

2. The Cabinet, after discussion, approved the letter as submitted by the Minister of National Defence inviting provincial delegates to the meeting of the Continuing Committee of Attorneys General to participate as well with the federal authorities in a conference on civil defence, immediately after the session of the Continuing Committee.

Participation of naval detachments in shore operations in Korea

3. The Minister of National Defence reported that naval vessels operating under the United Nations Command in Korea had been asked if they could supply detachments for land operations along Commando lines. It appeared that the Royal Navy and the Royal New Zealand Navy would reply that they had no personnel available for these purposes. The U.S. Navy generally employed Marines specially trained for operations of this kind. There were no Marines in the Royal Canadian Navy and this kind of participation by naval forces might transgress the commitment given to Parliament by the Prime Minister concerning Canadian activity in Korea.

4. The Secretary of State for External Affairs suggested that if the request were turned down, the reasons for this might be misinterpreted and it should be done in such a way so as to attract a minimum amount of public attention.

5. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed that Royal Canadian Navy personnel serving in the Korean theatre be not permitted to engage in land operations of a Commando type.

Transportation of press correspondents to Japan in R.C.A.F. aircraft

6. The Minister of National Defence reported that there had been a number of requests from members of the press for transportation in R.C.A.F. aircraft participating in the air lift to Japan. The primary purpose of this air lift was the freighting of war material. Commercial air services were available to members of the press. It was understood that the U.S. transport service were not granting requests of this nature from American newspapermen. Moreover, it would be very difficult to differentiate between the various applications.

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