
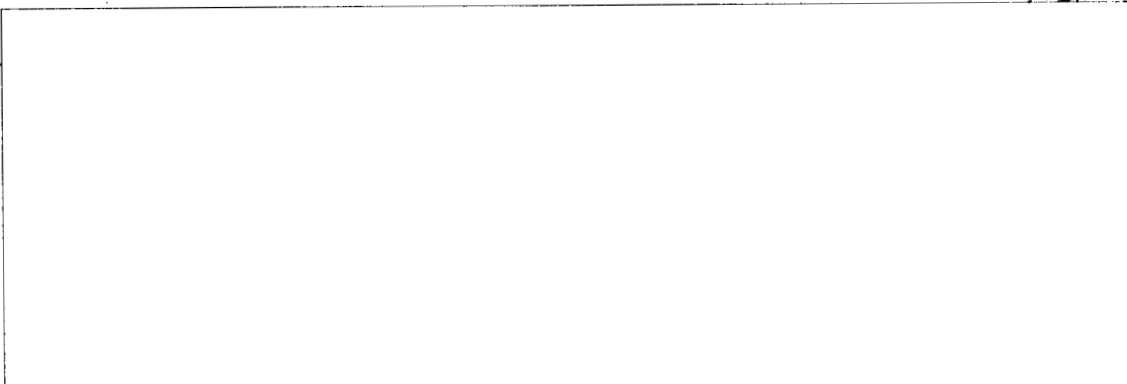


~~TOP SECRET ACORN~~

GENERAL

27 Mar 51
CIB

1. 

2. 

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 23-Mar-2010

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FAR EAST

4. Communist defense plans in Korea:

North Korean Military
16,17,19 Mar 51
ACORN

CINCFE Tokyo
25 Mar 51
ACORN

CIA/SO Korea
22 Mar 51
~~ACORN~~ SECRET

Recent North Korean messages, [redacted]

[redacted] indicate the possibility of a planned withdrawal of North Korean units to defensive positions considerably north of the 38th Parallel. [redacted]

[redacted] North Korean police officials were informed in early March that all Communist troops would be withdrawn to the 39th Parallel to fight a delaying action between that line and the 40th Parallel. North Korean military traffic has recently been concerned with (a) the movement of

heavy artillery to a phase line just south of the 39th Parallel on the east coast, (b) plans for the removal of supplies from the important forward supply base at Kumhwa, near the 38th Parallel, to a town some 25 miles farther north, and (c) repeated references to "phase lines" in the rear of present positions.

Comment: A temporary enemy withdrawal of this nature would possess several tactical advantages, including a shortening of supply lines from Manchuria and an exploitation of the anticipated effect of weather on future UN operations. The heavy rains, beginning in April and reaching a peak in July and August, will seriously limit UN air activity and will increase already difficult vehicular movement on the poor Korean roads.

The possibility of withdrawal of some units to the vicinity of the 39th Parallel does not preclude a delaying action farther south. US field reports have indicated that North Korean and Chinese Communist resistance is continuing along the 38th Parallel, and a North Korean message of 17 March referred to "defense of the 38th Parallel."

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5. "Radio rockets" at Pyongyang:

North Korean Military
23,24 Mar 51
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A North Korean Air Force message of 23 March was concerned with the removal of a radio transmitter and "rockets" from Sariwon (30 miles south of Pyongyang) and another unidentified place. One day later the same originator reported that "the radio rockets that were at Sariwon arrived at Pyongyang."

Comment: It is possible that the USSR, in conjunction with the North Korean Air Force, has envisaged realistic service tests of guided missiles in Korea. The evidence is inconclusive as to type, but these "radio rockets" may be surface-to-air (anti-aircraft) missiles (at least two US pilots have recently reported objects with flight characteristics of surface-to-air guided missiles) or, less probably, an air-launched or surface-to-surface missile.

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