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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

X/R
From: 121800/I Feb 47
To : 131800/I Feb 47

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 14 February 1947

No. 456

MAPS: KOREA, 1/250,000
Eastern ASIA, 1/1,000,000

1. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

2. NON-OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

3. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

a. Sabotage

Telephone Lines Cut

A delayed report from Sixth Division states that telephone lines were cut three times as follows: (1) On 03 February the CHONJU to KUNSAN line was cut and a section of wire removed; (2) On 04 February the PUAN to KAORI police line was cut; (3) On 05 February the CHONJU to NAMJON Military Government line was cut just southeast of CHONJU and a section of wire removed.

b. Espionage - None reported.

c. Terrorism

Right Wing Youths Attack Newspaper Office

In a delayed report Sixth Division states that on 01 February, twelve members of the Rightist Northwest Korean Youth Association attacked the office of the CHONBUK newspaper because the paper would not publish an article submitted by them. Four employees were injured slightly. The leader of the attacking group was arrested by police.

COMMENT: This attack was made during the same week other reports were received of terrorism by this same youth group (see par 3c, P/R #446). The significant part of the report is that the police took action against the Rightist attackers.

d. Secret Organizations - None reported.

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An intercepted copy of the 31 January issue of the All KOREA Farmers News contains the following headlines:

"Farmers, do not be cheated by the landowners who are trying to sell their lands."

"POLAND has carried out the land reformation the same as was done in North KOREA."

"The enemy of the students is the enemy of the farmers."

"The Rightists are our enemies. The rice collection is a plunder, not a collection." (SEO/3230, issue dated 31 January)

COMMENT: The Leftist papers continue to agitate and hinder the development of a government. Other intercepts indicate that land owners are selling land which they expect will be confiscated and redistributed, this is the basis for the first headline noted. Some of the articles are aimed directly at agitation of the farmers in CHOLLA-PUKTO to reduce the effectiveness of the rice collection program.

f. TelecommunicationsIllegal Radio Receiving and Transmitting Sets Found in Possession of Korea

A delayed report from KWANGJU CIC dated 04 February states that Japanese transmitting and receiving sets were found in a raid of a warehouse owned by LEE, Jai Un and located in that city.

4. CIVIL RELATIONS

a. Disturbances - None reported.

b. Political Parties and Other Organizations

(1) Five Appointees Named for Vacancies in Legislature

The following five Koreans have been appointed by General HODGE to fill vacancies existing among the appointed members of the Legislative Assembly:

PAK, Yong Hi
KIM, Sang Dawk
Dr LEE, Kap Soo
KIM, Ik Tong
LEE, Kwan Koo

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These members will replace three Leftists and two Rightists who refused to accept their seats in the Legislature. The vacancy created by the resignation of AN, Chai Hong, now the Civil Administrator, has not been filled.

(2) Legislative Assembly and Newsmen Meet

At 1115 this date the visiting American newsmen attended a session of the Interim Legislative Assembly. Dr KIM, Kyu Sik, the chairman of the Assembly, introduced the newsmen. The representative of the Christian Science Monitor, Mr LANHAM spoke on the subject of trusteeship, stating that it was only a name that stood for the aid and assistance necessary for the reestablishment of KOREA. SHIN, Ik Hi spoke next expressing the Rightist views on trusteeship and the former Japanese property now held as enemy property by AMERICA. Mr SHIN stated that this property was not enemy property but belonged to KOREA and should be turned over to her.

SHI, Ki An, spoke for the Leftist members of the Legislature and said that the retention of pro-Japanese Koreans in the government was the immediate cause of the present difficulties in South KOREA.

Following these speeches, Dr KIM asked for questions. LYUH, Moon Hong, moderate Leftist, said that the term "friendly aid" should be substituted for the word trusteeship. MOI, Sei Horn also commented on the same subject saying the Koreans want friendly aid and assistance but not trusteeship.

The meeting adjourned at 1215.

(3) Leftist Uprising In South KOREA

The following information was obtained from a translation of a mimeographed copy of a letter reportedly sent to HU, Hun, prominent Leftist in South KOREA, from North KOREA:

The letter, dated 22 January 1947, states that in order to give the Red Army a better situation in the MOSCOW conference, due to convene on 10 March, the South Korean people must raise a wide revolution under the plans of the South KOREA Labor Party. The document continues by saying that this revolution must be directed against the American Military Government's Legislative organization. To accomplish this the schools in South KOREA must be better organized. The first step of this revolution will be by the legal method of strikes.

COMMENT: There is no date given for the action outlined above. If this document is correct and authentic (it is being investigated), the time should coincide with the MOSCOW Conference. A possible effect of this plan may be the current school strike in SEOUL. Until further investigation can be made of the statements and plans indicated in the letter, evaluation of this information is difficult.

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c. Korean Press

(1) For the purpose of showing matters of current public interest in KOREA, translations have been made of the leading headlines in all major newspapers in SEOUL, and the texts of articles that are considered to be of particular interest. (See Incl #1)

(2) A digest of the 14 February edition of all newspapers in SEOUL has been prepared by the Public Relations Office, this Headquarters. The "Korean Press Summary" is attached hereto.

5. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE IN ADJACENT AREASa. Telecommunications

The Propaganda Committee of PYONGAN-NAMDO announced on the radio at PYONGYANG on 12 February that there would be an exhibition of 1,400 pictures depicting the true conditions in South KOREA under the oppression of the "fascists" RHEE, Syng Man, and KIM, Koo. These pictures, so the broadcast states, will show how the true patriots of democracy and the workers are suffering.

COMMENT: This broadcast is a part of an effort by the Communists to impress the North Koreans with the importance of electing the right men in the MYUN, RI, and DONG elections. These pictures are to be displayed in the 140 model propaganda rooms in the propaganda sections of the Province.

b. Report of Killing of Police and Incipient Riots

CHO, Kap Dong, CHUNCHON-ERP, KANGWON-DO, in a letter to SON, Chong Kap, JUCHON, DANGWON-DO states that he has heard in SEOUL that 13 members of the Public Peace Station at YONCHON were killed and that there is a possibility of further Rightist action over the consumers cooperative society. CHO writes that ten members of the Peace unit (Police) at YANGGU have either struck or run off to South KOREA as a result of a riot. (SEO/3233, postmarked 08 February)

COMMENT: Regarding police desertions from YANGGU, see P/R #453, par 5.

6. MISCELLANEOUSa. General HODGE to Confer in WASHINGTON

Lieutenant General John R HODGE is leaving SEOUL by air Friday, 14 February, for WASHINGTON, DC, for conference on Korean affairs with high officials in the US Government. He expects to confer with General MacARTHUR in TOKYO before proceeding to the US.

b. Illegal Possession of Fire Arms

(1) A delayed Sixth Division report states that on 04 February, at a point approximately 15 miles south of KONGJU¹, a sniper's rifle (serial number unknown) was stolen from a US Army Truck.

1-KONGJU (1011-1509) (36°28'N-127°08'E)

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(2) Sixth Division reports that at 0430 on 08 February two prisoners in the city jail at KWANGJU were illegally released by a policeman who was hired during the November 1945 emergency period. The prisoners escaped with the policeman who carried away his assigned US Army carbine. One of the prisoners was charged with the murder of a policeman in November 1946, and the other was held pending trial for illegal manufacture of fire arms.

Robinson
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1 Inclosure:
Translations of SEOUL Newspapers

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