



GENERAL

S/2447  
19 December 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE DATED 18 DECEMBER 1951 FROM THE ACTING CHAIRMAN OF  
OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE SIXTH REGULAR  
SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADDRESSED TO THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FOUR COMMUNIQUES  
ISSUED BY THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
COMMAND IN KOREA

Paris, 18 December 1951

The Acting Chairman of the United States Delegation to the Sixth Regular Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations presents her 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 the Headquarters of the United Nations Command, as indicated below:

Eighth Army communique 729, for the twelve hours ended  
noon Wednesday, December 12, 1951

United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations  
Wednesday, December 12, 1951

Eighth Army communique 730, covering operations Wednesday,  
December 12, 1951

General Headquarters communique 1,096, for the twenty-four  
hours ended 6:00 A.M. Thursday, December 13, 1951  
(4:00 P.M. Wednesday, Eastern standard time)

UNited Nations COMMOBINATION 729, FOR  
THE TWELVE HOURS ENDED NOON  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1951:

United Nations patrols report light to moderate engagements along western front. Platoon-sized enemy probe repulsed east-southeast of Kumsong.

1. United Nations units along the western Korean battlefield reported light to moderate engagements with enemy units up to a company in strength as they maintained positions and patrolled during the period.
2. United Nations units repulsed a probing attack by an enemy platoon against an advanced position east-southeast of Kumsong in a one-hour-and-twenty-minute engagement which ended at 120210 (2:10 A.M., Dec. 12). Light contacts with small enemy groups were reported during the period from the remainder of the central front, as United Nations forces maintained positions and conducted normal patrol operations.
3. United Nations elements along the eastern front reported light contact with small enemy groups during the period as they maintained positions and patrolled.

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1951:

Battleship U.S.S. Wisconsin's guns were trained and fired at the enemy at the battle line. The flagship of Vice Admiral Harold M. Martin, United States Navy commander, Seventh Fleet, worked her secondary batteries through the night at shoreside troop targets. Poor visibility prevented an estimate of the damage.

Enemy troops, guns and supply provision points fronting United Nations ground positions on the east Korean coast were also subjected to naval gunfire from two destroyers and the heavy cruiser U.S.S. St. Paul. More than twelve tons of heavy 8-inch shells from the St. Paul destroyed six Red troop bunkers, destroyed seven buildings back of the lines, and silenced several artillery and mortar positions. Destroyers U.S.S. Shelton and U.S.S. Marshall added 5-inch gunfire to the coastal strike. Destroyer Marshall ranged northward to Kojo and back to the battle line, damaged two Red anti-aircraft guns along the way, and shot at shoreside troops with unassessed results.

Reports from heavy cruiser U.S.S. Rochester for Tuesday, 11 December action revealed the 17,000-ton line-of-battle cruiser had moved south from the Songjin area to strike at the Kojo coastal area south of Wonsan. In a surprise raid, Rochester during the morning laid eight tons of high explosives on enemy troops and defence work at Kojo. It was the fifteenth consecutive day the cruiser, in company with destroyer Higbee, had ranged the entire northeast Korean coastline to shoot up ground targets.

At Hungnam Wednesday, destroyer U.S.S. Collett interdicted road and rail targets and took shoreside bridges and buildings under 5-inch gunfire. The destroyer also shelled railroad cars ashore, with unassessed results.

United Nations naval units on the Korean West coast harassed and interdicted targets of opportunity from the waters of the Yellow Sea. Destroyers H.M.S. Constance (British), H.M.S. Sioux (Canadian) and H.R.M.S. Van Galen (Netherlands) fired under cover of darkness at troops, trucks, and supply build-up points on shore. South of Chinnampo, light cruiser U.S.S. Manchester and destroyer U.S.S. Erben worked their guns in company against Red troops and buildings.

Wednesday also marked the 300th day of constant attack from the sea of road and rail lines at Wonsan. As the east coast communications axis for the movement of troop supplies from the North to their battle line roughly eighty to ninety miles south, Wonsan has been shelled steadily by naval artillery from the air and sea to prevent easy replenishment of Red ammunition, food, and battle material for their troops in the east. The arterial coast line route from Wonsan north to Hungnam has also figured in the siege from the sea in the concerted effort on the part of all naval units and forces to interfere with the southward supply flow.

Air units on both Korean coasts replenished after intensive strikes for the past five days against Red targets from Chinnampo in the west to Wonsan and north to Songjin in the east.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 730, COVERING  
OPERATIONS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1951:

United Nations raiding party fights three enemy companies south of Panmunjom. United Nations unit yields advance position west of Yonchon. Two enemy probing attacks repulsed on central front, one on eastern front.

1. A United Nations tank-supported raiding party became engaged with an enemy company defending a hill position south of Panmunjom at 8 A.M., partially surrounding the enemy. Hand-to-hand combat developed. Two additional enemy companies joined the fighting, one at 2:30 P.M. and the other fifteen minutes later. The United Nations raiding party withdrew at 4:30 P.M., reporting an estimated fifty-one enemy killed in the engagement. West of Yonchon a United Nations unit withdrew from an advance position following a one-hour-and-twenty-minute probing attack ending at 10 P.M.

2. Patrol engagements with enemy units up to two platoons in strength developed along the central front, one by an enemy platoon in a brief engagement at 1.30 P.M. at an advance position southwest of Kumsong, the other by two enemy platoons in a one-hour-and-twenty-minute engagement which ended at 2:10 A.M. east-southeast of Kumsong. Elsewhere along the central front, United Nations elements reported light to moderate contact with enemy groups up to a company in strength as they maintained positions and patrolled.

3. United Nations units west of the Mundong Valley repulsed a light probing attack by eighteen enemy after a two-hour engagement ending at 10:25 P.M. United Nations elements along the remainder of the eastern front reported light contact with small enemy groups as they continued to maintain positions and patrol.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,096,  
FOR THE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS ENDED 6 A.M.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1951 (4 P.M.  
WEDNESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

In Korea yesterday (Wednesday) ground elements of the United Nations Command continued to adjust and maintain their positions and operate patrols. A limited-objective attack by our forces was met with considerable enemy opposition on the western front. Elsewhere along the line, patrols reported only minor enemy contacts. A probe at our lines by an estimated enemy platoon in the west-central sector was repulsed by our forces.

Enemy rail traffic was hard hit by our land-based fighter-bombers and light bombers by day and night. Marshalling yards on the trans-peninsular rail route were put under attack by our night-flying medium bombers at Sunchon and Saemdong. Transport cargo planes continued their activities in the Korean airlift.

Enemy troops, guns and supply points on the east Korean coast were subjected to naval gunfire from surface vessels of the United Nations Command Fleet. The area south of Wonsan and the Kojo region also were blasted by heavy naval guns. At Hungnam, road and rail targets, enemy held bridges and buildings were shelled. On the Korean west coast, troops, trucks and supply areas in enemy held territories were fired upon by elements of our fleet.