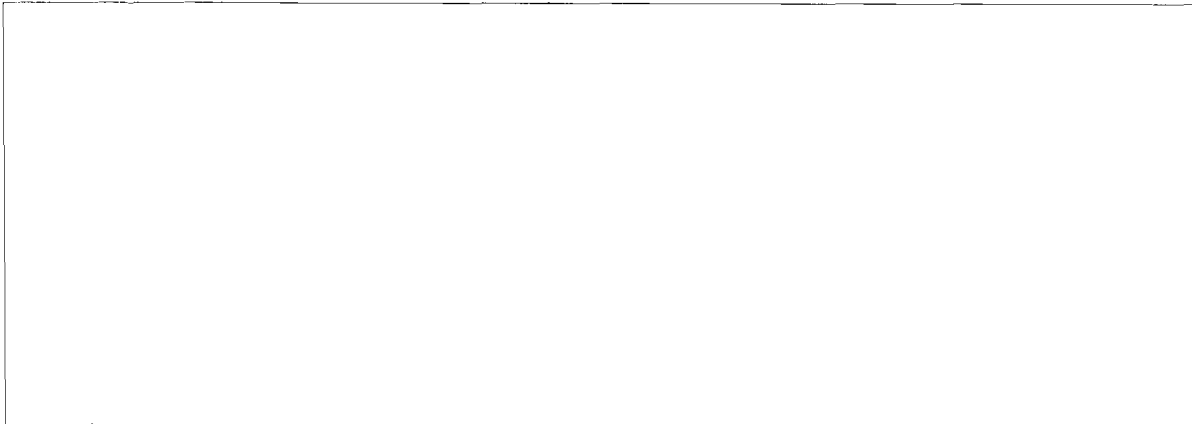


FAR EAST

4. Additional armor arrives in North Korea: North Korean messages of 24 and 25 April refer to the arrival of additional tanks and self-propelled guns in the Pyongyang area.

The messages suggest that at least 43 tanks and 22 self-propelled artillery pieces have been brought into Korea on freight cars from China. The unidentified North Korean unit which originated these messages is to receive some of this armor. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, SK-I-828, SK-I-853, SK-I-859, 25 Apr; 151 Det, 15th RSM Japan, MSG CS 464, 27 Apr 52)

Comment: Both the North Korean 105th Tank Division and 10th Mechanized Division are located in the Pyongyang area, and could reasonably be the recipient of these tanks.



6. North Korean aircraft reported night flying extensively: Preliminary analysis of North Korean air voice traffic reveals that North Korean aircraft are making many night flights, reports a US Air Force unit in Japan on 27 April. (SUEDE 6920 Security Grp Johnson AB Japan, Spot 26, 27 Apr 52)

Comment: The North Koreans have long engaged in night harassing operations with obsolescent PO-2 biplanes and possibly with higher performance conventional aircraft.

To date the mission of night interception has been performed largely by a Soviet air unit at Anshan, Manchuria. This group, referred to as "Efimov's," has flown conventional LA-11 high performance fighters, but may currently be converting to MIG-15's.

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8. Chinese Communist logistical inspection team arrives in Korea: "The Hua-tung (believed to be a major logistical headquarters in China) staff inspection team will arrive in Korea on the 25th. Ninth Army Group staff officers. . . will meet them with trucks" at a Chinese border town, reports the 7th Chinese Communist Artillery Division Headquarters on 22 April. The message adds that 400 gallons of gasoline will be issued for their use. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-2419, 24 Apr 52)

Comment: While the significance of this inspection team's arrival in North Korea can not be immediately assessed, high level inspection activities suggest preparations for future military operations. A principal failing in previous enemy offensives in Korea has been the inability to keep advancing ground units supplied.

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