

XXIV CORPS G-2 F/T #900

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signatures on each ballot, the voter being told that these ballots would elect a representative to the Supreme People's Council. The name of the candidate, however, would not appear on the ballot as his identity was considered top secret. (See P/R #897) Another method reported is that party members will be shown a list of candidates and asked to sign a certificate indicating that they accept the candidates as the true representatives of KOREA. (See P/R #898)

COMMENT: All the above reports indicate that the inclusion of the South Korean Communists in the balloting is obviously to permit the North Koreans to claim their government as a national government formed by a free election participated in by the people of all KOREA. It is considered likely that the Soviets will exploit this claim in a propaganda campaign to be used particularly when the KOREA question comes before the UN General Assembly in September.

b. UNIFIED INDEPENDENCE SOCIETY Forms New Committee

On 01 August, at a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the SOCIETY For The ACCELERATION Of UNIFIED INDEPENDENCE, a 13-man Standing Committee was selected by a nominating committee of 5 men, 2 of which were from the NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FEDERATION and 3 from the KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY. The 13 members include 8 from KIM Kyu Sik's NIF, 4 from KIM Koo's KIF and 1 independent - SUL I Sik, former editor of the right-wing DONG A ILBO.

The 13 persons were chosen from a list of 23 names prepared by KIM Kyu Sik and KIM Boong Joon (Chairman of the New Progressive Party). (B-2)

COMMENT: The membership of this committee, from which leftist elements have been excluded, is further indication that the KIM Koo-KIM Kyu Sik combination is cleaning its house of communist taint. (See page 6, W/S #150).

c. Korean Prime Minister Approved

During the morning session of the Korean National Assembly on 02 August 1948, President RHEE Syng Man nominated LEE Bum Suk, leader of the Korean National Youth Corps and one of the 33 members of RHEE's National Representative Group, as Prime Minister. The Assembly approved LEE by a vote of 110 in favor, 84 against and 3 invalidations. (iG Rpt. A-1)

3. CIVIL UNREST

a. Communist Terrorism

(1) Raiders Concentrate On CHEJU-DO

A recent report states that the base camp of the raiders on CHEJU-DO is presently located on the western slope of the OSUNGAENG Mountain (947-1137). Approximately 300 raiders armed with rifles, carbines or pistols are allegedly in this area, engaged in strengthening their supply and communication facilities. (CIC P/R #179. B-3)

(2) Government Officials Join Communists On CHEJU-DO

Many government officials on CHEJU-DO are reportedly joining the Country Relief Struggling Committee, an organization controlled by the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY. (CIC P/R #179. C-3)

b. Rightist Terrorism

Negative

c. Terrorism By Unidentified Groups

Negative

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Army forces now along 38th Parallel until such time as Soviet High Command is satisfied that native troops have loyalty and ability to handle situation to suit Russians. It is too early to establish any time schedule when Soviet Army Forces may be expected to withdraw from 38th and 39th parallel area. It is possible and probable that tactical units such as 10th and 40th Divisions will concentrate in PYONGYANG and HAMHUNG while Kommandantura will remain in 86 cities and villages in which their presence is continually reported.

People's Army units in border areas may at any time begin series of border incidents which can eventually result in serious situation.

As previously reported South Korean Labor Party is promising members that North Korean People's Army will invade on 15th, 25th or 30th of August and that United States troops will not interfere.

b. Movement of Peoples' Army units and/or groups into area South of 38^o Parallel.

PART I

(1) KUMKYO (953-1715). Smugglers report that on 24 July at KUMKYO, People's Army troops detrained from 30 boxcars. (F-6)

(2) MANCHONJOM (940-1730). Four refugees report about 2500 troops detrained at MANCHONJON on 22 July; another source states that he observed approximately 4000 billeted in local cotton factory. All armed with PPSH submachine guns. Another informant states he overheard newly arrived colonel state that People's Army coming from NANAM (1240-2150); he observed 1000 detrain on 21 July and 1500 on 22 July, plus unloading of shoes, uniforms and food. Artillery expected later date. (See paras (3) and (4) or para a above.) (F-3)

(3) At SINCHON (850-1740) 1 sergeant and 6 enlisted men observed on 28 June in vicinity of railroad station, and 3 officers mounted on horses observed in vicinity of headquarters of Border Guard. (F-3)

(4) At SARIWON (880-1750) 30 Peoples Army soldiers observed on 12 July marching under command of lieutenant to local theater. (See para (5) of para b, above.)

(5) HAMHUNG (1040-1920): 6000 infantry of 2nd Regiment, 2nd Division plus one special intelligence group referred to as "TAREJING" by Russians, reported in HAMHUNG approximately 30 June by confidential informant. Meaning of special term unknown. (F-3)

(6) HUNGNAM (1040-1910). Confidential informant reports that he observed one battalion of the 2nd Regiment, 2nd Division here on or about 30 June. (F-3)

COMMENT: Evaluation of presence of troops in cities listed above is C-3; of strength, C-6.

(7) HAEJU (872-1702). Confidential informant states that Missionary House temporarily occupied by Supply unit of IN MIN GUN was vacated on or about 25 July and is occupied by a "high headquarters" of the Border Guard.

PART II Movement of Soviet personnel

(8) SARIWON (880-1750). Refugee reports that on 14 July he observed approximately 200 Soviet Army troops, 7 officers, highest ranking of which was a lieutenant colonel, at SARIWON, and 30 field artillery pieces, size and model unidentified, occupying a Russian headquarters approximately 1500 meters West of RR station. (F-6)

COMMENT: SARIWON was formerly the headquarters of the Soviet 258th Division in the early part of the occupation, but was completely evacuated during 1946 and early part of 1947. No troops were observed after about February 1947. SARIWON is at the junction of railroads from MANCHONJOM (942-1738), HAEJU and CHAERYONG.

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