

'American ruling circles have gone over to direct acts of aggression' from Pravda (28 June 1950)

Caption: On 28 June 1950, the Communist daily newspaper Pravda condemns the military support given by the United States to the South Korean Government.

Source: The Soviet Union and the Korean Question: Documents. London: Soviet News, 1950. 99 p. p. 87-88.

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Last updated: 03/07/2015

American ruling circles have gone over to direct acts of aggression

Editorial Comment in “Pravda”, June 28, 1950

On June 27, President Truman, of the United States of America, issued a special statement on events in Korea.

The events in Korea, which have occupied the centre of attention of world public opinion, reveal with all clarity that the imperialist warmongers will not stop half way in pursuit of their objects. On June 25, the provocative actions of troops of the puppet Government of South Korea, directed against the Korean People’s Democratic Republic, unleashed military operations on the territory of Korea. In reply to this, Security Detachments of troops of the Korean People’s Democratic Republic undertook active measures and, carrying out their Government’s orders, went over to the counter-offensive, transferring military operations to the territory south of the 38th parallel.

The Government of the Korean People’s Democratic Republic has been able repeatedly to demonstrate its consistency in defence of the interests of the Korean people, their democratic development, their independence, their patriotic aspirations for unity. Even at the beginning of this month, the Single United Democratic Front and the Presidium of the Supreme National Assembly of Korea in Pyongyang, expressing the will of the Korean people, came forward with a proposal to carry out the peaceful unification of the country. The South Korean clique of Syngman Rhee answered this proposal on June 25 by beginning fratricidal war.

The Syngman Rhee clique has taken the path of military adventure. It relied in advance on military aid from its overseas masters. The aggressive plans of its protectors are now beginning to be disclosed.

As is clear from the aforementioned statement by Truman, he has instructed the air and naval forces of the United States to give armed “assistance” to the army of Syngman Rhee, the traitor to the Korean people. At the same time the American President has instructed the American Seventh Fleet to “prevent an attack on Formosa”, which is an order for the actual occupation by American armed forces of part of the territory of China.

This order signifies that the Government of the United States of America has undertaken a direct act of aggression against the Korean People’s Democratic Republic and against the People’s Republic of China.

Truman’s statement and actions, unprecedented in international relations of the post-war period, constitute further evidence that the American ruling circles no longer confine themselves to the preparation of aggression, but have gone over to direct acts of aggression.

But have they gone too far?

The American Government, with its characteristic unceremoniousness as regards international law, is grossly trampling on the United Nations Charter, acting as though the United Nations Organisation did not exist at all.

The question arises, who authorised the American Government to take this step? In bringing its armed forces into action, did the United States Government reach agreement on its policy, with the United Nations Organisation, about their loyalty to which Truman and Acheson are so vociferous? Where and when did the Security Council take a decision freeing the hands of the United States of America in the acts of direct aggression undertaken by it?

As is known, neither the United Nations Organisation nor any other international body have authorised the Government of the United States of America to undertake those actions with regard to Korea and China which Truman announced yesterday.

In undertaking its openly aggressive act the American Government evidently set itself the aim of confronting the United Nations Organisation with a *fait accompli*.