FAR EAST

2. Communists issue new regulation for handling prisoners of war:

US Air Force
13 Jan 52 SUEDE
Cm-IN-3334

An order on treatment of prisoners of war from the Korean Commander in Chief, dated 7 December, provided that no prisoners of war were to be released, that proper records on prisoners should be kept, and that currently held prisoners, "not as yet registered," should be reported to headquarters. The order further outlined the administrative procedures for handling of prisoners.

Comment: The issuance of this order eighteen months after the outbreak of war strongly suggests that Communist unit commanders have enjoyed a wide latitude in their handling of UN prisoners. It is also apparent from the order that the Communists have no record of some of the prisoners captured to date.