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4. Communist propaganda seeks to allay fear of US A-bomb: Recent North Korean propaganda asserted that the US cannot use atom bombs because of the MIG-15 jets, and stated that the USSR has both atomic and hydrogen bombs. Concurrently, the latest issue of Moscow's New Times printed an article on the big role that atomic energy will play "in the great construction of Communism," -- not only for "the building of canals and dams," but also "for the production of a colossal quantity of cheap electric power." ([redacted] 24 Aug 51; [redacted] 24 Aug 51).

Comment: The reference at this time to a subject rarely used in Communist propaganda suggests a Soviet desire to allay any fears of US atomic reprisals should the Korean negotiations break down. The New Times article also serves to augment the current "peace" campaign for atomic energy control as defined in the Kremlin's proposals for a Five Power Peace Pact.

27 Aug 1951

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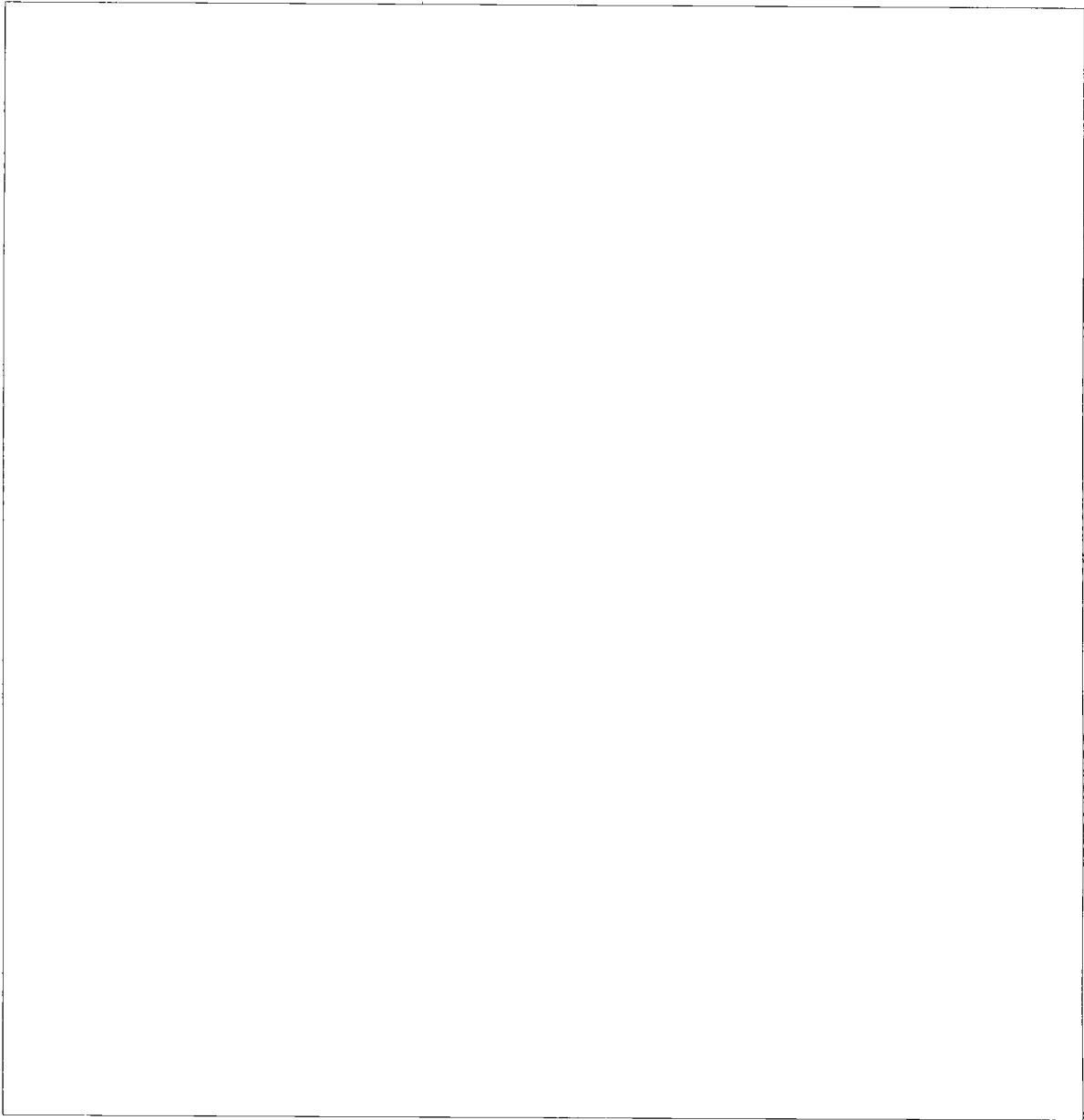
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11. KOREA. Soviet troops reported in Korea: [redacted]
[redacted] learned from contacts in North Korea in mid-July of the presence of the following Soviet troops: 3,000 near Kaechon, north of Pyongyang on the Chongchon river; 400 in Sariwon; and 200 in a town near Pyongyang. ([redacted] 24 Aug 51).

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Comment: While it has been fairly well accepted that certain organized Soviet units are serving covertly in Korea as technicians and antiaircraft gunners, the presence of a concentration of 3,000 near Kaechon is unconfirmed. It is entirely possible that small Soviet units are located in Sariwon and near Pyongyang.

12. Communist strategy at Kaesong: A revealing commentary on Communist strategy in breaking off the conference at Kaesong may be seen in a 22 August article (written prior to the break-off) by Alan Winnington, correspondent for the British Communist "Daily Worker." Winnington notes that "it becomes increasingly clear the Americans are trying to maintain tension to pressurize the Japan peace signatories." He warns that "further measures will certainly be taken by the Koreans and Chinese...to guarantee the neutrality" of the zone, if the UN does not provide a satisfactory answer for an earlier incident. ([redacted] NCNA Peiping, 23 Aug 51).

Comment: This is the first incident noted of the Communist association of the coming Japanese peace treaty signing with the Kaesong talks. It is interesting that Winnington's 22 August article was not released until 23 August after the talks had been broken off.

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