

UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY
COUNCIL



GENERAL

S/1801
18 September 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE DATED 18 SEPTEMBER 1950 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING EIGHTEEN COMMUNIQUEES FROM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA

18 September 1950

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 seventy-two hours:

- Release 438, timed at 3:15 P.M., Friday, September 15, 1950
(2:15 A.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 439, timed at 5:15 P.M., Friday, September 15, 1950
(4:15 A.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 440, issued at 6:45 P.M., Friday, September 15, 1950
(5:45 A.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 441, timed at 10:15 P.M., Friday, September 15, 1950
(9:15 A.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 442, issued at 10:25 P.M., Friday, September 15, 1950
(9:25 A.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 443, issued at 10:40 P.M., Friday, September 15, 1950
(9:40 A.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 444, issued at 2 A.M., Saturday, September 16, 1950
(1 P.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 445, issued at 8:50 A.M., Saturday, September 16, 1950
(7:50 P.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 446, issued at 9:30 A.M., Saturday, September 16, 1950
(8:30 P.M., Friday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 447, issued at 2:50 P.M., Saturday, September 16, 1950
(1:50 A.M., Saturday, Eastern daylight time)
- Release 448, Air Force summary as of Saturday evening,
September 16, 1950
- Release 449, issued at 4 P.M., Saturday, September 16, 1950
(3 A.M., Saturday, Eastern daylight time)

/Release 450,
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Release 450, issued at 9:10 P.M., Saturday, September 16, 1950
(8:10 A.M., Saturday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 451, issued at 9:05 A.M., Sunday, September 17, 1950
(8:05 P.M., Saturday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 452, issued at 2:30 P.M., Sunday, September 17, 1950
(1:30 A.M., Sunday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 453, issued at 3:35 P.M., Sunday, September 17, 1950
(2:35 A.M., Sunday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 454, issued at 7:15 P.M., Sunday, September 17, 1950
(6:15 A.M., Sunday, Eastern daylight time)

Release 455, issued at 12:40 A.M., Monday, September 18, 1950
(11:40 A.M., Sunday, Eastern daylight time)

RELEASE 438; TIMED AT 3:15 P.M., FRIDAY
(2:15 A.M., FRIDAY EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

A heavy enemy attack forced elements of the United States First Cavalry Division to make a limited withdrawal. The positions were partially restored by a later counter-attack. Other divisional units engaged enemy infiltrators in the sector. United Nations forces attacking north of Taegu are again in the Walled City area.

The enemy launched three attacks against elements of the United States Second Division last night. All the attacks, which were supported by heavy artillery and mortar fire, were successfully repulsed. Elements of the division made limited advances.

A counter-attack against heavy opposition partially regained some of the ground lost by elements of the United States twenty-fifth Division yesterday. Elsewhere in the sector, units were engaged in mopping up enemy troops cut off in the rear of our positions.

Units of the R.O.K. (Republic of Korea) First Corps continued their advances northward in the Yongchon-Pohang area. Advances up to two miles were made against light resistance. Units reported engagements in which a total of 250 enemy were killed, nine POW's (prisoners of war) taken, one 122-mm howitzer, many small arms and three truck loads of ammunition captured.

United States ground forces inflicted 2,683 casualties on the enemy and captured 133 prisoners during the period.

RELEASE 439, TIMED AT 5:15 P.M., FRIDAY (4:15 A.M. FRIDAY,
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Vice Admiral C Turner Joy, Commander United Nations Naval Forces, announced today that the guns of the world's mightiest ship, the 16-inch guns of the U.S.S. Missouri, went into action for the first time in the Korean conflict at 7 A.M. The Mighty Mo, surrender ship of the Japanese Empire, bombarded military targets at Samchok on the east coast.

From Norfolk, Va., the Samchok, Korea, where she broke the United Nations flag at first light this morning, the Missouri steamed 11,000 miles at high speed. She encountered a hurricane off Cape Hatteras, evaded a tropical storm at Panama and rode into Korea waters on the tail of a typhoon.

The Missouri has nine 16-inch guns, twenty 5-inch guns and eighty 40-mm guns. Her standard displacement is 45,000 tons. Fully loaded she displaced 57,600 tons. She has a wartime crew of approximately 2,700 officers and men. Her rated speed is 33 knots.

Commissioned in June, 1944, the Missouri took part in the Iwo Jima and Okinawa campaigns and participated in Third and Fifth fleet raids on the Japanese home islands.

At the outbreak of hostilities in Korea the Missouri was on the East Coast of the United States serving as a training ship in a reduced commission status. She has been the only United States Navy battleship on active service in the past several years.

The Missouri returned to the United States shortly after the surrender ceremony in Tokyo Bay Sept. 2, 1945. Her peacetime duties included a trip to Rio de Janeiro with President Truman aboard and a trip to Istanbul to return the body of the deceased Turkish Ambassador. She has been the flagship of several Naval Academy midshipmen cruises.

RELEASE 440, ISSUED AT 6:45 P.M. FRIDAY
(5:45 A.M. FRIDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Types of United States Far East Air Force aircraft flew in force today striking at Communist targets in close support and interdiction missions.

About twenty-five Superforts from the F.E.A.F. Bomber Command broke into a number of small flights, dropping bombs on important storage warehouses at Taejon and Andong, Communist-held towns below the Thirty-seventh Parallel. Rail lines also were hit at Taejon and marshalling yards at Andong were under attack.

Rail centers vital to the enemy again were struck hard by the B-29's. Returning crews reported their drops were made visually on all targets. One flight made precision runs along the railroad tracks between Wonsan and Seoul, with the supply line cut in several places. Other B-29's went up above the Fortieth Parallel. Crews pinpointed their 500-pound general purpose bombs on rail lines beginning above the Fortieth Parallel down seventy-five miles to Sinanju. Again no enemy fighters were seen by the B-29 crews, but some flak was reported in areas near vital rail centers.

An Okinawa-based B-29 crashed on take-off for Korea this morning, with ten of the eleven crew members rescued from the airplane just before it exploded. One crew member is missing and two firemen were killed fighting the flames. Names are being withheld until next of kin are notified.

Light bombers also flew below the Thirty-seventh Parallel today in attacks on communications networks and Communist supplies and troops. Radio reports from the crews who were still flying late today told of trucks and other vehicles destroyed, and many rail lines under attack. Night intruder B-26's landed this morning after operating heavily in the Pyongyang to Namwon area in southwestern Korea, with enemy convoys and bridges damaged.

Close support missions were flown today by F-51 Mustangs in the Kumchon and Masan areas. Some bad weather was encountered. Returning pilots said that napalm bombs and tanks proved particularly effective against enemy supply concentrations. The F-51's were off at first light this morning. Some returned to their base in Japan, reloaded and took off for second trips to Korea. They were still out late today.

Jet Shooting Stars also flew all day, strafing and pocketing troops in close support directed by air controllers. They were very active in the First Cavalry Division area. Other F-80 pilots bombed marshalling yards to the rear of enemy lines where supplies were being concentrated.

Twenty boxcars were damaged at the Chonju marshalling yards and twelve boxcars were left on fire at Chochiwon. Near Waegwan a tank was damaged and several vehicles destroyed by F-80 rockets. Warehouses were hit and partially burned at Waegwan.

/Air controllers

Air controllers directed F-80's to artillery positions at Angang, just west of Pohang. Twenty miles southwest of Taegu, Capt. Jack D. Watts, Columbia, S.C., was sent to a ridge held by enemy troops.

"The ridge was practically covered with foxholes which our flight strafed long enough for each plane to get in six passes," said Captain Watts.

One F-80 pilot, First Lieut. Orville J. Nordgren, 625 East Orange Street, Santa Maria, Calif., was directed to an airfield at Pyongyang. "I saved my ammunition for the planes obviously were dummies, and crude ones at that. Some simply were outlines painted on the ground."

RELEASE 441, TIMED AT 10:15 P.M., FRIDAY (9:15 A.M., EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

Marine elements from the First Division stormed and captured the key island of Wolmi in the harbor of Inchon early today. The operation was completed in the record time of less than thirty minutes with a minimum of casualties.

The capture of the island and the causeway that connects the key island with the city of Inchon followed a clock-like schedule that marines, warships and Navy and Marine aircraft adhered to strictly. Ship bombardment of the island was carried out under the direction of Rear Admiral John M. Higgins, U. S. Navy, commander, Cruiser Division 5. The bombardment effectively reduced every gun and military emplacement on the island during a period of forty-five minutes that preceded the Marine assault.

During the ship bombardment, carrier aircraft joined in the attack that reduced every position. Then came the rockets, and the Marines were ashore. In less than thirty minutes the Marines had hoisted the American flag atop the highest point on the island.

Shortly after the island was occupied, messages of congratulation to Vice Admiral Arthur D. Struble and Rear Admiral James H. Doyle were extended the Navy and Marines by General MacArthur as follows: "The Navy and the Marines have never shone more brightly than this morning".

Maj. Gen. Edward Almond, commander of the Tenth Corps, followed with the message:

"The Navy's perfect coordination of gunfire and movement and the traditional dash of the Marines initiated the carefully planned strike of the Tenth Corps and the supporting troops of the G.H.Q. reserve. The attack on Wolmi Island early this morning surprised the enemy and was a complete success. Our hopes are high".

RELEASE 442, ISSUED AT 10:25 P.M., FRIDAY
(9:25 A.M. FRIDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Aboard a U.S. Cruiser off Inchon, Sept 15: American and British cruisers and destroyers plus carrier aircraft brought the war home the past two days to the Communist-held Inchon-Seoul area. The bombardment of the area under the direction of Rear Admiral John M. Higgins, U.S. Navy was the preliminary blow that paved the way for the landing of elements of the First Marine Division on the beaches of Inchon today.

A furious forty-five-minute bombardment by cruisers and destroyers of every gun emplacement and military position in the target area at the crack of dawn this morning carried on until the Marine amphibious group cracked the beach. Correspondents with the Marines said that the bombardment halted a slim fifteen seconds before the landing party hit the beach.

The Marine landing was timed to seconds to take advantage of the naval gunfire support, carrier aircraft and rocket fire that placed a curtain of gunfire ahead of them on machine guns, pillboxes and covered gun and troop entrenchments.

For two days preceding the landing the cruiser, aircraft carrier and destroyer forces had been pummeling practically every section of the Inchon area. Early today their powerful attack practically destroyed the few gun emplacements remaining, enabling the Marines to land practically without resistance.

The first cruiser to open fire on D-Day, some minutes before the invasion, was Admiral Higgins' flagship, a heavy cruiser, commanded by Capt. W.F. Stout. The rest of the support force, British and American alike, joined in the battering chorus of shellfire on selected objectives and the harbor area reverberated with the thunder of their guns.

By the time the Marine waves started embarking for their landings, the attack areas were totally obscured by the smoke of exploding shells and burned out enemy positions. Towering high in the air over Inchon and the key island of Wolmi, the first Marine objective, the smoke blacked out the beach and land action.

Two hours after the air and sea bombardment opened the island was secure in the hands of the Marine attacking force.

RELEASE 443, ISSUED AT 10:40 P.M., FRIDAY
(9:40 A.M. EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Aboard the Carrier Flagship of Rear Admiral John Hoskins: Admiral Hoskins' pilots spent Thursday rearranging the land mass of the island of Wolmi with an aerial assault that combined with joint blank naval shelling to turn the once verdant isle into a bleak brown spot. While jet Panthers scouted surrounding areas for enemy air activity, the carrier's Skyraider dive bombers and Corsair heavy duty fighters dived on the island, which is located just outside of the harbor of Inchon.

The pilots described their attack as something resembling advanced flight school ordinance training. Lieut. (j.g.) Edward H. Albright, a Corsair pilot of Herington, Kan., gave this description of the island:

"There was a slope leading down to a cove that I happened to notice yesterday. It was covered with grass and shruberry. Today when I was directed to work the area over again, every bit of grass was gone and only a few trees remained."

Gun emplacements on the small island were knocked out with 1,000 pound bombs. The island was raked with anti-personnel bombs and rockets. In addition to neutralizing Wolmi, the Navy attack planes put ten trucks out of commission over the peninsula. The jet patrols reported knocking out a supply boat and two small motor boats in a channel southwest of Munsan and the destruction of three military trucks. Lieut. Comdr. Marvin L. Ramsey of Kansas City, Kan., who led the last strike of Skyraiders, gave a final report on Wolmi, saying "There's just not much left of that island."

RELEASE 444, ISSUED AT 2 A.M., SATURDAY
(1 P.M. FRIDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

In the southern sector elements of the United States Twenty-fifth Division eliminated an enemy pocket in the vicinity of Taesang-Myon, killing 125 and dispersing the remainder. Elsewhere along the division front there was no significant enemy action.

In the United States Second Division sector all ground lost as the result of an early morning enemy attack four miles west of Yongsan was regained. Other sections of the Line received sporadic artillery fire during the day.

In the United States First Cavalry Division sector the enemy threw his heaviest pressure at the area seven miles northwest of Taegu along the Taegu-Waegwan road. Enemy forces succeeded in seizing, after repeated attempts, two hills in that area.

Along the northern front elements of the R.O.K. (Republic of Korea) First Division received enemy artillery fire. Enemy activity in the R.O.K. Sixth Division sector was limited to patrol clashes during the late morning and early afternoon.

Elements of the R.O.K. Seventh Division scored gains up to 3,000 yards against light to moderate resistance. During the advance eight enemy artillery positions were knocked out. Ground elements reported that effective United Nations air support caused many enemy casualties during the day.

Farther east elements of the R.O.K. Capital Division were reported in Angang, having encountered only light resistance during the day.

In the R.O.K. Third Division sector enemy activity was confined to sporadic artillery and mortar fire along the division front. A friendly patrol crossed the Hyongsang River late in the afternoon but was forced to withdraw under heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire.

RELEASE 445, ISSUED AT 8:50 A.M., SATURDAY
(7:50 P.M., FRIDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

United States Far East Air Forces planes were loaded this morning with bombs, rockets, napalm and 50-caliber machinegun ammunition for heavy strikes in South Korea in air support of United Nations ground forces.

Some of the F-80 jet Shooting Stars and F-51 Mustangs took off as early as 6 or 7 o'clock this morning, with others following soon after. Night invading B-26's returned to base early this morning, and flights of B-26's took their places in day missions.

Weather reports for today are just fair, with broken clouds and scattered rain showers for southern Korea.

United States Air Force planes concentrated along the battle line in the southeastern sector of Korea to keep the Communists pinned down. More than 400 sorties of all types were flown. About half were along the 125-mile battle line.

Other sorties, including B-29 Superfort strikes against widely-scattered enemy supply and reinforcement centers in Southern and Central Korea, were in support of the invasion through interdiction of the enemy communications. While the landing was getting under way, flights of B-29's struck simultaneously at important warehouse supply concentrations at Taejon and Andong, both below the Thirty-seventh Parallel. Other Superforts struck central rail centers.

The weather yesterday was not too good for air operations, but all types of United States Air Force planes flew and made the best of it. B-26 light bombers struck railroad and highway bridges in the Sangju area. Other B-26's smashed an important highway bridge three miles south of Hamchang. First Lieut. George R. Thompson Jr. of 123 Herbert Street, Port Wren, Fla., estimated three sections of the bridge at Hamchang were knocked out.

Mustangs flew both close support and armed reconnaissance along the front lines and immediately to the rear yesterday. Some of the F-51 pilots reported damage to four tanks, twenty-one boxcars, two bridges, two artillery positions and strafed many troops. They operated chiefly in Kumchon, Chinju and Pohang areas. The close support flights boxed in Communist troops along the northern front.

TOKYO, SATURDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 1950, RELEASE 446, ISSUED BY
GENERAL MAC ARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS AT 9:30 A.M., SATURDAY
(8:30 P.M., FRIDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

With a Carrier Task Group off Korea: United States Navy carrier-based Marine Corsair fighter-bombers kept over the Inchon landing beaches from before dawn yesterday until dark, rendering close air support to the Marine assault troops, blasting Communist defenses with their napalm fire bombs, 500-pound bombs, rockets and 20 mm. fire.

Working in co-ordination with the Marine assault troops in the Navy landing craft lying offshore, the veteran Leatherneck airmen let loose on Wolmi, a strategic island in the Inchon harbor, in the greyness of pre-dawn. Resulting explosions and flashes of fire lighted up the area like high noon.

Corsair Pilot First Lieut. Sidney Fisher of Los Angeles, Calif., said. "Boy, that island was really quivering. I thought it would roll over and sink." Capt. John Skorich of Marble, Minn., blew up an ammunition storage area with a direct bomb hit.

At 6:30 A.M., one-half hour after the carrier-based planes struck, the landing craft moved into the beach on schedule against little opposition. At 6:55 the colors were raised over Wolmi. First Lieut. Richard Peacock of Janesville, Wis., pilot of another Corsair, remarked: "Those assault Marines were walking up the slopes of Wolmi at port arms."

Other strikes of Marines from carriers commanded by Capt. Arnold McKechnie, U.S.N., and Capt. James Thatch, U.S.N., arrived over Inchon to find the landing forces mopping up small pockets of Red resistance. One of these was a gun position by a nearby lighthouse.

The Corsairs neutralized this place with direct napalm, bomb and rocket hits by Maj. Kenneth Reusser of Portland, Ore.; Capt. William Halligan of Minneapolis, Minn.; Capt. Don Garber of Washington, D.C., and First Lieut. Jerry McColanom of San Antonio, Tex. A heavily fortified gun emplacement, with a castle-like appearance on the heights commanding Inchon, was reduced to rubble by a hail of the Marine airmen's bombs and rockets.

Enemy troops in the area withered under persistent 20-mm. strafing by the hard-flying Corsairs. An additional Communist gun emplacement was hit by Lieut. Col. Walter Lisheid of Minneapolis, Minn., and Capt. Howard Finn of Oelwein, Iowa. Lisheid's napalm didn't go off at first but Finn set it off by strafing after he had dropped his own, burning that Red position.

One flight of the Marine fighter bombers attacked a Communist artillery and vehicle concentration northeast of Inchon. Capt. Warren Nichols of Beaumont, Tex., reported: "We had so many targets we didn't know which one to hit first."

This flight's accurate bombing shooting accounted for five heavy artillery pieces destroyed, seventy-two trucks damaged and twenty-one more trucks heavily damaged. A steel storage building was burned. Sgt. Leo Ihlt of Pierre, S.D., made a bull's eye with his napalm and burned six trucks. First Lieut. Andrew Andrtsko of Seattle, Wash., was forced to ditch his plane at sea after it was hit by enemy A-A fire. His fellow pilots summoned a nearby United States minesweeper to his rescue and circled overhead until he was picked up uninjured.

A later strike of the carrier's Corsairs put six 500-pounders and two tanks of napalm right on the coastal defense gun emplacement that was covering the landing beach on the southern Inchon harbor area.

Capt. Tex Yachik of Long Beach, Calif., made the day's greatest under-statement when he said, "I should say that that gun emplacement is out of commission."

In spite of approaching darkness and reduced visibility caused by the heavy smoke in the area the Marine airmen continued their attacks while their comrades poured ashore in increasing numbers from the landing craft. As night fell United Nations cruisers and destroyers continued to fire against Communist positions.

RELEASE 447, ISSUED AT 2:50 P.M., SATURDAY
(1:50 A.M., SATURDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

United States Air Force planes continued to pound enemy lines, lines of communication and supply centers in round-the-clock operations. For the second consecutive day F.E.A.F. (Far East Air Force) Bomber Command Superfortresses joined Fifth Air Force planes in attacks on Communist marshalling yards and storage areas in the immediate battle zone.

At Taejon a formation of B-29's dropped bombs on the marshalling yards, warehouse and storage areas. Large explosions and fires followed direct hits. Another group hit Adnong, along the northeastern sector, destroying the turntable in the marshalling yards and causing large secondary explosions and fires. A storage area adjacent to the marshalling yards was attacked with excellent results. Six spans were knocked out of two bridges near Chonju.

Other medium bombers ranged along rail lines from Seoul to Wonsan and from Seoul via Sinaju, to Unson. Near Yonchon bombs were dropped on a rail bridge, the approaches and rail lines in the vicinity. At Singosan, thirty miles south of Wonsan, on the main east coast railroad, the marshalling yards were bombed with hits being scored on both ends of the yards. Between Wonsan and Seoul the tracks were severed in five places.

On the Sinanju-Unsong route a span was knocked out of a bridge at Suanan, twenty miles northwest of Pyongyang, another span knocked out of a bridge at Hwangju and marshalling yards near Unsong bombed with excellent results. Large explosions and billowing brown smoke followed direct hits on the yards. A bridge just to the south suffered direct hits on both the north and south ends. Rail lines were cut at five points along the west coast.

Flying in close-support operations the eighty-first consecutive day, planes of the Fifth Air Force, along with Royal Australian Air Force Mustangs and Marine F-4U's, attacked storage areas, troop concentrations, artillery positions and buildings housing enemy forces all along the immediate battlefield. Maximum effort for the day's operations once again was exerted primarily in the First Cavalry Division and R.O.K. (Republic of Korea) fronts.

Target areas included Tabu, Angang, Yosu, Chongyang, Pohang, Kumchon, Uiryong, Sachon, Hamchang and Sanju. Nine tanks, seventeen trucks, six gun emplacements, twelve railroad cars, five buildings housing Communist troops, a rail bridge, five highway bridges and two tunnels were either destroyed or damaged in attacks directed by Air Force forward controllers. An estimated 175 troops were pinpointed and all were either killed or wounded in a strafing sweep.

One F-80 jet fighter was lost during Friday's operations.

RELEASE 448, AIR FORCE SUMMARY, AS OF SATURDAY EVENING:

United States Far East Air Forces aerial offensive in Korea early today was increased as more than eighty B-29 Superforts struck strategic targets on the east and west coasts in North Korea.

One large force bombed industrial installations in Pyongyang, North Korea capital city near the west coast, and another unloaded 500-pound general purpose bombs on the dock area and warehouse section in the harbor at Wonsan on the east coast.

The B-29's were in the air slightly before dawn and bombing commenced shortly after 3 A.M. Considerable flak was encountered in the Pyongyang area, but none at Wonsan. No enemy fighters were encountered.

F-80's made airfield strikes above the Thirty-eighth Parallel. One pilot reported that about 150 troops ran into a building at one of the airfields.

RELEASE 449, ISSUED AT 4 P.M., SATURDAY
(3 A.M., SATURDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

First Marine Division established beachheads in the Inchon area 15 September, meeting light enemy resistance, consisting principally of small arms fire. Landing was preceded by intensive naval and air attacks on military targets in the area. Casualties were light in this operation. Last night United Nations forces continued to consolidate positions within the city (Inchon), meeting light enemy resistance. R.O.K. (Republic of Korea) Marines were clearing up Red forces in one section of the city. Operations are continuing according to plan.

The enemy continued to stubbornly resist elements of the United States Twenty-fifth Division attacking to retake positions previously lost.

Late last night it was reported that all but one of these positions had been retaken. An enemy pocket was eliminated in the rear area.

An estimated 400 enemy attacked elements of the United States Second Division early this morning, Sept. 16. This attack was reported to be contained, with a small portion of ground lost.

In the United States First Cavalry Division sector the heaviest fighting of the day was reported, with some instances of hand-to-hand combat.

After repeated enemy attacks, elements of United Nations forces were forced to make slight withdrawals.

In the R.O.K. Second Corps sector United Nations forces continued to take ground lost yesterday. Gains up to 3,000 yards were reported with eight enemy artillery pieces being knocked out during the course of the advance. United Nations air support caused many enemy casualties during the day in the sector.

The R.O.K. First Corps continued to hold in the eastern portion of its sector, while other elements made appreciable gains in the Angang area.

United Nations ground forces inflicted 880 enemy casualties.

RELEASE 450, ISSUED AT 9:10 P.M., SATURDAY
(8:10 A.M., SATURDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Fighters and light bombers of the United States Far East Air Force ducked under low-hanging clouds this afternoon to mount an air offensive in strength in support of United Nations troops battling along the southeastern perimeter of Korea.

Weather finally cancelled most of the air attacks shortly after mid-afternoon but not before F-80 jets and F-51 Mustangs descended to low levels and hammered enemy positions from Pohang to Masan, covering the entire battle line, while B-26 Invaders flew in a thirty-mile circle around Taejon smashing Communist targets.

Earlier today B-29 Superforts totaling more than eighty bombed strategic industrial targets on the east and west coasts of North Korea, striking Wonsan dock and warehouse section in the harbor and Pyongyang military targets, respectively.

Weather conditions became increasingly bad for good air operations by noon, particularly in the southeastern section of Korea, but the fighters and light bombers, directed by hardworking T-6 air controllers to targets which could be detected through the overcast, surged ahead and made the best of conditions.

Propeller-driven Mustangs searched out enemy troop positions in the Pohang and Taegu sectors. They found three large concentrations, expended all their ammunition with fine results and returned to their base in Japan to reload for another go-round in today's important operation.

A flight of four F-51's was directed to a ridge southwest of Masan where enemy troops were dug in on a hill. Infantrymen marked their positions with mortar fire and the F-51's drove them off the hill by dropping napalm tanks, firing rockets and strafing. Another flight of F-51's flew a close support mission west of Pohang, strafing enemy positions. "Between Anng and Kigye we dropped Napalm tanks, killing enemy troops and damaging materiel," the flight leaders reported.

The F-80's concentrated on enemy troop concentrations along the southern portion of the Allied perimeter. One flight of shooting stars was directed to two enemy tanks near Masan. After strafing the tanks and scoring direct hits with 5-inch rockets, the jets left one of the tanks in flames and the second damaged. The air controller later told them that the burning tank was definitely destroyed.

Another group of F-80's worked over a group of enemy troops who were stubbornly defending a ridge overlooking a position held by United Nations forces north of Masan. Because of clouds, results were not observed, but the air controller said he did not think United Nations forces would have trouble in the future from those troops.

/F-80's also

F-80's also struck northwest of Yongsan with good results. One got direct hits with three rockets on a tank that was firing on United Nations ground troops.

Late this morning, B-26 light bombers loaded with rockets, general purpose bombs, napalm and carrying full loads of caliber 50 ammunition, hammered at rail and highway bridges and marshalling yards in the Taejon area. One flight knocked out a span and damaged another on a combination rail and highway bridge eight miles north of Taejon. Ten miles northeast of Chochiwon the same flight left another railroad bridge on fire after dropping napalm bombs.

RELEASE 451, ISSUED AT 9:05 A.M., SUNDAY (8:05 P.M., SATURDAY
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

Speedy F-80 jet Shooting Stars were the first United States Far East Air Forces airplanes to take off this morning from Japanese bases for Korea. They were aloft at first light and headed across the straits for assigned missions in support of the United Nations ground forces.

F-51 Mustangs followed the F-80's into the air by about an hour. As the F-51 fighters lifted their wheels, B-26 light bombers returned to their Japanese base from night intruder missions.

Early weather reports today indicate the southern part of Korea again will be overcast, with clearer weather to the north.

An aerial pounding by all types of United States Air Force airplanes in support of the United Nations counter-offensive will be the air battle order for the day, according to operations officers at the Japanese bases, where United States airplanes are maintained and loaded with bombs, rockets and ammunition.

Airplanes flew in strength yesterday despite bad weather that finally grounded most of them after mid-afternoon. Fighters ranged the battle line in support of United Nations advances along the southern perimeter, with the pilots unloading their ammunition against enemy troops and artillery positions. Some of the F-80 and F-51 pilots flew back to Japanese bases, rearmed and returned to Korea again despite the unsavory weather.

Supports of the F.E.A.F. Bomber Command struck Pyongyang industrial targets and Wansan dock facilities on either side of the North Korean coast. More than eighty B-29's carried out this mission.

Light bombers picked up where they left off the night before and damaged or destroyed Communist vehicles, warehouses and other military targets in a thirty-mile circle around Taejon.

RELEASE 452 ISSUED AT 2:30 P.M. SUNDAY
(1:30 A.M., EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)
covering operations of Sept. 16;

Flying the worst weather conditions yet encountered in the present conflict, aircraft of the United States Far East Air Force concentrated on supporting Eighth Army units moving forward along the battle lines. Heavy rains and a solid low overcast through the central and northeastern sectors obscured targets and prevented large-scale aerial operations.

Slightly better weather conditions in the southern sector allowed F-80 and F-51 fighters to soften up enemy troop concentrations prior to attacks by friendly ground forces. Striking at targets in and around Uiryong, Chunggyo, Yongsan, Hyompung, Pugong and Changnyong, fighters rocketed and strafed strong Communist troop and artillery positions along ridges and hills facing the advancing United States Second and Twenty-fifth Divisions.

Fifth Air Force planes supported First Cavalry and R.O.K. (Republic of Korea) units farther to the north, although under extremely adverse weather conditions. Total sorties for the day were 339, of which 164 were in direct support of the ground forces.

F-80 jets flew interdiction missions both north and south of the Thirty-seventh Parallel, hitting vehicles, enemy-occupied buildings and artillery positions. Night intruder B-26 light bombers struck at military targets from Kwangju to Seoul, Sariwon to Sinchon, Cheryong to Haeju, Ansong to Osan, Taejon to Changju and Sinnak to Sohng. Lighter targets were bombed throughout these areas.

In daylight missions carried out by the light bombers against North Korean installations and communication lines, a marshalling yard near Taejon was bombed and strafed with excellent results, a supply dump and four warehouses repeatedly strafed near Chonan and moving vehicles strafed in the Taejon-Chochiwon-Okchon area.

Eight gun positions, nine river boats, four tanks, fourteen trucks, ten other vehicles and buildings housing enemy troops at Naktong were destroyed or damaged by Fifth Air Force fighter-bomber and fighter aircraft.

A large formation of bomber command Superfortresses was unable to bomb a selected area immediately in advance of United Nations lines, due to a solid overcast, and instead struck at secondary targets in Northern Korea.

At Pyongyang, an industrial area was rocked with secondary explosions after being bombed and an oil-storage area left burning. Direct hits were scored on the marshalling yards at Changjon, with secondary explosions being observed. Explosion also followed the bombardment of the dock and port facilities at Wonsan.

RELEASE 453, ISSUED AT 3:35 P.M., SUNDAY
(2:35 A.M., EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

A firm bridgehead in the Inchon area has been established by the United States First Marine Division. The city of Inchon has been secured with R.O.K. (Republic of Korea) Marines continuing to mop up the city for remnants of enemy forces. The United States Marines have driven to positions approximately six miles north and east of Inchon to firm positions astride the main highway between Inchon and Seoul.

Naval Air continued its close support of United Nations forces, bombing and strafing enemy troops and vehicles, destroying eight enemy tanks and ten trucks and is continuing to prevent effective movement of enemy reinforcements. Naval gunfire destroyed or damaged fifty-five enemy vehicles. Heavy casualties have been inflicted on the enemy and the latest count reveals that over 300 prisoners have been taken.

In the United States First Corps sector (United States First Cavalry and the First R.O.K. Division) two enemy counter-attacks were repulsed by United Nations forces. Elements of the First Cavalry Division made slow advances against heavy opposition, capturing important high ground commanding the approaches to the Naktong River. Other corps troops registered advances up to four miles along the Naktong River. R.O.K. forces were heavily engaging the enemy in the "walled city" area while other R.O.K. units gained up to three miles in their drive north and northeast of Taegu.

Elements of the United States Second Division gained several miles in their drive westward toward the Naktong River, reaching and occupying the high ground overlooking the river. One early attack forced units of the Second Division to make a slight withdrawal. A later counter-attack regained the position and the attack continued. One divisional unit reported an estimated 1,200 enemy casualties and the capture of large quantities of small arms, automatic weapons and ammunition during its attack.

Enemy troops attempting to enter a village in the United States twenty-fifth division sector were brought under direct tank fire with good results. Elements of the division registered slight gains against heavy enemy resistance. One divisional unit reached the Naktong in the area north of Haman and reported the enemy withdrawing across river in that sector. Other divisional units continue mopping up of enemy pockets and aggressive patrolling throughout the zone.

Elements of the R.O.K. Eighth Division captured an important hill and registered an advance up to two miles in the area northeast of Yongchon. All units of the R.O.K. Second Corps continued their advance against light resistance.

In the eastern sector, R.O.K. Army units conducted limited objective attacks in the Angang-Pohang area, slowly overcoming heavy enemy resistance and continuing their advances to the north and east.

RELEASE 454, ISSUED AT 7:15 P.M., SUNDAY
(6:15 A.M., SUNDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME):

Improved weather conditions in southern Korea this afternoon permitted United States Fifth Air Force fighters and light bombers to support effectively United Nations advances reported at several positions along the southeastern perimeter battleline.

Many scheduled missions were delayed by weather this morning and some secondary targets were attacked when primary ones were veiled by an overcast and rain. However, F-80 jets, F-51 Mustangs and B-26 light Invaders, ably guided by the F-4's of the United States Air Force, broke through bad weather again for a second day in a row.

Today's flights by B-26 light bombers accounted for considerable damage to bridges, rolling stock and marshalling yards. Two spans on one bridge and single spans on two others north of Taejon were destroyed by bombing runs, while the marshalling yards at Chochiwon were napalmed and seriously damaged. B-26's hit rolling stock with rockets at Sanju.

Capt. Elbert M. Stringer, Moberly, Mo., who led the flight on these attacks, reported his men were lucky enough to encounter good weather. "We could see what we were hitting, and made the best of it," he said.

Both types of fighters, F-51's and F-80's, flew a number of sorties this afternoon when weather finally cleared up, but reports of most of the results were not available late today. The fighters generally flew close to the battleline with some operating as cover for the United Nations ground troops and others hitting airfields and enemy troop movements not too far away.

One flight of F-80's strafed the airfields at Taejon and Kangnung, hitting revetments at the latter place. The flight leader said they found nothing at Taejon, but located a tank three miles northwest of the city and rocketed it. Results were unobserved because of bad weather.

Three miles east of Waegwan a gun emplacement was destroyed, others damaged and a building left burning.

Three million leaflets were dropped around the battlelines today by a flight of B-29's.

B-26 Invaders returned this morning from night intruder missions.

Weather was bad in Korea last night, but the B-26's managed to fly their usual number of missions. Some operated in the Kaesong area where Second Lieut. T. Walton, Austin, Tex., reported one vehicle was destroyed and others damaged in a convoy found on the road.

A flight of B-26's operated in the southwest part of Korea just above the Thirty-seventh Parallel and attacked a supply train. "Several oil tank cars were left burning when we finished strafing and rocketing the length of the train," said Capt. Robert T. Price of Raymond, Miss.

Vehicles were damaged in the Haeju area last night by B-26's, according to First Lieut. Robert M. Martin Jr., Tucson, Ariz.

/RELEASE 455,

RELEASE 455, ISSUED AT 12:40 A.M., MONDAY
(11:40 A.M., EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME SUNDAY) FOLLOWS

United Nations forces took Kimpo Airfield at about 2120 hours Sunday night.

Elements of the United Nations forces have reached the west bank of the Han River in their drive on Seoul.

The enemy has not yet recovered sufficient equilibrium from the surprise to organize more than sporadic defenses.

This lack of coordination is leading to piecemeal destruction of his various increments with only minor losses of our own.

Enemy prisoners taken in the Inchon strike now approach 1,000.

