

F. An Illustration : Kangwon Province

To place this abstracted version of provincial and gun planning and implementation in perspective, it is instructive to examine the detailed plans for a single province and gun within that province for 1981.

Kangwon Province is the mountainous area of northeast Korea, with three distinct climatic (and thus agricultural) zones. The slogan and goal of the province for 1981 is "to build the welfare of the rural areas through the green revolution." The policy for the province includes increasing rice yields and safeguarding production through dissemination of new agricultural techniques; spreading innovative cultivation techniques for upland crops; development of specialized production (sericulture, livestock, etc.), as well as cash crops; improving cooperative mechanized farming; expanding the Sae-maul Youth Movement; and making rural life more scientific.

The province is composed of 2,240 villages for which there are 664 rural guidance workers and 27 researchers. There are 119,167 farm households in the province, or 32 percent of the total provincial households, with a population of 614, 343. About 91,157 (63 percent) of farmland is in paddy, and 56,630 hectares in upland (non-irrigated). The majority of the budget for the Provincial Office of Rural Development is derived from the province itself (51 percent), with 46 percent from the national account and an additional 3 percent from the sale of crop production by the office itself. Although rice hectarage has essentially remained constant since 1977, per hectare production has varied from 4.41 metric tons (MT) in 1977 to 4.16 MT in 1978, 3.65 MT in 1979, and a massive decrease in production to a low of 1.97 MT in 1980 because of cold weather. There is an anticipated production of 3.93 MT in 1981. The Tongil varieties of rice (high-yielding varieties) dropped from 40 percent of use to only 17 percent in 1981 because farmers fear the cold weather to which Tongil is susceptible.

The province recommends varieties of rice and other crops by region and altitude, as well as the density of planting and fertilizer requirements. It specifies that pesticides should be applied about eight times, depending on crop and variety. It promotes demonstration plots in addition to experimental research. There are two such plots for rice in every village, the government guaranteeing income to the farmer if the demonstration plot fails. In addition there are 40 demonstration plots for soybeans, ten for potatoes, and five for barley and wheat. These demonstration plots provide a continuing and accessible example to all farmers of what their production might be if they follow the recommendations of the guidance workers. This system clearly demonstrates the national priority attached to rice production as both an economic and political goal.

The plan also calls for the use of 4 million man days of farmer assistance through the military and youth organizations in order to assist in timely planting, transplanting, and harvesting. This is critical in a province plagued by rural labor shortages, and is also the impetus for increased mechanization, for in the colder climate double cropping is only