FAR EAST

2. Atomic defense mentioned in Chinese Communist message:

Chinese Communist Military
19 May 52 SUEDE /3-3289

An unidentified Chinese Communist unit in Korea, possibly an element of the 8th Artillery Division, stated in a 19 May message:

"The preparations for the defense against the atom bomb will be pressed."

Comment: This is the first noted reference to atomic defense training in the forward area. A Chinese Communist message on 4 April referred to the distribution of literature on atomic weapons. A Chinese Communist propaganda broadcast stated on 30 March that the American use of atomic weapons would be the next logical step in Korea after testing biological and chemical warfare weapons.

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3. Chinese Communists seek evidence of American use of chemical warfare:

Chinese Communist Military
25 May 52
SUEDE

X - 323/

ordered "that all types of American bombs and poison gas bombs be collected... to find out which varieties are the most (used?) and how they are manufactured."
Units were enjoined to be on watch for projectiles dropped from planes or fired by artillery, both "poisonous and non-poisonous kinds alike."

Comment: This message suggests that the Communists are seeking more evidence to support charges such as those broadcast by Radio Pyongyang on 24 May that the Americans are employing chemical warfare in Korea.