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NOTE DATED 5 JANUARY 1951 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FOUR COMMUNIQUE
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 785, issued at 12:25 P.M., Thursday, January 4, 1951
(10:25 P.M., Wednesday, Eastern Standard Time)

Release 786, issued at 3:50 P.M., Thursday, January 4, 1951
(1:50 A.M., Thursday, Eastern Standard Time)

Navy release (unnumbered), issued Friday afternoon,
January 5, 1951 (late Thursday, Eastern Standard Time)

Release 787, issued at 12 noon Friday, January 5, 1951
(10 P.M., Thursday, Eastern Standard Time)

/RELEASE 785,
S/1973

RELEASE 785, ISSUED AT 12:25 P.M., THURSDAY
(10:25 P.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

For the third successive day, combat planes of the Far East Air Forces on Wednesday continued their all-out air campaign against Communist forces in Korea. More than 5,500 enemy troops have been killed or wounded and more than 4,000 buildings being used by the Reds have been destroyed or damaged in the massive air effort that saw more than 2,500 flights dispatched during the seventy-two hour round-the-clock combat operations.

Wednesday's air effort, reports still incomplete, was an all-time high in the Korean conflict for the Far East Air Forces with at least 855 effective sorties flown, forty-five of these by Republic of Korea, Royal Australian Air Force, South African Air Force, and land-based Marine fighters. The total figure is expected to approach 900 when final operations reports from advanced units are tabulated.

Far East Air Force's effort at 848 individual flights made on Tuesday, 2 January, was the previous high figure.

Fifth Air Force F-84 Thunderjets, F-80 Shooting Star jets, F-51 Mustangs and B-26 light bombers found a paucity of mechanized targets near front line positions yesterday. Concentrating on enemy ground troops, the Air Force planes killed or wounded 2,000 Reds and destroyed or damaged 1,800 buildings being used by them for supply or shelter.

In the eastern sector of operations, 850 Red troops were killed or wounded, 112 enemy-occupied buildings destroyed, a large ammunition dump destroyed, a fuel dump left ablaze and several vehicles knocked out in bombing, rocketing and strafing attacks.

In the central and western sectors, where massed Communists were moving primarily on foot, more than 1,000 casualties were inflicted by close air support planes, in the Munsan-Koyang area alone, 800 Communist troops were killed or wounded by repeated F-84 and F-80 attacks. Enemy buildings were hammered at Munsan, Koyang, Pobwon, Majong, Kaesong and other points in the western zone of operations with nearly 600 burned out.

Air force armed reconnaissance aircraft ranged from coast to coast, and from Pyongyang south to the battle line, pounding targets of opportunity. Hitting fifty-two separate areas, the fighters destroyed or damaged 400 supply buildings, inflicted 150 casualties, destroyed ten vehicles and left fires burning in many areas.

B-26 light bombers in day-long strikes attacked supply and troop concentrations along and just to the rear of the battle line. On a sweep from Munsan to Kaesong, the B-26's destroyed 170 occupied buildings and damaged another 200. A successful attack against the airfield at Sinanju left the runway cratered with direct bomb hits.

Night intruder sorties by the light bombers were directed against vehicular and troop traffic in and near Chungwa, Pyongyang, Sunchon, Sukchon and Pyonggang. Campfires were bombed and rocketed between Wonsan and Pyongyang with undetermined results. A 200-truck convoy was under attack early this morning in the vicinity of Anju, with results as yet unreported.

Fifth Air Force planes destroyed or damaged a total of 1,800 enemy-occupied buildings, a new high, thirty-nine vehicles, a tank, one artillery piece, two ammunition dumps, one fuel storage area, two supply areas, thirty-two pack animals, and two bridges, in addition to 2,050 enemy casualties inflicted.

Several Bomber Command B-29's, operating individually over North Korea, flew leaflet drop, reconnaissance, surveillance and weather missions.

Incomplete reports from Combat Cargo Command state that 292 sorties were flown Wednesday.

RELEASE 786, ISSUED AT 3:50 P.M., THURSDAY
(1:50 A.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Orderly withdrawals by elements of United Nations units in the Seoul area were effected yesterday. Northwest of Seoul enemy troops continued their pressure against our positions; a vigorous counterattack by friendly forces regained two villages.

United Nations forces in the central sector were heavily engaged with an estimated enemy regiment southwest of Kapyong. Two enemy groups in the vicinity of Hongchon were engaged by friendly troops. Strong enemy attacks continued in the Yongpo area while to the east our forces adjusted and improved positions, with no hostile contact reported.

A study of enemy movements behind their lines shows continued heavy vehicle sightings. In the previous period reported, on 22-25 December, 1,150 vehicles were reported. In the period 26 December-1 January, sightings rose to a total of 1,253. However, there was a decrease in vehicles sighted in the Sinanju-Pyongyang-Sariwon area, and a substantial increase in the sightings in the Wonsan-Singje-Hwachon triangle.

As previously indicated, the objective of these forces originally located on the East coast, largely Chinese Communist but including a number of North Korean units, and now moving generally southwest across the Korean Peninsula, is believed to be the important communications center of Wonju, fifty-five miles east and southeast of Seoul. It is believed that enemy forces have been infiltrating into this area for the past ten days or two weeks, since the evacuation of Hungnam by the United Nations forces was completed on 24 December. Concentration and regrouping of these forces in preparation for a concerted strike against Wonju is now going on.

These forces, it is believed, include all or a major portion of the Chinese Communist forces subordinate to the Third Communist Chinese Field Army. This includes at least four and possibly seven Chinese Communist armies (corps), with a total strength of approximately 120,000 men. Two reconstituted North Korean corps also are believed to be taking part in this movement.

The capture of Wonju would place the Communist enemy astride the Yoju-Ichon-Suwon axis, in a position to continue the attempted envelopment of United Nations forces disposed to the north and west. It also would enable the enemy to exploit the route to the south through Chenchon-Yonju-Andong toward Pusan.

NAVY RELEASE (UNNUMBERED) ISSUED FRIDAY FORENOON
(LATE THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Off Inchon Harbor - While Navy guns held approaching Chinese Communists at bay last night, United Nations forces withdrew by sea from the port of Inchon and left every harbor facility of possible value to the enemy blasted and burning.

All Army personnel stationed in Inchon as well as thousands of Korean civilian workers and their families were taken out by Navy landing craft as flames from the burning port billowed hundreds of feet into the night sky.

A task force of United Nations ships commanded by Rear Admiral L. A. Thackrey, USN, lay in the shallow harbor to take aboard the forces which had occupied the South Korean supply port since it was wrested from the Communists in the historic United Nations amphibious invasion here last 15 September.

Most United Nations personnel were scheduled to be safely aboard the waiting ships before midnight last night, leaving behind only a few selected Army and Navy men to accomplish last-minute demolitions along the waterfront and to bring out possible stragglers and refugees.

At 8:30 P.M. the city was already virtually vacant. A Navy officer ashore reported the streets were empty of human life while the tremendous waterfront fires threw an eerie red light over the rubble of smashed and deserted buildings.

Meanwhile the big guns of the United States heavy cruiser ROCHESTER sent tracer shells arching away inland over the city to discourage advancing Red ground forces, who are expected to occupy Inchon within a matter of hours.

No civilian property in Inchon was destroyed by the departing troops, but every harbor facility, including warehouses, railroad marshalling yards, piers, the locks to Inchon's important tidal basin and even telegraph poles were blown up or put to the torch.

RELEASE 787, ISSUED AT 12 NOON FRIDAY
(10 P.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Evacuation of thousands of civilians and redeployment of all military personnel in the supply port of Inchon was completed on high tide shortly after midnight last night.

The withdrawal operation was under the command of Rear Admiral L. A. Thackrey, commander of Amphibious Group 3.

All installations of value to the enemy were destroyed prior to departure by Navy underwater demolition personnel and Army specialists.

The operation was completed under cover of carrier-based United States Marine Corsairs and bombardment by heavy United Nations fleet units.

Nations represented in the West Coast Fleet include Canada, Australia, England, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Republic of Korea and the United States.

On the East coast, Thailand and United States fleet units continued with patrol and general support operations.

Republic of Korea Navy ship JML 304, while pursuing a junk at the mouth of the Taedong River, was taken under fire by a shore battery at Machijin. In returning the enemy fire JML 304 killed thirty enemy troops, damaged one field gun, six houses and the junk it was pursuing.

The Canadian destroyer ATHEBASKAN destroyed a floating mine off the West coast just south of the 38th Parallel.

Royal Air Force Sunderlands and United States Navy Martin Mariners and Lockheed Neptunes were out on regular anti-mine and armed reconnaissance patrols.
