

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

From: 140800/I May 48
To : 150800/I May 48

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea.
1000/I 15 May 1948

No. 835

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

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1. ARMED FORCES

U.S. Patrol Kidnapped By SOVIETS

A two man patrol from the 7th Division which was to operate from 131700 May to 132100 May failed to return at the scheduled time. At 141615 May personnel at OP #17 (1000-1690) picked up a North Korean who stated that at 132130 May he had seen two U.S. soldiers with weapons accompanied by two Soviet soldiers in the town of CHON GONG NI (1006.6-1699.8), north of the 38th parallel. The SOVIETS have been contacted and immediate release of the U.S. personnel demanded. (7th Division Flash Rpt. B-2)

2. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Negative

3. CIVIL UNREST

a. Violence In KYONGSANG PUKTO

At 142205 May in TAEGU, one policeman was killed, one wounded and one woman bystander was wounded as a result of the police attempting to arrest a man out after curfew hours. The assailant was armed with a .32 caliber pistol. (CIC P/R 115. A-1)

b. Home Attacked in KANGWON DO

At 120130 May the home of KIM Jooc Kil in KYOHANG NI (1170-1680) was attacked. KIM was killed and his father wounded. (CIC P/R 115. Police Report)

c. Police Capture 25 Rioters On CHEJU DO

During the 24 hour period ending 140800 May the police captured 25 persons in the area centering at (943-1141). In addition approximately 2000 persons were found in the area living in brush shelters and were started on the road back to their homes in HALLIM (934-1138) and AEWOL (930-1147). (MG Report. Police Report)

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d. Violence On CHEJU DO

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(1) At approximately 132400 May, 300 raiders attacked the village of HAMDOK (966-1155). One policeman was killed, five policemen were missing and two civilians were killed. One policeman and a bus driver were wounded when a raider threw a hand grenade into a passing bus. During the attack the police station was burned to the ground. (MG Report. B-2)

(2) At 140700 May at CHEJU RI (923-1128) a police box was burned to the ground. No known casualties resulted. (MG Report B-2)

(3) At 140400 May 200 raiders attacked the village of HALLIM (934-1138). The wife of the Myun head was killed, one man was stabbed and six houses were burned. (MG Report. Police Report).

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

5. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

Negative

6. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREAS

Negative

7. COMMANDING GENERAL'S STATEMENT

You are all aware that the Soviet Command in North Korea cut off all electric power to South Korea at noon on 14 May. As is usual in such cases, they have played up a lot of propaganda through their Korean puppets for several weeks on the subject of payments for power in order to build up a case as to why they should cut off electric power from the Koreans in South Korea.

The facts are that the United States Command has made every effort to arrange negotiated payments for electric power since soon after the arrival of United States forces in Korea in September 1945. We have tried to pay in Korean money. We have tried to pay in goods scarce in world markets. We have tried to pay in American dollars which will buy goods anywhere in the world. The recalcitrant attitude of the Soviet Command and their continued and wilful refusals to meet to make negotiations have prevented completion of arrangements so that adequate payments can be made.

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An agreement to pay in scarce goods for power used between 15 August 1945 to 1 June 1947 was made last summer. Delivery of these goods is being carried out as rapidly as they can be obtained and made available from world markets, and can be completed within a few weeks. About 35% has already been delivered to North Korea. Over 40% or more than two million American dollars worth are now in Seoul warehouses awaiting Soviet inspection and acceptance. The remainder is enroute to Korea.

Joint conferences to conclude agreements concerning payment for power after June 1947 were promised last summer, but have never been held in spite of continued efforts by the United States Command to hold them. Most of my letters to the Soviet Commander on this subject have been sidestepped or unanswered.

A careful review of the entire case and a study of all the facts leads to one conclusion and one conclusion only. This conclusion is that the Soviet Command through its Korean puppets is using the club of cutting off electric power flow to South Korea as a political bludgeon against the fine South Korean people in an attempt to get them to surrender to Communist domination. They are adding it to the weapons of murder, sabotage and arson that their South Korean stooges and infiltrated agents have been using so freely in recent months to destroy democratic processes in South Korea. After other efforts failed, they are using it as a means of pressure to intimidate the freedom loving people of South Korea, who on May 10 expressed themselves so volubly at the polls in favor of a free and representative democracy for their nation. They are using it in retaliation against the 20 million South Koreans who have shown a solid front for Korean sovereign independence.

The American Command is still trying to get a meeting with Soviet representatives to reach agreements for power payments. It is very apparent from the Soviet dictated North Korean propaganda statements that the North Korean officials who have made recent announcements on matters of electric power are either lying or they have not been informed of the true state of affairs by their masters. It is certain, that if these puppet officials really believe what they say in their propaganda statements, then the North Koreans have not seen the goods received in payment from South Korea by the Russians. They have not been told of the over two million dollars worth of scarce and valuable supplies now in Seoul warehouses awaiting shipment in payment for power.

It is also interesting to note that in a joint statement made by two well known Korean leaders returning from the "North-South Political Conference" recently, they said that

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the North Korean puppets had promised them that the electric power would not be cut off from South Korea. Whose promise was this? Apparently it was the usual type of Communist false promise made in an effort to keep South Koreans from expressing themselves in a free and democratic election-- and like all such promises, was made to be broken when it became politically expedient.

I doubt very much if any South Korean is fooled in the least in the matter of the power shut down from the North. It is another political move the Soviets and their puppets have been saving as a master stroke to use against the South Koreans who have not surrendered to their ideology. There is little doubt but that orders for the date and time of turn-off came from Moscow.

8. OTHER

a. Press Release Issued By Mr. Mughir on 14 May

After an exchange of views among the members of the Commission concerning Press Release No. 59, Mr. Mughir, Representative of Syria, now Chairman of the Commission, declared that it was never his intention to commit the Commission in any manner and that he made it clear to the Press that he was only expressing his own views.

COMMENT: The initial statement by Mr. Mughir concerning the election, issued as Chairman of the UN Commission, was released to the press on 13 May (See Incl #2, P/R #833) and more than mildly intimated that it was the opinion of the UN Commission that something less than a "free atmosphere" existed during the election. This latest press release indicates that at least some of the Commission members do not concur with Mughir's ideas and objected to having been included in the same category.

b. UN Commission To Write Report In SHANGHAI

At its 39th meeting on 12 May the UNITED NATIONS Commission decided to proceed to SHANGHAI on 18 May to prepare its report of activities up to and including the election period and to return to SEOUL during the first week in June. A liaison group of representatives will remain in SEOUL during the Commission's absence for the purpose of receiving all necessary information.

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- 1 Incl.
- 1-Translation of SEOUL Newspapers

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