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NOTE DATED 24 JULY 1953 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING A COMMUNIQUE 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, United Nations Command communique No. 1,684, issued in Tokyo Thursday, July 23, 1953.

53-20893

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO. 1,684,  
ISSUED IN TOKYO 10:00 A.M., THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1953  
(KOREAN TIME)

United Nations Command forces southeast of Kumsong in the central sector of the Korean battlefront were hit by an estimated regimental enemy attack early yesterday as action on the fighting front increased slightly over that of the preceding period. A hostile battalion attacked one group of United Nations Command positions there early yesterday and was thrown back after a furious battle lasting more than three and one-half hours.

Slightly to the east, in the same area, an estimated enemy company, later reinforced to two-company strength, was hurled back after two hours of fighting in the early morning hours. At approximately 0400 the same friendly positions were attacked by another hostile company. The assault made some penetrations and friendly troops withdrew slightly about one hour later. United Nations Command forces launched a strong counter-attack, however, and after a one-and-one-half hour battle had restored all friendly positions.

Another enemy company was attacking slightly to the east at approximately the same time. The assault was hurled back by friendly forces in less than an hour. Later, the enemy renewed the attack with a company-size force and an additional unknown number, but this attack also was beaten off after a two-hour battle.

In the same area early yesterday, an assault by two enemy platoons succeeded in penetrating United Nations Command positions slightly, but a strong friendly counter-attack ejected the enemy force and restored the positions.

South of Kumsong, United Nations Command troops engaged an estimated two enemy companies for less than half an hour and forced the hostile group to withdraw. In the same area, a brief probe by two enemy platoons was repulsed late the night of July 21, according to delayed reports.

Northeast of Kumhwa, a reinforced enemy platoon attacked United Nations Command positions for approximately thirty-five minutes early yesterday before it was hurled back.

In the western sector of the battlefront, a friendly outpost position north of Chorwon received three enemy attacks early yesterday, all by unknown numbers of enemy. All the attacks were repulsed, with the longest encounter lasting approximately one and one-half hours.

East of Luke's Castle, in the east-central sector, two United Nations Command outposts each received two-platoon enemy attacks early yesterday. Both assaults were blunted in less than half an hour.

Southeast of Anchor Hill in the eastern sector, a friendly outpost was attacked by an estimated two enemy platoons at mid-day. The United Nations Command troops there were reinforced and the enemy group hurled back. The same positions were attacked by a reinforced enemy platoon a short time later, but also unsuccessfully.

Surface elements of the United Nations Command Fleet laid down a withering barrage on enemy front-line positions as they fired inland from positions off Kosong on the east coast. The heavy bombardment in support of battling United Nations Command ground forces, wiped out numerous enemy troops, gun emplacements and bunkers. Several secondary explosions, presumed to have been caused by exploding enemy ammunition, were observed.

Farther north, other surface elements trained their guns on the Wonsan area, scoring excellent results in a troop bivouac area and blasting enemy gun positions in the same vicinity. Buildings and bunkers occupied by enemy troops were destroyed in another east coast bombardment at Songjin.

In the Yellow Sea, good coverage was reported from naval gunfire near Chingang during the night.

Hostile airfields at Uiju, Namsi, Sunchon and Kangdong were targets of United Nations Command fighter-bombers, while others bombed rail cars, rolling stock and transportation facilities during the day.

United Nations Command jet fighters late in the afternoon were successful in engagements with enemy fighter jet aircraft. During daylight, light bombers hit a rail marshaling yard at Chongan, south of Wonsan, and during darkness pounded hostile supply vehicles. Medium bombers at night dumped tons of explosives on enemy airfields at Sinuiju and Namsi.

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