

continued elsewhere in the province. The able young commander of a unit in South Chulla Province was killed in an engagement twenty miles south of the capital. One observer believes that the coming of Spring will bring increased guerrilla activity because fighting is easier in warm weather, and the foliage affords better concealment. One definite result of the Chiri campaign has been to drive some of the rebels out of the area, northward along the mountain range into areas which have been quiet for a year or more. Evidence points to future trouble in the vicinity of Taejun, which is now a model city, as Korean cities go. The nature of rebel operations, and the rugged terrain in which they operate, make a quick, complete defeat highly improbable.

Reports told of improved relations between soldiers and citizens in the Chiri area. One unit even hauls food and firewood for villagers at times. Part of the credit belongs to a new brigade commander in this area, General WUN.

John J. Muccio
John J. Muccio
Special Representative

• 제주도 사태 호전(1949. 4. 22)

INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DIVISION OF

NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

Noted - [unclear]
MAY - 31 1949

Date of receipt: April 22, 1949

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Time of receipt: May 10, 1949 11:20 a.m.

FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

MAY 11 1949

DIRECTOR

Department of State

Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary

April 22, 1949

Reference is made to this mission's despatches Nos. 107, March 23, 1949, 211, April 12, 1949, and Section III of despatch No. 222, April 10, 1949, on the subject of developments on Cheju Island.

As has been reported, President Rhee made a flying trip to Cheju Island on April 9. It is understood from foreign missionaries who were on the island at the time that the President's trip made a deep impression on the Cheju natives and had a salutary effect. Moreover, the new minister of Defense, Captain S. S. Hahn, revisited Cheju during the first week in April on instructions from the President. The Minister of Defense for several days supervised the conduct of military operations on the island. At the same time, he took an active hand in the administration of relief to the many thousands of refugees. Another high official visitor to the Island was the Minister of Social Affairs, Mr. L. S. Yun.

895-00/4-224

Recent reports available to this Mission from Korean and American sources suggest that pacification of the island has now been largely completed. The great majority of the Communist rebels, who over a period of several months perpetrated tremendous destruction and misery, have now been either killed or captured. Only a few remnant raiders appear now to be operating in the remote recesses of the dominant mountain massif.

Father George Carroll, an American Catholic priest who has been distributing relief supplies on the island and who returned from there on April 20th, has informed this Mission that a new spirit now appears to permeate the inhabitants of Cheju. According to Father Carroll, the spirit of defeatism so prevalent on the island up to the beginning of March of this year has now been succeeded by a general feeling of optimism. Father Carroll has reported, for example, that the farmers are returning to their fields and that much reconstruction is now in evidence. Father Carroll has also reported that the movement of former Communist sympathizers from the mountains continues unabated. It appears that this movement stems not only from the complete rout of the rebels but from the good treatment being meted out to the former Communist sympathizers.

• 이승만 지방 방문(1949. 4. 22)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE--

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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Rec'd April 22, 1949
3:18 a.m.

DIVISION OF
NORTHEAST-ASIAN AFFAIRS
Noted - Lee
APR 22 1949

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



FROM: Seoul

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 423, April 22, 5 p.m.

President and Mrs. Rhee, accompanied by Supreme Chief of Staff and other Korean officials, left Seoul today by special train to visit South Korean Provinces. President and party plan return Seoul toward end next week. We understand President proposes make appearances at maximum number cities, towns and villages and deliver minimum of two or three speeches daily. Apart from trip Cheju Island April 9, this marks first time President has left Seoul since inauguration last August.

MUCCIO