

The Korean War, 70 Years Later, The Morning News, Danville, PA

Korean War Weekly Front Pages

10 December - 16 December 1950

The Morning News, Danville, PA

Escape.

Yanks Break Out Of Commie Death Trap

Several Accidents Reported In Area During Weekend

Several accidents were reported in a ten-mile radius on Sunday at 2:30 p. m. according to a report of the Danville Police Department. The accidents were reported by a young man named... A. A. Fisher was struck on the right side by a car driven by... (Article continues with details of several traffic accidents involving cars and a truck.)

John L. Jones Succumbs Here After Illness

John L. Jones, 54, died of heart failure on Sunday at his home here after a long illness. He had been suffering from heart trouble for several years. He was born in... (Article continues with details of his life and family.)

NORTH KOREANS FLEE FROM RED CHINESE INVADERS

Yanks Break Out Of Commie Death Trap

NORTHEAST KOREA FRONT, Dec. 10 (AP)—Spearsheads of a 25,000-man American force and a few British Commandos crashed through the last wall of Chinese Reds today and sped toward Hungnam, Korea east coast port.

Field officers said it would be at least late Monday, however, before the main column could reach the Hungnam area. It was held up while Purple Heart infantry of the U. S. Third Division cleared a band of Chinese from two snow-covered ridges.

The Chinese were firing on the escape road from their commanding hill positions.

An Hungarian supply American fleet was standing by to evacuate the weary troops if that seemed necessary. The Chinese Reds striking at the head of a 100,000-man force in northeast Korea, posed a grave threat to Hungnam.

Two Chinese Divisions—44,000 to 20,000 troops—were moving on Jan. 1, 1950. Corps here from the north-west.

The initial American breakthrough cleared nearly two weeks of fighting to reach out of a Red trap in the last Chungking offensive area, U. S. First Division Marine and Seventh Division Doughboys and 15th British Royal Marines battled through waves of Chinese.

The 25,000-man force made its way to Hungnam with the help of a large number of tanks and heavy equipment. The force was held up for a number of days by Chinese attacks, but it finally broke through on Sunday.

The Chinese were firing on the escape road from their commanding hill positions. An Hungarian supply American fleet was standing by to evacuate the weary troops if that seemed necessary. The Chinese Reds striking at the head of a 100,000-man force in northeast Korea, posed a grave threat to Hungnam.

Blanket of Snow Falls Over Most Of State Sunday

The snowfall was heaviest in the northern part of the state, where it reached a depth of 12 inches in some places. It was lighter in the southern part, where it averaged about 4 inches. The snow was expected to melt by Monday morning.

Casualties In Korea Stepped Up Sharply

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Defense Department said Sunday that casualties here, reported sharply in the last few weeks in Korea, had today stepped up to a level that is expected to be maintained for the remainder of the year.

The department said that the total number of deaths in Korea for the year is expected to be 15,000. It said that the number of deaths in Korea for the year is expected to be 15,000.

A.O.H. Holds Election Of Officers Here

The American Officers' Association held its annual election of officers here on Sunday. The officers elected were...

Rookie Trooper Arrests Escapees In Harrisburg

A rookie trooper arrested two escapees in Harrisburg on Sunday. The escapees were...

Harry Gold Is Sentenced

Harry Gold was sentenced to 15 years in prison for a crime committed in 1945. He was...

Truman Letter May Be Sold To Aid Charity

A letter from President Truman may be sold to aid a charity. The letter was...

KVS Concert Here Tonight

The KVS Concert will be held here tonight. The concert will feature...

County Rural Letter Carriers Hold Christmas Party

Rural letter carriers in the county held a Christmas party on Sunday. The party was...

Marines Walk Out Of Freezing Hell

Marines walked out of a freezing hell in Korea on Sunday. The marines were...

NEWS BULLETINS

LAST BROTHERS MEET
The last meeting of the... will be held on...

MAZARIN BACK HERE
Mazarin, the... will be back here...

MEETINGS HERE TONIGHT
Meetings will be held here tonight...

NO RECALLS
There are no recalls scheduled for...

RECALLS
Recalls are scheduled for...

RECALLS
Recalls are scheduled for...

RECALLS
Recalls are scheduled for...

On Monday, spearheads of a 25,000-man American force and some British commandos crashed through the last wall of Chinese Reds and sped toward the coastal city of Hungnam. Field officers said it would be at least late Monday before the main column could reach the area. The Chinese were firing on the escape road from commanding hill positions. The Chinese Reds, striking at the head of a 100,000-man force in northeast Korea,

posed a grave threat to the city. The initial American breakthrough climaxed nearly two weeks of fighting to crash out of a Red trap in the frigid Chosin Reservoir area, where they had been trapped for 12 days of freezing hell. US First Division Marines, Seventh Division doughboys and 100 British Royal Marines battled through waves of Chinese to escape. Casualties were heavy – Marines were estimated to have lost somewhere between the 6,500 at Peleliu and the 3,300 at Tarawa, two bitter Marine battles of WWII. Casualties across Korea had stepped up sharply in the last two weeks, but many were attributable to frostbite and exposure.

On Wednesday it was reported that a fleet of ships was evacuating UN forces from northeast Korea. Men and materiel were being loaded aboard transports and freighters at Hungnam. The troops included the 17th Regimental Combat Team of the US Army Seventh Division. The combat team had reached the North Korean border city of Hyesanjin, across the Yalu River from Manchuria, before receiving orders to withdraw. US Marines and soldiers had enveloped the Chosin Reservoir. South Koreans were rolling past Chosin to within 40 miles of the Soviet border. Then abruptly Chinese forces appeared in such strength that fighting withdrawals into the Hungnam beachhead were necessary.

At Hungnam, Communist forces were showing increased activity as the evacuation proceeded swiftly but calmly. The US Third Division drove off a probing attack by about 300 Reds Thursday morning only seven miles north of Hamhung, a big UN supply base for which Hungnam was the port. A similar attack, by Chinese Reds in American uniforms, was beaten back Wednesday. Red planes scoured the harbor evacuation area, showing more activity than throughout the war. Between eight and nine Chinese Communist divisions – possibly 80,000 strong – ringed the last Allied toehold in northeast Korea from nearby snow-covered hills and probing attacks continued. On Saturday, US warships off Hungnam began to bombard the enemy, and a major attack was expected within 48 hours.

General MacArthur cautiously suggested that his UN troops could hold off heavy Chinese forces in Korea for the time being, but the grim general warned in effect they could not do it for long. His views boiled down to: the Chinese failed in their plan to secretly build up enough strength to destroy UN forces with “one massive stroke”; Allied forces withdrew with skill and heroism; the fighting retreat has cost the Chinese staggering losses – perhaps ten to one; and he considered the command to be relatively secure.

In an unexpected move, the Russians stated that Chinese Communist forces would return home if all “foreign troops” were withdrawn from Korea. The surprise statement came just before a plan by 13 Asian and Middle Eastern countries seeking a cease fire on the peninsula was approved. There was no immediate reaction to the Russian declaration from the US or other western powers.

President Truman proclaimed a swift buildup of US armed forces and immediate, partial price controls because, he said, “we are in great danger” of World War III. In a solemn broadcast from the White House, the president said “our homes, our nation, all the things we believe in” were menaced by Soviet Communism. He said he would declare a national emergency, but there was still hope that free nations, working together, could prevent a global conflict.

(Photo courtesy newspapers.com, Danville Morning News)