

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

From: 141800/I Feb 47
To : 161800/I Feb 47

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 17 February 1947

No. 458

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

1. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

2. NON-OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

3. COUNTERINTELLIGENCEa. SabotageTelephone Line Cut

A delayed report from Sixth Division states that on 05 February the police telephone lines near KUMJE¹ were cut in three places.

b. Espionage - None reported.

c. Terrorism - None reported.

d. Secret Organizations - None reported.

e. Mail Interceptions

(1) Transportation Police Arrest Two North Korean Arigators in KWANGJU

Two reports of the Chief of the Transportation Police Division in SEOUL show considerable concern over the presence of North Korean Communist terrorists in South KOREA. According to one report two of these terrorists were arrested in KWANGJU on 03 February with approximately 100,000 yen in their possession. This money was to have been used for working expenses for trouble to be started in South KOREA. Another report states that about 40 or 50 underground terrorists from North KOREA with a fund of 60,000,000 yen came to South KOREA by a sea route to instigate school strikes and political disturbances. This group is supposedly timing their disturbances to coincide with the period leading up to the MOSCOW Conference. (SEO/3206, SEO/3270 reports dated 05 and 11 February)

COMMENT: These intercepted police reports are included to indicate the growing tension of security forces as the date of the March first movement (SAM IL Day) and of the MOSCOW Conference draws nearer. The trend of most reports is toward rumors or reports of everything from demonstrations to actual invasion of South KOREA by North Korean Communists.

(2) South Korean Police Not Strong Enough

KIM, Hi Chan, KUMI LI, HWANGHAE-DO, in a letter to a member of the Hancock Democratic Party, SEOUL, states that following the South Korean riots the people became anti-communistic and supported the police stationed along the 38th parallel in order to fight any North Korean treason forces. These supporting committees have formed to protect the police stations and are supplying food for

1-KUMJE (989-1429) (35°48'N-126°52'E)

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such station. According to KIM, these committees say that the organizing of the Rightists has been poor and that the police organization is not very strong. (SEO/3265, letter dated 11 February)

f. Telecommunications - No violations reported.

4. CIVIL RELATIONS

a. Disturbances - See Inclosure No 1.

b. Political Parties and Other Organizations

(1) Leftists to Stop Rightist Terrorism Planned for March First

The INCH'ON CIC, acting on information received by them raided a hotel room in that city and confiscated several documents of the Leftist Chosun Democratic Youth Alliance. These documents indicate that the month of February was designated as a period for the placing of certain posters. Instructions as to the contents, and the manner of posting is given. In addition, the members are instructed to read, understand, and be responsible for information translated as follows:

"The people who have caused so much trouble to their countrymen, who are enemy collaborators, oppressors, rumor spreaders, and who have sold their country's independence, have reached their end. As the days go by, the people should get their rights, but, despite the help given USANGIK, the people helping are despised for it. The enemies of the people have sold the profits of their countrymen and their independence, and are even planning to cause terrorism on 01 March. We must be prepared to prevent this trouble.

"March first is the critical day for the enemies of the people and they will try to cheat the people. We must devote ourselves to making the people understand what is right."

COMMENT: The protectors of the "people", the Leftists, seem intent on saving the country from the "oppressors and collaborators", the Rightists. The Leftist program of enlightenment of the people through the medium of posters, and the protection of the people's rights against planned Rightist demonstrations does not seem to agree with their own intentions of terrorism. This plan may only be an excuse to organize and stir up the members of the Left to a pitch sufficient to carry out any further orders given them. In support of this statement, a report has been received from KWANGJU CIC stating that orders have been received by the Rightists in that area to stop demonstrations on March first, since it is feared by the Rightists that any possible demonstration on SMIL day will be taken advantage of by the Leftists, who will blame acts of terrorism and disturbances on anti-trusteeship Rightists.

(2) Leftist Propaganda in TAEGU

A TAEGU CIC report carried in the Sixth Division G-2 Periodic Report dated 08 February states that numerous propaganda messages are being written on the fences and doors of peoples homes with chalk. These messages are as follows:

"Instead of American candy, give us food.

"Destroy All Policemen.

"Let us support trusteeship

"We oppose Military Government because it means colonization."

In addition to the propaganda messages, the majority of the homes of the police and MG officials are marked with a "T" inside a circle.

1-TAEGU (1150-1430) (35°52'N-128°36'E).

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COMMENT: The propaganda messages are of the same type used by Leftists throughout Southern KOREA. This is the first reported instance in several weeks of the marking of homes of those whom they oppose. Whether this is part of a war of nerves or part of a program for action against the officials is unknown. A report from the Sixth Division dated 11 February states that several writers of these chalk messages were arrested by the police, and that some were middle school students.

c. Press

(1) Lt Gen HODGE Reviews Efforts To Establish KOREA

In a special press release dated 15 February Lt Gen HODGE reviewed at length the American efforts to establish KOREA as a united nation, and the factors which have slowed the fulfillment of this mission. The special press release is attached hereto.

(2) Maj Gen EROWN Assumes Command During Temporary Absence of Lt Gen HODGE

An announcement was made in a special press release on 15 February that Maj Gen EROWN had assumed command in the temporary absence of Lt Gen HODGE. The release contains pertinent background information concerning the Army career of Maj Gen EROWN. The special press release is attached hereto.

(3) Progress In Implementing The MOSCOW Decision

The second in a series of five reports by Maj Gen Albert E EROWN, Chief Commissioner of the American Delegation of the US-Soviet Joint Commission, is attached hereto.

(4) 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 #2)

(5) A digest of the 15-16-17 February editions of all newspapers in SEOUL has been prepared by the Public Relations Office, this Headquarters. The "Korean Press Summaries" are attached hereto.

5. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE IN ADJACENT AREAS

Mail Interceptions

PARK, Ho Kam, of the INCHON branch of the CHCHUNG Bank states in a letter to CHO, Moon Hyawk of the KANGJU branch of the same bank, that all of the banks in HAMNUNG, North KOREA, have been united into one bank known as the Central Bank, and that branches of this bank have been established everywhere. (SEO/325/ letter dated 10 February)

6. MISCELLANEOUS

None.

2 Inclosures:

- 1 - Civil Disturbances
- 2 - Translations of SEOUL Newspapers

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CIVIL DISTURBANCES

Incl #1

17 February 1947



1-SEOUL (1000-1640) (37°34'N-127°00'E) - 161000 February 1947 - On 15 February the Rightist Great Korean Democratic Youth Alliance sent 15 men to inspect the organizations branch at NON SONG NI, approximately 12 miles Northwest of SEOUL. At 1000 on 16 February, as the Rightist youths were returning to SEOUL, 150 men came out of the hills and attacked them. 8 Rightists escaped without serious injury, 4 were beaten moderately, 2 are expected to die, and 1 is dead as a result of the beating. 61 members of the attacking group were arrested. Although the responsibility has not been definitely established, it is presumed by the investigating agencies that Leftists made the attack. An investigation is in progress.

2-CHEJU (950-1150) (33°30'N-126°32'E) - 101300 February 1947 - A report from CHEJU-DO states that at 1300 on 10 February a group of 300 to 400 students began a demonstration in CHEJU apparently directly against the Military Government Company stationed in that town. The MG Company broke up the demonstration and drove the students out of town. The students set a grass fire at the airport three miles out of town. This was extinguished before any damage was done to installations there.

NOTE: CHEJU is a city on the north coast of the island of CHEJU-DO which is located south of the southwest tip of KOREA.

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