

CONFIDENTIAL

Enclosure 1 to Despatch 704, November 7, 1949, American Embassy, Seoul.

SUMMARY OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

October, 1949

V. DOMESTIC CONDITIONS

A. The Provinces

Cheju Island had its first reported guerrilla incident since the end of the Army's spring cleanup campaign. An unknown number of armed guerrillas was engaged on October 24; three of them were killed, including KIM Song Ok, one of the leading guerrilla figures on the island.

APPENDIX A: CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF EVENTS, OCTOBER, 1949

October 19.

Korean Navy captures three Japanese fishing vessels off Cheju Island. (Chosun Ilbo, Oct. 24)

- 신임도지사에 관한 정보(1949. 11. 18)

DIVISION OF AIRGRAM

NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

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A-376, November 18, 1949

Nov 25

FE:WA

Tong A Ilbo, a large Seoul daily newspaper, on November 17 announced the change of three provincial governors, as follows:

To be governor of Kangwon Province: CH'OE Kyoo Ok (), National Assemblyman from Chunch'on, Kangwon Province, replacing RYANG Sung Pong (), who is transferred to the governorship of South Kyongsang Province.

To be governor of South Kyongsang Province: RYANG Sung Pong, who replaces MOON SI Hwan ().

To be governor of Cheju (Island) Province: KIM Ch'ung Hi,
(), who replaces KIM Yong Ha ().

Dr. CHUN Kyoo Hong, Director of the Office of Administration, confirmed the above changes, and stated that they were effective November 15.

Ex-Governor Moon of South Kyongsang Province is a former Communist. Rumors began to circulate as much as three months ago that he would be removed from office. Following the Chinju guerrilla raid of October 27, he submitted his resignation in accordance with Oriental custom; the resignation apparently was accepted.

Ex-Governor Kim of Cheju Province, according to Tong A Ilho of November 17, was discharged by the Inspection Commission for embezzlement.

Following are brief biographic sketches of two of the new governors.

CH'OE Kyoo Ok: Born February 16, 1901. Educated at Posing College, Seoul (1918-21), Seoul Medical College (1921-29). Physician at Pusan City Hospital, 1929-33; private practice at Samch'ok, Kangwon Province, 1933-35; operated private hospital, 1935-7. Member of Anti-Trusteeship Committee, 1945; Vice-Chairman, Kangwon Province Branch, National Society for the Acceleration of Korean Independence, 1945; member of standing committee, National Representative Assembly, 1947; member of standing committee, All-Korea General Election Committee, NSAKI. Elected to National Assembly from Chunch'on, Kangwon Province May 19, 1948. Member of Constitution Drafting Committee, 1948. Member, Education and Public Welfare Committee, National Assembly. Member, Ibsin Club group of National Assembly.

KIM Ch'ung Hi: Age 59; native of Cheju Island. Completed high school. In 1943, was chairman of the Cheju Island branch, United Young Men's Party (since merged in Great Korea Youth Corps) and chief of General Affairs Section, Cheju Island Branch, National Society for the Acceleration of Korean Independence. Was an unsuccessful candidate for election to the National Assembly May 16, 1948.

Embassy files contain little information concerning RYANG Sung Eung. His birthplace and permanent domicile is Pusan. His age is believed to be less than 40. More detailed information will be forwarded as soon as obtained.

MOON

• 피취그룬드의 제주도 시찰보고서(1949. 11. 28)