

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

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To : 210800/I Dec 48*Confidential*Headquarters, USAFIK
Seoul, Korea
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PART I

SOUTH KOREA

Historical

No. 1018

MAPS: KOREA, 1/250,000
Eastern ASIA, 1/1,000,0001. ARMED FORCESa. Border OP Engages in Fire Fight

A brief fire fight developed between elements of "E" Company, 32nd RCT, on outpost duty near YANGCHON-NI (930-1700), and unknown units north of the 38th parallel when two U.S. guards of a road block were fired on by 2 or 3 North Korean riflemen at 202148 December. The OP #10 commander alerted his force and ordered one 60 mm mortar squad to deliver fire on the North Korean security force outpost opposing his position. U.S. troops delivered five mortar rounds, and 200 to 300 rounds of rifle fire on North Korean entrenchments, while receiving in exchange 70 to 80 rounds of small arms fire. The fight stopped at 202300 with no American casualties. (B-2)

b. Recruits Drawn from Youth Organizations

Recruiting activities of the 2nd Brigade at TAEJON (1040-1490) during the period 1-20 December were reported to be concentrated strictly on members of youth organizations. Of a reported goal of 9,000 the KOREAN NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS was said to have been asked to furnish 8,520 with the balance to come from the UNITED YOUNG MEN'S PARTY. (B-2) (P/R #1014)

Over and above this total it was planned to induct 1 elite company from the NORTHWEST YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION on 20 December (P/R #1005 and P/R #1011). To be officered by members of the NYMA and to receive special consideration in supply and equipment it is planned that this unit will ferret out dissidents in the 2nd Brigade and be used as a spearhead in the event of a northern invasion. (B-2)

Some resentment was expressed on the part of UYMP leaders at the wide divergence in quotas, and they charged that Brigade Headquarters was influenced by the fact that LEE Bum Suk, Minister of Defense, was also head of the KNYC. In any case, latest available figures indicate that less than one third of the ambitious target number was recruited. (B-2)

Simultaneous with recruiting for the Constabulary, a drive was made to build a reserve regiment in the same area with personnel to be inducted on a fifty-fifty basis from the two named youth organizations (UYMP and NYC). The UYMP indicated that it would only endorse this program if command of the reserve regiment were given to one of its members in view of the discriminatory Constabulary recruiting quotas. Without that concession they threatened to withdraw their support entirely from the defense program. (B-3)

Further evidence that the current recruiting program which got under way in most units on 25 November is drawing heavily on youth organizations can be gained from the report that the ONJIN Gun (840-1680) branch of the NYMA ceased to exist on 7 December, because the bulk of its members had gone into defense units. (F-3)

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COMMENT: Since 25 November 14,770 recruits have been added to the Constabulary throughout South KOREA. They will be used to bring existing units up T/O strength as well as help compose the new 7th Brigade. It appears now that the eventual goal of the Constabulary (announced as about 65,000) is in sight, while the reserve program still is in the planning stage. The source of equipment for the 15,000 above the original 50,000 is not known.

2. CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

a. Political Activities

KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY Makes Statement on Unification

According to the CHOSUN ILBO, the Central Executive Committee of the KOREAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY will meet prior to 15 January to decide on the future party policy.

A KIP press statement on 17 December accepted the recognition of the Korean Government by the UN as a further step toward the realization of Korean independence. In addition the KIP said that it was fortunate that the new UN Commission would soon come to KOREA to take the necessary measures for the unification of KOREA. At the same time, the statement continued, the solution of the problem of Korean independence requires "not only the aid of a third party" but an additional effort on the part of "all patriotic leaders." (Newspaper Translation).

COMMENT: With the probable cooperation between the UN Commission and the Republic of KOREA to attempt Korean unification, an opportunity will be presented to KIM Koo to continue his pursuit of unification without dealing with the North Korean political leaders, as he did before, without success. (Page 6, W/S #138)

b. Civil Unrest

(1) CHEJU DO Raiders Attack Town

Possibly taking advantage of confusion accompanying the movement of the 9th Regiment from CHEJU-DO and its replacement by the 2nd Regiment (P/R #1017), raiders struck SINAM NI (940-1150) at 190700 December. The force, estimated to number 30, burned 30 homes and killed 1 policeman and 10 civilians. A 9th Regiment Constabulary unit, sent to investigate the action, was engaged by the raiders and suffered casualties to the extent of 1 officer and 9 enlisted men killed, 1 man wounded and the loss of 3 M-1 rifles, 1 light machine gun, 1 BAR and 1 carbine. (Constabulary Report)

(2) Activities of Rebels in CHOLLA-NAMDO

A group of 50 armed rebels were met by police units in the hill area of MUNPYANG Myun (970-1340) at 131350 December. Three of the raiders were shot before they dispersed. (F-3)

Some indication that dissidents in the CHOLLA-NAMDO area may be undergoing training for their activities was given when it was reported on 15 December that the leader of the SKLP in SUNCHON (1050-1330) conducted daily classes for 20 men between 0500 and 0600. (C-3)

Two separate raids, in which plunder appeared to be the sole objective, were made by raiders from the mountainous area of SANDONG Myun (1050-1370) on neighboring small villages on 13 and 16 December. Although the guerrilla parties numbered only 40 to 50 persons, villagers estimate there are 800 armed rebels in the main body. (Police Report)

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COMMENT: Although this is the second report (P/R #1015) that the force in the SAIKONG Myun area numbers 800, the figure is believed to be exaggerated.

(3) North Korean Raiders

Trainees of the KANGDONG political school (P/R #1004), who infiltrated across the border during the past two months, appear to be having negligible success in their mission of terrorism and propaganda.

Those raiders captured indicate that morale in their units is low, and indicated by reports that many of them have abandoned their arms and fled to their original South Korean homes.

Prisoners were carrying Japanese rifles and home made grenades. Upon interrogation they state that usually they operate in groups of 165 men in mountainous areas, particularly in the ODAE SAN (1140-1670) area. No assessment of their present strength in South KOREA can be made. Estimates range from 200 by police to a more conservative 50 by an American Advisor with a Constabulary reconnaissance unit. (B-2)

(4) Reports of Trends of SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY

(a) Present plans of the SOUTH KOREA LABOR PARTY call for the elimination of all rightist leaders as well as any representatives of the UN who try to enforce the South Korean Government. Arms are being supplied to "suicide squads" who are to carry out these plans. (C-3)

(b) Reports indicate that members of the SKLP have received instructions that in the future, upon arrest, they are to deny any and all connection with the party. (B-3)

COMMENT: This order was probably published in an effort to avoid prosecution under the National Security Law. (see page 1, P/R #1004)

(5) Handbills distributed in CHUNGCHONG-NAMDO

Handbills were distributed by leftist elements throughout the province of CHUNGCHONG-NAMDO during the period of 14-19 December. These handbills urged the people to fight the Constabulary as well as the police. Most of the handbills lauded the Russian Troops and urged the withdrawal of U.S. forces.

COMMENT: The urging of the people to fight the Constabulary as well as the police is believed to be brought about by the noticeable improvement of police-Constabulary relations.

3. PSYCHOLOGICAL

a. Translation of SEOUL Newspapers (see Incl #1)

4. SABOTAGE AND ESPIONAGE

Negative

5. WAR POTENTIAL

Negative

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