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FAR EAST

6. Greater communications activity among North Korean commands: The Far East Command reports that for the first time since late January the three North Korean corps which are now at the front are in daily radio contact with each other and with front line headquarters. Concurrent with this development, North Korean Supreme Headquarters has been in active communication with both the front line headquarters and the remaining North Korean combat corps, at present in reserve in the Wonsan area. (SUEDE Hg ASAPAC Tokyo, Japan 8621 AAU, Spot 3335A, 16 Apr 52)

Comment: Intercepted operational messages in Korea have already indicated an acceleration of Chinese Communist military activity. This, however, is the first observed sign of greatly increased activity on the part of the North Korean Army.

7. AFSA summarizes recent heightened Chinese Communist military activity in Korea: On 15 April the US Armed Forces Security Agency summarized recent developments in the Chinese Communist forces in North Korea and concluded that three interpretations are possible:

- 1) a routine rotation of front line units may be in process,
- 2) the enemy may anticipate a UN spring offensive and is consequently bolstering his defenses, or
- 3) the enemy may be preparing to launch an offensive sometime after 15 April.

The military activity that AFSA summarizes includes new command alignments in Chinese Communist infantry and artillery units, forward displacements of units, significant meetings of Communist personnel, emphasis on supply matters, and certain communications changes. (SUEDE AFSA CC/CAP-196, 15 April 52)

8. North Korean jet unit may move to interior of Manchuria: A US Air Force communications intelligence unit in Japan reports that a recent reference to an airfield

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inspection at Tungfeng, northeast of Mukden, may indicate future occupancy of this field.

The field station speculates that the most "likely" unit involved would be a North Korean one, and cites a 25 January message which stated "Will Yang Tu Hi's unit come to Tungfeng immediately." Another related message of 20 January said that the "documents...which order the transfer from An(?) (probably Anshan) to Tungfeng have come." (SUEDE 6920th Security Group Johnson AB Japan AP 434, CHICOMSUM 636, 14 Apr 52)

Comment: On 8 April a "Yang Tu Hu," probably the same pilot as mentioned above, led a flight of twelve MIG-15's from Anshan airfield.

The reasons for this move to Tungfeng, and whether it has occurred or will occur, have not been revealed.

9. Chinese may have larger role in UN plane interception:
An analysis of Russian voice ground-controlled intercept (GCI) traffic reveals that two Antung-based jet regiments, normally active in combat over Korea, have not been observed since 1 April.

The Air Force believes that these air units are Chinese. As of 1 March they were directed by both the Russian and Chinese components of the GCI net. Now, according to the Air Force, these flying units may be operating solely under the direction of the Chinese GCI net, or they may have left the Yalu River area. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 72, 15 Apr 52)

Comment: The Russian-voice GCI net, which controlled four Soviet and two Chinese regiments until early March, directed most of the fighters which engaged UN planes. The Chinese GCI net, first identified in mid-November 1951, was occupied mainly in directing aircraft in training, patrol and alert exercises.

If exclusive Chinese control of these two air units is confirmed, it would indicate increasing Chinese, and correspondingly less Soviet, responsibility for the interception of UN planes.

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