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FAR EAST SURVEY
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NORTH KOREA: CONTINUING FAITH IN ULTIMATE VICTORY

Although Pyongyang's military communiques now acknowledge that the Communist forces are holding their positions, not advancing, North Korean commentaries ignore the current military situation. They continue to voice confidence in ultimate victory and to call on all Koreans to exert every effort to annihilate the Americans. Pyongyang counters possible feelings of isolation by reiterating the completeness of the Communist nations' support of the Korean cause; International Women's Day occasions messages to Stalin, Mao Tse-tung, and Kim Il Sung in which the Korean women express their heartfelt gratitude for the support extended them and pledge to do their utmost to achieve the final victory.

Pyongyang and Seoul showed special interest in the defense of Seoul in broadcasts of 28 February and 1 March. They pointed out that the Americans were determined to recapture the city, although 80 percent destroyed, and maintained that the people of Seoul and the armed forces would "fight more bravely than ever in order to defend our capital. ... Defeat is the destiny of our enemy and victory lies ahead of us." The fact that such broadcasts have not been monitored in the two weeks since 1 March may indicate changes in defense plans.

Announcements of the mergers of the North and South Korean Chundo Cult Youth Friends Party, trade union federations, and federations of cultural organizations indicate only that the move was undertaken to "unite the patriotic might" of the Koreans. There is no indication of how the organizations will carry out their merged activities, nor of the size of the membership. Nor do the broadcast announcements suggest that the mergers were anything more than a formalistic gesture having propaganda rather than operational significance.

SOUTH KOREA: INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT; FISCAL PROBLEMS

The slow advance of the United Nations forces does not bring any marked change in the content or tone of Pusan broadcasts. There are no discussions of the strategic or tactical situation nor any speculation over crossing of the 38th Parallel. International support of the ROK cause continues to be reported and is contrasted with the deceitful nature of Peking's aid to the North Koreans. The pointed denunciations of Communism and of the Chinese People's Republic touch upon land reform, persecution, and forced labor in Communist nations.

Pusan's repeated references to fiscal difficulties and to the need for discipline on the part of public officials suggest concern over inadequacies in both. ROK citizens are reminded that public officials cannot demand contributions or payment for services performed, and public officials are reminded that they must follow democratic procedures. The need for increased revenues is related to the need for reconstruction.

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NORTH KOREA: KOREA IS NOT ALONE: BLOOD FOR BLOOD

Pyongyang's primary concerns are with assuring the North Koreans that they are not isolated and with urging them on to greater effort for final victory. There are repeated assurances of the strength and solidarity of the Soviet regime and of its support of North Korea and there are insistent calls for "blood for blood" to drive the barbaric Americans from Korea. Pyongyang also counters any feelings of isolation by identifying the "colonial peoples' struggle" with that of the Koreans.

The current military situation receives relatively little attention; there are caustic references to the Americans' "stupid attempt" to cross the Han River in mid-February, but events since then have not been reported in any detail or with any degree of accuracy.

Sino-Korean relations continue to be touched upon indirectly. The communiques of 22 and 26 February do not mention the cooperation of Chinese volunteers, but Pyongyang's commentators persistently extol the cordiality of Sino-Korean friendship.

Increasing references to the need to produce and conserve more food suggest that the supply situation is becoming more critical.

SOUTH KOREA: RELIEF INSURED: EVILS OF COMMUNISM

Radio Pusan does not elaborate on the current military situation nor make any predictions about the outcome of the current offensive. Its broadcasts make frequent references to United Nations efforts to relieve the suffering of refugees and call for greater austerity, specifically for an end to eating and drinking sprees. One commentary stresses the adage that "God helps those who help themselves" and applies the moral to both civilian and military problems.

Pusan's daily attacks on Communism emphasize the high price North Korea is paying for aid from China; the commentators point out that the Chinese "live on the land," thus depleting Korean supplies, and argue that Mao Tse-tung's motives are jingoistic rather than altruistic. There are repeated references to deviationism in Yugoslavia, Italy, and Czechoslovakia, and the Sino-Soviet treaty anniversary is used as an occasion for underscoring the claim that Peiping has surrendered to foreign oppression. Stalin's 16 February interview in PRAVDA is utilized to expose his disregard of the small nations.

The current session of the ROK Assembly is reported, but as usual Pusan does not comment on the deliberations. Speeches of some of the members are reported briefly, but the radio takes no sides in the controversy over officers of the Assembly or the number of committees.