

**MAGIC--FAR EAST SUMMARY**

No. 214

20 Oct 1944

**3. Japanese Intelligence--Reading of Chinese Messages:**

a. It appears from recently available messages that the Japanese have been reading encoded radio communications about Allied operations on the N Burma and Salween fronts. The evidence indicates that the messages were originated by Chinese communications centers and sent in Chinese codes, and that the Japanese were reading such messages currently at least during May, June and July. Whether they have continued to do so since July cannot yet be determined. Some of the Japanese decoding apparently was done in forward areas, in one case at a Japanese divisional HQ (56th Div on Salween front).

b. The intelligence obtained by the Japanese from this source has included current information on Chinese units movements and positions, shifts of HQs, casualties, replacements and in some instances plans for attack. In addition, movements of British units operating with the Chinese on the N Burma front have been disclosed to the Japanese.

c. Although two of the messages read by the Japanese purportedly were "from Stilwell to Chiang Kai-shek", HQ CBI advises that these two messages were not originated by any U. S. HQ.

d. The entire subject has been taken up with the theater authorities who have been making an investigation to determine proper corrective action.

**4. Japanese Intelligence--Interception of U. S. Messages.**

At 1153I on 18 Oct Guardiv #15 (Navy) at Hoihow, Hainan Is, sent a message to several Japanese Navy commands which appears to report an interception of a 14th Air Force message from Nanning to Liuchow, giving the position of Japanese ships in the S China Sea. The message stated that the following message had been sent from Nanning to Liuchow at 1100 (presumably the same day):

"At 1020, transport convoy composed of five ships in position 20-20 N, figure not clear-17E. At 1050, a transport in position 19-50 N, 111-17 E, heading N". (N29577)

Note: The position of the transport reported in the message is approximately 300 m. SE of Nanning and thus within recce range of U.S. planes. A number of messages originating at Hoihow have reported movements of Allied planes in S China, but appear to have been based on traffic analysis and on interception of Allied airground communications.

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