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13. CHINA/KOREA. Record jet flights from Yalu River bases noted. The US Air Force reports that 90 MIG-15's, the largest single flight to date, were noted leaving Tatungkou on 15 October. In addition, 306 MIG-15 jet fighters departed for "combat" from Antung and Tatungkou on 16 October, which is a record for jet activity at those two bases. (SUEDE Air Force Roundups 220 and 221, 16 and 17 Oct 51)

Comment: Antung and Tatungkou are the principal bases for the jet fighters which operate in Korea. Increased activity at these bases reflects the enemy's willingness to commit his growing jet fighter strength to combat.

14. KOREA. North Korean security brigade queried as to public reaction to Stalin's statement on atomic bombs; According to a preliminary field translation, the North Korean 23rd Brigade's chief security officer

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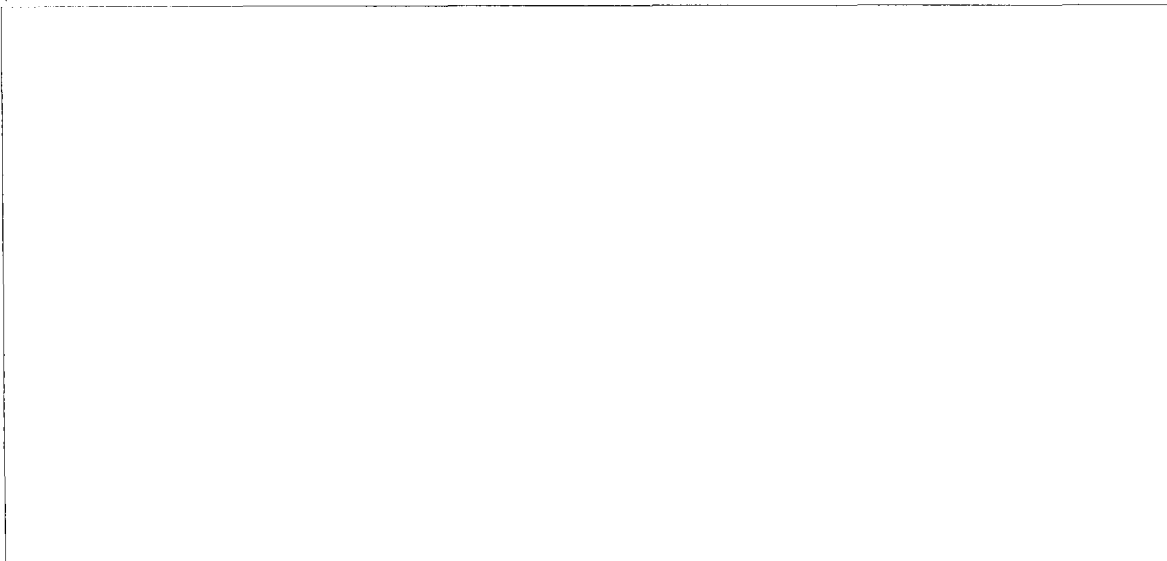
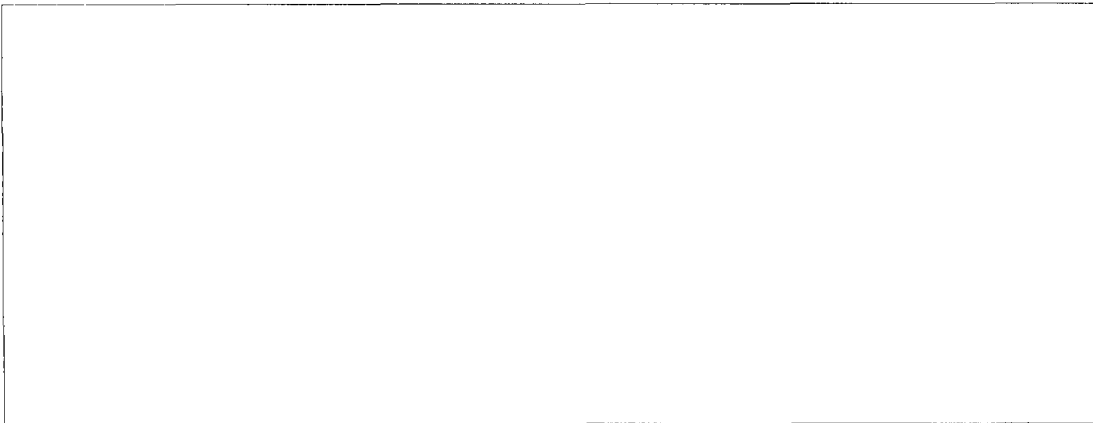
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was queried by the newly established West Coast Defense Command as to the ". . . public opinion for the conversation which was made between Generalissimo Stalin and (the) correspondent of the Pravuda (Pravda) press." (SUEDE CM IN 45658, West Coast Defense Command, Chinnampo-23rd Brigade, undated)

Comment: The 23rd Brigade is located in the Haeju area, northwest of Seoul, and has a coastal security mission. Relatively high-level North Korean interest in gathering public opinion on any subject is unusual. While it is not known what significance may be attached to such queries, it may be speculated that the North Korean command desires to know the reactions of the civilian population regarding the recent US and USSR statements on atomic weapons.

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