



**WELCOME
BACK!**

To Our Returned Comrades-in-Arms:

It is with the deepest relief and joy that I welcome you back.

Throughout the long months of your imprisonment, throughout the times we knew were grim and painful, you were much in our minds and hearts. No less so are you now that you are where at last we can express our sentiments through care and assistance.

For your loved ones, your freedom is the fulfillment of fervent prayers. No one appreciates more than I do how eager and impatient they are to have you restored to them. I assure you and I assure them that it is my resolute intention to have you back home, in good health and in good spirits, just as fast as possible.

Because of the heavy personal sacrifices you have made in our great cause, we are humble in your presence. I am confident you never will have reason to doubt that those sacrifices have our respect and gratitude.

Mark W. Clark

MARK W. CLARK
General, United States Army

HERE'S WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU NOW!

Everything will be done to get you home as quickly as possible. But in your best interests a certain amount of processing is necessary.

Most of you will depart for home aboard a ship within a short time after arrival at a South Korean port.

In Korea . . .

Preliminary processing may require anywhere from a few hours to two days.

1. The state of your health will be determined.
2. Various forms must be accomplished.
3. Your next-of-kin will be notified.

4. A security certificate outlining your responsibility on unauthorized disclosure of your experiences will be accomplished.

5. You will be transported to a designated port for evacuation to your home or to Japan.

6. Your pay and service records will be brought up to date.

Aboard Ship . . .

The trip home will take between 15 and 18 days depending upon the port from which you leave. In any event, you will travel home **First Class**.

A Few To Japan . . .

Only those individuals who require immediate and continuing active medical treatment will be sent to hospitals in Japan. When these people are cleared by the doctors they will be sent home. We assure you that there will be no unnecessary delay in getting you on your way.

HERE'S WHAT HAS HAPPENED WHILE YOU'VE BEEN GONE

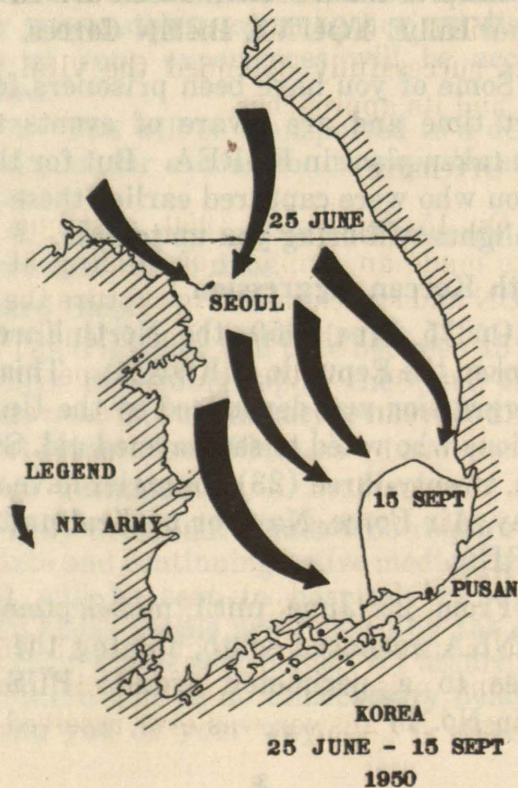
Some of you have been prisoners for a short time and are aware of events that have taken place in KOREA. But for those of you who were captured earlier these few highlights will bring you up to date.

North Korean Aggression

On 25 June 1950, the North Koreans attacked the Republic of KOREA. This act of aggression was denounced by the United Nations who voted to send armed aid. Since then, twenty-three (23) countries have sent Army, Air Force, Navy or medical units to KOREA.

From 25 June until mid-September, the NKA advanced south, forcing the UN forces to a perimeter around PUSAN. (Map No. 1)

MAP NO. 1

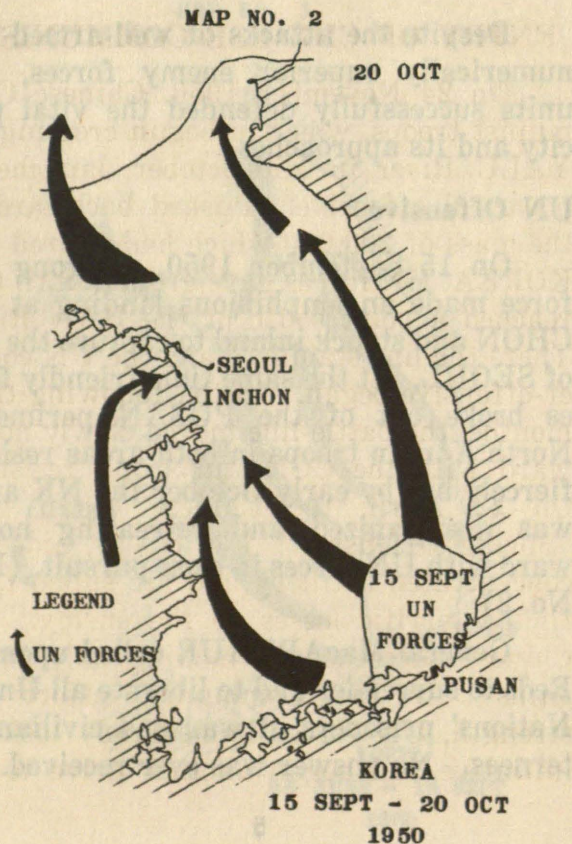


Despite the attacks of well-armed and numerically superior enemy forces, UN units successfully defended the vital port city and its approaches.

UN Offensive

On 15 September 1950, a strong UN force made an amphibious landing at IN-CHON and struck inland to capture the city of SEOUL. At the same time friendly forces broke out of the PUSAN perimeter. North Korean troops in both areas resisted fiercely but by early October the NK army was disorganized and retreating northward with UN forces in close pursuit. (Map No. 2)

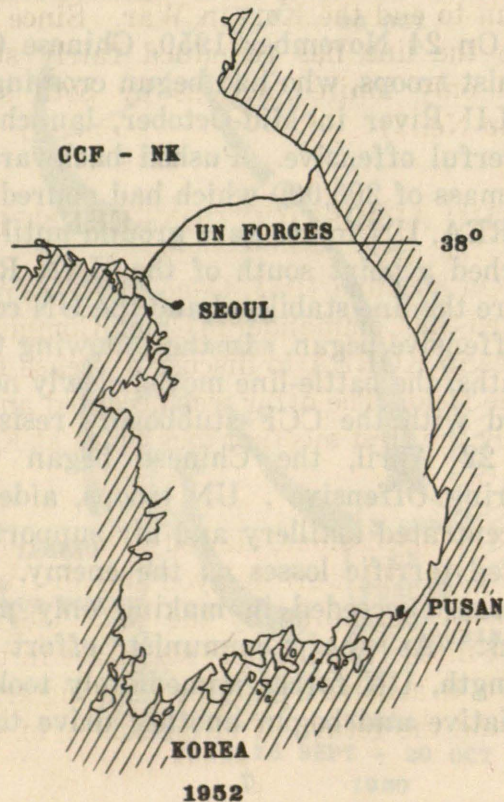
General MacARTHUR called upon the Reds to surrender and to liberate all United Nations' prisoners of war and civilian internees. No answer was ever received.



ENTRY OF CHINESE COMMUNISTS

On 24 November 1950, Chinese Communist troops, who had begun crossing the YALU River in Mid-October, launched a powerful offensive. Pushed backward by the mass of 200,000 which had poured into KOREA, UN forces gave ground until they reached a point south of the HAN River. There the line stabilized and the UN counter-offensive began. In the following three months, the battle-line moved slowly northward with the CCF stubbornly resisting. On 22 April, the Chinese began their "Spring Offensive". UN troops, aided by concentrated artillery and air support, inflicted terrific losses on the enemy. The Chinese succeeded in making only minor gains. As the Communist effort lost strength, UN forces immediately took the initiative and began another drive to the

MAP NO. 3



north. This lasted until negotiations were begun to end the Korean War. Since that time the line has remained fairly stable with only limited actions by both sides. (Map No. 3)

THE ARMISTICE CONFERENCE

On 30 June 1951, General RIDGWAY invited the Commander in Chief, Communist forces in KOREA to discuss a "cease fire" in the field. The offer was accepted and on 8 July the first meeting took place at KAE-SONG.

The discussions, viewed so hopefully by the free world, were delayed and obstructed from the beginning by the Red delegates. The United Nations held steadfast in their efforts to achieve a plan for a lasting armistice and the return of all prisoners of war.

Throughout the early negotiations, the Communists created difficulties over the use of Kaesong as a site, and repeatedly stalled the conferences by charges—mostly false—of “violations” of the Kaesong zone. The disputes were finally settled by the selection of a new, and smaller, site at Panmunjom where, in October of 1951, the talks were resumed.

The negotiations were finally broken off, on October 8, 1952, when it became apparent that the Communists would not modify their stand on the prisoner of war issue—the only remaining issue that blocked an armistice agreement.

The first attempt at an Armistice in Korea failed because the Communists demanded repatriation by force, if necessary,

of over 100,000 PWs in UNC custody, regardless of the wishes of the individual, even though 50,000 were unwilling to return to their homes. It has always been the policy of the United States to give asylum to those seeking its protection. In the circumstances, we could not forcibly return to certain vengeance by the Communists these prisoners of war and still maintain faith with the free world.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Your role in the Korean War—both as a combat soldier and as a prisoner of the enemy—is ended. However, you still have and will continue to have one important responsibility. Your return is an important event and everyone is interested in finding out what happened to you. Various people may contact you and ask questions—either

for the press or out of curiosity. In talking to people, safeguard military information. Protect your fellow soldier, your family and your country.

Don't disclose military information to unauthorized persons.

During the period of your internment many new developments and changes have taken place at home with which you are unfamiliar. To fill in the gaps and bring you up-to-date, various periodicals, films and other informational material have been made available for your use.

We also know you have many questions that you want answered. To that end the personnel and facilities of this command are at your service.

