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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

31 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation
I. Military Situation.

In North Korea the appearance of seven cases of smallpox in
Pusan is a warning of the SUMMARY's public health committee.
Refugees from the southeast section of Korea and Korea
a number of the United States Korean public health facilities.
Enemy activity has been confined to minor attacks, with heaviest
pressures near Chinju in the south and Hamchang in the west sector.
(Latest press reports state that both Chinju and Hamchang have fallen
to the enemy.) Movement of troops and materials from rear areas to
front lines have been considerable.

SECTOR REPORTS

In the south, an undetermined number of North Korean troops
attacked elements of the US Nineteenth Regiment near Chinju.
Numerous enemy troops and vehicles were observed in the vicinity of
Hadong.

In the lower west sector, elements of a North Korean Division
attacked the US Thirty-Fourth Regiment with unknown results.

On the main western sector, the US First Cavalry Division was
subjected to harassing mortar fire and ten miles west of Sangju an
armoured attack was launched against the US Twenty-Fifth Division.

In the east sector near Andong, elements of the Eighth ROE
Division were attacked by approximately 800 troops of the Seventh
North Korean Division, in what appeared to be another attempt at
encirclement.

Below Yongdok, on the east coast, the Third ROE Division
succeeded in repulsing the left flank of the opposing Fifth Korean
Division.

Units of the Seventh Fleet have continued bombardment and carrier
air strikes, and have also been engaged in attempts to protect the
south flank of UN forces in the Chinju area.

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II. Other Developments.

According to Radio Pyongyang, Kim Il Sung, Communist Chief of North Korea, told a French correspondent of "L'Humanite" that although US "intervention" has protracted the war, the Korean people are firmly determined to fight until they "take over the whole country" by themselves. Kim made no mention of foreign support, except to say that the Army is guaranteed enough weapons and ammunition for victory. He ascribed the certainty of a North Korean victory to "unity" and "determination" of the Korean peoples, and to the lack of a whole hearted effort by American citizens and soldiers who do not desire "this kind of war."

In South Korea the appearance of seven cases of small pox in Pusan is a warning of the dangerous public health condition developing as refugees crowd the southeast section of Korea and force a breakdown of the inadequate Korean public health facilities. Ambassador Muccio believes that the menace of epidemics provides an excellent opportunity to solicit international participation in non-military activities in Korea.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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