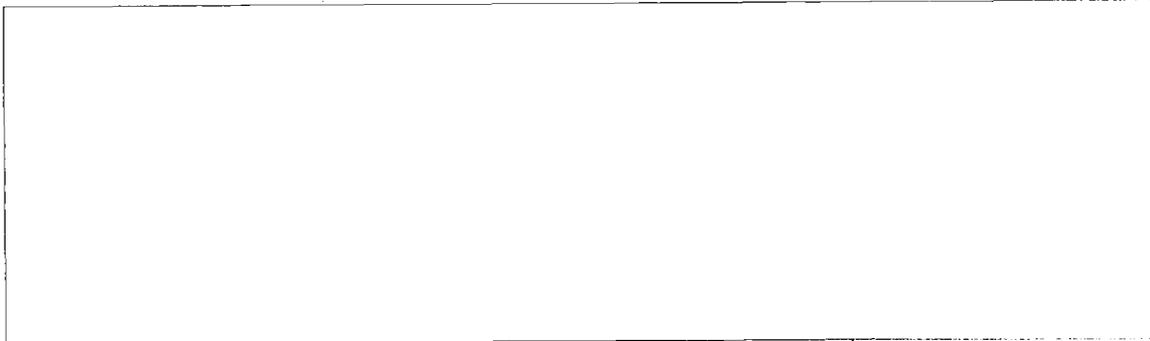


14 Mar 51
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4. Communist ground forces building up behind central sector in Korea:

CINCFE Tokyo
10 Mar 51 ACORN



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there is now a large concentration of Communist troops in the Kumhwa-Chorwon area (about 60 miles northeast of Seoul). According to CINCFE reports, several recently intercepted North Korean messages emphasize the growing importance of Kumhwa in the Communist logistical organization and indicate that certain classes of supplies, probably including rations and fuel, are to be transferred to Kumhwa from the Chunchon depot. Another message indicates that rail traffic is still moving into Kumhwa. In this connection, each day between 10 and 12 March US Air Force pilots have sighted over 1,000 vehicles moving southward on roads in North Korea to unreported destinations.

Comment: It is evident that enemy forces are engaged in important activity behind the front lines in the Kumhwa-Chorwon area. The Chinese Communist 24th, 26th and 37th Armies, have been in the area for three weeks. It is possible that this concentration includes other Chinese units, as well as three unlocated divisions of the North Korean VII Corps.

The enemy concentration is in position to launch an offensive down the corridors of central Korea, with the objective of capturing the key UN defense point of Chungju.

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