FAR EAST SURVEY 15 FEBRUARY 1951

NORTH KOREA: THE FRIENDLY CHINESE; WARNINGS AGAINST COMPLACENCY

Pyongyang broadcasts continue their repetitious exhortations directed against complacency among soldiers and civilians. Although there are no specific indications of Sino-Korean friction, there are frequent appeals for "closer than ever" cooperation and reminders of the "remarkably distinguished" services being offered by the "friendly neighbors." Pyongyang does not discuss the current military situation nor acknowledge the typhus epidemic.

The Friendly Chinese: Although Pyongyang does not admit the possibility of friction between the Chinese Communists and the Koreans, it does call for strengthening the friendship with the "great Chinese people." In addition to broadcasts urging this strengthened friendship, Pyongyang quotes Kim Il Sung as stating that the People's Army "must organize and carry out more closely than ever the joint operations with the brotherly Chinese." Broadcasts reporting the enthusiastic Chinese drive to help the Koreans are adapted to the double purpose of encouraging greater Sino-Korean cooperation and of reminding the Koreans that their cause receives support from other nations, particularly Communist China and the USSR.

Victory Must Be Won: Warnings against complacency and urgings for greater effort on the part of soldiers and civilians abound in Pyongyang broadcasts. Kim Il Sung points out that "victory does not come by itself and cannot be won without fierce struggle" and other broadcasts urge farmers to produce more food, partisans to fight harder, and factory workers to produce more ammunition. In fact, the North Korean radio devotes its primary effort to keeping the morale and effert of both troops and civilians at a high pitch.

The Military Situation: Although Pyongyang's communiques make brief reference to counterattacks near Wonju there is no attempt to elaborate on the current military situation; the ROK forces' crossing of the 38th Parallel was not acknowledged. Pyongyang does, however, recapitulate the enormous losses allegedly suffered by the Americans in the seven months of the war, and its brief references to the current fighting also stress U.S. losses in men and material rather than the tactical or strategic situation. American atrocities receive familiar emphasis. By omitting discussion of the typhus epidemic the radio avoids alarming the North Koreans on this score. It seeks to allay any suspicion that South Koreans are receiving any consideration from the "barbarous Americans" by derision of the "deceitful nature" of the U.N. relief program.

SOUTH KOREA: APPEALS FOR UNITY: CONCERN WITH HEALTH CONDITIONS

Pusan, seemingly more realistic than Pyongyang, acknowledges the military situation—without elaborating on the "laughable rumor" that U.N. forces will stop at the 38th Parallel—and reports without comment measures being taken to remedy health conditions, particularly in Pusan. Like Pyongyang, however, Pusan avoids panicking the population by omitting any discussion of the extent of the typhus epidemic and any discussion of over-all or long-range military developments.

There are brief but repeated appeals for unity between civilians and the police and between civilians and Government officials and continuing stress on the care being given refugees and on United Nations support of South Korea.

In a daily series of talks on the current situation, Pusan broadcasters are becoming more and more overt in their criticisms of Communism and of the Chinese People's Republic. These criticisms deal with such matters as the lack of democratic freedoms in China and the militant purposes of the Peiping regime. They also note that China has been branded an aggressor and that North Korea is almost friendless, while South Korea enjoys world-wide support.