UNITED NATIONS





GENERAL

FAR EAST AIR

S/2291

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NOTE DATED 10 AUGUST 1951 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FOUR COMMUNIQUES ISSUED BY THE HEADQUARTEES 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:

Far East Air Fordes communique 411, covering Thursday, August 9, 1951, operations

Summary Far East naval operations for Thursday, August 9, 1951.

General Headquarters communique 971, for twenty-four hour period ended at 6:00 A.M., Friday, August 10, 1951 (4:00 P.M., Thursday, Eastern _______daylight time)

Eighth Army communique 539, issued at 10:00 A.M., Friday, August 10, 1951 (8:00 P.M., Thursday, Eastern daylight time)

51-15762

FAR EAST AIR FORCES COMMUNIQUE 411, COVERING THURSDAY OPERATIONS

A formation of twenty-four enemy MIG-15 jet fighters was intercepted and turned back north toward the Yalu River Thursday afternoon by Far East Air Forces F-86 Sabre jets patrolling northwest Korea. The action occurred while B-29 Superforts were attacking enemy marshalling yards at Sinanju and Opa, farther south. None of the medium bombers was brought under attack by enemy aircraft.

This action was one of the three encounters between enemy and friendly jets in the "MIG-alley" area south of the Yalu River yesterday. There was no friendly losses and the Far East Air Forces planes claimed no losses inflicted on the enemy.

Four F-80 Shooting Star jets were attacked by eight MIG's after they had bombed a bridge at Chongju in northwest Korea. The Shooting Stars counterattacked and there were several firing passes. A single F-80 reconnaissance jet was attacked by four MIG's. It was slightly damaged but returned safely to its base.

These encounters were the first since July 29 between friendly and hostile jet planes.

They occurred on a day in which Far East Air Forces planes flew 475 sorties in support of United Nations forces in Korea in weather which was poor in the morning but considerably improved in the afternoon.

The improved weather made possible the visual bombing of two important enemy marshalling yards in western Korea by fifteen Okinawa-based Superforts of the Far East Air Forces Bomber Command. More than two thousand 100-pound missiles were showered on the yards. Many direct hits were observed. The medium bombers were escorted by Australian Meteor jets. Considerable flak was experienced and some damage was sustained but all Superforts returned safely to Okinawa.

Fifth Air Force and attached Australian, South African and shore-based Marine planes flew almost 300 sorties.

F-80 Shooting Star jets attacked enemy troops concentrations in the vicinity of Namdisong in morthwest Korea. They also knocked out six gun positions near Simanju and damaged eight rail cars and cut rail lines near Kumu. Successful attacks were made on gun positions near Opa and bridges and supply buildings in the vicinity of Kangdong. Gun positions were hit near the Sariwon airfield.

F-84 Thunderjets cut rail lines, damaged bridges, and hit boxcars in the Songchon area of west central Korea.

F-51 Mustangs attacked bridges, cut roads and afforded close support to friendly troops in the central and eastern sectors.

Marines hit supply centers south of Wonsen on the east coast, successfully attacked troop shelters and destroyed or damaged three bridges.

/Fifth Air Force

Fifth Air Force and attached pilots reported destroying or damaging a total of seven gun positions, 125 energy supply and storage buildings, five rail cars, seventy vehicles, eighteen bridges and eight sections of railroad tracks.

Last night more than Ainety sorties of B-26-light bombers and Marine aircraf sighted approximately 2,400 enemy motor vehicles, an unusually large movement. Many of them were successfully attacked. A railroad train was hit and badly damaged south of Wonsen. Supply buildings at Sunchon were bombed and the airfiel at Sunan was cratered. Air bursting bombs were dropped on enemy frontline troops An enemy jet-type aircraft unsuccessfully attacked a B+26 near Sunan.

More than 550 tens of supplies and equipment was airlifted from Japan to Korea by 160 sorties of 315th Air Division (combat cargo) planes.

No friendly planes were lost to enemy action yesterday.

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SUMMARY FAR EAST NAVAL OPERATIONS FOR THURSDAY

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United Nations ships continued devastating shore bombardments off both coasts of North Korea Thursday.

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On the wast coast in the Haeju area the British light cruiser H.M.S. Kenya was busy working over road junctions and enemy troop concentrations, firing more than 100 rounds from her six-inch guns. The New Zealand patrol frigate H.M.N.Z.S. Rotoiti was still firing on troop positions in the Yonan area.

On the east coast the bombardments of Wonsan, Songjin and Chongjin were maintained for another day.

At Wonsan ships of a United States naval task element trained their guns at important troop and resupply targets. Eurling hundreds of rounds of high explosive at the enemy were the destroyers U.S.S. Uhlaman and U.S.S. Hopewell and destroyer escort U.S.S. Moore. All ships reported numerous hits and the Moore was accredited with silencing Communist shore batteries which were firing on the United States ships. The ships suffered no damage.

Farther north, in the Songjin-Chongjin area, the naval siege was carried on by the destroyer minesweeper U.S.S. Thompson, destroyer escort U.S.S. Seiverling and patrol frigate U.S.S. Tacoma. Direct hits were scored on railroads and highways and many fires were started. The Tacoma took a couple of bridge repair crews under fire and dispersed them both.

In air operations Thursday marine fliers from the U.S.S. Sicily off the west coast struck enemy troop positions near Yonan and supply buildings, an enemy command post, two gun positions and both approaches to a highway bridge.

Navy pilots from the east coast cerriers U.S.S. Frinceton and U.S.S. Boxer also added another day of striking the enemy. Weather closed out close air-support missions, but that meant a double dose for coastal supply route targets and supply dumps. Incomplete results of the day's strikes showed six trucks and four railroad cars destroyed in the Yangdok area, a railroad and highway bridge put out of use in the Hungnam area, and a supply dump tunnel near Pyong closed.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMINIQUE 971 FOR TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR PERIOD ENDED AT 6:00 A.M., FRIDAY (4:00 P.M. EASTERN DAYLICHT TIME, THURSDAY)

In Korea yesterday the enemy launched several company-size counter-attacks against United Nations frontline units in the central and east-central sectors, while elsewhere along the front friendly patrols encountered light to moderate resistance.

In the air over North Korea yesterday, land-based jet fighters engaged several flights of enemy MIC-15 aircraft, although no damage was inflicted by either side. Other United Nations fighters and light bombers destroyed or damaged rail lines and bridges in the battle area while medium bombers struck marshalling yards at Sinanju and Opo. Aerial resupply operations continued.

United Nations naval surface units bombarded troop concentrations and road junctions near facily and Yonan on the west coast and shore batteries and transportation facilities in the Wonsan-Songjin-Chongjin complex. Carrier*based aircraft bombed and strafed troop positions, supply buildings, gun emplacements and vehicles in the forward and rear areas. S/2291 Page 6

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 539 ISSUED AT 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY (8:00 P.M. EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME, THURSDAY)

Light enemy contact reported along the western battle front. Enemy company attacked United Nations forces in area east-northeast of Kumhwa. Attacking United Nations forces met noderate enemy resistance in area west-southwest of Kansong.

1. United Nations patrols encountered light contact from squadecize enemy units in the area northwest of Korangpo. Satrolling elements in the area northnorthwest of Yonchon engaged two enemy platcons during the afternoon hours. No significant enemy contact was reported along the remainder of the western Korean front.

2. United Nations forces engaged an enemy company northeast of Kumhwa in a one-hour fight at 5;00 P.M. An enemy company in the area east-northeast of Kumhwa attacked United Nations forces at 11:40 P.M. with the action continuing as of midnight. Light enemy contact with squad to company-size enemy units continued along the remainder of the central front.

3. Light to moderate enemy resistance was reported in the area westsouthwest of Kansong as an estimated three enemy platoons engaged attacking United Nations forces at 5:00 P.M. Friendly forces made a limited withdrawal at 6:45 P.M. Farther to the west, an estimated two enemy companies forced attacking elements to withdraw at 6:20 P.M. However, United Nations forces counter-attacked and secured the high ground at 6:50 P.M. Light enemy contact continued along the remainder of the eastern front.

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