

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

Confidential

From: 260800/I Nov 48
To: 270800/I Nov 48

Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
1000/I 27 November 1948

F/R #998

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

Historical

PART I

SOUTH KOREA

1. ARMED FORCES

Negative

2. CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

a. Governmental Activities

(1) National Assembly

On 26 November the National Assembly passed additional legislation, to supplement the provisions of the National Traitor Law which included the following:

(a) The Special Investigation Committee (SIC) for the National Traitor Law may direct court officials and police in the pursuit of cases against alleged traitors.

(b) The National Assembly is empowered to dissolve the SIC if the latter body violates provisions of the National Traitor Law.

(c) The National Assembly has the privilege of examining the records of the SIC upon request.

As of 26 November neither the Military Organization Law, passed by the Assembly on 15 November, nor any of the major legislation passed by the Assembly during the period 22 through 26 November had been approved by the Executive Branch of the government of the Republic of Korea. Reportedly, the Military Organization Law is now in the hands of the President, and the National Security Law is currently under discussion by the Cabinet.

b. (2) RHEE Seeks Support of Nation's Youths

On 26 November President RHEE broadcast an appeal to the youths of the Republic of Korea for universal participation in the "self defense army," the MIN PYONG DAN (militia) which is to be established under the Department of National Defense.

RHEE emphasized that the power of the Republic of Korea is centered in its youths and that the task of preventing the enslavement of the Korean people under communism falls largely to the same strength which "maintained peace in our country" during the last three years and played such a vital role in the establishment of an independent government.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 705070

Confidential

Confidential

RHIE cautioned the citizens of Korea that the Communists are seeking to plunge Korea into civil war by inciting the population with acts of barbarism and propaganda to the effect that American armed forces would soon be withdrawn and thus open the road to Communist domination. This communist deception, he warned, is a scheme to place the lives and property of the Korean people in the hands of the individuals running the government in North Korea.

The president asserted that the people of Korea must neither rely on the United States (the "friendly nation") nor fear the USSR (the "unfriendly nation"), but assume responsibility for the defense of the republic themselves.

b. Civil Unrest

(1) Constabulary Action On CHEJU-DO

On 21 November Constabulary forces killed 88 raiders, captured 4 and confiscated miscellaneous arms and ammunition near TAEJONG (926-1120). (Constabulary Report)

On 23 November Constabulary forces killed 15 raiders and captured 1 near SONUL LI (970-1152). (Constabulary Report)

On 24 November Constabulary forces killed 79 raiders in a firefight near NCHYUNG NI (946-1117). (Constabulary Report)

(2) Communists Arrested in KYONGGI-DO

On 23 November the INCHON (960-1630) police arrested 18 members of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY and confiscated a printing press, printing materials and a large quantity of handbills. The preliminary investigation revealed that the SKLP had instructed the INCHON branch to print and distribute as many handbills as possible in the future. (Police Report)

(3) Rightists Attacked in INCHON

On 20 November 4 members of the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY attempted to apprehend a staff member of the INCHON branch of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY wanted by the police. While taking this SKLP member to the police approximately 20 men appeared on the scene, released the apprehended man and severely beat the UYMP members. (C-3)

(4) Communists Executed In CHOLLA-PUKTO

On 14 November 5 members of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY were executed at CHONGUP (980-1400) upon orders of the Commanding Officer, 4th Constabulary Regiment. The executions took place at the CHONGUP Agriculture School and were witnessed by the students of that school. (Police Report)

On 17 November 3 members of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY were executed at KOCHANG (970-1385) upon orders of the Commanding Officer, 4th Constabulary Regiment. The executions took place on the KOCHANG Public Middle School grounds, and were witnessed by students and leading citizens of KOCHANG Gun. (Police Report)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 745070

Confidential

Confidential

3. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

4. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

Negative

5. STATEMENT BY THE COMMANDING GENERAL

The Commanding General issued the following statement to the press on 27 November:

Major General John B. Coulter, Commanding General United States Army Forces in Korea, revealed today that satisfactory progress is being made by the American Military Mission headed by Brigadier General William L. Roberts. The Military Mission is one of the component parts of General Coulter's command which includes the XXIV Army Corps and Special Troops.

General Roberts' organization is charged with training and assisting Korean Security Forces, including the Constabulary and Coast Guard. Specialists under General Roberts are placed with all Korean units in the field throughout the Republic.

The purpose of the Military Mission, General Coulter said, is to insure that the Republic of Korea has a well-trained and efficient security force for the maintenance of law and order.

COMMENT: This is the first official announcement of the existence of the American Military Mission in Korea.

PART II

NORTH KOREA

Negative

Wallington

op of S, G-2

1 Incl

Translation of SEOUL Newspapers

Under the provisions of par 33a (1), AR 380-5, 15 August 1946, authority is hereby granted for destruction of this document after it has served its purpose, and is of no further value to the receiving agency. This authority is extended to cover destruction of previous issues of this publication in accordance with the foregoing instructions.

Confidential

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 745070