

The 2d Infantry Division at the Battles of Wonju and Chip'yong-ni **Staff Ride**

Stand 1: Overview of the Korean War, June 1950 to Jan 51

Stand 2: -The 1951 Communist Offensive and the First Battle of Wonju

Stand 3: The Second Battle of Wonju

Stand 4: Operation Thunderbolt

Stand 5: The Battle of the Twin Tunnels

Stand 6: Operation Roundup Opening Moves and the Occupation of Chip'yong-ni

Stand 7: Patrol Actions at Chip'yong-ni

Stand 8: The Battle for Hoengsong

Stand 9: The Battle of Chip'yong –ni

Stand 10: The 2d IN DIV and the 3d Battle of Wonju

Stand 11: UNC Resumes the Offense

Yellow highlighted text refers to terrain movements on the virtual terrain.

Blue highlights refer to visual aids to be displayed from the PowerPoint visual aids package.

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STAND 1
Overview of the Korean War
June 1950 – January 1951

VISUALS

Visual
Visual 1A : Korea
Visual 1B: Phase I, June to September 1950
Visual 1C: Phase II, September to November 1950
Visual 1D: Phase III, November 1950 to January 1951

ORIENTATION

Virtual View: No virtual view for Stand 1.

Orientation: Not needed for Stand 1.

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 1A: KOREA. (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is Excerpt from CMH Pub 19-6, *The Korean War – The Outbreak* (Center of Military History), 1-5 [The PPT builds on the Visual are IAW the discussion below.]

1. The Korean Peninsula
 - a. Korea is a mountainous peninsula jutting from the central Asian mainland with a shape that resembles the state of Florida.
 - (1) Korea varies between 90 and 200 miles in width and 525 to 600 miles in length.
 - (2) Water outlines most of this small country, which has more than 5,400 miles of coastline and thousands of small islands.

- b. The Yalu and Tumen Rivers define much of its northern boundary, while major bodies of water are located on its other sides: the Sea of Japan on the east, the Korea Strait on the south, and the Yellow Sea on the west.
 - c. China lies above the Yalu and Tumen Rivers for 500 miles of Korea's northern boundary as does the former Soviet Union for some eleven miles along the lower Tumen River.
 - d. High mountains drop down abruptly to deep water on the east where there are few harbors, but a heavily indented shoreline on the south and west provides many harbors.
 - e. Summers are hot and humid, with a monsoon season that lasts from June to September, but in the winter cold winds roar down from the Asian interior.
 - f. In 1950 the country's population totaled about 30 million: 21 million south of the 38th Parallel, with 70 percent of the people engaged in agriculture, and 9 million north
2. A rugged landscape, a lack of adequate roads and rail lines, and climatic extremes make large-scale modern military operations in Korea difficult.

PHASES OF THE KOREAN WAR, JUNE –SEPTEMBER 1950. (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from CMH Pub 19-6, *The Korean War – The Outbreak* (Center of Military History), 5-25 **[The PPT builds on the Visual are IAW the discussion below.]**

1. **(Visual 1B: June to September 1950):** The invasion by North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) in June 1950 had driven the UN forces into a headlong retreat to the Pusan Perimeter.
- a. 25 Jun: The Attack.
 - b. 27 Jun: Captured Seoul.
 - c. 5 Jul: Battle of Osan (TF Smith): Communist forces brushed aside a token force of US troops at Osan.
 - d. On 20 July they crushed a more determined stand at Taejon.
 - e. 1 Aug - 14 Sep: Pusan Perimeter.
- (1) At Pusan US reinforcements arrived and, with ROK troops established a 200-mile defensive line in south-eastern Korea, around the port of Pusan.
- (2) One of early reinforcements was the 2d Infantry Division which included the 23d Infantry Regiment.
- (a) 5 Aug: The 23d Infantry disembarked at Pusan.
 - (b) 19 Aug: Fought in the Battle of Taegu to stabilize the perimeter.

- (c) 1- 14 Sept: Participated in the heavy fighting along Nakong River Line.
- 2. **(Visual 1C: September – November 1950):** In a spectacular reversal of fortune, the amphibious landing of UN forces at Inch'on in mid-September triggered a collapse of the North Korean People's Army.
 - a. 15 Sep: US amphibious force from Japan stormed ashore at Inchon.
 - b. 16 Sep: Pusan Counter-Attack - UN forces broke out of the Pusan Perimeter and attacked to the north.
 - c. 26 Sep: Liberation of Seoul.
 - d. 19 Oct: Capture of Pyongyang.
 - (1) The UN, after some hesitation, mandated MacArthur to invade North Korea.
 - (2) On 19 October, UN troops captured the North Korean capital of P'yongyang.
 - e. 26 Oct: Chinese Border - ROK forces in the east pushed north to the Chinese border.
 - f. The 2d Infantry Division was one of the first major reinforcing units to arrive from the United States – soon after arrive the division participated in the brutal defensive fighting along the Nakong River.
 - (1) On 23 July. Lead elements of the division arrived in Pusan and was initially employed piecemeal as units arrived.
 - (2) On 24 Aug 1950, the entire division was committed along the Naktong River Line.
 - (3) On 31 August, the NKPA struck in a desperate human wave attack.
 - (4) In the 16-day battle that followed, the division's clerks, bandsmen, technical and supply personnel joined in the desperate fight to hold the perimeter.
 - g. The 2d Infantry Division (and the 23d Infantry Regiment) played a major role in this phase of the Korean War.
 - (1) 16-31 Oct, they participated in the breakout from the Pusan Perimeter and moved north toward Seoul.
 - (2) In the drive north (The Race to the Yalu), the division organized a mechanized task force (TF Indianhead).
 - (3) The TF was the first US unit to enter the North Korean capital of Pyongyang. (no significant fighting).

- (4) On 25 Oct, the division assumed the mission of I Corps reserve. (The remainder of the 8th Army continued to drive north toward the Chinese border).
 - (a) The 23d RCT garrisoned a deep water port near Pyongyang.
 - (b) The 9th RCT garrisoned Pyongyang.
 - (c) The attached 187th Airborne RCT garrisoned just to the east of Pyongyang.
 - (d) The 38th RCT remained near Seoul.
 - h. The division anxiously awaited the end of the war and being shipped home.
3. **(Visual 1D: November 1950 – January 1951):** The collapse of the North Korean People's Army was only stopped by the enormity of the Chinese intervention in October and November.
- a. Chinese Intervention:
 - (1) 14 Oct: Chinese Attack: The entry into the war of major Chinese military forces rocked the overextended UN troops and sent them reeling back into South Korea [note: U.S. 2d Infantry Division (and the 23d Regiment) sustained heavy casualties fighting as the Corps rearguard during the retreat].
 - (2) 24 Nov: UN Central Front collapsed and started a fighting retreat through horrible winter weather.
 - b. The 2nd Infantry Division and the Battle of the Ch'ongch'on River (25 Nov – 2 Dec)
 - (1) The 2nd Infantry Division were given the mission of protecting the rear and right flank of the Eighth Army as it retired to the south.
 - (2) The fell back fighting along what was to become known as "The Gauntlet."
 - (3) The fighting cost the division 4,500 casualties - nearly one third of its strength.
 - c. By mid-December, the UN forces had organized a defensive line roughly on the 38th Parallel. There they braced for the expected offensive by Chinese and new North Korean divisions.
 - (1) LTG Walton Walker killed in a vehicle accident
 - (2) LTG Matthew Ridgeway assumes command of the 8th Army.
 - (a) Inherits a defeated and dispirited Army.

- (b) Instills a ***“Lead from the Front”*** attitude to rebuild the fighting spirit of the UNC forces.
 - (1) ***“I don’t want to hear your withdrawal plans – I want to hear your attack plans.”***
 - (2) ***“The job of the commander was to be up where the crisis of action was taking place. In time of battle, I wanted division commanders to be up with their forward battalion, and I wanted corps commanders up with the regiment that was in the hottest action. If they had paper work to do, they could do it at night. By day their place was up there where the shooting was going on. I held to the old-fashioned idea that it helped the spirits of the men to see the Old Man up there, in the snow and sleet and the mud, sharing the same cold, miserable existence they had to endure.”***
- (3) Ridgway’s Guidance and ***“Meat Grinder Tactics”***¹
 - (a) Units off their vehicles and on the hills.
 - (b) Troops to construct tight defensive perimeters for night fighting, while expanding the perimeters during daylight.
 - (c) Use the UNC advantage in airpower, artillery, tanks, and flak wagons to grind down the communist forces.
 - (d) Punish the Chinese by killing as many as possible –not concerned with fighting for real estate.
 - (e) No more ***“bug outs.”*** Units would stay in position and fight surrounded if need be, holding out until a relief force could get to them the next day.
 - (f) At night, destroy the enemy with artillery and flak wagons, and using tanks to support the infantry, then call in air strikes during daylight hours.
 - (g) ***“A spirit that cannot be imposed from above but that must be cultivated in every heart, from private to general. It is rooted, I believe, in the individual’s sense of security, of belonging to a unit that will stand by him, as units on both sides and in the rear stand by all other units too. Good training should help a soldier get rid of that awful sense of alone-ness that can some times overtake a man in battle, the feeling that nobody gives a damn about him, and that he has only his own resources to depend on. Americans, I think, are often more self-sufficient than soldiers of other nations. But still they need help in cultivating that assurance that they belong to a group that will return their loyalty no matter what danger threatens.”***

¹Kenneth Hamburger’s “Leadership in the Crucible.”

ADRP 6-0 Mission Command, May 2012

Command Presence: 2-71. Command presence establishes a background for all plans and procedures so that subordinates can understand how and when to adapt them to achieve the commander's intent. Commanders can establish command presence in a variety of ways, including—

- Briefings.
- On-site visits and battlefield circulation.
- Commander's intent.
- Commander's guidance.
- Personal example.
- (Others include back-briefs, rehearsals, leader reconnaissance, and after action reviews).

How was Ridgway's guidance of "no more bug outs," and "I don't want to hear your withdrawal plans – I want to hear your attack plans" IAW today's doctrine of "Command Presence."

- (4) The soldiers (tired of retreating) welcomed Ridgway's leadership.
 - (a) He was a warrior. He carried a carbine and a grenade always taped to his right shoulder strap (a theatrical but soldierly gesture). The soldiers joked about the grenade and speculated as to whether the grenade had powder in it.
 - (b) Soldiers noted that Ridgway had tremendous reservoir of personal courage.
 - (1) Lieutenant Robert Curtis remembers seeing him drive through mortar fire to reach the 23d Regiment, then walk along the line of riflemen through mortar and small-arms fire, talking to individual soldiers.
 - (2) Captain Ansil Walker, the 1st Battalion's heavy weapons company commander, saw Ridgway striding erectly across a valley through a hail of small-arms fire, and was impressed that a general would take such risks.

ADRP 6-0 Mission Command, May 2012

Principles of Mission Command: 2-5. Trust is gained or lost through everyday actions more than grand or occasional gestures. Trust is based on personal qualities, such as professional competence, personal example, and integrity. Soldiers must see values in action before they become a basis for trust. Trust comes from successful shared experiences and training, usually gained incidental to operations but also deliberately developed by the commander. During shared experiences, the two-way communication and interaction between the commander, subordinates, and Soldiers reinforces trust. Soldiers expect to see the chain of command

accomplishing the mission while taking care of their welfare and sharing hardships and danger.

How was the grenade strapped to Ridgway's right shoulder strap more than just a "grand gesture?" How do his actions fit within today's concept of Mission Command?

d. The 1951 Communist Offensive

(1) 31 Dec: 38th Parallel Attack

(a) Ridgway had only a few days to influence the 8th Army before the North Koreans and Chinese attacked.

(b) On the evening of December 31, 1950, the North Koreans and Chinese launched a massive attack against South Korean forces along the 38th parallel.

(2) 3 Jan: Evacuation of Seoul: Ridgway interpreted the Sino-Korean attack on the central front as an attempt to surround the UN defenders at Seoul, and he immediately ordered the evacuation of Seoul on January 3.

(3) On January 5, Ridgway ordered all UN forces to withdraw to the 37th parallel to set up a new defensive line, dubbed "Line D."

ANALYSIS

1. LTG Ridgway believed his greatest challenge was to rebuild the fighting spirit of the army.

a. He stated: *"a spirit that cannot be imposed from above but that must be cultivated in every heart, from private to general. It is rooted, I believe, in the individual's sense of security, of belonging to a unit that will stand by him, as units on both sides and in the rear stand by all other units too. Good training should help a soldier get rid of that awful sense of alone-ness that can sometimes overtake a man in battle, the feeling that nobody gives a damn about him, and that he has only his own resources to depend on. Americans, I think, are often more self-sufficient than soldiers of other nations. But still they need help in cultivating that assurance that they belong to a group that will return their loyalty no matter what danger threatens."*

b. Analyze his decision to focus on the elements of basic soldiering through the chain of command to rebuild the fighting spirit of the army.

2. LTG Ridgway did this for an Army, how does this focus on basic soldiering impact upon other echelons of command (Platoon, Company, Battalion, Brigade, or Division)?

ANALYSIS

3. FM 3-0, Chapter 2, Army Echelons, Capabilities, and Training states in paragraph 2-268: There is no time to build readiness necessary to win once hostilities commence in the current operational environment.
 - a. How was LTG Ridgway able to rebuild the fighting spirit of a defeated army?
 - b. Analyze his decision to focus on the elements of basic soldiering through the chain of command to rebuild the fighting spirit of the army.

LTG Ridgway: ***“Spirit that cannot be imposed from above but that must be cultivated in every heart, from private to general. It is rooted, I believe, in the individual's sense of security, of belonging to a unit that will stand by him, as units on both sides and in the rear stand by all other units too. Good training should help a soldier get rid of that awful sense of alone-ness that can some times overtake a man in battle, the feeling that nobody gives a damn about him, and that he has only his own resources to depend on. Americans, I think, are often more self-sufficient than soldiers of other nations. But still they need help in cultivating that assurance that they belong to a group that will return their loyalty no matter what danger threatens.”***

4. LTG Ridgway motivated an Army to fight, how does this focus on basic soldiering impact upon the leaders of other echelons of command (Platoon, Company, Battalion, Brigade, or Division)?

STAND 2

1951 Communist Offensive and the First Battle of Wonju

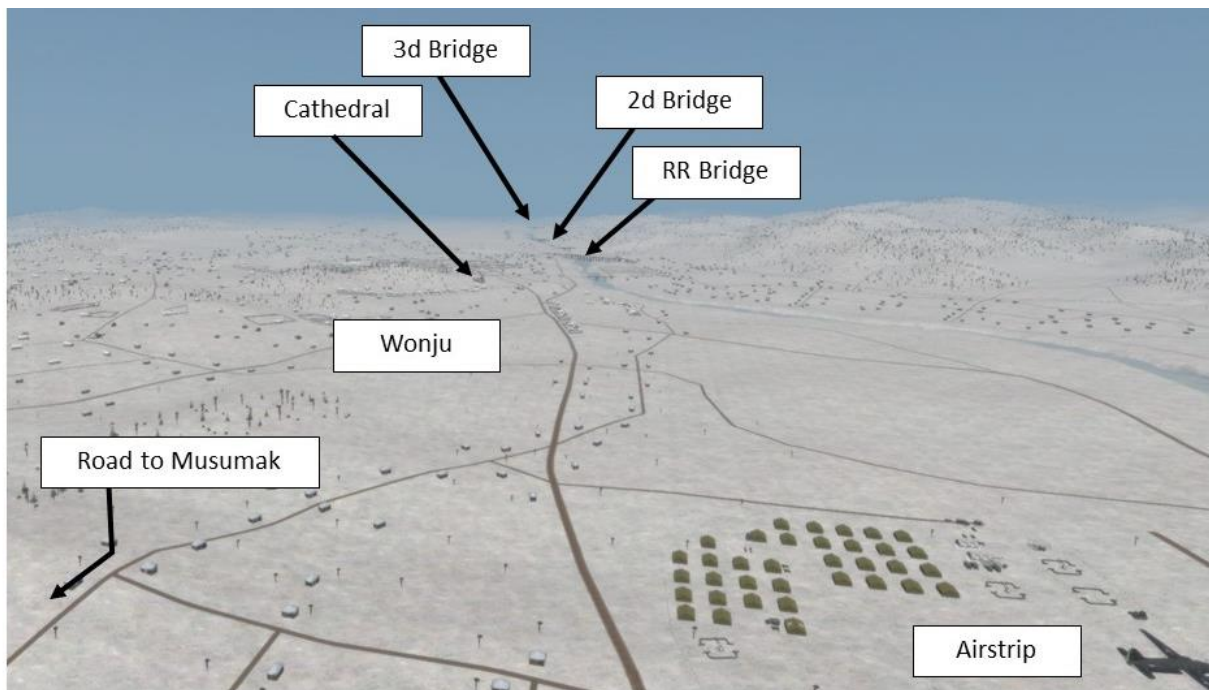
VISUALS

Visual

Visual 2: First Battle of Wonju, 6-7 January 1951

ORIENTATION

Orientation: Wonju is a city in the eroded basin of the Taebaek Mountains on the Han River. Its location has always been strategically important as the junction of five roads with access to Seoul, Pusan, and Taegu.



Virtual View – Wonju Overview – using the Wonju database.

1. This is a birds-eye view of large village of Wonju looking to the north.
 - a. The airstrip is just to the right.
 - b. The very prominent railroad bridge is visible in the distant.

2. Remain at a birds eye view but move in closer to the village until you have a good view of the (southern) Cathedral.

- a. Pan to the left and then back to the right.
- b. Wonju sits in a bowl with hills forming an arch along the north side.

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 2: FRIST BATTLE OF WONJU [PPT builds IAW the discussion]

1. At 5 January, 2ID received orders from X Corps with new defensive instructions:
 - a. The 23rd IN RCT, still on the Hoengsong-Hongchon road, was to pull back to Wonju.
 - b. The 38th IN RCT was to maintain its position in Hoengsong until retreating ROK elements to the north were clear, then also pull back to Wonju.
 - c. The 9th IN RCT was to hold blocking positions between Wonju and Hoengsong until the 23rd and 38th had established their new positions at Wonju, then move south on the Wonju-Chechon road and be prepared to attack with elements of 7ID east of the division sector.
2. At this time, large enemy forces were observed moving forward to launch an offensive to seize Wonju.
 - a. An estimated 10,000 enemy troops pushed south toward the line between Wonju and Chechon on 6 January.
 - b. These enemy troops were preceded by infiltrations of smaller contingents of North Koreans through UN defensive lines.
 - c. Those infiltrations took advantage of a long stream of refugees and disorganized ROK Army elements heading south for concealment.

Virtual View: Again show the hills to the north, northeast, and east of Wonju. Start by looking slightly NW of Wonju IAW the discussion. As a point of reference – E/2-23 IN is about halfway between the 2d and 3d bridge north of the RR Bridge.

3. By 6 January, the 23rd and 38th RCTs had established defensive positions to the north, northeast, and east of Wonju.
 - a. The 23rd IN RCT's Main Line of Resistance (MLR) began on the west side of the Wonju-Heongsong Road, crossed the river and rail line, and extended several kilometers west with two battalions and the French Battalion. An Outpost Line of Resistance (OPLR), taken from Company G, was placed north of the MLR near the railroad line.

- b. The 38th IN RCT's MLR began on the east side of the Wonju-Hoengsong Road, curved south on high ground with Company E and joined with Company G extending almost directly east to meet Company L at the railroad line. From there it turned south again, crossing 3 streams until it ended at the river. Company F provided the squads for the OPLR.
- c. The Dutch Battalion secured high ground southwest of Wonju, overlooking the Wonju-Chungju road.
- d. 1-38 IN was kept as the division reserve south of the airfield.
- e. Each battalion around Wonju maintained a company-minus in reserve near the battalion command posts. The 38th IN RCT established its regimental CP west of the airstrip on the other side of the Wonju-Chechon Road.

Virtual View: Look slight to the NE of Wonju at the area occupied by F/2-23, F/2-38 and G/2-38. That defensive line is on the hills just to the right of the third bridge north of the RR Bridge.

- 4. Enemy attacks on 7 January. 2-38 IN bore the brunt of the infiltrators' attacks.
 - a. Probing attacks started on the OPLR in 2-23's sector. Confusion in the darkness caused artillery fire to be concentrated on withdrawing friendly squads.

Virtual View: Look toward the RR Bridge.

- b. At 0230, the 2-38 IN S-2 and a small party in two jeeps was ambushed near the railroad and highway crossings over the Han River, but took no casualties.

Virtual View: Fly down to the 2/38 BN CP [From the vicinity of the southern cathedral look toward the RR Bridge. Then look at the small road bridge south of the RR Bridge. Follow that road across the river to the first intersection. The house with the truck is the BN CP]. At the CP take a right (south) along the road to the mortars. Then look to the SE along the river.

- c. At 0400, 2-38 IN's mortar platoon (near the 2/38th CP) observed a green flare and had visual contact with a platoon of enemy troops coming down the patch next to the river dike 200 yards away. At 0500, a second green flare signaled the start of the enemy attack on the mortar platoon.

Virtual View: Rise up in the air and look at the RR Bridge.

- d. Also at 0400 F/38, the reserve for 2-38 IN minus its elements on the OPLR, engaged a roadblock set up by North Korean infiltrators in the railroad underpass where it crossed

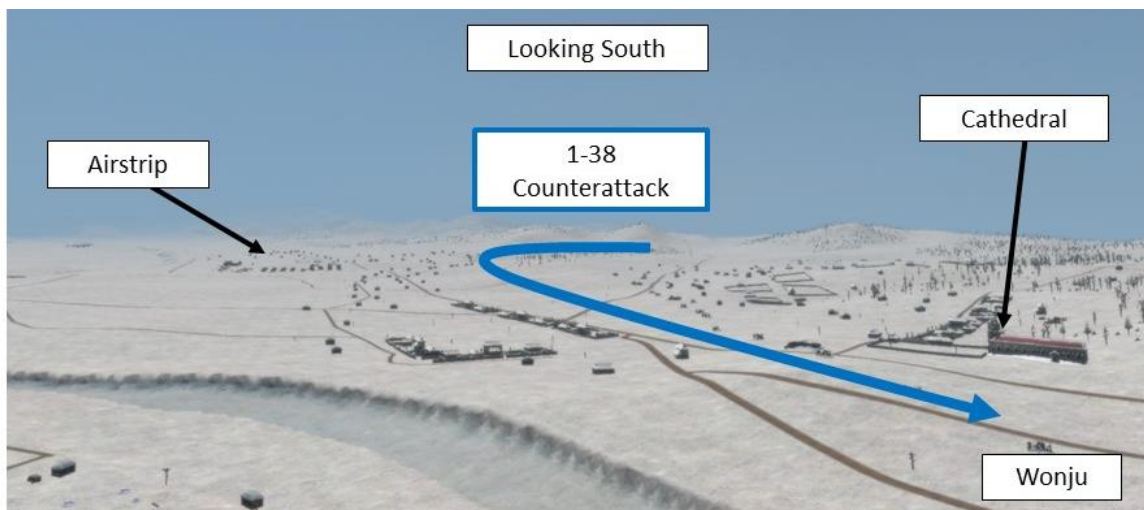
the Wonju-Hoengsong road. It eliminated the roadblock after receiving reinforcements and destroyed a second attack from that location with supporting AAA fires.

Virtual View: Fly forward till above the RR Bridge look to the north. The defensive line is on the hills just to the right of the third bridge north of the RR Bridge. Kamaji is the small village just to the right (east) of the 3d bridge.

- e. Around daybreak, G/38 IN had difficulty maintaining control of its fighting positions northeast of Wonju near the village of Kamaji. Fighting in that sector lasted for several hours, ending around 1100 when that company was relieved and moved into Kamaji.

Virtual View: Return to the 2/38th CP. And go to the ground.

- f. At about 0530, the infiltrating forces reached the center of town. LTC James Edwards, the 2-23 IN commander, walked out onto the porch of the house used for his CP after it received small arms fire. He saw several enemy soldiers fifteen yards away, and killed one with his sidearm. The attack on his CP lasted about an hour and was unsuccessful.
- g. The 3-38 IN CP heard the small arms fire from the attacks near the underpass. Not long after, the enemy crossed the field between the CP and the airstrip. At 0615 I/38 was ordered to secure the battalion CP. A two hour firefight erupted en-route with two company-sized enemy elements from 0615 to 0815.



Virtual View: Rise up in the air and look due south. The area of the airstrip is visible (look for the airplane). 1-38 IN was in reserve to the right (west) of the airstrip. IAW the discussion pan to the right to show the 1-38 IN counterattack.

- h. Counterattacks from 1-38 IN, on the southern perimeter, advanced north into Wonju, crossed the river at the bridges, and cleared the remaining enemy from the 2ID perimeter east of Wonju.

- i. All of the enemy's attacks had been conducted by North Koreans. The Chinese Communist Forces did not participate in the infiltrations. According to reports and the recollections of the participants, estimated casualties to the infiltrators amounted to 233 killed, 39 wounded, and 162 taken prisoner.

Vignette: Lt. Heath describes the confusion on the OPLR and the friendly fire incident.

At 0230, 7 January 1951, the outpost line was attacked by approximately a hundred North Koreans, who flanked the OPLR and hit Company F, preventing a possible withdrawal of the 2d Platoon through Company F's position. At the same time, the 2d Battalion ordered two squads of Company G from the OPLR to reinforce the battalion CP, which was under attack. This left one squad on the OPLR, which was then ordered back to Company G's position. The squad had to fight its way back. An artillery liaison plane, not recognizing the squad (it was just breaking dawn), ordered artillery fire on its approach. Three men were killed and four wounded. At 0600 the remainder of Company G, ordered to the defense of the 2d Battalion CP, drove off approximately thirty North Koreans. The firing ceased about 0630, and the platoons moved back to the MLR. The 2d Platoon patrolled the area to recover the wounded and dead.

Bowers, William T., ed. 2015. *The Line : Combat in Korea, January-February 1951*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. Accessed March 21, 2018. ProQuest Ebook Central.

5. Withdrawal from Wonju.
 - a. 2-38 IN, reinforced with an engineer platoon was the designated covering force for 2ID's withdrawal from Wonju on 7 January.
 - b. Military supplies that could not be evacuated, and buildings and facilities in Wonju that might be used by the enemy were ordered burned.
 - i. Lt. Walter Hurtt, Pioneer and Ammunition (P&A) Platoon Leader for 2-38 IN, rigged the train station, the railroad bridge, and the highway bridge in Wonju for detonation.
 - ii. At 1400 he received the orders to burn Wonju.
 - c. At 1500 LTC Skeldon, 3-38 IN commander, decides against burning Wonju because the fires would silhouette 2-38's planned withdrawal at dusk, and alters Lt. Hurtt's orders to destroy only military objectives – this was the store of rice and the large rice mill in Wonju (about 50 tons).

ANALYSIS

1. Did the infiltration attacks by the North Koreans succeed or fail? Discuss in terms of their task and purpose.
2. Are the 2ID defenses around Wonju designed to resist infiltrations or a deliberate attack? Does that contribute to the friendly fire casualties in 2-23 IN's sector?
3. Why does MG McClure think the terrain around Wonju is indefensible? How does this create conflict with his orders to keep the Wonju-Chechon road open?
4. What other factors contribute to the conflict between X Corps' orders and 2ID's situational understanding at Wonju?
 - a. Is the decision to withdraw reasonable or unreasonable, and why?
 - b. Is X Corps' orders to return to Wonju reasonable or unreasonable, and why?

STAND 3

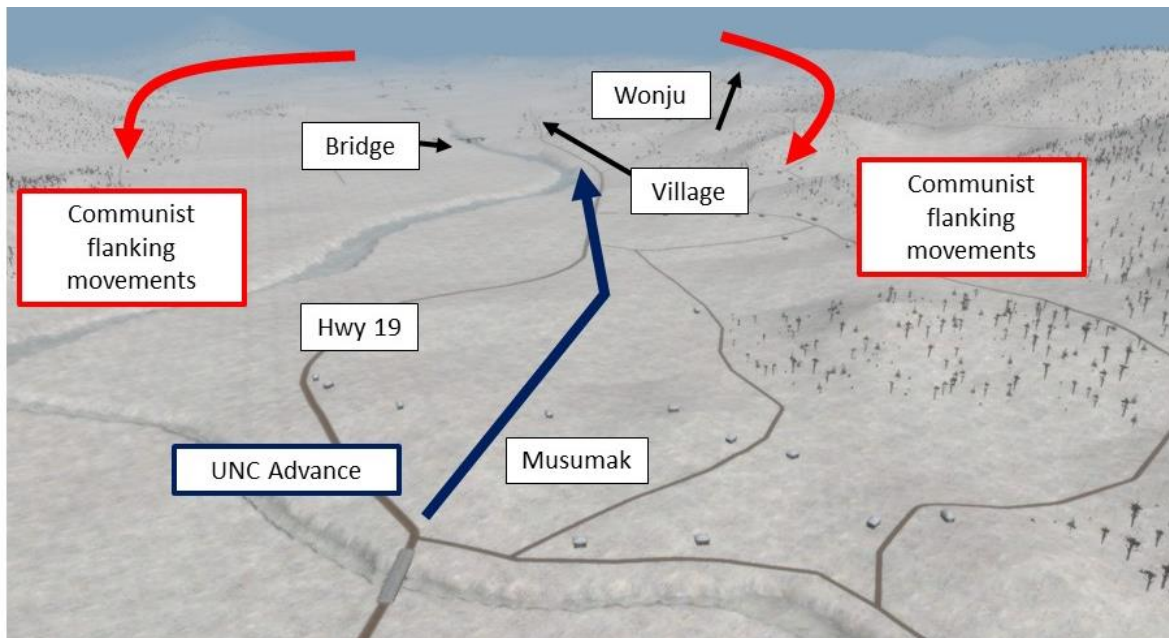
The Second Battle of Wonju

VISUALS

Visual
Visual 3A: Second Battle of Wonju, 8 Jan 1951
Visual 3B: Second Battle of Wonju, 9 Jan 1951,
Visual 3C: Hill 247, 10 Jan 1951
Visual 3D: Hill 247, 11 Jan 1951
Visual 3E: Hill 247, 12 Jan 1951
Visual 3F: 9 th Infantry on the East Flank

ORIENTATION

Orientation: Currently located about 8 kilometers south of Wonju along Hwy 19. At the time of the fighting it was very cold and ground covered with snow. **Blinding wet snow and sub-zero temperatures** challenged the soldiers during much of the fighting.



Virtual View: Highway 19 Overview. IAW with the screenshot. [With the Wonju database]

1. **Currently overlooking the village of Musumak and looking north up Highway 19.**
2. **Wonju is about 8 KM to the north.**

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 3A: SECOND BATTLE OF WONJU, 8 JAN 1951 [PPT builds IAW the discussion]

1. Orders to return. After a movement of 12 miles on the road to Chungju, 2ID received orders to reverse direction and return to Wonju.
2. 0330 on 8 January (WARNO) to 2ID:
 - a. Occupy the high ground directly south of Wonju with not less than four battalions.
 - b. Make a reconnaissance in force, with not less than a battalion.
 - c. Clear the town and airfield at daybreak.
 - d. Conduct armored patrols between Wonju and Chungju, and Wonju to Chupori to keep the roads open.
 - e. Withdrawal can only be approved by the X Corps commander.
3. 23 IN receives orders at 0400:
 - a. Clear the town and airfield with one battalion and establish a blocking position to keep the enemy from retaking Wonju.
 - b. Defend in its present position against an attack from the north.
4. Taking the high ground, 8 Jan 1951.

Virtual View: Same as previous screenshot. 2-23 IN in their advance to the north reached this area sometime after 0900.

- a. 2-23 IN moved out at 0900 IAW the orders to clear the town and airfield with companies E, F, and G.

- b. About 4 miles south of Wonju, the battalion deployed at the bridge destroyed the previous night.
- c. Company G entered the woods on the right of the MSR and pressed on another 1.5 miles and crested a hill.

Virtual View: Fly forward along the highway and stop when you have a good overhead view of the next village (there is a bridge to the left of the village).

- d. Company E made visual contact with a concentration of enemy troops in the village below, and killed an estimated 200 enemy with artillery.

Virtual View: Pan to the right and left to show how the communist forces moved around both flanks of 2-23 IN.

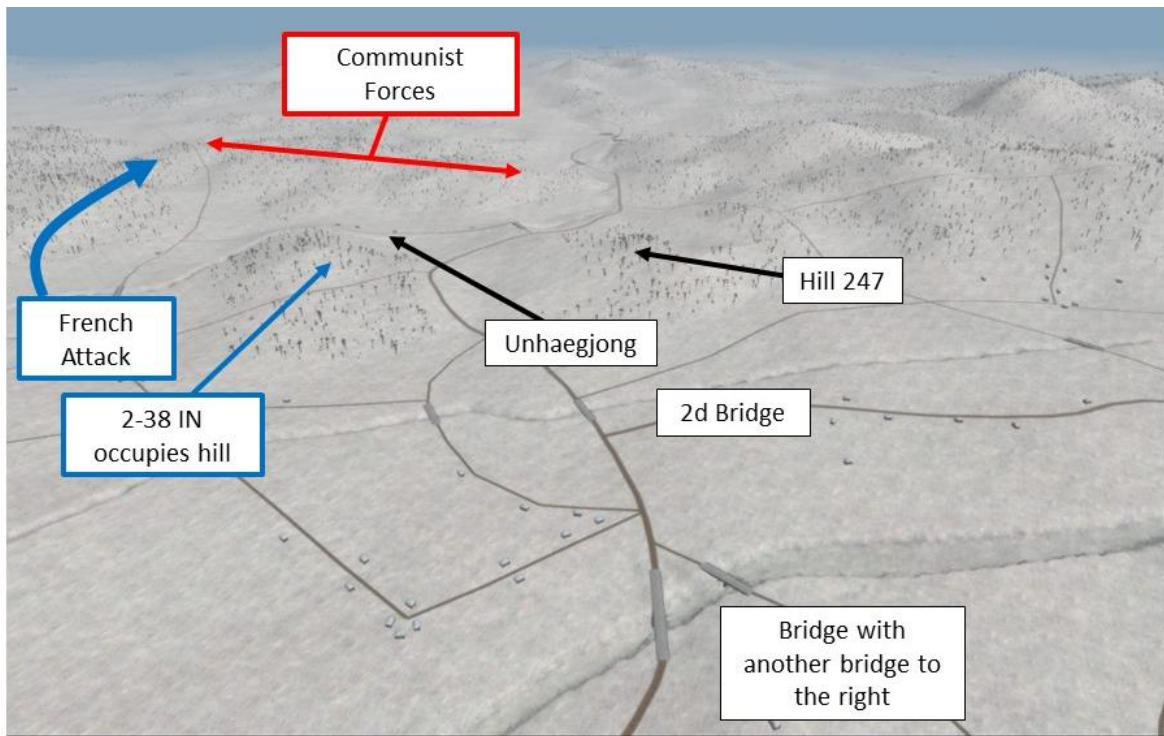
- e. The artillery fires alerted a regimental-sized enemy unit nearby, which quickly moved around both flanks of 2-23 IN.

Virtual View: Fall back to the previous position.

- f. At 1500, after observing the enemy movement to envelop their position, 2-23 IN withdrew to their previous positions.

VISUAL 3B: SECOND BATTLE OF WONJU, 9 JAN 1951 [PPT builds IAW the discussion]

- 1. The attack resumes, 9 Jan 1951.
 - a. Orders and task organization:
 - i. Four battalions maintain attack positions just south of Wonju.
 - ii. Two battalions, supported by air strikes and artillery, will seize Wonju and the Wonju airfield.



Virtual View: IAW the discussion move north along the west side Hwy 19. About 4 KM to the north you will cross over a bridge with another bridge to the right. Continue forward over another bridge. Then veer to the left slightly to a wooded hill. 2-38 IN is on this hill and the communist forces are on the ridgeline to the front (north). The village of Unhaengjong is in the valley to immediate front (north).

- b. TF Skeldon (2-23 IN, with 2-38 IN attached), is assigned the task of seizing the town and airfield. 2-38 IN would attack on the left, and 2-23 IN would attack on the right.
 - i. 2-38 IN crossed the line of departure at 1000 on a rough trail to the left of the Wonju Chungju road a half-mile north of French battalion positions in Musamak.
 - ii. Small arms direct fire contact begins about 1200. Pressure from the enemy, estimated to be company sized and in spite of supporting artillery fire, forces the battalion into a hasty defense on the reverse slope of their position.
 - iii. 2-23 IN, in overall command, and on the right side of the road has its left flank exposed when 2-38 IN assumed its reverse slope defense.
 - iv. The X Corps commander, MG Ned Almond, was nearby with MG McClure and observed TF Skeldon's difficulties with displeasure.

Virtual View: IAW the discussion pan to left to discuss the French attack.

- c. Probably around 1300 hours, the 23 IN commander assumed command of the attacking force, likely on the direction of the corps and division commander.
- d. At 1400 the French battalion is ordered forward in support on the left of 2-38 IN.

Virtual View: Again point out the ridge to the front (north) that was the objective for 2-38 IN.

- e. 2-38 IN renews its attack at 1500 after the arrival of the French battalion. Only light resistance remains and they seize their objective, and they establish defensive positions for the night on the hill north of Unhaengjong.

Virtual View: Pan to the right (east) and show the area where 2-23 fights. Hill 247 is due east of the current location. Hill 216 is 2+ KM to the northeast.

- f. 2-23 IN, reinforced with a French company, faces more determined resistance from approximately 2 companies of North Koreans on Hill 247 and one company on Hill 216. Both hills are taken, but the area is too large to defend adequately during the night. 2-23 IN and the French company consolidate on high ground west and south of Hill 247.

Vignette: MG Almond's visits had significant effects on how 2ID operated, as indicated in the division's command report for January 1951.

The commanding general of X Corps and the commanding general of the 2d Infantry Division made tours of the front lines and reported deficiencies they had personally noted. These included improper selection of fields of fire, lack of range cards for crew served weapons, and excessive casualty rates caused by improper foot care. These and other deficiencies were brought to the attention of commanders for immediate corrective action.

The Line : Combat in Korea, January-February 1951, edited by William T. Bowers, University Press of Kentucky, 2015. ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.lumen.cgsccarl.com/lib/carl-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1915442>.

2. Hill 247, 10-14 Jan 1951.

- a. Orders and task organization:
 - i. Main effort: 23 IN (3-23 IN, Dutch Battalion, 2/Fr Battalion, 2-38 IN, 2-23 IN, 1/Fr Battalion): seize Wonju.
 - ii. Supporting effort: 9 IN (+): protect the east flank of the division on the Wonju - Chupo-ri - Chechon Road.
 - iii. 38 IN (minus 1-38 N and 2-38 IN): maintain defensive positions
 - iv. Artillery Support: 37th and 38th FA Battalions

v. Division reserve: 1-38 IN

b. Hill 247, 10 Jan 1951.

Virtual View: Fly to the east to Hill 247. Then IAW the discussion pan to the north and south. Then fall back off of the hill to the west back to the vicinity of the highway.

VISUAL 3C: SECOND BATTLE OF WONJU, 10 JAN 1951 [PPT builds IAW the discussion]

1. The 23 IN's attack resumes at 1100, but strong enemy forces threaten both flanks, particularly on the left. There are an estimated 1500-2000 enemy reported in the vicinity of Hill 247.
2. By 1240, 23 IN has advanced 800 yards and secured Hill 247, but has to keep extending its lines to prevent counterattacks on its flanks.
3. At 1500 COL Freeman reports an estimated 5 enemy battalions facing his force: three on the left, one extending over Hill 420 moving down the valley and one opposing 3-23 IN. Another battalion is observed at the base of Hill 537 in Naenamsong.
4. A counterattack forces the 23 IN off Hill 247 and back into its previous attack positions.

Virtual View: From the current location rise up in the air and look to the north.

VISUAL 3D: SECOND BATTLE OF WONJU, 11 JAN 1951 [PPT builds IAW the discussion]

1. At 1430 the weather clears enough to employ close air support. Targets are struck on Hill 216, 231, 420, and all villages in the vicinity.
2. At 1520 another air strike is made on Kwiron and again on Hill 420.
3. At 1520 COL Freeman reports Hill 247 seized, but again a counterattack forces them back into their previous attack positions.

Virtual View: IAW the discussion move back up to the top of Hill 247.

VISUAL 3E: SECOND BATTLE OF WONJU, 12 JAN 1951 [PPT builds IAW discussion]

1. During the night, the 23 IN is told of a planned airstrike by B-29s between 1045 and 1115. The B-29s can use radar to deliver their bombs, and are less hampered by the weather

conditions at lower altitudes. Planning for this strike probably started a few days before during the poor weather.

2. At 1000, the attack on Hill 247 resumes for a third time. Supporting air strikes begin just a little earlier. An airborne Forward Air Controller (FAC) provides intelligence on enemy strength and concentrations in addition to directing the attacking aircraft.
3. The B-29s strike at 1150 on targets east and west of Wonju. There is a pause in close air support for about half an hour, then resumes around 1220. Multiple air strikes are made on the enemy occupied hills.
4. At 1420 hours 2-23 IN and 1/Fr Company start the ground assault on Hill 247. By nightfall, they have secured it and will hold it for the remainder of the battle. Remaining air strikes for the day are concentrated on Tangu-ri north of Wonju.
5. At 1032 (13 Jan 1951), the X Corps commander flew in for another visit to the 23 IN's command post, and an hour later ordered this message sent to GEN Ridgeway:

I am at the CP of the 23d Infantry most forward coordinating element of the 2d Division. The combat team commander estimates from 8 to 10,000 enemy in the force attacking him. These are excellent targets for all the air that can be employed in this area. The first Mosquito [FAC aircraft] arrived in the area at 0800. It should have been here at daylight. Size of strike at 0830 was 8 fighters and 1 bomber. I believe 50 planes over this area all day long is a minimum requirement. Jets with MG ammo are considered ineffective. Required is napalm and bombs. It is my understanding that the only pressure on the Army front is here.

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Virtual View: None.

VISUAL 3F: 9TH INFANTRY ON THE EAST FLANK [PPT builds IAW the discussion]

1. Specified tasks for protecting the east flank on the Wonju – Chupo-ri – Chechon road:
 - a. Move to Sinnim-ni and establish defensive positions.
 - b. Patrol the Wonju – Chechon road against infiltration and enemy roadblocks.
2. IAW these specified tasks, 9 IN covered all natural avenues of approach from the east. Contact with the enemy was frequent and varied in size.

- a. The village of Mundal was a particular problem for 9 IN, because the enemy frequently used it to attack their patrols.
 - b. On 8 January a company-sized patrol from 2-9 IN was attacked with small arms and mortar fire. It withdrew to Yongam-ni and remained there the next day.
 - c. On 10 January 2-9 IN made a second attempt to get a patrol past Mundal. This time the battalion had the benefit of artillery fires from the 15th FA battalion, and better weather allowed the use of close air support.
3. 9 IN was able to eliminate resistance from Mundal and continued the patrol as far north as Tosogol, but could not extend itself far enough north to protect the division's main effort at Wonju.

ANALYSIS

1. Why is there a discrepancy between X Corps' orders to 2ID and 2ID's subsequent orders to 23 IN?
2. Why is MG Almond so far forward, and why is he supervising the attack of a reinforced battalion?
 - a. What were LTG Ridgeway's instructions to his corps and division commanders after assuming command of 8th Army?
 - b. Is MG Almond acting within those instructions, or is he micromanaging the division fight?
 - c. Which elements of mission command are we upholding or violating, and do you think it was necessary for a corps commander to exert that much positive control at such a low level?
3. What is causing these deficiencies in 2ID? What other factors are contributing that the division cannot change, but only mitigate?
4. Who is using terrain and weather to their advantage, the North Koreans or the UN Forces?
5. Aside from weather, what might be causing problems with requesting and receiving close air support in joint fires?
6. Recall the orders and task organization for the second battle of Wonju. Comment on how the assigned tasks resemble the current doctrine for conducting offensive, defensive, stability, and support missions simultaneously in a unit's battlespace.

STAND 4

Operation Thunderbolt

VISUALS

Visual
<u>4A: RIDGEWAY'S EIGHTH ARMY</u>
<u>4B: OPERATION WOLFHOUND</u>
<u>4C & D: OPERATION THUNDERBOLT – Phase I and THUNDERBOLT PHASE - Phase II</u>

ORIENTATION

Orientation: Wonju and its significant road hub is at the top center of the map. The 8th Army Operation Thunderbolt would take place to the west of Wonju and center on Osan.

Virtual View:

- Switch to the Chipyong-ni database.
- No virtual for stand 4.

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 4A: RIDGEWAY'S EIGHTH ARMY [The PPT builds on Visual 2A are IAW the discussion below.]

1. Wonju, 14-20 Jan 1951.
 - a. After a week of attacks, the 23 IN and 38 IN still had not taken Wonju. They instead had secured the high ground on the Chungju road overlooking what was left of the town, defended by an estimated 25,000 North Koreans and Chinese.
 - b. MG Almond relieved MG McClure of command, and replaced him with MG Clark L. Ruffner, a former X Corps Chief of Staff. If MG McClure's relief was intended to improve aggressiveness in 2ID at Wonju, it was not going to be seen here.
 - c. Orders were received to withdraw to a new defensive line about ten miles north of Chungju, anchored on the Han River in the west and Chechon in the east.

2. However, after repositioning, patrols discovered the North Koreans were withdrawing from Wonju after exhausting its combat power and supplies.
 - a. 9 IN patrols crept closer and closer to Wonju, and 23 IN patrols were able to enter the town itself.
 - b. On 18 Jan, a 9 IN patrol established its base in Wonju. On 19 Jan, another patrol reached the Wonju air strip, and it was secured the next day. At 1500 on 20 Jan, LTG Ridgeway and MG Ruffner landed there to pay a visit to the sector.

Vignettes: The struggle to take Wonju is indicative not just of the problems created by weather, but also internal problems in a division recently reconstituted and pushed back into fighting:

SGT Carey of E/38 IN – *NCOs need maps and compasses. The men were not briefed as to why they were in a certain position or how long they would be there. In my opinion it was because the company officers did not know. The replacements received were not physically fit for combat. Many would drop out on forced marches.*

1LT Barnes of F/38 IN echoed similar sentiments, and noted serious differences between his unit and French allies – *No one seemed to know exactly what was going on. My company commander...called back to find the location of certain troops in the area. The only answer he could get was, "they're on the firing line." The outposts are put out too far; in some instances three miles out. The men do not get warm meals. The kitchen trucks were forty miles to the rear of the action at Chungju. The French would get hot meals while my men had to eat cold rations.*

The most dangerous problem, however, was voiced by **1LT Hurtt of the 38 IN P&A platoon** – *the shoe-pacs cause many problems. On the march quite a few men arrive with blisters on their feet...some men were bothered by frozen feet...since perspiration on the felt soles inside the shoe-pacs turned to ice, and it was like placing your feet in an insulated ice box.*

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1. While the 2d US Infantry Division battled at Wonju, General Ridgeway determined that the Eighth Army would resume offensive operations in the near future.
2. On the eve of the renewal of full-scale UN offensive operations, the Eighth Army consisted of 178,464 American soldiers and marines, 223,950 ROK Army troops, and UN ground contingents from Australia, France, India, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.
 - a. These forces were organized into five corps, from west to east: I, IX, and X and the ROK III and I.

- b. In general, ROK forces held the more easily defended, rugged terrain in the east, while U.S. forces were positioned on the lower, flatter areas in the west, where their greater mobility and firepower were more decisive.
- 3. Arrayed against the UN forces were some 290,000 Chinese and North Korean soldiers.
 - a. The Chinese were organized into seven corps size armies and twenty-two divisions, 204,000 strong, primarily holding the western and central portions of the front.
 - b. About 52,000 North Korean soldiers, in turn, organized into three corps and fourteen understrength divisions, held the eastern sector.
 - c. In addition, an estimated 30,000 North Korean guerrillas were still behind UN lines in the mountainous areas of eastern South Korea.
- 4. Although the Chinese had halted their offensive after heavy casualties, they had no shortage of manpower.
- 5. Supply difficulties, rather than casualties, had stopped the Chinese Communists' drive south, encouraging American commanders, in turn, to resume their own offensive north.

VISUAL 4B: OPERATION WOLFHOUND (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from *The Korean War – The Chinese Intervention*, Center of Military History). **[The PPT builds on Visual 2A and IAW the discussion below.]**

- 1. While X Corps was dealing with the potentially disastrous penetration in the center, I and IX Corps were busy stabilizing their positions and instituting a series of aggressive reconnaissance-in-force patrols to their front.
- 2. General Ridgway, dismayed by the continuing poor showing of his battle-weary units, demanded that unit commanders lead the way in restoring an aggressive spirit.
- 3. To help rebuild the still shaky morale of Eighth Army, he ordered I Corps to plan a major reconnaissance-in-force in its sector to test the measure of Chinese resistance.
- 4. The reconnaissance, Operation WOLFHOUND, began on 15 January.
 - a. Operation WOLFHOUND used troops from the U.S. 25th Infantry Division (especially the 27th Infantry Regiment, the “Wolfhounds,” from which the operation drew its name), the U.S. 3d Infantry Division, and the ROK 1st Division.
 - b. Maj. Gen. Frank W. “Shrimp” Milburn, commander of I Corps, directed it along the Osan-Suwon axis, twelve to twenty miles to the north, supported by artillery and tanks.
 - c. The 3d Infantry Division units involved were quickly immobilized by enemy defensive positions, but the rest of the forces met little opposition until near Suwon.

- d. There, Chinese troops forced the WOLFHOUND units to turn back just south of their objective, but they were able to establish an advance corps outpost line along the Chinwi River, south of Osan.
 - e. By late 16 January, the operation had inflicted some 1,380 enemy casualties at the cost of 3 killed and 7 wounded of their own.
 - f. More important, they had showed both the Chinese and themselves that the Eighth Army continued to have an offensive spirit.
5. Almost immediately, two other reconnaissance-in-force missions sallied out from UN lines: another from I Corps and a one-day action in the IX Corps sector, both on 22 January.
 6. The reconnaissance in the IX Corps sector consisted of a tank-heavy formation called Task Force Johnson after its commander, Colonel Johnson.
 7. The immediate results of both operations were small, but the ground was being laid for a return to the offensive by the entire Eighth Army in the near future.

FM 3-0, Chapter 5, Large-Scale Combat Operations
<p>Reconnaissance in Force: 5-64. A <i>reconnaissance in force</i> is a deliberate combat operation designed to discover or test the enemy's strength, dispositions, and reactions or to obtain other information... [It] is an aggressive reconnaissance, conducted as an offensive task with clearly stated reconnaissance objectives. The overall goal of a reconnaissance in force is to determine enemy weaknesses that can be exploited. It differs from other reconnaissance operations because it is normally conducted only to gain information about an enemy and not the terrain.</p> <hr/> <p>At the cost of 3 KIA and 7 WIA, Operation Wolfhound inflicted an estimated 1,380 casualties on the CCF. <u>Other than “testing the measure of Chinese resistance” – what was LTG Ridgway’s goal for Operation Wolfhound?</u></p>

VISUAL 4C: OPERATION THUNDERBOLT – Phase I (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from *The Korean War – Restoring the Balance*, Center of Military History). **[The PPT builds on Visual 2A are IAW the discussion below.]**

1. On 20 January 1951, General Ridgway, Eighth Army commander, issued a directive designed to convert his current reconnaissance operations into a deliberate counterattack.
2. Since the enemy situation was still unclear, the action, codenamed Operation THUNDERBOLT, was designed to discover enemy dispositions and intentions with a show of force.

3. The operation had the additional objective of dislodging any enemy forces south of the Han River, the major estuary running southeast from the Yellow Sea through Seoul and beyond.
4. The projected attacks did not represent a full-scale offensive.
 - a. Phase lines—lines drawn on maps with specific reporting and crossing instructions—would be used to control tightly the advance of the I and IX Corps.
 - b. The units were to avoid becoming heavily engaged.
 - c. To accomplish this, each corps would commit only a single U.S. division and ROK regiment.
 - d. This use of terrain-based phase lines and of limited advances with large forces in reserve was to become the standard procedure for UN offensive operations for the rest of the war.
5. **The first, or western, phase of Operation THUNDERBOLT lasted from 25 to 31 January.**
 - a. The I and IX Corps moved up to twenty miles into the area south of Seoul.
 - b. Only the Turkish Brigade, attached to the U.S. 25th Infantry Division, east of Osan, a major city twenty miles south of Seoul, encountered stiff resistance.
 - c. Elsewhere opposition was light, and the Chinese merely conducted rearguard actions rather than hold their ground.
 - d. On the twenty-sixth, Suwon, north of Osan, with its large airfield complex, was recaptured.
 - e. Close air support sorties supported the advance, damaging enemy lines of communications and pounding points of resistance.
6. As January neared its end, Chinese resistance began gradually to increase, indicating that the main enemy line had almost been reached.
7. About this time, LTG Ridgeway explored the possibility of converting THUNDERBOLT into a full-scale offensive with X Corps joining the offensive on its eastern flank.

FM 3-0, Chapter 7, Large-Scale Offensive Operations
<p>Overview of Large-scale Offensive Operations: 7-1. An <i>offensive task</i> is a task conducted to defeat and destroy enemy forces and seize terrain... If that operation does not destroy the enemy, operations continue until enemy forces disintegrate or retreat to where they no longer pose a threat.</p>

Ridgway's guidance to the I and IX Corps for Operation Thunderbolt was to avoid becoming heavily engaged. Additionally, he limited the two Corps to only committing one division each to the attack. His goal was to "discover enemy dispositions and intentions." His terrain goal was to occupy good defensive terrain along the south bank of the Han River – which required the two Corps to conduct a cautious advance of approximately 17 to 20 miles, but only if the enemy gave up the terrain without a serious fight. **Analyze Ridgway's decision to conduct limited offensive operations.**

VISUAL 4C: OPERATION THUNDERBOLT – Phase II (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from *Ebb and Flow, Nov 1950- July 1951*, Center of Military History and *The Korean War – Restoring the Balance*, Center of Military History). **[The PPT builds on Visual 2A are IAW the discussion below.]**

1. On the 30 Jan 1951, Ridgway converted his reconnaissance in force to a full- fledged attack.
 - a. He authorized the commanders of the I and IX Corps to bring their remaining units forward from line D to hold the ground that had been gained.
 - b. He also asked General Almond and the ROK Army chief of staff, General Chung, for recommendations on sending the X Corps and the ROK III Corps forward in the fashion of Operation THUNDERBOLT.
2. The purpose of the advance in the center and east was to disrupt the North Korean II and V Corps, which were still regrouping east of Route 29.
3. On 2 February he ordered the ROK I Corps to join the advance. The South Koreans were to move as far north as the east coast town of Kangnung.
4. When executed, the instructions Ridgway issued at the turn of the month would set the entire Eighth Army front in forward motion.
5. In terms of ground to be gained and held, however, Ridgway intended that this motion carry his forces no farther than the lower bank of the Han in the west and a general line extending eastward from the Han River town of Yangp' yong through Hoengsong in the center of the peninsula to Kangnung on the coast.
6. Only if enemy forces elected to withdraw above the 38th parallel would he consider occupying a defense line farther north – he was more interested in occupying the most advantageous terrain lines for the Eighth Army to occupy during the spring and summer months – than he was he seizing territory.
 - a. His judgment was that the ground farther north, to and including the 38th parallel, offered no defensible line worthy of the losses risked in attempting to take it.

- b. In limiting the Eighth Army's defense line in the west to the lower bank of the Han, Ridgway excluded Seoul as an objective.
 - c. Occupying the capital city, in his estimation, would provide no military advantage but would, rather, produce the disadvantage of placing a river immediately in rear of the occupying forces.
7. In any event, Ridgway entertained no thought of a prolonged effort to hold any line.
- a. Knowing that there would be no major reinforcement of the Eighth Army and assuming that enemy forces would keep trying to drive the Eighth Army out of Korea or destroy it in place, he saw no wisdom in accepting the heavy attrition that a static defense seemed certain to entail.
 - b. In sum, he considered the permanent acquisition of real estate an impractical, if not unachievable, objective.
 - c. In his mind, inflicting maximum losses on the Chinese and North Koreans, delaying them as long as possible if and when they attempted to advance, preserving the strength of his own forces, and maintaining his major units intact remained the only sound bases of planning, both for current operations and at longer range.
8. Ridgway informed General MacArthur of these tactical concepts by letter on 3 February.
- a. MacArthur replied by letter/telegram: (appears to be worded as thoughts on the subject not guidance).
 - (1) MacArthur agreed that occupying Seoul would yield little military gain, although he believed that seizing the city would produce decided diplomatic and psychological advantages.
 - (2) On the other hand, he stressed to Ridgway the military worth of nearby Kimpo airfield and the port of Inch'on, both below the Han, and urged their capture.
 - (3) As a general concept, MacArthur had in mind "to push on until we reached the line where a balance of strength was achieved which was governed by the relativity of supply."
 - b. Ridgway, on the other hand, was primarily interested in holding whatever line best suited his basic plan of punishing the enemy as severely as possible at the least cost to his own forces.

ANALYSIS

General Ridgeway (the Eight Army Commander) considered the permanent acquisition of real estate an impractical, if not unachievable, objective, and he believed that occupying the capital city of Seoul provide no military advantage. He envisioned only a limited offense to regain the initiative, but also to husband his limited resources.

General MacArthur (United Nations Forces Commander) believed seizing Seoul would produce decided diplomatic and psychological advantages. He also believed that Ridgeway should push on until we reached the line where a balance of strength was achieved.”

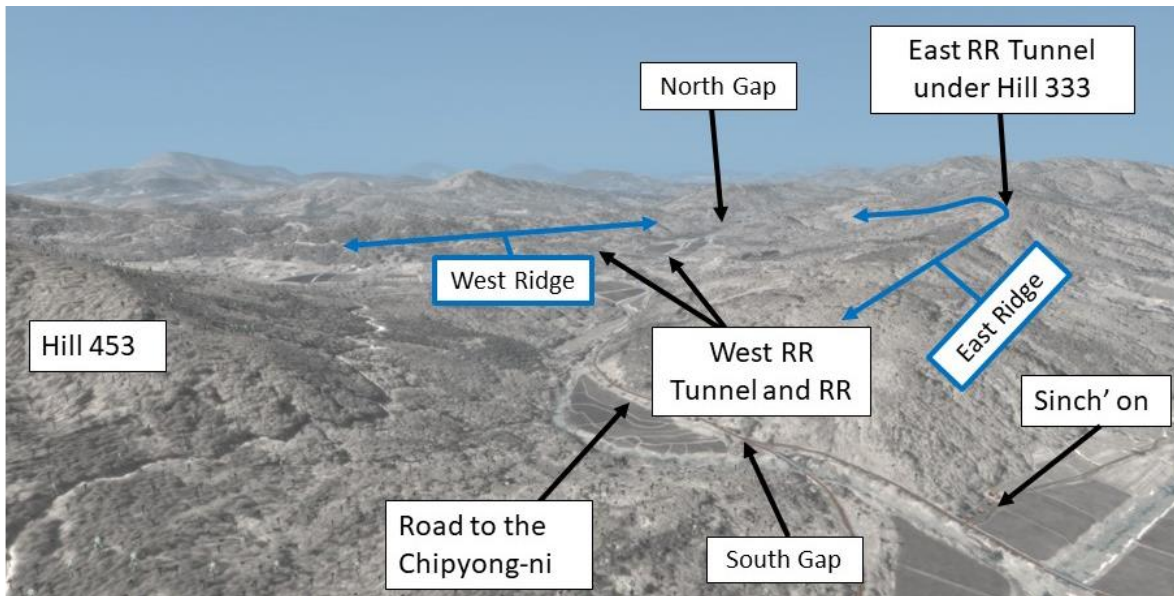
1. Analyze Ridgeway’s decision to continue with his plans for limited offensive operation.
2. Analyze MacArthur’s decision not to impose his own thoughts of how to proceed upon Ridgeway’s command of the Eight Army.

STAND 5 **The Battle of the Twin Tunnels** **(27 January to 1 February 1951)**

VISUALS

Visual
5A: X CORPS JOINS THE OFFENSE
5B: THE BATTLE OF THE TWIN TUNNELS

ORIENTATION



Orientation: Currently located in the vicinity of the Twin Tunnels. The Red Star on the visual.

Virtual View: Overview of the Twin Tunnels area. The Red Star on the visual.

1. Currently located about 1/2 mile south of the small village of Sinchon.
2. The road to the north leads to the Twin Tunnels.
 - a. The tunnels are about 1.5 miles to the north.
 - b. One of the tunnels passes below the large hill to the north
3. The road will eventually take you to Chipyeong- ni, about 6 miles to the NW.
4. To the south is the road to Iho –ri. The UN front lines are about 15 miles to the south.
5. Wonju is about 20 miles to the SE.
6. More on the surrounding terrain later in the discussion.

DESCRIPTION 5A

Virtual View: Remain at the overview of the Twin Tunnels area. I and IX Corps are 25 and 10 miles to the west.

VISUAL 5A: X CORPS JOINS THE OFFENSE (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from *Ebb and Flow, Nov 1950- July 1951*, Center of Military History and *The Korean War – Restoring the Balance*, Center of Military History and from the “Leadership in the Crucible,” by Kenneth Hamburger. Pages 105-125).). **[The PPT builds on Visuals are IAW the discussion below.]**

1. To the east Operation Thunderbolt was transitioning from a reconnaissance in force to an offense toward the Han River.
2. Prior to Ridgeway issuing guidance, General Almond had already made preparations for X Corps to conduct operations similar to THUNDERBOLT.
3. The X Corps had by this time had occupied the Yoju- Wonju-Yongwol line against little opposition as part of their mission to protect the IX Corps flank.
4. Almond was planning a strong combat reconnaissance fifteen miles above this line.
 - a. Searching that deep at corps center and right could apply pressure on the North Korean V and II Corps concentrated above Hoengsong and P’yongch’ang.
 - b. At the same time, the 2d Division, due to move north along the corps left boundary as far as Chip’ yong-ni, eight miles east of Yangp’ yong, could protect the right flank of the IX Corps as the THUNDERBOLT operation continued.

Virtual View: Our current location – the Red Star on the visual. May zoom in closer to show the tunnels and the hill where the patrol set up its defensive position.

5. On 29 Jan 51, a joint motorized patrol from the 2d (X Corps) and the 24th Division (IX Corps) moved north out of the Yoju area on the east side of the Han to a pair of railroad tunnels about four miles south of Chip’yong-ni.
 - a. The patrol was ambushed near the tunnels and took refuge on the large hill above east tunnel.
 - b. They then took significant casualties before a relief company was able to come forward rescued the patrol.
 - c. The patrol action confirmed that the Chinese occupied the twin tunnel area in significant strength.

Virtual View: Return to the overview of the Twin Tunnels area.

6. At the discovery of Chinese at the twin tunnels General Almond ordered the 2d Division to identify and destroy all enemy units in that area.
7. On 30 January, LTG Ned Almond, the corps commander, ordered the 2d Division to send a regiment to take the high ground in the tunnels area, clear out enemy forces, and take prisoners to identify what enemy units were in the area.
8. In turn, the 2d Division directed the 23d Regiment to move to the Twin Tunnels (minus the 2d BN which was the division reserve).
9. On 31 January Colonel Freeman sent his 3d Battalion and the attached French battalion to the tunnels after placing the 37th Field Artillery Battalion within a thousand yards of the tunnel area in direct support.
 - a. The 1st Battalion held key positions along the road from the artillery position to the rear to keep open the LOC.
 - b. The Regiment's 2d Battalion served as the 2d Division reserve.]
10. Brigadier General George Stewart, the 2d Infantry Division's assistant commander, accompanied the regiment. He was a 1923 West Point graduate and saw considerable combat in World War II.
 - a. Stewart considered himself the *"eyes and ears"* of the division commander. He possibly saw himself as a buffer between the regiment and corps commander.
 - b. General Almond frequently bypassed the division and issued orders directly to the regiments.
 - c. Stewart considered Freeman *"one of the best fighting commanders you ever saw, but kind of temperamental."* Freeman was not comfortable with the mission and stated, *"They're going to murder my regiment."*ⁱⁱ
11. The infantry battalions reached and established a perimeter around the tunnel complex without sighting enemy forces.

Analysis
ADRP 6-0 Mission Command
<p>Accept Prudent Risk: 2-24. Commanders accept prudent risk when making decisions because uncertainty exists in all military operations. Prudent risk is a deliberate exposure to potential injury or loss when the commander judges the outcome in terms of mission accomplishment as worth the cost (ADP 6-0). Opportunities come with risks. The willingness to accept prudent risk is often the key to exposing enemy weaknesses.</p>

Upon receipt of the mission to the Twin Tunnels, Col. Freeman stated to BG. Stewart, *“They’re going to murder my regiment.”* **Evaluate MG Ruffner’s (2d Div) and LTG Almond (X Corps) decisions to send the 23d RCT (-) to the Twin Tunnels IAW today’s doctrine of “Prudent Risk.”**

Note: Col. Freeman’s statement could also be evaluated IAW: Leadership: 2-65. Being a responsible subordinate is part of being a good leader. All Soldiers must act as both leaders and followers. Being a responsible subordinate implies supporting the chain of command and making sure that the team supports the larger organization and its purpose. Successful commanders recognize that the Army is a team, and all team members have responsibilities inherent in belonging to that team.

VISUAL 5B: THE BATTLE OF THE TWIN TUNNELS. (Unless noted this portion of the overview Excerpt from: Billy Mossman, Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951, (Washington, D.C., Center of Military History, 1990), 248 – 249. **[The PPT builds on the visuals are IAW the discussion below.]**

Virtual View: Terrain Orientation – Initially from the same initial orientation. May zoom in closer to discuss the terrain features.

- **Assume a bird’s eye view from just to the south of Hill 453. The Goal is to see the Twin Tunnel Area.**
- **Point out the twin tunnels.**
- **The road north to Chipyeong-ni.**
- **The village of Sinchon.**
- **The road south to Iho-ri. The UN lines are now about 10 miles to the south.**
- **More on the terrain later in the stand.**

1. Freeman's plan was dictated by the terrain.
 - a. In Korea, proper utilization of the crests of hills or mountains often determined the success of a unit's actions.
 - b. The Chinese had proved adept at hiding units in villages, caves, and tunnels during daylight hours and attacking at night.

- c. As a result, UN forces were forced each night to construct tight perimeters on high ground, as impregnable as possible, in anticipation of an attack during the hours of darkness.
2. Ridgway wanted offensive action and the standard TTP was:
 - a. To take a defensive perimeter on the hills in one area, and then advance to another hilltop defensive perimeter within a day or two.
 - b. It was a slow procedure, but the only relatively safe one.

Virtual View: Point out the eastern ridge.

3. Freeman's Defensive Perimeter: The 3d Battalion secured the eastern ridge.

Virtual View: Point out Hill 453 and then the western ridge

4. Freeman's Defensive Perimeter: In the French Battalion sector:
 - a. 1st Company occupied the commanding Hill 453 to the south, isolated and not tied in to any other unit.
 - b. The remainder of the French Battalion held the western ridge.
5. There were two dangerous gaps in the line – one in the north and another in the south:

Virtual View: Move down to the gap in the north – Green Star 1

- Point out the French on the west Ridge
 - Point out the 3d BN on the east ridge
 - Point out the vulnerable gap between the two ridges.
6. To the north, a tank-mounted roadblock covered the territory between the French 3d Company and the 23d's Love Company;
 - Move to the gap in the south –Green Star 2
 - Point out the French on the west Ridge
 - Point out the French company on Hill 453
 - Point out the 3d BN on the east ridge
 - Point out the vulnerable gap between the French and U.S. BN
 7. To the south, the French heavy weapons company covered the gap between King Company and the French 2d Company.
 8. Terrain dictated company frontages. At the Twin Tunnels, company fronts varied from a few hundred meters to over a thousand.

9. This scheme stretched Freeman's forces as far as they could go. It left him without a regimental reserve, although the French Battalion kept a platoon from its ROK Company and its engineers out of the line.
10. Nonetheless, the terrain around the Twin Tunnels left Freeman with no alternative. Giving up any of the ridgelines or Hill 453 would provide the enemy an open entryway into his perimeter.

FM 3-0, Chapter 6, Large-Scale Defensive Operations
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<p>Reserve in the Area Defense: 6-145. Commanders use reserves to counterattack, to exploit enemy weaknesses such as exposed flanks or units vulnerable to defeat in detail, or deny the enemy control of critical terrain. The reserve can also reinforce forward defensive positions, contain enemy penetrations, or react to threats in the support or consolidation areas. Commanders decide on the size, composition, and mission of the reserve as early as possible after determining what risk is acceptable. Commanders down to the BCT level normally retain one third of their maneuver strength in reserve; the higher the degree of uncertainty regarding the enemy, the larger the reserve should be.</p>
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<p>Evaluate Col. Freeman's use of the terrain and the decision to maintain no regimental reserve at the Twin Tunnels.</p>
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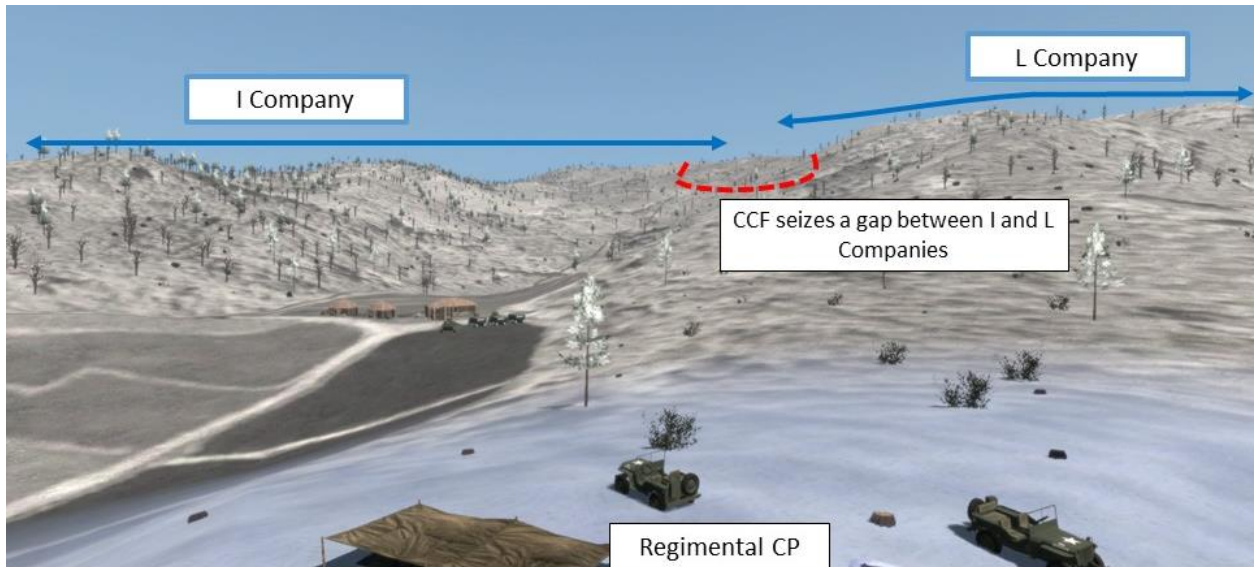
11. By late afternoon, the soldiers were in position, digging in for the cold night ahead – no sign of the enemy.
12. But from farther north Colonel Freeman's forces themselves were observed by the 125th Division, 42d Army.
13. Late on the afternoon of 31 January, General Almond visited the 23d Regiment's command post. He was surprised that the regiment had not yet made contact with the enemy, and was disappointed that Freeman had not continued north into Chipyeong-ni.
14. General Stewart explained that Freeman was operating IAW the division's orders to clear the twin tunnels area and move with caution. He also explained that due to the lateness of the day the regiment needed to occupy a tight defensive perimeter for the night.
15. Nonetheless, General Almond ordered Stewart to *"put Chipyeong-ni under fire."* After Almond left the area, Stewart commandeered a tank and moved toward Chipyeong-ni. At Chipyeong-ni, he saw no sight of the enemy, but still fired a burst of machine gun fire over the village. He returned to the regimental perimeter and reported through division to the corps that the regiment had *"taken the village under fire."*

16. Freeman voiced his anger at Stewart for Almond's questionable order and for broadcasting the regiment's exposed position to the CCF with machinegun fire.
- One of his company commanders remembers Freeman saying: *"I don't mind the corps commander being around and there's no problem with him telling me what to do. He should as a courtesy go through the division commander, but that's between those two. What I can't accept is his telling me how to do it, especially if I think his way is dangerous to my command and mission. If Almond wants to be a regimental commander, damn it, let him take a reduction to brigadier colonel and come down and be one."*
 - Stewart admitted the order was *"ridiculous,"* and his action was *"unwise."*

ADRP 6-0 Mission Command
<p>Leadership: 2-65. Being a responsible subordinate is part of being a good leader. All Soldiers must act as both leaders and followers. Being a responsible subordinate implies supporting the chain of command and making sure that the team supports the larger organization and its purpose. Successful commanders recognize that the Army is a team, and all team members have responsibilities inherent in belonging to that team.</p>
<p>IAW LTG Almond's orders, BG Stewart commandeered a tank, moved into Chip'yong-ni and "put it under fire." <u>Evaluate Stewart's decision in terms of being a "responsible subordinate" to LTG Almond, and as "a good leader" of Col. Freeman.</u></p> <p>Note: Stewart's decision can also be evaluated as an "exercise of disciplined initiative." (One of the six fundamental principles of Mission Command – ARP 3-0 Operations)</p>

Virtual View: From the overview show Sinchon and Hill 453.

17. That night communist forces skirmished with the French on Hill 453 and U.S. forces near Sinchon..



Virtual View: Fly north to the vicinity of the Regimental CP and then look north above L Company then to the east above I Company

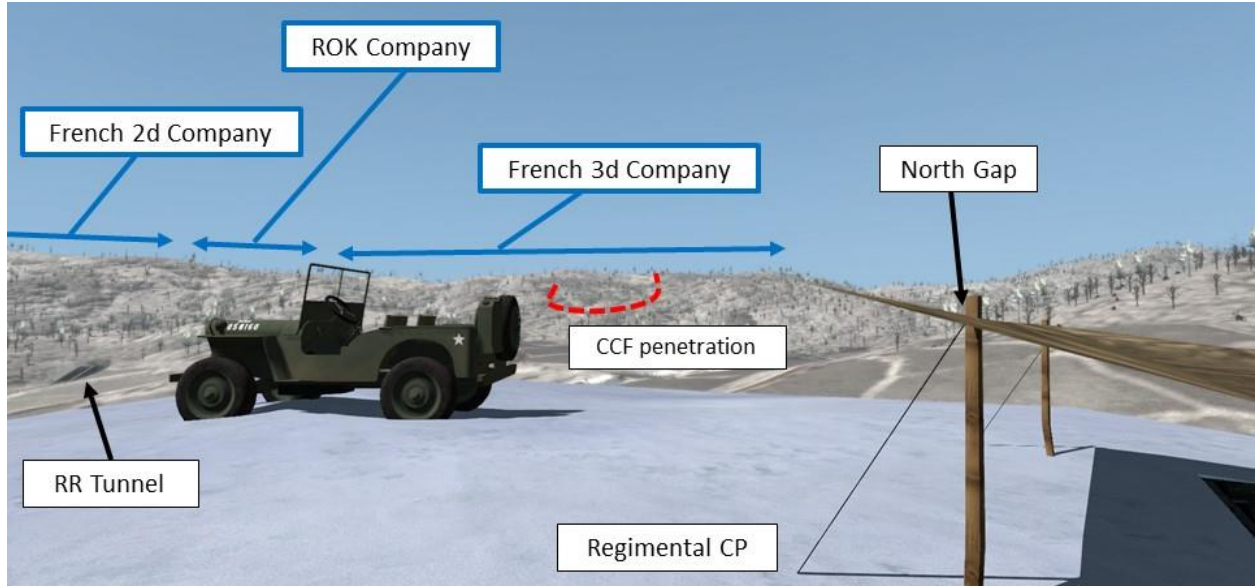
18. At dawn on 1 February, the 375th and 374th Regiments attacked from the north and northeast, respectively.

Virtual View: From the vicinity of the Regimental CP look NW over the 3d French Company and then SW over the 2d and Weapons Companies of the French Battalion.

19. After daylight the 373d Regiment assaulted the perimeter from the northwest and southwest.

20. In hard, close-in fighting lasting all day, the defending battalions, relying heavily on artillery fire, barely held the line.

21.



Virtual View: From the vicinity of the Regimental CP look NW over the 3d French Company and then East the US I Company.

22. In the afternoon, the Chinese renewed their attacks and seized high ground in the northeast and northwest and almost broke through the perimeter.
23. A lucky break in the cloud cover allowed the air-support to intervene and avert the crisis.

1. **Casualties:**

- a. Estimated that the Chinese, about eight thousand strong when they began the battle, left about 1,300 corpses around and inside the perimeter.
 - (1) A wounded prisoner identified the unit PLA's 125th Division, a part of the Forty-second Army.
 - (2) All three regiments of the division had participated in the fight.
 - b. Intelligence estimated total Chinese losses at thirty-six hundred, or almost half the starting strength of the enemy division.
 - c. Freeman's losses were 45 killed, 207 wounded, and 4 missing.
2. After the fighter-bombers finished, fourteen cargo transports- C-119 "Flying Boxcars" - dropped supplies of all types into the valley.

3. After dark, the 1st Battalion began arriving, having marched all afternoon.
4. Everyone expected the Chinese to make another all-out effort to overrun the regiment that night. Weary soldiers tried to remain alert for probes, but none came.
 - a. After a quiet night, there was no sign of the enemy at daylight.
 - b. At dawn, patrols ranged into the surrounding hills looking for the enemy - neither ground nor aerial patrols found any sign of the Chinese.
5. With the arrival of the 23d RCT's other elements, Freeman felt confident of its ability to fight off further Chinese attacks so long as his ammunition held out – but no more attacks came.
 - a. Supplies had run perilously low in only one day of hard fighting.
 - b. He knew that unless the 2d Division and X Corps resupplied the unit every day, particularly after night engagements, the Chinese could emerge victorious merely by surviving and outlasting the defenders' ammunition.
 - c. The regiment was dangerously far from friendly lines for resupply by ground vehicles to be a sure thing, and the weather was sufficiently unpredictable for aerial resupply to be assured.
6. Meanwhile MG Almond prepared to push north with X Corps IAW LTG Ridgway's guidance.

ADRP 6-22, Army Leadership
Warrior Ethos, Table 6-4. [A leader] removes or fights through obstacles, difficulties, and hardships to accomplish the mission. Demonstrates the will to succeed. Demonstrates physical and emotional courage. Shares hardships with subordinates.
During the afternoon crisis at the twin tunnels the company, battalion, and regimental leadership continual demonstrated a warrior ethos. How did their actions influence the fight?

ADRP 6-22, Army Leadership
Esprit de Corps: 7-8. Soldiers draw strength from knowing they are part of long-standing tradition. Many of the Army's everyday customs and traditions remind Soldiers they are the latest addition to a long line of Soldiers.

How did the concept of “Esprit de Corps” influence the soldiers within the French Battalion and the soldiers of the 23rd Regiment fighting next to them at the Twin Tunnels?

How does the same concept influence today’s soldiers fighting as part of a coalition?

ANALYSIS

1. “What lessons learned” could the 23d Regiment take from its experience at the Twin Tunnels?
 - a. (From the 23d REGT AAR) Tight perimeter defense is essential. A smaller perimeter on possibly less desirable ground is better than a large/loose perimeter on desirable ground.
 - b. (From the 23d REGT AAR) A RCT properly equipped and entrenched, with sound leadership, is a strong force, and is capable of defending itself when being resupplied from the air.
 - c. (From the 23d REGT AAR) Concentrated defensive fire made the CCF attack too expensive even for their great numerical superiority.
 - d. (From the 23d REGT AAR) Well-led and trained troops can endure the mental stress of being cut-off and surrounded.
 - e. (From the 23d REGT AAR) There is no such thing as impassible terrain for infantry (friendly or enemy).
 - f. (From the 23d REGT AAR) Ground resupply is problematic when dangerously far from friendly lines and the weather can be unpredictable for aerial resupply to be assured
 - g. Other possible considerations
 - (1) Meat Grinder Tactics are very demanding on the logistical situation and required daily resupply if in contact.
 - (a) Supplies had run perilously low in only one day of hard fighting).
 - (b) The Chinese could emerge victorious merely by surviving and outlasting the defenders' ammunition.
 - (2) Airpower can be decisive. (Without airpower the regiment might have been overrun).
 - (3) Others?

2. How did the Battle of the Twin Tunnels support General Ridgeway's vision of "Meat Grinder Tactics?"

STAND 6: Operation Roundup Opening Moves and the Occupation of Chipyeong-ni (2 – 5 February 1951)

VISUALS

Visual
6A: OPERATION ROUNDUP
6B: THE 23D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM (RCT)
6C: THE CHIPYONG-NI BOWL
6D: THE 23D RCT DEFENSIVE PERIMETER

ORIENTATION

Orientation: Currently at the Twin Tunnels about 4 miles SE of Chipyeong-ni. .

Virtual View: From south of the Twin Tunnels looking toward Chipyeong-ni

- Currently in the vicinity of the twin tunnels
- After the fight at the twin tunnels the 23d RCT continued to occupy a defensive position near the Twin Tunnels.
- The new mission was to occupy Chipyeong- ni which is about 4 miles to the NW.

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 6A: OPERATION ROUNDUP (Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from *Ebb and Flow, Nov 1950- July 1951*, Center of Military History and *The Korean War – Restoring the Balance*, Center of Military History). **[PPT builds IAW discussion]**

1. In the west, I and IX Corps' Operation Thunderbolt continued a steady, if slow, advance to the Han River against increasingly more vigorous enemy defenses.
2. On 29 January (3 days before the Battle of the Twin Tunnels), Ridgway decided to transition Operation THUNDERBOLT into a full-scale offensive with X Corps joining the offensive on its eastern flank.

3. MG Almonds planned to attack north – his goal was for ROK 5th and 8th Divisions were to retake Hongch'on, fifteen miles north of Hoengsong, and in the process destroy the North Korean forces in that vicinity.
 - a. 2d Infantry Division would secure the Hoengsong to Wonju to Yoju line.
 - b. The ROK divisions pass through and continue the attack to Hongch'on.
4. As the X Corps advanced north, the 23d Infantry would advance to Chipyeong-ni to hold the X Corps left flank and maintain contact with the IX Corps' right flank.
5. On 2 February armored elements of the X Corps reached Wonju, located in the central section fifty miles southeast of Seoul.
6. The same day, other elements of the X Corps recaptured Hoengsong, ten miles north of Wonju.
7. On Saturday morning, 3 February 1951, the 23d Infantry set out for its rendezvous with destiny at Chipyeong-ni – more on this in a minute
8. On the 5 February, the ROK III Corps passed through the X Corps and pushed forward steadily, but against increasing enemy resistance.
9. In the west, the enemy defense opposite I and IX Corps gave way and the two Corps raced northward toward the Han River, and on 9 February, the U.S. 25th Infantry Division retook Inch'on and Kimpo Airfield as elements of I Corps closed on the south bank of the Han opposite Seoul.
10. Meanwhile, Chinese and North Korean forces started to mass in the central sector north of Hoengsong seeking the opportunity to counter-attack.

VISUAL 6B: THE 23D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM (RCT) ((Unless noted this portion of the overview narrative is from the “Leadership in the Crucible,” by Kenneth Hamburger. Pages x - y). [The PPT builds on the visuals are IAW the discussion below.]

Virtual View: Remain at the Twin Tunnels looking toward Chipyeong-ni

1. While UNC forces in Operation THUNDERBOLT and Operation ROUNDUP advanced toward the Han River and Hoengsong, the 23d Regimental Combat Team (RCT) moved into the village of Chipyeong-ni.
2. Even though MG Almond's X US Corps along with ROK III Corps were attacking north toward Hoengsong- LTG Ridgeway emphasized to MG Almond that his primary mission was to secure the right flank of the IX Corps (Ebb and Flow, 215).

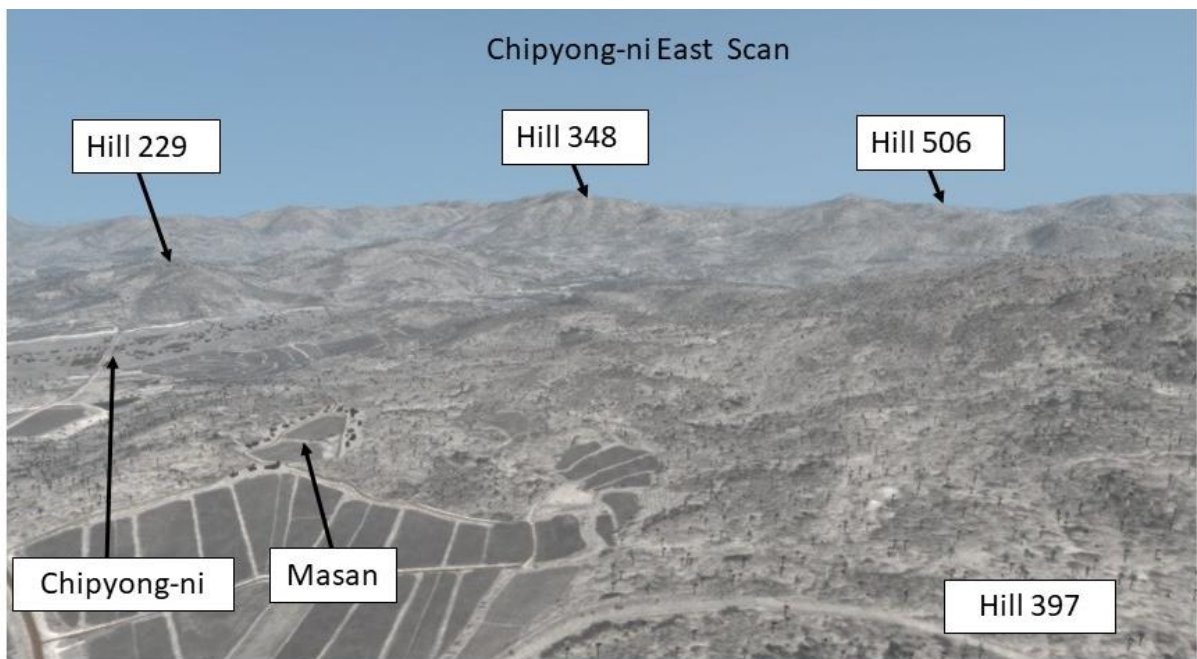
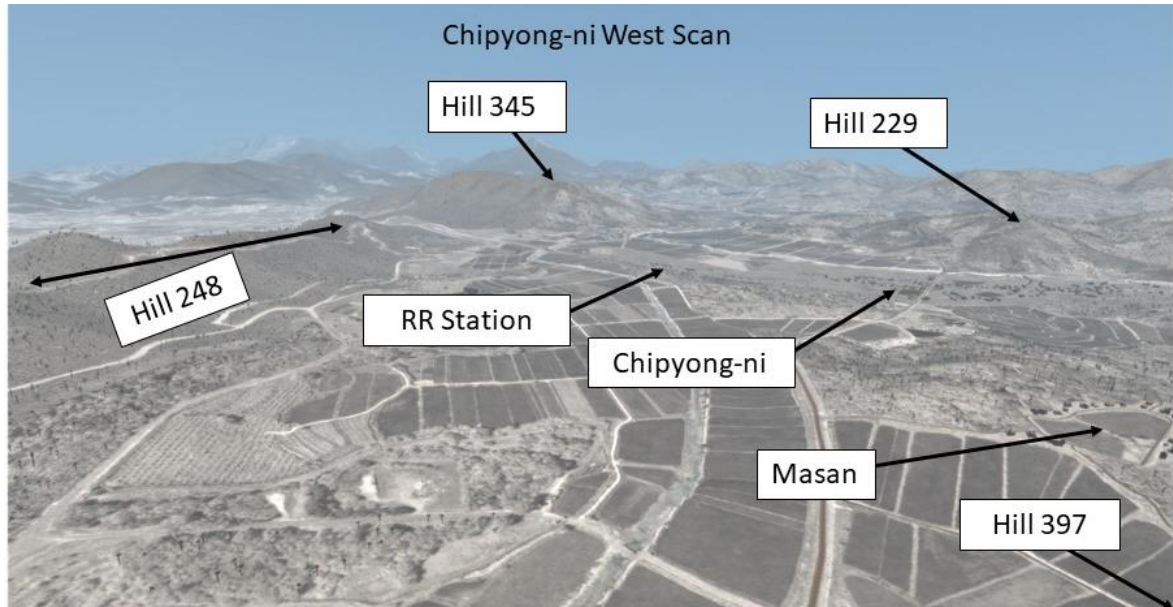
3. The 23d Regimental Combat Team was key – their mission was: *"Dominate the road center of Chipyong and occupy the high ground in the vicinity so as to protect the right flank of the IX Corps and establish the western anchor of a X Corps line of departure for the offensive."*
4. The 23rd Regimental Combat Team includes the 3,324 man infantry regiment plus another 2,395 men.
4. The major attachments were:
 - a. French Battalion of the United Nations Organization (French: Bataillon français de l'ONU, BF-ONU).
 - b. 1st Ranger Company with three platoons
 - c. 37th Field Artillery Battalion with:
 - (1) Three 105mm (towed) howitzer batteries
 - (2) B/503 Field Artillery, a 155mm (towed) howitzer battery composed of African American soldiers.
 - d. B/2 Engineers
 - e. B/82 Anti-Aircraft Artillery (AAA) Automatic Weapons (AW) battery
 - f. B/2 Medical, with a platoon of ambulances from the Clearing Company.
2. Total strength of the Regimental Combat Team in February 1951 was approximately 5,719 men.

ADRP 6-0 Mission Command
<p>Span of Control: 2-101. Unit organization should ensure reasonable span of control—the number of subordinates or activities under a single commander. Generally, commanders can effectively command and effectively control two to five subordinate headquarters. A commander's span of control should not exceed that commander's capability to command effectively. The optimal number of subordinates depends on the situation.</p>
<p><u>Evaluate the challenge Freeman faced in providing effective command and control of the 23rd Regimental Combat Team.</u> Not counting administrative and support units, the 23rd Regimental Combat Team included 5 BNs (4x IN BNs and 1x Arty BN) and 5 combat companies (1 each: tank, Hvy Mtr, Ranger, Engineer, AAA).</p>

VISUAL 6C: THE CHIPYONG-NI BOWL.

1. At 31 0630 January 1951, the RCT started movement out of the Assembly Area.

2. The town was secured without serious opposition.
3. Chipyeong-ni is in an oval-shaped valley or bowl 3 miles wide and six miles long. Surrounding hills are mostly barren and range from 100-400 meters elevation.



Virtual View: Remain in the virtual overview of Chipyeong-ni. Look towards the key features IAW the list below.

4. Key Features
 - a. Road hub vic Chipyeong-ni

- (1) Key roads to the SE and S.
- (2) Also road west into the Han River Valley and the flank of the IX Corps.
- (3) A road to the north also connects with a key east/west road.

- b. Hill 397
- c. Hill 248
- d. Hill 345
- e. Hill 229
- f. Hill 348
- g. Hill 506
- h. Hill 159
- i. Hill 319

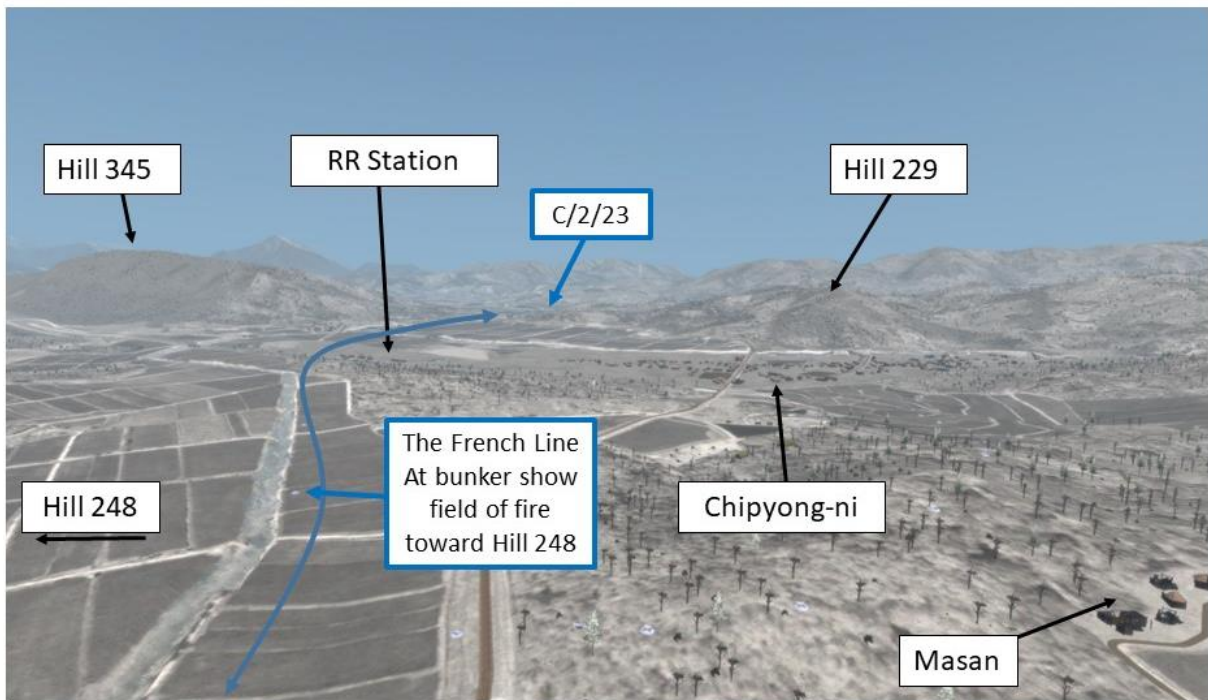
5. What advantages and disadvantages does the terrain provide to the RCT defending the town?

VISUAL 6D: THE 23D RCT DEFENSIVE PERIMETER. [The PPT builds on the visuals are IAW the discussion below.]

IAW the discussion below provide an orientation of the 23 RCT perimeter.

1. The RCT perimeter ceded the high ground to the Chinese (Hills 345, 348, 506, 159, 319, 397, 129, 248)
 - a. An entire division would have been required to secure a perimeter that included those hills.
 - b. Instead he decided to establish a tight perimeter around the village.
 - c. COL Freeman, the RCT commander, ordered daytime patrols of those hills to check for enemy positions or movement on them.
 - d. Additionally, COL Freeman stressed continuous position improvement of the fighting positions.
 - e. The perimeter as “a school solution as nearly as the time and materials permitted.”
2. The 23rd RCT Perimeter can be described as a clock – starting at about 0800 in the seam between the 23d 2d Battalion and the French Battalion. [

- The regimental perimeter is marked with fighting positions. The instructor will need to rehearse flying from fighting position to fighting position.
- Occasionally assume a ground hug at fighting positions to show fields of fire.
- Use key spots along the route to help orient to the map – examples include:
 - Railroad station at Star 2
 - Road at Star 4 and between Stars 5 and 6.
 - Railroad tunnel visible from Star 8.



- a. **Virtual View:** Overview Star 1 looking north along the French line, French Battalion – 23 RCT:

Virtual View: Fly along the French line. Consider pausing at one of the fighting positions looking to the west to show their fields of fire

(1) 1st Company at 0800.

(2) 3rd Company at 0900

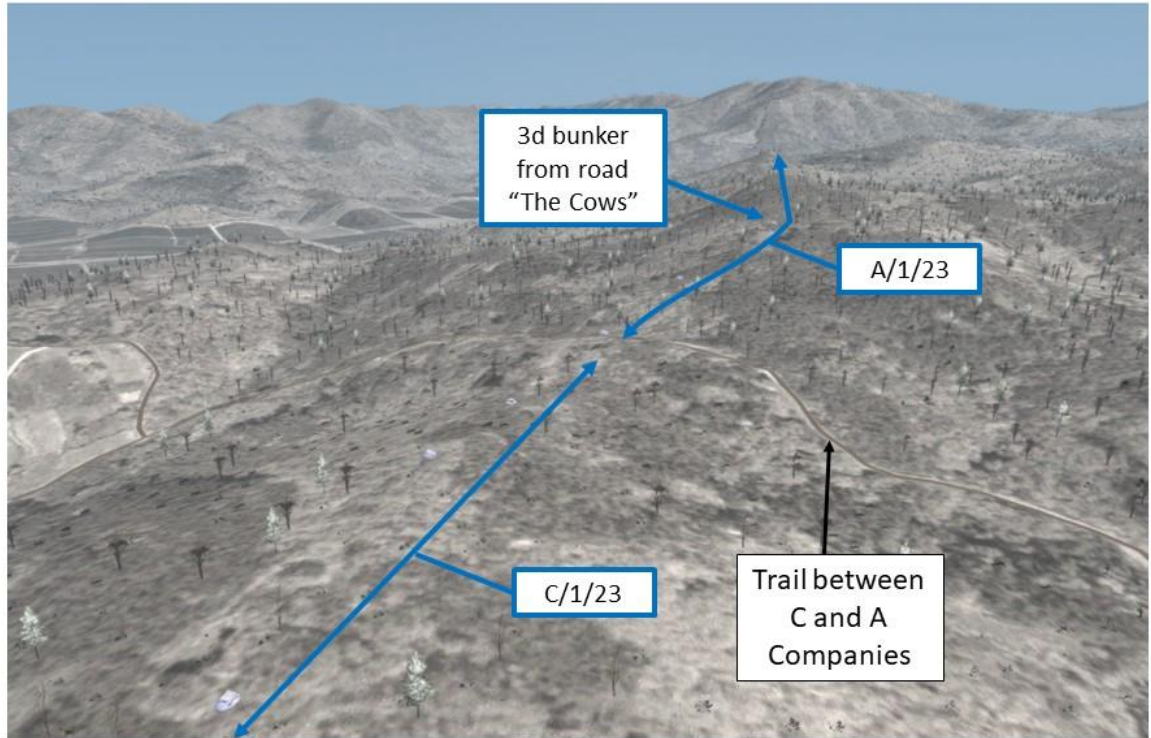
Virtual View: Point out the railroad station and the fields of fire toward Hill 248 and the road between Hills 248 and 345.

- b. **Star 2,** French ROK Company at 1000 and 2nd French Company at 1100 (both companies near the RR Stations).

Virtual View: Fly almost due north toward Star 3. At any one of the fighting positions assume a ground hug position and point out the field of fire toward Hill 345.

- c. **Star 3**, 1-23 RCT:

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 4. At any one of the fighting positions assume a ground hug position and point out the field of fires.



- d. **Star 4**, C/1-23 was positioned at 1200.

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 5. At any one of the fighting positions assume a ground hug position and point out the field of fires.

- e. **Star 5**, A/1-23 was positioned at 0200.

(1) RCT Reserve was position behind the 1-23 RCT

(2) B/1-23 was on Hill 210 behind A/1-23

- f. Ranger Company was behind C/1-23

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 6. At any one of the fighting positions assume a ground hug position and point out the field of fires.

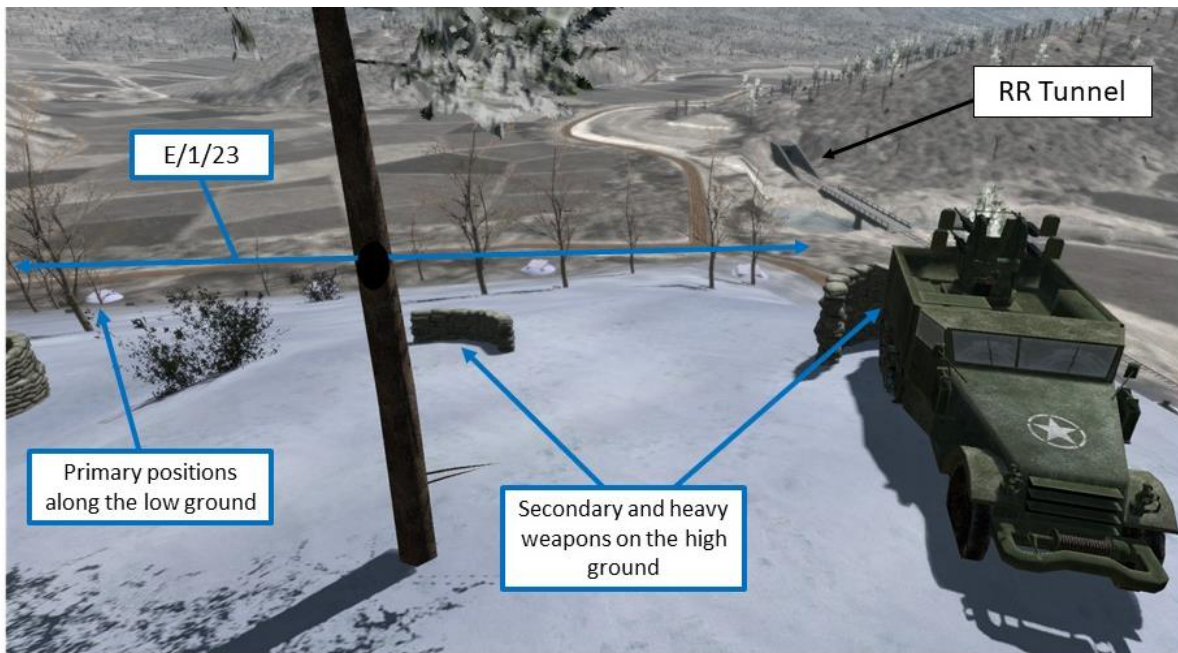
- g. **Star 6**, 3-23 RCT. L/3-23 was positioned at 0230.

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 7. At any one of the fighting positions assume a ground hug position and point out the field of fires.

- h. **Star 7,** I/3-23 was positioned at 0300 and K/3-23 was positioned at 0400.

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 8. Point out how 2-23 elected to put their MLR along the low ground with secondary positions on the high ground. At any one of the fighting positions assume a ground hug position and point out the field of fires.

- i. **Star 8,** 2-23 RCT: 2-23 occupied 0500 to 0700 in the perimeter. LTC James W. Edwards, the 2nd Battalion commander, wrote a detailed narrative of his battalion's actions at Chip'yong-ni.
3. LTC Edwards, the 2nd Battalion commander, confidently described his sector of the perimeter as ***"a school solution as nearly as the time and materials permitted."***



4. **Star 8:** E/2-23 was positioned astride the railroad on the battalion's left flank. 2-23 was the Regimental main effort and E was the battalion's main effort.
- a. The E Company defensive line is was one the strongest along the perimeter.
- (1) The company's defensive line was typical of all the rifle platoons along the perimeter.
- (2) Edwards stated:

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 1 and assume a ground hug position at one of the fighting positions along the low ground and point out the field of fires.

- (a) *“On the MRL, the primary positions of the machine guns were on low ground so that they could fire FPL fires along the wire....”*
- (b) *“[Most of the] foxholes along the MIR and most of the alternate foxholes were of the two-man standing type foxholes... [and] all foxholes had overhead cover. Two-man foxholes were SOP in the Battalion. Men fought better when they were not alone...”*

(1) Even though the BN commander had ordered that all fighting positions Lt McGee, a platoon leader in G Company, remembered:

(2) *“We did not have anything to build cover with, and we didn’t have the time to go out and get it. The only cover, I had on my hole was four little round sticks that we drove into the ground and attached a stick across each corner from corner to corner above the top of the hole and covered it with straw and libs and our ponchos. All that was for was to keep the snow out, but it wouldn’t stop any type of fire. (High Tide, 128).*

(c) **Left and right view,**

- (1) *“They were also placed in the double-apron, barbed wire fence that had been erected in front of [Company E].”*
- (2) *“Trip-flares, antipersonnel mines, and booby-traps had been sown copiously in front of all positions and in the draws leading down from HILL 397 towards the Battalion MLR.*
- (3) *“At night, each company sent out 2 o 3 two-,man groups about 50 to 75 yards in front of the MLR to act as listening posts.”*

b. The E Company position was heavily reinforced with RCT and battalion assets.

(1) Edwards stated, *“Tank and Anti-aircraft Vehicle machineguns covered some sections of the Battalion MLR.”*

- (a) On the southeast slope of Sawyer Hill were two Quad 50 half-tracks.
- (b) On the south slope of the Sawyer Hill were two tanks.
- (c) Another tank and Quad 50 were on the west side of the tracks.

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 9 and assume a ground hug position at one of the fighting positions.

5. **Star 9,** F/2-23 occupied the center of the BN sector.

- a. Had no attached AFVs.
- b. The company perimeter was very similar to E Co’s positions with the primary fighting positions along the low ground and alternate positions on the high ground.

Virtual View: Fly toward Star 10 and assume a ground hug position at one of the fighting positions.



6. **Star 10**, G/2-23 was on the BN west flank and connected with the 1st French Company.
 - a. G Company occupied a bulge in the line to allow room for Battery B, 503d FA (6X 155mm)
 - b. G Company had no attached AFVs.
 - c. However, the 2d section, of the battalions 75mm recoilless rifle Platoon was attached to the company (2x 75mm RRs).

ANALYSIS

1. Analyze Colonel Freeman's decision to defend from within the bowl on the west and southern portions of the perimeter.
 - a. The RCT perimeter ceded the high ground to the Chinese (Hills 345, 348, 506, 159, 319, 397, 129, 248)
 - b. An entire division would have been required to secure a perimeter that included those hills.

2. How did Colonel Freeman plan to mitigate the danger of giving up **Hills 345, 348, 506, 159, 319, 397, 129, and 248?**

- (1) COL Freeman, the RCT commander, ordered daytime patrols of those hills to check for enemy positions or movement on them.

FM 3-0, Chapter 6, Large-Scale Defensive Operations

Defending Encircled: 6-213. Defending forces can become encircled at any time during large-scale combat operations... A commander's form of maneuver once becoming encircled depends on the senior commander's intent and the mission variables, including the—

- Availability of defensible terrain.
- Relative combat power of friendly and enemy forces.
- Sustainment status of the encircled force and its ability to be resupplied, including the ability to treat and evacuate wounded Soldiers.
- Morale and fighting capacity of the Soldiers.

Availability of defensible terrain: Analyze Colonel Freeman's decision to give up the majority of the high ground surrounding Chip'yong-ni and defend from within the bowl on the west and southern portions of the perimeter.

- a. The RCT perimeter ceded the high ground to the Chinese (Hills 345, 348, 506, 159, 319, 397, 129, 248)
- b. An entire division would have been required to secure a perimeter that included those hills.

STAND 7: Patrol Actions at Chipyong-ni **(5 – 11 Feb)**

VISUALS

Visual
7A: THE CHIPYONG-NI PATROLS
7B: THE REGIMENTAL SITUATION

ORIENTATION

Orientation: Currently located at the village of Chipyong-ni.

Virtual View: From the last position move to the center of the village and then rise up in the air and look to the East.

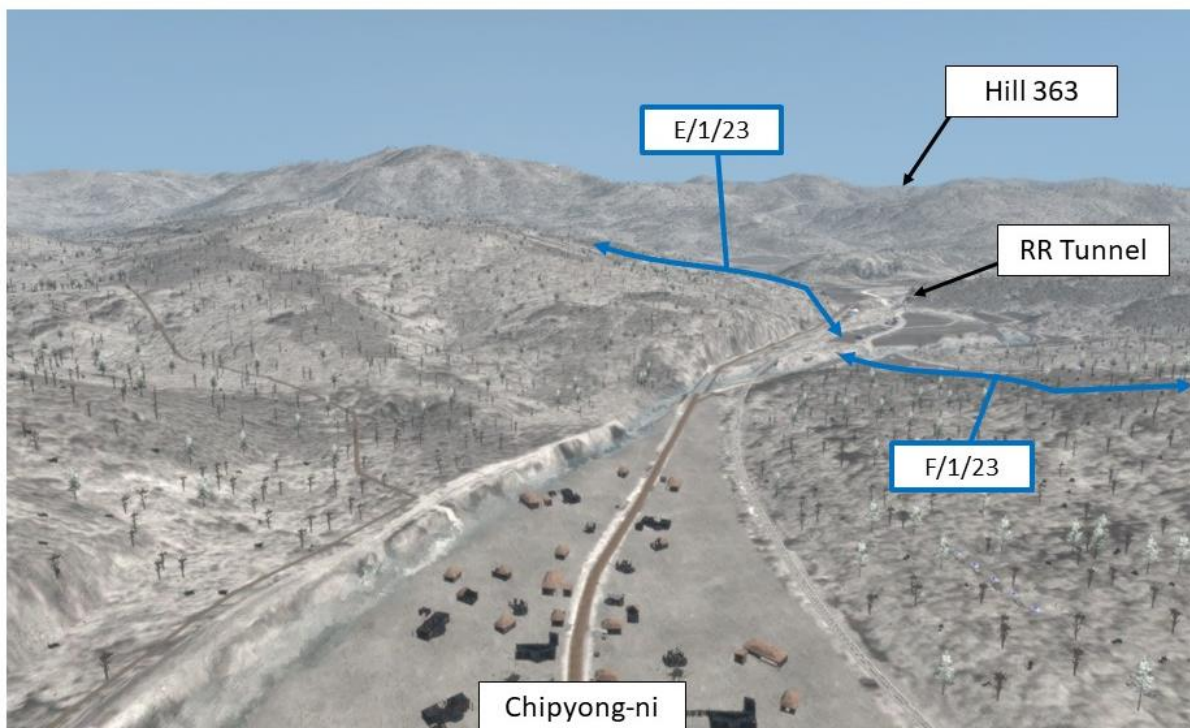
1. As stated earlier, Chipyong-ni is ringed by Hills.
2. Hill 348 the large high ground to the NE of the village tappers off to the south and almost due west is Hill 363.
3. Hill 363 was a large ridge the blocked visibility into a large valley that contained the village Sanggosong.
4. From 4 to 11 February, much of the enemy contact near Chipyong-ni would be in the Sanggosong Valley.

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 7A: THE CHIPYONG-NI PATROLS (Excerpt from Billy Mossman's, *Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951*, 263. [The PPT builds on the visuals are IAW the discussion below.]

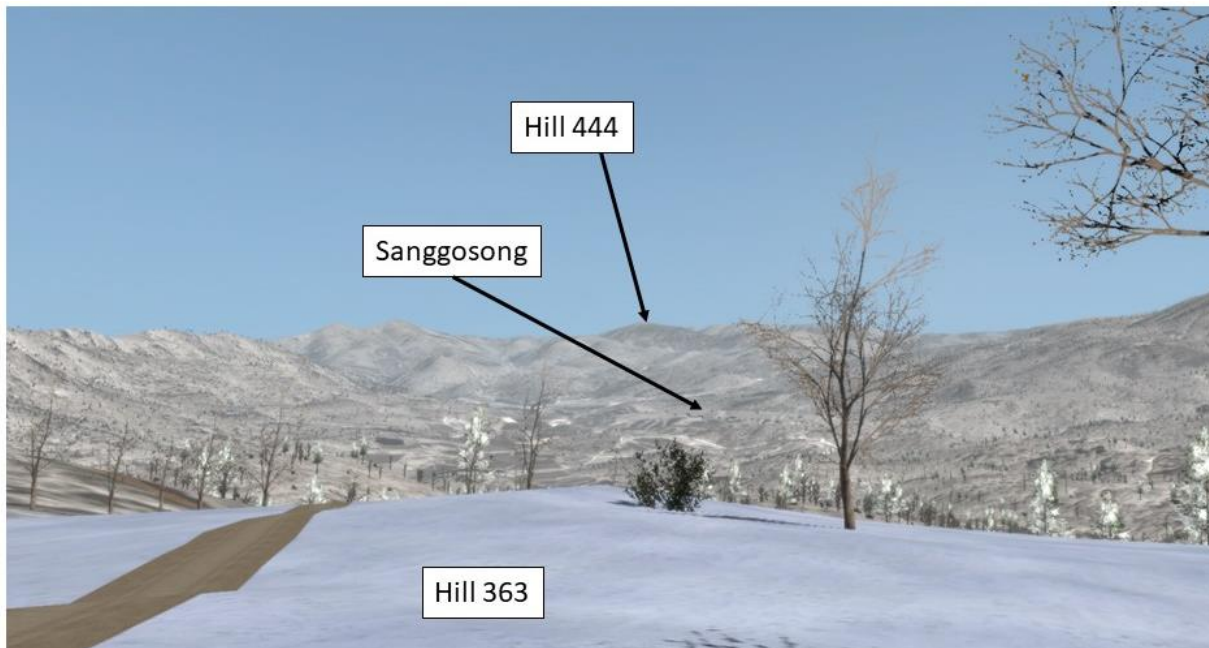
1. While MG Almond X US Corps and ROK III Corps advanced toward Hoengsong the 23d RCT consolidated in position at Chipyong-ni.
2. Col Freeman recognized that his RCT was isolated with an almost 12 mile gap between him and the next X Corps unit to the east.

3. After securing Chip'yong-ni, the 23d Infantry had established a perimeter around the town, and Colonel Freeman had run patrols east, west, and north.
4. Between 1 and 5 February, the patrol encounters with enemy forces were mostly minor.



Virtual View: Move to the vicinity of E/23 IN on visual 7A looking towards Hill 363.

5. Then on 6 February, an Easy Company patrol had a stiff fight with the enemy on Hill 363 about 4 kilometers east of the village.



Virtual View: Move to the top of Hill 363 and look toward Sanggosong.

6. On 7 February, Freeman sent the 2d Battalion to the same area to development the situation. That patrol also withdrew after getting into a fight with a large enemy force near Sanggosong.

Virtual View: Remain at Sanggosong and look east toward Hill 444.

7. Between 7 and 11 February one particularly strong position was discovered on Hill 444 some 11 kilometers east of Chip'yong-ni.
 - a. Freeman sent a battalion east, and the 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry, came north from the Yoju area to reduce the enemy strongpoint.
 - b. The latter battalion occupied the height on the 11th and thus held the 2d Division position closest to the ROK 8th Division.

FM 3-0, Chapter 6, Large-Scale Defensive Operations
<p>Area Defense: 6-121. The <i>area defense</i> is a defensive task that concentrates on denying enemy forces access to designated terrain for a specific time rather than destroying the enemy outright (ADRP 3-90). The focus of an area defense is on retaining terrain where the bulk of a defending force positions itself in mutually supporting, prepared positions. Units maintain their positions and control the terrain between these positions.</p>

Analyze the 2d Division commander's decision to connect the 23d Infantry Regiment's right flank with the 9th Infantry Regiments left flank at Hill 444. Prior to the Communist counter-attack at Hoengosong, The X Corps G-2 estimated that the communist forces opposing the X Corps advance were only capable of delaying actions and counter-reconnaissance. However, Colonel Freman (23d Regiment) and MG Ruffner were concerned about the build-up of enemy forces between the two regiments. On 7 February 1951, the 2d Division directed the 23d Regiment and the 9th Regiment to each send battalion level patrol to control Hill 444. The hill is approximately 8,000 meters west of 23d's position at Chipyeong-ni and about the same distance from 9th Regiment's position to the southeast.

Barron, *High Tide*, 118 and 124.

**FM 3-0, Chapter 2, Capabilities, and Training
and Chapter 6, Large-Scale Defensive Operations
&
FM 3-96 Brigade Combat Team, October 2015**

FM 3-0, Intelligence: 2-209. In order to produce intelligence, units must continuously execute aggressive information collection activities.

FM 3-0, Defending Encircled: 6-216. Commanders position security elements as far forward as possible to reestablish contact with the enemy and provide early warning. **Vigorous patrolling begins immediately.**

FM 3-96, Reconnaissance and Security Operations: 4-2, BCTs conduct reconnaissance and security operations through combined arms from scout and infantry squad through BCT subordinate cavalry squadron and maneuver battalion. By employing reconnaissance and security forces, in the context of the mission variables of mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available, time available, and civil considerations (METT-TC), the BCT commander can fight, collect, and exploit information and develop the situation against a broad range of threats. The resulting tactical effects of these combined arms provide the BCT commander with tactical depth, freedom to maneuver, and flexibility... as well as identify and develop opportunities to seize, retain, and exploit the initiative.

Evaluate Col Freeman's decision to conduct aggressive patrols.

What did he accomplish in terms of: tactical depth, freedom to maneuver, flexibility, and in the development of opportunities to seize, retain, and exploit the initiative?

- a. The CCF's ability to establish supply sites near the perimeter to support artillery and mortar fire against the American position delayed by several days.
- b. Also delayed the CCF ability to collect intelligence on the defensive perimeter.

- c. Baker Battery, 503d Field Artillery Battalion (Six towed 155-mm howitzers – African American Unit) joined the perimeter on the 12th.
- d. Provided time for the 5th Cavalry to organize a relief effort (planning began on the 12th and arrived the night of the 14th).

VISUAL 7B: THE Regimental Situation the evening of 11 February [PPT builds IAW discussion]

1. At the same time as the 23d Infantry conducted aggress patrolling around Chipyeong-ni, the X Corps continued to attack toward Hongch' on as part of Operation Roundup.
 - a. The 23d IN continued with the mission to protect the Corps left flank at Chipyeong-ni
 - b. By the 11th the 5th and 8th ROK Divisions were in the vicinity of Hongch' on.
 - c. The 2d US Division followed in support at was in the vicinity of Hoengsong.
1. The evening of 11 Feb, the entire 23d RCT was inside the Chipyeong-ni perimeter.
2. Also that day Baker Battery, 503d Field Artillery Battalion (African American Unit) entered the perimeter and joined the defense.
 - a. Six towed 155-mm howitzers.
 - b. Freeman emplaced it near a battery of the 37th Field Artillery Battalion at the southern edge of the perimeter.
3. During the 3d BN's ordeal, other local patrols identified that the CCF was closing the ring around Chipyeong-ni.
 - a. Air and ground patrols reported a large enemy formation with 1200 hundred horses only six miles north of Chipyeong-ni.
 - b. Division reported several thousand CCF with pack animals and howitzers seven miles west of the perimeter.
4. Early morning 12 February (0215), the 23d RCT received word that CCF and NKPA units had initiated a massive counter attack near Hongch' on (approximately 20 miles NE of Chipyeong-ni) and that the X Corps and ROK III had been hard hit. –

Actual message: *From Div: 3d Bn 38th Inf being attacked from North & West. 21st ROK coming down to the South hit a roadblock and are in a mess. Don't know results. They have wounded. 21st ROK is falling back 2000 yds. 23d ROK Regt also falling back thru 187 RCT. Higher HQ putting out the order to 9th Inf to be prepared on 3 hrs notice to assemble at YOJU. A similar order is given to the 38th Inf to assemble at WONJU. They might be two reason for this order, to support us or to establish blocking psn along line*

MUNMANG-NI to HUNGHO-RI. This is a warning order (from the 23d Regiment AAR in CSI files).

5. The WO was very significant. 1/9th IN currently on Hill 444 and if they pulled back the gap between 23d RCT and X Corps could be as much as 12 miles.
6. General Almond (X Corps), General Ruffner (2d Division), and Colonel Freeman (23d RCT) all wanted the 23d RCT to withdraw from Chip'yong-ni.
7. COL Freeman canceled all major patrols scheduled for 12 Feb, and made preparations to withdraw to the south.
8. However, General Ridgway directed that the position be held to block or delay Chinese access to the nearby Han River Valley.
9. An enemy advance down the east bank of the Han would threaten the positions of the IX and I Corps west of the river.
10. Ridgway believed, the 5,000 defenders of Chip'yong-ni would quickly become the focus of Chinese attention.

Instructor Note: The next stand covers the Battle of Hoengsong

ANALYSIS

ACCEPT PRUDENT RISK: 2-24. Commanders accept prudent risk when making decisions because uncertainty exists in all military operations. Prudent risk is a deliberate exposure to potential injury or loss when the commander judges the outcome in terms of mission accomplishment as worth the cost (ADP 6-0). Opportunities come with risks. The willingness to accept prudent risk is often the key to exposing enemy weaknesses.

Evaluate Ridgway's decision to hold Chip'yong-ni IAW today's doctrine of "Prudent Risk."

Stand 8: The Battle of Hoengsong

VISUALS

Visual
8A: THE BATTLE FOR HOENGSONG, 11-13 FEB 1951
8B: SUPPORT FORCES AND TEAMS
8C: WITHDRAWAL TO SAEMAL, 11-12 FEB 1951
8D: DEFENSE OF SAEMAL, 12 FEB 1951
8E: SAEMAL TO HOENGSONG, 12-13 FEB 1951

ORIENTATION

Orientation. [Using Visual 8A] Chipyong-ni is center on the west side of the map. Hoengsong is about center on the map - about 20 miles east of Chipyong-ni.

Virtual View: No virtual for Stand 8

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 8B: SUPPORT FORCES AND TEAMS [No PPT builds]

1. Almond's Support Forces and Support Teams.
 - a. Operation Roundup called for two ROK Divisions in X Corps to advance on Hongchon while the ROK III Corps moved forward in the east.
 - b. 2ID was tasked to provide supporting elements to the 8th ROK Division to improve the combat effectiveness of the ROK troops with additional direct support artillery, infantry, and tanks.
 - c. Support Force 21 contained the 15th FA Battalion (105mm), A/503rd FA Battalion (155mm), 82nd AAA Automatic Weapons Battalion, and 1-38 IN. The 15th's commander, LTC Keith, has overall command.

- d. Support Team A was K/9 IN reinforced with a tank platoon.
- e. Support Team B was L/38 IN, also reinforced with a tank platoon.
- 2. All three elements were under the operational control (OPCON) of the 8th ROK Division.
- 3. Support Force/Support Team Missions.
 - a. The support force provided direct support artillery fires to the ROK Division and coordinated all fires within the division area of operations. The AAA and infantry elements provided local security for the support force.
 - b. Support teams provided support directly to ROK Regiments.

VISUAL 8C: WITHDRAWAL TO SAEMAL, 11-12 FEB 1951

- 1. On 11 February, a massive Chinese and North Korean counter-attack punched through the front lines of the ROK Divisions.
- 2. The 2d Division support forces found themselves caught up in a fight to survive as the ROK divisions retreated to the south.
- 3. Disposition of support force and teams.
 - a. Support Team A was 2 miles west of Saemal on Route 2 at Chowon-ni.
 - b. Support Team B was on Route 29 two miles behind the 21st ROK Regiment.
 - c. Support Force 21 was located at Changbong-ni.
- 4. 3-38 IN secured the intersection of Route 29 and Route 2 at Saemal.
- 5. The 21st ROK Regiment was struggling to hold hill 930, which overlooked Support Force 21's position in Changbong-ni. They were counterattacked around 2130.
 - a. About an hour later, Support Team B, which had been supporting the 21st, joined up with Support Force 21 at Changbong-ni.
 - b. Communications with 8th ROK Division stopped around 0100. The attacking Chinese divisions had overrun the regimental CPs and cut the lines.
 - c. LTC Keith, in command of Support Force 21, ordered a withdrawal of about 3 miles to the south after it was certain the 21st ROK could not hold Hill 930. Elements of the 21st ROK began streaming through their area.
 - d. Enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire started engaging 0230.

- e. Communications with X Corps were finally reestablished around 0245, and LTC Keith received permission to withdraw.
 - f. By 0300 the column started moving south, but was forced to conduct a fighting withdrawal.
 - g. At 0400, the lead element was not more than a mile south of its original position, and was ambushed by heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from Hill 275.
 - h. LTC Keleher, commander of 1-38 IN, ordered the artillerymen to engage targets with direct fire, then deployed two of his companies to attack the ambush sites. After firing on targets 100-500 yards away, the infantry start their attack around 0645.
 - i. By 0800, the ambush sites were eliminated, and the column resumed movement.
 - j. It was attacked again at 0900 on a concrete bridge just north of Haktam-ni. Again, Keleher sends his companies to attack the ambush sites.
 - i. It was obvious that Haktam-ni was no longer tenable as an alternate position. Support Force 21 continued its movement and linked up with 3-38 IN between 1030-1100.
6. Initially, Support Force 21 thought they had reached relative safety in Saemal with 3-38 IN, but after destroying the 8th ROK Division, the Chinese shifted their focus to cutting off their American support units.

Vignette: CPT Leonard Lowry, commander of C/38 IN, described the toughest portion of the fight to clear the east side of the road near Hill 275:

Company C was ordered to attack down the left of the road, clearing the high ground, and Company B was to attack on the right in an attempt to remove the roadblock. The time of the attack was to be 0645. During the time the convoy was halted, four guns of the 15th Field Artillery had dropped their trails and were firing white phosphorus rounds point-blank at enemy positions to the left of the road and on the high ridges at an estimated range of 400-500 yards.

At 0645 the fire was lifted, and Company C jumped off in attack to the left with two platoons abreast – the 1st Platoon on the right and the 2d on the left. The 3d platoon was in support near the road. Visibility was poor, due partially to the haze created by

the artillery fire. The advance was slow up the steep terrain, and when the platoons reached to within twenty-five yards of the crest, they came under small arms, heavy machine gun, and grenade fire. The 2d Platoon eliminated one machine gun when Corporal Wall threw a hand grenade, forgot to pull the pin, and hit the gunner on the head, knocking him unconscious.

The Line : Combat in Korea, January-February 1951, edited by William T. Bowers, University Press of Kentucky, 2015. ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.lumen.cgscarl.com/lib/carl-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1915442>.

VISUAL 8D: DEFENSE OF SAEMAL [PPT IAW discussion]

1. Just before dawn, 3-38 IN was also engaged by the Chinese at Saemal.
 - a. Their first indication that the ROK Divisions were breaking was the sudden presence of Support Team A at 0130, which had been to their west on Route 2 near the 16th ROK Regiment.
 - b. A checkpoint is established at the road intersection in town to try and collect the retreating ROK soldiers and reorganize them.
 - c. First visual contact with advancing CCF was at 0200 towards the west.
 - d. Artillery fires were requested on that area, but the 8th ROK Division commander was reluctant to clear the fires while his unit retreated.
2. By 0300 they were aware of Support Force 21's withdrawal, and 30 minutes later 3-38 was in direct fire contact on their northern perimeter from hill 333. KMAC advisors started to arrive and authorized the use of the marginally reorganized ROK troops collected at the road junction.
3. At 0500, indirect fire from medium caliber mortars engaged the battalion. A few moments later, the CCF were reported to have established a road block south of the 3-38 perimeter.
4. Two hours later, two company CPs were in direct fire contact and overrun, and Support Force 21 communicated their intention to link up, and a combined arms patrol of tanks and infantry from Hoengsong engaged 400 Chinese at the road block, inflicting 200-300 casualties.
5. In spite of this heavy contact, the 3-38 IN continues to hold its position and defend its perimeter. Around 0900, elements of Support Force 21 and Support Team B that had

escaped the ambush at Haktam-ni joined them. Artillery pieces were emplaced and began supporting fires on hills to the east, south, and west.

6. In spite of the extra help, however, division ordered 3-38 IN to defend in place and allow Support Force 21 to withdraw into Hoengsong.

Vignette: The intensity of the fighting around 3-38 IN is best described the Medal of Honor citation for SGT. Charles R. Long of Company M:

Sgt. Long, a member of Company M, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against an armed enemy of the United Nations. When Company M, in a defensive perimeter on Hill 300, was viciously attacked by a numerically superior hostile force at approximately 0300 hours and ordered to withdraw, Sgt. Long, a forward observer for the mortar platoon, voluntarily remained at his post to provide cover by directing mortar fires on the enemy. Maintaining radio contact with his platoon, Sgt. Long coolly directed accurate mortar fire on the advancing foe. He continued firing his carbine and throwing hand grenades until his position was surrounded and he was mortally wounded. Sgt. Long's inspirational, valorous action halted the onslaught, exacted a heavy toll of enemy casualties, and enabled his company to withdraw, reorganize, counterattack, and regain the hill strongpoint.

Wikipedia contributors, "Charles R. Long," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Charles_R._Long&oldid=796608475 (accessed March 21, 2018).

VISUAL 8E: SAEMAL TO HOENGSONG, 12-13 FEB 1951 [PPT builds IAW discussion]

1. When fighting began that morning, COL John Coughlin, the 38th Infantry's commander requested control of his 1st Battalion from X Corps' Support Force 21. Control was returned at 1100, but Coughlin could not spare any forces to support them.
2. When Support Force 21 arrived in 3-38 IN's perimeter, it created dangerous congestion in an area already under heavy fire. 1-38 IN originally focused on securing the 15th FA Battalion as it emplaced to support their sister battalion, but then received their orders to withdraw into Hoengsong.
3. LTC Keleher ordered his battalion to attack south along the Hoengsong road, but needed time to consolidate and reorganize its battered companies. 1-38 IN started movement around 1230.
 - a. Attacks are stalled from intense enemy contact on both sides of the road.

- b. After progressing only a short distance, ammunition was running low, and 1-38 IN began employing the accompanying artillerymen and ROK soldiers, but their performance was inconsistent and in many cases ineffectual.
 - c. To support the withdrawal, X Corps ordered a reserve battalion of the 3rd ROK Division with its support team from the G/187 Airborne Infantry Regiment and a tank platoon to move north from Hoengsong at 1400.
4. At 1430, MG Almond returned 3-38 IN to COL Coughlin after consulting with LTG Ridgeway. He ordered 3-38 IN to withdraw from Saemal and link up with 1-38 IN to make a coordinated attack to open the road for all American forces to withdraw into Hoengsong.
- a. At 1600, LTC Maixner's 3rd Battalion received its orders from regiment. He contacted LTC Keleher, and they coordinated the attack.
 - b. At 1745 X Corps attached the ROKs and G/187 IN to 38 IN. COL Coughlin provides his Tank Company commander to lead it, but finds it returning to Hoengsong. It is reorganized and turned around at 1830.
 - c. Several attempts are made to reach the other retreating battalions, and successfully link up between 2000 and 2100. Heavy fighting continues through the night as they make their way south into Hoengsong.
 - d. A jackknifed howitzer and prime mover cause a dangerous delay and forces many other vehicles to be abandoned. The enemy are able to isolate and engage portions of the column in the confusion, and parts of the column break off into small groups to reach Hoengsong.
 - e. At about 2200, the first elements of 1-38 IN and 3-38 IN finally pass through the perimeter of the Dutch Battalion defending Hoengsong. Elements from the adjacent 7 ID also start to pass through the town in retreat.

Vignette: 1LT Gardner, who took command of A/38 IN during this part of the battle, described his experience with trying to get the artillerymen and ROK soldiers to join the fight:

At this point I again found the area swarming with ROK troops who would not fight; with the help of my first sergeant, I put some of them in position by beating them and by forcing them at gunpoint. I located the regimental commander of the 21st ROK Regiment and told him forcefully to get control of his cowardly soldiers and get them to fighting. He tried but was unsuccessful, because he could find not subordinate officers.

I walked up the column and organized them [the artillerymen] into groups, sending them up to the skirmish line and up to our west, where there was a fight going on on the hill. Some of them actually went where I sent them, and gave a good account of themselves; but most of them only moved to a more secluded area, and cowered some more, waiting for the enemy to come and get them; and hoping that one of the officers wouldn't find them and make them fight (real, red-blooded, American soldiers).

The artillery troops were relegated to four categories: the panicky (15 percent), the lazy and indifferent (20 percent), the let-the-infantry-do-it slackers (40 percent), and the brave (25 percent).

The Line : Combat in Korea, January-February 1951, edited by William T. Bowers, University Press of Kentucky, 2015. ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.lumen.cgsccarl.com/lib/carl-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1915442>.

5. Hoengsong and the Dutch Battalion.

- a. The Dutch Battalion consisted of two rifle companies, a heavy weapons company, and its headquarters group. Their perimeter formed an arc on high ground about 2100 yards north, northeast, and east of Hoengsong adjacent to the 38 IN's and 8th ROK Division's command posts.
- b. The Dutch were in heavy contact with the Chinese by noon earlier in the day, and shifted one rifle company to a supplementary position to oppose their advance. Their task was to defend the approaches and road junction in Hoengsong at all costs until friendly forces cleared the town.
- c. The first elements to reach them passed through around 2200, and by 2300 the last elements finished breaking through to 38 IN. However, as they had done earlier near Haktam-ni, established a road block on the Wonju road.
- d. The Dutch become the rear guard as UN forces withdraw from Hoengsong to new defensive positions north of Wonju.

6. Cost of the Battle of Hoengsong.

- a. Total losses to 2ID were:
- b. 1769 total casualties. (Of the 765 men in 1-38 IN, 489 were casualties)

- c. 1 battalion commander wounded (15th FA Battalion) and 1 battalion commander mortally wounded (Dutch Battalion).
- d. 20 artillery pieces
- e. 6 tanks
- f. 280 other vehicles

ANALYSIS

1. MG Almond's task organization for the attack on Hoengsong required a great deal of cooperation between multinational elements. What was he trying to achieve? Was 2ID successful in meeting the commander's intent?
2. Critique the choice for command of Support Force 21. Was it a reasonable choice? Evaluate the factors that might have led to this decision.
3. How much time was consumed making the command and support relationship changes at the operational level to allow 2ID the conditions to successfully evacuate 38 IN? Are there ways to reduce the amount of time?

Opinions of the artillery (when acting as infantry) and the ROK infantry are negative during the retreat from Saemal to Hoengsong. Is the criticism justified or not? What might be done to improve their performance under those condition?

STAND 9: The Battle of Chipyong-ni

VISUALS

Visual
Visual 9A (4E): 23 rd RCT Perimeter
Visual 9B: Chinese attacks 13-14 FEB
Visual 9C: Chinese attacks 14-15 FEB
Visual 9D: TF Crombez and Relief, 15 FEB

ORIENTATION

Virtual View: Move to the center of Chipyong-ni.

Orientation. Currently located at the center of Chipyong-ni. As discussed earlier the village sits in a bowl and is surrounded by high ground.

DESCRIPTION

Virtual View: IAW the discussion look to the cardinal direction mentioned.

VISUAL 9A: CALM BEFORE THE STORM (11-13 FEB) [No PPT builds]

1. 23rd RCT Mission.
 - a. Task: Defend vic Chipyong-ni
 - b. Purpose:
 - (1) Deny enemy use of the road net.
 - (2) Hold the left flank of line 2-2 until 3rd ROK DIV (X Corps Reserve) can deploy and attack to the north.
2. 12 February.
 - a. During the day aerial observers reported “major movements” around Chipyong-ni.
 - (1) 155mm howitzers engage CCF artillery and pack trains north of the town.
 - (2) Patrols return with Chinese prisoners; interrogation identifies elements of 5 Chinese divisions in the area.

- b. Except for minor probing night attacks, there are few engagements with the Chinese.
3. Daylight - 13 February.
- a. COL Freeman holds a meeting with his commanders.
 - (1) He tells them “that the regiment was probably surrounded but that he intended to stay and fight it out.”
 - (2) CPT Bickford Sawyer, Easy Company’s commander, remembers “*When Colonel Freeman said at Chipyeong, ‘We’re surrounded, but we’ll stay here and fight it out,’ we supported him with enthusiasm. There was never a doubt in our minds. We knew we were going to succeed.*”
 - b. The last replacements from division arrive before the fighting starts.
 - (1) LTC Edwards personally briefed his “new men not to leave their positions until ordered out.”
 - (2) Vignette: Private Seymour Harris, 2-23 RCT:

Again it is bitterly cold. The snow creaks loudly underfoot. Even the tree limbs crack and make strange noises. The word is out. Tonight we will have 100% alert. Tonight is the night. There is no place to run, no place to pull back to. Our backs are to the wall. Colonel Freeman and Lieutenant Colonel Edwards have checked and rechecked our positions. They have personally checked fields of fire and made corrections where necessary.

Jesus I am praying. Not for my life but for the guts it will take to see me through this. I pray that I will not let anybody down. That I will be able to do what I came here to do...

Suddenly off to the southeast I hear automatic weapons fire. I do not recognize what kind of weapon that is firing...I see the tracers arcing through the night sky and hear the sound of bugles and shepherds’ horns.
 - c. The Chinese use flares to mark the perimeter destinations for the attacking units.

Analysis
<p style="text-align: center;">ADRP 6-22, Army Leadership FM 3-0, Chapter 2, Capabilities and Training</p>
<p>ADRP 6-22, Leading with Confidence in Adverse Conditions: 6-68. A leader who projects confidence is an inspiration to followers. Subordinates will follow leaders who are comfortable with their own abilities and will question the leader who shows doubt.</p> <p>FM 3-0, Leadership: 2-110. <i>Leadership</i> is the process of influencing people by providing purpose, direction and motivation to accomplish missions and improve the organization (ADP 6-22). Leadership is the multiplying and unifying element of combat power. Confident, competent, and informed leadership intensifies the effectiveness of all other elements of</p>

combat power by formulating sound operational ideas and assuring discipline and motivation in the force. Good leaders are the catalyst for success.

Evaluate Captain Bickford's (Easy Company Commander) statement: "When Colonel Freeman said at Chipyeong-ni, 'We're surrounded, but we'll stay here and fight it out,' we supported him with enthusiasm. There was never a doubt in our minds. We knew we were going to succeed."

Note: Captain Bickford's statement could also be discussion as one the six fundamental principles of Mission command - build a cohesive teams through mutual trust.

Analysis

FM 3-0, Chapter 2, Capabilities and Training

Civil Affairs Operations: 2-159. CA operations are actions planned, executed, and assessed by CA forces that enhance awareness of and manage the interaction with the civil component of the operational environment; identify and mitigate underlying causes of instability within civil society; or involve the application of functional specialty skills normally the responsibility of civil government.

There is very little documentation concerning the fate of the civilian population of Chip'yong-ni during the siege. **Nevertheless, what civil affair challenges does the commander defending a built up area need to contend with?**

Virtual View 8B: Initially from the center of Chipyeong-ni looking to the north.

VISUAL 9B: THE FIRST NIGHT AND DAY (13-14 FEB) Excerpt from Billy Mossman's, *Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951*, 285-285. **[PPT builds IAW the discussion]**

1. All day on the 13th Freeman kept enemy formations approaching his position under artillery fire and air attacks. Against the probability that the Chinese would attack after dark and the possibility that they would penetrate his position, he meanwhile marked out a second ring of defenses inside his perimeter to be manned at nightfall by Company B of the 2d Engineers and by battalion and regimental headquarters troops.
2. Since his main supply route appeared about to be cut, he requested that a resupply of food, ammunition, and signal and medical items be airdropped on the 14th.

3. Distance signal flares went up around Chip'yong-ni late in the afternoon and in the evening. After dark, men of the 1st Battalion on the north sighted a line of torches about two miles out and watched the bearers maintain their line despite artillery and mortar fire as they brought the torches south within a half mile of the perimeter.
4. Just after 2200 machine gun and mortar fire struck Company C astride Route 24 in the valley and on the western nose of the ridge.
5. Enemy artillery fire joined the bombardment, striking Freeman's heavy mortars, artillery, and regimental command post as well as the outer perimeter.
6. A cacophony of whistle, horn, and bugle blasts preceded an attack on Company C about 2330. The discordant signals later sounded all around the perimeter and were followed by attacks on Company G in the south, at two points in the French sector on the west.

Virtual View: Move to the Quad 50 overlooking the RR tunnel at E/2-23. The look at the RR tunnel opening.

7. At Easy Company's position (2 – 23IN) a platoon-sized enemy force emerged from the railroad tunnel, followed by a company-sized force.
 - a. The Chinese flounder in the barbed wire in front of Easy Company under relentless fire from mortars and crew-served weapons, ant-personnel mines, trip flares, and booby traps.
 - b. The Chinese attempt to make another attack from the tunnel, but it is halted when CPT Sawyer has a fougasse booby trap detonated in front of it.
 - c. The Chinese will not use the tunnel again.
 - d. The Chinese almost established a point of penetration in Easy Company's defensive line.
 - i. A half-dozen Chinese corpses were piled up in front of the gully between the 1st and 2nd platoons.
 - ii. They had pushed a Bangalore torpedo under the barbed wire, but were killed before they could detonate it.
 - e. This first attack subsides just after midnight.
8. Freeman's tight perimeter prevented the Chinese from fixing a position and flowing around its flanks.

Virtual View: Move to the G/2-23 IN sector and assume a ground hug in one of the defensive positions looking to the south.

9. Pushing frontal assaults against the wire and through heavy defensive fires, they managed one penetration in the Company G sector but were blunted by reinforcements from Company F and help from the regimental tank company.

Virtual View: Return to the center of the village and then look in the direction noted in the discussion.

10. Following a strong but failing effort against the 3d Battalion at 0630 and another against the French an hour later, the Chinese withdrew into the dominating heights around Chip'yong-ni.
11. By daybreak on the 14th Colonel Freeman's casualties numbered about a hundred. Freeman himself had suffered a leg wound from a mortar fragment. General Almond had X Corps
12. G-3 Col. John H. Chiles flown into Chip'yong-ni during the morning to take command, but Freeman, though he required hospitalization, refused immediate evacuation and remained in command.
13. High winds and enemy mortar and artillery fire striking the perimeter intermittently through the day inhibited and finally stopped the helicopter evacuation of other casualties. The poor flying weather also delayed close air support.
14. Three flights of fighters eventually arrived after 1430 and in combination with the combat team's mortars and artillery kept Chinese troops digging in on the surrounding high ground under fire.
15. Over a three-hour period starting around 1500, two dozen C-119s of the Far East Air Forces' Combat Cargo Command flying out of Japan dropped the supplies requested by Freeman the day before.
 - a. Logisticians in Japan didn't send what the 23rd RCT needed most.
 - i. Instead, they got water (which they had in the village)
 - ii. Gasoline (which they weren't consuming quickly because they weren't moving)
 - iii. Artillery ammunition (which they couldn't use at night because the Chinese were too close).
 - iv. No mortar ammunition was received, and all the small arms ammunition was delivered loose, not packed in clips needed for their M1 Garands.
 - b. Freeman, who is already furious about being relieved, berates General Almond for the bungled delivery and told him it ***"was his responsibility to ensure the beleaguered garrison received what it needed."***
 - c. Ammunition will have to be rationed to survive the second night.
16. The Chinese meanwhile opened no daylight assaults, but captives taken the previous night claimed the attack would be renewed after dark.
17. Four regiments appeared to have sent assault forces against the perimeter during the initial attack. Since these regiments represented four different divisions, the 115th, 119th,

120th, and 126th, and, in turn, three different armies, the 39th, 40th, and 42d, the renewal predicted by the prisoners might be considerably stronger than the first attack.

Analysis
FM 3-0, Chapter 2, Capabilities and Training and Chapter 6, Large-Scale Defensive Operations
<p>Sustainment: 2-233. The <i>sustainment warfighting function</i> is the related tasks and systems that provide support and services to ensure freedom of action, <u>extend operational reach, and prolong endurance.</u></p> <p>Logistics: 2-239. The availability of supplies and materiel to sustain tactical unit operations becomes critical to extend operational reach as large-scale combat operations progress. Operational reach is reduced when supplies fail to keep up with the demand of tactical units. Slow or limited resupply may require commanders to use controlled supply rates for various classes of supply to reduce unit expenditures. <u>When those controlled supply rates are not sufficient to continue operations, the force culminates.</u></p> <p>Other considerations:</p> <p>Logistics: 2-243. Establishing aerial resupply and forward logistics base camps may be necessary to sustain operations.</p> <p>Preparing for Sustainment in the Defense: 6-96. Subordinate brigades preparing their defense require significant quantities of barrier material and ammunition. The assistant chief of staff, logistics (G-4) ensures that the supporting sustainment brigade provides materiel in times and locations that expedite defensive preparations. Consumption of Class IV and V supplies in the defense is typically higher than in the offense.</p>
<p><u>In regards to the siege of Chip'yong-ni, evaluate the doctrinal statement, "When those controlled supply rates are not sufficient to continue operations, the force culminates."</u></p> <p><u>Why and how did the 23d RCT extend reach and prolong endurance?</u></p>

Virtual View: Initially a bird's-eye view from the center of the village looking toward E/2-23.

VISUAL 9C: CHINESE ATTACKS (14 - 15 FEB) Excerpt from Billy Mossman's, *Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951*, 285-285. **[PPT builds IAW the discussion below]**

1. The Chinese XIII Army Group commander clearly had chosen not to push southwest in strength through the gap but to concentrate on eliminating the Chip'yong-ni position. His

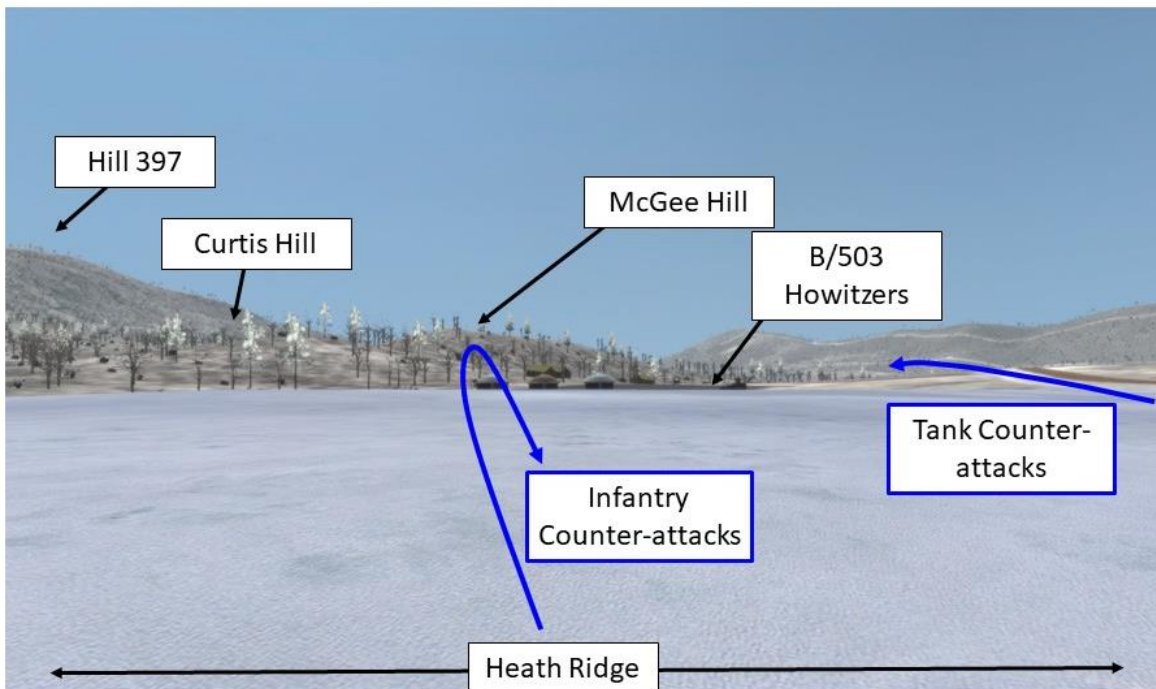
forces around the 23d Regimental Combat Team reopened their attack with mortar fire after dark on the 14th.

Virtual View: From the center of the village do a 360 degree look.

2. Near midnight both mortars and artillery began an hour-long barrage on the regimental command post and other installations inside the perimeter, and Chinese attacks hit all along the perimeter.
3. Sharp, close fighting in the 1st and 3d Battalion sectors abated around 0400 with no more than the temporary loss of one position by Company I and ceased altogether about daylight.

Virtual View: Move to the G/2-23 Sector.

4. A hard assault off Hill 397 to the south struck Company G. It was there that the Chinese had decided to make their main effort.
5. A persistent pressure slowly carried enemy troops through the Company G area.
 - a. At about 0200, weak counterattacks by artillerymen from Battery B, 503d Field Artillery Battalion, whose 155-mm. howitzers were in position close behind Company G, and by a squad drawn from Company F on line to the east failed to restore the breaks in the Company G line.



Virtual View: Move to the inter-visibility line just to the north of the howitzers.

- b. Around 0300 the company surrendered the rest of its position and withdrew to a rise just to the north of the 503d's howitzers (Heath Ridge). The artillerymen followed suit, as did tankers and antiaircraft gunners, and joined a continuing exchange of fire with Chinese holding the original Company G position. The defensive fire discouraged the Chinese from advancing on the artillery pieces, which rested in a hollow between the two firing lines.
6. Lt. Col. James W. Edwards, the 2d Battalion commander, organized a stronger counterattack, reinforcing Company G with a platoon of Company F, the total of his own reserve, and a platoon of Rangers obtained from regiment.
 - a. Attacking around 0300, the composite force regained part of the lost ground but then was driven back and heavy casualties.
 - b. Another attack at 0500 failed to restore the perimeter.
7. By daylight Company G occupied positions on a low ridge a quarter-mile behind the former Company G position, as did members of Battery B, 503d Field Artillery Battalion. The battery's guns remained near the center of the quarter-mile no-man's land.
8. Immediately west of Company G, French troops, who had attempted unsuccessfully to assist the counterattack, also pulled back to refuse the French battalion's left flank.

Virtual View: From the inter-visibility line just to the north of the howitzers. Represent attacking to regain the hill and then falling back.

VISUAL 9D: TF CROMBEZ AND RELIEF (15 FEB) Excerpt from Billy Mossman's, *Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951*, 285-285 and Excerpt from *CMH Pub 19-9, The Korean War – Restoring the Balance* (Center of Military History), 11-12. **[PPT builds IAW the discussion below]**

1. Colonel Freeman, who remained at Chip'yong-ni and in command until finally evacuated at midmorning on the 15th, released Company B and the remainder of the Ranger company around 0800 for a stronger effort.
2. This release committed all available troops save the company of engineers, although by that hour action elsewhere on the perimeter had ceased.
3. At 1000, behind a mortar barrage and supported by fire from tanks and antiaircraft weapons, Company B tried to retake the Company G position alone but was kept off the crest by fire from Chinese on the southern slopes where the preliminary and supporting fires had chased them.
4. Air strikes requested by Colonel Edwards during the morning began somewhat tardily at noon. Edwards meanwhile ordered tanks accompanied by Rangers south on Route 24A beyond the attack objective so the tank gunners could fire east onto the southern slopes.

- a. After mines previously placed on the road were removed and several Chinese armed with rocket launchers killed or driven off, Edwards' tanks reached a point on the road from where they could hit the Chinese.

Virtual View: From the inter-visibility line just to the north of the howitzers. Represent the US tank attack along the road and around the flank of the Chinese on the G Company Hill.

- b. About 1630, as the tank fire in combination with artillery fire and air strikes began to break up the Chinese position, Company B regained the rest of the objective. Almost at the same time, the head of a tank column came into view on Route 24A to the south. After a moment of surprise, Edwards' men realized the tanks were part of the 5th Cavalry relief force which had started toward Chip'yong-ni the day before.
5. Maj. Gen. Bryant E. Moore, the commander of the IX Corps, initiated the primary effort to relieve Chip'yong-ni on 14 February. That day, the 5th Cavalry, detached from the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division, was taken out of IX Corps reserve and assigned the relief mission.
 - a. For the task, the three infantry battalions of the 5th Cavalry were reinforced with two field artillery battalions, two tank companies, and a company each of combat engineers and medics.
 - b. Initially the relief force advanced rapidly, making half the twelve-mile distance to Chip'yong-ni from the main U.S. defensive line on the first day.
 - c. Enemy resistance, damaged bridges and roadblocks then slowed movement on the 15th.
 6. **Casualties at Chipyong-ni:** Excerpt from Billy Mossman's, *Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951*, 299-300.
 - a. Casualties inflicted on the Chinese by the 23d Regimental Combat Team, counted and estimated, totaled 4,946. Colonel Crombez judged that his task force inflicted over 500 more.
 - b. The perimeter troops also captured 79 Chinese who at interrogation identified five divisions from the 39th, 40th, and 42d Armies as having taken part in the attacks.
 - c. The attack force itself, however, appeared to have been no more than six regiments, one each from the 115th, 116th, 119th, and 120th Divisions and two from the 126th Division.
 - d. These six had not attacked in concert, nor had any of them thrown a full strength assault against the perimeter. Almost all attacks had been made by company-size forces, some followed by a succession of attacks of the same size in the same or nearby places.
 - e. This kind of successive small unit assault had permitted the Chinese to invest the Company G position on the southern arc of the perimeter.

7. **Ridgway's Assessment:** Excerpt from Billy Mossman's, *Ebb and Flow, November 1950-July 1951*, 300.

- a. As the battle of Chip'yong-ni climaxed, General Ridgway felt that the Eighth Army had reached a turning point, that it had substantially regained the confidence lost during the distressing withdrawals of December and early January.
- b. In his judgment, the successful defense of Chip'yong-ni by an isolated combat team without grievous losses against a force far superior in strength symbolized the revitalization.
- c. Task Force Crombez, in its relief role, epitomized the offensive spirit.
- d. With renewed spirit, as evidenced at Chip'yong-ni, Ridgway considered his forces quite capable of further offensive operations, which he immediately proceeded to design.

ANALYSIS

FM 3-0, Chapter 2, Capabilities, and Training:

Brigade Combat Teams: 2-68. Modular brigade combat teams are combat proven organizations with inherent capabilities that are well suited for the range of military operations in a multi-domain environment. A BCT is the Army's primary combined arms, close-combat force. BCTs maneuver against, close with, and destroy the enemy. BCTs seize and retain key terrain, exert constant pressure, and break the enemy's will to fight. They are the principal ground maneuver units of a division.

Evaluate whether or not the 23rd Regimental Combat Teams defense of Chipyong-ni sustains the doctrine stated in paragraph 2-68.

FM 3-0, Chapter 6, Large-Scale Defensive Operations
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Area Defense: 6-124. Ultimately, the mission of BCTs located within the MBA is to defeat the enemy attack or to destroy the attacking enemy force.

Evaluate the 23rd Infantry's defense in terms of the mission variables for a defensive operation.

- Availability of defensible terrain.
- Relative combat power of friendly and enemy forces.
- Sustainment status of the encircled force and its ability to be resupplied, including the ability to treat and evacuate wounded Soldiers.
- Morale and fighting capacity of the Soldiers.

Stand 10: The 2d IN DIV and the 3d Battle of Wonju

VISUALS

Visual
10A: Defending the Wonju Line
10B: Wonju, 13 Feb 1951
10C: Wonju, 14 Feb, 0345 -0655 1951
10D: Wonju, 14 Feb, 0730-1900 1951
10E: Wonju, 15 Feb 1851, 0235-0705
10F: Wonju, 14 (0830) -16 Feb 1951

ORIENTATION

Orientation: While the 23d Infantry Regiment fought to hold Chip'yong-ni (13-15 February), the remainder of the 2d Division fought near Wonju. (About 25 miles southeast of Chip'yong-ni)

Virtual View: No Virtual terrain for Stand 10.

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 10A: DEFENDING THE WONJU LINE [No PPT builds]

1. 2ID was ordered to hold Wonju at all costs.
2. On 13 February, the remnants of Support Forces 7 and 21, and the 38th Infantry Regiment established new defensive positions above Wonju.
3. Though General Ridgeway refused to allow the withdrawal of the 23rd RCT from Chip'yong-ni, and ordered General Almond to attack if the 23rd was cut off, Almond believed the main Chinese attack would be at Wonju.

4. Almond believed that Wonju's road hub, supply points, and landing strip are vital to any defense against Chinese attacks.
5. BG George Stewart, 2ID assistant division commander, is ordered to take command of all units in the immediate Wonju area and organize the defense.

VISUAL 10B: WONJU, 13 FEB 1951

1. Only a portion of the 2d Division defended Wonju
 - a. Only one of the division's three infantry regiments at Wonju.
 - i. 23d RCT with the attached French Bn at Chipyeong-ni
 - ii. The 9th Regiment was east of Wonju screening the division's right flank.
 - iii. The 38th Regiment was on the Wonju line.
 - b. The division had significant attachments.
 - i. 187th Regimental Combat Team
 - ii. 18 ROK Regiment
 - iii. Netherlands Battalion
2. The Wonju Line sits on the high ground about 3.5 kilometers north of the city.
 - a. The Dutch Battalion held the left, followed by 3-38 IN, and anchored on the right by two battalions from the 187th.
 - b. 2-187 IN is maintained as the defensive reserve.
 - c. 18th ROK Regiment holds blocking positions east of the highway, and ROK Rangers are in blocking positions west of the Dutch Battalion.
 - d. Defensive positions are established without disruption until the Feb 13, though consolidation and reorganization after the fight at Hoengsong was difficult.

VISUAL 10C: WONJU, 14 FEB, 0345 -0655 1951 [PPT IAW the discussion]

1. The Chinese attack, 14 Feb.
 - a. Liaison pilots were in the air at first light on the 14th.
 - b. The main attack is against K/3-38 IN at 0345, and a breakthrough is reported after an attack by "hundreds of Chinese".
 - c. I/3-38 IN reported high enemy activity, but no contact except for its OP on Hill 255 (which was forced to withdraw.)

- d. At 0540 the defenders heard digging on the high ground, which overlooked a gap between the 38th IN and 187th IN.
 - i. Artillery and mortar fire was immediately placed on the high ground.
 - ii. F/187 was ordered into the gap to close up the line between both regiments.
- e. By 0655, 3-38 IN was so battered that 2ID ordered its relief in place by 2-38 IN and re-tasked it with a reserve mission. It took 3-38 almost 5 hours to reach its new position near Manjong-ni.
- f. At 1414, the 38th IN is placed under the operational control of the 187th IN.
- g. An effective defense of the Wonju line will be accomplished mostly by the Dutch and the 187th RCT.

VISUAL 10D: WONJU, 14 FEB, 0730 – 1900, 1951 [PPT IAW the discussion]

- 1. The Dutch Battalion's defense of Hill 325.
 - a. The Dutch line was almost a mile long, which stretched the two companies on Hill 325 very thin.
 - b. Company B has its first visual contact with the Chinese at 0730. The haze allows the enemy to approach within 25 yards before they are seen.
 - i. Company B is repositioned 400 yards south, and the Chinese are suppressed in place by mortar and artillery fire.
 - ii. By 1235, the Chinese held the north side of Hill 325. Company A and reinforcements from F/38 IN are attempting to retake the top of hill.
 - iii. At 1747 Company A reported air strikes on the enemy positions, but ten minutes later the aircraft missed the Company's identification panels and engaged the Dutch troops.
 - iv. In spite of the effort, the Dutch could not hold Hill 325. They will remain in defensive positions on nearby Hill 200, three-quarters of a mile to the south.
- 2. At 1900 Company is ordered to make a second attempt on Hill 325. Its two small platoons are reinforced with a platoon from Company B, and a platoon from the weapons company. The adjacent F/38 IN is also strengthened with another platoon from 2-38 IN.

VISUAL 10E: WONJU, 15 FEB 1951 [PPT IAW the discussion]

1. The second attack starts on 15 Feb at 0235. Ineffective high angle fires prevent the force from making an advance. The darkness makes it difficult to identify targets.
2. The Forward Observers are repositioned at 0345. The high angle fires are effective this time, but the attackers moved no closer than 300 yards from the objective before three platoons are pinned down by machine gun fire.
3. Despite their exhaustion, a third attempt is made at 0555 to take advantage of the daylight. White phosphorus and HE rounds are employed against Hill 325. The Chinese begin running in all directions.
4. The fires are shifted to the reverse slope, and at 0705 bayonets dislodge the remaining enemy. After consolidating and reorganizing for a hasty defense of Hill 325, the Chinese make no counterattack.

VISUAL 10F: WONJU, 14-16 FEB 1951

1. The 187th RCT (Airborne) and Hill 255.
 - a. When the main attack was made against 3-38 IN, 2-187 IN was ordered to relieve them and restore the front line positions.
 - b. Company E was ordered to seize Hill 255.
 - i. At 0830, after receiving the orders, CPT Jack Shanahan of Company E started his attack.
 - ii. They first secure Hill 240 while 3-38 IN began its withdrawal.
 - iii. The Hill 240 position is organized and brings Hill 255 under fire 600 yards away at 1300.
 - iv. Mortars, artillery, and napalm are employed to dislodge the Chinese. An assault on the Hill is planned at 1430.
 - v. Heavy Chinese fire slows the two platoons making the attack. It takes three attempts to seize Hill 255.
 - c. Company G assumes the positions on Hill 240, and Company E consolidates its defense on Hill 255 with supporting high angle artillery fire and air strikes against the remaining enemy on the reverse slope.

- d. By 1800, Hill 255 is secure and the Chinese attempt to disengage. Mortar and artillery fires are employed against their disorganized retreat.

Vignette: Company E, 187th IN received the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions on Hill 255, as related by the 187th's Commander, BG Frank Bowen, Jr.:

In this attack on Hill 255, Company E pressed a relentless attack against an enemy who was numerically superior and had the advantage of prepared positions for defense. The unparalleled determination displayed by the company's repeated attacks on this objective in the face of such odds represents the most daring act performed in mass in this command. Bold, aggressive action coupled with great courage and a keen desire to close with the enemy and destroy him enabled Company E to rout this decisive number of the enemy, which was identified as elements of the 40th Chinese Division. Intelligence reports indicated that this Chinese division had the mission of seizing and holding Wonju at all costs. The unusually heavy casualties inflicted on the Chinese Communist Forces by Company E broke the back of their main effort to seize Wonju and dampened their enthusiasm for combat with our forces.

Bowers, William T., ed. 2015. *The Line : Combat in Korea, January-February 1951*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. Accessed April 25, 2018. ProQuest Ebook Central.

- e. The 9th IN relieves the 38th IN
 - f. On 15 February, 2-38 IN had also been exhausted holding near Hill 240, and 2ID ordered the 9th IN to relieve it in place.
 - g. 2-9 IN took over for 2-38 IN, and the 38th – though now with two battered battalions tasked to the reserve – was ordered to remain near Wonju.
2. Thru the remainder of the 16th, there was some skirmishes along the front, but contact lightened and faded out by the days end.
 - a. On the 18th, patrols reached out 8.0 km ahead of the lines before encountering a KPA and Chinese positions.
 - b. At first it appeared that the CCF and KPA had backed off to reorganize for new attacks; but it then determined to be part of a general withdrawal.
 3. Operations Killer

- a. With the enemy withdrawing, Ridgway immediately ordered an advance by the IX Corps, while the X Corps moved to destroy the Communist forces in the central sector.
- b. By the nineteenth the initiative had completely shifted back to the United Nations Command. The new offensive became formalized on 20 February as Operation KILLER. Ridgway hoped that the name would help encourage an offensive spirit in the Eighth Army.
- c. The IX, X, and ROK III Corps were directed north toward a new line about twelve to fifteen miles above the current front line.
- d. The operation was designed to enhance the damage to enemy forces and in practice proved methodical, often slowed by the spring thaw and heavy rains that swelled streams and turned roads into seas of mud.
- e. By 28 February all units had reached their KILLER objectives, in the process finally eliminating all enemy forces south of the Han River. Nevertheless, many enemy units escaped by withdrawing north under cover of inclement weather.

ANALYSIS

- 1. Much of the fighting along the Wonju line was accomplished by the Dutch Battalion and the 187th RCT – both units were attached to the 2nd Infantry Division. How does a major combat unit like the 2nd Division build a relationship with and make the attachments part of the team?
- 2. What was the operational significance of the successful defensive actions at Chipyeong-ni and Wonju?
- 3. Evaluate LTG Ridgway's decision to transition the 8th Army back to the offense after the successful defensive operations at Chipyeong-ni and Wonju.

STAND 11: UNC Resumes the Offense

VISUALS

Visual
11: UNC Resumes the Offense and Stalemate on the 38th Parallel

ORIENTATION

Virtual View: None

No orientation

DESCRIPTION

VISUAL 11 PART A: FEBRUARY – APRIL 1951 [The PPT builds on Visual are IAW the discussion below.]

1. The 23rd Regiment's successful defense at Chipyeong-ni along with the 2d Division's defense of the Wonju line broke the back of the Chinese offense.
2. All along the line UNC troops resumed offensive action.
3. On 14 March I Corps recaptured Seoul, and by mid-April Ridgway's forces had reached 'Line Utah', just inside North Korea.

VISUAL 11 PART B: COMMUNIST SPRING 1951 OFFENSES [The PPT builds on Visual are IAW the discussion below.]

1. The Chinese attempted to resume offensive operations in the spring, but the UNC forces held firm.
2. The UNC forces also defeated a Chinese Second Spring Offensive in mid-May.
3. The UNC ceased large scale offensive operations and fortified Line Wyoming with trenches, wire, mines and artillery.

4. **In June the USSR announced that they believed the war in Korea could be settled by negotiations.**

VISUAL 11 PART C: STALEMATE [The PPT builds on Visual are IAW the discussion below.]

1. **UNC, USSR, South and North Korea supported the negotiations. However, China believed the negotiations threaten their newly won image as a major world power.**
2. **In late August China broke off the negotiations.**
3. **Fighting resumed and included the battles of the Punchbowl, Bloody Ridge and Heartbreak Ridge.**
4. **At Heartbreak Ridge (13 Sept to 15 Oct):**
 - a. **The combat borne by the 9th and 23rd Infantry Regiments of the 2d Division, along with the attached French Battalion.**
 - b. **The division suffered 3,700 casualties.**
 - c. **Heartbreak Ridge was the UNC last major offense in the war and the last major combat action for the 23d Infantry in the Korean conflict.**
5. **China agreed to reopen negotiations on 25 Oct 1951.**
6. **Negotiations proceeded slowly with little progress. Most of the fighting limited patrols and outpost clashes.**
7. **Throughout January 1952, massive air and artillery strikes rained down on Chinese positions to inflict casualties and convince the Chinese to start serious negotiations.**
8. **Finally, on July 27 at 1000 in the city of Panmunjom all sides agreed to an armistice.**
9. **By the terms of the armistice, the line of demarcation between North and South Korea closely approximated the front line as it existed at the final hour and represented a relatively small adjustment of the prewar division.**
10. **Within three days of the signing of the armistice, each opposing force withdrew two kilometers from this line to establish a demilitarized zone.**

ANALYSIS

- A. **Why was the 2d Division able to successfully defend Wonju and Chipyeong-ni against overwhelming odds? - What can today's Army learn from the experience of the 2d Infantry Division at Wonju and Chipyeong-ni?**
 - B. **What can we learn from the relationship between the 23d Regiment and the French Battalion, and the 38th Regiment's relationship with the Dutch Battalion at Wonju?**
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