

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. _____

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	SCAP	13 Jan 46	8th Army	3d Ind "Repat of Koreans," rqst SCAP be furnished names & addresses of 17 families in Sakhalin.
2	SCAP	20 Feb 46	C/S, US Army	Ltr. "Repat of Kors fr Sak", fwding names & addresses of Koreans desiring repat to Jap.
3	SCAP	20 Feb 46	WARCOS	Rad CAX 50062 requesting mat of 18 families in Sak be taken up thru Dip Sec.
4	Wash	3 Mar 46	AFPAC	Rad WCL 21227. Ref SCAP ltr 20 Feb 46 re repat of Kors fr Sak. See RUSS CONF 1, LINE 14.
5		15 Mar 46		M/R on Wash rad WX 80449, re State Dept recom take up mat of repat of Kor families fr Sak w/Sov mission in Tokyo. SEE RUSS CONF #1, LINE 20
6	SCAP	23 Mar 46	Soviets	Ltr "Repat of Kors fr Sak" requesting ret of Kor families fr Sak. SEE RUSS CONF #1, LINE 22
7				Intel Sum #2349 "North Koreans in USSR."
8	SCAP	9 Dec 47	24 Corps	Ltr. "Repat fr Sakhalin," shipping would be available at port of Maoka to accommodate Kors as Sov auth release for repat to S. Korea.
9		10 Mar 48	SCAP	Ltr of petition.
10	SCAP(DS)	18 Mar 48	Sov	Ltr requesting estimate of no. of Koreans desiring repat to S. K.
11	G-3	22 Nov 47	DS	C/N "Kor repats fr Sak," recom SCAP approach Sov for repat of these Koreans.
11A		17 Nov 47		Rpt. "Number of Kors in Kara & Kurile Islands", census taken by Home Ministry in 1944.

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. _____

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
12		12 Mar 48		M/R on DS C/N to C/S "Korean repat fr Sak," concurring DS proposal of ltr to Sov resting arranging repat of Kors fr Sak.
13		7 May 49		M/R on rpt of Mr. Schneider stating 45 of 165 repats fr Karafuto chosento remain in Japn.
14	G-3	9 May 49	DS	C/N#2. "Rqst for info on Kors in Sakhalin and Kuriles," informing G-3 has no addition info re no. of Kors detained in Sak.
15	DS	13 May 49	Korean DS Miss	Ltr. Reply to Kor DMiss ltr 4 Apr 49. informing 20,000 Kors remain in Sakahlin.
16	G-3	13 Jul 49	DS	C/N#3. "Repat of Kors fr Sak & the Kuriles." sug Kor Mis approach USSR thru an intermediary.
17	DS	15 Jul 49	Kor Dip Miss	Ltr. Reply 14 Jun ltr. suggest Kor Mis approach USSR thru intermediary of a govt having formal dip relations w/both Kor & USSR.
18	DA	21 Jul 49	CINCPF	Rad WCL 28353. News release of Chicago Tribune of Korean slave labor camp established in Siber & other Sov possessions, 100, 000 N. Koreans deported.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

INCOMING MESSAGE

EFF
wsb
ppd

SM

UNCLASSIFIED
PRIORITY

21 Jul 49

FROM : DA (CSPID) WASHINGTON DC

TO : CINCPAC TOKYO JAPAN

INFO : CHIEF KMAG SEOUL KOREA, CINCARL QHTS, CG USARCARI
QHTS, CINCAL FT RICHARDSON ALS, CG USARPAC FT
SHAFTER TH, CHIEF JUSMAG PHIL MANILA PINR WCL 28353

New York Times. Tokyo 19 July: Maj Daniel C Imboden, head of Gen Douglas MacArthur's Hqs Press Section, today accused Japanese Communists of attempting to intimidate Japanese newspapers and foreign correspondents and threatened jail sentences might result if these tactics were continued. Major Imboden's statement was based on a recent incident in which Lindsey Parrott, New York Times Correspondent, and Asahi Shimbun were served with a "demand" by the Communist Party's Central Committee for a revision of an article in the New York Times July 10 and subsequently in Asahi....

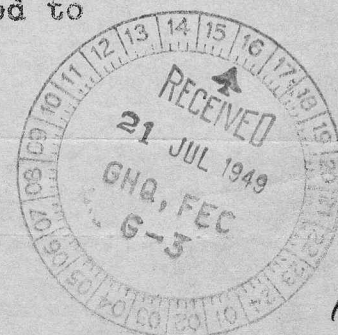
Chicago Tribune Correspondent Walter Simmons, Tokyo 19 July: More than 100,000 North Koreans have been deported to Slave Labor Camps in Siberia and other Soviet possessions during the last 2 years, Japanese repatriates arriving within the last few weeks disclosed. The Japanese also said extensive quantities of North Korean food were being exported to Siberia. 1 repatriate told the Tribune of a Korean Slave Labor Camp 2 days ride by truck South of Rubtsovsk. . . .

In far Western Siberia. . . . Last year United States Army Hqs in South Korea reported that it had learned 50,000 North Koreans had been arrested and deported to Sakhalin. . . .

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Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

UNCLASSIFIED
PRIORITY

FROM : DA (CSPID) WASHINGTON DC NR : WCL 28353
21 JULY 49 CONT'D

POPE

INFORMATION : COMMANDER IN CHIEF, CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, G-3,
AG, PUBLIC INFORMATION, GOVT, CIV I & E,
DIPLOMATIC, JSEPOC

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TOO : 202235 Z
NO : AUG 14/21

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Diplomatic Section

DS/CKH/TWA/bk

The Diplomatic Section presents its compliments to the Korean Diplomatic Mission and has the honor to refer to the latter's note of June 14, 1949, requesting the good offices of this Headquarters in connection with the repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands.

In so far as the SCAP-Soviet repatriation agreement of December 19, 1946 (which constitutes basis for implementation of the repatriation terms of the Potsdam Declaration) relates to repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas of members and employees of the former Japanese military forces, it provides only for repatriation to Japan. It is therefore informally suggested that the Korean Government may wish to approach the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the matter through the intermediary of a government having formal diplomatic relations with both the Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Tokyo, July 15, 1949.

S 321.4

Copies to:

G-2
G-2/fl
G-3

To the
Korean Diplomatic Mission,
Tokyo.

- M/R: 1. G-2 concurs in instant action per check note no. 2 to DS, 1 July 49, on DS check sheet to G-3 thru G-2, 21 June 49, subj., "Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin and the Kuriles".
2. G-3 concurs per check note no. 3 to DS, 13 July 49, on above check sheet; and telephone conversation between Maj. Steckla (G-3) and Mr. Ainsworth (DS), 14 July 49.

TWA 26-5443

COPY 17

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13 Jul 49

Maj Paul R. Steckla
26-5945

AG 014.33 ()GC-0

Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin
and the Kuriles.

G-3

DS

typed: 12 Jul 49

disp. 13 Jul 49

3. 1. Reference paragraph 3, checknote No. 1, provisions for implementation of applicable terms of the Potsdam Declaration as concerns the return of Japanese military forces from U.S.S.R. to their homes are set forth in the SCAP-Soviet Repatriation Agreement of 19 December 1946. The Agreement provides only for the repatriation to Japan of Japanese prisoners of war and Japanese nationals (on voluntary basis) from the U.S.S.R. and Soviet-controlled areas, and Korean nationals from Japan to North Korea.
2. It has been a long established Allied policy to treat Koreans as a "liberated" people; it is, therefore, questionable as to whether or not Koreans conscripted for labor purposes in the Karafuto and the Kuriles by the Japanese Government during World War II may be categorically classified as members of the former Japanese military forces.
3. Attention is invited to a letter dated 18 March 1948 of Mr. W. J. Sebald to the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, concerning the status of the Koreans in Karafuto and the Kuriles. As is known, the Soviets have not as yet replied to nor acknowledged this letter.
4. The question is raised also as to the advisability of suggesting to the Korean Mission in Japan, which represents a Government in Korea not recognized by the U.S.S.R., that the mission attempt to approach the Soviets for information through some intermediary other than SCAP.

2 Incls

Added Incl 2

2. DS ltr to Soviet

Member, ACJ, 18 Mar 48

-----W. H. M.-----

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND

COPY

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

S 321.4

Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin and

File No:

Subject: the Kuriles

Note No.	From: DS	To: G-3 Thru: G-2	Date: 21 June 1949
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1

1. Reference is made to DS check sheet, 22 April 1949, subject, "Request for Information on Koreans in Sakhalin and the Kuriles," and to G-2 check note no. 2, 5 May 1949, and G-3 check note no. 3, 10 May 49. Further reference is made to DS note of 13 May 1949 transmitting information, based on above G-2 check note, to the Korean Diplomatic Mission (info copies to G-2, G-3).

2. Forwarded for such action as is deemed appropriate is a copy of a Korean Mission note of 14 June 1949 requesting Headquarters' assistance in effecting the repatriation of Korean nationals still detained in Sakhalin and the Kuriles. The Mission states that approximately 40,000 Koreans, principally "slave laborers" forcibly taken to that area during the war, as well as some Japanese soldiers of Korean nationality, are still in Sakhalin and the Kuriles, no official repatriation having been effected to date.

3. Attention is invited to the last paragraph of the inclosed note in which the Korean Mission states that it believes the repatriation of members of the former Japanese armed forces, as well as of non-native Japanese subjects regardless of race or place or origin, to be within the official competence of this Headquarters which is entrusted with carrying out the terms of the Japanese surrender. It is assumed that the Mission considers the above mentioned "Slave Laborers" as conscripted for military tasks and, therefore, falling within the category of members of the Japanese armed forces.

4. DS is of the opinion that the Korean Government should be informed that it should approach the Soviet Government through the good offices of some nation with accredited diplomatic representatives in both Seoul and Moscow or through the Korean Embassy in Washington and the Department of State rather than through this headquarters, to whom no direct channel of communication is available.

5. Request information and comments, particularly as regards par 3 above, on which to base reply.

1 Incl
Copy of note of
14 June 49

-----C. K. H.-----

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FAR EAST COMMAND****COPY****CHECK SHEET**

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No:

Subject: Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin
and the Kuriles

Note No.	From: G-2	To: DS Thru: G-3	Date: 1 July 49
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2. 1. Reference paragraph 3, note 2 above, there is no information readily available regarding the activities engaged in by Koreans in Sakhalin and Kuriles. It is believed that any information concerning the purpose for which the Koreans were originally conscripted by the Japanese should be properly obtained from the Japanese Government.

2. In checknote 2, subject: "Request for Information on Koreans in Sakhalin and Kuriles," dated 5 May 1949 we furnished Diplomatic Section an estimate from Japanese sources on Koreans in subject areas. The totals are approximately:

a. Sakhalin - an estimated 110,000 to 120,000 Koreans left at end of war; most recent estimates indicate 20,000 remain.

b. Sakhalin and the Kuriles - an estimated 14,000 Koreans (with families) were sent as laborers by USSR in 1948.

c. The Kuriles - no information.

3. G-2 concurs in paragraph 4, note 1 above.

1 Incl
n/c

-----C. A. W.-----

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KOREAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN JAPAN TOKYO

The Korean Diplomatic Mission presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Section of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and has the honour to gratefully acknowledge the latter's reply of May 13, 1949 which shared information concerning Korean nationals presently in Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands.

The Korean Mission further has the honour to request the Headquarters' good offices to accelerate the repatriation of Korean nationals who are still detained in the Soviet-occupied Sakhalin and the Kurile.

According to the calculation of the Korean Government, approximately forty thousands Korean youths were forcibly taken into the Sakhalin-Kurile area during the war. They were mainly composed of the slave labourers levied in Korea and sent to the area to serve the Japanese war efforts. Besides these labourers there were comparatively few number of Korean soldiers involuntarily conscripted into the Japanese Army.

None of the Koreans who were in Sakhalin-Kurile area at the termination of war has ever been officially or openly repatriated to Korea by this date. These victims of the Japanese aggression are unwarrantedly detained there through no fault of their own.

Despite the specific commitment in the Potsdam Declaration that "the Japanese Military Forces, after being completely disarmed, shall be permitted to return to their homes with the opportunity to lead peaceful and productive lives," the Soviet Union has heretofore failed to meet this unmistakable commitment.

Moreover, the Soviet authorities are exacting compulsory labours to these innocent Korean captives with no guarantee of an early repatriation. The popular sentiment of indignant protest to such a state of affairs, which has been actively represented of late months in the public opinion of Korea, constrains the Korean Government to respond to the ardent wishes of its people to rescue their compatriots from the miserable situation.

The Korean Government bases its request for the good offices of the General Headquarters on the belief that it is within the official competence of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, who is entrusted with the mission to carry out the terms of Japanese surrender, to effectuate the repatriation of the former Japanese armed forces as well as those non-native subjects of Japanese Empire regardless of their race or place or origin.

June 14, 1949

To the
Diplomatic Section,
General Headquarters,
Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers,
Tokyo

COPY

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Diplomatic Section

Tokyo, March 18, 1948

Major General A. P. Kislenko,
Acting Soviet Member,
Allied Council for Japan,
Tokyo.

Sir:

In connection with the possible consideration at a future date by this Headquarters of arrangements for the repatriation of those Koreans who were forcibly removed from their homes south of the thirty-eighth degree parallel in Korea and taken to Sakhalin by Japanese military authorities, it would be greatly appreciated if the Soviet authorities, in the areas concerned could be requested to furnish this Headquarters with an estimate of the number of such Koreans in Sakhalin and their wishes as regards to repatriation. An indication of the Soviet Government's position in the matter of the possible repatriation of the relevant Korean nationals would also be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

W. J. Sebald
Chief, Diplomatic Section

Info copies: CinC
C/S
G-2/GL
G-3 Rep
AG Records

S 711.4
AG 014.33
JWBurnett; cgf

M/R attached

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16

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M/R:

1. Chief of Staff by c/n 7 Nov 47 forwards to DS, with a request for submission of recommended action, letter from Association of the Rapid Realization of Repatriation of Koreans dated 26 Oct 47, and General Hodge's comments thereon of 1 Nov 47.
2. After obtaining the views of G-3 in this matter by c/n 22 Nov 47, DS forwarded communication to CG, XXIV Corps, 9 Dec 47, requesting the latter's views on this Headquarters' proposal of an offer to the Soviet Member of ACJ to arrange repatriation from Sakhalin of all Koreans of origin south of the 38th parallel who desire repatriation.
3. USAFIK, 24 Feb 48, opposed making offer at that time to repatriated these Koreans and requested that Soviet Member of ACJ be queried as to the present number of Koreans who originated in South Korea and were sent to the areas in question under the aegis of the Japanese military. CG, USAFIK, requested that this be done without committing the latter to repatriation, stating that this information would be helpful in dealing with certain aspects of the current domestic situation in South Korea.
4. Letter to Acting Soviet Member, 18 Mar 48, complies with request of CG, USAFIK, and was approved by C/S 14 Mar 48.
5. G-3 concurred (ECB for and in absence of W.H. Maris, Brig Gen. GSC, Asst Chief of Staff, G-3) 12 Mar 48.

JWB 26-8841

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PRS/jyn
12 July 1949MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: DS checknote to G-2 and G-3 in turn, subject, "Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin and the Kuriles," dated 21 Jun 49.

2. REFERENCES:

a. DS checknote (G-2, No. 2 and G-3, No. 3), subject, "Request for information on Koreans in Sakhalin and the Kuriles," 22 Apr 49 (TAB A).

b. DS note, 13 May 49 (TAB B).

3. DISCUSSION:

a. Reference par 2a above, (1) requests information of G-2 and G-3 pertaining to the number, location and treatment of Koreans being detained presently by the Soviets in Sakhalin (Karafuto) and the Kuriles; (2) indicates G-2 estimates that 20,000 Koreans remain in Sakhalin, and that 14,000 Korean laborers (with families) were sent to Sakhalin and the Kuriles by USSR in 1948; and (3) states that G-3 has no additional information concerning Korean nationals in the above areas (TAB A). Reference par 2b above, DS note forwards the above information to the Korean Mission (TAB B).

b. Basic action forwards for such action as is deemed appropriate a copy of Korean Mission note and invites attention to final par wherein it is requested that SCAP effectuate the repatriation of approximately 40,000 Korean "slave laborers," forcibly taken to Sakhalin and the Kuriles during War II, and a small number of Korean members of the former Japanese armed forces; states that DS assumes that the Korean Mission considers subject Koreans as falling within the category of members of the former Japanese armed forces; and indicates that DS holds the opinion that the Korean Government be informed that it should approach the Soviet Government on this matter through offices of a nation having accredited diplomatic representatives in Seoul and Moscow or through the Korean Embassy in Washington and the Dept of State.

c. The SCAP-Soviet Repatriation Agreement of 19 December 1946 provides only for the repatriation to Japan of Japanese prisoners of war and Japanese nationals on a voluntary basis from USSR and Soviet-controlled territories and Korean nationals from Japan to North Korea. In view of the above and the long established Allied policy to treat Koreans as "liberated" people, it is felt that those Koreans taken to Karafuto and the Kuriles for labor purposes cannot be categorically designated as combatant or non-combatant members of the former Japanese military forces notwithstanding the Korean Mission's assumption that they should be regarded as such.

d. In light of the unacknowledged DS letter of 18 Mar 48 to the Soviet Member, ACJ, pertaining to the status of Koreans in Karafuto and the

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Kuriles (Inclosure 2), and in view of the fact that the USSR does not recognize the government in South Korea, it is felt that G-3 should question the propriety of the course of action suggested by DS in par 4 checknote No. 1.

4. INDICATED ACTION: Invite DS attention to a letter forwarded to the Soviet Member, ACJ, in Mar 48 and raise question as to the advisability of suggesting to the Korean Mission to approach the USSR through an intermediary.

5. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Checknote to DS as indicated par 4 above.

6. COORDINATION: None required.

7. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of the attached checknote to DS.

8. CONCURRENCE: None required.

9. COMPLETION: This completes action on basic checknote but does not complete action on the subject.

Steckla, 26-5945

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND

COPY

TAB A
DS C/N
22 Apr 49

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No:

Subject: Request for Information on Koreans in Sakhalin
and the Kuriles

Note No.	From: DS	To: G-2 G-3	Date: 22 Apr 49
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1. Inclosed herewith is a copy of a Korean Diplomatic Mission note, 4 Apr 49, requesting information from Headquarters on the number, location and treatment of Koreans presently held by the Soviets in Sakhalin and the Kuriles.
2. If no objection is perceived, DS intends to furnish the Korean Mission with such information as may be available, qualified to the effect that this Headquarters has no direct information and can assume no responsibility for the accuracy of estimates from Japanese or other sources.
3. Request DS be furnished information on which to base reply to the Korean Mission.

1 Incl
Copy of Korean note,
4 Apr 49

-----W. J. S.-----
MISB/EMFS/CHF/bd
Date: 5 May 1949

From: G-2 To: DS Thru: G-3

2. 1. Variable estimates without complete authenticity made by repatriates and secured from Japanese authorities are as follows:
- a. Concerning Sakhalin - an estimated 110,000 to 120,000 Koreans left at the end of the war; most recent estimates indicate 20,000 remain.
 - b. Concerning Sakhalin and Kuriles - an estimated 14,000 Koreans (with families) were sent as laborers by USSR in 1948.
 - c. Concerning the Kuriles - no information.

No information is available regarding the location or treatment of Koreans in either area. The Soviet authorities have not so far furnished authoritative statistics on Prisoners of War.

2. G-2 has no objection to the above information being passed to the Korean Diplomatic Mission under the conditions as stated in paragraph 2 of Note 1 above.

1 Incl

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND

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CHECK SHEET

Maj P. R. Steckla
26-5945

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

S 532.3 (22 Apr 49)GC-0

Request for Information on Koreans in

File No:

Subject: Sakhalin and the Kuriles

Note No.	From:	To:	Date:
3.	G-3	DS	9 May 1949

1. G-3 has no additional information pertaining to the number, distribution or treatment of Korean nationals who are presently being detained in Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands.

2. Reference paragraph 2, checknote No. 1, G-3 has no objection to Diplomatic Section's forwarding to the Korean Diplomatic Mission in Japan the information furnished by G-2.

1 Incl
n/c

-----W. H. M.-----

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KOREAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN JAPAN TOKYO

The Korean Diplomatic Mission presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Section of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and has the honour to request its assistance in the following matter.

During the War Japan levied millions of Koreans to place them for hard labour among various army fronts. Indeed approximately fifty thousands Korean youths were reported to be brought into the Sakhalin (Karafuto) and Kurile (Chishima) Islands are alone to serve slave labour.

These Koreans, who should have been duly repatriated after the termination of War, nevertheless are still held overseas owing to the neglect of international justice and the breach of international agreements by the Soviet Russia.

Under-feeding and inadequate clothing, spurred by the lack of medical facilities, are driving these Koreans to disease and death, it was revealed by those who were able to escape via Japan.

Public opinion in Korea is showing alarming concern for the deplorable state of affairs with their compatriots in those areas. Hearing of this subject has already been made before the National Assembly.

In view of the above-described facts it would be appreciated if General Headquarters would kindly share with the Korean Government whatever information in its possession as to the number, distribution, condition of treatment etc. of the Korean nationals who are presently held in Sakhalin-Kurile area.

April 4th, 1949

To the Diplomatic Section,
General Headquarters,
Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers,
Tokyo

Incl

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DIPLOMATIC SECTION

DS/CKH/RWA/bk

TAB B
DS Memo to
Korean
Mission
in Japan
13 May 49

The Diplomatic Section presents its compliments to the Korean Diplomatic Mission and has the honor to refer to the latter's note of April 4, 1949 requesting such information as may be available to this Headquarters concerning Korean nationals presently in Sakhalin and the Kuriles.

This Headquarters has received no direct or official information on this subject. Unofficial estimates made by sources outside this Headquarters, for whose accuracy no responsibility can be assumed, indicates that about 20,000 Koreans remain in Sakhalin, approximately 110,000 to 120,000 having departed at the end of the war, and that about 14,000 Koreans, with their families, entered Sakhalin and the Kuriles in 1948 as laborers. No information is available regarding the location or treatment of Koreans in either area.

Tokyo, May 13, 1949.

S. 532.3

Copies to:

G-2
G-2/FL
G-3

M/R: Based on G-2 checknote no. 2, 5 May 49,
to DS check sheet, 22 Apr 49, subj,
"Request for Information on Koreans in
Sakhalin and the Kuriles."

RWA 26-5443

To the
Korean Diplomatic Mission,
Tokyo.

COPY 16

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Diplomatic Section

DS/CKH/RWA/bk

The Diplomatic Section presents its compliments to the Korean Diplomatic Mission and has the honor to refer to the latter's note of April 4, 1949 requesting such information as may be available to this Headquarters concerning Korean nationals presently in Sakhalin and the Kuriles.

This Headquarters has received no direct or official information on this subject. Unofficial estimates made by sources outside this Headquarters, for whose accuracy no responsibility can be assumed, indicates that about 20,000 Koreans remain in Sakhalin, approximately 110,000 to 120,000 having departed at the end of the war, and that about 14,000 Koreans, with their families, entered Sakhalin and the Kuriles in 1948 as laborers. No information is available regarding the location or treatment of Koreans in either area.

Tokyo, May 13, 1949.

S 532.3

Copies to:

G-2

G-2/FL

G-3

M/R: Based on G-2 Checknote no. 2, 5 May 49, to DS check sheet, 22 Apr 49, subj, "Request for Information on Koreans in Sakhalin and the Kuriles".

RWA 26-5443

To the
Korean Diplomatic Mission,
Tokyo.

COPY
15

Request for Information on Koreans in Sakhalin
and the Kuriles

From: DS

To: G-2
G-3

22 Apr 49

1. Inclosed herewith is a copy of a Korean Diplomatic Mission note, 4 Apr 49, requesting information from Headquarters on the number, location and treatment of Koreans presently held by the Soviets in Sakhalin and the Kuriles.

2. If no objection is perceived, DS intends to furnish the Korean Mission with such information as may be available, qualified to the effect that this Headquarters has no direct information and can assume no responsibility for the accuracy of estimates from Japanese or other sources.

3. Request DS be furnished information on which to base reply to the Korean Mission.

1 Incl

Copy of Korean note,
4 Apr 49

----- W.J.S. -----

From: G-2

To: DS
Thru: G-3MISD/WHFS/GWP/bd
Date: 5 May 1949

1. Variable estimates without complete authenticity made by repatriates and secured from Japanese authorities are as follows:

a. Concerning Sakhalin - an estimated 110,000 to 120,000 Koreans left at the end of the war; most recent estimates indicate 20,000 remain.

b. Concerning Sakhalin and Kuriles - an estimated 14,000 Koreans (with families) were sent as laborers by USSR in 1948.

c. Concerning the Kuriles - no information.

No information is available regarding the location or treatment of Koreans in either area. The Soviet authorities have not so far furnished authoritative statistics on Prisoners of War.

2. G-2 has no objection to the above information being passed to the Korean Diplomatic Mission under the conditions as stated in paragraph 2 of Note 1 above.

1 Incl
n/c

----- C.A.W. -----

14

Maj P. R. Steckla
26-5945

S 532.3 (22 Apr 49)GC-0

Request for Information on Koreans in
Sakhalin and the Kuriles

G-3

DS

9 May 1949

3

1. G-3 has no additional information pertaining to the number, distribution or treatment of Korean nationals who are presently being detained in Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands.

2. Reference paragraph 2, checknote No. 1, G-3 has no objection to Diplomatic Section's forwarding to the Korean Diplomatic Mission in Japan the information furnished by G-2.

1 Incl
n/c

-W. H. M.-

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KOREAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN JAPAN TOKYO

The Korean Diplomatic Mission presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Section of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and has the honour to request its assistance in the following matter.

During the War Japan levied millions of Koreans to place them for hard labour among various army fronts. Indeed approximately fifty thousands Korean youths were reported to be brought into the Sakhalin (Karafuto) and Kurile (Chishima) Islands alone to serve slave labour.

These Koreans, who should have been duly repatriated after the termination of War, nevertheless are still held overseas owing to the neglect of international justice and the breach of international agreements by the Soviet Russia.

Under-feeding and inadequate clothing, spurred by the lack of medical facilities, are driving these Koreans to disease and death, it was revealed by those who were able to escape via Japan.

Public opinion in Korea is showing alarming concern for the deplorable state of affairs with their compatriots in those areas. Hearing of this subject has already been made before the National Assembly.

In view of the above-described facts it would be appreciated if General Headquarters would kindly share with the Korean Government whatever information in its possession as to the number, distribution, condition of treatment etc. of the Korean nationals who are presently held in Sakhalin-Kurile area.

April 4th, 1949

To the Diplomatic Section,
General Headquarters,
Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers,
Tokyo

COPY
14

PRS/jyn

9 May 1949

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: C/N from DS to G-2 and G-3 in turn requesting information pertaining to the number, distribution and treatment of Koreans presently being detained in the Soviet-dominated Sakhalin and Kurile Island areas. This information was requested of DS by Korean Diplomatic Mission (note Inclosure to C/N) which states that approximately 50,000 Koreans who had been drafted for forced labor in the Kuriles and Sakhalin have not been repatriated to Korea, and requests DS to obtain from GHQ the information indicated above.

2. G-3 has no additional information pertaining to Koreans in Sakhalin and the Kuriles and has no objection to DS forwarding to the Korean Diplomatic Mission data contained in C/N #2.

3. In this connection, records on file in G-3 indicate that on 18 Mar 48 the Chief, DS requested of the Acting Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, the number of Koreans (formerly domiciled south of 38°) in Sakhalin and their wishes in regards to repatriation. (The attention of DS has been invited verbally to this correspondence.) To date, this letter remains unanswered.

4. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Informing DS that G-3 does not have additional information pertaining to subject request.

5. CONCURRENCE: None required.

6. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of attached C/N #3 to DS.

7. COMPLETION: This completes G-3 action on DS initiated C/N but not on the subject.


Steckla, 26-5945

14

BLA/jcy
7 May 1949MEMO for RECORD:

1. Mr. Schneider, Chief, Japanese Liaison states that the Demobilization Bureau, JG reports that a total of 165 repatriates from Karafuto have been Koreans, of which 45 have chosen to remain in Japan and the balance of 120 accepted further repatriation to South Korea.

2. Mr. Schneider is of the opinion that Japanese of a much greater number could be classified as Koreans if they had so chosen to identify themselves. However, many repatriates who might be classified as Koreans have Japanese names and choose to pass themselves as Japanese nationals. Any estimate on this particular category will be purely conjectural.

Anderson, 26-5945


*Russian
file*MJY/jyn
12 March 1948MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: C/N, DS to C/S, dated 9 Mar 48, subject: Korean Repatriation from Sakhalin which:

a. Summarizes past correspondence on subject (Tabs A - D).

b. Forwards a draft letter (par 2) to Gen. Kislenko for the approval of the C/S.

2. The proposed letter to the Soviets requests an estimate of the number of Koreans in Sakhalin who originated in Korea, S. of 38°; states that this information is desired in connection with a possible future repatriation of subject Koreans; requests the Soviet Government's position on the repatriation of subject Koreans.

3. It is felt that the DS evaluation of the political significance of this subject warrants primary consideration.

4. The Soviets have consistently refused to furnish figures on Japanese remaining in Sakhalin and have obstructed SCAP efforts to further repatriation from this area at every opportunity. It is probable that the number of Koreans in Sakhalin is relatively small (approximately 15,000 per pars 2 and 3 of G-3 C/N, Tab B).

5. The physical accomplishment of the repatriation of 15,000 or even 40,000 Koreans from Karafuto to Korea, S. of 38°, is within the capabilities of SCAP. (See par 5 G-3 C/N, Tab B).

6. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurring in the proposed action of Diplomatic Section.

7. CONCURRENCES: None required.

8. RECOMMENDATION: Indicating concurrence by initialing DS C/N and forwarding same to C/S.

9. COMPLETION: This completes action on DS C/N of 9 Mar 48 but does not complete action on this subject.

*Dispatched to C/S
12 Mar 48
MJY*

Young, 26-5945

12

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

CWH
fdt

LFS

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
ROUTINE

11 Mar 48

FROM : CG MARBO
TO : CINCFE
INFO : CG EIGHTH ARMY
NR : C MBMED 23569

Request authority to detail 3 Med Corps officers general
duty for training approximately 8 weeks in fol specialties:
Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat, Radiology, and Neuropsychiatry.
Applicants possess aptitude for specialties selected,
and will have at least 1 year to serve upon completion of course.

NO SIG

ACTION: G-1

INFORMATION: G-3, AG, AG PERS DIV, AG OFF BR, SURGEON

16506

ROUTINE
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO : 110416 Z
MCN : AUB 93/11



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS FAR EAST COMMAND

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

S 711.4

File No: AG 014.33

Subject: Korean Repatriation from Sakhalin.

Note
No.

From: DS

To: C/S

Date: 9 Mar 48

1.

1. Chief of Staff by c/s 7 Nov 47 forwarded to DS, with a request for submission of recommended action, letter from Association of the Rapid Realization of Repatriation of Korean dated 26 Oct 47, and General Hodge's comments thereon of 1 Nov 47 (Tab A).

2. After obtaining the views of G-3 in this matter by c/s 22 Nov 47 (Tab B), DS forwarded communication to CG, XXIV Corps, 9 Dec 47 (Tab C), requesting the latter's views on this Headquarters' proposal of an offer to the Soviet Member of ACJ to arrange repatriation from Sakhalin of all Koreans of origin south of the 38th parallel who desire repatriation.

3. USAFIK, 24 Feb 48 (Tab D), opposed making offer at that time to repatriate these Koreans and requested that Soviet Member of ACJ be queried as to the present number of Koreans who originated in South Korea and were sent to the areas in question under the aegis of the Japanese military. It will be noted that CG, USAFIK, requested that this be done without committing the latter to repatriation, stating that this information would be helpful in dealing with certain aspects of the current domestic situation in South Korea.

4. Attached draft letter to Acting Soviet Member, ACJ, (Tab E) complies with request of CG, USAFIK. Recommend approval for dispatch attached draft and return to DS for processing.

5. Concurrence: G-3 _____ Ward H. Maris, Brig. Gen., GSC, Asst C/S, G-3.
12 March 1948

Incls: As tabbed.

/s/ WJS

-W. J. S.-

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

FAR EAST COMMAND
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, ~~U. S. ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC~~
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

VWD
whb

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
COURIER

ERW

1 Mar 48

FROM : CG FEAF
TO : BCOF, COMADIV 1
INFO : CINCFE, COMAF 5
NR : MX 34730 OPNS 3

Reference BCOF rad A 141 27 Feb 48 U/C. Rad in 2 parts.

Part 1. To both: Clearance granted BCOF for flight of RAF Dakota Gail sign KJ 98 R from Iwakuni to Hong Kong via Naha Okinawa, ETD Iwakuni 02213. Z Mar ETA Naha 030115 Z Mar.

Part 2. To COMADIV 1: Request accommodations be made available for crew of 4 in case weather necessitates RON Naha.

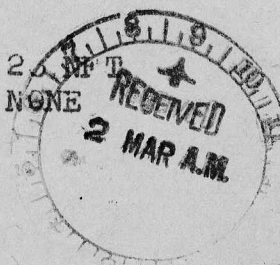
NO SIG

INFORMATION : G-3

12566

COURIER
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO : 2
MCN : NONE



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

AG 014.33 (9 Dec 47)DS

APO 500
9 December 1947

SUBJECT: Repatriation from Sakhalin

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps, APO 235

1. With reference to your letter of 1 November 1947 to the Chief of Staff, Far East Command regarding repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers is considering an offer to the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, to arrange transportation from Sakhalin for all Koreans of origin south of the 38th parallel who desire repatriation. Shipping would be made available at the port of Maoka to accommodate Koreans in such numbers as the Soviet authorities will release for repatriation to South Korea.

2. We do not have definite figures as to the number of Koreans presently in Sakhalin; however, the opinion here is that the 40 thousand families reported in Mr. Pong Song Lees' letter is excessive.

3. Your views with regard to this proposal are desired before action, as indicated above, is initiated.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL MacARTHUR:

/s/ R. M. LEVY
R. M. LEVY,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General

TFXAG 014.33

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN KOREA, APO 235, 15 Dec 1947

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Military Government in Korea,
APO 235 Unit 2.

For necessary action and return through this headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HODGE:

/s/ J. W. Fraser
J. W. FRASER
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General.

25

COPY
12

COPY

BASIC: Ltr f/SCAP Subj: Repatriation from Sakhalin dtd 9 Dec 47 and 1st indorsement dtd 15 Dec 47.

MGFAF 014.33

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN KOREA, APO 235 Unit 2
24 Feb 1948.

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Forces in Korea, APO 235

1. Entrance into South Korea since the termination of the war of an estimated more than 2,800,000 Korean repatriates and refugees has overtaxed existing facilities for adequate provision of food, clothing and shelter. This excessive drain upon the Korean economy assumes more serious proportions, especially in the winter months, with the continued influx of substantial numbers of refugees. It is not desired therefore, to make commitments at the present time to accept in South Korea the additional thousands on Sakhalin and in the Kuriles who were domiciled south of the 38th parallel.

2. It is requested, however, that attempt be made to secure from the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, information as to present number of Koreans who originated in South Korea and were sent to the areas in question under the aegis of the Japanese military, if this can be done without committing this command to approval of their repatriation. Such information would be helpful in dealing with certain aspects of the current domestic situation in South Korea.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

/s/ Earl L. Rhodes
EARL L. RHODES
Lt Col AGD
Adjutant General

TFGCT 014.33

3d Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN KOREA, APO 235, 26 Feb 1948

TO: Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, APO 500

In compliance with request contained in paragraph 3 of basic communication, your attention is invited to 2d indorsement.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

/s/ J. W. Fraser
J. W. FRASER
Colonel AGD
Adjutant General

COPY

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

VWD
whk

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
PRIORITY

VWD

1 Mar 48

FROM : FLC SHANGHAI

TO : CINCFE (FLC)

NR : SFLC 2461

Reurad TFLC 582 and reference Part 4 CINCFE msg ZX 40062. Board of Supplies has accepted property declared on SPA-3 Ntr ORD-1-48 under supplement to 6 Nov contract. In order expedite delivery to Chinese, request your office prepare VSD covering this property and deliver to Chinese representative Tokyo. VSD should show Contract WANL (OH) QEYT Schedule Ntr 26 Shipping Order Ntr 2075. Total procurement cost \$56,089.92 total sales price \$7,011.24. Please acknowledge.

LUBOSHEZ

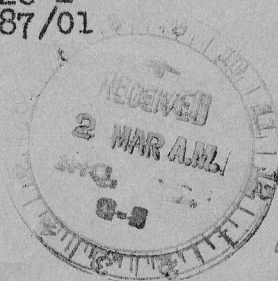
INFORMATION : COMMANDER IN CHIEF, CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3, G-4, AG, SIGNAL, ENGINEER, ORDNANCE, QUARTERMASTER, CHEMICAL, JUDGE ADVOCATE, SURGEON, FISCAL, TRANSP, JSPOG

NOTE : This message has been passed to FLC for action.

12623

PRIORITY
UNCLASSIFIED

T00 : 010826 Z
MCN : AUB 87/01



DRAFT**GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND****CHECK SHEET**

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No:

Subject:

Note
No.

From: G-3

To: C/S

Date: 11 March 1948

(2)

1. G-3 concurs in the proposed action of DS. It is felt that the DS evaluation of the political expediency of such action is the dominant factor involved.

2. However, it should be realized that in event the Soviet reply is one favorably considering the repatriation of subject Koreans, SCAP would be placed in a position from which withdrawal would be difficult. At that point, failure to follow through with a repatriation program would be an invitation to criticism of both SCAP and CG, USAFIK which the Soviets would not be loath to exploit.

Incl: n/c

-----W.H.M.-----

To be typed below DS C/N when approved.

Not used
straight
indicated by

concurrent
initialing DS
12 MAR '47
[Signature]

DRAFT

MJY/jyn
12 March 1948

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: C/N, DS to C/S, dated 9 Mar 48, subject: Korean Repatriation from Sakhalin which:

a. Summarizes past correspondence on subject (Tabs A - D).

b. Forwards a draft letter (par 2) to Gen. Kislenko for the approval of the C/S.

2. The proposed letter to the Soviets requests an estimate of the number of Koreans in Sakhalin who originated in Korea, S. of 38°; states that this information is desired in connection with a possible future repatriation of subject Koreans; requests the Soviet Government's position on the repatriation of subject Koreans.

3. It is felt that the DS evaluation of the political significance of this subject warrants primary consideration. ~~However, the proposed letter could be read by the Soviets as an indication of SCAP's intention to carry out a repatriation program and as such is not fully in consonance with CG, USAMGIK's request that no commitments be made at this time. This secondary consideration should be brought to the attention of the C/S.~~

4. The Soviets have consistently refused to furnish figures on Japanese remaining in Sakhalin and have obstructed SCAP efforts to further repatriation from this area at every opportunity. It is probable that the number of Koreans in Sakhalin is relatively small (approximately 15,000 per pars 2 and 3 of G-3 C/N, Tab B). ~~These factors minimize the effects of the secondary consideration outlined in par 3 above.~~

5. The physical accomplishment of the repatriation of 15,000 or even 40,000 Koreans from Karafuto to Korea, S. of 38° is within the capabilities of SCAP. (See par 5 G-3 C/N, Tab B).

6. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concurring in ~~the~~ proposed action ~~but outlining to the C/S the considerations of par 3 above.~~

7. CONCURRENCES: None required.

8. RECOMMENDATION: ~~Approval and dispatch of attached C/N to the C/S.~~

9. COMPLETION: This completes action on DS C/N of 9 Mar 48 but does not complete action on this subject.

Young
Your *26-5945*

File with
Korean-Sakhalin
Action MB

Diplomatic Section

Tokyo, March 18, 1948

Major General A. P. Kislenko,
Acting Soviet Member,
Allied Council for Japan,
Tokyo.

Sir:

In connection with the possible consideration at a future date by this Headquarters of arrangements for the repatriation of those Koreans who were forcibly removed from their homes south of the thirty-eighth degree parallel in Korea and taken to Sakhalin by Japanese military authorities, it would be greatly appreciated if the Soviet authorities, in the areas concerned could be requested to furnish this Headquarters with an estimate of the number of such Koreans in Sakhalin and their wishes as regards to repatriation. An indication of the Soviet Government's position in the matter of the possible repatriation of the relevant Korean nationals would also be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

W. J. Sebald
Chief, Diplomatic Section

Info copies: CinC
C/S
G-2/GL
G-3 Rep.
AG Records

S 711.4
AG 014.33
JWBurnett;cgf

(M/R attached)

24

COPY

12

COPY

- M/R:
1. Chief of Staff by c/s 7 Nov 47 forwarded to DS, with a request for submission of recommended action, letter from Association of the Rapid Realization of Repatriation of Koreans dated 26 Oct 47, and General Hodge's comments thereon of 1 Nov 47.
 2. After obtaining the views of G-3 in this matter by c/s 22 Nov 47, DS forwarded communication to CG, XXIV Corps, 9 Dec 47, requesting the latter's views on this Headquarters' proposal of an offer to the Soviet Member of ACJ to arrange repatriation from Sakhalin of all Koreans of origin south of the 38th parallel who desire repatriation.
 3. USAFIK, 24 Feb 48, opposed making offer at that time to repatriated these Koreans and requested that Soviet Member of ACJ be queried as to the present number of Koreans who originated in South Korea and were sent to the areas in question under the aegis of the Japanese military. CG, USAFIK, requested that this be done without committing the latter to repatriation, stating that this information would be helpful in dealing with certain aspects of the current domestic situation in South Korea.
 4. Letter to Acting Soviet Member, 18 Mar 48, complies with request of CG, USAFIK, and was approved by C/S 14 Mar 48.
 5. G-3 concurred (ECB for and in absence of W.H. Maris, Brig Gen. CSC, Asst Chief of Staff, G-3) 12 Mar 48.

JWB 26 8841

COPY

12

COPY

17 November 1947

FILE

SUBJECT: Number of Koreans in Karafuto and Kurile Islands

According to the census taken by the Home Ministry in 1944 there were 25,435 Koreans in both Karafuto and Kurile Islands. Taking into consideration, however, the following factors, the present strength is estimated to be around 15,000.

- (1) Towards the close of the War many Korean mine workers in Karafuto were transferred to either Hokkaido or Honshu.
- (2) After the close of the War some were repatriated or escaped from Karafuto and Kurile Islands.
- (3) Soviet authorities are reported sending to Karafuto North Koreans to replace the Japanese who are being repatriated.

35
COPY 11A

Russian
BLA/tn *by* *File*

AG 014.33 (22 Nov 47)GC-0

Korean Repatriation From Sakhalin

G-3

Diplomatic Section

22 November 1947

1. In regard to a possible SCAP offer to the Soviets for the repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin, it is believed that the action proposed by the Diplomatic Section should be reconsidered in the light of the following:

2. The Japanese Government advises ("Remaining Affairs Office for Former Karafuto Government" thru C.L.O.) that the number of Koreans in Karafuto, when the island was first occupied by the Soviets, was approximately 15,000 and that the largest number ever present on the island was 25,435 which was in 1944, one year before the surrender.

3. It is likely that the estimated 15,000 (par 2 above) more closely approaches the actual number than the 40,000 estimate in the Korean petition.

4. The Japanese Government states that a limited number of Koreans on Karafuto have succeeded in passing themselves off as Japanese to the Soviets and have thus managed to be repatriated from Maoka in SCAP repatriation shipping. This number, however, is relatively insignificant. The Japanese Government further reports that Japanese repatriates from Karafuto have stated that the Soviets are transporting large numbers of Koreans from North Korea to Karafuto (Sakhalin) as laborers and agriculturists to replace those Japanese who are successful in being repatriated to Japan.

5. The physical accomplishment of the repatriation of 15,000 or even 40,000 Koreans from Karafuto to South Korea is within the capabilities of SCAP. This would entail lifting the Koreans from the Port of Maoka, in the same manner as is currently being done with Japanese repatriates. The Koreans would be delivered to Sasebo for processing and screening and from Sasebo transhipped the remaining short distance to Pusan, Korea.

6. The Soviets are not committed in the Potsdam Declaration, nor in the subsequent Instrument of Surrender, to repatriate any peoples other than Japanese.

7. SCAP has in no way been previously committed to the repatriation of Koreans from Soviet-controlled areas. However, in China and Manchuria a precedent may be found in that it has been a SCAP policy to offer repatriation shipping, for humanitarian reasons, to lift those Koreans who originated in South Korea and who were compelled to flee before Japanese oppression. Some Koreans now in Sakhalin were forcibly transported there by the Japanese for labor purposes and their status is, therefore, similar to that of the Koreans in China and Manchuria.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

RLJ
rhs

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
ROUTINE

30 Oct 47

FROM : CG USAFIK
TO : WAR (JCOS)
INFO : CINCFE
NR : MBNEB 1734

Mil Govt semi-weekly report nbr 2: For 30 Oct 47: Control
Symbol QSR5-02:

Part 1. Nil.

Part 2. Nil.

Part 3. Public info: 1,000,000 leaflets containing the
statement of Lt Gen John B Hodge, CG, USAFIK, concerning the
US plan for Korea submitted to the UN were successfully dropped
in the small villages of South Korea by air on 25 Oct. (See
Mil Govt Daily Report nbr 566.)

Part 4. Shipping: The "SS Thomas Fitzsimmons" arrived
at Pusan from the US on 27 Oct, carrying 8,000 mtons of barley.

The "SS Short Splice" arrived at Pusan from the Philippine
Islands on 27 Oct, carrying 4,000 mtons of flour.

NO SIG

INFORMATION: COMMANDER IN CHIEF, CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, G-3, G-4,
AG, TRANSP, KORYU, STAT & RPTS, ECON & SCI, FEAF,
COMNAVFE, USAFIK LO

59628

ROUTINE
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO: 300815 Z
MCN: TJC 54/30

South Korea and who were compelled to flee before Japanese oppression.
Koreans now in Sakhalin were forcibly transported there by the Japanese for
labor purposes and their status is, therefore, similar to that of the Koreans
in China and Manchuria.



//

BLA/tn
22 November 1947MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION:

a. C/N from DS to C/S enclosing proposed offer to Soviet to repatriate Koreans from Sakhalin (Karafuto) to Korea.

b. Ltr petition addressed personally to SCAP (routed thru CG XXIV Corps) from one Pong Sang Lee, "Rep. of Assn. of Rapid Realization of Koreans Repatriation from Sakhalin".

c. Ltr fr CG XXIV Corps to C/S, FEC, enclosing above petition.

2. The JG advises ("Remaining Affairs Office for Former Karafuto Government" thru C.L.O.) that the number of Koreans in Karafuto, when the island was first occupied by the Soviets, was approx 15,000 and that the largest number ever present on the island was 25,435 which was in 1944, one year before the surrender.

3. It is likely that the est. 15,000 (par 2 above) more closely approaches the actual number than the 40,000 estimate in the Korean petition.

4. The JG also states that a limited number of Koreans on Karafuto have succeeded in passing themselves off as Japanese to the Soviets and have thus managed to be repatriated from Maoka in SCAP repatriation shipping. This number, however, is relatively insignificant. Mr. Suzuki of C.L.O. reports that Japanese repatriates from Karafuto have stated that the Soviets are transporting large numbers of Koreans from North Korea to Karafuto (Sakhalin) as laborers and agriculturists to replace those Japanese who are successful in being repatriated to Japan. (This fact has not yet been documentarily substantiated.) It is hardly possible that the Soviets would consider favorably, permitting SCAP to repatriate Koreans from Karafuto, thereby reducing the worker population which they are attempting to build up.

5. The physical accomplishment of the repatriation of 15,000 or even 40,000 Koreans from Karafuto to South Korea is within the capabilities of SCAP. This would entail lifting the Koreans from the Port of Maoka, in the same manner as is currently being done with Japanese repatriates. The Koreans would be delivered to Sasebo for processing and screening and from Sasebo transhipped the remaining short distance to Pusan, Korea.

6. The Soviets are not committed in the Potsdam Declaration, nor in the subsequent Instrument of Surrender, to repatriate any peoples other than Japanese.

7. SCAP Repatriation Agreement of 19 December 1946 with the Soviets makes no mention of Koreans remaining in Soviet-controlled areas whether such Koreans originated in North or South Korea. Provision was made, however, to repatriated from Japan to North Korea, 10,000 Koreans who had been born in Korea North of 38° North Latitude. (To date, only 351 have chosen to return.)

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

JLR
wph

INCOMING MESSAGE

01 AB

UNCLASSIFIED
ROUTINE

30 Oct 47

FROM : CG EIGHTH ARMY

TO : CINCPAC

NR : D 94699 CA

Reur cite ZX 26302. Eighth Army pers attending
Instructional Clinic fol: Capt George F Wyckoff 01641084
and Robert S Lewis 16217091.

RYDER

ACTION: SIGNAL

INFORMATION: G-1, G-3, AG



69153

ROUTINE
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO : 29114 Z
MCN : TKEA 64/29

11

AG 014.33 (22 Nov 47)GC-O
(Continued)

Korean Repatriation From Sakhalin

8. SCAP Repatriation Agreement of 19 December 1946 with the Soviets makes no mention of Koreans remaining in Soviet-controlled areas whether such Koreans originated in North or South Korea. Provision was made, however, to repatriate from Japan to North Korea, 10,000 Koreans who had been born in Korea North of 38° North Latitude. (To date, only 351 have chosen to return.)

9. The letter of CG XXIV Corps does not in any way indicate that he is giving clearance or that he favors the admission at this time of 40,000 destitute Koreans into an already heavily burdened South Korea. It is believed that he is merely asking SCAP for an interim explanatory statement to present to a minority group of South Koreans, who, having personal interests, consider the issue one of vital concern.

10. It is recommended that SCAP approach the Soviets on the subject by letter to the Soviet Member stating that a petition has been received from "The Association of Rapid Realization of Koreans Repatriation from Sakhalin", and that SCAP is willing to consider the repatriation from Sakhalin of those Koreans whose place of origin was South of 38° North Latitude. Such repatriation to be accomplished in the same manner as for Japanese. It is further recommended that before approaching the Soviets, the views and/or concurrence of CG USAFIK be obtained on the action as proposed above.

4 Incls: n/c

-----W.H.M.-----

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

VWD
jve

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
PRIORITY

28 Oct 47

FROM : CG 24TH INF DIV

TO : CINCFE (G-3)

INFO : CG EIGHTH ARMY, CG I CORPS, CO KYUSHU MIL GOVT REGION

NR : KVC 9460

Repatriation shipping report for period 270001 Z to
272400 Z Oct.

Sasebo. Incoming. None. Outgoing none. On station
report. 2089 Army. 98 Navy. 5697 civilians. 7 Koreans.
5 Chinese. 10 Formosans. 2342. Report of illegal Koreans
on stations. 207. Ships quarantined in harbor. None.

LESTER

INFORMATION : G-1, G-2, G-3, AG, PUBLIC H & W, COMNAVFE

68578

PRIORITY
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO : 280515 Z
MCN : TKEA 39/28



8. SCAP has in no way been previously committed to the repatriation of Koreans from Soviet-controlled areas. However, in China and Manchuria a precedent may be found in that it has been a SCAP policy to offer repatriation shipping, for humanitarian reasons, to lift those Koreans who originated in South Korea and who were compelled to flee before Japanese oppression. Some Koreans now in Sakhalin were forcibly transported there by the Japanese for labor purposes and their status is, therefore, similar to that of the Koreans in China and Manchuria.

9. The letter of CG XXIV Corps does not in any way indicate that he is giving clearance or that he favors the admission at this time of 40,000 destitute Koreans into an already heavily burdened South Korea. It is believed that he is merely asking SCAP for an interim explanatory statement to present to a minority group of South Koreans, who, having personal interests, consider the issue one of vital concern.

10. RECOMMENDED ACTION: That SCAP approach the Soviets on the subject by letter to the Soviet Member, stating that a petition has been received from "The Association of Rapid Realization of Koreans Repatriation from Sakhalin", and that SCAP is willing to consider the repatriation from Sakhalin of those Koreans whose place of origin was South of 38° North Latitude. Such repatriation to be accomplished in the same manner as for Japanese. It is further recommended that before approaching the Soviets, the views and/or concurrence of CG USAFIK be obtained on the action as proposed above.

11. CONCURRENCES: G-1 (Maj Wilderman)
SCAJAP (Comdr Reinhardt)
USAMGIK Ln O (Maj Goff) coordinated
KORYU (Mr Burness) coordinated

12. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of attached C/N to DS recommending that the subject be reconsidered in light of the additional factors outlined herein.

13. COMPLETION: This completes G-3 action on C/N from DS, but does not complete action on this subject.

Anderson 26-5945

Even though the repatriation of subject Koreans is physically within the shipping capabilities of SCAP, it is believed inadvisable to obligate any SCAP repatriation shipping at this preliminary stage, and therefore no outright offers or commitments should be made to the Soviets.

ADDENDUM:

Ref par 5 above, the purpose of processing subject Korean repatriates at Sasebo would be to utilize existing Japanese facilities and thus obviate necessity of 24 Corps establishing special utilities.

BLA

11

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GE [REDACTED] HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COM [REDACTED] D
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

VWD
Jpm

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
ROUTINE

26 Oct 47

FROM : CG 24TH INF DIV

TO : SCAP

INFO : CG EIGHTH ARMY, CG I CORPS

NR : KVC 9414

Subj is repatriation. Following is train timing on Chinese Missionary and family who have been instructed to report to Chinese Mission in Tokyo. Train nbr 8012, ETD Sasebo 261541/I, ETA Tokyo 280555/I. Cost of trans is being borne by individuals.

LESTER

ACTION : G-1

INFORMATION : G-2, G-3, AG, DIPLOMATIC

67897

ROUTINE
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO : 250127 Z
MCN : TKEA 2/26



Korean Repatriation From Sakhalin

CofS

Diplomatic Section

7 Nov 1947

1. 1. Please submit recommended action on the attached letter from the Association of the Rapid Realization of Repatriation of Koreans from Saghalien, dated 26 October 1947, on which General Hodge comments in his letter of 1 November 1947, also attached.

2 Incls

701.32

A 091

----- P. J. M. -----

DS/WJS/CC/vr

13 November 1947

2.

From: DS

To: C/S

Thru: G-3

1. In accordance with basic c/n, recommend approval of attached draft letter to Soviet Member and of draft reply to CG, XXIV Corps.

Incls:

1. n/c
2. n/c
3. Draft letter to Soviet Member
4. Draft reply to CG, XXIV Corps.

----- W.J.S. -----

COPY

HEADQUARTERS XXIV CORPS
Office of the Commanding General
APO 235

1 November 1947

Maj. General Paul J. Mueller
Chief of Staff, FEC
APO 500

Dear Paul,

Enclosed herewith is a letter to General MacArthur which was given to me with request for delivery.

There have been a few recent repatriates from Sakhalin (Soviet) who tell the Koreans hair-raising stories of rough treatment, and we are getting many requests to do something about it.

I do not know what information SCAP has of Sakhalin, concerning both Japs and Koreans there, but if you have anything we can tell the Koreans to show interest, or that there may be a rift in their clouds, it will help us.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ John R. Hodge
JOHN R. HODGE
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

Incl

COPY

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

WFS
007

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

14 Nov 47

FROM : CG 25TH INF DIV

TO : SCAP

INFO : CG EIGHTH ARMY, CG I CORPS

NR : OI 102

Reports Control Symbol QGC-08. Reurad ZAX 8138. 130001 I Nov 47 to 132400 I Nov 47. Port Maizuru. No incoming vessels. Esan Maru departed Maizuru 131000 I Nov 47 for Nakhodka with no repats aboard. ETA 16 Nov 47. 2610 Japanese on hand (109 in National Hosp, 22 in Taira Hosp, 2477 in Taira Camp and 2 in Taira Medical Office). No unusual incidents in port.

NO SIG

INFORMATION: G-1, G-2, G-3, AG, PUBLIC H & W, COMNAVFE

74556

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO : 140001 Z
MCN : TKEB 4/14



COPY

ASSOCIATION

Rapid Realization of Repatriation of Koreans from Saghalien
129 ChODong, Choong-Koo, Seoul, Korea

26 Oct 1947

Gen. Douglas. Macartheir
The Supreme Commander of
Allied Forces in Pacific
Tokyo, Japan.

Dear Sir

It is our great honore to write to your for our high respect in regards to your enthusiastic efforts which has been made since V-J day.

We like to inform you this time about our anxiety for our some 40 thousands families who are still held in Saghalien by USSR without any definit reason, and it is our understanding that your Headquarters is the only agency which can solve this problem making proper contact.

Following items are the present cercumstances they happend now, and it is sincerely petitioned to you to make due negotiation with said officer of Russian command for the repatriation of 40 thousands Korean Nationals most of whom have their house in South Korea.

1. The Koreans who are kept in Saghalien by Russian are the people mobilized by the Japanese as miners or heavy workers during the Pacific war.

2. They are held in Saghalien now without any proper protection as a liberated people and enslaved more atrociously by Russian Army than before.

3. Several Negotiation were made by themselves with the Soviet authority, however, repatriation was refused at the reason of that no government can make any contact to repatriate the Koreans untill the provisional Korean Government established.

4. It was repeatedly asserted that Koreans are not the enemy capture and should be taken back to their home-land as soon as possible in accordance with the promises made between allies in as much as capture of allied Forces, but was dismissed without any reasonable statement.

5. If the view held by soviet is right, we understand, naturally, your Hq might be a agency which can take all the necessary procedure for these Koreans and Soviet will be obliged to make contact with on this trouble.

COPY 11

COPY

6. It is sincerely requested that any negotiation, which you
may be able to offer, take place as soon as possible. ✓

Your Sincerely,

/s/ P. Sang Lee

PONG SANG LEE
Representative, Association
of Rapid Realization of
Koreans Repatriation
from Saghalien

COPY 11

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

GL [REDACTED] HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST CO [REDACTED]
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

CWH
rhs

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
PRIORITY

14 Nov 47

FROM : COMNAVFE

TO : NONE

INFO : SCAP, CG EIGHTH ARMY, CG 25TH DIV, CG 11TH ABN DIV

NR : 140222 Z

Modify my 070625 Z. Return port Japan for Hakuryu Maru is
Maizuru. ETA 18 Nov.

NO SIG

INFORMATION: G-2, G-3

74585

PRIORITY
UNCLASSIFIED

TOO: 140222 Z
MCN: TNC 4/14



DRAFT

Proposed communication from G/S to Gen. Kislenko,
Acting Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan.

Major General A. P. Kislenko,
Acting Soviet Member,
Allied Council for Japan,
Tokyo.

Sir:

In addition to the readiness which has been expressed by this Headquarters to complete the repatriation of Japanese from areas under Soviet control, this Headquarters is prepared similarly to complete the repatriation from Sakhalin to Korea of all Koreans in Sakhalin who desire repatriation if the Soviet authorities will duly assemble them for that purpose.

Shipping will be made available at the port of Maoka to accommodate Koreans in such numbers as you will notify General Headquarters (in the manner now followed with regard to repatriation of Japanese from Maoka) have been there concentrated for repatriation to Korea.

Very truly yours,

Not used

DRAFT

Proposed communication from C/S to CG, XXIV Corps

In reference to your 1 November 1947 letter regarding repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin, inclosed is copy of a letter to the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, in which an offer is made to arrange transportation from Sakhalin of all Koreans who desire repatriation.

On the basis of the offer alone it would probably be inadvisable at this time to inform the Korean association which is interested in the repatriation question in any terms which might raise false hopes. When a reply is received from the Soviet Member, you will be duly informed.

*Not
used*

SECRET

SOVIET CONTROLLED AREAS

Military, Political, Economic, Social Situation,
Press Review, Civil Intelligence, MiscellaneousSelected items for the information of
Commanders and Staffs of the Far East
Command

POLITICAL

No. 1950

1. Koreans in South Sakhalin Petition U. S. Authorities:

Comment: The material in this article was obtained from the translation of a petition addressed to U. S. Occupation authorities in Korea. The petition, signed by Choy Young-Ki for the 40,000 Koreans in South Sakhalin, solicited aid from U. S. Occupation Forces in Korea. No further information concerning Choy Young-Ki is available.

(a) Background for Petition: During the war, Japanese authorities imported 40,000 Koreans from Korea to South Sakhalin. Here, under the name of industrial combatants, they were forced into slave labor. Prior to Soviet occupation of Sakhalin, a Japanese order was issued directing the extermination of all Koreans in South Sakhalin. This order may have been issued by the governor of Sakhalin or the commander of the military forces there. Following this order, numerous atrocities and slaughters of Koreans were reported throughout the island. In one instance, several hundred were burned to death and at another time 3,000 allegedly were killed. If the Soviet Army had delayed its arrival by a few days, few Koreans in South Sakhalin would have survived.

(b) Koreans Restricted: Since the Soviets took possession of Sakhalin, the Koreans there have been living in utter confusion. Soviet authorities place Japanese in governmental agencies to administer rationing procedures and other civil functions. Also the Soviets prohibit Koreans from organizing or displaying signs of Korean allegiance. They are oppressed by the Japanese and are treated as prisoners of war by the Soviet occupation authorities. Under these conditions, the Koreans are unable to improve their own situation.

(c) No Repatriation for Koreans: Although more than half the Japanese have been repatriated from Sakhalin since Sep 46, none of the Koreans have been returned. They are forced to sign an agreement which, after three years, makes them eligible for Soviet ration distribution but does not improve their present situation materially.

SECRET

11

"DRAFT"
"DRAFT"

7. SCAP has in no way been previously committed to the repatriation of Koreans from Soviet-controlled areas. However, in China and Manchuria a precedent may be found in that it has been a SCAP policy to offer repatriation shipping, for humanitarian reasons, to lift those Koreans who originated in South Korea and who were compelled to flee before Japanese ~~agrees~~ oppression. ^{Some} Many Koreans now in Sakhalin were forcibly transported there by the Japanese for labor purposes, ^{and} ~~thus~~ ^{, therefore,} their status is similar to that of the Koreans in China and Manchuria. ~~Even though the repatriation of subject Koreans is physically within the shipping~~

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775009

By AC NARA Date 10-17-08

AL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

VWD
jet

INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED
ROUTINE

30 Oct 47

FROM : CG PHILRYCOM

TO : WAR

INFO : CINCFE

NR : GX 10035 GSXMR

Reports Control Symbol WDCSA-11 as of 2400 hrs 26 Oct 47:

Part 1. Negative.

Part 2. Col A

Col B

Col C

1

75

630

2

1789

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS FAR EAST COMMAND

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No: AG 014.33 (20 Nov 47)GC-0 Subject: Korean Repatriation From Sakhalin

Note No. From: G-3 to: Diplomatic Section Date: 20 November 1947

1. In regard to a possible SCAP offer to the Soviets for the repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin, it is believed that the action proposed by the Diplomatic Section should be reconsidered in the light of ~~factors~~ outlined below. *the following.*

2. The Soviets are not committed in the Potsdam Declaration, nor in the subsequent Instrument of Surrender, to repatriate any peoples other than Japanese.

3. SCAP has in no way been previously committed to the repatriation of Koreans from Soviet-controlled areas. In China and Manchuria, however, it has been a SCAP policy to offer shipping, for humanitarian reasons, to lift those Koreans who originated in South Korea and who were compelled to flee before Japanese oppression. *Statement of Japs Rempting Koreans to Karafuto*

4. SCAP Repatriation Agreement of 19 December 1946 with the Soviets makes no mention of Koreans remaining in Soviet-controlled areas whether such Koreans originated in North or South Korea. Provision was made, however, to repatriate from Japan to North Korea, 10,000 Koreans who had been born in Korea North of 38° North Latitude. (To date, only 351 have chosen to return.)

5. The Japanese Government advises ("Remaining Affairs Office for Former Karafuto Government" thru C.I.O.) that the number of Koreans in Karafuto, when the island was first occupied by the Soviets, was approximately 15,000 and that the largest number ever present on the island was 25,435 which was in 1944, one year before the surrender.

6. It is likely that the estimated 15,000 (par 5 above) more closely approaches the actual number than the 40,000 estimate in the Korean petition.

7. The Japanese Government states that a limited number of Koreans on Karafuto have succeeded in passing themselves off as Japanese to the Soviets and have thus managed to be repatriated from Maoka in SCAP repatriation shipping. This number, however, is relatively insignificant. The Japanese Government further reports that Japanese repatriates from Karafuto have stated that the Soviets are transporting large numbers of Koreans from North Korea to Karafuto (Sakhalin) as laborers and agriculturists to replace those Japanese who are successful in being repatriated to Japan.

8. It is hardly possible that the Soviets would consider favorably, permitting SCAP to repatriate Koreans from Karafuto, thereby reducing the

11

**GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND**

CHECK SHEET

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

AG 014.33 (20 Nov 47)GC-0

File No: (Continued)

Subject: Korean Repatriation From Sakhalin

Note
No.

From:

To:

Date:

worker population which they are attempting to build up.

9. The letter of CG XXIV Corps does not in any way indicate that he is giving clearance or that he favors the admission at this time of 40,000 destitute Koreans into an already heavily burdened South Korea. It is believed that he is merely asking SCAP for an interim explanatory statement to present to a minority group of South Koreans, who, having personal interests, consider the issue one of vital concern.

10. The physical accomplishment of the repatriation of 15,000 or even 40,000 Koreans from Karafuto to South Korea is within the capabilities of SCAP. This would entail lifting the Koreans from the Port of Maoka, in the same manner as is currently being done with Japanese repatriates. The Koreans would be delivered to Sasebo for processing and screening and from Sasebo transhipped the remaining short distance to Pusan, Korea.

11. Even though the repatriation of subject Koreans is physically within the shipping capabilities of SCAP, it is felt that a more practical and judicial approach to the matter at this preliminary stage would be to make no outright offers or commitments to the Soviets.

12. It is recommended that SCAP approach the Soviets on the subject by letter to the Soviet Member stating that a petition has been received from "The Association of Rapid Realization of Koreans Repatriation from Sakhalin", and that SCAP is willing to consider the repatriation from Sakhalin of those Koreans whose place of origin was South of 38° North Latitude. Such repatriation to be accomplished in the same manner as for Japanese. It is further recommended that before approaching the Soviets, the views and/or concurrence of CG USAFIK be obtained on the action as proposed above.

4 Incls: n/c

-----W.H.M.-----

copy
Russian
file

Diplomatic Section

Tokyo, March 18, 1948

Major General A. P. Kislenko,
Acting Soviet Member,
Allied Council for Japan,
Tokyo.

Sir:

In connection with the possible consideration at a future date by this Headquarters of arrangements for the repatriation of those Koreans who were forcibly removed from their homes south of the thirty-eighth degree parallel in Korea and taken to Sakhalin by Japanese military authorities, it would be greatly appreciated if the Soviet authorities, in the areas concerned could be requested to furnish this Headquarters with an estimate of the number of such Koreans in Sakhalin and their wishes as regards to repatriation. An indication of the Soviet Government's position in the matter of the possible repatriation of the relevant Korean nationals would also be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

W. J. Sebald
Chief, Diplomatic Section

Info copies: CinC
C/S
G-2/GL
G-3 Rep.
AG Records

S 711.4
AG 014.33
JWBurnett;cgf

(M/R attached)

36

10

COPY

- M/R: 1. Chief of Staff by c/s 7 Nov 47 forwarded to DS, with a request for submission of recommended action, letter from Association of the Rapid Realization of Repatriation of Koreans dated 26 Oct 47, and General Hodge's comments thereon of 1 Nov 47.
2. After obtaining the views of G-3 in this matter by c/s 22 Nov 47, DS forwarded communication to CG, XXIV Corps, 9 Dec 47, requesting the latter's views on this Headquarters' proposal of an offer to the Soviet Member of ACJ to arrange repatriation from Sakhalin of all Koreans of origin south of the 38th parallel who desire repatriation.
3. USAFIK, 24 Feb 48, opposed making offer at that time to repatriated these Koreans and requested that Soviet Member of ACJ be queried as to the present number of Koreans who originated in South Korea and were sent to the areas in question under the aegis of the Japanese military. CG, USAFIK, requested that this be done without committing the latter to repatriation, stating that this information would be helpful in dealing with certain aspects of the current domestic situation in South Korea.
4. Letter to Acting Soviet Member, 18 Mar 48, complies with request of CG, USAFIK, and was approved by C/S 14 Mar 48.
5. G-3 concurred (ECB for and in absence of W.H. Maris, Brig Gen. GSC, Asst Chief of Staff, G-3) 12 Mar 48.

JWB 26 8841

COPY

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SECRET

(d) Appeal to the U. S. Authorities: The Koreans of South Sakhalin submitted their petition to U. S. officials as an appeal for assistance. Communication with Korea from Sakhalin is prohibited but fragmentary news of international negotiations regarding Korea is received occasionally. The Koreans of South Sakhalin requested that a representative be sent from South Korea to South Sakhalin and that action be taken immediately to repatriate the 40,000 Koreans. The petition stated that when they return to Korea, special consideration for their livelihood should be the responsibility of the Japanese Government, and that responsibility for the extermination order be determined. Finally, the petition requested that proper authorities investigate the Soviet occupation policy which restricted the Koreans in South Sakhalin. (a)

Comment: The translation of the petition is not clear regarding the time element. It would appear that the atrocities occurred during the last few days before Soviet occupation forces gained control of Sakhalin.

It was a policy of the Japanese Government to import both Koreans and Japanese laborers to South Sakhalin. High wages and land grants were held out as inducements, but it is not known whether these inducements ever were realized by the laborers. According to the 1940 census, Koreans numbering 16,000 were the second largest group in South Sakhalin (JANIS 79).

The petition illustrates a dilemma similar to that so often complained of in occupied countries--the uncomfortable situation of a liberated people under the administration of foreign occupation forces.

(a) Rpt Hq XXIV Corps, Koreans in Karafuto (Southern Sakhalin), 02309, 23 Oct 47

SECRET

11

ASSOCIATION OF
RAPID REALIZATION OF KOREANS REPATRIATION
FROM SAGHALIEN
129 Chodong, Choongku, Seoul, Korea

COPY

*Russian
file
x ref Korean file*

10 March 1948

SUBJECT: The Petition for repatriation of the Koreans in Saghalien.

TO : Gen. Douglas, MacArthur.

The supreme commander of allied forces in pacific. Tokyo Japan.

1. About thirty thousand Korean peoples have been sent to south Saghalien from Korea as miners or public works labors. This labor draft was ordered by the Japanese Government during the war, and the workers expected to return to their homeland when Korea was liberated from Japanese oppression by the Victory of allies.

However they are not only prohibited from returning but have been enslaved more atrociously by the Russian Army than they were by the Japanese.

2. There Korean are anxious to be emancipated from their slavery through repatriation to Korea.

However they have tried every method of gaining release from Saghalien but with no success, they have tried to negotiate with the Russian Officials for their repatriation but failed in this.

At present unfortunately they have no dependent National Government of their own to afford protection and hence have no means of asking for repatriation except through the United States Army and the American Military Government in Korea.

3. It is sincerely petitioned that the thirty thousand Korean Nationals held in south Saghalien be repatriated to Korea through your negotiation with the Commanding Officer of the Russian Army in Saghalien.

4. According to the recent information from reliable source, about 50,000 people of Japanese Nationals held in Saghalien have been being regularly repatriated to Japan per a month and so. It is also petitioned that those Korean people in Saghalien be included in the plan of repatriating Japanese people from Saghalien to Japan by your special order to the Japanese Government.

Sincerely yours,
PONG SONG LEE

/s/ Pong Song Lee

The representative of the Association
from repatriation of Korean Nationals
in Saghalien
No. 129 Chodong Chungku.
Seoul, Korea

23

COPY

COPY

Russian
fileGENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERSAPO 500
9 December 1947

AG 014.33 (9 Dec 47)DS

SUBJECT: Repatriation from Sakhalin

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps, APO 235

1. With reference to your letter of 1 November 1947 to the Chief of Staff, Far East Command, regarding repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers is considering an offer to the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, to arrange transportation from Sakhalin for all Koreans of origin south of the 38th parallel who desire repatriation. Shipping would be available at the port of Maoka to accommodate Koreans in such numbers as the Soviet authorities will release for repatriation to South Korea.

2. We do not have definite figures as to the number of Koreans presently in Sakhalin; however, the opinion here is that the 40 thousand families reported in Mr. Pong Song Lees' letter is excessive.

3. Your views with regard to this proposal are desired before action, as indicated above, is initiated.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL MacARTHUR:

R. M. LEVY,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

Mailed 1530 Dec 9 '47 AG, GHQ

COPY

Korean file
SECRET**COPY**

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 2349

POLITICAL REPORT

2. North Koreans in USSR:

a. Return to Homeland: Another report has been received regarding the return to North Korea of North Korean members of the former Japanese Army (Intell. Summary 2342). About 6,000 of these prisoners of war have been held incommunicado at the east coast port of Hamhung since 21 Dec 48 and have been given military training and political indoctrination. (F-4) On 25 Dec 48, approximately 2,000 prisoners of war were brought to Pyongyang and released, but 400 who were South Koreans were detained at Hamhung. (F-6)

Source Comment: The above information tends to confirm earlier reports on the return of Korean prisoners of war to North Korea (Intell. Summary 2314) except for the strength figure of 6,000 which is believed exaggerated. In view of the strained relations between the two Governments in Korea and the shortage of labor in North Korea, the South Korean prisoners of war may be retained, despite earlier information that they would be returned to South Korea (Intell. Summary 2345).(b)

(b) USAFIK Week 58, 36396, 6 Feb 49

SECRET**COPY** 571

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

AG 370.05 (23 Mar 46)GC

APO 500
23 March 1946

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin.

MEMO FOR: Lt. Gen. K. N. Derevyanko,
U.S.S.R. Member,
Allied Council for Japan.

1. Eighteen Korean laborers who were moved to Japan from Sakhalin just before the end of the war, have reported that they left their families in Sakhalin. They further state they have had no communication with their families for seven months. Their families, list inclosed, are Koreans, former residents of Korea south of 36° north latitude, who followed the laborers to Sakhalin.

2. The enforced separation of these families of a now liberated nation seems an unnecessary hardship. In view of this fact it is requested that the government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics return the families of the Koreans as listed on the attached inclosure to their previous domiciles in Southern Korea or to Japan for onward repatriation and notify the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers of the action taken.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

S. J. CHAMBERLAIN,
Major General, U.S.A.,
Acting Chief of Staff.

1 Incl - List of Korean Families.

RETURN TO S. J. CHAMBERLAIN

6

21 March 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Chamberlin.

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin.

1. There are reported to be in Sakhalin, the families of 18 Korean laborers who were moved to Japan from Sakhalin before the end of the war. Nothing has been heard from the families in Sakhalin since the Russian occupation at the end of the war. This condition has caused unrest among the affected Koreans in Japan, who do not desire to return to Korea until the repatriation of their families is assured.

2. We originally requested War Department to initiate diplomatic action in this matter and WD told us to attempt to handle it through the Russian Mission here first.

3. Recommend approval by signature of the attached letter to General Derevyanko requesting that the U.S.S.R. repatriate the listed Koreans to Southern Korea.

L. J. W.

6

[Signature]
18 March 1946.

MEMO FOR RECORD:

1. Action is a result of WX 80449 14 March TO CINCAFPAC, referred to G-3 Repatriation by Gen Dumas.

2. In a report of a strike of coalminers submitted to us by indorsement by 8th Army, 11 Feb 46, it was found that a basis for the strike was a lack of communication between Korean miners here in Japan and their Korean Families left on Sakhalin. These Koreans did not desire to return to Korea until repatriation of their families was definite.

3. Our CAX 58062 (20 Feb) to WARCOS requested diplomatic action on case of Korean miners separated from their families in Sakhalin.

4. Our letter AG 370.05 (20 Feb 46) GC dated 20 February 1946 to C/S Washington on same subject forwarded names and addresses of Koreans in Sakhalin, and their home addresses in Korea.

5. A letter to Gen MacArthur from Lt Gen Derevyanko, 12 March 1946, indicates that Soviet Govt is taking steps to return to Sakhalin from Japan families of Japanese residents of Sakhalin. This would indicate that negotiations might be opened with the Soviet Mission on the subject of repatriation of Koreans in Sakhalin.

6. Recommend approval of the attached letter.

7. Concurrences: Govt Sec (Lt Col Bibb); POLAD (Mr. Service).
G-2 (Col Snyder)

8. This action ~~as it relates to~~ Korea has been considered.

9. This completes action on this radio but not on this subject.

White.

Russia

CONFIDENTIAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

SIGNAL CORPS MESSAGE

20 FEBRUARY 1946

FROM: SCAP

GC-0

GEW/ra

TO : WARCOS.ROUTINE

INFO: CG EIGHTH ARMY.ROUTINE

201041

SUBJECT IS REPATRIATION OF KOREANS FROM SAKHALIN PD (CAX 58062)
ONE EIGHT KOREAN LABORERS IN JAPAN REPORT FAMILIES LEFT IN
SAKHALIN AND NO COMMUNICATION WITH THEM FOR SIX MONTHS PD KOREANS
DO NOT DESIRE TO RETURN TO KOREA UNTIL REPATRIATION THEIR FAMILIES
IS DEFINITE PD NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF KOREANS CONCERNED ARE
BEING FORWARDED BY AIR MAIL PD REQUEST THIS MATTER BE TAKEN
UP THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS

OFFICIAL:

APPROVED:

B. M. FITCH
Brigadier General, US Army,
Adjutant General.

W. A. DUMAS
Brigadier General, G.S.C.
Acting AC of S, G-3.

COPIES TO:

C/S
G-1 (3)
G-3 (2 return)
G-4 (3)
POLAD

CONFIDENTIAL

Repatriation files 3

OP *2R* *Tel Russia*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

AG 370.05 (20 Feb 46)GC

→ APO 500

20 February 1946

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin.

TO : Chief of Staff, United States Army.

1. Reference is made to radio this headquarters, CAX 58062, 20 February 1946, subject: "Repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin," requesting that this matter be taken up through diplomatic channels.

2. Eighteen Korean laborers in Japan have reported that their families were left in Sakhalin, and that they have had no communication with them for the past six months. These Koreans do not desire to return to Korea until the repatriation of their families is definite.

3. Names and addresses of the Koreans mentioned in the reference radio are forwarded herewith.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

1 Incl:
List of Koreans



Return G-3 Opns (Repat)
Tab F *2*

List of Koreans and Families Left in Sakhalin

<u>Names of Koreans</u>	<u>Registered Domicile in Korea</u>	<u>Address in Japan or Sakhalin</u>	<u>Age</u>
(1) Toshiaki Suruda	Shirei-Ri Noshio-Men	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi	38
	Uruzau-gun, Keishionan-do	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
		Prefecture, Japan	
Junko "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses,	41
		Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
		gun, Sakhalin	
Matsue "	"	"	24
Eiko "	"	"	19
Yoshiko "	"	"	7
Sadako "	"	"	5
Tetsuo "	"	"	3
(2) Shiunkan Tanikawa	Suizan-Ri, Nan-Men	Yamaichi Min, Takahagi	41
	Engi-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
		Prefecture, Japan	
Yoshisumi "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses,	40
		Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
		gun, Sakhalin	
Kinseki "	"	"	16
Eiki "	"	"	13
Kinrei "	"	"	10
Shiyoki "	"	"	30
(3) Yuo Kinjyo	Katei-Ri, Jyoto-Men	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi	32
	Ronzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
		Prefecture, Japan	
Kinren "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses,	30
		Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
		gun, Sakhalin	
Seikan "	"	"	4
Keikan "	"	"	2
(4) Seikaku Ayaki	Chiya-Ri, Kokei-Ya	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi	35
	Ronzau, Chiyuseinan-do	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
		Prefecture, Japan	
Einan "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses	22
Eichiyo "	"	Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
		gun, Sakhalin	6
Siyoichi "	"	"	
		"	4

(5) Yuji Yamamoto	Bhindo-Ri, Koseki-Men Ronzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	35
Retsupan "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses, Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	35
Eishiyaku "	"	"	15
Kenichi "	"	"	3
(6) Kakuji Hiramama	Chiyu-Ri, Koseki-Men Ronzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	35
Bunjiyu "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses, Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	26
Meikin "	"	"	11
Meio "	"	"	8
Hideko "	"	"	4
Seikin "	"	"	2
(7) Hoshiyaku Hirose	Katei-Ri, Jiyoto-Men Ronzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	29
Temrei "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses, Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	28
Kouchi "	"	"	8
Konsei "	"	"	4
(8) Noshiyo Hayashi	Kin-Chiyo, Ronzan-Yu Ronzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	35
Kichirei "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses, Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	35
Taikan "	"	"	10
Tamaki "	"	"	8
Fukuki "	"	"	6
Daiko "	"	"	3
(9) Hichiho Yasuda	Shyoi-Ri, Zengi-Men Engi-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	39
Shiyunen "	"	Toyohata Mining Houses, Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	34
Ako "	"	"	16
Akifuku "	"	"	13
Akiyoshi "	"	"	11
Eifuku "	"	"	8
Meiko "	"	"	2

(10) Shiyoki Nishihara	Tanden-Ri, Kosaki-Men Bonzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	37
Shiyogin	"	Toyohata Mining Houses Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	31
Tsubaki	"	"	10
Kijun	"	"	6
(11) Hobai Matsuda	Towa-Chiyo, Bonzan-Yu Bonzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	34
Shyofuku	"	Toyohata Mining Houses Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	30
Suigaku	"	"	11
Koshyo	"	"	8
Rigaku	"	"	5
Toyoko	"	"	2
(12) Seikoku Takeda	Towa-Chiyo, Bonzan-Yu Bonzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	40
Tenrei	"	Toyohata Mining Houses Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	13
Tenjyun	"	"	9
Tenton	"	"	6
(13) Jiyutaro Ito	Yoko-Ri, Nan-Men Engi-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	40
Koshun	"	Toyohata Mining Houses Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	37
Shikon	"	"	10
Shiko	"	"	6
Shijun	"	"	3
(14) Rakin Yamanaka	Katsuran-Ri, To-Men Engi-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	51
Giyuni	"	Toyohata Mining Houses Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	47
(15) Hoshium Kobayashi	Ito-Ri, Kosaki-Men Bonzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-do	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan	38
Suifyan	"	Toyohata Mining Houses Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi- gun, Sakhalin	29

(16)	Shiyogaku Aeki	Asahi-Chyo, Ronzan-Yu	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi	25
		Renzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-de	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
	Yayoi "	"	Prefecture, Japan	
			Toyohata Mining Houses	17
			Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
			gun, Sakhalin	
(17)	Saisan Toku	Yamato-Chyo, Ronzan-Yu	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi	31
		Renzan-gun, Chiyuseinan-de	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
	Seijiyo "	"	Prefecture, Japan	
			Toyohata Mining Houses	66
			Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
			gun, Sakhalin	
(18)	Shiyukuei Hirayama	Yoka-Ri, Nan-Men	Yamaichi Mine, Takahagi	30
		Engi-gun, Chiyuseinan-de	machi, Taga-gun, Ibaraki	
	Yejiyun "	"	Prefecture, Japan	
			Toyohata Mining Houses	21
			Nayoshi-machi, Nayoshi-	
			gun, Sakhalin	

2. Investigation revealed that there are eighteen (18) Koreans at the Yamaichi Mine who have members of their families in Sakhalin, and in no instance has word been received from the families. Conditions reported in the inclosure to basic communication, Observation Report, remain unchanged in that the Koreans occupy quarters owned by the mine, but refuse to work, and want information about their families in Sakhalin before returning to Korea.

/s/ Walter E. Kraus
WALTER E. KRAUS
Lt Col FA
Commanding

BASIC: Ltr, Hq XI Corps Arty, Mil Govt Section, APO 471,
dtd 14 Dec 1945, subj: "Repatriation of Koreans,"
to CG XI Corps.

AG 370.05 (14 Dec 45)GC

9th Ind.

GEW/ra

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS.

TO: Commanding General, Eighth Army, APO 343

1. This matter has been referred to Washington for
action through diplomatic channels.

2. You will be advised upon receipt of information
concerning this matter.

By command of General MacARTHUR:

Repat Files

20 February 1946

MEMO FOR RECORD:

1. Action is result of report made by XI Corps Arty indorsed to CINCAFPAC by CG 8th Army 8th Ind, 11 Feb 46.

2. No request for repatriation of Koreans from Sakhalin has preceded this action. However, a similar case occurred in reference to the repatriation of Japanese fishermen from the Kuriles and Sakhalin. Representation was made in the case of fishermen in the Kuriles in a letter to Vyshinsky (Soviet Vice Commissar for Foreign Affairs) dated 24 Dec 45 from Ambassador Harriman as indicated in WX 91218 Wash (CAD) 1409030 Z Jan)

3. CAX 55456 (301257 Z Nov) to WARCOS also recommends representations be made to the Soviet Govt, concerning repatriation of Japanese fishermen from Kuriles and Sakhalin. No information has been received in answer to this problem.

4. The following communications also refer to repatriation of Japanese from Sakhalin:

- a. CLO 85 subject: Memorandum, 8 Oct 1945.
- b. CAX 53189 to U.S. Military Mission Moscow, 12 Oct 1945.
- c. ZAX 6858 to IJG, 12 Oct 1945.
- d. Washington (from Ritchie) NR 25741, 14 Oct 1945.
- e. CAX 56192 to WARCOS, 19 Dec 1945.
- f. Memorandum to IJG, AG 370.05 (17 Feb 46)GC
subject: "Protection and Repatriation of Japanese in Northern Korea, Manchuria, the Kurile Islands and Sakhalin.

5. Recommend dispatch of attached radio, indorsement, and letter.

6. Concurrence: U.S. POLAD (Mr. Service).

7. This completes action on this subject.

White.

Repat Files

13 January 1946

MEMO FOR RECORD:

1. a. 2d Ind CG 8th Army forwards letter Hq XI Corps Arty, Mil Govt Sec, APO 471, 14 Dec 45, subject: "Repatriation of Koreans." Korean miners in Japan left families in Sakhalin when miners moved to present location in 1944. Info desired: measures to reassemble families; means of communication with Sakhalin.

b. Three radios to WARCOS, CAX 56192 (200837 2 Dec), CAX 55456 (301257 2 Nov), CAX 53189 (121317 2 Oct) all requested action regarding repatriation of Jap nationals from Soviet occupied territory.

c. WX 81584 (070028 2 Nov) JCS informs SCAP that Ambassador Harriman has instructions to approach the Soviet Govt regarding repatriation of displaced persons in Soviet held Korea.

2. Russian Mission of G-2 Foreign Liaison Sec (Maj Denkenal), states that there is absolutely no communication, civil or military, to any Russian occupied area. All efforts to contact persons in these areas have been futile.

3. Recommend dispatch of atchd 3d Ind to ltr CG Eighth Army.

4. No concurrence is necessary.

5. This completes action on this subject.

6. The list of agencies which desire copies of G-3 correspondence has been checked prior to submitting this action for approval.

Strauss.

x. Basic correspondence is letter to CG XI Corps dated 14 Dec 1945, subject: "Repatriation of Koreans from XI Corps Arty Military Government section inclosing a report which indicated Korean Miners in Hatachi area had refused to work. One reason given was that 18 of the miners who were moved to Japan from Sakhalin had not heard from their families left in Sakhalin since August 1945. They did not want to be repatriated until disposition of families was indicated. Letter was indorsed through 8th Army, returned for list of individuals, and reindorsed through channels.

Russia

BASIC: Ltr, HQ XI Corps Arty, Mil Govt Sec, to CG XI Corps, dated 14 December 1945, subject: "Repatriation of Koreans."

AG 370.05 (14 Dec 45)GC 3d Ind

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS, APO 500, 13 January 1946.

TO: Commanding General, Eighth United States Army, APO 343.

1. At present there is no repatriation either to or from Russian occupied areas. No communication of any kind exists with these areas and it is not known when mail service will be reestablished.

2. Request this Headquarters be furnished names and Sakhalin addresses of the seventeen families mentioned in basic letter. Upon receipt of this information this matter will be referred to Washington for action through diplomatic channels.

By command of General MacARTHUR: