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31 JANUARY 1952

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NORTH KOREA

After a slow start, Pyongyang's comment on the truce negotiations now tends increasingly to reflect the heightened belligerency noted in Peking propaganda during the past month. Generally Pyongyang still lags behind Peking and the stress on American atrocities and maltreatment of prisoners of war now dominating North Korean comment has declined to almost the vanishing point in Peking's treatment of the war. Diverging from a propaganda tactic discernible in the first two weeks of this year, Pyongyang has substituted testimonies of Japanese popular support for the Korean cause for the previous vehement denunciations of resurgent Japanese militarism. References to domestic affairs are still centered upon the need for more food production to meet the growing home-front demands. Guerrillas in South Korea are singled out for praise, and partisan activity is said to be taking a heavy toll of the disrupted enemy.

Greater Bellicosity in Truce Talks Discussion Noted: Pyongyang has little to say that is original concerning the truce negotiations, but continues, as has been the case in the past, to echo, somewhat belatedly, the belligerent charges made by the Peking radio. There has been a marked increase in the number of references to the "fantastically unreasonable demands" of the American imperialists and a growing volume of reports concerning atrocities against prisoners of war and of "indiscriminate bombing" by American planes. This stress upon atrocities is at variance with Peking's present propaganda, which has made little mention of such charges during the past two weeks. The "generous treatment" of enemy POW's by the Korean People's Government is contrasted with the well-known facts about American inhumanity towards prisoners of war.

Peace in Korea Can Prevent New World War: A MINJU CHOSON editorial, which reiterates that the Korean people want unification, independence and peace and are willing to fight on until these goals are attained, warns that the rapid attainment of a just peace in Korea is a "necessary condition" to prevent a "new world war." In a variety of contexts Pyongyang accuses the Americans of preventing such a peace through needless obstructionism and by repeated provocations, including the bombing of truce-talk convoys and POW camps. Atrocity propaganda includes a revival of the old charges that Korean prisoners are being used as human guinea pigs in atomic-warfare tests, that Japanese war criminals have been imported to conduct bacteriological warfare, and that poison-gas bombs have been used.

Lenin Anniversary Widely Celebrated: In sharp contrast with the cursory attention accorded the occasion by Peking, the 28th anniversary of Lenin's death is widely acclaimed by the North Korean radio. Tributes to this "great genius," whose immortal ideas are an endless source of solace and encouragement for oppressed peoples everywhere, include the allegation that the Korean peoples have been strong in their liberation war "because they are armed with the principles of Marxism and Leninism." There are

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frequent allusions to the support being received from the "world peace camp" headed by the Soviet Union, with special mention made of Hungarian and Mongolian aid in the war. The visit of the delegation from the Mongolian People's Republic elicits praise for the "warm and friendly aid" which Mongolia has extended "since the first day of the brutal armed intervention of the American imperialists." Denouncing French and American intervention in Vietnam, which they are attempting "to turn into a springboard for aggression against China," Pyongyang says that there is a "close connection" between the Korean war and the war in Vietnam.

World Aggression of Anglo-Americans Scored: Pyongyang's recently inaugurated campaign against Anglo-American imperialism throughout the world, with emphasis on themes ordinarily associated with Moscow, continues to be stressed. A NODONG SINMUN editorial announces that the "aggressive schemes" of the American-British warmongers are being crushed everywhere, with specific reference to Pakistan, India, the Middle East, South Africa, Greece, Canada and Great Britain itself. President Truman's economic report to Congress is assailed as a call for "greater militarization," and the new Faure government in France is warned that if it is "controlled by orders from Washington," it will follow previous French governments in a rapid fall from power.

Japanese Laborers Support Korean Cause: The sharp criticism of the Japanese militarists which was noted during the first two weeks of this year has now abated, and Pyongyang's only references to this theme consist of "messages of greetings" from Japanese labor unions. These messages are cited as testimonies of support from Japanese workers, who, greatly oppressed themselves, are "solidly" behind the Koreans in their struggle for "the unification and independence of their Fatherland and for a lasting world peace." In condemning the American imperialist occupationists, the Japanese workers are said to have voiced their determination to continue their fight until the San Francisco Peace Treaty and the U. S.-Japan Security Pact are repealed, and to have declared that despite the "screen of censorship" by the reactionaries, the voice of the people in Pyongyang and Peking is being conveyed to the Japanese people through the press.

Farmers Urged to Increase Production: The need to increase production is the principal topic in all Pyongyang broadcasts, as the radio continues to emphasize themes which would be expected to predominate in a peacetime economy. Specific attention is devoted to a three-day national conference of "enthusiastic farmers," at which farmers are reminded of Kim Il Sung's maxim that "the struggle for food is the struggle for the Fatherland." After being told that nothing can destroy the determination of the Korean people who rose to defend their independence and freedom, the farmers are urged to correct past shortcomings and to produce more food, so as to meet the increasing demands at home as well as on the fighting fronts. Other topics of an internal nature receiving attention include the need for strengthening anti-epidemic measures and for raising the educational level of the people, and for consolidating the fighting and home fronts by donating funds to purchase arms and by accelerating the sale of lottery tickets. The coming fourth anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army on 28 February is also depicted as a period when the people can reaffirm their loyalty to the Fatherland.

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Guerrillas Taking Initiative in South Korea: The "heroic struggles" of the People's Guerrillas in the south come in for specific attention, as Pyongyang returns to a topic that was not heavily stressed during the last survey period (2-15 January). Rear areas are said to have been thrown into great "confusion and chaos," and the enemy's plans for mopping-up operations have been frustrated everywhere, Pyongyang declares. Despite the "frenzied mad dog" activities of the enemy, the People's Guerrillas, in close co-operation with local inhabitants, are said to be maintaining the initiative and launching swift attacks. The ranks of the partisan units, the radio says, have reached an "all-time peak."

South Korean Traitors Face Disaster: The formation of the new Liberal Party in South Korea elicits the comment that with the election for the presidency due to take place in July, the "ugly feud" between the Syngman Rhee gang and the Kim Sung Soo clique for political power has been nakedly exposed. These gangs are serving their own selfish aims, and for this reason the new Liberal Party, "a monstrosity with one head and two bodies," has been created. The only outcome of the furious mud-slinging campaigns to prolong their "dirty regimes," Pyongyang asserts, is that the traitors have been alienated from the people and are rushing "toward an abyss."

SOUTH KOREA

Pusan advocates the speedy conclusion of a Pacific defense pact but declares that an effective pact can only be concluded following the unification of Korea. The truce negotiations receive little attention, and Pusan says that no matter what the outcome, youths will still be called for compulsory military service. The tendency toward popular complacency is still reflected in most broadcasts and there are admissions that unemployment and labor strife are increasing.

Creation of Pacific Pact Deemed Urgent: In one of its infrequent references to world affairs, Pusan reiterates the urgent necessity for the speedy conclusion of a Pacific defense pact and links this with the defense of Southeast Asia. The KYONGYANG SINMUN, which advocates that the pact should be composed on the "lines previously recommended by the Republic of Korea and the Philippines," warns, however, that any "effective Pacific pact" is predicated upon the satisfactory settlement of the Korean war, i.e., "the unification of Korea." President Rhee is also said to have proclaimed Korean sovereignty over the neighboring seas, the Korean peninsula, and adjacent islands.

Other Topics: Internal problems still continue to be Pusan's primary concern, and the bulk of attention is devoted to relief and rehabilitation, transportation, production of food and education. A tendency toward complacency among the people is still reflected in many broadcasts, with numerous government officials calling for the elimination of smuggling and profiteering and for the strengthening of public morals and discipline. Increasing unemployment and strikes are also causing the government much

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concern, and the strike of workers of the Korean Spinning and Weaving Company is singled out for special attention.

The activities of the National Assembly continue to be the principal topic politically, and it is implied that the defeat of the government bill providing for the direct election of a president was a serious blow to President Rhee. Preparations are still reported under way to hold the by-elections for National Assemblymen in early February. Militarily, there is little mention of fighting or of the truce negotiations. Korean youths are told that whether or not there is a third world war, or an armistice at Panmunjom, they will continue to be called for service, and a three-year plan for expanding the ROK Air Force, with U.N. Air Force assistance, is revealed. The mopping-up operations against Communist guerrillas in the Chiri-san area are referred to only indirectly, with indications that the operations have been successful and that the Government is now occupied with other matters.

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