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COMBAT INTELLIGENCE CENTER
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE

ITEM #1023
(S. #2475)

TRANSLATION OF CAPTURED JAPANESE DOCUMENT

Source: Taken at MUNDA, NEW GEORGIA, Mid Aug, 1943.

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Intelligence Report on the World War Situation.

Intelligence Report A

May, 1943
Staff Section, GO BUTAI

Summary:

The Empire of JAPAN, which has firmly established both politically and strategically the victorious trend in Greater East ASIA, will destroy the key points of anti-JAPANESE resistance in Continental CHINA, and simultaneously plans to reinforce all theaters within the Co-Prosp Sphere. /JAPAN/ will crush enemy resistance whenever and wherever it may find it, as evidenced by the capture and annihilation of the BRITISH INDIAN Forces which had planned to retake BURMA.

On the ALEUTIAN front, our /JAP/ North Seas Garrison force (TN: HOKKAI SHUBITAI) has overcome the persistent attacks of enemy planes. On the TIMOR, NEW GUINEA, and BANDA SEA fronts, strategic bases have already been established at all key positions, and our forces are preparing for the next operation.

AUSTRALIA, in anticipation of our (JAP) offensive operations, is constantly requesting reinforcements from the US, but there is a great shortage of labor and manpower in the US and in ENGLAND.

The labor strikes, the question of INDIA, the question of Lend-Lease, the severance of SOVIET and POLISH diplomatic relations, etc, are truly revealing the disgraceful condition of the ALLIED NATIONS.

In the GERMAN-SOVIET war fronts, except for localized battles in the CAUCASUS, there is no change in the situation, but in the NORTH AFRICAN front the GERMANS and ITALIANS have shortened and adjusted their lines.

Part I. The Greater East ASIA War Situation.

1. ALEUTIAN Front.

Apparently the enemy have built an advanced base on AMCHITKA I (100 km east of KISKA) (from enemy radio broadcasts). The enemy air raids on this front are still persistent.

2. The border between the USSR and Eastern MANCHUKUO is still quiet

and recently fewer SOVIET forces have unlawfully crossed the border.

3. The CHINA Front.

The (JAP) NORTH CHINA Area Army, in action on the borders of SHANSI and HONAN provinces during the latter part of April, gained the following successes in battle:

/Enemy/ dead	-	5,757
Prisoners of War	-	Newly organized 5th Army Comdr, TIEN-YING SUN (TN: 孫殿英) and 9,683 men.

Captured Ordnance

Rifles	4,871
LMG	294
HMG	408
Mtn Arty (Guns)	6
Inf Mortars	16

The (JAP) Central CHINA Army initiated its movement toward the north-west of TUNGTING Lake (TN: 洞庭湖) at midnight on the 5th.

On both the 26th and 28th of April, our Army Air Force bombed the YUNNAN Airfield(s), destroying 56 enemy planes and also inflicted a crushing blow on the 14th US Air Force (TN: 14th KOKUTAI) Hq which is stationed in CHINA and which was being reorganized.

The US Air Force stationed in CHINA is located in the KUNMING-HSIEN (昆明) area and apparently has in general restored its combat strength because it has begun to be active in the Northern part of FRENCH INDO CHINA and Eastern part of BURMA.

The great number /of planes/ coming into CHINA recently is worthy of attention.

4. Recent Situation of the NW route.

The transportation of materials for aiding CHIANG KAI-SHEK via the NW route has recently shown a tendency to become increasingly active. Furthermore, it seems that the CHUNGKING Govt has reached an agreement for receiving one-fourth of the materials which are being sent as an assistance to the SOVIET UNION from the US via the ALASKAN Highway. It is a noteworthy fact that US refined oil is among those materials being transported.

5. The PHILIPPINE Front.

The surviving enemy soldiers and guerillas (TN: 敵兵匪) in the PHILIPPINES have been completely cleaned up by our (JAP) forces, and their hostile organization has been practically crushed.

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The expansion of the recent KARIPAPI (TN: Phonetic) movement (Neighborhood Assn (TN: TONARIGUMI), the reaffirmation of the granting of PHILIPPINE Independence, etc; in conjunction with the propagation and permeation of all policies of the Military Administration have vastly influenced the surviving enemy bandits, and is gradually creating a feeling of trust toward the JAPANESE Forces. Thus, reducing the feeling of tension among the people.

6. INDIA and BURMA Fronts:

Our 1st BUTAI in the AKYAB (TN: BURMA) front seized and annihilated (TN: HOSOKU ZEMMETSU) the main body of the INDIAN 14th Division on the banks of MAYU (マユ) River and is, at present, mopping up the remnants of the enemy there.

It is estimated that the enemy Air Force in INDIA is composed of 450 BRITISH planes and 150 US planes, but recently it is estimated that it has been reinforced to 500 BRITISH planes and 170 US planes - totalling 670 planes or more. This force continues to cooperate with ground operations in the area North of AKYAB, and simultaneously, strives to destroy our (JAP) rear installations. Hereafter, in coordination with enemy strategy as a whole, the activities of this force will tend to become more and more intensified.

7. Southwest Pacific Front:

The threat imposed on the enemy thru the reinforcement of KEN Group (TN: 堅集団) - 19th Army) in the BANDA SEA Front apparently was immense. The enemy is making a desperate effort to combat this menace.

Judging from enemy raids, it has been roughly confirmed that there are, more or less, 130 planes in the Northwestern part of AUSTRALIA.

Our Air Force (TN: KOKU BUTAI) raided PORT DARWIN on the noon of May 2nd and devastated the airfield and the whole military installations area. Furthermore, it engaged the intercepting enemy planes, 25 SPITFIRES and 10, P-40's, and shot down 21 of them. All (our) planes returned safely.

8. The enemy activities in espionage, etc, within our theater of operations must be carefully watched.

Part 2 European War Situation.

1. NORTH AFRICAN War Situation:

The Allied Forces in the TUNISIAN Front opened a general attack on the AXIS positions in the middle of April.

The GERMANS and ITALIANS also adjusted their lines and simultaneously inflicted severe damage on the ALLIED Forces with a fierce counter-attack.

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The damage sustained by the ALLIED Forces during the period from April 16 to the 31st, as confirmed, is as follows:

Tanks	294
Armored Cars	211
Guns	64
Planes	53
Prisoners of War	1500

2. GERMAN - SOVIET War Situation.

The Eastern Front is now in the thawing season. Excluding aerial activity, there is no heavy fighting on the whole front. Both forces are confronting each other.

3. GERMAN - ENGLISH War Situation.

The air offensive operation of both sides is being continued as usual.

The number of ALLIED ships sunk during April is 63 (423,000 tons) and the total between January until the end of April has reached 303 ships (2,448,400 tons).

Part 5 US Situation

1. The labor shortage in the US is apparently very acute. The compulsory mobilization of unskilled laborers from Central and South America is being introduced as a method of solving /this shortage/, but labor strikes within the country are increasing. Particularly, the strike of all APPALACHIAN Coal Mines has developed into a general strike of all US coal mines. Finally, with 500,000 miners on strike, it became a strike unparalleled in the history of US labor, and dealt a severe blow to the expansion of US production.

Even the Army and the Navy are affected by the shortage of men for service and are already drafting negroes. The Navy Dept has a quota of negro personnel amounting to 15% of the US Naval personnel conscripted this year; thereby, showing that they plan to expand the armed forces with negro personnel.

2. The Southwest Pacific ALLIED Air Force Comdr, GEORGE KENNEY, visited WASHINGTON and appealed to prominent army leaders there relative to the acute necessity of reinforcing AUSTRALIA because of the great inferiority of the ALLIED Air Force in comparison with the JAP Forces, even numerically; resulting in an extremely serious plight.

3. Criticism on the JAP Forces by a US war critic:

The US war critic (HANSON BALDWIN) wrote an article in the Times, titled, "How has JAPAN Carried out the War" and discussed it as follows:

1. JAPAN possesses the advantage of time and location in the PACIFIC War. Her strategic position has been firmly established. Although, her industrial capacity is small, her aircraft production capacity amounts to between 800 and 1200 planes. The best JAP planes, the type OO-01 fighters have a maximum speed of 635 km per hour and both their speed and maneuverability are great. However, they lack protection and are slower than US fighters.

2. JAP soldiers are excellent /fighting men/ and are unsurpassed by any troops of the world in landing operations and jungle fighting.

3. The weak point of the JAP forces, in comparison with the US forces, is the inferior fire power and incomplete mechanization. However, they possess weapons peculiar to the special characteristics of JAP soldiers.

4. It is a fallacy to say that JAPAN will fall simultaneously with the defeat of GERMANY, and if the time element is considered, there is a danger of GERMANY'S winning the war.