

s/2713 21 July 1952

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE DATED 17 JULY 1952 FROM THE ACTING 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 Acting Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour 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 Nations Naval Forces summary of operations Tuesday, July 15, 1952
- Eighth Army communique 1,040, for operations Tuesday, July 15, 1952
- United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations Wednesday, July 16, 1952
- Eighth Army tactical summary 120, for Wednesday, July 16, 1952
- United Nations Command communique 1,313, for the twenty-four hours to 6:00 A.M., Thursday, July 17, 1952 (Korean time)

COUNCIL

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1952

Marine pilots from the carrier U.S.S. Bataan knocked holes in the Communist west coast defenses while carrier aircraft from Princeton and Bon Homme Richard leveled supply and transportation facilities along the eastern war front and teamed with a destroyer to completely demolish a train.

The Bataan's flying Leathernecks hit the targets from Chinnampo southward to destroy or damage seventy-eight buildings and six warehouses, knock out twelve gun positions, sink eleven small craft and kill an estimated eighty enemy soldiers. Later strikes directed fire from surface units on guns which had been firing on the carrier planes. The resultant shelling silenced five anti-aircraft batteries.

Night attack planes from the carrier U.S.S. Princeton teamed with destroyer U.S.S. Orleck to smash a sixteen-car supply train south of Songjin. After the destroyer rifles had sealed off the track in both directions, the Corsairs and Skyraiders burned out the train with bombs, napalm and rockets.

Later strikes of Princeton and Bon Homme Richard aircraft searched North Korea for destruction targets. The power plants at Chosen (Chanjin) were bombed and strafed despite heavy anti-aircraft fire and the whole area was again left in flames. Industrial areas and highway complexes were later targets for the propeller-driven and jet aircraft.

One-ton projectiles from the battleship Iowa roared far inland over Red positions as the big ship resumed her east coast firings. Marshaling yards and locomotive repair shops in the Hamhung area were left in flames and ruins by the high explosives. When her accompanying destroyer, U.S.S. Hollister, was fired on by two Red batteries, a salvo from the battleship silenced both positions blowing one gun 300 feet into the air.

The heavy cruiser U.S.S. Bremerton, screened by destroyer U.S.S. Evans, was in action again on the east coast battle line. Enemy troops fronting United Nations positions were stymied in an attempted attack by the bombardment of their positions and concentrations; chalked up for the twosome were mortar positions, bunkers and truck convoy routes.

Fog closing in canceled further shelling and the two ships moved northward to blast coastal village and highway terminals.

Another village containing enemy troops was shelled by U.S.S. Hollister. Although results were unobtainable, large secondary explosions indicated an ammunition storage area was hit.

West

West coast surface units ranged along the Ongjin Peninsula coast line and into the Haeju mud flats to shell Communist troops and gun and supply positions. Cruiser H.M.S. Belfast and frigate H.M.S. Amethyst received air spot from carrier aircraft to silence five enemy guns and disrupt a group of soldiers. Other bombardment assignments were filled by destroyers U.S.S. Henderson and H.M.S. Consort and frigate H.M.S. Cardigan Bay. S/2713 Page 4

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 1,040, FOR OPERATIONS TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1952

An enemy group supported by tank fire and an artillery preparation, attacking a United Nations advance position east-southeast of Kumsong was repulsed after three hours of fighting. Other enemy groups probed unsuccessfully northwest of Yonchon east of the Pukhan River and south of Kosong. Enemy artillery and mortars fired 3,997 rounds during the twenty-four-hour period ended at 6 P.M., 1,695 less than were fired in the preceding twentyfour hours.

Western sector: A reinforced enemy platoon probing a United Nations advance position northwest of Yonchon at 11:10 P.M. was repulsed in a fiftyfour-minute fire fight. Six artillery and air strikes forward of United Nations positions in the west inflicted a total of seventy-five casualties on the enemy; patrols fought engagements up to twenty minutes in length.

Central sector: Raiding patrols southwest of Kumsong fought a brief engagement with two enemy squads at 3:55 A.M. and a one-hour action against an undetermined number of enemy at 1:50 A.M.

Two enemy squads, supported by an artillery preparation and fire from five tanks, attacked a frequently contested advance position east-southeast of Kumsong at 8:30 P.M., were reinforced twenty minutes later and were repulsed by 11:30 P.M. United Nations troops at advance positions east of the Pukhan River repulsed a probe by two enemy squads in a fifty-minute fire fight at 9:45 P.M. and another probe by two squads in a fifteen-minute fire fight at 11:15 P.M. Patrols fought brief to moderate engagements up to fifteen minutes in length against enemy units up to a platoon in strength.

Eastern sector: United Nations troops at positions south of Kosong repulsed three light probes in fire fights up to fifteen minutes in length from 12:45 to 3:55 A.M. Two enemy squads supported by artillery and mortar fire probed a contested hill in the area at 10:30 P.M. and were repulsed in a one-hour fire fight.

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 1952

Surface units led the United Nations naval war against Communists in Korea as bad weather canceled air operations from fleet carriers.

The battleship U.S.S. Iowa and destroyer U.S.S. Kimberly were in action again in support of friendly troops on the eastern end of the battle line. The primary targets were mortar and gun positions and enemy bunkers. Their score included four heavy guns destroyed and four damaged, and four bunkers burned out by the one-ton high explosive shells. The two ships shelled coastal installations as they moved toward Kosong later in the day.

The city of Kosong was shelled by the destroyer U.S.S. Perkins while the heavy cruiser U.S.S. Bremerton and destroyer U.S.S. Evans worked closer to the front lines, steaming close to the mouth of the river at Kosong, the destroyer threw 5-inch shells into supply areas and gun positions.

Bremerton and Evans answered call-fire requests to quell an anticipated enemy counter-attack with star-shells and main battery fire. While the destroyer lighted the area with star-shells the cruiser neutralized mortar and gun positions and destroyed a supply area.

Farther north at Wonsan destroyers U.S.S. Hollister and U.S.S. Gurke alternated firing on key coastal railway bridges and transportation complexes. Two bridges and an enemy-occupied village north of the city were bombarded with unobserved results.

In the Kowon area another destroyer, U.S.S. Frank Knox, threw 5-inch shells at night truck traffic and an enemy gun position. The U.S.S. Rowan shelled an enemy supply depot where activity had been seen.

Near Pukchong a two-destroyer team disrupted repairs on a previously damaged bridge and stopped coastwise traffic. While the U.S.S. Endicott fired illumination, the U.S.S. Orleck blasted targets of opportunity and sealed off a wrecked tunnel where an enemy supply train had recently been destroyed. They were joined by U.S.S. Southerland and continued their destructive stabs along the Tanchon-Hungnam coastline. S/2713 Page 6

EIGHTH ARMY TACTICAL SUMMARY 120, FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 1952

Action was light along the Eighth Army front, with small raids, patrols and light enemy probes reported since midnight.

Two United Nations raiding patrols engaged enemy groups of undetermined strength briefly at 12:45 and 2:45 A.M. southwest of Kumsong.

Two enemy groups, one a squad and the other of undetermined strength, probing a United Nations hill position south of Kosong which has been contested since July 10, were repulsed after a ten-minute fire fight at 12:45 A.M. and a forty-five minute fight at 2:45 A.M.

A United Nations patrol engaged an enemy squad in a five-minute fire fight at 1:15 A.M. west-northwest of Yonchon. The enemy withdrew under cover of mortar fire after losing three dead and three wounded.

Other patrols fought actions up to an hour and ten minutes in length against enemy units up to three squads in strength.

Enemy casualties in a previously reported action in which tank-supported enemy attacked a United Nations advance position east-southeast of Kumsong were twenty-two killed.

/UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 1,313, FOR THE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO 6.00 A.M., THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1952 (KOREAN TIME)

The Korean battlefront was comparatively quiet (Wednesday). United Nations ground forces continued to maintain their positions as they repulsed six enemy probes. Friendly patrols reported only scattered minor enemy contacts.

<u>1</u>52.......

United Nations warships gave support to friendly front-line troops on the eastern flank. Other surface craft continued destruction of enemy installations inshore from hostile coastal waters.

Land-based aircraft flew close air support missions and silenced gun positions, inflicted casualties on enemy troops and blasted bunkers. A rail bridge was bombed during the night. Cargo transports continued to fly logistical support missions.