



General of the Army Douglas A. MacArthur grasps the arms of Army Chief of Staff General J. Lawton Collins (left) and Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Forrest P. Sherman on their arrival at Tokyo airfield on 21 August 1950. Two days later, MacArthur turned in a masterful performance to persuade his guests that the proposed amphibious assault at Inchon would succeed.

month. Tidal waters had to be high enough to cover the wide mud flats that fronted the city. Since the highest tides in September occurred in mid-month, the JSPOG selected 15 September as D day. FECOM had less than two months to plan an assault that normally took three to five months of work. Nonetheless, MacArthur's headquarters issued Operation Plan 100-B, code-named "Chromite," with Inchon as the objective.

Doyle and many of the officers on the staff were concerned that Inchon might be too risky, so they investigated alternative sites. Doyle dispatched *Horace A. Bass* and her UDT/Marine team to scout Kunsan, which they found to be better suited to an amphibious assault. The JSPOG prepared a plan for a Kunsan operation, just in case MacArthur changed his mind on the attack site.

Although commanders in the Far East understood the difficulties of the proposed assault, the JCS was "somewhat in the dark." On 20 August, Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, the CNO; General J. Lawton Collins, the Army Chief of Staff; and other high-ranking officers flew from Washington to MacArthur's Tokyo headquarters for a briefing on the planned amphibious operation in Korea. Admiral Doyle's staff sum-

This detailed map of the Inchon area, prepared in 1950, clearly shows the narrow passages and numerous mud and tidal flats in the approaches to the harbor.

