

'Infamous American attack heroically repulsed by the people of Korea', from L'Unità (27 June 1950)

Caption: On 27 June 1950, the Italian Communist daily newspaper L'Unità condemns US policy in Korea and vigorously denounces the imperialism of the United States.

Source: L'Unità. Organo del Partito Comunista italiano. dir. de publ. Lajolo, Davide. 27.06.1950, n° 151; anno 27. Milano. "L'infame aggressione americana respinta eroicamente dal popolo di Corea", auteur:Rosa, Gabriele de , p. 1.

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Infamous American attack heroically repulsed by the people of Korea

The attackers driven back south of the 38th parallel, the dividing line between the two parts of Korea — Fighting still taking place — Flood of news stories from American sources in a bid to raise the heat still more

The military onslaught from South Korea attempted by the American military fiefdom against the Korean Democratic Republic has not come out of the blue, just at any moment or just on any day. The war against Hitler and Japan has been over for five years and now, once again, in a region bordering the Soviet Union (and just a few months after the attempted anti-Soviet provocation on the shores of the Baltic), the intrigues and plots of the US generals and imperialists are repeating those of the Japanese. They are already being put into effect in a new phase of open military intervention regardless of, and despite, the UN, rashly endangering world peace. For in Korea not only are the lives and tranquillity of that courageous people being threatened, but also the peaceful existence of every nation is being endangered by all that this conflict implies.

What are America's military plans in Asia, and how do they relate to the situation that has been created in Korea? It is both symptomatic and revealing that the attack by the puppet government of South Korea was hatched after the recent Tokyo talks between the American military governor of Japan, General Douglas MacArthur (the man who started the infamous persecutions of Japanese Communists a fortnight ago), US Defence Secretary Louis Johnson, Chief of Staff General Omar Bradley and the notorious warmonger John Foster Dulles. What the latter three were considering was the 'revision' of American policy in the Far East and the end of the non-intervention policy in Formosa, Chiang Kai-shek's latest headquarters.

On 17 June last, before meeting MacArthur in Tokyo, Mr Dulles went to South Korea, held talks with the leaders of the government there and visited areas bordering the 38th parallel, precisely those where the aggression against the Democratic Republic of Korea has taken place. Eight days after Dulles' visit, the Seoul Government made its treacherous attack, violating the frontier with North Korea.

Immediately, the US Staff Headquarters in Tokyo began its outrageous military intervention in support of Seoul's action. The new embodiment of the Japanese emperor, MacArthur, threw himself into the frenetic despatch of weapons of all types to Seoul, whilst in Washington and London his supporters whipped up a jingoistic campaign to elicit official interventions from their respective governments on the Korean issue.

Why is an intervention in Korea being called for in Washington, and why is MacArthur rushing to support the Fascist aggressors of Seoul with arms? Ever since the collapse of Japan, South Korea has been a region where the American generals have imposed their law and their political groups. The commitments given at Yalta and at the December 1945 Moscow Conference have been torn to shreds.

How many times have the Soviets tried to find a unifying solution to the problem! But South Korea is now in the hands of the Syngman Rhee clique that launched one of the most ferocious persecutions of peasants and workers. (The peasants whose houses have been sequestered or burnt down, merely because they were 'suspected' of Communism, now number three million.) It was in this atmosphere that the Seoul clique organised the 'general elections' on 30 March last. Even a representative of the UN Commission observing those elections (one that is not recognised by the USSR) admitted that 'there can be no question of electoral freedom'.

Even a reactionary American newspaper, the *New York Times*, recognised that the reactionary South Korean Government used Fascist methods to suppress political opposition.

'In many regions of South Korea', wrote the paper, 'there reigns a form of terror whose like is to be found nowhere else in the world ...'

It is easy to understand how this terrible internal state of affairs has lost the Seoul Government all its national political base; it is easy to understand how Syngman Rhee has witnessed in growing dread,

deepening as his isolation increases, the spread of a vast popular movement in South Korea in response to the latest appeal from the national democratic front.

Is it this fear that has tied the criminal schemes of Rhee into those of Dulles and the American militarists? The course of events is rapidly providing an answer to such questions, an answer confirming the grave responsibility that the United States is assuming.

These are the facts that the American agencies will never be able to conceal. With a unanimity that speaks volumes, bereft of shame or a sense of responsibility, the 'American' newspapers printed in Italy are playing war games without considering the consequences. What is more, they have the impudence to portray as a battle for liberation not only the current shameless American intervention but even the threat of using the atom bomb that a British Member of Parliament has called for.

Now there is someone who speaks his mind, by Jove! Those gentlemen are not interested in facts, in finding out the truth! Here is the latest model of the atom bomb that Truman has not yet tested: let's drop it on the Korean people! Let's try out this murderous weapon just to save the skins of the criminal puppets of Seoul and the honour of General MacArthur!

If any proof is needed that the peace movement must be strengthened and widened to save the world from a third conflict, it has come from this imperialist aggression in Korea. As that brave people heroically defends its independence against the imperialists, let the cry for peace be raised ever louder from our people here in Italy. The aggressors' plans and the lies of the news hacks cannot long be sustained against the force of events and the need for peace that exists in the world.

Gabriele De Rosa