

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT *list*

From: 190800/I Jun 48
To : 210800/I Jun 48

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 21 Jun 1948

Confidential
No. 865

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

1. ARMED FORCESa. U.S. Patrol Fired on by North Korean Constabularymen

At 191015 June 2 North Korean Constabularymen entrenched at (834.2-1698.2) fired on an American patrol observing from (833.9-1698.2). The U.S. patrol fired 6 rounds to cover its withdrawal. (7th Div Flash Report. B-2)

b. Southern Police and North Korean Constabulary Clash at Parallel

On 18 June 2 North Korean Constabularymen came south of the parallel and attempted to persuade a farmer at (1166.0-1697.9) to go to North KOREA. (Police Report) Three South Korean police from SHANGYO RI (1165.8-1697.7) went to investigate and were fired on by the NKC from a railroad embankment at (1166.0-1698.8). The South KOREA police returned the fire. Five Soviets patrolling at (1166.0-1698.5) supported the NKC with sub-machine gun fire. South KOREA police reinforcements took up a position at (1165.8-1697.9), set up a machine gun and fired into KISAMUN RI (1166.4-1698.8). A U.S. patrol was dispatched to stop the fire of the South KOREA police. No casualties to either side were reported. (B-3). (7th Div Flash Report)

c. North Korean Constabularymen Attempt to Kidnap Farmer

On 18 June 7 North Korean Constabularymen came south of the parallel near WANDAE RI (1120.3-1696.6) and attempted to force a South Korean farmer to go north with them. South Korean police arrived and the NKC returned north of the parallel. No fire-fight developed. (7th Div Flash Report. Police Report)

2. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Negative

3. CIVIL UNRESTa. Buddhist Priest Organizes Communist Group

On 15 May a communist Buddhist priest in PIHA RI (1041-1531) held a secret meeting with 4 SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY members and decided to organize a secret Buddhist Society which would be closely affiliated with the SKLP. The society was officially organized on 30 May. It is reported that the sphere of activity of the organization will be limited to CHUNGCHONG-PUKTO and CHUNGCHONG-NAMDO. (CIC P/R #145. B-2)

b. Communist Demonstrators Arrested in CHOLLA-PUKTO (Delayed Report)

On 12 June fifteen men, nine of whom were clerks in the Gun office, were arrested in KONGJU (1013-1487) for starting signal fires and distributing communist handbills. All of the men arrested were identified as members of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY. (CIC P/R #145. B-2) *Confidential*

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*Confidential*c. Terrorism in KYONGSANG-NAMDO (Delayed Reports)

(1) On 12 June a staff member of the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY was killed by terrorists near his home in SANGNAM Myun (1086-1421). (CIC P/R #145. C-3)

(2) On 13 June three men armed with a gun and a sword attacked and killed a myun official in SANG PUK Myun, ULSAN Gun (1230-1403). (CIC P/R #145. C-3)

(3) On 16 June a member of the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY was attacked and killed by 4 communists in YANGSAN Gun (1203-1377). (CIC P/R #145. C-3)

d. Communists Rounded Up In KYONGSANG-NAMDO

During the period 30 May to 5 June, one communist was killed and 47 communists were arrested in the CHIRI SAN (1073-1373) area. Five of those arrested were identified as SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY agents. The police confiscated one hunting gun, one Jap sword and SKLP documents. (CIC P/R #145. C-3)

COMMENT: Various reports received previously have stated that the CHIRI Mountain area and the area along the KYONGSANG-NAMDO CHOLLA-PUKTO border has long been used as a communist hideout.

e. Terrorism in CHOLLA-NAMDO (Delayed Reports)

(1) On 14 June in TAMYANG Gun (1000-1370), a civilian and his son were severely beaten by a mob of 20 rioters armed with 2 shotguns. (CIC P/R #145. C-3)

(2) On 11 June one civilian was killed in POSONG Gun (1008-1304) by a mob of communists. (CIC P/R #145. C-2)

f. Communist Killed in KYONGSANG-PUKTO

On 17 June a communist wanted for murder and arson was found hiding in the mountains in the vicinity of CHUNG TONG Myun (1190-1452) and was killed when he attempted to resist arrest. Handbills and documents were found on the body identifying him as a member of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY. (Police Report)

g. Advance Guard of North Korean People's Army Dispatched to CHEJU-DO

Approximately 160 persons armed with weapons and other supplies, members of KIM Il Sung's advance guard, have reportedly been dispatched from CHINNAMPŎ (840-1780) to proceed to CHEJU-DO. The mission of this group is to create dissension within youth organizations and particularly within the South Korean Constabulary and Coast Guard and to enlist the Rebels into the People's Army. (DIS Report. F-6)

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

5. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

Negative

6. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREAS

Negative

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Negative

7. OTHER

Fishing Boats Bombed Off Korean Coast

On 08 June Korean fishing boats were bombed by unidentified planes off the east coast of KANGWON-DO at LIANCOURT ROCK (125° 50' E. Long. - 37° 15' N. Lat.). Fourteen Koreans were reportedly killed as a result of this action.

On 16 June the Commanding General issued the following statement:

"The Commanding General USAFIK is as deeply shocked and concerned by the reports of the casualties resulting from bombings at Tok Island as are the Korean people. The first information which this headquarters received of such an incident came from news accounts in the Korean press.

Immediately, Headquarters USAFIK instituted a careful investigation which is still continuing. It must be remembered that the tragedy took place at a distance of about 140 miles from the Korean coast, and therefore much time must elapse before a thorough investigation can be completed.

This Headquarters early established, however, that no U.S. planes based on or assigned to units in Korea were in the area, or bombed, or had any part whatsoever in this affair.

An investigating and relief team, including a medical officer, was dispatched to the scene at once to obtain the facts and to render all aid possible. They have not yet returned.

Further investigation including the possibility of involvement of American planes based on Japan is being conducted by the Far East Air Force and the Far East Command. As soon as that investigation is completed a full report will be made.

The Korean people can be assured that if it is found that American planes were responsible, the American authorities will do everything that can be done to compensate and to comfort the bereaved for the loss of life and property.

If it is discovered that United States forces are to blame, the responsibility will not be shirked. Koreans are urged to suspend judgment until all the facts are clarified and a full report can be made."

NOTE: A United Press report from TOKYO stated that the Far East Air Force admitted that American bombs from a high-altitude bombing practice mission may have caused the damage to the Korean fishing fleet as that area is included in an American bombing range. As yet it has not been officially confirmed that the bombing was by Far East Air Force planes.

8. COMMANDING GENERAL'S STATEMENT

On 16 June the Commanding General issued the following press release to the Korean people:

"As a true friend of the fine Korean people it grieves me to see them being confused and misled by a new line Communist propaganda and lies while in the midst of forming their government. This new line is one cleverly designed by some of the

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smartest of the Communist propaganda manufacturers, and is being cunningly spread by the Kremlin agents among you via rumor, whispering campaign, handbills and phoney newspaper reports. Of course, most of you know that now the South Koreans have held their free election in spite of the Kremlin directed Communist violence and propaganda, the subversive elements must find a new line to attempt to discredit the non-Communist Koreans and the Americans who are trying to help Korea establish its independence, united and free from foreign domination. They are now busily engaged in spreading lies to the effect that the United States is using Japanese in connection with its mission in Korea and the Far East.

The latest false statements in this new "party-line" are as follows:

1. "That the United States is building Japan back as a military power." This is a flat falsehood that gains credence among the uninitiated because United States authorities recently announced a humanitarian plan to get the Japanese to where they can feed and clothe themselves and cease to be a burden on the rest of the world's economy. This plan has nothing whatsoever to do with restoring Japanese military power, either physically or potentially. It is aimed only at contributing to the peace of the world and helping human beings to live.
2. "That the United States command and Military Government in Korea are harboring and using former high Japanese governmental officials in Korea." This makes a good story for those Koreans who fall easily for Communist propaganda but there is no word of truth in it or in its implications. There are no former high or low Japanese government officials in Korea known to this command.
3. "That there are armed Japanese participating in the restoration of peace on Cheju Do." It may be that the Communists who worked up the violent Cheju Do political disturbances imported some Japanese Communists to help them in their schemes of murdering their own brothers and sisters. However I can state categorically that there are no Japanese in the forces of law and order on Cheju Do or elsewhere in the United States zone of Korea.

I have warned the Korean people in the past and I warn them again that there will be a continuation and an increase in Soviet-Communist manufactured lies spread among Koreans in the all-out effort to discredit the non-Communist Korean elements who do not wish to sell their country into totalitarian slavery, and the Americans who are helping them. I urge that all of you be alert to detect, disregard and discredit these falsehoods and that you not become guilty of assisting those who wish to betray you by repeating Communist false rumors and propaganda, particularly during this critical period your country is going through during the formation of its government."

Watkinson
AC of S, G-2

- 1 Incl.
Translation of SEOUL Newspapers

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7. OTHER

a. Korean Coast Guard Activities

During the period 091800 June to 161800 June the South Korean Coast Guard investigated 232 vessels in Korean waters, (G-3 O/R #30. B-2)

b. North Korean Refugees

During the period 111800 June to 181800 June 2013 Koreans crossed the 38th parallel from North KOREA and entered camps at KAESONG (950-1690), UIJONGBU (1000-1680), CHUMUNJIN (1170-1680) and CHUNCHON (1060-1680). (G-3 O/R #30. B-2)

W. Wellington
AC of S, G-2

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