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11. KOREA. Soviet "technicians" remain in Korea: A 21 November plain text message from Sinuiju to Pyongyang complains that North Pyongan province will not be given any funds because of the freezing of the "7th term budget." The message adds that "the Russian technician will not be authorized to propose the plan for production in the year 1951." (SUEDE AS CM IN 55195, Sinuiju-Pyongyang, 22 Nov 51)

Comment: Prior to the outbreak of war in 1950, it was believed that between 500 and 1,000 Soviet personnel were serving in various industrial, mining and business establishments in North Korea for the purpose of safeguarding Soviet economic interests. The cryptic statement that the Soviet technician "will not be authorized to propose the plan for production" apparently represents a reversal of previous practices.

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