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CIA IN KOREA
1946 - 1965

VOLUME III

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July 1973

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AirForce/Haas/Korean War 51-53
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PART III CHRONOLOGY

"What is past I know, but what is for to come I know not."

The APOCRYPHA, Esdras. II, 20

Summer 1945

USSR NKVD (Russian Intelligence Service) enters North Korea in strength.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

26 July 1947

National Security Act of 1947 establishes CIA.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

25 June 1950

The war begins.

26 June 1950

KMAAG decision to evacuate all but thirty-three of its officers to Japan.

[REDACTED]

27 June 1950

Ambassador Muccio ordered to leave Seoul.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

28 June 1950

FECOM Survey Party arrives Suwon Airfield. Command passes from Ambassador to U.S. Army.

30 June 1950

KMAAG Chief and remaining [REDACTED] personnel evacuate Seoul.

[REDACTED] CIA case officers and radio communication facilities arrive Suwon and are placed at disposal of FECOM. President Truman orders U.S. ground forces into Korea.

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1-4 July 1950	General Church and Ambassador Muccio jointly occupy Osan.
1-4 July 1950	OSO personnel assume emergency role as military intelligence officers.
5 July 1950	First U.S. ground troops go into action near Osan south of Seoul.
5 July-4 August 1950	OSO withdraws south to Taejon, then to Taegu with EUSAK Forward Headquarters.
7 July 1950	U.N. creates United Nations Command under U.S. Commander.
July 1950	OSO [REDACTED] begins training Korean intelligence agents.
20 July 1950	OPC begins wartime build-up [REDACTED]
4 August 1950	Pusan Perimeter established along Naktong River. Heaviest fighting of the war with the outcome of battle continually in doubt until 15 September 1950.
30 August 1950	OSO collects intelligence from island off Inchon.
September 1950	OSO drops intelligence teams along northern border of North Korea. OPC opens station at Tongnae, Korea.
15 September 1950	Inchon Landings
18 September 1950	U.N. Forces break-out from Pusan Perimeter.
26 September 1950	Seoul recaptured by U.N. Forces.
26 September- 7 October 1950	NKPA troops, by-passed by the U.N. Forces, go underground and become Communist guerrillas in South Korea.
7 October 1950	U.N. Forces cross the 38th parallel into North Korea. OPC establishes temporary station in Seoul.

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12 October 1950 First Chinese Communist troops cross Yalu River into North Korea.

14 October 1950 General Willoughby's G-2 estimate that Chinese Communists are bluffing in their threats to enter the war.

19 October 1950 Pyongyang, North Korean capital, taken by U.N. Forces.

19 October -
25 November 1950 OSO exploits opportunity to recruit penetration agents in interior of North Korea.

28 October 1950 OPC places E&E staybehind agents above 38th parallel and prepares to occupy offshore islands.

November 1950 OPC E&E program starts.

8 November 1950 National Intelligence Estimate that Chinese Communists are capable of forcing U.N. withdrawal from North Korea.

25 November -
10 December 1950 CCF strike EUSAK and U.N. Forces retreat. OSO leaves new agents in place in North Korea.

1 December 1950 CIA staff in Korea: [REDACTED]

5 December 1950 U.N. Forces clear Pyongyang retreating south.

December 1950 OPC guerrilla training camp opened [REDACTED]

26 December 1950 General Ridgway assumes command Eighth U.S. Army, Korea (EUSAK).

4 January 1951 Seoul recaptured by CCF.

14 January 1951 U.N. lines rest along 37th parallel in South Korea.

25 January 1951 U.S. Forces reassume offensive.

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1 February 1951 U.N. votes to end Korean conflict by peaceful means.

March 1951 Paramilitary staging and training base established on island near Pusan.

18 March 1951 Seoul retaken by U.N. Forces.

10 April 1951 Plan to combine OSO/OPC units in Korea into one CIA Mission begins.

11 April 1951 General MacArthur recalled. Ridgway assumes command at FECOM, Van Fleet at EUSAK, Willoughby relieved as FECOM/G-2.

April - June 1951 [REDACTED] CIA guerrillas infiltrated by sea and air onto North Korean mainland.

1 June 1951 CIA staff in Korea: [REDACTED]

13 June 1951 U.N. Forces back on 38th parallel.

2 July 1951 OSO/OPC units in Korea merged into CIA's first combined Clandestine Services field mission. Acting Senior CIA Representative FECOM appointed by DCI.

10 July 1951 Truce talks begin at Kaesong.

Summer 1951 Paramilitary, E&E, air, and maritime operations intensified. CIA intensified intelligence penetration operations. Agent radio operators infiltrated to establish communications with staybehind agents in North Korea.

Generals George Marshall as Secretary of Defense and Walter Bedell Smith as DCI agree to place covert and clandestine operations in support of EUSAK under Commander-in-Chief, FECOM only as long as combat continues in Korea.

27 November 1951 Truce talks resume at Panmunjom; ceasefire line agreed upon.

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28 November 1951	CCRAK established by FECOM order.
November - April 1952	Stalemate along Korean battlefront during discussions at Panmunjom.
1 December 1951	CIA strength in Korea: [REDACTED]
8 January 1952	Washington OSO/OPC headquarters merged into single CIA Clandestine Service (DDP), Notice No. 8-52 signed by Walter Bedell Smith.
Winter 1951-52	Apogee of CIA mainland guerrilla effort. Communist Forces mop up U.N. guerrillas. U.N. Forces sweep up Communist guerrillas.
12 May - 12 June 1952	Mark Clark replaces Ridgway at FECOM.
1 June 1952	CIA staff in Korea: [REDACTED] Narrative ends. Cease-fire signed a year later at Panmunjom on 27 July 1953.

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Apr 11 General MacArthur is recalled and General Ridgway assumes command of FEC. General Willoughby is relieved as G-2 FEC.

Jul Merger of OSO and OPC units into one mission, Joint Advisory Commission Korea (JACK), [REDACTED]

Jul 10 Truce talks begin in Kaesong.

Nov 27 Truce talks resume at Panmunjom.

Nov 28 Establishment by US Military of Covert, Clandestine and Related Activities in Korea (CCRAK--later CCRAFE) with CIA Station chief as deputy of CCRAK.

Dec Liberal Party is founded.

Increase in CIA staff in Korea [REDACTED]

1952

Mar Transfer of JACK headquarters to Seoul with bases in Pusan, Inchon, and Seoul.

Apr [REDACTED] is appointed acting and later on 2 Aug, Chief, CIA Mission Korea.

May [REDACTED] is appointed chief of reactivated Embassy unit in Pusan.

Priority assigned to E&E program by Korea Mission chief but with little success.

May 30 Primary E&E responsibility is retained by Korea Mission despite Air Force criticism.

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Late May

[REDACTED]

Jul

[REDACTED] is appointed deputy chief of CCRAK replacing the chief of mission.

Aug 2

Capri Incident in which CIA indigenous guards fired at President Rhee's yacht.

Sep

[REDACTED] arrives as new chief of Intelligence Operations.

Late

Credibility of much of Korea Mission's North Korean reporting becomes increasingly questionable.

1953

Jan

CIA is accepted as Fourth Force in military theaters of operation such as Korea under agreement approved by Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Mar

Vice Admiral Harvey E. Overesch is designated Senior Representative, North Asia Command, and CIA Commander for Far East Command, JCS, as pertains to Korea in conduct of unconventional warfare.

[REDACTED] appointed chief of Embassy unit in Seoul.

Jun 30

Tongnae Base closes.

Jul 8

Pusan Base closes.

Jul 27

Signing of Korean Armistice.

Signing of Armistice results in new operating restrictions causing decrease in CIA activities north of demarcation (DMZ) line.

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Jul 27 [redacted] becomes chief of Korea Mission.

Aug Korea Mission headquarters (JACK) is closed.

Korea Mission is reorganized and divided into smaller units under military cover.

Late Reassessment of station assets reveals papermills and fabrications as sources for most of station North Korean intelligence.

1954

Jan

Initiation of successful audio operation [redacted]

Establishment of AMECA mechanism to develop contingency plans in event of death of Rhee or unilateral decision to march north.

Establishment of [redacted] Operations Base [redacted] for purpose of developing operations against North Korea.

Nov

[redacted] the headquarters of Korea Station is moved [redacted]

1955

[redacted]

[redacted]

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