

5 Apr 51

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Chinese Communist Command in Korea.

[redacted] as of 22 March, P'ENG Teh-huai was in Manchuria in command of 1st Field Army units in the area, and had not replaced LIN Piao as commander of Chinese forces in Korea. [redacted]

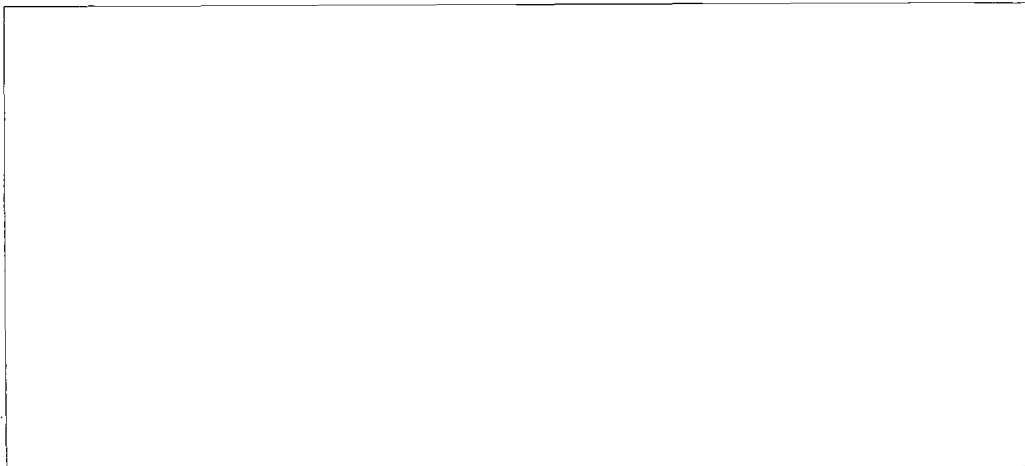
[redacted] COMMENT: It has been generally assumed that LIN Piao has been the overall Chinese commander in Korea, as his 4th Field Army provided the bulk of the Chinese "volunteer" forces from the outset. However, there was some evidence, in February, that the Chinese commander in Korea was P'ENG Teh-huai, commander of the 1st Field Army. NIEH Jung-chen, commander of the North China Military Area Special Army Group (often reported as the "5th Field Army"), was also rumored to have taken over the Korean command, and was relieved as Mayor of Peiping on 1 March. It is doubtful that any one of these top Chinese generals would be assigned simply to command those units of his forces now committed in Korea. Whichever of them is in fact in Korea--still largely a matter of speculation--is probably the overall Chinese commander in the area.

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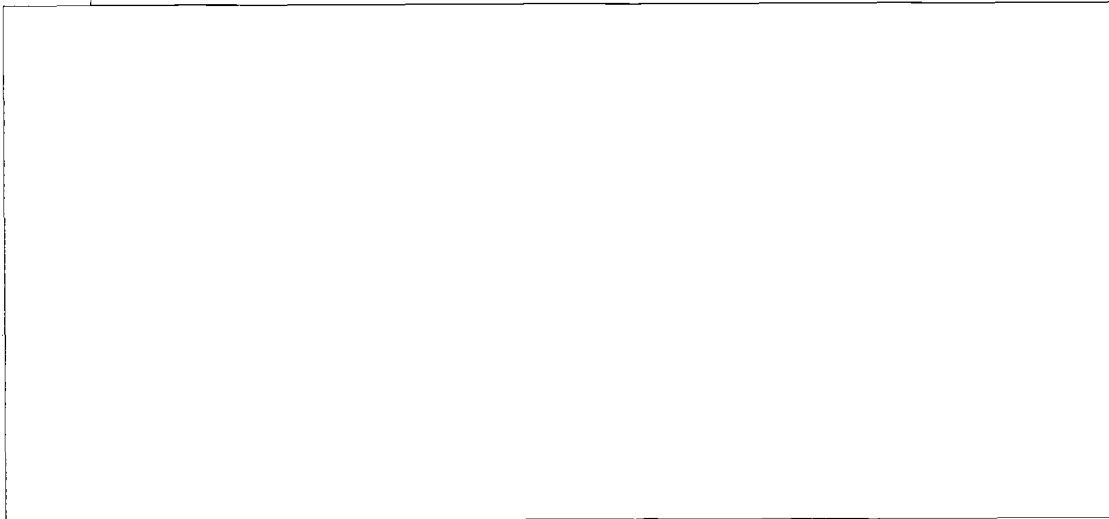
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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
16-Dec-2009



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"A" KOREA. "International" Air Force for Korea. There are several recent press reports, [redacted] of the organization of an "international volunteer" air force for action against UN forces in Korea. The personnel of this force is said to include the nationals of a number of Asian states outside the Soviet bloc, and the force allegedly has available some 400 to 600 Soviet aircraft, including jets, with a promise of 3000 planes in all. [redacted]

[redacted] in a Sino-Soviet conference of 6 March, it was decided to place 1400 aircraft under the command of an "international volunteer army" (IVA) for "surprise attacks" against US bases in Korea, Okinawa, Taiwan, and Japan and against the US 7th Fleet. [redacted]

COMMENT: [redacted]

[redacted] the organization

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of an "international volunteer" force for Korea [redacted]
[redacted] Such a force was allegedly to be supplied
with upwards of 1000 Soviet aircraft. While there is as yet no infor-
mation [redacted] to confirm reports of enemy preparations
of the nature and scope indicated above, there is strong evidence of
an imminent expansion of enemy air activity in Korea.

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