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NOTE DATED 13 APRIL 1951 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES  
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FIVE COMMUNIQUES  
BY THE HEADQUARTERS 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 communique issued by the Headquarters of the United Nations Command, as indicated below:

Far East Air Forces summary issued at 6:30 P.M., Thursday, April 12, 1951  
(4:30 A.M., Thursday, Eastern standard time)

Eighth Army communique 303, issued at 8:00 P.M., Thursday, April 12, 1951  
(6:A.M., Thursday, Eastern standard time)

Fifth Air Force summary of late Thursday, April 12, 1951

United Nations Naval Forces summary of Thursday, April 12, 1951,  
operations

General Headquarters communique 852, for the period 6:00 A.M., Thursday,  
April 12, to 6:00 A.M., Friday, April 13, 1951

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY ISSUED AT 6:30 P.M., THURSDAY  
(4:30 A.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

In the war's heaviest strike against a single bridge target, between thirty and forty Far East Air Forces B-29 Superfortresses today pinpointed over 300 tons of high explosives at the Korean end of the massive railroad bridge which links Sinuiju, Korea, with Antung, Manchuria.

Enemy jets crossed the river from their Manchurian sanctuary to meet the Superforts and were in turn attacked by Fifth Air Force F-86 Sabre jets and F-84 Thunderjets, which were escorting the medium bombers. Preliminary count indicates that at least three MIG's were shot down, two by fighters and one by the B-29's.

A vast air battle, probably the biggest of the war, raged in the area south of Sinuiju as the Superforts, under the protection of the Fifth jets, drove steadily toward their targets, dropped their bombs, and turned away in the midst of determined enemy air attack and intense flak.

Time and again the Russian-built sweptback-wing jets flashed toward the Superforts only to find themselves under attack by F-86's and F-84's. Early reports from the Fifth Air Force jets indicated they had destroyed two MIG's, probably destroyed two, and damaged ten without sustaining loss. (Later reports set the number damaged at thirteen.)

Preliminary estimates indicated that possibly as many as eighty enemy jets and a like number of the Far East Air Forces jets were in the battle area.

MIG jets which did manage to penetrate the protective screen were brought under intense fire by the heavy armament of the Superforts themselves. Preliminary reports indicated that at least one MIG had been destroyed and at least one other damaged by B-29's. Two battle-damaged Superforts landed safely at friendly airfields in Korea.

All three groups of Far East Air Forces Bomber Command, the Japan-based Ninety eighth and the Okinawa-based Nineteenth and 307th, took part in the bridge bombing.

The structure under attack was a 3,100-foot-long railroad bridge, whose sturdy concrete piers and steel-trusses have proved bomb-resistant. It is a bridge whose destruction would put the enemy under a very severe handicap in the movement of supplies to his troops on the battlelines.

Crewmen reported seeing bombs strike the spans, but the smoke from the explosions obscured the area and an immediate assessment of the damage was not possible.

"I got some good bursts into a MIG as it swept by from left to right,"

/said Private

said Private Harvey W. Davis, 321 East Main Street, Tecumseh, Oklahoma, a tail gunner. His attention was diverted to another MIG but Corporal Richard Barth of 1009 Linckl Street, Spokane, Washington, said he watched the MIG all the way to the ground and saw it crash and explode.

Corporal Richard Rogers, son of Master Sergeant and Mrs. Hollis J. Rogers of Fort Knox, Kentucky, said he saw the central fire control gunner, Staff Sergeant Warren Tessmer, "get in some mighty good bursts and possibly damage a MIG as two of them made a pass at our plane."

"We could see enemy fighters well over a mile out," declared Captain M.R. Jones, pilot, of 6840 University Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. "Four of them made a pass at us but broke off suddenly with four of our Sabre jets hot on their tails. Those friendly fighters were really friends of ours today; they were all over the place."

Captain Jones said he saw the smoke from the bomb bursts right on the Korean end of the vital bridge.

Sergeant John F. Graham, waist gunner, of Mosquero, New Mexico, stated:

"Three MIG's broke through right after bombs away and pressed their attack against our aircraft. They came in from the front and then swung around to strike from the rear. Six F-86 Sabre jets, three from each side, converged on them and followed them down."

"We counted at least eight Sabres close to us and they kept any number of enemy away," declared Staff Sergeant John Horton of Denver, Colorado.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 303, ISSUED AT 8:00 P.M., THURSDAY  
(6:00 A.M., THURSDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Light to heavy enemy resistance was encountered on the Western Korean front. United Nations forces north of Yongpyong used flame throwers to dislodge the enemy from bunker-type emplacements. Light to moderate enemy resistance was reported on the central and eastern fronts. Enemy casualties inflicted on April 11 were estimated at approximately 645.

1. Light to heavy enemy resistance was reported by United Nations forces along the Western Korean front as United States troops north of Yongpyong were forced to use flame throwers to dislodge a stubborn enemy from bunker-type emplacements.

2. United Nations forces on the Central Korean front encountered light to moderate enemy resistance during the day as United Nations forces made limited gains.

3. On the eastern Korean front United States forces in the area southeast of Hwachon reported receiving heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire as other United Nations forces advanced against light enemy contact.

4. No significant enemy action has been reported by Republic of Korea forces on the east coast.

## FIFTH AIR FORCE SUMMARY OF LATE THURSDAY

More than 500 enemy troops were claimed killed or wounded today as tactical aircraft of the Fifth Air Force hit targets with 672 sorties.

Lieutenant General Earle E. Partridge in his evening summary of this air action said: "This is the greatest claim against troops in the past three weeks."

One two-plane flight of F-51's of the Eighteenth Fighter Bomber Wing reported surprising two large concentrations of Reds, claiming more than 300 killed or wounded.

One of the groups was caught at Anak and was estimated to contain 5,000 soldiers. The second column, spotted near Chaeryong when the planes were low on ammunition, contained approximately 1,000 with fifty casualties claimed.

The leader of the flight, Lieutenant Harry R. Middleton of Rockford, Illinois, in describing the second attack, said: "We were short of ammunition but we were successful in breaking that meeting up."

Other pilots' claims as destroyed: 100 buildings, sixteen vehicles, six boats and twenty railroad cars. Listed as damaged were two tanks, eighty supply buildings, two vehicles, one boat, eighteen rail cars, one road bridge, two rail tunnels, three field pieces and one supply dump.

In aerial battles during the day, F-86's of the Fourth Fighter Interceptor and F-84's of the Twenty-seventh Fighter Escort Wing claimed a total of four MIG's destroyed, two probably destroyed and fourteen damaged. There was no damage to the Fifth Air Force jets.

The Forty-ninth Fighter Bomber Wing completed its 20,000th sortie of the year.

Flying the mission was Captain Sherwood T. Avery, of San Antonio, Texas. He was a member of the flight that hit an enemy troop concentration in close support of United Nations ground forces.

Two flights of the Forty-ninth Wing reported 150 enemy casualties inflicted on close support strikes along the central sector of the battle lines.

One of the flights, led by Captain Frederick Champlin of Eggersville, New York, described attacking dug-in troops on a ridge south of Chorwon. The Mosquito control plane reported excellent coverage and estimated 100 casualties.

Captain James Corn of Lakewood Road, Warrington, Florida, told of leading a flight of F-51's of the Eighteenth Wing in an attack on two rail tunnels near Namchonjom.

"We had smoke coming out of both ends of one of the tunnels and had the tracks cut at both of them," he said.

B-26 light bombers of the 450th Group hit and damaged a rail bridge at Sukchon.

Fighter bombers of the First Marine Air Wing claimed two tanks damaged near Kansong and another flight reported destroying six barges east of Hwachon, the reservoir area.

Other land-based marine planes claimed at least twenty-five troops killed or wounded in close support attacks along the central front.

## UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF APRIL 12 OPERATIONS

Heavy naval bombardment of east coast communication centers continued yesterday, with Wonsan again the primary target for the United Nations cruisers, destroyers and frigates in Task Force 95.

Over 850 rounds of 8, 6, 5, and 4 inch ammunition were pounded on military installations in the Wonsan area prior to daybreak yesterday.

The cruisers U.S.S. St. Paul and U.S.S. Manchester, the destroyer U.S.S. Zellars and the British frigate Alacrity threw tons of steel at bridges, road and rail networks, military buildings and troops in that vicinity. Numerous fires were reported during the day-long bombardment.

Marine Corsairs from the light aircraft carrier U.S.S. Bataan ranged over Korea damaging or destroying five bridges in the northeast during strikes at railroads between Songjin and Hamhung.

Twenty-two military supply buildings were destroyed by the Marine fighter-bombers at Wonsan, Haeju and north of Hungnam. In addition, five trucks were burned.

The United States Navy destroyers Walke and Hank concentrated their 5-inch gunfire on supply points near Songjin. Air spotters reported that the Hank got many direct hits on supply dumps and buildings.

Bridge approaches at Kyojowan, south of Songjin, were hit by the Hank and the frigate Hoquiam in pre-dawn firing yesterday.

Far to the south, the destroyer Borie interdicted road junctions near Kansong.

Minesweeping operations continued off both Korean coasts yesterday. Routing United States Navy and Royal Air Force patrol bomber flights also continued.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 852, FOR THE PERIOD  
6:00 A.M., APRIL 12, TO 6:00 A.M.,  
APRIL 13

Bombers of the Far East Air Forces attacked the Korean end of railroad bridges across the Yalu River at Simuiju Thursday precipitating the heaviest air-to-air jet action of the war. Enemy interception was countered with our fighters taking a heavy toll of aggressive hostile aircraft. No losses were sustained by friendly fighters. Tactical aircraft continued to support our ground advance, inflicting heavy personnel casualties and damaging and destroying enemy supplies. Normal air resupply operations continued.

The advance of United Nations ground forces in Korea continued yesterday despite heavy enemy resistance in several sectors. In the west-central sector, advancing units used flame throwers against strongly entrenched enemy elements as resistance increased in this sector. In the East-central sector, determined hostile opposition brought on heavy fighting south and southeast of Hwachon and North of Sinwol as our troops pressed forward using artillery and air strikes to dislodge the enemy. Action in the coastal sectors was limited to patrol actions.

Heavy naval bombardment of East Coast communication centers continued yesterday with Wonsan again the primary target for the United Nations cruisers, destroyers and frigates. Carrier-based naval aircraft ranged over Korea, furnishing close support for our ground troops and inflicting damage in hostile rear areas.