

KOREA: THE STATEMATE CONTINUES*Korea*

Both Moscow and Pyongyang are content to rehash familiar charges in comment on Korean developments this week. Danilov, Moscow's most frequent commentator on Korea, points out the degree to which the United States has allegedly departed from the Potsdam Declaration and Teheran and Yalta agreements in its relations with both Korea and Germany. Another commentator turns to Henry Wallace's letter to Stalin to document the claim that certain circles, even in America, support the Soviet stand on withdrawal of troops. Other Moscow broadcasts recount familiar descriptions of depressed conditions in South Korea and of industrial development in North Korea. The last-named transmission is a review of a recently published book by two Soviet writers entitled KOREA AS WE SAW HER. (in Korean, 20 June 1948)

TASS transmits reports of the 8 June attack by American planes on Korean fishing boats (in English Morse to North America and the Far East, 16 and 17 June 1948) but no attempt has been made as yet to exploit the incident as evidence of American militarism. Pyongyang is not so reticent; it pulls all the stops in emotional denunciation of the U.S. for permitting such an outrage.

In the main, Pyongyang is not so restricted in its choice of subjects as is Moscow this week. One commentary analyzes the election chances of Henry Wallace's Third Party which, it reports, parroting Moscow, is receiving widespread support from laborers, farmers, and intellectuals. Other talks attack American Military Government in Seoul for its carelessness in permitting the spread of tuberculosis, its attempt to "cheat" on the power issue, and its "shamelessness" in issuing foreign currency deposit certificates. The Soviet Army is praised in two commentaries not only for its military and political accomplishments but also because it has announced its intention to reduce the forces stationed in North Korea. And as usual there are reports of the "heroic, country-saving" resistance being put up by progressive Koreans on Cheju island in North Cholla province.

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