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10. KOREA. Chinese Communist unit requires rations for "observers": A 28 December message from one unidentified Chinese Communist unit to another reports that "four observers are here. Are they going back for the New Year? If not, better rush some rations and New Year's food else there won't be anything for them to eat. . ." (SUEDE AS CM IN 59, 1 Jan 52)

Comment: Although there is no indication of the nationality of these "observers," the anxiety displayed by the requesting unit over its rations might indicate either high-level Chinese Communist officers or Russians.

11. Communists suffer non-combat air losses: A 24 December message from the North Korean Air Division at Sinuiju to the Air School at Yenchi reported that an aircraft (possibly a jet) was "forced to make an emergency landing in a corn field." The message concluded that two North Korean mechanics were responsible in that "they did not perform their duties properly. . ." (SUEDE AS CM IN 63612, Sinuiju-Yenchi, 24 Dec 51)

Comment: Little is known of the extent of non-combat losses suffered by Communist air units in training in Manchuria. An arbitrary rule-of-thumb estimate has placed such Communist losses in the vicinity of 10 percent, or 150 aircraft of all types.

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12. Conspiracy within North Korean unit revealed: Two 28 December North Korean messages--both from the 8th RR Regiment in northeastern Korea to the Railroad Security Division--recount agitation within the former unit's ranks. In one message, the originator states he sent "the report concerning the surrender conspiracy on 27 December." Another message indicates that a fairly high official "went to Chuul in the area of the 8th Regiment on mission and investigation of the uprising." (SUEDE AS CM IN 64723, 29 Dec 51)

Comment: The 8th Regiment, in addition to its security mission, has a training function. The high percentage of ex-ROK and disaffected personnel undergoing training may tend to make this unit susceptible to unrest. Such disquiet has been noted before.

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