MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

1. Military Situation

   Summary: Over the weekend, North Korean forces in considerable strength broke through positions held by the ROK forces on the east coast in a push toward Kyongju. The US 21st Division has been ordered to move into the area. Along the rest of the defense perimeter, UN forces generally held their positions against heavy enemy pressure.

   UN naval units gave close support fire to ground units along the east and south coast, and attacked North Korean military and industrial targets in the Ryangsan area.

   UN air units rendered close support to ground units and B-29s attacked a gunpowder plant in the North Korean industrial city of Haeju on the west coast.

   South Sector

   The US 25th Division continued to maintain its general defense positions in the face of continuous attacks from the enemy's 6th and 7th Divisions. A battalion of the 27th Regiment is encircled by the enemy and is being supplied by airdrop. To the north in the US 2nd Division's zone, elements of the 2nd Division and the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade are making slow progress against the Changnyang bridgehead. Other units of the 2nd Division continue to hold new positions following earlier withdrawals.

   Center Sector

   The 27th US Brigade (two battalions) has moved into the line in the southernmost portion of the US 1st Cavalry's zone near Yosu. The 5th and 7th Cavalry Regiments continue to hold their positions along...
the Nakdong River to Waegwan. Strong enemy forces in the area to the
northwest of Waegwan cut off elements of the 8th Cavalry Regiment, but
contact was made with these isolated elements later.

East Sector

The sector held by the ROK 1st and 6th Divisions remained rela-
tively quiet with only light enemy contact. The enemy's 12th Division
penetrated positions defended by the ROK Capital Division in the Kipy
area and is reported to be threatening the key city of Kyongju. The
US 21st Regiment has established a defense perimeter around the city,
and the US 24th Division has been ordered into the area. The ROK 8th
and 3rd Divisions continued to hold on the right and left flanks of the
enemy breakthrough.

Navy

Fire missions in support of ground troops were executed by UN naval
forces on the eastern and southern coastal fronts. Other naval units
attacked military and economic targets in the Kyongyang area on the North
Korean west coast.

Air

FEAP units provided close support to ground units. B-29s attacked
a gunpowder plant in the North Korean west coast industrial city of Haeju.
North Korean air action was again reported in the northern sector when a
Yak fighter attacked a UN observation plane.

Press reports indicate that a twin-engine bomber marked with red
stars (similar markings are used by the North Korean air force) was shot
down when it attacked a UN fighter patrol. A body recovered from the
wreckage by a US destroyer was identified as being that of a Soviet
officer. (No official confirmation of the press report has reached CIA)

II. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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