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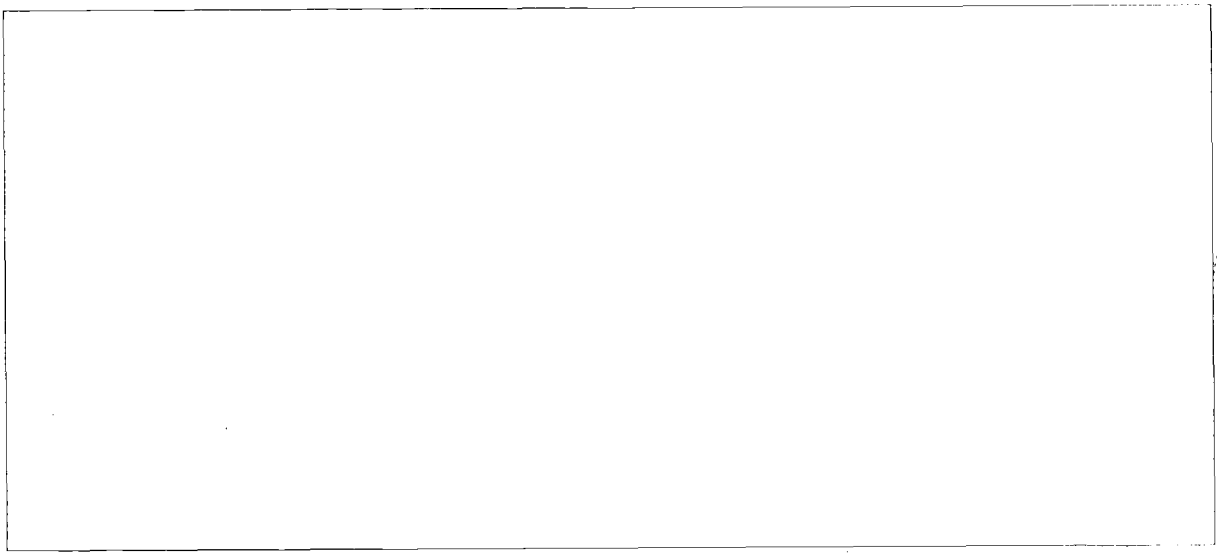
3. North Korean Air Force increases jet strength:

National Security
Agency
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The North Korean Air Force now has a minimum of 194 aircraft, including 97 MIG-15 jet fighters and 39 IL-28 jet bombers, according to a communications analysis by the National Security Agency. These figures do not include 50 propeller-driven aircraft and 25 MIG's which the NKA F had prior to last fall but which have not been reflected in recent communications.

This compares with a total strength of 197 aircraft in October 1952, of which only 48 fighters were jets. Since that date, the NKA F has converted one division from conventional to jet aircraft, and created one and possibly two new jet fighter divisions.

Comment: During the past six months both the NKA F and the Chinese Communist Air Force have taken a more active role in the defensive air war which is now largely confined to the area between the Yalu and Chongchon Rivers. There are no firm indications that this defensive role will be expanded further south, or that it will change into an offensive mission.



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