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5. Training of North Korean tank officers scheduled for mid-July: In a 24 June message sent over a North Korean armored force network, it was stated that "from 10 to 20 July, the short course for the regimental commander and staff officers" is to take place at the training regiment of the North Korean 105th Tank Division. (CANOE ROK Int Grp M Korea SK-K-487, 25 June 52)

Comment: The North Korean Army has the principal armored force involved in the war and its utilization would be expected in any forthcoming offensive effort. Training of North Korean senior armored officers is an indication that, as of that date, no tactical role was planned for this force during July.

6. North Korean antiaircraft units to report damage inflicted on hydroelectric plants: In a 26 June message passed in a system used by North Korean antiaircraft units on the east coast, an unidentified company commander was ordered to "depart tonight and go to Pujon-gang and make a concrete investigation of the damage situation." This officer was also ordered to find out "whether or not it is true that the 7th Division antiaircraft battalion could not fight properly on 23 June because they did not have any ammunition. . ."

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On the same day a North Korean antiaircraft artillery unit, probably the command center for all antiaircraft defenses on the east coast, issued a detailed order to subordinate anti-aircraft regiments and battalions. In this, the "25th battalion commander is to radio the 24th regiment and report the bombed situation of the Hochon River generator office by telephone." (CANOE ROK Int Grp M Korea, SK-K-572 and SK-K-586, 27 June 52)

Comment: Both the Pujon and Hochon hydroelectric systems were attacked during the period 23 to 26 June by UN aircraft. Preliminary damage reports indicate that neither system is presently operational.

7. Unknown Communist unit mentioned in Korea: On 25 June the Chinese 203rd Rocket Launcher Regiment informed its parent 21st Division that "the friendly antiaircraft artillery, the 509th Regiment has requested to observe our regiment's firing."

The following day, the division informed the regiment that "concerning the request by the 509th Regiment to watch the artillery fire, please refuse them as the situation does not necessitate such actions." (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-4084, 26 June; K-4113, 28 June 52)

Comment: If the 509th Regiment were an infantry unit, it would be a component of the 57th Army. Two other regiments in the 500-510 series have been reported in Korea, but no confirmation of the presence of the 57th Army exists.

In view of this request to observe artillery fire and the characterization of "antiaircraft artillery," it is entirely possible that other Chinese Communist antiaircraft regiments numbered in this series are in the Korean theater. The term "friendly," usually used with reference to Korean units, is not clear.

8. Low level of training demonstrated by North Korean tank unit: In response to a query concerning the proper chain of command in a tank crew, a North Korean message of 20 June, sent in a system used by armored units, elucidated that "the commander and the gun chief of the tank should act according to the commander's plans. . .the person loading shells. . .to the gunchief's plans, and the. . .who work the. . .wireless communication. . .should act according to the driver's. . . plan." (CANOE ROK Int Grp M Korea, SK-K-346, 21 June 52)

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Comment: Transmission of basic information over a North Korean armored unit network indicates the low level of training among some armored units.

9. Chinese Army may move into western Hwanghae Province: The Brigade Commander, probably of the North Korean 23rd Mechanized Artillery Brigade, was informed on 25 June by one of his battalion commanders that "we are presently turning over the observation post to the Volunteer Army. We will completely finish the relief by. . .25 June." (CANOE 15th RSM, Korea, 15RSM/5268, 26 June 52)

Comment: It is possible that this North Korean brigade is turning over its defensive positions in Hwanghae Province, southwest of Pyongyang, to the Chinese 42nd Army. A previous message sent on 25 June mentioned that the "125th Division (42nd Army)" was to reconnoiter the "defense area" of a North Korean IV Corp unit.

10. Soviet MIG's practice strafing in Manchuria: Two "allied" (Soviet) MIG-15's made a "strafing training" flight at Tungfeng, in central Manchuria, on 27 June, according to a Chinese message. (CANOE AP-533, 6920 Security Group Johnson AB Japan, 27 June 52)

Comment: This type of training is unusual for MIG-15's in China; it suggests that the enemy is planning eventual use of ground-strafing tactics by jet fighters in Korea. The Russian-manned units at Tungfeng have been used for night combat flights and daylight border patrols over Korea.

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