

AUGUST 15 - CRITICAL DAY

As is usual on these "critical" days, nothing happened. The Army parade was a knock-out. They looked like veterans - equipment, uniforms, vehicles all spotless. If they can only fight as well as they parade, we are "in". Next critical day is September 19, election day as proclaimed by the north. They usually have one day per month which can be called "tense".

TRAINING THE KOREAN ARMY

a. Progress has slowed down the last two months due to expansion to 100,000 and the consequent addition of new regiments, new headquarters, transfer of key leaders, movement of units, losses of one to two battalions per regiment for cadres of new units. We are trying to firm up and stop at 100,000, as there are not enough weapons for more.

b. A complete range season is being majored right now, concurrent with small unit tactics. Batches for shooting are being manufactured, advisors are handling most preliminaries themselves, records are being kept. By the end of September, we expect to have an army which shoots almost as well as the U S Army. We plan on battalion and higher exercises this Fall. We are minimizing parade ground work and, concurrently with basic training, small unit exercises are held; these are mainly squad and platoon exercises such as patrolling, attack and defense and particularly security measures.

c. Within the last fifteen months, we have sent 20,000 men through schools. This includes all types of schools, such as OTS, Signal, Quartermaster, Ordnance, Engineer, Weapons, G-2 and Intelligence, et cetera.

One top Advisor is coordinating all schools. This month we are starting two new and important ones - a Staff School and an Infantry School. For several months, they will be heavily couped up with Americans as instructors and full use will be made of the four recent Korean graduates of Fort Benning.

d. We have had translated, printed and distributed to units, a four foot stack of American training manuals. This work continues.

• 피쉬그라운드 대위 제주방문 보고서(1949. 11. 29)

UNITED STATES MILITARY ADVISORY GROUP TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
Office of the Chief
APO 404

c/o Postmaster
San Francisco Calif
29 November 1949

Sir:

Captain Fishgrund of this office visited Cheju Do on 16, 17, 18 and 19 November and I pass on to you his observations and recommendations.

a. Certain building materials, particularly cement is in short supply for the people to use in rebuilding homes. Suggest you make representation to the proper sources with the view of making it possible for these poor people to construct good homes. The representatives from Cheju Do in the Assembly should properly help them out.

b. The only telephone line around the island is now the police line. It would seem that commercial use should be made of this line, at least while the other lines are restored. This too is a job for representatives of the Island and the Department of Communications.

c. The inhabitants report that the assemblymen from the island visit

there very infrequently. Two have returned once since election and one has returned thrice.

d. 300 Sawbuck are in the Police. 200 Sawbuck are in local government. The people have reported that they have enriched themselves. The press is controlled by the Sawbuck.

e. Police report 200 rebels in the hills but they have been inactive lately. 300 rebels are in prison.

f. The First Separate Battalion is in Mosulpo. The Headquarters is in Cheju Up. This should be changed with Headquarters moving to the locality of the troops. 51 military police are present. This is too many. If present at all they are only to watch over the military, however all but six are in Cheju Up where they have no business and where they interfere with the civilians. They should be, first cut down to reasonable size (no more than ten for the whole Island), second all should be stationed near the troops in Mosulpo.

g. Some rebuilding is necessary for the barracks at Mosulpo.

h. Recommend that frequent visits be made the Island and its garrison by a responsible senior officer from time to time to check conditions of the army and the people.

Accept, sir, the assurance of my continued respect and esteem.

W L ROBERTS
Brig Gen USA
Chief