

(2) The Nation-list Party (KOOK MIN DANG): This party was more conservative in its declaration of approval than the Democratic Party, but said that Lt Gen HODGE's statement was "an inevitable conclusion". However, even this opponent of the Korean People's Republic criticized the US policy by saying, "at any rate, it is extremely regrettable that Military Government is interfering with Korean problems, which should be solved by the Koreans themselves".

(3) The New Korean National Party (CHIN HAN MIN CHOK DANG): As reported in US FIK G-2 Weekly Summary #13, a number of democratic parties united to form a single party to support the Provisional Government. Some 22 parties dissolved and have now come together under the name of the New Korean National Party. It is reported that several other organizations share the views of this new party, but did not dissolve because they are organized for social, literary, or cultural, rather than political purposes.

c. Korean People's Republic (CHOSUN IN MIN KONGH WAGWA): This organization and its supporters were more active than their rivals. Naturally, the reply to Lt Gen HODGE's statement was a matter of considerable interest. Several points were made. It was contended that pro-Japanese and traitors (meaning members of the HANOOK Democratic Party) caused the misunderstandings between the People's Republic and Military Government. This is the same old argument given each time it has tangled with military authorities. Also, it was said that the leaders promised Lt Gen HODGE only to bring up the question of change of name at the conference of 20-22 November, but the assembly voted against it at that time. Then, it was said that the Korean People's Republic has agreed to do everything asked of it, except change its name. Lastly, it was pointed out that the Korean Provisional Government is able to refer to itself as a "government" and was able to hold "cabinet meetings" without attack by Military Government.

(1) Korean Communist Party (CHOSUN KONGSAN DANG): A spokesman stated that the party is supported by the following groups: Communistic Young Men's Union, nation-wide Labor Council, nation-wide Farmers' Union, General Young Men's Association and the nation-wide Women's Association.

Mr PAK, Hun Jung, leader of the party, received considerable publicity. He was elected an honorary chairman of the conference of the All-Korea Young Men's League and an honorary president of the conference of All-Korea Farmers' League. According to newspaper reports, his proposal that a unified bloc be formed with the right and left wings having equal representation was rejected by the right unless the latter could have a majority in number. He referred to the Provisional Government as the "exiled" or "fugitive" government, and said that the latter should leave their kingly life, contact the laboring classes and cooperate with the progressive forces which propose the establishment of a unified government.

(2) Korean People's Party (CHOSUN IN MIN DANG): Mr LYUH, Sun Hyung, leader of this party and also leader of the Korean People's Republic, criticized the Provisional Government and the Central Council for the Rapid Realization of Independence (DOLLIB TUH'OKSAWNG CHOONANG HYAWBI HAY). He said that he had tried to cooperate with the heads of the Provisional Government, but found them very dogmatic and that he was embarrassed and insulted by being searched by guards each time he called on them. Regarding the Central Council for the Rapid Realization of Independence, he said that the executive committee had not met since early November for the following reasons: the first meeting was adjourned because five of the seven members present were from the HANOOK Democratic Party, one was from the Nationalist Party, and he was from the People's Party, and the ratio was determined to be unreasonable; subsequent meetings proposed by the Democratic Party were rejected because it was felt that no party should disregard the Central Council and attempt to arrange such a meeting.

Following Lt Gen HODGE's statement, the People's Party expressed regret that friction exists between the Military Government and the already established People's Government (Korean People's Republic) and further expressed the expectation that some of the local People's Committees which misunderstand the policies of the Central People's Committee will follow the future instructions of the central organization.

(3) All-Korea Farmers' Union: Some 650 representatives of farmers' unions throughout KOREA convened in SEOUL 8-10 December. These men claim to

represent unions having a membership of approximately 3,000,000 and to be representative of 17,000,000 Korean farmers. The conference was definitely political in nature. Mr STALIN and Mr PAK, Hun Yung, leader of the Korean Communist Party, were elected honorary presidents of the conference. Leaders of the Korean People's Republic, Korean Communist Party, Korean People's Party, and the Provisional Government made speeches. The conference passed a resolution that a message of thanks be sent to Mr KIM, Moo Chwang, leader of the Korean Independence Alliance in YENAN, and General KIM, Il Sawng, a Korean patriot who fought with the Chinese against the Japs in MANCHURIA and who is now one of the important Korean political leaders in Russian-occupied KOREA. However, the most important political move of the conference was the decision to support the Korean People's Republic.

(4) All-Korea Youth's General League: This organization, consisting of representatives of youth groups from throughout KOREA, met in SEOUL 12-13 December. This conference also was political in nature. The following were elected honorary chairmen: Mr PAK, Hun Yung, of the Communist Party, Mr LYUH, un Hyung, of the People's Party; Mr KIM, Moo Chwang, of the Korean Independence Alliance of YENAN; General KIM, Il Sawng, of N KOREA; and Mr MITCHELSON, Chairman of the World's Youth Meeting recently held in LONDON. The League pledged full support to the Korean People's Republic.

On the second day of the meeting, Mr HAN, Chai Dawk, the editor of the People's News of PYONGYANG (380-1820), principal city of N KOREA, and representative of PYONGAN-NAM DO Province, told a story about General KIM, Il Sawng. According to Mr HAN, General KIM, who is 32 years old, fought against the Japs in MANCHURIA. He did many heroic deeds, and is highly respected in KOREA. It is said that Marshal STALIN recognized his distinguished services in the fight to destroy Japanese Imperialism, and called him to MOSCOW to award him a medal for his work. It is reported that upon presenting the medal STALIN said, "There is no country that will reward you for your distinguished service to your country; therefore, on behalf of your country, I honor you and award this 'Red Medal'." General KIM was further described as a man who did not want KOREA to become wholly a left-wing nation and, therefore, was instrumental in establishing the Democratic Party in PYONGYANG.

During the war, General KIM organized a Korean Volunteer Army, a guerrilla organization, in MANCHURIA. It is reported that this army was supplied by the Russians, and that General KIM was otherwise closely associated with the Soviet forces. The activities of General KIM and his followers received considerable publicity throughout KOREA and he has the status of a legendary hero in the minds of most Koreans, though few have actually seen him. It appears that he is a Communist. The Russians have made him, or have permitted him to be, a political leader in N KOREA. In S KOREA, several Communist organizations, including the All-Korea Labor Unions, the All-Korea Farmers' League and the All-Korea Youths' League, all supporters of the Korean People's Republic, have elected him as one of their honorary leaders. The publicity being given General KIM may reasonably be assumed to be for the purpose of building him up as a future potential leader for KOREA.

7. MISCELLANEOUS.

None.

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2 Incls:

- Incl 1 - "Will Korea Take the Middle Road?"
- Incl 2 - Statement from the Commanding General, USARMC.

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