



GENERAL

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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 communiques issued by the Headquarters of the United Nations Command, as indicated below:

Eighth Army Communique 741, covering the twelve hours up to noon  
Tuesday, December 18, 1951

Far East Naval Headquarters summary for Tuesday, December 18, 1951

Eighth Army communique 742, for Tuesday's action, December 18, 1951

General Headquarters communique, 1,102, for the twenty-four hours  
ended 6:00 A.M., Wednesday, December 19, 1951 (4:00 P.M., Tuesday,  
Eastern standard time)

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 741, COVERING THE TWELVE HOURS  
UP TO NOON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1951:

No significant enemy contact reported from eastern and western fronts. Enemy unsuccessfully probed Turkish advanced position. Several patrol contacts, including a six-hour-and-ten-minute engagement, developed along central front.

1. No significant enemy contact was reported during the period from the western Korean battlefield, as United Nations forces along that sector continued to maintain positions and conduct normal patrol operations.
2. Elements of the Turkish Brigade repulsed two probing attacks against an advanced position south of Pyonggang, the first by an enemy platoon between 8:50 P.M. and 9:15 P.M. Monday, and the second by an undetermined number of enemy after a half-hour engagement ending at 2 A.M. Tuesday. Several patrol contacts, including a six-hour-and-ten-minute engagement with two enemy platoons southwest of Kumsong, developed along the remainder of the central front during the period, as United Nations forces maintained positions and patrolled.
3. No significant enemy contact was reported during the period from the eastern front, as United Nations elements continued to maintain positions and patrol.

FAR EAST NAVAL HEADQUARTERS SUMMARY  
FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1951

At least 100 Red troops were killed and probably as many injured by Navy surface gunfire yesterday, as big and little guns of blockade and bombardment ships maintained the "steel curtain" around the Korean peninsula.

Heavy engagements from seaward occurred at the Kansong battle line on the east coast. The battleship Wisconsin's 16-inch guns killed an estimated forty Red troops in bunkers and shelters fronting United Nations lines in the east. With ground and air-support help, the Wisconsin laid heavy bombardment on enemy bivouacs, destroyed three trenchworks and three bunkers, and damaged seven others with direct hits. The destroyer U.S.S. Erben added ninety rounds of 5-inch gunfire to the destruction. The destroyer U.S.S. Marshall worked over shore targets back of Red lines at Kojo, killed an estimated fifteen troops, destroyed two supply stacks and damaged numerous trenches and bunkers. The big ships also spoke out at the enemy near Chinnampo.

The light cruiser U.S.S. Manchester was straddled by Red shore guns in western coastal waters after moving from Korea's east coast during the day. The Manchester was joined in speedy counter-battery fire by the British light cruiser H.M.S. Ceylon. The combined firepower of the two warships quickly silenced the Red guns. No damage was sustained by the Manchester.

Other United Nations fighting ships in the west included the Australian destroyer H.M.A.S. Tobruk, British destroyer H.M.S. Constance and British patrol frigate H.M.S. Alacrity. With the United States destroyer Eversol, the naval units bombarded mortar positions within Red lines in the Chinnampo area, and fired harassment and interdiction missions at dug-in troops.

The British patrol frigate Mounts Bay navigated the Han River to destroy four grain-storage deposits, numerous buildings, and to engage shoreside troops with gunfire that started fires in Red positions north of the waterway.

The Colombian patrol frigate Almirante Padilla scored eighteen hits on trenches and buildings and twelve hits on Red gun positions at Wonsan. United States destroyers Gregory and Mansfield combined to lay area-destruction fire on selected target quadrants. Mansfield's shooting was credited with killing forty troops, knocking out a Red gun and damaging five to ten sampans. The U.S.S. Gregory started large fires in buildings ashore to prove that the Reds continue to need Wonsan as a north-south supply relay key city.

The destroyer U.S.S. Swenson caught a Red supply train under her guns, exploded the locomotive and burned out nine cars on the rail system that parallels the east coast of Songjin. At Hungnam, the destroyer U.S.S. Collett conducted night-firing missions against rail bridges, tunnels and tracks with damage results unassessed due to darkness.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 742, FOR TUESDAY'S  
ACTION, DECEMBER 18, 1951:

United Nations forces repulsed an attack by enemy battalions northwest of Chorwon. Platoon-size enemy patrols were turned back northwest and north of Chorwon. Two light enemy probes and several patrol contacts developed along the central front.

1. United Nations units northwest of Chorwon repulsed an enemy attack in battalion strength which began at 5:30 P.M., preceded by an artillery concentration and supported by direct fire weapons of undetermined type. United Nations forces employed artillery in warding off the attack. By 9:45 P.M., enemy strength had increased to one company. Action continued sporadic at the close of the period. North-northwest of Chorwon, other United Nations units turned back an attack by an enemy platoon after a one-hour-and-thirty-five-minute engagement ending at 7:40 P.M. North of Chorwon, a probing attack by an enemy platoon was repulsed at 11:20 P.M. after a one-hour-and-fifteen-minute fight.

No significant activity developed along the remainder of the western front as United Nations forces continued to maintain positions and patrol.

2. Elements of the Turkish Brigade repulsed a probing attack by an undetermined number of enemy against an advance position south of Pyonggang after a half-hour engagement ending at 2 A.M. Late in the previous period an enemy platoon had unsuccessfully probed the same position. Southwest of Kumsong other United Nations units repulsed a light probing attack by an enemy squad after a one-hour engagement ending at 8:55 P.M.

Several patrol clashes, including a six-hour-and-ten-minute engagement with two enemy platoons southwest of Kumsong were reported during the period from the remainder of the central front as United Nations forces maintained positions and patrolled.

3. Only light contact with small enemy groups was reported during the period from the eastern front as United Nations elements in that sector maintained positions and conducted normal patrol operations.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,102, FOR  
THE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS ENDED 6:00 A.M.,  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1951 (4:00 P.M.,  
TUESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

In Korea yesterday, United Nations Command ground forces sent out numerous patrols which made contacts with the enemy. In the western sector, friendly elements were placed under artillery and mortar fire from the enemy, but counter-battery fire by our units quickly silenced the hostile guns. Also in the western sector, an estimated enemy battalion supported by artillery attacked our lines, but was beaten back until the attack had dwindled to little more than sporadic fire and finally ceased completely. At the close of this period four other enemy probing attacks directed at our lines failed.

In the air war, planes of the United Nations Command air forces continued to attack enemy supply routes and ground installations throughout Northern Korea. Fighter-bombers scored multiple rail cuts and fired enemy-held supply buildings. Three air battles between fighter craft took place. During the night, our medium bombers struck the Sunchon south rail bypass bridge, supply storage areas at Hungnam, and teamed with light bombers in flying close-support missions for friendly front-line troops.

Light bombers scored hits on enemy vehicular traffic during the night. Cargo-transport planes yesterday continued the Japan-Korea airlift in logistical support of United Nations operations.

Enemy troops felt the effect of big guns of the United Nations Command surface vessels yesterday. Troops, gun positions, bunkers, supply areas and trenches at the Kansong battle line on the east coast, back of the enemy at Kajo, near Chinnampo, in the Han River area, and at Wonsan all were taken under fire. At Chinnampo, enemy shore batteries that opened up on our craft were quickly silenced by counter-battery fire. An enemy supply train was hit at Songjin, and at Hungnam, rail bridges, tracks and tunnels were worked over by accurate naval gunfire.

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