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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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26 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

Seoul has been captured by UN forces. A house-to-house search is being conducted within the city to eliminate remaining enemy resistance. Along the old Pusan perimeter, UN forces continued to advance against only scattered resistance from the retreating enemy.

Ground

Seoul Area. Enemy forces estimated to number 2,000 men began a retreat northeast from Seoul on the afternoon of 25 September (Korean time) and only pockets of enemy resistance were encountered on 26 September (Korean time) as US Marines, US Army, and ROK troops gained control of the capital of the Republic of Korea.

Southeast Area. Along the old Pusan perimeter, enemy forces offered moderate resistance in scattered areas from Chinju north to Kumchon. Practically no enemy opposition was encountered by the US 1st Cavalry Division in its advance to within 40 miles of the Inchon beachhead. ROK troops moving north to Hamchang, Yechon and ten miles beyond Yongdok also met little enemy opposition. Other UN forces captured Kumchon and advanced in the direction of Yongdong against moderate enemy resistance. US troops operating west of the Nakdong River have captured Kochang and Chinju. Enemy troops in the Chinju area are reported to be changing into civilian clothing.

Navy

A US destroyer on patrol off the northeast coast of Korea was damaged, presumably by a mine. There have been no previous reports of enemy mining activity on the east coast, although a number of Soviet-type mines have been spotted in the Inchon area on the west coast.

SECRET

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Air

Twenty B-29s visually bombed the Pujon-gang hydro-electric plant, a principal source of power for the Hungnam chemical industry. UN fighter-bomber pilots killed 1,400 enemy in the southeastern area.

II. General Situation

US Ambassador Muccio reports from Pusan that President Rhee may appoint as Korean Premier the present Korean Ambassador to Washington. Sin Sungmo, currently Defense Minister and Acting Prime Minister has long been a target of leading Korean politicians who covet the Premiership. Korean Ambassador Chang is one of the few able Koreans who would be acceptable to the President and the National Assembly as Premier.

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