FAR EAST

1. More Soviet light bombers fly to China:

   US Air Force
   4 Dec 51
   In addition to flights of twenty TU-2 light
   bombers from Chita in the Soviet Far East to
   China in late November, seventeen more TU-2's
   in two flights were scheduled to leave Chita for
   Peiping in the first week of December. The aircraft leading these two flights
   appear to be part of the Soviet Far Eastern air force.

   Comment: The arrival of these aircraft may be
   connected with a build-up of bomber strength in the Chinese Communist Air
   Force, following the build-up of jet fighter strength. The Chinese Commu-
   nist Air Force is already estimated to have 150 TU-2's. On two occasions
   in November, Chinese TU-2 bombers were used against UN-held islands off
   northwest Korea.