

NEWS OF THE DAY
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THE TENSE ANTI-GOVERNMENT RIOTS IN KOREA

✓ Growing protests over the March election in South Korea build up into bloody riots. After failing to prevent demonstrations by the opposition, the Government moves in to put them down by force. The United States officially protests that the Government's methods are unsuited to a free democracy. The trouble began after the opposition Democratic Party charged President Syngman Rhee's administration with rigging the election. Rhee, whose opponent died before election day, scored an overwhelming fourth term victory. The real conflict was over the vice presidency. Incumbent Vice President John Chang, an opponent of Rhee, was defeated by Rhee's hand-picked candidate — and there were charges that the ballot boxes were stuffed. Now, as the rioting builds to a climax, burning vehicles and buildings dot the city of Seoul. Truckloads of anti-government college students seem almost jubilant in their defiance of the authorities. But their triumph is short-lived. At this point the Government steps in with a massive show of force. The crowd starts withdrawing in confusion. At least a hundred fifteen are killed, nearly eight hundred injured, before order is restored. Observers say serious reforms are needed before true harmony returns to the Land of the Morning Calm.