8. Chinese "Armored Headquarters" mentioned in Korea: In an 11 October message, a Chinese tank unit was instructed to "wait until after the battle" to install radios "supplied by Armored Headquarters." The message also mentioned the receipt of 19 additional tanks. (CANOE G/T-142, 13 Oct 52)

Comment: A regimental command level has been the highest Chinese armored organization yet firmly identified in Korea. Both communications intelligence and prisoner reports, however, have suggested the presence of a divisional level.

This message, although it may be referring to a known Korean armored command or a Chinese command outside of Korea, suggests that Chinese armor in Korea is subordinate to a major command and is attached only for operations to combat armies.

9. North Koreans evacuate civilians from east coast island: On 19 October an unidentified North Korean unit on coastal security near Hungnam in eastern Korea reported a transportation problem in the area because "all of the citizens of Hwa-do have to be removed to the refuge area." (CANOE IL/T-1507, 20 Oct 52)

Comment: Hwa-do is a small island a few miles southwest of Hungnam. It is probable that its evacuation is either a security measure or is in anticipation of UN amphibious or naval operations in the area.

TOP SECRET CANOE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
18-Mar-2010
10. Chinese Communist 16th Air Division destined for Manchuria: Probably as a preliminary to a transfer flight, an LI-2 transport carrying 18 passengers was scheduled to fly from the Shantung Peninsula to an unidentified airfield in South Manchuria. The mission of the aircraft was stated to be a "test flight" for the 16th Air Division. (CANOE AF Roundup 242, 20 Oct 52)

Comment: One regiment of the 16th Air Division recently returned from Peiping where it took part in the 1 October air show. This division is the only MIG-15 unit which has not been previously based at forward fields in Manchuria.

11. New engineer regiment identified in China: The Chinese Communist 15th Engineer Regiment was identified in the Canton area of Kwangtung Province during the second week of October. This regiment is the first engineer unit in China which has been mentioned in communications intelligence. (CANOE CC/CAP 347, 20 Oct 52)

Comment: Four engineer regiments now located in Korea are the only engineer regiments previously identified in Chinese Communist messages. The presence of such a regiment at Canton is new evidence that the Chinese Communists are adding supporting elements to their ground forces in China.