

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~29 Feb 52
CIB

FAR EAST

1. North Koreans order precautions against alleged bacteriological warfare:

US Army Korea *APSA 25* A North Korean battalion commander was ordered
 16, 28 Feb 52 *15472* on 27 February to take special precautions to
 SUEDE avoid contamination of his unit's food and water
15ASM/6456 - 16 Feb 52 because "the enemy dropped bacteria" in central
 Korea. Covering wells and disinfecting United Nations leaflets were
 additional recommendations.

These latter measures were probably inspired
 by a 16 February message which stated that "spies are putting poison into
 the drinking water" and distributing paper which causes death to "anyone
 using these papers for the nose."

Comment: There is no evidence that a serious
 health problem exists in North Korea. Following recent charges made by
 both the North Korean and the Chinese Communist Foreign Ministers that
 the United Nations were using bacteriological warfare in the Korean war,
 the entire Soviet Orbit has been giving great emphasis to this subject.
 The American Embassy in Moscow observes that Soviet press and radio
 coverage links the BW issue with the Panmunjom truce talks.

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