FAR EAST

1. More Soviet light bombers fly to China:

US Air Force In addition to flights of twenty TU-2 light
4 Dec 51 bombers from Chita in the Soviet Far East, to
SUEDE China in late November, seventeen more TU-2's
in two flights were scheduled to leave Chita for
Peiping in the first week of December. The aircraft leading these two flights
appear to be part of the Soviet Far Eastern air force.

Comment: The arrival of these aircraft may be
connected with a build-up of bomber strength in the Chinese Communist Air
Force, following the build-up of jet fighter strength. The Chinese Communist
Air Force is already estimated to have 150 TU-2's. On two occasions
in November, Chinese TU-2 bombers were used against UN-held islands off
northwest Korea.