

5. Mr. St. Laurent went on to say that he had been distressed by the misunderstanding of Canada's position with respect to the Korean problem evident in letters he had received from Roman Catholic dignitaries in Korea. They had criticized Dr. Patterson's activities and charged him with walking out on the Commission. These allegations were unfair. Dr. Chough said that this critical attitude toward Canada's representative on the Korean Commission was not widely held. He could assure Mr. St. Laurent that Koreans generally held Canadians in high esteem. Canada was regarded as one of the leading democratic nations.

6. Concluding the interview Mr. St. Laurent said that he could assure Dr. Chough that the Canadian Government would be glad to do anything to assist the Koreans within the limits of prudence.

A.R. M[ENZIES]

3^e PARTIE/PART 3

ASIE DU SUD-EST
SOUTHEAST ASIA

1120.

DEA/9030-40

L'ambassadeur en Chine
au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Ambassador in China
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Nanking, February 26, 1948

Dear Mike [Pearson]:

You may read my despatch No. 109 of Mar.1† wherein I cover in general terms the impressions I formed as a result of my visit to Hong Kong. That despatch is going forward by concurrent bag.

I came away having reached certain definite conclusions which I am not embodying in my general report but which I am conveying to you through the medium of this personal letter. These conclusions are as follows:

1. I am definitely of the opinion that Canada from the standpoint of trade and national prestige should definitely exhibit a greater interest in this part of the world. Burma, Siam, Malaya, Dutch East Indies, Hong Kong, China etc. to the ordinary Canadian are intriguing places with intriguing names located way out in a part of the world in which they have little interest. A trip to Hong Kong indicates the great business potentialities which exist in relation to the countries I have named. Canada is not much more than a name to these people. Our country is a nation and rapidly becoming a great one and we should be acting in a manner befitting our stature in the world. I am convinced that much more attention to these areas than we have ever paid before should now be paid.