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FAR EAST

6. North Korean GHQ fearful of UN amphibious operation in the east: In a 12 July message to "each infantry and artillery battalion commander," the commanding general of the North Korean 21st Brigade in western Hwanghae Province repeats the "radio order of the Corps" which stated: "the enemies are planning to land on the east coast with two units." Fear is also expressed in the message that some type of UN operation may be impending on the west coast.

The brigade commander cited the "more than 400 enemy fighters. . . over the defense area of the Corps for the purpose of reconnoitering our remaining strength and destroying the buildings. . ." All brigade units were instructed to "strengthen the anti-air firing power." (CANOE ROK Int Grp M Korea, SK-L-328, 15 July 52)

Comment: It is evident that the enemy is still extremely conscious of his vulnerable flanks on the sea. This fear of an amphibious operation has served to keep a considerable portion of the enemy's strength tied down in a static defensive mission on both coasts.

7. New North Korean brigade may be subordinate to V Corps in the east: A 7 July message sent in a new system and signed by the "(V Corps?) personnel department chief" mentioned the "20th Brigade." (CANOE 330th Comm Recon Co Korea, ALT-079, 13 July 52)

Comment: Previously the North Korean 25th was the only brigade assigned to the V Corps in eastern Korea. It is possible that another brigade has been activated in the east for coastal defense. A similar situation apparently exists in the west where the North Korean 21st Brigade, subordinate to IV Corps, was recently accepted by the Far East Command.

8. Conversion to land line communications indicated by Chinese combat artillery regiment: The Chinese 26th Artillery Regiment, 1st Artillery Division, in a 12 July message to one of its battalions stated that "each company will lay a line to battalion." The message discussed the number of "tan-chi" or telephones needed, and lamented that there were "only 29 at present at regiment." (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-4418, 14 July 52)

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17 July 52

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
18-Mar-2010

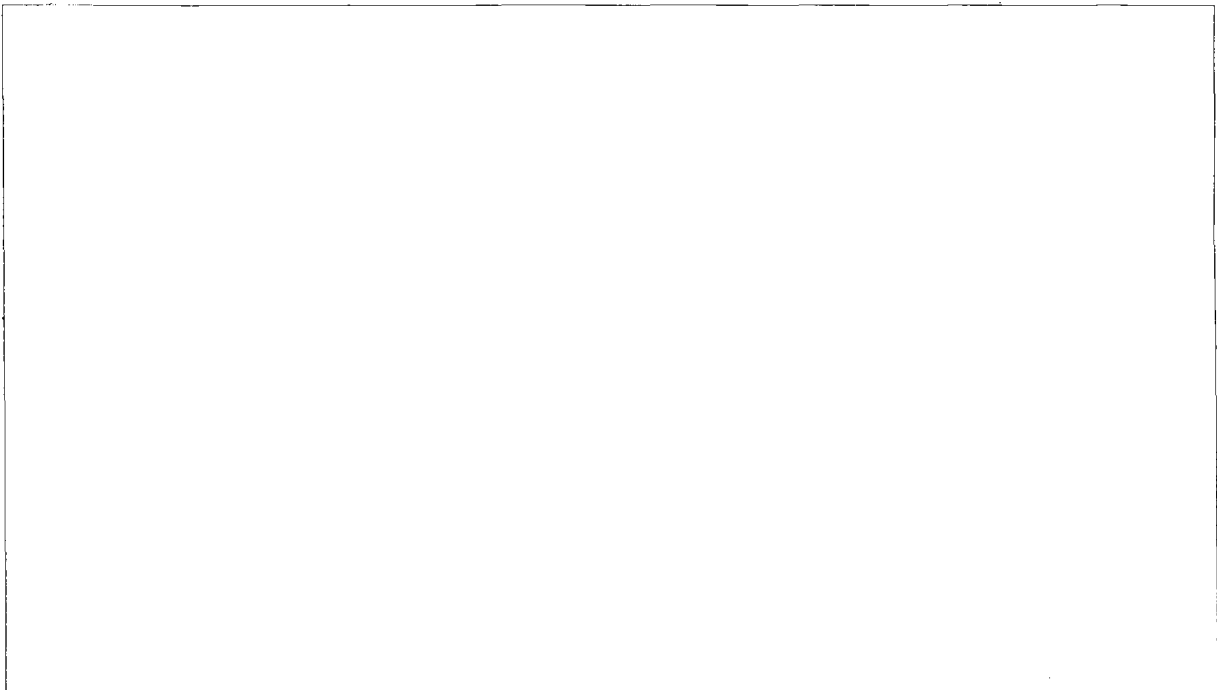
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Comment: While the stated shortage of wire equipment in this regiment will probably prevent its going over to wire in the immediate future, it is clearly the intention to do so as soon as possible.

This going over to wire on the part of elements of the 1st Artillery Division in west central Korea is another indication that the enemy is not planning an immediate offensive action.

9. Chinese artillery regiment attached to combat regiment at the front: An unidentified Chinese artillery regiment, possibly subordinate to the 1st Artillery Division, mentioned in a 12 July message that it was attached to the 343rd Regiment of the 115th Division. The message also mentioned a hill located just south of the Mabang area in the west central sector. (CANOE 330th Comm Recon Co Korea, K-4416, 14 July 52)

Comment: It is possible that this artillery unit was assigned to support this infantry regiment in a specific operation against this hill. As of 16 July, no serious enemy contact has taken place in this area.



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