge bridge are targets for 8 B-25's which score hits in target area. Sixteen P-40's, in 2 flights, bomb and strafe enemy stronghold at Seniku, destroying 70% of the town (village NE of Myitkyina). Two P-40's strafe trucks near Mangshih. In support of ground action, 18 Blenheims bomb enemy positions near Donbaik. Two RAF Liberators damage Mandalay RR yards, in night attacks. Burma: P-40's carry out bombing and strafing attacks on enemy installations in Myitkyina area; several small and 1 large fire started at town 60 mi. S of Myitkyina (Nahng), river steamers damaged, and bridge approach damaged 3 mi. S of Mogaung. Enemy force estimated at 200 engaged by levies near Sumprabum. British naval units shell enemy positions in Donbaik area. Indo-China: Force of 12 B-25's escorted by 6 P-40's attacks the RR and river terminus for phosphate mines near Laokay, Ges-	(Cont'd) New Britain: Radio station at Gasmata is target for B-17 on rcn. Two loaded enemy barges strafed by rcn B-17 30 mi. E of C. Gloucester. Kei Is.: B-24 which bombed Timika also attacks Langgoer, destroying buildings. N.E.I.: Ten enemy fighters attack B-24 on morning rcn mission over Ambon; B-24 destroys 4, probably destroys 2 more, damages 1. Three RAAF Hudsons raid Penfoei airdrome, Koepang, at night, scoring possible hits on blast bays. Solomon Is.: Two B-17's make harassing attacks on Kahili and Ballale. Several enemy positions in Tonolei Harbor area bombed by 2 B-24's. New Guinea: Enemy positions in Mubo area bombed and strafed by 3 A-20's. Five B-25's attack and sink an enemy SS which had been unloading supplies in Lae harbor. Eighteen enemy bombers escorted by 32 fighters drop 90 bombs on Porlock Harbor, damaging wharf and launch. New Britain: B-17 on rcn strafes airdrome at Gasmata and bombs dump area at C. Gloucester. Another attacks Arawe, silencing machine gun positions, destroying ammunition store, and setting buildings on fire. Canton I.: Enemy makes light air attack on Canton, dropping several bombs; no damage results.	19

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
20		<u>South Atlantic:</u> SS Mariso (Dutch cargo ship, 7,659 tons) torp. and sunk at 13-20 S, 37-25 W.	<u>Belgium:</u> Six Mosquitos attack Louvain, starting fires, and 3 others bomb targets near Antwerp. <u>France:</u> During 9 RAF sorties over Morlaix at night, RR viaduct is hit.	<u>Russia:</u> Germans report gains in drive toward Donets in spite of muddy weather and heavy Soviet counterattacks, and reach the upper Donets at several points. Enemy also claims advances on Kursk front. Soviets report gains S of Byelyi and capture of RR station of Vadino. They also claim advances S of Lake Ilmen and repulse of Nazi counterattack. Situation around Staraya Russa appears unchanged. Enemy reports collapse of Soviet attacks in Lake Ladoga-Leningrad area.	<u>Italy:</u> Seven B-24's make night raid on Naples; hits scored on RR yards, town and mole; 1 ship left burning. <u>Sicily:</u> Twelve Spitfires with escort make successful low-level attack on factory at Pozzallo. Intruder planes destroy or damage 16 locomotives in Sicily and S Italy.
21	<u>England:</u> Prime Minister Churchill, in London broadcast, proposes social security plan for Britain and a program for post-war international order, a world organization with a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia. <u>Germany:</u> Hitler makes a speech in Berlin, his first public appearance	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Force of 5 B-24's and 6 B-25's from Adak bombs main camp area at Kiska; from Amchitka, 3 B-25's and force of fighter bombers, in 5 attacks, bomb Kiska; results mainly unobserved because of weather, but fire started W. of main camp during one attack.	<u>France:</u> Morlaix viaduct attacked at night by Whirlwind bombers; 3 hits scored.	<u>Russia:</u> Soviets report offensive action in Kuban area and claim capture of Petrovsk, but fighting appears to be on small-scale only. German drive along Donets continues to gain; Russians report heavy defensive fighting in Chuguyev district, and Germans claim to have closed last remaining gap in line of communica-	<u>Italy:</u> Naples attacked for second successive night by 5 B-24's; large fires started near RR depot and oil installations. <u>Mediterranean:</u> Force of B 25's with escort of P-38's, on anti-shipping sweep in Sicilian Channel are engaged by 25 enemy fighters; escort attacked by unspecified number

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
Tunisia: Enemy follows our withdrawal from Tamera slowly; positions at Djebel Abiod shelled by Axis artillery. U.S. troops in central sector occupy high ground NW of Sened station. In evening, British Eighth Army launches offensive against Axis positions on Mareth Line; one division advances on N flank and establishes bridgehead between Mareth village and coast, encountering strong opposition. Another column moves N from Ksar Rhilane area toward El Hamma. Wellingtons make night attack on Ferryville docks; bursts observed in dockside area and on buildings; 1 fire started. Allied planes pound enemy positions in S throughout day and night in support of ground forces. Escorted Bostons, Baltimores and B-25's bomb gun positions, MT, and troops in Mareth area, inflicting considerable damage; AA fire shoots down 2 Bostons. Fighter bombers raid tents near Gabes. Escorted medium bombers make 2 attacks on Axis landing grounds in Djebel Tebaga area, scoring hits on dispersed aircraft. Gabes attacked by 18 B-25's with fighter escort; bursts observed in town and on buildings; all planes damaged but return. During night, 56 heavy bombers attack enemy targets in Mareth-Kettana sector. Landing grounds SW of El Hamma attacked by 33 B-25's; many hits scored; 4 fires started. East Atlantic: SS Nortun (Panamanian cargo ship, 3,663 tons) torp. and sunk at 27-35 S, 14-22 E.	(Cont'd) destroying the entire shipping and receiving area and scoring 12 hits on adjacent RR yards; P-40's strafe the area. Burma: Seven B-25's attacking Myitnge bridge score hits N and S of the bridge. One fire starts at Taungzup as result of bombing attack by 2 P-40's. RAF Blenheims bomb Myitson in Katha area.	Solomon Is.: Sixteen Allied fighters strafe Munda, silencing a gun position. Force of SBD's escorted by fighters attacks Vila, hitting an AA battery and camp area. Similar force bombs Munda; explosion results in dump area. New Guinea: Finschafen bombed by 2 B-24's on rcn flights; fires started among buildings. Dutch B-25 attacks enemy AK off C. Van Den Bosch, scoring probable hit and near miss. At night, 3 Hudsons attack shipping near Kaimana; fires started on 1 vessel and in village. Kei. Is.: Langgoer attacked by 2 Dutch B-25's and later, by 3 RAAF Hudsons; direct hits scored on buildings. N.E.I.: Five B-24's attack Ambon, dropping bombs in wharf area.	20
Tunisia: In early morning, Axis units occupy Nefza station; other troops attack and capture Sidi Dahra which our counterattack fails to recover. Djebel Abiod shelled by enemy artillery. In central sector, enemy continues his retreat E of El Guettar. U.S. infantry occupies a line running from Bou Hamran to Djebel el Kreroura area; French and U.S. troops attack Djebel Rouana; strong resistance encountered and advance stopped W of Rouana - El Asker line. In Mareth sector, British forces widen bridgehead; strong resistance encountered and heavy fighting continues through day and night.	India: Twenty-one twin-engine enemy bombers escorted by fighters attack Feni airfield (SE Bengal), causing some casualties and damage. Burma: Eight P-40's bomb Mogaung, destroying 2 square blocks of the town. Two P-40's on offensive rcn in Myitkyna area damage and	Solomon Is.: Enemy searchlight and AA installations at Kahili successfully bombed by 9 B-17's and 9 B-24's; 1 B-17 lands in water. New Guinea: Madang town and air-drome bombed and strafed by an RAAF Catalina, which also strafes wharf area at Finschafen; fires started at Madang. Three enemy bombers carry out 22d raid on Milne Bay, night of 21/22, dropping 10 bombs without effect. Intercepting P-40 probably damages 1 bomber. Two enemy AK's and an escorting DD are attacked SE of C. Van Den Bosch by 2 B-25's; later, a B-24 attacks same	21

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
	(Cont'd) since November 8, 1942.			(Cont'd) tion with Orel sec- tor. Moscow ack- nowledges loss of Belgorod, and re- ports repulse of heavy Nazi attacks N of Zhizdra, about 40 mi. NE of enemy base of Bryansk. Red Army forces driving toward Smolensk claim gains S of Byelyi and report capture of RR station of Durovo, 57 mi. NE of Smolensk. Ber- lin asserts Soviet attacks N of Lake Ilmen and S of Lake Ladoga collapsed, and reports heavy Luftwaffe raids throughout the pre- ceding weeks on Bataisk, Voroshil- ovgrad, Leningrad, and Murmansk.	(Cont'd) of fighters; 11 de- stroyed, 1 probably and 1 damaged. Enemy convoy at- tacked; 1 merchant ship left burning; near misses scored on naval escort.
22	...	...	Germany: Wil- helmshaven bombed by 69 B-17's and 15 B-24's; many hits scored in docks area although strong opposition from en- emy fighters en- countered from Frisians to target and for 50 mi. out to sea on return trip; 28 enemy planes destroyed, 9 probably, 9 dam- aged; 3 of our bomb- ers missing. France: Force of 292 RAF bombers attacks St. Nazaire, scoring many hits in docks area, fires and large explosion	Russia: Enemy attacks W of Rostov but no specific gains reported. Soviets report heavy defensive fighting in Belgorod area; Germans claim gains in drive SW and NW of Kursk. Russians claim repulse of heavy Nazi attacks N of Zhizdra, and Germans assert that Soviet attacks SW of Vyazma failed. Red Army troops in Smolensk sector claim occupation of 40 inhabited places S of Byelyi and in- crease pressure on	Sicily: Force of B-17's with escort of P-38's bombs Palermo harbor; 3 merchant ships, 1 coastal vessel, and several smaller ships sunk; other shipping and harbor installations dam- aged. Attack op- posed by 15-20 en- emy fighters; 6 destroyed.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) Column on W continues to push toward El Hamma where Axis has concentration of armored strength. Fighter planes make heavy raid on tanks and personnel N of Sened. British offensive in S supported by continuous air activity. Force of B-26's and B-25's with escort of P-38's bombs Djebel Tebaga landing ground; hits scored on 12 planes; enemy planes intercept. B-17's escorted by P-38's make 3 attacks on same target; field covered with bombs; several fires started. B-17's bomb El Hamma landing ground and one 5 mi. N of El Hamma. Fighter planes attack enemy targets SW of El Hamma. Force of A-20's with Spitfire escort, on mission against Mezzouna landing ground, is attacked by 16-20 JU-87's escorted by ME-109's; 4 enemy aircraft destroyed, 4 probably, 2 damaged. B-25's escorted by Spitfires are intercepted by 8 ME-109's at Mezzouna; 1 destroyed. Bostons, Baltimores, and B-25's, in waves of 18 with escort of 24 P-40's make 9 attacks on enemy's Mareth positions. B-17's bomb Axis camp in Gabes sector and town of Gabes. Seventeen B-25's escorted by 24 P-40's bomb Gabes, starting fires; 18 enemy planes intercept; 1 damaged and 1 P-40 lost. Sfax bombed by 12 Wellingtons. During night, enemy MT N of Mareth and S of Kettana bombed by Wellingtons, Halifaxes, and Albacores. Night of 21/22, naval gunboat bombards Gabes. <u>Algeria:</u> Bone attacked by 6 Italian bombers; bombs fall E of harbor.	(Cont'd) destroy trucks and probably sink 2 paddle steamers. Fifteen B-24's attack Gokteik viaduct, probably destroying 1 span of bridge at Napproach with 2 direct hits. Myitnge bridge is target for 6 B-24's which fail to locate the viaduct; no hits scored. RAF engaged in usual support of ground action; Tennant landing ground successfully bombed by 3 RAF Liberators. Japanese infiltration in hills 6 mi. SE of Buthidaung reported.	(Cont'd) vessels; both attacks ineffective. Another B-24 unsuccessfully attacks 3 small merchant vessels off SW Dutch New Guinea. <u>New Britain:</u> Single RAAF Catalina bombs and strafes Gasmata airdrome in early morning, starting 2 fires on SE end of runway and causing explosion and many small fires in building area. Another attacks and probably damages a large DD SE of Gasmata before daylight; DD proceeds at reduced speed trailing oil. One B-24 bombs and sinks a 500-ton AK in Borgen Bay (E of C. Gloucester).	
<u>Tunisia:</u> Enemy shells our positions at Djebel Abiod; Axis fire in Beja sector decreases; artillery also active in area 5 mi. N of Bou Arada. In central sector, U.S. infantry attacks on line from Djebel Berda to area SW of Djebel Goussa to gain high ground at Djebel Kreroura; stiff resistance encountered. Axis forces withdraw from Maknassy to positions at Djebel Bou Douaou; U.S. troops occupy Maknassy. Farther S, Allied forward units reach Djebel Rouana by late afternoon without contacting enemy. At Algerian border, French infantry contacts Axis elements at Djebel Bou Jerra; Camels Corps patrols reach Djebel el Asker; other units are advancing from Ksar Rhilane to Bir Suetarre. In Mareth sector, Axis troops launch strong counterattack in afternoon against British right flank; heavy fighting ensues and by	<u>Burma:</u> 16 B-25's in 2 attacks, further damage Gokteik viaduct and protecting AA installations. RAF activity in battle areas continues; Prome road bombed by 23 Blenheims successfully. <u>Indo-China:</u> P-40's on offensive rcn over Laokay area, strafe mine and refinery area, rolling stock, and buildings.	<u>New Guinea:</u> Finschafen runway bombed by B-24 on rcn; no hits scored. <u>New Britain:</u> Gasmata airdrome bombed and strafed in coordinated attack by 4 B-24's and 9 Beaufighters; hits scored on runway, machine gun position silenced, and fires started in control tower and in fuel dump area. B-17 on rcn later bombs same area, starting 2 fires near runway. <u>Admiralty Is.:</u> B-24 on rcn sights and attacks enemy vessel in Lorengau harbor. <u>Canton I.:</u> Two Japanese planes ineffectively raid Canton I., dropping 6 bombs.	22

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1943 Mar	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
			(Cont'd) observed. Raid opposed by Axis fighter planes, moderate AA fire and smoke screen. Holland: Twelve escorted Venturas successfully attack oil refinery near Rotterdam. England: During night, 15 enemy planes operate over NE England, causing slight damage and casualties at scattered points.	(Cont'd) the city from E. Enemy reports frustration of Soviet attempts to break through their lines S of Lake Ladoga and SE of Leningrad.	
23	Sweden: French Minister in Stockholm and his staff, with exception of Military Attache, break with Vichy Government.	Greenland: Small enemy party forces the evacuation of Eskimonaes, Hq of the NE Greenland sledge patrol.	France: Nantes Locomotive Works damaged in low-level attack by 12 Mosquitos which score many hits on the buildings. England: Two FW 190's and 2 ME-10 109's operate over south coast; 1 destroyed by AA fire.	Russia: Soviet forces in Kuban area further constrict Nazi units by crossing Protoka R. and capturing Slavyansk. Russians again report heavy defensive fighting in Belgorod area and failure of enemy attempt to cross Donets and establish a bridgehead E of Belgorod. Germans claim steady advance in drive toward Kursk. Moscow announces that the unsuccessful German attacks N of Zhizdra cease and that violent counterattacks by	Sicily: Messina bombed by 21 B-24's; bursts and fires observed at oil storage tanks, drydocks, ferry terminal, RR station, and power station; intense AA fire and enemy planes oppose attack; 1 plane shot down. Six RAF planes attack Messina, scoring hits in ferry area.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
(Cont'd) nightfall, Eighth Army yields some ground although it still holds main bridgehead. British flanking column reaches point about 10 mi. S of El Hamma, where strong Axis tank force is concentrated. Maknassy bombed several times during day. E of Gafsa, Spitfires encounter 8 ME-109's and 2 JU-88's; 2 ME-109's destroyed, 2 damaged. During night, Allied bombers attack Sfax. Hurricanes and Kittyhawks bomb enemy troops and tanks in El Hamma area; 32 tanks hit, 9 destroyed; 4 armored cars destroyed. Medium bombers make daylight raid on enemy landing grounds at Mezzouna, scoring hits among dispersed aircraft. Light bombers three times attack enemy concentrations S of Zarat; enemy planes oppose attack; 3 destroyed, 5 probably, and 7 damaged; 2 Allied planes lost. Fighter planes on offensive sweeps over Axis forward troops destroy 9 enemy aircraft, probably destroy 4, and damage 3. Night of 22/23, 45 heavy bombers attack MT along road in Kettana area; several fires started. Roads in Zarat area bombed by 18 B-25's escorted by 12 P-40's; hits scored among dispersed aircraft; fires and explosions observed. Eighteen enemy planes unsuccessfully attempt interception but intense, accurate AA fire destroys 1 bomber. Fighter escort attacked by enemy planes of which 1 is probably destroyed and 2 damaged. East Atlantic: SS City of Christchurch (British cargo ship, 6,009 tons) sunk by aircraft at 39-28 N, 12-38 W.			
Tunisia: Heavy fighting continues in central sector where U.S. troops are attempting to gain occupation of high ground E of Maknassy. Axis armored units counterattack in early morning E and SE of El Guettar; attack is repulsed and 20 of approximately 50 enemy tanks destroyed. Attack in afternoon is also repulsed. French forces advancing E along Chott Djerid encounter determined enemy resistance; enemy armored patrols repulsed N of the Chott. Axis forces in SE launch strong counterattack against bridgehead through N end of Mareth Line and regain most of lost ground; during night, British withdraw E of Wadi Zigzaou. Allied forces approaching El Hamma meet heavy opposition from enemy tanks, but advance slowly. Force of B-17's with fighter escort attacks Bizerta; enemy planes intercepted; 3 destroyed, 3 probably, and 1	India: Enemy planes make pre-dawn attack on RAF airdrome 15 mi. SE of Chittagong, (Dohanzari), damaging 8 planes. (S Bengal) Burma: Thazi RR junction successfully bombed by 7 B-25's; rolling stock, warehouses, tracks, and other installations considerably damaged. Magwe airfield bombed at night by Wellingtons. Nine B-25's inflict heavy damage on Meiktila airfield barracks area.	Solomon Is.: Enemy positions at Rekata Bay strafed by force of P-38's. At night, 2 enemy planes attack Guadalcanal, destroying 3 B-24's and 1 B-17 and damaging other planes; no casualties result. New Guinea: Salamaua attacked 3 times by total of 3 RAAF A-20's, 6 B-25's, and B-24 on rcn; buildings bombed and strafed and runway bombed with unobserved results. Six A-20's bomb and strafe Mubo area. New Britain: Total of 27 B-17's, in 3 flights, attack Lakunai, Rapopo, and Vunakanau airdromes in Rabaul area; many small and 2 large fires result, an AA position is silenced, and an 8,000-ton vessel off C. Gazelle is left burning. Gasmata airdrome attacked by 2 Allied planes on rcn flights. Tanimbar Is.: Two RAAF Hudsons bomb Saumlaki, and strafe lugger off Babar Is.	23

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1943 Mar	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
				(Cont'd) the enemy N of Dukhovshihina are repulsed. Nazis report collapse of renewed Soviet at- tacks S of Lake Ladoga.	
24	...	Aleutian Is.: Total of 9 B-24's, 3 B-25's, and 12 P-38's carry out 5 attacks on Kiska targets; new runway near Salmon Lagoon, North Head, and main camp bombed; weather hampers observation of results, but hits observed at North Head and in main camp area; moderate AA fire damages 1 B-24, but all our planes return.	England: Ashford bombed by 8 ME-109's and 6 FW-190's; considerable damage inflicted on Southern RR works and casualties to population reported. About 25 Axis planes bomb a scattered area in N England and S Scotland, dropping bombs in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Peebles, and Tyneside area; 3 destroyed, 1 damaged.	Russia: Russian forces in Caucasus have further constricted Nazi units in Kuban bridgehead with capture of Abinsk, NE of Novorossisk. Germans again attempt to cross N Donets but are reported repulsed by Red Army troops. Enemy counteroffensive on Kursk front is slowed by muddy conditions; engagements on small-scale only. Soviets in Smolensk area continue to force enemy back; Safonovo, N of	Sicily: Nineteen B-24's bomb Messina; RR yards left smoking; fires started at naval storage tanks and in vicinity of ferry. Ten enemy aircraft intercept; 2 destroyed. Force of B-17's escorted by P-38's attacks shipping in Palermo harbor; 1 ship explodes violently.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
(Cont'd) damaged; 1 Spitfire lost. Sfax - El Maou airdrome bombed during night by 6 Leo-45's and 6 Bisleys. Enemy MT and troop concentrations in Gabes area bombed by 17 B-25's; 4 hits scored on road junction; AA fire damages 3 of our aircraft. Gabes also attacked by force of 24 planes; hits scored on moving targets and fires started. Escorted light bombers raid enemy concentrations E of El Guettar, scoring hits on MT and tanks, and starting fires. Hurricanes make 2 attacks on tanks, MT, and bivouacs in same area. Allied planes make 180 light and medium bomber sorties against Zarat and roads in near vicinity, scoring hits on MT, roads, and strongpoints; fires and explosion caused in village. Zarat also attacked by 12 B-25's which start several fires; 3 of our bombers damaged by AA fire. RAF planes unsuccessfully bomb targets in Arram area and region S of El Hamma. Twelve B-25's bomb MT and troops around Mareth; results unobserved. During night of 23/24, Wellingtons, Halifaxes, and Albacores attack MT concentrations on Mareth - Aganes road, starting several fires. Fighter planes continually strafe tanks, lorries, and troops in battle area. <u>Mediterranean:</u> British PT boats attack 4 enemy vessels, probably Siebel ferries, off Gulf of Tunis; 1 damaged by torpedo, 1 by gunfire. SS Windsor Castle (British cargo ship, 19,141 tons) sunk by aircraft at 37-00 N, 01-40 E. <u>Algeria:</u> Fourteen Axis torpedo planes operate over Bay of Bougie.	(Cont'd) the airdrome, warehouses in town area, and a twin-engine bomber on ground destroyed, and main landing strip is damaged by direct hits. Two of 5 intercepting Zeros are damaged. <u>Indo-China:</u> Two P-40's on offensive rcn over Laokay-Dong Cuong area damage locomotives, buildings at Dong Cuong airdrome, and trucks loaded with troops.		
<u>Tunisia:</u> Operation on N front confined to patrolling. Enemy infantry launches small, unsuccessful attack in Djebel Berda - El Guettar sector. First Armored Division continues operations in Maknassy area. In Mareth sector, spasmodic shelling and patrolling activities only are reported. Forces S of El Hamma make slight gains; patrols reach foothills of Djebel Tebaga range. Force of B-17's escorted by P-38's bombs Ferryville shipping, covering entire dock area with bombs and causing a large explosion and several fires; hits scored on 1 medium and 2 small merchant ships; 14 enemy planes attempt interception. Bisleys make effective night attack on MT on roads around Sousse, Sfax, Fondouk, and Faïd. In aerial combat near El Guettar, Allied planes destroy 1 FW-190 and 1 ME-109. Hurricanes with	<u>India:</u> Three Japanese heavy bombers and 2 fighters ineffectively attack Chittagong airdrome. Advanced RAF landing strip is bombed by another enemy plane. <u>Burma:</u> Ava bridge at Sagaing attacked by 2 B-17's, and boats near Sagaing strafed. B-24's, attacking Myitnge bridge, render it unserviceable by hits on both approaches. Maymyo engine sheds unsuccessfully bombed by 8 B-25's. RAF Liberators drop 8	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Three RAAF Catalinas bomb dispersal bays and runway at Buka during early morning. Kahili heavily attacked by 18 TBF's and 3 B-17's; fires started in camp and revetment areas. <u>New Guinea:</u> Enemy positions in Mubo area bombed and strafed by 5 RAAF A-20's and 4 RAAF Beaufighters; machine gun position silenced. Buildings near Lae airdrome bombed by B-17 on rcn. Three enemy fighters intercept B-17 on rcn over Wewak; 1 enemy plane shot down, another possibly destroyed. Milne Bay and Oro Bay ineffectively raided by 3 and 1 enemy planes, respectively. Dutch B-25 attacks 5,000-ton AK at Kaimana, scoring near miss; 1 of 3 intercepting Zeros damaged. Another Dutch B-25 attacks 2 500-ton vessels 12 mi. S of Kaimana Bay, scoring near	24

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1943 Mar	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
				(Cont'd) Dorogobuzh, captured, and gains reported N of Dukovshina. Germans report violent fighting S of Lake Ladoga and repulse of Soviet plane and artillery attack. Air activity on both sides is increasing steadily.	
25	<u>Syria and Lebanon:</u> General Catroux restores free constitution of Lebanon Republic and decrees that general elections be held within 3 months for a Chamber of Deputies which will then elect a President of the Republic. <u>Russia-Japan:</u> Soviet - Japanese Fishing Convention is prolonged for 1943 by agreement signed in Kuibyshev. <u>U.S.:</u> Administration of Food Production and Distribution to be headed by Chester C. Davis.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Enemy installations at Kiska attacked 3 times; 4 P-38's make low-level attack on hangar and camp area, strafing installations and troops without opposition; second mission of 3 B-25's bombs main camp and beach, scoring hits in both areas; large volume of light AA fire encountered; 11 B-24's bomb runway near Salmon Lagoon, North Head, and submarine area, scoring hits on all targets; medium AA fire slightly damages 1 B-24, but all planes of the 3 missions return. Single rcn B-24 bombs Attu. <u>South Atlantic:</u> SS Industria (Swedish cargo ship, 1,688 tons) torp. and sunk at 11-40 S, 35-55 W.	<u>France:</u> Six Whirlwind bombers make successful attack on RR center at Abbeville.	<u>Russia:</u> Soviets report slight gains in Kuban region. Germans report fighting of local importance in upper Donets area and appear to be consolidating their positions. Soviets claim enemy attempts to establish positions in Belgorod area and N of Chuguyev are unsuccessful. Germans assert Russian attacks S of Lake Ladoga are weakening and are still unsuccessful.	<u>Italy:</u> Malta-based intruder planes machine-gun RR station, signal boxes, and trains in suburbs of Rome, at Campo Leone, and Cisterna. <u>Mediterranean:</u> Axis convoy attacked by B-26's escorted by P-38's; hits on 12,000-ton troop ship cause explosions and set it on fire; direct hit and near misses scored on large merchant ship; hit observed on escort vessel; strong air opposition encountered.
26	<u>Portugal:</u> The Vichy Minister, the Consul, and officials of the Legation resign.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> First naval engagement in waters off Aleutians occurs when enemy naval	<u>Germany:</u> Duisburg attacked by 457 RAF bombers which drop many tons of incendiaries	<u>Russia:</u> Russians advance slightly in Kuban region. Soviets report repulse of enemy	

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
(Cont'd) fighter escort bomb armored vehicles and guns S of El Hamma, inflicting much damage. Enemy positions in same area bombed throughout night. Medium bombers attack landing ground near Djebel Tebaga; bursts observed among dispersed aircraft. In same area, 22 enemy fighters encountered; 5 destroyed, 1 probably, and 4 damaged. Force of Bisleys makes successful night raid on Tebaga landing ground. Twelve Spitfires attack Mezzouna air-drome, destroying 2 FW-190's. Zarat attacked by 24 U.S. planes which drop 67,650 pounds of bombs, starting several fires. Five attacks made by light and medium bombers on enemy armored forces at Mareth village; 1 big explosion observed. Hurricanes attack group of 16 enemy tanks in El Hamma area; 6 destroyed, 1 damaged. Enemy aircraft make several minor fighter bomber raids on forward areas. <u>Tunisia:</u> Enemy unsuccessfully attacks our positions at Djebel Abiod; several patrol clashes occur. Enemy patrols advance slightly in Djebel Mansour area. Small Axis attack against U.S. positions in Maknassy sector repulsed. U.S. armored force continues attack on enemy positions in pass 7 mi. E of Maknassy. British forces in Mareth sector push toward Toujane; 1 brigade reaches Hallouf by evening. Commanding ground in Djebel Tebaga area captured by N.Z. troops. Sousse shipping bombed by 22 B-17's which sink 1 small ship and score hit on large ship. Escorted bombers attack RR junction W of Sfax with good results. Medium bombers attack Djebel Tebaga air-drome. Fifteen Allied planes, attacking Axis positions in Mareth area, start several fires. Second raid, by 26 planes, results in many fires, and damage to enemy in this area. Hurricanes bomb MT E of El Guettar. Fighter planes strafe enemy troops and equipment in battle area throughout day. From dusk to dawn, 155 sorties made by heavy, medium, and light bombers against enemy concentrations in El Hamma sector. <u>Mediterranean:</u> SS Sergeant Gouarne (French cargo ship, 1,147 tons) torp. and sunk at 35-56 N, 03-00 W.	(Cont'd) tons of bombs on Toungoo airfield at night. <u>India:</u> RAF air-drome 15 mi. SE of Chittagong (Dohanzari) raided by 6 enemy bombers and 3 fighters; 6 RAF planes damaged and an AA position hit. Enemy force of 15 planes is intercepted over Ramu and 1 enemy plane damaged. <u>Burma:</u> RR yards at Maymyo attacked for 2d successive day by 8 B-25's; hits scored on sheds and tracks and large fires result. Enemy force, which had made undetected crossing from E bank of Mayu R., engages British in Nanra area, 14 mi. N of Donbaik.	(Cont'd) miss. <u>New Britain:</u> Catalina and B-17 on rcn flights bomb Gasmata. <u>Kei Is.:</u> Langgoer and nearby villages attacked twice by total of 5 RAAF Hudsons and 4 B-25's; hits scored on several buildings. <u>Solomon Is.:</u> Enemy barges and installations at Roviana Lagoon attacked by 8 F4F's. <u>New Guinea:</u> Five A-20's attack stores and buildings at Salamaua, and 2 B-17's bomb Lae; results of both attacks unobserved. Two Allied fighters shoot down enemy bomber on rcn at Dyke Ackland Bay. <u>New Britain:</u> Rabaul bombed during early morning by 8 B-24's; explosions and large fires result in town area, but searchlights prevent observation of other results. One B-17 bombs Ubili at half-hour intervals for 3 hours. Another bombs Gasmata, scoring hits on wharf and buildings. <u>N.E.I.:</u> Shipping and wharf area at Ambon attacked by 6 B-24's; hits scored on 2 merchant vessels and on wharf; fires started in town. Of 4-6 intercepting enemy planes, 1 is destroyed and others damaged.	25
<u>Tunisia:</u> British troops launch attack against enemy forces in El Hamma sector and succeed in penetrating	<u>India:</u> Three enemy bombers and 4 fighters bomb	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> During the night 26/27, total of 7 enemy planes attempt to raid Guadalcanal; slight damage and casual-	26

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC; PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
	(Cont'd) France: Five members of Vichy Cabinet resign. U.S.: President Roosevelt nominates John K. Caldwell as U.S. Consul General and Minister Resident to Ethiopia.	(Cont'd) task force, consisting of 2 CA's, 2 CL's, 4 DD's and 2 AP's, is sighted and engaged by Allied surface force consisting of 1 CA, 1 CL, and 4 DD's, W of Attu I. (at approximately 53-00 N, 168-40 E). Shell hits scored on both Japanese CA's and 1 CL; torpedo hit scored on a CA; 3 of our ships sustain minor damage. When the engagement is broken off, enemy is believed to have withdrawn westward. Allied planes dispatched to attack enemy convoy, but fail to locate it. Four B-25's, returning from search for convoy, make low-level attack on radar, hangar, and main camp at Kiska; hits observed in all target areas; no AA fire encountered during attack.	(Cont'd) and HE, including 145 4,000-lb. bombs. Heavy cloud encountered over target but bombs, dispersed over a wide area, start many fires; heavy AA fire opposes attack; 6 bombers missing. France - Belgium: Fighters and fighter bombers attack transport and other objectives in Belgium and N France, damaging 2 electrical transformers and destroying or damaging several locomotives.	(Cont'd) attacks N of Chuguyev and in Belgorod area and gains S of Byelyi, where capture of several populated places is claimed. Berlin reports unsuccessful, and considerably weaker, Soviet attacks S of Lake Ladoga. Enemy air activity increases; Nazis announce Luftwaffe raid on the harbor of Gelendzhik on the Black Sea, on Leningrad, and on RR targets.	
27	North Africa: General Giraud appoints Rene Mayer, former French National Railways Administrator, as Communications Secretary in North Africa, the first French Jew to receive an important post under existing regime.	...	Germany: Force of 342 RAF bombers and 54 Pathfinders drops over 1,000 tons of HE and incendiaries on Berlin in heaviest attack on the city to date. Fires started all over city but especially in N and S sections, and 1 large explosion observed. Moderate AA fire encountered; 6 bombers, 3 Pathfinders missing. Holland: Five Mosquitos make effective low-level attack on engine works at Hengelo.	Russia: Enemy reports repulse of Soviet attack on N front of Kuban bridgehead; Soviets announce that 34 German planes have been shot down in aerial combat in this region in the last 3 days. Engagements of local importance continue in Donets area. Soviet forces S of Lake Ilmen appear to be consolidating their positions. Germans claim frustration of weak Russian attacks S of Lake Ladoga.	...

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
(Cont'd) Axis positions. Little activity reported in coastal area; infantry units move toward Toujane. In Tebaga - Matmata sector, light tank screen faces our advance. Enemy MT observed moving N from El Hamma. To SW, Camel Corps platoons advance toward Douz. In the north, activity is largely confined to patrolling and offensive rcn but small raid on enemy positions N of Djebel Ang is successful. Bisleys attacking Sfax score hits on train, fuel dump, and dock warehouses. In the south, 3 formations of bombers followed by 20 squadrons of fighter bombers attack enemy troops and MT's of El Hamma for 2-1/2 hours, preceding ground attack; 80 MT destroyed and 200 damaged. One formation of ME-109's engaged; 3 damaged. Djebel Tebaga landing ground attacked twice by A-20's and once by B-25's, all with fighter escort; hits scored on dispersed aircraft, field, shelters; heavy AA fire damages many of our planes; enemy aircraft oppose attacks; 1 destroyed, 1 probably, and 1 damaged. Algeria: Six enemy bombers attack shipping in Algiers harbor; SS Empire Standard (British cargo ship, 7,047 tons) sunk; 2 enemy planes shot down. Mediterranean: SS Prins Willem III (Dutch cargo ship, 1,524 tons) sunk by aircraft at 37-00 N, 02-14 E.	(Cont'd) Cox's Bazaar; AA fire damages 1. Burma: Night of 26/27, 6 B-24's mine Rangoon R., while 6 others bomb Rangoon and Mingaladon airdrome; despite effective blackout, many hits believed scored in airdrome and town areas. RAF Blenheims bomb Monywa and Mayu Peninsula, and Beaufighters attack airdrome at Toungoo. Maungdaw twice attacked by total of 25 escorted enemy bombers; gasoline stores and ammunition dump hit and casualties inflicted. Ten Hurricanes intercept, destroying 1 fighter and damaging 1 bomber; Hurricanes undamaged.	(Cont'd) ties result. New Guinea: Villages at Waria R. mouth and Dona landing ground reported clear of the enemy. Saidor (50 mi. SE of Madang) reported occupied by the enemy. Town and shipping at Wewak attacked during early morning by 9 B-17's; medium merchant ship badly damaged; half-ton bombs dropped on town, wharf, and runway with unobserved results. Enemy positions in Lae, Salamaua, and Mubo areas heavily bombed and strafed by Bostons and Beauforts; at Salamaua a large explosion results and an AA position is hit; fires started in other target areas. Seven enemy bombers raid Merauke, damaging buildings. Single enemy plane ineffectively raids Oro Bay before dawn. Canton I.: Two enemy planes bomb Canton I., destroying 1 PBY on runway. Nauru I.: Six Catalinas bomb enemy positions on Nauru I. with unobserved results. Later, 5 B-24's attack the island, dropping bombs on runway, wharf, barracks area, and officers' quarters; 4 fires result; explosion and black smoke observed from runway where planes are believed hit.	
Tunisia: Violent fighting continues S of El Hamma; British troops make armored thrust in early morning and reach point 2 mi. from El Hamma. Enemy tanks reported withdrawing E of Wadi el Merteba. Mopping up operations after preceding day's battle meet enemy resistance. At dusk, patrols are in area between Djebel Aziza and Djebel Halouga, just S of El Hamma. About 40 Axis tanks make evening attack SW of Djebel Aziza but are repulsed. Enemy forces in Mareth positions decrease. Camel Corps platoons occupy Sabria; French disperse enemy motorized detachment near Oued el Alri on Kebili - Abir ourn Ali road during night. In central sector, Allied forces continue attacks on enemy and occupy Fondouk. Farther N, Italian patrols contacted at Djebel Touila; British forces make slight gains on coastal area. Force of Spitfires in Sfax area intercepts 8 escorted ME-210's, destroying 1 and damaging 2; 2 Spitfires	India: Two formations of 28 escorted bombers attack Cox's Bazaar and shipping in Naaf R., causing little damage; Hurricanes intercept destroying 10, probably 3 more, and damaging 7; AA fire destroys 2 and damages 2 more; no Hurricanes lost. Burma: Liberators drop 8 tons of bombs on Toungoo airfield at night; fires started in dispersal area.	Solomon Is.: Munda bombed by 9 TBF's escorted by 12 fighters; supply dump destroyed and 1 fire started. Another force of 9 TBF's escorted by 10 fighters bombs Vila, starting 6 fires. Six SBD's escorted by 7 fighters bomb and strafe positions at Ugali, NE coast of Rendova I., destroying 1 building and setting another on fire. New Guinea: Japanese 8,000-ton AK in Bogia harbor (between Wewak and Madang) bombed and strafed by B-24 on rcn; probable hit and 2 near misses scored. Four A-20's bomb Lae area. At night, Lae and Salamaua bombed and strafed by 4 B-25's; 1 B-25 is missing. Twenty-five enemy medium bombers and about 15 dive bombers, escorted by fighters, attack shipping and wharf at Oro Bay; SS Masaya (U.S. cargo ship, 1,174 tons) and SS Bantam (Dutch cargo ship, 3,322 tons) sunk; wharf damaged and some casualties inflicted. Allied fighters intercept, destroying 13	27

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
28	Chile: Vice-President Wallace addresses crowd of 80,000 in Santiago stating that the Americas must safeguard the culture of the west and remove from the world the Nazi and Fascist plague.	...	France: Marshal-ling yards at Rouen attacked in afternoon by 70 B-17's; hits scored in and around locomotive sheds and in yards; slight to moderate AA fire and 20-35 enemy fighters encountered; 5 destroyed, 4 probably, 1 damaged; 1 B-17 missing, 6 damaged. St. Nazaire attacked during night by 323 RAF bombers who drop over 600 tons of bombs, causing large fires and explosions; weak, spasmodic AA fire encountered. Low Countries: Twenty-four escorted Venturas attack shipping and ship-building yards at Rotterdam effectively. Factories at Liege attacked at low-level by 6 Mosquitos, of which 2 are missing. England: During night, British aircraft and naval surface units attack 12 enemy E-boats in Smith's Knoll area; 2 sunk, 2 seriously damaged, and several others damaged.	Russia: Occasional artillery duels W of Rostov reported. Soviets claim frustration of enemy attempts to establish positions on E bank of Donets R. Germans capture Sievsk, NW of Kursk, after house to house fighting which is reported to have been going on several days. Operations in Smolensk sector hampered by thaws and mud; local engagements only reported.	...

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar
(Cont'd) missing. P-40's make 2 attacks on Axis transport on Gabes - El Hamma road. In first, 4 MT and 1 tank set on fire, 50 MT damaged; in second, targets found dispersed and intense AA fire encountered. Spitfires encounter 10 JU-88's about to attack Allied ground forces S of El Hamma; 2 destroyed, 3 damaged, and remainder forced to jettison bombs on their own troops. <u>Mediterranean:</u> About 12 enemy planes again attack east-bound convoy between Djidjelli and Bougie in early morning; 7 enemy aircraft shot down; SS Empire Rowan (British cargo ship, 3,322 tons) sunk at 37-16 N, 06-54 E. SS City of Guildford (British cargo ship, 5,557 tons) sunk by SS at 33-00 N, 22-50 E. <u>Tunisia:</u> Eighth Army continues advance, occupying Arram and Mareth by evening; forward elements reach line about 2 mi. beyond Zarat - Mareth road. Other units occupy Toujane, Zelten, and Matmata. Enemy resistance in El Hamma area decreasing; Axis tank force effectively engaged; Allied units reach Ghir Zouitinat. New Zealand troops push toward Gabes. Allied troops capture high ground N and S of Gafsa - Gabes road in area between Djebel Berda and Djebel Chemsî despite stubborn enemy resistance. Axis tanks make unsuccessful attack on French positions in Djebel Berda area; Camel Corps forces occupy Douz; enemy resistance encountered N of here. Axis units in Ousseltia Valley engaged S of Djebel Halfa; other troops driven from strong point SW of Djebel Mansour. In N, British move E along Djebel Abiod - Sedjenane road, meeting stubborn opposition; Axis counter-attack repulsed and our troops reach Djebel Choucha area by evening. Haze and sandstorms hinder bomber activities, but fighters and fighter bombers harass enemy on all fronts. Fifty-five Wellingtons, Halifaxes, and Albacores make night attack on Axis MT concentrations in Oudref area; many fires started. Medium and heavy bombers effectively raid enemy on Oudref - Sfax road while Axis communications in Sfax - Sousse - Kairouan region are bombed by other groups. Hurricanes successfully bomb tanks and guns NE of Maknassy. <u>Mediterranean:</u> SS Roushhi (Egyptian cargo ship, 128 tons) sunk by SS at 31-46 N, 34-23 E.	<u>India:</u> Enemy raid on Chittagong reported. <u>Burma:</u> British 77th Brigade, encountering stiff opposition, is attempting to withdraw. Enemy strength appears to be increased in Nanra area and infiltration continues. Rangoon R. mined by force of 5 B-24's. Allied planes carry out light raids on Meiktila, Naba RR station, Toungoo airdrome, and target in battle area. P-40's on offensive rcn damage gasoline drums at Chefang; fires visible for 50 mi.	(Cont'd) enemy planes and probably 12 others; 1 P-40 missing. Two enemy planes raid Kurireda (2-1/2 mi. S of Ioma); no damage results. <u>Tanimbar Is.:</u> Two rcn B-24's bomb Saumlakki, damaging buildings along waterfront. <u>Ellice Is.:</u> Two Allied fighters intercept 4 enemy bombers 20 mi. NW of Funafuti, destroying 1 of the bombers and forcing the others to withdraw without dropping bombs. <u>New Guinea:</u> Enemy and Allied patrols clash in Observation Hill area. One B-17 scores hits in building area at Madang, and strafes 2 loaded enemy barges N of Finschafen, setting 1 on fire. Single RAAF Catalina bombs and strafes Finschafen; fires result in airdrome and wharf areas. <u>New Britain:</u> B-17 on rcn scores bomb hits on Gasmata runway; single RAAF Catalina bombs and strafes enemy working parties on C. Gloucester airdrome. <u>Aroe Is.:</u> Two Hudsons bomb and strafe Dobo, starting fires in jetty area. <u>Kei Is.:</u> Langgoer unsuccessfully attacked by B-25.	28

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
29	<u>U.S.:</u> War Department announces that 14 Army and Navy officers from Pacific theater have concluded a secret conference with U.S. chiefs of staff in Washington. Office of Price Administration rations meat, butter, cheese, fats, and canned fish.	<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Six B-24's, 6 B-25's, and 12 P-38's bomb landing strip area at Kiska, hitting the runway; fighters strafe runway, main camp, and gun installations; 5 Allied planes damaged by AA fire.	<u>Germany:</u> Berlin attacked during night by 329 bombers which start heavy fires in SE, NE, SW, and center districts; moderate, light and heavy AA fire encountered; 21 bombers missing. Night of 29/30, 157 RAF bombers attack Bochum; many fires started near center of town; 1 large explosion reported. Ground defenses well-organized; moderate AA fire combined with searchlights; 12 planes missing. <u>Holland:</u> Shipping and shipyards at Rotterdam and RR objective NE of Dordrecht bombed by 39 escorted Venturas. <u>England:</u> Four FW-190's bomb Brighton and Hove, causing casualties and slight damage; Typhoons intercept, destroying 1 enemy plane; 1 Typhoon shot down. <u>North Atlantic:</u> East-bound Allied convoy attacked by enemy SS's about 500 mi. NW of Ireland; following ships sunk at 46-44 N, 18-38 W: SS Empire Whale (British cargo ship, 6,159 tons), SS Umara (British cargo ship, 6,852 tons), SS Nagara (British cargo ship, 8,791 tons).	<u>Russia:</u> Soviets claim sinking of 4,000-ton enemy transport in Black Sea. Enemy patrol activity in region of middle and upper Donets is reported. Soviets attacking on small scale in Smolensk sector but no material change in situation reported. Germans claim repulse of renewed Soviet attacks S of Lake Ilmen and S of Lake Ladoga. Considerable air activity on both sides is carried out.	...

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) <u>East Atlantic:</u> Convoy from Mediterranean to Freetown attacked by Axis SS's S of Canary Islands: SS Lagosian (British cargo ship, 5,449 tons) and SS Silverbeech (British cargo ship, 5,319 tons) torp. and sunk at 25-35 N, 15-55 W. SS Granicos (Greek cargo ship, 3,689 tons) torp. and sunk at 00-00 N, 16-30 W. <u>Tunisia:</u> British troops occupy El Hamma and Gabes; isolated enemy posts reported still in area. Forward troops contact Axis rear guard positions at Metouia and Oudref. Allied forces continue attacks in Fondouk area and occupy high ground S of Fondouk; small infantry attacks in Maknassy area repulsed. A small number of enemy tanks make slight progress in Pichon area but withdraw after our counterattack. Enemy retreat N and E from Djebel Abiod continues; Medjes el Bab shelled by Axis artillery. Throughout day, fighter bombers attack enemy retreating N of Gabes. Hurricanes successfully attack troop concentrations in Mezzouna area. Escorted fighter bombers twice raid Zitouna and landing ground. Enemy fighters intercept our patrols in Mareth - Gabes area. Our forces near El Guettar bombed and strafed in early afternoon by 9 FW-190's and ME-109's; other Axis fighter planes make interception flights in Faid - Maknassy sector. Allied fighter bombers attack enemy in Oudref - Sfax area, destroying 50 MT and damaging 250. Night attack by light bombers on enemy in Oudref - Sfax area results in destruction of 3 enemy planes on ground and damage to 12; Axis planes intercept; 9 of these destroyed, 5 damaged. Fighters on sweeps over central and northern Tunisia destroy 10 Axis planes and damage 2. Nineteen aircraft attack Sfax landing ground; hits scored on 4 Axis planes and 2 fires started on airdrome. Enemy planes make strafing and dive-bombing attacks on road targets in Sedjenane sector. <u>East Atlantic:</u> Convoy for Freetown again attacked by enemy U-boats and SS Moanda (Belgian cargo ship, 4,621 tons) torp. and sunk at 24-44 N, 16-48 W. SS Celtic Star (British cargo ship, 5,575 tons) presumed sunk at 04-08 N, 17-33 W.	<u>Burma:</u> Japanese continue to infiltrate through Mayu Hills from the East; enemy forces believed consolidating in hills in Nanra area. Four B-24's attack Tavoy, on Tenasserim coast, scoring 4 direct hits in dock area, which possibly destroy mining plant and office; other hits scored among camouflaged buildings; on return trip buildings on Alguada Reef strafed and a 100-ft. ship, possibly mine sweeper, bombed and strafed. Seven P-40's attack enemy Hq 1 mi. N of Maingkwan, setting building on fire, and strafe enemy column near Shingbuiwand. Enemy positions near Sumprabum bombed and strafed by 8 P-40's, while 2 more attack truck depot at Hpungizup. Trucks in vicinity of Paneng strafed by 2 P-40's. Other P-40's on offensive rcn successfully strafe storage tank at Bhamo, drums at Chefang, and locomotives near Lashio. Heho airdrome bombed by 6 Wellingtons; other RAF planes continue to attack targets in battle area. Six RAF Mohawks intercept 11 enemy	<u>Solomon Is.:</u> Seven B-17's, 13 TBF's and 5 B-24's bomb Buin area, scoring hits in revetment area and on runway at Kahili. Enemy seaplane base at Faisi attacked by 5 P-38's and 1 F4U; 5-7 enemy planes set on fire. Returning from the mission, the formation sights and strafes an enemy DD near Alu I. (SE of Shortland I.), leaving it smoking. <u>New Guinea:</u> Patrol clashes continue in Observation Hill area. Rcn B-17 bombs Madang and strafes villages in Saidor area. P-38's shoot down enemy rcn plane over Dobodura. Six enemy bombers raid Oro Bay before dawn, setting small petrol dump on fire. <u>New Britain:</u> Airdromes at Gasmata and C. Gloucester bombed by single Allied rcn planes; results unobserved at Gasmata, but bombs cause explosion, possibly on supply dump, near runway at C. Gloucester. <u>Kei Is.:</u> Toeal and nearby villages bombed and strafed by force of 6 RAAF Hudsons.	29

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1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
30		<u>Aleutian Is.: Kiska</u> raided 4 times by total of 5 B-24's, 6 B-25's, and P-38's; radar installation believed destroyed, large explosion and fire result in submarine base area, and hits scored on various other installations; same area and personnel strafed; Little Kiska bombed by 4 of the P-38's. One B-24 shot down and several other Allied planes damaged by AA fire. Four B-24's, with 4 P-38's as cover, bomb runway at Holtz Bay, Attu, scoring hits in target area; intense AA fire damages 1 B-24.	<u>Holland:</u> Philips radio works at Eindhoven attacked by 9 Mosquitos, with good results. <u>France:</u> Mosquitos damage a 15,000-ton enemy ship off Lorient and locomotive in Brittany. <u>England:</u> Eight FW-190's make low-level attack on Salcombe and Bolt Head airfield, causing some casualties and damage. <u>North Atlantic:</u> East-bound convoy again attacked; SS Empire Bowman (British cargo ship, 7,031 tons) torped and sunk at 48-05 N, 15-00 W.	<u>Russia:</u> Soviets renew attacks in Kuban area but Germans appear to be successfully defending their positions. Moscow announces sinking of 2,000-ton enemy transport in Black Sea. Russians claim gains S of Byelyi; enemy reports repulse of attacks SW of Vyazma and S of Lake Ilmen. Berlin asserts that German defense in Staraya Russa area has successfully held against all Soviet attempts, for several weeks, to break it. Red Army attacks S of Lake Ladoga again fail to achieve material gains. The spring thaw is now hampering operations on the N front.	<u>Italy:</u> Three U.S. planes bomb Crotone chemical factory; hits scored on RR yards, warehouse, buildings and center of factory area. Valentia air-drome also successfully attacked.
31		<u>Aleutian Is.:</u> Allied fighters make sweep over Kiska.	<u>Holland:</u> Force of 72-B-17's and 24 B-24's dispatched to attack Rotterdam shipyards, but, because of heavy cloud cover, only 33 B-17's are able to see target; slight AA fire and mediocre	<u>Russia:</u> Soviet forces attack in Kuban area and capture Anastas-evsk; units W of Rostov report repulse of enemy attempts to advance. Russians repel renewed German	<u>Sardinia:</u> Cagliari harbor, Monserat, Villacidro, and Decimomannu airdromes bombed by 95 B-17's; 9 enemy planes destroyed. At Cagliari, hits scored on 2 large

AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC ISLANDS	1943 Mar.
Tunisia: Allied troops occupy Metouia and Oudref and, in afternoon, contact Axis forces which are entrenched in new defensive positions along Wadi Akarit and Djebel Zemlet el Beida. Camel Corps troops occupy Kebili, on E edge of Chott Djerid. Enemy continues to resist in El Guettar Sector, especially NE of Djebel Berda. Enemy machine gun and mortar fire encountered in Fondouk area; Ousseltia shelled during morning. On N front, British occupy Sedjenane, but Axis retains positions on Djebel Tabouna and makes small counterattack in NW direction. Fighters attack enemy defensive fighter screen on entire front; 12 enemy planes destroyed, 7 probably, and 8 damaged; 6 of our aircraft lost. Medium and light bombers constantly attack Axis ground forces moving in El Guettar - Gabes direction; medium bombers raid enemy landing grounds and concentrations W of Gabes, starting many fires. Fighters and fighter bombers, attacking same targets, destroy 12 MT and damage many others. Escorted B-25's and Balti - mores make 2 attacks on Sfax landing ground, setting 2 aircraft on fire; intense AA fire destroys 1 Baltimore; enemy planes intercept, of which 1 is destroyed and 4 damaged. In forward areas, Allied fighter planes break up attack by escorted ME-210's, probably destroying 1 and damaging 5. In the north, German aircraft heavily attack Allied road transport and armored vehicles; 2 enemy planes destroyed and several damaged. Mediterranean: In-bound convoy attacked by Axis U-boats; following ships sunk at 36-28 N, 01-00 E: SS Fort A La Corne (British cargo ship, 7, 133 tons) and SS Hallanger (Norwegian tanker, 9,551 tons).	(Cont'd) planes near Maungdaw, damaging 1 and probably 2 of them; 1 Mohawk damaged. India: Force of about 21 enemy bombers and fighters attacks Ramu, destroying an ammunition dump; 10 Hurricanes and 4 Mohawks intercept, destroying 4-5 planes, damaging area. 10, for loss of 2 RAF planes. AA fire damages 2 of same flight over battle area. Burma: RR yards at Maymyo twice attacked by B-25's; hits scored on RR tracks, machine shops, and sheds. P-40's inflict considerable damage on Npyentawng, 3 mi. N of Sumprabum, during bombing attack. At Wuju, in Sumprabum area, P-40's score direct hits on buildings, starting several fires and causing large explosion. About 10 fires started at Mohnyin during attack by other P-40's. RAF continues to operate against enemy ground forces, and carries out light raid on RR station at Katha. British light naval craft claims sinking of 3-4 motor launches in Mayu R., during night attack.	Solomon Is.: One B-17 bombs Kahili airdrome and another attacks runway and a gun position at Vila. During afternoon, 16 SBD's escorted by 23 F4F's bomb Munda, badly damaging runway and starting fires. New Guinea: Japanese reported occupying many villages in Saidor area. Four enemy DD's carrying supplies to Finschafen sighted on 29th and attacked morning of 30th off Finschafen. A B-24 shadowing the DD's is intercepted 3 times by total of 21 enemy fighters, 2 of which are destroyed, 2 others probably destroyed. Three B-17's, attacking shipping and docks at Finschafen, score direct hit on a DD, badly damaging it, and set fire to building. Two more heavy attacks on Finschafen are carried out by total of 8 A-20's and 4 B-25's, with P-38 cover, and by 9 RAAF Beaufighters; large fires and explosions result from hits; fires along waterfront reported burning for 8 hours. Finschafen also bombed by single B-24, and another on rcn attacks Finschafen, barges NW of Madang, and tracks in Saidor area. Lae and Salamaua attacked by 1 B-17. Enemy shipping at Kaimana Bay attacked by B-25; near miss scored on 3,000-ton ship. Of 2 fighters attempting interception, 1 is shot down and another probably destroyed. Oro Bay ineffectively raided by 3 enemy planes during early morning. New Britain: Gasmata airdrome bombed by 5 B-24's which fail to locate DD convoy; half-ton bomb hits on runway and installations start large fires. B-17 attacks enemy coastal schooner near C. Gloucester, leaving it in a sinking condition; another small vessel unsuccessfully attacked in Ubili area.	47
Tunisia: Enemy in new defensive positions again contacted and some penetration effected E of Djebel Haidoudi. Axis defense in El Guettar sector remains stubborn; our advance from El Guettar to Gabes delayed by mines. Axis makes small, unsuccessful infantry attacks in Maknassy area; enemy rcn (probably Italian) enters	Burma: Force of 8 B-25's attacks RR yards at Pynmana, 50 mi. N of Toungoo, scoring hits on RR tracks and warehouses. RR bridge at Pynmana is target for 7 B-24's;	Solomon Is.: Eight SBD's escorted by 10 fighters bomb supply dumps at Suavanau Pt., Rekata Bay. At night, Catalina sights and attacks force of 5 enemy DD's and 1 AK SW of Kolombangara. B-24's make low-level attack on same force, smoke screen prevents observation of results. New Guinea: Six A-20's bomb	30
			31

1943 Mar.	POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL	NORTH AND LATIN AMERICAN THEATERS	EUROPEAN THEATER		
			Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Southern Europe
31 C'd			(Cont'd) fighter resistance encountered; 2 destroyed, 1 damaged; 1 B-17 shot down, 4 damaged.	(Cont'd) attacks in upper Donets area and S of Lake Ilmen. Germans claim frustration of Soviet attacks SW of Vyzama and S of Lake Ladoga. Air forces of both sides continue to support ground operations.	(Cont'd) merchant ships, several smaller vessels, and on RR station. Mediterranean: Allied planes attack Axis convoy, consisting of 4 large merchant ships, 1 troops transport, and 4 barges escorted by 4 DD's and 1 other naval vessel, in Sicilian Channel; 2 large merchant ships destroyed, 2 left burning. Second convoy attacked by 29 B-25's with escort of P-38's which sink 1 large merchant ship, start fires on 3; 6 enemy planes destroyed; 2 B-25's shot down; 2 P-38's missing.

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AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST THEATER	ASIATIC THEATER	SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS	1943 Mar.
(Cont'd) Sidi Bou Zid. In central sector, Axis positions in Djebel Chirich area are found abandoned; no contact reported as we advance in Djebel Touila and Djebel Trozza areas. On N front, some British units advance to high ground E of Sedjenane; Axis counter-attack SE of Sedjenane repulsed. El Maou landing ground at Sfax attacked by 52 RAF medium bombers; 5 aircraft left burning on ground. Same target bombed by 17 B-25's which cause explosions among bunched aircraft and start fires; intense AA fire damages many of our planes. Another attack on the landing ground made by 90 medium bombers with escort of 7 squadrons of fighters; bursts cover landing ground and dispersal area; 3 fires observed. Allied planes make offensive sweeps throughout day in El Guettar sector, destroying many MT and tanks; night bombers start 50 fires S of Sfax. Thirty-six P-40's, on bombing and strafing mission, destroy 40 Axis motor vehicles. On return, 18 JU-87's escorted by 12 ME-109's attacking our ground troops are intercepted; attack is broken up, 4 JU-87's and 6 ME-109's destroyed; 6 JU-37's and 1 ME-109 damaged for loss of 1 P-40. Axis dive bombers and fighter bombers attack Allied tanks, and road transport in Sedjenane sector.	(Cont'd) hits scored near bridge, among buildings believed to be warehouses, and on nearby village; large fires started. Nine B-24's, attempting to attack same target, are intercepted by at least 7 enemy planes which force B-24's to jettison bombs outside target; enemy losses during the 35-min. attack are 2 destroyed, 2 probably, 3 damaged; 1 B-24 crashes and 3 are damaged. Three B-24's bomb RR bridge at Sathwa and 3 others bomb bridge at Katha. Barracks area and oil concentrations at Bhamo attacked by 15 Blenheims; many fires started. Ten Hurricanes intercept 12 enemy fighters over Ruthidaung, destroying 1 and probably another; 3 Hurricanes lost.	(Cont'd) buildings at Salamaua. Rcn B-24's bomb dispersal area at Lae and bridge near Finschafen; direct hit scored on bridge. Kela village bombed and strafed by total of 7 RAAF A-20's and 4 RAAF Beaufighters, in 2 attacks; buildings demolished. In Dutch New Guinea, 5 RAAF Hudsons bomb Timika and nearby village, and 5 B-24's attack Babo; during the latter attack, explosions and large fires result from hits on buildings and among fuel dumps; 1 of 2 Zeros intercepting B-24's is probably destroyed.	31 C'd

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