

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Creation of a North Korean Army Reserve Force in the Yonan Area, Hwanghae Province	DATE DISTR.	19 February 1954
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		REFERENCES	

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1. In accordance with a North Korean army general headquarters order calling for a reserve force<sup>1</sup> composed of village self-defense teams and various employee groups, physical examinations were to be given in December 1953 to all men between the ages of 18 and 40 years in the Yonan (BS-5198) area. After completion of the physical examinations, military training instructors were to be assigned to each village by the county Military Mobilization Bureau. Upon finishing their training, more than half the members of the village units were to be issued firearms for use in guarding their villages and places of work. In case of emergency, the units would be called by the army.
2. In order to decrease evasion of service, each village sponsored training in political education and, for the illiterate, reading and writing. So many young men were weakening their health in order to avoid service that the Military Mobilization Bureaus stated that those who were medically disqualified would be given further examination at the Provincial Mobilization Bureau. Those whose disqualification was the result of an intentional act would be punished. To keep them from traveling, their citizenship cards would be confiscated until their health was restored, and they would be under constant surveillance.

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1.  Comment. By early November 1953 the detailed regulations regarding the reserve force had not yet been issued.

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