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5. North Korean troops placed under Chinese command in amphibious scare: In anticipation of UN amphibious operation on 5 September, the commander of the North Korean 21st Brigade in western Korea instructed his battalion commanders to "follow the direction of the commanders" of Chinese Communist regiments located nearby. (CANOE L [] T 187, 1 Sept 52)

Comment: Heretofore, tactical integrity along national lines has always been maintained by Communist forces in Korea.

This departure may be explained by the fact that these North Korean battalions are on Hwanghae Peninsula with larger Chinese forces and are separated by considerable distance from other North Korean groups.

6. Chinese artillery regiment relieved in east central sector: The Chinese 21st Artillery Regiment, subordinate to the 7th Artillery Division supporting the 68th Army in east central Korea, reported on 8 September that they were in the process of turning over ammunition and positions to the 41st Artillery Regiment. The entire turnover will be complete by the end of September. (CANOE L [] T 467, 8 Sept 52)

3

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Comment: The independent Chinese 41st Artillery Regiment has been accepted through PW reports as supporting elements of the Chinese 12th Army immediately to the west of the 7th Artillery Division's positions.

In view of the abnormally high rate of artillery fire received by the UN from the 12th Army sector in the past week, it is probable that the 41st Regiment has been replaced by a larger artillery organization and is now available to relieve the 21st in the 68th Army sector.

7. Elements of Chinese Communist 15th Air Division based at new airfield: Analysis of several Chinese Communist messages received since 8 September confirms that elements of the Chinese Communist 15th Air Division are now based at Tungfeng airfield in Manchuria. A 9 September message scheduled a "round-robin" flight of 15 MIG-15 jet fighter aircraft of this division from this field. (CANOE AF Roundup 175, 10 Sept 52)

Comment: The 15th Air Division, a MIG-15 jet fighter unit, was last observed in training flights at Kungchuling airfield, also in Manchuria. The reason for the transfer of some of its elements to Tungfeng cannot be ascertained at this time.

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