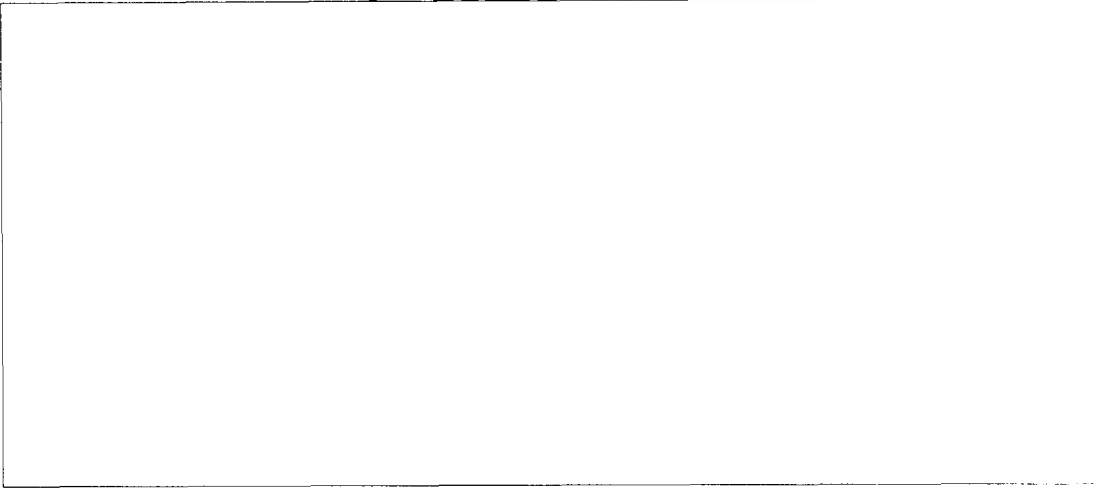


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3. Peiping to ask for Soviet aid if 38th Parallel is crossed:



 If UN forces in Korea cross the 38th Parallel, the Chinese Communists will invoke a secret Sino-Soviet agreement signed in October 1950 and request the direct aid of Soviet troops.

Comment: While rumors of this sort could be circulated purely to serve political ends, it is probable that some sort of Sino-Soviet agreement concerning the terms of Soviet support for Chinese Communist intervention in Korea does in fact exist. It is also probable that the Chinese Communists attach sufficient importance to the "boundary" aspects of the 38th Parallel to consider a UN crossing sufficient reason for invoking such an agreement. However, in view of the substantial numbers of Chinese Communist ground forces available, it is more likely that any such agreement would have provided for Soviet intervention in the form of "volunteer" air units rather than troops. 



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