

From: 130800/I Apr 48  
To : 140800/I Apr 48

Headquarters, USAFIK  
Seoul, Korea  
1000/I 14 April 1948

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No. 808

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

1. ARMED FORCES

Negative

2. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Negative

3. CIVIL UNREST

a. Attacks on Registration Booths in KYONGSANG PUKTO  
(Delayed Report)

(1) On 07 April, TAEGU police arrested three men for a demonstration in front of a registration booth. Rioters shouted "Oppose UN", and "Set up a Republic like that in North KOREA." (CIC P/R #88, Police report)

(2) On 07 April, nine communists were arrested for gathering at the registration booths after curfew in NEI DAN DONG, TAEGU. (CIC P/R #88, Police report)

(3) At 080130 April, 20 communists attacked the registration office at KA CHUNG Myun (1145-1436) and forced the myun head to turn over 380 registration records. (CIC P/R #88, police report)

(4) The following is a recapitulation of anti-registration activities in TAEGU. (These include reports given above).

NEI DANG DONG	-	12 records stolen
IN KYO DONG	-	182 records stolen
CHIL SUNG DONG	-	232 records stolen (Recovered)
DONG IN DONG	-	117 records stolen
NAN CHON DONG	-	65 records stolen
SI NAM DONG	-	27 records stolen
KUM DAN DONG	-	120 records stolen

COMMENT: The destruction of registration records does not nullify the registrants' right to vote. Election committees will not require registrants to re-register, but can "reconstruct" registration records.

(5) At 092100 April, a mob attacked the registration office at DONG IN DONG, TAEGU. Police dispersed the mob and arrested four persons who were found to be members of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY. No damage was done to the office and no records were lost. (CIC P/R #88.)

(6) On 10 April a mob of 20 attacked the Mool Ya Myun office, PONGHWA Gun (1180-1570), beat two secretaries and demanded the registration records. The secretaries sounded an alarm and the attackers fled without the records. (CIC P/R #88, police report)

-1-  
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(7) At 102300 April a mob of unknown size threw a home-made bomb against the building housing the registration office in YONG NAM MYUN (1200-1340). This bomb failed to explode and the crowd was dispersed without further action. (CIC P/R #88. Police rpt)

b. Recapitulation of Attacks on Registration Officials and Booths

A recapitulation of reported attacks on registration officials and booths for the period 30 March to 11 April follows:

Registration Booths Raided	44
Officials Killed	17
Officials Wounded	13
Sets of Records Destroyed or Stolen	33
Officials Threatened	10

c. UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY Home Attacked in KYONGSANG PUKTO

At 090230 April a mob of undetermined size nailed the doors of the home of a UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY leader in TALSONG Gun (1140-1430) and set fire to the house. Two of the three occupants have died and the third is not expected to live. (CIC P/R #88. Police rpt)

d. Communist Attack School in KYONGSANG PUKTO

Three unidentified communists attacked the TAI RUNG MIDDLE School in TAEGU at 092200 April. A clerk and office boy were severely beaten, the electricity lines were cut and the furniture damaged. (CIC P/R #88, police report)

e. Communist Activities in KYONGSANG PUKTO

(1) A mob armed with swords and shotguns attacked CHOI Dong Koo, and his nephew at KAMPORI (1237-1434) on 08 April. CHOI was killed and his nephew was taken to the mob hideout where he was tortured and killed with swords. Mob believe the reason for the attack was that CHOI was an ex-policeman who had refused to join the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY and that his nephew had just been accepted for police duty. (CIC P/R #88, police report)

(2) On 10 April in YONG DOK Gun (1230-1510), thirty signal fires were built in the vicinity of six police boxes. Approximately 550 rioters took part in the demonstration shouting "Long live the PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC." Police dispersed the mob and made 19 arrests. (CIC P/R #88. Police report)

f. Registration Booths Rioter Killed by Police in CHOLLA NAMDO

On 08 April the police of SAM KAI Myun (968-1367) discovered four men in the mountains whom they believed had broken into the registration booth on 04 April. While the police were attempting to arrest these men one communist was killed but the other three escaped. (CIC P/R #88, police report)

g. Police Box Attack Broken Up

At 082400 April, a police sentry at PAEDUM (1137-1339) apprehended a suspicious person who attempted to approach the police box. The man broke away and the policeman fired

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a warning shot whereupon about ten men broke and ran from near-by cover. (CIC P/R #88, Police rpt)

COMMENT: This incident bears out previous reports that attacks on police boxes would be carried out by a leader distracting the police sentry while other men came from hiding and attacked the police box.

h. Confiscated Weapons in KYONGSANG NAMDO

(1) On 01 April, the TONG YONG (1143-1350) police found two Japanese rifles and four sabers hidden in the mountains. (CIC P/R #88. Police report)

(2) Acting on a confidential tip, the TONG NAE (1208-1359) police confiscated one pistol, two sticks of dynamite and twenty percussion caps in nearby mountains. (CIC P/R #88, police report)

(3) On 08 April the police in ULSAN (1230-1403) gun found two dead bodies in a mountain hideout. With these men they found one Browning pistol, one shotgun, a map of the ULSAN area and two code books. The men were identified as local leaders of a fighting group of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY. (CIC P/R #88, Police report)

i. Bounty Offered for Communist Riots

The Chairman of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY in NAM SAN DONG, TAEGU (1150-1430), reported that his party received 20,000,000 won from SEOUL for use in obstructing the registration of voters. The following was given as standard rewards for these activities:

Attacking a registration office	-	20,000 won
Each stolen record	-	200 won
Bodily harm to workers for the registration	-	5,000 won

j. Police and Rightist Youth Raid Communist Meeting In CHUNGCHONG NAMDO (Delayed Report)

Two police, supported by one detective and two DAI DONG YOUTH raided a house in SANGSONG-NI (972-1515) on 04 April in an attempt to capture eight SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY members. After effecting complete surprise one of the policemen carelessly lost his rifle to one of the captives. In the skirmish which followed two communists were killed and one was wounded. The remaining five escaped. One of the communists killed was the SKLP officer who led the attack on the KUHANG (963-1523) police box on 15 March. (7th Div P/R #85. B-2)

k. Policeman Killed On CHEJU-DO

During the 24 hour period ending 131200 April one policeman was killed in an attempt to attack a communist hiding place, approximately two miles west of CHEJU City (950-1150). (CIC Flash rpt. Police rpt)

l. Communist Attempt to Agitate Student Strike in CHOLLA NAMDO

On 09 April a group of students of the KWANGJU (990-1350) Commercial school were urged to demonstrate by SIN Bang Ho, third-year student, who distributed handbills declaring a 24-hour strike, opposition to the UN Commission, expulsion of the "Fascist" principle and return of formerly expelled

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students. Police arrested SIN and dispersed the students.  
(CIC F/R #88. Police rpt)

m. Koreans In Constabulary Uniforms Attack Houses In  
KYONGSANG PUKTO Province

At about 100300 April 15 men dressed in Constabulary uniforms attacked seven houses in TAEJU (1160-1440). These houses allegedly are used for prostitution purpose and catered to a select clientele, which automatically excluded the Constabulary enlisted man. One man was beaten and windows were broken in all the houses. (CIC P/R #88. B-2)

n. Communist Orders Found On Women Messengers

On about 04 April seven SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY members, including six women, were apprehended by police in CHONAN (1010-1550). SKLF directives ordering formation of guerrilla groups to disrupt the coming election were found on the women.

COMMENT: Previous information indicated that female messengers would be used, on the theory that as matter of decency they would not be thoroughly searched (see P/R #790). This is the first report that these instructions may have actually been put into practice.

o. Released Prisoners Immediately Begin Communist  
Activities

A guard of the TAEJU (1150-1430) prison stated that he had contacted 33 of the men recently released from the prison in the TAEJU area. Twenty of these men said they would immediately go to work for the communist cause and expect to be back in prison soon. The remainder of the men indicated prison life has changed their political beliefs and that in the future they would support the rightist cause. (CIC F/R #88. C-3)

p. KOREAN VETERAN ASSOCIATION Organize In CHOLLA PUKTO  
Province

On 03 April a meeting was held in KUNSAN (970-1450) for the purpose of organizing the KOREAN VETERAN ASSOCIATION in that area. KIM Suk Won, chairman of the national organization in SEOUL, was present and delivered a speech to the 275 people attending the meeting. (CIC P/R #88. A-1)

q. Registration Booth Attacked In CHOLLA NAMDO

At 071800 April registration office in the HWAN KUN district in KWANGJU (990-1350) was attacked by a mob of unknown number. Two clerks were beaten but no documents were in the office at the time. (CIC P/R #88. Police rpt)

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

a. Report of Survey of Registration Progress in the  
SEOUL Area

A survey to determine the progress of registration in the SEOUL area was made by six teams sponsored by the Office of Civilian Information. The instructions to the survey teams were as follows:

- (1)- Talk with as many people as possible.

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- (2) Attempt to engage officials in conversation without showing identification cards -- in an unofficial capacity.
- (3) Secure the following information from citizens:
  - (a) If they had registered.
  - (b) If they were threatened.
  - (c) Are they going to vote.

A summary of the results of this survey follows:

A total of 38 registration places were visited by the six teams. In all cases officials were polite, answered questions and did not ask for identification. In no case did those interrogated say that they had been threatened in registering and in practically all cases those who had registered indicated they would vote. The only exceptions to this general attitude of approval of registration and the election was in the area beyond the East gate. Many persons engaged in conversation in that area said they did not know what registration was for and had only registered because they were told to do so by Dong heads and Ban leaders.

b. North-South Conference Postponed

Radio PYONGYANG, upon instructions from KIM Doo Bong, chairman of the NORTH KOREAN DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES FRONT, broadcasted the news that the North-South political leaders conference scheduled for 14 April would be postponed for several days. No specific reasons were given for the postponement. (E-2)

5. SABOTAGE & ESPIONAGE

a. Registration Officials Threatened - Sabotage To Be Used

A threatening letter was thrown into a registration booth in PUSAN (1200-1340) on 04 April. The letter stated that if the officials did not stop the election in the PUSAN area the water supply would be poisoned. Six men, thought to be responsible for the letter, were apprehended. When arrested the men had a quantity of hydrochloric acid and confessed that they intended to pour it into the PUSAN reservoirs. These men also had a quantity of glycerin with which they were making dynamite. (CIC P/R #88. Police rpt)

6. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREAS

Negative

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- 1 Incl.  
1-Translation of SEOUL Newspapers

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