

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COM, AND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

SM
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INCOMING MESSAGE

Secret

PRIORITY

23 Jan 49

FROM : CG USAFIK
TO : DA, GSUSA (FOR INTEL DIV)
INFO : CINCPAC (G-2)
NR : ZGBI 99. (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO 22 JAN '49)

Para 1. Current:

Para 1. The Minister of the Dept of Communications on 11 Jan promulgated a censorship directive. Under the program all private letters to governmental agencies, cryptographic communications, braille and letters in secret writing or utilizing invisible inks will be censored. Other mail will be spot-checked. At the same time it was reported by the KA that any news stories relating to the Army would be subj to censorship by the Mil Police.

Comment: The censorship program obviously is intended to increase mil security as well as to assist in the surveillance of disloyal persons and groups.

Para 2. In recent supplementary elections held for vacant seats in the National Assembly the following persons were elected: Moochoo District, Cholla-Pukto Province, Kim Kyung Choong, member of Taifong Youth; Mokpo District, Cholla-Namdo Province, Kang Myung Sun, Independent; Antong-B District, Kyongsang-Pukto Province, Yim Young Sin (Louise Yim), Womens's National Party; and Pusan B District, Kyongsang-Namdo, Ho Young Ho, Independent. Yim presently is Minister of Commerce and Industry.

Comment: It is perfectly legal under the constitution for an individual to hold a position on the State Council and to occupy a seat in the National Assembly at the same time.

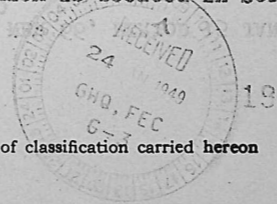
Mil-Para 1. Strength of security forces at the end of the period follows: Army-62,018, Coast Guard, 3,635; police, 42,000.

Para 2. Lee Joon Sik recently appointed a Col in the Korea Army from civilian life, has been given the important post of CO of the 7th Brigade, hq of which is located in Seoul, it was announced by KA Hq on 14 Jan.

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NND 795020

1540-B

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PRIORITY

FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 66, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
22 JAN 49) 23 JAN 49 CONT'D

Comment: Premier Lee Bum Suk reportedly persuaded Lee Joon Sik to take an appointment in the Army where he would be in a position to wield a considerable amount of influence as a member of a clique of former Chinese offs. Friction between offs who served with the Japanese Army and those who were in the Chinese Forces has been evidenced, and, since the inception of the Korean Security Forces, there has been a constant jockeying for position. In recent months the clique of former Japanese offs in the KA has been in the ascendant position, because they are more aggressive and generally regarded as better trained offs. Lee Bum Suk (formerly a Maj Gen in the Chinese Army) has been a staunch supporter of the Chinese faction, and it is believed that his influence was exerted in securing the metropolitan assignment for Lee Joon Sik.

Para 3. Col Wi, GO 20th Regt, 5th Brigade, at Kwangju, has declared that any Communist in Cholla-Namdo who surrenders will go before an amnesty board, consisting of the CO, 5th Brigade, Chief of Police, and a 3d member, probably the Governor of Cholla-Namdo Province. If the persons swears allegiance to the Korean Govt, he will be set free. Korean Army liaison planes are dropping leaflets to this effect in the surrounding hills.

Col Wi, further, has circulated word that he will pay 10,000 won for any M-1 rifle and 5,000 won for any Japanese rifle or carbine brought to him, and no questions will be asked.

Comment: Ten mutinous members of the former 14th Regt have surrendered in the past week. All but 1 were armed.

Para 4. Nine members of the Korea Army, led by a Lt, crossed the 38th Parallel at 200200 Jan in the vicinity of Sochon Ni (1000-1690). A fire fight developed between the KA and NKC. Four NKC's were killed, and 2 were captured. No losses were sustained by the KA. Police, anticipating retaliation by the NKC, have sent reinforcements to Sochon Ni.

Para 5. Six NKC's attacked the Police Station at Chujon Ni (1080-1690) at 1911400. Before the invaders withdrew 2 of their force and a NK civilian were killed.

Mobilization Potential:

Para 1. American operation of Korean Marine trans was soundly condemned by Trans Minister Hui Chung. He pointed out that in 1948 Marine transport operated at a deficit of

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INCOMING MESSAGE

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FROM : CG USAFM NR : 2001 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO 22 JAN 49) 23 JAN 49 CONT'D

1,500,000 won because Americans are "poorly acquainted with the state of affairs in Korea." Corrective measures were promised by Hu.

Comment: This criticism is completely unjustified and obviously a face saving justification of the lack of technical knowledge of the Korea operators rather than inefficiency on the part of the few American advisors.

Para 2. The price of rice in Seoul averaged 750 won per small mal (16.5 lbs) on 20 Jan.

Para 3. Monetary exchange rates on the same date were 1,120 won for 1 US silver certificate and 600 won for 1 US Mil Payment Certificate.

Para 4. Korean Sources report that 2,888,310 suk of rice had been purchased by 19 Jan. This represents 38.5% of the quota.

Para 5. The Chd Sun Ilbo, moderate Seoul newspaper, in a story on 16 Jan took cognizance of the Korean inflationary spiral and its relation to prices of foreign bought medicine. The paper pointed out that the official exchange rate of 15 to 1 established by the American forces upon their arrival had climbed to 450 to 1, increasing the price of essential drugs 6 fold. The story ended on a plaintive inquiry of governmental officials as to what action they expected to take.

Subversive:
Para 1. Police reported that an attempt on the life of President Rhee had been thwarted. The assassination was to take place upon the President's visit to Suwon (1090-1600) on 16 Jan in connection with an organizational meeting of the Greater Korean National Youth Corps. 37 persons implicated in the plot were arrested.

Para 2. The intelligence off of the 6th KA Regt was seriously wounded by an unknown assailant in front of his home in Taegu (1100-1240).

Para 3. Handbills, protesting the UN Commission, on Korea and the failure of US troops to withdraw, were distributed in Seoul.

Para 4. Police reported that parallel Market Nbr 68 (1020-1690), was moved on 1,000 yrd north of its normal position.

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NND 795020

RECEIVED
24 JAN 49
CHA, FEB 49

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

INCOMING MESSAGE

Secret
PRIORITY

FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
23 JAN 49) 23 JAN 49 CONT'D

to commanding positions in the KA. He is said to have taken the position that, when patriotic Koreans, such as those formerly in the Kwang Bok Army, fought with China against the Japanese, it is outrageous to appoint "war criminals" to important KA posts.

Comment: The Chinese Consul obviously is supporting that clique of offs in the Korean Army who formerly served with the Chinese armed forces in their prejudices against the group of Korean offs who served with the Japanese forces.

Para 2. The Korean Dept of Education is setting up its budget for next year announced plans on 15 Jan for a sufficient nbr of text books to accommodate both North and South Korean children of primary and middle school age.

Comment: The Dept of Education may be displaying undue optimism, but it is safely preparing for any eventuality.

Part II. North Korea.

Current:

Para 1. Recruits for the People's Army are mostly supplied by members of the North Korea Labor Party and the Democratic Youth Association. Men of mil age who do not belong to 1 of the above organizations are contacted by the police administrative officials during the night, arrested and taken to the nearest police administrative office and pressed into service in units of the People's Army. It is rumored in Hamhung (1040-1920) that by the end of Feb 49, all physically fit men between the ages of 18 and 27 will be in the People's Army. (F-6).

Comment: The report is more logical than source evaluation indicates, as mil service and enforced labor has taken its steady toll of North Korean manpower until it has evidently almost reached the saturation point.

Para 2. An informant stated that the Korean People's Republic established a 2-yr economic plan-1949-1950 in order that it expire at the same time as the Soviet 5-Yr Plan-1950. This will afford the opportunity of the Korean People's

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PRIORITY

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11/01/2000

RECEIVED
24 JAN 1949
GHQ, FEC
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Secret
PRIORITY

FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
23 JAN 49) 23 JAN 49 .CONT'D

Republic starting off at the same time as the USSR on the next 5-yrs. It is plan. (C-3).

Comment: Great play has been given over radio Pyongyang about the 2-yr Plan of the Korean People's Republic and the accomplishments which are its goals, but no reason has ever been given heretofore as to the arbitrary 2-yr length, as opposed to the regular 5-Yr Plan generally adopted by satellite countries.

Para 3. During the period Aug-Dec 1948, an informant observed the following shipping in Wonsan: 13,000 ton ship arrived during Aug loaded with sugar from the USSR. On 13 Sep a smaller ship loaded with clothing from the USSR arrived, and 2 days later a 3,000 ton ship arrived with a cargo of trucks. These vehicles were 4-wheel and 6-wheel trucks of a type the informant had not observed before, and rumor is prevalent around Wonsan that they are of German manufacture. This ship also brought 4 new automobiles of modern design. On 1 Oct a 10,000 ton ship arrived loaded with soft coal of high quality. Informant was told that this coal would be used in the manufacture of coke. This ship could not dock in Wonsan, but anchored in the harbor and was unloaded through the use of lighters. A 6,000 ton ship arrived with another load of this coal on 3 Nov, and during the month of Dec 1 ship came in with clothing from Dairen. Informant stated that all ships took on cargoes of rice, frozen meat, rice mats, metals and ores, and that he had not seen any ships come in empty for cargo. (F-3).

Comment: Recent information from various sources have revealed that sea-borne commerce between the USSR and North Korea has been accelerated, particularly since the harvest season of 1948. This might mean that with the phasing out of the Soviet occupation troops and a resulting lessening demand for goods to be consumed by the occupying troops, the surplus of the Soviet levy was being shipped to the USSR.

Para 4. According to radio Pyongyang, Soviet Ambassador Shtikov presented his credentials to the President of North Korea on 14 Jan 49, said radio Pyongyang:

"Mr. Andrei F. Shtikov, Soviet Envoy, Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, accompanied by his retinue, arrived in Pyongyang by air at 1 PM Jan 11. The Korean people are enthusiastic, welcoming the appointment of Mr. Shtikov

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
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RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

INCOMING MESSAGE

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FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
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as the Soviet Envoy.

"The reports described the enthusiastic welcome at the airport by the President and the Premier and the various patriotic organizations. Women's organizations presented the new Ambassador with bouquets of flowers as he alighted from his plane."

Comment: Col Gen Shtikov has been primarily a political administrative off throughout his career in the Red Army. Prior to the outbreak of World War II, he was Secy of the Leningrad Regional Committee of the Communist party. He was made a Gen Maj (Brigadier Gen) in Dec 1942, a Gen Lt (Maj Gen) in Aug 1943 and was promoted to the rank of Col Gen in Nov 1944. In 1943 he was a member of the Mil Council of the Volkhov Front and in 1945 held the same position for the first east front. Shtikov was a member of the Soviet Delegation to the US and USSR Joint Commission in Seoul in 1947. Politically, Shtikov is known as an "undiluted" Communist.

Mil:

Para 1. Based on the analysis of considerable nbr of fragmentary reports this hq now accepts the following disposition of the 1st Div in Hwanghae Do Province and the Pyongyang-Mirim-Ni Area: Hq of the 1st Div with service and support elements together with the Arty Regt of this Div at Mirim-Ni (890-1820) (F-1); Hq of the 1st Regt with service and support elements at Chaeryong (860-1740) (F-2); 1st Bn of the 1st Regt at Haeju (870-1700) (F-3); 3d Bn of the 1st Regt still in Sinuiju (750-1950) (F-2); Hq of the 2d Regt with service and support elements and all 3 Bns are still in Pyongyang (880-1820); Hq of the 3d Regt with service and support elements at Namchonjom (940-1730) (F-2); 1st Bn of the 3d Regt at Sinmak (920-1740) (F-3); 2d Bn of the 3d Regt at Namchon (940-1710) (F-2) and the 3d Bn of the 3d Regt at Namchonjom (F-2). Further dispositions of the Bns, that is, location of companies are not known. An unidentified unit of company strength is reportedly located at Sariwon (880-1750) (F-3). Bn subordination of this company
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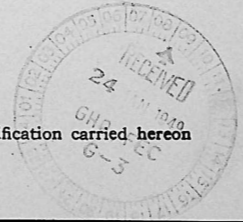
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NND 785020

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FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD: 15 JAN TO
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is unknown.

Comment: The redistribution of the 1st Div places the 1st and 3d Regts on excellent lines of communication in the forward area just north of the 38th Parallel with the 2d Regt and the Arty Regt in reserve with divisional hq in the Pyongyang-Mirim-Ni Area.

Para 2. An F-3 report states that the entire People's Army unit stationed at Namchonjom (940-1730) participated in a night problem held during the evening of 17-18 Dec 48. Troops departed from Namchonjom around 1900 hrs on the 17th of Dec in a southerly direction toward Kumchon (940-1710) and returned in the early morning hrs of 18 Dec 48. Source estimates 3500 troops and an unknown nbr of arty pieces took part in this problem.

Comment: The source is referring to the 3d Regt of the 1st Div recently indentified in Namchonjom (see redistribution of 1st Div above). Strength of a People's Army Regt is carried by this hq as 2700.

In view of the short time involved the night problem appears to have consisted of nothing more than a practice night march of the entire Regt. The Soviets are past master at the art of night movement and there is no reason to doubt that the People's Army is overlooking this phase of training. However, this is the first report of such exercises being conducted by People's Army units of regimental size.

Para 3. An unconfirmed report states that in Oct 1948 the intelligence and counter-intelligence sections of the People's Army, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Coast Guard have been placed under a newly created political defense dept. Organization of this dept is reportedly as follows:

(A). Within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Political Defense Dept operates on the national level. Political defense bureaus operate on provincial level and political defense section on county level.

(B). In the People's Army the Political Defense Dept operates at GHQ level. Divisional boundaries correspond to the provincial level, (political defense bureaus), and regimental boundaries correspond to county level (political

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
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RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

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FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
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sections).

(C). In the Coast Guard the east coast and west coast HQ operate on provincial level (political defense bureaus). Subordinate units are organized as political defense sections.

The following missions are carried out by this newly created Political Defense Dept:

- (1). Collect info and compile dossiers on subversive elements within the North Korea Armed Forces.
- (2). Investigate, expose and arrest personnel inimical to the best interests of the North Korean Govt.
- (3). Maintain a constant opinion poll of the public through periodic reports submitted by permanent secret agents.
- (4). Dispatch agents on positive intelligence missions under the supervision of Soviet advisory personnel.

Evaluation of all the above info (F-6).

Comment: Earlier info which was discounted at the time stated that intelligence sections of the People's Army transferred to the Intelligence Bureau, Dept of Internal Affairs (see WEEKA 55). This info in conjunction with the above report indicates that a consolidation or reorganization on intelligence sections appears to have taken place.

Whether or not a political defense dept, incorporating all of the intelligence sections, has been set up cannot be confirmed by this office. However, in view of the Soviet influence the creation of a political defense dept to maintain close surveillance of all people, mil or civilian, seems quite in order for the above organization appears to be closely patterned after the Soviet GPU (State, Political Dept) for-runner of the runner of the former NKVD.

Mobilization Potential:

Para 1. An informant who has lived most of his life since childhood in Chinnampo (840-1780) left there 27 Nov 48 and arrived in Seoul 7 Dec 48, gave the following info on industry in Chinnampo: Nampo Light Metals Co (formerly Chosen Riken Metals Co) now produces carbon electrodes which are used in the same factory area in the production of carbide.

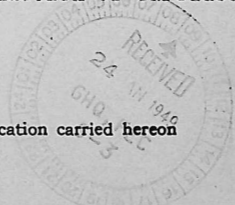
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FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKS NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO 23 JAN 49) 23 JAN 49 CONT'D

During the month of Nov 48 the production of glass ware started in the factory. No aluminum, magnesium, or other light metals are now produced in the area, since all necessary machinery was removed to the Soviet Union before the end of 1945. (P-3).

Nampo Light Metals Co Annex (formerly Mitsubishi Aluminum Co) produced sheet aluminum during the Japanese occupation, but all machinery with the exception of a few lathes were removed by the Soviets prior to Dec 1945. The factory is not operating at present with its limited facilities. All aluminum making equipment was removed. (P-3).

The former tungsten reduction factory is no longer in operation since all machinery was removed to the USSR before Dec 1945.

The Nampo Refinery (formerly Japan Mining Co) is the finest of its kind in Korea and contains equipment for the electrolytic reduction of many non-ferrous metals. At the present time 1 part of the factory is being used for the production of copper. The copper is mixed with gold, silver, zinc, and other impurities at the completion of crude smelting. Since the Soviets removed all of the equipment for further processing, all bar copper is sent to the Soviet Union under the excuse that no equipment is available for further processing.

Zinc is being produced in another part of the factory area. Enough equipment is available for the production of high-quality zinc. Informant stated that he was told that the factory is now turning out 20 tons per day, all of which is being shipped to the USSR.

Another part of this factory was formerly occupied by a gold refining company (a party of the Japan Mining Company). Informant stated that the Soviets removed all of the equipment from these plants in Dec 45 and that the buildings are now being dismantled. The material salvaged from the buildings is being used to build new schools in a different location in Chinnampo.

The Korea Chemical Co (formerly Chosen Nissan Chemical Industry Co) is now producing super-phosphate and some sulphuric acid. All of this company's output is being sent to the Soviet Union.

The former Japan Coal Products Co was organized to the

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
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FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
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production of chemicals and coke through the destructive distillation of coal, but the factory never met the requirements as planned by the Japanese and never was put into productive operation. Informant stated that the Soviets removed all the equipment from this plant prior to the end of Dec 45.

The Korea Carbon Co (formerly the East Sea Carbon Electrode, K K. Produces carbon electrodes for the electric refining of both ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Most of the production of this company is used by the Nampo Refinery.

The Nampo Ship Building Factory (formerly the Chung Chon Iron Works); now has 2 ships in the process of completion. The ships will be 500 ton patrol boats and are made of iron plate. Informant states that the ships have 1 funnel each, a centered superstructure, and forms for the mounting of 5 anti-aircraft guns have already been completed on the ships. These 2 ships were scheduled to be launched before the end of Dec in order to meet the People's Economy Plan.

There are 2 flour mills in Chinnampo, the names of which are unknown to informant. One of these flour mills is a former Japanese mill, the other is of Korean origin. Informant stated that no wheat flour is available in North Korea and that it has never been available, even though much wheat is processed in the mills. All flour processed here is shipped to Soviet Russia.

Informant stated that there is a shortage of electricity in Chinnampo at the present time and gave as his opinion the following reasons: During the occupation of Korea by the Japanese, 3/5 of all electricity produced in Korea was distributed in all Korea. During that time, Chinnampo received great quantities to operate the magnesium and aluminum plants. With these plants out of operation, informant assumed that much more electricity should have been available. He checked with friends on the disposition of electricity and learned that electricity is distributed as follows: 2/5 of the production is transmitted to Manchuria as it was under Japanese rule, but that since the cut off of electricity to South Korea, 2/5 of all electricity produced is sent to the Maritime Provinces of

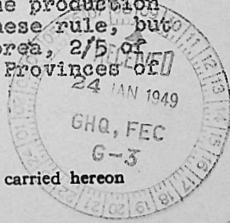
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NND 795020



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Secret
PRIORITY

FROM : CG USAFIK NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN TO
23 JAN 49) 23 JAN 49 CONT'D

Soviet Russia. The remaining 1/5 is not sufficient for North Korea, even with reduced industrial operation in Formosa, stated that the electrical situation in Chinnampo has deteriorated to the point that it is now unlawful to use an electric flat iron. (F-3).

Comment: This fairly comprehensive report on industrial installations in Chinnampo is substantiated in part by JANIS 75. The report of removal of industrial machinery by Soviet personnel substantiates previous reports of systematic stripping of plants during the latter part 1945. See WEEKA 55 for report of a "power treaty" between the USSR and the North Korean Govt for possible use in the Russian Maritime Provinces.

Para 2. The road east of Parallel Marker Nbr 72 (1035-1697), which runs through Changma-Ni (1036-1701) has been improved all the way to the parallel by grading and topping with crushed rock. Date reduced industrial operation. Informant stated that the electrical A ore power of observation, 3 Nov 1948. (A-2).

During the fall of 1948 a 3d class road was constructed between Inje Uy (1110-1700), and Kwidun-Ni (1130-1690), about 15 miles in length. On 9 Oct 48, 300 People's Army personnel moved from unknown location to Kwidun-Ni over this new road on 9 trucks. (C-3).

Comment: These 2 reports lend credence to rumors that extensive road repairs are being carried out on north-south roads in the immediate vicinity of the 38th Parallel. Considering the state of commerce between North and South Korea, this improvement of old roads and the construction of new roads can not have nil significance.

Psychological:

The output of radio Pyongyang was varied during this period and covered achievements of industry and agriculture in North Korea, the uprisings of the Rebels in South Korea, and continued criticism of the Govt of the Republic of Korea. Throughout most of the broadcasts, however, runs the strong thread of vindictive assault against the American imperialists and their colonizing efforts in South Korea. Said radio Pyongyang: "To control Korea, the American imperialists formed the puppet gov't with traitors. The Japanese enforced colonial education in Korea during their reign. How hard did we fight

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
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FROM : CG USAFIC NR : ZGBI 99 (WEEKA NBR 56, PERIOD 15 JAN
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to drive them out? Although we were liberated on the same day your (South Koreans), are not truly liberated. American imperialists, following in the footsteps of the Japanese, carried on colonial education. As a result, in Seoul there are 6,000 children not attending school. The people of Greece and Turkey and Europe and Asia learned during the war that Communism is an anti-fascist force which truly serves the people. The American plan for Greece under the Truman Doctrine failed though huge American investments were poured into that country."

Radio Moscow aided in the attack on the Americans with: "Why do the Americans refuse to leave South Korea?... Radio Pyongyang announced that South Korean industries fell into the hands of the Americans refused to leave South Korea to protect their interests."

Comment: The comparison between the "perfect life" in the USSR and in USSR sponsored country land the struggle for existence in countries under the American sphere of influence continue with a monotonous regularity. The idea still seems to persist in Soviet propagananda circles that the American troops can be talked out of South Korea and the unrelenting campaign to that end goes on with steady uniformity.

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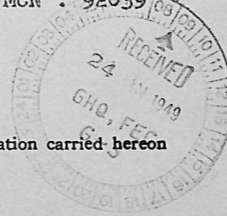
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DIPLOMATIC, JSPOG

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PRIORITY

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TOO : 220415 Z
MCN : 92039



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NWJ 795020

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