TSECRET SUEDS

SECTION 2 (EASTERN)

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KOREA. North Koreans augmenting front line artillery: Mountain artillery units trained and equiped in Manchuria have reached the North Korean I Corps, according to a recent intercept. These units (possibly of battalion strength)

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have been attached to each of the divisions subordinate to that Corps deployed defensively on the UN forces' northwest flank. (SUEDE TIK 837, 29 Jul 51; TIW 264, 31 Jul 51)

Comment: Previous intercepts indicated that each of the front line North Korean Corps was to be augmented by pack artillery units whose additional fire power and mobility would add to the enemy's offensive capabilities, particularly in the eastern sector's rugged terrain. Based on the latest reported locations, the units which left Sinuiju on 1 July, destined for the II, III, and V Corps in the eastern sector, are not expected to affect the timing of hostile offensive operations, if such are planned. The addition of new units and equipment is in line with the gradual build-up of North Korean forces which has been going on in Manchuria and Korea with Soviet assistance since the near collapse of these units after the Inchon landing.