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6. Bombers of Chinese 8th Air Division leaving Manchuria: Eleven TU-2 light bombers of the Chinese 8th Air Division were scheduled to make a "transfer move" from Mukden to Pangfou, 100 miles northwest of Nanking, on 14 February. The 8th Division, equipped with at least 34 TU-2's, has been based at the Mukden West airfield. (SUEDE Air Force Roundups 33 and 34, 2219Z and 2113Z, 14 and 15 Feb 52)

Comment: During November, 8th Division bombers made one costly attempt to bomb a UN-held island off northwestern Korea, but in general TU-2's have seldom appeared in combat. Aside from this division, there is only one operational light bomber regiment in Manchuria.

7. KOREA. Soviet air defense unit probably participating in Korean war: Traffic analysis strongly indicates that about mid-November 1951 an air defense commander subordinate to the Soviet 5th Fleet moved from the Port Arthur Naval Base to Antung, which controls Communist jet combat operations in northwestern Korea.

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At the same time, aircraft of a 5th Fleet fighter division appear to have moved from Port Arthur into the combat area and to have begun to communicate on the GCI net centered at Antung. Beginning shortly thereafter, there were frequent Chinese Communist references to flights of "Soviet" MIG-15's in the combat area. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 34, 2113Z, 15 Feb 52)

Comment: This is the first indication of the direct participation of an air defense organization of the Soviet Armed Forces in the Korean air operations.

The 5th Fleet air defense officer in question apparently continues to communicate with his Soviet superiors. It is probably that his presence in the Antung area represents either an attempt to give him and his personnel combat experience, or a measure to establish closer Soviet control over that portion of the combat operations which are considered a Soviet responsibility.

8. New Chinese Communist army may be in Korea: The presence in Korea of a new Chinese Communist army was indicated in an 8 February message which mentioned the 10th Army, previously in southwest China, and its subordinate 28th, 30th, and 184th Divisions. The message tends to bear out intercepts of last summer which indicated the army might be enroute to Korea.

[REDACTED] (SUEDE AFSA-251, CC/CAP-148,
14 FEB 52)

Comment: This new identification, in conjunction with other recent intelligence that the 16th Army is in the Korea-Manchuria theater, suggests a significant reinforcement of the Communist forces in North Korea.

9. KOREA. North Korean air regiment used Anshan airfield: An unidentified North Korean Air Force "regimental commander" reported from Sinuiju to the "Minister of Defense" in Pyongyang that the "Air Force Headquarters Commander" had ordered "our unit commander to use the Anshan airfield on 30 January." (SUEDE [REDACTED] 260, Sinuiju-Pyongyang, 30 Jan 52)

Comment: This message probably is related to one on the previous day in which an unidentified North Korean "Minister" was informed that the Chinese Air Force Headquarters had ordered the transfer of a Korean unit from Anshan to Tungfeng. Inasmuch as the North Korean 1st (MIG-15 equipped) Air Division was still operating in mid-February from Antung, it is entirely possible that these messages are related to training flights involving both Anshan and Tungfeng. North Korean air activity has not previously been noted in the Anshan-Mukden area.

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10. Communist message indicates possession of UN F-86: During the course of a 5 January Chinese Communist GCI net transmission, one station reported "8 . . . F-86 planes." The other station replied, "those are friendly aircraft." (SUEDE 6920 Security Group, Johnson AB, Japan, SG 294, 12 Feb 52)

Comment: The missed groups in this message could alter the meaning considerably. There is, however, evidence that Communist forces have at least one UN F-86 fighter engaging in operational flights over North Korea.

11. Guerrilla unit in South Korea establishes radio contact with North Korea: A North Korean message of 21 January indicated that communication between Kaesong and "the Partisan Supreme Headquarters through direction number 4" has been effected. It was also disclosed that contact will be continued "without any intermission." (SUEDE [] 1681, 21 Jan 52)

Comment: This is the first indication since July 1951 that radio contact between North Korea and this branch unit has been effected. The 4th "direction" (branch unit), located in the Chiri-san area and comprising the vast majority of partisans in South Korea, has at times been reported as exercising control over the remaining five units.

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