

General MacArthur had reported that the equipment, including armour and guns, of the North Korean forces was of a very good type and calibre. The North Koreans had demonstrated their skill in the employment of armour under conditions which were not ideally suited to this type of operation. General MacArthur had also acknowledged the high qualities of the infantry soldier. At the commencement of the operations, the North Korean Army had available some three hundred tanks of a type equal if not superior to the present equipment of the U.S. Armed Forces.

5. *General Foulkes* then outlined the present position with regard to the availability and disposition of the military forces of certain allied countries and concluded that if the situation in Korea were to be dealt with satisfactorily, the major portion of the United Nations field force in Korea would have to be provided by the United States. Because of other commitments, geographical position or lack of strength, little assistance could be expected from European or Commonwealth countries.

In these circumstances, it seemed certain that the United States would resort immediately to some form of mobilization. Since it would take from six months to a year to equip and train any reserve forces which might be mobilized, and since the greater part of available U.S. ground forces would be committed in Korea or elsewhere, the period between this autumn and the next appeared to be the most critical.

6. *The Minister of National Defence* mentioned that the repatriation of some seventy thousand Dutch troops from Indonesia would be completed this fall. It was hoped that some means could be found to replace the equipment which these forces had been required to turn over to Indonesia on repatriation.

7. *The Prime Minister* observed that the re-equipping of these troops would strengthen the defences of Western Europe and enquired as to whether any suitable equipment could be made available to them by their North Atlantic partners.²⁷

8. *General Foulkes* said that the Dutch had trained on and would probably adhere to U.K. equipment, of which the U.S. had no stocks. The U.K. had already made available as much of their equipment as they considered possible to their allies. The possibility of providing the Dutch with Canadian equipment of U.K. pattern was being explored with the thought that it might be possible to arrange with the U.S. to replace from U.S. sources a proportion of Canadian stocks thus made available. As yet the Dutch had not been approached on this matter.

9. *The Committee*, after further discussion, noted the report of the Chief of the General Staff on the Korean situation and on the availability and disposition of certain allied forces.

III. POSSIBILITIES OF CANADIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS FORCES IN KOREA

10. *The Minister of National Defence* reported that the possibilities of providing Canadian assistance to the United Nations forces in Korea had been discussed with the Chiefs of Staff Committee, who recommended as follows:

²⁷ Voir le document 508./See Document 508.