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SPECIAL REPORT
5 MARCH 1948

In a Korean-language commentary, for example, Danilov decries American "imperialist designs" for control of Korea as well as the U.N. Commission's attempt to further those designs; and at the same time, he lauds Korean opposition. The current manifestation of those designs, the plan to hold elections, failed, Danilov contends, because of the "defiance" of the Korean people. But this failure will not deter the U.S., he warns. A Government which will be a "true tool" to American "imperialists" is to be "forced" upon South Korea "by all means." "Everything points" to this, he declares, substantiating this generalization only by the claim that "as is seen" in the statement by Menon before the Little Assembly "the U.S. has drafted a concrete program for the formation of such a Government." This same vagueness characterizes the remainder of the commentary in which Danilov argues that only after the withdrawal of foreign troops can proper elections be held.

These same charges of American "imperialism" are reviewed in an IZVESTIA article, "American Expansionists Maneuvers in Korea," broadcast in Russian to Soviet Asia on 3 March. The allegation that American obstructionism defeated the Joint Commission on Korea is re-emphasized.

The thesis of Korean resistance to American "plots" is also found in a 1 March Korean-language commentary by Davidov, marking the anniversary of Korean independence. The commentator declares that North Koreans now "hold" their own sovereignty, but that in the southern zone the anniversary was "celebrated" by reactionaries with an effort "to sell Korea to the imperialists."

Pyongyang, as usual, goes all out in condemning American objectives and the part allegedly played by the U.N. Commission in furthering those objectives. One broadcast of 29 February descends to the level of personal innuendo in deploring the "fact" that, despite the shortage of transportation facilities for essential commodities, members of the Commission left Seoul in a special train, "entertaining themselves with women and wine."

b. The Draft Constitution in North Korea: Moscow's earlier silence on the subject of this document is ended this week with news reports of its acceptance by the people of North Korea and by a Tajikov commentary on the subject. (in Korean, 2 March 1948) The commentator notes that Kuomintang reactionaries" are working with their American counterparts to "discredit" the draft.

6.. Kim Il Sung--The People's Hero: The hymn of praise to Kim Il Sung, which has become familiar through Pyongyang broadcasts, is taken up by the Soviet radio this week in an article by B. Perlmutter, appearing in the STALINIST FALCON on 28 February and transmitted by Irkutsk on 1 March. (in Morse for TASS in Shanghai) The article describes the writer's trip to Pyongyang and the evidences he found there of popular support for the North Korean leader. This support is based in part on his underground activities during the Japanese occupation and in part on his recent activities in leading Koreans on the road to "democracy," Perlmutter points out.

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d. South of the Border: Pyongyang continues its campaign of reporting, in emotional terms, the allegedly oppressive conditions existing south of the 38th parallel. The introductory sentence of a 24 February broadcast is typical of Pyongyang's approach: "When your correspondents stood near the 38th parallel, looking at the other side which is South Korea, they felt as if they saw and heard the South Korean people groaning in misery and privation." South Korea is described as a "murderous hell" from which the suffering people are fleeing in growing numbers in search of the "happy and free life north of the parallel." The substantiating evidence is familiar; arrests in increasing number for no apparent reason; unfair rice collection; inadequate transportation; the spread of venereal disease.

Syngman Rhee is once more attacked by Pyongyang in a 24 February commentary which "explains" South Korean attitudes on the subject of the proposed election. He supports the proposal, says Pyongyang, because he wishes to maintain himself in a position of power and can do it in no other way. The terms of derogation and derision applied to the southern leader are also applied to members of the Democratic Party who are said to be putting their personal desires before the welfare of Korea.

5 MAR 1948

KOREANS RESIST AMERICAN "IMPERIALISM" 5/7/48

Korean affairs attract somewhat greater attention from Moscow broadcasters this week than has been the case recently. The usual commentaries dealing with American perfidy and U.N. passivity in the face of United States "machinations" are supplemented by reports of the announcement of the draft constitution in North Korea, the resignation of Kim Ki-sic, disturbances in Seoul, and Kim Doo Bong's denial of the American report of the formation of a North Korean state. These reports, as often as not attributed to American press sources, are factual in tone and appear in various Korean and Japanese-language newscasts emanating from Moscow.

a. American "Plots" and Korean Resistance: The familiar theme of American "imperialist plottings" for control of Korea and of Korean resistance to those ambitions is restated again this week--as is the contention that this resistance has been extended to the U.N. Commission because of its alleged acquiescence to those same American plots.

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