

**ACTION REPORT OF 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION, FROM 21 NOVEMBER
1950 TO 20 DECEMBER 1950, FROM HYESANJIN TO HUNGNAM
OUTLOADING**

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COVER PAGE

ACTION REPORT OF 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

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FROM HYESANJIN TO HUNGNAM OUTLOADING

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7TH INFANTRY DIVISION OPERATIONS

21 November - 21 December

HYESANJIN - CHOSIN RESERVOIR - HUNGNAM

MAPS: KOREA 1:50,000 sheets J52B, K52M, K52O, K52T, K52U, 21 Nov 50

21 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay - 21 Nov 50

The 7th Division continued its mission of clearing the enemy within the division zone north to the Korean border on the YALU River. The 17th RCT at HYESANJIN continued securing that area and preparing to move elements west along the YALU River to secure the northern sector of the division's zone of responsibility. The 31st and 32d RCT's continued operations from the FUSEN Reservoir east to SILLYONG, securing the area, wiping out isolated areas of enemy resistance and securing the lines of communication and supply which are extremely extended. Enemy contact limited to 17th RCT patrols.

22 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay - 22 Nov 50

Division mission continues same. 17th RCT to attack west from HYESANJIN; 32d RCT to attack northwest and seize SAMSU; 31st RCT secure MSR and division installations in zone. Patrols from 17th and 32d RCT's had enemy contact. Weather continued cold, reaching a minimum of 20 degrees F in the northern sectors. Snow flurries began.

24 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay - 24 Nov 50

Division mission of clearing area continues. 1300 hours: mission received from Division CG at X Corps that eastern portion of the division zone will be turned over to I ROK Corps. Division to move west and take over a portion of 1st Marine Division zone, area unknown. 17th RCT continues attack to west along YALU: progress slow because of increased enemy resistance and road blocks. RCT to send patrols to east to determine condition of roads and railroads for possible supply and withdrawal routes. 31st RCT conducted individual and unit firing and maintenance of vehicles. 2d Bn 31st Inf ambushed enemy patrol at IPORI. 32d RCT continued attack: patrol stopped northeast of SAMSU by intense enemy fire. "I" Co closed SAMSU from SILLYONG, relieved by elements of 26th ROK Regiment. 1st Bn, 32d Inf attached to 1st Marine Division at HAMHUNG. 32d Tank Company remained at PUKCHONG.

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Only one route open at present to HAMHUNG. HYESANJIN - KAPSAN - PUNGSAN - PUKCHON - HAMHUNG: mostly one way road, partially covered in hill areas by snow and ice. Railroad from PUKCHONG to HAMHUNG. Capabilities of railroad from SILLYONG east to coast at TANCHON and then south along coast being investigated.

25 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay - 25 Nov 50

Division mission to assume new zone of action in CHOSIN Reservoir area with movement of 31st RCT and to continue attacks in present zones of 17th and 32d RCT's; assume command of 26th ROK regiment as it arrives in area to relieve divisional units.

26th ROK regiment to occupy HYESANJIN area, releasing 17th RCT for movement to new zone. 17th continues attack to west, prepare to occupy SAMSU - KAPSAN - PUNGSAN area and reconnoiter in force the road from HYESANJIN to SAMSU. 31st RCT preparing to move to new zone of action in CHOSIN Reservoir Area; be division reserve; protect MSR and division installations in zone. The 32d RCT (-) continue present mission; patrol to N, S and W of SAMSU; reconnoiter in force northwest from SAMSU to YALU River; reconnoiter in force southwest to WODONG-NI. Both 17th

and 32d RCT patrols encountered intense enemy fire in YALU area. High flying reconnaissance plane from north of YALU River sighted south of river.

1st Bn 32d Inf spent night 24-25 Nov at CV-5381, south of CHOSIN Reservoir. Moved to CHONGJIN (south of HAGARU-RI) today. 3d Bn 31st Inf in route to HAGARU-RI via PUKCHONG and HAMHUNG.

Temperature in the mountain areas of the division zone dropped to below zero F.

Order of movement of RCT's will be 31st, 32d, and 17th (after relief by 26th ROK regt). 185th Engineer Bn was detached from division.

26 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay 26 Nov 50

Division continues present mission of moving to new area east of CHOSIN Reservoir and relieving 1st Mar Div and continues clearing of HYESANJIN area west until relieved by I ROK Corps. (See O #26, Hq 7th Inf Div, 25 Nov 50, atchd).

Co A, 185th Engr Bn remains attached to division.

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17th Inf patrolled in force from HYESANJIN to SAMSU; arrived SAMSU 1630. Task Force Cooper at DA191819. 31st RCT (-), Forward CP opened at 261800 vicinity of 1st Bn 32d Inf on CHOSIN Reservoir. 2d Bn 31st began move from PUNGSAN to HAGARU-RI - CV5171. 1st Bn 31st contacted enemy 14-15 miles east of FUSEN Reservoir. Will remain to block enemy advance against division lines of communication from PUKCHONG north to PUNGSAN and west to HAMHUNG. 32d Inf - Task Force Kingston met heavy enemy resistance NW of SAMSU. 2d Battalion conducted local patrols. 1st Bn 32d remains attached to 1st Marine Division in CHOSIN Reservoir area.

52d Truck Battalion attached and assisting division in move. 7 December 1950 estimated earliest date by which the division can complete move to new locations. Reconnaissance of rail line from SILLYONHG - TANCHON - PUKCHONG to see if rail transportation could be used to assist movement of units north of PUNGSAN to whom only the one route, MSR from PUKCHONG, PUNGSAN, HYESANJIN was available.

27 Nov 50

Disposition - See overlay 27 Nov 50

See overlay - CHOSIN Reservoir area. See separate time schedule of CHOSIN engagement. Division continued relief of Marine elements east of CHOSIN Reservoir

and mopping up and attack HYESANJIN, SAMSU area. Mission in CHOSIN Reservoir area; to attack north to the YALU.

3d Bn 17th RCT closed SAMSU and attached to 32d RCT for operational control. Task Force Cooper patrolled five miles west from DA912819; no enemy contact. F Company closed UNTAEK. Patrol sent east along RR toward HAPSU. RCT 31 (-) consisting of advance CP 3d Bn 31st, 1st Battalion 32d, 57th FA Bn, D Btry, 15th AAA AW Bn in area east of CHOSIN Reservoir vic CV5384, CV5481. Regimental rear CP and Tank Co at CV5476. 32d RCT advance CP moved from KAPSAN to SAMSU. 7th Recon Co and Task Force Kingston engaged with enemy. All units continued plans for speedy movement to new areas on order.

28 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay 28 Nov 50

Actions of units engaged at CHOSIN Reservoir narrated in separate account for period 27 Nov 50 to 12 Dec 50.

Division continued movement and preparation of movement of personnel by rail and road to HAMHUNG area. 17th Inf.....

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.....patrolled in zone. No enemy contact reported. Task Force Cooper patrolled six miles west along YALU from DA918819. Preparations continued to assume responsibility for SAMSU DA1872, KAPSAN DA4048, HYESANJIN DA3184, PUNGSAN DA2918.

1st Bn 31st RCT patrolled in zone locally. No enemy contact reported. 2d Bn 31st Inf closed HAMHUNG. 32d Inf prepared for movement to PUKCHONG and for movement of Tank Co from PUKCHONG to HAMHUNG. Task Force Kingston continued to northwest and reached YALU River at DA0584. Continued to north to HO-RI DA0788. 7th Recon Co continued reconnaissance to west to area DA0770. 26th ROK Regiment closed SILLYONG and 1st Bn (-I Co) closed PUNGSAN enroute to HYESANJIN.

29 Nov 50

Dispositions - See overlay

The division continued preparation for movement of personnel and supplies from north east area to new zone. 17th Inf prepared for movement to HAMHUNG by rail and highway and turn over zone to 26th ROK Regiment. Task Force Cooper patrolled to YALU at DA0585 and returned to 3d Bn at SAMSU. Patrols conducted in regimental zone. No enemy contact reported. Company G and elements Company H arrived at PUNGSAN. Contact made with Co C 23d ROK Regiment at SINPO-RI DA4679 at 1530

hours. Task Forces Cooper and Kingston ordered withdrawn. Activity to be limited to strong patrols in area.

1st Bn 31st Inf patrolled locally with no enemy contact and continued blocking enemy from west. 32d Inf continued move to HAMHUNG area. 2d Bn on move from SAMSU to PUKCHONG: to move HAMHUNG area by railroad and highway. 3d Bn (-I Co) at SAMSU. I Co at WONDOKCHONG DA2352. Bn preparing for move to PUKCHONG. Plans to move 32d Inf to CHOSIN area.

The Division (-units at CHOSIN Reservoir) will be assembled in HAMHUNG Area. Shortage of transportation and limited road net complicate and slow movement of division. Movement further hampered by snow and ice and sub zero temperatures in mountain areas. Mountain passes require one way traffic and MP control of long stretches.

30 Nov 50

Disposition - See overlay 30 Nov

Division continues movement to HAMHUNG and establishment of blocking positions to protect MSR and prevent enemy from advancing to coast and cutting off all units north of HAMHUNG.

17th RCT will move to vicinity SINHUNG CV7749 - HUNGBONG-NI CV8458 and establish blocking positions. Regiment ordered to.....

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.....withdraw from HYESANJIN Area. 17th Regimental CP moved to KAPSAN. Advanced party 2d Bn arrived PUNGSAN, 1st Bn, 31st Inf will cover withdrawal of remainder of division from HYESANJIN - PUKCHONG area. Bn patrolled vicinity UNTAEK, no enemy contact. 32d Infantry will continue withdrawal from SAMSU to HUNGNAM as Corps reserve. 2d Bn 32d Inf closed HAMHUNG. 3d Bn completed preparations for move. 7th Recon Co completed move to PUNGSAN.

1st Bn 26th ROK Inf closed HYESANJIN. 2 Co's 3d Bn 26th ROK Inf closed SAMSU. Regt (-) completed march to PUNGSAN.

Division Air Section continued to evacuate wounded from CHOSIN Reservoir area and to reconnoiter division zone.

1 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 1 Dec

26th ROK Regiment ordered to move vicinity of UNGI RIVER and PUNGSAN and protect withdrawal of 17th Inf Regt. 3d Bn 26th ROK closed SAMSU.

Division continued move to new area to assume mission in that area. Supply and technical services evacuating supplies and equipment by road and rail. Utmost effort is being expended to make all vehicles operable to drive out under own power. 13th Engineer battalion, supported by Co A 185th Engr Bn, maintaining approximately 200 miles of tortuous and mountainous MSR at temperatures ranging from freezing to below zero.

17th RCT continued move to HAMHUNG. 1st Bn 17th Inf arrived UNGI River; 2d Bn 17th arrived PUNGSAN. 1st Bn 31st Inf continued blocking mission and patrolled from DV0897 to DV0388 to high ground vicinity CV8486. 32d RCT continued move; 3d Bn 32d Inf and Special Units enroute to PUKCHONG. Division CP closed PUNGSAN and opened PUKCHONG 1000 hours. Division advanced CP in operation HAMHUNG with Gen Kiefer.

2 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 2 Dec 50

2d Bn, Korean Marine Corps Regt to be attached to division upon its arrival from WONSON area. The 7th division will continue to concentrate in the HAMHUNG area. One RCT will be placed on the ORO-RI (CV7128) - TOKSANGWAN (CV8230) line to cover withdrawal of X Corps elements from the HAGARU-RI - KOTO-RI area. Other divisional units will continue present missions.

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17th Infantry to continue withdrawal from zone. 1st Bn 31st Inf to cover withdrawal of 17th RCT and attached to 17th RCT 021200 Dec. 32d Inf continues present mission. I Co 32d Inf, to depart WANDOCKCHONG 022300 hours. 26th ROK Regt, attached to 17th RCT, to withdraw to UNGI River area. 7th Recon Co to move from PUNGSAN via PUKCHONG to vicinity MUNSUNG-NI CV8836 and road junction at CV8330 to protect MSR from enemy build up to north west.

1st Bn 17th Inf closed IPO-RI enroute to SILLYONG, 3d Bn 17th Inf enroute IPO-RI. 2d Bn 17th Inf provides security of PUNGSAN and covers withdrawal of other regimental units. Trains to be at SILLYONG to transport 17th Inf Regt troops Northeast to the coast and then south to HAMHUNG via PUKCHONG. Route from IPO-RI to SILLYONG by foot march only; road not passable for trucks. 17th Tank Co enroute by road from KAPSAN to PUKCHONG.

1st Bn 32d Inf protects withdrawal from present positions and continues aggressive patrolling. 3d Bn 32d Inf and Special Units 32d Inf departed PUKCHONG by highway

and rail; closed HAMHUNG. 7th Recon Co (-) departed PUNGSAN 1500 enroute to PUKCHONG.

Advanced elements Hq 7th Div closed HAMHUNG 1645. Division rear departed PUKCHONG 1945 for HAMHUNG. G-4 and service units utilized all available rail and other transportation to move a maximum of supplies and equipment to HAMHUNG area without interference with troop movements.

3 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 3 Dec 50

X Corps Special Activities Group (SAG), 3d Bn 7th Inf and 3d Bn 15th Inf attached to Division. The Division to assume the offensive - defense in its zone in the HUNGNAM - HAMHUNG area. The 17th Inf occupy new zone northeast HAMHUNG and block enemy movement from the northeast. 31st Inf reorganize in the vicinity of HUNGNAM and become division reserve. 32d Inf continue blocking mission in vicinity OTO-RI until relieved by 65th Inf Regt. Block enemy movement from the north.

The 17th Inf continued its move to concentrate in the HAMHUNG Area. 1st Bn 17th Inf enroute from IPO-RI to SILLYONG on foot to depart by rail. 2d Bn 17th Inf departed PUNGSAN for IPO-RI by motor 1915 and will move on foot from IPO-RI to SILLYONG. 3d Bn 17th Inf closed SILLYONG and departed by rail for HAMHUNG in two serials at 1645 and 1820. Organic vehicles Hq Co and 3d Bn 17th Inf departed PUNGSAN for HAMHUNG ETA 040600.

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The 32d Inf (-) occupied new zone to block enemy from the north and conducted intensive patrolling. 3d Bn 17th Inf, 3d Bn 15th Inf and Special Activities Group attached to 32d Inf. The 31st Inf reorganizing in the vicinity HUNGNAM and the 1st Bn 31st Inf, attached to the 17th Inf, continued covering withdrawal of division from vicinity UNTAEK.

Division Artillery prepared to support defense of HAMHUNG - HUNGNAM area. 73d (M) Tank Bn (-) in division reserve in vicinity of HAMHUNG, prepared to counterattack on order. B Co, 73d Tank Bn in Corps reserve. 7th Recon Co continued its movement to the HAMHUNG area. Patrols north of the HAMHUNG area received enemy fire.

4 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 4 Dec 50

The division continued its move to the HAMHUNG area and continued its offensive defense of that area by aggressive patrolling in its zone by the units that have completed

move. The 3d Bn 7th Inf, 3d Bn 15th Inf and 26th ROK Inf were detached. The Naval Gunfire Team, Det FMF LANT was attached.

17th RCT to continue closing HAMHUNG and occupy blocking positions; 3d Bn 17th Inf to relieve 2d Bn 31st Inf as Corps reserve; to concentrate vicinity CV7823 and actively patrol both day and night. 31st Inf to continue to reorganize and to start movement of 1st Bn from present location UNTAEK to HAMHUNG area. 32d Inf: 2d Bn 32d Inf to revert to RCT control upon relief as X Corps reserve. 32d RCT, from base in vicinity of CV8126, concentrate one battalion in vicinity CV8431; actively patrol day and night; block advance of enemy in zone.

The 17th Inf continued its move to HAMHUNG: 3d Bn 17th Inf, closed HAMHUNG 2015 hours; 1st Bn 17th Inf (-) departed PUKCHONG 1900 hours for HAMHUNG by rail; 2d Bn 17th Inf enroute PUKCHONG from SILLYONG by rail; vehicles continuing move by road. 31st Inf continued reorganization in HAMHUNG area; 1st Bn 31st Inf closed PUKCHONG 2130 hours after withdrawal from UNTAEK area and protecting division withdrawal. 32d Inf Regt conducted aggressive patrolling in zone north of HAMHUNG but no enemy contact reported. 7th Recon Co closed HAMHUNG and placed in division reserve temporarily.

Demolition of bridges and roads in area vacated by division completed. In some instances, where routes are to be used by 26th ROK regiment, demolitions prepared and responsibility for destruction turned over to 26th ROK's to be accomplished after passage of 26th Regiment units over roads in their units.

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5 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 5 Dec 50

Move of the division and concentration in the HAMHUNG area continued. Units already closed prepared to organize defensive positions as prescribed by CG, X Corps. Strong combat patrols continued in zone.

17th RCT (-Tank Co) closed HAMHUNG. Tank Co in route from PUKCHONG. 3d Bn 17th Inf completed relief of 2d Bn 32d Inf as Corps reserve. 1st Bn moving into new location CV7723. 31st RCT continued reorganization. 1st Bn 31st Inf enroute from PUKCHONG by motor and rail; withdrawal after covering rest of division was made without incident or enemy action. 32d Inf CP located at CV801268. 2d Bn 32d Inf relieved from X Corps reserve and moving to vicinity CV8431. Close in and distant patrolling conducted by regiment and by SAG. No enemy contact reported during this period.

73d Tank Bn, minus one company enroute from PUSAN and one company in Corps reserve, located CV759187. Battalion reconnoitered routes for counterattacks in division

sector. 7th Recon Co maintained two detached posts in vicinity CV957340 to furnish security for pass area between PUKCHONG and HAMHUNG. Supplies continued to be shipped by rear detachments, 7th Division, from PUKCHONG on all available transportation that would not interfere with troop movements. Plans made for destruction of all material that can not be evacuated. Division Air section conducts daily reconnaissance flights over areas within division outer zone of responsibility beyond range of ground patrols which are hampered by limited and poor road net work. Evidence of increased activity and movement noted daily to north and northeast.

7th Div rear Task Force personnel of technical service ordered to evacuate maximum amount of supplies, priorities to artillery ammunition, bulldozers, howitzers and tanks and depart PUKCHONG by 061000 for HAMHUNG. Any items that can not be shipped out are to be destroyed.

6 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 6 Dec 50

The division continued to organize, occupy and defend the sector. All units prepared defensive positions in depth and to tie in with the X Corps phase lines. All units provided strong counterattack forces and plans for their employment to insure integrity of their positions.

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48th FA with Btry C 57th FA attached: direct support 32d Inf. 49th FA Bn: direct support 17th Inf. 31st FA Bn: attached 3d Division artillery.

7th Recon co continued present mission and prepared plans to patrol and occupy General Outpost Line and prepare to withdraw along division west boundary and regimental boundary: attachments will revert to parent unit upon completion of withdrawal. The Provisional Battalion, composed of 7th MP Co, 7th QM Co, 7th Signal Co, and 707th Ordnance Co will be attached to 31st Inf for operational control on order for defense of sector. Prov Bn will prepare positions, fire plans and defensive works under direction of CO, 31st Inf.

17th Infantry CP in vicinity CV766214. 1st Bn 17th Inf, located in vicinity CV7722, conducted patrols to northwest but no enemy contact. 2d Bn 17th Inf closed HAMHUNG 1405 and moved to vicinity CV7823. 3d Bn 17th Inf relieved as Corps Reserve and moved to vicinity CV799120. 1st Bn 31st Inf relieved 3d Bn 17th Inf as Corps reserve in vicinity CV748193.

32d Inf continued defensive preparations. CP located CV801268. 2d Bn 31st Inf closed new defensive positions CV8431. 3d Bn 32d Inf closed in vicinity CV7829 and conducted patrols in the sector. Tank Co 32d Inf at CV8026 conducted maintenance. Special Activities Group moved to base of operations at CV801268 at 0300. 7th Recon

Co outposted pass at CV957340. No enemy contact reported within sector as plans and construction of coordinated defensive positions continued.

7 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 7 Dec 50

The division continued plans for organization and preparation of defensive positions in sector; continued occupation and defense of sector; coordinated plans to provide strong counterattack force to insure integrity of defensive positions.

Infantry Regiments continued intensive patrolling in sectors. No enemy contact was reported. However division air reconnaissance reports continuing enemy build up to the north and east of SINHUNG. Div Arty conducted reconnaissance of routes and positions; selected positions, laid wire to positions and prepared to occupy positions for defense of sector. Air support and Naval gunfire plans for support of positions prepared. 73d Tank Bn completed road reconnaissance of entire area for possible use as routes for counterattack. 7th Recon Co continued outpost in vicinity of CV957340.

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Problem of divesting refugees coming from north continues. Patrols, outpost and roadblocks prevent entry of individuals or groups into defensive perimeter. Ordnance salvage team, reinforced by platoon from 17th Inf, ordered not to go beyond SINPO on HAMHUNG - PUKCHONG road and to return over outposted pass at CV9635 by 081900. Ordnance team is recovering vehicles left on road through accident or mechanical breakdown.

Provisional Battalion continued organization, reconnaissance and coordination of defensive plans and counterattack plans with other units.

8 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 8 Dec

Division continued present mission and units prepared to receive their personnel fighting south from CHOSIN Reservoir Area. 32d Inf Regt ordered in event of an attack before division has occupied its defensive sector to cover the occupation from the general line CV7532 - 8236 - 8736 - 9534 with Co A, 73d (M) Tank Bn attached.

17th Inf (-1st Bn; attached 32d Inf). 2d Bn 17th Inf reconnoitered MLR: automatic weapons positions selected, company and platoons sectors of responsibility fixed on ground, coordination effected with 32d Inf on right and on I ROK Corps on left. Digging to start on positions 10 Dec. 3d Bn 17th Inf selected routes of withdrawal from OPLR: Co K 17th Inf (reinforced) assigned to OPLR, and reconnoitered area and formulated counterattack plans. Positions were selected and marked on OPLR. Company sectors

selected and marked in regimental reserve area. Tank Co 17th Inf reconnoitered and selected primary and alternate positions for each tank. Prepared counterattack plans and routes with 3d Bn 17th Inf.

Provisional Bn attached 31st Inf completed reconnaissance of area, assigned company sectors and commenced digging of positions. 2d Bn 31st Inf reconnoitered area to include individual and crew served weapon positions. Digging of positions will commence tomorrow.

32d Ing Regt employed all units in preparation of defensive positions. Special Activities Group relieved 2d Bn, 32d Inf in position at 1200. 2d Bn, 32d Inf moved to defensive position. 1st Bn, 17th Inf, moved to defensive position and closed 1800. I&R platoon, 32d Inf patrolled to SINHUNG where contact was made with an enemy force of 500. Patrol disengaged after short fire fight and returned.

7th Recon Co blocked in vicinity of pass at CV9634 with one platoon. Prepared plans for occupation and withdrawal from GOPL.

Heavy wet snow fell during most of period, affecting most roads.

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9 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 9 Dec 50

The division continued to organize and prepare defensive positions; to occupy and defend area; to provide strong counterattack force; prepared to receive evacuees from HAGARU-RI; plans to withdraw from HUNGNAM area.

17th Inf Regt ordered to move without delay to defensive positions in zone with Tank Co, 73d (M) Tank Bn attached, effective 100700 Dec. Other units to continue present mission.

17th Inf Regt patrolled in zone with no enemy contact. Completed approximately 30% of defensive positions to include 300-400 yards of wire laid in front of MLR and roads improved to positions. L Co 17th Inf Regt plus one platoon I Co with attached weapons of M Co now in position in reserve sector. 31st Inf Regt completed all reconnaissance in zone. 90% of defensive positions digging completed in left battalion sector. All positions for automatic weapons, tank and AAA weapons selected.

32d Inf Regt patrols reported no enemy contact. Attached 1st Bn 17th Regt completed 90% of regimental reserve position and 10% of OPLR positions. Fire support plan completed with Div Arty and communications 10% completed. 2d Bn 32d Inf completed 30% of placements on MLR and on battalion reserve positions. Division Artillery

completed preparation of positions and alternate positions and continued survey. 7th Recon Co moved to CV8126 while one platoon continued to block pass at CV9634.

Enemy situation remained quiet in division sector. Active ground and aerial reconnaissance revealed no enemy movement except as the period closed when an undetermined number of enemy were observed in SINHUNG area.

10 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 10 Dec 50

Teh Division continued its defensive mission. 17th Inf Regt ordered to attach Co L to 7th Recon Co effective 110700. 7th Recon Co to withdraw platoon from pass at CV9634 after pass is blown by ROK unit. Units continued work on defensive positions, communications and counterattack plans. 17th Inf Regt completed move into defensive sector. Division Artillery fired harassing mission during night at locations where enemy had been reported. 7th Recon Co completed blocking pass at CV9634.

Aggressive patrolling produced no enemy contact.

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11 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 11 Dec 50

Division continued its present mission of defending area, completing defenses and coordinating all unit defenses, subordinate and adjacent. 1st Bn 17th Inf ordered detached from 32d Inf Regt 110700:

17th Inf Regt utilized Co "A", 13th Engr Bn on road reconnaissance, maintenance and construction. 1st Bn CO 17th Inf, Staff and Co commanders completed reconnaissance of area: Positions are 50% complete. 2d Bn 17th Inf cleared fields of fire, wired entries into area and completed primary and alternate positions. Artillery and mortars to be registered tomorrow. Co K, 3d Bn 17th Inf occupied OPLR and made contact with ROK left flank. Co L attached to 7th Recon Co. All installations are in.

31st Inf continued reorganization of unit and work on defense position. 2d Bn, 31st Inf, closed CV799120. All units of regiment, to include Tank Co, now closed. 32d Inf defensive work completed as follows: technical wire 70% complete; communications 10% complete; communications 90% complete; OPLR communications 10% complete due to relief of 1st Bn 17th Inf. 2d Bn 32d Inf started preparation of OPLR positions for one company. Positions of MLR improved and ammunition moved up to positions. 3d Bn 32d Inf made reconnaissance for one company on OPLR. Reserve positions 20% complete; 48th FA Bn positions completed, communications 85% complete, roads 75% and survey 98% complete. Division Artillery fired harassing fires during night.

7th Recon company with all units on OPLR after the platoon at pass withdrew from pass after it was blown. Co prepared to execute covering missions. 17th Inf Regt and Division representatives met with I ROK Corps personnel to tie in boundaries and units on 17th Inf right flank. Previous efforts of the 17th Inf Regt hampered by lack of interpreters.

Advance parties from major units of division being outloaded by air for new area in south of KOREA. Air requested for constant surveillance in the SINHUNG - FUSEN Reservoir area because CCF Army buildup believed occurring there.

12 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 12 Dec 50

1st Bn 31st Inf and Co B 73d (M) Tank Bn reverted to Division control. Special Activities Group detached. Division plans to withdraw deliberately on order from present positions and effect maximum delay of enemy: to defend in assigned sectors and embark on order.

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17th Inf Regt occupied and continued defensive preparations in their sector. Active patrolling to the front encountered no enemy. Contact and coordination was maintained with I ROK Corps on the east. 31st Inf Regt continued reorganization while in division reserve. 1st Bn 31st Inf placed on refugee control in division zone. No refugees permitted to enter perimeter. Those already within perimeter funneled through lines to the south and west. 32d Inf Regt continued preparation of defensive positions. Reconnaissance and preparation of defensive positions along river from CV76715 and CV796071 ordered to protect the division west flank. Strong reconnaissance patrols to the north made no enemy contact.

Units continued registration of artillery and mortar fires. Div Arty fired harassing fires during the night. 7th Recon Co continued reconnaissance and preparation of positions on the MLR. Again today, no enemy contact was made by divisional units, either by ground or aerial reconnaissance and patrolling. All units are taking rigorous measures to prevent refugees of any type from entering sector. Weather continues about freezing. Units having elements that fought out from the CHOSIN Reservoir area continued to care for the individuals received and to reorganize.

13 Dec 50

Disposition - See overlay 13 Dec 50

All units continued missions of improving positions, coordinating with other units and conducting strong patrols to front of division sector. Plans continued for the deliberate withdrawal, maximum delay and defense in sector and embarkation on order.

17th Inf continued improvement of positions, road and trail reconnaissance and laid AP mine field across front of 2d Bn sector. 31st Inf Regt continued reorganization, rehabilitation and preparation for embarkment. 32d Inf I&R platoon made contact with small group of enemy at CV915423, killed two and captured one. Patrol withdrew.

7th Recon Co conducted several patrols with negative results. Div Arty fired harassing fire during the night. Air strikes reported good results: villages burned out, troops scattered from burning buildings and 250 estimated killed. 17th and 32d Inf regt's to put three basic loads of mortar ammunition in position one. Keep one basic load of mortar and one of AW ammunition mobile. Upon order to withdraw, all ammunition that can not be readily carried out will be fired on possible enemy hideouts, concentration areas, avenues of approach etc.

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Provost Marshal will assume responsibility for refugee control along MSR from bridge at CV763159 to RJ CV828122. Units responsible for own areas. Wandering males of military age to be apprehended and proceeded through POW channels.

14 Dec 50

Disposition - See overlay 14 Dec 50

The division continued its current mission. 31st Inf Regt (-1st Bn) ordered to embark - 32d Inf Regt ordered to occupy positions on the division MLR.

17th Inf continued strengthening and improvement of area. 31st Inf (- 1st Bn attached to 32d Inf) began embarking. 1st Bn 32d Inf attached to 31st Inf for embarkation. 32d Inf Regt closed new CP CV806185. Battalion occupied and continued improvement of positions on MSR. 48th FA Bn moved to new defensive positions. Div Arty fired registration and during night fired harassing fire.

2000 ROK troops transferred to I ROK Corps on X Corps orders.

15 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 15 Dec 50

17th Inf and 32d Inf with present attachments and detachments will withdraw during daylight hours of 16 Dec 50 to delaying position #3. Withdrawal will be completed by 161600.

17th Inf Regt continued to improve positions along delay positions Nr 1 and Nr 2 in preparation of withdrawing to Corps MLR on 16 Dec: One platoon Co L attached to 7th Recon Co, remainder Co L reverted to control 17th Inf. 31st RCT (-1st Bn) plus 1st Bn 32d Inf atchd, embarked and departed HUNGNAM. 2d and 3d Bns 32d Inf continued to improve positions on delay positions Nr 1 and prepared to move to delay positions on Corps MLR on 16 Dec 50. A patrol from I Co contacted a NK group at 775424 and engaged in a short fire fight. 7th Recon Co started move to new position at CV7820.

16 Dec 50

Disposition - See overlay

Division continued defense of assigned sector and continued withdrawal to PUSAN area. 17th Inf Regt ordered to assume responsibility of I ROK Corps sector with one battalion 161700 as ROK troops withdraw. 73d Tank Co will reconnoiter counterattack routes in I ROK Corps sector and will be prepared to support 17th Inf in that sector.

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2d Bn 17th Inf occupied defensive positions on Corps MLR. All companies dug and wired in. 3d Bn 17th Inf organized Regimental Reserve line. Co I 17th Inf occupied Corps OPLR. 1st Bn 17th Inf occupied defensive positions in I ROK Corps area on Corps MLR with security posts established. Reconnaissance of area conducted today. 1st Bn 31st Inf attached to 32d Inf, continued improving defensive positions along east bank of N-S river in sector. 2d Bn 32d Inf occupied defensive positions on Corps MLR with covering force on Corps OPLR. 3d Bn 32d also closed on defensive positions on MLR. 7th Recon Co, attached to 32d Inf, protected left flank of regimental sector between OPLR and MLR.

Div Arty moved supporting battalions into new positions to support new defensive positions on MLR and OPLR. Coordination between 3d Div, X Corps and 7th Div gave responsibility of blowing mined bridges on MSR to 3d Division after 7th Div troops had cleared. Harassing and interdiction fired during night.

17th Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 17 Dec

15th Inf Regt (-1st Bn) attached for operational control 171550.

The division planned its continued withdrawal to PUSAN and relocation and shortening of OPLR. 1st Bn 17th Inf ordered into Corps reserve and to prepare counterattack plans.

17th Inf regiment continued improvement of positions and coordination with adjacent units. 1st Bn, 17th Inf placed in Corps reserve after relief by 15th Inf Regt. 32d Inf

received enemy attacks during night. F Co 32d Inf, attacked 162140 by light probing attack. Hit by heavy attack after 162300 and enemy penetration made. Counterattacks, reinforced by Recon Co, restored positions in morning.

Div Arty fired harassing fires during night. Recon Co, after reinforcing F Co 32d Inf in attack and restoring positions, withdrew to original positions and continued to improve them. 73d Tank Bn completed loading except for one company.

18 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 18 Dec 50

The division continued defense of its assigned mission and planned for the continued withdrawal of division units to the PUSAN area and for relief by the 3d Inf Div in the defensive sector. 32d Inf Regt ordered to defend in sector until relieved by elements of the 3d Div and then prepare to embark. 7th Recon Co is to be prepared to load tanks (- company personnel) on order.

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17th Inf Regt continued improvement of all positions. 2d Bn 17th Inf relocated OPLR to tie in more securely with 32d Inf on left flank. 3d Bn 17th Inf occupied new positions on OPLR to effect closer tie in with 2d Bn 15th Inf. Laying of wire, mines and trip flares continued. 32d Inf Regt relocated OPLR to afford tighter tie in with units on right and left. Improvement of all defensive positions continued. 1st Bn 32d Inf, attached, continued improvement of positions.

15th Inf (-) repulsed early morning enemy attacks in sector. Road block established by 3d Bn 15th Inf along RR track in sector attacked 180600. Attack was repulsed with many enemy killed. Co I, 15th Inf, attacked by small enemy group on 180505 at CV863104. Attack progressed to hand grenade range but was repulsed with loss to company of 5 KIA and 2 WIA. Co L, 15th Inf, attacked by small enemy group at CV871091. Attack repulsed; company had 5 WIA. Co G, 15th Inf, attacked by Company of enemy at 181230. Attack thrown back. Sporadic harassing small arms fire received until late afternoon when accurate supporting artillery fire knocked out enemy positions. 1st Bn 15th Inf is on move from 3d Div sector to join regiment at present location.

Div Arty fired consistent harassing and interdiction fires during night. Several called missions and defensive and close protective fires delivered during period. Results generally excellent. Several air support missions in sector delivered with results believed to be excellent.

13th Engineer (C) Bn began outloading. Quartermaster and Signal Companies, less minimum operational details have loaded personnel, equipment and supplies.

19 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay 19 Dec 50

17th Inf Regt and 49th FA Bn and 15 AAA Bn (-C and D Btrys) attached to 3d Inf Div 191530. 15th Inf Regt detached 191530. Withdrawal of division units continued according to plan. Remaining division units (Div Arty, 7th Recon Co, 32d Inf Regt, plus 1st Bn 31st Inf attached, and 17th Inf Regt) will embark upon relief by 3d Division units.

17th and 32d Inf received local attacks on OPLR. 17th Inf OPLR positions attacked 190430. Attacks continued until position was restored 191030. 16 enemy KIA, 2 friendly WIA. Other regimental units continued improving positions. OPLR on left front withdrawn about 1000 yards to tie in with 65th Inf OPLR.

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32d Inf received attack on F Co on OPLR. Probing attack 182347; all enemy killed or wounded. 090215 heavy enemy attack hit F Co and forced company from positions 7th Recon Co (-tanks) aided F Co 32d Inf in counterattack which restored positions by 190652. Co L 32d Inf attacked 190215 also. Co remained in position and expelled enemy by noon. I Co 15th Inf attacked 190237. Enemy driven off. Strong enemy patrol attacked 190335 between E and G Cos, 15th Inf. Patrol driven out by 191430 after sharp fight. Friendly troops had 5 KIA and 9 WIA. 8 enemy KIA.

7th Division CP closed HUNGNAM 191600 Dec 50 and opened aboard ship. Headquarters personnel embarked. 1st Bn 32d Inf embarked.

20 Dec 50

Dispositions - See overlay

7th Division continued evacuation from HUNGNAM as 3d Division relieved units in their defensive sector. No attacks were received during the night. 32d Inf completed embarkation including 7th Recon Co and 49th FA Bn. 17th Inf relieved by 3d Div units 0700 and started embarkation. 17th Inf, 7th MP Co and miscellaneous division detachments completed loading by 202100. Last ships sailed from harbor on 21 Dec 50.

Relief of all units during evacuation was accomplished without incident. No enemy attacks were directed against units being relieved or making the relief. All equipment and supplies were outloaded except for items of ordnance and ammunition turned over to the 3d Inf Division for their use by order of X Corps.

Embarkation groups from each unit coordinated with loading personnel that equipment and units were available on call as shipping was freed, but they did not clutter the post area nor were they withdrawn from defensive positions and missions until the latest time possible.

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