2. Korea - North China - Japan

Strength of forces opposing the U.N. advance in North Korea is still estimated at 131,500, which includes 71,500 in four Chinese Communist armies and 60,000 in North Korean units—excluding six divisions and elements of numerous additional units.

Strength of Chinese Communist units remaining in Manchuria is still estimated at a minimum of 627,500, including 122,500 in Field Forces and 505,000 Military District troops. In addition to the 122,500 Field Forces now estimated, it is probable that approximately 100,000 additional Fourth Field Army troops have arrived in Manchuria. One army of the Fourth Field Army, which was believed last week to be en route to Manchuria, has since been identified in South China (Kwangsi province).

An army group headquarters and two armies of the Third Field Army have arrived in Manchuria. The arrival in Manchuria of First Field Army units, previously reported as en route, has not yet been noted.

A number of recent North Korean messages, as yet inconclusive but partly corroborated by U.S. ground sources, refer to new and previously unidentified units designated as corps and subordinate divisions. Although there are indications of difficulties in obtaining personnel and equipment, this apparent activation of new units would seem to represent a vigorous North Korean effort to organize and train new forces. One message suggests that Chinese Communist reinforcements are expected in the extreme northeastern sector.
There are indications from communications intelligence that certain North Korean radio stations are now located in, or moving to, Manchuria. Although no North Korean combat headquarters had definitely been identified in Manchuria, "chatter" from a North Korean radio operator on 16 November suggests that a high command message center has moved across the Yalu River. He stated that "our position is... across the Yalu River from Koseanjin" and "since this is China, we need not worry about air raids."

More maps of Korea are being sent to Manchuria from Shanghai. A message of 22 November referred to 30,000 maps for Mukden, 3,000 of which were to be sent direct to Chian (in Manchuria, about seven miles north of Koseanjin, Korea).

A North Korean message of 13 November disclosed that the harbor of Chongjin had been sealed and that, in addition, mines had been planted at several harbors north and south of Chongjin.

North Korean guerrilla activity continues to constitute a serious problem for U.N. forces, especially in areas north of the 38th parallel, where an estimated 9,000 by-passed stragglers are operating. An estimated 7,500 by-passed troops capable of guerrilla operations remain in South Korea.

The nationality of pilots operating enemy jets over Korea is still undetermined, although it appears probable that they are Chinese Communists.

Recent reports tend to confirm extensive airfield construction in Communist China. During the past year, 69 airfields in eastern China have been improved to accommodate heavier aircraft. Recent photo reconnaissance has revealed that the Anting airfield in Manchuria has been developed into a major air installation. This tends to support previous unconfirmed reports that a number of Manchurian fields have also undergone extensive improvements.

Presence of high-level Soviet officials in the Far East is suggested by (a) very unusual weather precautions in early November along a Khabarovsk-Moscow air route, probably for a "very important person" flight, (b) unusual flights on 11 and 12 November of
IL-12 aircrafts from Chita to Harbin and from Chita to Chang Chun, Manchuria, and, (c) an unconfirmed Chinese Nationalist report of a high-level conference in Manchuria on 13 November between Mao and an important Soviet official.

The radio net which serviced a Soviet air formation in the Shanghai-Nanking area, and which was discontinued on 25 October, apparently resumed its operations on 17 November.

Extensive defensive preparations are continuing in Communist China.

An apparent change in the pattern of Chinese Communist procurement efforts in Hong Kong has been noted since the end of October. Prior to that time, Chinese Communist purchasing agents are reported to have stipulated delivery by April 1951; since then, they have demanded delivery before 1 January 1951. Chinese agents are now stipulating delivery by 30 November and have cancelled orders for urgently desired items, such as silicon sheets and rubber, whose delivery could not be affected until the latter part of December. In addition, the report stated that contracts with Hong Kong for delivery and payment at Taku Bar have not been cancelled if the commodities were in near-shipload lots, if they have been loaded on a neutral ship chartered by the Chinese, and if the ship could clear the port of Hong Kong before 30 November. Other sources have reported that Chinese Communist funds were being transferred from the U.S. to Switzerland.

A free exchange of supplies between China and North Korea is revealed by mid-November messages. On 19 November, the chairman of the "Maktan-Korea Commerce Group" was granted permission by Kim Il Sung to make a loan of 2,000 tons of motor gasoline to the Chinese; another message indicated that the Chinese government was to provide the Koreans with 30 receiver-type radios and spare parts.

* IL-12 aircraft have not previously been noted in the Manchurian-North China area.