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WEEKLY SURVEY
1 DECEMBER 1949

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KOREA: U.N. COMMISSION "REJECTED"; RI ELECTIONS

Radio Pyongyang heatedly protests--and TASS relays the protests--the extension of the life of the United Nations Commission on Korea; its commentators "reject" the U.N. action as well as the alleged American attempt to use the Commission as a screen for colonial activities in South Korea. Pyongyang, which repeatedly extolled the "democratic" nature of the ri committee elections in the days preceding the balloting, is now preoccupied with reporting statistics on provincial participation; although Radio Moscow and TASS appear to have ignored the elections in the days prior to the event, TASS now reports that 97.5 percent of the voters chose the Democratic Fatherland Front candidates.

a. The U.N. Commission: Radio Pyongyang broadcasts commentaries and newspaper editorials protesting extension of the Commission and vilifying the French, Turkish, and Philippine members; it gives prominence to the appeal

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issued by the Fatherland Front, in which all "patriotic" groups are quoted as rejecting, opposing, and protesting the "dastardly" extension of the Commission. These broadcasts fulminate familiarly over the Commission per se and over American attempts to use it as a screen for terroristic activities.

Radio Moscow and TASS relay the Pyongyang fulminations; they report the newspaper editorials and the appeal of the Fatherland Front but do not appear to offer original comment on the question.

b. The Ri Committee Elections: The 25 November ri committee elections were preceded by the conventional exhortations to voters and to workers to produce more in a campaign to honor the voting. Broadcasts monitored since the balloting took place have not indicated any final results, but Pyongyang notes that an average of 75 percent of the voters exercised their "democratic" rights by noon of the 25th. Moscow appears to ignore the event, but TASS notes that 97.5 percent of the voters cast their ballots for the candidates nominated by the United Democratic Fatherland Front; the affiliations of the non-Front candidates have not been discussed, nor have monitored broadcasts from Pyongyang reported the 97.5 figure.