

~~TOP SECRET CANOE~~

FAR EAST

2. North Korean Government gives land to Chinese unit for lumbering purposes: The 202nd artillery regiment, Chinese Communist 21st Rocket Launcher Division, was informed by one of its subordinate units on 1 September that the "North Korean Government has handed over the timber (stands?) and places for the construction work." The message then stated that some soldiers would be sent to reconnoiter the timber areas, located in the west central Ichon area. (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, L [] T344, 1 Sept 52)

Comment: While Chinese units in Korea on occasions have expropriated land from the North Koreans, this message illustrates a certain formality in Chinese-North Korean relations.

The Communists probably will utilize the lumber for building and repairing defensive bunkers, artillery positions and transportation facilities, many of which have been damaged in the current rainy season.

3. Chinese Communist units in Korea apparently preparing for winter: A message passed on the net of a Chinese artillery division on 1 September stated that an officer of the division had been sent to Antung, Manchuria to arrange for transportation of winter clothing.

On the previous day, another Chinese unit indicated that its headquarters had sent out a report on the amount and weight of winter clothing needed. (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, L [] T398, 2 Sept and L [] T333, 1 Sept 52)

Comment: These are the first messages of this type intercepted this year. They offer further evidence of Chinese preparations to remain in Korea through a third winter.

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5 Sept 52

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 18-Mar-2010