FAR EAST

2. "Swept-wing aircraft" sighted on airfield close to Seoul:

On 7 December a US reconnaissance bomber flying at a low altitude observed nine "swept-wing aircraft" on an airfield on the 38th parallel at Haeju, about 75 miles northwest of Seoul.

Comment: The MIG-15, the standard Soviet fighter, has sharply swept wings. Enemy jet aircraft have never before been observed on an airfield in such close proximity to the battle line. In view of the considerable increase in both day and night enemy jet activity south of Pyongyang, it is possible that the airfield at Haeju is used as a staging point rather than as an operational base.

3. Chinese Communist jet fighter division transfers to combat airfield:

US Air Force

About 50 MIG-15 jet fighters of the Chinese Communist Sixth Air Division transferred on 8 December from Mukden to Tatungkou, near the Korean border. Emergency landing fields for the flight were Fengcheng and Langtou, both within fifty miles of the Korean border.

Comment: The Sixth Division, as a unit, has not had previous combat experience. It may be scheduled to replace the depleted Third Division, which has been based in the Antung area since 20 October. This is the first reference to Langtou as an emergency field for jet fighters.
4. North Korean tactical unit sees quick end to truce talks:

North Korean Military
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An 8 December message, from a North Korean regiment probably in the Kaesong area, reports that "the truce conference is expected to come to an end within five days." The message also states that "shelters have been completely prepared for the winter."

Comment: The normal periodic reporting procedure of this North Korean unit has been to include a summary of developments in the truce talks.

There is no other evidence indicating a Communist intention to agree to a cease-fire or to suspend or break off negotiations on or before 13 December.