

~~TOP SECRET ACORN~~25 Apr 51
CIB

FAR EAST

Korea

1. Expected enemy strategy in current Korean offensive:[redacted]
24 Apr 51
[redacted]

[redacted] in an evaluation of Communist intentions in the 22 April offensive, reports a belief that the enemy's major effort will be mounted in the west by an estimated force of 337,000 with an objective of capturing the communications complex of Seoul by 1 May. A secondary effort will be made in the central zone down terrain corridors by an estimated 147,000 troops with the objective of cutting the UN routes of communication with the south. This secondary effort in the central sector has, so far, effected the deepest penetration (12 miles) and has placed the enemy in a position to exploit his successes along the eastern approaches to Seoul. A diversionary effort has been made in the eastern sector by two rehabilitated North Korean corps,

Comment: The concentration of two -- and possibly three -- Chinese Communist army groups in the western sector north of Seoul continues to pose the main threat to UN forces. The taking of additional prisoners from the Chinese Communist 3rd Army Group north of Seoul tends to confirm the presence of this new major force in the concentration area in the west.

2. Chinese Communist and North Korean air units operating jointly:North Korean Air
21 Apr 51
ACORNCINCFE Tokyo
24 Apr 51
ACORNUS Air Force
23 Apr 51
ACORN

A recent North Korean air message referred to preparations for "a raid from Mukden on 23 April in coordinated action with the Chinese" and in that connection mentioned an La-9 Fighter Regiment. According to field reports, this is the first mention of joint air activities and the first indication of a joint aviation command similar to the joint ground command existing in Korea.

Comment: In view of the limited range and effectiveness of the conventional type aircraft believed participating in this joint operation, the "raid" referred to in the North Korean message is probably a joint training exercise. The

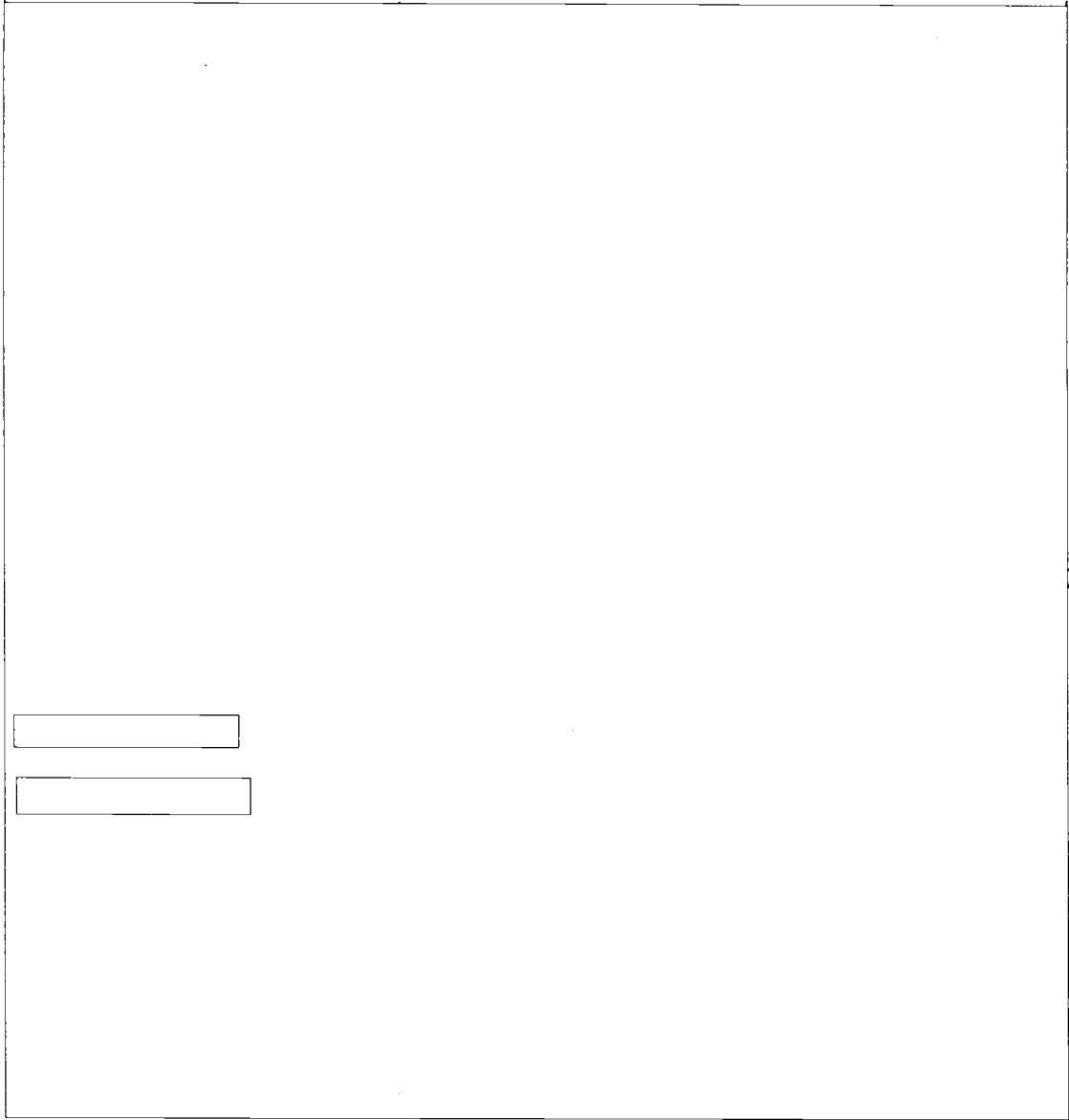
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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: 22-Mar-2010

field identification of a joint air command, if proven correct, is an additional indication that the Communists are still contemplating major coordinated air intervention in the Korean war.

3.



4.