

Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-438, December 20, 1949

Referring to airgram A-423, December 15, of this Embassy, and references therein, reporting the President's statement of December 13 on the use of torture, the Tong A Ilbo of December 16 reported that Home Minister KIM Eyo Suk of the Republic of Korea, in a speech at Taegu on December 11, stated: "The torturing of communists by the police is not to be criticized." Summarizing his speech, the Tong A article continued: "In other words, it is unavoidable to employ torture in cross-examining the communists who were arrested after having committed murder, arson, etc., for the purpose of destroying the Republic of Korea. However, it is strictly prohibited to torture good citizens. He acknowledged that the people are suffering from the rampancy of corrupt officials and some wicked police and army men, but he stated that such phenomena possibly occur in the fight against communists and that the people who have complaints should first of all hate the communists. Since it is very hard for 100,000 soldiers and 50,000 policemen to route the communists, the people should stand up and participate in the fight against the communists. Only when the communists are routed can civil rights be protected, people's livelihood solved and a democratic society established. He stated that it is a mistake to blame all the public officials because of the mischiefs of some of them and it's also a sort of rebellious act which will be welcome to the communists. Therefore, the people should not vaguely complain but point out such misconducts concretely. Then a remedy, he declared, will be taken immediately."

The Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, CHANG Kyun Keun, has said privately to an officer of this Embassy: "We must use torture sometimes because the communists will not always confess unless we torture them and we need this information to discover their crimes."

GHenderson:wd

MUCCIO

• 미군사고문단장이 국방부장관에게 보내는 서한(1949. 12. 30)

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1950 JAN 19 PM 2 57

BUREAU OF
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

No. 832

DIVISION OF
American Embassy
Seoul, December 30, 1949.
File/au

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Progress made by Korean Security Forces:
Transmitting copy of letter from Chief,
KMAC, 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, KMAC, 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 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, KMAC, 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. HANSEN, Jr.	" 052278:	Adv 7th Division
Lt. Col. Ralph W. HANSEN	" 0300198:	Adv G-3
Lt. Col. Anthony E. LUKOWSKI	" 0226856:	Adv QM
Lt. Col. Floy W. MCGINN	" 042127:	Adv G-1
Lt. Col. Robert E. MYERS	" 0349098:	Director of Supply
Lt. Col. Orman G. CHARLES	" 029954:	Adv Signal
Lt. Col. M. J. BARTOSIK	" 052145:	Adjutant General
Major Robert F. FREY	" 0375479:	Asst Adv 6th Division
Major Russell C. GELST, Jr.	" 046585:	Adv G-4
Major Arno P. MOWITZ, 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. FISCHGEUND	" 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

• 게릴라 규모와 활동(1950. 5. 15)

FOR SIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE AIR POUCH

Department of State

NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

From: SEOUL 389 April 15, 1950

Noted, [unclear] APR 24 1950

RE:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT: GUERRILLA STRENGTH AND ACTIVITY

Guerrilla Strength in the Taebaek-san Area

The present Taebaek-san force of approximately 100 disorganized guerrillas was composed of two units led by LEE Ho Chai* and his tenant, KIM Tal San **. Lee's death in action during the first week of April seems to have been confirmed. After about three weeks of active evidence, Kim's death, reported on March 24, has not been accepted by the Korean Army.

Guerrilla Strength in the Chiri-san Area

*Lee was a former member of the South Korea Labor Party's Central Committee and led a group of 300 guerrillas from the North into the Taebaek-san area in September 1949.

**Kim has been a guerrilla leader since the 1948 uprisings on Chongryon. He was alleged to have been in Yosu in October 1948 when disaffected Korean Army units rebelled. Later, he was in the Chiri-san area and was active.