

CHINESE AGGRESSION AND THE KOREAN WAR

Soviet radio comment on the political aspects of the Korean war--which receive almost as much emphasis as the military situation--implies less categorically that "the die is cast" by the U.N. resolution than the statement of Chou En-lai and the PEOPLE'S DAILY do. The PRAVDA comment on the resolution broadcast 31 times on 6 February does not declare that the United States "has blocked the path to a peaceful settlement," nor relay Chou En-lai's caustic criticism of the Good Offices Committee. An irrevocable closing of the door on the efforts of the Good Offices Committee appears to be avoided. Military observers credit the U.N. forces with "insignificant advances" north of Wonju but emphasize charges of atrocities and scorched-earth tactics. The campaign to arouse hatred of the United States through atrocity propaganda receives more attention than any other military aspect of the war.

The U.N. Resolution: While reminiscent of Peiping's categorical rejection of the U.N. resolution, Soviet comment is less dogmatic. Although the Chou En-lai statement of 2 February and the subsequent PEOPLE'S DAILY editorial are widely broadcast on 4 and 5 February, Moscow does not itself initiate comment on the final resolution until 6 February, when a PRAVDA article is widely broadcast to home and foreign audiences. This article differs from the Chou En-lai statement and the PEOPLE'S DAILY editorial, however, in that it does not explicitly declare that the United States "has blocked the path to a peaceful settlement." Moreover, although the article draws liberally on Chou's 2 February statement, it does not quote his bitter rejection of the Good Offices Committee.

Like the Chinese Communist and other Communist radios, Moscow dwells on the charge that the resolution was illegally adopted and will not be accepted by the peoples of the world. It recounts evidences of American use of blackmail to secure adoption of the resolution, although it omits some of the details offered by other radios. It makes much of "the divergencies in the camp of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc" allegedly revealed by the U.N. deliberations.

U.S. Atrocities and American "Cowardice": Moscow's references to the military situation are stereotyped in their accounts of U.S. atrocities and scorched-earth tactics. An IZVESTIA article, broadcast 19 times on 31 January, surpasses even Moscow's usually lurid phraseology in describing the cowardice and brutality of the American forces. It claims that the deeds perpetrated in Korea are worse than "the work of the Hitlerite murderers in Auschwitz and Majdanek." IZVESTIA questions whether the Americans would not be annoyed at being compared with the SS men of World War II: "They, these present-day American storm troopers and SS men, would be really annoyed--annoyed not at the comparison with those whose names have become symbols of cannibalism, but at the under-estimation of the American preeminence in the mass annihilation of peoples." IZVESTIA notes that Americans laugh at the sight of their atrocities, and adds that "it seemed that above the blood-drenched Korean land Hitler and Himmler, Truman and MacArthur were shaking bloodstained hands with one another."

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USSR SURVEY  
8 FEBRUARY 1951

- 2 -

IZVESTIA is equally contemptuous in reviling American cowardice: "they are cowards, all these American interventionists, these Yankee fascists. They are brave only when safe. They are clever at bombing when there is no opposition in the sky. They advance along ground which has been cleared by phosphate bombs and napalm."

Military Operations: Moscow is generally evasive in describing the current tactical situation, but a 3 February review admits that the Americans have made "insignificant advances." These advances are minimized by claims that Korean troops and partisans are active in the rear, thus jeopardizing even the insignificant gains. The aerial phases of the war are touched upon briefly in a 30 January RED STAR review which notes that Saber jets are being employed; however, it does not mention any similar Soviet planes.