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8 December 1950

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NOTE DATED 6 DECEMBER 1950 FROM REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING THREE COMMUNIQUEES ISSUED BY
THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA

The Representative of the United States to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of the Security Council, the following communiques issued by General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command, during the last twenty-four hours:

Release 707, issued at 3:10 P.M., Thursday, 7 December 1950
(1:10 A.M., Thursday, Eastern Standard Time)

Release 708, issued at 3:45 P.M., Thursday, 7 December 1950
(1:45 A.M., Thursday, Eastern Standard Time)

Release 709, issued at 11:05 A.M., Friday, 8 December 1950
(9:05 P.M., Thursday, Eastern Standard Time)

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RELEASE 707, ISSUED AT 3:10 P.M., THURSDAY
(1:10 A.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Fifth Air Force F-80 jets and F-51's continued to pummel heavy concentrations of Chinese Communists in both the Eighth Army and the Tenth Corps sectors as more than 1,600 enemy troops were killed or wounded in Napalm, rocket and machine-gun attacks. Tanks, supply buildings, storage areas, railroad rolling stock and vehicles were under constant attack throughout the day.

For the second time within three days, enemy jet aircraft pressed home aggressive attacks on planes of the United States Far East Air Forces. A formation of bomber command Superfortresses was attacked by six MIG-15 jets northwest of Sinanju. In two sweeps against the bombers the jets approached as close as fifty feet, enabling aerial gunners to damage at least two of the MIG's.

Communist attempts to utilize the battered airfield at Sinuiju were discouraged when a flight of Fifth Air Force fighters strafed twenty Yak-type planes on that field. Returning to the field after rearming, the fighters found that those Yaks able to fly had gone elsewhere. Two destroyed and two damaged enemy planes were counted.

F-80 jets knocked out twelve supply buildings, damaged three tanks and inflicted fifty casualties in attacks on Pyongyang airfield.

South African Air Force F-15's under the control of the Fifth Air Force attacked rail cars in Kunu, destroying seven boxcars and cutting rail lines to the north and northeast of that town.

Fifth Air Force-controlled Marine fighters in the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir area were joined by F-80's, F-15's and B-26 Light bombers which heavily attacked the Reds in that combat zone. Attacking more than twenty different targets, bombs, napalm and rockets were poured into enemy positions. Undetermined casualties, although known to be heavy were inflicted on the attacking enemy forces.

In addition to the enemy casualties, Fifth Air Force planes destroyed or damaged a total of eight tanks, forty-eight vehicles, thirty-two horses, twenty rail cars, fifteen supply or ammunition dumps, 180 supply buildings and fifty-five supply carts.

Bomber Command Superfortresses used radar bombing techniques due to cloud coverage as they dropped more than 150 tons of general purpose and incendiary bombs on military supply areas at Kanggye and Sinanju.

Combat Cargo Command transports airdropped 126 tons of ammunition and supplies to United Nations forces in the Koto area Wednesday. In addition, medical evacuees and 693 tons of cargo were carried.

RELEASE 708, ISSUED AT 3:45 P.M., THURSDAY
(1:45 A.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

The enemy continued to exert heavy pressure against elements of the United States Tenth Corps in the Hagaru-Koto area yesterday. Other elements of the United States Tenth Corps successfully repulsed enemy attacks in the vicinity of Majon, while friendly artillery pounded enemy concentrations with excellent results. Strong United Nations patrols maintained contact with the enemy without change in positions.

United States Eighth Army reports that the sector south and southeast of Pyongyang remained generally quiet yesterday, except for patrol clashes with the enemy in the area southeast of Pyongyang. United Nations forces in this sector continued to occupy and improve defensive positions.

A strong force from the United States Army First Cavalry Division occupied Koksan yesterday afternoon where light enemy opposition was overcome by midafternoon. Four artillery howitzers were captured prior to returning to defensive positions by midnight.

Republic of Korea forces continued to engage and destroy guerilla groups in the Chorwon-Hwachon area. Friendly artillery placed concentrations of fire on two enemy groups in this area, killed fifty to 100 enemy and destroyed a small number of trucks, horses and cxcarts.

Chinese Communist forces, in increasing numbers, continued to press forward in their invasion of North Korea. In the extreme western sector the Chinese, sometimes intermingled with refugees, streamed southward from the Pyongyang area toward Chinnampo, with the objective of crossing the Taedong River.

South and southwest of Pyongyang, the Chinese were advancing by making use of ditches and secondary trails.

The enemy is paying much attention to the Koksan area, and to the Koksan-Namchonjom highway, and is apparently trying to establish a river crossing site north of Koksan. Enemy troops crossing the Nam River above Koksan in small boats were strafed by friendly air and several concentrations of enemy forces were sighted to the north of that town. Despite heavy air attack, there were signs of a large concentration being built up in this general area.

Eleven Chinese Communist divisions are disposed along the general line of the Taedong River and its tributary, the Nam, and seven more are echeloned in depth.

Seven Chinese divisions are either in the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir area or disposed on both sides of the road from Hagaru to Hamhung, while additional Chinese forces are arriving in the central area, from which they could be committed readily in a movement toward the east coast, or to the south.

/An enemy

An enemy broadcast from Peiping announced this afternoon that Pyongyang was occupied on December 6.

In the enemy rear, heavy enemy vehicular traffic was observed crossing the border into Korea northwest of Sakchu. Farther down, a convoy seven miles long moving southwest from Huichon to Kunu early yesterday morning was heavily attacked by friendly air. Near Anju, masses of enemy with ox-carts and pack-horses were brought under friendly air attack. Both north and south of Suwan (Suan) one large enemy force and numerous small convoys were attacked by United Nations air forces with excellent results.

RELEASE 709, ISSUED AT 11:05 A.M., FRIDAY
(9:05 P.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

By ground controller estimates, more than 1,300 Chinese Communist troops were killed in the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir area yesterday in slashing attacks by carrier-based United States Navy and Marine aircraft.

In addition, a large number of troop concentrations were heavily hit with results unobserved by ground controllers.

Yesterday marked the seventh straight day that Navy and Marine carrier aircraft concentrated their main effort in close support of ground forces in the reservoir area.

Pilots from Task Force 77, recently augmented by the carrier Princeton, destroyed a total of eighty-eight buildings used as hideouts by enemy troops and damaged twenty-seven. One ammunition dump, two gun positions and nine vehicles were destroyed. Three villages overrun by enemy troops were extensively damaged. Thirty-two different troop concentrations were mauled by the Navy pilots.

Marine pilots operating from the escort carriers Badoeng Strait and Sicil, worked over fourteen different troop concentrations, destroyed one ammunition dump, two artillery positions, sixteen buildings and four vehicles. Nine buildings were damaged.

The Netherlands destroyer Evertwen, the Australian destroyer Warramunga and the British cruiser Kenya, under protective cover of aircraft from the British carrier Theseus stood by to render naval gunfire support to ground forces in the Chinnampo area. Air strikes from the Theseus were launched against troops and supplies north of Chinnampo with good results.

United States Navy ships deployed along the east coast rendered harassing, interdiction and call fire support of the ground forces. More than 200 rounds were fired in the Wonsan area by the heavy cruiser St. Paul and the destroyers Sperry, Zellars and Hank.

Royal Air Force Sunderlands and United States Navy Lockheed Neptunes and Martin Mariners were out on regular anti-mine and armed reconnaissance patrols.