

27 AUG 1948

KOREA: MOSCOW PKS TIME

27 Aug 48 Korea
Moscow radio demonstrates a somewhat detached attitude toward Korean affairs this week. As usual Danilov discusses the "division" of Korea perpetrated by the United States when it established the Seoul Government. News broadcasts and TASS dispatches report the letter sent Stalin by South Korea political leaders and there are allusions to terror and coercion in the American zone--including reports of the activation of "50,000 security police" immediately after proclamation of the new regime. But the emotionalism which characteristically dominates such broadcasts appears somewhat tempered. Current commentaries including a NEW TIMES article, concentrate on contrasts between conditions in the two zones and appear to

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be marking time--perhaps until after the 25 August elections lay the groundwork for flamboyant proclamation of a second Korean government.

On the subject of withdrawal of troops, Moscow and Pyongyang continue to emphasize the alleged intransigence of the United States. Commentators claim repeatedly that by refusing to accept the Soviet offer on withdrawal the U.S. clearly reveals its determination to remain in Korea permanently.

a. Preparations for the Election: Having, in previous weeks, reported details of preparations for the 25 August election in the Soviet zone, Pyongyang this week turns its attention to the "underground" preparations being made in the American zone. Broadcasts report distribution of leaflets and handbills extolling the virtues of candidates and claim that elections were completed in some places as early as 5 August. These elections were accompanied by the characteristic American-sponsored terrorism by the police, Pyongyang asserts.

Prominence is given the meeting at Haeju at which southern delegates are said to be electing delegates to the "national assembly." "More than 1,000" delegates attended the meeting, says Pyongyang, and applauded Kim Il Sung, Kim Doo Bong, and the delegation of Cheju which has put up such "heroic resistance." No reference is made to Kimm Koo or Kim Kiu Sic in the list of participants.

Radio Moscow, which has tended to ignore preparations for the election, does report a lengthy TASS dispatch on this meeting.

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