

UNITED NATIONS KOREAN RECONSTRUCTION AGENCY

Statement by the Acting Chairman of the Canadian
Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly,
Mr. Paul Martin, made in the First Committee,
March 9, 1953.

I wish to make briefly a second intervention in this
debate on Korea because I wish to say something about the United
Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency. As you know, there is a
resolution on this subject now before the Committee. The
Canadian Government is a co-sponsor of the resolution tabled the
other day, and, of course, we think that it should be supported.

The Korean Reconstruction Agency was established by
General Assembly Resolution 410A(V) of December 1, 1950, with
power "to plan ... and carry out a broad programme of relief and
reconstruction in Korea". The Canadian Government has given
its whole-hearted support to the Korean Reconstruction Agency
and has done all in its power to enable the Agency to carry out
the purposes for which it was established.

From the outset of the Korean conflict, the Canadian
Government recognized that there were essential aspects to the
problem other than those concerned with the military action
undertaken by the United Nations in defence of the Republic of
Korea. Now ... we, along with other members of the United Nations,
were at once conscious that there would be a progressive need
by co-operative action of giving economic assistance to the
Korean people to repair the ravages of war, an eloquent and
distressing account of which we heard from the Korean spokesman
here last Friday. Who can fail to sympathize deeply with the
Korean people in their sufferings or to be convinced of the
necessity to give all practical aid to prevent their being over-
whelmed by economic destruction.

I venture to state ... that we in Canada have responded
to this need of the Korean people for economic assistance. As
of February 15 of this year it will be seen from one of the
Agent-General's Reports that more than \$205 million had been
pledged to the Agency by various governments. Of this amount,
somewhat less than \$45 million had, as of that date, been paid in.
The Canadian Government, at an early date in the operations of
the Agency, pledged \$7½ million. The full amount of this pledge
was paid to the Agency on March 31, 1951. The amount pledged
by my country is, I believe, the third largest amount pledged
by any government. The amount paid in by Canada is the second
largest amount paid in by any government up to the present time,
and the first pledge to be paid in full.

As further indication of our support of the Agency, I
might perhaps mention that Canada is one of the five members of
the Advisory Committee set up to advise the Agent General under
the 1950 resolution. The other members of that Committee are,
of course, India, the United Kingdom, the United States and
Uruguay.