

Secret

From: 081800/I June 47
To : 151800/I June 47

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 19 June 1947

No. 92
Maps: KOREA, 1/250,000
Eastern ASIA, 1/1,000,000

COPY NO. 25

1. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

2. NON-OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

a. Surrendered and Disarmed - No Change: 179,276

b. <u>Progress of Repatriation</u> -	<u>This Period</u>	<u>To Date</u>
<u>Japanese Civilians Arriving from</u>		
N of 38°(N) KOREA, CHINA and MANCHURIA	19	288,172
<u>Japanese Evacuated to JAPAN</u>	0	882,563
<u>Other Nationals Evacuated</u>		
CHINESE		1,588
RYUKYUANS	0	274
FORMOSANS	0	103
<u>Koreans Arriving from</u>		
JAPAN	0	1,105,426
North KOREA	5,788	476,525
MANCHURIA by Land	289	302,617
MANCHURIA by Water	0	3,120
CHINA by Water	0	58,133
PACIFIC Ocean Areas	0	13,986
CHINA by Land	0	13,474
SEA Areas	0	7,244
FORMOSA	0	3,449
AUSTRALIAN Areas	0	3,051
HAWAII	0	2,646
RYUKYUS	0	1,755
PHILLIPINES	0	1,408
HONG KONG	0	302
North INDO CHINA	0	118
<u>TOTAL Koreans Returning</u>	6,077	1,993,254
<u>TOTAL Repatriates Moved Since August 45</u>		2,877,713
c. <u>Estimated Remaining Japanese Civilians in S KOREA</u>		41*
d. <u>Koreans Returned to KOREA Attempted Illegal Entry to JAPAN</u>		17,555
e. <u>Illegal Passengers Apprehended in Korean Waters</u>		416

*41 Japanese remain in South KOREA as of USAMGIK census report of 20 May 47.

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3. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

- a. Sabotage - None reported
- b. Espionage

(1) Following a two-month surveillance, CIC agents took into custody TAI In Sun, a member of the Communist party who had been working as a translator in XXIV Corps headquarters. TAI recently led communist-incited trouble among student in a SEOUL middle school, and had been seeking classified information as an employee in Corps headquarters building.

(2) Communist authorities are reported to be sending spies into South KOREA to collect military information concerning the US Army and political and economic conditions in South KOREA. The informant claims that agents in one special contingent are equipped with small wireless sets which can be carried concealed on the person. (CIC S/I, evaluated C-3)

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

There was considerable political discussion in the mail received during the period. This reflected the widespread interest in the Joint Commission and in the activities of various rightist groups in attempts to establish their position with a view towards participation in the conferences of the Commission. Participation, abolishment of the 38th parallel boundary, establishment of an interim government, and trusteeship were all discussed.

Trusteeship was the topic of many letters in which the present stand of Dr RHEE was considered with favor. Two are of interest in their consideration of the possibility that the Doctor might change his present position. Both letters were written by the same man, one was addressed to RHEE and the other to KIM Koo. KIM's letter reads in part, "The reactionary camps are busy stating that the success of the Commission is the only way to achieve our independence. It is a trick of those who want to be colonized by Soviet RUSSIA. We should protest against trusteeship desperately and refuse to join the Commission, ... we would like to believe that you will not follow those who plan to join the Commission. If you fail to keep on this course, you shall lose your life. Eight hundred thousand young men are hoping you will not join this anti-national operation." In the letter to RHEE the writer states in the same vein, "...we, knowing what is meant by trusteeship, should be desperately against it. According to a recent report, some leaders in the rightist camp will join the Commission individually... If you commit this error, the tie between you and the people shall be severed and within a month the bullets of 800,000 young men will be presented to you and it will cost you your life."

COMMENT: It is interesting to note, with regard to these two letters, that Dr RHEE has presently divorced himself from further discussion on the subject of participation in the Commission. His earlier advice - that it was an individual question, has been retracted and he has taken a "hand-off" position with regard to giving any counsel although still maintaining his own anti-trusteeship stand and still demanding clarification of the terms "democratic" and "trusteeship". "We think that both the freedom and the independence of KOREA depend on the interpretation of these two words....we must know their meaning before we can join."

Additional comment on RHEE's stand was contained in two other letters. One to the Samchock Branch of the NO CHONG (Great Korean Independent Laborers League -RW) contained a statement of the Doctor: "...We have declared again and again that the participation in the Commission should be decided by the individual. Everyone has taken action freely without exhortation or intimidation. It is beyond our understanding how we will be able to stand against the trusteeship issue after our participation because we know that every person has to sign his name to the 5th Communique.Several days ago I advised some leaders to

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take part in the Commission, but because of Communiqué 5, I cannot advise anyone to do so. We hereby declare again, because we believe trusteeship contrary to our independence, that we will not participate in the Commission until it is officially proclaimed that trusteeship is different from that of the former German territory and that of certain islands, or the article is eliminated." The writer declares, however, "We have decided unofficially to participate in the Commission." The KWANGBOK Youngmen's Society, on the other hand, supports the Doctor- "We will stand against trusteeship. We will absolutely support Dr RHEE in his stand against the Commission."

Public opinion in CHONGJU, CHUNGCHONG-PUKTO, regarding the success or failure of the Commission is contained in two police reports from that area. One report gives the opinion as follows:

1. The rightist viewpoint:

"RUSSIA, moved by AMERICA's generous sympathetic policy agreed to establish a provisional government without debating on trusteeship at present. Therefore, we are assured that we can attain our purpose at the Commission. All rightists must join this Commission and should fight against Trusteeship desperately."

2. The leftist viewpoint:

"Because the Commission is the practical organ of the decision of the Ministers' Conference at MOSCOW, we must support it absolutely and need to sweep away thoroughly the conspiring reactionaries whose hindrance may introduce the Commission to failure...all the reactionaries, preservers (sic), and terrorists will be eliminated from the invitation (to consult with the Commission) and only the advanced patriots, who have been devoted to the independent movement and supporting the Three Ministers' Decision at MOSCOW, can join the Commission."

3. The neutral viewpoint:

"According to rumors, RUSSIA resolved to make a concession to AMERICA. Therefore, an agreement will be easily found between AMERICA and RUSSIA, and our independence, too, will soon be realized."

In this neutral viewpoint is also contained a very novel, although far-fetched, solution to the problem of unification. The neutral spokesman feels that the continual migration of North Koreans to the South will soon result in the entire population of KOREA being below the 38th parallel. Thus there will be little difficulty in unifying KOREA.

The second report on public opinion is broken down to the individual statements of those questioned. However, these personal statements show much the same general feeling as expressed above. One additional category is included, "The common people". This group makes the most sensible statement of any, "If the parties who oppose trusteeship do not attend the Commission meetings the Commission will fail."

e. Telecommunications

- (1) Telegraph - No change
- (2) Telephone - Lines to points north of the 38th parallel remain inoperative during the period.

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4. CIVIL RELATIONS

a. The Press

Discussion of Joint Commission activities, efforts of both right and left to gain their respective ends with the Commission, and statements of political leaders concerning the Commission disclosed no new trends in the press. The Commission's final decision regarding consultation with political organizations (Joint Communiqué #11 and Decisions 4, 5, and 6) and the questionnaires to be submitted to such organizations received wide press coverage. The rightist struggle to achieve unity in their approach to participation in the conferences still continued and was further complicated by Dr RHEE's public reiteration on 9 June of his anti-trusteeship stand and his retraction of his earlier advice to political leaders favoring consultation.

General reaction to Communiqué #11 as portrayed by the KYENG-HYANG SHINMUN (Rural and Urban News - RW) was varied. As was to be expected, the leftist opinion is the more favorable. The Hankook Democratic Party is quoted as stating, "The draft of questions is more complete than that of last year. Nevertheless we regret that the draft does not contain any question concerning diplomatic or military points." The Korean Independence Party is quoted, both groups pro- "No. 11 communiqué means a great progressive step toward the establishment of Korean democratic government."; con- "Our party need not express any opinion toward No. 11, because our party has already decided its policy not to join the Joint Commission." Headquarters for National Unification: "As Dr RHEE has published his declaration, we need not speak of it now. We think that to take part in the conference means to support trusteeship; therefore, we need not even talk about it." The Working People's Party; "Communiqué No. 11 and Decisions 5, and 6 are democratic, and they fit Korean desires. So we are going to support them. We will sign Communiqué No. 5, and will take part in it with pleasure." The New Progressive Party: "...it is a democratic move, and we consider it will carry out the MOSCOW decision. We will sign it and take part in it. It is unfortunate that there is no mention of the problems of diplomacy and military, but we can set forth our opinion of those points on the consultation paper." Other groups quoted in this article were non-committal, reserving opinion until such time as their organizations had had an opportunity to meet and discuss the questions that were asked. The reference to diplomacy and military by both right and left wing parties is unusual. These two points have considerable significance as manifestations of independence especially in view of the time elapsed since KOREA had its own army and carried on diplomatic relations.

Other comment on participation in the Commission by the rightist elements was contained in the DONG A ILBO (Oriental Daily News - ERW) and other rightist papers. This paper comments on the apparent disorganization in the rightist camp and states, "...the right wing has held many conferences to take some action concerning participation in the Joint Commission. However, the right wing is divided into positive and negative groups. A meeting, scheduled to take place on 10 June to discuss the subject, became abortive due to the absence of some representatives. The HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY decided to participate in the Commission. This will greatly affect the KOREAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, the KOREAN WOMEN'S NATIONALIST PARTY, the GENERAL LABOR LEAGUE FOR KOREAN INDEPENDENCE and the GENERAL LEAGUE FOR KOREAN YOUTH, etc. which have been holding the same opinion as the HANKOOK PARTY. ...However, there is a possibility that the NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ACCELERATION OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE, which is following RHEE will be divided. ...It seems that only a fraction of the right wing will participate in the Commission."

The left was not idle. The CHUNG OI SHIN PO (Foreign and Domestic News-LW) continued the leftist attack on the participation of the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY and, quoting the ALL KOREAN FARMERS UNION, states, "...it is a well known fact that the HANKOOK PARTY includes those who cooperated with the Japanese imperialists and betrayed their fatherland and people. Also they lengthened the realization of our independence by opposing the MOSCOW Decision which is the only means for our independence. It is only natural that they should be eliminated from the Commission." A new approach has been added to the leftist demands

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in the press for the exhortation of PAK Heun Young. The stand being taken is that, in as much as PAK is the Communist leader in South KOREA, it is essential that he be allowed to take part in the meetings of the Commission.

The recent change in the nomenclature of the Korean echelon of Military Government to South KOREA Interim Government, brought about adverse leftist comment. The MIN BO (Voice of the People- LW) states, "...the fact that the USMG in South KOREA has changed its name to the Interim Government surprised us very much. ... This ordinance was made (17 May) one week before the reopening of the Joint Commission and its announcement gave us indelible dissatisfaction. The use of the term "interim" government may fascinate the Korean people and result in increasing the feeling of disillusion toward the Commission. Therefore, this is a measure against the Commission. Anyway, such a measure should not be taken under the present situation. We hope that the authorities have a great capacity for reforming their attitude."

b. The People

(1) Economic Review

The following information is based upon a report on the South Korean economic situation by the Economic Advisor to the Commanding General:

South KOREA's Rice Crop Threatened by Drought. Continued less-than-normal rainfall in Southern KOREA has left many rice fields dry and hampers normal June transplanting of rice seedlings. For the period February through May, the average rainfall at nine weather stations averaged 6.5 inches, about 60% of the average for a similar four months during the past 40 years. Dryness continued in early June, but rains on 10 - 12 June brought limited relief to areas other than the important rice producing CHOLLA Provinces. Rice fields with controlled or partially controlled irrigation generally have adequate water for necessary flooding of paddies at planting time, but non-irrigated areas (which include about 45% of Southern KOREA's 3,272,000 acres of ricelands) are faced with a serious situation unless June rainfall is more nearly normal. Resulting uncertainty regarding the 1947 rice crop has been an important reason for sharp increase in black market price of rice during the past month. Current rice price in SEOUL is 12,000 yen per suk (about 36 yen per pound), over one third above the price one month ago. Wheat and barley prices also increased in about the same proportion. Another factor in price increases was reduction on 1 June of the daily cereals ration from a maximum of 2.5 to 2.2 hop (totals only 1,155 calories). This reduction, necessitated by poor prospects for the summer grain crop and less-than-anticipated imports, will bring hunger to the average non-self suppliers, who generally cannot afford supplementary purchases of sufficient foodstuffs on the open market to meet minimum needs. The current Agriculture Department Production estimate for barley, wheat, and rye crops being harvested this month, is about 505,000 metric tons of polished grain, about 10% above last month's overly pessimistic estimate, but only 57% of 1940-1944 average annual output. The summer collection program is being launched this month to collect 101,000 metric tons of polished grain or equivalent which, along with the last of the remaining 1946 rice and imported grains, will be rationed to Southern KOREA's almost 8,000,000 non-self-suppliers during the months July to December, when 1947 rice will become available for rationing.

Foreign Trade. Korean traders greeted the liberalized foreign trade policy, announced in SEOUL on 10 June, with enthusiasm and increased private trade is expected as foreign business men are permitted to visit KOREA. Korean trade with HONGKONG and MACAO is gradually gaining momentum. The first cargo from KOREA, destined for HONGKONG, left INCH'ON on 10 June, with cargo valued at about \$250,000. Included in the shipment were 2,600 lbs of red ginseng, 60 tons mials, 25 tons ferro-tungsten, 12 tons molybdenum, 13 tons of tail and skin ginseng, and miscellaneous marine and silk products. Rubber, paper, salt, and other essential items will be purchased for KOREA in HONGKONG. Two ships

The judicial officials were found to be afraid of the Left Wing elements and they evidenced a dislike toward handling political cases, going so far as to deliver a "Not Guilty" verdict to political offenders, whose cases they were forced to handle. This fear of the Communists also caused the Korean officers to fail to obey their instructions as received from higher authorities.

HAN's effort to correct this sluggish judicial thinking, was carried out by holding round table discussions with justice, and other governmental officials, as well as through conferences with local citizens. At the round table meetings, HAN reviewed the TRUMAN DOCTRINE and assured the officials that a Communist government would not be established in KOREA. While Capitalism had been corrected by the NEW DEAL, in the USSR, her people remain neither happy nor free. HAN assured his audiences that Military Government would not obstruct the establishment of a "Korean-type" democratic government, and he pointed out the commanding world leadership held by the UNITED STATES, showing how it was well-received by the other countries in spite of the adverse propaganda being disseminated by the Soviets. HAN searched for corroboration of his more-than-questionable stand that Communism is now on the downgrade throughout the world. However, in response to a question as to whether or not absolute neutrality was the only way to solve the present "situation" in KOREA, HAN gave the searching answer that "Neutrality does not exist between building and destroying."

HAN took the stump at the meetings he held with the general public, pleasing both himself and the Rightists by asking questions which the leftists could not answer. Some of these questions were, "Why do you request allocations of rice, while protesting against rice collection?" "Why do you protest against holding a general election when you claim that all Koreans support leftist parties

Getting back to strictly judicial matters, HAN found time to investigate the conditions of prisoner employment and education. He discovered that 280 inmates of the PUSAN Prison, 350 of the TAEJU and about 600 of the TAEJON Prisons have no jobs (which is generally true of all prisons). He said that officers of these prisons were earnestly seeking jobs for these men. In the educational field, weaknesses were also noted and left-wing elements, especially in the PUSAN prison, could not be controlled by the local authorities.

Looking into the relations existing between the police and judicial officers, HAN complained that the police were attempting to take back the functions of the special judicial officer, which would vitiate the proper system of balances existing between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.

COMMENT: A Special Judicial Officer is a minor judge, somewhat comparable to the Justices of Peace in the UNITED STATES. Under the Japanese, judicial policemen did exist and the Chief of Police could try cases involving minor offenses. This procedure was changed under the American Military Government, and since this time, police have constantly agitated for the return of this power, in some instances, refusing to cooperate with the Special Judicial Officer, sometimes failing to turn over to this officer, misdemeanants, and in other instances, complaining about cases where this Officer has failed to convict persons remanded to their court by the Police. HAN believed that such police obstruction has been used to discredit this new court. This lack of harmony reached such proportions that Gen. LERCH directed CHO, Byang Ok to issue a directive to the police to desist in their agitation for a return of the judicial policemen and to cooperate with the judicial officers.

(3) Would-Be Assassins of Chief CHANG, Taik Sang Sentenced. On 12 June, the SEOUL District Court, with MIN, Dong Sik, LEE, Chawng Sang, and BAK, Won Sam presiding, heard the case against TCH'EI, In Sik and LIM, Young Taik who had attempted to assassinate CHANG, Taik-Sang, Chief of Division "M" Police, on 13 Nov 46 by throwing hand grenades at his car. CHANG had escaped with only superficial injuries, but his bodyguard had been killed in the explosion. (Ref. G-2 P/R 380 par 3c) In the course of the trial, LIM, Young Taik seized a vase throwing it at Judge MIN, at the same time spitting at the Judge and shouting,

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"We will kill you when we establish a Provisional Government. When the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY takes over the Provisional Government, we will hold all of the offices."

For their crime, TCH'EI received a life sentence and LIM was given 10 years at hard labor. LIM will also be prosecuted for contempt of court. The three judges, fearing an attempt on their lives, have requested permission to carry weapons.

(4) Societies Formed to Raise Funds for Police Continue to Harass Military Government. The Korean police continue to live under the influence of 40 years of Japanese domination, and this also prevails among the citizen's concept of this department of government. For some time, the American Advisor of the National Police Department has had to check the practice of private organizations forming as a supporting association to the Police. Under the rule of the Japanese, this practice had been accepted in order to implement the shabby salary of the police, and at the same time, to curry the favor of this highly important branch of the civil administration. In March, 1947, CIC discovered that the Benevolent Society for the Metropolitan Police Forces (otherwise known as the SEOUL Police Aid Society), was conducting a campaign in an effort to collect approximately 20,000,000 yen for the Metropolitan Police. This program conformed to the usual pattern where duns were made on merchants, and to lend to the pressure, local policemen were used in SEOUL to take the subscriptions and collections. Efforts previously made on 20 March by the Military Advisor to the National Police Department, to quash this group's activities, had not been successful and more definite steps had to be taken.

On 31 May, CIC reported that the PO KYUNG HWAI (Relief Police Association) had been organized in the majority of the SEOUL Police Stations, with the permission of the local Chiefs of Police, and their goal was the collection of 2,000,000 yen.

Taking firm steps to abolish this police extortion, on 6 June, CHO, Byawng Ok, Director of the National Police, issued an order dissolving the CIVIC LEAGUE which had been organized by "public spirited citizens" to supplement the salaries of the police. This League had established a quota system for each ward of the City of SEOUL and bade them meet this quota, using the police to levy and collect the money.

COMMENT: By no means restricted to the SEOUL area, this practice of private organizations, with the active assistance, and sometimes insistence, of the local police in their drive for funds, has existed throughout South KOREA. By American standards, such police intimidation could be one certain way to arouse the populace against this vital law enforcement agency, as well as constituting a danger that the voluntary contributors might be using this means to buy police protection for illegal activities.

5. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE FROM ADJACENT AREAS

a. Screening of Refugees Entering South KOREA Reveals Reasons For Leaving North:

Refugees screened by 317th Hqs Intelligence Detachment from 26 May thru 1 June at TONGDUCH'ON-NI (1000-1680) and from 27 May thru 2 June at CHUMUNJIN (1170-1680) Refugee Camp, disclose the following motivations for their journey southward:

	<u>TONGDUCHON-NI</u>	<u>CHUMUNJIN</u>
Difficult Living Conditions:	479	98
To Join Relatives:	150	
Returning to South KOREA:	1	
To Enroll in School:	17	

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Daily interrogations of refugees entering the American Occupation Zone of KOREA from the North, has shown that those itinerants are non-Communists (unless, of course, they have been sent South on party business), nor are they affiliated with authorized, leftist-controlled political parties. In the main, they are non-productive members of society - small merchants and unemployed workers. The difficult living conditions of North KOREA do not affect the self-suppliers (the farming class) so much, nor do the laborers employed in government owned and operated enterprises, and within the government itself, fare too badly since they, along with the Communist Party members, receive highly preferential treatment in the rationing of rice and grains. For example, it has been reported that persons in the "national workers" class, subsequent to 1 May 1947, have received 6 hop (1 hop equals .0618 pints) of rice and 4 hop of other grain per day for 15 days a month, and in addition, other family members receive a small ration. This is in contrast with the rest of the population which is said to be forced to make their food purchases on the open market where prices are exorbitantly high and food scarce. Thus, reports from PYONGYANG indicate that rice is currently selling at about 1,200 yen per small mal (1 small mal equals 2.38 gals.), whereas on 15 June, the price in SEOUL was 620 yen for the same amount.

Even the average governmental employee on the lower level is comparatively worse off than his counterpart in South KOREA. Thus, it is reported that in SONCHON (803-1917) an ordinary policeman earns between ¥600 and ¥800 a month, sergeants ¥1,000 and lieutenants on the police force receive ¥1,500 monthly, whereas in South KOREA, the average policeman earns ¥2,290, the sergeant ¥2,560 and the lieutenant ¥2,720 for a similar period, and they also accrue the usual benefits of governmental employees by receiving surplus army rations, cloth goods, etc.

An informant (A-1) from PYONGYANG states that there are more consumer items for sale in that city than in SEOUL; however, the prices are high. Of interest is his report of a Korean department store located on Chong No street in that city, which sells nothing but American articles, which are plentiful. A price list of some of the articles follows: Eversharp Pen and Pencil Sets - ¥5,000; Herringbone Twill Fatigue Trousers - ¥2,000; Officers' Suntan Shirts - ¥1,700; Medical Corps Pajamas - ¥3,000; Boy Scout Knives - ¥500; Westinghouse Light Bulbs (100 Watts) - ¥500; and Shinola Shoe Polish - ¥450.

COMMENT: The government of North KOREA has apparently become aware of the fact that American correspondents have used this mass exodus from North KOREA as positive corroboration for their statements that conditions in that zone are worse than in South KOREA. Radio broadcasts from PYONGYANG have started their counter-propaganda, pointing out that many Koreans are journeying north to find succor from the oppression and economic stagnation of South KOREA. By quoting the figures of the YOLCHON (1008-1700) Refugee Camp, they attempt to show that the number of migrants moving North is in excess of those crossing into South KOREA. This camp, which they assert to be their largest, is said to have received 1,750 refugees during the month of May, of which number, 1,059 were entering North KOREA, while only 691 were heading South. These broadcasts claimed that the majority of those heading South were merchants, whereas "others migrating from North KOREA were mostly members of families trying to rejoin their family masters who are people's traitors." Of the returnees to North KOREA, many are quoted to show the high cost of living in the South, the scarcity of the necessities of life, and the oppression of the police. As one conveniently states: "Anyone who says that South KOREA is a good place must be one who is talking of his dreams and has not seen the actual conditions there."

b. Joint Commission Successes Bring Increased Anti-Rightist Propaganda From PYONGYANG Radio. Sensing that the Joint Commission meeting in SEOUL is reaching a point where Korean political leaders will be called in for consultation, the government-controlled radio in PYONGYANG has intensified its attack on Right Wing political leaders of South KOREA. No doubt their goal is to gain popular support for their stand that "reactionary elements" of the South should be excluded from consultation, for it is from these consultants that the offic-

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ials of the to-be-established Korean Provisional Democratic Government presumably will emerge. Korean language broadcasts from MOSCOW (via KOMSOMOLSK) implemēt those from PYONGYANG and give a more authoritative appearance. RHEE, Syng Man and KIM, Koo are especially singled out, their "fascistic" tendencies and their opposition to the Moscow Decision stressed, so that they, and their "Pro-Japanese" followers, must receive no consideration from the Joint Commission. The official North Korean position is easily rationalized. Thus, the PYONGYANG Radio broadcast on 13 June stated, "The parties consulted are enabled freely to present their ideas... Consultations will proceed on the basis of the MOSCOW Decision, therefore, this freedom will and should be denied to reactionary political parties which continue, as in the past, to oppose the MOSCOW Decision."

The "reactionary" police of South KOREA are said to be attempting to control the political scene by imprisoning the "democratic" leaders, which policy has been supported by USAMGIK as seen by their order calling for the disbanding of the "only democratic youth organization in South KOREA" (the CHOSUN MIN CHUNG). Probably attempting to show the people of North KOREA that the "democratic movement" of the South receives the overwhelming support of the common people, South Korean leftist organizations are exhaustively quoted, affirming their support of the establishment of a provisional government to follow the pattern of the North Korean People's Committee, together with their stereotyped, yet vituperative, denunciation of all Right Wing groups.

COMMENT: Every effort has been extended by the People's Committees of North KOREA to influence the public opinion by the use of radio. The actual benefits achieved are questionable in view of the scarcity of radios, if this is in proportion to the number existing in South KOREA, and there is no reason to believe that it is otherwise. The situation in South KOREA is such that it is deemed necessary to import approximately 30,000 radios in the near future for distribution to town and village heads in order to establish minimum reception for effective transmission of propaganda or news bulletins. Evidence of such an import program in North KOREA has not been observed. According to the best information available, the population in South KOREA in the spring of 1947 was approximately 20,000,000, whereas the radio sets numbered 273,360 virtually all of them being ancient models.

c. North Korean Propaganda Expands to Include That Land in the World Evolution to the Left.

Propaganda broadcasts from PYONGYANG recently have evidenced a desire on the part of the government to educate the people to believe that they are a part of a world struggle for "democracy", as represented by the SOVIET UNION and her satellites, and are engaged in a bitter fight against the "reactionary" elements of the world, as portrayed by the UNITED STATES. This has become manifest in the radio and newspaper releases regarding the international conferences of the World Federation of Trade Unions and the World Federation of Democratic Youth, to which Korean "observers" were invited. North Korean education on the international aspect of this leftist movement is enhanced by pointing to the bitter struggles of the guerillas in GREECE, the strike of the Spanish workers, the opposition forces opposing the CHIANG Kai-shek Government within the areas occupied by the Nationalist Armies, as well as the heroic warfare being launched by the Communist forces in CHINA.

Considerable publicity was given to the mass meeting in PYONGYANG on 2 June, which was proclaimed "Anti-Civil War Day for CHINA", where it was stated that over 1,000 Chinese gathered. Anti-CHIANG speeches were given; however, the most prominence was saved for the rancorous attacks against the policy of the UNITED STATES in CHINA. The U.S. interference in Chinese affairs was roundly denounced and the demand was made for the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. Army, which had been guilty of "direct meddling in Chinese life, looting of properties, rape and murder." Importation of American goods were said to have caused depression throughout the country, forcing productive factories to close down. Too good a thing to restrict to the City of PYONGYANG, mass demonstrations denouncing the CHIANG government and calling for the withdrawal of the Americans, were held on 5 June in WONSAN, where 350 Chinese residents participated, and on the same day in HAEJU where 250 Chinese were said to have answered the call.

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COMMENT: The above shows one small fraction of the Soviet-controlled propaganda which is being beamed to the peoples of the world who are either under the Soviet influence or who are sought by the Soviets. The UNITED STATES' Embassy in MOSCOW describes the Soviet tactics thus: "The Soviets are using every channel of propaganda, both official and through a myriad of world-wide front organizations, as well as by direct action in the form of Communist-inspired strikes and disruptive tactics in coalition governments, all designed to nullify the beneficial effects of our economic aid and thus to discredit the democratic elements who accept such aid...the Soviet object is to frighten the masses by painting dire consequences of accepting US aid in the hope that the aid will be refused; if this tactic is unsuccessful, the Soviet machinations are to prevent it from being effective and thus, lay the blame for continued economic crises in most countries on the US aid policy while the Kremlin tries to aggravate such a crisis." This world Soviet planning is, thus, seen to include North KOREA.

6. COMMENTS ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION

a. The Korean Interim Legislative Assembly

Dr KIM Kyu Sik's promise of an early passage of the election law failed fulfillment during the period, however, some progress was made in the second reading and approving of non-controversial articles of the proposed law. The first and second articles of the first chapter, which deal respectively with age qualifications and restrictions on eligibility to vote, were bypassed temporarily in order that time might be given to working out a compromise on those issues. Those two articles were referred to a committee composed of five members, two of whom belong to the HANOKOOC DEMOCRATIC PARTY, one is a member of the NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ACCELERATION OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE, but is reported to be a good friend of AN Chai Hong, and the other two are members of Dr KIM Kyu Sik's Coalition Committee. Favorable progress reports have been received from this evenly balanced group.

The sessions held during the period showed a marked improvement over the past week, and were for the most part business-like with little of the personal malvolence which has discouraged constructive action and brought the censure of the press upon the Assembly as a whole. (par 6a, W/S #91) Although a quorum was not always present, the time was well utilized and the election law was brought up for discussion the moment that the required number of members were present.

COMMENT: By the end of the week approximately one-sixth of the articles in the proposed election law had been approved in second reading. On 17 June 47 Vice-Chairman YOON Ki Sup commented that the second reading should be completed by 25 June. This sounds ambitious. However, the remaining articles, other than the ones in committee, are only matters of procedure and are not expected to be controversial.

The extreme right wing paper MIN JOONG ILBO (People's Daily Times) printed an editorial on 08 June 47 in an attempt to justify the higher age qualification by historical references to other progressive countries. On 10 June the Military Governor officially brought the attention of the Assembly to the article published in the KYENG HYANG SHIN MUN on 03 June and entitled "Bitter words to IIA" (see comment, par 6a, W/S #91 for extracts from this article)

Dr KIM's conciliatory speech made upon his return to the chair on Monday seems to have been successful in encouraging a more determined effort on the part of the Assemblymen to refute the claims of the press that they intended to do nothing.

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b. Joint Commission Awaits Answers of Political Parties and Social Organizations on Questionnaires. The distribution of the questionnaires and other literature as provided in Joint Communiqué No. 11 (W/S 51; par. 6b) was the major work of the Commission during the period. The Joint Commission met in but one session, the 33rd on 11 June, where agreement was reached on the manner of distribution and handling in North and South KOREA of the questionnaires and declaration set forth in Joint Communiqué No. 5 and simultaneous release on 12 June in North and South KOREA of Joint Communiqué No. 11. Agreement was also reached on the proposal of subcommission No. 3 for the issue by July 1 of detailed written data on the structure, functions and directing personnel of the executive, legislative, and judicial organs of authority of North and South KOREA. This information is to be used as a basis for studying the integration of the two administrations of North and South KOREA.

By the close of the period, no important signatures to the application for participation in consultation with the Joint Commission, which includes signature to the declaration set forth in Joint Communiqué No. 5 (due 23 June) had been received by the Commission, nor had the answers to any of the questionnaires (due 1 July). However, in applying for the literature prescribed, 168 parties and social organizations had come forth with claimed membership exceeding 35,000,000. It is estimated that by the time that all have applied for their questionnaires this claimed membership will be between 50-60,000,000 for South KOREA alone, and should all of the important Right Wing parties finally decide to participate, this figure would climb higher.

These membership figures were expected to be fantastic and so they proved to be. Considering that the total population for South KOREA is approximately 20,000,000, and probably not over a fourth of those persons have ever considered themselves affiliated with any political party, there is evident a great padding of those membership estimates, even allowing for overlapping individual participation in several political groups. This overlapping is nowhere more clearly shown than in the claims of the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S FRONT which on 16 June claimed 6,180,000 membership when they received their distribution. Not only does the FRONT make this assertion, but each affiliated party and social organization comes forward to receive the questionnaires and each inserts its individual claim of membership. This duplication then goes through still another similar process when the labor union affiliate of the FRONT, the CHAN PYA'NG, itself, together with each of its member unions advance their separate claims of membership. Likewise the Buddhists mount their already astronomical claims by registering the CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS of KOREAN BUDDHISTS with 5,000,000 members, the GENERAL UNION OF ENTIRE COUNTRY BUDDHIST'S ASS'N. with 1,585,708, and the KEUN KANG DO, another Buddhist group, with 100,000.

All unusual groupings which men can conceive stepped forward to receive their literature and advance their claims. The first on the scene was LYUH, Woon Hong with his SOCIALIST DEMOCRATIC PARTY alleging 100,000 members, but soon to follow were such as the RETURNERS LEAGUE FROM THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS (3,673 members) and the KOREAN-ESPERANTO SOCIETY (180). KIM, Yak Soo, having broken with the KOREAN INDEPENDENT PARTY, baldly claimed 173,500 members for his spanking new KOREAN PUBLIC PARTY, which was practically the same assertion of LYUH, Woon Hyung's LABORING PEOPLE'S PARTY. It was to KIM, Kyu Sik, however, that the early lead went in these paper figures. The following groups all nominated KIM as their leader: KOREAN RED CROSS (5,000,000), WAR REFUGEE RELIEF ASS'N. (2,500,000), KOREAN CHRISTIAN YOUNG PEOPLE'S FEDERATION (200,000), and the ALLIANCE FOR THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT (20,000).

Other than the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY (800,000), no leading Right Wing parties or social organizations picked up their material within the period. Thus, tentatively still outside the fold were the NATIONAL SOCIETY for the ACCELERATION of KOREAN INDEPENDENCE, the HQ for NATIONAL UNIFICATION, the KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY, the REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL, LYOO, Rim's INDEPENDENT LABORERS AND FARMERS PARTY, etc.

The real contest will come when these groups attempt to substantiate their claimed membership. It is to be assumed that the Soviets will look with favor on the assertions of the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S FRONT, at least insofar as their claimed proportionate majority over the Right Wing groups is

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concerned. To add to the weight of evidence on their side, the Left Wing press has already rolled up its collective sleeves and gone to work. The MUN WHA ILBO (Cultural Daily News-LW) quotes the GENERAL LEAGUE OF CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS who maintain that the FRONT has the united support of the laboring people who comprise 80% of the population, and further asserts the allegiance of the intellectuals. The Right Wing groups are disregarded as pro-Japanese who are appealing to the "foolish morality of the masses". Letters and petitions have flooded the Joint Commission, those in bulk generally being from Leftist organizations and all following the same familiar pattern. In the provinces, CIC has reported that many of these petitions were circulated prior to the attachment of the document written to the Joint Commission. Even though the FRONT affiliates claim great numerical superiority over the Right Wing, they took the "humiliating" step of permitting 50-50 representation before the Joint Commission. Of course, this only applies to South KOREA, and well do they know that in the North the proportionately stronger Left Wing will give them complete dominance in this consultation, and thus they hope, in the future Korean Provisional Democratic Government.

No substantial change in the Right Wing attitude was observed during the period. On 12 June the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY declared its full support for the Joint Commission; however, not relinquishing its stand against Trusteeship which they feel is inconsistent with Independence because this means "interference in Korean domestic affairs and international control (of KOREA)".

To ameliorate some of the damage done by the apparent split in the Right Wing over this matter of cooperation, a new line of propaganda has flown from the Right, mainly from the NATIONAL SOCIETY for the ACCELERATION OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE. This is to the effect that there is no split at all in the ranks of the Right, instead it is "double tactics". It is only that some factions have decided to participate in the consultations so as to oppose Trusteeship from within, and these groups will continue to act in concert with the Right Wing groups fighting from without. The NSAKI says, "If they do not get their chance to oppose Trusteeship from within, the 8,000,000 members of the NSAKI will call them back." (HYUN DAI ILBO - Modern Daily News - ERW; 13 June)

All Right Wing groups appear worried over the possibility of the Joint Commission establishing a government by the appointment of its personnel. Even the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY quotes Dr. RHEE, Syng Man in saying, "We desire to set up an independent government through a democratic general election." (DONG-A-ILBO - Oriental Daily News - ERW; 12 June) RHEE is carrying his fight in this regard to WASHINGTON. Robert T. OLIVER, head of his WASHINGTON lobby, wrote to Gen. John H. HILLDRING, Assistant Secretary of State on 6 June and expressed the fear that the UNITED STATES would concede to the Soviets and make the government appointive. RHEE has recently expressed the opinion that the Provisional Government would be established by appointment, but that elections would quickly be held and he, RHEE, would be elected President of KOREA. Illustrating that the ways of Korean politicians are not so much based on "ideas", YOON, Chi Young, former Secretary to RHEE, and Secretary of the REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL, stated that the Joint Commission would receive support from the Right if assurances were given that RHEE would be elected President of the Provisional Government. Similar sentiments were expressed by the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY. The American stand on the matter of a general election to select the Provisional Government's personnel, was expressed by Gen. BROWN in a press conference when he stated, "This (the election question) is one of the problems which will be decided after consultation with the Korean parties and social organizations."

The great bulk of the Right Wing has not deserted the ranks of Dr. RHEE as yet, though the efforts made to pull the parties away has caused increasing bitterness in RHEE. In a 16 June telegram to his WASHINGTON lobby, RHEE acidly states, "It is impossible to check Communism if Trusteeship is accepted for however limited a period. The sentiment is growing in favor of accepting Communism directly and bring North and South together even in enslavement instead of being forced into it by the Americans. They are making desperate efforts to induce Rightist groups to accept Trusteeship and to create many groups to shelve Dr. RHEE." It is not expected that RHEE will accept Communism on any terms and it is possible that this telegram was meant for American nose-thumbing purposes only.

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opposite

The Middle-of-the-Road political groups are finding the reluctance of the Right Wing beneficial to their aspirations. They feel that the present situation will place the weight of the American support on their roddy shoulders. The COALITION COMMITTEE is expanding as rapidly as possible and has expressed its desire to the Joint Commission to aid in the solving the many difficult questions before the Commission. In a separate letter to the American delegation to the Commission (dated 16 June), the Committee holds itself ready to lend its efforts to the Americans alone, in case the Commission as a whole does not want to consult with them. Sensing the stronger position of the Moderates, the Left Wing has leveled its propoganda guns against them. The GENERAL LEAGUE OF CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS states that this group is trying to derive its power from the balance of power between AMERICA and the USSR, hoping, thus, to be the compromise leaders of the Korean Provisional Democratic Government. They say that there was never a bourgeoisie revolution in KOREA to overwhelm the feudal system, therefore, "a middle party, which has a social character of petty bourgeoisie, cannot exist politically."

No date has been set for the next session of the Joint Commission. Preparations are being made to meet with the representatives of parties and organizations which have expressed their desire to be consulted and have signed Joint Communique No. 5. This meeting will be held in the chamber of the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly in SEOUL on 25 June, and in PYONGYANG on 30 June.

c. Left Wing Propaganda.

Leftist propoganda increased considerably during the period with all the indications of firm Communist control and the use of stock phrases which are put out periodically from SEOUL to the left wing organizations (see par. 6c, W/S #91). The leaflets, handbills, and wall posters currently being distributed range in content from inflammatory directives to assault members of the police and Military Government to exhortations to back up the standard war cries of the left.

A poster found on a telephone pole on CHEJU Island on 02 June 47 and signed by the South CHOLLA Province Committee of the South Korean Labor Party carried the sentiment of most of the propoganda and is extracted as follows:

"In order to do this (establish a unified democratic provisional government in KOREA): First, only the political parties which support the decision of the three ministers entirely and are ready to put it in practice should deliberate **. The terroristic parties ** should be exempt; Second, we should put into practice the principle of general equality and free elections **; Third, all the people should be given freedom of political activity and various democratic reformations, including the one on land, should be put into practice; Fourth, those democratic patriots who were rounded up and put into jail under the pretense of the dispute in October and the union strike in March should all be released immediately; Fifth, the pro-Japanese and pro-fascist which prevent the democratic independence of KOREA should be driven out completely from politics, economy, etc.; Sixth, In order to develop KOREA into a complete independent nation that will be able to stop the next foreign aggressor in case there is one, KOREA needs some economic and cultural help, but other help which the people do not demand should not be accepted.** These subjects are the absolute terms for Korean independence and are faithful performances of the three ministers."

COMMENT: All other propoganda is directly or indirectly tied to the issues stated above, and the contradictions which appear in the list do not seem to in any way occur to those who continue to cry for political freedom

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and yet state that a large group (Provisional Government (CHUNGKING) and anti-trusteeship groups particularly) should be exempt because of their belief. As viewed by the Communist, the collection of rice is proper in North KOREA (see par 5 W/S #88, North Korean Economic and Social Conditions), while highly improper in South KOREA. The persecution for political beliefs and religious beliefs is Good in North KOREA, so fine that the "culprits" are deported to RUSSIA for "indoctrination", while in South KOREA no one but a "reactionary" should be apprehended. A Communist directed CHOSEN DEMOCRATIC YOUTH ALLIANCE (MIN CHUNG) or COUNCIL OF ALL KOREAN LABOR UNIONS (CHAWN PYAWNG) is not terroristic even though the members gouge eyes, cut out tongues, emasculate, and bury alive a few "non-believers", but the "reactionary" police and other organizations are when they fight back against the left wings strong arm methods.

The Communists fail to take into account the present plan of the NEW KOREA COMPANY (a USANGIK holding company for former Japanese property) to permit tenants to acquire their land under better terms than the North KOREA land redistribution program, which is apparently aimed toward collective farming (see par 5b, W/S #89, North Korean Land Reformation Law).

Increasing stress is being placed on the propaganda aimed at refusal of the American loan for the rehabilitation of KOREA that is presently under consideration by the UNITED STATES Congress, even though it is intended for South, or North and South KOREA, according to the success of the Joint Commission.

The recently reported activities of the left wingers in South KOREA in having illiterate farmers mark blank petitions, which were later attached to letters made up for submission to the Joint Commission as representative expressions of opinion, is in keeping with the Communist one-sided view of what is correct and democratic.

The left wing in South KOREA has constantly fomented strikes to interrupt the educational program, crying that the National University plan is undemocratic, while in North KOREA the same type of plan was put into effect by the Communists. In North KOREA a proportion of students are party members, and there are periodic junkets to RUSSIA to insure that certain students are properly indoctrinated. Other students, not so fortunate, are reported as being exiled to RUSSIA, under guard for having exhibited the courage to criticize North KOREA's educational system, where they are forced to have daily study periods on Soviet RUSSIA. The latter group is believed to be augmenting the Soviet labor pool for road building, forest work, coal mining, etc. An informant report (G-3) of a student riot in PYONGYANG on 28 May 47 states that this riot may have been in protest to the shipment of other students to Russian territory. Twenty-eight students were reported as killed or wounded in this riot and several thousand arrested.

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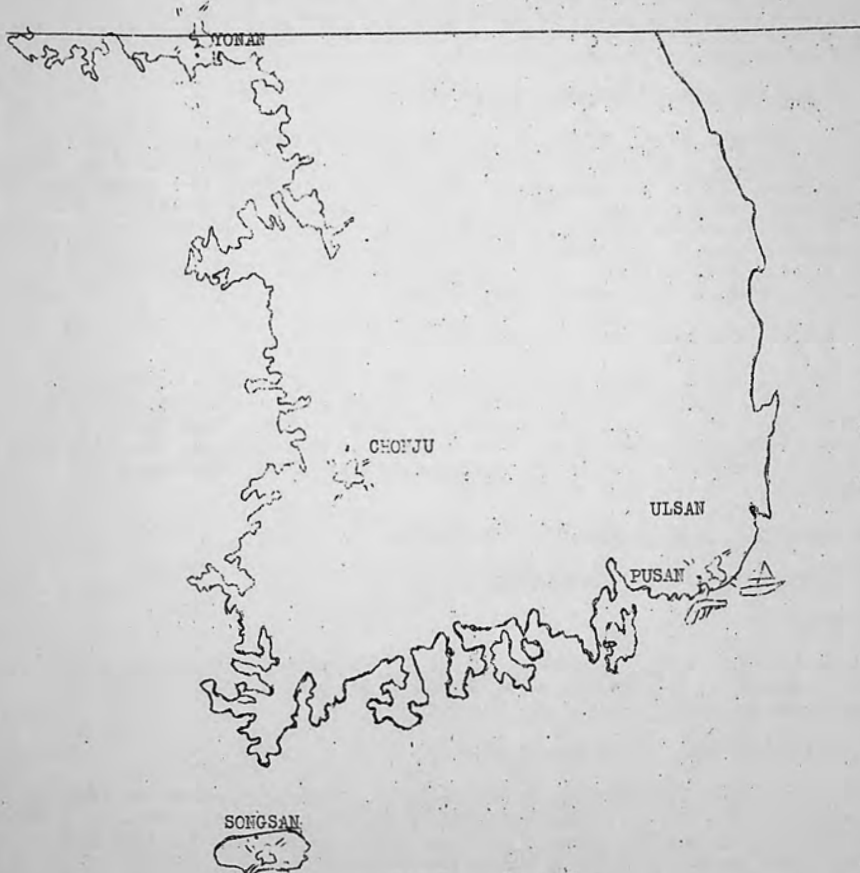
1 Inclosure:
 Illegal Activities

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



19 June 1947

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

A summary of civil disturbances, attacks on US troops, cases of illegal bearing of arms, and of unauthorized shipping reported during the period of 09 June to 15 June is given below:



LEGEND

- CIVIL DISTURBANCES SHOWN THUS 
- ATTACKS ON US TROOPS SHOWN THUS 
- ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ARMS SHOWN THUS . . . 
- UNAUTHORIZED SHIPPING SHOWN THUS 

Incl. #1 to XXIV CORPS G-2 WS # 92

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1. Civil Disturbances

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YONAN (910-1680) (37°54'N - 126°10'E)

040320 June 47 - (Delayed report) - Five armed men held up the PONGBUNG police box near YONAN, shot one defending policeman in the hand, and escaped with two model 99 Japanese rifles and 9 rounds of ammunition. (CIC S/I, 65 June 47)

SONGSAN (990-1140) (33°28'N - 126°56'E)

06 June 47 - Policemen in KUJWA MYUN, two miles north of SONGSAN, were beaten and tied with wire while disbanding an illegal meeting of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY which was being held on a tug at the seacoast. Those responsible have not been apprehended. (CIC radio, 090020/I)

PUSAN (1200-1340) (35°06'N - 129°02'E)

14 June 47 - Captain KWAWN, Ui Sang, Chief of the PUSAN Central police station was killed by an unknown assassin's gunfire at 0800. Two of the five shots fired struck KWAWN. The assassin, who was reportedly dressed in a summer Japanese army uniform, escaped. KWAWN, who has received many death threats from anonymous sources for several months, personally helped to break up the Communist inspired 01 March 47 demonstrations in PUSAN when he fired the first shot into the rioting mobs. Military authorities in PUSAN believe KWAWN is a victim of the Communists, whom he has consistently fought.

CHONJU (1010-1430) (35°48'N - 127°08'E)

10 June 47 - An investigation committee sent by the SEOUL Headquarters of the Left wing DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S FRONT was attacked twice while attempting to investigate an incident in CHONJU. Initial reports indicate that six of the investigating group were injured, some seriously. This group had been sent to CHONJU to investigate rightist terrorisms occurring in that area during the middle of May 47 (see incl #1, W/S #90).

2. Attacks on American Troops - None reported

3. Illegal Possession of Explosives

PUSAN

04 June 47 - A PUSAN warehouse, in which local police were keeping confiscated explosives, was broken into by burglars, who took 50,604 #6 percussion caps while the guards slept. (6th Div F/R #595)

ULSAN (1230-1400) (35°34'N - 129°20'E)

05 June 47 - ULSAN police confiscated 1,500 sticks of dynamite and arrested four Koreans for illegal possession of the explosives. Two ships of South Korean registry, but reportedly operated by North Korean authorities, are said to have brought the dynamite into South KOREA from North KOREA. (G-2, 6th Div)

12 June 47 - Five men were arrested for having sticks (number not reported) of dynamite in their possession. (CIC P/R #562)

4. Unauthorized Shipping

PUSAN

02 June 47 - (Delayed report) - PUSAN CID agents boarded a 20 ton diesel powered lugger, which was ready to leave for DAIREN, and confiscated a black market cargo of 70 drums of gasoline, oil, kerosene, and tar. (6th Div P/R #597)

041345 June 47 - A US Destroyer escort apprehended a 42 ton motor lugger off PUSAN for having an illegal certificate of registry. She was turned over to the PUSAN Coast Guard detachment. (6th Div P/R #596)

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