Appendix 9

Excerpts from statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs in the House of Commons, June 29, 1950

. . . In regard to the Security Council resolution which I mentioned yesterday, and which I stated we supported, as there was no indication in the House on any side of lack of support for that resolution, we immediately after yesterday's statement got in touch through our representatives in the United Nations with other members of the United Nations to exchange views as to how best we could implement this resolution. We know of course that the most important member of the United Nations in this particular matter is the United States. It is the country best able to intervene in this matter as an agent of the United Nations and it has already, as I said yesterday, acted effectively. Therefore we have been discussing not only at Lake Success but in Washington with United States authorities what action Canada, as another member of the United Nations, might appropriately take to help the Government of South Korea maintain itself in the face of this aggression. Also our High Commissioner in London is meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and with representatives of other Commonwealth governments to see what can be done, to exchange views with these governments on what they are preparing to do. Of course, as we know, some of these governments have already made statements. I think the committee will also be interested to learn of an announcement that the Government of India, the representative of which was not in a position yesterday to state his government's position on the Security Council resolution, has now indicated its full support of that resolution. Our High Commissioner in Pakistan has also cabled us that the Government of that eastern dominion of the Commonwealth, through its foreign secretary, has told him that they support strongly the Security Council's resolution.

The Secretariat of the United Nations, through one of its senior officials, was in touch with me yesterday to inquire whether we could do something which they consider of some immediate importance, and that is, to supply one or two military observers to join the United Nations Commission in Korea which, as members of the committee know, has been functioning there, although it recently had to leave South Korea temporarily, but I understand it is going back. The work of that Commission is of great importance, especially that aspect of it which deals with observation and report to Lake Success on what is going on. They have a lack of trained observers for that purpose, and they asked us if we could help fill the gap. I at once got in touch with my colleague, the Minister of National Defence, and we have agreed that we would make two military observers available at once for that particular duty.