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SECTION 2 (EASTERN)

1. KOREA. Communist truce talks strategy reported: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] North Korean Vice Premier Ho Ka'i is alleged to have requested that the Soviet Union be a member of the neutral inspection team for the following reasons: to emphasize the Soviet Union's moral responsibility towards preserving the peace in Korea; to test the American reaction and to provoke rash statements by the UN negotiators; and to regain the initiative at the conference by diverting UN attention to this issue while the Communists concentrate on "other basic issues."

[REDACTED] notes that the North Koreans were pleasantly surprised by the UN's agreement on the post-truce political conference, believing they had won a major point. [REDACTED]

Comment: The points listed by Ho Ka'i, although unconfirmed, seem fairly logical. The 10 February speech echoes the current Communist propaganda line.

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