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NOTE DATED 11 AUGUST 1950 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
TRANSMITTING SIX 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 United Nations Command, during the last twenty-four hours:

Release No. 230, issued at 12:55 p.m., Thursday
(10:55 p.m., Wednesday, Eastern Daylight Time)
Release No. 231, issued at 1:50 p.m., Thursday
(11:50 p.m., Wednesday, Eastern Daylight Time)
Release No. 233, issued at 7:45 p.m., Thursday
(5:45 a.m., Thursday, Eastern Daylight Time)
Release No. 234 (aerial), issued at 8:10 p.m., Thursday
(6:10 a.m., Wednesday, Eastern Daylight Time)
Release No. 235, issued at 12:45 a.m., Friday
(10:45 a.m., Thursday, Eastern Daylight Time)
Release No. 236, issued at 12:40 p.m., Friday
(10:40 p.m., Thursday, Eastern Daylight Time)

/RELEASE 230
S/1686

RELEASE 230, ISSUED AT 12:55 P.M. THURSDAY (10:55 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

Road junctions and troop concentrations were the targets for United States Navy bombardment forces north of the Yongdok area late yesterday.

The harassment fire was continued for more than an hour but results were not observed because the targets were inland from shore. Word was received, however, that one cliff road skirting the shore was temporarily rendered impassable due to land slides.

Marine fighter aircraft operating from carriers continued their close support of the ground forces in South Korea, bombing with napalm and high velocity rockets. Carrier pilots neutralized enemy opposition that had been entrenched on a hilltop in the path of advancing troops.

Troop concentrations in the Chinha area were also attacked as were machine gun nests, tanks and artillery emplacements. The carrier plane sorties were carried out continuously from 7 in the morning until just before darkness.

Blockading forces on the west coast of Korea reported destroying a junk laden with food and fuel supplies.

RELEASE 231, ISSUED AT 1:50 P.M. THURSDAY (11:50 P.M. WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

United Nations' forces attacking toward Chinju have succeeded in breaking through the enemy defensive position and the enemy is retreating.

United States patrols have reached the Nam River, capturing much enemy equipment en route. Small pockets of enemy forces scattered throughout the area are being systematically reduced.

The First Division of the Republic of Korea succeeded in driving the Red invader west of the Nakdong River opposite Onyong despite the enemy artillery barrage, which was fired by the Communists at the rear of their own troops in order to prevent their retreat.

The United States Twenty-fourth Infantry Division renewed its assault on the enemy salient on the east side of the Nakdong River southwest of Changnyong. Despite the recapture of the commanding high ground in this area by United States troops, the enemy continued to reinforce his position east of the river. The Third Division of the Republic of Korea withdrew under heavy tank and infantry attack to new defensive positions about 1,000 yards south of Yengdok. Elsewhere along the front heavy enemy pressure continued to be exerted against the Capital and Eighth Division of the Republic of Korea north of Uisong. A naval bombardment was conducted by elements of Task Forces 96 in the area north of Yongdok in support of ground action. Action reports indicate that enemy troops, gun emplacements, roads and bridges were bombarded with excellent results.

Preliminary strike reports by the Fifth Air force indicate that three trucks, two buildings, one gun position and two box cars were destroyed, B-26 bombers reported hitting a troop convoy on the Yechon road and reported violent explosions following the bombardment of Wampung.

RELEASE 233, ISSUED AT 7:45 P.M. THURSDAY (5:42 A.M. THURSDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

The heaviest strike to date was made Thursday, 10 August, by B-29 Superforts of the United States Far East Air Forces when approximately 525 tons of explosives were dropped on major North Korean targets, bombing was visual and early reports point to extensive damage done to the Communist war potential.

More than 400 tons of bombs were dropped on three separate targets in the Wonsan industrial area, and more than 200 tons against strategic interdiction targets in the transportation network north of the Thirty-Eighth Parallel.

Today's heavy assault was carried out by about seventy B-29s. The tonnage delivered on the targets today (525 tons) would have required 250 World War II B-17s.

Strikes in the Wonsan area were made against the railroad rail center and switching yard, the railroad repair shops and the Chosen oil refinery.

The twenty-five track wide switching center, located southwest of the oil refinery, handled all supply train traffic moving through Wonsan from the north and south, in addition to cargo unloaded from ships in the harbor for later rail movements. The center was filled with loaded trains Thursday as the B-29s made their massed accurate formation bomb drops.

The locomotive and car repair shops covered an area of 2,200 by 1,300 feet. It was used chiefly for repair of North Korea's crippled transportation system. It is located two miles southeast of the oil refinery and was built by the Japanese during their occupation of Korea. Heavy force equipment, machine shops and warehouses were in the area.

The final target on the triple attack against Wonsan was the Chosen (Korean) oil refinery, part of which went up in gasoline and oil-fed flames seen to rise as high as 3,000 feet according to the returning crews. They said they saw the flames as they turned away from the target, and also saw for a long distance (seventy-five to 100 miles) smoke in the area rising to an estimated 10,000 feet.

Bombs were seen to strike the heart of the refinery which was selected as a target after reconnaissance photographs taken 3 August revealed that only a small portion of the important industrial installation had been damaged in the previous small air strikes.

The refinery included the important cracking and distillation plant, a research laboratory and glycerine and potash production unit.

/Maj. Peter

Maj. Peter Stanis of Washington, D.C. riding one of the B-29s as an official observer, said: "The black smoke rose from the center of the refinery. We could still see the column rising 10,000 feet in the sky after leaving the target miles behind."

Staff Sgt. Richard F. York of Whiting, Ind., a tail gunner in the last B-29 in the second wave to bomb Wonsan, said:

"As we were going away from the target I saw smoke and flames pouring up from the refinery. Then it suddenly seemed to explode and a smoke column was pushed up even above our altitude which was more than 15,000 feet."

Sergeant York still had the smoke column in sight when his aircraft was well over 100 miles from the target.

Capt. Herbert R. White of Tempe, Ariz., pilot of the last plane in the second wave, said:

"I could see the bombs of the preceding wave strike in the big rail center. There seemed to be a small explosion and then flames raced across the entire marshaling yards. It probably was caused by loaded ammunition cars going up."

Far East Air Force Bomber Command planners intentionally placed the Pyongyang marshaling yards on the target list ahead of Wonsan en route to Pyongyang. The destruction of Pyongyang marshaling yards on 7 August undoubtedly caused rail transportation to back up into the Wonsan Yard which was one of today's targets.

The third wave of B-29s experienced considerable difficulty in locating their aiming points in the Wonsan area because of the pall of greasy black smoke which rapidly spread over the target area.

"Wonsan was another target in our planned strategic bombing system designed for Communist North Korea," Maj. Gen. Emmett O'Donnell Jr., Far East Air Force bomber commander, said this afternoon. "The men did a grand job in delivering a record bomb tonnage in precision fashion."

The Wonsan oil refinery, the largest in Korea, and probably the largest oil and gasoline refinery built by the Japanese outside their home islands, was rated as having an annual capacity well in excess of 1,500,000 barrels of crude oil.

The plant was capable of producing large quantities of motor fuels and aviation gasoline as well as lubricating oils and other petroleum products.

Storage capacity of the plant estimated from photographs made on 3 August was in the neighborhood of 20,000 barrels at all times.

/The plant

The plant was well situated for handling marine oil shipments and had its own pier and other dock-side installations. It lies on the southeastern side of Wonsan, well out of the heavily populated areas of the city.

Their other Superforts were sent against North Korean main transportation routes, railroad lines and bridges, which are the links joining supply and demand of the enemy in the battle area.

All attacks were made under good weather conditions. Very little flak was encountered. The B-29s flew from Japan and Okinawa bases.

Complete results of the missions will be announced as soon as post-strike photos can be studied.

RELEASE 234 (AERIAL), ISSUED AT 8:10 P.M., THURSDAY (6:10 A.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

United States Air Force light bombers and fighter airplanes threw the full power of their bombs, rockets and machine-gun fire in support of the actions by United States ground troops in Southern Korea, Thursday, 10 August.

The B-29's flew chiefly against convoys and vehicles transporting North Korean troops and supplies to the battle lines. In some instances the light invaders flew behind the enemy troops, bombing highway and railroad bridges with excellent results.

Captain Joe Stein, 185 Finley Street, Athens, Georgia, flew a B-26 against communication supply lines back of the Communists' front Wednesday night and spotted a building surrounded by vehicles. He bombed it. Instead of a normal explosion, there were a series of explosions mingled with large fires.

"The fires could be seen when we were forty miles from the target," said Captain Stein. "I believe it was an ammunition dump since the explosions resembled white phosphorous or magnesium."

Flying with Captain Stein were Corporal Julius E. Stivers, Blanchester, Ohio, and Technical Sergeant Forster V. Powell, Jasper, Tennessee, engineer and gunner, respectively. They confirmed the results of the successful mission.

Captain Harold M. Everett, Napa, California, flew successive missions Wednesday and Thursday in an F-80 Jet. He hit a railroad tunnel at Andong with a rocket Thursday and left some oil cars burning south of Suwon, Wednesday. He also hit two locomotives and reported they blew up. "In the Suwon railroad yard there were only wrecks from previous missions," he said.

First Lieutenant John A. Martin, 205 East Sixty-ninth Street, New York, led an element of F-80's Thursday to Masan. He said the Jets found trucks on a road and in the valley, strafing and firing rockets at them. He said they were damaged pretty badly. "Then we strafed some troops running out of a coal mine and then fired three rockets into a railroad tunnel," he said.

RELEASE 235, ISSUED AT 12:45 A.M., FRIDAY, (10:45 A.M.,
THURSDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

Communist troops in the Nakdong River bridgehead southwest of Changnyong battled desperately to hold their ground east of the river against increasing attacks and artillery fire. Although supported by self-propelled artillery and tanks on the west bank, the enemy has been unable to build up this force, partly because of heavy losses and partly because of extreme difficulty in crossing the river.

Regarding the two remaining bridgeheads further north: the one at Waegwan is contained and under attack, and the one five miles north of Waegwan is said to be isolated by forces of the Republic of Korea.

"Operation Kean" continued to advance under air and artillery support. Latest reports place the main advance some six miles east of Chinju. This force includes the Thirty-fifth and Fifth Infantry Regiments. The Marines are mopping up to the southeast, north of Kosong.

The Communists are reported to be preparing defense positions on the high ground just east of Chinju.

The enemy force moving south from Yongdok in the vicinity of Kigye supported by guerrillas, artillery and two tanks have been halted just south of Kigye and at a point eight miles west of Kigye by forces of the Republic of Korea. Yongdok still remains in the hands of the enemy.

The North Korean divisions are pressing heavily against Republic of Korea forces in the vicinity of Uisong, south of Andong. Republic of Korea troops counter-attacked and drove the enemy back, but pressure in this area by the enemy continued, according to late reports.

The front lines are generally from Kosong northwestward to six miles east of Chinju, northward to the Nam River, down (northward) the Nam to the Nakdong River, up the Nakdong to the vicinity of Sonsan, eastward to Uisong and on to just south of Yongdok.

/RELEASE 236,

RELEASE 236 ISSUED AT 12:40 P.M. FRIDAY (10:40 P.M. THURSDAY,
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

Task Force Kean continues to advance in the direction of Chinju against stiffening resistance. At latest reports, leading elements have advanced to within six miles of Chinju where units of the task force are mopping up the enemy in rear areas.

The Twenty-fourth Infantry Division continues its assault on the enemy bridgehead on the east side of the Nakdong River southwest of Changwon. Extremely heavy fighting was reported in this area as a result of United States attacks attempting to throw the enemy force back across the river.

South of Waegwan, elements of the First Cavalry Division completed elimination of the enemy force which previously crossed the Nakdong River.

The Republic of Korea Third Division continued to hold its position one mile south of Yongdok in the face of heavy enemy attacks. Farther south elements of the division withdrew under heavy attack to positions 3,000 yards southeast of Kigyo.

The Republic of Korea Eighth and Sixth Divisions launched attacks which gained several miles all along the front to positions generally six miles north of Uisong. Elements of the Republic of Korea First Division continued mopping up operations against the enemy trapped in front of the salient east of the Nakdong River north of Waegwan.

Naval forces continued patrol operations off the east and west coasts of Korea. Elements of the east coast patrol bombarded targets in the Yongdok area and fired on enemy transport vehicles north of Yongdok.

Delayed reports on naval aviation acting in close support of Task Force Kean showed results that included destruction of two tanks, a machine-gun nest, four artillery positions and five troop concentrations.

Fifth Air Force fighter sorties and night intruder fighter-bomber missions destroyed three aircraft, two box cars, two automatic guns, three artillery pieces, five vehicles, four buildings, one supply dump and one fuel dump.