

Therefore, in my own intervention in the general debate on the Korean question at Geneva I attempted on May 4 to follow the course which had already been laid down by others in dealing with some of these communist charges, and particularly I ventured to point out that, contrary to the assertions of Mr. Molotov, who took it upon himself to speak for Asia, we in the West did understand, and fully accepted, the significance of what has been taking place in Asia over recent years, and that we were indeed sympathetic in the march of the peoples of Asia toward national freedom and greater human welfare.

I added, however, that the right to be free did not include the obligation to be communist, nor did "Asia for the Asians", which is a phrase Molotov and others had used, mean Asia for the cominform.

I also pointed out that our own national experience in Canada refuted completely the wild charges which were levelled by communist delegations to the effect that the people of the United States were either aggressive or imperialist in their outlook.

Now I should explain in a few words what the communist peace plan for Korea was as put forward at the Geneva conference. In principle it involved the repudiation of United Nations plans on which we had previously agreed, and if it had been carried into effect it would also have necessitated the exclusion of the United Nations as a belligerent from the substance and the supervision of the peace settlement. It would have required us on our side to accept the fact of United States and Republic of Korea aggression, and of the charge that the United Nations in this matter had merely acted as the victim and the tool of United States imperialism.

Obviously any proposal based on these premises was not acceptable to the United Nations delegations. There were also other details which made this plan unacceptable.

The two governments of the Republic of Korea and North Korea were to be considered on the same political, legal and moral level, and acceptance of this was to be recognized in all-Korean commission with equal representation of the north and south, though the south in population is probably five or six times greater than the north. This all-Korean commission was to work out plans for all-Korean elections, free from outside supervision except-- and this has been an additional proposal of the communists since I left Geneva--by what they call a neutral commission.

We are not quite clear about this neutral commission but it is certainly to be divorced from the United Nations. Its function is to assist the all-Korean commission, and its composition would presumably exclude all United Nations members who have participated in Korean military operations. It could, however, include such neutrals--and I use that word in a Pickwickian sense--as Poland or Czechoslovakia. Then also under this plan all foreign forces were to be withdrawn within six months. The powers directly interested in Korea--and it was made clear that they would include Communist China and the U.S.S.R.--were to assist in Korean development as a democratic state. The United Nations, however, was to keep out.