

14 July 1949

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KOREA: UNITED DEMOCRATIC PATRIOTIC FRONT: FRIENDS AND ENEMIES

The recently formed United Democratic Patriotic Front provides Radio Moscow with an opportunity to extol the unity and patriotism of the North Korean people, while ratification of the Soviet-Korean treaties, preparations for the celebration of the liberation of Korea, and "maneuvers" concerning the withdrawal of American troops are utilized for familiar dissertations on the friendly spirit of the USSR and the animus of the United States toward the Korean people.

Radio Pyongyang alternates its exultation over the manifesto of the United Democratic Patriotic Front with criticism of Syngman Rhee for refusing to publicize that manifesto. It demands the withdrawal of the U.N. Commission and scorns the "so-called withdrawal" of American troops. There are the usual references to uprisings in the South and to crossings of the 38th parallel by units of the South Korean army.

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a. The United Front "Marks a New Stage": Commentator Alexandrov and TASS note the enthusiastic cooperation of all segments of Korean society in the United Democratic Patriotic Front in transmissions of 9 and 11 July respectively. Observer Grigoriev, writing in STALINSKI SOKOL, described as the newspaper of the Soviet airforces, declares that establishment of the Front "marks a new stage in the struggle of the Korean people for the unity and independence of their country." (TASS, in English Morse and Hellschreiber to Europe, 8 July 1949) Grigoriev reviews in stereotyped phrases the desperate plight of the people in South Korea and claims that the program of the Front will mean the peaceful unification of all Korea.

b. Friends and Enemies: Soviet broadcasters point to the ratification of the Soviet-Korean treaties, to the withdrawal of Soviet troops, to Soviet liberation of Korea, and to Soviet technical assistance to the Korean economy to prove that the USSR is the best friend of the Korean people. The score for the Americans, which adds up to the charge that the Americans are the enemies of the Koreans, includes the desperate economic and social conditions in South Korea, the nefarious economic agreement, Truman's "so-called aid" proposal, "the huge police machine" and "police terror," and "maneuvers" and "hullabaloo" over the withdrawal of American troops. As was the case last week, it is contended that the withdrawal is unreal since the military mission will be increased in size and function.

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