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American Delegation
US - USSR JOINT COMMISSION
APO 235

Gen Hodge
Gen Coulter
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12th July 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL HODGE

SUBJECT: Daily Report of UNPCOK Activities.

TODAY--MONDAY, 12 July

1. 80th Plenary Session.

Meets at 1000 hours. Will continue discussion of Chapter VI.

MISCELLANEOUS

2. Mughir to Return.

Luna and Paul-Boncour say Binnerts has received word that Mughir is going to leave Lake Success within the next week for Seoul. According to Luna, the only thing that is holding him up is the decision of who will pay the transportation. UNPCOK will not pay because each delegate is entitled only to one round trip from Lake Success to Seoul. Mughir has already had his. The Syrian Government apparently is trying to avoid payment. Luna said that since Mughir apparently is coming back with favorable instructions, the U.S. should pay.

3. UNPCOK May Lose India--(Luna).

Dr. Luna says that if UNPCOK is confronted with the creation of a National Government, India undoubtedly will leave. As to Canada and Australia, he thinks they will try to delay the work of the Commission, but if the majority goes ahead, Australia and Canada will follow. But as for India, Singh definitely will pull out and go home.

4. RHEE Upsets Paul-Boncour.

On Sunday, 11 July, Paul-Boncour underwent one of his periodic violent upsets. It came about over the information that RHEE,

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while addressing NARRKI, had declared that Korea must fight Russia."

Paul-Boncour took the attitude of an offended friend of the U.S. "I work hard to hold the Commission together because you tell me General Hodge and Mr. Jacobs want the Commission to stay here to consult with these people. Then you let Syngman Rhee do this. My dear, you make my task impossible."

Comment: Although it was pointed out to Paul-Boncour that neither General Hodge nor any other American exercises any control over Syngman Rhee by either writing his speeches or approving them before they are delivered, it was apparent that, on this point, the French remain convinced that the U.S. dictates to Syngman Rhee, as well as to the Assembly. It has been mentioned before that once the French become convinced about a matter, nothing will shake them loose from their convictions.

Paul-Boncour continued to rant. "You people rushed through this Constitution. Why couldn't you have waited? Another two months wait would not have made any difference and it would make things so much easier for us. I don't understand why General Hodge insists rushing this thing through to completion."

Comment: It was pointed out to Paul-Boncour that the U.S. had nothing to do with rushing through the Constitution, but that, looking at it from the Korean standpoint, there was no reward for delaying the Constitution. What did UNTCOK have to hold out to the Koreans to make them appreciate the necessity for delay?

Paul-Boncour replied it was not a matter for the Koreans to decide that the delay was the better course; it was for the U.S. The U.S. wanted a unanimous Commission to go to Paris. Since they wanted this, it was necessary that they not rush through this Constitution. It was necessary that they not rush and that they gag Syngman Rhee and keep "that silly old fool from making an ass of himself."

"You should not stir up these people," said Paul-Boncour. "You are encouraging them to fight Russia and yet you are going to go off and leave them. That's why you have so many middle-of-the-roaders here. You must have middle-of-the-roaders. You cannot get these people to fight against Russia and then go off and desert them. They know that, and nothing you can do

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will change their realization that you are going to pull out. You openly announced you are going to pull out."

Comment: There is no clearer illustration of the determination with which Paul-Boncour clings to a conviction than this retention of an idea he has had ever since coming here. It seems futile to go through the same expression of opinion again that the U.S. does not intend to let South Korea sink into the sea of Communism.

The whole flavor of the conversation under this point seemed to indicate, though the subject was never directly mentioned, that Paul-Boncour does not care whether or not the U.S. turns South Korea over to the Communists. In fact, since it might make more support against Communism in Europe, he ~~did~~ favor it. Several conversations with him have given the impression that he does not think that the U.S. can fight Communism successfully in both Europe and the Far East, and if a choice must be made, then he would like to see the U.S. give up its Far Eastern battle and put everything on the European front.

5. No Change of French Instructions.

Paul-Boncour said that Barthelemy did not bring back any change of instructions for the French delegate. He said that Manet, when he left Shanghai, brought the instructions that are still in effect. (These have already been mentioned.) Paul-Boncour said that Barthelemy left on the morning of the same day that a plane from France would reach Shanghai and had Barthelemy waited for the plane a week later, it is possible he might have brought back some fresh orders from Paris. However, Paul-Boncour did not think any change was in the making and therefore had not insisted that Barthelemy stay over to meet the French plane.

2. (continued) Mughir to Return.

On the morning of 12 July, Binnerts was queried on Mughir's return. He said he had been informed that the Syrian Government had expressed a desire to return Mughir and had asked UN to pay transportation. UN had refused. The matter rested at that point.

6. Election Review Board.

The election review board has received complaints from 11 electoral districts, including one from Seoul (Danny Choi Case). Further information on these cases will be acquired

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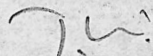
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and reported but it is doubtful whether any, except possibly the Danny Choi Case, will reach any important political furor, and it is doubtful that the Choi Case will reach such proportions.

List of Electoral Districts in which Complaints were Filed:

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|--------------------------|--|
| (1) KYUNG SANG NAM DO: | MIL YANG GUN District B |
| (2) KYUNG SANG NAM DO: | TONG YUNG GUN District A |
| (3) KYUNG SANG NAM DO: | City of Pusan District B |
| (4) CHOLLA NAM DO: | HAE NAM GUN District A |
| (5) CHOLLA NAM DO: | RA JU GUN District A |
| (6) CHOONG CHUNG NAM DO: | NON SAN GUN District A |
| (7) CHOLLA PUK DO: | City of CHON JU |
| (8) CHOLLA PUK DO: | IK SAN GUN District B |
| (9) CHE JU DO: | Northern District District A |
| (10) CHE JU DO: | Northern District District B |
| (11) SEOUL CITY: | DONG DAE District District A
(Danny Choi) |


JOHN WECKERLING
Brigadier General, U. S. A.

cc: Gen Dean
Mr. Jacobs
Mr. Noble
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