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KOREA: THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FATHERLAND FRONT: TROOP WITHDRAWAL

2 June 49 Korea
The proposal for creation of a United Democratic Fatherland Front gives a fillip to Soviet broadcasters, who see in the suggestion proof of popular support for the North Korean Government. TASS reports the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Front in a North American transmission of 27 May and Krainov elaborates on the significance of the proposal in a Korean-language broadcast of 27 May. He points out that in South Korea, "the economy is bankrupt and police terrorism is increasing" and quotes from the 14 May letter from South Korean political organizations to the effect that Korea is capable of achieving unity without outside help.

Both Moscow and Pyongyang disparage the American plan to withdraw troops; Krainov, in the commentary cited above, appears to take no cognizance of the plan while Radio Pyongyang, in a question-and-answer broadcast of 29 May, insists that recent debates on the withdrawal are hypocritical; the American suggestion is said to be "a very awkward lie and a raw comedy."

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