

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

TELEFAX 11

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR 13 Oct 50

SUBJECT Conditions on the China-Burma Road, Yunnan

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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\* SOURCE

1. The stages of a journey from K'unming to Yuant'ing were as follows:

- K'unming (102-41, 25-04) to Yunnan (100-42, 25-25)
- Yunnan to Yungp'ing (99-34, 25-25)
- Yungp'ing to Paoshan (99-09, 25-07)
- Paoshan to Mangshih (98-35, 24-27)
- Mangshih to Yuant'ing (97-55, 24-00)

2. The entire road was in poor condition and was particularly bad between Yunnan and Hsiakuan (100-12, 25-34). The new bridge across the Mekong River was still out of commission after having been destroyed by irregular Communist forces under CHU Chia-pi (朱家璧)\* on 6 November 1949. All transport across the Mekong was using the old bridge, which had a load limit of three tons. There was no evidence of attempts to repair any part of this road.

3. Troops concentrations along this route were observed as follows:

- a. About 200 troops at Paoshan.
- b. About 150 troops at Yuant'ing.
- c. About 50 troops at Yungp'ing.
- d. About 50 troops at Lunling (98-42, 24-34).
- e. Small detachments at several points, including guards at the bridges crossing the Mekong and Salween rivers.

4. Apart from occasional trucks carrying 8-10 men, no troop movements were observed. Signs at check points along the road all bore the insignia of the 14 Brigade of the Chinese Communist Army. There were no other indications of Chinese Communist order of battle except at Paoshan, where the Paoshan Frontier Defense Headquarters was located. This unit was responsible for the security of the area between Paoshan and the Burma border. Telegraph communications were in operation at Paoshan and Yuant'ing.

5. Conversations at Yuant'ing disclosed that KAW Seng\*\* and his troops were being

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Document No. 10

No Change in Class.

Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S C

Auth.: HR 70-2

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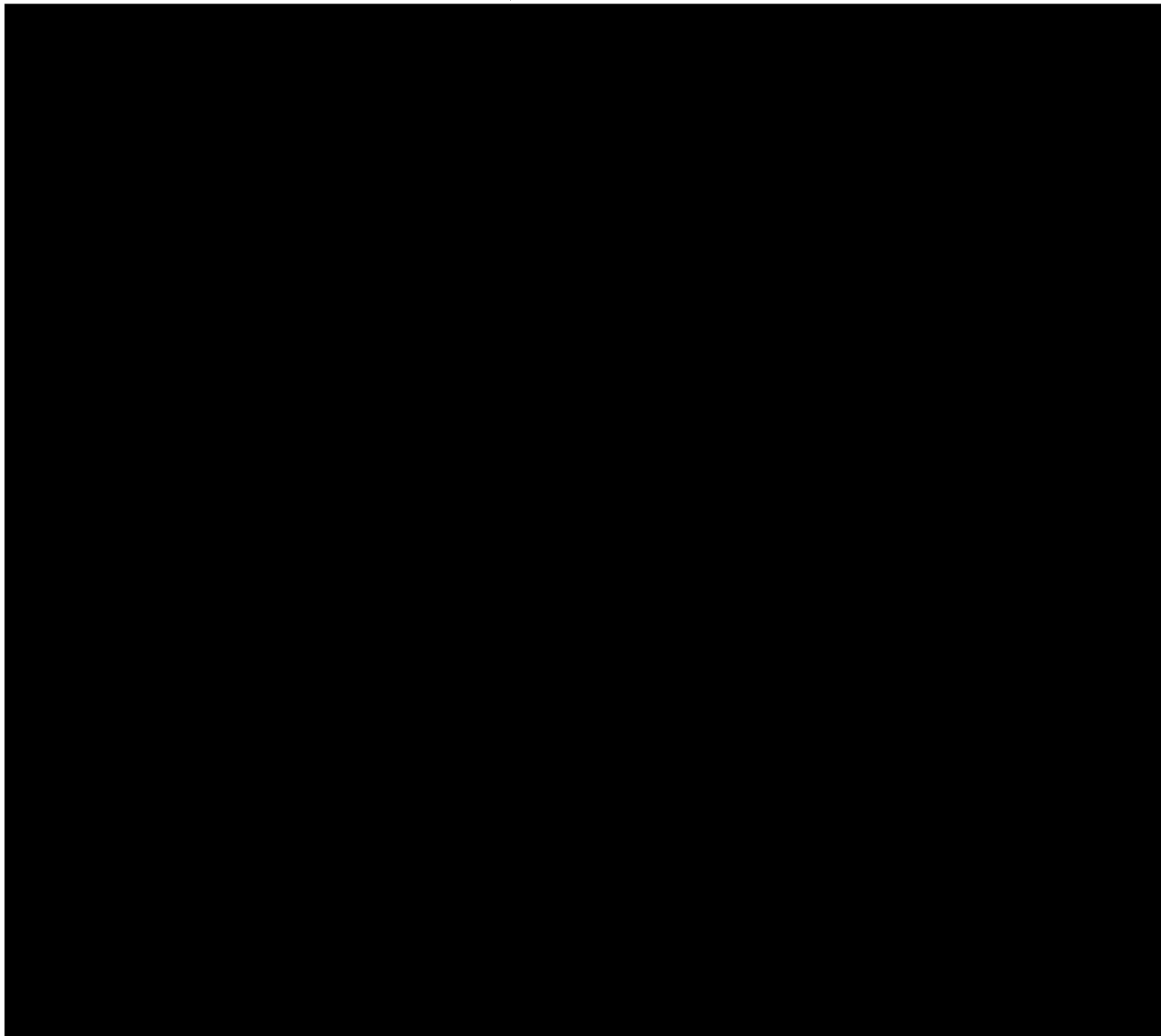
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trained by the Chinese Communist Army. There were also accounts of 800-1000 Chinese Communist troops concentrated north of the Juili River (97- , 23- ), in the Lungch'uan (97-55, 24-20) region.

6. The Kachin people in the Paoshan area disregarded orders from the Paoshan Frontier Defense Headquarters and refused to sell any of their agricultural products in Paoshan. A recent Chinese Communist tax-collecting expedition among the Kachins north of Paoshan had disappeared, presumably annihilated by the Kachins. Since that time no effort had been made to extend Chinese Communist control outside of Paoshan.
7. Organized opposition to the Chinese Communist regime seemed confined to the Kachins. There was no evidence of bandit activity, nor were there any reports of opposition either in the Paoshan-T'engch'ung (98-29, 25-01) or Tali (100-11, 25-43) -Lichiang (100-15, 26 51) sectors.\*\*\*

  
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