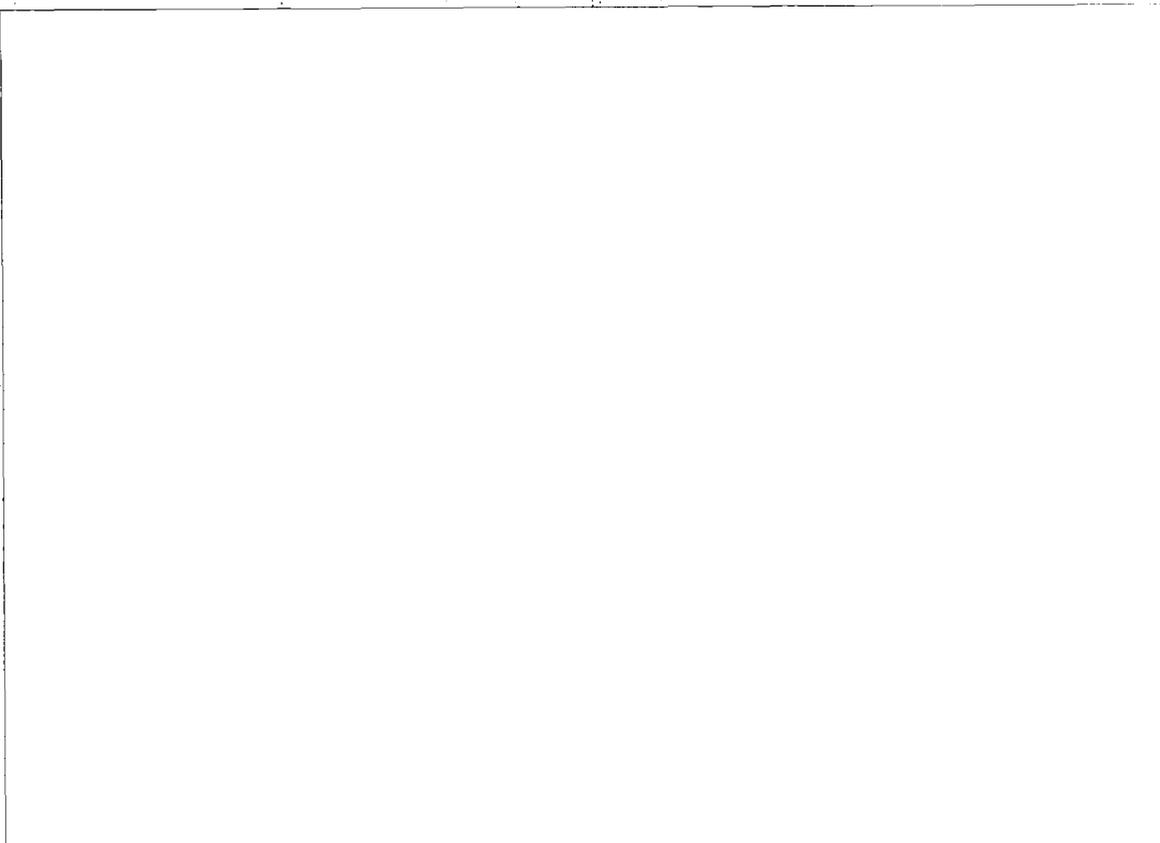


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Chinese rice imports by North Koreans suggested: The political commander of an unidentified North Korean supply unit, possibly on the east coast, has, according to a 30 April message "issued a directive to receive fifty freight cars of rice at Hamyong-Namdo Province." A later message on 9 May, also passed between two unidentified North Korean units, stated that "management of the Manchurian rice should not be taken care (of) by this place." (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, SK-J-335, 12 May; 15th RSM Det1 Korea 15RSM/12392, 14 May 52)

Comment: Although fragmentary and inconclusive, these messages lend confirmation to prisoner and agent reports that rice for military consumption is being imported via the east coast rail line.

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7. North Korean west coast tactical unit short of officers:
A major North Korean tactical unit, probably subordinate to the IV Corps in western Korea, complained in a 30 April message that "the paper work on the recommendations for applicants to the Kangkon Military Academy cannot be done before 30 April, because more than half of the heavy machine gun platoon leaders. . .are being trained. . .at the 5th Division." After further questioning a possible revision in the quota of personnel to be sent to the North Korean "West Point," the sender continued that "we should have 3 intelligence officers, but since 2 are presently being trained we have only 1 officer. Although we have vacancies for 2 infantry company commanders, we have not been allotted a single replacement." (SUEDE USM-86, SPOT 3434A, 10 May 52)

Comment: Although no critical officer shortage is demonstrated in this message, the lack of officer replacements and the training status of many of the unit's junior officer personnel indicate that the unit is not currently prepared for combat operations.

8. East coast North Korean tactical unit has mid-May inspection: A North Korean tactical unit, possibly a subordinate of the V Corps in the Wonsan-Hamhung area of eastern Korea, stated in a 12 May message that "if you deliver the division's orders since there is an inspection meeting on 14 May, you are to arrive at division. . .by the evening of 13 May." (SUEDE USM-35, Korea ALT-225, 12 May 52)

Comment: This inspection may be a continuation of the series of inspections started by the North Korean General Headquarters in early April. This is the first noted incident of a tactical unit being inspected.

9. Evacuation policy for Chinese wounded in Korea: Only men "who sustain heavy wounds to the point where more than two months convalescence is required, or who recover from their wounds but with lasting defects rendering them unfit for service" can be transferred to division medical units, according to an 11 May Chinese Communist message. The communication noted that six men in the battalion were qualified to receive the wounded soldiers' compensation benefit. (SUEDE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, K-2768, 11 May 52)

Comment: This strict evacuation rule was announced in answer to a request for instructions by a subordinate unit.

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If it represents a general policy, it may reveal inadequate medical facilities for wounded soldiers in rear areas. The fact that the Communists are awarding wounded soldiers at the front "compensation benefits" in the form of extra rations may be further evidence of an insufficient hospitalization capability.

10. Korean and Soviet jets unusually active at Anshan in Manchuria: Jet activity at Anshan, 25 miles south of Mukden, on 14 and 15 May included: a round-robin flight of 23 MIG-15's, believed subordinate to the 1st North Korean Division; a scheduled night flight from Anshan to Antung of eleven more MIG's under Efimov's command; and a daytime flight over Korea of 14 MIG-15's with a Russian flight leader. Efimov also led a flight of LA-11 conventional fighters the night of 13 May, possibly on an interception mission over Korea. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 94, 14 May 52)

Comment: Elements of the 1st Korean Division, the only known Korean jet unit, are also believed based at Antung. MIG-15's and LA-11's, usually under Efimov's command, have been flying night missions over Korea since late January, but have not been a serious threat to UN air night operations.



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