

American Embassy,

Seoul, December 30, 1949.

NO. 832

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SUBJECT: Progress made by Korean Security Forces:
Transmitting copy of letter from Chief,
KMAAG, to Minister of National Defense

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit, for the Department's information, a copy of a self-explanatory letter, dated December 22, 1949, sent by the Chief, KMAAG, to the Korean Minister of National Defense, commenting on the progress made by the Korean Security Forces during the past year. It will be observed that General ROBERTS is warm in his praise of the improvements and advances made during the calendar year 1949.

It is my observation, which is concurred in by the Senior Military Attache, that since July 1, 1949 marked progress has been made by the Korean Security Forces, especially the Army. Among important accomplishments have been the establishment of an adequate school system, furtherance of training reflected in increasingly good results in field operations, progress in the care and maintenance of equipment, and improvement in the functioning of commanders and staffs.

Improvement has also been noted in personal conduct, relationships with the civilian population, appearance and morale. There is rapidly being forged that rarity in Asia -- a well-trained, clothed, fed, housed, loyal army that is eager to fight and, even with the comparatively limited quantity of arms and equipment on hand should give a good account of itself if the need arises.

Indications are that the Korean Security Forces, aided by a most cooperative Minister of National Defense, have welcomed American advice and, in general, have whole-heartedly adopted United

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States military methods and standards. This may be attributed in large part to the close personal relationships existing between American Advisors and their Korean counterparts and the quality of instruction currently being given. It has coincided with the increased number and competence of Advisors assigned to the United States Military Advisory Group during recent months.

General Roberts, Chief, KMAG, has worked vigorously and untiringly for the advancement of the Korean Security Forces. For this he is entitled to the highest commendation. General Roberts has been ably assisted by a highly competent staff which enjoys excellent morale and possesses a splendid esprit de corps and sense of cooperation with other elements of the Mission. Among those officers displaying superior ability and untiring effort are the following:

Colonel William H. S. WRIGHT	Serial #018129;	Chief of Staff
Lt. Col. Walter J. HABERER, Jr.	" 052278;	Adv 7th Division
Lt. Col. Ralph W. HANSEN	" 0300198;	Adv G-3
Lt. Col. Anthony E. LUKOWSKI	" 0226856;	Adv G ^M
Lt. Col. Floy W. MCGILW	" 042127;	Adv G-1
Lt. Col. Robert E. MYERS	" 0349098;	Director of Supply
Lt. Col. Orman G. CHARLES	" 029954;	Adv Signal
Lt. Col. H. J. BARTOSIK	" 052145;	Adjutant General
Major Robert F. FREY	" 0375479;	Asst Adv 6th Division
Major Russell C. GEIST, Jr.	" 046585;	Adv G-4
Major Arno P. NOWITZ, Jr.	" 0296307;	Adv 2d Division
Captain John P. REED	" 035839;	Adv G-2
Captain James H. W. TREADWELL	" 0377467;	Asst Adv Reconnaissance Troops
Captain Harold S. FISCHGRUND	" 037183;	Asst Adv G-3
Captain James H. HAUSMAN	" 0372397;	Adv Korean Army
Captain George H. McFARLAND	" 01165651;	Adv Arty School

It is requested that copies of this despatch be transmitted to the Department of Army.

Respectfully yours;

John J. Muccio

Enclosure:

Letter of 22 December 1949
to Minister of Defense

EFD:right:mm:nd
Farchen: mat to Department
CC: KMAG

A TRUE COPY:

S. D. VAN OSTRAED
S. D. VAN OSTRAED
WOJG USA
Asst. Adj. Gen.

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