

## FAR EAST

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5. Communists may initiate new American atrocity propa-  
ganda theme: The Hungarian Minister in North Korea reported  
in a 26 May message that the trial of four Korean traitors  
began on 25 May in Pyongyang, and would last for five days.  
The defendants were charged with the massacre, under American  
direction, of over 35,000 Koreans between October and December  
1950, when the UN controlled most of North Korea.

The Minister added that "Comrade Meray is attending"  
and would forward his first detailed report on the 27th  
of May. (SUEDE D-15149, Pyongyang-Peiping, 26 May 52)

Comment: Radio Pyongyang's coverage of the trial began  
on 25 May and emphasized that the four defendants were led  
by Americans.

The attendance of Meray, a prominent Hungarian newspaper  
correspondent, at the trials suggests that Orbit-wide coverage  
will be given this trial as a companion propaganda theme to  
other current American atrocity lines.

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The 29 May issue of Pravda carried an article, based on an account in the sensational Indian journal Blitz, of the alleged transportation of 20,000 Japanese prisoners to Central Pacific islands in February just prior to announcement of new tests of atomic weapons in the area. This article asserts that Korean and Viet Minh prisoners were used as human targets in similar tests in Nevada last year.

6. Existence of subordinate North Korean repair depots established: A recent North Korean message indicated that vehicles in need of major repairs are being sent to a motor maintenance repair depot at Pongdae-ri. The message also revealed the existence of two repair installations, possibly subordinate to this depot, in the vicinity of Chongpyon or in the Pompo area. (SUEDE 15RSM Det 151, 15RSM/13099, 25 May 52)

Comment: There has been recent evidence that the Chinese Communist forces have been decentralizing their motor repair installations. This message would seem to indicate that a similar pattern of decentralization exists in the North Korean Army.

These three towns are located on the main supply route in the vicinity of Hungnam.

7. Atomic defense mentioned by Chinese Communist unit in Korea: An unidentified Chinese Communist unit in Korea, possibly an element of the 8th Artillery Division, stated in a 19 May message: "The preparations for the defense against the atom bomb will be pressed." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-3289, 19 May 52)

Comment: This is the first noted reference to atomic defense training in the forward area. A Chinese Communist message on 4 April referred to the distribution of literature on atomic weapons. A Chinese Communist propaganda broadcast stated on 30 March that the American use of atomic weapons would be the next logical step in Korea after testing biological and chemical warfare weapons.

8. Chinese Communists seek evidence of American use of chemical warfare in Korea: The 27th Chinese Communist Artillery Regiment, in relaying a message that may have come from Joint Headquarters, on 25 May ordered "that all types of American bombs and poison gas bombs be collected. . .to

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find out which varieties are the most (used?) and how they are manufactured." Units were enjoined to be on watch for projectiles dropped from planes or fired by artillery, both "poisonous and non-poisonous kinds alike." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-3231, 27 May 52).

Comment: This message suggests that the Communists are seeking more evidence to support charges such as those broadcast by Radio Pyongyang on 24 May that the Americans are employing chemical warfare in Korea.

9. North Korean jets may have been withdrawn from Yalu River base: On 21 May two regimental-sized round robin flights were scheduled at Anshan in south Manchuria for MIG-15's believed to be subordinate to the North Korean 1st Air Division. One of the regiments was led by a pilot who was observed in December and January leading flights over North Korea. The Air Force concludes that the combat-committed regiment of this division may have been withdrawn from Antung to Anshan. (SUEDE Special Air Intelligence Summary 52-22, 29 May 52)

Comment: The two regiments of the 1st Division are the only known Korean jet units: the one based at Antung was also the only known Korean air unit regularly assigned to combat duty.

10. Presence of "big-brother, small-brother units" noted by Chinese Communist unit in Korea: An unidentified Chinese Communist unit, tentatively identified as of regimental size and located north of Kaesong, commented in a 15 May message: "There are some big-brother, small-brother units at our living area." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-2978, 23 May 52)

Comment: Since Russians are frequently referred to in Communist China as "elder brothers," the context of the message suggests the presence of Soviet and North Korean troops in the bivouac area of the sending unit. Presumably the "big brothers" are Soviet advisers.

11. Chinese MIG-15's fly to Pyongyang: Six MIG-15's of the 9th Regiment of the 3rd Air Division were to fly from Antung to Pyongyang and back on 28 May. The mission was given in the message as "navigational methods." (SUEDE 6920 Security Group Johnson AB Japan SC 534, 28 May 52)

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Comment: US pilots have seldom encountered enemy jets as far south as Pyongyang in recent months. The 3rd Air Division, which has had considerable combat experience, returned to Antung two weeks ago from Mukden, where it was located after mid-January. It is one of five Chinese divisions based near the Korean border.

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