

steps which might be taken to strengthen Canadian defences generally. This would be making a contribution to the general problem of collective security and would involve largely an acceleration of the present programme, rather than additions to it. There were a number of actions that might be taken rather sooner than had been originally planned, which would strengthen our effective operational potential, and improve our readiness to meet an emergency. The Chiefs of Staff had made recommendations along these lines. Naval measures would include bringing destroyer crews up to operational establishments; commissioning of two minesweepers and two destroyers; fitting of Tribal class destroyers with modern armament; and the provision of certain seaward defences. Steps recommended for the Army included bringing the brigade group up to strength and the provision of limited anti-aircraft defences. Air Force proposals included acceleration of the F-86 and CF-100 production programmes so as to provide three squadrons of the former and two of the latter by 1952, and the provision in the meantime of 100 Mustangs which could be purchased from the United States. These fighters had proved their value in Korea and in Exercise Sweetbriar and were exceptionally useful in an Army support role. They would bolster the Air Force until the F-86 and CF-100 were available in the required numbers.

Additional expenditure for the three services would be between \$40 and \$50 million and the over-all increase in personnel would be between 5 and 6 thousand men.

4. The Secretary of State for External Affairs reported that there had been considerable political pressure from the United States for participation in Korea of ground troops from other countries, mainly for the psychological effect. Undoubtedly, there would be other suggestions, such as a Commonwealth force or a U.N. international brigade, which might be composed of volunteers from U.N. countries under U.S. command, and equipped and trained by the latter. Contributing countries might be required to provide for the payment of nationals participating and to assume responsibility for reinforcement. While it was obviously not feasible, at present, for Canada to send a brigade group or regular ground forces in any number, it might be desirable to indicate at this time that if an international brigade

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