

11 June 1948

KOREA: DENUNCIATIONS OF AMERICA CONTINUE

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Moscow commentators Bronin and Smolensky carry on the tirade of denunciation occasioned by the 10 May elections in the American zone and by events subsequent thereto. The balloting, election of Syngman Rhee, and "fabrication" of the National Assembly are all said to reflect America's sinister ambition to colonize Korea and perpetuate division of the country. Bronin lists various organizations which are said to have voiced their disapproval of the American program and then casts aspersions upon the motives and patriotism of Syngman. (in English to North America, 7 June 1948) Smolensky, too, impugns Syngman and Kim Sung Soo for their collaboration with the United States. He also impugns the worth of the elections on the ground that many ostensibly "independent" candidates actually belong "to the parties of Syngman Rhee or Kim Sung Soo." (in Korean, 5 June 1948)

Pyongyang follows its established pattern of emotional denunciation of the United States, General Hodge, Syngman Rhee, and Kim Sung Soo. Particular capital is made of a recent decision broadening Korean citizenship; this move was inspired, according to Pyongyang, by Syngman's desire to have his American-born wife eligible for citizenship. The Soviet-controlled transmitter broadcasts repeatedly the announcement that Soviet forces stationed in the northern zone "will be reduced." The brief announcement gives no details other than to indicate that General Korotkov is to be replaced.

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