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FAR EAST

3. North Koreans handling US tanks: In a 26 May message passed over a net used by the armored component of the North Korean IV Corps it was stated that "a committee to receive the tanks has been appointed upon arrival at Sukchon in accordance with order number. . . on the receipt of American tanks." The message continued that certain electrical equipment was missing from the tanks and that one was out of order and should be repaired by an unidentified unit. Freight cars were to be used to transport the tanks and the message requested that "a special freight car be sent for the M-46." (SUEDE ASAPAC Korea, Pasal-751 Spot 3488A, 9 June 52)

Comment: This message does not clarify whether these tanks, presumably captured US materiel, were being shipped into or out of Korea.

4. Continued presence of Soviet advisers with North Korean tank division indicated: In a message addressed to "Kalusev," a North Korean enquired on 21 May "did the 105th Division (tank) receive the salaries for the translators on 18 May from the. . . department. . ." (SUEDE ASAPAC Korea, Pasal-744 Spot 3484A, 7 June 52)

Comment: The presence of Soviet personnel with North Korean armored units, presumably in a training and advisory capacity, has been previously indicated.

5. Soviet MIG-15 unit in central Manchuria makes first flight over Korea: Eight Soviet MIG-15's based at Tungfeng, in central Manchuria, were to fly a "patrol against enemy aircraft" during daylight hours of 9 June. The Air Force states that this is the first evidence that this unit is participating in the Korean air war. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 112, 10 June 52)

Comment: There are at least nine Soviet fighter units, probably regiments, in Manchuria. They are based at Tungfeng, Mukden, Anshan and the Antung area. All except the Tungfeng unit have been noted operating over northern Korea. The Soviet MIG-15's at Mukden and Tungfeng are the farthest from northwest Korea. They were first noted in April and May and do not appear to have been assigned to regular combat duty as yet.

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12 June 52

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: 18-Mar-2010

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6. Flight of MIG-15's in south Manchuria believed Korean:
A Chinese Communist Air Force message reported that 28 MIG-15's with a Korean commanding officer were to make a round-robin flight at Anshan on 10 June. (SUEDE 6920 Security Group Johnson AB Japan, AP 181, 10 June 52)

Comment: This is believed to be a regiment of the 1st Korean Division. This regiment was flying combat missions from Antung in late 1951, but was recently noted flying at Anshan, 100 miles from the Korean border. Another regiment of this Korean division, the only known Korean jet fighter unit, is also based at Anshan.



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