

PART I

SOUTH KOREA

From: 151200/I Oct 48
To : 221200/I Oct 48

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
22 October 1948

Secret

No. 162

MAPS: KOREA 1/250,000
East ASIA 1/1,000,000

A. ARMED FORCES

1. Strength (Secret)

Police: 34,101 (not including police women)

Constabulary: 49,222 (including 1,041 cadets and 48 recruits)

Coast Guard: 2,965 (including 257 cadets)

Note that the above figures do not include casualties suffered in the revolt. See B, 6a.(Civil Unrest)

2. Operational Activity (Confidential)

a. Border Incidents - negative

b. Constabulary Operations (Restricted) - See B, 6a.(Civil Unrest)

	04-11 June	11-18 June	18-25 June	25 June	02 July	02-09 July	09-16 July	16-23 July	23-30 July	30 July	06 August	06-13 August	13-20 August	20-27 August	27 August	03 September	03-10 September	10-17 September	17-24 September	24 September	01 October	01-08 October	08-15 October	15-22 October	TOTAL
Border Incidents																									
Korean vs Korean	4	6	4	6		2	3	3	1	3	2	3	2	4	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	48
Firing on US Personnel	1	2				1	2	1			1	1				1	1	2	2	6	1	2			22
Ambushes of US Personnel							1																		1
Soviet Violations of Parallel*							1									1									2
Korean Violation of Parallel*	2	1		1				1			1							1	1		2				10
Soviets vs Koreans													1	1											3
TOTAL	7	9	6	7		4	6	2	3	4	4	3	5	5	5	2	3	5	7	5	7	5	3	86	

* No. firing involved.

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B. CURRENT INTELLIGENCE1. National Assembly (Unclassified)

The "Temporary Law on Local Government Administration", as finally passed, provides for the appointment of provincial governors and the election of the lower officials of county and local governments rather than appointment of all the officials as erroneously reported in Weekly Summary #161. Under the conditions of the bill control of the police is under the mayor of Seoul and the respective provincial governors. The mayor and the governors are authorized to require army commanders in their area to take action in an emergency when the army is required to maintain public order.

The Assembly, after passing the above bill, adjourned on 14 October for 20 days. On 21 October, due to "an emergency situation" the Chairman ordered that members reconvene on 27 October.

The members of the Assembly who introduced the withdrawal resolution (W/S #161, page 4) are listed in Appendix A.

2. Appointment of Provincial Governors (Unclassified)

Five provincial governors were appointed by Minister of Home Affairs YUN Tchi Yong and approved by President RHEE. The appointment of four of the governors was announced on 18 October, while the fifth appointment (Kyongsang Namdo) was announced on 20 October. The new governors are:

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Party Affiliation</u>	<u>Province</u>
LEE Yong Jin	None	Chungchong Namdo
*LEE Nam Kyu	HDP 1/ and NSAKI 2/	Cholla Namdo
LEE Chong Hyun	CDP 3/	Kangwon Do
*CHONG Hyun Mo	HDP	Kyongsang Pukto
*MUN Shi Hwan	HDP	Kyongsang Namdo

*Assemblyman

1/ Hankook Democratic Party

2/ National Society for the Acceleration of Korean Independence

3/ Chosun Democratic Party

COMMENT: (Restricted) These appointments, which include three HDP assemblymen, are viewed by some officials in the government as a concession to both the HANKOOK DEMOCRATIC PARTY and the National Assembly, each of which has amply revealed its displeasure with regard to RHEE's allocation of appointments.

3. Great Korean Nationalist Party Formed (Confidential)

A right-wing political organization, the GREAT KOREAN NATIONALIST PARTY, held its inaugural meeting in Seoul on 9 October. Its platform is: equality in sexes; equalities in politics, economy and education; promotion of the "national spirit" and world peace. Most of the organizers are drawn from the NATIONAL SOCIETY for the ACCELERATION OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE.

4. President RHEE Visits Japan (Unclassified)

President RHEE departed 19 October for conferences with the Supreme Commander of Allied Powers in Tokyo. The President returned to Seoul on 20 October.

5. Press Activity (Restricted)

President RHEE followed Director of Public Information KIM Dong Sung's reproof of KOOK MIN SHIN MUN (National News(W/S #161, page 13) by issuing a statement, on 14 October, emphasizing the need for controlling the "radical elements" which are trying to "disturb the people" during this crucial period in which the government is concerned with establishing sovereignty. RHEE asserted that the circulation of groundless rumors "harmed national policy," and declared that "recently even the name of an ambassador of a friendly nation had been utilized to make up an entirely false story..." RHEE announced that "drastic steps" are required to "eliminate the malefactors."

On 16 October, CHANG In Kap, managing editor of the moderate KOOK MIN SHIN MUN, was arrested by the Metropolitan (Seoul) Police. As managing editor, CHANG was charged with having been directly responsible for the appearance of the false report in the newspaper. The Seoul police stated that CHANG would soon be tried in the Seoul District Court.

COMMENT: The government's intention to take punitive measures against the person or persons responsible for the circulation of the false report was revealed last week (W/S #161, page 13). KIM Dong Sung stated that the government would aid the press with constructive guidance following the adoption of a publications law, the draft of which has been completed by the Office of Public Information and is now in the Office of Legislation, where it is being prepared for presentation to the National Assembly.

6. Civil Unresta. Constabulary Mutiny

The rioting in southern CHOLLA NAMDO began at about 200200 October when approximately 40 enlisted men of a battalion of the 14th Regiment of the Constabulary mutinied under the leadership of a non-commissioned officer at YOSU (1070-1300), prior to or while being loaded to move to CHEJU DO. The mutineers, joined by an undetermined number of civilians, attacked police and railroad police in YOSU. (B-2) A group of some 35 Constabulary Military Police, police and Coast Guardsmen, under the command of the 5th Brigade Chief of Staff, attacked one group of mutineers but were forced to withdraw to a boat in the harbor.

The rebels, whose strength had increased to between 400 and 500, commandeered a train at YOSU and arrived in SUNCHON (1040-1320) at 200930 October. There they attacked the railroad station and engaged in a firefight with the railroad police. Provincial police and one company of the 4th Regiment, dispatched from KWANGJU (990-1350), engaged the rioters in SUNCHON; no further reports have been received concerning this company. Two other companies dispatched from KWANGJU took up positions outside of SUNCHON but returned at night to KWANGJU. Fighting was still in progress in SUNCHON during the night of 20-21 October (B-2), and the strength of the rebel groups was estimated to be 2400.

During the afternoon of 20 October an estimated 1000 rioters moved north in the direction of NAMWON (1030-1380). A battalion of the 3d Regiment was committed against this force, south of NAMWON, at 201945 October. (B-2)

At 210530 October rebel forces were reportedly withdrawing toward SUNCHON. A later report stated that rebel forces began to move north again at 210630 October, but were met at 211130 October in KURYE (1048-1577) by advance elements of a Constabulary battalion from the 3d Regiment moving south from NAMWON. (C-3)

During the night of 20-21 October rebels were reportedly marching in the streets of YOSU, carrying Red flags and singing Red songs. Another report stated that a "Peoples Court" had been established in SUNCHON and YOSU and that policemen who were prisoners of the rioters were being tried by the courts and killed. (F-6)

Reports received during 21 October of rebel activities were of isolated incidents, indicating that the rebel action was slackening. Mutineers reportedly captured 4 police boxes during the afternoon of 21 October, south and southwest of SUNCHON, at BERYANG Myun (1040-1310), POLGYO RI (1034-1314), CHOSUNG (1029-1309) and NAGAN (1034-1324). Mutineers were also reported in KWANGTANG (1050-1320) on 21 October. Later reports indicate the town has probably been cleared of mutineers.

At 220645 October mutineers were reported by the police to be advancing to attack the main police box at KOKSUNG (1020-1360).

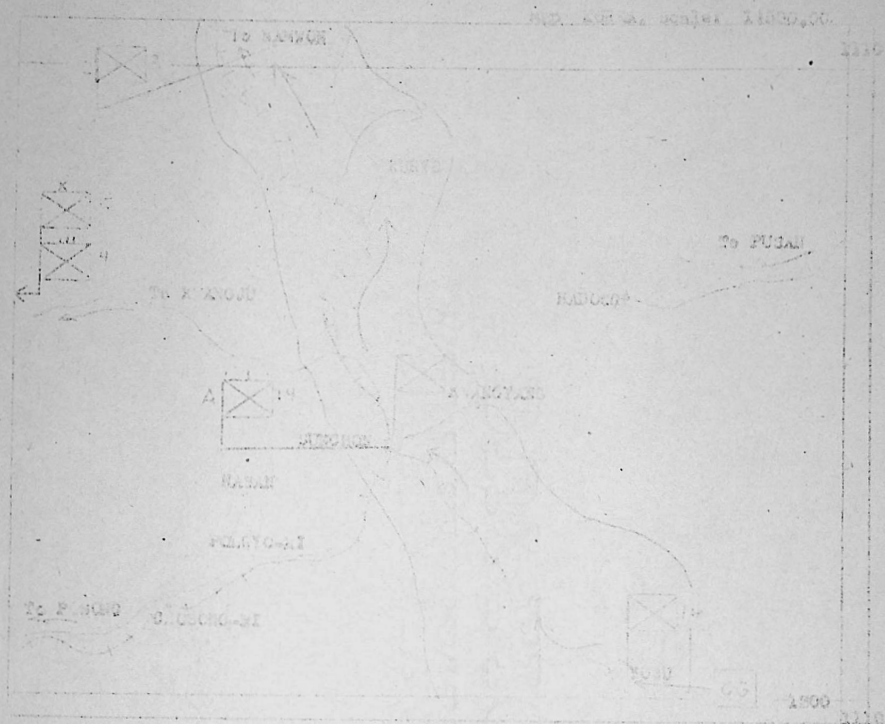
COMMENT: If this report is correct, it indicates either that the attack was made by other than mutineers or that when a Constabulary battalion from the 4th Regiment moved from the west to the north of SUNCHON they cut off a group of mutineers who had already proceeded north.

Twenty-six mutineers, allegedly enroute to POSONG (1000-1300) to attack the police, were captured by three Constabularymen on 21 October. Interrogation of prisoners indicates they were told at the beginning of the mutiny that the police had revolted and that the 11th Regiment had been ordered to suppress the police. Another prisoner stated that his unit was called out of the barracks on 19 October and told to draw arms and ammunition; he was under the impression that they were merely getting weapons prior to their departure for CHEJU DO.

Air observers reported that at noon 21 October there was no fighting in YOSU or SUNCHON or any troops on the road between YOSU and NAMWON. North Korea flags were seen on several buildings in YOSU and SUNCHON.

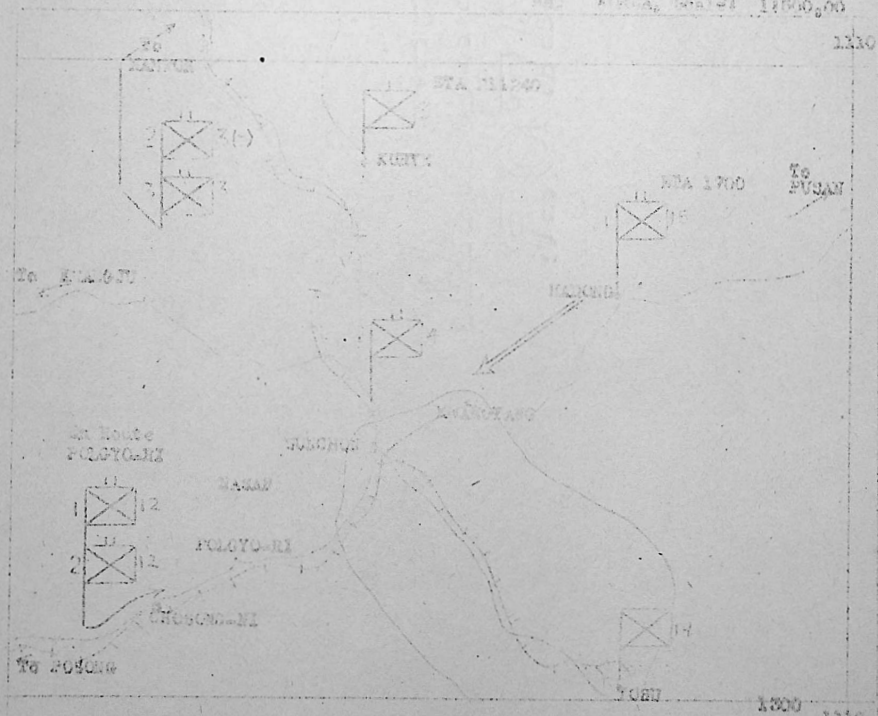
b. Communist Activity (Unclassified)

During the period information was received from various sources that the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY has issued instructions to all cells to collect signatures on petitions calling for the "withdrawal of the U. S. Army." Included within the directives are instructions that party members must not do this canvassing but will turn it over to old men, women and children. Signatures must be obtained from party members and their families; from people who support the "unified Government;" from middle-of-the-roaders; and from any rightist who wants to sign a petition. The directives also state that any person over 8 years old may sign the petition. Upon completion of this signature gathering, the petitions are to be sent to the United Nations.



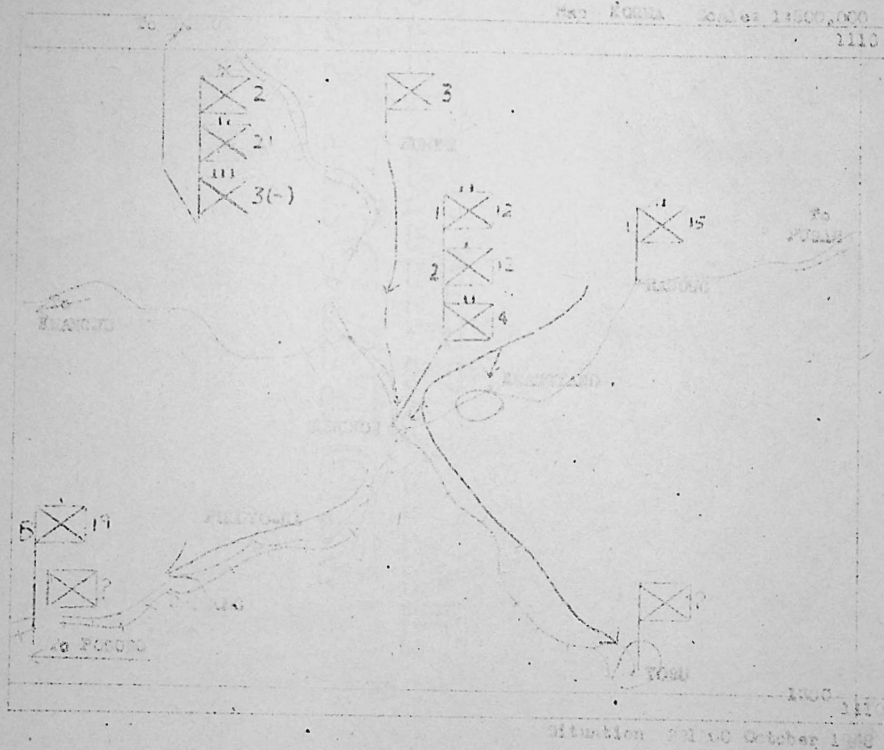
Situation 203400 October 1948

No. 203400, Scale: 1:500,000



Situation 212400 October 1948

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(2) Delayed Reports covering week ending 15 October
which were not carried in last week's summary
(W/S #161, page 8): (Restricted)

	SEOUL	KYONGGI-DO	KANGWON-DO	CHUNGCHONG NAMDO	CHUNGCHONG NORDO	PUKTO	CHILLA	NAMDO	CHILLA	PUKTU	KYONGSANG	NAMDO	KYONGSANG	PUKTU	CHIEJU DO	HWANGHAE DO	TOTAL
Attacks on towns																	
Attacks on police										1							1
Killed: Police																	
Rightists																	
Constabulary																	
Communists																	
Demon., disorders, arson & attacks on rightists																	
Attacks on Govt Bldgs																	
Sabotage: RR Lines																	
Communications																	
Roads																	
Bridges																	
Power																	
Strikes: Labor																	
Schools																	

(3) 1946 Communist Activities in South Korea (Restricted)

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT*	TOT
Attacks on towns				5	73	9	1			2	90
Attacks on police		130	118	50	86	12	11	11	4	3	425
Killed: Police		33	20	15	34	4	1	5	1	8	121
Rightists	1	14	14	81	144	51	10	1	7	6	329
Constabulary										1	1
Communists	1	74	75	70	155	83	33	22	1	5	519
Demon., disorders, arson & attacks on rightists	6	118	69	126	196	81	24	12	7	5	641
Attacks on Govt Bldg		9	14	2	9	3					37
Sabotage:											
Communications	14	53	58	32	57	8	1				223
Railroad lines	1	12	6		8		1				28
Locomotives		50	24								74
Roads		13	5	2	5			1			26
Bridges		6	9	5	4						24
Power					7	1					8
Strikes: Labor		14	6	3	16	1					40
School		7	5	4	9						25

* Incomplete

d. Other Violence (Restricted)

- (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 affiliations as reported up to 22 October 1948 is as follows:

	SEOUL	KYONGGI-D	KANGWON-D	CHUNGCHUNG	NAMDO	CHUNGCHUNG	PUKTO	CHOLLA	NAMDO	CHOLLA	PUKTO	KYONGSANG	NAMDO	KYONGSANG	PUKTO	CHEJU-D	HWANGHAE-D	TOTAL	
Assassinations																			
Anti-grain collection														2					2
Political terrorism																			
Demonstration																			
Resistance to Arrest																			
Unclassified																			
Attacks on police																			
Attacks Constabulary																			
Arson																			
Attack on individuals																			
Sabotage: Communication		2																	2
Railroad lines																			
Power																			
Bridges																			
Strikes: Labor																			
Schools																			

- (3) Delayed Reports Last Week (Restricted) - Reports of incidents involving other than communist which occurred during week ending 15 October but not reported in last week's summary are:

	SEOUL	KYONGGI-D	KANGWON-D	CHUNGCHUNG	NAMDO	CHUNGCHUNG	PUKTO	CHOLLA	NAMDO	CHOLLA	PUKTO	KYONGSANG	NAMDO	KYONGSANG	PUKTO	CHEJU D	HWANGHAE D	TOTAL	
Assassinations																			
Anti-grain collection																	1		1
Political terrorism														1					1
Demonstrations																			
Resistance to Arrest																			
Arson																			
Unclassified												4							4
Attacks on police																			
Attacks on Constabulary																			
Attacks on Individuals													1						1
Sabotage: Communications																			
Railroad lines																			
Power																			
Bridges																			
Strikes: Labor																			
Schools																			

(4) Monthly summary of acts of violence on the part of persons of unknown political affiliations (Restricted)

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT*	TOTAL
Assassinations	7		4	4	15
Anti-grain collection	9	1		1	11
Political terrorism	1	1			2
Demonstrations	15	9	3		27
Resistance to Arrest	5	9			14
Arson	2	3			5
Unclassified	11	11		4	26
Attacks on police		1	2	1	4
Attacks on Constabulary				1	1
Attacks on Individuals		4	3	3	10
Sabotage: Communications	1	4	4	2	11
Railroad lines				2	2
Power					
Bridges					
Strikes: Labor					
Schools	1				1

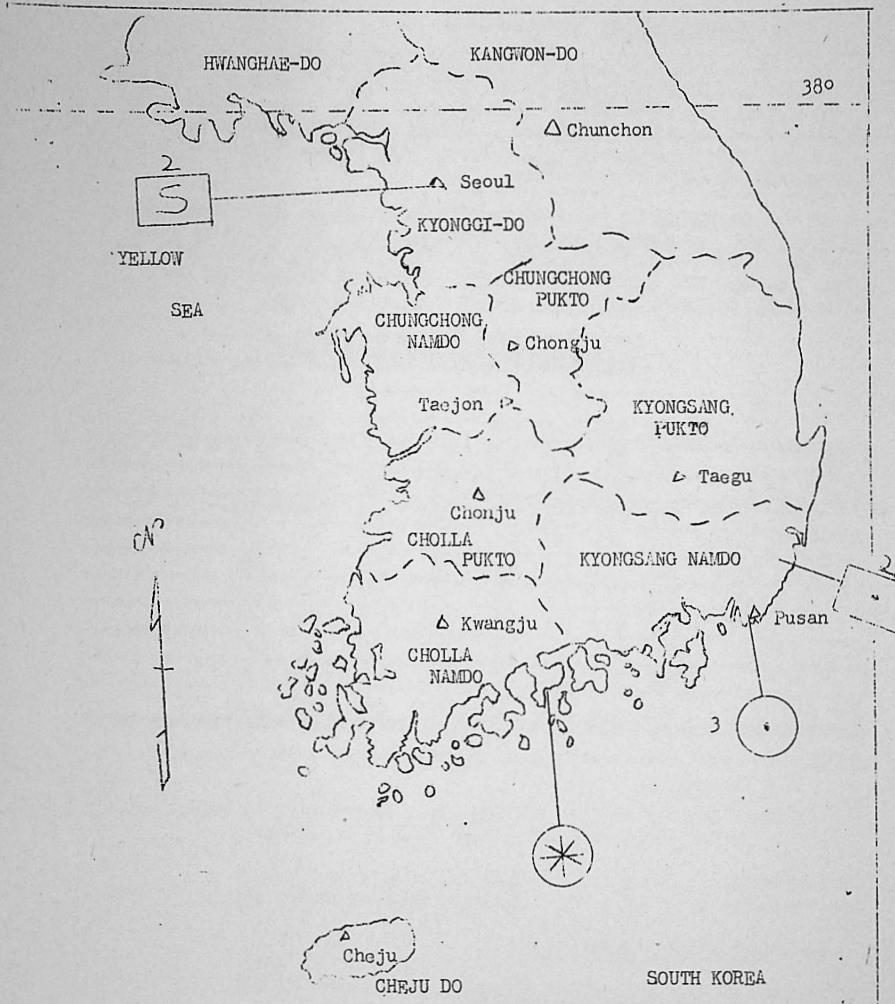
* Incomplete





d. Civil Unrest Map (Restricted)

SEE NEXT PAGE

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CIVIL UNREST MAP



-  See sketches, pages 7 & 8
-  Rightists killed
-  Sabotage (Communications) involving unknowns
-  Assassinations by persons whose political affiliations are unknown

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C. MOBILIZATION POTENTIAL1. Economica. Cost-of-Living (Unclassified)

According to a report from the Civil Affairs Section, US.FIK, the general level of wholesale prices in South KOREA declined moderately in the second week of October. The wholesale price index declined to 173 percent of the 1947 average on 16 October from 175 percent on 8 October. This is compared with a recent high of 191 percent of the 1947 average on 11 September 1948.

Foods led in the decline with lower prices for fish, eggs, soy beans and open market rice, wheat and barley. Textiles were also lower with a recession in the price of cotton sheeting, sookso silk and hemp. Firwood and millet were the only two items in the index for which prices advanced during the period 8 to 16 October.

RICE PRICE SUMMARY MONTHLY AVERAGE
(Unit: 1 small metric mal (13.48 lbs))

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP*	22 OCT**
Seoul	817	821	778	721	814	985	1158	1200		896
Kangwon Do	870	946	849	825	898	1012	1136	1133		
Chungchong Nando	793	728	674	634	726	946	1037	1083		
Chungchong Pukto	645	723	719	660	795	1037	990	1033		
Kyongsang Namdo	715	778	715	704	733	955	1070	950		
Kyongsang Pukto	594	605	552	605	641	888	1081	1050		
Cholla Namdo	614	633	559	595	801	963	1109	1008		
Cholla Pukto	669	669	605	623	773	935	1036	1200		
Cheju Do	806	748	679	814	806	1081	1879	1033		
AVERAGE	713	744	681	725	777	978	1166	1087		

SOURCE: National Price Administration (except Sept & Oct prices).

* Incomplete

** 22 October price: SOURCE: Open markets (5) in SEOUL; price is for the metric mal (13.48 lbs. or 10 liters).

Currency Exchange Rate:
(Open Market)

U.S. dollar equals 1,100 won
Military Payment Script equals 530 won.

2. Population: (Restricted)

a. <u>Surrendered and disarmed:</u>	No change	179,920
b. <u>Progress of Repatriation</u>	<u>This Period</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Japanese Civilians arriving from north of 38° N. Korea, China and Manchuria	0	288,535
Japanese evacuated to Japan	0	884,972
Total Koreans returning	2,825*	2,177,922
Total Repatriates Moved since 15 August 1945		3,065,279
Koreans Apprehended while Attempting illegal entry into Japan	0	25,594

* Incomplete

APPENDIX "A"

Signers of Proposed Withdrawal Resolution

<u>ASSEMBLYMAN</u>	<u>PARTY AFFILIATION**</u>	<u>PROVINCE</u>
* CHA Kyung Mo	Independent	Cholla Namdo
* CHANG Hong Dan	HDP 1/	Cholla Namdo
CHO Chong Sung	Independent	Chungchong Pukto
CHO Kyu Kap	Independent	Kyongsang Namdo
CHO Ok Hyun	NSAKI 2/	Cholla Namdo
* CHOI Tai Kyoo	Independent	Chungchong Namdo
CHUNG Chin Kun	Independent	Kyongsang Namdo
CHUNG Dal Soo	PPC 3/	Kyongsang Namdo
KIM Bong Doo	Independent	Cholla Pukto
KIM Byung Hoi	Independent	Cholla Namdo
KIM Choong Ki	Independent	Cholla Namdo
KIM Dong Choon	Independent	Chungchong Namdo
* KIM Ik No	Independent	Kyongsang Pukto
* KIM In Sik	UYMP	Kyonggi Do
KIM Kyung Pai	Independent	Kyonggi Do
KIM Myong Dong	Independent	Chungchong Namdo
* KIM Ok Choo	Independent	Cholla Namdo
KIM Soo Sun	Independent	Kyongsang Namdo
* KIM Yong Jai	NSAKI	Chungchong Namdo
KIM Young Ki	NSAKI	Kyonggi Do
KIM Woong Chin	Independent	Kyonggi Do
LEE Chung Kun	NSAKI	Chungchong Namdo
LEE Jai Young	Independent	Kyonggi Do
* LEE Koo Soo	Independent	Kyongsang Namdo
* LEE Moon Won	Independent	Cholla Pukto
* LEE Suk	NSAKI	Kyongsang Pukto
* LEE Suk Choo	GICL 4/	Cholla Pukto
LEE Sung Woo	Independent	Cholla Namdo

APPENDIX "A"

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