

From: 260800/I Apr 48
To : 270800/I Apr 48

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 27 April 1948

No. 819

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

1. ARMED FORCES

Negative

2. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

a. Organization of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY

The SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY's chain of command is maintained through three principal echelons, with the actual party headquarters being located in HAEJU, North KOREA, under the direction of PAK Heun Yung. Subordinate to the party headquarters is the Central Political Committee, consisting of approximately eight members, the most prominent being PAK Heun Yung, HU Hun and LEE Choo Ha. The third echelon is the Central Standing Committee which carries out party activities and policies through 13 Departments. The provincial headquarters organizations are similar to that of the Central Standing Committee.

Included in the Soviet headquarters in PONGYANG (900-1780) is a staff member, until recently Anatole SHABSIN, who is the official representative of the USSR Army Forces in all dealings with the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY and its affiliated organizations.

The DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S FRONT, a federation of all South KOREA Communist parties, of which the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY is the strongest, is organized similarly to the BKLP, with the Central Standing Committees of both organizations being reportedly identical both in membership and composition. (CIC S/I, 30 March. C-2)

NOTE 1: PAK Heun Yung, the leader of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY and chairman of the party headquarters in HAEJU, has been underground since being sought in South KOREA for violation of Proclamation #2 in September 1946. PAK is currently reported to be attending the joint-conference in PONGYANG.

NOTE 2: Anatole SHABSHIN, as Director of the Department of Politics of the Soviet Forces at PYONGYANG (880-1820), allegedly controlled all communist activities in South KOREA. SHABSHIN was recalled to MOSCOW in October 1947, following the publication of newspaper reports of his activities in Seoul.

b. KOREAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION Organizes In CHUNGCHONG NAMDO

On 19 April a meeting was held in TAEJON (1040-1490) to organize the Preparatory committee for the CHUNGCHONG NAMDO branch of the KOREAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION. This organization allegedly has the approval and financial support of RHEE who intends to use it as the basis of a National Army after the establishment of a government in KOREA. (CIC P/R #99. B-2)

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COMMENT: This is the fourth report of the formation of units of this organization. The original unit was organized in SEOUL during the latter part of December 1947 and allegedly received financial aid from and consequently supported KIM Koo. On 21 March 1948 the SONG DONG Federal branch, of the KOREAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION was also organized in SEOUL. On 28 March the KYONGSANG NAMDO branch was organized in PUSAN (1200-1340). These three branches have been under the leadership of LEE Chung Chon and KIM Suk Won. On 27 March dissention developed in the parent organization and a group under the leadership of MOON Kei Dong seceded and formed the YOUNG MEN VOLUNTEER CORPS OF THE KOREAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION pledging support to RHEE and denouncing KIM Koo.

3. CIVIL UNREST

a. American Employees Approached In Youth Group Membership Drive

The Korean employees of several dependent houses in the SEOUL area have been approached by unknown youth groups in an effort to increase their membership. The threat of loss of their rice ration was used to "encourage" the employees to join the youth groups. (CIC I/R #99. MF Rpt)

b. Communist "Unified Group" Organized In CHUNGCHONG NAMDO

A special "Unified Group" to execute plans for 01 May is being organized in TAEJON (1040-1490) by the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY. The structure of this group is similar to that of SKLP, with a SEOUL Central Headquarters and provincial and city headquarters. Only the strongest communist members of SKLP will compose this organization, which will be dissolved shortly after 01 May. On 16 April staff members of the CHUNGCHONG NAMDO and the TAEJON branches of SKLP met to continue organizational activities. (CIC P/R #99. B-2)

c. Communists To Promote Disturbances Through STUDENTS LEAGUE In CHUNGCHONG PUKTO

The CHUNGCHONG PUKTO branch of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY has formulated plans for promoting a disturbance in the ALL KOREAN STUDENTS LEAGUE throughout all the schools in TAEJON (1040-1490) on or about 25 April. The disturbances are to be in the form of a split in the league by communist students who have become members of the organization. (CIC P/R #99. F-3)

d. Teachers Distribute Communist Handbills

Making the best of their tour of night duty at the Sam Song Primary school in TAEJON (1040-1490) on the night of 14 April, three teachers, also members of the KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY, distributed handbills throughout the building and grounds. The handbills followed the communist party line of opposition to the election, with an added KIP angle of "vote for KIM Koo for president." (CIC P/R #99. B-2)

e. Police Retaliate On CHEJU

From 232330 Apr to 240500 Apr, with the assistance of the constabulary, the CHEJU (950-1150) city police made raids on houses suspected of harboring raiding parties. Sixty arrests were made, 30 of the persons arrested being subsequently released while the balance are being screened for their possible participation in recent riots. (CIC P/R #99. Police rpt)

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*Confidential*f. Latest Riots On CHEJU DO

(1) At 260300 April raiders attacked the town of SAM YANG (approximately 8 miles east of CHEJU City). One raider was killed by the police. (Police rpt)

(2) At 212300 April rioters attacked the voting office in PUK CHON NI (coordinates unknown) in CHOCHUN MYUN and stole all registration records.

(3) On 21 April raiders attacked the town of SAM DONG (coordinates unknown). One raider was killed and one wounded. Raiders distributed handbills urging resistance to the police. (Police rpt)

(4) On 24 April the CHOCHUN (963-1155) village police arrested an alleged SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY propaganda chief. When he attempted to escape the communist was shot and killed. (Police rpt)

g. Police Attacker Apprehended

At 211330 April the KWANGJU (990-1350) police apprehended CHOI Nam Su of SEOUL who has been wanted for leading an attack on and beating a detective in KWANGJU on 24 March. CHOI resisted arrest and was wounded by the police. (CIC P/R #99. Police rpt)

h. UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY Members Beat Fellow Member To Death (Delayed Rpt)

One PAK Sung Mo died on 14 April as a result of a beating administered by three fellow members of the ONGJIN (840-1713) branch of the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY. The three assailants were arrested on 15 April and gave as their reason for the attack the fact that PAK had circulated the rumor that the assailants had taken rice belonging to the UYMP and sold it for their own profit. (CIC P/R #99. Police rpt)

i. Bonfires In KWANGWON DO (Delayed Rpt)

At 162100 April about 40 communists gathered at a bonfire on a hill in CHUMUNJIN (1170-1660), beat a member of the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY, distributed handbills and cheered for the North KOREA People's Republic. The mob dispersed before the police arrived. (CIC P/R #99. Police rpt)

j. Election Official Killed In CHUNGCHONG PUKTO (Delayed Rpt)

At 182300 April a member of the election committee in POUN GUN (1071-1513) was murdered in his home by an unknown assassin. (CIC P/R #99. Police rpt)

k. Youth Leader Beaten To Death In CHOLLA NAMDO (Delayed Rpt)

At 190200 April a mob of 10 men attacked the home of the local Administration Section Chief of the KOREAN NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS in DAI MA MYUN (960-1370) and beat the youth leader to death. (CIC P/R #99. Police rpt)

l. Summarization of Reports of 01 May Attack Plans

Ten reports, from six centers of population where communists are known to be very active, indicate that

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communist violence will begin 01 May.

Reports indicate that all communist units have been thoroughly briefed as to attack operations. Agitators and armed action squads, which have been organizing and training for several weeks, are expected to be called into action by signal fires and flares from mountain tops. One signal fire or flare will be the "stand-by". In some localities two fires mean to attack and in other localities three fires or flares will be the attack signal.

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

5. SABOTAGE & ESPIONAGE

Negative

6. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREAS

Negative

7. COMMANDING GENERAL'S STATEMENT

The Korean people are well aware that the recent elections in Italy marked a highly important phase in that nation's struggle to remain in the family of free nations. In the Italian election almost every person eligible to vote went to the polls to express his or her preference for representatives in government. The result was an overwhelming victory for democracy over totalitarian Communism and showed a loss of 25% in the Communist strength in Italy since the 1946 elections.

This victory is enheartening to all freedom-loving Koreans, both in South and North Korea, as well as to the peoples of all free nations of the world. It is definite proof that love for freedom still lives, even in those war torn areas where economic conditions are at a very low ebb. It is another proof that intelligent people of the world, after watching the fate of their neighbor nations who fall within the sphere of the "Satellite Nations" and thereby lose their individual freedoms and initiative, are realizing the falsity of the Communist creed. It is proof that the Italian nation does not accept the lies, blandishments and false promises of the Communist party, and that they are tired of the subversive activity, the propaganda, the violence and the treachery of the Communist agents within their nation.

I am sure that the results of the Italian election will encourage all patriotic citizens of Korea, both men and women, to go to the polls on 10 May, regardless of the Communist threats and coercion, and by secret ballot select the leaders whom they wish to represent them in forming the type of government the Korean voters desire.

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- 1 Incl.
- 1-Translation of SEOUL Newspapers

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