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*L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Ambassador in United States
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM WA-1422

Washington, June 28, 1950

SECRET. MOST IMMEDIATE.

Repeat Permdel No. 35.

1. Perkins, who is responsible for liaison with North Atlantic countries on Korea because of the great pressure on other senior officers of the State Department, asked me to see him this afternoon in connection with your statement in the House this morning. Neither of us had seen the full text. He had a brief report from the United States Embassy. He said that they were very gratified by your general line and in particular by your indication that the Government was considering means of Canadian participation.

2. He went on to say that the Administration attached great importance to securing the participation of other countries in the application of the resolution of the Security Council. They earnestly hoped that something more specific would be forthcoming promptly from Canada and some other countries in order to make the action to restore conditions in Korea a collective action under the auspices of the United Nations.

3. He had asked me to see him today in the hope that some further statement might be cleared in Ottawa this afternoon or evening. I told him that I thought the necessary Ministerial consultation could at best not take place before tomorrow morning or possibly Friday, but that I would report the views of the State Department to you at once.

4. We discussed briefly what form Canadian participation might take. He said that at the moment they were more concerned that a definite undertaking to participate in collective action should be made in a public statement than with the designation of specific forces. Expressing a personal view, I said that probably the easiest thing might turn out to be the despatch of perhaps two destroyers to Far Eastern waters. He remarked that because of the great length of the Korean coastline he was sure that this would be very welcome and useful. While the bulk of the load must obviously be carried by the United States, even token contributions from other countries would, from a diplomatic and moral point of view, be of substantial value.

5. He had only received a brief press summary of Mr. Attlee's offer to give naval assistance, and, while this was most welcome, he was a little disturbed by press reports to the effect that Mr. Attlee had talked of this as giving aid to the United States. The State Department would much prefer that any assistance rendered should be given to the Korean Republic under the resolution of the Security Council, although, of course, consultation with the United States military authorities would be essential. I said that I had understood from a telephone conversation with