KOREA. Isolated Enemy Raids and Interceptions Continue. Delayed reports from the field concerning isolated examples of enemy air attacks on UN ground troops, relate two incidents during late April in which UN troops near the 38th parallel were bombed and strafed by unidentified enemy aircraft (possibly TU-2s and conventional fighters) flying alone in the area. Night interceptions of UN aircraft over Pyongyang continued as evidenced by two field reports of early May, describing skirmishes between B-26s and enemy aircraft which UN pilots were unable to identify "by type, color or armament." One of these incidents occurred over Wonsan on the East coast - where no enemy air activity has been reported recently. (11 May 51; 13 May 51).

North Korean I Corps Unable to Attack. A North Korean soldier from the 19th Division, North Korean I Corps, captured on 13 May northwest of Seoul, stated that neither his Corps nor the Chinese units to the east of his Corps would be able to attack prior to 19 May due to a lack of North Korean replacements. (14 May 51). COMMENT: While these statements require further clarification before acceptance, it is entirely possible that a shortage of North Korean military replacements might be a delaying factor in a new attack by this Corps. It is improbable, however, that the powerful Chinese Communist forces also in the western sector would be forced to delay their attack because of a replacement shortage, in a North Korean Corps.

Three Chinese Communist Divisions Reported Moving Out of the Pyongyang Area. That three unidentified Chinese Communist divisions, possibly from the 1st Field Army, which were reorganizing and reequipping in Pyongyang on 12 April, had arrived in the Hwachon area (in east central Korea) on 22 April. (14 May 51). COMMENT: While FECOM believes that this report most probably concerns the forward movement of replacements, other possibilities are that (a) either the 38th, 50th or 66th Armies, all reported in Pyongyang during this period, has been returned to the front, or (b) that these units are elements of the 5th Army, 1st. Army Group, 1st Field Army, tentatively identified on 20 April by a document from a unit subordinate to the 5th Army.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 19-Feb-2010