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**IN THE
COMMON
INTEREST**



This book is dedicated to the heroes of many lands who fought and died in Korea to preserve freedom—the valiant men of the Republic of Korea and of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom, and the United States.

ON JUNE 25, 1950, the communist armies of North Korea swept south across the 38th Parallel into the Republic of Korea with guns blazing. The world response to this attack on a free and peaceful people was immediate. And it was historic.

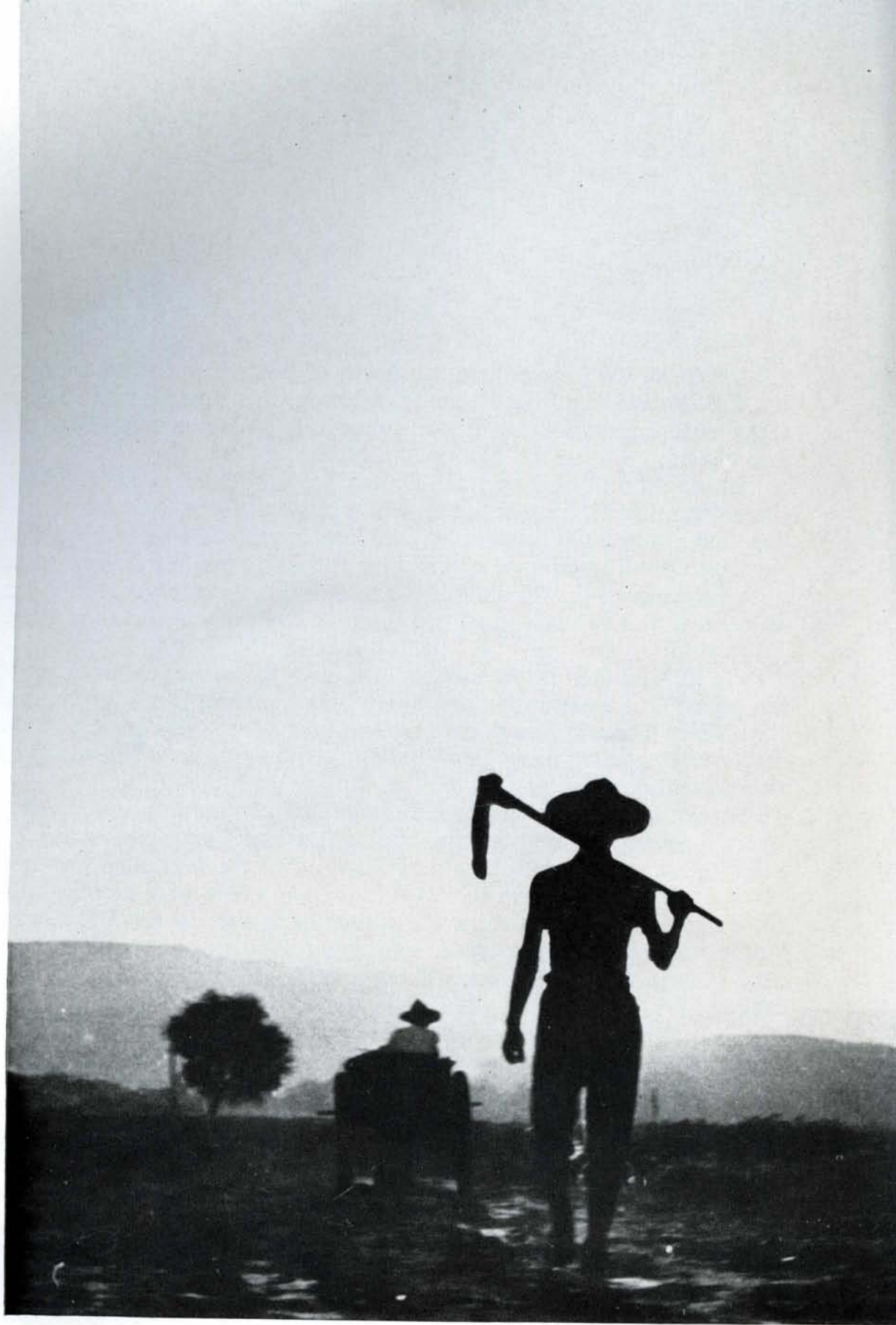
The day the attack began, the United Nations Security Council called upon the communists to cease firing and to withdraw to the 38th Parallel. Two days later, when the communists had not heeded this plea for peace, the Security Council addressed a resolution to all UN member states. "Furnish such assistance to the Republic of Korea as may be necessary to repel the armed attack and to restore international peace and security in the area," the resolution read.

The fifty-two UN member states named on the cover of this book supported the resolution. Troops from seventeen of those nations joined the forces of the Republic of Korea and were soon on their way to repel the enemy. Supplies, food, and equipment were dispatched by forty-nine nations and scores of private voluntary agencies.

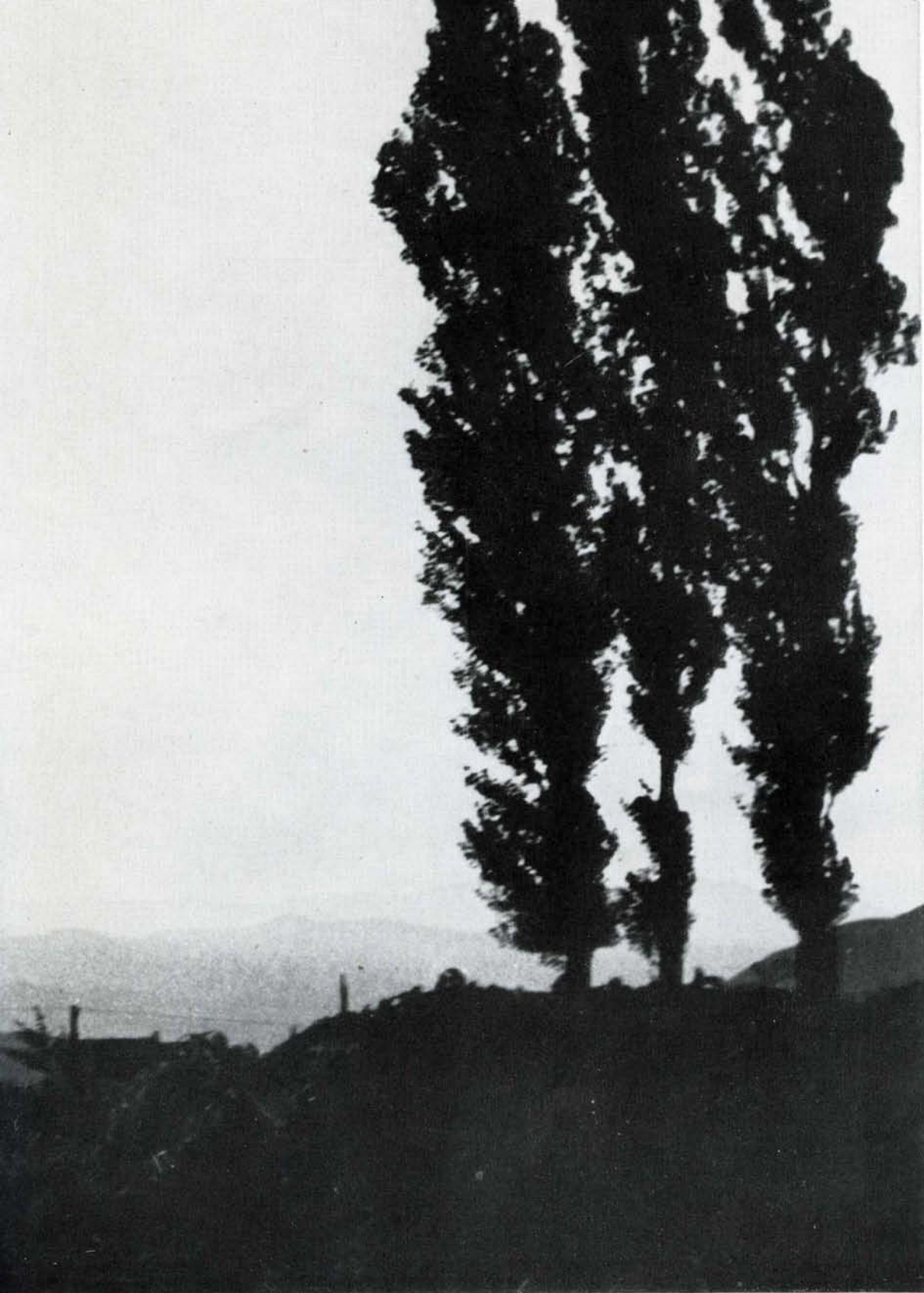
For the first time in history an assemblage of governments, meeting in a common forum and representing most of the world's peoples, voted to aid a small country invaded by a powerful foe. For the first time the people of Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas were joined in a common effort to defend freedom, thus honoring the pledge of nations in the UN Charter to "unite our strength to maintain international peace and security . . . and . . . to insure . . . that armed force shall not be used save in the common interest."

The purpose of this book is to tell about this united effort and how, from the very beginning, it was a mission to ease the suffering of the Korean people and to help them rebuild their country, as well as an action to drive the aggressor from their territory.

This book is a tribute to the people of the Republic of Korea who displayed unforgettable courage and fortitude in their hour of distress. It is a tribute also to the men and women of the other free nations who went to Korea to work, to fight, to suffer, and to die "in the common interest."



Korea is an ancient and beautiful land, called by its people "Land of the Morning Calm." One Sunday morning in the middle of the Twentieth Century this



peninsula in Asia became a battleground on which the right of a nation to remain free was put to the test. History has recorded how free people met this test.

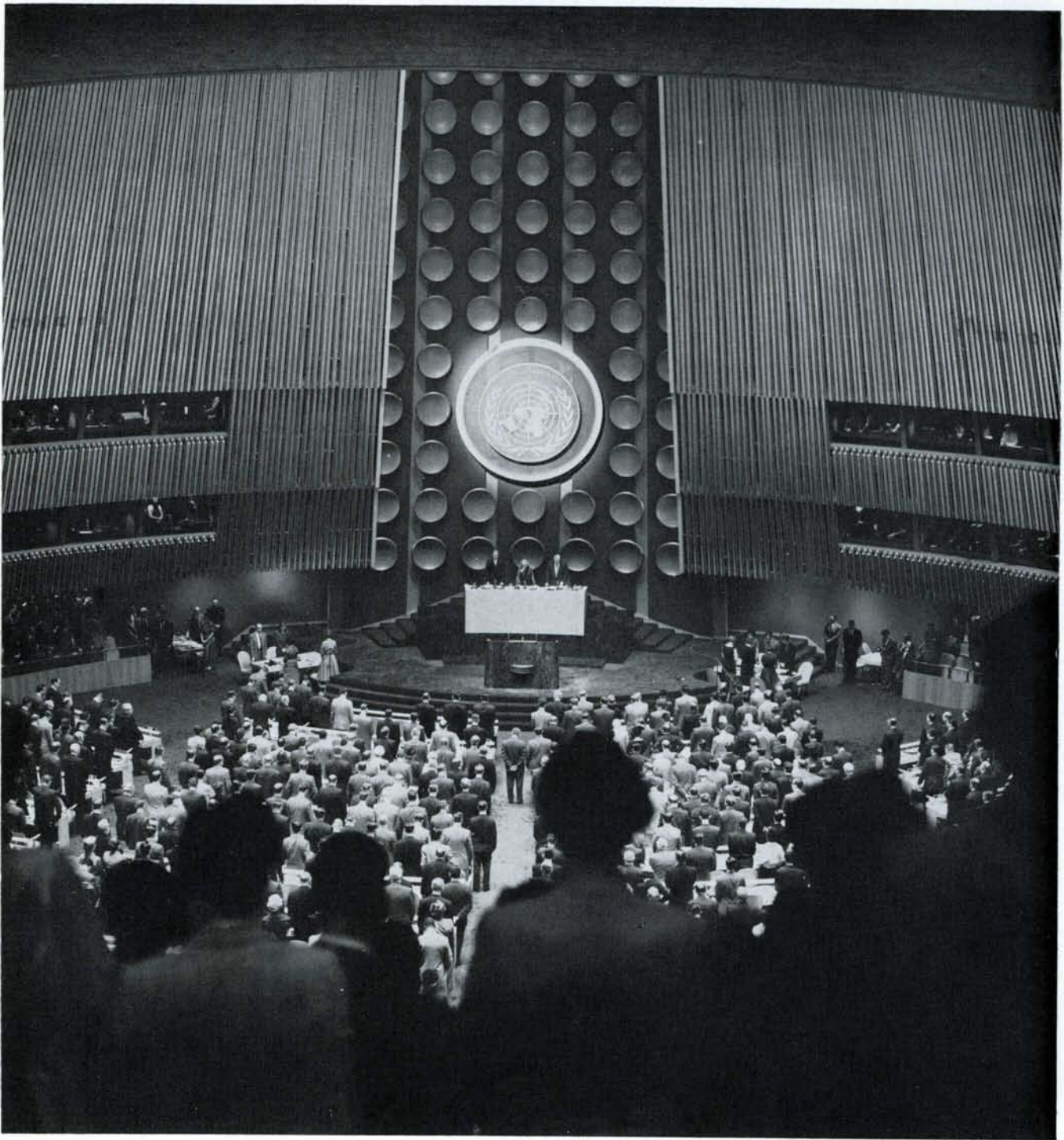




As war engulfed the little country, it stamped a pattern of upheaval and suffering on the lives of all who dwelt there. Hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children streamed down dusty, clogged roads toward refuge. Uncounted others tried to flee but could not escape. Refugees died on the road; others became separated from their families. Pathetic bands of homeless children sprang up everywhere in this convulsive eruption of humanity.

Many times in its long and tragic history Korea had been fought over and plundered by its more powerful neighbors. But never had the plight of the people been as desperate as it was in that summer of 1950.





Korea's agony became the concern of free men everywhere. It resulted in a great and unified effort to relieve the suffering, and to help a brave nation start building its future. This is the story of that dedicated effort. . .



KOREA IS LIBERATED AFTER WORLD WAR II. REJOICING KOREANS GREET VICTORIOUS AMERICAN TROOPS AS THEY APPROACH SEOUL.

It was the end of World War II and great happiness filled the hearts of all Koreans. Their independence was promised by the victorious Allies—the United States, Soviet Union, and United Kingdom. The Japanese flag had come down, and people everywhere began exercising their new found freedom.



THE SOVIET UNION met with the United Kingdom and the United States at Potsdam in July 1945. A month later, just a few days before World War II ended, the Soviets declared war against Japan and agreed to support the Potsdam Declaration which promised freedom for Koreans.



SURRENDER OF JAPANESE troops to the U. S. Army at Seoul in 1945 marked the termination of Japan's forty-year domination of the Korean people.



LIBERATED KOREANS began to exercise the rights of a free people. They publicly discussed various forms of government their country might adopt.

HOW STALEMATE CAME ABOUT

In 1945, the United States, Soviet Union, and United Kingdom set up a U. S.-Soviet Commission to form a provisional government and work out a five-year trusteeship agreement for Korea. Under the trusteeship, four governments—the Republic of China, USSR, United Kingdom, and United States—would help Korea gain the economic and political stability it would need as a sovereign nation.

But in Korea the Commission met early stalemate. The difficulty arose over the various political and social groups to be consulted by the Commission so that the Korean people themselves would have a voice in their provisional government.

The United States delegation stated clearly that this meant consulting *all* representative Korean groups. But the Soviet delegation insisted that no Korean group should be consulted which at any time had opposed the trusteeship plan.

Such a stand excluded all Korean groups except the communists, because only the communists, on orders from the Kremlin, had not voiced opposition. All other Korean groups, because of their ardent desire for immediate independence, opposed trusteeship which would have delayed their full sovereignty for another five years.

The United States refused to accept this Soviet plan which would deny an overwhelming majority of Koreans a voice in establishing their government.



U. S.-SOVIET COMMISSION MET 24 TIMES, BUT BECAUSE OF RUSSIAN INTRANSIGENCE, ACCOMPLISHED NO

When United States and Soviet representatives met in Korea to start working out the country's independence under an Allied trusteeship plan, they reached an impasse. The Soviets would not agree that the Koreans themselves should be consulted in the formation of their own government.



KOREANS READ WITH UNDERSTANDABLE DISAPPOINTMENT NEWS OF A PLANNED FOUR-POWER, 5-YEAR TRUSTEESHIP TO PRECEDE KOREA'S INDEPENDENCE.

The Soviets insisted that only Koreans who had not objected to trusteeship should be consulted. This meant consulting only the communists, because in all Korea only they had not objected to trusteeship which, from the viewpoint of freedom-loving Koreans, would unduly delay independence.



THE 38TH PARALLEL WAS MEANT ONLY TO ESTABLISH ZONES TO FACILITATE JAPANESE SURRENDER. THE USSR MADE IT ANOTHER IRON CURTAIN.

Korea became a divided country because the Soviets, instead of working for independence, created their own puppet government north of the 38th Parallel. In the South, the people voted in an election supervised by the United Nations—the first democratic election ever held in Korea—and the Republic of Korea came into being. The United Nations recognized the Republic as the only lawful government in Korea.



UNITED NATIONS THWARTED BY SOVIETS

After trying for two years to work with the Soviets, the U. S. brought the issue of Korean independence before the United Nations. The UN General Assembly voted (43 to none, with six abstentions) to hold elections in Korea and give all the people a voice in creating their own government. The UN resolution also set up a nine-nation commission to supervise the elections on the scene.

In the meantime, however, the Soviet Union had installed its own puppet government north of the 38th Parallel. The 38th Parallel was originally used merely to establish two separate zones in which the Japanese would surrender—in the North to the USSR, in the South to U. S. troops. The U. S. had no intention of creating permanent zones of occupation or control. But the Soviet Union had immediately claimed absolute authority over the Northern Zone, and lost no time in setting up a typical communist police state there.

When the UN Commission arrived in Korea to supervise the elections, it was denied entry into North Korea by the communists. Balked in that area, the Commission proceeded with the elections in South Korea, where cooperation was assured.

In May 1948, the people in South Korea voted in the first democratic election ever held in Korea. As a result, a National Assembly was established, a constitution was written, and on August 25th, the Government of the Republic of Korea was inaugurated.

THE SOVIET UNION barred UN election observers from North Korea and installed a communist puppet regime with Moscow-trained Kim Il Sung as its Premier.



SOUTH OF THE 38TH PARALLEL, UNDER UN OBSERVATION, THE PEOPLE VOTED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S FIRST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY INTO OFFICE.



CROWDS LINE THE AVENUE LEADING TO THE CAPITOL BUILDING IN SEOUL TO WITNESS THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT.



IRON CURTAIN DIVIDES KOREA

Not only did the division at the 38th Parallel deny freedom to one-third of the Korean people, it also split an economic entity.

The South was principally agricultural. In the North were the major industrial facilities—the iron and steel plants, and the chemical industry which produced the fertilizers largely used in the agricultural South. Almost every hydroelectric project was in the North. As a result of the division, the South was left without essential fertilizers, without hydroelectric power, and without the industrial plants to sustain their economy. The influx of two million North Korean refugees from communism further taxed the resources of the overcrowded South, and vastly complicated their efforts to establish a strong economy.

RED TERRORISTS EVEN SET FIRES TO BRIDGES, HERE BEING REPAIRED, IN EFFORT TO DEMORALIZE.



QUICK ACTION BY U. S. ARMY KEPT SEOUL'S LIGHTS BURNING DURING POWER CRISIS CAUSED BY REDS FOUR DAYS AFTER ROK TOOK OFFICE.

Throughout the Republic of Korea (ROK) the people turned out to celebrate their newly-won independence. The communists retaliated by cutting off the electric power supplied from the North, the first of many communist efforts to hamstring and undermine the new Republic.

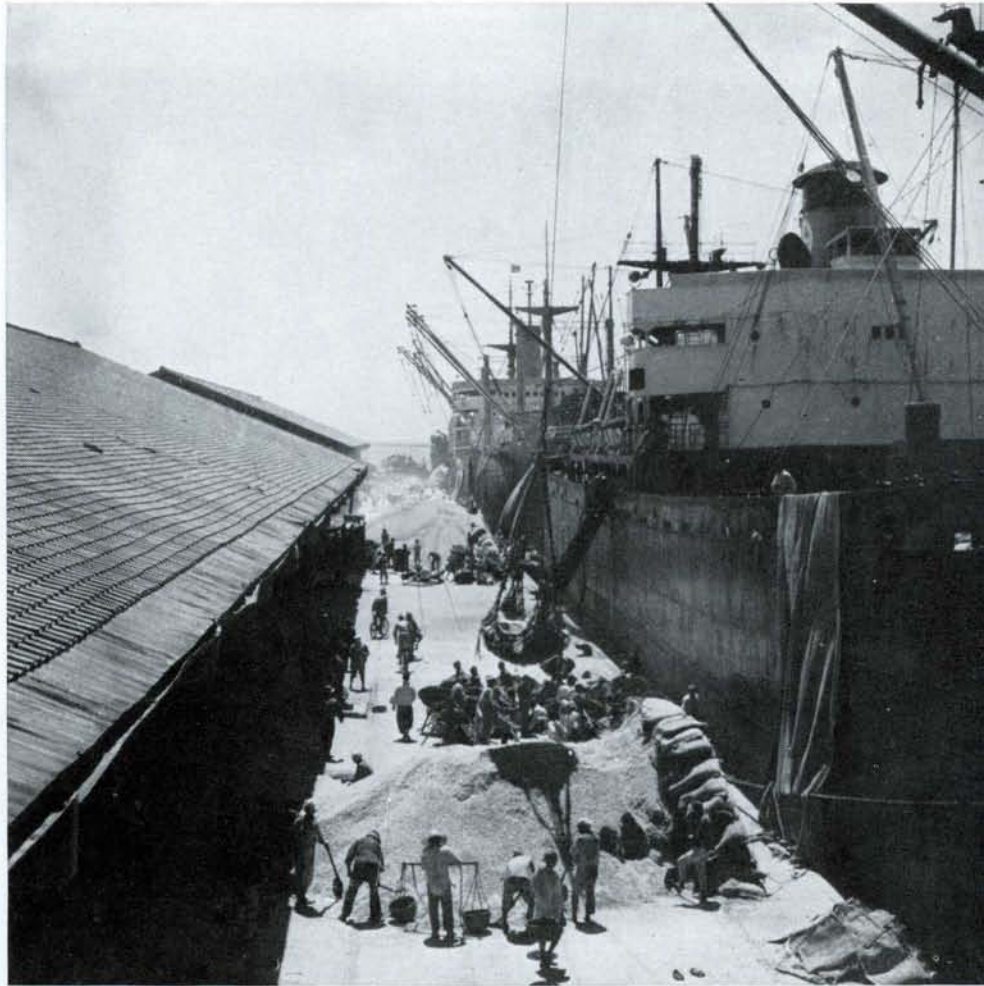
POST-WORLD WAR AID GOALS

Controlled by Japan and dependent upon her for a banking and currency system, Korea was left in a state of economic collapse after Japan was defeated.

During approximately 42 months of U. S. occupation following Japanese withdrawal in 1945, the U. S. furnished South Korea \$285 million in the form of grants, and an additional \$25 million worth of surplus army goods such as blankets and clothing.

To meet the immediate problem of food shortages, the U. S. occupation authorities instituted a system of grain collection and rationing. A special effort was made to raise rice production through the use of commercial fertilizers. Substantial quantities of clothing, medical goods, coal, machinery, and raw materials were also imported with U. S. funds.

The U. S. authorities concentrated on three immediate basic post-war objectives: The revival of industrial production, the efficient operation of the railroads, and the expansion of electric power output. Without U. S. aid during these critical years, the South Korean economy would inevitably have collapsed. But starvation and disease were averted, agricultural output and industrial production were increased, and the gaps between domestic requirements and supplies reduced.



STARVATION AVERTED. MILLIONS OF TONS OF GRAIN FROM THE U. S. HELPED FEED SOUTH KOREANS.



POWER OUTPUT CONTINUED. As Reds cut supply of power from North, U. S. barge-generators kept the South's industrial wheels turning.



VOCATIONAL SKILLS TAUGHT. American doctors, educators, technicians, helped Koreans learn important new skills.

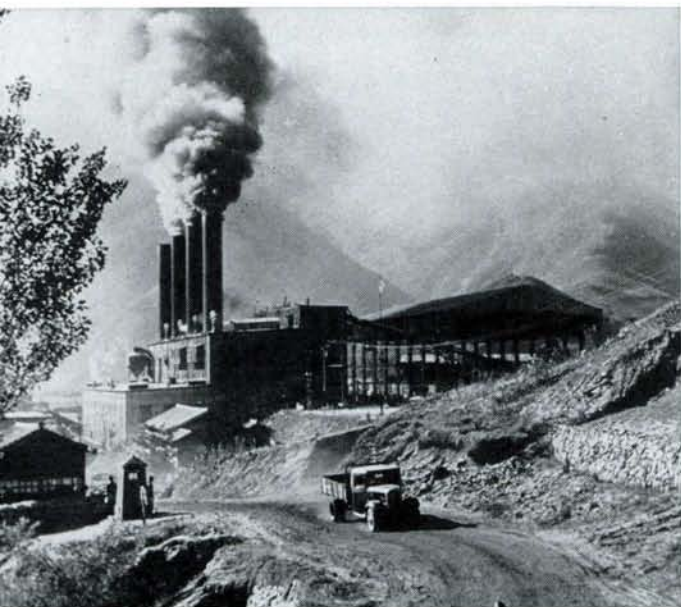


RAIN YIELDS INCREASED. Korea's impoverished soil was revitalized with superphosphate fertilizer contributed by the United States.



TECHNICAL HELP EXTENDED. Until the Koreans could learn technical skills, American mechanics helped them repair their machinery.

But the Republic was not alone. Economic aid which the United States had been extending to South Korea since the defeat of Japan enabled the young Republic to surmount many of the obstacles now confronting it.



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION REVIVED. The U. S. shipped coal to augment the ROK's coal supply, a major source of industrial power.

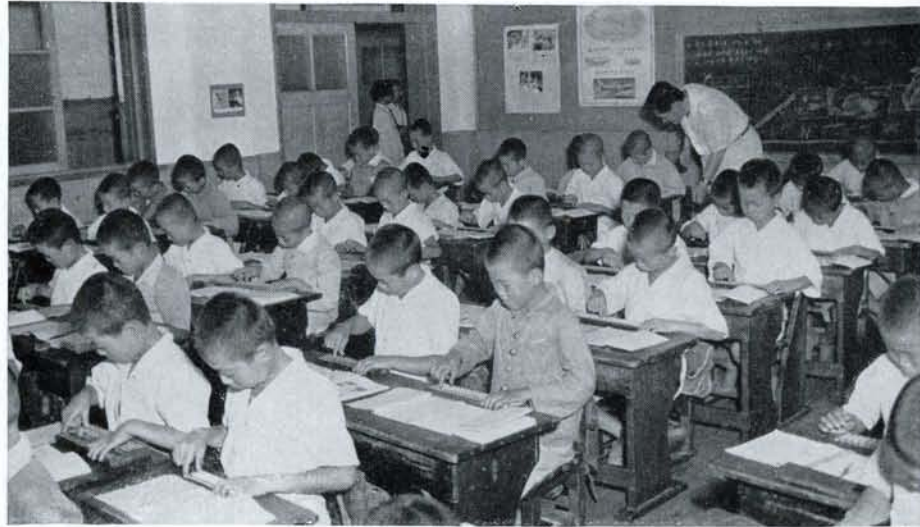


LAND REFORM EFFECTED. U. S. and Korean authorities worked out a program making 500,000 Koreans owners of the land they tilled.

EARLY U. S. ASSISTANCE FOR KOREA

By the end of 1948, the transfer of authority from the U. S. Military Government in Korea to the ROK Government had been substantially completed, and responsibility for the U. S. aid program to Korea passed to the U. S. Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA).

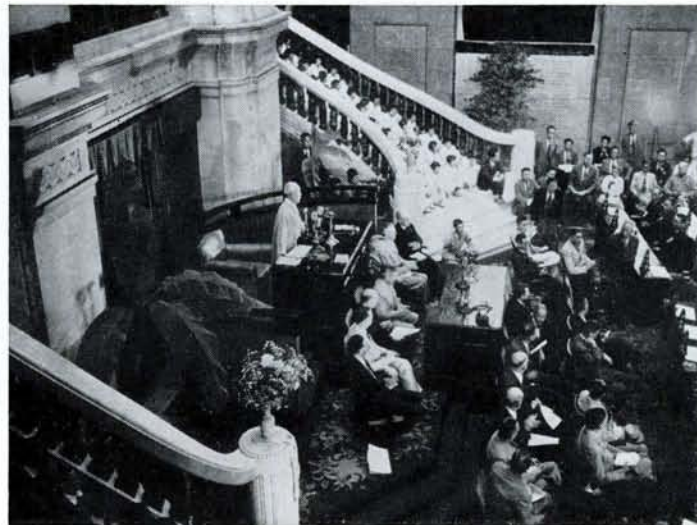
By June 1950, ECA, with some \$190 million and substantial quantities of materials inherited from the U. S. occupation authorities had underway the construction of three new railroads. Additions were being made to the country's fishing and coastal fleet. Scores of new irrigation and land reclamation projects were completed. And plans were going forward for the building of new factories and power plants as the basis for a modern economy.



TEACHER TRAINING WAS BEGUN, A PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM WAS ESTABLISHED.



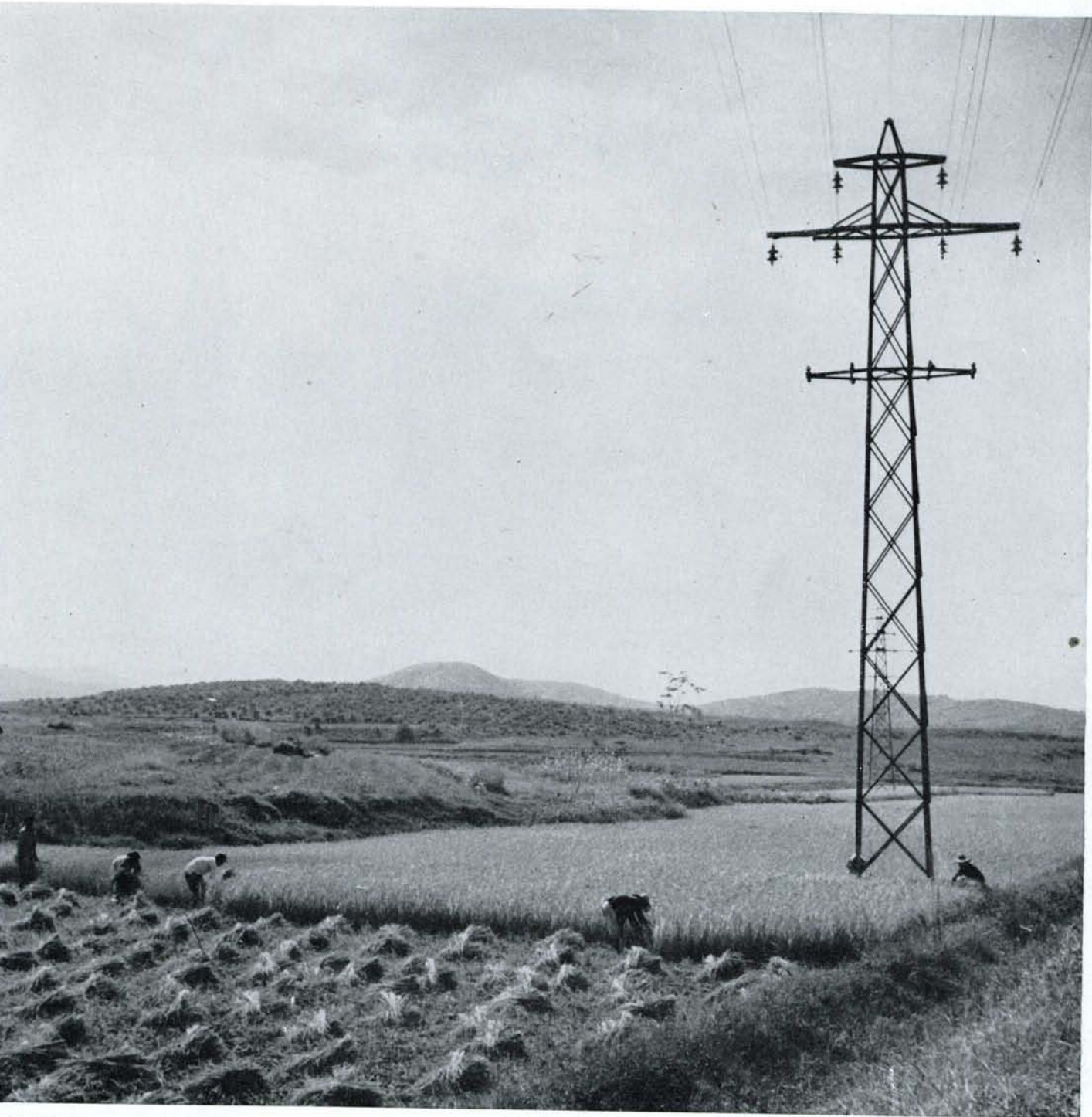
DOMESTIC COAL OUTPUT INCREASED ABOUT 40 PERCENT IN TWO YEARS.



BY 1950 THE REPUBLIC WAS PROGRESSING AS A GOVERNMENT OF FREE MEN.



TO HELP CURB INFLATION, THE NEW REPUBLIC OF KOREA INSTITUTED A BOLD PROGRAM DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A SOUNDER CURRENCY FOR ITS PEOPLE.



FOOD REQUIREMENTS OF ITS PEOPLE FINALLY RELIEVED, THE REPUBLIC BEGAN EXPORTING RICE FROM BUMPER CROPS IN EXCHANGE FOR NEEDED IMPORTS.

Aid to bolster every phase of the South Korean economy continued to flow from the United States, and the Republic grew in strength and stability. Prospects were good that, in time, South Korea would become progressively more self-sustaining.

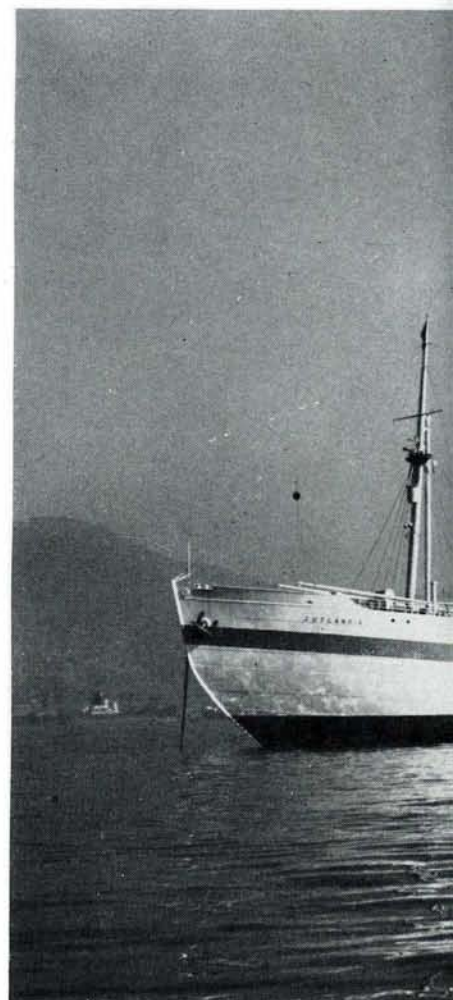
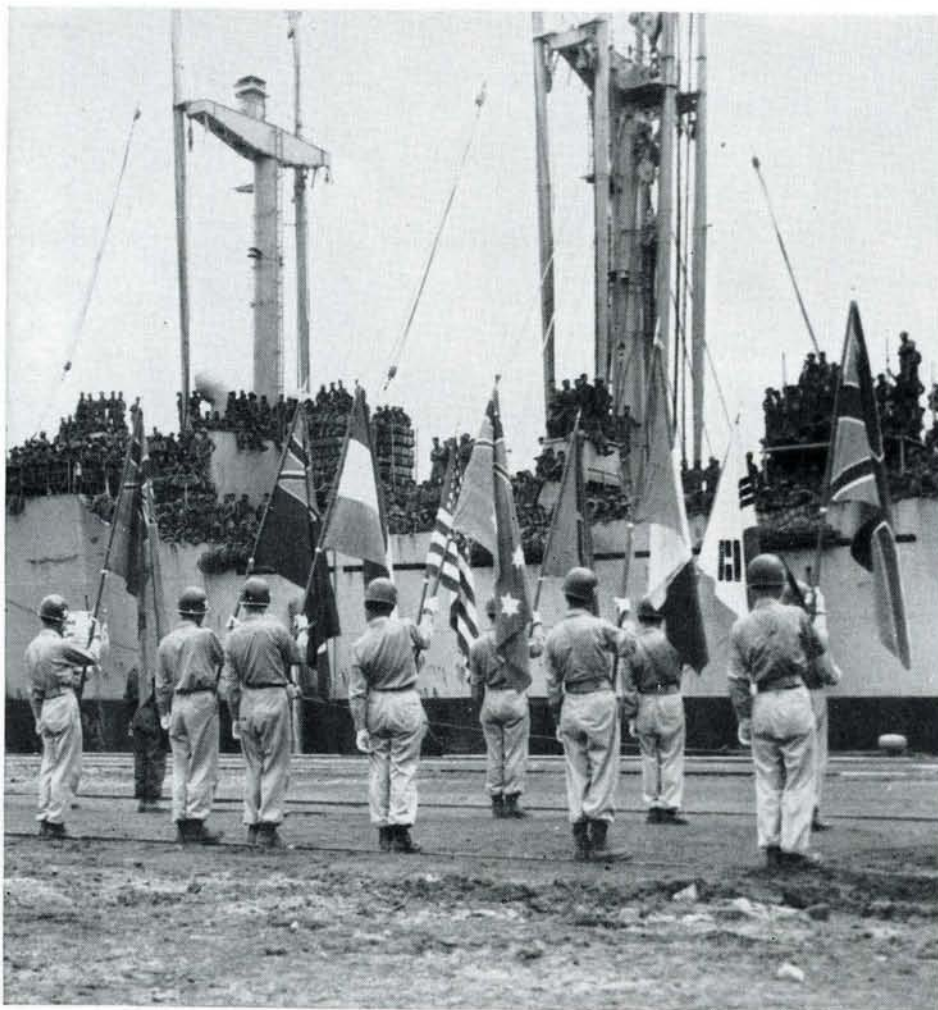




Then on June 25, 1950, almost a year to the day after the United States had completed the withdrawal of its World War II occupation forces from Korea, the communists struck. By the hundreds of thousands they came, the Soviet-trained soldiers from the North, pouring across the 38th Parallel to destroy with guns and bombs the free government which the communists had failed to undermine by stealth and deceit.

A United Nations appeal to the North Korean regime to stop the onslaught was coldly ignored. The attack rolled on, devastating the land, respecting no one who got in its path. Within two months, the invader had overrun almost all of the Republic of Korea.

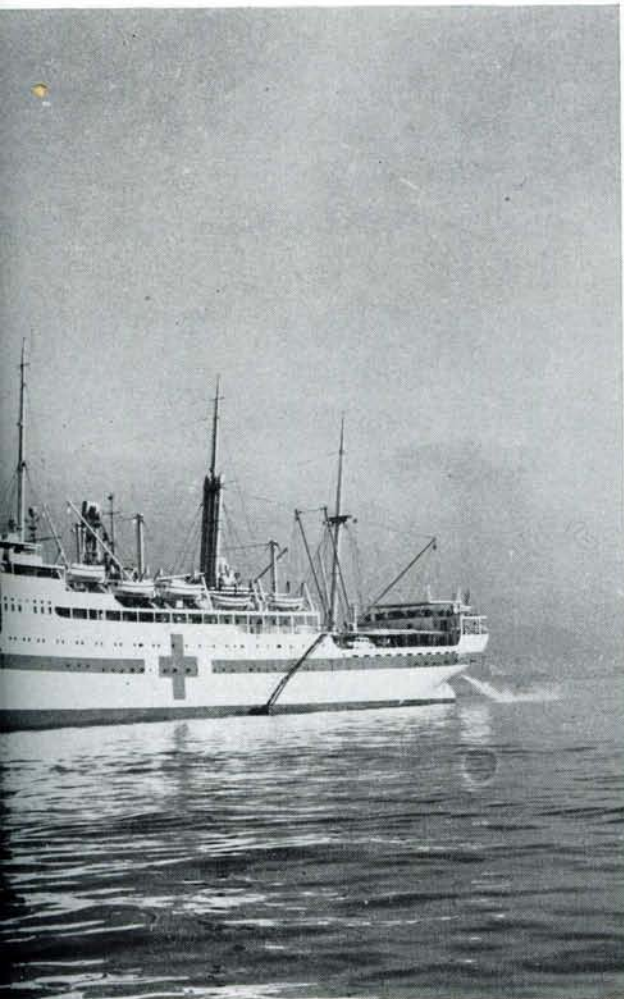
But the free world was not idle. The United Nations Security Council rushed an appeal in the form of a resolution to all UN members that they furnish aid to repel the attack. Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the USSR denounced the resolution. But 52 nations supported it, and a stream of food, medicine, and clothing, as well as guns and troops, began to flow toward the Republic of Korea—the free world's first response to the dramatic summons of collective morality.



IN RESPONSE TO THE URGENT APPEAL MADE BY THE UNITED NATIONS, SOLDIERS FROM 17 NATIONS LANDED IN KOREA. AID OF EVERY IMAGINABLE



SECURITY COUNCIL RECOMMENDED COLLECTIVE ACTION AFTER NORTH KOREANS IGNORED ITS 9-0 VOTE ORDERING WITHDRAWAL TO 38TH PARALLEL.



KIND, FROM A FULLY-EQUIPPED HOSPITAL SHIP TO TONS OF FIELD RATIONS, WAS SHIPPED BY THE FREE WORLD TO THWART COMMUNIST AGGRESSION.

UNITED NATIONS FORCES IN ACTION

The UN forces, after being driven southward to the sea, rallied in September 1950 and drove the invader back, regaining most of the ROK's territory. In October, after the enemy rejected a UN appeal to stop the fighting, the UN army moved into North Korea and the aggressor's armies faced final defeat.

At this juncture, however, Red China's armies crossed into North Korea, and attacked the UN forces. Badly outnumbered, the UN troops turned their backs to the arctic winds and grimly regrouped for a winter withdrawal.

The retreat, although serious, was not catastrophic, and the communist drive was stopped south of Seoul in January 1951. The UN again took the initiative in March and by June had advanced to a line which, for most of its length, extended across Korea well above the 38th Parallel. There, the line of combat became relatively stable.

Throughout the conflict, the UN Command sought to fight the war as humanely as possible. At great risk to troops and operations, it repeatedly warned civilians when and where bombings would take place. But the UN found the communists guilty of many atrocities. UN soldiers captured by the Reds were tortured and murdered. Civilians were butchered in bloody massacres or sealed up in caves to die of suffocation.



AN ENDLESS FILE OF FREEZING REFUGEES, LADEN WITH THEIR FEW REMAINING POSSESSIONS, TRUDGE



SO QUICKLY DID THE KOREAN WAR MOVE THAT THOUSANDS OF HELPLESS CIVILIANS WHO HAD NO CHANCE TO FLEE WERE CAUGHT UP IN ITS VIOLENCE.



ING IN THE SNOW AND BITTER WIND SEEKING SAFETY IN THE SOUTH.



SOVIET-TRAINED GENERAL NAM IL LED THE NORTH KOREAN SNEAK ATTACK.

For months the war raged across the length and breadth of Korea. Fleeing it, in the thick of it, and in the chaos it left behind, were the people of Korea. Already straining the limits of human endurance, their plight became even more desperate. For now Red China hurled its army against the UN forces.

UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY AID

When the UN called for assistance in Korea, 49 UN member and non-member states and 60 church and private aid agencies responded swiftly with tremendous amounts of food, medical supplies and equipment, and clothing.

Responsibility for immediate civilian relief was assigned to the UN Civil Assistance Command in Korea (UNCACK). Staffed almost entirely by U. S. Army personnel and financed by U. S. funds, UNCACK's mission was to prevent mass starvation and epidemics. In 1951-52, UNCACK's work reduced typhoid cases from 76,000 to 4,000, and deaths by 97 per cent.

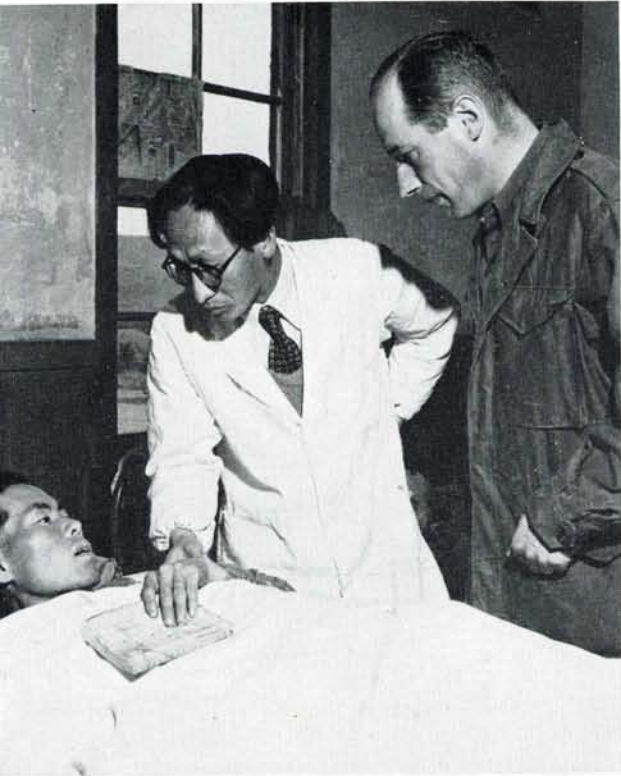
Six months after the war began, the UN General Assembly created the UN Korean Reconstruction Agency (UNKRA) to plan and carry out a long range program of relief and rehabilitation in Korea. UNKRA recruited specialists and dispatched them to Korea to assist UNCACK. Thus, experienced personnel would be available when UNKRA's own program could get underway when peace came.



WITH DRUGS FROM U. S., UNCACK IMMUNIZED KOREANS AGAINST DISEASES LIKE TYPHUS AND SMALLPOX.



SHELTER AND COMFORT FOR COUNTLESS THOUSANDS OF HOMELESS CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS WERE DEAD OR MISSING WERE PROVIDED BY UNCACK.



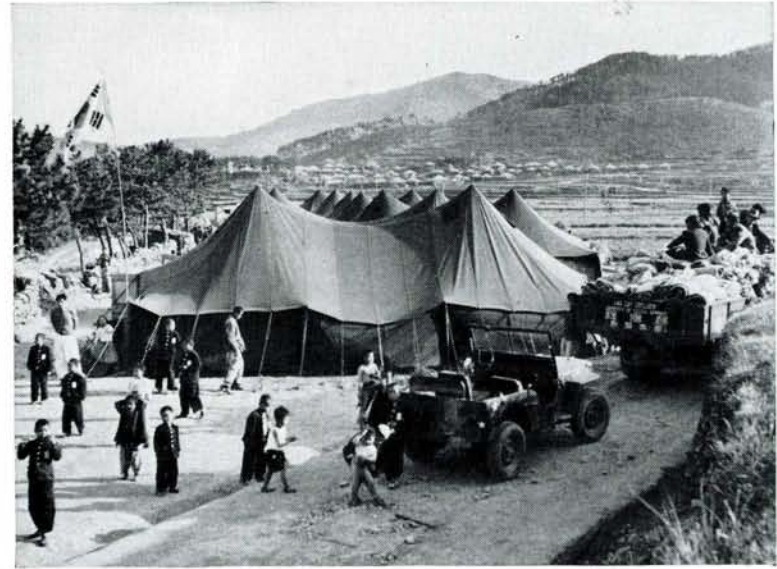
SOME 300 CLINICS AND HOSPITALS WERE PLACED IN OPERATION.



UNCAK DISTRIBUTED 27,000 TONS OF FOOD MONTHLY TO KOREAN CIVILIANS.



KOREANS GOT SHIPOLOADS OF UNCAK BLANKETS AND CLOTHING.



THIS CAMP ON KOJE ISLAND SHELTERED REFUGEES WHO FLED COMMUNIST NORTH.

Day and night the men and women of the United Nations Civil Assistance Command ministered to the people of Korea. Their achievements in stopping—and thrusting back—the tide of starvation and disease and indescribable misery were unparalleled in the long history of human tragedies.



VOLUNTEER WORKERS SORT CLOTHING DONATED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.



MISSIONARIES IN KOREA FED REFUGEES, CARED FOR SICK AND ORPHANED



RED CROSS PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES BROUGHT NEW HOPE TO THOUSANDS.



THE 60TH INDIAN FIELD AMBULANCE UNIT SERVED AS A CLINIC FOR TAEGU

Not one agency, but many, had a hand in the miracle. From all around the free world, from people of every race and creed, came help for the people of Korea. Voluntary groups, business firms, and private individuals answered the call for assistance.



LIVES OF UNTOLD NUMBERS OF CIVILIANS—MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN—WERE SAVED BY FIRST AID ADMINISTERED BY UN FIGHTING MEN.

Even soldiers in the field found time to play a humanitarian role as they dressed a noncombatant's wound or, resting briefly from the rigors of battle, shared their rations or helped bring momentary brightness into the face of a child.





COMMUNIST DELEGATION AT PANMUNJOM TRUCE TALKS, OCTOBER 1951.

By mid-1951 there were signs of peace and truce talks began. But uncertainty soon replaced hope. The communists seemed bent upon dragging the talks out as long as possible—and men continued to suffer and die at the front.

Behind the lines in South Korea, a bereaved but courageous people began to take stock of the devastation that communist aggression had wrought.

THE TRAGIC AFTERMATH OF WAR

The communist tide had been thrown back in Korea, but in its wake was indescribable devastation and suffering. In resisting aggression, the Korean people paid a staggering price. In South Korea, population 21 million, more than a million civilians lay dead. Five million were utterly destitute. Families were decimated and dispersed. There were 500,000 war widows, 15,000 amputees, 100,000 orphans.

At least 1,200 of 5,000 villages were destroyed and 52 cities damaged almost beyond recognition. Seoul, the capital, had exchanged hands nine times. Half of its 300,000 homes had been leveled and an additional 100,000 damaged.

The farms, the irrigation system, the forests, the mines, the factories—all the major sources of sustenance for the people—had been destroyed.



UNSKILLED HANDS WENT TO WORK AS KOREANS BEGAN THE BACK-BREAKING TASK OF RECONSTRUCTION



EVERYONE PITCHED IN TO CLEAR RUBBLE FROM THE STREETS. LITTLE WAS DISCARDED; MOST DEBRIS WAS SALVAGED FOR REBUILDING HOMES AND CITIES

The young Republic lay in ruins. But the people bravely began erasing the scars of war and life went on. Families were reunited. The farmer returned to his barren fields; in the city,



SALVAGED, TOO, WERE LIVES BROKEN BY WAR, AS SONS AND DAUGHTERS ONCE BELIEVED DEAD CAME HOME AGAIN TO A JOYOUS FAMILY REUNION.

streetcars started to run again. The war's rubble was piled stone on stone to make homes. By their efforts, the people displayed the ability and will to build their nation anew.



ROK ARMY SERVICE GAVE MANY SOUTH KOREANS MANAGERIAL TRAINING.



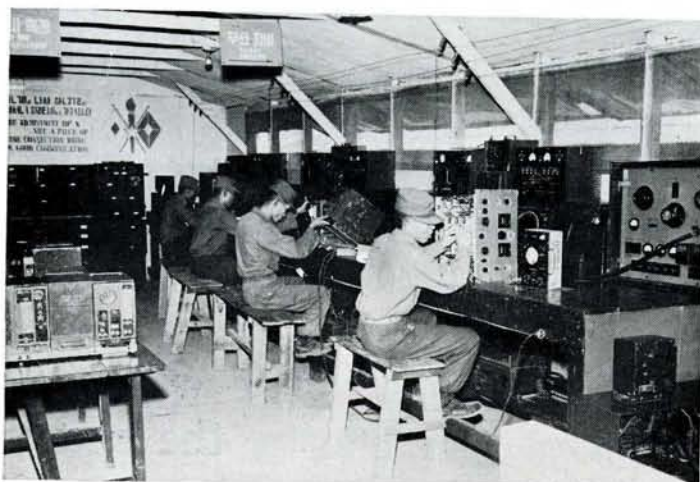
U. S. ARMY MEDICAL INSTRUCTOR NOTES PROGRESS OF DENTAL STUDENT.



ROK FIRE FIGHTERS LEARN HOW TO HANDLE A HIGH-PRESSURE FIRE HOSE.



AT U. S. ARMY ORDNANCE SCHOOL, ROK TRAINEE IS TAUGHT WELDING.



TRAINEES REPAIRING RADIOS AT ROK ARMY COMMUNICATIONS SCHOOL.



STUDENTS AT TRAINING CENTER FOR ROK ARMY STUDY AUTO MECHANICS.



HIGH ABOVE THE WAR-TORN KOREAN COUNTRYSIDE, A U. S. ARMY SIGNALMAN REPAIRS COMMUNICATIONS BY STRINGING NEW TELEPHONE WIRES.

The war had been destructive, but it was not all loss. The U. S. Army had built communication lines, highways, bridges, railroads. American technicians had taught South Korean men and women serving with them in the UN forces many new skills. All these would be valuable to the Republic when peace came.

UNKRA BEGINS ITS OPERATIONS

In November 1952, UNKRA began the job originally envisioned for it by the General Assembly. "To meet the pressing needs of the Korean people," the Agency allocated \$70 million for industry, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, mining, education, housing, medical facilities, and welfare services.

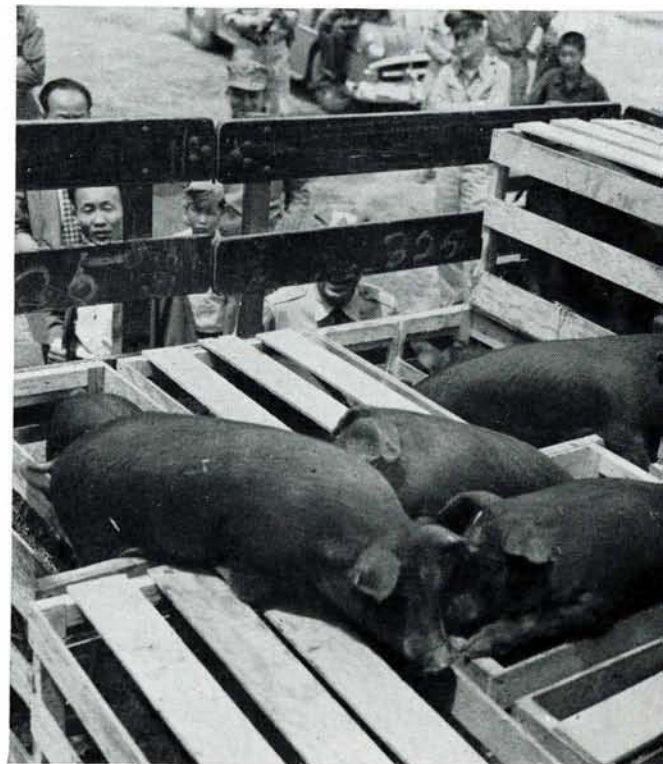
Almost immediately, UNKRA imported \$14 million worth of consumer goods, mostly food, to be sold by the ROK Government directly to the people. This had a stabilizing effect on the inflation-plagued economy. By bringing the supply of food and consumer goods more nearly into line with consumer needs, it reduced prices in the Korean market place. Moreover, proceeds from the sale of these goods provided a fund of ROK currency for meeting the local labor and material costs of UNKRA's program. Had local currency not been obtained in this way, it would have been necessary for the ROK Government to resort to the printing presses to provide it, and this, of course, would increase inflation.



EARLY UNKRA MEASURE was to import \$11 million worth of desperately needed grain. Increasing the food supply helped to curb inflation and to lay a foundation for reconstruction.



SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY in 1952 with lumber purchased by UNKRA. Funds were appropriated by the United States Congress.



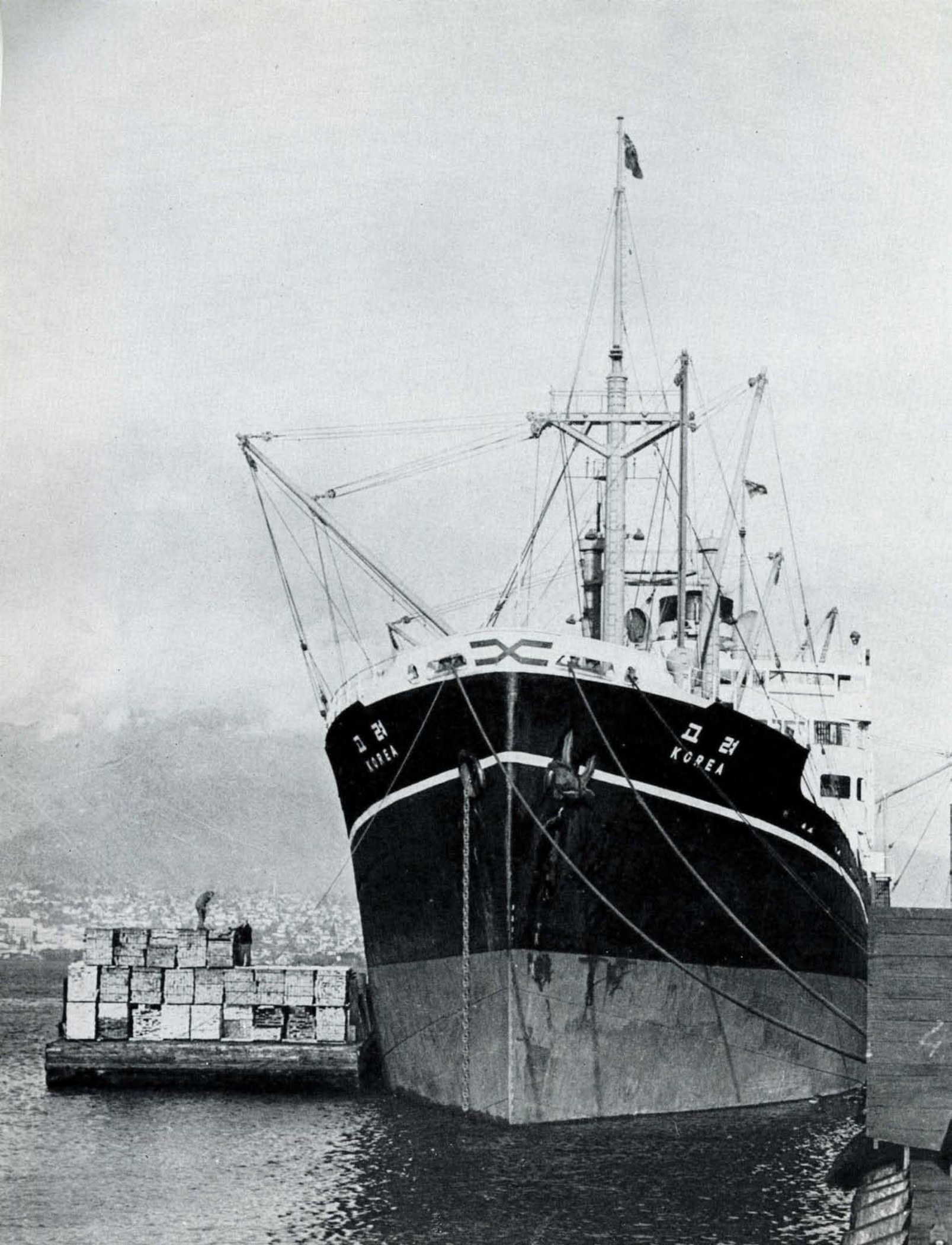
TWO HUNDRED PRIZE brood pigs donated by the Heifer Project Committee, a voluntary aid group in the U. S., arrived by plane.



UNKRA AND U. S. PROVIDED ALMOST \$1 MILLION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH KOREA'S FORESTS, INCLUDING PURCHASE OF MILLIONS OF TREE SEEDLINGS.

As the truce talks went on, and the war's violence subsided, the military needs of the UN Command eased. More transportation became available for civilian uses. The rebuilding of the Republic of Korea started to gain momentum.

Then, on July 27, 1953, after three years of war, an armistice was signed. At last, the guns were silent, and the common effort to help the Koreans reach their deeply cherished goal of economic security could now begin in earnest.





GIVEN A CHOICE at war's end, former Red Chinese soldiers dramatically reject communism to travel road to freedom.

The armistice meant two important victories for freedom. On the battlefield, aggression had been stopped. At the truce table, soldiers captured by the United Nations were saved from a forced return to communism, 22,500 of them refusing repatriation to their communist-controlled homelands.

But a prostrate nation still had to be put back on its feet. All through the fighting, the free nations had worked together to ease the suffering of the Korean people, restoring what they could of the Republic's shattered economy even while the battles raged. Now, great ships loaded with food, construction materials, and machinery—weapons for peace instead of war—began arriving at Korean harbors in increasing numbers.

A NEW ROK merchant vessel loads UNKRA lumber at Vancouver, B. C. For every \$1 million in aid supplies, about \$100,000 had to be budgeted for shipping costs.

RECONSTRUCTION GETS UNDERWAY

The armistice was a starting signal for a larger, integrated reconstruction effort in South Korea. UNKRA launched an extension of its original program. (By the end of 1956, it totaled \$140 million.) U. S. aid to Korea, as well as to other countries, came via the Foreign Operations Administration (FOA) later International Cooperation Administration (ICA). An Office of Economic Coordinator (OEC) in Seoul administered the combined US-UN program.

Initial emphasis was placed upon restoring existing facilities and industries essential to recovery. During 1953-56, the U. S. allocated more than \$120 million for power and industrial development. By 1957, three new U. S.-built power plants had doubled ROK electrical output; construction work was underway on 45 industrial plants ranging from iron works to flour mills to small shipyards.

Coal production for 1955, aided by \$6 million from UNKRA, increased 25 per cent over 1949. In 1956, the U. S. obligated another \$1 million for coal mining. UNKRA projects include two cement plants, a flat glass plant, and three major textile mills.



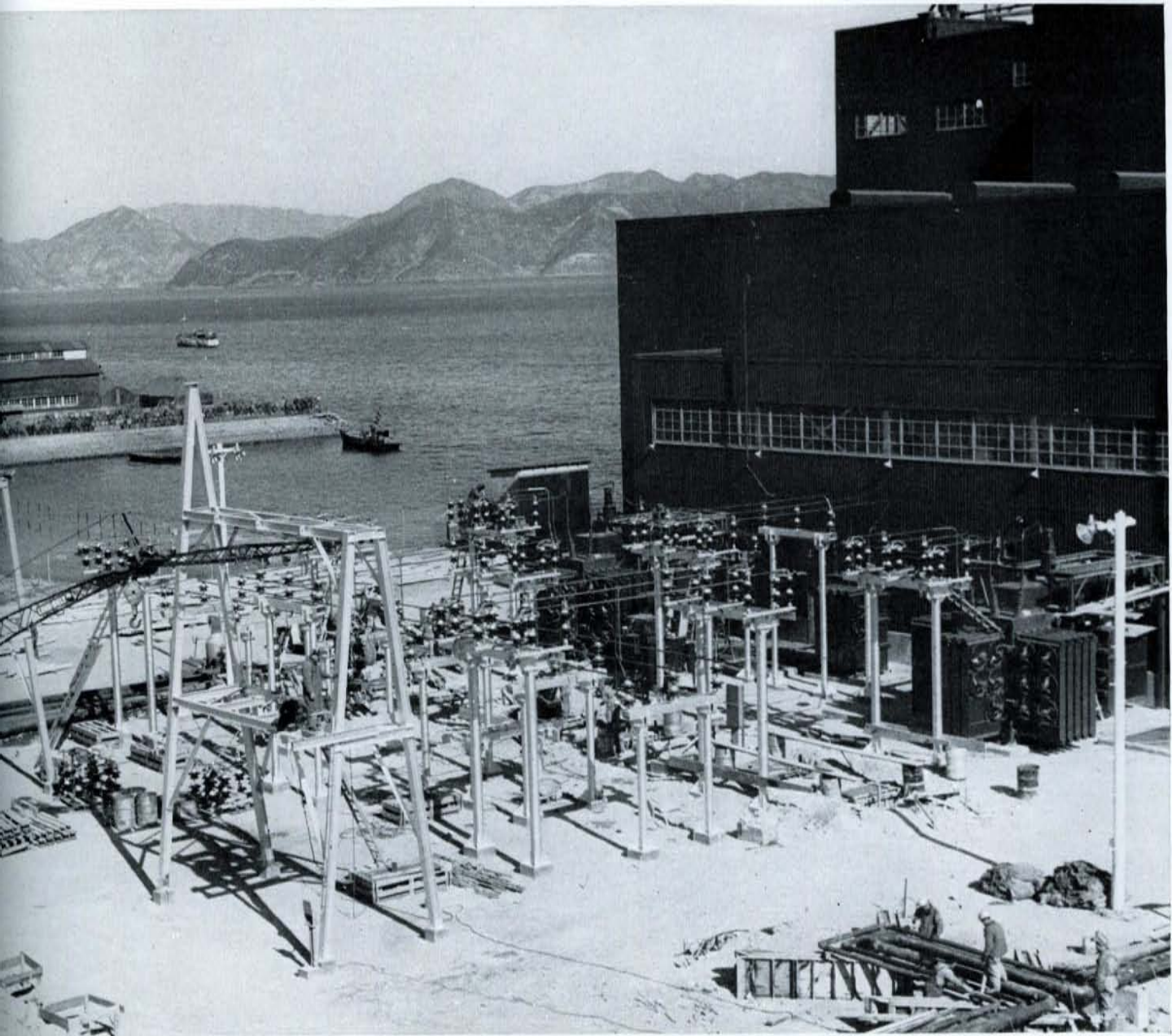
DURING THE WAR, 39 WATERWORKS WERE BADLY DAMAGED. BY MARCH 1954, U. S. HAD REBUILT AL



KEUMSUNG SPINNING COMPANY plant, one of three UNKRA spent \$2,600,000 to equip, produces 2,000,000 yards of cloth a month.



ROK MINES REBUILT with UNKRA help are operating again. Anthracite coal output in 1955 exceeded 1954 output by 400,000 tons.



UNDER A \$30 MILLION PROGRAM TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY FOR GROWING ROK INDUSTRY, U. S. BUILT THREE PLANTS LIKE THIS ONE AT MASAN.

Aid agencies of the United States and the UN Korean Reconstruction Agency, created to help the Republic of Korea build a firm economic foundation for its democracy, joined forces and set to work. Slowly, industries long idle began to stir—and coal, electricity, and consumer goods began to flow again.

THE ROLE OF "AFAK" IN KOREAN AID

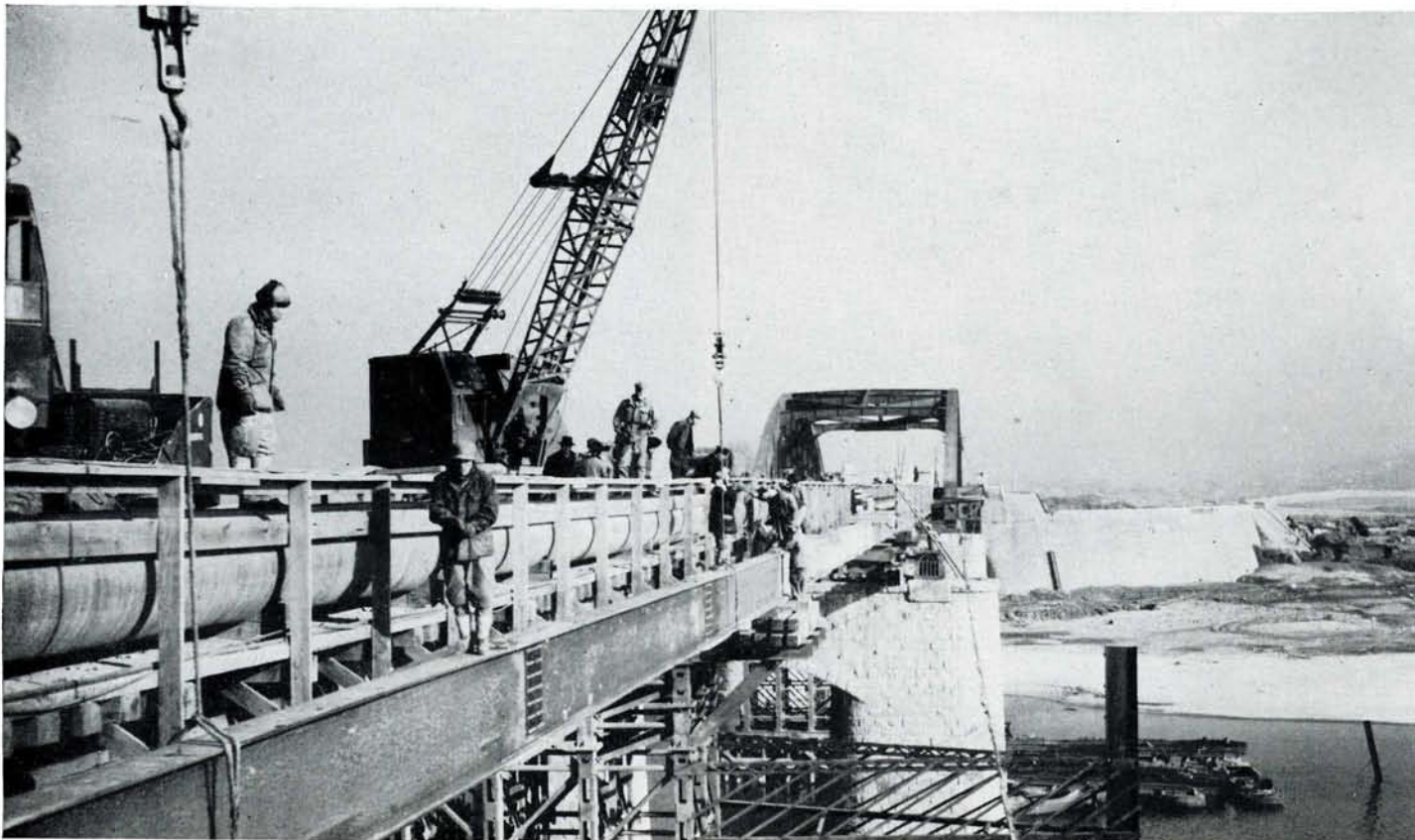
There is no way of measuring aid given by the UN serviceman, even while the fighting was still going on. There are no totals on the clothing and other supplies sent to Korea as a result of the serviceman's letters home to family and friends.

But out of this spontaneous generosity Armed Forces Assistance to Korea (AFAK) was born. With some \$20 million worth of reconstruction materials, \$2 million in medical supplies, and \$1 million in emergency relief furnished by the U. S. Government, AFAK initiated more than 3,000 rehabilitation projects in Korea.

UNKRA's Community Development Program is a voluntary effort of another kind, based on community teamwork and initiative. After villagers get together to discuss and start work on needed improvements in their own communities, UNKRA assists by making available necessary equipment and skilled technicians. By mid-1955, some 440 projects had been completed, to the benefit of more than 96,000 families.



AMERICAN SOLDIERS, volunteering their services under the AFAK program, build a community center for a Korean village with materials furnished by the U. S. Government.



USING AFAK MATERIALS, ROK AND U. S. SOLDIERS BUILD A PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY, A TROOP-SPONSORED VOLUNTEER PROJECT, ACROSS THE HAN RIVER



KOREAN VILLAGERS CONSTRUCT A WATER-STORAGE BASIN, A VOLUNTEER PROJECT UNDERTAKEN UNDER UNKRA'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

Everywhere, people were at work rebuilding a nation. With equipment and technical assistance furnished under UNKRA's Community Development Program, villagers were building roads, sewers, and irrigation systems to improve their own communities. Soldiers, who yesterday had fought the aggressor, today were erecting bridges, orphanages, schools, churches, hospitals, under their own voluntary program—Armed Forces Assistance to Korea, better known as "AFAK."

PROGRESS IS MADE: FORESTS AND FISHERIES

During the war, South Korean forests were rapidly denuded, mostly by indiscriminate cutting of trees for fuel. Results: widespread erosion and shortages of wood for fuel and construction.

To rebuild forest reserves, UNKRA spent \$150,000 to equip experimental stations, expand the tree planting program, and supply trucks, bicycles, and surveying equipment for the administration of forest areas. In 1954-56, the U. S. added \$700,000 for further forest development.

To restore South Korea's war-devastated fishing industry, which produces four-fifths of Korea's protein food, UNKRA spent \$2 million to build and equip new boats and rehabilitate ice plants, canneries, and fish markets. Under this program, 172 boats have been built and more than a thousand others repaired. The U. S. allocated an additional \$2.2 million in 1954-56 for the expansion of the fishing industry.

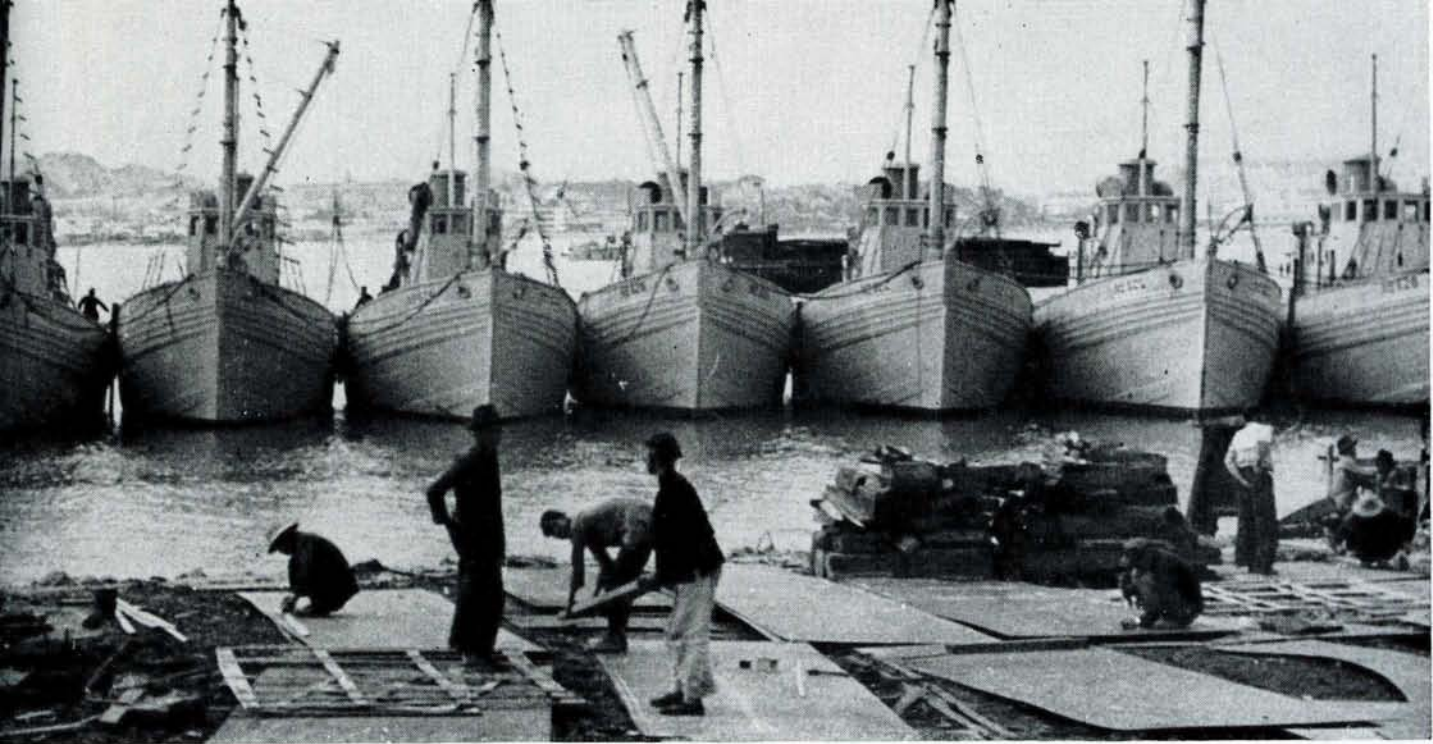
To further explore ROK mineral resources, UNKRA allocated \$6 million for mining projects in addition to coal mining, including a placer drilling survey and building a school of metal mining.



THESE NEW 77-TON TRAWLERS, BUILT IN HONG KONG BY UNKRA FOR THE ROK, WILL PER



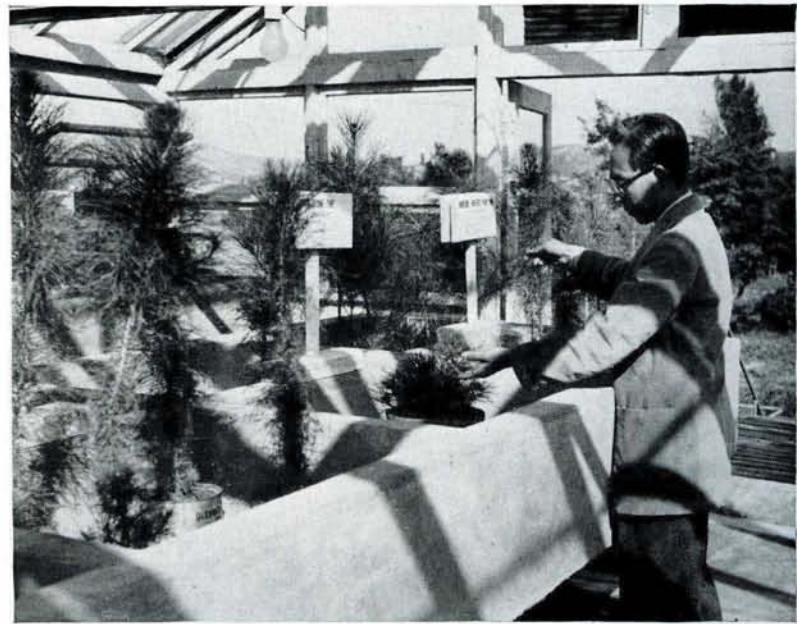
TO DEVELOP MINERAL MINING, UNKRA BUILT A RESEARCH LABORATORY AT TAEJON TO TEST ORE SAMPLES AND TO ASSAY NEW MINERAL DISCOVERIES.



KOREAN FISHERMEN TO EXTEND THEIR OPERATIONS MORE THAN A THOUSAND MILES OFFSHORE. FISHING IS ONE OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE INDUSTRIES.



ANKRA PROMOTED PEAT PRODUCTION AS A NEW SOURCE OF FUEL.



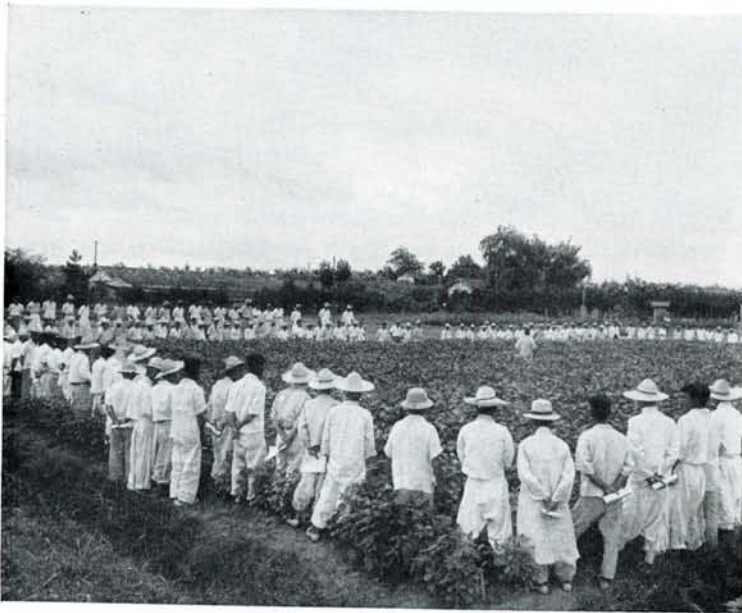
IT FINANCED FOREST RESEARCH TO REPLACE THE MANY TREES DESTROYED BY WAR.

The free world's helping hand reached into field and forest to save a nation's wooded resources. It went underground and into the laboratory to tap new sources of mineral wealth. It went into the shipyards to build sturdy new fishing boats that would bring in bountiful food from the sea.

THE POSTWAR PROGRAM IN AGRICULTURE

Since Korea is primarily agricultural, with 70 per cent of the population deriving its income from farming, the major postwar task was to restore farm production. From 1953-56, the U. S. gave \$2 million for agricultural research and extension work, \$7.9 million for irrigation, flood control, and land reclamation, and \$4.4 million for crop and livestock development including \$3 million for grain and rural warehouse construction. In 1953-56, an average of \$40 million annually in U. S. aid was used to purchase fertilizers.

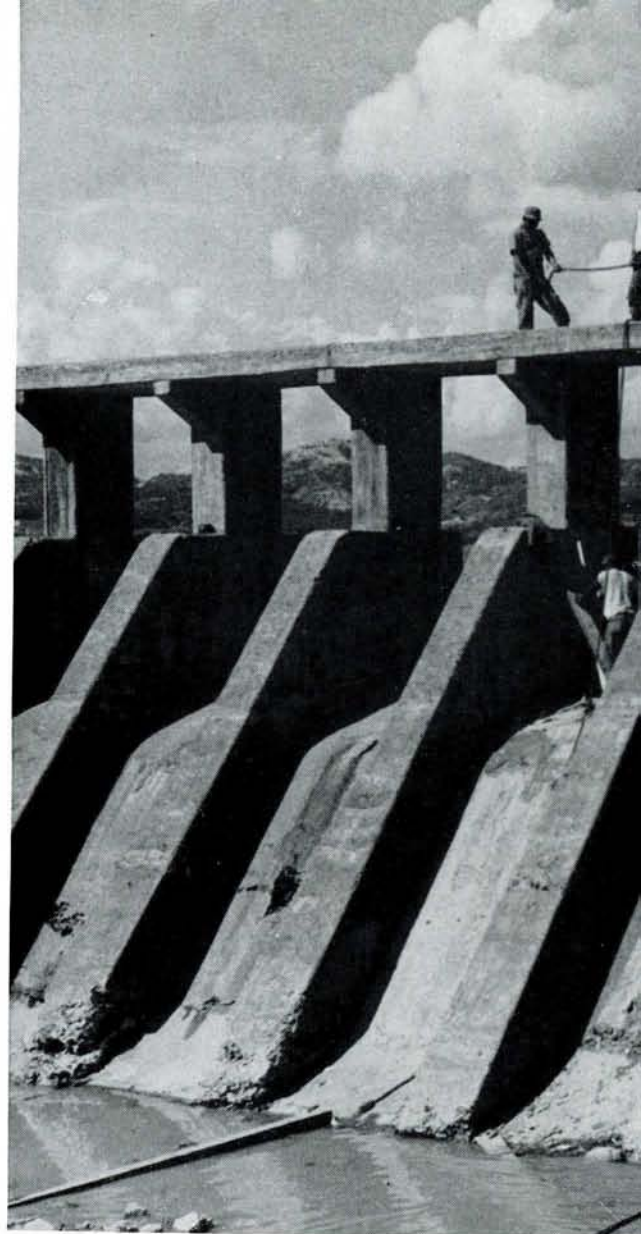
In the field of irrigation UNKRA completed 136 projects, bringing 115,000 acres of land under full irrigation. A U. S. program will add another 400,000 acres. By the end of 1956, it is anticipated that 56 per cent of all rice-paddy land will be under controlled irrigation.



ROK FARMERS ATTEND DEMONSTRATION BY U. S. EXPERTS IN USE OF PESTICIDES.



MODERN METHODS in care of animals were taught Korean farmers by KCAC. Here, a group of cattle raisers learns how to inoculate a cow.



THIS DAM BUILT BY AFAK (ARMED FORCES ASSISTANCE TO KOREA)



MODEL FARM in Kyongsang-pukto, financed by U. S., attended by farmers studying better ways of tending rice seed beds



VOLUNTEERS IS ONE OF MANY U. S.-AIDED RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THAT WILL PROVIDE WATER TO IRRIGATE THE REPUBLIC'S RICE-GROWING VALLEYS.

A helping hand went to the farm and there, in a land primarily agricultural, did its most important work: Revitalizing the soil; building dams, dikes, and canals to irrigate and protect the fields; introducing new farming methods to increase the yields of rice—Korea's basic food—and other crops, and make livestock healthier and more plentiful.

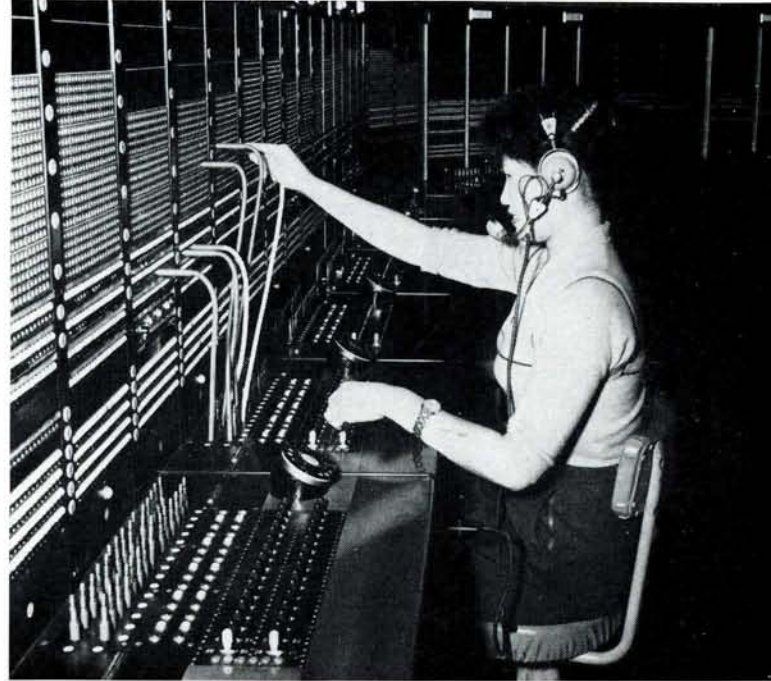
SUCCESSFULLY LINKING THE ECONOMY TOGETHER

As the UN drove the enemy from South Korea, U. S. Army technicians began rehabilitating the war-shattered ROK transportation and communications systems. Bridges, ports, railroads were repaired, first on a temporary, then on a permanent basis. The U. S. Army brought in railway rolling stock, trucks, and barges.

Today transportation is no longer a bottleneck. During 1954-56, the U. S. allocated more than \$100 million for the purchase of steel and other materials for railway repair, construction and operation, including signal and communications equipment. Aid money bought 156 passenger cars, 3,225 freight cars, 45 locomotives, and thousands of tons of coal. In addition, the U. S. contributed \$7.6 million for highway repair and construction, and \$20 million to restore harbor facilities and to purchase fishing and coastal cargo vessels, and 132 marine service craft.

UNKRA spent \$6.5 million rebuilding piers, warehouses, and navigation aids. UNKRA also joined with the U. S. to construct a ROK merchant marine academy and provided a 2400-horsepower harbor dredge.

In 1954-56, under programs totalling \$15.5 million, the U. S. began work on a modern civil aviation communications network, a series of radio installations to aid maritime operations, and a program to develop the ROK telephone and telegraph systems.



SWITCHBOARD PURCHASED WITH U. S. AID FUNDS GOES INTO SERVICE AT TAEJON



PARTIAL SHIPMENT OF 574 TRUCKS IMPORTED BY UNKRA IS UNLOADED ON PUSAN DOCKS. TRUCKS RANGED FROM ONE TO FIVE TONS IN CAPACITY



AN UNKRA COAL MINING CONSULTANT DEMONSTRATES THE OPERATION OF A MODERN JACKHAMMER TO A GROUP OF KOREAN MINERS AT EUNSONG.

Soon, the whole economy was expanding, and more and more complex equipment began to arrive, devices that would knit together the elements of a modern economy and make them run smoothly. A people lacking technical knowledge began to learn how to build a strong and prosperous nation.

PROGRAM FOR SOLVING INFLATION AND SHORTAGES

Like most nations, South Korea lacks many commodities vital to its economy. The Republic does not produce such things as cotton for its textile mills or oil to operate its factories and railroads. These commodities must be imported. But because Korea's export earnings are low, it has no foreign exchange with which to buy these essential commodities. It is for this reason that they must be supplied, along with machinery and other capital goods, under the UN and U. S. aid programs.

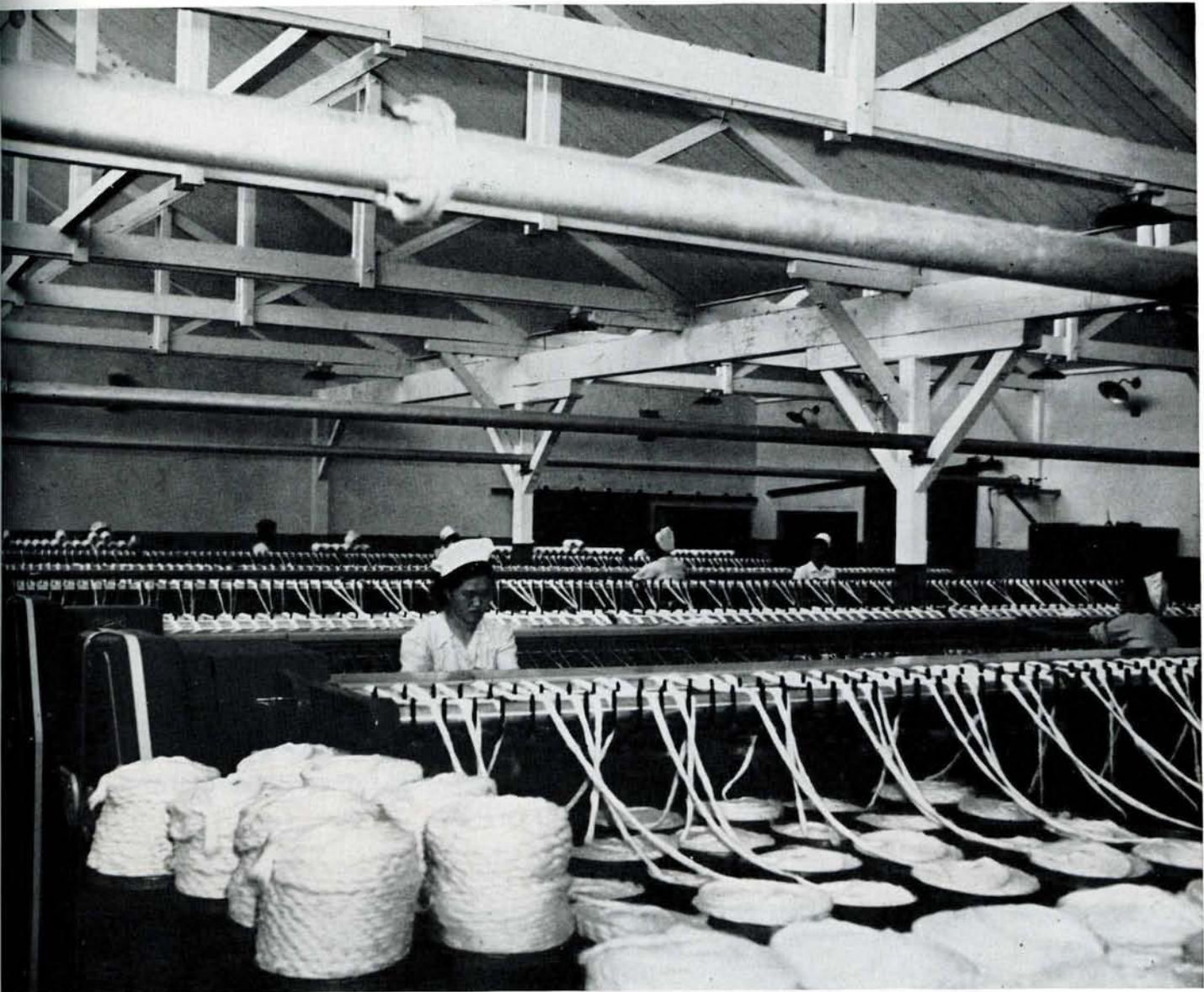
Between 1953 and 1956, about \$450 million in items such as cotton, oil, and spare machine parts were sold in Korea on the open market by the U. S. for Korean currency. The U. S. used the currency from these sales to buy locally produced materials, services, and labor to build warehouses, ports, mills, and industrial plants for the Koreans. This system not only resulted in the construction of vital facilities, but also helped combat inflation by increasing the amount of commodities in short supply.



SMALL INDUSTRIES in the ROK are resuming production with the help of loans from UNKRA. Here, business owners show some newly assembled bicycles.



UNTIL THE REPUBLIC COULD RAISE ENOUGH FOOD ITSELF, U. S. SUPPLIED \$100 MILLION IN GRAINS AND OTHER VITAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.



AIDED BY U. S. COTTON AND \$2,800,000 FROM UNKRA, ROK MILLS MADE 12 MILLION SQUARE YARDS OF CLOTH IN 1955, DOUBLING 1949 OUTPUT.

The problems are many but the dynamic process that is reconstruction is guided by this steadfast purpose: To make the farms and factories of the Republic of Korea more and more productive, capable of building a self-supporting economy which can provide for the wants of all the people. The progress made thus far is impressive and encouraging.

FULFILLING NEED FOR HOMES

One of the Republic's most urgent problems is housing. Tied to it is another problem: The resettlement of 4 million persons.

The U. S., UNKRA, and the ROK Government worked together to return displaced persons and refugees to their own homes or place them on new land and in permanent dwellings. In a single year, 1952, more than 200,000 farm families were returned home or settled in rural communities on land provided by local authorities. In 1954-56, another 250,000 people were resettled with U. S. funds.

Since 1950, an estimated 500,000 rural and urban dwelling units have been constructed with U. S.-supplied building materials. Present U. S. aid emphasis is on development of a building materials manufacturing industry making maximum use of local resources.

By the end of 1956, UNKRA will have spent \$5 million assisting the ROK government in a long-range national housing program. UNKRA imported lumber, nails, and special construction equipment for the construction of 6,800 housing units.



MILLIONS OF ESCAPEES FROM THE COMMUNIST NORTH VASTLY COMPLICATED THE REPUBLIC'S SERIOUS



KOREAN WORKERS OPERATE ONE OF 100 UNKRA EARTHBLOCKING MACHINES.



THE BLOCKS, MADE OF EARTH AND CEMENT, MAKE HOMES LIKE THIS.



HOUSING PROBLEM. THE U. S. FURNISHED THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS FOR THIS REFUGEE HOUSING PROJECT BEING BUILT AT SHIN CHON.

Of the many serious problems facing the Republic, none is more pressing than that of providing shelter for the millions of Koreans whose homes were destroyed as a result of the communist attack. By providing such building materials as lumber and cement, both not now available in the Republic of Korea, the free world is helping the Republic construct new homes for its people as rapidly as possible.

A HELPING HAND FOR KOREAN EDUCATION

From September 1951 to February 1954, about 12 per cent of all building materials imported for the civilian economy, including 13 million board feet of lumber, went into school construction. In 1956, the U. S. provided \$1.3 million for more construction.

Under a \$10 million program, UNKRA imported materials for 3,500 classrooms, furnished 300,000 primers for elementary schools, and restocked 8 college libraries with more than 30,000 volumes.

During 1953-56, the U. S. gave \$5.4 million for equipment and technical assistance to Korean higher education, mostly for Seoul National University, in fields of agriculture, engineering, medicine, and nursing. The U. S. obtained internships for graduating doctors, arranged foreign scholarships for Korean scholars, and training for nurses.

As of July 1956, AFAK had completed more than 3,190 construction projects, among them 915 schools.

UNKRA equipped 3 vocational training centers in Seoul, Pusan, and Taejon and supplied 7 secondary vocational schools with \$1 million worth of engineering equipment and \$500,000 worth of building materials to build school shops. Beginning with 1956, U. S. contributed about \$1 million for building, equipping, and staffing vocational schools.



TEEN-AGERS in the schoolyard of the Chung Wha Middle and High School for girls. This modern school is a U. S.-financed Armed Forces Assistance to Korea project.



AT TONGNAE National Rehabilitation Center, sponsored by UNKRA and the American-Korean Foundation, amputees learn new skills.



A NEW UNKRA textbook plant can produce 30 million textbooks a year, enough to meet the needs of ROK elementary schools.



IN 1956 THE U. S. SET ASIDE \$1 MILLION TO CONSTRUCT CLASSROOMS FOR EAGER CHILDREN LIKE THESE WHO LACK ADEQUATE SCHOOL FACILITIES.

During the war, ROK school teachers asked, “What shall we do for books?” They were told, “Teach from life.” And education went on—often in roofless classrooms, often within sound of guns. Today, more and more new facilities are abuilding—to replace those destroyed during the war, and to help the Republic meet the continually growing educational needs of a people eagerly searching for knowledge and progress.



UNKRA REBUILT AND EQUIPPED TAEGU MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, BROUGHT IN TOP MEDICAL MEN TO LECTURE TO TEACHING STA

Not long ago, as they surveyed the terrible wreckage of the war, many found it impossible to imagine that anything remained that would be useful in the building of a modern nation. The Korean people themselves have supplied the answer. They



ORPHANAGES CARE FOR OVER 50,000 CHILDREN.

THE PROGRAM IN PUBLIC WELFARE

From 1953 to 1955, the U. S. rehabilitated 100 hospitals with a 12,000 bed capacity; 200 dispensaries, public health centers, and laboratories; and 8 leproseries with a total capacity of 10,000 patients. In 1956, the continuing U. S. construction program provided for a 500-bed tuberculosis hospital, a 500-bed mental hospital, a national blood bank, 16 provincial health centers and public dispensaries, and 3 provincial hospitals.

By Sept. 1956, AFAK had built 222 orphanages, 242 churches, 293 public health facilities, and 368 community buildings.

Some 60 private voluntary agencies are also operating in the fields of institutional and medical care, education, and direct relief.

UNKRA has allotted about \$500,000 for child welfare and additional orphanages, and is equipping 26 workshops where many of the 500,000 widows with dependent children are being trained to become self-supporting.

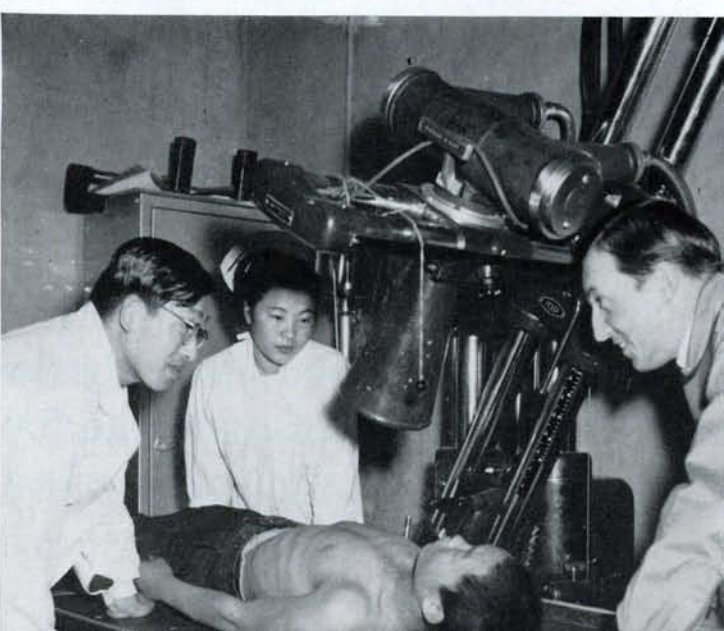
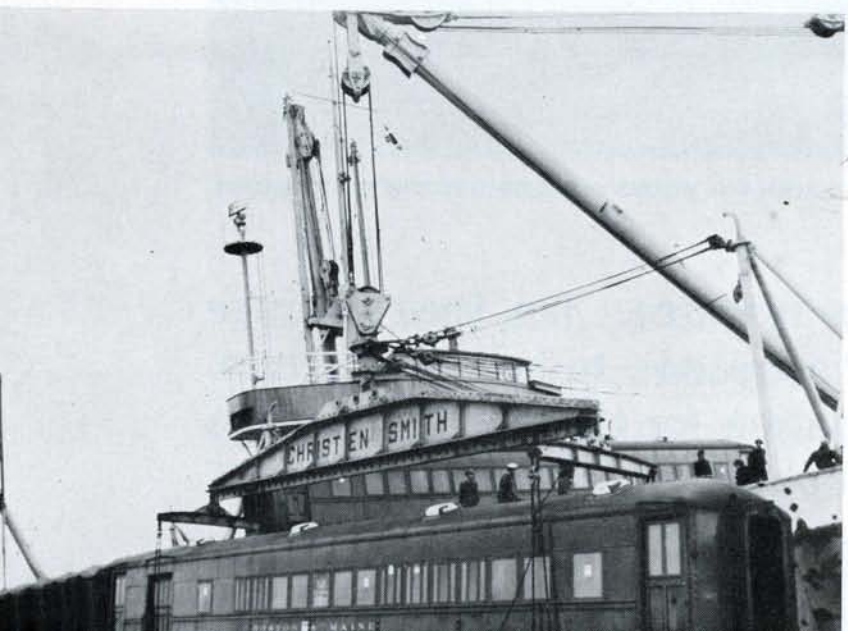
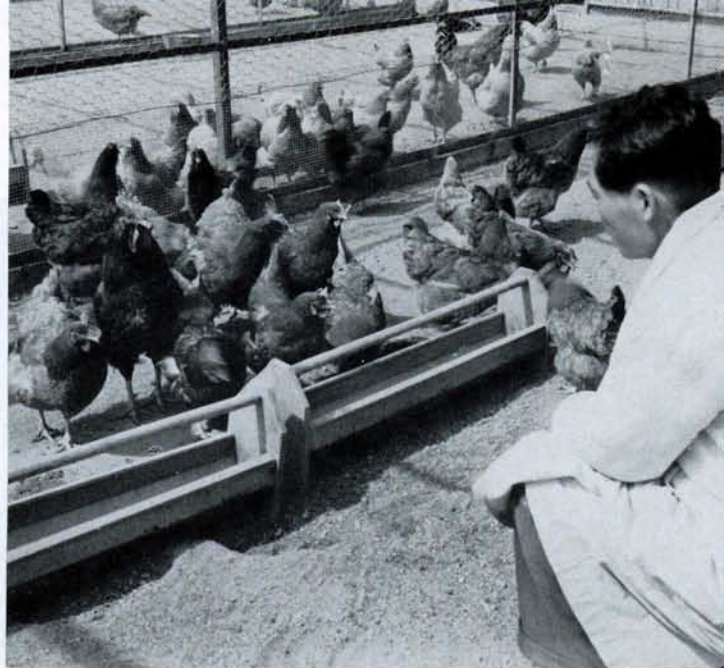


SEMI-PROFESSIONAL NURSES WILL STAFF THE HOSPITALS REBUILT BY U. S. AND AFAK.



UNKRA TEACHES WAR WIDOWS NEW SKILLS TO BECOME SELF-SUPPORTING.

are the Republic's most precious resource. On their courage and determination—already demonstrated—to help themselves, the free world is laying the foundation for those many services essential to the well-being of a people.



In industrial centers, consumer-goods factories that once lay in ruins are now working at capacity. In rice fields once devastated by war, bumper crops are being harvested. Rehabilitated coal mines are exceeding production targets by thousands of tons. Electric power output has risen 24 per cent.

Many of the capital construction projects that will ultimately have the greatest impact on the nation's economy will take years to complete.

But in time, the Republic of Korea will have water supply systems for 57 cities, and steam power plants that will double the nation's present electric power output. It will have new fertilizer plants and grain warehouses, new ports, harbors, railroads, rolling stock, and highways, and new industrial plants that will raise productive output many times.



Koreans have shown the courage and determination to keep their country free. In so doing, they served and are serving the interests of the entire community of free nations. It could be said, therefore, that the free world's aid to Korea is motivated by self-interest. And in an important sense this is true.



But in a larger sense, the free world's action in Korea is more than an exercise in economic or political necessities. It offers impressive evidence of a new and almost universal awareness that all free nations are members of one family in which the distress of one becomes the concern of all.





The free nations joined together to defeat the communist invasion of the Republic of Korea. They undertook a common effort to erase the ravages of the war and help the Koreans rebuild their lives. Both were historic steps. And in taking them, the free world demonstrated a respect for human dignity, a sense of world responsibility which must now guide all nations and all people if mankind is to meet the pressing challenges of this age.

SUMMARY.—Since June 1950, hundreds of millions of dollars in aid has been made available by the free peoples of the world for relief and reconstruction in Korea. Altogether, 49 nations, more than 60 non-governmental organizations, and untold numbers of individuals from all walks of life have contributed to this effort to rebuild a nation violated by communist aggression.

In this fight to preserve freedom, the people of the Republic of Korea have made the major contribution, in sacrifice and in suffering, in employing with skill and determination the human and natural resources available to them.

However, it has been the combined efforts of the Republic of Korea, the United Nations, the United States, and the voluntary agencies, working toward common goals, that have enabled the Republic to survive and to start rebuilding for a future of peace.

Voluntary agencies have been important channels of aid. With donations of food, clothing, medicines, books, and money from people all over the free world, the voluntary groups not only have assisted UN and U. S. efforts, but have also carried on numerous aid projects of their own in Korea.

For its part the United States has been contributing economic aid to the Korean people since the end of World War II. Between 1945 and mid-1950, the U. S. Government spent some \$400 million to keep the Korean people from starving and their economy from collapsing. Then from 1950 to 1956, the United States contributed more than \$1,000 million additional in order to restore and surpass the economic position attained in the ROK when the communists launched their invasion.

Before the armistice in July 1953, the aid program was carried out mainly by the UN Civil Assistance Command Korea (UNCACK), its successor the Korea Civil Assistance Command (KCAC), and the UN Korea Reconstruction Agency (UNKRA).

To guarantee the most effective use of resources made available under the various assistance programs, the following organizational procedure was adopted in August 1953:

1. The Commander-in-Chief UN Command (CINCUNC) continued to be responsible for over-all supervision of an integrated program of aid as a basis for Korea relief, reconstruction, and economic stabilization.

2. A civilian Economic Coordinator was appointed to the staff of CINCUNC. His office, the Office of Economic Coordinator (OEC), was made responsible for ensuring that the total program, financed from whatever source, was coordinated with ROK resources to achieve the greatest possible degree of economic recovery for the money expended.

3. A new U. S. worldwide agency, the Foreign Operations Administration (FOA), later the International Cooperation Administration (ICA), was designated the U. S. aid agency of principal interest in Korea.

4. UNKRA was charged with long-term reconstruction of power, mining, and industrial facilities, land reclamation, fisheries, education, and housing. On November 25, 1955, UNKRA and OEC agreed that UNKRA would retain responsibility for projects begun under its 1953-55 programs. OEC, on the other hand, assumed responsibility for additional or supplemental projects.

5. KCAC's area of responsibility was in the general field of health, relief and welfare, public works, forestry, irrigation, and flood control (the latter three were transferred from UNKRA to KCAC in February 1955), farm production, and the provision of food and other essential civilian requirements, transportation, and communications. During 1955, KCAC's functions were gradually assimilated into OEC. On November 30, 1955, KCAC ceased to exist.

6. The main forum of coordination between the aid agencies and the ROK Government was the Combined Economic Board

(CEB), which reviewed over-all requirements of the Korean economy. Its objective was to reach mutual agreement on program goals, policies, procedures, and other matters of bilateral concern.

The troop-sponsored Armed Forces Assistance Program for Korea (AFAK) was carried on under the direction of the U. S. Eighth Army.

The following governments are listed in the UNKRA report of 1955 as contributors to UNKRA or emergency relief in Korea:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Republic of China, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The Vatican, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

Offers of material aid made by Iran, Nicaragua, and Turkey could not be accepted owing to shipping difficulties.

The Agent General of UNKRA made use from time to time of the advice and technical assistance of the UN and its specialized agencies, such as World Health Organization, Food and Agricultural Organization, and International Labor Organization. These agencies undertook many specific tasks at the request of the Agent General, either at their own expense or with funds made available by UNKRA.

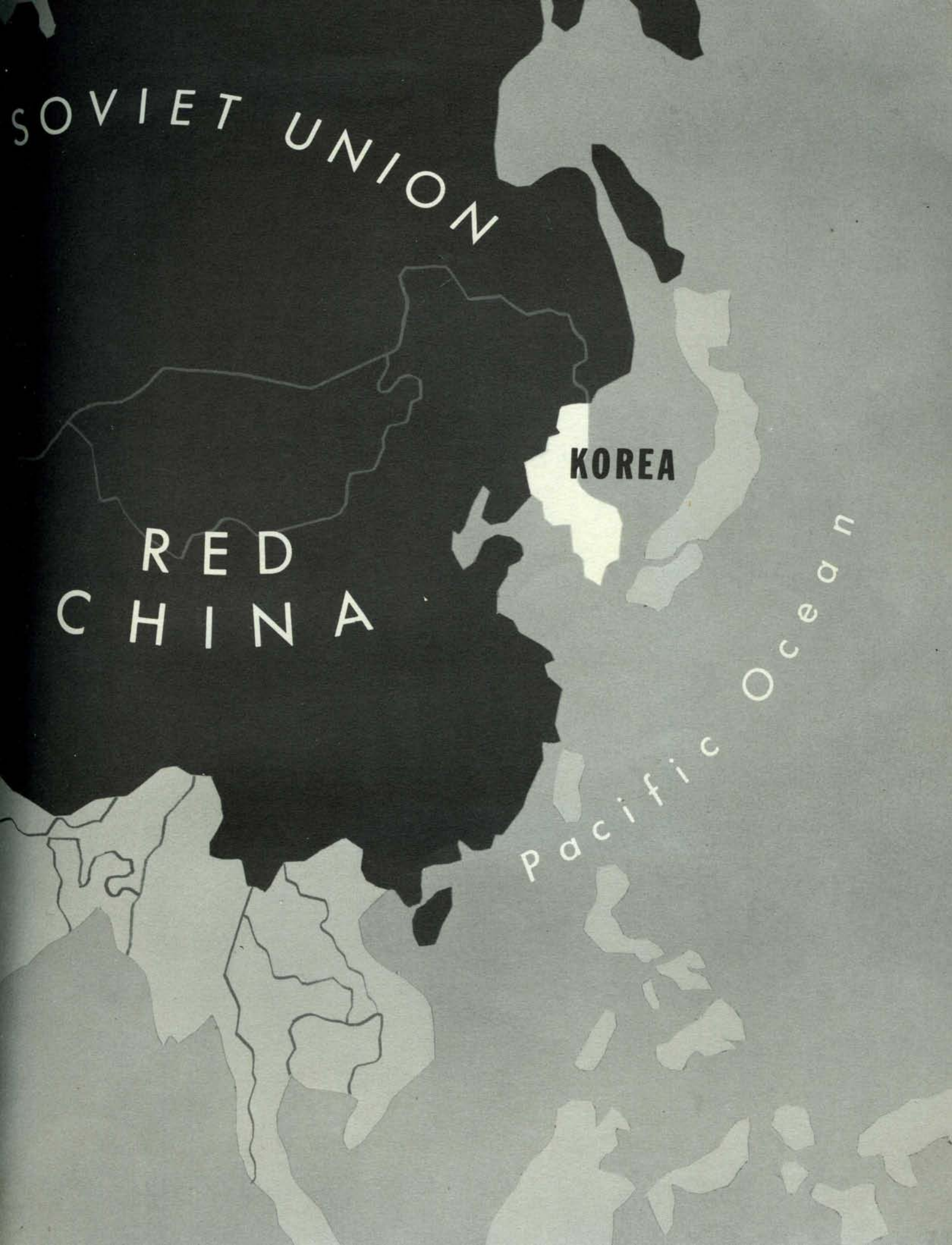
Voluntary agencies participated directly or indirectly in the relief and reconstruction program. To ensure maximum benefits from this voluntary aid, which approximated \$75 million, all proposed projects were considered jointly by representatives of UNKRA, the ROK Ministries of Health, Social Affairs, and Education, KCAC, and the Korea Association of Voluntary Agencies. The latter, a council of international voluntary agency representatives in Korea, met monthly to discuss matters of mutual concern, exchange information and experiences, and plan joint action to achieve the maximum effectiveness of their programs. All voluntary aid operations were coordinated with OEC.

The following voluntary agencies are listed in the 1955 reports of UNKRA, the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid of the U. S. Foreign Operations Administration (now the International Cooperation Administration), and the Korea Association of Voluntary Agencies, as active participants in relief and rehabilitation work in Korea:

Adopt a Family Plan—American Friends Service Committee—American Korean Foundation—Asia Foundation—Assemblies of God Mission—Australian Presbyterian Mission—Baptist Bible Fellowship—Benedictine Fathers—Brethren Service Commission—Catholic Committee of Korea—Christian Children's Fund—Christian Literature Society of Korea—Church of Christ Mission—Church of the Nazarene Mission—Church World Service—Columbian Fathers—Committee for Free Asia—Cooperative for American Remittances to Everywhere, Inc. (CARE)—English Church Mission—Foster Parent's Plan for War Children—French Catholic Mission—Friends Service Unit—Friendship Among Children and Youth Around the World, Inc.—General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists—German Red Cross—Heifer Project Committee—Houses for Korea—Korea Christian Mission—Korea Church World Service—Korea Gospel Mission—Korean Evangelical Movement—League of Red Cross Societies—Lutheran World Relief—Magnet Foundation—Maryknoll Fathers—Maryknoll Sisters—Meals for Millions—Mennonite Central Committee—Methodist Mission—New Zealand Council for Relief Services Overseas—Oriental Missionary Society—Orient Crusades (Youth of Christ)—Pocket Testament League—Presbyterian Mission—Salesian Fathers—Salvation Army—Save the Children Federation—Save the Children Foundation—Save the Children Fund—Seventh Day Adventist Mission—Southern Baptist Mission—The Evangelical Alliance Movement—Unitarian Service Committee—United Church of Canada Mission—Universal Mission—War Relief Services of National Catholic Welfare Conference—World University Service—World Vision—Young Men's Christian Association—Young Women's Christian Association.

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