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G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

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From: 281800/I Feb 47
To : 021800/I Mar 47

Headquarters, USFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 03 March 1947

No. 469

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

1. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

2. NON-OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

3. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

- a. Sabotage - None reported.
- b. Espionage - None reported.
- c. Terrorism

Rightist Youth Leader Threatens CIC

KIM, Doo Hwan, a former gang leader in SEOUL, and at present treasurer of the Right Wing All Korean Young Men's Association for Acceleration of Independence, threatened that CIC headquarters would be bombed on 01 March if he were jailed following his arrest on 28 February. He was not released and the headquarters has not been bombed.

- d. Secret Organizations - None reported.
- e. Mail Interceptions

(1) Striking College Students to Return 03 March

CHO, Oong Kern, SEOUL, in a letter to CHO, Dong Sawk, CHONJU, makes the following statements:

"We are struggling hard to break down the strikes, and we expect that on 03 March, most of the students will return to their colleges. We must not overdo the fearful conspiracy of Communists who are behind the strikes.

"When I visited CHONJU last time, I felt that most of the young people in CHONJU were full of Communism. I recognized that they had fallen for

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the left stratagems of the Left elements. They aspired to what they considered was the utopia, knowing the true conditions there. In SEOUL, we find many people from North KOREA, who have come to South KOREA, as they could not live in North KOREA." (SEO/3447, letter dated 24 February)

(2) Illegally Possessed US Army Blankets Offered for Sale

A letter from FHEE, Hi Nam, SEOUL, to CHERNG, Chin Bok, CHONGKON, CHOLLA-PUKTO, contains the following prices for US Army blankets:

best grade	3,000 yen each
middle grade	2,500 yen each
low grade	2,500 yen each

FHEE adds that the cost of dyeing is 700 yen per blanket. (SEO/3470 letter dated 23 February).

f. Telecommunications - No violations reported.

4. CIVIL RELATIONS

a. Disturbances - See Incl #1.

b. Political Parties and Other Organizations

(1) National Society for Acceleration of Korean Independence Plans to Support CHUNGKING Provisional Government Group

An informant report, evaluated B-2, covering the meeting of the representatives of the National Society for Acceleration of Korean Independence at 0900 on 01 March at the National Society Headquarters, states that about 1,500 were present, and that it was decided to back the CHUNGKING Provisional Government group of the National Congress. The National Society representatives declared that a few changes must be made in the make-up of the government group of the National Congress so that Dr FHEE would be included, as well as some other members of the National Society. In general the changes would be to exclude those members of the National Congress who had accepted positions with Military Government or were members of the Legislative Assembly.

The report also stated that the new government would be proclaimed, but that if this did not succeed (and the informant did not think it would), then the National Congress would try to legalize it by passing it through the Legislative Assembly.

Another matter that was discussed at the meeting in the National Society's headquarters was the merger of the Hankook Democratic Party and the Korean Independence Party. This merger plan was turned down by members of the Korean Independence Party. KIM Koo stated that if this plan was not carried out he would resign as Chairman of the Independence Party.

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COMMENT: There is still a possibility that the National Society and the National Congress may utilize the bill now being presented to the Assembly for reorganization of the South Korean government. This proposal, prepared by SHIN, Ik Hi, a member of the National Congress and National Society, is having its second reading on 03 March in the Assembly, and provides for the positions desired by the Rightists. There is considerable doubt as to how this proposal can possibly succeed since it conflicts with the announced intentions and purposes of Military Government, and must be approved by the Military Commander in South KOREA, who has previously stated that he can not relinquish control as Military Governor.

(2) People's Party Separating from South Korean Labor Party

A CHUNGHON CIC report dated 24 February states that YU, Kyung Su, assistant leader of the Left Wing People's Party in CHUNGHON was interviewed on that date and stated that the reason for the separation of the People's Party from the South Korean Labor Party was that the Labor Party is turning too Communist, and that this is detrimental to the independence of KOREA. Mr YU states that the People's Party is still Left Wing, but will not support the extreme Left nor the Right. (See par 4b/1/, I/R #468)

(3) Results of March First Movement Commemoration

Early reports from CIC covering the actions of the Left and Right during the March First Demonstrations indicate that both meetings were peaceful and that no inflammatory speeches were made. The only incident occurred when the Rightist meeting at SEOUL stadium started to break up at 1330 on 01 March. A man rushed up to the microphone, after the group had been told by its leaders that there would be no parade, and told the people to form a parade, which they did. This parade was the one which touched off the trouble at South Gate in SEOUL.

In general the week-end passed without any major disturbances, although sporadic firing of fire-arms continued in SEOUL until after dark on 01 March.

COMMENT: The lack of a general outbreak on 01 and 02 March can not be taken as conclusive evidence that none of the threatened trouble will occur. The main project before the South Koreans is the expected proclamation by the Rightists of a new government. The period of activities and disturbances can be expected to continue until at least 10 March.

c. Korean Press

A digest of the 01-02-03 March editions of all newspapers published in SEOUL has been prepared by the Public Relations Office, this Headquarters. The "Korean Press Summaries" are attached hereto.

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The following statement was made in a broadcast on 01 March from PYONG-YANG in commemoration of the March First Movement:

"The complete elimination of the Japanese imperialism and the remnant of feudalism in North KOREA has been completed. Consequently, the farmers can own the land and become the lord of farming land; the laborers and office workers are emancipated from the colonial oppression and live a comfortable life culturally, and materially; women, half of the population, can participate in the political, social and cultural life; and the intelligentsia can be real workers for building our nation. Thus, the people of North KOREA enjoy the political right and freedom, and they created their administration by election of their own hands.

"In South KOREA the people in general are eager to establish the same kind of organization as that in North KOREA, and are fighting heroically against the reactionary elements. Therefore, the elements which are against the people are isolated from the people and they are against the MOSCOW Decision which shows clearly the way to get the independence of KOREA."

b. Mail InterceptionSocialized Medicine Plan Set Up in North Korean Hospitals

KIM, Moon Hyawp, DOOM, HUI-LI, HANGYONG-NAMDO, in a letter to KO, Sawng Ok, SEOUL, states that North KOREA is now concentrating every effort to establish a democratic country in KOREA, and that all of the peoples' hospitals in North KOREA have been turned into hospitals under the social insurance plan so that workers can be cured without any payments. (SEO/3432, letter dated 5 Feb)

6. MISCELLANEOUSa. Illegal Possession of Fire-arms

A CIC report dated 28 February states that a raid was made on the basis of a report that Rightist youths had weapons. During the raid KIM, Doc Hwan, treasurer of the extreme Right "All Korean Young Mens Association for Acceleration of Independence", was arrested and found to possess a pistol (KIM is a well known strong man and ex-prize fighter and member of the Rightist "Brown Shirts").

b. Americans Captured by North Korean Constabulary Released

A KAESONG CIC report dated 01 March states that the American personnel captured by the North Korean Constabulary on 28 February were released on the afternoon of 01 March. The interpreters with the Americans were not released. (See par 5a, P/R #468)

1 Inclosure:
Civil Disturbances

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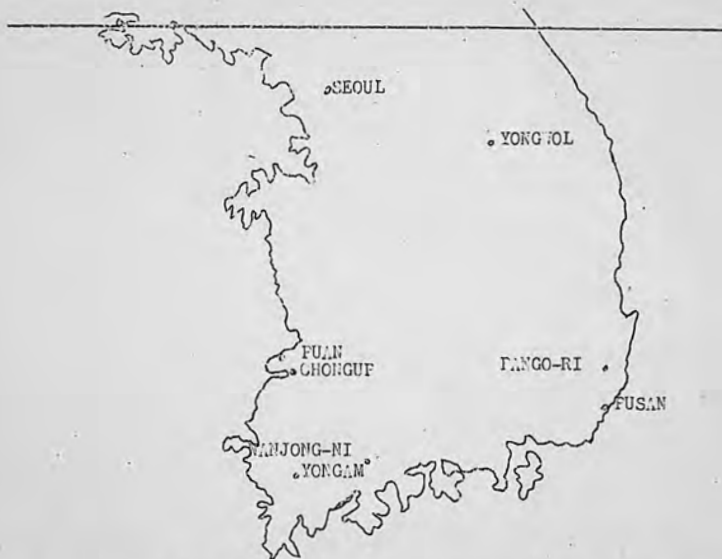
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Incl #1

03 March 1947



CHONGUP (980-1400) (35°34'N-126°52'E) - 011500 March 1947 - 200 to 250 men marched in to CHONGUP from the town of FUK, 4 miles north of CHONGUP. The police tried to stop them and said that if they went any farther they would fire. The mob advanced and the police opened fire. One person was killed, 1 seriously wounded, and 2 slightly wounded before the crowd dispersed. 100 police were sent from CHONJU immediately. No arrests were made. Identity of group unknown.

YONGJOL (1140-1590) (37°10'N-128°28'E) - 01 March 1947 - 60 Rightists attacked 20 Leftists. 10 were injured on both sides. 45 police were dispatched from KANGNUNG. Situation under control at the time of their arrival.

FUAN (970-1420) (35°44'N-126°44'E) - 01 March 1947 - In the late afternoon a group of 150 Leftists attacked 3 policemen and beat them severely. One policeman is missing. 3 rifles and 30 rounds of ammunition was taken by the assailants, only 1 rifle and 5 rounds were recovered.

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CHEJU (950-1150) (33°30'N-126°32'E) -- 011000 March 1947 - An unauthorized meeting of approximately 1,000 people paraded toward the police building and then attacked. The police fired into the mob killing 4 civilians and injuring an unknown number. Later one of the wounded was reported as having died. 1 police man was slightly injured. No American casualties. US troops assisted in dispersing the crowd. The Chief of police of CHEJU City made a request to the National Police at WOKFO (938-1037) for 100 additional police and they were dispatched by boat at 011700 March. Situation was quiet but tense on the night of 02 March.

YONGAM (960-1300) (34°48'N-126°42'E) -- 01 March 1947 - A number of small crowds (not mobs) of 100 to 300 each attempted to push past the police barrier to get into town. The total number of the crowd equalled about 3,000. The nervous police fired into some of the crowds, dispersed all of them, killed 1 demonstrator and wounded 5 others. No casualties suffered by the police.

NANJONG-NI (1045-1325) (34°56'N-127°25'E) (Not on map) - 011500 March 1947 - An illegal parade of 2,000 Koreans from the HAGAN (1034-1321) region marched on SUNCHON (1048-1327). They were intercepted by police in NANJONG-NI, and the police attempted to turn the crowd back. The police fired into the crowd and fatally wounded 1 man, at which time the parade disintegrated without further incident.

PANGO-RI (1240-1390) (35°29'N-129°26'E) -- 020400 March 1947 - A Leftist threw a stick of dynamite at the home of a Rightist. The dynamite fell short of its target and failed to wreck the building.

FUSAN (1200-1340) (35°06'N-129°02'E) - 011600 March 1947 - In FUSAN 2 political meetings were authorized to be held on the first of March. The city government held a meeting at the athletic grounds and the Rightists conducted their meeting in the area behind the Bank of Chosun. Both of these assemblies dispersed peacefully. The third meeting, unauthorized, composed of members of the Left Wing, started at about 1000 and at 1600 there were 8,000 people present, including 300 police. Evidently some of the Rightists, who had finished their meeting earlier, had mingled with this Leftist crowd. At 1600, 2 members of the Rightist KWANG BOK Young Men's Association jumped onto the speaker's stand and started to beat up the speaker and rip up the microphone. The police arrested these men and placed them on the police truck. As the truck started off through the crowd outcalls were heard and some members of the crowd started throwing stones at the truck. 1 detective was hit in the face and seriously injured. The police then arrested the man who had thrown the rock and placed him on the truck. As the truck started off again 10 shots were fired from a small caliber automatic pistol by an unidentified person in the vicinity of the truck. The police standing on the ground raised their rifles and began to shoot in the air without orders from the Chief of Police. All available evidence points to the fact that some of the police did lower their rifles and fired into the crowd, as casualties were picked up around the truck, and in other parts of the assembly area. There were about 250 rounds fired. After the firing, some of the crowd immediately began to disperse. The police then began to clear the assembly area, however, muttering crowds continued to assemble in side streets. 5 men were killed, and 9 wounded. The situation is quiet but tense.

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SEOUL (1000-1640)(37°34'N-127°00'E) - At 1330 hours, the Rightist meeting at SEOUL Stadium adjourned. An unauthorized parade followed which was divided into two groups: Group I was the larger; Group II was smaller, consisting mainly of KWANG BOK Young Men's Association members. Group I proceeded toward SEOUL Railroad Station, having passed the capitol building and Little West Gate. Group II proceeded south toward South Gate having turned at the Public Health building. At 1600 hours, as both groups neared South Gate, the Leftist meeting (approximately 100 thousand participants, according to a CIC report) broke up and crowds of Leftists proceeded down NAM SAN Hill toward South Gate. Police, attempting to prevent a collision between Right and Left, fired into the air. Police and Rightists struggled. Several Rightists were badly beaten, one was wounded by gunshot. Group I, which had neared the railroad station, was turned back by CIC, some returning to their homes at YONGDUNGFŌ, others (members of SEOUL organizations), returning toward West Gate. Group II was stopped at South Gate by police. Following a short conflict with police, described as a fist fight and firing into the air by police, this group returned toward the Main Post Exchange in which vicinity they loitered. Police intercepted the column coming down NAM SAN from the Leftist meeting, prevented the main column from approaching South Gate. After the Rightists had cleared, police permitted the Leftists to proceed down the hill and to their homes.

It was noted that Leftists caused no disturbance during the affair.

The total casualties were 4 known dead, 2 seriously injured, 75 slightly injured. Only one policeman was known to be injured seriously enough to be hospitalized.

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