



14. KOREA. Incidence of malaria in a Chinese Communist unit in Korea decreases: Several Chinese Communist messages indicate that the percentage of malaria victims in an unidentified Chinese unit in Korea has greatly decreased over the past three years. According to one message, in 1949 ninety percent had the disease; in 1950, fifty percent; and in 1951, ten percent.

A second message states that "in the years 1949, 1950 and 1951 ((there was issued))quinine and ((? a native drug ?)) as malaria preventatives." (SUEDE 501st Comm. Recon. Group Korea, CM IN 9620, 2 Feb and 29 Jan 52)

Comment: Recent POW interrogation reports indicate that the Communists in Korea have adequate supplies of atabrine to treat malaria cases. The general medical supply situation, however, is reported to be critical.

15. North Korean combat division may withdraw to rear area: A series of three messages on the interdivisional net of the North Korean 13th Division, II Corps, currently in combat with UN forces in east-central Korea, suggests that this division may be preparing to withdraw to the Wonsan area. One 6 February message noted that the "Corps chief signal officer" required a report on whether the 13th Division communications chief could carry his radio to Anbyon, just south of Wonsan. Another 6 February message indicated that a "medical treatment chief" had been dispatched to a town north of Wonsan to "investigate the veterinary situation." The final message detailed the availability of horses to move the 13th Division's artillery. (SUEDE [ ] 2396, 2397, and 2398, 6 Feb 52)

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Comment: Although this message does not conclusively indicate a movement of the 13th Division, much less the II Corps, it strongly suggests that some such move may be contemplated. If the II Corps, long engaged in combat, is withdrawn, it will probably be replaced in the line by either the rested V Corps from the Wonsan area or a reserve division of the full strength I Corps, from the eastern coastal area.



18. North Korean Premier praises armed forces on Army Day: On the occasion of the Fourth Anniversary on 8 February of the North Korean People's Army, Premier Kim Il Sung delivered his annual exhortation to all segments of Korean society and to armed forces, urging them to "prepare to achieve decisive victory in the approaching battle" and congratulating them on their achievements thus far. (SUEDE [ ] 2399, Korea 6 Feb 52)

Comment: The publicity broadcast version of Kim's speech condensed pertinent portions but neglected to mention "the approaching battle." Except for this omission, the broadcast version is no less bellicose than the message sent over the military network. The address, allowing for the passage of time and events, is nearly identical with Kim's speech on the Third Anniversary of the People's Army last year.

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