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GENERAL

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NOTE DATED 24 OCTOBER 1950 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
TRANSMITTING THREE COMMUNIQUEES OF THE  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA

24 October 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 honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Security Council, the following communiques issued by General Douglas Mac Arthur, Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command, during the last twenty-four hours:

Release 581, issued at 4:05 P.M., Monday, 23 October 1950  
(2:05 A.M., Monday, Eastern Standard Time)

Release 582 (Navy Summary), issued at 11:55 A.M., Tuesday, 24 October 1950  
(9:55 P.M., Monday, Eastern Standard Time)

Release 583 (Air Summary), issued at 12:20 P.M., Tuesday, 24 October 1950  
(10:20 P.M., Monday, Eastern Standard Time)

/RELEASE 581,  
S/1865

RELEASE 581, ISSUED AT 4:05 P.M., MONDAY  
(2:05 A.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

An increase of more than 26,000 prisoners of war was reported by United Nations forces in the last twenty-four hours. More than 120,000 North Korean troops have now been captured since the Korean hostilities began.

A task force from the United States First Cavalry Division returned to Pyongyang after contacting airborne elements at Sunchon and Sukchon, repulsing a small enemy brigade in the same area. The task force captured six anti-aircraft guns, four 76-mm guns and two trucks during the operation. Other divisional elements dispersed an enemy force supported by 40-mm anti-aircraft guns and was clearing the Chinnampo area of anti-tank and anti-personnel mines.

The Republic of Korea First Division advanced north to the vicinity of Anju and Kunu and a task force from the division reached the vicinity of Somin.

United States airborne units continued blocking operations in the Sukchon-Sunchon area and liberated a number of United States prisoners of war. Three to four companies of enemy attempting to infiltrate north through Sukchon were dispersed into the hills, leaving many dead.

A small group of enemy infiltrated into Sukchon but were destroyed early yesterday morning.

Elements of the Republic of Korea Sixth Division advanced north and reached the vicinity of Hwasan against light resistance.

The stiffest resistance of the day took place in the Pukchang area, where an enemy battalion supported by artillery was attempting to slow the advance of leading elements of the Republic of Korea Eighth Division.

Elements of the Republic of Korea First Corps continued their advances on the east coast, reaching the vicinity of Oesang and Hungbong against light opposition.

RELEASE 582 (NAVY SUMMARY), ISSUED AT 11:55 A.M., TUESDAY  
(9:55 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

Moored and floating mines continued to claim the major share of Navy attention.

Fleets of minesweepers on both the east and west coasts of Korea worked around the clock Monday to clear the fields and reduce the menace.

Minesweeping operations on the east coast were conducted under the protection of air cover of carrier-based United States Marine aircraft. French, British Commonwealth and United States Navy ships patrolled the coast and stood by to render direct naval gunfire support as necessary.

Minesweeping operations on the west coast were performed under cover of British Commonwealth fleet units.

Vice Admiral Arthur D. Struble, commander of the Seventh Fleet, is supervising operations on the east coast. Rear Admiral W. G. Andrews, commander of British Commonwealth fleet units in Korean waters, is supervising operations on the west coast.

RELEASE 583 (AIR SUMMARY), ISSUED 12:20 P.M., TUESDAY  
(10:20 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

A routed North Korean Army offered little in the way of targets Monday as planes of the United States Far East Air Forces and Royal Australian Air Force flew but thirty-six close-support sorties. The total sorties for the day amounted to 300.

The advancing British Commonwealth brigade, encountering stiff resistance from an estimated 1,000 Communist troops south of Sinanju, called for air support. F-80 jets and F-51 fighters responded and within two hours the brigade was able to continue its advance northward.

Fighters destroyed seven vehicles and damaged three gun positions at Huichon. Three gun positions and a truck were destroyed at Maengjang, northwest of Sinanju, and four vehicles were damaged at Anju.

Fifth Air Force armed reconnaissance aircraft, scouting from Taechon to Kuesong, destroyed three vehicles, one supply cart and four fortified buildings. Thirty supply carts were destroyed at Usong, while at Sonchon nine supply buildings were rocketed and strafed, with six of them destroyed. Three tanks were damaged at Kwaksan.

Material destroyed or damaged in yesterday's attacks by Fifth Air Force aircraft totaled thirty-five vehicles, three tanks, six gun positions, thirteen enemy-occupied buildings and forty-four supply carts.

Combat Cargo Command aircraft delivered more than 260,000 pounds of critically needed supplies, including food and ammunition, to the Marine Air Wing stationed at Wonsan Airfield and to Tenth Corps units. Another air drop in the Sunchon-Sukchon area was made, resupplying airborne units with fifty-four tons of supplies. More than 245 tons of supplies were airlifted into Pyongyang. More than 550 tons of essential cargo, 332 passengers and 242 medical evacuees were carried in Monday's operations.

Twelve B-29 Superfortresses of the Far East Air Forces Bomber Command flew rail and highway interdiction along the east and northwest coasts. Twelve separate points between Ilsong and Chongjin on the east coast were attacked. The three major lines running out of Chongju in the northwest were bombed, with twenty-four attacks being made along the Chongju-Namsi and Chongju-Taean lines.

Two spans were knocked out of a rail bridge and a highway bridge destroyed at Kogunyong, north of Sonchon. Twenty points along the Hoedok lines were bombed with good results.