

~~TOP SECRET ACORN~~24 May 51  
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## FAR EAST

2. Soviet logistic support for North Korean Army continues:North Korean  
Military  
5 - 7 May 51  
ACORN

A 7 May message from the Chief of Staff of the North Korean Army ordered a North Korean transportation representative in China to report on the location of weapons and ammunition which "have crossed the Soviet Union boundary." With respect to other recent similar shipments, a North Korean officer at supreme headquarters informed the Chief of the Ordinance Bureau of the movement towards Korea of 27 carloads of materiel "scheduled to be transported from Manchouli" (a railhead of the Trans-Siberian railroad on the Sino-Soviet border) and of the expected movement of 42 other carloads across the Sino-

- 3 -

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Soviet border into northeastern Manchuria.

Comment: These reports of a continuing Communist logistic build-up for future offensive operations within North Korea itself are further substantiated by air sightings of almost 16,000 vehicles during the nights from 29 April to 8 May.

3. North Korean air units at Yenki and Tunghwa, Manchuria may be operational:

US Air Force  
8 May 51  
ACORN

Recent North Korean messages indicate that North Korean air units based at the Yenki and Tunghwa airfields in Manchuria may be assuming operational status. A recently available 10 April message stated that 26 IL-10's (Soviet attack bomber) and 32 LA-9's (Soviet conventional fighter) had been assigned to fighter units at Yenki. A 28 April message indicated that 16 IL-10's and two TU-2's (Soviet light bomber) had been received recently at Tunghwa and that 30 LA-9's were expected.

Comment: The combat radius of the IL-10 is approximately 170 miles, that of the LA-9 440 miles, and that of the TU-2 400-500 miles; these aircraft are adapted to support of ground troops. The distance from Yenki to the UN front line is more than 320 miles and that from Tunghwa is 260 miles, thus ruling out use of the IL-10's for ground support operations on the front. Although the LA-9 and the TU-2 could operate from Yenki and Tunghwa bases to targets behind present UN lines, it is believed that if ground support is intended, the aircraft at Yenki probably will be staged forward. However, Yenki could be used as a Manchurian base for aircraft protecting the northeast Korean coast from UN naval bombardment. UN fleet units have long operated in the coastal area from Chongjin to Wonsan with almost no air opposition. North Korean coastal defense commanders have made urgent requests for some type of air protection.

- 4 -

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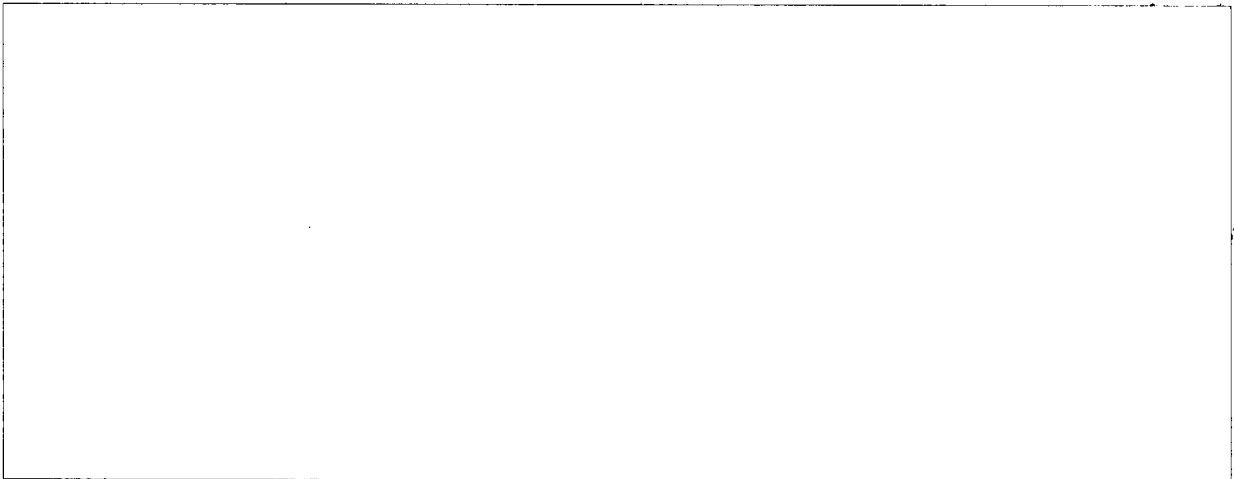
4. Communists make propaganda capital on serious health conditions in North Korea:



Following a two week build-up in the Soviet Orbit press, an 8 May North Korean radio broadcast addressed to the UN accused US and ROK forces of employing biological warfare against the North Korean population.

The broadcast, in addition to mentioning alleged ROK documents concerning plans for the use of biological warfare, stated that the American Armed Forces had "contaminated with smallpox" the inhabitants in the areas of North Korea which they temporarily occupied. Claiming that no smallpox had occurred in North Korea for the past four years, the broadcast reported that a widespread outbreak had occurred seven to eight days after North Korean territory had been "liberated."

Comment: In addition to providing Communist forces in Korea with an excellent propaganda device for internal and international consumption, these claims may be an attempt to conceal the failure of North Korean public health authorities to prevent the outbreak of communicable diseases. While the incidence of smallpox to date in North Korea is unknown, ROK intelligence in the Wonsan area reported the outbreak of this disease earlier this year.



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