KOREA

1. North Koreans launching supreme effort to drive out UN forces--
The invaders are massing all available manpower and equipment
along the entire front in what may be their supreme effort to drive
the UN forces into the sea before US reinforcements can arrive
to redress the present North Korean superiority in troops and
armored equipment. The North Koreans are continuing their
unopposed drive through southwestern Korea, with an enemy
force in regimental strength reported to be in the coastal city
of Mokpo. Along the front from Taejon to the east, the enemy
continues to mass troops and materiel and to increase pressure
against US and South Korean positions. Two new North Korean
divisions have been identified in the central sector, which, com-
bined with the shifting of the combat-wise North Korean First
Division, indicates preparations for a major push south toward
Taegu and Kumchon. Enemy troops south of Yongdok on the
east coast were pushed back one mile by US-South Korean forces,
but the situation remains serious. Aircraft of the US Seventh
Fleet are striking at enemy troops in southwest Korea.

Reports from refugees indicate that Seoul, the former South
Korean capital, is suffering from inflation and a rice famine, with
rice prices there ranging from 7 to 11 times the levels prevailing
in Pusan and Taegu. On the third day of enemy occupation, author-
ities confiscated all rice found during a house-to-house search and
the people in Seoul have been without rice since that time.

2.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 17-Feb-2010