

United States Blamed By Some for Failure to Sell South Koreans Democracy

By James E. Roper
United Press Correspondent
Washington, June 27—(U.P.)—Some American officials conceded today that the United States failed to sell democracy to numbers of South Koreans.

The reason for the early steps by the communist invaders against only token resistance are varied. But one factor, it is believed here, is that democracy in South Korea "never did" take effect.

Plenty of Warnings
There have been plenty of warnings. Last fall, the crew of a South Korean ship mutinied and took the vessel and two Americans to communist North Korea. Crews on other ships also have defected.

As recently as May 26, South Korean authorities arrested high army officers on charges of being communist sympathizers. Month after month, small numbers of South Korean soldiers "went north" to join the Reds. Reliability of the South Korean army was open to question. Guerilla bands harassed police in the south.

The United States used in South Korea the most intensive propaganda campaign it has tried anywhere. Motion pictures, posters and lectures reached every South Korean. Airplanes dropped news leaflets in remote areas.

U. S. Wrote Speeches
The United States manned the Seoul radio station and wrote

speeches for Koreans to read. It gave the South Koreans radio sets so they could listen. Then it gave away batteries to run the sets. The sets could receive only the American station.

But when the station tried to put on a sidewalk interview program, more than half the people interviewed showed suspicions about the Americans.

The Korean manager of an American billet spent two years talking to American officers—and then conceded privately that he thought the communists were right.

Those two incidents I observed in 1948.

Attributed to Japs
Americans attribute some of the Korean attitude to the Japanese who occupied Korea for 40 years before losing the last war.

The Japanese abused and exploited the Koreans. When the Americans moved in, much of the hatred for the Japanese was transferred to the Americans. Any foreigner was considered bad.

In the north, the Russians kept more in the background. In the south, Americans in flashy uniforms appeared to be everywhere. The people of Seoul were aware that the Americans ruled.

Many South Koreans, of course, accept democracy. This is particularly true of the Koreans who have been converted to Christianity. The United States will depend on these Christians to undermine communism.

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Duncan Sisters Captivate Audience; Deny Early Residence in Rogue Valley

The Duncan sisters, who maintain they grew up in California in spite of the fact that any number of Jackson county people are willing to swear otherwise, proved during their week-end appearances in the valley that their shows are still good, even if they have been doing practically the same routine for 30 years.

The sisters, Vivian and Rosetta, did a sketch from their famous "Topsy and Eva" act and a "Toreador" number, as well as songs from the '20's, in their show at the Rogue Valley country club Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

The hilarious Toreador number was good enough to bring applause but it was the old songs, the old timers like "Remembering" and "The Little Red Schoolhouse" with "I Never Had a Mammy" from the original "Topsy and Eva" that the audience really loved.

Started in 1923
Vivian would ask how many people in the audience were willing to admit that they had seen the original "Topsy and Eva" act, and each night several hands would go up. The act was introduced in San Francisco in 1923 and was a star theatrical routine for many years.

In an interview Vivian insisted that the four Duncan children were born in Los Angeles, and that the family went to San Francisco when she was about 12. She further insisted they had never lived in Jacksonville or Gold Hill as the story goes here.

At least one family of Medford and Jacksonville has followed the Duncan career closely, and the members of that family insist the Duncans lived on a ranch near Jacksonville and that the children went to both the Jacksonville and Oak Grove schools.

Played Here
"The Duncan sisters came back and played at the old Paige theater with the famed comedian, Raymond Hitchcock, in 1920," one of the localities recalled yesterday. "At that

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MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—NINE

time it was common knowledge that the girls at one time lived here. The show was a great hit, and the program lists them playing with Hitchcock who was the star. The program shows that the music and lyrics were written by Cole Porter.

"Later the sisters went to London, and the papers were full of their success over there, and our whole family followed their career. When the father died, the local papers stated that he had lived in Jackson county."

But whether they did or did not live here, the Duncans are still in show business and Vivian said while here that they are considering the idea of working up a circuit to supply entertainers for country clubs. The sisters have a theatrical school in Burlingame, and think the show circuit would serve a triple purpose; it would bring in a little money for young people trying to make their way up in the entertainment world, would serve as a training ground for them, and would also supply entertainment acts for the clubs.—O.S.

Dead line on Classified Ads: 5:30 p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Monday, noon Saturday for Sunday a.m.

81 YEARS OLD
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