



GENERAL

S/2457

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 SIX 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:

Far East Air Forces summary of operations Tuesday,
December 18, 1951

Eighth Army communique 743, for action up to noon
Wednesday, December 19, 1951

United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations
Wednesday, December 19, 1951

Far East Air Forces summary of operations Wednesday,
December 19, 1951

Eighth Army communique 744, for operations Wednesday,
December 19, 1951

General Headquarters communique 1,103, for the twenty-four hours
ended 6:00 A.M., Thursday, December 20, 1951 (4:00 P.M.,
Wednesday, Eastern standard time)

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1951:

United States Air Force warplanes effectively attacked Communist front-line positions and supply routes Tuesday as Far East Air Forces aircraft mounted 950 sorties.

Of the Far East Air Forces sorties, 735 were flown by Fifth Air Force and attached Australian, South African, Republic of Korea and land-based Marine pilots.

Fighter-bombers destroyed over twenty gun positions and fired supply areas in immediate air support of friendly United Nations forces along the battle line. Bunkers were blasted and troop casualties inflicted.

Attacking the enemy's main supply routes in northwest Korea, F-84 Thunderjets scored fifteen rail cuts south of Sinanju and others south of Wonsan, F-51 Mustangs flown by Republic of Korea pilots scored rail cuts in the Wonsan area, while F-80 Shooting Stars damaged a rail bridge east of Pyongyang and cut rails south of that supply centre. Rail lines were also blasted north of Hwangju.

Total score for the period included over 100 enemy-held supply buildings destroyed or damaged, ninety-five rail cuts, over eighty rail cars destroyed or damaged, two locomotives destroyed and four others damaged and over forty troops casualties inflicted.

During the day F-86 Sabre jets encountered enemy MIG-15 jet fighters on three occasions without damage to either side. An F-86 pilot was forced to bail out while en route to his home base. He was picked up uninjured.

B-29 Superforts of Far East Air Forces Bomber Command Tuesday night struck again at the Communist supply complex in northwest Korea. Eight of the medium bombers employed radar-aiming technique to blast the Sunchon South by-pass rail bridge with eighty tons of 500-pound high explosives. They encountered light flak but no fighters. All returned safely.

Two other Superforts flew in close air support of United Nations front-line forces, dropping 500-pound air-bursting bombs on enemy troop concentrations and supply areas.

One medium bomber attacked the supply area at Hungnam.

Tuesday night light bombers and Marine fighters flew seventy-five sorties, to further interrupt the enemy's attempt to move supplies to Communist forces at the front. Pilots reported moderately heavy sighting of highway traffic, with sixty-five vehicles destroyed. Night strikes also damaged two locomotives, destroyed eight rail cars and damaged eight others.

Cargo transports of Far East Air Forces 315th Air Division flew 205 sorties, airlifting 825 tons of supplies and personnel in logistical support of United Nations operations in Korea.

In addition to the F-86, an F-80 and a Marine F7F and F4U were reported lost to enemy ground fire. The Marine pilots were rescued.

/EIGHTH ARMY

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 743, FOR ACTION UP TO NOON
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1951:

United Nations forces repulse attacks by enemy battalion northwest of Chorwon. Enemy platoon unsuccessfully attacks United Nations advance position northwest of Yonchon. Twenty-enemy infiltrators dispersed west of Mundung Valley.

1. United Nations units northwest of Chorwon at 190640 (6:40 A.M., Dec. 19) repulsed an enemy attack which began in the previous period. The attack was launched in battalion strength at 181750. Enemy strength was estimated as a company at 182145 and as a platoon at 190110. United Nations forces employed artillery to aid in repulsing the enemy advance. The enemy began to withdraw at 190400 and disengaged completely at 190640. United Nations elements at an advance position northwest of Yonchon repulsed an attack by an enemy platoon in a thirty-five-minute engagement ended at 190105. Light contact with enemy units up to a company in strength was reported from other points along the western front, as United Nations forces in that sector continued to maintain positions and patrol.
2. Light engagements with enemy units up to a company in strength were reported during the period from the central front, as United Nations units maintained positions and patrolled.
3. United Nations units west of the Mundung Valley at 190200 dispersed twenty enemy who had infiltrated United Nations lines an hour and twenty minutes earlier in the only significant activity reported during the period from the eastern front, as United Nations forces continued to maintain positions and conduct normal patrol operations.

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF
OPERATIONS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1951:

Battleship U.S.S. Wisconsin bombarded Red troops at the battle line Wednesday with 16-inch salvos that destroyed defensive bunkers, gun positions, and caused extensive casualties among Communist troops. Senator Homer Ferguson, Republican of Michigan, was an interested observer.

As guest of Vice Admiral Harold M. Martin, U.S.N., commander of the Navy's Seventh Fleet in Far East waters, Senator Ferguson watched as the main battery of the superdreadnaught lofted more than seventy one-ton missiles as far as sixteen miles inland to blow up trenchworks and scatter their defenders. The Wisconsin fired illuminating shells for United Nations troops Tuesday night to help repulse an enemy attack on friendly lines. Red troops suffered heavily as United Nations mortar and small arms fire cut them down in the light of the battlewagon's starshells.

Destroyers U.S.S. Erben and Twining added 5-inch gunfire to harass and interdict Red troop and supply targets immediately fronting United Nations lines. Erben's guns destroyed four supply piles, a mortar position, a tank trap, two bunkers and killed an estimated twenty-two Red troops.

Destroyer Marshall shelled troops at the front after gunning a troop concentration of 100 men, an anti-aircraft gun position, an ammunition depot, and a 122-mm. coastal gun north of the ground contact line at Kojo.

In far northern waters a three-ship interdiction and bombardment patrol cut rail lines and damaged a locomotive at Songjin. New Zealand patrol frigate Hawea, destroyer U.S.S. Swenson and destroyer-minesweeper Endicott damaged buildings and road beds with 5-inch gunfire. Marine Corps fliers from U.S.S. Badoeng Strait on the west coast swept the coastal area south of Chinnampo, destroyed numerous buildings and attacked Red troops and gun positions. Suspected supply buildings were primary targets for the air strikes with a total of sixty-two destroyed or damaged. Leatherneck machine-guns killed an estimated thirty-five Red troops in the process.

Cruiser Manchester and destroyer Eversole shelled Red targets in the Chinnampo area, killed forty Red troops and destroyed a 105-mm. gun. H.M.S. Constance and Alacrity and Australian destroyer Tobruk also harassed enemy positions on the shore in the same area.

Destroyer Collett rescued a downed airman at Hungnam, as interdiction fire missions were continued on a routine basis there and at Wonsan.

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1951

One of the largest United States Air Force B-29 Superfort strikes against a single enemy target since the medium bombers intensified their night operations occurred Wednesday night in Northwest Korea. Lowering weather limited air operations during the day as Far East Air Forces planes Wednesday flew 510 sorties against the enemy.

Ten B-29 medium bombers struck at the Chongju rail marshalling yards, employing radar techniques to drop approximately 100 tons of high explosive bombs. Chongju is a key railroad north of the Chougchong River where Communist supply trains from Sinuiju and Manchurian points are staged and made up for attempted delivery to various battle line areas farther south. Once south of Sinanju, enemy supply trains are currently being forced, by concentrated interdiction strikes, to proceed southward in a creeping, alternate shuttle system with trucks and other vehicles.

Flak was encountered over Chongju but all the Superforts returned safely to their Okinawa bases. Two other B-29's flew in close air support of the United Nations front line forces Wednesday night, dropping quarter-ton air-bursting bombs.

The variable weather conditions over most of Korea did not halt Fifth Air Force's interdiction programme as Fifth pilots and those of the attached South African, Marine and R.O.K. Air Forces flew 310 sorties of the Far East Air Forces total.

The already battered Pyongyang rail complex was subjected to further blows by the Fighter-bombers and twenty-eight more rail cuts were inflicted in the area.

A like number of rail cuts were made at other choke points throughout Northwest Korea. Two locomotives and sixteen rail cars were destroyed or damaged.

A fuel dump was fired near Sunan and a stack of fuel drums, estimated to be a half mile in length, was strafed and set afire.

Other fighters and light bombers on armed reconnaissance sorties destroyed 105 enemy vehicles and inflicted fifty troop casualties. Twenty-nine enemy-held buildings were attacked.

No air-to-air action was reported during the period due to weather conditions over Northwest Korea.

B-26 light bombers, flying in daylight close air support of United Nations ground forces, attacked enemy troops and destroyed bunkers and two artillery pieces.

/During

During the hours of darkness for the period ended midnight Wednesday, intruder B-26's and Marine planes ranged enemy supply highways, successfully attacking vehicles and supply buildings. They also damaged one highway bridge.

One of the highest tonnage totals in six months was air-lifted by air transports of 315th Air Division (Combat Cargo) in support of United Nations forces in Korea. They delivered 830 tons including 300 tons of motor gas following an emergency request from ground units due to a broken pipeline.

According to preliminary reports B-26 light bombers last night sighted a comparatively low number of enemy vehicles and destroyed eighty of them. One locomotive was destroyed and three rail cars damaged by the low-flying bombers.

They also flew close air support teaming up with the Superforts over the enemy's front line areas.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 744, FOR OPERATIONS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1951:

Enemy strength dwindles; battalion attack over, northwest of Chorwon. Enemy unsuccessfully probed three positions on western front. Twenty infiltrators dispersed, two enemy probes repulsed west of Mundung valley.

1. United Nations units northwest of Chorwon at 6:40 A.M. repulsed an attack launched by an enemy battalion at 6:50 P.M. Tuesday. Enemy strength had dwindled to an estimated company at 9:45 P.M. Tuesday and to a platoon at 1 A.M. Wednesday as United Nations forces employed artillery to aid in dispersing the enemy. At other points northwest of Chorwon, United Nations elements repulsed one probe by an enemy platoon after a twenty-minute engagement ended at 10:40 P.M. and another by two enemy squads after a ten-minute engagement ended at 10:50 P.M. United Nations units at an advanced position northwest of Yonchon repulsed an attack by an enemy platoon in a thirty-five minute engagement ended at 1:05 A.M. No significant activity was reported from the remainder of the Western Korean battle front during the period, as United Nations forces continued to maintain positions and patrol.

2. Light engagements with enemy units up to a platoon in strength were reported during the period from the central front, as United Nations units maintained positions and patrolled.

3. United Nations units west of Mundung Valley at 2 A.M. dispersed twenty enemy who had infiltrated United Nations lines an hour and twenty minutes earlier. Other United Nations units in the same area repulsed two minor probes during the period, one by nine enemy after a ten-minute engagement ended at 7:25 P.M. and the other by an enemy platoon after a thirty-five minute engagement ended at 8:30 P.M. Only light contact with small enemy groups was reported from the remainder of the eastern front as United Nations forces maintained positions and conducted normal patrol operations.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,103, FOR THE
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS ENDED 6:00 A.M, THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 20, 1951 (4:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME):

There was little change in the conduct of activities along the front in the Korean battle zone during the past twenty-four hours. United Nations Command ground elements continued to patrol, maintain and adjust their positions. Minor contacts with the enemy were made in various sectors of the front. Four small enemy probes by units up to a platoon in strength were repulsed as they attempted to breach our lines.

Surface elements of the United Nations Command naval forces continued interdiction fire missions at Hungnam and Wonsan. Enemy troops and gun positions around Chinnampo were subjected to naval gunfire. Bunkers, gun positions and enemy troops were all taken under fire at the battleline and in far northern waters at Songjin rail lines were cut and a locomotive damaged. Fliers of the Fleet Air Wing attacked enemy troops and gun positions and hit suspected supply buildings in sweeps along the west coast of Chinnampo.

During night operations our land-based medium bombers directed an attack on the enemy railroad marshalling yards at Chongju. They encountered enemy flek but all returned safely. Other medium bombers hit enemy frontline troops with air-bursting bombs while light bombers, also working under cover of darkness, shot up enemy motor supply vehicles.

