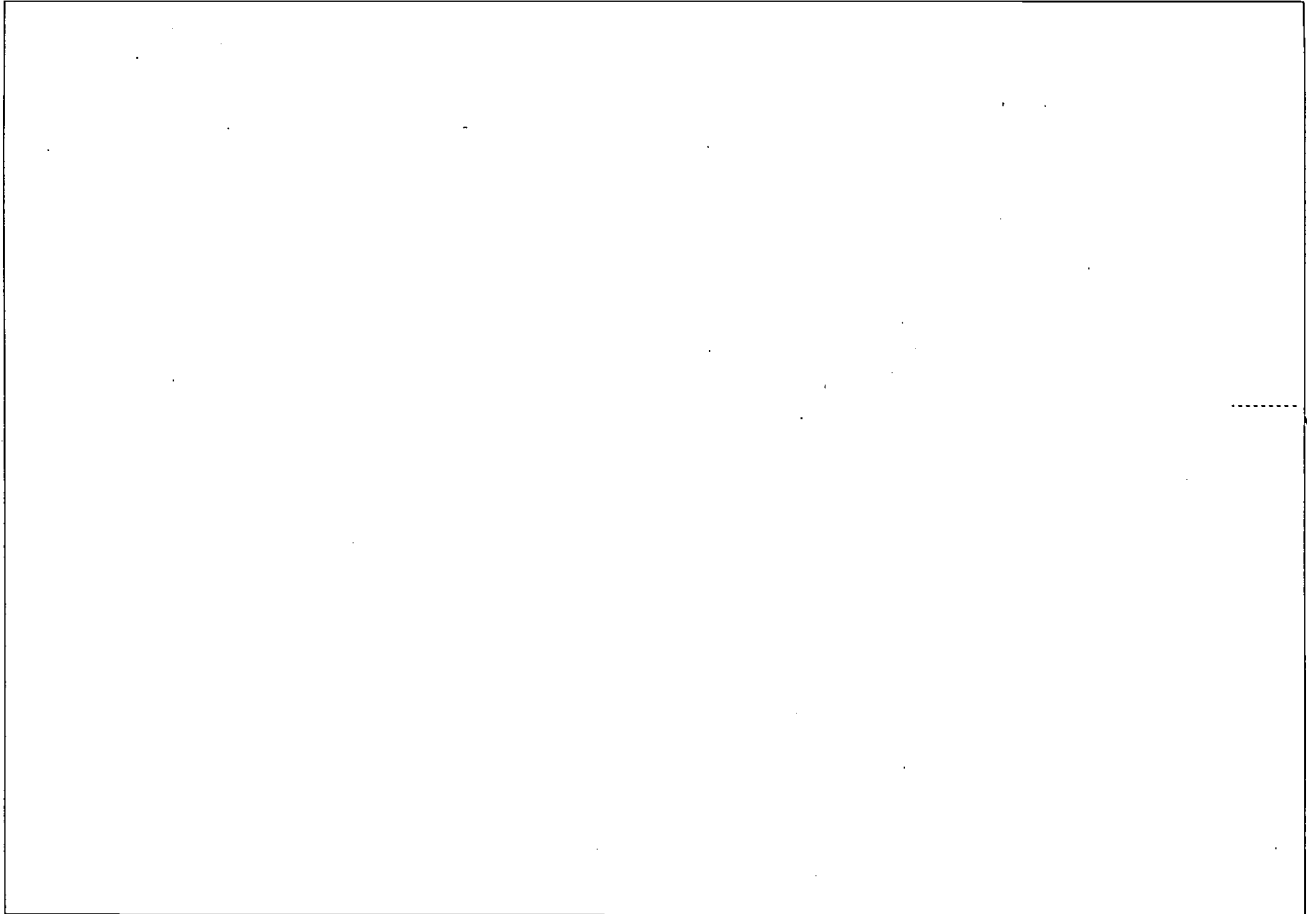


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For the alleged secret agreement with Syngman Rhee, see the section on Korea in this SURVEY.



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KOREA: SECRET AGREEMENT BETWEEN RHEE AND YOSHIDA

Korea

While the "connivings" between Syngman Rhee and Japanese Premier Yoshida have undergone continued attacks since the former's recent visit to Japan, there is this week specific mention of a secret agreement between the two whereby Japan will give war supplies to South Korea, which in return will allow a new base to be built from which "planes manned by Japanese pilots could bomb Manchurian and North Korean cities." (This agreement is said to have been made also with the "Chiang Kai-shek clique.")

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MacArthur's headquarters are said to be "assuming a positive role" in the compulsory repatriation of South Korean natives. According to AKAHATA, approximately 300,000 individuals, "consisting mainly of unemployed workers and democratic elements" will be returned, many of whom will receive "brutal punishment from the Syngman Rhee clique."

A commentary entitled "South Korea Has Turned Into a Fascist Prison" deals in gory detail with the familiar theme of the gestapo methods used in South Korea. "To the Syngman Rhee traitorous clique there is neither law nor trial," the article asserts, going on to describe the "fascist, blood-thirsty devils who have forgotten moral decency, led patriotic girls around the streets in the nude, cut off their breasts, removed their eyes, cut off the tongues of these young girls, and finally put them to death." And the officers, who are said to be picked from the ranks of former Japanese collaborators, in conjunction with the army, are claimed to be making preparations for a northern expedition, while Rhee is said to be provoking criminal acts along the 38th parallel and sending numerous spies and subversive teams to North Korea.

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