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G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

From: 210800/I Mar 47  
To : 220800/I Mar 47

Headquarters, USAFIK  
Seoul, Korea  
1000/I 22 March 1947

No. 486

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

(1) A 6th Division report dated 17 March states that during the night of 13-14 March the telephone line to the quarters of the Commanding Officer of the Military Government Group in CHONJU was cut.

(2) A 7th Division report dated 19 March originating at ONGJIN states that the telephone line to OP #5 was cut between the hours of 1500 and 1530 on 18 March.

b. Espionage - None reported.

c. Terrorism

(1) Terrorists Possess Grenades and Explosives

A CIC report based on a Provincial Police report states that, during the afternoon of 18 March, a boy was hired by three men to deliver a package to the manager of the ASIA Hospital in KUNSAN. The box contained a live Japanese hand grenade and a note asking for 300,000 yen. Also enclosed were directions for delivering the money. Police traced the three men and raided their homes. The raid produced 7 hand grenades similar to the one found in the box, and 100 1/2 ounce bags of Japanese gun powder.

(2) Christian Church Threatened by Leftists

A CIC report dated 21 March based on information from a missionary states that the Christian Church in HONG KOK RI (about 5 miles West of OSU<sup>1</sup>) has

1-OSU (1030-1390) (35°30'N-127°20'E)

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been threatened and terrorized by Leftist elements in that area. During the evening of 15 March a group broke into the church and prevented services from being held. On 17 March police from OSU raided the village and arrested 3 men who have been removed to IMSIL jail. It is believed that the village is well organized and signals warn of the approach of police, as the police entered an almost deserted village. The alleged ring-leader of the terrorists is still at large.

d. Secret Organizations - None reported.

e. Mail Interceptions

(1) Political Party Torn By Dissension

A letter from KIM, Yong Oo, of the National Society for Acceleration of Korean Independence in SEOUL, to KIM, Yong Serning, JONCHON-LI, CHUNGCHONG-NAMDO contains the following statement:

"The National Society for Acceleration of Korean Independence is in an awful state on account of internal strife." (SEO/3705, letter dated 18 March).

COMMENT: Although no reason for the above statement is given it might easily be over the role of the Society in the Rightist plan for a Provisional Government.

(2) Leftist Farmer's Union Has Convention

A telegram from the Left Wing Federation of All Korean Farmer's Union, SEOUL, to the Executive Section of the Convention of the CHUNGCHONG-PUKTO Federation of All Korean Farmer's Union at CHAWNGJU contains the following statement:

"Congratulations on your significant convention. The farmers should pledge that unity shall be maintained and that they shall perform a revolutionary struggle for freedom". (SEO/TL/1334, telegram dated 19 March)

f. Telecommunications - No violations reported.

4. CIVIL RELATIONS

a. Disturbances - See Incl #1.

b. Political Parties and Other Organizations

(1) School Students Fail to Return to Classes After Vacation

A 6th Division report dated 19 March states that in PUSAN about 70% of all school students failed to return to their classes after the 01 March vacation which ended on 07 March. These students have not returned to date.

1-IMSIL (1027-1407) (35°36'N-127°16'E)

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*Confidential*(2) LYUH, Woon Hyung Offered Chairmanship of South Korean Labor Party

A CIC report evaluated B-2 states that LYUH, Woon Hyung has been approached by various members of the Central Executive Committee of the South Korean Labor Party and offered the Chairmanship of that party if he will align himself with them. LYUH, however, states that he has no use for the party as the leaders are nothing more than unscrupulous individuals rather than revolutionaries. LYUH further states that HU Hun, the present leader of the South Korean Labor Party, has sent a letter to the North Korean Labor Party in PYONG-YANG branding LYUH, PIK Nam Un, and KING Jin as working for the American imperialists.

COMMENT: All of the attention that LYUH is reported as receiving may indicate that the Extreme Left is worried over the success that LYUH is having in his efforts to wean away the moderates of both the Right and Left into a new party of his own and that they want to prevent any loss of strength that such a move would produce. (See par 3c/1/, P/R #481)

(3) 35th Session of the Legislative Assembly

The Assembly convened at 1320 on 21 March with YOON, Ki Sup acting as the Chairman in the absence of Dr KIM, Kyu Sik. The number of members present varied between 51 and 58.

Chairman YOON reported that Dr KIM had advised him that Dr JAISSON would arrive on or about 2-3 April and that a welcoming committee should be sent to meet him. A motion was made and passed to have the Chairman arrange for this reception.

The Secretary then read a request from KIM Chang Kun, elected member from CHUNGCHONG-NAMDO, that his resignation be accepted. A question was immediately raised as to whether this resignation was purely for personal reasons or because of circumstances similar to those surrounding the resignation of YAMM, Chang Kwann (see par 4b/1/, P/R #482). The members were assured that this was for personal reasons and the request was approved.

The pro-Japanese and National Traitors proposal, the first item on the agenda, was then put up for questions. This bill had had its first reading on 17 March and would normally automatically go to the Legislative and Judicial Committee after this hearing. However, although a move had been made and passed to stop discussion, LEE Nam Kyoo, Rightist elected member from CHOLLA-NAMDO, protested this procedure saying that the bill should be sent back to the originating committee for a complete revision. In saying this LEE stated that LEE, Wan Yong (the Quisling of KOREA who turned KOREA over to the Japanese in 1910 while acting as Premier) was actually not a traitor but had been obliged by force to act as he did and not through fear or desire. The Leftist and Moderate members of the Assembly took this as an insult and demanded an apology. The Chairman asked LEE to apologize twice but to no avail. A recess was then called.

Following the recess the Assembly was adjourned at 1600 by the Chairman, who stated that the members were too excited to continue.

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The next session of the Assembly will be held at 1300 on 24 March.

After adjournment, KIM Po asked all the members who wanted to discuss the question of the action of LEE, Nam Kyoo to assembly in a room nearby. In this meeting a proposal was drawn up to place the action of LEE, Nam Kyoo before the Disciplinary Committee of the Assembly. This group was composed of approximately 22 members who are Moderates or Leftists, eight others who were absent from the meeting may be expected to back the proposal.

COMMENT: According to the informant the group who made the proposal to send LEE, Nam Kyoo before the Disciplinary Committee will resign in a body if they do not get favorable action. This would leave the Assembly in the hands of the Extreme Rightists and those close to them, and with far less than the necessary number of members to function.

c. Transportation Strike

At 2100 on 21 March 98% of a total of 700 railway yard men in PUSAN went on strike. This strike spread to ANDONG at 2200 with indications that this is the signal for a general strike of all utilities throughout South KOREA.

Reports indicate that the strikes will generally be of twenty four hours duration and will constitute a show of strength without violence.

The demands of the PUSAN strikers are:

- (1) Increase in wages.
- (2) Rehiring of railway employees discharged. (A result of a recent curtailing of expenses).
- (3) Police, responsible for death of railway worker at 01 March Leftist meeting, to be punished.

COMMENT: Strikes appear to be instigated by the Extreme Left Wing. Handbills distributed in the SEOUL area contain the stark Left Wing phrases demanding exoneration of P.K. Hwan Yung and surrender of government to the People's Committees.

d. 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 #2).

~~(2) For the translation of headlines and articles considered of interest in the Korean newspapers, see Incl #3.~~

5. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE IN ADJACENT AREAS

None.

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6. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Attack on American Troops

A 7th Division report dated 20 March states that at approximately 0800 on 17 March one round was fired by small arms at a range officer from a hill North of the 7th Division Small Arms Range. At approximately 1530, men from the communications section were fired upon three times from the same hill.

b. Illegal Possession of Explosives

A CIC report dated 19 March based on a Railway Police Report states that on 02 March a truck was searched and found to contain explosives. During the arrest one man escaped with 78 bags of explosive. A detective who traced the man and the missing explosives found 178 bags. All of the explosive has been turned over to Military Government.

3 Inclosures:

- 1-Civil Disturbance
- 2-Translations of SEOUL Newspapers
- 3-Translations of North Korean Newspapers

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CIVIL DISTURBANCE

Incl #1

22 March 1947



 CHEJU-DO

CHEJU-DO (980-1130) (33°24'N-126°34'E) - 19 March 1947 - A CIC report dated 21 March states that information has been received from the National Police that 1,000 people approached CHUNG HAN jail on the Northeast coast of CHEJU Island and demanded the release of a prisoner. The people were armed with clubs and rocks. When the crowd began throwing rocks and attempted to rush the jail the police fired, wounding 4 people. The crowd dispersed following the shooting. (See par 4b/1/, P/R #483)

COMMENT: Other reports dated 19 March state that 80 percent of the strikers in CHEJU City have returned to work, and that all are expected to return by 24 March.

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