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NOTE DATED 21 DECEMBER 1950 FROM THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TRANSMITTING THREE COMMUNIQUEs ISSUED
BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF 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 honour to transmit herewith, for the information of the Security Council, the following communiques issued by General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command, during the last twenty-four hours:

Release 745, issued at 3:10 P.M., Wednesday, December 20, 1950
(1:10 A.M., Wednesday, Eastern standard time)

Release 746, issued at 4:15 P.M., Wednesday, December 20, 1950
(2:15 A.M., Wednesday, Eastern standard time)

Release 747, issued at 12 noon, Thursday, December 21, 1950
(10 P.M., Wednesday, Eastern standard time)

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RELEASE 745, ISSUED AT 3:10 P.M., WEDNESDAY (1:10 A.M., WEDNESDAY,
EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Fighters and bombers of the United States Far East Air Forces pounded the Communists for the 176th consecutive day Tuesday, striking at more than sixty different targets from the battle line to the international border.

Bomber Command Superfortresses struck at the military storage area in Pakchon, dropping sixty-four tons of general purpose bombs on the target. Three rail bridges and a highway bridge leading into the communications center of Chongju were attacked, with direct hits being made on at least three.

Fifth Air Force B-26 light bombers continued their 'round-the-clock' operations, hitting supply and troop areas beyond the battle line. Near Sariwon the light bombers attacked a body of horse cavalry, killing or wounding an estimated 250 horsemen. Twenty-three supply buildings and one tank were destroyed in the same attack. At Namchonjom, forty supply buildings were successfully attacked and twenty-three others heavily rocketed and strafed near Ichon.

Striking along main highways the B-26's, in night intruder attacks, hit small convoys, knocking out an undetermined number of vehicles near Chongju, Huichon and Pyongyang. Fires were left burning at the airfield in Pyongyang following a bombing strike.

Fifth Air Force fighters attacked vehicles, tanks, troops, fortified buildings and artillery emplacements, principally behind enemy lines. At Sariwon, two tanks, two trucks and eleven supply carts were strafed and thirty-five enemy casualties inflicted. A locomotive was destroyed in Imong and a train rocketed at Huichon. Near Yongsan F-80 jets destroyed an entire convoy of twenty-three trucks.

F-86 Sabre jets engaged twelve MIG-15's over Sinuiju and damaged one of the enemy planes. Breaking off the encounter, the MIG's fled across the international border to safety. None of the F-86's suffered damage.

At the end of Tuesday's operations, Fifth Air Force planes had destroyed or damaged a total of three tanks, fifty-seven vehicles, nineteen pack animals, a locomotive, fourteen rail cars, and artillery emplacement, 300 supply or fortified buildings and thirty-one carts. In addition, at least 476 enemy troops were killed or wounded.

Transports of the Combat Cargo Command continued the airlifting of the essential supplies and passengers into Korea.

RELEASE 746, ISSUED AT 4:15 P.M., WEDNESDAY (2:15 A.M., WEDNESDAY,
EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

As the reconstituted North Korean Army emerges into plain sight, the pattern of its rebuilding is delineated in the interrogation of recently captured prisoners of war. Rather complete reports received from members of the Seventh North Korean Division are characteristic of procedures and indicate that orders were received to retreat to the north after United Nations forces broke out of their perimeter in the middle of September.

Although badly hurt, the remnants of the division retained some cohesion, and they moved north along mountain trails, mostly at night, for seventeen days. Practically all of their heavy equipment had been lost. Nevertheless, there was intermittent radio contact maintained between groups and about 1,500 stragglers from other North Korean units joined them during this part of their march. After crossing into North Korea, the units were able to travel by day and rest at night, and they finally arrived at Koksan on November 12. Orders were then received for all units to assemble near Hwachong. At that time, the Second Regiment had built up to a strength of 3,000 men.

By November 17, the division had received increments from at least six other units and also had managed to pick up 2,000 conscripts. According to the prisoners, the Seventh Division by that time had built up to its normal strength of approximately 10,000 men. New equipment had been progressively received, although winter clothing still was in short supply. Since this padded cotton clothing was being made in nearby villages, there was little uniformity in color. Food also was requisitioned from the "Peoples' Committees," i.e., the local Communist fronts, in each village.

It is evident from the indications of North Korean corps organization that a very large buildup of Korean Communist armed forces has been and is in process. A potential of at least fifteen divisions, possibly considerably more is planned, as evidenced by the existence of at least five, and possibly more, North Korean corps organizations, a headquarters unit indicative of planning for sizeable formations.

United Nations forces in the Hungnam perimeter had a relatively quiet day yesterday. Enemy attacks during the early morning hours were repulsed without loss of ground. For the remainder of the day, friendly units exchanged sporadic small arms fire with the enemy.

Eighth Army units in the Hwachon sector engaged the enemy in a series of fire fights yesterday without change of positions. To the west of Hwachon, United Nations patrols engaged small groups of enemy in short fire fights. These enemy groups were dispersed with small arms and artillery fire. Another United Nations patrol contacted and partially destroyed a small enemy group in an area east of Hwachon.

RELEASE 747, ISSUED AT 12 NOON, THURSDAY (10 P.M., WEDNESDAY,
EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Coordinated naval air and gunfire attacks yesterday continued to prevent enemy troops from massing for an attack on the Hungnam defense perimeter.

Naval gunfire has been credited by Tenth Corps headquarters with thwarting enemy night attacks. Carrier-based air attacks have forced the enemy to disperse and hide during the day.

Flying 216 sorties yesterday, Navy pilots of Fast Carrier Task Force 77 and Marine pilots of an escort carrier group concentrated their entire effort in close and deep support of ground forces in the Hungnam area.

Twenty-one scattered troop concentrations were attacked with resulting heavy casualties. Approximately 140 buildings and sheds used as hideouts were destroyed or damaged.

Destroyed were nine vehicles and one tank. Damaged were four supply dumps, two highway bridges, one small shipyard (northeast of Hungnam), one blockhouse, four railroad cars, one railroad roundhouse, three railroad tunnels and four vehicles.

United States Navy fire-support ships, including heavy cruisers and supporting destroyers, continued to ring the Hungnam area with a steady stream of harassing, interdiction, illumination and call-fire support by bombardment.

The fleet off Hungnam is under the over-all command of Rear Admiral James H. Doyle, who flies his flag in the U.S.S. Mount McKinley.

On Tuesday, Sea Furies and Fireflies operating from the British carrier Theseus flew forty-five sorties in effective attacks against military targets south of Pyongyang.

A bridge southeast of Pyongyang was bombed. At Hwasan and Hukkyo two trucks, one building and one fuel dump were destroyed. Damaged were eight trucks, six tanks and one locomotive. One large troop concentration was attacked with estimated heavy casualties.

In addition to the strikes against military targets, pilots from the Theseus flew protective air cover for the United Nations fleet operating on the west coast. Represented in the fleet are ships of the Netherlands, Republic of Korea, France, Thailand, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, England and the United States.

Armed reconnaissance and anti-mine patrols were flown by Royal Air Force Sunderland and United States Navy Lockheed Neptunes and Martin Mariners.
