

June 1950, in Korea, as it was of September 1939, in Berlin. Facts are facts, and they can be left to history to record and confirm.

There was another observation of the leader of the Chinese Communist delegation which invites comment. He stated that all foreign military bases in Asia should be removed and foreign armed forces stationed in Asian countries withdrawn. It would be interesting to know whether he includes in this sweeping generalization the Russians in Port Arthur.

In his second statement, made yesterday, Mr. Chou En-lai brought up the question of prisoners-of-war. It is difficult to understand why, if he is sincere in his desire to press forward with a peaceful solution of the Korean problems.

We all know of the efforts made last winter at Panmunjom, under the skilful and impartial administration of Indian representatives, and the direction of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, to give all prisoners the opportunity of making up their own minds whether to return to communism or not. We know also that this question has now been settled - and to reopen it at this Conference would serve no useful purpose.

If the Geneva Convention is cited by the leader of the Chinese delegation, I would remind him of the thousands of South Korean prisoners who disappeared without a trace shortly after capture; of the failure to account for many United Nations prisoners, of the refusal to allow the Red Cross to visit them, or to give information concerning them, of the cruel treatment and torturing interrogations to which many of them were subjected.

Certainly, if this question were raised for discussion at this Conference, there would be much to talk about. But the net result would be merely to delay, and possibly to prevent the work we have come here to accomplish, namely to bring peace and freedom to a united Korea. Any delegation which introduces proposals for such a purpose, or which would have such a result, would bear a heavy responsibility indeed.

While, Mr. Chairman, the questions I have been raising are all important, our primary concern at this conference is a peace settlement for Korea. On that subject the leader of the North Korean delegation has presented a number of proposals which have been endorsed by the delegations of the People's Republic of China and the U.S.S.R. Those proposals have not, however, been adequately defined or explained. My delegation is not alone in its suspicion that they include words or phrases designed to camouflage a scheme which would bring to Korea the reverse of freedom and independence.

The first point concerns the method of selection and operation of the proposed All-Korean Commission. The question on this point which I had intended to ask was answered yesterday by the leader of the delegation from North Korea. He said that his proposed All-Korean Commission must be simple in its organization and function in all matters, procedural and otherwise, by agreement on "both sides". This resolves any ambiguity arising out of the scope of representation of North and South Korea, and over how decisions