TOP SECRET CANOE

FAR EAST

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Training scheduled for North Korean armored personnel through September: A component of North Korean Armored Forces Headquarters instructed an unidentified subordinate armored unit in a 29 June message that "a special drill for machine-gunners of self-propelled artillery and tanks will be carried out from 1 August to 30 September. . " (CANOE ROK Int Grp M, Korea, SK-K-740, 30 June 52)

Comment: While far from definitive, this message gives further evidence of the low state of training in the newly-constituted North Korean armored forces. The scheduling of training this far in advance may indicate that no use of this North Korean armor is contemplated until at least September.

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TOP SECRET CANOE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: 18-Mar-2010

TOP SECRET CANCE

North Korean tank unit to operate with Chinese: In a 29 June message from North Korean Armored Headquarters to a subordinate armored unit it was stated that the "103rd unit is going to coordinate with the Volunteer Army, but you must wait for further information." (CANOE 15RSM/15539, Korea, 30 June 52)

Comment: This message suggests planning for a North Korean armored unit to operate with a Chinese infantry unit. There is no indication whether this "coordinated" action will be in combat or in rear-area training.

7. Soviet adviser to North Korean armored unit reports training progress: On 1 July "Najarenko" at a North Korean armored unit connected with tank and self-propelled artillery training advised "Tulov" at North Korean Armored Headquarters that "the training is in progress according to the schedule." (CANOE 15RSM/14647, Korea, 3 July 52)

Comment: Both of these Soviet officers have previously been identified in connection with North Korean armored training.

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