

From: 120800/I Dec 47  
To : 130800/I Dec 47

Headquarters, USAFIK  
Seoul, Korea  
1000/I 13 December 1947

*Confidential*

No. 708

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

1. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

None.

2. NON-OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Rice Market Steady With Only Slight Price Drop Registered

The SEOUL rice market remained steady through the week. Only change registered for the week was a slight and favorable drop of 20 yen from last week's closing average of 760 yen per small mal. (See "Rice Prices Advance A Notch", par 2, P/R #702)

3. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

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

Death Threats Mailed To TAEGU CIC

Death-threat letters were sent by unknown terrorists to CIC personnel in TAEGU on 10 December. The letters accuse the CIC agents of helping terrorists who attacked the offices of two left-ist papers on 02 December (see "Right-Wing Labor Group Terrorizes TAEGU Leftists", par 3c/1/, P/R #701). Return addresses on follow-up letters received 11 December, which also threatened CIC personnel were checked and found to be fictitious. CIC investigating. (CIC P/R #713)

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

4. CIVIL RELATIONS

a. Disturbances

(1) TAEGU Students Strike Against Pro-Jap Principal

Students of the Tai Ryun Middle School in TAEGU (1150-1430) went on strike on 05 December in protest against the appointment of a new principal who was influential, during the Japanese occupation, in causing students to join the volunteer Japanese army. He is also known to have dismissed students who did not use the Japanese language at all times. (CIC P/R #713)

(2) CHEJU-DO Public Feeling Against Police Reported

CHEJU (950-1150) CIC was recently told by an informant that public feeling is such that unless justice is soon brought to bear on the CHEJU police, all organizations will attack the CHEJU-DO inspection command office. (CIC P/R #713, G-3)

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(3) Talk Of Leftist Strikes Reported For UN Commission Arrival

Leftists are planning to go on strike all over South KOREA when the UNITED NATIONS Commission arrives in KOREA, a confidential informant tells TAEGU CIG. (CIG P/R #713, G-4)

COMMENT: This is considered unlikely since leftist power is weak in South KOREA. At best, only scattered and ineffective action could be taken by the leftists unless they are able to mobilize new and untapped strength in the next three weeks.

b. Political Parties and Other Organizations

(1) Powerful Youth Group Pair Meet

The two rivals who lead the two largest youth groups in South KOREA, Generals LEE Bum Suk of SKIG'S KOREAN NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS and LEE Chung Chun of the right-wing UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY, met on 09 December to discuss relationships between their two parties. In a joint public statement the two youth leaders told the young men of their organizations to eliminate terrorism. (SKIG P/R 10 December)

COMMENT: The two old Korean military men, both of whom went up the Chinese military ladder to the rank of general, have been intense rivals in their dual bid for all-encompassing power over South KOREA's youth. General LEE Bum Suk, who once served as General LEE Chung Chun's chief of staff during the CHINA campaign, has been relatively successful in preventing his KNYC members from resorting to terrorism whereas General LEE Chung Chun has not openly interfered to any appreciable extent, prior to this joint statement, in the terroristic activities of his young men. Much of the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY terroristic activities have been directed against the KOREAN NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS because the latter's methods in accepting leftists into membership with the idea of educating them away from their pro-leftist ideas.

(2) NATIONAL CONGRESS, REPRESENTATIVES To Meet 131300 December

Although the loudly-announced joint meeting of KIM Koo's NATIONAL CONGRESS and Dr. RHEE Syng Man's REPRESENTATIVES OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE failed to materialize as such on the announced date of 12 December, the two groups were rescheduled to gather at 131300 December.

RHEE's REPRESENTATIVES gathered by themselves on 12 December only to receive a telephone message from RHEE in which the REPRESENTATIVES were told that negotiations for this right-wing unification had been delayed temporarily because of the confused situation resulting from the assassination of CHANG Duk Soo. (CIG Rpt.)

COMMENT: The confused situation which RHEE referred to may be caused by the investigation which is being conducted. The extreme right is strongly suspected of being behind the man who ordered CHANG's death and it may be that the right-wing leaders are considering their future movements in this light.

(3) Weak R/W Youth Group Declare Organizational Intentions

Policy and plans for the future of the right-wing THREE PRINCIPLES YOUTH ASSOCIATION, a relatively impotent satellite of the KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY, were disclosed in an 03 December anniversary meeting held in SEOUL. Policy of the organization is to train youth along political and administrative lines, a party spokesman declared, as against the right-wing UNITED YOUNG MEN'S

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PARTY'S policy of straight military training. This subject and declaration was brought out when the discussion centered around the advisability of organizing branches in localities where the UNITED YOUNG MEN is already situated. It was then announced that branches would be established in all communities, irregardless of the presence of UNITED YOUNG MEN branches since the two organizations differed in purpose. (CIC S/I, 12 December)

(4) Highlights of the 181st Session Of The Interim Legislative Assembly

YOON K1 Sup, vice-speaker, called the 181st session of the Interim Legislative Assembly together at 111400 December before 61 members. An attendance level of approximately 59 members was maintained during most of the session.

Upon the motion, made by CHANG Myawn, an appointee and a leading South Korean Catholic, to refer the appointments of LEE Kyo Sun as director of the Office of Price Administration and Dr. OH Chun Suk (Paul) as director of the Department of Education to the Qualifications committee, both rightists and leftists insisted that they should not confirm these appointments until they are sure that American military government will uphold KILA's decisions. Mention was made of the fact that even though the appointments of SHUN Duck Soo and LEE Chung Kieu as governors of CHUNGCHONG-NAMDO and KANGWON-DO, respectively failed legislative confirmation, they, nevertheless, proceeded to their posts. KIM, Fung Chun (M) criticized the above opinion and stated KILA should not take any action which would cause the executive branch to blame the Assembly of negligence. CHANG's motion was then accepted by a vote of 38 to three with 18 abstaining.

The chief secretary replied in the negative when a leftist member asked if the transfer of HAM Tai Moon from Chief, Public Information Bureau, Department of Public Information, to Chief, Bureau of Public Peace, Department of Police, had been referred to KILA for confirmation.

The chairman of the Legislative and Judicial committee explained his committee's report and stated that Section 62, Rules of the Assembly, conflicts with Section VI, Ordinance No. #118 and, therefore, the Deputy Military Governor's request for changing this rule was reasonable. A motion for accepting the report passed by a vote of 40 to one with 11 abstaining.

Translation of the amendment, Section 62 follows:

"Approval of appointments shall be determined by majority vote of the members present and for this purpose two-thirds of the members duly qualified and seated shall constitute a quorum."

The amendment was accepted by a vote of 44 to zero, with 16 abstaining. Leftist LYUH Woon Hong moved that all readings be omitted and that the amendment be accepted immediately. This was passed by a vote of 44 to zero with 16 abstaining.

Session adjourned at 1600. Next session was scheduled for 151300 December and a KILA anniversary celebration was announced for 12 December.

c. Public Opinion

(1) Translations of Seoul Newspapers (See Incl. #1)

*Confidential*(2) TAMYANG Public Opinion Blames "Lax" MG Policy For  
CHANG Duk Soo Death

Public opinion in TAMYANG (997-1371) blames American military government for the death of CHANG Duk Soo because MG "is too lax with the leftists". (CIC P/R #714)

COMMENT: The rightists, against whom all evidence points in the CHANG assassination, have evidently convinced many rural Koreans that it is the leftists who are to blame for the killing of rightist CHANG.

5. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREAS

None.

6. MISCELLANEOUS100 Per Cent Of KYONGSANG-NAMDO Rice Collection Quota Collected

KYONGSANG-NAMDO rice-collection officials report a 100 per cent collection of their rice quota. (SKIG P/R, 09 December)

*Robinson*  
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1 Incl.

1-Translations of SEOUL Newspapers

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