

Central Registry (801-16-4) GA-General - U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea - Documents Submitted to 1 Feb, 1946  
3 March, 1948

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*17/11/49 RRB*—



## INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Reference No. 801-16-4/hg

Date 3 March 1948TO: Br. Protitch, Security Council Affairs,FROM: Office of the Chief,  
Communications and Records Service.SUBJECT: Received From: Yongjeung Kim, Pres.  
Korean Affairs Institute,  
1029 Vermont Avenue, NW,  
Washington, D.C.

It is thought that your Department may wish to see this communication before any action is taken on it.

Will you please indicate in the appropriate space below how you consider the communication should be disposed of.

Please note that this memorandum should not be separated from the communication.

1. If no action of any kind is needed, INITIALS DATE  
please return this memorandum with  
the communication attached and  
initial here.....

2. If no action is needed, but you wish INITIALS DATE  
a formal acknowledgement of receipt  
to be sent, please return this memo-  
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attached and initial here.....

3. If you wish to submit a draft reply INITIALS DATE  
to be sent out from the Executive  
Office of the Secretary-General,  
please attach the draft to these  
papers and return them after  
initialling here.....

4. Please use the space below if you wish to make any further  
observations on the disposal of the communication or if you  
wish to state what other action you consider should be taken.



*No* *See note by Mr Chen*

A C T I O N	DUPLICATED FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
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	COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	
	MEMORANDUM COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO	
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ACTION	INITIALS	DATE
COMPLETED:	DATE	

*hpf* *22.9.48*



# KOREAN AFFAIRS INSTITUTE

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

1029 VERMONT AVE.  
NORTHWEST



TELEPHONE  
NATIONAL 7868

"Devoted to Freedom"

WASHINGTON 5, D.C.

REF. NO. 801716-4  
NAME INDEXED  
SUBJ. INDEXED

MAR 2 1948

March 1, 1948

His Excellency Trygvie Lie  
Secretary General of the United Nations  
Lake Success, New York

My dear Mr. Secretary General:

May I take the pleasure of informing you that the following cablegram has been sent to His Excellency Manuel Roxas, President of the Philippine Republic:

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS SENATOR MELICIO ARRANZ, PHILIPPINE DELEGATE TO UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON KOREA, ON FEBRUARY 27 OVER PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT RADIO, ADVOCATED THAT UNITED STATES ESTABLISH MILITARY AND NAVAL BASES IN KOREA. IF THIS REPORT IS CORRECT, THE SENATOR IS NOT THE PROPER PERSON TO SERVE EITHER THE INTERESTS OF KOREA, WHILE SHE IS BEING MADE TO SUFFER BECAUSE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN DISCORD, OR THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN ITS STRUGGLE TO MAINTAIN HARMONY IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. HIS ATTITUDE WILL ONLY AGGRAVATE FURTHER SOVIET-AMERICAN DIFFERENCES IN KOREA. IN VIEW OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC'S EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR THE FREEDOM OF KOREA, I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY OF BRINGING THE MATTER TO YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION FOR YOUR PROPER CONSIDERATION. A COPY OF THIS CABLEGRAM IS BEING SENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY TRYGVIE LIE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

Respectfully yours,

*Yongjeung Kim*  
Yongjeung Kim  
President  
KOREAN AFFAIRS INSTITUTE

YK/dh



*In view of the date & the nature of this letter, no reply is deemed necessary. Arthur*



**ACTION**

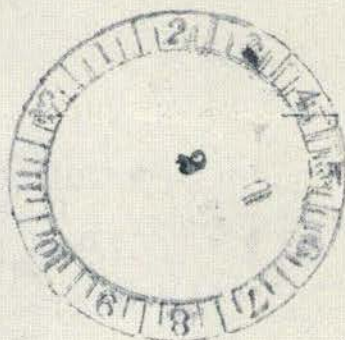
DUPLICATED FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO  
 DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL  
 AFFAIRS. *Dr. Prohlich L.F.*

COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO  
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION  
 MEMORANDUM COPY FOR ACTION  
 INFORMATION TO

INITIALS *hy* DATE *3.3.48*

ACTION COMPLETED: INITIALS DATE





*Central Registry*

NAME	INDEXED
SUBJ.	INDEXED

*42*

To: Mr. P. J. Schmidt,  
Principal Secretary,  
United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea.

From: A. W. Gordier  
Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General.

Subject: Communications Received from the Korean Commission  
in Washington.

6 February 1948.

..... I am sending you herewith copies of two communications  
which the Chairman of the Korean Commission has recently sent  
..... to the Secretary-General accompanied by a copy of my reply.

You may consider it desirable to bring these two communications to the attention of the Chairman of the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea.

*for your files 801-16-4*



NAME	LT
SUB	

801/16-4/HG

8 January 1948

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 20 December 1947, transmitting a resolution adopted by the Korean Christian Council.

Yours very truly,

Bertil A. Renborg, Chief  
Communications and Records Service  
COK

Sartell Prentice, Jr., Esq.,  
Administrative Secretary,  
Commission of the Churches  
on International Affairs,  
297 Fourth Avenue,  
New York 10, N.Y.

ee

ee





THE KOREAN COMMISSION  
416 COLUMBIAN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

801-16-4  
REF. NO. 801-16-9  
NAME IND. CG  
SUBJ. W  
DEC 29 1947  
C

December 26, 1947

Dr. Victor Hoo  
Temporary Commission on Korea  
United Nations  
Lake Success, New York

Dear Dr Hoo:

Accept my sincere appreciation for your kindness shown upon my recent call. I wish you a very happy holiday season.

I have just returned to Washington and have already shipped to your office in Lake Success to following reference materials on Korea, by Railway Express Special Delivery. I understand that they should be delivered on Saturday, December 27th, or on Monday at the latest. I hope they will arrive in time so that you will be able to take them with you to Korea to be distributed to the various members of the Temporary Commission.

25 copies	National Program of Korea.
25 copies	Speech by Dr. Syngman Rhee.
25 copies	Speech by B. C. Limb.
24 copies	"Divided Korea" - a pamphlet.
24 copies	"The Occupation of Korea" - a pamphlet.
24 copies	"Korea Looks Ahead" - a booklet.
24 copies	"The Russians Came to Korea" - a book.
24 copies	"Korean Language Guide" - a booklet.
24 copies	"Korean Phrase Book" - a booklet.

If there is anything further I could do to be of service, please do not hesitate to let me know at any time.

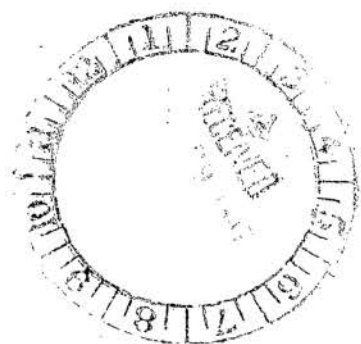
Again I most sincerely wish you and the Commission all the successes in the world in your noble task for Korea.

Yours sincerely,

*B. C. Limb*  
B. C. Limb

*Reply in*  
*314-5-9*







## INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Reference No. 801-16-4/HG

Date 5 January 1948

TO: Department of Security Council AffairsFROM: Office of the Chief,  
Communications and Records Service.SUBJECT: Received From: Commission of the Churches on International Affairs,  
297 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y., dated 20 Dec. 1947

It is thought that your Department may wish to see this communication before any action is taken on it.

Will you please indicate in the appropriate space below how you consider the communication should be disposed of.

Please note that this memorandum should not be separated from the communication.

1. If no action of any kind is needed, please return this memorandum with the communication attached and initial here.....

INITIALS DATE

2. If no action is needed, but you wish a formal acknowledgement of receipt to be sent, please return this memorandum with the communication attached and initial here.....

INITIALS DATE

3. If you wish to submit a draft reply to be sent out from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, please attach the draft to these papers and return them after initialling here.....

INITIALS DATE

4. Please use the space below if you wish to make any further observations on the disposal of the communication or if you wish to state what other action you consider should be taken.



**ACTION**

DUPLICATED FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO  
DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL  
AFFAIRS.

COPY FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION  
MEMORANDUM COPY FOR ACTION  
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INITIALS *Hy* DATE *D. I. 48*

ACTION COMPLETED: INITIALS DATE



COMMISSION OF THE CHURCHES ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Established by  
The World Council of Churches  
and  
The International Missionary Council

KENNETH G. GRUBB, C.M.G. (London)

~~Director~~ **Executive Chairman**

O. FREDERICK NOLDE (New York)

~~Associate Director~~

SARTELL PRENTICE (New York)

Administrative Secretary

297 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

December 20, 1947

REF. NO. <i>801-16-4</i>	GR Mercer 5-3475
NAME IND. ....	
SUBJ. IND. ....	
DEC 24 1947	
B	

The Honorable Trygve Lie, Secretary-General  
The United Nations  
Lake Success, New York

Dear Sir:

At the request of the Korean Christian Council, I  
take pleasure in transmitting to you the following resolution  
adopted some months ago by that body:

"The National Christian Council of Korea  
approved the Marshall proposal sent to the  
United Nations concerning Korea. We hope  
this proposal may be quickly realized and  
are grateful to the General Assembly of the  
United Nations for its efforts relative to  
the problems in Korea."

Very truly yours,



Sartell Prentice, Jr.  
Administrative Secretary

SP:HA



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~~DUPLICATED FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT~~

COPY FOR ACTION ~~MEMORANDUM~~ TO  
DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY CONTROL  
AFFAIRS. *LF*

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM COPY FOR ACTION  
INFORMATION TO

TITLE: *Hy*

DATE *31.12.47*

ACTION

INITIALS

COMPLETED:

DATE

*Ed 5/1/48*



DEC 23 9 40 AM 1947

626 East 50th Street  
Los Angeles, California  
December 20, 1947

REF. NO.	801-1.6-4
NAME IND.	
SUBJ. IND.	
DEC 23 1947	
A	

The Honorable Trygve Lie  
Secretary General of the United Nations  
The United Nations Headquarters  
Lake Success, New York

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are enclosing herewith copies of various  
articles which we are today mailing to members of  
the United Nations Korean Commission.

Yours very truly,

*Choon Ho Penn*  
Choon Ho Penn

Representing the American  
Committee to Aid the Korean  
Federation of Trade Unions

*No enclosures received in Reg. Jee*



*No enclosures received*

A C T I O N	DUPLICATED FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
	COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL AFFAIRS.	
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ACTION	INITIALS	
COMPLETED:	DATE	



NAME IN  
SUBJ. IN

801-16-4/FS

3 December 1947

Dear Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 24 November 1947.

The Secretary-General wishes to inform you that your suggestion concerning the temporary Commission on Korea has been referred to the department concerned.

I wish to express the Secretary-General's sincere thanks and appreciation of your continued interest in the work of the United Nations.

Very truly yours,

E. D. Brodnax, Deputy Chief,  
Communications and Records Service.

*E. D. Brodnax*  
*ED*  
Sae Woon Chang, Ph. D.,  
1287 West 36th Street,  
Los Angeles 7,  
California.

*W*



SAE WOON CHANG, PH. D.

1287 WEST 36TH STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

REF. NO. 801-16-4  
NAME IND. ....  
SUBJ. IND. ....

NOV 26 1947

November 24, 1947.

Hon. Trygve Lie  
Secretary General of the U. N.  
the General Assembly of the U. N.  
Lake Success, N. Y.

Sir:

I am glad to learn that the American proposal on Korea has been adopted overwhelmingly by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Since the Korean independence resolution is a major test case in the Far East for the prestige of the United Nations, the plan has to be carried out successfully not only for the sake of the Korean people, but also for the future prestige of the United Nations.

May I offer an opinion for a successful outcome of the plan? The Temporary Commission on Korea will surely need a group of competent experts on Korea. As a suggestion, at least, three or four Koreans should be included in that group; the Koreans must be well-educated, politically impartial, and sound-minded persons.

The Commission should bring with it its own Korean staff from this country, instead of choosing some from the Koreans in Korea, or borrowing some of those serving American authorities in Korea, in order not to arouse any suspicious feelings of many divergent Korean factions in Korea.

In case you need such Koreans as mentioned in this letter, please let me know it. I will try my best to help you in selecting the best qualified persons.

I have the honor to remain

Yours faithfully,

*Sae W. Chang.*

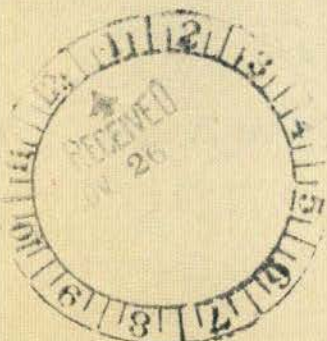
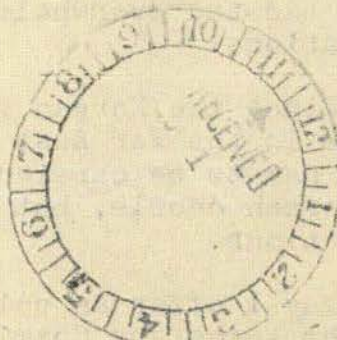
A C T I O N	DUPLICATED FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
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	MEMORANDUM COPY FOR ACTION INFORMATION TO	
	INITIALS <i>L. J. S.</i>	DATE <i>28/1/47.</i>
	INITIALS <i>E. J. Hamb</i>	DATE



RECEIVED

NOV 26 10 07 AM 1947

UN POST OFFICE





## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Reference No.

801-16-4/FS

Date 27 November 1947

TO: Administrative & General Division,  
Security Council Affairs. A3-109.

FROM: *[Signature]* Office of the Chief,  
Communications and Records Service.  
~~Correspondence Unit,~~  
~~Executive Office of the Secretary-General~~

SUBJECT: Communication dated 24 November 1947, received from  
Sae Woon Chang, Ph. D. 1287 West 36th Street, Los Angeles 7,  
California.

It is thought that your Department may wish to see this communication before any action is taken on it.

Will you please indicate in the appropriate space below how you consider the communication should be disposed of.

Please note that this memorandum should not be separated from the communication.

- [Signature]*
- |  |          |      |
|--|----------|------|
| 1. If no action of any kind is needed, please return this memorandum with the communication attached and initial here. . . . .   | INITIALS | DATE |
| 2. If no action is needed, but you wish a formal acknowledgement of receipt to be sent, please return this memorandum with the communication attached and initial here . . . . .                   | INITIALS | DATE |
| 3. If you wish to submit a draft reply to be sent out from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, please attach the draft to these papers and return them after initialling here . . . . . | INITIALS | DATE |
| 4. Please use the space below if you wish to make any further observations on the disposal of the communication or if you wish to state what other action you consider should be taken.            |          |      |



**ACTION**

~~DUPLICATED~~ FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION  
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INFORMATION TO

INITIALS *efs* DATE *3/12/47*

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CRO List No. X 1452

*duplicate*

626 East 50th Street  
Los Angeles, California  
November 23, 1947

REF. NO. 8-04-16-4  
NAME IND. ....  
SUBJ. IND. ....

NOV 25 1947

The United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea  
The United Nations General Assembly  
Flushing Meadow, New York

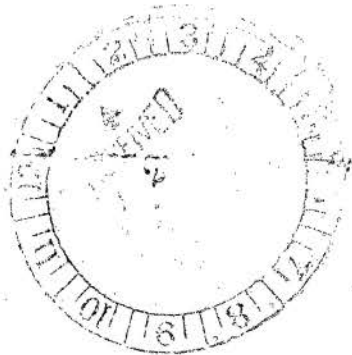
Your Excellency:

Now that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted its Political and Security Committee's Resolution regarding accelerating earliest realization of Korean independence, we, the undersigned, on behalf of the Korean Federation of Trade Unions, would like to take the liberty of submitting herewith to Your Excellency our humble suggestions in relation to the forthcoming elections which are scheduled to be held in Korea by March 31, 1948, under the supervision of a United Nations Commission on Korea.

It is by no means our intention to dispute either merits or demerits of the present action taken by the United Nations General Assembly; rather, we realize efforts put forth by the Assembly for the cause of Korean independence must be appreciated at least by the Korean people in consideration of enormous difficulties of the Assembly's task in nature in this connection. For the United Nations General Assembly cannot be expected always to discover a formula with which every party concerned may be fully satisfied. It is, however, much to be regretted that the United Nations General Assembly was compelled to adopt the present action without inviting elected representatives of the Korean people to its discussions on the political future of their own country and people, and despite its inability to arrive at an accord with the Soviet Union, a power which along with the United States is destined to have a direct and vital bearing upon Korea's future.

Assuming the United Nations, in accordance with its Assembly's decisions, would send in the near future a commission to Korea in connection with the elections, we have the honor of attracting your attention to enclosed mimeographed copies of the texts of two important documents: 1) The Text of the Korean Democratic National Front's Platform on Election, issued on January 22, 1947; and 2) The Text of the Korean Democratic National Front's Statement on Definition of the pro-Japanese Korean Collaborators and National Traitors, issued in February, 1946. The reason why we attach great importance to these two documents is that they represent, we are convinced, universal and democratic aspirations of the masses of the Korean people. In other words, the absolute majority of the Korean people want a new, democratic, united people's Korea. By a people's Korea we mean a Korea which can guarantee a better life for those Koreans who were persecuted under Japanese tyranny and not a Korea of a small minority of the privileged classes, most of whom





*Action taken on original*

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	INITIALS <i>Hy</i>	DATE <i>28.6.47</i>
	ACTION COMPLETED:	INITIALS DATE



are the proven pro-Japanese collaborators and national traitors. The truth of the matter is that in Southern Korea these collaborators and national traitors are indulged in an orgy of tyranny against the democratic forces in their desperate attempt to halt democratic tidal waves; there being many tens of thousands of democratic Korean patriots, including trade union members, writers, newspapermen, teachers, lawyers, students, who are in jail throughout Southern Korea without any decent reasons. It may be noted in this connection that the Korean Federation of Trade Unions and the Korean Democratic National Front in Southern Korea, the two largest organizations in Korea which represent the genuine will of the Korean people, have been forced to go underground owing to barbarous outrages being committed by terrorist bands (a counterpart of Hitler's storm troops) led by Dr. Syngman Rhee, the "spiritual" leader of Korean national traitors, and Kim Koo, under the conniving American occupation authorities. For instance, forty-five "elected" members of the so-called Southern Korea Legislative Assembly, most of whom are followers of Dr. Rhee, were elected last year through frauds and terrorism. This is a proven fact, which even Lieut. Gen. John R. Hodge, American Military Commander in Korea, himself admitted.

The point at issue is that in the event elections are held in Southern Korea under the prevailing conditions--that is, with thousands of democratic leaders and patriots confined in jail and with terrorism and rampancy of Dr. Rhee's fascist gangs left unchecked, there is little likelihood that their outcome represent the true will of the Korean people. Such an election will merely turn out to be a smoke-screen covering a conspiracy of Korean national traitors to set up a separate government in Southern Korea against the genuine will of the Korean people, unless all democratic leaders in jail are released and permitted to participate in it with all the proven pro-Japanese collaborators and national traitors completely excluded. In this respect we hereby submit to your Excellency the texts of the Korean Democratic National Front's statements for your perusal and consideration, for we are firmly convinced that thorough enforcement of the principles contained in these documents will eventually succeed in bringing about earliest unification between Southern and Northern Korea. Therefore, we suggest:

1. THAT ALL THOSE DEMOCRATIC PATRIOTS, WHO HAVE BEEN JAILED IN SOUTHERN KOREA SINCE U. S. OCCUPATION FOR POLITICAL REASONS, SHOULD IMMEDIATELY BE RELEASED AND PERMITTED FREELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS WITHOUT DANGERS OF PHYSICAL HARMS.

2. THAT ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT'S PLATFORM ON ELECTION, AND ALL THE PROVEN PRO-JAPANESE COLLABORATORS AND NATIONAL TRAITORS EXCLUDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT'S DEFINITION OF COLLABORATORS AND TRAITORS.



11-23-47

3. THAT THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION, ON ITS ARRIVAL IN SOUTHERN KOREA, SHOULD CONSULT, JUSTLY AND FAIRLY, WITH ALL QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH RIGHT AND LEFT POLITICAL PARTIES AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION OR PREJUDICES.

4. THAT AS SOON AS ELECTIONS ARE COMPLETED, THE OCCUPYING FORCES IN KOREA SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE.

5. THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD "REFRAIN FROM INTERFERING IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD PREPARATORY TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE, EXCEPT IN PURSUANCE OF THE DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND THEREFORE. . . REFRAIN COMPLETELY FROM ANY AND ALL ACTS DEROGATORY TO THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF KOREA."

We remain

Respectfully yours,

Choon Ho Penn  
Choon Ho Penn

William Lee  
William Lee

Sang Ryup Park  
Sang Ryup Park

Representing the American Committee  
of the Korean Federation of Trade  
Unions,  
626 East 50th Street,  
Los Angeles, California



## TEXT OF THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT'S PLATFORM ON ELECTION IN KOREA

### Transfer of Local Administrative Power

With regard to the recent decision by the American Military Government to transfer the local administrative power to the local autonomous machinery through the people's elections, the Korean Democratic National Front is wholeheartedly in favor of it.

The reason we are in favor of this measure taken by the American Military Government is that we can expect and hope that the American Military Government will reflect the will of the Korean people and comply with their demands, since it has reached decision to transfer the local administrative power to the people. If the local administrative power is to become one which truly represents the people, its form must, first of all, be shaped according to the free will of the people and it must be what the people want. Secondly, elections must be caused to be held on the basis of a progressive democratic election system which enables the people to participate in elections freely and equally. Thirdly, in order that such an election may be held, an environment and conditions must be prepared.

In the event elections are held before these absolutely necessary conditions have been prepared or in the event the local administrative power is transferred to the machinery which has been created as a result of anti-democratic elections, this will mean nothing but extension of the reality of Southern Korea as it is. Not only that, this will be an act deceiving the people's eyes and masquerading in the name of the people.

### Front's Demands

From this standpoint we, the Korean Democratic National Front, in the name of the Korean people, advocate the most fair and reasonable points regarding the local elections as follows, for we declare we are in readiness to cooperate immediately with the American Military Government in the local elections and participate positively in them, provided the American Military Government sincerely recognize and put into execution our demands:

1. The Korean people unanimously demand that the local administrative power be completely transferred to the people's committees, and hope that the people's committees will be constituted as a result of elections based on universal, equal, direct, and secret ballots. We are dead against a local administrative system consisting of provincial governors and provincial consultative bodies. We have already experienced such a system under the Japanese regime, for the Korean people hate it. Inasmuch as this system aims at enforcing compulsorily the dictatorship of the privileged classes and the bureaucracy behind the mask of elections and the people's will, we are flatly opposed to it. It will therefore



absolutely be impossible to improve the actual conditions if this system is maintained. And if this system is maintained, elections will completely pale into insignificance. It must be remembered the people's committees had been created shortly after Korea's liberation. That is, they constitute the political machinery organized by the Korean people before the arrival of the U. S. occupation troops in Southern Korea. This machinery is by no means accidental nor is it a political form imported from abroad.

The people's committees are a historical culmination of the Korean people's liberation movement; they were created purely by initiatives of the masses of the Korean people; and their political form is popular in nature and most suitable to a democratic Korea. Not to mention an epochal success of elections for the people's committees, recently held in Northern Korea, the reasons why the Korean people in Southern Korea are so ardently insistent upon transferring political power to the people's committees and why their demand is so earnest are fully understandable if the success of the elections in Northern Korea is taken into account. As a matter of fact, the Korean people want to make their country a people's republic of democracy, and they demand that all political power of the republic from bottom up be retained in the people's committees. This is why the Korean people shortly after Korea's liberation brought into being the people's committees in all parts of the country. And this is why the Korean people established the government of the people's republic on September 6, 1945, and solemnly proclaimed it to the world.

Therefore, the Korean Democratic National Front, in its declarations, platform and slogans, has to date been insisting on transferring political power to the people's committees in compliance with democratic demands and desires of the Korean people.

### Korean Reactionaries' Traitorous Intrigues

2. An extremely minority group of the Korean reactionaries is opposed to the transfer of political power to the people's committees and hindering the establishment of a government of the people's republic. Most of those who constitute this group are the former pro-Japanese collaborators who positively collaborated with Japanese imperialism in oppressing and robbing the Korean people. The Korean reactionaries with the former pro-Japanese collaborators at the forefront are flattering the American Military Government to conceal their crimes committed against the Korean people and concocting intrigues of all descriptions against the left-wing political parties, social organizations, workers, peasants, clerks and intellectuals in their endeavor to obtain confidence from the people.

They are enemies of the Korean people. They are disparaging the democratic parties and social organizations, intriguing to cause split and even collision between them and the American Military Government. Furthermore, they are plotting to cause the abolition of the Moscow Decision and take advantage of this to seize political power to oppress and exploit the Korean people as they did under the



Japanese rulers. These enemies of the democratic Korea under the subterfuge of the so-called "anti-trusteeship" tried to deceive the Korean people and came out to the surface declaring themselves against the Moscow Decision on Korea. For the Moscow Decision is a decision against these people's enemies--the collaborators, national traitors and reactionaries, its aim being to clean up all the remnants of the virus of the Japanese regime by establishing a democratic Korean government and restoring an independent Korean nation under friendly assistance and help of the four powers (trusteeship) for a short period. In other words, the Moscow Decision is completely compatible with the interest of the Korean people.

Through intrigues and maneuvers against the Moscow Decision the reactionaries as well as the pro-Japanese collaborators caused the breakdown of the U. S.-Russian Joint Commission meetings and delayed the establishment of a unified democratic Korean government. Despite this, they are conspiring to shift the responsibility to others for the failure of the Joint Commission.

Strange as it may seem, the American Military Government is not only putting confidence in such reactionary and anti-people elements, but also it is supporting them. On the contrary, the Korean Democratic National Front which represents several million of the Korean people and which reflects patriotic demands and democratic aspirations of the Korean people is being shunned and opposed to by the American Military Government. We don't see any reason whatever for the American Military Government to take such an attitude toward the Korean Democratic National Front. To tell you the truth, had the American Military Government listened to views of the Korean Democratic National Front, it would have obtained full confidence and respect from the Korean people and fulfilled all its tasks far more easily. Only by depending upon all democratic political parties and social organizations under the leadership of the Korean Democratic National Front the American Military Government could have accomplished all its tasks. Therefore, the local elections should be held after the issue regarding exclusion of the pro-Japanese collaborators and national traitors has sternly been thrashed out, so that they may not repeat the precedent set by the elections for the Southern Korea Interim Legislative Assembly.

#### People's Committees

3. As the local administrative power the people's committees should be constituted as a result of universal, equal, direct, and secret ballot. In other words, with the exception of the former pro-Japanese collaborators, national traitors, insanes, profiteers, and brazen ex-convicts, all Koreans of 20 years old and upward in Southern Korea must have the right to elect and to be elected regardless of creeds, period of residence, intellectual levels, social stature, and properties. Also, women must be granted the equal right with men to elect and to be elected.

4. The central election committee should be entrusted with the task of holding elections for the local administrative machinery; the committee to be consisted of representatives of all political parties and social organizations. The committee should work out



details regarding regulations and rules of the elections.

5. Candidates for the local administrative machinery should be elected from each electorate, and the right to elect granted to all political parties and social organizations, workers and peasants, clerks and intellectuals, and landowners, merchants and businessmen in Southern Korea.

6. For all the political parties and social organizations the freedom of making election campaigns for the elected candidates should fully be guaranteed. For this purpose all the political parties as well as the entire people must immediately be guaranteed the freedoms of speech, press, assembly, association and demonstrations.

7. All those democratic patriots and fighters who have been imprisoned on the charge of having participated in the leftist movement should immediately be set free. At the same time, for all those connected with the recent strikes and the people's uprising of October, 1946, which were caused by the economic distress of the people, an order for their universal release should be issued. Also, they must be guaranteed the possibility of participating in the elections. Unless this is carried out, there will be no democratic election in which people can participate.

8. In connection with elections for the local government an election committee for each "Do" (province), "Shi" (city), "Gun" (county) and "Myen" (town) should be organized; this committee to consist of representatives of the political parties, social organizations, industrial plants, government and public offices, and farmers. Each electorate should have this committee.

9. A people's committee elected as the local regime should have full powers in the locality where it is located while its members should be granted an inviolable right. And it must assume responsibilities in front of the higher people's committees and electors.

#### Reasons for Failure of Legislature

10. The lower people's committees should obey to the higher people's committees. Until the establishment of a democratic Korean provisional government based on the Moscow Decision, the provincial people's committees should obey either to the American Military Government or to the Central Election Committee which will, pro tem, execute responsibilities of a central political regime in Southern Korea. In the elections for the so-called Southern Korea Interim Legislative Assembly the Korean people did not participate. The masses of the Korean people refuse to recognize the Legislature, for all the left-wing political parties and social organizations without exception have not participated in it. More than that, even part of the right-wing political parties and organizations, not to mention all the leftists, voiced opposition to the Legislature. Therefore, the body cannot receive recognition from the people.



The elected people's committee in "Do" (province), "Shi" (city), "Gun" (county) and "Myen" (town) under the direction of the American Military Government should immediately launch democratic reforms in Southern Korea. (The democratic reforms should include an ordinance on land reform for distribution of those confiscated lands to peasants without compensation; an ordinance regarding clerks of transportation, communications, banks which belong to the category of enemy properties; an ordinance for equality between men and women; an ordinance for protection of the private properties; an ordinance for encouragement of the individual initiatives for commercial development, etc.)

11. The Central Election Committee as well as all other similar committees in "Do" (province), "Shi" (city), "Gun" (county) and "Myen" (town) should include at least 50 per cent of those representing the political parties and social organizations affiliated with the Korean Democratic National Front. Election expenses should be defrayed by the American Military Government.

If our aforementioned insistence is carried out and the conditions of our demand are complied with, the Korean Democratic National Front repeatedly declares its sincerity and preparations to cooperate positively with the American Military Government in connection with the local elections. In the event the Korean Democratic National Front participates in the elections, all the political parties and social organizations under its leadership will elect their common candidates and elect them in all electorates. And even those political parties and social organizations not affiliated with the Korean Democratic National Front can have our willing cooperation for an united action, provided they are in favor of our election platform.

#### THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT

##### Co-chairmen:

Hur Hun, chairman of the Southern Korea Labor Party; Park Hun Young, general secretary of the Korean Communist Party; Lyuh Woon Hyung, chairman of the Korean People's Party; Kim Won Bong, head of the Korean Revolutionary Party; Lyoo Young Choon, chairman of the All-Korea Women's League; Kim Ki Chun, chairman of the Chung Woo Dang; Rev. Kim Chang Choon, representative of the Korean Christians; Sung Choo Shik, Hong Nam Pyo, Pack Yong Hei, Chung No Shik, Kim Sung Sook, Chang Keun Sang and Lee Yu Sung.

Seoul, Korea  
January 22, 1947



TEXT OF THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT'S STATEMENT  
ON THE PRO-JAPANESE KOREAN COLLABORATORS AND  
NATIONAL TRAITORS

The problem of pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors is of paramount importance in connection with all the works of constructing a state, i.e., the formation of the Democratic National Front, the establishment of a political regime, the enjoyment of the right to vote and to be elected, and the stipulation of the scope of confiscating properties. Rejection and even liquidation of the pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors are an ardent demand of our people today. At the same time, this is an important task in connection with the world-wide fight to eradicate the remnants of fascism. This task also has come to the forefront in the process of constructing a state. People, too, have a correct grasp of the historical significance of this task, while in the democratic camp this task is bravely yet persistently being carried out.

However, without clear and concrete stipulations regarding the pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors there is fear of bringing about a chaos of the public sentiment. Particularly at this juncture when the entire national strength is being concentrated upon the democratic line, a clear-cut stipulation regarding this problem is urgently required. Owing to lack of these stipulations as well as of propaganda regarding them two dangerous tendencies make their appearance. Firstly, the scope of the stipulations regarding the pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors is fixed too narrowly or too widely. Secondly, though some cases may be excluded from this scope as a matter of course after taking circumstances into account, one tends to be desperate with an extreme misunderstanding and fear of them. These two dangerous tendencies should be overcome and liquidated as speedily as possible.

### Principles

In stipulating concretely the pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors a profound and minute care must be taken in principle as follows:

1. Against the ringleaders of pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors as well as deliberately malignant criminals, a merciless campaign should be carried out.
2. Among those who have shown their pro-Japanese tendency some might have committed such crimes owing to the necessity of livelihood and unavoidable circumstances. Such persons should be treated with tolerance from the standpoint of brotherly love. We must bear in mind that most of those suspected of being pro-Japanese and national traitors belong to this category.
3. In the event persons belonging to this category subject their past crimes to a strict self-criticism, practice and follow the course of liquidation with a prudent attitude, and offer their knowledge, skill and ability with a patriotic loyalty for the



construction of a democratic state, we will be tolerant enough to welcome them, for even this group should be utilized as a factor for the construction of a new state.

4. It is absolutely a taboo to be dominated by a revengeful feeling against the past or by individual's like and dislike, but every judgment should be coldly made on the basis of correct and concrete proof as well as all circumstances and connections. The voice of people should be made a fundamental condition for this judgment and a data for reference.

### Stipulations

With this fundamental care, determination to punish mercilessly, and magnanimity of tolerance we stipulate concretely the pro-Japanese Koreans and national traitors as follows:

1. Pro-Japanese is the general name of those who consciously collaborated with Japanese imperialism.

2. National traitors are pointed out as the worst elements even among these pro-Japanese. But even those who do not belong to the category of pro-Japanese, if they after the liberation of Korea have positively destroyed the construction of democracy, piloted and guided terroristic gangs, and committed and instigated terroristic action against the democratic organizations, belong to the category of national traitors.

3. Pro-Japanese and national traitors prior to the August 15th liberation:

a. Traitors who sold Korea to Japanese imperialism and those connected with them.

b. Titled persons, advisers and councilors of the Privy Council for the Japanese governor-general in Korea and government-appointed members of the provincial and prefectural councils.

c. High officials during the regime of Japanese imperialism (bureau directors of the Japanese government-general and provincial governors).

d. High officers of police and gendarmerie (police inspectors and the rank of officer).

e. Malignant elements of military, secret, political police (even those below the rank of police inspector and officer who have become the target of people's grievances).

f. Those who were responsible for the secret espionage of military, secret and political police.

g. Those extremely malignant elements throughout administration, judicature and police who became the target of people's grievances.



h. Those theoretical and political leaders in connection with the Japanization movement, the Japanese-Korean coalescence movement, as well as the problems of voluntary soldiers, conscription of student soldiers, rescripts, and compulsory adoption of Japanese names in place of Korean names.

i. Those who were responsible for war industries.

j. Principal responsible leaders of fascistic organizations for assisting war ("Dai Wi Dam," "Il Sim Hoi," "Rok Ki Ryun Maing," "Il Chin Hoi," "Kook Min Hyup Hoi," "Chong Ryuk Ryun Maing," and "Dai Wha Dong Maing").

4. National traitors after the August 15th liberation:

a. Those who organize terroristic gangs or who are pulling wires behind them or helping them, as well as those who actually commit terroristic action, with the object and demolishing democratic organizations or assassinating democratic leaders.

b. Those who through speeches, radio broadcasts, and publications are instigating inflicting harm upon patriotic leaders and their families.

c. Officials who without reasons arrest, jail and slaughter democratic leaders and those who destroy all democratic institutions.

d. Those who give rise to such unfortunate incidents by misinforming the American Military Government and M.P.s.

e. Those illegally profiteering merchants who buy a large amount of commodities from the vanquished Japanese imperialistic troops and repatriating Japanese, constantly disturb the national economy through black markets and ruin the livelihood of the masses.

If these concrete stipulations regarding the standard of pro-Japanese and national traitors are mechanically applied, this will most likely give rise to abuse lacking fairness; therefore, under this standard these stipulations must be enforced by relating them dexteriously to the concrete environment and with the freedom of elasticity and initiative through the assembly of the masses.

THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT

Seoul, Korea

February, 1946