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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Guerrilla Operations in the Western Hunan-Hupei

Border Area

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- 1. In 1949 during the Communist advance into central and south China, General SUNG Hsi-lien (京本), then Nationalist garrison commander of the Hunan-Hupei Border Region, organized two divisions each consisting of two brigades and a few special troops. These men were recruited from Peace Preservation Corps Units and were given equipment drawn from local depots. While the organization of this force was still in progress, the Communists crossed the Tangtze and SUNG's troops withdraw to the border region of Szechuan and Kweichow. There they fought a four-day delaying action against the advancing Communists and subsequently dispersed into adjacent mountain areas.
- 2. Following the surrender to the Communists of the remnants of the 15 Army Corps and the defection of the 122 Army Corps, the two disorganized divisions were compelled to cease operations. The Communists disregarded them in their southward push, and a reorganization was carried out in Shih Men (29-35; 111-15), Tz*u Li (29-26; 110-59), Ta Yung (29-07; 110-20), and Sang Chih (29-21; 110-05). After the fall of Hengyang, morning up operations were taken over by second line Communist troops, whose inferior training afforded an excellent opportunity for the reorganization of remnant Nationalist forces.
- 3. A conference in Tz'u Li under the chairmanship of T'IMI Tsai-lung (日 故 章)。
 commander of the First Division, was attended by all brigade and regimental commanders in the two divisions and by other friendly forces in the neighboring areas. Hesolutions were passed calling for reorganization into guerrilla units, and continuing harassing activity against the Communists.
- the new organization was designated the National Salvation Army of the Hunan-Huref Border Region. The force was organized into four route armies consisting of headquarters troops and fourteen columns. Operations extended over an area of 22 districts in western Hunan and were highly successful for an initial period of three months.
- 5. In April 1950 the Communists greatly intensified their anti-guerrilla campaign in the area. Several regular divisions were employed and a reign of terror

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was instituted. Lack of ammunition and signal equipment greatly handicapped the resistance. By June 1950 only two units remained; these were up to full strength. One is a column of about 10,000 men under CHU Po-ping (建文子) in the area of Lung Shan (27-30; 111-46) and Yung Shun (29-01; 109-52). The other is a unit of about 2,000 under HSTANG Yen-tung (河洋東) in the border area of Shih Men, Tziu Li, and Ho Feng asiens. Other forces have suffered severe losses and have dispersed, having buried a certain amount of arms and equipment for possible future use.