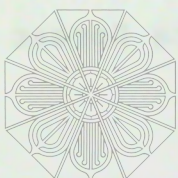


Korean National Information Bureau
P. O. Box 1919 - Cable address: Konatic
Honolulu, T. H., U. S. A.
November 2, 1931.

Honorable Aristide Briand:

Twenty million Koreans in Korea and in the Hawaiian Islands humbly submit this appeal protesting the occupation of Manchuria by Japanese troops under the pretense of Korean protection and military necessity. They feel compelled by the common dictates of humanity as well as by their patriotism to record their emphatic protest against the unjust and inhuman methods that have been employed by the Japanese administration in the recent forcible occupation of Manchuria and also against their brutal attacks upon those exiled Koreans in Manchuria.

The phrase - "Yellow Peril" - much used since the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war has become a stern reality and we call your attention to this menacing problem that overhangs China and the rest of the world. The Manchurian and Korean questions are the vital Far Eastern problems that go hand in hand and as such they should be considered at this moment by the Council of the League of Nations. In defense of the vital interests and welfare of the isolated Koreans as well as the Chinese Republic, in furtherance of the cause of world peace in the Pacific, we humbly beg the League of Nations and other powers to immediately demand from the Japanese the withdrawal of their armies from Manchuria and Korea. We dare predict that Japan will do everything within her power to delay the withdrawal of her army from Manchuria for many months to come unless the League of Nations and the United States take a very decisive step. The presence of her army vitally affects America and other world interests guaranteed under the Open Door Agreement.



Without justification Japan has bombarded and destroyed Chinese cities and forcibly occupied them. They disguised themselves as Chinese soldiers and entered Chunta, the center of the exiled Korean population, bombing, shooting and bayoneting large numbers of defenseless Korean men, women and children. This imperialistic policy cannot be allowed to go on forever for it threatens not only the sovereignty of China, but the peace, security and the balance of powers in the Orient. Should Japan be allowed to use such tactics, not only the security of China would be threatened, but eventually she would be a potential enemy of America and the countries bordering the Pacific. If Manchuria will be left alone without the aid of other powers under treaty obligations, she will meet the present fate of Korea.

Therefore the Korean problem is absorbing, in that it presents the epitomized example of this blanket indictment of Japan - "The Teutonia of the East." The absorption of Korea is the step by which Japan expected to become a continental power; its assimilation the means to consolidate that power; and probably the use of one of the Korean cities is already worked out as the future capital of the new Mongol-Malay Empire under Mikado.

We solemnly affirm that justice to Korea and Manchuria constitutes an indispensable requisite to the permanent adjustment of Far Eastern Affairs. How can there be peace in the Orient if a nation of twenty million people are left to smart with the injustice of treaties "unkept"? Korea should not be held up merely as an object lesson to China to illustrate the possibilities of ruthless and aggressive oppression in Manchuria. They should be righted if the objects of the League of Nations are to be attained in this present crisis.

Viewed in the light of this principle, the Korean



problem is very simple. Japan holds military possession of, and forces its sovereignty upon Korea without her consent, in violation of the terms of her Treaty of Alliance with Korea, and in direct conflict with her treaties that were made by her at different times with other nations. This military possession and enforced sovereignty without consent, is due to the fact that neither the United States nor any of the great Powers used their "good offices" to prevent it, as by several of their treaty covenants with Korea they solemnly engaged themselves to do.

The United States in 1882; Great Britain in 1883; Italy in 1884; France in 1886; China in 1899; Belgium in 1901; and other powers, each deliberately covenanted with Korea that:

"If other powers deal unjustly and oppressively with either Government, the other will exert their good offices on being informed of the case to bring about an amicable arrangement."

Each one of the nations named above knew that in 1904 Japan and Korea, (just prior to the Russian-Japanese War) entered in to the Treaty of Alliance to which we have referred; and that by virtue of such Treaty, Japan was permitted to occupy Korea with her military forces and to use Korea as a military base in her operation against Siberian Russia and Manchurian China. But for that Treaty, the war would have ended disastrously for Japan, who without it would have been compelled to attack Port Arthur with her navy only. Had she been compelled to land her troops from transports, that stronghold might have proved impregnable. Or, if Japan had not been permitted to surprise the Russian fleet in the waters of the Yalu, history might have recorded a story far different from that which Japan achieved. Korea, relying upon the honor of Japan, fulfilled her engagements and kept her covenants to the latter, thereby powerfully contributing to the defeat of Russia. Of these undoubted facts the Great Powers are well aware.



The compensating clause to Korea in that Treaty of Alliance was Japan's guarantee of Korea's territorial integrity and independence. It was negotiated at the instance of Japan. Yet she has never recognized the sanctity of that clause, although she probably owes to it her very existence, and certainly her greatness, as a nation. It is by virtue of that Treaty and Korea's liberal observance of it, that Japan is, today, one of the Great Powers and "The Yellow Peril," now a dread reality.

With the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese War, Japan, instead of removing her troops and armed forces from Korea, as the Treaty contemplated, established permanent military bases at Seoul, the Capital, at Pyeng Yang in the northwest, at Namnam in the northeast, and at Taiku in the southeast, with naval bases at Fusan on the southern coast and Wonsan on the eastern, notwithstanding her naval bases at Darien and Port Arthur sufficiently guarded the western coast.

Thus the temporary military possession of Korea, which Japan obtained by reason of the Treaty of Alliance, has been perpetuated. Korea has never been placed in status quo, free to act without coercion or duress. She has always been, and is now, subject to the menace of troops and war vessels of a nation which secured initial possession of Korea, not by conquest, but by a Treaty, to tide her over a vital crisis, which has long since disappeared. Had the American troops remained in France, or the English in Belgium, and through the menace of their presence wrested sovereignty from these nations, the wrong would have been no greater nor more palpable.

Following this assumed sovereignty under the military coercion, there has been much oppression. The Korean people are taxed without representation and have absolutely no voice in their government. They are oppressed economically and have no redress. Their courts are presided over by Japanese Judges and Clerks. Japanese teachers installed in their schools compel their children to learn a foreign language.

being reduced to a position of ignorant serfs and slaves. The people and the country are being exploited for the sole benefit of Japan.

Although the world's press has placed before the public thousands of columns of news reciting brutalities and atrocities in detail - hundreds murdered, thousands wounded and maimed; young girls, school teachers and nurses stripped and paraded before the Japanese soldiers and officers; thousands placed in prison and more thousands flogged, with death resulting from the severity of the punishment in over ten per cent. of the cases; and although the Great Powers solemnly agreed to use their "good offices" in any case of unjust dealing, not an official word uttered by a single treaty power has thus far been heard. Is it not for you to challenge the attention of the Council members of the League of Nations to these conditions, and by recognizing your country's obligation, renew a much needed confidence in the binding force of treaty stipulations?

Japan justified her conduct by contending her occupation of Korea has conferred a material boon upon Korea. But investigation demonstrates that harbors have been deepened and improved for war vessels, and that railways and roads have been extended and improved with special reference to military necessity for the purpose of extending their power to Manchuria, and not for the Korean economic uses. Afforestation is claimed, but the facts are that 101,000 acres afforested are belittled by the 5,391,000 acres of virgin timber cut over. In terms of dollars and cents, there has been \$168,000,000 spent in Korea by Japan for improvements, and \$418,000,000 has been taken out of Korea by Japan, through increased taxes over normal Korean taxes and through the increase of the Korean national debt. Japan has taken out of Korea \$250,000,000 to assist in the support of her military machine. If you would limit armament, take away this support.

Poland was once partitioned for Poland's good, but



the world's sense of justice repudiated this hypocrisy and resisted to the uttermost. Korea does not ask for her country's improvement: she demands the exercise of those treaty covenants with other nations upon which she has a right to rely for her protection. The fate of Korea may befall China, unless the present tendency of Japanese imperial expansion in Manchuria is checkmated either by China herself or by a concerted action of the League of Nations and the United States of America in the Eastern theatre of international politics.

In communication of this kind, the Korean situation can only be sketched merely as an example of what the Japanese will do to Manchuria. Many reasons why it should be considered by you and by the Council of the League of Nations have not been touched upon at all, and many facts have not been mentioned. But we feel that this appeal amply sustains our assertion that the plights of Korea involve one of those Far Eastern problems the solution of which by the League of Nations has been wisely suggested by the United States Government as a precedent condition to the solution of Manchurian question and the future peace of the world.

With assurance of our profound respect and esteem, we submit this appeal under the auspices of the Korean National Association, Korean Women's Relief Society, Federation of Young Koreans, Young Nam Women's Business Society, Central Korean Christian Church, Korean Methodist Episcopal Church, Korean Episcopal Church, Chun Do Mission of Hawaii and the Salvation Army Korean Branch.

Very respectfully yours,

KOREAN NATIONAL INFORMATION BUREAU

CHUNG DOO OK, Chairman.

KILSOO K. HAAN, Secretary, Euro-America Div.

LYONG WHAN SEUNG, Sec'y Korean Division.

HENRY KIM, Sec'y Far East Division.

KOREAN NATIONAL INFORMATION BUREAU
P. O. Box 1919
Cable Address: "Konation",
Honolulu, T. H. U. S. A.

November 14, 1932.

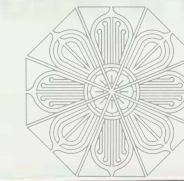
To the Honorable Sir Eric Drummond,
The Secretary General, the League of Nations,
Geneva.

Honorable Sir Eric Drummond:

We, the representatives of the Korean organizations of Manchuria, United States of America, and the Hawaiian Islands do voice the sentiment of twenty-two million Koreans toward the wonderful efforts and just report made by the Lytton Commission of the League of Nations. We humbly subscribe to this petition and to this plea do we most urgently beg that the Council of the League of Nations comply with the Lytton report, thus giving justice to China and further insuring future international peace.

On September 30, 1931, your Council adopted a resolution calling upon Japan to withdraw its troops by October the 14th. This was freely agreed to by the Japanese representative, M. Kenkichi Yoshizawa. Instead of withdrawing her troops within the following few weeks, she rapidly began to extend her occupation over Manchuria to the whole territory of China. On October 8th, twelve Japanese naval airplanes (in open disregard of the 1907 Hague Convention) bombarded the unfortified city of Chinchow. In spite of the fact that the League of Nations tried to invoke Article XIII and to compel Japan to submit to arbitration, she had deliberately defied the League of Nations and the United States of America.

Japan has at last thrown down the gauntlet against the conscience of the whole world. Ignoring the entreaties for peace of all humanity, defying the League of Nations and any other machinery of peace, and disregarding her obligations assumed under solemn international treaties, Japan has told the world in effect that she



Eastern Provinces, to set up a puppet government and call it an independent state, and finally to shape and control its destiny until Japan and her puppet become one political entity in name as well as in fact. In a word, Japan is resolved to maintain her sure foothold on Manchuria by all means, fair or foul, and is prepared for any eventualities to sustain her stand. Such an attitude constitutes not only an utter disregard of China, but a direct challenge to the world. Not only is the peace of the world placed in jeopardy by such an arrogant and bellicose attitude, but the safety of nations is also endangered. If Japan should have everything her own way, what can be done with her? Should she actually put that fanatical document, the Tanaka Memorial for World Conquest, into execution? It is high time for serious thought on the part of the Powers, when there is yet time, for a Japanese Manchuria with its rich material sources will certainly be disastrous for the world civilization and enable her to defy the world in more aggressive forms.

The recent episode in Japan's career of international lawlessness was shown in Shanghai. Knowingly Japan violated the International Settlement's neutrality, and brought reinforcements after faithfully pledging that she would not do so. It is necessary to go back to the Thirty Years' War to find any parallel in Europe of the cold ferocity of Admiral Shiozawa's bombing of the Chinese suburb of Chapei. As a callous assassin, swinging low over the unprotected civilian area, he dropped bombs and used machine guns to mow down helpless women and children, leaving horror and death behind in his path. Could this be a justified act of a member of the League of Nations? Japan being one of the signatories of the Kellogg-Briand Pact and the Nine-Power Treaty.

The phrase "Yellow Peril" much used since the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War has become a stern reality and we call your attention to this menacing problem that overhangs China and the rest of the world. The utterance by the former German Emperor William "My future lies on the sea" excited the people of England, who at

once joined the Allies to fight Germany. During the period of President Lincoln's administration, Mr. Seward, then Secretary of State, said, "The future of the United States lies in the Pacific." President Roosevelt also said, "Those who can control the Pacific can control the whole world." We believe that those who control Manchuria as a military base will control the whole of Asia and eventually the whole Pacific area.

The Open Door Policy of China cannot be maintained unless her former status quo can be preserved. The present Manchurian question is far more menacing to the future peace of the world than was the Balkan problem nineteen years ago. If the Council of the League of Nations cannot bring Japan to her knees and force the return of Manchuria to China by carrying out the provisions of the Lytton report, then she should bring about an international embargo and follow a non-recognition policy of any territory acquired in violation of such obligations as those imposed by the Kellogg-Briand pact and the Nine-Power Treaty.

Japan is becoming reckless of consequences as she presses her demands disregarding the safety for the peace of the Pacific area and of the world. Therefore, failure of the League of Nations to satisfactorily settle the Far Eastern issues would be a serious blow to the world powers. The armaments race which would almost inevitably follow would cost billions of dollars and retard the recovery of the world's economic depression. It would further expose the powers' interests in Manchuria and Southern China to new dangers and the Open Door Policy to new humiliation and loss of prestige.

In the light of the tragic history of the absorption of Korea, the world will ultimately see the goal of Japan in her present activities in the Far East. It must be also remembered that Korea has been the stepping-stone in fulfilling Japan's ambition in Continental Asia thus far.

The Korean question was always avoided by European and American



statesmen because they had the wrong conception of the political situation of the Far East through the influence of Japan's diplomacy and publicity.

After the Russo-Japanese War (1905) Japan held military possession and forced its sovereignty upon Korea without her consent, in violation of the terms of her treaty of Alliance with Korea, and in direct conflict with her treaties that were made by her at different times with other nations.

When declaring war on Russia in 1904 the Emperor of Japan declared that "the integrity of Korea is a matter of greatest concern to the Japanese Empire.....the separate existence of Korea is essential to the safety of our realm." Thirteen days later, on February 23, 1904, Japan signed a protocol with the Emperor of Korea wherein Japan definitely annexed Korea to the Japanese Korean Empire; and that by virtue of such treaty, Japan was permitted to use Korea as her military base in her operations against Siberian Russia. Japan without Korea would have been compelled to attack Port Arthur with her navy only. If Japan had not been permitted to surprise the Russian fleet in the waters of Korea in Jaimulpo, history might have recorded a story far different from that which Japan achieved.

The compensation clause to Korea in that treaty of Alliance was Japan's guarantee of her territorial integrity and independence. But three months after the signing of the Russo-Japanese Treaty on November 17, 1905, and also after Viscount Kaneto's conversation with President Roosevelt, the Japanese Government compelled the Korean Emperor to accept a convention which contained the following provision, "The Government of Japan.....will hereafter have control and direction of the external relations and affairs of Korea." Events were moving rapidly for in 1906 Marquis Ito was made Japanese Resident-General, and in 1907 Japan prevented the representation of Korea from being given a hearing at the Hague Convention. Immediately following that success, the Korean Emperor was compelled to agree to another convention which gave Japan exclusive rights to

charging or employing any officials, Korean or foreign, without the consent of the Japanese Resident-General, and in future was compelled to employ Japanese exclusively.

However, in order to remove foreign suspicion of Japanese intentions in Korea, Prince Ito in 1908 declared that "it was no part of Japan's purpose to annex Korea." But in spite of this public declaration, Prince Ito made a statement in the following year (1909) that Korea must be "amalgamated" with Japan. The next year, 1910, came the final act in the tragedy of the Hermit Kingdom when the bewildered Emperor Lee was compelled to sign the following treaty: (although he denied signing the treaty).

Article I. His Majesty, the Emperor of Korea makes complete and permanent cession to His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, of all rights of sovereignty over the whole of Korea.

Article II. His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan accepts the cession mentioned in the preceding article, and consents to the complete annexation of Korea to the Empire of Japan.

On August 29, 1910, Japan formally declared Korea was annexed to the dominion of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and Japan immediately announced that Korea's customs duties would remain in effect for a period of ten years, but one year later Japan adopted for herself a revision tariff on highly protective lines. The closing of the Korean "Open Door" to the world's commerce followed as a matter of course, hence Korea passed off the world map as a state and since has been amalgamated into the tight little Japanese Empire.

Korea is the Belgium of Asia and as a close neighbor to China and Russia she will be needed in securing the sacred cause of peace in the Orient, which can only be done by restoring the independence and the territorial integrity of Korea. Korea's appeal not only merits but demands the earnest consideration of the League Council. The principle which underlies the return of Manchuria to China must be applied to Korea if it is to be applied at all. The treaty Powers' solemn promises to aid Korea when unjustly oppressed by other powers should be applied concretely now to Korea.

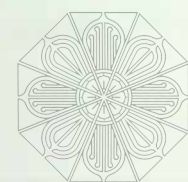
offices by President Arthur. Great Britain in 1883, Italy in 1884, Germany in 1884, Russia in 1885, France in 1884, Austria in 1892, China in 1899, Belgium in 1901, Denmark in 1902, each deliberately covenanted with Korea that:

"If others deal unjustly and oppressively with either Government, the other will exert their good offices on being informed of the case to bring about an amicable arrangement."

If it be argued that the absorption of Korea by the Empire of Japan be a fait accompli, and therefore beyond your consideration, we may reply by the assertion that no such act is ever final when the result is oppression or breach of treaty covenants. History supplies us with many illustrations of this inexorable truth, of which Poland, Greece, Finland, Bohemia and others are exemplars. The conscience of the world sustains the cause of such people, and its peace is imperilled until justice hears and responds to their appeals.

Korea is the most ancient of nations. In spite of many invasions of Tartar and Mongolian hordes, Korea had always been successful in repelling the alien intruders and had lived under a government of its own for 4,215 years. Korea has contributed much to the development of oriental civilization. Some of her inventions and discoveries have resulted in untold benefits for the people of the Far East,- the potter's wheel, printing with movable type, the mariner's compass, making of silk, astronomical science, written music, tanning of leathers, explosive bombs and the famous ironclad war vessels by Yi Soon Shin who thwarted the Japanese Admiral Hedyoshi's ambition of conquering continental Asia. "The influence of the Sea on the Political History of Japan" written by British Admiral G. A. Ballard, states as follows:

"Yi Sun (Yi Soon Shin) the great Korean Admiral, was Japan's first teacher of the fundamentals of sea power. Any army of 300,000 men raised, trained and equipped....Admiral Yi Sun, whose achievements entitle him to a place in the very front rank of great naval



commanders. This remarkable man was the first designer of an iron-plated turtle-back vessel impervious to fire-arrows or bullets in 1593. With his vessel and poison gas Admiral Yi attacked and destroyed Japan's grand fleet. Every Japanese ship was sunk, burned or captured."

Thus the continental ambition of Japan was checked as early as 1597. Following this invasion, the statesmen of Korea concluded that the only way to have peace was to isolate their country from the rest of the world, and it became the Hermit Kingdom. It must be said in justice to the wisdom of their course that this Kingdom of Korea did have profound peace for more than three hundred years. Korea remained isolated until 1882, when at the bidding of the United States, she opened her doors to the world. From 1882 to 1905, a period of twenty-three years, Korea maintained her national independence not so much through her own acts as theretofore, but more through the moral force and supposedly binding provisions of the various treaties she had made with the nations of the world, including the United States. She began to trust and to rely upon treaties, gradually weakening through the intrigues of Japan, and found herself in a position where she was forced to entirely rely upon foreign powers and their solemnly made agreement to use their good offices in case of oppression.

History records that Japan was victorious and the Treaty of Shimonoseki, April 20, 1895, concluded that Sino-Japanese War. Although the war was over, Japan did not withdraw her troops from Korea, and the Queen was using all her power to oppose Japan's encroachments and purposes. Japan determined upon her removal. The Japanese Minister to Korea, Viscount Miura, worked out the details and arranged for her murder. The Palace was surrounded by Japanese troops and thugs were sent to perform the act. They murdered the Commander of the Palace Guard and two Ladies-in-Waiting before they finally found the Queen. She was cut down, her body hacked in pieces, wrapped in woolen blankets, saturated with kerosene oil and burned in the court-yard.



Volumes have been written about this tragedy, but we omit further gruesome details. Our purpose is to state, as simply as we can, what Japan did in Korea and what Japan has been doing in Manchuria since September 18, 1931. In spite of this obvious situation, Japan was successful in her plans, and there was a second alliance between Korea and Japan, this time against Russia. We have already had occasion to detail the facts as to this alliance and the making of the Treaty of 1904, for which Japan definitely guaranteed the independence and territorial integrity of Korea; in turn, Korea allowed her territory to be used as a base of operations against Russian-Siberia. This is the military possession, under treaty for a specific purpose, that she has retained to this day. It is impossible to believe, in view of our Emperor's attitude and many public protests, that the Emperor, out of his own volition consented to any acts of the Protectorate of Korea to Japan. For all practical purposes, the Korean Emperor was a Japanese prisoner, confined in his own country. No one, except a pronounced pro-Japanese, was allowed to see him. Seasoned and experienced correspondents from the world's leading newspapers were sent to interview him, but without success. In any event, on the theory that "dead men tell no tales," he was poisoned on January 24, 1919. His death was kept a secret for some days and finally it was officially announced that he had died of apoplexy.

The Crown Prince was an unfortunate, mental deficient, and being born of Queen Min in those troublesome times preceding her murder, he came into the world with no chance. Japan did not balk at making use of his unfortunate condition to further her purposes. Late in August, 1907, after the Japanese had announced the abdication of our Emperor Lee, the Crown Prince was crowned Emperor, "amid the sullen silence of a resentful people." He was known throughout the world as the "Puppet Emperor" and, of course, the Japanese did with him as they willed. Edicts were issued in his name that probably never saw, or, seeing them could not comprehend beyond the bright red seals and yellow ribbon.

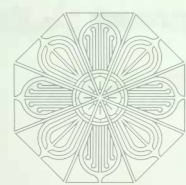
The first order was to disband the Korean Army, small as it was and helpless as it was, with the more numerous Japanese troops occupying all places of vantage. The different detachments were ordered to report at a given point "without arms" and the order of disbandment was read to them. Many of the Korean soldiers refused and fought with bare hands. They were shot down with already prepared machine guns, dying as a final protest against this usurpation of their country's freedom.

The question may be running in the foreigner's mind as to what the Koreans have been doing since. We have already detailed what the members of the Royal House did. They did everything that mortal man could do. They resisted, protested, and finally Queen Min and Emperor Lee died, martyrs to their country. Ever since the annexation, the Koreans have been continuing their life and death struggle for Korea's freedom everywhere. As a monument of self-perpetuation, the Provisional Government of the Korean Republic still stands in Shanghai, China, directing the force of almost two million Koreans in China to fight against Japanese rule and the sphere of influence in Manchuria. There are 20,000,000 people in Korea thinking of just these things, along with thoughts of dear ones killed, flogged and maimed, and of women outraged, in the process. Japan has executed more than 50,000, has placed more than 700,000 in jail at one time and another, and has flogged close to 300,000, all because they did think those thoughts and did resent the inhuman treatment just as you would have done under the same conditions. The results are horrifying, but the primary cause is very simple. The inherent rights of the whole people to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is being violated. The Korean people are taxed without representation and have absolutely no voice in their government. Their courts are presided over by Japanese judges and clerks. Free speech is denied; public gatherings are prohibited; newspapers are suppressed and censored. Japanese teachers installed in their schools compel Korean

children to learn the Japanese language. Intellectually, they are being strangled and are being reduced to a position of ignorant serfs and slaves. The people and the country are being exploited for the sole benefit of Japan.

Here the external history of Korea ended, but the national consciousness of the Korean people has kept constantly alive the hope of regaining her just position for her among the nations. The people of Korea within and without are revolting against the Japanese imperialism, yet the world does not know the true situation of Korea because of Japan's rigid press, telegram and postal censorship. But messages of sympathy from many parts of the world crowded to the Japanese authorities deploring the outrages committed by a Korean patriot, Yoon Pong Kil, at Hongkew Park in Shanghai, April 29th, as the result of which several prominent Japanese notables were seriously wounded, two of them so badly that they later died. There is one thing to be noted in this connection, and that is that the act of the young Korean patriot was no more dastardly than was the original bombing of the Chapei district on the night of January 28th by Japanese naval authorities. The principal difference is that in the bombing of Chapei the victims were largely women and children who were in no way concerned in the political dispute between the Chinese and the Japanese governments, whereas the victims of the Hongkew Park outrage were actually associated with their government's policy. However, such an act as that committed by a young Korean calls the world's attention to the fact that a downtrodden nation is crying out against the inhuman, barbarian imperialism that defies not only Korea and China, but also your honorable Council of the League of Nations and the solemn international treaties.

As a step toward solving the intricate problem of Manchuria, the League Council should review the events from 1894 to 1910, up to the annexation of Korea by Japan.



Korea's past were held up and compared with the Manchurian events. We dare predict that Japan will eventually use Manchukuo (Puppet Government) in the division of China into four states, having the military power and the external affairs in their control she will ultimately annex the whole of China. Japan wants an independent Manchuria for exactly the same reason that she forced the Sino-Japanese War in 1894. The idea proved so successful in connection with Korea that it appears worth repeating in Manchuria. Would the League Council see Manchuria become another Korea?

Poland was once partitioned for Poland's good, but the world's sense of justice repudiated this hypocrisy and resisted to the uttermost. Korea does not ask for her country's improvement; she demands the exercise of those treaty covenants with other nations upon which she has a right to rely for her protection. The fate of Korea may befall China unless the present tendency of Japanese imperial expansion in Manchuria is checkmated either by China herself or by a concerted action of the League of Nations and the United States of America in the Eastern theatre of international politics.

In a communication of this kind the Korean situation can only be sketched more or less as an example of what the Japanese will do to Manchuria. Many reasons why it should be considered by you and by the Council of the League of Nations have not been touched upon at all, and many facts have not been mentioned. But we feel that this appeal amply sustains our assertion that the plights of Korea involve one of those Far Eastern problems, the solution of which by the League of Nations has been wisely suggested by the United States Government as a precedent to the solution of the Manchurian question and the future peace of the world.

With assurances of our profound respect and esteem, we submit this appeal under the auspices of the Korean National Associations of Manchuria, the Korean National Associations of the United States



of America, the Korean National Association of the Hawaiian Islands, Korean Women's Relief Society, Federation of Young Koreans, Young Men's Business Society, Central Korean Christian Church, Korean Methodist Episcopal Church, Korean Episcopal Church, Chun Do Mission of Hawaii, and the Salvation Army Korean Branch.

Very respectfully yours,

KOREAN NATIONAL INFORMATION BUREAU

By DOO OK CHUNG, Chairman.

By HENRY KIM, Secretary.



UNITED KOREAN COMMITTEE MEMORANDA

"WAR AND KOREA"

Oct. 1942

REMITTED TO OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICE AND COL. WOODFELLO.

LIST OF MEMORANDA:

Divided into two parts : First, political and military; second, industry and economics. "Upon the eventual defeat and collapse of Japanese rule in Korea, the Korean army and the general staff, together with armies of the United Nations and administrators, would march into Korea. But it would be the army of United States, without of the Koreans, who would reoccupy Korea. The occupation by any other army, say the Russians would not be desirable, on grounds of historic and past overtures in Korea by these people— Final reliance for armed protection, however, shall be placed in an international police, created by a Pacific Council composed of the United States, China, Korea, India, Australia, and the New States that will be created after the war. Under the protection of such a force, Korea should have no fear of another conquest as long as she keeps her own house in order and cooperates in the tasks of the council.—"

Rest of this memoranda contains Dr. Ehee's personal history, and requests Haan's activities should be investigated by the U.S. authorities.



MEMORANDUM
TO
THE I. P. R. CONFERENCE

I. Why Korea Must regain her complete independence.

1. For self-existence of Korean race and for perpetual development of Korean Culture.
2. For preservation of lasting peace in the Pacific Area as well as in the world.
3. For prevention of Japanese future aggression in any part of Asia as well as in the Pacific Area.
4. For successful evangelization of Christianity in Asia.

II. How Korea shall plan for Post-War reconstructions.

1. A people's government shall be formed on democratic principles.
2. A democratic constitution shall be enacted by the national congress to be called within a year after Independence is completely restored.
3. Educational system shall be also established on the basic principles of democracy, and train Korean youths to be useful citizens of Korea as well as for the service of the world.
4. The economic sense of Korean People shall be cherished by the government in leading them to the development of agriculture, industry, various mining enterprises, fishery, communications transportations.
5. Army, navy and air force shall be established in Korea to such an extent that she can secure for national defence and for maintenance of interior peace and order.

III. What Korea claims for her international position.

1. To advocate international balancing power in Asia.
2. To uphold equal footing treaties between Korea and all other Nations.
3. To participate in all international conventions of any nature and in international police guard.
4. Foreign investment shall be allowed in Korea absolutely for mutual benefit.

IV. Restoration of membership rights to Korean delegates.



WAR DEPARTMENT
REPORT OF FIELD PERSONNEL ACTION
HEADQUARTERS
ARMY PORT AND SERVICE COMMAND
APO 455
 (Station)

July 20, 1945
(Date)

SS. No. 575-24-9435

To:

1. Name **Soon Hyun**
 2. Nature of Action **Temporary Appointment**
 3. Effective Date **July 20, 1945**

9. C. S. C. REPORT SERIES
Temporary
 10. CIVIL SERVICE AUTHORITY
12th CS Region
Honolulu, T.H.
C:em 7-16-45

11. Appropriation
212/60425 FSA
1942-46 67-414
P423-01

12. Date of Birth
3-21-79

13. Subj. to Ret. Act
 Yes | No
 | **X**

14. If Separation, Last Paid Through

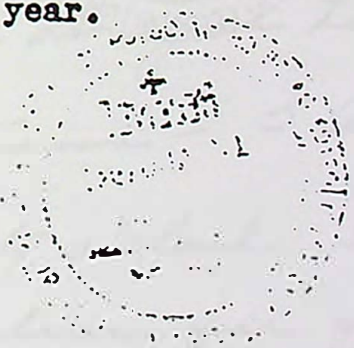
15. Bureau Authority for Action or Position
Vice: C.P.Hong
Rem. 7-5-45

	FROM—	TO—
4. Position		Training Instructor
5. Grade and/or Salary Allowances		CAF-5 - \$2320 p.a. None
6. Bureau and/or Other Unit		WAR: ARMY PORT AND SERVICE COMMAND, APO 455
7. Headquarters and duty Station		Prisoner of War Base Camp, APO 950
8. Departmental or Field	FIELD	FIELD

REMARKS: **For period not to exceed 1 year.**
Local hire.

COPIES TO: (Check)

- 1. District Manager—Temporary series only.
- 2. C. S. C. copy attached—Permanent series only.
- 3. Employee.
- 4. Civ. Pers. Field Office—Change in name of graded employee only.
- 5. Payroll & Leave Sections



16. *F. P. Brackett*
F. P. BRACKETT
Major, TC
Chief, Civ. Pers. Division

Employee

85





PERSONAL REPORT
DECLARATION

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
Navy Number 29 (two nine)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.

1 August, 1945

My dear Mr. Hyun,

I ought really to have written you again long ago, but I had thought I would wait until I had heard from Peter. Then too, I have been transferred to a new station, and been quite busy getting established here.

I have had a letter from Peter this week (from Camp McCoy, Wisconsin), and he encourages me to visit you and also his sister. And of course I should like to meet you too.

If it will be convenient for you I shall plan to call at your home on next Sunday afternoon - 5 August - at about three-thirty o'clock. If this is not convenient please feel free to let me know. You could reach me by phone (or leave word for me) by calling Pearl Harbor
Center for Korean Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
 Navy Number 29 (two nine)
 c/o Fleet Post Office
 San Francisco, Calif.

44174 between eight and four-thirty
 o'clock.

Peter says in his letter that he
 has made application for overseas
 duty. I certainly hope that he comes
 to Oahu while I may still be here so that
 we may talk over our Detachment days.

Sincerely yours,

Captain David Kingman
 U. S. Navy 29.



PERSONAL HISTORY
 DECLARATION

USE TYPEWRITER OR INK ONLY

Carded _____
 Reported _____
 Badge _____
 (Refused) (Revoked)

Evaluation
 By _____

It is understood that the information given by me on this form will be investigated, and if found to be false in any detail, will constitute sufficient grounds for my prosecution.

SECTION 1.
 Date July 18, 1945
 Local Draft Board No. 4 Draft Classification _____ Order No. _____ Social Security No. 573-24-9435
 (a) Full name Soon Hyun (b) Male or female _____
 (First) (Middle) (Last)
 (c) Present address 3573 Rainbowe Hon T.H. (d) Phone 734512
 (Number) (Street) (City) (State or Territory)
 (e) Place of birth Seoul Korea (f) Date of birth Mar 21, 1879
 (Day, month, year)
 (g) Have you a birth certificate in your possession? no (h) Where obtained _____
 (Yes or No) (Date)
 (Type of Birth Certificate) (Serial No.)
 (i) Are you a citizen of the United States? no (k) Have you ever lost your United States citizenship? _____
 (Yes or No) (Yes or No)
 (l) Are you a dual citizen? no (m) Expatriated? no (n) When? _____ (o) If so, state circumstances:
 (Yes or No) (Yes or No)

SECTION 2.
 IF FOREIGN BORN:
 (a) Give full name used in entering the United States Soon Hyun
 (First) (Middle)
 (b) Date of first arrival in the United States Mar 10, 1903 (c) The name of the ship SS Kaptan
 (d) Port or place of entry to the United States Honolulu (e) Alien Registration No. 2788300
 IF NATURALIZED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES:
 (f) Date of first papers _____ (g) Place obtained _____ (Court) (City) (State)
 (h) Date of second papers _____ (i) Place obtained _____ (Court) (City) (State)
 (j) Date of citizenship papers _____ (k) Place obtained _____ (Court) (City) (State)
 (l) Naturalization certificate number _____

SECTION 3.
 List foreign residences and travel outside of the United States. Include all countries visited.

COUNTRY	RESIDENCE OR TRAVEL	DATE OF DEPARTURE	VESSEL	DATE OF RETURN	VESSEL
<u>Korea</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>May 1907</u>	<u>SS Nippon</u>	<u>Feb 24, 1903</u>	<u>SS Blina</u>
<u>Japan</u>	<u>Blina</u>				
<u>Russia + France</u>	<u>Travel</u>	<u>During 1905 - 1919</u>			

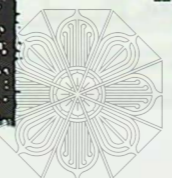
(Add extra sheet if necessary)

SECTION 4.
 (a) Have you ever changed your name; or been known under any other name than the name you now use? yes
 (Yes or No)
 (b) If so, list all names used and give reasons for change Sang Tali Sang Change for
naturalization in Blina

SECTION 5.
 Personal description: (a) Age 66 (b) Height 5'5" (c) Weight 146 pounds
 (d) Color of eyes Dark (e) Color of hair Black (f) Complexion Yellow
 (g) Scars none (h) Other distinguishing marks or characteristics:
 (tattoos, deformities, stuttering, etc.)

SECTION 6.
 (a) Have you ever been arrested and/or convicted of any offense? no (b) If so, list all such offenses, giving dates and places,
 (Yes or No) sentences served, final dispositions, and present status
 (Attach extra sheet if necessary)

SECTION 7.
 (a) State your whereabouts and the nature of your activities during the period from 1914 to 1919
Evangelist and Sunday School work (Korean) Korea
Under the Methodist Episcopal Church
 FILED BY: Soon Hyun



SECTION 8.

- (a) Have you served in any branch of the military or naval service of the United States? NO (b) If so, state service and give dates. _____
 (c) If discharged, state under what conditions _____
 (d) Have you served in any branch of any military, naval, police, political, or secret organization of any foreign city, state, or government? _____ (e) If so, give details and dates. _____
 (Yes or No)
 (f) Have you ever applied for deferment of foreign military service? _____ (g) If so, give details _____

SECTION 9.

- (a) Give list of all organizations to which you have ever belonged, and offices held. Include trade, professional, political, social, fraternal and religious organizations. Korean War Veterans Society, as Chairman of Board of Trustees, Sino-Korean Peoples League, as Executive Secretary, and Chairman, Hawaii Branch of Korean National Revolutionary Party
 (Add extra sheet if necessary)

SECTION 10.

- (a) Your marital status Married (b) If divorced, or not living with husband or wife, give details _____
 (Single, married, divorced, separated)
 (c) Number of previous marriages None (d) Number of children Seven

SECTION 11.

- (a) Are any relatives or persons, other than your own family, residing in your immediate household? NO (b) If so, give names of such persons, their relationship to you, if any, and their status in the household _____
 (Yes or No)
 (c) List relatives or persons within your own household whose racial extraction or citizenship may be traced to countries now at war with the United States _____

SECTION 12.

Statement of indebtedness: List all persons or firms to which you are indebted (except monthly bills).

NAME OF CREDITOR	NATURE OF INDEBTEDNESS (Mortgages; maker or endorser of promissory notes; conditional sales contracts, etc.)	AMOUNT	DELINQUENCY (Yes or No)
<u>Ideal Finance Co.</u>	<u>Mortgage</u>	<u>\$20.00 monthly</u>	<u>No</u>

List foreign assets _____
 (Add extra sheet if necessary)

SECTION 13.

- (a) Give names of relatives (show relationship) in custodial detention, None
 (b) Are any members of your family, either by blood or by marriage, in any branch of the United States Government Service or employed on any National Defense Project? Yes (c) If so, give names, addresses and service or project Jaehwa Hyun, Son David Hyun, Son (Yes or No)

SECTION 14.

- (a) Give an account of your education.
- | SCHOOLS ATTENDED | LOCATION | DATES | | Did You Graduate? | MAJORED IN |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | | From | To | | |
| <u>Primary</u> | <u>Seoul, Korea</u> | <u>1887</u> | <u>1897</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>General Science</u> |
| <u>High School</u> | <u>Tokio, Japan</u> | <u>1897</u> | <u>1902</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Mathematics</u> |
| <u>Theological</u> | <u>Seoul, Korea</u> | <u>1907</u> | <u>1911</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Ministry</u> |
- (b) Did you receive any part of your education outside of the United States? Yes (c) If so, give details _____
 (Yes or No)
As above statement

SECTION 15.

- Give as personal references, the names and addresses of five persons not related to you (exclude former employers):
- | NAME | ADDRESS | CITY | STATE |
|---------------------------------|---------|------|-------|
| (a) <u>Judge Corrie H. Buck</u> | | | |
| (b) <u>Wan Kiu Ahn</u> | | | |
| (c) <u>Sung Ha Park</u> | | | |
| (d) <u>Philip S. Shim</u> | | | |
| (e) <u>Mrs. Dora Moon</u> | | | |

SECTION 16.

- List names and addresses of your last five employers (exclude present employer):
- | NAME | ADDRESS | FROM | TO |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| (a) <u>The Methodist Episcopal Church</u> | <u>Honolulu and Korea</u> | <u>1905</u> | <u>1940</u> |
| (b) <u>Farming</u> | <u>Lot 40 Waimanalo Ranch</u> | | |
| (c) <u>Farming</u> | <u>Rd. Hon.</u> | <u>1940</u> | <u>1942</u> |
| (d) _____ | | | |
| (e) _____ | | | |

SECTION 17.

List your last four residences:

NUMBER	STREET	CITY	STATE	DATES	
				From	To
(a) _____	<u>Hahaione</u>	<u>Libue Hawaii</u>		<u>1926</u>	<u>1940</u>
(b) <u>1207</u>	<u>Hahaione</u>	<u>Hon.</u>		<u>1940</u>	
(c) <u>Lot 40</u>	<u>Waimanalo Ranch Rd.</u>	<u>Hon.</u>		<u>1940</u>	<u>1942</u>
(d) <u>3573</u>	<u>Kaimuki Ave</u>			<u>1943</u>	<u>1945</u>

SECTION 18.

- (a) Father's full name Chai Chang Hyun (b) Living or deceased? de (if deceased give date) _____
 (c) Present address, if living _____
 (d) Father's place of birth Seoul Korea (e) Father's citizenship Korean
 (f) If naturalized, give details _____
 (g) Racial extraction Korean
 (Nationality and Race)
 (h) Was your father's name ever changed or was he ever known under any other than the name he now uses? No (i) If so, give names and details _____
 (j) Occupation Official of Korean Government
 (k) Name and address of employer Korean Government

SECTION 19.

- (a) Mother's maiden name Pyeong Yang Cho (b) Living or deceased? de (if deceased give date) _____
 (c) Present address, if living _____
 (d) Mother's place of birth Seoul Korea (e) Mother's citizenship Korean
 (f) If naturalized, give details _____
 (g) Racial extraction Korean
 (Nationality and Race)
 (h) Has your mother ever been known under any other than her maiden name and the name she now uses? No (i) If so, give names and details _____
 (j) Occupation House wife
 (k) Name and address of employer None

SECTION 20.

- Note: If married, divorced, or not living with husband or wife, all questions must be answered.
 (a) Full name of husband or wife Maria Lee Hyun (Cross out one) Date of marriage 1902
 (b) Present address 3573 Kaimuki Ave (c) Phone 734513
 (d) Place of birth Seoul Korea (e) Date of birth June 6, 1897
 (f) Extraction Korean (g) If foreign born, give date of arrival in U. S. _____
 (Nationality and Race)
 (h) The name of ship SS. Ogilvie (i) Port of entry Mar. 10 1903
 (j) Is he or she a citizen of the United States? Yes (k) If naturalized, give details _____
 (Yes or No)
 (l) Place of naturalization _____
 (m) Naturalization Certificate No. _____ (n) Occupation House wife
 (o) Name and address of employer _____

SECTION 21.

- (a) Full name of father-in-law Hai Chang Lee
 (b) Living or deceased? de (c) Present address if living _____
 (d) Place of birth _____ (e) Racial extraction Korean (Nationality and Race)
 (f) Citizenship _____ (g) If naturalized, give details _____
 (h) Occupation Royal Physician
 (i) Name and address of employer The Korean Royal Family

(a) Full name of mother-in-law Kim See
 (b) Living or deceased? de (c) Present address if living _____
 (d) Place of birth _____ (e) Racial extraction Korean
 (Nationality and Race)
 (f) Citizenship _____ (g) If naturalized, give details _____
 (h) Occupation House wife
 (i) Name and address of employer None

SECTION 23.

(a) List names and addresses of nearest relatives residing in the United States and its Territories, other than listed above (children, brothers and sisters; if none, list aunts and uncles or cousins):

NAME	ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	EMPLOYED BY
<u>Pyeong Ho Kim</u>	<u>1710 W. Temple St</u>	<u>Son-in-</u>		
<u>Have some distant</u>	<u>Los Angeles, Calif.</u>	<u>Law</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>Self employed</u>
<u>relations but do not</u>	<u>Alice Hyun</u>	<u>3310 The Lane Drive</u>		<u>Honolulu</u>
<u>know their whereabouts</u>	<u>Elegant Kim</u>	<u>1710 W. Temple St</u>		<u>Los Angeles, Calif.</u>
	<u>Paul Hyun</u>	<u>1610 S. U. Camp</u>		<u>Mc Coy, Wisc.</u>
<u>Mary Lindauer</u>	<u>1710 W. Temple St</u>	<u>Paul Hyun</u>		<u>Seaman of merchant Marine</u>

(a) List names and addresses of all near relatives in foreign countries: (children — brothers — sisters):

NAME	ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	EMPLOYMENT
<u>Have some distant</u>				
<u>relations out do</u>				
<u>not know their whereabouts</u>				

SECTION 25.

Have you ever held membership in, paid assessments, dues or made contributions to, any organization or political party which advocates the overthrow of the constitutional form of government of the United States of America, or any change in the Government of the United States of America, except as provided by its Constitution? No If so, give full details _____
 (Yes or No)

SECTION 26.

(a) State your reasons for requesting entry to a restricted area I am going to teach Korean & English at Compound 13.
 (b) By whom are you employed? Col. H. H. Howell
 (c) What is their address? P.O. Box 10000
 (d) What is the nature of their business? Business
 (e) In what capacity are you employed? Same (f) Date employed July 19, 1945
 (g) Have you ever been employed in any Army or Navy establishment or on any National Defense Project? If so, give details and dates _____
 (h) Have you ever been fingerprinted before? No If so, where? Japan
 When? 1940 Why? Alien Registration

OATH

I, _____ SS. NOTE: All information contained herein will be investigated

I, _____ the undersigned, do solemnly swear that the statements made by me in answer to each and all the foregoing questions are full, true and correct. SO HELP ME GOD.

(Signature)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS _____ DAY OF _____

(Official authorized to administer oaths)

Official title _____

Penalty for false swearing \$250.

This space for Photograph 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

해방초기에 임한

조선민족 현순

일방으로는 아세아의 공영적을 고
창하고 다방으로는 미영을 압도하여
전세계를 확치고저하는 일본대국의
꿈이 수표되고 동양평화의관건인 조
션에는 해방의서광이 빛초였다 이서
광을마지하는 조선민족은 지,재,덕
을충분히 발휘하여야된다 지는알줄
을알어야하며 물을줄도 또한아는것
이오 재는 아는것은행하고모르는것
은행치안는것이오 아는것과 행하는
것을시기에 적합하게 사용하는것을
덕이라할것이다 해방초기에 임한 조
션민족은 이러한 지,재,덕을양으로
질로발취하여야할것이다

그러하면 알것은무엇이며 물을것은
무엇인가 과거三十五년간의 조선민
족이 정치,경제의二중압박을벗을
라고악전고투한것은 정치와 경제에
티하여 완전한자유,완전한독립이다
그러나 우리의기타에 불만족한해방
이도로혀 우리의정신을 현혹하며우
리의심리에 고민을주게된다 그런고
로우리의알것은 완전한해방을잇는
길을알어야 할것이니 완전한해방을
잇는길은무엇인가 우리조선 전면적
중에는 량반도입고 중인도입고천인
도입시 완전한국민이되어 평민덕희
명기세로써 세계평민과 합작할줄을

과거에맞본 쓰고쓴경험을 깊히
인식하여야 인도자로중심하는 령
도선,파당에렬중하는파당선,권
력집중에 로력하는 권력선을아
조세드러바리고 살기를 갖치하
며 일을갓치하며 권리를갓치하
자는평민선을 일으어서 조선전
민족외한소리로 위선 남북의교
동선을열며 남북정치조화를미
아량군타에 요구하여 볼것이다
그리하고 현금미아량국의 국제
정세는 은비간에 긴장하고있다
이를우려하는 호항미국 인사들
이 미아천선을 장려하기위하여
도서관 서적상덤,대상덤등에는
아라샤의 문화서적등을 진렬하
고 十一月二十八일 오후七시三
十分에는 상항주재 아라샤령사
가 쿠인병원압해잇는 스미쓰기
남관에서 연설한다는 광고가잇
다 한다 우리민족이 미아량국에
대스를 파견할것업시 우리국타
에서절촉하게 되었스니 우리의
사명은 미아량국간에 평화중지
자가되어야한다 우리민족의선
천덕 인정으로써 미아량군의게
깊은인상을주어 그들의 인성덕
본능을 니특기면 그들은필경의
눈물을흘리고 조선에서 회향할
줄밋는다



중에는 량반도업고 중인도업고 천인
도업시 완전호평민이되어 평면덕혁
명기제로써 세계평민과 합작할줄을
아는것이 완전호희방을잇는 첩경이
다 그러면 모을것은 무엇인가 우리
조선민족이 완전호평민덕 인식을가
지게되면 면족덕동일에구수인 영웅
심, 파쟁심, 영예심, 탐리심등을 아조
몰을줄알게된다 평민덕인식을 가진
면족은 그두뢰가 명철하야 평민을압
도하는 세계대세를 알게된다

그러면 오늘날세계대세는 잇더훈가
독, 이, 일, 삼국의 강력을파쇄하고 세
계덕평화와 피압박국의희방이 래서
양협정, 카이로선포, 알타, 포스텀, 협
의티로실현하야 가는가고반면으로
세계대세는 다시불안공패에 빠질것
이안인가 잇던미국외교가의 말파가
치 세상평화는 몇몇강국으로도티를
삼기때문에 五대국이분렬하야 二대
국이되고 二대국이분렬하야 二대국
이되어 맞참티데 三차 세계대전이되
겟다하엿다 세계대전이 또닐어논다
면 그야말로인류는 강약을물론하고
합씨업서지고 말것이다 이것을보는
세상평민이 저소슈의 폐악호위정자
재벌들의 발호를그티로 두어바리게
는가지, 재, 덕을 발취할줄밋는다
특별히희방초기에림호 조선민족은

조국을호호이고 조선에서
줄밋는다



EDITORIAL PAGE

The Honolulu Advertiser

90 Years Your Family Newspaper. Established July 2, 1856
Honolulu, 2, T. H., Advertiser Square, Kapiolani Blvd. and South St.
Printed and Published by Advertiser Publishing Company, Ltd.

LORRIN P. THURSTON.....President and General Manager
RAYMOND COLL.....Editor
JAN JABULKA.....Business Manager

The Advertiser will not be responsible for letters, manuscripts, or photographs voluntarily submitted to this office unless accompanied by self-addressed envelope and stamps to cover the postage for return mailing.

Better Learn About Korea

Few Americans, even those living in Hawaii, understand Korean problems, though there is a substantial Korean population here. Few Americans anywhere understood Far Eastern problems before Dec. 7, 1941, although the press sought to spread information concerning the fermenting continent of Asia. Few cared. Domestic and European problems were too pressing.

On Thursday President Truman announced Korea would be included in the list of nations he proposed be given aid in an offensive against Communism. That placed Korea among the nations Americans had better learn about fast. Too little is known and less is understood about the former hermit kingdom that was under Japanese subjection for more than 30 years. Russians have imposed a Communist type of government in the north. To the south the Americans rule by military government. Korea, supposedly a liberated country, is caught in the middle. Americans hope Korea, or part of it, is being democratized. Russians hope Koreans in the northern zone will be good Communists.

American military rule under General Hodge was not the best introduction Koreans could have had to democratic processes, but it may not be too late to demonstrate that America understands the Korean's desire to govern himself as he wishes. Korea, its Japanese bureaucracy removed, still is made up of numerous factions, bewildered and dis-united. There is a great challenge there to proponents of Democracy. America had better meet it.

