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FAR EAST

7. Chinese artillery unit in Korea anticipates "long war":
The Chinese Communist 1st Artillery Division in combat in western Korea on 10 August ordered one of its regiments to refrain from using a certain type of ammunition now, "in anticipation of a long war." (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, L [] T-54, 13 Aug 52)

Comment: While this is a fragmentary message and does not necessarily reflect Communist strategy in Korea, it suggests that the Chinese plan an indefinite stay in Korea under combat conditions.

8. North Koreans expected UN operations on 15 August: Two current North Korean messages pointed out an enemy fear that UN forces would attempt an operation on 15 August, the anniversary of Korea's independence from Japan.

A coastal security unit in the Wonsan area on 11 August stated: "during the special warning week from the 14th to the 16th of August, the members of intelligence will all be mobilized in order to nip the incident at the bud. . . ." Similarly on the west coast, a battalion commander of the 21st Brigade, on coastal security in the Ongjin area, reported that "we anticipate their landing activity. . . on 15 August." (CANOE 15RSM/1924 and 15RSM/1930, 13 Aug 52)

Comment: Since the Communists are prone to select significant anniversaries for their own operations, they apparently thought the UN might do likewise.

9. North Korean unit receives shipment of Chinese rice:
An unidentified North Korean brigade, probably subordinate to the V Corps, on 5 August stated that it had received the previous day "827 (tons?) of Chinese rice." The rice had arrived at a small town near Hamhung, according to the message. (CANOE 330th Comm Recon Co Korea, ALT 670, 13 Aug 52)

Comment: Most of the rice grown in North Korea is collected by the government for military and special use. This domestic rice supply does not, however, meet requirements and North Korea has been forced to import grain. In mid-May, North Korean intercepts revealed that rice for military consumption was being shipped in from China via east coast routes.

15 Aug 52

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10. Chinese Communists send vehicles from Korea to China:
In a message to its subordinate units an unidentified antiaircraft division described its plan to send military vehicles from the Korean front to China. The vehicles were apparently to be sent to the immediate rear for such preliminary repairs as were necessary to put them "in good enough condition to drive to China." (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Grp Korea, L, [redacted] T20, 11 Aug 52)

Comment: Since the Chinese Communists do most of their major repairs on military vehicles from Korea at ordnance installations in Manchuria, the vehicles of this unit presumably are being sent there for major maintenance repairs.

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