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KOREA

1. US troops attacking on south flank near Chinju--Fresh US troops are counterattacking along the extreme left flank near Chinju in an effort to halt the North Koreans, who are only 40 miles from the key port city of Pusan. UN forces also advanced slightly north of Yongdok on the east coast, but the enemy retained the initiative at all other points along the defense perimeter. In the central sector, UN forces withdrew slightly under heavy enemy pressure. UN aircraft flew 425 sorties during the past 24 hours (the largest total of the war) and reported the destruction of 6 enemy tanks, 45 trucks, 1 bridge, and other military equipment and targets. Two air raids caused heavy damage in Hangnam, North Korea, where the three major industrial-chemical plants of Korea are located. One plant is the largest explosive producer on the Asiatic mainland; the second is one of the largest chemical fertilizer and synthetic ammonia plants in the world; and the third manufactures industrial chemicals, including chlorine, caustic soda, and calcium carbide.

A refugee from Seoul reports that all persons between the ages of 17 and 30 have been mobilized for support of the North Korean military effort. The men have been assigned to haul supplies to the battle areas while the women prepare food for the troops and repair roads. The Communist radio in Pyongyang recently announced the arrival of volunteer Hungarian and Bulgarian medical groups, which are apparently scheduled to serve with North Korean troops.

ISRAEL

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