



General MacArthur went ashore to make a front line tour. He charged that Communist China provided a major share of the muscle of the North Korean army by swelling its ranks with 40 to 60 thousand combat-seasoned troops of Korean origin. This was later confirmed by the Chinese government. He also said that Russia supplied the North Koreans with weapons and munitions, sending in a wide variety of equipment as late as 1950. On Monday UN Forces prepared to bridge the Han river barrier before Seoul as US Seventh Division infantrymen poured into the western Korean beachhead from landing ships off Inchon. US Marines who had stormed ashore Friday held a solid beachhead extending from the port city to the Han, seven miles from Seoul.

When the Seventh completed its landings, UN strength in the beachhead would be upwards of 40,000 men. Mid-week US Marines crashed into Seoul from the northwest into heavy resistance. Other Leathernecks formed the lower jaw of a vice by lunging southwest of the city proper through an industrial suburb and airfield on the Han river's west bank. A battle for Seoul appeared to be impending – the US 10th Corps said a tank-supported Red column from Manchuria was spotted moving south from North Korea,

In a coordinated offensive to break out of the old Pusan perimeter in southeast Korea, elements of the US Second Division crashed across the Naktong river line and established a firm bridgehead on the west bank. Quickly following, units of the First Corps, 23 miles further north, crossed to the river's west bank in 50 assault boats. The second crossing came under Communist attack and was having a rough going. As the week progressed, at other locations on the perimeter troops were sent into Pohang, two other beachheads were carved across the Naktong, and the hotly-defended walled city of Kusan was occupied. At the end of the week, tank-led US Cavalry troops had broken 35 miles beyond the old South Korean defense lines, threatening large-scale entrapment of retreating Communists bound for the battle of Seoul.

A high ranking Army commander said that with North Korean forces crumbling, everything depends on “whether the Russian reacts.” He believed that the bold strike at Inchon would bring about the rapid collapse of the enemy. He added: “Only Russian intervention will prevent the full success of the operation.”

Thirty-two war materials, including steel, lumber, industrial alcohol and nylon yarn, were placed under federal anti-hoarding control. Factories and dealers were forbidden to buy, receive and deliver more than a “practicable minimum working inventory” of the materials. The order was effective simultaneously with the restoration of government curbs on consumers' easy payment credit.

The US Secretary of State asked the UN General Assembly to raise stout new defenses against Communist aggression wherever in the world it may break out. One of his proposals was to earmark forces which could be used to counter belligerence as was done in Korea.

President Truman laid before Congress the blueprint for a vast civil defense program to rally the nation from an atomic attack and enable it to strike back swiftly and destroy the aggressor. The program outlined a mutual aid system reaching into every American home and calling for the services of hundreds of thousands of paid and unpaid workers at the federal, state and local level.

Increasing Red surrenders were arousing cautious hopes that there could be quick peace in Korea. Other quarters, aware of grim realities on the fighting fronts, where resistance was still stiff, hesitated to predict such a trend. For instance, the Reds hastily shifting troops to adjust for the UN offensive at Seoul were fighting determinedly to hold onto the city.

(Photo courtesy newspapers.com, Allentown Morning Call)