

3. Mr. Pearson said that discussions had been taking place at the United Nations and in Washington on the desirability of a further Security Council resolution which would permit the designation of General MacArthur as Commander of all forces contributed by members of the United Nations for operation in Korea. Canada, of course, attached the greatest importance to making it quite clear that any action by Canadian forces was taken in support of the United Nations and not simply in support of the U.S. initiative. It was understood that the United States would introduce a resolution at the meeting of the Council later this week which would have the effect of establishing U.N. authority over operations and setting up a unified command. The United States would be requested to appoint an over-all Commander and U.N. flags as well as national flags could be flown by units participating in the collective forces. The Commander-in-Chief would probably report to the United Nations through Washington.

4. Mr. Pearson said that, while he had not seen the draft resolution, from the information at his disposal it would appear to be satisfactory and would probably be accepted by the Security Council.

5. The Prime Minister said that if no suitable resolution were adopted by the Security Council, any forces which we considered committing might appear to be under U.S. rather than the U.N. command, and it might therefore be necessary to summon Parliament for special authorization.

6. Mr. Claxton enquired whether, once an appropriate resolution about command arrangements had been adopted by the Security Council, the Canadian Government should at once make the three destroyers in the Pacific immediately available to the U.N. forces.

7. Mr. St-Laurent suggested that, as the destroyers were now on their way, there was no reason for taking any further decision at this moment.

8. The Cabinet, after further discussion, noted the report of the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the situation in Korea, and agreed to defer decision on the employment of the Canadian destroyers in the Pacific until there had been an opportunity for study of any further resolution that might be approved by the Security Council.

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