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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN KOREA
Office of Special Investigator
APO 235 Unit 2

Jan 16 1948

SUBJECT: Report of Inspection
Headquarters and Headquarters Company
59th Military Government Company
Cheju-do Island

TO : Commanding General
United States Army Military Government in Korea
APO 235 Unit 2

E X T R A C T

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15. Political situation

A two hour conference was held with Governor Ryu on 8 January 1948. The following comments are pertinent:

- a. The Governor admitted that the ration varied in different Myuns. Reason: Varied production, shortage of transportation and location.
- b. The Governor shows preferential treatment to farmers over city dwellers.
- c. The ration cards are held in the Myun Changs Office. Reason: In order to maintain accounting. Note: A political move which give the officials a weapon over the rationee. The Governor agreed that ration cards should be held by the individual and will so order.
- d. The Governor was vague as to the reason why grain was piled out of doors when the warehouses were practically empty. Stated that the grain should be protected. Will correct.
- e. The Governor admitted that his present ration problems would not exist if the 14,000 suks from the summer grain program had been collected according to NFA Regulation No. 6.
- f. Admitted that many warehouses needed repair and will ask for funds to repair.
- g. The Bureau of Agriculture will ask the PFS for tentage to store 30,000 suks of supplemental rice from Cholla Namdo. Note: The undersigned stated that supplemental rice would not be furnished unless adequate storage would be provided. The indifferent attitude of the Governor to such pertinent problems indicate a complete lack of planning or management.

EXHIBIT "I"

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Extract Report of Inspection, Cheju-do Island, 16 Jan 48

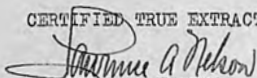
h. The Governor stated that he did not unlade the bamboo ship because he did not know which agency of his province would pay unloading charges. Note: The ship was held up for eight (8) days until direct orders came from Military Government to proceed. This delay came at a time when shipping was and is critically short. The Governor was surprised to learn that Koreans had a bonfire using bamboo for fuel. A guard was warming his hands at the fire which was extinguished by the undersigned. The guards will be instructed to protect the bamboo.

i. The political trends on Cheju were discussed and the Governor stated that he had overpowered the Leftists. His attitude toward opposing parties is typically Japanese in character. He stated that he had controlled all meetings on the island but recently the Department of Public Information at Seoul had directed that all meetings be cleared by the police. This ruling was resented by the Governor who stated he should clear all meetings of any nature. The matter of driving opposing elements underground was brought up and he stated that his party was gaining in power and apparently not worried about opposing elements.

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/s/ Lawrence A. Nelson
/t/ LAWRENCE A. NELSON
Lt. Col. TC
Special Investigator

CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT:


LAWRENCE A. NELSON
Lt. Col., TC

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NN-745070*