



Marines in First U. S. Push—Marines of the 1st Marine division move into battle lines, past vehicles of the division as the unit goes into the first American offensive of the war, in the Chinju sector of South Korea. (Acme Telephoto)

Lack of Manpower Precludes Any Early Amphibious Landing

By ELTON C. FAY
(AP Military Affairs Reporter)

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—Lack of manpower and, to some degree, transportation apparently precludes any early, large-scale effort to upset the Korean red army by amphibious or airborne invasion behind the lines.

Nevertheless, military men here are not disposed to rule out the possibility that the time will come for use in Korea of the sea-air invasion technique that helped win World War II campaigns in both Europe and the Pacific Islands.

Nor does it mean there won't be more forays by small groups landing from ships for demolition and scouting purposes along the enemy-held coastlines of Korea.

The departure from American west coast ports of units of the 1st Marine Division led to a widespread expectation on the homefront that a spectacular landing was imminent. The Marines' reputation as amphibious landing specialists presumably gave rise to the expectation. Instead, the brigade landed quietly at a South Korean port, then moved to the front to take up positions with troops already in battle.

Whatever the military or psychological value of putting a big force behind the enemy now—to divert some of his attack force to beachhead defenses—the odds are weighted heavily against it. Every man with a gun in the Far East zone seems to be needed badly to hold the defense line. There are no troops to spare or withdraw from the front.

Because the Pacific war was waged almost entirely by a series of amphibious landings, there are presumed to be a fair supply of landing ships and craft in Gen. MacArthur's command. But it is doubtful that numbers and specialized types needed for a substantial effort—a division or more—are immediately at hand ready for service.

On the other hand, the amount of available naval and air units needed to provide gunfire and air cover for a landing already is comparatively large.

The U. S. Navy, together with ships of the British fleet assigned to the Korean war, daily dump huge tonnages of shellfire on enemy targets, in addition to bombs dropped by carrier aviation. The American Naval Force alone now evidently numbers several score ships ranging from carriers through cruisers to destroyers and submarines.

Some speculation over the possible use of airborne invasion has arisen out of the fact the United States has two airborne divisions in this country, the 82nd and the 11th. The 82nd

was described before the outbreak of the Korean war as far nearer wartime strength and general readiness for action than any of the five army divisions then in the United States.

However, here there is the problem of transportation. It takes a great fleet of planes to move an airborne division of 12,000 to 16,000 men.

For the assault phase alone (the business of getting combat troops to the area where they will drop) it is estimated that about 800 C-54 "flying boxcars" or their equivalent are needed. For the assault phase and the continuing requirement for resupplying the "airhead" with food, ammunition and replacements more than 2,000 planes are required. The number of planes especially built for airborne operations now in use by the air force is considerably smaller than that total.

In addition to menacing an enemy from the rear if his attacking force, one of the major values of an amphibious or airborne invasion is to stop the flow of supplies to the enemy front (the military calls it "interdiction"). At this stage, the United Nations forces are relying on tactical and strategic air attacks by both land and carrier based planes to carry out the effort to cut supply lines.

Amphibious experts look upon Korea as neither too good, nor too bad for landings.

The west coast has several logical areas for landings, with flat country and fair beaches or harbors. However, Yellow sea tides have wide ranges, adding difficulties in timing and selection of beach areas for going ashore.

The east coast tidal range is much more moderate. But there the beaches and reefs would be more of a problem than on west. There is another disadvantage in an east coast landing: The North-South ridge of mountains rises sharply from the sea, meaning that an amphibious invasion force would be confronted with natural enemy fortifications and would have to work its way westward, laterally across the ridge lines.

About two-thirds of the timber cut in Japan is burned as fuel with about half of this amount being first converted into charcoal.

What It's Like to Go On Carrier-Plane 'Strike'

By JACK BURBY

Aboard U. S. Navy Attack Bomber over Korea, Aug. 8 (AP)—Our plane is one of hundreds that took off from the two Essex class carriers of Task Force 77 during the week-end and hammered North Korea supply lines.

One particular target is a bridge high on the army's priority list because the communists are using it to filter supplies south to their front lines during the night.

There are 19 of us on this particular strike—eight skyraiders and 11 corsairs.

One corsair dives down to check the bridge condition. Its pilot Lt. L. T. Hosier, Jr., reports the bridge is usable.

Ahead of us four skyraiders climb into position. They roll over at 9,000 feet and plunge earthward, twisting and rolling as the pilots jockey the planes into position to hurl 1,000 pound bombs at the long concrete bridge spans. Six dives finish the mission.

Now it's our turn.

Cmdr. R. W. Vogel, Jr., leads eight corsairs in a dive across the bridge, pounding it with 500-pound bombs. Then he calls on the skyraiders to bring more 1,000-pounders.

Lieut. Cmdr. Winston I. Chick of Los Angeles rocks his wings to single our attack and pushes the plane's nose over to start the dive.

We make three runs, spinning crazily toward the ground each time and pulling out so hard it jams us down into the seat and sends white vapor trails streaming off our wing tips.

We turn southward and fly past a smoking village. We are so low we can see four motionless forms lying in the sandy village square. We also see white-jacketed residents moving about in the rice paddies, apparently paying little attention to our bombs, which send visible shock waves along the ground.

Now Vogel signals for Chick to jump a power plant with his 1000-pound bombs. When we circle the plant, the corsairs are pumping rockets into it. We dive toward it, leaving it smoking and head for the seacoast.

We still have some rockets aboard and when we spot a junk moving along the coast we dive again.

Chick fires two rockets at the little craft and squeezes off a few rounds of 20-millimeter shells.

Then we head for our carrier, finding it racing along looking gray and grim under low-hanging clouds.

We slam to a halt on the flight deck and the handlers signal us to a parking spot.

Red Claim 336 Yanks As Prisoners in Korea

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—A communist broadcast from Pyongyang has reported that 336 Americans are being held in a North Korean prisoner-of-war camp, it was disclosed today.

This was the first over-all figure on American prisoners given by North Korea since a broadcast July 15 when the Reds said they were holding 114 Americans.

The latest figure was given in a propaganda appeal by a man identified as an American second lieutenant. The speaker who opposed American intervention in Korea, said he was speaking "in the name of 336 prisoners of war who are here."

United States monitors who recorded the broadcast declined to disclose the alleged name of the speaker.

Shawneetown, Ill., on the Ohio river, was almost completely moved to higher ground three miles back after the flood of 1937.



Front Line Liaison—A U. S. Marine's helicopter takes off from a Marine forward command post near the Korean front. The plane is used as a liaison unit between front line position and the First Marine division base. (AP Wirephoto)

Red's Policy of Accumulating Huge Stockpile of Arms Seen

By ELTON C. FAY

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—A war-tested Russian policy—accumulation of a huge stockpile of arms before embarking on campaign—seems to be paying off for the North Koreans. That explanation is offered in some military quarters here when the question is asked:

How are the Red Koreans able to keep on pouring immense amounts of ammunition and equipment into a bitter war already five weeks old?

Since Russia generally is supposed to have mapped the plans for the attack on the republic of South Korea and to be directing it now by remote control, it is assumed that all the vital planning of supplies was dictated by Russian army experts.

During World War II, Russia sometimes exasperated her western allies by delaying a needed offensive against the Germans for weeks and months. Not until she had built up vast supply dumps, far beyond any foreseeable requirements, would she launch the offensive.

This practice was applied to Russia's satellite army of North Koreans. The jump-off for the invasion was delayed until Red strategists estimated the North Korean army had more than enough material for an Asiatic blitzkrieg against the poorly equipped South Korean army.

The ability of the North Koreans to maintain their offensive at peak intensity now raises a question about an earlier assumption that the Reds' war plan was to complete their conquest before aid could come to the South Koreans. They would not have needed to stockpile mountains of ammunition and hundreds of tanks to beat down an opponent armed with only light defensive weapons intended for internal security.

It seems now they reckoned with the definite possibility the United States would step into the picture.

The North Korean armament

War of Words in Korea Finds U. S. Out-Gunned

By EDWARD V. ROBERTS

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—The war of words in Korea is finding the United States almost as badly out-gunned as it was in the war of bullets.

Altogether the U. S. airs a total of two hours and 15 minutes of daily radio programs to Korea—north and south. Most of it is straight reporting of spot news, plus an occasional commentary which, in calm language, seeks to refute communist arguments.

From the other side comes a steady barrage of vilification and insults directed against "vile capitalists," "filthy warmongers," and "murderers of women and children"—all standard communist propaganda terms for opponents.

On the receiving end is the bewildered Korean populace. Oddly enough, the experts say Koreans are "just about the most radio-conscious people on earth."

This is due to a propaganda technique developed by the Japanese during World War II. The Japanese depended largely upon radio to propagandize occupied Korea. To facilitate the program, they flooded the country with cheap radio sets, which were either given away or sold for about \$6.

These little sets were just powerful enough to receive broadcasts of a Japanese-controlled network within Korea. Thousands of these Japanese receivers are still in service. Before the invasion, Voice of America programs were rebroadcast.

1. That the communists started the war, and that red claims to the contrary are false.
2. That the entire free world considers the attack raw aggression, and is supporting the U. N. effort to put it down.

North Korean Found Dead with Hankie Smeared with Lipstick

By GENE SYMONDS
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With U. S. Forces, Korea, Aug. 8 (AP)—He was a handsome young intelligence officer of the North Korean army who carries a lipstick-smeared silk handkerchief among his secret papers. They found him dead, half his head blown off by American mortar fire north of Maseon—one of the many communist casualties on the southern front.

A picture he carried showed a young man with wavy black hair, wearing a Russian style tunic. The papers in his leather dispatch case were highly informative.

He was a Manchurian, 26, a senior lieutenant—equal to captain in the American army—and the assistant intelligence officer of the Red 6th division in charge of reconnaissance behind American lines.

A diary revealed he was in command of North Koreans who infiltrated our lines by twos and threes. They passed their information back to him, and he correlated it and passed it on to higher headquarters.

The dispatch case contained shoulder boards indicating his rank—practically identical to Russian insignia. There were papers revealing he had been born in the extreme north of Manchuria near the Siberian border.

Apparently he was not too well educated, for the diary he kept—up to Aug. 5, the day before he was killed—was in basic Korean.

And stuffed among his military papers was that small square green silk handkerchief smeared with bright lipstick.

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