

Gen. Weckerling - jwc
my file
Gen. Weckerling

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14 July 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. COERT BINNERTS
Principal Secretary
United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea

SUBJECT: Complaints Concerning Free Atmosphere of the Elections.

On 28 June 1948 Mr. I. F. G. Milner, then Principal Secretary, transmitted to me a memorandum to which was attached an annex entitled "Complaints Concerning the Free Atmosphere for Elections (selected from the Third and Fourth Reports of the Investigation Bureau of the Democratic National Front)".

The "Democratic National (People's) Front" is a Communist organization which participated in the recent campaign of murder, arson, intimidation and coercion in an abortive attempt to prevent the 10 May elections. It could be expected, therefore, that this organization and others of similar ideology would attempt to disparage the successful elections in which they had every opportunity to enter and contest on a fair democratic basis.

Nevertheless, in spite of the known character of the "Democratic People's Front" and the untrustworthiness of its charges, the U.S. authorities agreed to investigate all complaints which were specific enough to enable the investigators to proceed.

These cases involved in this complaint were referred to the Chief Civil Affairs Officer of the U.S. Military Government in Korea attached to the City Hall, Seoul. His report, including copies of English translations of statements of witnesses, is attached for your information. (Original statements of witnesses in Korea are on file in my office).

J. W.
JOHN WECKERLING
Brigadier General, U. S. A.

2 Incls
1. Annex--Complaints
Concerning the Free Atmosphere
of Elections. 2. Investigation of Incl. 1.

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