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FAR EAST SURVEY
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NORTH KOREA: "FIGHT ON TO ATTAIN THE FINAL VICTORY"

The Pyongyang radio, which resumed broadcasting in mid-December, is pursuing a propaganda line designed to maintain a high level of troop, guerrilla, and civilian effort and to minimize the possibility of complacency or overconfidence. Although 1951 is repeatedly identified as "the year of victory," there is little boasting over current military events and the New Year offensive has not been glorified as such. Rather there are constant reminders of the nefarious and extensive ambitions of the United States and there are exhortations to the home front to repair roads, resume production, and repair facilities. Kim Il Sung, in a New Year message which has been widely broadcast and which keynotes several commentaries, specifically warns against complacency and notes that many "hardships and bottlenecks" lie ahead. (For text of message see DAILY REPORT, Far East, 3 Jan., pp. PPP 10-17.)

Other elements of Pyongyang's propaganda are familiar. There is continuing denunciation of atrocities committed by U.S. troops and there is scrupulous avoidance of U.N. efforts to secure a negotiated settlement; the infrequent references to the United Nations dismiss it as a puppet of the U.S. and berate Trygve Lie for his deceitfulness and subservience. There is no acknowledgement of Western speculation over the possibility that Communist forces would stop at the 38th Parallel. Instead there is repeated emphasis on the call to drive the Americans out of Korea.

Pyongyang maintains the fiction of "voluntary" cooperation from Peiping but is markedly unspecific in its references to that cooperation. Kim Il Sung addressed a New Year message to "all men and officers of the Chinese volunteer units" but otherwise there is no discussion of the organizational pattern of the "volunteers," i.e., whether they operate independently of the Korean People's Army or are incorporated with it. There is no mention of the numbers of the "volunteers," nor are Western estimates acknowledged. Communiques, military reviews and Kim Il Sung's New Year message to Koreans all acknowledge the assistance of the volunteers but give no details such as have been reported in the Western press. And Kim Il Sung's New Year message to the Chinese "volunteer units" extends congratulations but does not express gratitude for the "heroism" displayed. Kim declares that he is "firmly convinced that you will win a greater victory and greater achievements" but does not elaborate on the statement.

SOUTH KOREA: OUR DEFENSE IS SECURE

Seoul broadcasts continued until 2 January to express confidence in final victory. Western and Communist reports of panic in Seoul found no echo in available broadcasts, which failed to discuss evacuation or the critical military situation. Syngman Rhee and other leaders repeatedly expressed confidence that "the defense of Seoul is secure" because of the determination of the Republic's forces, of the United Nations, and of General Ridgway. As does Pyongyang, Seoul repeatedly cited evidence of the world-wide popular support of its cause.

Seoul broadcasts also reflected the Government's concern with such problems as hoarding, refugees, and transportation. The Christmas amnesty and the subsequent effort to round up collaborators were reported briefly and without comment.

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