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GENERAL

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NOTE DATED 17 OCTOBER 1951 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
UNITED STATES TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING
FIVE COMMUNIQUEES ISSUED BY THE HEADQUARTERS OF
THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA

17 October 1951

The Representative of the United States to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Security Council, the following communiques issued by the Headquarters of the United Nations Command, as indicated below:

Far East Air Forces summary 478, covering operations Monday,
15 October 1951

General Headquarters communique 1,038, for the twenty-four hours ended
6:00 A.M., Tuesday, 16 October 1951 (4:00 P.M., Monday, Eastern
standard time)

Eighth Army communique 614, issued at 10:00 A.M., Tuesday,
16 October 1951 (8:00 P.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

Eighth Army communique 615, covering operations from midnight Monday
to 6:00 P.M., Tuesday, 16 October 1951 (10:00 A.M., Monday to
4:00 A.M., Tuesday, Eastern standard time)

Far East Naval Forces summary for operations Tuesday, 16 October 1951

/FAR EAST
S/2394

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY 478, COVERING MONDAY'S OPERATIONS

Far East Air Forces planes yesterday mounted over 750 sorties in strikes against enemy rail facilities, warehouses, gun positions, vehicles and troops throughout North Korea.

Fifth Air Force and attached units flew over 660 of these sorties, with Australian and South African planes credited with thirty-five and land-based Marine planes ninety of the Fifth's total. Fighter-bombers provided effective aid to advancing United Nations ground forces, with nearly 100 close-support strikes against enemy concentrations in the First, Ninth and Tenth Corps sectors.

United States Air Force F-51 Mustangs and Marine F-4U's employed napalm, rockets and machine-gun fire in deadly attacks on Red troops, supplies, equipment and gun positions. Over 100 observed casualties were inflicted on the Communists. Continuing the relentless interdiction campaign, fighter-bombers made repeated strikes against enemy rail routes in northwest Korea. Pilots reported rail cuts in approximately eighty places.

F-80 Shooting Star jets attacked near Sunchon, destroying three railcars and damaging a locomotive and ten cars. The speedy jets made multiple rail cuts in the area of Songchon. Further cuts were scored between Kunu and Sunchon, and marshalling yards south of Chaeryong were dive-bombed.

F-84 Thunderjets hit rail targets in the Sinanju area, effecting trackage cuts and destroying four rail cars. The Thunderjets also struck between Sinnju and Sukchon. In this area ten rail cuts were made. F-51's made sweeps over the rail route from Sunchon through Pyongyang to Hwangju to make trackage cuts in seven places. Five large ammunition trucks were destroyed and casualties inflicted on troops in an attack west of Ando by Marine F-4U's.

No enemy air opposition was encountered by F-86 Sabre jets in morning and afternoon sweeps over northwest Korea.

During the period, Fifth Air Force pilots reported destroying or damaging 250 enemy-held supply buildings, seven locomotives, over 100 rail cars, ten bridges, eighty-five vehicles and six gun positions.

In night attacks, eight B-29 Superforts of the Ninety-eighth and 307th Bomb Wings used radar-aiming techniques to drop air-bursting quarter-ton bombs on enemy frontline positions in twenty-one places to support the advance of United Nations ground troops. In other pre-dawn strikes, B-26 Invaders attacked marshalling yards at Sinanju and Pyongyang, with bombs aimed by radar.

/Preliminary

Preliminary reports indicated a total of eighty-five sorties were flown last night by Far East Air Forces aircraft, which destroyed twenty-seven vehicles. Light movement of enemy vehicular traffic was observed.

Combat cargo transports continued to airlift supplies to United Nations forces in Korea yesterday, as they flew over eight sorties to carry 110 tons and over 900 passengers.

No land-based planes were lost to enemy action yesterday.

/GENERAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,038, FOR THE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS ENDED
6:00 A.M., TUESDAY (4:00 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Yesterday in Korea United Nations ground forces along the central front continued to advance against well-entrenched enemy groups of platoon to battalion strength, with gains up to several thousand yards registered against light to moderate resistance. In the west-central sector, a battalion-sized counter attack was launched against friendly elements, and while no ground was lost during the engagement, hand-to-hand fighting continued at the close of the period. Along the remainder of the battlefront, United Nations forces maintained positions and patrolled, with only minor enemy contacts.

Land-based fighter-bombers continued interdiction strikes against North Korean rolling stock and supply routes, and also napalmed and strafed enemy troops in close air support of friendly ground units. Light bombers struck marshaling yards at Sinanju and Pyongyang and attacked enemy vehicular traffic along road networks leading to the battlefront. Medium bombers dropped air-bursting bombs on more than twenty enemy troop concentrations during the night.

United Nations carrier-based aircraft, in operations over the east coast of Korea, bombed, rocketed and strafed enemy factories, vehicles and rail installations in the Pukchong, Wonsan and Chosen Reservoir areas, while on the west coast, Marine Corsairs destroyed or damaged a large number of supply buildings and enemy sampans in the Chinnampo region.

Task force surface elements shelled troop concentrations, rail lines, bridges and warehouses from the Kosong area northward of Wonsan, Hungnam, Songjin, Chuuronjang, Nansu and Chongjin, while on the west coast, other naval warships bombarded troop centers near Upcho, at Hakaan on the shore of Jaeju Bay, and along the upper reaches of the Han River, near Pungdong.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 614, ISSUED AT 10:00 A.M., TUESDAY (8:00 P.M.,
MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Patrol action and brief firefights were reported from the western front. Hand-to-hand combat marked the action on the central front as United Nations forces registered 1,000 to 3,000 yard gains. Three hills were captured, 5,000 yards gained and enemy equipment destroyed along the eastern front.

United Nations forces along the western Korean battlefront continued to maintain their positions and patrol, with no significant enemy contact except in the area, northwest of Yonchon and west of Chorwon, where patrols of the United States First Cavalry Division were engaged in several brief firefights with enemy units of unknown size.

Elements of the Republic of Korea Second Division repulsed four counter-attacks by small enemy units southwest of Kumsong. Attacking units of the United States Twenty-fourth Division in the south and southeast of Kumsong were advancing slowly against moderate resistance from enemy units of platoon to battalion strength. Republic of Korea units southeast of Kumsong were heavily engaged during the day, with hand-to-hand combat reported. Gains from 1,000 to 3,000 yards were reported along the central battlefront.

United Nations forces continued their advance along the eastern front. Elements of the Republic of Korea Eighth Division encountered light to moderate enemy resistance as they registered gains from 2,000 to 5,000 yards and captured two hills in the area northwest and north-northwest of Yanggu. Another hill was taken in the area north-northwest of Yanggu by elements of the United States Second Division. A task force operating in the area north of Yanggu encountered moderate enemy resistance and reported destroying enemy equipment and bunkers in the area.

Elements of the Republic of Korea Fifth Division turned back a battalion-size enemy counter-attack west of the "punchbowl". Elsewhere along the eastern front, United Nations forces patrolled, with light enemy contact.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 615, COVERING OPERATIONS FROM MIDNIGHT
MONDAY TO 6:00 P.M., TUESDAY (10:00 A.M. MONDAY
TO 4:00 A.M. TUESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Attacking First Cavalry Division meets fierce resistance from enemy entrenched in bunkers northwest of Yonchon. United States Twenty-fourth Division and Republic of Korea Sixth Division make limited gains against light to moderate enemy resistance on central front. Republic of Korea Eighth Division continues to advance.

Attacking elements of the United States First Cavalry Division encountered fierce resistance from the enemy well-entrenched in bunkers, as they fought toward high ground in the area northwest of Yonchon. Enemy units of unknown strength poured a heavy volume of hand grenades and small arms and automatic weapons fire on the cavalry men, who scored short advances during the morning. The attacking units still were heavily engaged at midday. Elsewhere on the western battlefield, United Nations forces continued to maintain positions and patrol, with light enemy contact reported.

Elements of the United States Twenty-fourth Division continued to attack in the area south and south-southeast of Kumsong and scored limited gains against light to moderate resistance from enemy units of platoon to battalion strength. In the area southeast of Kumsong, elements of the Sixth Republic of Korea Division made gains up to 1,000 yards against light to moderate resistance. Elsewhere on the central front, United Nations forces maintained their positions and continued patrolling.

Elements of the Eighth Republic of Korea Division continued their advance in the area northwest and north-northwest of Yanggu, advancing 1,000 yards at one point and occupying a hill at another. No significant action was reported from the remainder of the eastern front, as United Nations forces in those areas continued to patrol with light enemy contact.

FAR EAST NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY'S OPERATIONS

United States Navy and Marine carrier-based aircraft flew over 250 sorties yesterday as United Nations naval forces again launched Corsairs, Skyraiders, Panthers and Banshees from four carriers.

Far Carrier Task Force 77 put flight after flight into the air from carriers U.S.S. Essex, U.S.S. Bon Homme Richard and U.S.S. Antietam. Major strikes were concentrated on Communist transportation routes from Wonsan north to Songjin. Cutting railroads tracks and smashing bridges, the Navy pilots flying from the three floating airfields registered heavy damage on Red installations during the bombing raids.

Marines flying Corsairs from Task Force 95 escort-carrier Renova slashed at west coast military targets. Red supply efforts by sea suffered as ten junks and sampans were destroyed and another five damaged during strikes near Chinnampo, in the estuary, and down the Chaeryong River.

The battleship New Jersey, flying the flag of Seventh Fleet Command Vice Admiral Harold Martin, killed an estimated 115 enemy troops while pouring over 125 tons of high explosives on bunkers, infantry positions and artillery inland in the Kosong-Kansong area yesterday. Elsewhere, Task Force 95 bombarding and blockade units effectively attacked Communist coastal strongpoints off both coasts. Operating in the far northeastern Sea of Japan area, the destroyer Cony and destroyer-minesweepers Carmick and Thompson threw five-inch gunfire at bridges, highways and rail routes from Chongjin to Songjin. The destroyer-escort Moore hit a gun position and battered industrial areas around Hungnam.

North of Pyong, the landing ship dock, U.S.S. Gunston Hall started fires after scoring direct hits on oil tanks and factory buildings. Other United Nations blockade and escort-force surface vessels continued pounding Wonsan road and rail targets and shelling enemy troop centers on the north bank of the Han River, off the west coast.

