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USSR SURVEY
28 MAY 1953

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KOREAN WAR: Rise in Comment Marked by Denunciation of U.S. Proposal

Moscow attention to the Korean war has shown a rapid rise from the low of four items three weeks ago to the present total of 81 items during the second week of this SURVEY. Almost three-fourths of this total is represented by Moscow rebroadcasts of Peking's denunciation of the 26-point American proposal at the truce talks. This contrasts with Moscow's pattern of avoiding wide dissemination of truce material since the resumption of the truce sessions on 26 April. The present concentration of comment--which also characterizes Peking broadcasts--seems intended to influence the review of the American position forecast during the recent 8-day recess. Limited attention is also given to evidence of Western--particularly British--disapproval of American "stalling" tactics.

Korea: PRAVDA points up Anglo-U.S. differences in Korea--as well as in its discussion of the German and Austrian questions--but fails to include any substantive comment on current Korean issues. Churchill's references to the difficulties of agreement on the unification of Korea and to possible Communist insincerity in the present truce talks are left unanswered. This avoidance of substantive comment contrasts with the full discussion of Korean issues in the 11 April issue of PRAVDA--which repeated that the Koreans themselves should decide the question of the unification of their country--as well as with the brief reference to the problem of the unity of Korea appearing in PRAVDA's 25 April reply to the Eisenhower speech.

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