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NOTE DATED 21 FEBRUARY 1951 FROM THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TRANSMITTING FIVE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED
BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA ON
20 AND 21 FEBRUARY 1951

The Acting 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:

Fifth Air Force summary timed at noon Tuesday, February 20, 1951
(10:00 P.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

Air operational summary for February 19, timed at 1:30 P.M., Tuesday,
February 20, 1951 (11:00 P.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

Fifth Air Force summary, timed at 6:20 P.M., Tuesday, February 20, 1951
(4:20 A.M., Tuesday, Eastern standard time)

Eighth Army communique 200, timed at 8:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 20, 1951
(6:00 A.M., Tuesday, Eastern standard time)

Eighth Army communique 201, issued at 10:15 A.M., Wednesday,
February 21, 1951 (8:15 P.M., Tuesday, Eastern standard time)

FIFTH AIR FORCE
S/2022

FIFTH AIR FORCE SUMMARY TIMED AT NOON TUESDAY
(10 P.M. MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

The Fifth Air Force flew 763 sorties yesterday - largest single day total since the war began, Maj. Gen. Earle E. Pertridge said in his noon summary of air activity.

The record total included sorties flown by land-based Marine aircraft, South African, Australian and Korean Air Forces under direct operational control of the Fifth Air Force.

Striking at enemy supply lines this morning, pilots claimed to have destroyed or damaged over fifty vehicles - most of them in a strike opposite the central front.

Fifteen F-80's, Forty-ninth Fighter-Bomber Wing, attacked and destroyed a rail bridge at Koindong with 1,000-pound bombs. A flight of F-51's destroyed two supply dumps northeast of Seoul. F-80's of the Eighth Fighter-Bomber Wing struck against rail cars northeast of Seoul, destroying four and damaging four.

Other claims for the morning included one locomotive damaged, six oxen destroyed, one supply dump and one tunnel damaged.

AIR OPERATIONAL SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 19, TIMED AT 1:30 P.M., TUESDAY
(11 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

United States Far East Air Forces set a new record of 1,039 sorties in Korea Monday in furnishing heavy support to United Nations ground elements driving northward. Operating in perfect flying weather, Far East Air Forces planes surpassed the 1,027 mark flown February 15. Fifth Air Force also set a new record of 795 sorties of Monday's total, besting the 745 mark of February 17.

This massive air support, including 112 sorties by land-base Marines and combat strikes by South Africans and Royal Australians, cost the Communists more than 550 troop casualties and 1,100 buildings destroyed or damaged. Other enemy equipment was damaged as fighter-bombers, light bombers and medium bombers co-ordinated their attacks with the Allied ground offensive.

The warplanes struck along all of the front line sectors and continued to hammer the Communists' network of communications, with rail and highway bridges under heavy attack from Seoul across to Wonsan and northeast to Kilchu. In addition to Far East Air Forces Bomber Command strikes on bridges, Fifth Air Force fighter-bombers also attacked eight and claimed them either destroyed or damaged to deprive the enemy of their use. F-84 Thunderjets destroyed two bridges near Seoul and another at Yangsu. The other five were hit northeast of Seoul, at Koman, Uijongbu, Tongduchon, Kobong and Youngpyong. F-84's alone flew more than 100 sorties.

As friendly ground forces moved northward in the Chechon area, F-80 jet Shooting Stars, F-51 Mustangs, B-26 light bombers and other planes inflicted heavy casualties on enemy troops.

Marine F-4U pilots claimed casualties on Red troops and supply buildings in the central battle area while F-7F and F-9F Marines, also under operation control of the Fifth Air Force, attacked vehicles at Sepo, Kumchon and Oum, northeast of Seoul, with unobserved results.

Okinawa-based Superforts dropped more than 180 tons of bombs on six rail and highway bridges. A flight of four Superforts knocked out a three-span railroad bridge and an adjacent two-span road bridge at Oro, east of Hamhung. Crew members claimed a direct hit on another bridge at Kilchu on the east coast supply route. Other bridges were damaged at Kwon, Chigyong and Songjin, located on important Red supply routes on the east coast. Results were excellent.

The 315th Air Division (Combat Cargo) flew 2,166 sorties to help set the new sortie record. The transport planes delivered more than 760 tons of supplies to Korean points in support of United Nations forces and air-dropped war supplies to troops at Chechon and Yangpyong.

FIFTH AIR FORCE SUMMARY, TIMED AT 6:20 P.M., TUESDAY
(4:20 A.M. TUESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Enemy supply vehicles were again hard hit by Fifth Air Force fighters and light bombers today with 152 claimed destroyed and forty-two damaged by 658 sorties reported by 6 P.M., Maj. Gen. Earle E. Partridge said in his evening release.

Attacks on troop concentrations resulted in claims of 250 enemy troop casualties inflicted. Other pilot claims for the day included about 550 supply buildings destroyed or damaged, thirty-three railroad cars destroyed or damaged, one locomotive damaged, two gun emplacements knocked out, and four tanks destroyed. One tank was claimed damaged.

Attacks on supply dumps destroyed five and damaged three. One ammunition dump and a fuel dump were also claimed destroyed.

A troop barracks near Wonsan on the east coast was hit by a mass flight of B-26's of the 452nd Bomb Wing. Excellent results were claimed with 50 per cent of the bombs hitting in the building area. Nearby, the light bombers strafed a troop concentration, claiming about fifty troops killed or wounded.

One flight of F-84 Thunderjets claimed two tanks and six vehicles destroyed in an attack north of the battleline in the central sector, plus five vehicles damaged. Other flights reported hitting vehicles in strikes scattered over most of North Korea.

One F-84 pilot, Capt. John B. Westwood of Aurora, Oregon, claimed fifteen enemy-occupied buildings destroyed in the Kumhwa area by his flight. "That napalm (jellied gasoline) sure can wreck a building in a hurry," the captain reported.

Another flight of F-84's led by Capt. Wilbur Segerson of Three Rivers, Michigan, reported destroying a large brick building in the Chorwon area with napalm. Segerson observed, "It looked like that napalm melted the bricks."

The same flight claimed another seventeen buildings destroyed in villages near Chorwon.

On a close support mission near the central sector of the line a flight of F-80's of the Forty-ninth Fighter-Bomber Wing led by Lieut. Col. Ben I. Mayo of Little Rock, Arkansas, hit a village sheltering enemy troops. Describing the attack, Mayo said: "The controller told us that the town had many troops in it. So we started taking the place apart. When we left the only building we could see that we hadn't hit was a church on a hill near the town."

Nine vehicles were claimed destroyed by a two-plane flight of F-80's in the central sector. Capt. Frank C. Newell, Linden, New Jersey, leader of the flight, said: "We hit four jeep-type vehicles camouflaged with snow which must have been loaded with ammo, for they really exploded."

F-51's of the Eighteenth Fighter-Bomber Wing reported excellent results in attacks on scattered vehicles largely in the central sector. Six flights claimed a total of twenty-five vehicles destroyed. Three supply dumps were claimed destroyed in attacks north of Seoul by F-51 Mustangs of the Thirty-fifth Fighter-Bomber Wing. In the Secul area two tunnels were claimed damaged by F-80's of the Fifty-first Fighter Interceptor Wing.

Other jets from this unit on close support attacks in all sectors claimed fifty troop casualties inflicted in one attack, a gun position damaged and a supply dump damaged. Railroad cars in the Secul area were hit by F-80's of the Eighth-Fighter-Bomber Wing with at least eight claimed destroyed or damaged.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 200, TIMED AT 8 P.M., TUESDAY
6 A.M., TUESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

The large concentration of enemy troops reported earlier as being in the Hoengsong area is corrected to read Hongchon area. Light scattered enemy contact was reported along the western and central front with moderate enemy resistance being reported in the Chechon area. Enemy casualties inflicted by ground action on February 19 were estimated as 1,444.

1. United States forces advancing three miles southeast of Seoul and seven miles east of Seoul reported no enemy contact. An enemy company on the north bank of the Han River eight miles north of Kyongan and an enemy company on the south bank of Han in the same vicinity were taken under artillery fire.

2. Little or no enemy contact was reported on the central front as United Nations forces advanced slowly throughout the day.

3. The large enemy concentration reported in the Koengsong area is corrected to read Hongchon area. Enemy resistance continued in the Chechon area as platoon and company-sized clashes continued in areas nine miles north-northwest, eight miles north-northeast, and six miles north of Chechon. Tactical air reported an unknown number of enemy ten miles north-northeast and nine miles northeast of Chechon at 10 A.M.

4. No reports of enemy contact on the eastern front.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 201 ISSUED AT 10:15 A.M., WEDNESDAY
(8:15 P.M., TUESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Light, scattered enemy resistance was reported on the western front as United Nations forces patrolled extensively throughout their sector. Patrols operating in the Chipyeong area maintained contact with the enemy as patrols ranged five miles north-northeast and northwest of the village. The enemy continued to resist in the Chechon area although some evidence of disengagement and withdrawal to the north has been reported.

1. Scattered mortar and artillery fire was received by friendly elements six miles northwest of Yongdungpo while thirteen rounds of tank fire fell in an area two miles east of Yongdungpo. Enemy small arms automatic weapons and SP fire was received by friendly patrols eight miles east of Seoul at 12:35 P.M., resulting in the withdrawal of friendly patrols.

An enemy platoon was discovered crawling toward friendly lines when a flare plane dropped flares over the south edge of the island east-southeast of Seoul at 11 P.M. Friendly artillery engaged the enemy group and all was reported quiet in this area at 11:30 P.M. An unknown number of enemy engaged a friendly patrol attempting to wade across the Han River eight miles east of Seoul at 3:30 P.M., forcing the patrol to withdraw.

A friendly patrol observed an estimated entrenched enemy battalion on the forward slope of the hill mass five miles east of Seoul at 5 P.M. British elements advanced to positions eleven miles east of Seoul and eight miles north of Kyongan against light, scattered enemy resistance.

2. Patrols operating in the Chipyeong area reported an enemy platoon four miles north of Chipyeong, an enemy platoon five miles north-northwest of Chipyeong, scattered enemy contact in the area five miles north-northeast of Chipyeong and sporadic small-arms fire in the vicinity of Yongdu, seven miles north-northeast of Chipyeong.

3. United States forces patrolled to areas ten miles northwest of Wonju and four miles north of Wonju with no report of enemy contact. Light enemy resistance was encountered by United States forces advancing six to eight miles southeast of Wonju. An unknown number of enemy offered stubborn resistance to advancing United States forces nine miles north-northwest of Chechon during the day. Light enemy resistance was reported by Republic of Korea forces engaged with an unknown enemy force four miles north-northwest of Chechon. Enemy forces in the area nine miles north-northeast of Chechon were reported as withdrawing to the north.

4. No report of enemy contact on the eastern front.
