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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

6 July 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

Northern Korean forces, displaying resourcefulness and tactical skill in initial contact with advance elements of the US 24th Division in the Osan area, continue to push slowly but steadily southward. There is no indication that Northern forces are yet experiencing logistical problems sufficient to slow their present rate of advance of approximately ten miles a day.

In action against US elements, Northern ground forces lost 4 tanks, but the coordinated Northern attack, which used 30 tanks supported by infantry, forced a US withdrawal. Three Northern divisions simultaneously by-passed Osan, moving in the direction of Pyongtaek. The Southern 17th Regiment has withdrawn from Osan to Pyongtaek, while remnants of the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Southern Divisions are being absorbed into the 1st and 7th Divisions.

In air operations, four Northern planes, reportedly bearing Republican markings, struck at Osan and knocked out telephone facilities. Poor weather forced US aircraft to rely on radar bombing of Northern Korean targets and prevented assessment of damage. There was no significant naval activity.

II. Political Stability.

A continuing will to resist among Republican officials is indicated by a resolution passed by the National Assembly Emergency Council on 4 July. The resolution heartily supported governmental actions mobilizing all the Republic's resources "to fight shoulder-to-shoulder with armed forces of those friendly nations" which have responded to the UN Security Council's decision to aid the Republic. The resolution was signed by

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Shin Ik Hi, Chairman of the National Assembly, and was the first indication that Shin, a widely respected individual, had succeeded in accompanying the Government in its move south.

Executions of prominent anti-Communists in Seoul continue to be reported. Meanwhile, Kim Kiu Sik, a leader of Korean "middle-of-the-road" parties who is widely known for his leadership of overseas resistance during the period of Japanese occupation, is apparently collaborating with the Northern invaders.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
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