

SOUTH KOREA

From: 231200/I July 48  
To : 301200/I July 48

Headquarters, USAFIK  
Seoul, Korea,  
30 July 1948

No. 150  
Maps: KOREA, 1/250,000  
East ASIA, 1/1,000,000

A. ARMED FORCES

1. Strength (Secret)

Police: No change  
Constabulary: 54,036 (including 3,765 unsworn recruits and 488 cadets)  
Coast Guard: 3,027 (including 240 cadets)

2. Operational Activity (Confidential)

Border Incidents

At 161940 July 10 North Korean Constabularymen attacked the KYOJUNG (827-1697) police sub-station. (B-2)

At 230215 July a U.S. officer and NCO were fired on at approximately (930-1696). (B-2)

At 252200 July a U.S. patrol was fired on by unseen persons near (1060-1690). (B-2)

At 252340 July 10 North Korean Constabularymen violated the parallel near MIREUK DONG (953.0-1695.9). They withdrew without firing. (C-3)

The table shown below summarizes reported border incidents since 04 June:

BORDER INCIDENTS	4 - 11	11 - 18	18 - 25	25 June -	02 July	2 - 9	9 - 16	16 - 23	23 - 30	TOTAL
	June	June	June	July	July	July	July	July		
Korean vs Korean	4	6	4	6	0	2	3	0	25	
Firing on U.S. Personnel	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	7	
Ambushes of U.S. Personnel	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
Violations of Parallel (Soviet)*	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Violations of Parallel (Korean)*	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	5	
Soviets vs Koreans	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
*No firing involved TOTAL	7	8	6	7	0	4	6	2	40	

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority N 100 745070

At 150800 July 4 North Koreans violated the parallel at OMAN DONG (835.4-1697.9) and stole an ox. After an exchange of notes between the South Korean police and the North Korean Constabulary, during which the Constabularymen said they would return the ox if the farmer came to the parallel to receive it, it was returned. (C-3)

COMMENT: This could be in furtherance of the old Communist line -- "We love everyone, but the reactionary police," which was used on CHEJU-DO.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 745070

B. CURRENT INTELLIGENCE1. National Assemblya. Inauguration of President and Vice-President

At a special ceremony in SEOUL at 241000 July, President RHEE Syng Man and Vice-President LEE Si Yung were inaugurated. Instead of having the oath administered, each raised his right hand and read the oath.

b. Rejection of Nominee for Prime Minister

On the morning of 27 July, Reverend LEE Yoon Yong, President RHEE's choice for Prime Minister, was rejected by the National Assembly by a vote of 132 to 59.

In an address which preceded the balloting RHEE dispelled what he termed the "tormenting suspense" in announcing his appointment of LEE Yoon Yong, assemblyman, spokesman for "4,600,000" North Korean refugees in South KOREA, and leader of the South Korean element of the CHOSUN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, whose national head, CHO Man Sik, has long been in house arrest in PYONGYANG. RHEE considered LEE "more fortunately circumstanced" than the three other individuals generally deemed more probable candidates: KIM Sung Soo, SHIN Ik Hi, and CHO So Ang.

According to RHEE, KIM Sung Soo, leader of the powerful HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY, is to obtain "a place no less important than that of the Premier"; National Assembly Vice-chairman SHIN Ik Hi's "able leadership" is "badly needed" in the National Assembly; and CHO So Ang, one of the chief figures in KIM Koo's KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY and prominent member of the 1919 Provisional Government, was not selected because CHO "has caused much confusion in the rightist camp" as a result of "his recent stand against general election in South KOREA."

That afternoon, after LEE Yoon Yong's rejection, RHEE again appeared before the Assembly and requested additional time for him and the Assembly members to reconsider his original nomination. If the Assembly failed to concur in the appointment of LEE Yoon Yong at the end of that time, RHEE stated, perhaps he would nominate another person.

The Assemblymen then debated the right of the President to ask reconsideration of a rejected appointment. A decision on this matter was not reached, and the National Assembly voted to adjourn until 30 July.

COMMENT: The designation of the Prime Minister is the first major issue to confront the Assembly for which the National Assembly, as a body, appeared unprepared. Several competent observers are of the opinion that RHEE's appointee fell far short of receiving the required simple majority approval because of (1) RHEE's failure to attempt to gain the support of National Assembly whips prior to the formal presentation of LEE's name and (2) the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY's obstinance in refusing to accept anyone but KIM Sung Soo, the chairman of their party, as Prime Minister.

The rejection (1) furnishes a strong indication that President RHEE will continue to face stubborn and effective opposition from the National Assembly and (2) will stimulate the alteration of views which hold that RHEE will consistently succeed in living up to a reputation of "getting his way" merely by applying the heavy-handed tactics of a dictator.

c. Further Deliberations

When the Assembly reconvened at 301000 July, the Vice-chairman, SHIN Ik Hi, presiding, remarked that the confirmation of a premier was not on the agenda, which had been conspicuously posted in the Assembly hall. He then announced that he would throw the meeting open to general discussion.

Several members took the opportunity to comment caustically on the situation and on Syng Man RHEE. After RHEE's appearance on the floor at 1045, one member compared him to the Emperor of JAPAN and dictators.

RHEE addressed the Assembly for about one hour. He stated that it was not clear to him why the Assembly had rejected LEE Yoon Yong, and that he believed that the rejection was due to partisan politics, which he — and the nation— deplored as untimely. He further stated that he did not want the Assembly to reconsider their rejection of LEE Yoon Yong but only to consider who should be premier. He concluded by saying that he would submit another name, but he did not say whose or when.

According to confidential sources, RHEE will actually nominate LEE Bum Suk, as has been predicted by many of the newspapers. According to the same sources, KIM Sung Soo has stated that he and the older members of the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY in the Assembly will vote for confirmation of LEE Bum Suk, but that the younger members of the party insist that they will oppose the confirmation of anyone except KIM Sung Soo. It has also been reported that SHIN Ik Hi will oppose the nomination of anyone except CHO So Ang or himself.

COMMENT: It is estimated that if RHEE can obtain the support of half of the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY representatives and the support of his own followers, the appointment of LEE Bum Suk will be confirmed.

## 2. Non-Communist Opposition To Separate Governments

The SOCIETY FOR THE ACCELERATION OF UNIFIED INDEPENDENCE, formed on 21 July (W/S #149, B, 2, b), selected its Central Executive and Supervisory Committees on 26 July. The more important individuals in the Society and their committee memberships are:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
President	KIM Koo	Korean Independence Party*
Vice-President	KIM Kyu Sik*	National Independence Federation (NIF)

### Central Executive Committee (83 Members)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
KIM Boong Jun*	<del>Healthy People's Party</del> New Progressive Party
LYUH Woon Hong*	Social Democratic Party
PAI Sung Yong	National Independence Federation
CHO Hun Sik	Democratic Independence Party
LEE Yong	New Progressive Party
PAK Kon Ung*	National Independence Federation
SIN Suk*	National Independence Federation
CHANG Cha Il*	National Independence Federation
WON Sei Hoon*	Korean Farmers' Party
YU Suk Hyon	Democratic Independence Party
LEE Tu San	National Independence Federation
LEE Ung Jin*	Tchawn Do Kyo Young Friend
SHIN Ki On*	National Independence Federation
YUN Ki Sop*	National Independence Federation
SIM Yi Kyong*	National Independence Federation
AN U Sung *	Korean Independence Party
UEH Hang Sop	Korean Independence Party
KIM Hak Kyu	Korean Independence Party
KIM Yi Han	Korean Independence Party

\* Formerly a member of the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly; walked out of KILA on separate election issues (W/S #131, I, B, 1, g).

\* KIM Kyu Sik's secretary in KILA.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 745070

Supervisory Committee (20 Members)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
CHO Wan Ku c	Korean Independence Party
HWANG Hak Su c	Korean Independence Party
KIM Song Kyu	National Independence Federation
LEE Chong Man	No political affiliation
LEE Kyong Hi	Democratic Independence Party
KIM Hong Jak	National Independence Federation
LEE Tong San	National Independence Federation

(NOTE: All parties above except the KIP belong to the NIF)

On 24 July the SOCIETY dispatched letters to several of its member parties asking if their organization had participated in the "Second PYONGYANG Conference", reportedly held during 29 June to 05 July (W/S #147, I, B, 4) and stating that, an affirmative reply would result in that party's loss of membership in the SOCIETY. A reply from the KOREAN FARMERS' PARTY, an NIF affiliate, stated that the party had ousted several radical members and that these members had gone to North KOREA and announced that they were representatives of the KOREAN FARMERS' PARTY. (For North Korean preparations for a separate government, see Part II, B, 1).

COMMENT: The preponderance of rightist KIP men and non-leftists of the NIF on these two committees indicates that the SOCIETY is trying to shake itself free of the stigma which leftists or Communists brought to its predecessor, the COUNCIL FOR THE UNIFIED INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT. It is evident that the KIM Koo - KIM Kyu Sik coalition is attempting to make sure that in any further deliberations with North Koreans, it will be considered non-Communist and not as partially controlled by South Korean communistic "labor parties."

### 3. Civil Unrest

During the past two weeks, acts of violence involving communists have steadily diminished. This probably attributable to recent communist directives to remain "quiet" until 15 August 1948. Contributing factors are: reorganization of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY from the national level to the basic cell, the South Korea Labor Party's present preoccupation with participating in the North Korea elections by voting and electing South Korean representatives (see Part II, B, 1), and the effect of police raids and arrests.

#### a. Communist Violence

##### (1) Weekly Violence Summary

A summary of acts of violence involving communists for the week as reported up to 30 July is as follows:

c Member of Korean Provisional Government, CHUNGKING

	Seoul	Kyonggi-Do	Kangwon-Do	Chungchong-Namdo	Chungchong-Pukto	Cholla-Namdo	Cholla-Pukto	Kyongsang-Namdo	Kyongsang-Pukto	Cheju-Do	Total
Attacks on towns											
Attacks on police						1		1			2
Police killed											
Communists killed						1		2			3
Rightists killed											
Demonstrations, disorders, arson, & attacks on rightists								2			2
Attacks on government buildings											
Sabotage (communications)											
Sabotage (RR lines)											
Sabotage (roads)											
Sabotage (bridges)											
Sabotage (power)											
Strikes (labor)											
Strikes (schools)											

(2) Delayed Reports Covering Last Week

Delayed reports of incidents that occurred during the week ending 23 July which were not carried in last week's summary (see Part I, B, 4, c, W/S #149) are:

	Seoul	Kyonggi-Do	Kangwon-Do	Chungchong-Namdo	Chungchong-Pukto	Cholla-Namdo	Cholla-Pukto	Kyongsang-Namdo	Kyongsang-Pukto	Cheju-Do	Total
Attacks on towns											
Attacks on police											
Police killed											
Rightists killed											
Communists killed						4					4
Demonstrations, disorders, arson & attacks on rightists				1							1
Attacks on government buildings											
Sabotage (communications)											
Sabotage (RR lines)											
Sabotage (roads)											
Sabotage (bridges)											
Sabotage (power)											
Strikes (labor)											
Strikes (schools)											

## (3) 1948 Communist Activities In South KOREA

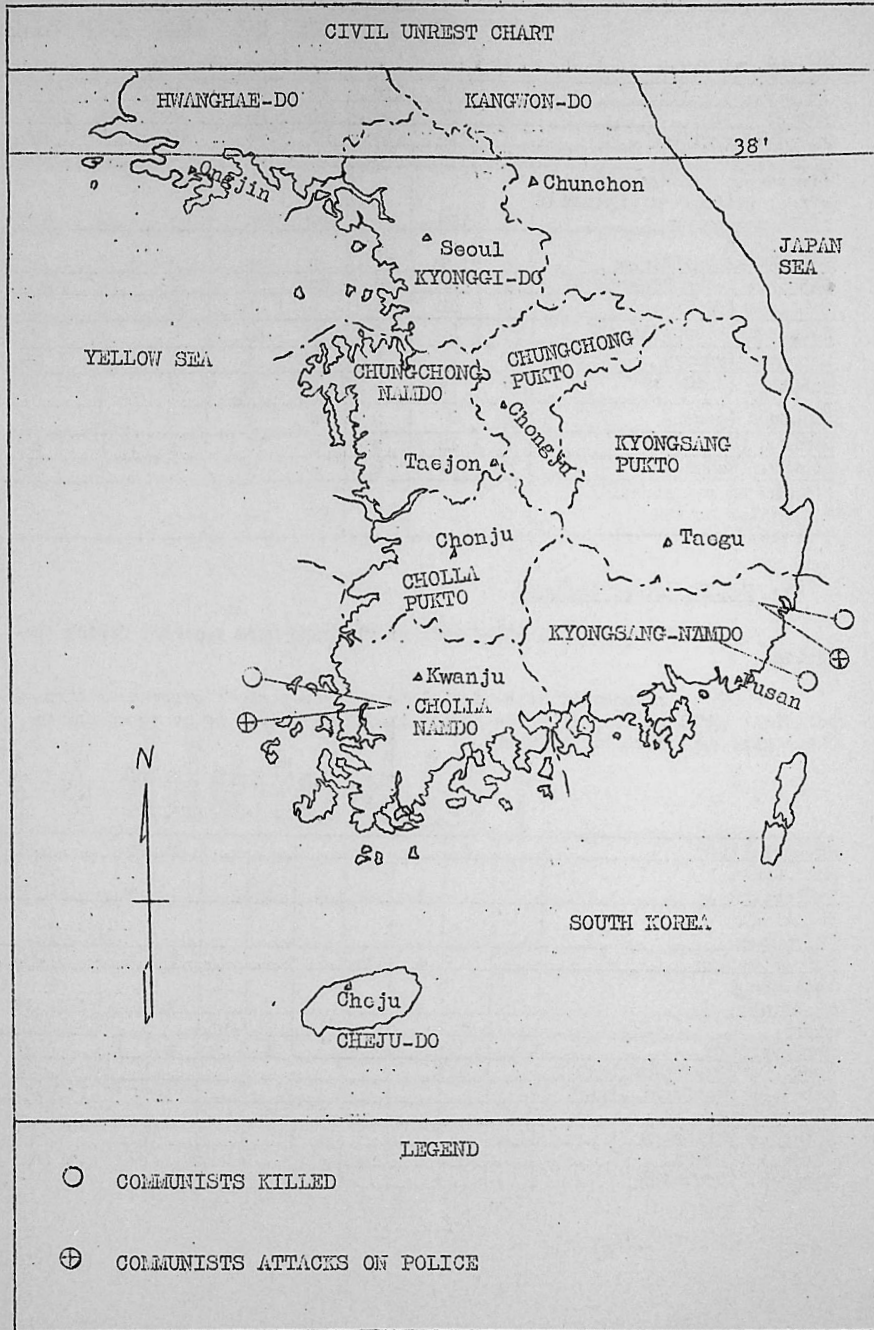
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY*	TOTAL
Attacks on towns	0	0	0	5	73	9	1	88
Attacks on police	0	130	118	50	86	12	8	404
Police killed	0	33	20	15	34	4	1	107
Rightists killed	1	14	14	81	144	51	10	315
Communist killed	1	74	75	70	155	8	22	480
Disorders, demonstrations, arson, attacks on rightists' offices & homes	6	118	69	126	196	81	24	620
Attacks on government buildings	0	9	14	2	9	3	0	37
Sabotage (communications)	14	53	58	32	57	8	1	223
Sabotage (RR lines)	1	12	6	0	8	0	1	28
Sabotage (Locomotives)	0	50	0	0	24	0	0	74
Sabotage (roads)	0	13	5	2	5	0	0	25
Sabotage (bridges)	0	6	9	5	4	0	0	24
Sabotage (power)	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	8
Strikes (labor)	0	14	6	3	16	1	0	40
Strikes (school)	0	7	5	4	9	0	0	25
Attacks on registration & election booths	0	0	0	58	68	0	0	126

b. Non-Communist Violence

(1) No Rightist-inspired acts of violence were reported during the period.

(2) A summary of acts of violence on the part of persons of unknown political affiliation during the period 14-23 July 1948 is shown below. (None were reported for the week)

	Seoul	Kyonggi Do	Kangwon Do	Chungchong Nampo	Chungchong Pukto	Cholla- Nampo	Cholla- Pukto	Kyongsang Nampo	Kyongsang Pukto	Cheju-Do	Total
Assassination		1		1				2	3		7
Anti-Grain Collection			1	4		1			1		7
Political Terrorism											
Demonstration			4	3				1	4		12
Resistance to Arrest						3		1			4
Arson		1					1				2
Unclassified	1		1			1		1	2		6
Sabotage (communication)		1									1
Sabotage (Railroad lines)											
Sabotage (Power)											
Sabotage (Bridges)											
Strikes (Labor)											
Strikes (Schools)											



DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 745070

C. WAR POTENTIAL1. Economic - Cost of living

During the period 18 - 23 July the prices of the twenty-five cost of living items checked in Seoul were unusually steady. Cereals were the only commodities showing any variance and that was slight. Wheat and barley both decreased 2%, while soy-beans and red-beans increased 8% and 1% respectively.

Rice in Seoul on 30 July averaged 1028 won per small mal, an increase of 18 won over last week, and a new peak average.

Cost-of-Living Items Checked in Seoul (18-23 July)  
(Increase (+) or (-) Decrease over previous week)

Polished rice	Matches	Flannelette
- Barley	Beef	Kwang-mok (cloth)
- Wheat flour	Pork	Silk myungju (cloth)
± Soy beans	Eggs	Silk sook soo (cloth)
± Red beans	Korean cabbage	Cotton socks
Dried myungtai (fish)	Radishes	Anthracite
Sugar	Rubber shoes	Firewood
Salt	Laundry soap	Charcoal

Rice Price Summary - Monthly Averages

Unit: 1 small mal (16.67 lbs)

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>30 JULY *</u>
SEOUL	743	746	707	655	740	895	1028
KANGWON DO	791	860	772	750	816	920	
CHUNGCHONG PUKTO	586	657	654	600	723	943	
CHUNGCHONG NAMDO	630	662	613	576	660	860	
KYONGSANG PUKTO	541	550	502	550	583	807	
KYONGSANG NAMDO	650	707	650	640	666	868	
CHOLLA PUKTO	608	608	550	566	703	850	
CHOLLA NAMDO	558	575	508	541	728	875	
CHEJU DO	733	680	617	740	733	983	
AVERAGE	648	676	619	659	706	889	

SOURCE: National Price Administration, SKIG

\* SOURCE: Open markets (5) in Seoul.

RATE OF OPEN MARKET EXCHANGE: 500 won per Military Currency dollar  
1200-1300 won per U.S. dollar

2. Population

a. Surrendered and Disarmed: No change: 179,376.

	<u>This Period</u>	<u>To Date</u>
b. <u>Progress of Repatriation</u>		
<u>Japanese Civilians Arriving from</u> N of 38o N'KOREA, CHINA and MANCHURIA	3	288,532
<u>Japanese Evacuated to JAPAN</u>	59	884,198
<u>Total Koreans Returning</u>	1,934*	2,147,573
<u>Total Repatriates Moved Since 15 Aug 45</u>		3,032,226
c. <u>Koreans Apprehended While Attempting</u> <u>Illegal Entry to Japan</u>	227	24,838

\* Incomplete

D. PSYCHOLOGICALThe Press

The inauguration of RHEE was presented in the usual spirit of near reverence of both the individual and the occasion by the majority of right-wing editors. Moderate MIN JU ILBO (Democratic News), however, stated that "all the people would be deeply moved if a democratic unified government had been established." It was "regrettable," stated MIN JU, that the "ten million people in North KOREA could not participate in this government, and that the USSR, one of the world's most powerful nations, has opposed it." The editor predicted that the political and economic course of the new government "will be rough."

The rejection of RHEE's nominee for the post of Prime Minister (Part I, B, 1) presented MIN JU ILBO with an opportunity to re-emphasize the necessity for appointing an uncontrolled individual who can avert the "forthcoming national crisis by unifying our country...."

AHN Chai Hong's moderate HAN SUNG ILBO (Seoul Daily) described the action of the Assembly in the rejection of LEE, the "unexpected person," as "beating the air in a dark night." HAN SUNG called the outcome the result of the "first blunder of the Chief Executive." The HAN SUNG editors then scrutinized RHEE's statement and found it "difficult for any ordinary brain to understand why KIM Sung Soo should be given a position no less important than that of Premier," and that it appears SHIN Ik Hi will be "the figurehead in the legislative branch." Severest criticism was dealt CHO So Ang, who once "laughed at the influence of the neutrals" and then participated in North-South Conference, and recently reversed his course again and indicated that he "would like to cooperate" with the present government because it was an outgrowth of the CHUNGKING (Provisional) Government, of which he was a part.

The HAN SUNG editorial then quoted LO (NO) Ik Hwan, a HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY man in the National Assembly, as saying: "We, the members of the Assembly, feel that we have been blindly submissive to the President in the past." The editor said that RHEE is accustomed to favoring only those who say: "We are awaiting your excellency's command... Thou art awe-inspiring and thou are altogether right." HAN SUNG added: "RHEE is habitually despotic... he has thrived in an atmosphere of superiority and self-righteousness, of flattery and adulation... He should not listen to those who have little knowledge and an abundance of deceptive words."

I. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

There were no reports of sabotage or espionage activities within the reporting period.

A delayed report, received during the period, stated that drinking water in a lister bag at Company "I", 2nd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment was contaminated with rifle bore cleaner on 21 July, for the second time during the week 18 - 24 July. (B-2)