

of Korea. It has not yet accepted but we must hope that it will do so because the conference would not be possible or very useful without the presence of that government.

I do not want to prophesy, but I think when the conference opens the government of Syngman Rhee will probably be represented.

The U.S.S.R. also sent an invitation, acting for the other side, to the communist government at Peking, and the government of North Korea. I am talking now about the Korean political conference. The formula for those invitations is of some importance because it is now being stated in certain communist countries that the Chinese communist government will be at Geneva as one of the big five, almost as one of the inviting countries. But that is not the case. The communist government of China is being invited there by the U.S.S.R. and it will have no special position at the conference that I know of.

The purpose of this conference, as you know, is to try to convert the Korean armistice which brought the fighting to an end into a peace. Our "terms of reference" on the United Nations side, as I have said in the House, is the United Nations resolution on this subject, by which we are bound.

The other aspect of this conference concerns Indo-China. That is, in a sense, a separate conference, but the discussions may take place at the same time. We may for instance—I do not know for sure—but we may be meeting about Korea in the morning and about Indo-China matters in the afternoon; or they may alternate by days.

The Indo-Chinese discussions are separate and will not necessarily include all the government that will be at the Korean conference. The foreign ministers meeting in Berlin from which this conference originated decided that the Indo-Chinese discussion should take place between the four governments, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and the U.S.S.R. plus the communist government of China and other interested governments. Presumably the four sponsoring powers if you may call them that will try to agree on who are "other interested governments".

These are only random observations on two or three subjects, but they are all matters which are much in our minds. Possibly I might stop here and try to deal with any questions which may arise.

Mr. FLEMING: There is a matter—

The CHAIRMAN: If I may interrupt, it was my intention when we take up a discussion of this kind, to recognize one member of each opposition party, and one member of the government party, to start the ball rolling; I mean, to bring up a subject, and that we should carry on with that subject until all the members who wish to speak have finished their remarks; and then, when that subject is over, I will turn to questions from other parties on matters which they are interested. They will have a chance to bring up a new subject. Every party will have a chance to bring a new subject up for discussion, and we would explore the subject on which the members of the committee want to speak.

Mr. FLEMING: I think we will be glad indeed to cooperate in making our discussion systematic, as you have suggested. The subject I should like to introduce is suggested by reports appearing in today's press, of the statements made yesterday by Mr. Dulles and by Sir Winston Churchill. Both of them have a direct bearing on the present situation, and in view of the importance of both those statements, I would like to ask Mr. Pearson if the Canadian government was consulted in advance before either of those statements was made.