THE KOREAN RESEARCH AND INFORMATION OFFICE

634 WEST FAIRMOUNT AVENUE • STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

January 19, 1960

No. 2

Dear President and Mrs. Rhee:

I just now recall a question you asked me several letters ago, which I overlooked answering: to wit, where did I get the idea that 100 American newsmen were being invited to Korea. I saw a report to this effect in an American newspaper (probably the Washington POST) as part of the discussion of the Conlon Report. Evidently it was in error. But it would be a good thing to do! (With expenses to be paid by their own newspapers!) You recall one "charge" by the Conlon Report was that ROKG "cares little for American opinion" -- a very silly judgment.

It is good news that atomic war-heads are being sent to Korea for use by the ROKA (tho, I understand, for missiles having a limited range, designed for anti-aircraft defense).

I hope that someone sent you the December issue of ATLANTIC MONTHLY, with a series of splendid articles on Red China - especially a sound article by Harriet Mills (of Columbia U.) on brainwashing techniques.

The new printing of SYNGMAN RHEE: THE MAN BEHIND THE MYTH will be off the presses in early February. Happily, Dodd Mead is using this opportunity to print more copies for their own sales, and write me: "We will list the book in our catalogues and instruct the salesmen to resell the edition to our customers." Thus it will again be "available."

Subject to such corrections as you may send (by cable if convenient, since time is short) I plan to give Dodd Mead the following shipping instructions:

1) For distributuon inside Korea: Kyung Mu Dai - 100; Foreign Ministry - 100; OPI - 200. (Total: 500 copies)

2) For distribution in the United States (aside from Korean offices): Korean Research and Information, Washington - 150 copies; R. T. O. - 100; The Korea Society - 50; Korean-American Foundation - 100. (Total: 300 copies)

3) Korean offices in U. S.: Wn. Embassy - 100 copies; Col. Limb - 150 copies; San Francisco Consulate - 150; Los Angeles Consulate - 100; New York Consulate - 75; Honolulu Consulate - 100. (Total: 675 copies)

4) Office abroad: Japan - 50; Taipei - 25; Saigon - 25; Manila - 75; London - 100; Sydney - 50; Rome - 25; Bonn - 25; Ankara - 25; Paris - 25; Geneva - 25; Norwegian-Korean Society - 25. (Total: 475)

5) Miscellaneous: 50

Grand total: 2,000.

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This distributional plan is based partly on estimates of how well the books will be used by and from various offices; partly on judgment as to how (or through what channels) the best "recipients" can be reached. For instance, it seems to me that it might be extremely helpful to have a large number distributed to Americans in Korea, who may do better or worse work, depending on how well they understand the background and purposes of President Rhee.

In order to prevent over-lapping in the distrubitional system in the United States, I am making the following suggestions in letters to the relevant offices:

a) That the Wn. Embassy distribute to SD personnel and foreign diplomats;
b) That Korean Research and Information distribute to Congressional and other "political" personnel and to principal news media;
c) That RTO distribute to "scholars" working on Far Eastern questions;
d) That Korean Society and A-KF distribute to Board Members and to others whom they are seeking to interest in making donations of large amounts;
e) That Ben Limb distribute to news media in NYC and to U. N. diplomats;
f) That the Consulates in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Honolulu distribute to commercial, industrial, and news people in their areas and to local political leaders with whom they have direct contacts.

The various "overseas" offices can distribute as seems best to them without danger of over-lapping.

Should you see errors in this distributional plan, could you please send me a cable that might read: REDUCE _____ TO (number); INCREASE _____ TO (number). For example, REDUCE LONDON TO 75; INCREASE GENEVA TO 50. Dodd Mead would like to have the mailing lists by Feb. 1.

The Volume VI of the KOREAN ANNUAL REPORT will be off the press by the end of this week and we shall start mailing them out at once. The whole process will probably take till the end of February.

As you can see, all of this is concerned with rather mechanical matters! Nevertheless, I find it interesting, since the ultimate value of all our promotional work lies in getting the "goods" to the "consumers."

With warm good wishes to you both, and with many thanks for the very fine New Years family portrait (which I saw in the Philadelphia BULLETIN, and which probably appeared in many papers), I am,

Most cordially yours,

Robert T. Oliver

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