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*Extrait des conclusions du Cabinet*  
*Extract from Cabinet Conclusions*

TOP SECRET

[Ottawa], June 28, 1950

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; KOREAN SITUATION

8. *The Secretary of State for External Affairs* reported that recent information indicated that the South Korean position was deteriorating rapidly and that the capital had been lost to the North Korean forces. It appeared that the United States would have to act quickly and in all probability with more than air and naval forces. A recent telegram† from the Canadian High Commissioner in London reported that consideration was being given by the U.K. authorities to placing a naval force at the disposal of General MacArthur. In addition, the question of providing land forces from Hong Kong was being studied.

9. *Mr. Pearson* said that some weeks ago the Canadian Government had received a request from the United Nations to provide two military officers for the U.N. Observation Corps in Korea. These could be either Permanent Force or Reserve Force officers. Recently the Secretary-General had indicated that the latest developments made it even more desirable that Canada comply with this request and it was felt that to do so would be an indication of our good will.

10. *The Minister of National Defence* believed that, with respect to other aid, the only practical contribution that could be made at the present time appeared to be provision of a number of Canadian destroyers and possibly a small squadron of transport aircraft. While it was considered that more naval forces would probably be available than necessary, nevertheless a Canadian contribution might be a desirable gesture. Information regarding the desirability of Canadian participation and the form it might take could be sought from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and from the military authorities in Washington.

11. *The Prime Minister* suggested that any Canadian action should follow from a concerted U.N. decision and as a result of joint action. It would be helpful if the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of National Defence were to obtain all possible information on the desirability of Canadian participation and of form in the Korean war as soon as possible.

12. *The Cabinet*, after further discussion, agreed:

(a) that two military officers be made available to the U.N. Observation Corps in Korea as soon as possible; and

(b) that a decision on what form Canadian assistance in enforcing the Resolution of the Security Council might take be deferred pending the obtaining of all possible information by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of National Defence on the need for and availability of such assistance.

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