

national supervision of an election by a workable commission acceptable to the United Nations and composed of genuine neutrals, the United Nations side may shortly have to consider whether it is worth while continuing this effort at Geneva to reach agreement for the peaceful unification of Korea. If the Geneva Conference fails in this task we would anticipate that the United Nations will pursue the objective of the unification of Korea by peaceful means. The Canadian Government, and I am sure this House, would continue to support those efforts.

"I should emphasize that the failure of the Geneva Conference should not mean, of course, in Korea a resumption of hostilities, nor would it impose on us any obligation, direct or indirect, to participate in any action to unify Korea by force. We should, I think, be clear on that latter point.

INDO-CHINA

"So far as the Indo-Chinese side of the Conference is concerned, the delegations who are participating in this part of the Conference have been dealing with three main problems: first, a ceasefire in Indo-China; second, a political settlement; and third, guarantees of supervisory arrangements for those first two. Discussions of the last fortnight have revealed many stumbling blocks concerning all three. The Western Powers at Geneva have agreed that a ceasefire and political settlement are necessary, but to be effective they must be accompanied by supervisory guarantees; and, provided the supervisory guarantees existed, the ceasefire need not await the political settlement which inevitably would take longer to achieve. Furthermore, as Laos and Cambodia are separate countries, where different political and military conditions prevail, they should, in the opinion of the Western side, be dealt with separately.

"Since I last reported to the House, the military representatives of the two opposing high commands have met, and indeed are now meeting in camera in Geneva, in order to discuss ceasefire arrangements; but the results of their deliberations are not known. Regarding neutral supervision the Communists, as in the case of Korea, have insisted on a commission of four with two communist states plus Pakistan and India as members, a replica in form of the neutral nations Supervisory Commission in Korea. These proposals are considered unsatisfactory by the Western Powers concerned on the ground that Czechoslovakia and Poland are not really neutrals, and that a two-sided arrangement of this kind would merely result in a stalemate. We know that from experience.

"The western side have proposed a genuinely neutral and Asian commission consisting of India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon and Indonesia. The Communists, however, have not accepted this proposal and have rejected any form of

United Nations supervision.

"As hon. members will see, therefore, neither on the Korean nor on the Indo-Chinese issue is the outlook such as to give much hope of a will to achieve a reasonable settlement on the communist side. On the western side the feeling seems to be growing that no useful, and indeed some harmful, purpose would be served by prolonging and continuing the Conference, once it has been made clear that the Communists are using it not to bring about an end of the fighting but to pursue their own political and propaganda aims. I do not think any reasonable person could quarrel with that view."

TROOPS IN KOREA

Mr. John G. Diefenbaker: "May I just say one word, Mr. Speaker, in reference to the latter part of my hon. friend's remarks? If negotiations can no longer be continued with any hope whatever of achieving anything other than continued propaganda in Geneva, I believe there will be general agreement amongst Canadians with that stand. I should like to ask the Minister one supplementary question arising out of his earlier remarks regarding Korea. He said that, in the event that no settlement was arrived at and measures were taken by the United Nations for the unification of Korea, there would be no accepted responsibility on the part of Canada to participate. What then has the Minister in mind, in so far as the Canadian troops who are in Korea are concerned? What would be their disposition in that event?"

Mr. Pearson: "Well, Mr. Speaker, that is a question that is difficult for me to answer. If the situation in Korea is prolonged indefinitely, and if the United Nations has made another effort to bring about a peaceful unification of the country and has failed, and there seems to be no immediate possibility of progress in that field - I am putting this forward as a hypothetical situation - then, of course, the indefinite retention of United Nations forces, including Canadian forces, in Korea would have to be reconsidered."

Mr. Howard C. Green: "May I ask the Minister a supplementary question? What is the position now with regard to the setting up of a defence pact in the Pacific?"

Mr. Pearson: "I can only answer that by saying that this matter is under consideration by the Governments particularly concerned. I take it my hon. friend is not referring to a security pact in the Pacific generally, but to the Southeast Asian security pact. There have been, as I understand it, no discussions among the countries particularly concerned with that particular issue - no formal discussions up to the present time. But I am sure that the matter is being considered by those Governments."

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There are 150 species of trees in Canada, 31 of which are conifers.