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FAR EAST

5. Communists order MIG's to concentrate on UN ground-attack planes: Several times during the latter part of May, MIG-15 pilots were instructed over the Russian ground-controlled intercept net in Manchuria and Korea to concentrate on UN ground-attack planes and to consider the F-86 Sabres only as secondary targets. In addition, outstations on the Russian net have been repeatedly asked for information on UN ground-attack planes.

The Air Force believes that this development may reflect the effectiveness of UN attacks on supply lines by ground-attack planes. (SUEDE USAF Roundup No. 110, 6 June 52)

6. Chinese Communist rocket launcher unit digging in: A message passed between two units on the 21st Chinese Communist Rocket Launcher Division net on 1 June stated that the engineers had completed "two of the work projects" which are "six meters deep, two meters high." The digging apparently continued night and day. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-3525, 4 June 52)

Comment: Recent messages have indicated that regiments of the 21st Rocket Launcher Division, which had been attached to various Chinese artillery divisions, were moving. The size of the installations mentioned in this message suggests that the originating element has completed its move and is now constructing sites for ammunition and supply storage.

7. North Korean unit has difficulty mobilizing required personnel: An unidentified North Korean military unit on 3 June informed its subordinate element that "I told you to mobilize 280 persons. Why did you mobilize only 80 persons?" The addressee was ordered to report the reason for the discrepancy and to mobilize another 100 persons. (SUEDE ROK Int Group M SK-K-58, 5 June 52)

Comment: Although it cannot be determined whether the conscripted persons are to be used in a military or civilian capacity, the message points up the labor shortage that is known to exist in North Korea.

8. Chinese Communist message reveals continued forward displacement of artillery unit: An unidentified Chinese

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 18-Mar-2010

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Communist artillery unit, probably subordinate to the 21st Rocket Launcher Division, reported that "we have already arrived at Chaktaedong." The message then stated that the unit would continue moving forward. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp, K-3581, 5 June 52)

Comment: Intercepts in late May indicated that elements of the 21st Rocket Launcher Division were probably moving toward the front line. This message tends to confirm that indication as the above unit has arrived at a position in the immediate rear, behind the 63rd and 64th Armies.

9. Soviet MIG-15's continue to fly from Mukden over Korea:
A Chinese message scheduled 31 Soviet MIG-15's from Mukden over northwest Korea on 4 June. The flight leader had a Russian name. Similar flights were noted on 31 May and 1 June. (SUEDE USAF Roundup No 109, 5 June 52)

Comment: This Soviet jet unit at Mukden was first noted in messages in early May. These are its first observed flights over Korea. Pilots of this unit may be familiarizing themselves with the Manchuria-Korea border preparatory to a regular combat assignment from a base nearer Korea than Mukden, 125 miles away.

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