



Negotiations proceeded slowly. On July 26 an agenda for the discussions was agreed upon in the following terms:

- (1) Adoption of agenda;
- (2) Fixing a military demarcation line between both sides, so as to establish a demilitarized zone as a basic condition for the cessation of hostilities in Korea;
- (3) Concrete arrangements for the realization of a cease-fire and an armistice in Korea, including the composition, authority and functions of a supervising organization for carrying out the terms of the cease-fire and armistice;
- (4) Arrangements relating to prisoners of war;
- (5) Recommendations to the governments of the countries concerned on both sides.

The negotiators then approached the first substantive question — the question of where the truce-line should be drawn. By this time the United Nations forces, in attacking the communists to recover ground lost during the two enemy offensives mentioned earlier, had reached a line which was just south of the 38th parallel on the west and north of it on the east. The enemy were reluctant to accept this actual battle line as the military demarcation line and the United Nations negotiators were unwilling to give up their militarily defensible line (which was in the general area of the 38th parallel) for a purely arbitrary and artificial line which had proved impossible