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NOTE DATED 5 DECEMBER 1950 FROM REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING THREE 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 honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Security Council, the following communiques issued by General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command, during the last twenty-four hours:

Release 698 (air summary), issued at 2:40 P.M., Monday, December 4, 1950 (12:40 A.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

Release 699, issued at 4 P.M., Monday, December 4, 1950 (2 A.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

Release 700, issued at 10:55 A.M., Tuesday, December 5, 1950 (8:55 P.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

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RELEASE 698 (AIR SUMMARY), ISSUED AT 2:40 P.M. MONDAY
(12:40 A.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Although poor weather conditions prevailed throughout the operational area Sunday, planes of the United States Far East Air Forces continued to pound a massing Chinese Communist army in Korea.

Fifth Air Force F-80 jets and F-51's struck at Red troops and vehicles in the northwest sector, as B-26 light bombers joined other F-51's and Marine fighters in heavy attacks on the Communists attacking United Nations elements in the Chosin Reservoir area.

Concentrated attacks by F-80's in the Sinanju-Anju arc cost the enemy forty-two supply buildings, one fuel storage area and three vehicles. A troop train was attacked near Anju, the locomotive and fifteen cars heavily damaged by rockets and napalm. Red troops, attempting to flee the train, were strafed with many casualties being inflicted on them. Small convoys throughout the area were attacked with undetermined results. Near Kwaksan, four rail cars were damaged by fighters and seven fortified buildings burned in Udong.

In the Chosin Reservoir area, Air Force fighter planes killed an estimated fifty Red troops and burned many supply buildings at Hagaru. Rocketing and strafing attacks by F-51's and F-4-U's under the operational control of the Fifth Air Force cost the Communists many troops in Pusong, Sachang and around the reservoir itself.

B-26's bombed and napalmed enemy troops in Sinha, Changjin, Huksu and Sojung with excellent results. Military targets northeast of Pyongyang, near Yopa, were set ablaze by napalm attacks.

Preliminary destruction claims by the Fifth Air Force totaled more than 800 enemy troops killed, nineteen vehicles, seventy-five horses, 155 supply or fortified buildings, one tank and sixteen box-cars destroyed or damaged.

Bomber Command Superfortresses attacked the supply centers of Kunu and Sinanju with incendiary and general purpose bombs with excellent results. Main supply routes leading north and west from Sinanju were cut in many places by direct hits with demolition bombs.

Air drops continued to be the source of supply for United Nations forces fighting the Communists along the Chosin Reservoir. Transports of the Combat Cargo Command parachuted 302 tons of ammunition and supplies into the area yesterday.

Large-scale evacuation of sick and wounded continued, with an estimated 2,400 military personnel evacuated to hospitals. Of that total, 470 were flown from the emergency strip just to the rear of the Chosin battle area. Cargo tonnage during yesterday's operations was 1,447 tons.

RELEASE 699, ISSUED AT 4 P.M., MONDAY
(2 A.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Contact with the enemy was again light yesterday (Sunday) along the western sector of Korea. However, heavy enemy pressure continued in the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir area.

Several enemy probing attacks in the area south of the Chosin Reservoir were repulsed by elements of the United States First Marine Division. The enemy continued to exert heavy pressure against the marines throughout the sector.

Attacks against elements of United Nations forces in the area northwest of Hamhung forced some United Nations units to make limited withdrawals.

United Nations forces in the area to the north and east of Pyongyang consolidated defensive positions and reported only scattered contact with enemy units yesterday.

It is estimated that the Chinese Communist forces now opposite the United Nations forces in North Korea now total 268,000. A further breakdown of this figure gives 194,000 Communist troops under the Fourth Field Army on the western side of the Korean peninsula, and another 74,000 on the Eastern front.

These troops form the forward combat echelon. In their rear, stretching back to and across the Yalu River, is the second supporting echelon, which is available for a momentary mass build-up in the direction of projected operations.

The composition of this latter echelon includes upward of 400,000 troops of the Fourth Field Army and the North China Special Army Group, probably 75,000 troops from the Third Field Army, and possibly 75,000 troops from the (word missing) Field Army, which have been reported in the Tumen area or en route thereto. Thus, a minimum of 550,000 men are available as a huge reservoir in this second supporting echelon.

The remainder of Communist China constitutes other echelon in reserve. Including all categories, the Chinese Communists have about 4,000,000 under arms. Currently, there are other units of the First and Third Field Armies, probably totaling 200,000 additional troops, enroute north to the second or support echelon.

The presence of these large Communist Chinese forces in Manchuria and North Korea was not the result of a sudden impulse, but must have been preceded by a long period of planning, followed by a considerable time necessary for troop movement, since some of these soldiers came from Central China. Preparations were made long ago. Possibly, the decision to commit them came after it was apparent that the military forces of the North Korean People's Republic had been decisively defeated.

RELEASE 700, ISSUED TUESDAY AT 10:55 A.M.
(8:55 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

The combined all-out effort of carrier-based United States Navy and Marine Corps aircraft yesterday was spent in close support of elements of the First Marine Division and the United States Army Seventh Infantry Division withdrawing in the Chosin (Changjin) reservoir area.

Performing one of the many specialized tasks for which they are specifically trained, the Navy and Marine flyers, flying at tree-top level, blasted scores of Chinese Communist troop concentrations around the entire perimeter of the reservoir.

Attacking often within fifty yards of friendly forces, the Navy Skyraiders, Corsairs and Panther jets and the Marine Corsairs cleared the way for the withdrawing ground forces.

Incident to the searing attacks on enemy troops the carrier-based pilots destroyed fifty-two military buildings and damaged forty-four. A frequent tactic of the Communists when air attack is imminent is to drive trucks, tanks and field pieces into the nearest building.

In addition to the destruction of troops and buildings, the Navy and Marine pilots destroyed four field pieces, five trucks and one observation post.

Fast carrier Task Force 77 is commanded by Rear Admiral E.C. Ewen. The escort carrier group from which the Marines operate is commanded by Rear Admiral Richard W. Ruble.

United States Navy ships deployed along the east coast provided round-the-clock call-fire support of the ground forces.

British Commonwealth fleet units operating along the west coast continued with patrol and blockade operation to thwart any enemy attempts at reinforcement or resupply by water.