

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea/USSR

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1. [] PAK Chong-ae (朴正愛), head of the North Korean Women's League, and HONG Ki-tu (洪箕疇) and another North Korean representative arrived in Peiping ostensibly to participate in the celebration of the establishment of the new Communist government of China. The real objective of their journey, however, was to confer in Peiping with a secret emissary of General Malenkov. The Soviet envoy and the three Koreans discussed measures for the inclusion of Korea in an overland communications route from Turkestan to Vladivostok via Manchuria. Since no definite conclusions could be formulated at the Peiping meeting, the Soviet representative accompanied the Koreans back to Pyongyang in early October to negotiate directly with KIM Il-sŏng. The result of the Pyongyang session was that Korean authorities agreed to let the USSR use Wonsan (127-26, 39-10)* and several air bases.
2. [] a conference on Soviet military aid to North Korea. 50X1-HUM was held in Changchun. Through the Soviet ambassador to North Korea, Shtikov, word was passed to KIM Il-sŏng that Molotov was in Changchun, staying at the Ta-Ho (大和) Hotel opposite the railway station, and was willing to discuss Korean problems with him.** KIM Il-sŏng left Pyongyang by air [] and returned [] In Changchun, he discussed with Molotov the need for 50X1-HUM additional aid to North Korea, particularly in weapons and naval vessels. [] Molotov agreed in principle, but stated that the matter would have to be referred to Moscow for final decision. Upon his return to Pyongyang, however, 50X1-HUM KIM Il-sŏng ordered the North Korean Minister of Defense to reorganize naval plans for the country.

* [] Comment. The use of Wonsan as a Soviet base has been discussed previously on several occasions and by various agencies. 50X1-HUM

** [] Comment. Rumors of Molotov's presence in Chinese territory and of his involvement with Chinese Communist affairs are persistent in many discussions of the Far-Eastern situation. Since no proof attends any of the accounts of his activities in China, however, evaluation of such rumors must continue low. 50X1-HUM

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