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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Trading in Dairen and Antung

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1. In December 1949 several South Korean traders anchored a vessel at Tahushan (大虎山), a small village near Antung. One of the men went to Antung by truck and obtained from the Communist authorities a harbor escort for the vessel. After interrogation by the officials, the traders were permitted to sell the nitric acid in their cargo and were advised by the Communists that the remaining cargo of sweet potatoes could be sold in Dairen.
2. A letter of introduction from the Antung Security Office to the Chi'ang Hsing (長興) Trading Company, Dairen, was given to the traders. In Dairen, the traders bartered their sweet potatoes for cotton cloth through the Chi'ang Hsing Trading Company. This company, one of three trading firms in Dairen, is operated by the Soviet Army. The other two firms are the T'ai Ping (太平) Trading Company, which is controlled by the Chinese Communists and trades with North Korea, and the Chiu Ta (久大) Trading Company, which handles trade between Soviet personnel and North Korea.
3. Lt. General TS'AO (曹) is commander of the 4 Army in Dairen. He is a graduate of the economic department of Waseda University and an associate of the late Japanese leader HAKANO Seigo (中野正剛).
4. The first two piers in Dairen are operated by the Soviets, and the Chinese Communists have the third and fourth piers respectively. About fourteen ships from Hong Kong and Macao were anchored in Dairen in January 1950.
5. About six hundred Koreans and five hundred Japanese are living in Dairen.
6. In exchange for electricity received from North Korea, Dairen exports carbide and millet to Chinnampo (125-24, 38-44).

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