

UNITED NATIONS
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GENERAL

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NOTE DATED 18 FEBRUARY 1952 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING THIRTEEN 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:

Eighth Army communique 859, for the twelve hours to noon
Friday, February 15, 1952

United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations Friday,
February 15, 1952

General Headquarters communique 1,161, for operations
Friday, February 15, 1952

Eighth Army communique 860, covering operations Friday,
February 15, 1952

Far East Air Forces summary of operations Friday, February 15, 1952

Eighth Army communique 361, for the twelve hours to noon, Saturday,
February 16, 1952

General Headquarters communique 1,162, for operations Saturday,
February 16, 1952

Eighth Army communique 862, covering operations Saturday, February 16, 1952

United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations, Saturday,
February 16, 1952

Eighth Army communique 863, for the twelve hours to noon Sunday,
February 17, 1952

United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations Sunday, February 17, 1952

General Headquarters communique 1,163, for operations Sunday,
February 17, 1952

Eighth Army communique 864, covering operations Sunday, February 17, 1952

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 859, FOR THE TWELVE HOURS TO NOON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1952

Enemy company attacks two United Nations advanced positions east of Pukhan River, occupies one. Two enemy platoons attack United Nations positions west of Pukhan River and northwest of Punchbowl.

1. No significant enemy contact was reported during the period from the western Korean battlefront.

2. An enemy company attacked two United Nations advanced positions east of the Pukhan River at 150200 (2 A.M., February 15). United Nations artillery fire was directed on the enemy at 150500. United Nations elements withdrew from one position at 150620, and the enemy occupied it. Action continued sporadically at the other position until 150815, when the enemy broke contact. A United Nations position east-southeast of Kumsong was twice probed, once at 150115 by twenty enemy, who withdrew at 150135, and again at 150235 by an enemy group of undetermined strength which withdrew at 150250. In other actions along the central front, two enemy platoons attacked a United Nations advance position west of the Pukhan River at 150405 and withdrew at 150500.

3. Two enemy platoons supported by mortar and artillery fire, attacked a United Nations position southwest of the Punchbowl at 150155. The enemy withdrew at 150300. United Nations units which withdrew from an advanced position west of the Mundung Valley after an attack at 142140 by an enemy platoon, reoccupied the position with no enemy contact during the morning. Light contact with small enemy groups developed elsewhere along the eastern front during the period.

/UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1952

British light carrier H.M.S. Glory aircraft attacked the entire area west of a north-south line from Chinnampo to Haeju, starting fires in supply and war material shelters rigged by the enemy. More than a dozen buildings used by the Reds for supply build-up were destroyed or damaged, seven ox carts were hit, two sampans were damaged and numerous troop entrenchments were rocketed and strafed as bad weather on the opposite side of the Korean peninsula prohibited observation of gunfire results.

At Wonsan, light cruiser U.S.S. Manchester returned to the firing area to lay 5-inch and 6-inch shells into shoreside targets. Pre-dawn missions were limited to harassment and interdiction targets, followed by morning fire missions against a command post and trenches. Observers reported four direct hits in the Red trench works with unestimated casualties. In the afternoon, Manchester steamed south to the Kansong area and bombarded enemy trenches and bunkers fronting United Nations troops. Destroyer U.S.S. Beatty was in company with Manchester and added 5-inch gun support to the fire missions. Heavy cruiser U.S.S. Rochester worked farther north at Chado to prevent repairs to Red rails and bridges with 8-inch gunfire. Destroyer Thomason worked with the heavy cruiser.

At Hungnam, destroyer Halsey Powell worked her 5-inch guns at rail and road junctions during the night, then took supply route junction points under fire again by day with unobserved results.

Songjin blockade and bombardment vessels sustained their shore bombardment assignments despite heavy seas. Destroyer U.S.S. Colahan set off a large explosion in a marshaling yard and shelled a troop concentration area with unobserved results. Destroyer-minesweeper Endicott again dispersed a Red labor gang and redamaged the track repairs they had attempted.

Destroyers U.S.S. Twining and Gregory dispersed enemy troops and laid harassment fire into Red installations in the beleaguered harbor at Wonsan.

/GENERAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTER COMMUNIQUE, 1,161, FOR OPERATIONS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1952

On the ground the enemy continued to launch probing attacks but they were all repulsed by our forces.

Naval action found carrier-borne aircraft attacking an area west of a north-south line from Chinnampo to Haeju, where fires in enemy supply and war material shelters were started. At Wonsan, surface vessels fired on shoreside targets. Enemy trenches and bunkers were hit in the Kansong area and farther north at Chaho communications were taken under fire. Rail and road junctions at Hungnam and a marshaling yard and troop concentration area were worked over by naval gunners.

Targets for our land-based air forces planes included supply vehicles, troops, a railroad overpass, marshaling yards and locomotives. Air-to-air combat resulted in losses for the enemy. Cargo transports continued the Japan-Korea airlift in support of friendly operations.

/EIGHTH ARMY

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 860, COVERING OPERATIONS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1952

Enemy company attacks two United Nations advance positions east of Pukhan River, occupies one, which United Nations troops recapture. Two enemy platoons attack west of Pukhan River and northwest of Punchbowl.

1. Light contact with small groups, including a probe west-northwest of Chorwon by an enemy squad at 11:50 P.M., from which the enemy withdrew after a brief fire fight developed along the western Korean battlefield.

2. The enemy in company strength attacked two United Nations advance positions east of the Pukhan River at 2 A.M. United Nations elements withdrew from one position at 6:20 A.M. and the enemy occupied it. Action continued sporadic until 8:15 A.M., when the enemy broke contact, but remained in the vicinity. United Nations elements counter-attacked to regain lost position at 2:30 A.M., were halted for fifty minutes while artillery fire neutralized enemy artillery, and resecured position at 5:05 P.M. United Nations tanks damaged thirty enemy bunkers east of Kumsong during afternoon. A United Nations position east-southeast of Kumsong was twice probed once at 1:15 A.M. by twenty enemy who withdrew at 1:35 A.M. and again at 2:35 A.M. by an enemy group of undetermined strength which withdrew at 2:50 A.M. In other action along the central front, two enemy platoons attacked a United Nations advance position west of Pukhan River at 4:05 A.M. and withdrew at 5:00 A.M.

3. Two enemy platoons, supported by mortar and artillery fire, attacked a United Nations position northwest of the Punchbowl at 1:15 A.M.; the enemy withdrew at 3:00 A.M. United Nations units which withdrew from an advanced position west of the Mundung Valley after an attack at 9:40 P.M., Thursday, by an enemy platoon, reoccupied the position at 6:40 A.M., Friday, with no enemy contact. The same position was again attacked by twenty-five enemy at 3:00 P.M., Friday. United Nations units withdrew, directed artillery fire on the enemy, counter-attacked at 4:45 P.M. and reoccupied the position. East of the Mundung Valley, an estimated 100 enemy attacked a United Nations advanced position at 8:30 P.M. The enemy withdrew at 10:00 P.M., although sporadic firing continued until 10:45 P.M. Light contacts with small enemy groups developed elsewhere along the eastern front.

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1952

Slashing attacks with bombs, napalm and machine-gun fire further shattered the enemy's crippled transportation network in Northern Korea as war planes of the Far East Air Forces on Friday mounted 485 sorties despite unfavorable weather.

Fifth Air Force and attached Royal Australian, South African and land-based Marine pilots flew 315 of the total Far East Air Forces sorties.

Dipping through the low, dense clouds, F-84 Thunderjets worked over the rail lines between Sinanju and Pyongyang, cratering tracks in over thirty-five places. One flight of Thunderjets, returning to home base from the rail-splitting mission, spotted a Communist vehicle loaded with troops. In a strafing attack, they inflicted approximately ten casualties.

Along the main rail route from Huichon to Kunu, F-80 Shooting Stars scored multiple rail cuts and, northwest of Sinanju, cratered a main roadway in two places. F-51 Mustangs cratered tracks between Songchon and Kangdong.

F-86 Sabre jets, flying protective cover for the fighter-bombers, observed approximately thirty enemy MIG-15's in the afternoon and, in a brief four-minute air battle that ranged from Sinuiju to Sinanju, damaged one of the Red fighters.

Total destruction for the period included fifty enemy-held supply buildings destroyed or damaged, sixty rail cuts, ten rail cars destroyed, and casualties inflicted on thirty-five enemy troops.

As attacks against Communist targets continued around the clock medium bombers of the Far East Air Forces Bomber Command's Okinawa-based Nineteenth Bomb Group during the night hit the enemy's transportation network in Northern Korea. Nine Superforts radar-aimed ninety tons of 500-pound high explosives on a railroad overpass at Wadong, between Songchon and Yangdok. They encountered meager flak but no enemy fighters.

Two B-29's hit the Samdong marshaling yards and two others hit the railroad yards at Hamhung.

B-26 light bombers and Marine aircraft in the night mounted sixty sorties. Ranging over the enemy's communications routes, they destroyed twenty-five supply vehicles, knocked out two locomotives and damaged another.

Cargo transport of the Far East Air Forces, 315th Air Division flew 160 sorties to airlift 570 tons of supplies and personnel in continued support of United Nations operations.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 861, FOR THE TWELVE HOURS TO NOON
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1952

Seven United Nations raiding units in action along the western front. Patrol contacts frequent along the Kumhwa-Kumsong road. United Nations troops withdraw from an advanced position northwest of the Punchbowl and fire exchanged with sixty enemy.

1. Seven United Nations raiding units were in operation during the period along the Western Korean battlefront, fighting engagements with enemy groups up to a reinforced company in strength. Northeast of Panmunjom, a raiding unit reached its objective against resistance from an undetermined number of enemy in a thirty-five-minute fire fight ended at 4:35 A.M., while west of Korangpo, another raiding unit drove off an enemy platoon in a half-hour action ended at 3:50 A.M. Two tank units raided into enemy territory north of Korangpo and west of Yonchon, while northwest of Yonchon an infantry raiding party crossed the Yokkok River, engaged an unknown number of enemy at 7:15 A.M. and was ordered to withdraw at 9:10 A.M. A tank-infantry raiding unit west of Chorwon drew small arms and automatic weapons fire from enemy of undetermined strength at 10:00 A.M., and continued to its objective. North-northwest of Chorwon, an infantry raiding party fought five engagements with enemy units from two squads to a reinforced platoon in strength between 2:45 A.M. and 9:00 A.M., when it was ordered to return. Elsewhere along the western front, United Nations units reported light patrol contacts with small enemy groups and a probe by an enemy squad repulsed west of Chorwon in a brief fire fight at 4:47 A.M.

2. United Nations patrols operating along the central front reported light engagements with enemy groups up to two squads in strength during the period, with most contact developing along the Kumhwa-Kumsong road.

3. United Nations units at an advanced position northwest of the Punchbowl at 4:30 A.M. briefly exchanged small arms fire with an estimated sixty enemy, directed mortar fire on the enemy and withdrew from its position. Elsewhere along the eastern front, United Nations patrols fought like actions with enemy units up to two squads in strength.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,162 FOR OPERATIONS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1952

Along the Korean battle front a number of United Nations Command patrols made light contacts with enemy elements. Three enemy probing attacks ranging from a squad to sixty men in size were reported during the period. Two were repulsed and one forced a friendly outpost to withdraw. Elsewhere along the line our forces continued to maintain positions.

Fighter-bombers scored rail cuts, knocked out rolling stock and bridges and blasted enemy-held supply buildings during the day's air operations. Our jets tangled with enemy jets over northwest Korea. Medium bombers during the night attacked the Singhung-Dong rail bridge and flew close support missions for our front-line troops. Light bombers kept up their attack on enemy supply vehicles. Friendly troops were resupplied by cargo transport aircraft.

Saturday marked one year of continuous bombardment at Wonsan by elements of the United Nations Command Naval Forces. Interdiction fire was directed at Songjin, and other naval ships fired on targets during pre-dawn hours near Kosong.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 862, COVERING OPERATIONS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1952

Seven United Nations raiding units in action along the Western front. Patrol contacts frequent along Kumhwa-Kumsong road and west of Mundung Valley. United Nations troops withdraw from an advance position northwest of Punchbowl after fire exchange with sixty enemy.

1. Seven United Nations raiding units were in operation during the period along the Western Korean battle front, fighting engagements with enemy groups up to a reinforced platoon in strength northwest of Panmunjom, west and north of Korangpo, west-northwest of Yonchon and west and northwest of Chorwon. Patrols along the western front reported an encounter with enemy units up to a platoon in strength, lasting up to thirty minutes. Scattered, light probes by squad and platoon size enemy units also developed along the western front. All were repulsed after brief action.

2. United Nations patrols operating forward of the central front reported generally light encounter with enemy groups up to two squads in strength, with most contacts developing west of the Kumwha-Kumsong road. A moderate patrol engagement developed east-southeast of Kumsong at 10:35 P.M., February 16, against an enemy ambushed unit, with the United Nations element withdrawing after a one-hour-and-twenty-minute fight in which United Nations artillery and mortar fire was employed. Also along the central front, an enemy platoon attacked a United Nations advance position east of the Pukhan River at 12:45 P.M., February 16, and was forced to withdraw at 2:30 P.M.

3. United Nations troops at an advanced position northwest of the Punchbowl at 4:30 A.M., February 16, briefly exchanged small arms fire with an estimated sixty enemy, directed mortar fire on the enemy and withdrew from the position. Elsewhere along the eastern front, United Nations patrols fought light actions with enemy units up to two squads in strength, with most contacts developing west of the Mundung Valley.

/UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1952

Winds of near-gale proportions and blinding snow squalls on both Korean coasts limited naval operations against the Communists to surface bombardment missions in which enemy rail and road installations were taken under fire from pre-plotted coordinates in firing charts used by the naval gunners.

Wonsan, under siege for exactly one year, was picketed by destroyers U.S.S. Twining, Gregory and Rowan. Gregory dispersed a truck convoy but heavy snow squalls obscured close observation of most of the 5-inch gunfire laid on Red targets by the three-ship force,

Light cruiser U.S.S. Manchester and destroyer U.S.S. Beatty fired on thirteen targets during pre-dawn hours near Kosong, then stood by during the day awaiting targets of opportunity on the mainland. Far north at Songjin, destroyer Colahan was on station to fire harassment and interdiction rounds at the Reds through thick weather. Destroyer U.S.S. Halsey Powell protected minesweepers riding out heavy weather at Hungnam.

Destroyer U.S.S. Marshall, part of the screen for the west coast carrier element, fired on troops, boat concentrations, and gun positions near Sokkyo.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 863, FOR THE TWELVE HOURS TO NOON
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1952

Light enemy probes developed along eastern and western fronts. United Nations raiding unit draws fire east of Pukhan River.

1. Two light enemy probing actions were reported during the period along the Western Korean battle front. An enemy platoon probed a United Nations advanced position northeast of Panmunjom at 3:20 A.M. and was repulsed after a ten-minute fire fight, while west of Yonchon an enemy squad approached a United Nations position and was driven off in a brief fire fight. United Nations patrols along the western front reported light engagements with enemy units up to a platoon in strength during the period.

2. A United Nations raiding unit drew fire from enemy groups while operating east of the Pukhan River during the morning, but no contact with the enemy developed. United Nations patrols reported light contact with small enemy groups elsewhere along the central front.

3. Light contact with enemy groups up to a platoon in strength developed during the period along the eastern front. Included among the actions reported was a probe by an enemy squad against a United Nations advanced position west of the Mundung Valley repulsed at 7:00 A.M. after a one and one-half hour fire fight, while west of the Punchbowl, other United Nations elements killed three and wounded five members of an enemy squad which fired on their positions.

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UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1952

Navy and Marine Corps pilots hit the enemy from the left, right and center as Task Force 77 in the east, the First Marine Air Wing on the ground, and the Marine Corps pilots from the escort carrier U.S.S. Bairoko in the west took the air over Korea for damaging air attacks. Fast carrier U.S.S. Valley Forge Skyraider attack bombers scored fifty rail cuts, knocked out a bridge and ruined two Red by-passes. Panther jets from the carrier Philippine Sea cut down eighty-five enemy troops near Wonsan. Valley Forge-based Corsair fighters cut Red rails in twenty-five places in the Kowon-Wonsan area and also picked off an enemy locomotive. Total rail cuts for Task Force 77 strikes, which ranged from Wonsan to Songjin, numbered 129.

South of Sariwon two North Korean airfields under build-up were heavily cratered by Marine Corps Panther jets from the First Marine Air Wing. Forty-six craters were left in the battered runways.

Off the west coast the escort carrier U.S.S. Bairoko launched Marine Corps Corsair planes of the Checkerboard squadron to strike at targets of opportunity behind the Red lines at the western terminus.

A final damage report from the light cruiser U.S.S. Manchester on the heavy bombardment at Kojo February 13, reveals 322 Red troops were killed or wounded as Manchester's guns blew up ammunition dumps, storage and supply buildings, and shot up a Red troop concentration. Manchester took eighteen harassment and interdiction targets under night fire in the early morning hours of February 17. During the day Manchester fired on Red troops fronting friendly lines. Results were not assessed because of heavy snow.

Surface ships took shore targets under fire at Songjin, Wonsan, Hungnam, and near Chinnampo in the west.

/GENERAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,163, FOR OPERATIONS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1952

There was considerable action in the west-central sector of the Korean battle front. The enemy directed artillery fire on a friendly outpost and followed the artillery with a two-company sized attack which forced our outpost to withdraw. A friendly raiding party in this same sector advanced through an enemy minefield and was engaged by enemy elements for almost five hours before it disengaged and returned to positions. Also in this same sector a heavy volume of artillery and mortar fire was directed at other friendly forces by the enemy. Elsewhere along the line our forces maintained and adjusted positions. Patrols reported light enemy contacts in some instances. Two enemy probes were repulsed.

Naval surface vessels took shore targets under fire at Songjin, Wonsan, Hungnam and near Chinnampo in the west. Carrier-based aircraft had a busy day. Among the results listed were fifty rail cuts, a bridge and two enemy by-passes. Enemy troops near Wonsan were hit and numerous rail cuts scored between Wonsan and Chongjin and in the Kowon-Wonsan area. Off the west coast, targets of opportunity behind enemy lines at the western terminus were struck by carrier aircraft, while south of Sariwon two North Korean airfields under build-up were heavily cratered by land-based naval planes.

Other land-based aircraft struck at the enemy on the ground and in the air. Fighter-bombers scored multiple rail cuts in widespread attacks on the enemy's transportation network in Northern Korea. Rolling stock was destroyed, bridges knocked out, supply buildings blasted and guns were silenced. Fuel dumps and bunkers were hit in close air support strikes. Our jets tangled with enemy MIG-15's during the day and reported excellent results. Cargo transports continued to fly supplies to United Nations forces in Korea.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 864, COVERING OPERATIONS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1952

Two enemy companies attacked United Nations advance positions east of the Pukhan River. United Nations raiding party pinned down in same area.

1. Two light enemy probing actions were reported during the period along the Western Korean battlefield. An enemy platoon probed a United Nations advance position northeast of Panmunjom at 3:20 A.M. and was repulsed after a ten-minute fire fight, while west of Yonchon an enemy squad approached a United Nations position and was driven off in a brief fire fight. United Nations patrols along the western front reported light contact with small enemy groups during the period.

2. Two enemy companies attacked a United Nations position east of the Pukhan River at 7:22 P.M. The attack was preceded and supported by a heavy volume of enemy artillery and mortar fire. United Nations troops directed artillery fire on the enemy, but withdrew from the positions at 8:30 P.M. A United Nations raiding unit operating in the same area advanced through an enemy minefield at 6:30 A.M., drew fire from two enemy groups and, although close contact did not at first develop, elements of the raiding party at 9:45 A.M. were receiving moderate small-arms and automatic-weapons fire and later hand grenades. Elements of the raiding unit were pinned down at 11:20 A.M., but were able to disengage completely by 5:25 P.M. United Nations troops patrolling along the central front reported light contacts with enemy units up to two platoons in strength during the period.

3. Light contact with enemy groups up to a platoon in strength developed during the period along the eastern front. West of the Mundung Valley a light probe by an enemy squad was repulsed at 7:00 A.M. after a one-and-one-half-hour firefight. Small enemy groups briefly fired on United Nations positions in the same area during the late morning and early afternoon.

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