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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Chinese Communist Occupation of Seoul

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DATE OF INFO. 8 January - 1 March 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. About 8 January "Hail Stalin and KIM Il-sŏng" posters and pictures of the two leaders appeared in Seoul. These and similar propaganda were distributed by Communist youth organizations and the Democratic Women's Alliance members who had re-entered Seoul. Signboards were set up for the various propaganda organizations as in the previous occupation by the North Koreans.
2. About 14 January North Korean political administrative officials arrived in Seoul. Their first act was to confiscate for the state all property of the families who had fled south. The property of those staying was not affected. After the administrative officials arrived, portraits of MAO Tse-tung greatly outnumbered those of Stalin and KIM Il-sŏng. It was rumored among the Seoul citizens in late January that the administrative officials were working for the Chinese Communists through North Korean Communists.
3. The officials were friendlier than those of the previous North Korean occupation. They tried to win support in Seoul by various means including the prohibition of extortion, rape, and compulsory labor, although Communist youth often exacted labor before the officials intervened late in January. Another measure to induce cooperation was pointing out the fact that the North Korean Army had ill treated the civilians; this caused many civilians to comment on the lenience of the Chinese Communists.
4. In early February, when supply became short, the Chinese Communist attitude changed. The confiscation of food and medicines from the residents of Seoul gradually increased until, in late February, it was at its worst. The term "confiscation" was avoided to soften the effects and the confiscating was carried out by the North Korean forces under agreement with the Chinese Communists.
5. Posters emphasized the characters "Korea-China," implying the union of the two nations, and appealed to "Chinese Communist volunteers" or "Chinese Communist troops" to "devote yourselves to ousting the American imperialists." Posters on the unity with or the friendship of the Soviets and praise of "great Stalin" were common in the earlier occupation but almost totally

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absent in the second one after early January.

6. About 1 March, the North Korean forces conscripted all citizens between the ages of 15 and 40, and moved north 8,000 of them, the majority women. Speakers in the drive used the slogan: "To stay means learning the rotten spirit of Syngman Rhee. Come with us and learn the sacred creed of Communism."

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