



GENERAL

S/2455
31 December 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Dual Distribution

NOTE DATED 26 DECEMBER 1951 FROM THE ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FOUR COMMUNIQUEES ISSUED BY THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA

Paris, 26 December 1951

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

Eighth Army communique 739, for the twelve-hour period ended noon Monday, December 17, 1951

Summary of naval operations covering the twenty-four-hour period ended midnight Monday, December 17, 1951.

Far East Air Forces Operational Summary 541, for operations Monday, December 17, 1951

General Headquarters communique, 1,101, for the twenty-four hours ended 6:00 A.M., Tuesday, December 18, 1951 (4:00 P.M., Monday, Eastern standard time)

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 739, FOR THE TWELVE-HOUR PERIOD
ENDED NOON MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1951

A United Nations raiding party fights one-hour-and-forty-five-minute engagement northwest of Korangpo. Light enemy probing attacks repulsed west of Chorwon, southwest of Kumsong and west of Mundung valley.

1. A United Nations raiding party fought a one-hour-and-forty-five minute engagement ending at 10:15 A.M. Tuesday against three enemy groups northwest of Korangpo, whose strength totalled an estimated enemy company. Two of the groups were dispersed before the United Nations raiding party disengaged and returned to its base. West of Chorwon, other United Nations elements repulsed a light probing attack by two enemy squads in a five-minute engagement ending at 2 A.M. Monday, with the United Nations unit using artillery to aid in dispersing the enemy. Light contact with small enemy groups was reported during the period from other points along the western Korean battlefield as United Nations forces in that sector maintained positions and patrolled.

2. United Nations units southwest of Kumsong repulsed a squad-sized enemy probe in a thirty-minute engagement ending at 1:40 A.M. Monday. Elsewhere along the central front, United Nations units reported light contact with small enemy groups during the period as they maintained positions and patrolled.

3. United Nations elements west of the Mundung valley repulsed a light probing attack by two enemy squads after a thirty-minute engagement ending at 6 A.M. Monday in the only significant activity reported during the period from the eastern front, as United Nations forces in that sector maintained positions and conducted normal patrol operations.

SUMMARY OF NAVAL OPERATIONS COVERING THE TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR
PERIOD ENDED MIDNIGHT MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1951

Naval guns struck at Red targets nearly 250 miles north of the battle line on Korea's east coast yesterday.

During the evening of 16-17 December, a destroyer striking force moved north from Songjin in the hours of darkness to shell targets of opportunity at Chongjin, close to the Manchurian border. The destroyer Swenson, destroyer-minesweeper Endicott and New Zealand patrol frigate Hawea then laid interdiction fire once more on the Communist port of Songjin. Supply trains, vehicles, assembly areas and lights ashore were taken under fire. Darkness prevented damage assessment.

The battleship Wisconsin was in waters off the battle line near Kansong. Naval artillery support was provided United Nations troops on the line by the flagship of Seventh Fleet Commander, Vice Admiral Harold M. Martin, U.S.N., as well as by the destroyers Erben, Marshall and Twining. The Marshall reported seven houses and several buildings near the front destroyed and ten damaged. The Marshall's five-inch guns killed ten troops and caused secondary explosions in one salvo that started fires and permitted night observation. The destroyer Erben took Red troops near the front line under fire, shelled shoreside vehicular traffic.

Interdiction and harassment missions were fired at Wonsan by the destroyers Mansfield and Gregory. Area destruction assignments continued on a day and night basis, with boxcars, a gasoline dump, buildings and roadways methodically bombarded. The destroyers started large fires in a camp area during the night.

The light cruiser U.S.S. Manchester and destroyer Eversole fulfilled a special mission by shelling enemy small-boat concentrations in the Wonsan area. The destroyer U.S.S. Collett interdicted rail bridges, tunnels and rail trackage at Hungnam in day and night action. The Collett's guns scattered Red troops, ploughed up a portion of a marshalling yard and damaged fuel tank-stowage facilities at the feeder city that figures in importance in the Red supply net on the east coast.

First Marine Air Wing fliers cut Red rails in fourteen places, destroyed or damaged twenty-five vehicles, and damaged roadbeds and buildings during the day's operations.

Fast Carrier Task Force 77 planes from the decks of U.S.S. Antietam and U.S.S. Valley Forge swept a wide area in east-central Korea from Wonsan to Tanshon. They destroyed or damaged four highway and railway bridges, shot up fourteen boxcars bearing Red supplies, and claimed at least five railroad cars during a half-day's operation. Eight hecklers were launched from the flattops after sundown. They attacked Red truck traffic over a wide area with unobserved results.

FAR EAST AIR FORCES OPERATIONAL SUMMARY 541, FOR
OPERATIONS MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1951:

The Communists' badly battered supply system in North Korea was given another lambasting by United States Air Force warplanes Monday, as Far East Air Forces aircraft mounted 730 sorties. Of the Far East Air Forces sorties, 590 were flown by Fifth Air Force and attached South African, Australian, ROK (Republic of Korea) and land-based Marine pilots.

Fighter-bombers ranged the main rail line between Pyongyang and Sariwon, and tracks leading into Wonsan, to score multiple rail cuts. Near Kojo, on the east coast, a group of small boats was attacked, with twenty destroyed. Other rail cuts were effected between Sukchon and Pyongyang.

The fighter-bombers diverted part of their effort to close air support immediately behind enemy frontline positions. Southwest of Ardo, F-84 Thunderjets inflicted approximately twenty-five troop casualties. A heavy self-propelled gun was knocked out and ten troop casualties inflicted southeast of Sibyon.

Approximately eighty-five buildings were left burning after Thunderjets attacked a troop and supply area near Pyongyang. The target was hit with machine-gun fire and flaming napalm.

F-51 Mustangs teamed with Marine F4U's to destroy four field pieces and damage six, and knock out two anti-aircraft positions and a self-propelled gun. F-80 Shooting Stars scored rail cuts, knocked out a rail bridge and damaged two others south of Pyongyang.

The total score for the period included 225 supply buildings destroyed or damaged, fifty-five rail cuts, 130 rail cars destroyed or damaged, five locomotives knocked out and three damaged, and forty troop casualties inflicted.

F-86 Sabre jet pilots damaged two enemy MIG-15 fighters in a twenty-five-minute battle over Sinanju. The encounter involved twenty Sabre jets and approximately fifteen MIG-15's of approximately 190 sighted. The Sabre jets suffered no damage.

Last night, B-29 Superforts of the Far East Air Forces Bomber Command again hit the Communist rail system in Northwest Korea. Seven of the medium bombers used radar-aiming methods to drop seventy tons of 500-pound high explosives on the Sinanju west bypass bridge. No enemy flak was encountered and enemy fighters were sighted, but did not attack. All of the bombers returned safely. One B-29 attacked a steel mill at Kyomipo and five others flew in close support of United Nations front-line forces, dropping 500-pound air-bursting bombs.

Light bombers and Marine aircraft last night flew ninety-five sorties. Pilots reported a moderately light sighting of enemy highway traffic, with seventy vehicles destroyed and five damaged. They also destroyed two locomotives and damaged four, knocked out thirty rail cars and damaged twenty-five.

/Cargo-Transports

Cargo-Transports of the Far East Air Forces 315th Air Division yesterday flew 135 sorties and airlifted 570 tons of supplies and passengers in support of United Nations operations in Korea.

One F-4U Corsair yesterday was reported lost to enemy action.

/GENERAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,101, FOR THE TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS ENDED 6:00 A.M., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1951
(4:00 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

United Nations Command ground forces in Korea yesterday kept busy in patrol activity all along the front. Minor contacts with the enemy were made in several locales, and several small enemy probing attacks against our lines were repulsed during the period.

Elements of the United Nations Command naval forces moved north from Songjin to strike hard at targets of opportunity at Chongjin. Interdiction and harassment missions were fired at Wonsan in 'round-the-clock' action yesterday, with box cars, a gasoline dump, buildings and roadways among the targets. At Hungnam the Navy continued day and night action, pounding the city's marshalling yard and storage areas. Near Kansong naval artillery support was given to our front-line troops. Carrier-based fliers cut enemy rail lines, damaged roadbeds and buildings and shot up bridges, ox-carts and other rolling stock during their day's operations.

Our land-based aircraft yesterday pressed the air attacks on enemy rail routes, supply buildings, rolling stock and vehicular traffic, as well as giving close air support to our fighting men on the front lines. Medium bombers during the night attacked the Sijanju west bypass rail bridge, and others flew close-air-support sorties. During air engagements, damage was registered on enemy fighter aircraft. Cargo transports continued the Korean airlift in logistical support of United Nations Command operations.

