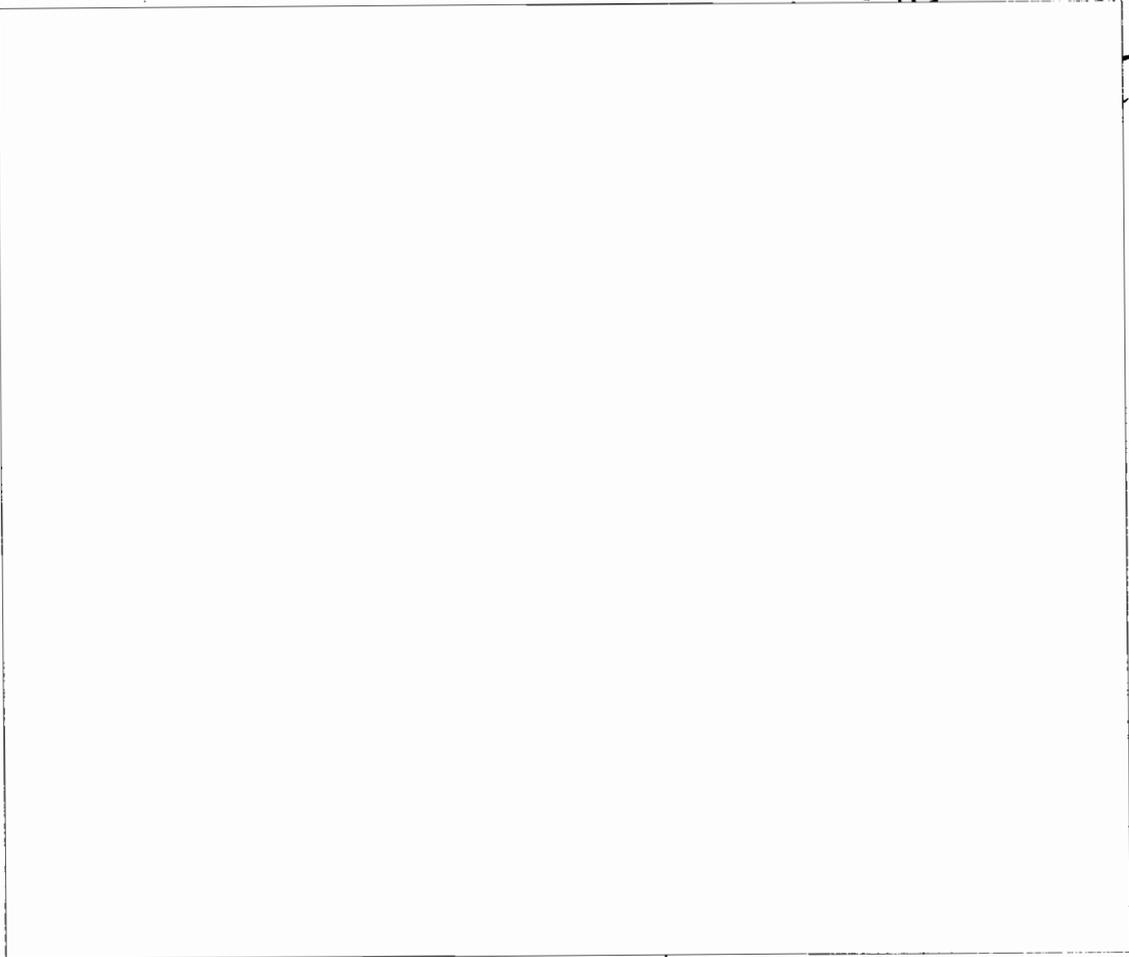


~~TOP SECRET ACORN~~

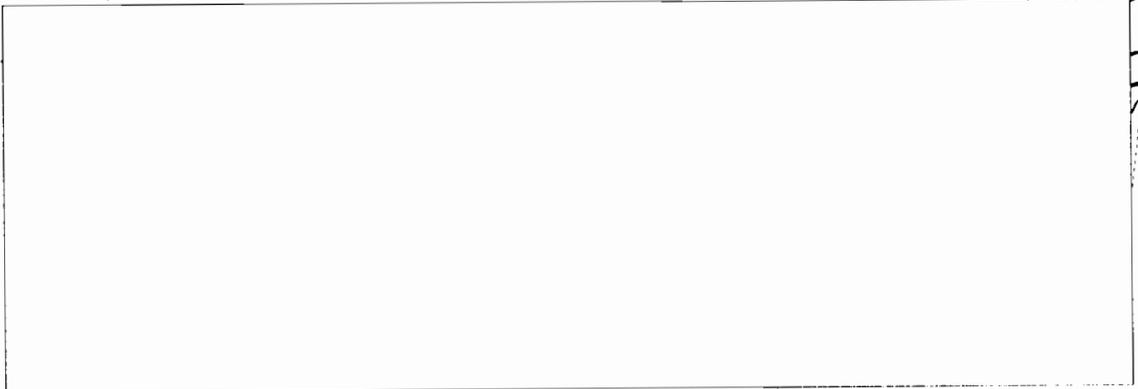
GENERAL

27 Mar 51
CIB

1.



2.



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DATE: 23-Mar-2010

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FAR EAST

4. Communist defense plans in Korea:

North Korean Military
16,17,19 Mar 51
ACORN

CINCFE Tokyo
25 Mar 51
ACORN

CIA/SO Korea
22 Mar 51
~~ACORN~~ SECRET

Recent North Korean messages, [] in-
[] dicate the possibility of a planned withdrawal
of North Korean units to defensive positions
considerably north of the 38th Parallel. []

[] North Korean
police officials were informed in early March
that all Communist troops would be with-
drawn to the 39th Parallel to fight a delaying
action between that line and the 40th Parallel.
North Korean military traffic has recently
been concerned with (a) the movement of
heavy artillery to a phase line just south of the 39th Parallel on the east
coast, (b) plans for the removal of supplies from the important forward
supply base at Kumhwa, near the 38th Parallel, to a town some 25 miles
farther north, and (c) repeated references to "phase lines" in the rear
of present positions.

Comment: A temporary enemy withdrawal
of this nature would possess several tactical advantages, including a
shortening of supply lines from Manchuria and an exploitation of the
anticipated effect of weather on future UN operations. The heavy rains,
beginning in April and reaching a peak in July and August, will seriously
limit UN air activity and will increase already difficult vehicular move-
ment on the poor Korean roads.

The possibility of withdrawal of some units
to the vicinity of the 39th Parallel does not preclude a delaying action
farther south. US field reports have indicated that North Korean and
Chinese Communist resistance is continuing along the 38th Parallel,
and a North Korean message of 17 March referred to "defense of the
38th Parallel."

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5. "Radio rockets" at Pyongyang:

North Korean Military
23,24 Mar 51
ACORN

A North Korean Air Force message of 23 March was concerned with the removal of a radio transmitter and "rockets" from Sariwon (30 miles south of Pyongyang) and another unidentified place. One day later the same originator reported that "the radio rockets that were at Sariwon arrived at Pyongyang."

Comment: It is possible that the USSR, in conjunction with the North Korean Air Force, has envisaged realistic service tests of guided missiles in Korea. The evidence is inconclusive as to type, but these "radio rockets" may be surface-to-air (anti-aircraft) missiles (at least two US pilots have recently reported objects with flight characteristics of surface-to-air guided missiles) or, less probably, an air-launched or surface-to-surface missile.

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~~TOP SECRET ACORN~~