

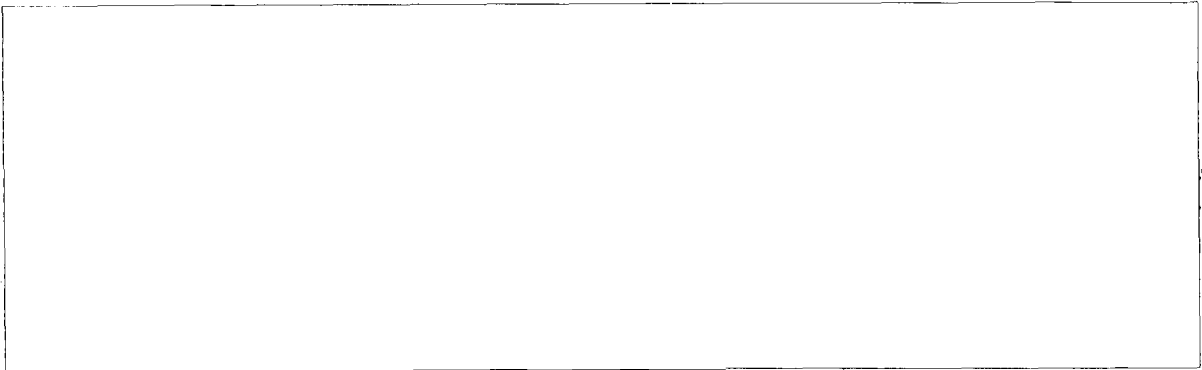
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21. Manchuria-based jets on photo reconnaissance mission: Several MIG-15's and YAK-17's, both jet fighter aircraft, were scheduled to carry out a photo reconnaissance mission from Liaoyang in south Manchuria on 22 August. According to a US Air Force analysis, this is the first intercepted reference to photo reconnaissance missions in Manchuria. (SUEDE, Air Force Roundup 182, 22 Aug 51).

Comment: This message implies, and provides the first evidence from any source, that aircraft in Manchuria are equipped with cameras. Communist aircraft have occasionally been noted in Korea to be engaged in what appeared to be reconnaissance missions.



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23. KOREA. North Korean I Corps may be withdrawing to regroup: Recent North Korean messages indicate that the NK I Corps may be withdrawing from the front to regroup. Artillery units of the NK 8th Division have displaced about 40 miles northwest of the last reported location of the division in the Kaesong area. Another message indicates that elements of the 47th Division, also part of the I Corps, may likewise be moving north. This latter message further indicates that the NK 17th Mechanized Division is now subordinate to the I Corps. (SUEDE, TIK 974, W 286 H 150, 24 Aug 51).

Comment: Having recently detached the NK 19th Division to participate in the movement of the NK VI Corps to the eastern sector, the NK I Corps may have withdrawn to regroup and to integrate the 17th Mechanized Division. The addition of the 17th Mechanized Division which has been out of the combat zone since the abortive May offensive will significantly increase the potential of the NK I Corps and may indicate that it has been assigned a combat mission. Total North Korean tank strength has

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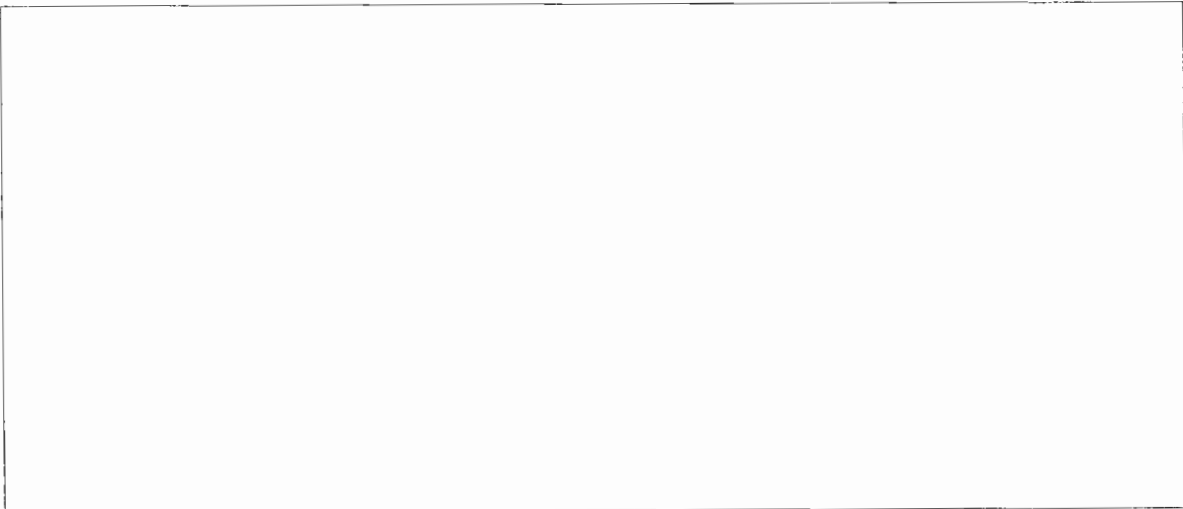
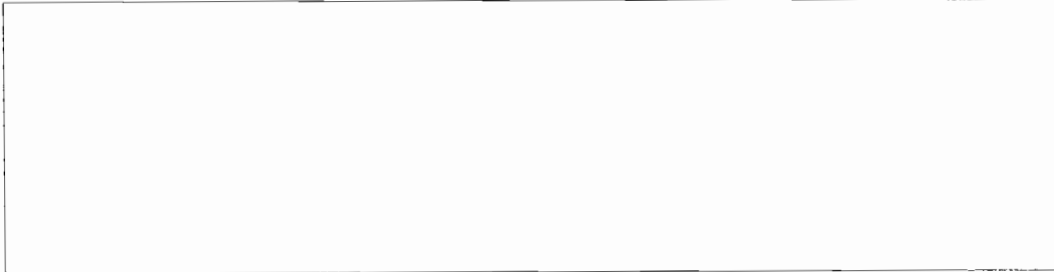
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been estimated at 150 tanks, of which 120 are accepted as part of the 105th Tank Division located in the Pyongyang area. An estimated 40 to 25 tanks are believed to be in forward areas in the western sector, possibly associated with the 17th Mechanized Division.

24. Communist delegate orders luxuries sent to Kaesong: In the late afternoon of 23 August (after negotiations had been broken off), General Nam Il, chief Communist delegate to the Kaesong talks, instructed the "Chief, Department of General Supply" to send him "quickly" foodstuffs, POL, cigarettes, and "all kind liquor of high quality." (SUEDE, missed to missed, SK-A-1147, 23 Aug 51).

Comment: While it is possible that Nam Il's name is being used on a regular resupply message for the Kaesong delegation, the possibility exists that Nam is contemplating some form of celebration or entertainment. There is no known Korean, Chinese or Soviet holiday for which these luxuries might be intended in the near future.

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