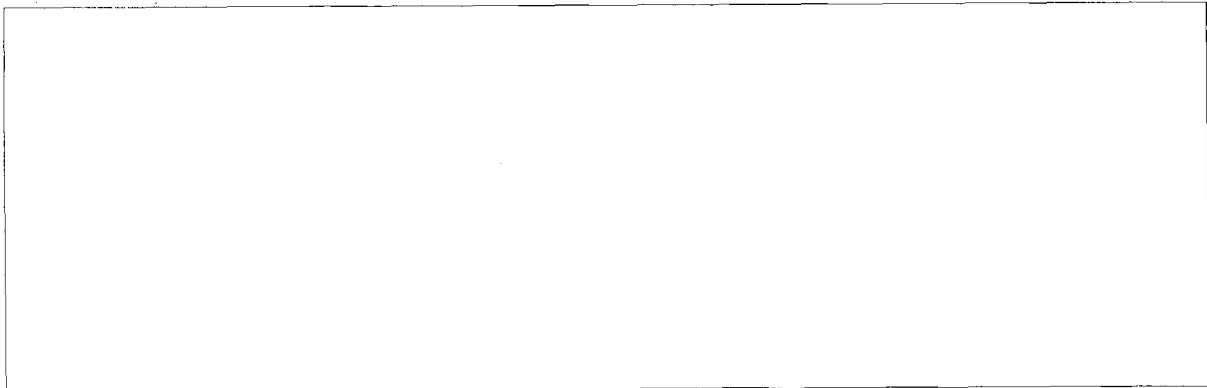


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14. CHINA/KOREA. MIG's use unexplained tactics: On 5 February US F-86's observed 217 MIG-15's in the air, in formations of 12 to 40 aircraft. The locations and headings of these formations indicated an origin in Manchuria other than the Antung area. On the same date US jet fighters also sighted 50 to 60 MIG's at Antung and 30 at nearby Tatungkou. (S FEAF Tokyo AX 2121, 7 Feb 52)

Comment: Intercepts show that nearly 100 "allied" and Chinese MIG's continue to fly to combat from Tatungkou and the FEAF sighting of 50 to 60 MIG's at Antung suggests that jet strength there is also being maintained at the level reached in late 1951, when 100 MIG's were believed based at each of the two fields. There is no direct evidence of the use of jet bases other than in the Antung area for operations over Korea.

15. KOREA. North Korean VII Corps will continue to defend in Wonsan area: On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the founding of the People's Army, the North Korean commander of the 7th Division felicitated the commander of his parent corps, the VII, and assured him that "we are firmly preparing the line of defense." (SUEDE 501 Comm Recon Group Korea, SK-G-153, 9 Feb 52)

Comment: The North Korean VII Corps has been assigned to defend the Wonsan-Hamhung area against UN amphibious attacks since early spring of 1951. It has been frequently speculated that this corps would relieve one of the front line combat corps; however, this message indicates a continued defensive role for at least one division of the VII Corps.

16. Soviet adviser felicitates North Korean armored division: Asserting that the "105th (Armored) Division's fighting tradition must be nurtured," a Soviet "technical adviser of the tank headquarters" on 7 February congratulated the division's personnel on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the Korean People's Army. (SUEDE 330 Comm Recon Co Korea, AIT 989, 9 Feb 52)

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Comment: This message is unusual in that rarely do the Soviet advisers to the Communist forces directly address the units to which they are assigned. In this case, apparently the senior Soviet adviser on armor has addressed a message of congratulations to the commanding officer of the 105th Armored Division.

17. North Korean regiment forced to recruit locally: The North Korean 82nd Regiment, on Kaesong guard duty, is at a "disadvantage" with its division personnel office presumably owing to the distance separating the two units -- and has requested permission to accept recruits from Kaesong city, according to an 8 February message. (SUEDE 330 Comm Recon Co Korea, ALT 991, 8 Feb 52)

Comment: The plight of the 82nd Regiment, with its parent unit across the peninsula, is obvious. Problems relating to communications, logistics, personnel, and chain of command have been previously noted in this regiment's messages.

18. North Koreans continue to produce dry cell batteries: An officer at the North Korean Communications Supply Headquarters advised an unknown station on 9 February that over 700,000 dry cell batteries were to be produced in February 1952. One factory was to produce almost the entire output. (SUEDE 330 Comm Recon Co Korea, ALT 016, 9 Feb 52)

Comment: Shortages of all types of communications equipment, particularly batteries for portable transmitters, has been evidenced for a long time in Communist messages. It is probable that the factory scheduled to produce the bulk of this material is located in Manchuria and that the others, with infinitely smaller quotas, are in Korea.