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4. Chinese MIG's unusually aggressive over Korea: Chinese-piloted MIG-15's in over 60 sorties on 27 July displayed "exceptional aggressiveness," according to an analysis of the Chinese GCI net. No Russian missions were flown that day.

A sustained level of operations was maintained throughout the day, with Chinese aircraft patrolling and, for the first time, being ordered to seek out UN aircraft. (CANOE 6920 Security Grp Johnson AFB Japan, Chicomsum 951, 28 July 52)

Comment: This high Chinese sortie rate, coupled with the aggressiveness displayed, represents a considerable departure from enemy air operations of the past months. Previously Soviet jets accounted for about 75 percent of combat contacts with the UN, while Chinese jets were generally ordered to avoid combat.

5. North Koreans again request search for qualified junior officers: The North Korean 21st Brigade requested one of its subordinate battalions on 28 July to transmit to "the personnel section" by 31 July the names of all officers and enlisted men who had ever attended a university, a "middle school," or who had taught at either level. The message also requested a brief biographical sketch on each qualified man and for teachers and students to be separated into two lists. (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, SK-L-686, 28 July 52)

Comment: Recent messages, such as the above, point up the current concerted effort of North Korean authorities to discover personnel qualified to be officers. A shortage of competent leaders has existed in the North Korean Army since the beginning of hostilities.

6. Floods in Korea limit Chinese Communist resupply operations: Only two of twenty trucks which were sent to the rear for petroleum on 28 July returned the next day with their mission completed, according to an intercepted message passed between two unidentified Chinese Communist regiments. Seven of the vehicles returned empty, three were damaged or unaccounted for, and the remainder were unable to return because of a washed-out bridge on the main supply route. (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-4702, 29 July 52)

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Comment: This message gives an indication of the extent to which rain and floods in Korea interfere with Communist resupply operations. The rainy season prompted the Chinese Communist artillery divisions in Korea to double their supply goals in June and July of this year.

7. North Korean brigade builds dummy installations: A battalion of the North Korean 21st Brigade in western Korea reported on 29 July that its engineer platoon was starting work on "three false warehouses, two false vehicles, three false anti-aircraft guns, three false tanks." (CANOE 15RSM/1169 Korea, 30 July 52)

Comment: The building of false installations has been previously employed by the enemy to divert UN airpower from more profitable targets. The message is one of the few mentions of this type of activity in communications intelligence.

8. North Korean unit on east coast engages in rear area road building and repair: A subordinate unit of the North Korean 8th Division, south of Wonsan, informed "division commander" on 26 July that a total of 1,177 men from several battalions were mobilized to repair and construct roads. The soldiers built 837 meters of roadway, repaired 1,335 meters and built one bridge, according to the message. (CANOE 330th Comm Recon Co Korea, ALT-360, 27 July 52)

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