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NOTE DATED 17 AUGUST 1951 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING FIVE COMMUNIQUES 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:

Far East Air Forces communique 17 covering Wednesday, August 15, 1951, operations

General Headquarters communique 977 for the twenty-four hour period ended 6:00 A.M., Thursday, August 16, 1951 (4:00 P.M., Wednesday, Eastern daylight time)

Navy summary covering Thursday, August 16, 1951

General Headquarters communique 978 for the 24-hour period ended 6:00 A.M., Friday, August 17, 1951 (4:00 P.M., Thursday, Eastern daylight time)

Eighth Army communique 546 issued at 10:00 A.M., Friday, August 17, 1951 (8:00 P.M., Thursday, Eastern daylight time)

FAR EAST AIR FORCES COMMUNIQUE 17 COVERING WEDNESDAY OPERATIONS

Low clouds covering most of the target area in North Korea yesterday failed to halt Far East Air Forces warplanes attacks on enemy lines of communications, vehicles, railroad rolling stock, bridges, gun positions and supply buildings. Approximately 700 sorties were flown by Far East Air Forces aircraft yesterday.

Fifth Air Force fighter-bombers concentrated heavy attacks on the main north-south rail line between the North Korean capital of Pyongyang and Sinmak, located near the battle zone.

F-84 Thunderjets damaged a communications repeater station south of Pyongyang while others of the heavily armed jets blasted gun positions in the Sinmak area. A marshaling yard near Sariwon was also attacked, and four railroad cars were reported destroyed.

F-80 Shooting Star jets used 500-pound bombs to hit three highway bridges with excellent results. South of Sariwon a highway bridge was dropped into the water by the Shooting Stars. Hits were also scored on a bridge at Chaeryong by the F-80's.

Propeller-driven F-51 Mustangs inflicted twenty enemy troop casualties in a strafing attack near Chorwon. Four gun positions were also damaged in the same area. Napalm was used by other F-51's to destroy four box cars east of Chaeryong and two supply vehicles at Sepu.

Marine aircraft operated in the east and east-central sectors attacking bridges, gun positions, highways and rail lines.

F-86 Sabre jets flew fighter sweeps in northwest Korea yesterday, but no enemy aircraft were encountered by the swept-wing jets.

Fifth Air Force and attached South African, Australian and shore-based Marine aircraft flew 540 sorties yesterday.

Returning pilots reported destroying or damaging fourteen gun positions, 250 enemy-occupied buildings, one fuel storage dump, eight bridges and forty-five vehicles. Seventy-five enemy troop casualties were inflicted by air strikes during the day.

Highways and rail lines were severed in over twenty places.

Night flying aircraft mounted almost 100 sorties during the hours of darkness.

B-26 invader light bombers and Marine night fighters, aided by flare-dropping planes, operated along the main enemy supply routes throughout North Korea attacking vehicular traffic.

Poor visibility hampered the night flyers, but returning crews reported destroying or damaging 100 enemy vehicles in pre-dawn attacks.

Other B-26's operated along the battle front during the night using highly accurate radar aiming techniques to drop their 500-pound air-bursting bombs on enemy military targets.

Combat Cargo transports continued airlifting supplies to United Nations forces in Korea as they flew 155 sorties yesterday hauling 560 tons of cargo.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 977 FOR THE
TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR PERIOD ENDED 6:00 A.M.
THURSDAY (4:00 P.M. EASTERN
DAYLIGHT TIME WEDNESDAY)

Along the Korean front yesterday United Nations patrols encountered light to moderate enemy resistance as they continued to probe enemy defenses. Friendly units in the west engaged enemy groups up to battalion size in several sharp encounters, while friendly elements in the central sector engaged numerous enemy groups which offered light resistance. In the Eastern sector friendly elements encountered stubborn resistance throughout the day, while other elements repulsed one company-size probing attack and dispersed several small enemy groups.

In the air over Korea yesterday, land-based fighter-bombers flew under low hanging clouds to attack highway and rail lines. Light bombers and Marine fighters ranged along the enemy supply routes throughout North Korea, attacking vehicular traffic. Combat Cargo transports continued air resupply operations.

United Nations surface elements bombarded gun positions, troop concentration highway and railroad bridges, tunnels and sampans in the Wonsan and Songjin areas, while units on the West Coast of Korea continued bombardment of enemy troops and gun emplacements on the north bank of the Han River. Other elements assisted United Nations ground forces by furnishing gunfire support in the Kansong and Kosong areas.

Carrier-based aircraft ranging from Kilchu down the East Coast attacked highways, railroad lines and troop concentrations in front of the main battle line, while aircraft operating off the West Coast attacked enemy supply buildings in the Yonan area, troop positions southwest of Kaesong and supply dumps and boats in the Chinnampo area.

NAVY SUMMARY COVERING THURSDAY

United Nations blockade and escort force surface units and aircraft continued heavy attacks on Communist installations on both coasts of Korea yesterday.

Sea Furies and Fireflies from British Fleet carrier H.M.S. Glory struck again at supply points in the Yonan area between Kaesong and Haeju, destroying or damaging thirty-eight occupied buildings. Near Chinnampo, Royal Navy pilots blew the stern off one junk while damaging two others and six sampans.

The Task Force 95 carrier-based planes hit four automatic weapons positions southwest of Kaesong on the Han River banks. They also made strafing runs on a gun position and entrenched troops a few miles to the east.

United Nations frigates continued bombarding military targets on the north bank of the Han River east of Yonan. H.M.A.S. Murchison, H.M.S. Cardigan Bay and H.M.A.S. Morecambe Bay poured heavy naval gunfire on enemy-occupied buildings, troop concentrations, gun emplacements and on a railroad station. Their shelling hit Communist positions around the mouth of the Yesong River.

The destroyer Kidd, commanded by Lieut. Comdr. Robert E. Jeffrey of Coronado, Calif., had a busy day supporting Eighth Army soldiers on the eastern end of the front lines between Kosong and Kansong. Firing over 370 main battery rounds, the Kidd dispersed an enemy company before daylight yesterday and fired night harassing and interdiction bombardment. She steamed thirty miles northwest of Kosong and shelled enemy troops on Song-do and Nan-do islands. Among other targets, the Task Force 95 destroyer sank a large Communist motorboat.

As the siege of Wonsan entered the seventh month, Communist shore guns opened up on the minesweeper U.S.S. Osprey late yesterday morning. Several of the twenty rounds fired straddled the small minesweeper, but failed to do any damage or cause casualties. Destroyers Uhlmann, Hopewell and Hanna returned fire and with the aid of two Air Force P-51's silenced the enemy gunfire.

The destroyers, with the frigate Bisbee, continued attacks on railroads and highways around Wonsan. Their gunfire scored hits on other gun positions and caused an undetermined number of enemy casualties.

Railroads, highways and bridges were effectively bombarded by the U.S.S. Thompson, U.S.S. Moore and U.S.S. Seiverling at Chongjin, Chuuronjang and Songjin.

/GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 978 FOR THE 24-HOUR
PERIOD ENDED 6:00 A.M. FRIDAY (4:00 P.M.
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME THURSDAY)

United Nations combat patrols met light to moderate enemy resistance all along the Korean front yesterday as they continued to probe into enemy defences,

In the western sector friendly units engaged several enemy groups up to company size which offered only moderate resistance while the east central sector elements engaged an enemy company which offered stubborn resistance throughout the period.

Naval and marine carrier-based aircraft operating off the west coast attacked supply points, enemy occupied buildings in the Yonan area, troop and gun positions in the area southwest of Kaesong and shipping in the Chinnampo area.

Surface elements continued their bombardment of the port of Wonsan hitting gun positions, railroads and highways with excellent results. Other elements supported United Nations ground forces by furnishing gunfire support in the Kosong and Kansong area. Surface elements on the west coast bombarded enemy occupied buildings, troop concentrations and gun emplacements on the Han River east of Yonan while other elements hit Communist troop positions around the mouth of the Yesong River.

Land-based fighter bombers continued attack on bridges and railroad stock in western Korea while other aircraft attacked enemy main arteries of communication and supply in northern Korea. Medium bombers concentrated their effort upon selected targets of military importance during day and night operations. Light bombers operated along the main supply routes in North Korea during the period, attacking vehicular traffic moving toward the battlefield. Transport cargo aircraft continued air supply operations.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 546 ISSUED AT 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY
(8:00 P.M. EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME THURSDAY)

United Nations forces maintained positions and patrolled with light to moderate enemy resistance along the Korean battlefield.

1. Platoon-sized enemy groups in the areas south of the neutral zone of Kaesong were briefly engaged by United Nations patrols during the day. Squad to platoon-sized enemy units were also engaged by patrols in area northwest and north of Korongpo. Contact with platoon and company-sized enemy units was established in the areas west and northwest of Yongchon by patrolling United Nations forces. Light enemy contact continues along the remainder of the western front.

2. United Nations patrols in the area east-northeast of Kumhwa and south of Kumsong reported light enemy company was encountered in the area north-northwest of Yanggu with action continuing as of 2400 hours. Enemy forces continued to resist United Nations patrols in the area north and northeast of Yanggu and employed an increasing amount of mortar and artillery fire against friendly patrols and positions. Light enemy contact was reported along the remainder of the eastern front.

