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NOTE DATED 20 MARCH 1952 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING SEVEN COMMUNIQUEs ISSUED BY THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN KOREA

The Representative of the United States of America 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 summary of operations Tuesday, March 18, 1952

Eighth Army communique 921, for operations Tuesday, March 18, 1952

Eighth Army tactical summary 4, as of 6:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 19, 1952 (4:00 A.M., Wednesday, Eastern standard time)

United Nations Naval Forces summary of operations Wednesday, March 19, 1952

Far East Air Forces summary of operations Wednesday, March 19, 1952

Eighth Army communique 922, for operations Wednesday, March 19, 1952

General Headquarters communique 1,194, for operations Wednesday, March 19, 1952

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS  
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1952

Hampered by heavy clouds which obscured most target areas of northern Korea, fighter-bombers of Fifth Air Force made concentrated close air support strikes immediately behind the battleline as war planes of Far East Air Forces on Tuesday were restricted to 660 sorties.

F-80 Shooting Stars employed bombs, napalm, rockets and machine gun fire to blast Communist positions in the central and eastern sectors of the front. They silenced more than fifteen gun positions, blasted thirty-five bunkers and inflicted ten troop casualties. During the strike, two large supply areas at Anak and Changyon near the west coast were hit. Two large warehouses were demolished, with resulting secondary explosions.

Fifth Air Force and attached Royal Australian, South African, Republic of Korea and land-based Marine pilots flew 480 of the total Far East Air Force sorties.

F-84 Thunderjets slashed rails in thirty-five locations on the route between Chongju and Sinanju in northwest Korea.

On the key lateral rail line between Sariwon and Namchonjom, Corsairs and Panther jets of the First Marine Air Wing cratered tracks in forty places.

F-51 Mustangs teamed with the Thunderjets in ripping rails between Chaeryon and Haeju. In the Chinnampo area, five fuel dumps were damaged, ten supply buildings destroyed or damaged, and a road bridge knocked out.

F-86 Sabre jets, flying protective cover for the fighter-bombers, made patrol sweeps over northwest Korea but failed to sight enemy MIG-15's.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 921, FOR OPERATIONS  
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1952

Eight probes by enemy units up to company strength launched against United Nations positions west to northwest of Korangpo. Fifteen enemy killed in fight with enemy company west-northwest of Yonchon.

1. A co-ordinated series of eight enemy probes, four by companies, three by platoons, and one by two platoons, was launched against United Nations positions across a four-mile front west to northwest of Korangpo. The first probe, in platoon strength, developed at 7:50 P.M., Monday. Two companies and a platoon struck at 1:25 A.M., Tuesday. A third company hit at 1:44 A.M. Another platoon probed at 2:10 A.M., two platoons probed at 3:20 A.M. and a company at 3:25 A.M. The individual actions ceased at 4:20 A.M., as the enemy withdrew in the face of intense United Nations small-arms fire, automatic weapons, mortar and artillery fire.

As United Nations patrols were withdrawing at 6:30 P.M., Tuesday from four advanced positions they had occupied during the day west-northwest of Yonchon, an estimated enemy company moved on to the position, supported by heavy enemy artillery fire. Heavy United Nations artillery and small-weapons fire was directed on the enemy in an action that lasted through most of the night. United Nations patrols occupied the position during the morning with no enemy resistance. Fifty enemy were estimated killed in the action. Two enemy squads probed a United Nations advance position west of Chorwon at 1:05 A.M., Tuesday.

The United Nations unit occupying the position was ordered to withdraw after a brief fire fight. Light patrol contacts developed elsewhere along the Western Korean battlefield during the period.

2. An enemy unit of undetermined strength probed a United Nations position northwest of Kumhwa at 8:30 P.M., Tuesday. Enemy fire ceased after a ten-minute fire fight. An enemy squad probed a United Nations position northeast of Kumhwa at 10:30 P.M., Tuesday, and then withdrew after a thirty-minute action. Light patrol action with enemy units up to a platoon in strength developed elsewhere along the central front with most contacts reported from the eastern section of the front.

3. An estimated fourteen enemy fired on a United Nations position northwest of the Punchbowl at 5:45 A.M., Tuesday. Two enemy were killed in the brief fire fight which followed. Light patrol contacts with enemy groups up to two squads in strength were reported by United Nations units elsewhere along the eastern front.

EIGHTH ARMY TACTICAL SUMMARY 4, AS OF 6 P.M., WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 19, 1952 (4 A.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN  
STANDARD TIME)

Scattered patrol clashes with enemy units up to two squads in strength were reported by United Nations forces along the Army front.

The resulting fire fights were mostly brief, though one beginning shortly after Tuesday midnight west of the Mundung Valley and a pre-dawn action west of Chorwon lasted forty minutes.

A patrol operating west of the Pukhan River fought a brief action with an enemy unit of undetermined strength late in the morning and destroyed four enemy bunkers before returning to its base.

Two sharp patrol clashes developed late last night along the Nam River on the eastern sector of the front. Four enemy were killed and two wounded in one ten-minute clash with an enemy squad. Three enemy were killed in a twenty-minute fight with an enemy group of undetermined strength.

Thirty-nine enemy were counted killed in the action west and northwest of Korangpo on the night of 17 to 18 March, when eight enemy units from platoon to company strength were repulsed as they probed United Nations positions along a four-mile front.

UNITED NATIONS NAVAL FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1952

Naval surface ships including the battleship Wisconsin and cruiser Manchester cruised along the east coast battleline and shelled enemy positions fronting United Nations forces. Carrier-based aircraft were inactive due to snow, high winds and rough seas.

Throughout the night U.S.S. Wisconsin fired harassing and interdiction missions in support of frontline friendly troops. She took seventeen targets under fire. Escorting destroyer Higbee struck at four more targets.

The cruiser Manchester and destroyer Fox steamed through snowstorm and heavy seas to support the forces ashore. Continuing the destruction of enemy frontline defensive positions and reserve troop and supply centers, Manchester struck at thirteen targets. These included regimental command posts, supply dumps and bunkers.

Destroyer U.S.S. Hamner, during harassing and interdiction missions on the east coast, bombarded bridges, supply points, troop garrisons and bivouac areas with unobserved results.

Patrol and blockading units carried out missions along both coasts.

FAR EAST AIR FORCES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1952

Although rain-filled skies and heavy overcasts restricted the interdiction activities of fighter-bombers Wednesday, F-86 Sabre jets destroyed one enemy MIG-15 fighter and damaged seven others as Far East Air Forces war planes mounted 425 sorties.

In the high-speed touch-and-go aerial battles over northwest Korea the Sabre jets made a single destruction and three damages during late afternoon in the Chongchow River area as the weather improved. The battle, fought between twenty-eight Sabre jets and more than thirty MIG's, raged from 30,000 feet down to 18,000 feet.

Just after noon eighteen F-86's clashed with elements of a thirty-five-MIG formation, damaging two of the Russian-built aircraft in the duels, which swept as low as 5,000 feet from the 30,000-foot level. Two other MIG's were damaged in the Sonchon area late in the afternoon as ten Sabre jets turned into elements of a formation of forty enemy jets. The latter duel ranged between 30,000 and 40,000 feet.

Fifth Air Force and attached Royal Australian, South African and shore-based Marine pilots flew 240 of the total Far East Air Forces sorties.

F-80 Shooting Stars led the interdiction against the Communist targets, slashing rails in twenty places between Huichon and Kunu and knocking out an anti-aircraft position during the rail attacks. The F-80's also started landslides in three places where high slopes rose on either side of the tracks, covering the rails with large amounts of earth.

In the Schung area to the east of Sariwon F-51 Mustangs and marine fighters cratered rails in five places and destroyed a supply building. Four other buildings were set afire in the Chimmarpo area and five positions silenced near Huichon.

Fifth Air Force announced that one other MIG, not previously claimed, was damaged by a Sabre jet on Feb. 3.

Nine medium bombers of Far East Air Forces Bomber Command's Okinawa-based Nineteenth Bomb Group, using radar-aiming methods, at night dropped ninety tons of high explosives on a rail traffic choke point east of Sunchon. The crews reported meager flak over the target, but no enemy fighters. One B-29 struck the Samdong marshaling yards, meeting meager ground fire, but no enemy fighter opposition. One Superfort flew in close air support of United Nations front-line forces, dropping air-bursting bombs on enemy troops and supply areas just behind the battle line. B-26 night intruders and marine aircraft at night destroyed seventy-five supply-laden vehicles attempting to move toward enemy lines from rear areas. They also attacked two locomotives.

Cargo transports of Far East Air Force's 315th Air Division flew 170 sorties, airlifting 605 tons of personnel and supplies in continued support of United Nations combat operations.

EIGHTH ARMY COMMUNIQUE 922, FOR OPERATIONS  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1952

Enemy unit probed northwest of Korangpo. United Nations patrol fights three light actions northwest of Yonchon. Patrol destroys four enemy bunkers west of Pukhan River.

1. An enemy unit of undetermined strength probed a United Nations advance position northwest of Korangpo at 192215 (10:15 P.M., March 19) and withdrew after a ten-minute firefight. Northwest of Yonchon, a United Nations patrol fought three light engagements at the same location, one at 192015 with approximately fifteen enemy lasting five minutes, one at 192030 with an enemy squad lasting five minutes and the third at 192150 with an enemy unit of undetermined strength lasting ten minutes. United Nations forces elsewhere along the Western Korea battlefield reported light patrol with enemy units up to two squads in strength.
2. A United Nations patrol operating west of the Pukhan River at 191053 engaged an enemy unit of undetermined strength in a brief small arms and mortar firefight, destroyed four enemy bunkers and withdrew. Light contacts with enemy units up to two squads in strength developed along the remainder of the central front, with most of the action reported from the eastern sector of the front.
3. United Nations forces along the eastern front reported light contacts with enemy groups up to two squads in strength.

/GENERAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE 1,194, FOR OPERATIONS  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1952

Scattered patrol contact was the only action along the Korean battle front.

United Nations naval elements continued their attacks on the eastern terminus of the battle line, hitting enemy troop concentrations, command posts and supply dumps. Snow, high winds and heavy seas prevented carrier-based planes from launching attacks.

Poor weather also hampered United Nations air operations of land-based planes. Fighter-bombers continued interdiction attacks against the enemy and medium bombers hit a rail choke point north of Songchon and the Samdong marshaling yards. Sabre jets engaged enemy jet aircraft in extreme Northwest Korea. Light bombers and Marine shore-based aircraft destroyed enemy supply vehicles during the night.

