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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

30 June 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Korean Situation

I. Military Situation.

The military situation has deteriorated considerably in the last 24 hours. Official reports indicate the 4th Division of the Northern Korean Army, formerly in reserve, has crossed the Han River in force over two undestroyed railroad bridges near Seoul. The Northern forces have resumed the advance. Southern Korean effectiveness is low and the morale of all Southern units is reported bad.

CINCPAC has been authorized to employ US Army forces to insure the retention of a port and air base in the Pusan-Chinhae area and to extend operations into Northern Korea against purely military targets. Under this authority, CINCPAC is moving one Regimental Combat Team to the Pusan area and air strikes are being made against selected military targets north of the 38th Parallel.

Although US air action has increased in tempo, Northern forces continue to evidence high morale. Their immediate objective is the capture of the important Suwon airstrip and the destruction of the 20,000 Southern forces remaining in that area. The Northern troops appear to have the capability of taking Suwon and cutting off further segments of Southern troops. There is no indication to date that the Northern forces intend to halt their advance or withdraw in the face of active US air and naval opposition.

II. Survival Potential.

Southern Korean morale appears to be deteriorating seriously. Civilians are very pessimistic, Government morale is poor, and the military are dispirited after a continuous series of defeats. It is reported that Southern Korean Military Police are having to compel troops to return to the front. A prominent Southern Korean

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who escaped from Seoul states that captured Southern Korean officials and military personnel are being characterized as "enemies of the people" and are usually killed when caught — a maneuver apparently designed to eliminate any Southern Korean resistance behind Northern Korean lines. The Southern Korean Government is now ineffective, the Troops' will to fight is gravely reduced and the military outlook is poor.

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

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