

North would take their seats in the National Assembly. He added that he was prepared to receive all traitors, including Premier Kim Il Sung, if elected, with open arms and give them due positions if they repented and resolved to devote themselves to establishing a sound basis for the Republic of Korea.

9. Subsequently, the Letter of Appeal was replaced by another plan for peaceful unification prepared by the Praesidium of the Peoples' Supreme Assembly of the Northern regime. This contemplated a procedure which involved the convening of the Assemblies of the North and the South into a single representative Assembly, but it was accompanied by objectionable conditions similar to those of the earlier appeal.

10. Both appeals have been denounced by the South Korean Press, political parties and leaders as sheer propaganda. An apparent intention of these appeals was to split the unity prevailing in the South Korean National Assembly by encouraging those who had opposed the 1948 elections to think that there was a real possibility of peaceful unification by negotiation.

11. Meanwhile the Commission had agreed to mediate, if its good offices were acceptable to both parties, in an exchange of important political prisoners originally suggested by the North. On 10 June the Commission made clear its unwillingness to jeopardize the exchange in any way. Although North Korea rejected on 20 June the proposed role of the Commission, arrangements for the exchange were still pending at the time of the invasion.

12. In the light of the ever-increasing strength of the Republic of Korea in recent months and the utterly unexpected invasion on 25 June, the radio propaganda offensive calling for early unification by peaceful means seems to have been intended solely for its screening effect.

13. General Kim Il Sung in a radio broadcast this morning at 09:30 hours (26 June) reiterated the North Korean claim first made at 13:35 hours yesterday that South Korea, having rejected every Northern Proposal for peaceful unification, had crowned its iniquity by launching an invasion force across the parallel in the sector of Haeju, thus precipitating North Korean counter-attacks for which South Korea would have to assume the consequences.

14. In the same broadcast the Premier called for a struggle to the end in order to secure unification and punish the "traitors", calling for mass risings and for sabotage in South Korea. The Commission has no evidence to justify in any respect the Northern allegations. All the evidence continues to point to a calculated co-ordinated attack prepared and launched with secrecy.

APPENDIX 5

Statement by the President of the United States, June 27, 1950

In Korea the Government forces, which were armed to prevent border raids and to preserve internal security, were attacked by invading forces from North Korea. The Security Council of the United Nations called upon the invading troops to cease hostilities and to withdraw to the 38th parallel. This they have not done but on the contrary have pressed the attack. The Security Council called upon all members of the United Nations to render every assistance to the