

K O R E A

Limited Attention Accorded Korean Problems: Peking's current tactic of ignoring the main Korean issues is accompanied by a corresponding drop in the volume of radio propaganda attention to the conflict. During the second week under review more than 90 percent of this reduced volume consists of comment on the treatment of prisoners in neutral custody and charges of U.N. truce violations. The comment is broadcast almost exclusively to foreign listeners, with only 7 out of 146 items broadcast to the home audience. The charges reiterate the familiar theme of U.S. obstructionism in the implementation of the truce agreement, primarily in relation to the treatment of prisoners in neutral custody. These accusations are generally not expanded into specific threats against further implementation of the armistice. However, a 5 October NCNA dispatch contains the broad warning that the armistice would be "completely shattered" if U.S. and Rhee plans for the mass escape of prisoners succeed. In an apparent effort to capitalize on Indian good will, Peking justifies the 1 October show of force against rioting anti-Communist prisoners by placing responsibility for the disorders on U.S. "agents," with the implication that only these agents were shot by the Indian troops.

Peking Keeps Silent on Political Conference Questions: Only slight attention is devoted to U.N. discussions of Korea and political conference problems, and Peking comment is limited to reiteration of Communist opposition to a conference composed solely of belligerent nations. The sole independent commentary consists of a PEOPLE'S DAILY article on 22 September, which denounces Secretary Dulles' call for a "second stage" conference on broader Far East issues as a maneuver to undermine the political conference and circumvent the question of broadening conference participation. This rejection of the American appeal was transmitted by NCNA only, and has not been echoed in subsequent comment either by Peking or Moscow. Peking also maintains its silence on the two U.S. notes calling for early convening of the political conference. With the exception of the PEOPLE'S DAILY article cited above, Peking has apparently not initiated comment on the political talks since Chou En-lai's 13 September note to the United Nations. This reticence is in keeping with the previously observed practice whereby Moscow assumes the Communist propaganda initiative at international forums. However, Peking has not echoed Vishinsky's rejection of Ambassador Lodge's proposal that the conference itself resolve the question of its composition, and has not commented on a plan for the neutralization of Korea outlined in Hamilton's NEW YORK TIMES article of 25 September--a plan promptly rejected by Moscow commentator Krainov.

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Sino-Korean Unity Termed "Prime Task": Peking reports the departure, on 4 October, of the third Chinese People's delegation to Korea since the Resist-America Aid-Korea movement was instituted in 1950. The 4,000-man delegation has a two-fold obligation: to inform the Chinese People's Volunteers of the progress and achievements recorded in their homeland, and to assure the Korean people of China's intention to aid in Korea's restoration and development. A 5 October PEOPLE'S DAILY editorial on the mission of the delegation underscores the friendship and unity of the Korean and Chinese peoples, and states that the further strengthening of this unity is "the prime task today." This renewed attention to Sino-Korean relations is also reflected in North Korean comment on Chinese National Day which stresses the "blood ties" cementing the unity of the two peoples, and praises the Chinese Revolution as second only to the Soviet October Revolution.

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