

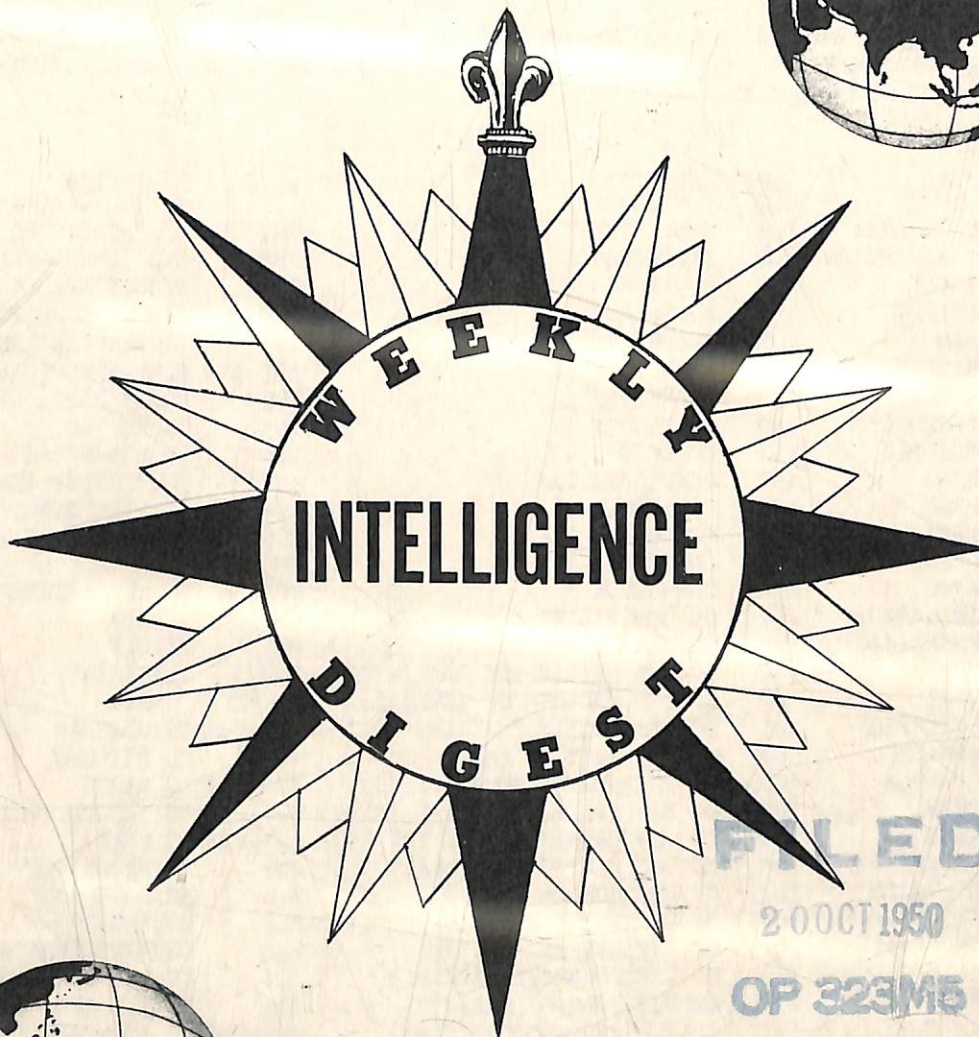
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KOREA

North Korean Push Continues - 12 and 13 July. The North Korean divisions have continued to move forward. A daylight withdrawal—one of the most hazardous of operations—by U.S. forces was made necessary north of Kongju. In the central part of the peninsula the Northern forces are wedging southward, already probing deep into southern defenses with patrols. A new development has been reported on the west side of the peninsula, west of Chonan, where NK units are moving south and east in another potential envelopment.

The most critical factor in the near future will be the weather over Korea; with good flying weather the U.S. Air Forces may be able to create enough havoc in the North Korean forces to change the trend in tactical developments. With bad weather, however, a rapid deterioration of the Southern forces' position is probable. Unless the northern advance is soon halted, the U.S. forces will soon be thrown back to the last defensible line.

In connection with previous reports on the guerrillas in the South, there is now reported to be an influx of plain clothes agents across the border who are moving into southern rear areas. These agents may be "lone wolves" intending to subvert and trouble the south; on the other hand, they may have the mission of coordinating and directing the guerrillas.

North Korean Envelopments Develop - 14 July. In addition to the frontal attack being made at the Kum River line, (with some units evidently across), by North Korean forces, a penetration south of Chongju is growing in strength. On the west, the enemy was last reported as far as Songhang, which is about at the same latitude as Yongdok but on the far west coast. This may indicate either an attempt to outflank the U.S. Kum River defenses or to establish security at the coast against the possibility of a U.S. landing in the area. On the east coast, the enemy is reported to be moving an estimated 10,000 troops south of Ulchin.

There is information that, on 9 July, there were about 380 tanks in the North Korean Army. This seems a rather high figure, but possible.

The menace to the U.S. defense continues to be mainly the one of having its combat elements choked off in the rear.

U.S. and South Korean Positions Grow Precarious - 15 July. Two areas are now becoming critical in the southern defenses. At the Kum River (Kongju) the North Koreans have deployed a division in preparation for an assault. In conjunction with this frontal attack, another division has been moving west and south with the capability of turning the U.S. western flank. At the last report (as of 14 July) the river line had not yet been breached.

The second critical area is down the corridor South of Chungju. One North Korean division is reportedly advancing steadily south of Chungju, delayed by a South Korean division which is falling back.

Another enemy force has reached a point near Yongju. The greatest menace, as it now seems, is the penetration toward Taejon south of Chungju.

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KOREA (cont'd)

Recent reports indicate that as many as 15,000 NK troops may be moving south, on the east coast, below Samchok. So far as is known, east coast advances by the enemy have not been made below Yongdok.

North Korean air is re-appearing, but in very small numbers in desultory operations.

Kum River Crossed - 16 July. On the night of 14-15 July, after being repulsed twice with reportedly heavy losses, the North Korean forces established a bridgehead across the Kum River at Kongju. Where they now are, and in what strength, are unknown factors. General MacArthur has described the situation at the Kum as "fluid."

The 2nd NK Division has pressed south and east as far as Munui, which is about ten miles almost directly north of Taejon.

Down the corridor south of Chungju, the NK 15th Division continues to advance against a delaying action conducted by Southern forces, based on the South Korean 6th Division. This advance is now about as far as Mungyong.

The North Korean 5th Division is pushing out to the east and south from Tanyang and is now engaged at Punggi.

One North Korean Company has gotten as far as Yechon, about 20 miles northeast of Hamchang.

On the east coast, about 500-1,000 troops have been reported a short distance south of Yongdok. This is possibly made up of elements of a North Korean Constabulary Brigade which may now bear a division designation.

Lately there has been increased North Korean air activity by fighters directed at U.S. bombers. North Korean planes have pointedly avoided U.S. fighters.

North Koreans Break the Kum River Defenses - 17 July. The North Korean troops now have possession of Kongju. U.S. forces have been forced back from the Kum River line, although their present location is unknown. In this area the North Koreans used artillery or mortars of a very heavy calibre.

In the area of Munui and Mungyong there has been no significant development. At Punggi, however, the North Koreans have driven the South Koreans back to Yongju. On the East Coast a small scale engagement has been reported about 15 miles north of Yongdok. There is no further report of activity on the east coast.

In the North Korean rear, reinforcements of tanks and men have been observed moving toward the western and central part of the front. About 13 tanks, 30 trucks and artillery pieces have been noted.

Activity around Kimpo airfield, at Seoul suggest that this field may be under preparation for early use. The U.S. Air Force continues to conduct strikes in the Suwon-Kongju area, aiming at equipment, personnel and bridges. Fighters are reported to be giving close support, light bombers being used in the Seoul area. Eight B-29 aircraft attack the Chungju area with results reported as "excellent" on bridges, roads and troops.

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NORTH KOREAN RUSSIAN MADE JEEP



NKPA LIGHT ARMORED CAR SEEN AT CHONGJU ON
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KOREA (cont'd)

North Korean Attacks Abate Temporarily - 18 July. The North Korean attacks along the front were reported as slackening on Tuesday, following the crossing of the Kum River. Nevertheless, the U.S. line has now been driven back to the vicinity of Taejon, and the U.S. advanced headquarters has abandoned this town.

In the Kongju area, it is quite definite that the North Korean 1st and 4th Divisions, and possibly the 3rd, are engaged in the advance. At last report the 6th Division was moving on the U.S. west and southwestern flank and has not been located for several days. In crossing the river, the tactics were apparently very similar to those used by the Japanese during the past war — advance elements attempting to make a hole in the defenses by close-in combat, followed by masses of men. At this time, it is believed that no enemy tanks are yet across the Kum River, although 2 did cross and were destroyed.

In the Chungju-Mungyong area there is no change. A South Korean (ROK) counter-attack reportedly pushed the North Koreans back a short distance. The enemy penetration remains in the vicinity of Mungyong. Yongju is now in enemy hands. A large tank and vehicle concentration has been reported between Tanyang and Punggi.

On the East Coast, an enemy landing in unknown strength was reported at Chuksan (about 10 miles north of Yongdok) on 14 July. A large concentration of enemy troops has been noted in the Chochiwon area.

A recapitulation of all reports of guerrillas in South Korea so far shows about 1,500 located in the area immediately west of Yongdok, from Yongyang south to Yongchon. These are all in scattered groups, with 600 to 800 reported as the largest concentration at any one place. The capability for guerrilla action against U.S. and South Korean lines of communications and rear installations continue to mount, based on the day by day reports of guerrilla activity, although it has been estimated from the beginning of the war that guerrilla potential is 2,000-6,000 in South Korea.

North Korean Pressure Relaxed - 19 July. Following the crossing of the Kum River the North Koreans have evidently paused in their offensive. On the far west a North Korean unit believed to be the 6th Division has been reported as far as Kunsan, near the junction of the Kum River and the coast. In the east, elements of the NK 5th Division seem to be moving northeast and east of Yongju.

Disposition of the North Korean divisions as of this date is apparently as follows: The 4th Division is west of Taejon; the 2nd and 3rd Divisions are opposing the South Koreans northeast of Taejon; the 15th and possibly 1st Divisions are attacking south in the Chungju corridor; the 5th Division holds Tongju and, as mentioned above, seems to be pushing out to the east.

Reinforcements and Replacements from the North. A recent report indicates that approximately 40,000 troops of Chinese Communist (Korean) origin left Antung for a movement to the south on about 5 July. It is believed that these troops are intended to relieve North Koreans on the front; about 40 percent of the North Korean combat troops are reportedly incapacitated due to illness, fatigue and lack of food. This may be true, in view of the lack of activity in forward areas and the reported movements of troops in rear areas.
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COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN CHINA



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KOREA

North Korean Government Designates Military Committee. North Korea (Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea) appointed a military committee with absolute power to rule the country during the current emergency. Following are the members of the committee:

KIM IL Sung, who is the Premier of the People's Republic of Korea. He is the ranking Communist figure in North Korea and has been built up by Soviet propaganda. He was born in 1913 near P'yongyang and is reported have received his education at the Whampoa Military Academy in China and in the USSR. He was decorated by Stalin during World War II for distinguished service to the Soviet cause.

PAK Honyong-Vice-Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs in the North Korean regime.

CHOE Yungun - Minister of National Defense and Commander-in-Chief of the North Korean Peoples Army.

KIM Ch'aek - Vice-Premier and Minister of Industry of North Korea.

PAK Ilu - Minister of Internal Security of North Korea and a member of Central Committee of the North Korean Labor Party.

HONG Myonghui - One of the Three Vice-Premiers of North Korea. Former educator and newspaperman.

CHONG Chuntaek - Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the North Korean regime. (CONFIDENTIAL)

KOREA-CHINA

Communist Plans Regarding the Far East. There have been several reports that are possibly true which suggest an overall Communist plan regarding South Korea's part in a wider strategy. Most of this information links the North Korean operations with Chinese Communist plans, to the effect that North Korea and China would conquer both Korea and Taiwan by September 1950.

Plans for an invasion of South Korea by a "combined force" of North Korean and Chinese Communist armies were reportedly discussed at a secret meeting between representatives of Mao Tze-tung and Kim Il-sung during 1949. (Koreans in the Chinese Communist forces have been returning to North Korea since the fall of 1949.) Following this conference, there were frequent visits back and forth by military missions of both countries. Evidence of a very close cooperation between North Korea and the Chinese Communists is certainly increasing. (SECRET)

CHINA

Preparations To Invade Taiwan Continue. A gradually increasing body of evidence indicates that the Chinese Communists are still preparing and planning an amphibious invasion of Taiwan. Furthermore, there is a report that the Soviets, encouraging the Chinese Communists to make active invasion preparations, have promised an open participation of Soviet naval and air forces in such a venture.

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CHINA (cont'd)

Another report claims that it is the Communists' intention to land subversives and guerrillas on the east coast of Taiwan, who will be used at the time of the invasion. This report, although unconfirmed, is worth noting because such a plan would parallel the general one used in Hainan.

It is fairly definite that CC troops are moving from South China to Canton and points north of Canton. Best available evidence indicates that the Chinese Communist forces are disposed along the coast as shown in Digest 27-50 and that concentrations of barges, sampans, junks, etc, are located generally in those same areas where the troops are massed.

At the same time there is less anti-guerrilla activity in South China than ever before by regular army units, and "public security troops" are being organized throughout Southern Kwantung to replace the Army in these operations.

Best information suggests that LIN Piao will have command of the Taiwan invasion force because of his success with Hainan. (SECRET)

CHINA

Probable That Nationalist Blockade will be Resumed. Following a period of confusion occasioned by President Truman's statement regarding Taiwan on 27 June, the Nationalists appear to be resuming their blockade of Communist China ports on the mainland. This will again create the anomalous situation of British ships attempting to take supplies into Communist China against Nationalist Navy opposition. British Naval vessels are occupied in Korean waters and will not be available to protect Hong Kong merchant ships.

Nationalist military authorities have been criticizing U.S. policy for interrupting the blockade and similarly they are blaming the U.S. for the loss of the last Nationalist held island in the Pearl River estuary and Peshan island off the Chekiang coast. (SECRET)

CHINA

Pearl River Estuary Islands Fall to Reds. East Lema Island, the last of the Nationalist held islands in the Pearl River Estuary, was evacuated by the Nationalists 12 July. This withdrawal leaves the British colony of Hong Kong encircled by Communist held land. It is the culmination of the accelerated Communist effort to take the Pearl River islands which began 27 June and was intended to free Red troops for the Taiwan invasion. (SECRET)

INDOCHINA

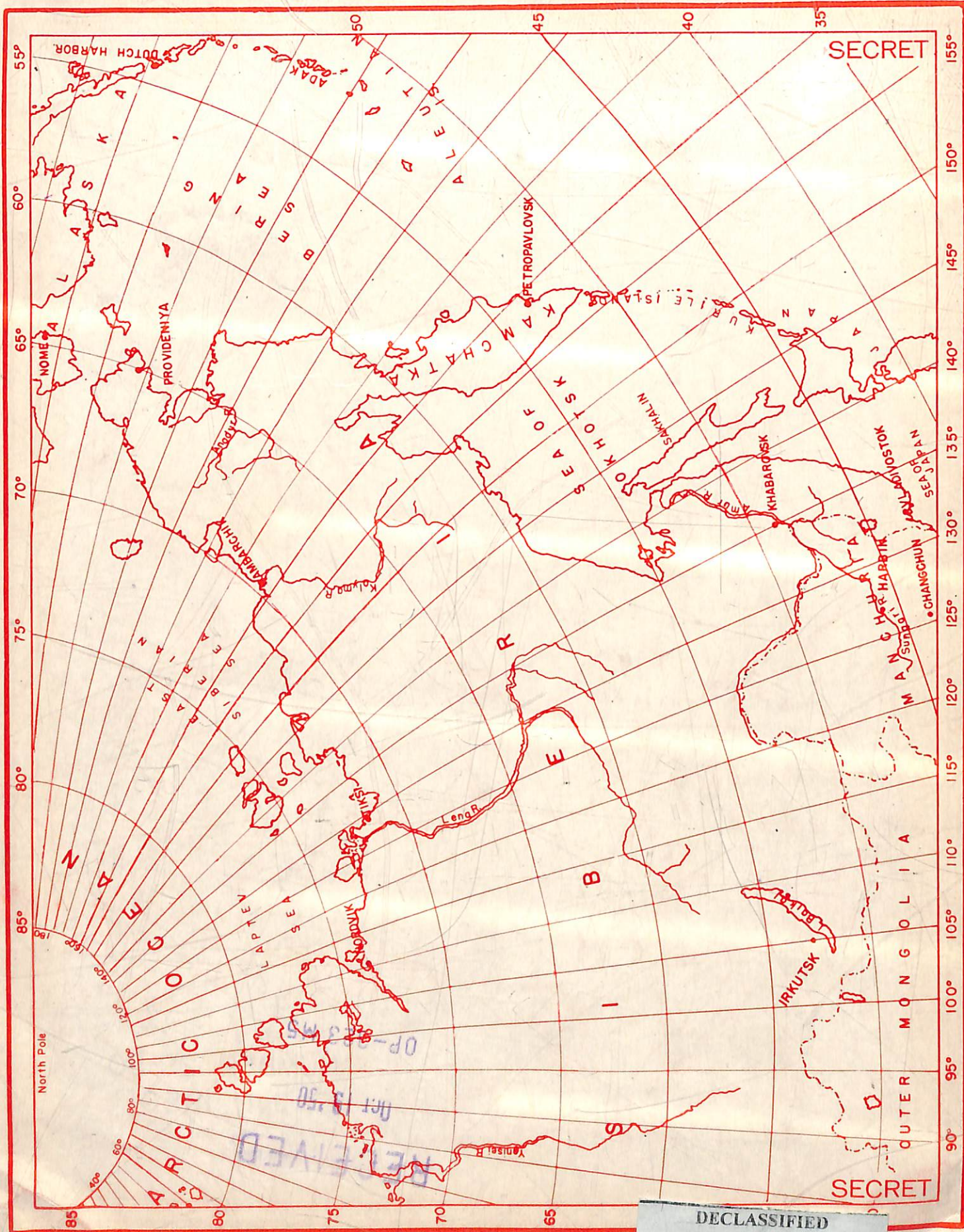
French Naval Operations in Indochina. During the past week the French Navy in French Indochina have continued their support to ground operations in the TRA VINH and VYN TRE areas. Patrolling of coastline and rivers has revealed little evidence of suspected arms smuggling. Smuggling of other items has continued and 2,000 suspicious craft have been intercepted and searched during the past month.

The cruiser DEGAY TROUIN is engaged in two weeks training cruise along the east coast of Indochina. This cruise was begun on 10 July and prior to returning to Saigon, she will visit Nra Trang Tourane, and the Paracel Islands. At the latter place she will supply the French Garrison, which consists of one officer, three non-commissioned officers and 20 Viet Nam troops. (SECRET)

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