

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~

FAR EAST

2. Chinese dig atom bomb shelters in Korea: A badly garbled message from an unidentified Chinese Communist unit in Korea on 13 June reported that "construction of atom bomb defenses" began on 13 June. The message mentioned additional repairs on artillery and air defenses and preventive measures being taken to guard against damage from rain. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-3874, 16 June 52)

Comment: This message probably is a progress report on the May message, sent over a Chinese 8th Artillery Division net which outlines a seven-point defense program. It referred to air defense, with emphasis on camouflage and defenses against the atom bomb.

A 4 April Chinese message indicated that literature about the atom bomb was to be distributed, and on 30 March a Chinese propaganda broadcast stated that it would be a "logical step" for the United States, following the alleged BW-CW campaign, to use the atom bomb.

3. North Korean mechanized unit visited by Supreme Headquarters: An 11 June message, probably from an element of the 10th North Korean Mechanized Division, stated that "Supreme Headquarters Tank (Headquarters Officers?) of the Supreme Headquarters are . . . and are going out to the battalions for the (plans?) of the units (for?) this month on 10 June. . ." The message reported construction activity of elements in the division, including the "(caves for?) the tanks received. . ." (SUEDE ROK Int Grp M Korea, SK-K-169, 13 June 52)

Comment: Although garbled and badly translated, this message suggests the existence of a special armored staff or command at North Korean Headquarters, charged with armored affairs.

4. Armor continues to arrive in North Korea: "This is to report that 12 tanks out of the 24 tanks were unloaded from cars at Sunchon (south of the Chongchon River). . . on June 11th, and arrived at the (unit?). . . the remaining 12 tanks are expected to be unloaded from cars tonight," reported possibly the supply unit of the 10th North Korean Mechanized Division on 12 June. (SUEDE ROK Int Grp M, SK-K-207, 13 June 52)

18 June 52

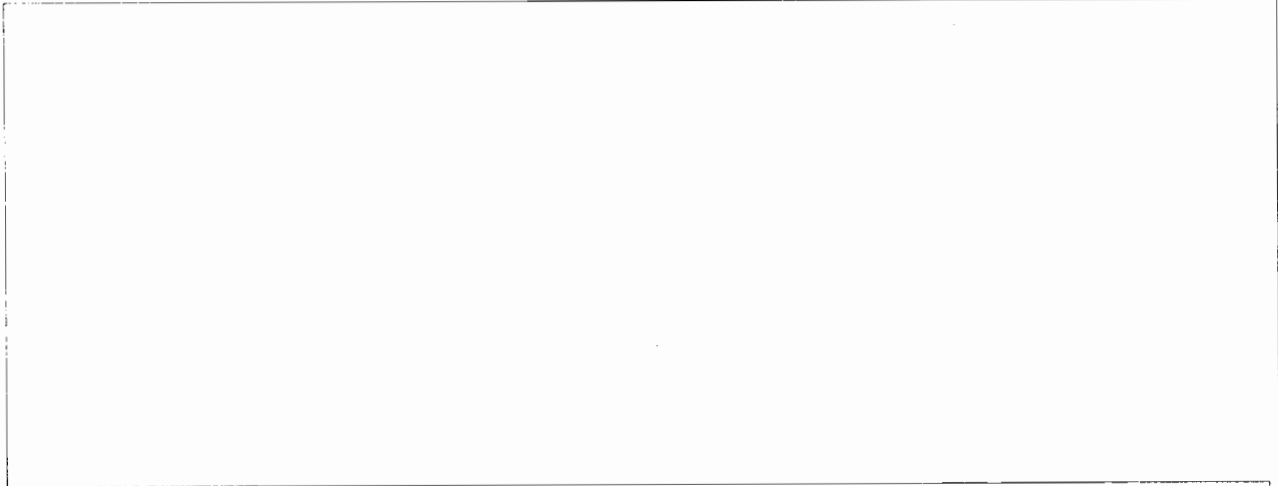
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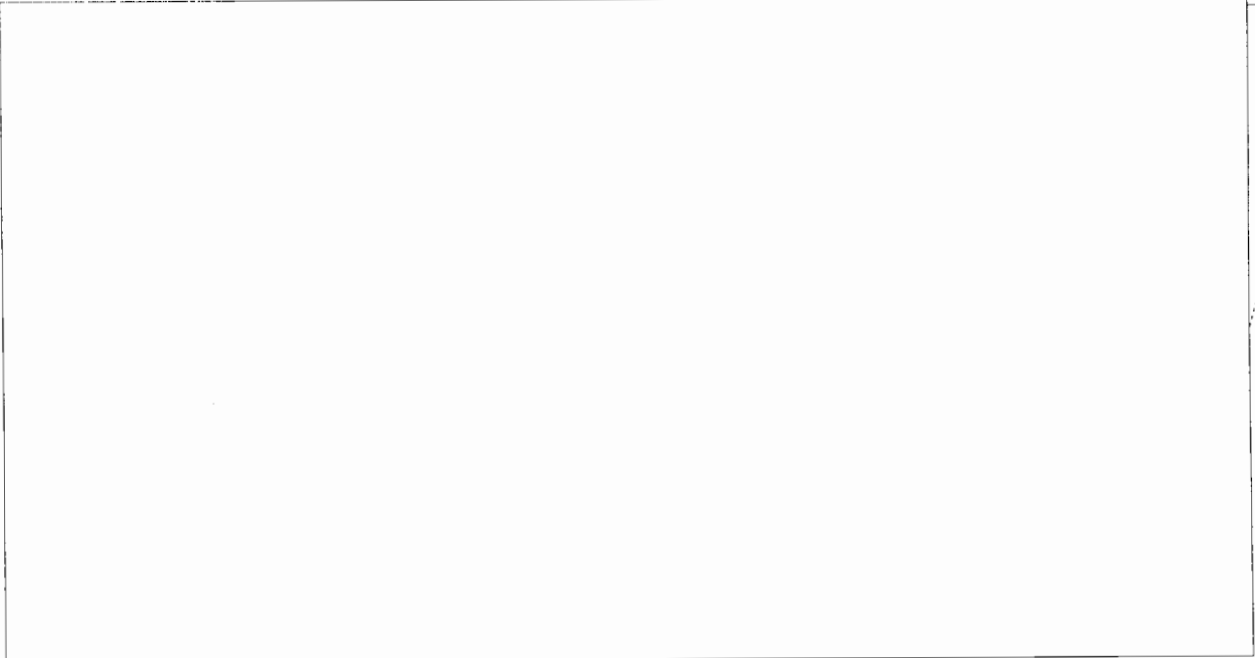
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Comment: The North Koreans received at least 43 tanks and 22 self-propelled guns in late April. On 5 June a shipment of 16 self-propelled guns arrived.

The Far East Command estimated in early May that the North Koreans had only 384 tanks and 134 self-propelled guns, indicating that they were 59 tanks and 29 self-propelled guns short of the number of allotted armored vehicles.



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