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CONFIDENTIAL

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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DATE: 1 October 1947

SUBJECT Military Information: Chinese Communist Aviation School at Mishan (132-06, 45-55)

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1. Communist authorities have kept the activities of the Mishan Aviation School a strict secret. Outsiders merely know of it as the 61 Corps. The school was started early in 1946. The principal (?commanding officer?) is CHANG Chien-kun (常乾坤). With Soviet assistance, CHANG, who arrived in Manchuria from Yanan in October 1945, took over 46 Japanese planes in the Tunghua (125-57, 41-43) area. In February 1946 he was called to Mishan and became principal of the aviation school which was established shortly after that time.
2. There were (?have been a total of?) 259 students under training at Mishan. Two thirds of the students are natives of Shantung and are graduates of the Communist Shantung Anti-Japanese College. The first class at Mishan, numbering 41 students, graduated in August 1946. The second class has (had?) 76 students. A fifth class has started training. There are 28 instructors, 11 are Soviets and the others are Japanese and Koreans. Interpreters for the Russian, English and Japanese languages are all Chinese. The class in mechanics, attended by source, was not introduced until the second class was organized.
3. Text books used are translations from Russian and Japanese. They include: Principles of Aviation, Navigation Instruction, Physics, Mechanics, as well as Political books and Communist Doctrine.
4. There are 90 planes - Zeros and twin engine bombers - but only 49 single engine planes and 5 bombers are operable and they are in poor condition. There are numerous accidents and students are reluctant to take off. Actually, graduates lack experience because they fly very little; some students never take off before they graduate.
5. The following persons connected with the school have returned from Soviet training schools:
 - a. CHANG Chien-kun alias CHANG Tzu-cheng (常子正), the principal. He is a native of Shansi, a graduate of the third class of the Whangpoo Military Academy and trained at the Canton Aviation School. He was sent to the USSR by the Nationalist government and stayed there from 1927-1939. Upon his return he became an instructor in an aviation school in Chengtu. He left that in 1941 to join the Communists in Yanan.
 - b. LIU Chien-hsun (劉建勳) is pilot instructor and squadron commander.
 - c. KU Ch'ing (顧青) is vice commander of the squadron.
 - d. CHIN Ta-ch'ong (金大成) a Korean, is chief of the mechanics section.
 - e. WANG Lien (王連) is chief of the aviation section.

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