

~~TOP SECRET SUEDE~~9 Mar 52
CIB

FAR EAST

3. Fear of future epidemic suggested in Communist messages:Army Security Agency
29 Feb, 4 Mar 52
SUEDE

A Chinese Communist artillery unit was informed on 29 February that "all personnel will be re-inoculated at once" with bubonic plague vaccine. Healthy individuals, however, are to take only a half-strength shot or may "temporarily not be inoculated."

Another message from a Chinese Communist artillery regiment reported on 27 February that "we have now fully obtained the vaccine required for smallpox in the spring time, malaria, and bubonic plague." The sender notes that the smallpox and malaria shots have already been given, but queries, "How shall we administer the bubonic plague shots?"

Comment: The Communists evidently are carrying out a large-scale immunization program in Korea, probably because the threat of epidemics will be heightened in the coming months.

These messages provide further evidence that there is no serious epidemic within these units. The continued and unprecedented coverage given the BW theme in Communist broadcasts, moreover, supports the view that propaganda motives are behind the charges of UN use of BW in Korea.

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