

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

MAY 28, 1951.

The CHAIRMAN: I will call the meeting to order. We will hear from Mr. Coldwell first.

We are still on item 84, departmental administration, and after a statement by Mr. Coldwell, Mr. Heeney will go on and there will be a period of questioning.

Mr. COLDWELL: According to the *New York Times* yesterday, the Minister of External Affairs made what appears to be an important speech over the United Nations radio on Saturday. It got front page publicity in the *New York Times* but was hardly mentioned in the Canadian papers.

He re-stated objectives in the present United Nations action in Korea:

1. The defeat of aggression in the Republic of Korea. This obviously I presume must be interpreted as meaning South Korea.

2. To prevent a third and atomic world war. He said that if such a war developed "we bring on the very cataclysm which United Nations action in Korea can help to prevent."

3. He stated that if U.N. troops continue to repulse the invader, Chinese communists might decide only Russian interests were being furthered in the Korean war.

4. Then "they may be ready to enter into discussions leading to a settlement of Korean and other far eastern issues on the terms the United Nations can accept."

5. While urging continuance of the fight against "aggressive communist imperialism" he called for "more humility and understanding" and the realization that "our civilization must now be considered as only one of many".

6. He enumerated future tasks as follows:

- (a) To band together against aggression
- (b) To be ready for honourable negotiations
- (c) To strengthen the social, economic and moral fabric of the world.

It strikes me this is an important pronouncement coming as it does at the end of a week when other and quite different statements have been made by spokesmen for the United States. It is true that the speech of the Assistant Secretary of State for External Affairs in the United States, Mr. Rusk, was later described by Dean Acheson as indicating no shift in United States policy. It will be recalled that Mr. Rusk characterized the Chinese communist government as a colonial Russian government, and General Bradley, in reply to questions before the Senate committee, stated that the time had not yet come to use Chiang's troops against the Chinese main-land. In addition, the United States has, according to press reports, informed other United Nations acting in Korea that it will not negotiate a settlement on the basis agreed upon in January. That basis as I understand it, was:

1. Cease fire.

2. Conference among United States, United Kingdom, U.S.S.R., and the Chinese Peiping regime on all problems under dispute including:

- (a) Korean settlement
- (b) Formosa
- (c) The seating of the Peiping government of China in the United Nations Assembly.