

23 JAN 68

Raiders Bjt 340

By K.C. HWANG

Associated Press Writer

22 JAN

SEOUL AP - A South Korean soldier was killed Monday night in one of several shooting encounters as a North Korean assassination team that invaded Seoul continued to elude pursuers.

The joint antiespionage operation headquarters said early today that none of the 25 armed Communists still at large had been killed or captured.

The 31-man team slipped into Seoul Sunday night with orders, a captured North Korean said, to kill President Chung Hee Park and other high officials.

The group killed one police officer and five civilians near Park's residence, and a sixth civilian wounded in the shooting died Monday.

Five of the Communist infiltrators were killed and one was captured by late Monday.

The South Korean Army said the government soldier was shot during a brief skirmish Monday night with an unknown number of gunmen on the northern outskirts of Seoul. South Korean military and police forces kept after the intruders.

North Korea's Radio Pyongyang claimed that the raiders were South Koreans who wanted to overthrow the president.

But the Seoul government held a news conference to exhibit the captured member of the band, who said he was 2nd Lt. Kim Shin-cho, 25, and that he and his 30 teammates were members of a specially trained Communist guerrilla force.

Kim said the team's "sole mission was to attack the Blue House the presidential mansion, kill President Chung Hee Park and shoot to death other key personnel."

He said the North Koreans each carried a revolver, a submachine gun and 300 rounds of ammunition, eight grenades and an antitank mine. They crossed the demilitarized zone in a sector guarded by the U.S. 2nd Infantry Division at 10 p.m. Thursday, cutting through a chain-link fence the Americans had built to deter sneak attacks, he said.

Kim said they moved on without difficulty until they came upon four woodcutters Friday afternoon. They threatened the woodcutters with a brutal reprisal if they informed South Korean or U.S. authorities. But after the raiders went on, the woodcutters did inform authorities, and a massive dragnet 1 \$

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Kim said they moved on without difficulty until they came upon four woodcutters Friday afternoon. They threatened the woodcutters with a brutal reprisal if they informed South Korean or U.S. authorities. But after the raiders went on, the woodcutters did inform authorities, and a massive dragnet was spread.

The guerrilla team was about half a mile from Park's residence when they encountered a checkpoint and a gunbattle broke out. The raid was one of the most daring Communist actions since the armistice ending the Korean War was signed in 1953.

A report by the U.N. Command to the Security Council shows a trend of escalation of such incidents. It listed 543 incidents of violence initiated by North Korea during the first 10 months of 1967 compared with 50 such incidents in all of 1966.

The Joint Korean Military Armistice Commission will meet Wednesday in the truce village of Panmunjom to discuss the incursion by the assassination team.

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URGENT

With Seoul Raiders insert

Washington With Seoul Raiders 5th lead A011WX insert after
1st graf: "serious."

The Pentagon announcement of the seizure did not mention any
American casualties, but sources said some U.S. crew members
were wounded in the incident.

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WASHINGTON - With Seoul Raiders 5th lead A011WX

ADD: waters.

The Pueblo case also recalled the 1964 incident in which two
U.S. destroyers were reported to have been attacked by
North Vietnamese patrol boats in the Gulf of Tonkin.

President Johnson then ordered an attack on the patrol boat
bases on the North Vietnamese coast. It was the first
U.S. bombing assault on North Vietnam and preceded the
opening of sustained air raids against the North by almost
six months. Regular aerial attacks started in February 1965.
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Pueblo Bjt NL 480 2 takes 880

By FRED S. HOFFMAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - Some crewmen aboard the U. S. Navy "intelligence collection" ship Pueblo were wounded when four North Korean patrol boats captured the American vessel, sources said Tuesday.

The White House described the incident as "a very serious situation." Congressional leaders reacted angrily.

The United States asked Soviet Russia to deliver an urgent request to North Korea for the immediate release of the ship and its 83-man crew.

The Pentagon said nothing about casualties or shooting when it announced surrender of the 935-ton Pueblo to North Korean patrol boats near midnight Monday.

The U.S. statement said the incident occurred in international waters about 25 miles off North Korea.

The Defense Department said the Pueblo, armed with two machine guns, reported "she had not used any weapons" before becoming the first U. S. naval vessel to surrender at sea since the Civil War.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk termed the North Korean action a matter of "utmost gravity."

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana said it seemed to be "a clear violation of international law."

In the House, Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan said, "if the vessel was cruising in international waters, as was apparently the case, there is no justification whatever for the action taken by the North Koreans."

Rep. William H. Bates, R-Mass., senior GOP member of the House Armed Services Committee, called the seizure "an act of piracy."

The P.ENTAGON'S

The Pentagon's description of the Pueblo as an "intelligence collection auxiliary ship" is a euphemism for spy ship—a term used by the North Korean radio in accusing the Pueblo of violating North Korean waters to carry out hostile activities.

The mission of an intelligence collection ship is to listen in on radio messages and detect radar positions—a mission which is generally not acknowledged by U.S. authorities.

The Pueblo is the second such ship to get into trouble within a year. The 11,000-ton Liberty was shot up by Israeli planes and torpedo boats about 15 miles off Egypt's Sinai peninsula June 8, losing 34 of her 297-crew.

According to the Pentagon announcement, the Pueblo "was surrounded by North Korean patrol boats and boarded by an armed party in international waters in the sea of Japan."

It said the U.S. government "acted immediately to establish contact with North Korea through the Soviet Union." This country has no diplomatic representation in North Korea, although it does deal with North Korean representatives at Panmunjom in South Korea from time to time.

President Johnson was awakened at 2 a.m. and told about the Pueblo's seizure. He discussed the situation at breakfast with Democratic congressional leaders.

At the State Department, press officer Robert J. McCloskey told newsmen he was "saying categorically" that the ship was outside the 12-mile limit which North Korea claims as its territorial waters.

McCloskey denied the Pueblo was acting in a provocative manner, as charged by the North Koreans.

He said no deadline had been set for a reply to this country's request through the Soviets that the vessel and crew be released.

"But the sooner the better," he said.

MORE

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Washington take 2 Pueblo Bjt NL AO19WX: he said.

Two of the 83 Americans aboard the Pueblo are civilians, probably technicians of the supersecret National Security Agency which breaks codes.

The Pentagon said that about 10 p.m. EST last night, a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo and, using international signals, asked her nationality.

The Pueblo identified itself as a U.S. ship, the Pentagon said, whereupon the patrol boat flag-signaled: "heave to or I will open fire on you."

According to the official U.S. version, the Pueblo replied "I am in international waters" and the patrol boat circled the ship.

About an hour later, the Pentagon said, three additional patrol craft appeared and one of them ordered the American vessel to "follow in my wake," saying it had a pilot aboard.

Four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter," the statement said. "Two MIG aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo circling off the starboard bow."

One of the patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged to cushion impact. An armed boarding party stood in the bow of the patrol vessel, the Pentagon said.

At 11:45 p.m., the Pueblo radioed that she was being boarded by North Koreans, the announcement said.

Twenty-five minutes later, the account continued, the Pueblo reported "she had been requested to follow the North Korean ships into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons."

The last word from the Pueblo came at 12:32 a.m. and reported the ship had "come to 'all stop' and that it was 'going off the air,'" the Pentagon reported.

Sources said that there was shooting and that some members of the Pueblo's crew were wounded. They did not indicate at what point in the 2½ hours between the first contact and the last message this occurred.

The Pentagon said that when the Pueblo was boarded at 11:45 p.m. she was about 25 miles from the North Korean mainland. The position given—127 degrees, 54.3 minutes east longitude; 39 degrees, 25 minutes north latitude—would have put her northeast of Wonsan.

The statement did not indicate whether the Pueblo had been closer in when first accosted nearly two hours earlier. At her maximum speed of 12.2 knots, the Pueblo could have made about 10 miles an hour.

There was no information on whether the Pueblo had asked for help, whether help had been sent, and why the Pueblo did not resist.

Navy records show that the last American naval vessel captured at sea was the Harriet Lane, a Union ship taken by a confederate craft in the Civil War.

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With USS Pueblo

WAYCROSS, Ga. AP - The Pentagon Tuesday told the father of a midshipman aboard the USS Pueblo, seized by North Korean patrol boats, that U.S. officials expect release of the ship within 24 hours.

The father, Wesley S. Anderson of Rt. 1, Waycross, said government officials telephoned him to assure him that his son, Wesley D. Anderson, was safe.

The elder Anderson told newsmen that he was telephoned by Sen. Richard Russell, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and by Pentagon officials.

He said he was told that he could expect a telephone call within 24 hours from his son, who he said was only 90 days away from a discharge.

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2nd NL Pueblo

Pueblo Bjt 2nd NL 420, 2 takes total 700

By FRED S. HOFFMAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - Four North Korean patrol boats seized the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo Monday night and touched off what the White House described as "a very serious situation."

Four of the 83 Americans aboard the Pueblo were reported wounded, one seriously, but details of the encounter in what the Pentagon described as international waters still were sketchy hours later.

The last known word from the captured vessel, before its "going off the air" signal at 12:32 a.m. EST, said it had been told to follow the Communist patrol boats into Wonsan, North Korea.

Some Congress members denounced the incident as "an act of war," and at least one senator, Strom Thurmond, R-S.C. urged President Johnson to serve the North Koreans with an ultimatum that the Pueblo "will be retaken by force if it is not delivered within a specified period of time."

Newsmen at the Defense Department tried throughout the day to obtain answers to such questions as these, without success:

When did the Pueblo report it had been accosted by a North Korean patrol boat? The Pentagon said the Pueblo was first challenged at approximately 10 p.m. EST. To whom did the Pueblo report? Did the Pueblo ask for help? Was help dispatched? If not, why not?

Was word of the first contact relayed to the Pentagon or the White House? Did President Johnson, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara or anybody else send any instructions as a result?

The White House said Johnson was awakened at 2 a.m. with news of the incident.

The Defense Department gave this report:

"At approximately 10 p.m. EST, a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo. Using international signals, it requested the Pueblo's nationality.

"The Pueblo identified herself as a U.S. ship. Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol said: 'Heave to or I will open fire on you.'

"The Pueblo replied: 'I am in international waters.'

The patrol circled the Pueblo.

"Approximately one hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared. One of them ordered: 'Follow in my wake, I have a pilot aboard.'

"The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter. Two MIG aircraft were also spotted by the Pueblo, circling off the starboard bow.

"One of the patrol craft began backing toward the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow. The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. that she was being boarded by North Koreans.

"At 12:10 a.m. EST today, the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ships into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons. The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 a.m. It reported that it had come to 'all stop' and that it was 'going off the air.' "

MORE

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Washington take 2 Pueblo Bjt 2nd NL AO64WX: the air.' ''
Questions continued to pile up. Did the Pueblo ask for help
after the appearance of the three additional craft and the
MIGs?

Why did the Pueblo not resist? The Pentagon said the ship
carried two machine guns but "she had not used any weapons"
during the encounter.

What was the Pueblo's position when the first North Korean
patrol boat made contact? Were two civilians aboard the
Pueblo technicians of the National Security Agency? Was
the ship operated by the Navy for NSA?

The United States asked Soviet Russia to relay an urgent
request to North Korea for the immediate release of the
ship and its crew.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk viewed the North Korean action as
a matter of "utmost gravity."

Rep. Bob Wilson, R-Calif., called the seizure "obviously an act of
war" and Sen. Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., said it was a very serious
breach of international law that "almost amounts to an act of
war."

Sen. J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., chairman of the Senate Foreign
Relations Committee, said intelligence-gathering activity of
the kind engaged in by the Pueblo "certainly exposes" the
United States to such incidents, and commented "We got caught
unexpectedly."

Fulbright said the incident is very serious "if, as reported,
the ship was on the high seas."

The skipper of the Pueblo is Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, 38. It is
his first command.

At the State Department, press officer Robert J. McCloskey said
that in addition to an urgent request being made through the
Soviet Union for release of the vessel, the matter will be
taken up with the North Koreans at a meeting of the Military
Armistice Commission.

"I wish to reemphasize the seriousness with which we view this
flagrant North Korean action against the United States naval
vessel on the high seas," McCloskey said.

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BULLETIN

Pueblo Bjt 3rd NL

WASHINGTON AP - The U. S. intelligence ship Pueblo was seized by four North Korean patrol boats Monday night despite her calls for help.

The Defense Department reported Tuesday night that the Pueblo asked for aid when she was being boarded by North Korean sailors—but did not say whether any help was sent.

Four of the 83 Americans aboard the U. S. naval intelligence gathering ship were wounded, one critically.

The Pentagon said the Pueblo, armed with only two light machine guns, was captured without it firing a shot.

By FRED S. HOFFMAN
Associated Press Writer
JK729pes Jan. 23

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WASHINGTON Pueblo Bjt 3rd NL A074wx: shot.

The Pentagon confirmed that the Pueblo had reported the number of casualties among its complement, which included two civilians.

Details of the encounter in what the Defense Department described as international waters about 25 miles off the North Korean coast were still sketchy.

Ten hours after first announcing the incident, the department answered some questions by newsmen, but did not respond to a question about whether any aid was ordered sent to the beleaguered Pueblo, in response to calls for help.

Asked when word that the Pueblo was in trouble reached Washington spokesmen replied "before midnight"-but said the precise time was classified.

The captain of the Pueblo, Cmdr. L. M. Bucher of Lincoln, Neb., made "periodic reports to higher naval authority," the pentagon said. But it would not be more precise on that.

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JK739pes Jan. 23

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URGENT

Pueblo Bjt 4th NL

By FRED S. HOFFMAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - The U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo was seized by four North Korean patrol boats Monday night and the Pentagon said a call for help came too late.

The Defense Department said Tuesday night that the only time the Pueblo asked for aid was when she was being boarded by North Korean sailors.

"There were no earlier requests for assistance of any kind," the department said. "Time and distance factors made it impossible to respond."

Hours after the incident, which the White House described as "a very serious situation," it was reported that the big nuclear carrier Enterprise was headed for the Sea of Japan for possible emergency duty.

There was also a report from the Far East that the 5th Air Force had been placed on combat alert, a normal procedure for military units that might be used under emergency situations. But the Pentagon said it couldn't comment on alerts at any time.

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With Pueblo add

TOKYO With Pueblo A106 add: captured."

The report said the U.S. vessel "intruded" into Communist territorial waters off the eastern coast of the Korean Peninsula and "conducted hostile acts."

The Communists claimed the U.S. vessel was encountered at a point 39.17 degrees longitude and 127.46 degrees latitude. This differed from the position radioed by the Pueblo in one of its last messages. That was farther from the coast-127 degrees 53.3 minutes east longitude and 39 degrees 25 minutes north latitude.

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BULLETIN
WITH PUEBLO

PANMUNJOM, Korea AP - The United Nations command lodged a strong protest Wednesday against Communist North Korea over the seizure of the U.S. naval craft Pueblo and demanded its immediate return.

The command also demanded that North Korea apologize for the seizure of the American ship in international waters.

The demand was made at a meeting of the joint military armistice group at this truce village in Korea's demilitarized zone.

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PANMUNJOM With Pueblo A120 add: zone.

It was made by U.S. Rear Adm. John V. Smith, senior delegate of the U.N. command to the armistice commission.

The meeting originally was called by the command to protest a terrorist raid in Seoul on Sunday by a group of 31 North Korean agents who killed seven South Koreans, including a police chief.

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With Pueblo 2nd add

PANMUNJOM With Pueblo A123 2nd Add: chief.

Referring to the Pueblo, Smith accused the Communists of "criminal boarding and seizure of a U.S. Navy vessel in international waters."

Smith demanded that "the vessel and its crew be returned intact and immediately," and that North Korea apologize for "this illegal action" to the U.S. government.

He also warned that if North Korea continues its "campaign of harrassment," it would "result in the most serious consequences in maintaining peace in Korea."

Smith mentioned as part of the harrassment the mission by agents who South Korean officials said were on an assignment to assassinate President Park Chung Hee and other officials.

Smith said the U.S. vessel was 16 nautical miles off the coast when the North Koreans attacked it. He gave its exact position as 39 degrees, 25 minutes latitude and 127 degrees, 54 minutes longitude.

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URGENT

With Pueblo Lead

TOKYO AP - North Korea said Wednesday that vessels of its navy "killed or wounded several U.S. imperialist aggressor troops" when the North Koreans "returned" fire from the American intelligence ship Pueblo. The Communists accused the United States of trying to "ignite another war in Korea."

It was the first mention of fatalities aboard the Pueblo, seized by North Korean patrol craft Tuesday, and the first report of any firing from the American ship.

U.S. officials in Washington have said the Pueblo's crew of 83 did not use weapons on board during the incident.

The North Korean report did not give specific numbers of dead and wounded but it said the Communists "captured alive more than 80" crewmen.

The report was broadcast by the official Korean Central News Agency and monitored in Tokyo.

The North Korean agency claimed the United States "committed a premeditated hostile act by infiltrating an armed ship" into North Korea's territorial waters.

It added: "Our naval ships that encountered it while out in the sea on their patrol duty returned the fire of the piratic gang, who put up an arrogant resistance after intruding deep into the coastal waters of our fatherland."

The agency said the United States was "being all the more frenzied in its moves to ignite another war in Korea."

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