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FAR EAST SURVEY  
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## K O R E A N   W A R

U.N. Prisoners Voluntarily Cooperated in BW Investigation: Broadcasts announcing the reprieve and repatriation of 25 U.S. Air Force officers who allegedly confessed participation in biological warfare continue Peking's consistent effort to show that U.N. prisoners were well treated and to counter the "fabricated" atrocity revelations of the repatriated prisoners. The release of the men is authorized by a 1 September order from the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army which, however, only Peking has broadcast to date. Release of the order was timed to coincide with the actual repatriation on 6 September of the men involved.

The pardon authorized by the special order is attributed to the "lenient" policy of the Communists, to the lack of "primary responsibility" for the crime among those captured, and to their voluntary confessions and cooperation with the Communist investigators. Peking specifically maintains, however, that upon their return these men will be subject to "every possible pressure and persecution" from U.S. military authorities in an effort to induce them to repudiate the confessions and to withhold information on bacteriological warfare. The fact that details of only six of the 25 confessions cited have been broadcast suggests that the present propaganda treatment of these cases is a defensive move intended to counter the repatriates' own stories rather than a revival of the BW campaign at this time.

U.S. Continues Coercion and Retention of Communist Prisoners: Communist broadcasts continue their allegations that the United Nations is withholding Communist POWs, and the 9 September U.N. complaint that 3,100 U.N. prisoners are unaccounted for is described as an obvious attempt to divert attention from that very fact. Secretary Dulles' disclaimer of any knowledge of Communist retention of American prisoners is cited in support of the Communist charge.

References to the pending transfer of prisoners to neutral custody have also appeared, centered around the old charge that Chiang agents are active in POW camps with American connivance, and are planning to "obstruct" the transfer of prisoners to neutral authority. On 6 September Peking reported that Chiang agents will remain with the prisoners being transferred to neutral custody in order to foment uprisings against the Communist delegates and completely disrupt their activities. Renewed attention is also given American bestiality at the time of the "forced screening" on Koje and an eye-witness account of the abuse of POWs which led to and followed the capture of General Dodd is widely broadcast.

Americans Intent on Maintaining Far East Tension: NCNA commentator Kiang Nan takes sharp issue with Secretary Dulles' speech before the American Legion, and charges the Secretary with hypocritically talking of peace while at the same time leading "a handful of U.S. warmongers" intent on maintaining tension in the Far East. Dulles allegedly plans "to manipulate and scuttle the political conference" and to encourage Syngman Rhee to resume the war. Despite this general charge of U.S. intentions to obstruct the conference, neither Peking nor any other Communist transmitter has broadcast any direct comment on the U.N.-approved resolution, nor on the proposals for the convocation of the conference submitted by the U.N. belligerents. References to the concluded U.N. session consist largely of reports concerning the moral and political defeat suffered by the U.S. in the vote on India.

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