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Korea

KOREA

The Soviet radio continues to give considerable publicity to the program and activities of the recently formed Korean United Democratic Patriotic Front "for the peaceful unification of the homeland" (an organization strikingly similar to the Soviet-sponsored "National Front" in Germany). It is said that the Front's initial declaration "expresses the aspirations of 30 million Koreans who desire the unity and independence of Korea. Therefore, all patriotic political parties and public organizations and the whole of the people of North and South Korea, despite differences in opinions and political convictions, welcome and support this declaration and have launched a struggle for its implementation." Syngman Rhee is again attacked for attempting to repress the Front's manifesto in South Korea--an attempt that has been unsuccessful, says Moscow. Rhee's opposition to national unity as defined by the Front is attributed to his fear that under "unification" the rule of Rhee and his followers would come to an end.

Moscow also continues to "expose" the specious character of American troop withdrawal. The Americans, says Moscow, have simply resorted "to their habitual scheme of disguises and lies." While "making a noisy racket about troop withdrawal,... the American Government has established a military mission in South Korea with a staff of 500 men.... This mission will not only train troops, but will also take control of the South Korea armed forces. ... Robertson, former commander of the American forces in Korea, is in charge of the mission. ... He has been, and still remains, boss of South Korea."

TASS reports that "partisan activity in South Korea is steadily spreading to new areas." A voice broadcast from Moscow denies charges of participation of Soviet officers in Korea's border clashes. And another broadcast, quoting Radio Pyongyang, reports "that the National Defense Ministry has decided to admit officers and men of the two battalions who deserted the South Korean Army on May 6 into the People's Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

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