

WAR DIARY

7th Inf Div

0001 - 2400 20 Sep 1950

Narrative

Source

Lt Col Oswald, G-4 conferred with Major General Ruffner, Chief of Staff, X Corps on the general supply situation. Upon request, X Corps loaned the 7th Division twenty (20) 2½ ton trucks for a short time to assist in the transporting of critical items of supply. At the same time a G-4 representative was sent to the beach area to expedite and further coordinate the unloading operation.

Inclosure #20

During the period the Division suffered the following personnel losses:

Inclosure #21

	KIA	WIA	MIA	NBC
US	1	3	0	1
ROK	1	0	0	0

During the period 3 M-26 tanks were lost due to anti-tank mines.

Inclosure #22

21 PWs were taken.

Inclosure #19

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Source

RCT 31 continued on its previously assigned mission.

Inclosure #24

During the day, the Division Air Section planes received both automatic and small arms ground fire from seemingly isolated small groups on the hilltops.

During the day 67 enemy prisoners were taken and turned over to the G-2 Section for interrogation. Up to this point, casualties have been surprisingly small and out of proportion both to the operations in which the Division has been involved and in consideration of the amount of fire, particularly small arms fire, which has been directed against our units. The obvious conclusion is that the enemy is poorly trained in rifle marksmanship.

Inclosure #23

The 31st FA Bn debarked and went into assembly areas at INCHON.

Operations by the Division are still seriously hampered by the lack of necessary supplies and equipment, caused by the slowness of unloading ships at INCHON, which is in turn caused by the very limited beach facilities and the exceedingly high tides, and the long offshore mud flats which prevent any beaching operations except at periods of high tide. It has been necessary to procure trucks from X Corps in order to haul rations, water and POL supplies, as our organic transportation in the main is still on cargo ships in the harbor. At this time Brig Gen Hodes, Assistant Division Commander, directed that no further personnel be offloaded until a part of the serious supply and equipment backlog is reduced and we have enough supplies on shore to support the personnel already ashore.

Inclosure #27

Brig Gen Stewart, Commanding the INCHON Base, visited the 7th Division CP and conferred with G-4 and other staff representatives. He agreed to load the Division more two and a half ton trucks for hauling purposes in an attempt to relieve immediate shortages, particularly that of POL supplies.

Authority 785101
By CEL NARA Date 5/18/10

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Losses during the period were:

Inclosure #26

	KIA	WIA	MIA
US	1	4	0
ROK	1	0	0

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RCT 32 was ordered to attack and seize Objectives "F", "G" and "J". To implement this decision, the 1st Battalion 32d RCT attacked to their front at 0730 hours and rapidly reduced Objectives "E" and "G" (ONDANG-NI, West of ANYANG-NI) which was necessary prior to proceeding on their main mission. They called for an air strike to assist them which was delivered with decisive effect. The 1st Battalion, with the 3rd Battalion following, continued forward, following the 7th Reconnaissance Company and captured ANYANG-NI. This action resulted in the severance of the main enemy line of communication along the SEOUL, SUWON, TAEJON Highway and was a decisive loss of the enemy, materially reducing his usable supply routes to his forces in the PUSAN sector. The 2nd Battalion attacked at 0800 hours and captured the town of TOKSAN-NI (14-47) south of the SEOUL - INCHON highway against light resistance, which consisted of small unit delaying action with small arms. No evidence was found here of previously prepared and manned enemy positions.

Inclosure #24

Inclosure #25

Inclosure #23

During the day, the Division Air Section maintained a continuous air reconnaissance from "first light" until darkness.

The 7th Reconnaissance Company made a road reconnaissance in force of the routes from our main position to Objective "J" and from there south in the direction of SUWON. Their leading elements reached the town of ANYANG-NI at 1055 hours, passed through the town after a small fire fight, and proceeded south along the highway, entering SUWON at 1820 hours. They were followed at an approximate distance of one mile by a Task Force consisting of a Company of Tanks from the 73rd M Tank Battalion and Company C of the 1st Battalion, RCT 32, and a platoon of the 13th Engineer (C) Battalion.

Inclosure #25

Shortly prior to darkness, a small column of four jeeps was proceeding south on the SUWON, OSAN-NI Highway about a half mile south of SUWON, carrying the Division G-2, G-3 and other personnel. They were surprised by four enemy tanks and in the ensuing action the Division G-3 (Lt Col Henry Hampton) was killed and an enlisted driver wounded. The remainder of the column dispersed and at daylight made their way back to friendly units. Two other enlisted men from Hq Co were injured later.

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Narrative

Source

Combat patrols on Objective "J" were in contact with the enemy. The 1st Battalion was moving on Objectives "K" and "J", and the 3rd Battalion was in Reserve.

During the day Major General Almond visited the 7th Division CP and conferred with Major General Barr. During the conference he directed that the 1st Battalion of RCT 32 move to the North in the vicinity of Objective "Y" (SANGANG-NI) and clear out any enemy pockets which might exist along the boundary between the 7th Division and the 1st Marine Division. General Almond and General Barr made a personal reconnaissance of the northern Division boundary.

Refugees clog the roads and the byways and filter through the hills and mountains and it is very evident that many of them are North Koreans filtering north from the Pusan perimeter or stragglers who have been separated from their units in our zone. They wear white civilian clothing chiefly and most of them are carrying innocent looking bundles. Instances have been noted of actually seeing such persons change from uniform to civilian clothing and attempting to hide their weapons in their clothing. A few have been killed in the process of changing.

The 7th Military Police Company, NOK police units and intelligence agencies have worked night and day screening refugees, but due to the great volume, many enemy have unquestionably slipped through. Sniping along the roads, particularly at night, is continuous from the hilltops and in the towns.

As a typical example of this type of guerilla warfare, a patrol of the 7th Military Police Company was ambushed by persons wearing white clothing in broad daylight in a rear area and the 1st Sergeant of the unit killed and others wounded. Under ordinary circumstances, this area would be considered as secure and safe, but under these circumstances no zone can be considered as being non-dangerous. A few female guerillas have been captured carrying munitions such as grenades under their garments. Generally, the civilian population is friendly and cooperative, and have given a great deal of valuable information to our forces concerning the location of hostile personnel,

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but they too stand in fear of retribution and ambush.

Generally, organized enemy resistance has been limited to strong delaying actions, combat patrols and ambushes from favorable terrain.

During the reporting period, 200 prisoners were taken, and enemy killed is estimated at 150, with three tanks destroyed. Enemy morale shows slight deterioration.

Inclosure #31

Personnel losses from the period were:

	KIA	WIA	MIA
US	2	27	0
ROK	1	10	0

Inclosure #33

The supply situation remains critical. A query was made by G-4 as to the possibility of operating an airlift into Kimpo Airfield to relieve the situation, but I Corps did not believe that the plan was feasible at the time.

Inclosure #34

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OOOI - 2400 22 Sep 1950

Narrative

Source

Task Force "Hannum" and "Task Force Daugherty" were organized and given the following missions:

Inclosures #28 and 29

1. Task Force Hannum

73rd M Tank Battalion (less Cos A and C)
K Company, 32d Inf
Battery C, 48th FA Bn
One Plat Company B, 13th Engr (C) Bn

Ordered to advance down the ANYANG-NI SUWON Highway to seize SUWON and the SUWON Airfield which at the time was being covered by the 7th Reconnaissance Company.

2. Task Force Daugherty

One Tank Company (less two platoons)
One Company RCT 32 (Reinforced)
One Platoon, 13th Engr (C) Bn
Medical Unit, RCT 31
TACP

To make a reconnaissance toward SUWON by a route west of the main highway.

RCT 31 (-) was ordered to be prepared to move a Battalion reinforced to the north limits of SUWON and then to secure the SUWON Airfield. Task Force "Hannum" entered the ancient walled city of SUWON, relieving the 7th Reconnaissance Company, who then proceeded to reconnoiter further south along the SUWON - OSAN-NI Highway.

Inclosure #30

RCT 31, less the 3rd Battalion in Division Reserve, moved south in the direction of SUWON. Earlier in the day, the 3rd Battalion, 31st Inf had been relieved from Corps Reserve on verbal authority which was later confirmed in writing.

Inclosure #35

RCT 32, supported by the 48th FA Battalion (-), Company B 13th Engr (C) Battalion (-) and a Battery of the 15th AAA (AW) Battalion continued with their previous day's mission of protecting the right (South) boundary of the 1st Marine Division and the maintenance of continuous liaison with them. The RCT was further given the task of capturing Objective "H" (PAKCHEGUNG) and Objective "K" (TONGSANCHAN). Shortly after day-break a patrol which had reached Objective "K" was attacked by numerically superior enemy forces and forced to withdraw from the Objective, to the southwest into the main friendly position. However, by 1800 hours, the 2nd Battalion was occupying Objective "P" and was maintaining a combat outpost of Objective "I".

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Source

The forward echelon of Division Headquarters displaced to ANYANG-NI at 1200 hours. The rear echelon remained at INCHON.

RCT 31 was directed to clear the North Entrance to the walled city of SUWON by going through the north wall if necessary. This was accomplished without the necessity of knocking down the wall. The RCT then secured the high dominating terrain to the South of the city, and sent out reconnaissance patrols to the South and East. Resistance was spotty in nature and in the main consisted of isolated small groups armed with rifles.

Inclosure #36

RCT 32 seized Objectives "K" and "J" at 1215 and maintained continuous liaison with the 1st Marine Division to the North, which at the time was at the western approaches to SEOUL, but meeting with heavy resistance. In this area the Division was confronted with well prepared defensive positions manned by first line enemy troops, who were supported by both artillery and mortar fire. This opposition was overcome with the support of the 45th FA Bn. The defense was well coordinated and mounted a strong counterattack against the 2nd Battalion, which was beaten off after heavy fighting.

Inclosure #37

Inclosure #38

The 7th Reconnaissance Company continued to screen the country to the South in the direction of OSAN-NI without serious resistance. They covered the main highway and roads branching both to the East and West. Numerous reports of an enemy organizing in this area, were for the time being disapproved.

The 7th QM Co, 7th Sig Co and 707th Ord Co performed herculean tasks supplying and supporting the troops with a Division front of approximately 35 miles and critically handicapped by a shortage of vehicles.

At approximately 1300 hours Major General Almond arrived at the Division CP, and at a ceremony presented the following decorations to 7th Division personnel:

Major General Barr	Silver Star
Major Irwin Edwards, G-2	Bronze Star
Major Robert Lowe, Div Air Sect	Air Medal
2d Lt Jesse Van Sant, 7th Recon Co	Bronze Star
M/Sgt C. B. Reinhardt, 7th Recon	Bronze Star
SFC Jose Diaz, Co B, 13th Engr Bn	Bronze Star

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PFC Donald Tenbrink

Bronze Star

Purple Heart

Pvt Jack Arnette, G-3 Section

Bronze Star

Purple Heart

Sniping by Koreans in civilian clothes continues along the roads.

Task Force "Hannum" was dissolved, and the units composing it were returned to their parent units. Naval gunfire teams were detached from the Division as our units were beyond naval gunfire support.

The 13th Engineer (C) Battalion maintained the Main Supply Routes, which was in need of continual repair.

Prisoners of war captured for the period were 97.

Inclosure #38

No personnel losses were reported for the period.

Inclosure #39

G-4 requested that an air lift of supplies be initiated using the SUWON Airfield to increase our supply flow, particularly for RCT 31. A DOA was established at SUWON. The general overall supply situation is improving materially.

Inclosure #40

The 31st FA Bn was given a mission of supporting the 48th FA Bn.