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DATE 6 Jun 71

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND

OUTGOING MESSAGE

SGS JMH/re

8 September 1950

080521

FROM: CINCFC TOKYO JAPAN
TO: DA WASH DC OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE
NR: C 62423

^{7 Sent}
Reur JCS 90908, For Joint Chiefs of Staff, personal from MacArthur. 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 Pusan 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

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