

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



GENERAL

S/2169
24 May 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE DATED 23 MAY 1951 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FIVE COMMUNIQUE
ISSUED BY THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
COMMAND IN KOREA

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

United States Eighth Army communique 382, timed 9:00 A.M., Tuesday,
May 22, 1951 (7:00 P.M., Eastern daylight time, Monday)

Air operational summary 332, timed 12:15 P.M., Tuesday, May 22, 1951
(9:15 P.M., Eastern daylight time, Monday)

Eighth Army communique 383, issued at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 22, 1951
(5:00 A.M., Eastern daylight time, Tuesday)

Eight Army communique 384, timed 9:00 A.M., Wednesday, May 23, 1951
(7:00 P.M., Eastern daylight time, Tuesday)

General Headquarters communique 892, issued at 9:45 A.M., Wednesday,
May 23, 1951 (7:45 P.M., Eastern daylight time, Tuesday)

UNITED STATES EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 832, TIMED 9:00 A.M.,
TUESDAY (7:00 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Light to moderate enemy resistance reported on the western front as attacking United Nations forces reached the south bank of the Imjin River in the area north of Munsan. Decreasing resistance reported on the western central front as United States Army forces meet heavy determined enemy resistance in the area east-southeast of Changgong. Enemy attacks decreased in aggressiveness in the United States Second Division sector although enemy continued to exert offensive pressure across their front. Enemy in battalion-sized units continued to attack Republic of Korea forces in the areas northeast and east-northeast of Pungam and northeast and southwest of Soksa.

1. Republic of Korea forces advanced generally against light enemy resistance as far north as the south bank of the Imjin River in the area north of Munsan. An estimated enemy battalion in the area five miles south of Munsan initially offered stubborn resistance but began withdrawing at 11:00 A.M. United States Army forces advanced generally against light enemy resistance in the area north of Seoul registering advances of 7,000 yards during the day.

An estimated two enemy companies delayed the advance of friendly elements eight to nine miles north of Seoul. However, coordinated ground and artillery fire forced the enemy to withdraw at 4:00 P.M. Moderate to heavy enemy resistance was encountered by United Nations forces advancing northeast of Seoul, with stiffened resistance being reported in the area east-northeast of Seoul. Light to moderate enemy resistance was reported by advancing elements in the area west-southwest and southwest of Changgong with enemy artillery fire falling in the area southwest of Changgong.

A decrease in enemy resistance was reported in the area southeast of Changgong as enemy elements were reported withdrawing to the north. Republic of Korea forces reported making limited gains during the day.

A decrease in enemy resistance was also reported by other Republic of Korea units in the area east-southeast of Changgong as the enemy was observed withdrawing to the north. Heavy determined resistance was encountered by United States Army elements in the area west of Hongchon immediately south of the Hongchon River. Enemy contact in the area north and northwest of Hongchon was negligible as friendly units continued to patrol and adjust positions. Artillery was placed on an estimated enemy regiment observed in the area northwest of Hongchon with good results. Other large groups of enemy were engaged by artillery fire throughout the day.

3. In the United States Second Division area the enemy continued to exert offensive pressure across the division's front although a considerable decrease in aggressiveness of attack was noted. Several probing attacks were repulsed during the early morning hours while at 12:50 P.M., an estimated 300 enemy attacked friendly forces in the area east-southeast of Hange, with the engagement continuing until 5:00 P.M., at which time the enemy broke contact and withdrew. The enemy continued to aggressively attack Republic of Korea forces with battalion sized groups in the area northeast and east-northeast of Pungam as well as in the area northeast and southwest of Soksa. (ARM COMMUNIQUE 832)

AIR OPERATIONAL SUMMARY 332, TIMED AT 12:15 P.M., TUESDAY
(9:15 P.M., MONDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Relentless close aerial support of United Nations ground forces in Korea was continued around the clock yesterday by fighters as well as Superforts of the Far East Air Forces as the air arm mounted more than 800 sorties.

Twenty-one B-29 Superforts of the Nineteenth Bomb Group from Okinawa and the Ninety-eighth Bomb Group from Japan attacked Communist front-line troop concentrations on the central and east-central sectors with continual all-night bombardments last night.

The bombers hit the enemy with 840 pin-point radar-aimed 500-pound air-bursting bombs with accuracy almost effective as the visual daylight assaults.

The B-29 effort has been diverted recently from the interdiction campaign to working directly in close support with United Nations ground forces.

Fighters, fighter-bombers and light bombers of Fifth Air Force struck with almost constant attacks during the day against the Communist forces to aid in easing the pressure of the enemy offensive along the front areas in mounting about 540 sorties.

More than 110 close air-support sorties were flown by the tactical aircraft, the majority in the central and east-central fronts.

F-51 Mustangs of the Eighteenth Fighter-Bomber Wing and the South African Air Force severed railroad trackage in five places, three of the cuts being made on the key supply rail line between Keesong and Sarison in western Korea and through which the enemy has been transporting materiel and troops to his battlefront sectors. Three tunnels also were closed by the Mustangs on the same important railroad.

Pilots of the Fifth Air Force and attached South African Air Force, Republic of Korea and shore-based Marine aircraft reported about 750 casualties inflicted on the Communists. Other pilot claims for the day were destruction or damage to about 540 enemy-held buildings, approximately ninety vehicles, nearly sixty railroad cars, twenty-five pack animals, nine gun positions, six tunnels, four locomotives and four supply and ammunition dumps and two highway bridges.

Nine trains were sighted during operations last night. One of these, with a double-header locomotive, was under attack north of Sinanju and one of the engines was destroyed, while the other was damaged along with fifteen railroad cars. Most of the trains were observed on the rail line between Sinanju and Sinuiju.

Transports of the 315th Air Division (Combat Cargo) airlifted about 1,280 tons of supplies and ammunition as the unit's aircraft mounted more than 240 sorties to continue the resupply of forward bases and United Nations frontline forces. The transports carried about 750 rest and relaxation personnel during the day.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 383, ISSUED AT 7:00 P.M., TUESDAY
(5:00 A.M., TUESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Light enemy resistance is reported on the western and central Korean front as United Nations forces continue to attack. United States Second Division elements repulsed an early morning probing attack, inflicting heavy casualties. Moderate to heavy contact continues in the Soksa sector.

1. Republic of Korea forces advancing in the area north of Munsan and southeast of Munsan initially reported light enemy contact as of midday. United States Army elements north of Seoul made limited advances against light small-arms fire during the morning hours. Light enemy contact also prevailed in the area northeast of Seoul as United Nations forces continued to advance. United States Army elements in the area southwest of Changgong were engaged with an enemy battalion during the morning hours but reported the enemy showed signs of withdrawing at midday.

2. Light to no enemy contact was reported by Republic of Korea forces in the area south and southeast of Changgong during the morning. Heavy small-arms fire was reported by friendly elements southeast of Kapyong as United Nations forces continued to make limited advances. Little or no enemy contact was reported in the area south and southeast of Chunchon.

3. Elements of the United States Second Division received a probing attack by an estimated two enemy battalions during the early morning hours and with the aid of heavy artillery fire repulsed the attack with heavy enemy losses. During the morning hours patrols reported being in contact with scattered small groups of enemy immediately to the division front. United Nations forces were reported to be engaged with enemy units and receiving heavy small-arms and automatic-weapons fire in the areas west and southwest of Habae.

4. Light to heavy enemy contact continued in the Soksa sector as United Nations forces sought to contain the enemy forces operating in the sector. Light enemy contact was reported on the east coast.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 384, TIMED AT 9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY
(7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME)

Light enemy contact was reported on the western Korea front. Light scattered enemy resistance was encountered on the central front. United States Second Division repulsed an attack by an estimated 800 enemy in the Hangye area. Heavy enemy resistance was reported by patrolling and attacking United States Army forces in the Soksa area. Enemy pressure and resistance continued in the Habae area and in the area northeast and east-northeast of Soksa.

1. Enemy resistance in the area north-northeast of Munsan was negligible as friendly elements continued to advance. Ground and air observation indicated the enemy was continuing his withdrawal to the north and northwest. At 1:10 A.M., an enemy plane strafed friendly troops in the area one mile south of Munsan. Light enemy resistance was encountered by United States Army elements in the area north of Seoul as advances of 7,000 yards were registered during the day. Enemy mines impeded the friendly advance in the area ten to twelve miles north of Seoul.

Stubborn enemy resistance was encountered from an unknown number of enemy in the area west-northwest of Uijongbu at 2:30 P.M. Minor enemy resistance was encountered in the area northeast of Seoul as ground and air observation indicated a northward withdrawal of enemy forces.

2. Light scattered enemy resistance was reported in the area west and west-southwest of Changgong as United Nations forces continued to advance. At 8:49 P.M., an estimated two enemy companies attacked friendly elements in the area one mile northeast of Changgong. No enemy resistance was reported by Republic of Korea forces advancing to the Pukhan River in the area east-southeast of Changgong.

Enemy companies were engaged by friendly forces in the area east and northeast of Changgong during the day. No enemy contact was reported as other Republic of Korea forces advanced to the south bank of the Pukhan and Hongchon Rivers. Moderate enemy resistance was encountered from small enemy groups north of the Hongchon River during the day. Light enemy resistance was encountered in the area south of Chunchon.

3. The enemy launched several unsuccessful attacks against United States Second Division positions during the day, incurring heavy losses. One attack by an estimated 800 enemy in the area south of Hangye at 3:15 A.M., was repulsed and dispersed at 7:00 A.M. Patrols continued to engage enemy forces forward of friendly positions.

Heavy enemy resistance was reported by patrolling and attacking United States Army elements as they fought to prevent further exploitation of the enemy salient in the Soksa area. Enemy forces continued to exert pressure and offered heavy resistance with company and battalion units in the Habae area. Heavy enemy pressure continued in the area northeast and east-northeast of Soksa.

/GENERAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 892, ISSUED AT 9:45 A.M., WEDNESDAY
(7:45 P.M., EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME, TUESDAY)

Strong enemy attacks were made against United Nations units in the eastern sector Tuesday as friendly forces executed limited withdrawals to more favorable positions.

In the western, west-central and east-central sectors, United Nations units advanced from two to four miles against light to moderate resistance.

Carrier-based aircraft continued close support of friendly ground units yesterday, inflicting severe casualties on the enemy and damaging supply and transportation facilities along all sectors of the front. Naval surface units bombarded troop concentrations, supply dumps and supply routes on the east coast from Chongjin to Yangyang.

Land-based fighter-bombers supported United Nations ground forces with attacks on enemy troop concentrations, inflicting many casualties. Light and medium bombers flew night missions attacking enemy troop positions, supply build-ups and airfields in North Korea.