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NOTE DATED 22 AUGUST 1950 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 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 honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Security Council, the following ~~communiqués~~ issued by General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of United Nations Command, during the last twenty-four hours:

Release 287, issued at 4:30 P.M., Monday
(2:30 A.M., Monday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 288, issued at 7 P.M., Monday
(5 A.M., Monday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 289, issued at 9:45 A.M., Monday
(7:45 P.M., Monday, Eastern daylight time)

/RELEASE 287,
S/1706

RELEASE 287, ISSUED AT 4:30 P.M., MONDAY (2:30 A.M.,
MONDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

The United States Twenty-fifth Infantry Division inflicted heavy casualties on Communist forces 20 August in the area west of Masan.

After separate enemy attacks near the towns of Chungam and Pyongam, each of estimated regimental strength, combined infantry, artillery and air counter-attacks regained our original position. Fighting in this area continued into the night of 20 August, but without loss of ground by United States units. Heavy fighting ceased early 21 August, and the attack has not been resumed by the Red forces.

Farther north, troops of the United States Twenty-fourth Infantry Division continued to search out isolated enemy groups left behind as the enemy was forced from his bridgehead across the Nakdong River. This area is now comparatively quiet and United States patrols have crossed the river in order to maintain contact with the enemy. Other elements of the Twenty-fourth Division continue to contain the enemy bridgehead in the vicinity of Hyongpung.

Along the Waegwan front artillery units of the United States First Cavalry Division engaged targets of opportunity across the river, destroying one ammunition dump and several artillery pieces.

During the night 20-21 August, enemy forces attacked United States and Republic of Korea forward positions in the sector of the Republic of Korea First Division.

The attack, which was led by tanks, was repulsed without loss of ground and one enemy tank was destroyed. A light fire fight continued but without causing any change in our positions. That section is generally quiet today.

An enemy attack in the vicinity of Masi 20 August forced elements of the Republic of Korea Sixth Division to withdraw slightly but a counter-attack by other elements of that division completely restored the original positions. Some artillery and mortar fire is falling in the sector of the Republic of Korea Sixth Division today, but no further attack has developed.

In the Pohang area the Republic of Korea Capital and Third Divisions continue to advance north against increasing enemy resistance. Elements of the Capital Division have now advanced to a point approximately six miles north of Kigye and the Republic of Korea Third Division has advanced approximately three miles north of Pohang.

Estimated enemy casualties for 19 August include 1,055 casualties inflicted by United States forces and thirty-four prisoners-of-war captured, and 3,078 casualties inflicted by Republic of Korea Army forces with 241 prisoners-of-war.

/Carrier-based aircraft

Carrier-based aircraft of the United States Seventh Fleet continued their heavy attacks 20 August against military targets in North Korea. Special attention was given to transportation facilities, with a large number of locomotives destroyed or damaged.

Marshalling yards and rail centers at Pyongyang, Sariwon, Sinanju, Chongju, Lunri, Sunchon, Saingang, Chaeryong and Kyomipo were hit and heavily damaged. Shipping was hit at Wonsan and Yongyu and a sub-chaser was burned at Chongyon. Power stations were hit and burned at Yongyu, Anju, Kumchon and at Pakchon, where fires were visible for fifty miles. At Wuhun, seven large oil tanks were strafed, four of which burned. Two tank cars and five boxcars were strafed and set afire at Sinanju and a troop-laden junk was strafed at Yongju. Twenty boxcars were hit at Kumchon.

Elements of United States Task Force 96 flew sorties 20 August in close support of ground forces on the Naktong River front. Targets attacked were troop concentrations and artillery positions.

Republic of Korea Marine units, supported by the Republic of Korea Navy, consolidated positions in the vicinity of Tongyong. Prisoners and large quantities of enemy equipment and arms were taken in this area.

United States Fifth Air Force fighters flew close support and interdiction missions in the Chinju, Kochang, Sunchon, Andong and Masan areas. Reinforcing these Air Force strikes were United States Navy fighters who flew sorties in support of ground action. Preliminary mission reports indicate that nine miscellaneous vehicles, two trucks, three gun emplacements, a railroad tunnel and two railroad bridges were destroyed; while nineteen miscellaneous vehicles, eight trucks, five buildings, one supply dump, ten boxcars and one bridge were damaged.

Far East Air Force Bomber Command Superforts bombed transportation centers and industrial targets. The Seoul and Hanhung marshalling yards were heavily damaged, and spans were knocked out of bridges at Punwon and Chunchon. The west railway bridge at Seoul was knocked out, with three spans in the river.

RELEASE 268, ISSUED AT 7 P.M., MONDAY (5 A.M., MONDAY
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Railroad yards northwest of Pyongyang were struck with eighty tons of bombs by United States Air Force B-29 Superforts today to further disrupt rail traffic diverted southward from Northwest and Northeast coast Korean cities.

The attack was visual. Returning crews reported excellent results. They encountered some flak but no North Korean fighter airplanes were sighted. All aircraft returned safely.

/The target

The target was the shunting and classification yard located about two miles from the center of the North Korean capital city. The Pyongyang marshalling yards and arsenal, located in a different area, were eliminated as major targets by previous B-29 attacks.

One of the gunners on today's mission, Corporal William Oertell, Pomona, California, said: "The shunting yards became a perfect square of smoke and flame after the bombs struck. We were one of the first planes but even then smoke rose to 3,000 feet."

/Sergeant Walter Buchtan

Sgt. Walter Buchtan of Brooksville, Florida, said the yards were about half full of freight cars. "One of the first bombs must have hit some tank cars for there were large flames," he added.

On return to base, First Lieut. Owen A. McLaughlin of Miami, Florida, said he believed bombs hit ammunition cars or gasoline tankers.

"Reddish smoke and flames billowed up through black smoke which covered the area," he said.

Air Force fighters and light bombers continued their assault today in support of ground troops. A ground controller in the Masan area told Second Lieut. Glenn Payne of Hillsboro, Texas, that he had done "a great job" in firing on North Korean troops on one side of a ridge.

"We could see United States troops on the other side," said Lieut. Payne.

"Our flight fired about fifteen rockets and emptied our machine guns in ten minutes. The controller assured us we killed quite a few enemy troops." Lieut. Payne flew an F-80 jet Shooting Star.

On an armed reconnaissance mission to Seoul today Second Lieut. William Petcoff of Berkley, Michigan, another F-80 pilot, flew southward to the Chochiwon marshalling yards. "We sent rockets into several camouflaged buildings and at least one building burned. We hit three trucks a good wallop," he said.

B-26 light bombers set off two explosions which followed an attack on a convoy east of Inchon.

"Fires were numerous after we hit the vehicles," said First Lieut. Billy Reynolds, Cleveland, Missouri.

Capt. Gerald K. Hannaford of 1106 North Luke Boulevard, Austin, Texas, took off at first light in a B-26 today on a flight against a specially selected target - a Communist troop concentration in the mountain area near Taejon. A spotter airplane directed the B-26 to a troop concentration.

"We strafed the men, artillery and vehicles with good results," said Capt. Hannaford. "Our bombs started three small fires and a large one."

Flying with Hannaford were First Lieut. Robert E. Hervey of 42 Merriman Road, Akron, Ohio and Staff Sgt. Edward H. Lanin of 416 Mona Lake, Muskegon Heights, Michigan.

The marshalling yard at Chonan and the dock area at Inchon were bombed by Capt. Richard H. Smith of Atlanta, Georgia, in a night intruder mission.

"The boxcars were burning when we left the area," he said.

RELEASE 289, ISSUED AT 9:45 A.M., MONDAY (7:45 P.M., MONDAY,
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

United States Air Force fighters and bombers took advantage of generally excellent weather yesterday and with more than 500 sorties lashed at North Korean targets.

This morning fighters were off at first light in support of the ground force, flying against selected targets. More than 300 of these flights were in close support of ground forces and in a plan to interdict supplies on route to Communist troops.

F-82 twin Mustang all-weather fighters joined B-26 light invader bombers in intruder attacks last night and early today against convoys and troop concentrations. Twin Mustangs found convoys at Chinju and Kunchon but there was no immediate indication of results early this morning.

B-26's flew intruder attacks against troop concentrations at Incheon, Yongdon, Taejon and ten other South Korean cities, generally covering the entire area in the southeast portion of the Peninsula.

F-80 jets and F-51 Mustangs supporting United Nations ground forces destroyed two oil fuel dumps, one nineteen miles northwest of Kaeryong, and the other five miles southwest of Koryong. They also knocked out six artillery pieces.

The Bomber Command's B-29 Superforts dropped eighty tons of bombs on railroad yards northwest of Pyongyang. The drop was made visually and results were reported by returning crews to be excellent.