Intelligence Report

No. 5775  Date: January 30, 1952

Prisoners-of-war Held by the Communist Forces

The Communist delegation's list of December 18 contained 11,559 names:

7,112 Republic of Korea
3,146 US
916 British
236 Turks
40 Filipinos
10 French
6 Australian
4 South African
3 Japanese (apparently not in military service)
3 Canada, Greece, and Netherlands

The Republic of Korea had announced on December 9 that 89,350 ROK soldiers were missing in action. The US at the time the lists were exchanged listed 11,412 missing in action. In a letter of December 21, the UN negotiators called the Communists' attention to the omission of more than one thousand names from their prisoners-of-war list. A list of the December 18 list were 31 of the 50 reported to the Red Cross on August 18 and 35 of the 50 reported to the Red Cross on September 14, and 1,015 named in other sources. In a letter dated December 26, the Communists stated that of these, 736 had died of various causes or had escaped, and

4. PUBL, Daily Report, Far East, December 27, 1951, pp. REU-1-3, Restricted. The names were listed in the letter.

This is an intelligence report and not a statement of departmental policy.
the whereabouts of 332 was unknown at that time. Late in December the UN Command called attention to Communist communiques claiming more than 65,000 prisoners.

Civilian Internes Held by the Communist Forces

The UNR claimed on December 17 that more than 80,000 South Korean civilians had been seized and taken north by the Communists. The UNR delegation warned concerning 55 non-Korean civilians: 25 French, 13 American, 9 British, 4 Irish, 2 Belgian, 1 Austrian, and 1 Australian. On January 25, the Communist radio named 48 non-Korean civilians interned, including 28 of the above-mentioned.

Prisoners-of-War Held by the UN

The UN December 18 reported 132,474 prisoners-of-war: 95,531 North Koreans, 20,700 Chinese, and 16,243 disident South Koreans. The Communist delegation letter of December 26 asserted that the UN list contained 1,456 fewer names than the UN had said it did, and contained 44,205 names fewer than reported to the Red Cross. The UN undertook to explain the removal of the 44,000, but as late as January 24, it was reported that the Communist delegation was pressing for information concerning 77,000 persons the UN stated that these were civilian internes. On January 28, the UN delegation presented a new list, written in Oriental characters, containing 132,080 names, 20,720 Chinese and 111,360 Koreans.

Civilian Internes in South Korea

The UN has made a statement concerning numbers of civilian internes or of refugees under its control. The UN Department of Social Affairs once issued a statement that 100,000 North Koreans had come to South Korea during the fighting. On January 4, 1952, the Communist delegation repeated whether the 50,000 North Koreans taken from North Korea by the UN forces would be returned in the contemplated exchange.