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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

17c

31 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

**SUBJECT:** The Korean Situation.

I. Military Situation

Summary

Fighting is continuing in the north and east sectors, but no substantial changes in positions have occurred. Enemy activity is increasing somewhat in the rear areas of the center and north sectors. UN naval and air force units continued to make heavy strikes against air fields, industrial areas, railroads and enemy troop concentrations.

South Sector

Patrolling and minor fire attacks occurred in the US 25th Division zone. The US 24th RCT regained some lost ground. The ROK marines, in the course of patrolling, caused confusion among the enemy troops, who started fighting among themselves, with an estimated 60 casualties resulting.

Center Sector

Enemy activity increased along the west bank of the Nakdong, with renewed but unsuccessful attempts to cross the river in the US 2nd Division zone. An undetermined number of enemy troops and vehicles were reported moving eastward on the road from Kumchon to Waegwan. The US 38th RCT made probing attacks against the Hyonpung bridgehead, and reported an increase of enemy activity in that area. The US 7th RCT attacked northeast of Waegwan, but was repulsed, and suffered casualties from booby-trapped foxholes.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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**SECRET**North Sector

The ROK 19th RCT was forced to withdraw nearly three miles, but contained the enemy attack in the new position south of Uihung. Increasing enemy night movements from Uisong to the southeast have been reported.

East Sector

No substantial changes have occurred in positions along the front lines in the east; however, heavy fighting has continued. The enemy roadblock two miles southwest of Pohang was eliminated, but enemy groups in the hills have been harassing the main supply route with small arms fire.

Navy

Carrier air operations were shifted from the east coast to the west coast, where heavy strikes were made against the west coast railway. Other naval air units attacked enemy troops in the north and center sectors of the line. Surface vessels bombed targets in the Pohang area, and in the south sector.

Air

Attacks by UN air forces were made against 60 different locations, including the airfields at Seoul, Suwon, and Kangnung. The industrial complex at Chinnampo has been destroyed to such an extent that the area has been removed from the list of strategic targets. Other air units continued close support missions, with an estimated 500-700 enemy killed in the Kigye area.

**II. General Situation**

No significant developments have been reported in the past 24 hours.

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