

prisoners were killed in the attempt; 353 others got away, after six prison guards were killed and nine wounded. Combined army, navy, and police forces pursued the fugitives. Army sources reported 237 of them killed, 85 captured, and 6 returned of their own accord, as of September 20th. There was some confusion as to the exact figures on escapees and casualties.³ The Director of the Penal Bureau, Department of Justice, who personally investigated the prison break, attributed it to overcrowding of prisons (as mentioned in the Political Summary for August, page 10), poor security planning, absence of some guards on detail elsewhere, and possible subversion among the guards. The fact that the escape was announced over the P'yongyang radio within a few hours of its occurrence suggested the probability of outside Communist assistance. Many of the Mokp'o inmates had participated in the Communist insurrection on Cheju Island.

Mokp'o was not the only badly overcrowded prison in Korea, and the incident there emphasized the possibility of similar occurrences elsewhere unless steps were taken to improve prison conditions. Thought was being given to segregation of political prisoners in separate establishments, and plans were going forward for the conversion of an unused factory in the Yongdunngp'o district of Seoul into a penitentiary. Owing to lack of funds and to the greater apparent urgency of catching more Communists, rather than caring for those already imprisoned, such plans for reform were proceeding at a slow pace.

3. Embassy airgram A-288, Sept. 26.

• 9월 28일 국회 회기 종료(1949. 10. 10)

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Despatch 629
RESTRICTED

DIVISION OF
NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

American Embassy
Korea, October 10, 1949

Noted

Subject: Closed Session of the National Assembly, September 28th.

The Ambassador has the honor to enclose ten copies of an official summary of the closed meeting of the Korean National Assembly which took place on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 28th.

The closed meeting of September 28th was attended by the President, virtually all Ministers and the highest ranking military and naval officers of the Republic for the purpose of hearing the reports and suggestions of various Assembly members who had visited their home districts in recent weeks. As is indicated

in the enclosed summary and in a classified summary transmitted earlier without cover despatch, there was considerable criticism of the Government in local regions. Criticism particularly emphasized that the Military Police interfered unjustifiably and without sufficient discrimination in civilian affairs, that too frequent arrests of innocent persons against whom personal enemies spoke were made, that investigatory organs should be unified, that forced contributions by various official organizations should cease and that relief measures for damaged areas and for refugees should be more effective.

Speeches before the Assembly were made by the President, the Prime Minister and the Minister of National Defense. All of these were short and not of crucial importance, generally attempting to answer the criticisms made and promising some remedial measures. Of some interest is the opening address of the President, the official notes of which have now been personally examined by an employee of this Embassy, though they are still considered restricted by the Korean Government. The essential parts of the President's brief message were as follows:

"First of all, I want to urge you to be more punctual at Assembly meetings and make better use of your time

"Every day that we delay offensive action against North Korea makes it that much more difficult for us to restore our lost territory. We are absolutely capable of defeating a combined force of Chinese and Korean communists. But this problem cannot be solved without solving the cold war. All that we can do for the present is to prepare ourselves for the take-over of the North which will eventually come. To do this, we must stamp out communism in the South and promote the efficiency of our Government.

Enclosure *W*
National Assembly Summary,
dated October 7, of closed
session (10 copies)

<첨부문서> 국회 요약서

Subject: National Assembly Summary

Translation of the official summary of the Closed Meeting of the National Assembly, Wednesday, September 28, compiled by the Office of the Secretary-General.

Names of members reporting on each province at the Closed Meeting:

Kyunggi-do	KVAK Sang Hoon
Hwanghae-do	O T'aek Kwan
Kangwon-do	KIM Kwang Choon
Ch'ongch'ung Pukto	HONG Soon Ok
Ch'ongch'ung Namdo	LEE Chong Rin

Kyungsang Pakto
Kyungsang Hando
Chulla Pakto
Chulla Hando
Chejoo-do

CHUNG To Yung
CHOO Xi Yong
YOOH Suk Zoo
O Suk Choo
O Ryong Kook

Gist of statements made by above-mentioned members:

O Ryong Kook, Chejoo-Do

- A. Commend the Government for having made noticeable improvements in the general situation in Chejoo-Do.
- B. Importance of encouraging the National Society in Chejoo-Do as a means of spiritual reconstruction.
- C. What is the cause of delay in repairing and rebuilding the roads in Chejoo-Do?
- D. Urgency of uniting criminal investigation organs.
- E. Strict punishment must be given those who make false accusations against innocent citizens.
- F. Urgency of carrying out relief measures for refugees.
- G. Prompt action of the District Court of Chejoo as well as the District Procurator's office on pending cases is urgently wanted.

G. Henderson
G. Henderson
Third Secretary

주한미군사고문단의 『고문관 편람』(1949. 10. 28)

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy,

Seoul, October 23, 1949.

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OCT 31

No. 679

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Encls.)

UNCLASSIFIED

FILED OF
ASIAN AFFAIRS
1949
Holl-Fredrichsen

DCR Subject: Transmitting copies of KMAC Advisor's Handbook
3.1.11111111
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S/CPA ENC

The Ambassador has the honor to enclose, for the Depart