KOREA

1. North Koreans launching supreme effort to drive out UN forces--
The invaders are massing all available manpower and equipment along the entire front in what may be their supreme effort to drive the UN forces into the sea before US reinforcements can arrive to redress the present North Korean superiority in troops and armored equipment. The North Koreans are continuing their unopposed drive through southwestern Korea, with an enemy force in regimental strength reported to be in the coastal city of Mokpo. Along the front from Taejon to the east, the enemy continues to mass troops and materiel and to increase pressure against US and South Korean positions. Two new North Korean divisions have been identified in the central sector, which, combined with the shifting of the combat-wise North Korean First Division, indicates preparations for a major push south toward Taegu and Kumchon. Enemy troops south of Yongdok on the east coast were pushed back one mile by US-South Korean forces, but the situation remains serious. Aircraft of the US Seventh Fleet are striking at enemy troops in southwest Korea.

Reports from refugees indicate that Seoul, the former South Korean capital, is suffering from inflation and a rice famine, with rice prices there ranging from 7 to 11 times the levels prevailing in Pusan and Taegu. On the third day of enemy occupation, authorities confiscated all rice found during a house-to-house search and the people in Seoul have been without rice since that time.

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