

SOUTH EAST ASIA COMMUNIQUE No.93

New Delhi,

5 April, 1944.

In the Arakan our operations continue successfully.

Some progress has been made towards the Eastern tunnel on the Maungdaw Buthidaung road.

South of Maungdaw in the coastal area our troops occupied Alethangyaw.

West African patrols inflicted casualties on the enemy on the East bank of the Kaladan river.

Enemy pressure has been felt at various points along the whole of the Assam front.

Our rearguards continued to operate successfully on the Tiddim Imphal road.

East and North of Imphal Japanese attacks on our defensive positions failed.

The Japanese parties that reached the Imphal Kohima road have not yet been dislodged.

In the upper Mogaung valley South East of Laban troops of the 38th Chinese division crossed the Hpadu Hka under enemy fire and are driving southwards.

Units of the 22nd Chinese Division who are in contact with the enemy astride the road South of Laban are pressing the Japanese from the West of the road.

Enemy artillery fire against our forces continues.

Heavy bombers of the Strategic Air Force, Eastern Air Command, in daylight on April 3, attacked oil and power installations in Southern Burma. A large fire was started in the target area at Yenangyaung and there were direct hits on buildings at Chauk.

Fighters of the Tactical Air Force on April 3 and 4, attacking enemy positions and communications in the Arakan, Mayu and Kaladan areas, destroyed nineteen rivercraft and damaged many others. Dive-bombers attacked objectives in the Buthidaung area.

On April 3, dive-bombers and fighter-bombers strafed and bombed objectives in the Chin Hills, Chindwin Valley and north west Burma. In one fighter offensive in the Tamu area three tanks were destroyed, another three damaged and five M.T. were set on fire.

Dive-bombers and fighters were active in support of ground troops in north Burma on April 3.

On the night of April 3/4, long-range fighters attacked communications and other targets in south Burma. Enemy troops were seen to leave a train shot up near Mudon. One 250-ton schooner was left heavily damaged. Cannon-fire attacks started fires at Pegu and there was an explosion in Moulmein town.

Next day long-range fighters left a factory burning in south Burma.

In a strike against Aungban airfield in daylight on April 4, fighters destroyed seven enemy aircraft on the ground and probably destroyed three more. Part of the Meza bridge was wrecked in a fighter attack.

Night fighters on April 3/4 destroyed two enemy aircraft they intercepted over north-west Burma.

From all these operations one Allied aircraft is missing.

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