

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~8 Jun 52
CIB

FAR EAST

1. Communists order MIG's to concentrate on UN ground-attack planes:

<p>US Air Force 6 June 52 SUEDE <i>Roundup M. 110</i></p>	<p>Several times during the latter part of May, MIG-15 pilots were instructed over the Russian ground-controlled intercept net in Manchuria and Korea to concentrate on UN ground-attack planes and to consider the F-86 Sabres only as secondary targets. In addition, outstations on the Russian net have been repeatedly asked for information on UN ground-attack planes.</p>
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The Air Force believes that this development may reflect the effectiveness of UN attacks on supply lines by ground-attack planes.

2. Replacement of Rhee considered necessary to preserve democratic processes:

American Charge Lightner believes that any solution of the political dispute in South Korea which leaves President Rhee in power would represent a capitulation by the Assembly from which it would never recover. He points out that Rhee would continue to whittle away at the opposition by continuing arrests, with his own supporters stepping into the vacancies. Hence, any compromise which allows Rhee to keep his office would, in Lightner's opinion, be as fatal to democratic processes as Rhee's plan to dissolve the Assembly and call for new elections.

The Prime Minister, who has recently appeared sympathetic to the Assembly opposition, advised Lightner on 4 June that without American or UN assurances of support for constitutional government the Assembly opposition might as well capitulate now as later.

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