

GOVERNMENT



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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

CANADA AT GENEVA: In a statement at the conference on Korea and Indo-China, at Geneva, on June 11, Mr. C.A. Ronning, Acting Head of the Canadian Delegation, dealt with the resolution which had been proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union, Mr. Molotov.

After denying the allegations of the representatives of Communist states as to the "legality and moral right of United Nations intervention in Korea", he proceeded to take up Mr. Molotov's points about "free elections", the establishment of an all-Korean body to prepare and hold general elections, and proposal for an agreement on the withdrawal of forces. On each of these points basic questions remained to be solved, he said, "before we can talk about agreement in principle".

Then he proceeded to discuss the question of a supervisory commission and peaceful development of Korea, as follows:

"In the fourth place, Mr. Molotov has raised the question of a supervisory commission. As the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs stated recently in the House of Commons, we believe that Korean elections should be supervised by an international agency agreed on, if possible, by the Geneva Conference but acceptable to the United Nations'. Mr. Pearson went on to say, 'In order to ensure maximum objectivity - and that is going quite a long way to meet the views of the other side - we felt that this supervisory agency might consist of nations which did not belong to the

Communist bloc and which did not participate in military operations in Korea'.

"It cannot be said that our attitude on this is rigid - we are prepared to go a long way to make sure that such a commission is genuinely neutral. We believe that it is possible that countries which are accustomed to approach international problems freely and objectively can provide neutral supervision. The role played by the Indian military representatives in the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission is a good example of the kind of assistance which can be obtained from countries of good-will. In the NNRC the Indian members were by no means always in agreement with the United Nations Command, but we did not question the honesty of their intentions or their integrity. This is what we mean when we talk of international neutral supervision.

"Unfortunately, however, Mr. Molotov has betrayed what he means by supporting the proposal that the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission which at present exists in Korea should be duplicated for the purpose of supervising Korean elections. There is little further that need be said on the subject than has been said already by Mr. Bedell Smith and in the report of the Swiss and Swedish members of the Commission on the behaviour of their Czechoslovak and Polish colleagues. If by a neutral international commission Mr. Molotov means a commission which includes such totally unneutral nations as Poland and Czechoslovakia,