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10. New airfield in use near Antung: A flight on 10 October of IA-11 penetration fighters to Takushan, near Antung, was reported in a recent message. This is the first indication, according to the Air Force, that the Takushan field, which has been under construction, is now operational. (SUEDE Air Force Roundup 216, 10 Oct 51)

Comment: The Communists reportedly have been constructing Takushan as a third jet fighter field in the Antung area, but the use of this new field by IA-11's does not mean that it is yet usable by jet fighters, which require a much longer runway. However, an additional jet fighter base there would enable the Communists greatly to expand their jet fighter strength in the Korean border area.

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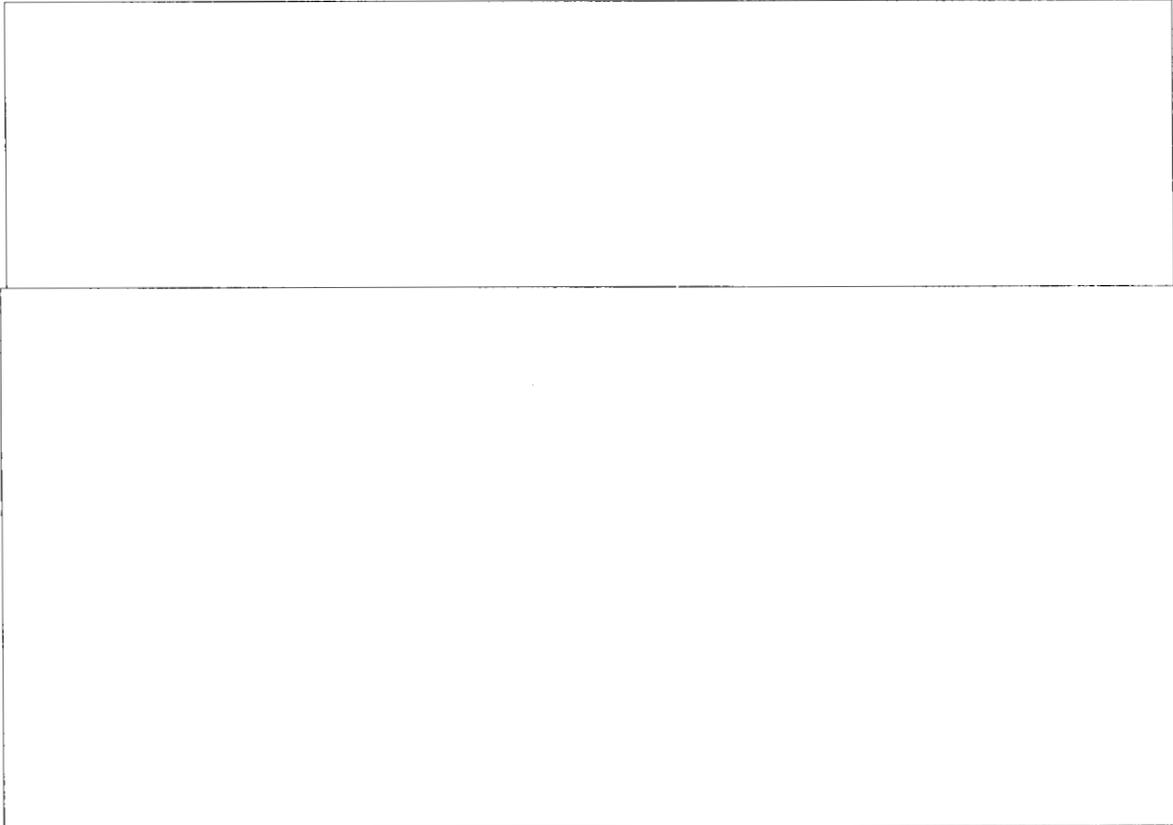
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12. Communists establish west coast defense commands: Since late in September there have been indications—in traffic analysis, direction finding bearings, and message intercepts—suggesting that Communist forces in North Korea have established a west coast defense command similar to the extensive organization long operational on the east coast. It may be speculated on the basis of evidence now available that the new organization, with headquarters tentatively located in Chinnampo, is subordinate to Naval Headquarters in Pyongyang as is its east coast counterpart. A 10 October field analysis of North Korean traffic confirms that the 23rd and 26th North Korean Infantry Brigades are to be under operational control of this new headquarters, although remaining subordinate to the I and IV Corps, their parent organizations. (SUEDE CM IN 43025, 6 Oct; TIK 1236 H 178 W 325, 10 Oct 51)

Comment: Establishment of this headquarters confirms the Communist forces' very real fear of UN amphibious capabilities. The detailing of North Korean combat units from operational corps has a precedent in the east coast system.



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