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4. Light bomber regiment moves to Manchurian forward base: Twenty TU-2 light bombers of the 28th Air Regiment at Nanking will move to Liaoyang, a south Manchurian field from which 55 MIG-15 jet fighters recently left for the Antung area, according to the US Air Force. (SUEDE, AF Roundup 207, 27 Sep 51)

Comment: Liaoyang is closer to the Korean theater than any light bomber base used heretofore by the Chinese Communist Air Force. For the first time Pusan will be brought within range of Manchurian-based Chinese Communist bombers.

This move of TU-2's from Nanking to Liaoyang follows the transfer in early September of TU-2 light bombers from central Manchuria to the Peiping-Tientsin area. The reason for moving TU-2's from and into Manchuria in this manner is unclear, and it is possible that the two moves are unrelated. However, bombers with the range of the TU-2 based in the Tientsin area could by staging through airfields in Eastern Shantung operate against Pusan.



7. North Korean Air Force command shake-up reported: A 27 September preliminary field analysis of recent enemy messages reveals that a purge of the North Korean Air Force top command for "disloyalty" is apparently

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in progress. One message indicates that "Kim Tal Won" was under investigation. (SUEDE, FFAF CS 838, 27 Sep 51)

Comment: No further information is available on either the scale of or the reasons for this command shakeup. Kim Tal Won was a major, commanding the 2nd Battalion of the Ground Attack Regiment, North Korean Air Force, in January 1951.

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