For Joint Chiefs of Staff, personal from MacArthur.

Reur JCS 90208, there is no question in my mind as to the feasibility of
the operation and I regard its chance of success as excellent. I go
further and believe that it represents the only hope of wresting the
initiative from the enemy and thereby presenting an opportunity for a
decisive blow. To do otherwise is to commit us to a war of indefinite
duration, of gradual attrition and of doubtful result, as the enemy
has potentialities of reinforcement and build-up which exceed those of
our own availability. Our stroke as planned would prevent any material
reinforcements and build-up of the enemy in the present combat zone. The
situation within the perimeter is not critical. It is possible that there
may be some contraction and defense positions have been selected for this
contingency. There is no slightest possibility, however, of our force
being ejected from the Asan beachhead. The envelopment from the north
will instantly relieve the pressure on the south perimeter and, indeed,
is the only way that this can be accomplished. In my opinion, to merely
commit in small progressive increments such reserves as I possess to the
strengthening of the defense of our perimeter line would jeopardize the
ultimate result of the war and would certainly immeasurably increase the
time, the casualties, the cost and the effort involved. The success of
the enveloping movement from the north does not depend upon the rapid
juncture of the X Corps and the Eighth Army. The seizure of the heart
of the enemy's distributing system in the Seoul area will completely
dislocate the logistical supply of his forces now operating in South
Korea and therefore will ultimately result in their disintegration. This,
indeed, is the primary purpose of the movement. Caught between our northern
and our southern forces, both of which are completely self-sustaining
because of our absolute air and naval supremacy, the enemy cannot fail to
be ultimately shattered through disruption of his logistical support and our
combined combat activities. The prompt junction of our two forces, while it
would be dramatically symbolic of the complete collapse of the enemy, is not
a vital part of the operation. For the reasons stated, there are no material
changes under contemplation in the operation as planned and reported to you.
The embarkation of the troops and the preliminary air and naval preparations
are proceeding according to schedule. I repeat that I and all of my commanders
and staff officers, without exception, are enthusiastic for and confident of
the success of the enveloping operation.

OFFICIAL:
K. B. BUSH
Brigadier General, USA
Adjutant General