

S. Korea Arrests 5 on Spying Charges

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SEOUL, Feb. 5—Five well-known South Korean literary figures have been arrested on espionage charges after calling for institutional guarantees of individual rights and revision of the 1972 constitution.

A government announcement today said other prominent citizens, including the former editor-in-chief of the country's most prominent newspaper, are also under investigation as possible espionage suspects. Those whose arrests were announced today include novelists Lee Ho Chul, 43, considered one of the country's most promising younger writers, and Chung Ul Byung, 40, an author and a well-known figure in the population control movement.

The three others arrested are all literary critics teaching at Korean universities.

In the past month a total of

19 persons have been arrested on charges growing out of their involvement in a campaign to alter the constitution. All were among a group of 61 men of letters who issued a public statement Jan. 7 calling for amendment to the constitution promulgated under martial law and adopted without debate in a national referendum. Despite government disapproval, the literary men declared they could no longer remain silent "as defenders of the human spirit and spokesman for the national conscience."

The next day President Park Chung Hee proclaimed two stiff emergency measures forbidding all opposition to the constitution under penalty of up to 15 years imprisonment. Park was granted virtually unchecked powers in the new constitution, which removed previous limitations on his tenure in office.

Of the 19 critics of the con-

stitution who have been arrested under the Jan. 8 decrees, Chang Jun Ha Ha, a former National assembly member and prizewinning publisher, and another leader of the drive to revise the constitution have been sentenced to 15-year terms. Seven university students drew five to 10-year sentences. Six Protestant clergymen are now being tried by military court.

Before Park ordered the crackdown, there had been growing demands for political change and increasingly open criticism of his rule. The press, academic groups and the clergy, all of whom had recently been liberated from Korean CIA surveillance, had begun to speak out more vigorously than at any time since the declaration of martial law in October 1972.

The arrests announced today were the first in which espionage charges were leveled

against critics of the constitution. The prosecutor's announcement charged that the literary men had been instructed by North Korean agents to criticize the government.

A camera, a tape recorder and about \$80 worth of Japanese yen were confiscated as evidence. Other "evidence" displayed for the press included copies of well-known literary and current affairs magazines of general circulation published in Japan. Hardly any details of the alleged espionage were made public.

The former editor named today as among those under investigation for espionage is Chun Kwon Woo, who was chief editor of the newspaper Dong-A Ilbo in 1966-69. He is among the 30 prominent civic and religious leaders who announced a campaign in late December to petition for a revision of the constitution.