

SECTION 3  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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I N F O R M A T I O N P R O G R A M S

Rice Collection

1. The Mobile Education Train was utilized in January to publicize the rice collection program in Cholla-pukto.

2. The Department of Public Information issued three special pamphlets which urged completion of the rice collection program by 22 January, the beginning of the Korean New Year. The booklets emphasized the necessity for complete co-operation in the program and advised farmers of the availability of fertilizer from the United States.

Civic Information

3. Articles were published in the Chukan Digest by the City of Seoul to publicize governmental activities and familiarize Seoul citizens with their city government and officials.

Refutation of Propaganda

4. On 24 January 22 Korean newspapermen from Seoul visited the port of Inchon and witnessed the unloading of food for American personnel from a United States Army transport. This visually refuted malicious propaganda that Americans in South Korea were utilizing Korean foodstuffs.

Scientific Journals

5. Scientific publications purchased from Rockefeller Foundation funds granted to Korea by the American Library Association were received in January for use in information centers.

Publication Rights

6. Articles by prominent authors whose copyrights have been purchased by the United States War Department will be released to responsible Korean publishers by the Department of Public Information. The Department will arrange to obtain free reprint privileges for articles or stories selected by Korean editors from American sources ~~but~~ not on the present available list.

MOTION PICTURES

7. A motion picture entitled "Cholera" was completed and will be utilized for general orientation and education of the public in cholera control.

American films led in the number of releases in January.

RADIO

Programs

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by SRS*

~~8. An address "New Young Men in the New Year" by ~~General Lee~~  
*the* ~~General Lee~~, leader of the Korean Youth Movement, was broadcast on 9  
January.~~

The "Military Government Hour" on 12 January presented a broadcast of the activities of the Winter Institute. On 18 January the Hour was sponsored by the Department of Police which gave a ~~dram~~ dramatic sketch of police methods used in the performance of normal duties and activities.

9. Information programs included newscasts, the "Home Hour," Korean language lessons, "Lessons in Democracy," Korean music appreciation, "Domestic Science Hour," "Looking into the Future of the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly," shortwave news from New York, "Letters from Listeners," public notices and reports on commodity prices.

Religious Broadcasts

10. Members of the Confucian, Buddhist and Christian clergy were given broadcast time to conduct devotions for their followers.

PRESS AND PUBLIC OPINIONPress Analysis

11. Discussion of Trusteeship was the dominant feature of press comment throughout the month. Papers continued the practice of reporting actions and statements of political parties, groups and personages to express views. Comment on Military Government, the United States-Soviet Joint Commission and some on the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly was related to Trusteeship.

12. The increase of interest in Trusteeship caused newspaper attention to shift to the activities and statements of Rightist groups and leaders.

The Rightist Dong-A Ilbo commented in detail on the resolution against Trusteeship passed by the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly. The paper stated Rightist organizations including the Democratic Council, the Korean Democratic Party and the Korean Independence Party believe that the vote of 44 to 1 in the Legislative Assembly was the reflection of the general will of the people; and that Rightist leaders were planning a permanent organization to launch a nationwide movement against Trusteeship.

13. All Seoul newspapers published without comment the statement of the Commanding General, USAFIK, relative to the anti-Trusteeship resolution passed by the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly.

14. The Leftist Seoul Shin Mun reported that there was noticeable dissension in the Hankook Democratic Party on the issue of Trusteeship, chiefly in the Chungking group which is against Trusteeship.

This same paper reported a meeting of the Patriotic political groups was held at the headquarters of the Hankook Democratic Party on 16 January. The paper noted that approximately 30 organizations sent representatives and that a committee of nine members was selected to study ways and means of launching an active anti-Trusteeship movement. The meeting decided to cancel the signing of Joint Communique No. 5 and to deny the existence of the so-called coalition committee from which the Rightist groups decided to recall their representatives.

15. The Rightist Dai Dong Sin Moon reported that on 20 January the Korean Independence Party issued a statement criticizing General Hodge's stand on freedom of expression. It stated the Party is of the opinion that he changed his attitude in the matter of Trusteeship, and it congratulated the members of the Legislative Assembly who passed the resolution denouncing Trusteeship.

16. Seoul Shin Mun reported that a meeting of 30 Leftist organizations upheld the Russian contentions and maintained that those who have been objecting to Trusteeship should not be consulted by the Joint Commission; that there are inconsistencies in the comments of General Hodge; and that they believe those who signed Joint Communiqué No. 5 commit themselves to support the Moscow Agreement fully.

17. Reports of statements, speeches and telegrams concerning Trusteeship made by Kim Koo and Syngman Rhee were featured in Hyern Dai Ilbo, Dai Dong Sin Moon, Dong-A Ilbo and the Seoul Times.

18. At the end of the month Dong-A Ilbo reported the anti-Trusteeship movement was still under way. The paper said 43 members of the anti-Trusteeship Committee met on 29 January and conducted an initiation ceremony. The Committee decided, according to the report, to dispatch diplomats to leading countries, and to send an unofficial representative to the Four Ministers' Conference. At home they decided to launch a systematic anti-Trusteeship movement on 1 March, the date of the Korean Declaration of Independence.

19. Dong-A Ilbo reported both Rightist and Leftist organizations were demanding the dissolution of the Coalition Committee. The paper asserted the Hankook Democratic Party was of the opinion the formation of the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly had ended the usefulness of the Committee while the Peoples' Front maintained the so-called Coalition Committee was a means whereby the committee members deceived the masses.

Rightist Dai Dong Sin Moon reported the Democratic Council recalled its representatives on the Committee and a Chosun Ilbo report stated the Emergency National Congress on 16 January issued a statement denouncing the Coalition Committee.

20. The right-wing Chosun Ilbo reported the reactions of various political groups to the correspondence between the American and Soviet zone commanders relative to the reopening of the United States-Soviet Joint Commission. Attitudes ranged from that of the Headquarters of the United People which asserted General Hodge had changed his attitude completely and is in alliance with the Russians to enforce the iron chain of Trusteeship upon Koreans to that of the Peoples' Front which praised General Hodge for his sane views.

Neutral Kyeng Hyang Sin Mun reported that the reply of General Hodge to the Russian Commander dated 24 December 1946 contained no indication of any change or modification in the American attitude. The article asserted any comments he made were not contradictory to the fundamental policy of the United States Government.

21. A Seoul Shin Mun editorial stated that the international aspects of the Korean problem made it impossible to realize Korean independence unless the Joint Commission met and fulfilled the terms of the Moscow Decision. It asserted that although there is a tendency to launch a so-called peoples' movement protesting the Moscow Decision and demanding immediate independence, such a move might result in Rightist leaders' being refused consultations with the Joint Commission.

Chosun Ilbo editorialized that the American attitude toward freedom of expression had not changed and called upon the Russians to tell Koreans what they mean by "Guardianship."

Dong-A Ilbo reported that the anti-Trusteeship Convention sponsored by the Federation of Students passed a resolution which asked the signatory powers of the Moscow Agreement to abrogate it and that the Yalta secret pact be annulled.

22. Chayoo Shin Mun, Leftist, contended the Korean Interim Legislative Assembly was a means of strengthening and assisting Military Government. The article alleged that the members were one-sided which might result in dissension among Koreans.

~~23. Comment on Military Government was primarily concerned~~

*debits.*

~~with the 4 January statement of the Commanding General, USAFIK. An editorial published by the neutral Chung Oi Sin Po stated it was grateful for what the Allies have done for Korea, but that during 1946 Military Government was a failure. Hyang Hyang Sin Mun reported the Headquarters of the United People issued a statement which declared in part that Korea is the victim of differences of opinion between the Americans and the Russians. An editorial in the latter paper on American policy in Korea maintained that the United States has no sinister design on Korea but wished to help Korea in regaining her independence and place in the family of nations.~~

*delete*

24. Chosun Ilbo published an editorial which urged the public to aid the rice collection program and thereby check profiteering and inflation. Dok Ilb Sin Bo also commented upon the rising cost of living. Chayoo Shin Mun reported Leftist educators issued a statement demanding that all pro-Japanese, fascist elements, profiteers and relics of feudalism be eliminated from the educational system.

Newsprint

25. Paper rationing was completed on 4 January. Newsprint shortages were reported 21 January, but the inadequate supply made it impossible to fill additional requests.