FAR EAST

2. Chinese forces in Korea to increase offensive capabilities:

Chinese Communist
Military
18 May 52
SUEDE
K-3054

An intercepted message of 18 May on a
Chinese Communist military network in
Korea reveals that "all volunteer units"
have been ordered to store supplies to last
through 15 September. This must be ac-
accomplished by 15 July. The order is attributed to "experience of last
year's floods."

- 3 -
Comment: Other recent messages received from Korea show that several Chinese units in the forward area have already accumulated heavy stocks of petroleum and ammunition. A general supply build-up in the forward area, if achieved, would increase the capability for an offensive of major proportions.

3. Far East Command asserts Communists possess overwhelming air superiority:

27 May 52 that the enemy has a total of 1,115 aircraft massed in Manchuria and that this overwhelming superiority gives him a major offensive capability. The home bases of UN F-86's, as well as the headquarters of both our ground and air forces in Korea, are well within the combat radius of the 350 jet and 35 piston fighters based at Antung, Tatungkou, Takushan and Sinuiju. Only a few miles farther inland on the Anshan-Mukden airfields, 30 light bombers, 240 jet and 85 piston fighters are in position to provide support as well as additional shock power for a striking force.

Although there are no indications of an impending air offensive, the Communists have sufficient aircraft, personnel, air facilities and logistic support to launch an offensive without warning in which UN planes, crowded on Kimpo and Suwon airfields, would quite possibly sustain more than 50 percent destruction from the initial attack. Such losses would necessitate forfeiture of offensive aerial superiority in favor of defense tactics.

4.