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KOREA: Amenable Attitude Marks Attention to U.N. Debate

Soviet radio propaganda on the recent special session of the General Assembly remains at a low volume when compared to comment on the regular sessions of the 7th General Assembly. Relevant to this apparent de-emphasis is the virtual absence of detailed exploitation of both the Soviet resolution and various Vishinsky speeches. (Vishinsky's opening speech on 18 August was the only one to receive wide distribution and was broadcast 53 times as compared with 167 broadcasts of Vishinsky's opening speech at the 7th General Assembly.) Moscow comment, and that of Peking and Pyongyang as well, is generally devoid of invective, and Peking in particular makes an explicit effort to reassure the United States and South Korea concerning the role of South Korean and other U.N. representatives at the conference and maintains that the chief purpose of the conference remains the settlement of the Korean question rather than of other Far Eastern matters. Attention is drawn to the alleged moral and political isolation of the United States resulting in particular from its opposition to the presence of India at the political conference, but there has been relatively little attempt to exploit the Soviet recommendations on the composition of the political conference beyond presentation of general arguments favoring the inclusion of interested and neighboring countries.

TASS reports the votes of both the Political Committee and the plenary session, noting that the 15-nation resolution was adopted "in its entirety" and that the participation of the Soviet Union was approved "if the other side desires." No comment on this inclusion of the Soviet Union on the "other side" is provided, although Vishinsky himself implied acceptance of this principle both in his vote for the resolution and in his denunciation of the resolution praising U.N. action in Korea as "a hostile demonstration against the Soviet Union, the Korean people and the Chinese Democratic Republic."

Soviet Role in North Korea Highlighted: Brief TASS announcements on 29 August and 1 September, which respectively identify S.P. Suzdalev as new Soviet ambassador to North Korea and report the departure for Moscow of a North Korean delegation headed by Kim Il Sung, may herald further disclosures of Soviet plans for North Korea, particularly in the economic field.

The North Korean delegation to Moscow is composed of Premier Kim Il Sung, Central Committee member Pak Chong Ae, Vice Premier Chong Il Nyong, Foreign Minister Nam Il, chief of the State Planning Commission Chong Chun Taek, and Minister of Railways Kim Hae Il. From the composition of the delegation it seems likely that both political and economic matters may be discussed, although the absence of a Chinese delegation would seem to limit the scope of political discussions.

Recent Pyongyang comment, in particular the Kim Il Sung speech broadcast 30 August, has emphasized the urgent need for rehabilitation and expansion of the North Korean economy and has specified the significant role of Soviet aid, Soviet technicians and Soviet techniques in this program.

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