

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

REPORT NO. [redacted]

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SUBJECT Activities of Chinese Communist "350 Unit", DATE DISTR. 11 March 1954
Linhai and Hangchow

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO [redacted]

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

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REFERENCES

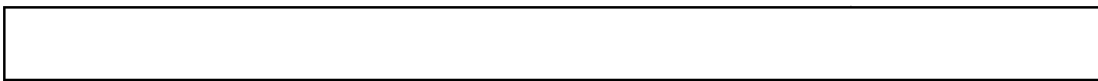
BY GABLE



1. On 29 November 1953 Chinese Communist soldiers shopping in Linhai (N 28-52, E 121-06) market places carried bamboo poles marked with the number "350". Many well dressed Chinese Communist officers were also on the streets of Linhai.
2. On 30 November a Chinese Communist military installation consisting of old two-story cement buildings surrounded by a six-foot mud wall was next to the Ching (0402) Temple in southeast Hangchow. Four black jeeps and three black sedans with military plates were parked in front of the installation compound. Chinese Communist troops were living in civilian houses adjacent to the installation. Baskets, bamboo poles, and cooking utensils in front of these houses were marked with the number "350".
3. On 1 December Chinese Communist troops carrying cooking utensils marked with the number "350" passed the bus station at Hsiaooshan (N 30-10, E 120-07). Forty Soviet-made military trucks were parked on a 500-yard long parade ground on the highway one mile east of Hsiaooshan. Three artillery pieces covered with canvas were at the edge of the parade grounds and twenty newly constructed buildings of rock and cement, each 30 feet long and ten feet high, were around the edge of the grounds.

[redacted] Comment. The reporting of the code number "350" casts considerable doubt on the credibility of this otherwise apparently legitimate report. This designation does not conform to the code system believed currently in use in East China nor does it appear a likely designation for any of the army or public security units currently accepted in Chekiang (the 20 and 22 Armies and the 16, 17, and 19 Public Security Divisions). It is probably intended to designate the 35 Army, a former Chekiang unit which is believed to have been inac-

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tivated and converted into the East China 17 and 19 Public Security Divisions over a year ago. While it is possible that troops of these two public security divisions, which are in the Linhai-Wenchou area of Chekiang, may still have equipment with old 35 Army markings, the appearance of such markings near Hangchow is unlikely. It should be noted that other Nationalist connected sources have continued to report the 35 Army as an active field force unit in the Hangchow area.

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