

20 Mar 51
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FAR EAST

2. North Korean air unit ordered to battle zone:

North Korean Military
15, 17 Mar 51 ACORN

Recent North Korean Air Force mes-
sages indicate that at least one air
unit is moving from Manchuria into

Korea. On 15 March, a message to Fengcheng, Manchuria ordered the First Fighter Regiment to change its intended destination in Korea from Anak (southwest of Pyongyang) to Iwon (northeast of Hungnam). The regiment was directed to arrive at Iwon "by 27 March" and the regimental staff was instructed to "come to Air Department Headquarters (at Pyongyang) to receive new orders." A subsequent, possibly related, air force message sent from Sinuiju on 17 March reported: "The advance party is leaving for Anak today."

Comment: Although the messages do not clearly indicate whether or not aircraft are to be involved in this movement, they suggest continued efforts to launch forward air

operations. No known air facilities exist at either Anak or Iwon. Both towns are located in coastal areas; aircraft based at improvised fields at either point would be within operating range of a major portion of the Korean west and east coasts.

