Intelligence Report

No. 5775  Date: January 30, 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORDING INTELLIGENCE PUT FORWARD IN THE Cease-Fire TALKS

Prisoners-of-war Held by the Communist Forces

The Communist delegation's list of December 18 contained 11,559 names:

- 7,162 Republic of Korea
- 3,198 US
- 910 British
- 236 Turks
- 60 Filipinos
- 10 French
- 6 Australians
- 6 South Africans
- 3 Japanese (apparently not in military service)
- 3 Canada, Greece, and Netherlands

The Republic of Korea had announced on December 7 that 88,350 ROK soldiers were missing in action. The US at the time the lists were exchanged listed 11,522 missing in action. In a letter of December 21, the UN negotiators called the Communists' attention to the omission of more than one thousand names from their prisoner-of-war list. A list of the December 18 list were 31 of the 50 reported to the Red Cross on August 18, 35 of the 50 reported to the Red Cross on September 14, and 1,005 named in other sources. In a letter dated December 26, the Communists stated that of these, 720 had died of various causes or had escaped, and

2. T-563, Pusan, December 7, 1951, UNCLASSIFIED.
4. PULF, Daily Report, Far East, December 27, 1951, pp. R1-1-3, RESTRICTED. The names were listed in the letter.

THIS IS AN INTELLIGENCE REPORT AND NOT A STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL POLICY

Final analysis of the material contained in this report was concluded on January 30, 1952 by the Division of Research for Far East.
the whereabouts of 332 was unknown at that time. Late in December the UN Command called attention to Communist communiques claiming more than 65,000 prisoners.

Civilian Internes Held by the Communist Forces

The Red Army claimed on December 17 that more than 90,000 south Korean civilians had been seized and taken north by the Communists. On December 19, the UN delegation reported concerning 93 non-Korean civilians: 25 French, 13 American, 8 British, 4 Belgian, 1 Austrian, 1 Irish, and 7 Australian. On January 26, the Communist radio named 48 non-Korean civilians interned, including 27 of the aforementioned 55.

Prisoners-of-war Held by the UN

The UN December 18 reported 132,474 prisoners-of-war: 95,531 north Koreans, 20,700 Chinese, and 16,243 disident south Koreans. The Communist delegation letter of December 26 asserted that the UN list contained 1,656 fewer names than the UN had said it did, and contained 44,205 names fewer than reported to the Red Cross. The UN undertook to explain the removal of the 44,000, but as late as January 24, it was reported that the Communist delegation was pressing for information concerning 37,000 persons the UN stating that these were civilian internes. On January 26, the UN delegation presented a new list, written in Oriental characters, containing 125,086 names, 20,720 Chinese and 111,360 Koreans.

Civilian Internes in South Korea

The UN has made no statement concerning numbers of civilian internees or of refugees under its control. The UN Department of Social Affairs once issued a statement that 400,000 north Koreans had come to South Korea during the fighting. On January 1, 1954, the Communist delegation inquired whether the 500,000 persons taken from north Korea by the UN forces would be returned in the contemplated exchange.

1. FRUS, Daily Report, Far East, December 27, 1951, pp. 213-1-3, RESTRICTED. The names were listed in the attached letter.
2. c-442, to New Delhi, January 17, 1954, RESTRICTED cites north Korean broadcasts of February 8, 1951 and April 8, 1951 stating that in the periods June 25 -- December 25, 1950 and December 26, 1950 to March 25, 1951, 30,000 and 28,863 prisoners respectively were taken -- a total of 68,863.
3. T-573, Pusan, December 17, 1951, UNCLASSIFIED.
5. FRUS, December 31, 1951, RESTRICTED.
6. Ibid., December 19, 1951.
7. FRUS, Daily Report, Far East, p. 213-1-3, RESTRICTED.
10. Ibid., January 3, 1952.