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USSR SURVEY
24 DECEMBER 1953

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Korea

KOREA: Moscow, Peking Coordinate Attacks on United States

Current Moscow comment on Korea--which demonstrates better coordination with Peking than at any time since the start of the Panmunjom conference--devotes unusual attention to the failure of these talks. Moscow commentators, echoing standard themes, charge that Ambassador Dean's abrupt departure from the conference was "premeditated," and they recount in detail the unreasonable and uncooperative attitude adopted by the Americans throughout the course of the talks. The comment fails to predict any dire consequences resulting from the conference recess, suggesting Communist intention to pursue its objectives elsewhere for the time being.

Close propaganda coordination between Moscow and Peking was also reflected in the Soviet bloc's apparent attempt to influence the United Nations' final consideration of the Korean issue. Moscow broadcast Chou En-lai's note of 7 December pointedly referring to the "critical situation" in Korea, while an 11 December NEW TIMES editorial for the first time refers to the 30 November Communist proposal at Panmunjom as a "concession" which provides "a basis" for the convocation of the political conference.

Moscow scored U.S. "unwillingness" to reach agreement and, after the U.N. resolution had postponed debate on Korea, announced that this would make it difficult for the world body to "act in time" to promote a peaceful solution.

Chou En-lai's vituperative denunciation of the U.N. resolution on atrocities, broadcast 18 times by Moscow, also provides the core of Soviet comment on this issue. Soviet broadcasts repeat the standard themes that the American charges were intended to divert attention from U.S. crimes and to maintain international tension. Moscow makes clear that the U.S. "slander" failed in its intended effect, however.

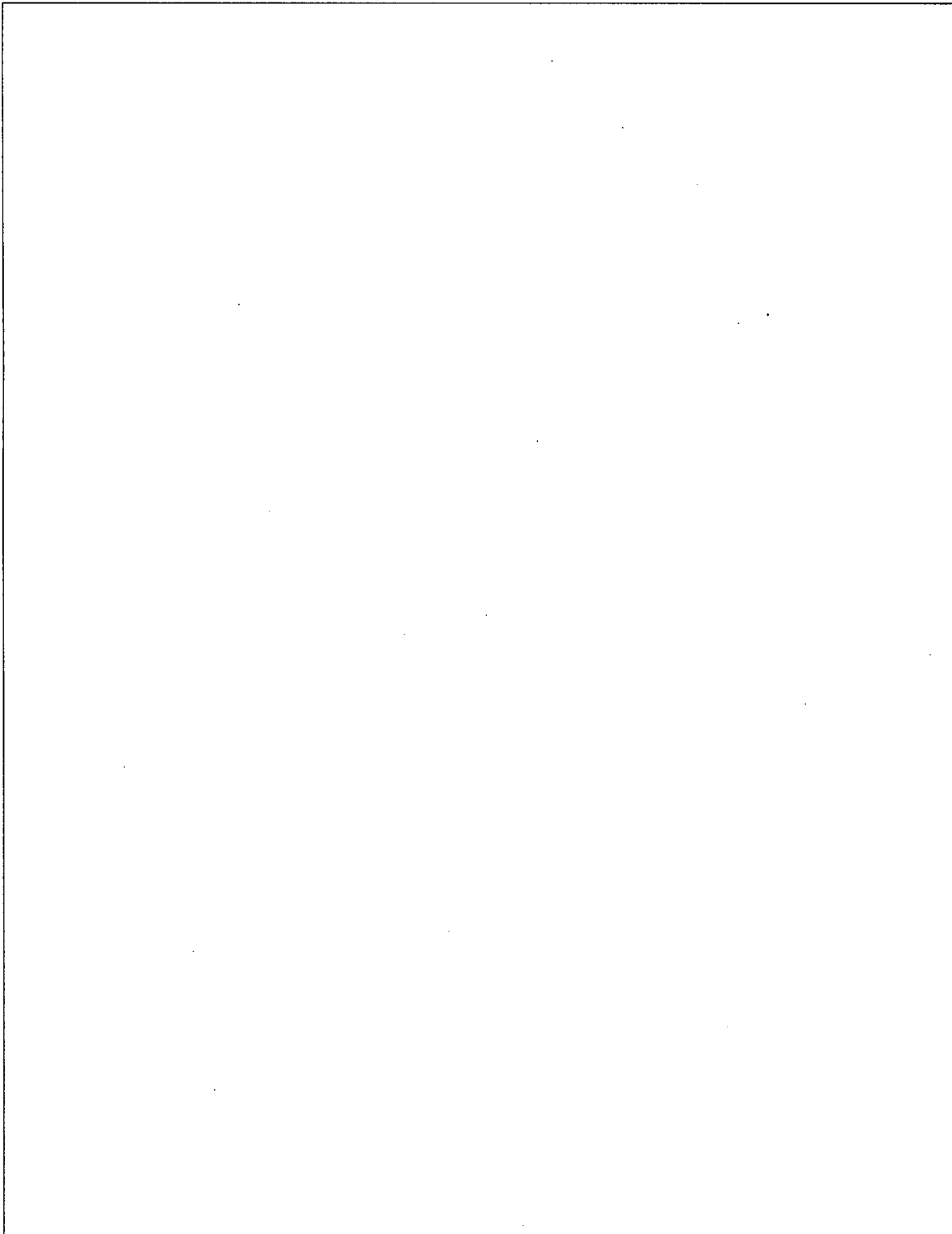
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