

Mr. Low: I ask for the purpose of getting it straight in my own mind: just where the United States command ends and the United Nations' command begins? I think I shall just quote what the minister said and ask him to make it a little clearer to us. This is what Mr. Pearson said:

Just to keep the record straight on this, because these are very important matters and what we say in respect of them will go far beyond these four walls, may I say that at that time the Far Eastern command was the Far Eastern command of the United States under generals who were senior to General Van Fleet. The Far Eastern command in turn got its directions from the unified command, which was the chiefs of staff in Washington. So any military action which was taken at that time or not taken at that time was in accordance with the orders of the supreme military direction of that operation, which was in Washington and under General Bradley.

I wonder if the minister could make clear to us just where the United States authority ends and where the United Nations authority begins in the direction of military efforts in the name of the United Nations?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Low, what page are you quoting from?

Mr. Low: I was quoting from page 2004 of *Hansard*, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I think I can clear that up. The United Nations in a resolution asked the United States government to nominate a unified command to be responsible for the conduct of military operations in Korea within the ambit of the resolutions passed by the United Nations. The United States President, acting on this invitation, designated the United States Chiefs of Staff as the unified command of the United Nations in Korea. That means that the superior direction for the United Nations of military operations in Korea is vested in the United States Chiefs of Staff, and we call it the unified command.

Mr. Low: Of what?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: Of the United Nations.

Mr. Low: Of the United Nations?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: The unified command of the United Nations, by invitation of the United Nations, is the United States Chiefs of Staff.

Mr. Low: When are they designated as the American Chiefs of Staff and when are they designated as the unified command?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: There is no distinction in so far as their responsibility under the United Nations is concerned. The United States Chiefs of Staff have a lot of other things to do of course which are not necessarily concerned with the United Nations; but when they are acting in the control and conduct of military operations in Korea, military operations which are consequent upon United Nations resolutions, then they are the unified command of the United Nations, and the United States general commanding in Korea is an agent of the United States Chiefs of Staff who are the unified command. They have two hats, a hat for the unified command, and a hat for the United States Chiefs of Staff.

Mr. Low: When would it be correct to refer to them as United Nations officials and when not? Or would it be correct at any time?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: No. I was taking issue on this: when you talk about United Nations officials ordering or preventing General MacArthur from bombing Manchuria, the statement may lead to confusion. The United Nations officials as we understand them as it is understood I think pretty clearly in New York, are officials of the United Nations Secretariat.

Mr. Low: I understand that.