



On the western front, US Second Division troops secured a hill position near Changnyong, 23 miles southwest of Taegu, in an attack on the Communist Naktong River bulge. As the week progressed, this sector remained quiet.

Allied troops got word that they would soon kick off on the offensive against the North Korean war machine they had battled to a standstill for a month. The Allied ground commander in Korea said, "Soon we are going to give up on the attitude of defense...as soon as we start forward and break the crust in front of us, the enemy will fold. We can feel a weakening of the enemy now...in some positions they actually are pulling out." UN gains in a three-day offensive were the greatest in nearly a month. They sealed the gap torn last week by Communists in their massive breakout south from Kigye near the east coast.

A North Korean broadcast Thursday appeared to be saying that an Allied amphibious landing was attempted Thursday on Korea's west coast near Red-held Seoul, but there was no confirmation from UN sources. The US Navy announced that American warship guns and carrier planes had attacked the area from dawn to dusk earlier in the week. Allied sources said they believed the Reds were trying to save face on the shellacking they took in the bombardment by calling it a victory in a landing effort that was repulsed. On 15 September American Marines and infantry stormed ashore in force far up Korea's west coast at Inchon and drove swiftly two miles into the big port city under heavy Red fire. American and British warships covered the landings with a crushing bombardment. On Saturday tank-led American and South Korean Marines captured the southwest industrial suburb of Seoul, fought into the northwest and advanced toward the heart of the Korean capital, seizing the Kimpo airport along the way. The fast-moving attack had now gained 22 miles since the landings on Friday. Simultaneously, a full-scale Allied offensive kicked off all along the 120-mile perimeter of the old defense line. It made good to moderate gains in hard-slogging conflict in rain and mud. Most notable advance was made by the US Second Division, which drove back to the east bank of the Naktong River – a 4.5 mile gain. Korean Reds were withdrawing westward in a "general exodus" and in "vast, mad confusion."

A national manpower program began shaping up as war plants were given top priority in hiring at the 1,800 federal-state employment offices. If a call for full mobilization were to bring 12.5 million men again under arms, civilian industry would have to give up one-fourth of its labor supply, losing 6.6 million workers.

The Spirit of St. Louis passenger train of the Pennsylvania Railroad crashed into a troop train stalled in heavy fog due to mechanical problems. Thirty-three 28th Division Pennsylvania National Guardsmen were killed in the crash.

US soldiers testified that at least three of their comrades were thrown into a roaring fire by their North Korean captors on the western front. The fire had apparently been built for that purpose. The Americans had been captured when the Reds overran an advance command post the night of 31 August during the first Communist drive that rocked UN defenders back on their heels.

Plans were completed for the departure of the 728th Ordnance Maintenance Company, a part of the Commonwealth's 28th "Bloody Bucket" Division. They would entrain at the local PRR station, where a special train would take them to Harrisburg to be consolidated with other division troops en route to Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Training there would begin on Monday.

(Photo courtesy newspapers.com, Chambersburg Public Opinion)