

**US Marines
Backhander Task Force
New Britain Invasion
15 December 1943**

1st Marine Division (Reinforced): Major General W.H.Rupertus

Greyhound Group (Combat Team C): Colonel J.N.Frisbie

7th Marine Regiment
1/11th Marine Regiment
4/11th Marine Regiment
Co. 1, 1st Tank Battalion
3rd Platoon, Company D (Scout), 1st Tank Battalion
3rd Platoon, MP Company, Divisional HQ Battalion
Battery D, 1st Special Weapons Battalion
Det. Supply & Service Company, 1st Service Battalion
Co C., 1st Motor Transport Battalion
Co C., 1st Medical Battalion
Co C., 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
2/17th Marine Regiment
Det HQ Co., HQ Bn, 1st Marine Regiment
3rd Platoon, Ordnance Company, 1st Service Battalion
Det. C Company, 583rd Signal Battalion
Det. 15th Weapons Squad
Det. 2nd ESB
Det. Special Weapons Group, 12th Defense Battalion

Wild Duck Group (Combat Group B): Colonel W.J.Whaling

1st Marines (less BLT 21)
2/11th Marines
Det. H&S Battery, 11th Marines
C Battery, 1st Special Weapons Battalion
2nd Platoon, A Battery, 1st Special Weapons Battalion
B Company, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion (less 2nd Plat)
B Company, 1st Battalion, 17th Marines (less 2nd Plat)
1st Platoon, D Company (Scout), 1st Tank Battalion
2nd Platoon, 1st MP Battalion
A Company, 1st Motor Transport Battalion
2nd Platoon, Ordnance Company, 1st Service Battalion
Det. Supply and Service Co., 1st Service Battalion
Det 583rd Signal Battalion
Det. 2nd ESB
D Medical Company, 1st Medical Battalion

Stoneface Group (Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 21)

Lt. Colonel J.M.Masters, Sr.
2/1st Marine Regiment
H Battery, 11th Marine Regiment
4th Platoon, A Battery, 1st Special Weapons Battalion
1st Platoon, B (Surgical Company, 1st Medical Battalion
Det C Company, 583rd Signal Battalion
Det. ANGAU
Det. 2nd ESB

Anti-Aircraft Group: Colonel W.H.Harrison

Det H&S Battery, 12th Defense Battalion
90mm Group, 12th Defense Battalion
Det. Special Weapons Group, 12th Defense Battalion

One gun section, 155mm Group, 12th Defense Battalion
Engineer Group: Colonel H. E. Rosecrans
17th Marine Regiment (less 2nd Bn & A, B, & C Cos)
E Co., 1st Medical Battalion
Base Engineering Headquarters
Reserve Group (Combat Team A): Colonel J. T. Selden
5th Marine Regiment
5/11th Marine Regiment
A Co., 1st Battalion, 17th Marines
B Co., 1st Motor Transport Battalion
A Co., 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
2nd Platoon, D (Scout) Co., 1st Tank Battalion
A Co., 1st Tank Battalion
C Co., 1st Tank Battalion
1st Platoon, A Battery, 1st Special Weapons Battalion
B Battery, 1st Special Weapons Battalion
A Co., 1st Medical Battalion
1st Platoon, Ordnance Company, 1st Service Battalion
Det. Supply & Service Co., 1st Service Battalion

Hough, F.O., & Crown, J.A., The Campaign on New Britain, Historical Section Division of Public Information, Headquarters, USMC, 1954.

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