

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

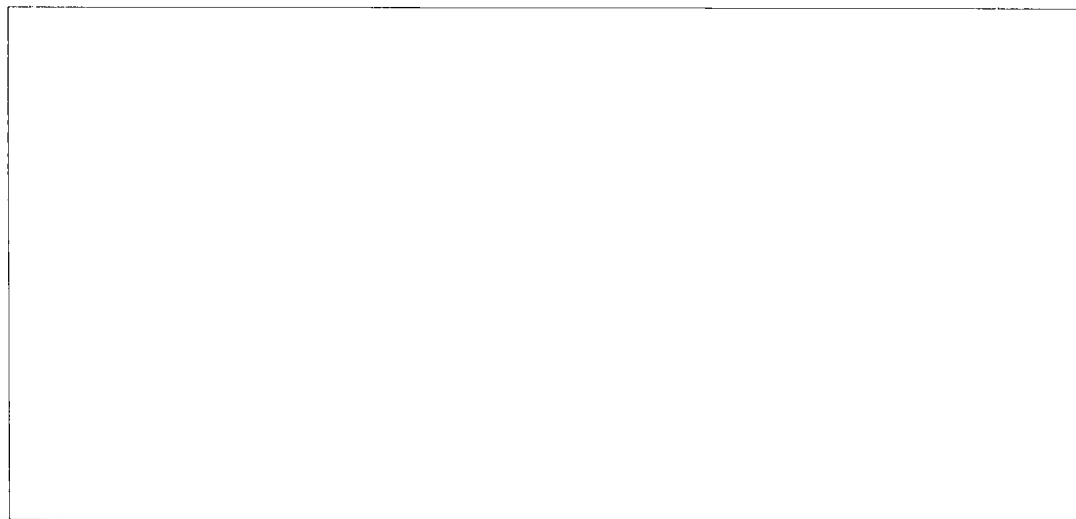
SECTION 2 (EASTERN)

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7 Mar 52

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 22-Mar-2010

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4. No sickness from BW reported in North Korean coastal unit: A North Korean unit on coastal security in eastern Korea reported to Naval Defense Headquarters near Wonsan on 2 March that although on the 28th insects were again dropped at Paekyang, Sinpung, and Innam, "no one has been infected yet." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, 15 RSM/7413, 3 Mar 52)

Comment: This provides some indication that no actual epidemic is current in this area, in which the UN has been accused of carrying on bacteriological warfare. It is also noteworthy that Communist propaganda to date has concentrated on the actual dropping of infecting agents rather than on the incidence of disease due to the employment of BW.

5. North Korean east coast unit claims BW caused hardships: A North Korean coastal security unit in eastern Korea reported on 3 March that UN bacteriological warfare agents in the surrounding area had prevented the movement of transportation since 21 February. Later in the day the unit reported to Pyongyang that "Pupyong (just southwest of Hamhung) . . . is the contaminated area. According to the correct news, no one can pass through it. If you do not act quickly, the 12th and 13th guard stations will have fallen into starvation conditions." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, 15RSM/7459, 5 Mar 52; 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, 15RSM/7502, 5 Mar 52)

Comment: These messages raise the possibility that the enemy is blaming the east coast transportation difficulties, caused by UN air and naval strikes, on the more provocative BW theme.

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6. North Korean unit has unidentified "secret" weapon: A 4 March North Korean message, possibly from the 23rd Brigade, informed a subordinate unit that the inspection which will be performed very soon will mainly concern the "special weapons which are being handled secretly at your unit." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, 15RSM/7524, 5 Mar 52)

Comment: There have been no indications as to what these new weapons might be. The Soviet Union has previously sought to avoid compromise of new materiel, and most weapons and equipment encountered to date -- with the notable exception of the MIG-15 -- have been World War II models.

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