

~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~~~APPENDED DOCUMENTS CONTAIN~~  
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USCIB: 13/360

11 August 1953

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~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB/USCIBEC:

Subject: Publication in the Press of Classified Communications Intelligence Information.

1. Enclosures 1 and 2 were published in the New York Herald Tribune on 3 and 8 August 1953. An abbreviated version of the same item appeared in the Washington Post on 8 August 1953. Enclosure 3 is an analysis by the Office of Current Intelligence, CIA, of the nature of the security breach involved. Enclosure 4 is a transcript of a statement by General Vandenberg.

2. SBLO, Army, Navy and Air Force have been requested to make enquiries as to how, where, when and why the information contained in enclosures 1 and 2 were made available to the press.

3. The Executive Secretary is continuing to investigate this matter with a view to formulating suitable recommendations when all the available facts are at hand.

  
RUFUS L. TAYLOR  
Captain, U. S. Navy  
Executive Secretary, USCIB

## Enclosure

1. Article in New York Herald Tribune of 3 Aug 53.
2. Article in New York Herald Tribune of 8 Aug 53.
3. CIA Memo to Executive Secretary dtd 11 Aug 53.
4. Article in The New York Times of 23 Oct 1951.

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MAY BE DOWNGRADED TO RESTRICTED WHEN ENCLOSURE 3 IS DETACHED. 53-2579

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Security Information

Marguerite Higgins

New York Herald Tribune  
3 August 1953

RUSSIA SENDING PEKING LONG RANGE BOMBERS

This is the first of a series of  
articles by Marguerite Higgins on  
recent developments inside Commu-  
ist China

By Marguerite Higgins

HONG KONG, 2 Aug.

The Soviet Union, it can now be revealed, has transferred to Communist China, the first shipment of long range strategic bombers. Twelve are now operational from a Red airfield 40 miles southeast of Peking. Until now the Chinese Red Air Force consisted of Russian-built MIG jet fighters and medium bombers.

Enclosure 1 with USCIB 13/360 dtd 11 Aug 53.

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Miss Higgins Discloses

New York Herald Tribune  
 8 August 1953

RUSSIA TO KEEP SENDING RED CHINA MILITARY AID

This is the last of a series of arti-  
 cles by Marguerite Higgins on recent  
 developments inside Communist China

By Marguerite Higgins

HONG KONG, Aug. 7.--

The Soviet Union, which intervened in Korea far more directly than the American public yet realizes, is scheduled to continue a steady flow of military and technical assistance to Communist China in spite of the Korean truce, according to information reaching Western intelligence sources.

Radio Points to Soviets

For reasons that have ultimately served only to help the Russians to cover up their aggressive actions, the United Nations has thus far confined itself to a passing reference, about a year ago, to the fact that "Russian-speaking" individuals were manning MIG-15 jet fighters in North Korea.

Actually, radio intercepts of pilot-to-ground conversations in the Yalu River area--exchanges which are easily monitored and recorded--established as early as January, 1951, that Soviet personnel were actively engaged in the Communist air effort.

Other intelligence sources have subsequently confirmed the fact through other channels. Since Russian dialects and accents vary considerably, there even exists a catalogue indicating what parts of the Soviet Union various MIG pilots hailed from.

Soviet citizens also served in Korea as tank drivers and artillery officers and in anti-aircraft battalions. The vast majority of the Communist ground troops in Korea, were, of course, of Oriental extraction, but it is noteworthy that some were persons born and educated in Soviet territory.

Soviet "Foreign Legion"

If Japan, as an ally of the United States should become involved in a war and if the United States were to send American soldiers of Japanese extraction--such as the Nisei troops of World War II--to

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fight in that war under the Japanese flag, then it would be following the Soviet pattern of sending Soviet citizens of Korean or Manchurian extraction to fight against the United Nations.

Actually, the Soviet Union keeps trained on Soviet soil a kind of Foreign Legion of various nationalities, including forcibly retained German, Yugoslav and Japanese prisoners taken in World War II.

They are shock troops which the Russians can send to any place where it suits them to pretend that a given conflict is a civil war. The German troops, for example, would come in handy if the Russians should decide to initiate a Korea-type civil war between East and West Germany.

#### Supply Pattern Traced

In spite of the fact that the Chinese Communist press has been talking since spring about the imminence of a truce in Korea, there has been no drop in the tempo of the Soviet supply build-up by rail or by sea, although it currently is less, of course, than in the emergency build-up phase in 1950 and 1951 when the Chinese and North Korean air forces were being created.

As indicated by types of equipment and the categories of Russian training missions appearing in key areas of mainland China, the present pattern of Sino-Soviet supply seems to involve a conscious effort to round out Communist China's military capabilities--which in the air, for instance, has been limited to fighter forces--and to give greater striking power and versatility with use of the equipment the Chinese Reds already have.

It appears that the Chinese Communist jet and other fighter planes and medium bombers are destined to remain fairly static numerically, with the Russians providing replacements and spare parts.

The existing Red Chinese air force will be given a new potential by activation of an additional complex of airfields in South and Southwest China. The MIG forces in the base complex south of Shanghai, as at Ningpo and Hangkow, have been reinforced. Between Shanghai and Canton there now are about 250 MIG's, at a minimum.

The Chinese Communists have activated recently an important group of airfields in the southwest, near French Indo-China.

Communist China's air progress has been significantly aided by the recent transfer to a base south of Peking of a force of strategic bombers

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--the Soviet version of the American B-29 Superfortress. Presence in central China of Soviet-style jet bombers also has been reported but so far as is at present known none of the latest Soviet jet bombers has been permanently transferred to the Chinese government.

New attention is being given to the Chinese Communist navy and the Russians have been taking an increasing number of Chinese candidates into their naval training centers at Port Arthur and Dairen.

It has been reported persistently that a dozen Soviet submarines have been turned over to Red China, but Western intelligence is not yet prepared to accept this report without reservations, for one reason because it is a far more complicated job to train a submarine team than to train individual MIG pilots.

Probably in the Cards

However, there is no reason to doubt that such a move is in the cards, as it is known that Chinese are being trained as submariners and that a number of Chinese ports, including Tsingtao, are capable now of handling submarine traffic.

It has been established that the Russians have in the Far East alone seven times as many submarines as were manned by Adolf Hitler's Germany when the Nazis were launching deadly undersea attacks in World War II.

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11 August 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: Captain Rufus L. Taylor  
Executive Secretary, USCIB

SUBJECT: : OCI Comment on Marguerite Higgins' Articles of  
3 and 8 August

1. Miss Higgins' information on the Chinese TU-4's [redacted]

[redacted] US information on these aircraft is  
[redacted] although the US has down-  
graded the classification to secret following the reported sighting

2. OCI does not know of any instance in which the statement

[redacted]  
the basis of information contained in these messages US intelligence  
has concluded that for many months [redacted]

3. So far as is known, no US agency in Washington has cata-  
logued dialects spoken by Russian MIG-15 pilots in action over  
Korea. [redacted]

Enclosure 3 with USCIB 13/360 dtd 11 Aug 53.

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General Vandenberg

The New York Times  
23 October 1951

GENERAL VANDENEERG'S STATEMENT 22 OCTOBER 1951

Washington, Oct. 22--

General Vandenberg charged today that "Russian pilots" were flying Communist jet planes in the Korean Battle of "MIG Alley". He bitterly denied that United States air losses were being concealed as to force curtailment of the Korean war or European air operations. "When our sabre jets tangle with MIG's, we can hear their pilots on the radio and they all speak Russian. There sure as hell are no Chinese or Red Koreans flying these MIG's. That is undoubtedly why they stay in MIG Alley well behind their own lines. If they came down around Pusan they know that we would find some dead Russians in the planes we would shoot down, and we would shoot down a lot more if they would get a little farther away from the Manchurian border and safety."

Enclosure 4 with USCIB 13/360 dtd 11 Aug 53.

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