

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL



GENERAL

s/2723 28 July 1952

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NOTE DATED 25 JULY 1952 FROM THE ACTING REFRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES ADDRESSED TO THE ACTING 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 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 Wednesday, July 23; 1952
- United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations Wednesday, July 23, 1952
- Eighth Army communique 1,048, for operations Wednesday, July 23, 1952
- Eighth Army tactical summary 128, for Thursday, July 24, 1952
- United Nations Command communique 1,321, for the twenty-four hours to 6:00 A.M., Friday, July 25, 1952 (Korean time)

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1952

As weather cleared somewhat over Korea, war planes of the Far East Air Forces blasted Red positions along the battleline and also inflicted severe damage in rear supply and troop centers, as Far East Air Forces Wednesday mounted 1,055 effective sorties.

Fighter-bombers concentrated primarily on a sprawling Communist troop and supply center at Osan, about ten miles south of Wonsan on the Wonsan-Pyonggang supply route. The huge target, which had been under surveillance for several weeks, was attacked with bombs, rockets, napalm and machine-gun fire from F-51 Mustangs, F-80 Shooting Stars and F-84 Thunderjets.

The low-flying warcraft leveled eighty-five buildings and damaged twenty others in the big area and also destroyed five rail cars and damaged two others. They also silenced a gun position near the troop and supply center. Evaluation of Red troop casualties was not made.

Fifth Air Force and attached Royal Australian, South African, Republic of Korea and land-based Marine pilots teamed to fly the interdiction and close air support strikes.

Other damage in the area at Osan, which was reported by pilots but not officially evaluated, included ten supply bunkers destroyed and fifteen vehicle revetments burned, with widespread secondary explosions.

In other limited interdiction strikes, F-80's severely damaged a rail bridge and slashed trackage in five spots on the Haeju-Sariwon line.

Shooting Stars and Thunderjets teamed with Royal Australian Meteors, Republic of Korea Mustangs and Marine fighter-bombers to blast supply areas in the Pyonggang sector, but thick smoke prevented assessment of destruction.

Mustangs and Thunderjets flew with Marine fighter-bombers along the battlefront, concentrating again on providing close air support for United Nations ground forces engaged in heavy fighting on "Old Baldy", an important tactical target which has been contested for more than a week in the Western sector of the front.

The strikes were directed by T-6 Mosquitos, which credited the fighterbombers with destruction of ten bunkers in the area, silencing two mortar positions and two artillery pieces and levelling three storage buildings and seven bunkers. Fourteen Red troops casualties were inflicted in the area.

B-26 light bombers also flew close air support for United Nations ground forces in the "Old Baldy" area, but results were unassessed.

Mosquito pilots reported "excellent coverage" of Red front line positions near the east coast, but results were otherwise unevaluated. Shooting stars and Thunderjets made these strikes. Total destruction inflicted on the Communists during the period included forty bunkers destroyed or damaged, twenty gun positions knocked out, 100 buildings destroyed and thirty others damaged, ten vehicles destroyed, five rail cars destroyed and two more damaged, fifteen enemy troop casualties inflicted, eight rail and two road cuts and fifteen supply stacks destroyed.

F-86 Sabre jets, flying protective screen for the fighter-bombers, engaged enemy MIG-15's in air-to-air combat at 6 P.M. Wednesday and damaged one of the Red warcraft. The battle occurred near Sinanju at the Chongchon River. A formation of thirty-seven F-86's bounced a flight of more than twenty-five MIG's in the racing aerial duel..

Medium bombers of Far East Air Forces Bomber Command's Okinawa-based Nineteenth Bomb Group, using electronic techniques, over Wednesday night dropped high exclosives on a marshalling yard and rail junction at Yangdok, situated about twenty-five miles west of Wonsan. Crews reported meager flak over the target area, and one bomber crew sighted enemy fighters which failed to attack.

A single Superfort, also of the Nineteenth Group, flew close air support for United Nations ground forces along the central sector of the front during the night, dropping deep-penetrating explosives on dug-in enemy troop and supply concentrations. No enemy opposition was reported.

B-26 night intruders and shore-based Marine fighter bombers in the night attacked a marshalling yard and supply concentration at Sinchon on the Haeju Peninsula. Pilots reported they started twenty-one large fires in the area, many smaller ones and also caused at least eight secondary explosions.

Other B-26's flew close air support along the battle line for United Nations ground forces, but assessment of damage was unevaluated. Still other night intruders created a road block at Sangnam, a supply-route junction southeast of Pyonggang.

Cargo transports of Far East Air Forces 315th Air Division continued to fly logistical support for United Nations combat operations, airlifting 595 tons of personnel, equipment and supplies.

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UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1952

Full scale action by United Nations naval elements off Korea continued during the period with good visibility and calm seas reported in most areas.

Three well protected power plants in the vicinity of Wonsan were demolished by carrier-based Corsairs and Skyraiders after Panther jets had carried out effective flak-suppression duties. In each case damage was estimated at 75 per cent or more and included auxiliary facilities surrounding the main plants.

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Planes from U.S.S. Princeton and U.S.S. Bon Homme Richard also scored against a dozen other types of military targets, and participated in eight close support missions for front-line troops.

The assessment shows forty-five rail cars destroyed and sixty-five damaged, two rail bridges destroyed and one damaged, one highway bridge destroyed and one damaged, three gun positions destroyed and one damaged, four trucks destroyed and nineteen damaged, four warehouses and buildings destroyed and fourteen damaged, six boats destroyed and seven damaged, one oil tankdamaged, three bunkers destroyed, two large stacks of supplies set afire and twenty-five rail cuts made.

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In the Yellow Sea H.M.S. Ocean's Sea Furies and Fireflies also had a good day north and west of Haeju. Two power facilities were included in the day's attacks. The control house at a substation was fired with napalm; a transformer station southeast of Chinnampo was devastated by a combined strike.

Other destruction included damage to four rail bridges, two road bridges, two vehicle shelters and three 76-mm. guns. Destroyed were two rail bridges, one sampan and one house. A number of troops were strafed and driven into the fields. • • • • •

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Ocean's aircraft also spotted for H.M.C.S. Iroquais as the Canadian destroyer hammered troops and artillery positions on the Ongjin Peninsula.

U.S.S. Bremerton screened by U.S.S. Jarvis continued around-the-clock firing at enemy targets off Suwon. Seven bunkers were destroyed and an undetermined number of troop casualties was inflicted. Nine bunkers were damaged and Red trenches were severed in a number of places.

Destroyers U.S.S. Barton and U.S.S.Parks poured day and night harassing and interdiction fire into Wonsan. Barton concentrated on the marshaling yard and on a near-by barracks for rail workers. Parks fired twenty-one rounds against a transformer station and reported damage with direct hits. She also hit industrial buildings and scattered a crew of men assigned to restore a damaged gun bunker. During darkness she provided illumination for planes attacking a train in the suburbs of the city.

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Four destroyer and smaller type vessels were in minor action off Northeastern Korea. They were U.S.S. Diachanko, U.S.S. John Pierce, U.S.S. Orleck and H.M.S. St. Bride's Bay. Firings were against coastal rail bridges and fishing installations.

A brief but lively surface action was reported in the Yellow Sea at twilight Tuesday when two 75-mm. enemy shore batteries east of Neinnampo opened up on the scrappy little U.S.S. ISMR 536. The ship replied with 400 rockets and twenty-four rounds of 5-inch fire. The British cruiser H.M.S. Newcastle and frigate H.M.S. Mounts Bay moved in to support the American ship with 4 and 6-inch ammunition.

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EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 1,048, FOR OPERATIONS WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1952

Enemy contact along the Eighth Army front was light. United Nations troops repulsed light probes west of Munsan, platoon-sized probes along the east-central sector and fought patrol engagements with enemy groups up to two platoons.

Enemy artillery and mortars fired 2,701 rounds during the twenty-fourhour period ending at 6 P.M., 1,982 rounds fewer than were fired during the preceding twenty-four hours and the lowest total fired since June 6.

Western sector: United Nations and enemy troops continued joint occupation of a hill position west of Chorwon, with only a light artillery duel and United Nations air strikes reported during the period. Small enemy groups probing an advance position west of Munsan at 12:50 and 1:40 A.M. were repulsed in brief fire fights. Patrols fought engagements up to fifty minutes in length with enemy groups up to a platoon in strength.

Central sector: An enemy platoon probing a United Nations advance position west of the Pukhan River at 8 P.M. was repulsed shortly after midnight. Patrols fought engagements up to ten minutes in length with enemy groups up to two platoons in strength.

Eastern sector: United Nations troops at advance positions west of the Mundung Valley repulsed a probe by an enemy platoon in a one-hour-and-a-half fire fight ending at 10:30 P.M., and another platoon-sized probe in a brief fire fight at 11 P.M. Patrols fought brief engagements with enemy units up to a platoon in strength.

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EIGHTH ARMY TACTICAL SUMMARY 128, FOR THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1952

Light exchanges of motar fire marked the action at "Old Baldy" west of Chorwon, Thursday, with the United Nations forces still occupying the southeast slopes and the enemy on the crest and northwest slopes as the fight went on into its seventh day.

Activity elsewhere along the Eighth Army front continued light. An enemy platoon probing a United Nations advance position west of Munsan at 1:55 A.M. was repulsed after a fifty-five-minute firefight. Three enemy squads probed a United Nations position southwest of Kumsong at 3:40 A.M. and were repulsed in a fifteen-minute fight.

Patrols fought engagements up to fifteen minutes in length with enemy units up to a platoon in strength. Contacts were most frequent along the East Central sector. S/2723 Page 8

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UNITED NATIONS COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 1,321, FOR THE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO 6:00 A.M., FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1952 (KOREAN TIME)

Ground action in Korea continued to be light Thursday, with three probes by the enemy being repulsed by United Nations forces. These probes took place in the western, the west-central and the central sectors of the battle front.

The United Nations Air Forces listed supply areas, rail routes, highway bridges, rolling stock, enemy gun positions, command posts and troops as targets. During the night our medium bombers hit the Hamhung marshaling yard.

Surface craft of the United Nations Fleet hit east coast targets while carrier planes operated around the clock from Wonsan north to Songjin.

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