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9. Soviet long-range fighters noted at Dairen: Sixteen IA-9 long-range conventional fighters were to leave Dairen on 20 January for Voroshilov. The lead pilot had a Russian name. The US Air Force field agency comments that IA-9 aircraft have not been previously noted at either Dairen or Voroshilov. (SUEDE US Air Force CM IN 4908, 20 Jan 52)

Comment: Some activity by light bombers and jet fighters was observed in the Dairen area in the past year. A total of 320 Soviet military aircraft is estimated to be in that area.

10. KOREA. Communist guard unit at Kaesong believes cease-fire talks deteriorating: Truce talks are proceeding "somewhat unfavorably," according to a 22 January North Korean message from a unit charged with the security of Kaesong. The message stated further that the unit was "preparing for combat" and that elements of the 17th Division--associated in previous messages with arrangements at Kaesong for prisoner of war exchange--had not arrived in the area. (SUEDE CINCPAC Tokyo, SIB 426, 23 Jan 52)

Comment: Previous messages from this unit have indicated that the opinions expressed by it do not reflect high Communist policy, but rather

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are observations by the regiment's personnel. The reference to "preparing for combat" has been noted previously. This unit is currently carrying out in the Kaesong area both a security mission and military and political training.

11. Another "important" North Korean Air Force meeting held. A North Korean Air Force unit at Sariwon was informed by Air Headquarters at Pyongyang on 22 January that "the important meeting will be starting the 24th so you must come." (SUEDE AS CM IN 5750, Sariwon-Pyongyang, 23 Jan 52)

Comment: This message may have some connection with the 11 January message concerning the introduction of "training planes" onto "practice airfields" in North Korea. Of a possibly parallel nature is a Chinese Communist message of 21 January which discussed the departure of five YAK-18 trainers, probably subordinate to the North Korean Air Force, from Yenchi airfield in northwestern Manchuria for an unidentified airfield. The aircraft were to proceed by way of Changchun and Mukden en route to their destination.

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