

THE FAR EAST

The Korean War: The MacArthur-Marshall Hearings: Germ Warfare

In discussing the MacArthur-Marshall testimony before Congress, Moscow continues its line that there is, in reality, no U.S. crisis over policy in the Far East. Comment centers on the 16-point Joint Chiefs of Staff

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memorandum of 12 January 1951 and on the four points in that memo upon which MacArthur and the Joint Chies were in agreement. According to Moscow, the JCS directive, "a frank program of unleashing world war in Asia," is being carried out by Ridgway just as it was by MacArthur. Marshall is said to have admitted that 13 of the 16 points in the JCS directive have already been implemented. Moscow discusses only those portions of the testimony which deal with Asian policy; their treatment makes it appear that MacArthur and Marshall are in complete agreement.

North Koreans Accuse U.S. of Using Germ Warfare: The North Korean protest to the U.N. over the alleged use of bacteriological weapons by the U.S. forces introduces a new category of comment in the second of the two weeks under review. Records seized in Seoul by the People's Army "unearthed two U.S. plans for artificial dissemination of infectious germs in North Korean rivers and reservoirs and in civilian and military restaurants." Moscow cites the smallpox epidemic in North Korea (3500 persons afflicted) as proof of "this inhuman plan, organized by Generals Nishii and Wakamatsu, Japanese war criminals and germ authorities, at the direction of General MacArthur."

Aside from these two new themes, Moscow treatment of the Korean war follows its usual pattern: emphasis on monopolist profiteering and U.S. popular opposition to the war, directed primarily to North American listeners.