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SECTION 1 (SOVIET)

1. USSR. Reported transfer of Soviet Third Air Division from Sakhalin to Vladivostok: [redacted] the Soviet Third Air Division stationed in Sakhalin was ordered to enter the Korean War as volunteers "when the cease-fire negotiations break down." This division, which has 150 first-line combat planes, is moving to Vladivostok where, after regrouping it will go to Mukden and Dairen to await further orders.

[redacted]

Comment: There is no information that a unit of this specific designation has been on Sakhalin. However, due to the paucity of reporting on this area, a move of some Soviet air unit between two places could have occurred without detection.

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30 Aug 51

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
16-Dec-2009

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8. KOREA. Additional reports of the presence of "Soviet Puppet" troops in North Korea; G-2, Far East Command, citing several recent reports of the presence of Caucasian troops in North Korea, states that the multiplicity and consistency of the reports "logically demand attention and some degree of credence." One of these reports stated that by 23 August a "Soviet Puppet Force" had crossed the Yalu River and was on the way to the front line; others mentioned the presence of Soviet and "Caucasian" troops with armor near Kumchon. FECOM comments that the presence of Caucasian troops as far south as Kumchon "appears possible" but that the nationality, size and type of the force are not clear. (S CINCFE Telecon 5100, 30 Aug 51).

Comment: The presence in North Korea of a limited number of non-Oriental troops, chiefly anti-aircraft artillery units and technicians, is considered probable.

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