

tries were familiar with the democratic form of government, the Chinese Government felt that it could not deny its citizens overseas the right to assist in the formulation of national policy through the election of representatives to the National Assembly and the Legislative Yuan. There was no desire on the part of the Chinese Government to break the laws of foreign countries by holding elections against their expressed will, nor would they wish to interfere with Canadian citizens of Chinese origin. He intended to explore however methods by which Chinese citizens in Canada could, without breaking Canadian laws, participate in Chinese elections. He wanted to be quite open about any arrangements of this type that were made and would discuss them with us further.

4. I thanked Dr. Liu for giving this information and said I would pass it on to you. I also said that we quite understood the difficulties of the Chinese Government at this time giving us any written assurances that they would not engage in further electoral activities in Canada among the Chinese residents in Canada.²

E[SCOTT] R[EID]

SECTION B

ÉVACUATION DE CHINE DES CANADIENS EVACUATION OF CANADIANS FROM CHINA

1109.

DEA/50055-40

*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures
pour le secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs*

SECRET

[Ottawa], November 16, 1948

DETERIORATION OF THE CHINESE SITUATION AND EVACUATION OF CANADIANS

You may wish to make a report to Cabinet on the deterioration of the Chinese situation and the arrangements for the evacuation of Canadians.³ The following notes have been prepared for your use.

2. The collapse of the Nationalist position in Manchuria on November 1st has brought on a series of disheartening events in China. Encouraged by their successes and faltering morale among Nationalist troops, indicated by wholesale surrenders

² Note marginale :/Marginal note:

I don't think we need press the Ambassador further on this matter in present circumstances. We can have a look at the matter again in a few months. L.B. P[earson]

³ Claxton fit ce rapport le 17 novembre. Le Cabinet endossa le jugement de Claxton qu'il fallait envoyer un avion de transport militaire canadien de sa base à Tokyo pour aider à l'évacuation des citoyens canadiens.

Claxton made this report on November 17. Cabinet endorsed Claxton's view that an RCAF transport plane based in Tokyo should be provided to assist in the evacuation of Canadians.