

be determined following discussions between Prime Minister Menzies and United States authorities. On August 3 the Australian Government announced that the Australian Infantry Force in Japan would be raised to full war establishment for use at the earliest possible time in Korea. Meanwhile the New Zealand Government had undertaken to raise a regiment of field artillery, with supporting elements, for service with United Nations forces. On August 4 South Africa offered a fighter squadron with air crew and ground personnel. On August 7 the Panamanian Government offered a corps of volunteers, and on the following day it was announced that the Netherlands had decided to raise two companies of combat troops.*

The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, made a broadcast on August 7 announcing further defence measures required in Canada by the international situation.† He reviewed the measures that had been taken by other free nations in the face of the aggression against the Republic of Korea. He explained that the Canadian postwar military establishment had not provided for a fully trained expeditionary force available for immediate action outside Canada. Attention had been concentrated on maintaining a basic training establishment capable of expanding the Canadian Army quickly in the event of a general war, and the development of an air-borne brigade group highly trained for operations in the North and designed to share in the immediate protection of this continent. The Government considered it unwise to send this brigade group to Korea. Mr. St. Laurent announced that an additional brigade, to be called the Canadian Army Special Force, would be recruited, trained and equipped immediately to be available for use in carrying out Canada's obligations under the United Nations Charter or the North Atlantic Treaty. Subject to the approval of Parliament, this force would be available for service in Korea as part of the United Nations force, if it could be most effectively used in that way when ready for service.‡ Mr. St. Laurent also announced that Parliament would be summoned to deal with the deterioration of the situation in Korea and the expansion and acceleration of the defence programme as soon as fuller information could be gathered and specific plans formulated.

*These offers were succeeded by further contributions later in the month of August, the available details of which are as follows: the Philippines, Regimental Combat Team of approximately 5,000 men; El Salvador, volunteer troops, to be trained in the United States; The United Kingdom, two battalions of infantry from Hong Kong for immediate use in Korea, additional to self-contained force already promised; France, special infantry force of 800 men; Belgium, infantry force of unspecified size (press report).

†See Appendix 18.

‡See Appendices 20 and 21.