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2. Coordination of Chinese Communist air warning nets observed: Chinese Communist early warning nets in Manchuria, Korea and China are now using a common reporting procedure as well as a common plotting grid, according to an Air Force report. The air warning nets in Manchuria, Korea and East China were observed using the same systems in early July and communications nets in the Swatow and Canton areas have now adopted them. (CANOE AF Roundup 161, 20 Aug 52)

Comment: The use of a common plotting system is new evidence of the improvement of air defense techniques by the Chinese Communist air force.

Although the Chinese Communist and Soviet air defense systems overlap geographically, there is, as yet, no evidence of their integration.

3. Chinese Communist air school now using MIG-15: One MIG-15 as well as one YAK-17 trainer of the Chinese Communist 3rd Air School were scheduled for a cross country flight on 17 August, according to a recently intercepted message. The US Air Force notes that this is the first time that MIG-15 fighters have been used in connection with training activities at this school. Previously only YAK-17's and MIG-9's were observed there. (CANOE AF Roundup 161, 20 Aug 52)

Comment: The Chinese Communist 3rd Air School is located at Chihnsien in southern Manchuria. It is known to have four battalions equipped with trainers as well as conventional and jet fighters.

4. "Allied" flight activity indicates MIG-15 strength increases at Mukden: Activity at Mukden airfield in Manchuria on 18 and 19 August indicates that there may have been a recent increase in "allied" MIG-15 fighter strength there. Two separate flights, each of 30 MIG-15's, were scheduled for patrol duty to Korea during daylight on 18 August. Three additional flights involving at least 37 MIG-15's were scheduled for night flying on the same day.

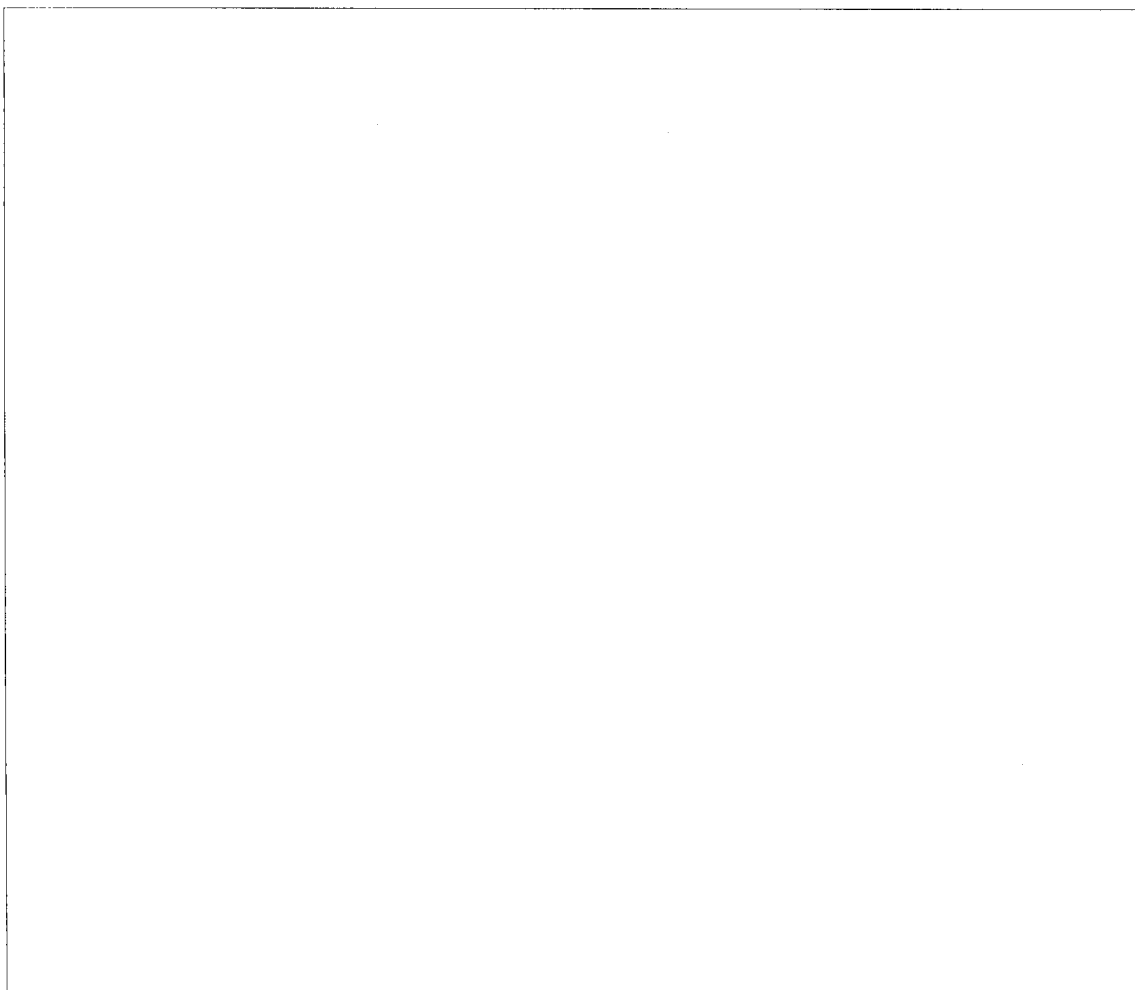
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The US Air Force estimates that these flights indicate that there are a minimum of 60 "allied" MIG-15's currently based at Mukden, 37 more than were there on 1 August. (CANOE AF Roundup 161, 20 Aug 52)

Comment: This activity at Mukden does not necessarily reflect an increase in Soviet-manned fighter strength in Manchuria. It is presently estimated that there are 320 Soviet-manned jet fighters in the south Manchurian airfield complex.



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