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20 Jun 51 CIB

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2. Shortage of shoes handicaps Communist operations in Korea:

Chinese Comm Military
5 June 51
ACORN

A Chinese Communist voice transmission intercepted on 5 June reveals that well over a hundred men out of a regiment in the Chorwon area had to fall behind

and were unable to take part in operations because they were barefoot. The message also indicates the existence of a food shortage.

Comment: Individual Chinese Communist units have frequently suffered food shortages because of distribution difficulties. The necessity for sending men into combat without shoes, however, reflects an overall supply shortage. It is not known how many troops are presently affected by the shoe shortage, but there are reliable reports that in recent weeks the Chinese Communists have been making heavy purchases of shoes from domestic producers, from Hong Kong and from the East European Satellites.

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