

Germ War In Korea ?

Serious charges have been levelled against the American forces in Korea, that in addition to indiscriminate bombing and the use of such weapons as napalm (jellied petrol) they have resorted to GERM WARFARE.

If this is true, then the medical knowledge that man has acquired over centuries to save human life is to-day being used to spread agony and death.

The Australian Peace Council calls for a full and impartial enquiry into this very serious charge. Meanwhile, it is publishing this pamphlet to place before the public the evidence on which it bases its appeal.

Let us examine, first the charges and the evidence in support, secondly, the American defence and the replies to that defence, and, thirdly, the large amount of evidence showing that America had long prepared, and fully intended to use, this form of warfare.

WHAT THE ACCUSERS SAY

The Vice-President of the Chinese People's Republic, Dr. Kuo Mo-jo, on February 25th this year, accused the Americans of having, from January 28th onwards, "spread, by means of military aircraft, both at the front and behind the fighting lines, large quantities of insects carrying the germs of plague, cholera, typhus, and other contagious diseases."

On March 15th a commission including thirty of China's leading doctors and scientists, and representatives of a wide range of organisations including the Chinese Red Cross, began an investigation in Korea and in North East China, where the germ war attacks were also reported to have taken place. This commission examined in Korea alone 150 witnesses and 165 pieces of material evidence, took photographs of insects and containers, and films showing the work of the Epidemic Prevention and Inspection teams.

It reported: "On the basis of all this data and the results of the tests, the commission considers it conclusive that the United States Government used aircraft, shells and other methods to spread bacteria-laden insects and other infected objects in large quantities.

Disease germs of plague, cholera, typhoid, para-typhoid, and dysentery have been used."

EVIDENCE OF LAWYERS

On April 2nd a report on the germ war accusations was issued by a commission of lawyers from eight countries (appointed by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers) and headed by Prof. Brandweiner, Professor of International Law at the University of Graz, Austria.

This commission concluded: "By the deliberate dispersion of flies and other insects artificially infected with bacteria against the Korean People's Army and among the civilian population of North

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Korea, with the intention of spreading death and disease, a most grave and horrible crime has been perpetrated by United States forces in Korea contrary to the provisions of the Hague Convention concerning the law and customs of war on land, of 1907, and to the universally accepted law prohibiting bacteriological warfare which was restated in the Geneva Protocol of 1925."

It said, more specifically, "We have obtained evidence, which in our opinion is corroborated, that flies and other insects of a character hitherto unknown in Korea have been found in the last few weeks in many districts in circumstances (as to temperature, grouping, type of soil and other factors, and following the visit of circling U.S. aircraft in those districts and finding of the remainder of containers) which prove that these insects were deposited in groups or clusters from the air. Many of the insects have been found by experts to be infected with cholera, typhus, plague and other diseases. Outbreaks of cholera and plague have occurred within a few days of the finding of these insects and only in the immediate neighbourhood of such deposits."

OF A CANADIAN MISSIONARY

In the first week of April a visit was paid to the affected part of North East China by Dr. James Endicott, Canadian Methodist minister who was for 22 years a missionary in China and speaks and understands the Chinese language perfectly. (He has since returned to Canada.) He visited peasants' homes, inspected insects found and parts of bombs dropped, and consulted eminent Chinese doctors and men of science. He concluded that the evidence in support of the germ war charges was "unquestionable and overwhelming."

He said, "As I listened to the testimony of honest old farmers, children whose bright, observant eyes had spotted tiny, unknown types of flies, and to medical workers of all kinds who had carried out expert culturing and analysis, I became convinced of the truth of the accusations. . . I also visited the laboratories and met scientists who had been doing the research on bacteria—men like Dr. Li Pei-lin, a graduate of London University and a member of the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and Dr. C. M. Chu, formerly of Cambridge University and now a specialist in epidemic diseases.

"These men showed how, step by step, they had used every known device of science to test the presence of bacteria on the collected insects. I asked if insects ordinarily carried germs. They said 'yes,' but not in such quantities.

"Furthermore, all the huge numbers of insects appeared at a certain time (invariably after U.S. planes had been overhead) and out of season; all were infected and there were mosquitoes carrying typhoid when, it should be remembered, mosquitoes are not a natural host for typhoid germs."

Dr. Endicott tells how he personally saw and handled pieces of one of the bombs used. "I discovered in the head, covered by a steel plate, two large handfuls of dirty cotton soaked in a glycerine like substance. The Chinese doctors who were with me were horrified when they saw me handling this stuff, and immediately sterilised my hand."

Dr. Endicott testified that the Americans are not only dropping leaflet bombs, paper bags (often containing anthrax laden dressings), cotton balls, etc., but are SPRAYING bacteria including "the deadly botulinus toxin, a thousand times more deadly than cyanide of potassium," which "is being mixed with dust and in gelatine which melts with water."

OF U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR

Evidence has also been given by U.S. prisoners of war which is gravely disturbing.

Private First Class Darling P. Shipes, PA-14384491, Company G, the 179 Regiment, 45th Division, U.S. Army, testified that:

"On November 17, 1951, Saturday evening, on Market Street in Sapporo, Japan, I overheard some G.I.s of the 179 Infantry Regiment talking while waiting for a bus. One of the G.I.s said, 'I hear that we are having to go to Korea.' Another one said, 'Yes, but maybe we won't have to go if the Government gets the experiment worked out.' The first said, 'What kind of experiment and where did you hear this?' The second then said, 'I heard from another guy, that the Government are experimenting on some kind of bacteria to be used in the Korean war.'

"On December 2, 1951, Sunday, about 2.30 in Camp Crawford, we were marched to the medics and received some shots. We received six shots and only four shots were marked on our immunization sheet. Corporal Cleo L. Duncan and I asked why only four shots were marked. Then the medical officer of our battalion replied, 'Those two shots are unmarked for a special reason, which is a military secret.' That then reminded me of what I had heard at the Sapporo bus-stop. I think these two facts must evidently have something to do with the bacteria war which they are carrying out now.'

Private First Class Marvin Lester Brown, RA-18397178, Eighth Company, Third Battalion, Seventh Regiment, Third Division, U.S. Army, deposed:

"I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the American troops did use epidemic germ shells against the Communist forces in Korea. For I was told at my own line, hill 155, sometime in February, 1952, by Corporal Edward Barron of K Company, Third Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, that American 65th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, had used epidemic germ shells against the Communist troops in Korea. He then showed me a copy of newspaper with headlines something like 'American troops having 500 epidemic germ rounds for Chinese Reds' and '65th Regiment using epidemic germ artillery against the Communist forces in Korea effectively.'

"I also saw a U.S. Army newsreel twice about the use of U.S. epidemic germ shells. The first time I saw it was at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, sometime in April, 1951. The second time I saw it was at Camp Drake, Yokohama, Japan, sometime in July, 1951. The movie showed that the epidemic germ shells had flies inside, carrying epidemic germs. The movie also stated that the epidemic germ shells were effective and dangerous and should be used wisely."

The Melbourne Age of May 7th reports a broadcast over Peking radio by two men stated to be American airmen, Lieuts. Kenneth Enoch and John Quinn, shot down on January 13th at Anju. Lieut. Enoch was reported as saying, that at a highly secret U.S. airforce briefing he had been informed about the use of germ warfare. Officers had referred to bombs filled with infected insects as "duds." He said: "On the night of January 6, 1952, I flew with Captain Ennis, pilot, and Sergeant Casey, gunner. As usual, we flew a B26 type aircraft. We took off at 3 a.m. and at 4 a.m. on January 7, 1952, we dropped two germ bombs at Hwangju, North Korea, and returned to Kunsan at 5 a.m.

"We reported to group intelligence. We reported to the sergeant that we dropped two 'duds' at Hwangju. That was for secrecy."

Enoch allegedly added that four nights later his B26 dropped four "duds" at Tunghwa, North Korea.