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FAR EAST SURVEY  
10 MAY 1951

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NORTH KOREA: FIGHTING FRONTS. APPEAL FOR EQUIPMENT

A resolution adopted 3 May at a conference of a regiment of the People's Armed Forces calls upon armed forces personnel and Korean nationals "to participate in a money-raising drive for buying more tanks, airplanes and ships." The campaign is stressed as a necessary drive to solve "the most urgent problem ... to supply the fighting men in the front with more and powerful mechanized equipment." Although victory is claimed for the past ten months of battle, the resolution states that "it is hard to say that we have completely exterminated the foes from our Fatherland," and calls for retribution against the "American imperialist armed aggressors for the atrocities committed on the soil of our Fatherland." Subsequent broadcasts report the mass support of the Korean people, who are "displaying their enthusiasm and patriotism in carrying on the donation campaign."

Celebrating May Day, farmers, workers and armed personnel pledge themselves with firm determination "to defend the independence, freedom and honor of the Fatherland and contribute to world peace." Commentaries extol the support of the Soviet Union and the cooperation of the Chinese people. Here, as elsewhere in the Communist world, the peace pact signatures campaign is made an element of May Day propaganda. The conclusion of a pact is presented as an essential condition to block the attempts of American imperialists to make Korea a military base from which "to invade China and to threaten the peace and security of the great Soviet Union."

U.S. steps toward a peace treaty with Japan are identified as "deeply connected with their loss of the war in the Far East." "The deadly blows which were inflicted on them in the Korean war especially were so serious that they, in Japan, must expedite their plot to rearm Japan and transform her into their military base," on their way to "Korea, China proper and other Asiatic countries."

SOUTH KOREA: THE CHINESE COMMUNIST SPRING OFFENSIVE

Radio Pusan shows great confidence in victory in commenting on the current military situation. The Chinese Communist spring offensive is said to have been frustrated by U.N. forces and it is speculated that this "may become the decisive battle in the Korean war."

Further stress is laid on rehabilitation by an appeal for all-out efforts for increased production in order to fulfill the obligations of the Japanese-Korean Trade Pact, signed April 24, whereby "we can import materials essential for our economic rehabilitation and expedite the economic rehabilitation and development of Korea." The Ministry of Finance has launched a bond sales drive to expedite the absorption of 50 billion won in government bonds to meet an anticipated increase in government expenditures for the coming year.

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