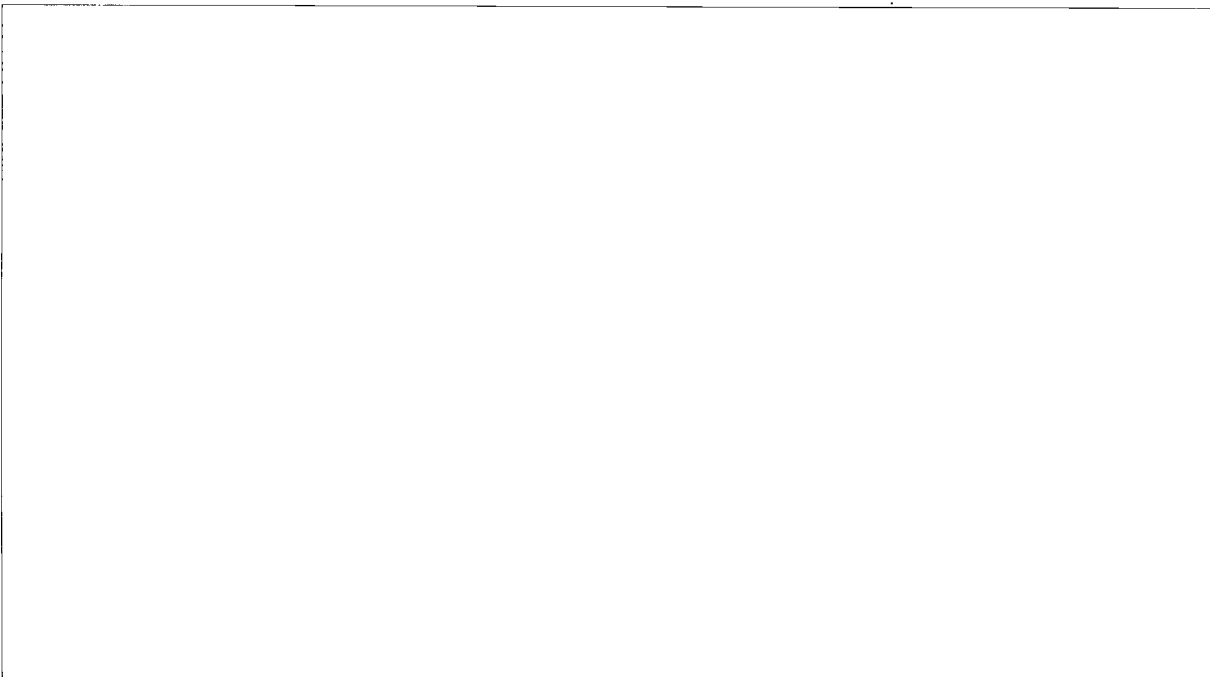


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## FAR EAST



9. Communists continue to strengthen antiaircraft defenses in eastern Korea: The North Korean 21st Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment is to establish an ammunition depot in the Wonsan-Hamhung area by 10 May, according to a "top secret" North Korean message of 5 May.

The order says that the depot should be "secure from strafing by enemy planes," adding that the "rear area department started transporting ammunition on the 4th of May. . ."

The North Korean 23rd AAA Regiment, also building an ammunition depot in the area, apparently is to relinquish this function to the 21st because that unit is ordered to "take in their tasks." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea,  3255, 6 May 52)

Comment: A buildup in enemy antiaircraft defenses in eastern Korea has been underway for the past month. Recent messages have stressed the importance of protecting the lines of communication in this area and of ensuring the flow of supplies to the front.

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10. Communist unit reports use of BW again in Korea: An unidentified North Korean naval unit reported in a 5 May message that "on the second of May, at night (they?) dropped bacteria weapons at Chongpyong (near Hamhung in northeastern Korea). The prevention disease committee killed it." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, [ ] 3254, 6 May 52)

Comment: The last intercepted enemy report of an alleged United States drop of BW occurred on 14 April. Since that time, the Communist all-out propaganda campaign has lost much of its intensity. The bulk of recent Communist commentary on the subject has dealt with the findings of various committees and the accumulation of "evidence."

It is possible that this report, plus other similar ones, will renew the vigor of the BW propaganda theme.

11. Chinese Communists assessing transportation capabilities in Korea: The Chinese Communist 7th Artillery Division received an "urgent wire from Army rear" on 3 May demanding a "detailed report" on the vehicle situation in Korea. The wire asked for the information to be broken down by manufacture and mileage of the vehicles. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-2656, 5 May 52)

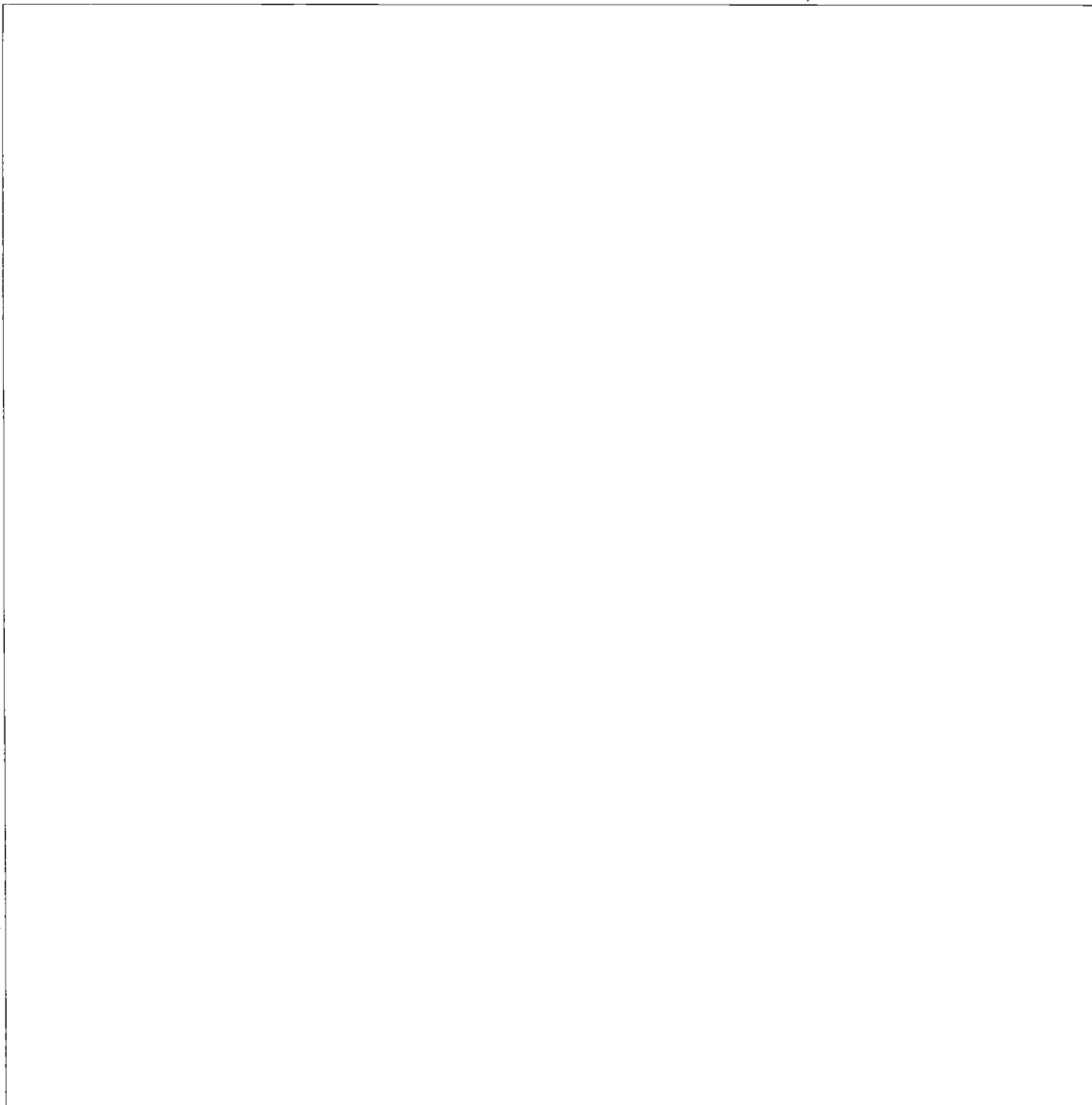
Comment: This message may mean only that the Chinese Communists have instituted a regular reporting system as a maintenance requirement.

In view of other reports of increased Communist activity, however, this urgent wire may indicate a desire to assess truck transportation capabilities for a future operation.

12. Manchuria-based aircraft adopt new system of indicating fuel level: A new and more precise system of indicating a plane's fuel level has been used on the Russian-language ground-controlled intercept net on the Korea-Manchuria border since 20 March. The new system uses the numbers three, four and five, with an immediate landing ordered if an airplane's fuel level drops below three. Previously only general terms, such as "watch your fuel," were used. (SUEDE AFSA JCAFE-30, 2 May 52)

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Comment: The attention the enemy ground controller is paying to the fuel supply of combat aircraft suggests that the Communists have been losing planes which have run out of fuel. Simplified instruments and inexperienced pilots may be responsible for this problem.



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