

20.3.43 - No. 4

INDIA JOINT WAR COMMUNIQUE No. 78

The following communique was received in London this morning:-

Fighting continues in the Arakan district. In the Mayu peninsula our forward troops have made progress towards Donbaik. East of the Mahtu river our positions have been maintained and in the past 24-hours there has been no important change in the situation.

Early yesterday morning, March 19, our naval coastal forces shelled Japanese positions in the Donbaik area. Numerous fires were started. Our ships were engaged by enemy artillery but suffered neither damage nor casualties.

Yesterday afternoon, a few hours after, two low level attacks by Hurricanes, R.A.F. bombers, made a sharp attack on Japanese troops at Htizwe. Most of their bombs burst well in the target area. Other aircraft bombed Pinlebu, an enemy occupied village west of Katha. Fighter patrols attacked various targets including enemy airfields. A river tug was destroyed at Bahin.

Last night the enemy airfield at Magwe was attacked and bombs were seen to burst in the dispersal areas.

From these operations one of our aircraft is missing.

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WAR OFFICE