

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

From: 070800/I Dec 48  
To : 080800/I Dec 48

Headquarters, USAFIK  
Seoul, Korea  
1000/I 08 December 1948

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PART I  
SOUTH KOREA

No. #1007

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

*Historical*

1. ARMED FORCES

Negative

2. CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

a. Governmental Activities

On 03 December the Korean Cabinet decided to take a nation-wide census on 01 May 1949. (B-2)

COMMENT: The last true census in Korea took place in 1944. Since that time there has been a considerable shift in population due to refugees from north to south Korea and also due to repatriation of Koreans from overseas. All SKIG estimates for planning were based on adjustments of the 1944 census.

On 06 December the National Assembly unanimously passed a Resolution that:

"(1) Petroleum refineries(should)be immediately completed and every effort made for the production of petroleum.

"(2) The organizations of petroleum distribution be transferred (to our Government) immediately and that it be put under State Control."

It was pointed out by Assemblymen that Korea has no natural petroleum resources and that the industry of the country to a large degree depends on petroleum products. Three big petroleum companies of a "certain country" were reported to be planning to make Korea a victim of their petroleum market policy. It was further stated that the present distribution plan, now under control of foreigners, is but a disposal organization for the waste products of a "certain country." The Resolution concluded with the statement that Korea did not want to be the economic slave of a foreign country. (B-2)

COMMENT: Although the points made by the Assemblymen have the same ring as have the Radio PYONGYANG rantings about American plots to colonize and enslave Korea, it does not necessarily follow that the Assemblymen are showing communist leanings or that they have been affected by communist propaganda. A desire for economic as well as political independence is natural to Koreans.

b. Civil Unrest

(1) Constabulary Action on CHEJU DO

The Constabulary continued to conduct operations against the raiders on CHEJU-DO. During the period 03-06 December 105 raiders were killed and 40 captured. (Constabulary Report)

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*Confidential*(2) Assassination of Rightist in CHUNGCHONG NAMDO

On 02 December 1948 3 or 4 unidentified youths killed KIM Young Min, a staff official of the NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE ACCELERATION OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE in YANGCHON Myun (1010-1475). The youths were armed with a Japanese 99 rifle and 1 Japanese sword. (Police report)

3. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

4. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

Negative.

## PART II

## NORTH KOREA

1. ARMED FORCESa. Soviet Forces

Negative

b. North Korean Forces

Negative

2. CURRENT INTELLIGENCEa. Rice Moving to PYONGYANG

Beginning in November 1948 all food levies collected in HWANGHAE-DO, the granary of North Korea, will be transported to and stored in various warehouses in the PYONGYANG City area. Shipping will proceed on a 24 hour basis utilizing all available means of transportation.

The source could not state the reason for this stockpiling.

Corroboration of this information was obtained from a truck driver at SARIWON (880-1758) who had hauled supplies from that city to PYONGYANG. (F-6)

COMMENT: American sources report that each Fall large quantities of rice move into the PYONGYANG area. It is likely that this is a normal movement of the crop for ration control to government agencies.

b. Ships Entering the Port of CHINNAMPO (840-1780)

(1) The following 4 ships entered the port of CHINNAMPO on 9 August 1948 with coal from SAKHALIN Island:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>DISPLACEMENT</u>	<u>BUILT IN</u>
KING S. WOOLSY	U.S. War Shipping Administration	USA	7,000	1942
MOSES BROWN	U.S. War Shipping Administration	USA	7,176	1943
HELGOY	Unknown	NORWAY	5,614	1920
BRONNOY	Unknown	NORWAY	4,791	1926

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The informant heard that three additional ships entered the port of HUNGNAM (1020-1870) also loaded with coal from SAKHALIN. Two of the ships were of PANAMANIAN registry and one from CHINA.

(2) The following is a list of SOVIET vessels entering the port of CHINNAMPO during the same period:

NAME	DISPLACEMENT	CARGO		REMARKS
		In	Out	
LEONID KRASIN	1,840	Salt	Unknown	Two voyages during July and August between DAIREN and CHINNAMPO
ALDAN	2,161	Fertilizer	Cotton thread and raw rubber	Left CHINNAMPO in July for HONGKONG returned in August
AVIAZOVSKII	3,000	Black Lead	Unknown	Left CHINNAMPO in August for KOBE, Japan
ZVEZDA	850	Glass	Unknown	Two voyages in August and September between DAIREN and CHINNAMPO
KARAGANOA	5,627	Glass	Unknown	Arrived in August from VLADIVOSTOK
L'VOV	5,627	Glass	Unknown	Arrived in August from VLADIVOSTOK
TOMSK	5,557	Glass	Unknown	Arrived in August from VLADIVOSTOK
TSIOLKOVSKY	3,475	Glass	Unknown	Arrived in CHINNAMPO in September

COMMENT: Many of the above listed tonnages were obtained from Lloyd's Register after the names of the ships and their approximate tonnages were checked.

### 3. WAR POTENTIAL

#### a. Cost of Living in North Korea

The following list of Cost-of Living prices was secured in four towns in North Korea by 7 sources in the first two weeks of November:

	Rice mal*	Millet mal	Barley mal	Potatoes mal	Fish barrie**	Salt serng***
SINPO (1110-1940)	230	200	120	60	4000	50
SOHOJIN (1060-1910)	200	130	---	40	----	20
WONSAN (1040-1830)	230	190	---	40	4000	20
HAMHUNG (1040-1920)	210	180	95	55	5000	55

\* One small mal equals 2.38 gallons

\*\* One barrie equals approximately 165 pounds

\*\*\* One serng equals 3.18 pints

COMMENT: The North Korean won continues to be traded for South Korean won on the basis of one North Korean won to three South Korean won.

Rice prices appear to have leveled off at approximately 200 to 230 won per small mal while the official prices continues to be 37.50 won for the same quantity.

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4. PSYCHOLOGICAL

Negative

5. ADJACENT AREAS (MANCHURIA AND EASTERN SIBERIA)

Negative

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1 Incl.  
Translation of SECUL Newspapers

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