

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

USSR SURVEY
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TWO CAMPS

THE KOREAN WAR

Generally, the current propoganda on the Korean war, which is largely directed to the European and North American audience, seems intended:

1. to increase suspicion of and hatred for U.S. actions and intentions in Korea through overwhelming emphasis on the criminal treatment of POWs and the Americans' false position in South Korea;
2. to direct attention away from the course of the truce negotiations;
3. to differentiate between governments and the people of the nations participating with the United States in the Korean war.

POW Comment Ignores Truce Implications: While the total attention to the POW issue has fallen off sharply from the high previously recorded, this subject comprises nearly 85% of the total comment on the Korean war. Contrary to earlier comment which linked the Koje and Pusan disorders to the truce talks, current broadcasts virtually ignore the negotiations. Instead, the broadcasts, which are concentrated in the North American and West European beams, continue to describe the brutal treatment of the prisoners by the United States as a violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention. An appeal from the prisoners on Koje, allegedly smuggled out of one of the compounds, is used to give a greater impact to the charges by presenting the prisoners' own account of their tribulations. There is continuing emphasis on prisoner opposition to the American plan to use the POWs as cannon fodder for Syngman Rhee.

✓ Soviet Meetings Protest POW Treatment: Almost one-third of the material on the prisoner issue is made up of reports of widespread meetings in Moscow and throughout the Soviet Union protesting American treatment of prisoners. The volume so far is somewhat less than that on the earlier meetings protesting BW, and the attacks seem no more intense. Current protests feature statements by laborers and peasants, with no official pronouncements cited.

Clark Linked to POW Charges: Initial denunciations of General Clark parallel those leveled against Generals MacArthur and Ridgway. Listeners are told that he is the tool of the capitalists, and his record in Austria is presented as proof of his reactionary nature. His previous war record is alluded to as an indication of his lack of regard for his troops, even those of his own country. His repudiation of the Dodd-Colson concessions is used to indicate further his reactionary role.

BW Charges Continue to Decline: Commentary attention to BW, which is broadcast almost exclusively to North America, remains at a low level during this period and is no longer connected with other atrocity charges.

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Allied Disunity Not Subject of Alexander Visit: Field Marshal Alexander's visit to Korea is not discussed in the imperialist disunity context, but instead British listeners are told that he is to discuss the continuation and extension of the Korean war. The British and Canadian Governments are not opposed to U.S. leadership in Korea, Moscow declares, but were only forced to issue token protests over Koje and the truce talks because of pressure of public opinion. That the allied disunity theme has not been dropped completely, however, is indicated in a slight increase in comment on troop resistance to the war. In this connection, currently there is a slight increase in claims of South Korean resistance and guerrilla activity.

Rhee-Assembly Crisis Exposes American Lies: The crisis in South Korea brought about by the disagreement between Syngman Rhee and the Assembly is utilized as further evidence of the false American position in Korea. The contention that American forces are in Korea to defend freedom and justice is dismissed as a mere blind for the real American motive, profit and exploitation. Moscow quotes Western press articles to substantiate charges that the Rhee clique has been long known for its graft and corruption.