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5. East China air division moves to Manchuria: The Chinese Communist 2nd Air Division, which two months ago was located at Nanking and Shanghai, has apparently moved to forward bases near Antung and Mukden in Manchuria. This division is equipped with MIG-15's, conventional fighters and light bombers. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 224, 22 Oct 51)

Comment: Since late September the Chinese Communists have shifted several air regiments from China northward to advanced bases in Manchuria. With the transfer of the 2nd Air Division, the Chinese Communist Air Force is left with little known fighter strength south of Tsingtao.

The 2nd Air Division consists of two regiments; one of them contains probably 37 MIG-15's, and the other at least 28 IA-11 conventional fighters and three TU-2 light bombers.

6. One or more Soviet VIP's fly to Mukden on 18 October: A civil air transport was scheduled to carry one or more "high-ranking chief(s)" of the USSR from Hailar (in Manchuria near the Soviet border) to Mukden on 18 October, according to a Chinese Communist message. (SUEDE [] 3997, Mukden-U, 17 Oct 51)

Comment: This phraseology, which is unusual in Chinese Communist messages, may be an indication of the high rank of the unidentified official(s) traveling to Mukden.

7. KOREA. North Korean division has coastal security mission in northwestern Korea: Preliminary analysis of a recent North Korean message reveals that the North Korean 10th Infantry Division is still in the Chongju area in northwestern Korea. Elements of the division are on outlying Sinmi island and were reported "engaging" the enemy. (ROK naval

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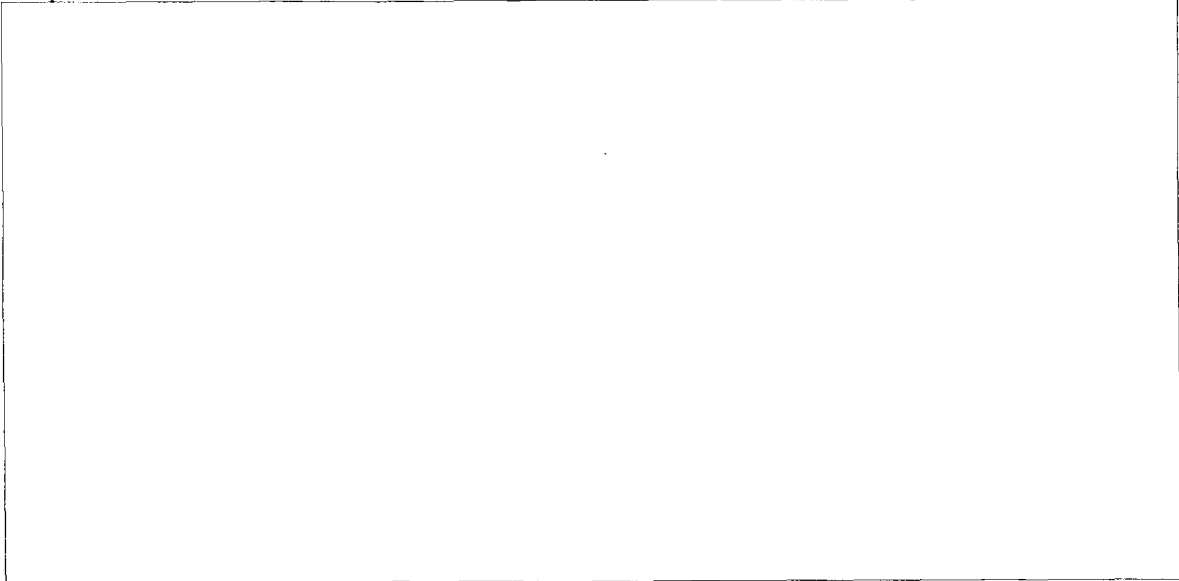
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units and friendly guerrillas are active in this area.) The 10th Division was erroneously reported by collateral sources as being in the Kaesong area. (SUEDE CINCFE TIK 1263 H 183W 332, 23 Oct 51)

Comment: There are no indications that the North Korean 10th Division, which has been in this area for many months, is subordinate to the newly established West Coast Defense Command. Chinese Communist security units are also believed to be in this area.

8. North Korean rear area troops help with harvest: A preliminary field translation of a 20 October North Korean message reveals that the "Commander of the 8th (Railroad Security) regiment" in the Chongjin area of north-eastern Korea reported to the Division headquarters in Pyongyang that during a five day period "we mobilized 14 times utilizing 270 members and harvested 21,750 pyong ('pyong' equals 36 square feet)" in the "harvest-helping" campaign. (SUEDE CM IN 46853, Chongjin-Pyongyang, 21 Oct 51)

Comment: The utilization of troops for agricultural purposes, widespread in China and noticed before in Korea, is probably necessitated by the acute shortage of agricultural labor and farm animals and by the known food shortages in the rear areas.



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