

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

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Seoul, Korea
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No. 916

MAPS: KOREA, 1/250,000
Eastern ASIA, 1/1,000,0001. ARMED FORCES

a. North Korean Constabularymen are reported to have fired an unknown number of rounds at South Korean farmers working in rice fields at TLECHI (1163-1696). South Korean police returned the fire and the North Korean Constabulary withdrew. (CIC P/R #195. C-3)

b. Firefight Along Parallel

At 1620Z August 5 South Korean policemen from the YANGTONG-NI (1072-1696) police box went to the 38th parallel to investigate the alleged kidnapping of a South Korea cattle merchant by 5 North Korean Constabularymen. When the South Korean police arrived at the parallel approximately 20 NKC were observed 30 yards south of the parallel. The NKC fired at the South Korean police and the ensuing firefight lasted until 2120 hours, at which time police reinforcements arrived and the NKC withdrew. Each side fired approximately 60 rounds of ammunition. No casualties were reported. (CIC P/R #195. C-3)

COMMENT: This was probably the beginning of the firefight which was reported in P/R #914 and 915 to have started at 162000 August and lasted until 171200 August.

2. POLITICAL ACTIVITIESa. U.S.-Korean Representatives Hold First Meeting

The U.S.-Korean Negotiation Board held its first meeting on 16 August and issued the following statement to the press:

"The first meeting of Korean and American representatives to negotiate the initial transfer of public funds and property from the South Korean Interim Government to the Government of the Republic of KOREA convened on 16 August in the Civil Affairs Headquarters Building.

The Korean delegation, headed by Prime Minister LEE Bum Suk, includes Foreign Minister CHANG Taik Sang and Internal Affairs Minister YUN Chi Young. The American representatives are Major General C. G. Helmick, chief of the Civil Affairs Section, XXIV Corps, and Mr. Everett Drumright, Counselor of the U.S. Diplomatic Mission. Both delegations will be supplemented by advisors as the need arises.

General Helmick opened the first session by outlining suggested procedure to be followed and subjects to be discussed. The negotiations will be concerned with conditions under which the tools of government, principally public properties and monies, will be handed over in an orderly fashion to the government of the Republic of Korea."

b. Political Representatives Go To North Korea

On 24 July 15 Representatives of the LABORING MASSES' PARTY, headed by the Chairman, KANG Soon, reportedly left for North KOREA to participate in the 25 August election. Five of these individuals will be candidates for the North Korean Assembly and the remaining 10 will be voters. (CIC P/R #195. C-3)

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*Confidential*c. Communists Expected To Campaign on Outlying Islands of CHOLLIMA-NAIDO

To add to their "votes" for the 25 August election communists are expected to secure signatures from inhabitants of the small islands off the Korean coast in the vicinity of MOKPO (930-1300). It is reported that 6,000 signatures can be obtained from CHIM-DO (926-1301), 8,000 from ANJAM-DO (912-1303), 5,000 from CHA UN-DO (905-1318) and 4,500 from AN TAI-DO (910-1303). Six men from MOKPO reportedly have been selected to go to these islands and secure as many signatures as possible. (CIC S/I, 12 August. B-3)

3. CIVIL UNRESTa. Communist Terrorism(1) Signal Fires On CHEJU-DO (Delayed Report)

During the night of 14 August more than 50 signal fires were observed on high points on CHEJU-DO. The persons who built the fires shouted "Korean People's Republic, Mansai," and departed before the police arrived. (CIC P/R #195. A-2)

b. Rightist Terrorism

Negative

c. Terrorism By Unidentified Groups

Negative

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

5. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

Negative

6. INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING ADJACENT AREASa. Christians Being Arrested In North Korea

The North Korean police are reportedly watching all Christians and students since the establishment of the South Korean government and have arrested many of them for no reason other than that they attended religious services. Many people are being forced to work on Sundays to prevent them from congregating. (CIC P/R #195. C-3)

COMMENT: Although it is doubtful that attendance of religious services is grounds for arrest it has been noted in the past that political meetings and additional work have been scheduled for Sundays and persons attending religious services rather than the political meetings or reporting for work, were subject to questioning and possible arrest.

b. North Koreans Assemble At Parallel On Liberation Day.

On 15 August an estimated 400 to 500 North Korean civilians assembled opposite the U.S. Army outpost #23 on a school ground in north CHUJON-NI (1089-1696.3). Three North Korean Constabularymen were reportedly among the crowd behaved and dispersed in an orderly manner. (CIC P/R #195. B-2)

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- 1 Incl.
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