

7th DIVISION DAILY CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY for DECEMBER 1950

Note: Original Classification Stamped as SECRET. Tabbed by DLS (Donald Singer) on 5/13/03 and tagged by Charles E. Shaw on 7/28/03. MASTER No. 889 538

COVER PAGE

DAILY CHRONOLOGICAL

SUMMARY

for

DECEMBER

1950

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COMMAND REPORT 1 Dec 50

On the 1st of December 1950, the 7th Infantry Division was deployed over 240 road miles from HYESINJIN to the CHOSIN Reservoir. At the reservoir a complete regimental combat team was surrounded, as was the 1st Marine Division, by a force estimated to be six Chinese Communist Divisions. Higher headquarters had received information on the build up of Chinese forces to the north and their crossing of the North Korean border. The Division had begun its move from the PUKCHONG - PUNGSAN - HYESINJIN corridor to the CHOSIN Reservoir area to closer proximity with the 1st Marine Division.

A piecemeal was dictated by the lack of transportation and road nets. Only one road, narrow, tortuous, covered by ice and snow and leading through many dangerous mountain passes, led from HYESINJIN south to PUNGSAN to HAMHUNG in the Division zone to the Division's northeast.

In the mountain areas north from the coast, the past month had brought temperatures constantly below freezing and dropping at time to minus 25 degrees F. A shortage of proper clothing, equipment, shelters and lubricants had not yet been made up.

Despite a lack of winter training or a period of indoctrination, the Division had succeeded in reaching the North Korean.....

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.....border in two places. In this operation the Division had successfully routed, or destroyed all organized enemy units east of the FUSEN Reservoir within the Division zone. Only scattered, sporadic guerrilla action had been directed at the Division MSR's and rear installations.

With its units at CHOSIN attached to the 1st Marine Division and the MSR from HAMHUNG north to CHOSIN Reservoir still cut by the enemy, the 7th Division initiated its move to the HAMHUNG - HUNGNAM area as X Corps took cohesive action to establish a base of operations in this area to start the evacuation of the Corps from North Korea.

The Division had been ordered to assume responsibility for its new zone and to assemble in the HAMHUNG - SINHUNG - HUNGBONG-NI - area to establish blocking positions. The Division to protect the Corps north and northeast flank in zone. One RCT reinforced with the 73d M Tank to move to HAMHUNG area as X Corps reserve.

The 17th RCT was ordered to move and establish strong blocking positions vicinity SINHUNG CV-7749 HONGSONG CV-4858 area and protect Corps north and northeast flank.

The 31st RCT (-) was attached to 1st Mar Div. 1st Bn, 31st Inf will move and establish strong blocking positions to the north and northeast and patrol in zone. A skeleton advanced Division CP still operating at HAGARU-RI (south end of CHOSIN RESERVOIR), with Gen Hodes and G3 personnel. Air support limited to mosquito reconnaissance mission with some enemy activity noted in northwest and west portion of Division's old zone.

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The 32d RCT (-) will concentrate in HAMHUNG area as X Corps reserve. 73d Tank Bn attached to RCT for operational control. 1st Bn, 32d Inf attached to 1st Mar Div.

The 26th ROK Inf Regt to move to the vicinity of UNGI River Valley and PUNGSAN DA 29-18 and cover withdrawal of 17th RCT.

The 73d (M) Tank Battalion to assemble in vicinity of HAMHUNG, attached to 32d RCT for operational control and function in Corps Reserve. Recon Co to be in Division Reserve at CV-7326.

On 1 Dec, the 17th RCT continued its move to the HAMHUNG area. Regimental CP and special units arrived PUNGSAN as did the 2d Bn, 1st Bn, 17th Inf arrived at the UNGI River. 26th ROK Inf Regt continued taking over the area of the 17th Inf as the 3d Bn, 26th ROK closed SAMSU. The Battalion at HYESANJIN patrolled in that area.

The 1st Bn 31st Inf patrolled in the UNTAEK area from DV-0897 to DV-0388 to high ground vicinity CV-8386; no enemy contact.

32d RCT special units and 3d Bn enroute to PUKCHONG, expect to close 020700. 7th Recon Co patrolled DA-2918 to high ground DA-1822 to observe. Returned 012400 with negative report.

The Division CP closed PUNGSAN and opened PUKCHONG 011000. A Division Forward CP with Gen Kiefer opened in HAMHUNG.

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The 7th Division continues with its plan to concentrate in the HAMHUNG area. One RCT will go on the ORO-RI CV-7128 TOKSANOWAN CV-8230 line to cover withdrawal of X Corps elements from the HAGARU-RI - KOTO-RI area. Other division units will continue their present missions.

The following operations have been ordered: 17th RCT to continue withdrawal from its present zone. 26th ROK Inf Regt, attached to 17th RCT, to withdraw to vicinity UNGI River line. 1st Bn 31st Inf Regt to cover withdrawal of the 17th RCT and miscellaneous 7th Division elements not yet closed in HAMHUNG area. I Co, 32d Inf to depart WONDOKCHONG 022300 hours. 7th Recon Co to move from PUNGSAN DA-2918 via PUKCHONG to MUNBONG-NI CV-8836 and road junction at CV-8330 to protect MSR.

During the period, the 1st Bn, 17th Inf Regt, closed IPO-RI 022000 enroute to SILLYONG. March to IPO-RI made by motor; march to SILLYONG will be made by foot as road is impassable because of snow, ice, steep grades and sharp turns to vehicles larger than 1/4 ton trucks. Equipment is being hauled on aerial tramway. 3d Bn, 17th Inf, enroute to IPO-RI. 2d Bn, 17th Inf, providing security of PUNGSAN area and covering withdrawal of other units. Patrols contacted no enemy. Regimental headquarters and vehicle trains going by road from PUNGSAN area to PUKCHONG and HAMHUNG. Rail route from SILLYONG lies through I ROK Corps area and coordination of travel arranged through X Corps.

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1st Bn, 31st Inf, attached to 17th RCT, continued blocking mission in its present area. Patrols were dispatched but made no enemy contact.

32d RCT (-1st Bn at CHOSIN Reservoir) closed HAMHUNG. 3d Bn 32d Inf and Regimental Special units departed PUKCHONG by motor and rail in morning and arrived HAMHUNG bivouac area same evening.

7th Recon Co departed PUNGSAN 021500 for PUKCHONG.

Advance elements of 7th Division Headquarters closed HAMHUNG 031645. Division rear elements departed PUKCHONG by motor and rail at 031945.

G4 continues to coordinate the use of transportation so that organizations may move intact and tactically. Priority on hauling given to personnel; Supplies to follow. Ordnance contact team making final repairs at HYESANJIN ordered to pull out and destroy any vehicles that could not be repaired or evacuated. 17th Inf will be responsible for proper clean up of vehicles as unit withdraws through division area. Sufficient motor transport will be held at PUNGSAN until foot elements of 17th Inf Regt have entrained and cleared SILLYONG.

Division elements are now beginning to arrive HAMHUNG area in sufficient force to be able to take over active defensive area and to participate in the organized defense planned there.

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The following units were attached to the 7th Division this date: X Corps Special Activities Group; 3d Bn, 15th Inf Regt; 3d Bn, 7th Inf Regt. Above units will participate in the active defense of the HAMHUNG area.

Operations for the 7th Division include its assumption of the offensive - defense in its zone in the HAMHUNG area. 17th Inf Regt will occupy its new zone north east of HAMHUNG and block enemy movement from the northeast. 31st Inf Regt will reorganize in the HUNGNAM vicinity and constitute division reserve. 32d Inf Regt will continue blocking vicinity OTO-RI until relieved by 65th Inf Regt; block to prevent enemy movement from the north.

The following operations have been ordered by 7th Inf Div Operations Order #29: 7th Inf Div conducts offensive defense in zone. 17th Inf Regt occupy zone and block enemy movement with primary attention to north east avenues of approach to HAMHUNG. 31st RCT reorganize (former regimental headquarters, special units and 3d Bn severely crippled by losses in CHOSIN Reservoir area, including regimental commander and 3d Bn commander) and constitute Division Reserve in the vicinity of HAMHUNG. 32d Inf Regt block enemy movement to the north and north east of HAMHUNG, continue blocking in the vicinity of OTO-RI until relieved on order by the 65th Inf Regt. 3d Bn 17th Inf Regt (attached 32d RCT) continue present blocking mission. 3d Bn, 15th Inf (attached 32d RCT) move to vicinity CV-7235 and continue present blocking mission.

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Special Activities Group (attached 32d RCT) continue present patrolling and blocking mission.

48th FA Bn, with C Btry, 57th Fa Bn attached on order, direct support of 32d Inf Regt with support action for all major patrols with fire. 49th FA Bn direct support 17th Inf Regt. 31st FA Bn in general support and reinforce fires of 48th FA Bn. 15th AAA (AW) Bn no change. Each artillery battery and battalion will reconnoiter and survey positions within sector from which they can cover screening forces to the maximum distance. Coordination of fires will be effected by Division Artillery. Each battery and battalion will pay particular attention to the organization of positions for close defense.

73d Tank Bn (-B and C Companies in X Corps Reserve) will be in Division Reserve in HAMHUNG vicinity and prepare to counterattack in division zone. Battalion will select and prepare anti-tank firing positions on all avenues of approach to HAMHUNG and reconnoiter all areas and routes to the east, north and northeast. 7th Recon Co will be in Division reserve vicinity of HAMHUNG and prepare to counterattack in division zone. 13th Engr Bn no change in present mission.

Units will patrol in force, using tanks and/or artillery with company or larger size patrols. Coordination will be made with adjacent units as necessary. Enemy will be destroyed within zone. Continual preparation and improvement of primary, alternate and reserve positions will be made and coordination of fires effected.

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During the period 3 December 50 the 17th RCT continued its withdrawal to HAMHUNG. 1st Bn 17th Inf arrived IPO-RO 032000 and continued on foot to SILLYONG. 2d Bn 17th Inf departed PUNGSAN for IPO-RI by motor. 3d Bn, 17th Inf closed SILLYONG and departed by rail in two serials at 031645 and 031820 for HAMHUNG. Organic vehicles Regimental Hq Co and 3d Bn 17th Inf departed PUNGSAN for Hamhung.

31st Inf headquarters continued reorganization at HAMHUNG. 1st Bn 31st Inf attached to 17th Inf, continued covering withdrawal of division units. Patrols in UNTAEK vicinity made no enemy contact.

32d Inf occupied new zone and patrolled without enemy contact. Reconnaissance of zone and preparation of defensive positions instigated. 7th Recon Company continued move to Hamhung instead of to blocking position along PUKCHONG - HAMHUNG MSR because report of 3,000 enemy in SINHUNG area was erroneous.

Division CP closed PUKCHONG and opened HAMHUNG 031700. G4 turned over operational control of trucks north of PUKCHONG to Co 17th Inf who can better control them for move of his unit and small detachments not yet moved from his area. 35,000 gallons of gasoline in PUNGSAN will be burned by 26th ROK Regt when they clear town because no transportation available to move it out. Some 105mm ammunition

HYESANJIN and PUNGSAN demilitarized by burning all powder increments and primers. 4.2 mortar ammunition dump in town given to tactical air as target after troops.....

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.....cleared from area because of lack of transportation to move it to open area for destruction. Aerial tramway from OPO-RI to SILLYONG used to transport portion of equipment which men could not carry on foot march to railhead at SILLYONG.

CO, 17th Inf instructed to blow bridge at KAPSAN. 26th ROK Regt to blow other bridges along route as they withdraw. All units still withdrawing informed that enemy is not pressing the Division in the HYESANJIN, PUNGSAN - PUKCHONG area nor threatening to cut the PUKCHONG - HAMHUNG MSR and that, although haste is imperative, abandonment of equipment or let down of discipline is not necessary and will not be condoned. All movements proceeded smoothly.

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Naval Gunfire Team Detachment FMF LANT attached to 7th Division. 3d Bn, 17th Inf Regt and 26th ROK Inf Regt detached from 7th Inf Div 041800.

The Division plans to continue closing into HAMHUNG area and to relieve 2d Bn, 32d Inf as Corps reserve with 3d Bn, 17th Inf. As the units close from the old zone, this change of Corps reserve battalion would leave the 17th Inf two battalions, the 31st Inf one battalion and the 32d Inf two battalions under Division control in the HAMHUNG area.

The 17th RCT (-) is ordered to continue closing in the HAMHUNG area, concentrating in the vicinity CV-7823, and actively patrol both day and night. 2d Bn, 17th Inf will relieve 3d Bn, 32d Inf as Corps Reserve. The 31 Inf Regt will continue to reorganize in the HAMHUNG area and the 1st Bn, 31st Inf will start movement from present UNTAEK area to the HAMHUNG area.

The 32d Inf Regt (- 1st Bn), from a base in the vicinity CV-8126, will concentrate one battalion near CV-8431 and actively patrol both day and night and block any enemy advance into zone. 2d Bn, 32d Inf will revert to RCT control upon its relief as Corps Reserve. Div Stry will continue present mission. 7th Recon Co, in addition to present mission will establish two detached posts at pass at CV-951340, protecting MSR. 73d Tank Bn, less Co B, in Corps Reserve, will remain in Division Reserve in HAMHUNG area.

During this period, the 17th Inf Regt continued its move to.....

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.....the HAMHUNG area. The 3d Bn, 17th Inf closed HAMHUNG 040215; 1st Bn departed PUKCHONG 041900 for HAMHUNG and the 2d Bn is enroute by train from SILLYONG to PUKCHONG. Organic vehicles are enroute by road. 31st Inf Regt is reorganizing in the HUNGNAM area. This includes organizing a new regimental staff, new 3d Battalion staff and company officers and new special units company personnel. Vehicles and equipment for that known lost at CHOSIN must also be drawn. 1st Bn, 31st Inf, attached to 17th Inf Regt, closed PUKCHONG 042100 from the UNTAEK area. No enemy contacts were during their withdrawal.

32d Inf Regt occupied and prepared its zone, aggressively patrolled throughout its zone and made no enemy contact. 7th Recon Co closed HAMHUNG and was placed in Division Reserve temporarily.

Evacuation by rail of Ordnance and Quartermaster supplies continued from Pukchong.

Ordnance and Quartermaster detachments will remain to expedite the shipments. One firing battery 15th AAA (AW) Bn remains to provide a limited defense perimeter. G4 has been requesting X Corps for 100 railway cars daily to move division supplies to HAMHUNG. Small staff remaining at PUKCHONG has no responsibility for guarding of bridges, RTO's etc., on coast route south.

The Division turned over rations to advance elements of withdrawing 26th ROK Inf Regt and routed ten railroad cars to SILLYONG for their heavy equipment.

Message from X Corps relayed to unit commanders re refugees. Commanders will take positive action to prohibit movement of.....

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.....refugees on MSR as well as their movement toward the HAMHUNG - HUNGNAM area. Refugees will be diverted and instructed to move to their homes or to small villages and towns of the countryside.

G2 reports indicate a continuing build up of CCF on the CHOSIN Reservoir area and working slowly south toward the HAMHUNG area.

5 Dec 50

The Division plans to continue closing its troops into the HAMHUNG area and to organize the defensive positions prescribed by X Corps. All units closed in the area will send out strong combat patrols to locate and destroy the enemy. Relief of the 3d Bn, 17th Inf by 1st Bn, 31st Inf as Corps security force will be effected upon its arrival.

The following operations have been ordered. 17th RCT concentrate in the vicinity CV-7823 and patrol vigorously in sector to locate and destroy enemy. 1st Bn, 31st Inf detached upon arrival in HAMHUNG area. 31st Inf Regt continue reorganization of RCT near HAMHUNG. 32d RCT block enemy movement into zone and assist movement of Corps troops (from CHOSIN Reservoir area) into zone. Move 3d Bn, 32d Inf to new location vicinity CV-8026 and move 2d Bn 32d Inf from HAMHUNG to CV-8431. Div Arty support 17th and 32d RCT's. 73d Tank Bn remain in Division Reserve at HAMHUNG. 7th Recon Co continue present mission and outpost pass at CV-957340. Air Section continue air evacuation from CHOSIN Reservoir and reconnoiter in zone.

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During the period 5 December the 17th RCT (- Tank Co) closed HAMHUNG. The Tank Co is enroute to HAMHUNG after clearing PUKCHONG. 1st Bn, 17th Inf moving into location at CV-7723. 2d Bn, 17th Inf is remaining in location overnight near HAMHUNG RTO after closing 051900. 3d Bn, 17th Inf relieved 2d Bn 32d Inf as Corps Reserve. 31st RCT continues reorganization. 1st Bn 31st Inf enroute HAMHUNG by motor and rail from PUKCHONG.

32d RCT CP located CV-801258. 2d Bn relieved as Corps Reserve and will move in morning to CV-8431 to participate in regimental defensive mission. 3d Bn, 32d Inf enroute from old location to CV-8026. Special Activities Group attached and moved from south of HUNGNAM by motor to general vicinity CV-8026.

32d Tank Bn (-) CP located CV-759187. Battalion reconnoitered routes for counterattack in division zone. Possible routes strictly limited by sparse road network and corridors formed by steep, high hills. 7th Recon Co maintained two detached posts in the pass CV-957340.

7th Div, rear group, with Ordnance, Quartermaster and a battery of 15th AAA (AW) Bn, at PUKCHONG, ordered at 052110 to load 155mm ammunition, bull dozers, howitzers and tanks, if in operating condition and ship to HAMHUNG. Group will clear town by 061000. All vehicles, equipment and supplies not loaded or able to travel by road will be destroyed. Track vehicles to go by road if railroad cars not available.

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G2 reports indicate enemy forces may be moving southwest from FUSEN Reservoir. Enemy troops may be moving to attempt to cut road and railroad along which division units have been moved and along which I ROK Corps units are being evacuated. As yet, CCF forces are not close enough to be an immediate threat to the road from PUKCHONG to HAMHUNG. Build up continues in the CHOSIN Reservoir area, but no enemy contact has been made within division zone. Control of "refugees" continues to prevent infiltration within our lines of enemy troops.

I ROK Corps going into positions on the Division right (east) flank and will extend extend to the sea. 3d U.S. Infantry Division occupies zone on left (east) flank of Division. Threatened attack against 3d Inf Div caused X Corps to order that (042300) 3d Bn, 32d Inf remain in place at OTO-RI under 7th Div command, but prepared to pass to 3d Division control on order. At 051730 3d Bn, 32d Inf released to full control 7th Division.

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The Division plans to organize occupy and defend its sector and to provide a strong counterattack force to insure the integrity of the defensive positions.

The 17th Inf Regt (-1 Bn) has been ordered to continue present mission to prepare defensive positions in sector and attach one battalion to 32d Inf. 31st Inf Regt (-) in Division Reserve and relieve 3d Bn, 17th Inf with one battalion as Corps Reserve. 32d Inf with one battalion of 17th Inf attached continue present mission and prepare defensive positions in sector.

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48th FA Bn with Btry C, 57th FA Bn attached is in direct support of 32d Inf. 49th FA Bn is in direct support of 17th Inf. 31st FA Bn is attached to 3d Division Artillery. 7th Recon Co, with one company 31st Inf and one platoon 13th Engr Bn continues outpost of pass on coastal road from north and prepare plans to organize and occupy the Division General Outpost Line and plan to withdraw along Division west boundary to 32d Inf regimental boundary on order, with attachments reverting to parent unit upon completion of withdrawal. The Provisional Bn, composed of 7th MP Co, 7th QM Co, 7th Signal Co, and 7th Ordnance Co, is attached to 31st Inf Regt for operational control, on order, for defense of sector. Provisional Bn will prepare positions, fire plans and defensive works under direction of Commanding Officer, 31st Inf Regt.

13th Engr Bn attach one company each to 17th and 32d Inf initially and one platoon to 7th Recon Co on order. The battalion will prepare positions on the Division Reserve Line under direction of the CO, 31st Inf; will prepare AT mine plan for Division Sector and assist and supervise installations; will construct and improve access roads as directed; will be in Division Reserve, attached to 31st Inf on orders later.

Occupation of positions concerned will be effective later upon order of this headquarters. All units will continue present missions. Reconnaissance of sectors will be completed at once; organization of positions by employing indigenous labor to the maximum is directed with out delay. Units will employ demolitions, obstructions and mines to the maximum to block enemy advance. All unit defense areas will be mutually supporting. Positions will be.....

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.....organized with maximum depth and all around security. Improvement of defensive positions will be continuous. Alternate and supplementary positions, as appropriate, will be organized within sectors. Counterattack plans will be prepared concurrently with organization of positions.

When current Operations Order #31 (as above) becomes affective or ordered, units will establish local security forces forward of all defensive positions. Patrol continuously forward of and between all positions. Exert maximum effort to locate enemy troops concentrations prior to enemy attack and bring prompt air and artillery strikes thereon. Employ supporting fires to the maximum, stressing flexibility. Prevent movement of civilians into or out of defensive position. Abandon unit defense areas only on authority from the next higher commander. Stock adequate ammunition on positions but avoid overstocking in forward areas. Battalion and larger units maintain a reserve of approximately one third their combat strength, prepared to counterattack to restore original positions. Rigidly control movement of personnel and vehicles to the rear. Hold the MLR at all costs.

During the period, the 17th RCT, with its CP located at CV-766214 continued occupation and preparation of its sector. 1st Bn, 17th Inf located at CV-7722, conducted patrols to ridge line to NW without enemy contact. 2d Bn, 17th Inf closed HAMHUNG 1405 and is moving to vicinity CV-7823. Tank Co closed CV-7823 at 1600.

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31st Inf Regt, with CP at CV-799120, continued reorganizing and the 1st Bn, 31st Inf relieved the 3d Bn, 17th Inf as Corps Reserve 061800. 32d Inf Regt, with CP at CV-801268, 3d Bn, 32d Inf closed in new defensive position at 1430 vicinity CV-8431. 2d Bn closed vicinity CV-7829 at 1530. Patrols within regimental zone made no enemy contact. 32d Tank Co at CV-8026 conducted maintenance. Special Activities Group moved to base of operations vicinity CV-801268 at 0300, reported no enemy contact during day. 7th Recon Co outposted pass vicinity CV-951340 and conducted company maintenance.

Remaining division detachments, at 7th Div Rear, PUKCHONG, departed at 061000 with all personnel and all operational vehicles. Three hundred fifty tons low priority ammunition, 100,000 gallons of diesel fuel, 3500 gas masks and 171 vehicles destroyed by group before moving. Upon Corps directive, a cease destruction order was sent to Div Rear at PUKCHONG at 061030, however column had already moved out and finished destruction of supplies in town. Gen Ruffner, X Corps relieved 7th Div responsibility for supplies not destroyed (if any) in PUKCHONG. Div Rear elements closed HAMHUNG.

7 Dec 50

The Division plans to organize and prepare defensive positions in sector; to occupy and defend sector; to provide strong counterattack force to insure integrity of position.

Subordinate units have been ordered to perform the following.....

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.....operations. 17th Infantry will continue present mission and will continue to prepare defensive positions in sector. One reinforced rifle platoon will act as security for Ordnance Detachment whose mission is the reclamation of abandoned weapons and vehicles along the route from PUKCHONG to HAMHUNG. Ordnance salvage team ordered not to proceed beyond SINPO and to be back across pass at CV-9635 by 081900 and then to return to Division. The 31st and 32d Infantry Regiments will continue present missions and continue preparation of defensive positions in sector. 7th Recon Co will continue present mission.

On 7 Dec, the 17th Inf Regt patrolled in its sector without enemy contact. Relief of 3d Bn, 17th Inf as Corps Reserve by 1st Bn, 31st Inf continued and was completed. 3d Bn, 17th Inf joined regiment during evening. 31st Inf Regt continued reorganization and 1st Bn 31st Inf completed relief as Corps Reserve. Battalion commenced planning and reconnaissance for regimental defensive sector. 32d RCT patrolled in zone with no enemy contact. Reconnaissance of defensive positions with company commanders completed. Supporting engineers began preparation of defensive positions and access roads.

Div Arty conducted reconnaissance of routes and positions, to include alternate and supplementary. For positions selected, surveys and wire laying initiated preparatory to occupation of positions. 7th Recon Co out-posted pass at CV-957340 and reconnoitered within defensive area. Provisional Battalion CO conferred and coordinated with CO, 31st Inf Regt and conducted road and.....

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.....area reconnaissance after being assigned center sector of 31st RCT area. Appointment of provisional staff made and company commanders oriented by Bn CO and G3. Ordnance salvage team reached SINPO without enemy contact; destroyed one tank and one heavy Brockway Truck that could not be recovered.

32d Inf Regt patrols instructed to patrol to general line CV-7951 - 8552 - 9051 - 9449 with mission; seek and destroy enemy by ambush, traps, raids, searching all buildings and civilian interrogation; neutralize enemy potential by searching for and seizing ammunition and weapons, picking up all males of military age who seem to be loitering or not gainfully employed and returning them through POW channels; prevention of civilian traffic into Division area. Direct communication with elements of 3d Inf Div on left (west) flank is authorized and directed. General instructions above are applicable to all patrols from this division.

Supply survey to determine shortages from combat losses and overages that can be redistributed , was initiated. Stocks from higher headquarters for resupply are extremely

short and some have been outloaded already. Technical Services continue repair of unserviceable vehicles and equipment to maximum with available equipment and stocks. Reclamation and repair pushed in order to have equipment available for resupply of units that will return from CHOSIN Reservoir area. Majority of Class II and IV items returned to Corps control. All classes of supply are currently being drawn from Corps dumps.

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Because of the danger of infiltration, all units are complying with additional instructions to divert all refugees from entering our positions and to pick up and place in POW channels all males of military age. The problem, in addition to infiltration of possible North Korean soldiers and saboteurs, of caring for, feeding and segregating tens of thousands of refugees during defense preparations and during imminent attack by large Chinese Communist Forces makes diversion of refugees from other areas imperative. Movement south of civilians presently in HAMHUNG - HUNGNAM area would also be beneficial. When evacuation of division troops from the HUNGNAM area begins, the 31st RCT will be outshipped first because of its severe loss of combat efficiency due to the action in the CHOSIN Reservoir area and the necessity for replacements and continued reorganizing. Next will follow the technical services and their equipment, less operating detachments and equipment necessary for skeleton operation to maintain the units not yet outloaded. Next will follow the 17th RCT and then the 32d RCT who will be relieved of elements of the 3d Inf Div.

8 Dec 50

The Division planned to organize and prepare defensive positions in its sector and to provide for a strong counterattack force to insure integrity of the positions. There was no change in the.....

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.....composition of forces.

Operations Ordered:

In the event of any enemy attack before the Division has occupied its defense sector the 32d Inf was ordered to cover the occupation from the general line CV-7532 - 8236 - 8736 - 9534. Co A 73d (M) Tank Bn attached to the 32d Inf for this mission.

Results of Operations:

17th Inf Regt: 1st Bn, 17th Inf attached to 32d Inf Regt.

The 2d Bn reconnoitered the MLR, selected weapons positions, company and platoon sectors of responsibility fixed. Coordination affected with the 32d Inf on the right and I ROK Corps on the left. Digging of defense positions to start 10 Dec. The 3d Bn selected

routes of withdrawal for company on OPIR. Company sectors were selected and marked in the Regimental Reserve Area. The tank company reconnoitered for primary and alternate positions for each tank and prepared counterattack plans with the 3d Bn.

31st Inf Regt: The provisional Bn completed reconnaissance of zone, assigned company sectors and started digging positions. The 2d Bn reconnoitered to include locations of individual and crew served weapons.

32d Inf Regt: The Special Activities Group relieved the 2d Bn in position at 1200 hours. The 2d Bn moved to its defense.....

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.....area at 1200 hours. The I&R Platoon patrolled to SINHUNG and made contact with a group of CCF troops entering the town at 1315 hours. The 1st Bn, 17th Inf moved to defense position area.

Div Arty: All units continued preparation of primary and alternate positions for defense and continued survey of the area.

73d Tank Bn: Determined fixed positions in the Division Reserve area and reconnoitered area for counterattack routes.

7th Recon Co: Continued blocking in pass at CV-9634 and prepared plans for occupation and withdrawal from the GOPL.

Air Support: Weather prohibited air support. All intelligence indicated a continued build up of enemy strength around the perimeter. Many english speaking Chinese have been reported as infiltrating our lines and posing as American troops. The Civil Affairs Officer has issued an ordinance regarding correct procedure for acquiring supplies from civilian sources and the hiring of indigenous personnel.

9 Dec 50

The Division plans: to continue organizing and preparing defensive positions in its sector; to occupy and defend area; to provide a strong counterattack force to insure integrity of position; to receive evacuees from CHOSIN Reservoir action; and to withdraw from HUNGNAM area.

The 17th Inf Regt is ordered to move without delay to defensive positions in zone. 17th Inf Tank Co will be attached to 73d (M) Tank Bn effective 100700 December. Other units will.....

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.....continue present missions.

On 9 Dec 50, the 17th Infantry Regiment patrolled with no enemy contact. Preparation of defensive positions continued; now approximately 30% complete. Defensive wire (400 yards) laid in front of MLR and roads improved to positions. L Co, plus one platoon Co I and attached weapons from M Co, in position in reserve sector.

31st Inf completed all reconnaissance in zone and selection for all automatic weapons, tanks, and AAA weapons. Left reconnaissance sector has completed 90% of digging-in.

32d Inf with attached 1st Bn, 17th Inf, patrolled in zone with no enemy contact. 1st Bn, 17th Inf completed 90% of regimental reserve positions, 10% of OPLR positions, 10% of communications and completed fire support plan with Div Arty. 2d Bn, 32d Inf completed 75% of reserve company positions. 3d Bn, 32d Inf completed 30% of positions on MLR and Bn Reserve.

Div Arty continued preparation of positions and surveys. 7th Recon Co moved to location vicinity CV-8126 and one platoon remained blocking pass CV-9634, which was not blown because it is still being used by ROK troops.

Division G3 Air, in conjunction with 3d Inf Div, attempted to get air-strike on 2,000 enemy troops in SINHUNG-NI. Earliest possible time will be morning of 10 December. All units ordered to have patrols beyond the bomblines. SAG group ordered not to patrol into SINHUNG which is outside of bomblines.

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Army and Marine units from CHOSIN Reservoir still held up by bridges which are out south of KOTO-RI and light enemy action. Earliest expected time of arrival of lead elements in HAMHUNG at 101200.

Enemy is capable of advancing south from SINHUNG area with 10,000 troops or within 72 hours, reinforcing SINHUNG troops with three additional divisions from FUSEN Reservoir area. The enemy can attack HONGWON with 3,000 NKPA troops, they can conduct infiltration of out lines for sabotage and espionage. Limited air attack capability continues. Probability of adoption in order listed.

18 officers and 236 enlisted replacements received during week. 31st Inf Regt received 111, 32d Inf Regt 55, and 57th FA Bn 54 (of the enlisted personnel). This weighting to make up for losses in CHOSIN Reservoir action.

10 Dec 50

Planned operations remain to continue preparation of defensive positions and to occupy and defend zone.

Units ordered to continue present missions with the following changes: 17th Inf Regt attach L Co to 7th Recon Co. 7th Recon Co withdraw platoon from pass at CV-9634 after pass is blown by ROK Engineers. With L Co, 17th Inf attached, finish reconnaissance and preparation of positions on OPLR.

During 10 December 1950 no enemy contact was reported by units patrols from the 17th Inf Regt and 32d Inf Regt. The 17th.....

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.....Inf Regt completed move into defensive sector and continued to prepare defensive positions. 31st Inf Regt began receiving evacuees from CHOSIN Reservoir area and continued preparation of defensive positions and counterattack plans. Reorganization of regiment continues.

32d Inf Regt began to receive some of evacuees from CHOSIN Reservoir. Continued work on positions: MLR 95% completed and OPLR 40% completed.

Div Arty continued improvement of positions and extension of survey. Delivered harassing fire during the night. 7th Recon Co worked on positions on OPLR and one platoon remained at pass which has not been blown by ROK troops who have the authority after giving X Corps advance notice. 73d (M) Tank Bn continued work on defensive positions and counterattack plans.

Units were alerted to send advance parties by air on two hour notice to the new division area north of PUSAN the YONGCHON area.

11 Dec 50

Plans of the Division remain unchanged.

Division units have been ordered to continue their present missions. 1st Bn, 17th Inf Regt will be detached from 32d Inf Regt 110700 and revert to control of 17th Inf Regt.

17th Inf Regt conducted extensive patrolling without enemy contact. 1st Bn, 17th Inf completed 50% of positions and all installations are in and complete. Bn CO, Staff and Company COs completed reconnaissance of area and forward area. 2d Bn, 17th.....

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.....Inf cleared fields of fire, wired entries into area and completed primary and alternate positions. Plan to register artillery and mortars tomorrow. 3d Bn, 17th Inf completed counterattack plans for all installations. Co K occupied OPLR and contacted ROK units on the right flank.

31st Inf Regt continued reorganization as all units, including the Tank Co, closed from the CHOSIN Reservoir area. 2d Bn, 31st Inf located vicinity CV-799120.

32d Inf Regt patrolled in zone with no enemy contact. MLR positions complete but improvement will continue while occupied. Tactical wire 70% completed; communication 90% completed: OPLR only 10% completed because of change of units. 2d Bn, 32d Inf started preparation of OPLR positions for one company; positions on MLR improved and ammunition moved up to positions. 3d Bn, 32d Inf made reconnaissance for one company on OPLR and completed 20% of reserve positions.

Div Arty continued improving positions and survey. Fired harassing fire during night. 7th Recon Co continued reconnaissance and work on OPLR: one platoon remained on pass on road to PUKCHONG awaiting blowing by ROK Engineers who completed work and blew pass at 110300. Recon Co platoon returned to company after daylight.

Confusion in area resulted when units of I ROK Corps left flank (2d Bn, 1st ROK Regt), moved into division zone on top of 17th Inf Regt positions. KMAG officers notified and effort made to straighten out boundaries and contact points.

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Engineer units continued work on improving and constructing road net in area and building access roads to regimental areas and positions.

17th, 31st, 32d Inf Regts, Div Srty and Div Hqs notified to have advanced parties at YONPO air field (with one 1/4 ton) at 120700 to be airlifted to vicinity of new areas north of PUSAN.

Only light enemy contact by Korean Marine Corps units. Tail of Marine and Army column from CHOSIN Reservoir continues to receive light enemy action.

32d Inf Regt is making contact with 3d Division on left who are one phase line south of our troops. Coordination of phase line being made through X Corps.

7th Division preparing defensive withdrawals and embarkation in conformity with X Corps Opn O #10, 11 Dec 50. Will withdraw deliberately from present positions, effect maximum delay of enemy, defend assigned sector and embark on Corps order. Liaison maintained with I ROK Corps on right (east) and 3d Inf Div on left (west) flank, to assure maximum tie in of positions and coordination of plans.

Attempts of refugees to enter HAMHUNG area increasing and require considerable effort of all units to divert them from assigned area.

Many troops returning from CHOSIN Reservoir area require medical attention. Medical officers are attending them as they arrive in the RTO assorting area. Further medical attention and check is given as the troops arrive at their units. Units have.....

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.....prepare hot food, clean clothes and a warm place for them to sleep. Except for a medical check, the processing, questioning, re-equipping, etc., will not take place until a rest period had been given. The morale of this group is good.

12 Dec 50

1st Bn, 31st Inf and Co B, 73d (M) Tank Bn reverted to division control and Special Activities Group detached.

The Division plans to withdraw deliberately from present position, defend in sector, effect maximum delay on enemy and embark on order, withdrawing through 3d Inf Div.

17th Inf Regt with Co A, 13th Engr (C) Bn and Btry A, 15th AAA (AW) Bn attached, ordered to occupy position one in sector; prepare to withdraw successively to position two and three, maintain contact and coordinate closely with ROK Capitol Division.

31st Inf Regt (-1st Bn), with 1st Bn, 32d Inf and 57th FA Bn (-C Btry) attached ordered to remain in Division Reserve at present positions until embarked, to embark on order.

32d Inf Regt (-1st Bn), with Co A, 73d (M) Tank Bn, Btry B, 15th AAA (AW) Bn and Company B, 13th Engr (C) Bn attached, ordered to occupy position one on order; move into division sector and locate one battalion per overlay; prepare to withdraw successively to positions two and three on order; reconnoiter and prepare defensive positions along river from CV-767159 to CV-796071 to protect Division left (west) flank (1st Bn, 31st Inf available for this work); maintain contact and coordinate closely with 3d Inf Div.....

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.....left (west); reconnoiter in sector north of GOPLR and beyond, 1st Bn, 31st Inf attached to 32d Inf Regt in its sector on position three; will reconnoiter in sector to GOPLR.

Div Arty will support withdrawal of Div and coordinate Arty support with 3d Inf Div and ROK Capitol Div. 73d (M) Tank Bn (-A Co) with 17th Tk Co attached will remain in Division Reserve in present positions; prepare to counterattack to restore positions of 32d Inf Regt; cover withdrawal of division; withdraw to vicinity CV-7811 on order. 7th Recon Co with Co L, 17th Inf attached will reconnoiter from present positions along GOPLR in area; be prepared to assume reconnaissance missions in area assigned to 32d Inf Regt on order; locate and fix enemy; give early warning of enemy; delay enemy to maximum with fire, obstacles, and demolitions; withdraw only on order of Division Headquarters along previously selected routes.

13 Engr (C) Bn (-A and B Cos) will prepare bridges CV-764160, 783105, 783075 for demolition and blow on order after withdrawal of 3d Inf Div and 7th Recon Co; support demolition plans, remain in Division Reserve.

All units ordered to: maintain contact with flank units; exert maximum effort to locate enemy troop concentrations prior to enemy attack and bring air-strikes and artillery concentrations thereon; employ demolitions, obstacles and mines to the maximum to block enemy advance; organize positions with maximum depth and all around security; organize alternate and supplementary positions within sector as appropriate; hold MSR at all costs;.....

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.....prepare counterattack plans concurrently with organization of positions; battalion and larger units maintain approximately one third combat strength as reserve and prepare for counterattack to restore original positions; improve defensive positions, continually; stock adequate ammunition on positions; avoid overstocking in forward areas (two basic loads of 60mm and 81mm minimum on position one, and prepare to stock minimum of two basic loads on positions two and three); unit areas to be abandoned only on authority of next higher headquarters; carry one basic load of ammunition upon embarkation; expedite movement of all tactically nonessential personnel, vehicles, equipment and supplies to embarkation points; exert maximum effort to prevent abandonment or destruction of equipment of supplies; destroy all bridges, airfields, or other installations of military value; use of the limited road net to be closed coordinated between 17th and 32d Regts; Movement of civilians or refugees into or out of defense areas prohibited.

Again, for the third day division units patrolled extensively without making enemy contact, although a noted lack of civilian activity throughout the town and villages to the division front continues. Aerial reconnaissance indicates a continuing build up of enemy forces from the north into the CHOSIN area and from the north and northeast into the SINHUNG area.

17th Inf Regt continued defending defensive positions, reconnaissance of roads and trails and moving ammunition into positions. Fires between 1st and 2d battalion positions were coordinated.

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Artillery and mortar fires were registered. 31st Inf Regt continued reorganization of units and re-equipment of returnees from CHOSIN Reservoir area. Work and coordination of reserve positions continued. 32d Inf Regt continued improving positions. MLR positions 90% complete, tactical wire 80% complete, OPLR positions 40% complete, all installations such as aid stations, ASP, etc., complete.

Div Stry continued improvement of positions and surveys. Fired harassing fire during night. 7th Recon continued reconnaissance and preparation of positions on OPLR.

CG, X Corps directed that no refugees be allowed in area; fier to be used if necessary to keep them from entering. Telephone call from Colonel Williamson 121220 Dec, Hq X Corps, that thousands of civilians be kept out of defensive area. Division to take action to clear these people out at once, turning them in any direction as desired. 1st Bn, 31st Inf will be held in Corps Reserve until refugee problem has been alleviated. Telephone conversation between General Hodes, Assistant Division Commander, and Major General Ruffner, X Corps, changed this directive so that 1st Bn, 31st Inf will escort refugees through the area and to the south of HUNGNAM where they can make their way south outside of defensive lines.

Liaison party from 32d Inf Regt could not make contact with 3d Div party at SINPUNG-NI today. 3d Inf Liaison Officer at 3d Division will make new arrangements for 13 December 1950.

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Air support for the day was negative; Division is attempting to get air-strikes in the SINHUNG area to the northeast where Division Light Aviation Section has noted enemy buildup. Armed reconnaissance also requested toward FUSEN Reservoir to check on movement of CCF southwest from that area. Air-strikes are requested to totally destroy towns where enemy forces have been noted in order to deny the shelters of these towns to large number of enemy troops in the bitter winter weather.

Since the Marine and Army forces have closed HAMHUNG from the CHOSIN Reservoir area and Task Force DOG the covering relief force has also closed, units are alerted for a shift of the CCF attacks against the defenses of HAMHUNG - HUNGNAM area. Patrol action to be intensive to discover enemy concentrations and preparations for attack. Outposts and other units to be alert for probing actions.

13 Dec 50

The Division plans to withdraw deliberately from present positions, effect maximum delay on enemy, defend in sector and embark on order.

All units have been ordered to continue present missions with 1st Bn, 31st Inf attached to 17th Inf Regt.

On 13 December 1950 all battalions continued to improve their positions and road and trail reconnaissance conducted. Artillery registered in 1st Bn, 17th Inf area. AP mine field was laid across 2d Bn, 17th Inf sector. Patrols to the front.....

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.....made no enemy contact. 31st Inf Regt ordered the 1st Bn used for refugee control. The remainder of the regiment continued to reorganize and rehabilitate.

Preparations for embarkation were made. Supervision of reserve position construction and preparations of provisional battalion was made.

32d Inf Regt continued work on improvement of positions with 1st Bn, 31st Inf attached. Extensive patrolling conducted. Only I & R Platoon made contact, firing on a small group of NKPA soldiers at CV-907445, killing one and capturing one; enemy fled. Div Arty continued work on positions. 48th FA fired 120 rounds of harassing and interdiction fire during the night. 7th Recon Co sent patrols well north of positions but made no enemy contact. Work continued on OPLR positions. One platoon on OPLR (well within bomblines) strafed by friendly plane and napalm dropped; no casualties resulted. Plane was not under TACP control. Deep strikes for the division were reported to have good results.

Provost Marshal delegated responsibility for the control of refugees; may call on units if assistance needed. Units still responsible for refugee control within own areas. 1st Bn, 31st Inf relieved of responsibility 132000.

32d Inf Regt completed coordination with 3d Inf Div units on left (west) flank. Liaisons exchanged and flank positions tied in. 17th Inf Regt tied in flank positions with I ROK Corps units; A KMAG officer and ROKA officers visited 17th Inf and tie in of positions was jointly made on the ground.

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Preliminary GI check of 31st Inf Regt losses at CHOSIN Reservoir were 62 officers, 1045 enlisted men and 475 ROKs. This includes killed, missing and wounded. Because so many were evacuated with the Marines by air to Japan, the check continues to determine status of casualties.

Divisional units began embarkation in compliance with 7th Division Embarkation Order No 3-50, 10 December 1950. Embarkation will be in the following order:

Group A: (1) 31st Inf Regt with 1st Bn, 32d Inf Regt, 57th FA Bn (-Btry C), Btry D 15th AAA (AW) Bn (-1 Plat Atch). (2) 7th Med Bn (-Det). (3) 707th Ord Co (-Det). (4) 7th Div Rear including personnel sections of all units, Band, Special Staff Sections of Division Rear. (5) 7th QM Co (- Dets necessary to secure and distribute Class I and Class III supplies during embarkation). (6) 13th Engr (C) Bn heavy equipment.

Group B: (1) 7th Div Stry (including HQ & HQ Btry). (2) 7th Signal Co (Dets with 17th and 32d Inf). (3) 7th Div Hq & Hq Co (- Comd Group with Def Plat and Det 7th Signal Co).

Group C: (1) Trains of 32d Inf. (2) Trains of 48th FA Bn (including Btry C, 57th FA Bn). (3) Trains of 17th Inf. (4) Trains of 49th FA Bn. (5) Trains of 15th AAA (AW) Bn (-).

Group D: (1) 15th AAA (AW) Bn (-). (2) Arty elements as specified by CG, 7th Div Srty. (3) Elements of Group E, F and G which can be spared.

Group E: 73d Tank Bn (-elements which are committed at time of embarkation). (2) 7th Recon Co. (3) 13 Engr (C).....

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.....Bn (-). (4) 17th Tank Co. (5) 32d Tank Co. (6) 31st FA Bn.

Group F: 17th Inf Regt. (2) 49th FA Bn. (3) 7th Div and Div Arty Command Groups.

Group G: (1) 32d Inf Regt (-1st Bn and Tank Co). (2) Attached 1st Bn, 31st Inf. (3) 48th FA Bn. (4) 7th MP Co and control personnel.

CO, Division Advance Party, informed that arrangements will not be made for ships carrying division units to land at POHAN-DONG or otherports except PUSAN. All ships must be landed at PUSAN so that units can control vehicles, supplies and troops loaded on several ships sometimes without tactical cohesion because of the tactical necessity.

14 Dec 50

The Division plans to continue mission.

31st Inf Regt (-1st Bn) ordered to embark. 32d Inf Regt ordered to occupy positions on Division MLR. All other units no change.

No enemy contacts were made by the extensive division patrols during this period. All battalions of 17th Inf Regt are occupying and improving defensive positions. Reconnaissance of roads and trails continue. 31st Inf Regt (-1st Bn) is embarking. 32d moved by infiltration during the day to new positions on Division MLR. Regt Hqs closed at new CP CV-806185 at 14730 with 2d and 3d Bns, 32d Inf, opened in new location. 48th FA Bn also completed move.

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Div Arty units have completed registration. 7th Recon Co unable to contact 3d Division units on left (west) flank. Liaison sent to coordinate with 3d Inf Div.

Infantry Regiments, Div Arty and Engineer Battalion given additional airlift to PUSAN area of 30 people. 8 1/2 T trucks, and 1 2 1/2 T truck for each Inf Regt and slightly less for others.

Division ordered to transfer 2,000 ROK troops to I ROK Corps by 151200. Arrangements completed.

15th AAA (AW) Bn ordered attached to 3d Inf Div on Corps order. Embarkation of battalion stopped. Battalion aslo to furnish four officers and 140 enlisted men for dock details.Division to turn over six 4.2 mortars to 3d Inf Div by mutual arrangements when 7th Division embarks; crews are not included.

General Almond, CG X Corps, visited Division CP at 1130 and presented General Barr with Distinguished Service Cross and eight returnees from CHOSIN Reservoir with Silver Stars.

57th FA Bn had following casualties in CHOSIN.

	OFF	WO	EM	TOTAL US	ROK	TOTAL
KIA	5	0	13	18	0	18
MIA	7	0	255	262	150	412
WIA	11	1	78	90	0	90
TOTAL	23	1	345	370	150	520

This from a total of 37 officers, four warrant officers, 451 enlisted men and 313 ROKs entering the CHOSIN area with the battalion.

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Some members of division advance party going north to YONGCHON area to select positions for the units. Upon arrival in new areas, units will initiate action immediately to re-equip and reconstitute units to authorized T/O&E. Training, as permitted by the situation, will be initiated. Basic loads will be constituted and preparations made for tactical employment on order.

15 Dec 50

It is planned that the 17th Inf and 32d Inf Regts, with present attachment and detachments, will withdraw during daylight hours on 16 December 1950 to delay position #3. Withdrawal will be completed by 161600.

17th and 32d Inf Regts ordered to withdraw to delay positions #3 by 161700. Delay position #2 new Regimental OPLR. Units will secure themself at all times. Priority of the north south road 8118 to 817145 to 821127 to 17th Inf Regt.

7th Recon Co with Co L. 17th Inf attached, general outpost force, will cover the withdrawal of division elements to position #3; move during daylight 15 December 1950 to vicinity YONGBONG-NI CV 8632 and remain north of grid line 31; except on main road southwest of YONGBONG-NI until 161300; patrol during night of 15-15 December and daylight 16 December in Zone A; withdraw to vicinity CV-7923 between 161300

and 161700; upon completion of withdrawal, L Co (-one platoon to Recon Co) revert to parent control; patrol in Zone A and B until further orders; establish road blocks.

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32d and 17th Inf Regts will withdraw with at least one basic load of ammunition. Mortar ammunition in excess of one basic load that cannot be carried out will be fired per previous orders in regimental sectors south of grid line 30 between 160700 and 161200.

A Co, 73d Tank Bn, detached 32d Ing Regt 161600. 32d and 17th Inf Regts continue patrolling in sectors from position #3 to old position #1. All patrols will search ridge lines and other likely avenues of approach. Div Arty will support.

31st RCT completed embarkation and sailed from HUNGNAM Harbor for PUSAN. 32d Ing Regt (-1st in which embarked with 31st Inf Regt) continued with 2d and 3d Battalions of delay position #1 and prepared to move to delay position #3 (Corps MLR) on 16 December. A patrol from Compant I, sent out on 14 December, returned today. They contacted a small NK group at CV-775524. After short fire fight, patrol withdrew. Other regimental patrols did not gain enemy contact.

Div Arty continued to improve positions. No harassing or interdiction missions fired. 7th Recon Co moving to new location vicinity CV-7820. Patrols metno enemy.

X Corps proposed "SCAT" schedule approved: on 16 Dec, 7th Div, 3d Div and Capitol Div withdraw to Corps MLR and OPLR on 17Dec, 3d Div moves to inner perimeter and ROK units outload on 18 Dec, 7th Inf Div withdraw to port to load. On 19 December 7th Inf Division completes outloading.

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Enemy build up around defense perimeter continues. Attacks made during period in 3d Division sector to west of 7th Division. Attacks varied from probing to forces estimated at 1,000. All attacks repulsed shortly after daylight although elements of 65th Inf Regt withdrew to next phase line.

X Corps message that C and D batteries of 15th AAA (AW) Bn will outload with Div. Remainder of Bn will be attached with 3d Inf Div when 7th Inf Div embarks. Demolition of bridges along MSR (HUNGNAM to HAMHUNG) took much coordination between 7th and 3d Division as to responsibility for blowing. MSR not entirely in 7th Div zone, although Div Engrs had been directed to prepare demolitions on some of the bridges and some division troops gwarded prepared bridges. 3d Division assigned responsibility of blowing all bridges which it plans to do tonight.

Outloading of division units continued. Speed of outloading is entirely dependent upon lighterage allocated to division and speed with which ships can unload since outer harbor, where most ships are anchore, is not protected and rough seas delay or prevent loading.

At present, only tanks are being loaded from dockside, space is severely limited by former bombing and shelling. Embarkation teams, after two former loadings, are able to change plans quickly to take advantage of all means to speed loading. Familiarity with methods and personnel of 2d ESB assists in speed and proficiency of loading. Division embarkation office reports loading behind schedule because units being outloaded before 7th Division held up by rough water.

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16 Dec 50

The Division plans for a continued withdrawal to the PUSAN area.

Division units have been ordered to continue their present missions with the following missions: 17th Inf Regt assume responsibility of the I ROK Corps area with one battalion. 73d Tank Bn reconnoiter counterattack routes in the I ROK Corps sector and prepared to support the 17th Inf Regt in that sector.

No enemy contact was made by division patrols this date nor were any attacks made against division positions. The 17th Inf Regt occupied new positions and continued improvement of area. 2d Bn, 17th Inf occupied defensive positions on Corps MLR. All companies are dug and wired in with two basic loads of ammunition on position. 75% of tactical wired installed. 3d Bn, 17th Inf occupied defensive positions in I ROK Corps MLR with security post established to the front. Reconnaissance of sector conducted during the day. 1st Bn, 31st Inf attached to 32d Inf Regt, continued their present mission of improving defensive positions along the east bank of the north-south river in sector. 2d Bn, 32d Inf occupied defensive positions on the corps MLR at 1430. Battalion retains covering force on OPLR and is physically tied in with 65th RCT at limiting point on Corps MLR and established Corps OPLR positions in sector.

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Div Srty moved supporting artillery battalions into new positions in order to support the 17th and 32d Inf Regts on their new positions on Corps MLR and OPLR.

3d Inf Div, in positions on west of 7th Div, again received enemy attacks during period. Enemy appears capable of launching probing attacks against the 32d Inf Regt as he appears to be moving in a clockwise direction. He may also avoid major contact with the division pending completion of a further enemy build up along the east sector. This would allow his continued move of troops from the FUSEN Reservoir (northeast) and consolidation, regrouping and movement from the CHOSIN Reservoir (north) of the division sector. The movement into positions for an attack in mass does not preclude the constant and persistent probing attacks on any point in our perimeter. Air, civilian and agent reports indicate the build up is continuing but is not complete.

The rumor that civilians would be evacuated to the south by sea from HUNGNAM has caused a large influx of refugees. During the period the 1st Bn, 31st Inf was on refugee control, they turned back 6,000 persons from entering the Division defensive area.

Outloading of units continued.

The transfer of 1,978 ROK troops from the 7th Division to the I ROK Corps was completed on 151700 as follows: 31st Inf-321; 17th Inf-894; 32d Inf-502; Div Arty-261. Units were generally happy to transfer out the ROK soldiers.

Division Headquarters and flank units have spent considerable time exchanging liaison personnel with the 3d Inf Div and subordinate.....

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.....units so that constant and complete coordination of defensive positions can be maintained. Physical tie in of units at limiting points has been checked by liaison personnel as well as by the units on the ground.

17 Dec 50

15th Inf Regt (-1st Bn) attached for operational control 171500.

The Division plans a continued withdrawal to the PUSAN area and a relocation and shortening of OPLR.

The Division units were ordered to continue their present missions with the following change: 1st Bn, 17th Inf placed in Corps Reserve to prepare counterattack plans.

17th Inf Regt units during this period had no enemy contact during period. 1st Bn, 17th Inf relieved by 15th Inf Regt on right (west) flank at 170800 and placed in Corps and Division Reserve vicinity CV-822551. 1st Bn, 17th Inf will not be moved from present location without prior Corps approval, shortened and pulled in on right to tie in with the 15th Inf Regt OPLR which is being located in compliance with 3d Inf Div plans for defense when they hold the entire perimeter after withdrawal of 7th Inf Div.

F Co, 17th Inf on OPLR hit by enemy attack about 162130 and continued until daylight. Left platoon vicinity CV-774167 withdrew. 7th Recon Co went forward, gathered portions of F Co that had withdrawn and restored OPLR by daylight. L Co on right of.....

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.....OPLR attacked by estimated enemy company at 0230. Two platoons of L Co withdrew, but company commander, after calling artillery on enemy positions, regained OPLR positions with all L Co platoons.

A train with two cars of about 50 personnel claiming to be ROK army personnel stopped outside of 32 Inf OPLR. Corps, when queried, said they had no knowledge of them and not to allow them to enter perimeter. Before 32d could handle personnel, X Corps personnel appeared, loaded them in trucks, saying they were a "lost" railroad battalion." Corps transportation units blowing ammunition on railroad cars along 32d Inf right MLR at CV-775130.

Artillery and naval gunfire used on enemy concentrations reported by ground and air patrols. Results generally reported good. Div Arty fired harassing and interdiction fire during night.

Loading of ships continued although about 24 hours behind schedule. 73d Tank Company can be loaded today. Loading of 13th Engr (C) Bn continues.

18 Dec 50

7th Inf Div plans for its continued withdrawal to the pUSAN area and for its relief in the present sector by the 3d Inf Div.

Operations ordered for units remained the same. 7th Recon Co prepare to embark on call. 32d Inf prepared to embark when relieved by the 3d Inf Div.

17th Inf Regt had no enemy contact during this period and continued to improve MLR positions, laying more wire, mines and.....

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.....trip flartes. OPLR relocated to tie in more closely with 32d Inf on left and 15th Inf Regt on right. 32d Inf Regt continued to improve MLR positions and to relocate OPLR to tie in with 3d Inf Div on left and 17th Inf Regt on right. Co F, 32d Inf was attacked by two enemy companies in vicinity of CV-779168 at 180525. Enemy made penetration, but company restored lines before daylight killing 97 enemy and taking one prisoner. 1st Bn, 31st Inf continued to improve position.

15th Inf Regt continued work on positions. Co I, 15th Inf repulsed attack of 40 enemy at 0505 at CV-863104. Co L, 15th Inf repulsed attack of 25 enemy at CV-871091 before dawn. At 1230 Co G, 15th Inf attacked and sporadic fire fight lasted until 1945 when accurate artillery fire silenced all enemy. 1st Bn, 15th Inf joined regiment at present location during afternoon.

7th Recon Co outloaded tanks without personnel who are still manning positions. Div Arty fired 709 rounds harassing and interdiction fire during night. During day foot and serial patrols called artillery fire on enemy concentrations and movements. Ten air sorties of from two to 14 planes each hit enemy targets in the Division sector with results generally believed to be good.

Loading of units continued. 31st FA Bn began loading, one battery at a time as called for. 13th Engr (C) Bn began loading. Units loaded as called for by embarkation officer.

31st Inf Regt and Division Rear had already landed at PUSAN. As soon as units arrive, division representatives take personnel to assembly area on north limits of city. As transportation comes.....

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.....ashore for unit, or division transportation returns from new division area, units are moved to their new areas in the vicinity of YONGCHON where advanced parties have picked out laid out unit areas. 31st Inf Regt continues reorganization, re-equipping and training. Service, technical and administrative elements of division units as they arrive and to provide for repair and resupply of combat losses for the Noryh Korean Campaign. Use of the railway north from PUSAN restricted because of the great volume of supply going north to Eighth Army units in contact with the enemy.

19 Dec 50

The 7th Division plans to continue its withdrawal to the PUSAN area.

Division organic units will continue their present missions until relieved by elements of the 3d Inf Div, at which time they will embark.

During this period, elements of the Division received many enemy attacks, but all were repulsed without penetrating through positions. 17th Inf Regt withdrew OPLR about 1,000 yards at close of day to tie in with 65th Inf Regt OPLR. Outposts on OPLR attacked and surrounded at 190300 (CV-820165 and CV-823163) and communications cut. Friendly troops broke out and fought way to MLR by 1400. Other two outposts remain. 17th Inf sent other elements to restore outpost positions one and two. The enemy was driven out, positions restored and contact made with 32d Inf Regt outpost positions by 1015.

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Sixteen dead and one wounded NK found on positions. Friendly losses of two wounded. No other action received during day.

In the 32d Inf Regt Sector, related probing attacks began just before midnight when F Co on the OPLR, called artillery fire, dispersed on enemy squad. C Co, 32d Inf received fire from buildings at CV-794145 between the OPLR and MLR at 0030; friendly fire and WP on buildings dispersed enemy. At about the same time F Co was attacked near limiting point with Recon Co. L Co on the right of the OPLR was attacked at same time. Both attacks appeared to be by groups of about company size. Penetration of L Co made, but

company counterattack restored position by 0500. F Co forced from position; Recon Co held position and engaged in heavy fire fight. F Co, 32d Inf regained positions by 0630.

At 0632 a "BANZAI" type attack launched against L Co, 32d Inf. At 0925 fight was still in progress and telephone stated: "Enemy has one platoon of L Co surrounded and L Co has enemy surrounded." Enemy demanding surrender of platoon and at same time L Co demanding surrender of enemy. CO, L Co says he has it under control." By 1230 enemy were dispersed and L Co position restored. 32d RCT relief completed by elements of 3d Inf Div at 1530 and embarkation completed during evening and night. 7th Recon Co attached to 32d Inf Regt and embarked with it.

At 190237 Co I, 15th Inf attacked at CV-863103. Enemy driven off. At 0335 strong enemy patrol attacked between E and G Cos, 15th Inf, at CV-855119 and made penetration. Counterattack restored position and drove out enemy.

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At 1140 message received from CG, X Corps that effective upon relief of 32d Inf Regt by 3d Inf Div, CO, 3d Div assumes command of 17th Inf Regt and 15th AAA (AW) Bn. Command assumed at 191530.

7th Inf Div closed HUNGNAM as of 191600 and opened aboard ship, USS General J.C. Breckenridge.

20 Dec 50

17th Inf Regt had quiet night without enemy action. Relief of 17th Inf by 3d Div units started 200730 and 17th Inf units began loading and closed aboard USS Gen Breckenridge 201200. All units of the 7th Div, except 15th AAA (AW) Bn (-2 Cos) attached to 3d Inf Div, outloaded by 202000 and embarkation parties came aboard ship.

21-23 Dec 50

Division advance CP opened YONGCHON DQ-9479 222115 Dec 50. Units continue to close into their new locations in the vicinity of YONGCHON. Railroad trains made available for the transportation of troops to the YONGCHON area. TACPs from the 1st Mar Div released to Marines. Shore fire control parties released also.

From the period 9 Dec 50 to 23 Dec 50, 17 officers and 1350 enlisted replacements were received and assigned to units.

Returns to duty of ROK personnel formerly with 7th Inf Div will be sent to ROK army units and not returned to 7th Inf Div. Individual ROK disciplinary cases will be turned over direct to.....

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.....ROK Army authorities. In the event of groups or large numbers, a request for the transfers by name and serial number will be submitted through channels so that time and place of transfer may be arranged.

24 Dec 50

The Division plans to close all units, with supplies, vehicles and equipment, in the YONGCHON DQ-9379 area and reorganize, resupply and carry out training.

The Division has been ordered to secure its part of the Corps zone against surprise attacks, enemy infiltration, guerrilla action, and prepare for further combat.

17th Inf, 31st Inf, 32d Inf, Div Arty and 13th Engr (C) Bn will patrol in zone and maintain strong local security. 73d Tank Bn will make special patrols as ordered; reconnoiter road and terrain in division zone for possible employment therein; maintain strong local security. 13th Engr (C) Bn will collect road information and adjacent units and disseminate within division. Light Aviation Section will support patrol and reconnaissance missions of all units.

Units will patrol by foot and by motor to patrol lines and detect any enemy movement therein; seek and destroy all enemy; patrol day and night; insure that patrols are stealthy and alert, employing concealment and camouflage to the maximum to locate enemy; make contact with local security agencies of the South Korean government, especially the police; reconnoiter and report road and bridge information. Main roads open to all division units.

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All units will carry out training in accordance with Training Memo #42, Hq 7th Inf Div, 24 December 1950.

25 Dec 50

7th Inf Division closed new area 250700 Dec with the exception of the following units remaining in PUSAN; 73d Med Tank Bn; 17th Inf Tank Co; 31st Inf Tank Co.

Except for guard, patrols and necessary fatigue, troops given day of rest from 241800 to 251800. Class A Ration, including turkey, issued to all troops.

Patrols in zone made no enemy contact.

26 Dec 50

7th Div units conducted patrols in zone with no enemy contact. Training continued in all units.

Maintenance of vehicles and equipment continued. Resupply for combat losses taking place. Ordnance and Signal repair sections working on vehicles and equipment turned in for repair.

27 Dec 50

Patrols and traing continued. At 271620 division notified by telephone call that three inspection teams are being sent on 28 December to inspect 17th Inf Regt. Each team will have representatives of G2, G3, G4, Ordnance, Signal, Medice, Engineer, Rifle Co Specialist, and Weapons Co Specialist. All personnel to attend inspection.

Gasoline is in critically short supply and being rationed on a priority basis.

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Tank Co, 17th Inf closed with Regt 271400. Training conducted by all units. Patrols conducted in zone. No enemy contact reported.

Inspection of 17th Inf Regt postponed 24 hours.

28 Dec 50

All units conducted training and patrols dispatched in zone with no enemy contact. Maintenances and repair of equipment progressing. 31st Inf Regt continues reorganizing.

29 Dec 50

Traing and patrolling continued. 17th Inf inspected by X Corps inspection team, Hq and Sv Co, 73d (M) Tank Co closed new area DQ-8577 at 291530 December.

Division notified that 2d Ranger Co (Colored) is to be attached. Will arrive by air lift at K-2 airfield (TAEGU) on 1 or 2 Jan 51, less kitchen and transportation.

Report of X Corps that 28th, 29th and 30th ROK Regiments under attack on east.

Informed by Corps inspection of other units as follows; 31st Inf, 31 Dec; 32d Inf, 2 Jan; Div Arty, 3 Jan.

30 Dec 50

2d Ranger Company and 52d Truck Battalion attached 7th Division.

The Division plans to move from YONGCHOM DQ- 939795 to TANYANG DR-3987.

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At 1025 notified by X Corps that Ranger Company would be at TAEGU Airfield this afternoon instead of on Jan 1 or 2. Arrangements made to have Ranger Co picked up on trucks at 1600 and billeted at 7th Repl Co: strength 5 officers and 120 enlisted men.

At 1330 Division notified at meeting at X Corps that the Division would move to the TANYANG area; 52d Truck Bn will be attached to the Division for the move with about 90 trucks available.

7th Inf Div will move without delay to TANGYANG DR-3987 WONJU DS-0634 exclusive area to block enemy threats from the northeast. Prepare for further movement to vicinity of HONGCHON on Corps order. 17th RCT will be composed of 17th Inf Regt; 49th Fa Bn; Co A, 13th Engr (C) Bn; Det, 7th Sig Co; Clearing Plat, 7th Med Bn; Ambulance Plat, 7th Med Bn; 52d Truck Bn (for move only). RCT will move by motor beginning 310800 Dec 50 from vicinity SINYONG DQ-8188 to vicinity CHECHON DS-3010. Will conduct reconnaissance north to WONJU Ds-0734 and maintain contact with 2d Inf Div. Will secure objective area and block enemy movement from north and northeast to permit closing of remainder of division. Will locate ROK and other friendly units in zone.

13 Engr (C) Bn will develop the MSR ANDONG (exclusive) DR-7547 to CHECHON DS-3010 (inclusive). 2d Inf Div Engrs to have the responsibility of maintaining the road from YONGCHON to ANDONG.

Movement of units will be during daylight hours only. Security will be provided for all motor convoys. All vehicles will.....

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.....return from TANYANG and CHUNJU DR-0591 - SANJU DR-2530 - TAEGU DR-6470 - YONGCHON. One way road routing necessary because of the heavy volume of traffic (road used by divisions and units other than 7th Inf Div) and the narrowness of the road with its many winding mountain passes.

Enemy elements have been identified as far south as DS-2568, DS-2559 and DS-2668. Guerrilla units have also been reported active behind the front line areas of enemy contact. Therefore the restriction on travel at night and the strong security of motor groups is necessary, even though it will slow the movement of elements of the Division and of truck transported supplies. The road distance from YONGCHON to CHECHON is 225 miles, a distance that cannot be made during daylight hours at this time of year and over the type of roads being used.

31 Dec 50

2d Ranger Company and 52d Truck Battalion joined.

The Division plans to move from the YONGCHON DQ-9370 vicinity to the TANYANG DR-3987 - WONJU DS-0634 (exclusive) area.

The 17th RCT has been ordered to move to highway from the vicinity SINNYONG DQ-8188 to CHECHON DS-3010 area. Other units to continue present missions.

During the period the 2d Ranger Co closed at the 7th REPL Co 310430. 52d Truck Bn closed YONGCHON 310730. The 17th RCT began its northward move. 3d Bn, 17th Inf and C Btry, 49th FA Bn cleared SINNYONG enroute to CHECHON at 311015. The Command Group 17th Inf.....

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.....with elements Hq Co departed SINNYONG 311035 and the 2d Bn, 17th Inf, with Heavy Mortar Co attached departed 311140. Loading elements 17th RCT closed in new area 312000; no enemy contact. Report road will take division traffic except tanks. Have remainder of 17th RCT sent forward at daylight 1 Jan 51: Tank and Service Companies to remain present location.

Inspection of 31st Inf Regt completed by X Corps. All units continued training and patrolling; no enemy contact was made.

Intelligence estimates indicate 6,000 enemy troops and 2,500 enemy guerrillas infiltrated in rear of 9th ROK Div to west. Infiltration continues.

The ability of the Division to move to new area is seriously threatened by the critical shortages of gasoline. X Corps notified by telephone and TWX and replied that gasoline not available. 1,500 gallons only on hand at close of period. Corps does not know when Division requirements can be met.

Resupply items available at PUSAN but no transportation available to ship them to Division. PUSAN Logistical Command suggests Division pick up and transport on organic transportation. QM taking action to get new field type overcoat for all men of Division. Inquiry found that army supply point should open at WONJU 012400 for supply of northern portions of Division.

American Red Cross Field Director indicates that the Red Cross cannot supply indefinitely the comfort and PX items, including razors, blades, towels and stationary, that are normally purchased from PX's. The Division has not had access to PX purchasing since it left Japan early in September.

END