10. Chinese Second Division aircraft return to Shanghai area from Manchuria: The Fourth Regiment of the Chinese Communist Second Air Division, equipped with IL-11 penetration fighters, was scheduled to move from the Korean border airfield of Fengheng to Shanghai on 16 December. The fact that 28 IL-11's moved to Fengheng on 22 October, while only 19 are now scheduled to leave, indicates this regiment's losses. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 269, 21102, 13 Dec 51)

Comment: The move of a fighter division to Shanghai is apparently a defense measure, since for several months about 1,300 miles of coastline between Canton and Tsingtao have been without known fighter protection.

The Chinese Communists have also alerted observation stations in the East China coastal area for American and Chinese Nationalist action expanding the Korean conflict on or about Christmas Day.

12. CHINA/KOREA. Chinese ground attack aircraft transferred to Korean border: The Chinese Communist Eleventh Air Division, equipped with IL-10 ground attack aircraft, was scheduled to move to Fengheng (near the Korean border) on 13 December. The reporting field unit comments that the Eleventh Division was recently noted carrying out intensive ground attack training with live ammunition, and that this move will augment the Chinese Communists' immediate capability for close support. (SUEDE USAFSS CM IV 60247, 12 Dec 51)

Comment: Thirty-two IL-10's of the Eleventh Air Division moved from the Nanjing area to central Manchuria in late October. It is unlikely that these slow, conventional aircraft of limited range would be committed in any area in which the Communists did not possess a degree of air superiority.
12. Messages disclose another Manchurian airfield on operational status: Recent messages on both the Chinese Communist and North Korean air nets reveal that Tunhwa airfield in east Manchuria is on operational status. Activity at this airfield was previously noted on the North Korean Air Force not some months ago, so that North Korean air training may have been in progress at this field for some time. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 260, 2330Z, 14 Dec 51)

Comment: This is one of four Manchurian airfields at which the North Koreans have been training air force pilots; the other fields are Fungchou, Tunghwa, and Yanghi. The progress of North Korean air training is indicated by evidence, received only recently, that North Korean pilots are flying MiG-15 aircraft.


Comment: It is conceivable that the jet training of Koreans, only recently detected, and the possible basing of Korean-piloted jets on a North Korean airfield as part of a larger plan to strengthen Korean armed forces in anticipation of a cease-fire.

14. Early-warning air defense net detected in Korea: Recent analysis by a US Air Force field unit reveals the existence of a Chinese Communist "aircraft spotter system" in North Korea. Utilizing either visual or non-GCI radar and operating during the day, the system extends from below Pyongyang to Uiju on the Sino-Korean border and from the west coast in the Pyongyang area to 40 kilometers east of that city. From the field report it seems evident that the net has direct contact with intercepting enemy aircraft, rather than servicing an air defense control center. (SUEDE AFSS CM IN 60585, 13 Dec 51)

Comment: It has long been suspected that some additional air defense facilities, other than GCI, were available in North Korea. This is the first report showing the composition and duties of such a system. Of equal interest is the fact that the system is Chinese, rather than Korean or Soviet. It is logical that the large-scale participation of Chinese Communist aircraft in the Korean air war has made such a system, even though rudimentary, necessary.

15. North Korean unit to continue training through January 1952: A 12 December message from a North Korean unit, probably elements of the 82nd Regiment in the Kaesong-Panmunjom area, reports that "this troop
will plan the special training in December and will begin in January 1962 diligently." The message further suggests that this unit is charged with providing the Communist security forces for the cease-fire conference zone. (SUEDE AS CM IN 60496, 13 Dec 51)

Comment: The continued training program of this particular unit could imply that (a) the cease-fire conference is expected to continue through January and (b) no major change in the combat situation is expected during this period.

The North Korean 82nd Regiment or elements thereof, normally subordinate to the 8th Division, I Corps, remained in the conference zone area, possibly attached to the Chinese Communist 65th Army, when the balance of the North Korean I Corps moved to the east coast.