

1948. 04. 08. 주한미육군사령부 정보참모부 정기보고

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Headquarters, USAFIK
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No. 803

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

1. ARMED FORCES

Soviet Planes Violate Parallel Over ONGJIN Peninsula

While on a routine flight at 071130 April over YONAN (919.5-1685.5), CHANGDONG (899.1-1693.2) and ONGJIN (842.5-1698.8) a 7th Division Air Section officer observed four Soviet single engine fighter planes of a P-39 type take off from the HAEJU (855-1696) airfield. These were followed three minutes later by three more Soviet planes. All seven planes banked to the south after the take-off and violated the parallel; they then continued to fly in an east-west direction until out of sight. (7th Div. Flash rpt. B-3)

2. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

South Koreans Proposals to Northern Leaders

In an interview LYUH Woon Hong, head of the SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY and member of Executive Committee of the NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FEDERATION, stated that the two liaison officials sent to North KOREA 07 April were instructed to try to get the North Korean leaders to agree to hold an election on the same date as the election in South KOREA. It will be proposed that the North Koreans elect 100 of the 300 representatives who will form the National government. LYUH further stated that an attempt will be made to obtain permission for the UN Commission to observe the election in both zones and if this is approved the UN Commission will be requested to postpone the present election in South KOREA and announce a North-South election at a later date. (Interview)

COMMENT: If these are the conditions which the South Koreans propose it is obvious why KIM Koo and KIM Kyu Sik are pessimistic about the possible accomplishments of the consultation.

3. CIVIL UNREST

a. Continued Raids On Registration Booths in CHOLLA-NAMDO

A mob of unknown size attacked four registration booths in CHO UNG MYUN, POSUNG GUN (1026-1309) threatened the officials and destroyed all registration papers. (Police rpt)

b. Rightist Youths Killed On CHEJU-DO

Two UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY staff members were shot to death at 060200 April in E HO-RI (946-1151), and at 060430 April a UYMP member was killed in PONGGAE-RI (960-1148). (CIC P/R #93. Police rpt)

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c. Bounty On Police On CHEJU-DO

A leader in the recent riots on CHEJU-DO and a staff member of the local SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY was arrested on 04 April. He confessed to the riots and stated that a bounty was given for killing policemen - 10,000 won for a private, 15,000 won for a sergeant and 20,000 won for a lieutenant or above. The rioter also said that the swords used in the riots had come from the DEMOCRATIC PATRIOTIC YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION in CHOLLA-NAMDO. (CIC P/R #83. Police rpt)

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

a. Public Opinion And Political Trends

The following civilian opinions were collected by 6th Division personnel:

CHOLLA-PUKTO: The average informed resident holds slight hope for a united KOREA and therefore desires an early election and the selection of RHEE as head of the new state. The majority of farmers disclaim any knowledge of impending election and appear fearful of expressing an opinion.

CHOLLA-NAMDO: A survey of 14 guns was made to determine the effectiveness of election preparations. All officials were familiar with the general plan and enthusiastic activity was evident in information programs. In general the people feared that the election would not be an effective means of securing Korean independence.

KYONGSANG-PUKTO: The urban population is showing increasing interest in the approaching election but in the rural districts there is a comparative lack of interest.

KYONGSANG-NAMDO: The people in towns and cities are generally well informed on the election and approve of it. The hope that American troops will remain until a stable government is insured was frequently expressed. Many natives in outlying areas were not aware of the coming election nor certain of the mission of the UN Commission.

PUSAN Area: Approximately 2000 residents in the PUSAN area were interviewed to secure political opinions. Persons of varied social level were interviewed in an attempt at selectivity. Fear of the opposition was expressed by both rightists and persons of known leftist tendencies. Farmers and villagers showed ignorance of the meaning of the terms "vote", "ballot" and "election". In general RHEE was favored for leadership of an independent KOREA.

b. Translations of SEOUL Newspapers. (See Incl. #1)

5. SABOTAGE & ESPIONAGE

a. Communists Arrested On Water Poisoning Charge In KYONGSANG-NAMDO

Five communists, working under instructions from the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY, were arrested in PUSAN (1200-1340) on 05 April for a conspiracy to poison the water supply in the PUSAN reservoirs. One hop of hydrochloric acid and one hop of glycerin were confiscated at the time of the arrest. (Police rpt)

b. Communist Agent Arrested In SEOUL

A translator in the Korean Constabulary was arrested

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on 26 March for attempting to steal a constabulary regimental table of organization. Investigation revealed the translator was acting under orders of a member of the DEMOCRATIC PATRIOTIC YOUTH ALLIANCE. (CIC P/R #83. DIS)

6. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREAS

Negative

7. COMMANDING GENERAL'S STATEMENT

On 06 April the Commanding General issued a statement to the press and made a radio broadcast concerning the proposed conference of North-South political leaders. (See Incl. #2)

On 05 April the Commanding General issued a Proclamation on the "Rights of the Korean People." (See Inc. #3)

8. OTHER

a. US Soldier Assaulted in SEOUL

At 032200 April an American soldier was assaulted by two unidentified Koreans armed with a knife and pistol near the 31st Infantry traffic circle in SEOUL. The soldier was backed into an alley and robbed. In the fight that followed the soldier was stabbed in the arm and soldier. The attackers escaped. (7th Div. P/R #81. B-1)

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AC of S, 822 JKC

- 3 Incl.
- 1-Translations of SEOUL Newspapers
- 2-Statement by Gen. Hodge
- 3-Proclamation by Gen. Hodge

Under the provisions of par 33a (1), AR 380-5, 15 Aug 46, authority is hereby granted for destruction of this document after it has served its purpose, and is of no further value to the receiving agency. This authority is extended to cover destruction of previous issues of this publication in accordance with the foregoing instructions.

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