

KOREA: INCHON LANDING IS ALMOST WHOLLY IGNORED *Korea*

The Inchon landings, the Marines' progress toward Seoul, and recent developments on the southern fronts are virtually ignored and Moscow concentrates its attention on other aspects of Korean war propaganda. This avoidance is not markedly atypical, however, for military events have generally received less attention than political events. Prior to the Inchon landings there were increasingly frequent reviews of the North Korean's favorable military position near Taegu. Such reviews have not appeared in broadcasts monitored since the Inchon landing but one commentary takes issue with the Voice of America for criticizing the reviews.

Familiar themes continue to receive emphasis. These include the brutality of the American's treatment of Koreans--as evidenced in the barbaric bombing of Red Cross establishments and of peacetime industries and in the treatment of war prisoners, on which subject the Paris LE MONDE and the LONDON DAILY WORKER's Alan Winnington are quoted. Other familiar themes receiving familiar treatment are the claim that America is unable to get from her allies the cannonfodder she requires for the Korean adventure, the suffering forced on "the people" by Wall Street profiteers, the defeats and low morale of American forces, and the peoples' rejection of American aggression in Korea. Evidence of this rejection is cited from India (where "Hands Off Asia" and "Hands Off Korea" committees are said to be securing wide support), from the U.S., from Britain, etc.

The claim that America is planning a third war, of which Korea is just a starting point, is reiterated in a variety of contexts. PRAVDA's Ilya Ehrenburg includes it in a commentary on the peace movement, and commentator Yerusalimsky also expounds the theory. Ehrenburg claims that the memories of Stalingrad will deter any aggressors having such plans, while Yerusalimsky asserts that Secretary Acheson revealed that the Korean adventure is the prototype of future aggressive actions.

The illegality of the United Nations endorsement of American aggression, a theme which has been relatively dormant for some weeks, is revived as Moscow quotes D. N. Pritt, a former British M.P. and a lawyer, as contending that the absence of the Soviet member of the Security Council invalidated the 26 June decision.

NEW TIMES also revives a relatively dormant theme--the claim that the struggle in Korea is part of the struggle for peace. In the first weeks of the war this theme received a good deal of emphasis, but it has not appeared on the agenda for some time.

a. Superior American Strength--20 to 1--in Inchon Area: Soviet reaction to the Inchon landings and subsequent military events in that area involves what appears to be a new angle on the question of America's military strength. In past weeks this strength has been minimized by indirection and by implication. Washington's alleged difficulty in

securing recruits in the U.S. and volunteers from its allies has been publicized and the arrival of assistance from other U.N. nations has been ignored, peoples' opposition to their Governments' decisions to send troops has been exploited, the program for American mobilization has been disregarded, and the low morale and successive defeats of American troops have been repeatedly emphasized. But this week TASS, in explaining "how Inchon was occupied by the Anglo-American troops" attributes that occupation to superior numerical strength:

"Only by operating with such large forces--twenty times exceeding those of the Korean People's Army in the Inchon area--could the Americans manage to occupy Inchon and to advance 12 kilometers toward Seoul on 17 September."

LITERARY GAZETTE lays the groundwork for possible excuses concerning superior numerical and technical strength in an article broadcast, on 16 September only, to Soviet home audiences. It quotes Hanson Baldwin, writing in SATURDAY EVENING POST, as ascribing American set-backs in Korea to a lack of fighting spirit and to the equality of military forces.

Baldwin's call for quality as well as quantity in troops and equipment is to be turned into an appeal for an intensified arms race, according to LITERARY GAZETTE, which implicitly applauds the superior spiritual strength of the North Koreans:

"One can produce any number of guns and insure their highest quality. But not in a single atom cauldron of Wall Street propaganda can one prepare ideas, the quality of which would present the very selfish interests of the small gang of multimillionaires as the interests of the entire people. And this, as even Mr. Baldwin admits, determines everything in the end."

b. North Korean Broadcasts continue their emotional appeals for resistance. One broadcast calls for "curses and death to all U.S. forces" while another urges all Koreans to render every effort in killing the enemy by all means. Koreans should challenge the Americans in cities and towns as well as in small farm villages where farm tools should be used. Kim Il Sung's anniversary address continues to be relayed--Moscow and Peiping also report the address--and there appears to be an increasing attempt to heroize the North Korean leader as the central force in the liberation struggle.