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13. KOREA. Nam Il visits Antung for an hour: According to a US Air Force analysis of Chinese Communist flight traffic, North Korean General Nam Il, chief of staff of the North Korean Army and senior Communist delegate to the Kaesong cease-fire talks, flew on 15 October from the Korean border city of Sinuiju to the Chinese city of Antung across the Yalu river. The elapsed time between messages indicates that he spent roughly an hour and twenty minutes in Antung. The Air Force observes that it is "noteworthy" that the "Peiping Chief of Staff and advisors" and a "Commander Liu," possibly division commander of the Chinese Communist 10th Air Division, also visited Antung recently. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 220, 16 Oct 51)

Comment: The reason for General Nam's visit to Antung at this time is not known. It is significant, however, that one of the highest officers in the North Korean armed forces should leave his country for a visit to Antung, the hub of Communist air activity in the Korean war.

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14. Chinese Communist message refers to "International": An excerpt from the preliminary field translation of a 10 October Chinese Communist message states that the ". . . Wan-Kuo (literally translated "International") is today returning to the front immediately." The field comments that "it is not known here whether the expression (Wan-Kuo) is a cover name, Chinese army unit designation or some other unknown entity." (SUEDE CM IN 45209, U-U, 13 Oct 51)

Comment: Despite frequently received field reports concerning a "Soviet Puppet Force" or "International Volunteer Army" there is still insufficient evidence to confirm or deny the existence of such a separate tactical unit.

15. North Korean Airforce continues "purge": Preliminary field analysis of an 11 October North Korean Airforce message reveals that the previously reported shake-up in the airforce top command continues. The Pyongyang Headquarters' message, listing individuals by name, advised the Air School at Yenchi to "clear the party of bad members." (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 219, 15 Oct 51)

Comment: The reasons for and the extent of this purge are still unknown.

16. North Korean Transportation Ministry redesignated Railway Ministry: According to a preliminary field translation, a 13 October message from the North Korean Railroad Security Division Headquarters in Pyongyang informed "each regimental commander" that the "Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Council" had redesignated "the present Transportation Ministry . . . the Railway Ministry as of 1 October." (SUEDE CM IN 44701, Pyongyang-Chongjin, 13 Oct 51)

Comment: This move would seem to formalize the existing situation. North Korean sea transport has become almost nonexistent, and vehicular transport is believed to be almost entirely under the operational control of the Chinese Communist military. It would appear to be a logical step for North Korean transportation officials to concentrate their energies on maintaining the much-bombed but vital rail lines.

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