

A. JAPAN - SOUTH KOREA. — Signing of Treaty on Basic Relations. - Ratification by South Korea after Opposition Boycott. - Anti-Treaty Riots and Demonstrations in South Korea.

The treaty on basic relations between Japan and South Korea [see 20662 A], settling all issues between the two countries after a lapse of 55 years and establishing diplomatic relations between them, was signed in Tokio on June 22 after 14 years of intermittent negotiations. The signatories were the Japanese and South Korean Foreign Ministers, respectively Mr. Etsusaburo Shiina and Dr. Tong Won Lee, and the two principal negotiators, Mr. Shinichi Takasugi on the Japanese side and Mr. Dong Jo Kim on the Korean side.

The treaty normalized relations between the two countries for the first time since 1910. [Korea was annexed to the Japanese Empire in that year and remained a Japanese colony until the end of the Second World War in 1945.] It consisted of seven Articles, with the following provisions:

Article 1. Diplomatic relations would be established between Japan and the Republic of Korea [South Korea], who would exchange envoys with ambassadorial status. Consulates would also be established at locations to be agreed upon by the two Governments.

Article 2 confirmed that "all treaties or agreements concluded between the Empire of Japan and the Empire of Korea on or before August 22, 1910, are null and void." [Korea was annexed by Japan on that date.]

Article 3 confirmed that "the Government of the Republic of Korea is the only lawful government of Korea," as proclaimed by resolution of the U.N. General Assembly in 1948.

Article 4 (a) Japan and the Republic of Korea would be guided in their mutual relations by the principles of the U.N. Charter; **(b)** they would co-operate "in promoting their mutual welfare and common interests."

Article 5. Both countries would "enter into agreements at the earliest practicable date for the conclusion of treaties or agreements to place their trading, maritime, and other commercial relations on a stable and friendly basis."

Article 6. The two countries would conclude a civil air transport agreement at the earliest practicable date.

Article 7. The treaty would be ratified [by the national legislatures of both countries]; instruments of ratification would be exchanged in Seoul as soon as possible; and the treaty would enter into force on the date of exchange of ratification instruments.

[The treaty was drawn up in the Japanese, Korean, and English languages; it stated that the English text would prevail in case of any divergence of interpretation.]

In addition to the treaty on basic relations, the two countries also signed a number of agreements, the most important of which were an economic agreement; a fisheries agreement; and an agreement on the status of Korean residents in Japan.

Economic Agreement. This provided that Japan would make a total sum of \$800,000,000 available to South Korea in assistance and long-term loans, viz.: (a) an outright grant of \$300,000,000 in goods and services; (b) a \$200,000,000 loan to be repaid over 20 years at 3½ per cent interest; and (c) \$300,000,000 in private credits over 10 years from Japanese banks and financial institutions.

Fisheries Agreement. Each country received exclusive offshore fishing rights within 12-mile limits drawn from base lines. Provision was made for joint fishing operations outside these limits up to a catch of 150,000 tons a year for each of five years. An intermediate zone was banned to fishing vessels of both sides.

[The agreement made no mention of the so-called "Rhee line," which had been a subject of controversy between Japan and South Korea throughout the 1950's and had greatly strained relations between both countries during that period—see 17391 A.]

Korean Residents in Japan. Koreans who had lived in Japan since before the end of World War II could claim permanent residence rights and equal status with Japanese in admission to schools and in qualification for social benefits. The same privileges were extended to their lineal descendants born between the end of the war and a date five years after the treaty on basic relations came into force, and to their children. [There are about 570,000 Koreans living in Japan.]

Despite violent demonstrations against the treaty by tens of thousands of Korean students, hundreds of university professors, and the Opposition *Minjung* (Popular) Party, the South Korean National Assembly ratified it on Aug. 14 in the absence of the 62 *Minjung* deputies, who boycotted the parliamentary session after announcing their intention of opposing the treaty by all means in their power. Opponents of the Government alleged that President Pak Chung Hi and his regime, by signing the treaty, had in effect opened the door to Japanese economic domination of South Korea. The following comment was brought by the *New York Times*:

"Critics . . . charge that the Pak regime made 'humiliating' concessions to Japan that are tantamount to a 'sellout.' They

also contend that the treaty would invite the resurgence of Japanese dominance over South Korea, especially in the economic field.

"Almost all South Koreans, including Opposition politicians are agreed on the need for restoring normal relations with Japan as soon as possible. But the objections stem largely from deep rooted distrust of the Japanese as well as a lack of confidence in President Pak's Government. Opponents of the treaty have charged that the Government is so corrupt that it would be unable to check 'economic aggression' by Japan and that Japanese aid money would help only a handful of privileged businessmen. . . ."

"The [anti-treaty] campaign has been joined by groups of students, professors, Christians, retired generals, and writers, who formed a unified council for action. . . ."

Prior to the treaty's ratification by the unicameral South Korean National Assembly, widespread anti-treaty riots had occurred in Seoul and many provincial cities, and violent scenes in the National Assembly itself.

An anti-treaty demonstration in Seoul on June 23 by some 8,000 students and many Opposition leaders was broken up by the police with clubs and tear-gas, 573 students being arrested and 44 policemen injured. Scores of rioting students were injured and another 341 arrested in further anti-treaty riots on June 24. Violent scenes occurred in the National Assembly on July 14 when Government and Opposition deputies came to blows in discussing procedures for the treaty's ratification; the session was suspended several times after much punching and kicking. On July 21 a 63-year-old politician, Mr. Huh Jik—a leader of the Autumn Breeze Society (a minor party)—set fire to himself on the steps of the National Assembly as a protest against the treaty. Igniting his jacket with a cigarette lighter after squashing a vinyl sack containing petrol, he burned himself critically before Assembly guards rushed out to him and put the flames out with a fire extinguisher. More than 350 professors from 17 universities and colleges in Seoul and Taegu held a rally on July 12 at which the treaty was denounced as paving the way for Japanese economic domination of South Korea.

As stated above, the 62 deputies of the *Minjung* Party boycotted the National Assembly's session of Aug. 14 at which the treaty was ratified, the voting being 110 (the ruling Democratic Republic Party) to nil, with one abstention. The *Minjung* Party, led by Mrs. Pak Soon Chun, had demanded the dissolution of the National Assembly and the election of a new one to reconsider the treaty with Japan, which they described as "null and void." Further violent anti-treaty demonstrations occurred in Seoul and many provincial cities during the last week of August, in which troops went into action against thousands of rioting students.

For three consecutive days (Aug. 23-25) over 10,000 university and high school students staged mass demonstrations in Seoul, Chongju, Kwangju, Osan, and other cities calling for the annulment of the treaty and the overthrow of the Government. Over 800 arrests were made, nearly 100 policemen and many students injured, and pitched battles fought between students using bricks and stones and police with clubs and tear-gas. Particularly violent incidents occurred on Aug. 25 when students stoned a convoy of Army lorries after a vehicle had knocked down and seriously injured a law student; in retaliation, troops broke into Seoul University, beat students with rifle-butts, hauled many away at gun point, smashed doors, windows, and laboratory equipment, and threw tear-gas grenades into the library and the women's hall.

Despite a broadcast warning by President Pak Chung Hi that the Government would take all necessary measures to "end once for all" the "evil habit of students interfering in politics," further violent rioting took place in Seoul on Aug. 26 in which troops and police fought thousands of rioting students, scores of whom were injured. Four retired generals who had criticized the Government's use of troops to suppress the student demonstrations were arrested on Aug. 29 in the course of a round-up in which many students were taken into custody.

An official statement was issued in Peking on June 29 saying that the People's Republic of China did not recognize the validity of the treaty between Japan and South Korea, which was described as "inspired by American imperialism, which aims only at accentuating the division between the two parts of Korea and bringing Japan and South Korea still more under its control."—(Japanese Embassy Press Office, London - Times - New York Times - Le Monde)

(Prev. rev. 20662 A)

B. JORDAN - SAUDI ARABIA. — Border Agreement.

An agreement demarcating Jordan's southern border with Saudi Arabia was signed on Aug. 10 in Amman, under which Jordan lengthened her coast down the Gulf of Aqaba by about four miles to 16 miles, while Saudi Arabia obtained in return some Jordanian territory between two Saudi villages further east. Altogether 579 square miles of territory were exchanged. (Times - Guardian)