MILITARY SITUATION

1. Current Developments:

a. Strength Increases: Over-all strength of the Korean Republic's armed forces, including the National Police and Korean Army Reserve Corps, increased more than five thousand during the period 5-12 Aug. The Army now numbers 94,024, and the National Police 51,980. These figures represent an increase of 5,461 in the Army and 365 in the police, since 5 Aug (Intell. Summary 2524). The Navy's strength remained at 6,735 and the Army Reserve Corps at 33,677. (a)

b. Guerrillas, Armed Forces Active: Fifteen guerrilla attacks on villages and police boxes, and 17 operations by the Korean Army and National Police against guerrilla bands were reported during the period 5-12 Aug. Seven minor acts of sabotage also were reported.

Guerrillas reportedly kidnaped 107 civilians in Kyonggi, South Kyongsang, and South Cholla Provinces during the period 31 Jul-6 Aug. A majority of the kidnapings--81--occurred in South Kyongsang Province. (a)

Comment: Such kidnapings may be motivated by the guerrillas' desire to augment their strength--seriously depleted through positive action taken by the Korean Army and National Police.

c. Communists Sentenced: During the period 3 Jun-12 Jul, the Korean Government tried 1,652 civilians and 47 military personnel, on Cheju Island, on charges of being Communists or Communist sympathizers. Of this number, 345 were sentenced to death, 238 received life imprisonment, 311 were sentenced to 15 years in prison, and 705 were sentenced to seven years or less in prison. Only 100 escaped punishment. (a)

d. U.S.-Owned Boat Defects: A 37-foot, single engine, U.S. Army boat, normally manned by a South Korean naval crew, apparently defected to North Korea during the period 5-12 Aug. It is believed that only a South Korean naval petty officer was aboard the vessel. (a)

Source Comment: The boat had been out of commission with a broken rudder, and drastic action had been threatened if the repairs were not completed immediately. Therefore, the strongest influence for the defection may be one grudge and panic, rather than political. (a)

e. Prisoners Recaptured: Eleven Korean naval men, sentenced to death by court martial for their part in the attempted defection of the Navy's yard mine sweeper "Tong Yong" at Pusan, 21 May (Intell. Summary 2449), attempted to escape confinement 25 Jul. One prisoner was killed, and one wounded prisoner was captured at the time of the prison break. Five more prisoners were recaptured two hours later, and four are still at large. (C-3) (b)

Seven civilians and 21 naval men were arrested as a result of a Naval Intelligence investigation of the defection of the "Tong Yong" and the "Kang Hwa" (Intell. Summary 2439). Eleven of the prisoners were tried by court martial and sentenced to death, and a naval commander was sentenced to 20 years in prison at hard labor. No action has been taken against the other men involved. At the time of the prison break, those prisoners sentenced to death were waiting for a review of their sentence by President RHEE Syngman. (C-2) (b)

f. Contraband Seized: A 30-ton, diesel-driven, wooden cargo vessel was apprehended at a South Korean port, 27 Jul. Eight drums of lubricating oil and 370 new and used automobile tires were aboard the vessel. The tires apparently came from a food company in Seoul, and were destined for Chinese Communist Forces in China. (C-3) (b)

Comment: Previous reports have indicated that various companies in Seoul have acted as a "front" or "go-between" for persons attempting to smuggle goods into China. Lubricating oil and tires are critical items for the Chinese Communist Forces as well as for the Chinese Nationalist Forces.

▪ 제주도 평온(1949. 8. 22)

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Selected items for the information of Commanders and Staffs of the Far East Command

NO. 2539

DATE 22 August 1949

KOREA

Military, Political, Economic, Social Situation,
Press Review, Civil Intelligence, Miscellaneous

MISCELLANEOUS — Selected items for the Information of Commanders and Staffs of the Far East Command — No. 2539

2. Civil Disturbances 1-15 Jul 49:

a. Incidents Scattered: Continuous, aggressive action by the Korean Republic's armed forces resulted in the death of more than 225 guerrillas during the period 1-15 Jul. Approximately 110 civilians, policemen and soldiers were killed while combating the guerrilla forces. Although a majority of the incidents occurred in the southern provinces, the accompanying map shows that considerable action took place along the eastern coast of the mainland. Cheju Island continued to remain quiet, with no serious incidents reported. A summary of important incidents reported during the period is given below. (b)

• 남부지방에서 게릴라와 교전(1949. 8. 29)

SECRET

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Selected Items for the Information of Commanders and Staffs of the Far East Command

NO. 2546 — DATE 29 August 1949

KOREA

Military, Political, Economic, Social Situation,
Press Review, Civil Intelligence, Miscellaneous

Selected Items for the Information of Commanders and Staffs of the Far East Command

MISCELLANEOUS — No. 2546

2. Civil Disturbances 16-31 Jul 49:

a. Majority in Southern Provinces: More than 160 guerrillas and Communists were killed on the Korean mainland by elements of the Korean Army and National Police during the period 16-31 Jul. However, 19 civilians, 18 policemen, and 119 soldiers were killed while combating the guerrilla forces. A majority of the incidents occurred in the southern provinces, although some were scattered along the eastern coast. No serious incident was reported as having occurred on Cheju Island--long the scene of severe guerrilla operations.

• 목포형무소 탈옥사건 발생(1949. 9. 25)

SECRET

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Selected Items for the Information of Commanders and Staffs of the Far East Command

NO. 2573 — DATE 25 September 1949