FAR EAST

2. Aircraft probably introduced into North Korea since truce:

Chinese Comm Mil Aircraft, possibly North Korean, may
15 Aug 53 have been operating on 15 August from
CANOE the Namsi airfield approximately 15
L 7-7805 miles north of Chongju on the west coast,
according to a Chinese military message. The message sent by a
"main depot" to several recipients stated: "On 15 August during
the Korean review of the 70 aircraft, the line of flight will be from
Namsi to Pyongyang, then return to Namsi."

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TOP SECRET CANOE 21 Aug 53
Comment: The above message, although not stating specifically that the 70 aircraft landed at Namii airfield, strongly suggests that they were based at that field or nearby. Recent returning American war prisoners reported that on 15 August they saw twin-engine jet bombers and jet fighters in an air show over the North Korean capital.

When the cease-fire became effective there was only an insignificant number of combat aircraft in North Korea. The armistice agreement signed on 27 July prohibits the reinforcement of combat aircraft in Korea by either side except for the replacement of damaged or worn-out aircraft.