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NOTE DATED 24 AUGUST 1950 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
TRANSMITTING SIX COMMUNIQUEs 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 298, issued at 2:20 P.M., Wednesday
(12:20 A.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 299, issued at 4:05 P.M., Wednesday
(2:05 A.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 300, issued at 8:00 P.M., Wednesday
(6:00 A.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 301, issued at 9:40 A.M., Thursday
(7:40 P.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 302, issued at 12:35 P.M., Thursday
(10:35 P.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 303, issued at 1:25 P.M., Thursday
(11:25 P.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)

/RELEASE 298,
S/1714

RELEASE 298, ISSUED AT 2:20 P.M., WEDNESDAY
(12:20 A.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

The growing air potential of United States Far East Air Forces and Royal Australian Air Force fighting in support of United Nations war effort in Korea was unleashed yesterday in the most active day of air operations since war began almost two months ago.

More than 550 sorties by all types aircraft were flown during the day. Good visibility in southern sectors allowed Fifth Air Force and R.A.A.F. to stage nearly 300 fighter sorties in intimate cooperation with United Nations ground forces along entire battle lines.

Using radar, B-29 Superforts dropped more than 600 tons of high explosives on the key North Korean industrial and port city of Chongjin on the East Coast in one of the heaviest attacks on a strategic target to date. Marshalling yards port facilities and a large iron and steel plant originally built by the Japanese Mitsubishi interests were hit.

Visual bombing was possible on dock and warehouse areas along the waterfront. Direct hits were scored on port facilities and in warehouse districts causing fires and explosions which forced smoke columns to more than 4,000 feet.

Another 200 tons of bombs were dropped by Superforts on six selected targets or target complexes north of the Thirty-eighth Parallel.

Cloud cover at Pycngyang marshalling yards, a major target for Superfort attacks, required radar sighting on bomb runs, but smaller strikes at marshalling yards at Wonsan, Songjin, Changjon and Hungnam were accomplished with excellent results. Warehouse and storage areas at Hungnam railroad yards were 50 per cent destroyed.

One bridge, a key target on the rail line twenty-three miles north of Seoul, was put out of action, with one span down in the water. The important rail junction eight miles north of Hungnam also was hit with excellent results.

The success of interdiction bombing by Superforts was indicated in strenuous efforts being made by Communist forces to replace bridges across the Han River at Seoul, knocked out in medium bomber attacks. Four pontoon bridges have been built or are in process of construction, although only one is considered capable of carrying any volume of traffic.

Fifth Air Force R.A.A.F. units made tactical combat sorties on round-the-clock schedule with F-80 jets and F-51 fighters working from dawn to dusk in areas close to fighting lines.

Night intruder missions flown by B-26 light bombers, F-82 all-weather fighters and United States Marine F-4U fighters kept up direct air support and interdiction operations to round out twenty-four-hour period. Night intruders attacked military targets in or near sixteen towns. A power station was damaged in F-82 strikes east

/of Songju,

of Songju, and trucks damaged in B-26 and F-4U attacks on Communist troop supply movement along highways leading to battle zones.

Fifth Air Force fighter pilots concentrated on targets close to lines in Northern sectors.

Five large warehouses were burned and a small bridge destroyed near Songju and three rail tunnels damaged near Poksong.

Other claims for material damages included: nine trucks, seven vehicles, one tank, one locomotive and four boxcars.

The growing paucity of ground targets noted in the past two or three days was attributed partially to diminishing stocks of North Korean mechanized equipment and partially to determined effort of Communist forces to avoid air attacks by keeping remaining equipment out of sight during daylight hours.

R.A.A.F. Mustangs with a total of nearly 600 combat sorties to their credit since the early days of the Korean war scored heavily on all sectors of the front. Australians bombed, rocketed and strafed North Korean troops less than 100 yards in advance of United Nations positions and inflicted numerous casualties. Five buildings housing supplies or troops were hit and set on fire and eight trucks were left in flames after Mustang rocket-machine-gun strikes.

Other Australian claims for the day listed a truck and tank repair depot twenty miles southwest of Samchok as extensively damaged or destroyed. An ammunition dump and two large warehouses were destroyed and successful attacks on several artillery positions were made.

Cargo aircraft carried 352 passengers and forty-seven tons of priority military supplies to Korea during the day.

One Air Force F-51 was lost to intense ground fire from North Korean rear positions.

RELEASE 299, ISSUED AT 4:05 P.M., WEDNESDAY
(2:05 A.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

The United States Twenty-fifth Infantry Division, in a series of counter-attacks 22 August, regained positions on the defense lines west of Masan which have been the object of heavy fighting for the past three days, and which have changed hands several times during that period. Today the Twenty-fifth Division is engaged in strengthening positions and in defending against diminishing enemy attacks.

About 9 P.M., 22 August, elements of the Twenty-fifth Division, after having gained critical positions along the Sobuk ridge, received an enemy attack in the area between Tundok and Pyongam which was repulsed without loss of ground. Again at 6:30 A.M., 23 August, another enemy attack was launched against the same position, which also was repulsed. Farther north in the same sector, in the vicinity of Chungam, where enemy forces had previously exerted a major effort, our forces report there was only light contact with the enemy.

In the northwest sector, the R. O. K. (Republic of Korea) First Division and United States units supporting that division are under continuous enemy pressure, characterized by artillery, and mortar attacks and enemy infiltration into our rear areas. On 22 August, American units in this sector repulsed an enemy attack on one of our artillery positions and engaged the enemy force which had established a road block near the town of Tabu. United States units attacked the enemy in this area early 23 August to eliminate that threat to our positions. The front line remains generally static in this sector.

The R. O. K. Capital and Third Divisions continue to advance in the Pohang area, although against stiffening enemy resistance which has forced elements of the Capital Division into defensive positions in the vicinity of Yonggi. The line of advance north of Pohang runs generally east and west through a point in the vicinity of Hunghae.

The central front, including the sectors of the United States First Cavalry Division and the United States Twenty-fourth Division, is generally quiet, as is the northern front of the R. O. K. Sixth and Eighth Divisions.

RELEASE 306, ISSUED AT 8:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY
(6:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

B-26 invader bombers slashed enemy troop concentrations and supplies at Sonasan this morning with 100 pound bombs. The craft, led by Lieut. Col. Leland Walker, Jr., 1282 Emerson Avenue, Salt Lake City, passed North Koreans from 8,000 feet scoring many hits. "A column of smoke and flame enveloped the target as we left", Walker said.

Marshalling yards at Sunchon also took direct hits from 1,000 pounders in another daylight mission led by Capt. Samuel Crosby, Jr. of El Paso, Texas. Results were excellent, stated Crosby. Thirty to fifty boxcars in the yard were burning or wrecked after the attack.

Other B-26's flying night intruder missions continued to pound the Communists' already critical supply channels. First Lieut. Willard Mattson of 426 Hatch Avenue, St. Paul, Minn., bombed a convoy at Sangju and damaged twelve vehicles and three boxcars.

Fighter bombers of the Fifth Air Force launched their first attacks at dawn today, striking the Communists' crippled transportation system, also North Korean armor.

One flight of F-51 Mustangs led by Capt. Arnold Mullins of 1825 Belmont Street, Ashland, Ky., leveled a surprise pre-sunrise blast at the busy marshalling yard north of Seoul, strafing a train and a near-by radio tower.

Ten boxcars, two trucks and four locomotives shuttling freight cars were destroyed or damaged.

Lieut. Ralph Parr, Jr. of Washington, D.C., told how his flight of F-80 jet fighters had launched rockets and machine-gun slugs into a railroad tunnel where enemy tanks had taken refuge.

"The airborne controller directed us to a railway tunnel south of Uisong, a few miles northeast of Kunwi, where Red tanks were hiding", he said. "The whole flight fired our load of rockets into the tunnel mouth and then went back to strafe it with our machine guns. The controller, who could see the whole show, reported no enemy activity in the tunnel".

RELEASE 301, ISSUED AT 9:40 A.M., THURSDAY
(7:40 P.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Fighters and bombers of the United States Air Force got an early start against North Korean targets this morning, taking advantage of good weather predicted for all sectors of the peninsula.

F-80 jets were in the air at 6:04 this morning for enemy troop targets southwest of Masan. They used all their ammunition and rockets by 8 A.M. and the controllers reported a number of troops and supplies shot up.

The Third Bomb Group B-26's also were in the air early today. In yesterday's late reports, Capt. Elbert M. Stringer of Moberly, Mo., led a flight in night intruder missions against three marshalling yards, at Munan, Kaesong and Sandung. "We hit boxcars and inflicted damage at all places", he said.

Yesterday, approximately 500 missions of all types were flown. The fighters and light bombers operated in the areas north and northeast of Wae-gwan, while the B-29 Superfort medium bombers resumed their attack on key railroad and highway bridges north of the Thirty-eighth Parallel. They also hit the Kaesong railway yards with good results.

According to yesterday's late mission reports, ox-carts loaded with supplies for the Communists exploded and burned in a small village west of Sindam following an attack by four F-80 jets. The mission was led by First Lieut. Phillip R. Saford, Cleveland, Ohio.

"Clouds of smoke obscured our view after the rockets had been fired, causing the explosion", he said. "No doubt those carts were heavily loaded with supplies and ammunition".

F-80 jets knocked out a railroad bridge near Kunwi, according to First Lieut. Richard Bartly of Los Angeles, in a mission late Wednesday.

RELEASE 302, ISSUED AT 12:35 P.M., THURSDAY
(10:35 P.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

For the second time in three days the industrial center at Chongju, on the far northeast coast of Korea, underwent bombardment yesterday by a United States Navy destroyer with resulting fires visible for ten miles at sea.

The Mitsubishi iron works, dock yards and railroad yards were again the targets of the early morning bombardment. Damage was estimated as heavy.

Another United States destroyer patrolling the coast blew up a train shed at latitude approximately 38 degrees 15 minutes north and a factory at latitude approximately 37 degrees 30 minutes north. Elsewhere along the coast the same destroyer scored hits on an oil storage tank, a factory and a warehouse with resulting large fires.

Yesterday units of the east coast patrol and support force under the command of Rear Admiral John M. Higgins, U.S.N., bombarded troop concentrations roads and gun replacements in the Pohang area as requested by K.M.A.G. (Korean Military Advisory Group) representatives. One mortar position was destroyed, according to a spotter, and 35 per cent casualties were sustained in one heavy concentration of troops east of Hunghae.

During the night all fire support was supplied with excellent results against troop concentrations in the Hunghae area. A K.M.A.G. representative reported heavy enemy casualties and the town of Hunghae in ruins.

RELEASE 303, ISSUED AT 1.25 P.M., THURSDAY
(11:25 P.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

United States Far East Air Force B-29 Superfortresses continued their steady pounding at key rail and highway bridges August 23 in an increasingly successful effort to block the flow of reinforcements and supplies to North Korean armies on the southern battle fronts.

Four out of fourteen bridges attacked had spans down in the water and seven others were seriously damaged with direct hits. Most of the rail and highway bridges were on lines leading from Seoul north to Pyongyang or across the peninsula to Wonsan on the east coast. These lines carry a large percentage of the Communist war material being moved south from stockpiles in North Korea.

The superfortresses also scored direct hits on a road and rail junction near Chorwon and the marshaling yards at Kaesong, northwest of Seoul.

Fifth Air Force B-26's mounted heavy strikes against the marshaling yards at Suncheon, where trackage, rail installations and an estimated thirty to forty boxcars were damaged. At another marshaling yard, south of Chonan, tracks were cut and rolling stock hit and damaged. The B-26's also flew medium altitude close support bomb strikes to Samsan, close to the Nakdong River line, hitting troop and vehicular targets in the town. Rail installations and trackage were damaged southeast of Chonui.

Night intruder missions by B-26's and F-82 all weather fighters struck at convoys on lines of communications and central supply and military personnel concentration points in many settled areas behind the lines. No accurate evaluation of the damage to all targets could be made but it was considered that large numbers of vehicles were damaged or destroyed in strikes on lighted convoys.

More than 500 sorties were flown by Far East Air Forces aircraft in the course of the fifty-ninth day of continuous Air Force activities in co-operation with the United Nations war effort in Korea.

A majority were Fifth Air Force F-30 jets and F-51 fighter strikes at Communist troops, material and other targets close to the battle lines, although fighter operations were conducted over a wide area.

One fighter mission on armed reconnaissance north of the Thirty-eighth Parallel strafed an airfield near Chorwon destroying two Yak-type single-engine fighters and damaging another of an unidentified type on the ground.

Fighters providing direct support for the United Nations ground forces concentrated their attacks on the active sectors defended by South Korean troops north and east of Waegwan. Fighters, flying under the direction of Air Force forward controllers, were in the air and ready for action in any sector throughout the day.

Conservative damage claims for North Korean vehicular equipment and ground installations included fourteen trucks and other vehicles, two large buildings housing troops, three locomotives, fourteen box cars, one tank and two gun emplacements.

Troop columns and barracks areas were bombed and strafed in many sectors causing an undetermined number of casualties.

Royal Australian Air Force Mustangs flew nearly thirty close support and armed reconnaissance sorties. The Australians damaged seven trucks and three box cars and fired two school buildings used as troop or supply shelters. Roads and troop concentrations were strafed all along the front lines.

Cargo aircraft carried more than forty-six tons of essential military supplies and 371 passengers to Korea during the day. No American or Australian aircraft were lost or damaged during the days operations and no North Korean opposition was reported.
