

Korea

KOREA: DECLINE IN ATTENTION; PLANE INCIDENT DROPPED

Monitored Soviet attention to the war in Korea appears to decline again this week; there is continuing emphasis on such standard themes as the brutality of the American forces and the profit-seeking motives of all Americans, whether they be industrialists or soldiers, and there is an increase in attention to the "hands-of-Korea" theme-- with which Moscow correlates the world-wide protests against American aggression. The shooting down of the Soviet plane disappears from the propaganda agenda, having been widely publicized only via reports of the Soviet note.* There are continuing and frequent hints concerning the Americans' intention to enlarge the sphere of aggression to include all the people of Asia.

Reviews of the military situation again emphasize American losses; however, a lengthy commentary exploiting the North Korean claim that 15,000 American soldiers have been killed is broadcast only in the Soviet Home Service.

With reference to the United Nations, Moscow's pattern of comment conventionally contrasts the efforts-toward-peace of Delegate Malik and the efforts-toward-aggression of Austin; Sir Gladwin Jebb is quoted as indirectly admitting that Delegate Malik successfully blocked the Western nations during his Presidency.

North Korean Broadcasts: Broadcasts from Pyongyang and Seoul include morale-building reports of world wide, and specifically Soviet, friendship for the Korean people, of efforts to solve the food problem, and of popular support for the North Korean fighters. The signing of the protest over American aggression by 98 percent of the population is repeatedly noted, as is the success of the land reform.

There is an unusual instance of race propaganda in a broadcast claiming that American forces bury dead white soldiers but leave Negro bodies "in heaps or scattered about on the ground" but there is still no concerted attempt to exploit this type of propaganda. A unique broadcast reports that a certain North Korean unit has been nicknamed "the 'German Troops'" because they never have had a failure in any battle, and when they start to fight they use such strange tactics and create so much damage that the enemy is easily wiped out. Their type of fighting gained a glorious victory and they were named the 'German Troops.'"

Occasional broadcasts note that "the Syngman Rhee puppet troops have been exterminated" along with "the main forces of the U.S. troops" and it is claimed that this proves that "the Korean people showed that they can manage things for themselves" but there is a strict avoidance of the question of Soviet or Chinese assistance. There are familiar derogatory references to ROK forces and there is familiar praise for guerrilla units.

* The note is widely transmitted and appears to receive special emphasis in broadcasts in Far Eastern languages. There is no commentary on the note in monitored broadcasts. The recent note receives less quantitative emphasis than did the note concerning the Baltic plane incident of last April. Furthermore, that note was the subject of a commentary which received appreciable distribution.

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