

ENTRIES IN THE 15TH INFANTRY S2/S3 JOURNAL FROM 31 MAY TO 30 JUNE, 1953



Photo by James Jarboe, June 15th 1953

A RECORD OF EVENTS DURING THE DEFENSE OF OUTPOST HARRY



Outpost Harry Survivors Association

Outpost Harry was located in what was commonly referred to as the "Iron Triangle" in Korea. This was an area approximately 60 miles north of Seoul and was on the most direct route to the South Korean capital for the CCF. Outpost Harry was located 425 yards northeast of MLR and contained trenches deep enough to walk in. It was fortified with reinforced bunkers and could accommodate from approximately 150 up to about 180 fighting men.

Thirty-nine years later, 11 veterans from around the country decided to hold a reunion at Fort Stewart GA to honor of the Outpost Harry Siege. It was decided at that time to meet yearly around the anniversary date of June 10th to commemorate those that defended and preserved the outpost and to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Thus the Outpost Harry Survivors Association was established. Since that first reunion meeting, The Outpost Harry Survivors Association has grown to over 250 members.

There was never a safe time to be on Outpost Harry. The Greeks had a name for it and it was called "Death Place". If you served on Harry, you knew that was true. We invite you to share our Outpost Harry web site (www.ophsa.org) in honor of all that served and put their lives on the line to preserve it against overwhelming enemy numbers.

Our motto is, "**WE HELD**"

And indeed we did!

Acknowledgements:

The material in this journal was provided by OPHSA member Bob Baker and covers events which occurred during the defense of Outpost Harry during the period from 31 May to 30 June 1953.

EXCERPTS FROM 15th INFANTRY S2/S3 JOURNAL

31 MAY to 30 JUNE 1953

31 MAY

- 2036 - P Company patrol departed MLR - Thomas
- 2116 - P Company ambush patrol in position - Economopolis
- 2325 - 5 CCF engaged GEF LP in a 10 minute small arms, automatic weapons firefight with enemy disengaging and withdrawing. Results were 2 friendly WIAs and no estimate on enemy casualties - Pappas

1 JUNE

- 0315 - P Company patrol closes MLR - Yanakopolis
- 2105 - P Company patrol departed MLR - Thanos
- 2134 - P Company ambush patrol in position - Economopolis
- 2327 - P Company patrol engaged 30-35 CCF in small arms fire fight. After 20 minutes, enemy disengaged and friendlies withdrew, regrouped and resupplied with ammo and returned to screen battle site. Casualties: Friendly, 1 WIA
Enemy, est 4 KIAs, 5 WIAs - Pappas

2 JUNE

- 0340 - Ambush patrol closed MLR - Yanakopolis
- 2055 - P Company ambush patrol left MLR - Hallis
- 2132 - Ambush patrol in position - Hallis

3 JUNE

- 0340 - Ambush patrol closed MLR. Negative enemy contact. - Yanakopolis
- 2125 - Ambush patrol in position - Economopolis

5 JUNE

- 0350 - Ambush patrol closed MLR. Negative contact.
- 1545 - K Company, 15th Infantry Regiment relieves F Company, 65th Infantry Regiment on OP Harry.
- 2055 - P Company ambush patrol crossed LD - Thanos
- 2115 - Ambush patrol in position - Thanos

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

6 JUNE

- 0250 - K Company reports mortar round on OP Harry
- 0410 - P Company ambush patrol returned to MLR. Negative contact.
- 0430 - PVT Wilson evacuated to 3rd Clear Station after slight wound on OP Harry - mortar fragments.
- 1740 - Heavy Mortar Company, 5th RCT comes under operational control of 15th Infantry.
- 2048 - P Company patrol departed MLR - Hallis
- 2228 - OP Harry reports 4 yellow parachute flares to the right of OP.
- 2240 - OP Harry reports 1 yellow parachute flare to left of North Star.
- 2345 - P Company ambush patrol engaged an estimated reinforced enemy company in a 2 hour, 45 minute SA, AW, and hand grenade fire fight. At 0230 enemy withdrew. One wounded PW was captured but died while being evacuated to the MLR. An estimated 100 rounds of enemy mortar fell in vicinity of patrol during period. Friendly casualties: 3 KIA and 6 WIA. Enemy casualties were 1 counted KIA, 19 estimated KIA and 32 estimated WIA.

7 JUNE

- 0040 - OP Harry reported hearing someone cutting wire to their right. Fired 1 illum flare, saw movement. Fired 2nd flare with negative results.
- 0110 - OP Harry reported sighted small arms fire firing down Happy Valley from Star Mass into Greek sector.
- 0130 - OP Harry reported 5 white parachute flares at azimuth 328 degrees, 3500 yards.
- 0510 - OP Harry sighted 9 CCF on Star. Artillery fired. Est 5 KIA

8 JUNE

- 2140 - OP Harry rptd illuminating HG fired on road leading from OP Harry to MLR. Are now investigating.
- 2232 - OP Harry rptd sighting of illum HG over in Happy Valley.

9 JUNE

- 0045 - OP Harry heard noises, fired flares, no enemy sighted.
- 0145 - OP Harry reported trip flare set off 300 yards north of Harry, negative sightings.
- 0350 - P Company ambush patrol closed MLR. Negative contact.
- 0505 - OP Harry sighted 10 CCF in trench on Star. Artillery fired. Results unknown.
- 0545 - Tank Company spotted 1 CCF on Star Hill. Tanks fired. Results 1 KIA.
- 0930 - OP Harry reports 2 CCF observers at CT 518417.
- 1550 - OP Harry - Friendly air strike at CT 505425. 2 planes.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 2035 - Air liaison officer from 5th RCT, LT. Nix, reported to 15th Inf CP.
- 2045 - OP Harry sighted 20 CCF to their left moving south. 15 CCF moving down from Hill 412 toward Harry. Arty notified.
- 2050 - OP Harry reported 3 CCF moving south from Star Hill. Arty notified.
- 2100 - P Company ambush patrol on position.
- 2140 - OP Harry reports receiving mortar fire from draw behind Hill 412. Arty LNO took azimuth of flashes and notified FDC

10 JUNE

- 0125 - OP Harry rpts SA fire fight to left of OP Dick
- 0140 - OP Harry rpts MG firing from Star to Happy Valley
- 0155 - Company N patrol from GEF receiving small arms and mortar fire.
- 0155 - OP Harry rpts mortar fire from behind Star Hill.
- 0221 - OP Harry fired flare to left front with negative results.
- 0235 - OP Harry rpts mortar flashes at 1600 mils and vicinity Bunker Hill
- 0445 - OP Harry rpts hearing small arms fire vicinity of Hill 412.
- 0520 - COL Kouminakas of GEF rpts screening patrol left of OP Dick found 7 CCF bodies in creek bed, 2 bodies returned to OP Dick. Patrol drew fire from CCF group who appeared to be trying to recover the bodies.
- 0537 - (Twilight Zone) LT Thomas Martin and SGT Alvis Lenwood, 39th FAB observers on OP Charlie observed a luminous round object, which appeared to be spinning. Angle of site, 290 mils, az 4800 and later, at az 6052, object stopped for about 5 seconds, est range 10000 yards. Another similar object sighted from 0120 to 0123, az 4600 at a higher altitude than first sighting. Information and names given to G3 and forwarded to 8th Army at their request.
- 0720 - Pappas rpts at 0130 N Company, OP Dick and P Company ambush patrol began receiving long range AW fire from Old Charlie, right finger of Hill 472, North Star and Star Hill. Enemy arty and mixed mortar fell in the same areas. At 0200 reinforced LP vic CT486428 was attacked by est 40 enemy employed SA, AW and HG fire. Friendly LP returned fire in kind and was supported by arty and mixed mortars. Fire fight lasted until enemy withdrew at 0230. Enemy did not break protective wire around LP at any time during this action. Friendly casualties: ambush patrol 2 WIA, LP 1 KIA, 2 WIA. Enemy casualties during attack on reinf LP: Counted killed 5, est KIA 6, est WIA 15. Between 0130 and 0230, est 750 rounds of enemy mixed mortars and arty fell on Company O, OP Dick and ambush patrol area.
- 1855 - OP Harry rpts 20 CCF carrying supplies, 2 carrying bodies, ordered arty

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 1930 - OP Harry rpts 2 CCF in trench, az 27, CT 516435.
- 1930 - GEF Thanos: 43 CCF vic CT 505429. Arty fired.
- 1940 - 10 CCF moving between Mushroom toward OP Harry. Unknown number moving between North Star and Star. Arty placed. Unknown results.
- 2027 - OP Harry sighted 20 CCF on Henry also 5 CCF on Hill 412. Arty notified.
- 2100 - At 2054, yellow parachute flare on forward portion of OP Harry. 2056 yellow parachute flare by Star.
- 2100 - OP Harry spotted movement and light to be a cigarette on Star.
- 2120 - OP Harry saw yellow parachute flare over Hill 412.
- 2115 - OP Harry sighted 20 CCF moving from Star down to the valley on right of Star
- 2145 - Land line (telephone) from OP Harry and radio land line to CO, Company L is out.
- 2156 - Harry hears voices to their supply point.
- 2216 - Blue 6 (CO, 3rd Bn) rptd 6 rounds per minute of mortar and arty coming in on Harry and I Company. Harry reports 3 WIA, LP pulled in.
- 2212 - Harry reports rifle fire on right front of OP
- 2217 - OP Harry requests illumination. Illum fired
- 2221 - OP Harry requests protective fire to left front.
- 2229 - OP Harry - land line is out. Harry reports a fire fight developing behind OP.
- 2222 - L Company patrol receiving small arms fire from Harry. At 2225 Harry ordered to cease fire. CCF believed to be vicinity CT 513419.
- 2230 - 81mm firing front barrage for Harry
- 2233 - I Company reports burp gun fire to right of OP Harry
- 2235 - OP Harry requested defensive fires except on right. Land lines to Harry, I Company and L Company are out. COL Akers requested flare ship.
- 2245 - Lt Lipett reported CCF in trench on Harry. Final protective fires fired. Harry requests continuous illumination.
- 2246 - Hvy arty and mortar shelling on MLR and OP Harry. CCF in trenches on Harry. OP Harry requests VT fire on position. Arty on way.
- 2250 - Reinforcement on the way to Harry. HQ composite company. 70 men.
- 2255 - All protective fire except right rear of OP Harry being fired.
- 2302 - Counter mortar fire requested by Harry.
- 2306 - CCF out of the trenches on Harry
- 2309 - Harry contacted by radio, no land line yet.
- 2313 - Harry requests more ammo and continuous illum.
- 2320 - Land line to Spartan (GEF) out.
- 2325 - Harry reports incoming slackened. Told that friendly arty is on the way.
- 2328 - OP Harry being attacked on left front and right flank.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 2330 - GEF reports heavy shelling on MLR and OP Dick. N and O Companies receiving long range AW and SA fire.
- 2334 - Tank and inf moving out from L Company toward Harry.
- 2345 - Harry requests slow fire on left front.
- 2358 - Harry reports CCF in trenches and swarming position.
- 2400 - CCF attacking Harry. CCF on top of Harry.

11 June

- 0002 - C Company committed to counterattack on order of Blue 6.
- 0006 - MG fire coming from North Star toward Harry. All available fire put on North Star.
- 0008 - Firefight has shifted into valley at right of Harry. Flare ship dropping flares over Harry.
- 0013 - M Company 81mm observer rptd situation on Harry is "touch and go."
- 0016 - Harry reports Chinese still on OP.
- 0017 - 1st Bn, 15th Infantry has moved to assembly area behind 3rd Bn. COL Akers has ordered Rotary Red (1st Bn 5th RCT) to Bn reserve area.
- 0045 - E Company in trenches on Harry. Request lifting of defensive fires.
- 0046 - All fires placed in front of Harry.
- 0100 - Land line to Company K reestablished. K reports all quiet except one quad 50, which is firing in support of OP Harry, is receiving 5 rounds of arty or mortar per minute.
- 0125 - OP Harry reports that tanks are returning to MLR.
- 0134 - 81mm FO pinned down by enemy fire inside bunker. He has no contact with K Company on Harry.
- 0135 - B and C Companies moving into position in forward assembly area. E Company on Harry. Chinese forward toward Star Hill.
- 0156 - OP Harry reports HE on right side of OP.
- 0200 - FDF on Harry lifted; all other fire shifted to Star.
- 0206 - At 2130 P Company ambush patrol engaged est 100 CCF in long range SA, Arty, mortar and HG fire. At 2225 patrol withdrew and action ceased.
- 0210 - Harry still receiving mtr and arty fire; OP is densely smoked.
- 0213 - FDF called in on Harry. All available weapons being fired at max.
- 0216 - Bn aid station reports 32 WIA, 3 KIA
- 0225 - L Company requests 2 guides for C Company who wish to be shown the way to OP Harry. 2 men dispatched.
- 0236 - M 39s instructed to return to tank cut and shuttle C Company personnel to OP.
- 0256 - E Company reports receiving 76mm fire.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 0300 - Still receiving burp gun fire on left side of Harry. Firing defensive fires. 50 WIA (one was LT Pheiner) and 3 KIA removed through 3rd Bn aid station.
- 0305 - 1 MG firing from rear slope of Harry toward Mushroom.
- 0315 - SA fire from left rear slope of Harry to right forward slope. 55 gal drum of [napalm](#) set off on right rear slope.
- 0321 - CCF attacking from north and northwest.
- 0340 - Capt Fee (15th Inf S-3) requests G 3 for air strike at first light - Star Mass to be target. Fire fight has ceased on Harry.
- 0345 - Easy Company requests more ammo.
- 0417 - L Company rpts air panels sent to Harry. C Company departed for Harry.
- 0440 - Mortar observer on OP Harry has been uncovered by friendly troops. Observer, Robinson, 5th RCT Hvy Mtr Co, had relayed reports of situation back to orange by radio all during the action while CCF surrounded his bunker.
- 0500 - Friendly troops on right slope of Harry, Enemy being forced back.
- 0555 - [Capt. Markley](#) recovered barely alive. Pvt Kiskey escaped over side of Harry. Came back to MLR in valley right of Harry.
- 0630 - Est 150 CCF attacking Harry from northwest.
- 0650 - All PW on OP Harry being evacuated. 2 PW in good shape.
- 0654 - Air strike requested for Star Mass.
- 0709 - Documents identify enemy as 24 Army, 221 Div, 211 Regt, 5 Bn.
- 0728 - Red smoke to right of Harry
- 0730 - Air strike on its way. 1st plane made passes between Star Mass and Hill 478.
- 0731 - 2nd air strike directly in front of Harry and on Star Mass.
- 0734 - Planes are striking rear slope of Harry and Star Mass.
- 0747 - 150 CCF to left front of Star. Arty notified.
- 0753 - Report received that Harry is rebuilding its positions.
- 0800 - VT placed on Star Mass. Fee reports only 4 bunkers remaining on Harry.
- 0801 - OP Harry land line is in.
- 0807 - Steady stream of wounded being evac from Harry. Hasty fortifications being built on left forward slope.
- 0845 - Mtr and arty is subsiding on Harry. Visibility is improving. No CCF in sight.
- 0920 - Helicopter returning with wounded
- 0955 - Sighted 5 CCF escaping from Harry.
- 1100 - Elements of E, C, and K Companies on Harry
- 2000 - B/5th RCT departs assembly area for Hill 312.
- 2122 - A Company/5th RCT came under fire as they crossed a pontoon bridge on 3D. No casualties.
- 2115 - B/15th departs MLR to relieve OP Harry

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 2145 - B/5th RCT on Hill 361.
- 2200 - B/1 5th on Harry but not yet in position.
- 2230 - B/5th RCT is attached to 1st Bn, 15th Infantry.
- 2300 - B/15th in position on Harry.
- 2315 - Harry reports an unknown number of CCF moving from Star Mass toward OP.
Arty placed.
- 2330 - 1st Bn, 5th RCT closed new assy area at CT495388.

Capt. George Fee, 15 th Infantry S 3, summarized the night of 10 11 June as follows:

"At 2230 an estimated enemy company attacked OP Harry.

At 2245 CCF were in the trenches engaged in close combat with elements of K Company. Heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire was following on the OP and the MLR.

At 2250 Headquarters composite company, 3rd Battalion was on the way to reinforce the outpost.

At 2305 the CCF were out of the trenches of Harry.

At 2400 the CCF started their second attack on OP Harry, having been reported in the trenches once again.

At 0045 E Company reinforced K Company on OP Harry. The enemy was driven off and OP Harry remained secure.

At 0002 C Company was committed to counterattack on order of 3rd Bn CO.

At 0319 the CCF attacked OP Harry for the third time. The action ceased at 0340 with friendly still holding OP Harry.

At 0415 1st, 2nd and 3rd Platoons of C Company closed OP Harry and reinforced elements of K and E Companies.

At 0630 the CCF attacked OP Harry with a force estimated at 150 men. The attack was repulsed and at 0845 it was reported that there were no CCF on OP Harry.

It is estimated that the enemy force involved in attacks on OP Harry was a reinforced regiment. During the period a total of 22, 729 rounds of mixed mortar and artillery fire fell across the regimental front."

12 JUNE

- 0005 - Harry reports receiving a barrage of mixed mortar and artillery.
- 0008 - Orange (Hvy Mtr Co/5th RCT) reports all defensive fires being fired around Harry. CCF reported approaching Harry.
- 0013 - Radio contact out with Harry.
- 0015 - MG firing from Star Hill at Harry.
- 0030 - CCF overrunning right rear slope of Harry. Hvy mortar barrage on top of OP.
- 0037 - OP Harry rpts many wounded and requests immediate help.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 0040 - P Fox rpts CCF on OP Harry and Harry requests immediate help.
- 0042 - OP Harry requests litter jeep. 4 WIA from incoming rounds.
- 0045 - OP Harry requests all defensive fires. CCF are approaching from all directions.
- 0046 - Harry reports many incoming WP (white phosphorus) rounds.
- 0053 - Outpost George reports MG fire from Harry towards our own MLR.
- 0057 - COL Akers ordered B/5th RCT to move from 361 to OP Harry. C/5th RCT relieves Company B on Hill 361.
- 0110 - All communication with Harry out.
- 0113 - 4.2 FDC has reestablished commo with Harry.
- 0132 - 2 more squads of B/15th depart for Harry.
- 0140 - Harry rpts CCF coming up right slope.
- 0140 - Friendlies now control rear of Harry OP is notified that friendly forces are coming up rear of OP and friendly tanks are in the valley to the right.
- 0155 - Flare ship made first drop and will continue to do so until daylight.
- 0147 - OP George rpts direct radio commo with OP Harry and that OP is requesting fires on front slopes.
- 0201 - Bn has had no contact with Harry since 0140.
- 0215 - Mortar FO on Harry reports heavy incoming.
- 0216 - FO has no contact with forward elements on Harry. Friendlies still hold rear.
- 0245 - Orange radio picked up one word from Harry, "Arena"
- 0255 - B/5th RCT crossed MLR for Harry.
- 0256 - OP Harry reports direct fire weapon firing on Harry from Mushroom. Requests tank fire on it and on Star.
- 0302 - 1st Bn has radio contact with B/5th RCT
- 0307 - OP Harry reports CCF believed to be in area again.
- 0326 - Orange reports that the man on the radio is in a bunker, rear slope. He's hurt and can't get out. Men with him are hurt.
- 0428 - Reinforcements have reached the rear positions on Harry.
- 0458 - Capt Tarts rpts by radio from Harry that he has commo with rear group. He has no contact with forward group. No idea of CCF on position. Incoming from direct weapons has Tarts' CP zeroed in and he can't get out of bunker. Capt Tarts is lightly wounded. Has 8 other wounded men with him.
- 0523 - Harry request maximum counterfire. Receiving heavy mortar on Capt Tarts' position. Tarts said he will be in serious condition unless an aid man reaches him soon.
- 0530 - Major Connors (Red 5) designated OP Harry commander; to coordinate with B/15th and B/5th RCT.

- 0615 - OP George rpts casualties being evacuated from Harry. Comparatively quiet at present.
- 0636 - M39 departed MLR with Major Connors and replacement radios.
- 0700 - Friendlies have full possession of OP Harry. Red 5 in command and consolidating position.
- 0743 - A/5th RCT departed for OP Harry.
- 0825 - All wounded have been evacuated from Harry. CCF bodies are now being evacuated.
- 0905 - Major Byrd will arrive at Harry to survey the damage for Division.
- 1045 - 5th RCT placed under operational control of the 15th Infantry.
- 1700 - Casualties for B Company, 5th RCT were 126 resulting from action on night 11-12 June. An estimated 9000 to 10,000 enemy artillery and mortar rounds fell on the outpost during the action.
- 1815 - A Company, 5th RCT passed to operational control of 3rd Bn, 15th Infantry Regiment.
- 2143 - 100 CCF sighted on front of Harry. SA fire in vicinity of OP. Company commander thru 4.2 FO requested FDF on front and west of Harry.
- 2145 - 2 white parachute flares in valley rear of Harry. MG fire from front of Harry. OP George reports 76 and mtr fire to left slope of Harry.
- 2149 - Final defensive fire being laid to left and front of Harry.
- 2153 - 100 CCF to front and 50 to right of Harry.
- 2217 - OP Harry and I Company receiving hvy mortar and arty fire. I Company says they are 120mm mortars. Enemy attack to left broken up by arty fire.
- 2247 - OP Harry receiving hvy 76 fire from front. OP Harry defensive fires shifted to Mushroom, Bunker Hill area on unknown position.
- 2256 - Harry requests more illumination. 1 WIA.
- 2301 - M39 on way to Harry to evacuate 2 serious WIAs.
- 2305 - Incoming rounds on Harry have decreased in intensity.
- 2308 - Harry reports 3 WIA. Situation OK. Request constant illumination.
- 2313 - OP Harry rpts supporting fire falling too close. Arty instructed to lift and shift fires. OP requests more illumination. 81s and 60s were instructed to fire immediate illumination.
- 2330 - Harry reports receiving 120mm mortar fire. No illumination at all on Harry.
- 2332 - A/5th RCT wants friendly arty lifted because they are getting friendly incoming rounds. Also want supporting fire on left and right.
- 2337 - Harry reports very poor visibility and very poor illumination.
- 2349 - Fire fight on front part of Harry.
- 2343 - Flare ship now dropping flares. FO in OP Fox adjusting ship.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

2358 - Heavy burp gun fire at OP's front.

2400 - SA and AW fire on Harry. Counterattacking on right front.

13 JUNE

0008 - CCF are jamming air waves on 81mm mortar frequency.

0015 - Harry reports increase in incoming arty.

0020 - Harry is smoked in. Cannot make out outline of Harry.

0025 - Harry reports flares still insufficient.

0030 - Action on Harry has slackened. Attack was driven off.

0032 - OP Harry rpts receiving MG fire from left front at range of 300 yards on Hill 478. Arty called in.

0040 - OP Harry, SA from the left rear. Arty being placed. 81s ordered to target left rear of Harry.

0050 - Incoming rounds on Harry increasing.

0059 - Harry reports a build up on their left flank.

0130 - Unknown number of CCF behind Harry. Requests flares.

0158 - OP Harry rpts heavy shelling. M Company rptd small arms fire left side of Harry.

0206 - Direction of the attack is from the front of Harry.

0212 - CCF 100 yds from the front of Harry. All available fires being placed.

0215 - Enemy attack on left flank of Harry. Are now in the trenches. Unknown number. Enemy troops on right flank. Reinforcement on way. Maximum illumination.

0223 - OP Harry rpts CCF in trenches in front sector. Request Arty barrage, increased illum. Under heavy barrage. Direct hit.

0230 - Second Platoon, Company L being dispatched to reinforce. Left side is critical. All support fires at maximum. M39 arrived at blue CP is dispatched to Harry.

0243 - Too much friendly fire in trenches. Continue with final protective fire. 3rd Platoon, A/5th RCT has arrived on Harry.

0249 - 1st and 3rd Platoons of L Company, 15th Infantry, have arrived in the trenches of Harry.

0255 - Harry requests more arty around right front and left front.

0301 - Moonbeam (searchlight) ordered to shift to Harry.

0302 - Flare ship is dropping flares. Is receiving anti aircraft fire from Hill 478. Harry requests more ammo. On the way.

0305 - Harry requests - add 300 yards on all concentrations.

0312 - 4th Platoon A/5th RCT ordered to move out across MLR at 0330.

0315 - 1 additional FO team has arrived on Harry.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 0325 - CCF on right, left and front of Harry. Trenches are being cleaned.
- 0328 - Harry requests have another group bring more ammo
- 0340 - Harry reports CCF still on the hill but exact whereabouts unknown.
- 0350 - Wounded man being debriefed states that at 0310 there were 200 CCFs on front slope and in the trenches. That friendly troops were pushing them out.
- 0352 - Forward trenches are secured. No CCF in them.
- 0358 - All counter battery and counter mortar fire is being fired on the right flank of Harry.
- 0420 - Firing outer protective fires for Harry to catch withdrawing CCF.
- 0425 - CCF are withdrawing to Star Hill and Star Ridge.
- 0450 - Harry requests reinforcements, medicine, litters, litter bearers and M39s.
- 0455 - Harry is getting heavy arty and mortar fire.
- 0458 - CCF attacking OP Harry
- 0501 - Harry requests immediate reinforcement. All weapons are in bad shape.
- 0505 - 1st Bn/5th RCT is alerted and ready to move out.
- 0515 - Cease fire, end of mission given by OP Harry
- 0625 - Everything is quiet on OP Harry.
- 0655 - One slightly wounded PW on way from Harry to Blue CP.
- 0756 - Two platoons from C Company, 5th RCT close on OP Harry.
- 0816 - Approximately 100 WIA had been processed by 3rd Bn aid station since 2400.
- 1300 - Estimated enemy force of one reinforced regiment attacked OP Harry during the night 12-13 June. Total incoming rounds about 14,000 mixed mortar and artillery.
- 2110 - OP George reports one trip flare set off to the left of OP Harry.
- 2139 - OP Harry requests illumination.
- 2150 - Fire fight on right side of Harry
- 2205 - OP Harry rpts receiving 76mm WP
- 2212 - Both moonbeams adjusted on Harry
- 2206 - OP Harry requests I litter bearer for I WIA. Litter bearer dispatched from A/5th RCT.
- 2213 - OP Harry receiving heavy shelling.
- 2219 - OP Harry reports friendly artillery landing in trenches.
- 2230 - Harry requests discontinue all concentrations except illumination.
- 2245 - Harry reports that AA behind OP is firing at flare ship.
- 2255 - Harry reports everything in good condition.
- 2257 - Harry receiving MG fire from the Pimple.
- 2310 - Blue Arty has ceased firing flares on Harry. 81s requested to fire a flare every 5 minutes.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

2340 - OP Harry requests maximum illumination. They sighted CCF on right.

14 JUNE

- 0010 - OP George rpts that Harry is getting short friendly VT rounds.
- 0020 - OP Harry is getting 120mm mortars from a back azimuth 6400.
- 0023 - Harry rpts short frdly arty still coming in.
- 0205 - OP Harry suspects CCF around position.
- 0220 - OP receiving SA fire from right. Request increased illumination and FPF fires be laid to left and front.
- 0255 - Est 75 CCF coming up left side of OP Harry.
- 0315 - A Company/ I 5th rptd seeing something moving up left rear of Harry. 81mm fire requested.
- 0405 - OP George rpts AW fire from left rear of Harry. Unable to determine position.
- 0435 - Harry reports bunker burning on left rear of OP
- 0500 - G/15th departed MLR for Harry
- 0505 - 2nd Bn/15 relieved by 1st Bn/15. 5th RCT assumed responsibility for left of battalion sector and OP Tom.
- 0745 - G Company relieves C/5th RCT on Harry.
- 2045 - Bn switchboard reports land line to OP Harry out. Commo accomplished through A Company.
- 2220 - Since 2050 there have been 3 casualties on Harry due to enemy mortar.

15 JUNE

- 0030 - Land line to OP Harry reestablished.
- 0125 - Harry reports CCF in trenches. Request FDF
- 0130 - E Company counterattack force is alerted to move out. Tanks order to move out immediately.
- 0135 - Main attack is on the right side of Harry.
- 0147 - Bunker burning on left rear of Harry. Requests more litter bearers immediately.
- 0151 - OP Harry requests all outer defensive fires.
- 0155 - Land line to Harry has been knocked out.
- 0159 - Small arms fire has almost stopped.
- 0210 - E Company departed MLR for counterattack.
- 0217 - 1st Platoon, 15th Tank Co arrived at Bn CP in preparation for counterattack.
- 0224 - Bn CO to A Company to remove mines from road leading to Harry.
- 0218 - OP Harry is receiving fire from Old Charlie
- 0227 - Major Dennison, 2nd Bn XO, directed to take command of OP.
- 0238 - Flares are too far to the left for Harry.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 0242 - There is still SA fire and hand to hand fighting on forward portion of hill.
- 0243 - George Company reports LT Walker, CO, wounded. LT Yomoshito assumed command. Flares are in right position but a little too high.
- 0245 - Bn S 1 I reports approx 20 casualties have arrived at forward aid station.
- 0249 - MAJ Thomas order commo personnel to relay land lines to OP Harry.
- 0252 - Tanks departed MLR
- 0315 - Easy Company is now on Harry.
- 0315 - Major Dennison departed MLR to organize and command hill. Still some sporadic SA fire from Hill.
- 0315 - Request from Harry to lift FPF, fire only outer ring of defensive fires.
- 0332 - Secondary explosion from burning bunker on OP
- 0345 - B/15th departed for 2nd Bn area for possible counterattack on Harry. Harry requests more litter bearers, have 10 casualties to be evacuated.
- 0350 - Major Dennison reports all CCF cleared from OP Harry and hill is secured. Requests medical assistance.
- 0400 - OP Harry requests counter mortar on Star and Bunker Hill and Counter battery on Mushroom and Henry hills.
- 0420 - It was estimated that 100 CCF were in night's action on Harry. 25 CCF KIA, no WIA estimate as yet.
- 0504 - MAJ Dennison requested a few fresh people to help in reorganization of OP Harry. Also requested KSCs (Korean laborers) be dispatched.
- 0525 - Land line to Harry reestablished.
- 0700 - Lead elements of G Company departed Harry.
- 1530 - Lead elements of A/15th Inf departed MLR to relieve E Company on Harry
- 1910 - A Company/15th completed relief of E Company/15th on OP Harry.
- 2225 - Harry requests illumination. Heard noises.

16 JUNE

- 0217 - OP Harry reports sighting of undetermined number of CCF moving northeast vic CT517429. Arty being placed.
- 0930 - P Company, GEF, completed relief of A Company on Harry.
- 0935 - GEF Battalion completes relief of 2nd Bn/15th Inf on MLR.
- 1945 - 35 to 40 CCF advancing in trench from Star Hill. Arty fired. Est 30 CCF casualties. There were 4 WIAs from incoming rounds: 1 GEF, 2 houseboys, and 1 sergeant from smoke generator team.
- 2258 - OP Harry heard noises vic CT509424. Flares fired. No enemy sightings reported.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

17 JUNE

- 1445 - 39th FA reports est 50 CCF in the trench line in front of OP Harry. Arty being placed.
- 1745 - GEF (Hallis) rptd 40 CCF in trench at CT519435. Arty fired. Est 6 KIA, 20 WIA
- 2140 - SGT Thanos reptd Harry receiving Arty and mortar fire for past hour.
- 2210 - SGT Thanos reptd OP Harry receiving direct fire around CP bunker and FO bunker.
- 2301 - OP Harry reports 40 CCF at CT506425. Arty notified. (This message was relayed by William Dannenmaier, author of *We Were Innocents: An Infantryman in Korea*)

18 JUNE

- 0028 - OP George reports estimated two enemy battalions attacking from NE and NW
- 0030 - SGT Thanos rpts unknown number of CCF moving south off Star Mass toward Harry. Requests final barrages.
- 0035 - OP Harry under heavy mortar and arty shelling. Company N 81s and 75s ordered to fire supporting. Flare ship on way.
- 0040 - CCF advancing up right slope of Harry
- 0050 - AW fire down left front and left rear of Harry
- 0100 - COL Koumanakos estimates CCF force attacking OP Harry at 2 battalions.
- 0116 - Bn OP reptd incoming arty rounds decreasing on Harry.
- 0150 - OP Harry requests continuous arty fire and continuous illumination.
- 0158 - LT Pappas rptd as of now no CCF actually on OP Harry, requests continuous illumination.
- 0205 - GEF Bn 6 (Koumanakos) states P Company has a great number of casualties. N Company is being committed.
- 0210 - Orange FO on OP Harry was under attack but enemy came only to within 10 yards of trench, maybe 1 or 2 got in trenches.
- 0218 - Harry rpts 100 150 CCF massing to right of CT5064425. (about 100 yards downslope of Harry) Mortars placed.
- 0238 - Spartan 6 repts 1 platoon of N Company has reached Harry. Asks for continuous illumination. Chinese have reached the barbed wire.
- 0240 - Pappas repts the Chinese are at HG range.
- 0245 - Spartan 6 (Koumanakos) Now is the most critical time. If we repel them, they will not have time to organize another attack. CCF attacking from North and right of Harry. Heavy arty and mtrs falling on Harry and MLR.
- 0313 - CCF in trenches on north nose of Harry. Hand to hand combat.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

- 0330 - N Comp now counterattacking on OP Harry. 1 platoon of N Company with tanks in valley. 2nd and 3rd Platoons of N Company on way to Harry.
- 0420 - LT Pappas rpts all CCF driven off OP Harry. OP is secure.
- 0600 - Spartan 6 estimated that 3 enemy bns attacked OP Harry during the night.
- 0700 - SGT Thanos, Est friendly casualties were 30 WIA and 6 KIA (incomplete)
- 0900 - Est enemy casualties for nights action on Harry was 120 KIA and 480 WIA
- 0910 - Friendly casualties for nights action were: GEF Bn 21 WIA, 4 KIA; US personnel 4 WIA, KATUSA, 3 WIA, KSC, 2 WIA
- 1500 - N Company completed relief of P Company on Harry and assumes responsibility for the mission.
- 1730 - P Company closed assy area vic Hill 312.
- 1800 - R Company completed relief of O Company in right company sector on MLR. 1 platoon of O Company attached to R Company. 2nd Platoon of O Company remained on MLR until daylight as counterattack force for Harry.
- 2130 - Hvy Mtr Co repts 8 CCF moving toward Harry. Mtrs fired with unknown results.

20 JUNE

- 0400 - 3rd Bn, 23rd Inf Regt completed relief of 5th RCT and passed to operational control of CO, 3rd Inf Div. 5th RCT moves to Chipori as part of the 8th Army reserve.

21 JUNE

- 0245 - French Bn, 23rd Inf Regt completed relief of 3rd Bn, 23rd Inf.
- 0300 - Responsibility for entire regimental sector passed to 23rd Inf
- 1700 - O Company completed relief of N Company on OP Harry,
- 1755 - OP Harry repts 3 GEF KIA, 2 GEF WIA, 2 KSC WIA and 1 American WIA resulting from incoming rounds.

22 JUNE

- 2005 - OP Harry rpts sighting 60 CCF moving south from Star Hill. Arty placed results 25 KIA, 15 WIA
- 2115 - OP Harry sighted 10 15 CCF on Star. Mortars and arty fired. Also illumination.
- 2145 - Undetermined number of CCF on right slope of Star. Flares and arty fired.

23 JUNE

- 0030 - OP Harry rpts hearing movement. Illum fired with negative results. At same time booby grenade went off at left front of Harry.

For an explanation of abbreviations, refer to the [Glossary on page 17](#).

25 JUNE 1953

- 16 -

2100 - GEF rpts that 50 CCF bodies have been buried since last action on Harry.

2250 - Harry rptd receiving approximately 15 rounds of 60mm mortar from vic CT507427.

0340 - OP Harry sighted 25 CCF vic CT508424. Mortars fired. 25 KIA.

25 JUNE

0045 - Hallis rpts 50 cal MG and SA fire at Harry from CT507425 (Star Hill)

1645 - Lt Pappas repts that N Company relieved O Company on OP Harry

1725 - OP Harry obsvd 2 CCF running in trench vic CT519436.

27 JUNE

2255 - Noises heard NE of Harry. Illumination fired with negative results.

28 JUNE

1145 - Flood Warning from G 2, One inch of rain fell during the night. Rivers are rising. If rivers continue to rise we will have flood conditions by tonight or tomorrow. More rain is forecast for today.

29 JUNE

1735 - O Company assumed responsibility for OP Harry. N Company returned to positions behind Hill 312, minus 1 platoon attached to R Company on the MLR.

30 JUNE

No references to OP Harry.

GLOSSARY

A

AA	Anti Aircraft
ammo	Ammunition
Arty	Artillery
AW	Automatic Weapon
az	Azimuth

B

Blue	Designation for 3rd Bn, 15th Inf Rgmt Command Post
Bn	Abbreviation for Battalion
Burp gun	A lightweight, portable submachine gun used by CCF. Bob Baker is shown at center holding a captured CCF Burp gun



C

Ca	Caliber
CAP	Captain (rank)
CCF	An acronym for Chinese Communist Forces
CO	Commanding Officer
COL	Colonel (rank)
Commo	Communication
CP	Command post

E

Est	Estimated
Evac	Evacuated

F

FAB	Field Artillery Battalion
FDF	Final Defensive Fire
Flank	Side
FPF	Final Protective Fire
FDC	Fire Direction Center (Artillery, Mortar)
FO	Forward Observer. A soldier who remotely directs fire for artillery, mortars, or other heavy weapons. Typically an FO is located on an outpost.
Frdly	Friendly

G

G3 Regimental Operations Office
GEF Greek Expeditionary Forces

H

HE High Explosive. A type of artillery or mortar round
HG Hand Grenade
Hvy Heavy. Usually applied to weapons, i.e. Heavy Mortar and Heavy Machine Gun

I

Illum Refers to illumination by flares or searchlight (Moonbeam)
inf Infantry

K

KIA Killed in action
KSC Korea Service Corps (Korean laborers)

L

LD Line of Departure
Land Line Voice telephone line
LP Listening Post

LT Lieutenant (rank)

M

M39 A tracked, armored, personnel carrier

MLR Main Line of Resistance

MG Machine gun

Moonbeam WWII anti aircraft arc searchlights used to illuminate the enemy. Think of deer, at night, caught in a car's headlights.

MTR Mortar

N

Napalm Gelled gasoline used as anti-personnel weapon

O

OP Outpost. A position ahead of the MLR used to observe enemy action and be the first line of defense. In the Korean war, OPs were given names. For example in the sector where OP Harry was located, there were three OPs named, from west to east, OP Tom, OP Dick and OP Harry.

P

Pvt. Private (rank)

PW Prisoner of War

Q

Quad 50 4 antiaircraft 50 caliber machine guns mounted on a half-track used to strafe attacking CCF

R

Red5 1st Bn, 15th Inf. CO
RCT Regimental Combat Team.
repts Reports

S

S1 Battalion Personnel Officer
S2 Battalion Intelligence Officer
SA Small Arm. An Infantry hand-carried weapon.
SGT Sergeant (rank)

V

vic Vicinity
VT Variable Time fused artillery shells which used radar technology to detonate at a predetermined distance from the target. Produced a precise air burst.

W

WIA Wounded in action

X

XO Executive Officer



Sunset on a War (Photo by James Jarboe near Kumsong, Korea July 27, 1953)