

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

FAR EAST

NR

2. Communications equipment apparently needed by North Koreans: A North Korean officer, previously noted in the Communications Bureau of Supreme Headquarters, instructed a communications officer, possibly in Manchuria, on 8 May that "if it is impossible to transport by rail for a long duration because of the damaged railroad south of Sonchon, you are to . . . take the roundabout northeast route to make transporting possible. . . ." (SUEDE ASAPAC, Tokyo Spot 3448A, 15 May 52)

Comment: On 6 May, the North Korean addressed in this message informed Pyongyang that he was incapable of transporting any communications equipment into Korea from Manchuria owing to track damage in northwestern Korea "south of Sonchon."

1

19 May 52

CID
SI Supp~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
18-Mar-2010

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

The northeastern route is very circuitous. It involves a trip across Manchuria, entry into Korea near the Soviet border, and then the perilous trip south on the exposed east coast line.

3. UN front line artillery positions reported by Chinese combat unit: Headquarters of the 27th Chinese Communist Artillery Regiment, in support of the 39th Army in western Korea, informed its forward command post on 4 May that "we have received a report from the 39th Army giving positions of enemy artillery as follows. . ." The message pinpoints the location of the "147th Artillery Company long-range guns," the "99th Artillery Battalion," the "113th Artillery Company," and the "999th Battalion headquarters." (SUEDE ASAPAC, Tokyo Spot 3452A, 15 May 52)

Comment: It would be normal for the 39th Army to assist its assigned artillery in firing counter-battery missions. The 27th Artillery Regiment had been in support of the 39th Army for only about two weeks when this message was sent.

4. North Korean coastal unit ordered to conserve ammunition: An unidentified North Korean unit, probably charged with coastal security of a portion of northeastern Korea, ordered that "you should save all artillery ammunition even in the extreme combat." The message also mentioned a change in the location of the "107mm gun" positions. (SUEDE 15th RSM Det 1, Korea 15RSM/12395, 14 May 52)

Comment: A recently captured North Korean prisoner revealed that Communist artillery positions on the east coast had been ordered to refuse fire missions in order to retain ammunition for an expected UN amphibious operation.

5. Evacuation of North Korean postal unit from western city ordered: A North Korean message on 12 May sent in a system sometimes used by GHQ for administrative messages and signed by a "Liaison officer," ordered that "the field post exchange office in Sariwon will be evacuated and all affairs of the office must be handed to the central field post department." (SUEDE 15th RSM Det 1, Korea 15RSM/12414, 14 May 52)

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

Comment: Although Sariwon is in an area where Chinese Communist units predominate, the city is on the main supply route to Kaesong and to North Korean units in western Korea. At least two major Korean tactical units and a North Korean Air Force unit are also located in the Sariwon area.

6. Ordnance type and ammunition supply of Chinese anti-aircraft unit revealed: An unidentified Chinese Communist anti-aircraft artillery unit, probably of regimental size and located in the Singye area of western Korea, reported on 11 May its ammunition expenditure and supply on hand. The message revealed that 72 rounds of 85mm anti-aircraft artillery ammunition had been fired and that 2,453 rounds remained on hand, that 82 rounds of 37mm were fired with 9,291 remaining, and that 11 rounds probably of 12.7mm machine gun ammunition were fired with 61,169 remaining. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-2833, 15 May 52)

Comment: This anti-aircraft unit has been very active recently. Probably the ammunition expenditure listed was only for a 24-hour period.

7. Three more Russian fighter units located on Korea-Manchuria border: Three additional Russian fighter units, probably regiments, became active on the ground-controlled intercept (GCI) net in the Yalu River area on 21 April. The Air Force states that this increases to nine the Russian fighter units on this net, and represents a continuing build-up. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 95, 15 May 52)

Comment: The Chinese moved one or two jet divisions to Antung in the past month. With these new Soviet units the number of jets in the Yalu River area is estimated at 500. Since 13 April UN pilots have on several occasions observed 450-500 jets on fields in this area.

In addition to the increase in air units, the installation of another Russian-language GCI station and three new radar stations near Antung were noted in the last month, providing additional facilities for controlling fighter operations over Korea.



NR

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~