

NEW YORK TRIBUNE (NY)
22 January 1986

Data on CIA Personnel Published in S. Korea, Apparently as a Sop To Anti-Americanism

BY MIKE BREEN
Special to the New York City Tribune

SEOUL, South Korea, Jan. 21 — The names of the CIA station chief in Korea and six staff members were revealed by a South Korean magazine today in what is seen as an attempt by the government to appease anti-American sentiment.

In an article in the February issue of the monthly *Wolgan Chosun*, James Delaney is identified as heading up CIA operations in Korea.

Delaney, 56, is officially listed as a special assistant to Ambassador Richard Walker.

The article also names Delaney's deputy, Edgar Player, and five others working at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul.

Entitled "The American CIA in Korea" and written by the magazine's deputy editor, Cho Kap-chaeh, the article is illustrated with a photo of the embassy identifying some 5th-floor windows as offices of the CIA's Research Unit.

The article also names some prominent Koreans as CIA contacts.

With the Korean press tightly con-

trolled by the government through the Ministry of Culture and Information and the Agency for National Security Planning (ANSP) — the former Korean CIA (KCIA) — it is impossible for the article to have been published without official sanction.

"The government obviously wants to reduce the influence of the CIA," said one expert who asked not to be named.

Foreign diplomats surprised

Although the nature of Delaney's job was widely known among journalists and politicians, the article has taken Korean and foreign diplomats by surprise.

Observers say the government is trying publicly to free itself from overdependence on the United States in the light of rising anti-Americanism, fueled by bilateral trade disputes.

The U.S. Embassy is still analyzing the article and has issued no statement.

Delaney was appointed in August, 1983 and is the 12th CIA chief in Korea, the article says. It describes his appearance and other characteristics, even to his car licence-plate number.

Player, the magazine said, is the only black in the CIA's 36-year history in Korea. The intelligence officials operate the Research Unit in the U.S. embassy and have a staff of about 20, the magazine said.

CIA operatives in Korea were estimated by the magazine to number between 40 and 50, although it said this figure may double in times of emergency — such as the period following the assassination in 1979 of President Park Chung-hee.

The article says the CIA conducts political and economic research in Korea. It contains praise for the intelligence organization, citing its contributions to universities and research institutes by an alleged CIA front called the Asia Foundation, and the rescue of opposition leader Kim Dae-jung in 1973 from assassination by KCIA agents.